

# ION EXCHANGE

- Definition

Ion exchange is basically a reversible chemical process wherein an ion from solution is exchanged for a similarly charged ion attached to an immobile solid particle.

Removal of undesirable anions and cations from solution through the use of ion exchange resin

## Applications

Water softening

Removal of non-metal inorganic

Removal or recovery of metal

# Ion Exchange

## Chemical Reaction

- reversible chemical reaction
- insoluble solid (resin) and a solution (wastewater)
- ions are interchanged

Used only on dilute solutions

- Cationic Resin
  - exchange  $H^+$  for other positively charged ions
  - Replaces: nickel, copper, chromes (Cr III),
    - cadmium, lead
- Weak Acid Resin
  - Requires less acid to regenerate
- Strong Acid Resin
  - Achieves lower cation concentration

- Anionic Resin
  - exchange  $\text{OH}^-$  for other negatively charged ions
  - Replaces: chromates (Cr VI), sulfate, cyanide, carbonate
- Weak Base Resin
  - Requires less base regenerate
- Strong Base Resin
  - Achieves lower anion concentration

- Anionic Resin Column
- Cationic Resin Column
- Series of Anionic and Cationic Resin
- Columns
- Mixture of Anionic and Cationic Resin in one Column
- Metal-Specific Resin Column

## Factors Affecting Resin Choice

- Contamination ions
- pH

## Resin Fouling

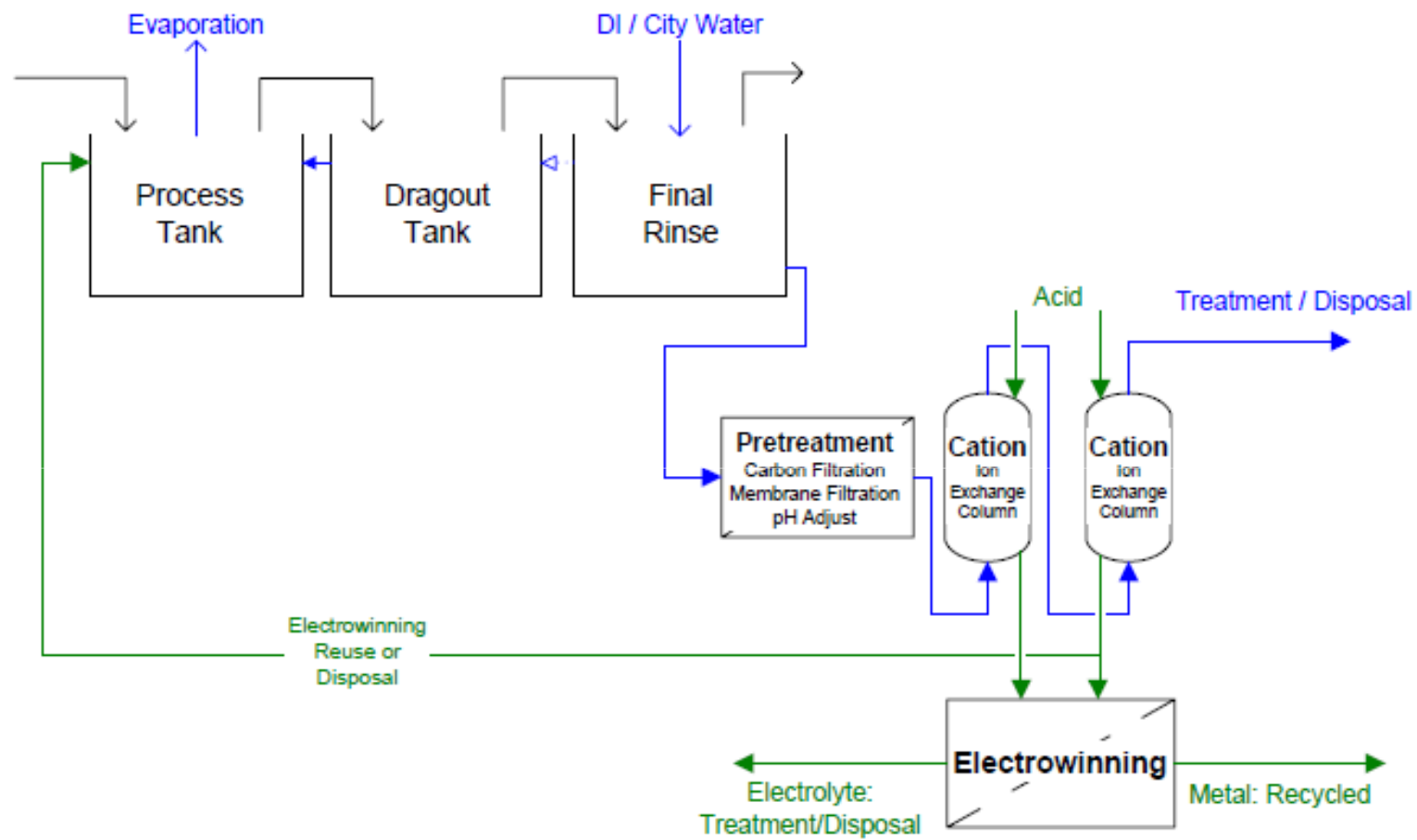
- Oil and grease
- Total suspended solids > 10 ppm
- Oxidant

## Pretreatment for Rinse Water

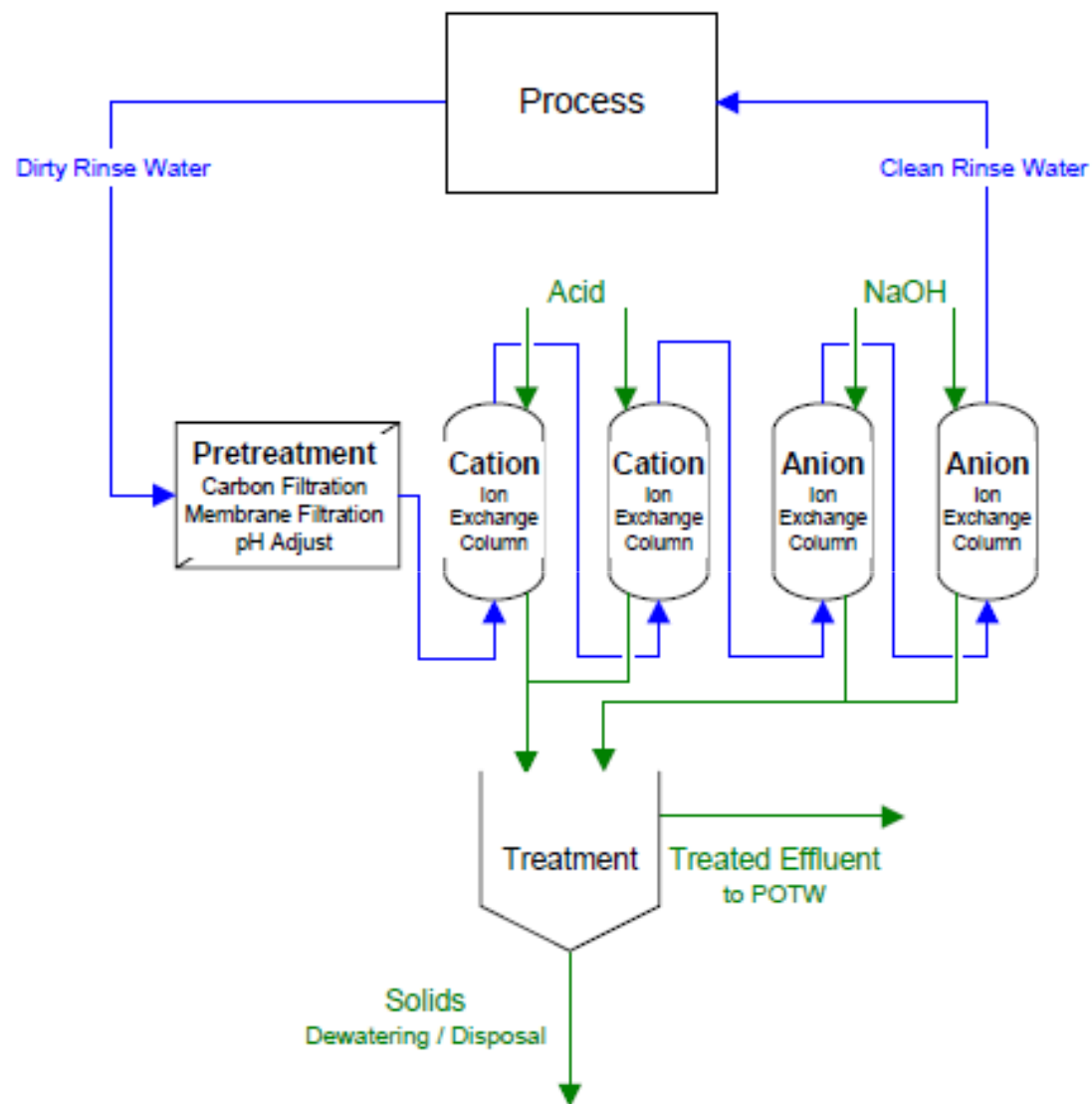
## Chemical Recovery from Rinse Water

## Remove Contaminants from Plating Bath

## Wastewater Treatment







## ION EXCHANGE

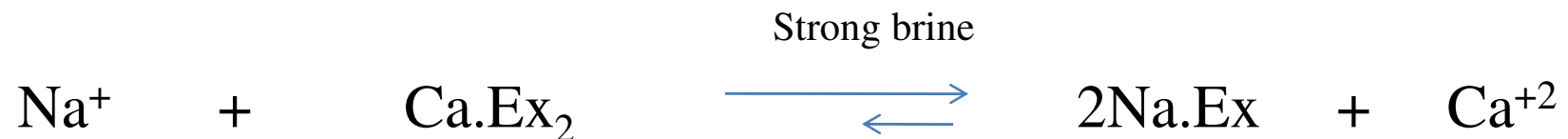
- ❖ Similar in many ways to adsorption treatment, but chemical mechanism is ion exchange rather than adsorption.
- ❖ An ion exchanger is a material to which certain ions are sorbed in exchange for ions already bound to exchanger.
- ❖ For example— water can be softened by ion exchanger that adsorbs Ca and Mg, releasing Na in exchange.
- ❖ Zeolite is natural mineral that softens water by ion exchange.

Reaction looks like

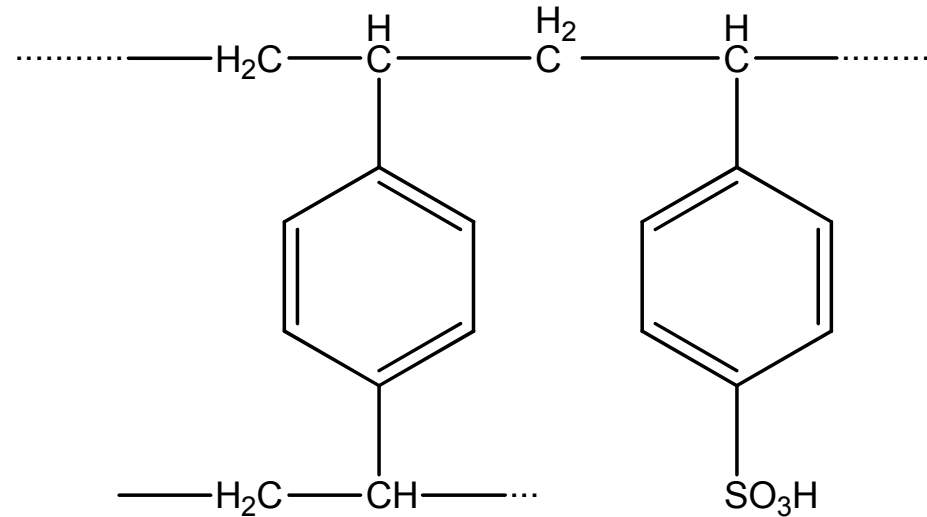


Ex = exchanger solid

**Exchanger is regenerated using strong brine**



e.g.



H<sup>+</sup> swaps with cation.

## Preference series for which ions exchange

$$\text{Ba}^{+2} > \text{Pb}^{+2} > \text{Sr}^{+2} > \text{Ca}^{+2} > \text{Ni}^{+2} > \text{Cd}^{+2} > \text{Cu}^{+2} > \text{Co}^{+2} > \text{Zn}^{+2} > \text{Mg}^{+2} > \text{Ag}^{+2} > \text{Cs}^{+} > \text{K}^{+} > \text{NH}_4^{+} > \text{Na}^{+} > \text{H}^{+}$$

For strong acid resins (e.g. sulphonates with  $\text{SO}_3\text{H}$  group )  
More preferred ions are swapped for less preferred –e.g.  $\text{Ca}^{+2}$   
for  $\text{H}^+$

For anion exchangers (use carboxylic group  $-\text{COOH}$ )  
 $\text{SO}_4^{2-} > \text{I}^- > \text{NO}_3^- > \text{CrO}_4^- > \text{Br}^- > \text{Cl}^- > \text{OH}^-$

(Preference varies with the resin)

## ❖ Design

- ❖ Design procedure and treatment systems are very similar to those for activated carbon
- ❖ Bench scale column tests are used to develop curves of breakthrough (C vs V).
- ❖ Resin is generally placed in pressure tanks similar for GAC
- ❖ Overflows rates (  $\approx 6-8$  gpm/ft<sup>2</sup>)

## ❖ Iron and Manganese removal

- ❖ Iron(II) and Manganese (II) exists in acidic and reducing environments (e.g. wetlands and in aquifer below wetlands).
- ❖ Iron(II) and Manganese (II) are soluble and remain in water following conventional treatment
- ❖ but precipitate at the point of use, causing stains on plumbing fixtures and in laundry.
- ❖ Also support growth of iron bacteria(iron slime) in well screens, distribution systems.

Fe and Mn can be addressed in variety of ways

1. **In situ treatment**- injection wells around water supply wells to precipitate Fe and Mn in the ground.
2. **Sequestration** – phosphate chemicals added to water to bind with and ‘sequester’ Fe and Mn preventing later precipitate.
3. Ion exchange treatment with Greensand (glaucconite) – natural ion exchanger with Fe and Mn.

Removal reaction



Where Z-MnO<sub>2</sub> = Mn coated glauconite

**Regeneration with potassium permanganate**





#### 4. Oxidation

Goal is to oxidize  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  to get precipitates.

Aeration (works for Fe, not for Mn)



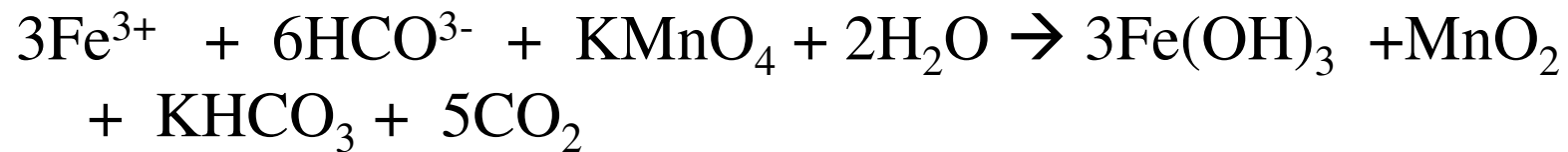
Precipitated iron is then settled and filtered (most removal by filtration )

Chemical oxidation

Addition of strong oxidizer- chlorine or  $\text{KMnO}_4$

Precipitated iron settled and filtered.

Reaction with permanganate

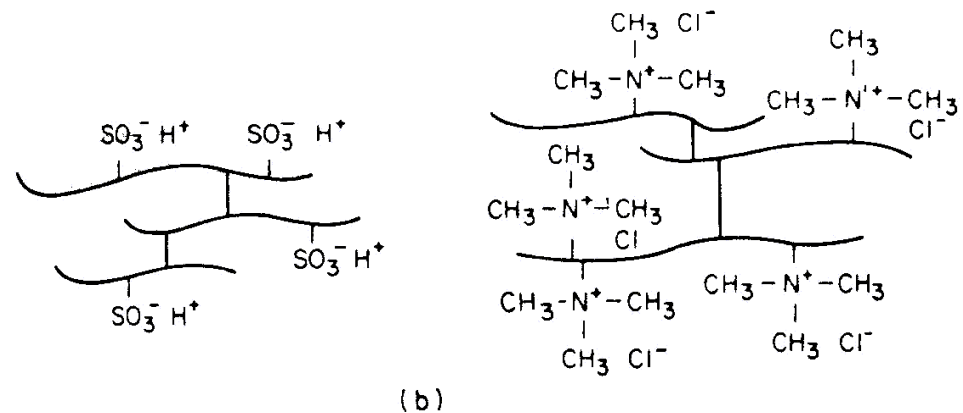
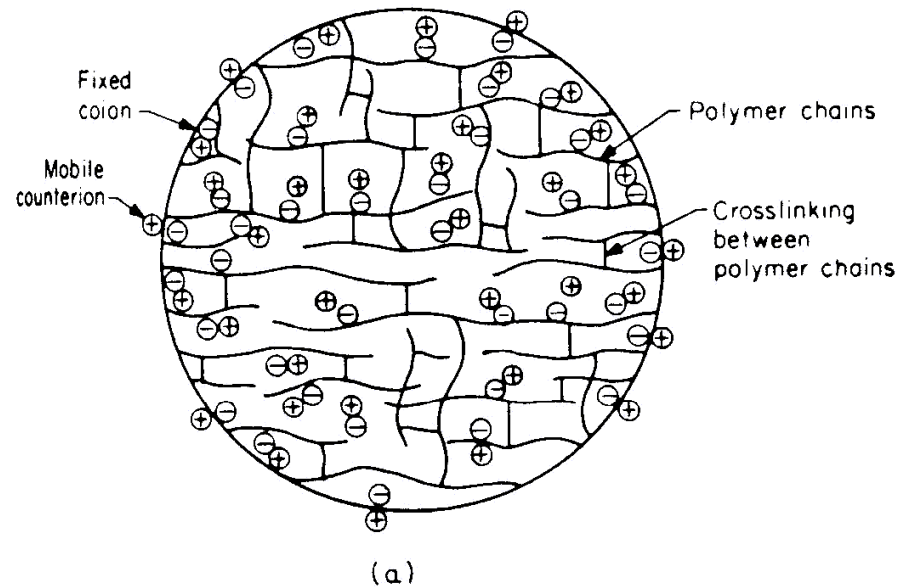


## 5. Lime soda ash softening

Fe and Mn removed during softening if pH is raised above 9.8

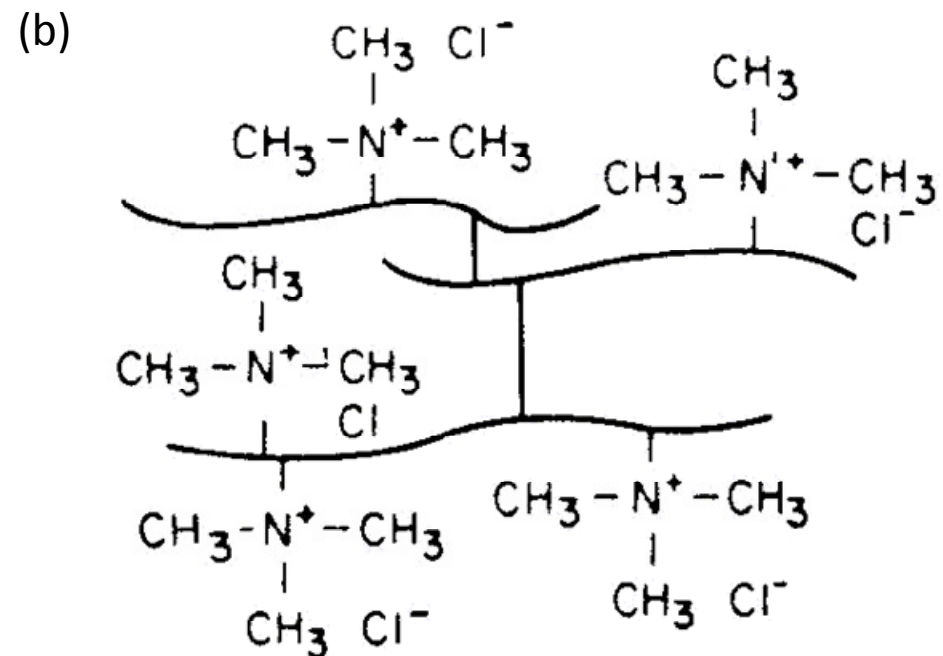
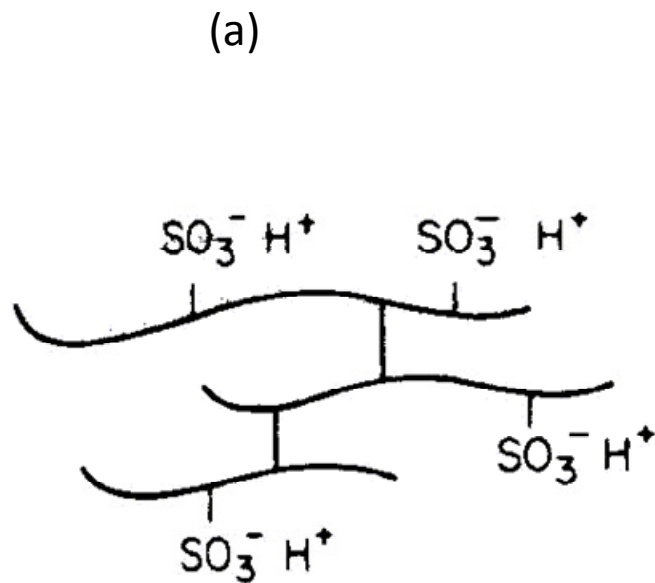
# ION EXCHANGE (Medium - resin)

- Consists of an organic or inorganic network structure with attached functional group
- Synthetic resin made by the polymerisation of organic compounds into a porous three dimensional structure
- Exchange capacity is determined by the number of functional groups per unit mass of resin



# ION EXCHANGE (Type of Resin)

- a. Cationic resin - exchange positive ions
- b. Anionic resin – exchange negative ions



# ION EXCHANGE (Exchange Reactions)

- Cation exchange on the sodium cycle:



where R represents the exchange resin. When all exchange sites are substantially replaced with calcium, resin is regenerated by passing a concentrated solution of sodium ions (5-10%) through the bed:



# ION EXCHANGE (Exchange Reactions)

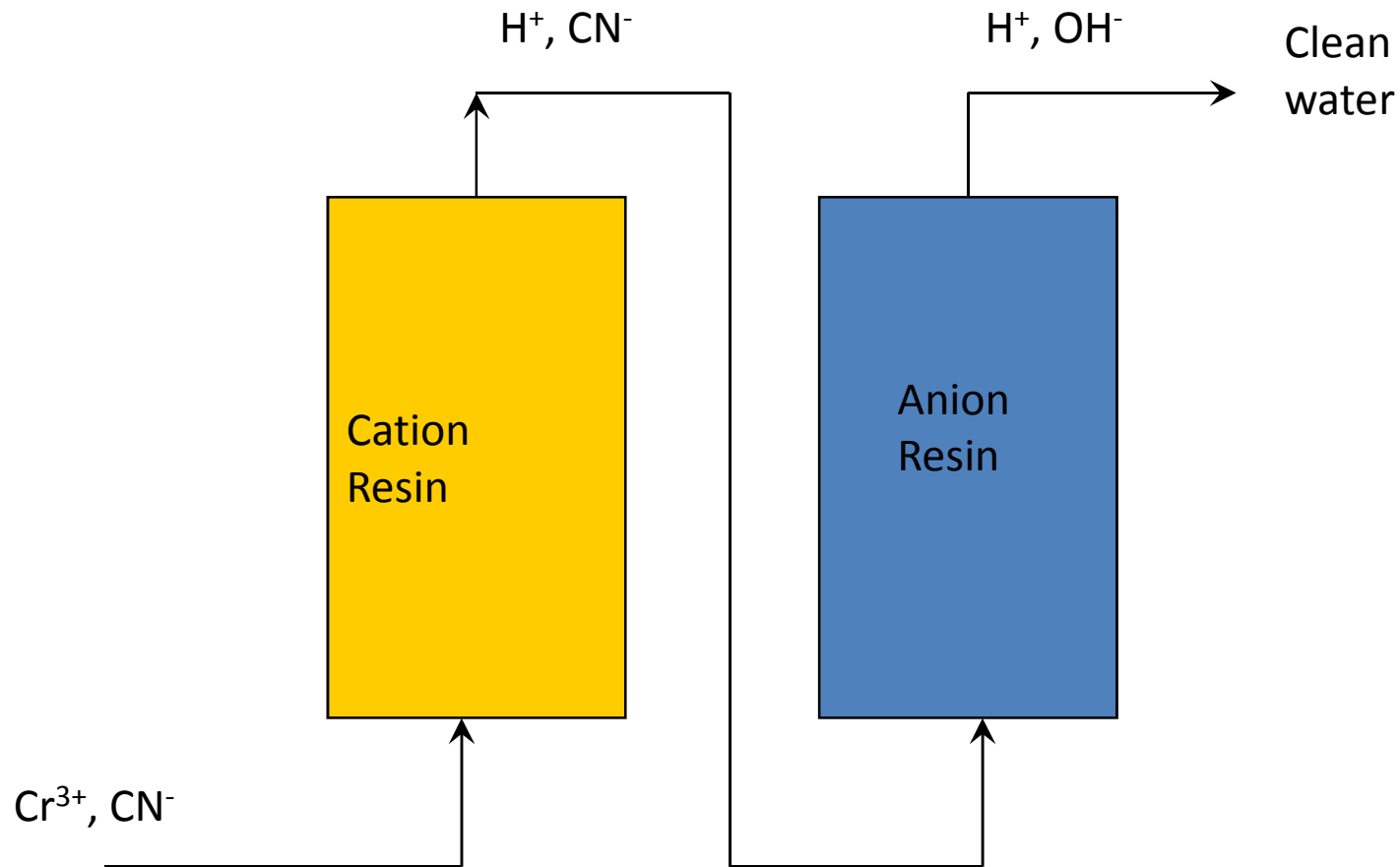
- Anion exchange replaces anions with hydroxyl ions:



where R represents the exchange resin. When all exchange sites are substantially replaced with sulphate, resin is regenerated by passing a concentrated solution of hydroxide ions (5-10%) through the bed:

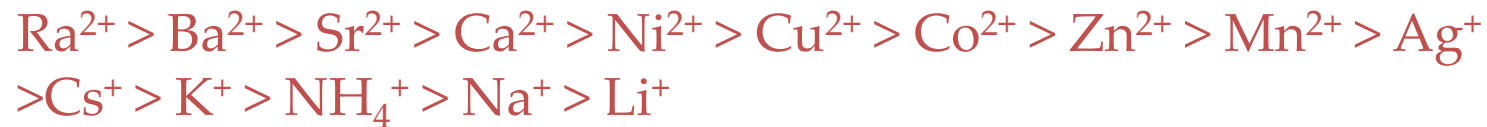


# ION EXCHANGE (Basic Principles)

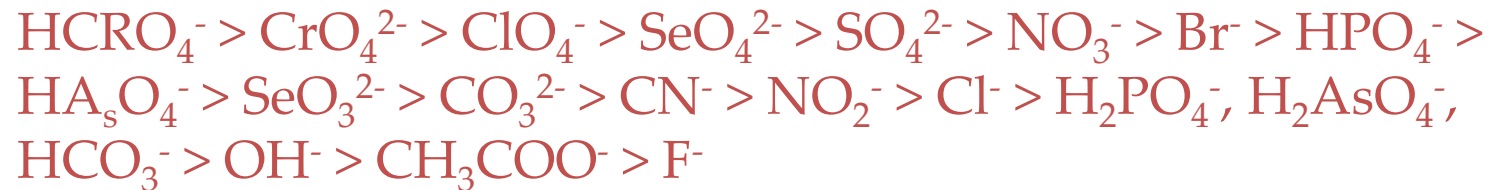


# ION EXCHANGE (Selectivity)

- Cations:



- Anions:



Note: The least preferred has the shortest retention time, and appears first in the effluent and vice versa for the most preferred.