

AN INITIATIVE OF FLEMISH UNIVERSITIES

MATERIALS

ENERGY

Chemical Research in Flanders

## CRF-2 2019

Indak Prihatiningtyan has attended the CRF-2 Symposium

In name of the organizing committee

October 14-16 2019

Prof. Chris Stevens Prof. Johan Martens



**Department of Chemical Engineering** Process Engineering for Sustainable Systems

# Incorporating cellulose nanocrystal (CNCs) in pervaporation membrane to enhance performance of desalination

Indah Prihatiningtyas, Alexander Volodin, Bart Van der Bruggen E-mails: indahprihatiningtyas.yamsidi@kuleuven.be; bart.vanderbruggen@kuleuven.be

#### Background

Pervaporation (PV) is highlighted in recent research as an attractive and promising membrane process for desalination. However, the permeability is thought to be low for practical application. Incorporating a hydrophilic nanofillers to develop a composite membrane potentially improves the productivity, selectivity and thermochemical durability of a membrane. CNCs are a renewable material with low cost and thought to be attractive for reinforcing polymers and increasing the hydrophilicity of nanocomposite materials. In this study, nanocomposite membranes were prepared by incorporating CNCs into cellulose triacetate (CTA) by solution casting in order to enhance the performance of pervaporative desalination. The resulting membranes were characterized by scanning electron microscope (SEM), atomic force microscope (AFM), water contact angle, tensile strength, and Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) spectroscopy. The desalination performance by vacuum pervaporation was investigated as a function of CNCs loading, feed temperature (30 and 70°C) and feed concentration (from 30 g/L to 90 g/L NaCl).

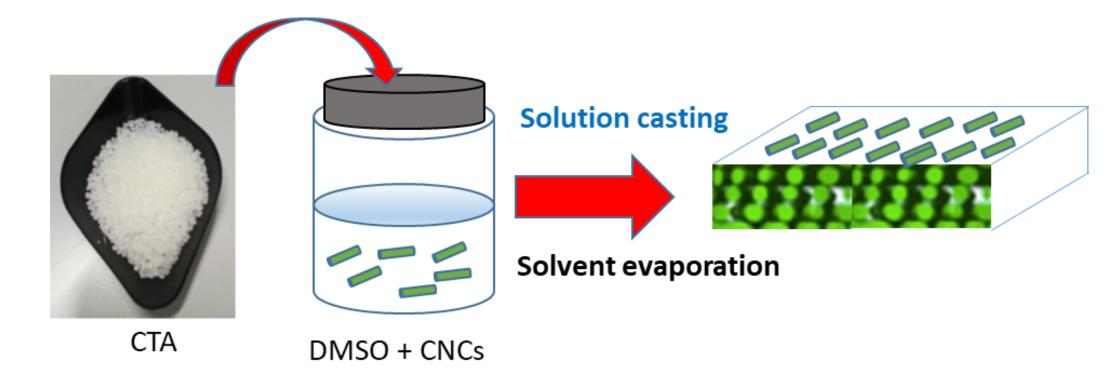
FTIR

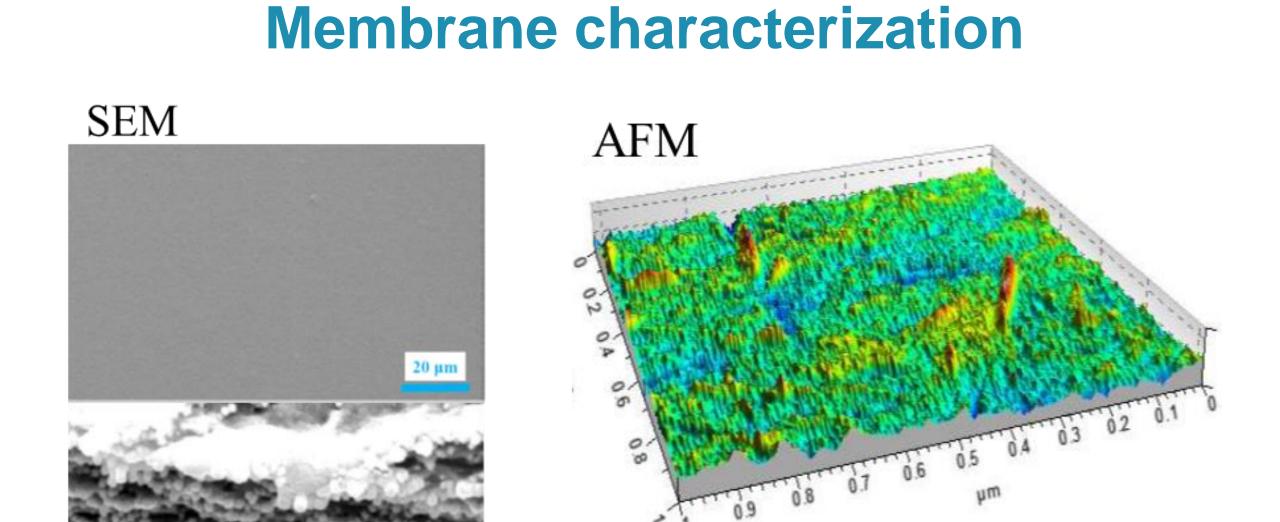
CNCs 0%-CTA

CNCs 1%-CTA

### Methods

**CTA/CNCs** nanocomposite membranes (prepared via solution casting)





(N.mm<sup>-2</sup>)

 $R_a : 1.2 \text{ nm} + 0.136$ 

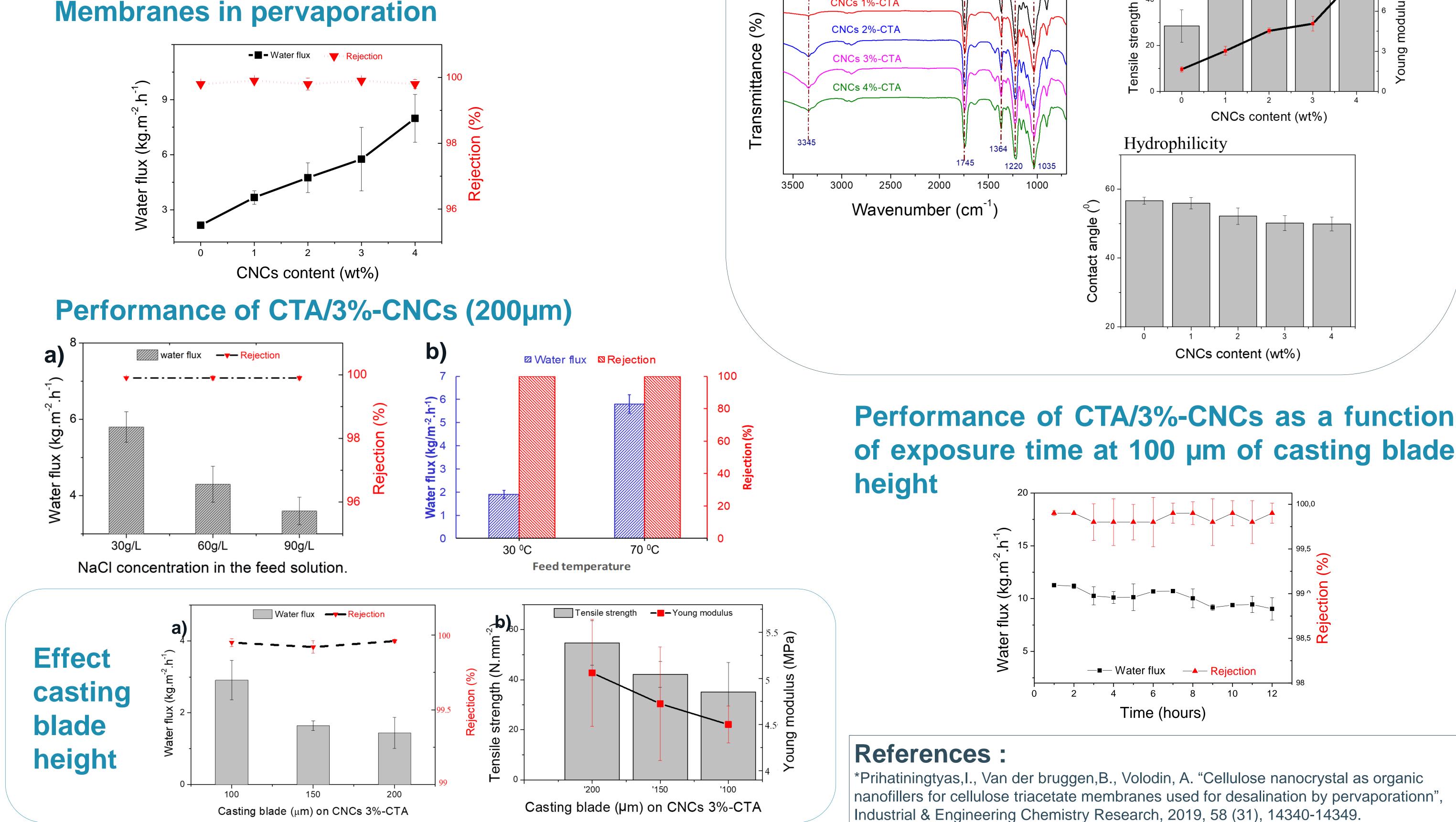
Mechanical properties

Tensile strength - Young modulus

(MPa)

#### Results

#### **Performance of CTA/CNCs nanocomposite Membranes in pervaporation**



of exposure time at 100 µm of casting blade

\*Prihatiningtyas,I., Van der bruggen,B., Volodin, A. "Cellulose nanocrystal as organic nanofillers for cellulose triacetate membranes used for desalination by pervaporationn",