

# Optimization of Passive Sampling Applications Using Mass Transfer Modeling

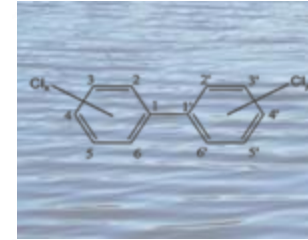
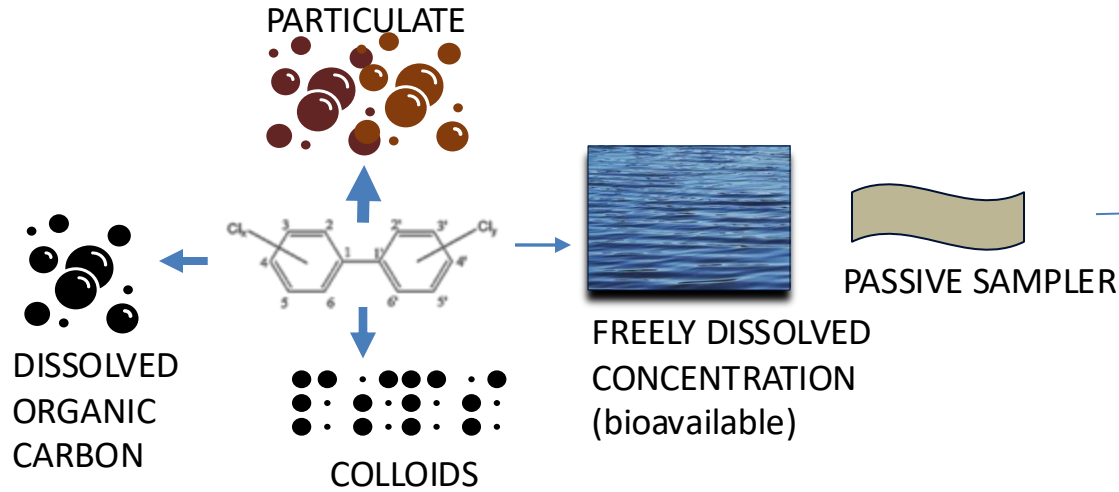
**Oindrila Ghosh**, Songjing Yan, Mandar Bokare, Upal Ghosh

Environmental Engineering  
University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC)



Chemical  
Biochemical and  
Environmental  
Engineering

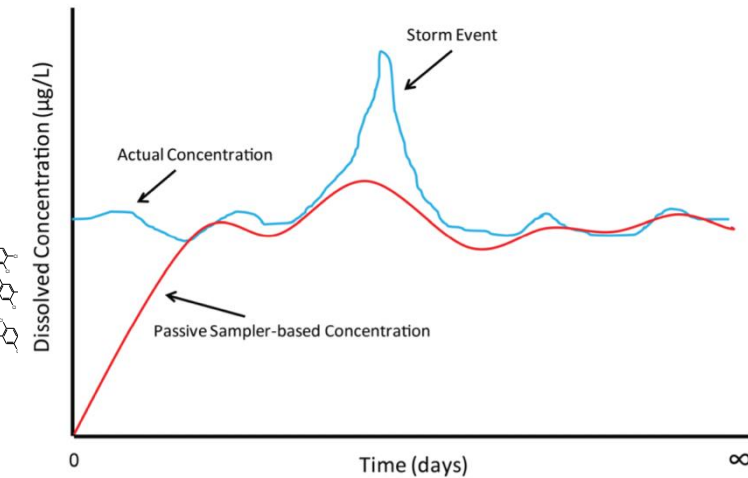
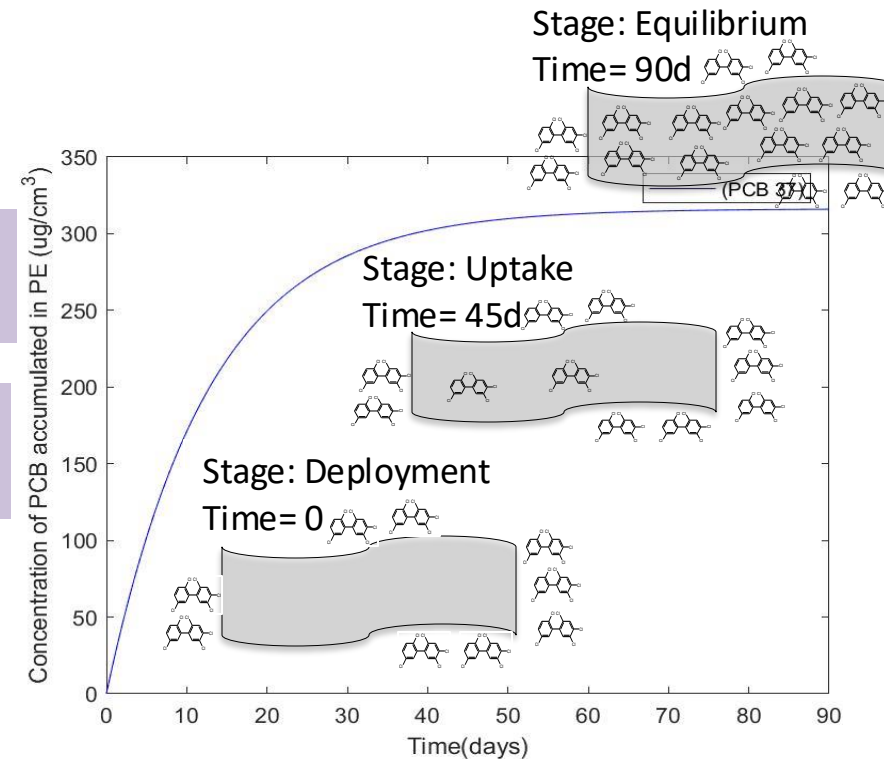




Freely dissolved conc. of contaminant in water column/ interstitial water ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ )  
[Ghosh et al., 2014]

Part 1: What does Time Integration mean for Passive Sampling?

Part 2: Can we capture the true water concentration of PCBs within a day?



Burgess, R. M. (2012).



How does the **Time-Period of Integration** vary in

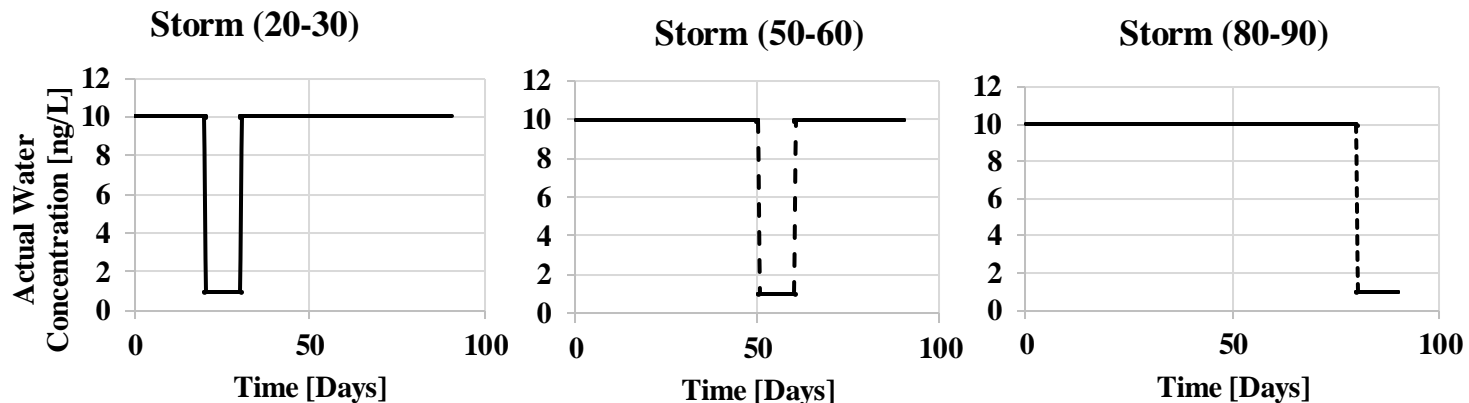
Passive Sampling:

- With **varying day** of introduction of perturbation in ambient water concentration
- With PCB congeners as a function of their varying **hydrophobicity**
- With varying **sampler thickness**

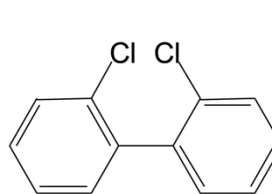
Consistency of predicted results across models in use.

Fick's Diffusion Model

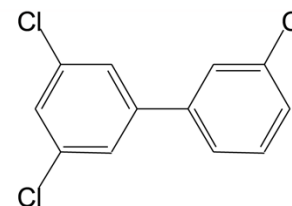
First Order Model



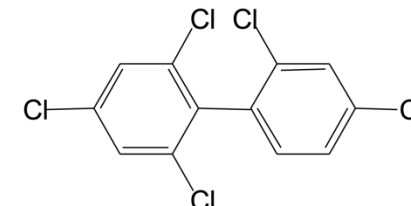
10-day long perturbation when  $C_w$  is diluted by 10 times



**PCB4**  
(Dichlorinated, *Ortho*-substituted)



**PCB36**  
(Trichlorinated, *Meta*-substituted)



**PCB100**  
(Pentachlorinated, *Ortho*-substituted)



1mil= 25μm



2mil= 50μm



3mil= 75μm

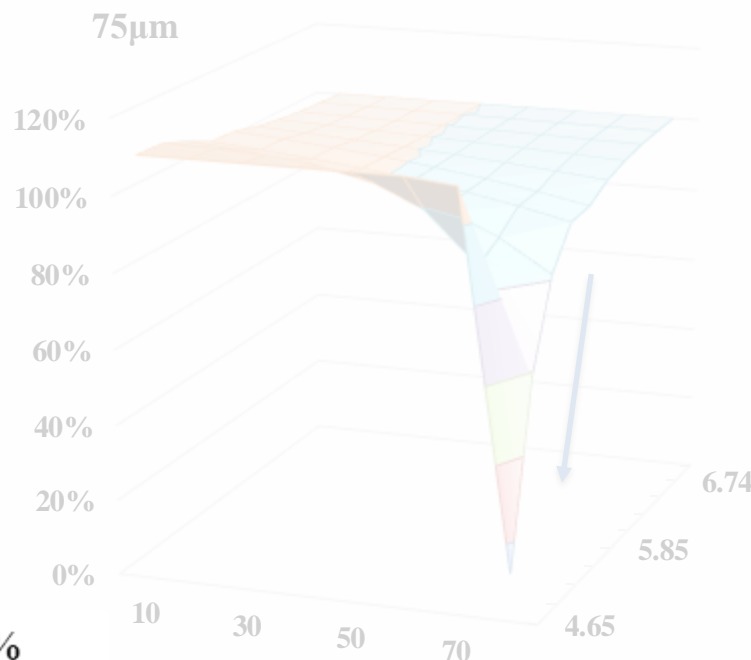
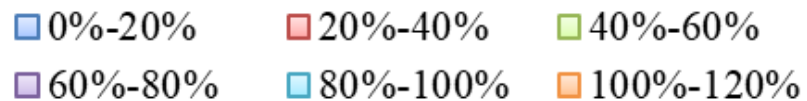
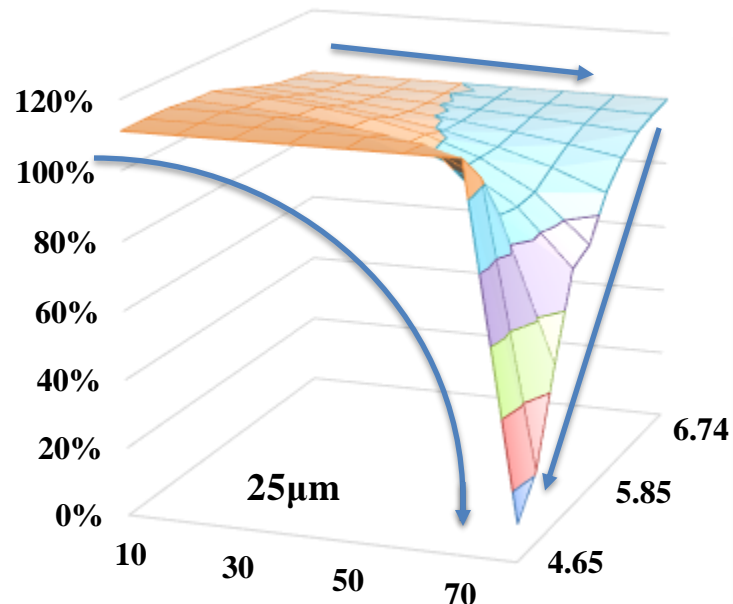


## Fick's Diffusion Model

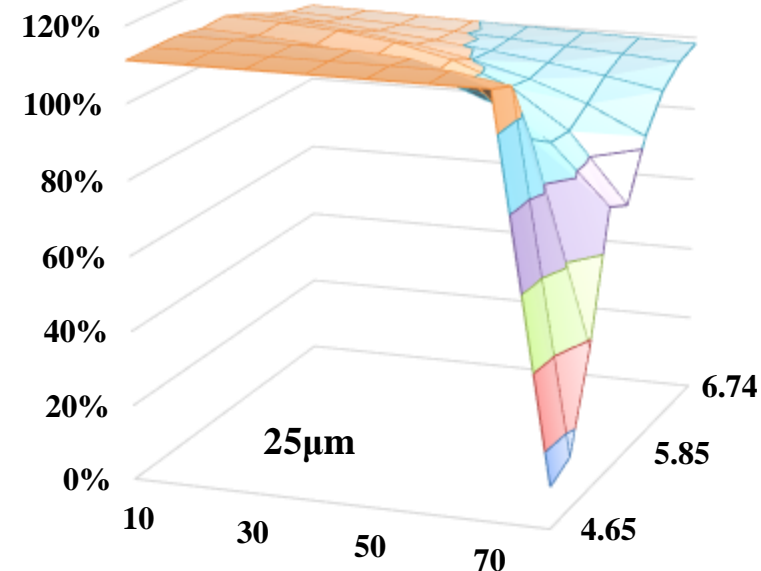
Y: % ratio of the PS based predicted water concentration : actual time-integrated concentration

X: starting day of the 10-day long perturbation the ambient fluid

Z: Log Kow of the PCB congeners



## First Order Model



**Governing Equation:** System of well mixed infinite water bath

$$\frac{\partial C_{PE}}{\partial t} = D_{PE} \frac{\partial^2 C_{PE}}{\partial x^2} \quad \text{when } -L < x < L \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{\partial C_W}{\partial t} = D_W \frac{\partial^2 C_W}{\partial x^2} \quad \text{when } -L > x > -(L+b) \text{ and } L < x < (L+b) \quad (2)$$

**Boundary Conditions:**

At the interface of the PE and water, the diffusive fluxes match so that mass is conserved

$$D_{PE} \frac{\partial C_{PE}}{\partial x} = D_W \frac{\partial C_W}{\partial x} \quad \text{when } x = L \text{ and } x = -L \quad (3)$$

local equilibrium distribution

$$C_{PE} = K_{PEW} C_W \quad \text{when } x = L \text{ and } x = -L \quad (4)$$

**Initial Conditions:**

CoinPE=100;% Initial conc. of PCB analyte in PE (ug/cm<sup>3</sup>)

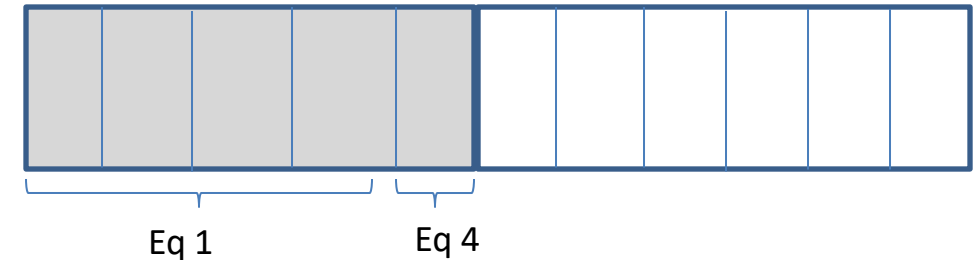
CoinW=0;% Initial conc. of PCB analyte in WATER (ug/cm<sup>3</sup>)

$$\text{fractional loss of PRC} = \frac{MinPE}{MinPE_{init}}$$

$$\text{fractional uptake of target analyte} = 1 - \frac{MinPE}{MinPE_{init}}$$

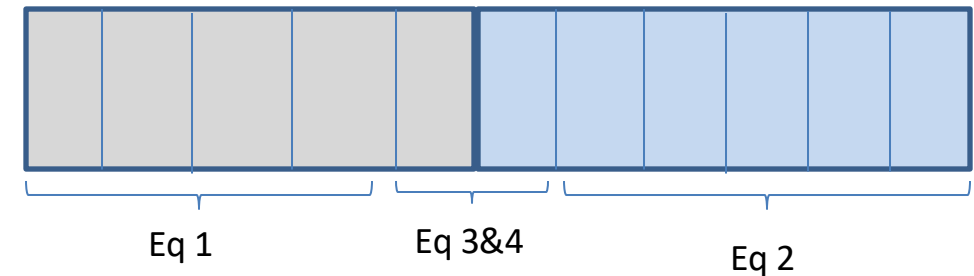
**Scenario 1: Fully-sorbent controlled kinetics**

WBL=0

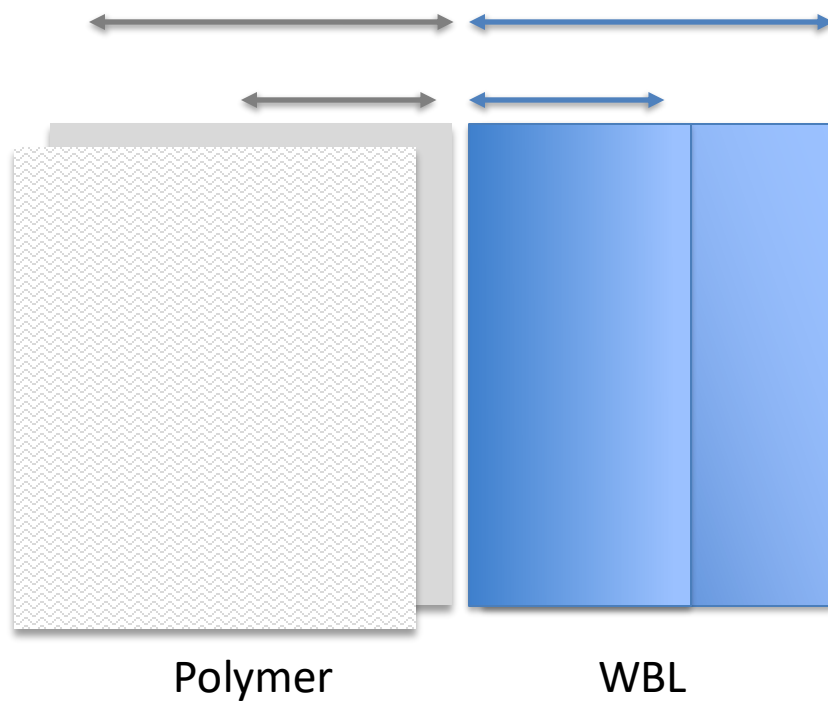


**Scenario 2: Partial sorbent-WBL controlled kinetics**

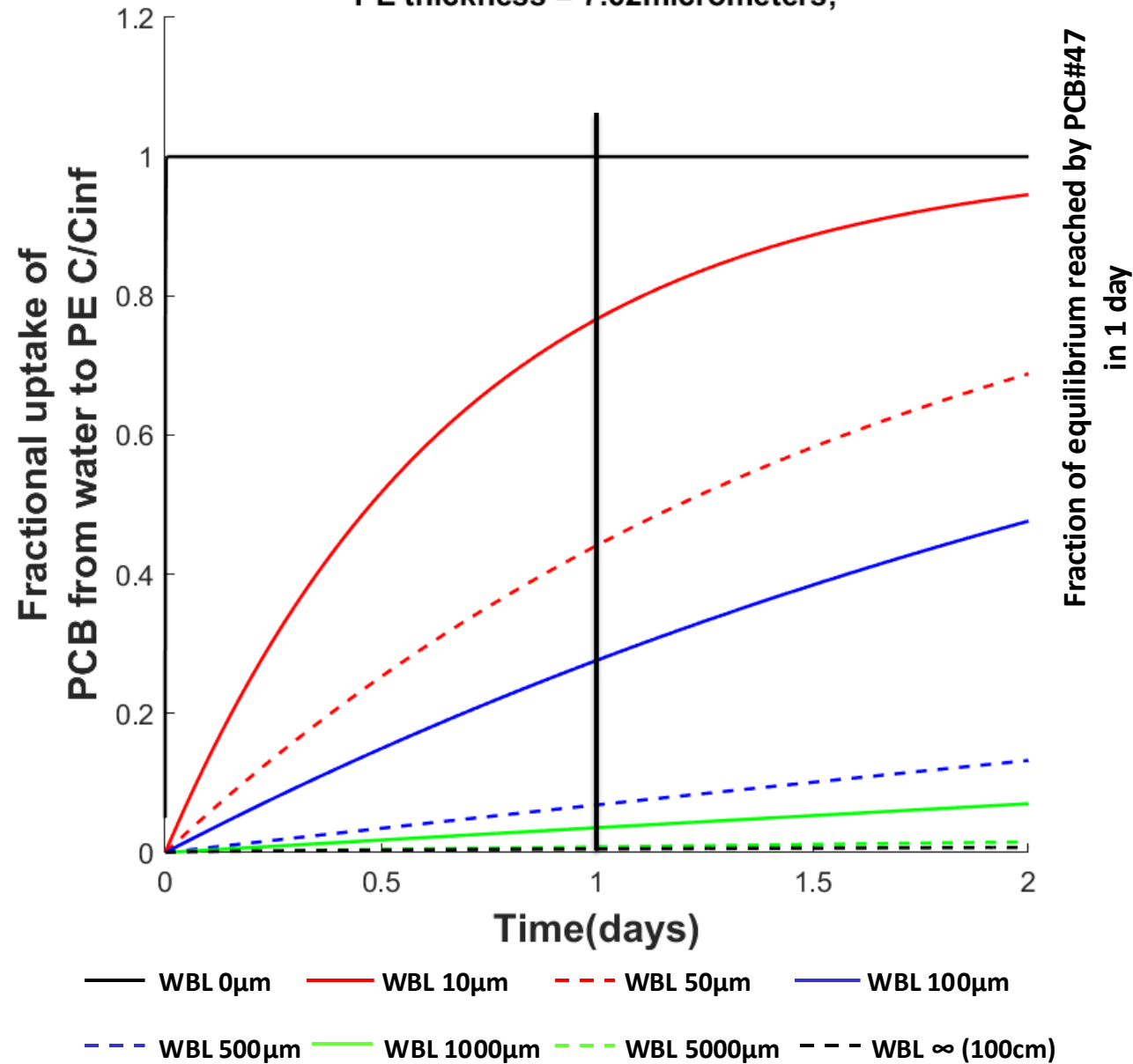
WBL≠0



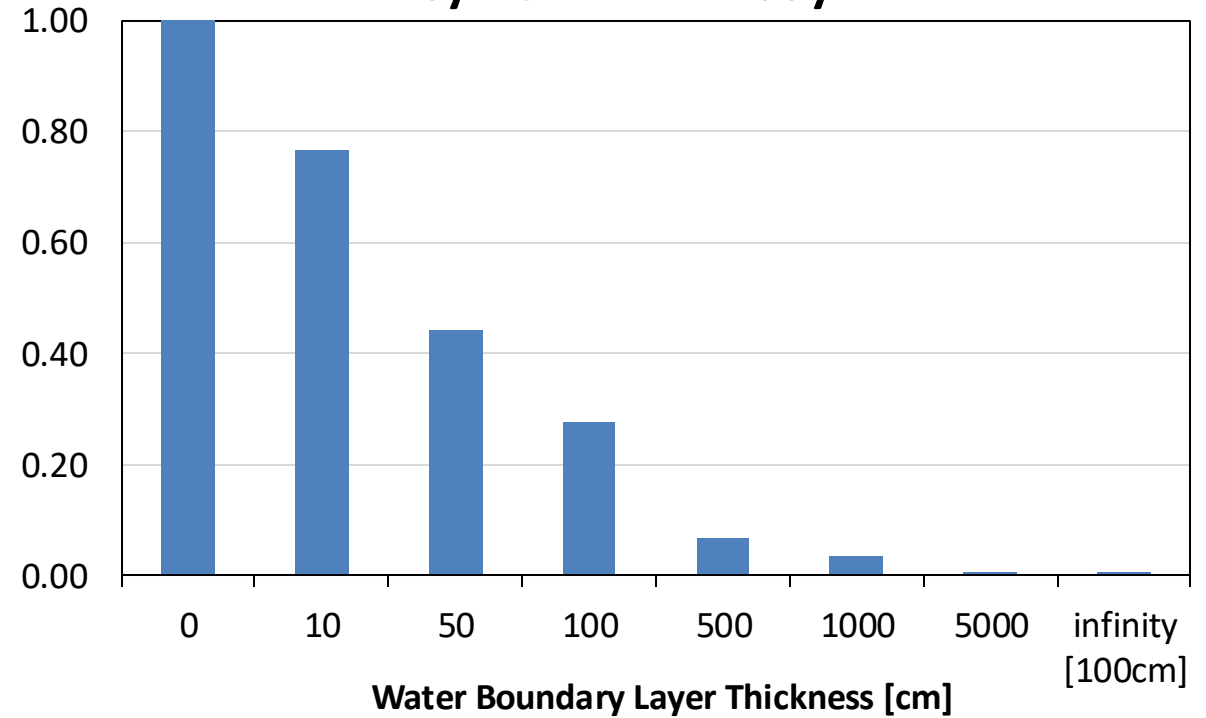
1. Typical WBL thicknesses we might face in the real world? [10 $\mu$ m -500 $\mu$ m, Lohmann 2012]
2. Optimizing PE thickness [0.3,1,2,3 mil] for a range of WBL.
3. Optimizing choice of polymer like Polydimethylsiloxane; PDMS? (Ongoing...)



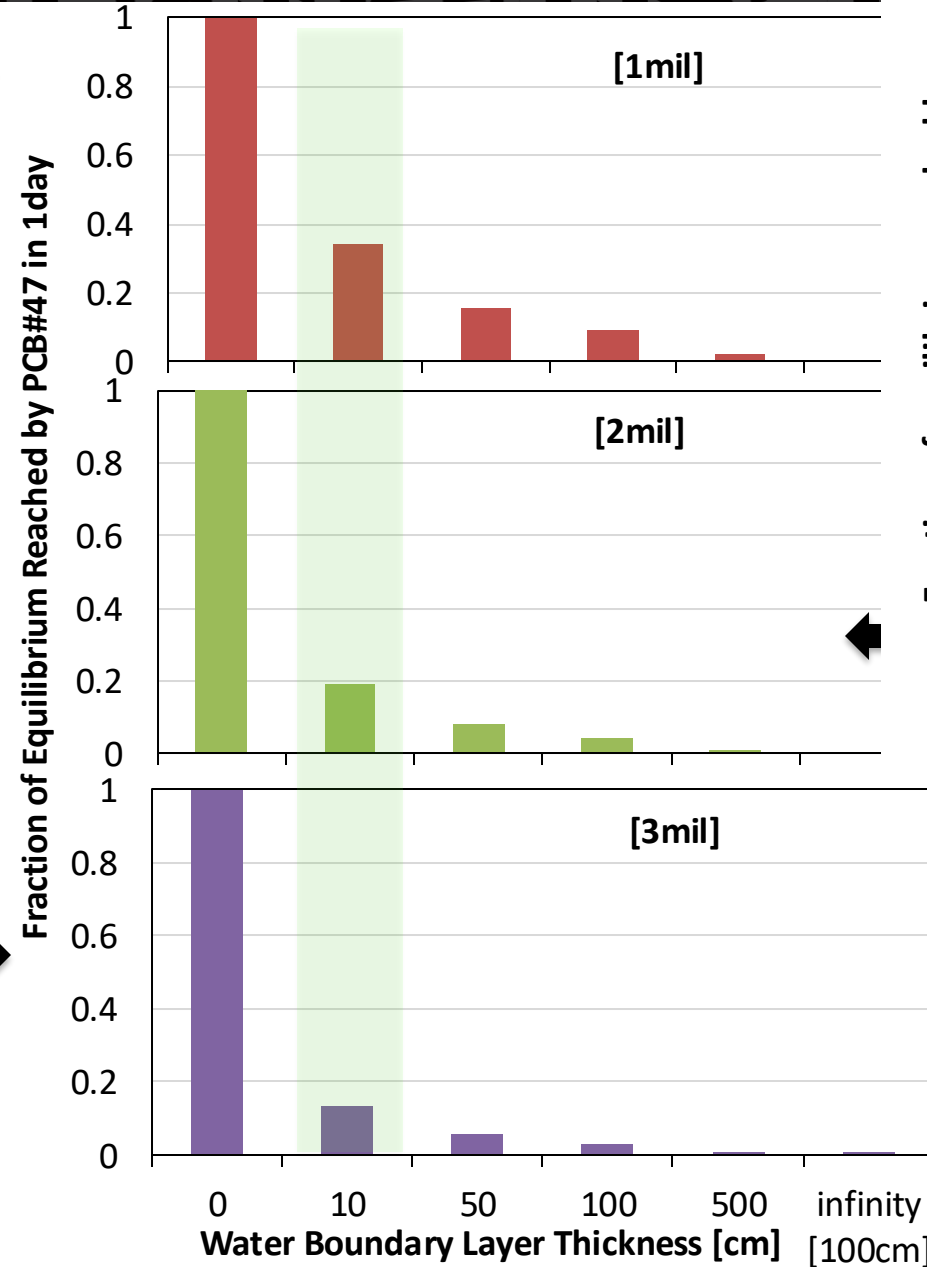
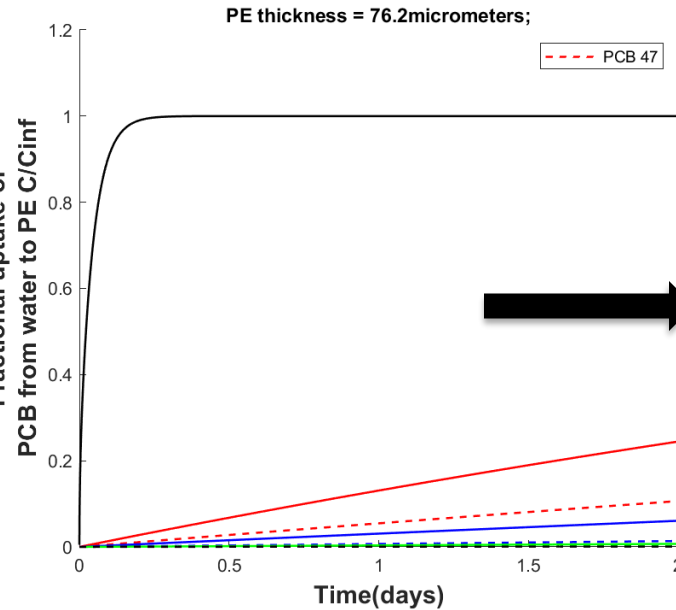
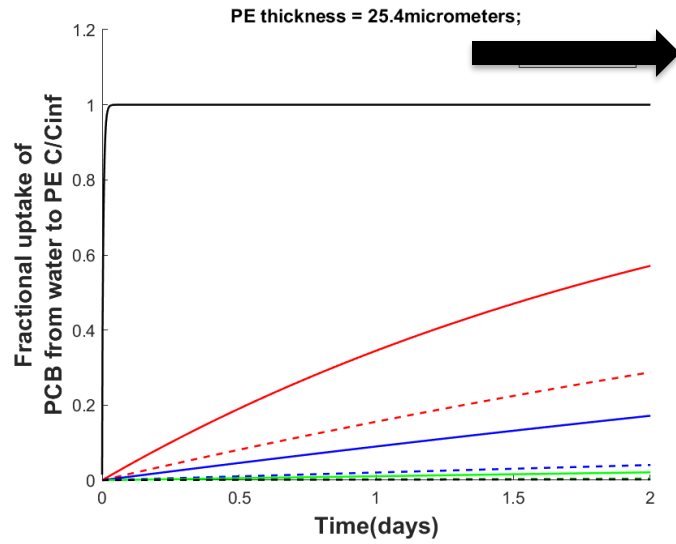
PE thickness = 7.62micrometers;



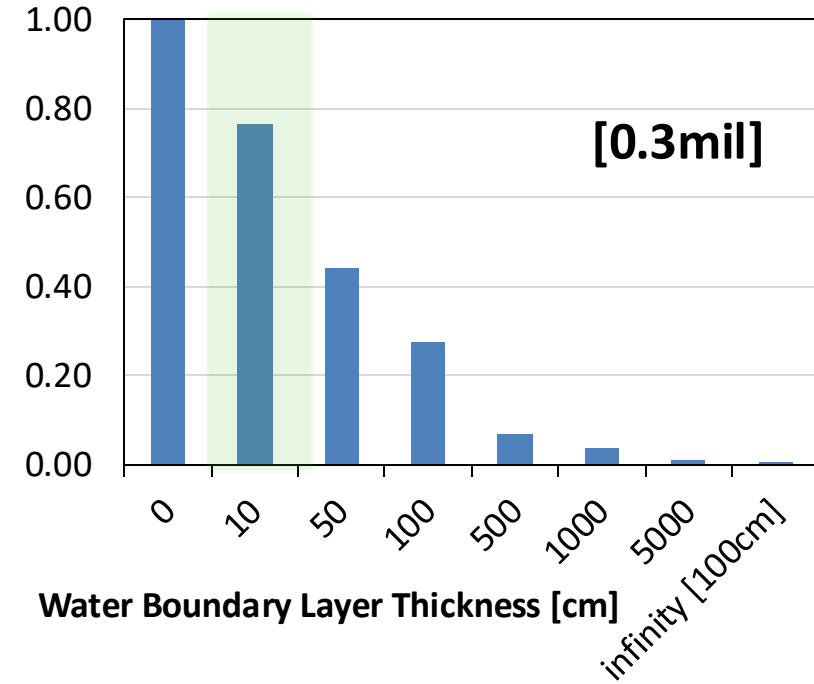
**Fraction of Equilibrium Reached in PE [0.3mil] by PCB#47 in 1 day.**







Fraction of equilibrium reached by PCB#47 in 1 day





## Scenario 1: Fully-sorbent controlled kinetics :

WBL=0

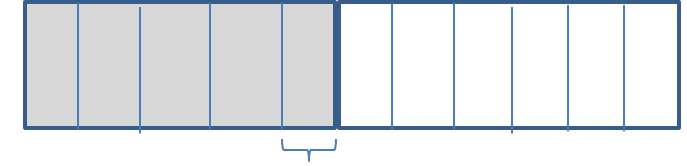
- No interactive fluxes going on at the polymer-water interface.
- Concentration at interface is constant with local equilibrium distribution
- Instant Equilibrium

when  $x = L$  and  $x = -L$

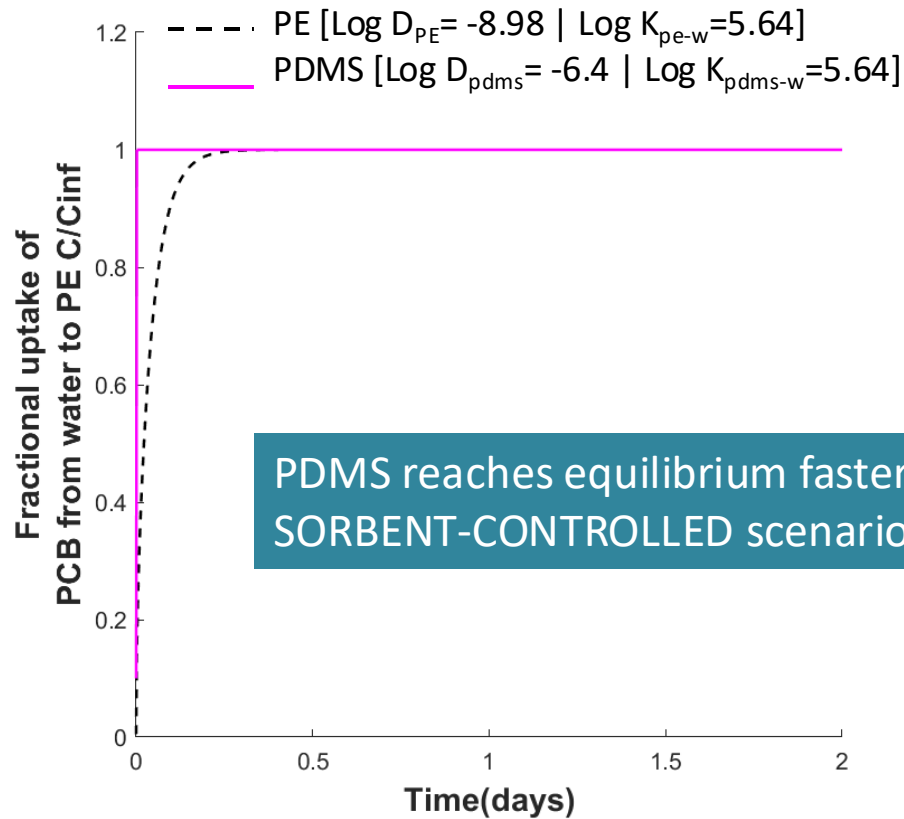
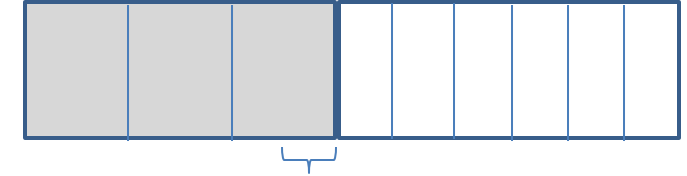
~~$$D_{PS} \frac{\partial C_{PE}}{\partial x} = D_W \frac{\partial C_W}{\partial x} \quad (3)$$~~

$$C_{PS} = K_{PEW} C_W \quad (4)$$

PE



PDMS



Polymer Thickness	No. of PE sections [Log $D_{PE}$ = -8.98 for PCB#47]	No. of PDMS sections [Log $D_{pdms}$ = -6.4 for PCB#47]
3mil [76.2 $\mu$ m]	204	10



## Part 1: What does Time Integration mean for Passive Sampling?

- **Time Period of Integration:** Minimum amount of time required by a congener to represent true ambient water concentrations
  - **Nature of ambient perturbation** (concentration fluctuation, duration) : **10-day pulsed perturbation**
  - **Hydrophobicity of congener** : **14-15 days** for a **dichlorobiphenyl** to **43-45 days** for a **hexachlorobiphenyl**
  - **Thickness of passive sampler** : thicker polymer is more resistive to ambient perturbation.
- Consistent results for Diffusion and 1<sup>st</sup> order models

## Part 2: Can we capture the true water concentration of PCBs within a day?

- Typical WBL thicknesses : 10 $\mu$ m -500 $\mu$ m, Lohmann 2012
- **Thinner polymer** - **turbulent conditions** –**faster equilibrium** represents true water concentration.
- 0.3mil PE | WBL 10 $\mu$ m : **10% equilibrium achieved for upto LogK<sub>ow</sub> 6.74 (hexa)**
- **Fully sorbent-controlled** scenario, WBL=0, **PDMS** performs better than PE.



# Thank You

