

Treatment techniques for water containing cyanuric acid (CYA)

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Workshop 2020

INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES FOR SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF URBAN AND INDUSTRIAL WASTE STREAMS

- ...**Microorganisms** in swimming pool water can pose a **serious health issues**
- Threat and pool disinfection is therefore **compulsory by law**

Chlorine Disinfection



Chlorine as hypochlorous acid (HClO) in water

- Massively employed
- highly effective method of disinfection



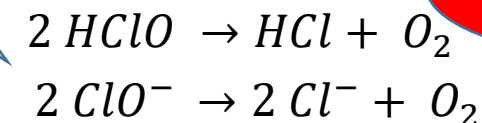
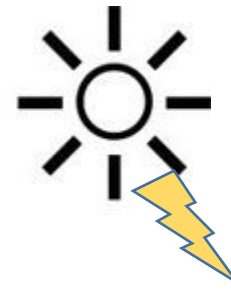
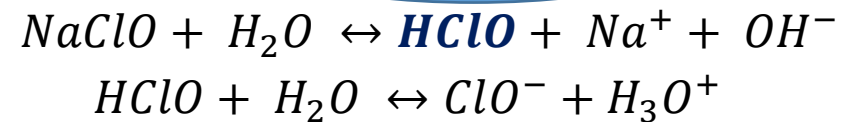
HClO rapidly decomposed in presence of UV light:

- losing its bactericide effect
- continuous supply is needed to maintain safe levels
- The half-life of chlorine when exposed (Uv-light): 45'



Cryptosporidium, Norovirus, E. coli , Algal toxins (acute gastrointestinal illness) Legionella, Pseudomonas (Acute respiratory illness)

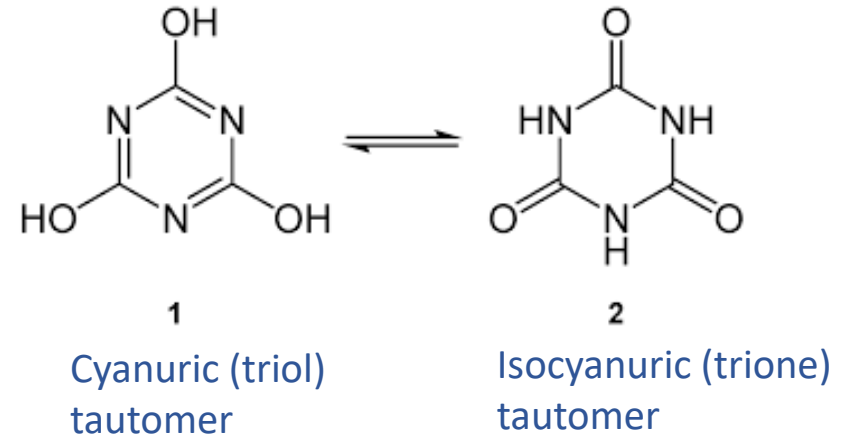
HClO Effective disinfection



Cl⁻ Ineffective disinfection

CYANURIC ACID (CYA); cyclic trimer. The ring can readily interconvert between two structures.

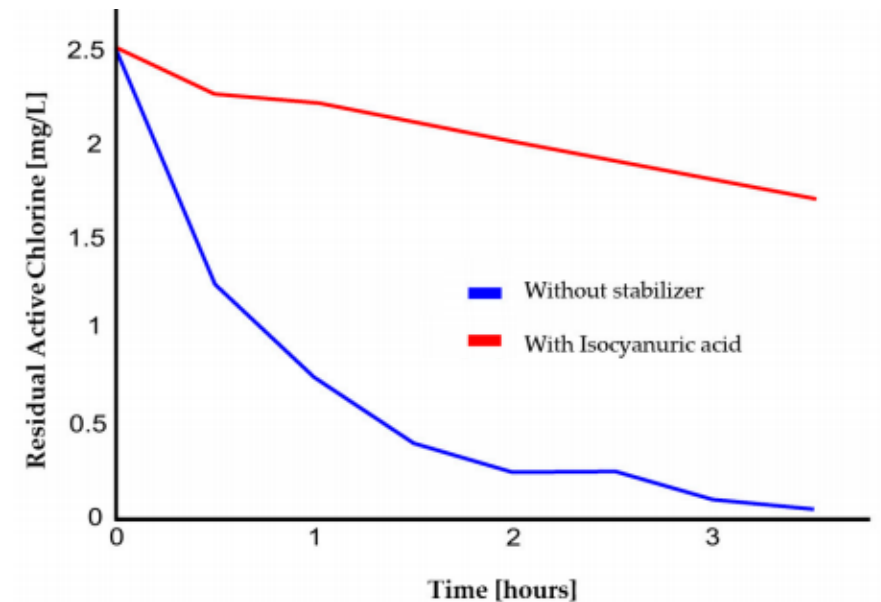
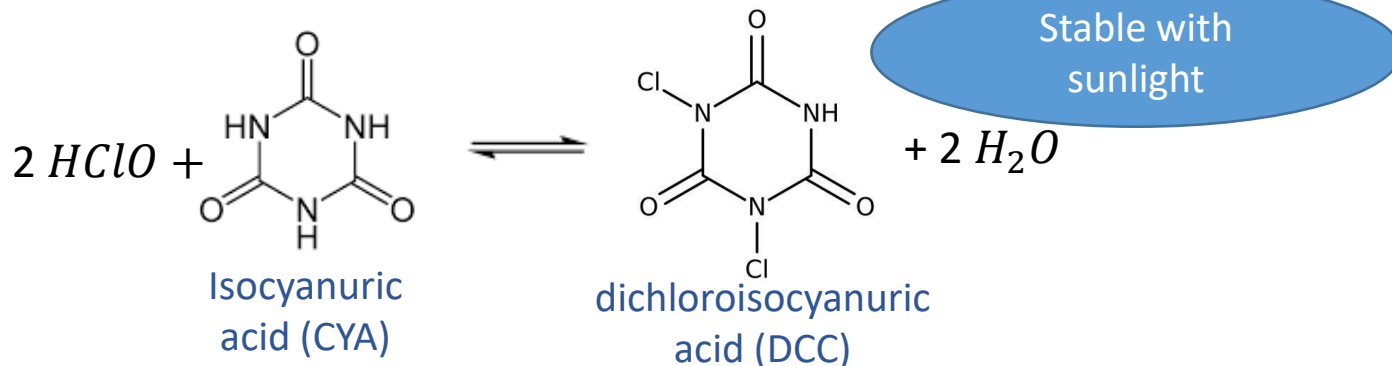
- triol tautomer (may have aromatic character) predominates in solution.
- Deprotonation with base affords cyanurate salt



Cyanuric acid (CYA) as chlorine stabilizer (dichloroisocyanuric)



- Stabilises HClO and is added to pool water
- Slow down the degradation of HOCl by sunlight



OVER-STABILIZATION



CYA is extraordinarily stable in water

- **CYA concentration** therefore rises steadily over time.
- At high CYA levels, **chlorine is over-stabilized**, rendering it ineffective as a disinfectant.
- This increases the risk of **recreational water illnesses**
- **CYA** is therefore **regulated** by law
- CYN levels beyond **100 mg·L⁻¹** can cause **health issues to kids** due to drinking water (WHO)



Real Decreto 742/2013, de 27 de septiembre, por el que se establecen los criterios técnico-sanitarios de las piscinas.

$$[CYA] \leq 75 \text{ mg} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$$

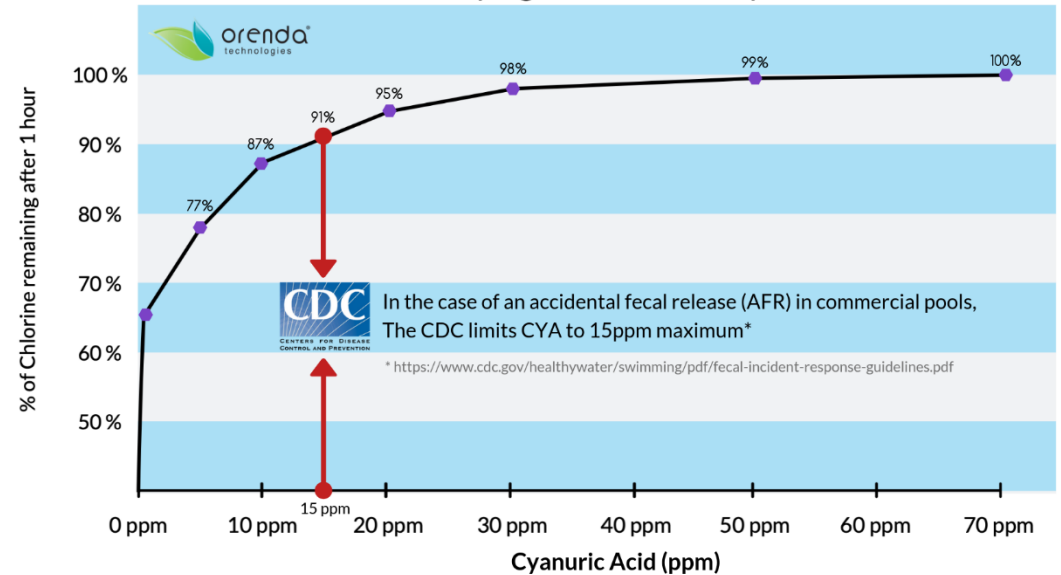
SOLUTION?



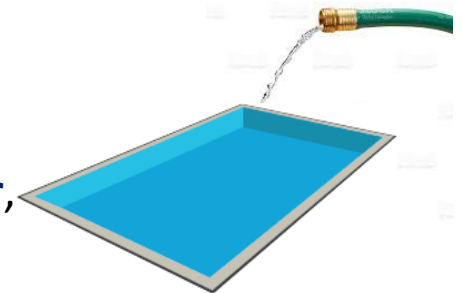
Currently only viable solution **replace some of the pool water with fresh water,**

- **environmental concerns**
- **Economic concerns**

Chlorine's "Staying Power" with Cyanuric Acid



art based on research published by:
 Williams, K. (1997). Cyanurics - Benefactor or Bomb? Newcastle, California.



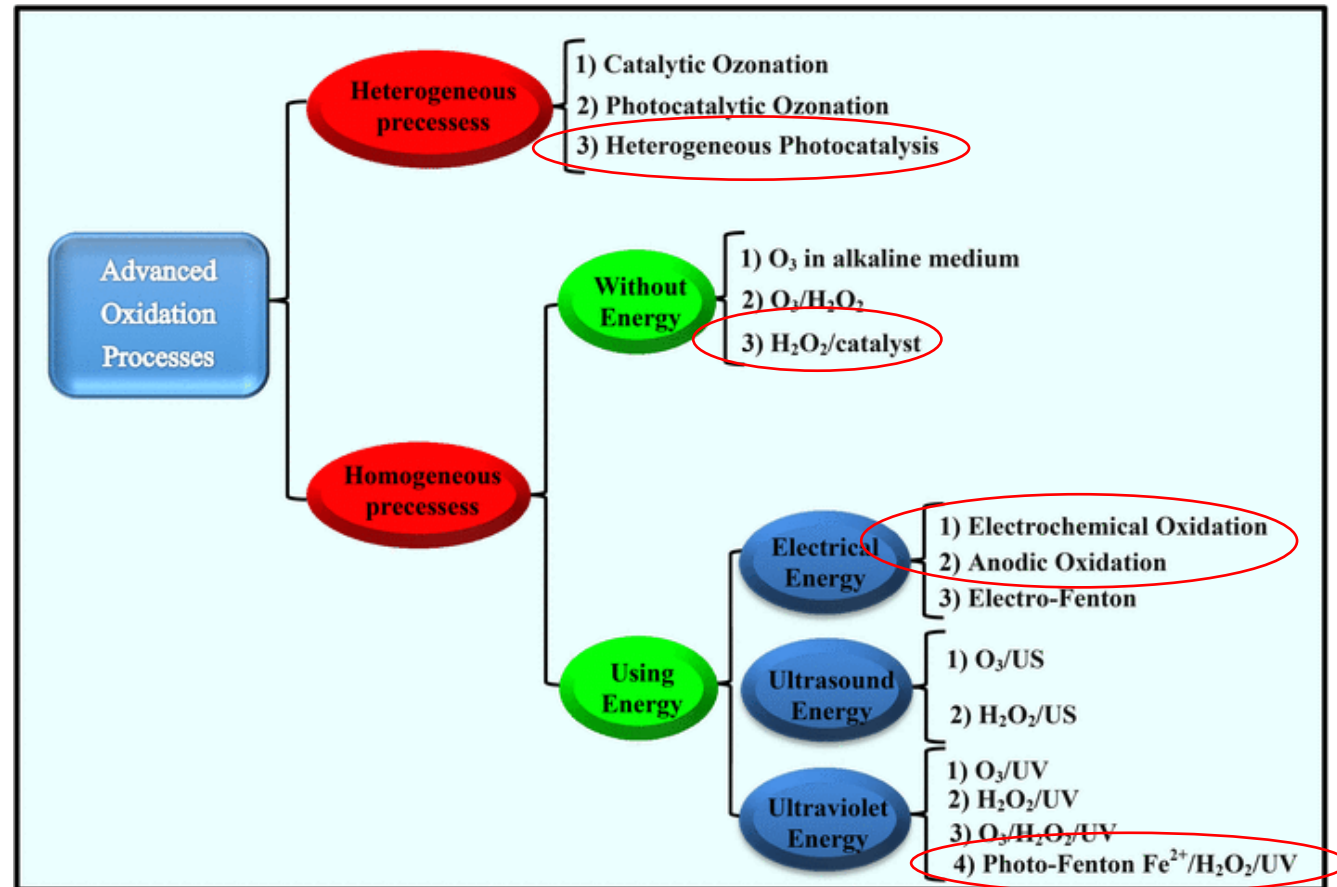
MOTIVATIONS:

- Absence of treatments devoted to treat cyanuric acid in recreational water environments and bathing water
- Unavailability of conventional AOPs to degrade s-triazine herbicides: absence of total mineralization observed in s-triazine herbicides final product obtained was essentially 1,3,5-triazine-2,4,6-trihydroxy (cyanuric acid)



OBJECTIVES:

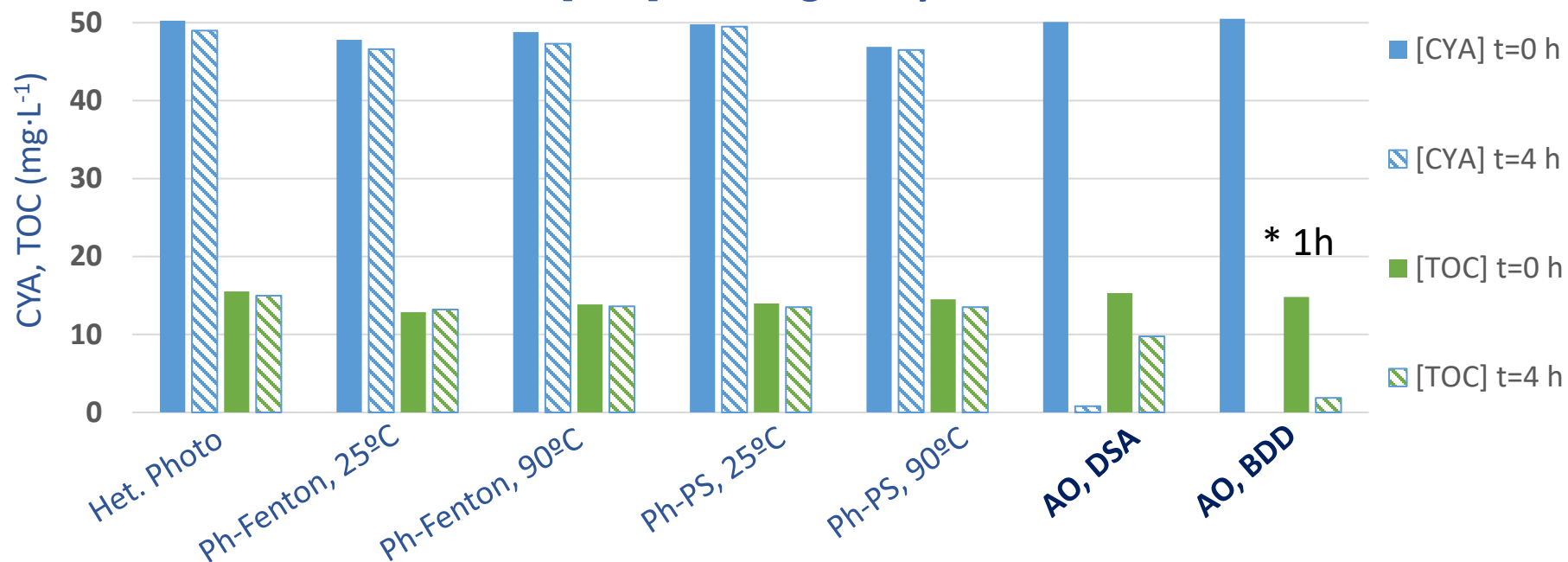
- To assess the possibility to treat cyanuric acid by AOPs intensification.
- Analyse the efficacy of the selected process to treat CYN in a real swimming pool water.





RESULTS

CYA DEGRADATION BY AOPs INTENSIFICATION

Treatment of [CYA] = 50 mg·L⁻¹ by different AOPs

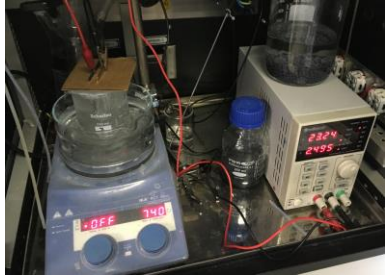


AOP PROCESS	OPERATIONAL CONDITIONS	CYA REMOVAL (%)*	TOC REMOVAL (%)*
Heterogeneous Photocatalysis (P25)	[TiO ₂]=0.5 g·L ⁻¹ ; pH ₀ = 6.7, T=25°C, Hg lamp, V=750 mL	-	-
Photo-Fenton	[H ₂ O ₂] ₀ =Stoich. dose, [Fe ²⁺] ₀ = 10 mg·L ⁻¹ pH ₀ = 3, T=25-90 °C, V=750 mL, Hg lamp	-	
Photo-Persulfate	[PS] ₀ =Stoich. dose, pH ₀ = 6.7, T=25-90 °C, V=750 mL	-	-
Anodic Oxidation ,DSA Anode Ti 70 % TiO ₂ /30 % RuO ₂ coated	Current density: 40 mA·cm ⁻² , V=250 mL, L ⁻¹ , [NaCl]= 4 g/L, pH ₀ = 6.7	98.4	 36.2
Anodic Oxidation, BDD coated Ti Anode		100	87.5

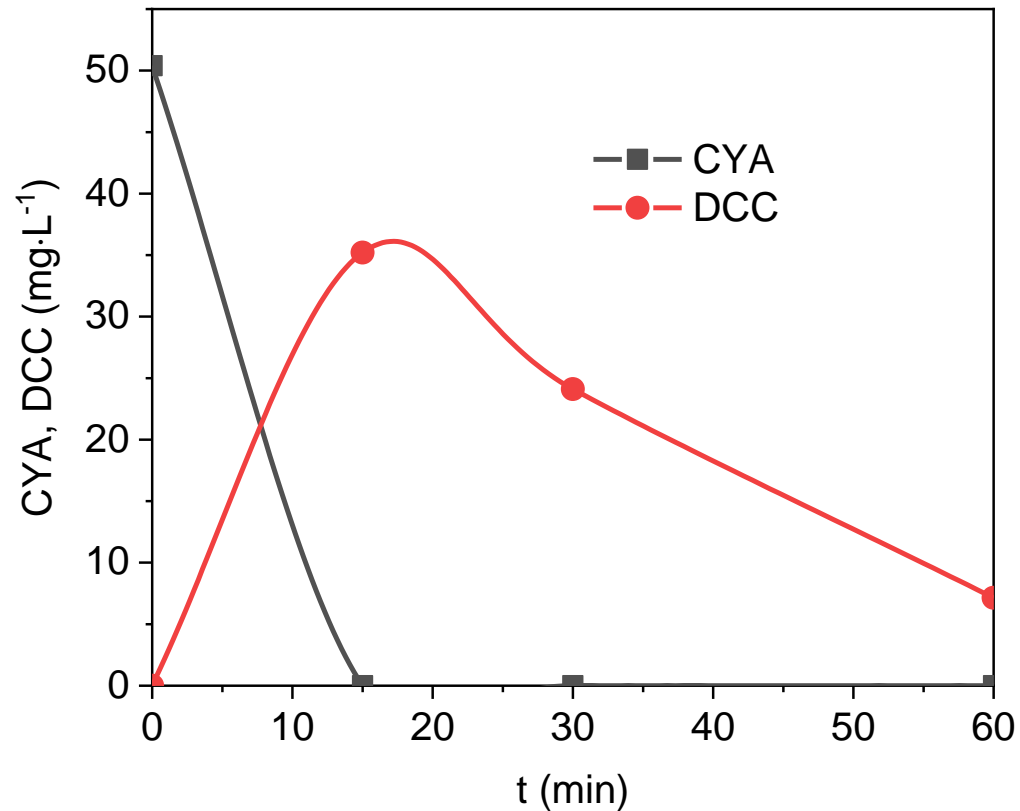
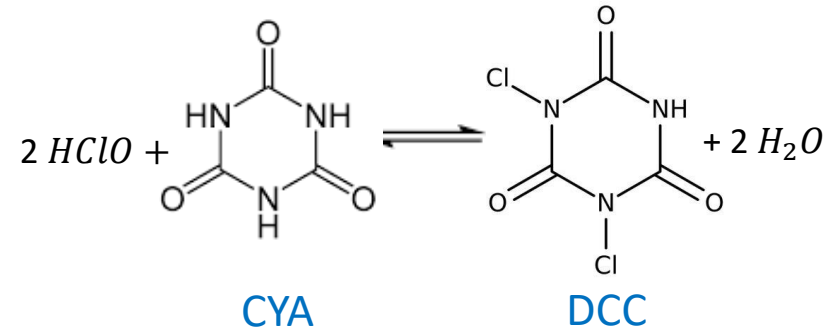
* After 4h of treatment except AO, BDD (1h)

RESULTS

CYA DEGRADATION BY AO (BBD)

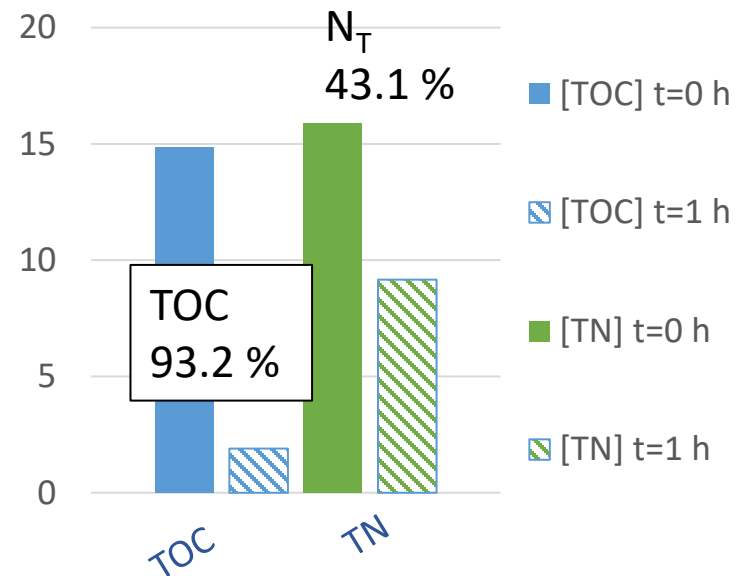


Treatment of $50 \text{ mg}\cdot\text{L}^{-1}$ CYA by AO, Boron Doped Diamond (BDD) electrode $[\text{NaCl}] = 4 \text{ g}\cdot\text{L}^{-1}$



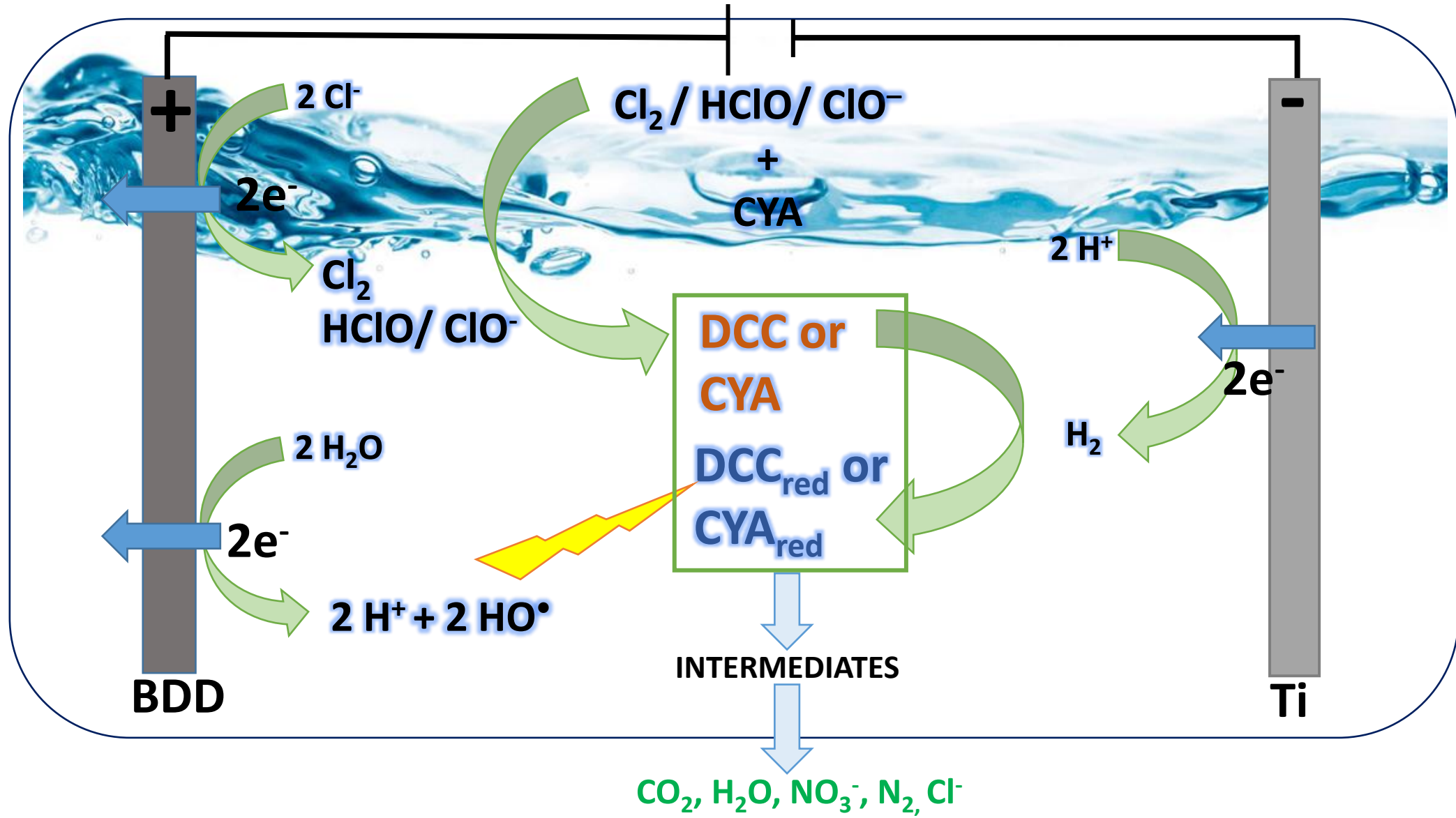
Operational Conditions: $[\text{CYA}] = 50 \text{ mg}\cdot\text{L}^{-1}$ Current density: $40 \text{ mA}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}$, $V = 250 \text{ mL}$, $[\text{NaCl}] = 4 \text{ g}\cdot\text{L}^{-1}$, $\text{pH}_0 = 6.7$

TOC and Total N evolution (ppm)

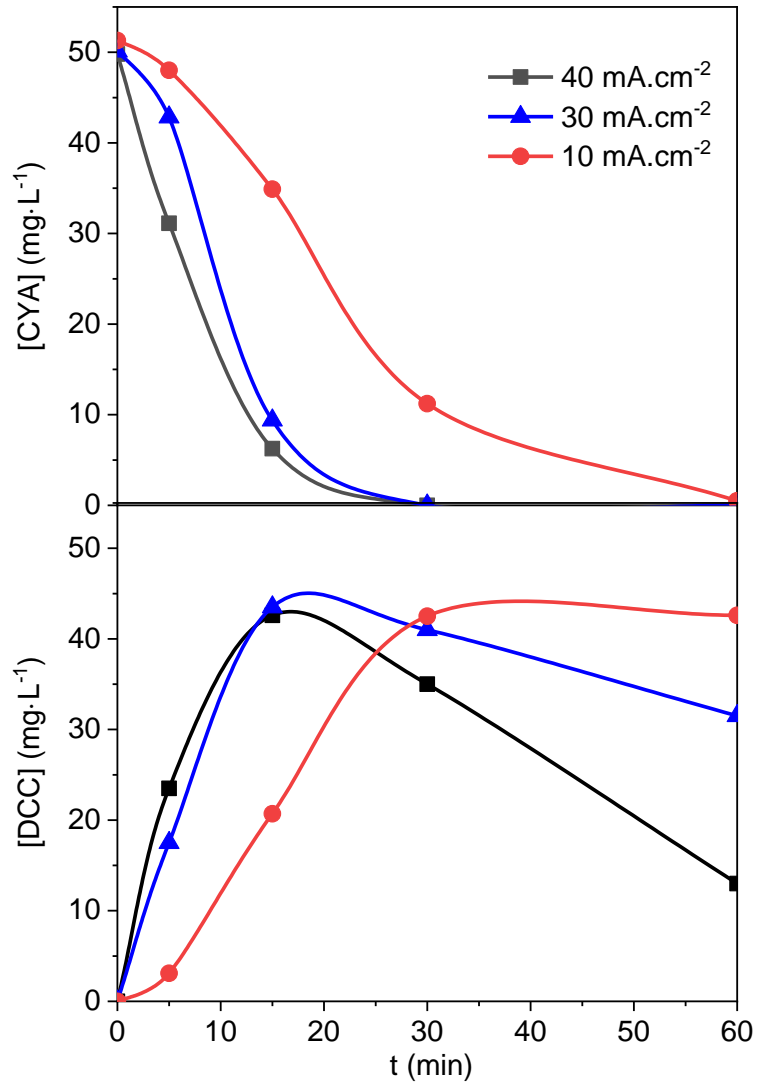


$\text{N}_{\text{NO}_3^-} = 6.3 \text{ ppm}$
 $\text{N}_{\text{NO}_2^-} = 0.1 \text{ ppm}$
 $\text{N}_{\text{NH}_4^+} = 0.4 \text{ ppm}$

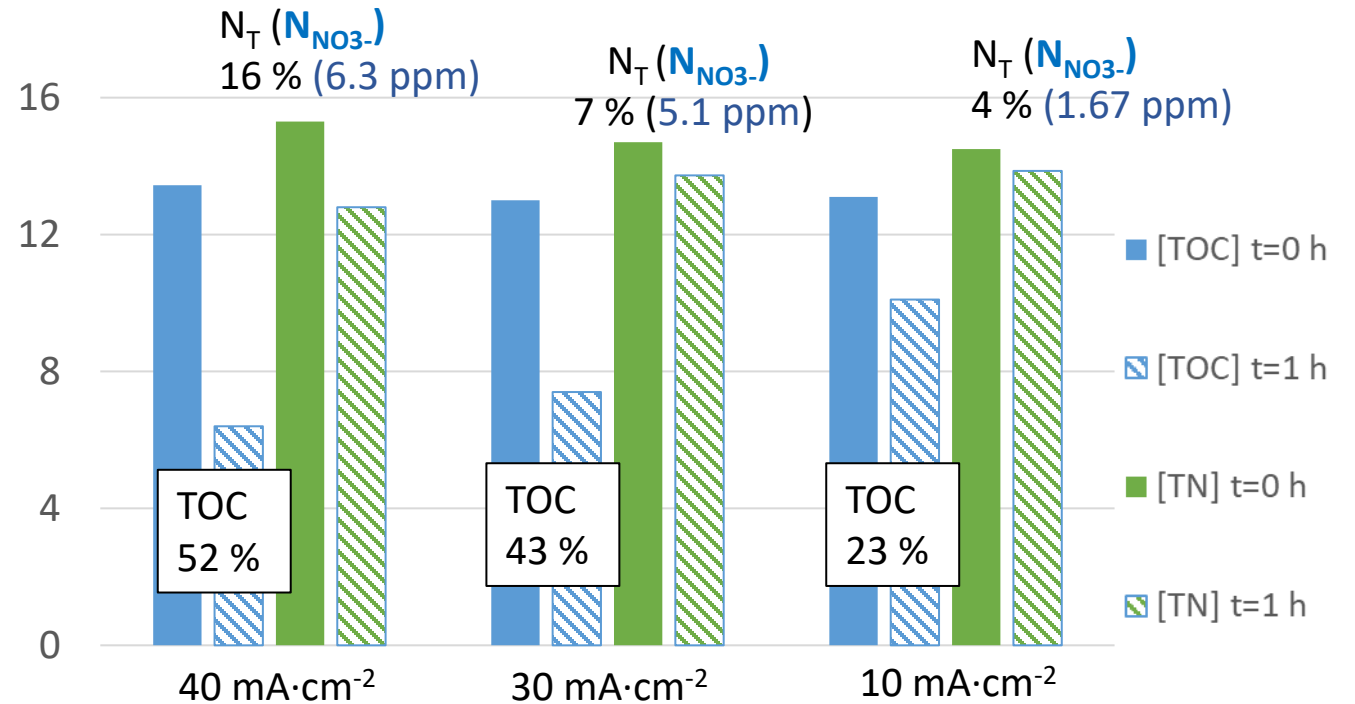
$\text{N}_2 = 6.7 \text{ ppm}$
 $\text{NO}_x ?$



Treatment of [CYA] = 50 mg·L⁻¹ by AO, Boron Doped Diamond (BDD) electrode_[NaCl] = 500 mg·L⁻¹



TOC, TN and NO₃⁻ evolution (ppm)



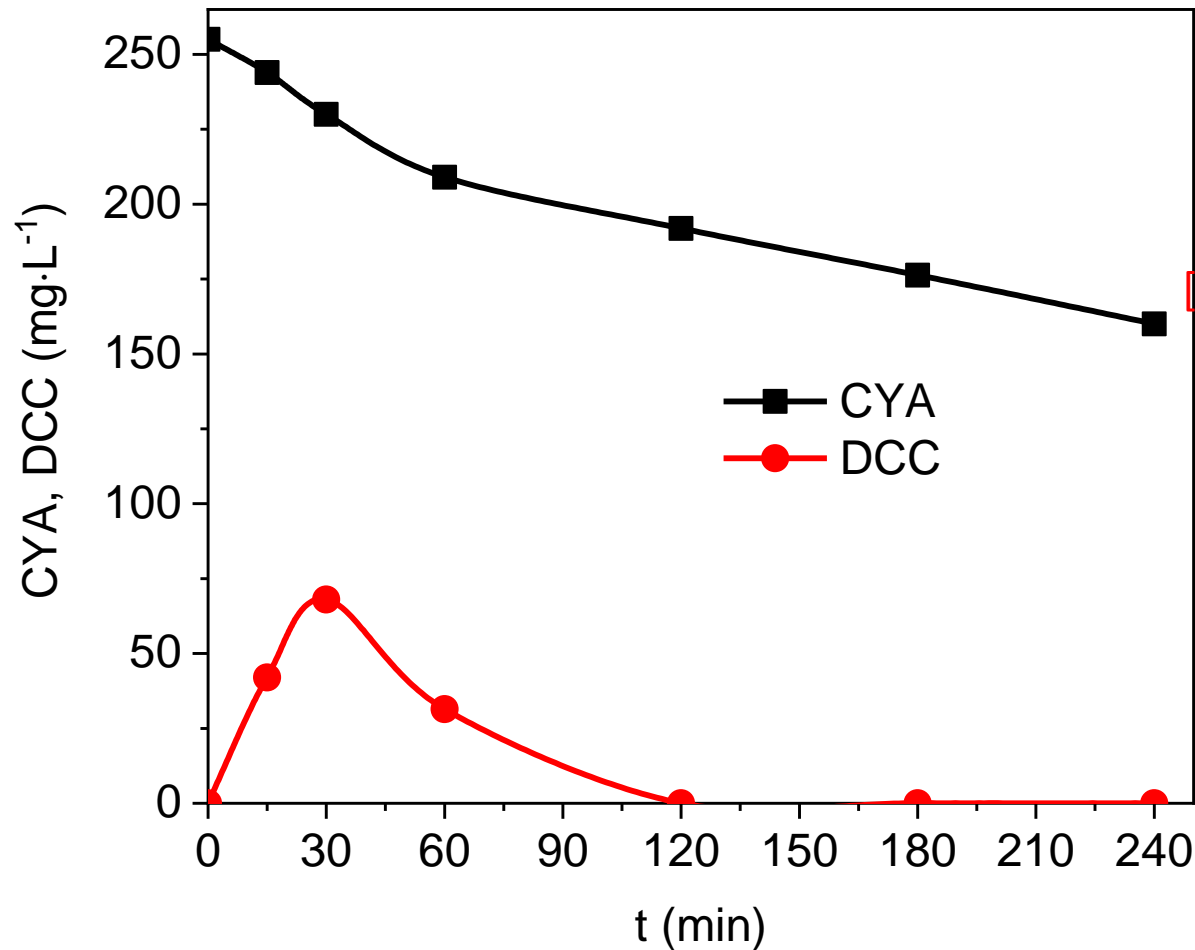
- As expected, the low the current density, the low the TOC and TN removal
- Nonetheless, still relatively high CYA removals can be achieved



RESULTS

CYA REMOVAL: Real Swimming Pool Water

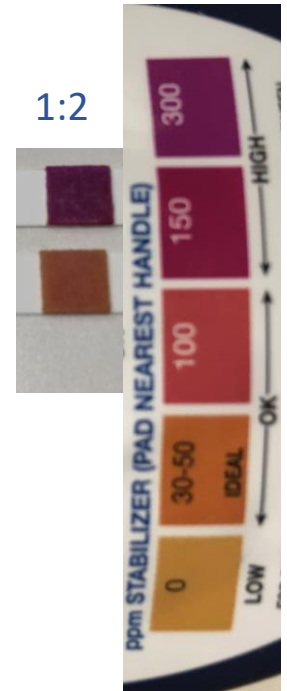
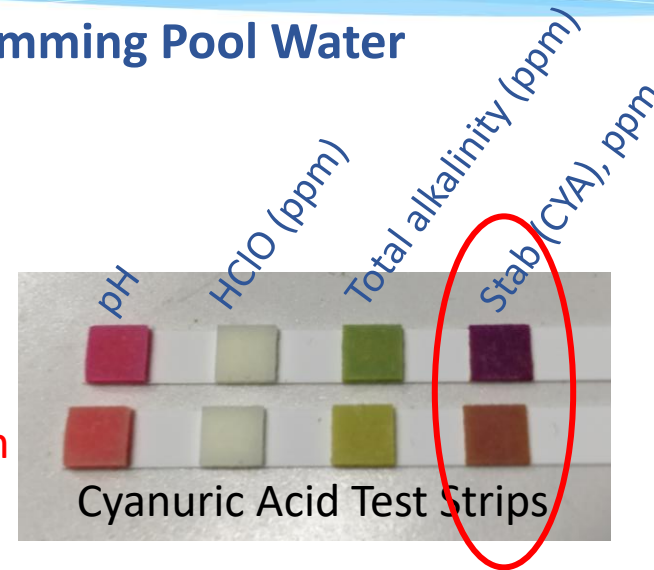
Boron Doped Diamond (BDD) electrode_Real Swimming Pool Water



Operational Conditions: Current density: 40 mA·cm⁻², V=250 mL, L⁻¹ pH₀ = 7.8



[CYA]₀ = 250 ppm



Swimming Pool Water conditions:

t = 0 min: - pH₀ = 7.8, free chlorine = **0-0.5 ppm**; Total alkalinity = 80 ppm; **CYA = 150-300**

t = 240 min:- pH₀ = 8.2, free chlorine = **0-0.5 ppm**; Total alkalinity = 80 ppm; **CYA = 30-100**

BDD AO was able to achieve a 37.2 % CYA removal even when [CYA]₀ = 250 ppm



NEXT STEPS...

- Elucidate the CYA degradation by AO (HPLC-MS???)
- Test CYA degradation in real swimming pool water with DSA (Dimensionally Stable Anodes)
- Operate in continues mode (Anode stability)
- Cost assesment in CYA degradation by electrochemical Advances Oxidation Process



CONCLUDING ...

- CYN in swimming pool water can be remove by AO processes.

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Acknowledgements

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J. Carbajo wants to thank the Ministerio de Ciencia, Innovación y Universidades (MICIU) for a grant under the Juan de la Cierva_Incorporación programme (IJCI-2017-32682).

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