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## Influence of ultrasonic pre-treatment on Pyrolysis and Combustion of Sewage Sludge by TG

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**Abstract.** The combustion and pyrolysis processes of sewage sludge were studied in the current report. Two kinds of sewage sludge(SS) were used, SS the sewage sludge was not treated, while SS-U90KHz the ultrasonic bath pre-treated sewage sludge with a frequency of 90KHz was not treated. Wastewater treatment plants are the origins of waste sludge. Analyses were performed roughly and finally. Thermogravimetric research analyzed the thermal behaviour of the analysed sewage bucket (TGA). The samples were heated at a constant rate of 25 to 800 Celsius by air (combustion) and nitrogen flow (pyrolysis). For sludges which have been investigated. In the TG/DTG curves, comparable thermal profiles were available. All of the TG/curves DTG's were divided into three periods. At the same time, during the combustion stage, the sewage sludge decomposition occurred in the 180-580 0C range. The pyrolysis procedure took place at a lower rate, but less weight loss..

### 1. Introduction

Wastewater sludge is a by-product of wastewater treatment comprising organic compounds, microorganisms and harmful substances, including heavy metals[1], weakly biodegradable organic compounds, microbes, viruses, pharmaceuticals and dioxins that are not easily disposable[2,3]. At least 20 metals are dangerous and half of them are released into the atmosphere to the point of posing a danger to public health[4]. When the waste sludge is treated, a number of operations are performed which rapidly decompose the concentrations of organic materials. The safe removal of wastewater sludge is one of the world's greatest environmental issues [5]. As sludge has a relatively high "calorific value," it is particularly fascinating to have energetic processing technologies, including thermal pyrolysis and combustion. The main advantages of combustion are the decreasing volumes provided by the centimeters relative to the initial commodities. This waste can be transformed by combustion into heat energy [6]. On the other hand, pyrolysis is a promising technique that makes it a valuable fuel that can be developed for the manufacture of fuels of a different sort, such as oil and gas[7]. Since most of the hazardous components are partially stored in the monkey[8], it seems that this process is less polluting than combustion. Like gas produced by the gasification of waste [9]. Coal combustion is a value for gaseous gas filtered pyrolysis as well as an understanding of the process of sludge pyrolysis is a first step in developing our combustion knowledge during the time of explosive combustion. Other methods have been followed[10], and sludge has been used in compound adsorbents[11,12,13] for the extraction of poisons such as NO<sub>2</sub> and SH<sub>2</sub>. The sludge is, in other words, still very useful. Sewage sludge pyrolysis studies and documents have been released. Pyrolysis and drying methods were examined by Kasakura and Hiraoka, taking into account the economies of various choices. Seggiani et al.[14] studied the decomposition of four wastewater sludge sites, showing that sewage sludge pyrolysis was prone to small quantities of organic salt and to the decomposition of two different reactions. An significant research method for the biomass



conversion of electricity[15] has been the alteration of multiple wastewater treatment plant sludge (WWTP) to modify the fuel properties of sludge and its actions during pyrolysis and combustion using ultrasound waves as pre-treatment[15]. This will build up energy through cavitation and then quickly discharge the energy through the immediate collapse of a cavitation bubble, which will break up the chemical connection and kill the interface constraints of the multi-phase system and increase the heat and mass flow[16]. About Subhedar et.al. [17] clarified some of the multiple findings of lignocellulose ultrasound. In certain cases, the ultrasound had a remarkable capacity to sever the chemical bonds of the biomass materials, allowing it to eliminate compounds of interest such as cellulose, hemicellulose or lignin. This research is being carried out to compare two samples of sandstone with pyrolysis and combustion in drainage plants. In pyrolysis and sludge combustion, TG results were achieved in N<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> atmospheres in the 25 800C temperature range of the ultrasonic wave 90 K Hz. Compared to other papers, the research carried out in this study is relevant for both of the two activities found, as it analyzes pyrolysis and combustion for the same sludge form.

## 2. Material and Techniques

### 2.1 Sample collection

The samples of sewage sludge have been taken from a factory of treating waste water plant (Al- Rustumiya, Baghdad, Iraq).

### 2.2 Techniques

#### 2.2.1. Prior-treating Techniques

An ultrasonic bath processor was used to treat (100 g) of sewage sludge powder which melted, scattered in a good way with 200 millilitres of filtered water, after that the mix sample settled in ultrasonic bath for 1 hr at 180 W power and exposed to 90 KHz frequency at steady temperature 80°C. as a final point, the mixture has been gathered by using filtrating sucked and drained off at one hundred and five°C for twenty-four hr.

#### 2.2.2. Using TGA analysing Device for High Temperature Decomposition:

SS and SS-U90KHz samples have been analysed utilizing an analyser of thermal properties (Linseis STA PT1000) for creating thermo-graphs in a flowing of nitrogen and oxygen . the specimen has been put under a heat rate of 10°C per minute. the primary sample weight has been nearly at (seven – ten) milligrams for every single run, besides the losing in weight data have been noticed at a degree of heat constant reach to 800 degrees.

## 3. Results and Discussion

In the inert atmosphere (pyrolysis) and in the oxidative atmosphere (combustion), the experimental variations in weight fraction vs. temperature were established in active runs at a temperature of 10 ° C min<sup>-1</sup> as shown in 'Figure. 1 'for two samples of SS and SS-90KHz, define the following differences.

**Table 1:** Approximate and ultimate analysis for SS and SS – U90KHz samples.

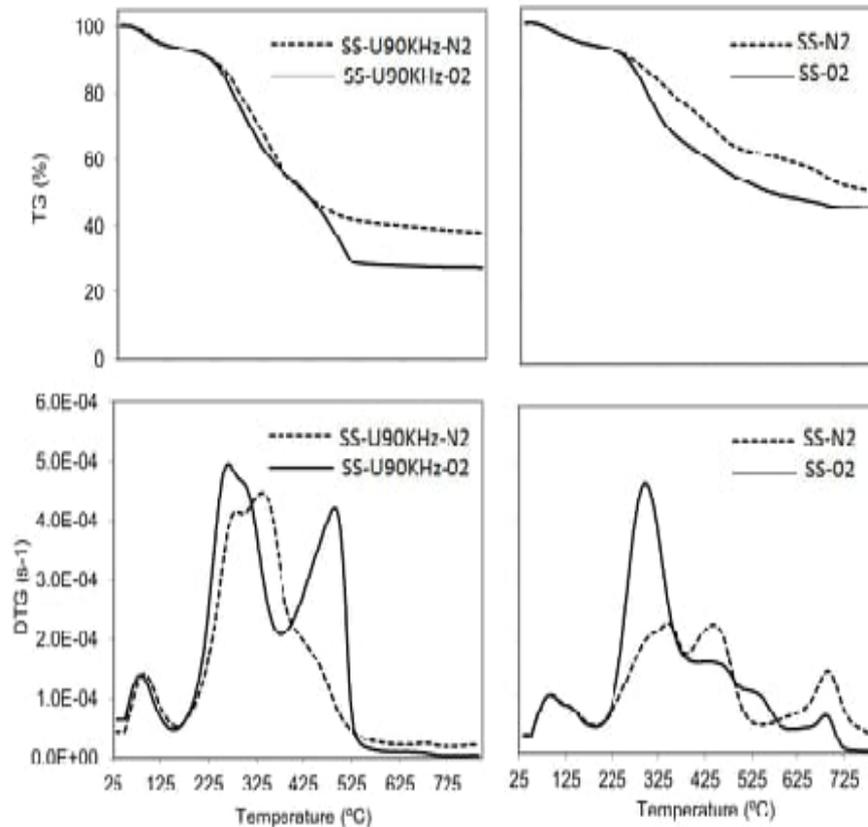
|                       | SS    | SS-U90 KHz |
|-----------------------|-------|------------|
| Humidity (wt%)        | 3.9   | 4.1        |
| Volatile matter (wt%) | 53.9  | 65.9       |
| Fixed carbon (wt%)    | 2.9   | 8.8        |
| Ash content (wt%)     | 45.3  | 30.0       |
| C total (wt%)         | 26.42 | 40.56      |
| H (wt%)               | 3.9   | 5.5        |
| O (wt%)               | 26.0  | 28.3       |
| N (wt%)               | 3.10  | 6.65       |
| S total (wt%)         | 0.71  | 1.25       |

### 3.1 Pyrolysis results on thermogravimetry and derivative thermogravimetry TG/DTG analysis

Sludge pyrolyzing is an inert thermal method, where organic material is subject to a sequence of complicated reactions, causing explosive production and organic condensation, which eventually contribute to the formation of carbon dioxide. The processes of devolatilization of sludge follow.

Sludge ----- volatile material (H<sub>2</sub>, CO, CO<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O, C<sub>x</sub>H<sub>y</sub>, etc) + Char

Directed thermogravimetry (DTG) of the samples of sludge pyrolysis confirmed a paralyse of sludge elements (biodegradable organic and bacterial substances and nondegradable substances) at two peaks partly overlapping or one peak and one shoulder of 180, 550 C. Specimens for sludges pyrolysis derivative thermogravimetry (DTG) A pyrolysis of sludges explained a top and a shoulder between 180 and 550 C. Two primary periods in this temperature range were regarded: (a) The bulk of reactive pyrolysis was considered for the first cycle (from around 180 to 385 C). Components (organic material biodegradable) were collected along with less reactive partial pyrolysis of the (bacterial components, the pyrolysis of which was initiated further at higher temperatures. (b) Less reactive portion (most usually bacterial) pyrolysis [18] was carried out in the second era (385-550 C). In addition, a light char devolatilization (secondary pyrolysis) causing the breakdown of the C-C terminal bonds in a concentrated organic composition in the char was detected at temperatures greater than 550 C. The end was observed. Other scientists [19,20,21] suggested that the above devolatilization has risen due to the non-biodegradable pyrolysis of the material. Moisture loss along with certain volatiles at temperatures below 200 C The high temperature was between 90 °C and 97 °C because of the lack of humidity. In Table 2 for pyrolysis and burning, the percentages of weight loss for each stage are shown to compare the weight loss of pyrolysis between these two methods, and to remember the ultrasound effect of pyrolysis and combustion. The lost weight is referred to in the same foundation for each sludge. The pyrolysis data thus contains a char production as a weight loss percentage. The profile and the two contrasting peaks vary from the sample of SS-U90KHz 'Figure 1' Due to ultrasound waves breaking up the chemical bond and disrupt the interface constraint of the multi-phase device, and boost heating and mass transfer, SS samples loss mass lower (36.2 wt. percent) than SS-U90KHz (59.1 wt. percent) If soaked samples were applied to the bath, biomass would well, resulting in lower crystallinity and a higher surface area, which increased structural interruption, moreover the lignin-carbohydrate bond decreased, lowering lignin percentage and digestibility of cellulose greater than previously during longer periods of treatment [22, 23, 24].



**Figure 1.** Comparison between pyrolysis and combustion sketch (TG and DTG) of SS and SS-U90KHz.

### 3.2 Combustion results on thermogravimetry and Derivative thermogravimetry TG/DTG analysis

The combustion of sludge is a complicated process that occurs in many phases. A pyrolysis loop begins the combustion process along with a fuel gas and a solid cargo. The gas generated burn when it comes to O<sub>2</sub>. Finally, the expanding O<sub>2</sub> oxidizes the char. The reactions involved during combustion are the following:

Pyrolysis period: Sludge ----- volatile material (H<sub>2</sub>, CO, CO<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O, C<sub>x</sub>H<sub>y</sub>, etc) + char

Volatile combustion: volatile material + O<sub>2</sub> -----CO<sub>2</sub> + H<sub>2</sub>O

Char combustion: char + O<sub>2</sub> -----CO<sub>2</sub>

These partly agree with the reactions observed in Table 2 during each cycle. The SS sludge's combustion sketch was different from that of the SS-U90KHz batch, similar to the DTG combustion sketches of pyrolysis 'Figure 1' consisting of two partly overlapping peaks between 180 and 550 C of approximately SS-90KHz. For SS sludge and the plateau, one top and two shoulders of 200 and 600C can be found due to carbonate decomposition at 685 C. Eventually, the sludge combustion cycle was divided into three main stages. Two sub-periods were seen for SS in the second cycle and only carbon decomposition was used in the third cycle in the combustion of the SS sample. Table 2 displays the percentages of weight loss during sludge sample combustion during different times.

In the first step, in contrast to the pyrolysis analysis of combustion and pyrolysis profiles of SS-U90KHz sludge, the DTG combustion profile was similar in nature. On the other hand, several differences in DTG combustion may be noted in the case of pyrolysis (table 2). The

first combustion cycle deteriorated in relation to pyrolysis. A lower peak temperature and high mass velocity loss were exhibited in the resulting DTG combustion peak. Data in Table 2 indicate that during the initial combustion process, only a volatile part of that formed in the first and second pyrolysis cycles was burnt (70.9 percent). This implies that the process of devolatilization/volatile combustion overlapped and lasted in the 2nd century. Starting from the 2nd one. A plateau loss (differing from the shoulder of the pyrolysis skirt) was confirmed by the combustion profile. Mass losses occurred on the 2nd table according to the results of Table 2 due to both the combustion of the chariot and the end of the devolatilization/volatile combustion process of the portion of bacterial matter initiated in the first stage of the SS-U90KHz sludge. The SS-U90KHz was 27.9 percent through instability / combustion and 15.2 percent through carbohydrate combustion.

For SS burning, first. A period between 200 C and 375 C was identified, with a single limit of about 59.5 Wt percent weight loss, which was greater than that obtained in pyrolysis (36.2 Wt percent). The drawing identified two small shoulders between 375 C and 600 C associated with the combustion of carbohydrates in the 2nd century. The shoulders were 3 to 515 centimeters by 70 centimeters and 5 to 600 centimeters by 515 centimeters. Beginning with the seventh. With a high of 685 C, the weight loss was 7.0Wt percent (See Table 2) due to the carbon division between 60C and 800 C. The rate of devolatilization/volatile combustion (59.5 percent wt) was high in the former, according to the data from Table 2. Compared to 66.8 percent and the Second Pyrolysis Stage of the SS, period of the first volatile produced. In the entire SS sludge combustion process, the following processes were also used: superficial water loss, decomposition and auto-gasification reactions, combustion of flux and carbon, and combustion of charcoal.

**Table 2.** wt% loss for both samples (SS and SSu90KHz) in each period in pyrolysis and combustion processes.

| Sludge (period)                             | 1 <sup>st</sup> period | 2 <sup>nd</sup> period           | 3 <sup>rd</sup> period | Char <sup>a</sup> |
|---|------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Pyrolysis</b>                            |                        |                                  |                        |                   |
| SS (200-380-550-800 C <sup>o</sup> )        | 36.2                   | 30.6                             | 22.5                   | 10.7              |
| SS-u90KHz (180-385-550-800 C <sup>o</sup> ) | 59.1                   | 19.6                             | 4.3                    | 17                |
| <b>Combustion</b>                           |                        |                                  |                        |                   |
| SS (200-375-515-600-800 C <sup>o</sup> )    | 59.5                   | 24 <sup>b</sup> 9.5 <sup>c</sup> | 7.0                    |                   |
| SS-u90KHz (180-370-550-800 C <sup>o</sup> ) | 55.4                   | 43.1                             | 1.5                    |                   |

<sup>a</sup> Char obtained also regard as a wt % loss.

<sup>b</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> sub period.

<sup>c</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> sub period.

#### 4. Conclusions

To evaluate the effect of sludge treatment on pyrolysis and combustion, thermogravimetric analysis was used. First, two samples were used for waste sludge SS without treatment and the second was used as a pretreatment with a frequency of 90 KHz for SS-U90KHz using ultrasonic baths. The combustion and pyrolysis were considered for two forms of sewage sludge. there is Some variations were found between the drawings of the combustion and pyrolysis phase of sewage sludge samples generated by the chemical composition. Combustion under a controlled oxidizing atmosphere is a mechanism that turns any carbonaceous feed into a functional heating value gaseous substance, leaving solid remains behind. The only pyrolysis discrepancy that is done under the inert atmosphere. The main process of devolatilization associated with the degradation of protein and soluble polysaccharides occurred during pyrolysis between 200 and 550 C. The oxidation of the sample was over 500 C during combustion. The char oxidation switched to lower temperatures as the concentration of oxygen rose. We will note the influence of the presence of oxygen on thermal decomposition by comparing the combustion and pyrolysis DTG diagrams.

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