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(71) Applicant: **KEMIRA OYJ** [FI/FI]; Energiakatu 4, 00180 Helsinki (FI).

(72) Inventors: **HESAMPOUR, Mehrdad**; c/o Kemira Oyj, Luoteisrinne 2, 02270 Espoo (FI). **MÄKI, Anne**; c/o Kemira Oyj, Luoteisrinne 2, 02270 Espoo (FI).

(74) Agent: **KOLSTER OY AB**; (Salmisaarenaukio 1), P.O.Box 204, 00181 Helsinki (FI).

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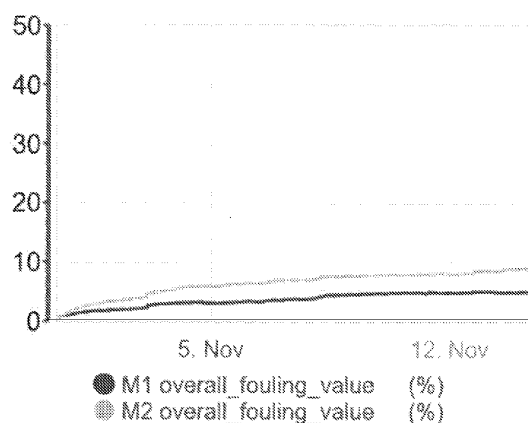


Fig. 1

(57) Abstract: A method is disclosed for monitoring deposit formation in an aqueous process. The method comprises providing a feed flow of aqueous liquid onto a receiving surface of a monitor-ing cell. At least part of the receiving surface is illuminated with a light source. Visual data is collected at a multitude of positions across the receiving surface, and the collected visual data is analysed. Based on that, a quantitative scaling and/or fouling indication is computed for the receiving surface. The monitoring cell has an inlet for the aqueous feed flow and an outlet for a reject flow from the monitoring cell. The receiving surface comprises a selective barrier membrane. The feed flow is directed to the receiving surface at an elevated pressure to produce a permeate part that passes through the selective barrier membrane, and a concentrate part that forms said reject flow.

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