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Efficient inactivation of MS-2 virus in water by hydrodynamic cavitation

Janez Kosel, Ion Gutiérrez-Aguirre, Nejc Rački, Maja Ravnikar, Matevž Dular

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3 Janez Kosel<sup>1,2</sup>, Ion Gutiérrez-Aguirre<sup>2</sup>, Nejc Rački<sup>2</sup>, Maja Ravnikar<sup>2</sup>, Matevž Dular<sup>1\*</sup>

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- <sup>1</sup>Department of Power Engineering, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, University of
- 6 Ljubljana, Aškerčeva 6, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 7 <sup>2</sup>National Institute of Biology, Večna pot 111, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

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9 \*Correspondence to: matevz.dular@fs.uni-lj.si

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#### 11 Abstract

The aim of this study was to accurately quantify the impact of hydrodynamic cavitation on the 12 infectivity of bacteriophage MS2, a norovirus surrogate, and to develop a small scale reactor 13 for testing the effect of hydrodynamic cavitation on human enteric viruses, which cannot be 14 easily prepared in large quantities. For this purpose, 3 mL scale and 1 L scale reactors were 15 constructed and tested. Both devices were efficient in generating hydrodynamic cavitation and 16 in reducing the infectivity of MS2 virus. Furthermore, they reached more than 4 logs 17 18 reductions of viral infectivity, thus confirming the scalability of hydrodynamic cavitation for this particular application. As for the mechanism of page inactivation, we suspect that 19 cavitation generated OH<sup>-</sup> radicals formed an advanced oxidation process, which could have 20 damaged the host's recognition receptors located on the surface of the bacteriophage. 21 Additional damage could arise from the high shear forces inside the cavity. Moreover, the 22 effectiveness of the cavitation was higher for suspensions containing low initial viral titers 23 that are in similar concentration to the ones found in real water samples. According to this, 24

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