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# Pyrolysis of Palm Kernel Shell with Internal Recycling of Heavy Oil

Yong Huang<sup>1</sup>, Yaxuan Gao<sup>1</sup>, Hao Zhou<sup>1</sup>, Hongqi Sun<sup>2</sup>, Jianbin Zhou<sup>1,\*</sup>, Shu Zhang<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> College of Materials Science and Engineering, Nanjing Forestry University, 210037, Nanjing, China

<sup>2</sup> School of Engineering, Edith Cowan University, 270 Joondalup Drive, Joondalup, Western Australia 6027, Australia

**Abstract:** This paper investigated pyrolysis of palm kernel shell in a proposed reactor, which is characterized by internal recycling of heavy oil between a heavy oil sorption zone and pyrolysis zone. The internal recycling of heavy oil favors conversion of heavy oil to char, gas, and light oil. Compared with the product distribution from the conventional pyrolysis without heavy oil recycling, the yields of char, gas, and GC/MS detectable organic compounds increase from 34.8, 15.2, and 9.8 wt%-(dry feedstock) to 38.5, 19.0, and 16.9 wt%-(dry feedstock), respectively, with the help of internal recycling of heavy oil. The increases in the char and gas yields are interestingly found to be nearly equivalent. Furthermore, the yields of acetic acid and phenol in the resulting bio-oil can be as high as 10.1 and 2.7 wt%-(dry feedstock), and the outputs of 2-methylfuran, 2,6-dimethoxyphenol, and H<sub>2</sub> are increased by around 37, 7, and 4 times, respectively.

**Keywords:** Pyrolysis; Palm kernel shell; Internal recycling; Heavy oil

\*Corresponding author. E-mail: s.zhang@njfu.edu.cn(S. Zhang); zhoujianbin@njfu.edu.cn (J. Zhou)

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