

**CONTROL OF MINERAL SCALING IN POWER PLANT RECIRCULATING
COOLING SYSTEMS USING TREATED MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER**

by

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University of Pittsburgh, 2013

The global energy demand is projected to increase by 77% from 2006 to 2030 along with a projected 38% increase in freshwater withdrawal for cooling in power industry. Finding alternative sources of water for cooling has become essential for future energy generation in thermoelectric power plants because of water scarcity in many parts of the US. Treated municipal wastewater is considered as one of the most promising alternative water sources because of its geographic distribution and abundant quantity. However, its impaired water quality makes the cooling tower management more challenging. Therefore, effective approaches are required to prevent scaling, corrosion, and biological growth to promote the reuse of treated municipal wastewater as cooling water in power plants.

This study focuses on understanding mineral scale formation and developing effective mitigation methods when using tertiary treated municipal wastewater as power plant cooling makeup. Two types of tertiary-treated municipal wastewater that were evaluated included secondary-treated water with pH adjustment (MWW_pH) and water from secondary-treatment followed by nitrification and sand filtration (MWW_NF). Laboratory-scale studies and pilot-scale cooling systems were used to evaluate mineral scaling formation and inhibition on non-heated surfaces (e.g., pipelines, tower packing, etc.) under conditions relevant to full-scale cooling systems. Results showed that pH adjustment to 7.8 plus the addition of 5 ppm polymaleic acid (PMA) could reduce the scaling significantly with MWW_pH. MWW_NF

exhibited little scaling potential, which is related in part to the lower pH and alkalinity in this water. Amorphous calcium phosphate (ACP) was the primary form of mineral scale on non-heated surface with the above two-types of tertiary-treated municipal wastewater.

A bench-scale experimental system was designed to simulate the condenser surface to study the impacts of mineral scaling on the heated surfaces and the effectiveness of proposed scaling control strategies under these conditions. Heated surface favored the formation of hydroxyapatite (HAP), the most thermodynamically stable calcium phosphate, was the main reason for the crystalline fouling with MWW_pH at pH 7.8. 10 ppm PMA addition could suppress the crystalline fouling of MWW_pH at 7.8 to a low level by inhibiting the transformation of amorphous calcium phosphate to hydroxyapatite during the test period. Significant crystalline fouling was identified with MWW_NF at pH 7.2 while pH adjustment to 7.8 resulted in negligible fouling.

The impact of flow velocity on particle deposition was analyzed in a quantitative model, showing positive deposition potential for bulk precipitates at flow velocity of 0.5 and 0.4 m/s while little particulate fouling was theoretically predicted at 0.6 m/s in the test situation. Bench-scale studies were consistent the model prediction, confirming that the model could be used to identify optimal hydrodynamic conditions to control depositions of bulk precipitates.

The mechanism of calcium phosphate scale control by common antiscalants included PMA and 1-hydroxyethane 1,1-diphosphonic acid (HEDP) was elucidated to provide scientific background for the effective scaling mitigation when treated municipal wastewater is used as make-up in thermoelectric power plant cooling systems. Both PMA and HEDP inhibited the transformation of ACP to HAP by preventing the aggregation of ACP particles. However, PMA

dispersed the ACP particles mainly through electrostatic repulsive force while hydration force was hypothesized to be the reason for the function of HEDP in dispersion.

The key findings of this study indicate that it is possible to control mineral scaling through direct chemical addition at proper operating conditions when treated municipal wastewater is used as makeup water in the recirculating cooling system. This study not only evaluated scaling control methods in cooling systems, but also revealed the fundamentals of scaling formation and inhibition.

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To Them I dedicate

My Love, Wansu Xu

My Parents, Peichuan Liu and Chuanxiang You

Chinese Dream in my perspective: prosperity, civilization, and dignity

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Water availability represents a growing concern for meeting human needs in the future. It is estimated that more than 60% of the world's population will lack access to an adequate supply by 2025, largely in Asia, Africa, and Latin America (Feeley et al., 2008). The U.S. is also not immune from water supply problems. As water use is increasing every year, at least 36 states are anticipating local, regional, or statewide water shortages by 2013, even under non-drought conditions (EPA, 2008). In response to the water scarcity issue, wastewater reuse is recognized as an environmentally sound approach for sustainable water management.

Among the major freshwater users in the US, thermoelectric power generation has recently become the top user (201 Bgal/day or 49% of total water withdrawals). Each kilowatt-hour (kWh) of the thermoelectric generation requires the use of approximately 25 gallons of water, which is primarily for cooling purposes (Feeley et al., 2008). As population growth and economic development continue to increase the demand for electric power, it is necessary to ensure a reliable and abundant water source for thermoelectric power generation. However, freshwater shortages and the competing demand from other water uses will increase pressure on power plants to reduce water consumption and adopt wastewater reuse. Several cases in arid areas, such as Arizona and Texas, have shown that lack of available cooling water sources can result in suspension in operation of existing power plants and delay construction of new power plants (Feeley and Ramezan, 2003; Dishneau, 2007).

Power plant cooling demands large quantities of relatively low quality water when compared to other uses of water (e.g., drinking and food production). Therefore, alternative sources to replace freshwater for cooling system operation are likely to be in great demand in the near future. Among all the alternatives, treated municipal wastewater (MWW) is a promising candidate for power plant cooling due to its widespread availability and consistent quality (Li et al., 2011a; EPRI, 2008). Use of treated MWW as make-up water for cooling in power plants has been in full-scale operation for several decades (Osborn, 1970; Humphris, 1977; Rebhun and Engel, 1988; Wijesinghe et al., 1996). However, these power plants typically use treated MWW only as a fraction of the total makeup water needed or only after significant additional treatment before addition to the recirculating cooling systems (Wijesinghe et al., 1996; Li et al., 2011a). Few studies have focused on the feasibility of using treated MWW as the dominant makeup water with or without additional prior treatment.

The main challenges when using MWW as cooling system makeup are scaling, corrosion, and biofouling (biological growth) due to impaired water quality (Wijesinghe et al., 1996; Selby et al., 1996; Puckorius, 2003; Vidic, 2009). The term “scaling” is generally used to describe the collection and growth of unwanted inorganic salts which increases both pressure drop and resistance to heat transfer in the cooling systems (Neufeld et al., 1985). The scaling problem would be exacerbated under typical recirculating cooling tower operations (i.e., elevated temperature and evaporative loss of water that leads to concentration of minerals). Because of the negative environmental impacts, traditional once-through cooling water systems are discouraged and recirculating cooling water systems are the only option for new or re-permitted thermoelectric power plants (Reynolds, 1980).

Mineral scaling could be prevented in a number of ways. For mineral deposits that are pH-dependent, like calcium carbonate, acid addition can reduce the pH and alkalinity in the recirculating systems and thus lower the formation potential of some mineral scales. However, increased corrosion rates would occur at lower pH (Troup and Richardson, 1978). Physical water treatment (PWT) methods, including magnetic fields, electric fields, alteration of surface charges of water, and mechanical disturbance for scaling control have been reported in bench-and pilot-scale studies (Cho et al., 2004). However, the effect of the PWT on the mineral scaling is still questionable in real practice (Troup and Richardson, 1978). Up to now, addition of chemicals that serve as antiscalants is still the most effective approach for mitigating mineral scaling (Al Nasser et al., 2011).

Although there is abundant experience with scaling inhibition in freshwater, scaling control for treated MWW used as makeup for cooling systems is rather challenging due to its complicated water chemistry. Most antiscalants that have been proven effective in freshwater may not be as effective in treated MWW (Li et al., 2011b). In order to advance the reuse of the treated MWW as cooling water in power plants, it is necessary to develop and implement sound scaling control technologies for different types of treated MWW.

1.1 RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

This study aims to investigate the use of treated municipal wastewater where freshwater is not readily available for power plant cooling systems. To evaluate the feasibility of using this impaired water source for cooling, specific goals of this study were to advance the fundamental

understanding of scaling behavior of treated municipal wastewater under conditions relevant to cooling tower operation and to develop effective approaches for mineral scaling inhibition. In order to fulfill these major goals, experimental investigations were conducted to achieve the following specific objectives: 1) determine the main scaling mechanism and effective mitigation methods for heated and non-heated surfaces in bench-scale studies; 2) understand the role of hydrodynamic conditions on the scaling processes; 3) study the effectiveness and mechanism of common antiscalants on mineral scale formation relevant to MWW reuse as makeup in recirculating cooling systems; and 4). validate the findings from bench-scale studies in extended pilot-scale cooling tower tests.

1.2 SCOPE OF THE DISSERTATION

This dissertation incorporates three journal manuscripts and is presented in five chapters. The core of the dissertation consists of Chapters 2, 3, and 4, which include major findings of this study.

The present chapter (Chapter 1) introduces the background and motivation of the study.

Two types of tertiary-treated municipal wastewaters, namely secondary-treated MWW with pH adjustment (MWW_pH) and secondary-treated MWW subjected to nitrification and sand filtration (MWW_NF) were evaluated as the sole source of make-up water for recirculating cooling systems. Chapter 2 demonstrated the mineral scaling on non-heated surfaces (e.g., pipelines, tower packing, etc.) with MWW and MWW_NF in recirculating cooling systems.

Batch-, bench-, and pilot-scale studies were conducted to determine the effective scaling mitigation methods and test their compatibility with corrosion and biofouling control methods in the integrated chemical regimen. This chapter has been published in *Water Research* (Liu et al., 2012).

Chapter 3 addresses the scaling on condenser tube surfaces (fouling) when MWW_pH or MWW_NF is used as the sole make-up water for recirculating cooling systems. A bench-scale recirculating system equipped with a cartridge heater was designed to simulate the heat exchanger surface for fouling investigation. Effects of mineral scaling on the heat transfer efficiency deterioration were studied in the customized test system. Bench-scale tests were also conducted to determine chemical control methods and operational strategies to mitigate scale buildup on heated surfaces. This chapter has been submitted for publication (Liu et al., 2013a).

Chapter 4 examines the function of common antiscalants on the calcium phosphate precipitation. Calcium phosphate scales were encountered in numerous wastewater reuse and water treatment processes but only limited guidance could be found in literature. In batch tests, a combined analysis of bulk chemistry, precipitates mineralogy, and surface characteristics was conducted to obtain insights into inhibition mechanisms of common antiscalants on calcium phosphate scale formation. This chapter will be submitted for publication soon (Liu et al., 2013b).

Chapter 5 summarizes the original contributions, major findings, and conclusions of this work. Specific future work that can be carried out from this dissertation is also provided in this chapter.

Appendix A compares the tenacity of mineral scales through the surface crystallization and particle deposition by analyzing the forces acting on the individual scale particles, which enhances the understanding on the mineral scaling process.

Appendix B shows the reproducibility of the fouling resistance measurement from the bench-scale recirculating system for fouling studies. Two independent tests were conducted and compared to verify the reliability of the results in Chapter 3.

Appendix C studies the effects of TOC removal in a fixed bed granular active carbon (GAC) adsorber on scaling behavior of wastewater from secondary treatment followed by nitrification and filtration.

The main contents in each chapter are summarized in Table 1.1:

Table 1.1 Main contents in each chapter of this study

Section	Main contents
Chapter 1	Background and motivation
Chapter 2	Scaling control on non-heated surfaces
Chapter 3	Scaling control on heated surfaces
Chapter 4	Function mechanism of common antiscalants on calcium phosphate precipitation
Chapter 5	Conclusion and summary
Appendix A	Comparison between the crystalline fouling and particulate fouling
Appendix B	Reproducibility of the fouling resistance measurement
Appendix C	Effects of TOC removal on scaling behavior of treated municipal wastewater

2.0 SCALING MITIGATION ON NON-HEATED SURFACES WITH TREATED MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER AS MAKEUP IN RECIRCULATING COOLING SYSTEMS

This work has been published as:

Liu, W., Chien, S.H., Dzombak, D., Vidic, R. (2012) Mineral scaling mitigation in cooling systems using tertiary-treated municipal wastewater. *Water Research*, 46(14), pp.4488-4498.

Treated municipal wastewater (MWW) is recognized as a significant potential source of cooling water for power generation. One of the key challenges for the successful use of the effluent from wastewater treatment facilities for cooling is the potential for significant mineral scaling when the raw water is concentrated as much as 4-6 times in recirculating cooling systems. Previous bench- and pilot-scale tests (Li et al., 2011b) have shown that commonly used phosphorus- and polymer- based scaling inhibitors are ineffective when secondary-treated municipal wastewater (MWW) is used as makeup. In this study, two types of tertiary-treated municipal wastewaters, namely secondary-treated MWW with pH adjustment (MWW_pH) and secondary-treated MWW subjected to nitrification and sand filtration (MWW_NF) were evaluated as the sole source of make-up water for recirculating cooling systems. Both laboratory studies and pilot-scale tests revealed that adjusting the pH to 7.8 could reduce the mineral scaling rate by more than 80% without causing any significant corrosion problems. In contrast to MWW, where calcium carbonate was the dominant scaling mineral, the main component of mineral scale in MWW_pH was calcium phosphate. Both static and dynamic bench-scale tests indicated that scaling would not be a significant concern when MWW_NF is used as the make-up water in recirculating cooling systems operated at 4-6 cycles of concentration (CoC). Extended pilot-scale studies confirmed that MWW_NF is suitable makeup water for power plant cooling systems and that no anti-scaling chemicals would be required.

2.1 INTRODUCTION

Secondary treatment is the most common method for municipal wastewater treatment in the U.S. Secondary-treated MWW is characterized by low to moderate content of total suspended solids (TSS) and organic matter, but moderate to high content of dissolved solids, alkalinity, and hardness. Under typical recirculating cooling conditions (i.e., elevated temperature and evaporative loss of water), a significant concern when using secondary MWW is the potential for severe mineral scaling. Among methods used to prevent scale formation and deposition, antiscalants have been proven effective when traditional water source (i.e. fresh water) was employed in cooling systems (Shakkthivel and Vasudevan, 2006; Moudgil et al., 2009). However, their effectiveness can be seriously compromised when secondary-treated MWW is used instead. Among common antiscalants, phosphate- or phosphonate- based agents could react with calcium ions to form insoluble precipitates and exacerbate the scaling problem, especially in concentrated MWW with high concentration of calcium and phosphate (Selby et al., 1996; Zhang et al., 2010). In a previous study by Li et al. (2011b), carboxylic polymers, like polymaleic acid (PMA), have been shown to significantly reduce the scaling in bench-scale tests with synthetic secondary-treated MWW. However, these antiscalants were not as effective during extended pilot-scale tests with real secondary-treated MWW. Therefore, development and demonstration of effective scaling control approaches are needed for treated MWW to advance the reuse of this water source for power plant cooling.

Previous studies have shown that the major mineral scales formed in recirculating cooling systems using secondary-treated MWW as make-up water are calcium carbonate and to a lesser extent calcium phosphate (Li et al., 2011b). Chemical species distribution for these precipitation

reactions is highly dependent on the solution pH. It is reasonable to assume that lowering the solution pH should lower the formation of the inorganic precipitates by lowering alkalinity and thus lowering the driving force for scale formation. However, concerns like enhanced corrosion rates would arise at lower pH (Troup and Richardson, 1978; Hsieh et al., 2010). Although the impact of pH reduction on scaling control is well known, proper acid dosing and the combined effects of acid addition and other chemical treatment programs, such as antiscalants, corrosion inhibitors and biocides, in cooling systems using tertiary-treated MWW have not been investigated before.

It has been reported that the ammonia concentration in the secondary-treated MWW can be as high as 10 to 30 mg-N/L (Selby et al., 1996). Biological nitrification processes for ammonia removal have been adopted by many wastewater treatment plants faced with more stringent discharge requirements (Office of Water Programs at California State University Sacramento, 2009). From the prospective of mineral scaling control, tertiary treatment of the MWW by nitrification would depress the pH and alkalinity and thus reduce the scaling propensity in recirculating cooling systems (Metcalf & Eddy, 2004). There are currently no studies that offer guidance on the scaling behavior of tertiary-treated MWW when used as make-up water in recirculating cooling systems.

The focus of this study was on mineral deposition on pipes and tower packing at bulk water conditions when tertiary-treated MWW is used as the sole make-up water. Types of tertiary treatment considered were pH adjustment (MWW_pH) and nitrification followed by sand filtration (MWW_NF). Batch tests and bench-scale recirculating system studies were conducted to determine the desired pH range and the synergism between pH adjustment and

antiscalant addition on scaling mitigation when using MWW_pH as make-up water in recirculating cooling systems. In addition, the precipitation and deposition potential of secondary-treated MWW subjected to nitrification and sand filtration (MWW_NF) was also studied under well-controlled laboratory conditions. Pilot-scale cooling tower tests were then conducted to evaluate the applicability of selected scaling mitigation strategies in the field and to test their compatibility with corrosion and biofouling control methods in the integrated chemical regimen for tertiary-treated MWW reuse in recirculating cooling systems.

2.2 MATERIALS AND METHODS

2.2.1 Municipal wastewater

Secondary-treated MWW (biological trickling filter followed by secondary clarification) from Franklin Township Sanitary Authority, Murrysville, PA, was used in pilot-scale tests and as a model for typical secondary-treated municipal effluent (Metcalf & Eddy, 2004). Key characteristics of this water and the tertiary-treated MWW_NF water (secondary treatment followed by nitrification and sand filtration) from the same wastewater treatment facility are shown in Table 2.1.

Typical operation of a recirculating cooling system will concentrate the feed water as much as 4-6 times due to evaporative losses in the system. A synthetic wastewater (Table 2.2) was prepared to represent secondary-treated MWW at 4 cycles of concentration (CoC 4) in terms

of its mineral content for detailed investigation in laboratory tests (Li et al., 2011b). Chemical composition of synthetic MWW_NF at CoC 4 for laboratory studies is also shown in Table 2.2. Both synthetic waters were prepared based on the characteristics of the actual wastewaters shown in Table 2.1.

Table 2.1 Key water quality parameters of Franklin Township Municipal Sanitary Authority (Murrysville, PA) secondary treated effluent (Sampled on September 3, 2008)

Analyte	Unit	Result		Detection limit
		MWW	MWW_NF	
Ca	mg/L	42	39.7	5
Cu	mg/L	0.028	0.17	0.025
Fe	mg/L	0.5	0.31	0.1
K	mg/L	16.3	15.8	5
Mg	mg/L	10.7	9.8	5
Na	mg/L	94	78	5
SiO ₂	mg/L	8.54	7	1.07
NH ₃	mg N/L	21.0	1.42	0.5
NO ₃	mg N/L	3.6	18.1	0.1
Cl	mg/L	106	96.3	10
SO ₄	mg/L	86	83.1	1
Total P	mg P/L	4.5	12	0.5
pH		7.1	6.7	
HCO ₃ Alkalinity	mg CaCO ₃ /L	177	25.4	5
Total Alkalinity	mg CaCO ₃ /L	177	25.4	5
BOD	mg/L	32	5.8	
TOC	mg/L	27	8.7	1
TDS	mg/L	661	474	10
TSS	mg/L	24.5	20.8	5
Conductance	mS/cm	1.03	0.87	0.01

Notes: MWW (secondary treated municipal wastewater, biological trickling filter followed by secondary clarification); MWW_NF (tertiary treated municipal wastewater, nitrification and sand filtration after secondary treatment).

Table 2.2 Chemical composition of synthetic MWW and MWW_NF at 4 cycles of concentration (CoC 4) for batch- and bench-scale experiments

Cation	Concentration (mM)		Anion	Concentration (mM)	
	MWW	MWW_NF		MWW	MWW_NF
Ca ²⁺	7.60	4.00	SO ₄ ²⁻	2.84	3.50
Mg ²⁺	7.16	1.60	HCO ₃ ⁻	13.44	1.60
Na ⁺	26.88	9.80	Cl ⁻	31.13	11.20
K ⁺	0.70	0.48	PO ₄ ³⁻	0.21	0.48
NH ₄ ⁺ (as N)	7.01	-	NO ₃ ⁻ (as N)	1.20	-

Notes: MWW (secondary treated municipal wastewater, biological trickling filter followed by secondary clarification); MWW_NF (tertiary treated municipal wastewater, nitrification and sand filtration after secondary treatment).

2.2.2 Laboratory experimental systems

Precipitation behavior of MWW_ pH at CoC 4 was first studied in a 1.4 L beaker covered with plastic wrap to minimize water loss due to evaporation. The contents in the beaker were completely mixed with a magnetic stirrer and the bulk temperature was controlled at 40°C (typical bulk temperature of power plant recirculating cooling water) using the heating plate. The experiments were always initiated by adding all the salts listed in Table 2.2 except for CaCl₂. For the tests intended to study the impact of pH on precipitation behavior of MWW_ pH at CoC 4, the solution pH was then lowered to 6.8 with 0.5 M hydrochloric acid (previous tests have shown that there will be no immediate bulk precipitation at pH 6.8) followed by the addition of CaCl₂. pH of the synthetic solution was then adjusted and maintained at a desired pH with 0.5 M hydrochloric acid or 0.5 M sodium hydroxide. The effectiveness of polymaleic acid (PMA, Kroff Chemical Company, Pittsburgh, PA) as a model antiscalant on the precipitation was tested by adding it to the solution before the addition of any salts.

Precipitation behavior in the beaker was monitored by withdrawing 5 mL of the solution at predetermined intervals. The water sample was filtered through a 0.45 μm membrane and immediately acidified to $\text{pH} < 2$ with concentrated HNO_3 . Calcium and phosphate concentrations were determined by atomic absorption spectroscopy and the molybdate/ascorbic acid method (American Public Health Association et al., 2005), respectively. Mg concentration was not monitored because previous study (Li et al., 2011b) has shown that Mg precipitation was negligible. Precipitated solids were collected, washed with DI water, and air-dried for subsequent petrographic and chemical characterization.

A bench-scale recirculating system (Figure 2.1) was used to investigate the deposition behavior of MWW_pH and MWW_NF under different scaling mitigation strategies. Synthetic treated MWW and MWW_NF were used for reproducible solution chemistry. Mineral mass deposited on stainless steel (SS) discs (5.61 cm^2) was monitored to track the scaling process. Temperature was controlled at approximately 40°C (105°F), and flow rate through the system was maintained at 11.4 L/min (3 gpm) to achieve flow velocity of 0.66 m/s (2.18 ft/s) and Reynolds number of 1.9×10^4 .

The crystalline characteristics of the solids were analyzed by x-ray diffraction (XRD, PW 1830, Philips Analytical Inc., Natick, MA) with $\text{Cu K}\alpha$ radiation. Once the diffraction patterns were obtained, both manual matching of the peak positions and a computer-aided search for the compounds were performed. The morphology of the precipitates was inspected using Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM, Philips XL30, FEI Co., Hillsboro, OR) and the elemental compositions of selected sample were determined by Energy Dispersive X-ray Spectroscopy (EDS, EDAX Inc., Mahwah, NJ).

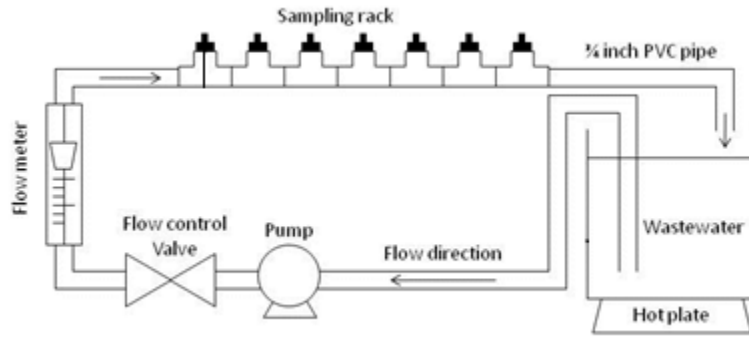


Figure 2.1 Schematic diagram of bench scale recirculating system

2.2.3 Pilot-scale cooling tower tests

Field tests with pilot-scale cooling towers were conducted at the Franklin Township Municipal Sanitary Authority (FTMSA, Murrysville, PA) using three pilot-scale cooling towers. The design and operation of the pilot-scale cooling towers is reported elsewhere (Chien et al., 2012a). The field tests were conducted with treated MWW and MWW_NF to test the optimal scaling mitigation strategies that were identified from bench-scale experiments and their compatibility with corrosion and biofouling control methods in the integrated chemical regimen when using tertiary-treated MWW as make-up water in recirculating cooling systems. All three towers were operated at CoC 4-6, using a target flow velocity of 0.66 m/s (2.18 ft/s). The temperature of water entering the tower was about 40°C (105°F) and leaving the tower was about 35°C (95°F).

The cooling towers were tested for two consecutive 60-day periods from May 2010 to September 2010. In each test period, three towers were operated side by side and the chemical addition for the control of biofouling and corrosion was implemented together with the scaling control program. In previous tests, tolyltriazole (TTA) showed effective corrosion inhibition for

copper and copper alloys while phosphorous-based corrosion inhibitors were largely removed by precipitation (Hsieh et al., 2010). PMA reduced scaling significantly in the absence of chlorine (biocides) when synthetic secondary-treated MWW at CoC 4 was recirculated at bench-scale systems but was only partially effective in the presence of chlorine (Li et al., 2011b). Pre-formed monochloramine (MCA) was found to be less aggressive than free chlorine while still being an effective biocide (Chien et al., 2012b). Thus, TTA was selected for corrosion control and MCA was selected for biofouling control in these pilot-scale cooling tower tests. The chemical inhibitor dosing used in tests with MWW_pH and MWW_NF are shown in Table 2.3. Pilot-scale tests with MWW_pH were used to study the impact of TTA on corrosion inhibition and effectiveness of different biocides (free chlorine or MCA) for biofouling control (Table 2.3). Cooling tower A in the pilot-scale test with MWW_NF was used as a control with biocide addition only, while cooling towers B and C were used to compare the effectiveness of TTA at different concentrations for corrosion control (Table 2.3). The results of biofouling and corrosion control studies are reported separately (Chien et al, 2012b; Choudhury et al., 2012). pH control was maintained using an automated system consisting of pre-calibrated pH probe with pH controller, and a solenoid valve.

Similar to the bench-scale recirculating system tests, stainless steel discs were used to provide collecting surfaces for scaling/deposition and were withdrawn at predetermined time intervals to monitor the scaling process. One important difference between the scaling studies with synthetic treated MWW in the laboratory and real treated MWW in the field is the biomass growth on SS discs used in the field tests. Therefore, the SS discs were first placed at 104°C for 3.5 hours to dry and then at 500°C for 3.5 hours to remove volatile organic component of the deposit. The inorganic deposits on selected SS disc specimens were analyzed by SEM/EDS to

obtain their elemental composition. In parallel with the solids analysis, important information about the chemistry of the makeup and recirculating water was recorded throughout the field tests.

Table 2.3 Chemical composition of synthetic MWW and MWW_NF at 4 cycles of concentration (CoC 4) for batch- and bench-scale experiments

Make-up water	Chemical	CTA	CTB	CTC	Function	Dosing location
MWW_pH	TTA, mg/L as dose	2	5	5	Anti-corrosion	Makeup water tank
	PMA, mg/L as dose	5	5	5	Anti-scaling	Makeup water tank
	MCA, mg/L as residual	3~4	3~4	-	Biocide	Basin
	FC, mg/L as TC residual	-	-	3~4	Biocide	Basin
	pH control	NC	7.0 and then 7.8	7.0 and then 7.8	Anti-scaling	Basin
MWW_NF	TTA, mg/L as dose	0	2	4	Anti-corrosion	Makeup water tank
	PMA, mg/L as dose	0	5	5	Anti-scaling	Makeup water tank
	MCA, mg/L as residual	2~3	2~3	2~3	Biocide	Basin

Notes: MWW (secondary treated municipal wastewater, biological trickling filter followed by secondary clarification); MWW_NF (tertiary treated municipal wastewater, nitrification and filtration after secondary treatment); TTA (Tolyltriazole); PMA (Polymaleic acid); MCA (Monochloramine); FC (Free chlorine); TC (Total chlorine).; NC = no pH adjustment; CTA (cooling tower A); CTB (cooling tower B); CTC (cooling tower C).

2.3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

2.3.1 Precipitation reactions in solution: batch tests

Batch tests with synthetic MWW_pH (CoC 4) at pH 8.4, 8.2, 7.8, 7.4, and 7.0 (MWW_pH) were conducted at 40°C and the residual Ca and phosphate concentrations are plotted as a function of time on Figure 2.2. As can be seen in Figure 2.2, Ca and phosphate concentrations in the

synthetic secondary-treated MWW were sensitive to pH in the range of 8.4 to 7.8. Typically, lower pH resulted in the increase in solution concentration. Phosphate precipitation was essentially complete in less than 10 minutes when pH was above 7.8 and lowering pH to 7.4 extended the reaction time to about 1 hour. Soluble Ca and phosphate concentrations at pH 7.0 remained almost unchanged throughout the test, suggesting that maintaining the pH of synthetic MWW_ pH at 7.0 would prevent precipitation of calcium carbonate and calcium phosphate for at least 3 hours.

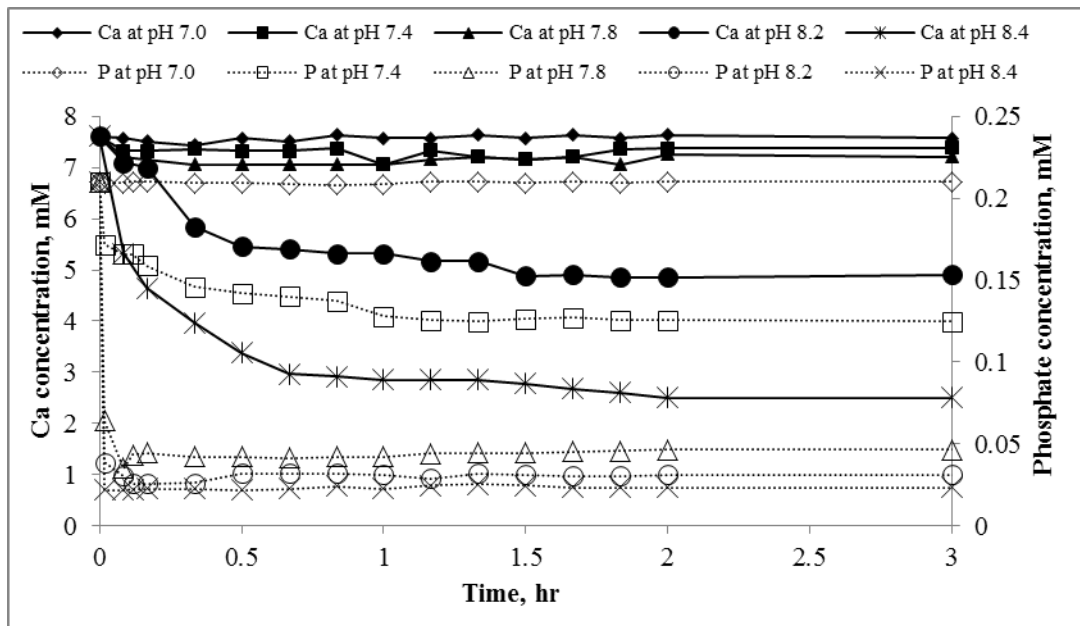


Figure 2.2 Residual Ca and phosphate concentrations in batch tests with synthetic secondary-treated MWW (CoC 4) as a function of time at typical cooling water temperature (40°C) when pH was maintained at 8.4, 8.2, 7.8, 7.4, and 7.0. The data represent mean values based on triplicate measurements with relative standard deviation (%RSD) of Ca and phosphate concentration measurements within $\pm 5.2\%$ and $\pm 3.1\%$, respectively.

XRD analysis (Figure 2.3) showed that magnesian calcite was the main crystalline components of the precipitates from the synthetic secondary-treated MWW at pH 8.4, 8.2, and 7.8. Magnesian calcite is generally formed by the coprecipitation of MgCO_3 and CaCO_3 and contains small but variable amounts (less than 5%) of MgCO_3 in solid solution (Thorstenson and Plummer, 1977). Comparison of the XRD patterns at these pH conditions revealed that the peaks of magnesian calcite decreased with pH reduction. Maintaining the pH at 7.4 could totally inhibit the formation of magnesian calcite as evidence by the absence of its characteristic peaks in XRD spectra. Morphology of amorphous calcium phosphate was observed in SEM images (Chesters, 2009) and EDS analysis verified that the precipitates were mainly composed of Ca and P with a small amount of Mg and C incorporated (Figure 2.4).

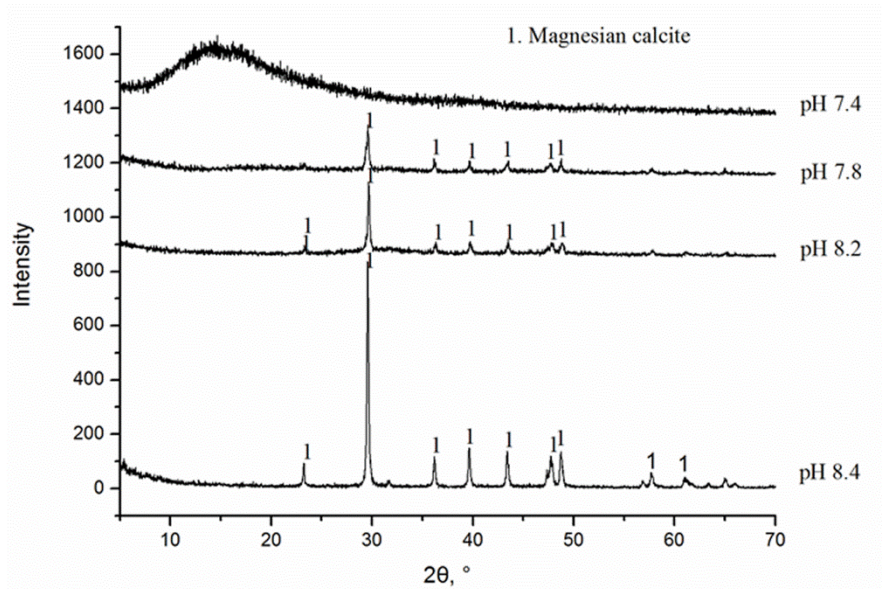


Figure 2.3 XRD pattern of the precipitates from batch tests with synthetic secondary-treated MWW (CoC 4, 40°C) when pH was maintained at pH 8.4, 8.2, 7.8, and 7.4

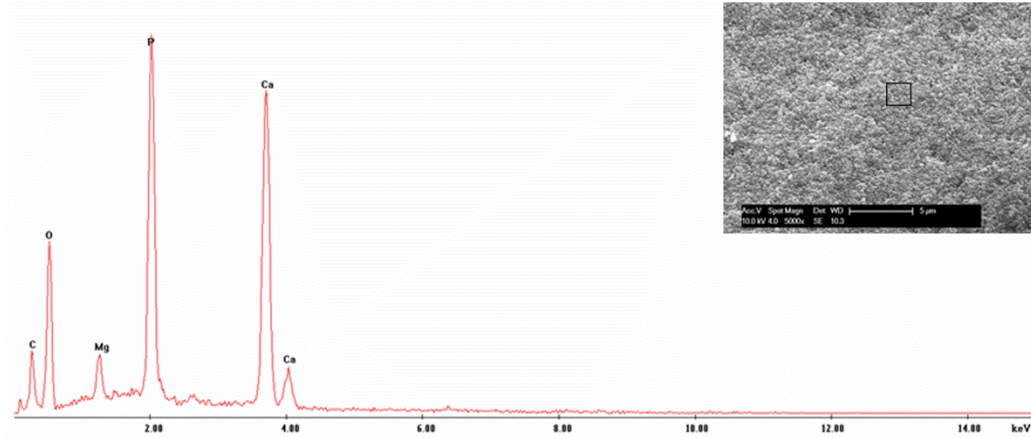


Figure 2.4 SEM image and the elemental composition of the precipitates from batch tests with synthetic secondary-treated MWW (CoC 4, 40°C) when pH was maintained at pH 7.4. EDS scan was performed on the area outlined by the square box on the SEM image

Morphology of precipitates formed in the batch tests is shown in the SEM images on Figure 2.5. Only “broccoli-like” minerals were identified in the precipitates formed from the synthetic secondary-treated MWW (CoC 4) at pH 8.2. Normally, three polymorphs of CaCO_3 could form in the absence of biological activity: calcite with rhombohedral shape (Wu et al., 2010), aragonite with needle-like shape (Hardikar and Matijevic, 2001), and spherical vaterite (Hou and Feng, 2006). However, the morphology of the precipitates formed in these tests could not be recognized as either of these polymorphs. The incorporation of Mg ions into the lattice of calcite would poison the side faces of calcite and allow the crystals to grow in the c-axis direction, producing elongated morphology rather than equant crystals with rhombohedral shape (Folk, 1974; Davis et al., 2000). It is thus concluded that broccoli-like minerals in Figure 2.5(a) were clusters of single elongated calcite crystals (Swietlik et al., 2011). When pH was lowered to 7.8, two predominant morphologies were observed in the SEM images (Figure 2.5 (b)): amorphous minerals and “broccoli-like” minerals.

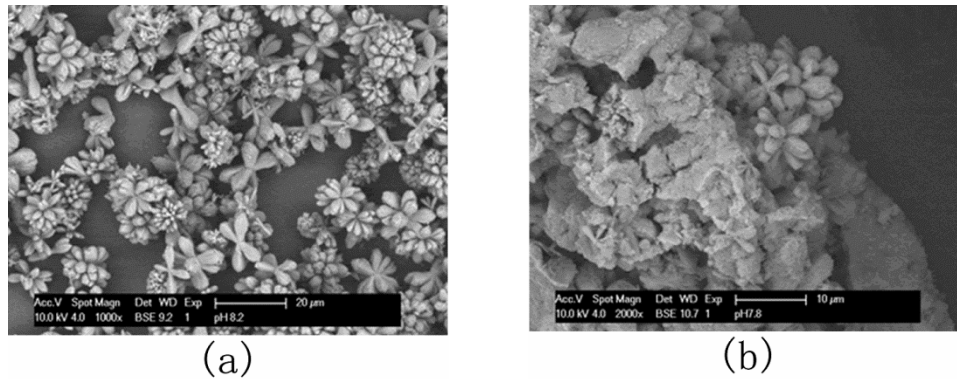
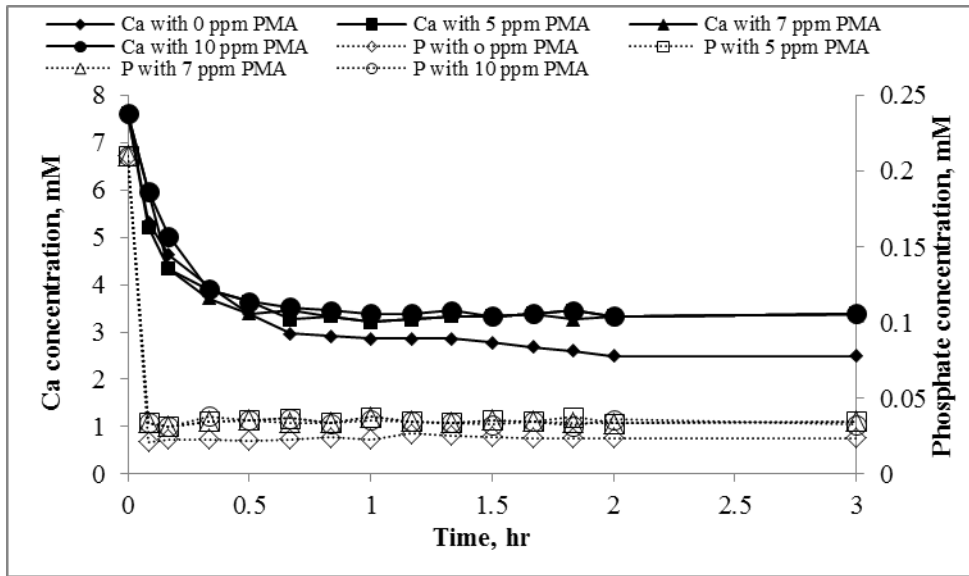


Figure 2.5 SEM images of precipitates from batch tests with synthetic secondary-treated MWW (CoC 4, 40°C) when pH was maintained at different value: (a) pH 8.2; (b) pH 7.8

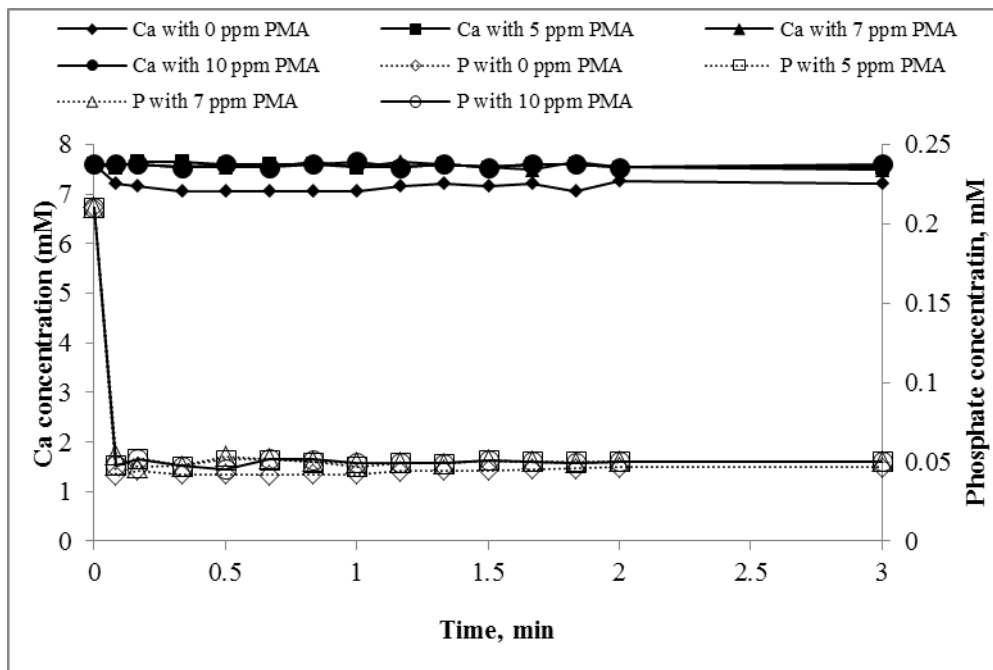
Based on the results of water analysis and solids characterization by XRD and SEM/EDS, it can be concluded that magnesian calcite and amorphous calcium phosphate are the main precipitates formed by the synthetic MWW_ pH (CoC 4) at typical cooling water temperature (40°C) when the pH was maintained at 8.4, 8.2, and 7.8. In addition, magnesian calcite was more predominant than calcium phosphate at pH 8.4 and 8.2. When pH was reduced to 7.8, amorphous calcium phosphate became more prominent (Figure 2.5(b)). Further pH reduction to 7.4 completely inhibited the formation of magnesian calcite, leaving calcium phosphate as the only mineral scale. Therefore, the formation of calcium phosphate is a critical issue when using secondary-treated MWW as the sole source of make-up water, because it precipitates very quickly (less than 10 min when pH is above 7.8) and is not as sensitive to pH adjustment as magnesian calcite.

Batch tests were also conducted to evaluate the combined effects of PMA addition and pH control on mineral precipitation. PMA doses of 5 ppm, 7 ppm, and 10 ppm were added to synthetic MWW_ pH (CoC 4) when the pH was maintained at 8.4 or 7.8. Residual Ca and

phosphate concentrations were monitored as a function of time as shown in Figure 2.6. At pH 8.4, both calcium and phosphate concentrations were slightly elevated by the addition of PMA, revealing that PMA had minimal impact on precipitation propensity of minerals and associated increase in the solubility of the scaling species. Fairly limited increase in solubility was also observed at pH 7.8 (Figure 2.6 (b)). In addition, amorphous calcium phosphate dominated the solids characterization spectra collected at pH 7.8 as evidence by the absence of distinct XRD peaks (data not shown) and EDS analysis of precipitates on Figure 2.7. Adsorption of the PMA molecules at the active sites on the surface of pre-critical nuclei would prevent the growth of the crystals beyond the pre-critical size and formation of stable magnesian calcite (Meldrum and Hyde, 2001). The residual phosphate concentration measurement showed that the precipitation of calcium phosphate was still significant at pH 7.8 (Figure 2.6(b)). It should be noted that increasing the PMA dosage at both pH conditions did not result in precipitation inhibition.



(a)



(b)

Figure 2.6 Residual Ca and phosphate concentrations in batch tests with synthetic secondary-treated MWW (CoC 4) as a function of time at typical cooling water temperature (40°C) when 0, 5, 7, and 10 ppm PMA was dosed at different pH: (a) 8.4; (b) 7.8.

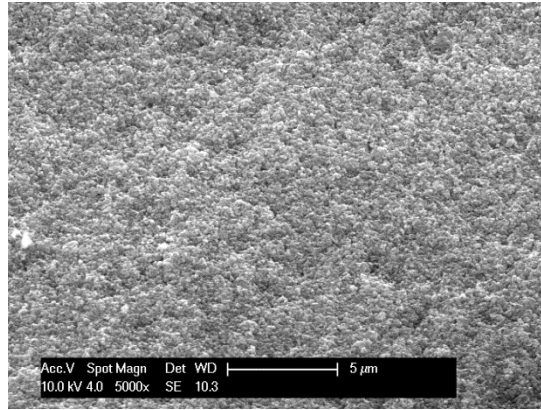


Figure 2.7 SEM images of precipitates from batch tests with synthetic secondary-treated MWW (CoC 4, 40°C) when pH was maintained at 7.8 with the addition of 5 ppm PMA

No visual precipitate was observed during the first 2 hours of the batch test with synthetic MWW_NF at CoC 4 without any pH adjustment. However, as the solution equilibrated with atmosphere and pH increased from 6.8 to 7.6, it turned turbid after about 2 hours. Residual Ca and phosphate concentrations also decreased with the development of turbidity (Figure 2.8) and reached steady state after 14 hours. Solids characterization revealed that the precipitates were mainly in the form of amorphous calcium phosphate. These results suggest that when MWW_NF is used as make-up water in recirculating cooling systems operated at CoC 4, no magnesian calcite would be expected and calcium phosphate would be the primary mineral scale.

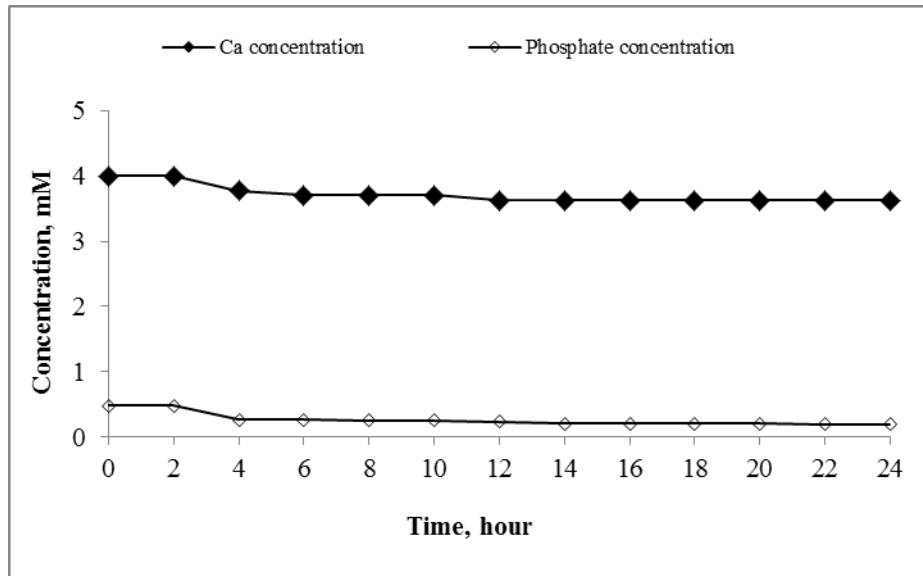


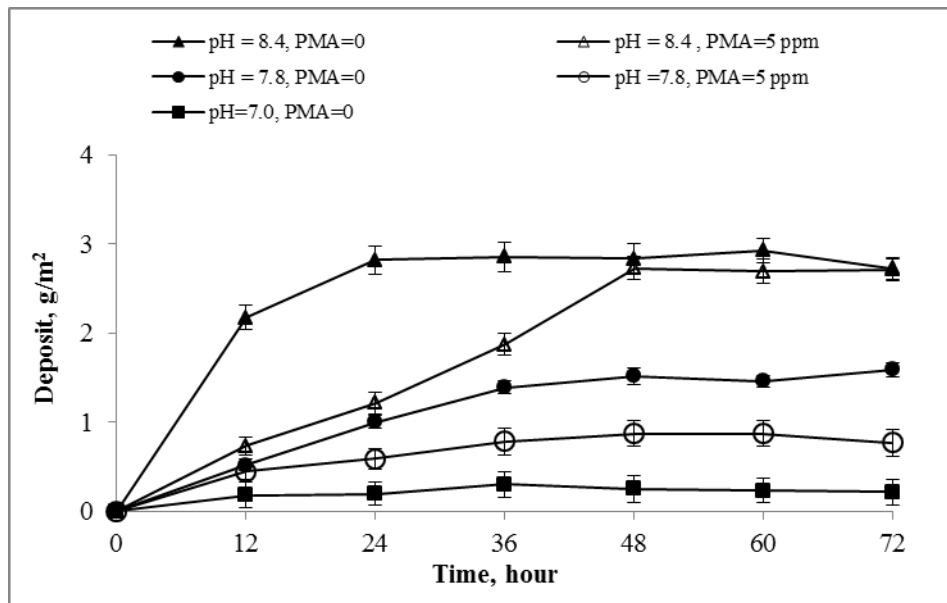
Figure 2.8 Residual Ca and phosphate concentrations in batch tests with synthetic MWW_NF (CoC 4) as a function of time at typical cooling water temperature (40°C). The data represent mean values based on triplicate measurements with relative standard deviation (%R RSD) of Ca and phosphate concentration measurements within $\pm 4.3\%$ and $\pm 2.6\%$, respectively.

2.3.2 Bench-scale recirculating system tests

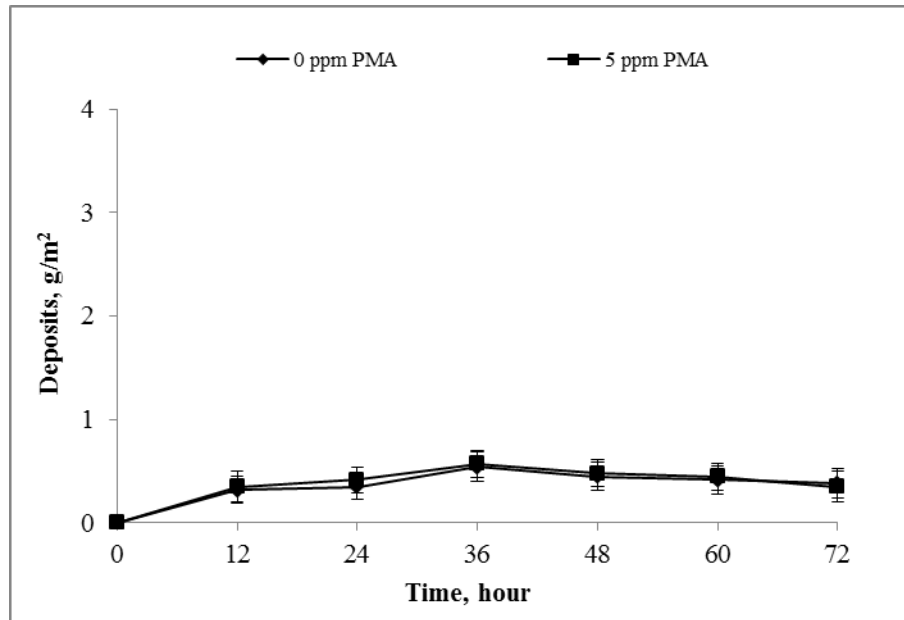
A series of experiments in a bench-scale recirculating system was conducted to test the effectiveness of scaling control strategies on mineral deposition from flowing synthetic MWW. The scaling control strategies were designed based on the results from the batch tests. Scaling behavior of the synthetic MWW_ pH under different scaling control strategies is shown in Figure 2.9(a).

Mass gain on the disc specimen exposed to recirculating synthetic MWW_ pH at pH 8.4 developed quickly and reached 1.6 mg in 24 hours. Although total mineral deposits accumulated after 48 hours were nearly the same with or without the addition of PMA, the addition of PMA significantly delayed the scaling process. The PMA can function as colloid dispersant through

electrostatic and/or steric interactions to keep mineral particles dispersed in aqueous suspension and render them less prone to deposition (Eriksson et al., 2007; Li et al., 2011b). Lowering the pH to 7.8 reduced the deposition of mineral scales by about 50%. Under these conditions, the dosage of 5 ppm PMA not only reduced the scaling rate but also decreased the final mass gain on the stainless steel disc from 0.89 mg to 0.43 mg. pH adjustment to 7.0 was the most effective method for scaling control as evidenced by minimal scale accumulation in 72 hours.



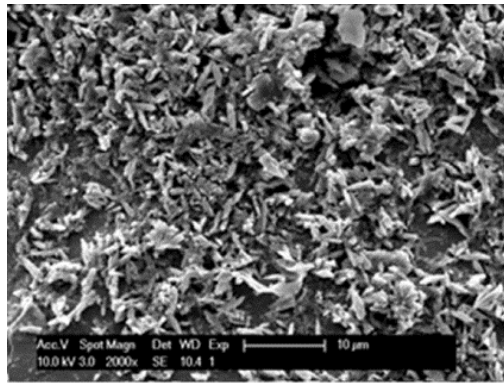
(a)



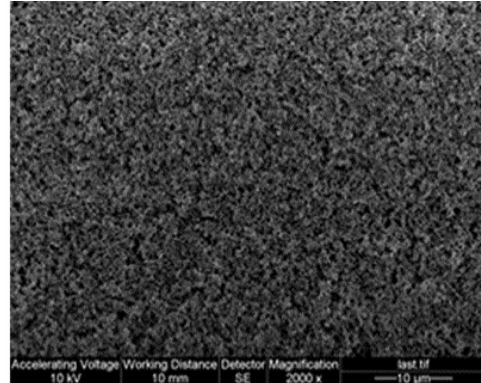
(b)

Figure 2.9 Scaling behavior of synthetic MWW under different scaling control strategies in bench-scale recirculating system tests: (a) MWW_pH ; (b) MWW_NF. The bulk water temperature and flow velocity was maintained at 40°C and 0.6 m/s respectively. Error bars indicate the data range of measurements from duplicate tests. The bulk water temperature and flow velocity were maintained at 40°C and 0.6 m/s respectively. Error bars indicate the data range of measurements from duplicate tests.

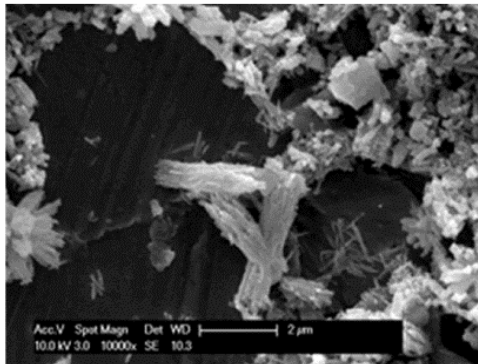
Figure 2.10 depicts morphologies of mineral deposits on stainless disc specimens collected from bench-scale recirculating system tests. At pH 8.4 (Figure 2.10(a)), the morphology of magnesian calcite dominated on the disc specimen (Swietlik et al., 2011). However, the minerals did not grow in clusters as in batch tests but formed separately and thus appeared as needle-like structures. Addition of 5 ppm PMA to the system operated at pH 8.4 (Figure 2.10(b)) made it difficult to identify well-developed magnesian calcite thereby, revealing the role of PMA as crystal distorter in the deposition inhibition. Adjusting the pH to 7.8 (Figure 2.10(c)) decreased the percentage of magnesian calcite and amorphous deposits appeared on SEM images. Only amorphous solids (Figure 2.10(d)) were identified on the collector surface when pH was controlled around 7.8 and 5 ppm PMA was added to recirculating water.



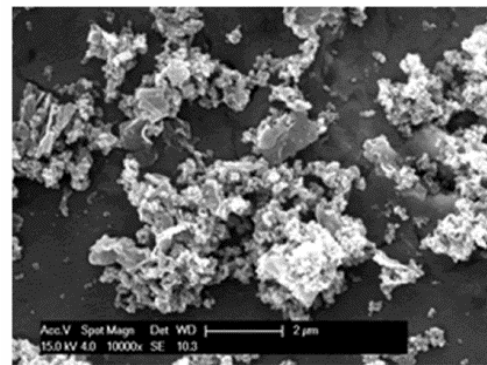
(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

Figure 2.10 SEM images of the mineral deposits collected on the stainless disc specimens from bench-scale recirculating system tests under different scaling mitigation strategies: (a) pH control at 8.4; (b) pH control at 8.4 plus 5 ppm PMA; (c) pH control at 7.8; (d) pH control at 7.8 plus 5 ppm PMA

Bench-scale recirculating system tests with MWW_NF (Figure 2.9(b)) revealed negligible deposits on the disc specimens during 72 hours, indicating that MWW_NF exhibited little potential for mineral deposition. Such behavior is related in part to the lower pH and alkalinity in the MWW_NF. It is thus difficult to assess the effectiveness of PMA in scaling control for MWW_NF because very small amounts of deposits were formed even without PMA.

2.3.3 Pilot-scale studies with tertiary-treated MWW

2.3.3.1 MWW_pH

In the pilot-scale cooling tower tests with MWW_pH as the make-up water source, recirculating water in all three towers was dosed with about 5 ppm PMA as scaling inhibitor. In addition, pH in Towers B and C was initially adjusted to pH 7.0 by adding 0.1 M H₂SO₄ because batch and bench-scale recirculating system tests revealed that pH control at 7.0 could totally inhibit the precipitation and deposition of mineral scales from the synthetic MWW at CoC 4. However, serious corrosion of the copper coil employed in the heating section occurred as evidenced by the presence of green copper oxide retained on the 0.45 µm filter paper after filtering the recirculating water in Tower B on day 9 (Figure 2.11). Copper concentrations in the recirculating water in Towers B and C on days 2, 4, and 9 were all above 2 mg/L and reached as high as 48 mg/L in Tower B on day 9. It is well known that ammonia is a critical component in secondary-treated MWW that can attack copper and form soluble complexes (Strmčnik et al., 2009). Significant reduction in ammonia concentration in all pilot-scale cooling tower was always observed due to air stripping during wastewater recirculation (Rebhum and Engel, 1988; Hsieh et al., 2010). However, the efficiency of ammonia stripping was reduced at lower pH and high concentration of ammonium ions thus contributed to significant corrosion rates and considerable Cu concentration in the recirculating water. Consequently, target pH in Towers B and C was elevated to 7.8 and 0.05 M H₂SO₄ was used to control the pH in the recirculating water starting on day 12. Monitoring of Cu concentration during the following test period (0.8-2.0 mg/L in Tower B and 0.8-1.4 mg/L in Tower C) revealed that the corrosion of the copper coil was reduced with the new pH control procedure.



Figure 2.11 “Green deposits” retained on 0.45 μm filter paper after filtering the recirculating water in Tower B on day 9 in pilot scale tests with MWW_pH at pH 7.0

Images of the test coupons collected from the three pilot-scale cooling towers with MWW_pH as makeup on day 58 are shown in Figure 2.12. Figure 2.13 depicts the time course of inorganic scale deposition in the three cooling systems during the tests with MWW_pH. The total mass of the inorganic deposits on day 58 in Tower A was as high as 11.57 mg, while the mass gains in Towers B and C were only 0.61 and 1.80 mg, respectively. It is clear that just adding 5 ppm PMA failed to mitigate scaling in Tower A. Significant reduction in the inorganic deposition was observed with pH adjustment in Towers B and C. Furthermore, use of monochloramine as biocide in Tower B resulted in even lower scale accumulation as compared to Tower C where free chlorine was used for biofouling control. This finding is in agreement with the previous related study which revealed enhanced PMA oxidation with free chlorine when compared to monochloramine (Li et al., 2011b).

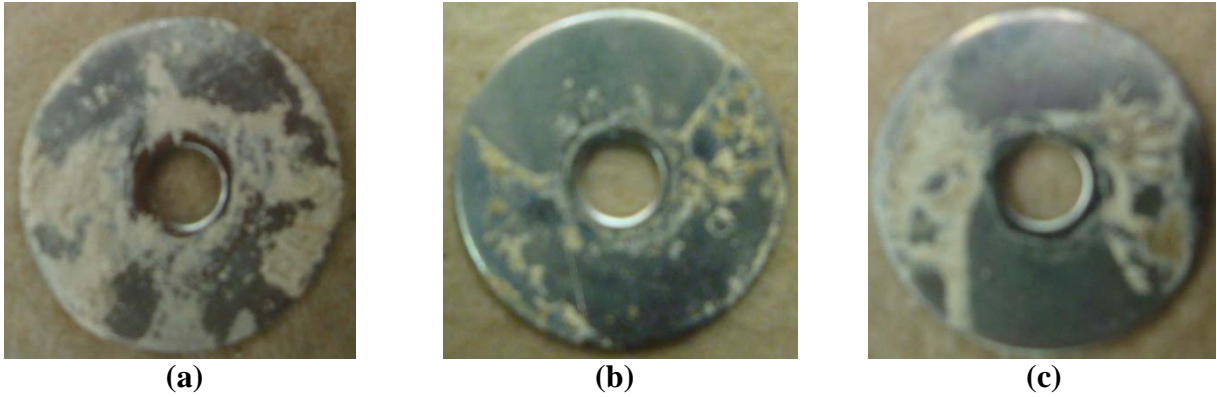


Figure 2.12 Coupons collected from pilot-scale cooling towers tests with MWW_pH on day: (a) Tower A (5 ppm PMA for scaling control); (b) Tower B (5 ppm PMA and pH adjustment for scaling control); (c) Tower C (5 ppm PMA and pH adjustment for scaling control)

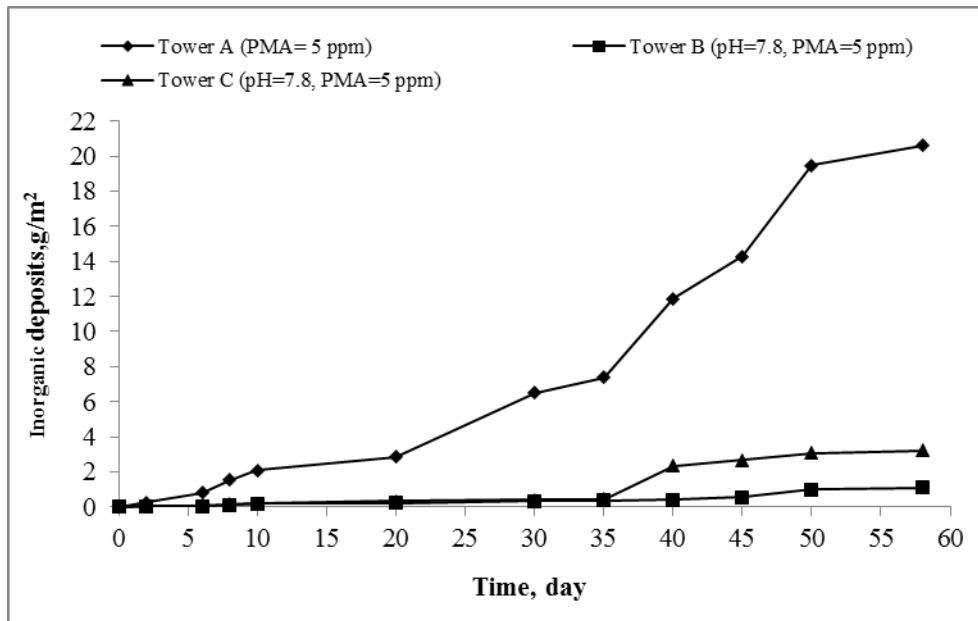


Figure 2.13 Inorganic deposit mass measurements in the pilot-scale cooling tower tests with MWW_pH

Water samples from the recirculating loop of each cooling tower operated at steady state were analyzed for key constituents. Previous study with MWW revealed that calcium carbonate was the dominant mineral scale on the sampling discs with a small amount of magnesium and calcium phosphate (Li et al., 2011b). Langelier Saturation Index (LSI), which is widely used to estimate the scaling potential of calcium carbonate in cooling towers, was calculated based on the quality of the recirculating water (EPRI, 2003; Sheikholeslami, 2004) for all three towers operated with MWW_pH. LSI calculations revealed that the recirculating water in Tower A had significant calcium carbonate precipitation potential while there was no scaling propensity in Tower B on most of the sampling days (Table 2.4). The scaling tendency in Tower C was a bit more erratic and the LSI value was close to zero with positive values on several sampling days.

Table 2.4 Langelier Saturation Index (LSI) of the recirculating water in Towers A, B and C in pilot-scale tests with MWW_pH

Day	Langelier Saturation Index (LSI) ^a		
	Tower A (PMA=5 ppm)	Tower B (pH=7.8, PMA= 5 ppm)	Tower C (pH=7.8, PMA= 5 ppm)
2	0.80	-0.64	-2.55
9	1.17	-1.48	0.25
16	1.46	-0.04	-0.36
23	0.82	-0.64	0.29
30	1.61	-0.12	0.59
37	0.41	-0.36	0.05
44	0.95	-0.58	-0.70
58	1.05	0.22	0.41

^a If LSI is negative, there is no potential to form scale and the water will dissolve CaCO₃; if LSI is positive, scale can form and CaCO₃ precipitation may occur; if LSI is close to zero, the water is neutral with respect to scale formation;

Comparison of orthophosphate concentrations in the make-up water and recirculating water for all three towers operated with MWW_pH is shown in Figure 2.14. In Tower A, more than 80% of orthophosphate precipitated from the solution. On the other hand, orthophosphate concentration in Towers B and C was always 2.0-3.5 times that of the make-up water. Water quality analysis suggests that calcium phosphate is the primary mineral scale when pH of the recirculating water is adjusted at 7.8 and 5 ppm PMA is added. SEM/EDS results shown in Figure 2.15 confirm this conclusion.

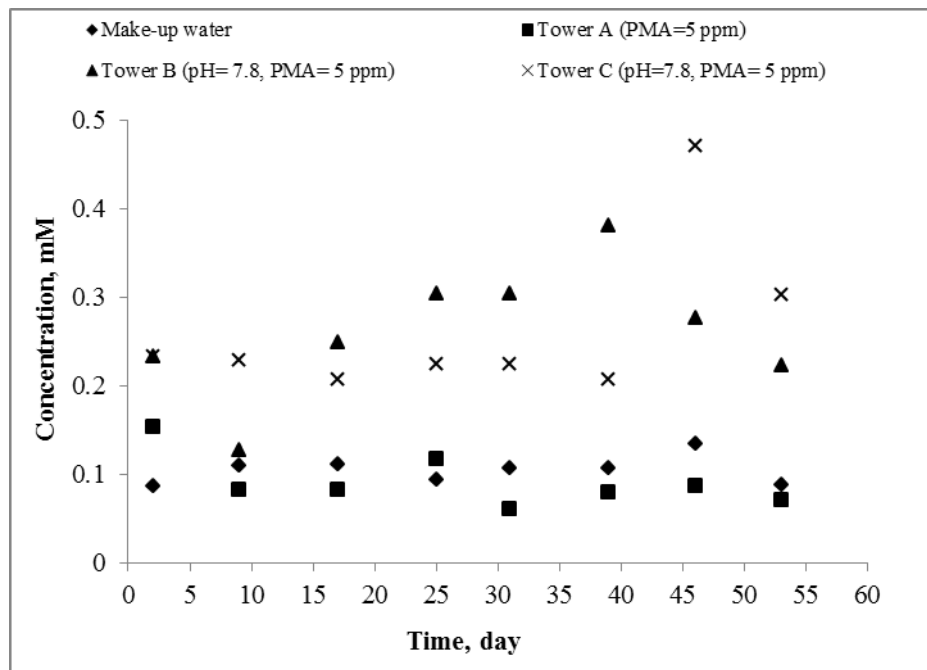


Figure 2.14 Orthophosphate concentration in the make-up water and recirculating water in the pilot-scale cooling tower tests with MWW_pH

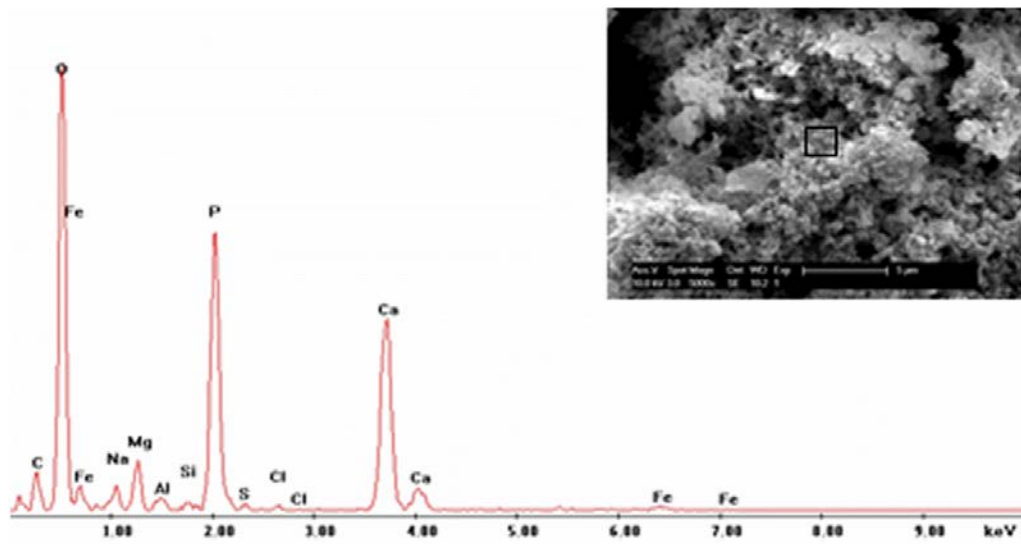


Figure 2.15 SEM images and the elemental composition of the solid deposits collected on stainless steel discs immersed in pilot-scale cooling towers operated at CoC 4-6: Day-50 sample from Tower B using MWW_ pH. EDS scan was performed on the area outlined by the square box on the SEM image.

Another parameter indicating the development of scales in the recirculating cooling tower system is the flow rate of the recirculating water since the accumulation of mineral scales would increase the head loss and even plug the conveying pipes and copper heating coils. The flow rates in all the three towers were measured daily as shown in Figure 2.16. As can be seen in this figure, the water flow rate in Tower A with no pH adjustment dropped to 2.2 GPM on day 20. An acid wash (5 gallon 10% HCl solution for 20 min) was used to clean the copper coil of the Tower A and recover the flow rate to 2.9 GPM on day 22. However, the flow rate decreased again to 2.3 GPM on day 33. The copper coil in Tower A was washed again by 5 gallons of 10% HCl for 20 min on day 41 and the flow rate was recovered to 2.7 GPM. On the last day of tower operation, the flow rate in Tower A was still reduced to 2.4 GPM. The above phenomenon indicated that the recirculating water in Tower A had significant scaling potential and 5 ppm

PMA was not effective in the scaling control. The flow rate in Tower C was generally above 2.4 GPM during the course of the test and was around 2.60 GPM during the last 8 days of tower operation. The flow rate in Tower B, was above 2.70 GPM during the entire test. It must be noted that no acid wash was required in Towers B and C during the whole run. According to the flow rate recorded daily in all the towers, Tower A with no pH control had the most significant scaling problem while the least serious fouling has occurred in Tower C. These conclusions are identical to those from the mass gain data and the calculations of scaling indices.

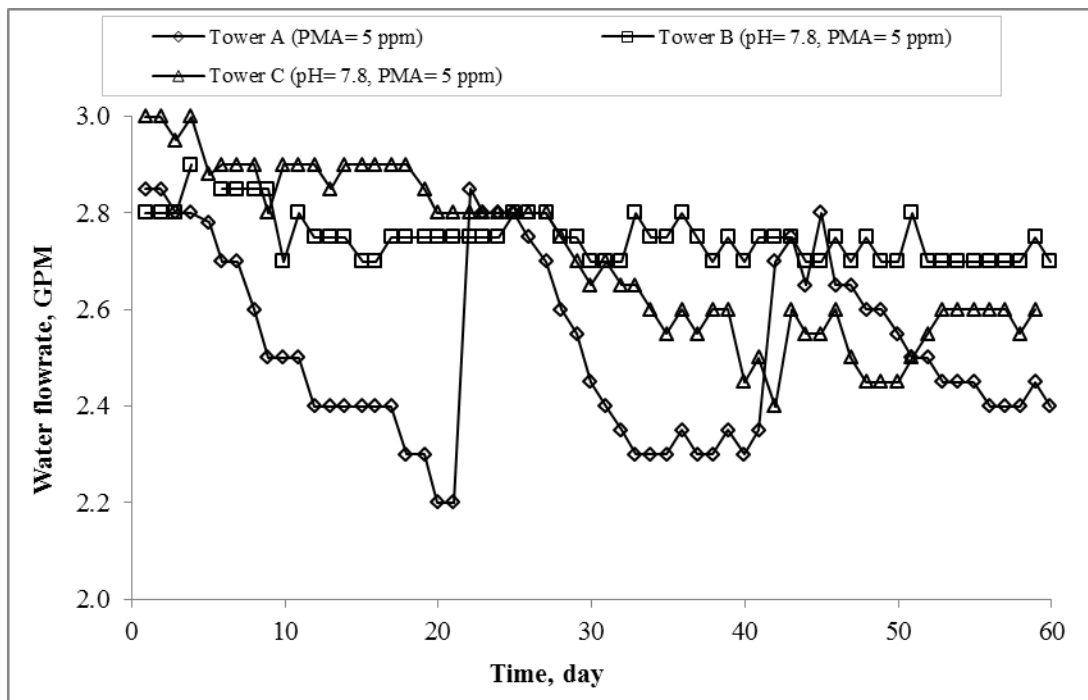


Figure 2.16 Water flow rates measured in the pilot-scale cooling tower tests with MWW_ pH as recirculating water. Target flow rate is 3 GPM for the system

2.3.3.2 MWW_NF

Images of the test coupons collected from the three pilot-scale cooling towers with MWW_NF as makeup on day 10 are shown in Figure 2.17. Figure 2.18 depicts accumulated mineral scale solids deposited on stainless steel disc specimens in the three cooling towers during the tests with MWW_NF. The inorganic mass gain on the specimens in all the three towers was small (0.05-0.67 mg) even after 50 days of immersion in the system. Tower A sample showed the least amount of deposits when compared with the other two despite the fact that Towers B and C received 5 ppm PMA to mitigate the scaling. Because of the small amount of inorganic deposits (less than 0.7 mg) accumulated on the specimens, it is difficult to assess the effectiveness of the PMA as antiscalant. LSI values for all three towers (Table 2.5) were negative, suggesting that recirculating water was below saturation with respect to calcium carbonate.

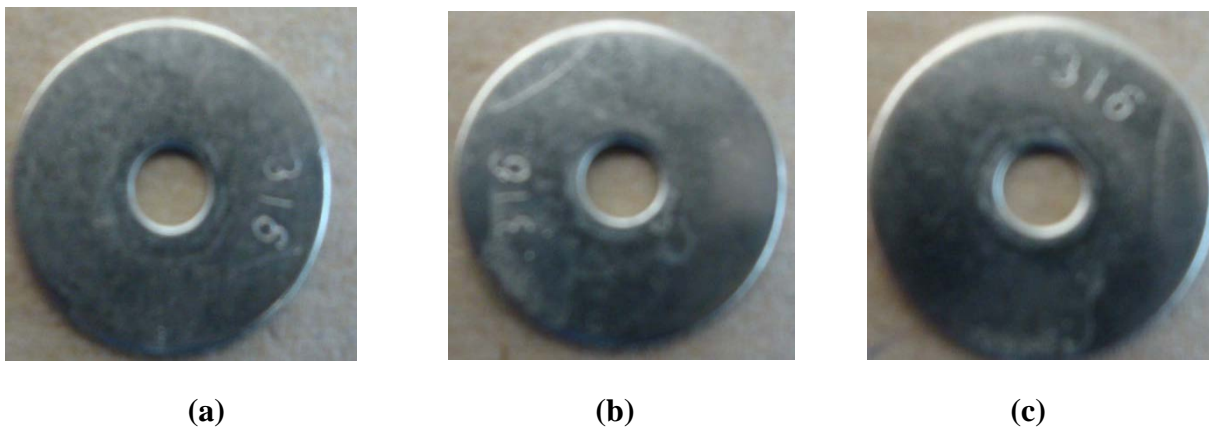


Figure 2.17 Coupons collected on day 10 in the pilot-scale cooling tower tests with MWW_NF as make-up water: (a) Tower A (no PMA); (b) Tower B (5 ppm PMA); (c) Tower C (5 ppm PMA).

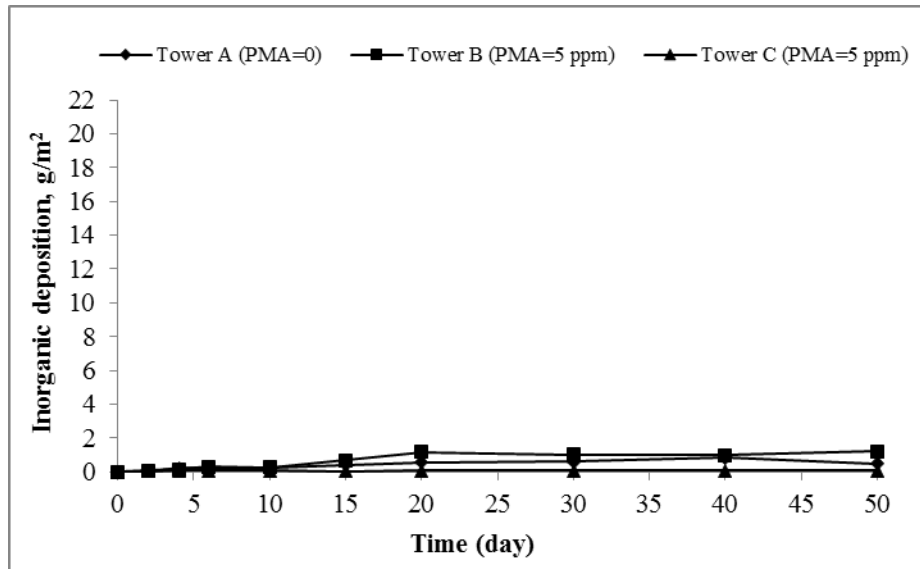


Figure 2.18 Inorganic deposit mass measurements in the pilot-scale cooling tower tests with MWW_NF

Table 2.5 Langelier Saturation Index of the recirculating water in Towers A, B and C in pilot-scale tests with MWW_NF on days 36, 40, 44, 49, and 54

Days	Langelier Saturation Index (LSI) ^a		
	Tower A (PMA= 0)	Tower B (PMA= 5 ppm)	Tower C (PMA= 5 ppm)
36	-1.75	-1.58	-1.56
40	-1.99	-1.80	-1.80
44	-2.78	-2.59	-2.85
49	-3.06	-2.61	-2.72
54	-2.72	-2.66	-2.71

^a If LSI is negative, there is no potential to form scale and the water will dissolve CaCO₃; if LSI is positive, scale can form and CaCO₃ precipitation may occur; if LSI is close to zero, the water is neutral with respect to scale formation;

The pilot-scale cooling tower tests with MWW_NF were all operated at CoC 4-6 but the orthophosphate concentration in the recirculating water was generally 2~5 times that of the make-up water (Figure 2.19). These results indicate that precipitation of calcium phosphate occurred during the test period and may be the major form of the limited mineral scales collected on sampling coupons. It must be noted that the precipitation of calcium phosphate was still not as severe as in the tests with secondary-treated MWW where 90% of the phosphate precipitated (Li et al., 2011b). SEM/EDS analyses were performed on the deposits collected from Tower B after 50 days of operation with MWW_NF at CoC 4-6 (Figure 2.20). The EDS spectra showed that calcium phosphate was the predominant mineral scale, which is consistent with bench-scale results and water quality analysis. The carbon peak on Figure 2.20 could be due to substitution of carbonate for the phosphate in the deposits (Ferguson and McCarty, 1971; Suchanek et al., 2004). Similar results were obtained from the EDS analysis on the inorganic deposits collected from Towers A and C on day 50.

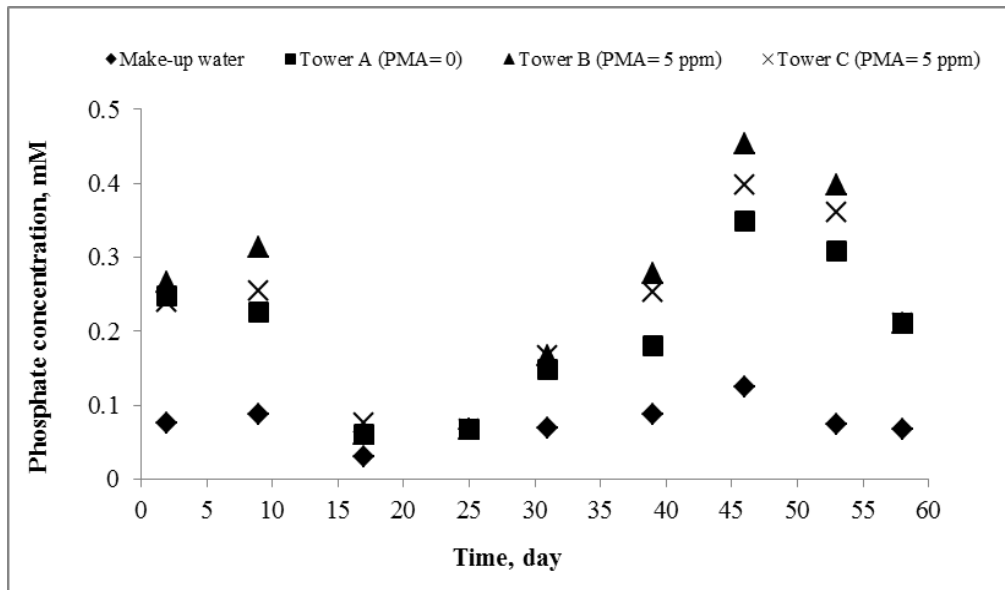


Figure 2.19 Orthophosphate concentration in the make-up water and recirculating water in the pilot-scale cooling tower tests with MWW_NF

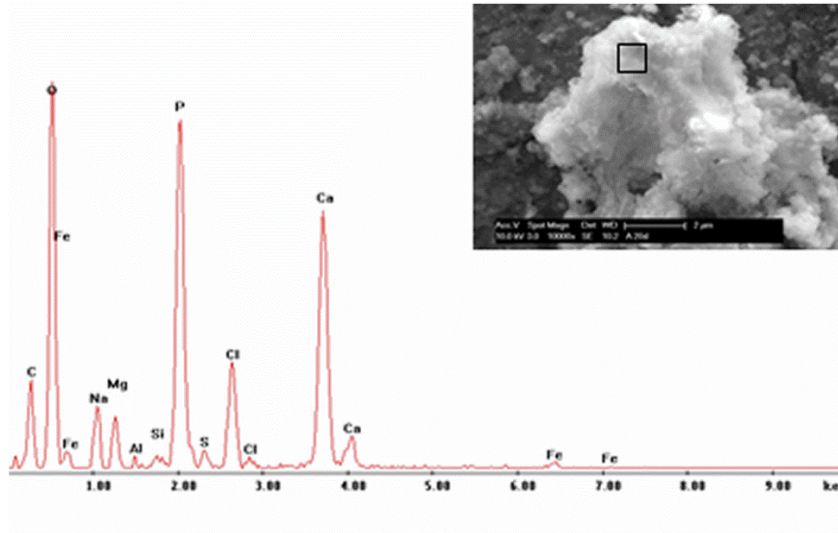


Figure 2.20 SEM images and the elemental composition of the solid deposits collected on stainless steel discs immersed in pilot-scale cooling towers operated at CoC 4-6: Day-50 sample from Tower B using MWW_NF. EDS scan was performed on the area outlined by the square box on the SEM image.

As described in the preceding text, flow rate is another parameter indicating the scaling problem. Different from the results with MWW_pH, the flow rates recorded in Figure 2.21 were always above 2.70 GPM during the entire 60 days of operation, indicating that no significant scaling or biofouling has occurred in the three towers. In the last 30 days, the flow rate in Tower C was around 2.9-3.0 GPM while the flow rates in Tower A and B were generally in the range of 2.8-2.95 GPM. This trend was generally consistent with the mass gain data in which Tower C has shown the least mineral deposition while the mass gain in Tower A and B were a slightly higher.

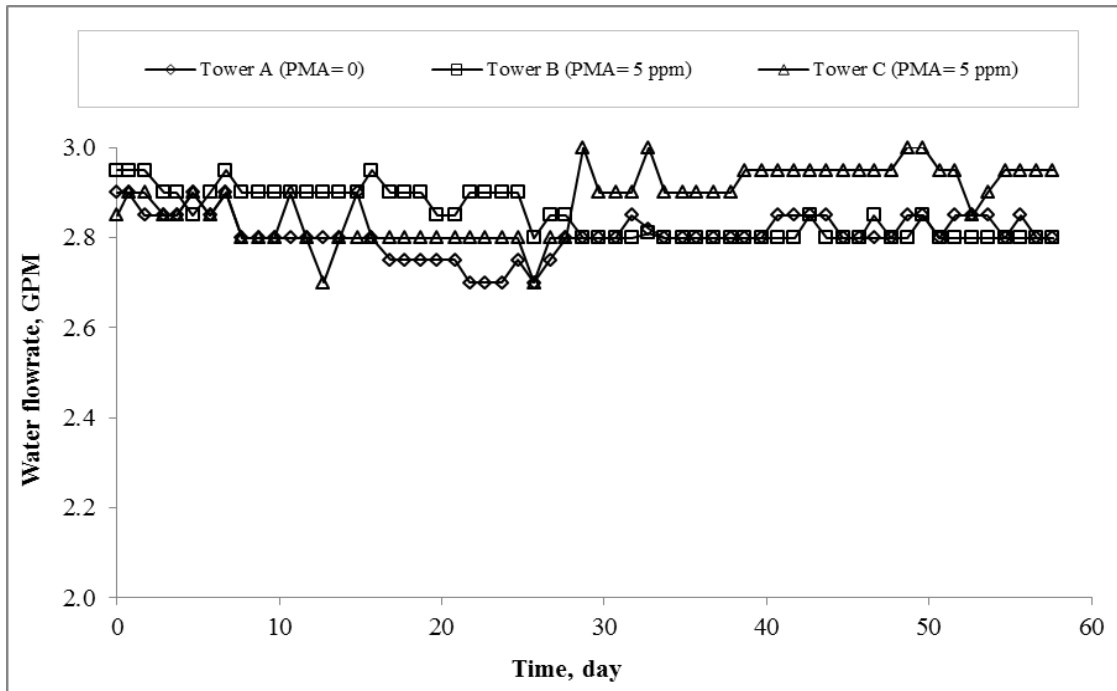


Figure 2.21 Water flow rates measured in the pilot-scale cooling tower tests with MWW_NF as recirculating water. Target flow rate is 3 GPM for the system

2.4 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

This study investigated mineral scaling on non-heated surfaces and its control when using tertiary-treated municipal wastewater as an alternative cooling system make-up water to replace freshwater. Two types of tertiary-treated municipal wastewater that were evaluated in this study included secondary-treated water with pH adjustment (MWW_pH) and water from secondary-treatment followed by nitrification and sand filtration (MWW_NF). Based on the results from batch tests, magnesian calcite and amorphous calcium phosphate are the mineral scales formed when pH of the synthetic secondary-treated MWW is controlled at 8.4 and 7.8. Bench-scale recirculating tests showed that the addition of 5 ppm PMA delayed the scale deposition process

but had minimal impact on the final total mineral deposits at pH 8.4, while the combination of pH control at 7.8 and the addition of 5 ppm PMA not only reduced the scaling rate but also decreased the final mass gain on the sampling specimens. MWW_NF water was shown to have little potential for mineral deposition on non-heated surfaces, which was due to its lower pH and alkalinity when compared to secondary-treated MWW.

Results from the pilot-scale cooling tower tests were consistent with conclusion from bench-scale studies, i.e., pH adjustment to 7.8 was needed besides the addition of 5 ppm PMA to reduce the scaling rate significantly. With this scaling mitigation method, the formation of calcium carbonate was inhibited and calcium phosphate was the primary form of mineral scale. Negligible mineral deposits of calcium phosphate were observed in pilot-scale studies with MWW_NF.

Overall, this study revealed that the use of tertiary-treated municipal wastewater (nitrification and sand filtration) in a recirculating cooling system will not lead to significant inorganic scale formation on non-heated surfaces. This study also demonstrated that it is possible to manage scaling on non-heated surfaces associated with the use of municipal wastewater either through pH control or tertiary treatment commonly used in municipal wastewater treatment practice.

3.0 SCALING MITIGATION ON HEATED SURFACES WITH TREATED MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER AS MAKEUP IN RECIRCULATING COOLING SYSTEMS

This chapter, written by Wenshi Liu and co-authored by Shih-Hsiang Chien, David A. Dzombak, and Radisav D. Vidic, has been submitted for publication.

The solubility of potential scaling minerals will be different in different parts of the cooling systems. Limited mineral scaling on non-heated surfaces does not guarantee insignificant scale deposition on the hottest portion of recirculating cooling systems, i.e. the condenser tubes. In order to advance the use of treated MWW as cooling water in recirculating cooling systems, it is necessary to assess mineral deposition on condenser surfaces and develop suitable control methods under relevant process conditions.

In this study, scaling of two types of tertiary-treated municipal wastewater on condenser surfaces (crystalline fouling and particulate fouling) was evaluated on a customized bench-scale recirculating system. The tertiary-treated municipal wastewater that were evaluated in this study included secondary-treated water with pH adjustment (MWW_pH) and water from secondary-treatment followed by nitrification and sand filtration (MWW_NF). The tests revealed that MWW_pH has significant crystalline fouling potential on the condenser surfaces when the pH was adjusted at 7.8 and that hydroxyapatite was the main component of the mineral scales formed on condenser surfaces. Addition of antiscalants, e.g. polymaleic acid (PMA), was shown to be effective in fouling mitigation by inhibiting transformation of amorphous calcium phosphate to hydroxyapatite. In the case of MWW_NF, significant crystalline fouling was observed at pH 7.2 while bulk precipitation reduced the driving force for crystalline fouling when pH was adjusted to 7.8. Overall, this study demonstrated that it is possible to manage crystalline fouling and particulate fouling on hot condenser tube surfaces associated with the use of treated municipal wastewater through pH control, antiscalant addition and adequate flow regime.

3.1 INTRODUCTION

Previous studies by Li et al. (2011b) and Liu et al. (2012) focused on scaling control on non-heated surfaces (e.g., pipelines, tower packing, etc.) when treated MWW is reused in recirculating cooling systems. This work demonstrated that it is possible to manage scaling problems on non-heated surfaces in cooling systems using MWW_pH and addition of antiscalants. Furthermore, negligible mineral scaling potential on non-heated surfaces was identified for MWW_NF, mainly due to its lower pH and alkalinity.

However, the solubility of amorphous calcium phosphate, which is the main component mineral scale formed when tertiary-treated MWW is used in cooling systems (Liu et al., 2012), decreases with an increase in temperature (Spanos et al., 2007). It is then possible that scale deposition will occur in the hottest portion of recirculating cooling systems, i.e., the condenser tubes. In order to advance the use of MWW as cooling water in recirculating cooling systems, it is important to assess mineral deposition on condenser surfaces and develop suitable control methods under relevant process conditions.

The accumulation of mineral scales arises from two mechanisms: surface crystallization (crystalline fouling) and particle deposition (particulate fouling). In crystalline fouling, dissolved ions diffuse towards the hot surface where they exceed supersaturation and react to form a robust scale layer (Rosmaninho et al., 2007). Attachment of suspended solids that have precipitated in the bulk solution to the flow surface by cohesive forces constitutes particulate fouling (Bott, 1995). Build-up of mineral scale layer by either mechanism is determined by the interplay between physical-chemical factors acting to form and bind mineral deposits and hydrodynamic conditions that provide transport and shearing of those deposits.

Common scaling models including the Langelier Saturation Index (Langelier, W.F., 1946), Ryznar Stability Index (Ryznar, 1944), and Puckorius Saturation Index (Puckorius and Brook, 1991), only consider the role of thermodynamic saturation with respect to calcium carbonate scale formation. MWW contains additional scale forming species, especially phosphate (Humphris, 1977; Rebhun and Engel, 1988; Li et al, 2011b; Liu et al., 2012). Further, the ionic diffusion models developed to describe scale formation, such as that by Hasson et al. (1968), reveal the contribution of flow in transport of dissolved ions for scale formation but place little emphasis on particle deposition in the flowing fluid. For the reuse of treated MWW in recirculating cooling systems, it is possible that particle deposition will contribute to the fouling process especially on horizontal condensers (Narayan et al., 2007) since bulk precipitation occurs due to the high mineral saturation in concentrated cooling water (Liu et al., 2012). In this case, the influence of flow velocity on particulate fouling over horizontal condensers needs to be studied to identify appropriate operational conditions to minimize scaling when treated MWW is used in recirculating cooling systems.

The focus of this study was on crystalline fouling and particulate fouling on a heated condenser tube surface when tertiary-treated MWW (MWW_pH or MWW_NF) was used as the recirculating cooling water. Batch tests were conducted to study bulk precipitation behavior of tertiary-treated MWW as a function of temperature for selected scaling control strategies. Bench-scale studies in a recirculating cooling system were then conducted to determine chemical control methods and operational strategies to mitigate scale buildup on hot surfaces.

3.2 MATERIALS AND METHODS

3.2.1 Secondary- and tertiary-treated MWW

Secondary-treated MWW (biological trickling filter followed by secondary clarification) from Franklin Township Sanitary Authority, Murrysville, PA, was used as a model for typical secondary-treated municipal effluent. Key characteristics of MWW and MWW_NF (secondary treatment municipal wastewater subjected to nitrification and sand filtration) from this wastewater treatment facility are described in Table 2.1.

Chemical composition of synthetic MWW and MWW_NF at 4 cycles of concentration (CoC 4) for laboratory studies is shown in Table 3.1. Typical operation of a recirculating cooling system concentrates the feed water as much as 4-6 times due to evaporative losses in the system. Both synthetic waters were prepared based on the characteristics of the actual wastewaters in Table 2.1.

Table 3.1 Chemical composition of synthetic MWW and MWW_NF at 4 cycles of concentration (CoC 4) used in the scaling study on heated surface

Cation	Concentration (mM)		Anion	Concentration (mM)	
	MWW	MWW_NF		MWW	MWW_NF
Ca ²⁺	4.00	4.00	SO ₄ ²⁻	3.60	3.60
Mg ²⁺	1.76	1.76	HCO ₃ ⁻	13.9	1.88
Na ⁺	16.8	5.56	Cl ⁻	6.00	8.00
K ⁺	1.60	7.60	PO ₄ ³⁻	0.6	0.6
			NO ₃ ⁻	1.04	7.00

Notes: MWW (secondary treated municipal wastewater using biological trickling filter followed by secondary clarification); MWW_NF (tertiary treated municipal wastewater using nitrification and filtration after secondary treatment).

3.2.2 Batch tests

Precipitation behavior of MWW_pH and MWW_NF at CoC 4 was first studied in a 1.4 L beaker covered with plastic wrap to minimize water loss due to evaporation. The content of the beaker was completely mixed with a magnetic stirrer and the bulk temperature was controlled at 40°C (typical bulk water temperature in a recirculating cooling system) or 49°C (typical heat exchanger surface temperature) using a heating plate (Aull, 2011). The experiments were always initiated by adding all the salts listed in Table 3.1 except for CaCl₂. For the tests intended to study the precipitation behavior of MWW_pH at CoC 4, the solution pH was first lowered to 6.8 with 0.5 M hydrochloric acid as previous tests have shown that there will be no immediate bulk precipitation at pH 6.8. After the addition of CaCl₂, pH of the synthetic solution was adjusted and maintained at a desired pH with 0.5 M hydrochloric acid or 0.5 M sodium hydroxide. The effectiveness of polymaleic acid (PMA, Kroff Chemical Company, Pittsburgh, PA) as a model antiscalant was tested by adding it to the solution before adding any salts.

Precipitation behavior in the beaker was monitored by withdrawing 5 mL of the solution at predetermined intervals. The water sample was filtered through a 0.45 µm nylon membrane and immediately acidified to pH < 2 with concentrated HNO₃. Phosphate concentration was determined by the molybdenum blue method (American Public Health Association et al., 2005). Precipitated solids were collected, washed with DI water, and air-dried for subsequent petrographic and chemical characterization. The crystalline characteristics of the solids were analyzed by X-ray diffraction (XRD, PW1830, Philips Analytical Inc., Natick, MA) with Cu Kα radiation. Once the diffraction patterns were obtained, both manual matching of the peak positions and a computer-aided search to identify the crystalline phase were performed. The morphology of the precipitates was inspected using Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM,

Philips XL30, FEI Co., Hillsboro, OR) and the elemental composition of the selected samples was determined by Energy Dispersive X-ray Spectroscopy (EDS, EDAX Inc., Mahwah, NJ).

3.2.3 Bench-scale recirculating system for fouling studies

A customized bench-scale water recirculating system was equipped with a cartridge heater (Tempco Electric Heater Corporation, model HDL 00059) to simulate the heat exchanger surface for crystalline fouling investigation (Figure 3.1). The cartridge heater was positioned in the vertical pipe so that the test solution would flow upward through the annulus. Heat flux to the recirculating water in the annulus section was controlled by a transformer to regulate the voltage applied to the heater. A J-type thermocouple was located close to the surface of the sheath layer in the center of the cartridge length to obtain information about the surface temperature. A scan with an infrared camera (SC 660, FLIC Systems, Inc., Wilsonville, OR) showed that surface temperature was uniform along the heater. Test solution was pumped from a temperature-controlled supply tank through the annular test sections. The flow rate of the recirculating solutions was regulated by a gate valve and measured by an in-line flow meter. The supply tank was maintained at predetermined temperature with cooling loop immersed into the solution and was mixed regularly to prevent settling of the bulk precipitates. Surface temperature of the heater (T_s) and water temperature at the inlet (T_{in}) and the outlet (T_{out}) of the annulus section were recorded continuously by a data logger system. The bulk water temperature (T_b), was calculated as arithmetic average of T_{in} and T_{out} at a given heat flux:

$$T_b = \frac{T_{in} + T_{out}}{2} \quad (3-1)$$

The heat transfer coefficient h ($\text{W}/\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{K}$) was calculated as:

$$h = \frac{q}{T_s - T_b} \quad (3-2)$$

where T_s and T_b are in K, and q is the heat flux in W/m^2 determined as:

$$q = \frac{UI}{S} = \frac{U^2/R}{S} \quad (3-3)$$

where, U is the voltage applied to the heater, V,

I is the electrical current through the heater, A,

\bar{R} is the electrical resistance of the heater, Ω ,

S is the heated surface area, m^2

The impacts of mineral scaling on heat transfer efficiency is described by a fouling resistance (R_f), which is calculated from the heat transfer coefficient measured at the beginning of each test (h_0) and after a period of operating (h_t) according to the following equation (Webb and Li, 2000; Lee et al., 2006):

$$R_f = \frac{1}{h_t} - \frac{1}{h_0} \quad (3-4)$$

A fouling curve showing the development of the fouling resistance with time reflects surface deposition on the heat transfer surface.

A sampling rack section incorporating stainless steel (SS) specimen discs (5.61 cm^2) was included in the experimental systems to track the bulk precipitate deposition process (Li et al., 2011b).

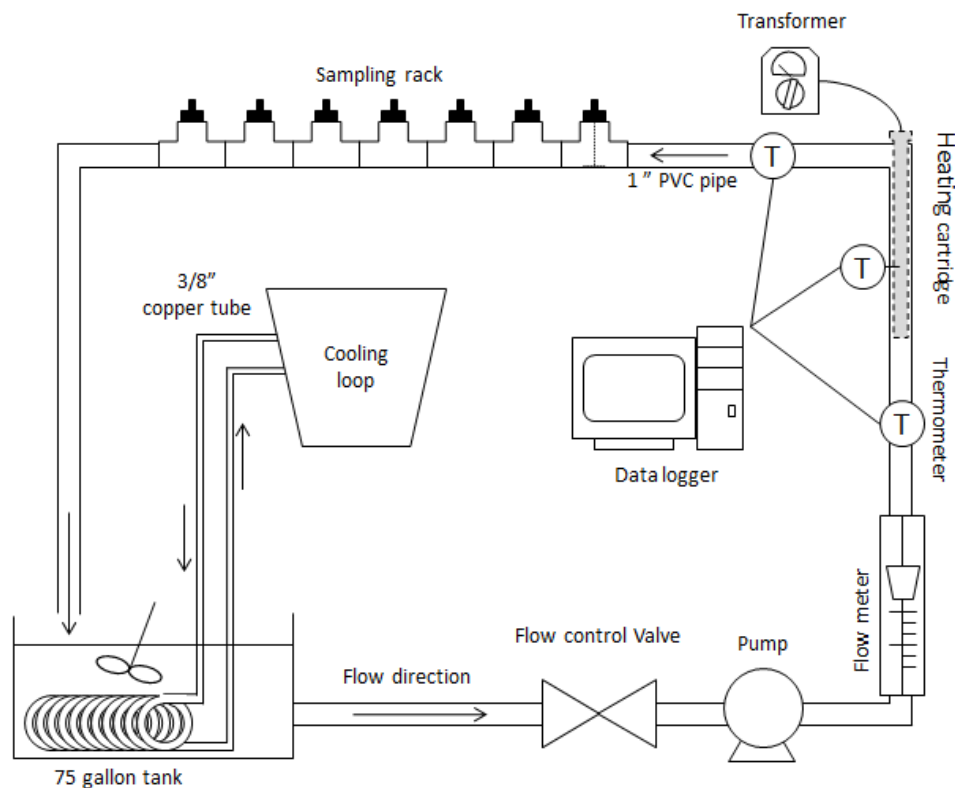


Figure 3.1 Schematic diagram of the bench-scale recirculating system for fouling studies

In each test, 170 L of distilled water was recirculated in the system and heated by the cartridge heater to typical cooling tower water temperature. When the temperature in the annular section reached steady-state, chemicals listed in Table 3.1 were added to the distilled water to simulate the composition of synthetic MWW and MWW_NF at CoC 4. The procedure for preparing the test solution was the same as in the batch tests.

Key water quality parameters, including pH and phosphate concentration, were monitored during each run to provide additional insight into the mechanism of the fouling process. At the end of each test, bulk precipitates and deposits on the cartridge heater were collected, washed with DI water, and air-dried for XRD and SEM/EDS analysis. The particle

size distribution of the precipitates formed in the bulk solution was analyzed using a particle size analyzer based on laser diffraction (S3500, Microtrac Inc., Montgomeryville, PA).

Operating parameters utilized in this study are summarized in Table 3.2. Comparison with typical values in full-scale recirculating cooling systems in power plants (Flynn, D., 2009; GE Power & Water, 2012; Aull, 2011) indicates that these laboratory-scale tests were conducted under relevant process conditions.

Table 3.2 Experimental parameters and typical conditions in recirculating cooling systems at thermoelectric power plants

	Experimental Parameters	Typical field conditions
Heat flux	45840 W/m ²	15670 to 47020 W/m ²
Flow velocity	1.4 m/s	0.6-2.4 m/s
Surface temperature	52±3°C	49~60°C
Bulk water temperature	42±3°C	40~48°C

After the fouling resistance monitoring indicated equilibrium conditions with respect to crystalline fouling in the test with MWW_NF at pH 7.8, stainless steel (SS) discs (5.61 cm²) were inserted into the “sampling rack” (Figure 3.1). The discs were withdrawn at predetermined time intervals to track the particulate fouling on these horizontal sampling surfaces that were maintained at the same temperature as bulk water. To study the influence of hydrodynamic conditions on particle deposition, the flow velocity was adjusted to 0.6, 0.5, and 0.4 m/s to compare the mass gain on the SS discs under different shear force conditions.

3.3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.3.1 Bulk precipitation studies

Batch tests with synthetic MWW_pH (CoC 4) at pH 7.8 were conducted at 40°C and 49°C and the residual phosphate concentration is plotted as a function of time on Figure 3.2. As can be seen in this figure, phosphate concentration in solution at both temperatures rapidly decreased within the first 10 min due to precipitation, and then remained virtually unchanged until 180 min. Figure 3.2 also shows phosphate concentration profiles of MWW_NF (CoC 4) at pH 7.2 and 7.8 and at temperatures of 40°C and 49°C. These pH values were selected based on the results of pilot-scale cooling tower tests with MWW_NF as make-up water operated at CoC 4~6 which showed that pH of the recirculating water varied from 7.2 to 8.4 during two months of operation (Dzombak et al., 2012). Phosphate precipitation behavior observed in the tests with MWW_NF was quite different than in the tests with MWW_pH. While phosphate concentration in the tests with MWW_pH at 7.8 at both 40 and 49°C remained virtually unchanged after the initial decrease, all tests with MWW_NF except at pH 7.2 and 40°C indicated a clear occurrence of a second precipitation stage. When pH was elevated from 7.2 to 7.8 at 40°C, the occurrence of the second precipitation stage was observed and phosphate was almost completely removed from the solution. Increasing the temperature to 49°C resulted in almost complete phosphate removal at both pH 7.2 and 7.8 but the secondary precipitation stage was shortened from 110 to 10 min.

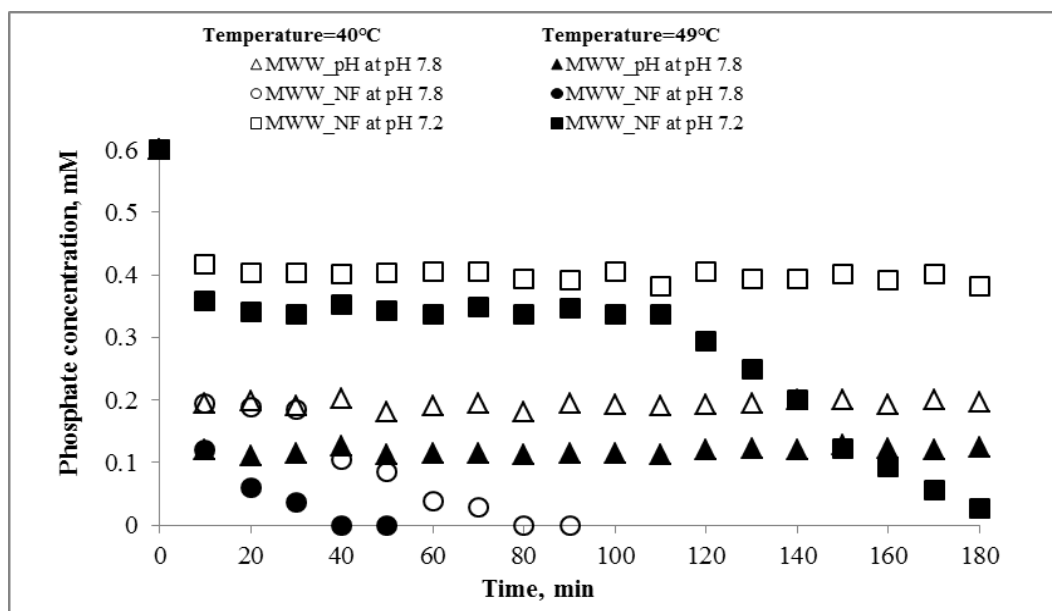


Figure 3.2 Residual phosphate concentrations in batch tests with synthetic MWW (CoC 4) at pH 7.8 and MWW_NF (CoC 4) at pH 7.2 and 7.8 as a function of time with temperature at typical cooling water temperature (40°C) and condenser surface temperature (49°C)

A typical broad peak of amorphous calcium phosphate (ACP) between $2\theta=25^\circ$ and 35° was observed in the XRD spectrum (Figure 3.3a) of the precipitate collected from synthetic MWW_pH at pH 7.8 and 49°C (Alvarez et al., 2004; Cao and Harris., 2008). Morphology of the amorphous phase precipitated from MWW_pH 7.8 observed in SEM images is shown on Figure 3.4. EDS analysis indicated that the precipitates were mainly composed of Ca and P with a small amount of Mg and C incorporated (Figure 3.4). Heating the precipitate at 500°C for 1 hr formed the crystalline structure characteristic of hydroxyapatite as evidenced by XRD spectrum shown Figure 3.3b.

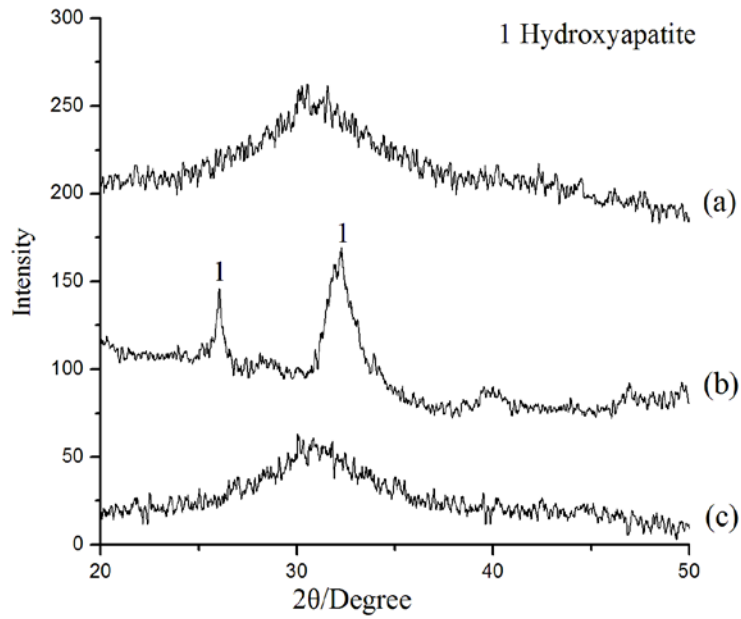


Figure 3.3 XRD pattern of the precipitates from batch tests with synthetic MWW_pH (CoC 4, 49°C) when pH was maintained at pH 7.8: (a) raw sample; (b) raw sample after heating at 500°C for 1 hrs; (c) sample collected for system with 10 ppm PMA after heating at 500°C for 1hrs

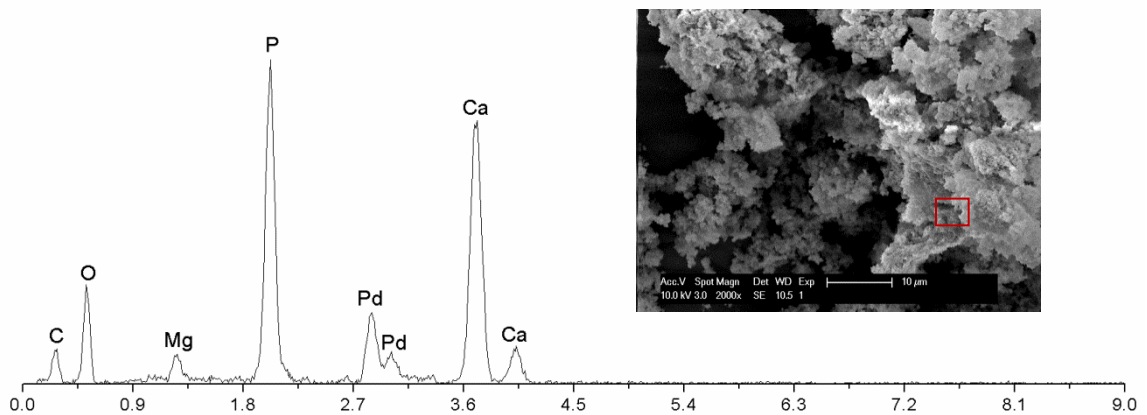


Figure 3.4 SEM image and elemental composition of the precipitate formed in batch test with synthetic MWW (CoC 4, 49°C) when pH was maintained at pH 7.8. EDS scan was performed on the area outlined by the square box on the SEM image.

Similar XRD pattern was also observed for the precipitate formed in synthetic MWW_pH at pH 7.8 and 40°C. Based on the results of water analysis and solids characterization by XRD and SEM/EDS, it can be concluded that amorphous calcium phosphate is the main precipitate formed in the synthetic MWW_pH (CoC 4) at typical cooling water temperature (40°C) and condenser surface temperature (49°C) when pH was maintained at 7.8.

Amorphous calcium phosphate (ACP), $\text{Ca}_3(\text{PO}_4)_2 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$, and hydroxyapatite (HAP), $\text{Ca}_5(\text{PO}_4)_3(\text{OH})$, are two common types of calcium phosphate minerals (Barat et al., 2011). Although HAP is the most stable calcium phosphate mineral, formation of more soluble ACP is favored kinetically because of energy saving in precipitation reactions (Eanes et al., 1965; Castro et al., 2012). Heating the metastable ACP would enhance the conversion process to HAP and result in improved resolution of the XRD peaks as shown in Figure 3.3 (Cao and Harries, 2008; Liu et al., 2001).

The XRD pattern for the precipitates obtained from MWW_NF (CoC 4) maintained at pH 7.2 and 49°C at selected time intervals are shown in Figure 3.5. The results of phosphate monitoring in Figure 3.2 and solids characterization in Figure 3.5 clearly support the hypothesis that the initial phosphate reduction corresponds to rapid precipitation of ACP followed by transformation of ACP to HAP, which resulted in further phosphate consumption and growth of the HAP peaks in the XRD spectra. The induction time and rate of ACP transformation into HAP is influenced by numerous parameters, such as degree of supersaturation, ionic strength, pH, temperature, and chemical additives (Kim et al., 2004). Shorter induction time and faster crystallization rate was observed in MWW_NF when pH increased from 7.2 to 7.8 at 49°C (Figure 3.2) or when temperature increased from 40°C to 49°C at pH 7.8 (Figure 3.2). These results are in agreement with previous studies (Kibalczyk et al., 1988; Liu et al., 2001).

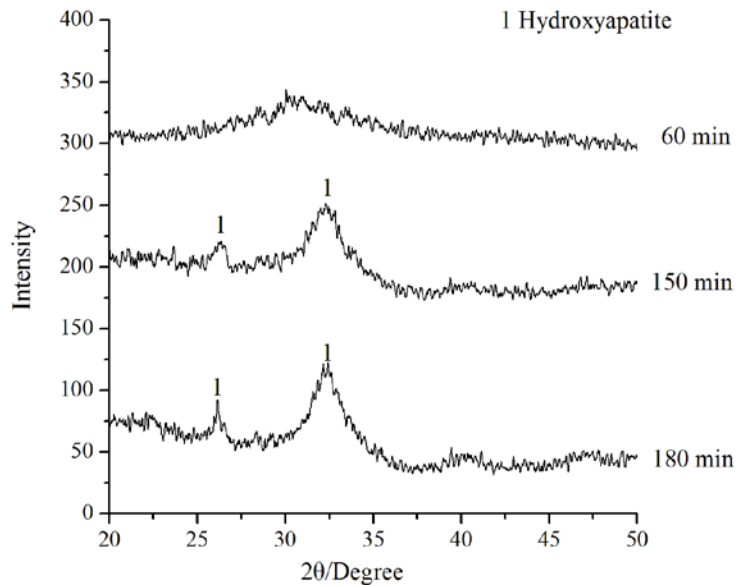


Figure 3.5 XRD pattern of the precipitates collected at 60, 150, and 180 min from batch tests with synthetic MWW_NF (CoC 4, 49°C) when pH was maintained at pH 7.2

In the case of MWW_pH, no distinct conversion of ACP to HAP was observed in this study. Such behavior could be ascribed to relatively high carbonate alkalinity of this water (Table 3.1) as previous studies indicated that bicarbonate concentration considerably delayed the induction period (Ferguson et al., 1973).

Batch tests were also conducted to evaluate the effects of polymaleic acid (PMA) on mineral precipitation in MWW_pH at 40°C and 49°C and pH 7.8. PMA doses of 5 ppm and 10 ppm were added to synthetic MWW_pH (CoC 4) before pH was adjusted to 7.8. Residual phosphate concentration was monitored with time as shown in Figure 3.6. It appears that PMA had no effect on amorphous calcium phosphate formation since the residual phosphate concentration was almost identical with and without PMA addition. However, even after the precipitate formed in MWW_pH (CoC 4) maintained at pH 7.8 and 49°C with the PMA dosage of 10 ppm was heated at 500°C for 1 hr, only a broad peak of ACP was observed in the XRD

spectrum as shown in Figure 3.3c. Based on these results, it can be concluded that PMA inhibits transformation of ACP to HAP as the main antiscaling mechanism.

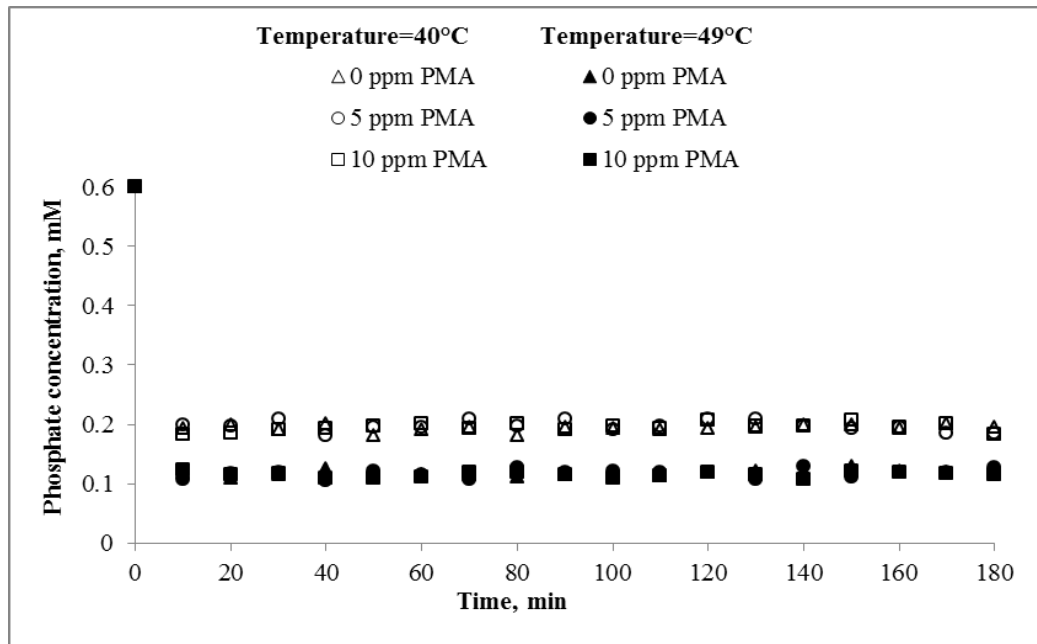


Figure 3.6 Residual phosphate concentrations in batch tests with MWW_pH (CoC 4) as a function of time at typical cooling water temperature (40°C) and condenser surface temperature (49°C) when 0, 5, and 10 ppm PMA were added at pH 7.8

3.3.2 Crystalline fouling in bench-scale recirculating system

The fouling curves with MWW_pH in the presence of 0, 5, and 10 ppm PMA when bulk pH was controlled at 7.8 are shown in Figure 3.7. Contrary to the bulk precipitation behavior depicted in Figure 3.6, crystalline fouling propensity of MWW_pH was significantly mitigated by the addition of PMA and the degree of fouling reduction was influenced by the PMA dose. Based on

the XRD patterns depicted in Figure 3.8, it can be concluded that HAP is more likely to form on the heated surface (Figure 3.8a) while only ACP was identified in the precipitate formed in the bulk solution (Figure 3.8b). Since HAP is less soluble than ACP, the driving force for HAP formation was still present even after the bulk precipitation was accomplished, which is the main reason for mineral scale formation on the vertical heated surface. PMA addition to the system inhibited the conversion of ACP to HAP on the heated surface as documented by the absence of HAP spectra in the XRD analysis of the deposits formed during the fouling test with MWW_pH (CoC 4) and PMA dosage of 10 ppm shown in Figure 3.8c. The decrease in fouling of the heater was the result of the increase in solubility of phosphate precipitate that predominated in the system (i.e., ACP).

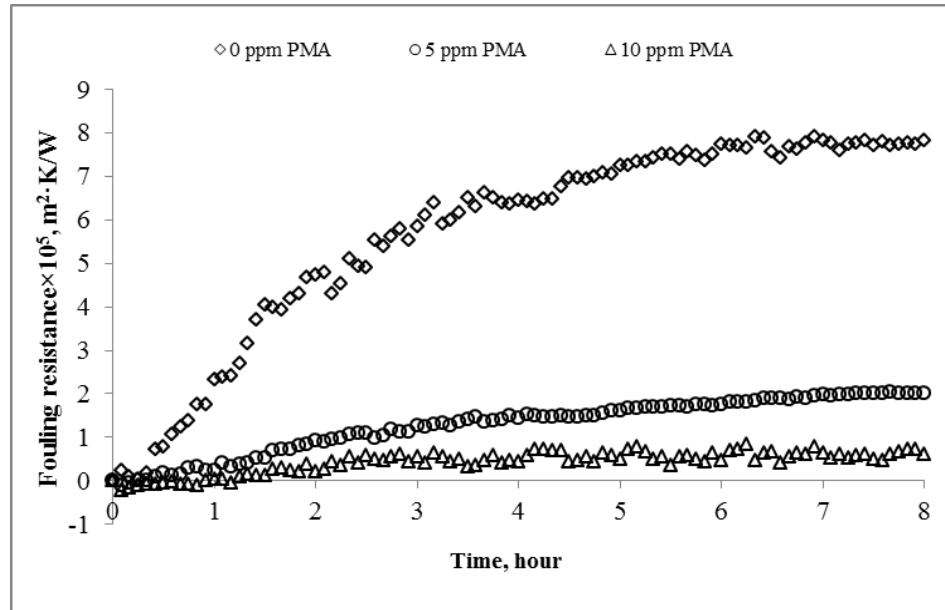


Figure 3.7 Development of fouling resistance in MWW_pH (CoC 4, 49°C) at pH 7.8 in the presence of 0, 5, and 10 ppm PMA

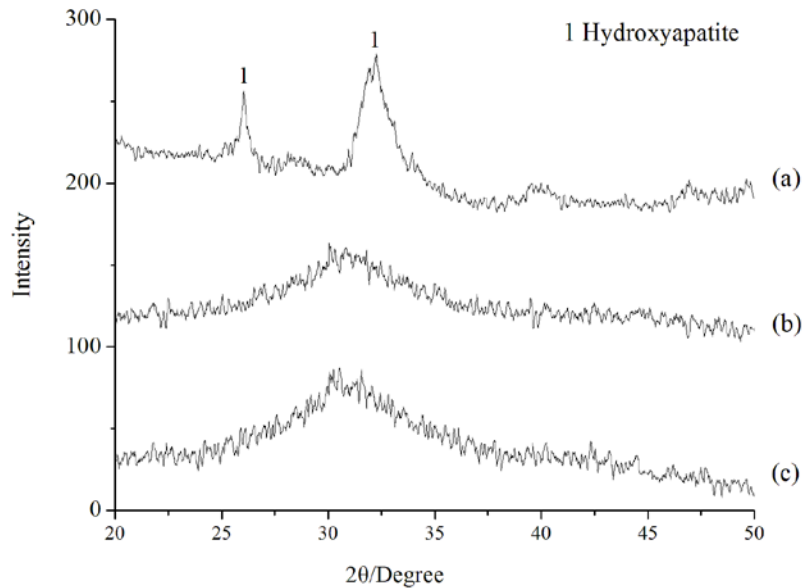


Figure 3.8 XRD pattern of the precipitates in the fouling tests with MWW_pH (CoC 4, 49°C) at pH 7.8: (a) mineral deposits on the heater with 0 ppm PMA addition; (b) bulk precipitates with 0 ppm PMA addition; (c) mineral deposits on the heater with 10 ppm PMA addition

The fouling resistance observed with MWW_NF when bulk pH was controlled at 7.2 and 7.8 is shown in Figure 3.9. In contrast with generally accepted view that lower pH would result in lower scaling rate, these results indicated that heat transfer efficiency in the case of MWW_NF (CoC 4) decreased dramatically at pH 7.2 while negligible fouling of the heater was observed at pH 7.8. Dissolved phosphate analysis in these tests revealed that much higher phosphate concentration was maintained in the solution at pH 7.2 than at pH 7.8 (Figure 3.10). XRD analysis of the precipitate formed in bulk solution and those formed on the heater are depicted in Figure 3.11, suggesting that the precipitate formed in the bulk solution was mainly composed of amorphous calcium phosphate. Similar to the behavior observed in the fouling tests with MWW_pH, higher concentration of dissolved phosphate in the bulk solution with MWW_NF at pH 7.2 served to supply necessary ions for surface crystallization of HAP on the heater (Figure 3.11), which resulted in more significant fouling as observed in Figure 3.9. However, when pH was elevated to 7.8, HAP quickly precipitated in the bulk solution as

suggested by analysis of solids collected after just 1 hr of reaction time depicted in Figure 3.11. This observation is consistent with the results from batch tests shown in Figure 3.2 and low phosphate concentration in solution resulting from HAP formation at pH 7.8 caused negligible fouling on the vertical heated surface.

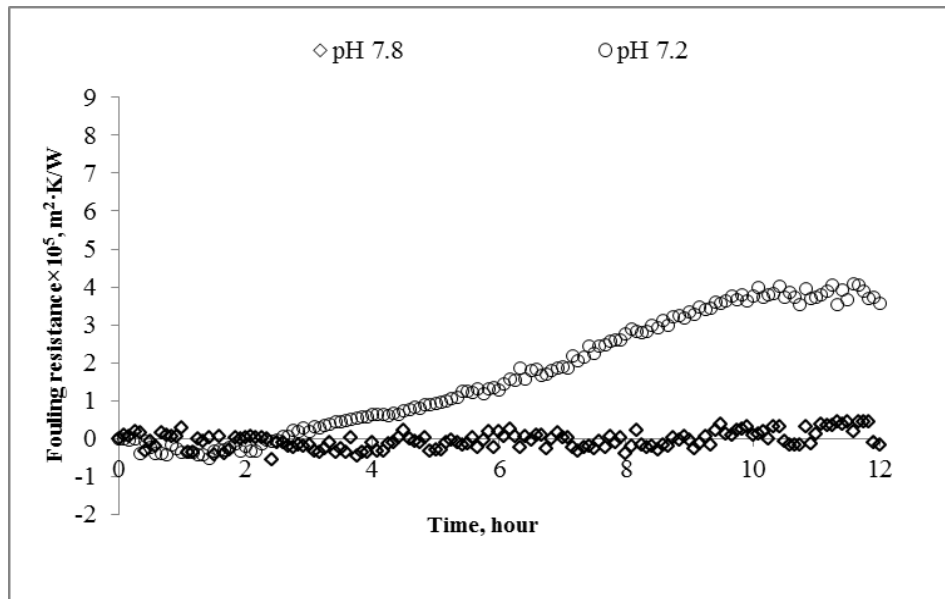


Figure 3.9 Fouling resistance for MWW_NF (CoC 4, 49°C) when bulk pH was controlled at 7.8 and 7.2

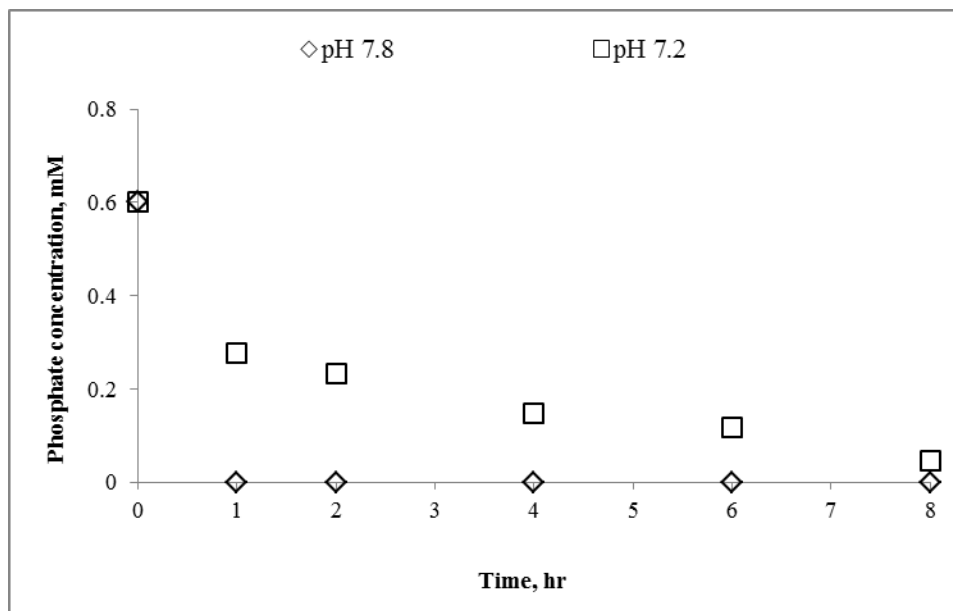


Figure 3.10 Phosphate concentration in the fouling tests with MWW_NF (CoC 4, 49°C) when pH was controlled at 7.8 and 7.2

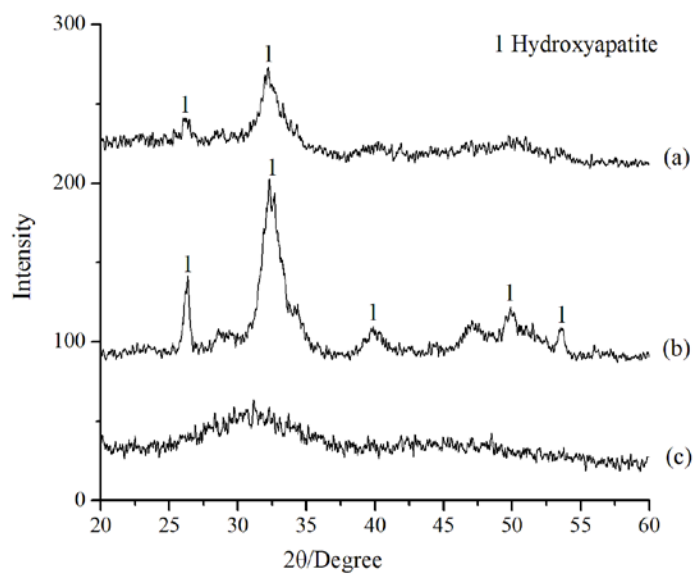


Figure 3.11 XRD pattern of bulk precipitates and mineral deposits on the heated surface in the fouling tests with MWW_NF (CoC 4, 49°C): (a) precipitates formed in the bulk solution after 1 hr at pH 7.8; (b) mineral deposits on the heater during the test at pH 7.2; (c) bulk precipitates formed in the bulk solution after 12 hr at pH 7.2

3.3.3 Particulate fouling in bench-scale recirculating system

Mineral scale layers formed on the pipe surfaces may be sheared away by hydrodynamic forces depending on the short-range forces (e.g. van der Waals force, electrostatic force, hydrogen bonding, etc.) and inhomogeneities in the geometry of flow and surface materials (Drew, 1988; Royer et al., 2010). With particulate fouling, an entrained particle must first negotiate the carrier fluid before the short-range forces can exert any influence (Drew, 1988; Altmann and Ripperger, 1997). In the vicinity of the pipe wall, when the size of a particle is smaller than the thickness of the boundary layer, the following vertical forces act on that particle (Figure A.1): gravity force, F_G ; buoyancy force, F_B ; and lift force, F_L .

If the bulk precipitate is assumed to be spherical, the gravity force, F_G (N), is:

$$F_G = \frac{1}{6} \pi \rho_p g d_p^3 \quad (3-5)$$

where, ρ_p is the density of the particle (kg/m^3), g is the acceleration of gravity (9.81 m/s^2), and d_p is the diameter of the particle (m).

The buoyancy force, F_B (N), is:

$$F_B = \frac{1}{6} \pi \rho_L g d_p^3 \quad (3-6)$$

where, ρ_L is the density of water.

The lift force F_L (N) is caused by the shear flow in the immediate vicinity of the pipe wall surface and can be calculated as follows (Altmann and Ripperger, 1997; Vyas et al., 2001):

$$F_L = 0.761 \cdot \frac{\tau_w^{1.5} \cdot d_p^3 \cdot \rho_L^{0.5}}{\eta} \quad (3-7)$$

where, τ_w is the shear stress at the tube wall (N/m²), and η is the dynamic fluid viscosity (N·s/m²). For tubes, the shear stress is expressed in terms of the Darcy friction factor f and the mean fluid velocity \bar{u} (Littlejohn et al., 2000):

$$\tau_w = \frac{1}{8} f \rho_L \bar{u}^2 \quad (3-8)$$

Combining Equations (3-5)-(3-7), the total vertical force, F_{vertical} (N), is:

$$F_{\text{vertical}} = F_G - F_B - F_L = \frac{1}{6} \pi (\rho_P - \rho_L) g d_p^3 - 0.761 \cdot \frac{\tau_w^{1.5} \cdot d_p^3 \cdot \rho_L^{0.5}}{\eta} \quad (3-9)$$

Equation (3-9) indicates that the occurrence of particulate fouling is mainly determined by the particle size distribution and hydrodynamic conditions. Positive F_{vertical} indicates the deposition potential of bulk precipitates while little particulate fouling is theoretically feasible in the case of negative F_{vertical} .

Particle size distribution of bulk precipitates formed in MWW_NF (CoC 4, 40°C) at pH 7.8 (Figure 3.12) indicates that these precipitates ranged in size between 5~50 μm. The analysis of precipitates from other tertiary-treated MWW also showed that their size was below 50 μm (data not shown) and smaller than the thickness of the laminar boundary layer (Appendix A). The total vertical force acting on particles in the 1-10 μm and 10-50 μm size ranges in fluid flow with velocities ranging from 1.4 to 0.4 m/s shown in Figure 3.13 was calculated using Equation (3-9). This figure shows a positive deposition potential for bulk precipitates at flow velocities

below 0.5 m/s while little particulate fouling is theoretically predicted when the velocity is above 0.6 m/s.

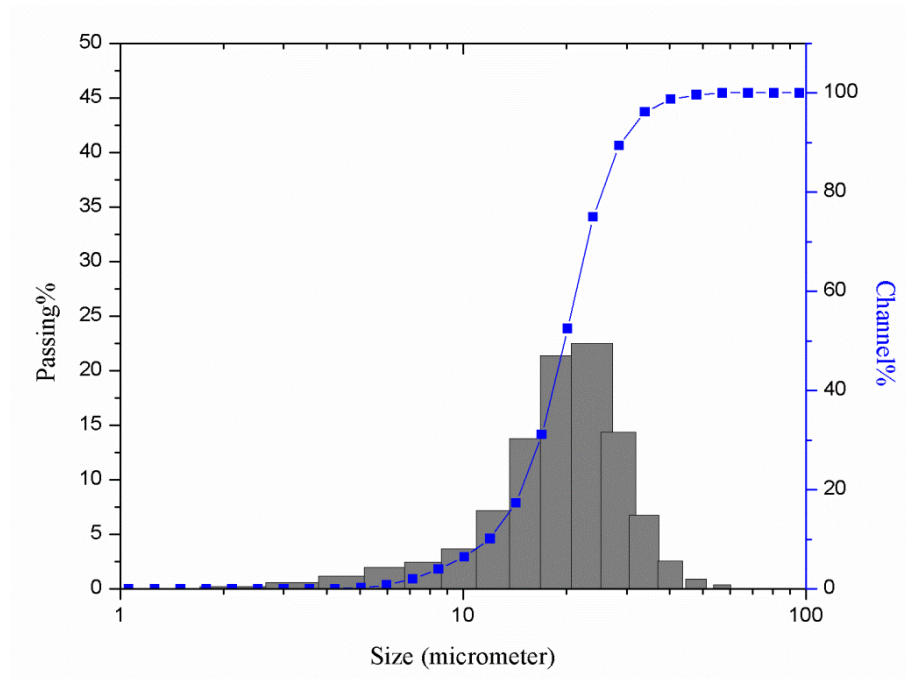
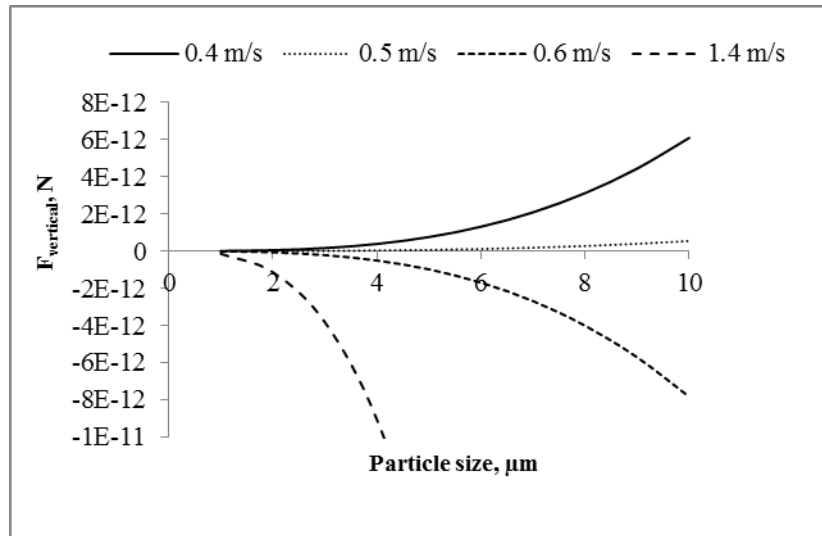
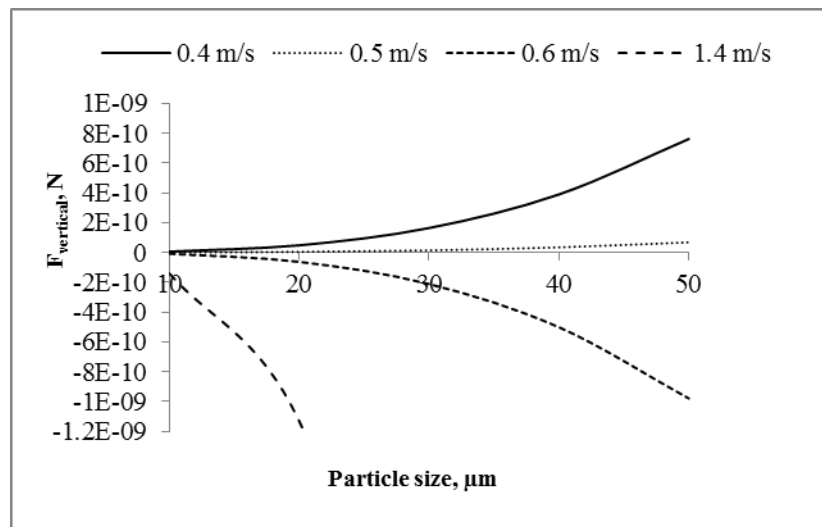


Figure 3.12 Particle size distribution of bulk precipitates formed in MWW_NF (CoC 4, 40°C) at pH 7.8



(a)



(b)

Figure 3.13 Total vertical force on bulk precipitates at 0.6, 0.5, and 0.4 m/s flow velocities: (a) particle size between 1~10 μm; (b) particle size between 10~50 μm

These theoretical calculations were evaluated experimentally in the system equipped with horizontal sampling coupons, and the impact of flow velocity on particulate fouling is summarized in Figure 3.14. As depicted in this figure, the mass gain on the disc specimens installed in the recirculating system for fouling studies was negligible at flow velocity of 0.6 m/s. However, when the flow velocity was reduced to 0.5 m/s, significant deposition of precipitated solids was observed and the mass gain on disc specimens continued throughout the tests which lasted for 12 hours. The rate of deposit accumulation on the disc increased further when the flow velocity was reduced to 0.4 m/s (Figure 3.14). The experimental results are consistent with the model prediction and suggest that it is necessary to maintain a minimum flow velocity of about 0.6 m/s (2 ft/s) in addition to controlling water quality parameters (pH, antiscalant addition) to minimize potential for heat exchanger fouling when using tertiary-treated municipal wastewater in recirculating cooling systems.

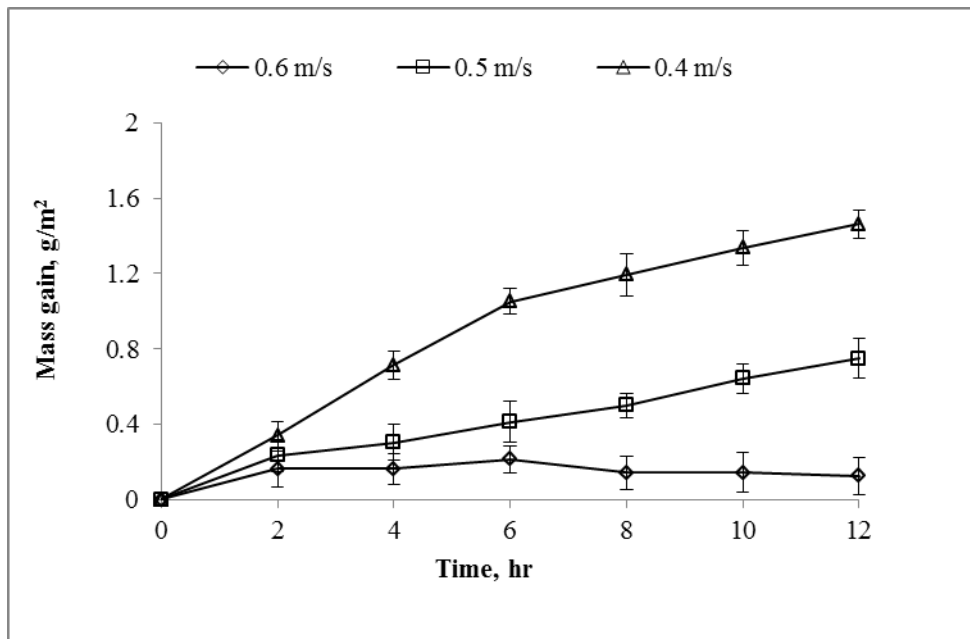


Figure 3.14 Particulate fouling with suspended solids created during the fouling test with synthetic MWW_NF (CoC 4) at $42\pm 3^\circ\text{C}$ as a function of flow velocity. Error bars indicate the data range of measurements from duplicate tests.

3.4 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

This study investigated mineral scaling behavior on heated surfaces and its control when using tertiary-treated municipal wastewater as alternative cooling system make-up water to replace freshwater. Two types of tertiary-treated municipal wastewater that were evaluated in this study included secondary-treated municipal wastewater with pH adjustment (MWW_pH) and secondary-treated municipal wastewater subjected to nitrification and sand filtration (MWW_NF). Batch tests revealed that amorphous calcium phosphate (ACP) was the dominant precipitate formed in MWW_pH at typical cooling water temperature (40°C) and condenser surface temperature (49°C) when bulk pH was controlled at 7.8. Addition of PMA scale inhibitor had negligible impact on ACP precipitation. Bench-scale recirculating tests showed that MWW_pH exhibited significant potential for crystalline fouling on the heated surface because of the formation of hydroxyapatite (HAP), which is less soluble than ACP. PMA addition was shown to inhibit the fouling of the heated surface for MWW_pH because it inhibits the transformation of ACP to HAP.

ACP was the dominant bulk precipitate formed in MWW_NF at typical cooling water temperature (40°C) at pH 7.2. Elevating the temperature to condenser surface temperature (49°C) or increasing the pH to 7.8 accelerated the transformation of ACP to HAP. Bench-scale recirculating tests with MWW_NF revealed significant crystalline fouling of the heated surface

by MWW_NF at pH 7.2 while no fouling was observed at pH 7.8. Crystalline fouling at pH 7.2 was due to the fact that only ACP precipitated in the bulk solution leaving a significant potential for the formation of less soluble HAP on the heated surface. When pH was elevated to 7.8, the formation of HAP in the bulk solution consumed more scale-forming phosphate ions and reduced the driving force for crystalline fouling on the heated surface.

Particulate fouling is governed by the precipitate size distribution and hydrodynamic conditions. Both theoretical analysis and experimental studies showed that particle fouling can be inhibited by increasing the flow velocity above 0.6 m/s (2 ft/s).

Overall, this study demonstrated that it is possible to manage crystalline fouling and particulate fouling on hot condenser tube surfaces associated with the use of treated municipal wastewater through pH control, antiscalant addition and adequate flow regime.

4.0 INSIGHTS INTO CALCIUM PHOSPHATE SCALE MITIGATION BY TYPICAL ANTISCALANTS

This chapter, written by Wenshi Liu and coauthored by Can He, Radisav D. Vidic, and David A. Dzombak, will be submitted for publication.

Calcium phosphate scaling is encountered in many situations in water treatment and wastewater reuse applications. Amorphous calcium phosphate (ACP), $\text{Ca}_3(\text{PO}_4)_2 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$, and hydroxyapatite (HAP), $\text{Ca}_5(\text{PO}_4)_3(\text{OH})$, are two common types of calcium phosphate minerals formed by calcium and phosphate (Barat et al., 2011). Literature on the effects of antiscalants on calcium phosphate precipitation is limited. In this study, two types of antiscalants, polymaleic acid (PMA) and 1-hydroxyethane 1,1-diphosphonic acid (HEDP), were evaluated with regard to their ability to inhibit calcium phosphate precipitation. The tests revealed that both PMA and HEDP exhibited negligible impact on ACP formation but could delay or inhibit the transformation of ACP to HAP. The inhibition mechanism of PMA and HEDP was mainly ascribed to their ability to prevent aggregation of ACP precipitates during the induction period. A further analysis showed that PMA induced negative surface charges on ACP particles and caused strong electrostatic repulsive forces to disperse ACP precipitates. However, HEDP had minimal effect on electrostatic repulsion and its function might be due to the hydration force associated with phosphonate groups in the structure.

4.1 INTRODUCTION

Secondary-treated municipal wastewater (MWW) has elevated levels of phosphate from mostly anthropogenic sources, especially domestic and industrial sewage. This relatively high concentration of phosphorus (10-48 mg/L) when compared to freshwater is critical as it leads to calcium phosphate scaling in the system and promotes microbiological growth. Previous studies

with MWW as the sole source of make-up water for recirculating cooling systems have shown that calcium phosphate was the main mineral scale formed when calcium carbonate was effectively inhibited by pH adjustment (Wijesinghe et al., 1996; Liu et al., 2012). In other wastewater reuse applications, calcium phosphate scaling also limited the widespread application of reverse osmosis (RO) purification of MWW for irrigation purposes (Greenberg et al., 2005; Bartels et al., 2005). Even with traditional water sources for cooling system use, a long-term fouling study over a operation period for 2500 h identified calcium phosphate scales on the condense tubes (Webb and Li, 2000; Li and Webb, 2000). As the most insoluble calcium scales, calcium phosphate is a serious problem in many aspects of water treatment and wastewater reuse applications. However, its precipitation from aqueous solution received only minor attention in recent studies focused on mineral scaling mitigation (Andritsos et al., 2002).

Addition of chemicals that serve as antiscalants is still the most effective means for mineral scaling mitigation. It is hypothesized that in supersaturated solutions of sparingly soluble salts, a significant delay in crystal nucleation and subsequent growth would occur in the presence of antiscalants added at a dosage of 1-10 ppm (Shih et al., 2004). Although antiscalants have been used for more than 150 years, the fundamentals of inhibition mechanisms are still inadequately understood (Hasson et al., 1997; Al Nasser et al., 2011). This is especially the case for calcium phosphate scale, since the available information on the effects of the antiscalant treatment with regard to this scale is sometimes conflicting (Greenberg et al., 2005). Five commercial antiscalants were proven to be ineffective in mitigating the membrane permeability decay caused by calcium phosphate scales (Greenberg et al., 2005). However, other studies suggested that common antiscalants like polyacrylic acid (PAA), 1-hydroxyethane 1,1-diphosphonic acid (HEDP), and 2-phosphonobutane-1,2,4-tricarboxylic acid (PBTC) could

inhibit calcium phosphate precipitation significantly and the inhibition efficiency improved with the increase in dosage up to a certain level known as “threshold dosage” (Amjad, 1989; Fu et al., 2011). Thus, additional efforts are needed to verify the function of antiscalants for calcium phosphate and provide guidance on the expected performance of a specific additive in a situation with high calcium phosphate scaling potential.

The focus of this study was to examine the effects of typical antiscalants on calcium phosphate precipitation, which has been encountered in numerous water treatment processes (Wijesinghe et al., 1996; Webb and Li, 2000; Li and Webb, 2000; Bartels et al., 2005; Greenberg et al., 2005; Liu et al., 2012). A combined analysis of bulk water chemistry, precipitates mineralogy, and surface characteristics was conducted to obtain insights into potential mitigation mechanisms of typical antiscalants on calcium phosphate precipitation. This study would contribute to improve the fundamental understanding on the inhibition mechanism of the antiscalants and provide scientific guidance for the synthesis, evaluation, and application of the antiscalants in water treatment.

4.2 MATERIALS AND METHODS

4.2.1 Test solution

Tertiary-treated MWW (secondary treated municipal wastewater subjected to nitrification and sand filtration, MWW_NF) from Franklin Township Sanitary Authority, Murrysville, PA, was used as a model test solution in this study. Key characteristics of MWW_NF from this wastewater treatment facility are described in Table 2.1. Typical operation of a recirculating cooling system concentrates the feed water as much as 4-6 times due to evaporative losses in the system. Test solution in this study as shown in Table 4.1 was prepared to contain the same calcium concentration, phosphate concentration, and ionic strength as the synthetic MWW_NF at 4 cycles of concentration (CoC 4).

Table 4.1 Chemical compositions of the test solution used in the study for the antiscalants on calcium phosphate precipitation

Ions	Ca ²⁺	PO ₄ ³⁻	Na ⁺	Cl ⁻
Concentration (mM)	4.00	0.6	23.8	31.8

All chemicals in this study were analytical reagent grade, obtained from Fisher Scientific, Inc. Calcium and phosphate stock solutions were prepared by dissolving calcium chloride dehydrate and potassium phosphate monobasic in DI water (resistivity > 18 MΩ cm), filtered through 0.22 μm filter paper.

4.2.2 Antiscalants

Presently, three types of scale inhibitors have been widely used in water treatment industry: polyphosphates (e.g., sodium hexametaphosphate, SHMP), phosphonates (e.g., 1-hydroxyethane 1,1-diphosphonic acid, HEDP), and polyelectrolytes (e.g., polymaleic acid, PMA). Polyphosphates, such as SHMP, can easily decompose to orthophosphate in aqueous phase, which would further react with calcium ions to form insoluble calcium phosphate scale. Phosphonates, as typified by the stable C-P bond, overcome the tendency of polyphosphates to hydrolyze the O-P chain and increase the hydrolytic stability. Among the numerous commercially available antiscalants, polyelectrolytes and phosphonates are the two types of inhibitors extensively used in water treatment industry and essential building blocks in most antiscalant formulations. In this study, PMA and HEDP were selected as models for polyelectrolytes and phosphonates, respectively. PMA (50% active content) and HEDP (60% active content) were provided by Kroff Chemical Company (Pittsburgh, PA). The scaling inhibitor concentrations were all calculated on the dry basis.

4.2.3 Batch tests

Calcium phosphate precipitation experiments were conducted in a 1.4 L beaker covered with plastic wrap to minimize water loss due to evaporation. The contents of the beaker were completely mixed with a magnetic stirrer and the temperature was controlled at a target level using a heating plate. The experiments were always initiated by adding all the salts listed in Table 4.1 except for CaCl_2 . After the addition of CaCl_2 , pH of the test solution was adjusted and

maintained at a desired level with 0.5 M hydrochloric acid or 0.5 M sodium hydroxide. The effectiveness of antiscalants was tested by adding it to the solution before adding any salts.

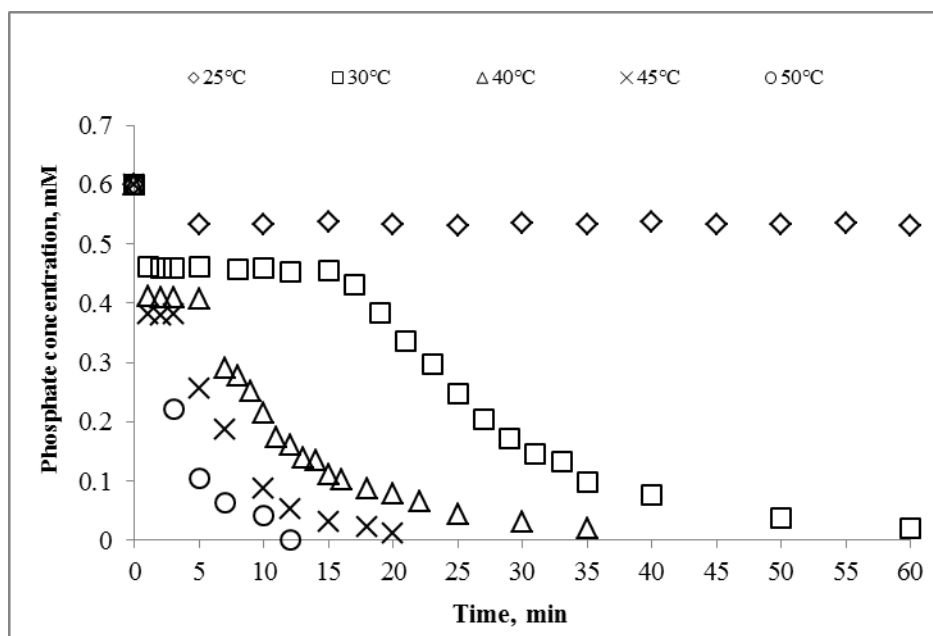
Precipitation behavior in the beaker was monitored by withdrawing an aliquot of the solution at predetermined intervals. The water sample was filtered through a 0.45 μm nylon membrane and immediately acidified to $\text{pH} < 2$ with concentrated HNO_3 . The orthophosphate concentration was determined by the molybdenum blue method (American Public Health Association et al., 2005) and calcium concentration was measured by Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy (AAS, 1100B, PerkinElmer Inc., Waltham, MA).

Precipitated solids were collected, washed with DI water, and air-dried for subsequent petrographic and chemical characterization. The crystalline characteristics of the solids were analyzed by x-ray diffraction (XRD, PW1830, Philips Analytical Inc., Natick, MA) with $\text{Cu K}\alpha$ radiation. Once the diffraction patterns were obtained, both manual matching of the peak positions and a computer-aided search to identify the crystalline phase were performed. The sizes of the precipitates were determined using dynamic light scattering (DLS). DLS measurements were made using an ALV/CGS-3 compact goniometer system equipped with a 22 mV HeNe Laser ($\lambda=632.8$ nm) at a scattering angle of 90° . A Zeta PALS QELS instrument (Brookhaven Instruments Corporation) was used to measure the Zeta potential of precipitated particles.

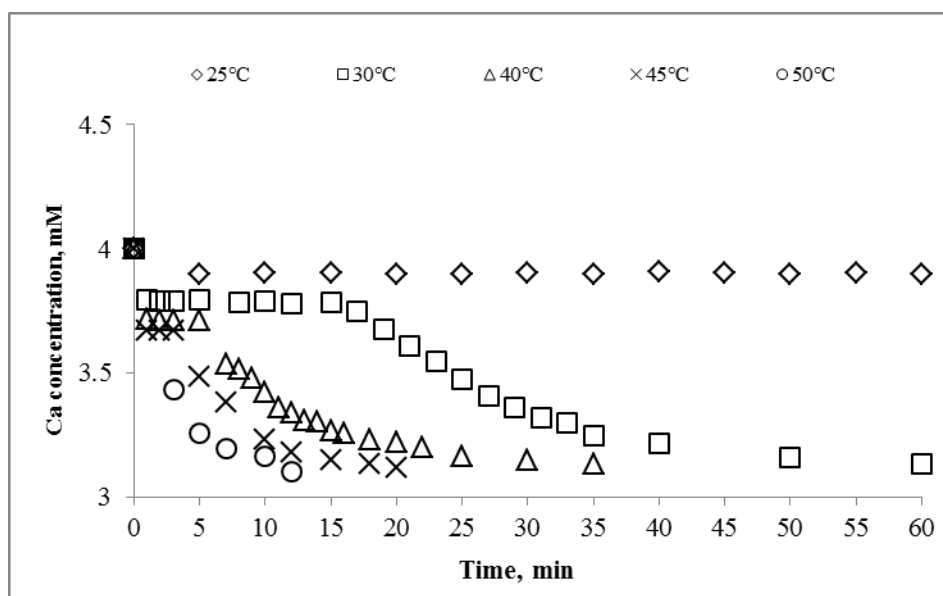
4.3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.3.1 Calcium phosphate precipitation

Batch tests at pH 7.2 were conducted at 25°C, 30°C, 40°C, 45°C, and 50°C and the residual phosphate and Ca concentration is plotted as a function of time on Figure 4.1. As can be seen in this figure, both Ca and phosphate concentration in solution at 25°C rapidly decreased within the first 5 min due to precipitation, and then remained virtually unchanged until 60 min. Increasing the temperature to 30°C resulted in a second precipitation stage after the “leveling-off” period (induction time). This phenomenon has been reported in our previous study (Liu et al., 2013a). The induction time was shortened with a further increase in temperature. At 50°C, no clear transition was recognized between the two stages of precipitation and intensive NaOH addition was needed to keep the pH at 7.2 due to the fast precipitation.



(a)



(b)

Figure 4.1 Residual concentrations in batch tests with test solution at pH 7.2 as a function of time with temperature at 25°C, 30°C, 40°C, 45°C, and 50°C: (a) Phosphate; (b) Ca. The data represent mean values based on triplicate measurements with relative stand standard deviation (%RSD) of Ca and phosphate concentration measurements within $\pm 5.3\%$ and $\pm 2.1\%$, respectively

The XRD patterns for the precipitate obtained from test solution maintained at pH 7.2 and 40°C at selected time intervals are shown in Figure 4.2. The results of phosphate and calcium monitoring in Figure 4.1 and solids characterization in Figure 4.2 clearly suggested the initial phosphate and calcium reduction corresponds to rapid precipitation of amorphous calcium phosphate (ACP) observed after 3 min of reaction. Conversion of ACP to the most thermodynamically stable calcium phosphate mineral, hydroxyapatite (HAP), was initiated at 6 min and HAP continued to dominate solid phase throughout the experiment. By reducing the temperature to 25°C, only a broad peak of ACP between $2\theta=25^\circ$ and 35° was observed in the XRD spectrum (Figure 4.3a) of the precipitate collected from batch tests at pH 7.2 and 25°C (Alvarez et al., 2004). Heating the precipitate at 500°C for 3 hr improved the crystallization characteristics, resulting in distinct peaks of HAP in XRD analysis as shown in Figure 4.3b.

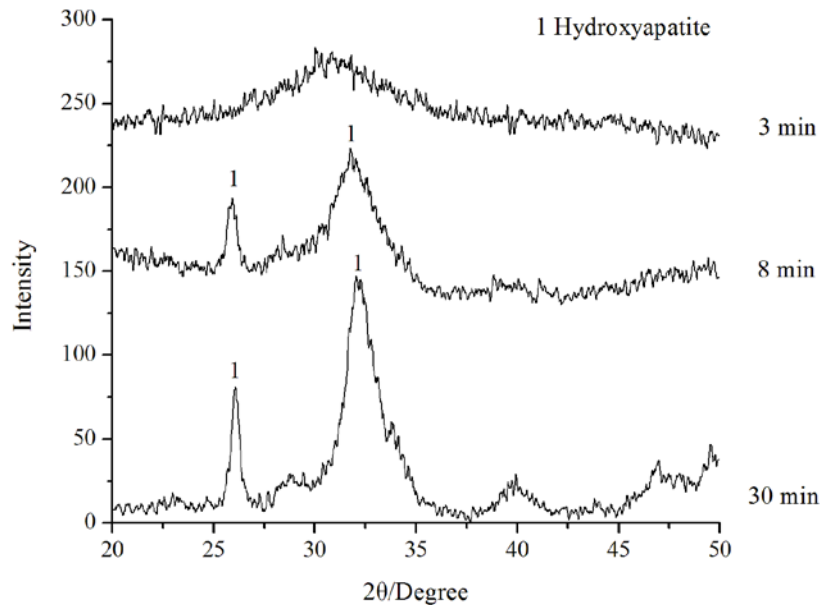


Figure 4.2 XRD pattern of the precipitates collected at 3, 8, and 30 min from batch tests at 40°C when pH was maintained at pH 7.2

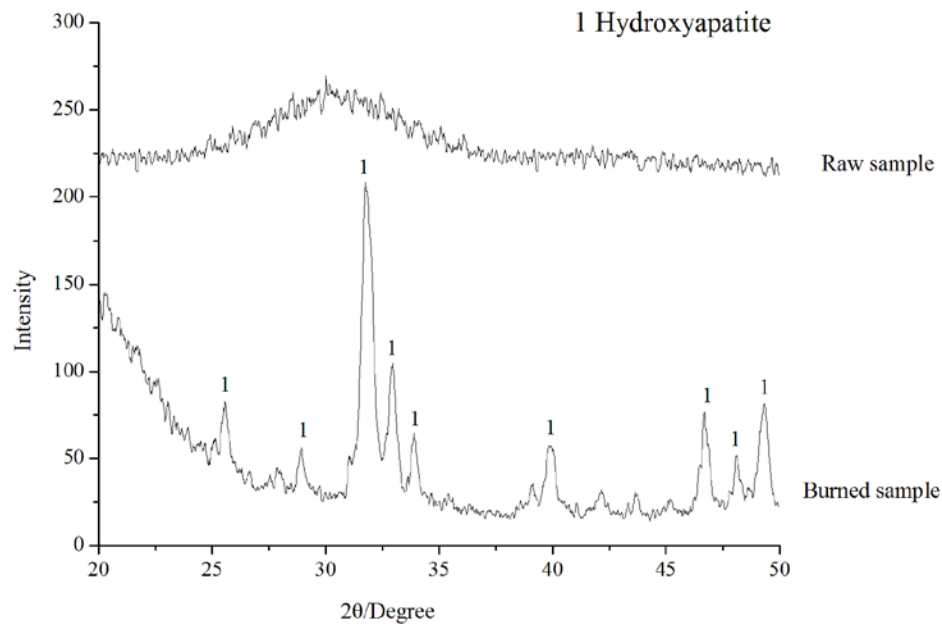


Figure 4.3 XRD pattern of the precipitates from batch test at 25°C when pH was maintained at pH 7.2: (a) raw sample; (b) raw sample after heating at 500°C for 3 hr

As a metastable amorphous precursor, ACP ($\text{Ca}_3(\text{PO}_4)_2 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$) has been shown to be structurally and chemically distinct from HAP ($\text{Ca}_5(\text{PO}_4)_3(\text{OH})$). Unlike HAP which has been studied extensively, the thermodynamic parameters of ACP precipitation are comparatively limited. Some values of solubility products of ACP at 20°C were reported in several phosphorus recovery studies (Seckler et al., 1996; Barat et al., 2011). Although, calcium phosphate precipitation is more prevalent at higher temperature like those of heat exchanger surfaces, little information is available on the ACP solubility product at other temperatures.

The solubility product, K_{sp} , for ACP is expressed as:

$$K_{sp}(\text{ACP}) = [\text{Ca}^{2+}]^3 [\text{PO}_4^{3-}]^2 \gamma_{\text{Ca}^{2+}}^3 \gamma_{\text{PO}_4^{3-}}^2 \quad (4-1)$$

where bracketed quantities represent ion concentrations and, γ represents ion activities.

Phosphate ions would form pairs with Ca^{2+} and the ion pairs taken into consideration are CaHPO_4 (formation constant $K_{\text{pair } 1} = 10^{15.035}$ at 25°C , $\Delta H_{\text{pair } 1} = -3$ kJ/mol), CaPO_4^- (formation constant $K_{\text{pair } 2} = 10^{6.46}$ at 25°C , $\Delta H_{\text{pair } 2} = 12.97$ kJ/mol), $\text{CaH}_2\text{PO}_4^+$ (formation constant $K_{\text{pair } 3} = 10^{20.923}$ at 25°C , $\Delta H_{\text{pair } 3} = -6$ kJ/mol), and CaOH^+ (formation constant $K_{\text{pair } 4} = 10^{12.697}$, $\Delta H_{\text{pair } 4} = 64.11$ kJ/mol), while $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$ (aq) could be neglected (Wang et al., 2009). The thermodynamic parameters in the discussion that follows were taken from the database in MINTEQA2 (Allison et al., 1991)

The term $C_{\text{total phosphate}}$ designates total inorganic phosphate that can be expressed as:

$$C_{\text{total phosphate}} = [\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4] + [\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4^-] + [\text{HPO}_4^{2-}] + [\text{PO}_4^{3-}] + [\text{CaHPO}_4] + [\text{CaH}_2\text{PO}_4^+] + [\text{CaPO}_4^-] \quad (4-2)$$

The term $C_{\text{total Ca}}$ designates total calcium that can be expressed as:

$$C_{\text{total Ca}} = [\text{Ca}^{2+}] + [\text{CaOH}^+] + [\text{CaHPO}_4] + [\text{CaH}_2\text{PO}_4^+] + [\text{CaPO}_4^-] \quad (4-3)$$

Equilibrium constants for the phosphoric acid dissociation are given as:

$$\frac{[\text{H}^+] \gamma_{\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4^-} [\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4^-]}{[\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4]} = K_1 \quad (4-4)$$

$$\frac{[\text{H}^+] \gamma_{\text{HPO}_4^{2-}} [\text{HPO}_4^{2-}]}{\gamma_{\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4^-} [\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4^-]} = K_2 \quad (4-5)$$

$$\frac{[\text{H}^+] \gamma_{\text{PO}_4^{3-}} [\text{PO}_4^{3-}]}{\gamma_{\text{HPO}_4^{2-}} [\text{HPO}_4^{2-}]} = K_3 \quad (4-6)$$

where K_i is the i th dissociation constant of phosphoric acid and $\{H^+\}$ is the hydrogen ion activity ($= 10^{-pH}$). The ionic activity coefficients, γ_i of the ionic species i with z charge valence were calculated from Debye–Hückel equation:

$$-\log \gamma_i = \frac{0.5z_i^2 Z^{0.5}}{1+Z^{0.5}} \quad (4-7)$$

where Z is the ionic strength of the test solution.

Equilibrium constants for the ion-pairs formation are given as,

$$\frac{[CaHPO_4]}{\gamma_{Ca^{2+}}[Ca^{2+}]\{H^+\}\gamma_{PO_4^{3-}}[PO_4^{3-}]} = K_{pair\ 1} \quad (4-8)$$

$$\frac{\gamma_{CaH_2PO_4} + [CaH_2PO_4^*]}{\gamma_{Ca^{2+}}[Ca^{2+}]\{H^+\}^2\gamma_{PO_4^{3-}}[PO_4^{3-}]} = K_{pair\ 2} \quad (4-9)$$

$$\frac{\gamma_{CaPO_4^-}[CaPO_4^-]}{\gamma_{Ca^{2+}}[Ca^{2+}]\gamma_{PO_4^{3-}}[PO_4^{3-}]} = K_{pair\ 3} \quad (4-10)$$

$$\frac{\gamma_{CaOH^+}[CaOH^+]}{\gamma_{Ca^{2+}}[OH^-]} = K_{pair\ 4} \quad (4-11)$$

where $\{OH^-\}$ is the hydroxyl ion activity and were obtained from the ionic product of water, K_w :

$$\{H^+\}\{OH^-\} = K_w \quad (4-12)$$

By combining Equations (4-1)-(4-12), ACP solubility product can be calculated using experimentally determined Ca and total inorganic phosphate concentrations. Values of solubility products of ACP and the associated standard errors at 25°C, 30°C, 40°C, and 45°C obtained from the data shown in Figure 4.1 are listed in Table 4.2. The plotting of $\ln K_{sp}(ACP)$ against $1/T$ (units in K^{-1}) shown in Figure 4.4 shows good agreement with van't Hoff equation assuming that the standard enthalpy of reaction (ΔH^0) is constant in the temperature range of 25°C-50°C. According to the fitted relationship, the solubility product of ACP at 20°C is calculated to be $10^{-26.28}$, which is in agreement with previous studies (Seckler et al., 1996; Barat et al., 2011).

Table 4.2 Solubility of amorphous calcium phosphate at 25°C, 30°C, 40°C, and 45°C

Temperature (°C)	25	30	40	45
Solubility product ($\times 10^{27}$)	4.16±0.0396	3.61±0.0293	2.22±0.0168	1.878±0.005

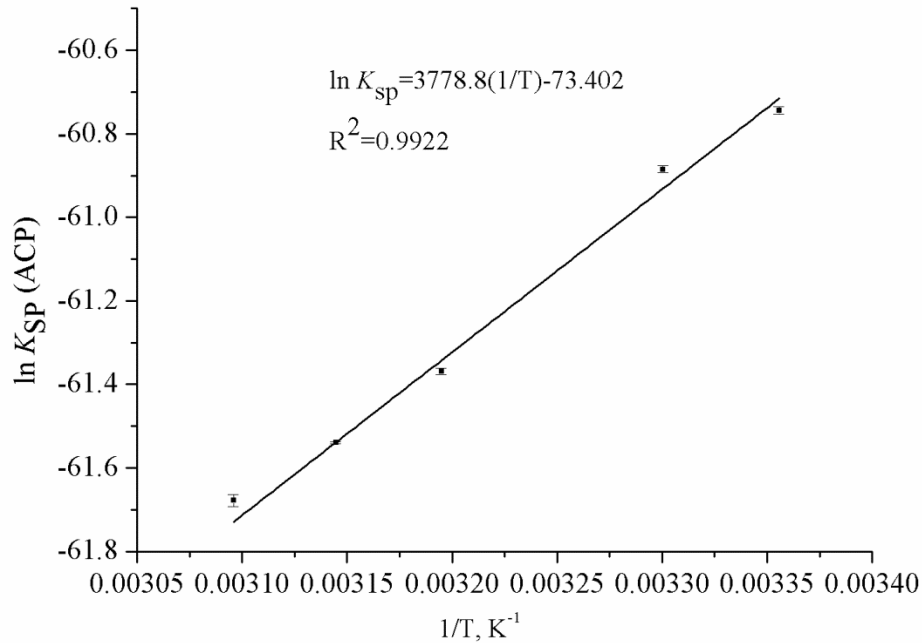
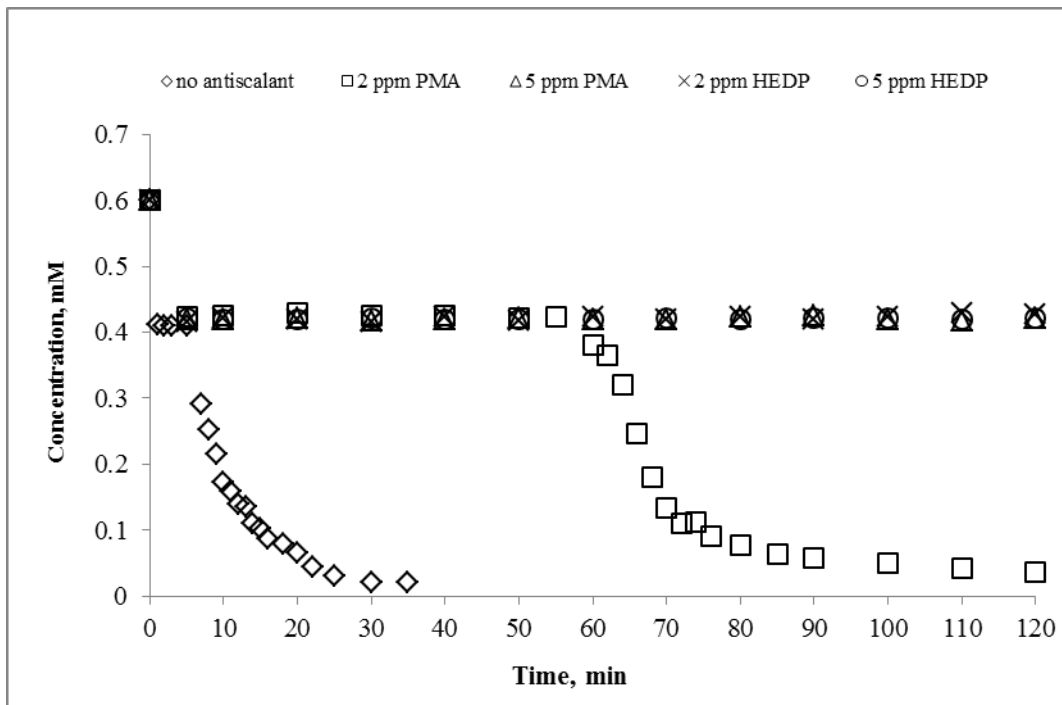


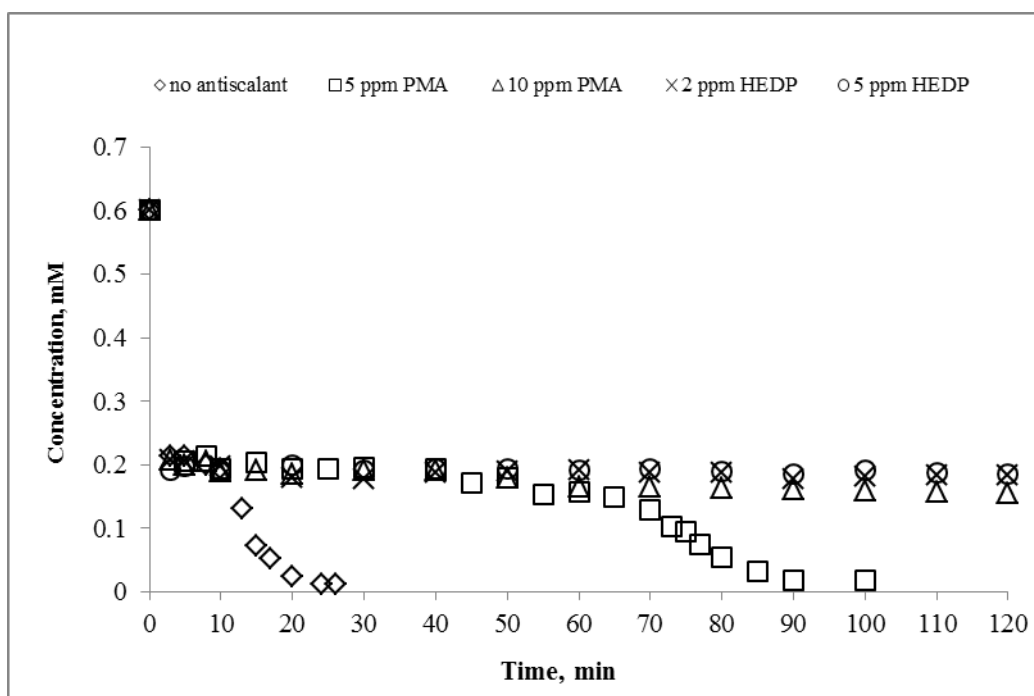
Figure 4.4 Temperature dependence of amorphous calcium phosphate solubility product (the point at 50°C was obtained from the tests with antiscalants in Section 4.3.2)

4.3.2 Function of antiscalants on the calcium phosphate precipitation

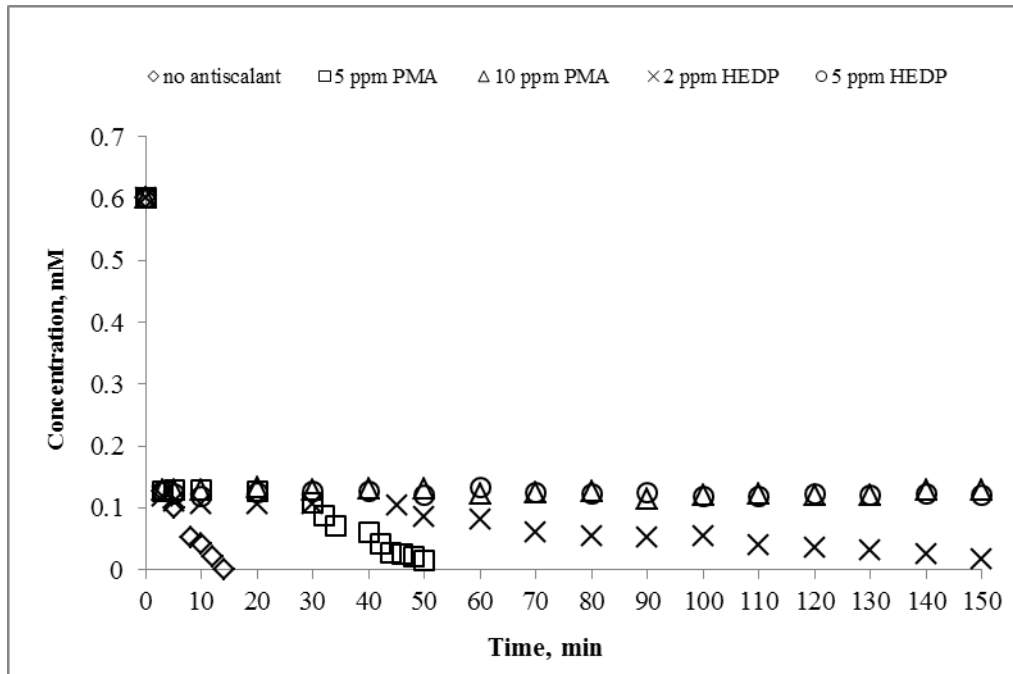
Batch tests were conducted to evaluate the effects of PMA and HEDP on calcium phosphate precipitation at 40°C and 50°C and pH 7.2 and pH 7.8. A series of PMA and HEDP dosages were added to the test solution before adding any salts. Residual phosphate concentration was monitored with time as shown in Figure 4.5. XRD pattern of the selected precipitates are shown in Figure 4.6. Except for the precipitates included in Figure 4.6, no distinct HAP peaks but a broad peak of ACP between $2\theta=25^\circ$ and 35° was observed in the XRD spectrum of all other precipitates (data not shown).



(a)



(b)



(c)

Figure 4.5 Residual phosphate concentrations in batch tests with antiscalants as a function of time at different conditions: (a) pH 7.2 and 40°C; (b) pH 7.8 and 40 °C; (c) pH 7.8 and 50°C

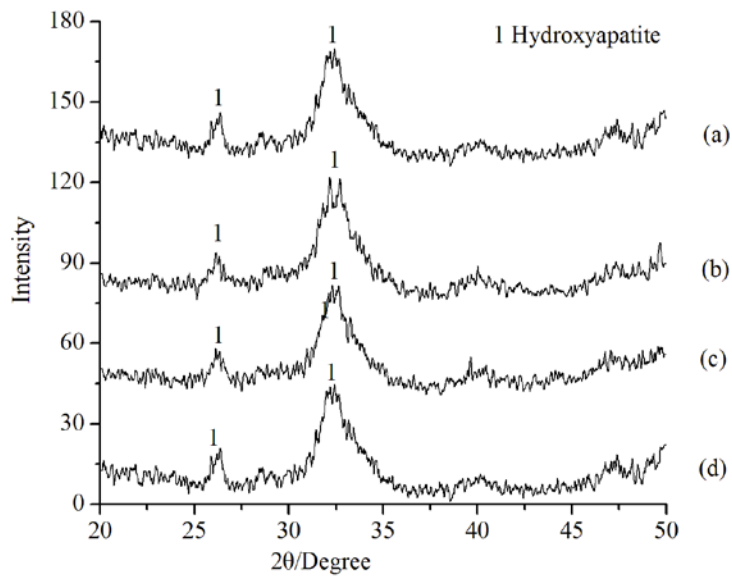


Figure 4.6 XRD pattern of the precipitates from batch tests with antiscalants: (a) 2 ppm PMA at pH 7.2 and 40 °C; (b) 5 ppm PMA at pH 7.8 and 40 °C; (c) 5 ppm PMA at pH 7.8 and 50 °C; (d) 2 ppm HEDP at pH 7.8 and 50 °C

As shown in Figure 4.5(a), the addition of 2 ppm PMA delayed induction period from about 5 min to 60 min at pH 7.2 and 40°C. By increasing the PMA dosage to 5 ppm, no transformation of ACP to HAP was observed all through the tests for 120 min. Under identical conditions, HEDP dose of 2 ppm could inhibit the transformation for 120 min and further increase in dosage to 5 ppm did not show any improvement in the inhibitory effects. When pH was elevated from 7.2 to 7.8 at 40°C, the addition of 5 ppm PMA failed to stop the transformation of ACP to HAP, but the induction period was delayed and the conversion kinetics was slower when compared to the control sample as shown in Figure 4.5(b). However, after the addition of 10 ppm PMA or 2 ppm HEDP, the occurrence of the second precipitation stage was not observed within 120 min. At pH 7.8 and 50°C, the dosage of HEDP had to be increased to 5 ppm to inhibit the transformation for 120 min. In all the tests, PMA and HEDP had negligible effects on ACP precipitation but could slow or even inhibit the transformation of ACP to HAP. Besides, higher dosages of antiscalants were needed to achieve the similar inhibition efficiency at higher degree of supersaturation, e.g. when pH increased from 7.2 to 7.8 at 40°C or when temperature increased from 40°C to 50°C at pH 7.8.

4.3.3 Mechanism of antiscalant effect on the calcium phosphate precipitation

The formation of ACP and the transformation of ACP to the most thermodynamically stable calcium phosphate phase, hydroxyapatite (HAP), remain under extensive debate in spite of intensive research efforts. In previous studies, the dissolution-reprecipitation (Nylen et al., 1972) and solution-mediated solid-solid transformation (Boskey and Posner, 1973) mechanisms have been proposed, since the ACP remains stable in the absence of water. However, an in situ

observation showed that the growth of HAP crystals from the inter-particle phase within the ACP aggregates is an initial stage of the phase transformation (Kim et al., 2005). It was further revealed that HAP first formed at the ACP-solution interface and extended outward radially in which the ACP microsphere provided a template and supply of chemicals for the growth and rearrangement of HAP particles (Tao et al., 2008). In another study, crystalline HAP developed at multiple sites of primary particles, leading to the collapse of initial ACP phase and triggering the conversion process (Wang et al., 2009). Although the exact pathways for the phase transformation is still not clear, all the recent findings agreed that the agglomeration of ACP particles during the induction period was the necessary first step for the formation of HAP.

The effects of antiscalants on the particle sizes of the precipitates collected from tests at pH 7.2 and 40°C are shown in Figure 4.7. From this figure, the mean size of the ACP precipitates increased sharply from about 1150 nm at 1 min to 3450 nm at 6 min with no antiscalants, showing the aggregation of ACP particles in the induction period. However, in the presence of 2 ppm PMA, it takes about 55 min for the mean size of ACP precipitates to grow to about 3350 nm, corresponding to the ending of induction period as shown in Figure 4.5(a). The addition of 5 ppm PMA or 2 ppm HEDP could maintain the mean size of ACP precipitates around 760~1000 nm for 120 min. These results showed that PMA and HEDP delay or inhibit the transformation of ACP to HAP by slowing or even preventing the aggregation of ACP precipitates. Besides, there was nearly no difference between the particle sizes initially, indicating the antiscalants have negligible effects on the ACP formation.

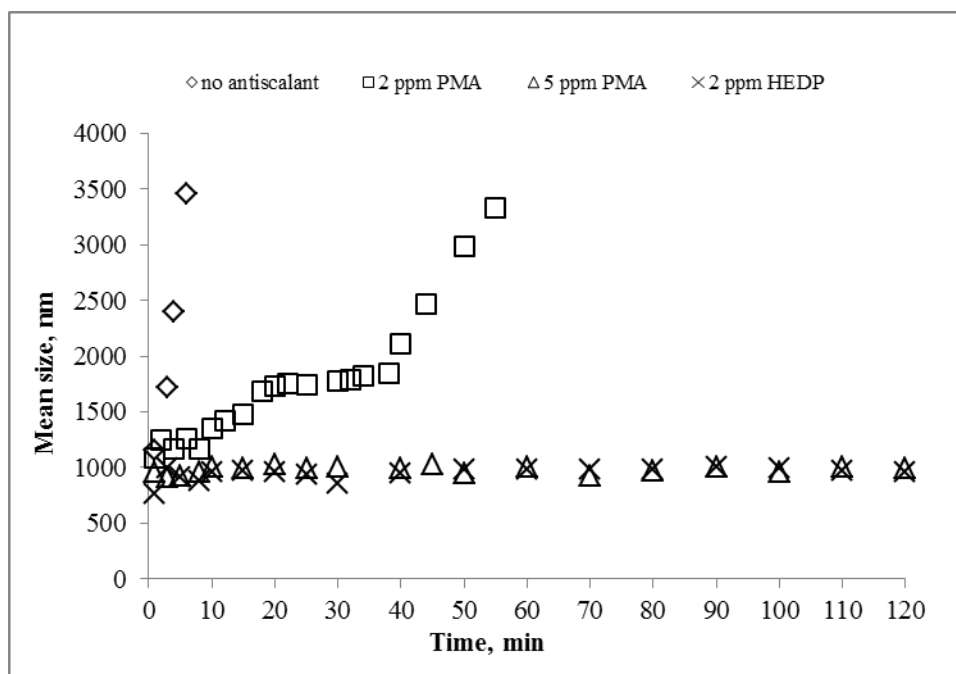


Figure 4.7 Dynamic changes of mean size of precipitates at pH 7.2 and 40°C with no antiscalant, 2 ppm PMA, 5 ppm PMA, and 2 ppm HEDP

Carboxylic acid polymers like polyacrylic acid (PAA) and PMA and phosphonates like HEDP have been used as dispersants in colloids solutions for a long time (Lu and Kessler, 2006; Tulloch, 2011). As precipitation inhibitors, PMA and HEDP functioned by blocking active crystal growth sites through their complexation with lattice cations, such as calcium (Amjad, 1985; Hasson et al., 2011; Rosenberg et al., 2012). The effects of PMA on the aggregation potential of ACP precipitates could be understood by the Zeta potential measurement in the induction time. The Zeta potentials of the ACP precipitates at pH 7.2 and 40°C were estimated to be 6.32 ± 2.28 mV in the absence of antiscalants; as shown in Figure 4.8, the ACP precipitates were changed to be negatively charged with Zeta potentials at -12.1 ± 1.43 mV at the dosage of 2 ppm PMA and further increase in dosage to 5 ppm PMA resulted in more negative surface charge on the ACP particles (-21.3 ± 1.40 mV). The shift in the Zeta potentials inferred stronger

electrostatic repulsive force between the ACP particles which keeps the particles dispersed (Wang et al., 2002) and thus inhibits the transformation of ACP to HAP as a result of PMA addition.

Results in Figure 4.8 also revealed that 2 ppm HEDP has negligible impacts on the Zeta potential of the ACP particles, demonstrating the minimal effect of electrostatic repulsion on the stability of the ACP particles. Similar results were shown in other studies (Luo, 2000; Zhang et al., 2005). Steric repulsion could also not be used to explain the dispersion effects of HEDP depicted shown in Figure 4.7 because it is a small molecule rather than a polymer. For the slightly charged or neutral particles, hydration force is another repulsive, short-ranged interaction between approaching surfaces in aqueous medium. This repulsive force can arise from the entropy loss associated with disrupting the ordering hydrogen bond network of the fluid phase as the surfaces approach (Attard and Batchelor, 1988; Leikin et al., 1993; Marrink et al., 1993). Recent study clearly showed that substantial hydrogen bonding exists in the structure of Ca-HEDP complex (Stavgianoudaki et al., 2012). Although the issue of hydration force remains the subject of intense study, hydration force of the phosphonate groups were reported in several works (Li et al., 2012; Zheng et al., 2013).

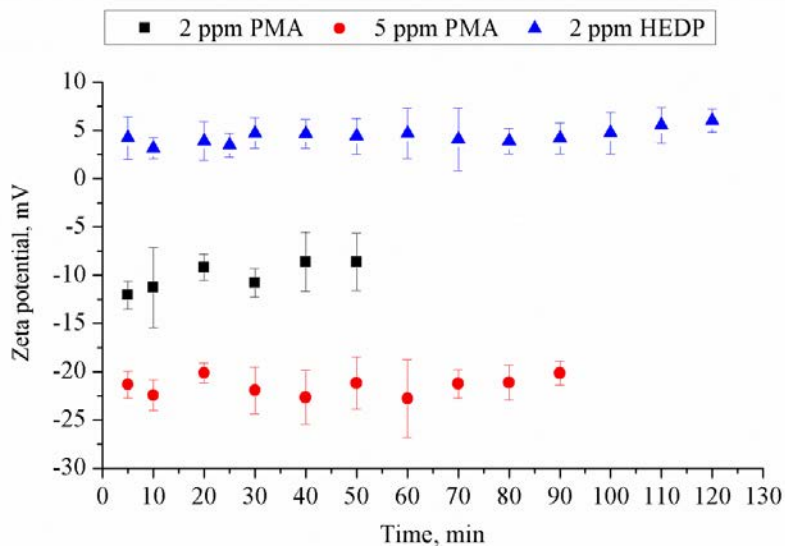


Figure 4.8 Zeta potential of the amorphous calcium phosphate precipitates formed in the test solution at pH 7.2 and 40 °C in the presence of 0, 2, and 5 ppm PMA and 2 ppm HEDP in the induction time before the transformation of amorphous calcium phosphate (ACP) to hydroxyapatite (HAP)

4.4 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

This study investigated the function of antiscalants on the calcium phosphate precipitation. Two types of antiscalants were evaluated in this study, including polyelectrolytes (e.g., polymaleic acid, PMA) and phosphonates (e.g., 1-hydroxyethane 1,1-diphosphonic acid, HEDP). Both PMA and HEDP exhibited negligible effects on the amorphous calcium phosphate (ACP) precipitation but could inhibit the transformation of ACP to hydroxyapatite (HAP). The inhibition effects could be observed from the prolonged induction period and slower transformation kinetics after the addition of either antiscalant.

Particle size analysis suggests that both PMA and HEDP inhibited the ACP transformation by preventing the aggregation of ACP particles. Zeta potential analysis showed that PMA dosage induced negative surface charges on the particles and thus stronger electrostatic repulsive force to disperse the ACP precipitates. However, HEDP has minimal effect on electrostatic repulsion between ACP particles. The pathway of the HEDP on the stability of ACP precipitates might be due to the hydration force caused by the phosphonate groups.

Overall, this study revealed the function and mechanisms of typical antiscalants in the calcium phosphate precipitation.

5.0 SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE WORK

5.1 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

This study aimed to advance the understanding of scaling behavior of tertiary-treated municipal wastewater under conditions relevant to cooling system operation and to develop effective approaches for mineral scaling mitigation. Two types of tertiary-treated municipal wastewater were evaluated, including secondary-treated water with pH adjustment (MWW_pH), and water from secondary treatment followed by nitrification and sand filtration (MWW_NF). The specific objectives of this study were to: 1) determine the main scaling mechanism and effective mitigation methods for heated and non-heated surfaces in bench-scale studies; 2) understand the role of hydrodynamic conditions on the scaling processes; 3) study the effectiveness and mechanism of common antiscalants on mineral scale formation relevant to MWW reuse as makeup in recirculating cooling systems; and 4) validate the findings from bench-scale studies in extended pilot-scale cooling tower tests. The main findings were summarized in the following sections with respect to the four objectives described above.

5.1.1 Mineral scaling mitigation on non-heated surfaces with tertiary-treated municipal wastewater as cooling system makeup

Both bench-scale studies and pilot-scale cooling tower tests suggest that pH adjustment to 7.8 plus the addition of 5 ppm PMA could reduce the scaling rate significantly. With this scaling mitigation method, calcium carbonate formation was inhibited and calcium phosphate was the primary form of mineral scale. MWW_NF exhibited little potential for mineral scale deposition in bench- and pilot-scale studies, which is related in part to the lower pH and alkalinity in the MWW_NF.

A further pH reduction to 7.0 resulted in significant copper corrosion in the extended pilot-scale cooling tower tests with MWW_pH as the make-up water source. High ammonia content caused by low ammonia stripping at low pH may have also contributed to copper corrosion.

5.1.2 Crystalline fouling mitigation on the heated surfaces with tertiary-treated municipal wastewater as cooling system makeup

MWW_pH exhibited significant potential for crystalline fouling on heated surface when bulk pH was controlled at 7.8. High temperature on the heated surface favored the formation of hydroxyapatite, the most thermodynamically stable calcium phosphate mineral while only amorphous calcium phosphate precipitated in the bulk solution. Since hydroxyapatite is less soluble than amorphous calcium phosphate, the driving force for hydroxyapatite formation is still present even after the bulk precipitation was accomplished, which is the main reason for the crystalline fouling on the heated surface. PMA addition could inhibit the crystalline fouling of

MWW_pH effectively by delaying or blocking the transformation of amorphous calcium phosphate to hydroxyapatite.

In contrast with generally accepted view that lower pH results in lower scaling rate, significant crystalline fouling was identified with MWW_NF at pH 7.2 while pH adjustment to 7.8 lead to negligible fouling. High concentration of dissolved phosphate remained in the bulk solution at pH 7.2 and served to supply necessary ions for surface crystallization of hydroxyapatite on the heated surface. When pH was elevated to 7.8, low dissolved phosphate remaining after hydroxyapatite formation in the bulk solution caused negligible crystallization on the heated surface.

5.1.3 Impact of hydrodynamic conditions on the particulate fouling

A qualitative model was presented to identify optimal hydrodynamic conditions for particulate fouling control. This model analyzed the forces acting on bulk precipitates and suggested that the occurrence of particulate fouling is mainly determined by the precipitate size and hydrodynamic conditions. Modeling showed a positive deposition potential for bulk precipitates at flow velocity of 0.5 and 0.4 m/s while little particulate fouling was theoretically predicted at 0.6 m/s. The experimental results from bench-scale studies were consistent with the model prediction.

5.1.4 Mechanism of common antiscalants on the calcium phosphate precipitation

Two types of common antiscalants were evaluated in this study, including polymaleic acid (PMA) and 1-hydroxyethane 1,1-diphosphonic acid (HEDP). Both PMA and HEDP exhibited negligible impacts on the amorphous calcium phosphate precipitation, but inhibited the transformation of

amorphous calcium phosphate to hydroxyapatite. Higher dosage of antiscalants was needed to achieve similar inhibition effects at higher degree of supersaturation at higher temperature or higher pH.

Agglomeration of amorphous calcium phosphate particles was the necessary first step for the transformation of amorphous calcium phosphate to hydroxyapatite. Both PMA and HEDP inhibited the precipitation by preventing the aggregation of amorphous calcium phosphate particles. PMA induced negative surface charges on the particles and thus stronger electrostatic repulsive force to disperse the amorphous calcium phosphate precipitates. The dispersion mechanism of HEDP might be due to the hydration force caused by the phosphonate groups in the molecular structure.

5.1.5 Overall findings

In summary, this study revealed that it is possible to control mineral scaling through direct chemical addition when tertiary treated municipal wastewater is used as makeup water in the recirculating cooling system.

5.2 KEY CONTRIBUTIONS

This study contributes to better understanding of the formation and inhibition of mineral scales, with emphasis on engineering development for mineral deposition control needed for successful wastewater reuse in industrial cooling.

The specific contributions of this dissertation are summarized below:

- Provided scientific evidence and understanding, through bench- and pilot-scale studies, of the mineral scale formation and inhibition in treated municipal wastewater as alternative makeup water for power plant cooling.
- Developed a bench-scale recirculating system for convenient and sensitive study of the effects of mineral scaling on heat transfer efficiency loss.
- Proposed and validated a qualitative model to predict the deposition of bulk precipitates under different hydrodynamic conditions.
- Investigated the function and mechanism of PMA and HEDP on calcium phosphate precipitation.
- Obtained the solubility products of amorphous calcium phosphate in the range of 25°C~50°C.

5.3 FUTURE DIRECTIONS

This study points to a promising future for wastewater reuse in power plant cooling systems with respect to mineral scaling control. To extrapolate the scope of this work in the areas of evaluation and mitigation of mineral scaling, several directions for future work are suggested below:

5.3.1 Development of a predictive model for heat exchanger fouling when treated municipal wastewater is used as cooling makeup

The costs of heat exchanger fouling due to cleaning, additional hardware, and loss of production was estimated to be in the range of 0.4-2.2 Million (USD 2009) (Walker et al., 2012). Because fouling resistance varies with cooling water quality, operating conditions, and time, it is necessary to understand the fouling trends of heat exchangers to determine reasonable cleaning schedule. Besides, during the design stage, a common practice is to prescribe a fouling factor on the heat transfer surfaces where fouling is anticipated to provide an allowance for fouling.

Several models have been reported on the fouling prediction in heat exchangers. The ionic diffusion model developed by Hasson et al. (1968) divided the mineral scaling into several processes: nucleation, diffusion, crystallization, and molecular ordering of the crystal lattice. By equating the rates of the individual processes, an over-all equation of CaCO_3 deposition rate can be obtained from the model. In this model, the scale growth rate is related with the bulk concentration of bicarbonate ion, calcium ion, and dissolved CO_2 . However, this model has not considered the removal process caused by the flowing fluid and thus can only be applied in the

situation when the flow velocity is low (Branch and Müller-Steinhagen, 1991). Tests also showed that the ionic diffusion model, which is for $\text{pH} > 10$, would underpredict the deposition rate for scaling solution with pH below 9 (Andritsos et al., 1996; Khan et al., 2001). Besides, the model only related the scale growth rate with water quality but no information on the heat transfer efficiency loss caused by mineral deposition can be obtained. There were also other analytic (Wakinson and Martinez, 1975; Chan and Ghassessmi, 1991) and semi-analytic (Khan et al., 2001) models based on their particular studies to estimate the fouling behavior in heat exchangers. Overall, these models did not always give good agreements with experimental results (Kim et al., 2002).

The sources contributing to fouling factor for heat exchanger design are still the values suggested by Tubular Exchanger Manufacturers Association (TEMA) (Bansal et al., 2001). These values are specified for only a handful of applications (water and hydrocarbon streams) and have changed little since their first publication. Heat exchangers designers, therefore, frequently have to use estimated fouling resistances similar to the TEMA values or rely on experience with similar installations in the past.

It has to be noted that fouling prediction is still a major unresolved problem. Understanding, and being able to predict, the characteristics of scale and fouling development precisely is necessary for reliable design and uninterrupted operation of the heat exchangers. This is especially the case for the cooling systems with treated MWW as makeup water because of its low water quality.

Along this direction, it will be particularly meaningful to explore the following:

- Collect the thermodynamic and kinetic parameters under conditions relevant to MWW reuse in cooling systems. Several studies (Chong and Sheikholeslami, 2001;

Sheiholeslami and Ng, 2001; Sheiholeslami, 2003) revealed that the effects of co-existing chemical species on the precipitation behavior of a particular mineral have not been studied extensively and the attempts to apply the specific data obtained from simple aqueous systems to more complex ones containing multiple chemical constituents is likely to have limited success.

- Obtain more fundamental understanding on the scaling formation. Appendix A provides some insights into the mineral deposition mechanism. As for the future research, computational fluid dynamics (CFD) modeling of flow water and heat transfer in complex heat exchanger geometries, combined with corrections for the effect of operating parameters (temperature, flow velocity, surface characteristics, etc.), may be fruitful to understand mineral deposition processes and predict the fouling development.

5.3.2 Elucidation of mineral-antiscalants interactions for improved scaling and corrosion inhibition

The assessment of the effectiveness for various antiscalants is largely based on empirical tests and lacks theoretically sound systematic investigation due to the poor understanding of various antiscaling mechanisms. This study revealed the mechanisms for two common types of antiscalants in calcium phosphate precipitation. To further study these functions, future work may focus on the following:

- Formulate a theoretical framework based on molecular dynamics to explain the precipitation inhibition effects of PMA or other polymeric antiscalants.

- Investigate the interactions between cations (e.g. Ca^{2+} , Ba^{2+} , etc.) and phosphonate groups in aqueous phase and on particle surfaces to improve the understanding of the role of such interactions in precipitation inhibition and particle dispersion.
- Study the synergistic effects of some antiscalants in corrosion inhibition. Recent studies showed that some antiscalants can also work as corrosion inhibitors in cooling water management (Abdel-Gaber et al., 2011; Abd-EI-Khalek et al., 2013). A systematic investigation on this point will not only reduce operational cost but also help to unveil the mystery associated with the antiscalants.

Although the antiscalants have been used for a long time, the fundamentals of inhibition mechanisms are still inadequately understood. Scale inhibition is still closer to being an art than a science and there is still enough of the “art” remaining to make it a fascinating subject (Darton, 1997). Along this direction, scientific guidance could be provided for the synthesis, evaluation, and application of the antiscalants in water treatment.

5.3.3 Engineering of substrate surface materials for mineral scaling mitigation

Mineral scale deposition is ultimately a surface phenomenon. Theoretical calculations in Appendix A showed that the tenacity of the scale would vary with the surface properties. Novel surfaces for scaling mitigation have been reported in several studies (Yang et al., 2000; Rosmaninho et al., 2007). However, these studies still provides no conclusive recommendations for industrial operations. Nevertheless, an improved understanding and development of non-scaling surfaces, as initiated by nature with the leaves of flowers or the scales of fish, may achieve more effective and robust scaling inhibition technologies. Knowledge development in this direction will especially benefit the continuing effort in the novel design of anti-deposition

molecules that can be grafted on membrane surfaces, resulting in membrane systems that effectively separate mineral salts from water without causing significant membrane fouling.

APPENDIX A

TWO PATHWAYS FOR MINERAL SCALE FORMATION: SURFACE CRYSTALLIZATION AND PARTICLE DEPOSITION

A.1 INTRODUCTION AND APPROACH

Mineral scaling can be considered to result from two main processes. The first one is directly related to the dissolved supersaturated components diffuse towards the flow surface and reacts to form a scale layer (surface crystallization). The second one is mainly caused by the adhesion of particles, previously formed in the solution, to the bare surface or to already formed deposit layer (particle deposition). The predominance of each of these processes is dependent on the solution and surface characteristics. In order to predict the scaling process and propose reasonable inhibition strategies, it is necessary to study the mechanism of each process in details.

A.2 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A.2.1 Forces analysis on the individual particle deposited on the pipe surface

For the particles already deposited on the pipe surface, the possible forces (Figure A.1) acting on the particles include:

- Gravity force, F_G
- Buoyant force, F_B
- Lift force, F_L
- Liftshitz-van der Walls force, F_{vDW}
- Electrostatic double layer repulsive force, F_{EDL}
- Lewis acid-base bonding component of the adhesive force, F_{a-b}
- Fluid drag force, F_D
- Friction force on the substrate surface, F_R

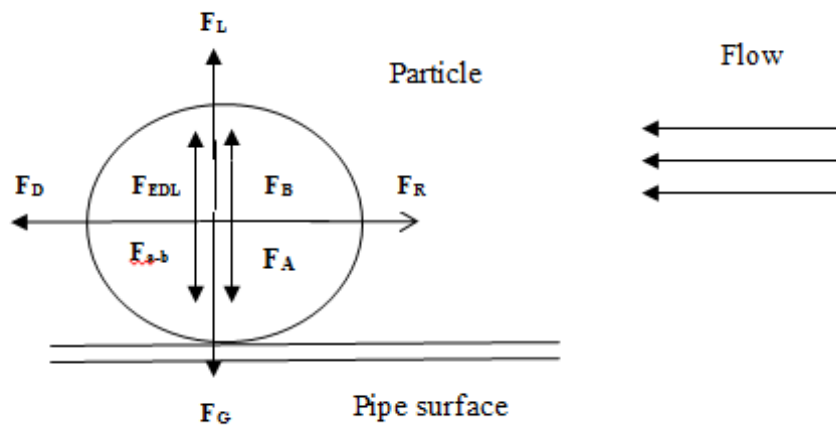


Figure A.1 Possible forces acting on the particles on the pipe surface

For the drag force, F_G , is:

$$F_G = \rho_p g \times \frac{4}{3} \times \pi \times \left(\frac{1}{2} \times d_p\right)^3 = \frac{1}{8} \pi \rho_p g d_p^3 \quad (\text{A-1})$$

Where, ρ_p is the density of the particle, g is the gravitational constant, and d_p is the diameter of the particle

For the buoyant force, F_B , is:

$$F_B = \frac{1}{8} \pi \rho_L g d_p^3 \quad (\text{A-2})$$

Where, ρ_L is the density of the water.

For the drag force (Altmann and Ripperger, 1997), F_D :

$$F_D = 3.16 \cdot \pi \cdot \tau_w \cdot d_p^2 \quad (\text{A-3})$$

Where, τ_w is the shear stress.

The shear stress is given as,

$$\tau_w = \frac{f \rho_L \bar{u}^2}{8} \quad (\text{A-4})$$

Where, f is the Darcy friction factor and \bar{u} is the mean flow velocity.

For the lift force, F_L , is:

$$F_L = 0.761 \cdot \frac{\tau_w^{1.5} \cdot d_p^3 \cdot \rho_L^{0.5}}{\eta} \quad (\text{A-5})$$

Where, η is the dynamic viscosity of the water.

The Liftshitz-van der Waals interaction potential energy between the particles and surface is (Berg, 2010):

$$\Phi_{VDW} = -\frac{A_{213}}{\epsilon} \left[\frac{\alpha}{D} + \frac{\alpha}{2\alpha+D} + \ln\left(\frac{D}{2\alpha+D}\right) \right] \quad (\text{A-6})$$

Where, Φ_{vDL} is the interactive potential, A_{213} is the effective Hamaker constant, α is the radius of the spherical particle, and D is the distance of closed approach between particle and surface.

In the cases of $D \ll \alpha$,

$$F_{vDW} = \frac{d\Phi_{vDL}}{dD} = \frac{A_{213}\alpha}{\epsilon D^2} \quad (\text{A-7})$$

In details, the effective Hamaker constant, A_{213} , is:

$$A_{213} = (\sqrt{A_{11}} - \sqrt{A_{33}})(\sqrt{A_{22}} - \sqrt{A_{33}}) \quad (\text{A-8})$$

The effective Hamaker constant A_{213} describes the attractive interactive potential between the particles (1) and the substrate (2) when immersed in an aqueous medium (3) (Royer et al., 2010).

For the electrostatic double layer repulsive force, the traditional way is to use Derjaguin integration method with DLVO theory. The electrostatic double layer interaction energy between a sphere (S) and a flat plate (P) could be described as follows (Hoek and Agarwal, 2006):

$$\Phi_{EDL} = \pi\epsilon\epsilon_0\alpha \left[2\varphi_p\varphi_s \ln\left(\frac{1+\exp(-\kappa D)}{1-\exp(-\kappa D)}\right) + (\psi_p^2 + \psi_s^2) \ln(1 - \exp(-\kappa D)) \right] \quad (\text{A-9})$$

Where, ϵ is the dielectric constant, the value is 69.94 at 50°C; ϵ_0 is the permittivity of free space, $8.854 \times 10^{-12} \text{ C} \cdot \text{V}^{-1} \cdot \text{m}^{-1}$; e is the electron charge, $1.6021765 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$; φ_p is the surface potential of the charged flat plate; φ_s is the surface potential of the charged particle; κ is the Debye parameter; D is the closest approach and is typically taken to be approximately 0.4 nm (Rimai et al, 2000).

Then,

$$F_{EDL} = \frac{dO_{EDL}}{dD} = -\pi\epsilon\epsilon_0\alpha \times \frac{\kappa e^{-\kappa D} [4\varphi_p \varphi_s - (\psi_p^2 + \psi_s^2)(1 + e^{-\kappa D})]}{1 - e^{-2\kappa D}} \quad (\text{A-10})$$

Debye parameter, κ , could be given as (Berg, 2010):

$$\kappa = \sqrt{\frac{2000e^2 N_{AV}^2 Z}{\epsilon\epsilon_0 RT}} \quad (\text{A-11})$$

Where, e is the electron charge, $1.6021765 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$; N_{AV} is the Avogadro's constant = 6.0221415×10^{23} ; Z is the ionic strength.

Another possible function between the particles and the surface is the Lewis acid-base interaction. Different from apolar Lifshitz-van der Waals interaction, Lewis acid-base (AB) interactions (include the special case of hydrogen donor-hydrogen acceptor interaction) consider the electron acceptor-electron donor interactions (Van Oss et al., 1988). The Lewis acid-base bonding component of the work of adhesion, W_A^{a-b} is given by:

$$W_A^{a-b} = 2[\sqrt{\gamma_3^+} (\sqrt{\gamma_1^-} + \sqrt{\gamma_2^-} - \sqrt{\gamma_3^-}) + \sqrt{\gamma_3^-} (\sqrt{\gamma_1^+} + \sqrt{\gamma_2^+} - \sqrt{\gamma_3^+}) - \sqrt{\gamma_1^+ \gamma_2^-} - \sqrt{\gamma_1^- \gamma_2^+}] \quad (\text{A-12})$$

Where, r^+ and r^- are the electron donor and electron acceptor parameters of the polar components of the surface tension of materials (1) and (2) immersed in liquid (3).

The Lewis acid-base interaction energy between a sphere (S) and a flat plane (P) is given as (Hoek and Agarwal, 2006):

$$\Phi_{\alpha-b} = \pi d_p \lambda W_A^{\alpha-b} \exp\left(\frac{H_0 - D}{\lambda}\right) \quad (\text{A-13})$$

Where, λ is the decay length of acid-base interaction in water (0.6 nm); H_0 is the minimum separation distance due to Born repulsion (0.158 nm).

Then, the acid-base interaction force, $F_{\alpha-b}$, is:

$$F_{\alpha-b} = \frac{d\Phi_{\alpha-b}}{dD} = \pi d_p W_A^{\alpha-b} \exp\left(\frac{H_0 - D}{\lambda}\right) \quad (\text{A-14})$$

In summary, the total force toward the pipe surface is

$$F_{total,downward} = F_G + F_{VDW} + F_{\alpha-b} = \frac{1}{8} \pi \rho_p g d_p^3 + \frac{A_{213} \alpha}{6D^2} + \pi d_p W_A^{\alpha-b} \exp\left(\frac{H_0 - D}{\lambda}\right) \quad (\text{A-15})$$

The force away from the pipe surface is:

$$F_{total,upward} = F_B + F_L + F_{EDL} \\ = \frac{1}{8} \pi \rho_L g d_p^3 + 0.761 \cdot \frac{\tau_W^{1.5} \cdot d_p^3 \rho_L^{0.5}}{\eta} + \pi \varepsilon \varepsilon_0 \alpha \frac{\kappa e^{-\kappa D} [4\varphi_p \varphi_s - (\psi_p^2 + \psi_s^2)(1 + e^{-\kappa D})]}{1 - e^{-2\kappa D}} \quad (\text{A-16})$$

The total force in the vertical direction is:

$$F_{vertical} = F_{total,downward} - F_{total,upward} \quad (\text{A-17})$$

For the individual scale particle, the particle would return to the bulk solution in the case of negative F_{vertical} . However, positive F_{vertical} does not undoubtedly result in particle attachment. Sliding or rolling detachment of the particle may be caused by the shearing stress of the flowing water. According to numerous studies, rolling detachment is the favored mechanism for the removal of spherical particles from the substrate surface (Soltani and Ahmadi, 1994; Chang and Hammer, 1996; Taheri and Bragg, 2005; Ahmadi et al., 2005; Ahmadi et al., 2007).

From Figure A.2, Royer et al. (Royer et al., 2010) proposed that the shear flow velocity at the center of the deposited particle needed for rolling removal should satisfy the following:

$$u \geq \frac{F_{\text{vertical}} \times l_2}{(0.943993 - 2\pi\eta d_p^2) + (1.7009 - 3\pi\eta d_p l_2)} \quad (\text{A-18})$$

Here η is the dynamic viscosity of the water.

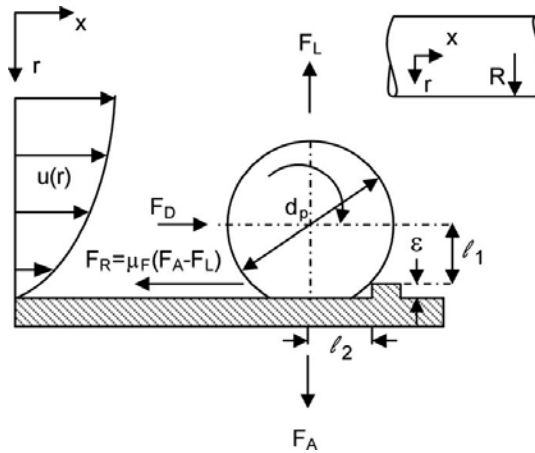


Figure A.2 Particle adhesion/removal model (Ahmadi et al., 2005)

Figure A.2 showed that the shear flow velocity depends on the pipe surface roughness (δ). The pipe surface roughness would be difficult to characterize and not uniform over the whole collecting surfaces.

For l_1 and l_2 , when deformation is negligible,

$$l_1^2 + l_2^2 = a^2 = \frac{1}{4}d_p^2 \quad (\text{A-19})$$

Under the relationship described by Equation (A-19), the maximum value of the right part of Equation (A-18) is:

$$\left(\frac{F_{\text{vertical}} \times l_2}{(0.943993 - 2\pi\eta d_p^2) + (1.7009 - 3\pi\eta d_p l_1)} \right)_{\text{max}} = \frac{F_{\text{vertical}}}{3.775972\eta d_p} \quad (\text{A-20})$$

Here we define the critical shear flow velocity to detach the individual scale particle on the pipe surface u_c as:

$$u_c = \frac{F_{\text{vertical}}}{3.775972\eta d_p} \quad (\text{A-21})$$

Therefore, in the case of positive F_{vertical} :

If the flow velocity at the center of the particle $u > u_c$, the scale particle will be removed by the flowing water.

If the flow velocity at the center of the particle $u \leq u_c$, whether the scale particle will stay or be removed depends on the roughness of the pipe surface.

As discussed in the preceding text, negative $F_{vertical}$ indicates no retention of the scale particle on the pipe surface.

A.2.2 Critical shear flow velocity to detach the individual scale particle deposited on the pipe surface

For the turbulent pipe flow (which is always the case for cooling water at thermoelectric power plants), a simplified theory was proposed by splitting the tube section into three distinct regions (Von Kármán, 1939):

- The turbulent core
- The laminar sub-layer
- The buffer layer between the above two layers

It is in the laminar sub-layer that the velocity gradient and lift force is significant. The thickness of the laminar sub-layer could be estimated by the following equation (Rama, 2007):

$$y = \frac{11.6\nu}{\sqrt{\tau_w/\rho_L}} \quad (\text{A-22})$$

Where, ν is the kinematic viscosity of the water.

The scenario for the calculation was designed according to the test condition in the fouling study as shown in Chapter 3: flow rate is set at 0.0003155 m³/s (5 GPM), the diameter of the pipe is 0.0254 m (1 inch), and the bulk water temperature is maintained around 40°C., the thickness of the laminar sub-layer, y , is (Rama, 2007):

$$y = \frac{11.6\nu}{\sqrt{\tau_w/\rho_L}} = 0.0001858 \text{ m} = 0.0731 \text{ of the pipe diameter} \quad (\text{A-23})$$

The above calculation shows that individual amorphous calcium phosphate in the bulk water (1~60 μm as shown in Figure 3.12) are smaller than the thickness of the laminar sub-layer.

The parameters needed to calculate F_{vertical} based on Equations (A-1)-(A-17) were obtained from literature as shown in Table A.1. It must be noted that the data on density, dynamic viscosity, and kinematic viscosity of water were at 50°C, which is the typical surface temperature of condenser tubes. For the single particle on the substrate surface, the electrostatic double layer repulsive force is not significant and can be neglected in the model (Altmann and Ripperger, 1997; Royer et al., 2010)

The critical shear flow velocity to detach the individual scale particle with sizes between 1~50 μm was then calculated from Equation (A-1)-(A-17) and shown in Figure A.3.

Prandtl (Prandtl, 1925) stated that the molecular viscosity becomes much greater than turbulent velocity in the vicinity of the pipe wall as eddies tend to die out. Therefore, it is incorrect to use the mean flow velocity as the flow velocity at the center of the particle in the vicinity of the pipe wall. The velocity profile within the laminar sub-layer should approach the theoretical one for laminar flow and could be estimated as follows (Rama, 2007):

$$u = \frac{\tau_w \sigma}{\rho_L \nu} \quad (\text{A-24})$$

Where, σ is the distance from the pipe wall. For the individual mineral scale particle on the pipe surface, $\sigma = a = \frac{1}{2} d_p$.

The flow velocity at the center of the particle with sizes between 1~50 μm was obtained from Equation (A-24) and shown in Figure A.4. As can be seen in Figures A.3 and A.4, the flow velocity at the center of the particle increases with the particle size but is still much lower than

the critical flow velocity to detach the individual scale particle from the pipe wall. This is the reason why the mineral scales formed through surface crystallization are usually hard and tenacious. As discussed in Section 3.3.3, an entrained particle in the bulk phase must first negotiate the carrier fluid before the short-range forces (Van der Waals force, Lewis acid-base bond, etc.) can exert any influence and little bulk precipitate was observed when the flow velocity exceeds 0.6 m/s for the particles with sizes between 1~50 μm .

Table A.1 Useful parameters to calculate the forces acting on the individual scale particle deposited on the stainless steel pipe surface

Symbol	Parameters	Unit	Value	Source
ρ_P	Density of HAP	kg/m^3	3.156×10^3	Muralithran and Ramesh, 2000
A_{11}	Hamaker constant of calcium phosphate	J	5.4×10^{-20}	Morgan et al., 2011
A_{22}	Hamaker constant of stainless steel	J	21.67×10^{-20}	Hansen and Giddings, 1989
A_{33}	Hamaker constant of water	J	4.35×10^{-20}	Bargeman and van Voorst, 1972
γ_1^+	Electron donor of the polar component of the surface tension of HAP	mJ/m^2	0.9	Wu and Nancollas, 1998
γ_1^-	Electron acceptor of the polar component of the surface tension of HAP	mJ/m^2	16	
γ_2^+	Electron donor of the polar component of the surface tension of stainless steel	mJ/m^2	1.4	Rosmaninho et al., 2003
γ_2^-	Electron acceptor of the polar component of the surface tension of stainless steel	mJ/m^2	39.1	
γ_3^+	Electron donor of the polar component of the surface tension of water	mJ/m^2	25.5	Van Oss, 1988
γ_3^-	Electron acceptor of the polar component of the surface tension of water	mJ/m^2	25.5	
ρ_L	Density of water at 50°C	kg/m^3	0.98804×10^3	Davis and Cornwell, 2008
η	Dynamic viscosity of water at 50°C	$\text{N} \cdot \text{s}/\text{m}^2$	0.547×10^{-3}	
ν	Kinematic viscosity of water at 50°C	m^2/s	0.554×10^{-6}	

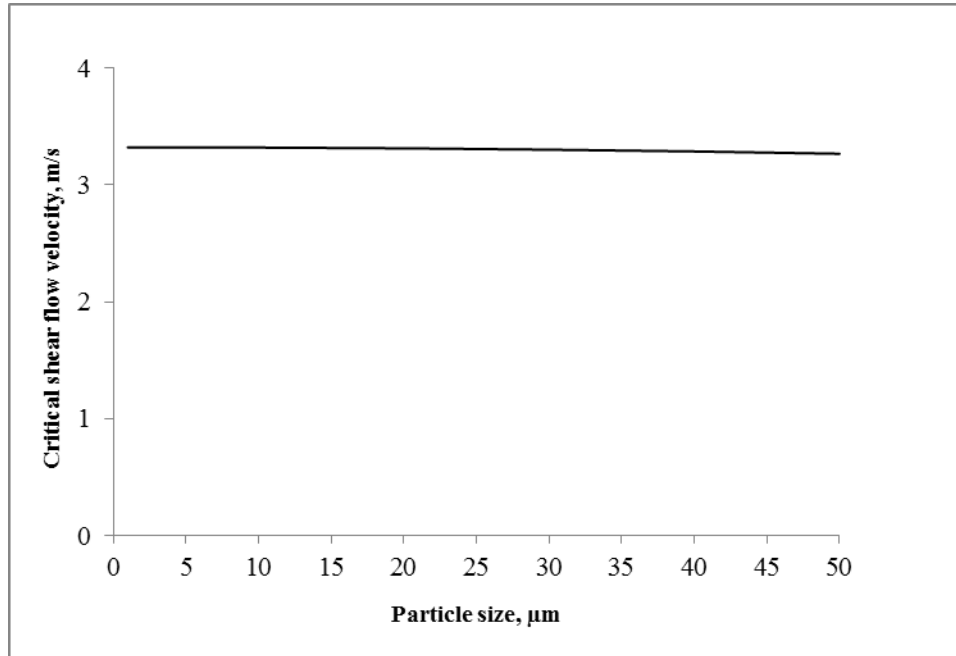


Figure A.3 critical shear flow velocity to detach the individual scale particle with sizes between 1~50 μm

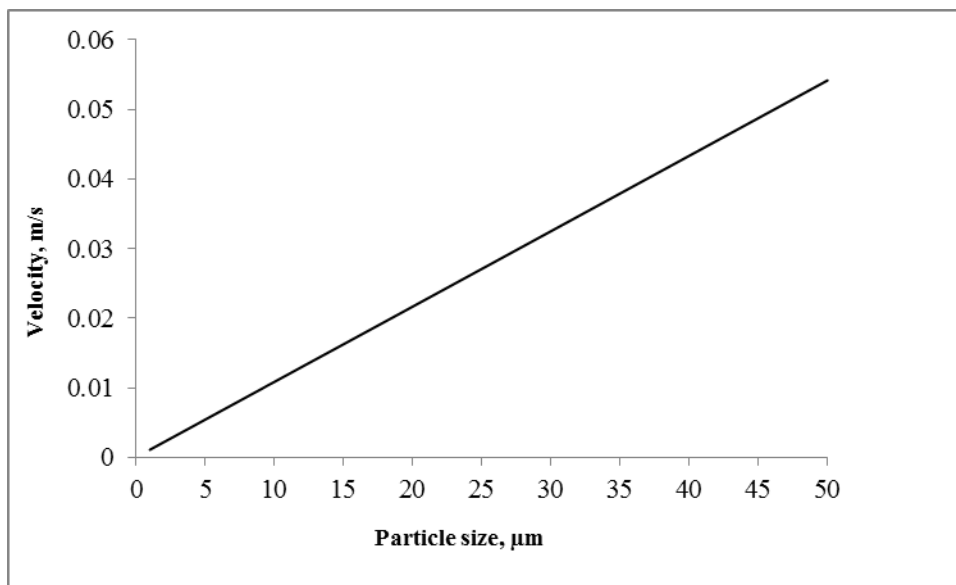


Figure A.4 Flow velocity at the center of the particle deposited on the pipe surface with sizes between 1~50 μm

A.3 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

- Surface crystallization leads to hard and tenacious mineral scales. Once they are formed, normal hydrodynamic conditions would hardly remove the initial layer on the pipe surfaces.
- Hydrodynamic conditions could be adjusted to prevent the deposition of bulk precipitates. Mineral scales formed through particle deposition are different from those formed resulting from surface crystallization because they must first negotiate the carrier fluid before the short-range forces can exert any influence.
- Surface materials may influence the interaction between the scale particles and substrate surfaces and thus the tenacity of the particle on the pipe walls.
- The relative extent of the surface crystallization and particle deposition in mineral scale formation is dependent on the saturation states of the solute, hydrodynamic conditions, the type of scales, and the surface characteristics (e.g. roughness, surface tension components, etc.). Determining the relative extent is essential to proper modeling and to devise preventive techniques to combat scaling.

APPENDIX B

REPRODUCIBILITY OF THE FOULING RESISTANCE MEASUREMENT IN THE BENCH-SCALE RECIRCULATING SYSTEM FOR FOULING STUDIES

B.1 MATERIALS AND METHODS

The design and operation of the bench-scale recirculating system for fouling studies is described in Section 2.3. Synthetic secondary-treated municipal wastewater (MWW) at CoC 4 with no pH control was used in the recirculating system to test the reproducibility of the fouling resistance measurement. The chemical composition of synthetic MWW at CoC 4 is shown in Table 3.1.

In each test, 170 L of distilled water was recirculated in the system and heated by the cartridge heater to typical cooling tower water temperature. When the temperature profile has stabilized in the annular section, chemical listed in Table 3.1 were added to the distilled water to start the tests. A fouling curve from the temperature profile monitoring in the annular section was then obtained to reflect the mineral deposition on the heat transfer surfaces. Two independent tests were compared to test the reproducibility of the fouling resistance measurement from the bench-scale recirculating system.

B.2 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The curves from two independent tests are shown in Figure B.1. The comparison between the two curves shows that the relative standard deviation (%RSD) of the fouling test system is within 10% for 129 measurements among 145 measurements within 12 hours.

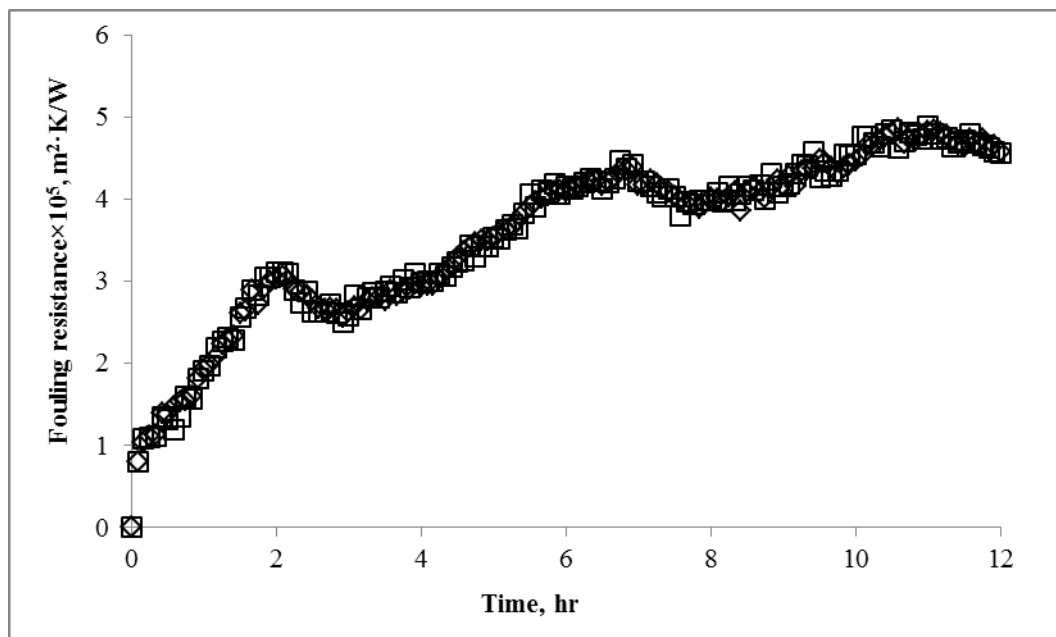


Figure B.1 Development of fouling resistance in MWW (CoC 4) without pH control in two independent test runs

APPENDIX C

SCALING MITIGATION FOR MWW_NFG AS MAKEUP FOR COOLING

C.1 INTRODUCTION

Organic matter in cooling system make-up water promotes biofouling and increases biocide requirements to control biofouling. In addition, organic matter can adsorb on metal surfaces and contribute directly to fouling. One of the unit processes that can be utilized for the removal of residual dissolved organic matter is activated carbon adsorption. The main objective in this part was to identify the effects of TOC removal in a fixed bed granular activate carbon (GAC) adsorber on scaling behavior of water from secondary-treatment followed by nitrification and filtration (MWW_NF).

C.2 MATERIALS AND METHODS

It was expected that only organic matter in the treated municipal wastewater is influenced significantly by the GAC treatment. Thus, no batch and bench-scale recirculating system tests which focused on synthetic treated municipal wastewater composed of mineral contents only were conducted.

Three pilot-scale cooling towers (Tower A, B, and C) were operated side-by-side at the Franklin Township Municipal Sanitary Authority (FTMSA, Murrysville, PA) in summer 2011. MWW_NF after GAC treatment is designated as MWW_NFG and was fed into Tower C while the other two towers were used as control towers for scaling study. Traditional stainless steel (SS) coupon discs were immersed in the recirculating water and sampled at a predetermined schedule. The air-dried SS coupons were dried at 104°C for 3.5 hours and subsequently combusted at 500°C for 3.5 hours in a muffle furnace. The deposits after the combustion were considered as the inorganic mineral scales. The inorganic deposits on selected SS disc specimens were also analyzed by SEM/EDS to obtain their elemental composition. In parallel with the solids analysis, important information about the chemistry of the makeup and recirculating water was recorded throughout the field tests.

During the field tests, the alkalinity of the MWW_NF was unusually high in the first 15 days resulting in significant mass gain in all three towers (this will be discussed in the following text). In order to obtain representative information, a new test was initiated on day 16 and lasted for 12 days when the alkalinity of makeup water was in the normal range. For the sake of simplicity in discussion, the whole test period was divided into two phases: Phase 1 (day 1 to day 15) and Phase 2 (day 16 to day 28).

C.3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Figure C.2 depicts the time course of inorganic mineral scale deposition on the stainless steel coupon discs in the three cooling towers during the two phases of pilot-scale cooling tests.

As can be seen in Figure C.1, mineral deposition on the stainless steel coupon discs immersed in Towers A, B, and C for the first 15 days (phase 1) was significant, especially in Towers A and C. This result was completely inconsistent with the pilot-scale cooling tower tests with MWW_NF in summer 2010 as shown in Section 4.2. In order to explain these unusual results, SEM/EDS analysis was first conducted to study the elemental compositions of the inorganic deposits collected from Towers A, B, and C, as shown in Figure C.2, C.3, and C.4 respectively. These analyses showed that the inorganic deposits were mainly composed of calcium carbonate and calcium phosphate. In order to provide reasonable explanations for the significant elevation of mass gain in the first phase, it was necessary to assess the reactions leading to the formation of calcium phosphate and calcium carbonate individually.

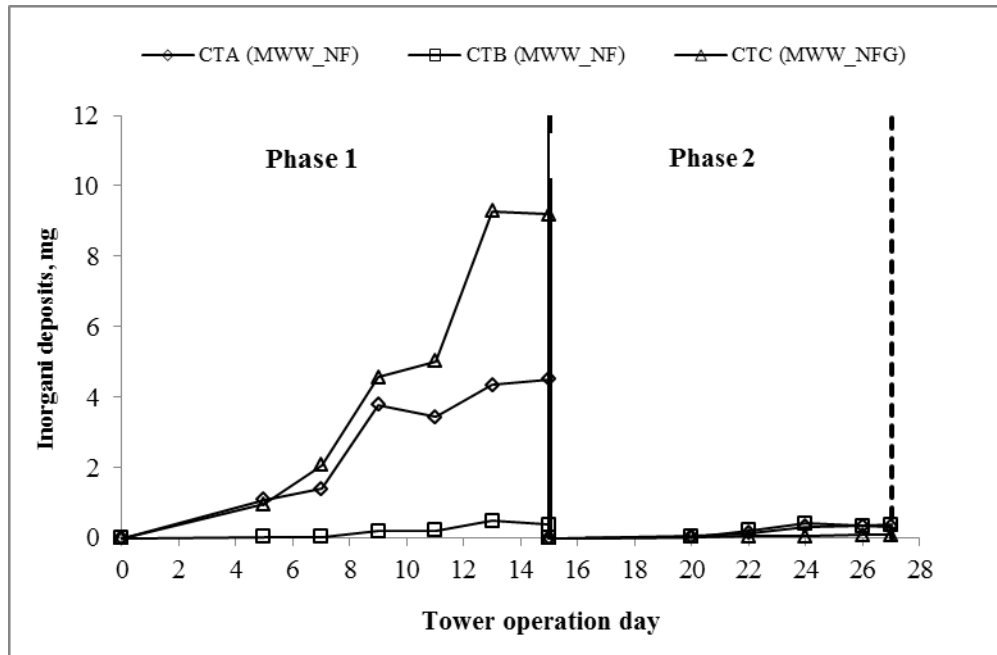


Figure C.1 Inorganic deposits measured in the pilot-scale cooling tower tests with MWV_NFG

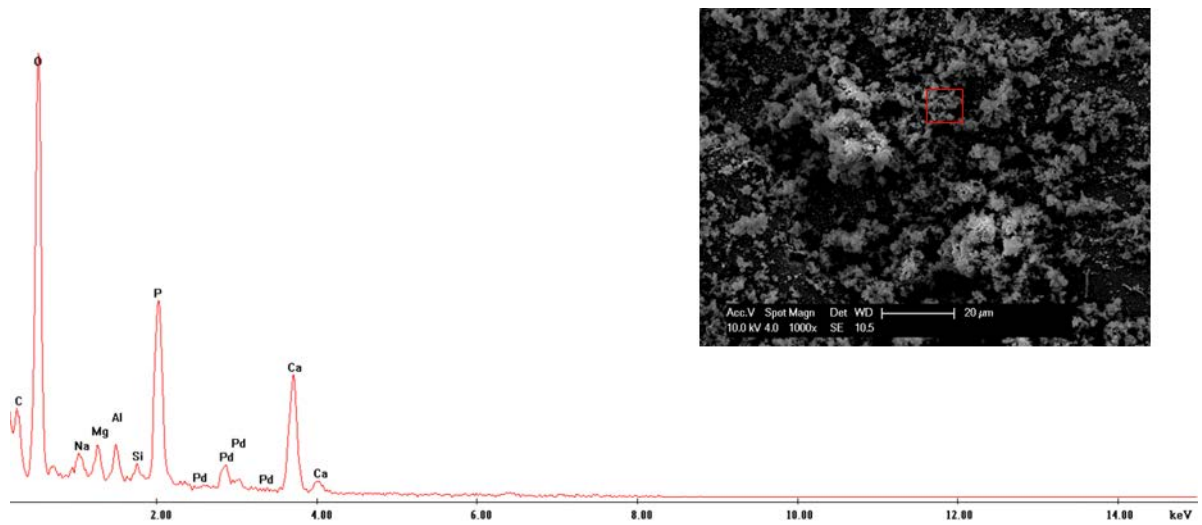


Figure C.2 SEM image and elemental composition of the solid deposits collected on stainless steel discs immersed in pilot-scale cooling towers operated at CoC 4-6: Day-15 sample from Tower A using MWV_NF. EDS scan was performed on the area outlined by the square box on the SEM image.

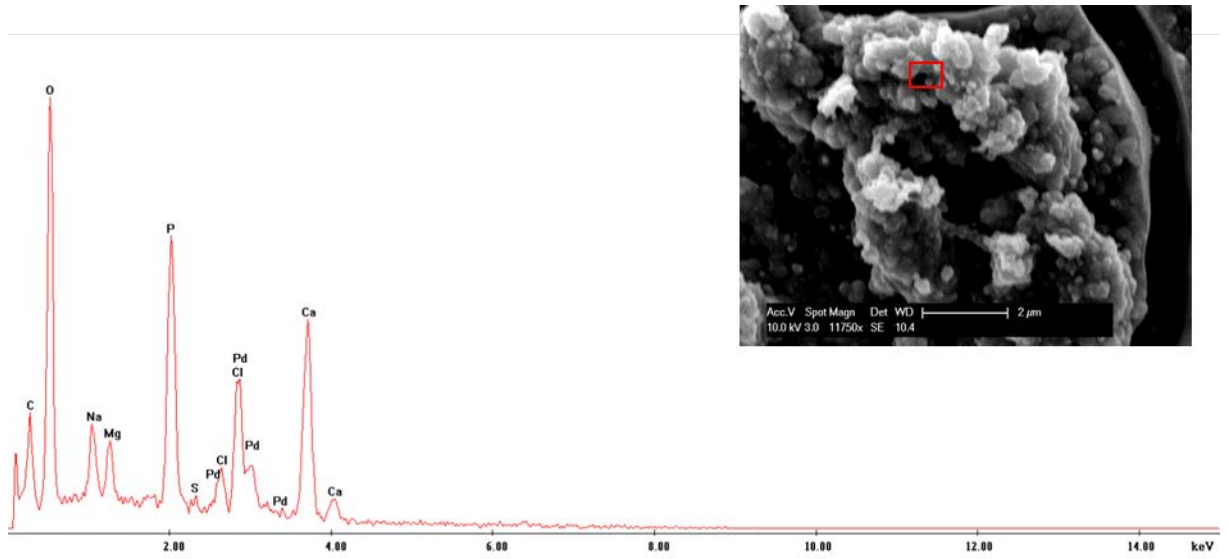


Figure C.3 SEM image and elemental composition of the solid deposits collected on stainless steel discs immersed in pilot-scale cooling towers operated at CoC 4-6: Day-15 sample from Tower B using MWW_NFG. EDS scan was performed on the area outlined by the square box on the SEM image.

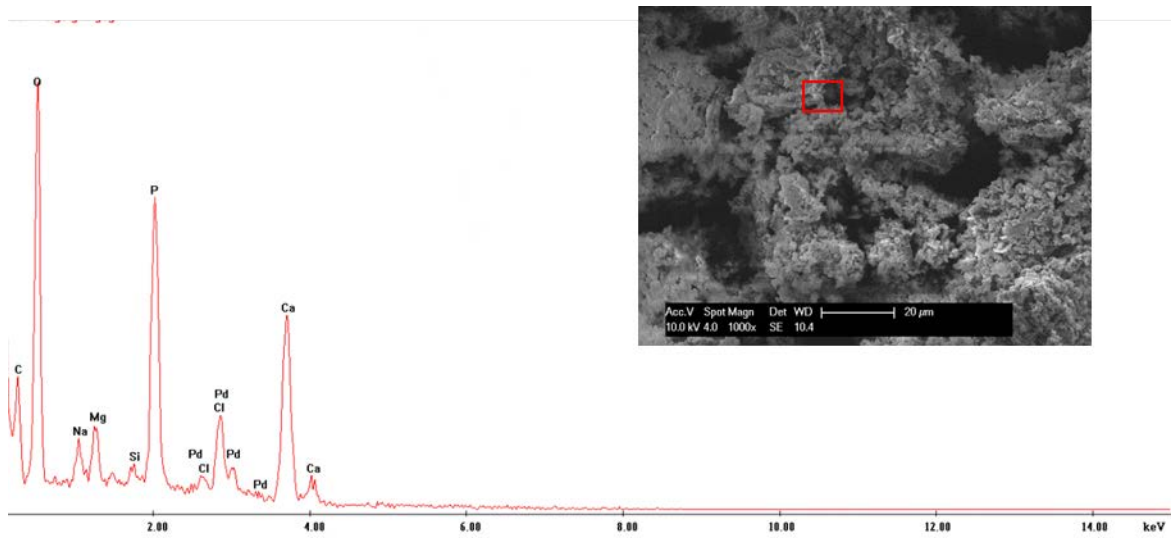


Figure C.4 SEM image and elemental composition of the solid deposits collected on stainless steel discs immersed in pilot-scale cooling towers operated at CoC 4-6: Day-15 sample from Tower C using MWW_NFG. EDS scan was performed on the area outlined by the square box on the SEM image.

Figure C.5 and C.6 depict phosphate concentration profiles in the make-up water and recirculating water in pilot-scale cooling towers during summer 2010 and phase1 in this section, respectively. These Figures suggest that there was not much difference between the phosphate concentrations in the make-up water during the two tests. However, significant differences in phosphate concentrations were observed in the recirculating water between the two tests despite the fact that all the pilot-scale cooling towers were operated at similar cycles of concentration (CoC 4-6). Phosphate concentrations in the recirculating water in Towers A and C in phase 1 (day 1 to day 15) were much lower (5-10 ppm as PO_4^{3-}) compared with the data obtained in summer 2010 (>20 ppm as PO_4^{3-}), indicating that more phosphate scales formed in these systems. Among the three towers, highest phosphate concentration in the recirculating water was in Tower B, corresponded to the least mineral scale collected in this tower.

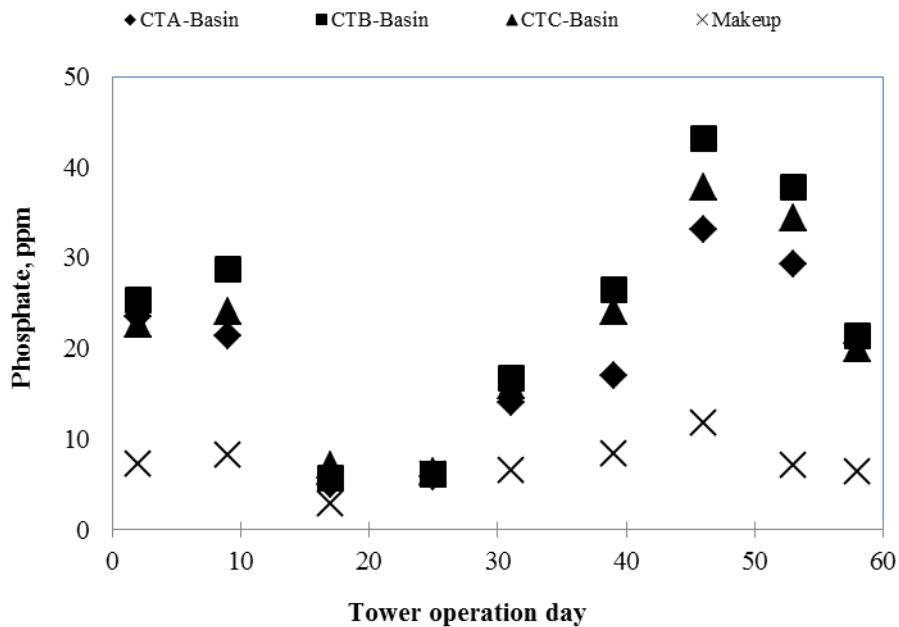


Figure C.5 Phosphate concentrations in pilot-scale cooling tower tests using MWW_NF as make-up water, summer 2010

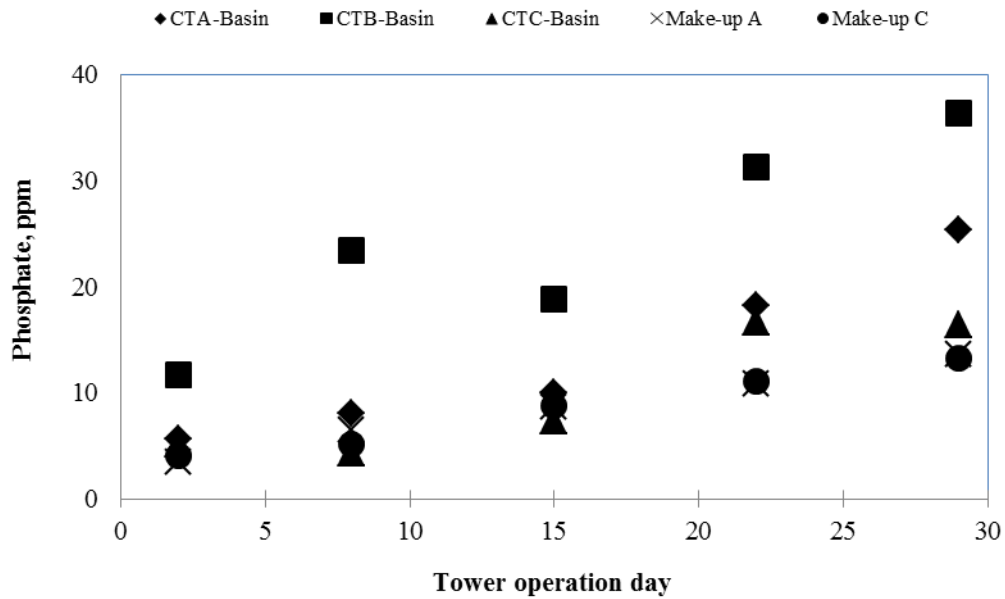


Figure C.6 Phosphate concentrations in pilot-scale cooling tower tests using MWW_NF and MWW_NFG as make-up water, summer 2011

Langelier Saturation Index (LSI) could be used to estimate the potential for calcium carbonate scale formation. LSI in the recirculating water in Towers A, B, and C is shown in Table C.1. For comparison, LSI in the recirculating water in all towers operated during summer 2010 is shown in Table 2.5.

Table C.1 Langelier Saturation Index for the recirculating water in Towers A, B, and C during the pilot-scale cooling tower test, summer 2011

	Langelier Saturation Index				
	Day 1	Day 8	Day 15	Day 22	Day 29
Tower A	1.55	0.66	1.56	0.07	-0.46
Tower B	1.25	-1.52	1.68	-0.58	-0.48
Tower C	1.00	0.62	1.07	0.61	0.09

Note: If LSI is negative, there is no potential to form CaCO_3 scale and the water will dissolve CaCO_3 ; if LSI is positive, scale can form and CaCO_3 precipitation may occur; if LSI is close to zero, the water is neutral with respect to scale formation.

Nearly all LSI values for the recirculating water in phase 1 of the pilot-scale test in this section were positive, indicating that there was a significant potential for the precipitation of calcium carbonate. On the contrary, Table 2.5 clearly shows that there was no driving force for the formation of calcium carbonate scale during the experiments conducted in summer 2010. Positive scaling propensity of calcium carbonate in all three towers operated in summer 2011 arises from high total alkalinity in the recirculating water. A comparison between the total alkalinity of the recirculating water during phase 1 of the test in 2011 (Figure C.7) and in summer 2010 (Figure C.8), clearly illustrates significant differences in total alkalinity between these tests. For example, total alkalinity in the recirculating water in Towers A and C during the first 15 days in summer 2011 was in the range from 92.8- 215.5 mg/L as CaCO₃ and 77.4-199.3 mg/L as CaCO₃, respectively. On the other hand, total alkalinity in the recirculating water during summer 2010 was generally in the range of 50-70 mg/L as CaCO₃. The high alkalinity in the recirculating water was from the unusually high total alkalinity in the make-up water during the first phase of this section (50.83-77.35 mg/L as CaCO₃) while the values were generally in the range of 14.4-35.2 mg/L as CaCO₃ with the MWW_NF as make-up water in summer 2010.

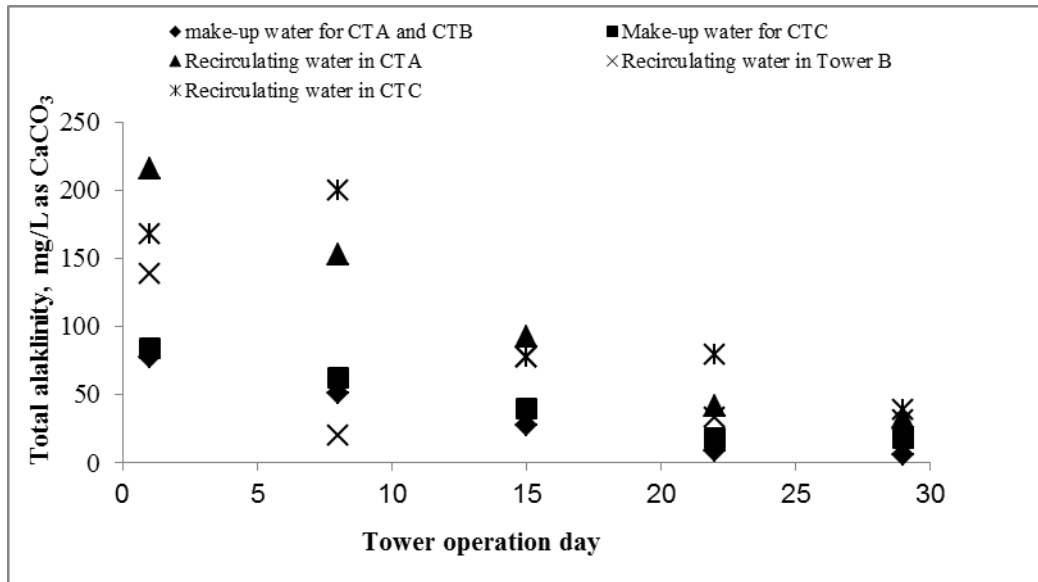


Figure C.7 Total alkalinity profile in pilot-scale cooling tower tests using MWW_NF and MWW_NFG as make-up water, summer 2011

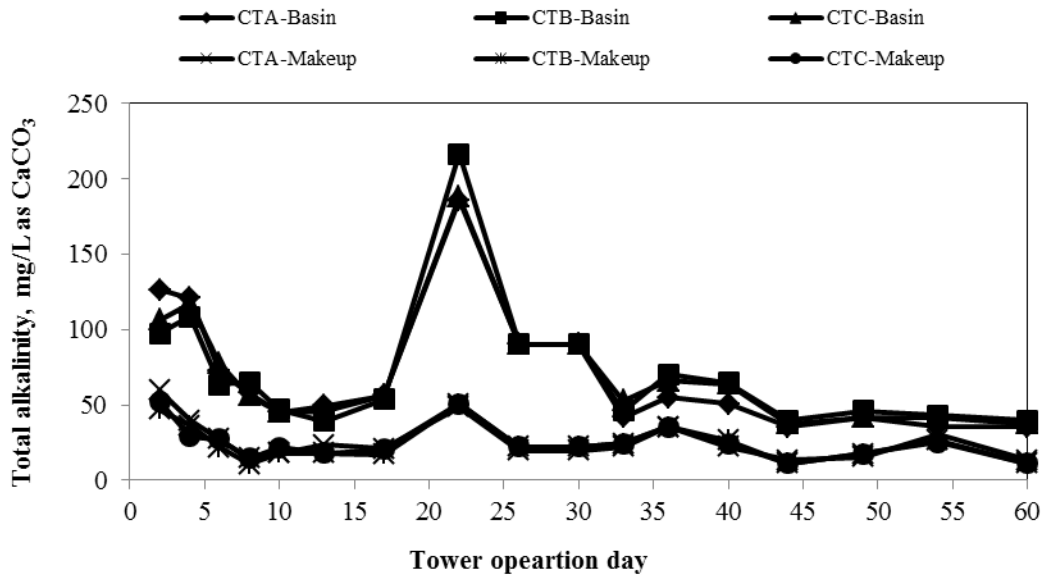


Figure C.8 Total alkalinity profile in pilot-scale cooling tower tests using MWW_NF as make-up water, summer 2010

With regards to the effects of organic removal by activated carbon on the scaling behavior, Tower C with MWW_NFG as make-up water showed the greatest inorganic scale deposition during the first 15 days. Activated carbon adsorption led to an increase in pH of the make-up water (Figure C.9), which enhanced the scaling potential in recirculating cooling tower system. The elevation of pH was understandable since more than half of the organic material in treated municipal wastewater falls in the strong acid or weak acid classification (Bunch et al., 1961). On the other hand, the least inorganic deposition in Tower B was associated with the lowest pH, which could be ascribed to the addition of chlorine dioxide dosed in this tower to control the biofouling.

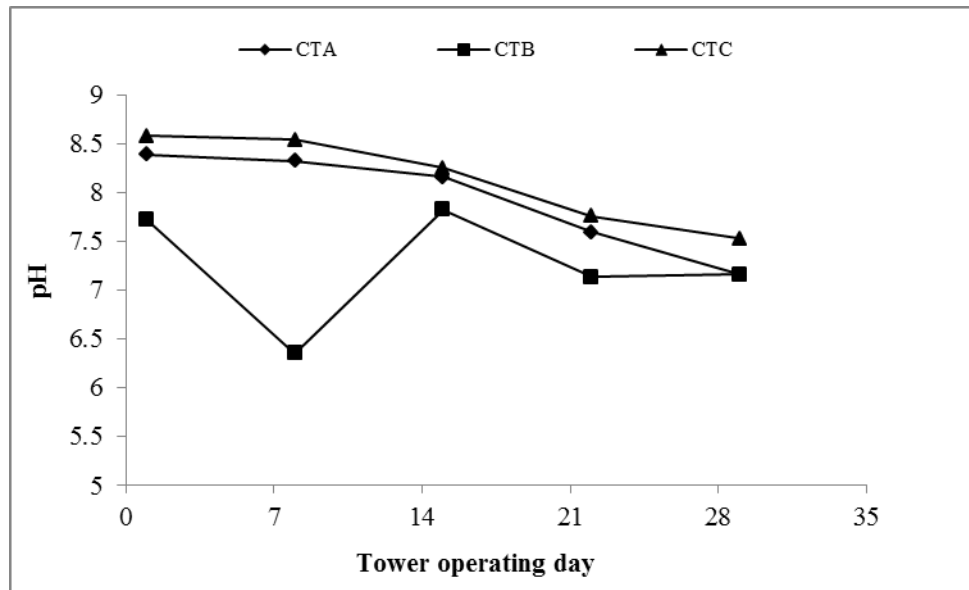


Figure C.9 pH in pilot-scale cooling tower tests using MWW_NF and MWW_NFG as make-up water during the pilot-scale cooling tower test, summer 2011

Another phase of tests was conducted on day 16 when the total alkalinity of make-up water returned to the usual range (5.53-27.63 mg/L as CaCO₃). In phase 2, negligible mass gain was observed in all the three towers as shown in Figure C.1 which was consistent with the pilot-scale cooling tower tests described in Section 2.3. Meanwhile, phosphate concentrations in the recirculating water increased in phase 2 as shown in Figure C.6, indicating lower calcium phosphate formation potential. Besides, much lower LSI meaning less CaCO₃ scaling potential was also observed in phase 2 as shown in Table C.1. The above changes were surely related to the reduction in total alkalinity in the make-up water and thus the pH in the recirculating water (Figure C.9).

C.4 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

From the representative information obtained from the second phase, it could be concluded that MWW_NFG showed equally low scaling potential as MWW_NF. The removal of organic matters does not cause significant changes on the scaling characteristics of MWW_NF.

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