



Gasoline in the groundwater

GEOL 304 - Hydrogeology

Erik Krogh

Applied Environmental Research Laboratories

Department of Chemistry, VIU



Outline



Chemical Composition

complexity

Refining and Reforming

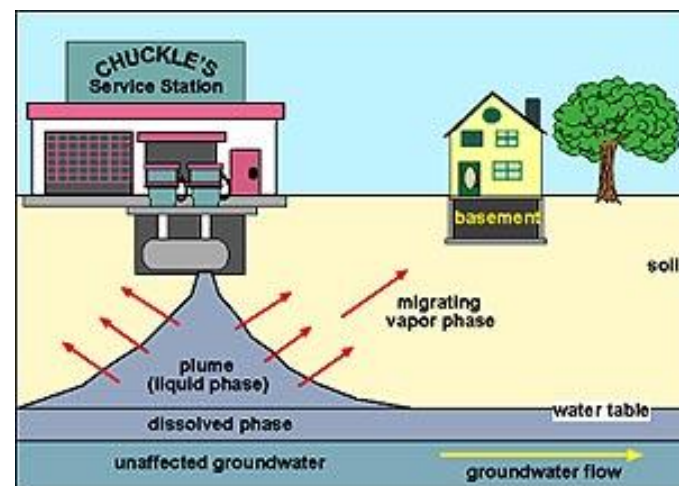
additives

Physical Properties

vapour pressure, water solubility

Environmental Fate and Distribution

mobility, degradation, sorption

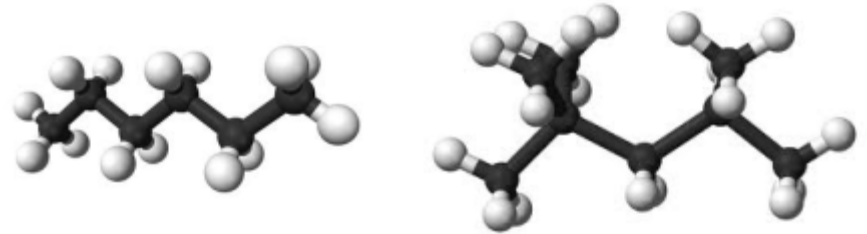


Chemical Composition

Major Hydrocarbon Components ($C_5 - C_{20}$)

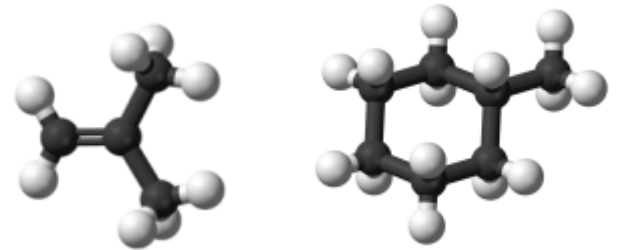
Alkanes (C_nH_{2n+2})

e.g., hexane, isooctane



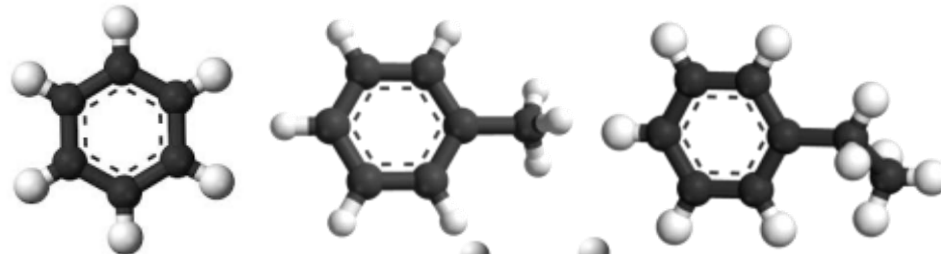
Alkenes & Cycloalkanes (C_nH_{2n})

e.g., isobutene, methylcyclohexane



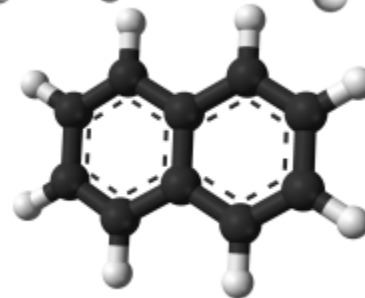
Aromatics

e.g., BTEX

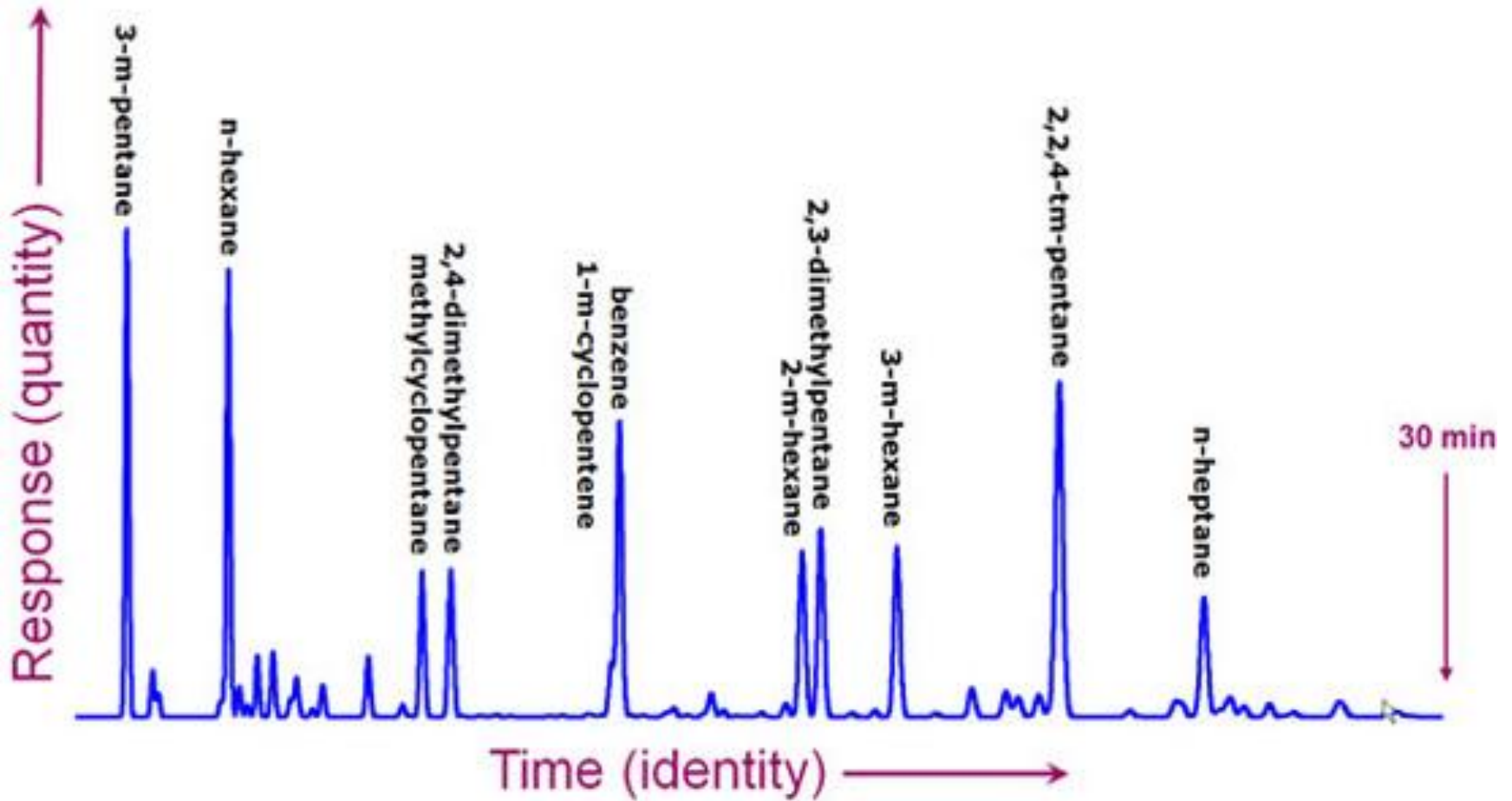


PAHs

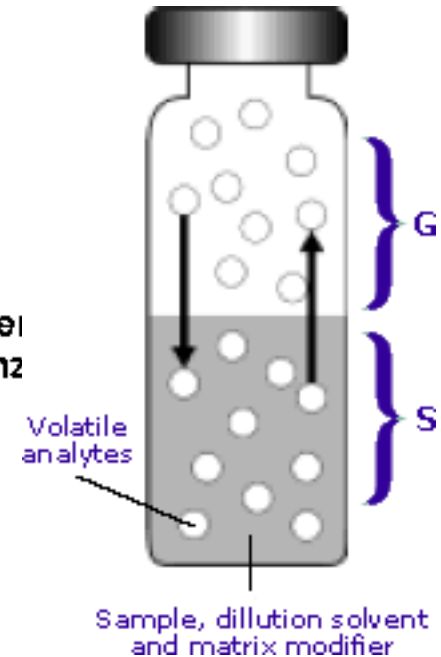
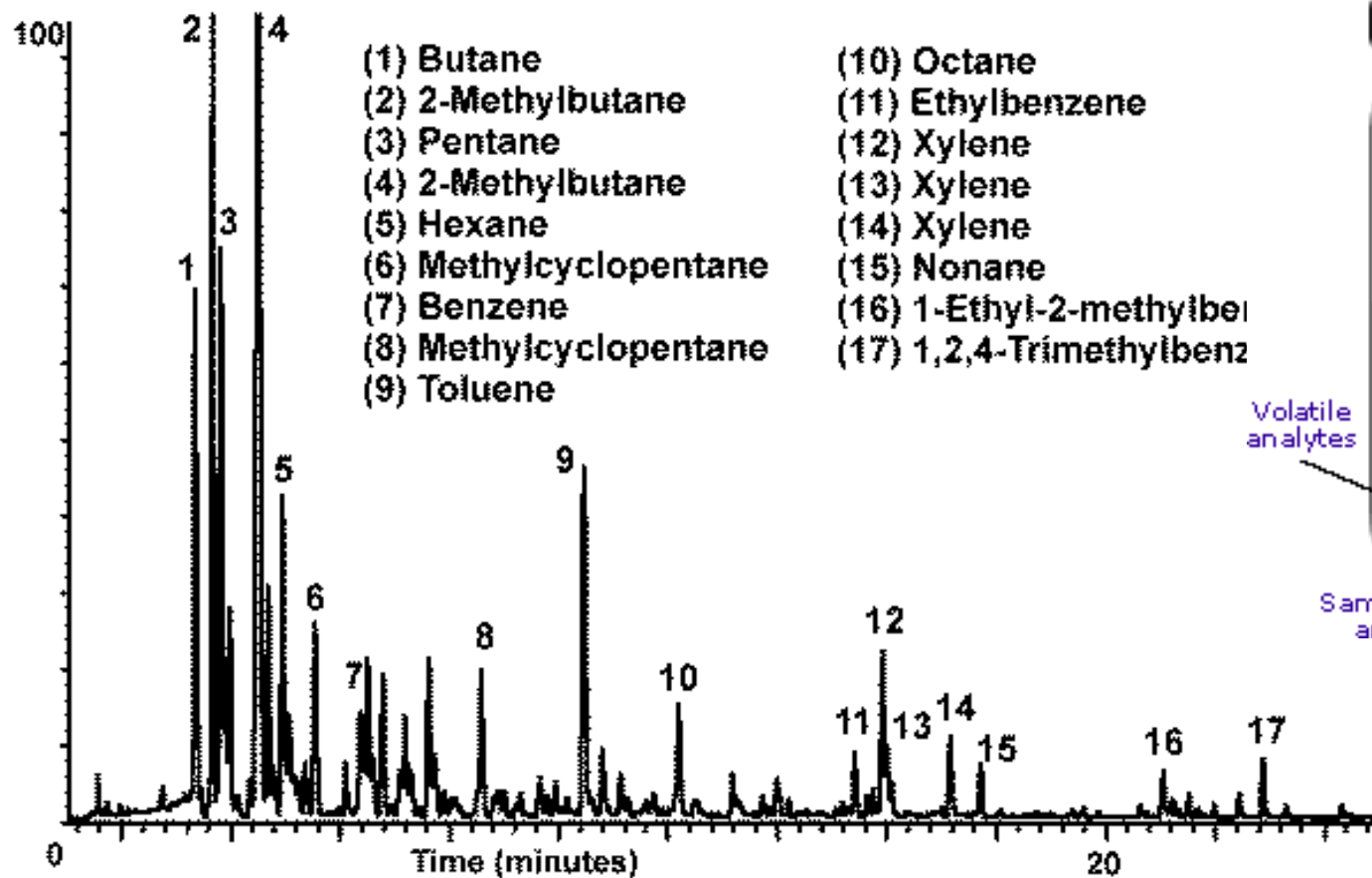
e.g., naphthalene



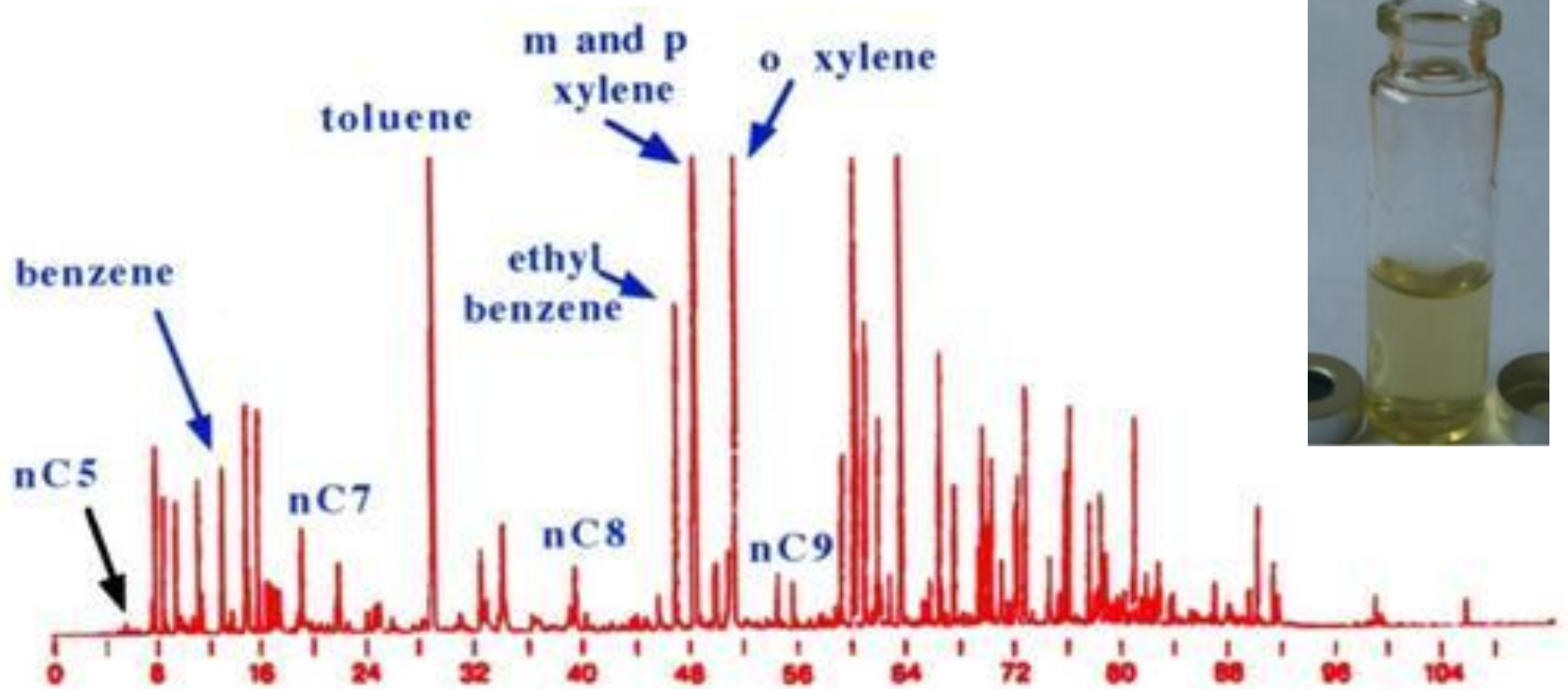
Gas Chromatographic (GC) Separation



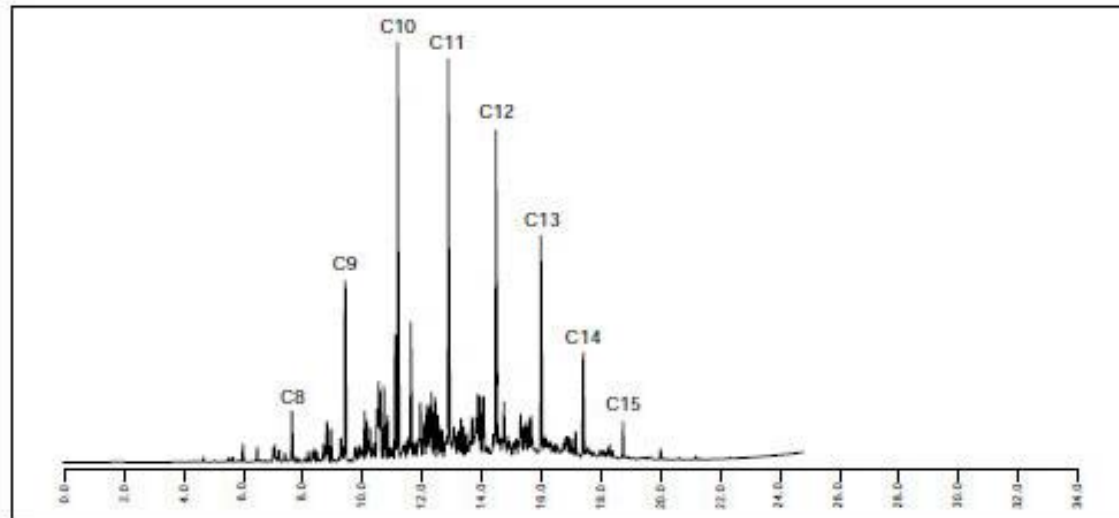
GC Analysis of Gasoline Vapours



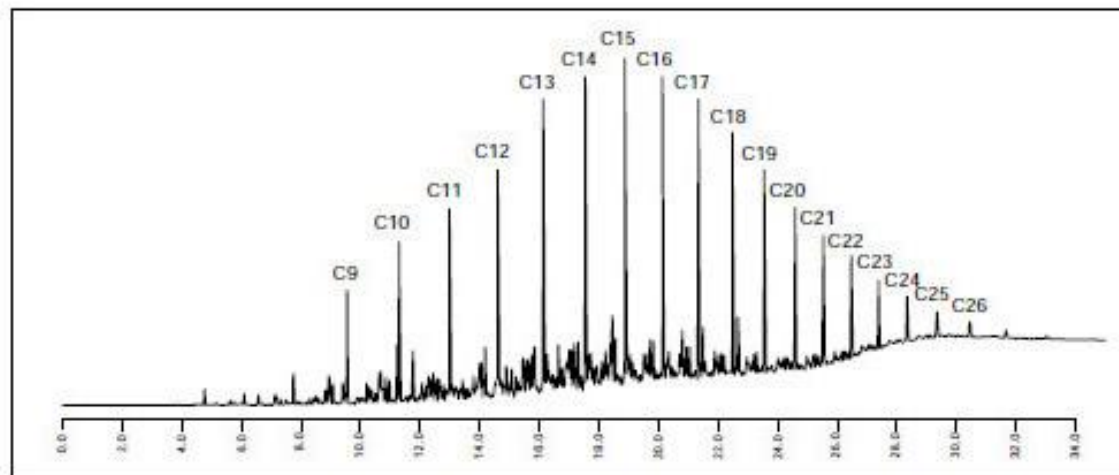
GC Analysis of Gasoline (refined)



GC Analysis of Kerosene and Light Crude Oil



Analysis of Kerosene



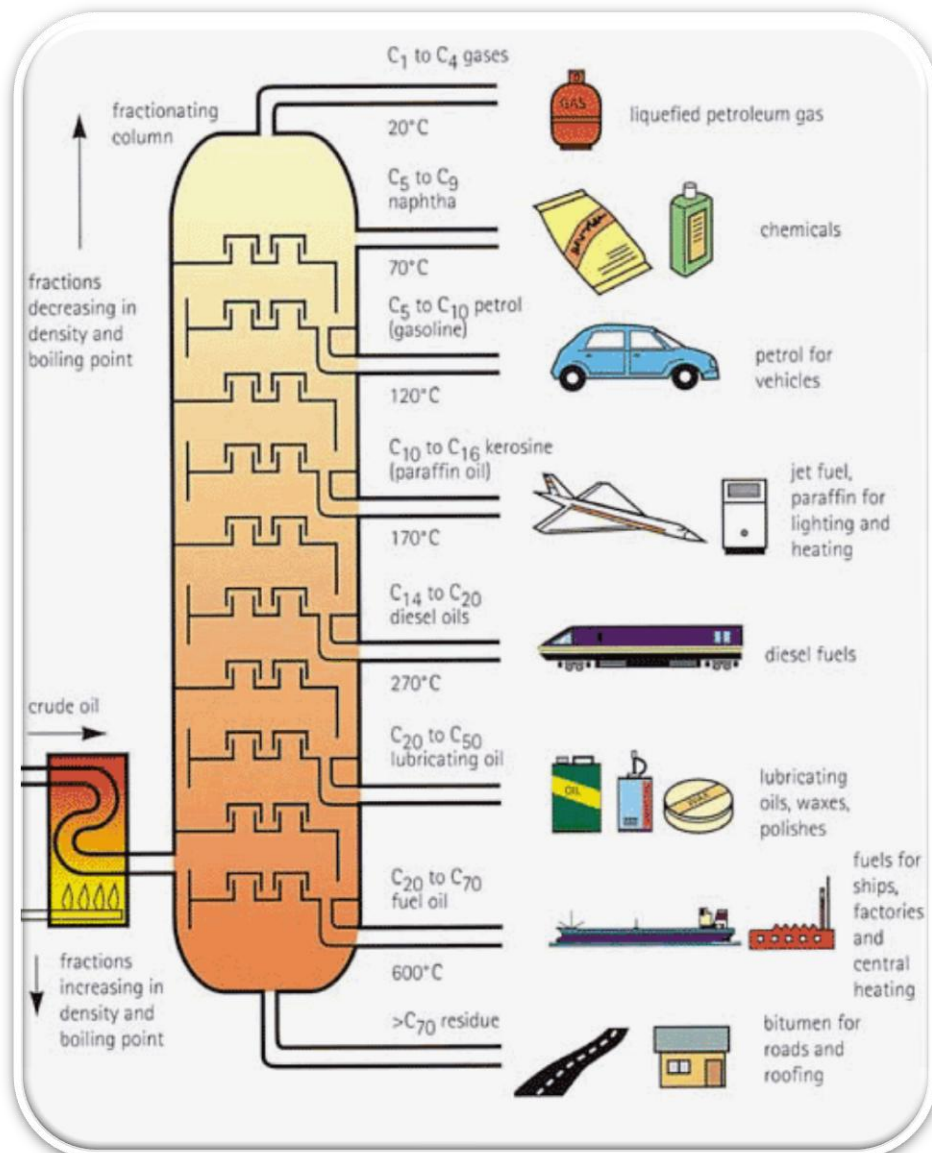
Analysis of Light Oil

Fuel Types

Fuel Grade	#Carbons	BP Range
Gasoline	$C_4 - C_{12}$	0 – 225 °C
Jet Fuel	$C_{12} - C_{18}$	150 – 320 °C
Diesel Fuel	$C_{12} - C_{20}$	150 – 400 °C
Lube Oil	$C_{20} - C_{40}$	350 – 500+ °C
Crude Oil	$C_2 - C_{100+}$	0 – 700+ °C



Fractional Distillation into Fuel Types



Refining & Reforming
Cracking, Isomerization
Fuel Additives

Crude Oils

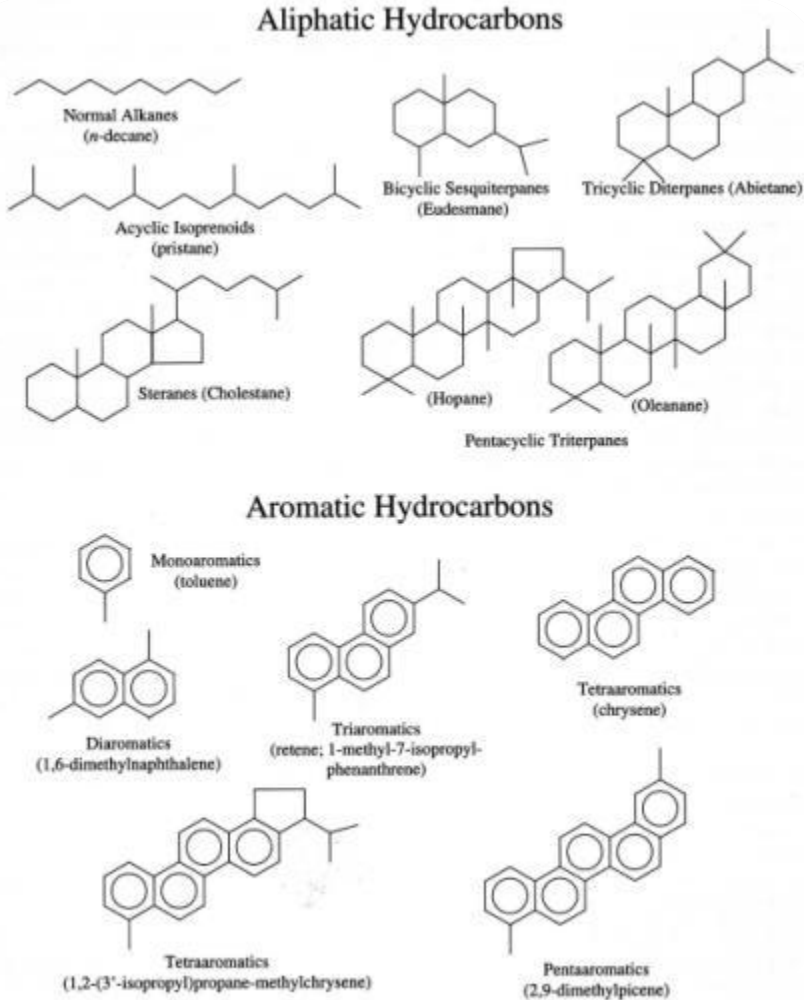


Figure 1-3 Examples of aliphatic and aromatic hydrocarbons in crude oils.

Chemical Fingerprinting of Spilled or Discharged Petroleum 17

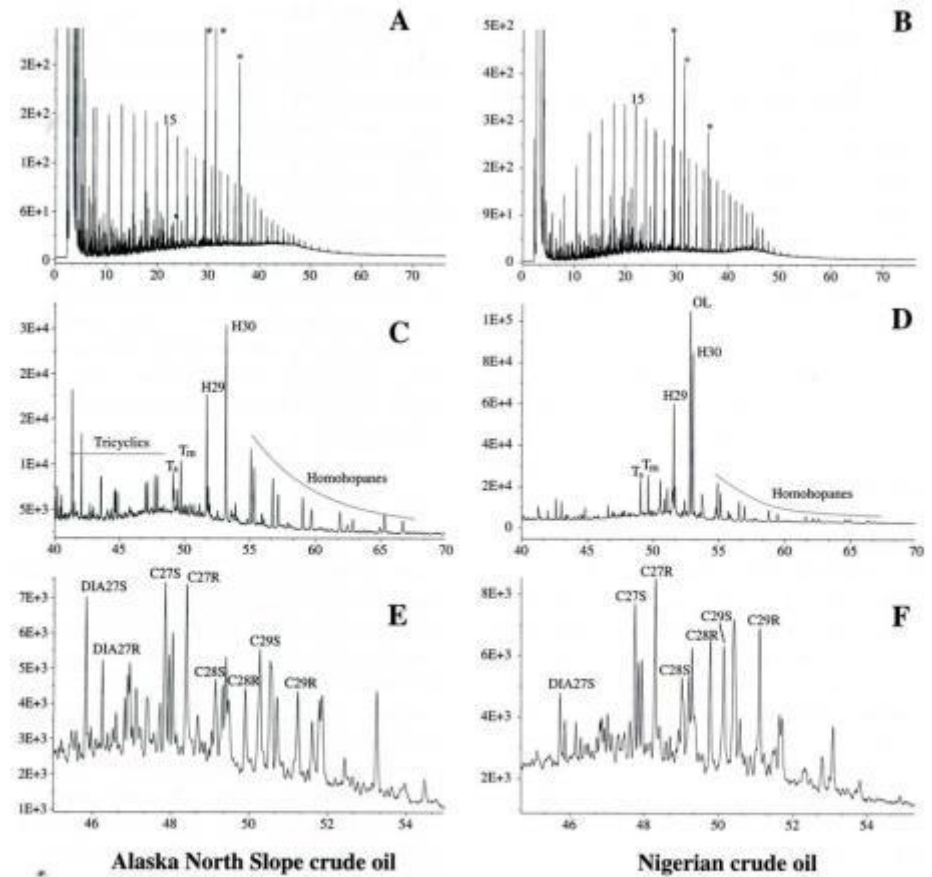


Figure 1-4 Example of the disparate primary chemical fingerprinting features in crude oils from the North Slope of Alaska and the Niger Delta, Nigeria. (a-b) GC/FID chromatograms, (c-d) partial m/z 191 mass chromatograms, and (e-f) partial m/z 217 mass chromatograms. * = internal standards, left to right: *o*-terphenyl, 5 α -androstane and tetracosane- d_{30} .

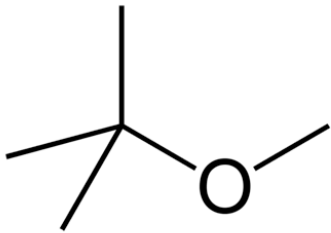
Figure 1-3 Examples of aliphatic and aromatic hydrocarbons in crude oils.

Gasoline Additives

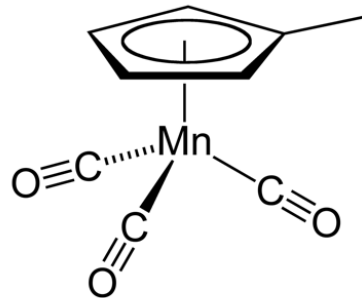


Structures of some gasoline additives

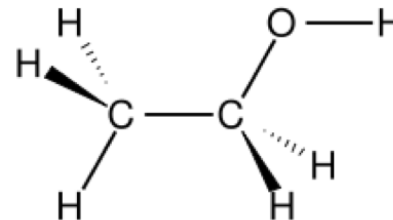
MTBE
(oxygenate)



MMT
(organometallic)



Ethanol
(oxygenate)



Fuel Type Markers

Pb / TEL: pre 1990 leaded gasoline and current Aviation Gasoline

Mn / MMT: 1970's – 2004 gasoline

MTBE: late 1990's gasoline

Sulphur content in gasoline vs diesel

Benzene content in gasoline

Ca, Ba, Mg, Zn, P, etc. in lube oils

Alternate Fuels

Ethanol

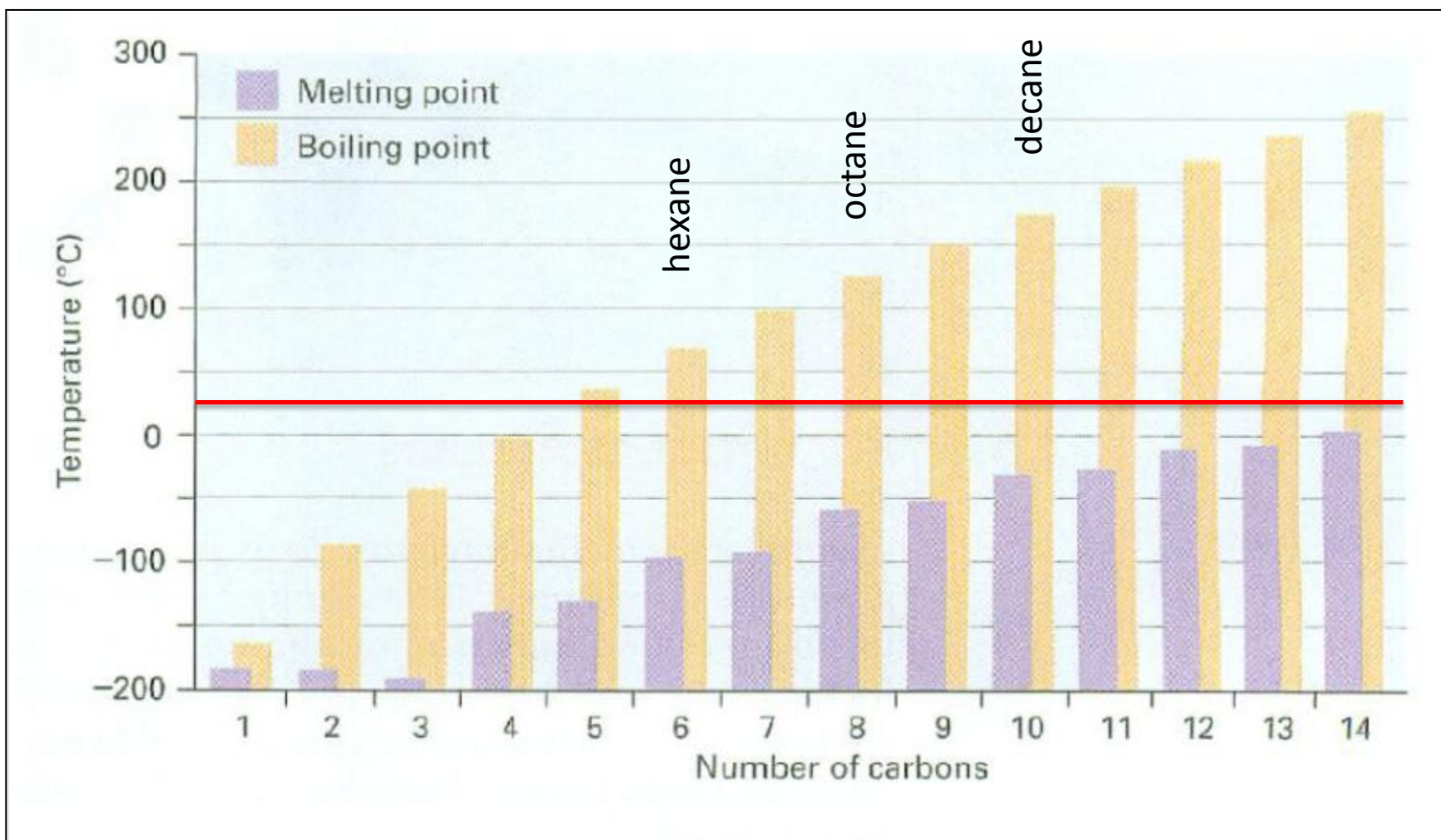
e.g., typically E10

Fatty Acid Methyl Esters (FAMEs)

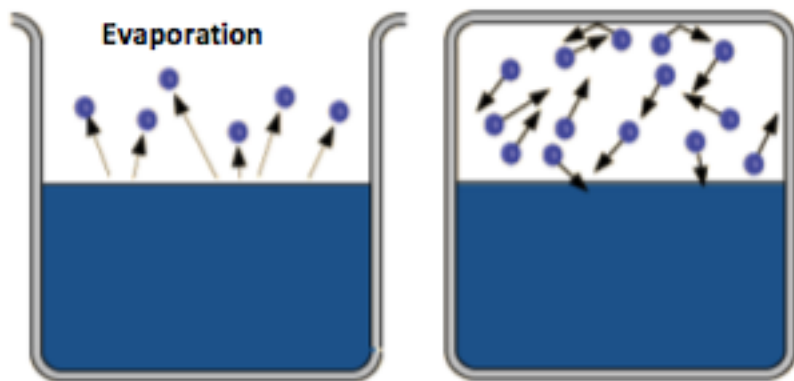
e.g., biodiesel esters

GTL / Paraffinic diesel fuel (from CH₄)

Physical Properties – MPs & BPs



Physical Properties – Vapour Pressure (P°) & Water Solubility (C_w)



Size matters – small hydrocarbons are more volatile (i.e., higher P°)



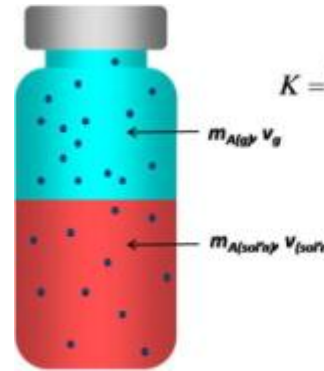
Size matters – small hydrocarbons are more water soluble (i.e., higher C_w)

π 's matter – alkenes and aromatics are more water soluble (c.f. BTEX)

Environmental Fate & Distribution

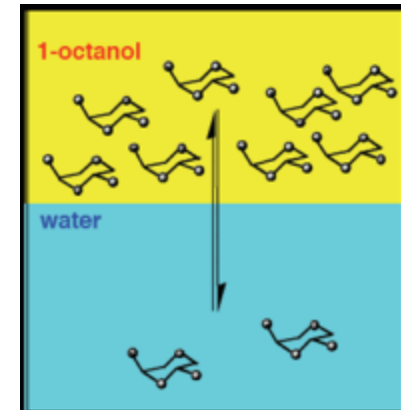
Partition Constants

Air-Water (K_{aw})



$$K = \frac{[A_{sol'n}]}{[A_g]} = \frac{m_{A(sol'n)} / v_{(sol'n)}}{m_{A(g)} / v_g}$$

Octanol-Water (K_{ow})

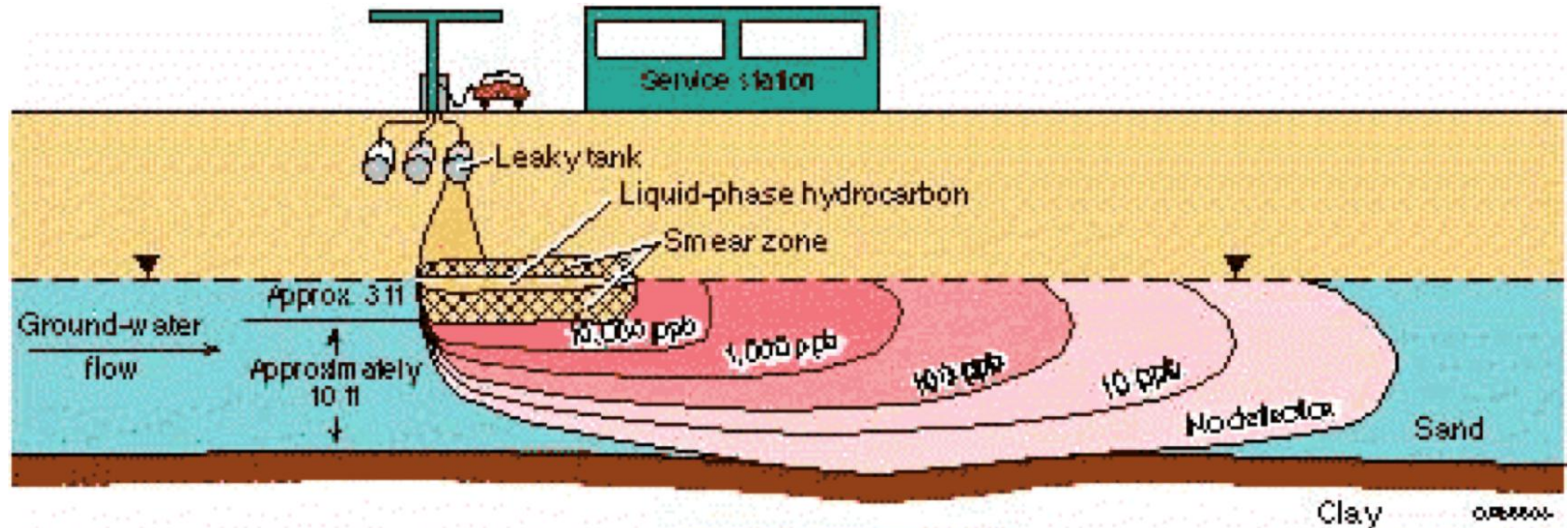


Sediment-Water (K_{oc} or K_d)

Physical Properties

Compound	P°	C_w	K_{aw}	K_{ow}	K_{oc}
Methylcyclohexane					
Isooctane					
Benzene					
Toluene					
Naphthalene					

Groundwater contamination by MTBE



[MTBE] < 20 ppb (taste/odour) health ? potential carcinogen not regulated (AWWA)

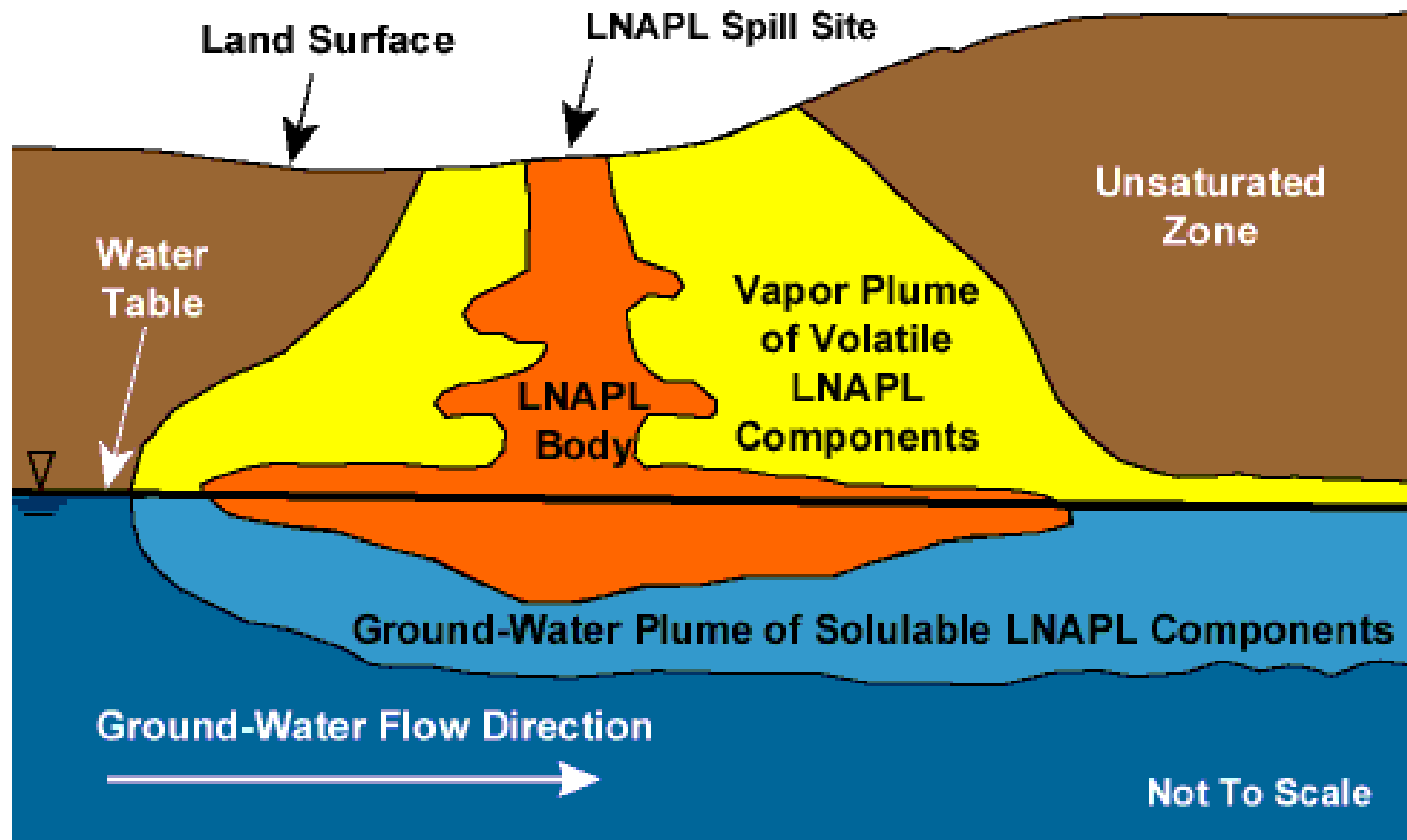
20% of the groundwater in areas where MTBE is used contaminated (USGS)

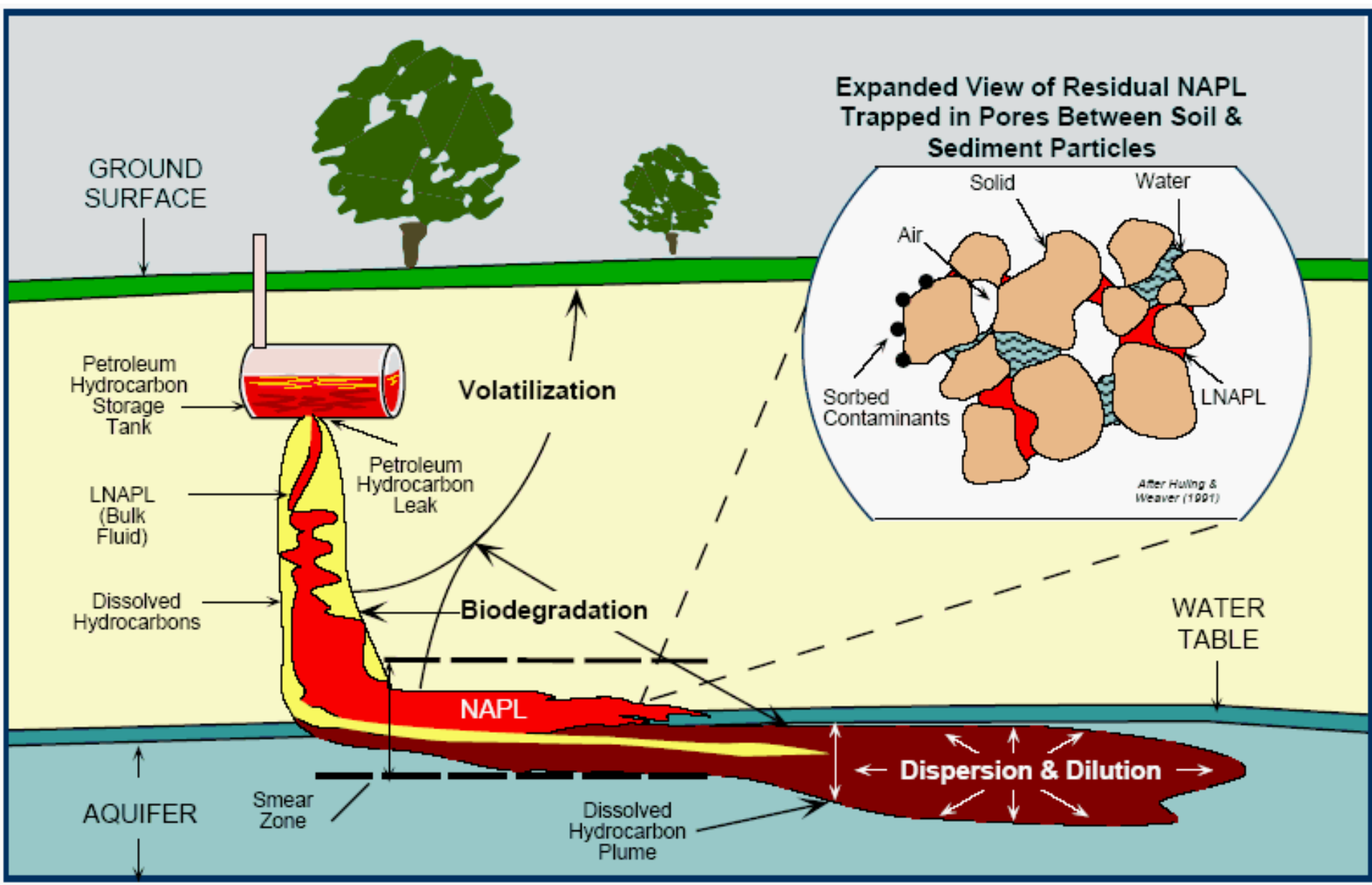
MTBE is highly water soluble low K_{ow} , low sorbtivity to sediments

Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids (NAPL)

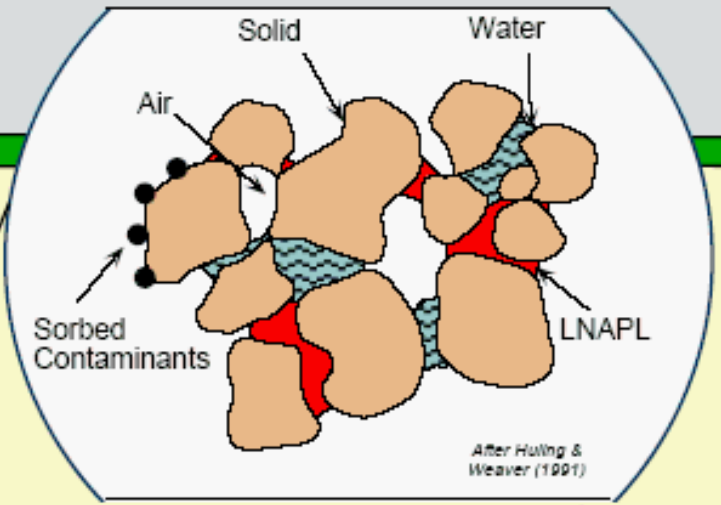
Light NAPLs – hydrocarbons, petroleum products

Dense NAPLs – chlorinated solvents





Expanded View of Residual NAPL Trapped in Pores Between Soil & Sediment Particles



GROUND SURFACE

Petroleum Hydrocarbon Storage Tank

Volatilization

LNAPL (Bulk Fluid)

Petroleum Hydrocarbon Leak

Dissolved Hydrocarbons

Biodegradation

NAPL

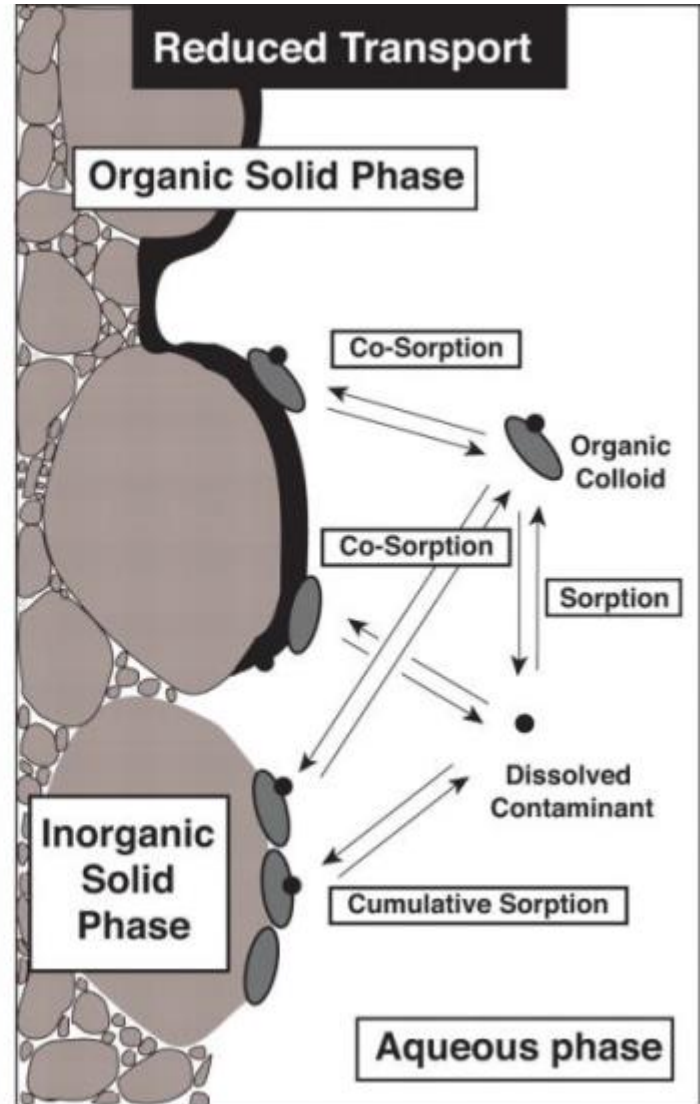
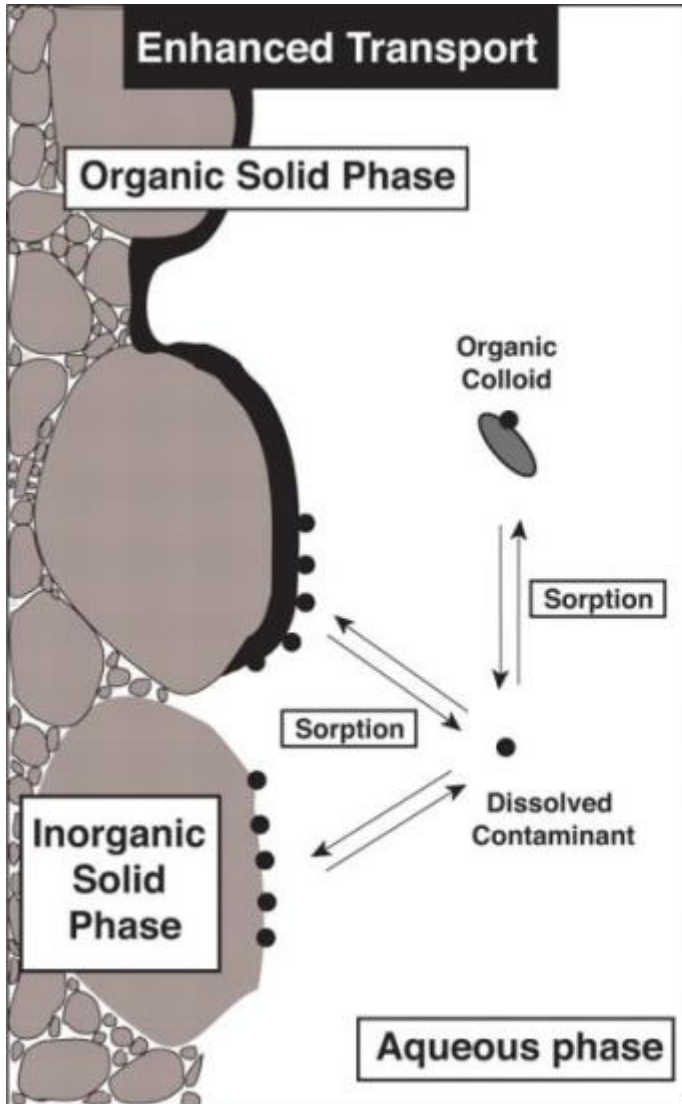
WATER TABLE

AQUIFER

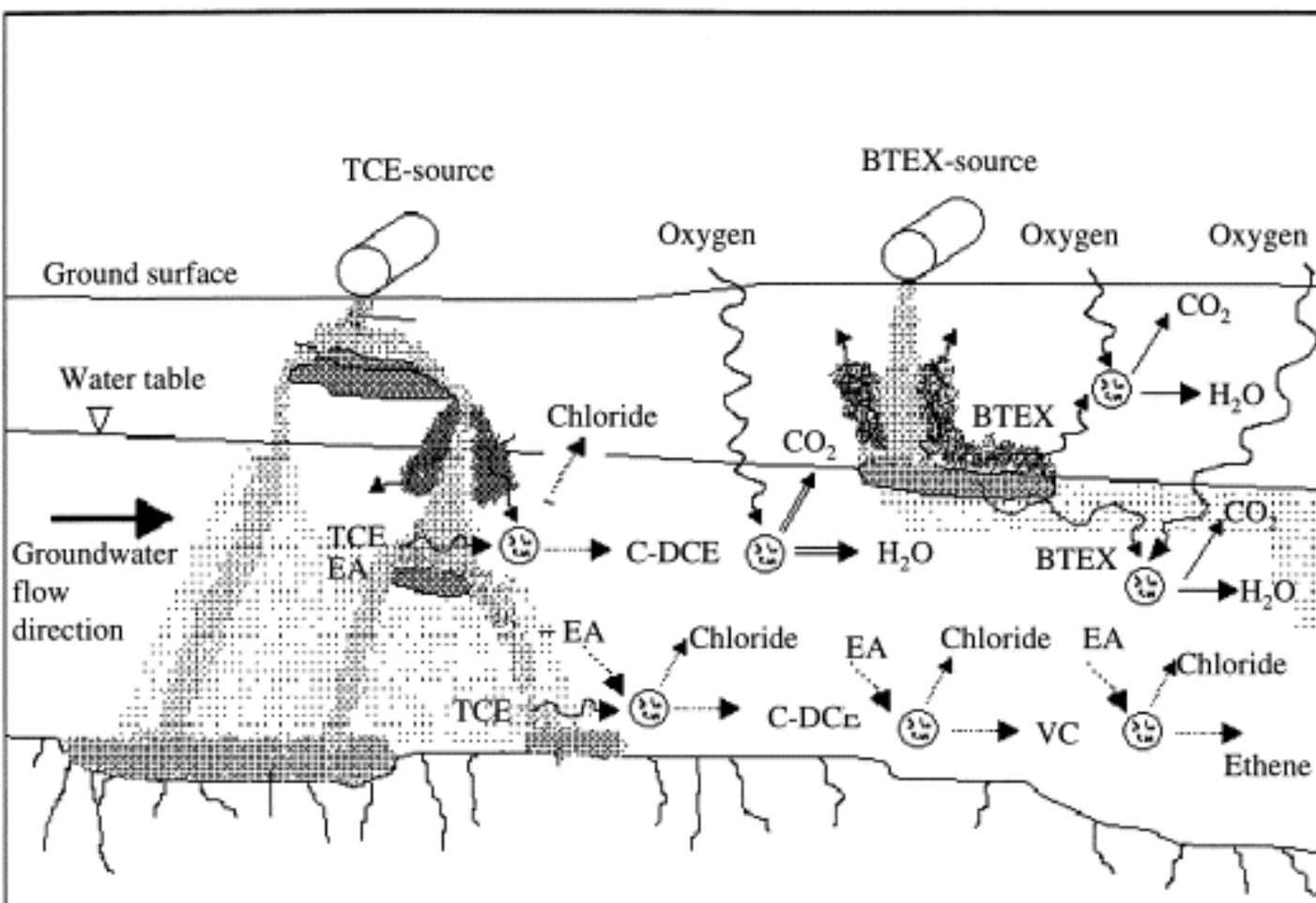
Smear Zone












Dissolved Hydrocarbon Plume

Dispersion & Dilution

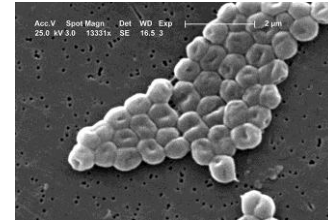
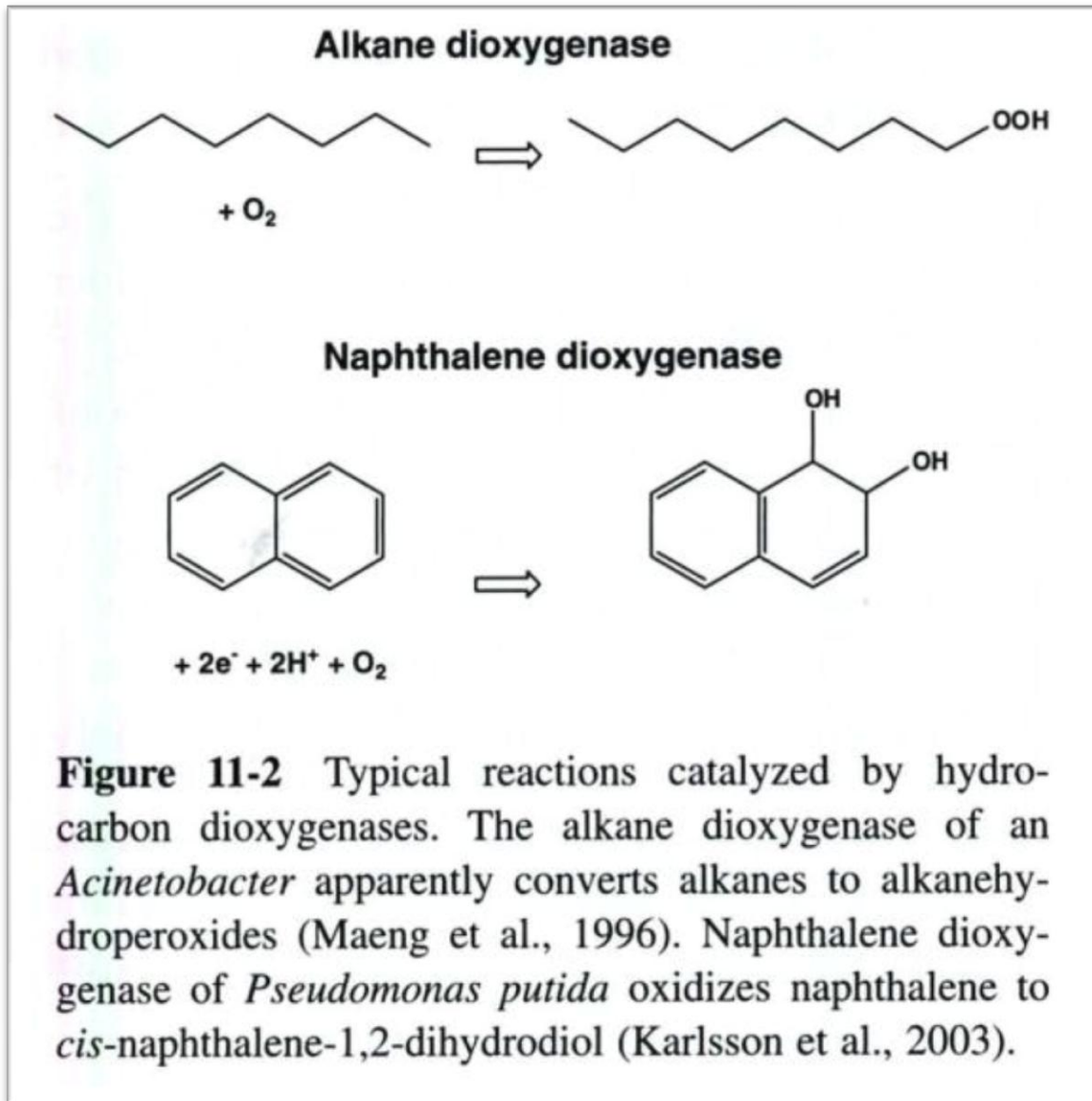


Attenuation and Transformations



-  Dissolved plume
-  Residual NAPL
-  Free product pool
-  LNAPL vapor plume
-  DNAPL vapor plume
-  Impermeable layer
-  Subsurface microorganisms
-  Aerobic biodegradation of BTEX
-  Aerobic cometabolism of c-DCE
-  Anaerobic biodegradation (reductive dehalogenation)
-  Diffusion

Aerobic Microbial Degradation



Attenuation Reactions for Toluene

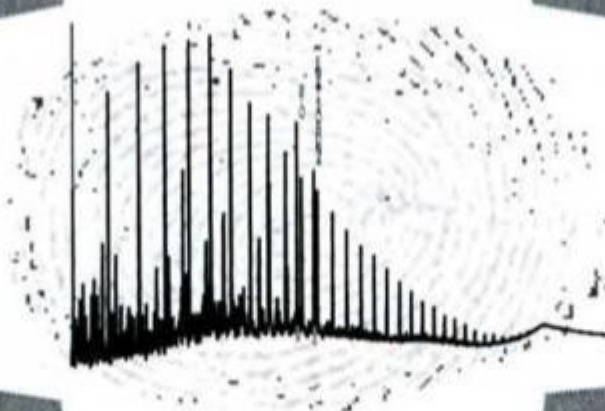
Table 11-1 Comparison of Aerobic and Anaerobic Respiration Reactions

<i>e</i> -Acceptor	Reaction (Toluene)	ΔG° , kJ/mol Toluene	Molar Ratio	Mass Ratio
	<i>Aerobic respiration</i>			
O ₂	$C_7H_8 + 9O_2 \rightarrow 7CO_2 + 4H_2O$	-3913	9	3.1
	<i>Denitrification</i>			
NO ₃ ⁻	$C_7H_8 + 7.2NO_3^- + 0.2H^+ \rightarrow 3.6N_2 + 7HCO_3^- + 0.6H_2O$	-3554	7.2	4.8
	<i>Manganese reduction</i>			
Mn(IV)	$C_7H_8 + 21MnO_2 + 14H^+ \rightarrow 7MnCO_3 + 14MnO + 7H_2O$	-3502	21	27
	<i>Iron reduction</i>			
Fe(III)	$C_7H_8 + 94Fe(OH)_3 \rightarrow 7FeCO_3 + 29Fe_3O_4 + 145H_2O$	-3398	94	109
	<i>Sulfate reduction</i>			
SO ₄ ⁼	$C_7H_8 + 4.5SO_4^{2-} + 3H_2O \rightarrow 7HCO_3^- + 2.5H^+ + 4.5HS^-$	-205	4.3	4.5
H ₂ O (CO ₂)	<i>Methanogenesis</i>			
	$C_7H_8 + 7.5H_2O \rightarrow 2.5HCO_3^- + 2.5H^+ + 4.5CH_4$	-131	7.5	1.5

GENESIS

REFINING

Pre-Spill Factors
Post-Spill Factors



WEATHERING
IN THE
ENVIRONMENT

MIXING
IN THE
ENVIRONMENT

Summary

Complex Hydrocarbon Mixtures

Composition depends on source, refining (additives), 'weathering', degradation & mixing

Range of Physical-Chemical Properties

Migration & Attenuation depends on vapour pressure, water solubility, partitioning (i.e., K_{aw} , K_{ow} and K_d)

