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生物炭在水环境新污染物去除过程中的应用研究进展

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摘要 新污染物(emerging contaminants, ECs)具有浓度低、毒性大等特点,是饮用水和再生水水质安全的重要威胁。生物炭因制备成本低、处理效率高等特点,在水环境ECs的去除领域受到广泛关注。为了推进生物炭在水环境新污染物去除的应用,本文从水环境中ECs污染现状、生物炭的性质、生物炭在水环境ECs去除过程中的研究和应用等方面进行综述,分别总结生物炭作为吸附剂、高级氧化催化剂与微生物固定化载体对ECs的去除研究进展,并提出展望。

关键词 生物炭;新污染物;水环境;吸附;高级氧化;生物降解

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新污染物(emerging contaminants, ECs)是指在环境中以痕量形式存在的有机污染物,主要包括持久性有机污染物、内分泌干扰物和抗生素等,对人类与动植物具有潜在危害^[1]。近十几年世界各地的水环境中已频繁检测出各种ECs,地表水中ECs通常以每升纳克至毫克的水平存在^[2]。虽然这些ECs在环境中浓度低,短时间内不会对人体健康造成严重危害,但由于其生物难降解性与强蓄积性,可能会在水体中积累和富集,最终进入食物链,对水生生物和人体将造成潜在和持续性的危害^[3]。因此,及时采取有效的措施减少水环境中的新污染物对于保护人类健康和维护生态环境至关重要。我们以“环境内分泌干扰物(endocrine disrupting chemicals, EDCs)”“药物与个人护理品(pharmaceutical and personal care products, PPCPs)”与“water”为关键词在Web of Science上进行检索,发现1999—2021年间收录关于ECs研究文章呈逐年快速增加趋势(图1),可见针对ECs的治理已成为21世纪环境保护工作的热点与重点。

我国高度重视新污染物的管控与防治,“十四五”期间新污染物治理成为生态环保工作的重点。2020年10月,党的十九届五中全会明确提出要“重视新污染物治理”。2021年3月,十三届全国人大四次会议明确“健全有毒有害化学物质环境风险管理体系

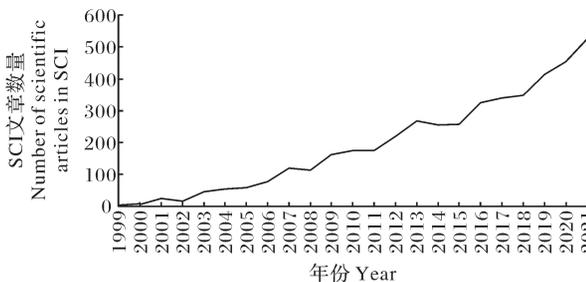


图1 基于“Web of Science”搜索的1999—2021年间关于“EDCs或PPCPs+water”关键词的文章数量

Fig.1 Number of scientific articles on ‘EDCs’, ‘PPCPs’ and ‘water’ from 1999 to 2021, as can be found through a literature research in Web of Science

制”。2022年5月,国务院办公厅发布《新污染物治理行动方案》,指出“十四五”期间将对一批重点管控新污染物开展专项治理,并规划于2025年底初步建立新污染物环境调查监测体系。为贯彻落实《新污染物治理行动方案》,2022年12月,生态环境部等六部门联合发布《重点管控新污染物清单(2023年版)》,将14种新污染物纳入重点管控清单,严格实施禁止、限制、限排等管控措施。新污染物治理已成为当前环境保护工作的核心任务。

目前,去除水环境中ECs的方法主要有物理化学法^[4]、氧化还原法^[5]和生物降解法^[6]等。物理化学法主要利用多孔的固体物质作为吸附剂,使污染物

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吸附于固体表面而被去除,可操作性高、运行稳定且效率较高。但材料较难回收、易产生二次污染。氧化还原法是降解有机污染物的常见方法,如Fenton氧化法、光催化氧化法、臭氧氧化法、超声氧化法等,其中高级氧化法具有反应时间短、去除效果好等优点,常用于实验室中去除ECs的研究,但高成本限制了其广泛应用。生物降解法是利用微生物、酶等生物成分降解水环境中的新污染物的方法。微生物通过吸收、分解、利用有机废物,并将其转化为无害的物质,从而清除水中的污染物。这种方法具有环保、经济、可持续的特点,广泛应用于污水处理厂、水体净化等领域。不同污染物治理方法具有各自的优缺点,虽然在环境保护方面均得到了广泛应用,但单一治理方法的应用仍存在ECs去除效率低、成本高等问题。因此,亟待更高效率的复合技术应用于ECs治理。

生物炭(biochar, BC)是一种具有广泛应用前景的材料,具有较大的比表面积^[7]、特殊的孔隙结构^[8]、优良的氧化还原特性^[9]以及较多的表面活性位点^[10]。生物炭材料既是一种理想的吸附剂,又是一种理想的高级氧化催化剂,能有效激活高级氧化剂。同时,生物炭还可为微生物提供理想的生长场所和庇护所,有助于微生物的聚集与繁殖,利用生物炭固定化微生物能够减少生物量失活并提升生物活性。生物炭具有固碳减排效益,其绿色应用将成为21世纪实现可持续发展“碳中和”理念的重要路径^[11]。

鉴于当前缺少对生物炭去除水环境新污染物的系统总结,本文以近年来生物炭在水环境中去除新污染物的研究成果为基础,系统梳理了生物炭在水环境中去除新污染物的应用研究进展。首先,通过分析当前新污染物的污染现状,揭示其对水环境的潜在危害。接着,对生物炭的性质和特点进行了深入探讨。在此基础上总结了生物炭在水环境中去除新污染物方面的研究进展,包括其作为吸附剂、高级氧化催化剂和微生物固定化载体的特点及优势。最后,对未来相关研究提出展望,以期在水环境中新污染物的防治提供参考和指导,促进生物炭在环境治理领域的应用和发展。

1 新污染物在水环境中赋存现状

近些年,不同种类ECs已先后在世界各地范围内地表水、饮用水和地下水中检出,涉及的ECs包括药品和个人护理产品(PPCPs)、内分泌干扰物

(EDCs)、微塑料、杀虫剂、工业化学品等。污、废水的直接与间接排放是水环境ECs污染的主要来源。Kasprzyk-Hordern等^[12]在英国南威尔士南部的2条河流中检出多种源自个人护理品、内分泌干扰物、非法药品的新污染物,污水处理厂尾水是这些ECs的主要来源。Yamazaki等^[13]对日本、中国、韩国和印度的地表水进行检测分析,证明双酚A(bisphenol A, BPA)等双酚类似物在自然水体中的暴露与污水处理厂尾水密切相关。Ma等^[14]发现华北地区的4个河岸地下水和邻近河流地区的PPCPs的污染情况受到当地污水处理厂尾水的严重影响。由此可见,污水处理厂尾水是目前ECs进入自然水体的重要途径。

ECs污染种类及污染量与含ECs制品的消费量密切相关。王慧等^[15]对南京市污水处理厂及其受纳水体19种目标PPCPs进行检测,发现在冬季的检出频率与浓度显著高于夏季,可能原因是冬季疾病多发导致抗生素以及其他药品使用量增加。BPA是一种制造聚碳酸酯和环氧树脂的中间体^[16],随着人们对塑料制品的需求量越来越大,已经被广泛应用于食品包装、运动器材、牙科密封剂等日常消费品。BPA不可避免地暴露于各种环境介质中,在国内外多地区水环境中都有着极高的检出率(表1)。

2 生物炭的理化性质及特点

生物炭是一种由生物质在缺氧或低氧条件下进行干法碳化、热解或气化形成的多孔碳质固体^[24]。其来源主要是农业废弃物^[25]和固体废物^[26],如秸秆、木屑、花生壳、甘蔗渣、污泥和畜禽粪便等。在当今全球固体废弃物日益增长的背景下,将生物炭应用于环境保护与生态治理等领域能够达到减污降碳的目的,还能推进农业经济发展,是一种绿色经济的“以废治废”方式。

虽然不同种类生物质在不同热解方法或不同热解温度条件下所生成的生物炭在结构与性质上具有一定差异,但仍然存在许多共同特性:第一,生物炭主要由碳、氢、氧等元素组成,其中碳的占比高达50%~90%^[27-28],且多为惰性碳,烷基和芳香结构是最主要的成分^[29]。因而生物炭常被作为一种具有高稳定性的富碳物质,用于储存生物质中的碳素,从而减少CO₂、CH₄等温室气体排入大气的比例^[30]。将生物炭还田可抑制或减少N₂O的排放^[31],达到固碳减排的积极作用。第二,生物炭一般呈碱性,pH变化

表1 不同地区水环境中双酚A赋存情况

Table 1 Occurrences of bisphenol A in aquatic environment in different regions

地点 Location	年份 Year	赋存水平/(ng/L) Occurrence level	参考文献 Reference
日本(江户川、荒川、玉川河),中国(珠江、西江),韩国(汉江、洛东江、荣山江),印度(Adyar河、Buckingham运河、Cooum河、Korttalaiyer河) Japan (Edogawa, Arakawa, Yukawa River), China (the Pearl River, Xijiang River), South Korea (Han River, Luodong River, Rongshan River), India (Adyar River, Buckingham Canal, Cooum River, Korttaaiyer River)	2014	16.7~14 800.0	[13]
珠江三角洲 Pearl River Delta	2010、2015	8.7~639.0	[17-18]
北太湖(龚湾、美良湾、珠山湾区域) North Taihu River Basin (Gongwan, Meiliang Bay, Zhushan Bay area)	2015	64.4	[19]
巴西里约格兰德河流域 Rio Grande do Rio de Janeiro	2016-2017	0~517	[20]
无锡太湖和漕湖 Taihu Lake and Ge Lake	2019	47.8~63.3	[21]
黄浦江上游 Upper Huangpu River	2020	26.00~64.32	[22]
孟加拉湾 Bay of Bengal	2021	40~446	[23]

范围在8.2~13.0,且随热解温度的升高,pH呈上升趋势。生物炭中的碱性物质大部分以碳酸盐的形式存在,也有一部分以-COOH和-OH等含氧官能团存在于生物炭表面^[7]。这些性质使生物炭具有良好的吸附能力以及对酸碱的缓冲能力,与微生物体系耦合能缓解细菌的酸抑制,常作为微生物载体应用于生物处理技术中^[32-33]。第三,生物炭具有巨大的比表面积^[7]、丰富的孔隙结构^[8]和含氧官能团^[34],较强的离子交换能力和持水性可固定多种无机和有机污染物,在污染水体与沉积物的原位修复均具有很好的应用前景^[35]。此外,表面存在活性位点与持久性自由基(persistent free radicals, PFRs)是生物炭的另一重要特征。Fang等^[36]利用生物炭活化H₂O₂降解2-氯联苯(2-CB),发现PFRs浓度与H₂O₂产生的羟基自由基(\cdot OH)呈正相关。近年来硫酸盐基高级氧化工艺(sulfate radicals based-advanced oxidation processes, SR-AOP)不断发展,生物炭也展示出对硫酸盐基氧化剂较好的活化性能,表明生物炭能够作为高级氧化工艺中的理想催化剂应用于环境治理中^[10,36]。生物炭具有良好导电性能,已作为能源电池、电极材料等广泛应用于能源领域^[37],是21世纪实现固废资源化、可持续发展的重要技术。

3 生物炭在水环境ECs去除过程中的应用

将废弃生物质转化为生物炭应用于环境污染治理符合可持续发展的理念。回顾近几十年来利用生物炭去除ECs的相关研究,我们发现通常可将生物炭用作吸附剂、高级氧化催化剂、微生物固定化载体

等应用于水环境中ECs去除。总结生物炭作为吸附剂、高级氧化催化剂与微生物固定化载体对ECs的去除研究进展如表2所示,并以BPA作为代表性污染物,总结生物炭对其去除的几种主要机制(图2)。

3.1 生物炭作为吸附剂去除水环境ECs

物理化学吸附去除ECs是一种操作性高、低成本和高效率的方法。例如,BPA等污染物在污水处理中主要是通过活性污泥的吸附作用而实现,其去除率可达到50%~75%^[38-39]。吸附剂是吸附法去除污染物的核心,常用的吸附剂有黏土、活性氧化铝、硅胶、壳聚糖、活性炭、石墨烯、碳纳米管和生物炭等。利用生物炭作吸附剂去除水环境中的ECs已成为研究热点^[34]。

生物炭可通过静电相互作用、疏水效应、氢键和孔隙填充等途径吸附ECs,通过固液分离技术可将已吸附ECs的生物炭与水体分离,再进行解吸附作用即可实现生物炭的再生^[35]。Shimabuku等^[45]研究发现生物炭可作为优良吸附剂有效去除地表水、雨水和废水中的磺胺甲恶唑,且吸附能力随比表面积的增加而增加。Choudhary等^[46]发现生物炭对甲基对苯二甲酸、卡马西平、布洛芬、三氯生的最大吸附量分别为60.2、51.7、38.8、35.4 mg/g,与商用活性炭相比具有更高的生命周期成本效益。含有芳香 π 电子的BPA可通过化学吸附作用(π - π 电子供体-受体)强烈吸附在生物炭材料表面^[47]。Zhou等^[48]研究表明生物炭经过臭氧老化和UV-硝酸盐老化后,对BPA的吸附能力基本不变。

表 2 生物炭作为吸附剂、高级氧化催化剂与微生物固定化载体对 ECs 的去除研究进展

Table 2 Applications of biochar as adsorbents, advanced oxidation catalysts and microbial immobilization carriers in removing ECs from aquatic environments

类型 Type	作用原理 Mechanism	优/缺点 Advantages/ Disadvantages	应用 Application	处理效果 Results	参考文献 Reference
吸附剂 Adsorbents	静电相互作用、疏水效应、氢键和孔隙填充等	优点:操作简单、成本低、应用范围广 缺点:去除率较低、受环境条件影响大	活性污泥法、原位覆盖技术等	50%~75%	[38-39]
高级氧化催化剂 Advanced oxidation catalysts	自由基作用、非自由基作用	优点:适用范围广、反应速率快、氧化能力强、适用于处理含难降解有机物废水 缺点:成本较高	实验室阶段	95%~100%	[40]
微生物固定化载体 Microbial immobilization carriers	吸附固定:使微生物吸附于表面或嵌入其多孔内部结构 包埋固定利用一些高分子凝胶物质将生物炭与生长繁殖于生物炭载体内部的微生物包埋在内部进行固定化	优点:微生物与污染物接触面积大、生物降解效率高 缺点:吸附固定较松散,微生物损失量较大 优点:微生物损失量低、存活率高、耐受程度高,材料重复利用率较高,去除效率较高 缺点:操作复杂	活性污泥法、生物膜法等 原位修复技术等	65%~98% 80%~99%	[41] [42-44]

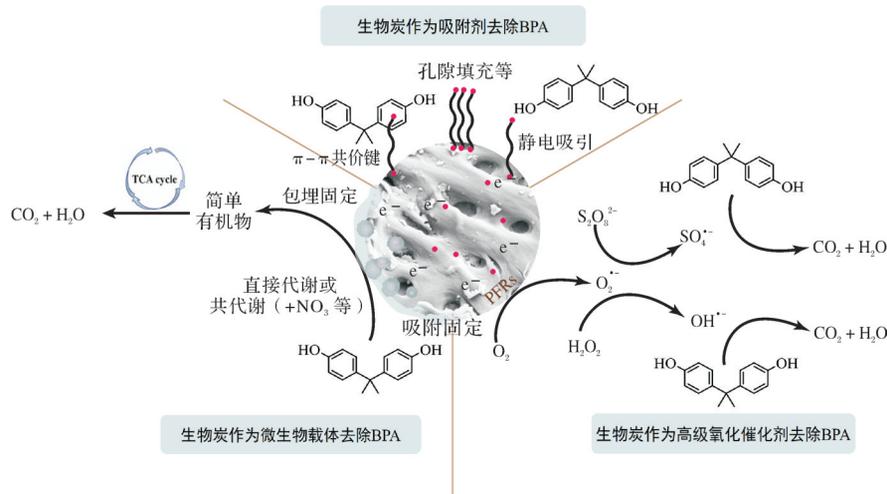


图 2 生物炭在水环境 ECs(如 BPA)去除过程中的应用

Fig.2 Application of biochar in removing ECs (such as BPA) from aquatic environment

生物炭对 ECs 吸附效果主要受水质条件^[49-50] (pH、腐殖酸、离子强度等)和生物炭本身性质^[51] (比表面积、官能团以及孔径分布等)的影响。通过表面改性或耦合其他材料制备可获得具有新颖结构和表面性能的改性生物炭,能显著提高生物炭对水环境 ECs 的吸附性能。Sun 等^[52]制备了氮杂化生物炭,利用原位 sp²C 优势促进了 π-π 电子给体-受体之间的相互吸附作用,改善生物炭与 BPA 之间的疏水作用,提升 BPA 吸附去除性能。宋泽峰等^[53]采用 KOH 活化方法处理芦苇生物炭后,生物炭对 BPA 的吸附容量提高了 10 倍以上。Shin 等^[54]研究表明经 NaOH 活化后的生物炭对 BPA 的平衡吸附能力 (61~192

μmol/g) 远高于原始生物炭 (14~21 μmol/g)。Shi 等^[55]发现改性后的具有分级多孔结构的生物炭对 BPA 的吸附能力远高于普通介孔生物炭,而改性后生物炭的稳定 pH 范围更大。杨墨^[56]对生物炭进行磷酸钾改性后生物炭对 BPA 的吸附去除率达 97%,且吸附过程符合准二级动力学方程。

3.2 生物炭作为高级氧化催化剂去除水环境中 ECs

与传统水处理技术相比,高级氧化法 (advanced oxidation process, AOPs) 因具有适用范围广、反应速率快、氧化能力强的优点,在处理含有难降解有机物的废水方面具有巨大潜力^[40]。高级氧化法通过产生 ·SO₄⁻、·OH 等中间体参与自由基氧化过程,不可逆

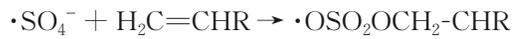
地改变反应分子,将污染物分解为低毒或无毒物质,甚至直接转化为二氧化碳和水。从2014年起,Fang等^[36]和Veksha等^[57]相继将生物炭应用于羟基自由基高级氧化过程(HR-AOP),发现生物炭能有效活化H₂O₂产生羟基自由基(\cdot OH)促进有机物降解。

近些年新兴的硫酸盐基高级氧化工艺(SR-AOP)主要通过活化过硫酸盐(persulfate, PS)或过氧单硫酸盐(peroxymonosulfate, PMS)产生 \cdot SO₄⁻和 \cdot OH自由基氧化有机污染物。该方法受pH和水质的影响较小,在去除水体ECs方面优势突出^[5]。 \cdot SO₄⁻与有机污染物的反应机制可以分为以下3种,其中第3种反应机制作用较强,有利于去除BPA等含有苯环的芳香族类ECs污染物^[58]。

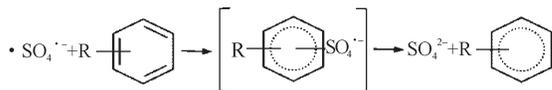
(1) \cdot SO₄⁻与有机物发生氢原子提取反应:



(2) \cdot SO₄⁻与有机物中的不饱和键发生加成反应:



(3)发生单电子转移反应:



高级氧化剂PMS与PS的活化过程是影响SR-AOP去除污染物效果的决定性因素,主要方法包括能量活化(如热活化、紫外线辐射、超声波)^[59]、过渡金属活化(如Co、Fe、Cu、Mn)^[60]和非金属碳活化(如碳纳米管、石墨烯、纳米金刚石、生物炭)^[61]。其中能量活化过程能量损失大,过渡金属活化容易导致有毒金属渗出并造成二次污染^[59],而非金属碳催化剂具有污染少、热稳定性好的优点。但碳纳米管、石墨烯等非金属碳催化剂制备过程复杂,大大限制了高级氧化技术的应用^[61]。生物炭性质稳定、成本低,因此生物炭基催化剂备受关注。

生物炭表面存在的活性位点与持久性自由基,可以激活高级氧化剂反应产生强氧化性的自由基,也能通过单线态氧(¹O₂)、电子转移、非光生空穴氧化等非自由基生物炭表面存在的活性位点与PFRs,从而催化高级氧化降解ECs^[62]。此过程受环境温度、pH值、无机离子浓度以及生物炭性质等影响,汇总生物炭活化高级氧化剂的具体作用机制,如图3所示。

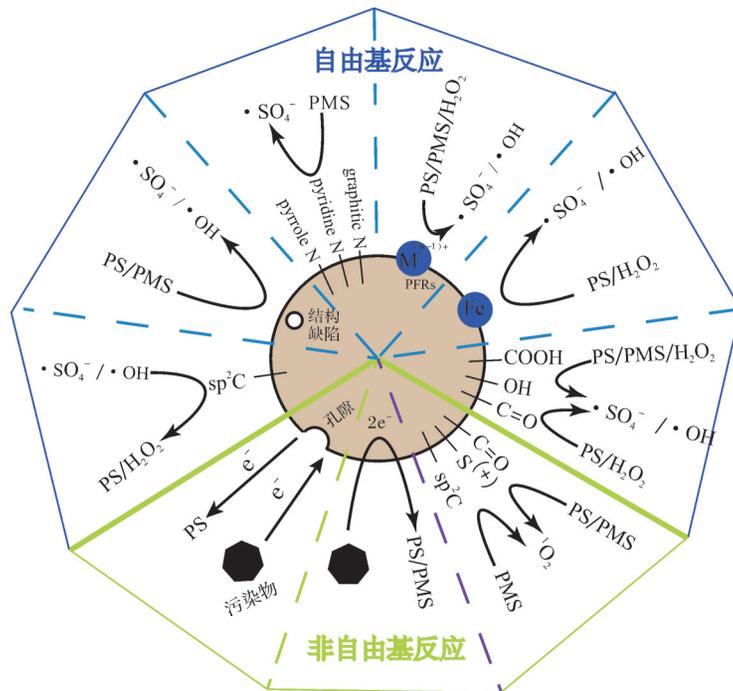


图3 生物炭活化高级氧化剂机制

Fig.3 Mechanism in activating advanced oxidants by biochar

Li等^[63]利用生物炭活化PMS降解抗生素环丙沙星,证明生物炭表面的活性位点促进PMS产生自由基。Liu等^[64]利用生物炭激活PS有效降解BPA,

降解效果与生物炭浓度呈正相关,在8 mmol/L高浓度PS的条件下,随着生物炭剂量从0.25 g/L增加到2.00 g/L,120 min内BPA的去除率从37.04%提高

至完全去除。Diao等^[65]研究发现生物炭激活PMS生成的 $\cdot\text{SO}_4^-$ 在BPA降解中占主导地位。Annamalai等^[66]发现生物炭可活化PS降解甲氧苄啶,去除率最高达97%。Wang等^[67]证明生物炭能够通过活化PMS促进磺胺甲恶唑、BPA、硝基苯和阿特拉津等ECs降解,在30 min内0.1 g/L生物炭可有效活化0.04 mmol/L PMS,完全去除所有目标污染物。

为提高材料表面PFRs含量并改善多孔结构,研究者对生物炭进行掺杂或改性处理,提高了生物炭对氧化剂的催化作用。Xu等^[68]用氮掺杂方法处理生物炭,使生物炭对苯酚、对乙酰氨基酚和磺胺甲恶唑等难降解有机污染物具有较强的氧化能力和非选择性。研究发现BPA降解去除还涉及吸附、电子转移和非自由基化合物的作用,比如碳复合材料的活化与吸附过程^[69]。Rong等^[70]制备了磁性生物炭($\gamma\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3@\text{BC}$),不仅便于材料分离,同时还强化了活化PS的催化能力,可在20 min内完全去除BPA,且降解速率(0.185 min^{-1})接近原始生物炭(0.095 min^{-1})的2倍。

通过耦合高级氧化与生物降解过程,能够显著提升有机污染物的去除效果。高级氧化产生强氧化自由基,能够氧化难以生物降解的污染物。随后,微生物能够迅速利用并矿化可生物降解的中间体,从而更有效地完成有机污染物的去除^[71-72]。研究发现若将微生物负载于一定载体中,可避免氧化自由基的攻击,从而保证菌群的稳定性和活性。早在2008年就有研究人员提出光催化氧化-生物降解直接耦合技术并证明了其可行性^[73],近年来研究也已证明高级氧化-生物降解耦合技术具有协同增效作用,能有效降解并矿化氯酚、抗生素、多环芳烃等^[74]。

3.3 生物炭作为微生物载体促进生物降解ECs

ECs的生物降解法指利用从自然界中筛选分离或经过人工培养得到的微生物菌群降解水环境中的ECs的处理方法^[75]。该方法主要分为生长代谢与共代谢2种方式。生长代谢过程中,微生物直接以有机污染物作为增殖底物(碳源)和能源分解代谢获取能量,进行生长繁殖。一些微生物还能将有机污染物作为唯一碳源利用。Hou等^[76]以BPA作为唯一的碳源筛选降解菌,分离到1株具有BPA降解能力的奇异变形杆菌SQ-2,该菌株可在不依赖额外碳源的情况下有效降解BPA,在BPA质量浓度范围在1~20 mg/L内降解效率可达66.8%~98.2%。共代谢指

微生物在利用其增殖底物的同时氧化降解非增殖底物,当某有机污染物不能直接作为微生物的生长碳源或能源时,共代谢作用便是其主要的生物降解机制^[77]。Delgadillo-Mirquez等^[78]证明多环芳烃的生物降解率与共代谢作用呈正相关,且与污泥厌氧消化过程中可溶性底物的吸收有关。郑小会^[79]选取了雌酮、雌醇、炔雌醇这3种作为代表性EDCs,发现有 NH_4Cl 存在情况下3种EDCs的降解速率常数均大于单独存在的情况,说明通过共代谢作用可以提高这3种的EDCs生物降解效果,且去除速率与硝化细菌的活性正相关。

保证微生物的数量与活性是生物降解高效去除ECs的关键,而当微生物单独存在于污染水体时,受环境影响大导致易损失、易失活,进而降低微生物对ECs的去除效果。研究发现使用微生物固定化技术,将游离细胞附着于载体上,有利于提高微生物活性、耐毒性且固定化微生物具有更好的可重复使用性,是解决上述问题的有效途径。1967年, Parkhurst等^[80]首次证明了炭基材料固定微生物促进有机物去除。生物炭材料作为新型载体固定化微生物去除新污染物的研究受到广泛关注,主要可分为吸附固定法与包埋法。

1) 吸附固定法。生物炭能使微生物吸附于表面或嵌入其多孔内部结构,为微生物生长繁殖提供优良场所。而且生物炭也能吸附ECs,有助于其表面附着的细菌捕获溶液中的ECs、促进营养物质传输和释放微量元素,提高生物降解ECs效率^[81]。生物炭能通过“吸附-解吸”作用调节ECs吸附量从而有效缓解ECs对微生物的毒性抑制作用,以及调节酸碱度缓解细菌的酸抑制^[33]。Li等^[81]发现生物炭可通过参与细菌生长、改变脂肪酸组成、增加基因表达量等途径强化抗生素的生物降解效果。Zhang等^[82]发现在硝酸盐降解过程中生物炭能够通过促进反硝化功能基因(*napA*、*nirK*)和参与反硝化的电子转移基因(*napB*、*napC*)的表达来促进硝酸盐的去除,生物炭固定化后细菌对硝酸盐的去除效果优于游离细菌细胞,硝酸盐去除过程符合零级动力学模型。Liang等^[83]利用生物炭吸附固定微生物显著促进对菲的降解,去除率 $[(58.15\pm 4.90)\%]$ 远高于游离菌处理 $[(38.73\pm 3.98)\%]$ 。

由生物炭的吸附-解吸平衡可知,吸附作用一方面缓解了ECs对微生物的毒性作用,促进生物降解;另一方面微生物降解吸附在生物炭中的ECs,生物炭

解吸得到再生,恢复对ECs吸附能力^[84]。在“吸附-生物降解耦合”过程中,生物炭吸附与生物降解交替作用,可持续促进微生物对有机物的降解。Liu等^[85]和Rossi等^[86-87]研究表明生物炭与微生物的协同体系有助于形成高效的共代谢污染物降解系统,去除三氯乙烯的效率显著高于生物炭吸附或生物降解独立去除三氯乙烯的效率。

将生物炭改性或与纳米材料相结合能促进微生物代谢作用。Qin等^[88]以剩余污泥为生物质制备改性生物炭作为生物覆盖层,通过吸附和生物降解的协同作用,吸收的污染物被作为碳源消耗而去除,既提高了微生物的繁殖率,污染物的去除效果也优于原始生物炭。Liu等^[89]将纳米零价铁(nZVI)负载于生物炭上,发现nZVI、生物炭、微生物之间存在相互协同作用,生物炭可作为微生物的庇护所对nZVI产生的细胞毒性起到缓解作用,提高了生物降解效率。

2)包埋固定法。生物炭包埋固定法指利用高分子凝胶物质将生物炭与生长繁殖于生物炭载体内部的微生物包埋在内部进行固定化。在实际应用中,由于水环境中水流速度的不确定性与水质的复杂性,与生物炭对微生物的松散吸附固定相比,包埋固定能进一步降低微生物损失与失活量,在提高生物降解率的同时增加材料的重复利用率^[42]。

近年来,越来越多研究人员应用生物炭-天然高分子凝胶包埋微生物。由于藻酸盐、壳聚糖能够聚合形成聚电解质膜,可增强固定化菌球的稳定性和延长使用寿命,所以利用藻酸盐、壳聚糖与生物炭复合包埋微生物备受关注。藻酸盐凝胶可以通过凝胶微网格能够很好地嵌入生物炭中,生物炭在凝胶材料中又提高了孔隙率,降低了扩散阻力。Wang等^[42]发现将海藻酸钠凝胶加入“生物炭-微生物”体系中能提高菌群的丰富度和活度,污染物降解速率提高175%。Liu等^[89]引入PVA/SA材料,包埋固定体系在不同条件下对硝酸盐的去除率(当NO₃⁻质量浓度为100 mg/L时,60 h内去除率达到98.89%)和耐受性均高于吸附固定体系(97.61%)。与吸附固定法相比,应用包埋固定法固定化微生物更适用于原位修复^[43],能更好固定附着物并缓解污染物对微生物的直接毒性作用。凝胶包埋材料也是一种良好的吸附剂,Da等^[44]研究发现壳聚糖材料对带负电荷的微生物细胞壁具有很高的亲和力,磁性壳聚糖对河流中BPA的去除率可达95.9%。

4 结语与展望

“十四五”是我国实现“双碳”目标的关键时期,也是促进绿色低碳高质量发展的深刻变革期。随着工业化进程不断推进,大量ECs不可避免地释放入水环境。生物炭能够通过物理化学吸附、催化高级氧化、增强生物降解等作用促进水环境中ECs去除,将生物炭应用于环境治理中还可以起到固碳效益,是“打好污染防治攻坚战,实现减污降碳协同效应”的关键环节,具有广阔的应用前景。

生物炭技术可以通过物理化学、氧化还原、偶联生物法去除水环境ECs,活性位点数量有限、孔隙度结构低是限制原始生物炭实际应用的重要因素。对生物炭改性优化有助于提升生物炭氧化还原能力、促进电子转移、提高孔隙率、增加自由基,从而强化ECs去除,是解决生物炭高效应用的重要途径。

同时,单一的去除方法作用效果有限,利用生物炭与其他技术的协同增效作用,探究不同方法联用的效价与机制,将是提高ECs去除效率的一条有效途径。如耦合纳米材料提高ECs吸附性能、利用生物炭构建“高级氧化-生物降解耦合技术”解决难降解ECs去除瓶颈、改善生物炭-天然高分子凝胶包埋微生物提高体系环境适应性等,对实现开发ECs高效去除技术具有重要的理论和实践意义,将是值得今后持续关注的重要研究方向。

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Research progress on applications of biochar in removal of emerging contaminants in aquatic environment

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Abstract Owing to the properties of low concentration and high toxicity, emerging contaminants (ECs) have become one of the major threats to water safety. Biochar has attracted extensive attention in the removal of ECs from aquatic environment due to its easy accessibility and high treatment efficiency. In order to promote the application of biochar in the removal of ECs, in this paper the pollution status of ECs, the properties of biochar, and the research and application of biochar in the removal of ECs in aquatic environment were reviewed. The research progress of removal of ECS by biochar as absorbents, advanced oxidation catalysts and microbial immobilization carriers was summarized, and the prospect was put forward.

Keywords biochar; emerging contaminants; aquatic environment; adsorption; advanced oxidation; biodegradation

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