Dear Editors and Reviewers:

Thank you for your letter and for the reviewers’ comments concerning our manuscript entitled “Relationship between Instant Sampling and Daily Average Values of COD for Urban Wastewater Treatment Plants in China”. Those comments are all valuable and very helpful for revising and improving our paper, as well as the important guiding significance to our researches. We have studied comments carefully and have made correction which we hope meet with approval. The main corrections in the paper and the responds to the reviewer’s comments are as following:

Comments:

1. L.196~ When the instant sampling limit was 1.3 times the daily average value (the daily average = 0.7692 × instant sampling limit), daily average didn’t always exceed the daily average limit because the daily average limit was set as less than 0.797 × instant sampling limit. In other words, 1.036 × daily average always exceed the daily average limit. (1.036 = 0.797/0.769). If 0.036 of daily average should be ignored, I understand your conclusion. But it must be mentioned.

Response:

1. Thank you for the comment and we are very sorry for the unclear explanations.

Eq. (19)-(21) had showed that when 24h reliability=75%, there was a minimum for daily average ($\mu_x$), i.e. 0.797 × instant sampling limit ($C_s$). If as the comments mentioned “the daily average limit ($C_{sd}$) was set as less than 0.797 × instant sampling limit”, the daily average would definitely exceed the daily average limit.

And if $C_{sd} = 0.7692C_s$ (the instant sampling limit was 1.3 times of the daily average limit), the daily average would also definitely exceed the daily average limit, i.e. $0.797C_s > 0.7692C_s$.

Please notice that, the 1.3 is for the ratio of instant sampling limit and daily average limit, and not for the ratio of instant sampling limit and daily average value.

We hope the explanations above would helpful for understanding.

Special thanks to you for your good comments.

2019-11-19