

## Supplementary material for the manuscript:

Assessment of Coagulation–Flocculation Process Efficiency for the Natural Organic Matter Removal in Drinking Water Treatment

Authors: Corina Petronela Mustereț, Irina Morosanu, Ramona Ciobanu, Oana Plavan, Andreea Gherghel, Malek Al-Refai, Ioana Roman, Carmen Teodosiu\*

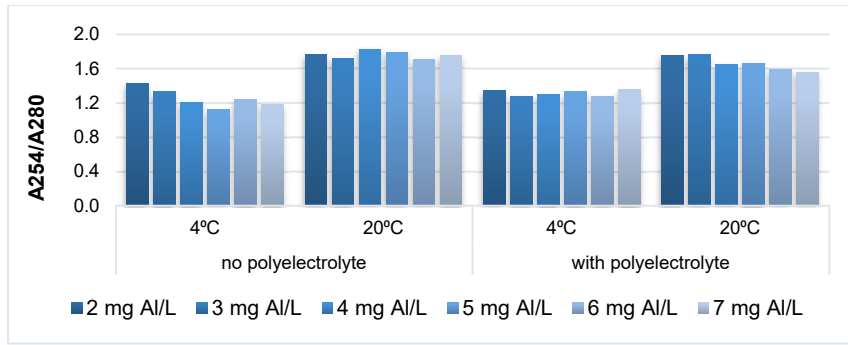
**Table S1.** Characteristics of PAX XL 60 coagulant used.

Characteristic	Unit	Value
Density	kg/dm <sup>3</sup>	1303
Al <sup>3+</sup>	%	7.38
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	%	13.94
Basicity (OH <sup>-</sup> )	%	48.06
Chloride (Cl <sup>-</sup> )	%	16.25
pH	pH units	1.61

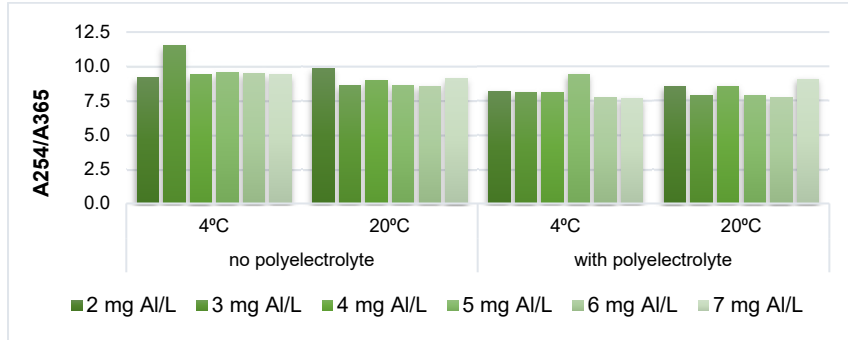
**Table S2.** Coagulation-flocculation efficiency scores considering multiple water quality indicators.

Water quality indicator	PACl dose (mg Al/L)					
	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cold temperature						
COD	4	4	4	1	3	1
DOC	4	5	4	4	4	4
Residual Al	4	4	3	4	2	2
A254	4	3	3	2	1	1
A280	4	5	4	4	3	3
A365	4	4	3	2	3	3
SUVA	2	2	2	2	1	1
A254/A280	4	5	5	4	4	3
A254/A365	4	4	4	1	5	5
Total score	34	36	32	24	26	23
Warm temperature						
COD	4	4	4	4	3	5
DOC	2	2	2	2	2	1
Residual Al	4	3	3	3	4	5
A254	5	3	1	1	1	1
A280	3	2	2	2	2	2
A365	5	4	2	3	3	2
SUVA	5	3	3	2	2	3
A254/A280	1	1	2	2	2	3
A254/A365	3	5	3	5	5	3
Total score	32	27	22	24	24	25

\*The scores are on a scale of 1 (the best) to 5 (the worst). A minimum total score corresponds to the optimum dose.

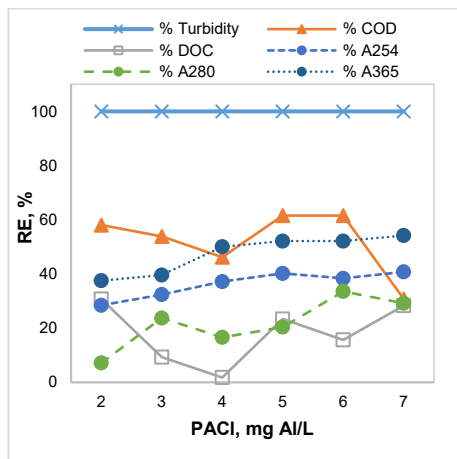


(a)

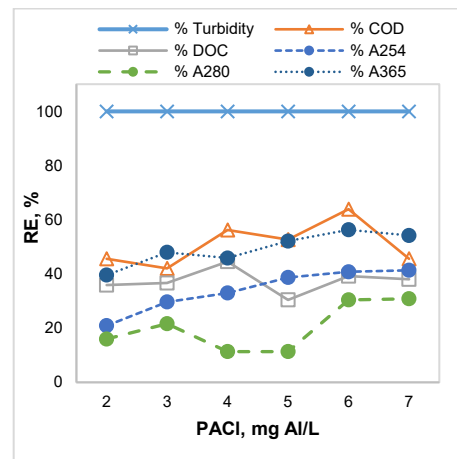


(b)

**Figure S1.** Absorbance ratios after the coagulation-flocculation tests: (a) A254/A280 ratio, (b) A254/A365.

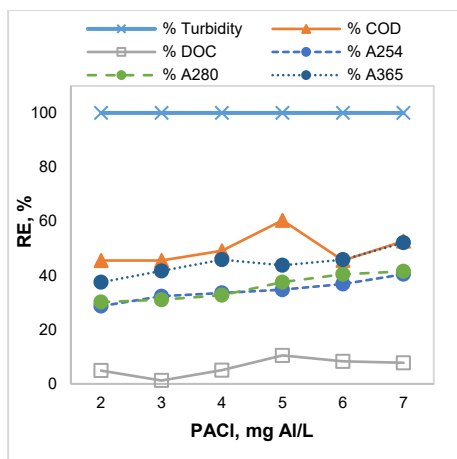


(a)

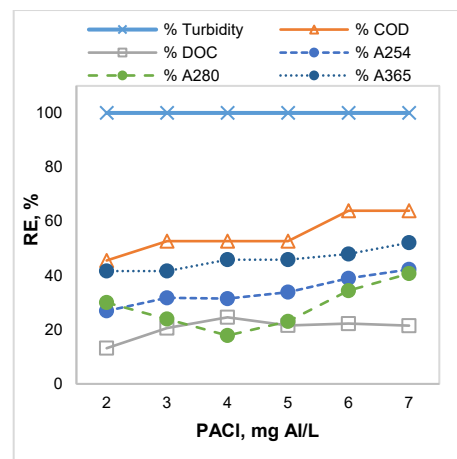


(b)

**Figure S2.** Removal efficiency of coagulation-flocculation process at 4°C (a) and 20°C (b) under short agitation time

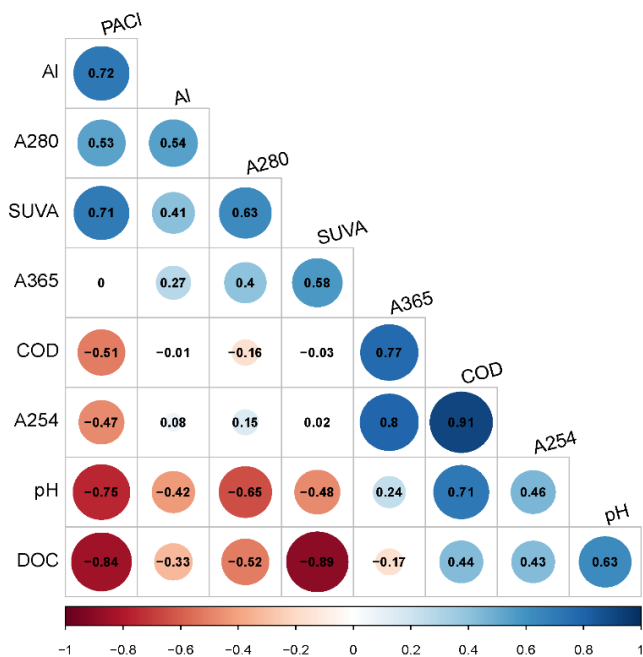


(a)

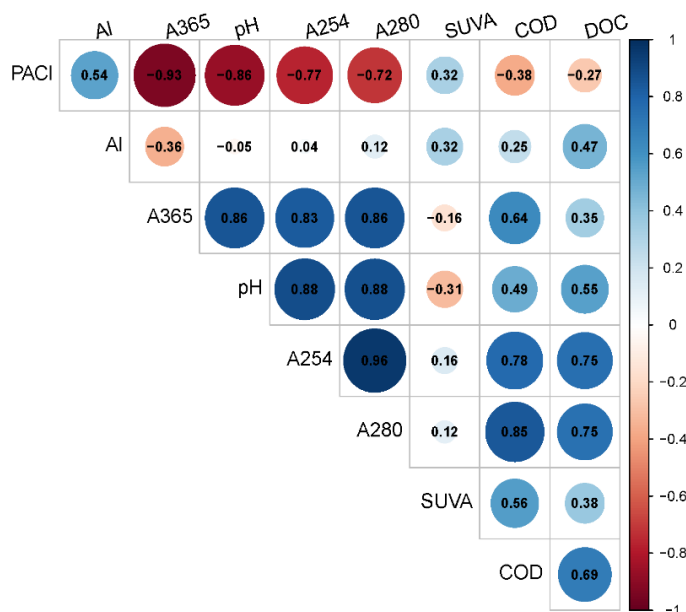


(b)

**Figure S3.** Removal efficiency of coagulation-flocculation process at 4°C (a) and 20°C (b) under low mixing intensity

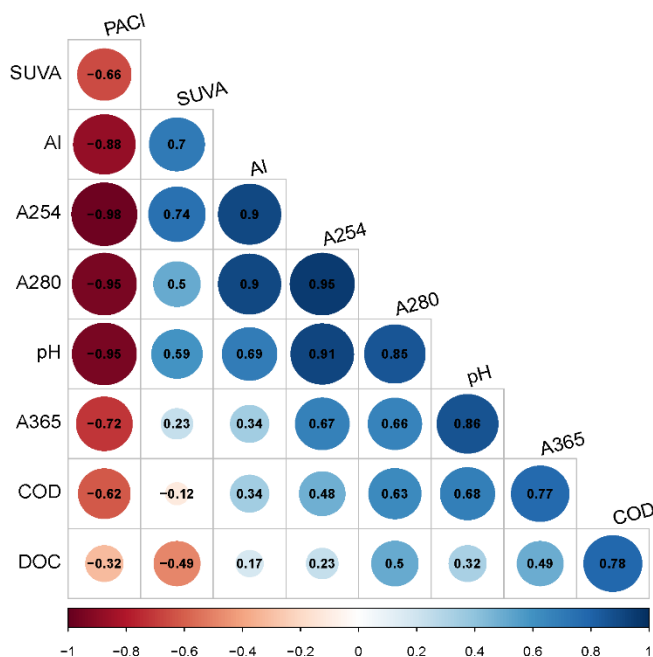


(a)

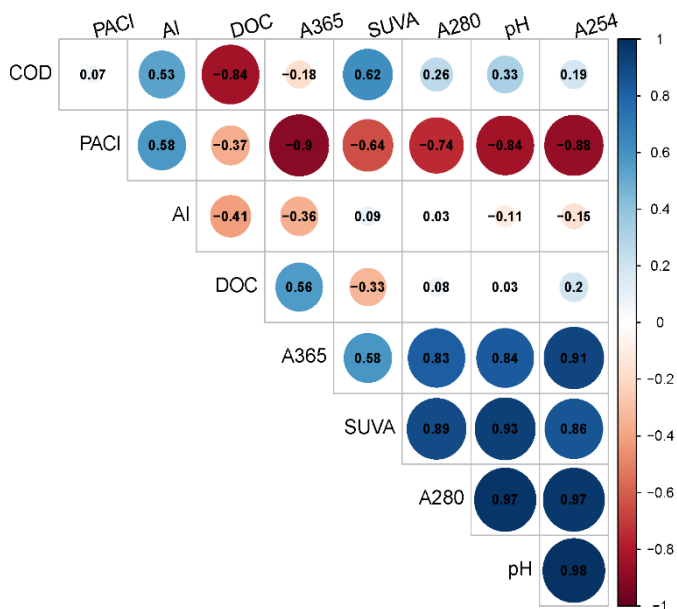


(b)

**Figure S4.** Correlation plots for test series T1 (a) and T3. Strength of correlation:  $r < 0.3$  “none or very weak”,  $0.3 \leq r < 0.5$  “weak”,  $0.5 \leq r < 0.7$  “moderate”,  $r \geq 0.7$  “strong”.

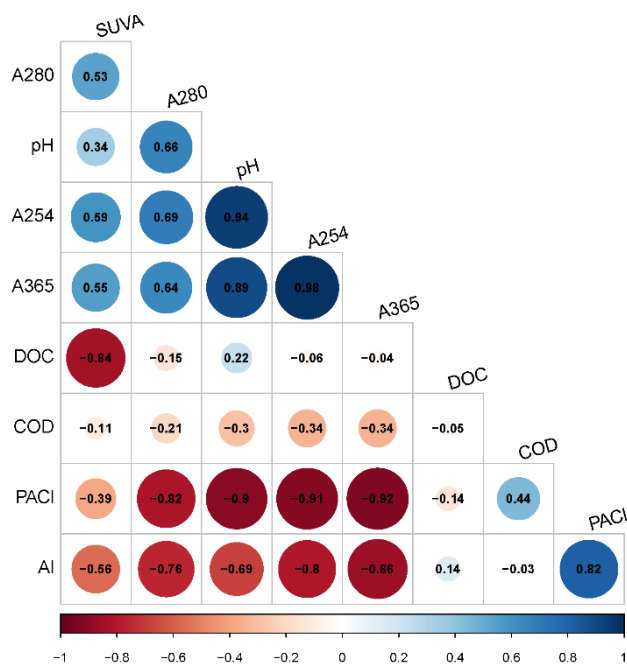


(a)

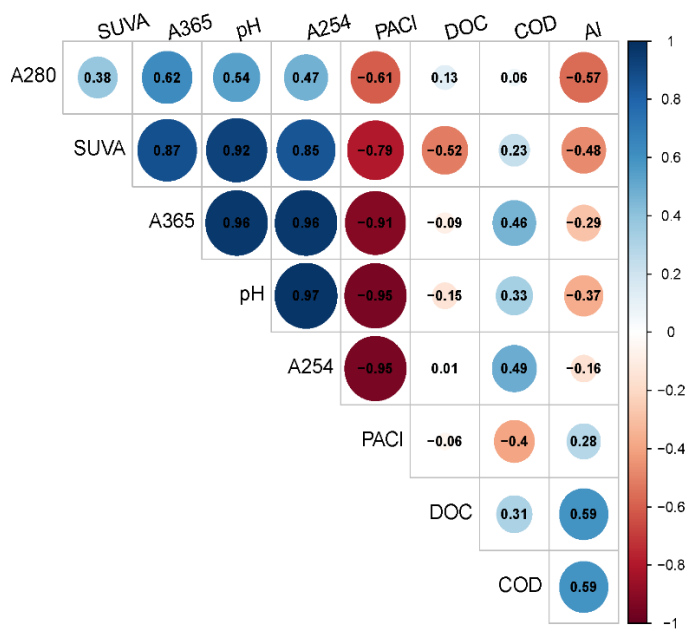


(b)

**Figure S5.** Correlation plots for test series T2 (a) and T4 (b). Strength of correlation:  $r < 0.3$  “none or very weak”,  $0.3 \leq r < 0.5$  “weak”,  $0.5 \leq r < 0.7$  “moderate”,  $r \geq 0.7$  “strong”.

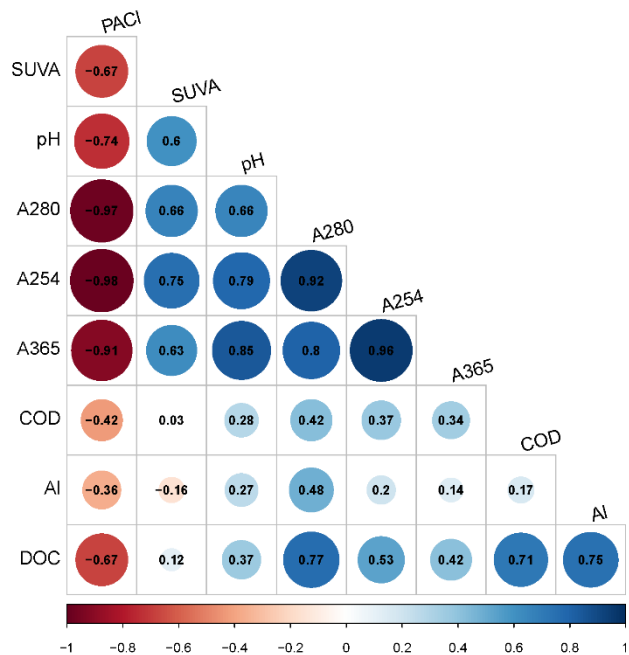


(a)

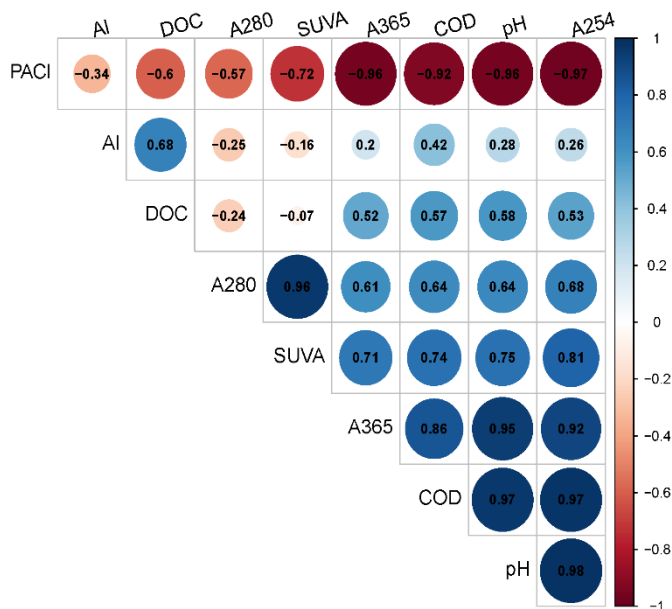


(b)

**Figure S6.** Correlation plots for test series T5 (a) and T7 (b). Strength of correlation:  $r < 0.3$  "none or very weak",  $0.3 \leq r < 0.5$  "weak",  $0.5 \leq r < 0.7$  "moderate",  $r \geq 0.7$  "strong".

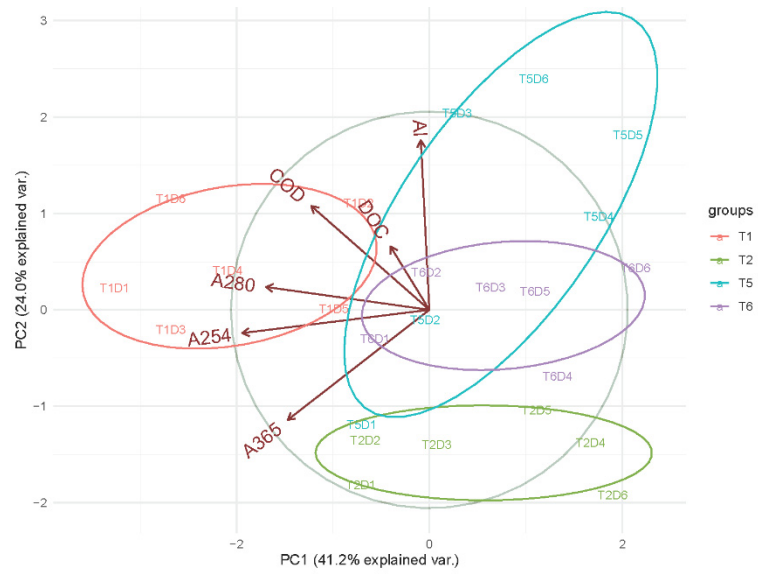


(a)

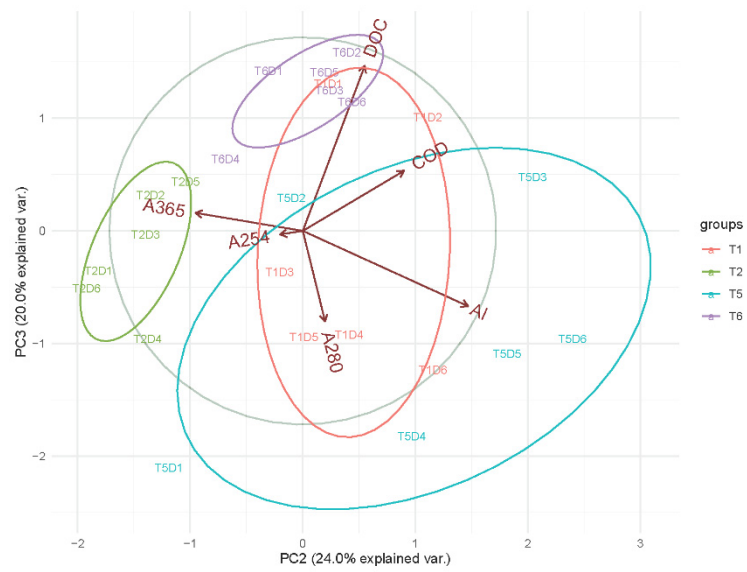


(b)

**Figure S7.** Correlation plots for test series T6 (a) and T8 (b). Strength of correlation:  $r < 0.3$  "none or very weak",  $0.3 \leq r < 0.5$  "weak",  $0.5 \leq r < 0.7$  "moderate",  $r \geq 0.7$  "strong".

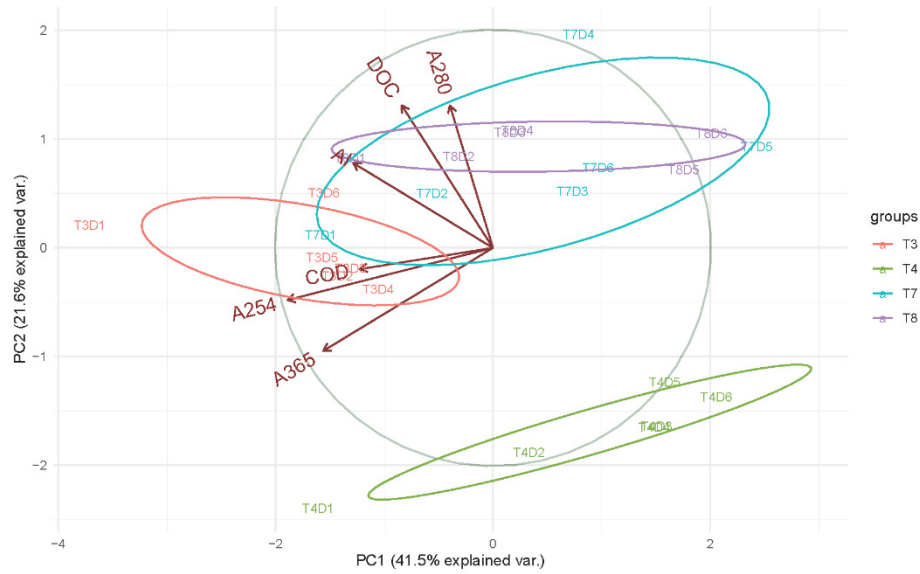


(a)

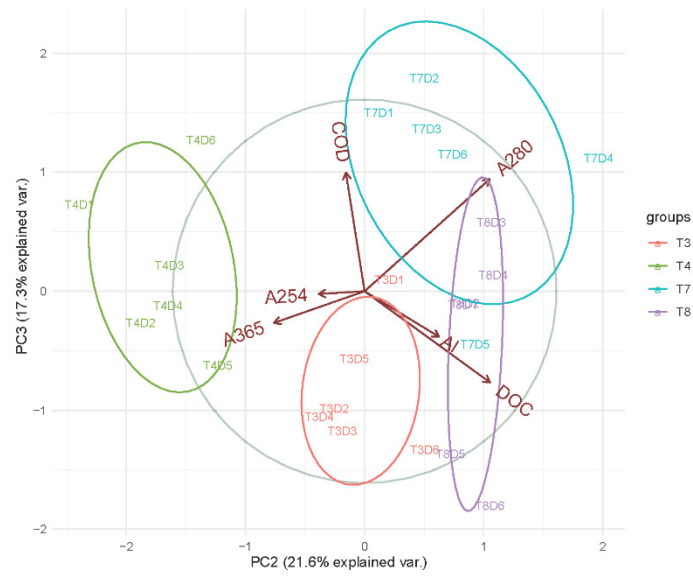


(b)

**Figure S8.** Principal component analysis for coagulation-flocculation tests at 4°C: (a) PC2 vs PC1 and (b) PC3 vs PC2. The notation D1...D6 represents the PACl dose in the range 2 -7 mg Al/L with an increment of 1.



(a)



(b)

**Figure S9.** Principal component analysis for coagulation-flocculation tests at 20°C: **(a)** PC2 vs PC1 and **(b)** PC3 vs PC2. The notation D1...D6 represents the PACl dose in the range 2 -7 mg Al/L with an increment of 1.