

# The pros and cons of field vs. lab applications of passive sampling

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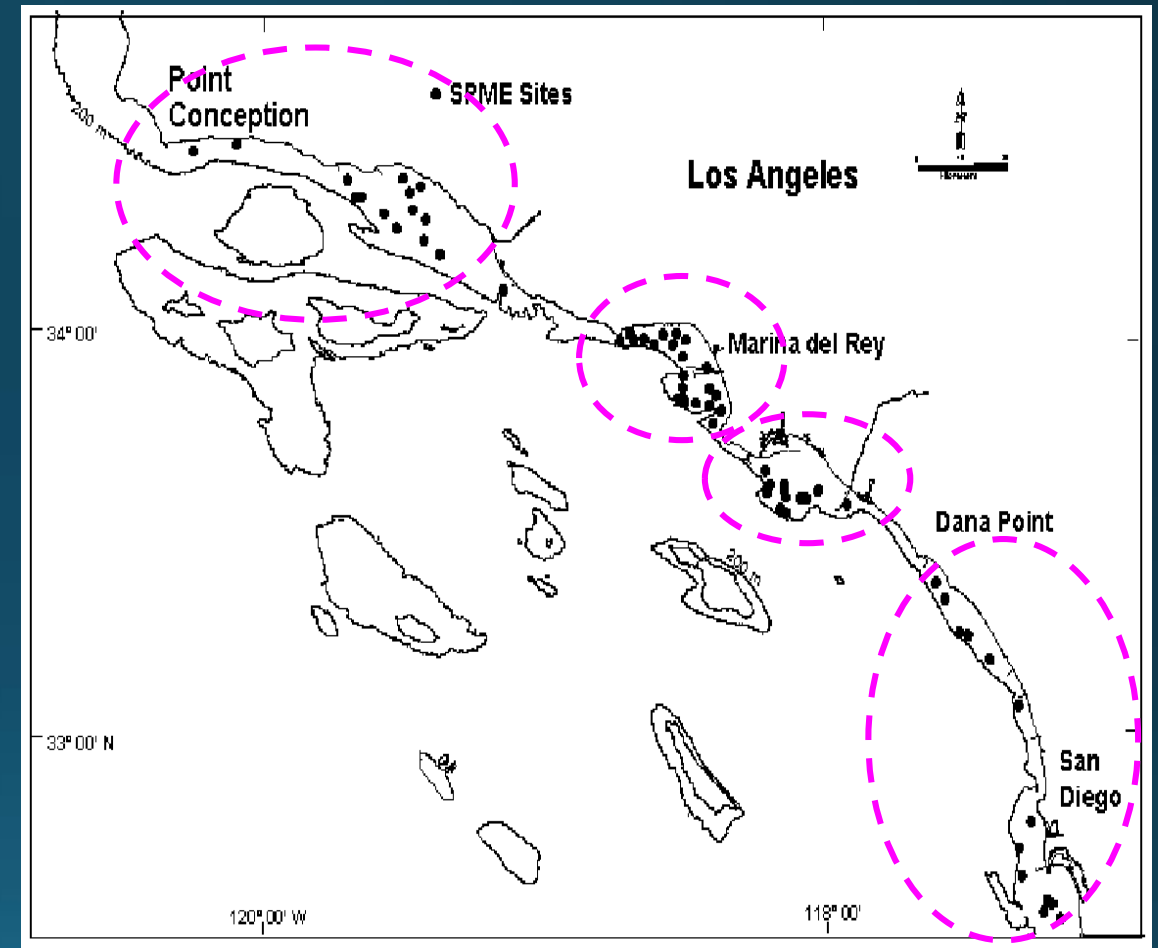
# Comparing lab vs. field

- Lab-based assessment (“*ex situ*”)
  - modifies/modulates geochemical conditions
  - accelerates approach to equilibrium, resulting in worse-case estimate of  $C_{\text{free}}$
  - excellent measurement precision is possible
- Field-based assessment (“*in situ*”)
  - preserves biogeochemical environment (higher relevance)
  - Limited mass transfer = longer deployments to approach equilibrium
  - higher variability expected (how much is real?)
- *Ex situ* assumed to be faster and cheaper, **BUT**
- *In situ* assumed to be a more accurate/relevant, **BUT**

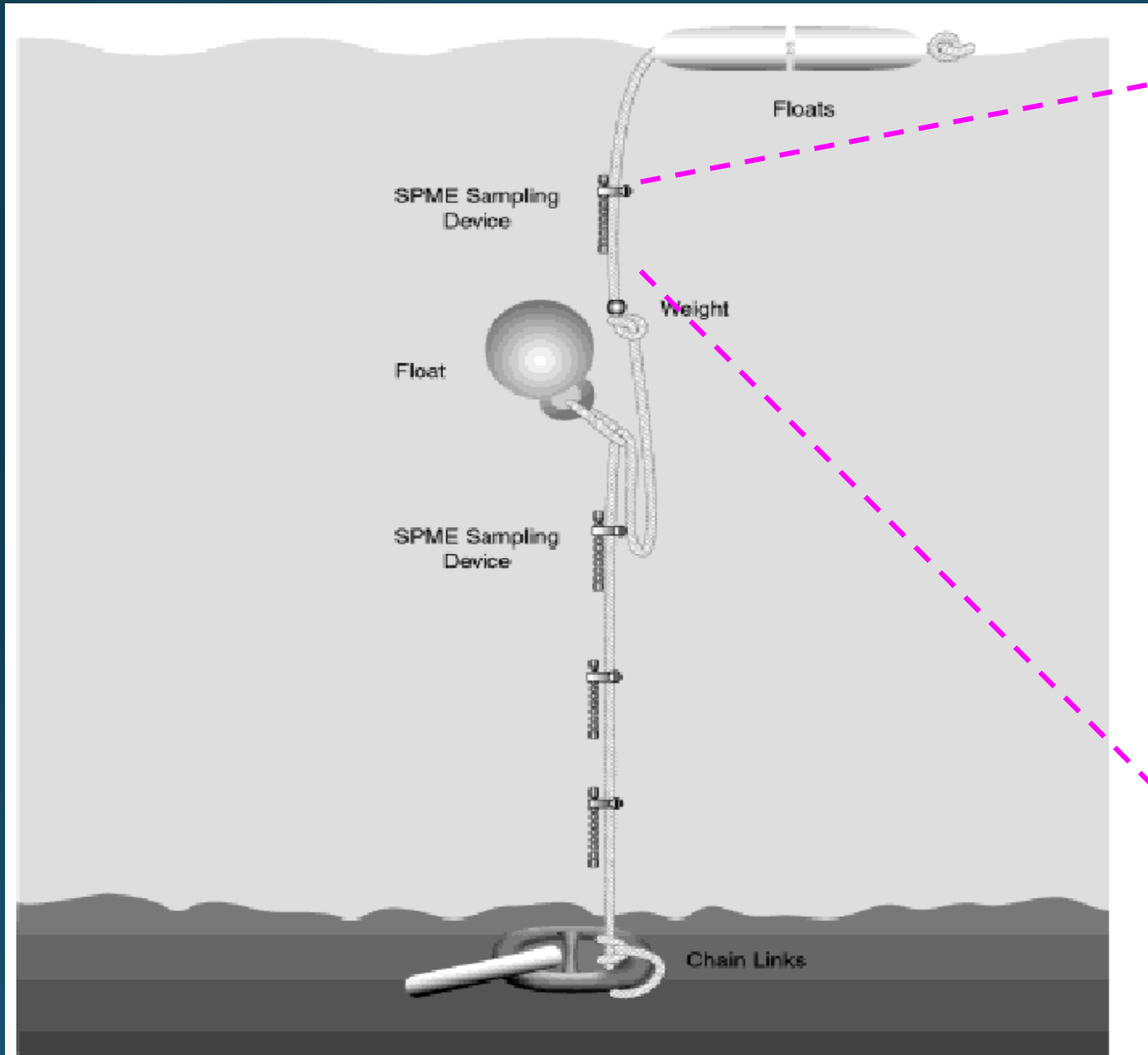
***Which approach is most useful for your needs?***

# Bight 2003

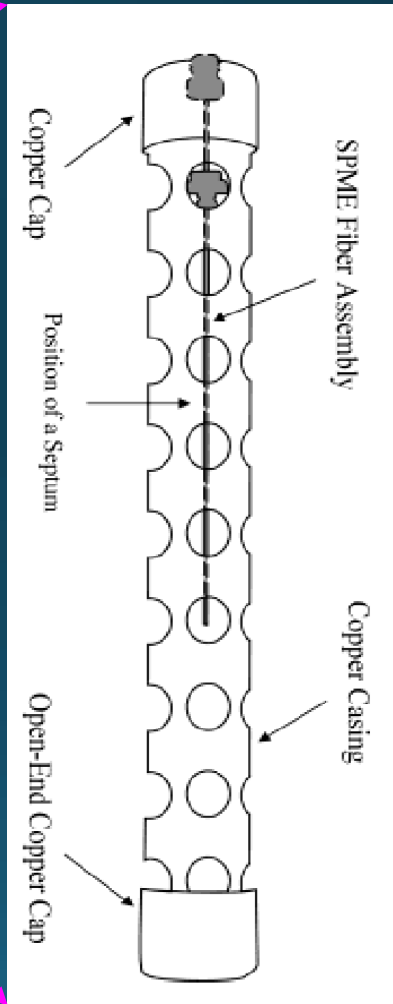
- Stratified random design
- SPME, 100  $\mu\text{m}$  PDMS (N~200)
- 4 depths, 1 month deployment

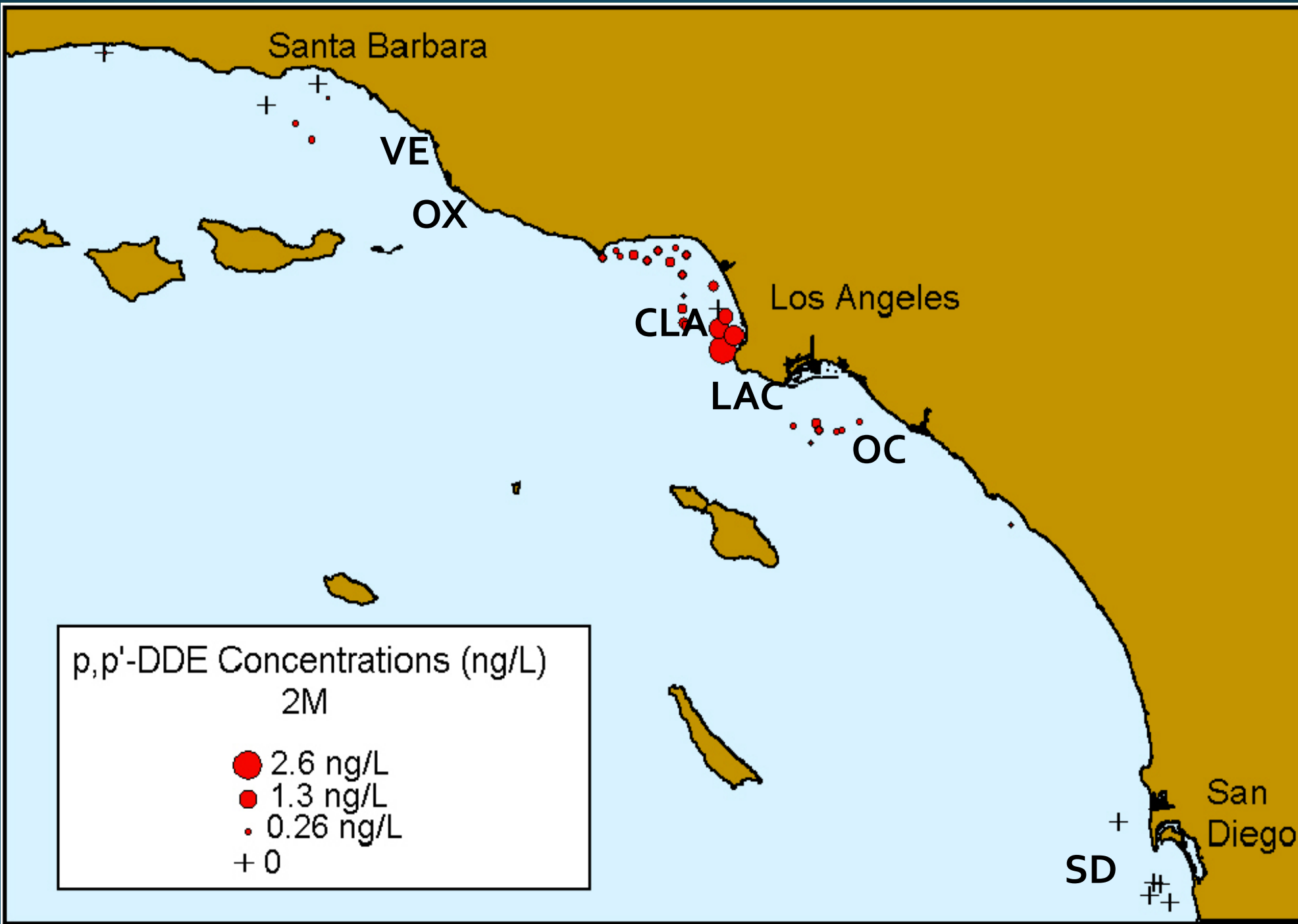


Zeng et al. 2005. *Environ Sci Technol* 39:8170-8176



## SPME Device

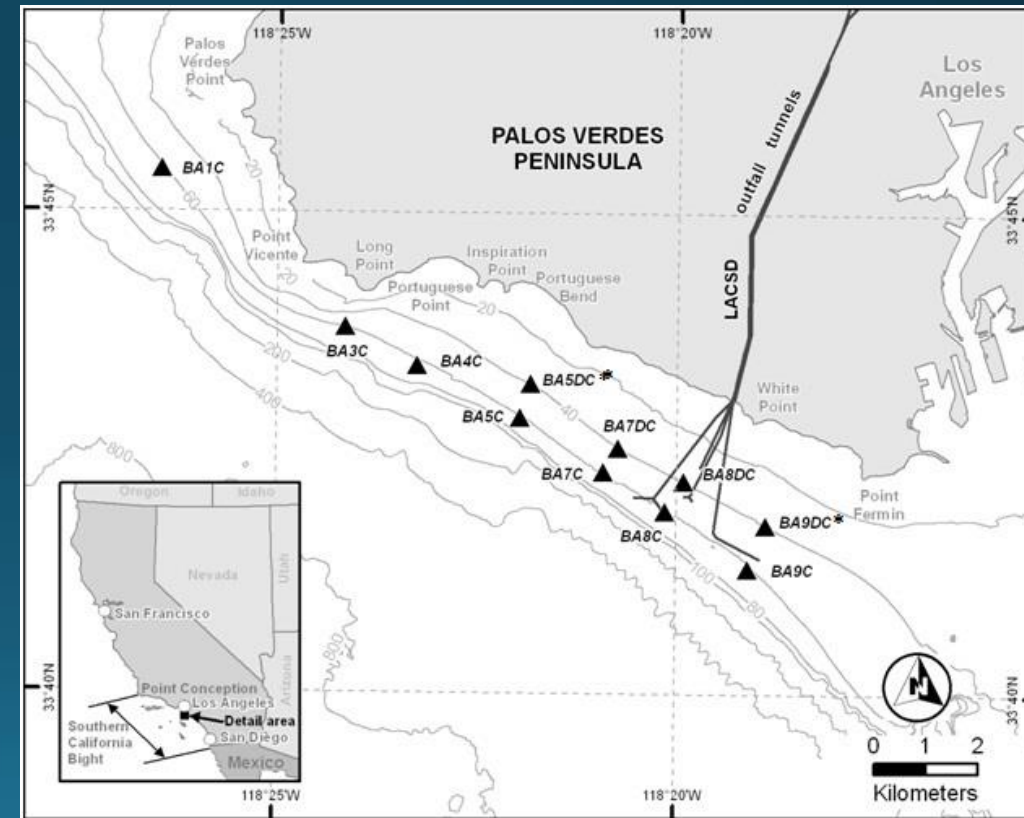




# Palos Verdes Shelf (marine)

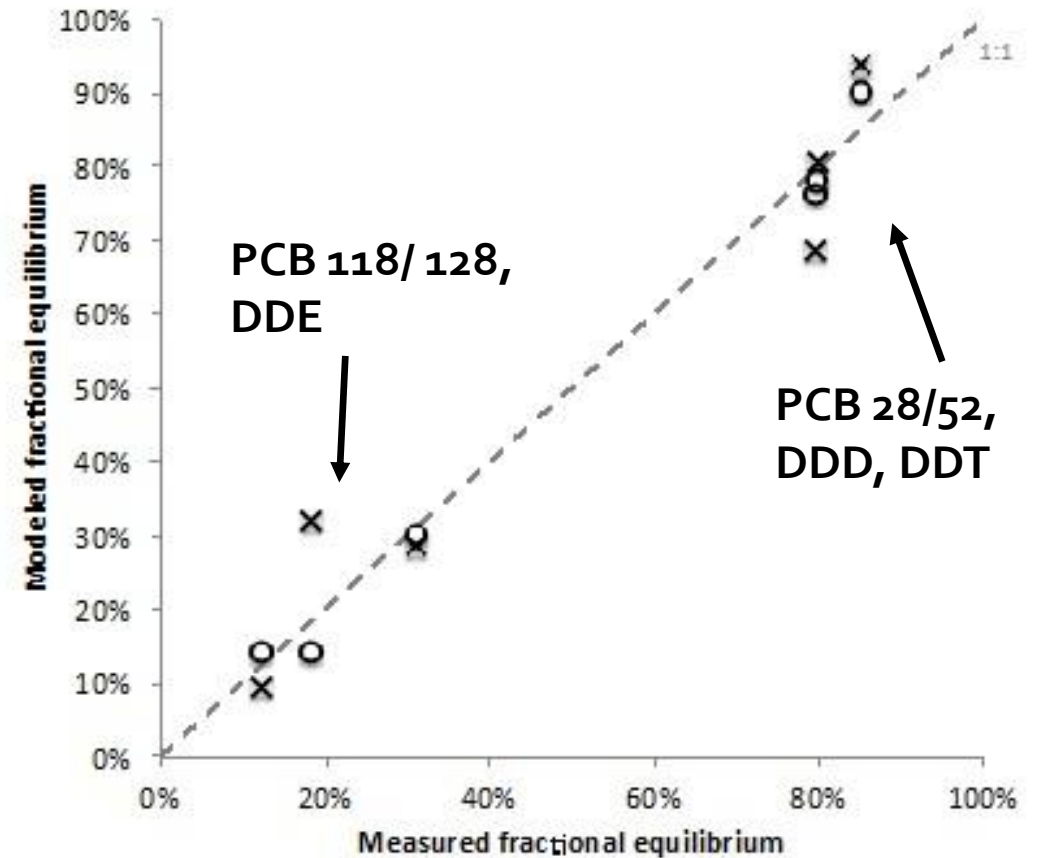
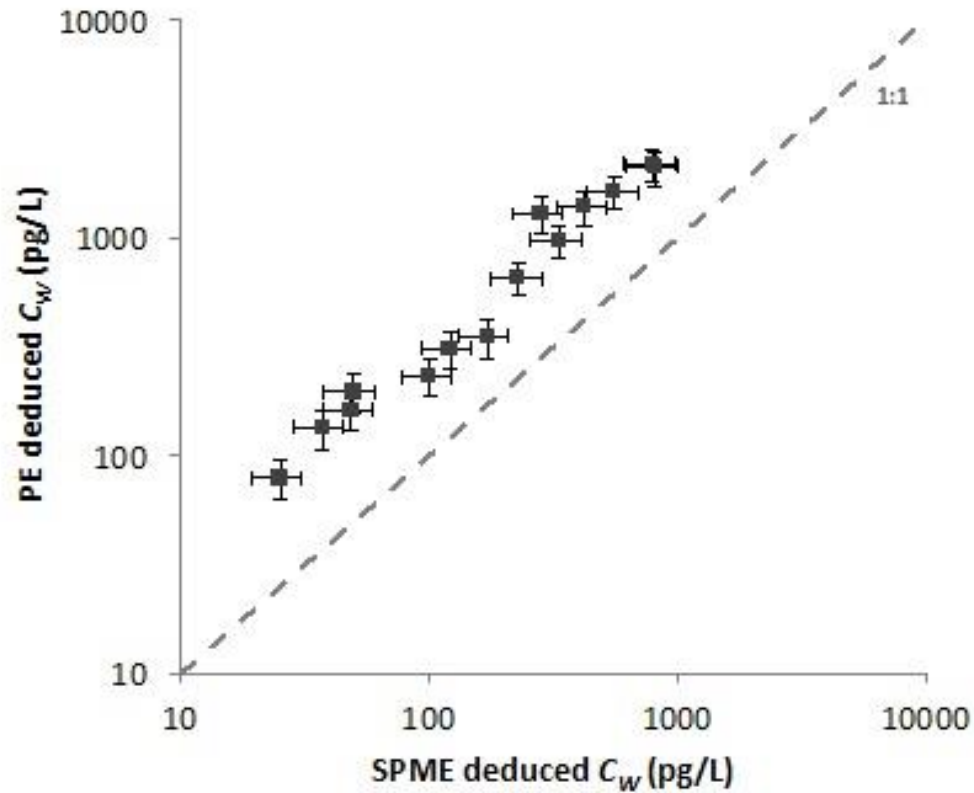


- DDTs and PCBs in sediment, aquatic life
- Gradient from WWTP outfall
- Surface, bottom (45/60 m) & mid-depth
- LDPE (n=3) & SPME-PDMS (n=4)
  - LDPE pre-loaded with PRCs
- Deployed for 32 days in Sep 2010
- Repeated in 2013 adding 100m isobath



# Correcting for non-equilibrium

C-13 labeled PCBs 28, 52, 118, 128; *p,p'*-DDD/E/T



# Advancing the use of passive sampling in risk assessment and management of contaminated sediments: Results of an international passive sampling ring test

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## Participants, Methods

- 11 labs participating in ring test; 1 coordinating lab (UU)
- 14 passive sampling formats
- 3 different sediments
- 25 target compounds

## Target Analytes

- 13 PAHs (3-6 rings) and 12 PCBs (tri- to heptachlorinated)
- Range in hydrophobicity, partitioning behavior, freely dissolved concs

## Test Sediments

1. Spiked sediment (**SP**): high concentrations spiked, low background, sandy
2. Field contaminated sediment (Dutch; Biesbosch area; **BB**): homogeneous, low concentrations PAHs and PCBs
3. Field contaminated sediment composite (**FD**):
  - sandy sediment, low-high PCB levels (no PAHs)
  - clayey sediment, moderate PAH levels (no PCBs); NAPLs (diesel) present

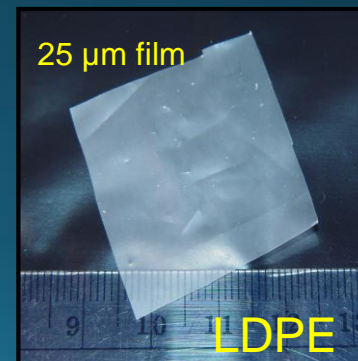
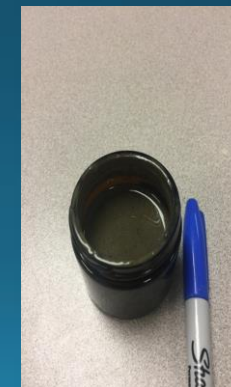


# Standardizing ex situ method - LDPE

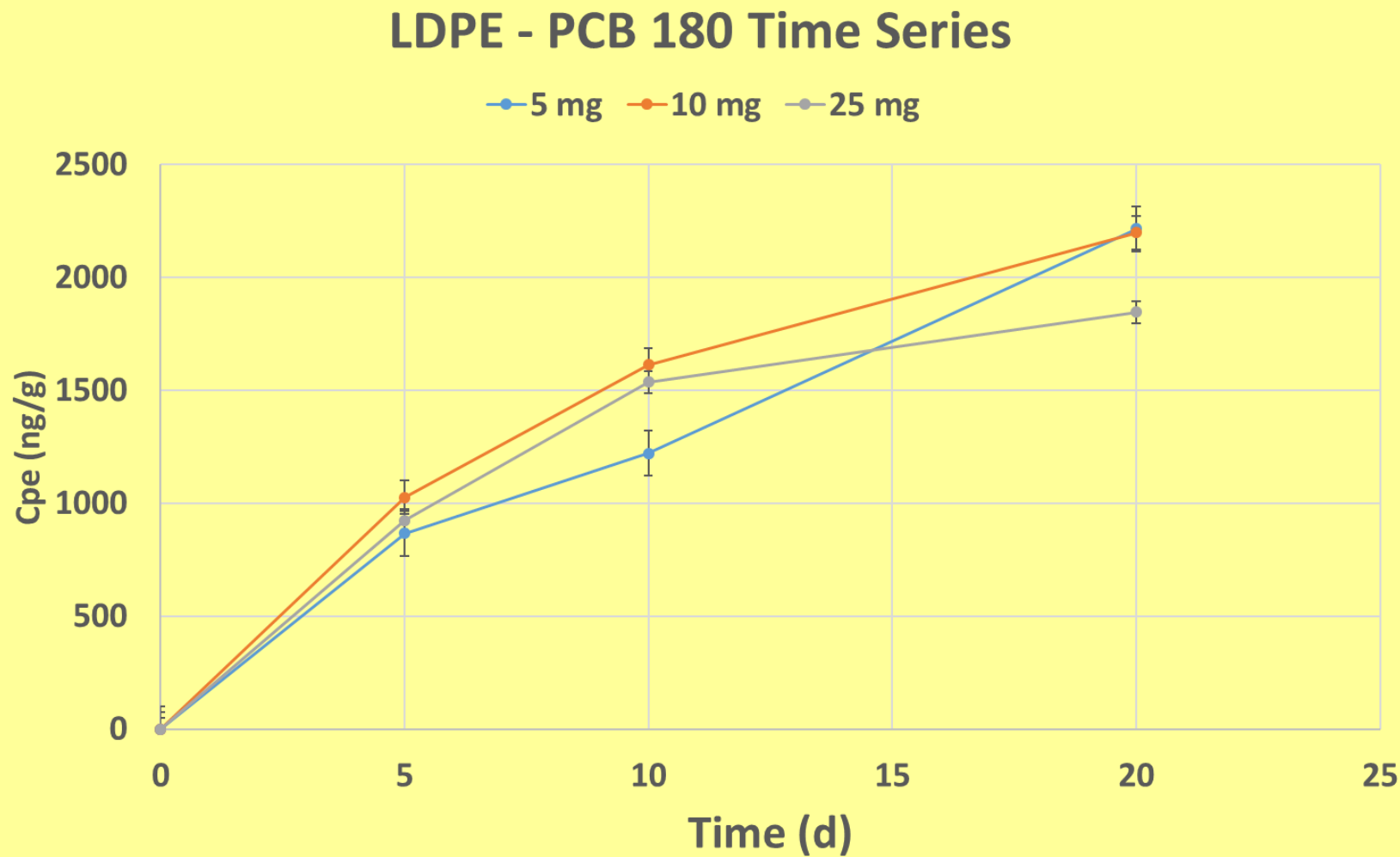
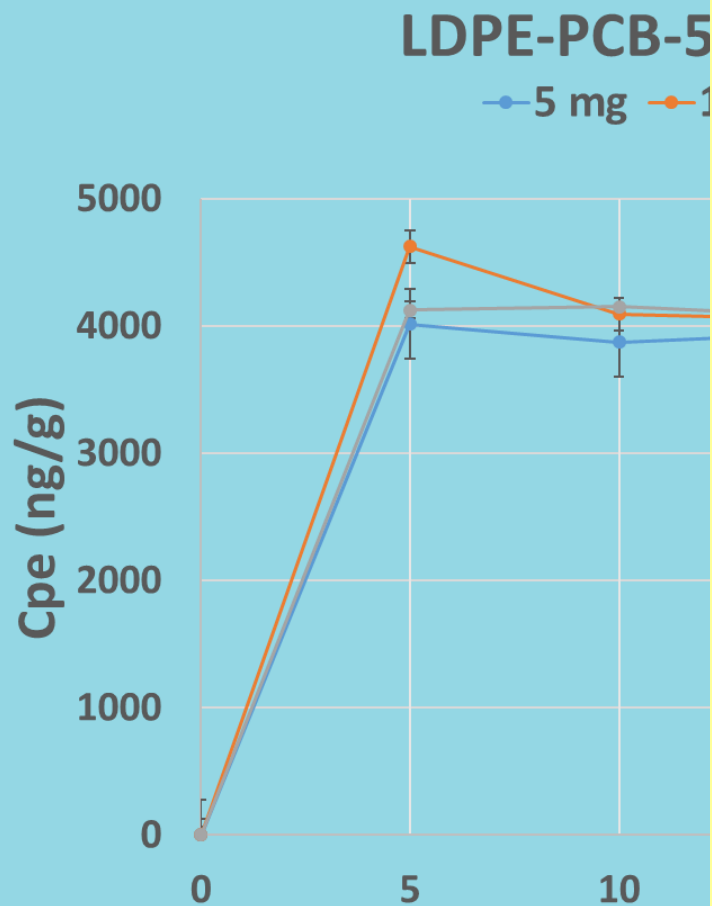


- *Goals: 1. detectability 2. minimize depletion 3. practicality*
- Spike marine sediment ( $f_{oc} = 0.7\%$ ) with 6 HOCs ( $4 < \log K_{ow} < 7$ )
- Pre-clean and weigh LDPE film pieces (5, 10 and 25 mg)
- Agitate 60 g (~50 mL) spiked sediment with LDPE
- Sample jars (4 replicates) after 5, 10 and 20 days
- Sonicate LDPE in DCM and analyze by GC-MS-SIM
- Plot  $C_{pe}$  vs. time; estimate  $C_{free}$  using  $K_{pw} = C_{pe} / C_{free}$

3-yr project funded by San Diego Regional Water Board (15-044-190)



# Time series results



# Summary

- *In situ* well suited for water column studies
  - *Difficult to simulate or bracket dynamic conditions in the lab*
- *Ex situ* well suited for sediment studies
  - *Provides conservative ("worst case")  $C_{free}$*
  - *Method standardization (and thus high precision) can be achieved*
- Next steps
  - Compare  $C_{free}$  in sediments determined ex situ and in situ
  - Measurement accuracy - can interlab studies give us consensus values?
  - New analytes and materials

# Additional Resources

- [keithm@sccwrp.org](mailto:keithm@sccwrp.org); [www.sccwrp.org](http://www.sccwrp.org)
- 2012 SETAC Technical Workshop on Passive Sampling for Contaminated Sediments  
Special series in *Integ Environ Assess Manag* (2014) Volume 10
  - Building consensus (Parkerton & Maruya 2014)
  - State of the science (Lydy et al. 2014)
  - Theoretical basis (Mayer et al. 2014)
  - Practical guidance: selection, calibration and application (Ghosh et al. 2014)
  - Using  $C_{\text{free}}$  for management decision making (Greenberg et al. 2014)
- G. Witt (Univ. Hamburg); A. Jahnke (UFZ Leipzig)

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- J. Chan, S. McClain