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Kinetic Rate Constants for the Formation of Trihalomethanes in Chlorinated, Ammonia Containing Ground Water

by

Lee S. Casey

It is well established that trihalomethanes, in drinking water are byproducts of chlorine disinfection. A method to predict the distribution and concentration of trihalomethanes is important because of health risks associated with chronic exposure to these compounds. A literature review has provided information on the chemistry of water chlorination and a data base developed in the laboratory has provided data on trihalomethane formation under various conditions. These data were used to generate rate constants for the formation of trihalomethanes.

Trihalomethane formation kinetics appeared to be influenced primarily by the presence of ammonia. The influence of pH is not as profound as indicated in literature. The rate of formation is low at and before breakpoint, whereas it increases after breakpoint.

# KINETIC RATE CONSTANTS FOR THE FORMATION OF TRIHALOMETHANES IN CHLORINATED AMMONIA CONTAINING

#### GROUND WATERS

by

#### Lee S. Casey

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

MASTER OF SCIENCE

in

#### ENVIRONMENTAL AND URBAN SYSTEMS

at

#### FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Committee in Charge:

Mr. William J. Cooper Associate Research Professor Chairman

Dr. J. Martin E. Quirke Associate Professor

Dr. Gary L. Amy Associate Professor

December 1986

To Professors William J. Cooper, J. Martin E. Quirke, Gary L. Amy

This thesis having been approved in respect to form and mechanical execution, is referred to you for judgement upon its substantial merit.

> Dean College of Engineering and Applied Sciences

This Thesis of Lee S. Casey is Approved

Associate Professor

Associate Professor

Major: Associate Research Professor

Date of Examination: December 5, 1985

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#### INTRODUCTION

A safe, disease free, potable water supply is both the desire of the public and the intent of the governmental regulatory agencies. It was with this mandate that chlorine disinfection of potable water became widespread. Recently, the safety of this disinfection technique has been questioned because trihalomethanes (THMs), suspected carcinogens, are formed during the process. Other halogenated organics are formed which may also have adverse health effects. However, THMs are readily analyzed for and are therefore used as indicators of water quality.

To minimize and understand the risks associated with THMs, comprehensive research has been conducted to elucidate the mechanisms of THM formation, their epidemiological significance, and strategies for their control. Though certain areas have received a great deal of attention, little research to model the formation of these compounds has been conducted. Modeling efforts have lagged, in part, due to the lack of a systematically derived data base. This data base is necessary to simulate the diverse conditions encountered in raw waters. Most efforts, to date are limited to statistical summaries yielding empirical equations that are site specific and tend to overestimate the concentration of THMs formed. Kinetic models have been either too simplistic to adopt on a universal scale or are designed to simulate only the active oxidants left in a treated water. In a recent review of THM modeling, an integrated kinetic-predictive approach was recommended. The authors concluded that "...the kinetic approach will probably lead to the best predictive models." However, for the model to be of practical use, it must employ rate functions applicable to natural water systems (Cooper et al., 1983).

This thesis discusses the theoretical bases and the development of kinetic rate constants for the formation of THMs.

#### REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Renewed interest in the safety of drinking water occurred after the discovery by Rook (1974) that trihalomethane formation is a consequence of water chlorination. Though the formation of contaminants is of current interest, indications of similar organic contaminants being formed in drinking water after chlorination were reported as early as the mid-1950s by Middleton and Rosen (1956). Voluminous research has been conducted on the health effects, mechanisms of formation, variation, distribution and treatment of these compounds.

Trihalomethanes (THMs) are methane compounds containing one hydrogen atom and three halogen atoms (iodine, bromine, and/or chlorine). Of all the possible compounds, generally, only four are common in chlorinated water (Figure 1). They are the trihalomethanes that contain bromine and/or chlorine (Symons et al., 1981a and 1981b). Compounds containing iodine are rarely observed. However, there is evidence for the formation and presence of the iodinated THMs in supplies whose raw waters are drawn from industrially contaminated surface waters (Bunn, et al., 1975). Trihalomethanes containing the remaining halogens, fluorine and astatine are insignificant and are never formed in the treatment process (ANON, 1980). Trihalomethanes are occasionally found in raw waters



.

## CHLOROFORM

.

# BROMODICHLOROMETHANE



Br I Br - C - Br I H

DIBROMOCHLOROMETHANE

BROMOFORM

Figure 1. The Structure of the Common Trihaldmethanes.

(Dreisch, et al., 1980), but in general, are not found in significant concentrations. They are likely to be found in chlorinated waters that contain naturally occurring organics, i.e. humics and fulvics. This is especially true in Florida where many water supplies contain significant proportions of these organics (Dykes, 1980).

Variations in THM concentrations occur on diel, day-to-day and seasonal bases. Diel variations are both significant and complex as are the day-to-day variations. The variations are thought to be controlled by several physical/chemical factors. However, the relationships among these factors is unclear (Smith, et al., 1980). The seasonal variations are less complex. Lower total trihalomethane (TTHM) levels occur during the winter months (Arguello, et al., 1979). These depressed levels are attributed to lower precursor level (i.e. lower algal production) and lower temperatures.

Research into the health effects of chlorinated drinking water is continuing. This research involes, not only the effects ot THMs, but also chloramines and heavier refractory chlorinated organics. Water chlorination and, therefore, the THMs have been linked via epidemiological research to significantly higher incidents of gastrointestinal tract cancers (McCabe, 1977). There is also evidence suggesting that the alternative disinfectant chloramines are potentially mutagenic and are associated with methemoglobinemia (Bull, 1982). One recent study (Kringstad, et al., 1983) has reported on the formation of the mutagens, 1,3-dichloroacetone and 2-chlorophenol, with chloroform when humic acids are chlorinated.

Though it now appears from the recent literature that the THMs may not solely be responsible for health risks associated with chlorinated waters, they are potential carcinogens and may be indicative of other carcinogenic compounds, which are not easily analyzed. In response to this perceived health risk, the USEPA has regulated TTHM to a maximum allowable concentrations of 100 ug/L. This regulation applies to treatment operations serving more than 10,000 people (Federal Register, 1979).

Presently, there are two approved methods for the analysis of THMs by gas chromatography, purge and trap and liquid-liquid extraction. The former was the first method to be developed (Bellar and Lichtenberg, 1979; Kissinger and Fritz, 1976). The purge and trap method has been shown to suffer from interference by ammonia when Tenax GC was used for separation. The method was modified by employing a mini-ion exhange column to remove ammonia prior to purging (Cooper et al., 1984). Another drawback of the purge and trap method is the amount of time required for a single analysis.

The liquid-liquid extraction method was developed shortly after the purge and trap. This method has a number of advantages over the purge and trap, specifically, higher sensitivity, better precision and a significantly decreased time of analysis (e.g. Mehran, et al., 1984; Reding et al., 1979).

By far, the largest section of the literature is devoted to strategies and techniques for the control of THMs. Strategies refer to those modifications of a treatment system whose aim is to minimize or, ideally, eliminate the formation of the THMs, while techniques are those processes or modifications designed to remove THMs after their formation (Blanck, 1979).

These strategies and techniques include precursor removal and THM removal by a variety of physical and chemical methods and the use of disinfectants other than chlorine. Excellent overviews have been recently published by Sober et al., (1982) and Knoppert, et al., (1980).

The alternative disinfectants include: ozone, chlorine dioxide and chloramine (ANON. 1982; Hoff and Geldreich, 1981). Ozone is the best biocide, however its stability is poor; no residual remains in the distribution system and it is the most costly of the disinfectants. Despite its high cost it is reported as having a favorable cost benefit ratio (Clark, 1981). Though there is some disagreement, ozone appears to be able to destroy precursors and when coupled with ultraviolet light, is reported to destroy refractory organic compounds (Hubbs, 1981; Glaze et al., 1978).

Chlorine dioxide is a good biocide with reasonable

stability (Hubbs et al., 1981). Though this latter point is suspect (Zika et al., 1982). It has the advantage of not reacting with ammonia or organo-amine compounds to form chloramines and its biocidal activity is enhanced with an increased pH.

Monochloramine appears to be stable but the biocidal efficiency is the poorest of the alternative disinfectants. Both enteric viruses and protozoan cysts are resistant to chloramine attack. Cost savings have been reported using this disinfectant in the Miami area, however it should be noted that this particular water supply has relatively high, naturally occurring, ammonia concentration and a very high THM formation potential (Sloan, 1983; Belick et al., 1983).

Another strategy to control THMs that has received a great deal of attention is the removal or reduction of THM precursors. Activated carbon has been using singly or coupled with other processes to remove humic precursors (Glaze and Wallace, 1984). The removal potential of ozonation, ultraviolet light, coagulation (Babcock and Singer, 1979; Thurrott and Duryea, 1983), direct filtration (Scheuch and Edzwald, 1981), and permanganate oxidation/ manganese dioxide absorption have been evaluated (Colquist et al., 1982). Most research focuses on the potential of activated carbon, (Wood and DeMarco, 1979; Rice, et al., 1978). Activated carbon can successfully remove precursors

but the removal efficiencies are influenced by a number of factors. Both biological activity and pore size affect removal. Microorganisms may play a role in removing the higher molecular weight fractions (Stevens, et al. 1979).

Pore volumes of 70 Å correlate well with the removal of humic and fulvic acids having molecular weights of less than 1000, while pore volumes of 400 Å correlated with the removal of fulvic acids with higher molecular weight.

Another interesting development, which may be loosely considered a strategy, as defined previously, is a system for monitoring synthetic organic loads along the Ohio River (Moore, 1980). The objective of this network is to act as an early warning system for consumers downstream of a monitoring site. This, in theory, will allow operators time to adjust the treatment process to maximize contaminant removal and minimize THM formation.

Two techniques have been developed to remove THMs from finished water. They are activated carbon and aeration or air stripping. Several types of carbon filtration systems have been evaluated in both pilot scale and plant scale experiments (Wood and DeMarco, 1980; Feige and DeMarco, 1980). Generally, these absorbents are effective in reducing the THMs.

In the aeration process, air is passed through the water to purge volatile organic compounds. A preliminary cost analysis for such a system indicates that it can be a

cost effective method of removing THMs and other organic contaminants (Kavanaugh and Trusell, 1980).

An understanding of organic precursor compounds is essential to partially clarify the temporal and spacial variations of THMs.

Precursor is the general term used to describe the organic content of raw waters that react with chlorine to form THMs. It is believed that precursors are mainly humic and fulvic acids which are the degradation products of plant material, but low molecular weight methyl ketones, meta-dihydroxy aromatic compounds, algae and their extracellular products have also been cited as precursors (Lee et al., 1982; Hoehn, et al., 1980; Oliver and Lawrence, 1979; Rook, 1977). The best definition to date of precursor substances is "...an amorphous mass of poly-hetero condensate with certain reactive functional groups protruding from the particle's surface" (Trussel, 1978; Umphres, et al., 1981).

Since chlorine dose (concentration) is the one variable that is directly under the control of the engineer or operator, research has been conducted into understanding aqueous chlorine chemistry as it relates to THM formation. Early work centered on a qualitive understanding of chlorination, halogen ions and the organic carbon content of a water (Rook, 1974; Bunn, et al., 1975). Later research was restricted to studies of chlorinated compounds

found in chlorinated potable and waste waters (Stevens, et al., 1976); Morris and McKay, 1975; Dore, et al., 1978; Cooper, et al., 1981a). Chlorine reacts with both fulvic and humic acids (Noack and Doerr, 1978; Qualls and Johnson, 1983). It also reacts with bromide ion (Wong and Davidson, 1977) and ammonia (Saunier and Selleck, 1979). A brief framework of the reactions of chlorine in both fresh and saline waters can be developed. In the presence of ammonia, hypochlorous acid (HOCl) will react to form chloramines. The chloramines can further react in the presence of HOCl to form end products, either nitrogen gas or nitrate ion. When bromide ion is present, hypobromous acid (HOBr) is formed. This reacts in a manner similar to chlorine, forming brominated amines. It is believed that the THMs are formed when organic carbon compounds react with either HOCl or HOBr via the generalized haloform reaction.

As mentioned previously, bromide ion reacts rapidly and irreversibly with HOCl to form HOBr, which can form brominated THMs in a similar way to HOCL. The brominated THMs are also suspected carcinogens and may be more harmful than chloroform. The chemistry of bromide in the presence of high levels of organics and ammonia has been recently studied (Cooper, et al., 1984; Cooper, et al., 1981a; and Luong, et al., 1982). Studies by Johnson and co-workers (1982) and Carpenter and co-workers (1978a & 1978b) on the reactions of bromide-chlorine reactions in sea water are highly significant. The results give information on reactions in chlorinated drinking waters that suffer from salt water intrusion and thus contain high levels of bromide ion. The degradation reactions of the brominated amines are poorly understood with the exception of tribromamine (LaPoint, et al., 1975). This amine in aqueous solution decomposes to nitrogen gas and bromide ion.

The hydrogen ion concentration can vary considerably from treatment plant to treatment plant. It is well established that yields of THMs are affected by changes in pH. This may be due in part to the catalytic effect it has on the degradation reactions of the hypohalites (Chapin, 1934).

The effects of near ultraviolet radiation on oxidants has been ignored until recently (Zika et al., 1982). It was demonstrated that sunlight can induce the decomposition of HOBr/OBr<sup>-</sup>, HOCI/OCI<sup>-</sup>, and to a much lesser extent NH<sub>2</sub>Cl. The decomposition is enhanced at basic pH values. Another significant aspect of photo effects is the induced formation of bromate ion in chlorinated waters containing bromide ion (Maclady, et al., 1977).

There are very few viable models of THM formation during water treatment. This is due, in part, to an incomplete understanding of the chemistry of the THMs. Recent empirical models can predict THMs fairly accurately, however these are specific for one water and therefore they are of limited use. Cooper et al., (1983) have reviewed current modeling efforts.

Models can be divided into three types. The first, and simplest type, is the use of model compounds to mimic the humic precursors. This approach, which has not always been explicitly recognized as a modeling method, has been used by several authors. Acetone (Dore, et al., 1978),

 $\alpha$ -methyl- benzyl-amine (Cooper and Kaganowicz, 1985) and selected aromatic compounds (Norwood, et al., 1980) have been used as models of precursors. The chlorination products of these compounds have been examined.

The second type is the empirical model. This model uses statistically derived values for the major variables and relates them in a linear fashion to the amount of THMs formed (Engerholm and Amy, 1981; Morrow and Minear, 1983; Amy, et al., 1983; Fisher and Taylor, 1983; Urano et al., 1983).

The last type is a kinetic model. This type holds the greatest potential for both accurate prediction and broad applicability. A kinetic model of THMs is based on reaction rates and concentrations of chemical species known or theorized to occur in chlorinated waters. Though kinetic models have not been used to predict THMs per se, they have been widely employed to predict active halogen species in chlorinated power plant effluent (Kavanaugh, et al., 1980; Margerum et al., 1978; Gray et al., 1978; Johnson et al., 1982; Sanguinsin and Morris, 1979; Uden and Miller, 1983; Wei and Morris, 1974; Zielke, et al., 1978; Lietzke, 1977a; Nelson, 1978; Haag and Lietzke, 1981; Johnson and Qualls, 1983; Lietzke, 1977b). Considerable additional research is necessary before the kinetic approach is applicable to the water treatment process.

#### MATERIALS AND METHODS

This research is based on the THM analysis series performed over the past four years at the F.I.U. Drinking Water Research Center (Kashfian, 1984; Cooper et al., 1983). A brief outline of the analytical methodology used to develop the data base is in order even though chemical analysis were not part of this research.

This data base reflects experiments to analyze the effects of ammonia, bromide, chlorine dose, pH, reaction time, temperature and total organic carbon (TOC) on THM yields. Each parameter was varied while the others were held constant (Table 1). The THM yield for each species was determined.

THMs were determined using a Tracor 560 gas chromatograph with Hall Model 700A conductivity detectors. Two analytical methods were used, the purge and trap technique (Kashfian, 1984) and the liquid-liquid extraction (Mehran et al., 1984). Raw waters were characterized using standard methods (Kashfian, 1984; Table 2).

Previous research (Cooper, 1981a; Kashfian, 1984) has provided a comprehensive data base for THM formation under various raw water and operating conditions. This data base was used to obtain formation rate constants for the four THMs. Data were partitioned by breakpoint level i.e. before breakpoint, at breakpoint, and after breakpoint.

Variables	Number of Times Varied	Each Variation	Units
Ammonia	3		mg/l
Bromide	4		mg/l
Chlorine Dose	6		mg/l
рН	2	7,9	pH units
Reaction Time	8	1,2,4,8,24 48,96,144	hours
Temperature	1	24	°C
Total Organic Carbon	3		mg/l

TABLE 1. EXPERIMENTAL DATA BASE USED TO FORMULATE RATE CONSTANTS

TEST	METHOD
Alkalinity	403, P278*
Hardness	308B, P202*
C1-	Dionex Ion Chromatograph
so <sub>4</sub> -2	Dionex Ion Chromatograph
NH <sub>3</sub> -N (Nesslerization)	418B, P412*
PH	Glass electrode
TOC	Dohrman DC-54 TOC analyzer

TABLE 2. CHEMICAL TESTS FOR CHARACTERIZATION OF GROUND WATER (AFTER KASHFIAN 1984).

\*Standard Methods 14th Edition

After sorting, THM values were plotted versus time to identify the order of the reaction. A least squares regression analysis was used to evaluate the linearity of the plot. Ultimately, a log-log transformation was used to linearize the data. The slope of the regression line of each experiment was obtained. These slopes, which represent rate constants from each experiment were pooled and averaged for each breakpoint classification. Only those regressions have correlation coefficients of 0.7 or better were used. Geometric means and arithmetic means were computed as measures of central tendency of the population of rate constants. A students t-test was used to determined significant differences between derived rate constants. The major objective of this research was:

To determine simple formation rate constants for each of the four common trihalomethanes.

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### General

Rate of formation data when plotted versus time yielded a curve characterized by a power function (Figure 2). This type of distribution has been observed before for trihalomethane reactions (Urano, et al., 1983) and is of the form:

 $THM = Ct^{k}$ 

Where: C= empirical constant k= reaction rate constant t= time in seconds

Derivation of this function appears in Appendix I. A log distribution is not unexpected when analyzing environmental data (Dean, 1981).

Table 3 is a summary of k and C constants based on results of linear regressions. Only data from regressions with correlation coefficients (r) of 0.70 or better were used in obtaining averages of rate constants. Of the data used, 81% have correlation coefficients of 0.9 or better.

Table 3 summarizes rate constants for each THM species at 3 points along the breakpoint curve (Figure 3). "k" is the rate of formation in reciprocal mole/liter/second units while "C" is an estimate of the



Figure 2. Trihalomethane Formation Rate Curve

							7 Hq						
			Before B	lreakpoint			At Brea	kpoint		Af	ter Break	point	
1		CHC1 <sub>3</sub>	CHBrC1 <sub>2</sub>	CHBr <sub>2</sub> C1	CHBr <sub>3</sub>	CHC1 3	CHBrC1 <sub>2</sub>	CHBr <sub>2</sub> C1	CHBr <sub>3</sub>	CHC1 <sub>3</sub>	CHBrC1 <sub>2</sub>	CHBr <sub>2</sub> C1	CHBr <sub>3</sub>
	x	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
¥	Xg	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2
	S	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.12	0.04	0.07	0.09	0.09	0.22	ł	0.13	0.20
	x	30.1	12.8	10.9	6.6	87.2	14.6	6.4	6.8	10.5	5.0	3.5	3.2
ပ	Xg	31.8	13.5	11.1	6•9	91.6	15.3	7.0	6.2	13.7	5.0	3.1	3.7
	S	2.46	0.93	0.42	0.48	7.14	1.07	0.64	0.54	2.08	0.61	0.36	0.40
1							9 Hq						
	×	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3
×	Xg	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
	S	0.05	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.67	0.06	0.10	0.05	0.13	0.10	ł	0.16
	X	55.9	23.3	13.8	12.0	86.4	33.7	9.7	17.4	11.1	5.1	5.2	6.2
C	Xg	59.9	23.2	14.0	12.2	93.7	35.4	10.5	17.6	12.3	5.0	4.2	<b>6.</b> 6
	S	5.25	1.14	0.53	0.61	9.11	2.79	1.05	0.63	1.22	0.06	0.50	0.51



# CHLORINE RESIDUAL OBSERVED

THMs formed after one hour. The present model is based on data for contact periods from one hour to 144 hours only. The instantantous THM reactions have been ignored in this experiment because the objective of the analytical work was to estimate the effect of actual field contact times on the yield and distribution of THMs. The instantaneous rate of formation appears to be much more rapid than the long term rate of formation (Cooper, et al., 1981b). Note that after approximately one hour a different rate of formation in chlorinated wastewater was observed. Hence, "C" is an estimate of the amount of THM species formed between 0 and 1 hours. While "k" represents a rate of formation for reactions occurring between 1 hour and 144 hours.

In general, much higher rates of formation are obtained after the breakpoint than before. This is well documented. Rates of formation before and at the breakpoint are lower at pH 9 than at pH 7. This is unexpected since THM formation is based catalyzed. Note however that "C" values are significantly higher ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ) at pH 9. This indicates that the reaction between 0 and 1 hour is much more rapid at pH 9. the statement that the THM reaction is based catalyzed, therefore only applies to the earliest reactions; those occurring between 0 and 1 hour. It is possible another reaction pathway other than the haloform reaction (Figure 4) is being followed. Perhaps there are multiple pathways





Figure 4. The Haloform Reaction Pathway

leading to THM formation (Cooper, et al., 1983).

As mentioned previously, all data from the experiments were pooled to obtain estimates of both the Y intercepts (C) and slopes (k) of linear regressions. The rates of formation (slopes of regression lines) of all four species of THMs, however, do not differ significantly (  $\alpha$  = 0.05) before the breakpoint at either pH (Figures 5-12). At the breakpoint the spread of the date for each THM becomes noticeable. Results of the t test indicate that these rates do not differ significantly from one another. After breakpoint, data for rates of formation are spread but again there appears to be no significant difference in the rates of formation between the four species of THMs. However, it is important to discuss the difference observed in the rates of reaction of individual species as a function of the point on the breakpoint curve.

Chloroform's rate of reaction will be approximately the same either at or before the breakpoint. A trend of increasing data scatter is apparent in this instance. After the breakpoint data are highly scattered with high and low individual rate constants ranging from 0.4376 – 0.0417 (x  $10^{-9}$ /mole/liter/sec) at pH 7 and from 0.5007 – 0.053 (x  $10^{-9}$ /mole/liter/sec) at pH 9 (Figures 5 & 6). The distributions in both cases appear to have two clusters of observations approximately centered at 0.10 and 0.33 x  $10^{-9}$ /mole/liter/sec. Bromodichloromethane rate constants show a greater degree of scatter at the breakpoint than those of chloroform. Data before the breakpoint are tightly grouped. After breakpoint two clusters of data obvious at approximately 0.22 and 0.43 (x  $10^{-9}$ /mole/liter/sec) at both pH 7 or pH 9 (Figures 7 and 8).

Dibromochloromethane rate constants are tightly clustered before breakpoint. However, at breakpoint data appear clustered in three peaks centered approximately at 0.05, 0.14 and 0.33 (x  $10^{-9}$ /mole/liter/sec. This is most obvious at pH 9. (Figures 9 and 10). After breakpoint most rates appear to fall into two clusters.

Bromoform rates follow the general trend before breakpoint and at breakpoint. That is, tightly clustered before the breakpoint, increased scatter at the breakpoint. After breakpoint, rates are scattered with nearly uniform frequency ranging from 0.0298 to 0.793 (x  $10^{-9}$ /mole/liter/sec) at pH 7 and 0.0275 to 0.5719 (x  $10^{-0}$ /mole/liter/sec) at pH 9 (Figures 11 and 12).

In the preceding discussion it, was noted that there is an increase in scatter of the rate constants (k) after the breakpoint (Figures 5 to 12). The increased scatter can be explained superficially by variation in analytical technique or variations due to the wide number of conditions under which the species were formed. Though these are possibilities, if these explanations were

CHLOROFORM pH7



0.025 0.075 0.125 0.175 0.225 0.275 0.325 0.375 0.425 0.475 0.525 0.575



Rate Constant (/mole/L/s x 10<sup>-9</sup>)

Figure 5. Frequency Distribution of Chloroform Rates of Formation at pH 7.

Before Breakpoint



0.025 0.075 0.125 0.175 0.225 0.275 0.325 0.375 0.425 0.475 0.525 0.575



Rate Constant (/mole/L/s x 10<sup>-9</sup>)

Figure 6. Frequency Distribution Chloroform Rates of Reaction at pH 9.

Before Breakpoint



Rate Constant (/mole/L/s x  $10^{-9}$ )



Rate Constant (/mole/L/s x 10<sup>-9</sup>)

### DIBROMOCHLOROMETHANE pH7



### DIBROMOCHLOROMETHANE pH9



# Before Bréakpoint

0.025 0.075 0.125 0.175 0.225 0.275 0.325 0.375 0.425 0.475 0.525 0.575



# Figure 10. Frequency Distribution of Dibromochloromethane Rates of Reaction at pH 9.



Figure 11. Frequency Distribution of Bromoform Rates of Reaction at pH 7.



### Before Breakpoint

After Breakpoint

Rate Constant (/mole/L/s x 10<sup>-9</sup>)

fundamentally correct, one would expect scatter even for the experiments performed before and at the breakpoint. This is not the case. Rates of formation are generally tightly clustered under these conditions. A more plausible explanation is that different mechanisms other than the generally proposed haloform mechanism (Figure 4) are occurring. Slow rate constants may be due to following multi-step reactions prior to the haloform reaction. Cooper, et al., (1983) has reported on the reactions of  $\alpha$  -methyl-benzlamine, "a novel precursor," with hypochlorous acid to form acetophenone, which then reacts with hypochlorous acid through the classical haloform reaction to yield benzoic acid and THMs. Another possibility is that a dual mechanism is present (Figure After halogenation of a methyl group to form  $CX_3$ 13). and in presence of excess HOC1 (free residual chlorine, i.e. after breakpoint) instead of  $OH^{-}$  and  $CHX_{3}$  being formed, the carbone  $CX_3 + XC1 + OH$  may be formed. The carbene will readily react with alkenes to form halogenated cyclopropanes. Thus lower yields of THMs in some experiments will result the data on rate constants will be spread. The present mechanism can explain the results in the following manner in the first case, before the breakpoint, all HOCl is used up to forming halamines and chlorinated organics including THMs. In the second case at the breakpoint, HOCl is used up to and again



Figure 13. Reaction Pathway Leading to the Formation of Halogenated Cyclopropane halamines and chlorinated organics are formed. In the last case after the breakpoint excess HOCl is present and a dual mechanism one forming THMs the other forming a reactive carbene may occur.

#### CONCLUSIONS

Overall kinetic rates of formation have been determined for the four individual THM species, chloroform, bromoform, bromodichloromethane and dibromochloromethane. Rates of long term formation are not as profoundly affected by pH as short term reaction rates. A dual pathway for the reaction of oxidant and precursor may be present and lead to the formation of carbene instead of trihalomethanes.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE RESEARCH

With the overall rates of formation, reaction pathway and equations appearing in Appendix II, an investigation to formulate a predictive model based on purely kinetic arguments should be undertaken. Laboratory experiments to determine if halogenated cyclopropanes and/or similar products are formed after the breakpoint during water chlorination should be conducted.

#### APPENDIX I

Derivation of the THM power function

ln[THM]	=	kln(t)	+	В	( ]	1)	
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Identity:  $kln(t) = ln(t)^{k}$ (2)

 $ln[THM] = ln(t)^{k} + B$ Substituting: (3) e<sup>ln[THM]</sup> =

Raising to base e:

- $e^{[ln(t)^k + B]}$ (4)
- $e^{\ln(THM)} = e^{\ln(t)^{k} \times e^{B}}$ (5) Rewriting: Simplifying:
  - $[\text{THM}] = e^{B}(t)^{k}$ (6)
- $C = e^{B}$ Substituting: (7)

Therefore: 
$$[THM] = C(t)^{K}$$
 (8)

 $C = e^{B}$ where: [THM] = concentration of THM k = slopeB = y intercept

#### APPENDIX II

In reviewing data of THM formation, it was possible to organize reactions into a coherent pathway (Figure A.II.1). The result is that a series of differential equations representing the kinetics of the reactions can be written. These equations can be solved at steady state using numerical integration or other techniques. A numerical solution of the set of simultaneous equation could be used to evaluate the impact of changes in input variables on THM yields (Casey, 1984).

The following is a listing of equations used as a basis for the reaction pathway, references for each equation, the differential equations to be solved and reaction rate constants. It is hoped that this pathway and the compilation of differential equations can be used by the modeling community as a basis for a synoptic model of THM formation in treatment process.



Figure A.II.1 The Reactions of Aqueous Chlorine

# TABLE II.1. EQUATIONS USED TO FORUMALTE THE THM REACTION PATHWAY

<u>Equation #</u>	Reaction	Reference
1	$NH_3 + HOC1 \frac{k1}{k-1} NH_2C1 + H_20$	(A)
2	$NH_2C1 + HOC1 + \frac{k2}{k-2} NHC1_2 + H_20$	(A)
3	$RNH_2 + HOC1 \frac{k3}{k-3} RNHC1 + H_20$	(A)
4	$Br^- + HOC1 \underline{k4} HOBr + C1^-$	(A)
5	$NH_3 + HOBr + \frac{k_5}{k-5} NH_2Br + H_20$	(A)
6	$NH_2Br + HOBr \frac{k6}{k-6}NHBr_2 + H_20$	(A)
7	$NHBr_2 + HOBr + \frac{k7}{k-7} NBr_3 + H_20$	(A)
8	$\frac{NHBr_2 + NBr_3 + 2H_20 - k8}{+ 2HOBr + 3HBr}$	(A)
9	$RNHr_2 + HOBr + \frac{k9}{k-9} RNHBr + H_20$	(A)
10	$NH_2C1 + HOBr \frac{k10}{k-10} NHBrC1 + H_20$	(A)
11	RNHCl + HOBr $\frac{kll}{k-ll}$ RNBrCl + H <sub>2</sub> 0	(A)
12	Br <sup>-</sup> + 2NH <sub>2C1</sub> k12 NHBrC1 + NH <sub>3</sub>	(A)
13	$NH_2Br + HOC1 k13 NHBrC1 + H_20$ k-13	(A)
14	RNHBr + HOC1 <u>k14</u> RNBrC1 + H <sub>2</sub> 0	(A)
15	$2NH_2Br + \frac{kl5}{k-15}NH_3 + NBr_3$	(A)
16	$2NHBr_2 + \frac{k16}{k-16}NH_2Br + NBr_3$	(A)
17		(A)

TABLE II.1. (Cont.)

Equation	# <u>Reaction</u>	Reference
18	TOC + HOBr $k18$ Br <sup>-</sup>	(A)
19	TOC + $\text{NHBr}_2 \frac{\text{kl9}}{\text{NH}_3} + 2\text{Br}^-$	(A)
20	TOC + NBr <sub>3</sub> $\underline{k20}$ NH <sub>3</sub> + 3Br <sup>-</sup>	(A)
21	$2HOBr k 21 0_2 + 2H^+ + 2Br^-$	(A)
22	$NHCl_2 + HOCl \frac{k22}{k-22} NHCl_3 + H_20$	(B)
23	$NHC1_2 + H_20 + \frac{k23}{NOH} + 2H + +2C1^{-1}$	(B)
24	NOH + NH <sub>2</sub> Cl $k^{24}$ N <sub>2</sub> + H <sub>2</sub> O + H <sup>+</sup> + Cl <sup>-</sup>	(B)
25	NOH + NHCl <sub>2</sub> $\frac{k25}{N_2}$ + HCCl + H <sup>+</sup> + Cl <sup>-</sup>	(B)
26	NOH + 2HOC1 <u>k26</u> NO3 + 3H <sup>+</sup> + 2C1 <sup>-</sup>	(B)
27	$2NBr_3 + OBr - \frac{k27}{N_2} + 3Br - + 3H_2O$	(B)
28	$2NBr_3 + 3H_2O k_28 N_2 + 3HOBr + 3H^+ + 3Br^- (B)$	

(A) = Saunier & Selleck (1979)
(B) = Johnson & Qualls (1983)

TABLE II.2. RATE CONSTANTS FOR REACTIONS IN TABLE II.1

Equation #	Constant Designation	Constant Value
1	kl k-l	1.2 x 104 m <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> 3.0 x 10 <sup>-5</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>
2	k 2 k - 2	1.28 x 10 <sup>1</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> S <sup>-1</sup> 6.5 x 10 <sup>-7</sup> S <sup>-1</sup>
3	k 3 k - 3	6.8 x 10 <sup>5</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> S <sup>-1</sup> 1.6 x 10 <sup>-6</sup> S <sup>-1</sup>
4	k 4	1.41 x 10 <sup>2</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> S <sup>-1</sup>
5	k 5 k - 5	2.58 x 107 m-1 s-1 1.5 x 10 <sup>-3</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>
6	k 6 k <b>-</b> 6	7.0 x 10 <sup>5</sup> m <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> 7.31 x 10 <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>
7	k7 k-7	2.5 x 10 <sup>4</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> S <sup>-1</sup> 5.0 x 10 <sup>-3</sup> S <sup>-1</sup>
8	k 8	5.9 x 10 <sup>10</sup> M <sup>-2</sup> S <sup>-1</sup>
9	k9 k-9	2.0 x 10 <sup>4</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> S <sup>-1</sup> 7.0 x 10 <sup>-7</sup> S <sup>-1</sup>
10	k10 k-10	5.0 x 10 <sup>3</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> S <sup>-1</sup> 2.0 x 10 <sup>-4</sup> S <sup>-1</sup>
11	k11 k-11	1.0 x 104 M-1 S-1 7.0 x 10-7 S-1
12	k12	2.8 x 106 M-2 S-1
13	k13	2.0 x 101 M-1 S-1
14	k14	1.0 x 10 <sup>2</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> S <sup>-1</sup>
15	k15 k-15	1.0 x 106 M-1 S-1 1.0 x 105 M-1 S-1
16	k16 k-10	1.0 x 105 M-1 S-1 1.0 x 104 M-1 S-1
17	k17	5.0 x 103 M-1 S-1
18	k18	2.0 x 104 M-1 S-1

TABLE II.2.	(Cont.) RATE CONS	TANTS FOR REACTIONS IN TABLE II.1
Equation #	Constant Designation	Constant Value
19	k19	3.0 x 10 <sup>-2</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> S <sup>-1</sup>
20	k 20	3.0 x 10 <sup>-2</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> S <sup>-1</sup>
21	k21	7.0 x 10 <sup>-2</sup> M <sup>-1</sup> S <sup>-1</sup>
22	k 22	7.537 5 (-7/RT)(1+ 1.4 3.43 x 10 e
	k 22	8 (-18/RT)(1 + 5.88x10 <sup>5</sup> (OH <sup>-</sup> )) 8.56 x 10 e
23	k 23	14 (-7.2/RT)n (OH <sup>-</sup> ) 2.03 x 10 e 1
		where $n_1 = initial [NH_3] + [NH_4]^+$
24	k24	1.0 x 10 <sup>8</sup> C(-6.0/RT)
25	k25	1.3 x 10 <sup>9</sup> C(-6.0/RT)
26	k 26	1.0 x 10 <sup>7</sup> C(-6.0/RT)
27	k27	none found in literature
28	k28	none found in literature

TABLE II.3. MODEL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS FOR THE TRIHALOMETHANE REACTION PATHWAY IN FIGURE II.1 BASED ON WORK OF HAAG & LIETZKE

#### Equation #

#### Equation

- 1.  $d[HOC1]/dt = k1 [NH_3] [HOC1] + k-1$  $[NH_2C1] k2 [NH_2C1] [HOC1] + k-2$  $[NHC1_2] k3 [RNH_2] [HOC1] + k-3 [RNHC1]$  $k4 [Br^-] [HOC1] k13 [NH_2Br] [HOC1] k17 [TOC] [HOC1] k22 [NHC1_2] [HOC1] + k-22 [NC1_3] + k25 [NOH] [NHC1_2] k26([NOH]) (2) [HOC1])$ 
  - 2 d [HOBr]/dt = k4 [Br<sup>-</sup>] [HOC1] ks [NH<sub>3</sub>] [HOBr] + k-5 [NH<sub>2</sub>Br] - k6 [NH<sub>2</sub>Br] [HOBr] + k6 [NHBr<sub>2</sub>] - k7 [NHBr<sub>2</sub>] [HOBr] + k7 [NBr<sub>3</sub>] + k8 1/2([NHBr<sub>2</sub>] [NBr<sub>3</sub>] [H<sub>2</sub>O]) - k9 [RNH<sub>2</sub>] [HOBr] + k-9 [RNHBr] - 10 [NH<sub>2</sub>C1] [HOBR] + k-10 [NHBrC1] - k11 [RNHC1] [HOBr] + k-11 [RNBrC1] - k19 [TOC] [HOBr] - k21 (2[HOBr]) + k28 (2/3 [NBr<sub>3</sub>] [H<sub>2</sub>O]
  - 3 d  $[NH_3]/dt = k1 [NH_3] [HOC1] + k-1$   $[NH_2C1] - k5 [NH_3] [HOBr] + k-5$   $[NH_2Br] + k12 [Br]2 [NH_2C1] + k15 2$   $[NH_2Br] - k-15 [NH_3] [NBr_3] + k19$  $[TOC] [NHBr_2] + k20 [TOC] [NBr_3]$
- 4 d  $[NH_2C1]/dt = -k2 [NH_2C1] [HOC1] + k-2$   $[NHC1_2] - k10 [NH_2C1] [HOBr] - + k-10$   $[NHBrC1] - k12 (2) [NH_2C1] [Br] - k24$  $[NOH] [NH_2C1] + k1 [NH_3] [HOC1]$
- 5  $d [NHCl_2]/dt = k2 [NH_2Cl] [HOCl] k-2$  $[NHCl_2] - k22 [NHCl_2] [HOCl] + k-22$  $[NCl_3] - k23 [NHCl_2] - k25 [NOH]$  $[NHCl_2]$
- 6  $d [NCl_3]/dt = k22 [NHCl_2] [HOCl] k-22 [NCl_3]$

<u>Equation #</u>	Equation
7	d [RNH <sub>2</sub> ]/dt = k3 [RNH <sub>2</sub> ] [HOC1] + k-3 [RNHC1] + k9 [RNH <sub>2</sub> ] [HOBr] + k-9 [RNHBr]
8	d $[Br^-]/dt = -k4 [Br^-] [HOC1] - k12$ $[Br^-] (2) [NH_{2C1}] + k18 [TOC] [HOBr] + k19 [TOC] [NHBr_2] + k20 [TOC] [NBr_3] + (2) k21 [HOBr] + k27 (2) [NBr] [OBr^-] + k28 (2) [NBr_3] [H_{2}O]$
9	d[NH <sub>2</sub> Br]/dt - k-s [NH <sub>3</sub> ] [HOBr] - k6 [NH <sub>2</sub> Br] [HOBr] + k-6 [NHBr <sub>2</sub> ] - k13 [NH <sub>2</sub> Br] [HOC1] - k15 (2)[NH <sub>2</sub> Br] + k-15 [NH <sub>3</sub> ] [NBr <sub>3</sub> ] - k-16 [NH <sub>2</sub> Br] [NBr <sub>3</sub> ]
10	$d[NHBr_2]/dt = k6 [NH_2Br] [HOBr] + k-6$ [NHBr_2] - k7 [NHBr_2] [HOBr_2] + k-7 [NBr_3] - k8 ([NHBr_2] [NBr_3] [HO]) - k13 [NH_2Br] [HOC1] - k16 (2)[NH_2Br] + k-16 [NH_2Br] [NBr_3] - k19 [TOC] [NHBr_2]
11	d[NBr <sub>3</sub> ]/dt = k7 [NHBr <sub>2</sub> ] [HOBr <sub>2</sub> ] + k-7 [NBr <sub>3</sub> ] - k8 ([NHBr <sub>2</sub> ] [NBr <sub>3</sub> ] + k15 (2)[NH <sub>2</sub> Br] + k-15 [NH <sub>3</sub> ] [NBr <sub>3</sub> ] + k16 (2)[NH <sub>2</sub> Br] - k-16 [NH <sub>2</sub> Br] [NBr <sub>3</sub> ] - k-16 [NH <sub>2</sub> Br] [NBr <sub>3</sub> ] - k20 [TOC] [NBr <sub>3</sub> ] - k27 (2) [NBr <sub>3</sub> ] [mOBr <sup>-</sup> ] - k28 (2) [NBr <sub>3</sub> P(3)] [H <sub>2</sub> O]
12	d[TOC]/dt = k17 [TOC] [HOC1] - k18 [TOC] [HOBr] - k19 [TOC] [NHBr <sub>2</sub> ] - k20 [TOC] [NBr <sub>3</sub> ]
13	d[RNHC1]/dt = kl1 [RNHC1] [HOBr] + k-l1 [RNBrC1] + k3 [RNH <sub>2</sub> ] [HOC1] - k-3 [RNHC1]
14	d[RNHBr]/dt = k14 [RNHBr] [HOC1] + k9 [RNH2] [HOBr] - k-9 [RNHBr]

Equation #	Equation
15	d[NOH]/dt = k23 [NHCl <sub>2</sub> ] - k24 [NOH] [NH <sub>2</sub> Cl] - k26([NOH]) (2) [HOCl]) - k25 [NOH] [NHCl <sub>2</sub> ]
16	$d[NHBrC1]/dt = k10 [NH_2C1] [HOBr] - k-10$ [NHBrC1] + k12 (2) [NH_2C1] [Br] + k13 [NH_2Br] [HOC1]
17	d[RBrCl]/dt = kll [RNHCl] [HOBr] - k-ll [RNBrCl] - kl4 [RNHBr]
18	$d[N_2]/dt = k24 [NOH] [NH_2C1] + k25 [NOH] [NHC1_2] + k27 (2) [NBr_3] [OBr_] + k28 (2) [NBr_3] [H_2O]$
19	d[NCl <sub>3</sub> ]/dt = k22 [NHCl <sub>2</sub> ] [HOCl] - k-22 [NCl <sub>3</sub> ]
20	$d[NO_3^-]/dt = k26$ (2) [NOH] [HOC1]

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