## Visualizing Biodegradation Zones







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#### Main Challenge with MNA and EISB, or PFAS



#### Example of Redox Zone Delineation



#### Enhanced In-Situ Bioremediation (EISB) Pilot Test



PMW-113(UB) TCE Concentration (ug/L)

#### Full-Scale Design



## Attenuation Concepts

Section 1.1

Source Attenuation: C ver time Plume Attenuation: C over distance

#### Natural Attenuation Mechanisms

- There are two main processes by which natural attenuation may be protective at a site:
  - 1. Source depletion concentrations decline with time;
  - 2. Plume attenuation concentrations decline along the flow path downgradient from the source zone.
- <u>Plume attenuation</u> is most significant when <u>biodegradation</u> is occurring along the flow path. Other processes which influence plume attenuation include dispersion, abiotic degradation, and sorption when the plume is still advancing.

#### Mass Discharge (Source Strength) Trends

#### **Fresh Source**



Modified from Parker et al., 2003

Mass discharge from source zone (kg/y)



#### Mass Discharge (Source Strength) Trends

#### **Aged Source**









#### NAPL Depletion Model (NDM)

# Estimating Timeframes for Natural and Enhanced NAPL Depletion

Free software and 4-hour short course download: www.porewater.com



#### Case Study: Beth Parker et al. (2003) CT Site



#### DNAPL Sub-Zones



#### Source Depletion: Modeled vs. Estimated Half-Life



Md = Mass discharge

#### **Biogeochemical Processes**



### Plume Biogeochemical Processes

- Typical concentration trends during biodegradation
  - Electron acceptors (oxygen, nitrate, sulfate) decline
    - At some sites, sulfate may increase due to dissolution of sulfate-bearing minerals during geochemical changes associated with biodegradation. Sulfate reduction is typically still occurring, even with an increase in sulfate concentrations.
  - Metabolic byproducts (manganese, iron, methane) increase
  - Naturally-occurring arsenic may be temporarily co-dissolved into groundwater with iron. (This arsenic is typically sorbed into iron coatings on sand grains in aerobic aquifers.) Arsenic will later co-precipitate with iron when mixed with oxygen.

#### TCE Mean Degradation Half-Life by Redox Zone



#### TCE Degradation Half-Life by Redox Zone



#### Redox Zone Mass Balance at Plattsburgh Air Force Base



Oxygen Nitrate Iron Sulfate  $CO_2 \rightarrow CH_4$ 

Modeled using In-Situ Remediation (ISR-MT3DMS)

#### Modeled Mass Balance by Redox Zone (t = 40 years)







Oxidation (rapid, NO Daughters)

Reductive Dechlorination (moderate, Daughters, need ED)

Reductive Dechlorination (slow, Daughters, need ED)

Cometabolism (rapid if substrate present, NO Daughters)

### Redox-Dependent Biodegradability

- Parent VOCs (PCE, TCE, 111-TCA)
  - Aerobic cometabolism when chemicals like methane or toluene are present to stimulate rapid degradation
  - Otherwise need moderately or strongly anaerobic conditions
- VOC Daughter products (e.g. 12-DCE, VC, 11-DCA, 11-DCE)
  - May undergo oxidation (without daughters) under aerobic or moderately anaerobic conditions
  - Undergo reductive dichlorination under moderate to strongly anaerobic conditions
- PFAS precursors degrade to PFCAs and PFSAs mainly under aerobic conditions

#### Natural and Enhanced Degradation

- Analysis requires:
  - Delineation of major redox zones
  - Illustration of parent to daughter product ratios at wells
  - Illustration of trends along flowpath
    - Decreasing parent and increasing daughter products?
  - Illustration of trends over time across the entire site
- Applicable to natural and enhanced attenuation

## Redox Radial Diagrams

Section 1.2

### Redox Diagram: Electron Acceptors (EA)



#### Redox Diagram: Metabolic By-Products (MB)



#### Redox Diagram: Aerobic (Background)



#### Redox Diagram: Strongly Anaerobic at Well



#### Redox Zone Transition



## VOC Radial Diagrams

Section 1.3

#### VOC Radial Diagram: Source Depletion



#### Plattsburgh Air Force Base: Plume Attenuation



#### Wurtsmith Air Force Base, Michigan



#### **Redox Indicators**

- 20 wells
- 5 indicators

> 100 data points

ES&T, 1996, 30: 3565-3569

Comparison of  $E_h$  and  $H_2$ Measurements for Delineating Redox Processes in a Contaminated Aquifer

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#### Redox Radial Diagrams



#### Relative Redox Area Contours



### Charleston Naval Weapons Station, South Carolina



#### **Redox Indicators**

- 7 wells
- 6 redox indicators
- 12 events

➡ 500 data points



### Redox Indicator Event 1: 2004-04-01 (Pre-Injection)



### Redox Indicators Event 8: 2006-03-29



#### Redox Indicators Event 12: 2007-10-17



#### Relative Redox Area versus Time



Redox Zone	RRA (%)
Aerobic	78-100
NO <sub>3</sub>	62-78
Mn(II)	53-62
Fe(II)	35-53
SO <sub>4</sub>	20-35
CH <sub>4</sub>	≤20

#### **Charleston Naval Weapons Station**

Location	Days Since Injection	Sample Date	Dissolved Oxygen	Nitrate (mg/L)	Manganese (mg/L)	Dissolved Iron (mg/L)	Sulfate (mg/L)	Methane (µg/L)
17PSI-02	-/13/2004	3/31/04	1/8	<0.5	0.300	33	01.5	53.2
17PSI=02	20	6/2/04	0.39	<0.5	0.570	150	18.0	47.4
17PSI=02	111	9/1/04	0.42	<0.5	0.510	160	<0.5	42.6
17PSI-02	188	11/17/04	0.12	<0.5	0.530	210	<0.5	256.3
17PSI-02	271	2/8/05	0.44	1.0/1.0	0.550	210	0.95	429.6
17PSI-02	377	5/25/05	0.19	< 0.5	0.660	210	< 0.5	1135
17PSI-02	468	8/24/05	0.35	< 0.5	0.630	180	< 0.5	812.8
17PSI-02	684	3/28/06	0.68	< 0.5	0.590	210	< 0.5	1933.2
17PSI-02	865	9/25/06	0.62	< 0.5	0.530	60	< 0.5	1366.9
17PSI-02	951	12/20/06	NM	< 0.5	0.100	6.9	28.3	2135.8
17PSI-02	1062	4/10/07	0.36	<0.5	0.300	0.6	32.8/35.8	9433.9
17PSI-02	1252	10/17/07	0.80	<0.5	0.230	1.5	<0.5	5269.8
17PSI-07	-43	3/31/04	3.93	<0.5	0.370	24	102.5	40.7
17PSI-07	20	6/2/04	0.60	< 0.5	0.710	180	1.8	53.7
17PSI-07	111	9/1/04	0.13	< 0.5	0.820	300	0.5	26.6
17PSI-07	188	11/17/04	0.09	< 0.5	0.740	240	< 0.5	156.3
17PSI-07	271	2/8/05	0.48	<0.5	0.790	320	<0.5	151.7
17PSI-07	377	5/25/05	0.26	< 0.5	0.810	310	< 0.5	1469.4
17PSI-07	468	8/24/05	0.39	< 0.5	0.710	260	< 0.5	1816.0
17PSI-07	684	3/28/06	0.61	<0.5	0.530	420	<0.5	2121.1
17PSI-07	865	9/25/06	1.81	< 0.5	0.620	320	< 0.5	2684.9
17PSI-07	951	12/20/06	0.62	< 0.5	0.750	220	<0.5/0.7	5509.0
17PSI-07	1062	4/10/07	0.98	< 0.5	0.700	250	<0.5	4086.0
1/PSI-07	1252	10/17/07	1.00	<0.5	0.720	120	<0.5	53/7.2
1/PSI-10	-43	3/31/04	4.05	<0.5	0.400	29	58.7	35.5
1/PSI-10	20	6/2/04	0.47	< 0.5	0.920	150	53.5/52.6	16.9
17PSI-10	111	9/1/04	0.26	<0.5	0.700	130	0.7	20.1
1/PSI-10	188	11/1//04	0.14	<0.5	0.940	190	<0.5	27.2
17PSI-10	2/1	2/8/05	0.41	<0.5	0.830	220	<0.5	851.9
1/PSI-10	3//	5/25/05	0.32	< 0.5	0.800	220	< 0.5	2020.4
17PSI-10	468	8/24/05	0.45	< 0.5	1.200	190	< 0.5	1884.3
17PSI-10	004	3/20/00	0.50	<0.5	0.640	240	<0.5	2152.0
17PSI-10	866	9/26/06	0.52	<0.5	0.720	210	<0.5	4147.0
17PSI-10	951	12/20/06	0.74	<0.5	0.590	170	0.7	5972.8
17PSI-10	1002	4/10/07	0.51	<0.5	0.750	200	<0.5	9990.4
17PSI-10	1252	10/17/07	0.60	<0.5	0.510	40	<0.5/0.6	42.4
17PSI-13	-43	5/31/04	4.00	<0.5	0.010	120	102.0	13.4
17091-13	20	0/2/04	0.14	<0.5	0.920	200	<0.5	14.3
17P3I-13	407	9/1/04	0.19	<0.5 +0.5/+0.5	0.040	200	<0.5	14.3
17PSI-13	271	2/8/05	0.10	<0.5/<0.5	0.920	210	<0.5	534.5
17PSI-13	376	5/24/05	0.00	<0.5	0.000	160	<0.5	3441.6
17PSI=13	468	8/24/05	0.25	< 0.5	0.000	160	< 0.5	2550.7
17PSI=13	684	3/28/06	NA	<0.5	0.880	260	<0.5	1105.7
17PSI-13	866	9/26/06	0.56	<0.5	0.830	180	<0.5	5069.7
17PSI=13	951	12/20/06	0.81	<0.5	0.850	260	11	5540.8
17PSI=13	1062	4/10/07	0.46	<0.5	0.840	280	<0.5	7879 1
17PSI-13	1252	10/17/07	0.60	<0.5	0.570	90	<0.5	9099.5
17PS-01	-42	4/1/04	0.67	< 0.5	0.630	78	65.5	27.2
17PS-01	20	6/2/04	1.14	< 0.5	0.720	120	44.1/44.6	25.8
17PS-01	111	9/1/04	0.15	< 0.5	0.540	110	15.3	37.7
17PS-01	187	11/16/04	0.17	< 0.5	0.780	130	23.4	33.1
17PS-01	271	2/8/05	0.23	< 0.5	0.680	150	27.9	145.0
17PS-01	377	5/25/05	0.34	< 0.5	0.690	130	20.3	231.9
17PS-01	468	8/24/05	0.33	< 0.5	0.570	190	21.6	92.2
17PS-01	685	3/29/06	0.49	< 0.5	0.490	210	30.9	261.2
17PS-01	866	9/26/06	0.81	<0.5	0.690	110	<0.5	1232.6
17PS-01	951	12/20/06	NA	< 0.5	0.190	7.2	1.4	7415.3
17PS-01	1062	4/10/07	0.72	< 0.5	0.050	1.0	< 0.5	11308.5
17PS-01	1252	10/17/07	0.20	1.3	0.230	2.1	0.5	7759.2
17PS-02	-42	4/1/04	1.50	<0.5	0.560	50	58	30.8
17PS-02	20	6/2/04	3.36	< 0.5	0.740	81	5.4	30.6
17PS-02	111	9/1/04	0.14	< 0.5	0.570	170	15.0	36.7
17PS-02	187	11/16/04	0.16	<0.5	0.590	150	2.8	66.0
17PS-02	271	2/8/05	0.20	<0.5/<0.5	0.520	120	10.0	1144.8
17PS-02	377	5/25/05	0.47	< 0.5	0.660	92	6.7	1176.5
17PS-02	468	8/24/05	0.32	< 0.5	0.540	150	20.8	1681.8
17PS-02	685	3/29/06	0.50	<0.5	0.550	130	14	3639.3
17PS-02	866	9/26/06	0.48	< 0.5	0.620	170	2.8	2133.3
17PS-02	951	12/20/06	NA	< 0.5	0.180	1.10	9.6	9880.6
1/PS-02	1062	4/10/07	0.75	<0.5	0.260	12.0	<0.5/0.57	8896.9
1/PS-02	1252	10/17/07	0.40	1.1	0.075	0.41	<0.5	9148.4
1/PS-03	-42	4/1/04	0.40	<0.5	0.680	69	/7.5	36.0
17PS-03	20	6/2/04	1.22	< 0.5	0.810	110	10.0	50.7
1/PS-03	111	9/1/04	0.14	<0.5	0.460	130	<0.5	1/3.3
1/PS-03	18/	11/16/04	0.18	<0.5/<0.5	0.800	200	0.5/<0.5	2062.5
1/PS-03	271	2/8/05	0.25	< 0.5	0.570	180	<0.5	//37.5
1/PS-03	3//	5/25/05	0.31	< 0.5	0.700	180	< 0.5	4425.3
1/PS-03	468	8/24/05	0.37	< 0.5	0.470	190	2.10	3136.5
1/PS-03	685	3/29/06	0.44	<0.5	0.430	3/0	1.6	3522.2
17PS-03	800	9/20/00	0.57	<0.5	0.580	90	1.9	4852.4
17PS-03	951	12/20/06	N/A 0.68	<0.5	0.1/0	1.1	9.6/9.5	9839.1
1705-03	1062	4/10/07	0.40	×U.5	0.055	0.38	5.0	4201.3

#### Average RRA versus time in Pilot Test Area (IWs)



#### Relative Redox Area Findings

#### • CHECK RRA RESULTS – Do they make sense?

- Single metric that integrates trends for 5-6 redox indicators, relative to aerobic conditions
- Good predictor of dominant redox processes
- Useful for contouring key redox zones (e.g. aerobic, moderately anaerobic, and strongly anaerobic)
- Higher uncertainty at RRA transition points
- RRA limitations:
  - Downgradient transport of indicators (e.g. methane)
  - Concomitant redox processes

#### **Potential RRA Zones for delineation:**

- 1. Aerobic
- 2. Nitrate-reducing
- 3. Manganese / Iron-reducing
- 4. Sulfate-reducing / Methanogenesis

## PFAS Radial Diagrams

Section 1.4

#### PFAS at Ellsworth Air Force Base



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#### PFCAs





#### PFSAs





Concentrations in ug/L.

### Key Functionality for Radial Diagrams

- Axes can increase in concentration away from, or towards the origin of the radial diagram
- Each axis has option of log or arithmetic scale
- Multiple events and reference data series

e.g. background redox indicators, or source zone VOCs

- Option to shade in one or more data series, different line colors
- Symbols to represent non-detects, and/or MCL exceedances

#### FREE Visual Bio Software



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#### Visual Bio Software

#### **Text Input Files**

ſ	RD_Properties.dat - Notepad -						×		
Eil	e <u>E</u> dit	Format	View	<u>H</u> elp					
P/	AFB -	Redox							
		5					'Line 2: r	RD Axes	
	2 180	150	2	0.1	10.	1 3	-1. 'Line 3.1	: DO ScaleFlag, angle, chemID, unitID, Min, Max, Direction, nMajorTicks, MCL	
	2 108	3 151	2	0.1	10.	1 3	-1. 'Line 3.2	: NO3 ScaleFlag, angle, chemID, unitID, Min, Max, Direction, nMajorTicks, MCL	
	2 36	5 173	2	0.1	100	-1 4	-1. 'Line 3.3	: Fe2+ ScaleFlag, angle, chemID, unitID, Min, Max, Direction, nMajorTicks, MCL	
1	2 324	160	2	0.1	100.	1 4	-1. 'Line 3.4	: SO4 ScaleFlag, angle, chemID, unitID, Min, Max, Direction, nMajorTicks, MCL	
	2 252	2 175	2	0.001	10.	1 5	-1. 'Line 3.5	: CH4 ScaleFlag, angle, chemID, unitID, Min, Max, Direction, nMajorTicks, MCL	
	6						'Line 4:	nRD_well	
1	Α						'Line 5.1:	well ID	
2	В						'Line 5.2:	well ID	
3	С						'Line 5.3:	well ID	
4	D						'Line 5.4:	well ID	
5	E						'Line 5.5:	well ID	
6	F						Line 5.6:	well ID	
	1						Line 6:	nRD_EventSeries	
	1	Ever	it_19	95-96			'Line 7.1:	Event ID, Filename	
-	1	2					Line 8:	nRD_RefSeries, input unitsID	
Re	ef-Bad	kgrour	d	action and and a	dodesto Lo		Line 9.1:	Ref Series filename	
10	ð. 10	00.6	05 2	50.	001		Line 10:	Background redox reference concentrations	
	2						Line 11:	NDflag (1=DL, 2=0.5*DL, 3=axis minimum)	
	200.						Line 12:	axis length (map units)	
	0						Line 13:	Calculate ratio of detected parent to daughter products? (0=no,1=yes)	
	0.						Line 15:	TICKLENGTMAJOPP	
	1						Line 16:	Output symbols for Event series? (0=no, 1=yes)	
	0						Line 17:	output symbols for Reference series? (0=no, 1=yes)	- 1

#### **Golden Surfer® for Making Figures**



#### Questions



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## Supplemental Slides

## Wurtsmith Air Force Base Case Study

Section 3.3

### Wurtsmith Air Force Base, Michigan



Chapelle et al. (Env. Sci. & Tech., 1996)

- Chlorinated solvents and petroleum hydrocarbons used to start fires (1952-86)
- Contaminants seeped to underlying water table (5-8 m bgs)
- Permeable sands and gravels
- Four multilevel wells
  - 1" diameter
  - 0.3 m screens, separated by 0.2 to 0.5 m

#### Redox Radial Diagrams



### Hydrogen Concentrations (Chapelle et al., 1996)



	H <sub>2</sub> (nM)
Iron-reducers	0.2 to 0.8
Sulfate-reducers	1 to 4
Methanogens	5 to 15



### Hydrogen Concentrations (Chapelle et al., 1996)



### Hydrogen Concentrations (Chapelle et al., 1996)



#### Delineating Redox Zones Based on Indicator Concentrations

#### Redox Processes and Water Quality of Selected Principal Aquifer Systems

by P.B. McMahon<sup>1</sup> and F.H. Chapelle<sup>2</sup>

Ground Water, 2008, 46(2): 259-271

Redox Zone	Oxygen	Nitrate	Mn(II)	Fe(II)	SO4	Methane
Aerobic	≥0.5		<0.05	<0.1		
Nitrate reduction	<0.5	≥0.5	<0.05	<0.1		
Manganese reduction	<0.5	<0.5	≥0.5	<0.1		
Iron / Sulfate reduction	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	≥0.1	≥0.5	
Methanogenesis	<0.5	<0.5		≥0.1	<0.5	

### Wurtsmith Relative Redox Area by Zone

• Threshold Areas in Visual Bio – define RRA for the initial transition to each redox zone.



Relative Redox Area (RRA) =	Area of monitoring well polygon
	Area of reference polygon (Aerobic)

#### Relative Redox Area



#### Relative Redox Area Contours



Aerobic:	78 to 100%	$\bigcirc$
Nitrate-reducing:	60 to 78%	$\bigcirc$
Iron-reducing:	42 to 60%	$\bigcirc$
Sulfate-reducing:	24 to 42%	$\bigcirc$
Methanogenic:	≤24%	



#### RRA versus Hydrogen Concentration



#### Eh vs. Hydrogen Concentrations

