

Supporting Information

Influence of Multidimensional Graphene Oxide (GO) Sheets on Anti-Biofouling and Desalination Performance of Thin-Film Composite Membranes: Effects of GO Lateral Sizes and Oxidation Degree

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S1.- Bactericidal test

S1.1.- Bactericidal Effect

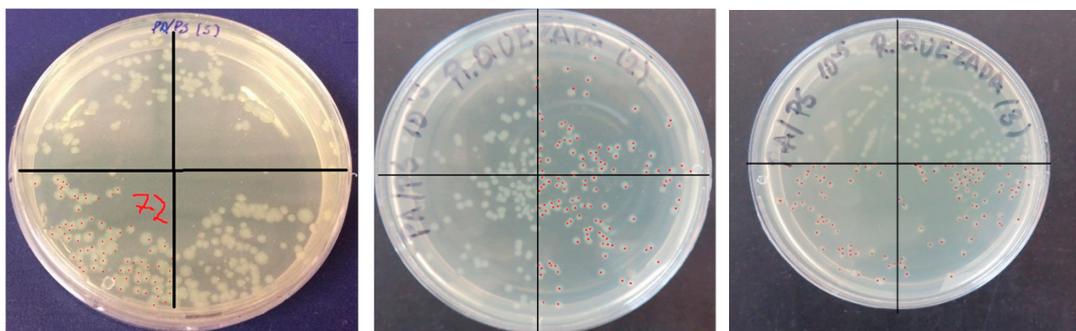


Figure S1. CFU images for PA-PS membrane.



Figure S2. CFU images for PA+GO1-PS membrane.

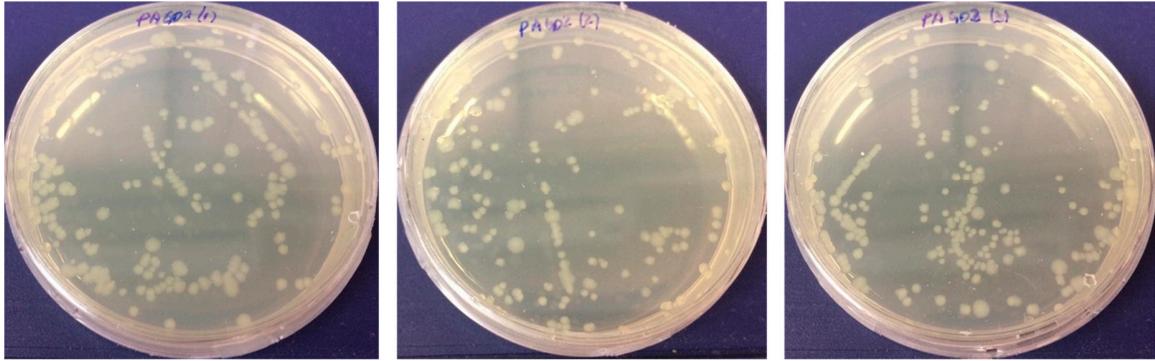


Figure S3. CFU images for PA+GO2-PS membrane.

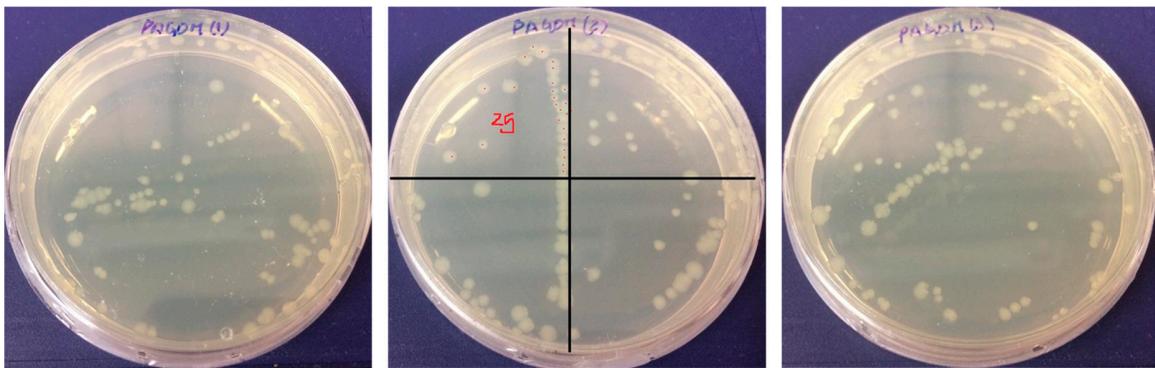


Figure S4. CFU images for PA+GO3-PS membrane.

The number of counted colonies on each plate for each experiment is shown in Table S1.

Table S1. Number of counted colonies and CFU calculated.

| Experiment | Number of counted colonies | | | CFU average (cel/mL) × 10 ¹¹ |
|------------|----------------------------|-----|-----|--|
| | #1 | #2 | #3 | |
| PA/PS | 248 | 230 | 288 | 5.36 |
| GO1 | 29 | 89 | 67 | 1.23 |
| GO2 | 162 | 112 | 212 | 2.74 |
| GO3 | 75 | 100 | 96 | 1.87 |

The eq. 1 was used to determine the amount of bacteria.

$$\#Bacteria = \#Number\ of\ colonies \times (dilution)^{-1} \times (inoculum)^{-1}(L) \quad (1)$$

In these experiments, the dilution used corresponds to 1×10^{-5} and the volume inoculated was equal to $50\mu\text{L}$. A model calculation to the bacteria number for the GO3 experiment is shown as follows:

$$\#Bacteria(GO3 - 1) = 75 \times (10^{-5})^{-1} \times (50 \cdot 10^{-6})^{-1} = 1.50 \cdot 10^{11} \left(\frac{cel}{mL}\right) \quad (2)$$

$$\#Bacteria(GO3 - 2) = 100 \times (10^{-5})^{-1} \times (50 \cdot 10^{-6})^{-1} = 2.00 \cdot 10^{11} \left(\frac{cel}{mL}\right) \quad (3)$$

$$\#Bacteria(GO3 - 3) = 96 \times (10^{-5})^{-1} \times (50 \cdot 10^{-6})^{-1} = 1.92 \cdot 10^{11} \left(\frac{cel}{mL}\right) \quad (4)$$

Finally, the average between the values in eq. 2-4 is obtained:

$$\#Bacteria(GO3) = 1.87 \cdot 10^{11} \left(\frac{cel}{mL}\right) \quad (5)$$

S1.2.- Antiadhesion Effect

In the table S2 is shown the total number of attached bacteria determined with epifluorescence microscopy using the LIVE/DEAD viability kit. These data were used for making the calculation of anti-adhesion effect. The anti-adhesion effect was estimated respect to unmodified membrane according to the equation 6.

$$Antiadhesion\ effect\ (\%) = \left(\frac{(\#Attached\ cells/mm^2\ in\ PA - PS) - (\#Attached\ cells/mm^2\ in\ modified\ membrane)}{(\#Attached\ cells/mm^2\ in\ PA - PS)} \right) * 100\% \quad (6)$$

Table S2. Number of attached cells in the membrane surface obtained by fluorescence microscopy.

| Experiment | #Attached cells /mm ² |
|------------|----------------------------------|
| PA-PS | 426.92 |
| PA+GO1-PS | 216.67 |
| PA+GO2-PS | 97.59 |
| PA+GO3-PS | 181.00 |

S2.- DRX of the membranes

X-ray diffraction (XRD) of the membranes were obtained using Cu-K α 1 radiation of 1.54059 Å on a PANalytical Empyrean diffractometer (PANalytical Inc., Massachusetts, United States).

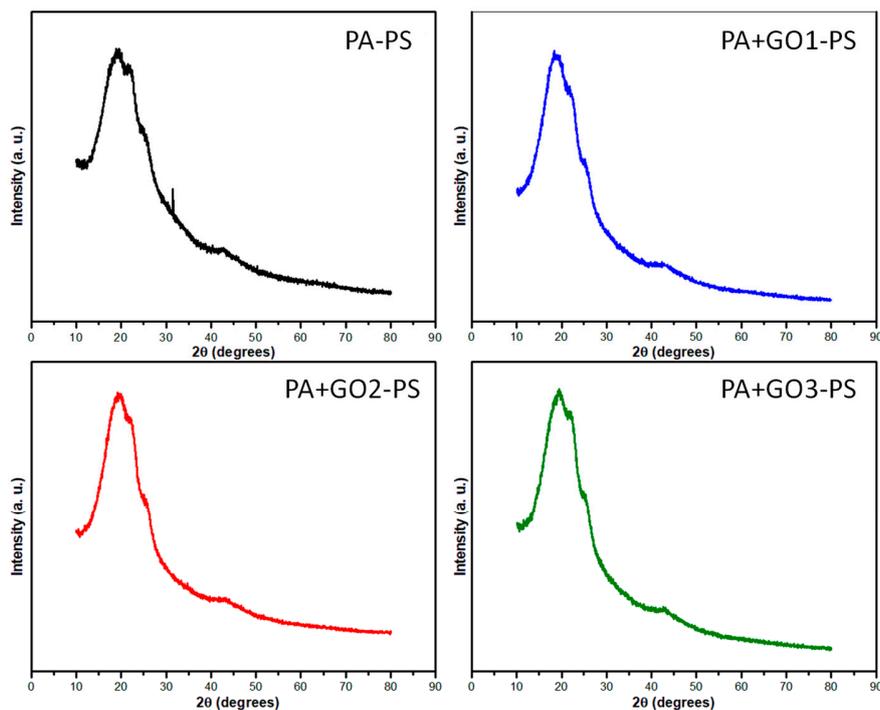


Figure S5. XRD spectra of membrane synthesized.

S3.- Cross-section SEM of the membranes

In order to estimate the polyamide layer thickness, the cross-sectional of the membranes was studied using scanning electron microscopy FE-SEM (Inspect F50, FEI) High Resolution Scanning Electron Microscope, Model INSPECT-F50, Thermo Fisher Scientific (FEL, Holanda). The membranes were then sputter coated with a thin film of gold (10 nm) to make them conductive. The coating was made using Sputter Coater Cressington TEDPELLA, model 108 with thickness controller MTM 20 Cressington. The membranes were snapped under liquid nitrogen to give a generally consistent and clean cut.

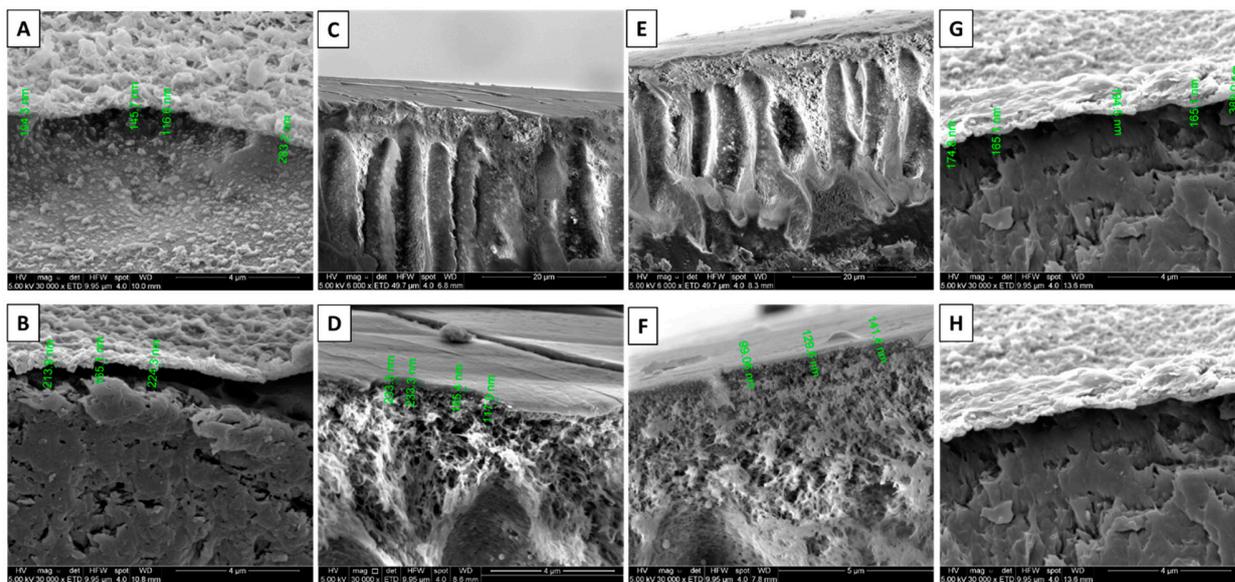


Figure S7. Cross-section SEM of the membranes. A-B) PA-PS; C-D) PA+GO1-PS; E-F) PA+GO2-PS; G-H) PA+GO3-PS.

Table S3. Polyamide thickness of the synthesized membranes.

| Membrane | Thickness (nm) |
|-----------|----------------|
| PA-PS | 192 ± 55 |
| PA+GO1-PS | 187 ± 57 |
| PA+GO2-PS | 123 ± 22 |
| PA+GO3-PS | 218 ± 97 |