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## Effect of porous photocatalyst reactor on decomposition of organic matter and nitrification of ammonia in sewage

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## Abstract

A system for sewage water treatment in a primary sedimentation pond was investigated using a reactor tank equipped with cylindrical reactors which had porous photocatalyst coated with  $TiO_2$  around an ultraviolet lamp. Nitrifying bacteria were inoculated into the

reaction tank, and then the time course of POC, DOC, ammonium  $(NH_4^+)$ , nitrite  $(NO_2^-)$ ,

and nitrate  $(NO_3^{-})$  concentrations in the sewage were observed. The results indicated that

the porous photocatalyst exerted the effects on the capture of POC and the absorption and decomposition of DOC. In the reactor tank  $NH_4^+$  is nitrified to  $NO_3^-$ , which revealed that

nitrifying bacteria were active at the inside and/or outside of the cylindrical photocatalyst

reactor in spite of ultraviolet radiation. It was also revealed that the porous photocatalyst stimulated ammonium nitrification. By doubling the number of cylindrical photocatalyst reactors in the reaction tank, the nitrification rate was increased, although the POC and DOC were not very affected by the number of reactors.

Key Words: porous photocatalyst, sewage processing, organic matter decomposition, ammonium nitrification, nitrifying bacteria

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