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Methods of Removal of Low Concentration Water Contaminants with Biochar

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Background

• Biochar forms by pyrolysis of biomass

BIOMASS (Inert, Heat)





- SEM show nonhomogeneous surface morphology
- Adsorption capacity is due to its high specific surface area (SSA)
- Adsorption studies were accomplished with various kinetic experiments, and then analyzed with a Colorimeter



Upcoming Research

- Optimize and assess the effectiveness of a novel stormwater treatment technology such as a wattle design.
- Construct and test a ballistic biochar delivery device for ecological restoration applications.

Methods of Removal of Low Concentration Water Contaminants with Biochar

Alyssa Cook (BS Mechanical Engineering '21), Kristopher Bosch (BS Environmental Engineering '21), Rick LaDouceur, Dario Prieto, David Hutchins

Critical Need

To understand the adsorptive properties of biochar through distinct testing methods...

Factorial Design of Experiments

- Two mixing types: orbital and rotary \bullet
- Three factors: mixing time, mixing intensity, and biochar adsorbent mass
- Eleven tests per mixer (twenty-two total tests)





A: Intensity (% range)

Isotherm Experiments

- Kinetic Isotherm experiments show adsorption properties of materials
- Biochar with high maximum uptake of copper adsorbate are desirable for future application



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