4TH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON HYDROTHERMAL CARBONIZATION, JANUARY 21-24, 2025, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, USA.

The effect of acidic pH during the hydrothermal carbonization process of undigested sewage sludge conducted under different conditions



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ABSTRACT	SEWAGE SLUDGE	
Image: NDIGESTED Sewage Sludge	Parameter K, mg/l P, mg/l Cr, mg/l Cu, mg/l Cd, mg/l Ni, mg/l Pb, mg/l Pb, mg/l Zn, mg/l Hg, mg/l N, mg/l PO ₄ -P, mg/l PO ₄ , mg/l Loss on ignition, mg/l	Value 63.0 145 0.160 2.00 0.0166 0.205 0.281 11.0 <0.0001 737 >16.3 >50.0 8555

67

509

223

30

200C

HTC

EXPERIMENTAL STATION

HYDROCHAR



1 – MAGNEDRIVE

2 – COOLING COIL

3 - MIXER

4 – REACTOR

5 – HEATING JACKET

6 – CONTROL PANEL



MASS YIELD										
gas	s and lo	osses, %	6m.	liquid fraction, %m.			solid fraction, %m.			
% 100		1.48	1.64	1.22	0.95	1.89	1.87	1.22		
80 - 60 -	98.96	98.18	98.02	98.41	98.63	97.89	97.85	98.49		
40 - 20 -	1.04	0.34	0.34	0.37	0.43	0.22	0.27	0.29		
0+	- SS	10 C_30min -	10 C_15min -	00 C_15min -	00 C_30min -	30min_pH2	15min_pH2 -	30min_pH2 -	1	

VISUAL APPEARANCE



5

LIQUIDS



COMPOSITION

VISUAL APPEARANCE



I, **II**- HTC_210 C_30min; **III**, **IV**- HTC_210 C_15min; **V**, **VI**- HTC_200 C_15min; **VII**, **VIII**- HTC_200 C_30min; IX, X- HTC_210 C_30min_pH2; **XI**, **XII**- HTC_210 C_15min_pH2; **XIII**, **XIV**- HTC_200 C_30min_pH2

Conductivity (mS/ cm) pН HTC_200C_30min_pH2-3.76 3.80 HTC_210C_15min_pH2-3.92 3.61 HTC_210C_30min_pH2-3.60 4.25 HTC_200C_30min-2.09 5.38 HTC_200C_15min 5.50 2.03 2.17



CONCLUSIONS

1. Hydrothermal carbonization significantly reduces the moisture content in

CONDUCTIVITY AND PH



This research was funded by the National Science Centre, Poland, under project no. 2021/41/B/ST8/01815 [OPUS21]. The authors gratefully acknowledge EKOPROD Ltd., the proprietor of the HTC apparatus used in the presented study.

hydrochar, improving its energy properties.

- 2. The presence of an acidic environment (pH=2) promotes the migration of phosphorus into the liquid phase, increasing its concentration.
- 3. The mass yield of hydrochar is low, indicating intensive transformation of components into liquid and gas phases.
- 4. The liquid phase after the HTC process contains high concentrations of nitrogen and phosphorus compounds, which can be utilized in agriculture.
- 5. Hydrochar produced at a lower pH shows higher carbon content, making it more calorific than the raw sludge.