

## Electronic Supplementary Information

### Investigation of the influence of Ni (II) Exposure on the Simultaneous Nitrification and Denitrification of Aerobic Granules from the Internal Oxygen Penetration Perspective

Qian Feng <sup>ab\*</sup>, Yangyang Yu <sup>b</sup>, Chong Guo <sup>c</sup>, Xindi Chen <sup>d</sup>, Jiashun Cao <sup>ab</sup>, Wen Yang

<sup>e</sup>

<sup>a\*</sup> Key Laboratory of Integrated Regulation and Resource Development on Shallow Lakes, Ministry of Education, Hohai University, Nanjing 210098, China. Fax: +86-25-83787935; Tel: +86-13951725445; Email: xiaofq@hhu.edu.cn

<sup>b</sup> College of Environment, Hohai University, Nanjing 210098, China

<sup>c</sup> Sinopec Nanjing Engineering & Construction Incorporation, Nanjing 211100, China

<sup>d</sup> College of Harbour, Coastal and Offshore Engineering, Hohai University, Nanjing 210098, China

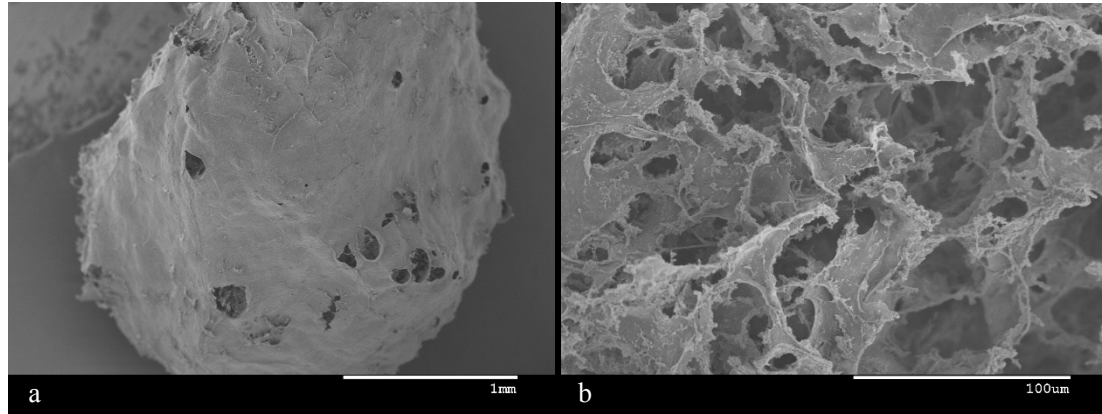
<sup>e</sup> Central and Southern China Municipal Engineering Design & Research Institute Co.Ltd, Wuhan 430010, China

Considering that the aerobic granules belong to microorganism aggregate, the equation proposed to calculate the DO penetration depths of aerobic aggregate in SBR Reactor by Feng et al. was simplified and used for calculating the DO penetration depth in the aerobic granular SBR. The DO penetration depths in the aerobic granular could be calculated as below.

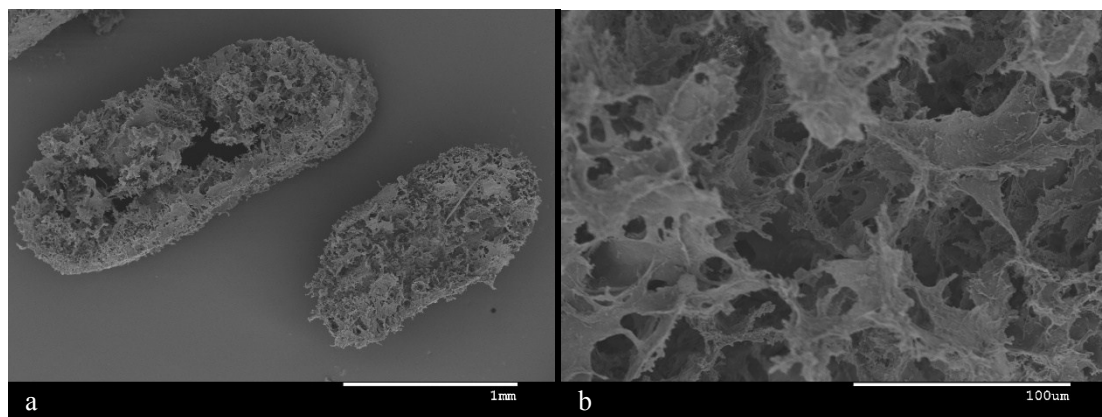
$$\delta = \sqrt{\frac{6 \cdot C \cdot D_e}{q_{\max} \cdot C_x}}$$

Where  $\delta$  is the DO penetration depth of granules (m);  $C$  is the DO concentration

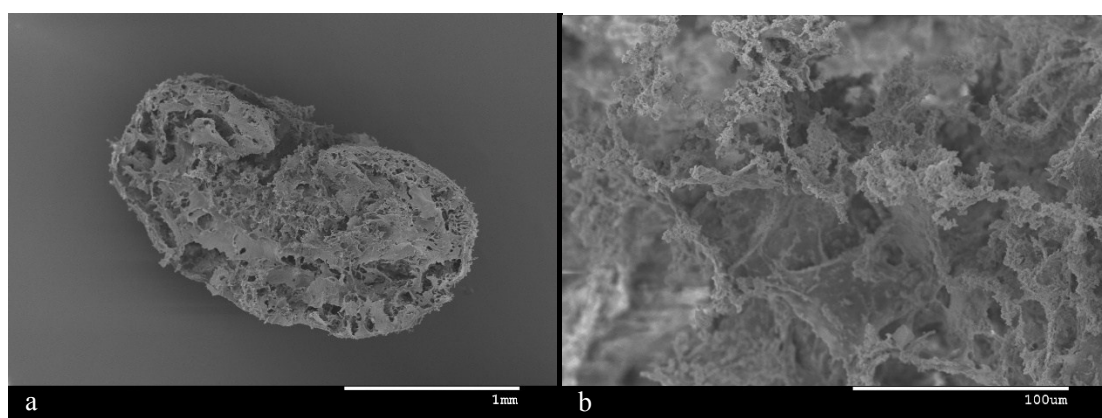
in liquid area ( $\text{g m}^{-3}$ );  $De$  is the effective diffusion coefficient of DO in the surface of granule (in general  $7.2 \times 10^{-6} \text{m}^2 \text{h}^{-1}$ ); and  $q_{\max}$  is the maximal specific DO uptake rate ( $\text{mg O}_2 \text{g}^{-1} \text{MLSS h}^{-1}$ ).



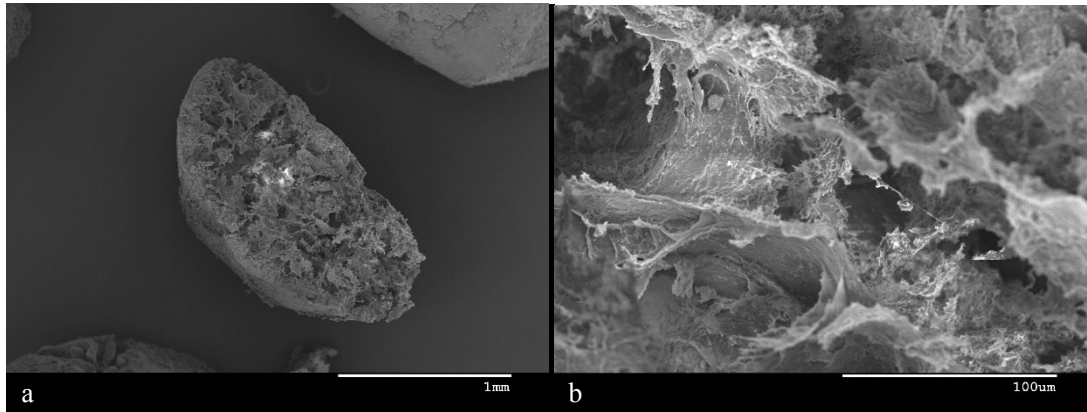
**Fig. S1** The magnified SEM photographs of the aerobic granular sludge surface under concentrations of 0mg/L Ni(II). a:  $\times 40$ , b:  $\times 500$ .



**Fig. S2** The magnified SEM photographs of the aerobic granular sludge surface under concentrations of 1.0mg/L Ni(II). a:  $\times 40$ , b:  $\times 500$ .



**Fig. S3** The magnified SEM photographs of the aerobic granular sludge surface under concentrations of 5.0mg/L Ni(II). a:  $\times 40$ , b:  $\times 500$ .



**Fig. S4** The magnified SEM photographs of the aerobic granular sludge surface under concentrations of 10.0mg/L Ni(II). a:  $\times 40$ , b:  $\times 500$ .

**Table S1** The calculating process displayed by the table

<b>Ni(II) concentrations</b>	0mg/L	1.0mg/L	5.0mg/L	10.0mg/L
<b>C (mg/L)</b>	7.6	7.8	7.9	7.6
<b>q<sub>max</sub> (mg O<sub>2</sub> g<sup>-1</sup> MLSS h<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	30.3	29.6	22.4	23.7
<b>C<sub>x</sub> (mg/L)</b>	4750.0	5200.0	5870.0	5160.0
<b>δ (mm)</b>	1.51	1.48	1.61	1.64