



AFRL-RX-TY-TP-2012-0004

EFFECT OF BIOAEROSOL ON THE RELEASE OF IODINE FROM IODINE TREATED FILTERS

Chang-Yu Wu, Hsing-Wang Li, Myung-Heui Woo, Elizabeth Gomezder

Department of Environmental Engineering Sciences
University of Florida
406 Black hall, P.O. Box 116450
Gainesville, FL 32611-6450

Contract No. FA8650-06-C-5913

December 2011

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88ABW-2012-1244, 8 February 2012.

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REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE				<i>Form Approved</i> <i>OMB No. 0704-0188</i>	
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1. REPORT DATE (DD-MM-YYYY) 14-DEC-2011		2. REPORT TYPE Technical Paper		3. DATES COVERED (From - To) 01-DEC-2011 -- 01-DEC-2012	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE Effect of Bioaerosol on the Release of Iodine from Iodine Treated Filters				5a. CONTRACT NUMBER FA8650-06-C-5913	
				5b. GRANT NUMBER	
				5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER 0602102F	
6. AUTHOR(S) Wu, Chang-Yu; Li, Hsing-Wang; Woo, Myung-Heui; Gomezder, Elizabeth				5d. PROJECT NUMBER GOVT	
				5e. TASK NUMBER L0	
				5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER QL102008	
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) Department of Environmental Engineering Sciences University of Florida 406 Black Hall, P.O. Box 116450 Gainesville, FL 32611-6450				8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER	
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) Air Force Research Laboratory Materials and Manufacturing Directorate Airbase Technologies Division 139 Barnes Drive, Suite 2 Tyndall Air Force Base, FL 32403-5323				10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S) AFRL/RXQL	
				11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S) AFRL-RX-TY-TP-2012-0004	
12. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT Distribution A: Approved for public release; distribution unlimited.					
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES Ref Public Affairs Case # 88ABW-2012-1244, 8 February 2012. Document contains color images.					
14. ABSTRACT A series of experiments were run with salt aerosols to test an hypothesis that the surface charge on the particles promotes displacement of I2 from poly(4-trimethylammoniummethylstyrene triiodide). At attainable concentrations of aerosol measured particle counts were too small to verify the hypothesis.					
15. SUBJECT TERMS					
16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:			17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT UU	18. NUMBER OF PAGES 5	19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON Joseph D. Wander
a. REPORT U	b. ABSTRACT U	c. THIS PAGE U			19b. TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include area code)

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1. Introduction

The objective of this study was to determine the effect of bioaerosol on release of iodine from a filter treated with poly(4-[trimethylammoniummethyl]styrene triiodide) (PTSI). The hypothesis, proposed in prior studies (Ratnesar-Shumate et al., 2008; Lee et al., 2009), is that near contact with the negative charge on the bioaerosol will induce release of iodine. However, no experiment has previously been conducted to prove it. To verify the hypothesis, negatively charged MS2 was treated with or without charge neutralization and then passed through a PTSI-treated filter medium. In control experiments, DI water was nebulized as the baseline condition.

2. Experimental Methods:

2.1. Test Agent:

MS2, an *Escherichia coli* bacteriophage, (ATCC[®] 15597-B1TM) investigated in previous tests of iodinated filters, was used as the biological test agent. It has a single-stranded RNA genome and an approximate diameter of 28 nm (Prescott et al., 2002; Golmohammadi et al., 1993). MS2 is hydrophilic and negatively charged (Valegård et al, 1990).

2.2. Experimental system

Figure 1 shows a schematic of the experimental system. Bioaerosols were generated by a six-jet Collison nebulizer at 7 Lpm. Virus concentrations in the Collison nebulizer of 10^5 – 10^6 PFU mL⁻¹ were prepared by diluting 0.10 or 0.20 mL of virus stock suspension in 50 mL sterile DI water. The bioaerosol flow was then joined by a dry dilution flow (8 Lpm) in a dilution dryer. The combined flow then passed through a ⁸⁵Kr charge neutralizer (TSI, 3012A). A thermometer and a relative humidity (RH) meter, respectively, measured temperature and RH of the air stream. The temperature was 23~24 °C, and RH was 44–46%. The pressure drop of the test filter was measured using a Magnehelic pressure gauge. Penetrating bioaerosol was collected by an SKI Biosampler that used 15 mL of phosphate-buffered saline (PBS) as the collection liquid. Sampling was conducted for 60 min. There were eight sets of experiments. To ensure clearance of residual virus or medium from previous runs, the system was flushed with DI water for 30 min after each experiment. In addition, each piece of PSTI-treated filter was used for only one set of experimental conditions. Table 1 lists the experimental conditions.

2.3. Iodine Analysis:

The concentration of I₂ collected in the biosampler medium was analyzed by the *N,N*-diethyl-*p*-phenylenediamine (DPD) colorimetric method adopted from *Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater 4500-Cl G* (APHA 1995). I₂ in the solution reacts

with DPD to form a pink color, the intensity of which is proportional to the total I_2 concentration (HACH 2003; Lee et al., 2009). Ten mL of the collection medium was analyzed at a wavelength of 530 nm using a DR/4000 V spectrophotometer (HACH, Loveland, CO, USA). The detection limit of this spectrophotometer using HACH Program: 2100 provided in the spectrometer for iodine is reported by the manufacturer to be 0.04 mg/L I_2 .

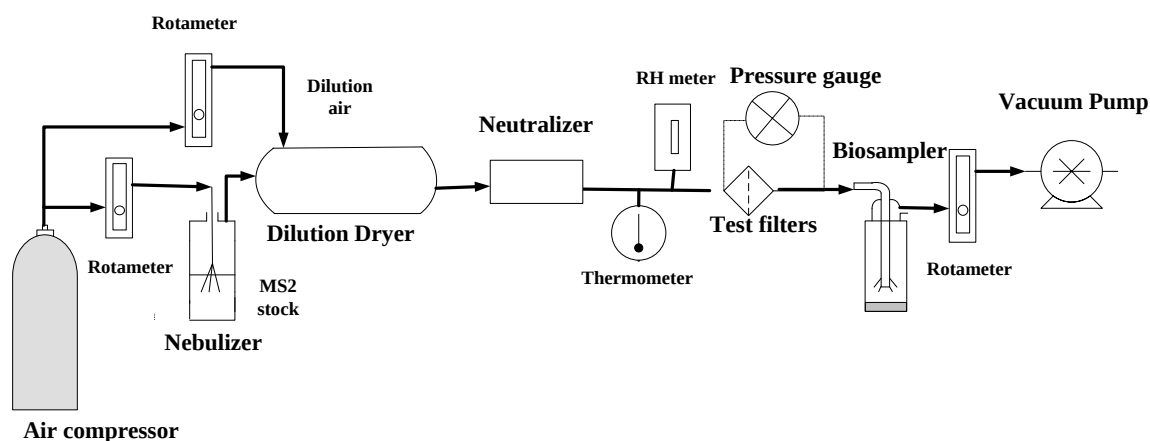


Figure 1. Experimental System

3. Results:

Figure 2 shows the size distribution of the feed aerosol. The mode size was ~ 30 nm, which is similar to the size of a single MS2 virus and agrees with prior studies using MS2 aerosol (Hogan et al., 2005; Burton et al., 2007; Richardson et al., 2006).

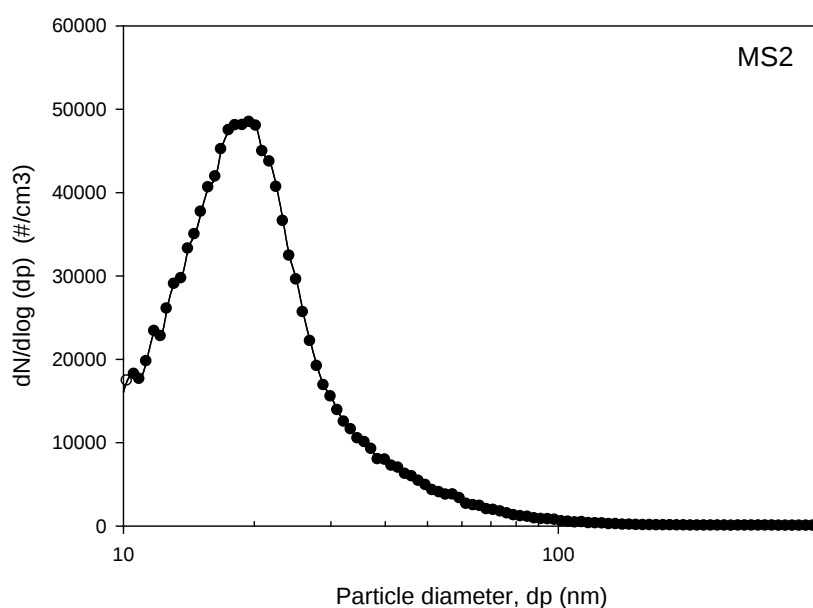


Figure 2. Representative particle size distribution of produced MS2 aerosol

The calibration curve of this spectrophotometer using HACH Program: 2100 with the DPD method was established; the R^2 value was 0.9992 as shown in Figure 3. The iodine concentration of each test and its corresponding experimental condition are shown in Table 1. The pressure drop of iodine-treated filters was 2.4~2.5 in H_2O . There was no change in pressure drop across the filter medium through the entire course of experiments.

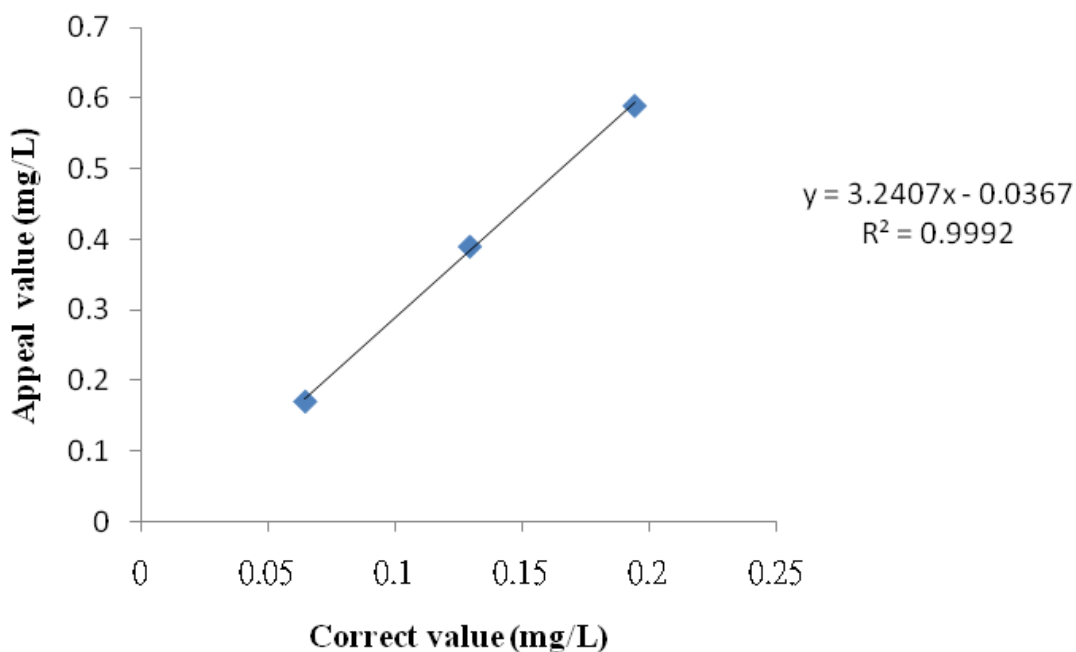


Figure 3. Calibration Curve for the Spectrometer

For the baseline experiment (DI water) without and with the test filter, concentrations were 0.014 mg/L and 0.024 mg/L, respectively. When bioaerosol was introduced, the concentration was 0.017 mg/L in the absence of the iodinated filter, while the concentration was 0.027–0.030 mg/L with the iodinated filter. The use of a charge neutralizer had no observable effect on the result. However, the data were very close to the detection limit (0.04 mg/L). Therefore, no conclusion can be drawn from the results to demonstrate any significant effect of MS2 bioaerosol on the release of iodine from the iodine-treated filter medium.

Table 1. Iodine concentrations Measured at Various Experimental Conditions

No	Sample	T (°C)	RH (%)	Pressure Gauge (in H ₂ O)	PSTI- Treated Filter	Charge Neutralizer	I ₂ conc. (mg/L)
1	Blank (DI water)	-	-	-	-	-	0
2	1XPBS	-	-	-	-	-	0
3	Standard solution-1	-	-	-	-	-	0.0648
4	Standard solution-2	-	-	-	-	-	0.1296
5	Standard solution-3	-	-	-	-	-	0.1944
7	DI water (50 mL)	24	45	-	No	No	0.014
8	DI water (50 mL)	24	44	-	No	Yes	0.014
9	DI water (50 mL)	23	45	2.4	Yes	No	0.024
10	DI water (50 mL)	24	44	2.4	Yes	Yes	0.024
11	DI water (50 mL) + MS2 (10 mL)	23	45	-	No	No	0.017
12	DI water (50 mL) + MS2 (10 mL)	24	45	-	No	Yes	0.017
13	DI water (50 mL) + MS2 (10 mL)	24	46	2.5	Yes	No	0.027
14	DI water (50 mL) + MS2 (10 mL)	24	45	2.5	Yes	Yes	0.030

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