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## Polonium removal from waters by silver-coated Luffa Cylindrica biochar fibers

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## Abstract

The sorption of ultra-trace levels of polonium by Luffa Cylindrica biochar fibers has been investigated in deionized water and seawater samples prior and after surface modification (Ag-coating) of the adsorbent. The effect of pH on the sorption efficiency (Kd values) indicated that pH, which governs the solution chemistry of Po(IV), affects to a large degree the adsorption efficiency and that Ag-coating of the surface results in significantly higher Kd values. The modified adsorbent presents enhanced removal efficiency for Po-209 even from seawater samples indicating the usefulness of the modified biochar fibers for the treatment of polonium contaminated waters.

## Keywords:

Polonium adsorption; Ag-coated fibers; water treatment; seawater; Kd values

**Primary authors:** Prof. PASHALIDIS, Ioannis (Department of Chemistry, University of Cyprus); Mrs PHILIP-POU, Maria (Department of Chemistry, University of Cyprus)

Presenter: Prof. PASHALIDIS, Ioannis (Department of Chemistry, University of Cyprus)

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