

# Characterizing Dispersant/Dispersed Oil Effects

Ronald S. Tjeerdema  
Department of Environmental Toxicology  
University of California, Davis

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### Topics

- The Responder's Toolbox
- Bioassays – WAF vs CEWAF
- Metabolomics – WAF vs CEWAF
- Chemistry and Bioavailability
- Conclusions

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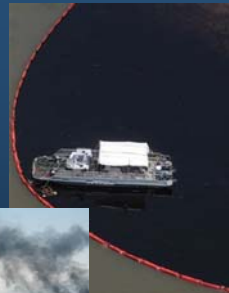


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## I. The Responder's Toolbox

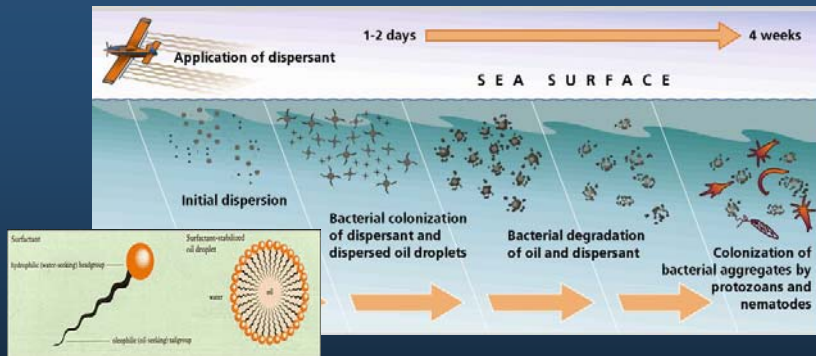


- Collection
- Burning
- Bioremediation
- *Dispersants*



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## Dispersants Enhance Weathering



- Dispersants are similar to domestic detergents
- They break up oil and remove it from the surface
- Droplets may be more readily digested by bacteria

## Resources and Impacts

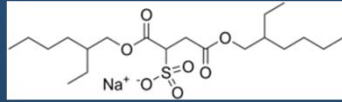
- Dispersants may reduce slicks and shoreline impacts
- Tool selection may depend on resources at risk and in most in need of protection



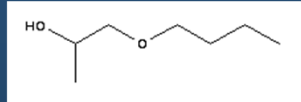
or



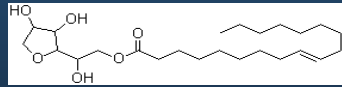
## What Makes a Dispersant? Corexit 9500



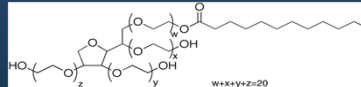
Dioctyl Sodium Sulfosuccinate



Propylene Glycol Butyl Ether



Sorbitan Monooleate



Ethoxylated Sorbitan Monooleate

Petroleum Distillates?

- In water and soils, DOSS degrades by 90% within 12-17 days
- DWH – present at depth in ppb range months after the event

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## II. Bioassays – WAF vs CEWAF



Photograph by James Swaidler

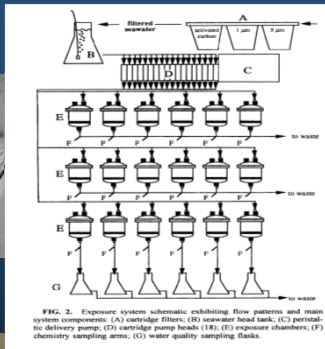


FIG. 2. Exposure system schematic exhibiting flow patterns and main system components. (A) cartridge filters; (B) seawater head tank; (C) peristaltic delivery pump; (D) cartridge pump heads (18); (E) exposure chambers; (F) chemistry sampling arm; (G) water quality sampling flask.



Singer et al., *Ecotoxicol. Environ. Saf.* 35:183 (1996)

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## Corexit 9527 – Constant versus Spiked

Table 1. Results of flow-through toxicity tests using Corexit 9527<sup>a</sup> on early life stages of four marine species

Species	Test	NOEC (ppm)	LC50 (ppm)	95% C.I. LC50	Slope	95% C.I. slope
<i>Haliotis</i>	1	1.19	1.96 <sup>a</sup>	1.89-2.02	7.38	6.35-8.40
	2	1.50	2.20 <sup>a</sup>	2.04-2.36	2.63	2.32-2.94
	3	0.63	1.60 <sup>a</sup>	1.30-1.69	3.98	3.52-4.43
<i>Holmesimysis</i>	1	4.20	7.06	5.97-8.77	4.34	1.99-6.69
	2	4.14	7.26	6.13-8.93	5.51	2.47-8.54
	3	1.66	4.26	3.28-5.37	3.62	1.21-6.02
<i>Atherinops</i>	1	12.3	25.5	19.8-47.7	4.78	-0.52-10.1
	2	14.2	27.9	22.5-34.8	6.14	2.09-10.2
	3	13.9	40.6	32.3-51.0	5.53	2.20-8.86
<i>Macrocyctis</i>	1	<2.35	NC	NC	NC	NC
	2	1.32	NC	NC	NC	NC
	3	2.07	NC	NC	NC	NC

<sup>a</sup>LC50 and slope values derived from probit analysis

NC = not calculated; data inappropriate for calculation.

<sup>a</sup>Sublethal EC50 values.

<sup>b</sup>Signifies that lowest test concentration was significantly different from control.

Singer *et al.*, *Environ. Toxicol. Chem.* 9:1387 (1990)

- Dispersants alone under spiked conditions generally toxic in the range of 20-150 ppm
- Spiked-exposure usually less toxic

Table 2. Results of spiked-exposure toxicity tests using Corexit 9527 on early life stages of four marine species

Species	Test	NOEC (ppm)	MEC (ppm)	95% C.I. MEC
<i>Haliotis</i>	1	5.3	13.6	12.9-14.3
	2	8.4	18.1	16.8-19.5
	3	6.4	15.9	15.1-16.4
<i>Holmesimysis</i>	1	14.9	163.4	140.8-189.5
	2	20.5	136.4	109.5-169.8
	3	8.4	120.4	89.3-162.5
<i>Atherinops</i>	1	31.0	59.2	41.4-84.6
	2	50.3	86.2	68.6-108.3
	3	89.8	103.5	85.5-125.2
<i>Macrocyctis</i>	1	16.4	89.1	80.9-93.3
	2	<13.6	86.6	72.4-96.5
	3	12.2	102.0 <sup>a</sup>	NC

Median-effect concentrations (MEC) are LC50 for *Macrocyctis*, EC50 for *Haliotis*, and LC50 for *Holmesimysis* and *Atherinops*.

NC = not calculated.

<sup>a</sup>Extrapolated beyond actual data set by linear regression.

Singer *et al.*, *Environ. Toxicol. Chem.* 10:1367 (1991)



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## Corexit 9527: PBCO WAF versus CEWAF

Table 2. Results of spiked-exposure toxicity tests using Prudhoe Bay crude oil alone and combined with Corexit 9527 (O:D ratio = 10:1)<sup>a</sup>

Species/Endpoint	EC/LC50 (mg/L THC <sub>CT C30</sub> )					
	WAF			CEWAF		
	Test 1	Test 2	Test 3	Test 1	Test 2	Test 3
<i>Haliotis</i>	Larval abnormality					
	>34.0 <sup>b</sup>	>46.99	>33.58	19.09 (18.90, 19.28)	32.70 (32.11, 33.30)	17.81 (17.65, 17.96)
<i>Holmesimysis</i>	96-h mortality					
	>34.68	>25.45	>28.55	10.54 (9.08, 12.25)	10.75 (9.45, 12.22)	10.83 (NA) <sup>c</sup>
<i>Atherinops</i>	Initial narcosis					
	11.31 (9.14, 13.99)	11.58 (10.51, 12.77)	15.90 (14.71, 17.18)	11.07 (10.16, 12.05)	>38.33	48.03 (40.57, 56.85)
<i>Atherinops</i>	96-h mortality					
	16.34 (14.57, 18.55)	40.20 (38.68, 41.45)	35.73 (37.37, 46.85)	28.60 (17.49, 46.76)	74.73 (62.30, 89.60)	34.06 (30.24, 38.37)
<i>Atherinops</i>	Initial narcosis					
	26.63 (24.82, 27.59)	>48.22	31.76 (14.65, 46.59)	>101.82	>140.97	>62.22

<sup>a</sup>Data are median-effect concentration and 95% confidence limits

<sup>b</sup>EC/LC50 estimated to be above highest test concentration

<sup>c</sup>Confidence limits not reliably calculable

Singer *et al.*, *Archiv. Environ. Contam. Toxicol.* 34:177 (1998)

- In general, WAF was less toxic than CEWAF
- However, trend is reversed for narcosis
- Toxicity is species, life stage and endpoint specific



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## Corexit 9500

- Toxicity of Corexits 9527 and 9500 was similar for abalone, but not for mysids
- Toxicity also depends on specific formulation and exposure conditions
- *What about the chemistry used to measure endpoints?*

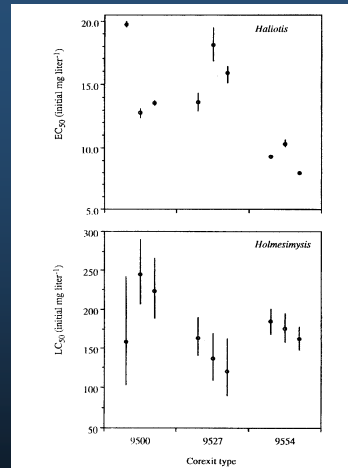


FIG. 5. Comparison of median-effect concentrations of triplicate *Haliotis* (top) and *Holmesimysis* (bottom) toxicity tests using Corexit 9500, 9527, and 9554. Data symbols represent  $EC_{50}$  with 95% confidence intervals.

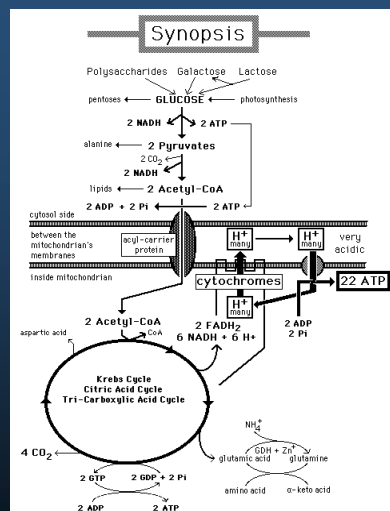
Singer et al., *Ecotoxicol. Environ. Saf.* 35:183 (1996)

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## III. Metabolomics – WAF vs CEWAF

- Assess actions of WAF vs CEWAF of PBCO in fishes under spiked- exposure conditions
- Apply  $^1\text{H-NMR}$ -based metabolomics to demonstrate *very sensitive* sublethal actions on metabolism and amino acid balance



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## CROSERF Methods



WAF Exposures



CEWAF Exposures

Singer *et al.*, *Mar. Pollut. Bull.* 40:1007 (2000)

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## Traditional Comparative Toxicity

- Total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH; C<sub>10</sub> – C<sub>36</sub>); GC-FID
- Volatiles (BTEX; C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>9</sub>); purge-and-trap GC-MS
- Total hydrocarbon content (THC; C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>36</sub>) – BTEX + TPH
- Spiked exposures confirmed via THC

Fish Species	WAF 96-h LC50	CEWAF 96-h LC50
Salmon Pre-Smolts	7.6 mg/L THC	48.6 mg/L THC
Salmon Smolts	7.5 mg/L THC	156 mg/L THC
Topsmelt Adults	> 3.4 mg/L THC	56.4 mg/L THC

Lin *et al.*, *Aquat. Toxicol.* 95:230 (2009)

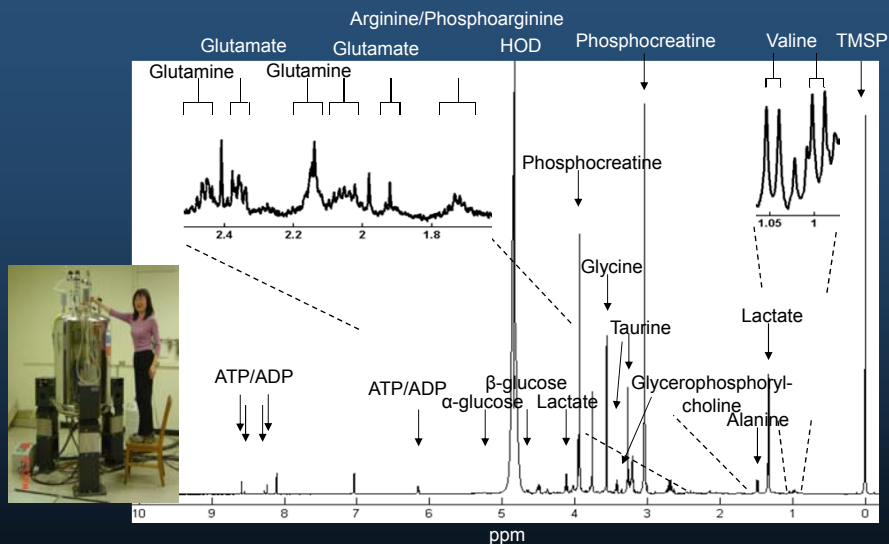
Van Scoy *et al.*, *Ecotoxicol. Environ. Saf.* 73:710 (2010)

Van Scoy *et al.*, *Ecotoxicol. Environ. Saf.* 78:99 (2012)

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## NMR Spectrum of Muscle Extract



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## Similar Changes in Profiles – *Topsmelt*

Metabolites	96 h		78 d	
	WAF	CEWAF	WAF	CEWAF
Valine	↑	↑	↓	↑
Lactate	↓	↓	↑	↑
Alanine	↑	↑	↓	↓
Arginine/Phosphoarginine	↑	↓	↓	↓
Glutamine	↑	↑	↓	↓
Succinate	↑	↑	↓	↓
Phosphocreatine	↓	↓	↑	↓
Taurine	↑	↑	↓	↓
Glycine	↑	↓	↑	↑
AMP	↓	↓	↓	↓
Histidine	↓	↓	↓	↓
ATP/ADP	↓	↓	↓	↓

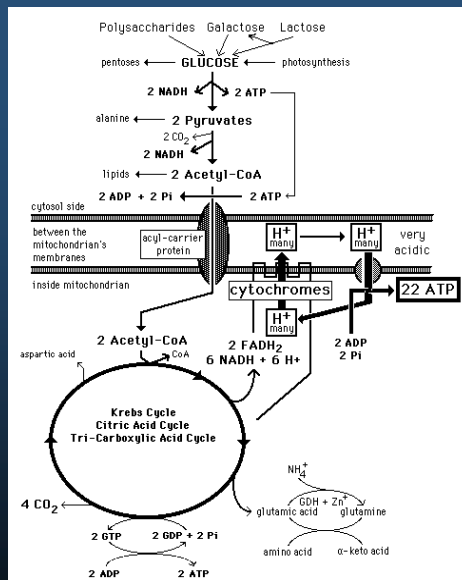
Van Scoy *et al.*, *Ecotoxicol. Environ. Saf.* 78:99 (2012)

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## Implications

- WAF and CEWAF *both* increased free amino acids
- Ala, Arg, Gln, Glu, Val may result from proteolysis – or may be diverted from intermediary metabolism for new protein synthesis
- Diversion may reduce ATP available for development



## Why are WAF and CEWAF Actions Similar?

- LC50s, based on THC (*dissolved + particulate*) were very different: WAF, 7.5 mg/L; CEWAF, 156 mg/L (salmon)
- However, toxicity may result from “bioavailable” (dissolved) fractions – not THC
- *Hypothesis* – *dissolved fractions produced in WAF and CEWAF are not significantly different*
- Tested with triolein-filled semi-permeable membrane devices (SPMDs)



## IV. Chemistry and Bioavailability

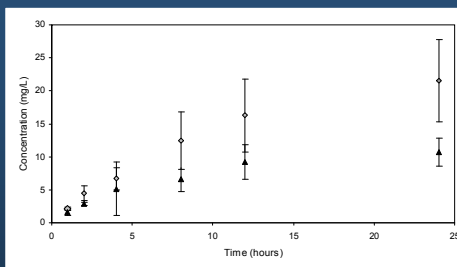
- CROSERF WAF and CEWAF
- Constant exposure – one SPMD removed at 1, 2, 4, 8, 12, 24 h
- Collect dissolved fraction via dialysis with hexane
- Analysis via GC-MS



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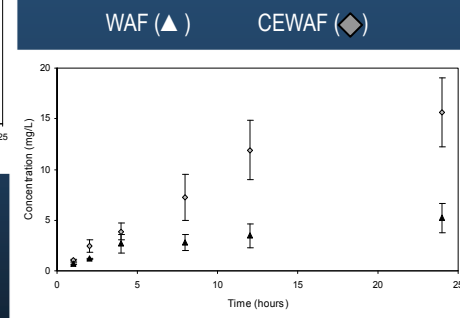
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## SPMD Results



Naphthalene WAF vs CEWAF

- Dissolved concentrations similar in first few hours (usual spiked period)



1-Methylnaphthalene WAF vs CEWAF

Van Scoy *et al.*, *Environ. Sci.: Processes Impacts* 15:2016 (2013)

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## Conclusions

- Dispersants are one of several tools
- WAF and CEWAF toxicity depends on species, life stage, exposure, endpoint *and chemical analysis*
- Corexit 9500 decreases oil lethality to fishes some 7 to 20-fold – *based on total hydrocarbons*
- Similar metabolic impacts are possibly due to similar bioavailable fractions – *dependent on analysis*
- *Thus, use care in comparing literature values*

