Monochloramine dissipation mechanisms in storm sewer systems

by

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### ABSTRACT

Many municipalities in Canada and all over the world use chloramination for drinking water secondary disinfection to avoid DBPs formation from conventional chlorination. However, the long-lasting monochloramine (NH<sub>2</sub>Cl) disinfectant can pose a significant risk to aquatic life through its introduction into municipal storm sewer systems and thus fresh water sources by residential, commercial, and industrial water uses. To establish guidelines for total active chlorine (TAC) containing water discharge in storm sewers, the stormwater TAC concentration was monitored in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, during the summers of 2015 and 2016. The results showed that TAC concentration varied from 0.02 to 0.77 mg/L in summer 2015, which exceeds the discharge effluent limit of 0.02 mg/L. As compared to 2015, the TAC concentrations were significantly lower during summer 2016 (0 to 0.24 mg/L), most likely because of the higher precipitation during summer 2016, which probably reduced outdoor tap water uses. Other physicochemical characteristics of stormwater and biological community distribution of sewer pipe biofilm were analyzed, and no significant difference was found during these two years. The statistical analysis of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay laboratory experiments illustrated that natural organic matter (NOM) concentration is the dominant factor in determining the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rate in stormwater samples.

The NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation mechanisms were first studied in the presence of tap water, as it is the major source of TAC in storm sewers. A good model allowing prediction of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss in tap water can assist in the understanding of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation mechanisms in stormwater. In tap water, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss rate can be influenced by temperature, pH, Cl/N molar ratio, the initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and NOM concentrations. In this research, a kinetic model was developed to predict the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss under various conditions. A temperature-dependent model was also developed. As NOM is the dominant factor that contributes to the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay in stormwater, to study the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation mechanisms, the reactions between NOM and active chlorine species were first studied. In this research, it is proposed that NOM reacts with both NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and free chlorine released from NH<sub>2</sub>Cl auto-decay. Based on this assumption, a kinetic model was developed and applied to estimate the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay in stormwater samples, and the modeling results matched well with the experimental data under all the conditions. Further, the stormwater dissolved organic matter (SWDOM) collected from various neighborhoods were analyzed by FTIR and fluorescence EEM techniques. Humic substances were found to be dominant in SWDOM both before and after chloramination.

To study the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological decay, stormwater biofilms were cultured in annular reactors on PCV and cement materials under operational conditions similar to the storm sewer environment. The results indicate that under the same operational condition, higher abundances of total bacteria, ammonia oxidizing bacteria (AOB) and nitrite oxidizing bacteria functional gene copies could be detected on cement slides as opposed to those on PVC materials. Further, batch experiments were conducted to study the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation kinetics in the presence of stormwater biofilms. Three pathways that contribute to NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay were evaluated: (i) direct NH<sub>2</sub>Cl reaction with biofilm, (ii) AOB cometabolism, and (iii) the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl reaction with AOB utilized associated products, and a kinetic model was developed to predict these dissipation processes in storm sewers. The modeled results showed good matches with the experimental data, which is suggested that this model can be used to describe the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation under various stormwater conditions.

Finally, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl auto-, chemical and biological dissipation pathways were summarized in this research. Field tests were conducted to study the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation with continuous tap water discharge into storm sewers. The results showed a significant decrease of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration from the discharge point to the sampling point at the beginning of discharge, while the decreases reduced with discharge time. To describe this continuous discharge process, a time coefficient f was introduced into the model. With the calibration by f, the modeled results can describe well the sampling data under various discharge times. The field sample analysis and model development in this research not only can be applied to the regulation of tap water outdoor discharge in Edmonton, but also can provide useful information for the stormwater chloramination studies in other regions.

#### PREFACE

All of the research in this thesis was designed and planned by myself under the supervision from Dr. Yang Liu at University of Alberta. All the published, submitted and to be submitted research works were compiled by myself, my supervisor Dr. Yang Liu and the following contributions from collaborators and co-authors.

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Chapter 6: Dr. Evan Davies, Dr. James Bolton contributed to the manuscript edits.

Chapter 7: Mr. Gaafar Mohamed and Dr. Evan Davies contributed to the location selection and field plan development.

# **DEDICATION**

I dedicate my thesis work to:

*My parents Mr. Bo Zhang and Mrs. Chaoyang Qian, who gave me unconditional supports for every decision I made and encouraged me to overcome the difficulties in my life.* 

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# **ABBREVIATIONS**

AMO	Monooxygenase
AOB	Ammonia oxidizing bacteria
BAPs	Biomass associated products
BOD <sub>5</sub>	5 day biochemical oxygen demand
CCME	Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment
Cl/N	Active chlorine to ammonia-nitrogen ratio
COD	Chemical oxygen demand
СОМ	Commercial
DBPs	Disinfection by-products
DO	Dissolved oxygen
DOC	Dissolved organic carbon
DOC <sub>r</sub>	Reactive dissolved organic carbon
DOM	Dissolved organic matter
DPD	N, N-diethyl- <i>p</i> -phenylenediamine
EEM	Excitation-Emission Matrix
EPS	Extracellular polymeric substance
FTIR	Fourier transform infrared
HAAs	Haloacetic acids
HANs	Haloacetonitriles
IND	Industrial
NOB	Nitrite oxidizing bacteria
NOM	Natural organic matter

NRNOM	Nordic Reservoir dissolved organic matter
ORP	Oxidation/reduction potential
РАО	phenylarsine oxide
PRK	Park
PVC	Polyvinyl chloride
qPCR	Real-time quantitative polymerase chain reaction
RES	Residential
S <sub>total</sub>	Total free chlorine and NH <sub>2</sub> Cl reactive fractions
SWDOM	Stormwater dissolved organic matter
TAC	Total active chlorine
TDS	Total dissolved solids
THMs	Trihalomethanes
TOTNH3	Total free ammonia
TSS	Total suspended solids
UAPs	Utilization associated products

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#### **CHAPTER 1. GENERAL INTRODUCTION AND RESEARCH OBJECTIVES**

# 1.1. Background

#### 1.1.1. Chlorination and chloramination in drinking water disinfection

At the turn of twentieth century, chlorine as a disinfectant was widely used for drinking water disinfection as it is highly effective in microbial disinfection (Crittenden et al., 2012). In the chlorination process, chlorine gas is initially introduced into water, and rapidly reacts with water to form hydrochloric acid through the following reaction:  $Cl_2 (g) + H_2O \rightarrow HCl + HOCl$ . hypochlorous acid (HOCl), hypochlorite (OCl<sup>-</sup>) and solved chlorine gas (Cl<sub>2</sub>) are called free chlorine. Free chlorine species are highly reactive in water. They not only kill microorganisms, but also react with natural organic matter (NOM) in water and form disinfection by-products (DBPs). Chlorinated DBPs can cause harmful impacts to human health, and mainly consist of trihalomethanes (THMs), haloacetic acids (HAAs), haloacetonitriles (HANs), haloketone, etc. (Hrudey, 2009; Kim et al., 2003; Morris et al., 1980). Further, free chlorine is volatile, which causes a decrease of its disinfection efficiency after water flows into drinking water distribution systems, thus leading to the regrowth of bacteria.

To reduce the formation of DBPs and to keep a disinfection effect in the distribution system, chloramination is applied widely for drinking water secondary disinfection. In addition to chlorination, ammonia gas is added to react with free chlorine species and produce inorganic chloramines. Inorganic chloramines are also called combined chlorine, which include monochloramine (NH<sub>2</sub>Cl), dichloramine (NHCl<sub>2</sub>) and trichloramine (NCl<sub>3</sub>). In drinking water chloramination, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl is the dominant disinfectant. Because of its better oxidation ability and long-lasting property, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl presents a better disinfection efficiency than do NHCl<sub>2</sub> and NCl<sub>3</sub>. Compared with free chlorine, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl is less reactive, and produces lower concentrations of DBPs.

In addition, the persistent residual of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl can provide continuous disinfection effects after drinking water flows into distribution systems (Brodtmann and Russo, 1979; Mitcham et al., 1983; Norman et al., 1980). As a result of such advantages, chloramination is widely applied for secondary disinfection by water utilities.

### 1.1.2. The pathways of chloraminated water discharge into fresh water sources

Because NH<sub>2</sub>Cl is comparably stable in water, it can lead to detrimental environmental influence by its introduction into storm sewers and fresh water sources. Tap water can be discharged into storm sewer systems through various outdoor tap water uses, such as car washing, garden and lawn irrigation, and driveway washing.

Residential outdoor tap water usage commonly happens from spring to fall, and reaches the peak during summer months (Lyman, 1992). The study from White et al. (2004) showed that during summer period, 40 to 60% of residential water consumption in Texas was outdoor water uses, and most of it was associated with lawn and plant irrigation activities. Further, the water usage data in Phoenix indicated that 60%-75% of residential water was used to maintain outdoor landscaping and swimming pools (Balling et al., 2008). In Canada, residential outdoor tap water uses also account for a large percentage, and mainly are allocated to landscaping irrigation and swimming pools. According to the study from Mayer et al., (1999), 58% of annual water use was for outdoor purposes in Waterloo and Cambridge, Ontario. Further, their research showed that the percentage of outdoor water usage was highly related to climate. With drier climates such as those Tempe and Scottsdale, the ratio of outdoor residential water usage was as twice as that for cities with wetter climates.

In addition to residential landscaping, the lawn watering from public parks, commercial golf courses also increase the outdoor tap water usage, especially during summer months. The

irrigation frequency is highly related to precipitation. As such, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl contamination is more likely to occur during dry weather periods.

Commercial car washing accounts for only approximately 1% of municipal water usage, and the dirty wash water is typically discharged into sanitary sewer systems (Brown, 2002, 2000; Sablayrolles et al., 2010; Zaneti et al., 2012), which does not impact the water quality in storm sewer systems. However, the situation is unclear for car dealerships and car rental companies. If the vehicle wash wastewater from dealerships and rental companies is discharged directly into storm sewers, it can lead to subsequent stormwater contamination.

Finally, the integrity of large-volume pressure-vessels from industrial production is tested by filling them with tap water. The size of these vessels, such as boilers and large storage tanks, varies from an inner diameter of 60 cm (PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, 2008) to 10.7 m and 76 m in length (Cessco Fabrication and Engineering Ltd, 2014). After hydro-testing, the tap water is occasionally discharged to the stormwater system without dechloramination (Zhang et al., 2018), and causes active chlorine contamination of the stormwater.

## 1.1.3. The harmful impact of active chlorine species on the aquatic environment

Total active chlorine (TAC), which is the sum of free chlorine and combined chlorine, can cause great harm to the aquatic environment. Brungs (1973) showed that with continuous discharge, the TAC concentration of effluent discharge should not exceed 0.01 and 0.002 mg/L to protect aquatic biotas. His research also suggested that with intermittent discharge of TAC containing water for 2 hours/day, the TAC concentration should not exceed 0.04 mg/L. In 1984, Brooks and Bartos reported that with an exposure duration of 2 hours, the active chlorine has 1% lethal and 50% lethal concentrations of as low as 0.06 mg/L and 0.08 mg/L respectively to some fish (Brooks and Bartos, 1984). In 1985, EPA proposed that 0.0053 mg/L of TAC could cause

50% mortality to some invertebrate species (United States Environmental Protection Agency, 1985). Moreover, as compared with free chlorine species, long-lasting chloramines showed chronic risk to fish growth with a much lower concentration (Brungs, 1973). Therefore, to protect aquatic life, the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment guidelines listed a maximum TAC concentration in surface waters of only 0.5  $\mu$ g/L (CCME, 1999), and reduced the permissible TAC concentration in discharged effluent from 0.2 to 0.02 mg/L in their Canada-wide strategy (CCME, 2009).

The NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration in Edmonton tap water is commonly around 2 mg active Cl/L. As aquatic organisms are sensitive to TAC, the tap water discharge into storm sewer systems may pose mortal damage to them. To protect aquatic environment and to adhere to the CCME's guideline, the TAC concentrations in stormwater should be monitored, especially during the summer period. Further, although NH<sub>2</sub>Cl is persistent in tap water, it can still dissipate through various pathways. Therefore, the study of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation mechanisms in storm sewer systems is also urgently needed.

## **1.2. Research scope and objectives**

#### 1.2.1. Research needs

Although chloramination has long been used in drinking water distribution system, the contamination of stormwater and fresh water sources by NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and other active chlorine species from tap water discharge has not received considerable attention. In addition, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation processes have been well studied in drinking water distribution systems. However, the stormwater qualities show significant difference from drinking water, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation mechanisms in drinking water cannot be directly applied for storm sewer systems. The understanding on the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay mechanisms in storm sewers is still lacking.

### **1.2.2. Research objectives**

The main objectives of this research are (1) to elucidate NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation mechanisms in stormwater, and (2) to developing models to simulate NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation processes in storm sewers.

# **1.2.3. Research approach**

To achieve research objectives, this research was conducted through the following three interconnected phases: (i) field investigation; (ii) laboratory study; (iii) model development. The detailed contents were described below and shown in Fig. 1.1.



Fig. 1.1. Flow chart of research route

# (i) Field investigation

Stormwater was collected twice per month from May to October in 2015 and April to October in 2016 under dry and wet weather conditions. Samples were collected from both upstream and downstream manholes in residential, park, commercial and industrial neighborhoods. Biofilm samples were collected on storm sewer pipes under the same neighborhoods. After samples were collected, the physiochemical characteristics of stormwater were measured. The bacterial community distribution in storm sewer pipes was also analyzed. In addition, the relationship between TAC concentration and perception was evaluated.

Moreover, the field NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay test was conducted in summer 2017, and the decay rate obtained in this field study was used for further model calibration.

The detailed methodology, results and discussions were presented in Chapters 3 and 7. (*ii*) *Laboratory study* 

The NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation pathways in storm sewer systems include (a) auto-decomposition; (b) chemical reactions with tap water and stormwater components; and (c) biological dissipation pathway. In laboratory studies, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay mechanisms through these three pathways were studied respectively.

NH<sub>2</sub>Cl auto-decomposition The NH<sub>2</sub>Cl auto-decomposition has been studied thoroughly in previous research. Based on the literature, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl auto-decomposition can be impacted by pH, temperature, the active chlorine to ammonium nitrogen ratio (Cl/N) and alkalinity concentrations. In this research, the reaction assumptions from the literature were directly applied in our study.

**Chemical reactions with tap water and stormwater components**  $NO_2^-$  and DOC are the two major components that react with NH<sub>2</sub>Cl in stormwater. Since the reactions with  $NO_2^-$  have been studied in literature, our research mainly focused on the reactions between NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and stormwater DOC. Further, under dry weather conditions, tap water was considered as the major TAC source in storm sewers with continuous discharge. Therefore, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay mechanism in tap water was also studied.

NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological dissipation pathway To study the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological dissipation in storm sewer systems, biofilms were cultured under stormwater conditions in annular reactors, and the microbial community distribution in reactor biofilms was studied. Moreover, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological dissipation experiments were conducted in reactors, and the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological decay mechanisms were evaluated.

The detailed methodology, results and discussions were presented in Chapters 4, 5 and 6. *(iii) Model development* 

With the results from literatures and laboratory experiments, kinetic models were developed to describe the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation processes through the three NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay pathways. Kinetic models are commonly used to describe the reaction rates of various reaction processes, with reaction rate coefficients provided to each reaction. The NH<sub>2</sub>Cl auto-decomposition model and the reaction with NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> were used from literatures. The NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay models in tap water and stormwater samples, and the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological dissipation model were developed in this research based on laboratory experimental results. Finally, the auto-, chemical and biological NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation models were combined to simulate the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in real storm sewers. The feasibility of this comprehensive model was validated though field NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation tests.

The detailed methodology, results and discussions were presented in Chapters 4, 5, 6 and 7.

## **1.3.** Thesis outline

The structure of this dissertation is presented below.

Chapter 1 introduces the general background and defines the scope and objectives of this research.

Chapter 2 compares different total and free chlorine analysis methods, and introduces the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl auto-decomposition, chemical reaction with various components and the biological dissipation pathways.

Chapter 4 investigates the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss mechanisms in tap water under various temperature, pH and Cl/N ratios and initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and natural organic matter (NOM) concentrations. A model was developed to describe the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation process in tap water

Chapter 3 presents the results from field data analysis of active chlorine-containing stormwater samples during summer 2015 and 2016. TAC concentration and other physicochemical and biological characteristics of stormwater and storm sewer biofilm samples collected from these two years were analyzed and compared. Moreover, laboratory experiments were conducted to find the dominant factor that contributes to NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in stormwater

Chapter 5 evaluates the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss mechanisms and dissolved organic matters characterization in stormwater. In this chapter, the reaction mechanisms between NOM and active chlorine species were studied, and stormwater NOM before and after chloramination were analyzed and compared. Further, a model was developed to simulate the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay in various stormwater samples

Chapter 6 studies the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological dissipation pathways. Storm sewer biofilms were cultured in annular reactors under various conditions. The biofilm microbial communities were identified and compared. Moreover, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological dissipation model was developed based on batch NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay experiments under various storm sewer conditions.

Chapter 7 combines the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation pathways described in previous chapters and compares the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation results from completed kinetic model with the results from field

NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation tests. Also, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay processes under various storm sewer conditions were simulated from the completed kinetic model.

Chapter 8 provides the general conclusions of this dissertation and the recommendations for future studies.

Appendix shows the additional data from stormwater field sampling and laboratory analysis

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#### **CHAPTER 2. LITERATURE REVIEW**

# 2.1. Comparison of analysis methods for active chlorine species

Active chlorine species are commonly analyzed in water and wastewater by the following methods: iodometric titration, amperometric titration, and N, N-diethyl-p-phenylenediamine (DPD) titration and colorimetry. The reactions involved in these methods are shown in Table 2.1.

Iodometric titration is used only for a total chlorine analysis, as both free and combined chlorine species react with the iodine ion ( $\Gamma$ ). Iodometric titration consists of forward and backward methods. The forward method is one of the oldest methods to determine active chlorine concentration. In this method, potassium iodide (KI) is added to samples to react with active chlorine species and produce the triiodide ion ( $I_3$ <sup>-</sup>). After all the active chlorine species react with  $\Gamma$ , a starch solution is added and the color of the sample turns blue. The triiodide ion ( $I_3$ <sup>-</sup>) is then titrated by 0.01 N or 0.025 N sodium thiosulfate (Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) to the colorless point (APHA/AWWA/WEF, 2012; Harp, 2002). In the backward iodometric titration method, a known volume of standard sodium thiosulfate (Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) or phenylarsine oxide (PAO) reagent is first added to samples to react with active chlorine species. As the sodium thiosulfate or phenylarsine oxide is in excess, the amount of unreacted reagent can be titrated by a standard iodine solution. The total chlorine is calculated by the volume of iodine solution used in the titration (APHA/AWWA/WEF, 2012). Note, the titration is recommended to be performed in a pH range of 3~4 and at a temperature below 20 °C. (APHA/AWWA/WEF, 2012).

The amperometric titration method measures active chlorine concentrations by a change in current that arises from the chemical reactions of the titrant in water samples. In this method, the current change is measured by a special amperometric cell. To determine free chlorine concentrations, phenylarsine oxide (PAO) is added to the sample to react with free chlorine species. Combined chlorine species react more slowly with PAO than free chlorine species. To quantify the combined chlorine species, the standard KI reagent is first added to samples to react with NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and NHCl<sub>2</sub>, and produce  $I_3^-$ . Then, the concentration of  $I_3^-$  can be titrated by the standard PAO reagent and measured to quantify the chlorine present in the sample (APHA/AWWA/WEF, 2012; Harp, 2002).

The DPD method is the most widely used method to determine free and total active chlorine concentrations in water and wastewater (Gordon et al., 1991). At a near neutral pH, in the presence of free chlorine species, a red color (Würster dye) forms rapidly with the addition of DPD reagent to the sample (Harp, 2002). Free chlorine concentrations can then be measured based on the color of Würster dye produced in the solution. DPD methods include a colorimetric method and a ferrous titration method. In the colorimetric method, the absorption of the red color is measured at a wavelength of 515 nm (Moberg and Karlberg, 2000). In the titration method, the red color is titrated with a standard ferrous reducing reagent such as ferrous ammonium sulfate to a colorless end point (Harp, 2002). Similar to the amperometric titration method, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and NHCl<sub>2</sub> react with DPD slowly. To measure total chlorine concentrations, a standard KI reagent is added into samples first, as iodine ion can react with DPD faster than NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and NHCl<sub>2</sub>. However, as there is no evidence that NCl<sub>3</sub> reacts with Γ, the NCl<sub>3</sub> concentration cannot be quantitated in the methods (Gordon et al., 1991).

Analysis method	Correlative reactions	
	$Cl_2 + 3I^2 \rightarrow I_3^2 + 2Cl^2$	
Formand	$\rm NH_2Cl + 3I^- + H_2O + H^+ \rightarrow \rm NH_4OH + Cl^- + I_3^-$	
Forward	$\mathrm{NHCl}_2 + 3\mathrm{I}^{\scriptscriptstyle -} + \mathrm{H}_2\mathrm{O} + 2\mathrm{H}^{\scriptscriptstyle +} \longrightarrow \mathrm{NH}_4\mathrm{OH} + 2\mathrm{Cl}^{\scriptscriptstyle -} + \mathrm{I}_3^{\scriptscriptstyle -}$	
Iodometric	$\mathrm{I_3}^- + 2\mathrm{S_2O_3}^{2-} \longrightarrow 3\mathrm{I}^- + \mathrm{S_4O_6}^{2-}$	
titration method	$Cl_2 + 2S_2O_3^{2-} \rightarrow 2Cl^- + S_4O_6^{2-}$	
Back	$\mathrm{NH_2Cl} + 2\mathrm{S_2O_3^{2-}} + \mathrm{H_2O} + \mathrm{H^+} \rightarrow \mathrm{S_4O_6^2} + \mathrm{NH_4OH} + \mathrm{Cl^-}$	
Dack	$NHCl_2 + 2S_2O_3^{2-} + H_2O + 2H^+ \rightarrow S_4O_6^2 + NH_4OH + 2Cl^-$	
	$I_3^- + 2S_2O_3^{2-} (excess) \rightarrow 3I^- + S_4O_6^{2-}$	
Amperometric titration method	(PAO) $ \begin{array}{c} & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & &$	
DPD colorimetry methods	(DPD) $\downarrow_{H_{3}C \ N \ CH_{3}}^{NH_{2}} + Cl_{2} \rightarrow W \ddot{u} rster dye (red color) + 2Cl^{-} + H^{+}$ $\downarrow_{H_{3}C \ N \ CH_{3}}^{NH_{2}} + I_{3}^{-} \rightarrow W \ddot{u} rster dye (red color) + 3l^{-} + H^{+}$	
Titration	Würster dye (red color) + $Fe^{2+} \rightarrow DPD + Fe^{3+}$	

**Table 2.1.** Reactions involved in the active chlorine analysis methods (APHA/AWWA/WEF, 2012; Harp, 2002)

In iodometric titration methods,  $I_3^-$  as the product from the forward iodometric titration  $(Cl_2 + 3I^- \rightarrow I_3^- + 2Cl^-)$ , is more easily oxidized than  $S_4O_6^{2-}$   $(Cl_2 + 2S_2O_3^{2-} \rightarrow 2Cl^- + S_4O_6^{2-})$ . Therefore, if a water sample contains high concentrations of interferences, inaccurate results are easily obtained using the forward method. However, the iodometric titration methods can only measure total active chlorine (TAC) concentrations higher than 1 mg/L. Since TAC concentrations in stormwater are significantly lower than 1 mg/L, these methods are not recommended to measure TAC concentrations in stormwater samples (Harp, 2002).

The amperometric titration method is generally considered to be the most accurate method to detect both free and combined chlorine species because it shows little effect of interferences. However, this method requires technical skill and a stable environment (APHA/AWWA/WEF, 2012), which cannot be achieved in the field, and it takes a longer time than colorimetric measurement methods.

The DPD titration method commonly shows inflated results compared to other methods (Derrigan et al., 1993), as DPD can react with the oxygen dissolved in the samples during the titration process, thus increasing the measurement results. Moreover,  $Fe^{2+}$  as the titrant reagent used in this method, is somewhat unstable and easily oxidized, which also increases the measurement results (Harp, 2002).

Reports in the literature have suggested that the DPD colorimetric method can provide measurement results as accurate as the amperometric titration method. In addition, the DPD colorimetric method is easy to operate in the field using a Hach Chlorine Test Kit, and colorimetric methods are faster than titration methods, which also benefits the field analysis (Wilde, 1991). Therefore, the DPD colorimetric method is considered to be the best method to measure active chlorine species in this research.

#### 2.2. NH<sub>2</sub>Cl auto-decomposition mechanisms and kinetic models

During chloramination, ammonia is used to convert residual chlorine to chloramines, which reduces the formation of disinfection by-products (DBPs). At near neutral pH, with an active chlorine to ammonia nitrogen (Cl/N) molar ratio < 1, monochloramine (NH<sub>2</sub>Cl) is the predominant chlorine species in tap water (Bernhardt et al., 2008; Crittenden et al., 2012; Valentine et al., 1988; Woolschlager et al., 2001). NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in storm sewers occurs in three pathways: (1) auto-decomposition, (2) the chemical reactions with chemicals such as  $NO_2^-$  and natural organic matter (NOM), and (3) biological dissipation.

Under near neutral pH, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl can auto-decompose through a series of reactions, and the auto-decomposition rate depends markedly on pH, temperature, the Cl/N molar ratio, alkalinity, and the initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration (Bal Krishna et al., 2012; Liu et al., 2011; Vikesland et al., 2001). At lower pH, higher temperature, a higher Cl/N molar ratio, and higher initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and alkalinity concentrations, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl auto-decomposition rate is accelerated (Vikesland et al., 2001). A kinetic model that described the reaction constants of all the reactions involved in chloramination was proposed by Jafvert and Valentine (1992). To simulate NH<sub>2</sub>Cl auto-decomposition under a more realistic condition, the model was modified by Vikesland and collegues in 2001. In tap water, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl is the dominant active chlorine species and the concentration of trichloramine (NCl<sub>3</sub>) can be ignored (Ma and Bibby, 2017). Therefore, reactions related to NCl<sub>3</sub> were removed from the model. As alkalinity is widely present in drinking water, the impact of alkalinity was considered in this model. This auto-decomposition model has been widely used in NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation studies, and has also been applied to describe the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl auto-decay processes in our research. The detailed reactions in this model are listed in Table 2.2.

No.	<b>Reaction Types</b>	<b>Reaction Equations</b>	References
1	Auto-decomposition reactions	$HOCl + NH_3 \rightleftharpoons NH_2Cl + H_2O$	Morris and Isaac, 1981
2		$HOCl + NH_2Cl \rightleftharpoons NHCl_2 + H_2O$	
3		$2NH_2Cl \rightarrow NHCl_2 + NH_3$	Jafvert and Valentine, 1992
4		$\rm NHCl_2 + \rm NH_3 \rightarrow 2\rm NH_2\rm Cl$	Hand and Margerum, 1983
5		$\rm NHCl_2 + H_2O \rightarrow I^a$	Jafvert and Valentine, 1987
6		$\mathrm{NHCl}_2 + \mathrm{I}  \mathrm{HOCl} + \mathrm{pd1^b}$	
7		$NH_2Cl + I \rightarrow pd2^b$	Leao, 1981
8		$NH_2Cl + NHCl_2 \rightarrow pd3^b$	
9	Equilibrium reactions	$HOCl = H^+ + OCl^-$	Snoeyink and Jenkins, 1980
10		$NH_4^+ = NH_3 + H^+$	
11		$\mathrm{H}_{2}\mathrm{CO}_{3}=\mathrm{HCO}_{3}^{-}+\mathrm{H}^{+}$	
12		$HCO_{3}^{-} = CO_{3}^{2-} + H^{+}$	

**Table 2.2.** NH<sub>2</sub>Cl auto-decomposition model developed by Vikesland et al. (2001)

a. I represents an unidentified intermediate.

b. pd1–pd3 (pd means products) may include  $N_2$ ,  $H_2O$ ,  $Cl^-$ ,  $H^+$ ,  $NO_3^-$ , and other unidentified products (Jafvert and Valentine, 1992).

# 2.3. NH<sub>2</sub>Cl reactions with chemical components

NOM and chemicals such as, nitrite (NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>), ferrous ion (Fe<sup>2+</sup>), and bromide (Br<sup>-</sup>) existing in natural water bodies and drinking water distribution systems can react with NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, thus accelerating NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rates in storm sewer systems (Vikesland et al., 2001; Wahman and Speitel, 2012; Zhang et al., 2017).

With excess ammonia added during chloramination, ammonia oxidizing bacteria (AOB) are able to grow in drinking water distribution systems and generate biofilms in distribution

systems. NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, an AOB metabolic product, can be produced through nitritation process and reacts with active chlorine species (AWWA, 2013, 2006; Sathasivan et al., 2009; Zhang et al., 2009). The reaction between hypochlorite (OCl<sup>-</sup>) and  $NO_2^-$  was well studied by researchers in the late 1980s (Dlyamandoglu et al., 1990; Hao et al., 1994). Compared to studies of free chlorine, the study of reactions between  $NH_2Cl$  and  $NO_2^-$  began relativity late. Valentine and Selleck, 1981, proposed that NO2<sup>-</sup> was not oxidized by NH2Cl in 1:1 stoichiometry. Following the reaction mechanisms of free chlorine and  $NO_2^{-}$ , Margerum et al. proposed the reaction expression and constants for NH<sub>2</sub>Cl with NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> in 1994. They assumed that NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> reacts with NH<sub>2</sub>Cl under acidic conditions, producing nitryl chloride (NO<sub>2</sub>Cl) as an intermediate, which is different from the reactions between OCl<sup>-</sup> and NO<sub>2</sub>Cl (Margerum et al., 1994). In the same year, the kinetics of reactions between NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> were evaluated by Hao et al. With the reaction rate constants developed in their research, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rate can be simulated under various pH, temperature, and initial ammonium, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, and NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> concentrations. These reactions were also used by Vikesland et al. (2001) in the development of the drinking water NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation model. In 2012, Wahman and Speitel proposed that the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and HOCl released from NH<sub>2</sub>Cl autodecomposition should be considered in the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation model, which helped to increase the accuracy of the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay model.

NOM widely exists in natural water bodies such us rivers (Hedges et al., 1994), lakes (Peuravuori et al., 1997), reservoirs (Qin et al., 2006), groundwater (Liu and Amy, 1993), and stormwater (McElmurry et al., 2014). NOM consists of a complex matrix of organic materials; its composition varies in different water bodies (Fabris et al., 2008; Matilainen et al., 2010) and in different seasons in the same water bodies (Matilainen et al., 2010; Sharp et al., 2006a, 2006b; Smith and Kamal, 2009). NOM is also found in drinking water, as it cannot be completely removed

from source water through drinking water treatment (Jacangelo et al., 1995). The rate of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation can be accelerated in the presence of NOM. The mechanisms of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in the presence of NOM was studied by Vikesland et al. in 1998. Their research proposed that rather than a catalyst, NOM plays as a reductant to react with NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, thus leading to the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl faster decay. However, the possible reactions between NOM and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl were not studied. In 2002, Duirk et al. proposed that NH<sub>2</sub>Cl reacts with NOM through two pathways: rapid reaction and long-term reaction. They assumed that NOM consists of sites that rapidly react with NH<sub>2</sub>Cl at the beginning of the reaction and sites that react with NH<sub>2</sub>Cl continuously during NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation. In this research a model was developed to describe the decay process. However, with an increase in NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and total free ammonia (including NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> and NH<sub>3</sub>) concentrations under the same active Cl/N molar ratio, the kinetic constants of the long-term reaction decreased, which means that some intermediate products, such as free chlorine and NHCl<sub>2</sub> formed during NH<sub>2</sub>Cl auto-decomposition, may also react with NOM. Therefore, in 2005, Duirk and colleagues proposed that rather than NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, free chlorine reacts with NOM in a long-term reaction. Under this assumption, the NOM long-term reaction rate constant does not change with pH, a theory that produces more realistic NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay kinetics than earlier theories. Based on the model developed by Duirk et al. (2005), Zhu and Zhang (2016) suggested that both NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and free chlorine species participate in rapid and slow reactions with NOM in NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation, presenting a better simulation of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rates in drinking water distribution systems.

Bromide can enter water bodies through mineral erosion (Flury and Papritz, 1993), tracer usage (Gish et al., 1986; Jury et al., 1986), agricultural applications (Wegman et al., 1983), urban runoff (Sollars et al., 1982), and industrial discharges (Winid, 2015). Though surface waters usually contain low concentrations of bromide (Wang et al., 2017), a small amount of bromide can pose a threat to treated drinking water (Heeb et al., 2014; Westerhoff et al., 2004). Specifically, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl can react with bromide (Br<sup>-</sup>), which might lead to the formation of harmful disinfection byproducts (DBPs). (Luh and Mariñas, 2014). The reaction kinetics were first studied by Trote et al. in 1980. Under their assumption, the reaction rate is a function of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, Br<sup>+</sup>, and H<sup>+</sup> concentrations, and the reaction products included haloarnine and bromochlorarnine (NHBrCl). Besides, the reaction rate constant was also estimated in this research. NHBrCl as an initial product in the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl Br<sup>-</sup> reaction, was confirmed by the research from Bousher et al. (1989). The authors suggested that rather than NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, NH<sub>3</sub>Cl<sup>+</sup> was formed to react with Br<sup>-</sup> Moreover, the final products varied under different buffer capacities. In 2001, a kinetic model of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in the presence of Br<sup>-</sup> was developed by Vikesland et al. In addition to NH<sub>2</sub>Cl Br<sup>-</sup> reactions, reactions between HOCl and Br<sup>-</sup> cited in Valentine, 1986, were also included in this model. However, although the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rate is described well in this model, the production of NHBrCl cannot be simulated well. In 2010, additional possible reactions with NHBrCl were proposed (Alsulaili et al., 2010) and are widely used in present models.

The ferrous ion ( $Fe^{2+}$ ) in drinking water is mainly derived from groundwater, which receives  $Fe^{2+}$  from rocks and minerals (Piché and Larachi, 2006; Postawa et al., 2013), and pipeline corrosion (El Azher et al., 2008). Dissolved carbon dioxide and other acids in tap water are also corrosive to metal pipe, and contribute to the release of  $Fe^{2+}$  (Sarin et al., 2004, 2001; Sontheimer et al., 1981).  $Fe^{2+}$  reacts with free chlorine with a 2:1 stoichiometry (Knocke, 1990), which follows the same reaction stoichiometry as the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl  $Fe^{2+}$  reaction. Vikesland and Valentine (2000) suggested two mechanisms for reactions between NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and  $Fe^{2+}$ : (i) a direct reaction of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl with  $Fe^{2+}$ , which is a rate limiting reaction for NH<sub>2</sub>Cl disappearance and (ii) an autocatalytic reaction by ferric oxide precipitate, which accelerates the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rate. Based on this hypothesis, they developed a kinetic model two years later (Vikesland and Valentine, 2002), and this model can be applied to predict NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay under various drinking water conditions.

#### 2.4. NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological dissipation mechanisms

Biological dissipation of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl takes three pathways: (i) direct reactions with biomass, extracellular polymeric substance (EPS), and other bacterial metabolic products; (ii) cometabolism by ammonia oxidizing bacteria (AOB); and (iii) reactions with AOB utilization associated products (UAPs) (Bal Krishna et al., 2012; Maestre et al., 2016, 2013).

As a widely used disinfectant in drinking water, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl can react with bacteria and control the spread of pathogens (Kool et al., 1999). NH<sub>2</sub>Cl is also consumed by the metabolic products produced by bacterial degradation (Maestre et al., 2013). In drinking water distribution systems and other water pipes, bacteria secrete EPS to form biofilm (Pedersen, 1990). EPS accounts for more than 90% of biofilm (Coburn et al., 2016; Xue et al., 2014), and it increases the resistance of bacteria to disinfectants (LeChevallier et al., 1988).

Furthermore, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl can be consumed by the ammonia monooxygenase (AMO) enzyme in AOB through cometabolism (Maestre et al., 2013; Maestre et al., 2016; Wahman et al., 2016). Microbial cometabolism is the degradation of non-growth components by nonspecific enzymes in the presence of a growth substrate (Dalton and Stirling, 1982; Maestre et al., 2013). Hooper et al. (1997) proposed that in the presence of ammonia as the nitrogen source, AMO enzyme in *Nitrosomonas europaea* (an AOB species) cometabolizes more than 35 halogenated chemicals. In 2005 and 2016, Wahman and colleagues reported that AMO degraded low concentrations of four trihalomethanes in pure *Nitrosomonas europaea* and mixed culture nitrifying bacteria (Wahman et al., 2006, 2005). The cometabolism of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl by *Nitrosomonas europaea* is firstly studied by Woolschlager in 2000. Based on his research, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl can be converted to chlorohydroxylamine by AMO. As nitrifying biofilm is commonly observed in drinking water distribution systems (Gomez-Alvarez et al., 2014; Zhang et al., 2009), to simulate the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in drinking water pipelines, a kinetic model was proposed in the presence of *Nitrosomonas europaea* by Maestre et al. in 2013. The authors proposed that three pathways should be considered in this model: (1) direct reactions between biomass and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, (2) AMO cometabolism, and (3) the reaction between NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and UAP from *Nitrosomonas europaea* degradation. UAP is a class of soluble products produced during bacteria metabolism (Abrahamson et al., 1996; Laspidou and Rittmann, 2002; Ni et al., 2011), which are likely to react with NH<sub>2</sub>Cl during its biological decay. However, since the composition of AOB is complex in natural environments, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in a pure culture may not represent the real situation. Therefore, in 2016, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological decay in mixed-culture nitrifying were studied, and a new kinetic model was developed (Maestre et al., 2016).

Although NH<sub>2</sub>Cl auto-, chemical, and biological decay pathways were well studied under drinking water conditions, no researches were found to predict the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss mechanisms in storm sewer systems. As stormwater quality and storm sewer environments are significantly different from those of drinking water pipes, a new model was needed to predict NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in storm sewers.

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# CHAPTER 3. FIELD DATA ANALYSIS OF ACTIVE CHLORINE-CONTAINING STORMWATER SAMPLES<sup>1</sup>

# **3.1. Introduction**

Chlorine products have been used from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century to disinfect drinking water; however, this widely-used treatment has disadvantages, including the reactivity of chlorine with organic compounds in the water, which causes it to dissipate rapidly in distribution systems. This reactivity also results in the production of disinfection by-products (DBPs) (Hrudey, 2009). To limit the formation of chlorinated DBPs, an alternative water disinfection method, chloramination, has been developed and applied to drinking water systems throughout North America (Wahman and Speitel, 2012). After chlorination, ammonia is added to convert the residual chlorine to chloramines, of which monochloramine (NH<sub>2</sub>Cl) is the dominant disinfection species. NH<sub>2</sub>Cl has proven useful for water distribution systems, where it is desirable to have a longer-lasting residual and its corresponding disinfection effect (Brodtmann and Russo, 1979; Mitcham et al., 1983; Norman et al., 1980); however, it can also lead to detrimental environmental effects, as described below.

Drinking water chloramination may introduce chloramines into surface waters through various means, including distribution system leaks and breaks, lawn and garden watering, car and driveway washing, street cleaning, firefighting, and industrial or commercial wash-down and construction activities. Although residential outdoor water use is typically a relatively small percentage (6% in the United States, on average) of the total annual residential water use (Coomes et al., 2010), it may be considerable in summer months (Nouri et al., 2013): for example, 40 to

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60% of residential water consumption in Texas (White et al., 2004) and almost 30% in California (Mays, 2002) were associated with lawn irrigation activities. In contrast, commercial car washing is responsible for only about 1% of municipal water use and its subsequent discharge to stormwater sewers can be negligible, since these companies typically remove some pollutants on-site (Sablayrolles et al., 2010; Zaneti et al., 2012) and discharge dirty wash water almost exclusively to sanitary sewer systems (Brown 2000, 2002). However, the situation is less clear for car dealerships and car rental locations, where cars may be washed outdoors. Finally, the production of large-volume industrial pressure-vessels – boilers and large storage tanks that have a minimum inner diameter of 60 cm (PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, 2008), but that may be as large as 10.7 m in diameter, 76 m in length, and 680 tonnes in mass (Cessco Fabrication and Engineering Ltd, 2014) – require the use of municipal water for 'hydro-testing' of vessel integrity. After completion of the hydro-testing procedures, testing water is occasionally discharged to the stormwater system without dechloramination. These water uses are thought to be the major active chlorine sources in storm sewers under dry weather conditions, and consequently introduce chloramine-containing water into stormwater drainage systems.

At near-neutral pH, chloramines can release free chlorine through auto-decomposition processes (Vikesland et al., 2001). The chloramines and the free chlorine species released from chloramines are measured together as the total active chlorine (TAC) in stormwater. In 1973, Brungs's study showed that the TAC concentration of effluent discharge should not exceed 0.002-0.2 mg/L depending on the discharging period for the protection of aquatic organisms. Further, Brooks and Bartos reported that the active chlorine has a 1% lethal concentration of 0.08 mg/L to some fishes with an exposure duration of 120 minutes (Brooks and Bartos, 1984). In 1985, EPA proposed that the concentration causing 50% mortality can be as low as 0.0053 mg/L to some

invertebrate species (United States Environmental Protection Agency, 1985). Elevated TAC in fresh water can be acutely lethal to fish, crayfish, snails and some fish-food organisms over exposures of 6 min to 48 hours. Also, long-lasting chloramine species can be toxic for fish growth with a much lower concentration, thus leading to a chronic environmental risk (Brungs, 1973). Moreover, the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME, 1999) guidelines for the protection of aquatic life list a maximum TAC concentration in surface waters of only 0.5  $\mu$ g/L, and their recent Canada-wide strategy (CCME, 2009) reduced the permissible TAC concentration in discharged effluent from 0.2 to 0.02 mg/L. To adhere to these guidelines, it is clearly important to determine the TAC concentrations of sources that contribute to surface water flows, which include municipal stormwater discharges.

The objectives of the current study are to evaluate the TAC concentration and other water qualities in Edmonton storm sewers under dry and wet weather conditions in various neighborhoods during summer months, and to study the possible relevance of some stormwater characteristics to TAC dissipation rates. The TAC concentration as well as other physicochemical properties of stormwater, and the biological characteristics of storm sewer biofilm were analyzed in this research. Wet weather stormwater characteristics have been analyzed in a variety of studies (Liu et al., 2013; Makepeace et al., 1995; Pitt et al., 2004), but studies of dry weather stormwater qualities are relatively rare. Since many other cities also use chloramination for their drinking water disinfection, the TAC analysis results from this fieldwork in Edmonton can also be used as a reference case for other cities. This is believed to be the first research for TAC concentration analysis in storm sewers, and the results of this study should attract more attention to the issue of stormwater TAC contamination and its potentially harmful impacts on the aquatic environment.

# 3.2. Material and methods

# **3.2.1.** Location selection

To study the impact of different outdoor water use types on the TAC concentration in stormwater, field samples were collected from storm sewers in four Edmonton neighborhoods selected to represent four major land-use types: (a) residential, as a reference for other land-uses, (b) parks and recreation, for their extensive green areas and correspondingly more uniform irrigation and fertilizer use than residential areas, (c) commercial, with a focus on automobile dealerships and rental business areas and (d) industrial, with a focus on areas with pressure vessel fabricators. Each neighborhood lies within one of two stormwater catchments, Kennedale in north Edmonton and 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue in south Edmonton. The Kennedale and 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue catchment maps are shown in Fig. 3.1 and the storm sewer network maps of the sampling locations are shown in Fig. 3.2.



Fig. 3.1. (a) 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue and (b) Kennedale stormwater catchment maps

Within these two catchments, the four neighborhoods were then selected according to the following criteria. Stormwater drainage system characteristics played a key role, particularly the location of the neighborhood within the pipe network, the presence of stormwater ponds upstream and availability of access points for water sampling. In terms of location within the network,

sampling near the sewer network's upstream-end would ensure that stormwater flows originated in the catchment under consideration, while sampling farther downstream would make it difficult to attribute pollutants to probable Sources. In addition, the selection of long, uninterrupted sections of pipe would permit attribution of changes in water quality to chemical and biological interactions occurring within the pipe section, and give more time for such interactions to occur. Potential locations with mixed land-uses within or upstream of the neighborhood were excluded. Finally, several potential neighborhoods were eliminated because of logistical hurdles, such as traffic conditions, site accessibility and sampling difficulty.



Fig. 3.2. Storm sewer network maps for (a) residential, (b) park, (c) commercial, (d) industrial sampling areas

In selecting the residential location, low-density neighborhoods with higher property values were prioritized for their relatively large lawn and garden areas (cf. the Albuquerque, New

Mexico, study conducted by Al-Kofahi et al., 2012). Application of the above criteria resulted in selection of the high property-value Blue Quill Estates neighborhood, shown in Fig. 3.2(a). The M. E. Lazerte Park in the Kennedale catchment was selected among the irrigated parks of the two catchments, based on data available for determining irrigation volumes, the type of water used for irrigation (potable), and the park location within the neighborhood and sewer pipe network. Its location is shown in Fig. 3.2(b). In the 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue basin, commercial car washes, dealerships and car rental agencies clustered in one location near 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 99<sup>th</sup> Street NW, which contained approximately two dozen automobile-related service providers. The location selected - at 93rd Street near 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue (see Fig. 3.2c) – had the largest number of automotive services businesses and met the pipe-network based criteria described above. For industrial sites, the pressure vessel industry is potentially a large point-source contributor of chloramine pollution. The production of large pressure vessels requires the use of municipal water for vessel-integrity testing; this testing water is occasionally discharged to stormwater rather than sanitary systems. Many pressure-vessel manufacturers were near the intersection of 97th Street and 45th Avenue in the 30th Avenue basin, as presented in Fig. 3.2(d).

# 3.2.2. Field investigations

Field sampling was conducted every two to three weeks from April to September, in both 2015 and 2016 for both dry weather and precipitation conditions. In the field, the sample TAC concentrations, temperatures, dissolved oxygen (DO), pH and conductivity were recorded during sampling. Microbial biofilms were sampled at the four locations: BioR, BioP, BioC and BioI (see Fig. 3.2) on storm sewer pipes.

# 3.2.3. Laboratory analyses

Samples were characterized according to their physical, chemical and biological properties. All analyses were performed within 24 hours of sample collection. The NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>-N, NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>-N, NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>-N, total P, alkalinity, chemical oxygen demand (COD) and dissolved organic carbon (DOC) concentrations, as well as hardness, turbidity, total suspended solids (TSS) and total dissolved solids (TDS) were analyzed. The biofilm genomic DNA was extracted and *q*PCR was conducted. Primers for *q*PCR are listed in Table S3.6. Further, to study the TAC dissipation rate in stormwater, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl stock solution was added into stormwater samples collected in the two years from each sampling location after filtration through 0.45  $\mu$ m membrane filters to achieve an initial TAC concentration of 0.05 mM. The NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration changes were recorded to compare the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rates in different stormwater samples. Additional information for stormwater quality analysis and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation experiment design is provided in the supplementary information.

#### **3.2.4.** Statistic analysis methods

The student's *t* test was applied to test the significance level of two datasets, and the significance level can be represented by the *p*-value. A small *p*-value indicates that the datasets have statistical significance. 0.05 is commonly used as the threshold (Fisher, 1925). In this research, the student's *t* test was used to compare the significance level of stormwater physicochemical and biological characteristics between different sampling years and under different sampling locations. In addition, Random Forest (RF) was applied for the analysis of a variable's importance in stormwater NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay experiments. RF is an ensemble approach that grows a multitude of decision trees using randomly selected values from the original samples and votes the most popular class. The variable importance is represented by the percentage of Increased Mean Square Error (%IncMSE) and Increased Node Impurity Index (IncNodePurity). %IncMSE describes the

prediction ability of mean square error with randomly permuted variables, and IncNodePurity measures the loss function when best splits are selected (Breiman, 2001; Echeverry-Galvis et al., 2014). The 'RandomForest' library (Liaw and Wiener, 2002) in R programing (R Development Core Team, 2008) was used for data analysis. With both high values of %IncMSE and Incnodepurity, the variable is considered to have high importance. Moreover, principal component analysis (PCA) is a statistical analysis method that uses an orthogonal transformation to lower the dimension of a dataset, thus revealing the possible correlation between variables (Shlens, 2014). In this research, PCA was conducted with XLSTAT software (Addinsoft SARL, France) to summarize the relationship of multiple chemical concentrations at the 8 different sampling locations.

# 3.3. Results and discussion

#### **3.3.1.** The TAC concentration changes in the stormwater sewers

Fig. 3.3 illustrates the TAC concentration changes in Edmonton storm sewers for each location during summer 2015 and 2016 from May 1 to September 23 in 2015 and April 22 to September 8 in 2016, as well as the precipitation data collected from nearby rainfall stations during the sampling periods (City of Edmonton, Canada).

From Fig. 3.3, it can be seen that the TAC concentrations varied from 0.02 to 0.77 mg/L during summer 2015, and were significantly higher than those of summer 2016 (0 to 0.24 mg/L) at all eight locations (*p*-value < 0.001). The values of TAC concentrations are shown in Tables S3.2 and S3.3. To be specific, as shown in Fig. 3.3 (a) (c) (e) (g), except the downstream residential location (RES 2), the TAC concentrations showed an increasing trend from May 01 to July 08, 2015 (from  $0.14\pm0.05$  mg/L to  $0.47\pm0.18$  mg/L, *p*-values > 0.05), which may have been caused by increasing water use activities (EPCOR Utilities Inc., 2015) associated with warmer

temperatures and low rainfall during this period. For the residential neighborhood, increased lawn watering was likely to have introduced more potable water to the storm sewers and contributed to higher TAC values. A large lawn area (3.06 ha) at the park site required irrigation, which is likewise expected to have increased the TAC concentration over time. For the commercial neighborhood, an area with relatively large numbers of car dealerships and rental locations, the high TAC concentration detected suggests car-washing activities.

Further, high TAC concentrations were observed in the industrial area on July 08 (0.77 and 0.62 mg/L) arising from the discharge of tap water (1000 m<sup>3</sup>) into a storm sewer by a local industry pressure vessel hydro-testing near the IND1 (upstream) location. As the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl is comparably stable in stormwater, a high TAC chlorine concentration could still be detected in the downstream sampling location (IND2). In contrast to the dry weather results, high precipitation within three days (Table S3.4) before the subsequent sampling date (July 22, 2015) likely decreased the lawn and garden watering activities, as well as flushed the TAC out of the storm sewer system, which caused the lower TAC concentrations on the sampling day. Moreover, rainfall likely diluted the TAC concentrations at RES2, COM1-2, and IND1-2 on August 5, 2015. While the TAC concentrations increased again after storm conditions subsided. As colder temperatures in late September (average temperature: 9.4 °C during the 10 days before last sampling) decreased outdoor tap water uses, low TAC concentrations were detected on the last sampling date at most of the sampling locations.



Fig. 3.3. Stormwater TAC concentrations and the corresponding precipitation data for each sampling area during summer 2015 and 2016 (TAC: total active chlorine; RES, PRK, COM, IND: residential, park, commercial and industrial areas; Black and white dots represent the TAC

concentration at upstream and downstream sampling locations respectively; Precipitation source:

# City of Edmonton Drainage Services)

In summer 2016, the stormwater shows lower TAC concentrations than summer 2015 on most of the sampling dates. As compared to summer 2015, which had an average precipitation of 201.4 mm in the sampling areas, more precipitation occurred during summer 2016 (420.9 mm). The parkland irrigation decreased from an average of 17.0 m<sup>3</sup>/day in summer 2015 to 4.4 m<sup>3</sup>/day in summer 2016. It is assumed that the higher precipitation has reduced outdoor tap water uses, such as lawn watering and car washing, thus decreasing the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl discharge into the storm sewer system. Therefore, it can be concluded that during dry periods, the land uses rely more on potable water for irrigation, and the discharge of potable water leads to the TAC accumulation in storm sewers.

#### 3.3.2. Other chemical characteristics of stormwater samples

Apart from the TAC concentrations, other physicochemical properties of Edmonton stormwater samples were analyzed. The concentrations of ammonium, nitrite, alkalinity, COD, DOC and pH values in dry weather stormwater samples are shown in Fig. 3.4. Other stormwater characteristics are provided in Tables S3.7 and S3.8. The physicochemical characteristics of stormwater samples collected during rainfall are shown in Table S3.9, and the changes of stormwater properties during a rainfall event are shown in Table S3.10.

Ammonium, nitrite, pH, alkalinity and natural organic matter (NOM) concentrations are known to affect the decay rate of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl (Vikesland et al., 2001; Kiéné et al., 1998). Higher ammonium concentrations can contribute to the regeneration of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl during NH<sub>2</sub>Cl autodecomposition process, thus reducing its decay rate (Vikesland et al., 2001). NH<sub>2</sub>Cl can react with  $NO_2^-$ , leading to a decrease of the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration in stormwater. NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decomposes more readily at lower pH and at higher alkalinity concentrations (Vikesland et al., 2001). Further, some of the organics in stormwater can react with NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, which accelerates its decay rate (Duirk et al., 2005).

As shown in Fig. 3.4, the ammonium, nitrite, NOM concentrations and the pH show similar values during these two years, while alkalinity was slightly higher in summer 2015 than in summer 2016. The major sources of nitrogen in Edmonton urban stormwater are urban landscape runoff and atmospheric deposition (Bernhardt et al., 2008; Kaushal et al., 2011; Strassler et al., 1999). Rainfall itself commonly contains low concentrations of ammonium- and nitrite- nitrogen.



**Fig. 3.4.** The concentrations of ammonium (NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>-N), nitrite (NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>-N), alkalinity, pH, chemical oxygen demand (COD) and dissolved organic carbon (DOC) changes in Edmonton stormwater samples during summer 2015 and 2016 under dry weather conditions. (Box plot: for each plot, the bottom, middle and top boxes represent the first quartile, median and third quartile of the dataset; R1, R2, P1, P2, C1, C2, I1, I2 represent upstream and downstream residential, park,

commercial and industrial locations)
However, as urban runoff can bring ammonium- and nitrite- nitrogen into stormwater, the concentrations of these two chemicals are not diluted with high precipitation in storm sewers. Likewise, the insignificant change of NOM concentrations (represented by COD and DOC) during these two years may share the same cause. Further, the high alkalinity concentrations (over 100 mg/L) maintained the stable pH in these two years (Kuang and Sansalone, 2011). As compared to other parameters, the alkalinity concentration decreased most significantly with precipitation (Table S3.10). Therefore, it is assumed that the lower concentrations detected in 2016 were influenced by the frequently precipitation during that summer.

To compare the stormwater qualities among various locations, the ammonium- and nitritenitrogen concentrations are high in the residential area and low in the park area [Fig. 3.4(a) and (b)]. In terms of alkalinity and pH, they show similar mean values at different locations [Fig. 3.4(c) (d)]. In Fig. 3.4(e) and (f), except for occasionally quite high COD and DOC concentrations detected in some locations, the NOM concentrations were generally stable at each sampling location. These occasionally high concentrations were caused by the small precipitation on the sampling days, which introduced organic components from ground to storm sewers. Note that since only low precipitation occurred on these sampling days, they are not considered as wet weather conditions.

#### **3.3.3. Bacterial communities in the storm sewer system**

Research has long suggested that microorganisms play important roles in NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation (Rittmann et al., 1994; Siripong and Rittmann, 2007). Nitrification – a two-step microbiological process wherein NH<sub>3</sub> is initially oxidized to  $NO_2^-$  by ammonia oxidizing bacteria (AOB) and nitrite is then oxidized to  $NO_3^-$  by nitrite oxidizing bacteria (NOB) (Sathasivan et al., 2005; Bal Krishna et al., 2012) – can accelerate the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rate (Vikesland et al., 2001).

Most microbial cells present in stormwater tend to adhere to sewer pipe surfaces, where they secrete extracellular polymeric substances and develop into biofilms for the growth of microorganisms. Some organic components from biofilm can react with NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, leading to the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation. Further, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl can be consumed by AOB cometabolism processes (Maestre et al., 2013).



Fig. 3.5. Various bacterial gene copy numbers of biofilm on submerged pipe surface at different sampling locations collected on (a) August 22, 2015 and (b) August 19, 2016. (AOB for ammonia oxidizing bacteria; NOB for nitrite oxidizing bacteria)

Our *q*PCR results indicate no significant difference of the gene copy numbers of bacterial 16S rRNA gene (target total bacteria), amoA gene (target AOB), NSR and Nitro 16S rRNA gene (target two types of NOB: Nitrospira and Nitrobacteria) between the biofilm samples collected in the two years (*p*-value > 0.1); it is therefore assumed that the bacterial compositions are relatively stable in the storm sewers. Fig. 3.5 shows that the total bacterial gene copies were highest in the commercial area and lowest in the park area for both years. The AOB gene copies in the park area were clearly low (around  $10^7$  copies/cm<sup>2</sup>) as compared to other locations, which corresponded to the low concentration of NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>-N in the neighborhood stormwater. The gene copies of *Nitrobacteria* were higher than *Nitrospira* for all the locations in the two years (*p*-value < 0.05).

Compared to other areas, NOB and AOB were high in the residential area (*p*-value < 0.01), which matched the patterns of the high  $NH_4^+$ -N and  $NO_2^-$ -N concentrations in this area. The high AOB and NOB concentrations in residential areas can enhance the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in stormwater. The commercial and industrial areas contained similar populations of AOB in the two years, while the two NOB species varied in these samples. Since the  $NH_4^+$ -N concentration is relatively stable in both years, but the  $NO_2^-$ -N concentration varied during these two summers.

### **3.3.4.** TAC decay test in stormwater samples

Fig. 3.6 illustrates the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rates in stormwater samples collected in summer 2015 and summer 2016 at different locations – the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rates clearly varied across stormwater samples. To estimate the TAC loss kinetics in stormwater, the dominant species in tap water, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, was added into stormwater samples to achieve a 0.05 mM of initial concentration. After 48 hours, approximately 40% to 60% of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl still remained for most stormwater samples, which means that the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl in stormwater from outdoor tap water discharge can still cause potential fresh water contamination after 48 hours. As mentioned, the concentrations of NOM, NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>-N, NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>-N, and alkalinity, as well as the pH value are the most important factors contributing to the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay. To study the importance of these factors, a second-order reaction was applied to describe the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay processes ( $r \ge 0.9$ ), and the decay rates were represented by a second-order reaction rate coefficient (k). The detailed chemical characteristics and the k values of stormwater sample are shown in Table S3.11.



Fig. 3.6. Monochloramine (NH<sub>2</sub>Cl ) loss in stormwater samples collected in the summers of 2015 and 2016; Initial [NH<sub>2</sub>Cl] =  $0.049 \sim 0.051$  mM (1.74 $\sim$ 1.81 mg/L-Cl), temperature = 25 °C



**Fig. 3.7.** Random Forest variable importance evaluation of pH, ammonium ( $NH_4^+$ -N), nitrite ( $NO_2^-$ -N), alkalinity, chemical oxygen demand (COD) and dissolved organic carbon (DOC)

From Fig. 3.7, COD and DOC have both high %IncMSE and Incnodepurity values in RF analysis. Therefore, it can be assumed that they are the most important factors in determining the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rate. Recall that both COD and DOC represent the NOM concentrations in natural water samples, that is, NOM plays the dominant role in the stormwater NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rate,

and further, as compared to COD, DOC is the better index to describe the NOM concentration for NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay. The impact of pH, NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>-N, NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>-N and alkalinity are not significant in stormwater.



**Fig. 3.8.** Principal component analysis for pH, ammonium (NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>-N), nitrite (NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>-N), alkalinity and dissolved organic carbon (DOC) in the summers of 2015 and 2016

As shown in Fig. 3.8, the dots and the vectors represent the sampling locations and the chemical concentrations, respectively. The angle of the vectors indicates the correlation of different chemicals. 0 and 180 degrees show highly positive and negative correlations, while 90 degree (orthogonal) means no association. The dots that are close to each other mean a similar stormwater quality at these locations. Specifically, the vectors of NO<sub>2</sub><sup>--</sup>N and NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>-N are comparably close in both years, from which it can be assumed that the concentrations of these two chemicals are correlative. This can also be verified by the high correlation coefficient in Pearson Correlation Analysis (Table S3.11 and S3.12). This phenomenon is considered to be caused by the impact of bacteria nitrification in storm sewer environment. In terms of the dots, for each neighborhood, since the two dots that represent upstream and downstream sampling locations that are distributed separately, their chemical properties are not suggested to be correlated. It is probable that the stormwater entering the pipes from branches between the two locations changed

the stormwater quality. Further, with the dots further from the direction of a vector, the location is considered to have a higher corresponding chemical concentration. Therefore, the stormwater collected at the downstream industrial area (IND2) contained the highest DOC concentrations in both years, and it is possible caused by the introduction of organic matters from construction site through outdoor potable water and rainfall flushing in this area. Combining the results from Figs. 3.7 and 3.8 suggests that NH<sub>2</sub>Cl has the highest dissipation rate in this area.

### **3.4.** Conclusions

Active chlorine species have harmful environmental effects. Measured as TAC, they are introduced into stormwater sewers through various outdoor water uses, including lawn and landscape watering, car washing, and pressure-vessel testing, in the four neighborhoods of this study. The stormwater samples collected in Edmonton storm sewers show that TAC concentration varied from 0.02 to 0.77 mg/L during summer 2015 and exceeded the CCME (2009) Canada-wide Strategy standard of 0.02 mg/L for permissible TAC concentrations in the discharged effluent. The high TAC concentrations in study samples may therefore pose a risk to the aquatic environment. With higher precipitation during summer 2016, the TAC concentration decreased significantly in stormwater (0 to 0.24 mg/L). It is believed that the high precipitation decreased the frequency of outdoor tap water uses, thus reducing the TAC in stormwater. Other physicochemical and biological characteristics of stormwater and storm sewer biofilm samples show no significant difference between these two years. The NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay laboratory experiments indicate that the NOM concentration is the dominant factor that contributes to NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in stormwater samples, and that DOC better represents the NOM concentration in stormwater than COD for the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation study. PCA figures illustrate that the downstream industrial area had the highest DOC concentrations in both years, and these high DOC concentrations may lead to high TAC

dissipation rates in this area. To further regulate the outdoor tap water discharge and protect aquatic environment, more research is required to improve the understanding of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation mechanisms in real storm sewer systems.

### 3.5. Supplementary materials

### 3.5.1. Additional information of the drainage areas

**Table S3.1.** The total drainage area, percentage impervious and BMP features of sampling storm sewers

	Residential	Park	Commercial	Industrial
Drainage area (km <sup>2</sup> )	0.34	0.27	1.04	1.48
Percentage impervious %	62%	51%	90%	65%
BMP	No	No	No	No

### 3.5.2. Additional information for field investigation

As mentioned in the manuscript, the field stormwater samples were collected in both dry and precipitation weathers. Either zero or low levels of precipitation occurred at least three days prior to a given sampling date – here defined as "dry weather" – which was likely to have resulted in greater outdoor water use and therefore more potable water runoff to storm sewers; stormwater samples were collected after precipitation occurred to provide control data. Note that cases of cumulative precipitation for two days preceding the sampling data as well as the sampling day itself are shown in Tables S4.4 and S4.5. For each neighborhood, two samples were collected from two storm sewer manholes, one in the upstream region of the neighborhood and one downstream.

To determine the physicochemical characteristics of stormwater on field, the TAC concentrations in the water samples were measured with a Hach Chlorine Test Kit (Free and Total, Model CN-70) using a DPD (diethyl-p-phenylenediamine) indicator with a detection limit of 0.02 mg/L. Conductivity and pH were analyzed by Extech EC500 Waterproof ExStikII pH/conductivity meter (Extech instruments, USA). Portable dissolved oxygen (DO) meter pen (Fisher Scientific, CA) was used to measure the DO concentration and temperature of stormwater samples. Additional measurements were later preformed in the laboratory. Stormwater samples were kept

on ice during transportation from the sites and thereafter stored at 4 °C in a temperature-controlled room at the University of Alberta.

For the biofilm sampling, triplicate samples were for each pipe collected by placing a 1.1 cm diameter template over a randomly-selected submerged pipe surface. Biofilms were scraped within the scribed area and stored in sterilized centrifuge tubes containing 5 mL of stormwater collected in the same sewer. Biofilm samples were kept on ice during transportation, and preserved at 4 °C until they were analyzed.

### 3.5.3. Additional information for laboratory analyses

The NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>-N, NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>-N, NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>-N, and total P concentrations, chemical oxygen demand (COD) and alkalinity were analyzed using commercial test kits TNT832, TNT839, TNT835, TNT843, TNT821 and TNT870 (Hach, USA), respectively. Dissolved organic carbon (DOC) was measured by a Shimadzu TOC-L CPH E100 (detection limit is 4  $\mu$ g-C/L). Hardness was analyzed by EDTA titration method (standard methods, 2340 B) and turbidity was determined by the 965 Turbidimeter (Orbeco-Hellige, USA). Total suspended solids (TSS) and total dissolved solids (TDS) were determined based on the protocol from standard methods 2540D and 2540E. Total genomic DNA from biofilms was extracted with the Power Soil Kit (MO-BIO, Carlsbad, CA, USA) according to the manufacturer's instructions. The extracted DNA was eluted to a final volume of 100  $\mu$ L. *q*PCR assays were conducted using a CFX96TM Real-Time Detection System (Bio-RAD, California, USA).

NH<sub>2</sub>Cl was used for TAC decay study in stormwater, as it is the dominant active chlorine species in tap water. Before NH<sub>2</sub>Cl stock solution was added into stormwater samples, samples were filtered by 0.45  $\mu$ m membrane filters and the TAC concentrations were measured to ensure no residual active chlorine in stormwater samples. All the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation experiments were

performed within 48 hours of sample delivery to the laboratory. NH<sub>2</sub>Cl stock solutions were prepared with an active chlorine to nitrogen molar ratio of 1.0 by the addition of hypochlorous acid (HOCl) and ammonium chloride (NH<sub>4</sub>Cl) into ultrapure water, and solutions were mixed for 30 min in the dark to ensure homogeneity before use. NH<sub>2</sub>Cl stock solution was added into stormwater samples collected from four different neighborhoods to achieve 0.05 mM of initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl in stormwater samples. Then the stormwater samples were transferred into 128 mL flasks wrapped with aluminum foil, and stored at room temperature (25 °C). With an active Cl/N=1, the TAC molar concentration was assumed to be the same as NH<sub>2</sub>Cl molar concentration. All the experiments were performed in triplicate.

### 3.5.4. Total active chlorine concentration changes in stormwater samples

Sampling	g site	01- May	20- May	03- Jun	18- Jun	08- Jul	22- Jul	05- Aug	26- Aug	10- Sep	23- Sep
Residential	RES1	0.10	0.13	0.22	0.15	0.48	0.17	0.12	0.37	0.24	0.33
Area	RES2	0.13	0.07	0.18	0.26	0.10	0.02	0.04	0.22	0.18	0.12
Park Area	PRK1 PRK2	0.15 0.22	0.13 0.12	0.2 0.26	0.18 0.02	0.23 0.41	0.15 0.10	0.03 0.06	0.11 0.23	0.21 0.12	0.09 0.06
Commercial	COM1	0.18	0.18	0.28	0.28	0.40	0.02	0.22	0.15	0.4	0.08
Area	COM2	0.13	0.13	0.28	0.36	0.35	0.05	0.11	0.21	0.32	0.07
Industrial Area	IND1 IND2	0.10 0.10	0.12 0.12	0.28 0.33	0.31 0.13	0.77 0.62	0.07 0.08	0.04 0.08	0.20 0.42	0.16 0.4	0.07 0.04

Table S3.2. TAC concentrations in stormwater samples collected in summer 2015 at various locations

# **3.5.5.** Precipitation information

Sampling	r sita	21-	06-	19-	01-	15-	07-	20-	08-	24-	08-
Samping	site site	April	May	May	June	June	July	July	Aug	Aug	Sep
Residential	RES1	0.01	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.21	0.05	0.04	0.07	0.00	0.02
Area	RES2	0.03	0.02	0.05	0.02	0.06	0.04	0.03	0.05	0.04	0.01
Park Area	PRK1	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.07	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.04	0.05	0.02
	PRK2	0.02	0.02	0.08	0.03	0.05	0.03	0.03	0.07	0.05	0.03
Commercial	COM1	0.08	0.02	0.06	0.03	0.05	0.10	0.00	0.08	0.04	0.03
Area	COM2	0.06	0.00	0.04	0.02	0.07	0.24	0.02	0.12	0.02	0.03
Industrial	IND1	0.01	0.05	0.08	0.02	0.05	0.05	0.08	0.06	0.08	0.05
Area	IND2	0.09	0.07	0.03	0.05	0.06	0.10	0.01	0.05	0.03	0.01

 Table S3.3. TAC concentrations in stormwater samples collected in summer 2016 at various

 locations

Tables S3.4 and S3.5 show the precipitation data on each sampling day and the total precipitation on three days near the sampling date (two days prior to sampling plus the sampling date) during summer 2015 and 2016.

 Table S3.4. Precipitation data (mm) on the sampling date and over three days near the sampling date at different locations in summer 2015

		I1 I2 C1 C2		P1 P2		R1 R2		
Sampling	Sampling	MillWoods Res	ervoir	Ja Fife School	RG Site	Whitemud Cree	Whitemud Creek PG57	
No.	date	RG Site RG27		RG38		Witteniuu CIEEK KOJ/		
		Sampling day	3 days	Sampling day	3 days	Sampling day	3 days	
1	01-May	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2	20-May	0	0	0	0	0	0	
3	03-Jun	0	0	0	5.5	0	0.8	
4	18-Jun	0	1.6	0	1.5	0	2	
5	08-Jul	0	0	0	0	0	0	
6	22-Jul	2.1	13.1	0	12.0	1.2	10.2	
7	05-Aug	1.5	1.8	0.5	1.2	0	0.9	
8	26-Aug	0	0	0	0	0	0	
9	10-Sep	0	0.7	0	2.1	0	0.8	
10	23-Sep	0	0.3	0	1.2	0	0.3	

		I1 I2 C1 C2		P1 P2		R1 R2		
Sampling	Sampling	MillWoods Res	ervoir	Ja Fife School	RG Site	Whitemud Creek PG57		
No.	date	RG Site RG27		RG38		WINTEINUU CIEEK KOJ/		
		Sampling day 3 days		Sampling day	3 days	Sampling day	3 days	
1	21-Apr	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2	06-May	0	0	0	0	0	0	
3	19-May	9.9	10.4	0	5.0	10	10.3	
4	01-Jun	0	6.1	0	0.1	0	4.9	
5	15-Jun	0	1.9	0	0.9	2.1	2.5	
6	07-Jul	0.4	0.4	0	8.7	0.4	0.9	
7	20-Jul	3.5	3.5	0	1.1	5.0	5.0	
8	08-Aug	1.6	1.6	0.1	10.5	3.5	3.5	
9	24-Aug	3.4	29.6	0	1.4	3.4	32.2	
10	08-Sep	2.2	2.3	0	0	3.0	3.2	

 Table S3.5. Precipitation data (mm) on the sampling date and over three days near the sampling date at different locations in summer 2016

### 3.5.6. Quantitative polymerase chain reaction

Four independent *q*PCR assays were conducted to quantify the total bacterial 16S rRNA, AOB amoA gene, NOB-1 NSR and NOB-2 Nitro16S rRNA (Table S4.6). Reactions (20  $\mu$ L) were performed in 96-well microplates. Each tube was separately loaded with 2  $\mu$ L of genomic DNA (14-26ng/ $\mu$ L), plasmid standard or grade sterile water as negative control, followed by the forward and reverse primers (1  $\mu$ L), together with 10  $\mu$ L 1\* iTap SYBR Green Supermix with ROX (Bio-RAD, Hercules, California) and 6  $\mu$ L PCR grade sterile water. Triplicate composite samples were tested for all experiments. The efficiency of PCR amplification for each gene was between 80% and 110%. The primers used in qPCR analyzes are shown in Table S3.6.

Bacteria types	Target	Primer	Sequence (5'-3')	Reference
Total	Bacterial 16S	341f	5'-CCTACGGGAGGCAGCAG-3'	Muyzer et al., 1993
Bacteria	rRNA	907r	5'-CCGTCAATTCCTTTRAGTTT-3'	Muyzer et al., 1995
	amoA gene	amoA-1F	5'-GGGGTTTCTACTGGTGGT-3'	McTavish et al., 1993
AOB		amoA-2R	5'-CCCCTCKGSAAAGCCTTCTTC-3'	McTavish et al., 1993
	NSR 16S	NSR 1113f	5'-CCTGCTTTCAGTTGCTACCG-3'	Dionisi et al., 2002
NOB-1	rRNA	NSR 1264r	5'-GTTTGCAGCGCTTTGTACCG-3'	Dionisi et al., 2002
NOD 2	Nitro 16S	Nitro 1198f	5'-ACCCCTAGCAAATCTCAAAAAACCG-3'	Graham et al., 2007
NOB-2	rRNA	Nitro 1423r	5'-CTTCACCCCAGTCGCTGACC-3'	Graham et al., 2007

Table S3.6. Primers used in qPCR

# 3.5.7. The physical and chemical characteristics of dry weather stormwater samples

Sampling L	ocation	Total P	Hardness (g/L	Temperature	Conductivity	DO	Turbidity	TSS	TDS
~~~pg =		(mg/L)	as CaCO3))	(°C)	(mS/cm)	(mg/L)	(NTU)	(mg/L)	(g/L)
Residential	RES1	$1.11 \pm 0.37$	$1.0 \pm 0.1$	$16.1\pm0.8$	$3.0\pm0.4$	$10.3\pm0.4$	57 ± 35	$164\pm82$	$2.1 \pm 0.3$
Area	RES2	$0.78\pm0.19$	$0.9\pm0.1$	$15.9\pm0.7$	$2.7\pm0.4$	$9.9\pm0.4$	9 ± 1	$19\pm5$	$1.9\pm0.2$
Park Area	PRK1	$0.59\pm0.13$	$0.7\pm0.2$	$15.8\pm0.8$	$2.5\pm0.5$	$10.4\pm0.3$	$115 \pm 50$	$283\pm96$	$1.7\pm0.3$
	PRK2	$0.24\pm0.22$	$1.1\pm0.1$	$13.7\pm0.9$	$3.1\pm 0.5$	$10.6\pm0.4$	$34 \pm 40$	$193\pm140$	$2.2\pm0.4$
Commercial	COM1	$1.09\pm0.30$	$0.8\pm0.1$	$15.2 \pm 1.0$	$2.9\pm0.4$	$10.4\pm0.2$	21 ± 19	$84\pm52$	$2.4\pm0.3$
Area	COM2	$0.51\pm0.23$	$1.0\pm0.1$	$16.2\pm0.8$	$3.3\pm 0.5$	$10.1\pm0.3$	$20 \pm 5$	$45\pm7$	$2.4\pm0.3$
Industrial	IND1	$0.24\pm0.13$	$1.0\pm0.1$	$15.5\pm0.9$	$4.0\pm0.5$	$11.2 \pm 0.5$	39 ± 28	202 ± 110	$2.8\pm0.4$
Area	IND2	$0.17\pm0.20$	$1.0\pm0.1$	$15.2\pm0.7$	$3.4\pm0.6$	$11.0\pm0.4$	$15 \pm 18$	$165\pm92$	$2.5\pm0.4$

 Table S3.7. Edmonton stormwater sample characteristics in summer 2015

Samuling I	action	Total P	Hardness (g/L	Temperature	Conductivity	DO	Turbidity	TSS	TDS
Sampling L	ocation	(mg/L)	as CaCO3))	(°C)	(mS/cm)	(mg/L)	(NTU)	(mg/L)	(g/L)
Residential	RES1	1.10 ± 0.29	$4.4 \pm 0.3$	16.1 ± 2.3	$4.4 \pm 0.3$	10.1 ± 1.3	$12 \pm 7$	20 ± 17	$2.6\pm0.9$
Area	RES2	$1.22\pm0.29$	$4.0\pm0.3$	$15.1 \pm 2.5$	$4.0\pm0.3$	$10.4\pm1.0$	$6\pm 3$	$6\pm3$	$1.9\pm0.6$
Park Area	PRK1	$1.02\pm022$	$4.2\pm0.6$	$15.1 \pm 1.5$	$4.2\pm0.6$	$10.3\pm0.8$	$37 \pm 27$	$37\pm 57$	$2.2\pm0.2$
	PRK2	$0.86\pm0.42$	$4.2\pm1.3$	$13.4\pm2.1$	$4.2 \pm 1.3$	$11.5 \pm 1.8$	9 ± 4	$5\pm4$	$2.1\pm0.4$
Commercial	COM1	$1.14\pm0.31$	$4.7\pm0.5$	$12.6 \pm 3.3$	$4.7\pm0.5$	$12.7\pm1.5$	17 ± 1	$25\pm17$	$2.1\pm0.7$
Area	COM2	$1.05\pm0.47$	$4.8\pm0.6$	$13.9\pm3.0$	$4.8\pm0.6$	$11.0 \pm 1.4$	18 ± 7	$19\pm3$	$2.4\pm0.9$
Industrial	IND1	$1.54\pm0.60$	$5.9\pm0.8$	$12.3\pm3.0$	$5.9\pm0.8$	$11.7 \pm 1.2$	47 ± 38	$51 \pm 17$	$3.5 \pm 1.1$
Area	IND2	$1.18\pm0.72$	$5.4\pm0.7$	$13.3\pm2.7$	$5.4\pm0.7$	$11.0\pm1.6$	21 ± 16	$43\pm17$	$3.1\pm 0.8$

 Table S3.8. Edmonton stormwater sample characteristics in summer 2016

**3.5.8.** The physical and chemical characteristics of wet weather stormwater samples

Sampling	11	NH4 <sup>+</sup> -N	NO2 <sup>-</sup> -N	NO3 <sup>-</sup> -N	Alkalinity	COD
location	рн	(mg/L)	(mg/L)	(mg/L)	(mg/L)	(mg/L)
RES2	7.84	0.135	0.046	1.48	59.2	92.1
COM1	7.75	0.186	0.05	0.783	71.2	71.5
COM2	7.92	0.075	0.151	1.5	51.6	68.9
IND1	7.82	0.19	0.056	1.08	51.6	81.9
IND2	7.71	0.411	0.075	1.58	70.8	126

July, 2015 during a rainfall event occurred in RES2, COM1, COM2, IND1 and IND2 locations

Table S3.9. The physiochemical properties of Edmonton stormwater samples collected on 22-

Sample #	NH4 <sup>+</sup> -N (mg/L)	NO2 <sup>-</sup> -N (mg/L)	NO3 <sup>-</sup> -N (mg/L)	Alkalinity (mg/L)	COD (mg/L)	Turbidity (NTU)
1	2.12	0.110	1.12	192	132	125.6
2	1.50	0.207	0.992	177	89.7	170.9
3	1.55	0.182	0.951	82.8	86.7	24.2
4	1.61	0.030	0.668	80.4	82.5	10.8
5	1.71	0.045	0.724	88.4	91.2	10.6
6	1.65	0.085	0.761	80.4	83.7	6.5
7	1.09	0.280	1.14	84.8	81.7	6.1
8	1.30	0.177	0.888	81.2	82.6	8.4

**Table S3.10.** The stormwater quality changes of Edmonton stormwater samples collected on IND1 locations during a rainfall event occurred on September 07, 2015 (samples were collected every 30 min)

# 3.5.9. NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation data

Table S3.11. Stormwater quality and second-order NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rate coefficients

		_		NH	4 <sup>+</sup> -N	NO	2 <sup>-</sup> -N	Alka	linity	CO	DD	D	DC	Second	l-order
Sampling L	ocation	рп		(mg/L)		(mg	g/L)	(mg	g/L)	(mş	g/L)	(m	g/L)	k (mM <sup>-1</sup> h <sup>-1</sup> )	
		2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016
Residential	RES 1	8.19	8.22	0.14	11.35	0.05	0.11	348	394	21.6	37.7	11.4	13.45	0.391	0.369
Area	RES 2	8.18	8.13	5.15	8.12	0.26	0.17	387	338	35.0	47.6	10.7	12.49	0.29	0.303
Park Area	PRK 1	8.01	8.06	0.01	0.005	0.02	0.07	544	495	40.0	39.8	11.9	12.67	0.32	0.524
	PRK 2	8.13	8.16	0.02	0.112	0.03	0.03	448	416	44.4	64.5	17.9	21.4	0.813	0.990
Commercial	COM 1	8.16	7.98	1.32	4.34	0.11	0.17	580	406	50.1	114.0	14.4	36.95	0.733	6.779
Area	COM 2	8.18	8.24	0.5	1.49	0.3	0.16	436	402	48.8	128.0	16.2	44.95	0.805	14.841
Industrial	IND 1	8.15	8.25	0.06	0.083	0.01	0.08	538	342	76.6	30.8	16.3	16.97	0.672	0.747
Area	IND 2	8.03	8.12	0.16	0.666	0.03	0.10	494	201	51.4	49.3	13.3	13.4	0.854	0.466

<b>Correlation</b> <b>Coefficient</b>	NH4 <sup>+</sup> -N (mg/L)	NO2 <sup>-</sup> -N (mg/L)	Alkalinity (mg/L)	рН	DOC (mg/L)
NH4 <sup>+</sup> -N (mg/L)	1.000	0.768	-0.512	0.443	-0.098
NO2 <sup>-</sup> -N (mg/L)	0.768	1.000	-0.235	0.343	-0.142
Alkalinity (mg/L)	-0.512	-0.235	1.000	-0.034	0.55
pH	0.443	0.343	-0.034	1.000	-0.273
DOC (mg/L)	-0.098	-0.142	0.55	-0.273	1.000

3.5.10. Stormwater chemistry correlation analysis by Pearson Correlation coefficients

Table S3.12. Pearson correlation coefficients of the stormwater chemistry in summer 2015

Table S3.13. Pearson correlation coefficients of the stormwater chemistry in summer 2016

Correlation Coefficient	NH4 <sup>+</sup> -N (mg/L)	NO2 <sup>-</sup> -N (mg/L)	Alkalinity (mg/L)	рН	DOC (mg/L)
NH4 <sup>+</sup> -N (mg/L)	1.000	0.621	0.424	0.257	0.509
NO2 <sup>-</sup> -N (mg/L)	0.621	1.000	0.420	0.161	0.131
Alkalinity (mg/L)	0.414	0.420	1.000	-0.015	0.299
pH	0.257	0.161	-0.015	1.000	0.719
DOC (mg/L)	0.509	0.131	0.299	0.719	1.000

### 3.6. References

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## CHAPTER 4. MONOCHLORAMINE LOSS MECHANISMS IN TAP WATER<sup>2</sup>

## 4.1. Introduction

Chlorine products have been used from early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century to disinfect drinking water. Unfortunately, this widely-used free-chlorine treatment has disadvantages, including the high reactivity of chlorine with natural organic compounds and the production of disinfection byproducts (DBPs). To limit the formation of many chlorinated DBPs, chloramination, an alternative water disinfection technology, has been developed and applied in drinking water systems throughout North America (Zhou et al., 2013; USEPA, 2012b; Chowdhury et al., 2010; Hua and Reckhow, 2008; Minear and Amy, 1996; Wolfe et al., 1984). Chloramination has also proven useful for its long-lasting residual, with corresponding disinfection effect, in water distribution systems (Brodtmann and Russo, 1979; Mitcham et al., 1983; Norman et al., 1980).

During chloramination, ammonia is used to convert residual chlorine to chloramines  $(NH_2Cl, NHCl_2 \text{ and } NCl_3)$ , which reduces the formation of DBPs. At near neutral pH, with an active chlorine to ammonia-nitrogen (Cl/N) molar ratio < 1, monochloramine (NH<sub>2</sub>Cl) is the predominant chlorine species in chloraminated water (Engineers, 2012). However, in a neutral or acid pH environment, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl is relatively unstable. It can autodecompose through a series of reactions (Jafvert and Valentine, 1992; Vikesland et al., 2001), which results in a decreased disinfection efficiency. The NH<sub>2</sub>Cl autodecomposition rate depends markedly on pH, temperature, Cl/N molar ratio and the initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration (Vikesland et al., 2001). Further, chemical compounds existing in drinking water, including natural organic matter (NOM), nitrite, bromide and ferrous ions can also accelerate NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decomposition (Vikesland et al., 2001; Zhou et al.,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>A version of this chapter has been published: Zhang, Q., Davies, E. G. R., Bolton, J. R., & Liu, Y., 2017. Monochloramine loss mechanisms in tap water. Water Environment Research. 89(11), 1999-2005.

2013). In this research, based on the Edmonton water quality report (EPCOR, 2015) and prechemical test results of this study, the concentrations of nitrite, bromide and ferrous ion in drinking water samples are very low (less than 0.01 mg/L for nitrite and ferrous ion, not detectable for bromide) and so their effects are not considered independently in this research. However, the nonnegligible concentration of NOM in drinking water means that it should be considered. It should be noticed that for some utilities that may contain comparably high concentration of nitrite, bromide and ferrous ion, this model cannot be used to predict the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss rates in these utilities.

After drinking water secondary disinfection (i.e., monochloramine disinfection before distribution), the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl autodecomposition and the reaction between active chlorine and NOM are significant NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss pathways. River, lake and ground waters are usually used as drinking water sources, and previous studies have addressed the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss rates in the presence of NOM in different rivers (Duirk et al., 2005). However, after secondary disinfection process, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl can continuously dissipate in drinking water distribution systems. The modification of source waters through treatment processes before distribution may cause the NOM species in drinking water to differ from those in the source water, with a consequent difference in NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss processes. Under real drinking water conditions, the only reported work (Zhou et al., 2013) – according to web of science – built an NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss model under specific active chlorine to ammonia ratios, but did not study chemical reaction mechanisms.

The principal objective of this research is to develop a kinetic model to predict NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss in drinking water distribution systems under real drinking water conditions, thus providing a model for the management of drinking water disinfection and transportation. The model developed in this work predicts the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss under a variety of conditions of temperature, pH and Cl/N ratios, and initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and NOM concentrations. Further, the methodological approach applied here for model development should apply to alternative cases with different drinking water conditions and different water sources.

#### 4.2. Materials and methods

### 4.2.1. Monochloramine decay experiments

*Experimental setup* Tap water from University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada constituted the water samples used in the experiments, with samples taken after the water faucet was left open for 30 min to ensure that the water samples used in this research can represent the water characteristics in drinking water distribution systems. River water (North Saskatchewan River) was used as the tap water source, and coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation, chlorination, UV disinfection, chloramination and filtration were adopted (EPCOR, Canada) for drinking water treatment in Edmonton. The experiments tested effects of different factors on the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss rate: pH, active Cl/N ratio, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl initial concentration, temperature and NOM. For each time the tap water sample was collected, the impact of one factor on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss rate was studied. The value of NOM reactive site S was also determined at the same time.

Water samples in duplicates were tested, and all the glassware was pretreated to be chlorine demand-free. 300 mL samples of tap water were transferred into batch reactors wrapped with aluminum foil. The ammonium chloride standard solution (1 mg = 1 mL  $NH_4^+$ -N) was used to adjust the Cl/N molar ratio to 0.7. Then NaHCO<sub>3</sub> was used to buffer the system, and 20 mM (represent as TCO<sub>3</sub>) was used as the final alkalinity concentration to achieve the stable pH. The pH of the solutions was adjusted to approximately 7.6 by the addition of NaOH or HCl. Finally, the reactors were stored in incubators set at 25 °C. In each experimental group, only one parameter at a time (including pH, Cl/N molar ratio, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl initial concentration, temperature and NOM) was adjusted to different values to permit study of each specific condition.

A neutral pH is recommended for chloramination, while a slightly basic pH is usually used in drinking water treatment to protect pipes from corrosion. Thus, a pH range of 7.00 - 8.45 was studied in these experiments. To study the impact of pH on the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss rate, NaOH and HCl solutions were used to adjust the pH to specific values (7.0, 7.6 and 8.45). The Cl/N molar ratio is commonly controlled to remain at-or-below 1 in drinking water treatment to reduce the formation of dichloramine and trichloramine, but the practical ratios vary from one treatment plant to another based on their operational conditions. To study the impact of the Cl/N molar ratio, more nitrogen standard solution was added to the reactors if a lower Cl/N ratio (0.5) was required. A monochloramine range of 0.056 mM to 0.2 mM was usually used for NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation study. To achieve higher initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl stock solution was added to tap water when the impact of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations (0.1 and 0.2 mM) on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay was studied. This stock solution was prepared with a Cl/N molar ratio of 0.7 by adding free chlorine and ammonia standard solutions into ultrapure water, and solutions were mixed for 30 min in the dark before use to ensure homogeneity. Incubators were adjusted to different values (4, 25 and 35 °C) to study the effect of temperature. Note that because the experiments were designed to describe the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay process in tap water, no additional NOM was added to the water samples; therefore, all NOM in water samples was from the tap water itself. To study the impact of NOM concentrations on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss rate, the tap water was diluted with an equal amount of ultrapure water, and then extra NH<sub>2</sub>Cl stock solution and nitrogen standard solution were added to achieve the required concentrations.

<u>*Water chemistry monitoring*</u> Since the Cl/N molar ratios in this research were less than 1, the total chlorine molar concentration was assumed to be the same as the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl molar concentration. The NH<sub>2</sub>Cl molar concentrations were measured by the HACH colorimetric method 8167 (with a detection limit of 0.02 mg-Cl/L), and this method was calibrated based on manufacturer's guidelines before NH<sub>2</sub>Cl measurement. Total ammonia in water samples was determined by the HACH colorimetric method 10205 with a detection limit of 0.015 mg NH<sub>3</sub>-N/L. The pH was measured by a calibrated VWR® sympHony<sup>TM</sup> B10P Benchtop pH Meter. The NOM concentration was analyzed based on the total dissolved organic carbon (total DOC) concentrations as measured by a Shimadzu TOC-L CPH E100 (detection limit is 4  $\mu$ g-C/L).

<u>NOM reactive site determination</u> The method for NOM reactive site was determined from Duirk *et al.*'s (2005) study. 0.2 mM free chlorine was added to tap water samples to react with NOM. With the assumption that one molar of free chlorine can consume one molar of reactive DOC (DOC<sub>r</sub>) in this study, the concentration of DOC<sub>r</sub> in each sample can be determined based on the tap water total free chlorine demand when no more significant changes of free chlorine concentration could be observed in water samples for 5 days, which typically occurred approximately three weeks after the start of the experiment. The NOM reactive fraction S can then be solved by the ratio of DOC<sub>r</sub> to total DOC concentrations. A control group that added 0.2 mM free chlorine into ultrapure water was set to eliminate the impact of free chlorine auto loss. Experiments were duplicates.

# 4.2.2. Reaction assumptions and model development

The monochloramine loss model used in this research was adapted from earlier models. Jafvert and Valentine (1992) developed an NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss model to describe NH<sub>2</sub>Cl autodecomposition processes under various concentrations. Vikesland et al. (2001) then refined the model by adding other factors, including temperature, nitrite and bromide concentrations. In natural waters, the presence of NOM also significantly affects the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss rate; therefore, Duirk et al. (2002) modeled the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss in the presence of Aldrich humic acid under the assumption

that only monochloramine reacted with NOM, and the reaction between NOM and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl had two pathways: a rapid reaction within the first several hours and a consequent long-term reaction. In each pathway, only a specific fraction of NOM is involved in the reaction. However, with an increase of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and ammonia (including NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> and NH<sub>3</sub>) concentrations at the same molar ratio, the kinetic constants of the long-term reaction decreased under this assumption, which means that some intermediate products, such as free chlorine and dichloramine, formed during the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl autodecomposition processes. These intermediate products may be responsible for the NOM longterm reaction (Duirk et al. 2005). Duirk et al. (2005) first proposed that free chlorine, rather than NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, reacts with NOM in the long-term reaction. Under this assumption – adopted also for this study – the NOM long-term reaction rate constant does not change with pH, which presents better NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay kinetics as compared with earlier theories. Therefore, this theory is also used in this research.



Fig. 4.1. The reaction assumptions for the reactions between active chlorine and tap water NOM The reaction between different types of NOM and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl solution in pre-experiments showed that the rapid reaction only happened in the first few hours of the reaction. In this research, since the model is built for the prediction of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay in drinking water distribution systems, it is assumed that the NOM rapid reaction pathway was completed in on-site reservoirs before water flows into distribution systems. Therefore, only the long-term reaction was considered here

(Fig. 4.1). In the equations below,  $k_{docr}$  and S represent the kinetic constant and the NOM reactive site fraction included in the long-term reaction. DOC<sub>r</sub> represents the reactive DOC. The reaction pathway is shown in eqn. 4.1.

Pathway: HOCl + DOC<sub>r</sub> 
$$\xrightarrow{\kappa_{docr}}$$
 Products. (4.1)

$$[DOC_r] = S [total DOC]$$
(4.2)

The mechanistic equation of this reaction is shown below (eqn. 4.3):

$$\frac{d[HOCI]}{dt} = -k_{docr}[HOCI][DOC_r]$$
(4.3)

With this assumption, all the reactions of tap water NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss mechanisms are shown in Table 4.1.

Based on Duirk et al. (2005),  $k_{docr}$  and S were assumed to be constants under various pH values; further, to determine the value of S, a high HOCl concentration (0.2 mM HOCl) was used to oxidize the NOM reactive site S completely. The NH<sub>2</sub>Cl autodecomposition model developed by Jafvert and Valentine (1992) and refined by Vikesland et al. (2001) was used to determine the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl autodecomposition processes in tap water.  $k_{docr}$  was then estimated using the tap water NOM reaction (eqn. 4.3) to compensate for the experimental tap water NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss data, and COMSOL Multiphysics Chemical Reaction Engineering Module (COMSOL, Sweden) was applied to solve  $k_{docr}$ . The average value from each group of experiments was used as the final value of  $k_{docr}$ .

No.	<b>Reaction Types</b>	<b>Reaction Equations</b>	References
1	Autodecomposition	$HOC1 + NH_3 \rightarrow NH_2C1 + H_2O$	Morris and Isaac (1981)
2	reactions	$NH_2Cl + H_2O \rightarrow HOCl + NH_3$	
3		$HOC1 + NH_2C1 \rightarrow NHCl_2 + H_2O$	
4		$\rm NHCl_2 + H_2O \rightarrow HOCl + NH_2Cl$	
5		$2NH_2Cl \rightarrow NHCl_2 + NH_3$	Valentine and Jafvert (1988)
6		$NHCl_2 + NH_3 \rightarrow 2NH_2Cl$	Hand and Margerum (1983)
7		$\rm NHCl_2 + H_2O \rightarrow I^a$	Jafvert and Valentine (1987)
8		$\rm NHCl_2 + I \rightarrow \rm HOCl + pd1^b$	Leao (1981)
9		$NH_2Cl + I \rightarrow pd2^b$	
10		$NH_2Cl + NHCl_2 \rightarrow pd3^b$	
11	Tap water NOM reaction	$HOCl + DOC_r \rightarrow pd4^c$	Present work
12	Equilibrium reactions	$HOCl = H^+ + OCl^-$	Snoeyink and Jenkins
13		$NH_4^+ = NH_3 + H^+$	(1980)
14		$\mathrm{H}_{2}\mathrm{CO}_{3}=\mathrm{HCO}_{3}^{-}+\mathrm{H}^{+}$	
15		$HCO_3^- = CO_3^{2-} + H^+$	

**Table 4.1.** Tap water NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss reactions developed by Jafvert and Valentine (1992), Vikesland et al. (2001), Duirk et al. (2005) and the present work

<sup>a</sup>I represents an unidentified intermediate; <sup>b</sup>pd1-pd3 (pd means products) may include N<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O, Cl<sup>-</sup>, H<sup>+</sup>, NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> and other unidentified products (Jafvert and Valentine, 1992); <sup>c</sup>pd4 may include H<sub>2</sub>O, Cl<sup>-</sup>, H<sup>+</sup> and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl disinfection DBPs.

Temperature usually has a significant influence on reaction rates and equilibrium constants, and the tap-water temperature varies significantly among seasons. Therefore, the impact of temperature on kinetic or equilibrium constants for key rate-limiting reactions (Vikesland et al. 2001) should be considered in the model. The temperature-dependent reaction equations for NH<sub>2</sub>Cl autodecomposition were studied by Vikesland et al. (2001), while the temperature-dependent reaction equations for NOM were not considered in previous research. Three different temperatures (4, 25 and 35 °C) were used here to estimate the temperature dependent equation for  $k_{docr}$ , with numerical values calculated also with COMSOL Multiphysics (COMSOL, Sweden). The relationship between the temperature and  $k_{docr}$  was then solved using the Arrhenius equation (eqn. 4.4 and 4.5),

$$\ln(k_{\rm TD}) = \ln(A) - E_{\rm a}/RT \tag{4.4}$$

$$k_{\rm TD} = A \exp(-E_a/RT) \tag{4.5}$$

Where  $E_a$  is activation energy, A is frequency factor, T is absolute temperature and R is ideal gas constant.

## 4.3. Results and discussion

### 4.3.1. Experimental results and discussion

 Table 4.2. Tap water characteristics

DOC (mg/L)	NH4 <sup>+</sup> -N (mg/L)	рН	SUVA <sub>254</sub> (L/mg×cm)	NH <sub>2</sub> Cl (mM)
$1.47\pm0.15$	$0.466\pm0.011$	$7.8\pm0.1$	0.0196	$0.056\pm0.001$

The original tap water characteristics were determined (Table 4.2), and then the tap water was adjusted to the required conditions to study the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss by varying the factors described above (Fig. 4.2).

Our experimental data did not show a significantly rapid NH<sub>2</sub>Cl demand in tap water at the beginning of the experiment, which validated the assumption that almost no NOM rapid reactive sites appear in bulk tap water under our experimental conditions. In Fig. 4.2, points represent the experimental results and lines are the modeling results simulated by COMSOL Multiphysics software (COMSOL, Sweden).

Fig. 4.2(a) shows the acceleration of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rate under lower pH values in tap water. With a lower pH, more dichloramine (NHCl<sub>2</sub>) can be produced due to the acid accelerating reaction  $2NH_2Cl \rightarrow NHCl_2 + NH_3$ , and since NHCl<sub>2</sub> is unstable and decomposes faster than NH<sub>2</sub>Cl in a



near-neutral pH (Valentine and Jafvert, 1988; Vikesland et al., 2001), the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rate increases.

Fig. 4.2. NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss under various conditions (lines: modeling results), (a) [NH<sub>2</sub>Cl]<sub>0</sub> = 0.056 mM, T = 25 °C. Cl/N = 0.7 mol/mol, [DOC] = 1.39 mg-C/L; (b) [NH<sub>2</sub>Cl] = 0.056 mM, pH = 7.6, T = 25 °C, [DOC] = 1.63 mg-C/L; (c) Cl/N=0.7mol/mol, pH = 7.55, temperature=25 °C, [DOC] = 1.29mg-C/L; (d) [NH<sub>2</sub>Cl] = 0.056 mM, pH = 7.6, Cl/N = 0.7 mol/mol, [DOC] = 1.63 mg-C/L; (e) [NH<sub>2</sub>Cl] = 0.056 mM, pH = 7.6, Cl/N = 0.7 mol/mol, T=25 °C. (Dashed line: NH<sub>2</sub>Cl auto-decay curve)

As shown in Fig. 4.2(b), a lower Cl/N molar ratio will result in a decrease in the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss rate. For a fixed NH<sub>2</sub>Cl initial concentration, a lower Cl/N molar ratio will lead to more free ammonia (under the condition that the Cl/N molar ratio < 1), which can cause the regeneration of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl by its reaction with HOCl (Table 4.1, reaction 1), and consequently decrease the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss rate.

Fig. 4.2(c) shows that a higher initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration will lead to an increased NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss rate. This observation may be explained by the fact that higher initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations lead to more free chlorine formation as an intermediate in the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl autodecomposition process. Therefore, more NOM is oxidised by free chlorine, which increases the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss rate. Further, with the same rate constant, a higher initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration will increase the reaction rate of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl autodecomposition reactions, which also contribute to the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay.

As shown in Fig. 4.2(d), temperature produces a significant effect on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss rate for both the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl autodecomposition and the chemical reaction between free chlorine and NOM, and an increase in temperature leads to an increased NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decomposition rate.

The impact on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decomposition under two different DOC concentrations in tap water was also studied, and the results are included in Fig. 4.2(e). To study the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rate under a lower DOC concentration, tap water samples were diluted with ultrapure water. Other

factors such as pH, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and ammonium concentrations were then adjusted to the same as the original sample. From this figure, it appears that a higher initial DOC concentration does accelerate the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss rate. Similar results have been reported previously (Duirk et al., 2002; Duirk et al., 2005). Additionally, the difference of the decay rates between

NH<sub>2</sub>Cl autodecomposition shown in Fig 4.2(e) verifies the significant effect of NOM on the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss rate in tap water. However, higher DOC concentrations were not studied in this research, since the NOM in tap water cannot be concentrated in the presence of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl.

#### 4.3.2. Model results and discussion

Table 4.3. Rate coefficient, temperature dependent equation and reactive fraction of NOM

Rate coefficient k <sub>docr</sub>	Temperature dependent equation	Reactive
$(M^{-1}h^{-1})$	$(M^{-1}h^{-1})$	fraction S
$k_{\rm docr} = (3.57 \pm 0.54) \times 10^6$	$k_{\text{docrTD}} = 1.54 \times 10^{22} \exp(-10733/\text{T})$	$0.43 \pm 0.06$

Experimentally-derived values for  $k_{docr}$  and S for tap water are shown in Table 4.3, as is the temperature dependent equation (eqn. 4.5). Specifically, a high HOCl concentration (0.2 mM HOCl) was used to completely react with reactive NOM, thus determining the DOC<sub>r</sub> concentration in tap water and solving the value of S by eqn. 4.2. In terms of  $k_{docr}$ , it was assumed that NH<sub>2</sub>Cl autodecomposition and the reaction between free chlorine and reactive NOM are the two dominant pathways that contribute to the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss in tap water. The NH<sub>2</sub>Cl autodecomposition model used in this study was developed by Jafvert and Valentine (1992) and refined by Vikesland et al. (2001). To solve the  $k_{docr}$  for the NOM free chlorine reaction, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl autodecomposition model was implemented into COMSOL Multiphysics Chemical Reaction Engineering Module (COMSOL, Sweden) along with the reaction 11 (Table 4.1).  $k_{docr}$  can be estimated by the software based on the experimental data. In terms of the temperature dependent equation for  $k_{docrTD}$ , the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss experiments under 4, 25 and 35 °C were conducted to estimate the  $k_{docr}$ 

values under different temperatures. The  $k_{\text{docrTD}}$  equation was then solved by Arrhenius equation (eqn. 4.4 and eqn. 4.5). To validate the modeling results, the loss rates calculated for the same conditions as the tap water samples were compared with the experimental data. These modeled NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss rates are presented by the curves in Fig. 4.2. As shown in Figs. 4.2(a) to 4.2(e), the experimental data show good matches with the modeling results. It appears that the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss model built in this study can be used to describe the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss under various conditions of temperature, pH and Cl/N molar ratios, as well as initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and NOM concentrations. Further, the validation results show that the reaction assumptions proposed in this research permit prediction of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl losses under different chloraminated tap water conditions. That is, although only tap water from one utility (University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada) was used for model building in this study, to study the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss rate in tap water with different NOM composition, the value of  $k_{\text{docr}}$  and S can be easily solved based on the method proposed in this study as well. Note, however, as mentioned in Duirk et al.'s study (2005), that the purpose of this model is to predict the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss in tap water and not to represent the real chemical reactions occurring in tap water.

Parameter	NOM reaction rate constant	S
Current study	$(3.57 \pm 0.54) \times 10^6 M^{-1} h^{-1}$	$0.43 \pm 0.06$
Duirk et al., 2005	$7.72 \times 10^5 \sim 4.95 \times 10^5 M^{-1} h^{-1}$	$0.68 \sim 0.42$
Zhou et al., 2013	$0.011722 \sim 0.014093 \ h^{-1}$	Not determined

Table 4.4. NOM rate constant and reactive site fraction in tap water with 95% confidence intervals

Table 4.4 compares rate constants and reactive site fractions from this research with the literature. The assumption for NOM kinetic constant studies used in this research was first proposed by Duirk et al. (2005). They compared the NOM from six rivers to study the impact of different NOM on the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss rate. The rate constant solved in this work is significantly higher

than Duirk et al.'s study, most likely because the chemical species appearing in tap water are complex. Specifically, in addition to NOM, a variety of chemical species can accelerate the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss, and since their concentrations are very low, their impact was omitted from the model. However, with higher concentrations of these species, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss rate could increase significantly and explain the higher value of  $k_{docr}$  found in this work.

In terms of the reactive site fraction, the value of S in this research is in the range of the literature results. It is therefore assumed that although the rapid reactive NOM was consumed during the disinfection process, most of the long-term reactive NOM still retained in tap water, which subsequently reacted with free chlorine after the treated water entered the drinking water network.

Zhou et al. (2013) also studied the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss in tap water. However, their NOM reaction rate constant is significantly lower than that of this work, because the reaction rate between NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and NOM in their study was assumed to be related only to the concentration of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl itself (a first-order reaction), while it was assumed to be related to the concentrations of both DOC and active chlorine concentration (second-order reaction) in this study. Further, in their study, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl was assumed to react with NOM over the longer-term and thus contributed to the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss, rather than free chlorine. As an intermediate, free chlorine usually has a concentration approximately 1000 times lower than NH<sub>2</sub>Cl in chloraminated water. Therefore, to achieve the same NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rate, the rate constant of the reaction between NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and NOM should be significantly lower than HOCl and NOM. Finally, the reactive site *S* was not considered in their research, that is, all the NOM in tap water was assumed to react with NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, which also produces a lower  $k_{docr}$  value in their research.
#### 4.4. Conclusions

Temperature, pH and Cl/N ratios and initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and NOM concentrations are the dominant factors in determining NH<sub>2</sub>Cl losses in tap water. In this research, a model was developed to predict such losses under various conditions; its results exhibit good matches with the experimental data, which validates the model for NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss prediction under various real water conditions. Although the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl is the dominant disinfect species in tap water, rapid reaction between NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and NOM should not be considered in the model after water flows into drinking water distribution systems. The NOM reactive site fraction S and rate constant  $k_{docr}$  were estimated under the assumption that only the long-term reaction between free chlorine and reactive NOM occurred in tap water. Although the values of S and  $k_{docr}$  may differ by tap water source, this research provides a useful general methodology for NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss studies in drinking water; further, the methods applied here can also be used to solve for values of  $k_{docr}$  in tap water from different water sources. Note that the model built here does not present the real reaction mechanisms in tap water, but it does meet the purpose of this research: prediction of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl losses under real water conditions. Moreover, the value of  $k_{docr}$  solved in this model may not be directly used for tap water from other sources, and the model built in this study cannot be applied to tap water that contains high concentrations of nitrite, bromide and ferrous ion. Therefore, further studies need to be done to predict the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss in tap water with the present of these chemicals.

## 4.5. References

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# CHAPTER 5. MONOCHLORAMINE LOSS MECHANISMS AND DISSOLVED ORGANIC MATTER CHARACTERIZATION IN STORMWATER<sup>3</sup>

# 5.1. Introduction

Chloramination is widely used for drinking water secondary disinfection. Compared with free chlorine, monochloramine (NH<sub>2</sub>Cl), the dominant species in chloramination, is less reactive and can provide a longer-lasting disinfection effect in drinking water distribution system (Brodtmann and Russo, 1979; Norman et al., 1980). However, the persistent NH<sub>2</sub>Cl can lead to serious environmental problems through its introduction into storm sewers and thus fresh water sources. Outdoor tap water uses such as residential garden watering, lawn irrigation in parks, car washing at dealerships and industrial pressure vessel hydro-testing can all lead to the discharge of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl into storm sewers. Our previous study showed that the total active chlorine (TAC) concentration in Edmonton municipal storm sewers varied from 0 to 0.77 mg/L under dry weather conditions during the summers of 2015 and 2016 (Zhang et al., 2018) which exceeded the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment guideline's recommended concentration of 0.02 mg/L in discharge effluent in most of times (Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment, 2009). That is, once the chloraminated stormwater is discharged into fresh water sources, it may pose serious risks to the aquatic environment. To enhance the regulation of chloraminated tap water discharges, knowledge of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation mechanisms in stormwater is important. However, although the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation processes has been widely studied in drinking water distribution systems, little research has been undertaken to monitor NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay in storm sewer systems.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> A version of this chapter has been partially published: Zhang, Q., Davies, E. G., Bolton, J. R., & Liu, Y., 2018. Monochloramine loss mechanisms and dissolved organic matter characterization in stormwater. Science of The Total Environment. 631, 745-754.

In drinking water distribution systems, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl autodecomposition as well as reactions with water chemical components are considered the major NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation pathways (Vikesland et al., 2001; Zhang et al., 2017). NH<sub>2</sub>Cl can autodecompose by a complex set of reactions that ultimately result in the oxidation of ammonia and the reduction of active chlorine. The rates of these reactions depend on the solution pH, alkalinity and initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations, as well as on the ratio of chlorine to ammonia nitrogen. Further, chemical compounds existing in the water system, such as natural organic matter (NOM), nitrate (NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>), ferrous ion (Fe<sup>2+</sup>) and bromide (Br<sup>-</sup>), can enhance the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rate (Duirk et al., 2005; Vikesland et al., 2001; Zhang et al., 2017). To study the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in a storm sewer system, these reactions should also be considered. However, since Fe<sup>2+</sup> is unstable and can easily be oxidised to ferric ion (Fe<sup>3+</sup>) because of the high dissolved oxygen concentration in stormwater (Zhang et al., 2018), and the concentration of Br<sup>-</sup> is too low to be detected by Ion-exchange Chromatography, these two chemicals are not considered in our study.

The NH<sub>2</sub>Cl autodecomposition model and the reactions with NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> have been studied comprehensively by Vikesland et al. (2001) and Wahman and Speitel (2012). In terms of the reaction with DOM, the DOM from various water sources may have different compositions, and can show different characteristics when it reacts with NH<sub>2</sub>Cl (Duirk et al., 2005). Therefore, to describe the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss in stormwater, the principal objectives of this research are (i) to study the reactions between active chlorine species and stormwater DOM (SWDOM) during NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation processes and (ii) to develop a kinetic model to describe these processes under various stormwater conditions, such as pH, alkalinity, NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>, NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> and DOM concentrations. Also, temperature usually shows significant influence on reaction rates of chemical reactions. As stormwater commonly showed lower temperature than ground environment, the impact of temperature on stormwater NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation was also studied.<sup>4</sup> Further, our previous study showed that the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rate is largely governed by the DOM concentration in stormwater samples (Zhang et al., 2018). Therefore, the characteristics of DOM in stormwater samples collected under different neighborhoods (residential, parkland, commercial and industrial areas) were analyzed before and after chloramination.

The model developed in this research can be applied to simulate NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rates under various stormwater conditions. The model results can be used as a reference to evaluate potential active chlorine contamination by outdoor tap water discharge, thus contributing to the regulation of outdoor chloraminated water uses, and ideally eliminating active chlorine contamination in stormwater. Since may other municipalities also use chloramines for drinking water disinfection, it is believed that the model built in this research can also benefit them. Although the SWDOM characteristics may vary among various areas, the methodology developed in this study should be widely applicable.

#### 5.2. Material and methods

# 5.2.1. Experimental design

Stormwater samples collected under dry weather conditions were used for the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation study, as relatively high TAC concentrations were detected under this weather condition during the summers of 2015 and 2016 (Zhang et al., 2018). However, because only limited stormwater volumes can be collected from storm sewers in dry weather, the SWDOM cannot be studied by directly extraction from stormwater samples. Therefore, a commercial NOM (Nordic Reservoir NOM, purchased from International Humic Substances Society), which has a similar Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) spectrum with Edmonton SWDOM (Fig. S5.1), was

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> This sentence is not included in the published manuscript.

utilized both to study the impact of NOM on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation, and to develop the dissipation model. A similar FTIR spectrum reflects a close chemical composition among these samples.

Laboratory DOM solutions were prepared by dissolving Nordic Reservoir NOM (NRNOM) into ultrapure water from a Barnstead<sup>™</sup> Smart2Pure<sup>™</sup> Water Purification System (Massachusetts, USA) to the required concentrations. NH<sub>2</sub>Cl stock solutions were prepared with an active chlorine to nitrogen (Cl/N) molar ratio of 1.0 or 0.7 by the addition of hypochlorous acid (HOCl) and ammonium chloride (NH<sub>4</sub>Cl) solutions into ultrapure water. HOCl and NH<sub>4</sub>Cl standard solutions were purchased from Ricca Chemical Company (Texas, USA). 4 mM of sodium bicarbonate (NaHCO<sub>3</sub>) was spiked into DOM solutions to stablize the pH. Hydrochloric acid (HCl) with a concentration of 6 M was added to adjust the pH to the required values. pH values from 7.0 to 8.5 were studied in this research since the stormwater pH was normally within this range (Zhang et al., 2018).

To conduct the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation experiments in the presence of NRNOM, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl stock solutions with an active Cl/N molar ratio of 0.7 were added into buffered DOM solutions to achieve certain initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations. Then, the solutions were transferred into 128 mL flasks wrapped with aluminum foil. NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration changes were recorded at certain time intervals. The initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations were determined by adding the same amount of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl stock solution into ultrapure water with the same volumes as the DOM solutions. Moreover, free chorine released from NH<sub>2</sub>Cl autodecomposition can also react with DOM. The free chlorine and DOM reactions were studied with the same experimental procedure as for the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation experiments by adding HOCl into buffered DOM solutions.

To study the impact of temperature on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation, NRNOM was firstly dissolved into ultrapure water under two different DOC concentrations. After that, solutions were stored in

cold rooms with temperatures of 5 °C, 10 °C and 15 °C for 30 min to achieve homogenous temperature of solutions with surrounding environment.  $NH_2Cl$  dissipation experiments were then conducted under the same procedures as described before.<sup>5</sup>

Field stormwater samples were collected from storm sewers in four neighborhoods to represent the major land-use types: (1) residential, for garden watering, (2) city parks, for lawn irrigation, (3) commercial, for car washing from dealerships and car rental businesses and (4) industrial, for pressure vessel hydro-testing. For each land use type, two stormwater samples from upstream and downstream manholes were collected. Detailed information on location selections is provided in the supporting information (Table S5.1). After samples were delivered to the laboratory, they were filtered through 0.45  $\mu$ m filters to remove suspended particles. NH<sub>2</sub>Cl stock solutions with an active Cl/N molar ratio of 1 were then added to achieve an initial total active chlorine (TAC) concentration of 0.05 mM (1.78 mg/L-active chlorine). After that, the pH of the stormwater samples was recorded. Since stormwater samples already had high alkalinity, no additional NaHCO<sub>3</sub> was added to buffer the samples.

The method for the determination of NRNOM and SWDOM reactive fractions was developed from Duirk et al.'s study (2005). The rapid free chlorine and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl reactive fractions (S<sub>HOClrapid</sub> and S<sub>NH2Clrapid</sub>) were determined by the rapid free chlorine and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl demands in free chlorine and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay experiments. The total free chlorine and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl reactive fractions (S<sub>total</sub>) which include rapid and long-term reactive DOM are considered to be same since NH<sub>2</sub>Cl continuously releases HOCl by its autodecomposition, which can then react with DOM. S<sub>total</sub> was determined by the reaction between excess concentrations of free chlorine and NRNOM solutions or stormwater samples. The DOM concentrations were quantified by dissolved organic carbon

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> This paragraph is not included in the published manuscript.

(DOC) concentrations. With the assumption that one mole of free chlorine can consume one mole of reactive DOC (DOC<sub>r</sub>) (Duirk et al., 2005), the concentration of DOC<sub>r</sub> in each sample can be determined based on the total free chlorine demand when no significant changes of free chlorine were observed in the NRNOM solutions or stormwater samples. The  $S_{total}$  of NRNOM and SWDOM can be solved by determining the ratio of DOC<sub>r</sub> to total DOC concentrations. A control group with the same initial free chlorine concentration in ultrapure water was set to eliminate the impact of free chlorine self-dissipation.

All experiments were carried out in triplicates, and all glassware was pretreated to be chlorine demand-free by soaking in concentrated HOCl solutions for 24 hours and rinsing thoroughly with ultrapure water. Except for temperature control experiments, all the other NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and free chorine dissipation experiments were conducted in a 25  $^{\circ}$ C incubator. All HOCl and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation experiments were completed within 48 hours to prevent a significant pH change in the solutions.

To characterize the Edmonton SWDOM before and after chloramination, fluorescence Excitation–Emission Matrix (EEM) and FTIR spectroscopy were applied. Chloraminated stormwater samples were prepared by adding 2 mM (excess) NH<sub>2</sub>Cl into raw stormwater. Raw and chloraminated SWDOM samples were compared. The SWDOM samples were collected by freeze-drying 20 mL of 0.45  $\mu$ m filtered stormwater samples. The FRI technique (Chen et al., 2003) was applied to analyze the EEM results. The SUVA<sub>254</sub> of stormwater samples and NRNOM solutions were also determined using Varian Cary 50 Bio UV-Visible Spectrophotometer (Palo Alto, USA).

#### 5.2.2. Analysis methods

With Cl/N molar ratios less than 1, the total active chlorine and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl molar concentrations were considered to be same (Crittenden et al., 2012). Therefore, the total active chlorine (TAC) concentration was measured as the NH2Cl concentration by the HACH (Loveland, USA) colorimetric method 8167 (with a detection limit of 0.02 mg-Cl/L). The NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>-N, NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>-N and alkalinity were analyzed using HACH commercial test kits TNT832, TNT839, and TNT870 with detection limits of 0.015 mg/L NH<sub>3</sub>-N, 0.015 mg/L NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>-N and 25 mg/L CaCO<sub>3</sub>, respectively. DOC was measured by a Shimadzu TOC-LCSN Standard Model (detection limit is 40  $\mu$ g-C/L). Moreover, pH was analyzed by Extech EC500 Waterproof ExStikII pH/conductivity meter (Nashua, USA). FTIR spectra were obtained from the Thermo Scientific<sup>TM</sup> Nicolet<sup>TM</sup> iS<sup>TM</sup>50 FT-IR Spectrometer (Waltham, UK). Freeze-drying was conducted using FreeZone 4.5 Liter -50C Benchtop Freeze Dryers (Kansas City, USA). Fluorescence EEM was tested by Cary Eclipse Fluorescence Spectrophotometer (Santa Clara, USA) and then plotted using the R program EEM package (R Development Core Team, 2008). The EEMs were recorded between excitation wavelengths ( $\lambda_{exc}$ ) of 200 and 500 nm at a 10 nm step increment. For each excitation wavelength, the emission was collected at longer wavelengths at 0.5 steps. The photomultiplier tube voltage was 600V. The UV<sub>254</sub> absorbance was analyzed by Varian Cary<sup>®</sup> 50 Bio UV-Visible Spectrophotometer (Palo Alto, USA).

# 5.3. Model development

# 5.3.1. Reaction assumptions

To describe the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss processes in stormwater samples, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation model in the presence of NRNOM was first studied. This model consists of two parts: the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl autodecomposition processes, and reactions with DOM. The NH<sub>2</sub>Cl auto-decay model used in this research was proposed by Jafvert and Valentine (1992) and refined by Vikesland et al. (2001). The DOM component was developed from previous models as follows. The impact of organic components in the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay processes was first modeled by Duirk et al. (2002). However, they considered only the rapid and long-term reactions between DOM and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, and the kinetic constants of the long-term reaction decreased with increases of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and ammonia concentrations. In 2005, Duirk et al. (2005) proposed that rather than NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, free chlorine released from NH<sub>2</sub>Cl autodecomposition is involved in the long-term DOM reaction. Based on the model developed by Duirk et al. (2005), Zhu and Zhang (2016) suggested that both NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and free chlorine species should be considered to have rapid and slow reactions with DOM in NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation. This assumption is also used and verified in this study. Therefore, four pathways were applied in our model: (I) the DOM rapid reaction with free chlorine; (III) the DOM rapid reaction with NH<sub>2</sub>Cl; and (IV) the DOM long-term reaction with NH<sub>2</sub>Cl. For each pathway, the reaction equation and the reaction rate mechanistic equation are shown below:

Pathway (I): HOCl + DOC<sub>HOClrapid</sub> 
$$\xrightarrow{\kappa_{doc1}}$$
 Products. (5.1)

$$[DOC_{HOC}] = S_{HOC}[rapid] [total DOC]$$
(5.2)

$$\frac{d[\text{HOCI}]}{dt} = -k_{\text{doc1}}[\text{HOCI}][\text{DOC}_{\text{HOCIrapid}}]$$
(5.3)

Pathway (II): HOCl + DOC<sub>HOCllongterm</sub> 
$$\xrightarrow{\kappa_{doc2}}$$
 Products. (5.4)

$$[\text{DOC}_{\text{HOCllongterm}}] = (S_{\text{total}} - S_{\text{HOClrapid}}) [\text{total DOC}]$$
(5.5)

$$\frac{d[HOCI]}{dt} = -k_{doc2}[HOCI][DOC_{HOCIlongterm}]$$
(5.6)

Pathway (III): NH<sub>2</sub>Cl + DOC <sub>NH2Clrapid</sub> 
$$\xrightarrow{\kappa_{doc3}}$$
 Products. (5.7)

$$[DOC_{NH2Clrapid}] = S_{NH2Clrapid} [total DOC]$$
(5.8)

$$\frac{d[NH_2Cl]}{dt} = -k_{doc3}[NH_2Cl][DOC_{NH2Clrapid}]$$
(5.9)

Pathway (IV): 
$$NH_2Cl + DOC_{NH2Cllongterm} \xrightarrow{k_{doc4}} Products.$$
 (5.10)

$$[DOC_{NH2Cllongterm}] = (S_{total} - S_{NH2Clrapid}) [total DOC]$$
(5.11)

$$\frac{d[NH_2Cl]}{dt} = -k_{doc2}[NH_2Cl][DOC_{NH2Cllongterm}]$$
(5.12)

Further, our previous study showed that the NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>-N concentration varied from 0.015 to 0.745 mg/L in Edmonton stormwater during the summers of 2015 and 2016 (Zhang et al., 2018). Since NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> can consume NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, the reactions between NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl should also be considered to predict the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss rate in real stormwater. The NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> – NH<sub>2</sub>Cl reaction equations, which were studied by Margerum et al. (1994) and developed by Vikesland et al. (2001) and Wahman and Speitel (2012), were applied in this research. All the reactions involved in the stormwater NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in are shown in Fig. 5.1 and Table 5.1.



Fig. 5.1. The reactions involving in NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in stormwater (Pd: products)

	Desetion	<b>Rate Coefficient or</b>	Defenerer	
	Keaction	Equilibrium Constant	Kelerences	
1	$HOCl + NH_3 \rightarrow NH_2Cl + H_2O$	$k_1 = 1.5 \times 10^{10} \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{h}^{-1}$	Morris and Isaac, 1981	
2	$NH_2Cl + H_2O \rightarrow HOCl + NH_3$	$k_2 = 7.6 \times 10^{-2} \mathrm{h}^{-1}$	Morris and Isaac, 1981	
3	$HOCl + NH_2Cl \rightarrow NHCl_2 + H_2O$	$k_3 = 1.3 \times 10^6 \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{h}^{-1}$	Morris and Isaac, 1981	
4	$NH_2Cl + H_2O \rightarrow HOCl + NH_2Cl$	$k_4 = 2.7 \times 10^{-3} \mathrm{h}^{-1}$	Morris and Isaac, 1981	
5	$2NH_2Cl \rightarrow NHCl_2 + NH_3$	$k_5{}^{\mathrm{a}}$	Jafvert and Valentine, 1992	
6	$NHCl_2 + NH_3 \rightarrow 2NH_2Cl$	$k_6 = 2.2 \times 10^8 \mathrm{M}^{-2} \mathrm{h}^{-1}$	Hand and Margerum, 1983	
7	$\rm NHCl_2 + H_2O \rightarrow I$	$k_7 = 4.0 \times 10^5 \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{h}^{-1}$	Jafvert and Valentine, 1987	
8	$\mathrm{NHCl}_2 + \mathrm{I}^\mathrm{b}  \mathrm{HOCl} + \mathrm{pd1^c}$	$k_8 = 1.0 \times 10^8 \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{h}^{-1}$	Leao, 1981	
9	$NH_2Cl + I \rightarrow pd2^{\circ}$	$k_9 = 3.0 \times 10^7 \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{h}^{-1}$	Leao, 1981	
10	$NH_2Cl + NHCl_2 \rightarrow pd3^{\circ}$	$k_{10} = 5.5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$	Leao, 1981	
11	$HOCl + NO_2^- \rightarrow H^+ + NO_3^- + Cl^-$	$k_{11}{}^d$	Margerum et al., 1994	
12	$\mathrm{NH_2Cl} + \mathrm{NO_2^-} + \mathrm{H_2O} \twoheadrightarrow \mathrm{NH_4^+} + \mathrm{NO_3^-} + \mathrm{Cl^-} + \mathrm{H^+}$	$k_{12}^{e}$	Wahman and Speitel, 2012	
13	$\mathrm{HOCl} + \mathrm{DOC}_{\mathrm{HOClrapid}} \xrightarrow{} \mathrm{pd4^{f}}$	$k_{13} = 2.3 \times 10^6 \mathrm{M^{-1}h^{-1}}$	Present work	
14	$\mathrm{HOCl} + \mathrm{DOC}_{\mathrm{HOClslow}} \rightarrow \mathrm{pd5^{f}}$	$k_{14} = 3.9 \times 10^2 \mathrm{M^{-1}h^{-1}}$	Present work	
15	$NH_2Cl + DOC_{NH2Clrapid} \rightarrow pd6^g$	$k_{15} = 3.4 \times 10^4 \mathrm{M^{-1}h^{-1}}$	Present work	
16	$\rm NH_2Cl + \rm DOC_{\rm NH2Clslow} \rightarrow pd7^g$	$k_{16} = 15.9 \ \mathrm{M^{-1}h^{-1}}$	Present work	
17	$HOCl = H^+ + OCl^-$	$pK_a = 7.5$	Snoeyink and Jenkins, 1980	
18	$NH_4^+ = NH_3 + H^+$	$pK_a = 9.3$	Snoeyink and Jenkins, 1980	
19	$\mathrm{H}_{2}\mathrm{CO}_{3}=\mathrm{HCO}_{3}^{-}+\mathrm{H}^{+}$	$pK_a = 6.4$	Snoeyink and Jenkins, 1980	
20	$HCO_3^- = CO_3^{2-} + H^+$	$pK_a = 10.3$	Snoeyink and Jenkins, 1980	

**Table 5.1.** NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss reactions in stormwater developed by Jafvert and Valentine (1992), Margerum et al. (1994), Vikesland et al. (2001), Duirk et al. (2005), Wahman and Speitel (2012), Zhu and Zhang (2016) and the present work

 $\overline{a k_5} = k_{\rm H}[{\rm H}^+] + k_{\rm HCO_3}[{\rm HCO_3}^-] + k_{\rm H_2CO_3}[{\rm H_2CO_3}], \text{ where } k_{\rm H^+} = 2.5 \times 10^7 M^{-2} h^{-1}, k_{\rm HCO_3} = 800 M^{-2} h^{-1},$ 

 $k_{\rm H_2CO3} = 4 \times 10^4 M^{-2} h^{-1}.$ 

b I represents an unidentified intermediate in NH<sub>2</sub>Cl auto-decomposition.

c pd1-pd3 (pd means product) may include  $N_2$ ,  $H_2O$ ,  $Cl^-$ ,  $H^+$ ,  $NO_3^-$  and other unidentified products (Jafvert and Valentine, 1992).

d 
$$k_{11} = \frac{k_{1n}[H^+](1+\frac{k_{2n}}{K_{4n}}[NO_2^-])}{\frac{k_{-1n}}{K_{4n}}[NH_3]+(1+\frac{k_{2n}}{K_{4n}}[NO_2^-])}$$
, where  $k_{1n} = 1.6 \times 10^8 M^{-2} h^{-1}$ ,  $\frac{k_{-1n}}{k_{4n}} = 1.9 \times 10^6 M^{-1}$ ,  $\frac{k_{2n}}{K_{4n}} = 217 M^{-1}$ .

$$e k_{12} = \frac{k_{1n'}[H^+](1 + \frac{k_{2n}}{K_{4n}}[NO_2^-])}{\frac{k_{-1n'}}{K_{4n}}[NH_3] + (1 + \frac{k_{2n}}{K_{4n}}[NO_2^-])}, \text{ where } k_{1n'} = k_{Hn}[H^+] + k_{HCO_3n}[HCO_3^-] + k_{H_2CO_3n}[H_2CO_3], k_{Hn} = 4.3 \times 10^{10} M^{-2} h^{-1}, k_{HCO_3n} = 4.3 \times 10^{3} M^{-2} h^{-1}, k_{H_2CO_3n} = 3.4 \times 10^{6} M^{-2} h^{-1}, k_{-1n'}/k_{4n} = 2.1 \times 10^{-5} Mh \times k_{1n'}.$$

f pd4-5, pd8 may include  $H_2O$ ,  $Cl^-$ ,  $H^+$  and chlorine disinfection by-products (DPBs).

g pd6-7, pd 9-10 may include NH4<sup>+</sup>, H2O, Cl<sup>-</sup>, H<sup>+</sup> and NH2Cl DPBs.

Lower temperature was commonly detected in Edmonton stormwater (Zhang et al., 2018). As lower temperature can lead to the decrease of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation, to describe the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation under different temperatures, the temperature coefficient  $\alpha$  was introduced in to the model. Under each temperature, a specific  $\alpha$  can be solved based on by adding temperature controlled experimental data to the model developed under 25 °C (Table 5.1). And then, the relationship between  $\alpha$  and temperature can be solved.<sup>6</sup>

#### 5.3.2. Parameter estimation

All the DOM reaction rate constants were solved with the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation model (Table 5.1) to compensate for the experimental NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss data in NRNOM solution under various initial conditions. These values were estimated by COMSOL Multiphysics (Stockholm, Sweden) with the Levenberg–Marquardt algorithm, which is commonly applied to solve non-linear least squares problems in computer programs (Gavin, 2017). The average rate constants solved under various conditions were used in the model to estimate the modeling NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rates and to compare with experimental results. Specifically, the rapid and long-term reaction rate constants between HOCl and DOC ( $k_{doc1}$  and  $k_{doc2}$ ) were first estimated by free chlorine decay experiments for various pH values. The  $k_{doc3}$  and  $k_{doc4}$  were then solved by the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay experiments.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> This paragraph is not included in the published paper.

# 5.4. Results and discussion

## 5.4.1. Impacts of NRNOM on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay in stormwater

In laboratory experiments, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rates with the presence of NRNOM were studied under various pH, initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and DOC concentrations, and the results are shown in Fig. 5.2. The free chlorine decay process in the presence of NRNOM was studied first (Figure 5.2(a)).



Fig. 5.2. The HOCl and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss under various conditions (lines: model results), NaHCO<sub>3</sub> = 4 mM, T = 25 °C, (a) [DOC] = 7.4 mg-C/L; (b) [DOC] = 6.4 mg-C/L, Cl/N = 0.7 mol/mol; (c) pH = 8.0, Cl/N = 0.7 mol/mol; (d) [DOC] = 5.1 mg-C/L, pH = 8.0, Cl/N = 0.7 mol/mol

As can be seen, with the same initial free chlorine concentration, no significant difference in the dissipation rates can be observed under various pH values. Therefore, it is believed that the impact of pH on free chlorine dissipation can be omitted. The NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rate increased with a lower pH, higher DOC and initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations. Specifically, reaction 5 in Table 5.1 (2 NH<sub>2</sub>Cl  $\rightarrow$  NHCl<sub>2</sub> + NH<sub>3</sub>) is the dominant reaction in NH<sub>2</sub>Cl autodecomposition. This reaction rate can be accelerated with lower pH, which results in the increase of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rate in Fig. 5.2(b) (Jafvert and Valentine, 1987; Vikesland et al., 2001; Zhang et al., 2017). Further, according to equations (5.3), (5.6), (5.9) and (5.12), the reaction rates between active chlorine (free chorine and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl) and DOM can be increased by higher initial free chlorine, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and DOM concentrations, thus the consequence of higher NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rates (Fig. 5.2 (c), (d)). Further, with a higher initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration, more HOCl was released from NH<sub>2</sub>Cl autodecomposition, which also enhanced the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipate rates as shown in Fig. 5.2 (d).

The values of NRNOM reactive fractions  $S_{HOClrapid}$ ,  $S_{NH2Clrapid}$  and  $S_{total}$  were solved based on the measured free chlorine and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl rapid and total demands in laboratory experiments, and are shown in Table S5.2. Further, the rate constants ( $k_{doc1}$ ,  $k_{doc2}$ ,  $k_{doc3}$ ,  $k_{doc4}$ ) were solved based on the laboratory free chlorine and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss experiments, and the resulting values are shown in Table 5.1. To validate the model, the modeled free chlorine and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss rates were predicted by COMSOL Multiphysics under the same initial conditions as laboratory experiments, and the results were compared (Fig. 5.2).

Fig. 5.2 shows that the simulated curves correspond closely to the experimental results, which means this model can be applied for NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rates estimation in the presence of NRNOM under various pH values, initial DOC and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations. Fig. 5.2 (a) shows the free chlorine decay process in the presence of NRNOM, and it reflects the two stage reactions between free chlorine and NRNOM. Specifically, the free chlorine showed a rapid decay during the first few minutes, and the decay rate then decreased significantly thereafter. This phenomenon validates the assumptions that both rapid and long-term reactions should be applied between free

chlorine and DOM. The NH<sub>2</sub>Cl also showed a two-step decay process, which consists of the rapid  $NH_2Cl$  demand in the first few hours and the slow decay thereafter (Fig. 5.2 (b) (c) (d)). These two-step processes also match our modeling assumptions.



5.4.2. Impact of temperature on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation<sup>7</sup>



Fig. 5.3 shows the impact of temperature on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation with the present of NRDOM. As can be seen, under the same DOC concentrations, with the decrease of temperature, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rate decreased. To model the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation under lower temperatures, the relationship between temperature and the temperature coefficient  $\alpha$  were solved and represented by the following equation (R<sup>2</sup> > 0.99):

$$\alpha_T = 22 \times T + 2.99 \tag{5.13}$$

Where T is temperature (°C).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> This section is not included in the published manuscript.

Under this equation, for each temperature, a specific  $\alpha$  can be solved. The NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rate under various temperature can be then modeled by using  $\alpha$  to calibrate the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation curves simulated 25 °C. From Fig. 5.3, good matches between model and experimental results are shown under all the temperatures. Therefore, it is believed that with the calibration by the temperature coefficient equation, the model can be applied for the simulation of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay with the present of NOM under various temperatures. Note that the temperature coefficient equation introduced here does not present the real reaction mechanisms of temperature impact on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation, but it does meet the purpose of this research to predict the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss with the present of NOM under different temperatures.

#### 5.4.3. Impact of stormwater SWDOM on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation

To simulate the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in real stormwater, stormwater samples were collected in both the upstream and downstream of residential, park, commercial and industrial neighborhoods in Edmonton. Before experiments were conducted, the pH, alkalinity, initial concentrations of NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>-N, DOC, NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>-N, and the UV254 absorbance were recorded (Table S3). As described above, similar FTIR spectra of the 8 SWDOM samples and NRNOM indicate the similar chemical components that may present in these samples. That is, the SWDOM and NRNOM may show similar chemical properties in the reactions with NH<sub>2</sub>Cl. Therefore, the model built for NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in the presence of NRNOM may also work for the stormwater samples. Under this assumption, the model built in Table 5.1 was also applied for stormwater NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss study. The S<sub>total</sub>, S<sub>HOClrapid</sub> and S<sub>NH2Clrapid</sub> of SWDOM were determined using the same method as with NRNOM, and the values are shown in Table S5.2. The modeled and experimental NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation results in stormwater samples are shown in Fig. 5.4. Although the modeled curves in Fig. 5.4 do not fit the experimental values as closely as was observed in NRNOM solutions, the model still gave comparably reliable results to estimate the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss rate in real stormwater, especially for residential and industrial areas. However, since the SWDOM consists of various natural sources, the chemical characteristics of SWDOM from different locations also varied, which lead to the slight difference between the modeled and experimental results in the different samples. Therefore, for a better understanding of the reaction mechanisms between SWDOM and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, the SWDOM compositions in different neighborhoods were studied.



Fig. 5.4. The NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in stormwater samples collected from (a) residential, (b) park,(c) commercial, and (d) industrial upstream and downstream locations

#### 5.4.4. Stormwater DOM analysis

The FTIR spectra of SWDOM collected from the downstream sampling location in each neighborhood before and after chloramination are presented in Fig. 5.5, and the values of the major peaks are labeled on each figure. Each peak represents a set of functional groups. The potential functional groups of these peaks are shown in Table 5.2.

Peak	Peak position	Potential functional groups	Reference
No.	(cm <sup>-1</sup> )		
1	997	C-O (ether); C-H (alkene)	Nakanishi and Solomon, 1977
2	1097-1101	C-O (aliphatic and ring ether; alcohol); $C_6H_5$ -	Nakanishi and Solomon, 1977
		(phenyl); C-N (amine); C=O (carbonyl)	
3	1413-1424	COO <sup>-</sup> ; O-H (carboxylic acid); C-O (phenolic	Chen et al., 2002
		group)	
4	1532	COO-	Guan et al., 2006
5	1620-1640	C=C (aromatic); C=O (conjugated carbonyl);	Chen et al., 2002;
		H <sub>2</sub> O (water of crystallization)	Nakanishi and Solomon, 1977
6	3374-3407	N-H (amine, amide); O-H (alcohol; phenol)	Nakanishi and Solomon, 1977
7	3544	O-H (alcohol; phenol)	Nakanishi and Solomon, 1977

Table 5.2. The summary of potential functional groups in SWDOM

Based on Figure 5.5, it is assumed that the stormwater from various neighborhoods consists of similar functional groups because of the similar peaks present. Specifically, peak 1 (wavenumber: 997 cm<sup>-1</sup>) represents the potential presence of a carbon oxygen bond (C-O) in an ether and the carbon hydrogen bond (C-H) in an alkene. The etheric C-O can be produced during chlorination (Morris et al., 1980), and the olefinic C-H can be consumed by the oxidation of carbon-carbon double bond (C=C) and the substitution of -H by -Cl during chloramination, which leads to the variation of peak 1 after chloramination. Peak 2 (wavenumber: 1097-1101 cm<sup>-1</sup>) indicates the potential existence of etheric and alcoholic C-O, phenyl and amic carbon-nitrogen (C-N) bounds and carbonyl carbon oxygen double bond (C=O) in SWDOM. As compared to other bonds, the C-N polarity can result in a high intensity in FTIR spectra (Nakanishi and Solomon, 1977), which suggests a cause for the strong peak 2. After chloramination, peak 2 slightly increased in residential, park and industrial samples; this may be caused by the generation of C-N bonds from NH<sub>2</sub>Cl reactions. However, this peak decreased in commercial area samples after chloramination, a result that suggests that a relatively higher percentage of phenyl and carbonylic C=O existed in this sample, as they can be finally consumed in the presence of active chlorine species (Bond et al., 2012; Morris et al., 1980; Yang et al., 2008). Peak 3 (wavenumber: 1413-1424 cm<sup>-1</sup>) showed the most significant changes after chloramination in all four locations. This peak represents three functional groups: the carboxylate group (COO<sup>-</sup>) and oxygenhydrogen bond (O-H) from carboxylic acid, and the C-O from phenolic group. Since this peak almost disappeared after the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl reaction, these functional groups are suggested to be consumed by active chlorine species during chloramination (Bond et al., 2012). However, because of the weak oxidizing ability of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, these functional groups do not directly react with NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, which means they are more likely to be oxidized by free chlorine species released from NH<sub>2</sub>Cl selfdecomposition (Larson and Weber, 1994; Morris et al., 1980). This also verifies the assumption that both NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and free chlorine are involved in the reactions with DOM in stormwater. Likewise, the peak 4 (wavenumber: 1532 cm<sup>-1</sup>) in the park area disappeared for the same reason. The next peak (peak 5, wavenumber: 1620-1640 cm<sup>-1</sup>) is considered to contain aromatic C=C, carbonylic C=O and water of crystallization. Both aromatic C=C and carbonylic C=O are relatively reactive with active chlorine species (Bond et al., 2012; Larson and Weber, 1994; Morris et al., 1980). Since peak 5 does not show significant decrease after chloramination in these samples, it can be concluded that the water of crystallization is more likely contributors to this peak. Peaks 6 (wavenumber: 3374-3407 cm<sup>-1</sup>) and 7 (wavenumber: 3544 cm<sup>-1</sup>) increased after chloramination, which means that N-H from amine, amide and O-H from alcohol and/or phenol may have been generated. The O-H and N-H can be produced by the free chlorine reactions with C=O and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl reactions with some NOM respectively (Yang et al., 2008). In conclusion, COO<sup>-</sup>, carboxylic O-H, phenyl and phenolic C-O are considered to be the functional groups consumed by active chlorine species in SWDOM, and both NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and free chlorine released from NH<sub>2</sub>Cl are involved in the reactions with SWDOM.

Florescence EEM is another technique that can contribute to an understanding of DOM composition. Fig. 5.6 shows the EEM spectra of the SWDOM samples before and after chloramination. The EEM spectra are commonly divided into five regions (Region I to V), which were defined based on Sen-Kavurmaci et al. (2016) and Chen et al. (2003). The fluorophore group represented by each region and the relevant boundaries are shown in Table 5.3.

	Region I	Region II	Region III	Region IV	Region V
fluorophore group	Aromatic proteins I	Aromatic proteins II	Fulvic-like	Microbial byproducts	Humic-like
Boundary (nm)	λ <sub>exc</sub> 200~250 λ <sub>emis</sub> 200~330	λ <sub>exc</sub> 200~250 λ <sub>emis</sub> 330~380	λ <sub>exc</sub> 200~250 λ <sub>emis</sub> 380~600	λ <sub>exc</sub> 250~500 λ <sub>emis</sub> 200~380	λ <sub>exc</sub> 250~500 λ <sub>emis</sub> 380~600

**Table 5.3.** Fluorophore groups and the regional boundaries of EEM fluorescence



Fig. 5.5. The FTIR spectra and the peak values of downstream stormwater samples collected





Fig. 5.6. EEMs for SWDOM collected from (a) (b) residential, (c) (d) park, (e) (f) commercial,





Fig. 5.7. Distribution of FRI in SWDOM samples before and after chloramination

Fig. 5.6 shows that the raw stormwater samples collected from various locations have similar EEMs, which corresponds to the FTIR results. Region III and V account for the largest ratio of SWDOM. Also, the two peaks (labelled as A and B in Fig. 5.6) are located in these two regions in all the figures, from which one can deduce that humic- and fulvic-like materials are the dominant species in SWDOM. Besides, the weak intensities of regions I, II and IV indicates low bacterial activity in the stormwater. After excess NH<sub>2</sub>Cl was added, the EEM intensities of the four stormwater samples decreased significantly, especially in regions III and V. That is, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl as the major reactant with the humic substances in SWDOM, was able to convert a part of DOM to inorganic components.

Fig. 5.7 shows similar results to those observed in Fig. 5.6, which indicates that humic and fulvic acid-like substances are the dominant components of SWDOM fluorophore. Further, region II consists of comparably large percentages (15% to 20%) in raw SWDOM samples. However, as

shown in Fig. 5.6, rather than aromatic protein, it is more likely to be caused by the impact of a shoulder from peak B. Moreover, after chloramination, 25% to 41% of SWDOM fluorophores were consumed, which means that instead of organic disinfection by-products, some organics in the raw stormwater samples were able to convert to inorganics during chloramination processes. More fulvic acid-like substances (region III) were transformed to inorganic components than humic acid-like substances (region V), which suggests that fulvic acid-like substances are more reactive with active chlorine species in stormwater samples. As fulvic acids (FAs) commonly contain more acidic functional groups, especially COOH, combined the results from FTIR spectra, the higher assumption of fulvic acid-like substances in SWDOM may be caused by the additional COOH from FAs. Further, more organic fluorophores were consumed in the commercial area samples as compared to other locations. With the FTIR results in Fig. 5.5, a significant decrease of peak 2, shown only in commercial stormwater samples, indicates the possible consumption of C=O bonds. Therefore, it is assumed that the higher organic consumption in the park area samples may arise from the additional C=O bonds existing in this area's stormwater humic substances. Although the FTIR and EEM results illustrate that commercial SWDOM may be slightly different from other locations, this difference does not impact the simulation of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in various stormwater samples.

Moreover, humic substances are the dominant precursors of disinfection DBPs during chloramination (Chen and Valentine, 2007; Wu et al., 2003), and based on EEM results, SWDOM mainly consists of humic substances. Also, the FTIR spectra show that nitrogen can be substituted into organics after SWDOM reacted with NH<sub>2</sub>Cl. Therefore, in addition to NH<sub>2</sub>Cl contamination, with the discharge of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl containing tap water into storm sewers, the disinfection DBPs

produced during chloramination in stormwater should also raise attention and the need for further studies.

## **5.5.** Conclusions

NH<sub>2</sub>Cl as the dominant active chlorine species in tap water can be introduced into storm sewers through outdoor potable water uses and can cause further contamination of fresh water sources. To enhance the regulation of chloraminated tap water discharge into storm sewers, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss mechanisms in stormwater were studied, and a kinetic model was developed to predict this decay process under various stormwater conditions, including pH, alkalinity, NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>, NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> and DOM concentrations. In this model, the fast and long-term reactions between SWDOM and active chlorine species were incorporated, and the reaction rate constants were solved. To simulate the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay under different temperatures, a temperature coefficient  $\alpha$  was introduced into the model. Based on experimental data, a linear functional equation between temperature and  $\alpha$  was solved.<sup>8</sup> Our modeled NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rates can correspond closely to experimental results under all the experimental conditions.

Further, to have a better understanding of the SWDOM and active chlorine reactions, the SWDOM collected from residential, parkland, commercial and industrial neighborhood sites were characterised by FTIR and fluorescence EEM techniques. The results showed that the SWDOM from different locations had similar compositions, and humic substances were the dominant component in all the SWDOM. After reaction with NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, 25% to 41% of SWDOM fluorophores converted to inorganic components, while most of organics remained as organic forms. It should be noted that humic substances, as the major precursors of disinfection DBPs, may cause an increase in DBP concentration in stormwater and then lead to contamination of fresh water sources.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> These two sentences are not included in the published manuscript.

Finally, although SWDOM characteristics may vary among various cities, the methodology developed for stormwater NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation prediction and the SWDOM characteristic analysis in this research can all be applied for other areas. This research contributes to an understanding of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss mechanisms in storm sewers, thus aiding the regulation of outdoor tap water discharge and the evaluation of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl contamination in stormwater.

# 5.6. Supplementary Material



# 5.6.1. FTIR spectra for different SWDOMs and NRNOM



neighborhoods

# 5.6.2. Sampling location selection

Table S5.1. Description of sampling locations

Sampling location	Description		
Residential area	Low-density neighborhoods with higher property values for their		
Residential area	relatively large lawn and garden areas;		
Park area	Tap water irrigated park with irrigation data available;		
Commercial area	commercial car washes, dealerships and car rental agencies clustered;		
Industrial area	The production of large pressure vessels.		

For each neighborhood, stormwater samples were collected from two stormsewer manholes, one in the upstream region of the neighborhood and one downstream.

# 5.6.3. Reactive sites of different SWDOMs and NRNOM

**Table S5.2.** Fractions of monochloramine and free chlorine rapid reactive sites and total reactive sites in various samples

Sampling	NR	RES1	RES2	PRK1	PRK2	COM1	COM2	IND1	IND2
location	NOM								
S <sub>NH2Cl</sub> rapid	0.0193	0.0046	0.0111	0.0045	0.0065	0.0060	0.0122	0.0057	0.0147
$\mathbf{S}_{\mathrm{HOCl}\ \mathrm{rapid}}$	0.0663	0.0016	0.0235	0.0258	0.0298	0.0026	0.0249	0.0197	0.0298
$\mathbf{S}_{total}$	1.40	0.67	0.74	0.57	0.82	1.03	1.01	0.42	1.10

# 5.6.4. The physical and chemical characteristics of stormwater

**Table S5.3.** Edmonton stormwater sample characteristics in residential, park, commercial and industrial upstream and downstream locations

Sampling location		рН	NH <sub>4</sub> -N	DOC	NO <sub>2</sub> -N	Alkalinity (mg	SUVA	
			(mg/L)	(mg/L)	(mg/L)	CaCO <sub>3</sub> /L)	50 V A254	
Pagidantial Area	RES1	8.32	2.58	12.43	0.209	302	1.98	
Residential Area	RES2	8.24	0.621	9.66	0.745	343	2.55	
Dark Area	PRK1	8.14	0.011	10.73	0.015	487	1.30	
I alk Alca	PRK2	8.31	0.053	11.47	0.041	455	2.44	
Commercial Area	COM1	8.38	0.925	15.6	0.151	252	1.88	
Commercial Area	COM2	8.3	0.264	14.05	0.216	420	2.09	
Industrial Area	IND1	8.43	0.061	16.48	0.05	192	2.20	
muusutat Area	IND2	8.41	0.441	14.96	0.129	510	2.42	

# 5.6.5. The equations for FTR technique (Chen et al., 2003)

$$\Phi_{i,n} = MF_i \int_{ex} \int_{em} I(\lambda_{ex}\lambda_{em}) \, d\lambda_{ex} d\lambda_{em} \tag{S5.1}$$

where  $\Phi_{i,n}$  is the normalized EEM volume of region "*i*";  $I(\lambda_{ex}\lambda_{em})$  is the fluorescence intensity at certain excitation-emission pair;  $MF_i$  is the multiplication factor for each region, which equals to the inverse of the fraction projected excitation-emission area.

$$\Phi_{T,n} = \sum_{i=1}^{5} \Phi_{i,n}$$
(S5.2)

where  $\Phi_{T,n}$  is the total normalized EEM volume of the five regions.

$$P_{i,n} = (\Phi_{i,n} / \Phi_{T,n}) \times 100\%$$
(S5.2)

where  $P_{i,n}$  is the percent fluorescence response.

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Zhu, X., Zhang, X., 2016. Modeling the formation of TOCl, TOBr and TOI during chlor(am)ination of drinking water. Water Res. 96, 166–176. doi:10.1016/j.watres.2016.03.051
# CHAPTER 6. THE ROLE OF BIOFILM ON MONOCHLORAMINE DISSIPATION IN STORM SEWER SYSTEMS: DIRECT REACTIONS OR AOB COMETABOLISM<sup>9</sup> 6.1. Introduction

Chloramination has been widely used for drinking water secondary disinfection. Monochloramine (NH<sub>2</sub>Cl), as the dominant disinfectant, can provide long-lasting disinfection effect in drinking water distribution systems (Brodtmann and Russo, 1979; Mitcham et al., 1983; Norman et al., 1980). However, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl can enter storm sewers, and thus fresh water sources (e.g., rivers or lakes) through outdoor tap water uses such as lawn irrigation, garden watering, car washing and driveway wash-down. Our previous research showed that in the Edmonton area, the total active chlorine (TAC) concentration varied from 0.02-0.77 mg/L in stormwater during summer 2015 (Zhang et al., 2018), which exceeded the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment guideline of 0.02 mg/L in discharge effluent (Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment, 2009). TAC can cause 50% mortality to fishes at a concentration as low as 0.0053 mg/L (United States Environmental Protection Agency, 1985), and chloramine species pose chronic risks to the aquatic environment because of its persistent property (Brungs, 1973). However, the TAC contamination in stormwater has not yet received much-needed attention.

Although NH<sub>2</sub>Cl is comparably stable in tap water, it can dissipate in storm sewers through three different pathways: auto-decomposition; biological decay; and chemical-decomposition through reactions with chemicals such as natural organic matter (NOM), nitrate (NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>), ferrous ion (Fe<sup>2+</sup>) and bromide (Br<sup>-</sup>) (Duirk et al., 2005; Vikesland et al., 2001; Zhang et al., 2018, 2017). Our previous study evaluated the mechanisms of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl auto- and chemical dissipation in bulk

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stormwater samples, and we developed a model to describe NH2Cl dissipation in various stormwater conditions. However, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological-dissipation mechanism in storm sewer systems was not studied. Three reactions that attribute to the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological-dissipation in the presence of suspended AOB were proposed in literature: (i) the direct reaction with AOB; (ii) the cometabolism by ammonia oxidizing bacteria (AOB); and (iii) the reaction with AOB utilization associated products (UAP) (Maestre et al., 2016). However, in storm sewer biofilm, rather than AOB, the direct reactions with other biomass should also be considered in pathway (i). All the pathways that involved in the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological-dissipation in stormwater systems are shown in Fig. 6.1. To be more specific, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl can react with various organic components, which include bacterial cells, extracellular polymeric substances (EPS) secreted by biomass for formation of biofilm and the metabolic products produced from bacteria degradation. Further, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl can be consumed by the nonspecific enzyme ammonia monooxygenase (AMO) in AOB (Maestre et al., 2016, 2013; Wahman et al., 2016). Although more than 99% of bacteria present as the formation of biofilm in natural and engineering systems, previous research mainly focused on the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation due to suspended biomass (Maestre et al., 2016, 2013), and AOB were assumed to be dominant in the biomass cultured under drinking water conditions (Maestre et al., 2016). The only reported study on the impact of biofilms on NH2Cl decay in drinking water conditions (Wahman et al., 2016) utilized reaction kinetics parameters obtained from suspended biomass studies, and inconstant cometabolism rate coefficients were observed for different experimental groups. No studies have been performed on the mechanisms of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay with biofilm. In this research, a kinetics model that is more relevant to stormwater conditions is yet to be developed.



\* Pathways with dashed lines are not considered in this research due to their limited contribution to NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological-dissipation; PDs: Products.

#### Fig. 6.1. Monochloramine biological-dissipation pathways in storm sewer systems.

Therefore, the objectives of this research are to evaluate microbial community compositions in simulated storm sewer systems, and to develop models to describe the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay process with the presence of storm sewer biofilm under various initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, total free ammonia nitrogen (TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N), AOB and total biomass concentrations. This is the first research to evaluate the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation processes for mixed culture biofilms in a storm sewer environment. Further, in drinking water distribution systems, bacteria are mainly present as the formation of biofilm, and rather than AOB cultures, drinking water biofilm showed diversity of bacteria communities (Gomez-Alvarez et al., 2014). Therefore, the methodology and model developed in this study can benefit studies of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in both storm sewer and drinking water distribution systems.

#### 6.2. Material and methods

#### 6.2.1. Stormwater biofilm cultivation in annular reactors

To study the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay mechanisms in the presence of storm sewer biofilm, the bacterial community distribution in biofilms was firstly studied. Storm sewer biofilms were cultured in two annular bioreactors with operating conditions that mimic different storm sewer environments, such as pipe materials (PVC and concrete), TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N (0.4 and 2 mg/L) and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl (0 and 1 mg/L) concentrations. To be specific, each reactor had a volume of 960 mL, and contained 7 cement coated and 8 polyvinyl chloride (PVC) slides. Cement and PVC materials were selected because they are commonly used for storm sewer pipes. Reactors were inoculated for 3 days by fresh stormwater that was replaced every 24 h. Stormwater was collected from Edmonton stormwater manholes in dry weather conditions. After 3 days, synthetic stormwater was fed continuously into reactors with a hydraulic retention time (HRT) of 6 h. The synthetic stormwater contained 344 mg/L Na<sup>+</sup>, 150 mg/L Mg<sup>2+</sup>, 150 mg/L Ca<sup>2+</sup>, 10 mg/L K<sup>+</sup>, 1085 mg/L SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>, 163 mg/L Cl<sup>-</sup>, 0.019 mg/L Zn<sup>2+</sup>, 0.0019 mg/L Cu<sup>2+</sup>, 0.175 mg/L B<sup>3+</sup>, 0.0011 mg/L Mo<sup>6+</sup> and 0.0015 mg/L Ni<sup>2+</sup> to achieve the typical water quality characteristics of dry weather stormwater. Further, 13.7 mg/L sodium acetate (total organic carbon concentration = 4 mg/L) was added as an organic carbon source - at this concentration, sodium acetate caused the synthetic stormwater to achieve the same 5-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD<sub>5</sub>) as typical stormwater. TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl were fed separately into the reactors. TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N is defined as the sum of ammonia nitrogen ( $NH_4^+$ -N) and free ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>-N) in solution. For the first stage, reactor 1 (R1) and reactor 2 (R2) were fed with 0.4 mg/L and 2 mg/L TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N concentrations respectively. No NH<sub>2</sub>Cl was fed during this period. 2 mg/L and 0.4 mg/L were selected since 2 mg/L was close to the highest average TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N concentration detected in Edmonton dry weather stormwater (Zhang et al., 2018), and 0.4 mg/L is the minimum concertation to trigger nitrification under our operating conditions. Completely nitrification was established as 95% of TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N was converted to NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>-N. To achieve the shear stress in typical storm sewers, rotation speed was maintained at 80 rpm for both reactors. This rotation speed was also able to provide sufficient dissolved oxygen (DO) (over 5 mg/L in effluent) as field stormwater for bacteria growth. Reactors were wrapped by aluminum foil to create dark environment as in storm sewers.

The second stage studied the impact of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl on bacterial community compositions, and was conducted after the reactors had been in operation for 8 months. NH<sub>2</sub>Cl was pumped into reactors with a concentration of 1 mg-Cl/L in the influent, which is a value close to the highest TAC value detected in Edmonton stormwater (Zhang et al., 2018). Biofilms were collected after reactors were in operation for 2, 7, 9 and 11 months to observe the bacterial community diversities with different cultivation times and the presence of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl. Bacterial communities of biofilms grown on cement and PVC slides were investigated through DNA extraction and quantitative polymerase chain reaction (qPCR) analysis. Total bacteria, AOB, and two NOB species (Nitrospira and Nitrobacter) were identified with rpoB, amoA, NSR and Nitro 16S rDNA genes respectively, and the primers used for qPCR analysis are shown in Table S6.1. Half the biofilm from each slide was collected for DNA extraction, and samples were collected in duplicate for each material under each condition. After this DNA collection, the reactors were operated under the same conditions for an additional 1 month or longer for biofilm regrowth. Influent and effluent water qualities were monitored 2-3 times per week. TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N, nitrite ( $NO_2^{-}$ ) and nitrate ( $NO_3^{-}$ ), dissolved organic carbon (DOC), pH and DO were assayed. During the operating period, pH was maintained within a "real stormwater range" of 8.0-8.3 (Zhang et al., 2018). Samples were filtered by 0.45 µm membrane filters before chemical analysis.

During the biofilm cultivation period, the feeding NH<sub>2</sub>Cl solution was prepared with an active chlorine to nitrogen (Cl/N) molar ratio of 1. The detailed preparation process was described by Zhang et al. (2018). Ultrapure water used for solution preparation was obtained from a Barnstead<sup>TM</sup> Smart2Pure<sup>TM</sup> Water Purification System (Massachusetts, USA).

#### 6.2.2. Batch kinetic studies

Batch kinetic experiments were designed for the study of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological dissipation model and conducted after biofilm cultivation. PVC and cement slides were not studied separately since they showed similar bacteria community compositions in terms of total bacteria, AOB and NOB (Fig. 6.2). Four experimental groups were applied for kinetic model development: (I) positive control (to study the AOB activity in two reactors); (II) negative control with AOB inhibitor (to study the direct reaction of biofilm and some microbial metabolic products with NH<sub>2</sub>Cl); (III) cometabolism experiments (to study the impact of AOB cometabolism by NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rates); and (IV) low temperature control (10°C) (to study the impact of low temperature on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay). The first three groups were conducted at room temperature ( $22^{\circ}$ C), while  $10^{\circ}$ C was selected for low temperature control because it was close to the lowest stormwater temperature measured during summer months (Zhang et al., 2018). After each experiment, the reactors were fed synthetic stormwater for 4 days to recover biofilm and avoid significant biofilm growth during the batch study period. To study the direct reactions between biomass and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl (negative control), AOB was inactivated by 50 mg/L of chlorobenzene (99+% pure) to eliminate the impact of cometabolism on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay. Chlorobenzene was used as the inhibitor since it does not react with active chlorine species in solution. This group was conducted at the end of the experiment, since AOB activity cannot be recovery after inactivation. The direct reactions happened in negative control group include the reactions with biomass, biofilm EPS, bacteria associated products

(BAPs) from AOB activity (Maestre et al., 2013; Wahman et al., 2016) and metabolic products from other bacteria. As proposed by Abrahamson et al. (1996), Laspidou and Rittmann (2002) and Ni et al. (2011), bacteria metabolic products can be divided into two classes: biomass associated products (BAPs) formed from hydrolysis of bound EPS, and UAPs produced by bacteria metabolism. With the inhibition of AOB activity in the negative control, UAPs was not produced. Therefore, the reaction between NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and AOB produced UAPs needs to be considered separately. However, with biofilm cultured in annular reactors, this reaction cannot be studied separately. Therefore, the reaction rate constant of UAPs (NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological-dissipation pathway iii) was directly used from previous research (Maestre et al., 2016).

In each experimental group, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rates were tested under different initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N concentrations in both reactors to provide various conditions for the model. Before batch experiments started, reactors were rinsed with ultrapure water 3 times to remove the suspended biomass and chemicals. For each batch study, the initial TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations were analyzed before the experiment started. 4 mM of sodium bicarbonate was spiked into solutions to stabilize the pH, and additional hydrochloric acid (HCl) was added to adjust the pH to around 8. Table 6.1 provides details of the experimental conditions. For the temperature control group, reactors and solutions were stored in 10°C cold room for 30 min prior to the start of the experiment to equilibrate the reactor temperatures with the surrounding environment. During batch kinetic experiments, reactors were covered with aluminum foil to ensure a darkened environment and then maintained at the same rotation speed as in the previous reactor operating period to guarantee sufficient DO in solution and to provide similar water shear to storm sewer conditions. The batch experiments were conducted within 50 min to avoid

significant changes of biomass states. No replicates of chemical analysis were conducted in the batch experiments due to time and sample volume limitations.

Exp. No.	Reactor No.	Monochloramine (mg active Cl/L)	Total free ammonia nitrogen (mg N/L)	Chlorine to ammonia ration (Cl <sub>2</sub> /N)	Total biomass (mg TSS/L)	Calculated ammonia oxidising bacteria (AOB) (mg TSS/L)	рН
			Positive	e control			
А	1	N/A	2.63	N/A	189	1.06	8.02
В	1	N/A	0.78	N/A	189	1.06	8.04
С	2	N/A	2.64	N/A	203	4.43	8.05
D	2	N/A	0.79	N/A	203	4.43	8.07
		Negat	ive control (w	with AOB inhib	oitor)		
А	1	1.97	1.75	1.12	189	1.06	8.07
В	1	1.00	0.43	2.32	189	1.06	8.03
С	2	1.99	1.75	1.14	203	4.43	8.07
D	2	1.00	0.46	2.17	203	4.43	8.04
Cometabolism experiments							
А	1	1.97	1.85	1.06	189	1.06	8.09
В	1	0.94	0.42	2.24	189	1.06	8.05
С	2	1.97	2.04	0.96	203	4.43	8.07
D	2	0.94	0.42	2.24	203	4.43	8.05
		Lov	w temperatur	e control (10 °	C)		
А	1	1.93	1.76	1.10	189	1.06	8.02
В	1	1.01	0.78	1.29	189	1.06	8.04
С	2	1.93	1.76	1.10	203	4.43	8.02
D	2	1.01	0.78	1.29	203	4.43	8.04

Table 6.1. Experimental conditions for batch kinetic studies

After completion of the kinetic studies, biofilm thicknesses on cement-coated and PVC slides were measured. The detailed measurement procedure and results are shown in the supporting information (Fig. S6.2). The biofilm in each reactor was quantified as total suspended solids (TSS) concentration and determined by collecting biofilm from slides as well as reactor inner surfaces in certain areas. Moreover, a standard curve for TSS and absorbance at 600 nm ( $A_{600}$ ) wavelength

was built by mixing biofilm with certain volumes of ultrapure water and diluting progressively. Under each TSS concentration, triplicate  $A_{600}$  readings were obtained. To determine how many milligrams of biofilm were consumed by each milligram of active chlorine (Yr), biofilm samples were reacted with 7 mg-Cl/L NH<sub>2</sub>Cl solution. The biofilm that was consumed by NH<sub>2</sub>Cl was measured by  $A_{600}$ . This experiment was conducted in triplicate, and the average value was applied as a final value in the model.

#### 6.2.3. Modeling assumptions

To describe the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss processes in the presence of stormwater biofilm, the reaction assumptions proposed by Maestre et al. (2016) for an AOB mixed culture were modified and applied. As described above, four reactions related to the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological decay rates were considered for model development in this research: (1) AOB metabolism; (2) reaction with inactive biofilm; (3) AOB cometabolism; and (4) reaction with UAP produced by AOB. Note that the AOB inactivation rate was not considered here, since our initial experiments showed that in the presence of 2 mg-Cl/L NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, no significant bacteria inactivation occurred from AOB-abundant biofilm within 1 hour (Fig. S6.1).

For reaction (1) in Table 6.2, AOB metabolism activity was described by the ammonia Monod equation, and the reaction rate expression was solved based on the experimental results from the positive control group. The ammonia Monod equation was developed by Maestre et al. (2016), who used only AOB in their study. However, in this research, as mixed culture grew in stormwater biofilm (Fig. 6.2), a ratio of AOB to total biomass was applied to estimate the AOB concentration in the reactor. In *q*PCR results (Fig. 6.2), *rpoB* as a single copy fuctional gene is commonly used to represent the total bacteria numbers in biofilm (Case et al., 2007). The AOB concentration (X<sub>a</sub>) was identified by *amoA* gene with the assuption that each AOB cell contained an average of 2.5 *amoA* gene (He et al., 2007; Okano et al., 2004). Accroding to the *q*PCR analysis, AOB accounted for 0.56% and 2.18% of total bacterial cells in R1 and R2.

Reaction		Ammonia Monod	Reaction with biofilm	First-order cometabolism	UAP reactivity
Pathway No.		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Kinetic rate expression		$\frac{k_{TOTNH_3}X_aS_{TOTNH_3}\alpha_1}{K_{S_{NH3}}+S_{TOTNH_3}\alpha_1}$	$k_{Biomass}X_rS_{NH_2Cl}^*$	$k_{come}S_{NH_2Cl}^{*}$	$k_{UAP}S_{UAP}S_{NH_2Cl}^*$
	S <sub>TOTNH3-N</sub> * (mole TOTNH <sub>3</sub> -N/L)	-1	1	\	1
Reaction stoichiometry	${\rm S_{NH_2Cl}}^*$ (moles active Cl/L)	١	-1	-1	-1
	$S_{NO_2}^{}^{}^{*}$ (moles NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> /L)	١	١	1	١
	S <sub>NO3</sub> <sup>-*</sup> (moles NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> /L)	1	١	\	١
	S <sub>UAP</sub> * (moles UAP/L)	$\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{UAP}}$	١	\	-1
	X <sub>a</sub> * (mg TSS/L)	\	١	/	١
	X <sub>r</sub> * (mg TSS/L)	١	-Y <sub>r</sub>	\	١

Table 6.2. NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological dissipation reaction assumptions developed from Maestre et al., 2016, 2013

\*k<sub>TOTNH3</sub>: ammonia maximum specific rate of degradation;

K<sub>SNH3</sub>: ammonia half-saturation constant;

 $\alpha_1$ : free ammonia nitrogen to TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N ratio, in this research,  $\alpha_1 = 0.05$ ;

 $k_{Biomass}$ ,  $k_{come}$ ,  $k_{UAP}$ : reaction rate constants of each reaction;

S<sub>TOTNH3-N</sub>, S<sub>NH2Cl</sub>, S<sub>NO2</sub><sup>-</sup>, , S<sub>NO3</sub><sup>-</sup>, S<sub>UAP</sub>: molar concentrations of TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, UAP;

X<sub>a</sub> and X<sub>r</sub>: initial AOB and total biofilm concentrations;

 $Y_r$ : stoichiometric relationship of Xr consumed per active chlorine reacted.

The reaction rate of reaction (2) was affected by the total biofilm concentration  $(X_r)$  and

the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration: each milligram of active chlorine can consume Y<sub>r</sub> milligram of biofilm.

The cometabolism pathway (reaction (3)) was considered to be affected by both NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration and initial  $X_a$  in previous research that used only AOB (Maestre et al., 2016, 2013; Wahman et al., 2016). However, in the presence of storm sewer biofilm, with different AOB concentrations in the two reactors, similar NH<sub>2</sub>Cl cometabolism rates were observed in our experiments. Therefore, we have assumed that the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl cometabolism rate was not related to  $X_a$  in the presence of storm sewer biofilm. Reaction (4) described the UAP reaction with NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, and the value of the rate constant ( $k_{UAP}$ ) from Maestre et al. (2016)'s research was used.

In Table 6.2, all the unknown kinetic constants were solved by compensating reaction rate expressions for the experimental NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay results under various conditions. Based on our experimental results, these unknown values were estimated using COMSOL Multiphysics (Stockholm, Sweden) with the Levenberg–Marquardt algorithm solver, which is commonly used to solve non-linear least squares problems in computer programs (Gavin, 2017). The average value for each constant was used in the final model, and the accuracy of the model was evaluated by Normalized Mean Square Error (NMSE). NMSE is a statistical method that commonly uses to describe the difference between observed and modeled values. In this research, the expression of NMSE is defined below (Kusiak and Wei, 2014):

NMSE = 
$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} (y_{ob} - y_{mod})^2}{\sum_{i=1}^{N} (y_{mod})^2}$$
 (1)

Where  $y_{ob}$  is the observed value from the laboratory experiment,  $y_{mod}$  is the predicted value from the model, and N is the number of analysis points in each laboratory experiment.

The NMSE value for each experiment is shown in Table S6.2. In this research, with NMSE values no more than 0.015, the modeled and experimental data are considered to show good matches (Kusiak and Wei, 2014). The NH<sub>2</sub>Cl auto-decomposition and the reaction with  $NO_2^-$  developed in previous research (Vikesland et al., 2001; Wahman and Speitel, 2012; Zhang et al.,

2017) were first included in the model . However, the results showed consumption of less than 1% of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl through these two pathways. Therefore, to simplify the model, they were removed from our NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological dissipation studies. Also, as the reaction between NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl can be omitted, the competition of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and nitrite-oxidizing bacteria (NOB) for NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> was also excluded.

#### 6.2.4. Analysis methods

With Cl/N molar ratios equal to or less than 1, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl-Cl concentration was assumed to be the same as the total active chlorine (TAC) concentration (Crittenden et al., 2012). Therefore, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations (unit: mg-Cl/L) were measured as TAC concentrations using the HACH (Loveland, USA) colorimetric method 8167 (with a detection limit of 0.02 mg-Cl/L). The TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N, NO<sub>2</sub><sup>--</sup>N, NO<sub>3</sub><sup>--</sup>N and alkalinity concentrations were analysed with HACH commercial test kits TNT832, TNT839, TNT835, and TNT870 with detection limits of 0.015 mg/L NH<sub>3</sub>-N, 0.015 mg/L NO<sub>2</sub><sup>--</sup>N, 0.2 mg/L NO<sub>3</sub><sup>--</sup>N and 25 mg/L CaCO<sub>3</sub>, respectively. A portable dissolved oxygen (DO) meter pen (Fisher Scientific, CA) was used to measure DO concentrations and temperatures of stormwater samples. Extech EC500 Waterproof ExStikII pH/conductivity meter was used to analyze pH (Nashua, USA). The TSS was determined following the standard methods 2540D protocol. The  $A_{600}$  absorbance was obtained with a HACH DR 3900<sup>TM</sup> Laboratory VIS Spectrophotometer. The sodium acetate concentration was analyzed with a Shimadzu TOC-L CPH E100 (detection limit is 4 µg-C/L).

#### 6.3. Result and discussion

#### 6.3.1. Bioreactor performance

In the first stage, when no  $NH_2Cl$  was introduced to the reactors, completed nitrification was observed after the reactors ran for three weeks. With 0.4 mg/L and 2 mg/L TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N fed to

reactors R1 and R2, respectively, the average effluent concentrations were as low as 0.02 and 0.03 mg/L, and almost all the TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N was converted to NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>-N. After 1 mg-Cl/L of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl was fed into the reactors (Stage II), the TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N removal was same as in stage I. Further, measurements indicated that NH<sub>2</sub>Cl was completely removed from both reactors, and no NH<sub>2</sub>Cl was detected in their effluents. In both operational stages, with an influent pH of 7.9-8.0, effluent pH in R1 increased to approximately 8.3 and showed no significant change in R2, perhaps because the stronger nitrification in R2 reduced the potential pH increment. Effluent DOC concentrations were stable at around 1.3 mg/L. With sufficient DO in the influents (over 7 mg/L), the effluent DO concentrations were maintained above 5 mg/L.

#### 6.3.2. Bacterial distribution on reactor biofilms

Fig. 6.2 shows the *q*PCR results for the total bacteria *rpoB* gene, AOB *amoA* gene, and NOB *NSR* and *Nitro* genes in PVC and cement biofilms under different reactor operating periods. In both reactors, a higher statistical abundance of four functional genes was found on cement slides than on PVC slides (P values < 0.05), results that correspond to the biofilm thickness results in Fig. S6.2. Specifically, in both reactors, the copy numbers of all the four functional genes showed increasing trends from September 2016 to March 2017, which demonstrates the slow growth rates of bacteria in stormwater conditions.

To study the effect of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl on microbial communities, 1 mg-Cl/L NH<sub>2</sub>Cl was fed into reactors, as explained above. The total bacteria gene copies consequently increased continually (p value < 0.01), which showed no significant effect by 1 mg-Cl/L of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl. Also, the *amoA* gene showed a stable abundance before and after chloramination in R1 (10<sup>6</sup> gene copies/cm<sup>2</sup>, p value > 0.1), but a slight increase was observed in R2 after chloramination ( $2.5 \times 10^7$  gene copies/cm<sup>2</sup>, p value < 0.05); this result suggested that AOB was not sensitive to 1 mg-Cl/L NH<sub>2</sub>Cl. In contrast,

the higher sensitivity of *Nitrospira* to NH<sub>2</sub>Cl was made apparent by continuously decreasing *NSR* gene copy numbers after chloramination. *Nitrobacter* functional genes showed no remarkable changes after chloramination in R1 (p value > 0.1), but they declined in R2 (p value < 0.05). As compared with *Nitrospira*, high concentrations of *Nitrobacter* were observed in both reactors, perhaps because of their high salinity tolerance (Cébron and Garnier, 2005), as dry-weather stormwater contains high dissolved salts concentrations of approximately 2 g/L. This observation corresponds to the field results obtained from Edmonton storm sewer biofilms (Zhang et al., 2018).

In a comparison of bacterial abundances in R1 and R2, copy numbers of total bacteria functional genes showed no significant differences in these two reactors (p value > 0.05). In terms of AOB, *amoA* functional gene abundance was one log higher in R2 than R1 (p value < 0.01), which corresponds to the different TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N fed in reactors. Likewise, the *Nitrospira* functional gene (*NSR*) showed the same trend as *amoA* (p value < 0.01). However, no significant difference of *Nitro* gene copy numbers was observed between the two reactors (p value > 0.05). It can be explained that *Nitrobacter* was not sensitive with the nitrogen source (TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N) elevated from 0.4 to 2 mg/L.





Fig. 6.2. Biofilm gene abundance changes of (a) total bacteria rpoB gene, (b) AOB amoA gene,(c) NOB NSR and (d) NOB Nitro genes in R1 and R2 at different operation periods

#### 6.3.3. NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological decay processes

The AOB activities were studied by monitoring TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N degradation rates in batch reactors. As shown in Fig. 6.3, with the same initial TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N concentrations, R2 showed a higher TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N degradation rate than R1, and therefore more AOB activity. This result corresponds to the higher *amoA* gene copies in R2 biofilm. Moreover, almost no  $NO_2^-$  accumulation was detected during TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N kinetic studies, which indicated that the TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N was converted to  $NO_3^-$ -N immediately through a complete-nitrification process.



**Fig. 6.3.** TOTNH3-N degradation in annular reactors under (a) high and (b) low initial TOTNH3-N concentrations

To simulate the TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N degradation in various stormwater conditions, the ammonia Monod equation was solved based on the experimental results from the positive control group (no NH<sub>2</sub>Cl added) (Table 6.2, equation (1)). The TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N degradation and NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>-N production curves under the same conditions as laboratory experiments were then modeled, with the results shown in Fig. 6.3 (solid and dashed lines). Clearly, the modeled curves closely approximate experimental results in terms of TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N degradation under different initial conditions (NMSE values  $\leq$  0.010, Table S6.2), and therefore the ammonia Monod equation developed in this research can be used to describe AOB activity in storm sewer biofilm.

Fig. 6.4 shows the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation with inactivated AOB (50 mg/L of chlorobenzene added to eliminate microbial activity). In this group, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl reacted with biofilm-containing biomass, EPS, BAPs from AOB and metabolic products from other bacteria. With higher initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations, both reactors showed higher NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rates. Based on experimental data, the reaction rate constant,  $k_{Biomass}$  (Table 6.2), was solved. As shown in Fig. 6.4, although the modeled curves showed slightly over/under estimation with experimental data, they are still in

an acceptable range (NMSE values  $\leq 0.015$ , Table S6.2), which means the direct reaction between NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and biofilm can be predicted by this model.



Fig. 6.4. NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation with biofilm only in (a) R1 and (b) R2



**Fig. 6.5.** The overall NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation and with biofilm only in (a) R1 and (b) R2 (Points: experimental results from negative control and cometabolism experiments)

Fig. 6.5 compares two cases of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation: 1) dissipation with inactivated biofilm (Fig. 6.4 conditions, dashed lines), and 2) dissipation with active biofilm (cometabolism

experiments, solid lines) under different TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl conditions. Although AOB were not dominant in reactor biofilms in these experiments, the difference between solid and dashed lined indicates that the impact of AOB activity on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological dissipation cannot be ignored. Two pathways contributed to the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rates through AOB activity - 1) AOB cometabolism, and 2) UAP reactivity. Research suggested that to compare with these two pathways, cometabolism accounted for a significantly higher percentage than UAP reactivity in NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological-dissipation. The cometabolism rate was affected in turn by both the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration and initial AOB concentration (Maestre et al., 2016, 2013). Interestingly, in our study, although different AOB activities were observed in R1 and R2 biofilms, similar NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rates were observed; therefore, cometabolism seems to be affected by factors other than initial AOB concentrations in a mixed cultured biofilm. For instance, diffusion limitations in intact biofilms may limit contact between AOB and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl. Since AOB only accounted for a small percentage of the storm sewer biofilms (0.56% and 2.18% in R1 and R2 respectively), before NH<sub>2</sub>Cl contacted AOB, most of the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl had been consumed by the direct reaction between biofilm and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl (more than 80% in both reactors). Therefore, only a limited amount of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl could be cometabolized by AOB (Fig. 6.5). As similar cometabolism rates were observed under different AOB activities, the AMO enzyme was sufficient in both reactors to reach maximum cometabolism rates.

Fig. 6.5 shows good agreement between the modeled NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation results and experimental data (NMSE values  $\leq$  0.015, Table S6.2), which validates our NH<sub>2</sub>Cl cometabolism assumption. Moreover, the good correspondence between modeled and experimental results also indicates that the overall NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological dissipation model developed here can be used to simulate NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay with stormwater biofilms under various initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N, AOB and total biomass concentrations. Note that all the experiments were conducted with NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations of no more than 2 mg-Cl/L; therefore, the cometabolism assumption should be applied for similar or lower NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations, and may not apply for higher NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations.





#### group)

Fig. 6.6 shows the impact of temperature on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation. Lower NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rates occurred under 10 °C conditions, since less energy was provided for the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl reactions from the surrounding environment. Further, AOB showed lower activity at 10 °C, which could also lead to reduced NH<sub>2</sub>Cl consumption from cometabolism processes. To simulate the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation at 10 °C, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation model was calibrated with an additional coefficient,  $\beta_{10^{\circ}C}$ , whose value is provided in Table 6.3. As the simulated curves corresponded closely to the experimental results (NMSE values  $\leq 0.03$ , Table S6.2), we conclude that the calibrated model can simulate NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological decay in stormwater biofilms at 10 °C conditions. Note that the

temperature coefficient introduced here does not represent the true reaction mechanisms that determine temperature effects on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological dissipation, but it does accurately predict NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation by stormwater biofilm at real storm sewer temperatures.

#### 6.3.3. Kinetic parameter comparison

The modeling parameters solved in this study are summarized in Table 6.3, along with a comparison with the previous literature on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl cometabolism processes.

**Table 6.3.** The kinetic parameters in this research and the comparison with previous studies using drinking water biofilm in annular reactor (Wahman et al., 2016) and Lake Austin mixed AOB culture (Maestre et al., 2016)

Parameter	This research	Drinking water annular reactor	Lake Austin mixed AOB culture
k <sub>TOTNH3</sub> (mg TOTNH3/mg TSS–day)	8.5	Set at Lake Austin value	1.7
K <sub>SNH3</sub> (mg NH <sub>3</sub> -N/L)	0.012	0.057	0.083
k <sub>Biomass</sub> (L/mg TSS–day)	0.39	Set at Lake Austin value	1.5
k <sub>come</sub> (Units are different)	41.2 (1/ day)	0.94-1.2 (L/mg TSS-day)	0.8 (L/mg TSS-day)
Y <sub>Xr</sub> (mg TSS/mg active Cl)	$4.4\pm1.0$	6.2	57
k <sub>UAP</sub> (L/mol UAP–day)	Set at Lake Austin value	Set at Lake Austin value	2.3×10 <sup>7</sup>
f <sub>UAP</sub> (mole UAP/mole TOTNH3)	Set at Lake Austin value	Set at Lake Austin value	0.062
β <sub>10°</sub> c (∖)	0.78	N/A	N/A

As compared to the literature, the higher  $k_{TOTNH_3}$  and lower  $K_{S_{NH_3}}$  values indicate higher AOB activity in the storm sewer biofilm. The lower AOB activity in Maestre et al. (2016) and Wahman et al. (2016) probably resulted from overestimation of AOB populations, since the authors assumed the mixed-culture suspended biomass and biofilms consisted only of AOB; however, a bacteria diversity analysis by Gomez-Alvarez et al. (2014) for drinking water biofilm determined that no more than 15% of cumulative bacteria distribution consisted of *Betaproteobacteria* and *Gammaproteobacteria* (includes AOB) in biofilms from annular reactor, which indicates the significant overestimation of AOB concentrations in these studies. Further, ammonia oxidizing populations may be underestimated in our experiments, because populations of ammonia-oxidizing archaea (AOA) in the reactors were not quantified in our model. However, research has long suggested that with TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N concentrations higher than 0.14 mg/L, AOB is more prevalent than AOA (French et al., 2012; Gomez-Alvarez et al., 2014), and therefore the impact of AOA is probably insignificant in this study.

In terms of the direct reaction between NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and biofilm, a lower reaction rate constant  $(k_{Biomass})$  was found than in previous research. This result may be attributed to the fact that biofilm has higher diffusion resistance than suspended microbes (as reported in other studies in Table 6.3), which lead to a slower NH<sub>2</sub>Cl reaction with the inner layers of the biofilm (Arcangeli and Arvin, 1998). No studies to-date have reported on the impact of stormwater biofilms on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation kinetics. Further, as compared to the suspended flocs, biofilms generate higher EPS which can be involved in the reaction between biofilm and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl (Coburn et al., 2016), and can also result in a different reaction rate constant.  $Y_{Xr}$  represents the stoichiometric ratio of biomass consumed per active chlorine; Table 6.3 shows the  $Y_{Xr}$  determined from biofilm studies (4.4 mg TSS/mg Cl<sub>2</sub> in this study and 6.2 mg TSS/mg Cl<sub>2</sub> in drinking water annular reactor) to be approximately 10 times lower than the suspended biomass (57 mg TSS/mg Cl<sub>2</sub>), which may also indicate the additional EPS involved in the reaction between NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and biofilm.

The cometabolism reaction rate constants are not comparable between this research and the literature due to the different assumptions applied to this reaction. In this research, as AOB presented in the formation of biofilm, their concentration did not show a significant impact on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl cometabolism rate. Therefore, the initial AOB concentration was not included in this reaction expression; in contrast, it was included by Maestre et al. (2016) in their NH<sub>2</sub>Cl cometabolism rate, as suspended biomass was used in their cometabolism experiments. Further, although Wahman et al. (2016) included biofilm from drinking water system, the AOB populations (X<sub>a</sub>) were assumed to be the same in different reactors. According to this assumption, the impact of AOB concentration on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl cometabolism rates cannot be determined. Further, previously reported values of  $k_{come}$  are probably underestimates, because of the overestimated AOB concentrations in their studies.

#### 6.4. Conclusion

This research investigated bacterial community structures and compositions in annular reactors in typical dry-weather storm sewer conditions. PVC and cement materials, as the common materials for storm sewer pipes, were selected for biofilm cultivation in the reactors. Low and high TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N concentrations were fed to two reactors respectively. Biofilms were collected regularly throughout the reactor operation period, and total, AOB and NOB functional genes were analysed with *q*PCR. The results illustrated a higher abundance of all the identified functional genes for the cement material than for PVC in all operating periods; the biofilm thickness was also greater for the cement surface. In addition, with different TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N (0.4 and 2 mg/L) in the reactors, more AOB and *Nitrospira* functional genes were detected in the biofilm from the high TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N reactor, while the *Nitrobacter* functional genes showed no significant effect from this TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N concentration difference.

Moreover, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological dissipation mechanisms in the presence of stormwater biofilm were studied. In batch kinetic studies, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decreased to almost zero within 40 min of its introduction in both reactors. Three pathways contributed to this NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological dissipation: the reaction with biofilm only, the consumption by AOB cometabolism and the reaction with UAP produced by AOB activity. As compared with the previous research that mainly used suspended AOB for cometabolism studies, this study included the cometabolism reactions in the presence of mixed culture biofilm. Compared with values in the literature, the smaller  $Y_{Xr}$  and  $k_{Biomass}$  values for the biofilm and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl reaction indicate the additional EPS involved in the reaction with NH<sub>2</sub>Cl. Further, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological dissipation rates at 10 °C were studied to aid the simulation of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in a real storm sewer environment. The experimental and modeled results showed good matches under various conditions. Although storm sewer biofilm has a different bacterial distribution than drinking water biofilm, the methodology and assumptions used here may also apply to NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation by drinking water biofilm.

#### 6.5. Supplementary materials

# 6.5.1. Fluorescence microscope analysis of AOB abundant biofilm before and after chloramination

The resistance of AOB to monochloramine was studied by comparing the AOB abundant biofilms before and after chloramination. To chloraminated the biofilm, biofilms were soaked into monochloramine solution with a concentration of 2 mg active Cl/L. 4 mM sodium bicarbonate was added to maintain the solution pH. After 1 hour, biofilm samples were directly stained by LIVE/DEAD ® BacLightTM Bacterial Viability Kits. The procedure for biofilm staining was described in Huang et al. (2015)'s research. Biofilm samples were observed by green and red fluorescence using 20x objective of ZEISS Axio Imager 2 Fluorescence Microscope (New York, USA). With the present of fluorescence, bacteria with undamaged membranes were stained as green, otherwise, bacteria were stained as red.



**Fig. S6.1.** The comparison of AOB abundant biofilm before (a) (b) (c) and after (d) (e) (f) chloramination with 2 mg active Cl/L of monochloramine

#### 6.5.2. Stormwater biofilm thickness on different materials

Biofilm thickness in concrete and PVC slides were measured by random selection of 12 view fields in each slide using fluorescence microscope. Triplicate slides were tested for each material in each reactor. Before measurement, stormwater biofilms were stained with LIVE/DEAD ® BacLightTM Bacterial Viability Kits following the same procedure as descripted in Supporting Information Section 1. Fluorescence was used to observe the biofilms after staining. For each measurement, the top layer of the biofilm in a microscope field was first focused and record as depth zero. And then, the base layer was focused to obtain the depth of the biofilm in this microscope field.



Fig. S6. 2. Biofilm thickness on different materials in different reactors

#### 6.5.3. Quantitative polymerase chain reaction

Four independent *q*PCR assays were conducted to quantify the function gene copy numbers of total bacterial, ammonia-oxidizing bacteria (AOB), two nitrite-oxidizing bacteria species – *Nitrospira* and *Nitrobacter* by targeting rpoB, amoA, NSR and Nitro genes respectively (Table S6.1). Reactions (20  $\mu$ L) were performed in 96-well microplates. Each tube was separately loaded with 2  $\mu$ L of genomic DNA (14-26ng/ $\mu$ L), followed by the forward and reverse primers (1  $\mu$ L), together with 10  $\mu$ L 1\* iTap SYBR Green Supermix with ROX (Bio-RAD, Hercules, California) and 6  $\mu$ L PCR grade sterile water. Grade sterile water was also used as negative control. Triplicate composite samples were tested for all experiments. The efficiency of PCR amplification for each gene was between 80% and 110%. The primers used in qPCR analyzes are shown in Table S6.1. **Table S6.1.** Primers used in qPCR

Bacteria types	Target	Primer	Sequence (5'-3')	Reference
Total	rpoB gene	1698f	5'-AAC ATC GGT TTG ATC AAC-3'	Dahllof et al., 2000
Bacteria		2041r	5'-CGT TGC ATG TTG GTA CCC AT-3'	Dahllof et al., 2000
AOB	amoA gene	amoA-1F amoA-2R	5'-GGGGTTTCTACTGGTGGT-3' 5'-CCCCTCKGSAAAGCCTTCTTC-3'	McTavish et al., 1993 McTavish et al., 1993
Nitrospira	NSR 16S	NSR 1113f	5'-CCTGCTTTCAGTTGCTACCG-3'	Dionisi et al., 2002
	rDNA	NSR 1264r	5'-GTTTGCAGCGCTTTGTACCG-3'	Dionisi et al., 2002
Nitrobacter	Nitro 16S	Nitro 1198f	5'-ACCCCTAGCAAATCTCAAAAAACCG-3'	Graham et al., 2007
	rDNA	Nitro 1423r	5'-CTTCACCCCAGTCGCTGACC-3'	Graham et al., 2007

### 6.4. Normalized Mean Square Error (NMSE) analysis

## Table S6.2. The value of NMSE for each experiment

Experimental No.	(I) Positive control		(II) Negative control (with AOB inhibitor)	(III) Cometabolism experiments	(IV) Low temperature control (10°C)
Modeled parameter	TOTNH <sub>3</sub> -N	NO <sub>3</sub> -N	NH <sub>2</sub> Cl-Cl	NH <sub>2</sub> Cl-Cl	NH <sub>2</sub> Cl-Cl
А	0.000	0.038	0.008	0.003	0.001
В	0.003	0.280	0.015	0.015	0.003
С	0.001	0.015	0.015	0.001	0.001
D	0.010	0.007	0.007	0.004	0.003

#### 6.6. References

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## CHAPTER 7. MONOCHLORAMINE DISSIPATION IN STORM SEWER SYSTEMS: FIELD TESTING AND MODEL DEVELOPMENT

#### 7.1. Introduction

Monochloramine (NH<sub>2</sub>Cl) has been widely used as a drinking water secondary disinfectant due to its long-lasting disinfection ability (US EPA et al., 2005; Wahman et al., 2009; Wahman and Speitel, 2012). However, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl can contaminate the aquatic environment when tap water is discharged into storm sewer systems. Several outdoor tap water use activities can introduce NH<sub>2</sub>Cl into storm sewers, such as lawn irrigation, garden watering, individual car washing, driveway cleaning and industrial pressure vessel testing (Balling et al., 2008; Mayer et al., 1999). To evaluate NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations in stormwater sewers, our previous studies collected and analyzed stormwater samples at different neighborhoods in Edmonton, Alberta, including residential and park locations with large garden and lawn areas, commercial locations such as car dealerships and rentals, and industrial areas with large pressure vessel boilers. These field sampling results showed that during the summers of 2015 and 2016, the total active chlorine (TAC) concentration in stormwater was as high as 0.77 mg/L (Zhang et al., 2018a), which exceeds the effluent discharge limit of 0.02 mg/L according to the Canada-wide strategy of the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME, 2009). Compared with concentrated precipitation periods, TAC concentrations were significantly higher under dry weather conditions (defined as low or no precipitation occurred during the sampling period).

Tap water is the main source of TAC in storm sewers during dry weather, and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl is the dominant active chlorine species in tap water. To protect water sources from TAC contamination, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation mechanisms in storm sewer systems were studied. Three pathways that contribute to NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay are (i) auto-decomposition, (ii) chemical reactions with

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natural organic matter (NOM) and nitrate ( $NO_2^-$ ) in stormwater (Zhang et al., 2018a), and (iii) biological dissipation in the presence of storm sewer biofilm (Zhang et al., 2018b). The three pathways have been studied in previous research.

In the present study, a field NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation test with continuous tap water discharge into storm sewer pipes in Edmonton. A kinetics model was also developed to summarize three NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay pathways. The field test results were used to calibrate model parameters of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay. The final model described the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay process in storm sewers under various conditions, and can be applied to estimate NH<sub>2</sub>Cl consumption between discharge points and outfalls. It is believed that this model can contribute to government regulation of outdoor tap water uses, thus decreasing fresh water contamination by TAC species. The model can be used to regulate the tap water discharge in other cities that have this issue in their storm sewers.

#### 7.2. Material and methods

#### 7.2.1. Site selection

The field NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation test was conducted in an uninterrupted storm sewer pipe (~ 200 m length) in a residential area in Edmonton. An uninterrupted pipe system was selected to prevent the impact of water flowing into branch pipelines (Fig. 7.1). The residential area was selected because of its low traffic density and its potential NH<sub>2</sub>Cl contamination from grader irrigation and private car washing. The selected pipelines consisted of two pipe sections and were characterized in Fig. 7.1.



**Fig. 7.1.** Storm sewer network at field NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation test location (yellow arrow: flow direction; green lines: storm sewer pipelines; red lines: sewage pipelines).

#### 7.2.2. Storm sewer sediment and biofilm characterization

Biofilm samples were collected on storm sewer pipes by scraping biofilms within a 1.1 cm diameter template over a randomly-selected submerged pipe surface. Samples were stored in sterilized centrifuge tubes containing 5 mL of stormwater collected in the same sewer. Biofilm samples were kept on ice during transportation, and preserved at 4 °C until they were analyzed. After samples were delivered in laboratory, genomic DNA was extracted and *q*PCR was conducted to analyze the populations of total bacterial and AOB following methods reported previously (Zhang et al., 2018c). The total bacteria and AOB were analyzed by *rpoB* and *amoA* functional genes. The primers used in *q*PCR analyzes are shown in Table S7.3. In addition, volatile suspended solids (VSS) were determined by following the protocol from Standard Methods 2540E (Wilder et al., 1997).

#### 7.2.3 Tap water quality analysis

The initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations were analyzed as soon as the samples were taken, to prevent any changes of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations through the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl self-decomposition process. Other tap water characteristics such as pH, ammonium nitrogen ( $NH_4^+$ -N), nitrate nitrogen ( $NO_2^-$ -N), alkalinity, and natural organic matter (NOM) concentrations were determined after samples were delivered to the laboratory for further NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation model development.

Since NH<sub>2</sub>Cl is dominant in tap water, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration was measured as the TAC concentration with the HACH (Loveland, USA) colorimetric method 8167 (detection limit 0.02 mg-Cl/L). The NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>-N and alkalinity concentrations were analysed by HACH commercial test kits TNT832 and TNT870, respectively, with detection limits of 0.015 mg/L NH<sub>3</sub>-N and 25 mg/L CaCO<sub>3</sub>, respectively. The dissolved organic carbon (DOC) of tap water samples was measured

with a Shimadzu TOC-L CPH E100 (detection limit 4  $\mu$ g-C/L). The pH was analyzed by an Extech EC500 Waterproof ExStikII pH/conductivity meter (Extech instruments, USA).

#### 7.2.4 Field NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation test

During the field NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation study, tap water was released from point A (a curb inlet) through a fire hydrant for approximately 40 min. The tap water flowrate was adjusted to 10 L/s before discharging. Once tap water was introduced into the storm sewer, time zero was recorded at point A. Tap water samples were collected every 5 min from time zero using 250 mL chlorine free glass bottles, and the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations in these tap water samples were analyzed. At point B, time zero was recorded when the first flow was observed at this point, and the first sample was collected at time 1 min. After that, samples were collected every 5 to 10 min from the same manhole. NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations were analyzed immediately after samples were collected to avoid the continuous reaction of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl with storm sewer components in the samples. Moreover, dechloramination was conducted at point C and point D to prevent possible NH<sub>2</sub>Cl contamination during the field test using commercial VITA-D-CHLOR tablets (Kent, USA).

#### 7.3. Model development

#### 7.3.1. Reaction assumptions

Fig. 7.2 describes the kinetic reactions involved in the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation mechanisms in storm sewer systems. The reaction coefficients and equilibrium constants of these reactions were summarized in Table 7.1. The reactions involved in Fig. 7.2 and Table 7.1 were developed from literatures and our previous research (Duirk et al., 2005; Jafvert and Valentine, 1992; Maestre et al., 2016; Vikesland et al., 2001; Wahman and Speitel, 2012; Zhang et al., 2018a, 2018b, 2017).

To be specific, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl auto-decomposition kinetic model applied in this research was developed by Jafvert and Valentine (1992) and refined by Vikesland et al. (2001). In addition,
Vikesland et al. (2001) also developed the reaction kinetics between  $NH_2Cl$  and  $NO_2^{-1}$  in their research. Wahman and Speitel (2012) proposed that the reactions between  $NO_2^{-1}$  and free chlorine that releases from  $NH_2Cl$  should also be considered in  $NH_2Cl$  dissipation models, and this assumption was also used in our current study. Moreover, NOM is a dominant factor that impact the  $NH_2Cl$  decay in bulk tap water and stormwater samples (Duirk et al., 2005, 2002, Zhang et al., 2018a, 2018c, 2017). The  $NH_2Cl$  reactions with stormwater and tap water NOM have been developed in a previous study (Zhang et al., 2017), which were included in the present model. The impacts of  $Fe^{2+}$  and  $Br^-$  were not considered in this model, since low concentrations were detected stormwater samples studied. Further, the storm sewers biofilm plays an important role in  $NH_2Cl$ dissipation, as it can directly react with  $NH_2Cl$  and consume  $NH_2Cl$  through AOB cometabolism (Maestre et al., 2016, 2013; Sathasivan et al., 2009). The  $NH_2Cl$  biological dissipation mechanisms in the presence of storm sewer biofilm have also been studied previously (Zhang et al. 2018c), and were included in the present model.



Fig. 7.2. Reactions involving NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in a storm sewer system (Pd: products).

**Table 7.1.** NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation reactions expected in storm sewers (Duirk et al., 2005; Jafvert and Valentine, 1992; Maestre et al., 2016; Vikesland et al., 2001; Wahman and Speitel, 2012; Zhang et al., 2018a, 2018b, 2017)

	Reaction	Rate Coefficient or Equilibrium Constant	References		
NH2	Cl autodecomposition				
1	$HOCl + NH_3 \rightarrow NH_2Cl + H_2O$	$k_1 = 1.5 \times 10^{10} \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{h}^{-1}$			
2	$NH_2Cl + H_2O \rightarrow HOCl + NH_3$	$k_2 = 7.6 \times 10^{-2} \mathrm{h}^{-1}$	N II. (1001)		
3	$HOC1 + NH_2C1 \rightarrow NHCl_2 + H_2O$	$k_3 = 1.3 \times 10^6 \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{h}^{-1}$	Morris and Isaac (1981)		
4	$NH_2Cl + H_2O \rightarrow HOCl + NH_2Cl$	$k_4 = 2.7 \times 10^{-3} \mathrm{h}^{-1}$			
5	$2 \text{ NH}_2\text{Cl} \rightarrow \text{NHCl}_2 + \text{NH}_3$	$k_5^{a}$	Jafvert and Valentine (1992)		
6	$\rm NHCl_2 + \rm NH_3 \twoheadrightarrow 2\rm NH_2\rm Cl$	$k_6 = 2.2 \times 10^8 \mathrm{M}^{-2} \mathrm{h}^{-1}$	Hand and Margerum (1983)		
7	$\mathrm{NHCl}_2 + \mathrm{OH}^{-}  \mathrm{I}$	$k_7 = 4.0 \times 10^5 \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{h}^{-1}$	Jafvert and Valentine (1987)		
8	$\rm NHCl_2 + I^b \twoheadrightarrow \rm HOCl + pd1^c$	$k_8 = 1.0 \times 10^8 \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{h}^{-1}$			
9	$NH_2Cl + I \rightarrow pd2^{\circ}$	$k_9 = 3.0 \times 10^7 \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{h}^{-1}$	Leao (1981)		
10	$NH_2Cl + NHCl_2 \rightarrow pd3^{\circ}$	$k_{10} = 5.5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$			
11	$HOCl = H^+ + OCl^-$	$pK_a = 7.5$			
12	$NH_4^+ = NH_3 + H^+$	$pK_a = 9.3$	Carriel and Lephine (1000)		
13	$H_2CO_3 = HCO_3^- + H^+$	$pK_a = 6.4$	Shoeyink and Jenkins (1980)		
14	$HCO_3^- = CO_3^{2-} + H^+$	$pK_a = 10.3$			
Rea	ctions with $NO_2^-$				
15	$HOCl + NO_2^- \rightarrow H^+ + NO_3^- + Cl^-$	$k_{11}^{d}$	Margerum et al. (1994)		
16	$\mathrm{NH_2Cl} + \mathrm{NO_2^-} + \mathrm{H_2O} \twoheadrightarrow \mathrm{NH_4^+} + \mathrm{NO_3^-} + \mathrm{Cl^-} + \mathrm{H^+}$	$k_{12}^{e}$	Wahman and Speitel (2012)		
Rea	ctions with stormwater NOM				
17	$\rm HOCl + \rm DOC_{\rm HOClrapid} \rightarrow pd4^{\rm f}$	$k_{13} = 2.3 \times 10^{6} \text{ M}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$			
18	$\rm HOCl + \rm DOC_{\rm HOClslow} \rightarrow pd5^{\rm f}$	$k_{14} = 3.9 \times 10^2 \mathrm{M^{-1}h^{-1}}$	7 have at al. (2018a)		
19	$\rm NH_2Cl + \rm DOC_{\rm NH2Clrapid} \rightarrow pd6^g$	$k_{15} = 3.4 \times 10^4 \mathrm{M^{-1}h^{-1}}$	Zhang et al. (2018a)		
20	$\rm NH_2Cl + \rm DOC_{\rm NH2Clslow} \twoheadrightarrow pd7^{\rm g}$	$k_{16} = 15.9 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$			
Reaction with tap water NOM					
21	$\rm HOCl + \rm DOC_{\rm reactive} \rightarrow pd8^{\rm f}$	$k_{17} = 3.6 \times 10^6 \mathrm{M^{-1}h^{-1}}$	Zhang et al. (2017)		
NH2 22 23 24 25	<sup>2</sup> Cl biological dissipation NH <sub>3</sub> Monod: TOTNH <sub>3</sub> → NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> + 0.062UAP Reaction with biofilm: NH <sub>2</sub> Cl + VSS <sup>i</sup> → pd9 <sup>g</sup> Cometabolism reaction: NH <sub>2</sub> Cl → NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> UPA reaction: NH <sub>2</sub> Cl + UAP → pd10 <sup>g</sup>	$k_{18}^{h}$ $k_{19} = 2.5 \times 10^{3} M^{-1} h^{-1}$ $k_{20} = 1.7 h^{-1}$ $k_{21} = 9.6 \times 10^{5} M^{-1} h^{-1}$	Zhang et al. (2018b)		

a.  $k_5 = k_{\rm H}[{\rm H}^+] + k_{\rm HCO_3}[{\rm HCO_3}^-] + k_{\rm H_2CO3}[{\rm H_2CO_3}]$ , where  $k_{\rm H^+} = 2.5 \times 10^7 M^{-2} h^{-1}$ ,  $k_{\rm HCO_3} = 800 M^{-2} h^{-1}$ ,  $k_{\rm H_2CO3} = 4 \times 10^4 M^{-2} h^{-1}$ ;

b. I represents an unidentified intermediate in NH<sub>2</sub>Cl auto-decomposition;

<sup>c.</sup> pd1-pd3 (pd means product) may include N<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O,Cl<sup>-</sup>,H<sup>+</sup>, NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> and other unidentified products (Jafvert and Valentine, 1992);

d. 
$$k_{11} = \frac{k_{1n}[\mathrm{H}^+](1 + \frac{k_{2n}}{K_{4n}}[\mathrm{NO}_2^-])}{\frac{k_{-1n}}{k_{4n}}[\mathrm{NH}_3] + (1 + \frac{k_{2n}}{K_{4n}}[\mathrm{NO}_2^-])}$$
, where  $k_{1n} = 1.6 \times 10^8 M^{-2} h^{-1}$ ,  $\frac{k_{-1n}}{k_{4n}} = 1.9 \times 10^6 M^{-1}$ ,  $\frac{k_{2n}}{K_{4n}} = 217 M^{-1}$ 

e. 
$$k_{12} = \frac{k_{11}}{k_{11}} [\text{H}^+](1 + \frac{k_{2n}}{K_{4n}}[\text{NO}_2^-])}{\frac{-1n}{K_{4n}}[\text{NH}_3] + (1 + \frac{k_{2n}}{K_{4n}}[\text{NO}_2^-])}$$
, where  $k_{1n} = k_{\text{Hn}}[\text{H}^+] + k_{\text{HCO}_3n}[\text{HCO}_3^-] + k_{\text{H}_2\text{CO}3n}[\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3]$ ,  $k_{\text{Hn}} = 4.3 \times \frac{1}{10} (1 + \frac{k_{2n}}{K_{4n}}[\text{NO}_2^-])}$ 

 $10^{10}M^{-2}h^{-1}, k_{\rm HCO_3n} = 4.3 \times 10^3 M^{-2}h^{-1}, \, k_{\rm H_2CO_3n} = 3.4 \times 10^6 M^{-2}h^{-1}, \, k_{-1n^{'}} \, / k_{4n} \, = 2.1 \times 10^{-5} Mh \times k_{1n^{'}} \, ;$ 

f. pd4-5, pd8 may include H<sub>2</sub>O, Cl<sup>-</sup>, H<sup>+</sup>, and chlorine disinfection by-products (DPBs);

g. pd6-7, pd 9-10 may include NH4<sup>+</sup>, H2O, Cl<sup>-</sup>, H<sup>+</sup>, and NH2Cl DPBs;

h.  $k_{18} = \frac{1.8 \times 10^{-2} \times [AOB]}{6.1 \times 10^{-5} + \alpha [TOTNH3]}$  mg-TSSh<sup>-1</sup>L<sup>-1</sup>, [AOB] is considered to be constant,  $\alpha$  is free ammonia to the TOTNH3 molar ratio; i. The value of VSS used in this model is the VSS concentration (mg/L) divided by 156.9 based on the VSS consumption for each

mole of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl.

#### 7.4. Results and discussion

### 7.4.1 Storm sewer and tap water characterization

To simulate NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in storm sewer systems, the total biofilm concentration and the AOB concentration in storm sewer pipes were determined (Table 7.2). The VSS concentrations (Table 7.2) presented the total biomass concentration in the biofilms. Since the water temperature was 10 °C during the field test period, the modeled NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rate was calibrated using a temperature coefficient developed in our previous studies (Zhang et al., 2017; Zhang et al. 2018b). Further, a time dependent coefficient *f* was introduced to calibrate the modeled NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rates under various discharge times. The values of *f* under different sampling times (T) were solved based on field NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation tests. Before the field test, no flow was observed in the storm sewer pipes. Therefore, the impact of stormwater on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay was not considered in this research.

	Model parameter	Measuring results
	Biomass per pipe surface area (mg/cm <sup>2</sup> )	8.06
	Water biofilm contact ratio (cm <sup>2</sup> /L-water)	208
Dina hiafilm	Total bacterial functional gene (copies/cm <sup>2</sup> ) <sup>a</sup>	1.33E+10
r ipe bioinin	Total biomass concentration (mg/ L-water)	1676
	AOB functional gene (copies/cm <sup>2</sup> ) <sup>b</sup>	5.31E+08
	AOB concentration (mg/ L-water)	27
	DOC (mg/L)	1.39
	$NH_4^+$ -N (mg/L)	0.390
Ton water flow	Alkalinity (mg CaCO3/L)	107
Tap water now	pH	7.99
	Flow traveling time (points A to B, s)	420
	Flowrate (L/s)	10

Table	7.2. A	Average v	alues o	f model	parameters	for field	$I NH_2Cl$	decay tes	sts in storn	1 sewers
								2		

a. Each bacterium is assumed to contain only one total bacterial functional gene (*rpoB* gene);

b. Each AOB cell is assumed to containe an average of 2.5 amoA gene (He et al., 2007; Okano et al., 2004).

#### 7.4.2. Chloramine dissipation in storm water sewers

Fig. 7.3 shows the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration changes from the discharge point (point A) to the sampling point (point B) in the filed NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay test, as well as the comparison of modeled and field results at point B. As shown in Fig. 7.3(a), the initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration at point A was slightly lower than the following values, and increased to a stable level at approximately 1.77 mg active Cl/L. The NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration in the first sample showed a significant decrease at point B; and the extent of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay reduced with the increase of discharge times. This observation indicates a decrease of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rate with tap water discharge time. With tap water continuously flowing into the storm sewer, the biofilm and other reactive components in the sewer

pipes were consumed by NH<sub>2</sub>Cl. In addition, under a flowrate of 10 L/s, some biofilm may be sloughed from the pipes. As fewer reactive components remained in the storm sewer, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rate decreased. The modeled results from point B was simulated through the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation model under the same condition of our field test. The detailed discussion of modeled results were described in the following sections.



Fig. 7.3. NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration changes in storm sewer pipes with continuous tap water discharge(a) field NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration changes in point A and B; (b) the comparison of modeled and field results at point B.

# 7.4.3 Modeled monochloramine dissipation in storm water sewers

After tap water was discharged at point A, it took 420 seconds (s) to arrive at point B. That is, for each flow, the modeled NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration at 420 s represents the residual NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration at point B. As the first flush was not captured in our field testing, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rate of first flush was solved by the model (Fig. 7.4, black line). After that, reactive components in the storm sewers continuously reacted with NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and were flushed out by the tap water discharge causing the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rate to decrease. To describe this NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rate variation under continuous discharge, *f* was introduced to calibrate the modeled results. The values of *f* under certain discharge times (T, min) were solved based on the field NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rates from point A to point B, and the relationship between *f* and T can be described by the equation below ( $r^2=0.97$ ):

$$f_T = \frac{1}{1.73\text{T} + 1.90} \tag{1}$$

NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation curves under different discharge times were then solved by the model and are shown in Fig. 7.4. Fig. 7.3(b) shows the comparison of field testing and modeled NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration changes with different discharge times at point B



**Fig. 7.4.** Modeled NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation with continuous tap water discharge at different discharge times (Tap water discharge times are shown in the box at the top of the figure).

Fig. 7.4 describes the tap water NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipations in storm sewers under certain discharge times. The initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations in the model were set at the values of the field test, and the discharge times correspond to the sample collection times at point B. The vertical dashed line indicates the modeled NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations of each flow traveled to point B. Fig. 7.4 shows that

with longer discharge time, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations increased at point B, and the increment gradually reduced, which coincides with the field analysis results. To compare the modeled NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations at 420 s (point B) with field testing results under the same discharge periods (Fig. 7.3(b)), the simulated NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations correspond closely to the field data analyzed. Therefore, it can be proposed that the model developed in this study can be used to describe the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation processes in Edmonton storm sewer systems under a continuous discharge condition.

Under dry weather conditions, some storm sewer pipes may still contain stormwater flow. With chloraminated water discharge, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rate can be accelerated by reacting with stormwater characteristics such as NOM, alkalinity, NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> concentrations, pH, and water temperature (Duirk et al., 2005; Jafvert and Valentine, 1992; Maestre et al., 2016; Vikesland et al., 2001; Wahman and Speitel, 2012; Zhang et al., 2018b, 2018c, 2017). The impact of such stormwater characteristics should be considered in the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation model. As biofilm and stormwater characteristics vary under different land use, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rates at residential, park, commercial, and industrial areas need to be simulated separately. In this research, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rate boundaries were solved based on the maximum and minimum values of NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>-N, NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>-N, alkalinity, NOM concentrations, pH, and temperature monitored in Edmonton stormwater during the summers of 2016 and 2015. The average biofilm concentration under each land use was applied in this model. The modeled results are shown in Fig. 7.6. The detailed pipe biofilm and stormwater characteristics can be found in Tables S7.1 and S7.2.



**Fig. 7.6.** Minimum (black curves) and maximum (red curves) NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rates in storm sewers under (a) residential, (b) park, (c) commercial, and (d) industrial areas.

From Fig. 7.6, the minimum and maximum NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rates do not show a great difference in each sampling area, which means the impact of stormwater characteristics on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rates are not significant. To avoid overestimating NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rates, it is recommended that the minimum NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rates be applied to regulate tap water outdoor discharges. Further, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation shows similar rates in residential, commercial, and industrial areas, and can decay to almost 0 within 600 seconds. However, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rates were significantly lower in park area. That is because less biofilm was detected under park area compared with other

neighborhoods. Therefore, it can be deduced that rather than stormwater characteristics, biofilm plays a more important role in NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in storm sewer systems.

#### 7.5. Conclusion

The NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rate in storm sewer systems depends on pH, temperature, natural organic matter and initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations, biofilm population and storm sewer characteristics. In addition, from the field test, a significant decay of the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration was observed in first discharge, but not much following that, which indicates the decrease of the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rate with extended NH<sub>2</sub>Cl discharge periods. Therefore, to protect aquatic environment, the continuous tap water introduction to stormsewer should be carried out with cautious.

The NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations solved by the calibrated model corresponded closely to the field results, which indicates that the model used in this research can be applied to simulate NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rates in real storm sewers with continuous discharge.

In addition, with stormwater in storm sewer systems, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rate can be accelerated by reactions with stormwater components. To describe NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in the presence of stormwater, the minimum and maximum NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rates were solved based on the stormwater and sewer pipe characteristics. The results show that 2 mg active Cl/L in the initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration can decay to 0 in residential, commercial, and industrial areas within nearly 600s, whereas decay is significantly slower in park area. As compared with stormwater characteristics, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rate is impacted more by the biofilm concentration in storm sewers. With the model developed in this research, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rates under various stormwater and biofilm conditions can be simulated. This model can inform government regulations regarding tap water outdoor discharge, thus contributing to the protection of the aquatic environment.

# 7.6. Supplementary materials

# 7.6.1. Time coefficient *f* estimation

The relationship between f and discharge time (T) was assumed to follow the second order reaction, as a high regression coefficient can be obtained under this hypothesis. The values of f under different discharge times were solved based on the monochloramine decay rates in field test. Following this assumption, the linear relationship between 1/f and T is shown in Fig. S7.1.



Fig. S7.1. The linear relationship between 1/f and discharge time (T)

## 7.6.2. Stormwater characteristics applied for monochloramine dissipation model

Sampling locations	Residential area	Park area	Commercial area	Industrial area
${ m S}_{ m NH2Cl}$ rapid	0.00785	0.0055	0.0091	0.0102
$\mathbf{S}_{\mathrm{HOCl}\ \mathrm{rapid}}$	0.01255	0.0278	0.01375	0.02475
$\mathbf{S}_{Total}$	0.705	0.695	1.02	0.76

Table S7.1. The rapid and total reactive fractions in stormwater NOM under different locations

 Table S7.2. The maximum and minimum values of Edmonton stormwater characteristics during

 summer 2015 and summer 2016

	DOC (mg/L)		NH (m	4 <sup>+</sup> -N g/L)	Alka (1 CaC	ng O3/L)	NO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> -N (mg/L)		рН		Temperature (°C)		Bacteria concentration (mg VSS/L)	
	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Total	AOB
RES*	10.0	16.8	0.00	6.65	157	415	0.02	0.75	7.81	8.39	10	22	1680	10.8
PRK*	5.1	21.4	0.00	0.12	66	566	0.01	0.52	7.76	8.48	10	22	323	2.2
COM*	8.7	37.0	0.00	2.85	151	482	0.04	0.38	7.8	8.37	10	22	1299	0.5
IND*	10.1	45.0	0.03	1.35	57	612	0.00	0.25	7.58	8.59	10	22	1749	18.0

\*RES, PRK, COM and IND represent the residential, park, commercial and industrial sampling areas.

## 7.6.3. Quantitative polymerase chain reaction

Two independent *q*PCR assays were conducted to quantify the functional gene copy numbers of total bacterial and ammonia-oxidizing bacteria (AOB) by targeting *rpoB* and *amoA* genes respectively (Table S1). Reactions (20  $\mu$ L) were performed in 96-well microplates. Each tube was separately loaded with 2  $\mu$ L of genomic DNA (14-26ng/ $\mu$ L), followed by forward and reverse primers (1  $\mu$ L), together with 10  $\mu$ L 1\* iTap SYBR Green Supermix with ROX (Bio-RAD, Hercules, California) and 6  $\mu$ L PCR grade sterile water. Grade sterile water was also used as

negative control. Triplicate composite samples were tested for all experiments. The efficiency of PCR amplification for each gene was between 80% and 110%. The primers used in qPCR analyzes are shown in Table S7.3.

Table S7.3. H	Primers used	in	<i>q</i> PCR
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Bacteria types	Target	Primer	Sequence (5'-3')	Reference
T ( )		rpoB 698f	5'-AAC ATC GGT TTG ATC AAC-3'	Dahllof et al., 2000
Total Bacteria	rpoB gene	rpoB 2041r	5'-CGT TGC ATG TTG GTA CCC AT-3'	Dahllof et al., 2000
		amoA-1F	5'-GGGGTTTCTACTGGTGGT-3'	McTavish et al., 1993
AOB	amoA gene	amoA-2R	5'-CCCCTCKGSAAAGCCTTCTTC-3'	McTavish et al., 1993

# 7.7. References

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#### **CHAPTER 8 GENERAL CONCLUIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

## 8.1. Thesis overview

Chloramination has been widely used for drinking water secondary disinfection because it maintains long-lasting disinfection and produces less disinfection by-products (DBPs). However, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, as the dominant disinfectant species in chloramination, can be discharged into municipal stormwater systems through outdoor tap water use, and ultimately fresh water sources. Tap water typically produces total active chlorine (TAC) concentrations of 2 mg/L. However, research has long suggested that the TAC is harmful to aquatic organisms at concentrations as low as 0.0053 mg/L (United States Environmental Protection Agency, 1985). Therefore, to protect the natural environment, it is important to study NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation mechanisms in storm sewer systems, and to assess the risks of tap water discharges. Although NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations and dissipation mechanisms in storm sewers.

Three pathways contribute to NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in storm sewers – auto-decomposition, chemical reactions with components existing in stormwater such as natural organic matters (NOM) and NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, and biological dissipation. As tap water is the main source of TAC in stormwater, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in tap water was studied in this research. Stormwater samples were collected from upstream and downstream storm sewer manholes of residential, park, commercial, and industrial neighborhoods in Edmonton, Alberta, during the summers of 2015 and 2016. Samples were collected under both dry and wet weather conditions to compare the impact of precipitation on TAC concentrations in stormwater. TAC, temperature, DO concentration, oxidation/reduction potential (ORP), and pH were measured in stormwater samples. Other stormwater characteristics such as NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>-N were analyzed in the laboratory. In addition, the biofilms on storm sewer pipelines

were collected and bacterial communities were identified to study the impact of biofilm on the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rate. In lab experiments, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation through auto- and chemical pathways were studied first, and kinetic models were developed to simulate the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation processes under various conditions. In terms of the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological decomposition, storm sewer biofilms were cultured in annular reactors under two different pipe materials, PVC and concrete. The effect of pipe materials on microbial decay were then evaluated. Moreover, total bacteria, AOB and NOB in biofilms were identified. Batch experiments were conducted to evaluate the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological decomposition mechanisms and develop kinetic model to predict these decay processes. The effect of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl auto-, chemical-, and microbiological decay rates were finally combined and compared with data obtained from field NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay test to develop the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation kinetic model for real storm sewers.

# 8.2. Conclusions

Conclusions derived from research described in chapters 3–7 are reported below.

 In chapter 3, total active chlorine (TAC) concentrations in Edmonton stormwater samples were measured. The results show that the TAC concentrations varied from 0.02 to 0.77 mg/L during the summer of 2015 and from 0 to 0.24 mg/L during the summer of 2016, exceeding the CCME (2009) Canada-wide Strategy standard of 0.02 mg/L for permissible TAC concentrations at most of the sampling times. The high TAC concentrations in study samples may therefore pose a risk to the aquatic environment. As compared to summer 2015, more precipitation occurred during summer 2016. Therefore, it is believed that the high precipitation decreased the frequency of outdoor tap water uses, thus reducing the TAC in the stormwater. Other physicochemical and biological characteristics of stormwater and storm sewer biofilm samples showed no significant difference between 2015 and 2016. Statistical analysis method 'RandomForest' indicated that the NOM concentration was the dominant influence on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in stormwater samples. The NOM concentration was more accurately represented by the dissolved organic carbon (DOC) than by the chemical oxygen demand (COD) in the stormwater NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation study. In addition, the downstream industrial area had the highest DOC concentrations in both years, and these high DOC concentrations may lead to high TAC dissipation rates in this area.

- 2. In chapter 4, a chemical kinetic model was developed to predict NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation under different tap water conditions, and the results matched the experimental data, validating the model of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss under various real water conditions. The dominant factors that impact the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss rate in tap water are temperature, pH, the Cl/N ratio, and initial NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and NOM concentrations. In this model, a rapid reaction between NH<sub>2</sub>Cl auto-decomposition with NOM was assumed to be present in this decay process. Under this assumption, the NOM reactive site fraction S and rate constant k<sub>docr</sub> were calculated. Although these values may differ by tap water source, this research provides a useful general methodology for studies of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss in drinking water. As low concentrations of Br<sup>-</sup>, Fe<sup>2+</sup>, and NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> were detected in Edmonton tap water, the impact of these two species on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay was not studied. Therefore, the model built in this study cannot be applied to predict the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl loss rates in tap water containing high concentrations of these chemicals.
- 3. In chapter 5, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation mechanisms in bulk stormwater were studied, and a kinetic model was developed to simulate NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay under various stormwater conditions, including pH, alkalinity, NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>, NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, and dissolved organic matter (DOM) concentrations. Four pathways were assumed to involve reactions between DOM and active chlorine species in

NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay, including rapid and long-term reactions between DOM and NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, and rapid and long-term reactions between DOM and HOCl released from NH<sub>2</sub>Cl auto-decomposition. To simulate the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay under different temperatures, a temperature coefficient  $\alpha$  was introduced. Based on experimental data, a linear functional equation between temperature and  $\alpha$  was solved. Our modeled NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay rates showed good matches with experimental results under various conditions. Further, the stormwater dissolved organic matter (SWDOM) characteristics were analyzed by Fourier transfer infrared (FTIR) spectroscopy and fluorescence excitation-emission matrix (EEM) spectroscopy. From the results, the SWDOM from different neighborhoods showed similar compositions, and humic substances were the dominant SWDOM. After reaction with NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, although SWDOM was partially converted to inorganics, most of the organics remained as organic forms. It should be noted that humic substances, as the major precursors of disinfection by-products (DBPs), may cause an increase in DBP concentration in stormwater and then lead to contamination of fresh water sources.

4. In chapter 6, the stormwater biofilms were cultured in annular reactors under different initial TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N (the sum of NH<sub>3</sub>-N and NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>-N) concentrations. PVC and cement materials were selected for biofilm cultivation as these are common materials used in storm sewer pipes. Biofilms were collected along operation time and before and after chloramination with 1 mg active Cl/L of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl, and total AOB and NOB functional genes were analyzed by *q*PCR. After biofilms were collected, the bacteria community structures and compositions were analyzed. Cement biofilms contained a higher abundance than PVC biofilms of all the identified functional genes under all the operation periods. More AOB and *Nitrospira* functional genes were observed in the high TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N reactor, while *Nitrobacter* functional genes showed no significant impact from this TOTNH<sub>3</sub>-N concentration elevation. Moreover, batch kinetic

experiments were conducted to study the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological dissipation mechanisms. Three pathways contribute to NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological dissipation – reaction with biofilm only, consumption by AOB cometabolism, and reaction with utilization associated products (UAPs) produced by AOB activity. The experimental results indicated that rather than biomass and AOB cometabolism, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl was mainly consumed by extracellular polymeric substance (EPS). As low temperature was detected in the real storm sewer during the summer experimental period, the impact of low temperature (10 °C) on NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological dissipation rates was studied,. Under different stormwater conditions, the experimental and modeled results showed good matches. Although the storm sewer environment varied at different locations, the methodology and assumptions developed in this research can be applied to NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in other regions.

5. In chapter 7, NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation pathways were summarized and a comprehensive model was developed to study NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay processes in real storm sewers systems. In addition, a field test was conducted by continuously discharging tap water into a storm sewer for 40 min. NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations were analyzed every 5 to 10 min at the discharge point and at a downstream location. The results showed decreased NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation rates over the time of tap water discharge. To simulate the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl decay with continuous discharge, a time coefficient *f* was introduced to calibrate the modeled results. After calibration, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentrations solved by the model can correspond closely to the field results. Therefore, it is believed that this model developed can simulate NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation in real storm sewers with continuous tap water discharge.

### 8.3. Recommendations for further work

#### 8.3.1. Practical recommendations

To regulate the discharge of tap water to storm sewer systems, the comprehensive model developed in this research can be applied. With the detailed discharge information provided (flowrate, discharge volume, time and location), the model can then estimate the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration at outfall point. Therefore, before outdoor tap water discharge, it is recommended to simulate the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dissipation processes using this model, thus estimating the risk of tap water discharge. In this way, the potential contamination of NH<sub>2</sub>Cl to aquatic environment can be significantly reduced.

#### 8.3.2. Follow-on studies

After tap water was discharged into fresh water sources, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration can be diluted significantly. Therefore, with a small tap water discharge, the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl concentration may decrease to zero in a short period and show no harmful to aquatic biota. To determine the impact of tap water discharge to aquatic environment, it is suggested that the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl dilution and dissipation processes in river water and other fresh water sources should be studied, and the NH<sub>2</sub>Cl toxic zone in these water sources should be determined in the future studies.

Moreover, EPS is an important factor to react with NH<sub>2</sub>Cl in biological dissipation processes. However, the constitution of EPS from different neighbourhoods may vary in storm sewers, leading to variations in NH<sub>2</sub>Cl biological dissipation rates at these locations. Also, reaction mechanisms between NH<sub>2</sub>Cl and EPS are not well understood and require additional investigation.

#### 8.3.3. Large scientific questions

Florescence EEM analysis illustrates the high percentage of humic acid (HA) in SWDOM, which indicates the potential production of disinfection by-products (DBPs) in stormwater after

tap water discharge, since HA is the dominant precursor of DBPs in chlorination and chloramination. Through the reactions between SWDOM and active chlorine species, the DBPs may accumulate in rivers. With these DBPs existing in rivers, they may come into drinking water as river water is the main source of drinking water. Therefore, to protect the drinking water safety, additional studies are required to detect the concentrations of DBPs in stormwater. However, although the DBPs in drinking water were well studied, the understanding of DBPs in stormwater is still lacking. Therefore, experiments should test for DBPs produced during the reaction between SWDOM and active chlorine species.

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APPENDIX A. NOM and HA characteristics from different water sources



Fig. A1. FT-IR analysis of NOM and HA from different source waters

APPENDIX B. Additional stormwater characteristics from field sampling

Date	Apr. 21	May 6	May 19	Jun. 1	Jun. 15	Jul. 7	Jul. 20	Aug. 8	Aug. 24	Sep. 8	Max.	Min.	Average
RES 1	193	201	181	194	250	202	166	198	169	213	250	166	196
RES 2	252	209	201	198	207	170	162	174	170	219	252	162	196
PRK 1	124	207	162	201	134	137	130	135	163	184	207	124	157
PRK 2	179	211	191	197	198	175	148	139	160	217	217	139	181
COM 1	209	195	203	175	221	168	178	165	229	161	229	161	190
COM 2	217	169	221	179	239	182	176	165	173	218	239	165	193
IND 1	233	209	242	178	208	189	147	212	185	245	245	147	204
IND 2	232	228	211	198	221	151	175	141	192	249	249	141	199

**Table B1.** The ORP (mV) in stormwater samples collected during summer 2016

Date	Apr. 21	May 6	May 19	Jun. 1	Jun. 15	Jul. 7	Jul. 20	Aug. 8	Aug. 24	Sep. 8	Max.	Min.	Average
RES 1	6×10 <sup>4</sup>	2.6×10 <sup>4</sup>	6×10 <sup>4</sup>	NA	4×10 <sup>4</sup>	1×10 <sup>4</sup>	3×10 <sup>4</sup>	8×10 <sup>3</sup>	NA	NA	6×10 <sup>4</sup>	8×10 <sup>3</sup>	3.3×10 <sup>4</sup>
RES 2	1×10 <sup>5</sup>	9×10 <sup>3</sup>	4×10 <sup>4</sup>	NA	1×10 <sup>5</sup>	1.2×10 <sup>4</sup>	1×10 <sup>5</sup>	7×10 <sup>3</sup>	NA	NA	1×10 <sup>5</sup>	7×10 <sup>3</sup>	5.2×10 <sup>4</sup>
PRK 1	7×10 <sup>5</sup>	8×10 <sup>4</sup>	9×10 <sup>4</sup>	NA	6×10 <sup>4</sup>	1.1×10 <sup>4</sup>	5×10 <sup>4</sup>	4×10 <sup>3</sup>	NA	NA	7×10 <sup>5</sup>	4×10 <sup>3</sup>	1.4×10 <sup>5</sup>
PRK 2	1×10 <sup>6</sup>	7×10 <sup>3</sup>	4×10 <sup>4</sup>	NA	3×10 <sup>4</sup>	1.1×10 <sup>4</sup>	4×10 <sup>4</sup>	1×10 <sup>4</sup>	NA	NA	1×10 <sup>5</sup>	7×10 <sup>3</sup>	3.4×10 <sup>4</sup>
COM 1	1.1×10 <sup>5</sup>	1.6×10 <sup>4</sup>	5×10 <sup>4</sup>	NA	NA	1.2×10 <sup>4</sup>	5×10 <sup>4</sup>	4×10 <sup>4</sup>	NA	NA	1.1×10 <sup>5</sup>	1.2×10 <sup>4</sup>	4.6×10 <sup>4</sup>
COM 2	9×10 <sup>4</sup>	1×10 <sup>4</sup>	3×10 <sup>5</sup>	NA	NA	3×10 <sup>4</sup>	4×10 <sup>4</sup>	3×10 <sup>4</sup>	NA	NA	3×10 <sup>5</sup>	1×10 <sup>4</sup>	8.3×10 <sup>4</sup>
IND 1	1.2×10 <sup>5</sup>	1.3×10 <sup>4</sup>	3×10 <sup>4</sup>	NA	1×10 <sup>4</sup>	9×10 <sup>3</sup>	2×10 <sup>4</sup>	4×10 <sup>3</sup>	NA	NA	1.2×10 <sup>5</sup>	4×10 <sup>3</sup>	2.9×10 <sup>4</sup>
IND 2	NA	1.4×10 <sup>3</sup>	4×10 <sup>4</sup>	NA	9×10 <sup>4</sup>	3×10 <sup>3</sup>	2×10 <sup>3</sup>	7×10 <sup>3</sup>	NA	NA	9×10 <sup>4</sup>	1.4×10 <sup>3</sup>	2.4×10 <sup>4</sup>

 Table B2. The bacteria population (CFU/ml) in stormwater samples collected during summer 2016

Date	May 1	May 20	Jun. 3	Jun. 18	Jul. 8	Jul. 22	Aug. 5	Aug. 26	Sep. 10	Sep. 23	Max.	Min.	Average
RES 1	183	178	176	125	182	213	230	218	204	252	252	125	196
RES 2	232	157	190	229	187	264	254	174	238	247	264	157	217
PRK 1	242	173	169	186	164	159	142	117	166	248	248	117	176
PRK 2	252	185	191	218	160	223	192	215	227	258	258	160	212
COM 1	179	150	209	208	180	286	246	126	213	252	286	126	204
COM 2	150	147	189	193	166	266	223	160	223	243	266	147	196
IND 1	247	205	204	207	188	281	238	216	257	239	281	188	228
IND 2	220	215	168	80	155	237	218	237	255	185	255	80	197

**Table B3.** The ORP (mV) in stormwater samples collected during summer 2015

Date	May 1	May 20	Jun. 3	Jun. 18	Jul. 8	Jul. 22	Aug. 5	Aug. 26	Sep. 10	Sep. 23	Max.	Min.	Average
RES 1	NA	1.1×10 <sup>4</sup>	3.7×10 <sup>5</sup>	1.2×10 <sup>6</sup>	1.1×10 <sup>5</sup>	9.3×10 <sup>5</sup>	1.4×10 <sup>5</sup>	6.7×10 <sup>4</sup>	430000	4.3×10 <sup>5</sup>	1.2×10 <sup>6</sup>	1.1×10 <sup>4</sup>	4.1×10 <sup>5</sup>
RES 2	1×10 <sup>5</sup>	9×10 <sup>4</sup>	3.7×10 <sup>4</sup>	3.2×10 <sup>5</sup>	2.1×10 <sup>5</sup>	5.7×10 <sup>5</sup>	2.7×10 <sup>5</sup>	3.7×10 <sup>5</sup>	NA	1.2×10 <sup>6</sup>	1.2×10 <sup>6</sup>	3.7×10 <sup>4</sup>	3.5×10 <sup>5</sup>
PRK 1	4.3×10 <sup>4</sup>	1×10 <sup>4</sup>	6×10 <sup>4</sup>	3×10 <sup>3</sup>	5.5×10 <sup>4</sup>	1×10 <sup>5</sup>	1.6×10 <sup>4</sup>	NA	2.7×10 <sup>5</sup>	3.3×10 <sup>5</sup>	3.3×10 <sup>5</sup>	3×10 <sup>3</sup>	9.9×10 <sup>4</sup>
PRK 2	4×10 <sup>4</sup>	2.2×10 <sup>4</sup>	3.4×10 <sup>5</sup>	6×10 <sup>5</sup>	9.7×10 <sup>3</sup>	9.9×10 <sup>5</sup>	8.3×10 <sup>4</sup>	NA	8.3×10 <sup>5</sup>	7.7×10 <sup>5</sup>	9.9×10 <sup>5</sup>	9.7×10 <sup>3</sup>	4.1×10 <sup>5</sup>
COM 1	3.7×10 <sup>5</sup>	6×10 <sup>5</sup>	2.1×10 <sup>5</sup>	2.3×10 <sup>5</sup>	3×10 <sup>5</sup>	2.7×10 <sup>5</sup>	5.3×10 <sup>5</sup>	2.3×10 <sup>5</sup>	1.1×10 <sup>6</sup>	3.3×10 <sup>5</sup>	1.1×10 <sup>6</sup>	2.1×10 <sup>5</sup>	4.2×10 <sup>5</sup>
COM 2	1.7×10 <sup>5</sup>	5×10 <sup>5</sup>	1×10 <sup>6</sup>	2.3×10 <sup>6</sup>	3.5×10 <sup>5</sup>	5.3×10 <sup>4</sup>	2.7×10 <sup>5</sup>	1×10 <sup>6</sup>	1.6×10 <sup>4</sup>	2.3×10 <sup>5</sup>	2.3×10 <sup>6</sup>	1.6×10 <sup>4</sup>	5.9×10 <sup>5</sup>
IND 1	2.4×10 <sup>5</sup>	1.4×10 <sup>5</sup>	1.4×10 <sup>5</sup>	5.3×10 <sup>5</sup>	1.3×10 <sup>4</sup>	2×10 <sup>5</sup>	4.3×10 <sup>4</sup>	6.7×10 <sup>4</sup>	5.7×10 <sup>4</sup>	3.7×10 <sup>5</sup>	5.3×10 <sup>5</sup>	1.3×10 <sup>4</sup>	1.8×10 <sup>5</sup>
IND 2	9×10 <sup>4</sup>	3×10 <sup>4</sup>	1.7×10 <sup>5</sup>	5.3×10 <sup>5</sup>	2.5×10 <sup>5</sup>	5×10 <sup>5</sup>	5×10 <sup>5</sup>	2×10 <sup>5</sup>	6.3×10 <sup>5</sup>	3.3×10 <sup>5</sup>	6.3×10 <sup>5</sup>	3×10 <sup>4</sup>	3.2×10 <sup>5</sup>

**Table B4.** The bacteria population (CFU/ml) in stormwater samples collected during summer 2015