

Under the High Patronage of His Majesty King Mohammed VI



XIX WORLD WATER CONGRESS
International Water Resources Association (IWRA)
Marrakech, Morocco | 1-5 December 2025

Kingdom of Morocco



Ministry of
Equipment and Water

Antibiotic tetracycline removal by nanofiltration membrane: Experimentation and statistical modeling

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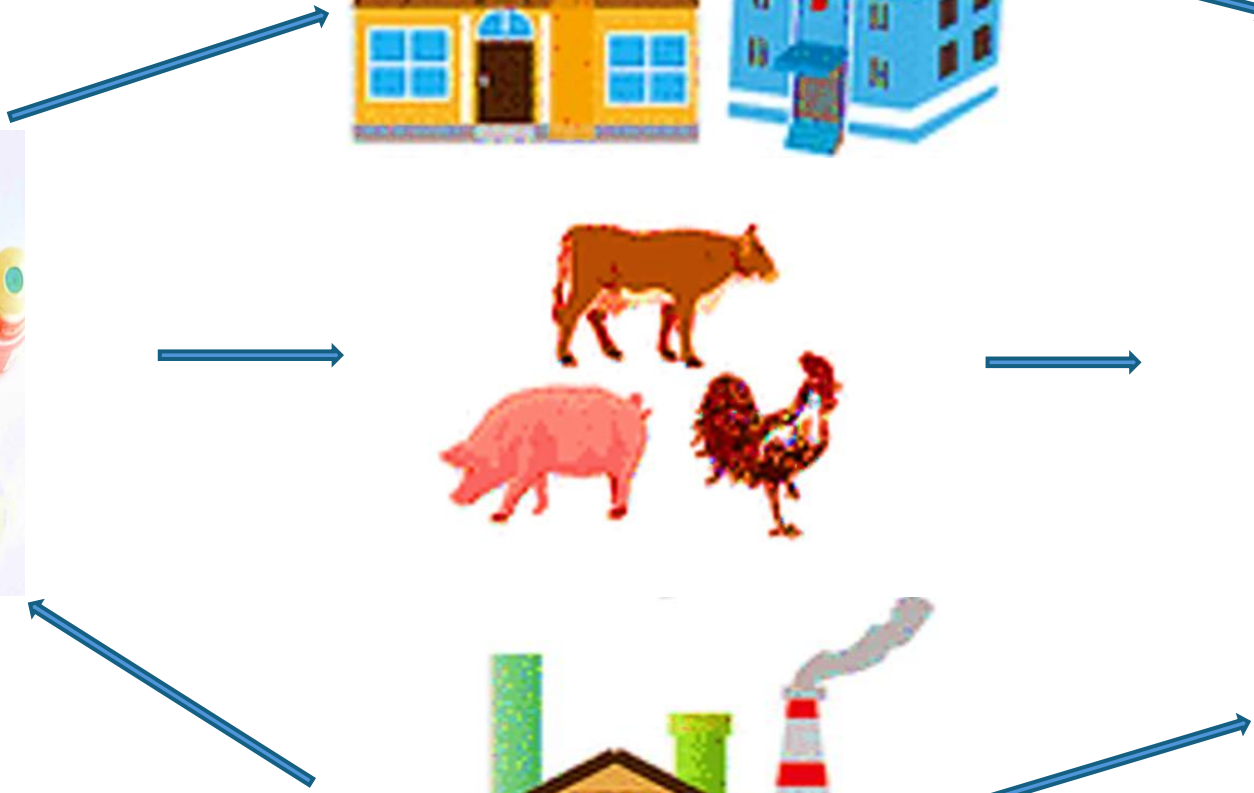
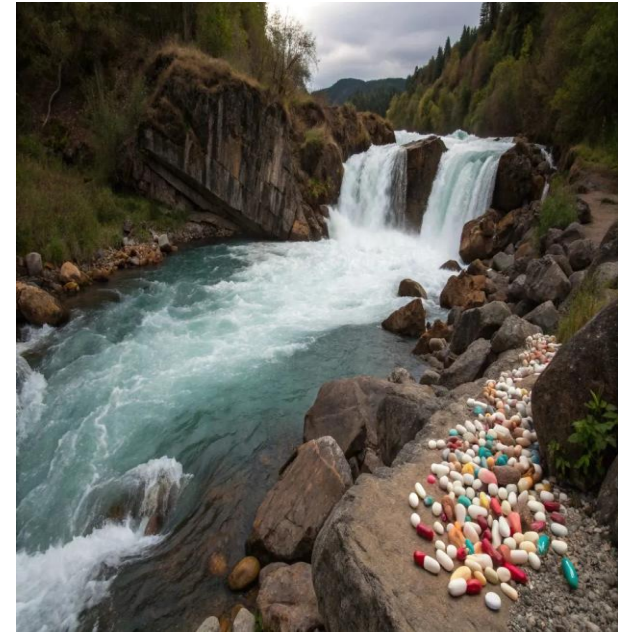
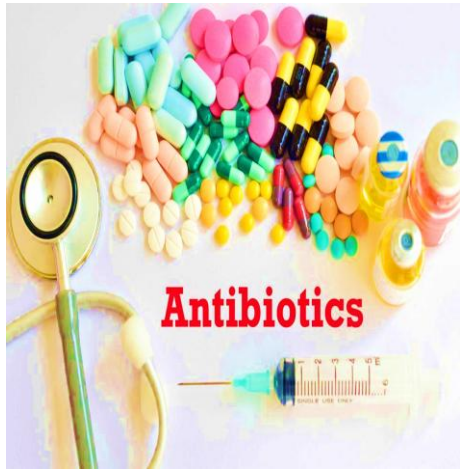
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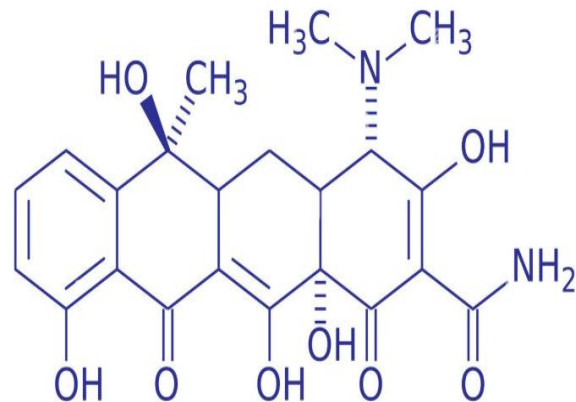
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Problem

Tetracycline

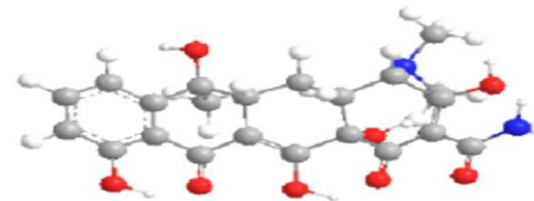


Environmental health

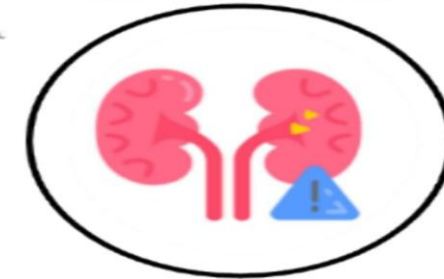


Skin infections

Gastrointestinal disease



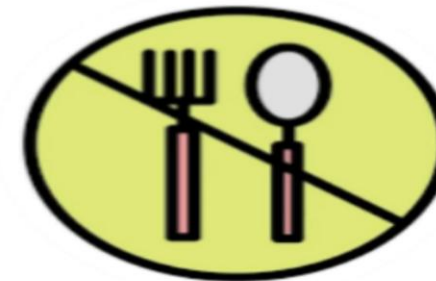
Tetracycline



Renal dysfunction



Intracranial hypertension



Food safety

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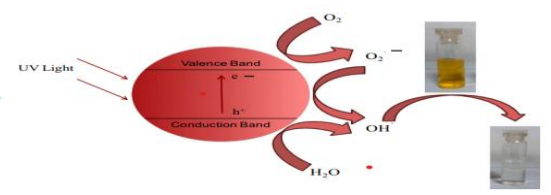
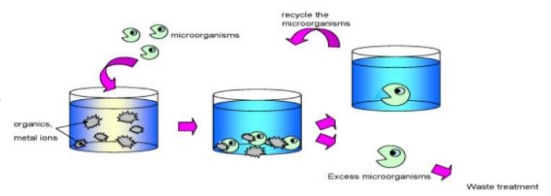
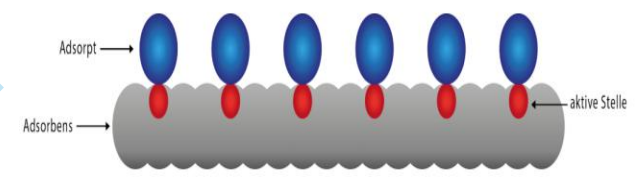
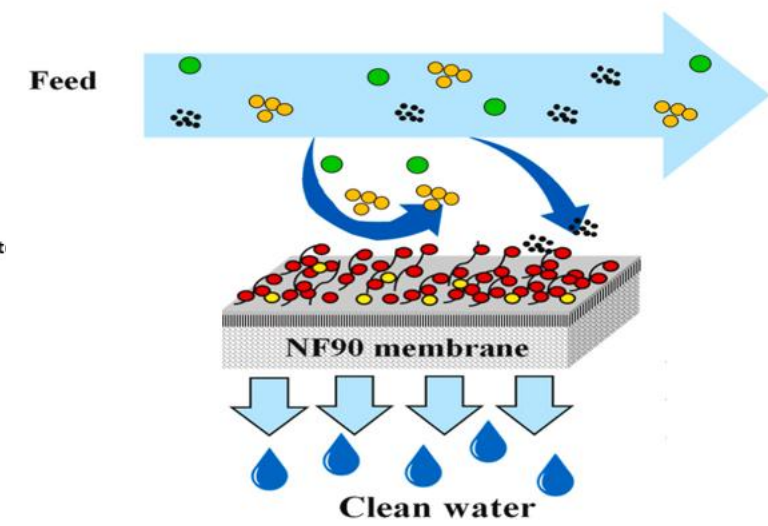
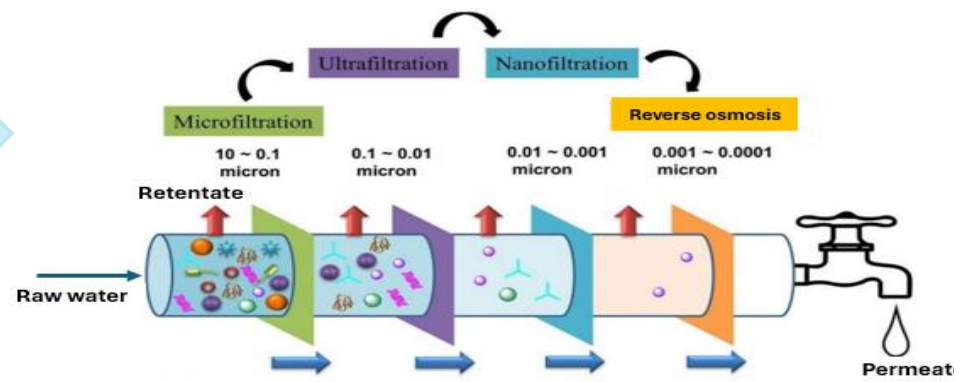
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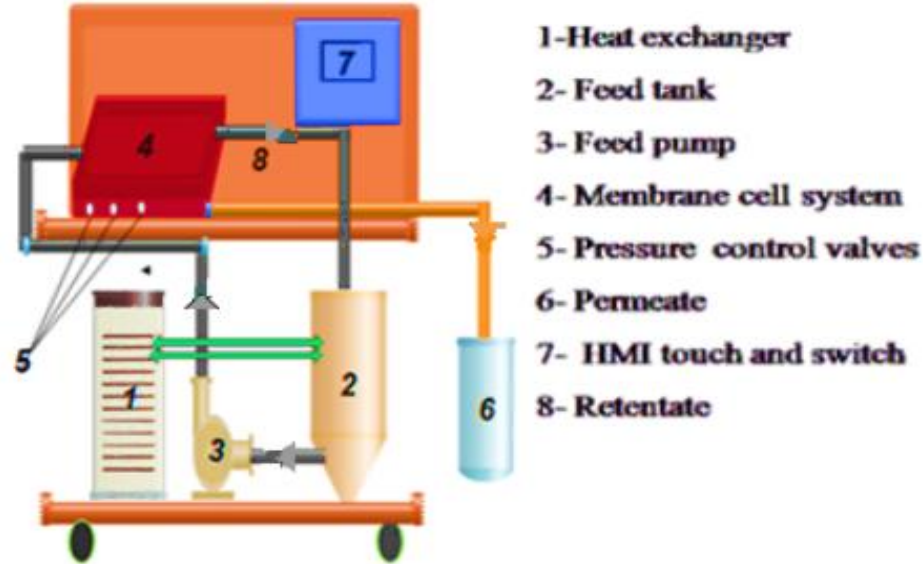
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Experimental setup and membrane characteristics

Scheme of the NF pilot laboratory



Membrane : Nanofiltration NF 90

NF90*4040 membrane characteristics

Area (cm ²)	140
Salt rejection (%)	97%
Pmax (bar)	41
Material	Polyamide
Contact angle (°)	54
Zeta potential (mV)	-19.4 (pH=12) & 3.7 (pH=3)



Experimental design methodology

Application of Central Composite Design

Variables		Factor levels				
Input	Unit	-2	-1	0	+2	+2
Concentration (A)	mg/l	2,5	15	27,5	40	52,5
TMP (B)	bar	2,5	10	17,5	25	32,5
pH (C)		4	5,5	7	8,5	10
Qf (D)	L/h	73,2	128,1	183	237,9	292,8



Experimental design methodology

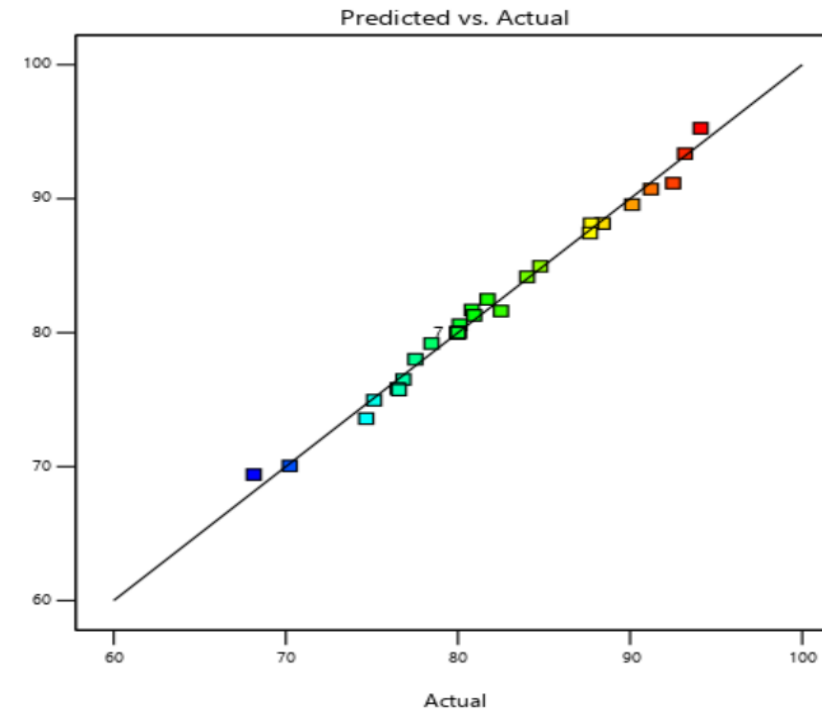
Run	Input				Output Rejection %
	A	B	C	D	
1	0	0	0	0	80
2	-1	-1	+1	-1	76,5
3	0	0	0	0	80
4	0	0	0	0	80
5	0	0	0	0	80
6	-1	-1	+1	1	93,19
7	+1	+1	-1	-1	75,13
8	+2	+2	0	0	76,57
9	0	0	0	0	90,12
10	0	0	+2	0	84,02
11	0	0	0	0	80
12	-1	-1	-1	1	94,1
13	0	0	0	0	80
14	0	0	0	2	92,5
15	+1	1	+1	-1	80,1
16	0	0	-2	0	87,67

Run	Input				Output Rejection %
	A	B	C	D	
17	+1	1	+1	-1	74,67
18	1	0	0	0	80,95
19	1	-1	1	-1	78,46
20	-1	+1	-1	-1	70,23
21	-1	-1	-1	1	82,5
22	-1	-1	1	-1	91,21
23	0	0	0	-2	77,53
24	0	0	-2	0	68,14
25	-1	+1	1	-1	88,41
26	0	0	0	0	80
27	1	+1	1	1	87,73
28	1	-1	1	1	84,78
29	-1	-1	-1	-1	76,83
30	1	+1	1	-1	80,81
31	-2	0	0	0	81,72



ANOVA of the Model and Model-Based Comparison of Predicted and Actual Tetracycline Rejection (%)

Response	Rejection %
Degree of freedom	14
Sum of squares	1221,91
Mean squares	87,28
F-value	121,88
p-value	<0.0001
Significance	Significant
R ²	0,9907



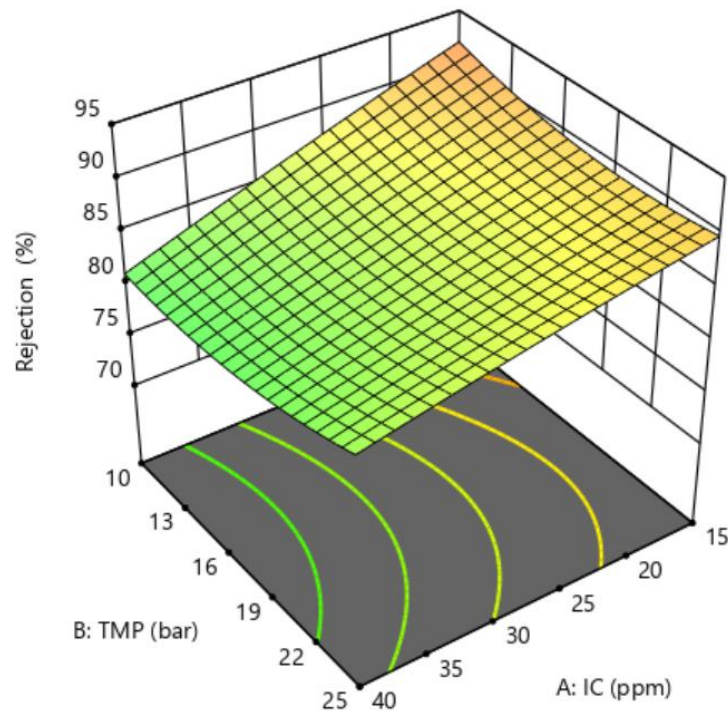
Modeling Tetracycline Rejection as a Function of Operating Parameters

$$\text{Rejection (\%)} = 80,00 - 1,69A - 0,8175B + 5,44C + 2,89D + 1,27AB - 2,49AC + 0,3050AD + 0,9688BC + 0,1688BD - 0,1425CD - 0,2235 A^2 + 1,45B^2 + 1,45B^2 + 0,0702 C^2 + 0,9465 D^2$$

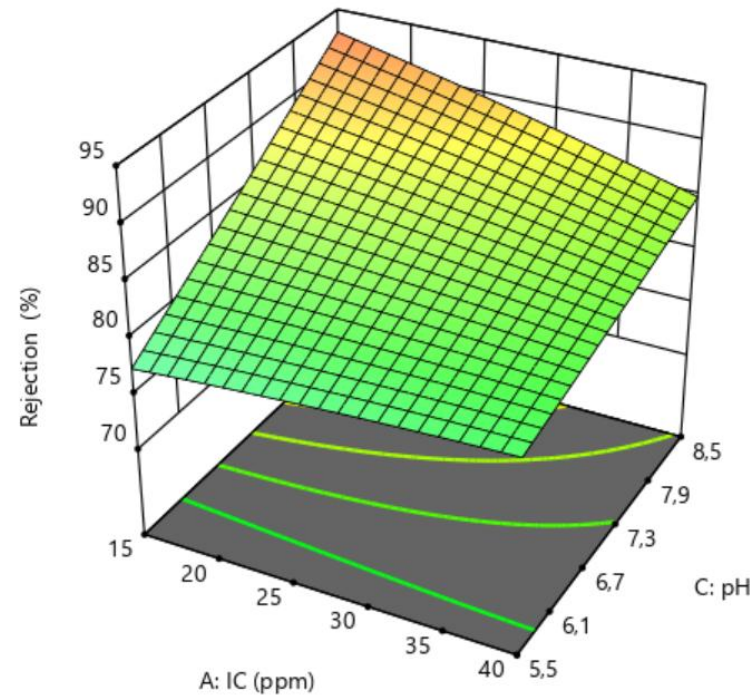




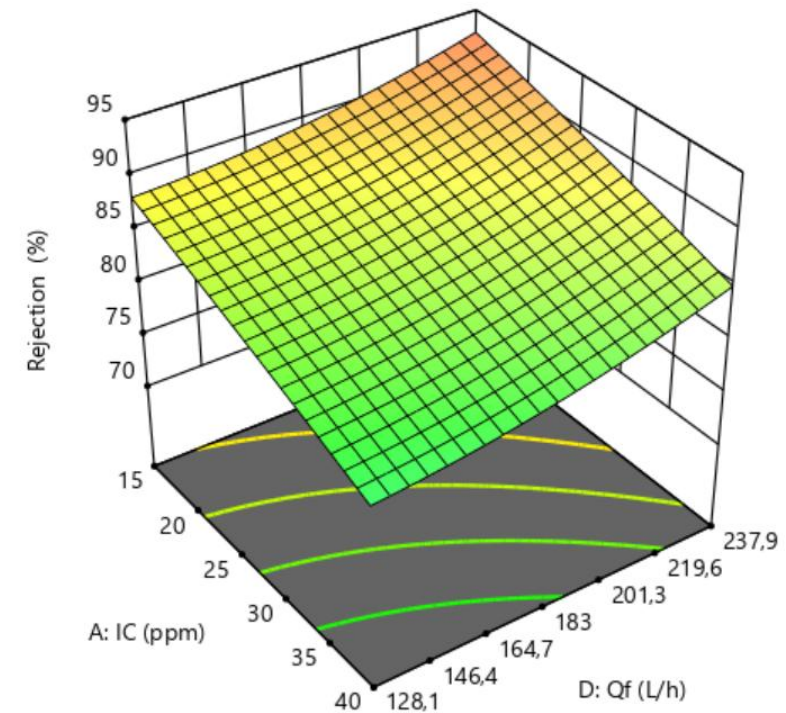
Response surface of A and B, A and C, A and D interactions



a



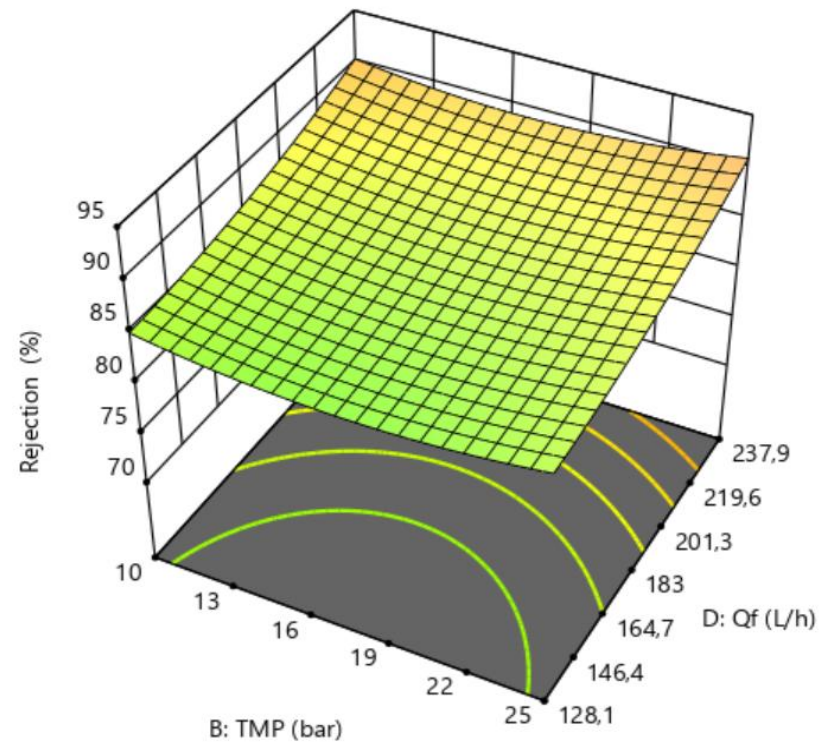
b



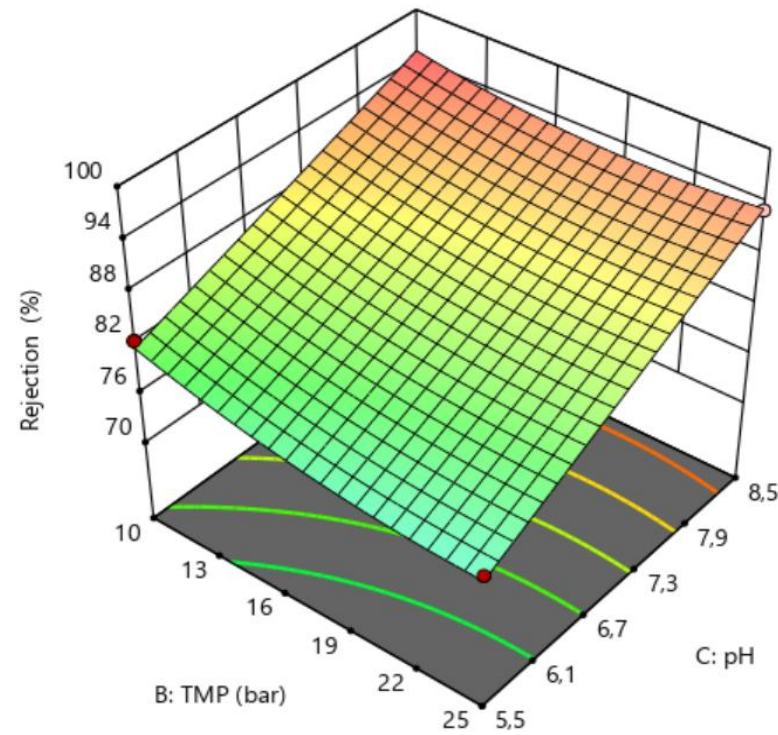
c



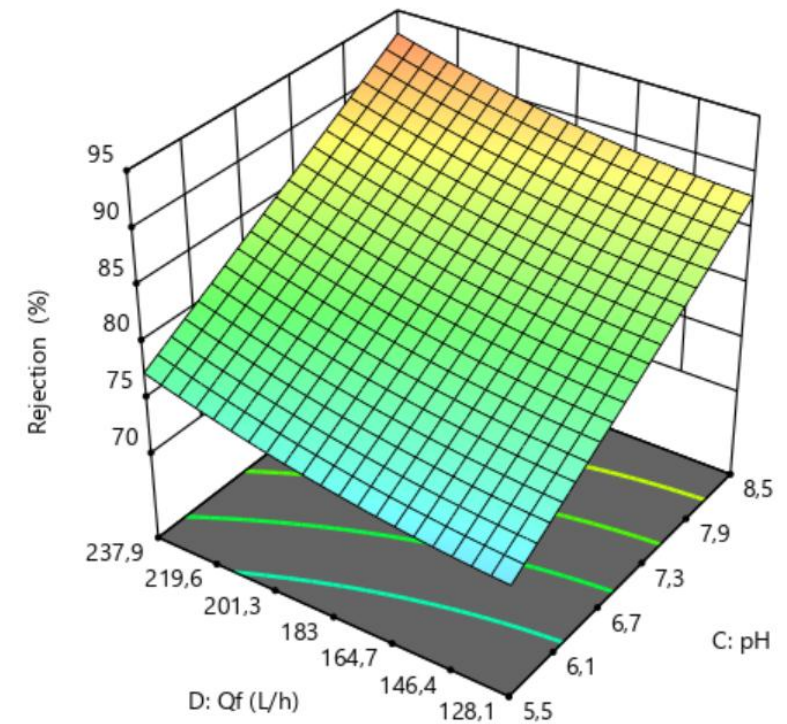
Response surface of B and D, B and C, D and C interactions



d



e



f

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Nanofiltration proved to be highly effective for tetracycline removal, achieving up to 94.1% at 10 bar, with a feed flow rate of 237.9 L/h, a concentration of 15 mg/L, and pH 8.5, with pH and feed flow rate being the most influential parameters while pressure and concentration had a limited impact; these results were confirmed by the RSM analysis, which showed excellent accuracy ($R^2 = 0.99$) and strong predictive capability of the model.



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Thank you!

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