
**Fine ceramics (advanced ceramics,
advanced technical ceramics) — Test
method for determination of phenol
oxidative decomposition performance
of semiconducting photocatalytic
materials by quantitative analysis of
total organic carbon (TOC)**

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 206, *Fine ceramics*.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

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Introduction

Since photocatalysts have a wide range of functions such as purification of air or water, antibacterial effect and self-cleaning, many application products that make use of said functions are developed. Photocatalyst-applied products for water purification are expected to exert oxidative decomposing performance against organic compounds composed of hydrocarbon, which is a water polluting substance. In line with this, there is a necessity for developing a testing method for measuring the oxidative decomposition against water polluting substances. This document stipulates a test method for measuring the performance of a semiconducting photocatalytic material irradiated with UV light in water for the oxidative decomposition of hydrocarbon such as phenol and the byproducts as intermediate produced by the photocatalysis, by the TOC method.

An examples of data evaluation is given in [Annex D](#) while the results of the interlaboratory tests are given in [Annex E](#).

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Fine ceramics (advanced ceramics, advanced technical ceramics) — Test method for determination of phenol oxidative decomposition performance of semiconducting photocatalytic materials by quantitative analysis of total organic carbon (TOC)

1 Scope

This document provides a testing method for testing phenol oxidative decomposition performance of semiconducting photocatalytic materials or made of a material adsorbed with photocatalyst to its surface for the purpose of purifying water polluting substances in water making use of photocatalytic performance as test piece. The test piece can be planar, spherical, flake or block shape. A test piece that can elute hydrocarbon or the like by immersion into water or phenol aqueous solution or by light irradiation, a semiconducting photocatalytic material that cannot maintain its shape or a powdery semiconducting photocatalytic material are excluded from the scope of application, since they cannot be evaluated.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 8425, *Water quality—Guidelines for the determination of total organic carbon (TOC) and dissolved organic carbon (DOC)*

ISO 10523, *Water quality — Determination of pH*

ISO 10677, *Fine ceramics (advanced ceramics, advanced technical ceramics) — Ultraviolet light source for testing semiconducting photocatalytic materials*

ISO/IEC 17025, *General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories*

ISO 19722, *Fine ceramics (advanced ceramics, advanced technical ceramics) — Test method for determination of photocatalytic activity on semiconducting photocatalytic materials by dissolved oxygen consumption*

ISO 20507, *Fine ceramics (advanced ceramics, advanced technical ceramics) — Vocabulary*

ISO 22197-1, *Fine ceramics (advanced ceramics, advanced technical ceramics) — Test method for air-purification performance of semiconducting photocatalytic materials — Part 1: Removal of nitric oxide*

ISO 80000-1, *Quantities and units — Part 1: General principles*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 19722 and ISO 20507 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

— IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1 test piece
planar, spherical, flake or block shaped semiconducting photocatalyst materials for water purification prescribed in ISO 20507 using semiconducting photocatalyst

3.2 illuminated condition
test condition under which a test is conducted with light source lit

3.3 dark condition
measuring condition under which no light source is lit and no light is incoming from outside

Note 1 to entry: The purpose of this condition is for comparing the result with that conducted under the illuminated condition.

4 Symbols

| Symbol | Designation | Unit |
|----------------|---|--------------------|
| C | concentration of hydrocarbon | mg/l |
| ΔTOC_D | phenol concentration adsorbed to the test piece in the dark | mg/l |
| C_{Di} | phenol concentration measured from the test solution as the initial concentration in the dark condition | mg/l |
| C_{Df} | phenol concentration measured from the test solution after 6 hours in the dark condition | mg/l |
| ΔTOC_L | phenol concentration adsorbed to the test piece and decomposed by photocatalysis | mg/l |
| C_{Li} | phenol concentration measured from the test solution as the initial concentration under the illuminated condition | mg/l |
| C_{Lf} | concentration of residual phenol and byproduct measured from the test solution after 6 hours under an illuminated condition | mg/l |
| ΔTOC | decomposed phenol concentration as hydrocarbon on the test piece by the photocatalysis | mg/l |
| V | volume of test solution | ml |
| λ | wavelength | nm |
| I | ultraviolet (UV) light irradiation intensity | mW/cm ² |

5 Principle

Organic compound in waste water is oxidatively decomposed to CO₂ and water by the photocatalysis, so called as photocatalytic mineralization. Under the photocatalytic mineralization, many kinds of byproducts are usually produced and the production mechanism including the changes of a molecular structure and the concentration of byproducts are depending on the characteristics of photocatalyst, such as the surface structure, crystal phase and the photocatalytic activity. Accordingly, estimation of photocatalytic activity by the decrement of initial concentration of organic compounds means mainly changing the original structure of the organic compound. Preferable estimation method of the

photocatalytic activity for waste water treatment should oxidatively decompose organic compound to CO₂ and water as photocatalytic mineralization. On the basis of the conception, total organic carbon analysis as measurement of the photocatalytic mineralization is most suitable method because no the byproducts production as reaction mechanism should be taken into account.

6 Materials

6.1 Chemicals and implements

6.1.1 Reagent

Reagent is phenol and the assay is > 99 wt%.

6.1.2 Purified water

Water used for the preparation of all solutions shall be distilled or deionised water.

6.1.3 Purified air

Air prepared by removing dusts and volatile organic compounds from atmospheric air using a filter or the like, or synthetic air filled in a high-pressure container as provided in ISO 22197-1.

6.1.4 Purified water saturated with dissolved oxygen

Purified water prepared in accordance with the preparation procedure provided for in ISO 19722 by saturating water with dissolved oxygen at ± 1 °C of water temperature during the test.

7 Test device and instrument

7.1 Test vessel

Use a silica glass for the window glass plate for this test. The test vessel and O-ring used in this test shall be near-UV irradiation resistant and chemical resistant against phenol. For example, preferred material for an O-ring is fluorocarbon polymer, and preferred material for other parts is polytetrafluoroethylene.

The test vessel shall be inclined to avoid fogging the inner side of window glass by test solution because the fogged window glass induces extinction. Therefore, the test vessel shall be structured to maintain the test piece immersed under the test solution even when the test vessel is inclined as shown in [Annex A](#). Moreover, a weir shall be provided so as to avoid the test piece from falling off or swept away by the circulation of the test solution. The height of the weir shall have a clearance of 5 mm + 0 mm, -1 mm from the window plate.

The size of window glass shall be larger than the size of the place for folding the test piece

7.2 Reserve container

Provide a reserve container for maintaining the condition of the test solution to be supplied to the test vessel and for taking water for TOC measuring (see [Annex B](#)). Preferably, the volume capacity of the reserve container is 500 ml \pm 10 ml and it is made of borosilicate glass having chemical resistance against phenol. Since the test solution is stirring in the reserve container during the test, the reserve container shall have sufficient volume and structure that allows stirring. To maintain the temperature of the test solution within the predetermined range during the test, a water jacket shall be provided for fixing the reserve container that can circulate the thermostatic water. Provide a reserve container with a lid provided with an O-ring for keeping airtightness. The O-ring is preferably made of fluorocarbon polymer. This lid shall be provided with a through-hole for piping, a through-hole for air inflow, an air exhaust and a through-hole for fixing a thermometer. Diameter of the through-hole for air exhaust shall

be determined after conducting a test without using a test piece under a dark condition and under an environmental condition for conducting a test, and if the resulted variation of phenol concentration by TOC measuring is 1,5 % or less, such diameter is allowed. For example, around 3 mm + 0 mm, -1 mm of diameter of the through-hole for air exhaust is allowed.

For reference, specification of the reserve container, lid and water jacket are not limited to the above-mentioned examples, in other words, if they are of material and structure that satisfy the conditions specified here, they are allowed.

7.3 UV irradiation light source

Use the light source that is provided in ISO 10677. It is recommended to use UV fluorescent lamp having 351 nm of the maximum optical intensity that can irradiate UV ray.

7.4 UV radiometer

A radiometer with a detector whose sensitivity peak is at $\lambda = 351$ nm shall be used to measure the UV-light intensity. The radiometer shall be calibrated to closely match the characteristic of the UV light irradiation light source as specified in ISO 10677 or be corrected to ascertain sensitivity within the wavelength range to be adsorbed by the test piece.

7.5 UV light intensity

Adjust I to $2 \text{ mW/cm}^2 \pm 0,1 \text{ mW/cm}^2$ through the window glass when the light receiving portion of an UV illuminometer is positioned at the centre of the test piece.

7.6 pH meter

Measure pH of the test solution using the pH meter specified in ISO 10523.

7.7 TOC measuring device

Measure the total organic carbon in accordance with TOC analysis by combustion oxidizing and infrared system [Non-Purgeable Organic Carbon (NPOC) analysis] as provided in ISO 8425, using TOC automatic measuring instrument. For reference, pH resulted after oxidizing treatment as provided in ISO 8425 shall not necessarily be 2, rather, 3 or 4 is acceptable if non-organic carbon can be removed.

8 Arrangement of test method

8.1 Measuring device setup

The test device comprises a test vessel, a light source, a reserve container, a liquid feeding pump and a thermostatic bath/cryostat as shown in [Annex C](#). It is for evaluating the phenol oxidative decomposition performance using a semiconducting photocatalyst material by TOC analysis. Decrease of phenol contained in the test solution is measured by a test piece, irradiating light necessary for expression of semiconducting photocatalyst performance to the test piece and continuously supplying and circulating test solution. In this test, a lid for fixing the window glass plate for avoiding the test solution from leaking is provided, since the test vessel shall be inclined. The lid is also for limiting evaporation of the test solution. This is a semi-closed system where an air exhaust is provided which is necessary for air inflow. An example of the measuring device setup is shown in [Annex C](#).

8.2 Test solution feeding device

The test device as shown in [Annex C](#) has a liquid feeding pump and piping for controlling the flowing amount of the test solution circulated continuously at a predetermined speed from the reserve container