

# Effect of Dividing the Water Transmission Pipe Line in Modeling Residual Chlorine, Case Study: Isfahan Water Transmission Line

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## Research

**Keywords:** drinking water quality, chlorine residual, coefficients of chlorine decay, decay kinetic models, EPANET-MSX

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Effect of dividing the water transmission pipe line in modeling residual chlorine, case study: Isfahan water transmission line

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13       **Abstract**

14       In assessing the quality of drinking water in transmission and distribution lines, the  
15       study on chlorine reactions is of particular importance. Chlorine decay happens in bulk  
16       and wall and it is mainly affected by the water age which depends on the transmission  
17       line length. Residual chlorine concentration in Isfahan water transmission line (IWTL)  
18       is simulated through three decay models, namely the first order, parallel first order and  
19       second order single reactant (SR model) which incorporated in EPANET and EPANET  
20       MSX, respectively. The results of the models are compared through two approaches,  
21       one is the one-part approach (OPA) whereby chlorine decay simulation is performed  
22       taking into account the whole line as one section and the second is multi-part approach  
23       (MPA) whereby the line is divided into two sections and decay coefficients of chlorine  
24       for each section are separately determined. Results show that in the OPA, the SR model  
25       in summer and the parallel model in winter are the best kinetic models. While in the  
26       MPA, the results of first order model has the same order of accuracy as the more  
27       complex models of parallel and SR models.

28       In general, the simple first order model in the MPA applied by EPANET2.0 s/w  
29       provides acceptable level of accuracy in compare to the complex models applied in

30 EPANET MSX s/w. The average RMSE volumes are reduced from 0.078 in OPA to  
31 0.029 in MPA in summer and from 0.059 to 0.015 in winter, indicating that the dividing  
32 the line in simulation procedure and considering the individual decay coefficient for  
33 each part, considerably improves the results, more effectively than the application of  
34 advanced decay models.

35 **Keywords:** drinking water quality, chlorine residual, coefficients of chlorine decay,  
36 decay kinetic models, EPANET-MSX.

37 **1. Introduction**

38 In the design and operation of drinking water distribution systems, the quality of  
39 the water is one of the most important concern. Different methods of disinfection is  
40 applied to preserve water quality [1–3]. The main reasons to disinfect the drinking water  
41 is due to pathogenic microorganisms entering through the drinking water distribution  
42 system [4,5]. The residual amount of the disinfectant during storage and distribution of  
43 drinking water is the most important factor to select the kind of disinfectant. Chlorine  
44 is the most common disinfectant in water supply systems due to its residual preservation,  
45 effective performance and economical aspect [4,6]. Chlorine decays along pipes and in  
46 storage reservoirs in water content and pipe walls. The reactions of chlorine with

47 organic and inorganic substances in the volume of water is called bulk decay, while the  
48 reactions with biofilms and materials on the wall of the pipes and reservoirs is called  
49 wall decay [1,2,7]. The bulk decay reactions depend on chemicals and microbiological  
50 quality and water age. The water age is the time which takes for a parcel of water to  
51 travel from water treatment plant to a node in a the line or in the network [8]. The wall  
52 decay reactions are affected by characteristics of the pipes and reservoirs[7,9–11].  
53 These reactions reduce concentration of chlorine. Thus, the risk of microbial  
54 contamination increases and more chlorine should be injected to maintain the minimum  
55 chlorine content. Increasing chlorine concentration in the water supply accelerates pipe  
56 corrosion, changes the water taste and odor and increases disinfection by-products  
57 (DBPs) [11,12]. To find optimal conditions for chlorine injection in drinking water  
58 distribution systems or transmission lines, the study on the bulk and wall chlorine decay  
59 reactions is essential.

60 The decay of chlorine involves complex reactions that is conventionally simplified  
61 to first order kinetic in water quality modeling. To improve this traditional model,  
62 different advanced decay kinetic expressions, i.e.  $n^{\text{th}}$  order, parallel first order, limited  
63 first order, single-reactant second order (SR) and two-reactant second order (2R) model

64 are developed [3,13,14]. Eqs. (1) to (7) list the differential expressions of kinetic models  
 65 ( $dc_{cl}/dt$ ) proposed for chlorine bulk decay.

$-k_b * c_{cl}$	First Order	(1)
$-k_b * c_{cl}^n$	$n^{th}$ Order	(2)
$-k_b(c_{cl} - c_{cl}^*)$	Limited First Order	(3)
$-(k_{b1} \times x * c_{cl} + k_{b2} * (1 - x) * c_{cl})$	Parallel First Order	(4)
$-k * c_{cl} * [\text{React}]$	Second Order Single Reactant (SR)	(5)
$-k_{bf} * c_{cl} * c_{sf} + k_{bs} * c_{cl} * c_s$	Second Order two Reactant (2R)	(6)
$-cl_t \sum_{i=1}^n k_i x_{i,t}$	Variable Rate Coefficient (VRC)	(7)

66 where  $c_{cl}$  is the concentrations of chlorine ( $\text{mg L}^{-1}$ ),  $k_b$  is bulk decay coefficient  
 67 ( $\text{time}^{-1}$ ),  $n$  is order of reaction,  $c_{cl}^*$  is the limited concentration of chlorine ( $\text{mg L}^{-1}$ ),  $k_{b1}$   
 68 and  $k_{b2}$  are bulk decay rate coefficients for fast and slow reactions, respectively ( $\text{time}^{-1}$ ).  
 69  $x$  is a fraction of the initial concentration,  $[\text{React}]$  is the concentration of the species  
 70 that react with chlorine,  $c_f$  and  $c_s$  are the concentrations of fast and slow reducing agents  
 71 respectively, and  $k_{bf}$  and  $k_{bs}$  are bulk decay rate coefficients for fast and slow reactions  
 72 respectively ( $\text{L mg}^{-1} \text{ time}^{-1}$ ).  $x_{i,t}$  is the concentration of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  aqueous species at time  $t$   
 73 that reacts with chlorine with rate constant  $k_i$  [15]. Parallel and second-order 2R models

74 are developed, because some compounds in drinking water e.g. iron are fast reactive,  
75 whereas some e.g. manganese are slow reactive [3,10,13]. The required time for fast  
76 reactions is about 3 to 4 h [7]. Several studies are performed to investigate on the most  
77 suitable bulk decay coefficients [3–5,10,16]. The SR model is simulated by combined  
78 concentration of chlorine and other substances in the kinetic equations of decay. Eqs.  
79 (8) to (10) formulated by Boccelli et al to simulate SR model [1].



$$\frac{dC_A}{dt} = -k_A C_A C_B, \quad \frac{dC_B}{dt} = -k_B C_A C_B \quad (9)$$

$$\frac{k_A}{a} = \frac{k_B}{b} \quad (10)$$

80 where  $C_A$  is the concentration of chlorine,  $C_B$  is the concentration of reactive  
81 component,  $k_A$  is decay rate coefficient for the chlorine,  $k_B$  is decay rate coefficient for  
82 the reactive component, and  $a$  and  $b$  are stoichiometry coefficients [1,17].

83 The first order model is generally applied for the reaction of chlorine wall decay, as  
84 Eq. (11):

$$\frac{dC}{dt} = \frac{4k_w k_f}{D(k_w + k_f)} C \quad (11)$$

85 where  $k_f$  is the mass transfer coefficient (length divided by time),  $k_w$  is the wall  
86 reaction rate coefficient (length divided by time) and  $D$  is the pipe's diameter

87 [5,16,18,19]. The wall decay coefficient depends on characteristics of the distribution  
88 pipes such as diameter, age, roughness, pipe material and the volume of biofilm formed  
89 on the pipe surfaces [7,9,11].

90 In order to simulate chlorine decay reactions, the bulk decay coefficient ( $k_b$ ) and the  
91 wall decay coefficient ( $k_w$ ) need to be specified. The  $k_b$  is determined by bottle tests  
92 and  $k_w$  is determined by calibration of distribution systems or transmission lines  
93 through the simulation [2].

94 EPANET is a series of modeling software package developed by the United States  
95 Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) for the hydraulic and quality simulation of  
96 water distribution systems [2,3,5]. The water quality simulation in the EPANET2.0 is  
97 limited to only a single chemical species. The Multi-Species extension, EAPANET  
98 MSX, which was developed in 2008, provides qualitative simulation with a multi-  
99 species approach [14,18–20]. This new extension has brought enhanced capabilities for  
100 the simulation of chlorine residuals in water supply systems that allows the modeling  
101 of chemical reactions of any level of complexity. In this extension, kinetics of chemical  
102 reactions are introduced to the model through a set of Ordinary Differential Equations  
103 (ODEs) [21].

104 Fisher et al. [3] compared three bulk decay models (SR, 2R and VRC model) in the  
105 EPANET MSX. According to their results, 2R and VRC models were more accurate  
106 [3]. Monteiro et al. [18] evaluated the performance of the 2R model, first and nth order  
107 decay kinetics in a transmission line by using EPANET MSX. Their simulation results  
108 show that these models described the bulk decay reactions of chlorine consumption  
109 with a same accuracy [18]. The chlorine decay was simulated using a second-order  
110 model in the EPANET MSX by Ohar et al. [17]. They proposed a new method for  
111 designing, installing and disinfection operation in water distribution systems by  
112 optimizing the amount of injected chlorine [17]. Tiruneh et al. [5] found that second  
113 order kinetics for bulk decay calibration was more accurate than first order model in  
114 simulation of the Matsapha town water network. Applying first order model for  
115 simulating chlorine wall decay in EPANET s/w, the value of the wall coefficient by  
116 trial and error procedure was obtained  $0.05 \text{ m d}^{-1}$  [5].  
  
117 Carmen et al. [22] applied EPANET2.0 software to model the residual chlorine in  
118 an urban distribution network with a population of 50,000. The bulk decay coefficient  
119 was determined  $0.85 \text{ d}^{-1}$  and the wall reaction coefficients were assigned from 0.013 to  
120  $0.057 \text{ m d}^{-1}$  [22].

121 Pedro Castro et al. [23] emphasized on the importance of chlorine wall decay in  
122 relation to bulk decay reactions in water distribution network in Luzada, Portugal. The  
123 bulk decay coefficient by bottle tests and the wall decay coefficient in the first order  
124 reaction were determined as  $0.343 \text{ d}^{-1}$  and  $0.0021 \text{ m second}^{-1}$  respectively [23].

125 Mostafa et al. [4] investigated the effect of water-age as a measuring and controlling  
126 tool to estimate chlorine concentration at different water network points. They found  
127 that EPANET model is accurate in predicting chlorine concentration at low water age  
128 nodes [4].

129 In this study, the effect of dividing the water transmission pipe line in modeling  
130 procedure, on improving residual chlorine prediction is of concern. For this purpose,  
131 the chlorine concentration of great Isfahan Water Transmission Line (IWTL) is  
132 simulated. The IWTL is the longest and most important water transmission route in the  
133 central Iran. First order decay model, parallel first and second order single reactant (SR)  
134 models are applied and the results are compared. The EPANET and EPANET MSX  
135 s/w are applied for simulation. Bottle tests are carried out to assess chlorine  
136 consumption kinetics and estimate bulk decay rate coefficients. The simulations are  
137 applied through one-part approach (OPA) and multiple-part approach (MPA). The OPA

138 applies single decay coefficient for whole the line. In the MPA, the transmission line is  
139 separated into smaller sections (in this study: two sections) to apply several coefficients  
140 The article is outlined as follow: the case study is introduced in Sec. 2, methodology  
141 and experimental work is described in Sec. 3, the results of the Bottle tests for assessing  
142 chlorine consumption kinetics are presented in Sec. 3. Simulation procedure in  
143 EPANET and EPANET- MSX is described in Sec. 4, followed by the results and  
144 discussion in Sec. 5. The conclusion remarks are presented in Sec. 6

145 **2. Case study**

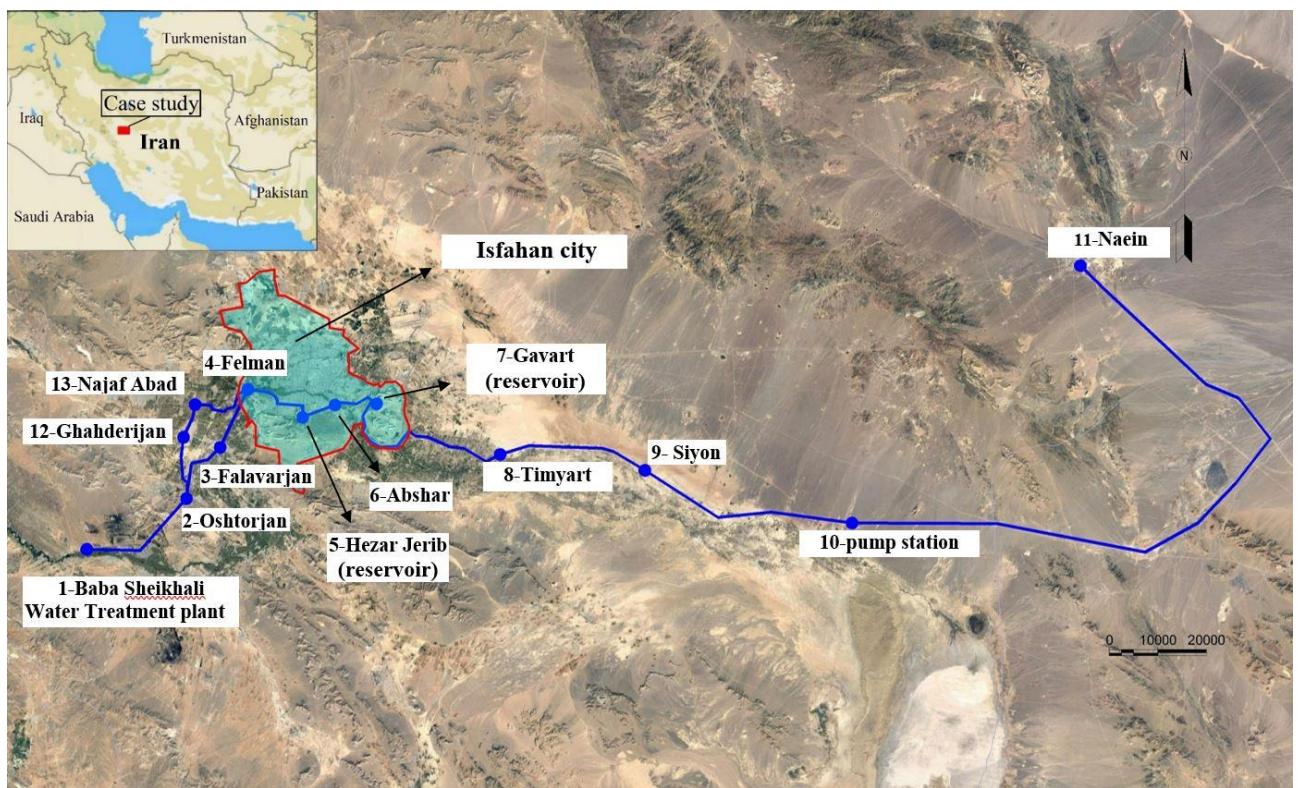
146 Baba-Sheikhali water treatment plant located at the Southwest of Isfahan province,  
147 Iran, supplies the drinking water for more than 4 million consumers from Zayandehrod  
148 river. Outflow rate of the water treatment plant in summer and winter are about 11.2  
149 and  $8.5 \text{ m}^3 \text{ secund}^{-1}$ , respectively. The study is performed on the IWTL. The total length  
150 of IWTL is 258 km starting from Baba-Sheikhali water treatment plant, ending at Naein  
151 city in northeast of Isfahan province (Figure 1). The IWTL with 38 nodes, three  
152 pumping stations and two reservoirs is one of the important and strategic water lines in  
153 the central Iran. Physical characteristics of some important nodes of the IWTL are  
154 tabulated in Table 1.

155

**Table 1: Physical characterizes of important nodes in IWTL**

Node number	Node name	Distance from treatment plant site (km)	pipe material between two nodes	pipe age (year)
2	Oshtorjan	17.7	concrete	30
3	Falavarjan	28.7	Prestressed-concrete	30
4	Felman	39.7	Prestressed-concrete, steel	30
5	Hezarjerib (reservoir)	52.7	Prestressed - concrete	22-39 var.
6	Abshar	56.7	Prestressed - concrete	33
7	Gavart (reservoir)	66.7	Prestressed-concrete, steel	14
8	Timyart	101.7	Steel	28
11	Naein (reservoir)	258	GRP-Steel-ductile iron	7-28

156



157

**Figure 1: IWTL route**

158

159    **3. Experimental procedure, bulk decay coefficient derivation**

160    Bulk decay coefficient,  $k_b$ , is the key parameter in the decay kinetics expressions.

161    Bulk decay coefficients are commonly derived through the bottle tests [9,24]. The

162    results are case specific depending on various parameters [4,10,16]. Jaichan et al. [2]

163    performed thirteen bulk tests at the different water temperatures over a period of 50 h.

164    The Bulk decay coefficient,  $k_b$ , ranged from 0.18 to 0.41  $d^{-1}$  [2]. Jico et al. [25]

165    determined the residual chlorine concentration by bottle tests in spring and autumn

166    (water temperature 15 °C), summer (water temperature 25 °C) and winter (temperature

167    6 °C) as 0.38, 0.4 and 0.3  $d^{-1}$  respectively [25].

168    In this study, the experimental design consists of collecting a set of samples from

169    the effluent Baba-Sheikhali water treatment plant prior to enter the water transmission

170    line. A Hach pocket colorimeter model 5870012 with Diethyl-P-phenylene Diamine

171    (DPD) as an indicator was applied to measure free residual chlorine concentration of

172    the samples. Tests were performed from the water age 0 to 82 h in summer and 0 to 92

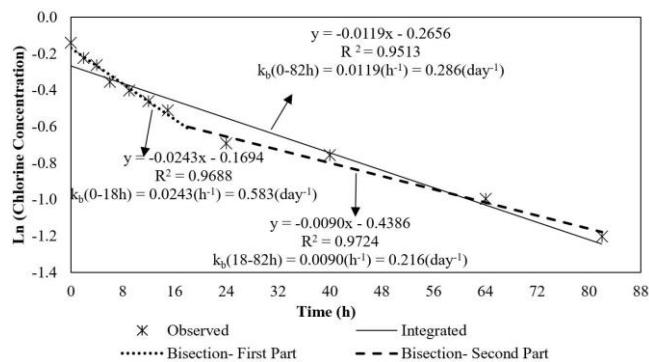
173    h in winter temperatures. The first sample was measured in place just after it was taken

174    (at  $t_0$ ) in place. The other bottles were put in incubator and were set at temperatures 6°C

175    and 18°C as an average water temperature in winter and summer, respectively.

176 Determination of bulk decay coefficients based on water age were derived for OPA and  
177 MPA at 6°C and 18°C, where the water age in the OPA is 0-82 h, while in the MPA it  
178 is 0-18h in the first part and 18-82h in the second part at T= 18°C.

179 The result of the measurement of chlorine concentration at 18°C is shown in Figure  
180 2, where the continuous line is fitted to the whole data in the range 0-82 h. Accordingly,  
181 the bulk decay coefficient,  $k_b$  is equal to  $0.286 \text{ d}^{-1}$ . According to the Figure 2,  $k_b$  in the  
182 first part with water age in range 0-18 h is equal to  $0.583 \text{ d}^{-1}$  (dotted line) and in the  
183 second part where the water age is in range 18-82 h is equal to  $0.216 \text{ d}^{-1}$  (dashed line).



184

185 **Figure 2: Bulk decay coefficient at 18 °C with OPA and MPA using the bottle test**

186 The estimation of  $k_{b1}$  (the coefficient of fast reaction) and  $k_{b2}$  (the coefficient of  
187 slow reaction) is necessary to apply the parallel first order model. Therefore, the  $k_b$   
188 coefficients for kinetic models at 18° and 6° are calculated as shown in Figure 2. The  
189 results are summarized in Table 2.

190

**Table 2: Bulk decay coefficients derived from the bottle test**

T (°C)	Approach	Parts	First Order (d <sup>-1</sup> )		Second Order (L.mg <sup>-1</sup> .d <sup>-1</sup> )		Parallel(d <sup>-1</sup> )			
			k <sub>b</sub>	R <sup>2</sup>	k <sub>b</sub>	R <sup>2</sup>	k <sub>b</sub>	R <sup>2</sup>	k <sub>b</sub>	R <sup>2</sup>
18	OPA	All (0-82h)	0.286	0.95	0.590	0.98	0.828	0.98	0.286	0.95
	MPA	First (0-18h)	0.583	0.97	0.821	0.98	0.828	0.98	0.583	0.97
		Second (18-82h)	0.216	0.97	0.557	0.95	-	-	0.216	0.97
6	OPA	All (0-92h)	0.103	0.92	0.144	0.95	0.401	1	0.103	0.92
	MPA	First (0-22h)	0.204	0.95	0.264	0.96	0.401	1	0.204	0.95
		Second (22-92h)	0.062	0.99	0.098	1	-	-	0.062	1

191       The results of the bottle tests show that k<sub>b</sub> in the first and second order reactions is  
 192       significantly different between the first and second parts of the line Table 2. In addition,  
 193       they are significantly different from its value for the entire line, which is applied in  
 194       OPA. Because the chlorination is carried out once in IWTL (in Baba-Sheikhali  
 195       treatment plant), the concentration of chlorine in the first part is much higher than the  
 196       concentration in the second part.

197       The derived coefficients are applied in simulation of bulk decay (Eqs. (1,4,5)). In  
 198       the parallel model, Eq. (4), k<sub>b1</sub> is obtained from the first 4 h of reaction and the k<sub>b2</sub> from  
 199       the beginning of chlorination up to the end node. In IWTL, in summer at the Falavarjan  
 200       (node 3 in Figure 1) and in winter at Oshtorjan (node 2 in the Figure 1) water age

201 reaches 3 to 4 h. Thus, these two nodes are respectively considered as the end of fast  
202 chlorine reactions in summer and winter.

203 **4. Simulation procedure in EPANET.**

204 IWTL is simulated in EPANET s/w in hydraulic and quality manners. EPANET  
205 s/w performs extended period simulation of hydraulic and water quality behaviour. The  
206 Hazen-Williams head loss formula is applied in simulation. The water quality model in  
207 EPANET s/w applies nth order kinetics to model reactions in the bulk flow and applies  
208 zero or first order kinetics to model reactions at the pipe wall [8]. Chlorine residual  
209 concentration is then assessed in the line or network by inputting wall and bulk decay  
210 coefficients.

211 *4.1. Hydraulic simulation*

212 Applying field pressure data at different nodes, the hydraulic model of the line is  
213 calibrated and verified. The comparison between the results of the model and  
214 measurements for the selected nodes are summarized in Table 3. The root mean square  
215 error (RMSE) of the simulation is 4.09 meters in summer and 4.24 meters in winter.  
216 The correlation coefficients ( $R^2$ ) between the results of the model and measurement are  
217 0.958 and 0.978 for summer and winter, respectively, indicating that the hydraulic

218 simulation is in acceptable level of accuracy.

## 219 The schematics of transmission line and the hydraulic simulation results for summer

220 flow condition is shown in Figure 3. The node colors in Figure 3 represent the water

age and the numbers adjacent to the lines show the maximum flow rate ( $\text{L sec}^{-1}$ ). Water

age is important in this analysis because when it is increased, the residual concentration

of disinfectant decreases and microorganisms' growth increases [2].

**Table 3: Results of simulation and measured pressure in some nodes of IWTL in summer**

Sampling points	Pressure (m)		Error (%)
	measured	predicated	
Felavarjan	34	39.55	16.32
Felman	50	44.99	-10.02
Najafabad	31	36.48	17.67
Abshar	65	65.89	1.36
Timyart	70	67.58	-3.45

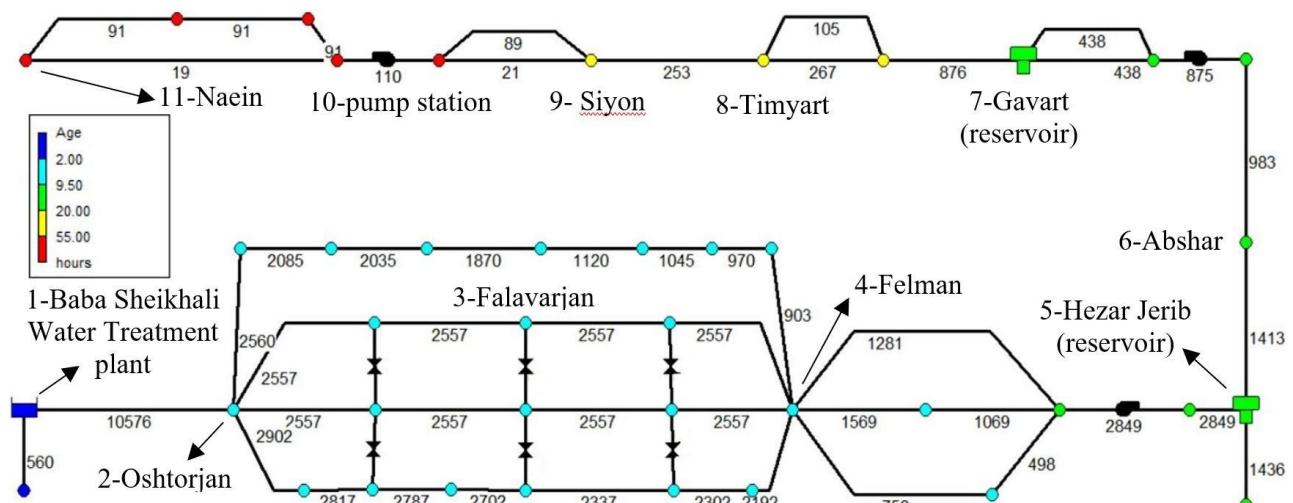


Figure 3: Schematic diagram of JWTI and simulation results in summer

227 4.2. *Residual Chlorine Simulation*

228 Applying the first model in EPANET 2.0 s/w and second order SR model and  
229 parallel first order model in EPANET-MSX s/w, the residual chlorine concentration in  
230 IWTL is simulated. Since the IWTL is too long, the water residence time in the pipes  
231 is lengthy too. This will decline the validity of applying a single decay coefficient for  
232 the whole line. Therefore, the IWTL is simulated in two approaches included OPA and  
233 MPA. In the OPA, only one bulk decay coefficient and one wall decay coefficient are  
234 applied for all pipes in the line. This is a usual method to simulate residual chlorine  
235 concentration in transmission lines and water distribution networks [2,4]. In MPA, as a  
236 new approach, different bulk and wall decay coefficients are considered. In this study,  
237 IWTL line is divided to two parts and therefore, two bulk and wall decay coefficients  
238 are considered for simulation.

239 The Gavart reservoir (node 7 in Figure 3) is selected as the separator in MPA for  
240 two reasons. First the Gavart reservoir is the last node in the Isfahan city along the  
241 IWTL, the second is the number of the available field data to calculate RMSE. Thus, in  
242 the MPA, the IWTL from the Baba-Sheikhali treatment plant to Gavart reservoir and  
243 from the Gavart reservoir to Naein are considered as the first and second part,

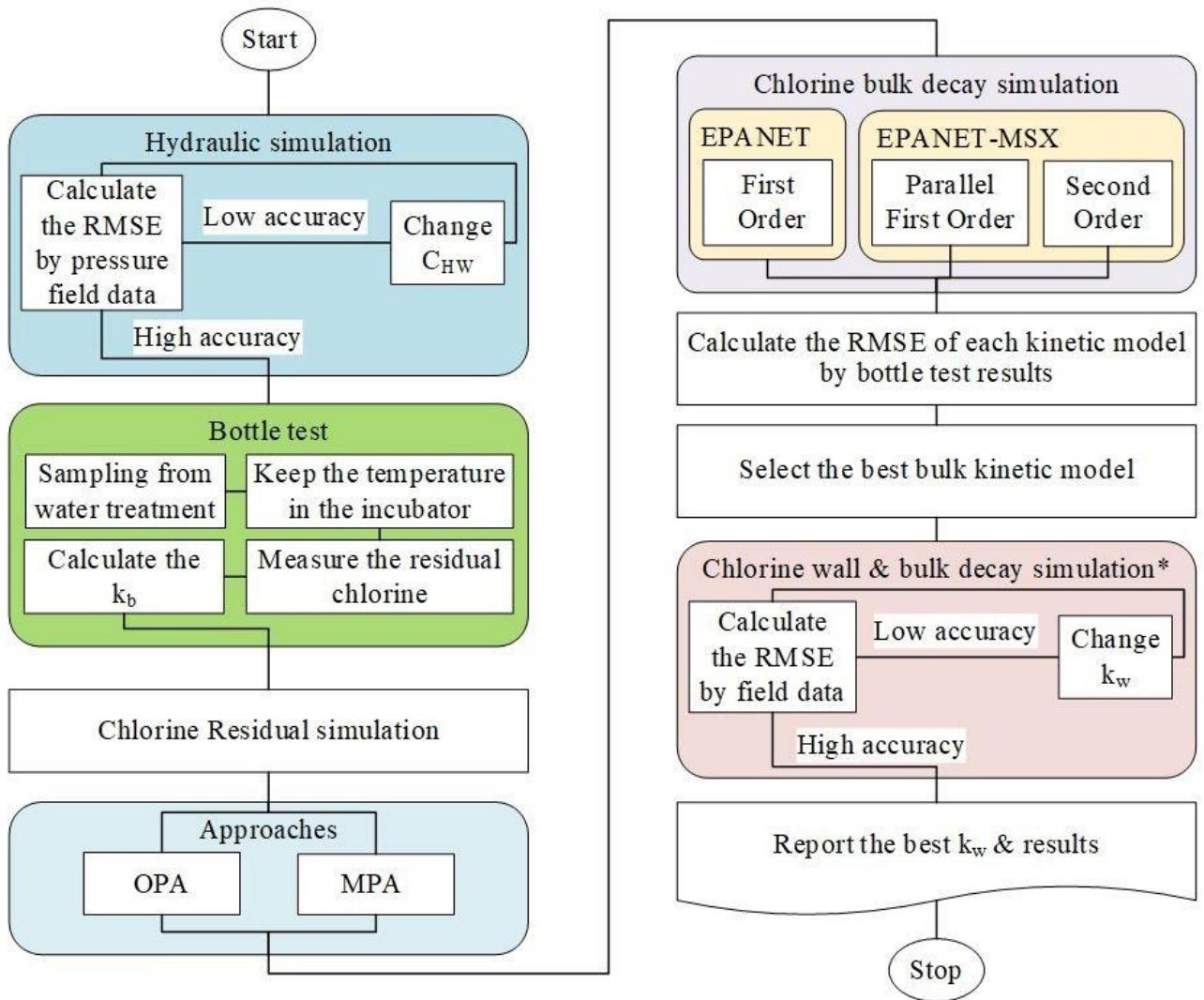
244 respectively. The average water age in the first and second sections is about 18 and 82  
245 h in summer and 22 and 92 h in winter, respectively.

246 Applying the first order, parallel, and second order SR models, chlorine bulk decay  
247 of IWTL is simulated. The first order model Eq. (1) is simulated in EPANET2.0 s/w.  
248 The EPANE MSX is applied for simulation of the parallel Eq. (4) and second order SR  
249 models Eq. (5).

250 Wall decay coefficient is estimated by first model kinetic Eq. (11) and the trial and  
251 error in the EPANET2.0 s/w to achieve the minimum difference between simulated and  
252 measured chlorine concentrations at the study nodes. Field chlorine concentration  
253 measured in selected nodes of IWTL by Isfahan Water and Wastewater Organization.

254 Note that in the OPA, the model is calibrated with a single wall coefficient and in  
255 the MPA, two wall coefficients are considered. The best wall coefficient is chosen based  
256 on the least RMSE [5,26].

257 The procedure of hydraulics and chlorine residual concentration for OPA and MPA  
258 in EPANET is summarized in Figure 4.



\* Depending on the applied kinetics model, wall & bulk decay are simulated in EPANET or EPANE-MSX  
 259

260                   **Figure 4: Flowchart of Simulation procedure in EPANET**

261       **5. Results and discussion**

262        *5.1. Evaluating the results of the chlorine bulk decay models*

263       The simulation results of chlorine bulk decay kinetic models for OPA and MPA are

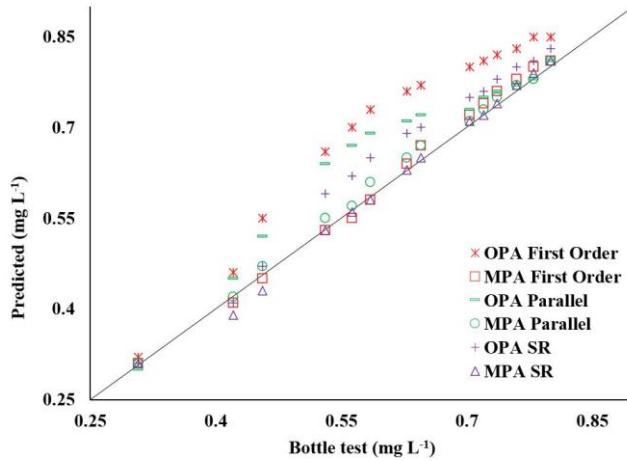
264       compared with the observations in bottle tests in Figure 5 and Figure 6 for summer

265       ( $T=18^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) and winter ( $T= 6^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) conditions, respectively, where the results of MPA in

266 three simulation models are clearly closer to the observed data in compare to OPA. The

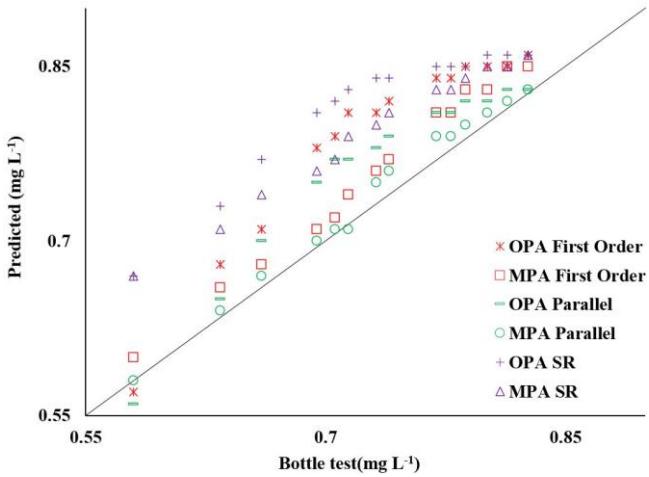
267 RMSE of the results are tabulated in Table 4.

268



269

270 **Figure 5: Correlation plot of bottle test and predicted chlorine concentration volumes at T=18°C**



271

272 **Figure 6: Correlation plot of bottle test and predicted chlorine concentration volumes T= 6 °C**

273 **Table 4: RMSE volume between bottle test and predicted chlorine concentrations**

Season	Simulated in:		EPANET2.0			EPANET-MSX		
	T (°C)	Approach	First Order	Parallel	SR			
summer	18	OPA	0.0954	0.0600	0.0425			

		MPA	0.0147	0.0138	0.0116
winter	6	OPA	0.0646	0.0395	0.0900
		MPA	0.0286	0.0114	0.0644

274 According to Table 4, in the OPA simulation for T=18°C, the SR and parallel models  
 275 with respectively RSME of 0.0425 and 0.0600, estimate chlorine consumption more  
 276 accurate than the first order model with RMSE equal to 0.0954. For T=6°C in the OPA,  
 277 the parallel model performs better than SR and first order models.

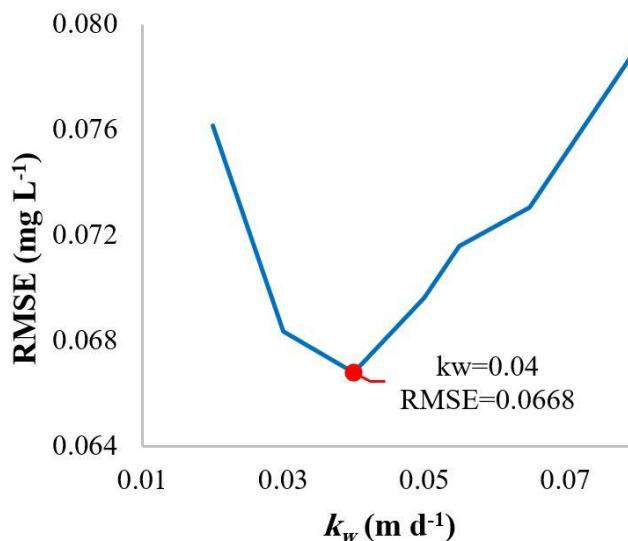
278 Applying MPA with different bulk decay coefficients for each part, results in a  
 279 significant improve in the results, as indicated in Table 4. Therefore, a similar level of  
 280 accuracy achieved the three simulated kinetic models in MPA and applying first order  
 281 kinetic model in MPA is more effective than applying more complex kinetic models in  
 282 OPA. According to Table 4, the SR model in 18°C and parallel model in 6°C in both  
 283 approaches have minimum RMSE and are selected for wall decay coefficient  
 284 determination.

285 5.2. *Chlorine wall decay simulation*

286 After selecting the best bulk decay models, the wall decay coefficient volume,  $k_w$   
 287 is estimated for the models. For this purpose, the model is run for a range of  $k_w$  to obtain  
 288 the least RSME. In summer for example, the best wall decay coefficient of  $0.04 \text{ m d}^{-1}$

289 provides the least RMSE of  $0.0668 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$  for OPA, as shown in Figure 7. In MPA, the  
290 wall decay coefficient is obtained for each part separately to reach to the least RMSE.  
291 The coefficients are  $0.09$  and  $0.01 \text{ m d}^{-1}$  for the first and the second part, respectively.

292



293

294 **Figure 7: RMSE of simulation in wall first order model in the OPA in summer, T=18 °C**

295 The volumes of  $k_w$  in the applied models is tabulated in Table 5. Comparison of  
296 simulated chlorine concentration volumes in the OPA and MPA simulation with the  
297 field measurements are shown in Figure 8 where volumes in the MPA are closer to the  
298 measured volumes than the OPA. For the best bulk kinetic models (SR in summer and  
299 parallel in winter), the results clearly indicate the superiority of the MPA compared to  
300 conventional approach of OPA.

301 According to Table 5, the RMSE volumes in the SR and parallel are reduced from  
302 0.0668 to 0.0294 in the summer and from 0.0543 to 0.015 in the winter in the OPA and  
303 MPA respectively.

304 Therefore, determining different bulk and wall decay coefficients for the IWTL  
305 due to the long route (258 km), wide range water velocity and different pipe  
306 characteristics, significantly improve the accuracy of the simulation results.

307 In order to compare the simulation results of the best kinetics and the simple first  
308 order model in the MPA, the simulation with the first order model is also performed.

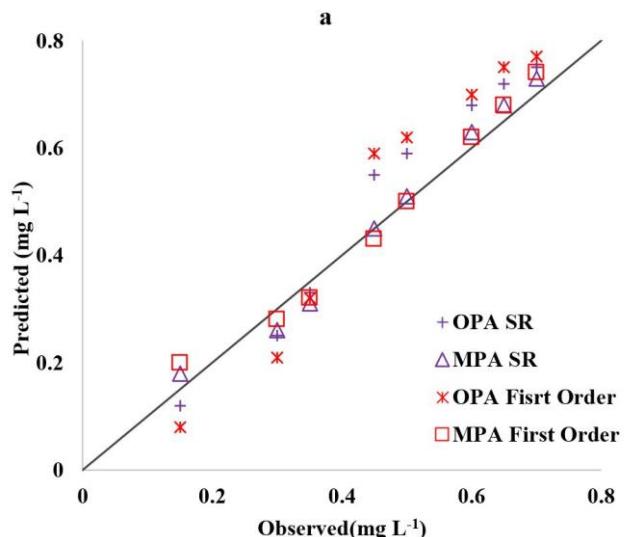
309 Comparison between the simulation results of the simple first order model and the  
310 advance kinetic models in the MPA, does not significantly improve the results, compare  
311 RMSE of 0.0294 and 0.0290 in summer and 0.015 and 0.016 in winter for the first order  
312 model and the others, respectively.

313 **Table 5: Wall decay coefficients by simulation**

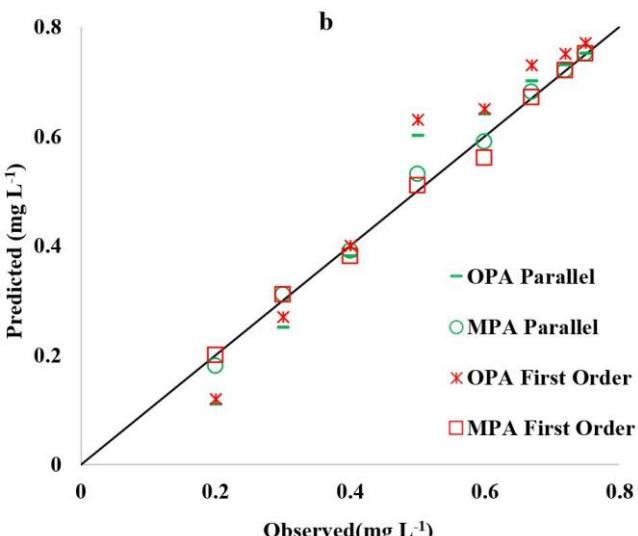
T (°C)	Approach	Parts	Best bulk kinetic model (SR or Parallel)			First Order Model		
			k <sub>b</sub>	k <sub>w</sub>	RMSE	k <sub>b</sub>	k <sub>w</sub>	RMSE
18	OPA	All(0-82h)	0.590	0.04	0.0668	0.286	0.08	0.090
	MPA	First(0-18h)	0.821	0.09	0.0294	0.583	0.15	0.029
		Second(18-82h)	0.557	0.01		0.216	0.005	
6	OPA	All(0-92h)	0.401	0.103	0.08	0.0543	0.103	0.08
								0.064

	MPA	First(0-22h)	0.401	0.204	0.1	0.015	0.204	0.13	0.016
		Second(22-92)	-	0.062	0.05		0.062	0.04	

314



315



316

317 **Figure 8: Comparison between observed and predicted chlorine concentration ( $\text{mg L}^{-1}$ ) in a)**

318

**T=18°C and b) T=6°C**

319 **6. Conclusions**

320 Residual chlorine simulation is conducted in Isfahan Water Transmission Line

321 (IWTL). The total length of IWTL is 258 km and maximum flow rate is more than 11

322  $\text{m}^3 \text{s}^{-1}$ . Hydraulic simulation of IWTL is performed through EPANET2.0 s/w and the  
323 results are verified against pressure data collected at a number of nodes along the line.  
324 Bulk decay coefficient is determined by bottle test in 6 and 18°C corresponding to  
325 winter and summer water temperature, respectively. Residual chlorine concentration is  
326 simulated via two approaches: one-part approach (OPA) and multi-part approach  
327 (MPA) and the results are compared. Number of decay kinetic models are applied in  
328 the simulation, including first order model (in EPANET2.0) and Parallel and SR models  
329 (in EPANET MSX). The optimum wall decay coefficient is determined through the  
330 calibration of the models with the measured chlorine concentration at the selected nodes  
331 on the line. In the OPA, the parallel kinetic model in winter (RMSE=0.0543) and the  
332 SR model in summer (RMSE=0.0668) are the best kinetic models with the least RMSE  
333 compared to the field data. In the OPA, the bulk decay coefficients of 0.401 and 0.103  
334  $\text{d}^{-1}$  and wall decay coefficient of 0.08  $\text{m d}^{-1}$  are derived, for the whole line in winter and  
335 they are 0.590  $\text{L mg}^{-1} \text{d}^{-1}$  and 0.04  $\text{m d}^{-1}$  in summer respectively.

336 In the MPA, no significant advantages found between the kinetic models. In the  
337 former approach, RMSE of the first order and the best kinetics models are 0.0290 and  
338 0.0294 in summer, and 0.016 and 0.015 in winter. Applying different coefficients for

339 each part (MPA) is more effective than applying most sophisticated kinetics models.

340 In the MPA, the bulk decay coefficient for the first and second parts is 0.204 and

341 0.062 d<sup>-1</sup> and the wall decay coefficient is 0.13 and 0.04 m d<sup>-1</sup> in winter and 0.583,

342 0.216, 0.15, 0.005 respectively in summer.

343 Average RMSEs are changed from 0.078 to 0.029 in summer and 0.059 to 0.015 in

344 winter between OPA and MPA respectively, indicating a considerable improvement in

345 the accuracy of the simulation. In the simulation of the water transmission lines with

346 the common OPA, advanced models behave more accurately than the first order model,

347 while different kinetic models do not differ much in the MPA. It means that applying

348 the simple and conventional first order model incorporated in EPANET2.0, results in

349 an acceptable level of accuracy, provided that the appropriate decay coefficient is

350 applied for each parts of the line. Further research determines the optimum number of

351 divisions and the location of separation points on the line.

352 **Declarations**

353 **Availability of data and materials**

354 Not applicable.

355 **Competing interests**

356 Not applicable.

357 **Funding**

358 Not applicable

359 **Authors' contributions**

360 Not applicable.

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# Figures

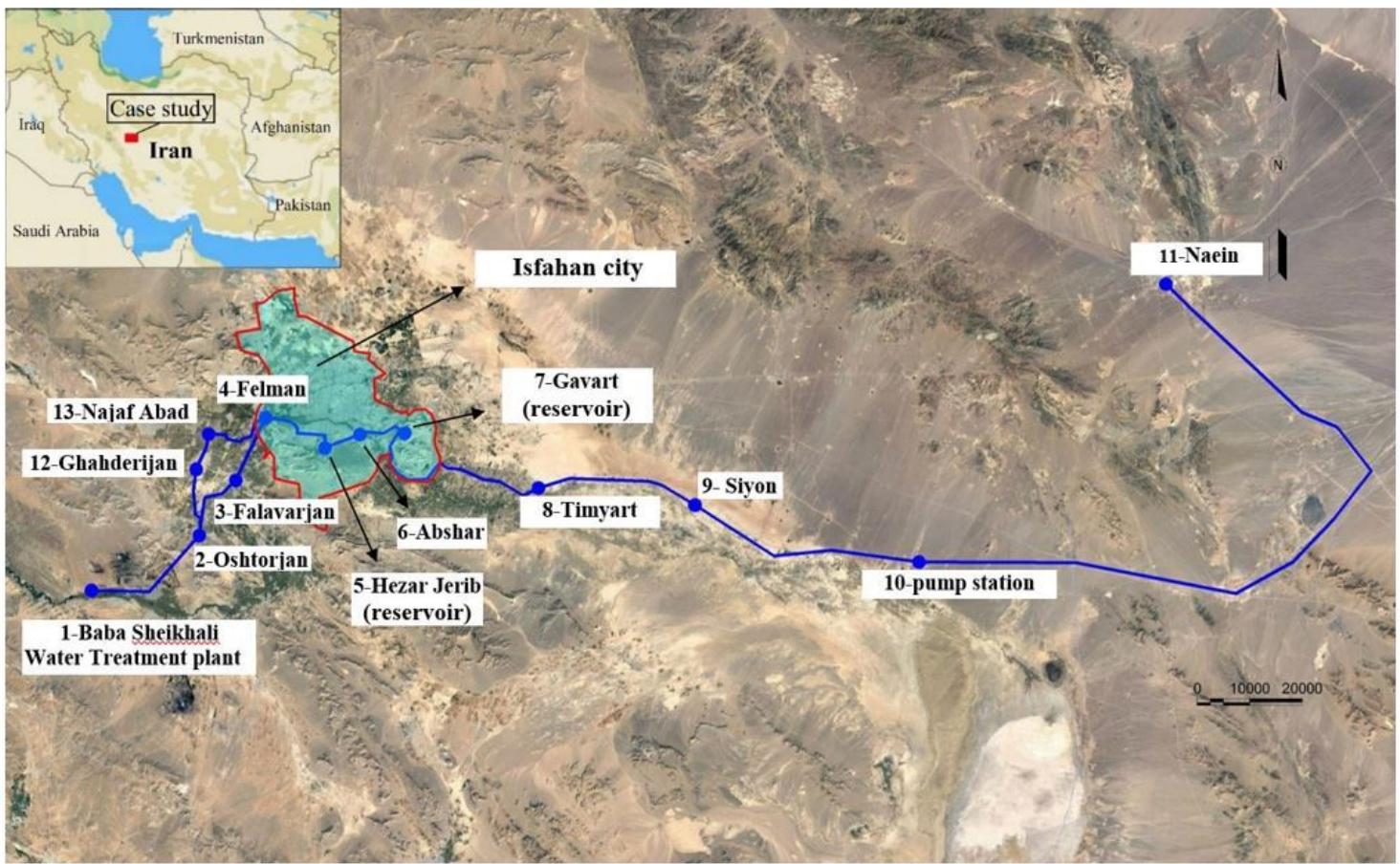
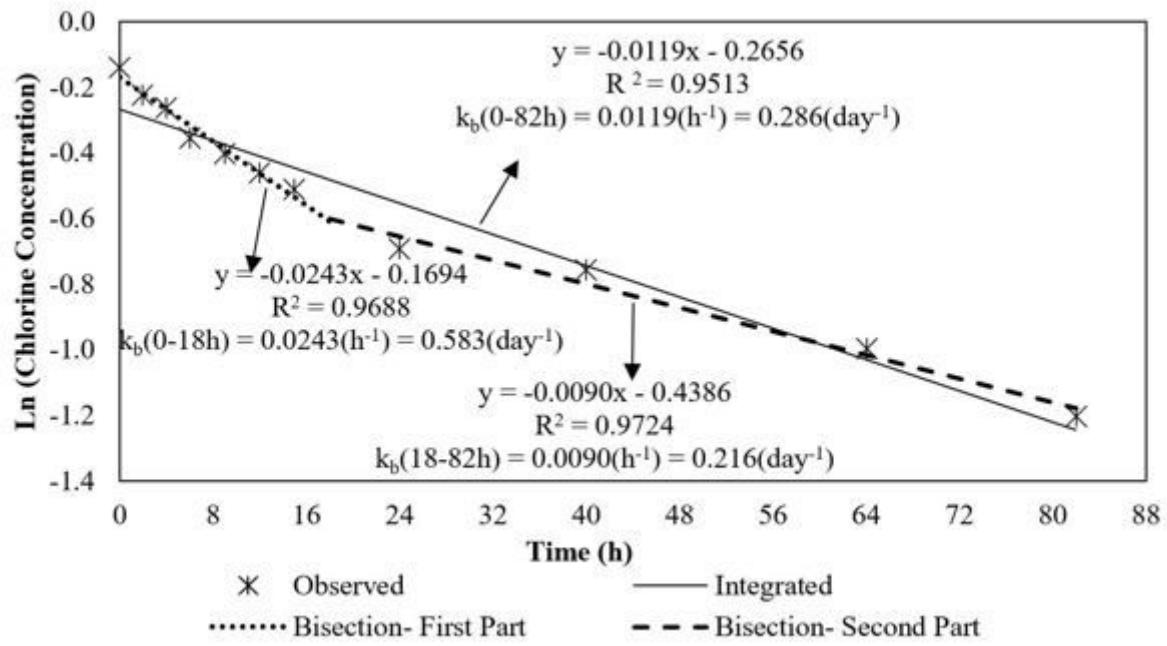


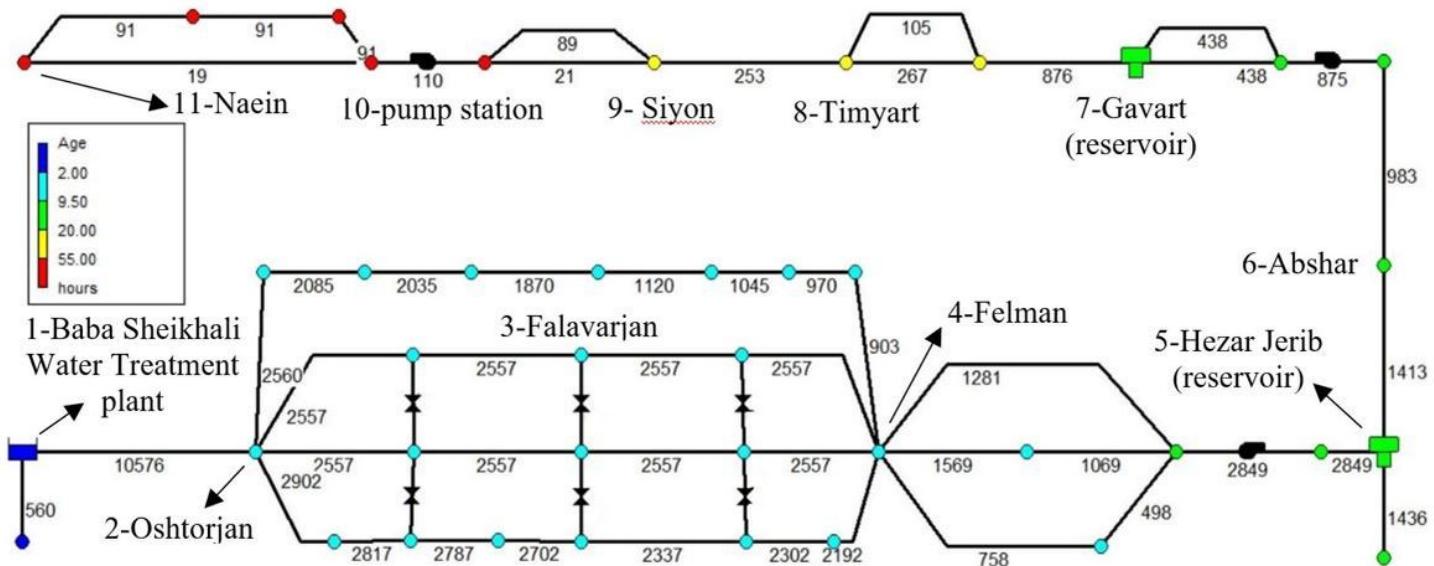
Figure 1

IWTL route Note: The designations employed and the presentation of the material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of Research Square concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. This map has been provided by the authors.



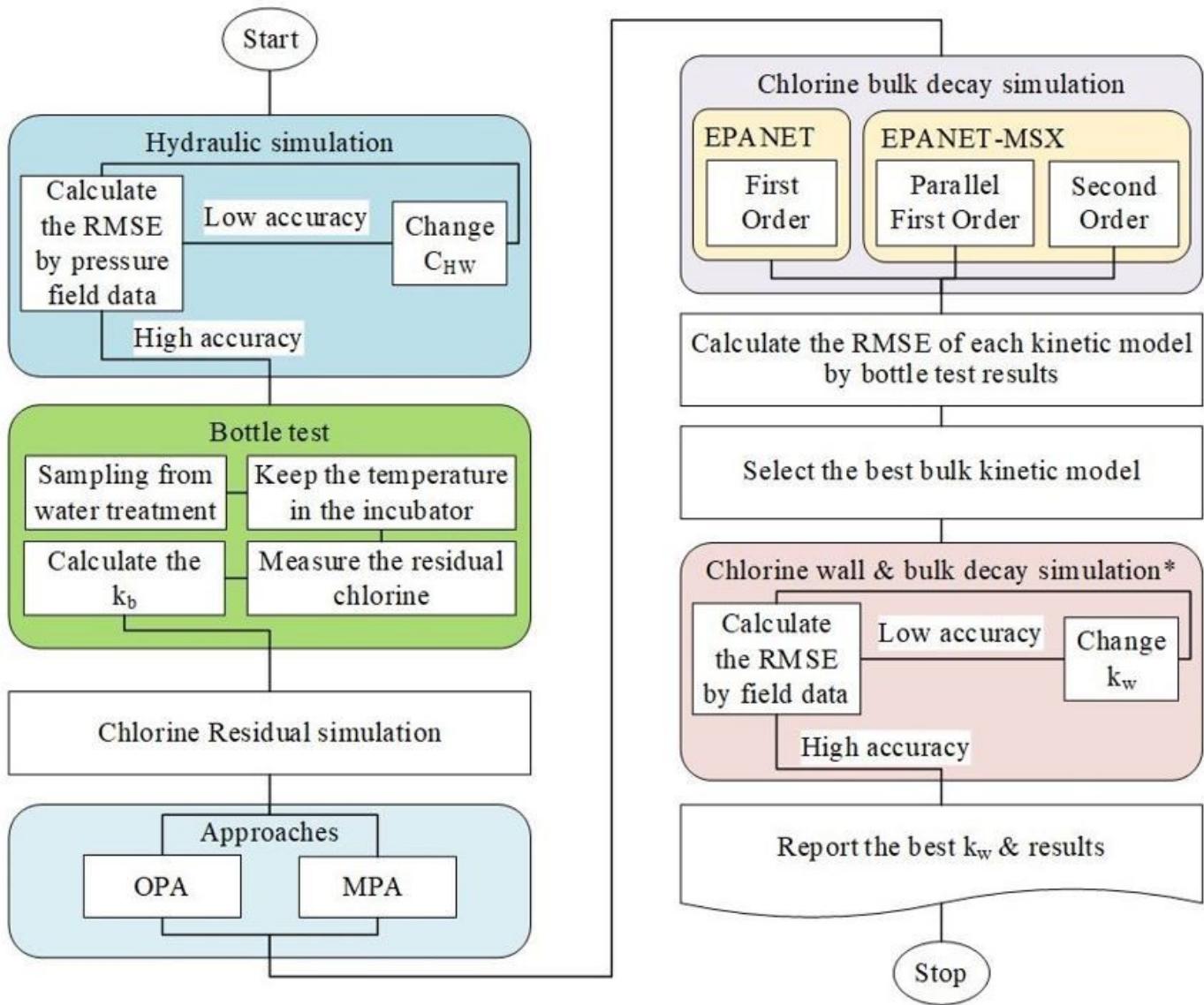
**Figure 2**

## Bulk decay coefficient at 18 ° C with OPA and MPA using the bottle test



**Figure 3**

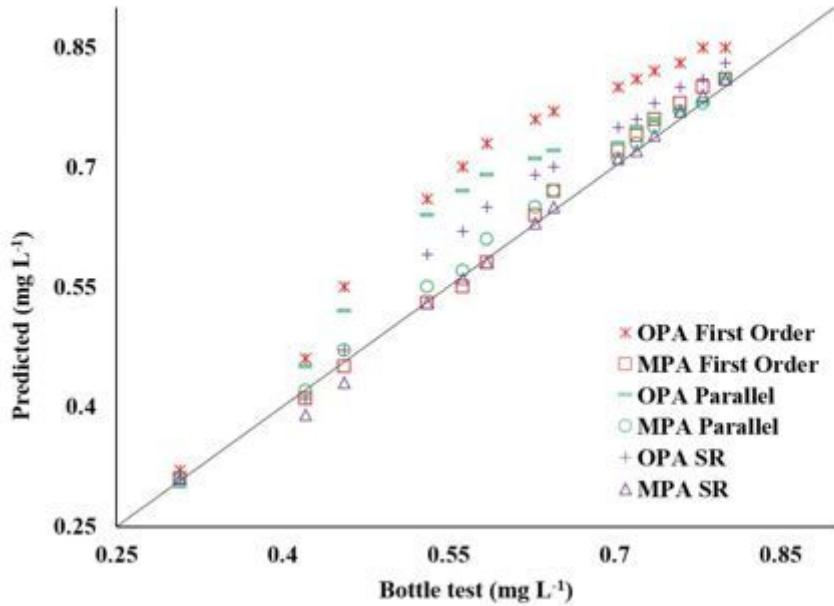
## Schematic diagram of IWTL and simulation results in summer



\* Depending on the applied kinetics model, wall & bulk decay are simulated in EPANET or EPANE-MSX

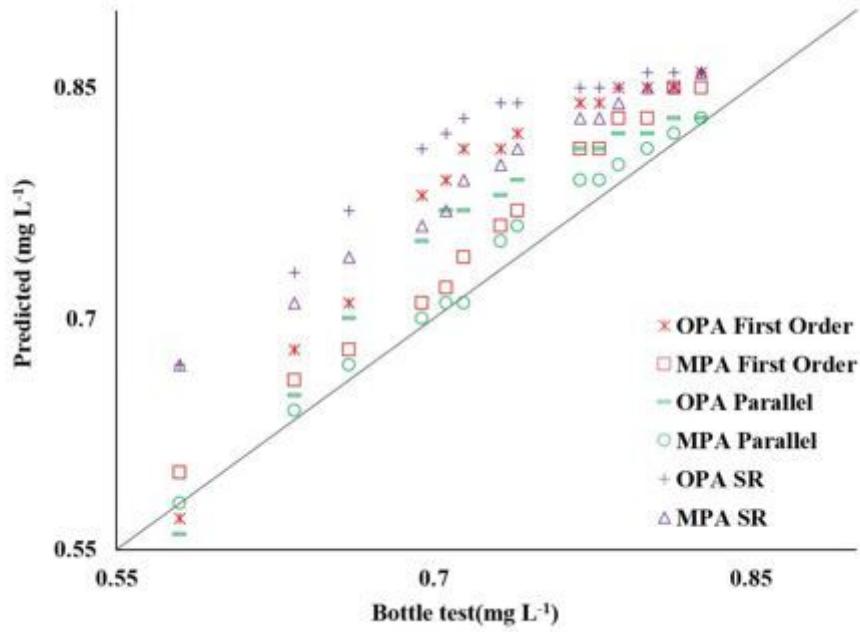
**Figure 4**

Flowchart of Simulation procedure in EPANET



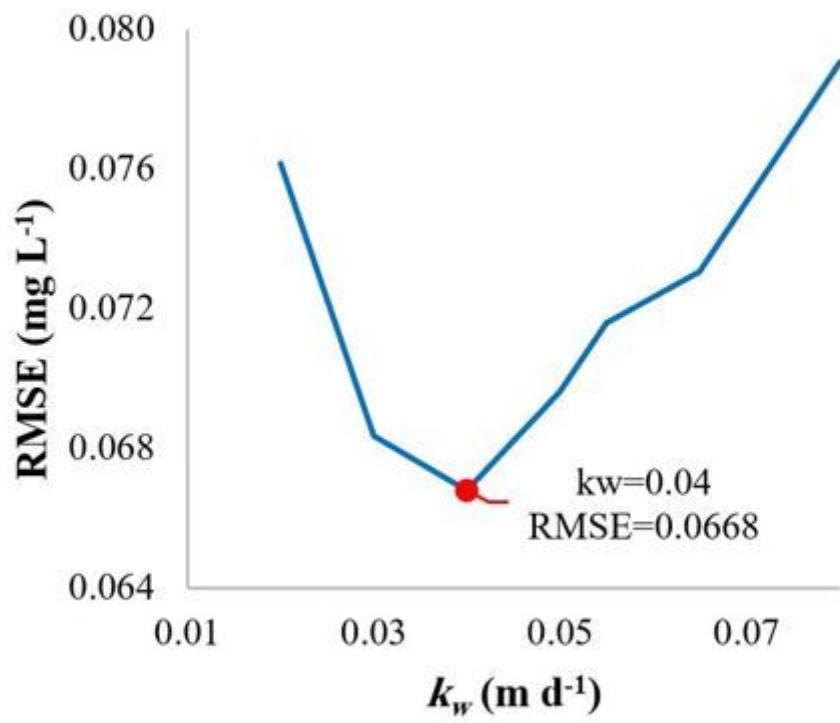
**Figure 5**

Correlation plot of bottle test and predicted chlorine concentration volumes at  $T=18^{\circ}\text{C}$



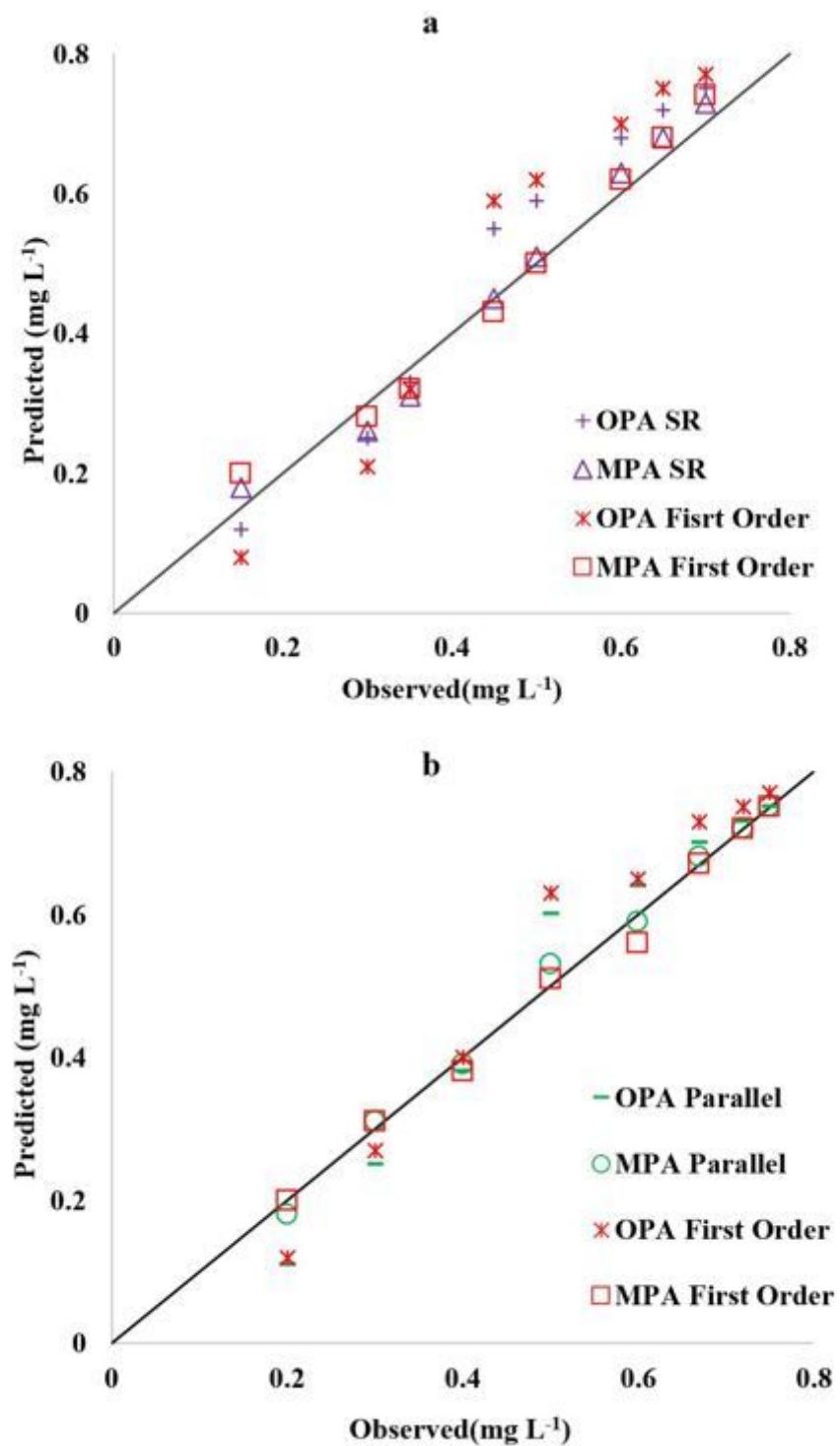
**Figure 6**

Correlation plot of bottle test and predicted chlorine concentration volumes  $T= 6^{\circ}\text{C}$



**Figure 7**

RMSE of simulation in wall first order model in the OPA in summer,  $T=18\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$



**Figure 8**

Comparison between observed and predicted chlorine concentration (mg L<sup>-1</sup>) in a) T=18°C and b) T=6°C