



DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT AND PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF A LOW-COST AND SUSTAINABLE HOUSEHOLD WATER TREATMENT SYSTEM

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ABSTRACT

This study designed, fabricated and evaluated a household water treatment system (HWTS) with a primary aim of improving access to potable water. Typical turbid water samples were collected from Opa River in Ile-Ife, Nigeria. The collected turbid water samples were subjected to treatment by the fabricated household water treatment system. Effects of selected operational factors on the performance of the system was evaluated and optimized using Taguchi technique. The optimum values of the factors were utilized for the full treatment of typical water samples using the system and similar system available commercially. The performance of the system was based on the ability to remove the pollutant from the turbidity water samples. Cost analysis was conducted for the fabricated household water treatment system and similar types that are commercially available. The study revealed that the performance of the system was between 98.8% and 100 % with an overall performance of 99.5 %. Time of settlement, pore Size of the filter, Concentration Coagulant and Turbidity of the Raw water had impact on the performance of HWTS. Significance of the factors were in-order of pore Size of the filter > time > Concentration Coagulant and > Turbidity of the raw water. It was concluded that the performance of the HWTS was perfect compared with the commercially available filter. The HWTS is economically effective and sustainable (0.0575 US\$ per day) compared to commercially available HWTS (0.0639 – 0.1187 US\$ per day). There was no significant difference between the performance (individual and overall) of fabricated and commercially available at 99 % confidence level.

Keywords: Sustainable household water treatment system, Potable water, Filtration, Typical surface water, Orthogonal array

INTRODUCTION

Water is a natural available resource of fundamental and great importance, which supports all living things on earth (Binbin et al., 2024; Deng, 2021). Water creates wealth and jobs opportunities through recreation, fisheries, production of potable water and tourism, (Chunwate et al., 2021; Bitew et al., 2018). Water is an essential nutrient that has principally been considered in terms of its physiological essential (Mahal et al., 2019; Bain et al., 2014; Bamisile et al., 2023; Bartram and Cairncross, 2010; Benwic et al., 2018; Binbin et al., 2024; Young et al., 2021; Chunwate et al., 2021; World Health Organization, 2008, 2019; 2017; 2016; 2012; UNICEF and WHO, 2019; 2021; 2022; UNESCO, 2022; 2018; 2019; 2017; UN, 2021; 2019; 2020; Mshelia et al., 2024; Kabiru et al., 2021; Diyammi, 2023; Estévez et al., 2022; Abubakar, 2019; Ahmed et al., 2024; Aini et al., 2007; Akinyemi et al., 2018; Alhassan and Dandi, 2022; Ali et al., 2021; An et al., 2014; Awang et al., 2020; Ayuba et al., 2024). A reliable access to clean water in sufficient quantities and quality is also critical for many nutrition-related behaviours and activities (Moe and Rheingans, 2006; Panella, 2020; Miller et al., 2021).

Globally, water security is under severe pressure as a result of a complex of circumstances such as rapid population growth, hydrological conditions, increased per-capita water use, rural-urban migration, over-abstraction of groundwater, pollution of water resources, climate change and variability (Kujinga et al., 2013; Diyammi, 2023; Mutono et al., 2021; Miller et al., 2021; Moe and Rheingans, 2006). In Sub-

Saharan Africa, over 51% of its population are lacking access to a safe supply of water and over 41% lacking adequate sanitation (Murray et al., 2020; Mutono, 2022; Luqi et al., 2024; Maes and Preston-Whyte, 2023; Mahal et al., 2019). As a matter of facts water insecurity will continue to have effects on Africa for numerous years to come as it has been projected that by 2025, over 16% of the population in Africa is expected to be subjected to water insecurity (Chisimkwu et al., 2024; Kujinga et al., 2014; Chitaka et al., 2023; Asefa et al., 2023). Global efforts and resolutions to enhance water security by organizations such as the United Nations have yielded little or no positive results (Murray et al., 2020; Mutono, 2022; Luqi et al., 2024; Maes and Preston-Whyte, 2023; Mahal et al., 2019).

Despite all the efforts, policies and programmes by various organisations to improve access to adequate water supply, sanitation and hygiene around the world, there are still more people, which are lacking safe water, adequate sanitation and hygiene due to the presence of water stress (Chisimkwu et al., 2024; Kujinga et al., 2014; Chitaka et al., 2023; Asefa et al., 2023; Bain et al., 2014; Bamisile et al., 2023; Bartram and Cairncross, 2010; Benwic et al., 2018; Binbin et al., 2024; Panella, 2020; Peter-Varbanets et al., 2009; Ritchie and Roser, 2019; 2021; and 2022; Odetola, 2023; Odwori, 2019; Ojomo et al., 2015; Okogwu, et al., 2022; Okoh et al., 2022; Omotoye, 2024; Nchor and Ukam, 2024; Ngasala et al., 2020; Nientiet, 2013; Clasen et al., 2007; Clasen et al., 2006; Clasen et al., 2007; Abubakar, 2019; Ahmed et al., 2024; Aini et al.,

2007; Akinyemi et al., 2018; Alhassan and Dandi, 2022; Ali et al., 2021; An et al., 2014; Awang et al., 2020; Ayuba et al., 2024). Figure 1a and b present distributions of water stress around the World. Figure 1c shows the pathway of water security. It is well established that water quality is a critical issue for ecological stability and human well-being. Human activities have increasingly polluted water sources (surface and groundwater), which serves as a vital source of freshwater globally and sustaining various societal sectors. With contaminants, notably heavy metals, which is presenting potential health hazards to communities reliant on these water sources (Mshelia et al., 2024; Bain et al., 2014; Bamisile et al., 2023; Bartram and Cairncross, 2010; Benwic et al., 2018; Binbin et al., 2024; Estévez et al., 2022; Huang et al., 2021). These activities and presence of heavy metals gave rooms for centralized water treatment and distribution networks in urban and cities worldwide to remove these pollutants. Drinking

water from unprotected or untreated sources could transmit waterborne diseases like diarrhea, cholera, dysentery, typhoid, and polio (WHO, 2019; Murray et al., 2020; Ritchie & Roser, 2021; Bartram & Cairncross, 2010; Cairncross et al., 2010). Drinking water from unprotected or untreated sources could transmit waterborne diseases like diarrhea, cholera, dysentery, typhoid, and polio (WHO, 2019; Murray et al., 2020; Ritchie & Roser, 2021; Bartram & Cairncross, 2010; Cairncross et al., 2010). In the rural areas, centralized water treatment systems are very challenging in terms of implementation and significantly increased cost due to the scarce population density and infrastructural complexities in rural areas (Lawrencia et al., 2022; Bain et al., 2014; Bamisile et al., 2023; Bartram and Cairncross, 2010; Benwic et al., 2018; Binbin et al., 2024; Estévez et al., 2022; Huang et al., 2021).

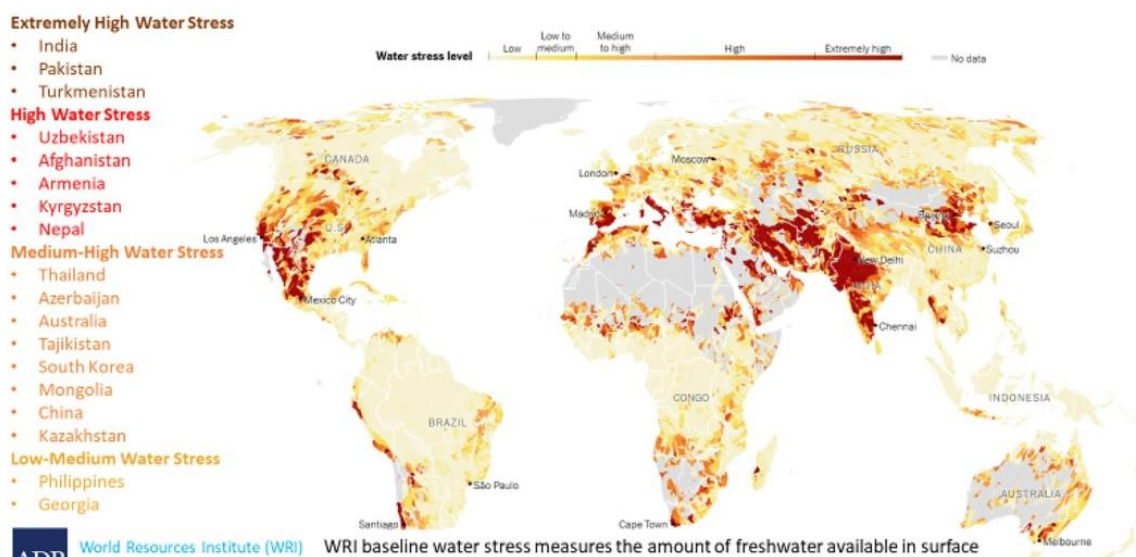


Figure 1a: Some Countries with high baseline Water Stress (Source Panella, 2020)

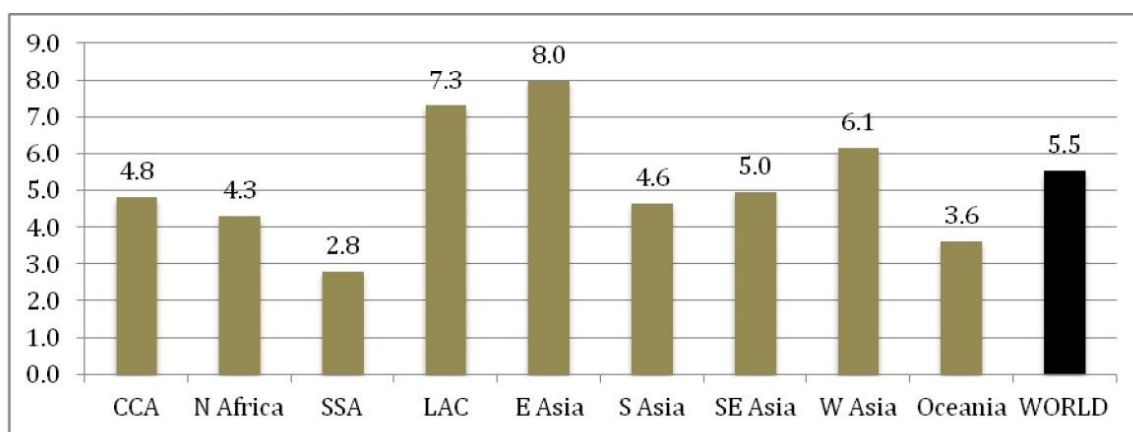


Figure 1b: Benefit- cost ratios of interventions to attain universal access of improved sanitation by region and World (Source: WHO, 2012)

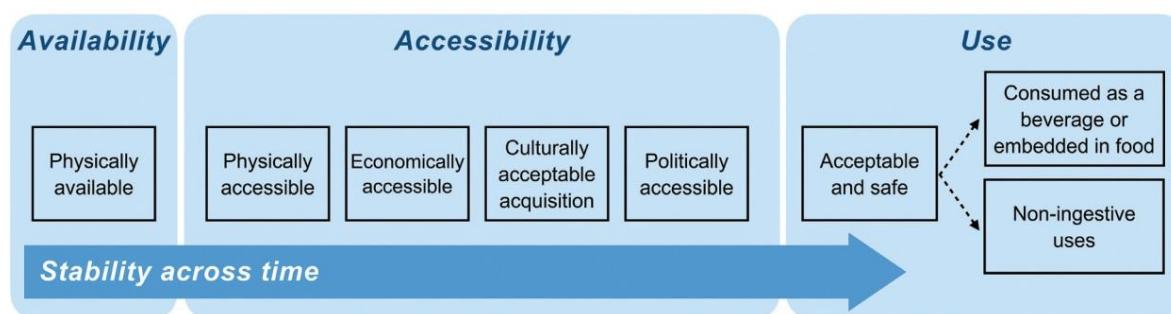


Figure 1c: Primary domains of water security (Source: Miller et al., 2021)

It has been reported that improve access to water supply and sanitation facilities in the developing world has provided a greater costs and economic benefits than any other interventions (Lindley and Davies, 1995; Hutton et al., 2007; Clasen et al., 2007; Mutono, 2022; Diyammi, 2023; Franz et al., 2024; Kelly et al., 2023; Hutton et al., 2007; Fewtrell et al., 2005; Clasen et al., 2007; Clasen et al., 2006; Clasen et al., 2007; Bitew et al., 2018; Boateng et al., 2013; Boguniewicz-Zablocka and Capodaglio, 2017; Brown and Sobsey, 2007; Brown and Sobsey, 2012; Brown et al., 2009). This report reveals and indicates that rural areas lacking centralized water treatment and distribution networks could benefit from adopting decentralized lower cost and safe water treatment systems such as household water treatment system (Bubicha and Mwaura, 2021; Cairncross et al., 2007; Cairncross et al., 2010; Abubakar, 2019; Ahmed et al., 2024; Aini et al., 2007; Akinyemi et al., 2018; Alhassan and Dandi, 2022; Ali et al., 2021; An et al., 2014; Awang et al., 2020; Ayuba et al., 2024).

Unlike the centralized water treatment system, which is dependent on the availability of large water resources and huge facilities, decentralized systems are feasible with limited water resources and few facilities which are portable (Bain et al., 2014; Bamisile et al., 2023; Bartram and Cairncross, 2010; Benwic et al., 2018; Binbin et al., 2024; Julianne et al., 2024; Clasen et al., 2007; Clasen et al., 2006; Clasen et al., 2007; Chisimkwuo et al., 2024; Kujinga et al., 2014; Chitaka et al., 2023; Asefa et al., 2023; Bitew et al., 2018; Boateng et al., 2013; Boguniewicz-Zablocka and Capodaglio, 2017; Brown and Sobsey, 2007; Brown and Sobsey, 2012; Brown et al., 2009; Bubicha and Mwaura, 2021; Cairncross et al., 2007; Cairncross et al., 2010). Household water treatment system as a decentralised system is usually known as point-of-use water treatment system, which often provide a more practical and feasible co-existing water provision solution to obtain safe drinking water at home in localities facing intermittent water supply or remote areas, (Peter-Varbanets et al., 2009; WHO, 2017). The household water treatment system is one of the proven cost-effective interventions that has been adopted in many low- and middle-income countries worldwide (Rosa et al., 2016). Household water treatment and handling is an important component of a global strategy to provide safe water to millions of people who live without adequate water currently.

Household water treatment at the point of use also helps to improve drinking water quality for millions who suffer due to contamination of their drinking water (Sisay et al 2022; Dubois et al., 2010; Gebremichael et al., 2021; .Ali et al., 2021; Bitew et al., 2018; Boateng et al., 2013; Boguniewicz-Zablocka and Capodaglio, 2017; Brown and Sobsey, 2007; Brown and Sobsey, 2012; Brown et al., 2009; Bubicha and Mwaura, 2021; Cairncross et al., 2007; Cairncross et al., 2010; Clasen et al., 2006; Clasen, 2015; Clasen, 2010; Clasen,

2019; Clasen et al., 2009; Crider et al., 2023; Crump et al., 2005; Dawuda et al., 2024; Deng, 2021; Wimalawansa, 2018; Wainaina, 2018; Vanderzwaag et al., 2009; Thomas-Possee et al., 2024; 2020; Thomas-Possee, 2023; Stafford and Gately, 2011; Solomon et al., 2020; Sisay et al., 2022; Sobsey et al., 2008; Opryszko et al., 2010; Ritter et al., 2017; Rosa et al., 2021; Legge et al., 2022; Levy et al., 2014; Lincoln et al., 2022; Lindley and Davies, 1995; Du et al., 2018; DuBois et al., 2010; Eticha et al., 2022; Figueroa and Kincaid, 2010; Freeman et al., 2012; Chisimkwuo et al., 2024; Kujinga et al., 2014; Chitaka et al., 2023; Asefa et al., 2023; Abubakar, 2019; Ahmed et al., 2024; Aini et al., 2007; Akinyemi et al., 2018; Alhassan and Dandi, 2022; Ali et al., 2021; An et al., 2014; Awang et al., 2020; Ayuba et al., 2024). There are various Household water treatment systems such as chlorination, boiling, coagulation and sedimentation, coagulation and filtration (sand, membrane, nanofiltration), disinfection with ultraviolet ray and filtration only. Out of all these household water treatment systems, filtration systems have been frequently adopted based on specific factors such as membrane technologies, as efficient separation techniques, have been widely applied in several areas, especially for water treatment (drinking water and wastewater treatment) including disinfection, distillation or media filtration, membranes have shown significant performances in different applications, the drive to improve the membrane success requires membranes with better materials and performances. The combination of properties such as permeability, selectivity, fouling resistance, chemical and thermal stability, low cost and easy manufacturing should lead to improved characteristics, its simplicity, applicability of the system in the rural areas, cost effective with high performance and availability of materials (Bitew et al., 2018; Boateng et al., 2013; Boguniewicz-Zablocka and Capodaglio, 2017; Brown and Sobsey, 2007; Brown and Sobsey, 2012; Brown et al., 2009; Bubicha and Mwaura, 2021; Cairncross et al., 2007; Cairncross et al., 2010; Clasen et al., 2006; Clasen, 2015; Clasen, 2010; Clasen, 2019; Clasen et al., 2009; Crider et al., 2023; Crump et al., 2005; Dawuda et al., 2024; Deng, 2021; Wimalawansa, 2018; Wainaina, 2018; Vanderzwaag et al., 2009; Thomas-Possee et al., 2024; 2020; Thomas-Possee, 2023; Stafford and Gately, 2011; Solomon et al., 2020; Sisay et al., 2022; Sobsey et al., 2008; Opryszko et al., 2010; Ritter et al., 2017; Rosa et al., 2021; Legge et al., 2022; Levy et al., 2014; Lincoln et al., 2022; Lindley and Davies, 1995; Du et al., 2018; DuBois et al., 2010; Eticha et al., 2022; Figueroa and Kincaid, 2010; Freeman et al., 2012; Chisimkwuo et al., 2024; Kujinga et al., 2014; Chitaka et al., 2023; Asefa et al., 2023; Abubakar, 2019; Ahmed et al., 2024; Aini et al., 2007; Akinyemi et al., 2018; Alhassan and Dandi, 2022; Ali et al., 2021; An et al., 2014; Awang et al., 2020; Ayuba et al., 2024). Access to a safely managed water supply is a key part of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 3, 6, 13, 14 and 16,

which are associated with increased household consumption of water, improved hygiene practices and lower incidence of diarrhoeal disease. While progress towards SDGs continue to improve globally, this progress is not equitable and some countries currently with less than 95% access to a basic water supply, and some are not on target to reach universal coverage by 2030. An important factor limiting access to safe water is the poor sustained functionality of water supply interventions (Malgorzata et al., 2024; Khan et al., 2024; Xu et al., 2024; Liu and Ma, 2024; Franz et al., 2024; Theodory, 2022; Sánchez et al., 2023; Shaheed et al., 2018; Legge et al., 2022; Levy et al., 2014; Lincoln et al., 2022; Lindley and Davies, 1995; Kowenje et al., 2022; Kumar, 2023; Lalta and Rahul, 2018; Lawrencía et al., 2023; Légaré-Julien et al., 2018; Grady et al., 2015; Gregory et al., 2024; Haushofer et al., 2021; García-Ávila et al., 2023; Gebremichael et al., 2021; Gondo and Kolawole, 2022; Chisimkwuo et al., 2024; Kujinga et al., 2014; Chitaka et al., 2023; Asefa et al., 2023; Abubakar, 2019; Ahmed et al., 2024; Aini et al., 2007; Akinyemi et al., 2018; Alhassan and Dandi, 2022; Ali et al., 2021; An et al., 2014; Awang et al., 2020; Ayuba et al., 2024). With growing challenges to water availability and safety of clean water due to climate change, pollution, and infrastructure degradation, a broader conceptualization of water and its diverse uses of water, there is a need to sustainably achieve global Sustainable Development Goals 3, 6, 13, 14 and 16 (Miller et al. 2021; Kujinga et al., 2013; Dalampira and Nastis, 2019).

the factors influencing the permeate quality, membrane performance and their optimization are rarely explained in the literature. A limited number of reported laboratory-scale studies pointed out that the membrane type and material, pore size, pretreatment of feed water, and fouling control methods have affected the permeate quality and membrane performance (Grady et al., 2015; Gregory et al., 2024; Haushofer et al., 2021; García-Ávila et al., 2023; Gebremichael et al., 2021; Gondo and Kolawole, 2022; Chisimkwuo et al., 2024; Kujinga et al., 2014; Chitaka et al., 2023; Asefa et al., 2023; Abubakar, 2019; Ahmed et al., 2024). The key objectives of this study are to design, fabricate a low cost household water treatment system, evaluate its performance in removing selected pollutants, evaluate effects of selected on the performance of the system, optimized the selected factors, examined the performance of the optimum values of the selected factors in the purification of typical surface water and perform cost analysis as a way of sustainably achieve global Sustainable Development Goals.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Fabrication of A Household Filtration System

A simple filtration water treatment system at household level consisting of raw water tank, polypropylene filter (manufactured by Solex Water Technology with its casing) or membrane and treated water storage tank was sketched, designed and fabricated (Figure 2a and b).

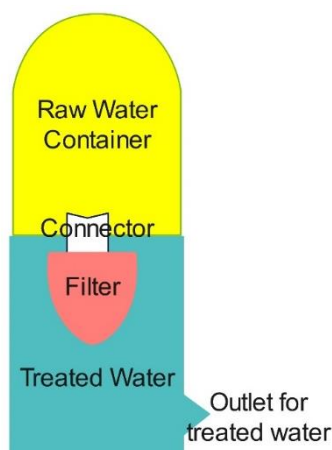


Figure 2a: A sketch of the household system

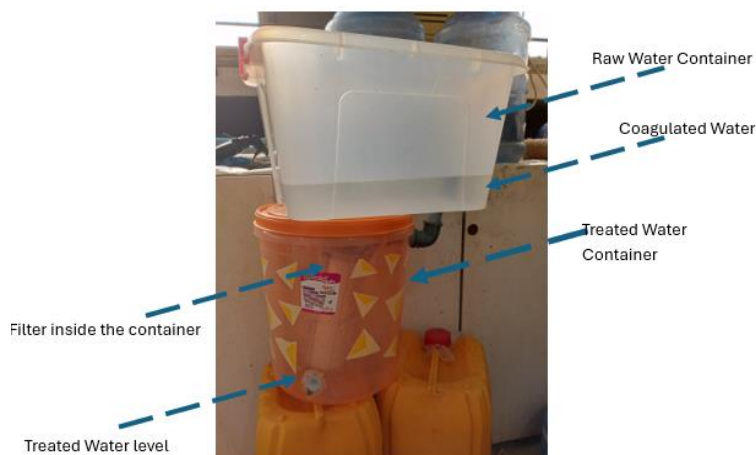


Figure 2b: Front view of the fabricated household water treatment system

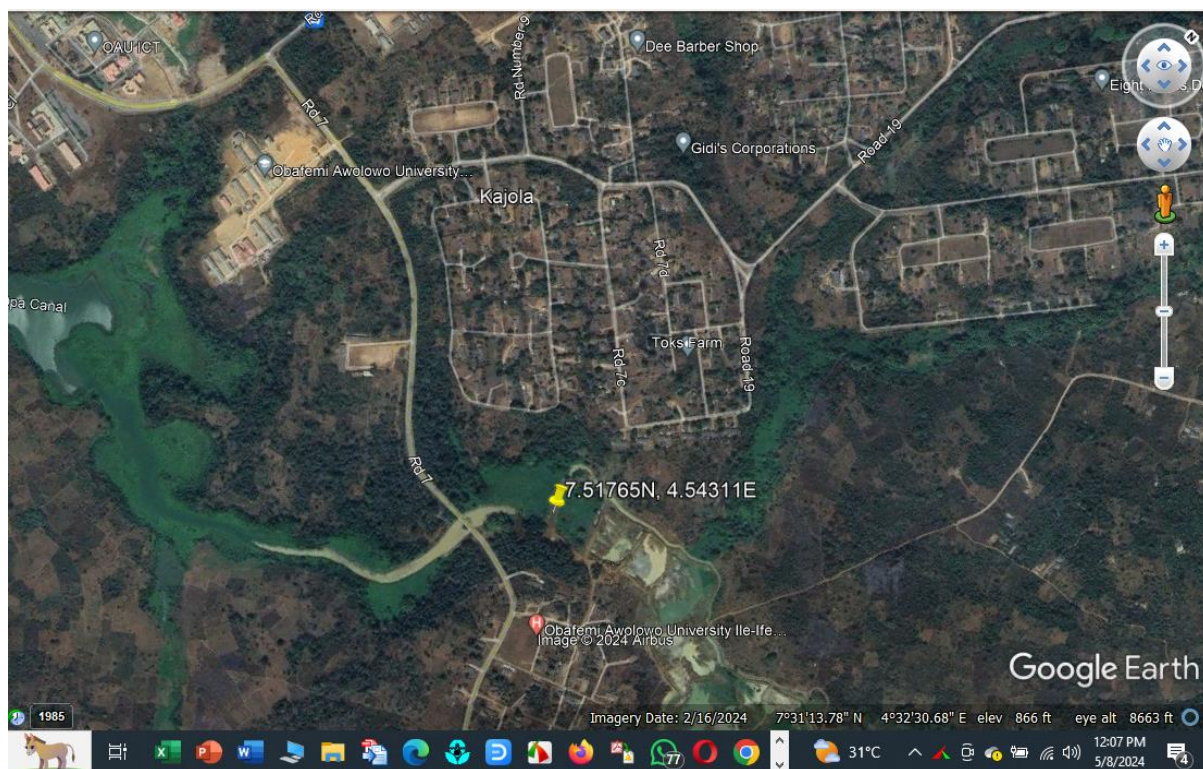


Figure 3: Aerial View of the location (Goggle Earth Pro Map, 2024

Laboratory Scale Treatment and Effects of Selected Factors: Typical turbid water samples were collected from Opa river in Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife (Figure 3). The collected turbid water samples were subjected to household treatment system fabricated. Effects of selected operational factors (Time (settlement time after addition of coagulant), Pore Size of the filter, Concentration Coagulant and Turbidity of the Raw water) on the performance (ability to remove turbidity of the raw water only) of the system was evaluated using $L_{16}4^4$ (Table 1) and analyzed using analysis of variance (ANOVA), mean, standard deviation, skewness and signal noise (SN). These selected operational factors were optimized using Taguchi technique and the optimum values of the factors were utilized for the full treatment of water samples from the same source using the system and similar system available commercially at Jumai online store. The individual and overall performance of the system and similar system were based on ability to remove lead, zinc, cadmium sulphate, colour, turbidity, salinity and chloride, hardness, total solid, suspended solids and dissolved solids from the raw water samples.

Laboratory Analysis and Concentration Determination

In the analysis all chemicals and reagents used in this research study had a chemical purity of 95% or above. Distilled water was used in the preparations of primary and secondary standard solutions. All equipment used in the experiments were calibrated and the coefficient of determinations of these calibrations (relationship between expected and obtained values) were 96 % or above. In the calibration and determination of pollutants, standard solutions were prepared utilising procedures and methods specified in the Standard Methods for Water and Wastewater Examination such as APHA (2019) and Van Loosdrecht et al. (2016). In preparation of the standard solution the following chemicals were used turbidity (hydrazine sulphate, $[(NH_2)_2 H_2SO_4]$ and hexamethylenetetramine, $[(CH_2)_6N_4]$, colour (Potassium chloroplatinate (K_2PtCl_6), Cobaltous chloride ($CoCl_2 \cdot 6H_2O$), Hydrochloric acid (HCl) and Sodium hydroxide (NaOH) as stated APHA (2019).

Table 1: The arrangement of $L_{16}4^4$ orthogonal array for the Taguchi Technique

Experiment	Code of Factors and their studying levels				Value of Factors and their studying levels				Performance (%)
	Time (A)	Pore Size of the ceramic filter (B)	Concentration Coagulant (C)	Turbidity of the Raw water (D)	Time (minutes)	Pore Size of the ceramic filter ($10^{-6} m$)	Concentration (mg/l)	Turbidity of the Raw water (NTU)	
1	1	1	1	1	10	0.5	30	500	
2	1	2	2	2	10	1	45	1000	
3	1	3	3	3	10	5	55	1500	
4	1	4	4	4	10	10	60	2000	
5	2	1	2	3	15	0.5	45	1500	
6	2	2	1	4	15	1	30	2000	
7	2	3	4	1	15	5	60	500	

8	2	4	3	2	15	10	55	1000
9	3	1	3	4	20	0.5	55	2000
10	3	2	4	3	20	1	60	1500
11	3	3	1	2	20	5	30	1000
12	3	4	2	1	20	10	45	500
13	4	1	4	2	45	0.5	60	100
14	4	2	3	1	45	1	55	500
15	4	3	2	4	45	5	45	2000
16	4	4	1	3	45	10	30	1500

Performance Evaluation of the Filtration System

The performance of the system was based on ability to remove the pollutant (turbidity) from the water. The performance was computed as follows:

$$P(x) = 100 \left(\frac{X_i - X_f}{X_i} \right) \tag{1}$$

Where; X_i is the initial concentration of pollutant (mg/l); X_f is the final concentration (mg/l) and $P(x)$ performance of the system or percentage of the pollutant by the system. Overall efficacy of the system was computed using geometric mean of the system for all the pollutants as follows:

$$P_{all} = \left(\prod_{i=1}^N P(x_i) \right)^{\frac{1}{N}} \tag{2}$$

Statistical Computation of Parameters

The choice of this statistical measure as the quality characteristic is analysed based on the need to control both the mean level of the process, and the variation around this mean. The SN is an objective measure that has been used to investigate the statistical properties of factors being experimented on. Mean and standard deviation, skewness and SN were calculated using equations (3 - 6) respectively.

$$\bar{X} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N X_i}{N} \tag{3}$$

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (X_i - \bar{X})^2}{N}} \tag{4}$$

$$\mu = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (X_i - \bar{X})^3}{(N-1)\sigma^3} \tag{5}$$

$$SN_i = -10 \log X_i^2 \tag{6}$$

Computation of Average of the level: The sum and average of various levels of the selected factors were computed using equations (7 to 13) as follows:

$$G_{si} = \sum_{i=1}^4 R_{si} \tag{7}$$

$$X_{avsi} = 0.25 \times G_{si} \tag{8}$$

Where; G_{si} is the sum of the performance of factor “s” and level “i” ; R_{si} is the performance of factor “s” and level “i” and X_{avsi} is the average performance of factor “s” and level “i”

Determination of Effects of the Factors and Computations of Statistical Values

Effects of operational factors (Time, Pore Size of the filter Concentration of the Coagulant and Turbidity of the Raw water) that can influence performance of the system were evaluated using $L_{16} 4^4$ orthogonal array (Table 1). The effects were analysis using analysis of variance (ANOVA). The total sum of squared deviations (SST) is calculated from the total average SN ratios (SN) $_{T_{avg}}$, as per the following equation

$$SST = \frac{1}{N} \left(\sum_{i=1}^N (X_i - \bar{X}_T)^2 \right) \tag{9}$$

Where, X_i is the SN of experiment i; SST is the total sum of squared deviations of SN; N is the number of the experiment and \bar{X}_T is the overall average of the SN. This total sum of squared deviation, SST, occurs due to the sum of squared deviations due to each control factor (SS_A, SS_B, SS_C, SS_D and SS_E) and the sum of squared deviations due to error, (SS_e) The sum of squared deviation due to the factor is calculated as by

$$SSF_i = \frac{1}{N_j} \sum_{j=1}^{N_j} (\bar{X}_j - \bar{X}_T)^2 \tag{10}$$

Where: F_i is the factor i (A, B, C, D-----N) X_j is the average of the response of the factor F_i at level j and j is the level of the factor F_i (1, 2, ----- N_j) .

The sum of squared deviation due to the error (SS_e) and degree of freedoms are calculated as by

$$SS_e = SST - SSA - SSB - SSC - - - -SSN \tag{11}$$

$$d_{Tfe} = N - 1 \tag{12}$$

$$d_{Ffe} = N_j - 1 \tag{13}$$

In order to investigate the magnitude of the influence of each factor on the strength and leaching toxicity of solidified soil, the results of the orthogonal test were subjected to an extremum deviation analysis, and the significance of the influence of each factor was reflected by the extremum deviation, R_a , with a larger R_a indicating a more significant influence. Taking the extremum deviation analysis of unconfined compressive strength as an example, the following formula is used to calculate the R_a (Shi et al., 2023):

$$R_a = K_{max} - K_{min} \tag{14}$$

R_a is the difference between the maximum and minimum values of the average performance at all levels of a factor,

Cost Analysis

Cost analysis, which consist of initial and operational costs was conducted for the fabricated household water treatment system and similar types commercially available. The cost was conducted in local currency (Naira; ₦) and convert to equivalent US Dollar at the rate of one US dollar (US \$) equivalent to ₦1500.00 for easy evaluation by international readers. The equivalent cost of similar household filtration units was obtained from the Jumai online store (Figure 4). The detail of the source and initial costs are presented at the appendix.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Performance Evaluation of the Filtration System

Table 2 presents the mean, standard deviation, SN, Skewness and loge of the standard deviation. The table revealed that the average (mean) performance of the system was in the range of 32.03 % and 98.14 % of turbidity removal. The minimum 32.03 % of turbidity removal occurred in experiment number 8 when the time was 15 minutes, pore size of the fibre filter was 10×10^{-6} m concentration of the coagulant used was 55 mg/l and the turbidity of the raw water was 1000 NTU. This result established that pore size of the filter was a negative factor for the performance of the household water treatment system, which indicate that the higher the pore size of the filter the lower the efficacy of the household water treatment system. The higher performance 98.14 % of turbidity removal took place at experiment number 14 when the time was 45 minutes, pore size of the fibre filter was 1.0×10^{-6} m concentration of the coagulant used was 55 mg/l and the turbidity of the raw water was 500 NTU. This result revealed that treatment time (settlement time after addition of coagulant) was positive factor for the performance of the

household water treatment system, which indicate that the higher the settlement time after addition of coagulant the higher the efficacy of the household water treatment system. Experiment numbers 14 and 16 revealed that turbidity of the raw water and concentration of the coagulant were negative factors that reduce and influence the performance of the system. These results from experiments numbers 14 and 16 established that increase in the concentration of the coagulant and turbidity contribute to more pollutants such as dissolved solids, colloidal particles, floating and suspended solids in the raw water to be removed. These observations and results were similar to observations and results in literature such as Okogwu et al. (2022); Odwori (2019); Ngasala et al. (2020); Lawrence et al. (2023); Kelly et al. (2023); García-Ávila et al. (2023); Eticha et al. (2022); DuBois et al. (2010); Crump et al. (2005); Clasen et al. (2006); Brown et al. (2009). Clasen et al. (2006); Brown and Sobsey (2007); Benwic et al. (2018); Bain et al. (2014); Asefa et al. (2023); An et al. (2014); Alhassan and Dandi (2022); Aini et al. (2007) and Abubakar (2019). The Table revealed that the standard deviation was between 0.357 and 7.248. Skewness were mixture of both positive and negative skewness and SN was between -30.111 and -39.837. Distributions are symmetric when the right side of the distributions are similar to the left side of the distributions and the Skewness value is equivalent to 0 (normal distribution) This indicates that the median, mean and mode have the same value. When the Skewness is greater

than 0, it is right-skewed or that the right tail is longer than the left tail.

When the Skewness is less than 0, then it is left-skewed or that the left tail is longer than the right tail. The results indicate that the experiments have no normal distribution, but rather have both right and left skewed distributions. It has been recommended (Gardiner and Gettinby, 1998) that:

- i. Parallel analysis of means and standard deviation (through the natural logarithm of the standard deviation) should be carried out to argue the analysis of SN because SN helps in separating location (differences in the location or point) and dispersion (differences in the dispersion or distribution) effects;
- ii. Analysing mean response enables average performance to be assessed, while logarithm of the standard deviation analysis provides information on the performance variability, which are affected by the tested factors; and help in improving residual normality.

The standard deviation from the performance revealed that the variability was at the lowest level. The skewness established that the performance of the household water treatment system was not single sided but rather both sided, which indicate the performance of the household water treatment system was above average. SN values revealed that there is significant performance of the household water treatment system and there is a change in both location and dispersion between the performances (Warton et al., 2011; Tsai and Liao, 2019; Park and Ding, 2021).

Table 2: The performance of the household water treatment system and statistical computations

Experiment	Operational Factors				Performance (%)			Statistical Computations				
	A	B	C	D	1	2	3	Average	SD	Skewness	Ln SD	SN
1	1	1	1	1	85.00	85.89	85.81	86.57	0.492	-1.675	-0.708	-38.747
2	1	2	2	2	90.70	90.84	90.16	91.57	0.357	-1.453	-1.031	-39.235
3	1	3	3	3	63.38	61.46	59.19	62.34	2.099	-0.257	0.741	-35.896
4	1	4	4	4	73.60	67.69	62.29	68.86	5.656	0.137	1.733	-36.759
5	2	1	2	3	81.12	81.82	80.81	83.25	0.519	1.072	-0.657	-38.408
6	2	2	1	4	82.56	82.83	81.48	84.29	0.713	-1.453	-0.338	-38.516
7	2	3	4	1	53.72	53.13	51.10	54.65	1.371	-1.376	0.316	-34.752
8	2	4	3	2	33.5	30.32	26.27	32.03	3.624	-0.355	1.288	-30.111
9	3	1	3	4	90.02	89.13	86.10	91.42	2.057	-1.376	0.721	-39.220
10	3	2	4	3	90.89	86.11	80.04	88.68	5.436	-0.355	1.693	-38.957
11	3	3	1	2	62.78	63.84	62.32	65.98	0.778	1.072	-0.251	-36.388
12	3	4	2	1	79.24	79.65	77.62	81.84	1.070	-1.453	0.068	-38.259
13	4	1	4	2	87.74	88.28	85.59	91.20	1.427	-1.453	0.355	-39.200
14	4	2	3	1	96.88	98.29	96.26	98.14	1.037	1.072	0.036	-39.837
15	4	3	2	4	68.58	62.21	54.12	65.64	7.248	-0.355	1.981	-36.343
16	4	4	1	3	61.18	60.00	55.95	63.04	2.743	-1.376	1.009	-35.993



Figure 4: A Similar household water treatment available online at Jumai inline store

These observations confirmed the essential of Taguchi as stated in literature (Ahmad et al., 2019; Zheng et al., 2017; Valentukeviciene et al., 2019; Shunmugesh and Panneerselvam, 2017; Shukla and Singh, 2017; Sharda and Kumar, 2015; Shanmugaraja and Tharoon, 2018; Nandagopal and Kailasanathan, 2016; Molaei et al., 2017; Kishore et al., 2017; Kiran et al., 2014; Jenarthan 2017; Gopal and Soorya, 2018; Gardiner and Gettinby, 1998; Derdour et al., 2018; Deepanraj et al., 2017; Segu et al., 2013; Khalifa and Lawal, 2016; Mangal and Sharma, 2018; Lokesh and Mallik, 2017). In summary, the performance established the conclusion and observation on fabricated household water treatment a possible solution is offered by process intensification, substantially shrinking equipment size, a design approach offering concrete benefits in processing and manufacturing, boosting water treatment plant efficiency, saving

Energy and cost, reducing capital costs, minimizing environmental impact, increasing safety, and maximizing the raw materials exploitation (Pendergast and Hoek, 2011; Drioli et al., 2011; Lalia et al., 2013; Zularisam et al., 2006; Ezugbe and Rathilal, 2020).

Effects of Selected Factors and Optimization

Table 3 presents statistical analysis of the effects of the selected factors (time, pore size of the filter concentration of the coagulant and turbidity of the raw water) on the performance and SN of the household water treatment system. The Table revealed that the average performance of the system for treatment time at level 1 was 77.33 % and at level 4 was 79.51 %, which indicates that as the time increases the performance of the system improves making time a positive factor. The average performance of the system when the pore size of the filter was at level 1 was 88.11 % and 61.44 % at level 4, which indicates that this factor reduces and influences

the performance negatively meaning that an increase in the pore size reduces the performance. Average performances of the system were 74.97 % and 80.30 % when concentration of the coagulant and turbidity of the raw water were at their lowest level. At the highest levels of the two factors the average performances were 75.85 % and 77.55% which indicates that turbidity of the raw water is a negative factor, which reduces the performance of the system and reverse is the case of the concentration of the coagulant. The values of R_a for the factors were 29.23, 18.42, 9.59 and 10.11, for Pore Size of the ceramic filter (10^{-6} m), settlement time (minutes), Concentration of the Coagulant (mg/l) and initial turbidity of the raw water, respectively. These results indicate that the order of impact of these selected operational factors are Pore Size of the ceramic filter greater than settlement time greater than initial turbidity of the raw water and greater than concentration of the coagulant.

The trends and sequences were the same for SN values. The values of the SN established that pore size of the filter make noise greater (from -38.93 to -33.47) than any other factors, indicates that pore size of the filter is an important factor for the system. Tables 4 and 5 show the results of the ANOVA for the performance and the SN. Table 4 revealed that F-values for these factors (time, pore size of the filter, concentration of the coagulant and turbidity of the raw water) were $F_{3,3} = 2.40$, $F_{3,3} = 8.98$, $F_{3,3} = 0.55$, and $F_{3,3} = 0.67$, respectively based on the performances of the system and $F_{3,3} = 1.78$, $F_{3,3} = 15.29$, $F_{3,3} = 0.18$, and $F_{3,3} = 1.81$, respectively based on the SN (Table 5).

These results established that pore size of the filter is a significant factor that impacts on the performance of the system at 95 % and 97.5 % confidence levels based on the performance of the system and SN, respectively. These results also indicate that filter of lower pore size is the best for the system. The Table and the F-values established that the level

of significance is in the order of pore size of the filter greater than time greater than turbidity of the raw water greater than concentration of the coagulant. These results indicate that pore size of the filter and time are two factors that must be considered in the treatment of the surface water using this household treatment system. However, quantity of the treated water should be evaluated in the next studies. Figures 5 and 6 present Taguchi technique of optimization based on the performance of the system and based on SN. Figure 5a presents the effects and optimization of pore size filter using

Taguchi technique. The Figure revealed that the pore size filter is a negative factor that influence the performance the system. It was established that the optimum (maximum) pore size of the filter is 5×10^{-6} m (Figure 6a), which indicates that the system perform best at pore size below 5×10^{-6} m. Figure 5b presents the effects and optimization of dosage using Taguchi technique. The Figure revealed that the dosage of the coagulant is a positive factor that influence the performance the system.

Table 3: Statistical Analysis of the effects of the selected factors on the performance and SN of the household water treatment system

Experiment	A	B	C	D	Average Performance (X, %)	(X-Av.X) ²	SN (Y)	(Y-Av.Y) ²
1	1	1	1	1	86.57	120.400	-38.59	3.939
2	1	2	2	2	91.57	255.105	-39.15	6.495
3	1	3	3	3	62.34	175.560	-36.04	0.319
4	1	4	4	4	68.86	45.341	-37.34	0.539
5	2	1	2	3	83.25	58.649	-39.19	6.701
6	2	2	1	4	84.29	75.653	-39.33	7.424
7	2	3	4	1	54.65	438.606	-32.81	14.365
8	2	4	3	2	32.03	1897.937	-30.50	37.244
9	3	1	3	4	91.42	250.353	-39.09	6.166
10	3	2	4	3	88.68	171.321	-39.17	6.588
11	3	3	1	2	65.98	92.461	-34.45	4.641
12	3	4	2	1	81.84	38.984	-31.87	22.364
13	4	1	4	2	91.20	243.660	-38.86	5.109
14	4	2	3	1	98.14	508.521	-39.72	9.741
15	4	3	2	4	65.64	99.138	-35.35	1.559
16	4	4	1	3	63.04	157.552	-34.18	5.865
Sum								
Level 1	309.34	352.44	299.88	321.20	-151.12	-155.73	-146.55	-143.00
Level 2	254.22	362.68	322.29	280.78	-141.84	-157.38	-145.57	-142.97
Level 3	327.92	248.61	283.93	297.32	-144.58	-138.66	-145.35	-148.58
Level 4	318.03	245.77	303.40	310.21	-148.13	-133.90	-148.19	-151.11
Average								
Level 1	77.33	88.11	74.97	80.30	-37.78	-38.93	-36.64	-35.75
Level 2	63.56	90.67	80.57	70.19	-35.46	-39.34	-36.39	-35.74
Level 3	81.98	62.15	70.98	74.33	-36.15	-34.66	-36.34	-37.15
Level 4	79.51	61.44	75.85	77.55	-37.03	-33.47	-37.05	-37.78
Maximum	81.98	90.67	80.57	80.30	-35.46	-33.47	-36.34	-35.74
Minimum	63.56	61.44	70.98	70.19	-37.78	-39.34	-37.05	-37.78
Ra	18.42	29.23	9.59	10.11	2.32	5.87	0.71	2.04

Performance

SN

Table 4: Results of ANOVA based on Performance

	Time	Pore Size of the Ceramic Filter	Concentration of the Coagulant	Turbidity of the Raw Water	Error	Total
Sum of Square	816.08	3059.65	186.02	226.93	340.56	4629.24
Degree of freedom	3	3	3	3	3	15
Mean Sum of Square	272.03	1019.88	62.01	75.64	113.52	
F-Value	2.40	8.98	0.55	0.67		

Table 5: Results of ANOVA based on SN

	Time	Pore Size of the Ceramic Filter	Concentration of the Coagulant	Turbidity of the Raw Water	Error	Total
Sum of Square	12.34	105.97	1.25	12.57	6.93	139.06
Degree of freedom	3	3	3	3	3	15
Mean Sum of Square	4.11	35.32	0.42	4.19	2.31	
F-Value	1.78	15.29	0.18	1.81		

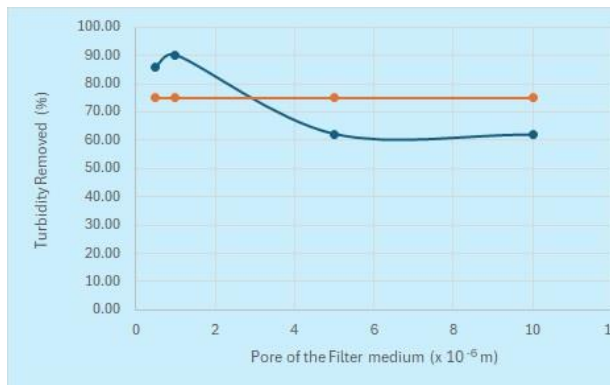


Figure 5a: Effects and optimization of pore size filter using Taguchi technique

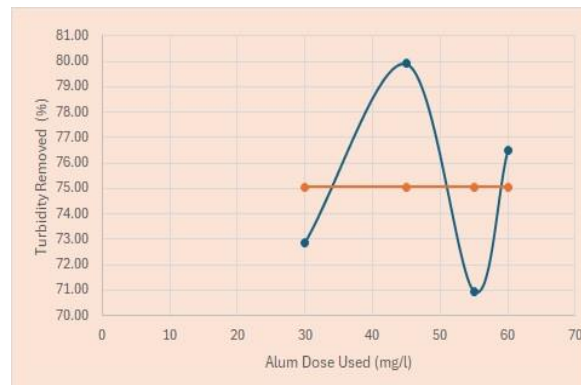


Figure 5b: Effects and optimization of alum dosage using Taguchi technique

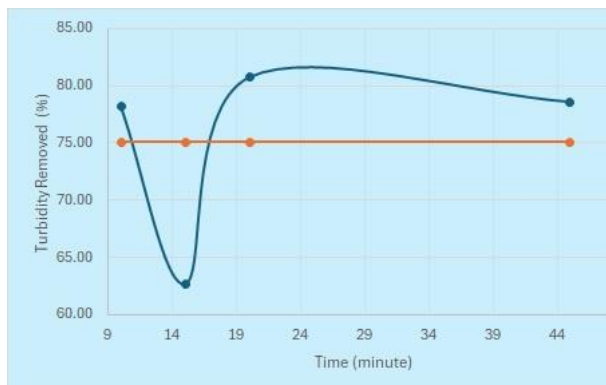


Figure 5c: Effects and optimization of treatment time using Taguchi technique

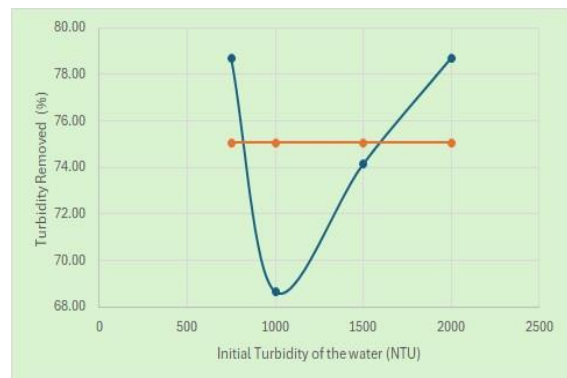


Figure 5d: Effects and optimization of initial turbidity of the raw water using Taguchi technique

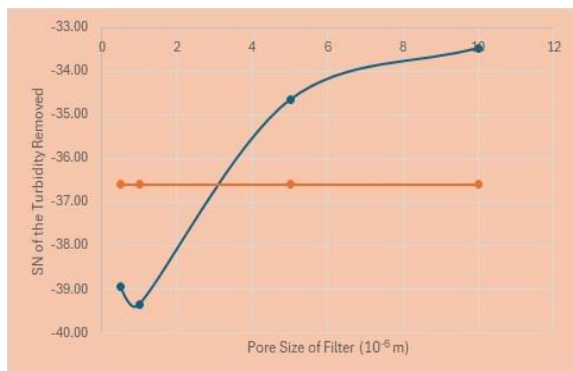


Figure 6a: Effects and optimization of pore size filter using SN technique

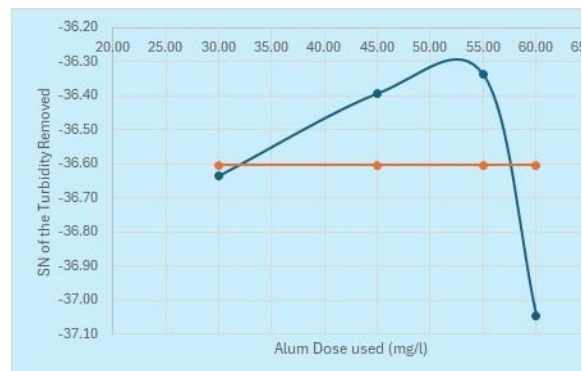


Figure 6b: Effects and optimization of alum dosage using SN technique

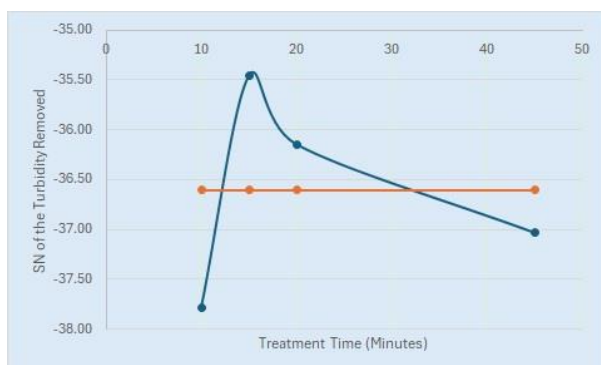


Figure 6c Effects and optimization of treatment time using SN technique

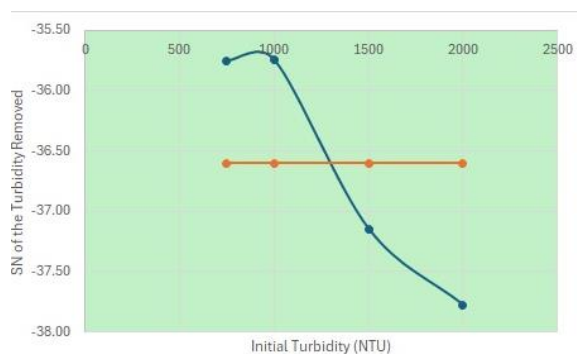


Figure 6d: Effects and optimization of initial turbidity of the raw water using SN technique



Figure 7: The view of the household water treatment plant fabricated

It was established that the optimum (maximum) dosage of the coagulant is 55.0 mg/l (Figure 6b), which indicates that the system perform best at optimum dose of below 55.0 mg/l. Figure 5c presents the effects and optimization of treatment time using Taguchi technique. The Figure revealed that the treatment time is a positive factor that influence the performance the system. It was established that the optimum (minimum) treatment time is 20 minutes (Figure 6c), which indicates that the system perform best at treatment time above minutes. Figure 5d presents the effects and optimization of initial turbidity of the raw water using Taguchi technique. The Figure revealed that the initial turbidity of the raw water is a negative factor that influence the performance the system. It was established that the optimum (minimum) initial turbidity of the raw water is 1500 NTU (Figure 6d), which indicates that the system perform best at initial turbidity of the raw water above 1500 NTU.

Practical Evaluation of the System

Figure 7 presents the view of the household water treatment plant fabricated. Table 6a presents the individual and overall performances of the fabricated household water treatment plant and commercially available household water treatment plant. The Table revealed that the performance of these systems were between and for both individual and overall performance. The overall performance of the fabricated household water treatment plant was 0.9950 while overall performance of the commercially available was between

0.9951 and 0.9952. Statistical evaluation of the performances revealed that there was no significant difference between the performance fabricated household water treatment plant and the performance of commercially household water treatment plant (Table 6b) at a 99 % confidence level. The performance revealed that processes are capable of removing hardness, heavy metals, suspended particles and a number of other organic and inorganic substances in one single treatment step, which agree literature (Gheibi et al., 2023; Ezugbe and Rathilal, 2020; Pendergast and Hoek, 2011; Catia et al., 2022; Zularisam et al., 2006; Dharupaneedi et al., 2018; Lalia et al., 2013; Hube et al., 2020; Tan and Rodrigue, 2019; Castelletto and Boretti, 2021) that microfiltration porous either asymmetric or symmetric are capable to eliminate bacteria, fat, colloids particle, organics, oil and grease, and other micro-particles

Cost Analysis

Table 7 shows the summary of the cost analysis (the detail of the cost analysis is as presented at the appendix). The Table revealed that the cost of filtration units was between 0.0575 US\$ per day for locally fabricated unit and 0.1187 US\$ per day for commercially available filtration unit based on the 2 years lifespan. Table 9 shows the results of the cost analysis. The Table shows that there was a significant difference between cost of the fabricated household water treatment plant and cost of commercially household water treatment plant at 95 % confidence level.

Table 6a: Individual and overall performance of the system in removing selected pollutants

Serial Number	Water quality Performance	Raw Water	Local	A	B	C	Local	A	B	C
1	Turbidity (NTU)	6500	10	10	10	10	0.998	0.998	0.998	0.998
2	Colour (CU)	400	5	5	5	5	0.999	0.999	0.999	0.999
3	Bacteriological Examination (MPN/100ml)	150	0	0	0	0	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
4	Cadmium	0.45	0	0	0	0	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
5	Lead	0.68	0	0	0	0	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
6	Zinc	2.45	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.42	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
7	Suspended Solids	1658.66	0.08	0.06	0.07	0.06	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
8	Dissolved solids	168.98	80.2	78.2	78.6	80.6	0.988	0.988	0.988	0.988
9	Total Solid	1827.64	80.28	78.26	78.67	80.66	0.988	0.988	0.988	0.988
10	Hardness	560.78	80.2	80.2	80.2	80.2	0.988	0.988	0.988	0.988
11	Fe	5.78	0.06	0.08	0.04	0.08	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
12	Electrical Conductivity(S/cm)	178	101	98	98	97	0.984	0.985	0.985	0.985
13	Salinity(%)	0.01	0	0	0	0	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
14	sulphate	68	60	58	58	56	0.991	0.991	0.991	0.991
						Product	0.9375	0.9388	0.9387	0.9385
						Overall	0.9950	0.9952	0.9951	0.9951

Table 6b: ANOVA result of the filtration units

Source of Variation	Sum of Square	Degree of freedom	Mean Sum of Square	F-value	P-value	F critical at 95% confidence level
Between Filtration Units	3.14×10^{-7}	3	1.05×10^{-7}	0.000443	0.999987	4.125892
Within Filtration Units	0.014142	60	0.000236			
Total	0.014142	63				

Table 7: Summary of the cost analysis

Description	Naira (₦)	Dollar	Life Span (Years)	Cost per day (US\$)
Locally fabricated	62950.00	41.97	2	0.0575
Rico Water Purifier Filter And Dispenser -(20 Litres)	90000.00	60.00	2	0.0822
Quinix Water Purifier Filter \$ Dispenser 20L + Alkaline pH Tester	70000.00	46.67	2	0.0639
Quinix Water Purifier Filter And Dispenser - 18L + Alkaline pH Tester	71000.00	47.33	2	0.0648
Tiens Water Purifier Filter & Dispenser With Alkaline PH	81000.00	54.00	2	0.0740
Mineral Water Purifier/Filter/dispenser 32Litres	130000.00	86.67	2	0.1187

Table 8: ANOVA of the cost of filtration units

Source of Variation	Sum of Square	Degree of freedom	Mean Sum of Square	F-value	P-value	F critical at 95% confidence level
Between the cost of Filtration Units	2.12×10^{10}	1	2.12×10^{10}	71.4715	7.24×10^{-6}	10.04429
Within the cost of Filtration Units	2.97×10^9	10	2.97×10^8			
Total	2.42×10^{10}	11				

CONCLUSION

It can be concluded that the overall performance of locally fabricated household filtration unit was 0.995, and cost of 0.0575 US \$ per day (₦86.25), compared with 0.1187 US \$ per day (₦178.05), which makes it sustainable. Factors that influence the performance of the locally fabricated household filtration system are time and concentration of the coagulant as positive factors, pore size of the filter and turbidity of the raw water as negative factors. The pore size of the filter was a significant factor that influence the performance of the locally fabricated household filtration system. There was no significant difference between the overall performances of the locally fabricated household filtration and commercially available online, there was significant difference between the cost per day of the locally fabricated household filtration and commercially available online. There is a need to evaluated the quantity (volume) of the treated water produced per unit time and factors that influence the quantity of treated water produced per unit time.

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APPENDIX

Cost of production	Unit	Quantity	Amount	
			Naira	Dollar
5000 ml Container (2 mm thick)	4500	2	9000	6.00
1 inch plastic Adaptor (2 mm thick)	1250	1	1250	0.83
1 inches plastic Elbow (2 mm thick)	1350	2	2700	1.80
Operational and Maintenance Cost	25000	1	25000	16.67
10inch Ceramic Water Filter Candle For Gravity Purifier Cleaning Replacement Part	25000	1	25000	16.67
		Total	62950	41.97
Rico Water Purifier Filter And Dispenser - (20 Litres)	90000	1	90000	60.00

<https://www.jumia.com.ng/quinix-water-purifier-filter-and-dispenser-18l-alkaline-ph-tester-8375035.html>

Quinix Water Purifier Filter \$ Dispenser 20L + Akaline PHTester	70000	1	70000	46.67	https://www.jumia.com.ng/quinix-water-purifier-filter-dispenser-20l-akaline-phtester-14090806.html
Quinix Water Purifier Filter And Dispenser - 18L + Akaline PHTester	71000	1	71000	47.33	https://www.jumia.com.ng/quinix-water-purifier-filter-and-dispenser-18l-akaline-phtester-8375035.html
Tiens Water Purifier Filter & Dispenser With Alkaline PH	81000	1	81000	54.00	Tiens Water Purifier Filter & Dispenser With Alkaline PH Jumia Nigeria
Mineral Water Purifier/Filter/dispenser 32Litres	130000	1	130000	86.67	https://www.jumia.com.ng/generic-mineral-water-purifierfilterdispenser-32litres-77812536.html



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