



National Alliance
for Water Innovation

WaterTAP – Supporting NAWI

Water treatment Technoeconomic Assessment Platform (WaterTAP)

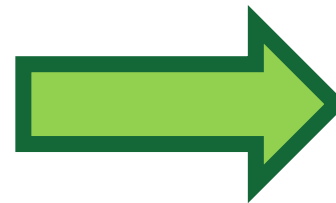
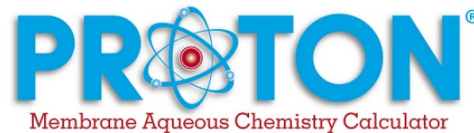
Kris Villez

September 18th, 2024

NAWI 1.0 (ends 2026)

- WaterTAP focus

- Uniform modelling platform for plant-wide modelling
- Techno-economic analysis software for process selection and design
- Analysis to guide NAWI R&D efforts



Up next: Optimized water treatment train design & operation

- Industry goals
 - Brackish water: increased water recovery (less brine)
 - Premise-scale water treatment:
 - Autonomy (limited on-site staff)
 - Reliability
 - Industrial cooling/heating:
 - Higher efficacy of treatment to enable alternative water sources
- Using alternative water sources invites new dynamics:
 - Water availability and quality
 - Electricity/resource markets, carbon intensity

Up next: Optimized water treatment train design & operation

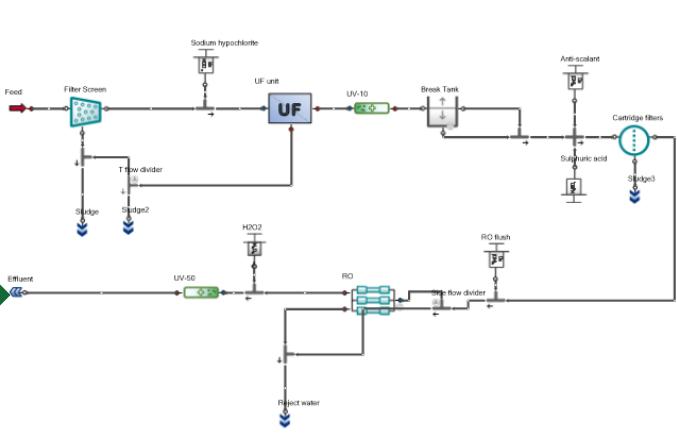
Plant



Pilot (physical twin)



Model (digital twin)

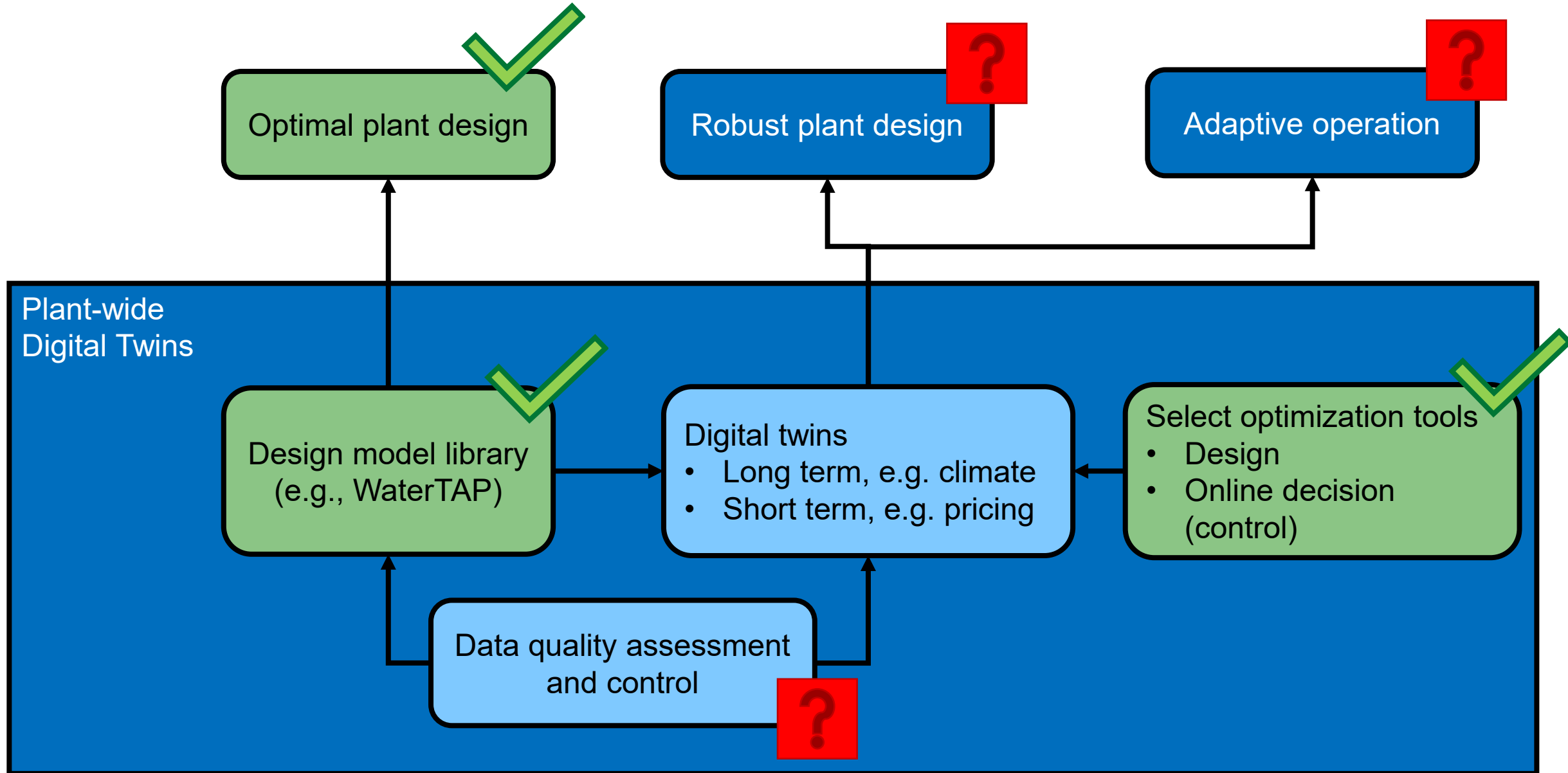


Real-time updating →

← Optimal operation (MPC)

← Experimental design (ED)

Up next: Optimized water treatment train design & operation





National Alliance
for Water Innovation

WaterTAP Overview

Water treatment Technoeconomic Assessment Platform (WaterTAP)

Tim Bartholomew

September 18th, 2024

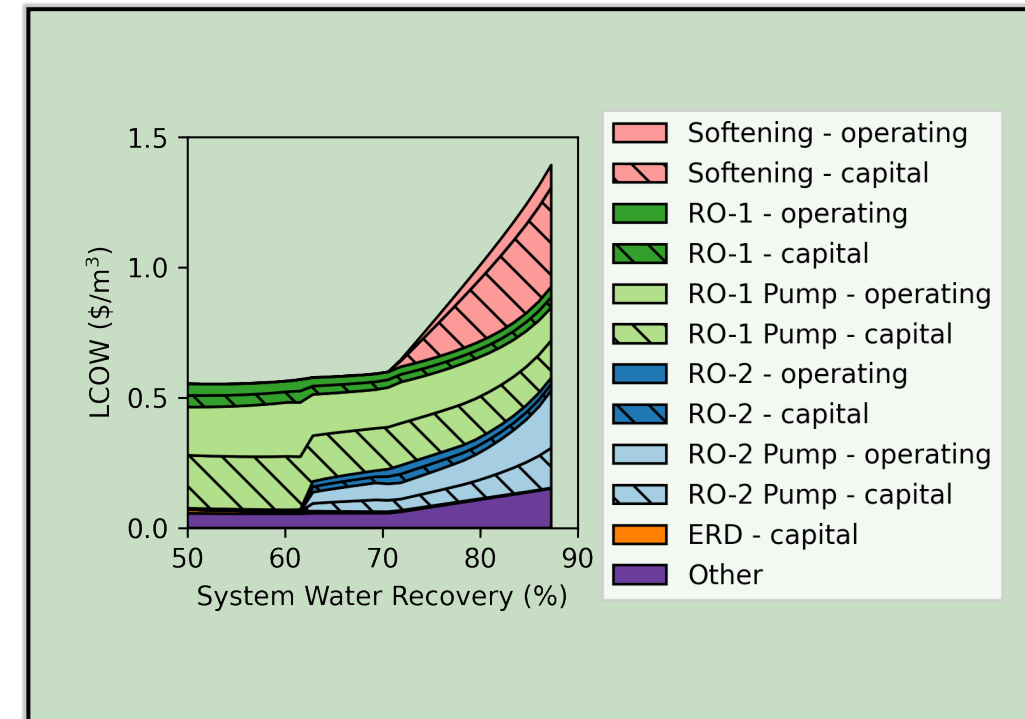
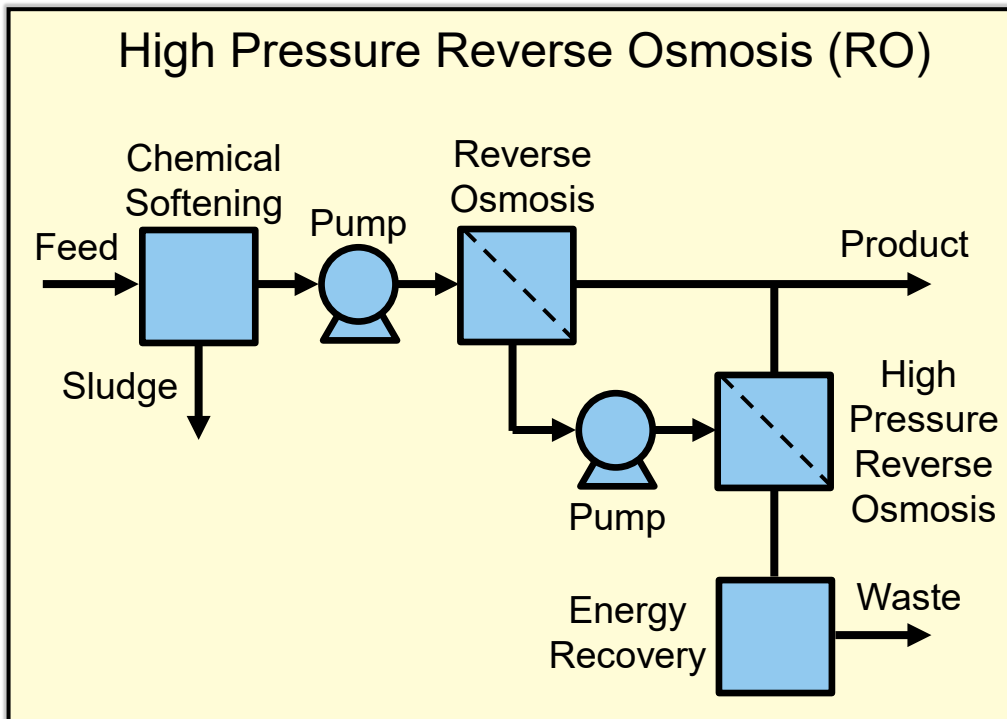
WaterTAP is a software tool for water treatment technoeconomic assessments

Objective: Develop a modeling platform to evaluate water treatment options and identify high impact opportunities for innovation within materials, processes, and systems

Emerging water treatment technology

Software tool

Technoeconomic assessment



A paradigm shift for water management requires advances in treatment technologies



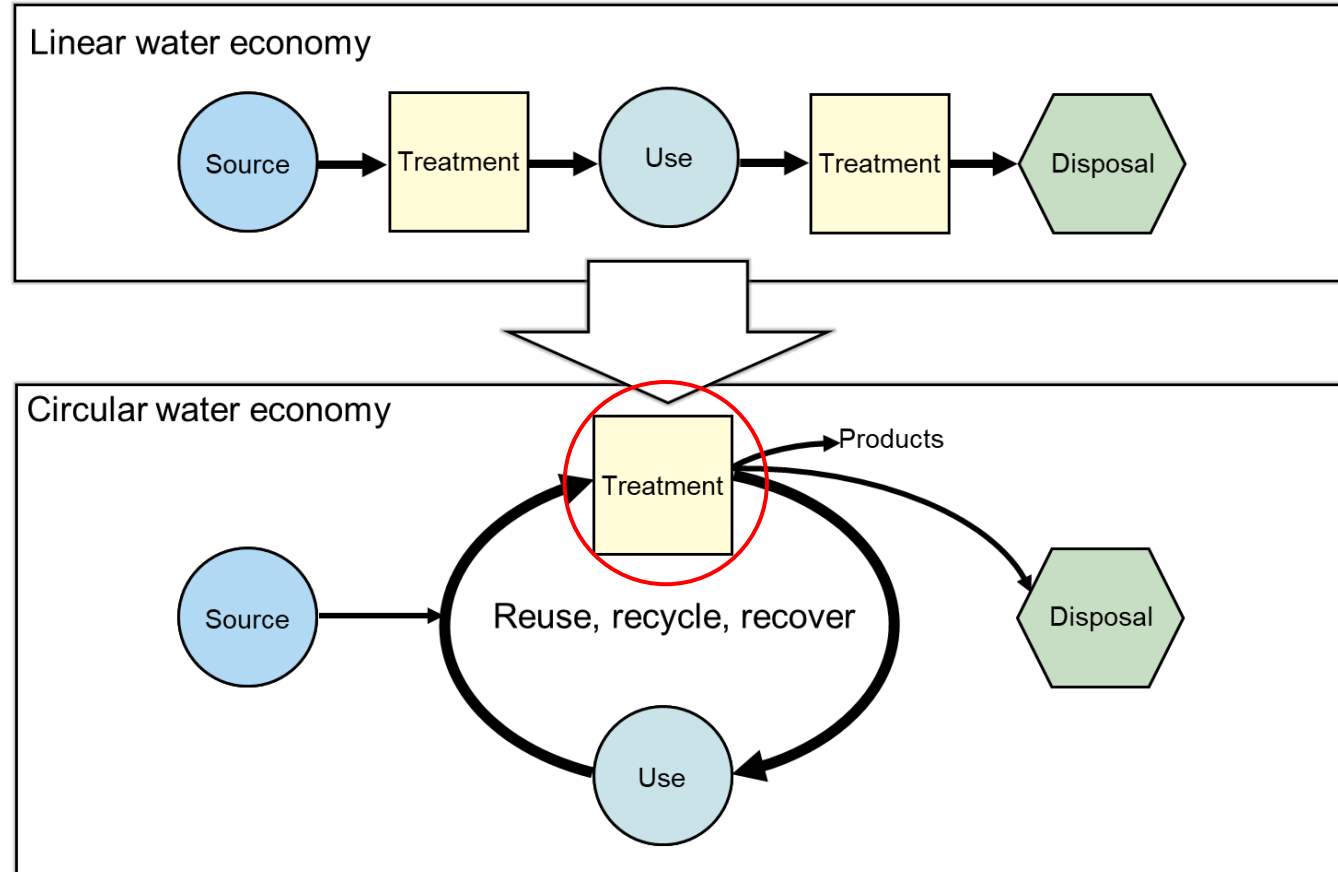
National Alliance for
Water Innovation



Energy Efficiency &
Renewable Energy

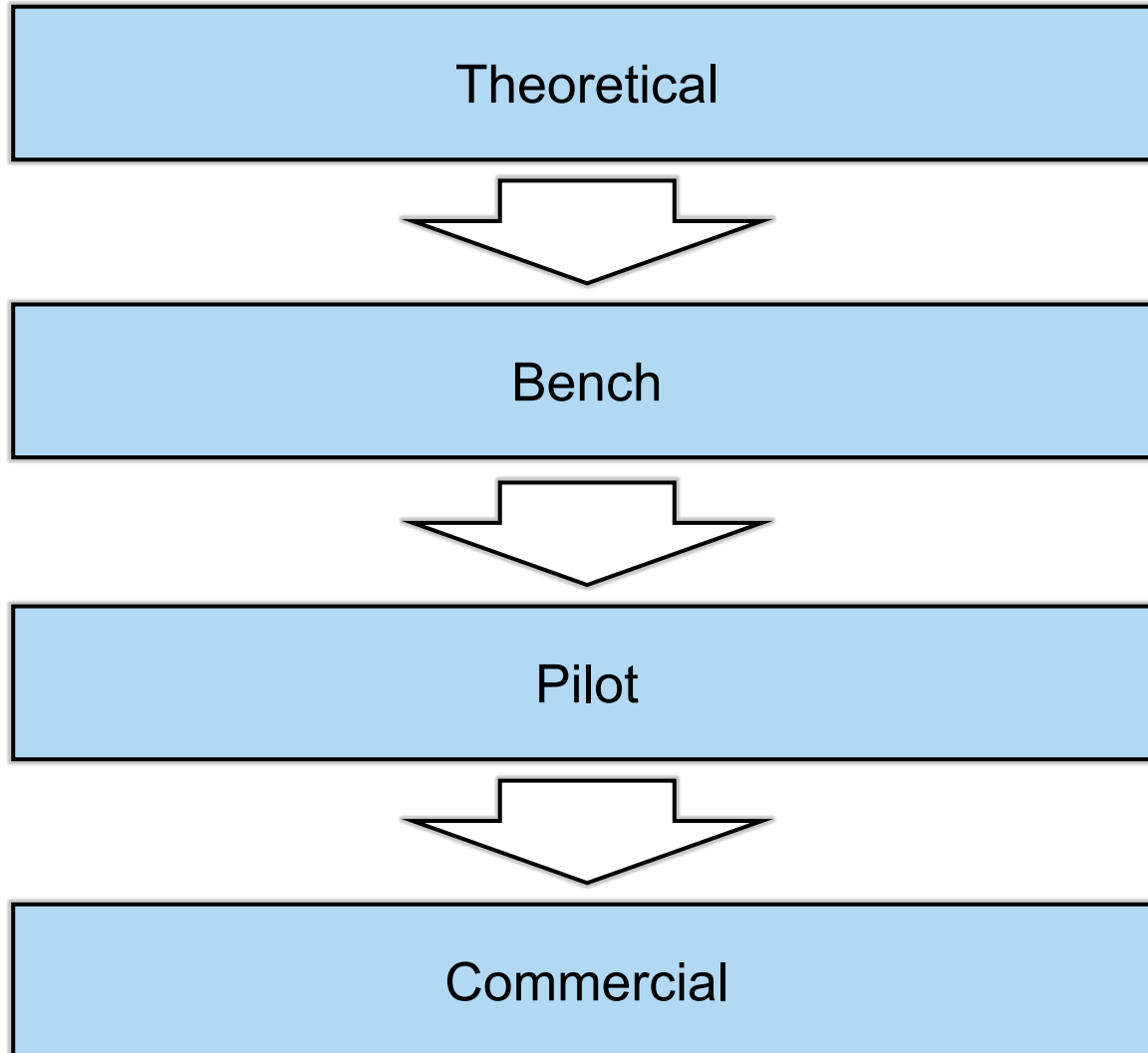
Industrial Efficiency &
Decarbonization Office
(IEDO)

Solar Energy
Technologies Office
(SETO)



Circular water economy is currently perceived as non-viable because of the **insufficient performance** or **high cost** of treatment technologies

TEA and modeling supports technological innovations throughout the R&D stages



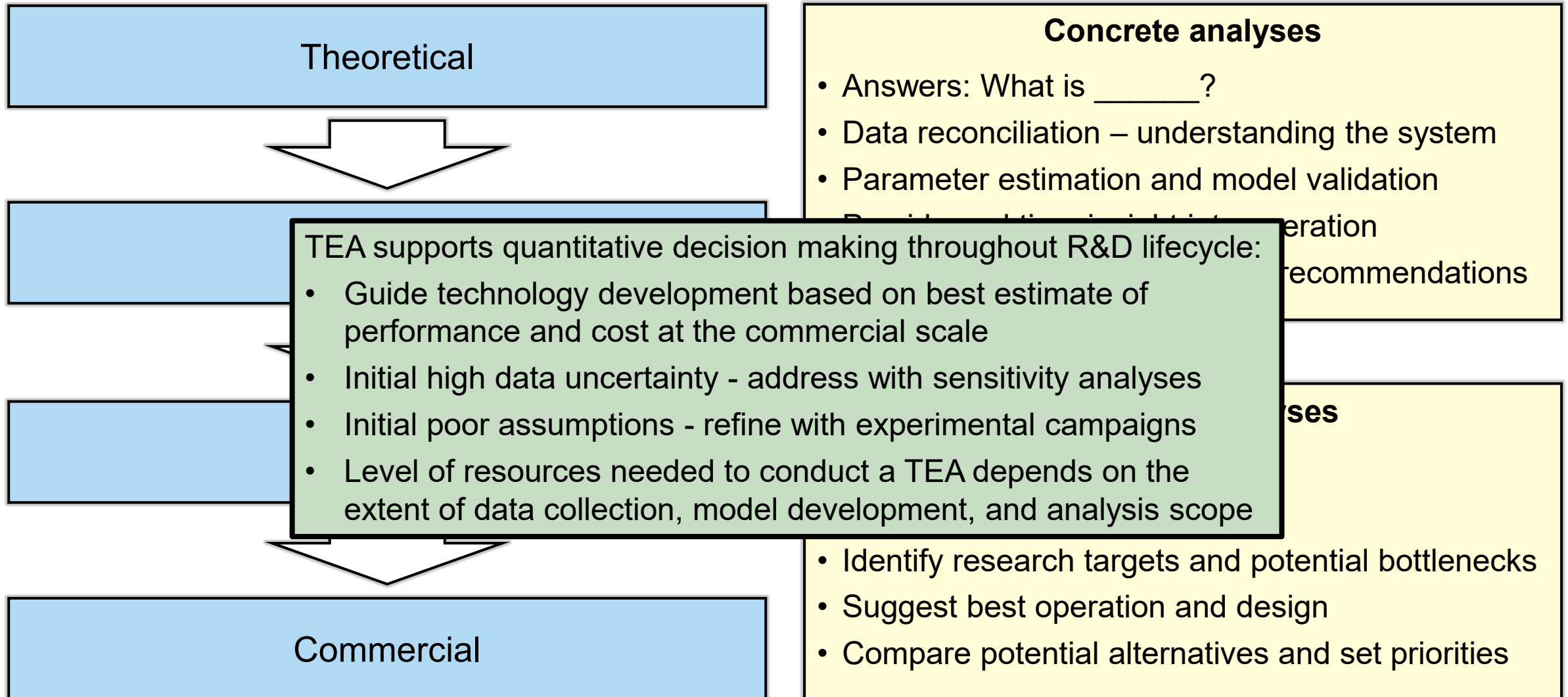
Concrete analyses

- Answers: What is _____?
- Data reconciliation – understanding the system
- Parameter estimation and model validation
- Provide real time insight into operation
- Enable conceptual analysis for recommendations

Conceptual analyses

- Answers: What if _____?
- Estimate performance and cost
- Identify research targets and potential bottlenecks
- Suggest best operation and design
- Compare potential alternatives and set priorities

TEA and modeling supports technological innovations throughout the R&D stages



High quality TEA is challenging and time consuming

Existing water treatment software is great for quickly conducting the specific analyses they support

Engineering/consulting firms generally use several tools in a disjointed manner (e.g., Proton for RO, OLI for softening, in house for costing, etc.)

Researchers generally build/implement their own models from scratch (e.g., Excel, Python, MATLAB)

Drawbacks include:

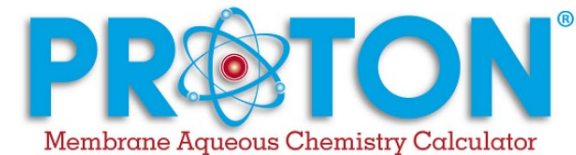
- Inherent limitations due to interfacing between tools
- Time intensive to develop models and capabilities, eventually reducing the quality or scope of analyses
- Not available or extensible by others -> duplicative effort and hard to compare to previous work



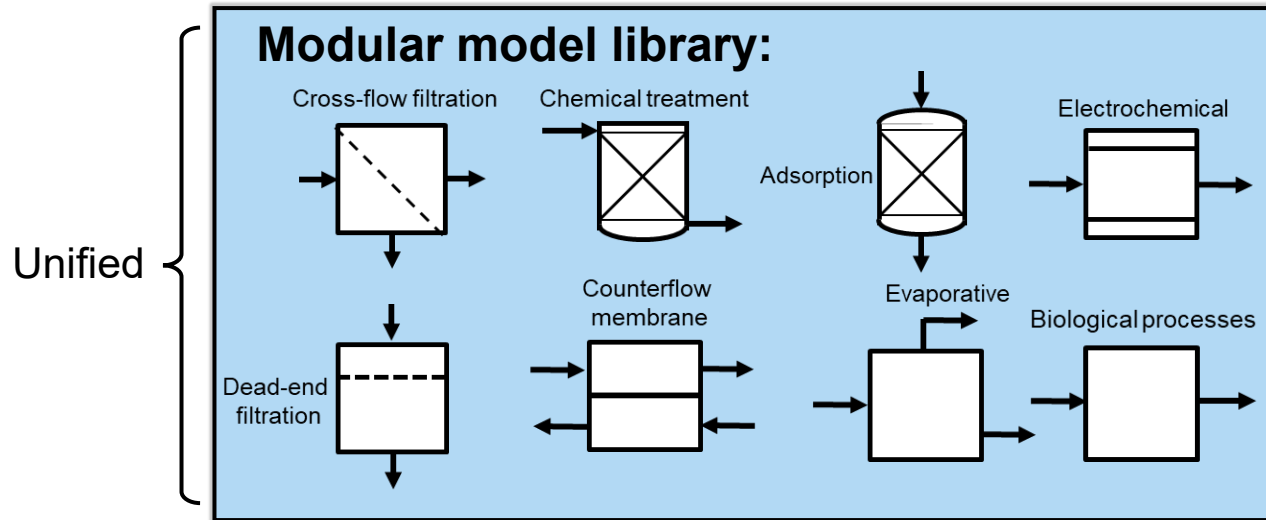
Water Application Value Engine (WAVE)



The Super Model (Sumo)



WaterTAP provides a platform for improving the quality and decreasing the effort of TEAs



Software release:

- Publicly accessible on GitHub
- Released every quarter
- <https://github.com/watertap-org/watertap>
- <https://watertap.readthedocs.io/en/latest/>
- `pip install watertap`






Flexible

Powerful

Core attributes:

- Open-source
- Multi-hierarchical
- Customizable
- Equation oriented
- IDAES compatible



The diagram shows a core attributes section with a list of five bullet points. To the right of the list are logos for Python, PYOMO, and IDAES. Below the logos is a diagram of a process block connected to a multi-cellular block, with a double-headed arrow between them. Below this diagram is the equation $f(x) = 0$.

Core capabilities:

- Simulation to evaluate new device integration
- Optimization to explore complex systems
- Sensitivity analyses to consider uncertainty
- Parameter estimation to fit real-world data
- Data-driven models for complex phenomena

WaterTAP provides a platform for improving the quality and decreasing the effort of TEAs

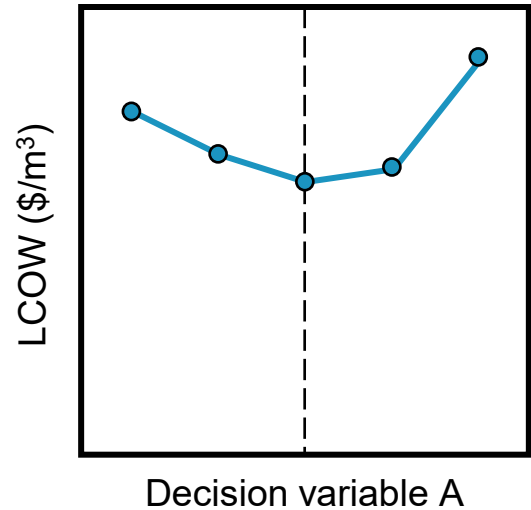
<p>Unified</p>	<p>Modular model library:</p>	<p>Software release:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publicly accessible on GitHub Released every quarter https://github.com/watertap-org/watertap
<p>Flexible</p>	<p>Core attributes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open-source Multi-platform Customizable 	<p>Users:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WaterTAP developers, NAWI project collaborators Other programs (e.g., PrOMMiS, CoWERC) <p>Use:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Code based interface (primary) Graphical user interface (secondary)
<p>Powerful</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equation oriented IDAES compatible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parameter estimation to fit real-world data Data-driven models for complex phenomena

Mathematical optimization greatly expands TEAs

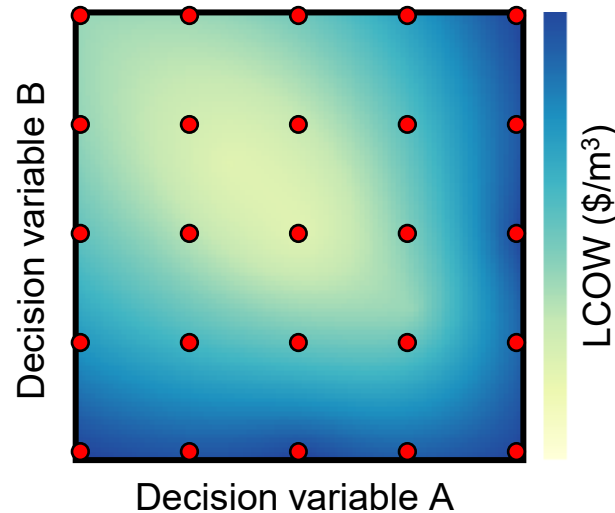
Simulation based modeling focuses on **decision variables**

Optimization based modeling focuses on **parameters** (model assumptions)

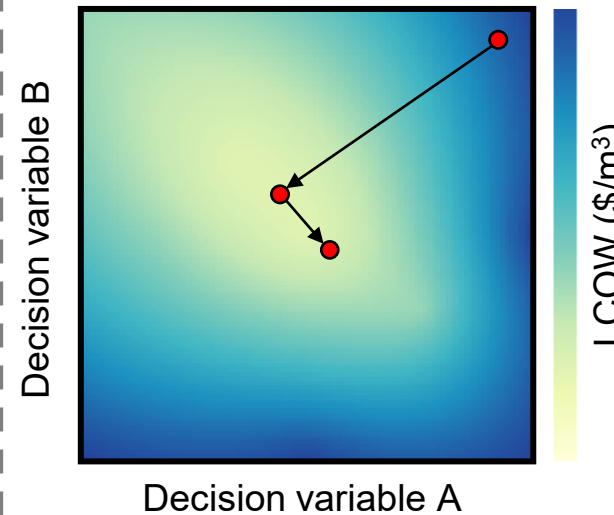
Simulation based sensitivity



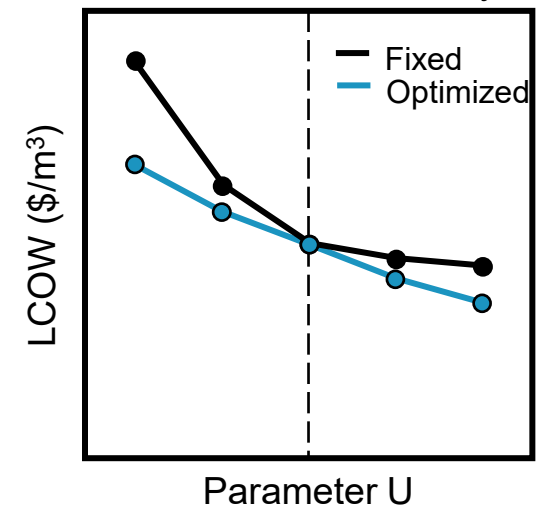
Simulation based optimization



Mathematical optimization



Parameter sensitivity

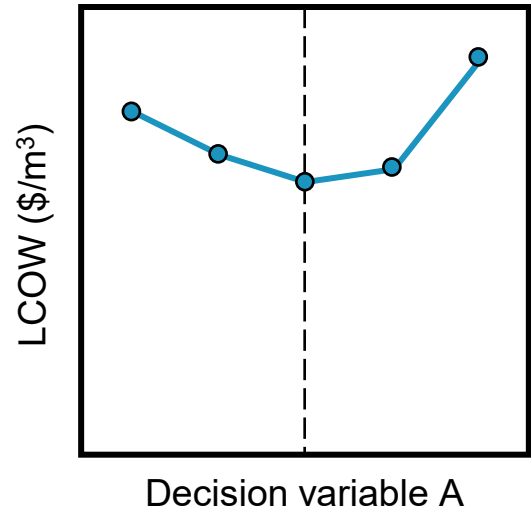


Mathematical optimization greatly expands TEAs

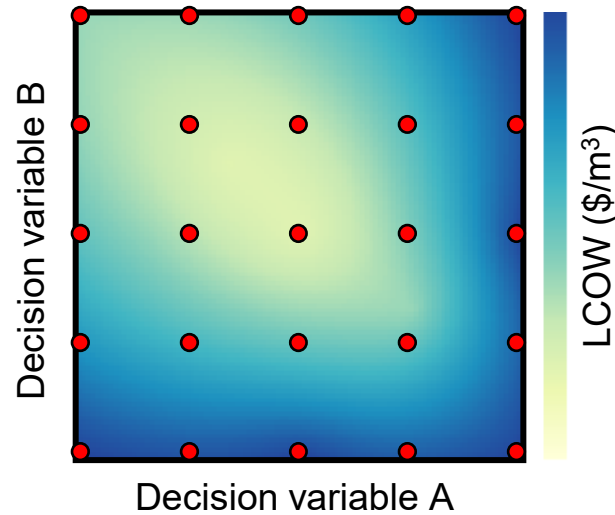
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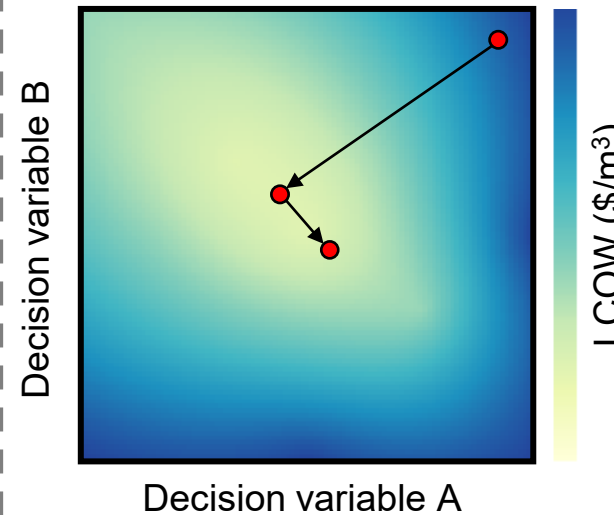
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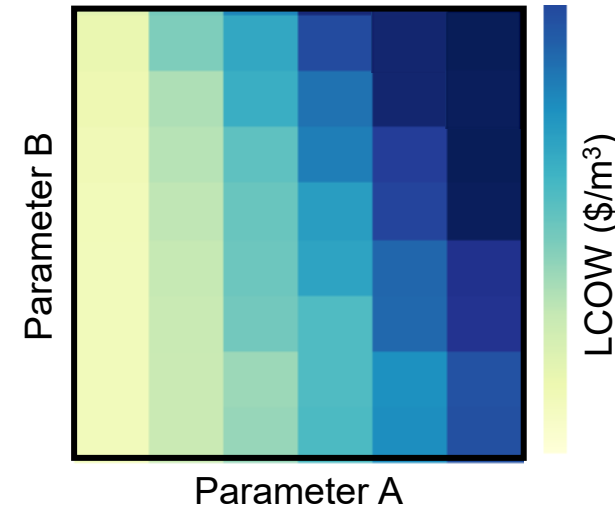
Simulation based optimization



Mathematical optimization



Dual parameter analysis



Equation oriented methods provide this optimization capability, but it requires all models to support it (Pyomo and IDAES)

Detailed water chemistry is supported on WaterTAP

Modeling complex water chemistry is challenging and data intensive

- Numerous reactions and interactions across aqueous, vapor, and solid species
- Dependent on concentrations of all species (even very small values)
- pH, temperature, pressure can all be significant

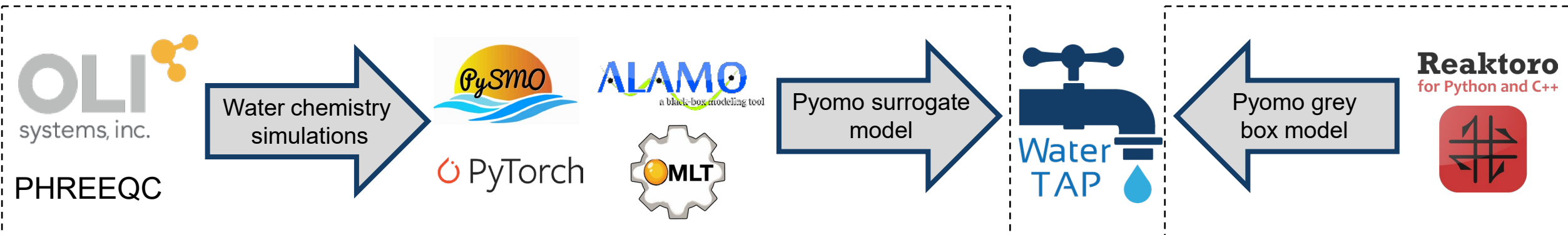
Electrolyte theoretical models can be built on the platform (e.g., eNRTL, MSE, Pitzer)

- Data availability limits the species that can be considered
- Large models pose challenges for mathematical optimization

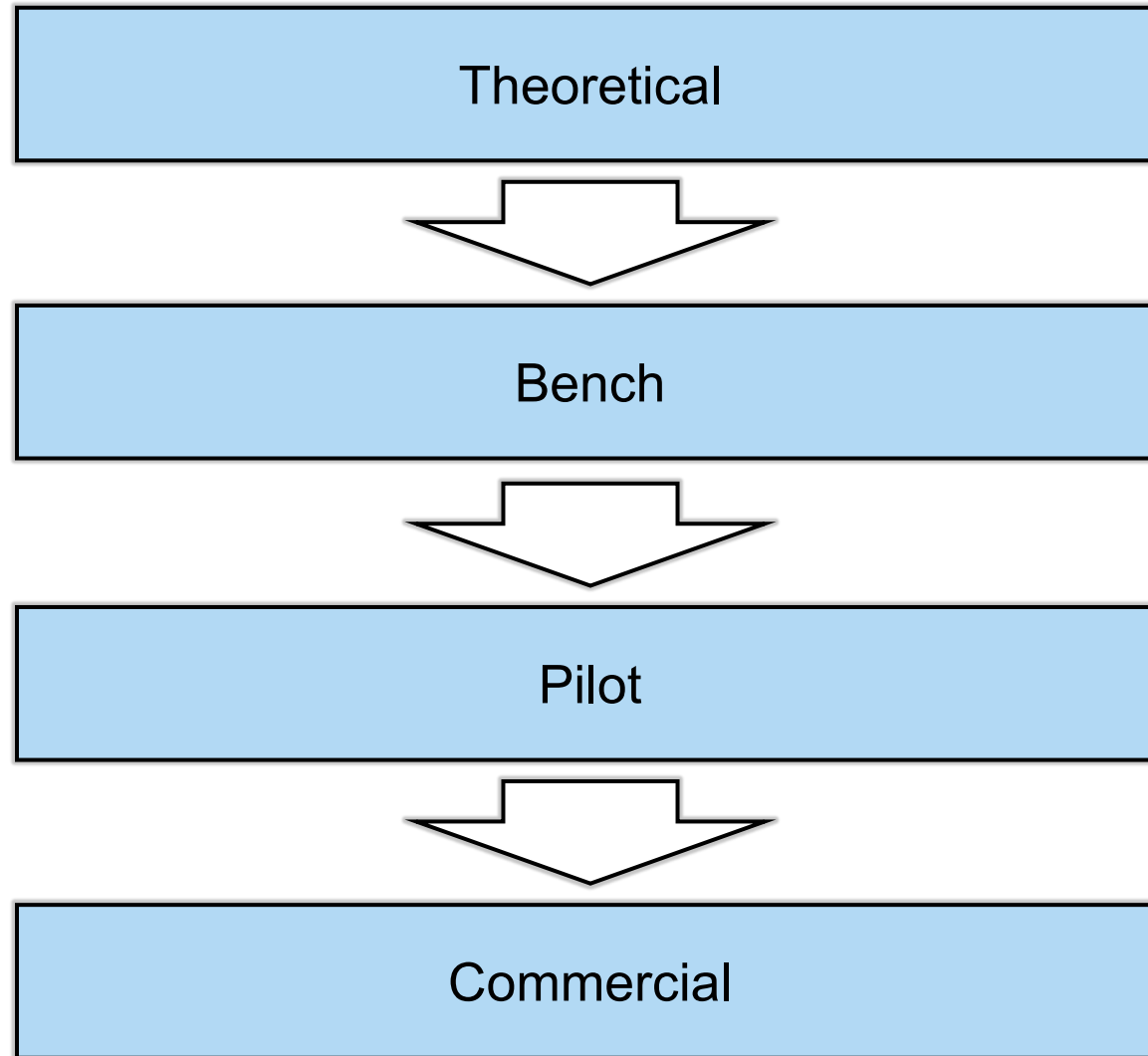
WaterTAP leverages external water chemistry software

Surrogate approach

Direct approach



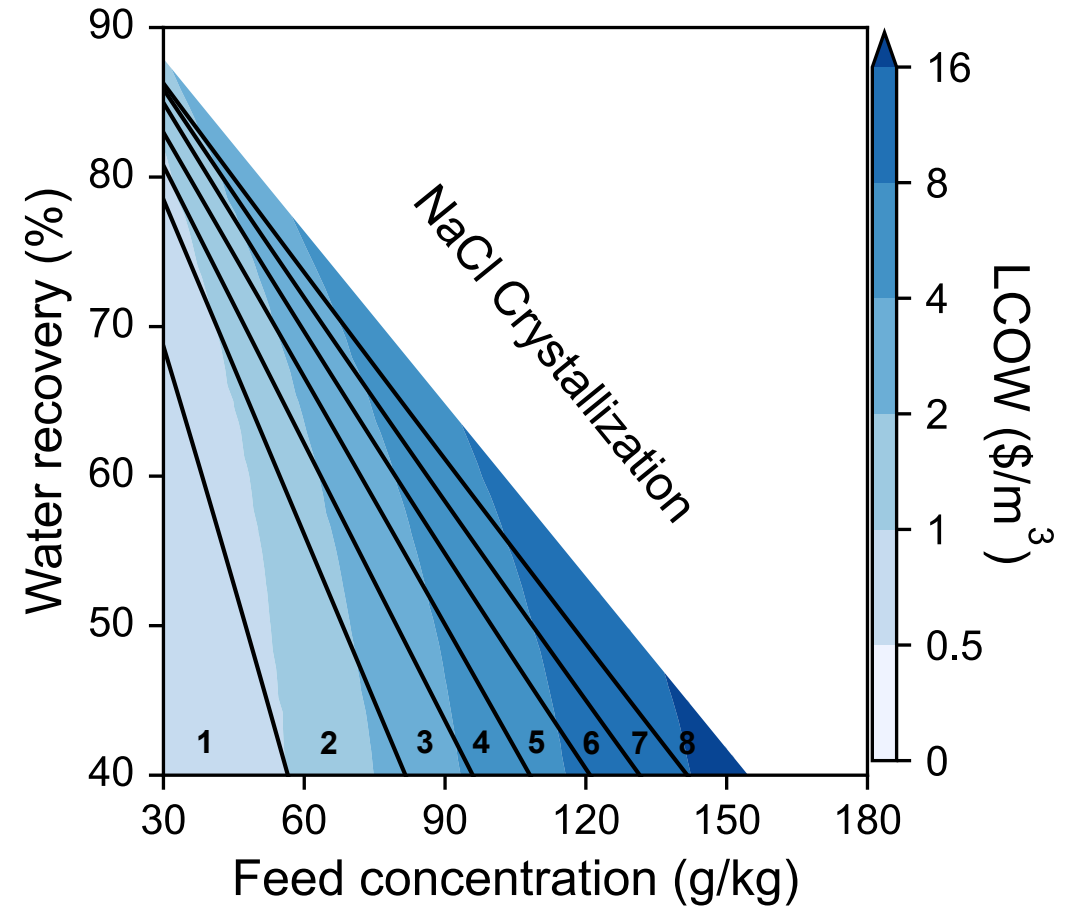
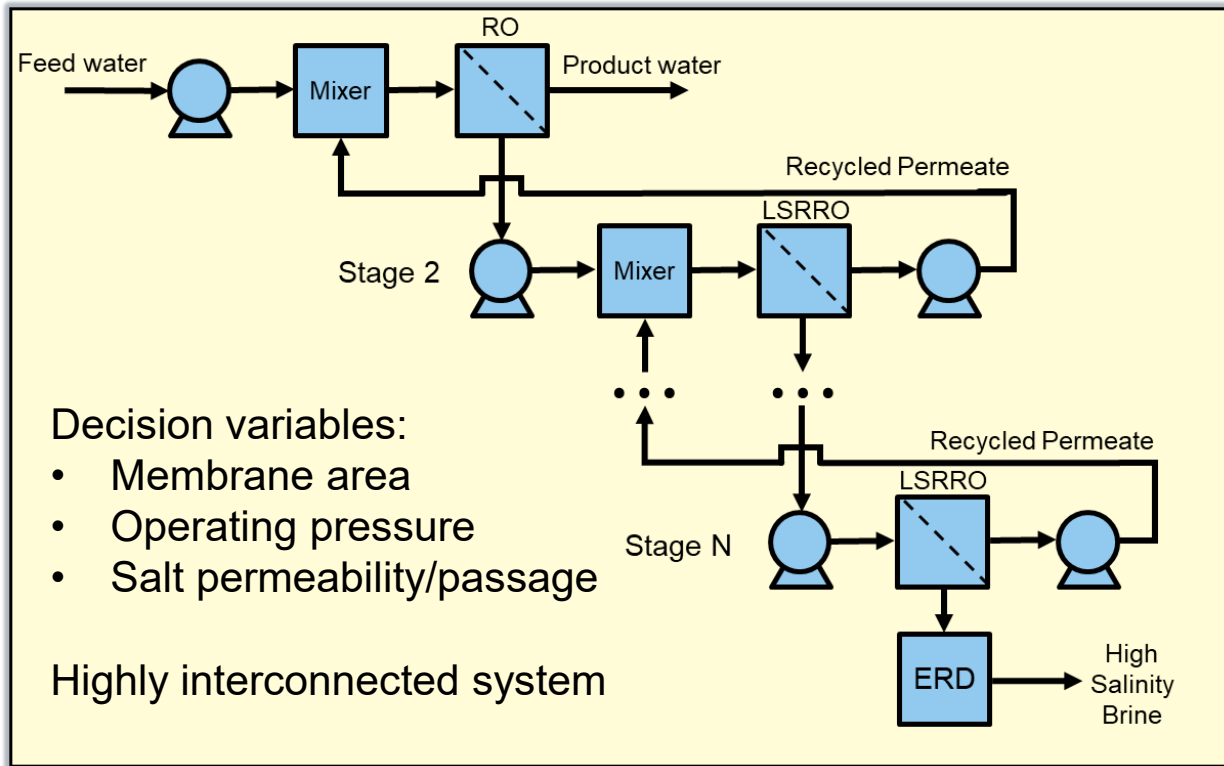
WaterTAP has multiple examples supporting technologies throughout all the development stages



Exploring the potential of a novel membrane process

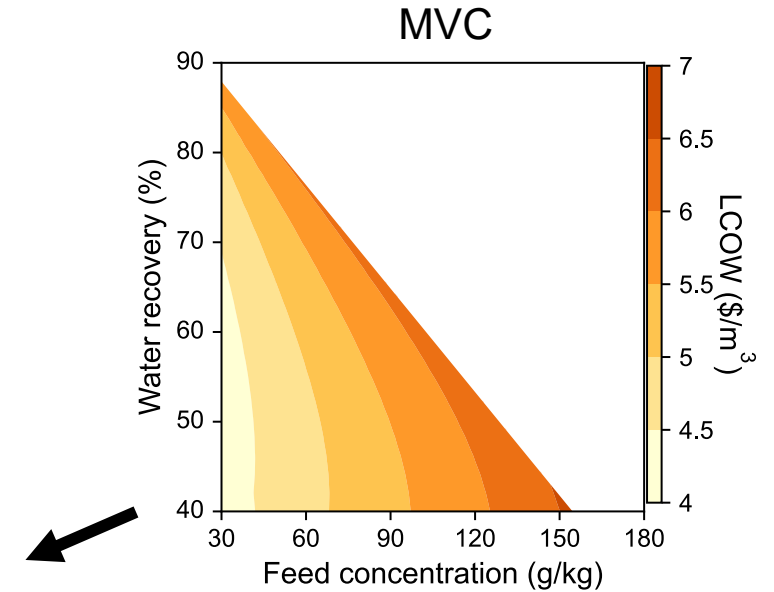
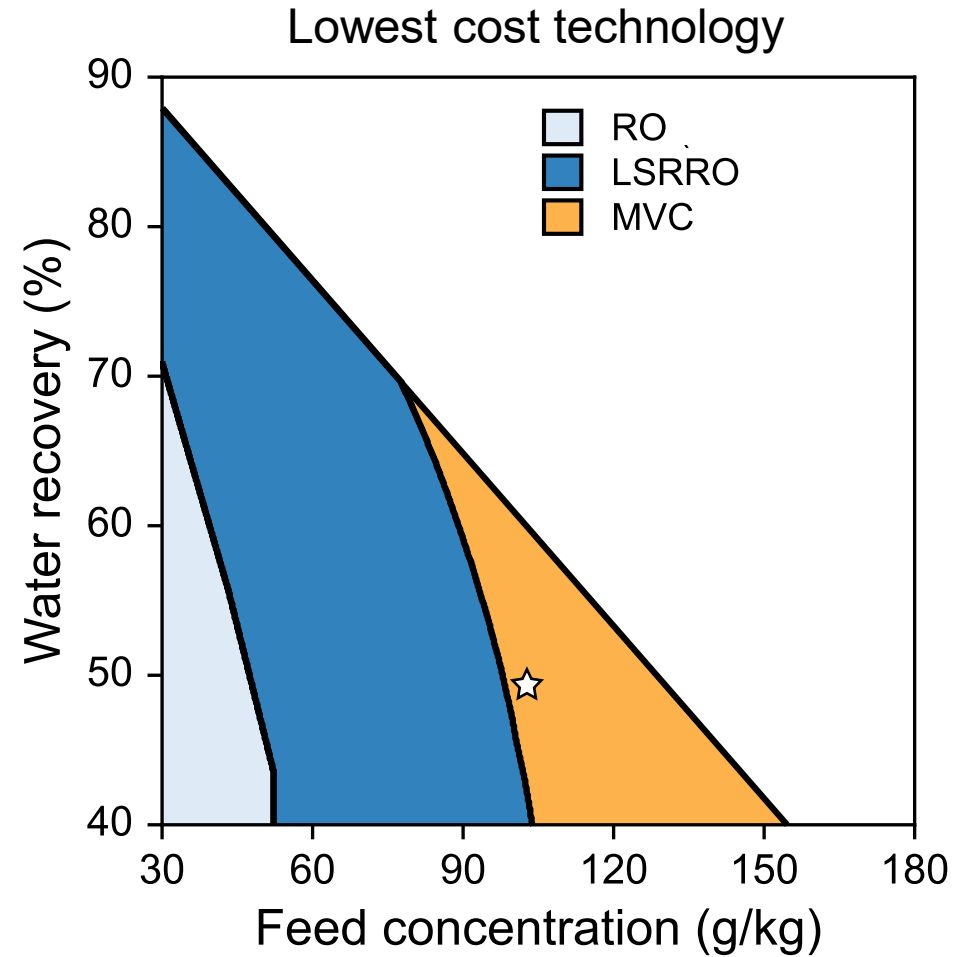
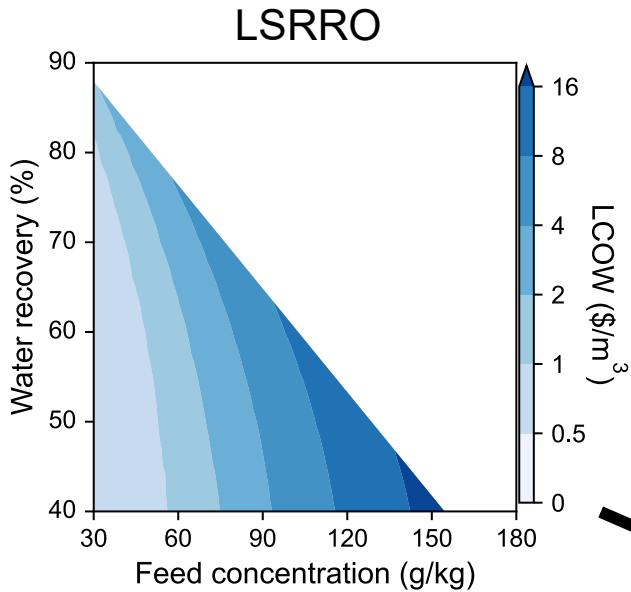
Theoretical

Low salt rejection reverse osmosis (LSRRO)



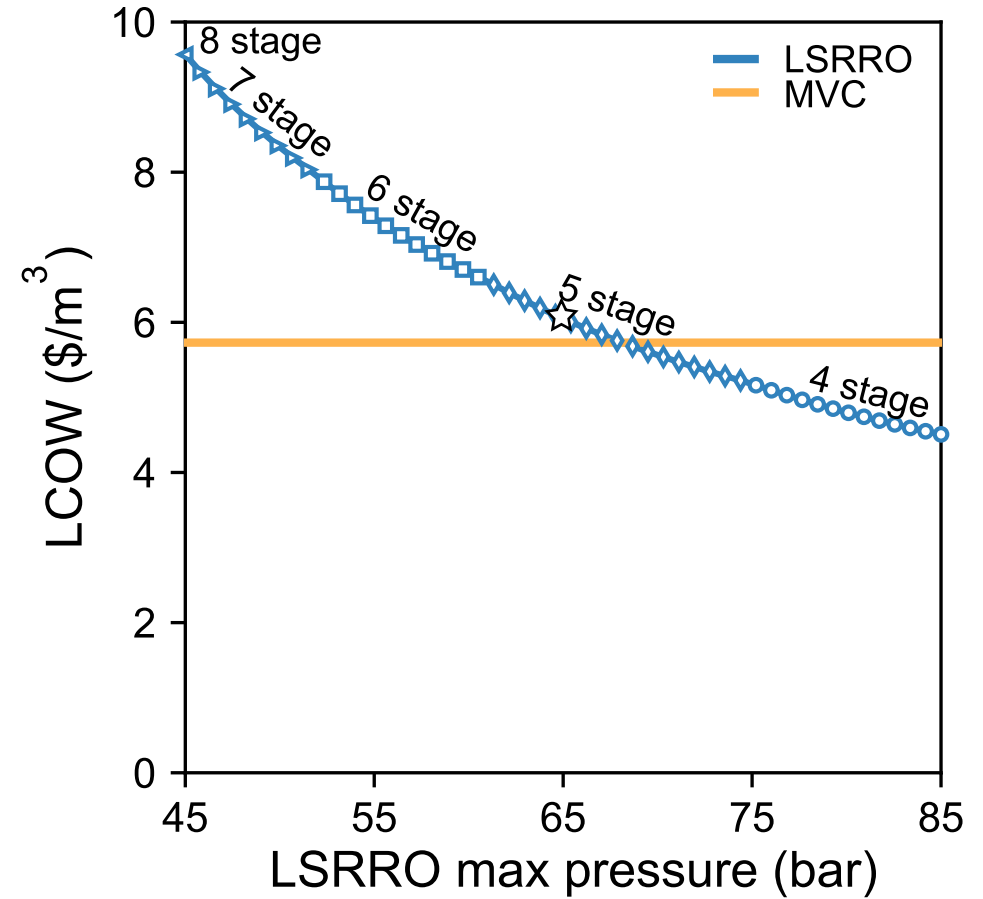
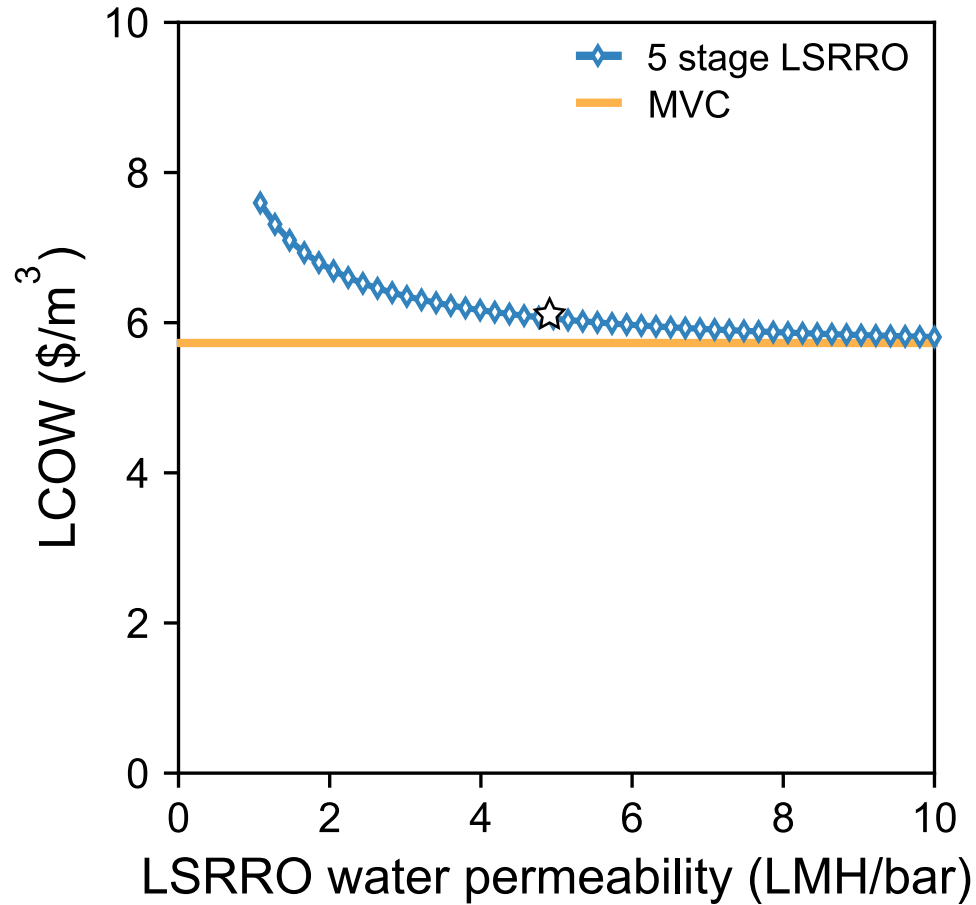
Quantifying technoeconomic viability through comparison

Case: 100 g/kg and 50% water recovery



Using sensitivity analysis to prioritize development

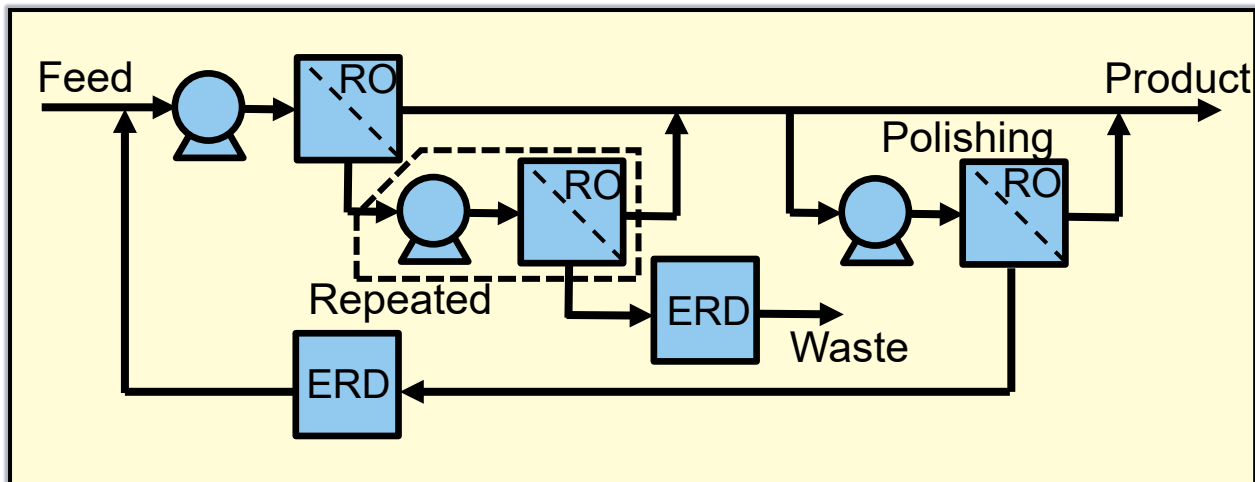
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Projecting the implications of bench-scale data

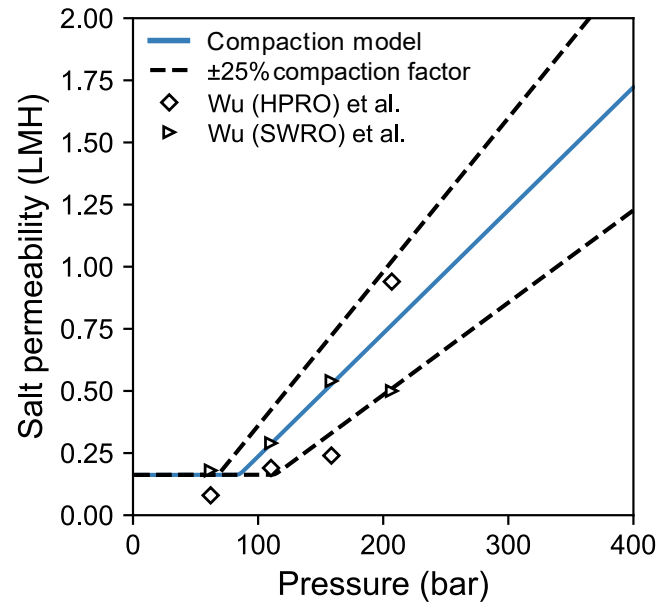
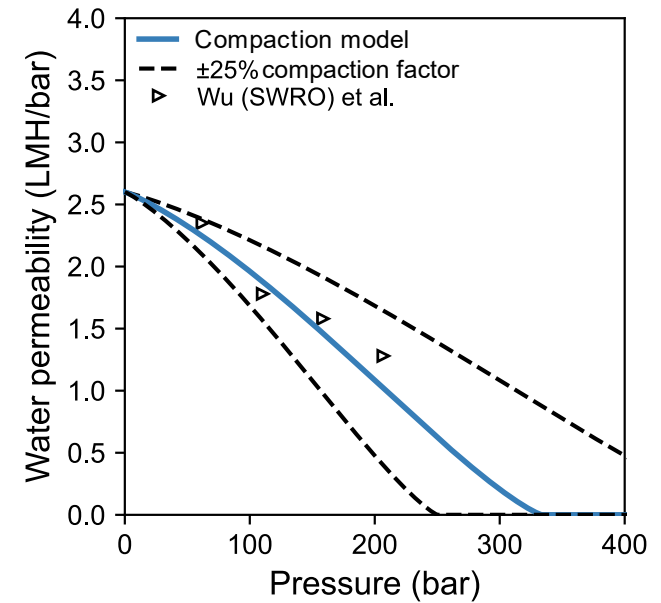
Bench

High pressure reverse osmosis (HPRO)



Two known challenges:

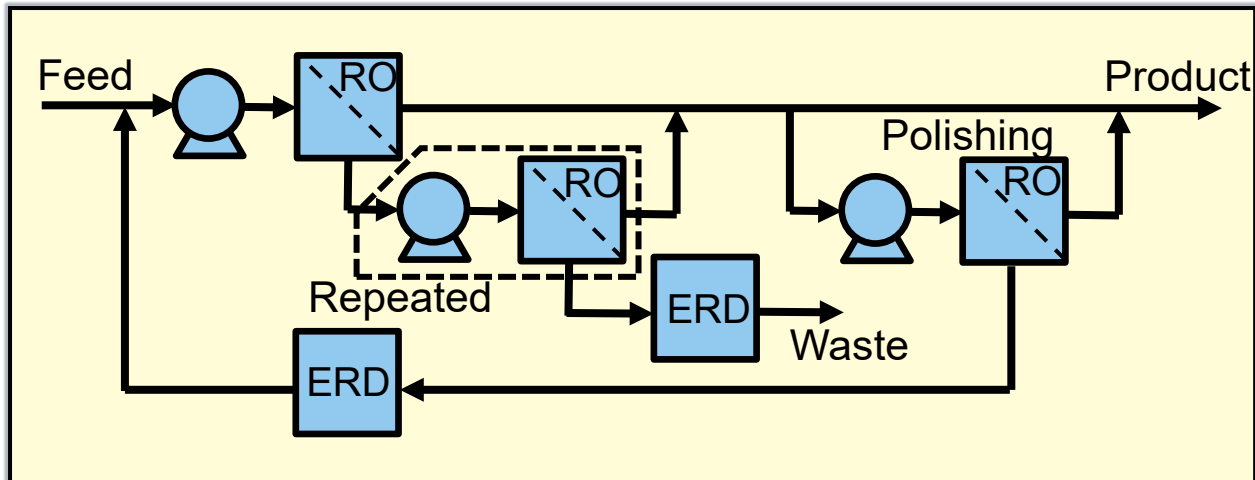
- Membrane compaction at high pressures decreases water permeability and increases salt permeability



Projecting the implications of bench-scale data

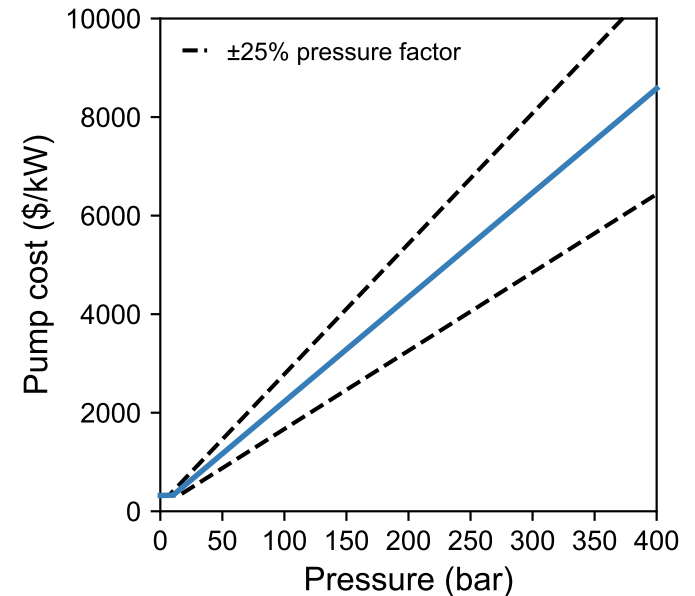
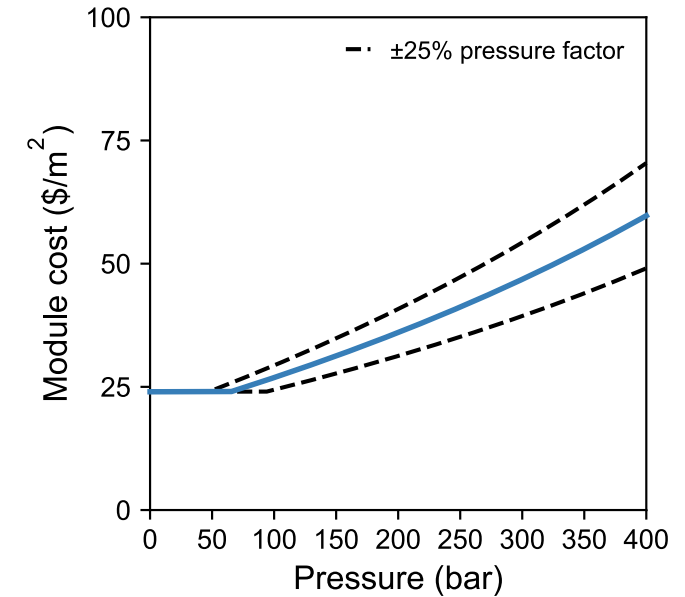
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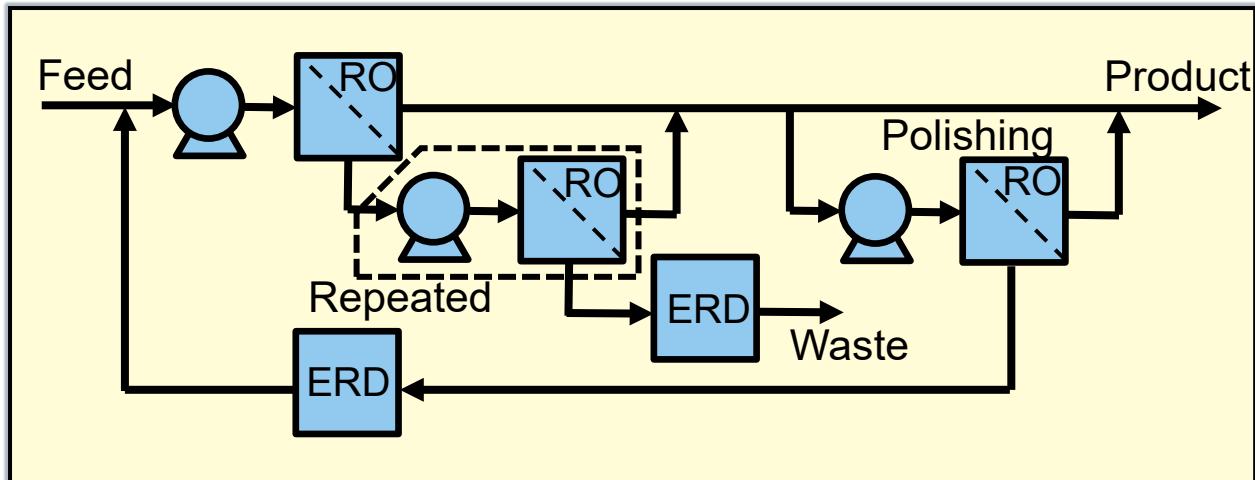
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- Equipment that operates at higher pressures are more expensive



Projecting the implications of bench-scale data

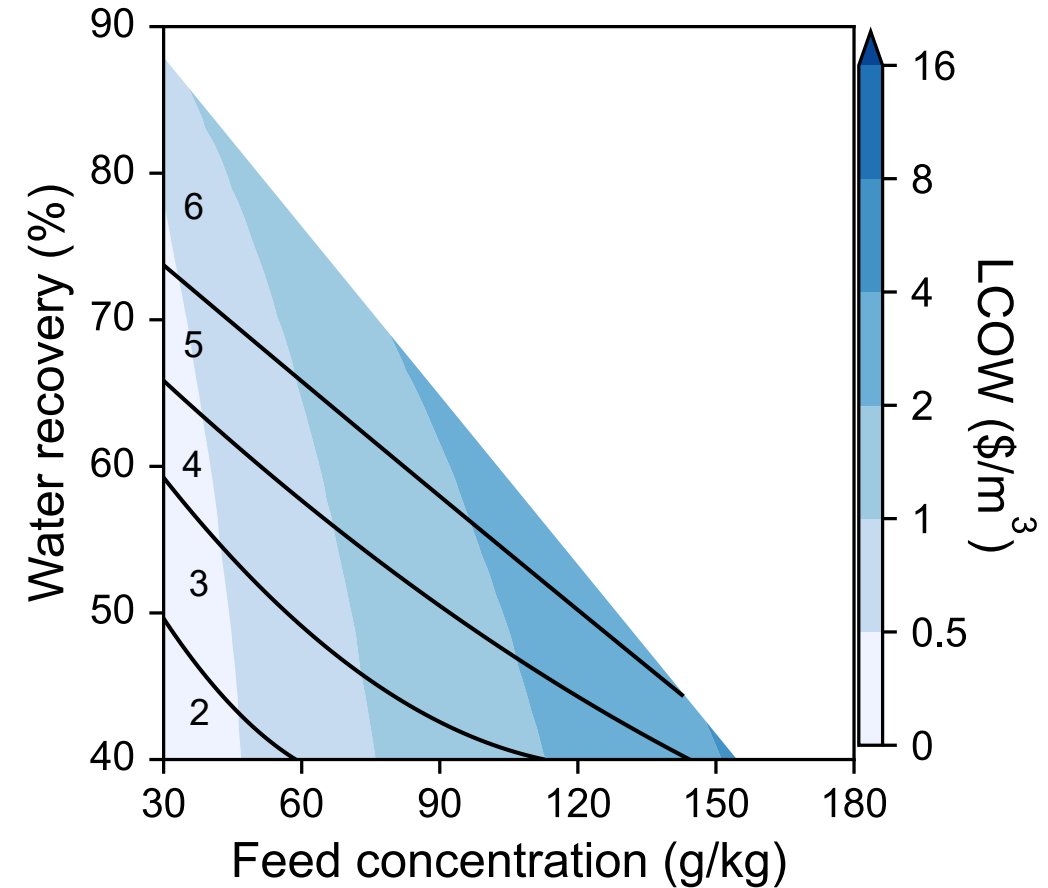
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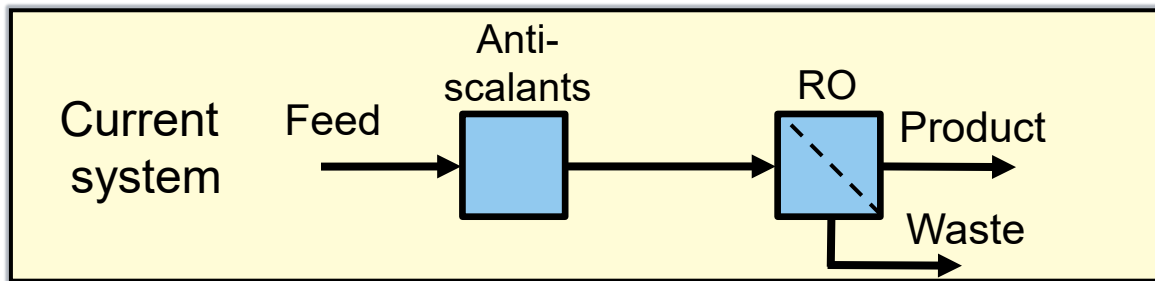
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Assisting pilot design and operation

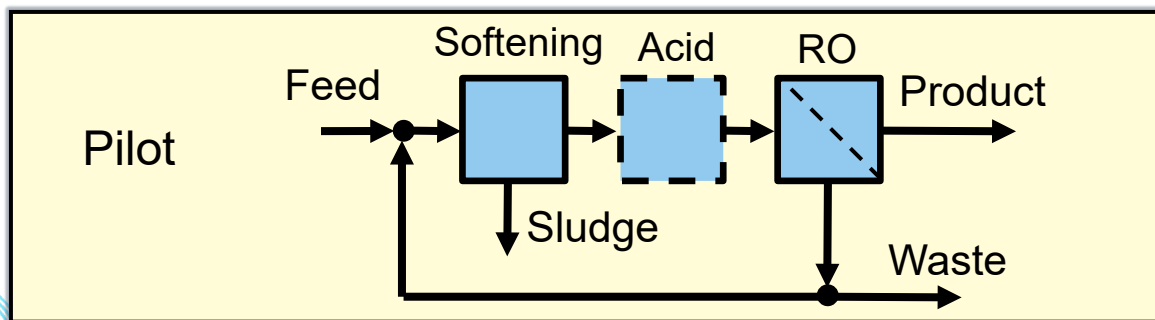
Pilot

**Distributed brackish water desalination in Kenya
(off grid and driven by solar power)**

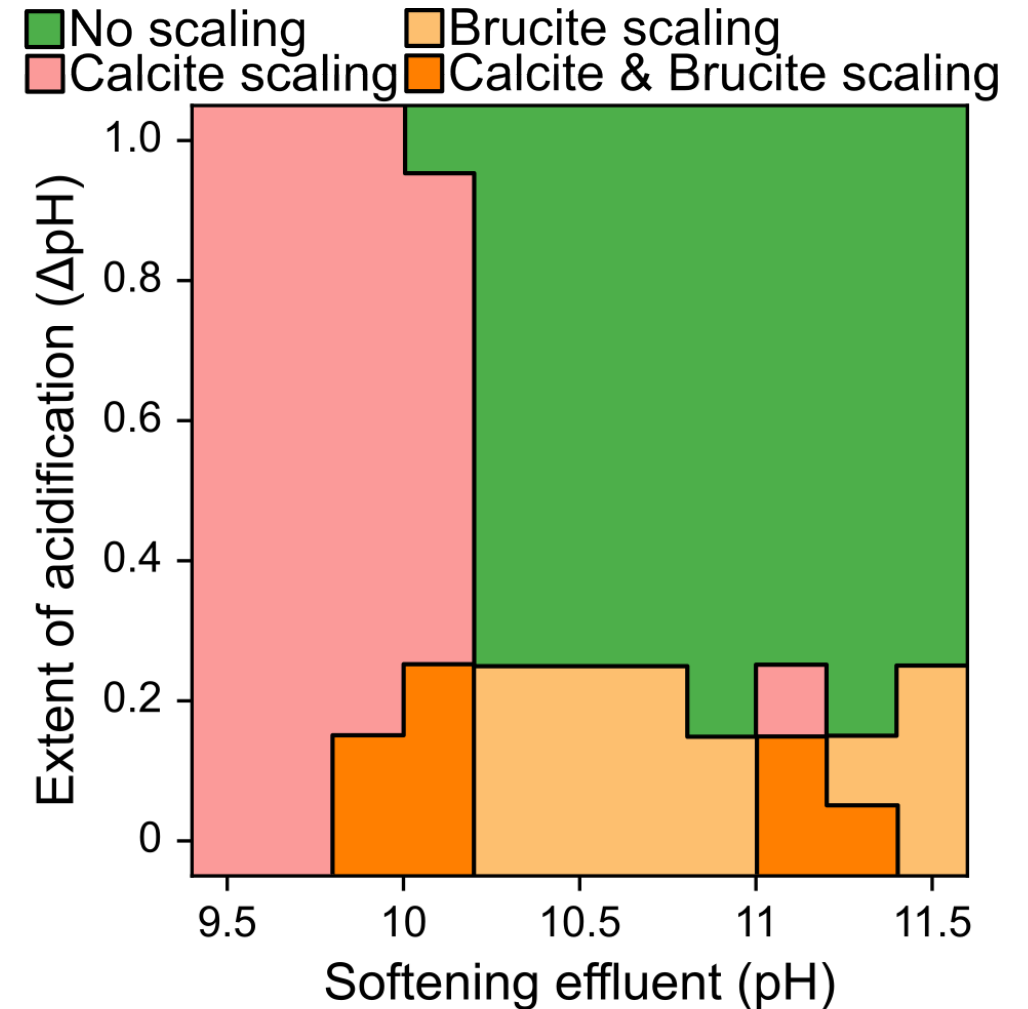


Pilot seeks to address two issues:

- Mineral scaling even with significant antiscalant dosing (at a high cost)
- High disposal volumes with only 50% water recovery



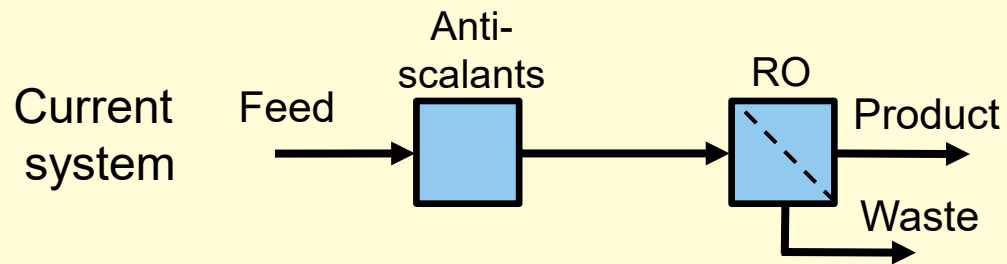
Prof. Manish Kumar



Assisting pilot design and operation

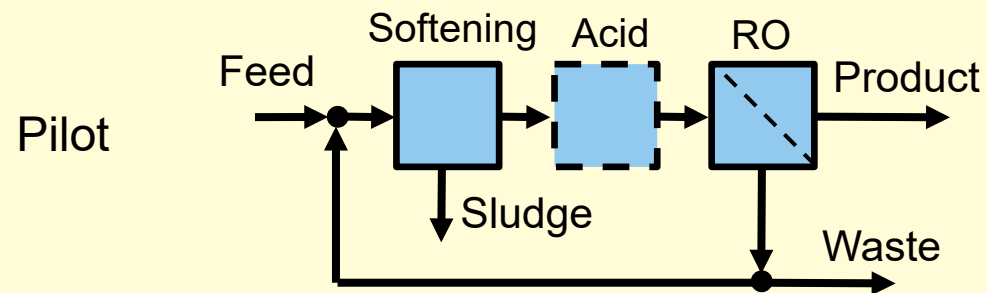
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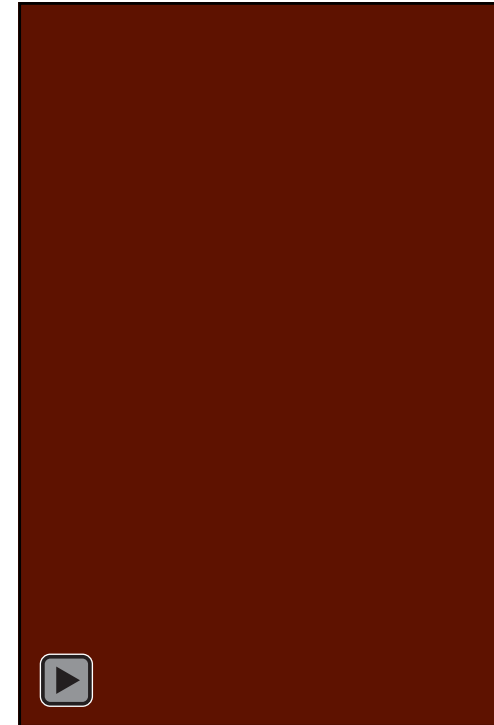


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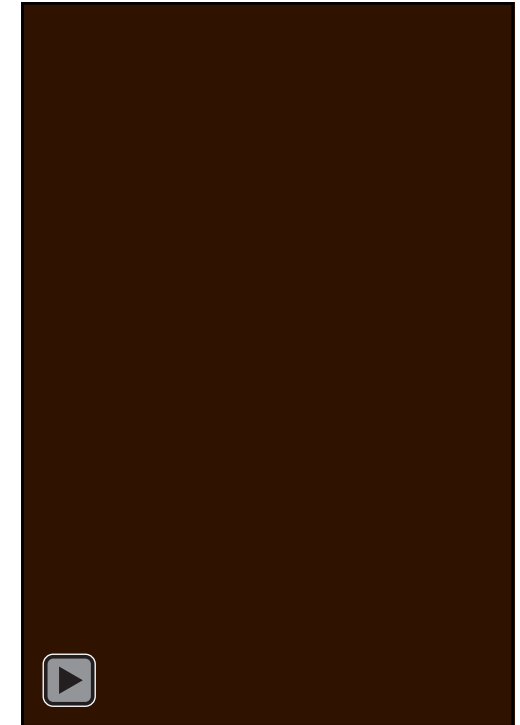
- Mineral scaling even with significant antiscalant dosing (at a high cost)
- High disposal volumes with only 50% water recovery



Before



After



Benefits:

- Reduce brine production by 67.5%
- No use of antiscalants

Cons:

- Lime softening and waste sludge generation

Supporting commercial-scale retrofit

Commercial



Chino Basin Desalter

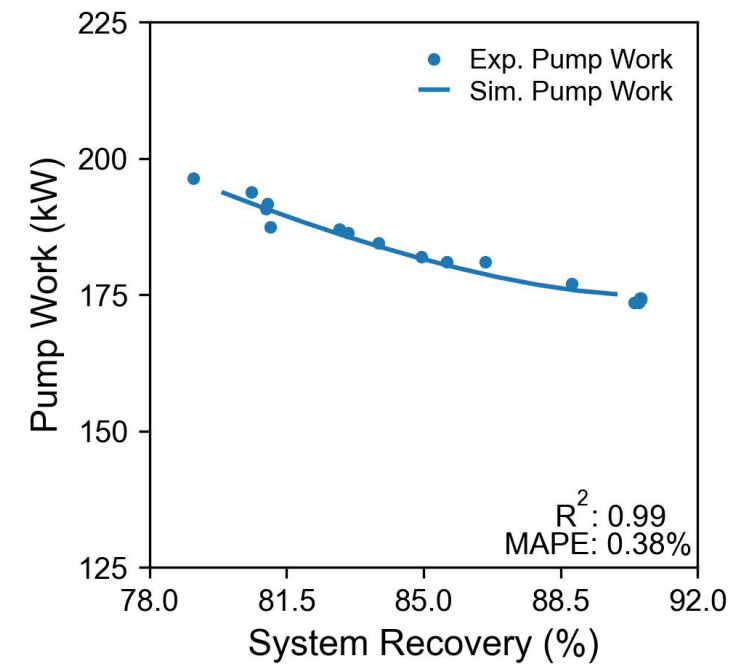


Prof. Mingheng Li

Commercial brine concentration

Analysis seeks to evaluate a potential retrofit:

- Reduce disposal costs by increasing recovery
- Potentially add third stage RO with feed flow reversal to mitigate mineral scaling



Supporting commercial-scale retrofit

Commercial



Prof. Mingheng Li

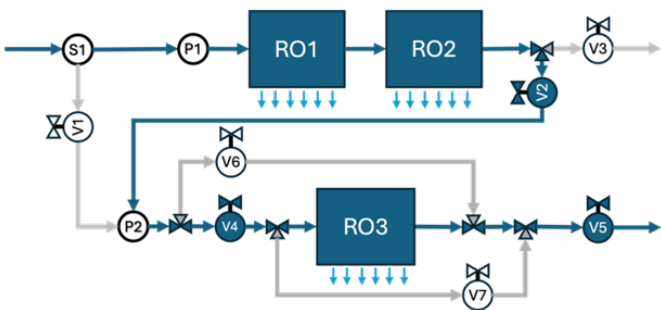
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Commercial brine concentration

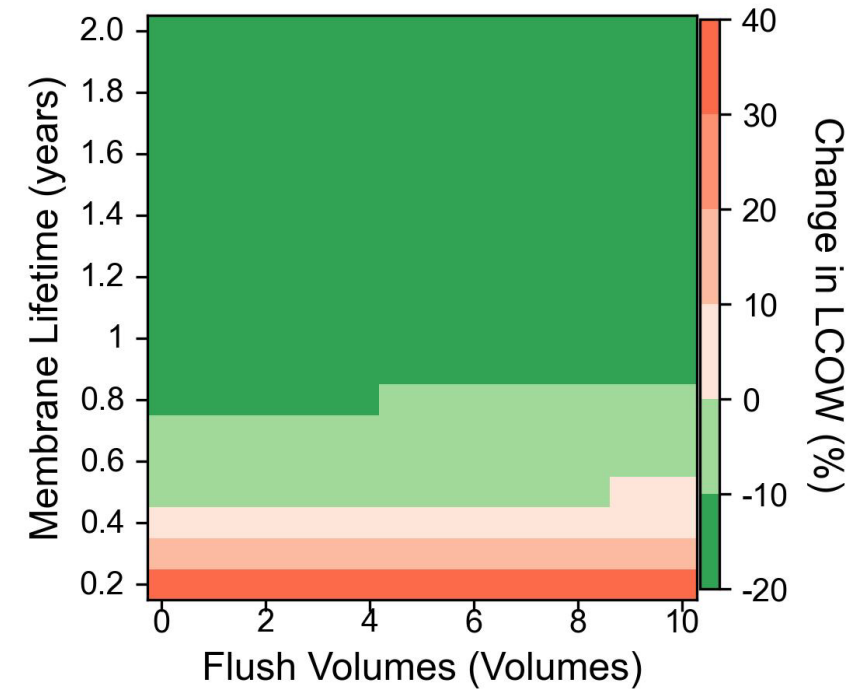
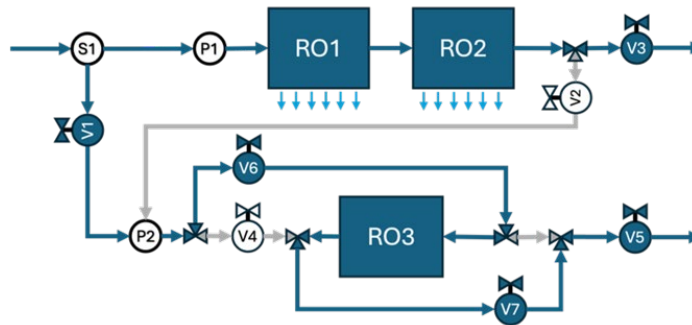
Analysis seeks to evaluate a potential retrofit:

- Reduce disposal costs by increasing recovery
- Potentially add third stage RO with feed flow reversal to mitigate mineral scaling

*Normal operation
(RO3 switch's flow direction)*



*Flushing of RO3 during flow switch,
wastes part of feed*



What impact does membrane life and flush volumes have on viability?

WaterTAP has a broad water treatment library

Membrane:

- Reverse osmosis
- Osmotically assisted reverse osmosis
- Nanofiltration
- Membrane distillation

Evaporative:

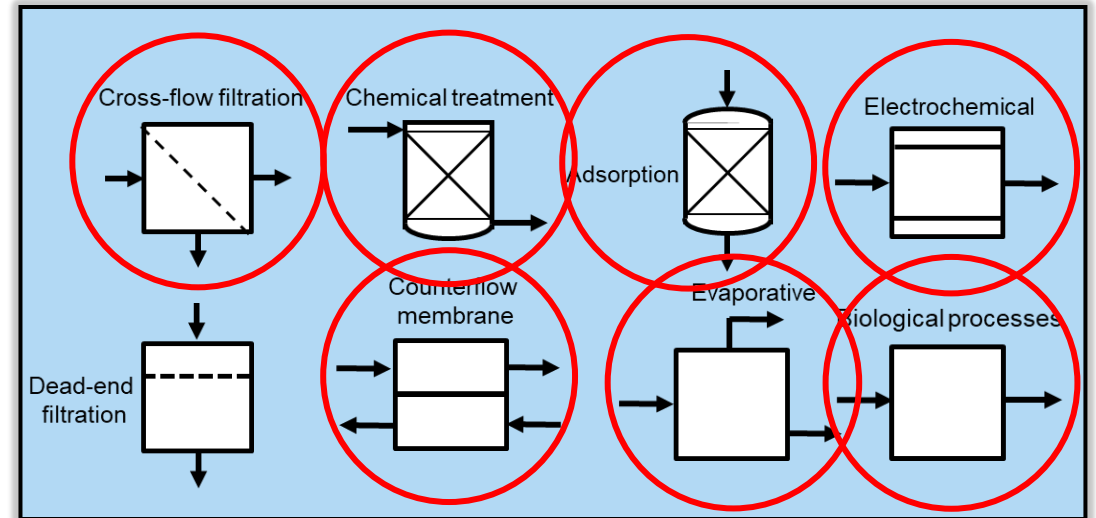
- Mechanical vapor compression
- Multi-effect distillation
- Crystallizer

Electrochemical:

- Electrodialysis
- Electrolyzer
- Electrocoagulation

Chemical:

- Stoichiometric and kinetic reactors



Ad/absorption:

- Ion exchange
- Granular activated carbon
- Solvent extraction

Biological:

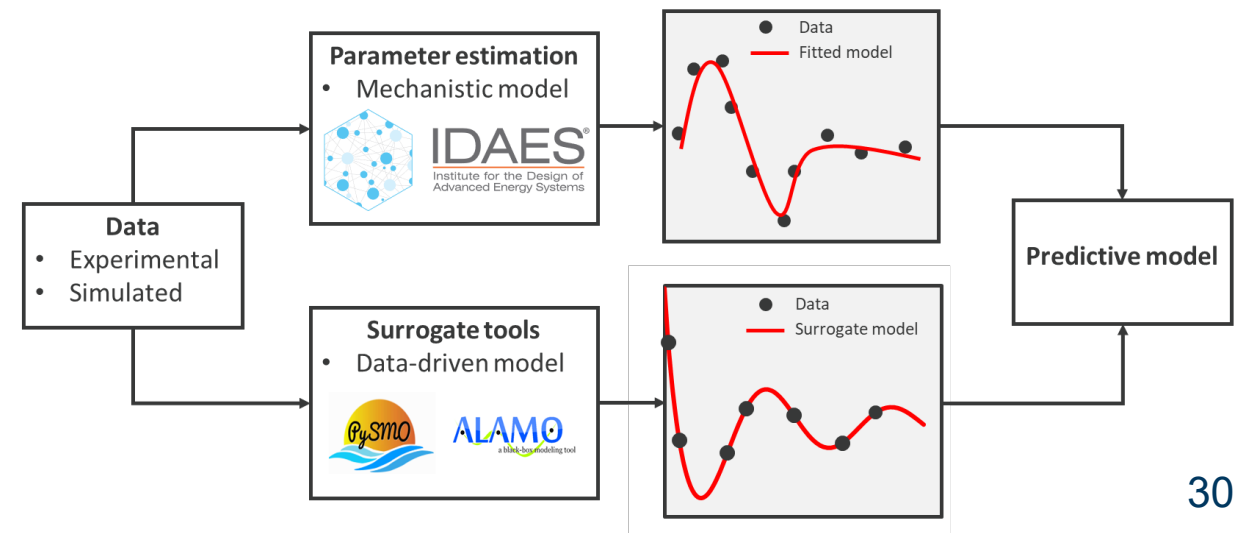
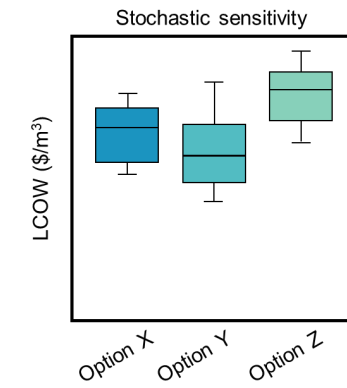
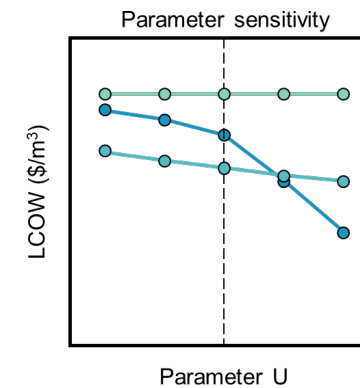
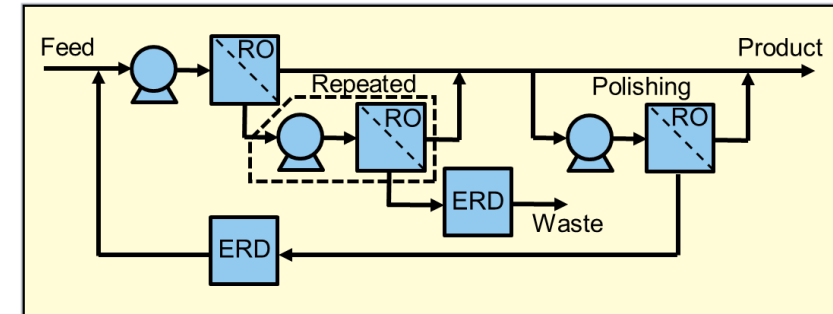
- Activated sludge
- Anaerobic digester

Auxiliary equipment:

- pumps, heat exchangers, mixers, splitters


WaterTAP has several valuable core capabilities

- Simulation and optimization of treatment trains assembled from modular model library
- Parametric sensitivity analyses
- Stochastic sensitivity analyses
- Parameter estimation
- Surrogate modeling





WaterTAP has several valuable core capabilities



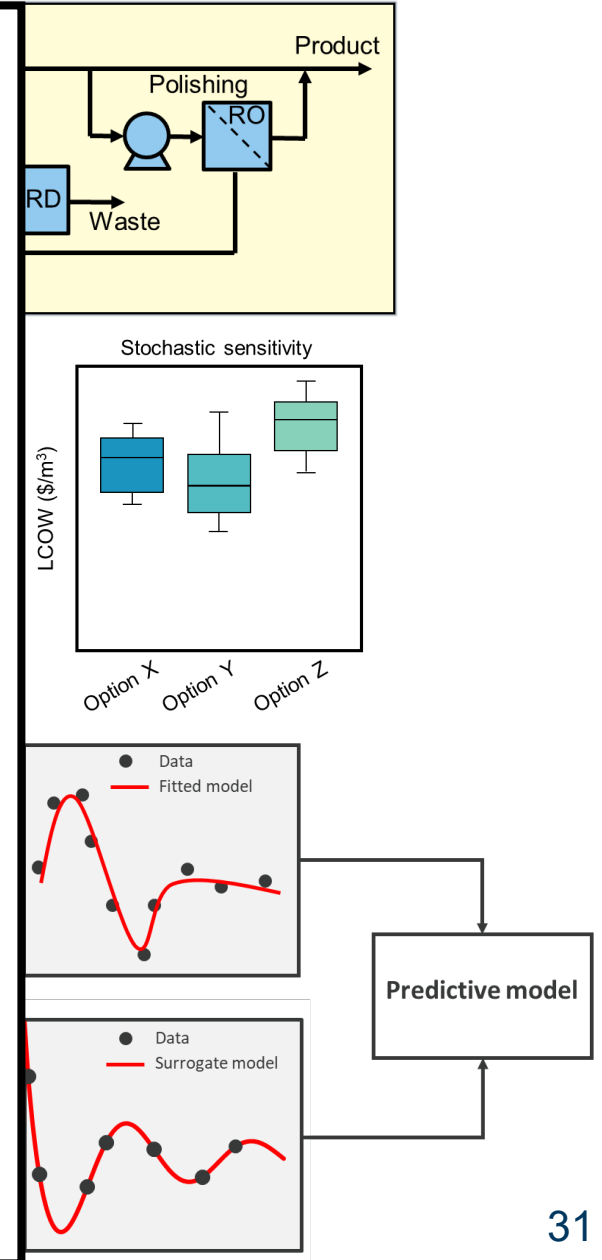
- Simulation and trains assembly
- Parametric sensitivity analysis
- Stochastic sensitivity analysis
- Parameter estimation
- Surrogate modeling



"An equation-oriented, optimization-based integrated process modeling platform"

"Rich software environment for formulating and analyzing optimization applications"

WaterTAP has several valuable core capabilities

- Simulation
- training
- Parametric
- Stochastic
- Parametric
- Surrogate



WaterTAP is pivoting for NAWI 2.0 (2025-2029)

Previous focus:

- Technoeconomic assessments (TEA) for researchers

Future development:

- Provide technical assistance for pilot projects
 - Dynamic modeling and controls
 - Model based design of experiments
 - Robust optimization
- Analysis tool for consultants/engineers
 - Demonstrate value with industry case studies
 - Specifically support high demand analyses



PyROS

Alex Dowling and Chrysanthos Gounaris:
1pm tomorrow (Main room)

WaterTAP is pivoting for NAWI 2.0 (2025-2029)

Previous focus:

- Technoeconomic assessments (TEA) for researchers

Future

- Provide

- Dy

- M

- R

- Analysis

- Demonstrate value with industry case studies

- Specifically support high demand analyses

WaterTAP provides a platform that is:

- Unified – broad treatment technologies and applications
- Flexible – customizable, modular, hierarchical
- Powerful – advanced simulation and optimization capabilities

A centralized platform enables TEAs to be more:

- Reproducible – can run codes that are publicly accessible
- Comparable – can updated previous analyses with new parameters
- Extendable – can modify and build upon previous models

Thank you

- **National Energy Technology Laboratory:** David Miller, Tim Bartholomew, Andrew Lee, Markus Drouven, Andres Calderon-Vergara, Adam Atia, Chenyu Wang, Marcus Holly, Travis Arnold, Hunter Barber, Alejandro Garciadiego, Elmira Shamlou, Zhuoran Zhang, Savannah Sakhai
- **Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory:** Deb Agarwal, Dan Gunter, Keith Beattie, Oluwamayowa Amusat, Jangho Park, Ludovico Bianchi, Jennifer Stokes-Draught, Xiangyu Bi, Michael Pesce
- **National Renewable Energy Laboratory:** Ben Knueven, Ethan Young, Jared Allen, Jordan Macknick, Kurby Sitterley, Kinshuk Panda, Zach Binger, Mukta Hardikar, Paul Vecchiarelli
- **Oak Ridge National Laboratory:** Srikanth Allu, Austin Ladshaw, Johnson Dhanasekaran, Fahim Abdullah
- **SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory:** Alex Dudchenko

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