

A new model for analyzing porosity loss in metallic iron packed-beds for water treatment

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Abstract

The objective of this research project is to model all these parameters in the operation of the Fe⁰ filter in order to better control its design. In this study, we assume that simple cylindrical Fe⁰ particles corrode uniformly and we use the decrease in radius ΔR and changes in the height of the iron particles to evaluate the reduction in porosity throughout the system. Parameters such as the volumetric expansion coefficient with oxygen accessibility function, initial radius, primary volume of Fe⁰, and initial porosity of the system are used to improve the mathematical equation for Fe⁰ filters. The research indicated that for the variation in oxygen level with $\tau = 0.521$, we obtain a percentage of iron consumption of 59.48% for a volumetric expansion coefficient of $\eta = 2.08$. The same percentage was obtained for a consumption extension $\tau = 1$. Outside the variation of the radius with the height of the particles, the percentage of iron consumed decreases from 99.61 to 83.21. Durable filters must contain an Fe⁰ content not exceeding 52.10 % (v/v) to comply with the volumetric expansion coefficient of $\eta = 2.08$. The inclusion of this equation in the modelling should improve the permeability loss of the Fe⁰ filtration system.

Keywords: Durable filters, Filtration system, Permeability loss, Reduction in porosity, Volumetric expansion

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1. Introduction

Water pollution is the physical, chemical, biological, or bacteriological degradation of its natural qualities caused by humans and their activities. It disrupts the living conditions of aquatic flora and fauna; it compromises water use and the balance of the natural environment (Ali 2004; Ali, 2012; Chiu, 2013; WHO/UNICEF 2019; UNESCO, 2021; Chen and Wang, 2022 ; Yuan et al., 2023; Zhang et al., 2023). According to WHO/UNICEF 2019, there is a

disparity in terms of access to drinking water among the global population, with sub-Saharan Africa being the most affected with 400 million people. Rivers, lakes, and ponds are the direct sources of supply for these populations, particularly in rural areas where there are no centralized drinking water supply systems (WHO/UNICEF, 2025). Water is one of the pillars of sustainable development according to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). To achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, several researchers have studied water treatment methods.

Confronted with this issue, scientists are now exploring various techniques like filtration, adsorption, coagulation, electrocoagulation, membrane filtration, and granular filtration for treating drinking water (Abramian and El-Rassy, 2009; Djonga *et al.*, 2020; Shah *et al.*, 2021; Tariq *et al.*, 2021; Bike *et al.*, 2020; Sorayya *et al.*, 2021; Danièle *et al.*, 2021; Domga *et al.*, 2022a, Domga *et al.*, 2022b, Arslan-Alaton *et al.*, 2023; Senem *et al.*, 2023; Domga, 2025). Nevertheless, the majority of these techniques are costly and require high energy consumption. the implementation of other techniques, however, it can be costly (Yanne *et al.*, 2021; Ying *et al.*, 2023; Roberto *et al.*, 2023; Domga, 2025). Oxidation processes are quite costly and have limited implementation.

A straightforward yet efficient method for purifying drinking water is urgently required (Bhaumik *et al.*, 2015). Adapted sand filters containing as much as 50 % metallic iron (Fe^0) are highly effective for the decentralized water treatment (Noubactep, 2009a; Noubactep, 2014, Noubactep and Caré, 2011; Noubactep, 2015a; Noubactep, 2015b; Tepong-Tsindé *et al.*, 2015a; Huang *et al.*, 2021; Ogata *et al.*, 2021). The technology is perfect for underdeveloped rural areas. Fe^0 /sand filters can effectively remove various chemical contaminants (organic and inorganic) as well as pathogens (bacteria and viruses) (Noubactep, 2009a; Henderson and Demond 2007; Guan *et al.*, 2015; Bojic *et al.*, 2001; Bojic *et al.*, 2004; You *et al.*, 2014; Ndé-Tchoupé *et al.*, 2020; Huang *et al.*, 2021; Yang *et al.*, 2020; Njaramba, *et al.*, 2021; Amoako-Nimako *et al.*, 2021; Ogata *et al.*, 2021; Anderson-Coughlin *et al.*, 2021). Fe^0 /sand filters are relatively efficient, low-cost, plentiful, eco-friendly, and simple to set up. They can also be configured for gravity flow without needing power. Iron oxide and silica are plentiful and easily found in the surroundings. The Fe^0 / sand filter can be conveniently created for drinking water supply in households and small communities (Nitzsche *et al.*, 2015; Tepong-Tsindé *et al.*, 2015a; Rahman *et al.*, 2013; Togué-Kamga *et al.*, 2012; Yang *et al.*, 2020; Gong *et al.*, 2021; Huang *et al.*, 2021; Ogata *et al.*, 2021; Sun *et al.*, 2021). Several studies have been conducted to reassess the appropriateness of metallic iron (Fe^0) as a filter material for providing decentralized drinking water. The research conducted by Miyajima, 2012; Rahman *et al.*, 2013, Btatkeu *et al.*, 2014a and Tepong-Tsindé *et al.*, 2015b established the best volumetric ratio of Fe^0 /sand as 25/75. The incorporation of composite materials based on Fe^0 nanoparticles, bimetallic cations, metal oxides in activated carbon, graphene, biochar have been used as composite material for the removal of organic and inorganic compounds (Bafghi *et al.*, 2008, Noubactep and Caré, 2011; Btatkeu *et al.*, 2014b; Chen *et al.*, 2014; Hu *et al.*, 2020; Du *et al.*, 2020; Xiao *et al.*, 2020; Cao *et al.*, 2021; Chen *et al.*, 2022; Kaur *et al.*, 2023; Dong *et al.*, 2023; Huang *et al.*, 2023; Gao *et al.*, 2023; He *et al.*, 2024; Li *et al.*, 2024; Dong *et al.*, 2025).

Moreover, in the reactive zones, little attention has been devoted to the size and shape of the metallic iron particles (spherical or cylindrical), but these two parameters influence not only the porosity and the consumption of the iron but also the settlement of the columns. Hussam 2009, Hussam and Munir 2007 used composite iron matrix and cylindrical iron particles for the total elimination of arsenic. While Noubactep and Caré, 2010 utilized spherical and cylindrical iron particles, Rahman *et al.*, 2013 opted for the same approach to model hydraulic conductivity. The research conducted by Btatkeu *et al* in 2013 explored the reactivity of various iron types for Fe^0 /sand filter applications. There has been limited research on the design principles for Fe^0 filters. From 2008 onwards, studies on Fe^0 filters have shown that despite being effective, they lack durability (Noubactep and Caré, 2011; Caré *et al.*, 2008). Designing and optimizing a filtration system is challenging because of the constantly changing water conditions and mechanisms within the filter (Cookson, 1970; You *et al.*, 2014). There is still ongoing research on the design of traditional filters, as stated by You *et al* in 2014 and Zielina in 2011. The results of the work by Yang *et al* in 2021 showed that the model's assumptions concerning iron corrosion rates depend on first-order iron surface kinetics and can only be valid when no iron surface passivation is taken into account. Domga *et al* in 2015 and Domga *et al* in 2017 introduced a general formula showing the radius difference of a spherical and cylindrical substance ($X = R_0 - R$) based on: (i) initial particle size (R_0), (ii) Fe^0 depletion quantity (V_{oxide}), initial Fe^0 amount (V_{zvi}), and (iii) dissolved oxygen availability (η value). The work of Domga *et al* in 2015 made it possible to model these parameters in the operation of the Fe^0 filter for the better control of its design for spherical-shaped particles. The work of Domga *et al* in 2017 on cylindrical iron particles enabled us to establish a

mathematical model taking into account particle radius, oxygen level and the volumetric proportion of Fe⁰. This modeling work, carried out on cylindrical iron particles, did not take into account the variation in the height of Fe⁰ particles with the variation in particle size radius. This parameter influences the production of iron corrosion products in Fe⁰ filters. This parameter influences the production of iron corrosion products in Fe⁰ filters. This research work aims at recapitulating and complementing more recent works and consolidating/providing a scientific base for the designation of a cylindrically-shaped Fe⁰ filter while taking into account the loss of iron radius consumed with a variation in particle height. It shows how to properly characterize.

2. Materials and Methods

Calculation of $X=R_0-R$; $Y=h_0-h$

The approach utilized in this section includes determining the decrease in radius ($X=R_0-R$) and height ($Y=h_0-h$) of an individual cylindrical Fe⁰ grain and studying their effects on reducing porosity.

2.1 Evaluation of $X = R_0 - R$; $Y = h_0 - h$

In this analysis, we will examine cylindrical particles that have the same radius R_0 and height. The volume of these particles (V_{part}) is given by $V_{part} = Sh_0 = h_0\pi R_0^2$, where h_0 is the height of particles. The number of particle (N_{ZVI}) filling a volume V_{ZVI} is $N_{ZVI}=V_{ZVI}/V_{part}$. The mass of a particle (m_{part}) is expressed by $m_{part} = \rho V_{part}$, where ρ is the specific weight of the material. At the initial time ($t_0=0$), the mass of a particle is $m_{opart} = \pi\rho h_0 R_0^2$ and its volume at time $t > t_0$ is $m_{part} = \pi\rho h R^2$. The mass loss correspondent can be determined as:

$$\delta_m = m_{opart} - m_{part} = \rho h_0 \pi R_0^2 - \rho h \pi R^2.$$

Replacing $R = R_0 - X$ and $h = h_0 - Y$

$$\delta_m = m_{opart} - m_{part} = \pi\rho(h_0 R_0^2 - h R^2)$$

Substituting R and h into the previous equation δ_m reads as:

$$\delta_m = -\pi\rho[X^2(h_0 - Y) - 2R_0X(h_0 - Y) - YR_0^2] \quad (1)$$

For a system containing N_{ZVI} particle, the mass loss for the whole system, containing N_{ZVI} particles is given by Eq. (2):

$$\Delta_m = -\sum_1^{N_{ZVI}} \pi\rho[X^2(h_0 - Y) - 2R_0X(h_0 - Y) - YR_0^2] \quad (2)$$

V_{ZVI} , R_0 and h_0 are the variables that serve as parameters in this equation. $X=0$, $Y=0$, are associated to the initial particle as $R=R_0$, $h=h_0$. $X=R_0$, $Y=h_0$ are associated to Fe⁰ total depletion as $R=0$, $h=0$. The volume of oxide (V_{ox}) produced and the initial pore volume (V_{pore}) of the filter parameters are involved in Fe⁰ depletion. If $V_{ox} \leq V_{pore}$, Fe⁰ complete depletion can be achieved else Fe⁰ depletion should be partial since a fraction of the initial quantity of Fe⁰ will not react because space is needed for volumetric expansion. This surplus Fe⁰ demonstrates a pure material wastage (Togue-Kamga et al., 2011; Antia et al., 2014). In the case that ($V_{ox} = V_{pore}$) associates to entire pore fouling by iron corrosion products, R_0 is equal to X and h_0 is equal to Y . Hence, the discussion about system clogging should be appropriate with Eq. (2) only if R_0 is larger than X ($R_0 > X$) and h_0 is larger than h ($h_0 > Y$).

$$\Delta_m = \rho \times \Delta V_{ZVI} = \rho \times V_{oxyde} / (\eta - 1) \quad (3)$$

$$\Delta V_{ZVI} = V_{oxyde} / (\eta - 1) \quad (4)$$

Rahman et al., 2013 has established the relationship (Eq. (4)) between ΔV_{ZVI} and V_{oxyde} .

Rearranging Eq. (2), Eq. (3) and Eq. (4) yields the following second degree equation in X (Eq. (5)):

$$[X^2(h_0 - Y) - 2R_0X(h_0 - Y) - YR_0^2] + \frac{V_{oxyde}}{V_{ZVI}} \times \frac{h_0 R_0^2}{(\eta - 1)} = 0 \quad (5)$$

Eq. (5) is suitable to discuss system clogging following Fe⁰ depletion. This equation shows that the degree of radius reduction of a Fe⁰ particle are determined by the following factors: the initial dimension of the particles (R_0 , h_0), the volume of oxide produce (V_{oxide}), the initial volume of Fe⁰ (V_{Fe^0}), and the accessibility of dissolved oxygen (η value). As the intrinsic reactivity of Fe⁰ material is not developed in Eq. (5), this equation should be

frequently used to design experiment with Fe⁰. Eq. (5) should be also regularly used to assess the results with different materials under comparable conditions. Ideally, such a systematic research should be performed under unified experimental conditions (standard protocols). To extend the life service of systems, non-expansive materials (e.g. sand) should be admixed to Fe⁰. In this case, Eq. (5) has to heed the case of mixture systems. The volumetric ratio of Fe⁰ in the solid mixture, $V_{ZVI} = \tau_{ZVI} V_{solid}$ and Eq. (5) is rearranged as:

$$X^2(h_0 - Y) - 2R_0X(h_0 - Y) - YR_0^2 + \left(\frac{V_{oxyde}}{V_{solide}}\right) \times \frac{h_0R_0^2}{[\tau_{ZVI} \times (\eta - 1)]} = 0 \quad (6)$$

2.2 Expression of the extent of Fe⁰ depletion

Eq. (6) is solve analytically to find the values of X as function of Y. Non porous materials are considered. Since $0 < X < R_0$ and $0 < Y < h_0$, Eq. (6) include two solutions but only one solution is physically acceptable. To solve Eq. (6) a theoretical system with a total volume of 1000 mL and a porosity of 36% containing Fe⁰ particles with equal radius of 1.0 mm and equal height of 2.0 mm is assumed. In such a system the initial $V_{Fe^0} = 640$ mL yielding an initial pore volume $V_{pore} = 360$ mL. The volumetric expansion coefficient η values (2.08, 3.75, 4.20 and 6.40) used are provided by Caré *et al.*, 2008.

The proportion law is used to determine the residual Fe⁰ mass associated to X and Y value as:

$$m = m_0 \frac{(h_0 - Y)(R_0 - X)^2}{R_0^2 h_0} \quad (7)$$

The weight percent of Fe⁰ corroded and the percent of remaining Fe⁰ are wrote Eq (8) and Eq (9) as:

$$P_R = 100 (m/m_0) = 100 \frac{(h_0 - Y)(R_0 - X)^2}{R_0^2 h_0} \quad (8)$$

$$P_C = 100 - P_R \quad (9)$$

P_R and P_C are respectively the residual and the consumed mass percent of Fe⁰.

Similarly, the volumetric percent of Fe⁰ corroded is wrote Eq. (10) as:

$$V = V_0 \frac{(h_0 - Y)(R_0 - X)^2}{R_0^2 h_0} \quad (10)$$

3. Results and Discussion

3.1 Dissolved oxygen level and porosity loss

Figure 1 summarizes the extent for Fe⁰ consumption as function of the volumetric expansion coefficient of iron corrosion (η values). Working conditions: $V_{system} = 1.0$ L, initial porosity (Φ_0) = 36%, $R_0 = 1.0$ mm, $h_0 = 2$ mm. Uniform corrosion is assumed and material is supposed to be compact cylindrical particles. The initial systems porosity $\Phi_0 = 36\%$. In real systems, irregularly shaped particles are fundamentally more porous ($\Phi_0 > 36\%$) (Kamolpornwijit and Liang, 2006; Jeon *et al.*, 2008).

Dissolved oxygen is probably the most corrosive factor of iron under environmental conditions (Mackenzie *et al.*, 1999; Kamolpornwijit *et al.*, 2003; caré *et al.*, 2008; Bartzas and Komnitsas, 2010; Caré *et al.*, 2013). Resulting from the products of corrosion, it is a mixture of hydrated iron and crystallized oxides, generally called rust. This study deals with the relationship between oxygen availability and porosity/permeability loss. The presentation in this section is limited to showing the relationship between O₂ availability and the nature of the products of iron corrosion. **Figure 1** respectively give the results of the variation of the radius as a function of the height of the cylindrical particles for four values of the volumetric expansion coefficient η . The selected values represent the variant operating conditions of the anoxic (absence of O₂) conditions ($\eta = 2.08$ -Fe₃O₄) under oxic (presence of O₂) conditions ($\eta = 6.40$ - Fe (OH)₃ .6H₂O) (Rahman *et al.*, 2013). It is evident from **Figure 1** that only the systems studied under anoxic conditions could reach a value of X/R₀ close to 94.94% and Y/h₀ close to 95.5%, corresponding approximately to 100% of the initial amount of Fe⁰ consumed. The amount of Fe⁰ consumed in all other systems is less than 100%. Therefore, a fraction of the initial quantity of Fe⁰ will not react. For the systems

studied under oxic conditions the value of X/R_0 is less than 10.33% and Y/h_0 less than 19.5%, corresponding approximately to 20% of the initial amount of Fe^0 consumed. Fe^0 depletion should be partial because space is needed for volumetric expansion. **Figure 1** shows that the amount of Fe^0 consumed increases in all systems when volumetric expansion coefficient decrease (i.e availability of O_2 is reduced). Previous results show that all Fe^0 -durable filters are those containing spherical particles (Rahman et al., 2013; Domga et al., 2015b) and operate under anoxic conditions. This study shows that all Fe^0 -lasting filters are those operating under anoxic environmental conditions. This knowledge demonstrates that dissolved oxygen is the most corrosive factor of iron under environmental conditions (Caré et al., 2013). The oxidation of iron in the Fe^0 system strongly influences the permeability loss process and therefore its durability (Mackenzie et al., 1999).

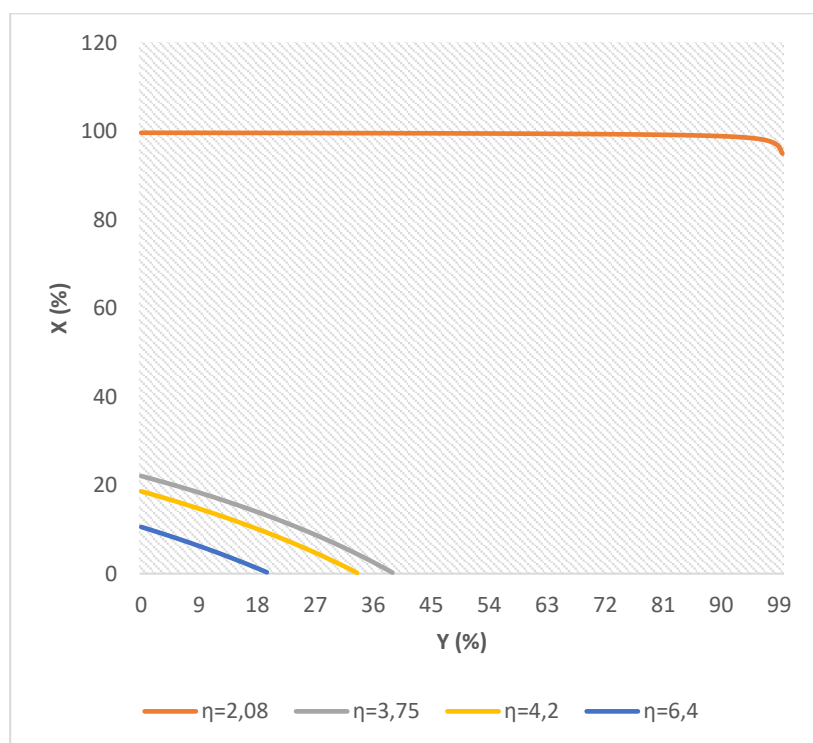


Figure 1. Effect of the volumetric expansion coefficient of iron corrosion (η values) on the Fe^0 consumption extension ($\tau=0.521$).

Table 1. Effect of the volumetric expansion coefficient of iron corrosion (η values) on the Fe^0 consumption extension ($\tau=0.521$).

η	2.08	3.75	4.20	6.40
Oxide	Fe_3O_4	$Fe(OH)_2$	$Fe(OH)_3$	$Fe(OH)_3 \cdot 6H_2O$
X (mm)	0.26	nd	nd	nd
Y (mm)	0.52	nd	nd	nd
R (mm)	0.74	1.00	1.00	1.00
h (mm)	1.48	2.00	2.00	2.00
P_R (%)	40.52	100.00	100.00	100.00
P_C (%)	59.48	0.00	0.00	0.00

Table 1 shows the variation in oxygen level, taking into account the variation in radius with the height of the cylindrical iron particles in the system. From this table, it emerges that: the variation of η for values ranging from 2.08 to 6.40, is only favorable under anoxic conditions ($\eta = 2.08 - Fe_3O_4$) with a percentage of iron consumed of 59.48% and 0.00% under oxic conditions ($\eta = 6.40 - Fe(OH)_3$). Research by Domga et al in 2017 showed that for a variation in cylindrical particle radius at constant height the percentage of iron consumed is 51% under anoxic conditions ($\eta = 2.08 - Fe_3O_4$) and 9.75% under oxic conditions ($\eta = 6.40 - Fe(OH)_3$). The percentage of iron

consumption under anoxic conditions ($\eta = 2.08\text{-Fe}_3\text{O}_4$) is greater than under oxic conditions, this result confirms the work of Domga *et al* in 2015 carried out on the variation in the radius of spherical iron particles. The variation in radius with the variation in height of cylindrical iron particles is a parameter to be taken into account when assessing the percentage of iron consumed in the system.

3.2 Effect of the volumetric fraction of Fe^0 in the material mixture

Eq. (6) is solve for four different values of τ_{Fe^0} under anoxic conditions ($\eta = 2.08$). The results are summarized in **Figure 2**. This figure shows the variation percentage of X/R_0 as a function of Y/h_0 for different values of τ_{Fe^0} . Four values of τ_{ZVI} under anoxic environment are used to solve graphically Eq.(6) and therefore determine Fe^0 depletion extension as function of its initial volumetric fraction in the system. It is shown from **Figure 2** that all the different values of τ_{ZIV} are solutions of the equation.

This system studied under anoxic conditions reach a value of X/R_0 close to 94.94 % and Y/h_0 close to 95.5 %, corresponding approximately to 100% of the initial amount of Fe^0 consumed for Fe^0 -filters containing 52.084% Fe^0 (v/v) of cylindrical particles. The amount of Fe^0 consumed in all other systems is less than 100%. For a systems containing 100 % Fe^0 (v/v) of cylindrical particles under anoxic conditions, X/R_0 reach a value close to 30.60 % and Y/h_0 close to 52 %, corresponding approximately to 52% of the initial amount of Fe^0 consumed. In this case these filters should be effective but not durable. **Figure 2** shows that the amount of Fe^0 consumed decreases in Fe^0 systems when volumetric fraction increases. This study shows that all Fe^0 - lasting filters are those inclosing 52,084 % Fe^0 (v/v) for cylindrical particles and operate under anoxic conditions.

Previous work shows that the system consists of spherical particles with the value $\tau_{\text{ZVI}} > 0.5209$ (52.0 % Fe^0 (v/v)), is clogged before the complete consumption of Fe^0 , while other systems with τ_{ZVI} values less than 0.5209 do not clog (Domga *et al.*, 2015b). In these systems, the complete consumption of Fe^0 is likely to occur during the remediation time, depending on the intrinsic reactivity of the material used and the impact of the environmental conditions of this.

Despite documentation of the loss of hydraulic conductivity of Fe^0 filters for contaminant-free systems (Luo *et al.*, 2013), 100 % Fe^0 filters are not durable as well as filters using cylindrical particles. In such system particle height varies with the radius regardless of the value of τ_{ZVI} used. Permeability loss of Fe^0 filters for contaminant free systems has been documented (Henderson and Demond, 2013). Although it is not necessarily due to complete pore filling, but mostly due to reduced interconnectivity of pores, these results critically question the rationale for building Fe^0 PRBs, incorporating Fe^0 filters containing zones with 100 % Fe^0 .

Table 2. Effect of volumetric proportion of iron (τ_{ZVI}) in the solid fraction on Fe^0 depletion ($\eta = 2.08$)

τ	1	0.52	0.35	0.20	0.10
X (mm)	0.26	0.11	0.07	0.04	0.02
Y (mm)	0.52	0.22	0.14	0.08	0.04
R (mm)	0.74	0.89	0.93	0.96	0.98
h (mm)	1.48	1.78	1.86	1.92	1.96
P_R (%)	40.52	70.50	80.44	88.47	94.12
P_C (%)	59.48	29.50	19.56	11.53	5.88

Table 2 shows the variation in volumetric fraction, taking into account the variation in radius with height of the cylindrical iron particles in the system. The variation in rate for values ranging from 1 to 0.1 results in a decrease in the percentage of iron consumed in the system from 59.48% to 5.88%, when taking into account the variation in radius with particle height. For a constant particle size height, the percentage of iron consumed varies from 51 to 100% for rate values ranging from 1 to 0.1. The variation of radius with height influences the percentage of iron consumed when rates are taken into account in the system.

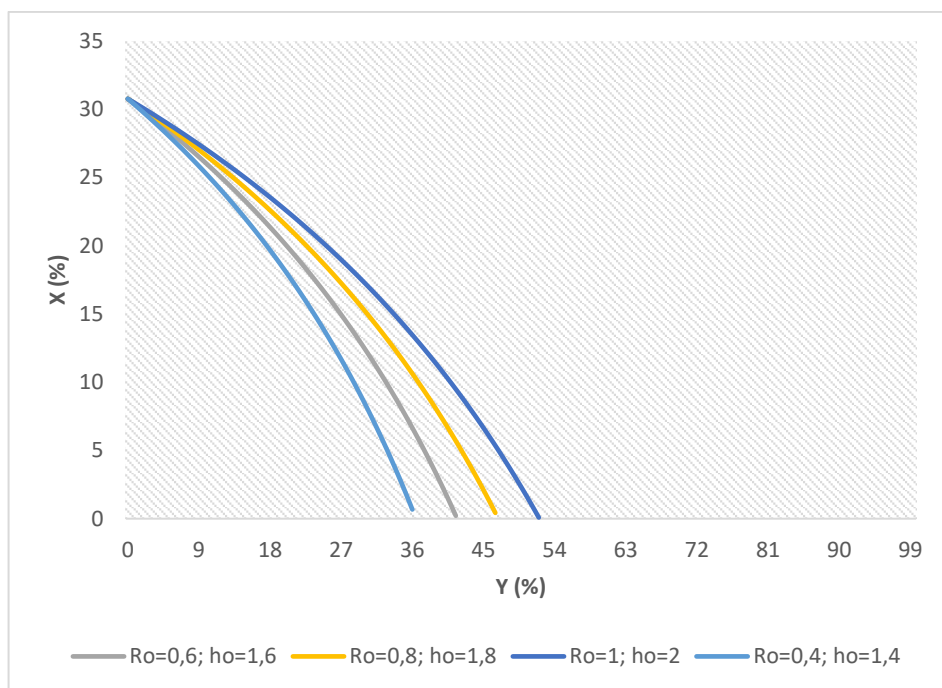


Figure 2. Effect of volumetric proportion of iron (τ_{zvi}) in the solid fraction on Fe^0 depletion ($\eta = 2.08$).

3.3 Impact of the initial Fe^0 particle size

Beside τ_{zvi} and η values, an essential parameter for the effectiveness of a Fe^0 filter is the range of the particles used (R_0 and h_0). **Figure 3** summarizes the results of the solution Eq. 6 as a function of X and Y for four different values of R_0 and h_0 . For this work, the uniform corrosion is supposed and we set the volume of the system (11), the initial porosity ($\Phi_0 = 36\%$), the volumetric expansion ($\eta = 2.08$) and the volumetric proportion ($\tau_{zvi} = 1$). From **Figure 3**, it is obvious that a systems containing cylindrical particles ($R_0 = 1\text{ mm}$ and $h_0 = 2\text{ mm}$) under anoxic conditions, X/R_0 and Y/h_0 reach values close to 30.42 % and 52 % respectively. While a systems containing cylindrical particles ($R_0 = 0.8\text{ mm}$ and $h_0 = 1.8\text{ mm}$) in the same environment conditions, X/R_0 and Y/h_0 reach values close to 30.42 % and 36 % respectively, corresponding in both cases approximately to 52 % of the initial amount of Fe^0 consumed. This study shows that in all Fe^0 -filters containing cylindrical particles and operate under anoxic conditions, the amount of Fe^0 consumed increases with the initial Fe^0 particle size. However, the magnitude of Fe^0 consumption for different Fe^0 particles size is less than 100 % ($P_c < 100\%$) in the system during the variation of cylindrical particle radius with height. Nevertheless, it should be kept in mind that the larger particles are of similar low reactivity. This was the reason for the introduction of nanoparticles from Fe^0 materials (Zhang et al., 1998).

Table 3. Effect of Fe^0 initial particle size (R_0 , h_0) on the Fe^0 consumption extension

R_0 (mm)	h_0 (mm)	X (mm)	Y (mm)	R (mm)	h (mm)	P_R (%)	P_C (%)
1.00	2	0.305	0.520	0.095	1.040	0.383	99.617
0.80	1.8	0.305	0.465	0.295	1.185	4.457	95.543
0.60	1.6	0.305	0.415	0.495	1.335	10.528	89.472
0.40	1.4	0.305	0.360	0.695	1.480	16.785	83.215

Table 3 shows the variation in particle size, taking into account the variation in radius with the height of the cylindrical iron particles in the system. Y values decrease with particle height, R decreases with increasing particle height for constant X values. The percentage of residual iron increases with decreasing particle height from 0.383 to 16.785% for initial heights ranging from 2.00 to 1.40 mm and initial radii from 1.00 to 0.40 mm, while the percentage of iron consumed decreases from 99.617 to 83.215% with increasing particle heights and radii. The

variation in radius with height influences the percentage of iron consumed when the variation in particle height in the system is taken into account.

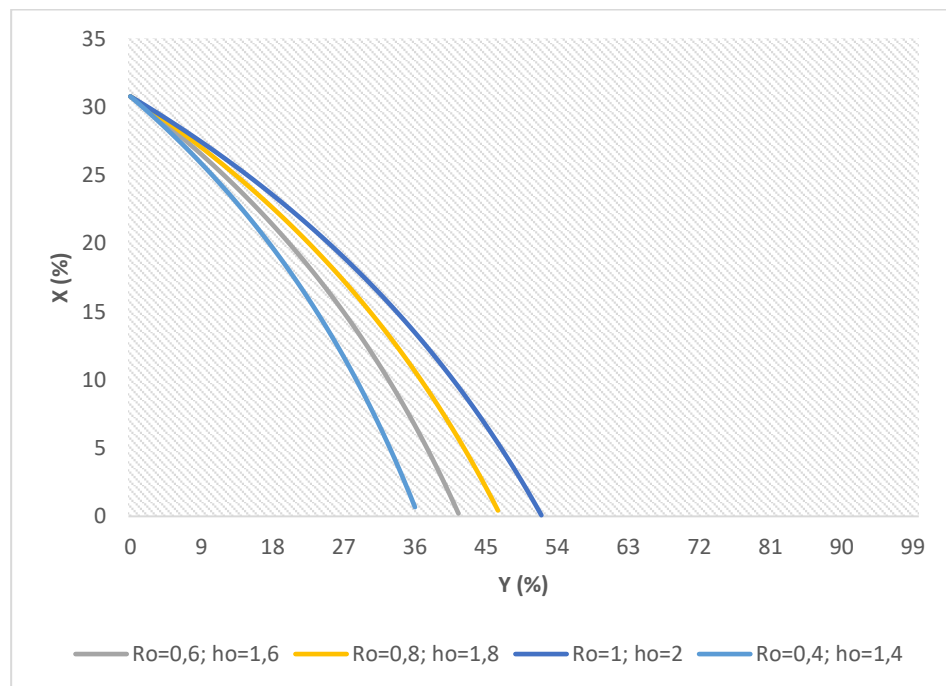


Figure 3. Effect of Fe^0 initial particle size (R_0 , h_0) on the Fe^0 consumption extension

4. Conclusion

In this work, a new universal equation of the cylindrical particles of the Fe^0 filters is developed, control parameters are X (the initial radius R_0), Y (the initial height of Fe^0 particles), the initial porosity of the filter, the coefficient of volumetric expansion (availability of O_2) and the volumetric fraction of Fe^0 in the material mixture. These various relevant parameters analysed have demonstrated that the oxidation of iron in the Fe^0 system strongly influences the permeability loss process and therefore its durability. The results showed that the variation of the cylindrical iron particles radius and height do not necessary causes a higher consumption of the iron under the anoxic conditions. However, the change of the volumetric proportion and the volumetric fraction of Fe^0 in the material mixture strongly initiate a higher consumption of the iron under the anoxic conditions. Modelling the evolution of hydraulic conductivity in modified Fe^0 filters should be improved by using the ray and height loss expression of each reactive particle provided in this work.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

Author contributions

For this research paper, Conceptualization, Domga Richard; methodology, Kom Blaise; software, Musongo Balike; validation, Togue Kamga Fulbert and Tchatchueng Jean Bosco; formal analysis, Inna Samomssa; investigation, Inna Samomssa; resources, Domga Richard; data curation, Togue Kamga Fulbert; writing—original draft preparation, Domga Richard; writing—review and editing, Musongo Balike; visualization, Togue Kamga Fulbert; supervision, Tchatchueng Jean Bosco; project administration, Togue Kamga Fulbert. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

Declaration

This article is a continuation of research by Domga et al., 2017.

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