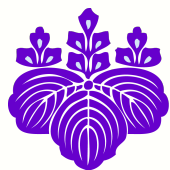




TSUKUBA
GLOBAL
SCIENCE
WEEK 




筑波大学
University of Tsukuba

Book of Abstract

***Frontiers and Sustainability of Bioresources
and Environmental Engineering***





This is the short version of the abstract for print use.

Full abstracts with all authors, references, and figures can be found at:
<http://www.eng.bres.tsukuba.ac.jp/colloid/research-unit/tgsw2020engbres/index.html>

Book of Abstract is designed by [Saha Santanu, University of Tsukuba](#)

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Environmental Sciences	13

Message From Chair

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Welcome to the online session of Environmental Interface Engineering based on the Dynamic Analysis of Colloidal Flocculation.



This session was firstly organized in line with the activity of the JSPS research project of the same name which has been carried out for the last five years. The first proposal was submitted as the main session of Tsukuba Global Science Week (TGSW2020).

However, immediately after receiving news of acceptance from the TGSW main office, the problem of COVID-19 has come out. TGSW2020 made a decision to carry out as an online conference. Accordingly, this session has modified the original plan. In addition to the original idea, the plan was extended to confirm the formation of an excellent network through current and past ten year activities of the Research Unit of Colloid Engineering in Bioresources. The online conference including digital poster sessions reflecting the previous experience was successfully planned by many participants of this network. In addition to the original idea, this activity becomes a new challenge to cope with the pandemic.

I really express my sincere thanks for the collaboration and dedicated effort of my friends, colleagues, advisors, students, and staff.

Let us wish that all attendees and participants of TGSW2020 will have a fruitful and meaningful time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Y. Adachi', written over a light blue and yellow geometric pattern.

Yasuhisa Adachi

Frontiers and Sustainability of Biosources and Environmental Engineering(FSBEE)

The purpose of this conference is to gather young researchers to exchange and share their experiences and research results in engineering and bio resources fields. At the same time, to discuss the practical challenges encountered and solutions adopted.

Due to COVID-19, the number of poster participants was restricted to ease the management. Even so, FSBEE has received a total of 20 poster participants from 7 countries including Japan, China, Russia, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Vietnam, and India.

To make things easier, FSBEE is divided into five groups; (A) Biotechnology, (B) Colloid and Interface, (C) Environmental Sciences, (D) Nanoparticles, and (E) Waste Treatment. Each group consists of 4 participants and will present similar research under the same group topic. Such an arrangement is necessary to achieve more effective networking and to ensure all participants can have a rewarding experience.

Organizing committee

Advisory board

Hiroyuki Ohshima (Tokyo University of Science)

Cordelia Selomulya (University of New South Wales)

Shingo Matsukawa (Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology)

Hideki Sakai (Tokyo University of Science)

Hongtao Wang (Tongji University)

Kamila Kydralieva (Moscow Aviation Institute)

Partha P. Gopmandal (National Institute of Technology Durgapur, India)

Herve Cottet (University of Montpellier)

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Saha Santanu

Zul Hilmi Bin Saidin

Kiyono Omija

Yang Xin

Secretary

Susumu Sakurai

Session Organizers

Sept
28

Main Session

10:00 ~ 12:00

***Deeping Researches on Agro-biological Resources
with DDP between UT and NTU***



Sept
29

Main Session

9:20 ~ 11:20, 13:30 ~ 15:10, 15:30 ~ 17:10

***Engineering Science of Life and Environment
Based on Colloidal Flocculation***



Poster Session

11:30 ~ 13:30

***Frontiers and Sustainability of Bioresources
and Environmental Engineering***

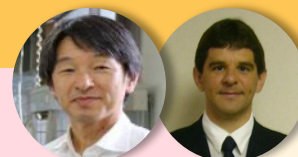


Sept
30

Poster Session

9:00 ~ 12:00

***Bioresource Engineering-Colloid and Nano Technology
toward Solution of Environmental Problems***



Main Session

12:25 ~ 17:00

***Agriculture X AI: Self Sufficiency in Food Production
to Achieve Society 5.0 and SDG's Globally***





Conducted online on
Microsoft Teams



Sept
29

Parallel Sessions					
Teams	Room A	Room B	Room C	Room D	Room E
Chairperson	Kuroiwa Takashi University of Tsukuba	Sugimoto Takuya The University of Tokyo	Lili Feng North China University of Water Resource and Electric Power	Takumi Saito The University of Tokyo	Hongtao Wang Tongji University, China
11:30	Opening Remarks				
20 mins	A1	B1	C1	D1	E1
20 mins	A2	B2	C2	D2	E2
20 mins	A3	B3	C3	D3	E3
20 mins	A4	B4	C4	D4	E4
1:00	Closing Remarks & Adjourned				

Session Organizers



Audience
Registration



List of Abstracts – Posters

Here is the whole list of abstracts. For your convenience, any full abstract can be found directly by clicking on the title of respective author, also you can join the Teams room by just clicking on '[Room -](#)'.

Room -A

Biotechnology		
Chair Person : Kuroiwa Takashi		
Tokyo City University		
Poster ID	Name, Affiliation	Title
A1	H. Zhang , J. Wang, Y. Yu, S. Kaul, Z. Zhang, E. Miyako, R. Wadhwa University of Tsukuba, Japan	Ashwagandha leaf extract -folic acid nanoparticles enhanced the selective targeting of cancer cells
A2	X. Li , Z. Lei, X. Li, Z. Zhang, R. Wadhwa, K. Shimizu, Z. Zhang University of Tsukuba, Japan	Evaluation of Anticancer Activities of Cordyceps militaris Grown on Fluorinated Medium on A549 cells
A3	T. H. Dao, T. Q. M. Vu, N. T. Nguyen, T. D. Pham Vietnam National University, Hanoi	Adsorption characteristics of polyelectrolytes onto differently charged nanoalumina surfaces and applications in antibiotics removal
A4	W. Shibahara , Y. Ito, S. Ichikawa University of Tsukuba, Japan	Edible Polymer Multi Multi-Coating Effect on in Vitro Gastrointestinal Digestion Behavior of Emulsion Oil Droplets

Room -B

Colloid and Interface		
Chair Person : Sugimoto Takuya		
The University of Tokyo		
Poster ID	Name, Affiliation	Title
B1	A. Razali , F. Turci, C. P. Royall International Islamic University of Malaysia, Malaysia	Local Structural Changes in Colloid-Polymer Mixture: Colloids as Atomic Model
B2	M. Kobayshi University of Tsukuba, Japan	How I have been playing with Hiroyuki Ohshima theories
B3	S. Wada University of Tsukuba, Japan	Experimental assessment of breakup of marine aggregates
B4	S. Maurya , S. Saha, P.P. Gopmandal, H. Ohshima Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology Sikkim, India,	Effect of ion partitioning on the electroosmotic flow and associated heat transfer through soft nanochannel

Room -C

<p style="text-align: center;">Environmental Sciences</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chair Person : Lili Feng</p> <p style="text-align: center;">North China University of Water Resource and Electric Power</p>		
Poster ID	Name, Affiliation	Title
C1	L. Bondarenko , K. Kydraliev National Research University ,Russia	Humic acids' and silica coated magnetite nanoparticles as effective adsorbents for diclofenac
C2	Y. Yamashita , T. Nomiya, Y. Adachi University of Tsukuba, Japan	Coagulation and Sedimentation of Imogolite Clay Nanotubes
C3	X. Feng , X. Ping, W. Dongsheng North China Electric Power University, China	Influence of allochthonous organic matters on algae removal: Organic removal and floc characteristics
C4	Y. Xu , Y. Bai, T. Hiemstra, W. Tan, L. Weng Wageningen University & Research, the Netherlands	Resolving Humic and Fulvic Acids in Binary Systems Influenced by Adsorptive Fractionation to Fe-(hydr)oxide with Focus on UV-Vis Analysis

Room -D

<p style="text-align: center;">Nanoparticles</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chair Person: Takumi Saito</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The University of Tokyo</p>		
Poster ID	Name, Affiliation	Title
D1	L. Xiao , S. Sun, X. Li, Z. Zhang, Z. Lei, K. Shimizu University of Tsukuba, Japan	Effects of Nanobubble Water on the biomass accumulation and Antioxidative Activities of Polysaccharides from Mycelium of Cordyceps militaris
D2	I. Magomedov , K. Kydraliev National Research University, Russia	Synthesis, Sorption Properties and Bioavailability of Magnetite-Activated Carbon Nanoparticles
D3	A. Hakim , M. Kobayashi Department of Soil Science, University of Chittagong, Bangladesh	Aggregation and aggregate strength of natural organic matter: effects of hydrophobicity and solution pH
D4	C. Ni , J. Hou, W. Tan Huazhong Agricultural University, China	Enhanced catalytic activity of OMS-2 nanomaterial for benzene degradation by tuning Sr ² contents in the tunnels

Room -E

<p>Environmental Sciences</p> <p>Chair Person : Hongtao Wang</p> <p>Tongji University, China</p>		
Poster ID	Name, Affiliation	Title
E1	C. Liu , J. Zhao, Z. Lei, K. Shimizu, Z. Zhang University of Tsukuba, Japan	Hydrothermal Carbonization of Sewage Sludge: Effect of Distillers Grains as Additive on Properties and Combustion Behavior of Produced Hydrochar
E2	V. Punnyaswaran, Md. A. Al-samet , M. Goto University Technology Malaysia, Malaysia	Biochemical Methane Potential (BMP) From The Anaerobic Digestion of Food Waste
E3	G. Zhang , Q. Shi, Q. Lia, H. Wang Tongji University, China	Agents for sludge dewatering in fundamental research and applied research: A bibliometric analysis
E4	J. Wang , T. Wang, Q. Zhu, S. Zhang, Q. Shi, H. Wang Tongji University, China	Preparation of A Novel Sludge-derived Biochar by K ₂ FeO ₄ Conditioning to Enhance the Removal of Pb ²

***Ashwagandha* leaf extract -folic acid nanoparticles enhanced the selective targeting of cancer cells**

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Folate receptor alpha (FRA) is a glycosylphosphatidylinositol cell surface anchored glycoprotein that is overexpressed on the surface of a variety of cancer cells. It binds to folic acid (FA) and mediates its intracellular transport, which is essential for proliferation of these cancer cells. On the other hand, normal cells have limited FRA expression restricted largely to the apical surfaces of the epithelial tissue where it is inaccessible to the circulating drugs. Due to such reasons FRA has been considered as a target for cancer therapy.

Alcoholic extract of *Ashwagandha* leaf (i-Extract) was reported to have selective cancer cell killing activity. This study aimed to increase potency of this activity by recruiting FRA. FRA-ligand, FA, was used as the carrier for i-Extract. FA-PEG-i-Extract (FAP-iEX) nanoparticles were generated by using 1,2-distearoyl-*sn*-glycero-3-phosphoethanolamine-N-[folate(polyethylene glycol)-2000] FA-DSPE-PEG. It was found that FAP-iEX nanoparticles caused dose-dependent growth arrest that was much stronger for HeLa cells (FRA⁺) as compared with MCF7 cells (FRA⁻). Molecular analysis revealed stronger decrease in Cdk4 and Bcl2, and increase in p21^{WAF1} and pro-PARP-1 in the FAP-iEX treated HeLa cells. These data suggest that *Ashwagandha* FAP-iEX nanoparticles could be an efficient and safe natural drug for cancer treatment.

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Evaluation of Anticancer Activities of *Cordyceps militaris* Grown on Fluorinated Medium on A549 cells

○ Xiaoshuai Li¹, Zhongfang Lei¹, Renu Wadhwa², Kazuya Shimizu¹, Zhenya Zhang¹, †

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Cordyceps militaris (CM), a traditional Chinese insect-born fungus, has been long used as an alternative medicine which can function as antimicrobial, antioxidant, and hyperglycaemic inhibitory substitutes [1]. Fluorine is widely applied in medicinal chemistry to improve a molecular potency and permeability due to its small size and strong electron-withdrawing property [2]. It is innovative to add fluorine to CM culture medium, so as to use biosynthetic machinery in living organisms for fluorine utilization, which can enable the probable incorporation of natural products with structural complexity and fluorine that can tune molecular properties.

This study examined the effects of NH₄F- and KF-added medium on CM cultivation and its properties by harvesting CM fruit body. The water extracts from CM fruit body were used to evaluate their anticancer effects on A549 cells. Compared with the normal medium CM extracts, the ratio of total death cells was respectively increased from 14% to 20% and 19% in NH₄F- and KF-added CM extracts. Correspondingly, the activity of PARP-1 pro was increased by 15%, 35%, and 63%. These results demonstrated that the extracts obtained from fluorine-supplemented medium induced stronger cell cycle growth arrest and apoptosis. Furthermore, they also possessed enhanced anti-migration activity on A549 cells.

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Adsorption characteristics of polyelectrolytes onto differently charged nanoalumina surfaces and applications in antibiotics removal

Thi Huong Dao¹, Thi Quynh Mai Vu¹, Ngoc Trung Nguyen¹, Tien Duc Pham^{1†}
¹Faculty of Chemistry, University of Science, Vietnam National University, Hanoi

Adsorption of strong polyanions, poly(styrenesulfonate) (PSS) and poly(2-acrylamide-2-methylpropane sulfonic acid) (PAMPS) and strong polycation poly 3-(Methacrylamido)propyltrimethylammonium chloride (PMAPTAC) onto differently charged nanoalumina surfaces was investigated in the present study. The synthesized alpha alumina was characterized by X-ray diffraction (XRD), Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FT-IR), Transmission electron microscopy (TEM), Brunauer–Emmett–Teller (BET) method and zeta potential measurements ¹. Adsorption of PSS and PAMPs as well as adsorption of PMAPTAC onto positively charged and negatively alumina surfaces, respectively were controlled by both electrostatic and non-electrostatic interactions ^{1,2}. Adsorption isotherms of electrolytes onto alumina surface were fitted well by two-step adsorption model. Surface modification of nanoalumina with polyelectrolytes enhanced a significant increase in antibiotics removal ^{2,3}. The effective parameters which influenced to the antibiotic removal including pH, contact time and adsorbent dosage, were systematically optimized. Adsorption isotherms and kinetics of antibiotics onto polyelectrolytes modified alumina were also studied. Based on the change in surface charge monitored by zeta potential, surface modification by FT-IR and adsorption isotherms, we suggest that antibiotics adsorption onto polyelectrolytes modified alumina was induced by both electrostatic and non-electrostatic interactions but electrostatic attraction was dominant. Our results indicate that polyelectrolytes modified alumina are the new and excellent adsorbents for antibiotics removal from aqueous solution ^{1,2,3}.

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Edible Polymer Multi-Coating Effect on *in Vitro* Gastrointestinal Digestion Behavior of Emulsion Oil Droplets

○ Wakana SHIBAHARA, Yuki ITO, Sosaku ICHIKAWA[†]
(Faculty of Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Tsukuba)

Oil-in-water (O/W) emulsion is dispersion system in which oil droplets are dispersed in an aqueous medium. It is widely used in the food and pharmaceutical industries, therefore controlling the digestibility of emulsion oil droplets in the digestive tract is one of the important issues for developing functional foods and pharmaceuticals. Layer-by-layer multi-coating of oil droplets by edible polymers is one of the ways to control the stability of oil droplets [1, 2]. In this study, we investigated the effect of layer-by-layer multi-coating using edible polymers on *in vitro* gastrointestinal digestion behavior of O/W emulsion oil droplets. The microchannel emulsification was used for the preparation of the base oil droplets [3]. Chitosan as a cationic polymer, and carboxymethyl cellulose or whey protein isolate as an anionic polymer were alternately coated on the surface of oil droplets. The stability of oil droplets after *in vitro* gastric digestion experiments was different depending on the coating-polymer type of the outermost layer of oil droplets. The hydrolysis rate of lipid triacylglyceride during the *in vitro* small intestinal digestion experiments was affected by the coating-polymer type and number of coating layer. These findings show that layer-by-layer multi-coating with edible polymers can control the gastrointestinal digestibility of emulsion oil droplets.

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Local Structural Changes in Colloid-Polymer Mixture

Colloids as Atomic Model

o †Azaima Razali, Francesco Turci* and C. Patrick Royall**

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Colloidal suspension undergoes phase transition: gas, liquid and crystal states, as was observed in the phase diagram of argon atoms. Linked by these similarities, colloids have often been used as atomic models and have been given the term “designer atoms”¹. The addition of polymer induces aggregation in colloidal dispersion by creating attractive interaction potential between the colloids. The addition of polymer to colloidal suspensions will cause the colloidal particles to aggregate at low volume fraction, ϕ^{2-5} forming a gel. The arrested behaviour in gels due to the polymer addition is analogous to colloidal suspensions quenching. The colloid-polymer mixture can be considered as one component system where the effective interaction is mediated by the polymer according to Asakura and Oosawa^{6,7} and Vrij⁸. In our work, we employed a well understood colloid-polymer system in order to investigate the local structural changes in reaching equilibrium ordered state. We studied the ageing of gels with different interaction strengths in experiment and simulation. Then, we also examined the effects of confinement to the sedimentation of colloids and gels. We have investigated the local structures evolution within the far from equilibrium state of gel using a confocal microscope.

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How I have been playing with Hiroyuki Ohshima theories

Motoyoshi Kobayashi
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Prof. Hiroyuki Ohshima has been deriving many useful theoretical equations for the development of colloid science. Most of his theories are explicit and thus are easily accessible for researchers doing experiments like me. On this occasion, I would like to share some of our outcomes^{e.g. 1-4} based on the analysis of experimental data using Ohshima's theories.

References

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Experimental assessment of breakup of marine aggregates

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University of Tsukuba)

Biogenic particles in the oceans are mainly originated from photosynthetic products of phytoplankton. A part of the particles settles into deep sea, and organic carbon involved in the particles are sequestered. This process is termed as “Biological pump”, by which the amount of carbon annually exported below surface mixed layer in global ocean would be comparable with CO₂ emission by human activity. Large part of sinking particles consists of amorphous aggregates. Transport efficiency of the particles to deep sea strongly depends on their size, and the size of the aggregates is determined by aggregation and disaggregation. While most of the past studies in marine aggregates had focused on aggregation process, recent advances in observatory apparatus to monitor turbulent shear have suggested the importance of disaggregation as well^{1,2}. Although strength of aggregates is essential parameter to understand the disaggregation process, experimental assessment has been rarely carried out. Here, we estimated the strength of marine aggregates to be 104-178 nN using Couette devices, being higher than that of mineral particles estimated in the past study³ probably due to sticky property of components of the marine aggregates such as extracellular polymeric substances.

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Effect of ion partitioning on the electroosmotic flow and associated heat transfer through soft nanochannel

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This study presents a theoretical analysis of ionized liquid flowing through a soft nanochannel under an applied DC electric field and associated heat transfer characteristics. The dielectric permittivity of the soft polymeric layers grafted on the channel walls are generally lower than that of the ionized liquid, which leads to a difference in the Born energy of both the phases. As a result, the effect of ion partitioning induces, which leads to a discontinuity in the concentration distribution of mobile electrolyte ions across the interface between the electrolyte and soft polymeric layer. The fluid flow across the polymeric layer is governed by the Darcy-Brinkman equation and the Stokes equation governs the flow within the bulk electrolyte medium. The electrostatic electric double layer potential is governed by the Poisson-Boltzmann equation, where the mobile electrolyte ions follow the Boltzmann equation. We adopt a finite difference based numerical tool to calculate the axial velocity profile and thereby the temperature distribution across the channel. In addition, we have also derived the analytical results for a soft nanochannel under low potential limit. The essential features of the electroosmotic flow and associated heat transfer characteristics through the undertaken nanochannel are highlighted by the variations in the axial velocity, temperature profile and the Nusselt number. We observed that ion partitioning effect significantly modulates the flow profile and thereby the thermal characteristics.

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Humic acids' and silica-coated magnetite nanoparticles as effective adsorbents for diclofenac

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In this work, environmentally friendly Fe₃O₄ nanoparticles modified with humic acids (HA) and/or 3-aminopropyltriethoxysilane (APTES) were proposed for the adsorptive removal of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug – diclofenac sodium (DCF). Synthesized nanoparticles were employed to characterize with XRD, Mossbauer spectroscopy, dynamic light scattering, N₂ adsorption-desorption measurements and adsorption kinetics was systematically investigated with different pH. For Fe₃O₄ and Fe₃O₄/APTES the average particle size of crystallines equal 6.9 and 9.6 nm, average hydrodynamic size at isoelectric points as 6.4 and 7.1 made 500 and 300 nm, respectively. The sorption experiments demonstrated the high uptake of DCF with 178 and 256 mg g⁻¹ for Fe₃O₄/APTES/HA and Fe₃O₄/APTES. Ultrasonic treatment of Fe₃O₄/APTES in the absence or presence HA were used to increase the removal degree for DCF at different time, pH and frequencies (30 and 100 kHz; 5-30 min and 3-9, respectively). Fe₃O₄/APTES in the presence HA after sonication at 100 kHz, pH 3 demonstrated higher adsorption (58%, respectively) in contrast with 30 kHz, pH 3 (32%, respectively) within 30 min. According to these results, HA and silica-modified nanoparticles represent great potential for DCF-contaminated water treatment.

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Coagulation and Sedimentation of Imogolite Clay Nanotubes

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Coagulation behavior of synthetic imogolite was investigated in wide ranges of solution pH and salt concentration. Imogolites are naturally-occurring clay nanotubes which characterizes volcanic ash soil alongside allophane¹. Imogolite is a hollow fibrous substance with an inner diameter of 1 nm, an outer diameter of 2 nm and a length of several hundred nm². The outer surface is positively charged by dissociation of hydroxyl groups of alumina, and the inner surface is negatively charged by dissociation of silanol groups. In recent years, their unique morphology and surface property attracts material scientists². To understand their roles in natural environment and engineered system, characterization of colloidal properties of imogolite is crucial. Although Karube et al.³ found a natural imogolite disperses on the acidic side and aggregates on the alkaline side at pH 6.5, salt concentration, which is an essential factor of coagulation behavior of colloidal suspension, has not been considered. In this study, the effect of salt concentration as well as solution pH on coagulation of imogolite was unraveled. At 10 mM of NaCl, the critical coagulation pH (CCpH) was confirmed at pH 6.5. The CCpH decreased with an increase of NaCl concentration while it increased with a decrease of NaCl concentration.

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Influence of allochthonous organic matters on algae removal: Organic removal and floc characteristics

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Algae are ubiquitous in surface water and affect the quality of surface water resources significantly by producing toxins as well as taste and odor compounds which adversely affect aquatic ecosystems and human health. This study was conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of three aluminum coagulants on algae removal by coagulation. Laboratory tests demonstrated that the maximum algae removal rates was 98.3% and 96.7% respectively by using PACl and Al₁₃ as coagulants, while the maximum algae removal rate was 88.3% by using Al₂(SO₄)₃ as coagulant at 0.1 mmol/L. According to the results, it also can be noticed that PACl and Al₁₃ had a wide working pH range. In addition, the influence of allochthonous organic matters on algae removal during coagulation was also discussed. The removal rate was increased with a low bovine serum albumin (BSA) concentration owing to improving the adsorption-bridging. A poor coagulation performance was observed with the increasing of BSA dosage since the excess BSA molecules may prevent molecules from approaching and seize the active sites, causing coagulation inhibited. The addition of humic acid (HA) and sodium alginate (NaAlg) had adverse effects on the removal of turbidity and algae, attributed to the preferentially reaction between negative functional groups in HA/NaAlg and coagulant. Thick flocs were formed with the increasing of allochthonous organic matters as the calculation results of fractal dimension (Df). According to high pressure size exclusion chromatography (HPSEC) and three-dimensional fluorescence excitation-emission matrix spectrometry (3D-EEMs), allochthonous organic matter with high molecular weight (MW) can be completely removed, while the organics with low MW regardless of its origin were difficult to remove.

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Resolving Humic and Fulvic Acids in Binary Systems Influenced by Adsorptive Fractionation to Fe-(hydr)oxide with Focus on UV-Vis Analysis

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Humic acid (HA) and fulvic acid (FA), are major reactive fractions of natural organic matter (NOM). Both HA and FA are simultaneously present in natural systems and bind strongly to oxide minerals (e.g., goethite), and therefore affects the distribution and bioavailability of a range of nutrients and pollutants. However, the competitive adsorption between HA and FA to minerals is not well understood, partly because of a lack of analytical methodology to effectively separate HA and FA in their mixtures.

In this study, an UV-Vis method was developed to quantify concentrations of HA and FA without and after adsorptive fractionation by an iron oxide (goethite, α -FeOOH). The UV-Vis method is based on distinct differences in the UV-Vis spectra of HA and FA, including fingerprints in both the spectra shape and intensity. Adsorption to goethite decreased the specific light absorbance of HA and FA, but the changes in spectral shape were not significant enough to cover their differences.

In addition, the performance of the UV-Vis method was compared to that of acid precipitation and size exclusion chromatography (SEC). The latter two methods give less satisfied quantifying results. Within limitations, the classical acid precipitation method can also be applied to measure the concentrations of HA and FA in mixtures when their concentrations are not too low. The SEC method performs very well in resolving unfractionated HA and FA in their mixtures, but cannot be recommended in quantifying the concentrations of fractionated HA and FA.

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Effects of Nanobubble Water on the biomass accumulation and Antioxidative Activities of Polysaccharides from Mycelium of *Cordyceps militaris*

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Cordyceps militaries is a traditional medicine, which is widely distributed in some Asian countries. The polysaccharide of *Cordyceps militaries* has been reported to have beneficial biological activities such as antioxidant, immunomodulatory and antitumor¹. This research is to cultivate the polysaccharide of *Cordyceps militaries* by liquid culture. Nanobubble water (NBW) is produced by mixing air in nano-scale with water through the NBW generator². NBW possesses unique physiological properties which has great application potentials in biological fields, especially in animal culture and plant culture³. Up to now little information is available on microorganism culture with NBW addition.

This research is the first report to the effects of NBW on *Cordyceps militaris*. The results showed a significant positive effects on biomass accumulation and antioxidant with different ratio of air nanobubble water supplementation. The mycelium from 25% of air NBW group harvest the highest biomass production and highest polysaccharides production. DPPH radical scavenging assay, hydroxy radical inhibition activity assay, reducing power assay and ABTS scavenging activity assay suggest that polysaccharides from 25% and 75% Air-NB groups exhibited higher ability, which were obvious stronger than the control (0%) group. The further activities will be analyzed in the future research.

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Synthesis, Sorption Properties and Bioavailability of Magnetite–Activated Carbon Nanoparticles

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In this work, hybrid organomineral sorbents based on activated carbon and magnetite nanoparticles for treatment of technogenic media were obtained. Two approaches were considered in searching for an efficient procedure: X-ray diffraction analysis shows that the major phase of the Fe_3O_4 -activated carbon nanocomposites is the phase of Fe_3O_4 nanoparticles irrespective of the synthesis procedure. Comparison of the two procedures for preparing the nanocomposites, performed using examination of the textural characteristics, shows that the *ex situ* procedure is more promising from the viewpoint of these criteria.

The activated carbon coated Fe_3O_4 nanoparticles ($\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4/\text{AC}$) were synthesized using a set of approach: (i) preliminary synthesis of magnetite nanoparticles (MNPs) by chemical coprecipitation of Fe(II, III) salts followed by introduction of MNPs into AC matrix (*ex situ*) and (ii) synthesis of MNPs in the AC matrix (*in situ*) by coprecipitation of Fe(II, III) salts or oxidation of Fe(II) ions. These $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4/\text{AC}$ sorbents combine the advantages of nanoparticles and carbon material and can be dispersed directly in water samples to extract analytes, then collected and eluted with a magnet, which avoids time-consuming column passing. Microstructure (content of stoichiometric magnetite, crystalline size), specific surface area and adsorption capacity of AC-MNPs towards Pb (II) varied with synthesis route. According to magnetic characteristics, the AC-MNPs revealed their ferromagnetic behavior at room temperature and a regular decrease in H_C with a decrease in the content of the MNPs in the order $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4 > \text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4/\text{AC-in situ} > \text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4/\text{AC-ex situ}$. The results of biological testing demonstrate relatively low bioavailability of the nanocomposite to *Scenedesmus quadricauda* microalgae and a more pronounced biocidal effect with respect to *Paramecium caudatum* ciliates.

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Aggregation and aggregate strength of natural organic matter: effects of hydrophobicity and solution pH

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Humic colloids are natural organic matter (NOM) present in soil and water environments. The aggregation of NOM, their aggregate size and aggregate strength are important parameters to evaluate the pollutants removal, ion bindings, and the fate transport of ions and pollutants in soil and water bodies. We considered humic substances as NOM. The size of NOM aggregates depends on the strength of NOM aggregates in the flow field and affects the transport of common soil ion and pollutants in porous media. We found the dominant effect of hydrophobic interaction and NOM hydrophobicity on the aggregation and aggregate strength of NOM in a wide range of pH.

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Enhanced catalytic activity of OMS-2 nanomaterial for benzene degradation by tuning Sr^{2+} contents in the tunnels

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Cryptomelane-type manganese oxides (OMS-2) nanorods have been intensively investigated for application in the degradation of organic compounds, and doping metal ions into the OMS-2 nanoparticle are a common way to modifying its performance^{1, 2}. In this study, we reported a novel strategy to enhancing catalytic activity of OMS-2 for benzene elimination by tuning Sr^{2+} concentration in the tunnels³. An obvious decrease ($\Delta T_{50} = 27^\circ\text{C}$ and $\Delta T_{90} = 37^\circ\text{C}$) in degradation temperature T_{50} and T_{90} (corresponding to benzene conversions at 50% and 90%, respectively) was observed. The origin of Sr^{2+} doping positive effect on degradation activity was theoretically and experimentally investigated by CO temperature-programmed reduction, $^{18}\text{O}_2$ isotope labeling, and density functional theory calculations. The result confirmed that increasing Sr^{2+} concentration in the OMS-2 nanomaterial not only promoted the lattice oxygen activity, but also facilitated the generation of more oxygen vacancy defects, thus considerably promoting the degradation performance of this nanomaterial.

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Hydrothermal Carbonization of Sewage Sludge: Effect of Distillers Grains as Additive on Properties and Combustion Behavior of Produced Hydrochar

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This study applied hydrothermal carbonization (HTC) to treat primary sludge with the addition of distillers grains and examined the properties of produced hydrochar as solid fuels. The co-HTC experiments were carried out at 180°C for 30 min with different mixing ratios of distillers grains to primary sludge (17:83, 25:75, 33:67, and 40:60, wet weight). The produced hydrochar was found to have increased higher heating value (HHV) and fixed carbon (FC) with the increase in mixing ratio, about 16% higher HHV and 4% higher FC at the mixing ratio of 40:60 when compared to the control (produced hydrochar without additive addition). The hydrochars with lower ash and higher FC contents under distillers grains addition are more promising for being utilized as clean solid fuel. In addition, under the addition of distillers grains to HTC of primary sludge, the dewatered sludge contained 4-6% lower moisture content signaling its better dewaterability compared to the control. The process water rich in organic substances such as proteins and polysaccharides could be used as carbon source supplement for sewage treatment units or for energy recovery. Thus, use of distillers grains as additive for HTC of sewage sludge may realize energy self-sufficiency in wastewater treatment plants.

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BIOCHEMICAL METHANE POTENTIAL (BMP) FROM THE ANAEROBIC DIGESTION OF FOOD WASTE

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Food Waste (FW) is generated in huge quantities worldwide. Due to its high COD content and unpleasant characteristics such as bad smell, the improper disposal of FW can cause serious environmental problems. Anaerobic Digestion (AD) is one of the key technologies with the potential to treat FW and produce renewable energy. In this study, Biochemical Methane Potential (BMP) tests for FW under mesophilic conditions using serum bottles¹ of 250 L were conducted to study the effects of Food to Microorganisms ratio (F/M) variations on the bio-methane yield and production. The tests were carried out for two types of food wastes at 3 different F/M (0.5, 1.0, and 2.0). The findings showed that AD of FW at F/M = 0.5 was the most economic and efficient. In addition, increasing the F/M ratio by double increased the methane yield by 13 % only. Moreover, for both types of FW, when increasing the F/M from 0.5 to 2.0, no significant improvement in methane yield was observed. It was concluded that higher organic loadings led to a slightly prolonged lag phase, and this phenomenon was more obvious as the F/M ratio increased. This phenomenon happens because VFA accumulates as a result of the high organic loading and leads to acidification inside reactor.^{2,3}

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Agents for sludge dewatering in fundamental research and applied research: A bibliometric analysis

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Here we present a quantitative analysis based on a total of 338 (out of 1126) core papers from Web of Science Expanded and 961 (out of 4678) core patents from Derwent Innovation to provide valuable suggestions that may promote further development in the field of sludge dewatering agents. The core point is to explore the relationship between fundamental research and applied research in the field of sludge dewatering agents through citation, characteristics of different countries/regions, collaborations of research area and organizations. Our results underline that highly cited papers support applied research by citing information among them. Japan paid more attention to applied research, whereas the USA performed well both in fundamental research and applied research. China has high quantity in both papers and patents in agents for sludge dewatering. The unique development path revealed that developing countries still have a long way to go in terms of technology innovation. Collaboration network of research areas has shown strong cooperation among applied researches, however they lack connection with fundamental sciences, such as physics or chemistry. Furthermore, collaboration network of organizations disclosed the necessity for upstream enterprises (agent producers) to work closely with downstream enterprises (agent users) in the sludge dewatering.

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Preparation of A Novel Sludge-derived Biochar by K₂FeO₄ Conditioning to Enhance the Removal of Pb²⁺

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In this study, three types of sludge-based biochar BC1, BC2 and BC3 was prepared by (1) raw sludge, (2) sludge after K₂FeO₄ conditioning, and (3) sludge after acidification + K₂FeO₄ conditioning. The results show that BC2 and BC3 have more functional groups, and their Pb²⁺ removal effect and acid-resistance are also greatly enhanced. At pH 3, BC3 can effectively remove 100 mg/L Pb²⁺. The concentration of Pb²⁺ in the effluent was not detected by ICP-MS (<0.06 µg/L). Most of the Pb²⁺ adsorbed by biochar was in the form of Iron Oxide, which had a high adsorption stability. Through ion exchange measurement and functional group blocking experiments, it was found that the removal mechanism of Pb²⁺ by biochar mainly included ion exchange with Ca²⁺ and Mg²⁺ on the surface of biochar, complexation of free -OH or -COOH functional groups¹, and other effects such as surface chemical precipitation or physical adsorption.² By comparing the results of BC1, BC2 and BC3, the fundamental reason for the significant improvement of adsorption effect was the increasing in functional groups and surface active sites.³

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