

EOS Remediation is now a Redox Tech company.

EOS + REDOX TECH



**Carbon + Nutrients =
Stronger Bacteria =
Faster Remediation**

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Sixth International Symposium on Bioremediation and
Sustainable Environmental Technologies

May 8-11, 2023 | Austin, Texas

Presenter: Lydia Ross, PE

- B.S. Mechanical Engineering University of Pittsburgh
- M.S. Engineering Management Florida International University
- 17 years of remediation design & implementation experience
 - 13 in consulting
- Based in Garner, NC
- Two Dogs and a Cat – All Rescues
- Super “Auntie LaLa” to my niblings
- Chef
- Artist
- Volunteer



Joule Unit



Tesla Coil

Dali Parton

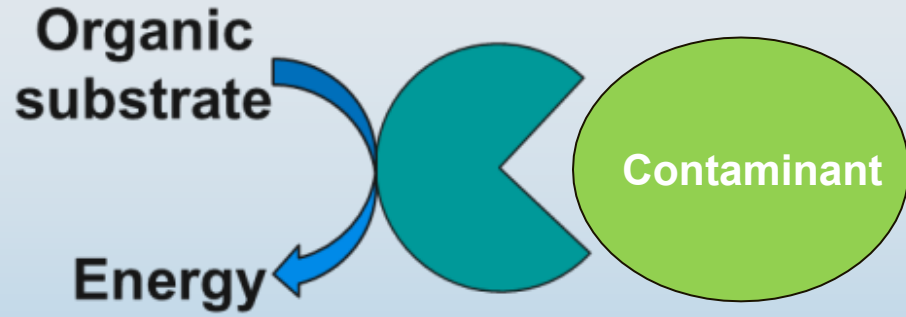
• www.comfortzonecamp.org



• www.gwpnc.org



Why bioremediation?

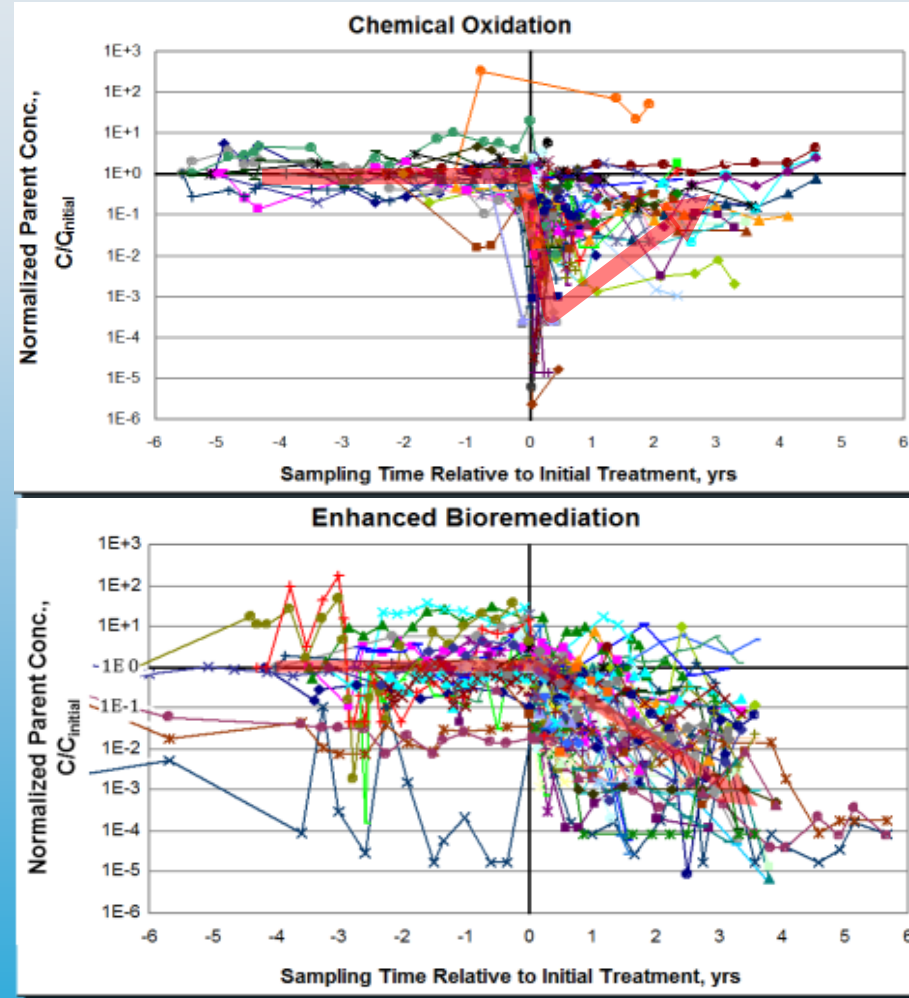


Long Lasting Technology

TECHNOLOGY	TIMESCALE							
	Active	Sustained						
	1 Yr	2 Yr	3 Yr	4 Yr	5 Yr	6 Yr	7 Yr	8 Yr
Thermal	Active	Sustained						
ISCO	Active	Sustained						
Enhanced Bio	Active	Sustained						
Surfactant / Co-solvent	Active	Sustained						

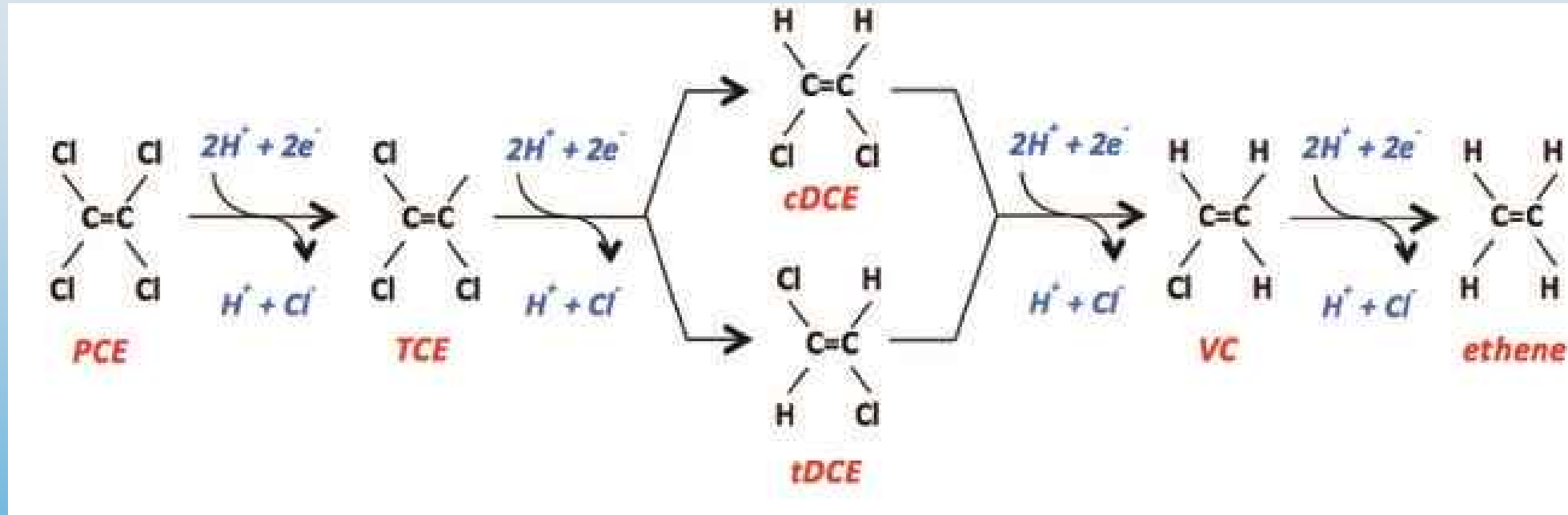
Adamson et. al. 2011

Rebound vs. Sustained Treatment



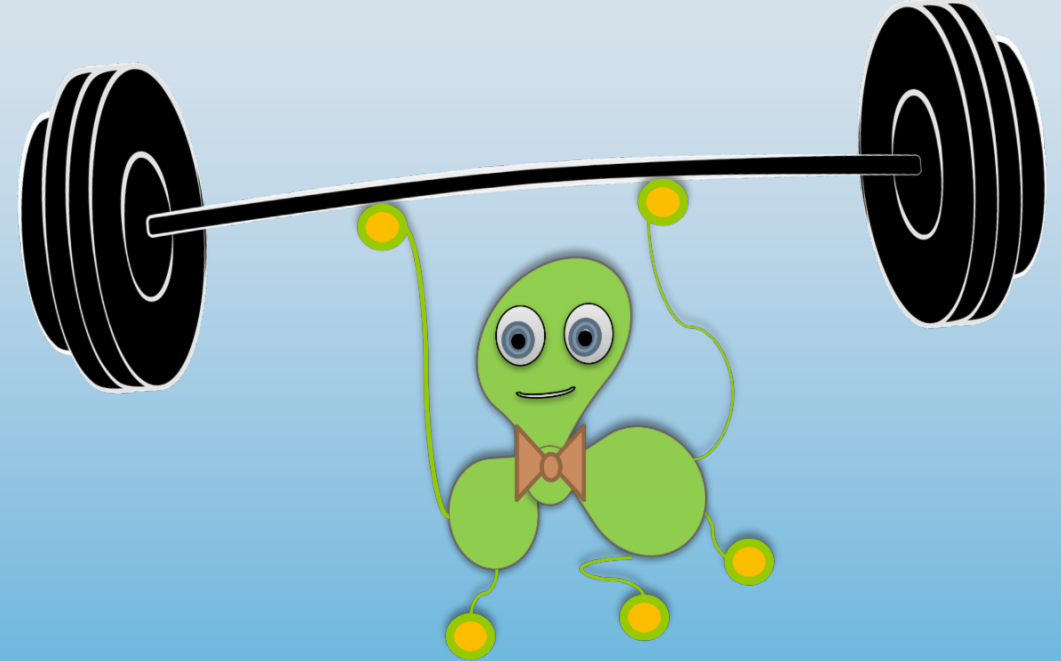
McGuire et al. 2006

Bioremediation of chlorinated compounds: Enhanced reductive dechlorination (ERD)



Conditions for rapid biological activity

- Adequate bacterial concentrations
 - ($\sim 10^7$ cells/mL)
- pH close to neutral
 - (6.5 – 7.0)
- No inhibitors or competing reactions
- Good substrate distribution
- **Enough nutrients**



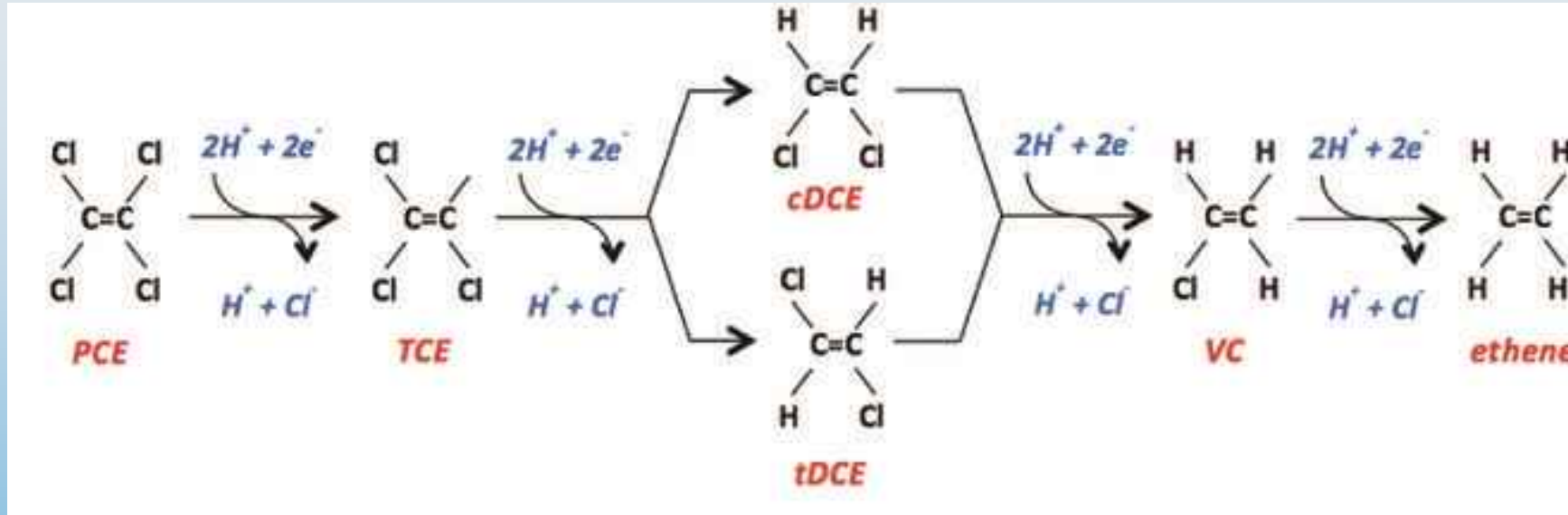
Importance of nutrients

- Essential elements for growth (carbohydrates, proteins, lipid membranes, DNA, etc.):
 - Carbon
 - Nitrogen
 - Phosphorus
 - Oxygen
 - Hydrogen
 - Sulfur
 - Magnesium
 - Calcium
- Trace elements required for specific processes (e.g. enzymatic processes, redox control):
 - Iron
 - Cobalt
 - Manganese
 - Copper
 - Zinc
 - Molybdenum

The proportion of elements depend on type of microorganism and conditions and are often empirical

- E.g. Redfield ratio, C:N:P = 106:16:1

Bioremediation of chlorinated compounds: Enhanced reductive dechlorination (ERD)



Multiple Organisms

Dehalobacter, Desulfuromonas, Sulfurospirillum, Geobacter, Desulfitobacterium

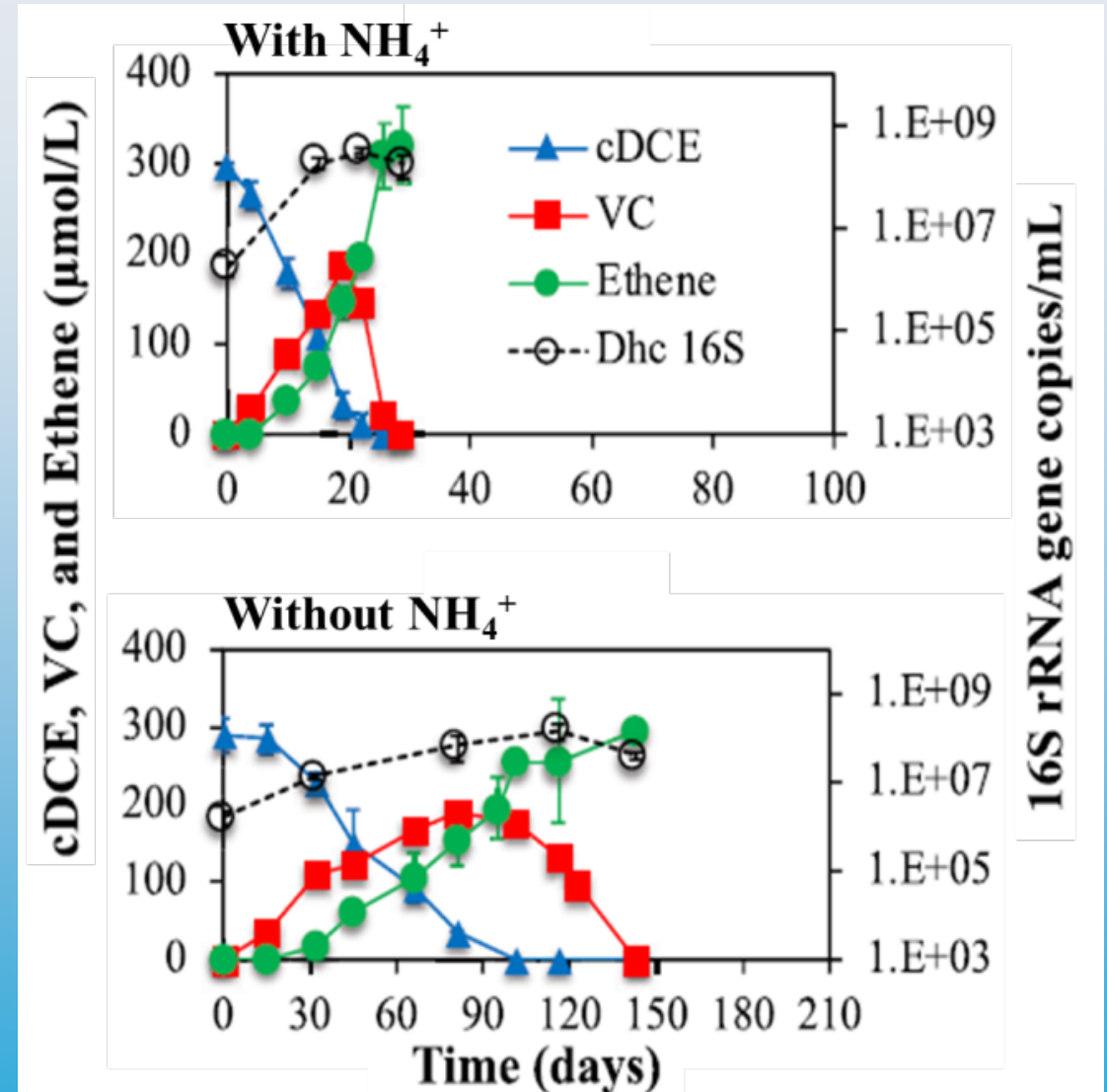
- Grow rapidly
- Use H_2 or Acetate
- Utilize either N_2 or NH_4^+
- Can produce B_{12}

Dehalococcoides spp. (DHC)

- Grows slowly
- Use only H_2
- Requires NH_4^+
- Needs external source of B_{12}

Importance of nitrogen for ERD

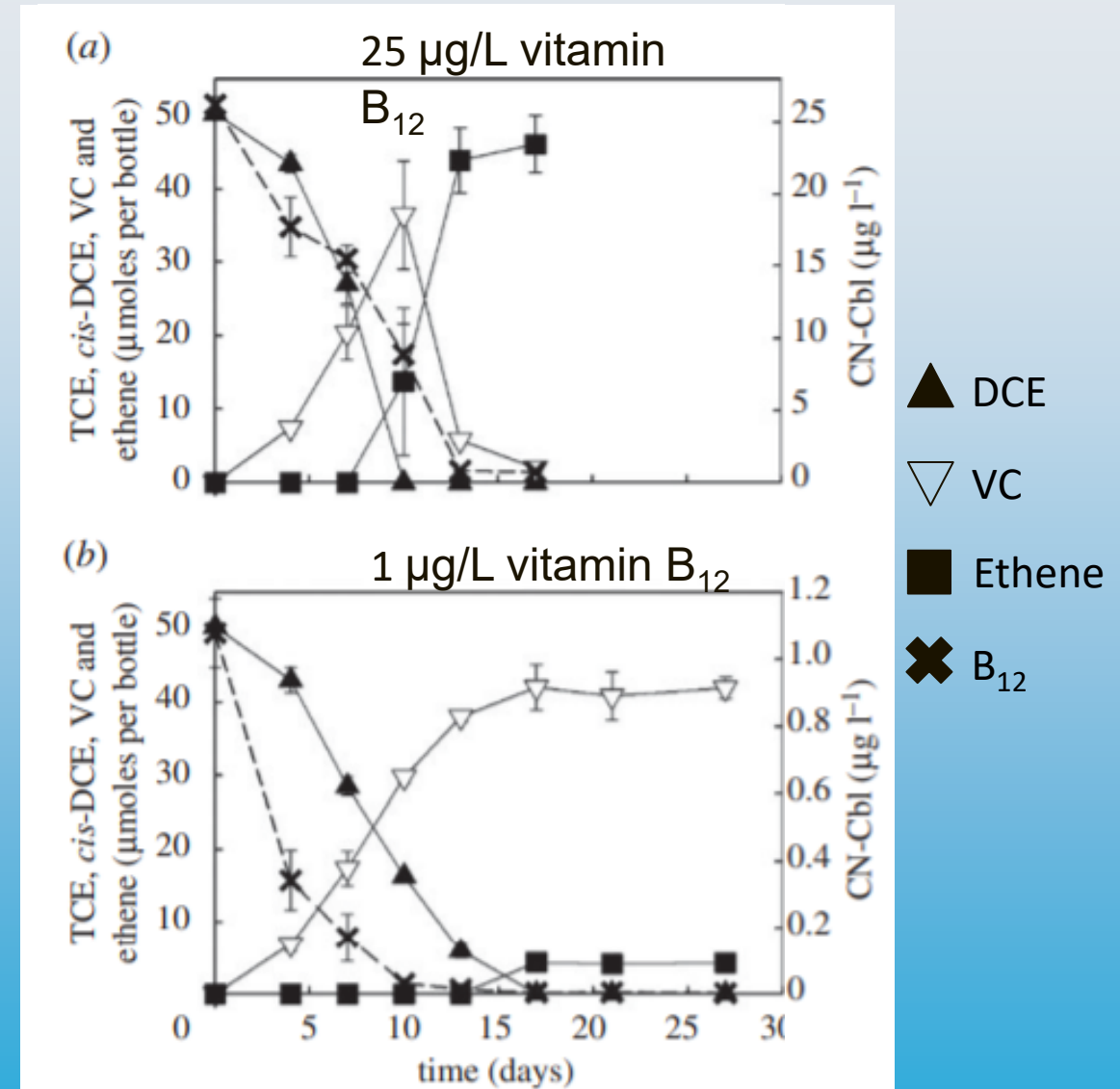
- Nitrogen atoms (N) are mainly needed for proteins and nucleic acids
- Nitrogen can be assimilated from atmospheric nitrogen (N_2) or from fixed molecules (e.g. NH_4^+ , NO_3^-).
- While N_2 fixation can provide N to DHC (from other organisms) during ERD, addition of external N results in higher dechlorination rates.



Kaya et al., 2019

Importance of vitamin B₁₂ for ERD

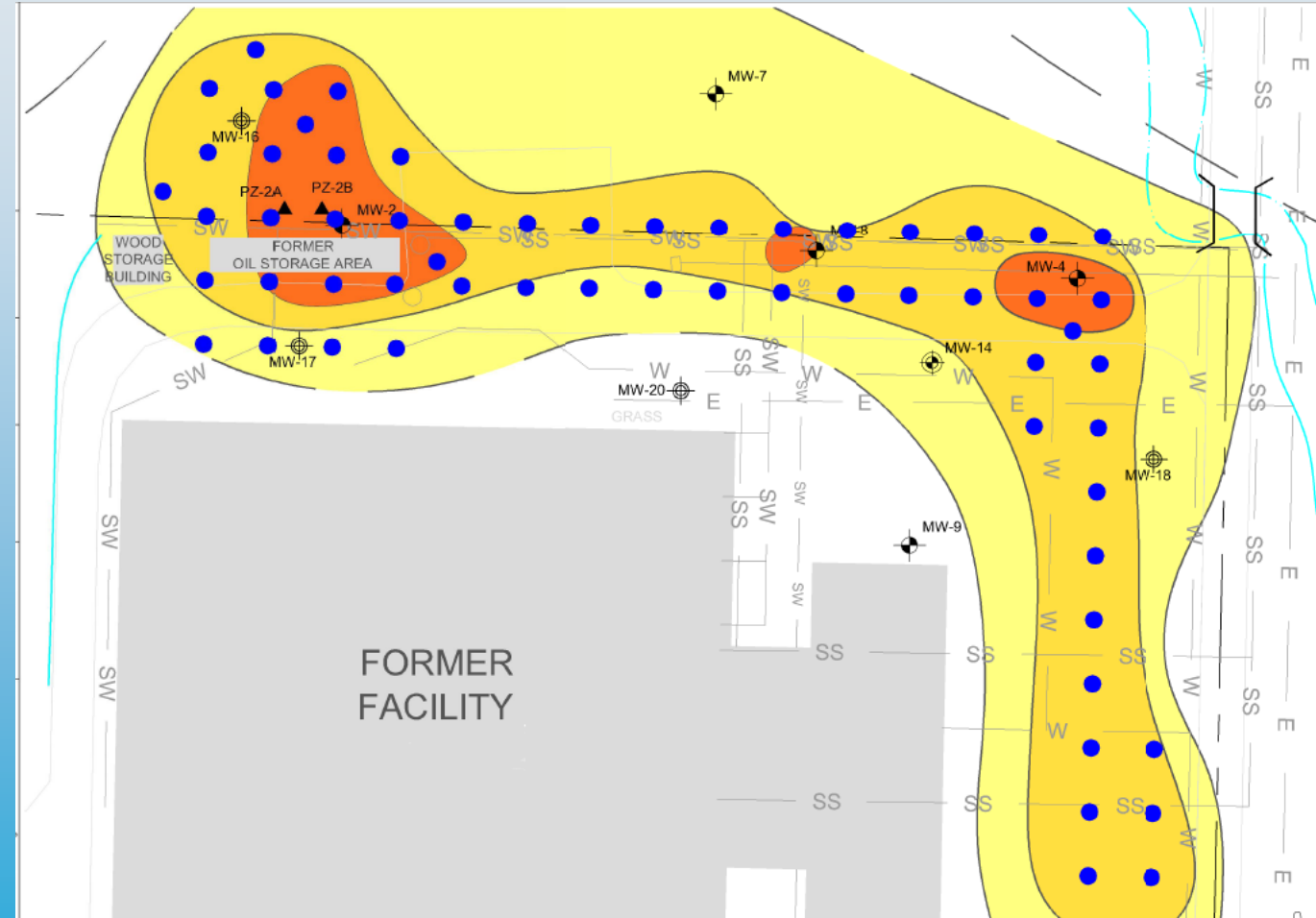
- Cyanocobalamin (Vitamin B₁₂) is needed to synthesize cofactor for reductive dehalogenase enzymes.
- As DHC cannot synthesize B₁₂, it must be provided by other microorganisms or present on site.
- Adding B₁₂ increases complete dechlorination rates



Yan et al. 2013

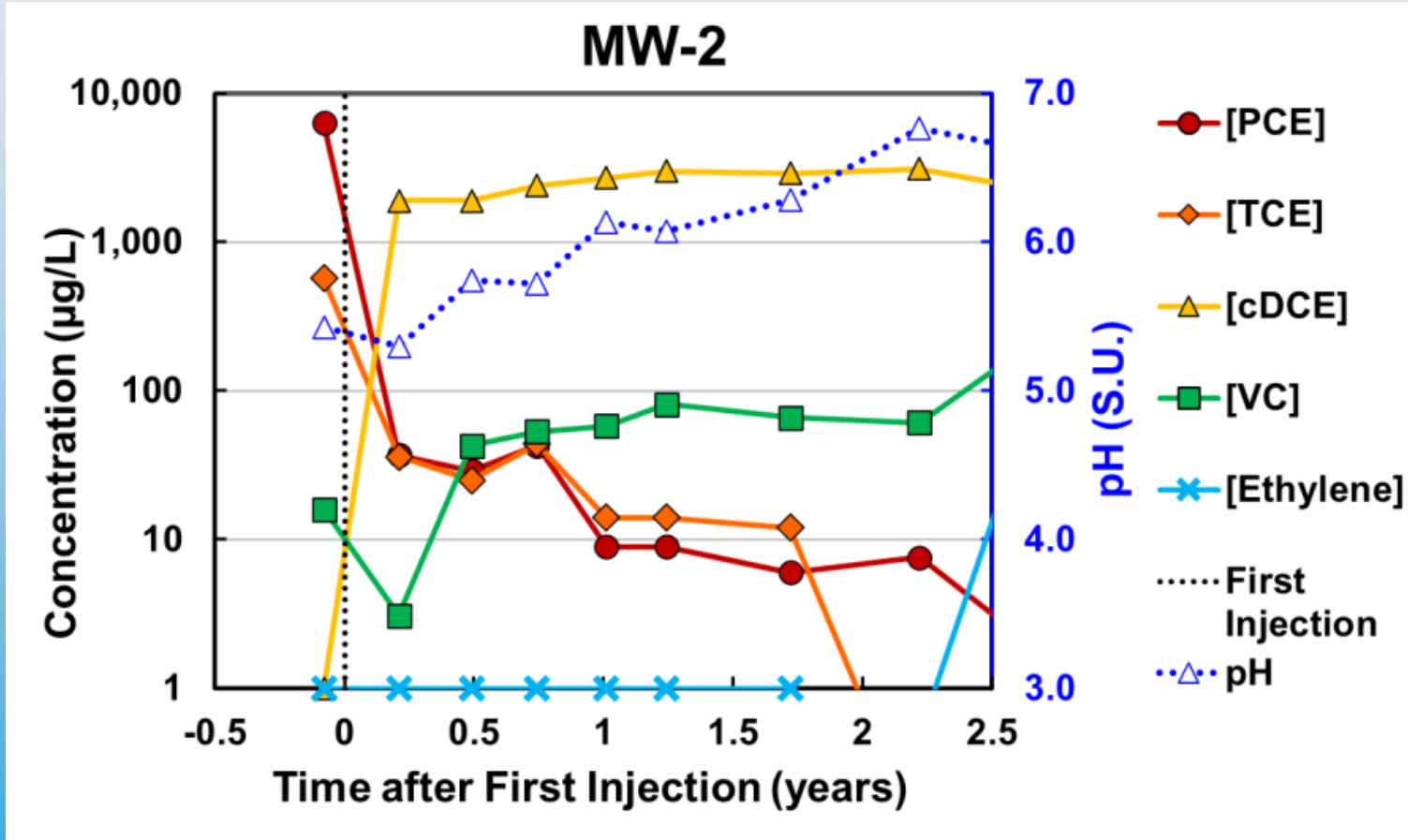
Bioremediation of a challenging site

- Former manufacturing site in North Carolina.
- High concentrations of chlorinated compounds detected in 2008:
 - PCE: >10,000 µg/L
 - TCE: >1,000 µg/L
- pH ~5
- High concentrations of sulfate
 - >3,000 mg/L
- <10 *Dehalococcoides* (DHC) cells/mL



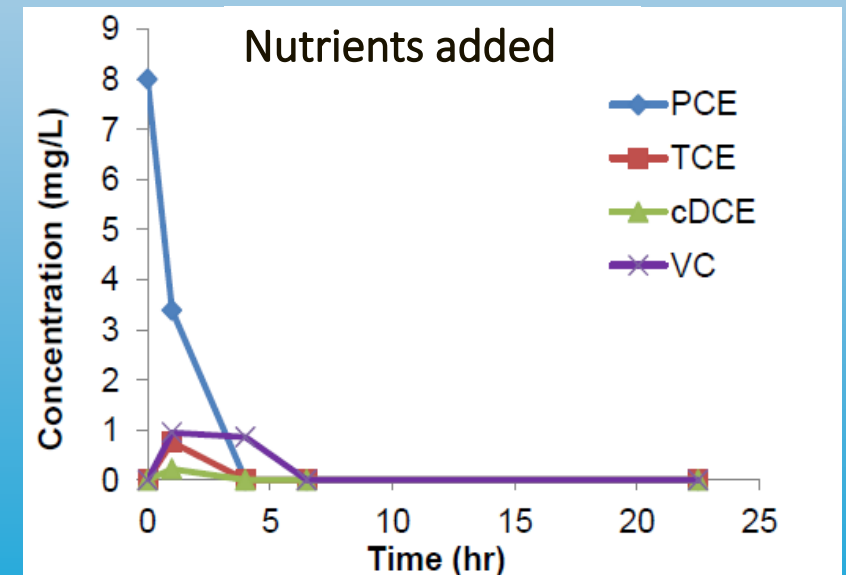
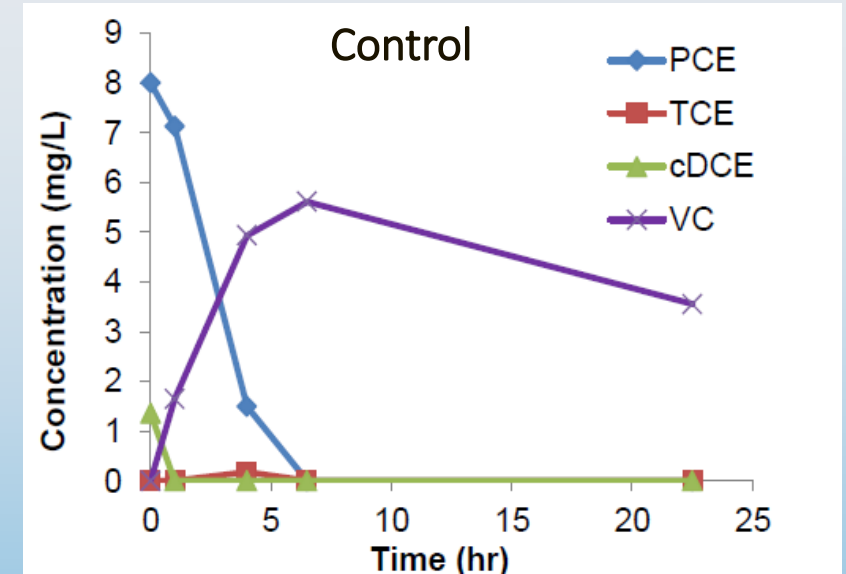
Initial bioaugmentation

- Bioaugmentation culture + emulsified vegetable oil (EVO) + colloidal buffer (CoBupH) injected.
- Increase in DHC population ($\sim 2 \times 10^4$ cells/mL)
- Excellent PCE and TCE removal
- High cDCE and VC
- No Ethylene detected



Pilot test to optimize bioremediation

- Nitrogen <0.15 mg/L TKN.
- A solution of nutrients (PLUS) was added to groundwater samples.
- Growth of DHC was stimulated. cDCE and VC were degraded at a faster rate than controls.



Second injection event

- Nutrients were supplemented along with substrate to optimize bioremediation.

BAC-9



EOS PRO



CoBupH

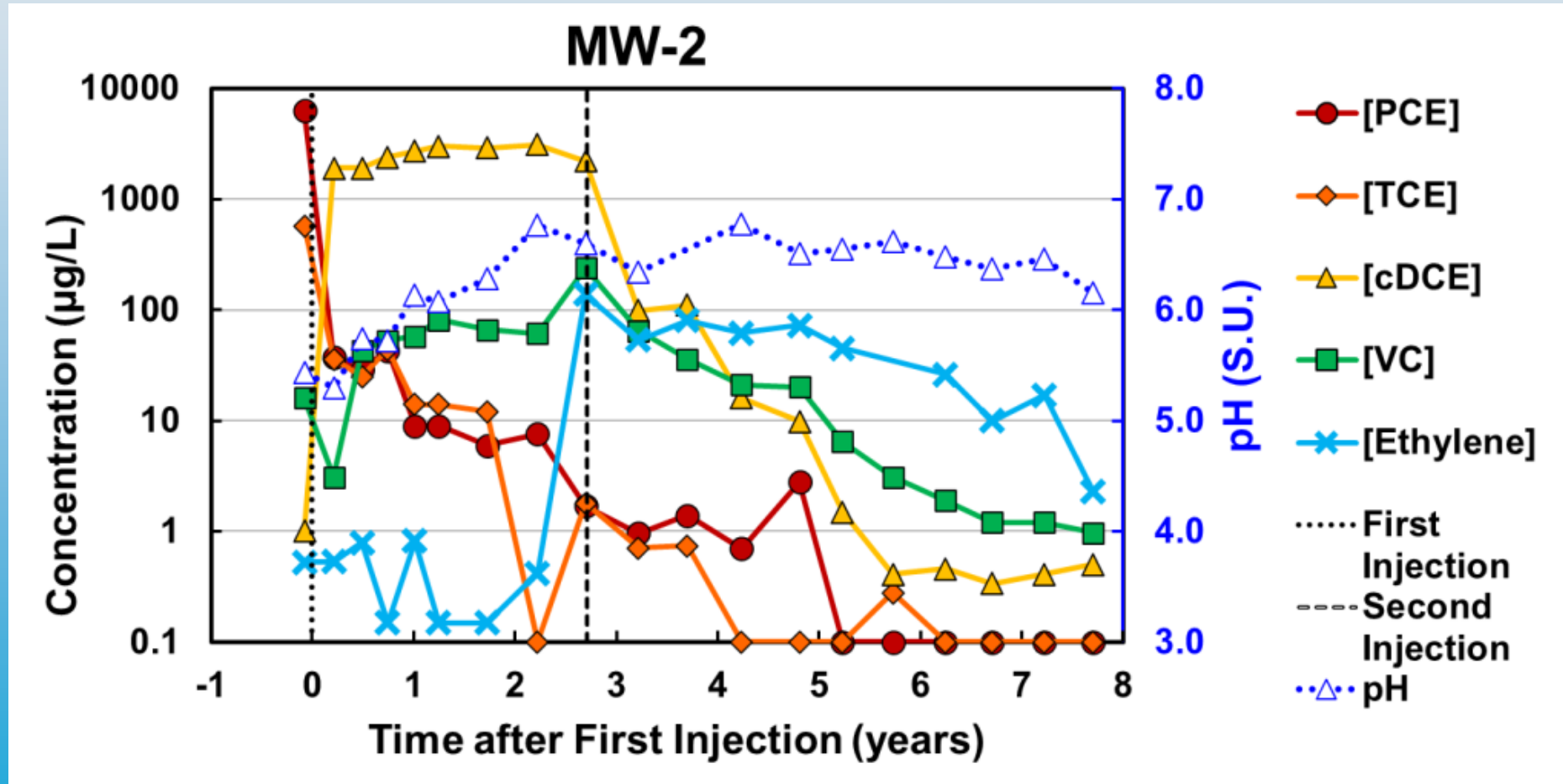
Bioaugmentation culture

Emulsified vegetable oil
substrate with nutrients

Colloidal buffer for pH
control

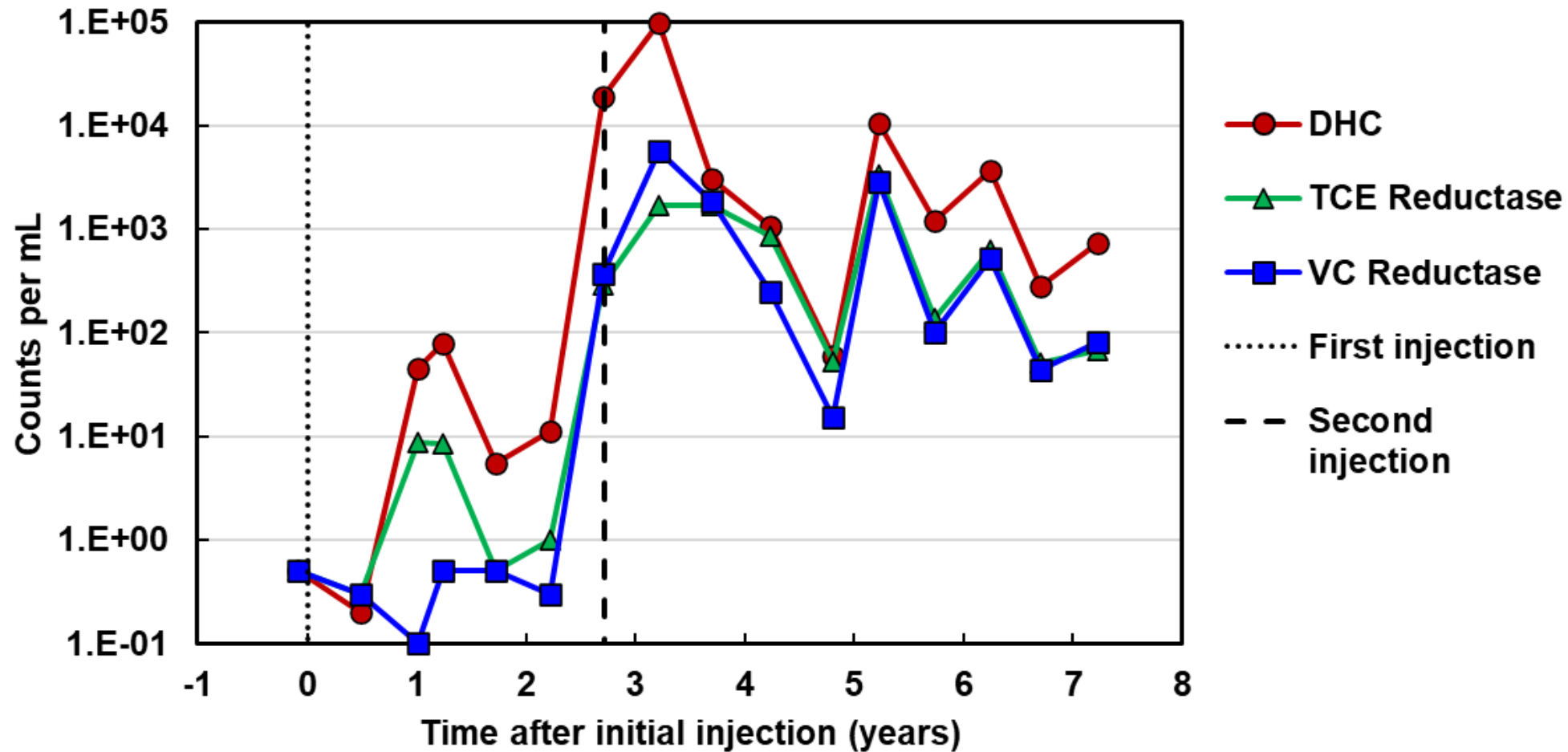
Performance after second injection

- DCE and VC decreased (>3-fold reduction in ~2 years).
- Ethylene was produced.
- pH has been stable for years



Performance after second injection

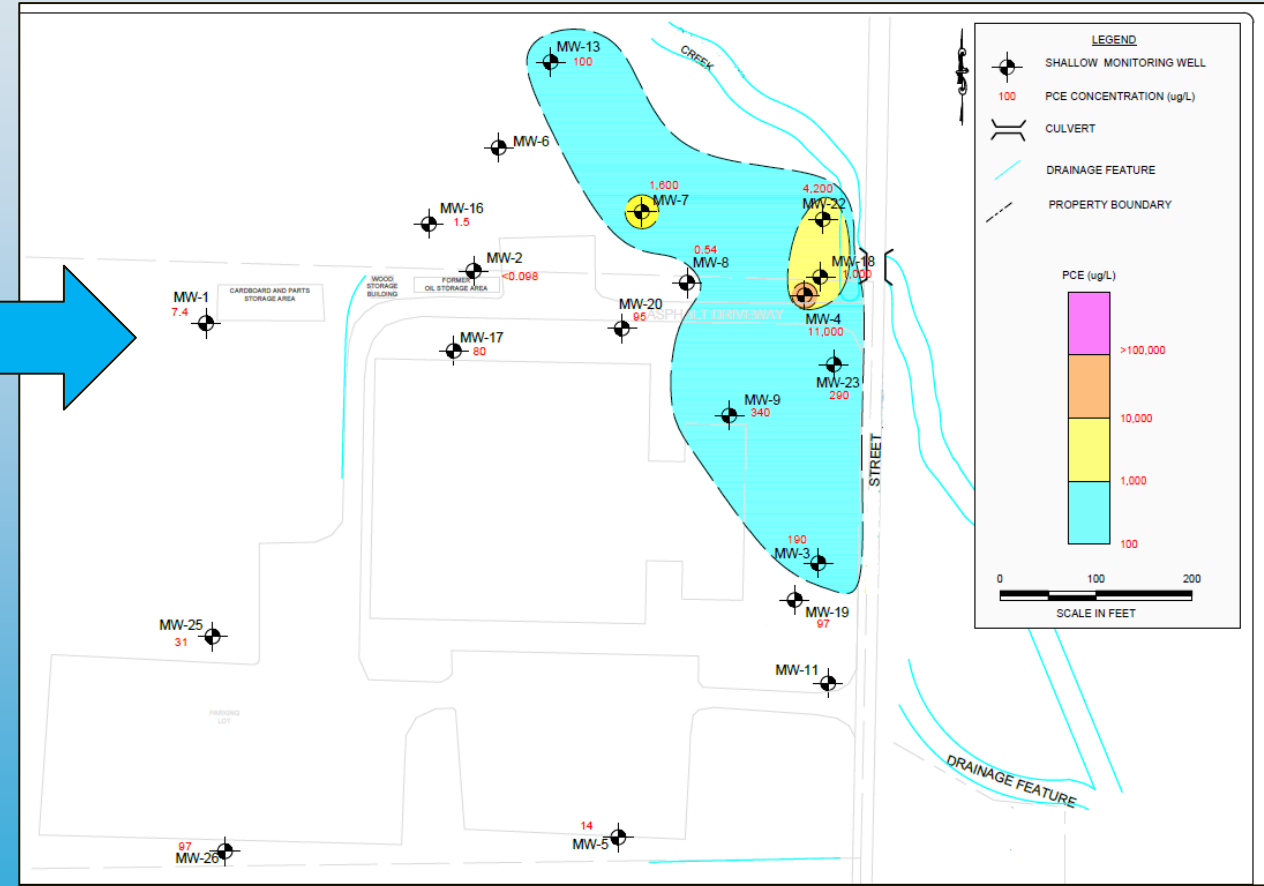
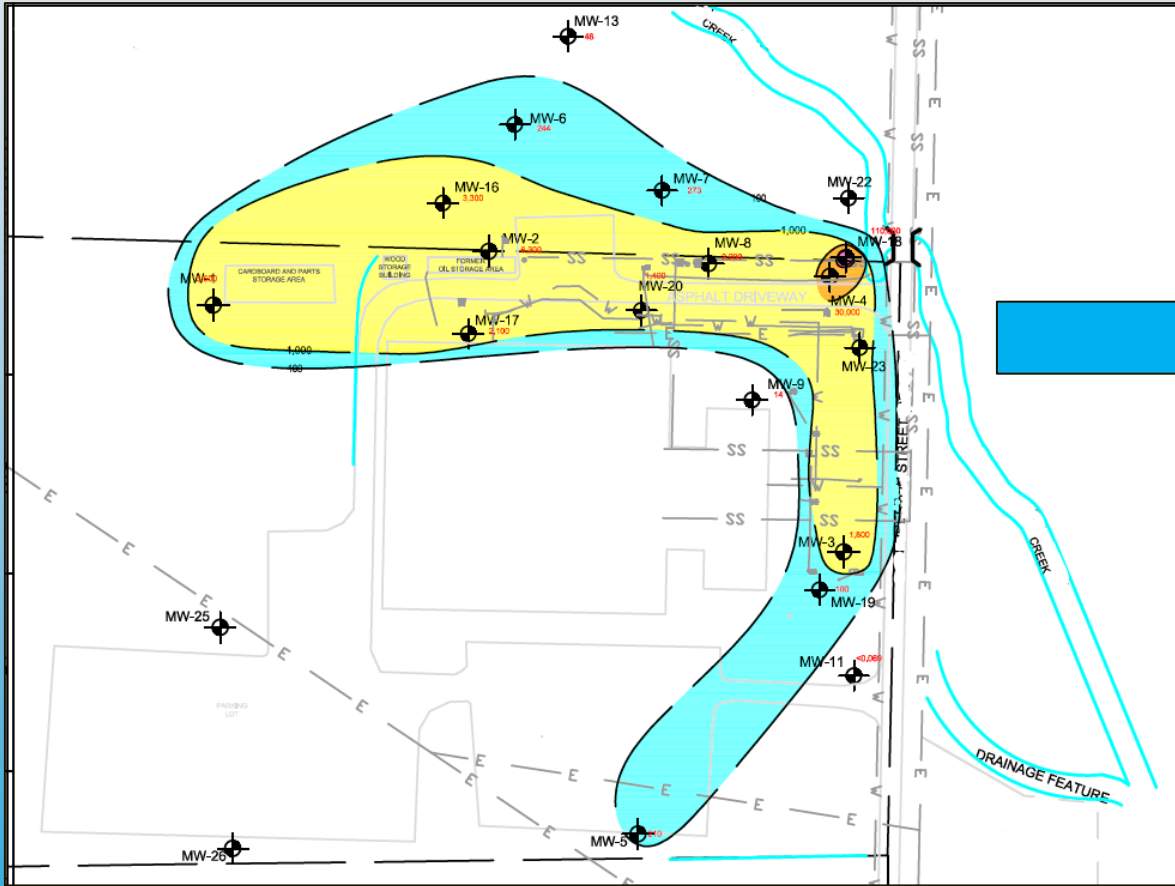
- Growth of dechlorinating bacteria due to amendments



Performance after second injection event

2013

2021



Lessons Learned

- Nutrients are an essential part of bioremediation.
- Adding appropriate nutrients (e.g. Nitrogen and vitamin B₁₂) can accelerate removal rates.
- Adding nutrients helps to overcome 'DCE stall' and achieve complete dechlorination.
- EOS Remediation products are designed to optimize nutrients for ERD.

EOS PRO

PLUS



EOS Remediation is now a Redox Tech company.

EOS + REDOX TECH



Thank you!

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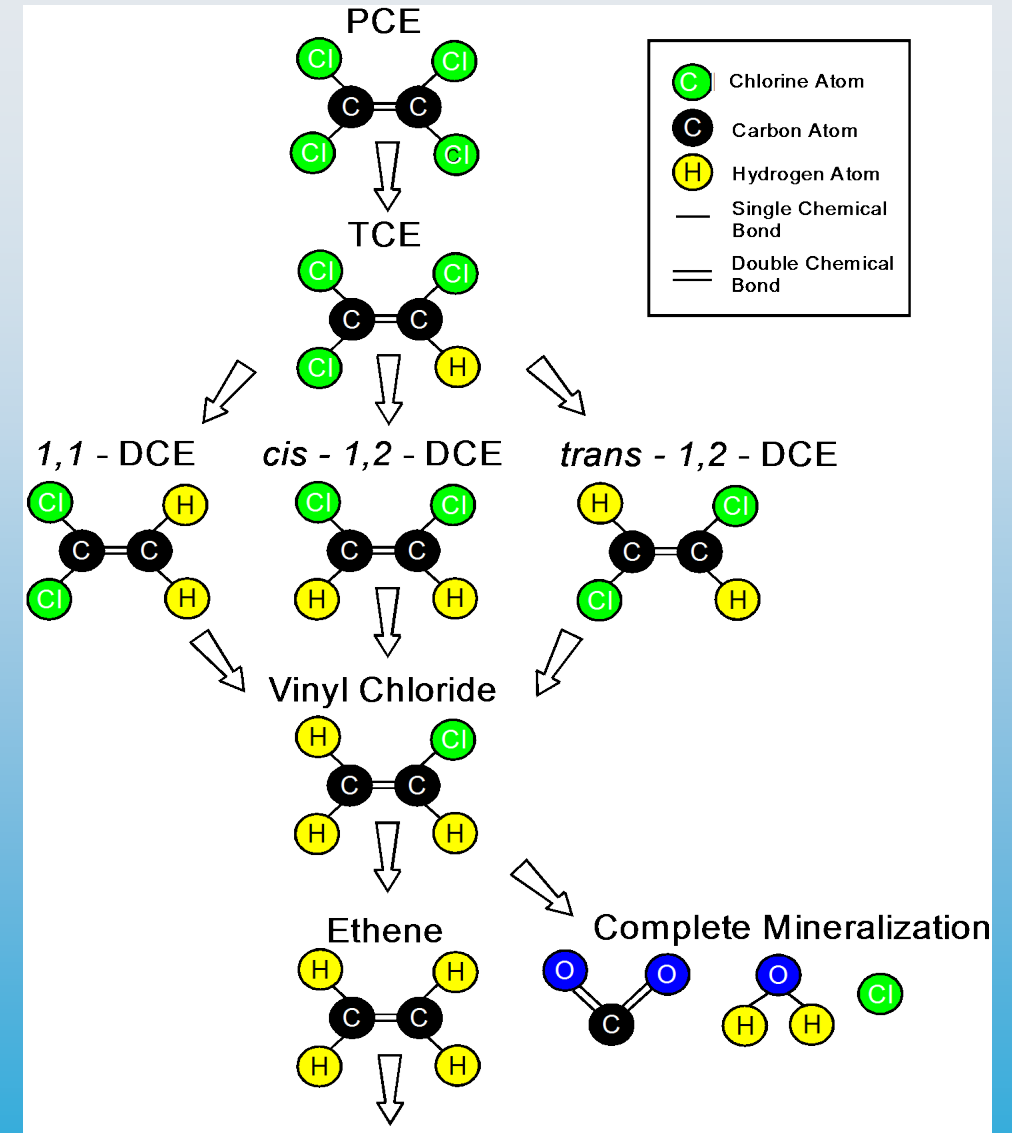
www.redox-tech.com

Supplementary slides

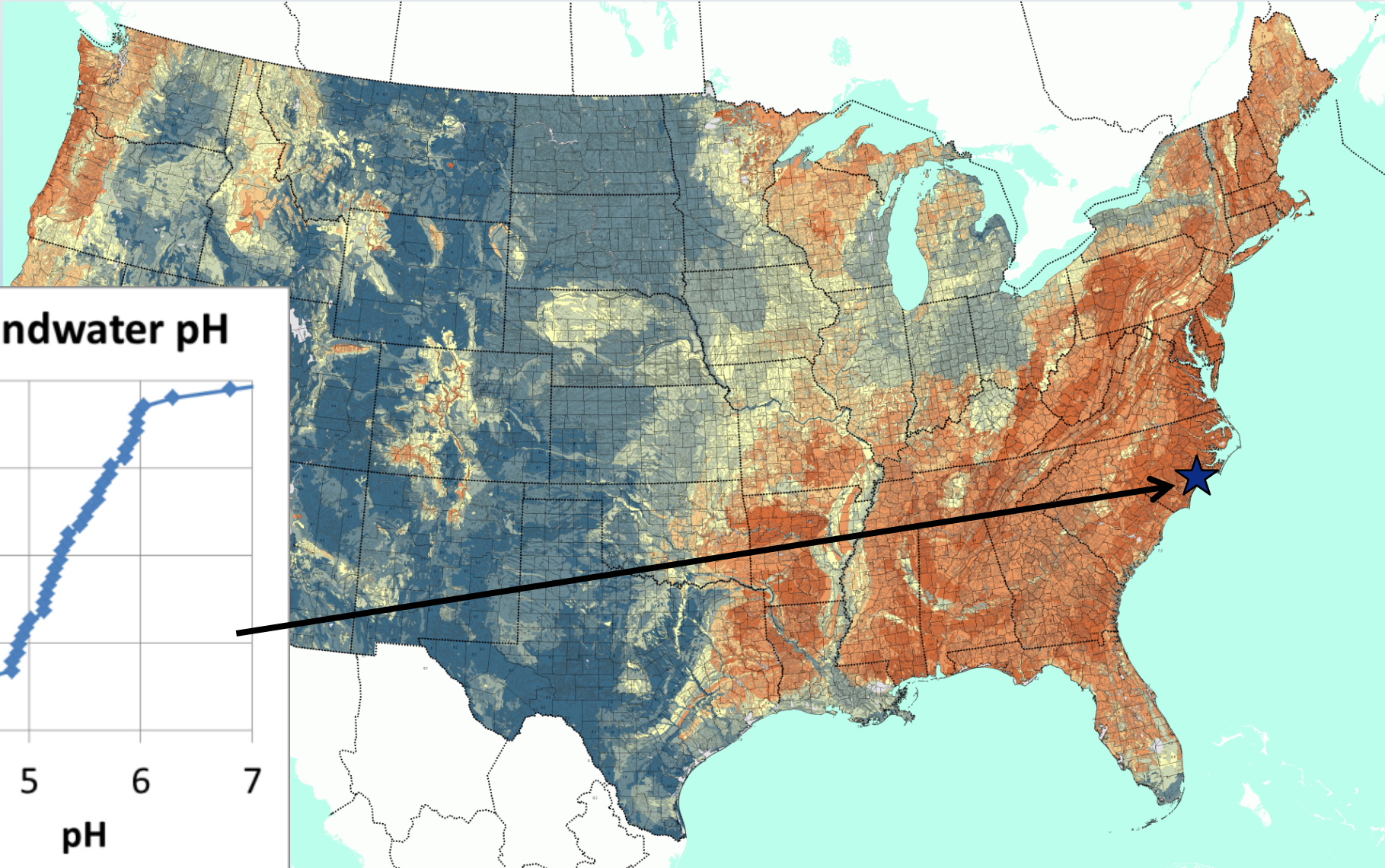


Target Contaminants for ERD

- Chlorinated Solvents
 - Ethenes (PCE, TCE)
 - Ethanes (TCA)
 - Methanes (CT)
- Explosives (TNT, RDX, HMX)
- Nitrate (NO_3^-)
- Perchlorate (ClO_4^-)
- Chromate (CrO_4^{-2})
- Radionuclides (TcO_4^- , UO_2^{+2})
- Acid Mine Drainage



Soil pH



Biota of North America, 2012 <http://www.bonap.org/>

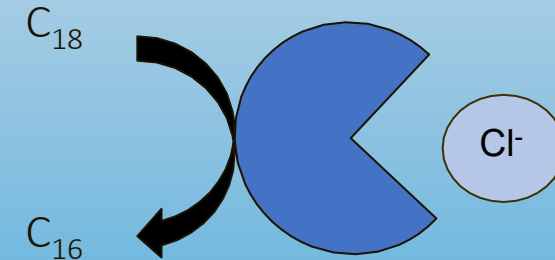
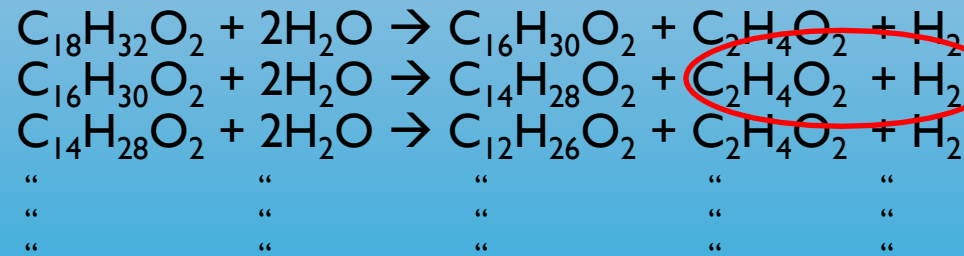
Sources of low pH: Substrate fermentation

Vegetable Oil Fermentation

- Natural fats → Triglycerides
 - Glycerol
 - Three long chain fatty acids (LCFA)
 - Bacteria hydrolyze ester linkages releasing glycerol and LCFA

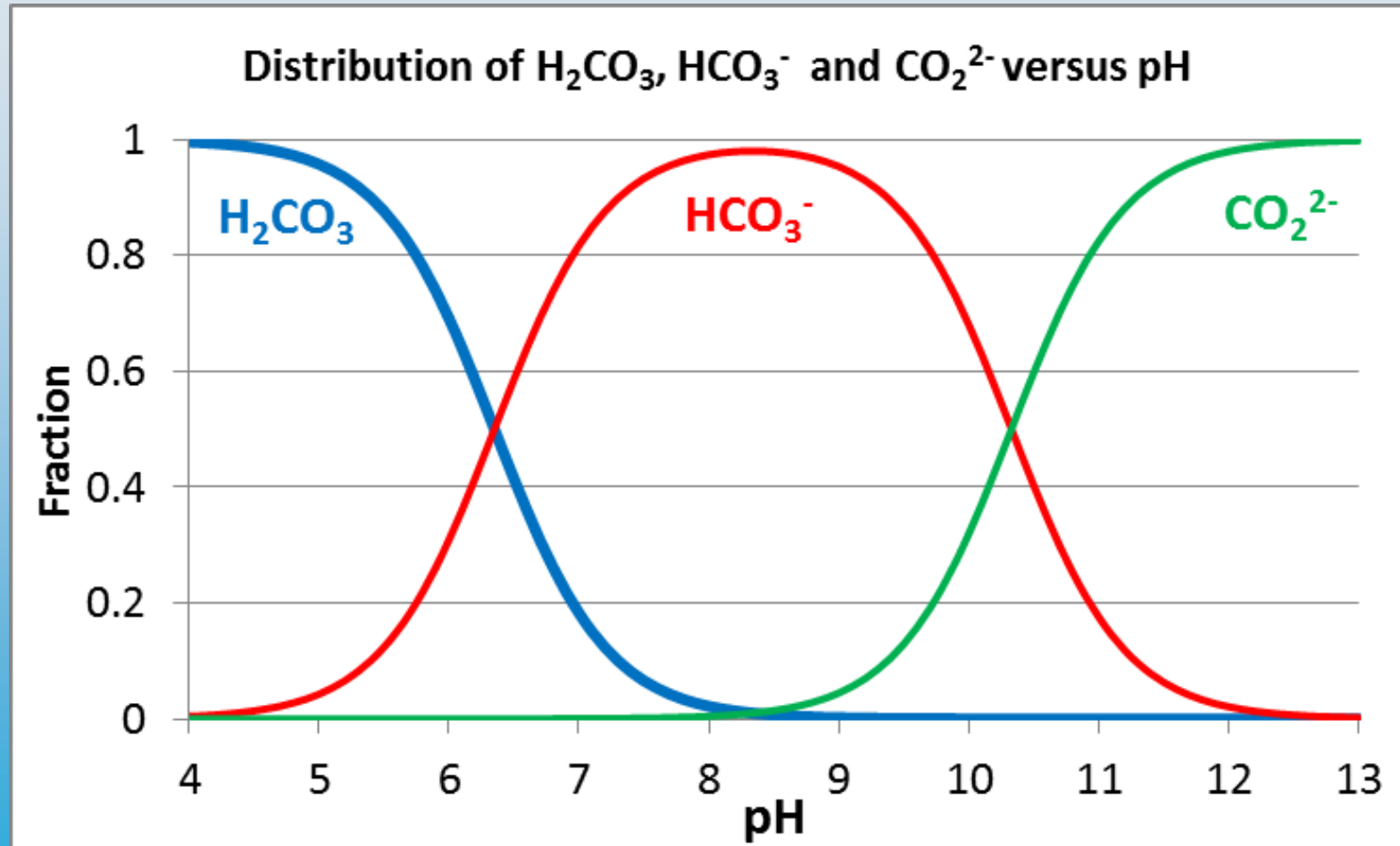
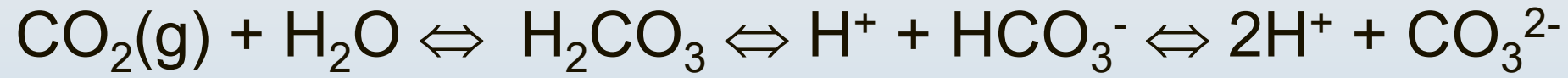
- Glycerol (Very soluble, Easily biodegraded)

- Beta Oxidation of LCFA (e.g. linoleic acid or $C_{18}H_{32}O_2$)

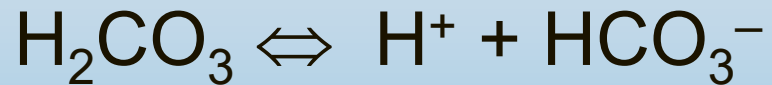


Acetic Acid
and Hydrogen

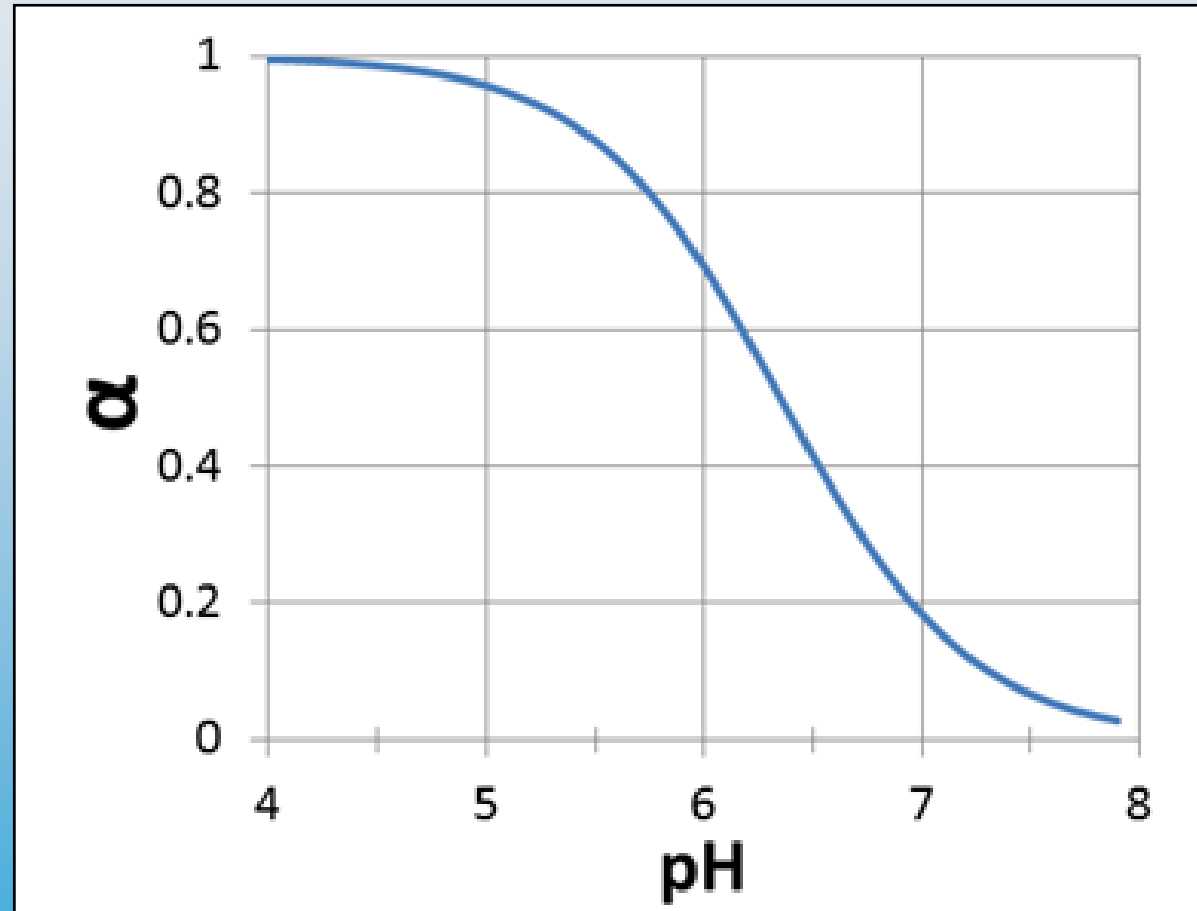
Carbonate System and pH



Acid (H^+) Release from CO_2 Production below Water Table



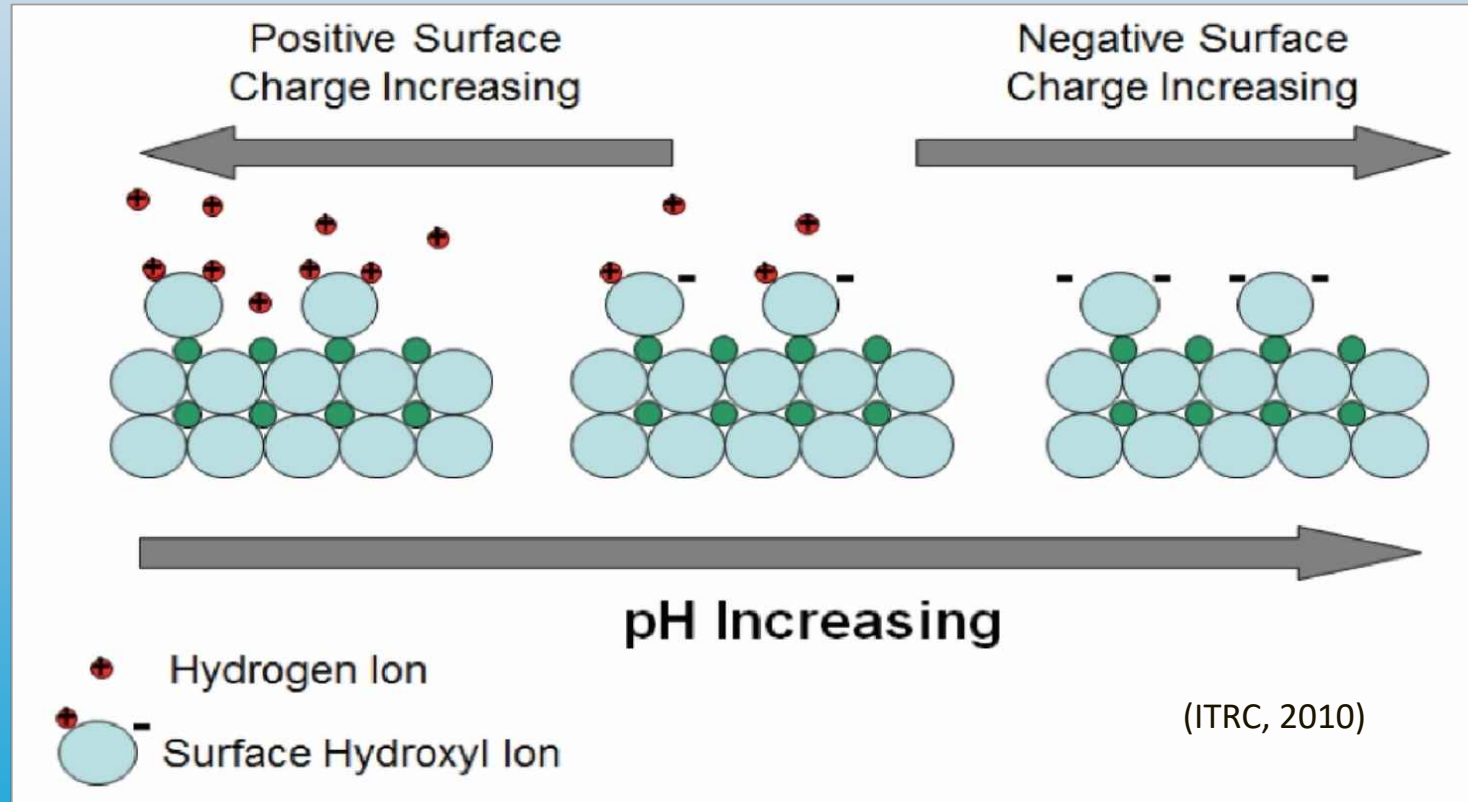
$$K_{eq} = \frac{[H^+][HCO_3^-]}{[H_2CO_3]}$$



Aquifer Buffering Capacity

Surface Complexation and Ion Exchange

- H^+ and OH^- exchange on Fe and Al oxide surfaces and clay minerals
- Strong buffer, reduce the pH decline \rightarrow adsorbing H^+
- Increase required base amount to increase aquifer pH \rightarrow adsorbing OH^-



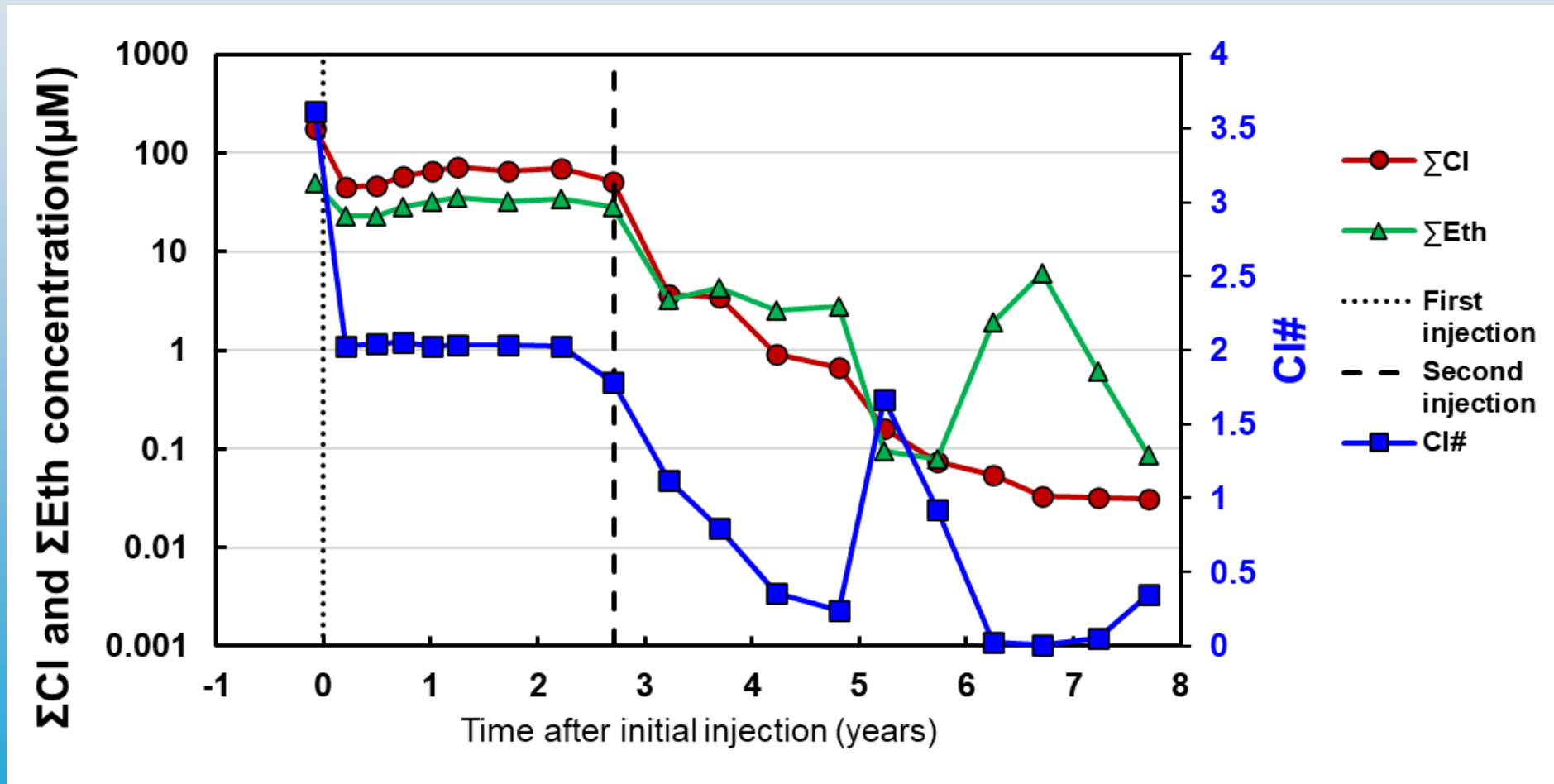
Performance after second injection

$$\Sigma\text{Eth} = [\text{PCE}] + [\text{TCE}] + [\text{DCE}] + [\text{VC}] + [\text{ethene}]$$

$$\Sigma\text{Cl} = 4[\text{PCE}] + 3[\text{TCE}] + 2[\text{DCE}] + [\text{VC}]$$

$$\text{Cl}\# = \Sigma\text{Cl} / \Sigma\text{Eth}$$

[] → concentration in mole/L or $\mu\text{mole/L}$



MW-18 Source Area Treatment

- 2018 Injection
 - Double normal EOS Pro loading
 - Extra N + P + B₁₂ + yeast extract
 - Massive amount of Mg(OH)₂ + KHCO₃

