

# **A mechanistic model to assess the fate of PAHs in a Chilean WWTP and implication for effluent reuse and solids disposal**

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Number of tables: 9

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Table S1. Influent naphthalene loads (g/d) obtained through the bootstrap for the 10%, 50% and 95% probability percentiles

|    | P10   | P50   | P95   |
|----|-------|-------|-------|
| E1 | 170.7 | 397.9 | 715.3 |
| Q1 | 184.1 | 416.9 | 749.5 |
| Q2 | 191.4 | 426.4 | 760.1 |
| Q3 | 201.6 | 434.4 | 773.0 |
| E2 | 221.0 | 454.0 | 795.4 |

Table S2. Influent benzo(a)pyrene loads (g/d) obtained through the bootstrap for the 10%, 50% and 95% probability percentiles

|    | P10  | P50  | P95  |
|----|------|------|------|
| E1 | 4.4  | 24.9 | 82.9 |
| Q1 | 5.6  | 27.3 | 83.6 |
| Q2 | 6.2  | 28.4 | 84.4 |
| Q3 | 9.1  | 32.1 | 84.8 |
| E2 | 10.2 | 33.9 | 86.2 |

## Details About the Mechanistic Model

Table S3. Assumptions for each treatment stage in the PAH model

| Treatment stage           | Compartments   | Processes   | Considerations  | Reference |
|---------------------------|--|---|---|-----------|
| Primary treatment         | Dissolved and adsorbed to MP                                 | Advection, adsorption, surface volatilization   | Equilibrium between dissolved and sorbed phase. A linear isotherm is used to characterize the process. Sorption occurs onto total suspended solids. Volatilization occurs only to the dissolved phase.  | [1]       |
| Secondary treatment       | Dissolved and adsorbed to sludge                             | Advection, adsorption, biodegradation (oxic and anoxic conditions), surface and bubble volatilization   | Equilibrium between dissolved and sorbed phase. Sorption occurs onto total suspended solids. Volatilization occurs only to the dissolved phase.<br>Retransformable fraction is not considered. Biodegradation occurs as cometabolism.   | [1,2]     |
| Thickeners and dewatering | Freely dissolved, sorbed to particles and sorbed to DCM      | Advection   | No chemical or biological processes of PAHs take place.<br>No interaction between PAH sorbed to particles and sorbed to DCM.  | [3]       |
| Anaerobic digestion       | Freely dissolved, sorbed to particles, sorbed to DCM and gas | Advection, sorption/desorption to particles, sorption/desorption to DCM, volatilization, biodegradation | Biodegradation occurs as cometabolism to the bioavailable fraction (freely dissolved and sorbed to DCM).<br>Volatilization occurs to the freely dissolved phase.<br>No interaction between PAHs sorbed to particles and sorbed to DCM.<br>Sorption/desorption modelled as a first order reaction. | [4]       |

The general equation for each phase considered in each treatment stage is:

$$0 = r_{adv,i} \pm r_j$$

Where,  $r_{adv,i}$ : Advection rate ( $F_{in} - F_{out}$ ) in the i-phase;  $r_j$ : rate of j-process. The different processes for each treatment stage are presented in Table B2 and B4 for the water line and sludge line, respectively. .

The information regarding operational parameters was obtained from SISS, 2014 [39].

Table S4. Rate equations for the processes considered in the water line

| Treatment stage     | Process                                       | $C_{dis}$ | $C_{ad}$ | Rate  | Reference |
|---------------------|---|-----------|----------|---|-----------|
| Primary treatment   | Sorption to particles                         | -1        | +1       | $Q \cdot K_{d,prim} \cdot C_{dis} \cdot X$                      | [1]       |
|                     | Superficial volatilization                    | -1        |          | $V \cdot K_L a_{sur} \cdot C_{dis} \frac{H_c}{H_c + (k_L/k_G)}$ |           |
| Secondary treatment | Sorption to particles under aerobic condition | -1        | +1       | $K_{d,ox,sec} \cdot C_{LI} \cdot \frac{S_o}{K_o + S_o} \cdot X$ | [1,2]     |

|  |  |    |    |  |  |
|--|--|----|----|--|--|
|  | Sorption to particles under anoxic condition | -1 | +1 | $K_{d,Ax,sec} \cdot C_{LI} \cdot \frac{K_o}{K_o + S_o} \cdot X$  |  |
|  | Superficial volatilization                   | -1 |    | $V \cdot K_L a_{sur} \cdot C_{dis} \frac{H_c}{H_c + (k_L/k_G)}$  |  |
|  | Bubble volatilization                        | -1 |    | $-G H_c C_{dis} \left( 1 - \exp \left[ -\frac{K_L a_{bub} Z}{H_c U} \right] \right)$                   |  |
|  | Biodegradation in oxic condition             | -1 |    | $\left[ q_{C,ox} \cdot \frac{S_s}{K_s + S_s} + k_{Bio,ox} \right] C_{LI} \frac{S_o}{K_o + S_o} X_{SS}$ |  |
|  | Biodegradation in anoxic condition           | -1 |    | $\left[ q_{C,Ax} \cdot \frac{S_s}{K_s + S_s} + k_{Bio,ox} \right] C_{LI} \frac{S_o}{K_o + S_o} X_{SS}$ |  |

Table S5. Parameters used in the water line

| Name  | Parameter           | Unit     | Nap   | B(a)p  | Reference |
|---|---------------------|----------|-------|--------|-----------|
| Ratio of the liquid-phase mass transfer coefficient to the gas-phase mass transfer coefficient for surface volatilization | $(k_L/k_G)_{sur,p}$ | -        | 0.025 |        | [1]       |
| Dimensionless Henry's law coefficient   | $H_c$               | -        | 0.03  | 0.0008 | [5]       |
| Linear partition coefficient for primary sludge   | $K_{d,prim}$        | L/kgSST  | 0.86  | 35.1   | [1]       |
| Overall surface-desorption gas-transfer coefficient   | $K_{L*asur,p}$      | $d^{-1}$ | 1.8   |        | [1]       |
| Biotransformation rate  | $k_{bio}$           | L/gSSV*d | 0.11  | 0.013  | [6]       |
| Solid-liquid sorption coefficient for secondary sludge  | $K_{d,sec}$         | L/gSST   | 2.2   | 9.7    | [7]       |
| Half saturation coefficient for $S_s$   | $K_s$               | mgCOD/L  | 10    |        | [8]       |
| Half saturation coefficient for dissolved oxygen  | $K_o$               | mgO2/L   | 0.2   |        | [8]       |
| Aerobic maximum specific cometabolic substrate biotransformation rate in the presence of growth substrates for CLI        | $q_{c,ox}$          | L/g*d    | 2.4   |        | [2]       |
| Aerobic maximum specific cometabolic substrate biotransformation rate in the presence of growth substrates for CLI        | $q_{c,ax}$          | L/g*d    | 0.96  |        | [2]       |
| Gas flow rate   | $G$                 | $m^3/d$  | 47500 |        | [1]       |
| Overall gas-transfer coefficient for bubble desorption  | $K_{L*a_{bub}}$     | $d^{-1}$ | 64700 |        | [1]       |
| Superficial bubble rising velocity  | $U$                 | $m/d$    | 7780  |        | [1]       |
| Water column depth  | $Z$                 | m        | 6     |        | [9]       |

Table S6. Rate equations for the processes considered in the sludge line

| Treatment stage     | Process                                      | $C_f$ | $C_{DCM}$ | $C_p$ | $C_g$ | Rate  | Reference |
|---------------------|--|-------|-----------|-------|-------|---|-----------|
| Anaerobic digestion | Volatilization                               | -1    |           |       | +1    | $K_{La}(K_H \cdot C_f - C_g)$   | [4]       |
|                     | Sorption to particles                        | -1    |           | +1    |       | $k_1(K_p C_f - c_p)$  |           |
|                     | Sorption to DCM                              | -1    | +1        |       |       | $k_2(K_{DCM} C_f - c_{DCM})$  |           |
|                     | Biodegradation of free dissolved compartment | -1    |           |       |       | $(T_c \frac{\mu}{Y} + k_c) \left( \frac{C_{free}}{K_{SC} + C_{free}} \right) X$ |           |
|                     | Biodegradation of sorbed to DCM compartment  |       |           | -1    |       | $(T_c \frac{\mu}{Y} + k_c) \left( \frac{C_{DCM}}{K_{SC} + C_{DCM}} \right) X$   |           |

Table S7. Parameters used in the sludge line

| Name   | Parameter   | Unit                      | Nap    | B(a)p   | Reference |
|--|-------------|---------------------------|--------|---------|-----------|
| Biomass maximum growth rate  | $\mu_{max}$ | $d^{-1}$                  | 0.62   |         | [4]       |
| Half saturation of growth substrate  | $K_s$       | gCOD/L                    | 5.10   |         | [4]       |
| Growth yield   | $Y$         | gCOD-X/gCOD-Ss            | 0.75   |         | [4]       |
| First order endogenous decay   | $b$         | $d^{-1}$                  | 0.05   |         | [4]       |
| PAH transformation capacity  | $T_c$       | $\mu\text{gPAH/gCOD-Ss}$  | 1.90   |         | [10]      |
| Maximum specific rate of OMPs biodegradation in absence of primary substrate | $k_c$       | $\mu\text{gPAH/gCOD-X}^d$ | 0.27   | 0.06    | [6]       |
| Half saturation constant of PAHs   | $K_{SC}$    | $\mu\text{gPAH/L}$        | 7,948  | 30,345  | [11]      |
| First order kinetic of hydrolysis  | $k_{hyd}$   | $d^{-1}$                  | 0.14   |         | [9]       |
| Overall surface-desorption gas-transfer coefficient                          | $K_{La}$    | $d^{-1}$                  | 100    |         | [12]      |
| Dimensionless Henry's law coefficient  | $K_H$       | -                         | 0.03   | 0.00079 | [5]       |
| First order kinetic constant of sorption to particles                        | $k_1$       | $d^{-1}$                  | 0.0067 | 0.015   | [13]      |
| First order kinetic constant of sorption to DCM                              | $k_2$       | $d^{-1}$                  | 0.0067 | 0.015   | [13]      |
| Equilibrium constant for PAH sorption to particle                            | $K_{part}$  | L/gCOD                    | 1.92   | 12.10   | [4]       |
| Equilibrium constant for PAH sorption to DCM                                 | $K_{DCM}$   | L/gCOD                    | 7.98   | 50.35   | [4]       |

### Results for the sensitivity analysis

Table S8. Variations in the PAH load present in the effluent for variations of  $\pm 25\%$ ,  $\pm 50\%$ , and  $\pm 75\%$

| Parameter | Phase | -75% | -50% | -25% | 25%  | 50%  | 75%  |
|-----------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Kd, prim  | Fdis  | 1.25 | 1.15 | 1.07 | 0.94 | 0.88 | 0.83 |
|           | Fad   | 0.31 | 0.58 | 0.80 | 1.17 | 1.32 | 1.46 |
|           | Ft    | 1.21 | 1.13 | 1.06 | 0.95 | 0.90 | 0.86 |
| Kd, sec   | Fdis  | 1.25 | 1.15 | 1.07 | 0.94 | 0.88 | 0.83 |
|           | Fad   | 0.31 | 0.58 | 0.80 | 1.17 | 1.32 | 1.46 |
|           | Ft    | 1.21 | 1.13 | 1.06 | 0.95 | 0.90 | 0.86 |
| SRT       | Fdis  | 1.38 | 1.19 | 1.08 | 0.93 | 0.88 | 0.83 |
|           | Fad   | 1.38 | 1.19 | 1.08 | 0.93 | 0.89 | 0.83 |
|           | Ft    | 1.38 | 1.19 | 1.08 | 0.93 | 0.88 | 0.83 |
| k1        | Fdis  | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
|           | Fad   | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
|           | Ft    | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| kP        | Fdis  | 1.01 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
|           | Fad   | 1.01 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
|           | Ft    | 1.01 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |

Table S9. Variations in the PAH load present in the biosolids for variations of  $\pm 25\%$ ,  $\pm 50\%$ , and  $\pm 75\%$

| Parameter | Phase | -75% | -50% | -25% | 25%  | 50%  | 75%  |
|-----------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Kd, prim  | Ffree | 0.75 | 0.84 | 0.93 | 1.07 | 1.14 | 1.20 |
|           | FDCM  | 1.01 | 1.01 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.99 | 0.99 |
|           | Fp    | 0.72 | 0.82 | 0.92 | 1.08 | 1.15 | 1.21 |
|           | Ft    | 0.75 | 0.84 | 0.92 | 1.07 | 1.13 | 1.19 |
| Kd, sec   | Ffree | 0.70 | 0.82 | 0.91 | 1.09 | 1.16 | 1.20 |
|           | FDCM  | 0.97 | 0.97 | 0.98 | 1.01 | 1.03 | 1.04 |
|           | Fp    | 0.67 | 0.79 | 0.94 | 1.08 | 1.16 | 1.22 |
|           | Ft    | 0.69 | 0.81 | 0.95 | 1.08 | 1.15 | 1.21 |
| SRT       | Ffree | 0.6  | 0.8  | 0.9  | 1.1  | 1.1  | 1.2  |
|           | FDCM  | 1.0  | 1.0  | 1.0  | 1.0  | 1.0  | 1.0  |
|           | Fp    | 0.6  | 0.8  | 0.9  | 1.1  | 1.2  | 1.2  |
|           | Ft    | 0.6  | 0.8  | 0.9  | 1.1  | 1.1  | 1.2  |
| k1        | Ffree | 0.59 | 0.80 | 0.93 | 1.07 | 1.11 | 1.14 |
|           | FDCM  | 0.85 | 0.92 | 0.97 | 1.02 | 1.04 | 1.05 |
|           | Fp    | 1.02 | 1.01 | 1.00 | 0.99 | 0.99 | 0.99 |
|           | Ft    | 1.01 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| kP        | Ffree | 1.86 | 1.45 | 1.18 | 0.86 | 0.77 | 0.68 |
|           | FDCM  | 1.32 | 1.17 | 1.07 | 0.95 | 0.91 | 0.88 |
|           | Fp    | 0.96 | 0.98 | 0.99 | 1.01 | 1.01 | 1.02 |
|           | Ft    | 0.99 | 0.99 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |

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