

Introduction

Overview

- The health and environmental protection agencies have recommended safe limit of uranium in drinkingwater for human beings
- The World Health Organization(WHO 1998) and the United States Environment Protection Agency (USEPA 1992) in general have recommended 2/6/1 of uranium concentration in drinking water as the safe limit
- Recently a country presented research report(The Institute for Environmental Research 1999~2002) shows the actual condition of radioactive pollution on groundwater
- Natural uranium consists of a mixture of three radioactive isotopes which are identified by the mass numbers 238U(99.9836% by mass) 235U (0.711%) and 234U(0.0054%)
- These radionuclides have very long half-lives 4.5×10⁹ 7×10⁸ and 2.5×10⁵ years respectively
- Uranium as a natural component of the human environment is likely to be presented in trace amounts in all foodstuff, and predominantly as a result of intake of water, food, and air. The present study has been conducted to evaluate the amount of uranium taken into the human body by adults is about 0.6ug by ingestion of food and water and because of low air concentration, only about 0.6ug from Inhalation (Fisenne et al., 1997 UNCEAR 2000a b Piotrak -Fle et al., 2001)

Introduction

Target

This study suggests strongly that chitosan and grafted chitosan with itaconic acid are very useful to purification of water particularly groundwater or natural water contaminated with uranium

Background

The value of water quality standard on radioactive in drinkingwater

Name a head	unit	WHO	USA	Canada	Korea
Gross Alpha Particle activity	pCi/L	2.7	15	-	-
228Rn 226Rn	pCi/L	-	5	1	-
U	ppb	-	(20)	100	-
Rn	pCi/L	-	(3000)	-	-

(*) is the proposal value of water quality standard,
pCi = picocuries

Background

Uranium concentrations in groundwaters (unit ppb)

Area	n	Mean±S.D.	(min ~ max)	GM***	Median	5%ile	95%ile
Seoul	75	9.78±44.76	(N D ~ 322.00)	0.25	0.30	N D	43.40
Gyeonggi	60	1.29±4.07	(N D ~ 31.90)	0.13	0.19	N D	5.30
Gangwon	80	1.45±6.97	(N D ~ 58.10)	0.18	0.18	0.01	2.29
Busan	109	0.69±1.24	(N D ~ 6.20)	0.12	0.12	N D	4.04
Gyeongsangnam	66	1.17±3.69	(N D ~ 25.10)	0.08	0.05	N D	4.56
Daejeon	41	1.49±2.35	(N D ~ 7.62)	0.02	0.21	N D	7.18
Gyeongbuk	54	0.67±1.83	(N D ~ 6.67)	0.15	0.17	N D	0.01
Gwangju-Jeonnam	17	44.09±98.87	(0.020~402.30)	3.75	13.70	0.02	402.30
Chungnam	77	1.38±3.60	(N D ~ 22.80)	0.25	0.38	N D	4.83
Jeju	12	0.04±0.06	(N D ~ 0.23)	0.02	0.02	N D	0.23
Total	611	3.39±23.82*	(N D ~ 402.30)	0.18**	0.19***	N D	7.32

*p<0.001 Kruskal-Wallis test **not detected (0.01<p<0.05) ***geometric mean
Data source The Institute for Environmental Research, 1999~2002

Background

Uranium concentration in drinkingwater

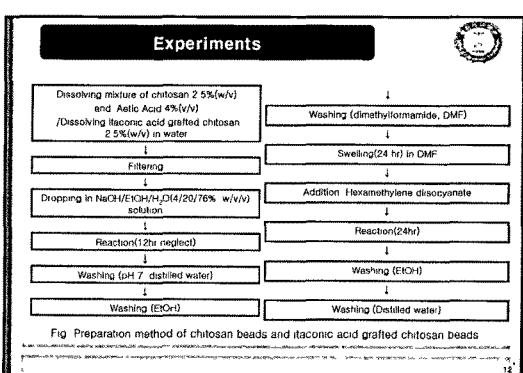
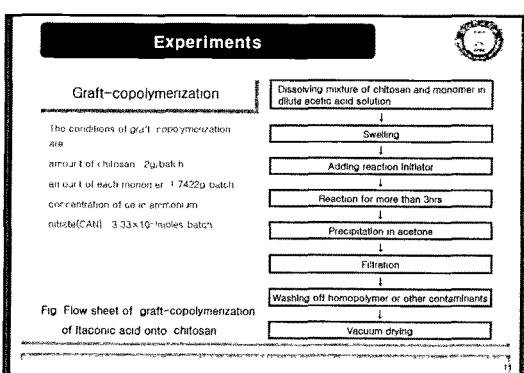
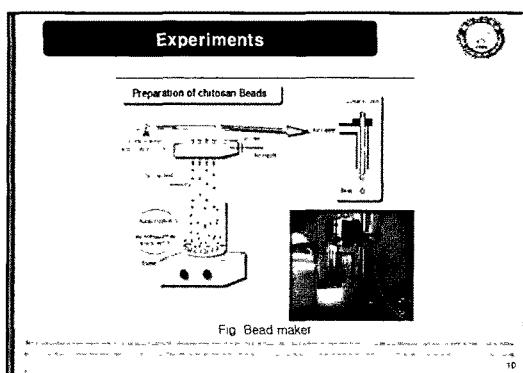
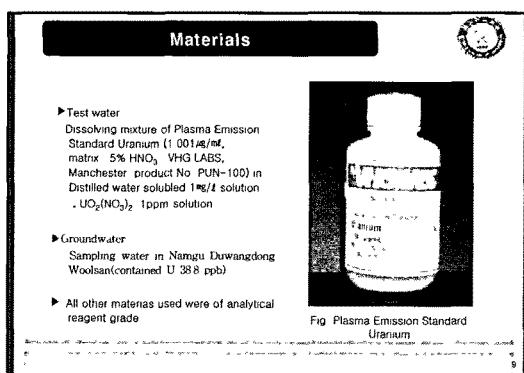
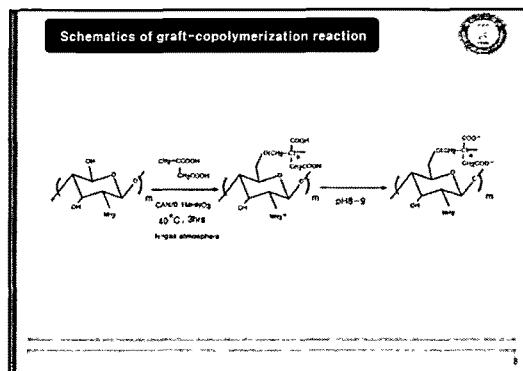
Company(goods name)	uranium(ppb)
Iwaha	4.83
Joowon mineral drink	22.80
Korea chungjung drink	24.10
Haksan ziolite	9.67
gakudo drink	7.29
Salsong(Dongwon drink)	25.10
Ohksoo drink	8.62

(Data source watersource environment 2002.2)

Background

Treatment methods for uranium removal from drinking water

Treatment Method	Removal(%)	Special Condition/Notes
Iron coagulation	80~85	pH 6 and 10
Alum coagulation	90~95	pH 10
Lime softening	80~85	pH 6
Cation exchange	99	pH 10.5 + Mg Ion
H ⁺ form	80~85	pH 3.5
Ca ²⁺ form	70	pH 4
Na ⁺ form	70~85	pH ≤ 7
Anion exchange	99	1 000~50 000 BV
Activated alumina	99	1,500~2,000 BV
GAC	90+	Limited capacity
Reverse osmosis	99	None



Methods

The methods applied in this experiment are

- 1 Preparation of chitosan and chitosan grafted with itaconic acid by Graft-copolymerization
- 2 Preparation method of chitosan beads(Cs) and chitosan grafted with itaconic acid beads(Csia)
- 3 Adsorption equilibrium
 - Effect of crosslinking degree on the adsorption of uranium
 - pH effect on the uranium adsorption
- 4 Adsorption velocity
 - Uranium uptake with various of crosslinking degree
 - Uranium uptake with various bead sizes
- 5 Comparison of uranium removal rates with Cs and Csia, and activated carbon in a static system
- 6 Ability of treatment on uranium in the flow system
 - Uptake efficiencies with various of sizes of bead on test water
 - Effect of flow rates on uranium removal rates on test water
 - Comparison of uranium removal rates with Cs and Csia, and activated carbon on groundwater

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Instrument and Analysis

- The IR spectra of Cs, Csia were obtained with a FT-IR(Perkin Elmer-1330) spectrophotometry by using KBr pellet for analysis
- Concentration of uranium was determined by Inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry(ICP-MS : Elan-6000)
- The surface and the cross section of a chitosan bead were determined by Scanning Electron Micrography(Hitachi-650)

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Results

Confirmation of grafted chitosan

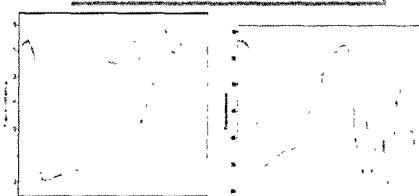


Fig. FT-IR spectra of Chitosan

Fig. FT-IR spectra of Itaconic acid grafted chitosan

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Results

Adsorption equilibrium

- Cs beads(dry wet 0.5g)
- static system
- adsorption time(24h)
- uranium concentration(1ppm)
- adsorption temp (25°C)

Degree of crosslinking(mol)	Removal rates(%)
0.05mol	97.52
0.1mol	98.48
0.5mol	98.55
1mol	98.15

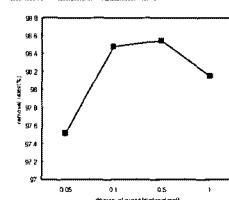


Fig. Effect of crosslinking degree on the removal rates of uranium

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Results

- Cs beads(dry wet 0.5g)
- static system
- adsorption time(24h)
- uranium concentration(1ppm)
- adsorption temp (25°C)

pH	removal rates(%)
2	26.4
4	99.85
6	99.52
8	99.36
10	62.291
12	33.87

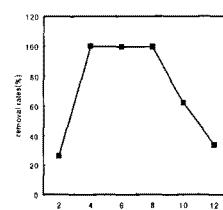


Fig. pH effects on the uranium removal

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Results

adsorption time(h)	removal rates(%)			
	Cs 1mm	Cs 2mm	Cs 3mm	Cs 4mm
3	71.18	71.43	75.79	76.24
6	92.79	92.14	92.3	90.08
24	99.65	98.73	98.4	98.27
32	99.98	99.61	99.11	99.11
48	99.99	99.63	99.43	99.57

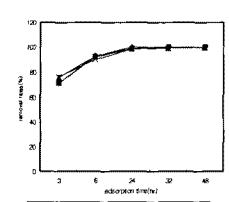


Fig. Uranium removal rates with Cs bead sizes and adsorption times

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Results

adsorption time(h)	removal rates(%)			
	Cs 1#	Cs 2#	Cs 3#	Cs 4#
3	74.72	64.3	68.64	68.36
6	89.94	78.97	79.76	74.12
24	96.67	94.76	93.21	89.94
32	98.55	96.2	95.73	91.61
48	98.62	97.52	95.18	93.21

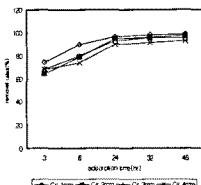


Fig. Uranium removal rates with Cs bead sizes and adsorption times

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Results

*Cs beads: CsIa beads: activated carbon(dry wet 0.5g)
*static system
*1ppm of U contained 100ml(ϕ 6 mm)
*adsorption time(96h)

Adsorption time(h)	Removal rates(%)		
	Cs	CsIa	AC
3	64.3	71.43	50.3
6	78.97	92.14	68.3
24	94.76	98.73	79.4
32	96.2	99.61	80.1
48	97.52	99.63	85.7

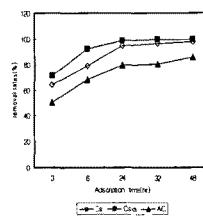


Fig. Comparison of uranium removal rates with Cs and CsIa and activated carbon in a static system

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Results

Removal ability of uranium in the flow system

*beads packed in columns(dry wet 1g)
*filtering and controlling flow rate of test water
(test water contained uranium 1ppm pH 6)
passing through the filtering columns flow direct.
*The experimental results explained that
the efficiency of removal rate increased
with decrease of bead size

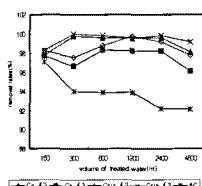


Fig. Comparison of uranium removal rates with Cs and CsIa and activated carbon packed in Φ 4cm \times L 30cm column

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Results

U removal rates(%)

volume of treated water(ml)	U removal rates(%)			
	Cs 5ml/min	CsIa 5ml/min	Cs 10ml/min	CsIa 10ml/min
150	98.27	97.8	97.2	96.9
300	97.55	99.75	98.7	98
600	98.79	99.58	98.3	98.6
1200	99.75	99.56	98	98.5
2400	99.18	99.58	98.6	98.2
4800	97.81	99.1	97.5	98

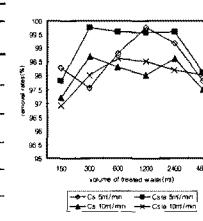


Fig. Effect of flow rates on U removal rates by the beads of Cs and CsIa packed in Φ 4cm \times L 30cm columns with 1ppm U(beads size = 2mm)

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Results

*Flow rate is <5ml/min.
*Fraction amount is <10ml>
*The initial conc. Of U in Groundwater
is <38 ppb(pH 6)>

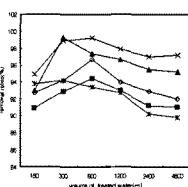


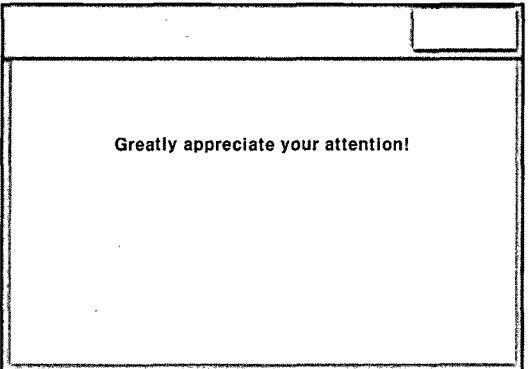
Fig. Comparison of uranium removal rates with Cs and CsIa and activated carbon packed in (dry wet 8g) Φ 4cm \times L 30cm columns

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Conclusions

- Characteristic absorption on the IR spectra, wave number 1650cm^{-1} were assigned to the carboxyl group. The IR spectra showed absorption bands at 1589 and $1650 \sim 1740\text{cm}^{-1}$, attributed to the $-\text{NH}_2$ and C=O stretching. Therefore monomers were graft-copolymerized on chitosan.
- It excepted below pH2 and the territory above pH12 and the adsorption ability was good. The Optimum initial pH was 4~8
- Uranium removal rate on bead size, the smaller the better
- Uranium removal rate on flow rate, the slower the better
- The chitosan grafted with itaconic acid was superior to pure chitosan in compared with uranium removal rate in the static and the flow systems. Because the chitosan grafted with itaconic acid have dicarboxylic groups.

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Greatly appreciate your attention!