

# Welcome to the Federal Institute of Hydrology





Foto: E.H. Stanley







# Examples for tasks of an integrated river basin management

water management

rural area

pollutants  
in urban water cycle

ecotoxicology

Impacts of  
climate change

sediment management

Information  
and data  
management

...

ecological  
assessment

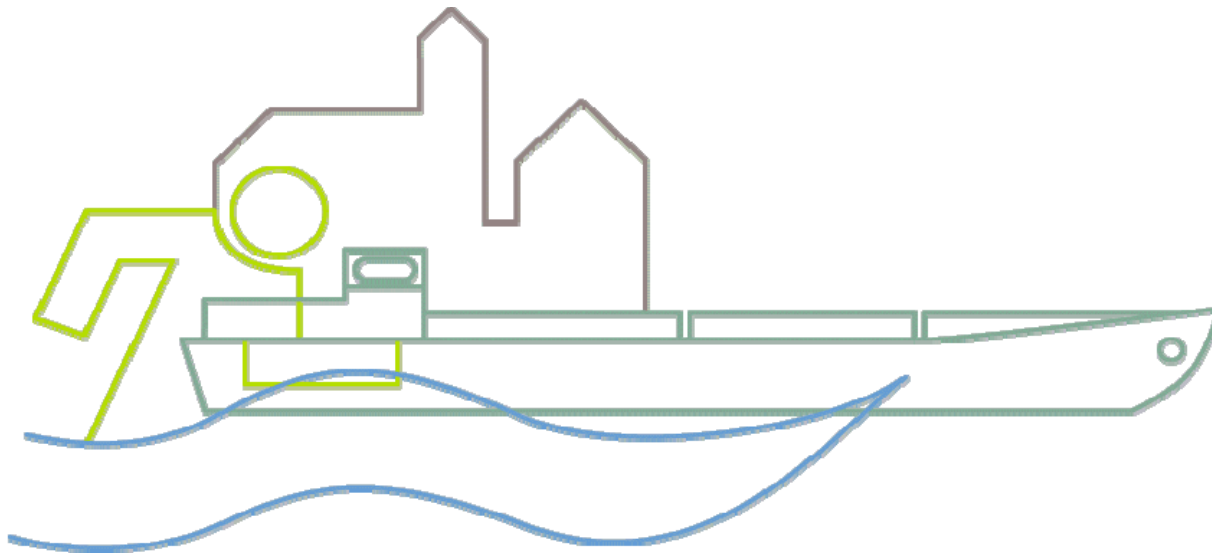
Water way construction  
and water engineering

flood protection





**eawag**  
aquatic research ooc



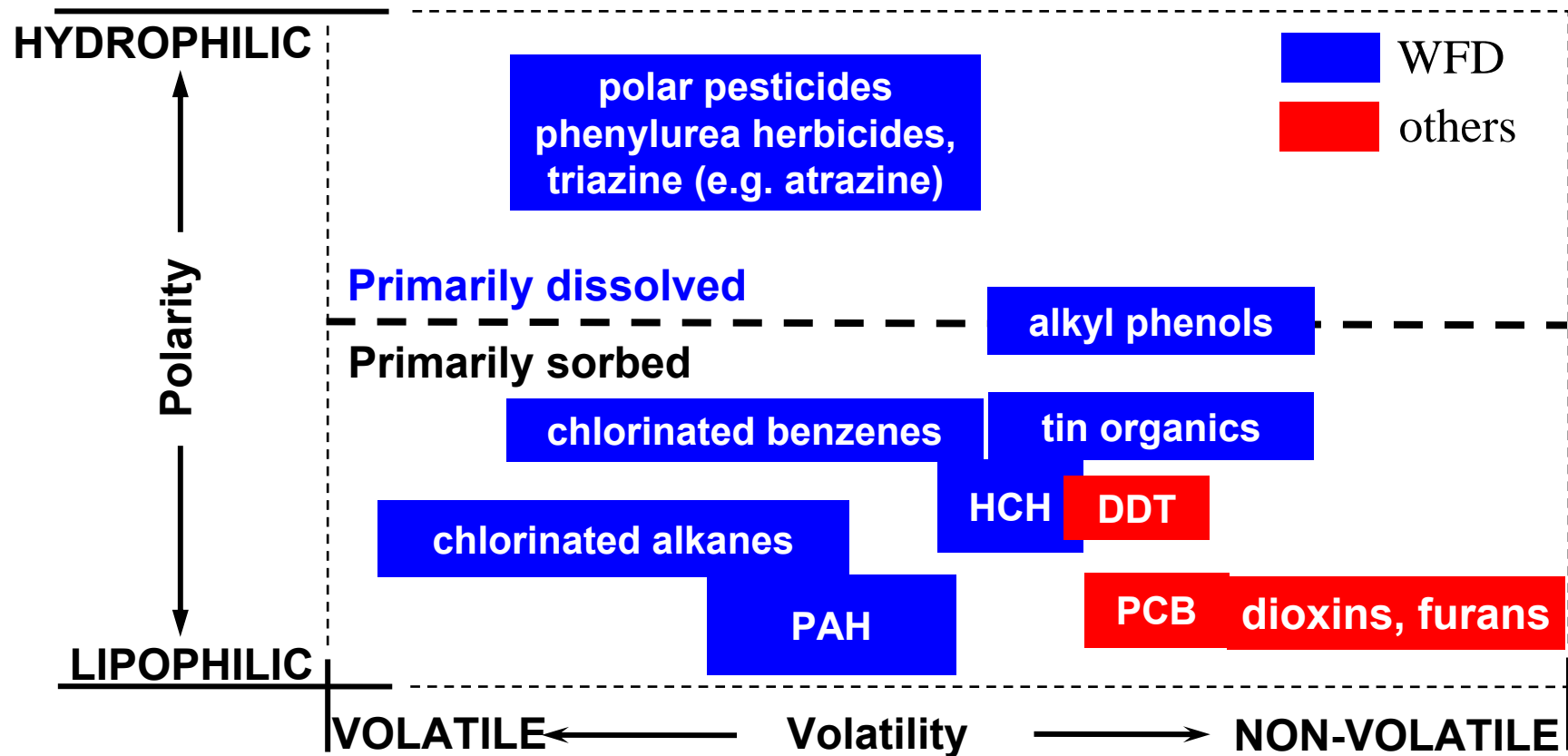
## Occurrence and fate of emerging contaminants in the aqueous environment

*A. Wick, J. Kormos, O. Marincas, M. Schulz, M. Schluesener, G. Fink, A. Joss, Z. Moldovan,  
H. Siegrist and T. A. Ternes*

## Chemicals used in the EU

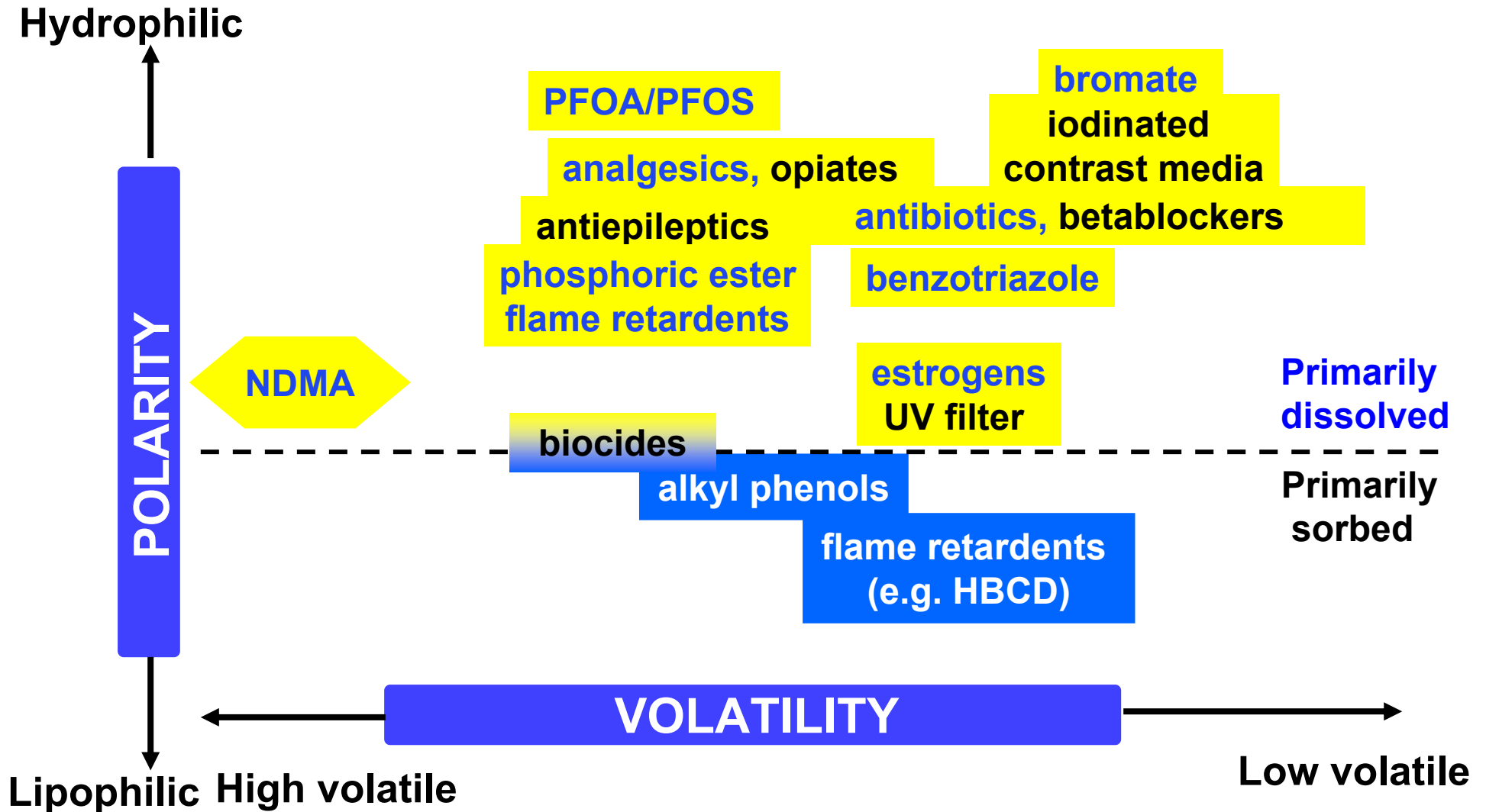
- 100000 "old chemicals" until 1981
  - > 4000 "new chemicals" since 1981
- 
- 30000 chemicals > 1 t yr<sup>-1</sup>
  - 2900 chemicals > 100 t yr<sup>-1</sup>
  - 2600 chemicals > 1000 t yr<sup>-1</sup>

# Organic pollutants already regulated (WFD, ...) based on ecotoxicological criteria



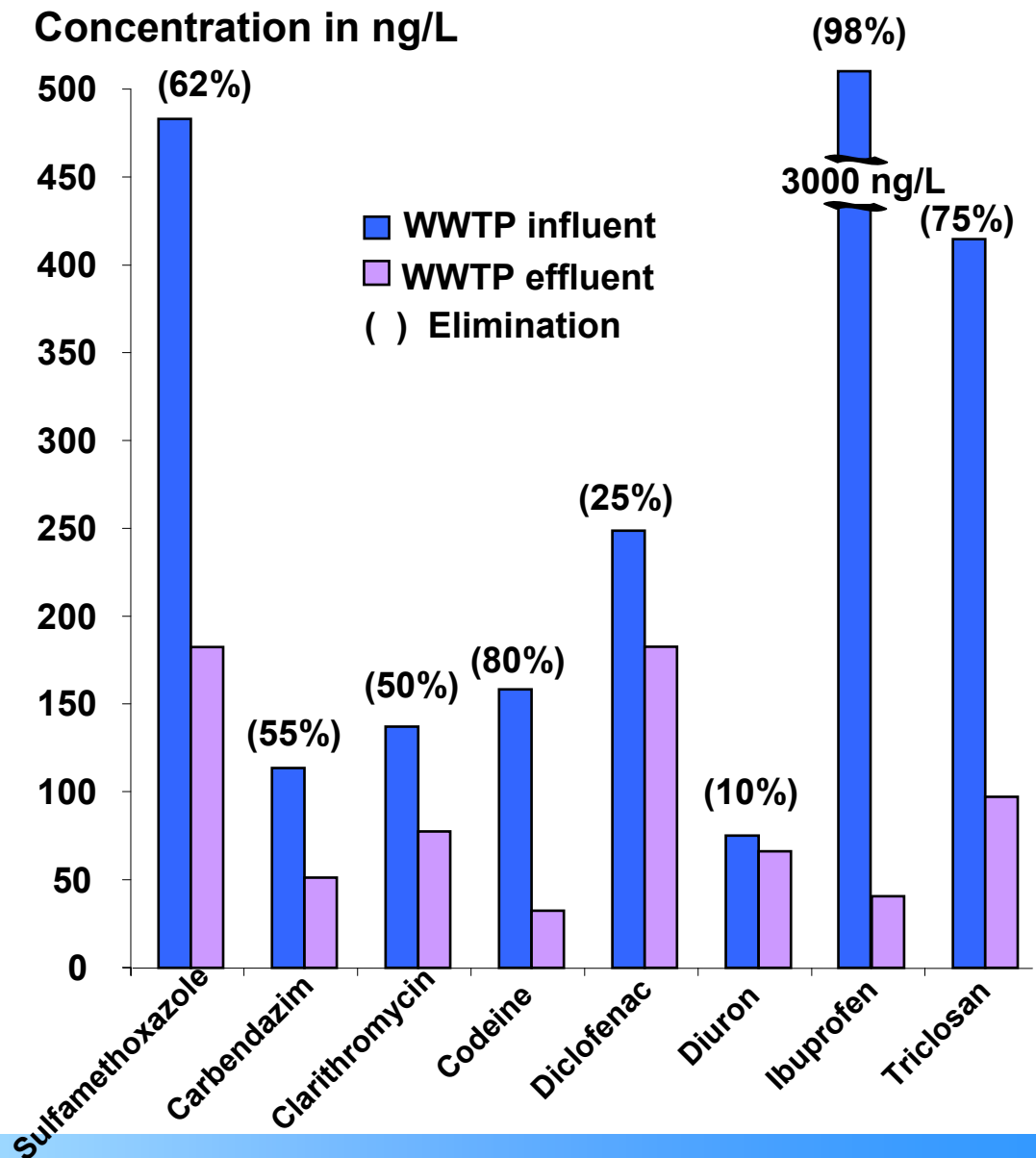
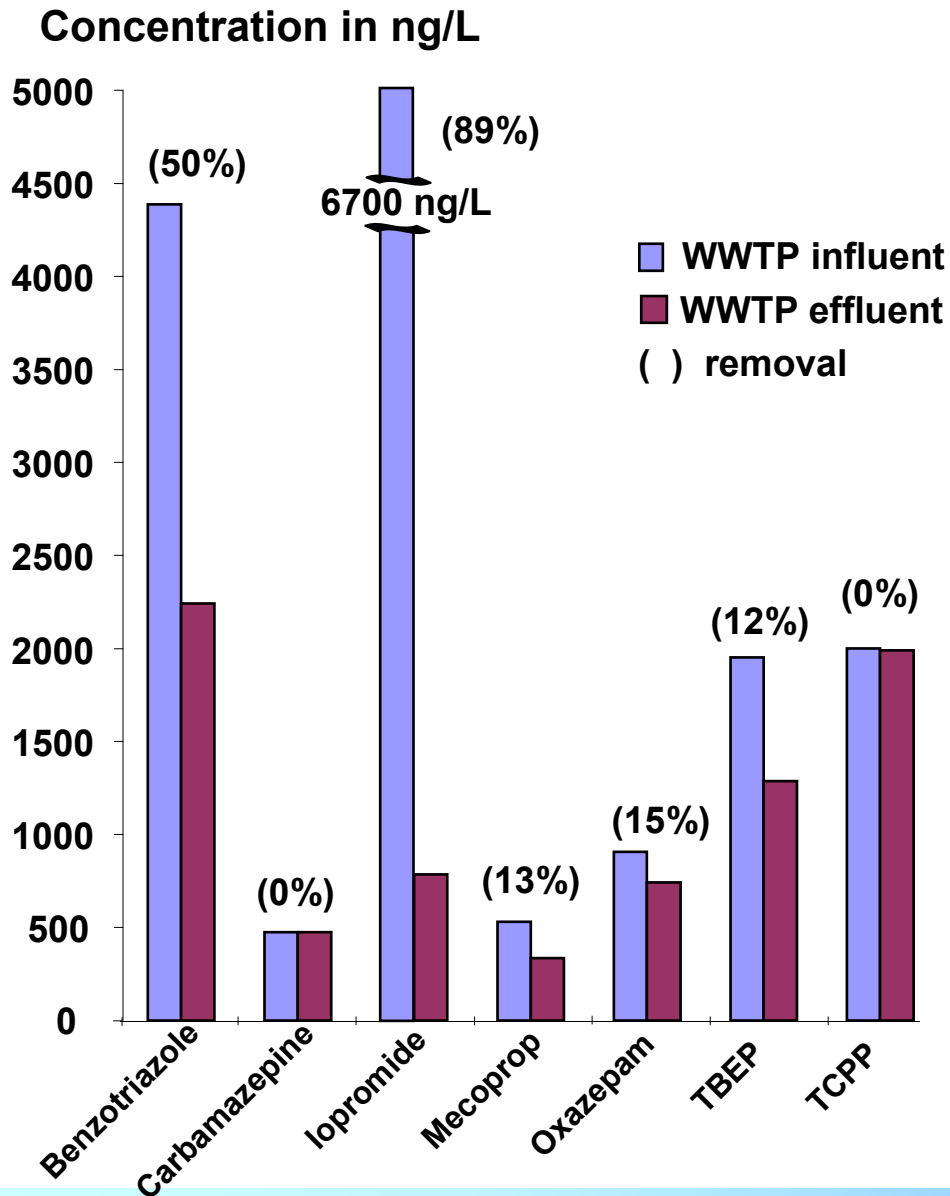
Source: Ternes and Joss (2006) IWA Publishing

# Emerging pollutants measured by Neptune

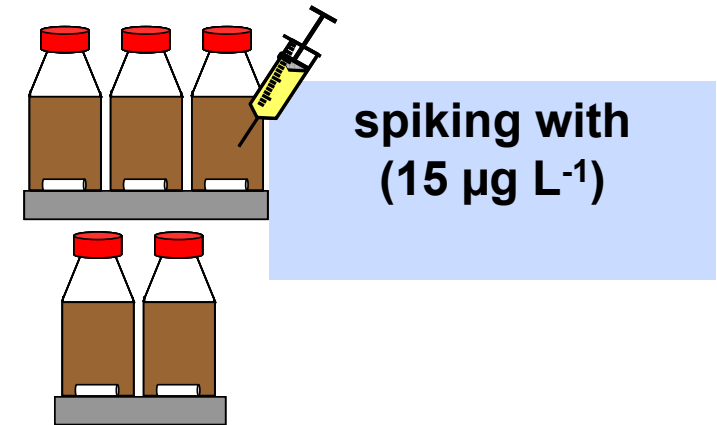
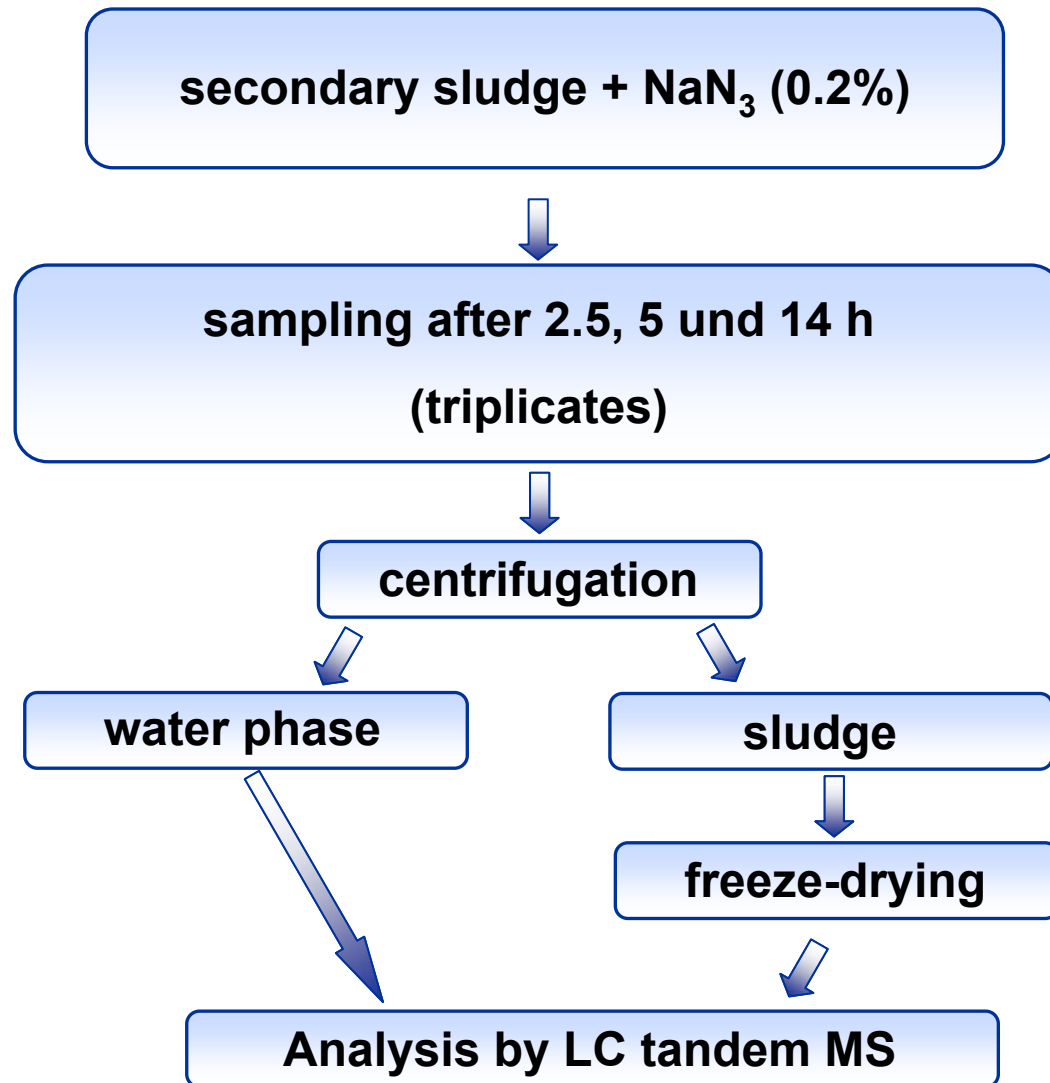




# Elimination of emerging pollutants in municipal WWTP



# Sorption - „rapid“ batch experiments





# Sorption – rapid batch experiments

## sludge/water-partition coefficients ( $K_d$ ) for secondary sludge

psycho-active drugs:

$K_d < 100 \text{ L kg}_{SS}^{-1}$  (except doxepin:  $K_d = 140 \text{ L kg}_{SS}^{-1}$ )

betablockers:

$K_d < 100 \text{ L g}_{SS}^{-1}$  (except propranolol:  $K_d = 340 \text{ L kg}_{SS}^{-1}$ ) *Scheurer et al., in preparation*

## predicting the ratio eliminated by sorption

$$\frac{X}{C} = \frac{K_d SP}{1 + K_d SP}$$

*Ternes et al., Wat. Res.38, 4075-4084 (2004)*

**X:** concentration (sorbed) [ $\text{ng L}^{-1}$ ]

**C:** concentration (total) [ $\text{ng L}^{-1}$ ]

**SP:** sludge production [ $\text{g}_{SS} \text{ L}^{-1}$ ]

sludge production: ( $\sim 0.09 \text{ g}_{SS} \text{ L}^{-1}$ )

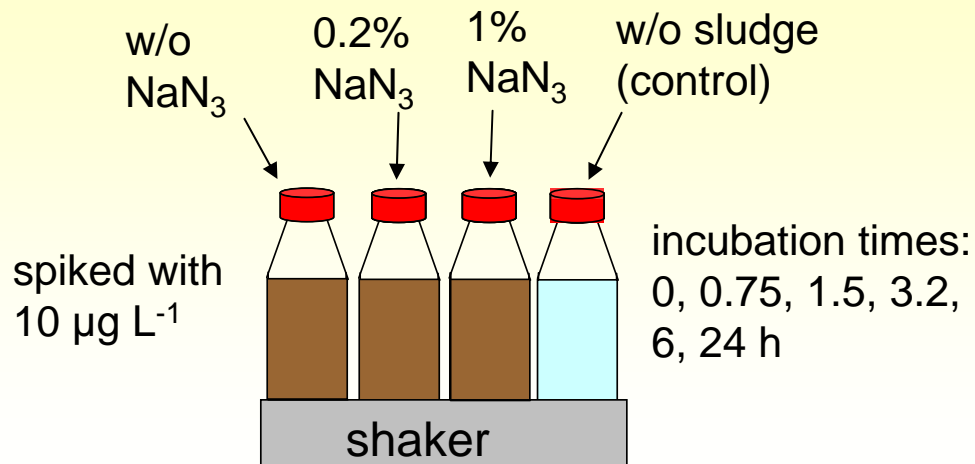


**< 3% are eliminated by sorption**

**Sorption can be neglected for these target compounds**

# Sorption of biocides onto secondary sludge isotherm batch experiments

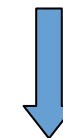
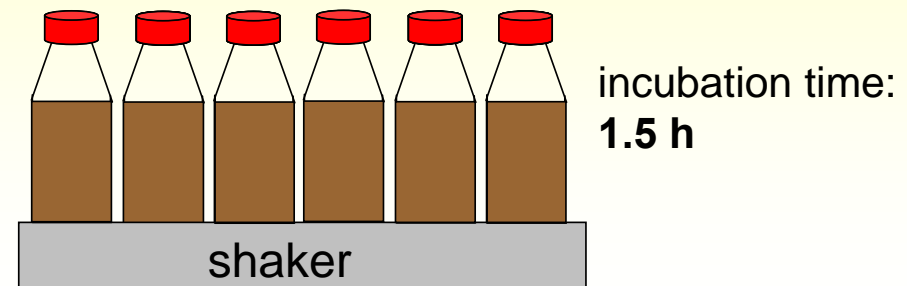
## experiment I: sorption equilibrium



**addition of  $\text{NaN}_3$  significantly influences the sorption affinities**

## experiment II: Freundlich isotherms

spiked with 6 different concentrations ( $0.1 - 30 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ )



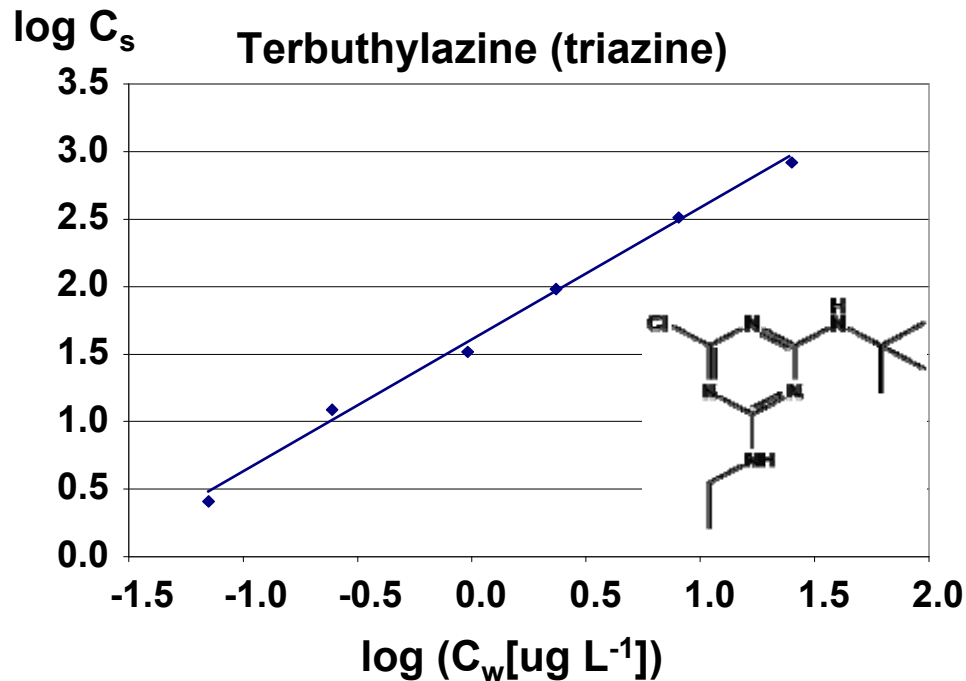
$$C_S = K_F C_W^n$$

$$\log C_S = \log K_F + n \log C_W$$



# Freundlich sorption isotherms of triazines/conazoles

Approx. 40 compounds were investigated (e.g. triazines, phenyl urea herbicides, conazoles, antiseptics)

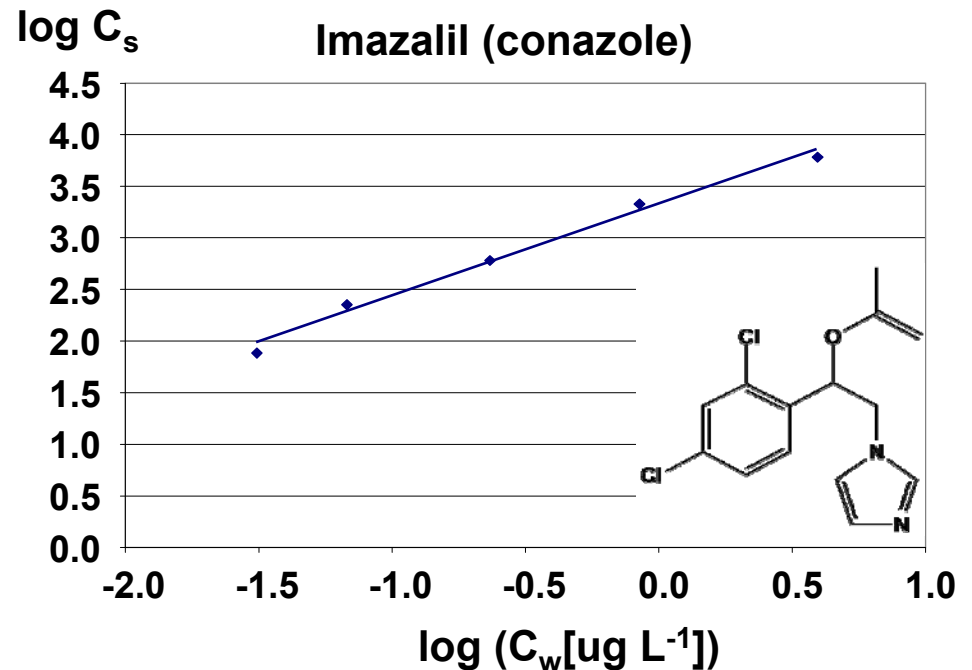


$R^2 = 0.996$   
 $n = 0.98 \pm 0.10$   
 $K_F = 42 \pm 10 \text{ L kg}^{-1}$   
 $(K_d = 47 \pm 14 \text{ L kg}^{-1})$

**0.4 %**



**eliminated by sorption**

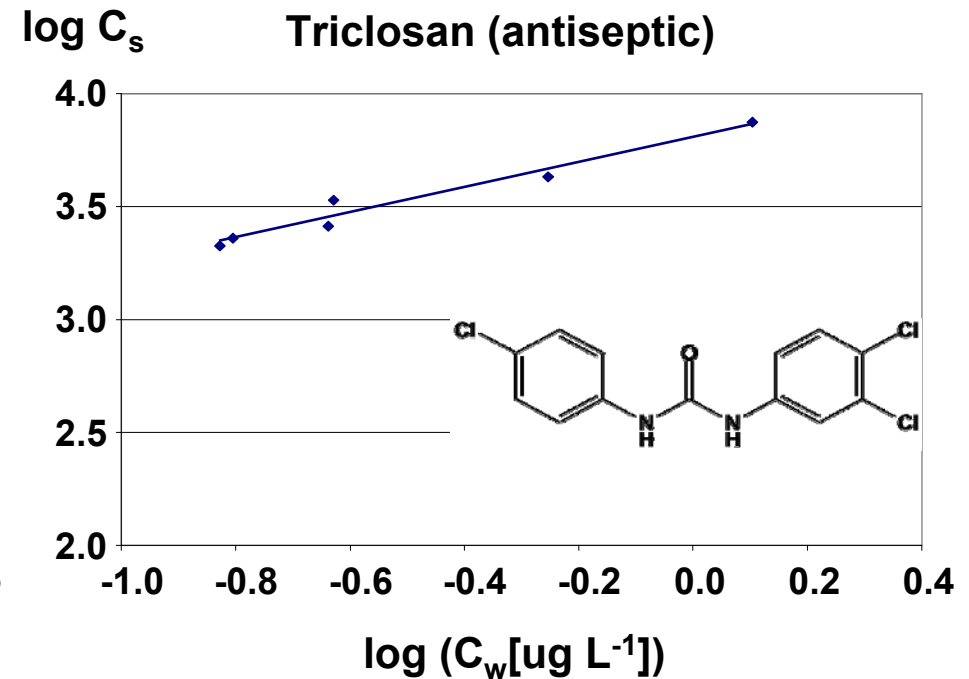
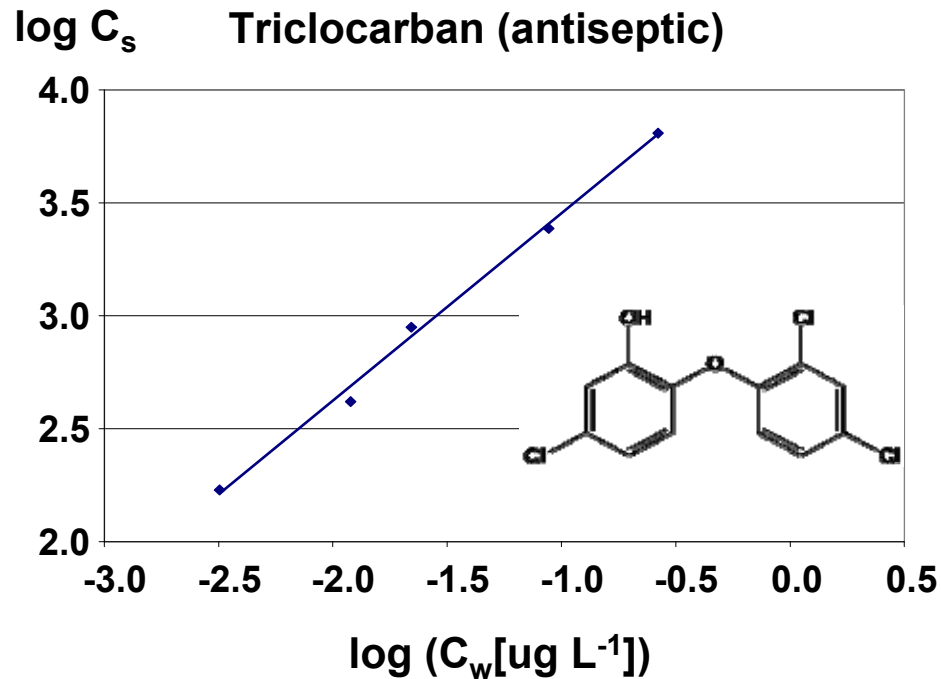


$R^2 = 0.989$   
 $n = 0.89 \pm 0.17$   
 $K_F = 2282 \pm 741 \text{ L kg}^{-1}$   
 $(K_d = 3003 \pm 243 \text{ L kg}^{-1})$



**23 %**

# Freundlich sorption isotherms of antiseptics



$R^2 = 0.996$   
 $n = 0.83 \pm 0.10$   
 $K_F = 19011 \pm 6535 \text{ L kg}^{-1}$   
 $(K_d = 39761 \pm 4096 \text{ L kg}^{-1})$

**60 %**



**eliminated by sorption**

$R^2 = 0.961$   
 $n = 0.55 \pm 0.16$   
 $K_F = 6432 \pm 1396 \text{ L kg}^{-1}$   
 $(K_d = 15944 \pm 621 \text{ L kg}^{-1})$

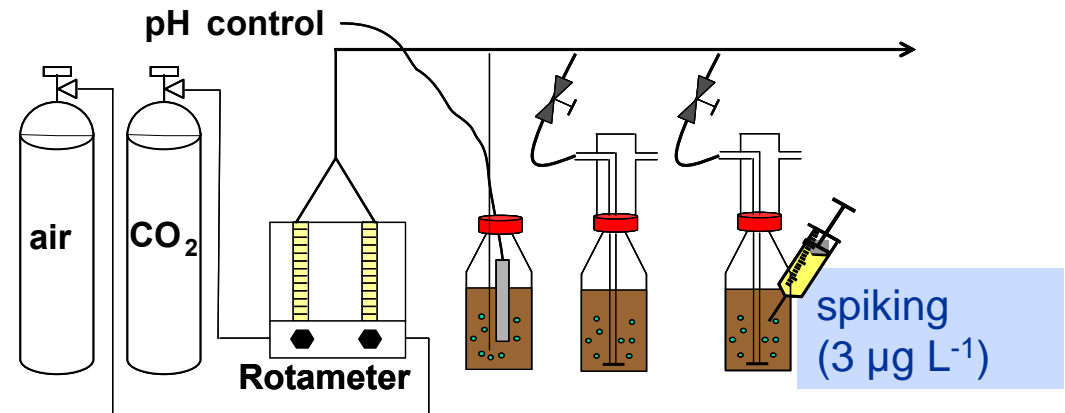


**78 %**



# Batch experiments – primary transformation

sludge diluted with effluent (1:10)  
control: effluent w/o sludge



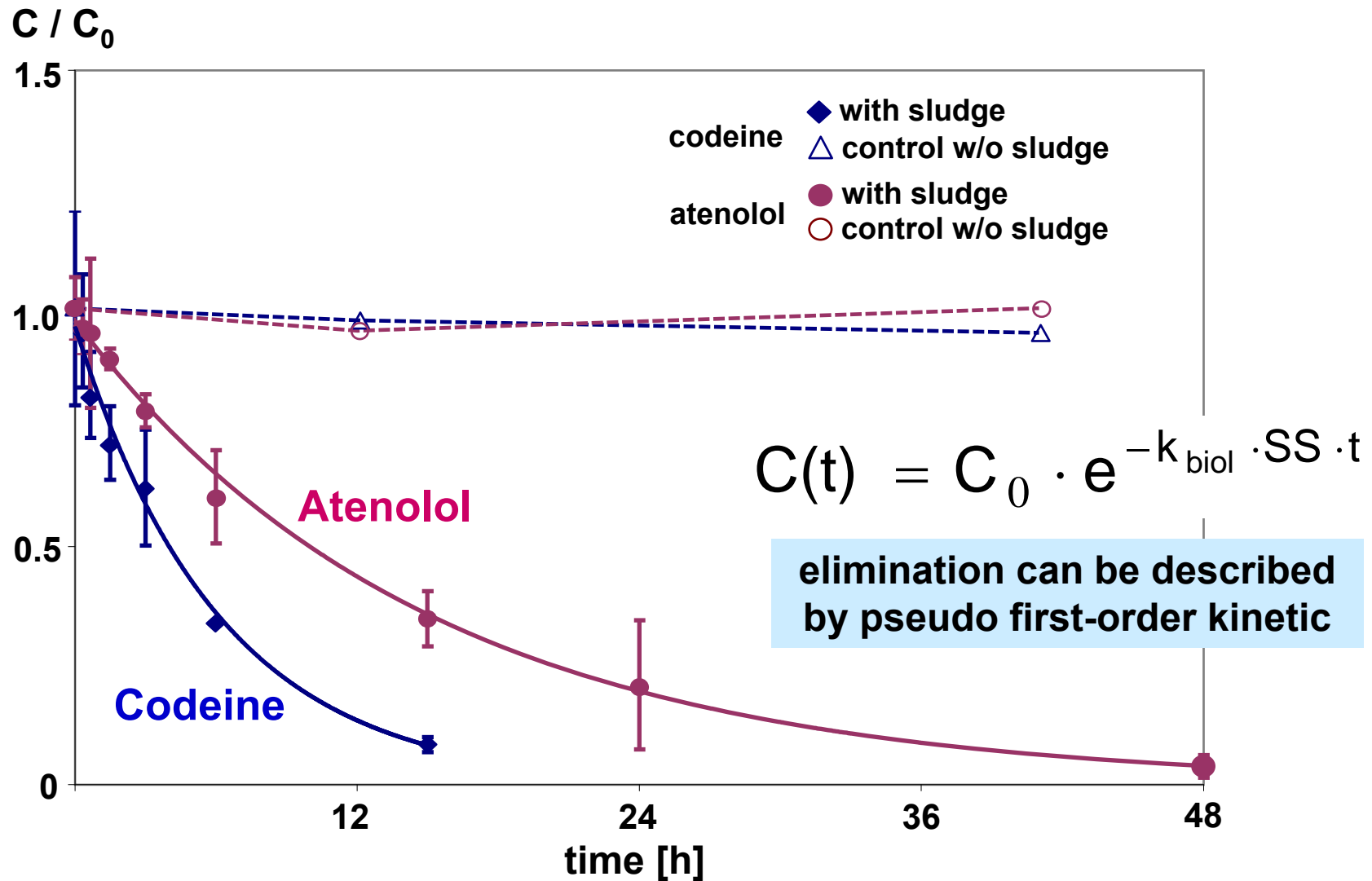
oxic conditions + stable pH ( $7.2 \pm 0.2$ )  
by bubbling air and  $CO_2$

48 h incubation, continuous sampling  
(triplicates)



samples acidified to pH 3 for inhibition of the  
microbial activity

# Batch experiments primary transformation of Codeine/Atenolol





# Model for primary degradation

## Model assumptions

- biol. treatment tank can be modeled as a cascade of  $n$  completely stirred reactors (CSTR) ( $n=1-3$ )
- sorption negligible

$$\text{elimination [\%]} = 1 - \frac{1}{(1 + R) \cdot \left[ 1 + \left( k_{\text{biol}} \cdot T_{\text{corr}} \cdot \text{SS} \cdot \frac{\text{HRT}}{n \cdot (1+R)} \right) \right]^n - R}$$

**biol. transformation constants ( $k_{\text{biol}}$ )**

**hydraulic retention time (HRT)**

**temperature correction ( $T_{\text{corr}}$ )**

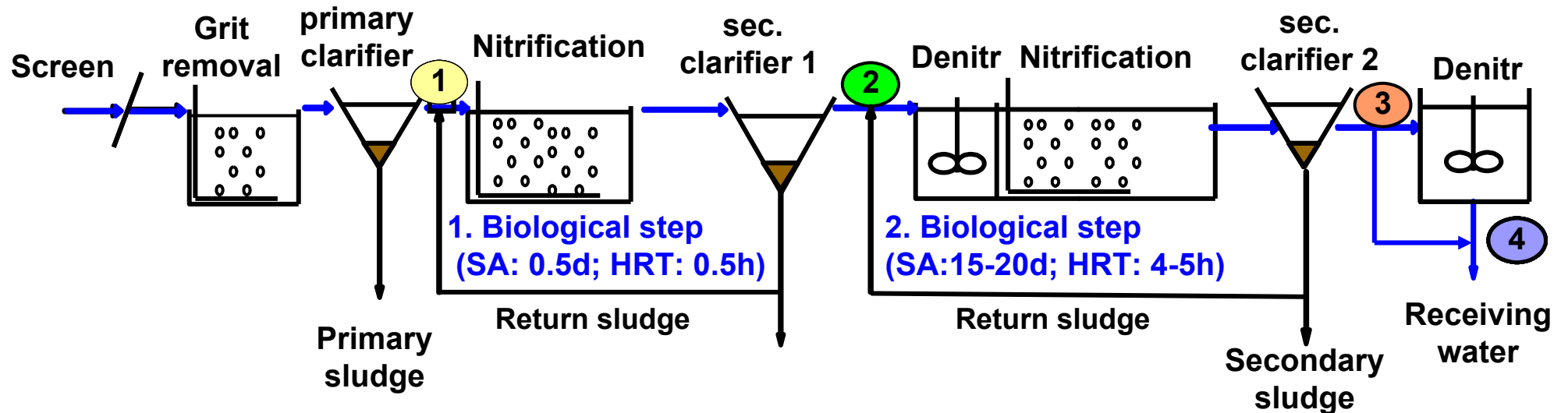
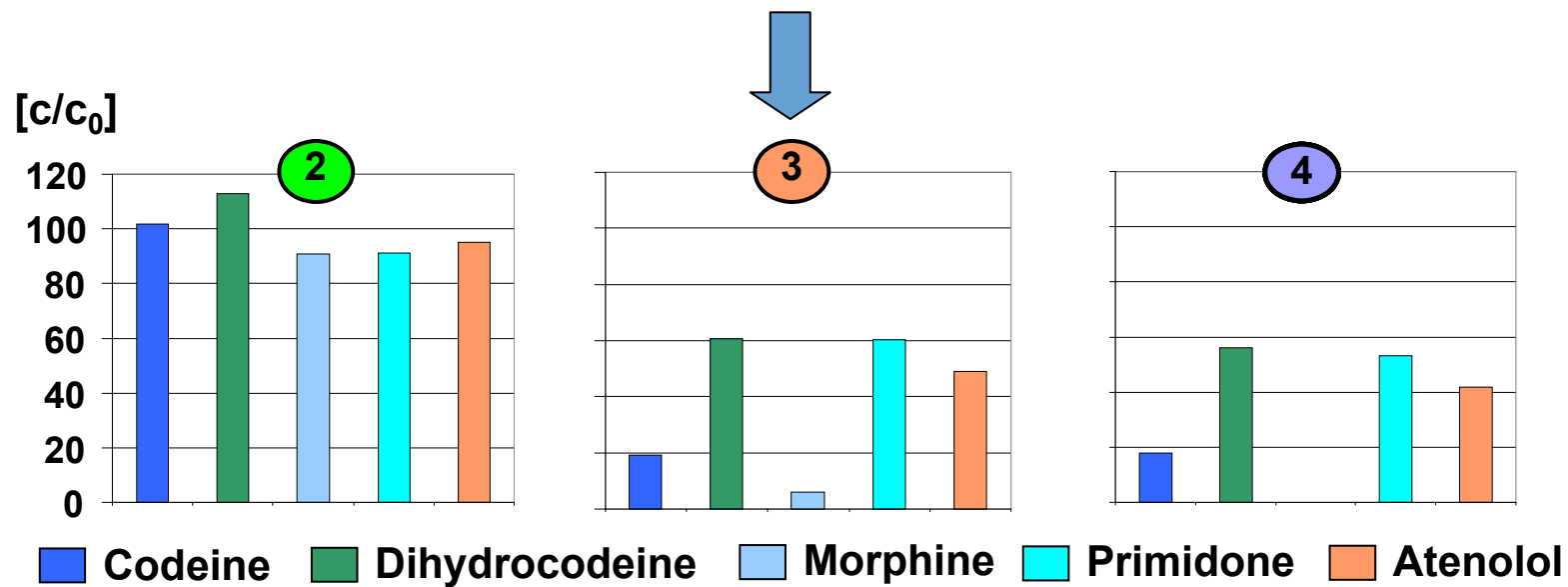
suspended solids (SS)

sludge recycle (R)

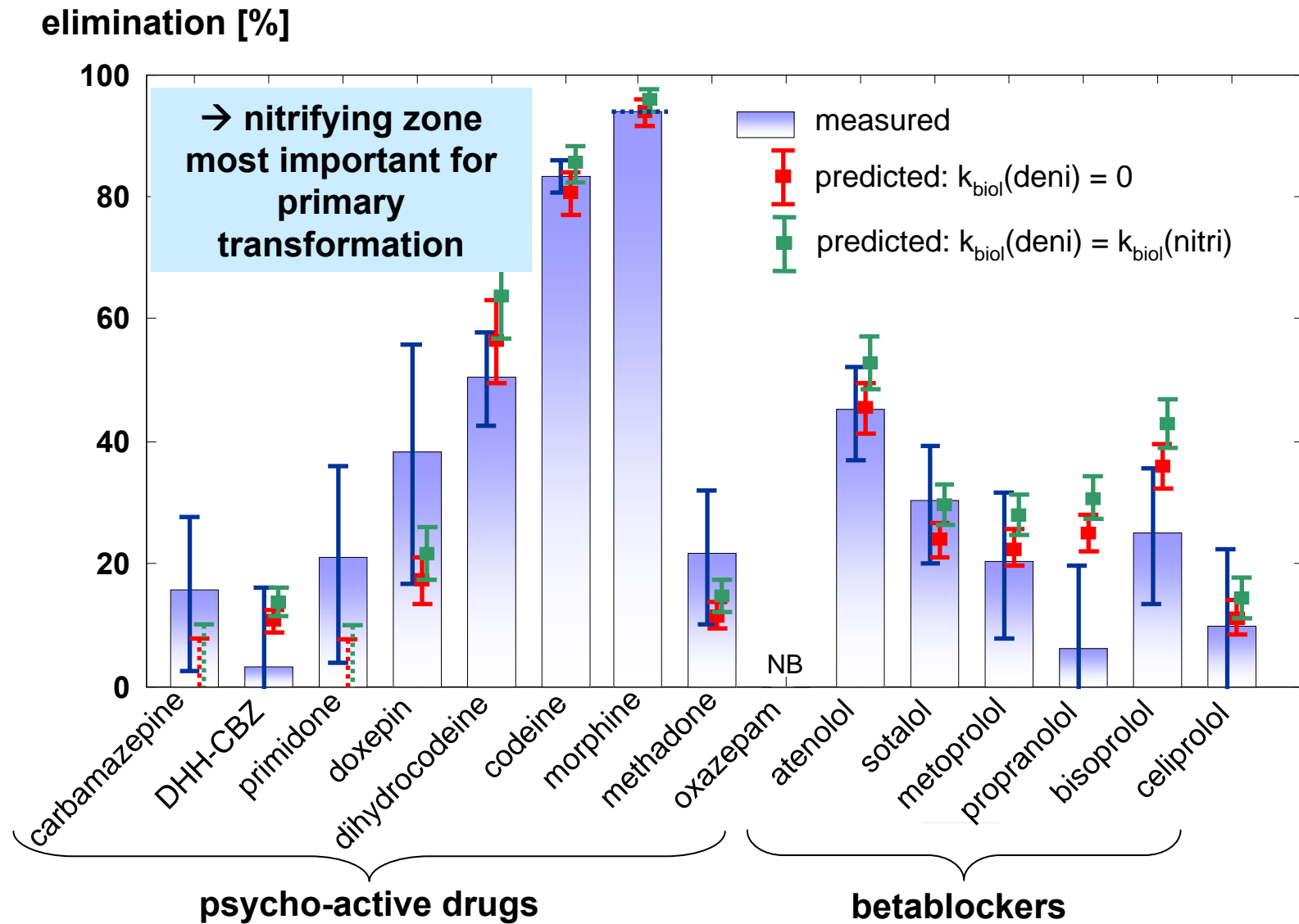
**number of compartments (n)**

Source: Joss et al.,  
Wat. Res.40, 1686-1696 (2006)

# Removal of Atenolol and psycho-active drugs in WWTP Frankfurt



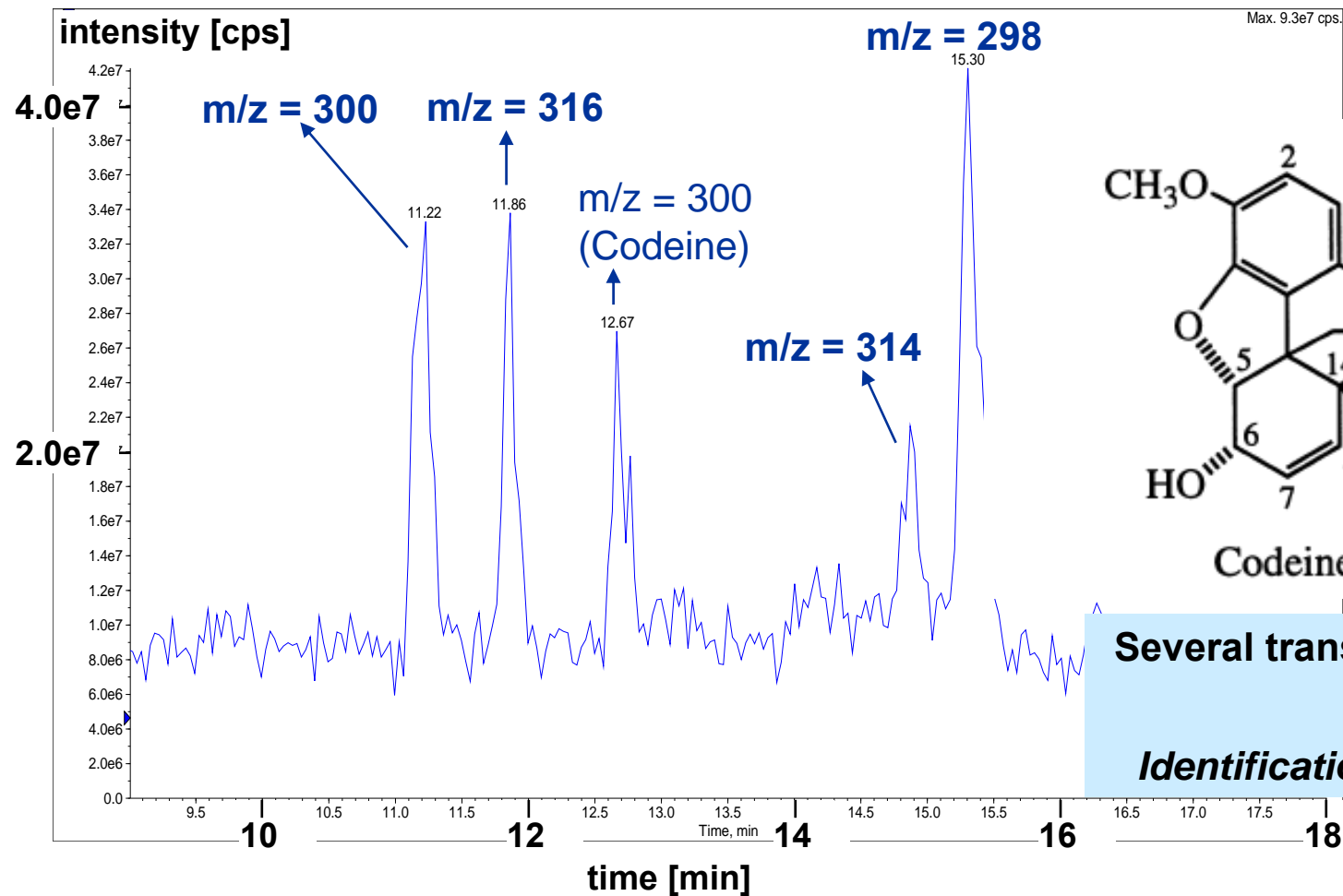
# Modelling of the removal in the second biological step





# Transformation products of codeine

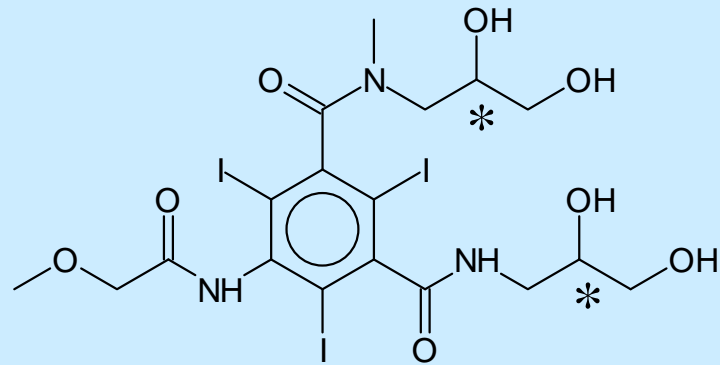
After 10 days incubation of **codeine** in contact with secondary sludge



Several transformation products have been found

*Identification is under investigation*

# Iodinated X ray contrast media

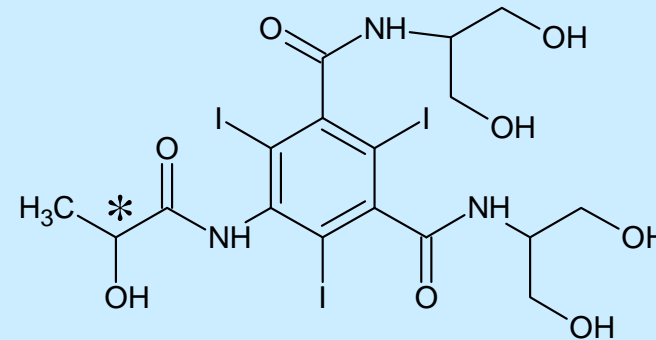


**Iopromide**

**log K<sub>ow</sub>: -2.33**

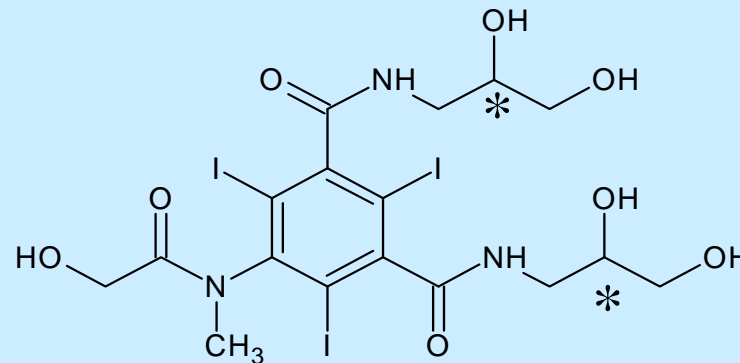
**K<sub>d</sub>: 5.2-30 L/kg**

**(activated/digested sludge)**



**Iopamidol**

**log K<sub>ow</sub>: -2.42**

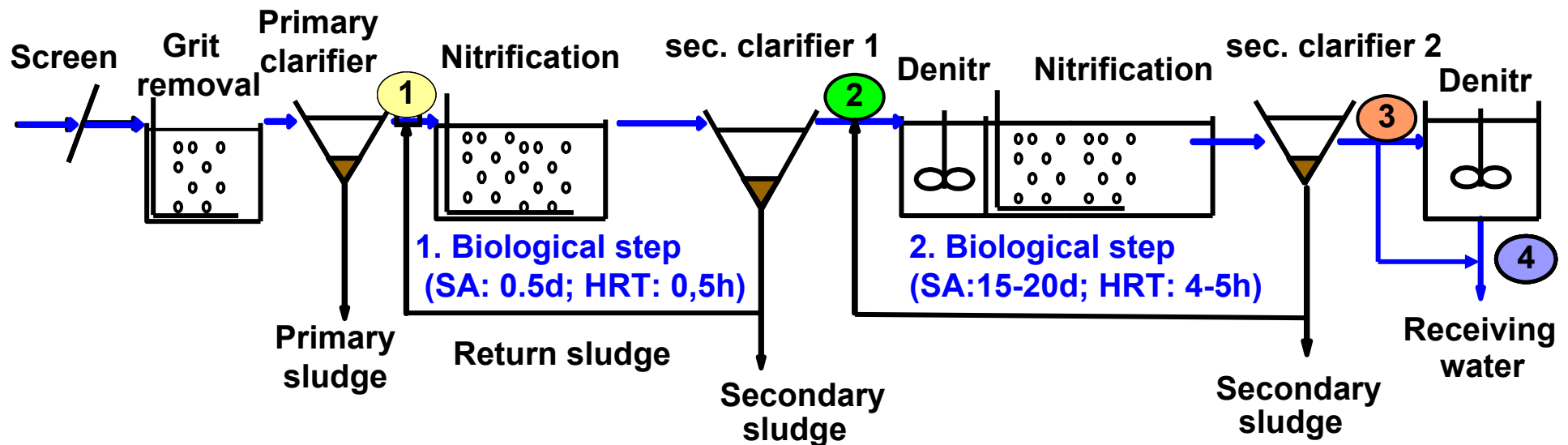
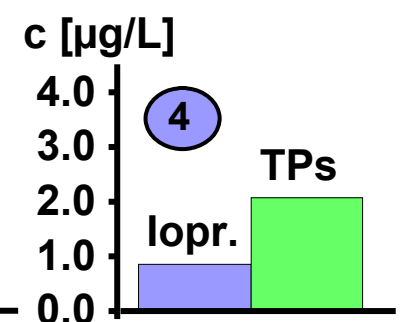
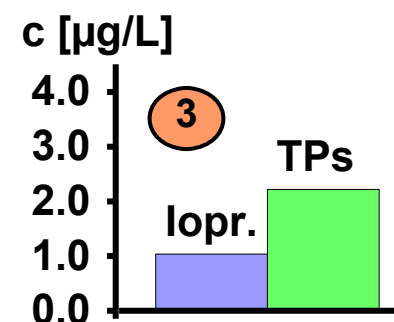
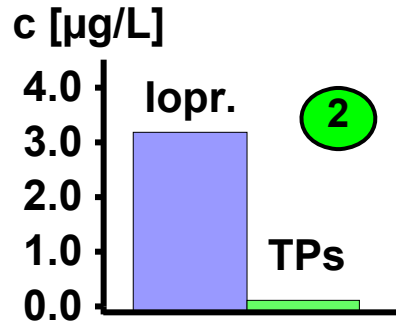
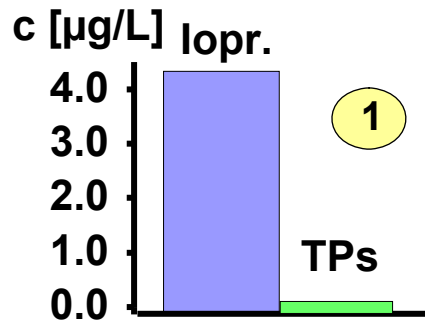


**Iomeprol**

(source: Steger-Hartmann et al., 1999; Carballa et al., 2008; Ternes et al., 2005)

# Transformation products (TPs) of lopromide in WWTP Frankfurt

Sludge age: 20-22 d, hydraul. retention time (biol): 4-5 h, 1.3 Mill inh. equivalent



Source: Schulz et al., ES&T, 2008



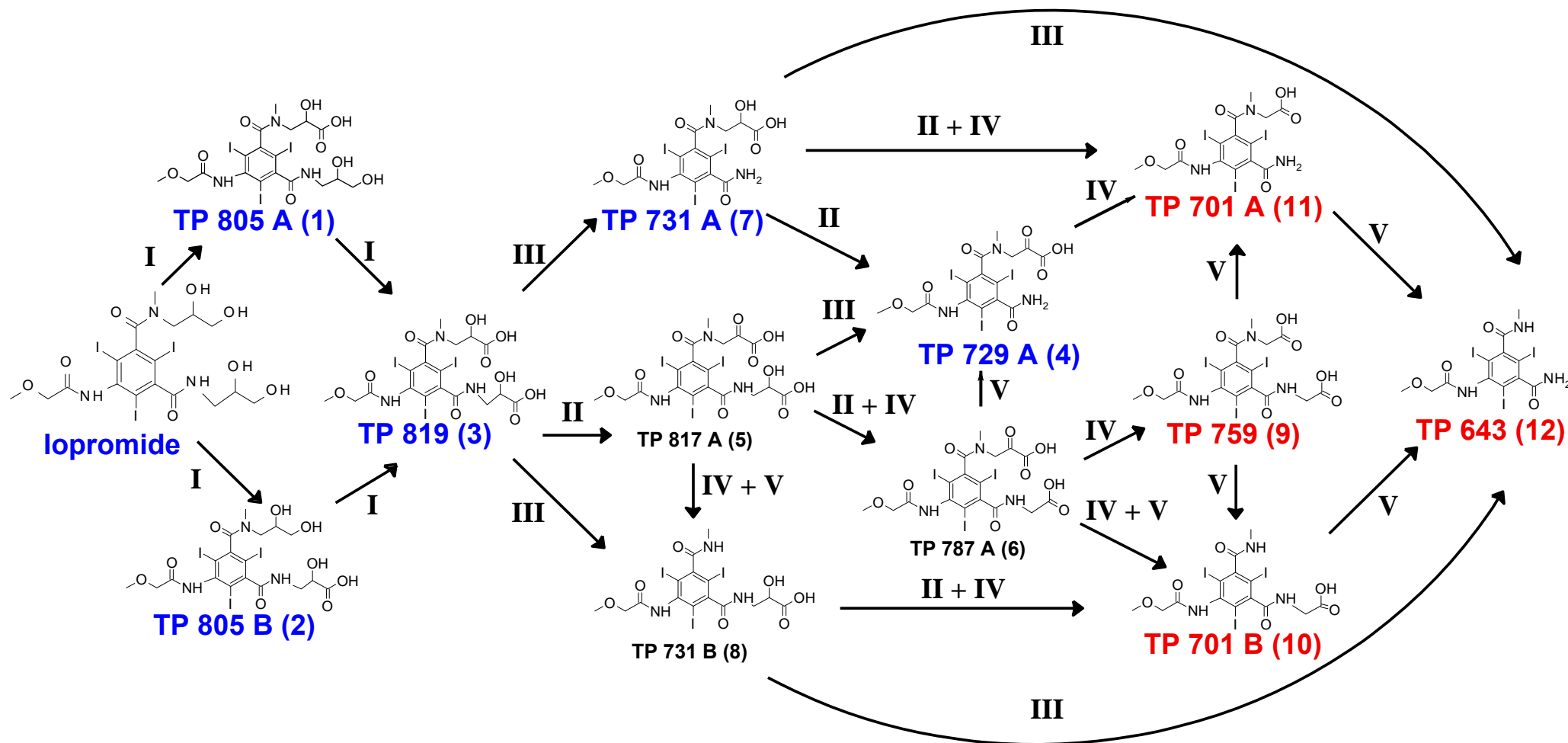
# Potential aerobic degradation pathways of Iopromide

reaction I/II: oxidation prim./sec. hydroxyl moieties

reaction III: cleavage of amide-methylen bond

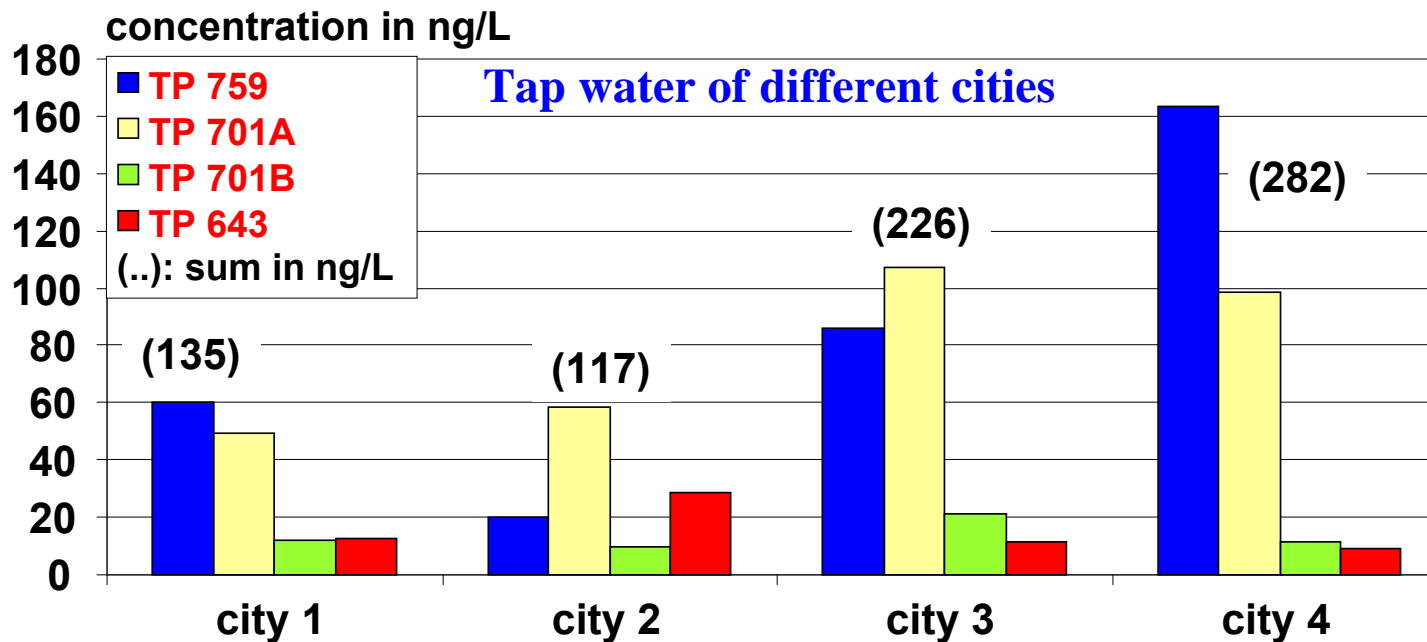
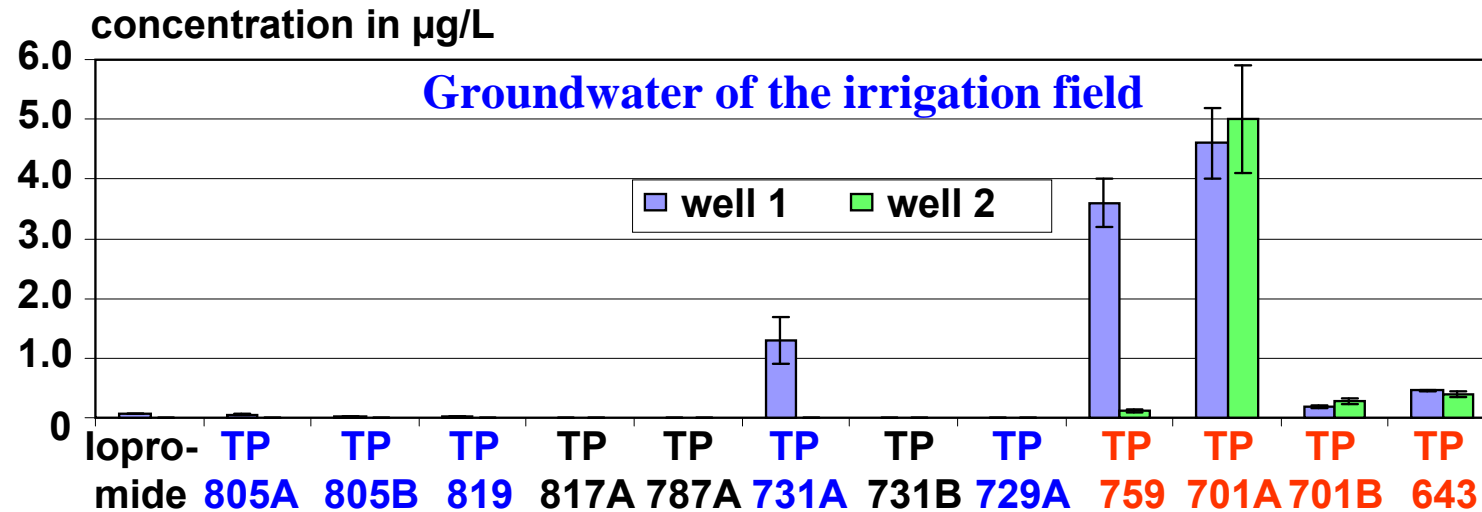
reaction IV: oxidative decarboxylation

reaction V: deacetylation



Source: Schulz et al., ES&T, 2008

# Occurrence of iopromide TPs



Source: Schulz et al.,  
EST, 2008

# Conclusions



## Occurrence of emerging compounds

Pharmaceuticals, biocides and other polar emerging contaminants are ubiquitously present in WWTP effluents and surface waters as well as certain substances in groundwater and drinking water



## Modelling of sorption and primary degradation in WWTPs

Removal by sorption and primary biodegradation of emerging contaminants can be predicted by batch experiments



## Relevance of transformation products (TPs)

- Frequently primary degradation is the main removal process in WWTPs, but it is not leading to mineralization
- TPs formed in WWTPs can be polar and persistent
- Currently the formation of TPs cannot be sufficiently predicted by models
- A toxicological risk assessment of TP is currently impossible

**! The known TPs and target compounds are only the top of an iceberg !**

## Thank to my research group at BfG

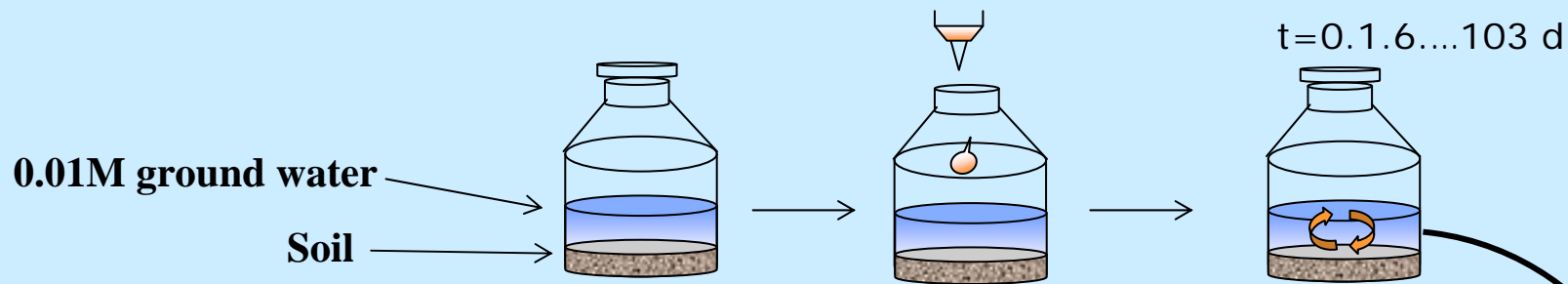


*Financial Support*  
**EU for funding Neptune and Keybioeffects**  
from the Sixth Framework Programme



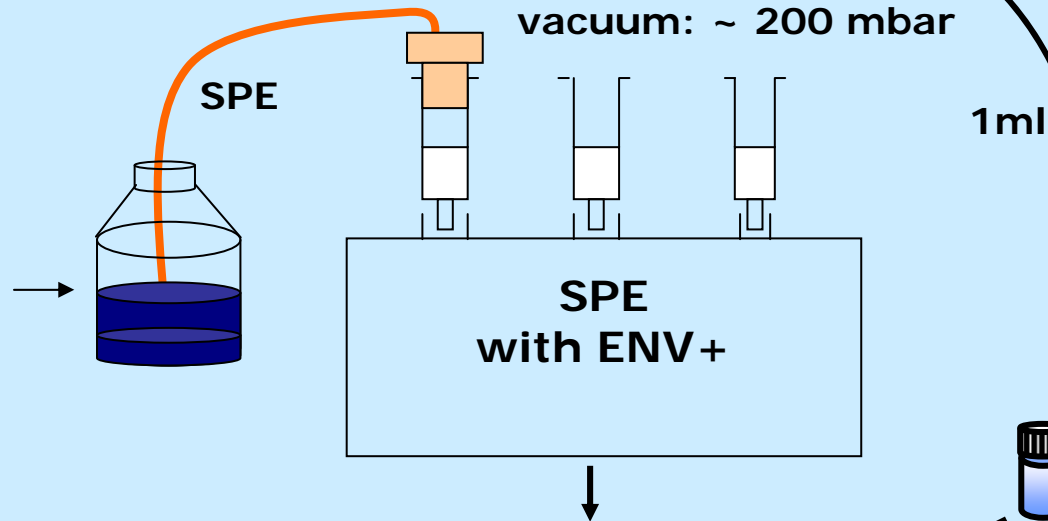
# Degradation of iopamidol/iomeprol in soil/water-systems

## ➤ Batch-experiments



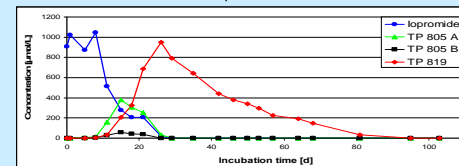
## ➤ separation

## ➤ SPE

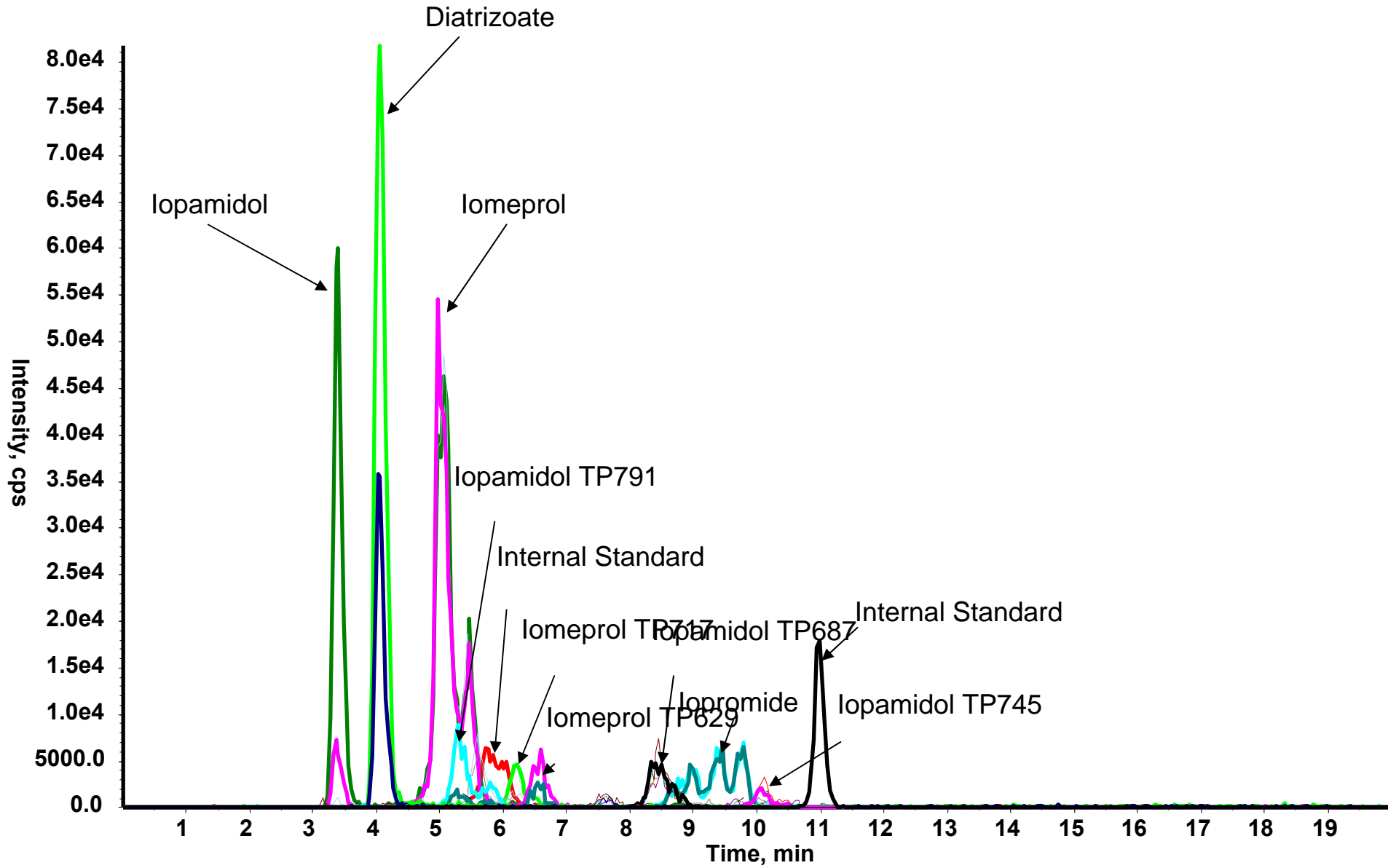


## ➤ detection:

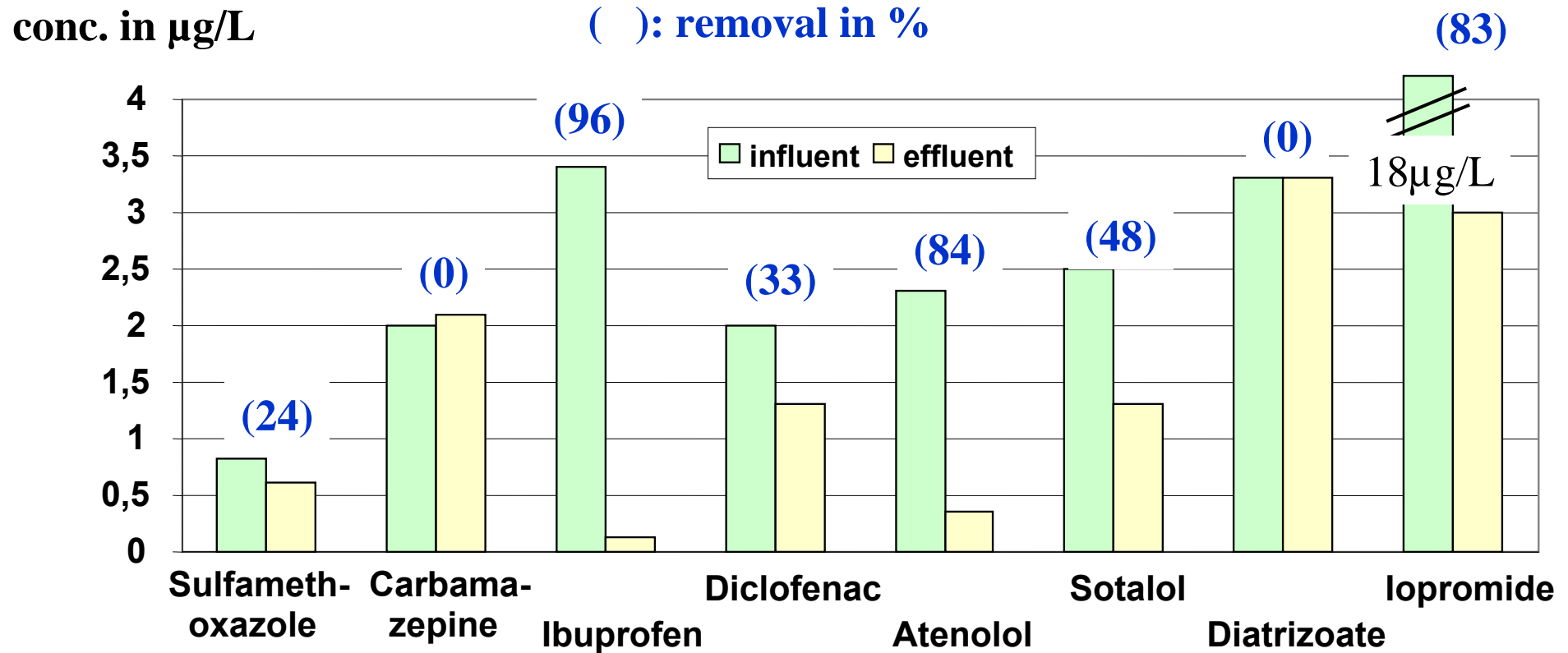
## ➤ LC-tandem MS or LC/UV



WWTP effluent sample



# Removal in a municipal Wastewater treatment plant

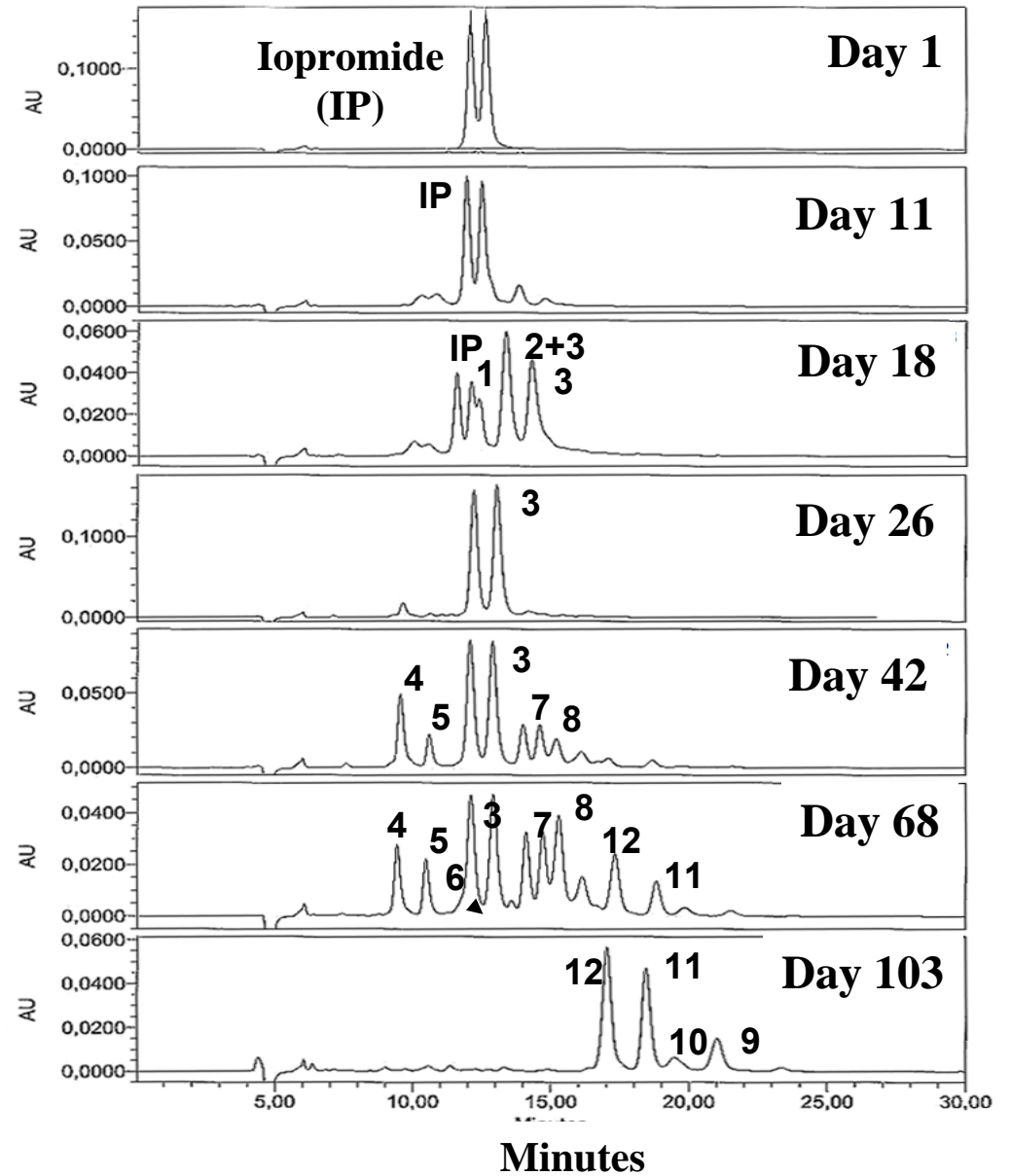
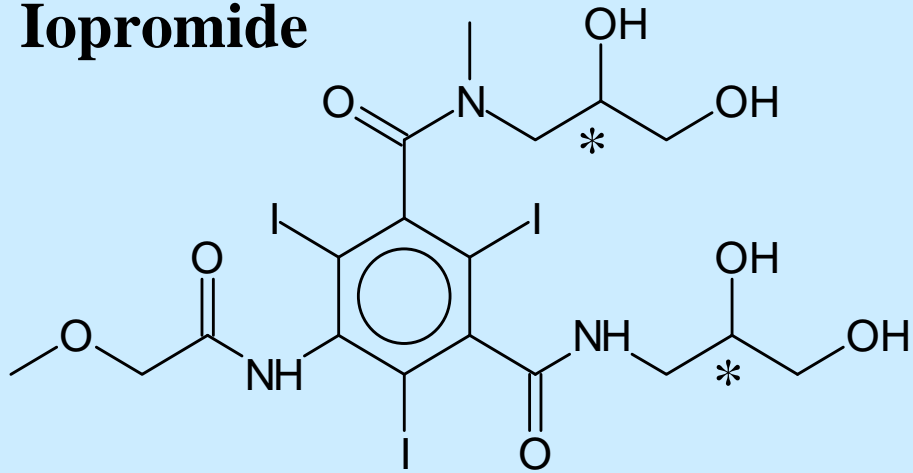


Ternes et al., Chemosphere, 2007, in press

# Formation of 12 iopromide TPs in water/soil-systems

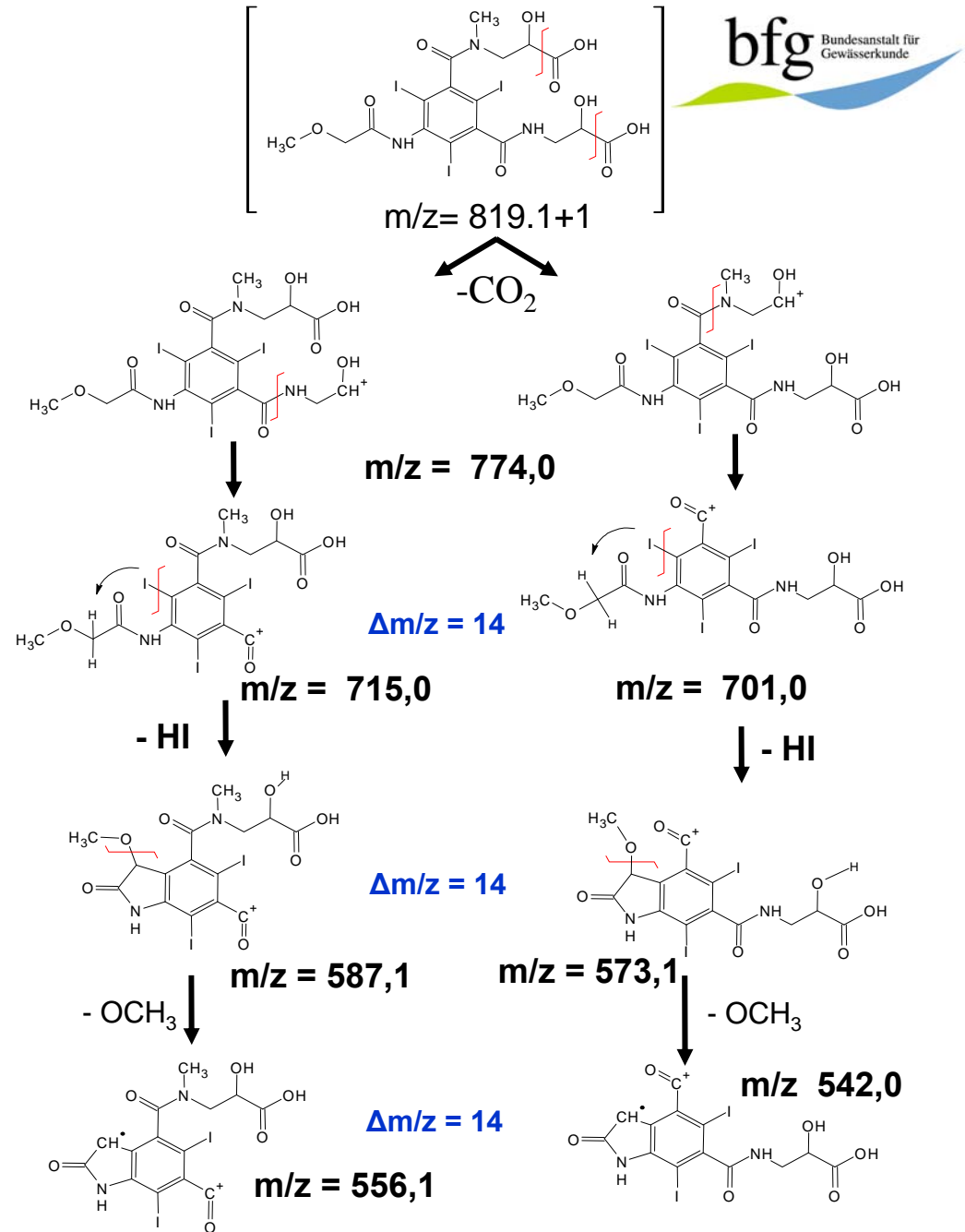
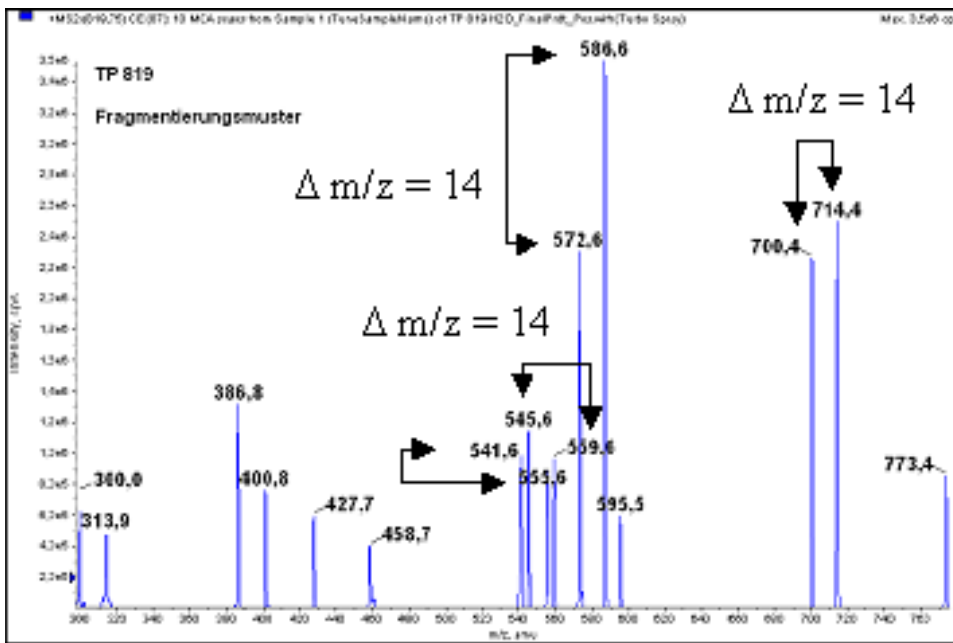
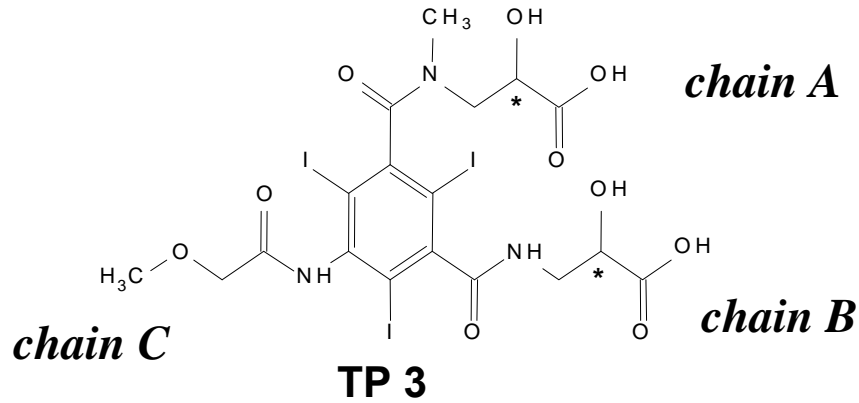
*detection via HPLC/UV*

## Iopromide

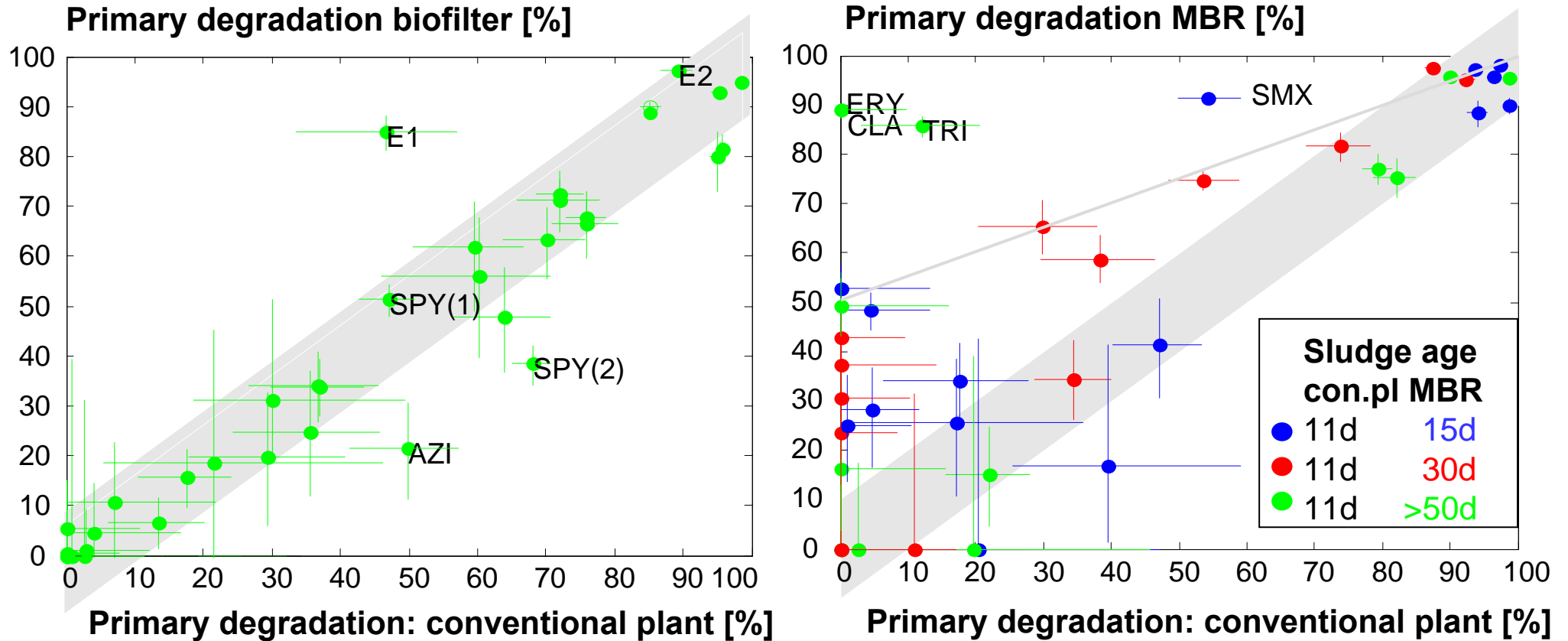




# MS fragmentation of TP 3

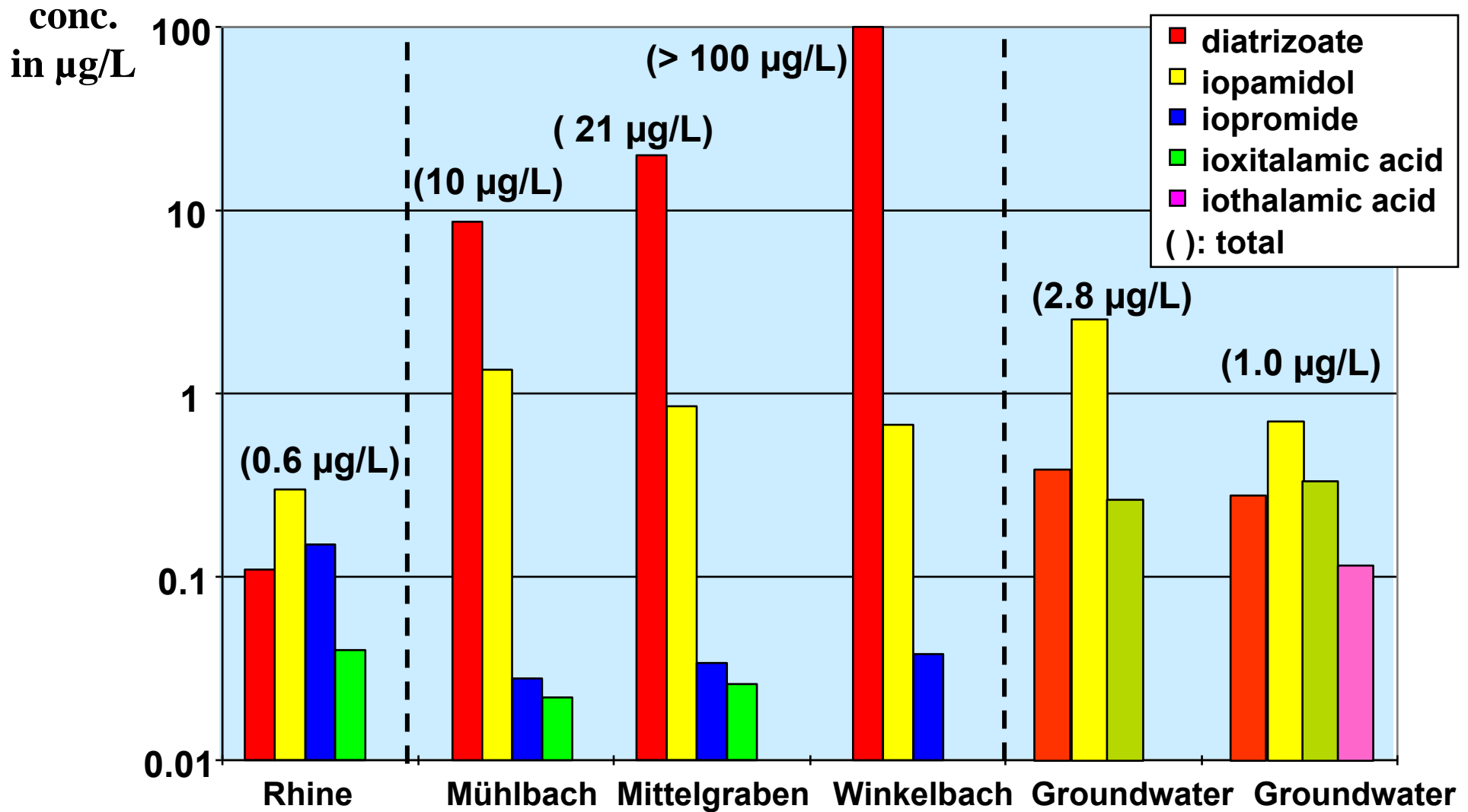


# Comparison of primary degradation MBR, biofilter, conventional plant



Source: Joss und Siegrist, 2005, Eawag News

# Iodinated contrast media: found in surface water and groundwater



Ternes & Hirsch, Environ. Sci. Techn. (2000) 34, 2741-2748