



# **Adsorption/Desorption of Pollutants to Nanoparticles**

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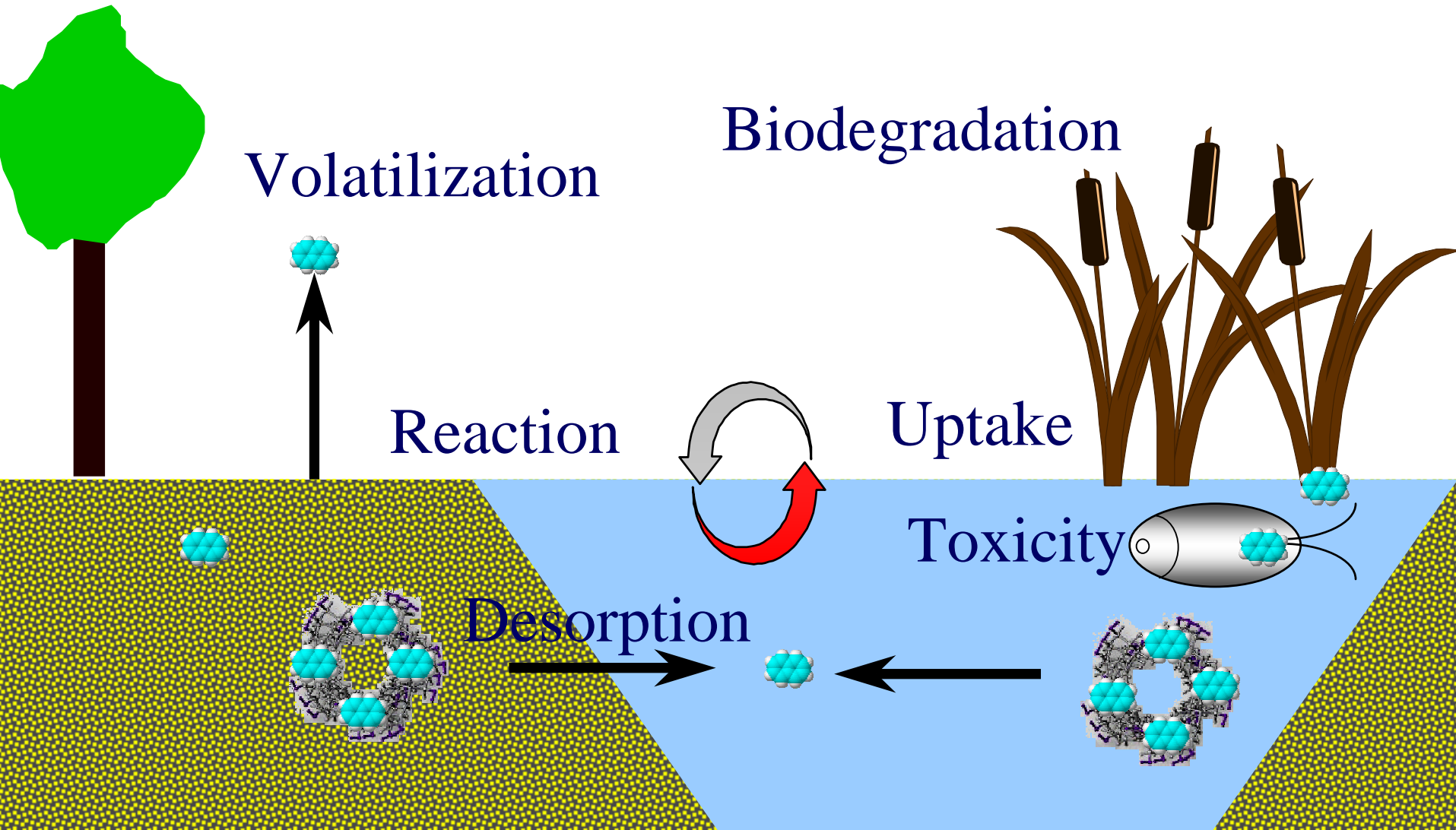
**Center for Biological and Environmental Nanotechnology  
Civil and Environmental Engineering and Chemistry  
Departments**

**Rice University**

**September 15, 2003**

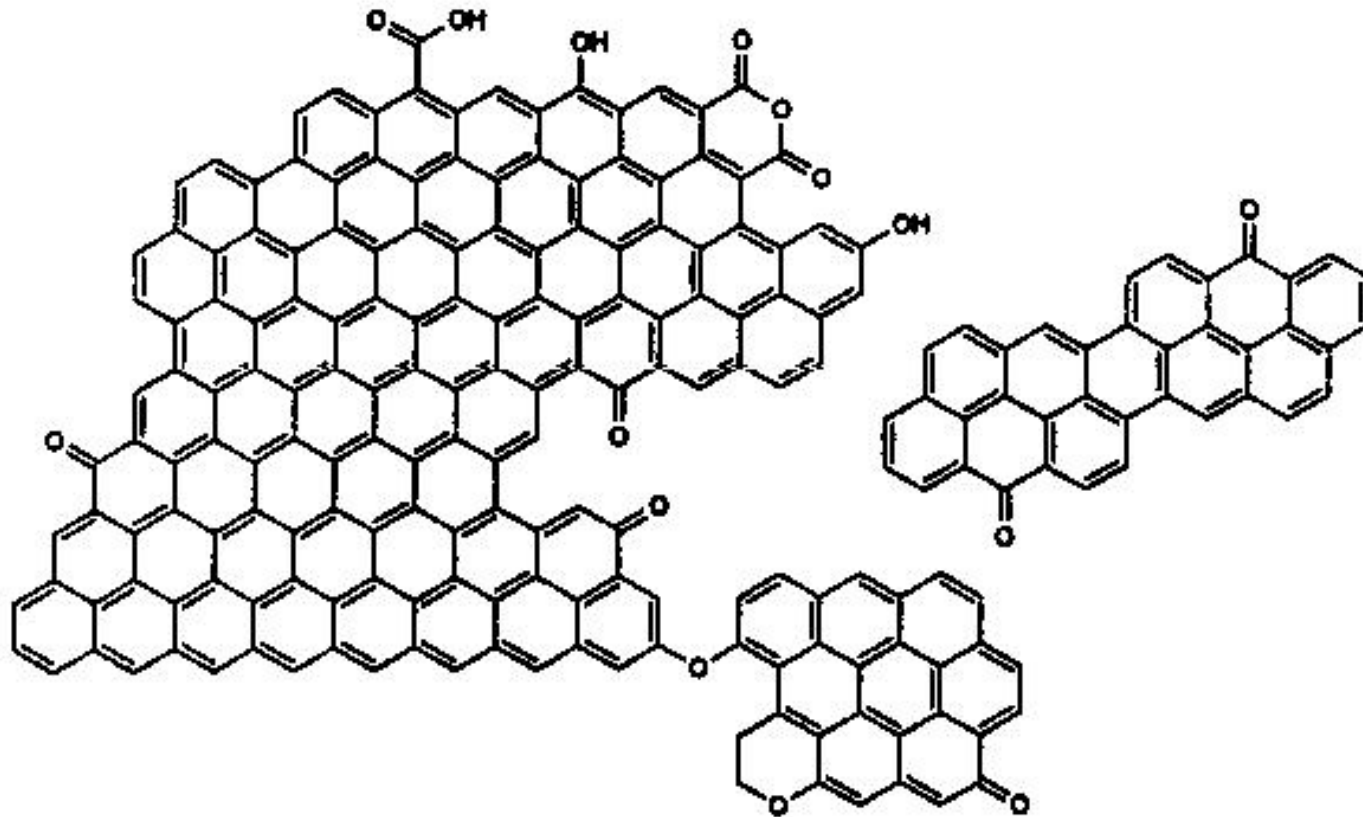


# Adsorption/Desorption Hysteresis





# Black Carbon

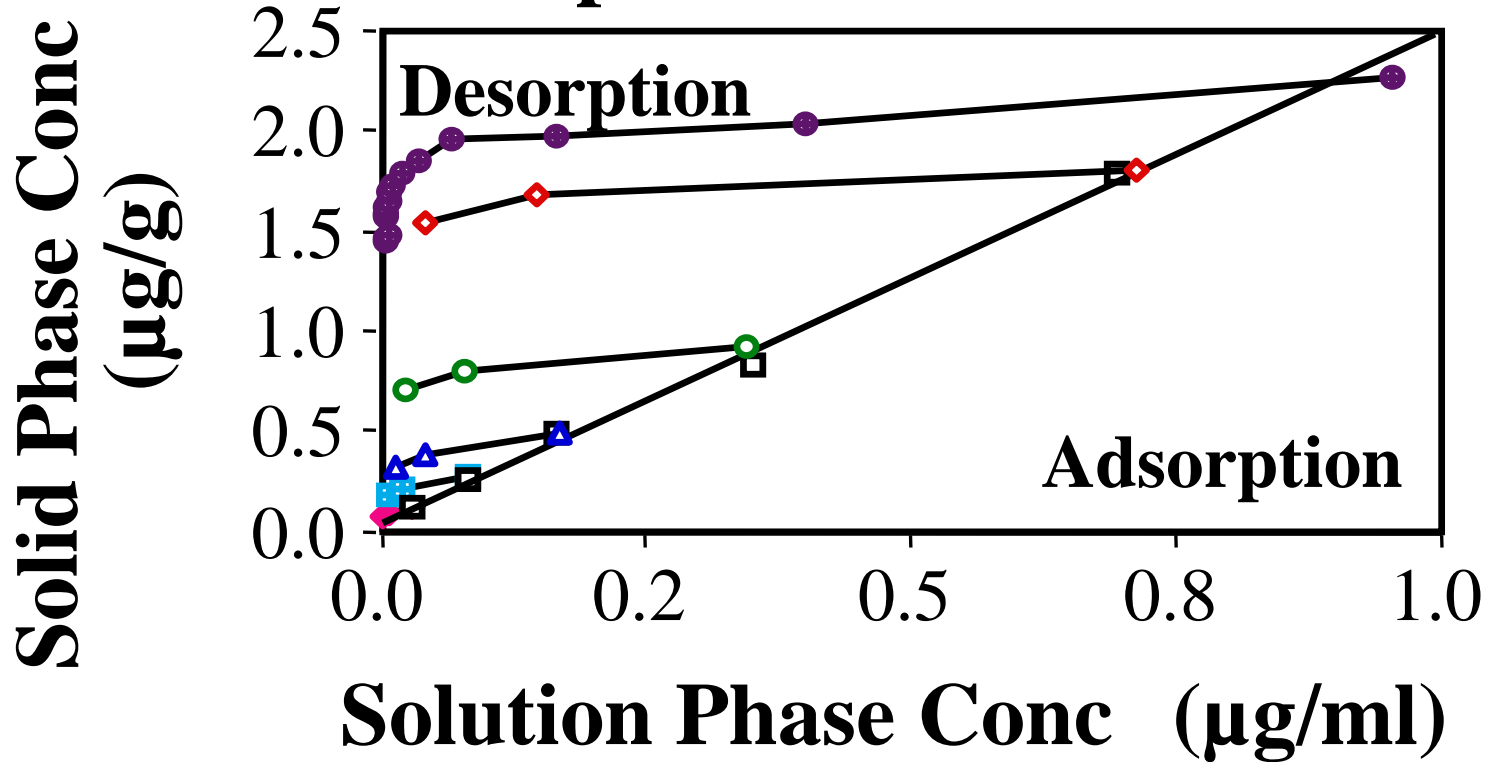




# Sorption/Desorption Hysteresis

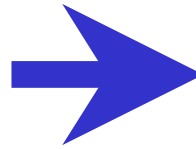
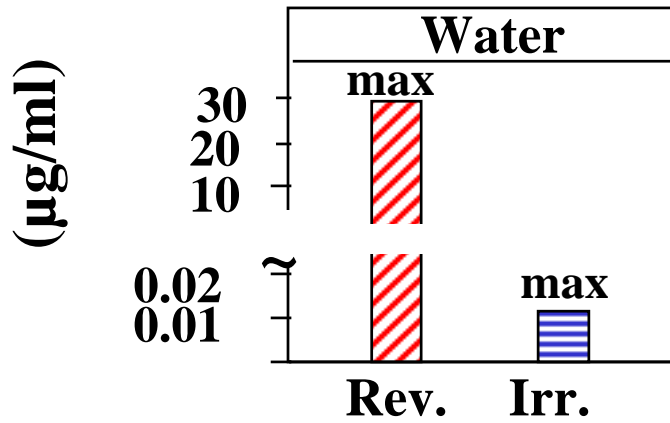
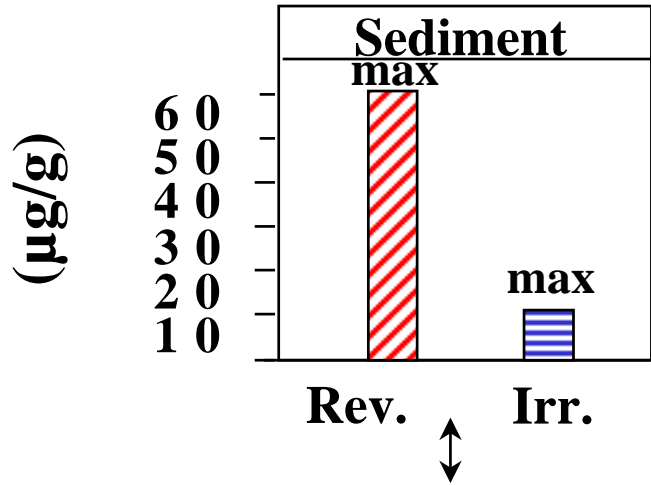
$$K_p^{des} > K_p^{ads}$$

## Naphthalene/Lula

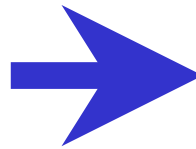
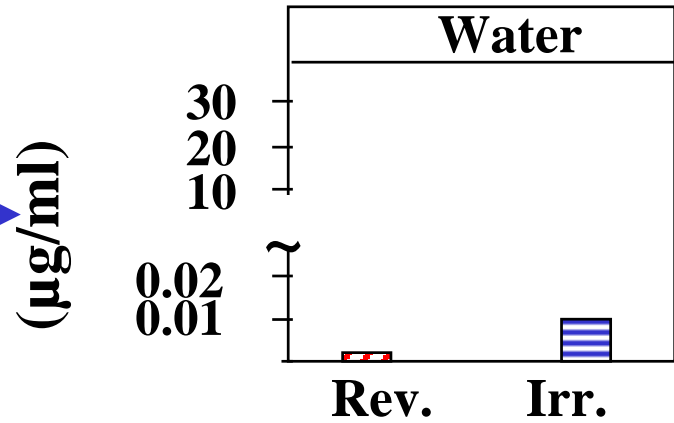
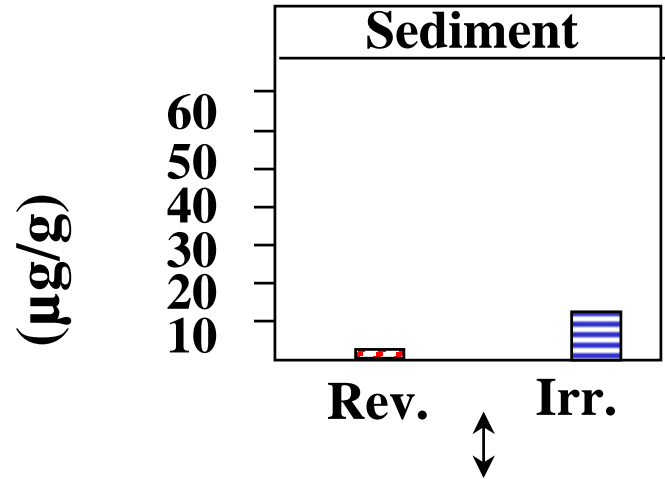




**"Unweathered,  
non-remediated, or freshly  
contaminated"**

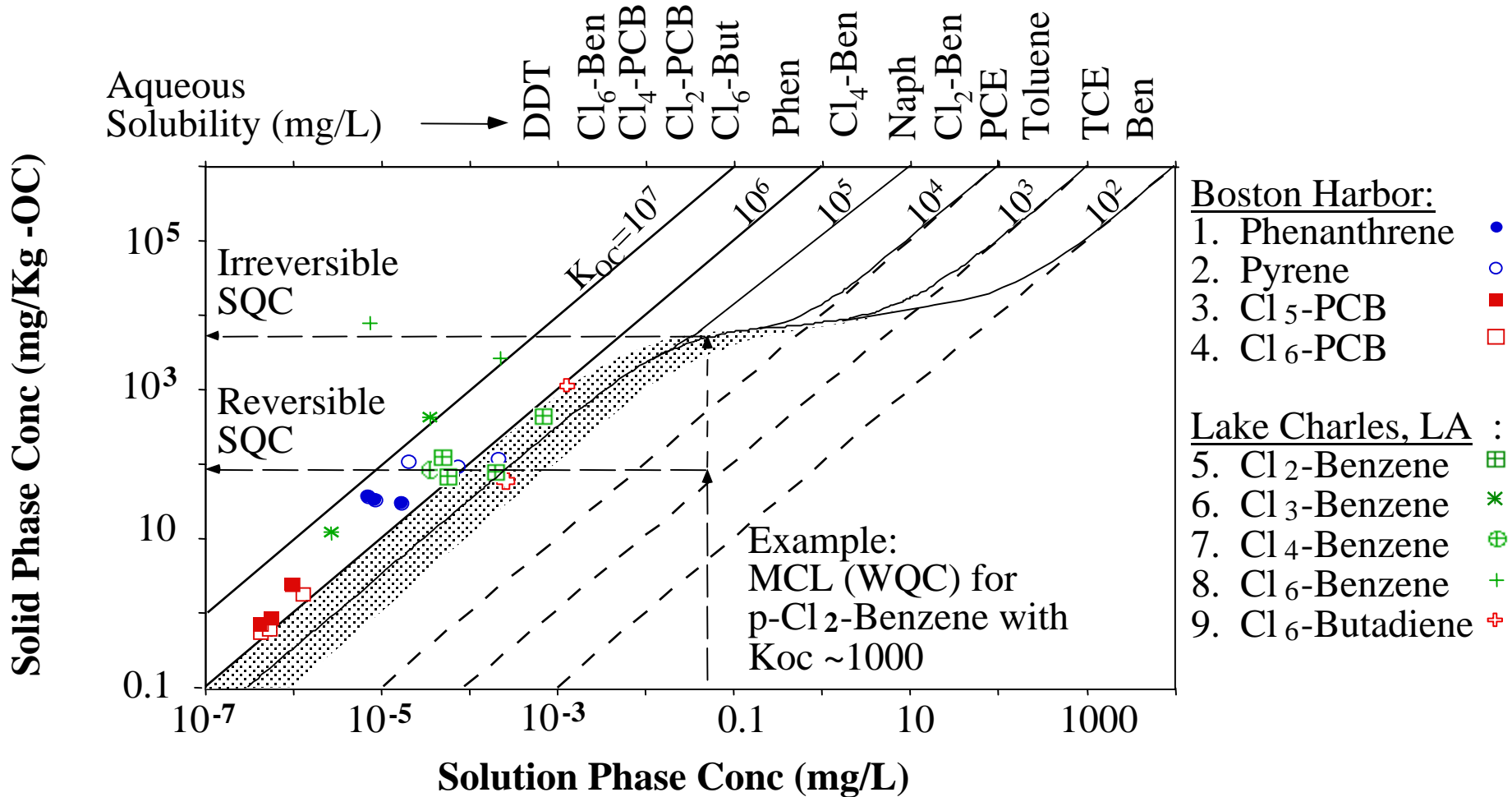


**"Weathered,  
remediated, or aged"**





# Adsorption/Desorption Hysteresis

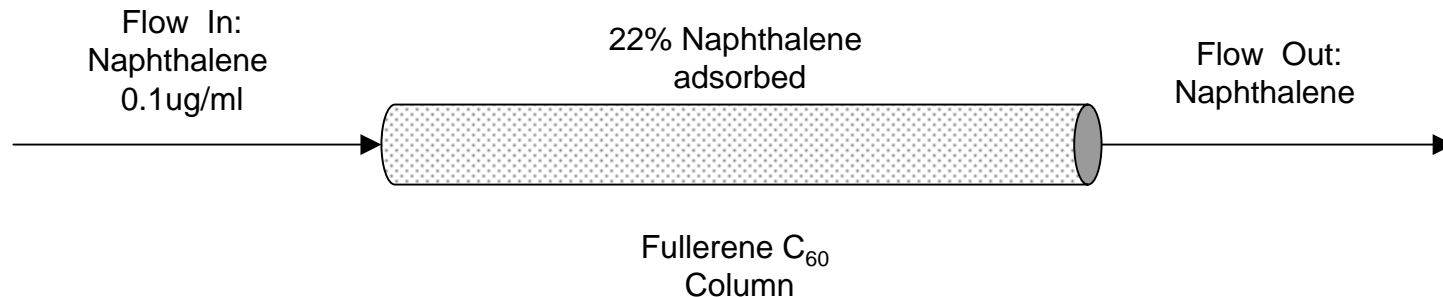




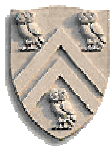
# Naphthalene Adsorption onto Original $C_{60}$ Particles

E. Ballesteros et al. 2000 J. Chromatography A —

Little adsorption from naphthalene aqueous solution onto fullerene  $C_{60}$  particles was found...



$$K_p \sim 10$$



# Carbon Nano-Particle Transport



**C<sub>60</sub> small  
aggregates**



**Toluene  
extraction**



**C<sub>60</sub> colloidal  
particles**

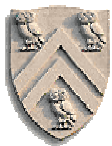


**Toluene  
No extraction**



**C-18 Sep-Pak<sup>®</sup>  
No adsorption**





# Adsorption of Organic Contaminants from Solution to $C_{60}$ Fullerene

## Batch Adsorption/Desorption Study:



$C_{60}$  large aggregates



$C_{60}$  small aggregates

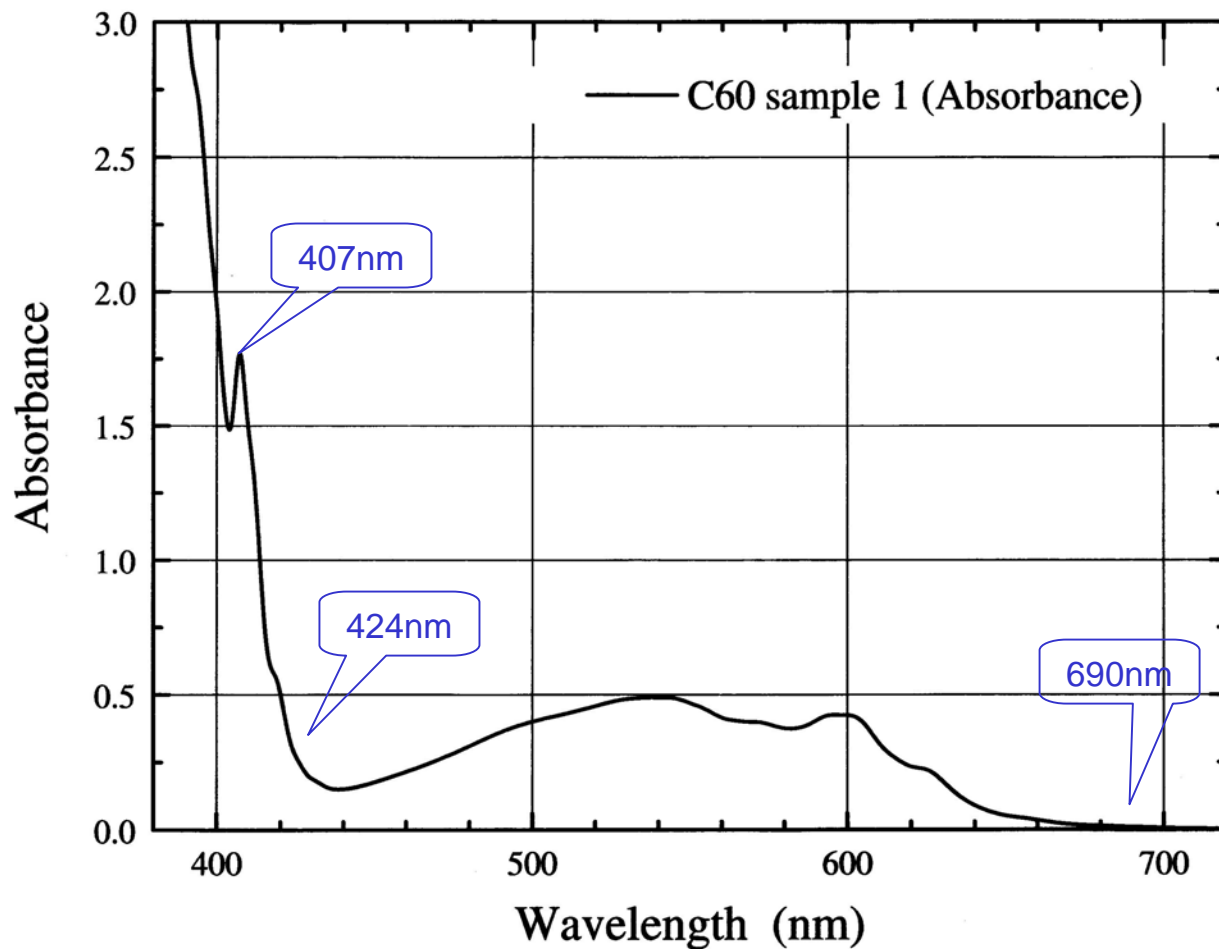


$C_{60}$  colloidal particles



# UV/Vis Spectrum of C<sub>60</sub> in Toluene

Sampled from small aggregates

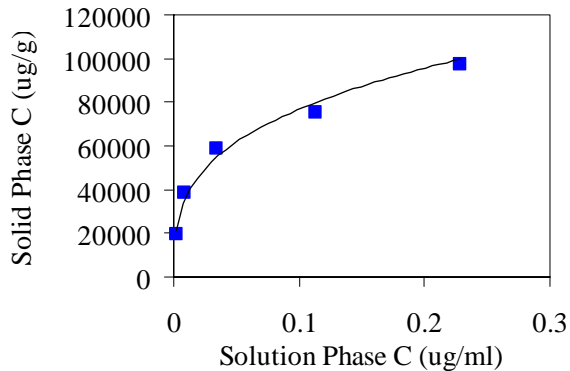




# Naphthalene-Carbon Adsorption Isotherms

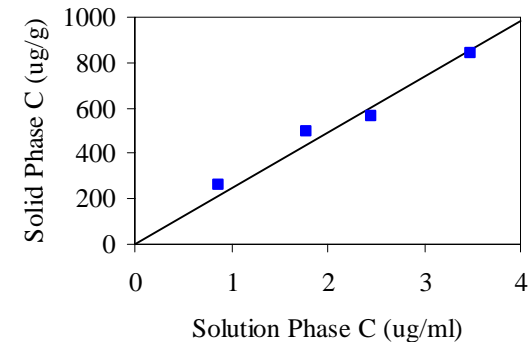
## (1) Activated carbon

$$q=10^{5.20}C^{0.31}$$



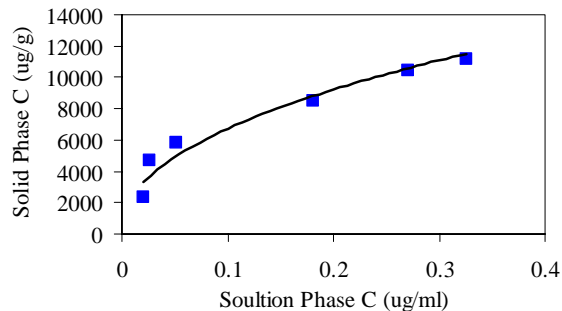
## (2) Large aggregates

$$q=10^{2.39}C$$



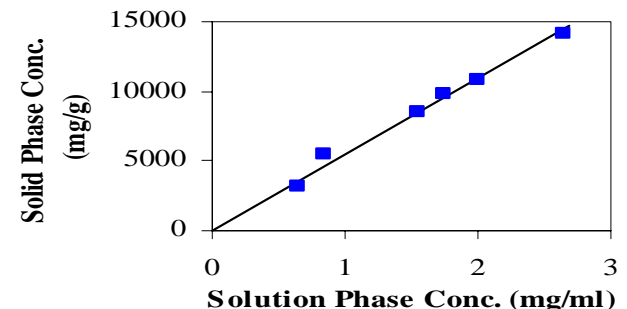
## (3) Small aggregates

$$q=10^{4.27}C^{0.44}$$



## (3) Colloidal C<sub>60</sub>

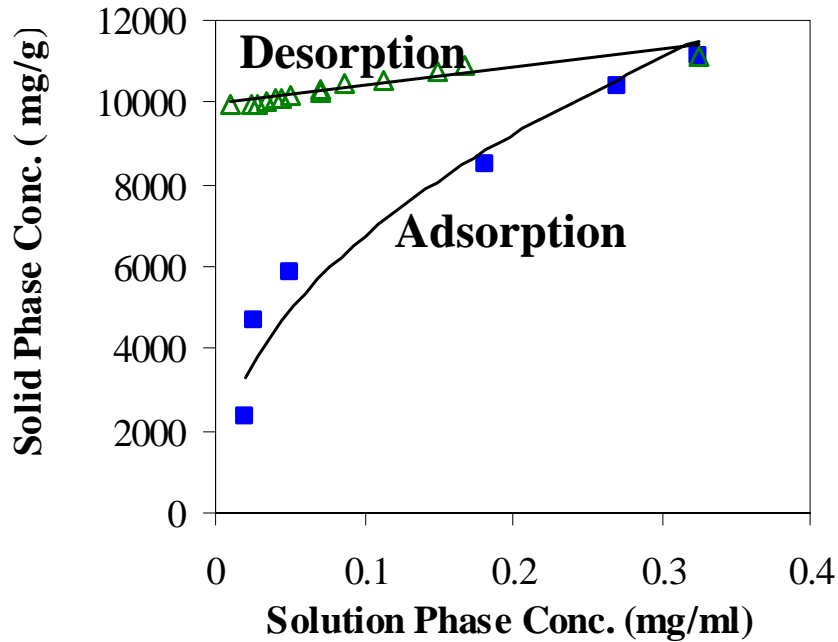
$$q=10^{3.75}C$$



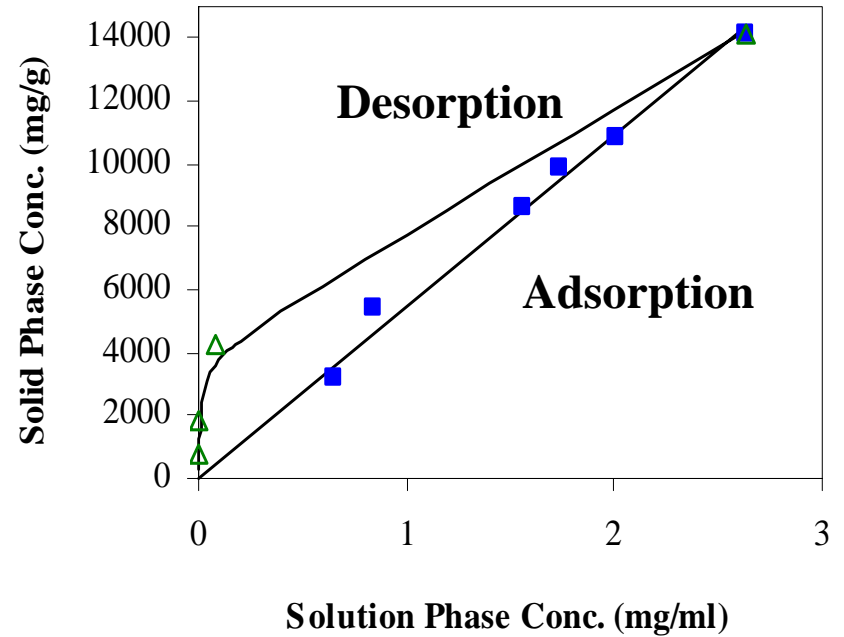


# Adsorption/Desorption of Naphthalene (Small Aggregated and Colloidal C<sub>60</sub> Particles)

### Small aggregates

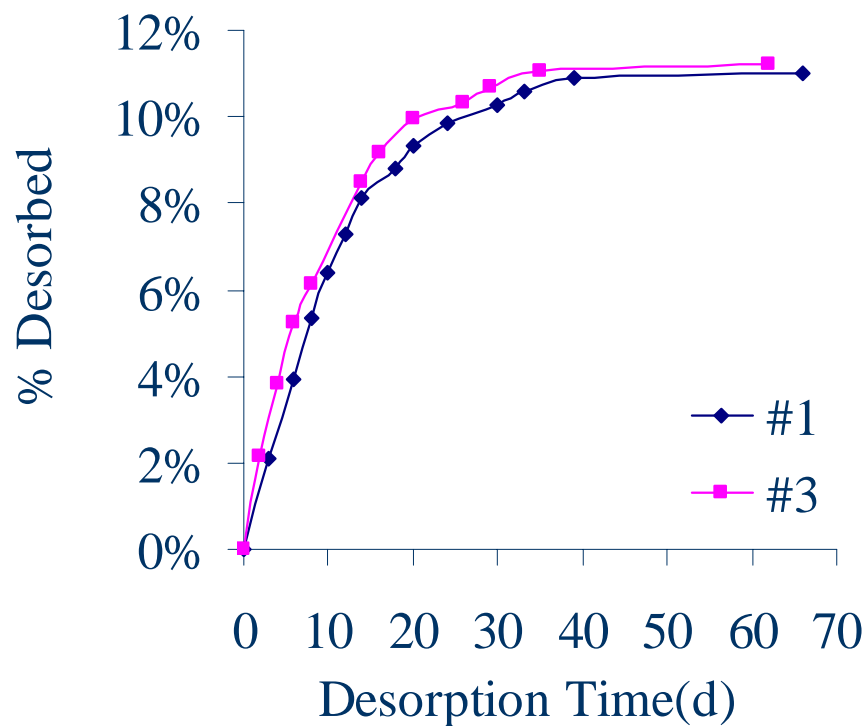
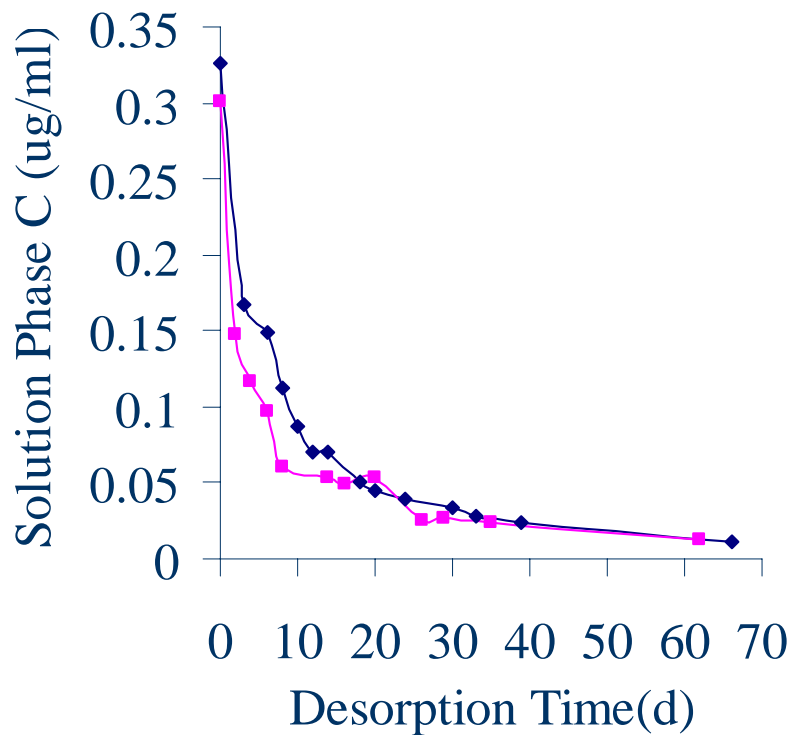


### Colloidal C<sub>60</sub>





# Adsorption/Desorption of Naphthalene to Small Aggregated C<sub>60</sub> Particles

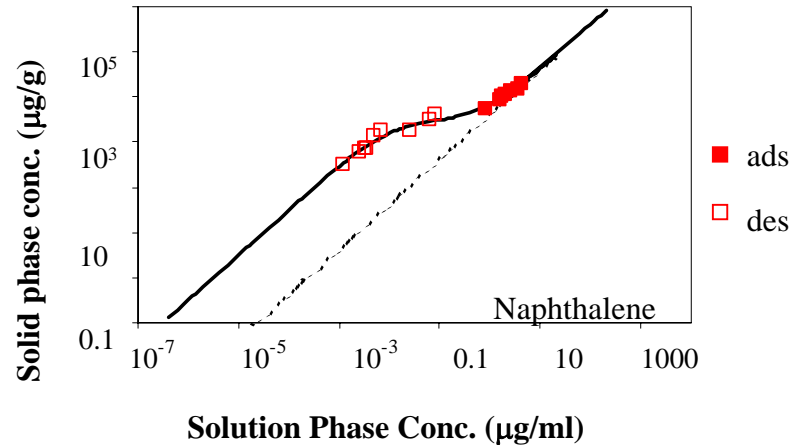
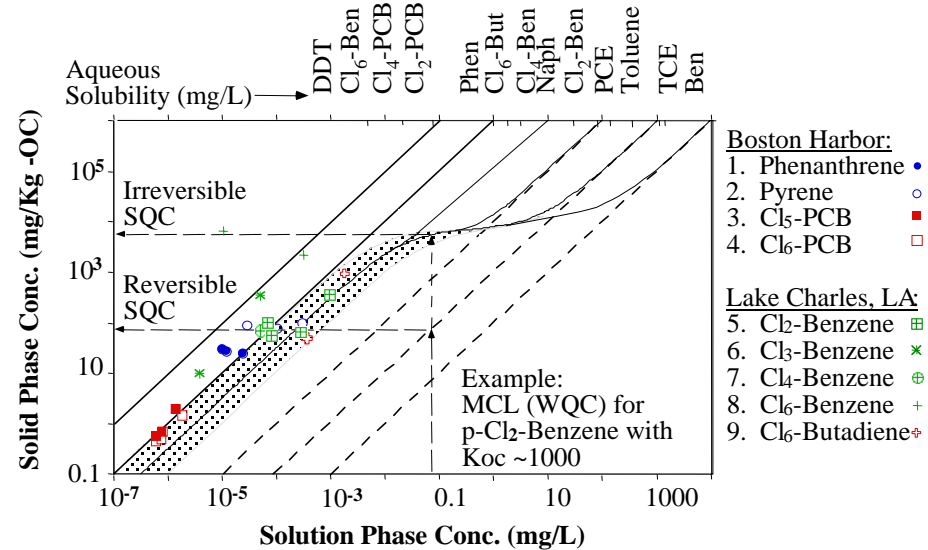




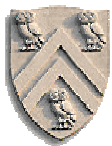
# Adsorption and Desorption of Organic Contaminants

Naturally occurring soil organic carbon

$C_{60}$  Fullerene



Solid Lines Represent the Rice University Dual Equilibrium Model



# Carbon Nano-Particle Transport



**C<sub>60</sub> small aggregates**



**Toluene extraction**



**C<sub>60</sub> colloidal particles**



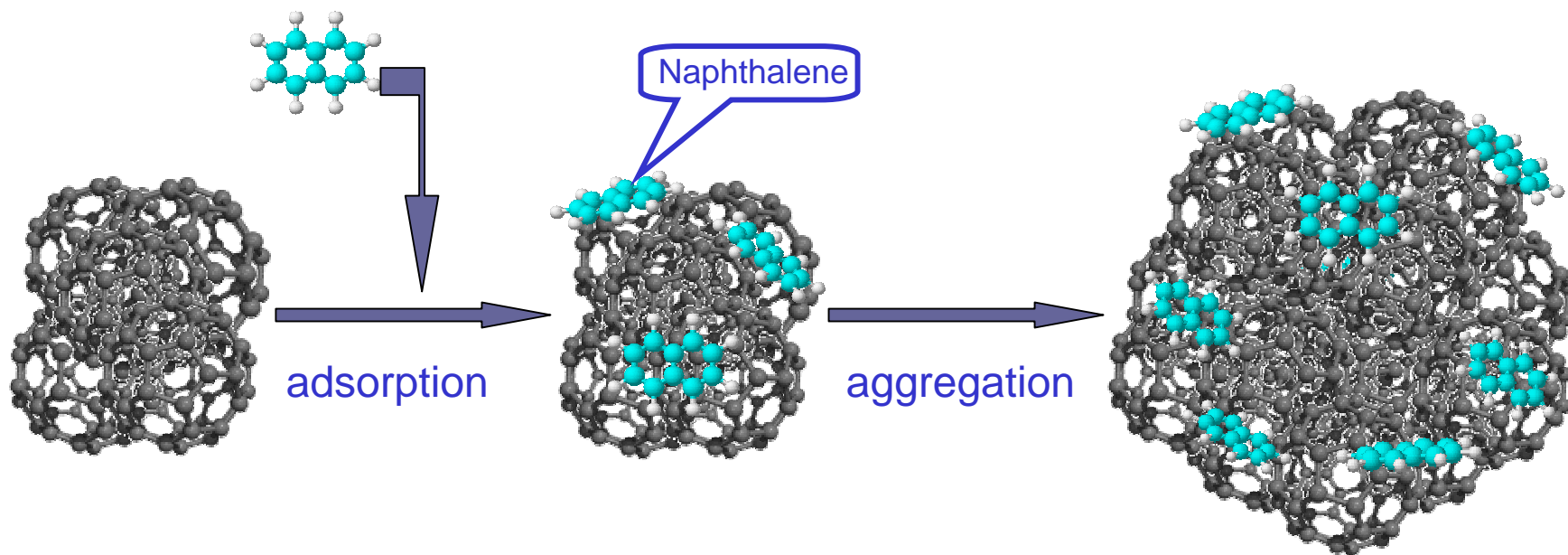
**Toluene  
No extraction**



**C-18 Sep-Pak<sup>®</sup>  
No adsorption**



# What Happened During Adsorption?



Small Fullerene Aggregates

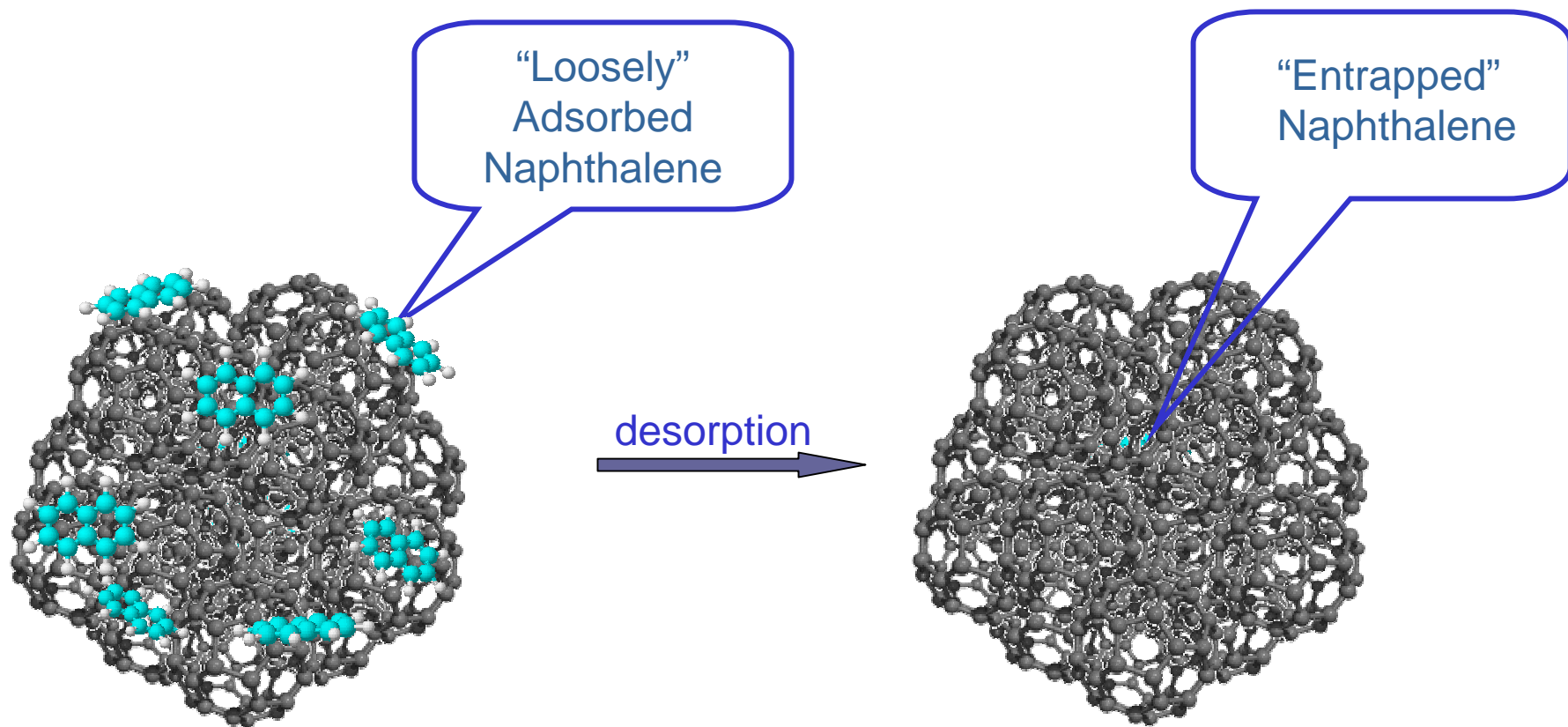
Naphthalene Adsorption

Clusters Aggregation & Naph. Entrapment





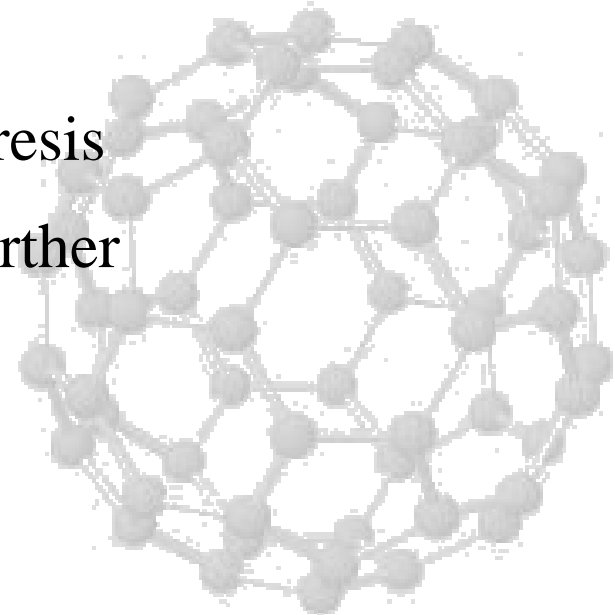
# What Happened During Desorption?





# Possible Explanations

- Two parts of adsorption/desorption:
  - $q_1$ : adsorption onto surfaces
  - $q_2$ : entrapment in clusters
- $q_1$  account for  $\approx 11\%$  adsorption;
- $q_2$  account for  $\approx 89\%$  adsorption
- Possibility of adsorption/desorption hysteresis
- Adsorption/desorption hysteresis needs further study



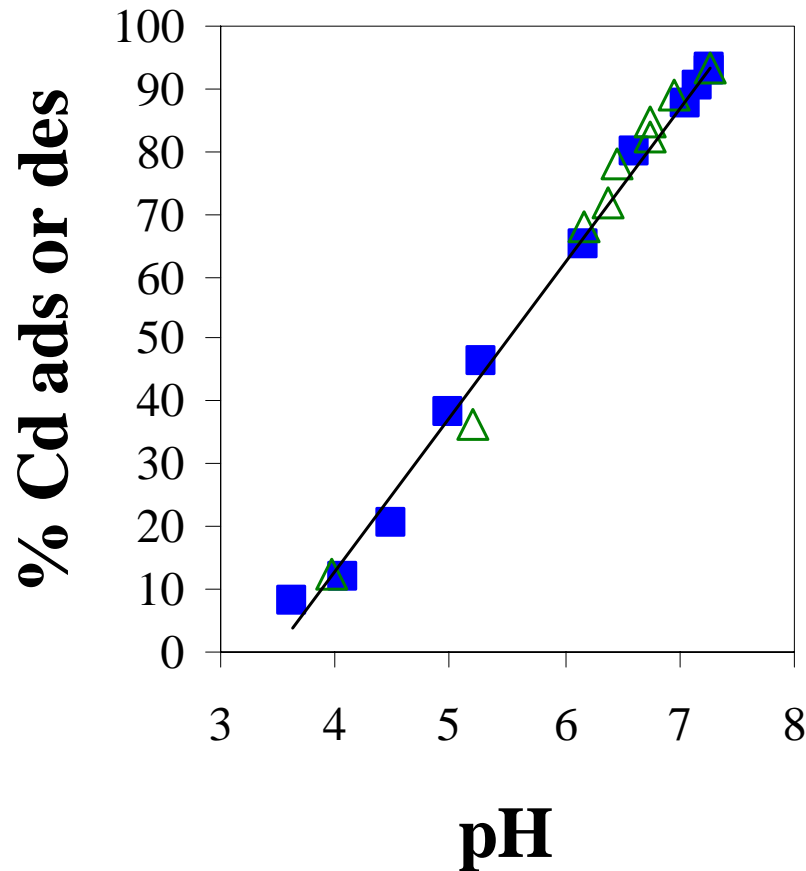


# **Adsorption of Cadmium to Anatase Nanoparticles**

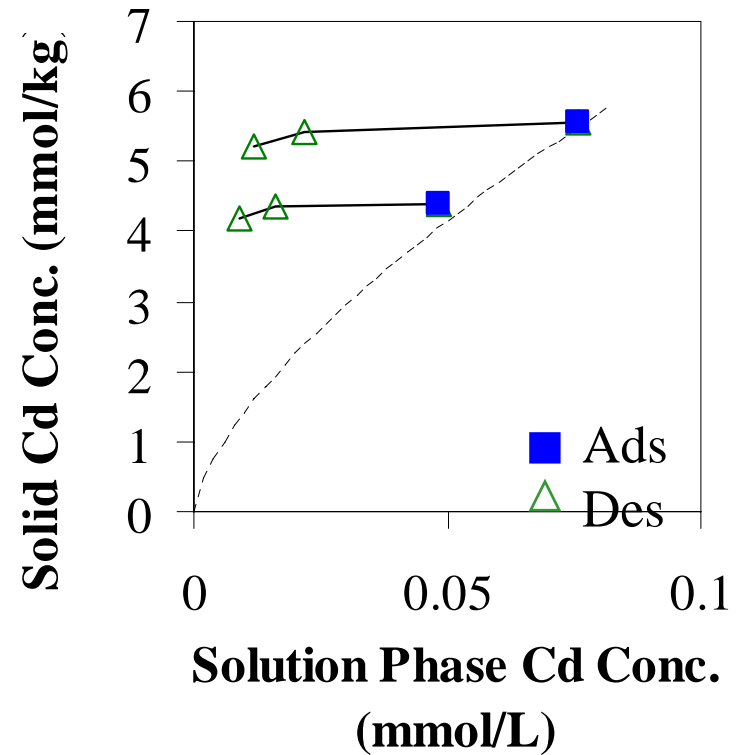


# Adsorption/Desorption of Cd to Soil

## Reversible



## Irreversible





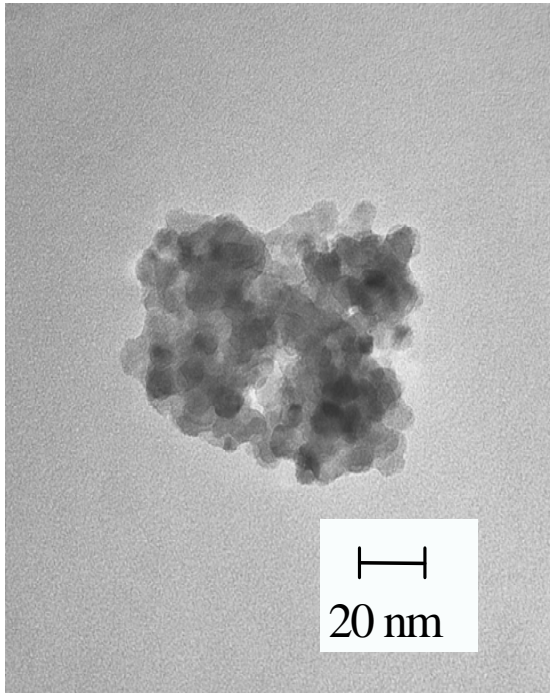
# Physical Characteristics of Anatase

Sample	Crystalline Phases Detected by XRD	Specific Surface Area, (m <sup>2</sup> /g)	Mean Particle Size (nm)	Amorphous TiO <sub>2</sub> Detected by TG/DTA
Sigma	Anatase	10.8	145	none
Alfa Aesar	Anatase	11.2	139.5	none
TiNano	Anatase	39.8	39.2	none
P-25	Anatase (80%), rutile (20%)	46.9	33.3	none
RHT 47	Anatase	75.1	20.8	none
RHT 24	Anatase	108.5	14.4	--
RHT 45	Anatase	--	9.45	--
RHT 43	Anatase	--	7.72	--
RHT 69	Anatase	195.3	8.0	none
RHT 127	Anatase	193.4	8.08	none

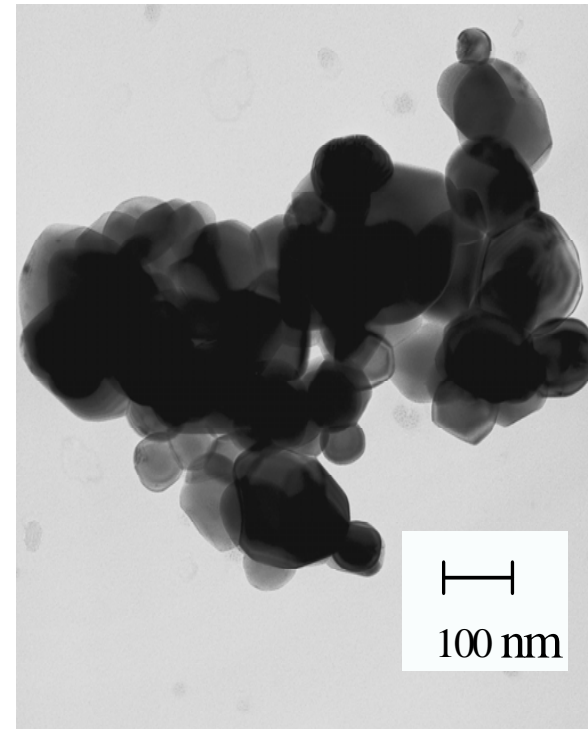


# TEM Images of Anatase

Nanoparticles (RHT-69)



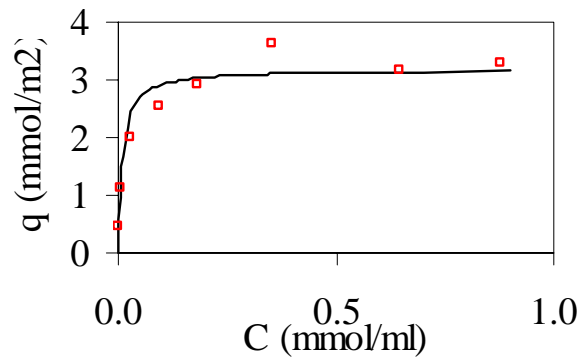
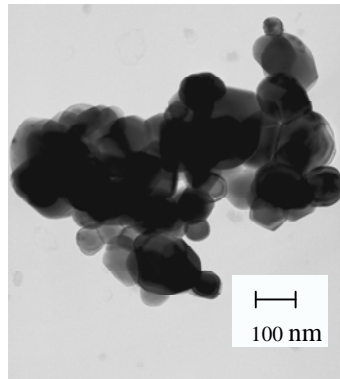
Large Crystals



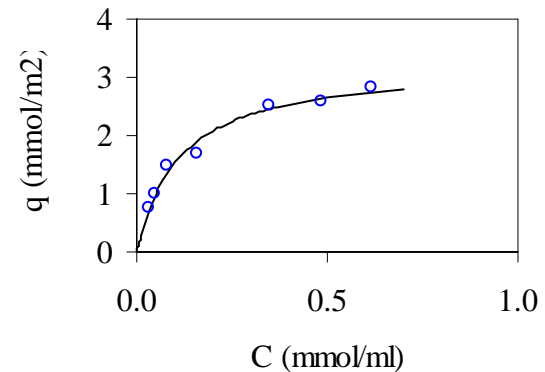
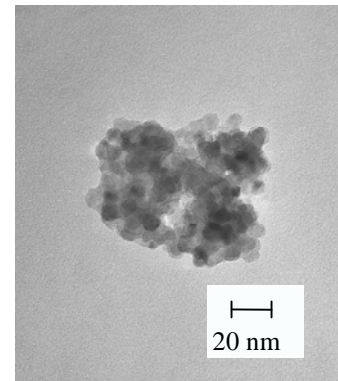


# Adsorption of Cadmium to Large and Nano-Anatase

## Large crystals



## Nanoparticles





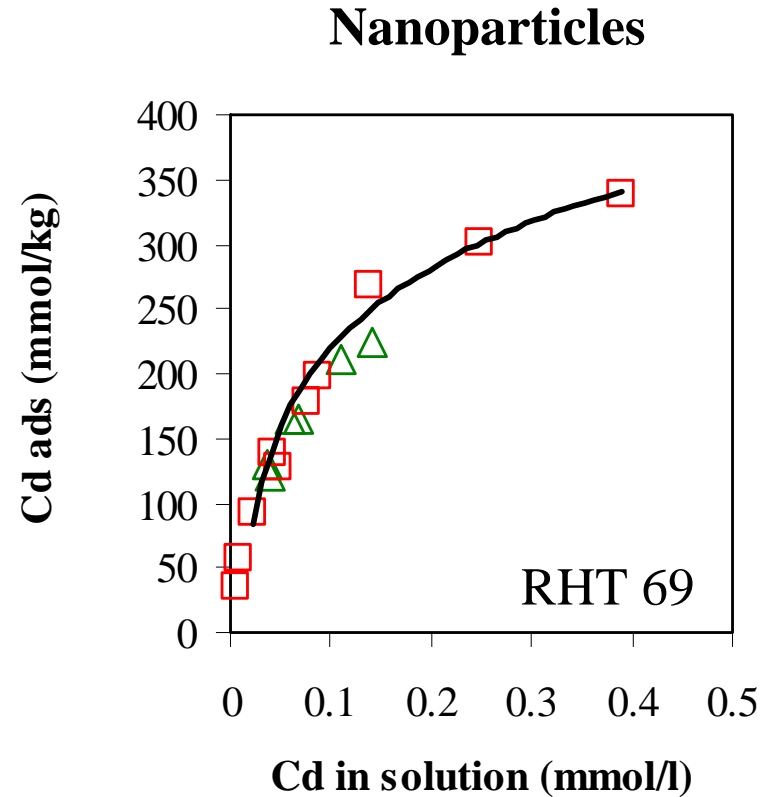
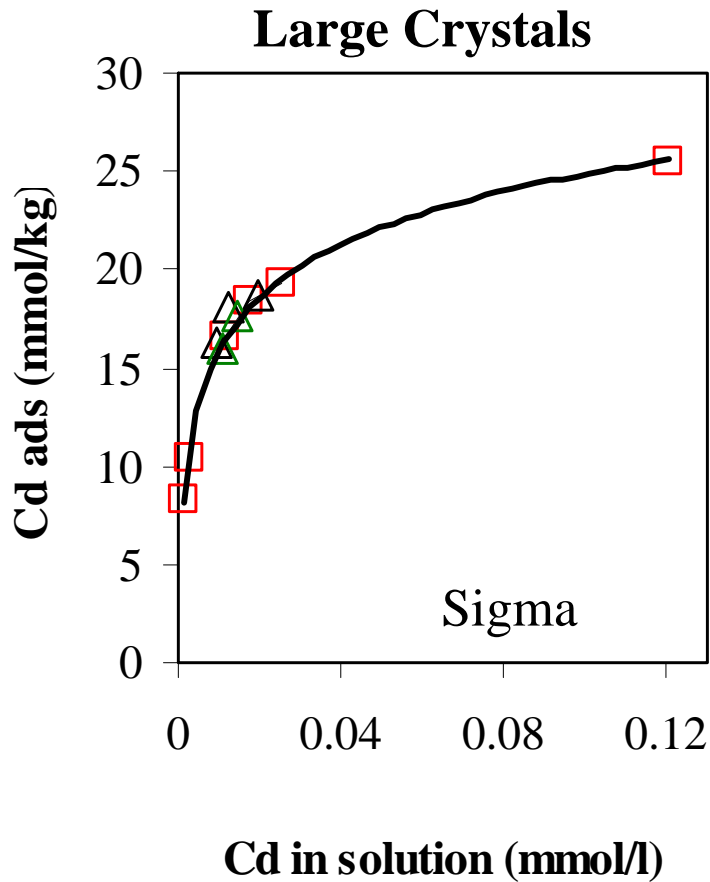
# Langmuir Adsorption Isotherm Parameters

Solid	$Q_{\max}$ ( $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2$ )	$b$ ( $\text{ml}/\mu\text{mol}$ )	$Q_{\max} \cdot b$ ( $\text{ml}/\text{m}^2$ )	$\sigma_Q^c$ ( $\text{ml}/\text{m}^2$ )	$\sigma_b^c$ ( $\text{ml}/\mu\text{mol}$ )	$R^c$
Sigma and Alfa Aesar <sup>a</sup>	3.19	108.7	346.75	0.12	29.2	0.978
P-25 and TiNano <sup>b</sup>	3.50	3.70	12.94	0.10	0.40	0.985
RHT-47	3.25	8.94	29.02	0.15	1.33	0.991
RHT 69	2.55	7.71	19.7	0.12	1.06	0.991





# Adsorption/Desorption Reversibility





# Electrochemical Properties

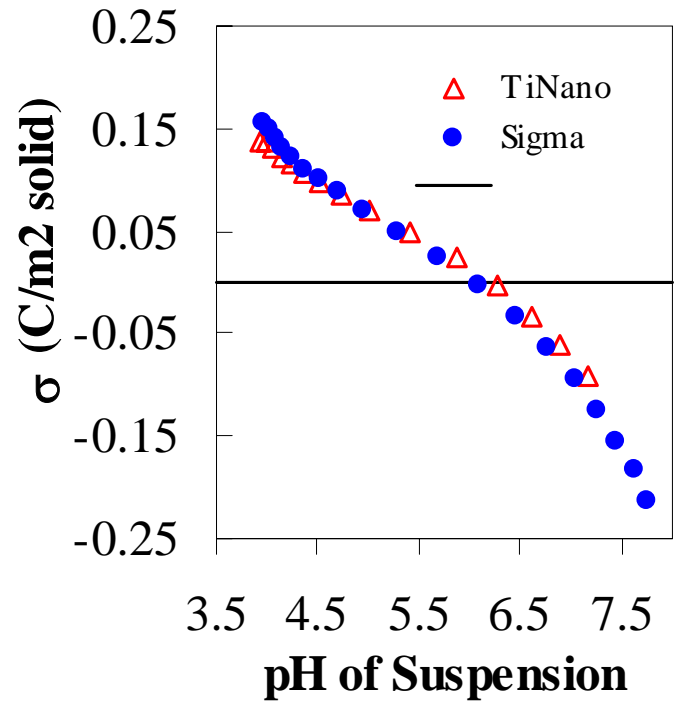
<b>g of solid added</b>	<b>Initial pH</b>	<b>Final pH</b>	$\frac{\Delta\text{pH}}{\text{m}^2}$
0.8g Sigma Anatase	7.50	6.59	0.105
0.2g Tinano 40	7.51	6.61	0.113
2.0g Sigma Anatase	7.30	6.37	0.043
0.5g Tinano 40	7.32	6.33	0.050
<hr/>			
0.8g Sigma Anatase	6.03	5.99	0.002
0.2g Tinano 40	6.02	5.92	0.007
2.0g Sigma Anatase	6.01	5.97	0.005
0.5g Tinano 40	6.00	5.86	0.012

Reported pzc: 5.8 - 6.1 pH

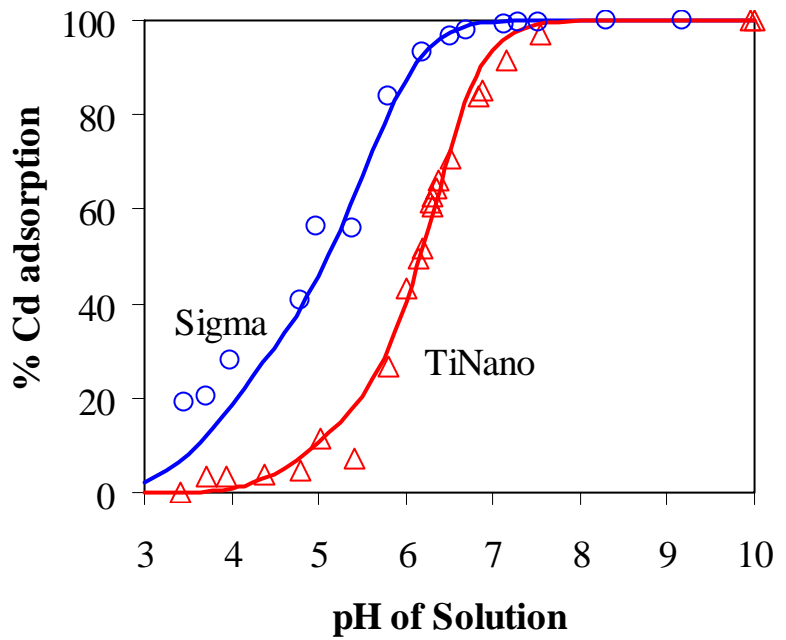


# Surface Charges and pH Adsorption Edge

Potential Titration  
TiO<sub>2</sub> suspension



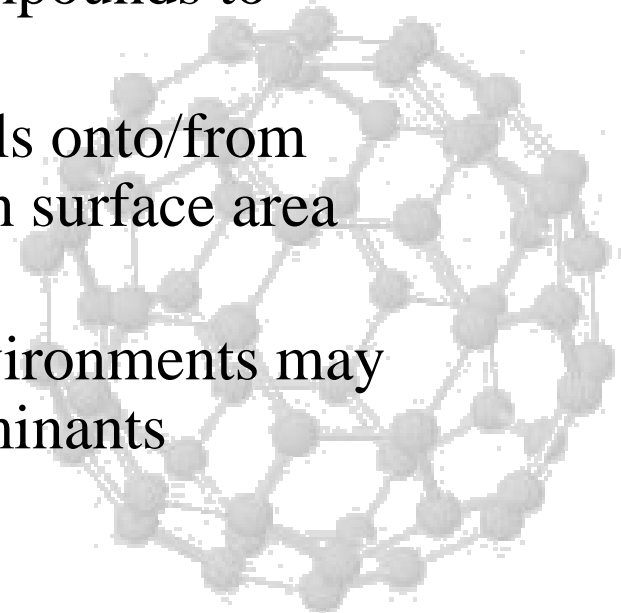
Cd adsorption vs. pH





# Summary

- States of aggregation of nanoparticles may change in various aqueous environment
- Adsorption of contaminants to the surfaces of nanoparticles is very strong
- Adsorption/desorption of organic compounds to nanoparticles might be hysteretic
- Adsorption/desorption of heavy metals onto/from nanoparticles are predictable based on surface area normalized sorption isotherm
- Nanomaterials in natural aqueous environments may affect the fate and transport of contaminants substantially





# Future

- Responsible Use
- Remediation