

Tuzzy Talk # 7:
Effects of Oil, Dispersants and
Dispersed Oil on Organisms
Part 1:
Introduction to Toxicology (Continued)

November 1, 2014

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University of New Hampshire

Center for Spills in the Environment

Mistake Correction!!!!

From

Tuzzy Talk #6

October 4, 2014

PLANT CELL WALL

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Powerpoint on Plant Cell Walls

University of Georgia

Debra Mohnen
Professor of Biochemistry and
Molecular Biology

<http://www.crc.uga.edu/~dmohnen/bcmb8020/PlantWall-06-2Page.pdf>

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Tuzzy Talks

- **Tuzzy Talks Series 1: (March 2013)**
 - What Is Crude Oil? and
 - What Happens When It Gets in Water?
- **Tuzzy Talks Series 2: (Feb – April 2014)**
 - Biodegradation of Crude Oil
 - Dispersants and Dispersed Oil (DDO)
 - Natural Dispersion
 - Chemically Enhanced Dispersion
- **Tuzzy Talks Series 3 (Oct – Feb 2015)**
 - **Effects of Oil, Dispersants and Dispersed Oil on Organisms**

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Overview of Toxicology

What is toxicity?
 What does toxicity mean?
 How is toxicity measured?

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Toxicology

- Study of harmful effects
 - Caused by natural or synthetic pollutants
 - Ecotoxicology if effects are to members of ecosystem
 - Plants
 - Animals (including humans)
 - Microbes
- Individuals → Populations → Communities → Ecosystems → Ecoregions → Biosphere
- Within Individuals
 - Biomolecules → Cells → Tissues → Organs → Organ Systems

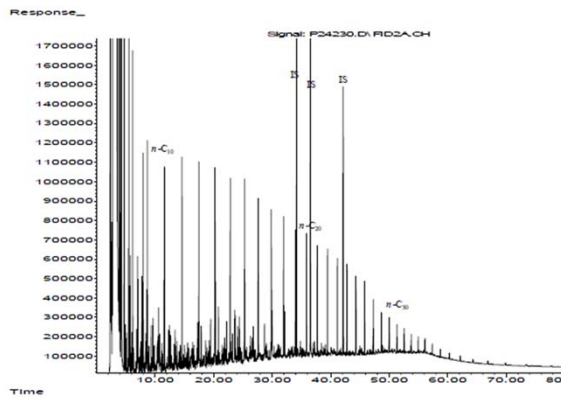
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Ecotoxicology Field is Rapidly Changing!

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Crude Oil Composition

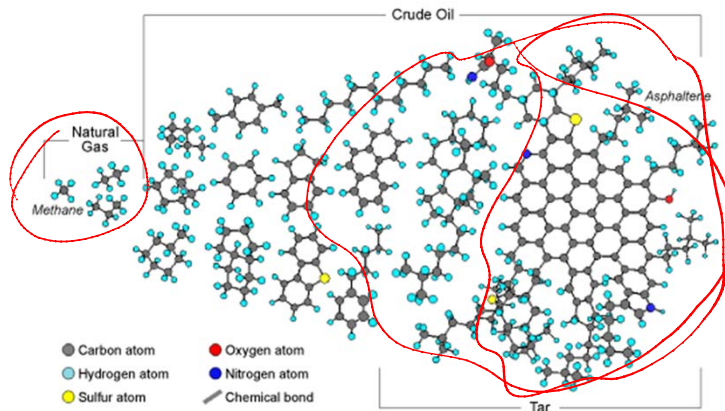
Figure 3. GC/FID chromatogram of North Slope crude oil.



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Crude Oil Composition

Examples of Some Organic Compounds in Petroleum



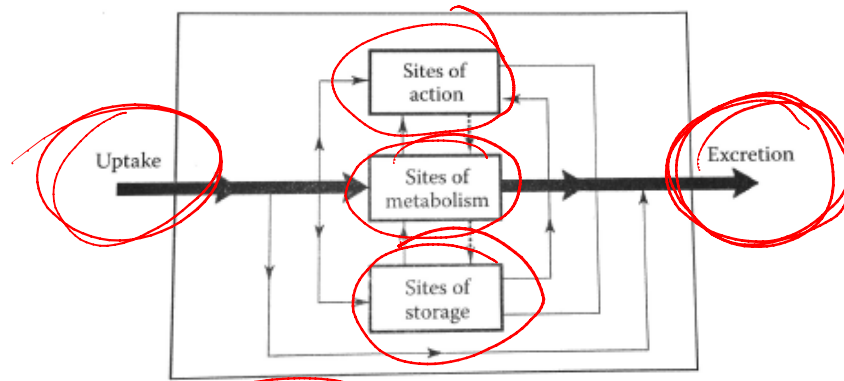
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Hydrocarbons from Oil

- Most not very soluble in water
- Most very soluble in fats (lipids)

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Model of Fate of Hydrocarbons in Organisms

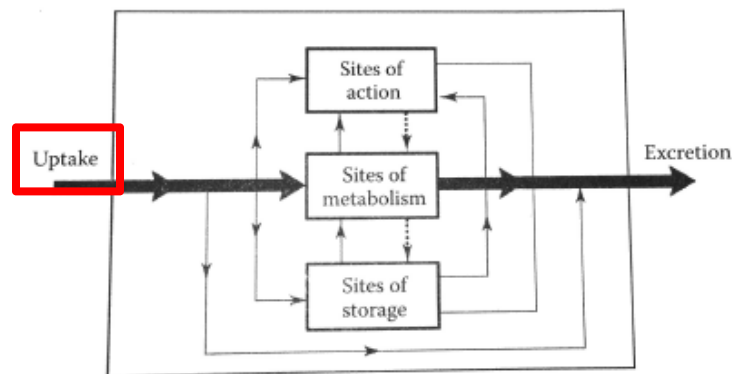


***Lipophilic = "loves" lipids**
Soluble in lipids (oil compounds)
Hydrocarbons are lipophilic

Principles of Ecotoxicology
C.H. Walker et al. (2012)

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Model of Fate of Hydrocarbons in Organisms



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Uptake of Hydrocarbons

- Gross level of exposure uptake
 - How into organism's body
- Cellular level of uptake
 - How into cell
 - Across membranes

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Main Exposure/Uptake Routes of Hydrocarbons for Organisms (Into Body)

- Ingestion (digestive tract, gut)
- Skin → Absorption
- Inhalation → gills, lungs
- Contaminant interaction with surfaces of cells (skin, gut, gill, lung)

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Some Major Routes of Uptake into Body

- **Fish**
 - Gills - Dissolved or Suspended Contaminants in water
 - Digestive Tract - Food
- **Aquatic Mammals and Birds**
 - Digestive Tract - Food
- **Aquatic Amphibians**
 - Digestive Tract - Food
 - Skin – Dissolved or Suspended Contaminants in water

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Some Major Routes of Uptake into Body (Cont'd)

- **Aquatic Invertebrates**
 - Digestive Tract - Food
 - Respiratory Surface - Dissolved or Suspended Contaminants
- **Plants**
 - Leaves - Droplets or Particulates
- Vapors
 - Roots - Dissolved Contaminants in Soil Water

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Distribution in Organism After Uptake

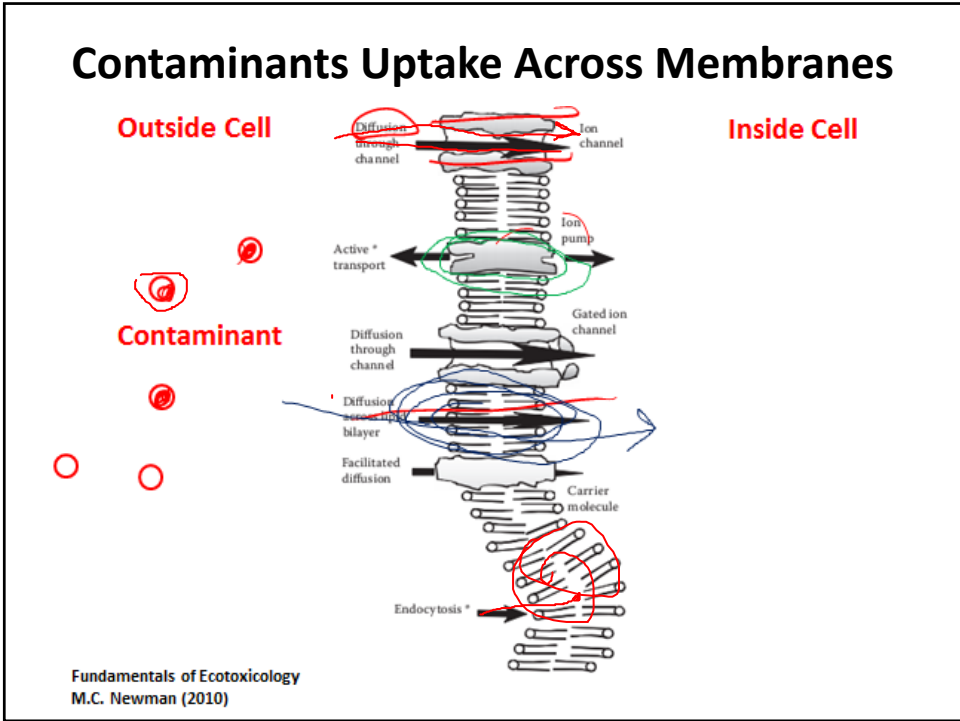
- Vertebrates via blood and lymph
- Invertebrates via hemolymph

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Major Routes of Uptake Cellular Level

- Move across membranes
- Through lipid bilayer
- Hydrocarbons soluble in lipid bilayer
- Cell contents mostly water
 - Hydrocarbons less soluble inside cell because of water

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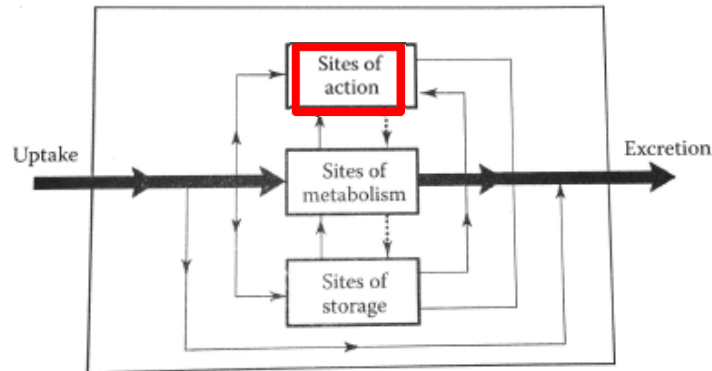
Movement of Hydrocarbons Across Membranes

- Large molecules can't move through
 - Must be degraded into small molecules first
- Temperature low means membrane less "fluid" so less movement across them

A hand-drawn red diagram shows a cross-section of a cell membrane. It consists of a phospholipid bilayer with a red circle on the left side, possibly representing a contaminant or a specific molecule. The drawing is simple and illustrative.

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Model of Fate of Hydrocarbons in Organisms



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 C.H. Walker et al. (2012)

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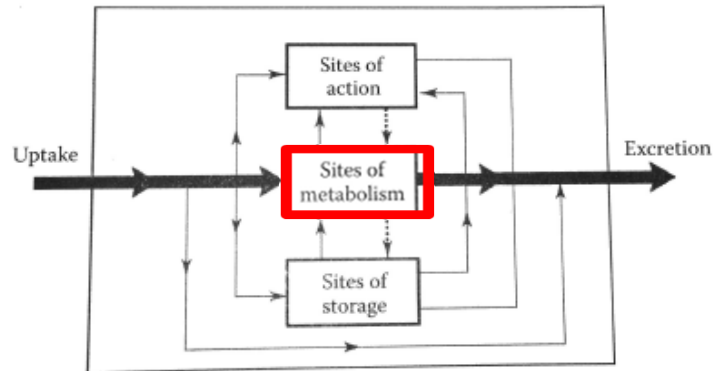
Contaminant Action

- Contaminant acts on organism
 - Contaminant interacts with cell's DNA or proteins
 - DNA is nuclear material (genes)
 - Contaminants interact with cell's structure
 - Membranes (lipid bilayer)

Enzyme

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Model of Fate of Hydrocarbons in Organisms



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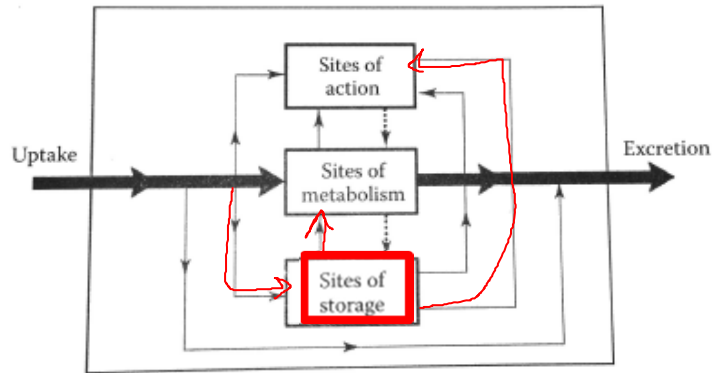
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Contaminant Metabolism

- **Organism acts on contaminant**
 - Detoxifies contaminant
 - Can make it more toxic
 - **Biotransformation of contaminant**

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Model of Fate of Hydrocarbons in Organisms



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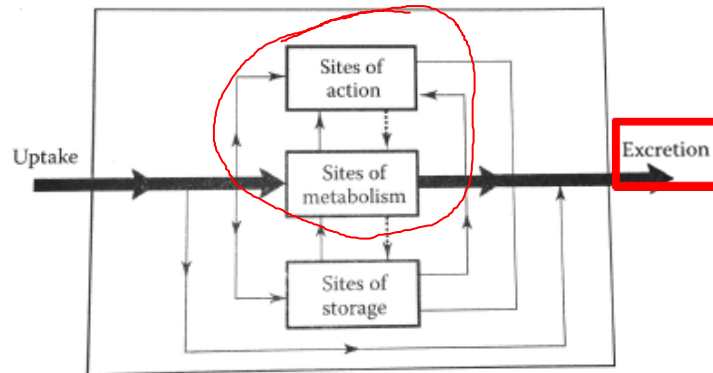
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Contaminant Storage

- Contaminant is not acting on organism
- Organism is not acting on contaminant
- Contaminant is in "non-active" state in organism (stored)

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Model of Fate of Hydrocarbons in Organisms



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 C.H. Walker et al. (2012)

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Contaminant Excretion

- Contaminant may be excreted unchanged
- More likely contaminant excreted after biotransformation

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Reality Check

- Usually not just one step
- May be multiple sites where things occur
- Complex!!!!

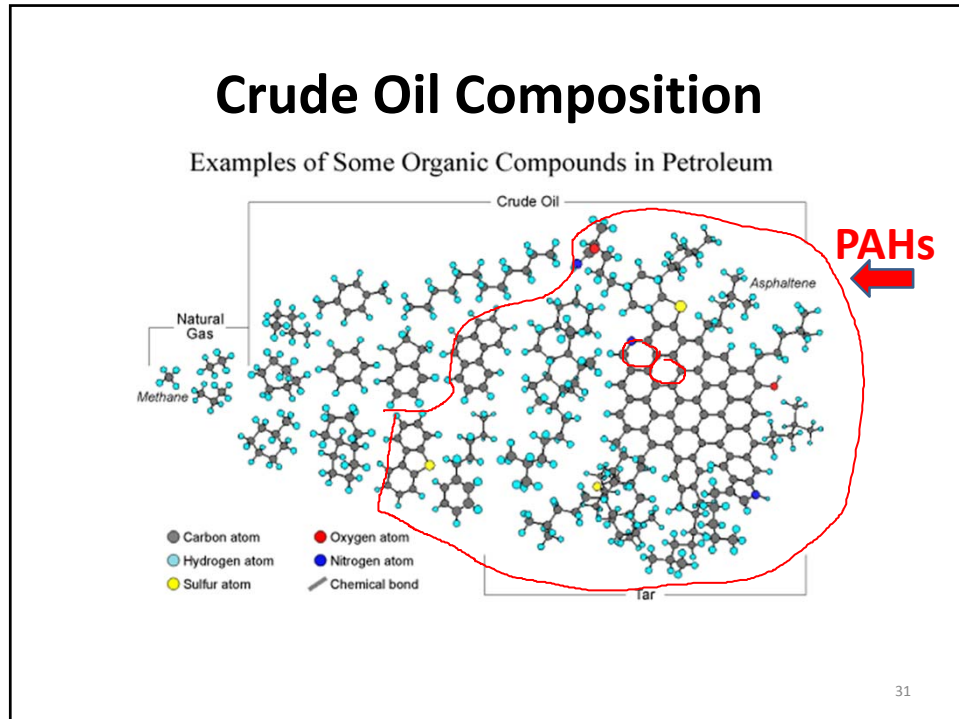
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Toxicology of Hydrocarbons

- Most common hydrocarbon structures studied for toxicity are PAHs
 - Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons
 - Multiple aromatic rings
 - 2 – 7
 - Low molecular weight PAHs
 - More toxic
 - Higher weight PAHs
 - More carcinogenic (cancer – causing)
- Remain after weathering of crude oil



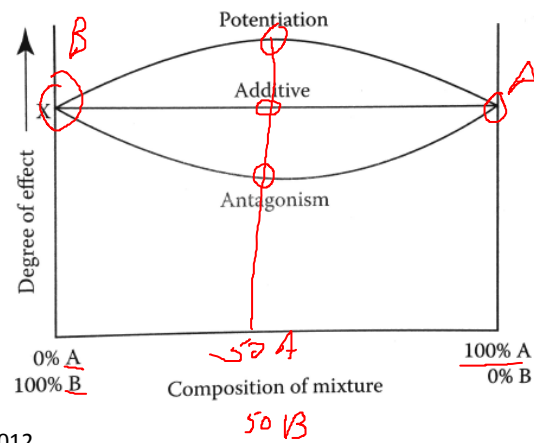
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Interactive Effects of Contaminants

- Toxicity of individual compounds
- Toxicity of mixture of compounds
 - Antagonism (mixing decreases toxicity)
 - Additive (have similar effect)
 - Potentiation (mixture exceeds effect of each)

Toxic Effects of Mixtures



Toxicity at Multiple Levels in Organisms

- Effects on DNA
 - Genotoxicity
- Effects on cell membrane
- Effects on organs
- Effects on whole organisms

Effects on DNA

- **Genotoxicity - Damage the DNA**
 - Mixed functions oxygenase enzymes (MFOs)
 - See Tuzzy Talk #6
- Genetic diseases in future generations

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Effects on Membranes

- Narcosis (caused by “narcotics” including hydrocarbons)
 - Theories of impacts to membranes
 - Contaminant alters physical and/or chemical properties of lipid bilayer
 - Less fluid, inhibits passage of substances in and out of cell
 - Contaminant interacts directly with protein associated with membrane
 - Contaminant alters interaction of lipid bilayer and protein inserted into it
 - Decrease function → hence narcosis
 - Disrupts energy generation across membranes

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Effects on Organs

- **Cardiovascular or respiratory effects**
 - Heart rate
 - Gas exchange rates

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Effects on Whole Organism

- **Nervous systems impacts**
- **Behavioral impacts**
 - Reaction to stimuli, swimming speed/stamina
 - Predation vulnerability
 - Impaired foraging
 - Reproductive effects
 - Reduced growth/efficiency
- **Disease causing change in tissues**
 - Skin ulcers, fin rot, etc.
 - Liver disease
 - Intestinal disease

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Effects on Whole Organism (Cont'd)

- **Immunological Effects**
 - Antibody production
 - Reduced phagocytosis of bacteria by white blood cells
 - Few studies on this
- **Development Effects**
 - Blue sac disease in larval fish
 - Pacific herring embryos + PAHs affect developing heart
 - Effect on heart rate and rhythm

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Effects on Whole Organism (Cont'd)

- **Reproductive Effects**
 - Low fertility
 - High embryo mortality
 - Hard to study because long term chronic effects difficult to monitor

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Toxicity Terms

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Lots of Toxicity Terms!!!

Key ones to follow are in next slides

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**Toxicity = Capacity to Cause Adverse Effects on
Living Organisms**

**Caused by exposure/dose of
contaminant**

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Lethal = Adverse Effect is Death

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**Effective = Adverse Effect
But Not Death**

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Exposure

- Amount of contaminant in organism's environment
 - Time (period)
 - Concentration of contaminant

- Units of exposure

- Concentration:

$$\text{Water} = \frac{\text{mass contaminant}}{\text{volume of water}}$$

$$\text{Sediment} = \frac{\text{mass contaminant}}{\text{mass sediment}}$$

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Measured vs. Nominal Exposure Concentration

- Measured concentration in environment through exposure period
- Nominal: measured only at beginning of exposure period
- Some hydrocarbons volatile
 - Exposure concentration decreases over time
 - So nominal concentration is deceiving
- Must be Measured Concentration to be valid test

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Measure of Exposure Lethal Concentration

LC₅₀
 Concentration of contaminant in environment which produces death in given % of exposed population of organisms in specified time

$$\text{Time LC}_{\%} = \frac{\text{mass contaminant}}{\text{volume of air or water}}$$

Example:

96hr LC₅₀ Phenanthrene for *Chironomus sancticaroli* (flying insect) is 1.60 [95% Confidence Interval, 1.51 to 1.66] mg/L

(Morais et al., 2014)

Dose

- Amount of contaminant that enters organism
- Units of dose

$$\frac{\text{mass contaminant}}{\text{mass of organism's body}}$$

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Lethal Dose

LD₅₀

Dose of **contaminant** which produces **death** in **given %** of population of organisms which it is **administered** by any of a variety of methods

$$LD_{\%} = \frac{\text{mass contaminant}}{\text{volume of body weight}} \text{ method of administration}$$

Example:

LD₅₀ Phenanthrene for Mouse (oral) = 700 mg/kg of body weight

Effective Concentration or Dose EC or ED

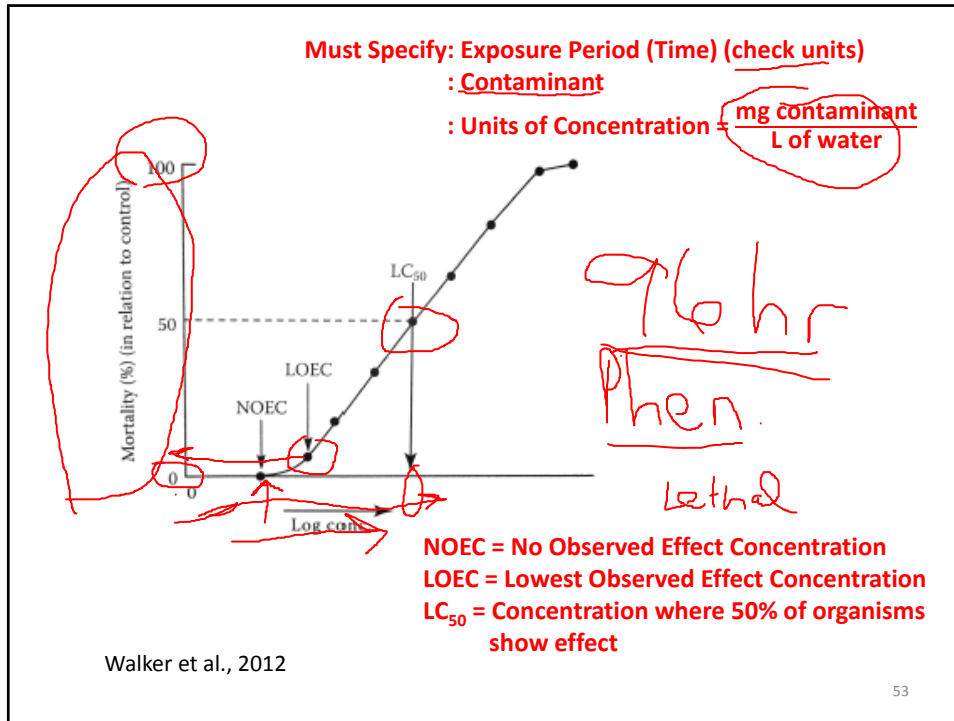
- If adverse **response is not death**, then EC or ED
- EC_% at 96hr = Concentration where given % of organisms show effect
 - 96hr EC₅₀
- ED_% method of dose = Dose where given % of organisms show effect when administered with specified method
 - Oral ED₅₀

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Other Reported Values

- No Observed Effect Concentration (NOEC)
- No Observed Effect Dose (NOED)
- Lowest Observed Effect Concentration (LOEC)
- Lowest Observed Effect Dose (LOED)

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Confusion with These Measures of Toxicity

- Lower value means more toxic
- Less needed to cause a toxic effect – more toxic the substance is
- **LD₅₀** of 25 mg/kg is more toxic than is one of 7,000 mg/kg

$$LD_{50} = \frac{25 \text{ mg}}{\text{Kg body}}$$

Phen
Mouse
oral

Acute vs. Chronic

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Acute Toxicity

- Death or Effect occurs with relatively short time of exposure
 - Less than 2 to 4 days

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Chronic Toxicity

- Death or Effect occurs over relatively long time of exposure
 - Typically greater than 10% of lifespan
 - If Lifespan = 10 yrs, then Chronic Toxicity occurs after at least 1 year exposure
- Acute = less than 2 to 4 days of exposure

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Toxicity Testing

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Toxicity Testing

- Usually done in laboratories
- Requirements:
 - Lots of test water
 - Non-polluting or non-absorbing materials for conducting tests
 - Adequate space for culturing organisms, testing and measuring
 - Source of healthy test organisms

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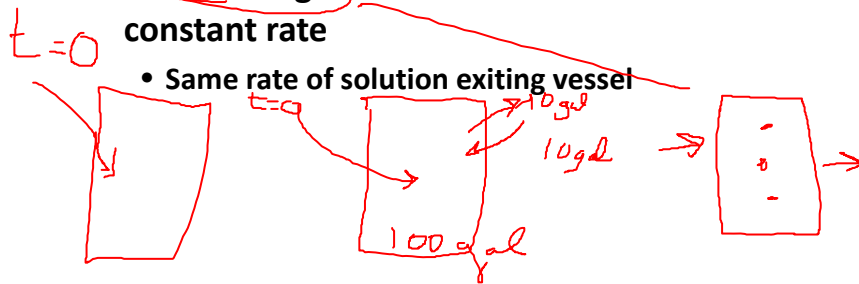
Types of Toxicity Tests

- Duration of Test
 - Short
 - Intermediate (effects on various life stages)
 - Long (chronic)

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Types of Toxicity Tests

- **Method of Adding Test Solution**
 - **Static:** No change of solution
 - **Renewal:** Periodically remove some solution and add fresh solution in its place
 - **Flow-through:** solution flows into vessel at constant rate



Types of Toxicity Tests

- **Single Components**
- **Mixture of Components**
- **Environmental Conditions (e.g. Temperature, light, pH)**
- **Size of Vessel**
 - Microcosm
 - Mesocosm
 - (Field studies)

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Quality Control for Toxicity Tests

- **Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)**
- **Blind testing: analyst does not know experimental condition**
- **Random design: eliminate bias from individual test chambers**
- **Change of custody of materials and documents**

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What Can Go Wrong in Toxicity Testing

- **Lack of test array randomization**
- **Testing not blind**
- **Controls not tested**
- **Test chambers not identical**
- **Control mortality exceeds acceptable limits**
- **Test organisms not randomly assigned to test chambers**
- **Test organisms not from the same population**
- **Test organisms not all the same species**
- **Test organism holding time exceeded**
- **Water quality parameters out of range**

STD Methods (2005)

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Most Common Toxicity Tests

- **Static Tests**
 - Organisms placed in chamber
 - No flow
 - Water not changed during test
 - Easy and inexpensive
 - **But**
 - Need initial and final concentration measured
 - Constant concentration?
 - Waste product build-up

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Less Common Toxicity Tests

- **Flow – Through Tests**
 - Continuous flow through of test water
 - Organism held in chamber
 - Eliminates issues of static tests
 - Cost, space, and waste high
 - Still must monitor that concentration in chamber is constant

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Measures of Toxicity

- **Toxicity is measured as clinical “endpoints” which include**
 - Mortality (death) =lethal
 - Teratogenicity (ability to cause birth defects)
 - Carcinogenicity (ability to cause cancer)
 - Mutagenicity (ability to cause inherited change in the DNA)
- **Other Measurable Effects**
 - Behavioral change
 - Disease
 - Physical or chemical change

Examples of Short Term Toxicity Test for Fish

Common Conditions to Maintain

- Light quality and intensity
- Period of light and dark
- pH of water
- Quality of water (e.g., metals, pesticides, chlorine)
- Contaminant concentration
 - Usually ≥ 5 concentrations
 - Control
- Dissolved oxygen adequate

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Variables for Short Term Acute Toxicity Tests for Fish

- Duration: 24, 48, 96 hr (typical)
- Flow conditions: static, renewal or flow through
- Temperature constant at ___ °C
- Volume of Chamber
- Age of test organisms *Exposure*
- Organisms per test chamber
- # Replicate chambers per concentration or dose
- Feeding of fish
- Cleaning of chambers
- Endpoint
- Test acceptability $\leq 10\%$ of controls show effect

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Parameters Monitored in Test Chambers

- Water quality
- # of organisms alive (if lethality testing)
- Concentration of contaminant present
 - Should be constant
 - Not only normal (initial) measured concentrations
 - Constant/adequate conditions (e.g., temperature, light, food)

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Cumulative Data Generated (# Dead Fish/Total # Fish)

Time (Hours)	Concentration 1 Chamber 1			Concentration 2 Chamber 2			...	Concentration 5 Chamber 3			Control* Chamber 3		
0	0/10	0/10	0/10								0/10	0/10	0/10
24	1/10	0/10	0/10										
48	2/10	2/10	1/10										
72	2/10	3/10	2/10										
96	2/10	4/10	3/10								0/10	0/10	0/10
Total % Mortality	20%	40%	30%	48%	51%	54%							

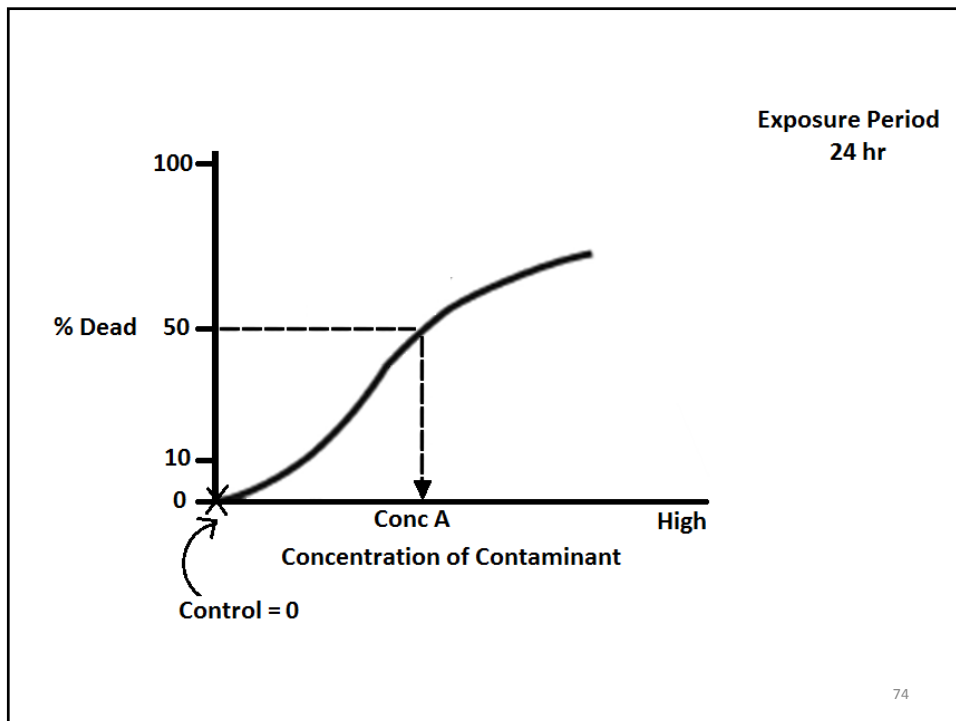
* Less than 10% mortality in controls

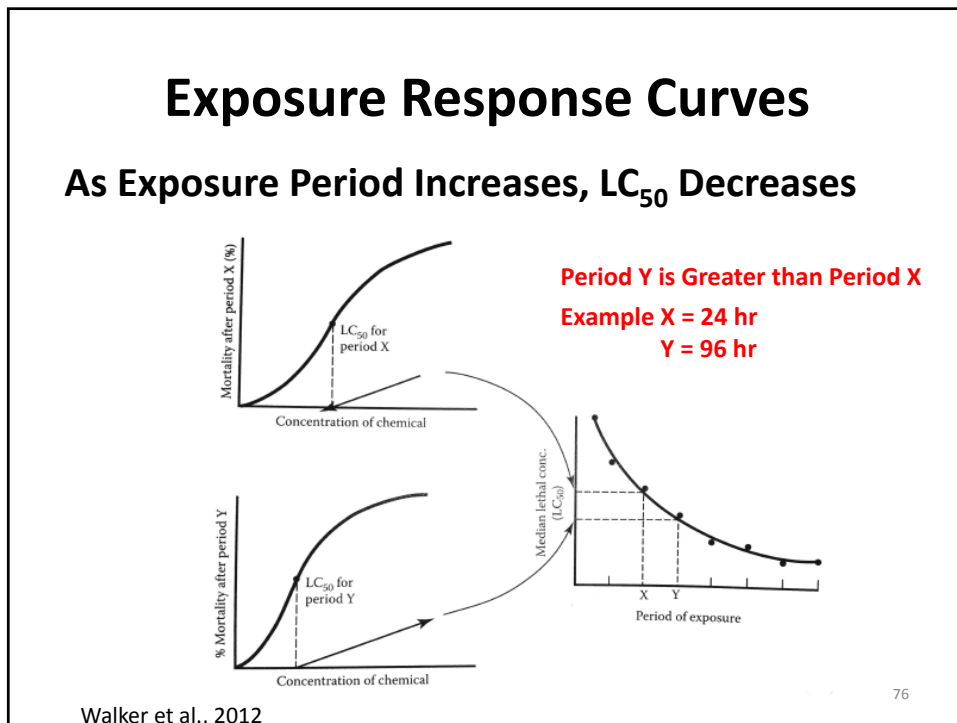
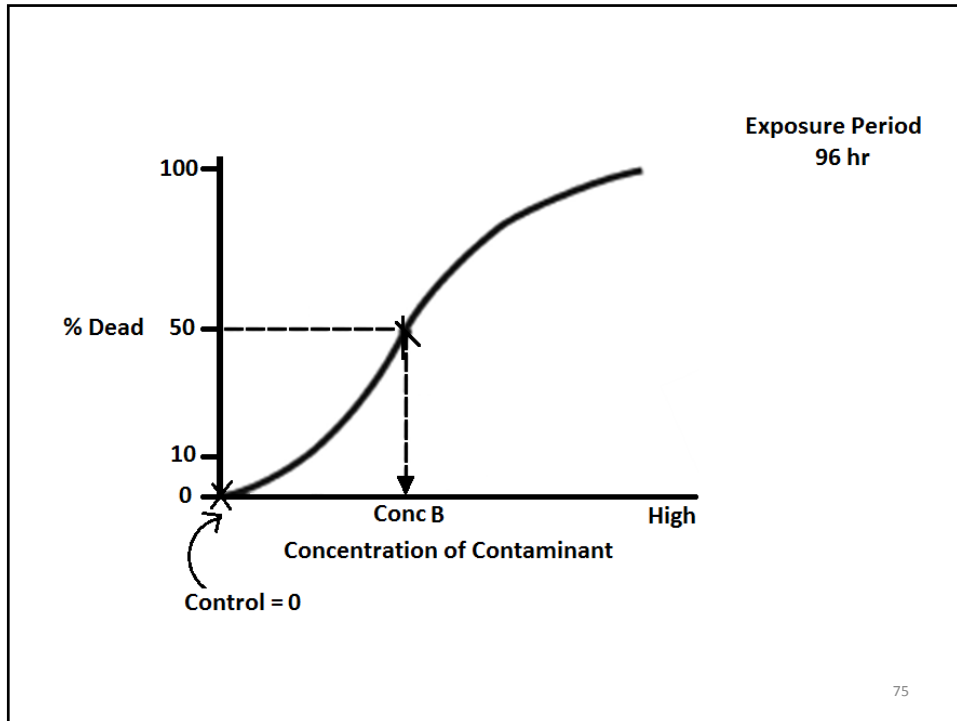
Only use data if concentrations 1, 2, ...5 maintained in desired range (**Measured Concentrations**)

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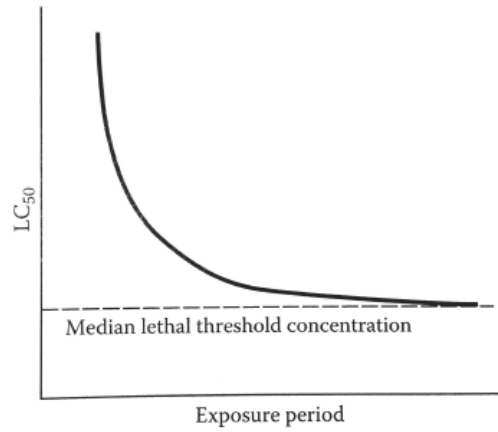
Exposure (Concentration) or Dose Response Curves

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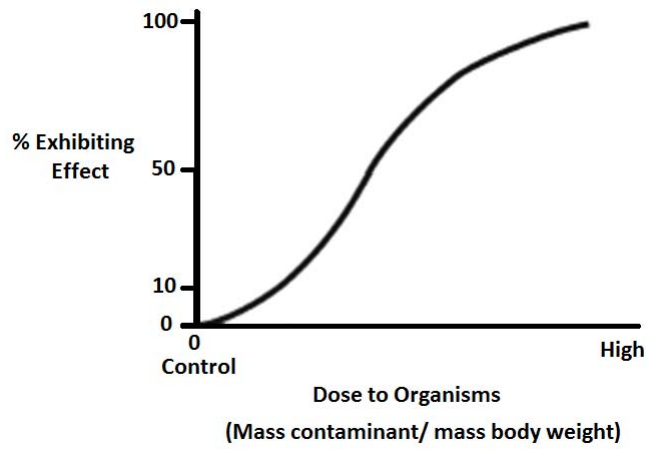
Mean Lethal Threshold LC₅₀



Walker et al., 2012

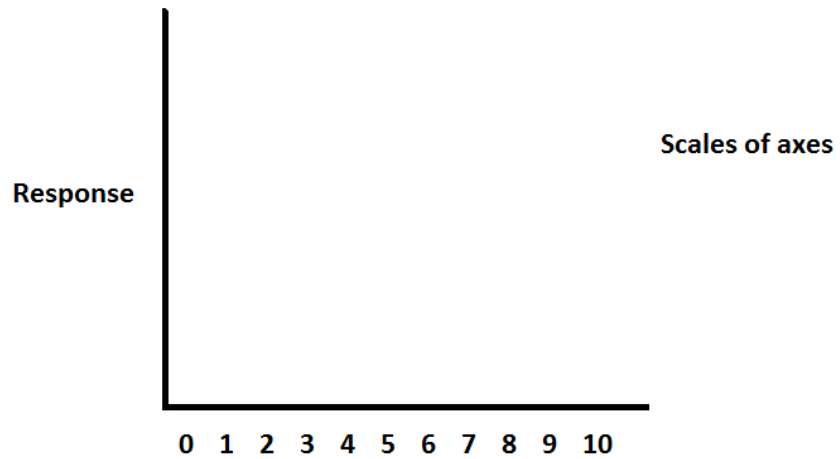
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Dose Response Curves



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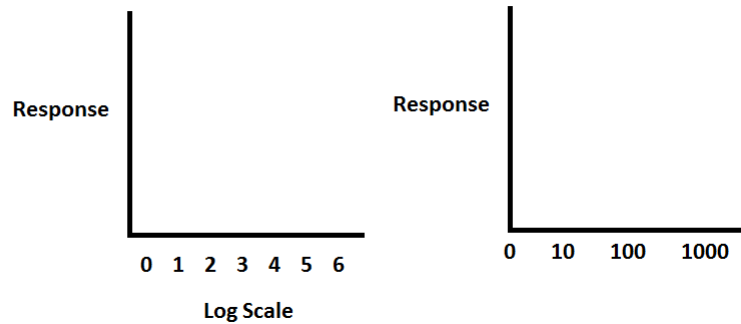
Things to Watch on Curves



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Logarithmic Scale

0 = 100
10 = 1
100 = 2
1000 = 3
10,000 = 4
1000,000 = 5
1,000,000 = 6



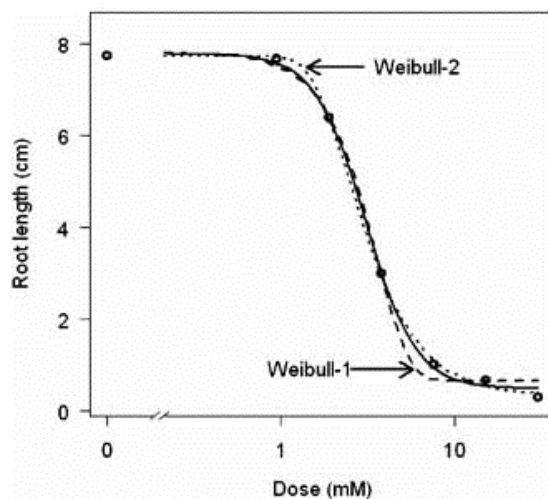
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Various Ways to Plot Response Curves

- Curve fitting methods
 - Probit, Logit etc
- Methods to estimate LC_{50}
 - Litchfield Wilcoxon, Spearman-Kärber
- Details not discussed in Tuzzy Talks

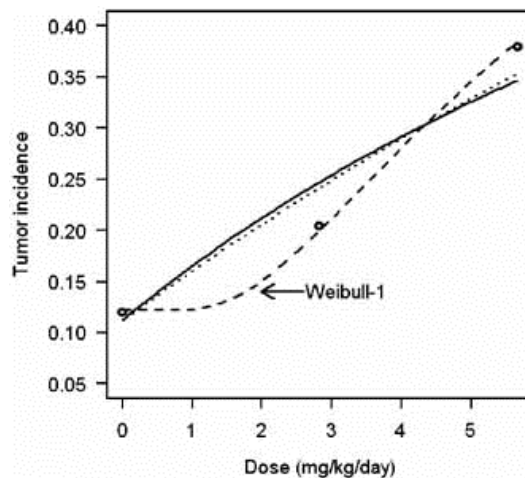
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Toward a unified approach to dose-response modeling in ecotoxicology



Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry
Volume 29, Issue 1, pages 220-229, 18 SEP 2009 DOI: 10.1002/etc.7
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/etc.7/full#fig2>

Toward a unified approach to dose–response modeling in ecotoxicology



Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry
 Volume 29, Issue 1, pages 220-229, 18 SEP 2009 DOI: 10.1002/etc.7
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/etc.7/full#fig3>

Mathematics for Response Models

Model	Model function/Equation	Special cases
log-logistic	$c + \frac{d-c}{1+\exp(b(\log(x)-\log(\epsilon)))} = c + \frac{d-c}{1+(\frac{x}{\epsilon})^b}$	Log-logit (logistic regression), Hill, Michaelis-Menten
log-normal	$c + (d-c)\Phi(b(\log(x)-\log(\epsilon)))$ (Φ is the cumulative distribution function of the standard normal distribution)	Log-probit
Weibull-1	$c + (d-c)\exp(-\exp(b(\log(x)-\log(\epsilon))))$	Exponential, log-log link
Weibull-2	$c + (d-c)(1 - \exp(-\exp(b(\log(x)-\log(\epsilon))))$	Complementary log-log link, first-order multistage, one-hit

The parameters c and d denote the horizontal asymptotes or limits, whereas the parameter b is the relative slope at the inflection point of the resulting dose–response curve. The parameter ϵ corresponds to the dose where the inflection point is located. The original, untransformed dose is denoted x throughout.

Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry
 Volume 29, Issue 1, pages 220-229, 18 SEP 2009 DOI: 10.1002/etc.7
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/etc.7/full#fig3>

**Thank You So Much
for Participating in
These Talks**

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Questions?

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