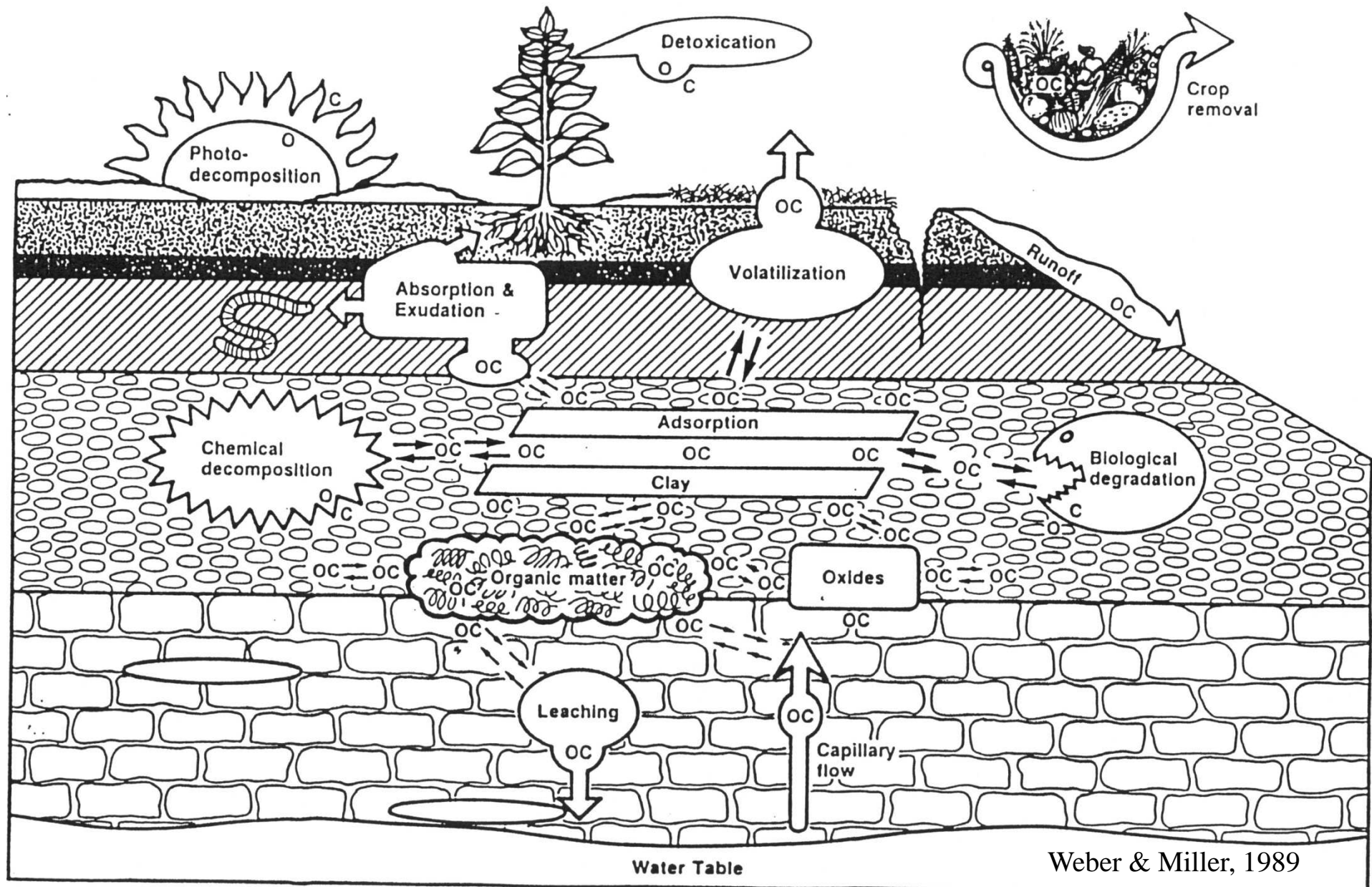


Pesticide Sorption And Bioavailability In Soil



Fate Of Organic Chemicals In Soil



Weber & Miller, 1989

Why Is Sorption Important?

The fate and effects of organic compounds in the environment are largely determined by their sorption to solid phases. For example:

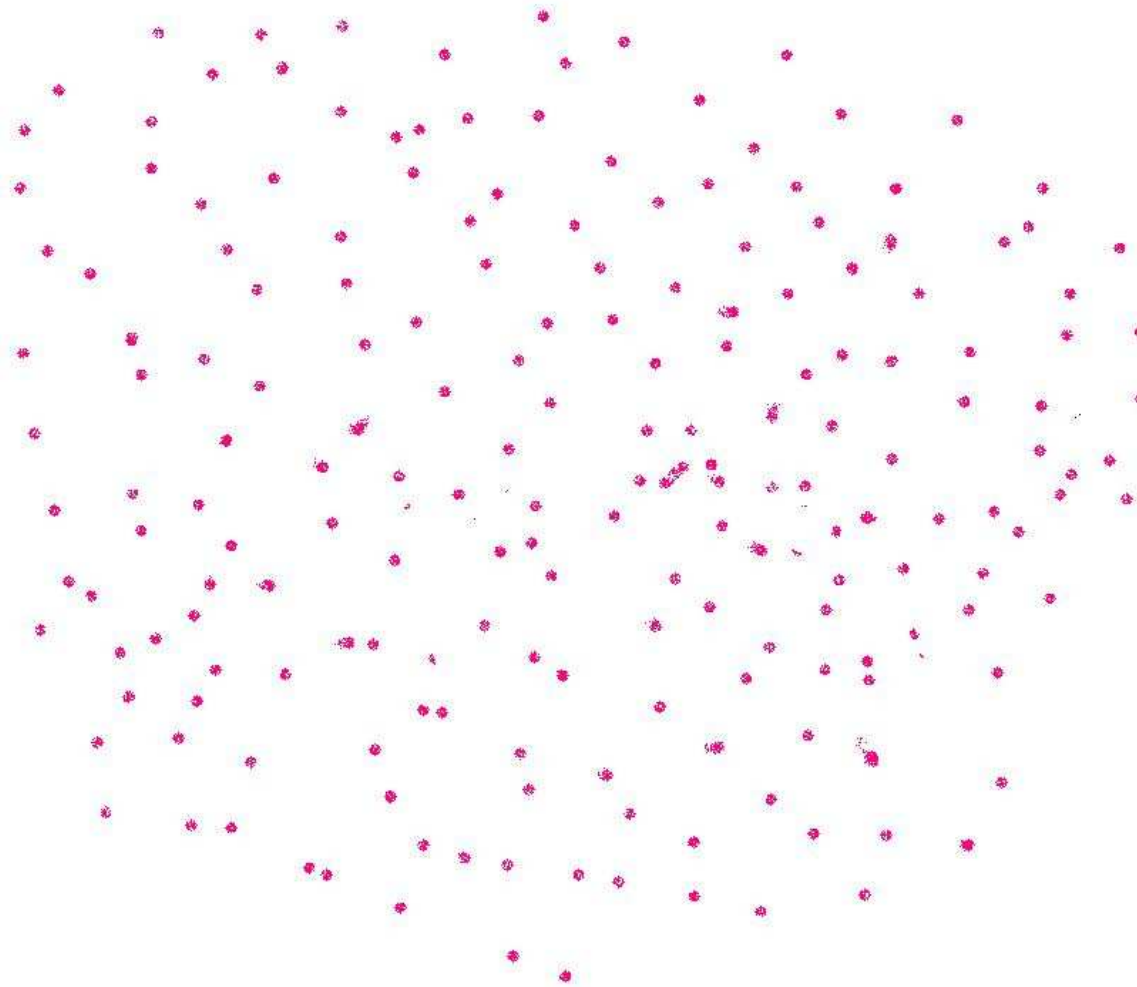
- Transport to surface and ground waters from contaminated soils and sediments
- Accumulation by organisms
- Biodegradation by microorganisms

all depend on sorption

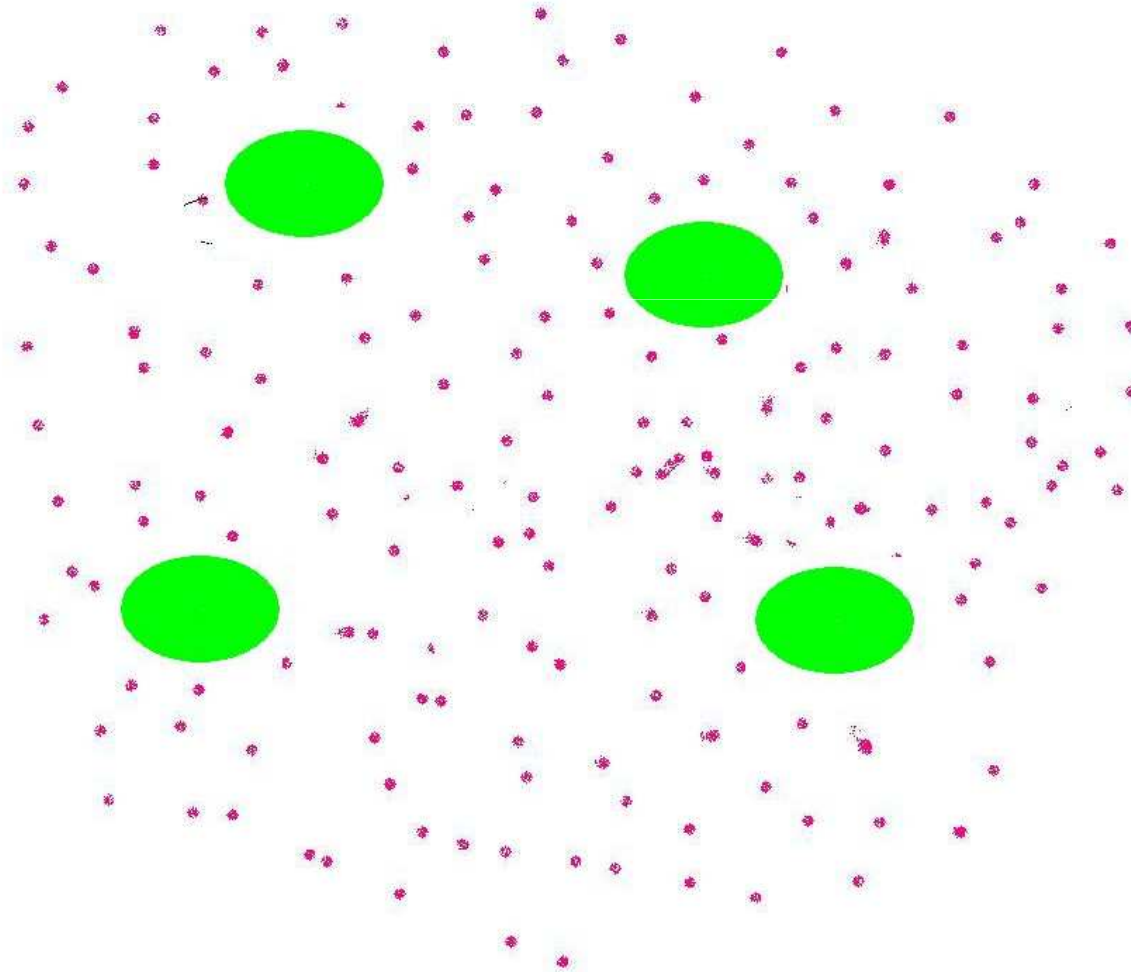
Sorption - Definitions

- *Sorption* is a phase distribution process that accumulates solutes at surfaces and interphases (i.e., adsorption) or from one phase to another (i.e., partitioning or absorption)
- *Adsorption* - condensation of vapors or solutes (*adsorbates*) on surfaces or interior pores of a solid (*adsorbent*)
- *Absorption or partitioning* (solubilization) - uptake in which the sorbed adsorbate permeates into the network of an organic medium by forces common to solution. Analogous to the extraction of an organic compound from water into an organic phase. Homogeneous distribution of the sorbed material through the entire volume of the solid phase
- *Desorption* - release of sorbed compound (often rate-limiting for degradation)

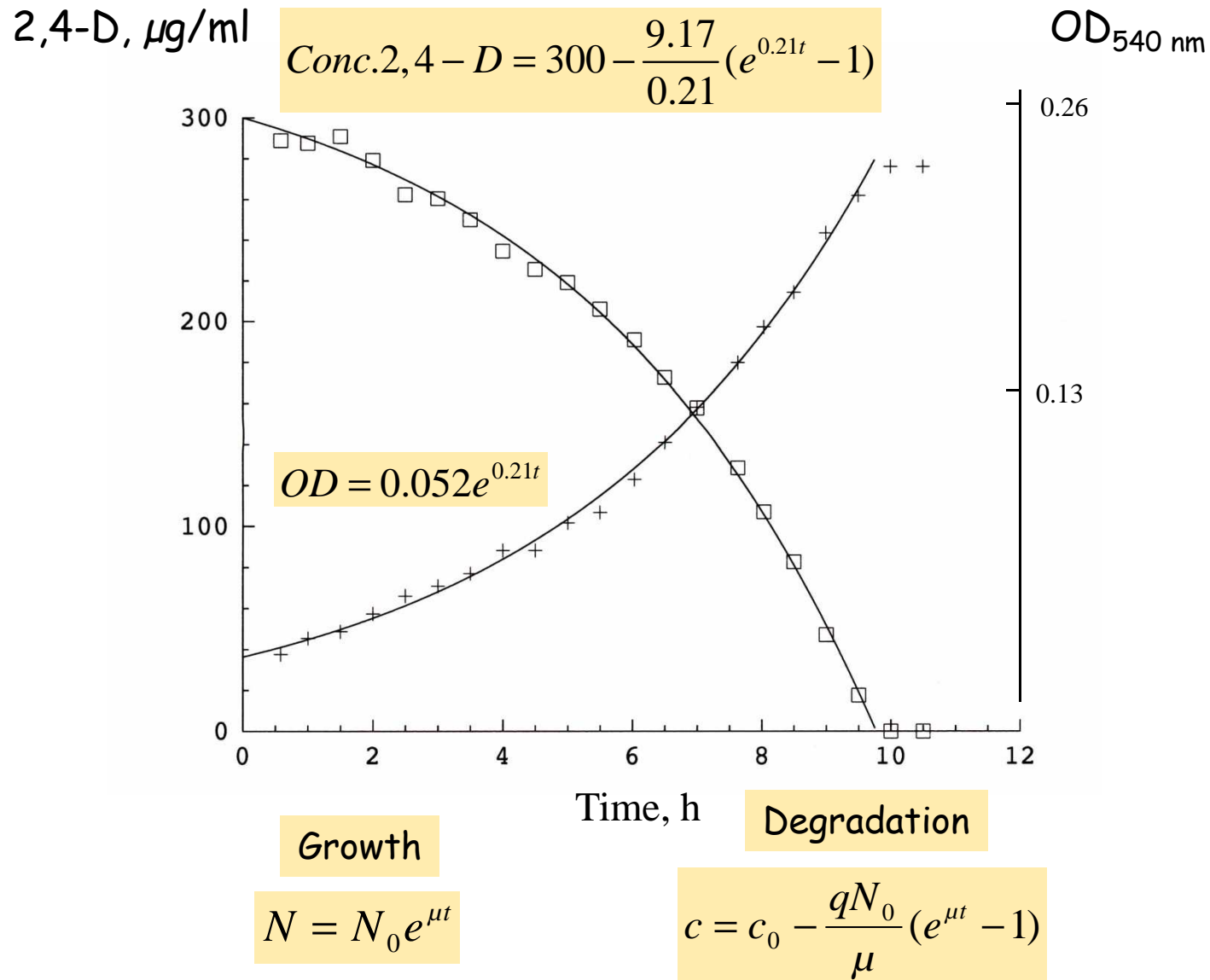
Chemical Freely Available



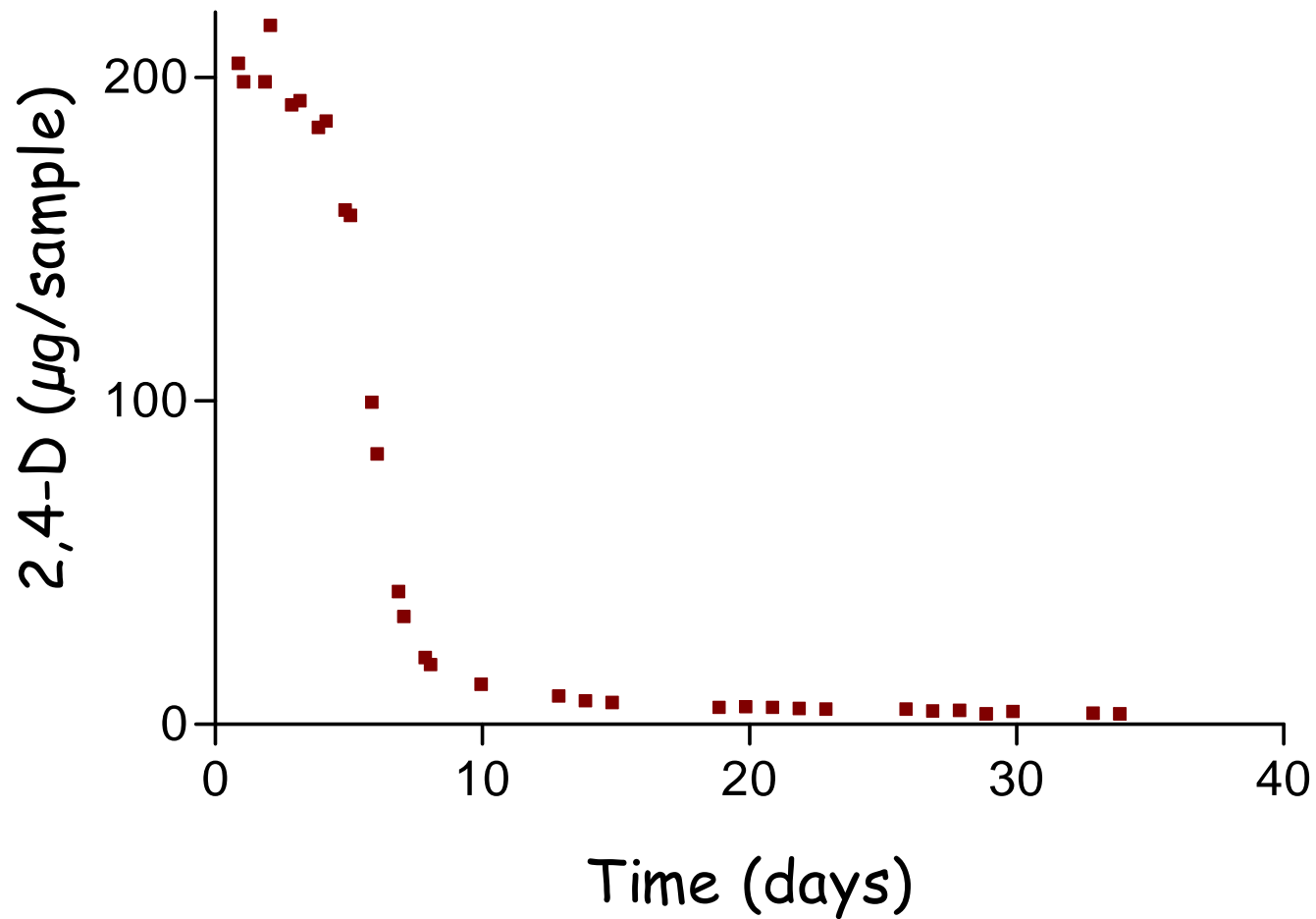
Degraded Within Hours Or Days



Degradation Of 2,4-D In Solution



Degradation Of 2,4-D In Soil



Trophic Interactions At Different Scales

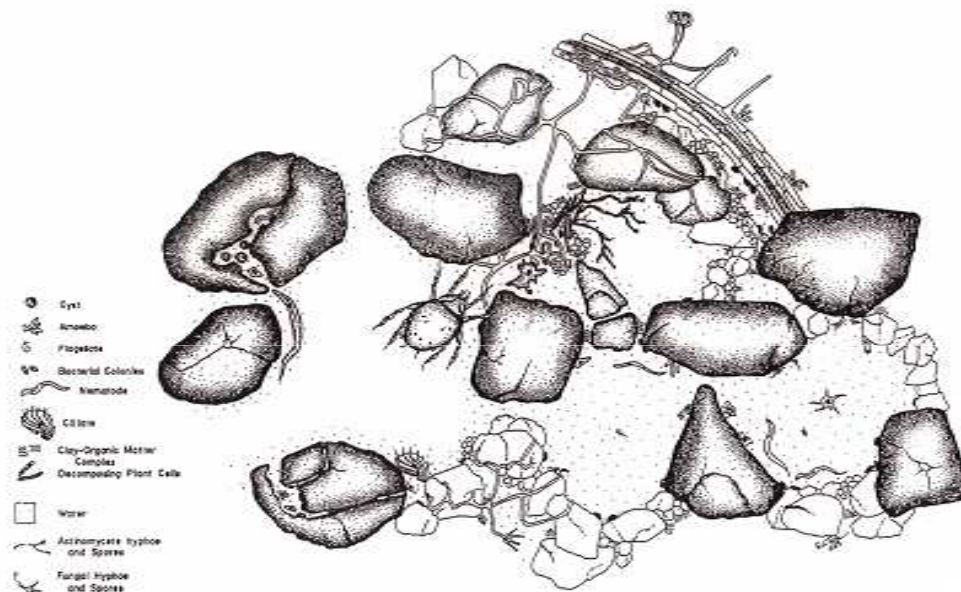
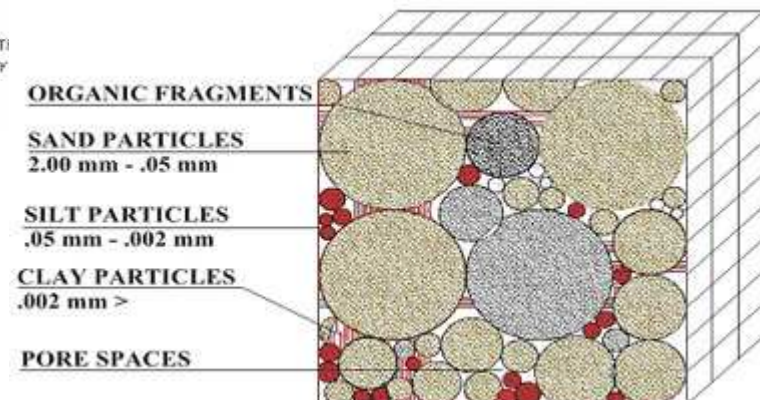


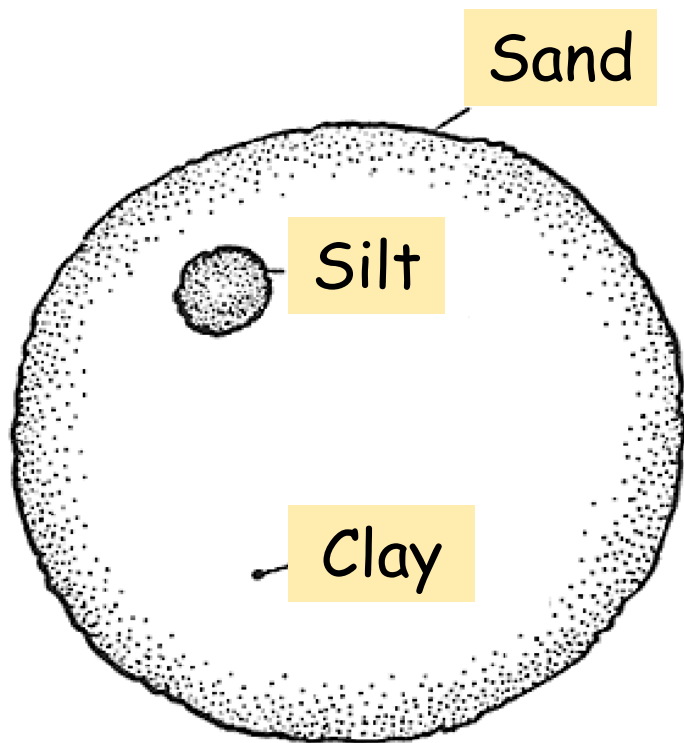
Figure 5.2. Trophic relationships among different groups of soil organisms are controlled by accessibility to their resources. The illustration represents approximately 1 cm³ of a highly structured microzone in the surface horizon of a grassland soil. (Courtesy S. Rose and T. Elliott, personal communication.)



Amount Of Microorganisms And Organic Matter In Arable Soil

Microorganism	Amount per g of soil	Dry weight (kg/ha)
Bacteria	3×10^9	700
Protozoa	3×10^4	35
Fungi	100 m living	875
Σ		1610
Organic matter ton/ha		65-70 (0-15 cm)
% (w/w) microorganisms of the organic matter		2

Scale In Soil Structure



Metres	Particles	Aggregations	Pore functions	Biota	Metres		
10^{-10} (Å)	Atoms	Amorphous minerals	MICROPORES	Organic molecules	10^{-10} (Å)		
10^{-9} (nm)	Molecules				Adsorbed and inter-crystalline water	Poly-saccharides	10^{-9} (nm)
10^{-8}	Macro-molecules						Humic substances
10^{-7}	Colloids	CLAY MICRO-STRUCTURE	$\psi > -15$ bar	Viruses	10^{-7}		
10^{-6} (μm)	Clay particles	Quasi crystals		MESOPORES	Bacteria	10^{-6} (μm)	
10^{-5}	Silt	Domains	Plant available water	Fungal hyphae	10^{-5}		
10^{-4}	Sand	Assemblages		$\psi < -0.1$ bar	Root hairs	10^{-4}	
10^{-3} (mm)		Micro-aggregates	MACROPORES		Roots	10^{-3} (mm)	
10^{-2}	Gravel	Macro-aggregates	Aeration	Mesofauna	10^{-2}		
10^{-1}		Clods		Fast drainage	Worms	10^{-1}	
10^0	Rocks				Moles	10^0	

Scale in soil structure (Waters & Oades, 1991)

Specific Surface Area



A cube with side length 1 cm

Side length	Area/cube	Number of cubes	Total surface area
1 cm	6 cm ²	1	1 × 6 cm ² = 6 cm ²
1 mm	6 mm ²	10 ³	10 ³ × 6 mm ² = 6000 mm ² = 60 cm ²
0.1 mm	0.06 mm ²	10 ⁶	10 ⁶ × 0.06 mm ² = 60 000 mm ² = 6 dm ²
10 μm	600 μm ²	10 ⁹	10 ⁹ × 600 μm ² = 6000 cm ² = 60 dm ²
1 μm	6 μm ²	10 ¹²	10 ¹² × 6 μm ² = 600 dm ² = 6 m ²
0.1 μm	0.06 μm ²	10 ¹⁵	10 ¹⁵ × 0.06 μm ² = 60 m ²

CEC And Specific Surface Area Of Some Clay Minerals

Clay mineral	CEC meq/100 g	Surface area m ² /g
Vermiculite	100-150	600-800
Montmorillonite	80-150	600-800
Illite	10-40	65-100
Chlorite	10-40	25-40
Kaolinite	3-15	7-30
Fe- and Al- hydroxides	2-6	100-800

CEC = Cation-Exchange Capacity

The Soil Is A Desert

Specific surface area: $100 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$

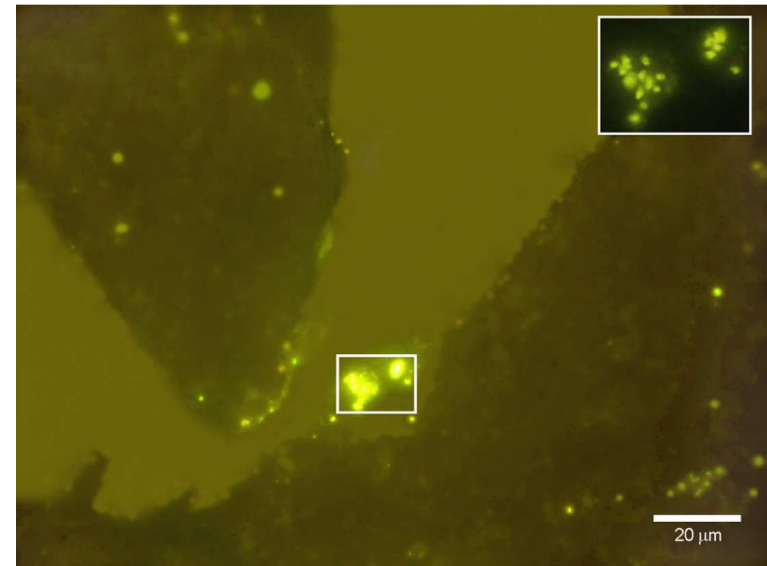
Amount bacteria: $10^8/\text{g}$

Cover only 0.01 % of the surfaces

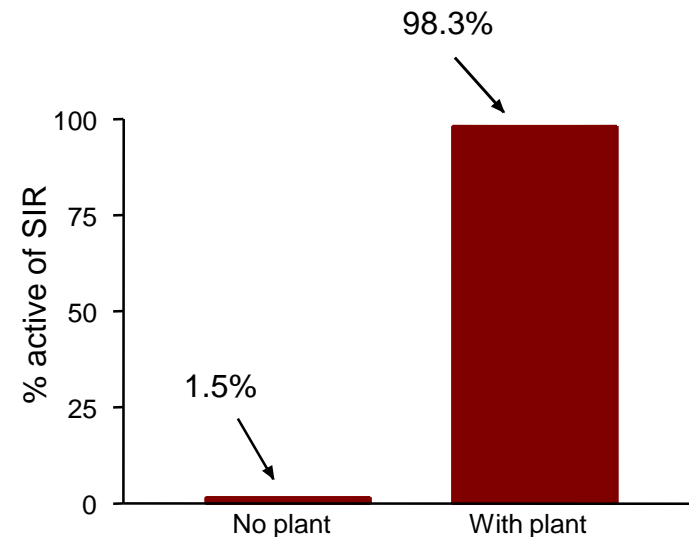
In addition

- At least 90 % of the surfaces are not accessible for microorganisms or enzymes

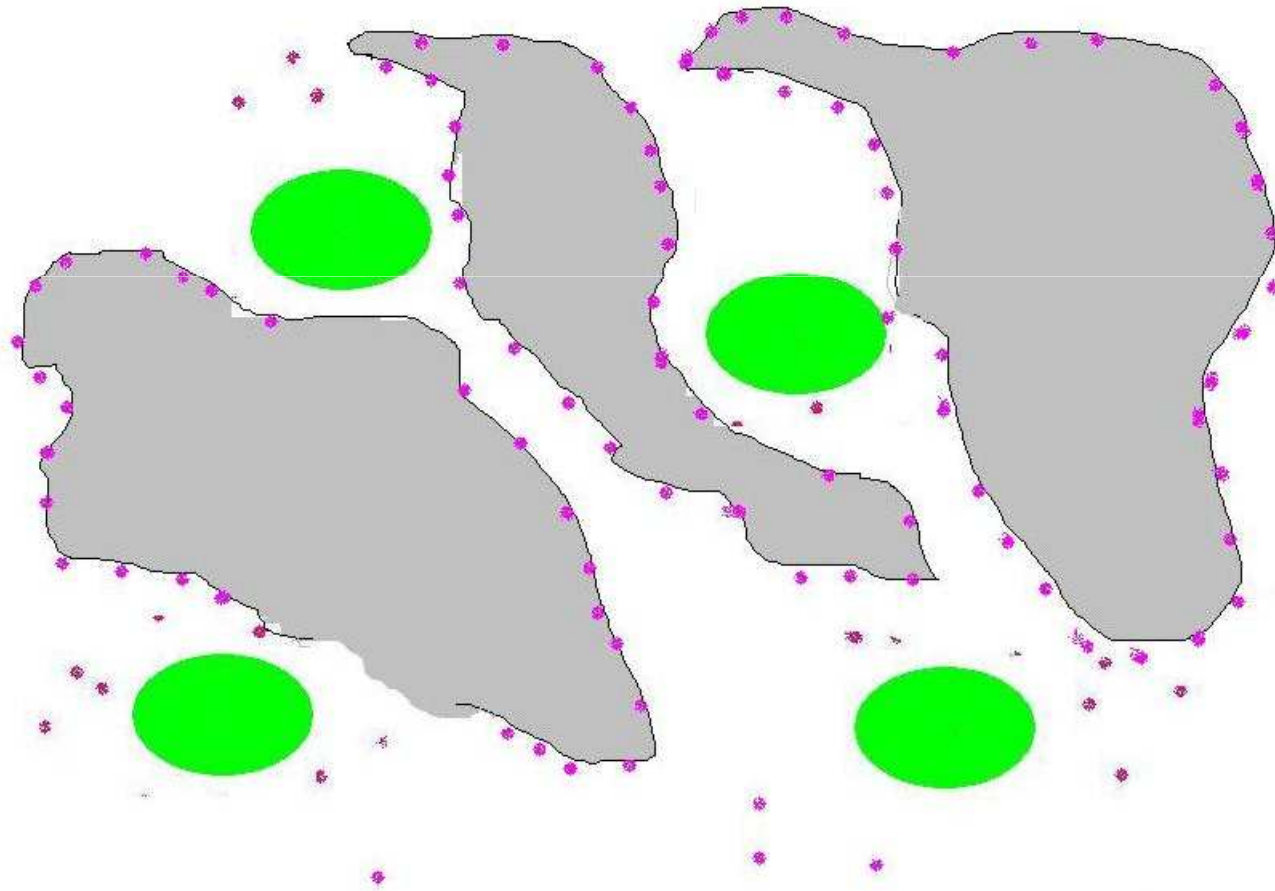
- Only 1-10 % of the microorganisms are active in the absence of plants - starvation



Relative amount of active microorganisms

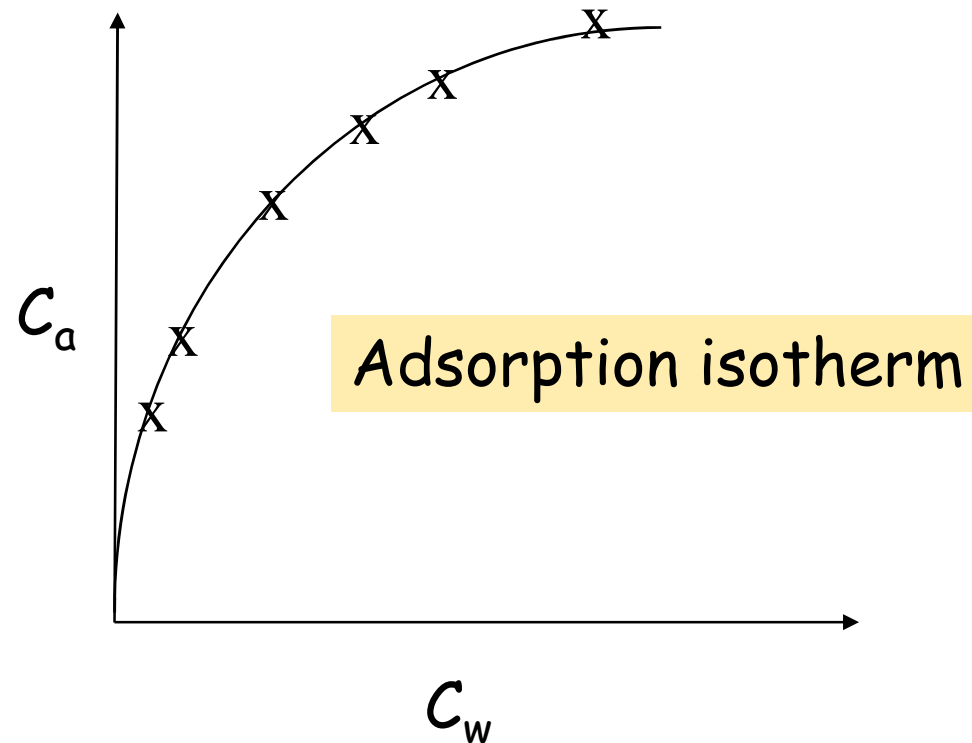


Adsorption Decreases Concentration In Solution



Measurement Of Adsorption

- Mix 0.01 M CaCl_2 with sieved (< 2 mm) soil
- Add pesticide
- Mix (often 24 h)
- Measure concentration in solution, C_w
- Calculate concentration on soil (mass balance), C_a



At equilibrium

C_a = amount adsorbed per mass of sorbent

C_w = concentration in solution

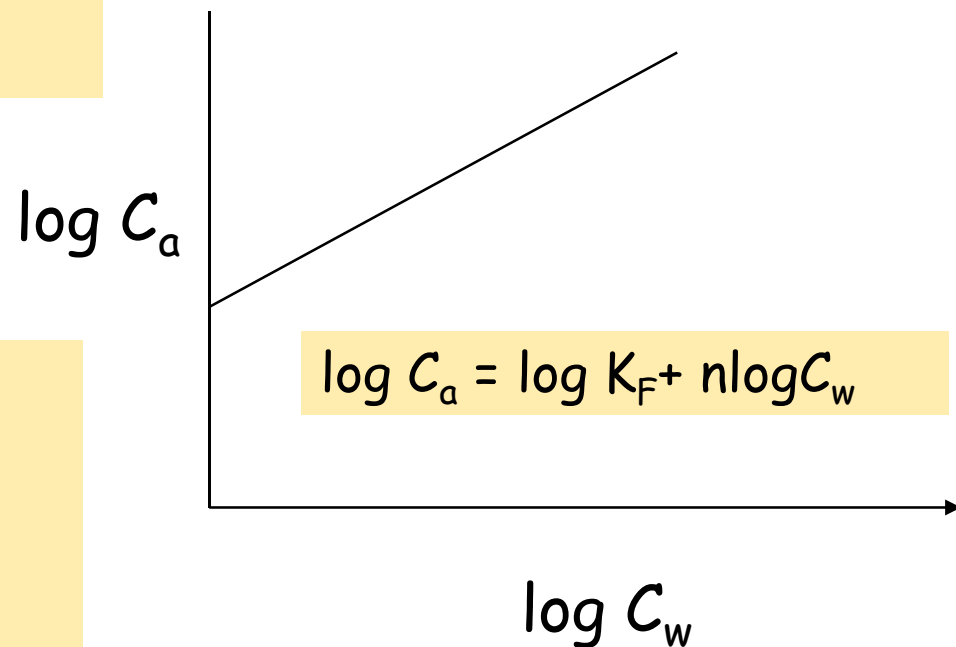
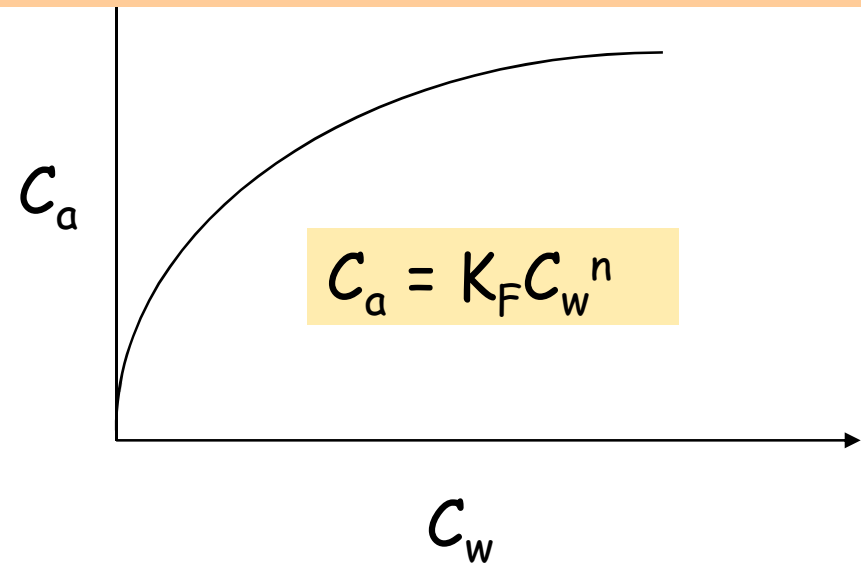
Adsorption

The Freundlich model

$$C_a = K_F C_w^n$$

where K_F and n are respectively the Freundlich adsorption constant and the isotherm linearity parameter ($K_F = K_d$ when $n = 1$)

- On Surfaces
- Temperature dependent
- Saturation
- Competition between solutes



Partition Ratios

partition coefficient, distribution coefficient,
distribution ratio, partition constant

The ratio of the concentration of a substance A in one phase to its concentration in the other phase at equilibrium, e.g. for an soil/aqueous system: $K_d = [A]_{\text{soil}}/[A]_{\text{aq}}$

K_d soil - water (distribution coefficient)

K_{oc} organic carbon - water ($= K_d/f_{oc}$)

K_{om} organic matter - water ($= K_d/f_{om}$)

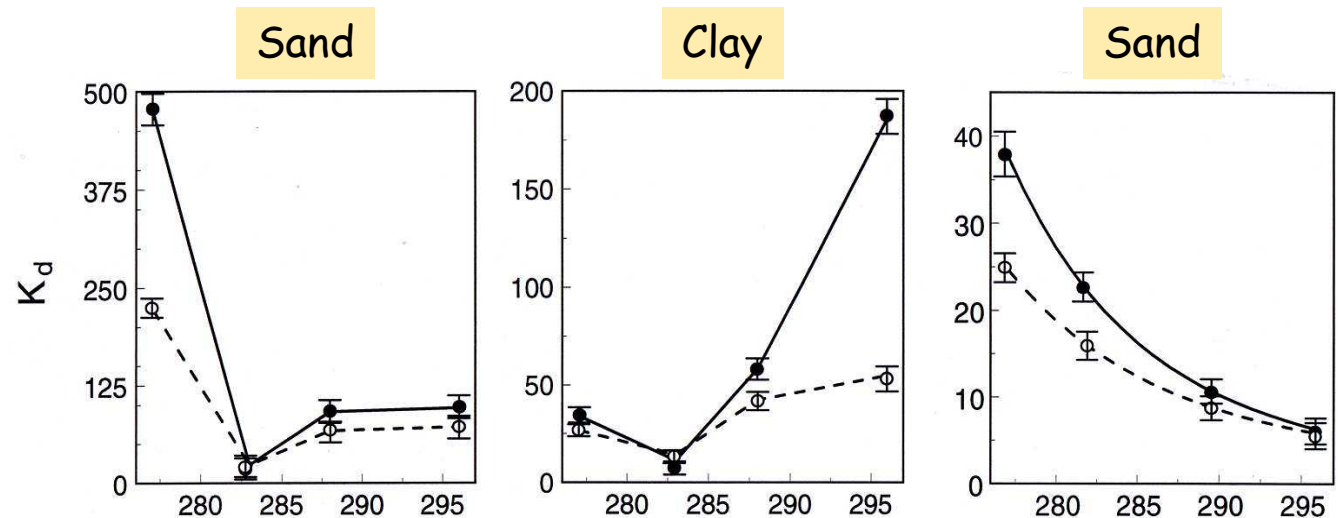
K_{ow} n-octanol - water

K_{aw} air - water

Adsorption

- Often non-linear adsorption isotherms
- **Temperature dependent**
- Competition between solutes

According to the OECD Guideline 106, adsorption is measured at 20-25 °C. In Uppsala, Sweden the monthly mean temperature at 2-4 dm never exceeds 10-15 °C and the mean annual air temperature is 5.6 °C



Temperature dependence of K_d for linuron in three soils at 0.2 (solid line) and 0.5 mg/kg soil

Effect Of Adsorption On The First-Order Degradation Rate Constant

Adsorbed pesticide, C_a

K_d

Pesticide in solution, C_w

k

Degradation products

$$K_d = \frac{C_a}{C_w}$$

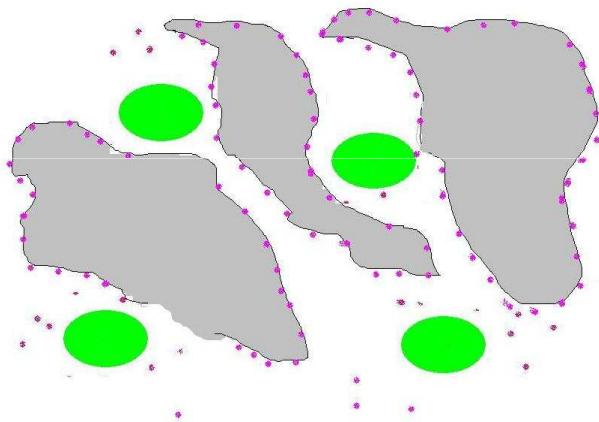
$$C_{tot} = C_a W_{soil} + C_w V_{water}$$

$$-\frac{dc_{tot}}{dt} = kC_w V_{water} = \frac{kC_{tot}}{1 + \frac{W_{soil}}{V_{water}} K_d}$$

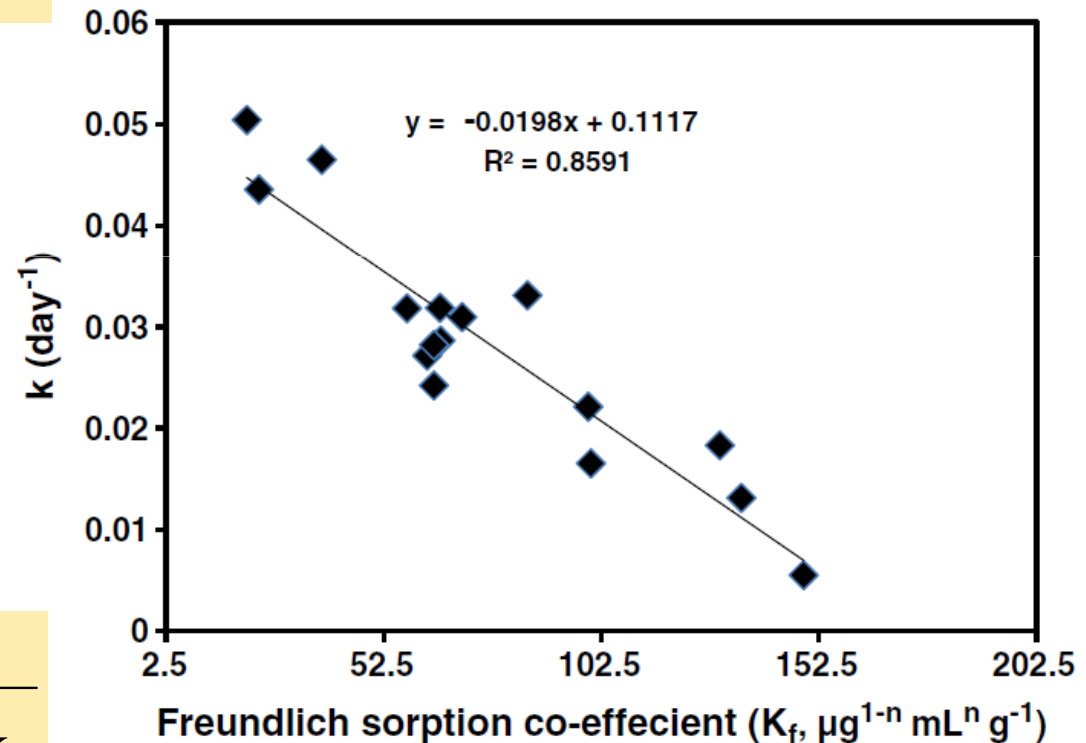
Adapted from Andersson, 1976

Relationship Between The First-Order Degradation Rate Constant k For Glyphosate And The Freundlich Coefficient

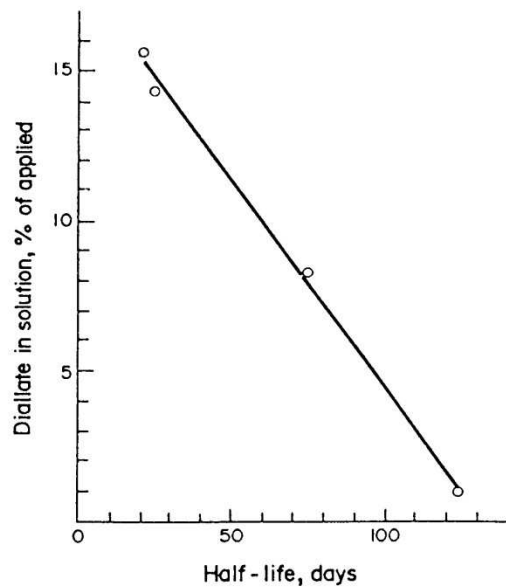
Adsorption decreases concentration in solution



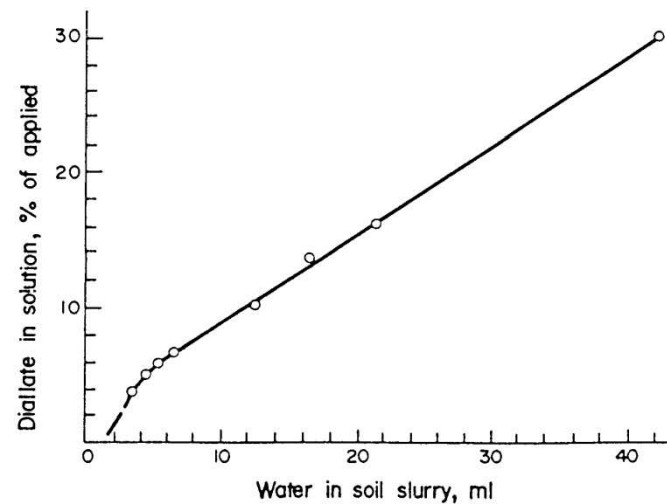
$$-\frac{dc_{tot}}{dt} = kc_w V_{water} = \frac{kc_{tot}}{1 + \frac{w_{soil}}{V_{water}} K_d}$$



The Available Fraction Determines The Degradation Rate And Can Be Decreased By Adsorption And Increased By Dilution



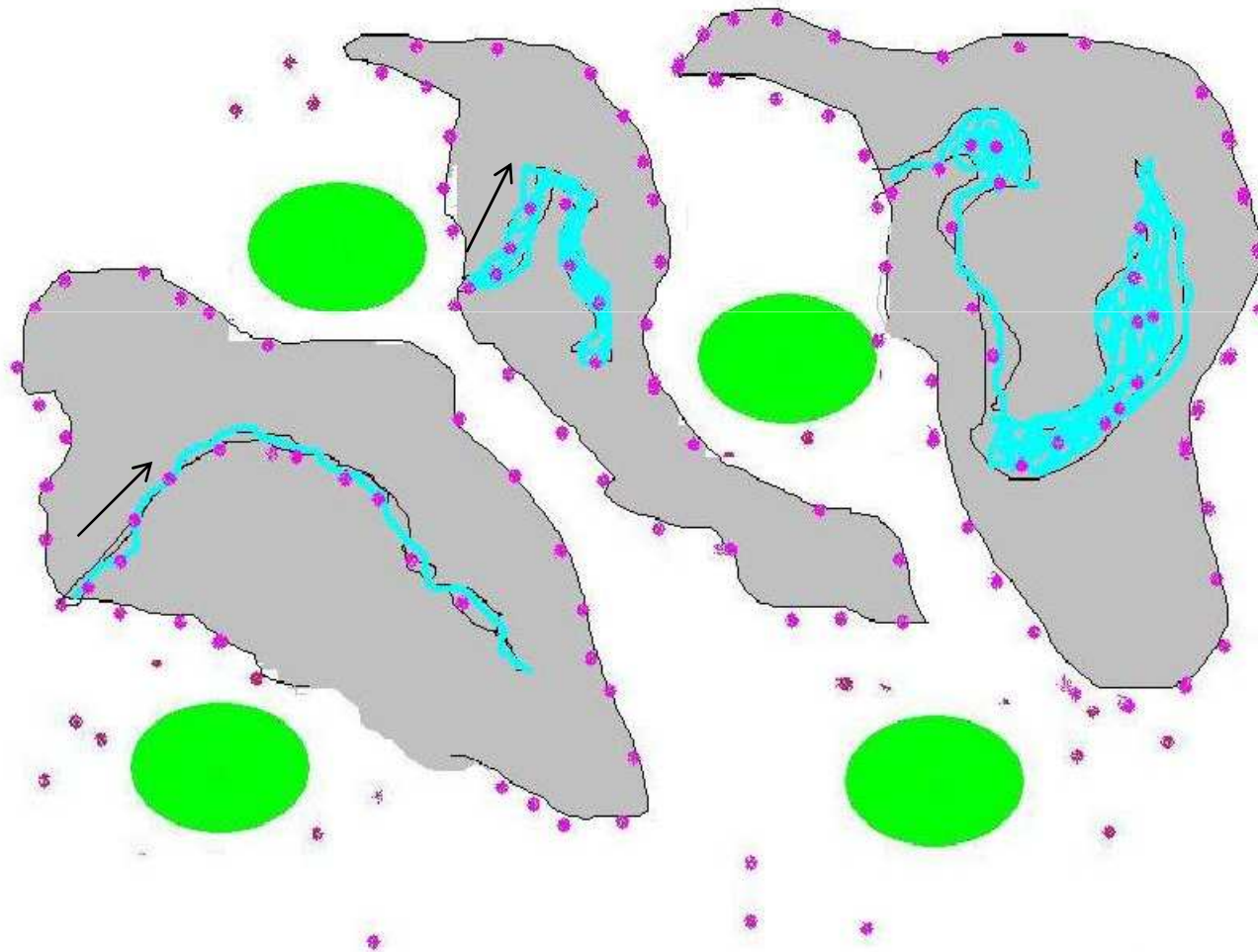
Increasing amounts of active carbon



Dilution

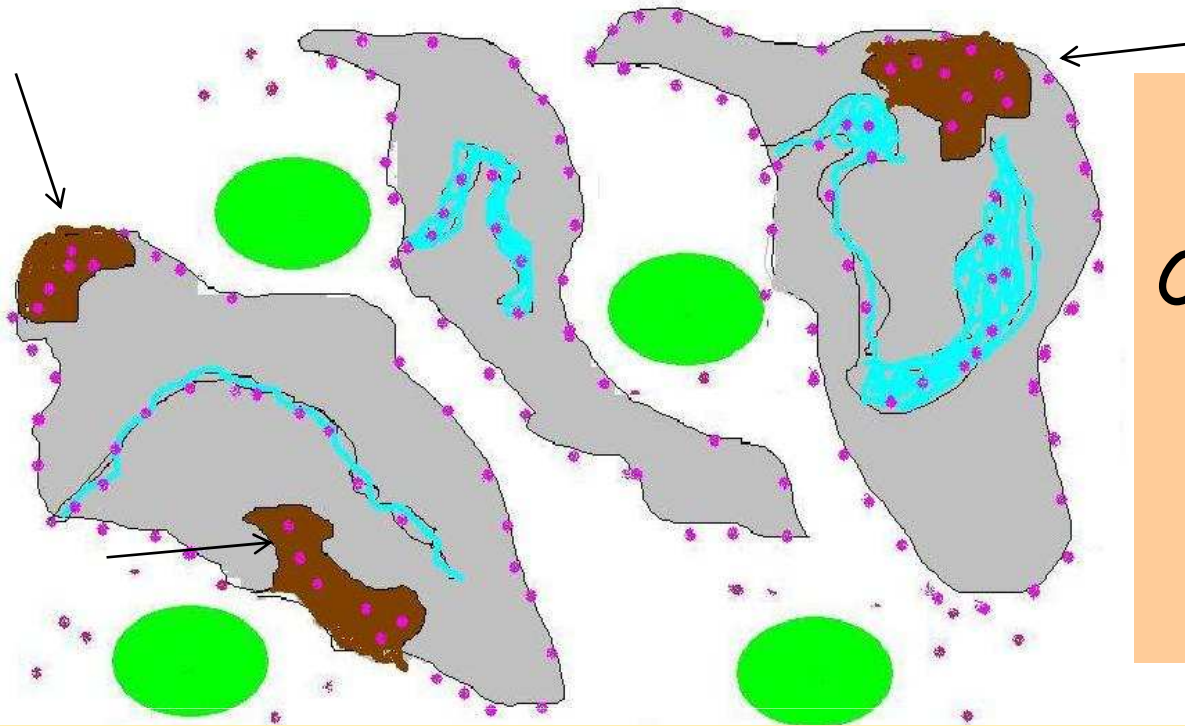
Andersson, 1981

Interior Of Particles Loaded By Time-Dependent Intra-Particle Diffusion



Rates Of Time-Limited Sorption And Desorption

- The diffusion of sorbate molecules within soil organic matter and micro- and mesopores can be extremely slow and often limits the overall sorption and desorption processes
- Times required for sorption by soils and sediments to attain apparent equilibrium may vary from days to years



Lipophilic
Compounds Dissolve
In Humic
Substances
(Partitioning)

- Linear equilibrium sorption isotherms
- Strong dipole interaction of minerals with water excludes nonionic compound
- The compound partitions or is forced into the organic matter
- The extent of uptake closely related to the organic matter content
- No competition between solutes
- Not strongly temperature dependent

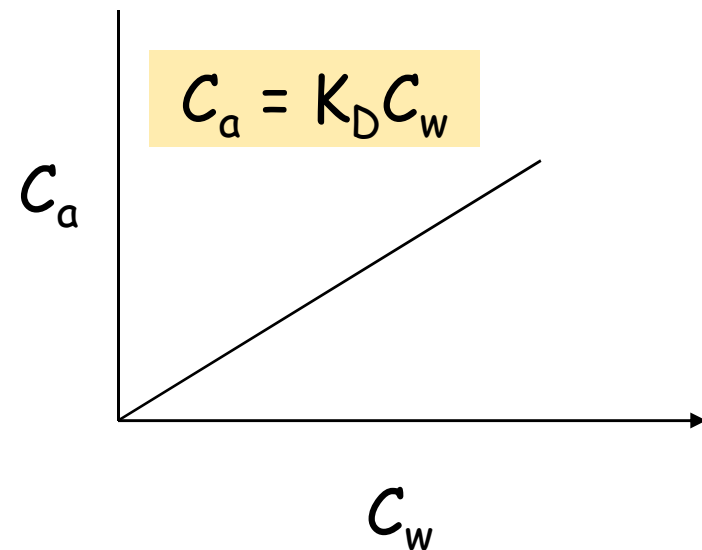
Linear Equilibrium Sorption Isotherms (partitioning)

The linear partitioning model

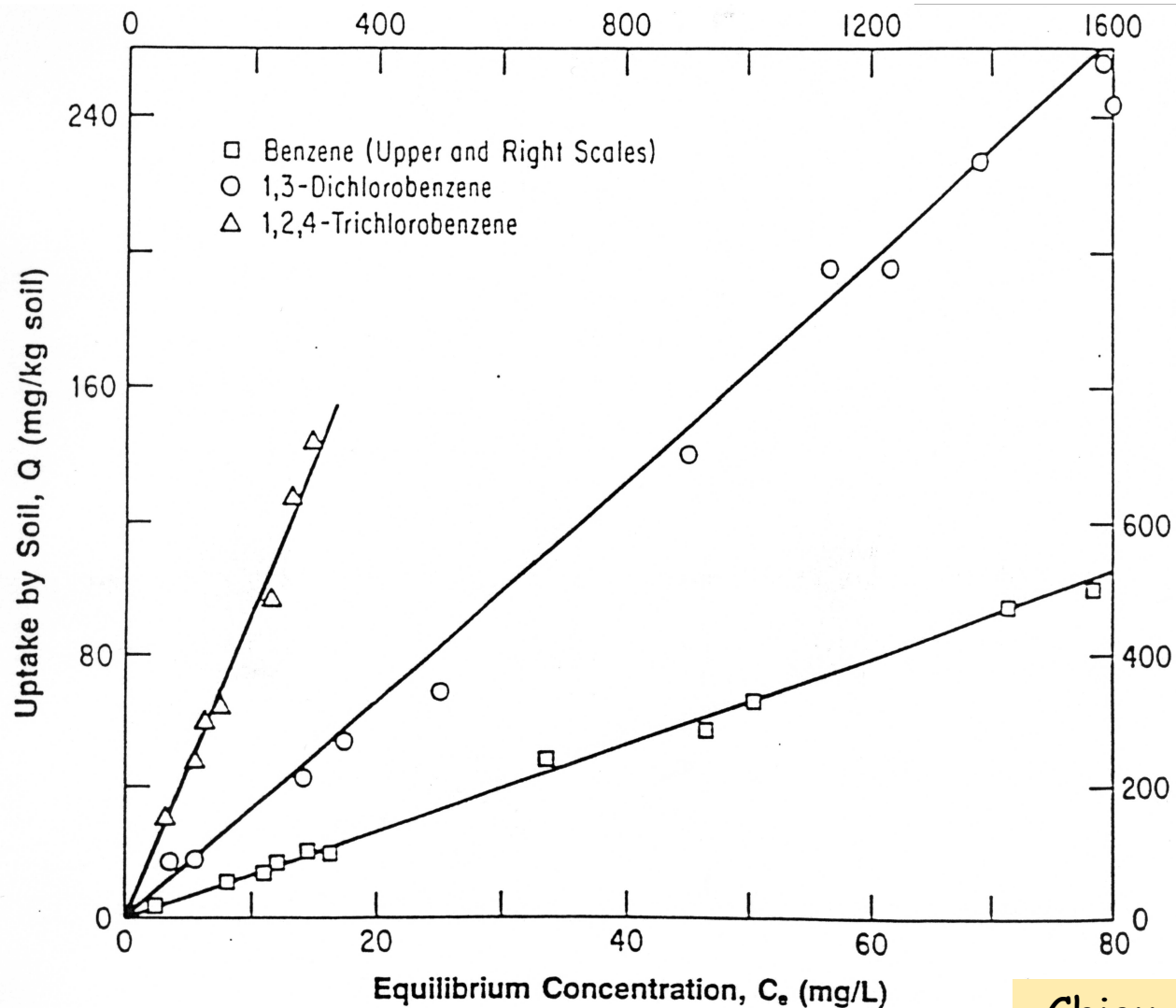
$$C_a = K_D C_w$$

where C_a and C_w are the equilibrium solid-phase and aqueous-phase solute concentrations, respectively

Based on the hypothesis that soil humus is an amorphous gel- or liquid-like phase that has no limitation of "sites" or spaces to accommodate lipophilic compounds as the solute concentration increases

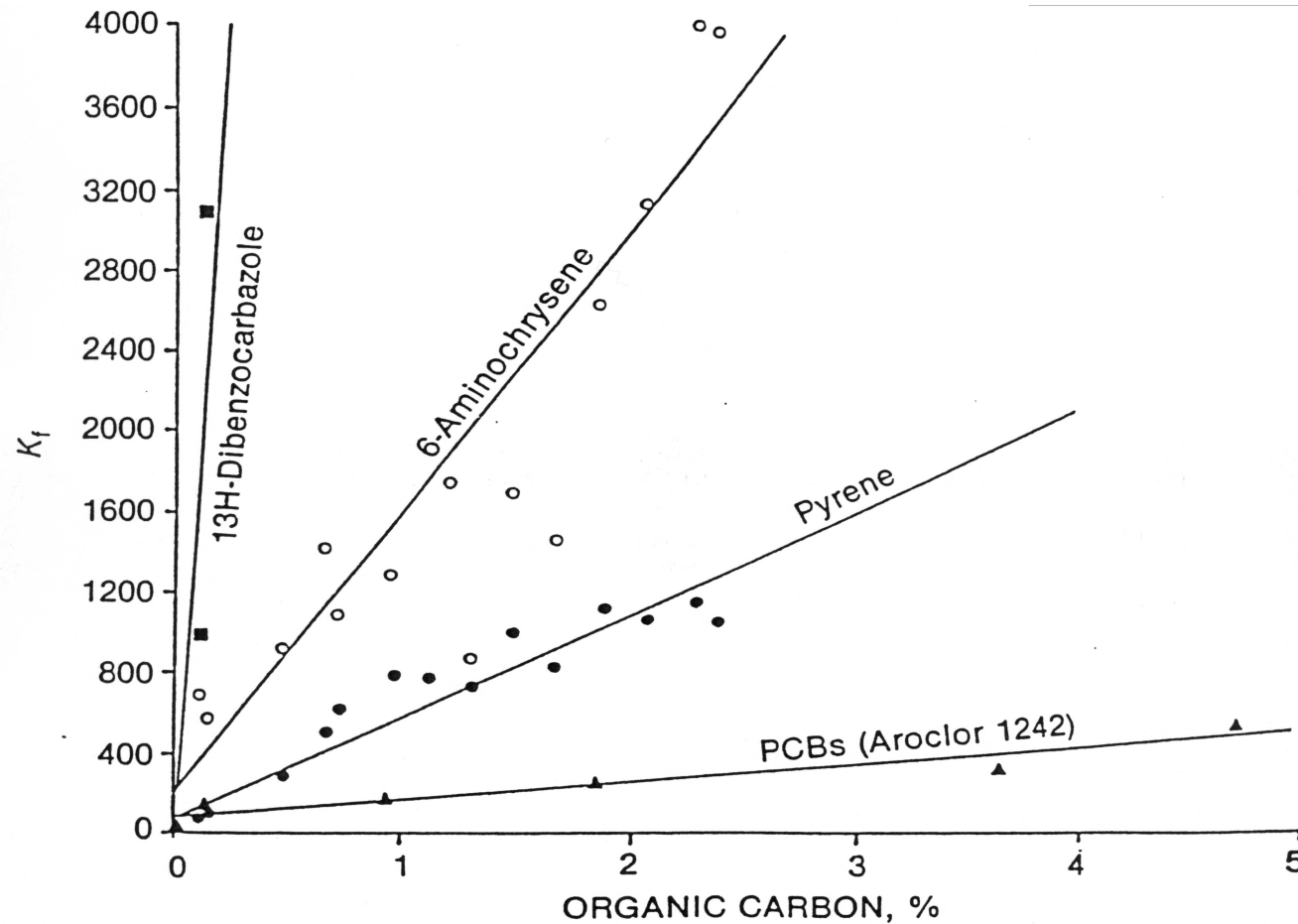


Linear Equilibrium Sorption Isotherms For Most Nonionic Organic Compounds On Humic Substances



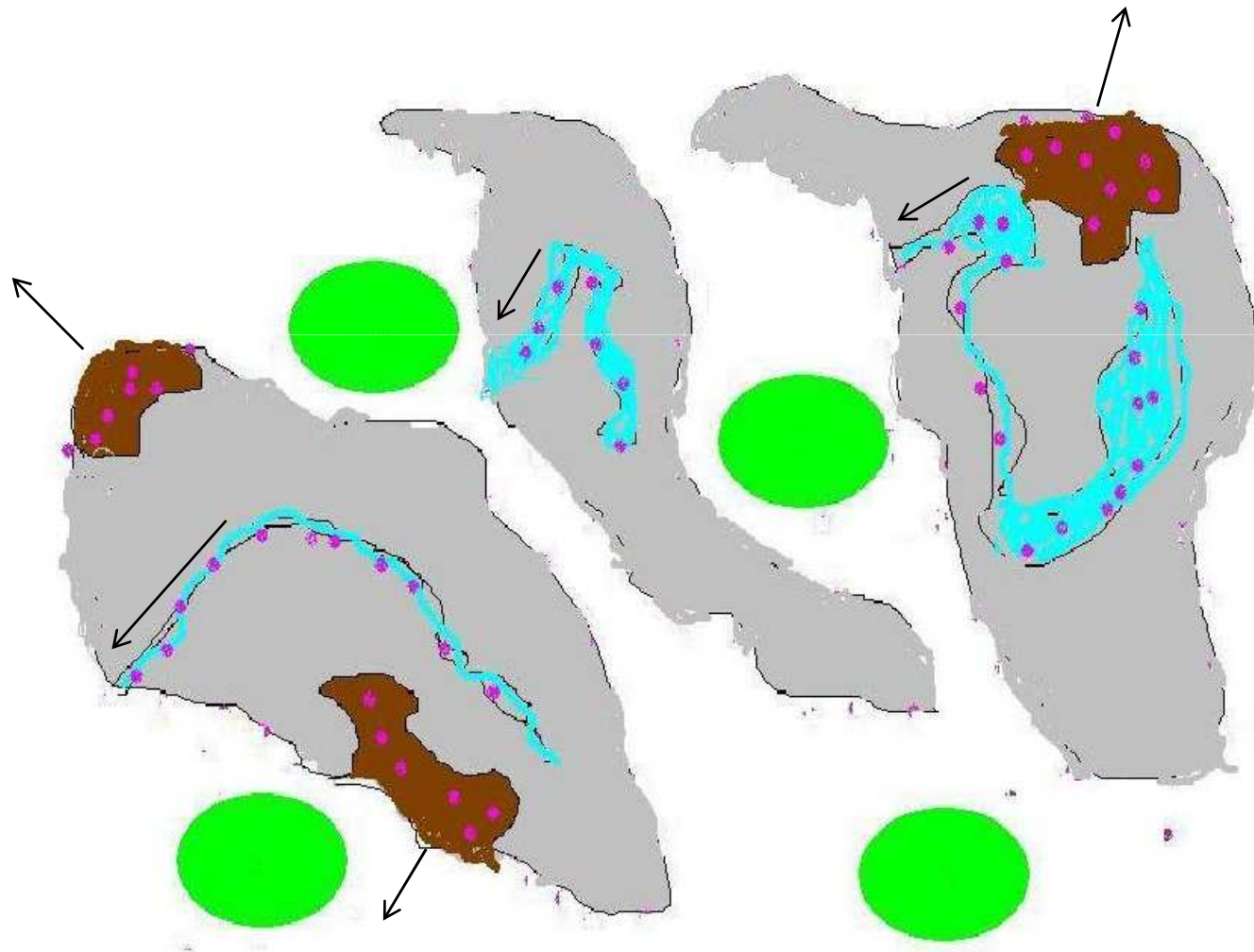
Chiou *et al.*, 1983

The Extent Of Uptake Closely Related To The Organic Matter Content



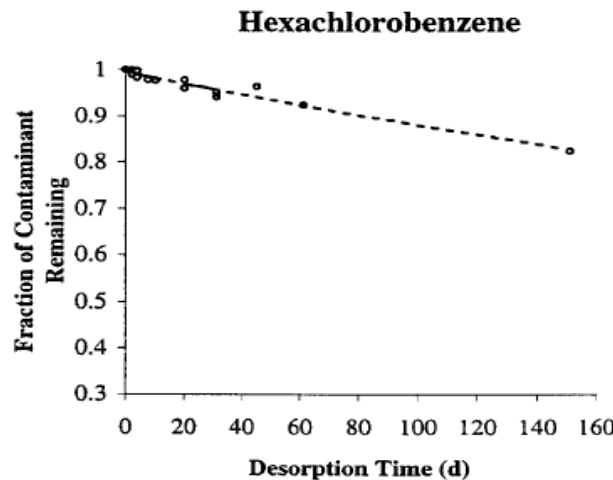
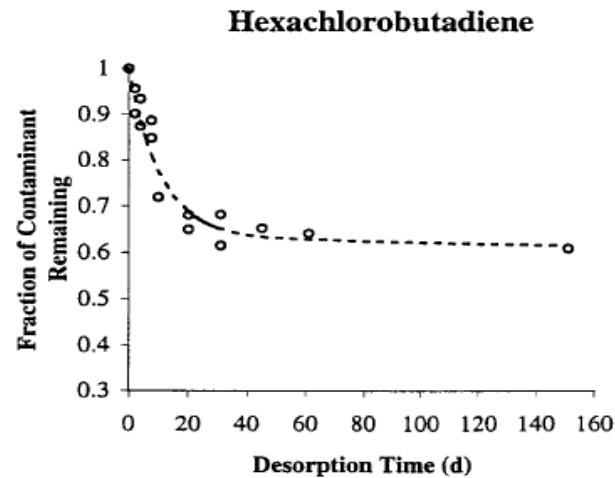
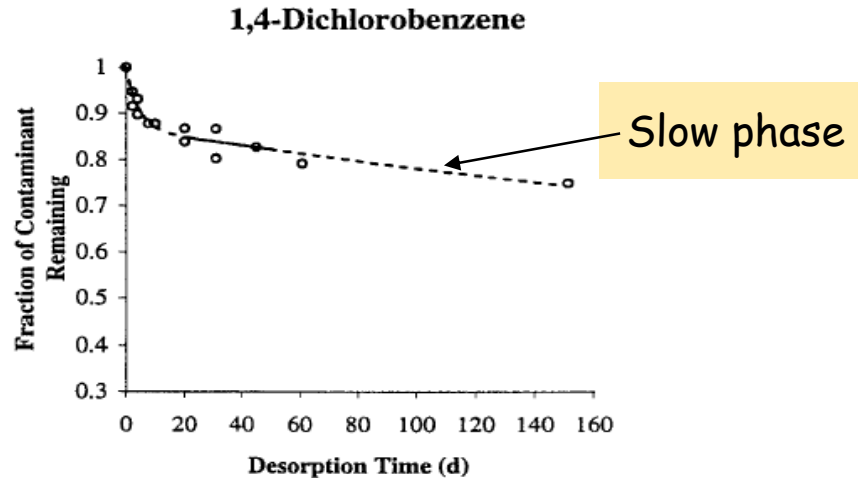
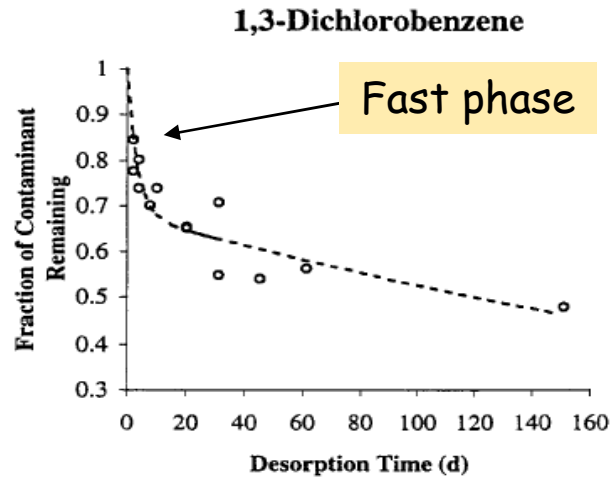
Hassett et al., 1983

Time-Limited Desorption Often Rate-Limiting For Degradation (Takes Months To Years)



Desorption Of Four Contaminants From Sediment

A.T. Kan et al. | Environmental Pollution 108 (2000) 81-89

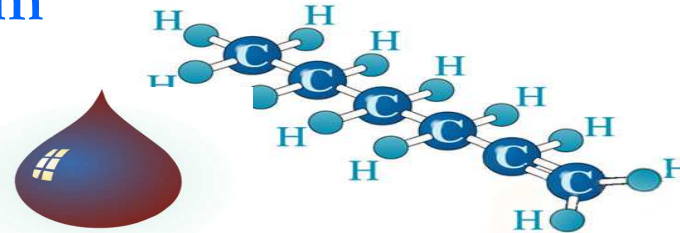
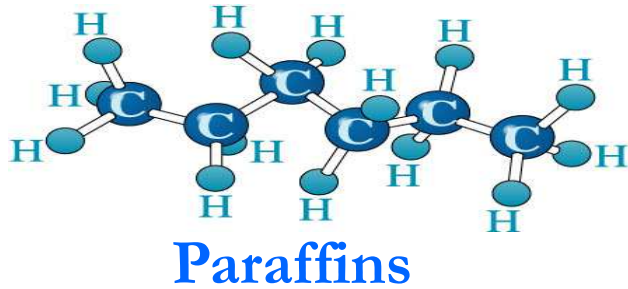


Desorption half-lives
 Fast phase: 3-6 days
 Slow phase 0.8-8.6 years

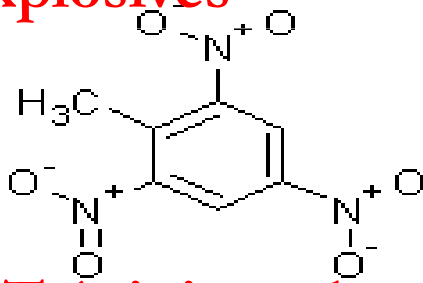
$$\frac{q(t)}{q_0} = \phi_{\text{Fast}} \cdot \exp(-k_{\text{Fast}} \cdot t) + (1 - \phi_{\text{Fast}}) \cdot \exp(-k_{\text{Slow}} \cdot t)$$

Some Successful Bioremediations

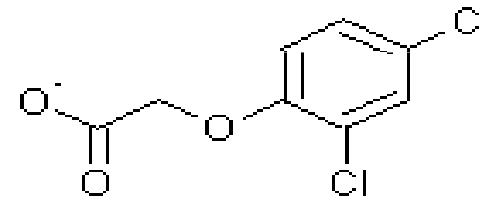
Petroleum



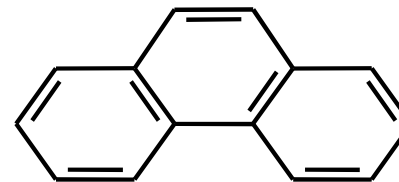
Explosives



Pesticides



Low-molecular weight PAH



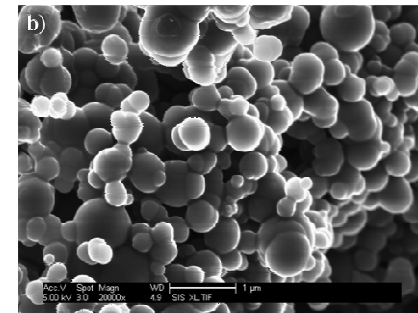
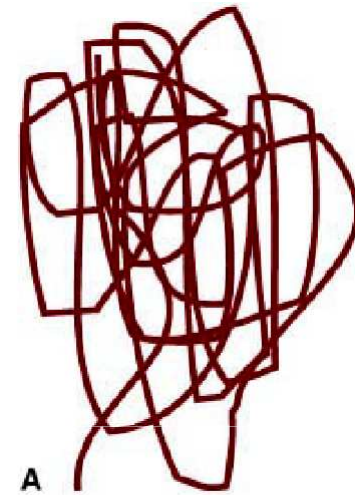
Phenanthrene



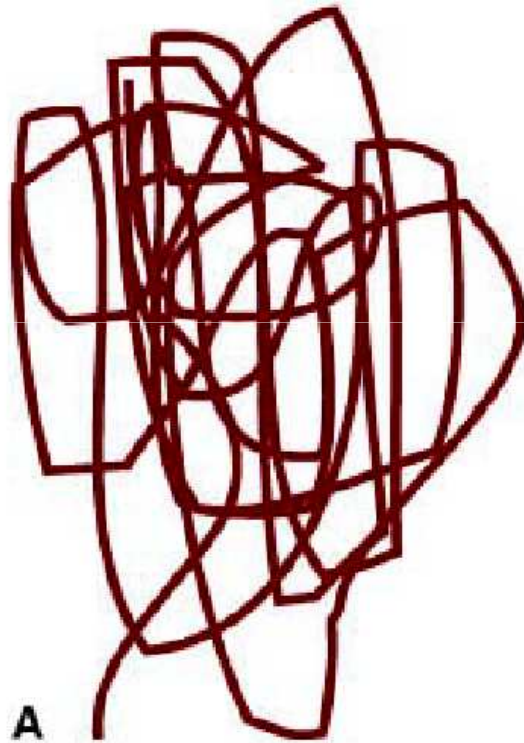
All these compounds are relatively water soluble (not very lipophilic)

Soil Organic Matter (SOM) Most Important For Sorption Of Organic Compounds

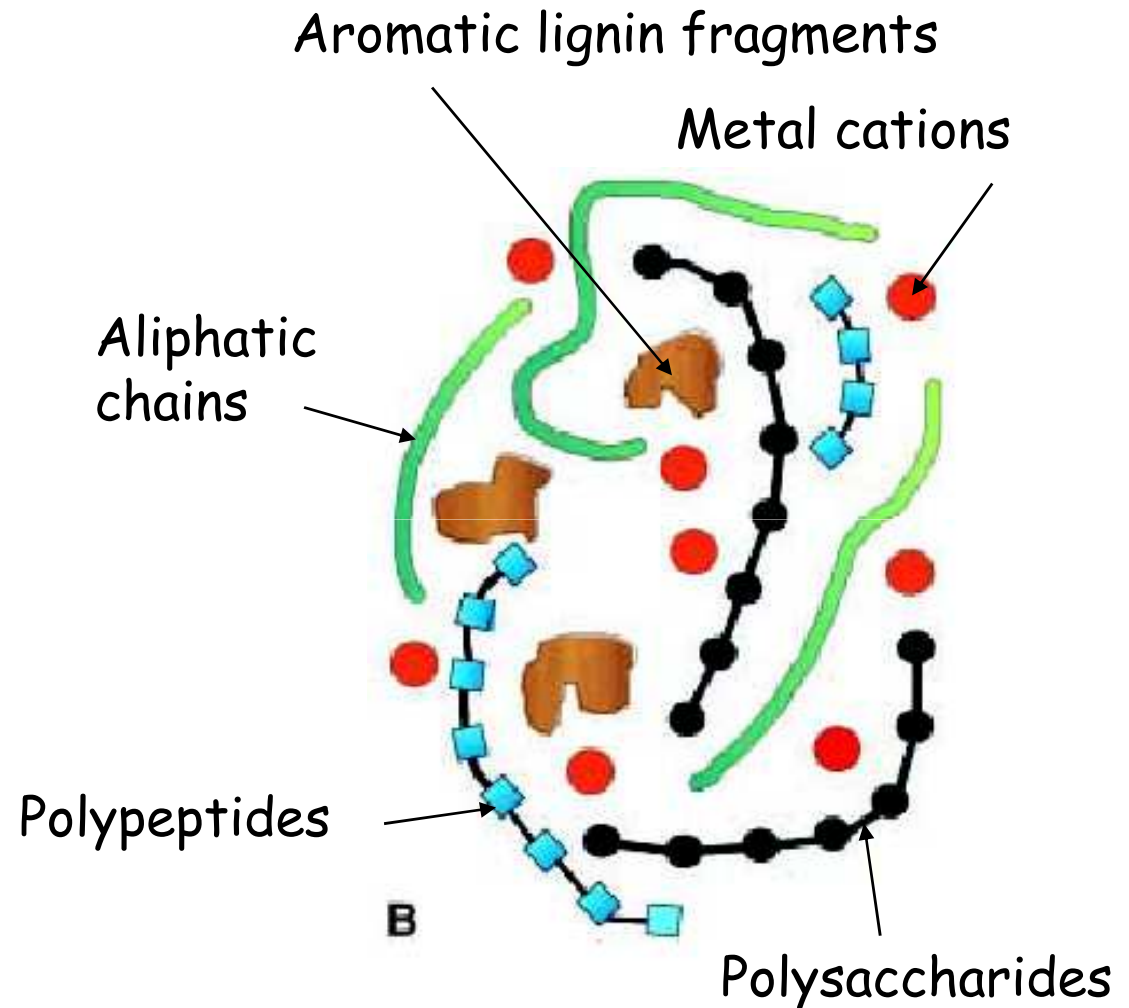
- Humic substances
- Black carbon (from fires, combustion)
- Kerogen (solid organic matter in sedimentary rock)



The Structure Of Humic Substances

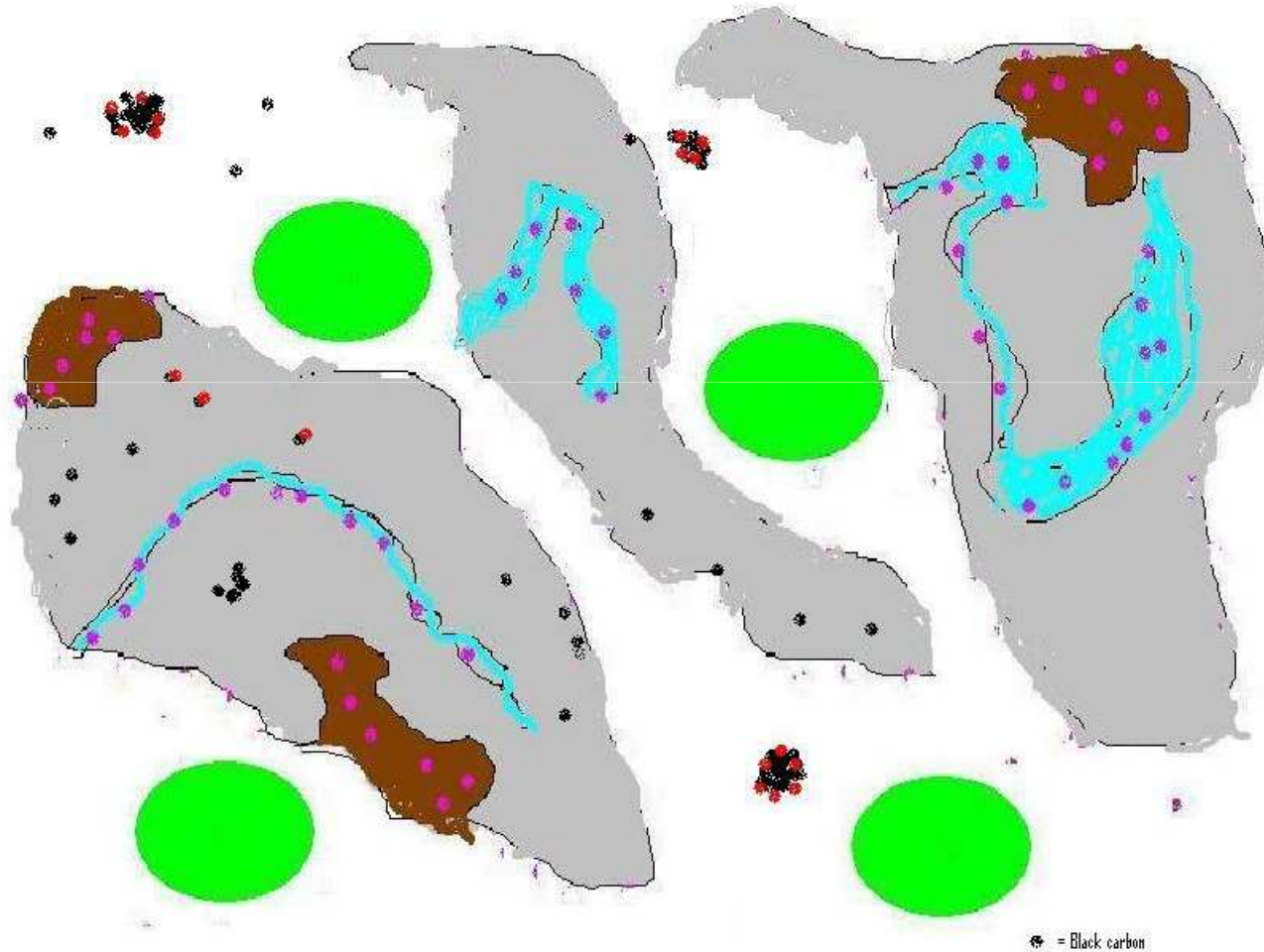


Traditional concept
Macromolecules
 $M_w > 1,000,000$ Da



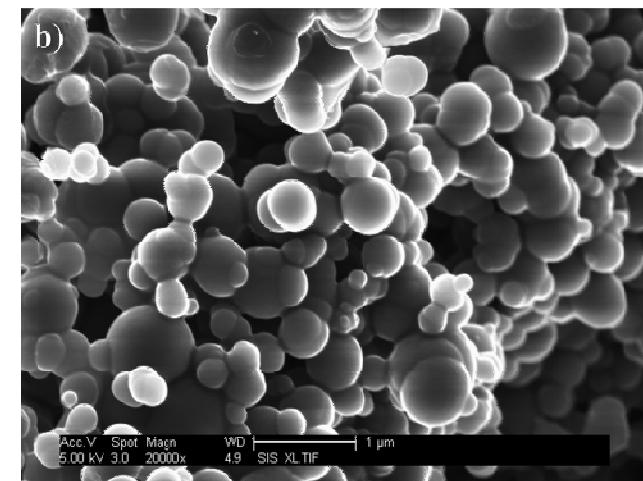
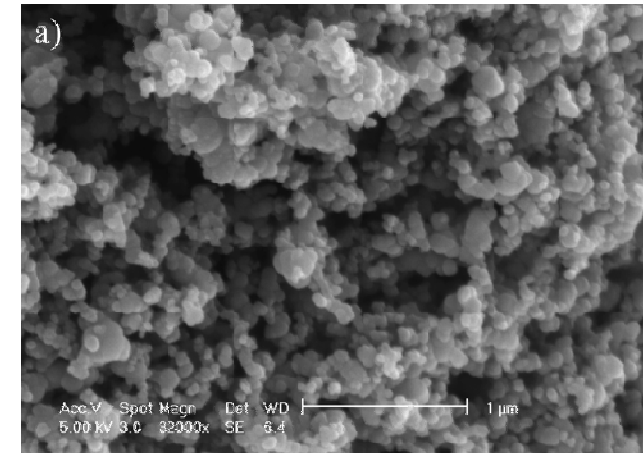
New concept, Gel, $M_w < 2,000$ Da
Simpson *et al.*, 2002

Black Carbon Can Substantially Contribute To Adsorption



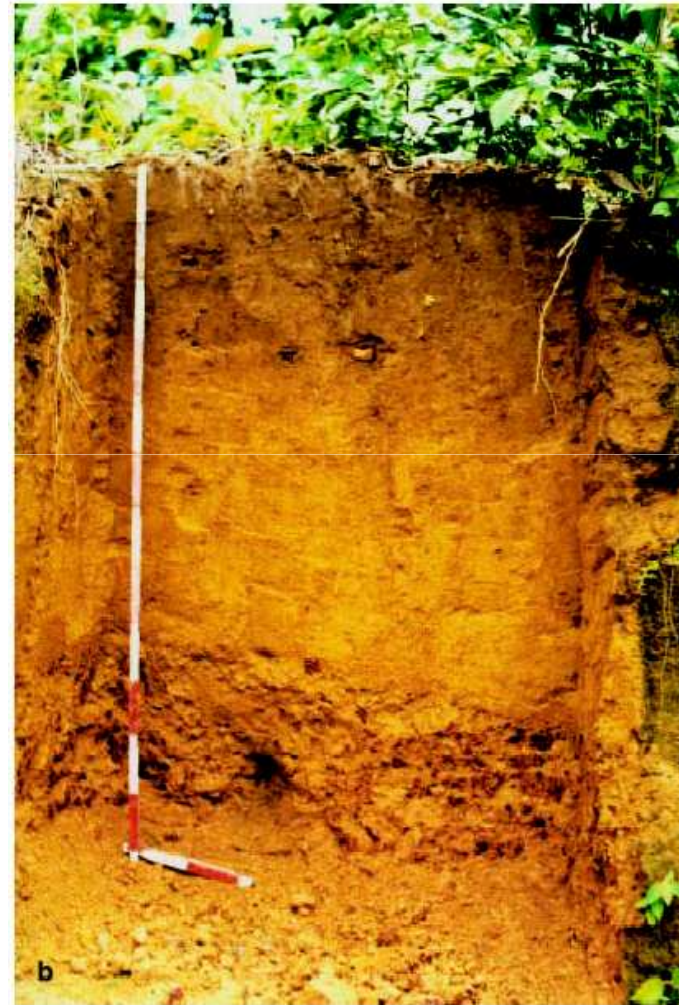
Black Carbon

- Pyrogenic carbon particles (*e.g.* soot, charcoal)
- Resists decomposition
- Highly porous, nanopores $<10 \text{ \AA}$ width
- Large surface area (2 to 776 m^2/g)
- Sorption 10-10000 times stronger than on other organic carbon
- Supersorbent (like active carbon)



Hong *et al.*, 2003

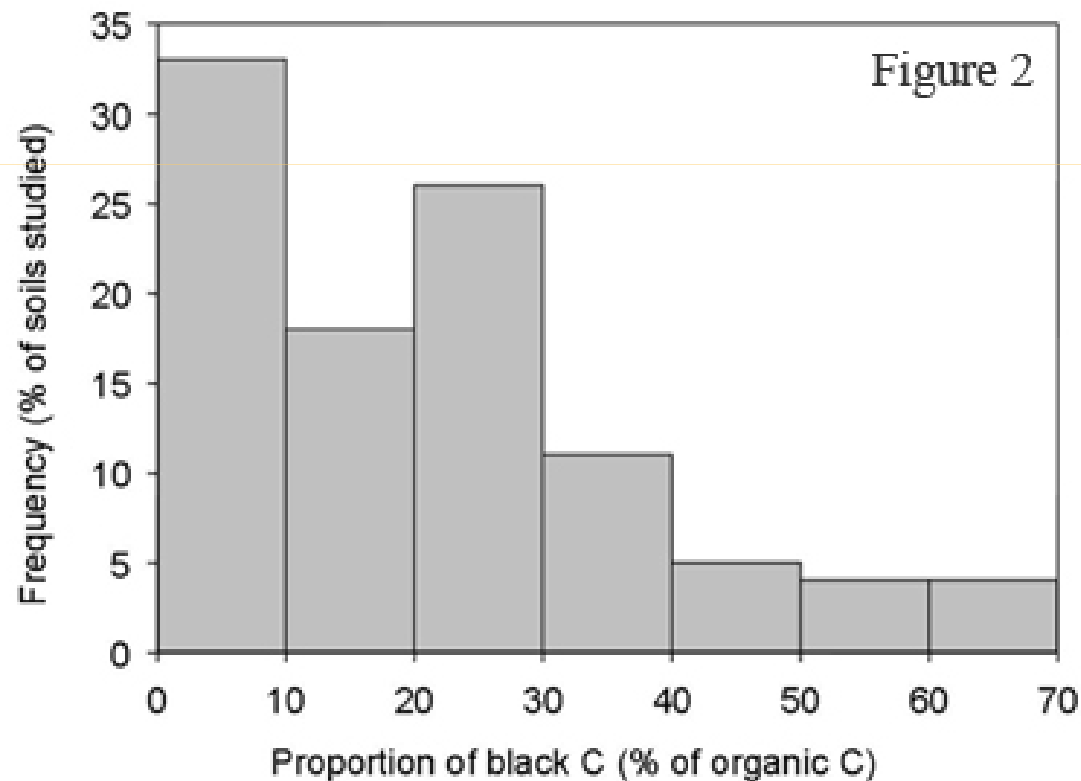
Typical Profiles Of 'Terra Preta' And Oxisol Sites



Glaser *et al.*, The 'Terra Preta' phenomenon: a model for sustainable agriculture in the humid tropics. *Naturwissenschaften* (2001) 88:37-41

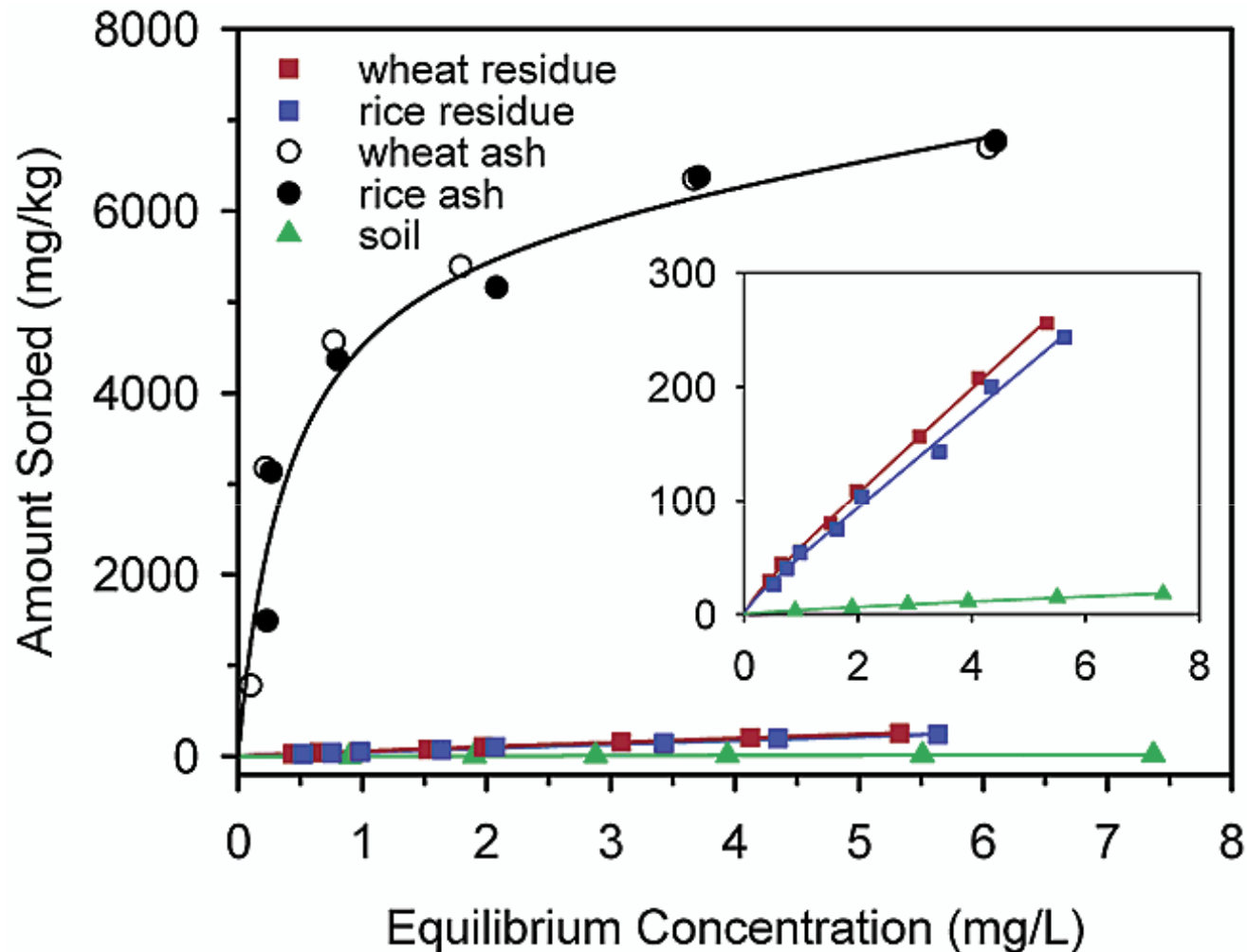
Amounts Of Black Carbon In Different Soils

- Levels surprisingly high
- Long times of accumulation (fires)
- Soot in industrialised regions
- Recalcitrant (resistant to degradation)



Source: Cheng et al, 2005 (unpublished)

Influence Of Black Carbon On Diuron Adsorption

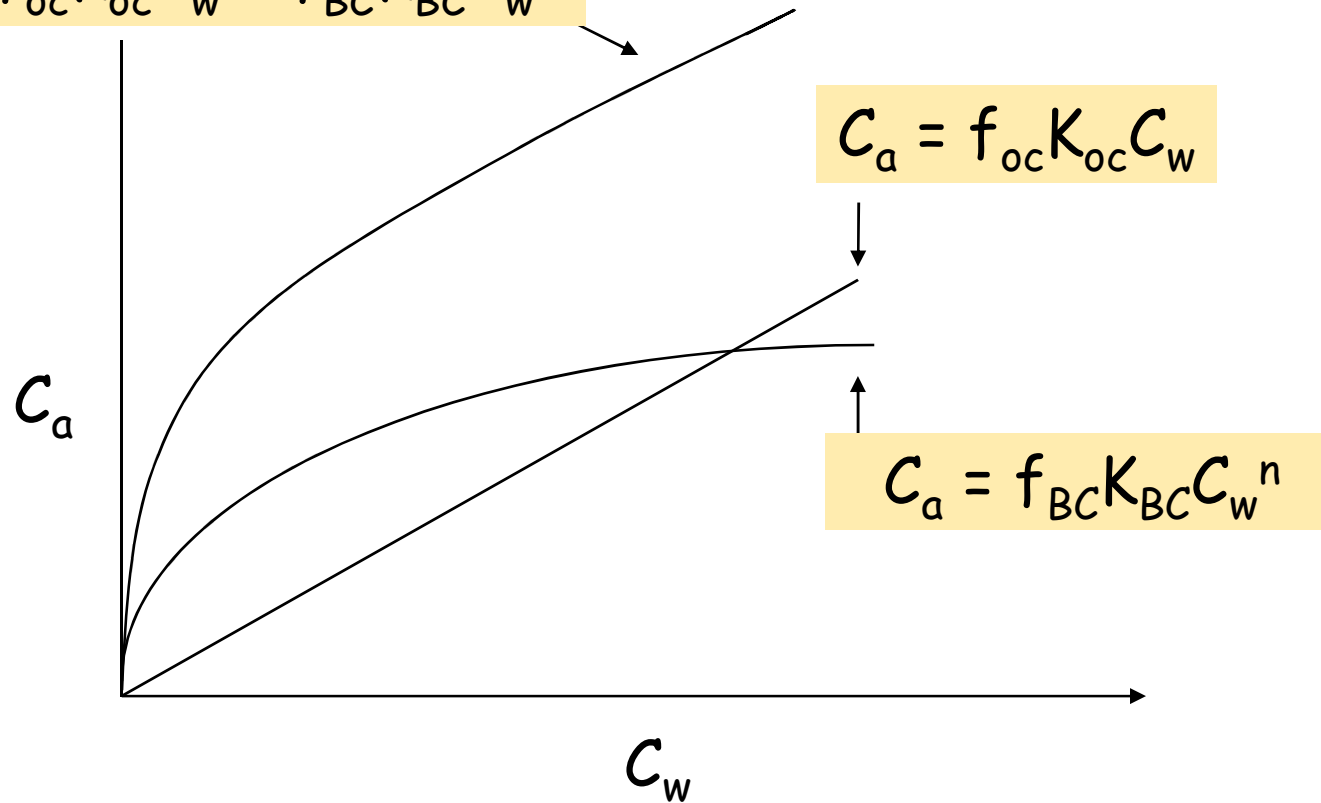


Above the wheat ash content of 0.05%, the sorption was largely controlled by the ash (residues from 1-3 harvests mixed into 0-15 cm)

Yang & Sheng, 2003

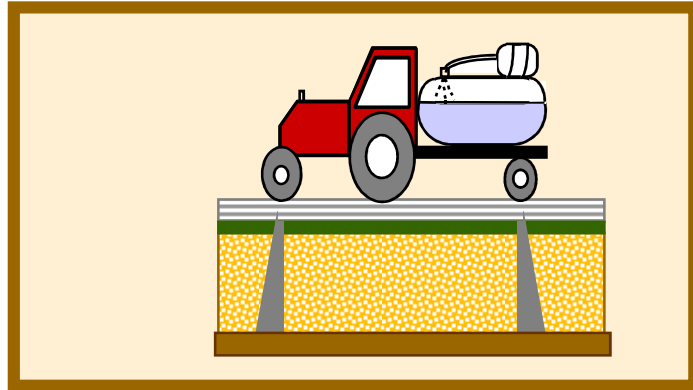
The Composite Model (for lipophilic compounds) Absorption In Organic Carbon (OC) And Adsorption On Black Carbon (BC)

$$C_a = f_{oc} K_{oc} C_w + f_{BC} K_{BC} C_w^n$$



Equation from Accardi-Dey & Gschwend, 2002

Potential Use Of Black Carbon



The bottom of the biobed



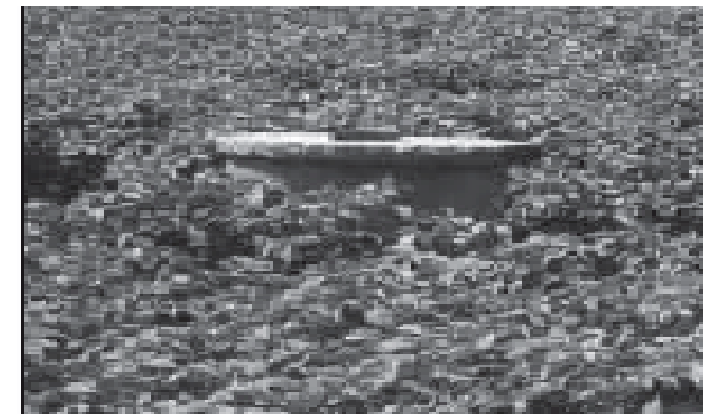
Railway embankments



Yards



Parking places



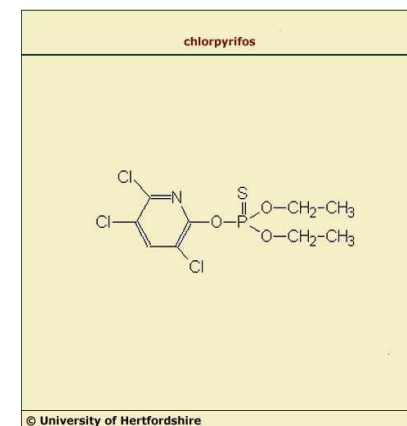
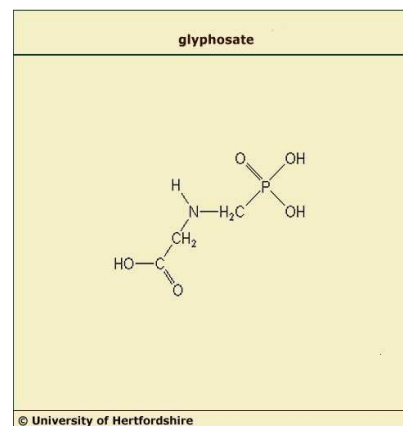
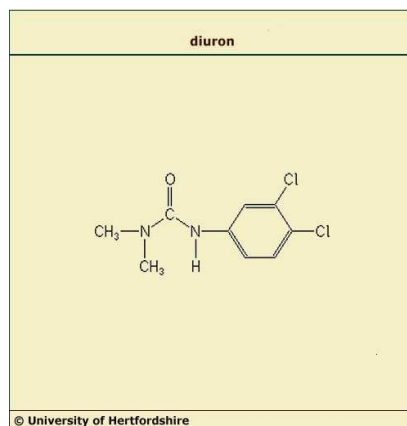
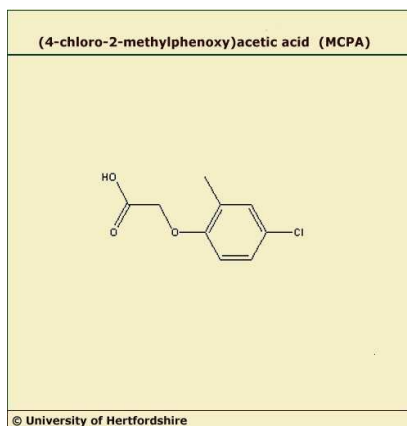
Inspection wells
for drainage systems

Effect Of Black Carbon On Adsorption Of Pesticides

Test substances

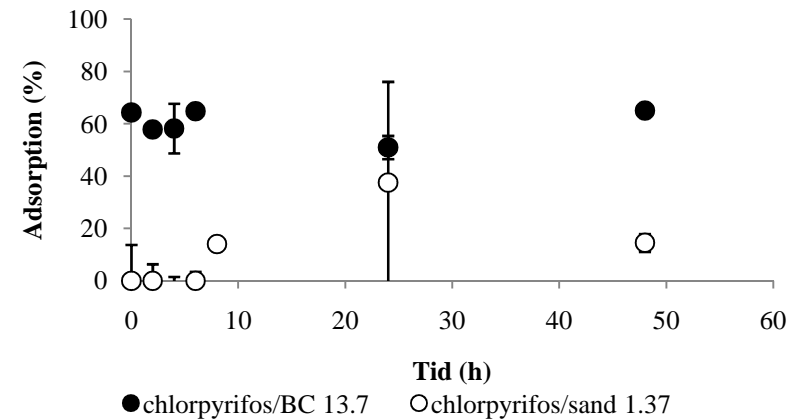
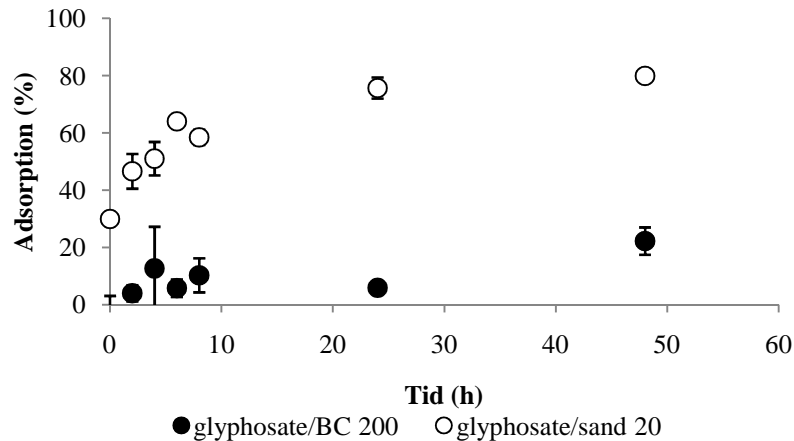
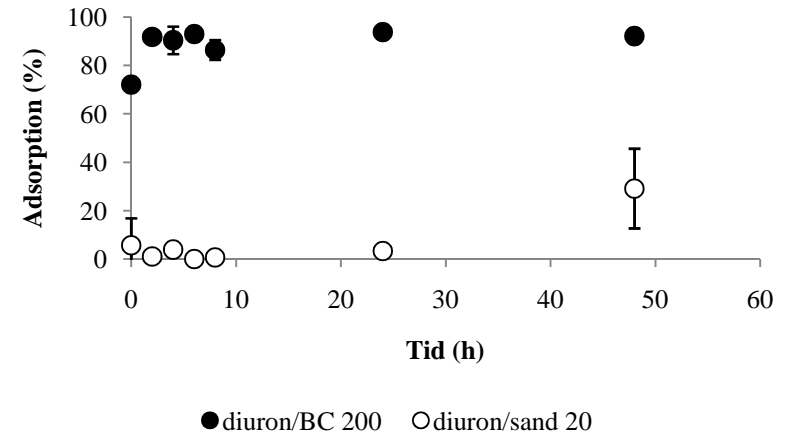
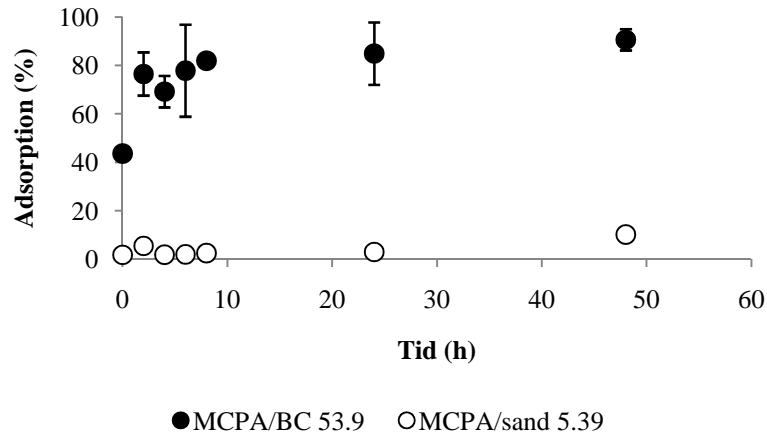
Pesticide	Typ	Grupp	Water Isolubility mg/L	Log K_{ow}	pK_a	DT_{50} typical	K_{oc}
MCPA	H	Aryloxy-alkanoic acid	29390	-0.81	3.73	15	74
Diuron	H	Phenylurea	35.6	2.87	-	75.5	1067
Glyphosate	H	Phosphono-glycine	10500	-3.2	2.3, 5.7, 10.2	12	28700
Chlor-pyrifos	I	Organo-phosphate	1.05	4.7	-	50	8151

Källa: The PPDB, Pesticide Properties Database, <http://sitem.herts.ac.uk/aeru/footprint/en/index.htm>



Adsorption On Black Carbon

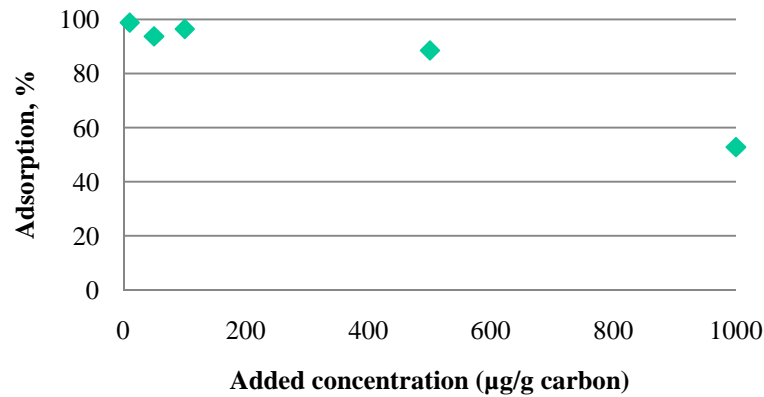
Different times



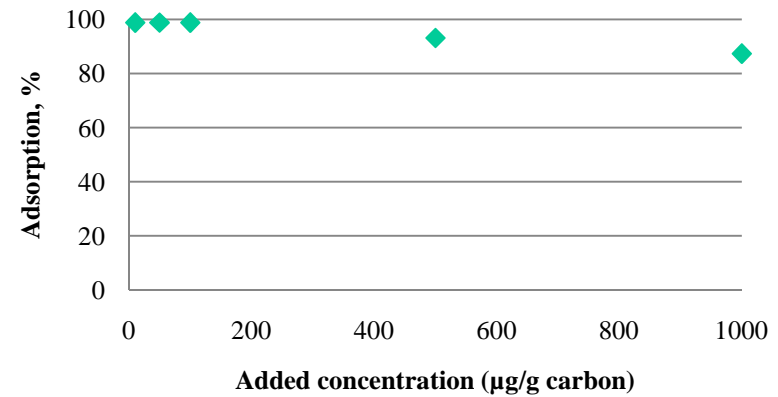
Adsorption On Balck Carbon

Different concentrations

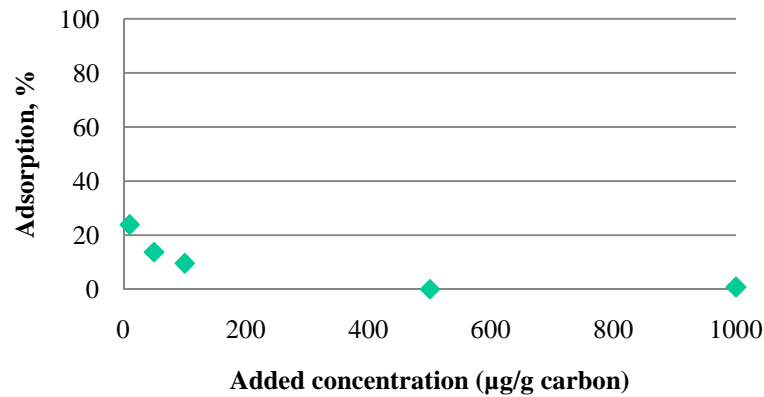
MCPA



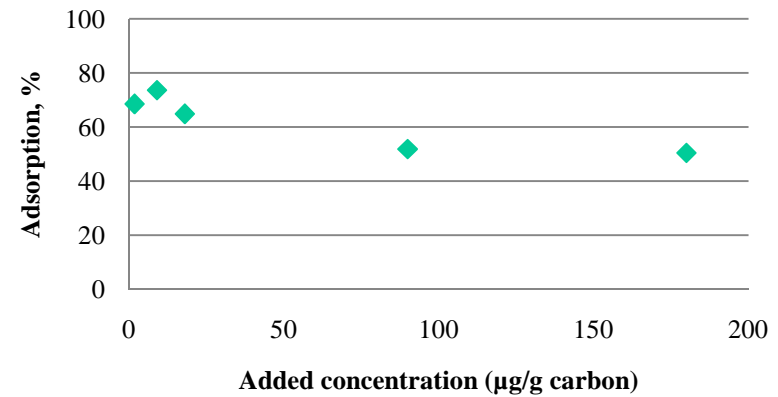
Diuron



Glyphosate



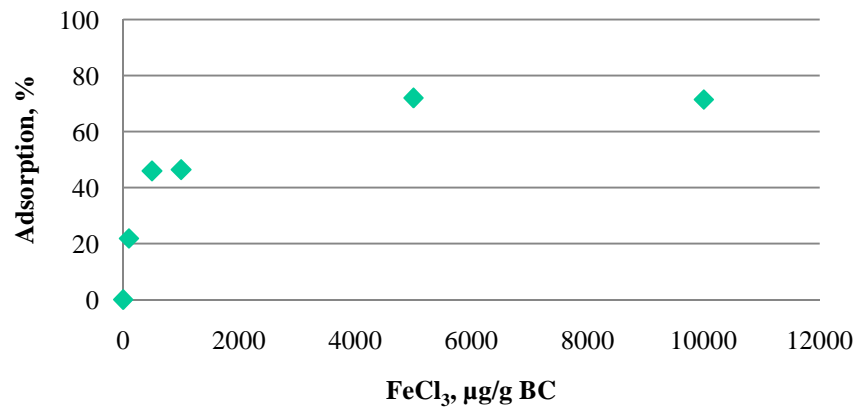
Chlorpyrifos



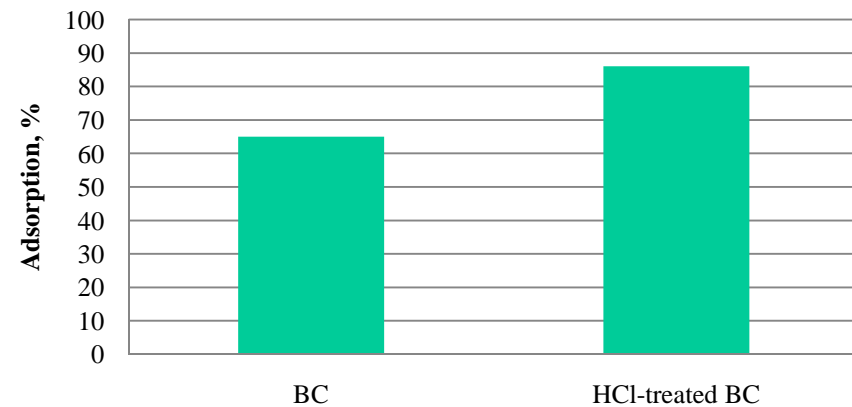
Adsorption On Black Carbon

Modification of the carbon

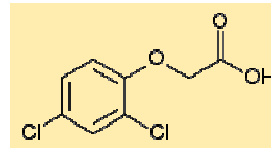
Glyphosate (1000 $\mu\text{g/g}$ carbon + FeCl_3)



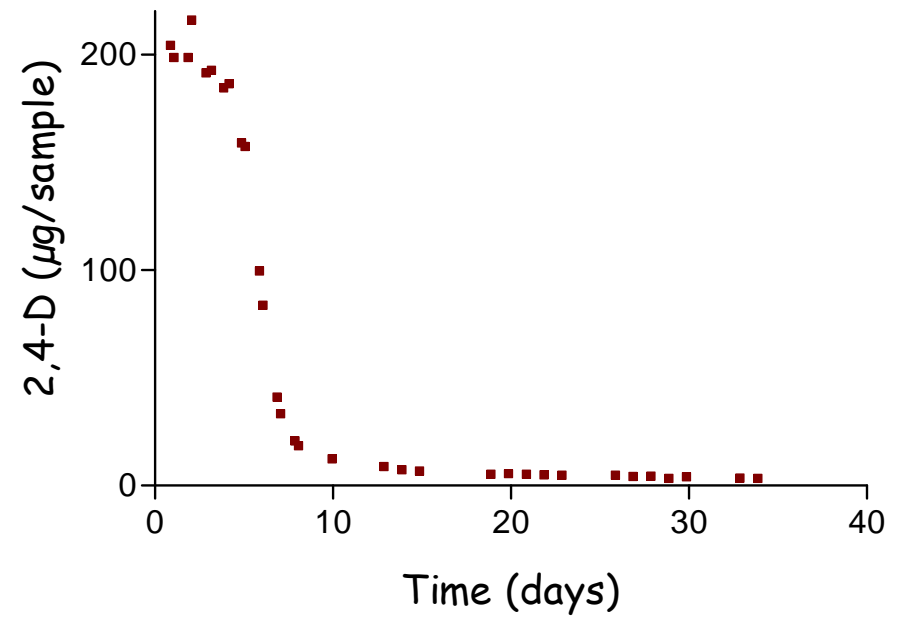
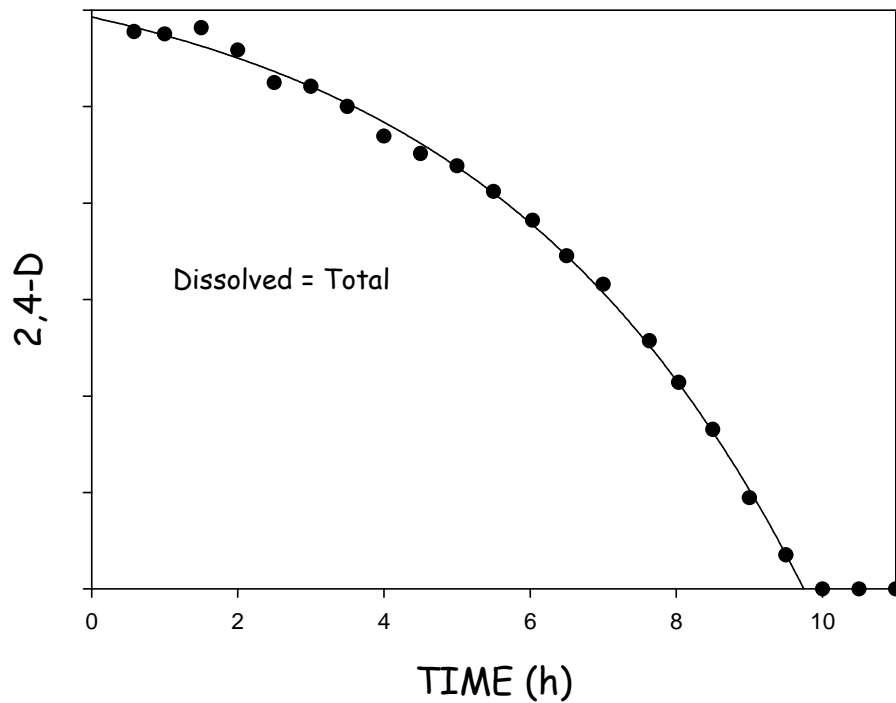
Adsorption of chlorpyrifos (18 $\mu\text{g/g}$ carbon) on BC and HCl-treated BC



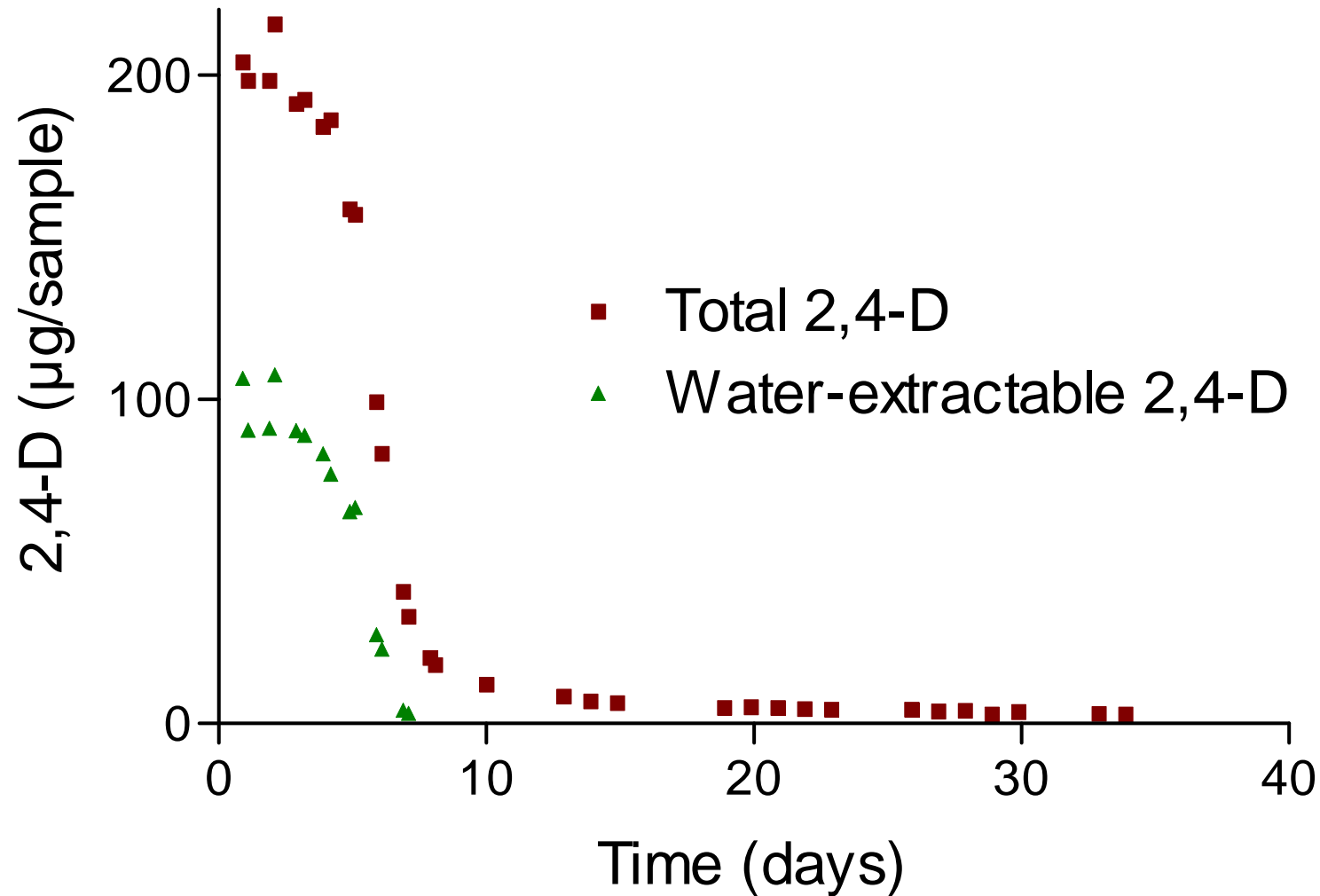
Degradation Of 2,4-D In Solution And In Soil



2,4-D



Degradation of 2,4-D in Soil



Equilibrium Sorption And Time-Limited Absorption

Time: 0-7.7 days



Time-Limited Desorption

Time: >7.7 days

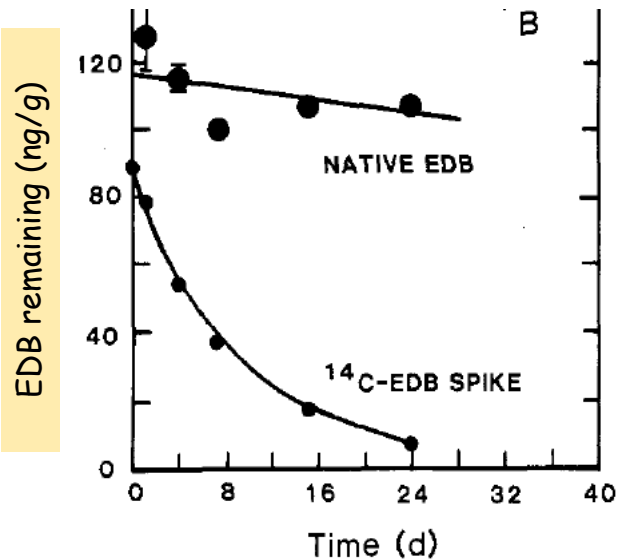


Time-Dependent Availability Important For:

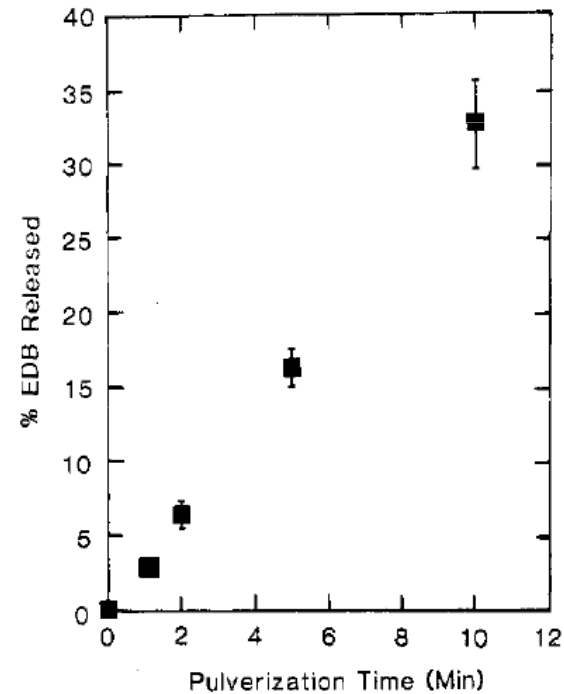
- Extractability
- Degradation kinetics
- Desorption
- Efficacy of pesticides
- Leaching
- Microbial activity
- Volatilisation
- Bioaccumulation
- Toxicity
- Risk assessment
- Remediation of soils and sediments

"Young" And "Old" 1,2-dibromoethane (EDB)

EDB degradation in soil suspensions by indigenous microbes showing the persistence of native EDB compared to a freshly added ^{14}C -EDB spike

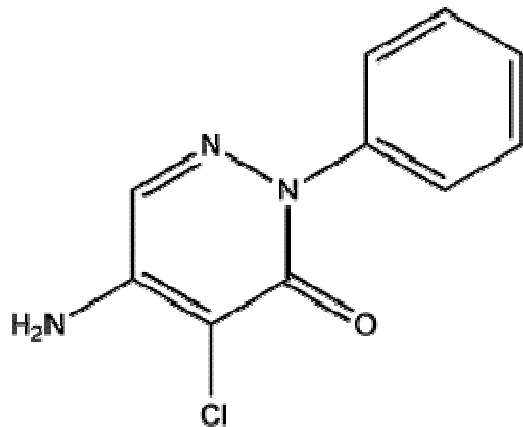


Percent of EDB released from the soil into water as a function of pulverization time in a ball mill

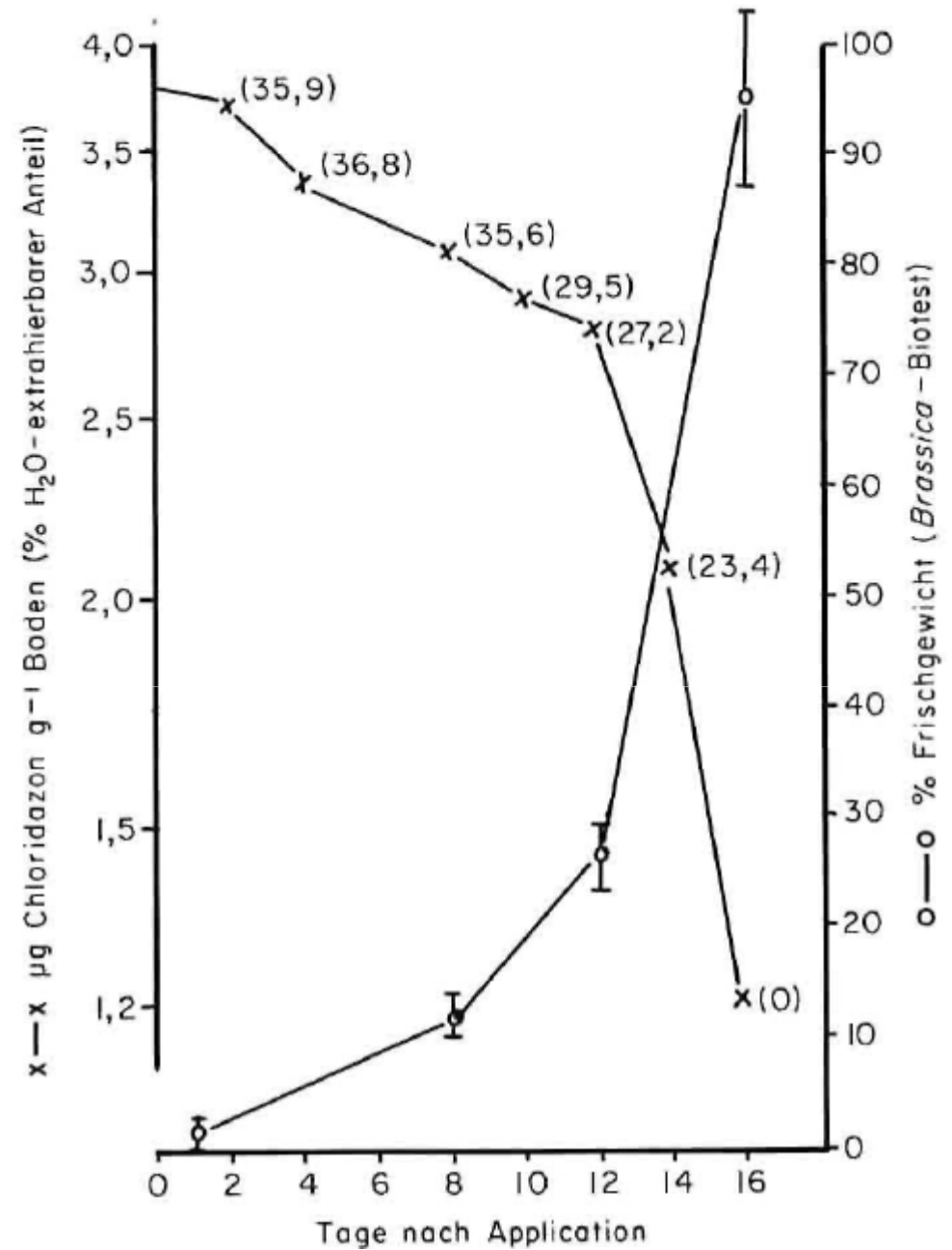


Steinberg et al., 1987

Herbicidal Activity Dependent On H₂O-Extractable Fraction



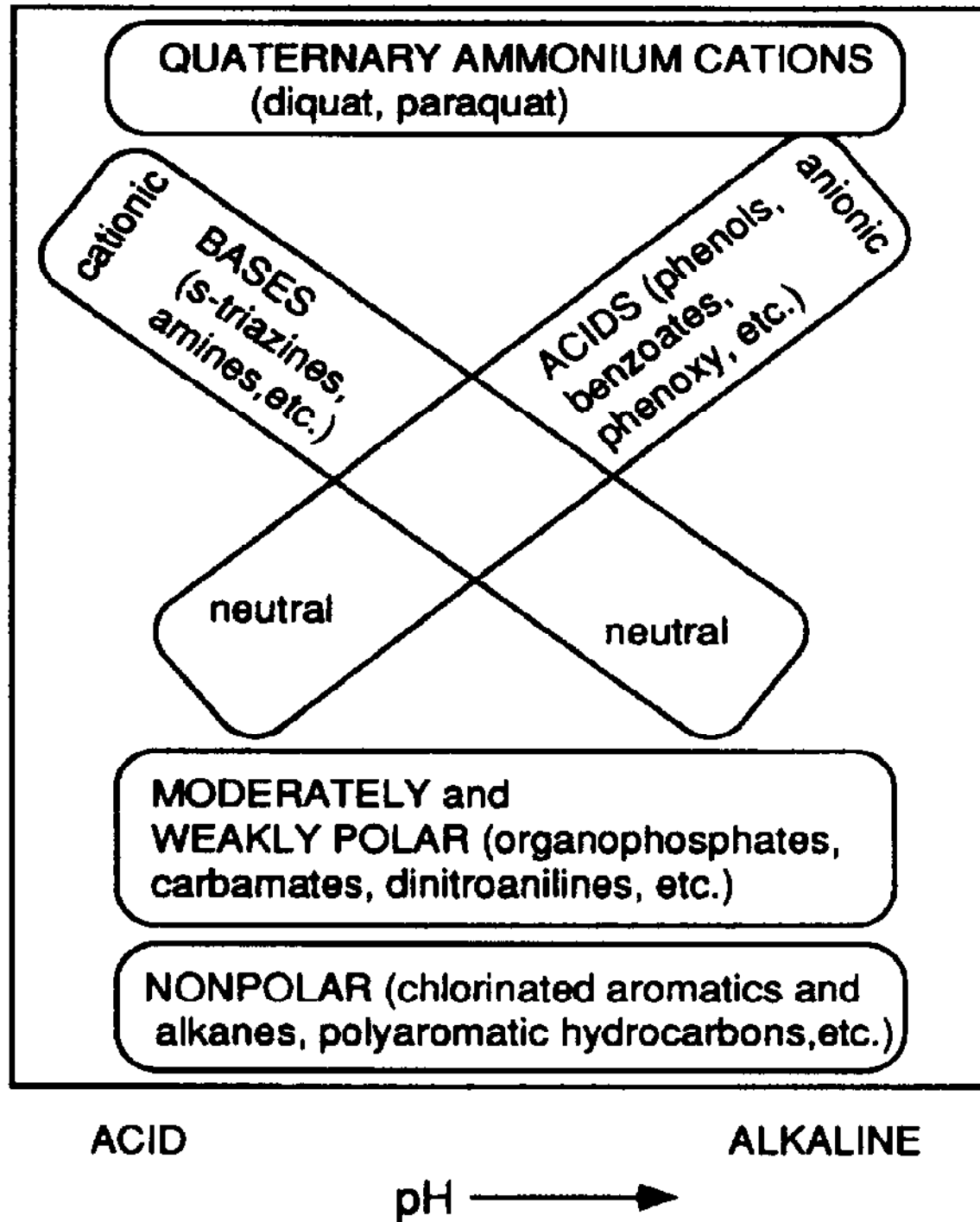
Chloridazon



Fan De Fang *et al.*, 1983

Effect Of pH On Polarity And Water Solubility

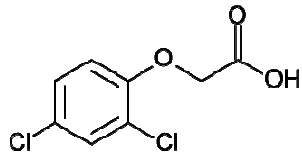
POLARITY and WATER SOLUBILITY ↑



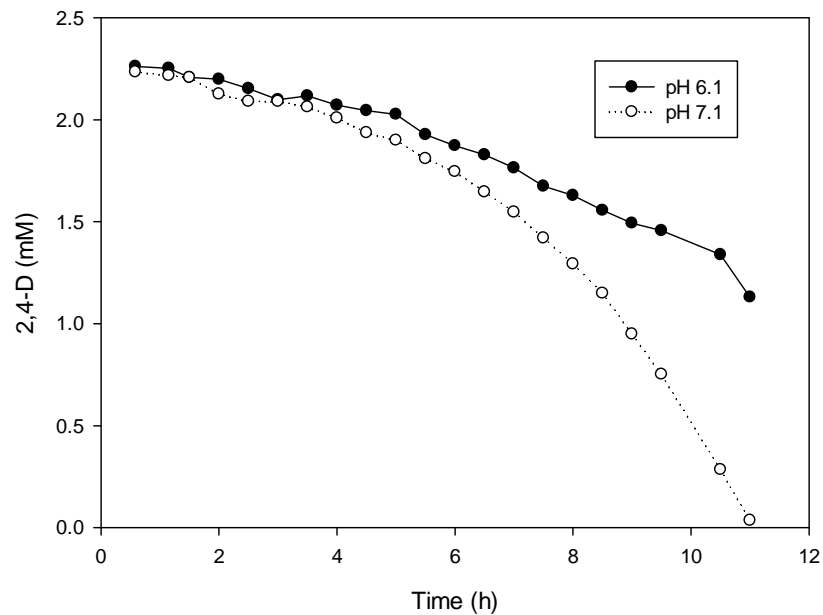
McBride, M.B. 1994.
Environmental chemistry in
soils. Oxford Univ.
Press, Oxford.

Phenol Suicide

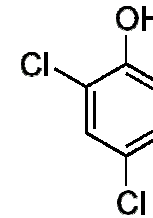
2,4-D



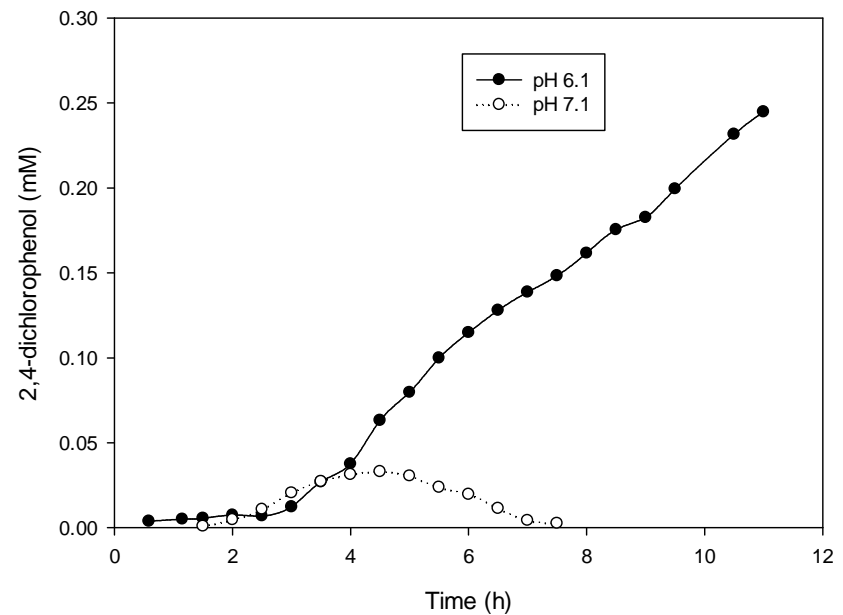
$pK_a = 2.6$



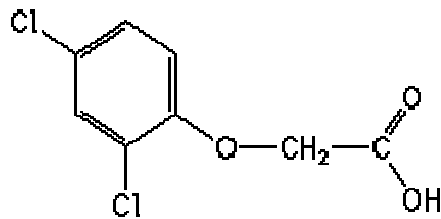
2,4-dichlorophenol



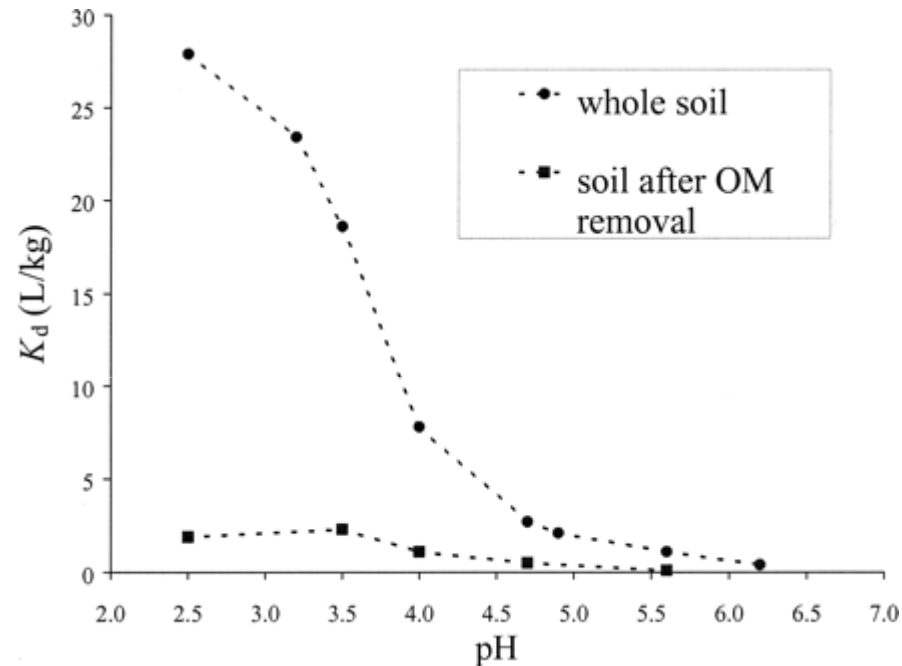
$pK_a = 7.8$



Effect Of pH On Sorption Of 2,4-D On Soil With And Without Organic Matter



$pK_a = 2.6$



Log K_{ow}

pH 5: 2.14

pH 7: 0.18

pH 9: 0.10

Sorption coefficients of 2,4-D measured for whole soil with 16 g/kg organic C, and when organic matter was largely reduced (1 g/kg organic C), as a function of pH