



## Supporting Information

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Aminoclay-Graphene Oxide Composite for Thin-Film Composite Reverse Osmosis Membranes with Unprecedented Water Flux and Fouling Resistance

*Md Rabiul Islam, Pratishtha Khurana, Pillalamarri Srikrishnarka, Ankit Nagar, Madhuri Jash, Shantha Kumar Jenifer, Mohd Azhardin Ganayee, Mathava Kumar,\* and Thalappil Pradeep\**

Supporting Information

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**Membranes with Unprecedented Water Flux and Fouling Resistance**

*Md Rabiul Islam,<sup>1#</sup> Pratishtha Khurana,<sup>1#</sup> Pillalamarri Srikrishnarka,<sup>1</sup> Ankit Nagar,<sup>1</sup> Madhuri Jash,<sup>1</sup> Shantha Kumar Jenifer,<sup>1</sup> Mohd Azhardin Ganayee,<sup>1</sup> Mathava Kumar<sup>2\*</sup> and Thalappil Pradeep<sup>1\*</sup>*

*<sup>1</sup>DST Unit of Nanoscience and Thematic Unit of Excellence, Department of Chemistry, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai-600036, India*

*<sup>2</sup>Environmental and Water Resources Engineering, Division Department of Civil Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai-600036, India*

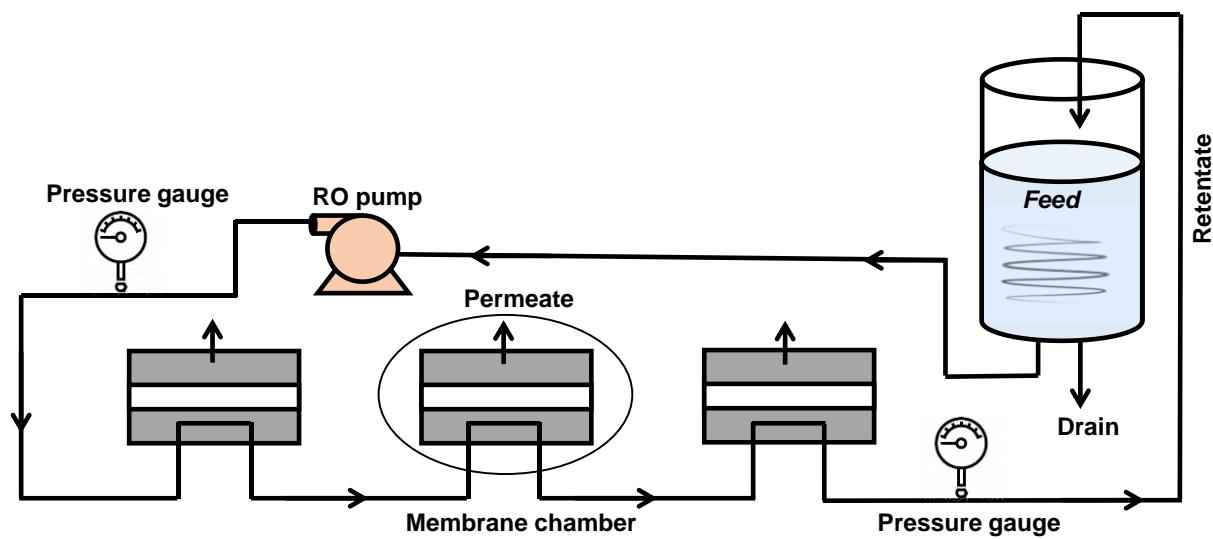
*# These authors are contributed equally to this work*

**Corresponding Author**

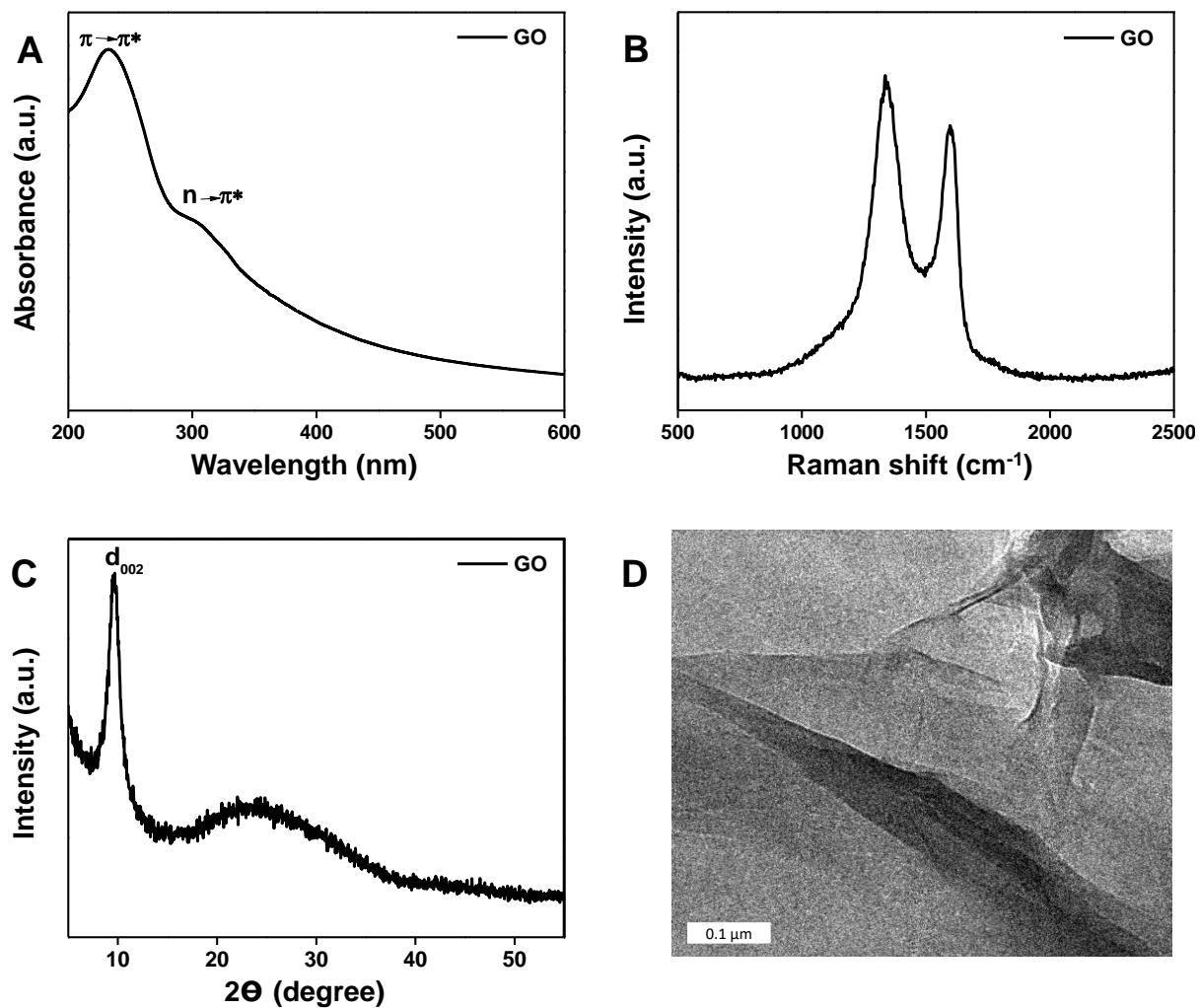
*\*E-mail: [pradeep@iitm.ac.in](mailto:pradeep@iitm.ac.in)*

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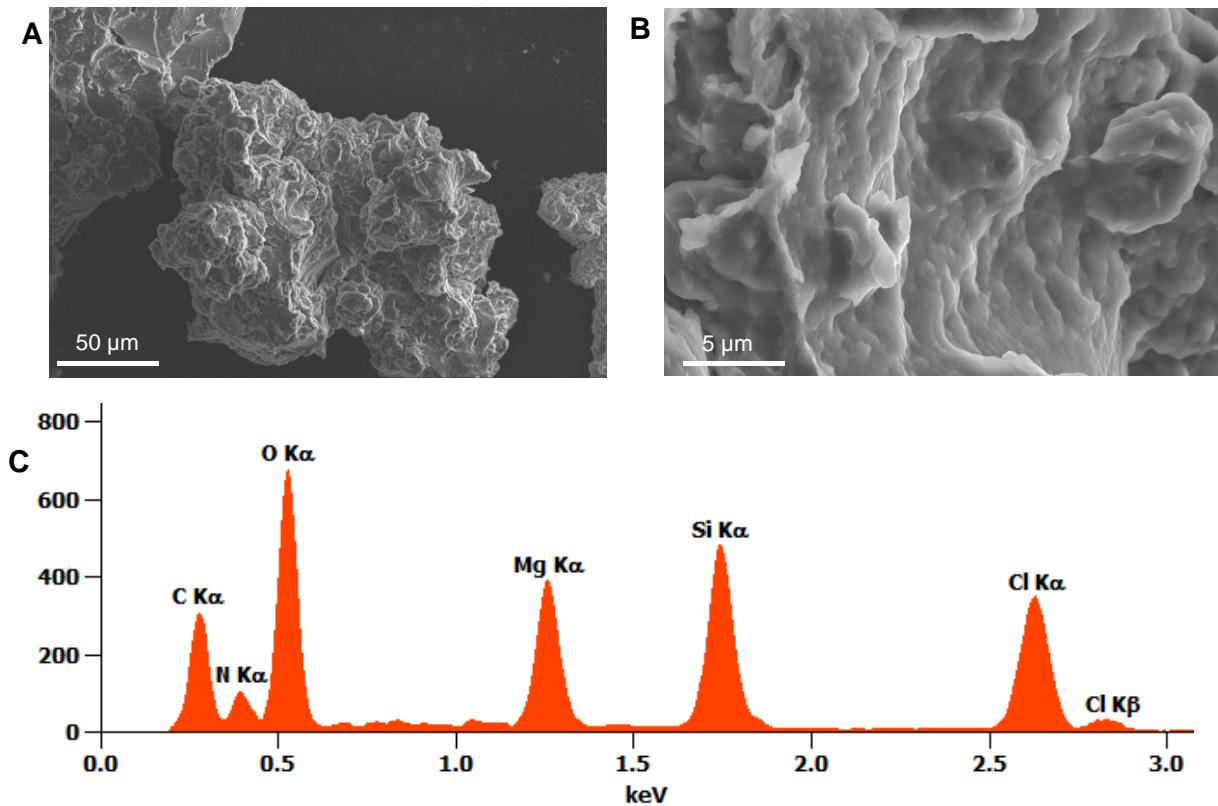
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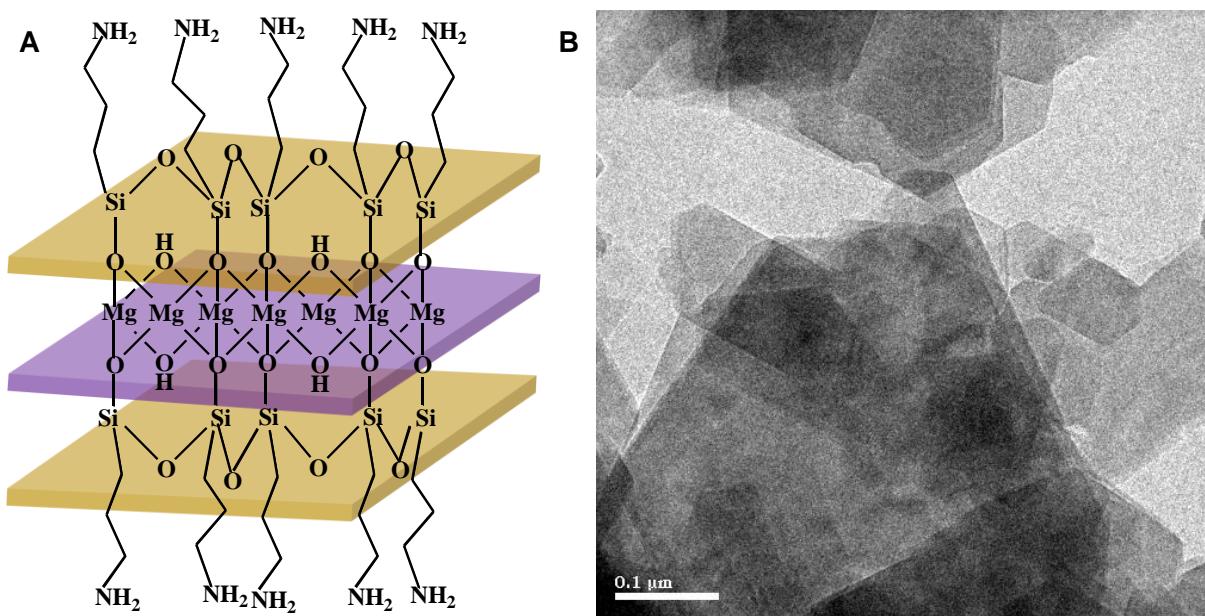
**Figure S1.** Experimental set-up of the RO skid.



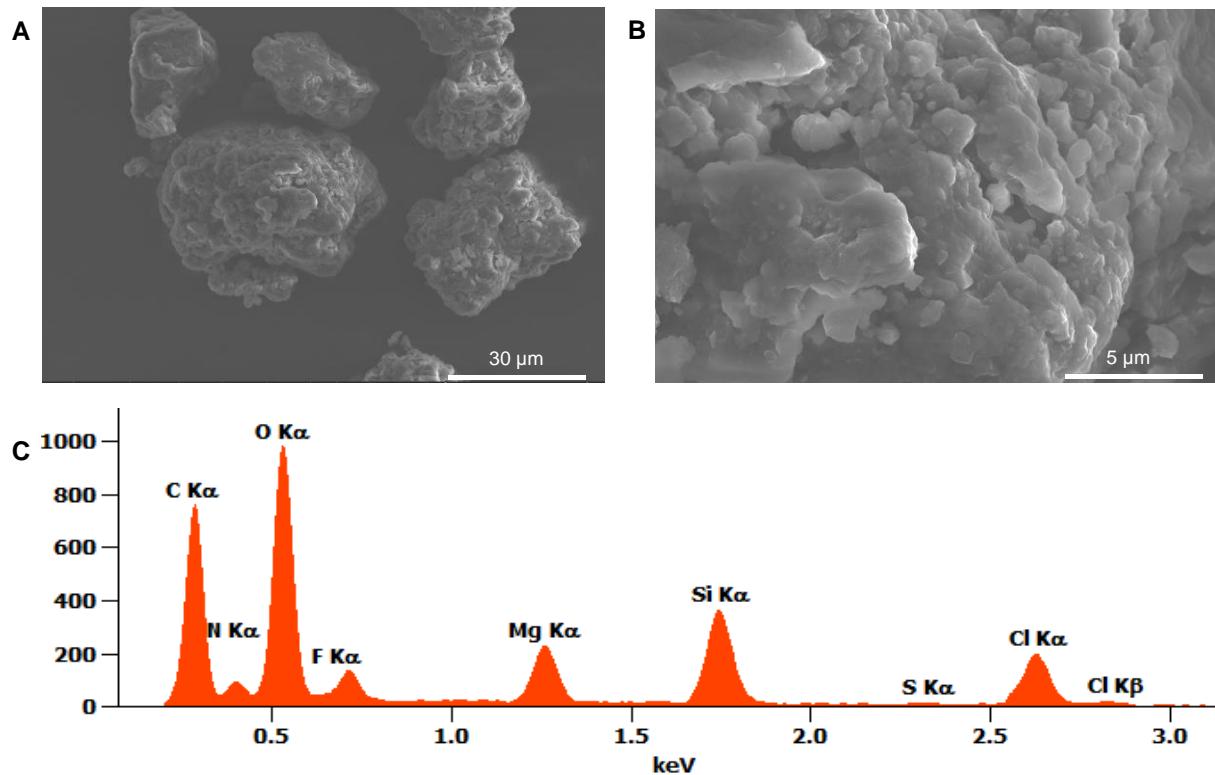
**Figure S2.** A) UV-Vis spectrum, B) Raman spectrum, C) XRD pattern, and D) TEM image of GO.



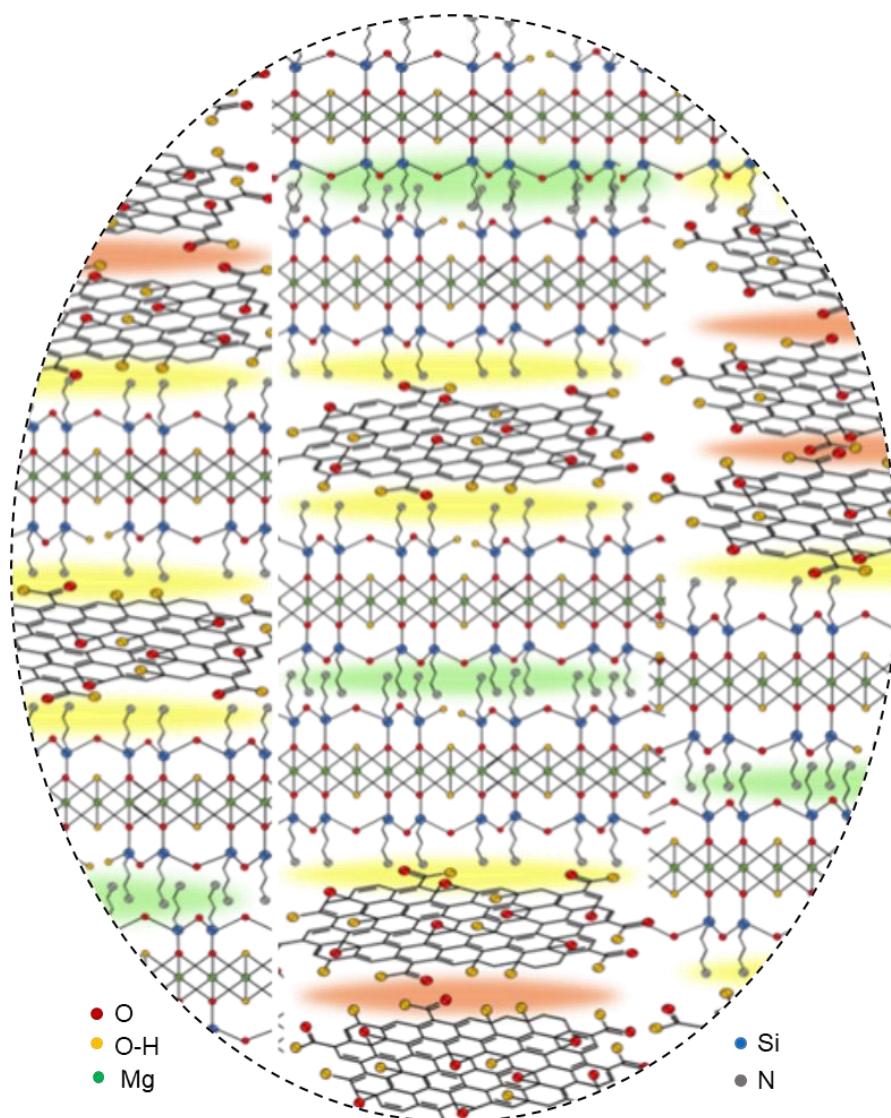
**Figure S3.** (A, B) FESEM images of AC at different magnifications. C) SEM EDS of AC.



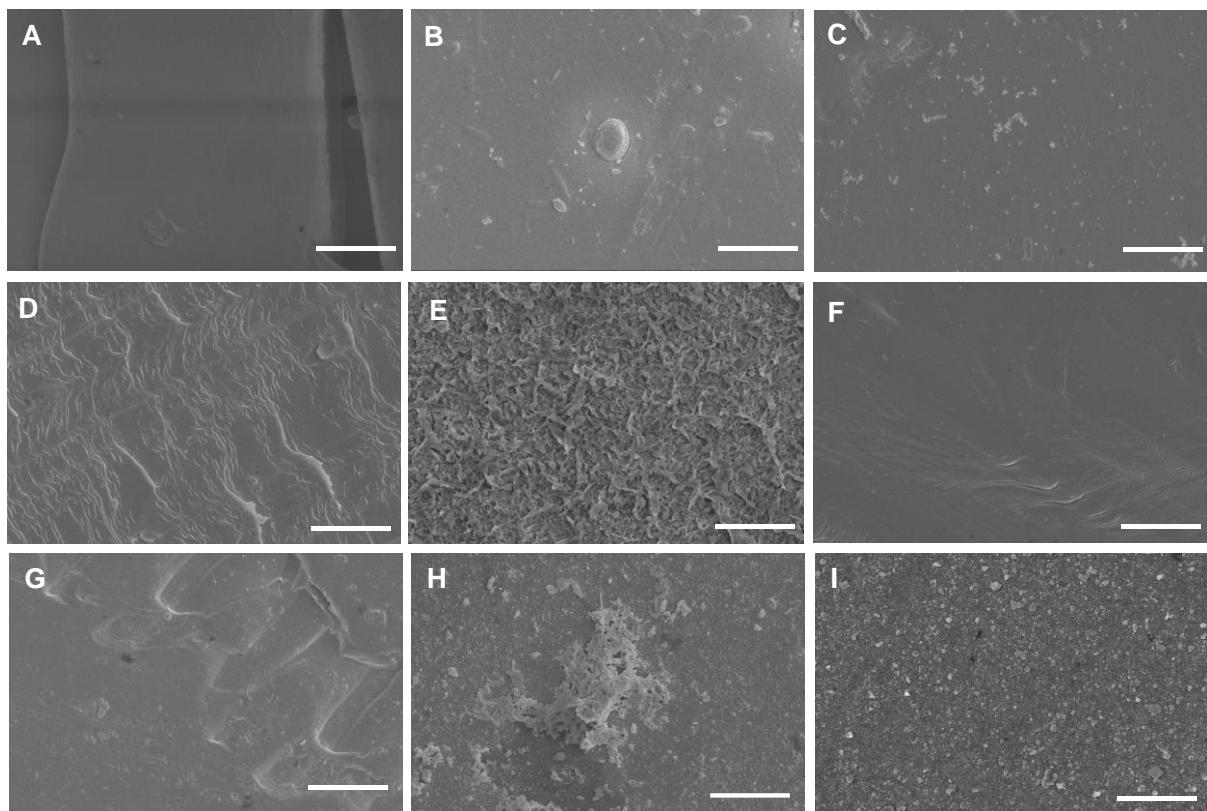
**Figure S4.** A) Schematic and B) corresponding TEM image of AC showing the layered structure.



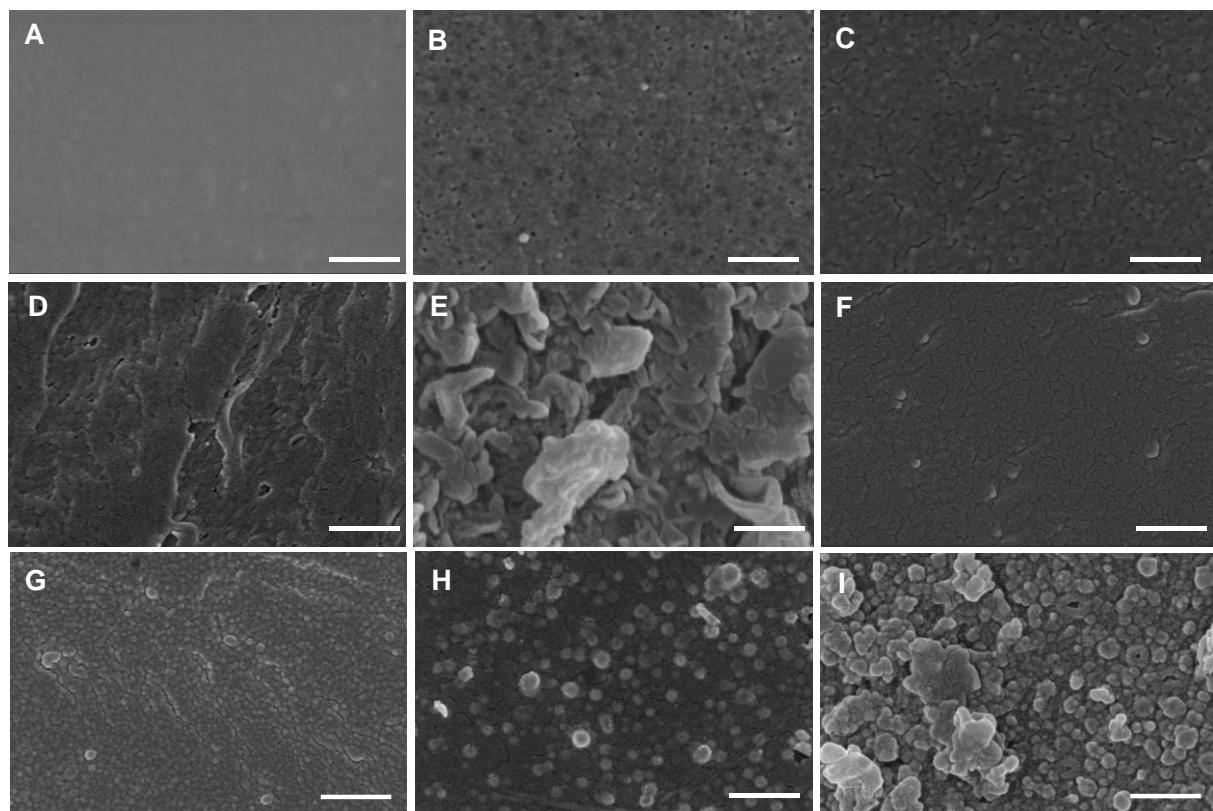
**Figure S5.** (A, B) FESEM images of AC-GO at different magnifications. C) SEM EDS of AC-GO.



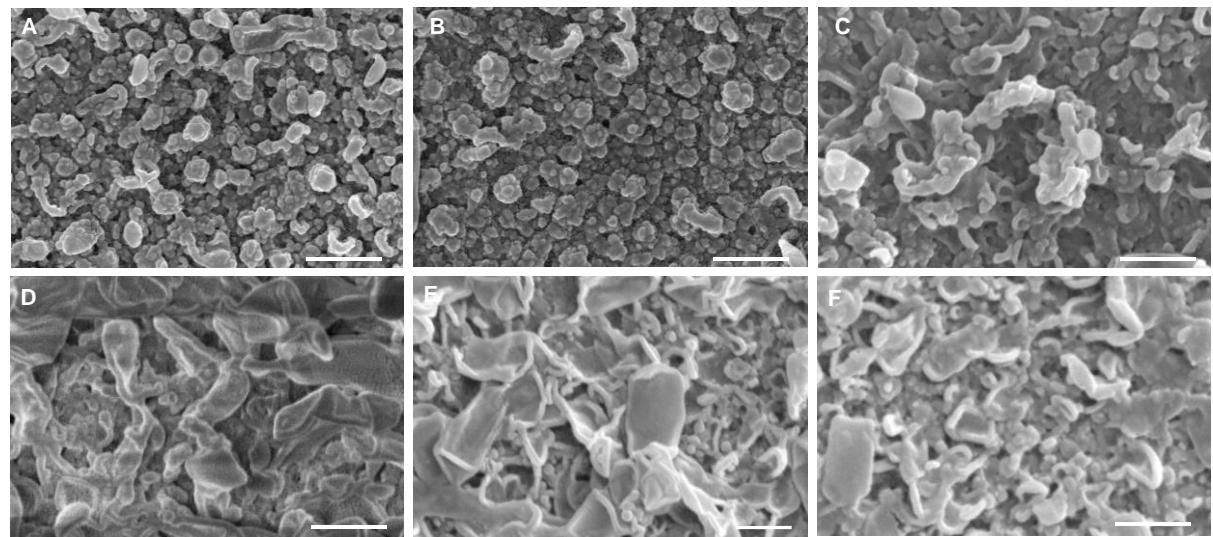
**Figure S6.** Possible bond formation between AC and GO in AC-GO composites (yellow shade shows AC and GO interaction, green shade for AC and AC interaction, and red shade for GO and GO sheets interaction).



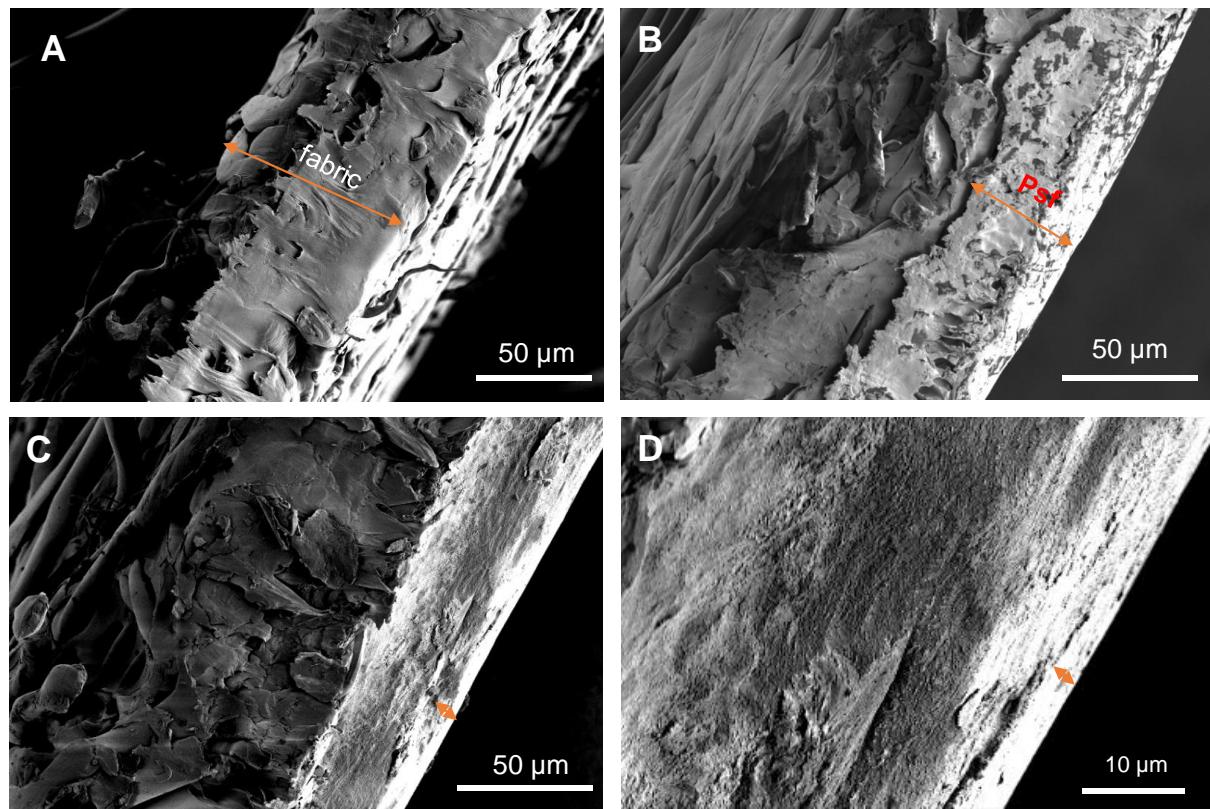
**Figure S7.** FESEM images of A) fabric, B) blank PSf and, loading dependent C) 0.005, D) 0.01, E) 0.015, F) 0.02, G) 0.025, H) 0.05 and I) 0.1 wt% of TFC/AC-GO membranes (scale bar for all images 5  $\mu\text{m}$ ).



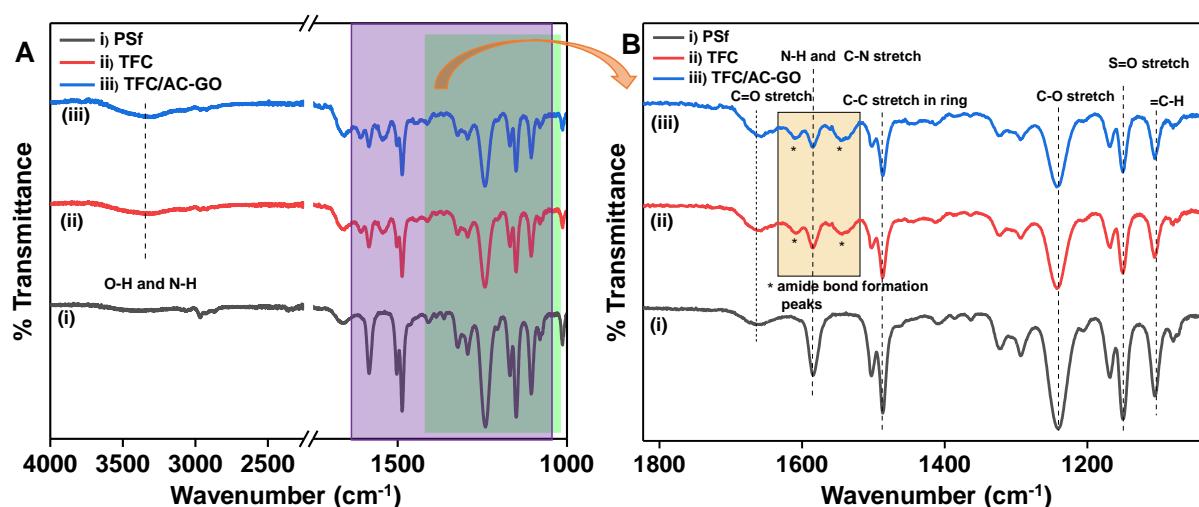
**Figure S8.** FESEM images of A) fabric, B) blank PSf and, loading dependent C) 0.005, D) 0.01, E). 0.015, F) 0.02, G) 0.025, H) 0.05 and I) 0.1 wt% of TFC/AC-GO membranes (scale bar for all images 500 nm).



**Figure 9.** FESEM images of membrane: A) M10, B) M20, C) M30, D) M40, E) M50 and F) M60 (scale bar for all images 500 nm).



**Figure 10.** The cross-sectional view of A) fabric (scale bar 50  $\mu\text{m}$ ), B) fabric+PSf (scale bar 50  $\mu\text{m}$ ), C) M30 (scale bar 50  $\mu\text{m}$ ) and D) M30 membrane at higher magnification (scale bar: 10  $\mu\text{m}$ ).



**Figure S11.** FTIR analysis of i) PSf, ii) unmodified TFC, and iii) AC-GO modified TFC membrane (M30).

**Table S1.** Water flux, % salt rejection and permeance for PSf support layer, unmodified M30, and modified M30 membranes (0.015 w% of AC, GO, and AC-GO) at 2000 ppm salt concentration and 20 bar pressure.

Membrane	Flux (L/m <sup>2</sup> h)	Permeance (Lm <sup>-2</sup> h <sup>-1</sup> bar <sup>-1</sup> )	% salt rejection
PSf	8.04 ± 0.20	~ 0.402 ± 0.01	23.67 ± 1.58
PA	15.62 ± 0.36	~ 0.781 ± 0.02	97.03 ± 1.07
AC	32.02 ± 1.42	~ 1.601 ± 0.07	99.30 ± 0.36
GO	31.96 ± 1.55	~ 1.598 ± 0.08	99.51 ± 0.09
AC-GO	50.28 ± 1.69	~ 2.514 ± 0.08	99.51 ± 0.10

**Table S2.** Water flux and salt rejection studies of AC-GO modified M30 membrane at 20 bar pressure and different salt concentrations (2000, 5000, and 10,000 ppm).

Membrane	Salt concentration (ppm)					
	2000 ppm		5000 ppm		10,000 ppm	
	Flux (L/m <sup>2</sup> h)	% salt rejection	Flux (L/m <sup>2</sup> h)	% salt rejection	Flux (L/m <sup>2</sup> h)	% salt rejection
M10	19.79 ± 1.22	99.36 ± 0.18	14.80 ± 0.58	99.33 ± 0.14	10.21 ± 0.44	99.02 ± 0.08
M20	46.47 ± 1.38	99.49 ± 0.12	37.68 ± 1.18	99.22 ± 0.07	23.91 ± 0.88	99.11 ± 0.05
M30	50.28 ± 1.69	99.51 ± 0.10	39.23 ± 1.16	99.41 ± 0.07	25.39 ± 0.80	99.21 ± 0.06
M40	47.42 ± 1.28	99.48 ± 0.08	36.32 ± 0.99	99.33 ± 0.07	23.07 ± 0.67	99.04 ± 0.11
M50	39.05 ± 1.08	99.29 ± 0.16	30.11 ± 0.69	99.24 ± 0.10	19.52 ± 0.40	98.70 ± 0.27
M60	40.13 ± 2.21	99.31 ± 0.07	29.04 ± 0.58	99.20 ± 0.11	20.69 ± 0.41	98.58 ± 0.05

**Table S3.** Pressure-dependent permeation studies of M30 membrane for feed water salt concentration of 2000 ppm.

Pressure (bar)	15	20	25	30	35	40
Flux (L/m <sup>2</sup> h)	36.12 ± 0.99	50.28 ± 1.69	55.68 ± 1.94	66.63 ± 0.78	77.63 ± 1.73	85.60 ± 1.29