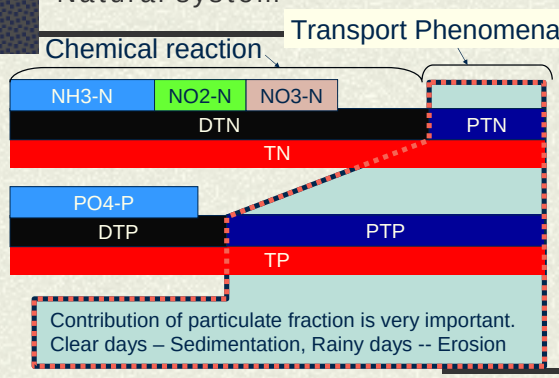
Membrane Separation Technology Importance of Solid – Liquid Separation

Taro Urase
Tokyo Institute of Technology

Natural system

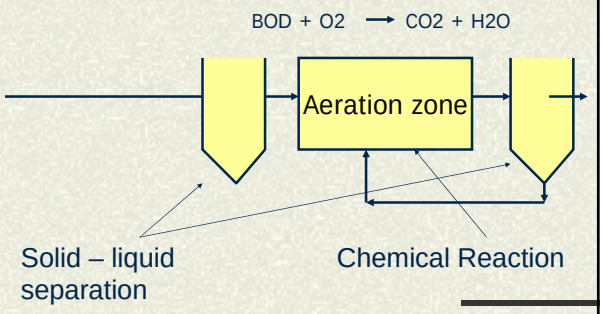


Treatment process (Drinking water)

- Coagulation
- Flocculation
- Sedimentation
- Rapid sand filtration
- Disinfection

Solid – liquid separation

Treatment process (Wastewater)



Stokes equation

Sedimentation velocity increases linearly with specific gravity difference and also increases with the second power of diameter

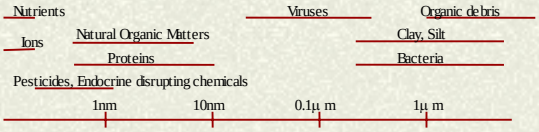
$$v_s = \frac{1}{18} \bullet \frac{\rho_s - \rho}{\mu} d^2 g$$

Solute size and Separation size

Q: Please give appropriate sizes of ….

Bacteria	Sand
Virus	Silt
Nutrient	Clay

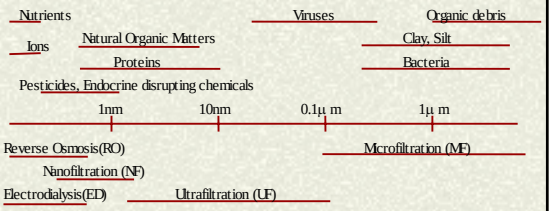
Solute size and Separation size



Please give appropriate separation sizes of …

Reverse Osmosis, Ultrafiltration, Microfiltration, Filter Papers

Solute size and Separation size



Categories of Membrane Processes

Pressure Driven Processes

-Reverse Osomosis, Ultrafiltration, Microfiltration

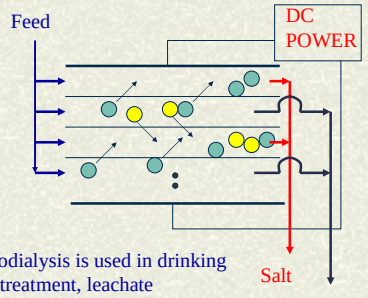
Other Processes

-Dialysis, Electrodialysis

Driving force is concentration difference

Driving force is electric potential difference

Electrodialysis



Electrodialysis is used in drinking water treatment, leachate treatment and other applications.

Membranes

- Porous vs Non Porous
- Hydrophilic vs Hydrophobic
- Charged vs Neutral
- Polymeric vs Inorganic

Membrane types

- Dense(Non porous)

RO, NF

Skin

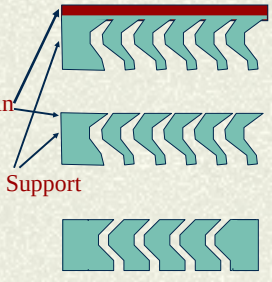
- Porous Asymmetric

UF, MF

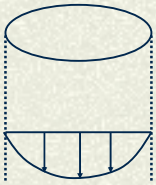
Support

- Porous Symmetric

MF



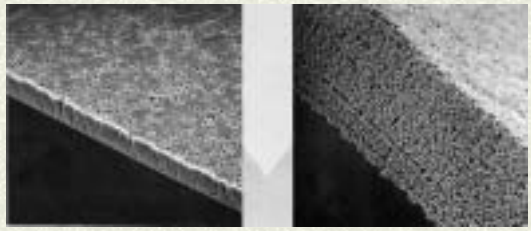
Model on flow in membrane pores



$$J_v = \frac{A_k \Delta P d_p^2}{32 \mu \Delta z}$$

J_v : Volume Flux
A_k : Pore Open Ratio
ΔP : Applied Pressure
d_p : Pore Diameter
μ : Viscosity
Δz : Membrane Thickness

Porous Symmetric Membranes

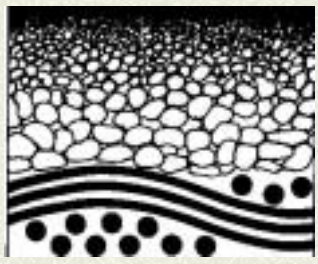


Nuclepore Membrane

Cellulose Membrane

From Catalog of Nuclepore

Asymmetric Membranes



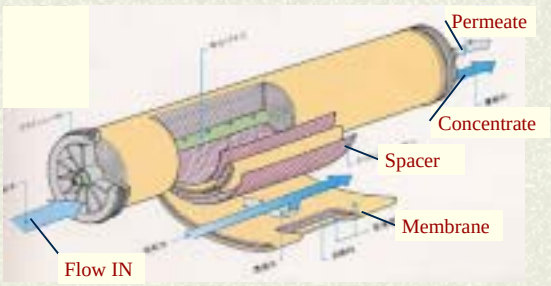
From Catalog of Toray

Modules

- Flat Sheet
- Spiral Wound
- Tubular
- Hollow Fiber

Contained vs Submerged

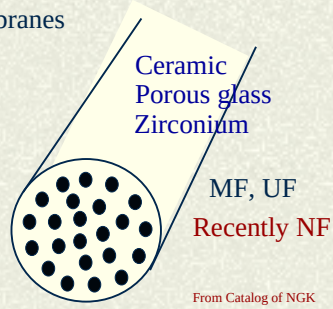
Spiral-Wound Module



From Catalog of Toray

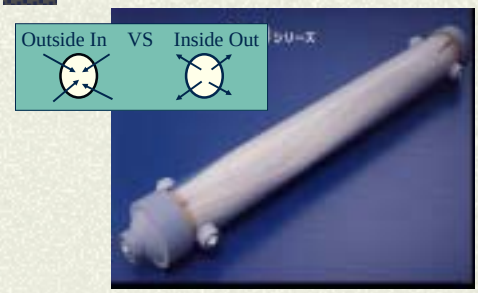
Monolith

Inorganic Membranes



From Catalog of NGK

Hollow Fiber



From Catalog of Toray

Plate and Frame Module

UF

Polyacrylo nitrile(PAN)

Polyvinylidene fluoride(PVF)

Polysulfone(PS)

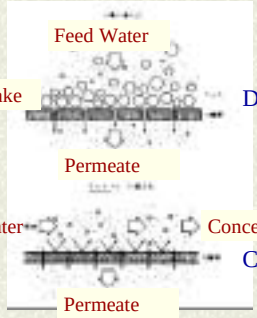
Sulfonated Polysulfone(SPS)

Building scale wastewater reclamation

Food processing

From Catalog of Mitsui Petrochemical

Crossflow and Deadend



Deadend Filtration

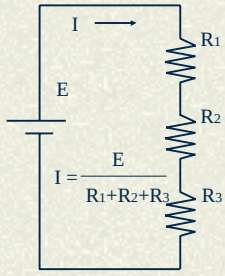
Suitable for low SS

Periodical Flushing

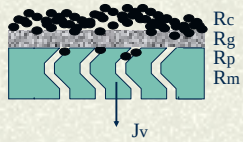
Crossflow Filtration

Continuous Operation

Resistance-in-Series Model



$$I = \frac{E}{R_1+R_2+R_3}$$

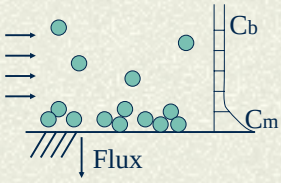


$$J_v = \frac{\Delta P}{\mu(R_c+R_g+R_p+R_m)}$$

Separation of resistance factors to Cake, Gel, Plugging, Membrane.

Concept of Film Theory

Concentration Profile



Difference in concentration between Cb and Cm is called concentration polarization

$$J_v = k \ln\left(\frac{C_m}{C_b}\right)$$

k: Mass transfer coefficient

Mass Transfer Coefficient

$$k = \frac{D\ (\text{Diffusion coefficient})}{\delta(\text{Thickness of polarization layer})}$$

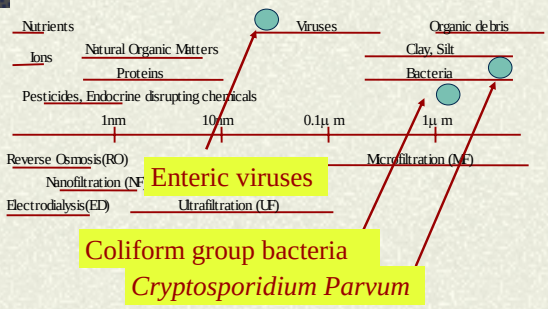
Laminar

$$Sh = 1.62\ Re^{0.33}\ Sc^{0.33}\left(\frac{d_h}{L}\right)^{0.33}$$

Turbulent

$$Sh = 0.023\ Re^{0.8}\ Sc^{0.33}$$

Pathogenic Protozoa, Bacteria and Viruses

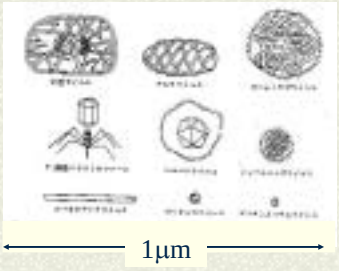


Pathogen removal

- Complete removal is expected for coliform group bacteria and for *Cryptosporidium* by membrane separation processes including MF, UF, and RO.
- This completeness of membrane processes is a great advantage for Membrane Processes.

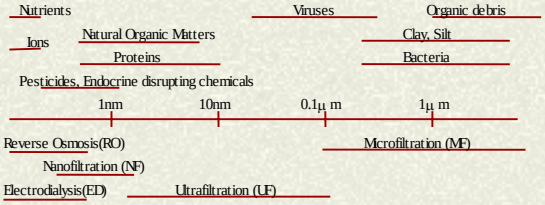
Size of Viruses

Water-borne Diseases

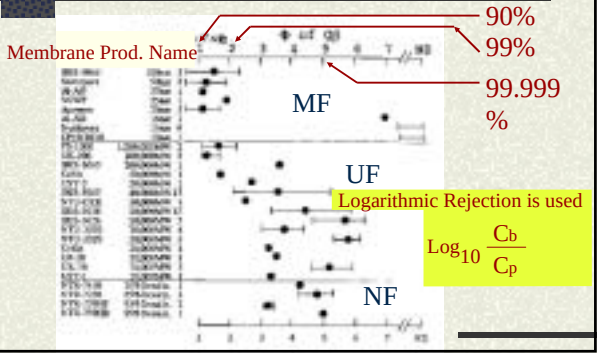


Enteric Virus
0.025μm

Solute size and Separation size



Our results:
Rejection of Qβ viruses (0.025μm)



Virus Rejection by Membranes

- Complete removal is difficult for viruses not only by MF, but by UF and RO.
- Possible reasons are:

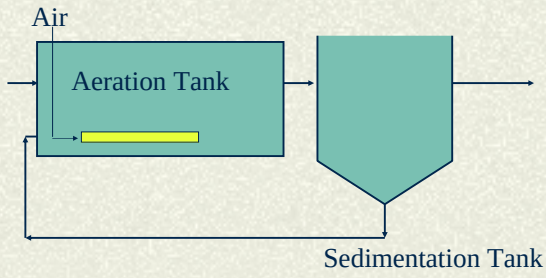
  Pore size distribution

  Membrane defects

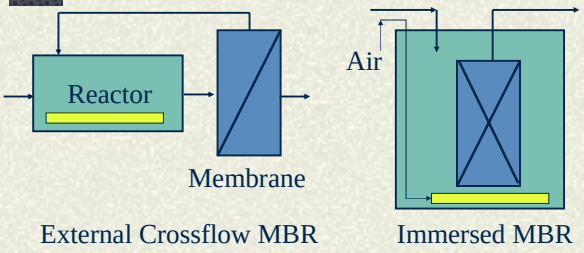
- Complete removal is also difficult for HPC bacteria (Normal bacteria) by membrane separation.

Application of membrane bioreactor to wastewater treatment

Conventional Activated Sludge Process



External Crossflow or immersed MBR



Comparison Crossflow vs Immersed

	Flat Plate external crossflow	Tubular external crossflow	Immersed flat plate	Immersed hollow fiber
Packing Density	Moderate	Low	Moderate	High
Energy Consumption	Moderate	High	Low	Low
Fouling	Moderate	Good	Moderate	Poor
Cleaning		Good Sponge ball		Backwash

Recent applications

General Trends

UF tubular ⟶ Immersed MF
(External crossflow)

1980s Building Scale wastewater reclamation
1990s Night soil treatment
Drinking Water Treatment
2000s On site wastewater treatment
2005 ? Municipal wastewater treatment

Kubota Flat Sheet Membrane

Success in the business in UK

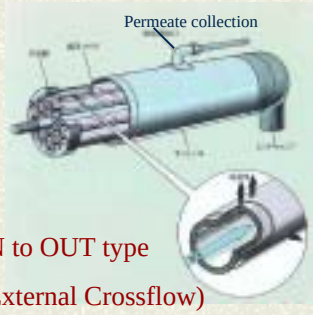
No suction pump but use of gravity force.

Low energy consumption
0.5 to 1 kWh/m^3

No need for further disinfection

From Kubota catalog

Kubota Tubular Membrane



OUT to IN type

(Immersed)

IN to OUT type

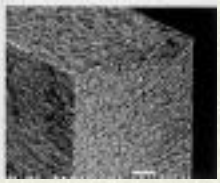
(External Crossflow)

Mitsubishi Rayon Hollow Fiber

Applications can be seen in food industries.

From Mitsubishi Rayon Catalog

Mitsubishi Rayon Hollow Fiber

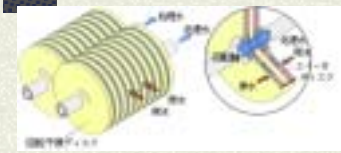


Pore size 0.4μm

Cross section

From Mitsubishi Rayon Catalog

Hitachi Plant Rotating Disk Membrane



High sheer rate

↓

Suitable for high concentration suspension

Zenon membrane

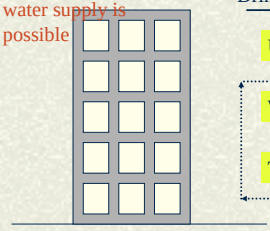
Zenon membrane

High Strength

From Nishihara Eisei Catalog

Building Scale Wastewater Reclamation

50% reduction in water supply is possible



Drinking Water

Used in Restaurants, Other Taps

Wastewater reclamation — By Membranes

Toilet flushing

Discharge to Sewer

Tokyo Metropolitan government and Fukuoka prefectural government set up a regulation that the building constructor should install wastewater reclamation

Possible process for Building Scale Wastewater Reclamation

Contact Aeration → UF → Activated Carbon →

→ Membrane Bioreactor with External UF →

Oil

→ Activated Sludge → Sand Filtration → Activated Carbon →

Influent is usually restaurant wastewater and other wastewater

If influent contains toilet flush wastewater, color removal (ozonation etc.) is necessary to avoid unhappy appearance of the reclaimed water, even if it is used for toilet flushing.

Sanitation in Japan

Approximate population ratio in service in Japan

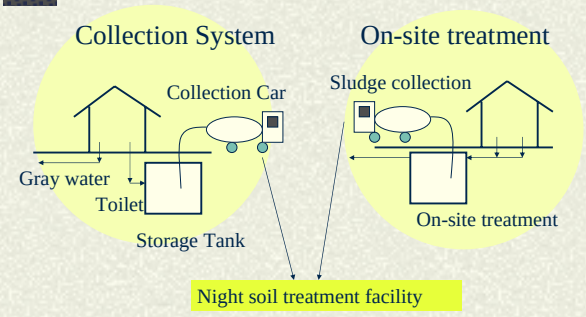
60% Public Sewerage System — Urban Cities

10% Community Plants

20% On-site Domestic wastewater treatment

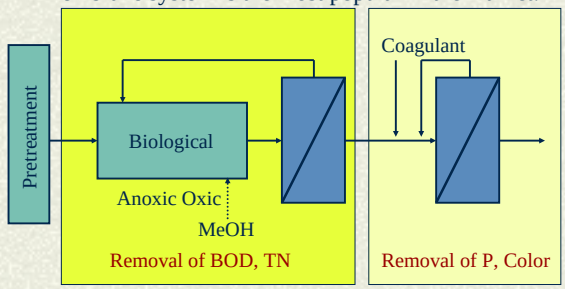
10% Storage and Collection — Rural area

Sanitation in rural area in Japan



Night Soil Treatment

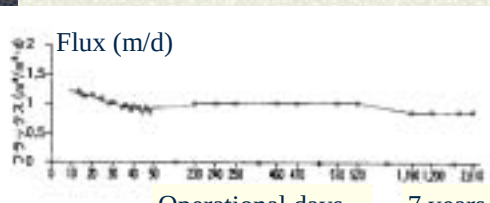
Membrane system is the most popular in the market.



Water quality in night soil treatment

	Raw Collected Human Excreta	Typical Effluent using membranes
BOD(mg/L)	5,000	1
COD(mg/L)	3,500(COD_{Mn})	50
SS(mg/L)	8,000	ND
TN(mg/L)	1,000	10
TP(mg/L)	140	0.5

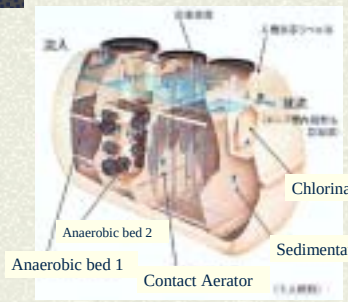
7 years operation in night soil treatment



Sponge ball cleaning and chemical cleaning is carried out.

From Fujise *et al.*

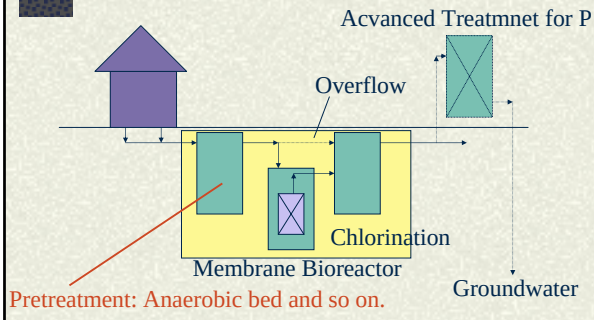
On-site domestic wastewater treatment



Anaerobic contactor - aerobic contactor system is the standard.

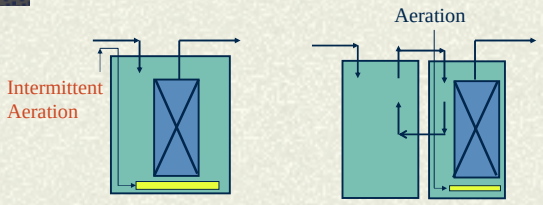
From Kubota catalog

On-site membrane wastewater treatment (Developing)



Pretreatment: Anaerobic bed and so on.

Nitrogen Removal



Removal of nitrogen is preferable for small scale treatment because we can discharge the treated wastewater to underground.

Nitrogen Removal 2

Membrane processes are used for small scale treatment because of low maintenance frequency.

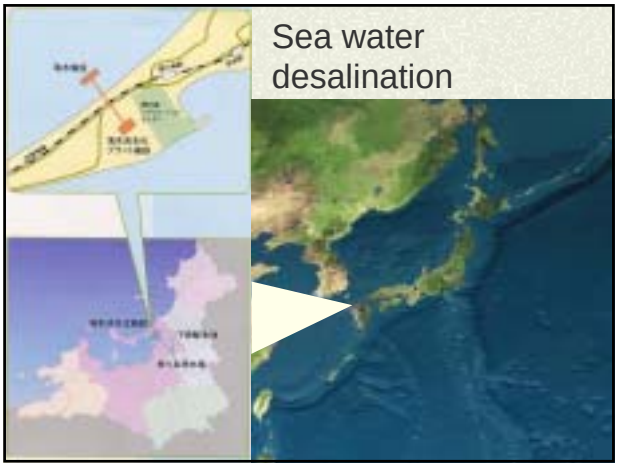
In small scale treatment

Change in Water Quantity, Water Quality, and Water temperature is so large.

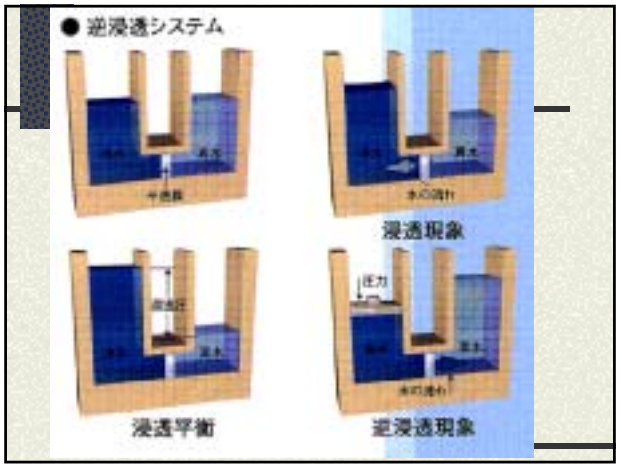
Stable nitrogen removal is difficult.

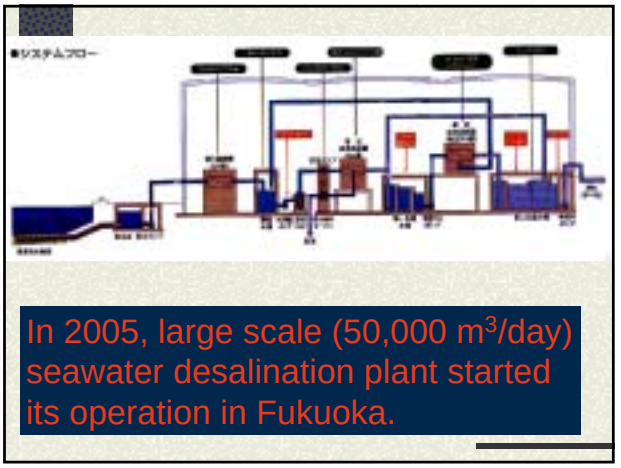
Reliable DO sensor without maintenance free and intelligent aeration control is necessary.

Sea water desalination

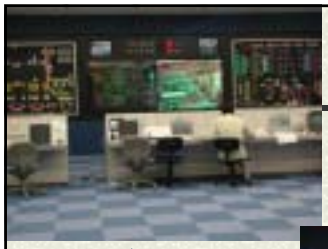


Take water beneath sand beach





In 2005, large scale (50,000 m^3/day) seawater desalination plant started its operation in Fukuoka.



Control Room

Visitors

Pretreatment by ultrafiltration

High pressure pump

Reverse osmosis membranes

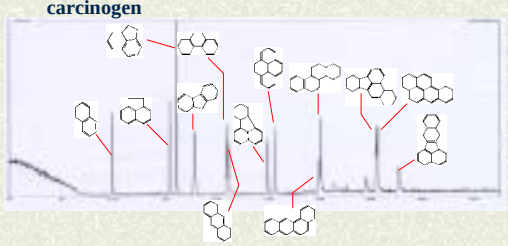
Onsite treatment of Construction wastewater

In construction site, wastewater which contains soils and sludge are produced.

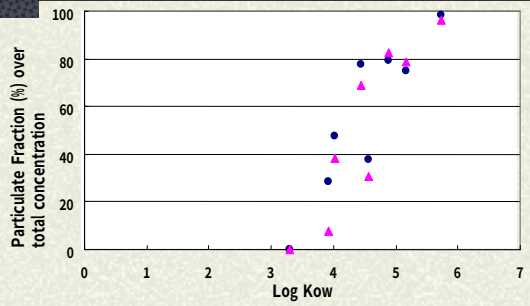
Raw water

Dioxins and PAHs are very important in the deconstruction of incinerators

- **Among PAHs, Benzo (a) pyrene is a well known carcinogen**



For hydrophobic PAHs, most of the pollutants are associated with particles



Log Kow is a parameter which shows the ratio of solubility in oil (*n*-Octanol) to that in water