

Supporting information for *RSC Advances*

Coupling pretreatment of ultraviolet/ferrate (UV/Fe(VI)) for improving ultrafiltration of natural surface water

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Text S1. The details of Darcy's formula and model fitting of membrane fouling.

Darcy's law was adopted to calculate the fouling resistance, which was illustrated as Eqs. (1)-(2):

$$R_{rf} = \frac{\Delta P}{\mu J_1} - \frac{\Delta P}{\mu J_2} \quad (1)$$

$$R_{if} = \frac{\Delta P}{\mu J_2} - \frac{\Delta P}{\mu J_0} \quad (2)$$

where R_{rf} and R_{if} are reversible and irreversible membrane fouling resistance (m^{-1}), respectively. J_0 , J_1 and J_2 are flux (m/s) for Milli-Q water of virgin membrane, water sample, and Milli-Q water of membrane after backwashing, respectively. ΔP represents transmembrane pressure (Pa) and μ is dynamic viscosity ($\text{Pa}\cdot\text{s}$).

To be specific, four fouling models were employed to recognize the dominant mechanism during the UF process. According to Hermia's model, the fouling mechanisms are consistent with the characteristic curves between d^2t/dV^2 and dt/dV (Eq. (1)).

$$\frac{d^2t}{dV^2} = k \left(\frac{dt}{dV} \right)^n \quad (1)$$

where t is filtration time (s), V is filtration volume (m^3), and n is characteristic value for each fouling model (Table S1). The required d^2t/dV^2 , dt/dV , and n can be calculated according to Eqs. (2)-(4).

$$\frac{dt}{dV} = \frac{1}{JA} \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{d^2t}{dV^2} = -\frac{1}{J^3 A^2} \frac{dJ}{dt} \quad (3)$$

$$n = \frac{d \left[\log \left(\frac{d^2t}{dV^2} \right) \right]}{d \left[\log \left(\frac{dt}{dV} \right) \right]} \quad (4)$$

where J and A represent permeate flux (m/s) and filtration area (m²), respectively.

Table S1. Four classical membrane fouling models.

Values of n	Fouling mechanism	Computational formula
2.0	Complete blocking	$J_0 - J = C_1V$
1.5	Standard blocking	$1/t + C_2 = J_0/V$
1.0	Intermediate blocking	$\ln J_0 - \ln J = C_3V$
0.0	Cake layer filtration	$(1/J) - (1/J_0) = C_4V$

Notes: J_0 is initial membrane flux; J is membrane flux; V is filtration volume; t is filtration time; C_1 , C_2 , C_3 , and C_4 are constants.

Table S2. The changes of DOC under different pretreatment conditions.

Samples (Influent)	DOC (mg/L)
Feed water	7.553
0.02 mmol/L Fe(VI) with 30 minutes UV irradiation	5.994
0.04 mmol/L Fe(VI) with 60 minutes UV irradiation	5.524
0.06 mmol/L Fe(VI) with 90 minutes UV irradiation	5.223
0.08 mmol/L Fe(VI) with 90 minutes UV irradiation	5.407
0.06 mmol/L Fe(VI) with 120 minutes UV irradiation	5.396
0.08 mmol/L Fe(VI) with 120 minutes UV irradiation	5.461

Table S3. Summary of equations in the UV/Fe(VI) process.

Eq.	Reaction	Rate constant (M ⁻¹ ·s ⁻¹)	Reference
(1)	$\text{Fe(VI)} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{Fe(IV)} + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2$	22	1
(2)	$\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{UV} \rightleftharpoons 2 \cdot \text{OH}$	5.5×10^9	2
(3)	$\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + \cdot \text{OH} \rightarrow \text{HO}_2\cdot + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	—	3
(4)	$\text{HO}_2\cdot \rightarrow \text{H}^+ + \text{O}_2^{\cdot -}$	—	4

(5)	$\text{Fe(VI)}+\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{Fe(IV)}+\text{O}_2$	10	5
(6)	$\text{Fe(IV)}+\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{Fe(II)}+\text{O}_2+\text{H}_2\text{O}$	$\sim 10^4$	6
(7)	$\text{Fe(II)}+\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{Fe(III)}+\cdot\text{OH}+\text{OH}^-$	63	7
(8)	$\text{Fe(IV)}+\text{Fe(II)} \rightarrow \text{Fe(V)}+\text{Fe(III)}$	$\sim 10^7$	1
(9)	$\text{Fe(III)}+\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{Fe(II)}+\text{HO}_2^{\cdot}+\text{H}^+$	$\sim 10^{-3}$	7
(10)	$\text{Fe(V)}+\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{Fe(III)}+\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$	5.8×10^7	6
(11)	$\text{Fe(V)}+\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{Fe(III)}+\text{O}_2$	5.6×10^7	8

Table S4. EEM spectrum volumes for reclaimed water.

	I	II	III	IV	V	Total
Feed water	454484.8	1092901.0	1473936.0	2163768.0	6699850.0	11884940.7
UV	313760.5	848627.2	1515434.0	1796971.0	7951880.0	12426672.9
Fe(VI)	680981.7	1634242.0	1834154.0	1329616.0	4883908.0	10362901.5
UV/Fe(VI)-1	584346.3	1049324.0	1546057.0	1435953.0	6122653.0	10738333.6
UV/Fe(VI)-2	373668.1	687577.0	1119804.0	1089391.0	4714690.0	7985130.7
UV/Fe(VI)-3	358527.9	678085.3	1004926.0	861628.1	3726265.0	6629432.5
Feed water-UF	395742.5	889558.0	1362587.0	1808721.0	6286827.0	10743435.0
UV-UF	384300.4	819801.3	1506045.0	1657578.0	7634961.0	12002685.7
Fe(VI)-UF	589085.5	1281834.0	1565213.0	1170434.0	4599610.0	9206176.67
UV/Fe(VI)-1-UF	435679.0	938212.2	1479270.0	1350966.0	5832885.0	10037012.8
UV/Fe(VI)-2-UF	315324.0	550372.4	1006746.0	946485.8	4467492.0	7286419.76
UV/Fe(VI)-3-UF	362353.3	599998.8	951266.8	866394.7	3713865.0	6493878.89

Table S5. 2D-COS results on the assignment and sign of each cross-peak.

Position (cm^{-1})	Assignment	Sign ^a					
		3600-3000	2965	1665	1420	1040	800
3600-3000	O-H	+	+(-)	+(+)	+(+)	+(+)	+(+)
2965	C-H		+	+(+)	+(+)	+(+)	+(+)
1665	C=O/NH ₂			+	+(-)	+(-)	+(-)
1420	C-N				+	+(-)	+(-)
1040	C-O-C/C-O					+	+(+)
800	C-O						+

^aSigns were obtained in the maps: +, positive; -, negative.

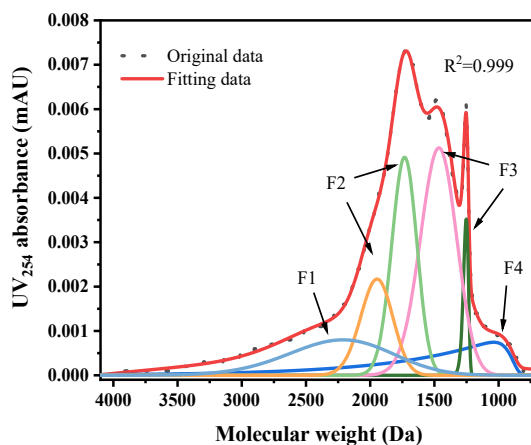


Fig. S1 Peakfit deconvolution results of the feed water.

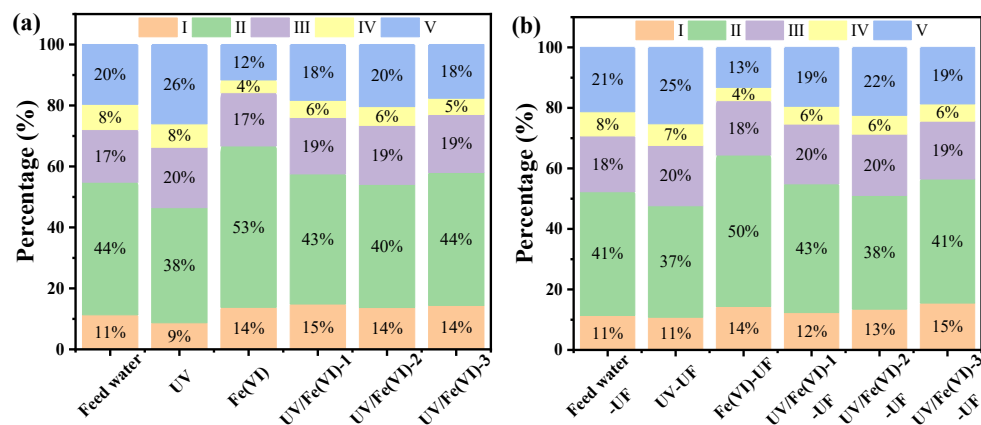


Fig. S2 The proportion of various fluorescent components: influent water (a) and effluent water (b).

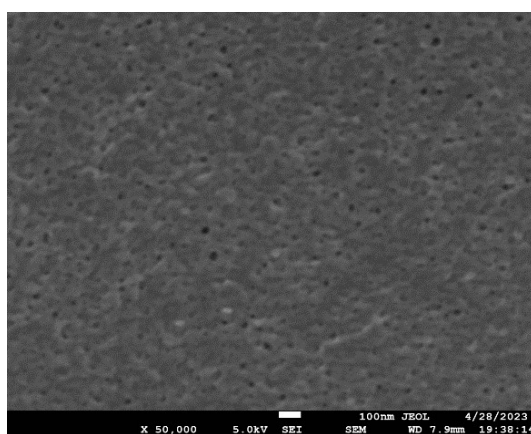


Fig. S3 SEM images of virgin membrane.

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