

Aspen Plus® and CFD Coupled Simulation for the Optimisation of Vacuum Membrane Distillation Process

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UC C	Thermal driven membrane separation process, such as	
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	Normal VMD (Pre-heating/OneUnit): • Energy is recycled from retentate stream	
	 Energy is recycled from retentate stream. Alternative submerged VMD(Post-heating): 	
	 Additional energy is required for submerge VMD 	
	to provide heat for evaporation.	
	 The alternative process utilizes heat from permeate by further heating up to 100 °C and re- 	
	direct back to the submerged VMD.	
	Alternative Cross-flow VMD (FourUnit):	
	 Cross-flow VMD relies heat from high inlet feed flowrate to support evaporation, which limits the 	
	water recovery level.	
	 The alternative process mimics the RO process design ideology for increasing water recovery by 	
	putting several units in series.	
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