

# Engineering Membrane Distillation with Nanofabrication: Design, Performance and Mechanisms

Submitted to

*Environmental Science: Water Research and Technology*

Revised: 20 April, 2020

Rui Huang<sup>1,2</sup>, Zhiquan Liu<sup>3</sup>, Yunchul Woo<sup>4,5</sup>, Wenhai Luo<sup>6,7</sup>, Stephen R. Gray, Ming Xie<sup>1\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Bath, Bath, BA2 7AY, United Kingdom

<sup>2</sup> School of Environment, Harbin Institute of Technology, Harbin 150090, China

<sup>3</sup> Key Laboratory for Water Quality and Conservation of the Pearl River Delta, Ministry of Education; Institute of Environmental Research at Greater Bay, Guangzhou University, Guangzhou 510006, China

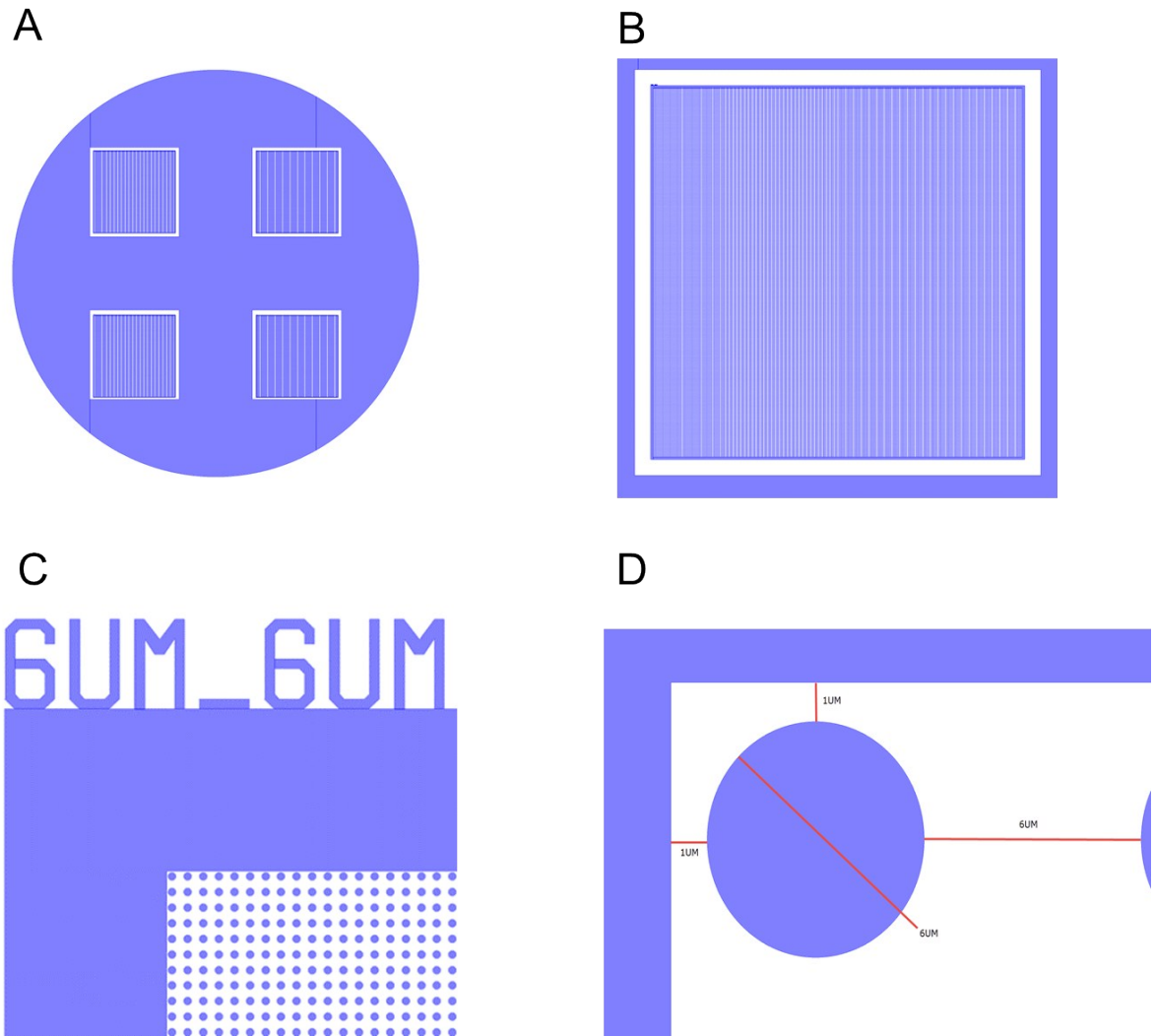
<sup>4</sup> Department of Land, Water, and Environment Research, Korea Institute of Civil Engineering and Building Technology (KICT), 283, Goyang-Daero, Ilsanseo-Gu, Goyang-Si, Gyeonggi-Do, 10223, Republic of Korea

<sup>5</sup> Department of Civil and Environment Engineering, University of Science and Technology (UST), 217, Gajeong-Ro, Yuseong-Gu, Daejeon, 34113, Republic of Korea

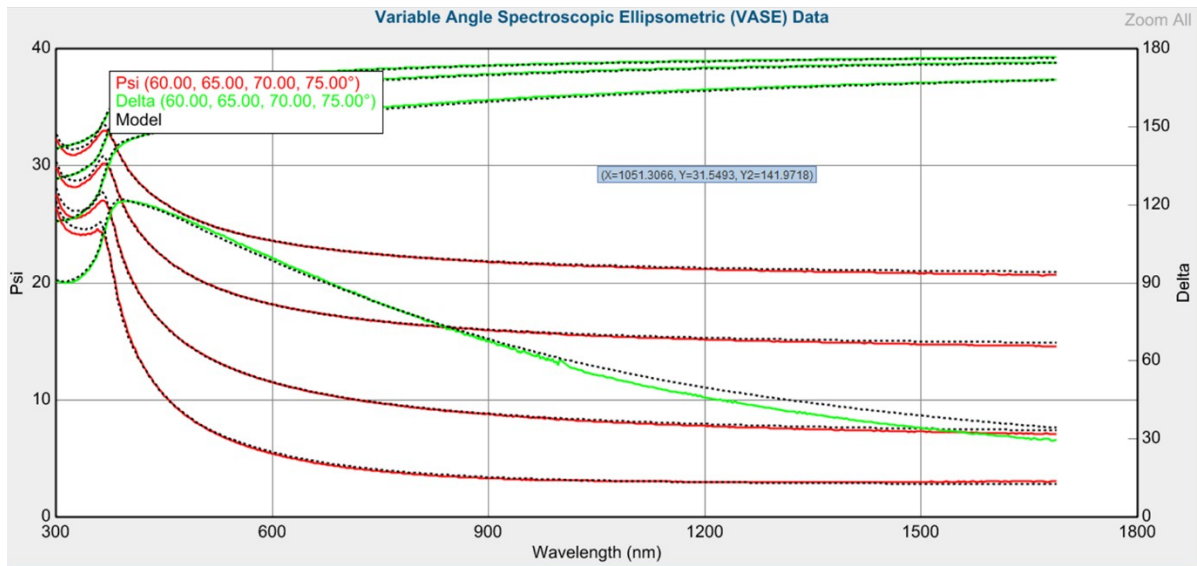
<sup>6</sup> Sustainable Energy Systems Engineering Group, School of Engineering, Macquarie University, Sydney, NSW, 2109, Australia

<sup>7</sup> Beijing Key Laboratory of Farmland Soil Pollution Prevention and Remediation, College of Resources and Environmental Sciences, China Agricultural University, Beijing 100193, China

\*Corresponding author. E-mail: [mx406@bath.ac.uk](mailto:mx406@bath.ac.uk)



**Figure S1:** Mask template designed for nanoimprinting membrane distillation membrane. The mask overview were displayed in (A) and (B). Details of the patterns were presented in (C) and (D) where the centre-to-centre distance is 6  $\mu\text{m}$  and the dot diameter is 6  $\mu\text{m}$ .



**Figure S2:** Representative variable angle spectroscopic ellipsometric estimation of TiO<sub>2</sub> thin-film thickness deposited by atomic layer deposition. Data fitting showed the thickness of  $5.56 \pm 0.11$  nm (two samples from three measurements).

**Table S1:** Key membrane properties of the pristine membrane, atomic layer deposited (ALD) membrane and fluorinated ALD membrane.

Membrane	Pore size ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Liquid entry pressure (bar)	Water contact angle ( $^{\circ}$ )
Pristine	0.41	2.04	135
Atomic layer deposited membrane (ALD)	0.33	2.64	112
Fluorinated ALD membrane (FTES)	0.31	3.81	154