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# Mercury Sulfide Dissolution in Environmental Conditions: Thermodynamic and Kinetic Approaches

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FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Miami, Florida

MERCURY SULFIDE DISSOLUTION IN ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS:  
THERMODYNAMIC AND KINETIC APPROACHES

A dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment of

the requirements for the degree of

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

in

CHEMISTRY

by

Ping Jiang

2016

To: Dean Michael R. Heithaus  
College of Arts, Sciences and Education

This dissertation, written by Ping Jiang, and entitled Mercury Sulfide Dissolution in Environmental Conditions: Thermodynamic and Kinetic Approaches, having been approved in respect to style and intellectual content, is referred to you for judgment.

We have read this dissertation and recommend that it be approved.

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The dissertation of Ping Jiang is approved.

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Andrés G. Gil  
Vice President for Research and Economic Development  
And Dean of the University Graduate School

Florida International University, 2016

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## DEDICATION

I dedicate this work to my husband Changjun Fan, my son Aaron Fan, my parents, and my grandma. Without their understanding, encouragement, support and love, the completion of this work would not have been possible.

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In the past over five years of graduate study at FIU, I am so grateful for the valuable assistance from many people. First of all, I would like to thank my major professor, Dr. Yong Cai, for his incredible supervision, guidance and endless encouragement.

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## ABSTRACT OF THE DISSERTATION

### MERCURY SULFIDE DISSOLUTION IN ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: THERMODYNAMIC AND KINETIC APPROACHES

by

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Florida International University, 2016

Miami, Florida

Professor Yong Cai, Major Professor

Mercury (Hg) is a global contaminant of ecosystems and human health risk, with complicated biogeochemical processes. Mercury sulfide (HgS) dissolution has been suggested as a key process in Hg cycling, as it could potentially increase the pool of inorganic Hg (iHg) for the production of methylmercury (MeHg). Despite previous sporadic observations of enhanced HgS dissolution under certain conditions, much remains unclear on mechanisms of HgS dissolution. The objective of my research was to advance the mechanistic understanding of HgS dissolution, concerning re-adsorption of released Hg, effects of thiol-ligands, and Hg speciation.

Considering the lack of feasible techniques to differentiate dissolution and re-adsorption processes, I first developed an efficient method using isotope tracer and isotope dilution techniques to investigate the re-adsorption of released Hg during HgS dissolution. The HgS dissolution rate with consideration of re-adsorption was two times the rate calculated from detecting Hg alone in the presence of O<sub>2</sub>, indicating the importance of Hg re-adsorption during HgS dissolution. I further examined the role of Hg-ligand complexation in HgS dissolution and Hg(II) re-adsorption using a thermodynamic

adsorption method, selecting L-cysteine (Cys) as a model compound for low molecular weight ligands and Waskish fulvic acid (FA) for natural dissolved organic matter (DOM). My results suggest that the presence of Cys enhanced HgS dissolution through the decreased re-adsorption of Hg-Cys complex, whereas Waskish FA inhibited HgS dissolution, possibly because of the adsorption of FA on HgS surface that covered dissolution sites.

I further employed a geochemical modeling method to study Hg speciation and the relation of iHg speciation to MeHg, aiming to provide a methodological example for potentially evaluating the implications of Hg species distribution during HgS dissolution on MeHg production. I applied geochemical model PHREEQC to the Florida Everglades, a well-studied wetland with model input parameters available, to determine the distribution of iHg in surface water at different sites. The modeling results suggest that sulfide and DOM govern iHg speciation, and the Hg-sulfide and Hg-DOM species are related to MeHg in environmental media but not fish, suggesting the importance of iHg speciation in MeHg production and the complexity of Hg bioaccumulation.

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## ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

Cys	Cysteine
CVAFS	Cold vapor atomic fluorescence spectrometry
DOM	Dissolved organic matter
DOC	Dissolved organic carbon
Eh	Redox potential
EDTA	Ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid
EPA/USEPA	The United States Environmental Protection Agency
FA	Fulvic acid
FDEP	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
HA	Humic acid
Hg	Mercury
Hg(I)	Monovalent Hg
Hg(0)	Elemental mercury
Hg(II)	Inorganic divalent mercury
HgS	Mercury sulfide
IRB	Iron reducing bacteria
LMW	Low molecular weight
MeHg	Methylmercury
Me <sub>2</sub> Hg	Dimethylmercury
pHg	Particulate mercury
pH <sub>pzc</sub>	pH at the point of zero charge
R-EMAP	Regional Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program

RGM	Reactive gaseous mercury
SBD-F	Ammonium 7-fluorobenzo-2-oxa-1, 3-diazole-4-sulphonate
SRB	Sulfate reducing bacteria
SOPs	Standard operating procedures
SESD	Science and Ecosystem Support Division
THg	Total concentration of mercury
UNEP	United Nations Environment Program
USGS	The U.S. Geological Survey
$\alpha$ -HgS (red)	Cinnabar
$\beta$ -HgS (black)	Metacinnabar

## Chapter 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Source, exposure and toxicity of mercury

Mercury (Hg) is one of the most important global contaminants (1). Both natural (e.g., volcanic activity, weathering of geologically Hg-enriched soil, and forest fires) and anthropogenic (e.g., the burning of fossil fuels and incinerating of municipal or medical waste) processes can lead to mercury contamination (2-6). Mercury can exist in three oxidation states (0, +1, +2) in the natural environment. The only stable monovalent Hg (Hg(I)) is in the form of dimer ( $\text{Hg}_2^{2+}$ ), which can disproportionate to Hg(0) and Hg(II) readily (7). The dominant chemical forms of Hg in general in the environment are elemental mercury (Hg(0)), inorganic divalent mercury (Hg(II)), and organic Hg, mainly methylmercury (MeHg or  $[\text{CH}_3\text{Hg}]^+$ ) and dimethylmercury ( $\text{Me}_2\text{Hg}$  or  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{Hg}$ ). More than 95% of mercury in the atmosphere is Hg(0) because of its relatively low deposition velocity and high vapor pressure (8). Inorganic Hg(II) is the dominant form of mercury in water, soil, and sediment and can be methylated to the toxic MeHg through microbe-mediated (e.g., sulfate reducing bacteria, SRB or iron reducing bacteria, IRB) and abiotic processes (7, 9, 10). Because of its lipophilic and protein-binding properties, MeHg is then easily accumulated by aquatic biota through the food web (7).

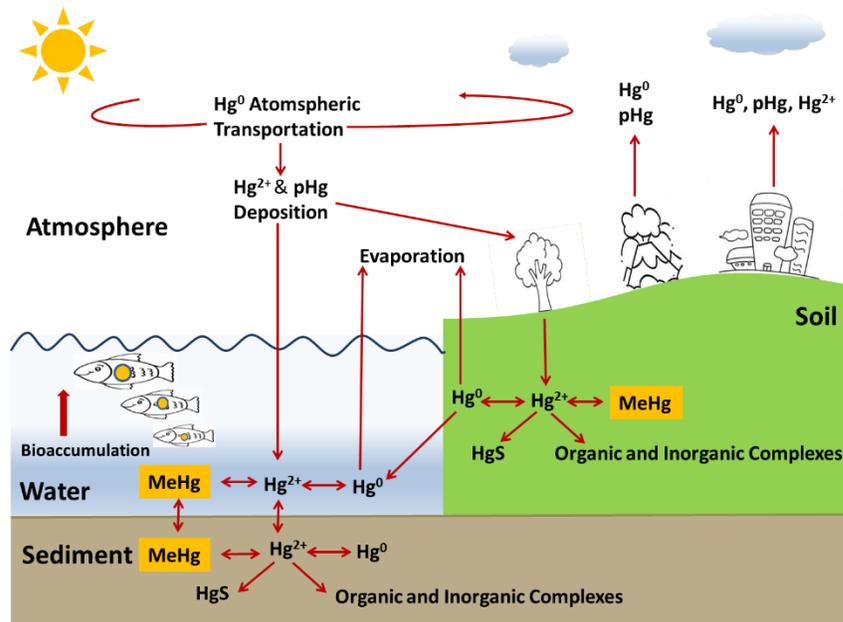
All Hg forms, in particular the organomercury species, are highly toxic substances (11). Acute Hg exposure can produce permanent damage to the nervous and other systems to cause a range of symptoms such as paresthesia, ataxia, sensory disturbances, tremors, renal toxicity, myocardial infarction, and even death (12). Chronic Hg exposure was considered to mainly occur from the consumption of contaminated fish and other aquatic organisms (13, 14). Rice is another important pathway for human exposure to MeHg in recent years.

This was first discovered in Guizhou province, China, and it potentially exists elsewhere (15-17). The toxicity of Hg depends on the chemical form and the sources of exposure (11). The most dangerous mercury species is MeHg, which is obtained mainly from the diet and can be almost completely absorbed into blood and then be distributed to other organs in the human body, such as brain, kidney, liver, hair, and other tissues within a few days (18). The biological half-life of MeHg in blood was estimated to be 80.2 days (19), much longer than that of inorganic Hg in blood (20). Methylmercury can readily cross the placenta and blood-brain barrier to cause irreversible damage to the developing central nervous systems of the fetus (21).

To control Hg releases and limit its use and exposures, efforts involving new legislation has been enacted in the United States and other countries. Reductions of Hg releases from industry were achieved based on this work (11). Successful control of Hg pollution requires global action because Hg can move through air and water(1). Therefore, domestic efforts might not be sufficient to address the adverse effects of Hg pollution (11). The United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) called for the establishment of a Global Mercury Partnership to protect human health and global environment from Hg pollution since 2005. Under assistance of the partnership and after five negotiating sessions of the intergovernmental negotiating committee from 2010 to 2013, an historic agreement called ‘The Minamata Convention on Mercury’ was reached and signed by 92 governments to help reduce the risks from toxic effects of Hg to hundreds of millions of people worldwide (22).

## 1.2 Mercury biogeochemical cycling in the environment

The atmospheric, aquatic and terrestrial environments are all recipients of Hg releasing to the environment (11). The input of Hg from natural and anthropogenic activities can redistribute Hg in the atmosphere, terrestrial, and aquatic systems through complex Hg transport and transformation processes (11). Once entering the environment, Hg can undergo long-range transport in the atmosphere and widely spread in aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. A variety of processes occur with Hg transport (e.g., evaporation, dissolution, precipitation, and uptake by organisms) and transformation (e.g., methylation/demethylation, oxidation/reduction). The Hg movements can be conceptualized as a mercury cycle (Figure 1.1) (23).



**Figure 1.1** Conceptual biogeochemical cycling of mercury in the environment.

### 1.2.1 Mercury in the air

The atmosphere is the most important media for the global transport and dispersion of Hg (24). Atmosphere Hg exists primarily as three inorganic forms: gaseous elemental

mercury (Hg(0)); reactive gaseous mercury (RGM) (e.g., HgCl<sub>2</sub>, Hg(OH)<sub>2</sub>, or compounds of the other halides); and particulate mercury (pHg) (25). Elemental Hg, the dominant form in the atmosphere, is slowly oxidized to the mercuric state. Most of this oxidation occurs in the aqueous phase of the atmosphere (e.g., water droplets in clouds) by reaction with ozone (O<sub>3</sub>), hydroxyl radicals (OH), or hydrogen peroxide (H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>). Gas-phase oxidation reactions of Hg(0) to Hg(II) by O<sub>3</sub>, Cl<sub>2</sub>, and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> may also be important. Some of the Hg(II) produced in the atmosphere is re-reduced by mechanisms involving SO<sub>2</sub>(g) (26). Once released to the atmosphere, Hg(0) is subject to long-distance air transport over a global scale with a long atmosphere life time of about 0.5-1.5 years (27). Mercury(II) is a highly surface reactive species and deposits much faster than Hg(0) through both dry and wet processes on the earth's surface with shorter atmosphere lifetimes, typically from minutes to weeks (26).

### **1.2.2 Terrestrial cycling**

Wet and dry depositions are major pathways to transfer Hg and its compounds from the atmosphere to terrestrial and aquatic environments (11). Both RGM and pHg can be deposited by dry and wet deposition at significant rates Hg(0) dry deposition, while RGM can be removed more rapidly than pHg and Hg(0) because of its characteristics of reactivity and water solubility (28). Upon deposition, a portion of Hg on the surface of land can rapidly volatilize back to the atmosphere, while the rest is incorporated into the soil pool with long retention time (29). In the long periods of time, up to hundreds of years are required for Hg to release from soil to surface water and other media (11). In the terrestrial system, the majority of Hg is bound to soils and associated with minerals and organic matter, in particular thiol-containing organic matter (30). Mercury can return back to the

atmosphere by forming volatile Hg(0) through reduction of Hg(II) in soil, subsequent diffusion or mass transport. Other pathways of Hg returning to the atmosphere from soil can also be involved, e.g., burning of organic matter (29).

### **1.2.3 Aquatic cycling**

The predominant form of Hg resulting from wet and dry deposition to watersheds, lake surfaces, or oceans is Hg(II) as it is in terrestrial systems (31), with a minor portion consisting of Hg(0) and organic mercury (9). Once in aquatic ecosystems, Hg(II) exists in dissolved and/or particulate forms, and can undergo various chemical and physical transformations (18, 23). The reduction of Hg(II) to Hg(0) can be initiated by aquatic microorganisms (32) or by abiotic processes facilitated by light and/or humic substance (33). Then the formed Hg(0) is easily volatilized into the atmosphere (25). In addition to redox transformations, methylation can convert Hg(II) to MeHg, subsequently demethylation of MeHg can also occur (7). Once Hg is converted into MeHg, which is more toxic, it can be readily taken up by aquatic organisms and bioaccumulated through the aquatic food chain (18). As MeHg can accumulate in fish tissue to high levels, it poses high risk to human beings through fish consumption. It is widely accepted that the methylation of Hg(II) is mainly driven by microbially mediated processes near sediments. Sulfate reducing bacteria (SRB) have long been considered as the primary methylators (34, 35). Redox potential (Eh), pH condition, as well as the concentration of inorganic and organic complexing ligands strongly influence the physical and chemical forms of Hg(II) (7, 36) and therefore the rate and efficiency of methylation. In addition to the methylation mediated by microorganisms, abiotic processes may also be involved in the conversion of Hg(II) to MeHg (37-39). The reverse process of methylation, demethylation usually occurs

simultaneously with methylation (10). Similar to methylation process, both biotic (40, 41) and abiotic (42-44) pathways can convert MeHg to Hg(II) with the former one dominant. Methanogens and SRB could be involved as the primary microorganisms in the demethylation process (41, 45, 46). In aquatic systems, mercury sulfide (HgS) is the main insoluble inorganic Hg compound. The reduction of sulfate to sulfide has been suggested as the cause of HgS formation (47) This process limits the bioavailability of Hg in anaerobic sediments, which could reduce methylation efficiency.

### **1.3 Mercury sulfide (HgS) as a sink for Hg cycling in the environment**

There are two polymorphs for HgS: cinnabar (red HgS, hexagonal) and metacinnabar (black HgS, cubic). Cinnabar is the principal ore of mercury (48, 49), and metacinnabar is one of the largest sinks for Hg in the environment in sulfidic waters, Hg-contaminated floodplain soils and sediments (47, 50). Cinnabar is the thermodynamically stable form at low temperature (51). The mobility, reactivity, and potential bioavailability of Hg are determined by its speciation in Hg contaminated regions (49). Mercury sulfide has been considered as the most insoluble and least leachable Hg species because of its low solubility product constant ( $k_{sp} = 10^{-55.9} \sim -50.9$ ) (52). Formation of mercury sulfide is an important step in the geochemical cycle of Hg, inhibiting Hg(II) methylation and bioaccumulation (53), and immobilizing mercury Hg(II) in sediments. Therefore, it is traditionally believed that mercury sulfide is formed as a sink for Hg cycling in the environment (47, 54, 55).

### **1.4 Dissolution of HgS in the aquatic environment**

The assumption that HgS is a permanent sink of Hg in the aquatic environment has been challenged over the last two decades (56-59). Instead of being the sink, recent studies

showed that cinnabar can also serve as a continuous source of inorganic Hg in the natural environment because a variety of environmental factors can facilitate the solubility of cinnabar. These factors include the presence of iron(III) (60), sulfide (61), dissolved organic matter (DOM) (59, 62, 63), and aquatic microorganisms (64, 65). The enhanced dissolution of cinnabar facilitated by these environmental factors could be an important process controlling Hg cycling in the aquatic environment. Dissolution of cinnabar would make the originally stable and immobile Hg species more reactive and bioavailable, increasing the possibility of Hg transport, methylation and bioaccumulation, posing great risks to humans and wildlife. In areas where soils and sediments are heavily contaminated with Hg, the effect of dissolution of cinnabar will be significant in the aquatic cycling of Hg, since even the release of a small fraction of sequestered Hg would remarkably increase the amount of Hg available in the aquatic environment (66).

#### **1.4.1 Enhanced HgS dissolution in the environment**

In consideration of the significance of enhanced release of Hg under certain environmental conditions, the factors and processes facilitating HgS dissolution were studied in recent years, and the dissolution rates were estimated in previous studies (54, 56-63). Several possible mechanisms have been proposed for the enhanced dissolution of cinnabar in the environment. The most common one is that cinnabar dissolution is enhanced via the formation of  $HgL_x$  complexes, especially the formation of Hg-thiol complexes (59, 62, 63, 67, 68). The coordination between dissolved  $Hg^{2+}$  and ligands would reduce the concentration of free  $Hg^{2+}$  and thus promote the dissolution of cinnabar. Another proposed mechanism is that the oxidation of  $S^{2-}$  in the presence of  $O_2$  or other oxidants would decrease the concentration of  $S^{2-}$  and thus promote the dissolution of

cinnabar (56, 60). The latter pathway is associated with iron-oxidizing bacteria. The  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  is reduced after oxidizing  $\text{S}^{2-}$  and regenerated  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  in the presence of the bacteria, as a result, more  $\text{S}^{2-}$  can be oxidized and the iron-oxidizing bacteria promotes the dissolution of cinnabar (64, 65).

The re-adsorption of Hg on cinnabar has been observed and experimentally demonstrated by directly and indirectly evidence (56, 63, 69, 70). In a pure HgS dissolution system, concentration of sulfate (which is the oxidation product of dissolved sulfide) should equal to that of the released Hg. However, it was found that the concentration of sulfate was much higher than that of the dissolved Hg, suggesting possible re-adsorption of released Hg (63). Adsorption experiments also showed that added Hg(II) into a metacinnabar suspension could be quickly absorbed on metacinnabar surface (56). In addition, contrary results were sometimes observed regarding the effects of organic ligands on cinnabar dissolution. For instance, minor changes in cinnabar dissolution were observed in the presence and absence of organic ligands (e.g., salicylic acid, acetic acid, EDTA, or cysteine) (59, 62, 63, 68). These inconsistent results were speculated to be attributed to the difference in binding strength between those ligands and Hg and the possible re-adsorption of dissolved Hg on cinnabar (63). The co-occurrence of re-adsorption should be evaluated since it may be the reason to underestimate the dissolution of Hg, thus the adverse effect of this process in Hg cycling.

#### **1.4.2 Re-adsorption of dissolved Hg on HgS surface**

Inorganic divalent Hg ions can be adsorbed on a variety of solid phases in natural environments, e.g., particulate particles in water (71), soil (72), sediment (73) and minerals (74). The adsorption process may involve one or several possible mechanisms, including

physisorption (Van der Waals interaction) and chemisorptions (ion exchange or surface complexation). Surface complexation was considered by most researchers to be the possible mechanism of  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  ions adsorption on  $\text{HgS}$  (56, 75). The surface of cinnabar with a  $\text{pH}_{\text{pzc}}$  3-4 (pH at the point of zero charge) is expected to be negatively charged in natural aquatic environments with a pH of 6-8 because of the deprotonation of exposed sulfhydryl groups (63, 76). In natural fresh water, uncharged Hg complexes  $\text{Hg}(\text{OH})_2$ ,  $\text{HgOHCl}$ , and  $\text{HgCl}_2$  are considered the dominant species of inorganic Hg in the absence or very low concentration of sulfide (7). Therefore, the mechanism of Hg adsorption on cinnabar should be surface complexation rather than ion exchange (77). The adsorption process could be described as:



Of which the surface sulfhydryl group is represented by  $\text{ } \Xi\text{S-H}$ . In addition to these theoretical deductions, experiments have also provided both direct and indirect evidence for the occurrence of Hg re-adsorption on cinnabar surface (56, 63, 69, 70). For instance, the amount of Hg released was found to be much lower than that of S (normally represented by  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ), in strong disagreement with the stoichiometric estimation, indicating the re-adsorption of released Hg back on cinnabar particles (63). Inorganic divalent Hg ions added into cinnabar suspension was observed to decrease quickly, further proving the occurrence of this process (56). Because of the re-adsorption of released Hg following  $\text{HgS}$  dissolution, the dissolution rates of  $\text{HgS}$  that consider the re-adsorption process have been estimated using an indirect method, based on the increase in the concentration of  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  in the solution. However, it should be noted that the calculation of Hg dissolution rates from changes in  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  concentration was underestimate the dissolution rate since sulfide oxidation

intermediates (e.g.,  $\text{S}_2\text{O}_3^{2-}$ ) that also exist in the solution or on the HgS surfaces (69). In addition, this method cannot quantitatively measure HgS dissolution rates under natural conditions, where a variety of factors (e.g., Eh, DOM, pH) can affect the transformations of sulfur, resulting in a large variation in the ratio of released Hg to  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ . Therefore, though it has been speculated that dissolved Hg from HgS surface could be re-adsorbed back onto HgS surfaces (56, 57, 69), re-adsorption process has not yet been taken into account when measuring HgS dissolution rate in previous studies (56, 59, 63, 69, 78) mainly to the result of the lack of a feasible technique that can differentiate the dissolution and re-adsorption processes. It is almost impossible to determine the re-adsorption rate of released Hg on HgS using traditional Hg addition methods due to the simultaneous dissolution of Hg from HgS. As the adsorption process of Hg on HgS is expected to have a very different environmental behavior than HgS, this drawback could result in the insufficient evaluation of the importance of HgS dissolution in environment.

#### **1.4.3 Isotope tracer technique and its potential applications in HgS dissolution study**

Mercury isotope tracer techniques have been widely applied in studying the transport and transformation of Hg (e.g., methylation/demethylation, oxidation/reduction, and adsorption/desorption) (73, 79-84) in recent years mainly because of its high precision, short incubation time, and its ability to simultaneously determine the rates of multiple processes (10). Using this technique, stable isotope labeled  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  (e.g.,  $^{199}\text{Hg}^{2+}$ ) and/or MeHg (e.g.,  $\text{Me}^{201}\text{Hg}$ ) have been added into samples to monitor one or more processes respectively. For example, the methylation rates of geochemically relevant inorganic Hg(II) species, including isotopically labeled cinnabar, metacinnabar, adsorbed Hg(II), and complexed Hg(II) have been investigated (84). Isotope tracer techniques have been

successfully used to quantify the kinetics of adsorption of Hg and MeHg onto freshwater lake sediments and the subsequent rate of desorption by adding  $^{200}\text{Hg}(\text{II})$  and  $\text{Me}^{199}\text{Hg}$  to sediment suspensions (73). Adsorption/desorption processes were also investigated between inorganically or organically complexed Hg(II) and solid bound Hg by evaluating the isotope exchange processes after spiking naturally abundant Hg(II) and enriched  $^{198}\text{Hg}(\text{II})$  successively into solid substrates (carboxyl-, thiol-resin or goethite) (83). Despite the aforementioned advantages of using isotope tracer technique in revealing some key environmental processes and rates, a methodology utilizing this technique has not been developed and applied to the study of re-adsorption of re-released  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  and the effects of dissolution and re-adsorption processes.

#### **1.4.4 Release of Hg from HgS dissolution and its implications on Hg cycling**

Mercury deposits are distributed in 26 mercury mineral belts globally with three types: Almaden type, silica-carbonate, and hot-spring type. Cinnabar is the main ore mineral at these abundant Hg deposits as well as a by-product from quartz-alunite gold-silver and antimony deposits (48, 85). Mine waste and Hg-enriched soils are a potential source of soluble Hg that can be transported and methylated in downstream aquatic environments (48). Elevated concentrations of Hg have been measured in the ground water and surface water down-gradient of the tailings in some Hg contaminated areas (85-88). However, it is Hg speciation that controls Hg mobility, and bioavailability through MeHg production and then bioaccumulation of Hg (49, 89). Therefore, it is critical to know the distribution patterns of Hg species (e.g., what species are present at what percentages) for a better understanding of aquatic Hg cycling in HgS contaminated areas.

## **1.5 Geochemical modeling on Hg speciation and cycling**

Dissolved Hg exists mainly as Hg(0), inorganic Hg(II), and organic Hg forms (mostly MeHg and Me<sub>2</sub>Hg) in aquatic systems. Generally, Hg(II) does not exist as free ions but complexes formed with inorganic and organic ligands, including hydroxide, chloride, sulfide, and DOM in aquatic systems (8). Inorganic Hg(II) complexes play an important role in the aquatic cycling of Hg because the complexes are closely associated with the uptake of SRB and IRB during methylation process. The pathway of Hg(II) uptake could be passive involving neutral forms of Hg through cell membranes, or active involves the formation of complexes of Hg and low molecular weight thiol ligands by bacteria. This can also be a facilitated uptake involving negative charged Hg species on the basis of cell physiology (90-93). Since inorganic Hg(II) speciation is believed to be a primary factor in the control of Hg bioavailability for methylating microorganisms (7, 52), speciation analysis of Hg(II) is crucial to predict the methylation potential and biogeochemical cycling in Hg contaminated areas.

### **1.5.1 Determination of Hg species in aquatic systems**

Tremendous efforts have been made to develop Hg speciation analysis methods including chromatographic separation and non-chromatographic separation techniques (94-96). The chromatographic separation techniques are generally combined with an element specific detector to separate and analyze inorganic Hg(II) and organic Hg species or different organic Hg species (94). Cold vapor generation approaches are involved in non-chromatographic separation methods in many cases. So-called “reactive” Hg can be measured directly by stannous chloride (SnCl<sub>2</sub>) reduction, while DOM bound Hg can't be measured in this moment. Extra steps such as UV irradiation, chemical oxidation, or

ultrasonic treatment are required to convert DOM bound Hg to reactive Hg prior to SnCl<sub>2</sub> reduction to determine total Hg (94).

Despite the very useful information on Hg speciation provided by using the above techniques, many significant Hg species cannot be analytically determined. For example, complexes of Hg and inorganic or organic ligands are difficult to determine (85-88). Because of the difficulty of direct analysis, the concentration of Hg(II) complexes in aquatic systems are obtained indirectly by thermodynamic calculation on the basis of stability constants (97). The dominant species include Hg hydroxides such as Hg(OH)<sup>+</sup>, Hg(OH)<sub>2</sub>, Hg(OH)<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> in fresh water and complexes of Hg-chloride HgCl<sup>+</sup>, HgClOH, HgCl<sub>2</sub>, HgCl<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, HgCl<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> in freshwater, estuarine and seawater under oxic condition (98, 99). Under anoxic conditions, sulfide may be combined with Hg to form HgS or soluble complexes such as Hg(SH)<sub>2</sub>, HgS<sub>2</sub>H<sup>-</sup> and HgS<sub>2</sub><sup>2-</sup> in natural water (100). However, many studies suggest that the majority of Hg species in natural water are the complexes of Hg and DOM. Thiol containing organic ligands are particularly important as a result of the high concentration of DOM and strong interactions between Hg and organic matter, in aqueous systems, particularly those with thiol moieties (101-104). Some geochemical models have been developed and applied to simulate Hg speciation by calculating speciation, sorption, and precipitation of aquatic chemical components on the basis of thermodynamic equilibrium constants (105, 106).

### **1.5.2 Geochemical modeling methods for Hg studies**

Geochemical models have been widely applied to study Hg speciation and mobility in contaminated areas in previous work (85, 87). Frequently used programs are WATEQ4F, MINTEQA2, EQ 3/6, and PHREEQC(106). Data processing is very convenient in

WATEQ4F using standard Excel files, however, calculations of analytical error, speciation and saturation index are limited. Using MINTEQA2, it is also possible to calculate the distribution of dissolved and adsorbed species (on solid phases). The capabilities of PHREEQC and EQ 3/6 are far greater than other models. While PHREEQC is public domain software, EQ 3/6 has to be purchased from the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories (107). Species distribution of mercury in contaminated and natural environment can vary depending on environmental conditions. For example, mercury speciation calculations using PHREEQC suggest that Hg is predominantly in the form of Hg-CN complexes in ground water and surface water down-gradient of the tailings in the Murray Brook gold deposit (northern New Brunswick, Canada) (87). Using both PHREEQC and MINTEQ modeling, the dominant species in Bayarque mining waste leaching was found to be Hg(0) and Hg(OH)<sub>2</sub>, while HgCl<sub>2</sub>, HgCl<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, and HgClOH were major species in the mining wastes leachates of the Valle del Azogue mine (Almería, Andalusia, Se Spain) along with the presence of high concentrations of Hg and chloride (85). Among all mercury species present in aqueous solutions, mercury complexes formed through interactions with sulfide and dissolved organic matter (DOM) dominate in many scenarios, such as that observed in the stratified water column of Offatts Bayou (Galveston Bay, Texas) where HOHgHS<sup>0</sup>, HOHgHS(DOM), HgSHS<sup>2-</sup>, and HgS<sub>2</sub><sup>2-</sup> may be major species of mercury (86).

In these contaminated aqueous systems, dissolved Hg occurred due to the leaching of sediment or soil. Since the majority of Hg is present as HgS ether cinnabar or metacinnabar, Hg should be released into water through HgS dissolution. Knowing the Hg species released during cinnabar dissolution would be helpful in understanding the role of cinnabar

dissolution in aquatic Hg cycling. However, much remains unclear about how inorganic Hg species are distributed in aqueous phase and how their varying bioavailability influence the uptake by methylating bacteria for production of MeHg.

Geochemical modeling of Hg speciation requires a clear understanding of major Hg transport and transformation processes in a given system, in particular types and concentrations of inorganic and organic ligands present in the system and the stability constants of the complexes of these ligands with Hg. Therefore, applying a geochemical modeling approach to a relatively well-studied system with ancillary environmental parameters (e.g., concentrations of inorganic and organic ligands) to examine Hg speciation would be beneficial to improve understanding towards how Hg species distribution affects MeHg production and the overall Hg cycling in the aquatic environment.

### **1.5.3 Geochemical modeling of Hg speciation in the Florida Everglades**

The Florida Everglades, a subtropical wetland ecosystem located in South Florida, provides significant ecological, water storage, flood control and recreational benefits to the region and important habitat for wildlife including endangered species. However, elevated levels of Hg, especially MeHg, a potent neurotoxin, have been measured in fish and wildlife e.g., wading birds, alligators, and Florida panthers in the Everglades over the last few decades (*108-111*). This not only is an issue for human consumption of fish, but also threatens fish-eating wildlife species and the biological diversity of the ecosystem (*112-114*). To address this issues, efforts have been made to investigate source, transport, transformation (in particular methylation/demethylation), and bioaccumulation of Hg in

fish and wildlife in the Florida Everglades (45, 115-118). Spatial patterns in mercury cycling and bioaccumulation in the Everglades have also been investigated (119-122).

In the Florida Everglades, atmospheric deposition was identified as the primary source of Hg mainly inorganic Hg (121, 123). Unlike the elevated levels of Hg in Everglades wildlife, concentrations of total Hg (THg) in surface water and soil both were within background levels (108, 110, 111, 123, 124). However, the concentrations of MeHg were found correlated with methylation rates (89, 125). The high levels of MeHg in fish and other biota could be produced by MeHg *in situ* production and subsequently bioaccumulation through the food web (89, 124). The production of MeHg is predominantly by SRB in soil, floc, and water (89, 116). Soil was identified as the largest source of MeHg, while methylation in periphyton could play significant role in the northern Everglades (79). Concentrations of sulfide, DOM, and other geochemical factors were found to influence the production of MeHg (91, 126). These essential constituents could control speciation of Hg and then the bioavailability of Hg by SRM in aquatic systems (90-93). The speciation of Hg in Everglades surface water was modeled using WHAM and PHREEQC by Reddy (127). The complexes of Hg and sulfide dominate with measurable sulfide concentrations, while Hg and fulvic acid complexes play a major role in the surface water with low sulfide ion concentrations. However, the mechanism by which Hg speciation regulates the production of MeHg was not determined. Speciation calculations were also applied using MINEQL<sup>+</sup> program to sulfidic pore waters in the Florida Everglades with the consideration of the adsorption of Hg on solid phase thiols (with or without Hg) by Benoit (52). Neutral species HgS<sup>0</sup> was considered the major species of Hg which controls Hg methylation by the passive diffusion of Hg uptake by SRB. This result

is consistent with previous hypothesis proposed by same the researcher (92). However, some important geochemical factors such as pH, Eh, DOM were not considered in the modeling.

### **1.6 Research gaps and significance of this study**

The re-adsorption of released Hg from cinnabar dissolution in natural environment, as evidenced from previous discussions, is one of the key steps that will determine how the released mercury affects the cycling of mercury. However, this process has not yet been taken into account when measuring cinnabar dissolution rate in previous studies (56, 59, 63, 68, 69), mainly because there is no feasible technique that can differentiate the dissolution and re-adsorption processes. It is almost impossible to determine the re-adsorption rate of released Hg on cinnabar using traditional Hg addition method in consideration of the simultaneous dissolution of Hg from cinnabar. Mercury adsorbed on cinnabar is expected to be very different in comparison with that of HgS in their environmental behavior, therefore, resulting in insufficient evaluation of the importance of cinnabar dissolution in the environment.

Various organic ligands exist extensively in natural aquatic systems, and mercury could bind with these ligands, in particular thiol-containing moieties in dissolved organic matter (DOM), which could have important effects on cinnabar dissolution and re-adsorption of Hg (63, 67, 128). The presence of DOM fractions was found to enhance the release of mercury from cinnabar under aerobic and anaerobic conditions (58, 59, 63). However, whether the Hg-DOM complex could be re-adsorbed on cinnabar and, if the re-adsorption happens, the amount of Hg-DOM complex that can be absorbed remain unknown. The missing adsorption information is important for an improved understanding of the role

DOM plays during cinnabar dissolution and re-adsorption of the released Hg in the presence of DOM.

Efforts have been made to investigate source, transport, transformation (reduction/oxidation and in particular methylation/demethylation), and bioaccumulation of Hg in fish and wildlife in the Florida Everglades (45, 115-118). Spatial patterns in Hg cycling and bioaccumulation in the Everglades have been investigated. However, much remains unclear about how elevated levels of Hg in fish and wildlife are accumulated and the biogeochemical cycling of mercury in this system (109, 129). One of the particular concerns is the lack of study deals with the speciation of inorganic Hg, whether being dissolved Hg ions (or neutral species) or bound to particles and organic matter, and the effect of these Hg species on Hg transformation (e.g., methylation and photochemical reactions) and bioaccumulation.

### **1.7 Objectives, hypotheses, and approaches**

The first objective of this study was to decipher the role of re-adsorption of dissolved Hg in cinnabar dissolution and to quantitatively estimate the dissolution rates with the consideration of re-adsorption. The hypothesis behind this work is that the re-adsorption of the released Hg indeed happens and can't be neglected in the study of cinnabar dissolution. An isotope tracer technique was used to simultaneously differentiate the dissolution and re-adsorption processes. An experimental approach, using both isotope tracing and isotope dilution techniques, was developed to monitor Hg released into the solution as well as Hg re-adsorbed on cinnabar during the course of cinnabar dissolution. Equations were then derived to calculate the rates of cinnabar dissolution and Hg re-adsorption. The major virtue of the developed method is the ability to decipher the re-

adsorption of released Hg on cinnabar during cinnabar dissolution. The method was then applied to investigate the dissolution of cinnabar and re-adsorption of released Hg under both aerobic and anaerobic conditions.

The second objective was to understand the role played by thiol-containing organic ligands during cinnabar dissolution and re-adsorption of the released Hg, particularly through complexation with Hg. It was hypothesized that the Hg-thiol complex could not be adsorbed or be adsorbed less than Hg species without thiols on cinnabar surface, reflecting higher concentration of released Hg in presence of thiols. L-cysteine (Cys) was selected as a model compound of low molecular weight (LMW) thiol-containing ligand and fulvic acid to represent DOM. Following investigation of the complexation of these organic ligands with Hg, thermodynamic adsorption experiments of Hg-cysteine complex and cinnabar dissolution in the presence of fulvic acid were conducted to evaluate the role of Hg-thiol complexation in cinnabar dissolution and re-adsorption of Hg.

The last objective was to understand how geochemical factors such as pH, dissolved ions, and organic matter affect inorganic Hg species and subsequently control Hg methylation in the Florida Everglades. The hypothesis driving this study is that the formation of MeHg is controlled by complexes of inorganic Hg and ligands such as Hg-DOM, Hg-S, and other species. Geochemical models are used to model the distribution of inorganic Hg species in this work. The distribution of inorganic Hg species in surface water throughout the entire Everglades is determined by applying geochemical models to different sampling sites provided by the Everglades Regional Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program (R-EMAP). The patterns of inorganic Hg species distribution are related to MeHg levels in environmental matrices, inorganic Hg species potentially affect

the production and fate of MeHg, and can be further related to fish Hg levels to explore the relationship between inorganic Hg speciation, MeHg production, and Hg bioaccumulation. The implications of the inorganic Hg species distribution on important Hg transformation processes and the overall Hg cycling in the Florida Everglades are discussed.

## **Chapter 2. Evaluating the Role of Re-adsorption of Dissolved Hg<sup>2+</sup> during Cinnabar Dissolution Using Isotope Tracer Technique**

### **Abstract**

Cinnabar dissolution is an important factor controlling mercury (Hg) cycling. Recent studies have suggested the co-occurrence of re-adsorption of the released Hg during the course of cinnabar dissolution. However, there is a lack of feasible techniques that can quantitatively assess the amount of Hg re-adsorbed on cinnabar when investigating cinnabar dissolution. In this study, a new method, based on isotope tracing and dilution techniques, was developed to study the role of Hg re-adsorption in cinnabar dissolution. The developed method includes two key components: 1) accurate measurement of both released and spiked Hg in aqueous phase and 2) estimation of re-adsorbed Hg on cinnabar surface via the reduction in spiked <sup>202</sup>Hg<sup>2+</sup>. By adopting the developed method, it was found that the released Hg for trials purged with oxygen could reach several hundred µg L<sup>-1</sup>, while no significant cinnabar dissolution was detected under anaerobic condition. Cinnabar dissolution rate when considering Hg re-adsorption was approximately 2 times the value calculated solely with the Hg detected in the aqueous phase. These results suggest that ignoring the Hg re-adsorption process can significantly underestimate the importance of cinnabar dissolution, highlighting the necessity of applying the developed method in future cinnabar dissolution studies.

### **2.1 Introduction**

Mercury sulfide (cinnabar and metacinnabar), a major ore mineral, is one of the largest mercury (Hg) sinks in contaminated sediments and soils (47). It has been considered as the most insoluble and least leachable Hg species due to its low solubility product constant ( $k_{sp}$

$=10^{-55.9} \sim -50.9$  for the reaction  $\text{HgS(s)} = \text{Hg}^{2+} + \text{S}^{2-}$  (52, 130). The formation of mercury sulfide in the environment plays a major role in restraining Hg biogeochemical cycling. However, previous studies showed that dissolution of mercury sulfide (e.g., cinnabar) can also serve as a continuous source of inorganic Hg in natural environment due to the fact that a variety of environmental factors can facilitate its dissolution. These factors include the presence of iron(III) in acidic water (60), sulfide in water (100), and dissolved organic matter (DOM) (59, 62, 63). The enhanced dissolution of cinnabar could be an important process controlling Hg cycling in aquatic environments as this process would make the originally stable Hg more reactive and bioavailable, increasing the possibility of Hg transport, methylation and bioaccumulation, posing a great risk to humans and wildlife. This process is particularly important at areas where soils and sediments are heavily contaminated with Hg since even the release of a small fraction of sequestered Hg would remarkably increase the amount of Hg available in aquatic environment (66).

Dissolution of cinnabar in aquatic environment is very complex and the process could be conceptually simplified in two steps, 1) elimination of dissolution products ( $\text{S}^{2-}$  and  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$ ) in the aqueous phase and 2) the subsequent dissolution of cinnabar (Table S1, Fig. S1) (52, 56, 67). A variety of environmental factors are expected to enhance or inhibit cinnabar dissolution via affecting the fate of cinnabar dissolution products. These factors include pH, redox potential (Eh), and Hg binding ligands (57, 60, 63, 69). Sulfide ( $\text{S}^{2-}$ ), one of the cinnabar dissolution products, could be eliminated from the system via oxidation to  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  at pH 5-8 under aerobic condition (56, 57, 60, 68, 70) or conversion to  $\text{HS}^-$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  under anaerobic condition (52). The former pathway may play a more important role as quicker dissolution of cinnabar was observed in the presence of  $\text{O}_2$  (56, 60, 69).  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$ ,

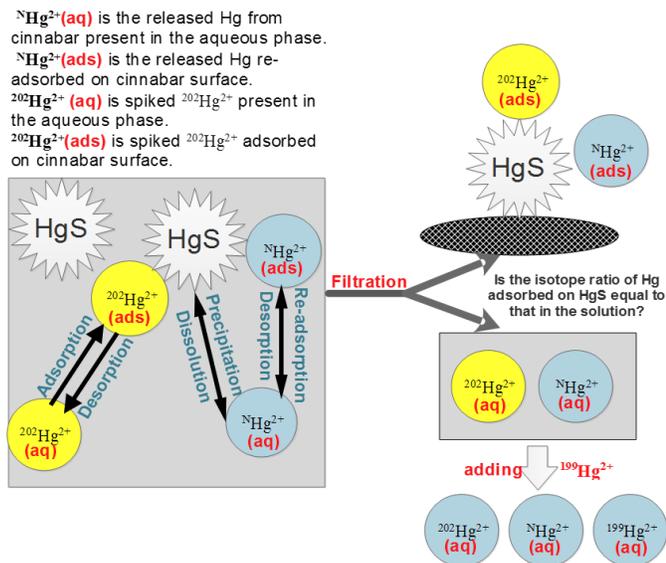
the other product, could bind with organic ligands, in particular thiol-containing moieties in dissolved organic matter (DOM) (63, 67, 128). The binding process is expected to reduce the amount of free  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  in aqueous phase and thus enhance cinnabar dissolution. Contrary results were sometimes observed regarding the effects of organic ligands on cinnabar dissolution. For instance, while organic ligands may enhance cinnabar dissolution, minor changes in cinnabar dissolution were observed in the presence and absence of organic ligands (salicylic acid, acetic acid, EDTA, or cysteine) (59, 62, 63, 68). These inconsistent results were speculated to be attributed to the differences in binding strength between those ligands and Hg and the possible re-adsorption of released Hg on cinnabar (63).

$\text{Hg}^{2+}$  ion can be adsorbed on a variety of solid phases in natural environments, e.g., particles in water (71), soil (72), sediment (73) and minerals (74). The adsorption process may involve one or several possible mechanisms, including physisorption (Van der Waals interaction) and chemisorptions (ion exchange or surface complexation). Surface complexation was considered to be the possible mechanism of  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  ions adsorption on HgS in most studies (56, 75). Surface of cinnabar (with a  $\text{pH}_{\text{pzc}}$  of 3-4) is expected to be negatively charged in natural aquatic environments with a pH of 6-8 due to the deprotonation of exposed sulfhydryl groups (63, 76). Since the dominant dissolved  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  species in aquatic environments are often uncharged complexes, inorganic or organic complex formation, ion exchange should not be the major mechanism of Hg adsorption on cinnabar (77). Experimental results have provided both direct and indirect evidences for the occurrence of Hg re-adsorption on cinnabar surface (56, 63, 69, 70, 131). For instance, the amount of Hg released was found to be much lower than that of S (normally represented by  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ), in strong disagreement with the stoichiometric estimation, indicating the

adsorption of released Hg back on cinnabar particles (56, 63, 69, 70). Hg<sup>2+</sup> added into cinnabar suspension was observed to decrease quickly, further proving the occurrence of this process (56). Nevertheless, this process has not yet been taken into account when measuring cinnabar dissolution rate in previous studies (56, 59, 63, 68, 69), mainly due to the lack of a feasible technique that can differentiate the dissolution and re-adsorption processes. It is almost impossible to determine the re-adsorption rate of released Hg on cinnabar using traditional Hg addition method due to the simultaneous dissolution of Hg from cinnabar. The Hg re-adsorbed on cinnabar surface is expected to behavior differently in the environment than HgS itself, and therefore measuring cinnabar dissolution without considering Hg re-adsorption could result in underestimation of the importance of cinnabar dissolution in the environment.

Mercury isotope tracer technique has been widely applied in studying transport and transformation of Hg, e.g., methylation/demethylation and oxidation/reduction (79-81, 132) in recent years mainly due to its high precision and ability of simultaneously determining the rates of multiple processes. It has also been successfully used to quantify the adsorption and desorption of Hg in sediments and particles (73, 83). The objective of this study was to decipher the role of re-adsorption of the released Hg in cinnabar dissolution. It is expected that the application of isotope tracer technique would make it feasible to simultaneously differentiate the dissolution and re-adsorption processes. An experimental approach, using both isotope tracing and isotope dilution techniques, was developed to monitor Hg released into the solution as well as Hg re-adsorbed on cinnabar during the course of cinnabar dissolution. Equations were then derived to calculate the rates of cinnabar dissolution and Hg re-adsorption. The major virtue of the developed method is its

ability to quantify the re-adsorption of released Hg on cinnabar during cinnabar dissolution. This method was then applied to investigate the dissolution of cinnabar and re-adsorption of released Hg under both aerobic and anaerobic conditions.



**Figure 2.1** A schematic showing the procedure of simultaneously monitoring the dissolution of cinnabar and re-adsorption of released Hg using isotope tracer and isotope dilution techniques.

## 2.2 Experimental methods

### 2.2.1 Pretreatment of cinnabar and selection of filters

The surface of cinnabar was cleaned prior to use by soaking and shaking the cinnabar powder (0.02 g) in 1 mol L<sup>-1</sup> HNO<sub>3</sub> at 150 rpm (Orbital shaker, Henry Troemner LLC) for 3 days and subsequently filtering through a 0.45 μm PVDF membrane (Millipore) (59). Cinnabar on the filter membrane was washed until the filtrate reaching neutral using approximately 2.5 L DI (de-ionized) water (>18.2 MΩ) and then transferred to a 250 mL Teflon bottle containing 200 mL NaNO<sub>3</sub>/NaOH solution (pH 8.0). The final concentration of cinnabar in the suspension was approximately 100 mg L<sup>-1</sup> as HgS. The average size of cinnabar was approximately 3,272 nm determined by dynamic light scattering (DLS)

(Malvern Zetasizer Nano-ZS, Westborough, MA) (Supplementary Data Fig. S2). DI water and NaNO<sub>3</sub>/NaOH solution used were purged overnight with N<sub>2</sub> to eliminate O<sub>2</sub>. All procedures were performed in a N<sub>2</sub> glove box to avoid the exposure to air. Experiments were conducted to examine the adsorption of Hg on four types of filters (0.22 μm PTFE, 0.45 μm PTFE, 0.22 μm PVDF, and 0.45 μm PVDF), and 0.22 μm PTFE filter was chosen in this study since it had the best recovery for Hg with minimum adsorption on the filter (Supplementary Data, Table S2).

### **2.2.2 Simultaneous determination of cinnabar dissolution and Hg<sup>2+</sup> re-adsorption in the presence of N<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub>**

Experiments using isotope tracer were designed to monitor the adsorption of Hg<sup>2+</sup> on cinnabar during the course of cinnabar dissolution experiments. <sup>202</sup>HgNO<sub>3</sub> (215 μL, 46.6 mg L<sup>-1</sup> as Hg) was spiked into a 250 mL Teflon bottle with 180 mL of NaNO<sub>3</sub>/NaOH solution. Pretreated cinnabar (0.02 g wt.) was then added into the solution. The volume of the suspension solution was adjusted to 200 mL by adding NaNO<sub>3</sub>/NaOH solution. The final concentrations of <sup>202</sup>Hg<sup>2+</sup> and cinnabar were 50 μg L<sup>-1</sup> as Hg and 100 mg L<sup>-1</sup> as HgS, respectively. After shaking vigorously, 2.5 mL suspension was immediately sampled from each bottle using a 2.5 mL syringe and filtered through a 0.22 μm PTFE membrane (representing time 0). Bottles with the remaining suspensions were then shaken at 125 rpm with the purging of N<sub>2</sub> (~55 mL min<sup>-1</sup>, treatment 1) or O<sub>2</sub> (~55 mL min<sup>-1</sup>, treatment 2). Triplicates (three independent Teflon bottles) were prepared for each treatment. An aliquot of suspension (2.5 mL) was sampled from each bottle at 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 23, 30, 47, and 54 h, respectively, then filtered and preserved in a 4 °C refrigerator prior to analysis. Dissolved <sup>201</sup>Hg and <sup>202</sup>Hg in the filtrates were analyzed using an isotope dilution method. Upon

analysis, 44.2  $\mu\text{L}$   $^{199}\text{HgCl}_2$  (453  $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$  as Hg) was spiked into 2 mL filtrate, mixed thoroughly, diluted to 20 mL and then stabilized for 1 hour.  $^{199}\text{Hg}^{2+}$ ,  $^{201}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  and  $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  in the solutions were detected by a flow injection mercury analysis system (FIAS, from PerkinElmer) coupled with inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (ICP-MS, Elan DRC-e from PerkinElmer) following the method of isotope dilution technique (133). Details can be found in the Supplementary Data. Concentrations of spiked  $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  released from the HgS in the aqueous phase were calculated, as detailed below in Results section.

### **2.2.3 Thermodynamics of Hg adsorption on cinnabar**

Thermodynamic experiments were further conducted to evaluate the adsorption capacity of  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  on cinnabar. Adsorption of spiked  $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  on cinnabar was observed to achieve equilibrium after 6 hours according to the results of preliminary experiments. The procedures for the adsorption experiments used here were identical to treatment 1 of the above experiment (purging with  $\text{N}_2$ ).  $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  was spiked into the cinnabar suspension at the final concentrations of 0, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, and 400  $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ . After shaking the bottles at 125 rpm for 6 hours, 2.5 mL sample was collected from each bottle, filtered through a 0.22  $\mu\text{m}$  PTFE membrane, and stored at 4°C for analysis. Concentrations of the spiked  $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  were then analyzed using the aforementioned isotope dilution method.

### **2.2.4 Data analysis**

Two most commonly used adsorption isotherm equations (134-140), Langmuir and Freundlich isotherms, were adopted here to calculate the thermodynamic parameters of Hg adsorption on cinnabar. The kinetic adsorption of  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  on cinnabar can be described as a pseudo-second order reaction (141) while first order reaction (142) was used to describe

cinnabar dissolution. Details about these models can be found in the Supplementary Data (Eqs. (S1) - (S6)).

## **2.3 Results and discussion**

### **2.3.1 Developing a method for simultaneously monitoring Hg adsorption and dissolution using isotope dilution and isotope tracer technique**

A portion of the released Hg can be re-adsorbed on cinnabar surface after dissolving from cinnabar particles, resulting in the coexistence of two forms of Hg in the cinnabar suspension, the released Hg present in the aqueous phase and the released Hg re-adsorbed on cinnabar surface (Fig. 2.1). Concentration of the released Hg present in the aqueous phase can be determined readily, whereas it is still a challenge to directly measure the fraction of released Hg that is re-adsorbed on cinnabar surface. Without considering Hg re-adsorption, the direct measurement of solution Hg can only account for the portion of released Hg from HgS dissolution that is present in the aqueous phase, leaving out the fraction re-adsorbed on cinnabar surface, and thus resulting in underestimation of Hg dissolution rate. To quantify the sum of Hg released from cinnabar (in the aqueous phase and re-adsorbed on cinnabar surface), a new method based on isotope tracer technique was developed. The rationale is that re-adsorbed Hg on cinnabar surface ( $^N\text{Hg}^{2+}(\text{ads})$ ) (N represents Hg natural isotopic numbers) can be estimated by the decrease in the spiked isotope-enriched Hg ( $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}(\text{aq})$ ) in aqueous phase. Developing such a method includes two key steps: 1) measuring both released Hg in the aqueous phase ( $^N\text{Hg}^{2+}(\text{aq})$ ) and the residual  $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  in the aqueous phase ( $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}(\text{aq})$ ), and 2) developing a method that can be used to estimate re-adsorbed Hg on cinnabar surface ( $^N\text{Hg}^{2+}(\text{ads})$ ) by the reducing amount of spiked  $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  in the aqueous phase ( $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}(\text{aq})$ ).

Hg isotopes in the filtrate were analyzed using an isotope dilution technique. Prior to sample analysis, a known amount of  $^{199}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  was spiked into the filtrate to serve as an internal standard. Abundances of  $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$ ,  $^{199}\text{Hg}^{2+}$ , and  $^{201}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  ( $N_{202}$ ,  $N_{199}$ ,  $N_{201}$ ) in the solution were analyzed and the ratios of  $^{201}\text{Hg}/^{199}\text{Hg}$  ( $R_{199}^{201}$ ) and  $^{202}\text{Hg}/^{199}\text{Hg}$  ( $R_{199}^{202}$ ) were determined. Hg isotope ratios in the filtrates were different from the natural abundance of Hg because of the addition of  $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  at time zero. These isotope ratios also changed over time accompanying with Hg dissolution from cinnabar and adsorption of the spiked  $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$ . Therefore, the traditional isotope dilution method for analyzing samples with the natural abundance of Hg isotopes (143-147) is not applicable here for calculating Hg concentrations in the filtrates. A new method was developed in order to simultaneously calculate Hg originated from cinnabar dissolution and residual spiked  $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  in the filtrates.

Since all 7 natural Hg isotopes were present in the used isotope-enriched Hg ( $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  and  $^{199}\text{Hg}^{2+}$ ) because of the impurities in the standards, Hg isotopes in the filtrates originated from three sources, including cinnabar dissolution (with natural abundance of Hg isotopes,  $C_d(\text{aq})$ ), spiked  $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  ( $C_x(\text{aq})$ ), and added  $^{199}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  ( $C_y(\text{aq})$ ). In consideration of all these sources, the ratios of  $^{201}\text{Hg}/^{199}\text{Hg}$  ( $R_{199}^{201}$ ) and  $^{202}\text{Hg}/^{199}\text{Hg}$  ( $R_{199}^{202}$ ) can be described using the following functions (Eq. (2.1) - (2.2)):

$$\begin{aligned}
 R_1 &= R_{199}^{201} = \frac{N_{201}}{N_{199}} = \frac{C_d(\text{aq})VA_n^{201} + C_x(\text{aq})VA_{202}^{201} + C_y(\text{aq})VA_{199}^{201}}{C_d(\text{aq})VA_n^{199} + C_x(\text{aq})VA_{202}^{199} + C_y(\text{aq})VA_{199}^{199}} \\
 &= \frac{C_d(\text{aq})A_n^{201} + C_x(\text{aq})A_{202}^{201} + C_y(\text{aq})A_{199}^{201}}{C_d(\text{aq})A_n^{199} + C_x(\text{aq})A_{202}^{199} + C_y(\text{aq})A_{199}^{199}} \quad (2.1)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
R_2 &= R_{199}^{202} = \frac{N_{202}}{N_{199}} = \frac{C_d(\text{aq})VA_n^{202} + C_x(\text{aq})VA_{202}^{202} + C_y(\text{aq})VA_{199}^{202}}{C_d(\text{aq})VA_n^{199} + C_x(\text{aq})VA_{202}^{199} + C_y(\text{aq})VA_{199}^{199}} \\
&= \frac{C_d(\text{aq})A_n^{202} + C_x(\text{aq})A_{202}^{202} + C_y(\text{aq})A_{199}^{202}}{C_d(\text{aq})A_n^{199} + C_x(\text{aq})A_{202}^{199} + C_y(\text{aq})A_{199}^{199}} \quad (2.2)
\end{aligned}$$

where  $R_{199}^{201}$  represents the ratio of  $^{201}\text{Hg}$  to  $^{199}\text{Hg}$  in the filtrates;  $R_{199}^{202}$  represents the ratio of  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  to  $^{199}\text{Hg}$  in the filtrates;  $C_d(\text{aq})$  ( $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ ) represents the concentration of natural Hg (from HgS dissolution) in the filtrates;  $C_x(\text{aq})$  ( $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ ) represents the residual concentration of spiked  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  in the filtrates;  $C_y(\text{aq})$  ( $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ ) represents the concentration of added  $^{199}\text{Hg}$  in the filtrates;  $A_n^i$  represents the abundance of Hg isotope  $i$  in natural Hg;  $A_{202}^i$  represents the abundance of Hg isotope  $i$  in the spiked  $^{202}\text{Hg}$ -enriched Hg;  $A_{199}^i$  represents the abundance of Hg isotope  $i$  in the used  $^{199}\text{Hg}$ -enriched Hg;  $V$  represents the volume of filtrates.

By solving Eq. (2.1) and Eq. (2.2), the concentrations of released Hg present in the aqueous phase  $C_d(\text{aq})$  and residual spiked  $^{202}\text{Hg}$   $C_x(\text{aq})$  in the solution can be calculated by Eqs. (2.3) and (2.4), respectively. This isotope dilution method provides a precise tool to determine the concentrations of both released Hg and residual spiked  $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  in the filtrates ( $C_d(\text{aq})$  and  $C_x(\text{aq})$ ) at each sampling time of the dissolution experiment. Both  $C_d(\text{aq})$  and  $C_x(\text{aq})$  are necessary for the later calculation of cinnabar dissolution rate and re-adsorption rate of the released Hg.

$$C_x(\text{aq}) = \frac{R_1 C_y(\text{aq})(A_n^{199} A_{199}^{202} - A_n^{202} A_{199}^{199}) + R_2 C_y(\text{aq})(A_n^{201} A_{199}^{199} - A_n^{199} A_{199}^{202}) + C_y(\text{aq})(A_n^{202} A_{199}^{201} - A_n^{201} A_{199}^{202})}{R_1(A_n^{202} A_{199}^{199} - A_n^{199} A_{199}^{202}) + R_2(A_n^{199} A_{202}^{201} - A_n^{201} A_{199}^{199}) + (A_n^{201} A_{202}^{202} - A_n^{202} A_{202}^{201})} \quad (2.3)$$

$$C_d(\text{aq}) = \frac{R_1 C_y(\text{aq})(A_{199}^{199} A_{202}^{202} - A_{202}^{199} A_{199}^{202}) + R_2 C_y(\text{aq})(A_{199}^{201} A_{202}^{199} - A_{202}^{201} A_{199}^{199}) + C_y(\text{aq})(A_{199}^{202} A_{202}^{201} - A_{199}^{201} A_{202}^{202})}{R_1(A_n^{202} A_{202}^{199} - A_n^{199} A_{202}^{202}) + R_2(A_n^{201} A_{202}^{201} - A_n^{201} A_{202}^{202}) + (A_n^{199} A_{202}^{202} - A_n^{202} A_{202}^{199})} \quad (2.4)$$

$C_y(\text{aq})$  is known and it can be calculated as follows:

$$C_y(\text{aq}) = \frac{C_{199\text{Hg}}^{\text{spiked}} V_1}{V} \quad (2.5)$$

where  $C_{199\text{Hg}}^{\text{spiked}}$  is the concentration of  $^{199}\text{Hg}$  spiked into the filtrates as internal standard;  $V_1$  is the volume of  $^{199}\text{HgCl}_2$  spiked into the filtrates;  $C_d(\text{ads})$  ( $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ ) represents the concentration of natural Hg (from HgS dissolution) adsorbed on cinnabarin the filtrates;  $C_x(\text{aq})$  ( $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ ) represents the residual concentration of spiked  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  in the filtrates.

The second key step of the proposed method is to calculate the amount of released Hg re-adsorbed on cinnabar ( $C_d(\text{ads})$ ). Since the total amount of spiked  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  ( $C_{202\text{Hg}}^{\text{spiked}} V_2$ , represented by  $M_x(\text{tot})$ ) is known (Eq. (2.6)), the amount of spiked  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  adsorbed on cinnabar ( $M_x(\text{ads})$ ) at each sampling time can be obtained by subtracting  $M_x(\text{aq})$  from  $M_x(\text{tot})$ . If  $M_d(\text{ads})$  can be related to  $M_x(\text{ads})$ , it would be feasible to calculate  $M_d(\text{ads})$  by  $M_x(\text{ads})$  and  $C_d(\text{aq})$ . Isotope ratios of Hg adsorbed on cinnabar surface are controlled by the adsorption/desorption process, while both adsorption/desorption and dissolution processes determine the ratios of Hg in the aqueous phase. As adsorption/desorption of Hg on cinnabar is expected to be much faster than cinnabar dissolution (72), it is reasonable to assume that the isotope ratios of Hg in the aqueous phase approximately equal to those of adsorbed Hg on cinnabar (Eq. (2.7)) due to the quick exchange of Hg isotopes between the aqueous and the particulate phases. This assumption was verified by the experiments described later.

$$M_x(\text{tot}) = C_{202\text{Hg}}^{\text{spiked}} V_2 \quad (2.6)$$

$$\frac{M_d(\text{ads})}{M_x(\text{ads})} = \frac{M_d(\text{aq})}{M_x(\text{aq})} \quad (2.7)$$

where  $c_{202\text{Hg}}^{\text{spiked}}$  is the concentration of  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  spiked into the cinnabar suspension solution;  $V_2$  is the volume of  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  spiked;  $V_3$  is the volume of the cinnabar suspension solution;  $M_x(\text{tot})$  ( $\mu\text{g}$ ) is the amount of  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  spiked into the cinnabar suspension;  $M_d(\text{ads})$ ,  $M_d(\text{aq})$ ,  $M_x(\text{ads})$ , and  $M_x(\text{aq})$  ( $\mu\text{g}$ ) represent the amount of natural Hg (from HgS dissolution) on adsorbed on cinnabar surface and in the solution, and the amount of spiked  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  adsorbed on cinnabar surface and in the solution, respectively.

By resolving Eq. (2.7), the amount of released  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  that was re-adsorbed on cinnabar surface can be calculated from the released Hg in the aqueous phase and the distribution of spiked  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  between the aqueous phase and cinnabar adsorbed phase using Eq. (2.8).

$$\begin{aligned} M_d(\text{ads}) &= \frac{M_x(\text{tot}) - M_x(\text{aq})}{M_x(\text{aq})} M_d(\text{aq}) = \frac{C_{202\text{Hg}}^{\text{spiked}} V_2 - C_x(\text{aq}) V_3}{C_x(\text{aq}) V_3} C_d(\text{aq}) V_3 \\ &= \frac{C_{202\text{Hg}}^{\text{spiked}} V_2 - C_x(\text{aq}) V_3}{C_x(\text{aq})} C_d(\text{aq}) \end{aligned} \quad (2.8)$$

Accordingly, the total amount of Hg released from cinnabar ( $M_d(\text{tot})$ ) can be calculated by summing the measured dissolved Hg in the aqueous phase ( $C_d(\text{aq}) V_3$ ) and the estimated Hg adsorbed on cinnabar surface ( $M_d(\text{ads})$ ).

$$M_d(\text{tot}) = C_d(\text{aq}) V_3 + M_d(\text{ads}) = C_d(\text{aq}) V_3 + \frac{C_{202\text{Hg}}^{\text{spiked}} V_2 - C_x(\text{aq}) V_3}{C_x(\text{aq})} C_d(\text{aq}) \quad (2.9)$$

Then, the total concentration of Hg released from cinnabar ( $C_d(\text{tot})$ ) can be calculated by the division of  $M_d(\text{tot})$  by  $V_3$  (Eq. 2.10).

$$C_d(\text{tot}) = \frac{M_d(\text{tot})}{V_3} = \frac{C_d(\text{aq}) V_3 + \frac{C_{202\text{Hg}}^{\text{spiked}} V_2 - C_x(\text{aq}) V_3}{C_x(\text{aq})} C_d(\text{aq})}{V_3}$$

$$= C_d(\text{aq}) + \frac{\frac{C_{202\text{Hg}}^{\text{spiked}} V_2}{V_3} - C_x(\text{aq})}{C_x(\text{aq})} C_d(\text{aq}) \quad (2.10)$$

The equation can be simplified to Eq. (2.11) by defining  $\frac{C_{202\text{Hg}}^{\text{spiked}} V_2}{V_3}$  as  $C_x(\text{tot})$ .

$$C_d(\text{tot}) = C_d(\text{aq}) + C_d(\text{ads}) = C_d(\text{aq}) + \frac{C_x(\text{tot}) - C_x(\text{aq})}{C_x(\text{aq})} C_d(\text{aq}) \quad (2.11)$$

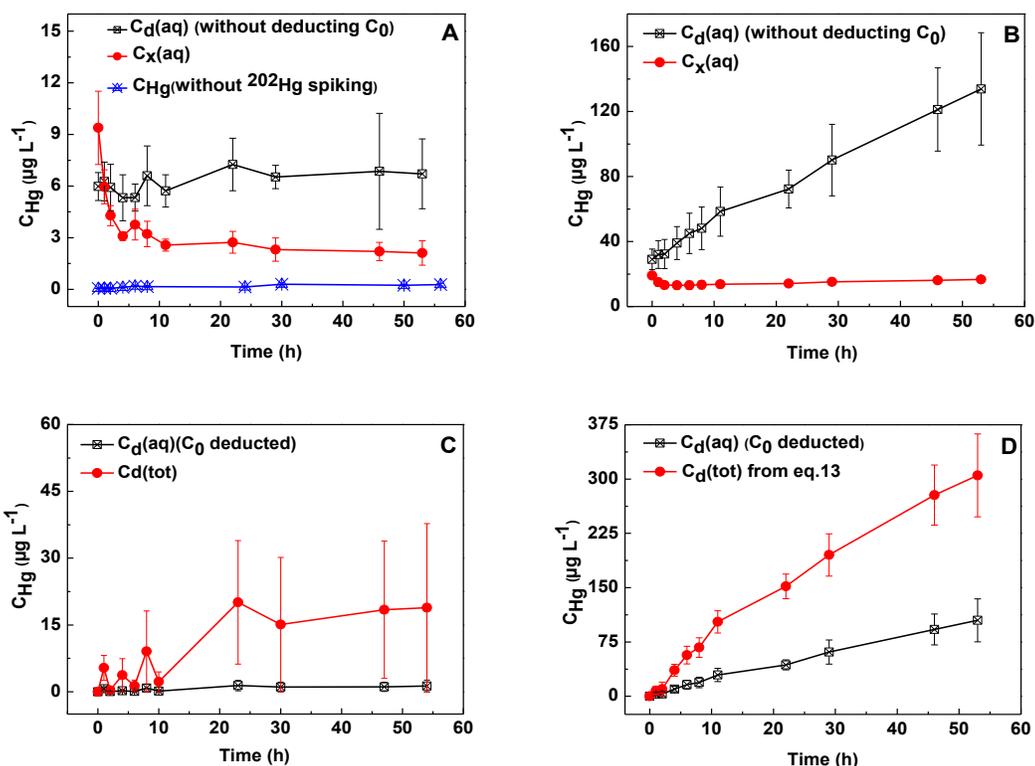
where  $C_d(\text{tot})$  and  $C_x(\text{tot})$  represent the total concentrations of natural Hg (from HgS dissolution) and spiked  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  in the suspension solution (referring to the volume of cinnabar suspension solution).

### 2.3.2 Applying the developed technique to study cinnabar dissolution and $\text{Hg}^{2+}$ re-adsorption

The developed technique was applied to determine the concentrations of Hg re-adsorbed on cinnabar surface ( $C_d(\text{ads})$ ) and the total amount of Hg released from cinnabar ( $C_d(\text{tot})$ ). The results showed that the spiked  $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  adsorbed on the cinnabar surface quickly under both oxic and anoxic conditions, as illustrated by the rapid decrease in the dissolved  $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  concentrations in the first 6 hours (Fig. 2.2A and 2.2B). For the treatment purged with  $\text{N}_2$ , the variations in both the released Hg present in the aqueous phase and the total amount of released Hg were observed to be insignificant ( $p > 0.1$ , one-way ANOVA) during the course of experiment (54 hours), indicating that dissolution of Hg from cinnabar was negligible under anaerobic condition. In the presence of  $\text{O}_2$ , detectable amount of Hg was dissolved from cinnabar, indicated by the continuous increase of both  $C_d(\text{aq})$  and  $C_d(\text{tot})$  with time (Fig. 2.2D). The concentration of total released Hg was estimated to be more than  $300 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$  after 54 hours. The results suggest that  $\text{O}_2$  can enhance the dissolution of cinnabar, in agreement with most previous studies (56, 57, 69, 70). Oxygen is expected

to oxidize  $S^{2-}$  (one product of cinnabar dissolution) to  $SO_4^{2-}$ , and thus facilitating the dissolution of cinnabar. The dissolution product,  $S^{2-}$ , could also be converted to  $HS^-$  and  $H_2S$  under anaerobic condition and subsequently facilitate cinnabar dissolution (52). Results of this study support the notion that oxidization of  $S^{2-}$  to  $SO_4^{2-}$  may play a more important role in cinnabar dissolution.

The importance of Hg re-adsorption in assessing cinnabar dissolution was evaluated by comparing the amount of released Hg from cinnabar with and without the consideration of the re-adsorption of the released Hg on cinnabar. As shown in Fig. 2.2D, the concentrations of total released Hg were found to be much higher than that in the solution (~2 times), suggesting that a large proportion of the released Hg from cinnabar was re-adsorbed on cinnabar surface. To further evaluate the importance of Hg re-adsorption on cinnabar dissolution, parameters relevant to the adsorption of Hg and the dissolution of cinnabar were calculated using equations in table 2.1. Variations of the spiked  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  fitted well with the pseudo-second order model, as indicated by the high value of  $R^2$  (0.9999) (Fig. 2.3A). Dissolution of cinnabar could be well predicted by the first order reaction equation ( $R^2 = 0.9898$ , Fig. 2.3B). Cinnabar dissolution rate constant was estimated to be  $0.0208 \text{ h}^{-1}$  when considering the re-adsorption of Hg on cinnabar surface by using the new method developed in this study (Table 2.1). If only the released Hg in the aqueous phase ( $C_d(\text{aq})$ ) was taken into account, this rate constant would decrease to  $0.0109 \text{ h}^{-1}$  (Fig. 2.3C), indicating that ignoring the re-adsorption of Hg on cinnabar surface would significantly underestimate the dissolution rate of cinnabar.

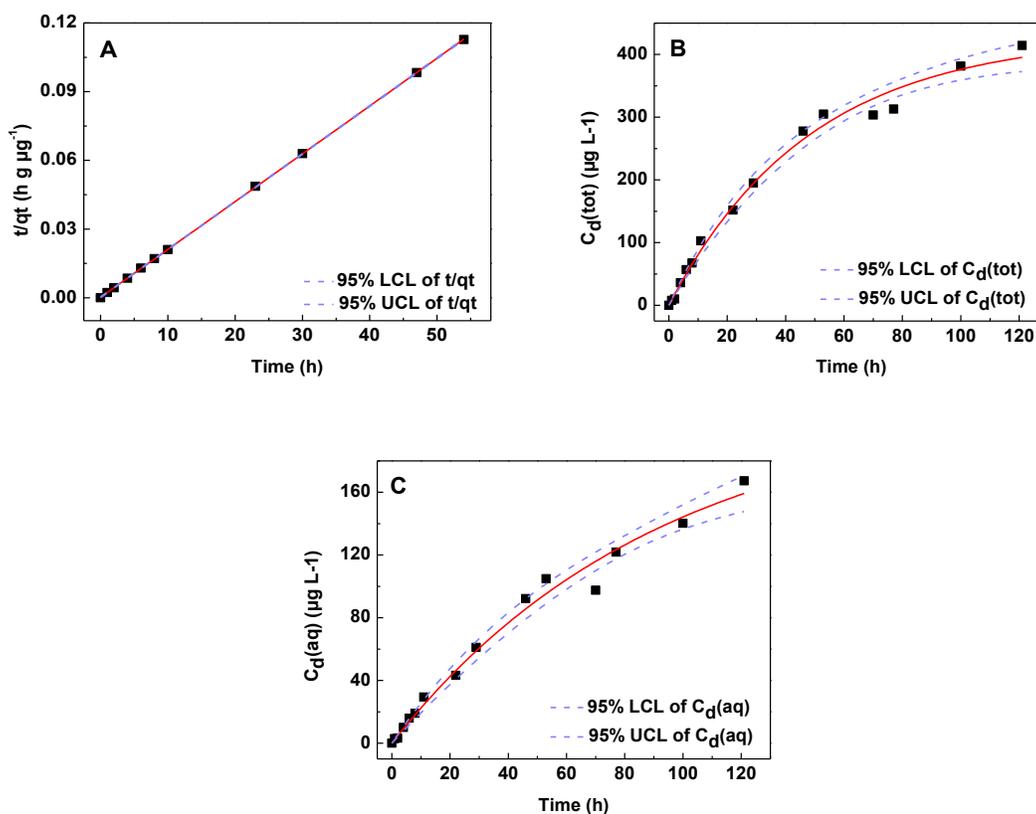


**Figure 2.2** Variations of spiked  $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  in aqueous phase ( $C_{\text{x}}(\text{aq})$ ), Hg dissolved from cinnabar in aqueous phase ( $C_{\text{d}}(\text{aq})$ ), and the total Hg dissolved from cinnabar ( $C_{\text{d}}(\text{tot})$ ). A and C, purged with  $\text{N}_2$ ; B and D, purged with  $\text{O}_2$ . Since  $C_{\text{d}}(\text{aq})$  at time 0 was likely resulted from the isotopic replacement of natural Hg adsorbed on cinnabar by the spiked  $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$ , rather than the cinnabar dissolution, this Hg was deducted from the measured  $C_{\text{d}}(\text{aq})$  when calculating the total released Hg from cinnabar ( $C_{\text{d}}(\text{tot})$ ).

As shown in Fig. 2.2A, natural  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  in the solution was approximately  $6 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$  at the beginning of the experiment (0 h), while the concentration for the control treatment (without the addition of  $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$ ) was less than  $1 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ . The high concentration of natural Hg occurred in the solution after the addition of  $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  could be caused by the instant adsorption of spiked  $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  on cinnabar and the subsequent replacement of natural Hg from cinnabar surface. Although cinnabar particles were cleaned for several times with  $1 \text{ mol L}^{-1}$  nitric acid and DI water prior to the experiment, there could be still some Hg ions adsorbed loosely on the surface. This assumption was further tested by measuring the

amount of replaced Hg with different initial concentrations of  $^{201}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  spiked (Fig. S3). As shown in Fig. S3, the concentrations of Hg were less than  $1 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$  before  $^{201}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  was spiked. An instant increase in  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  was observed after spiking  $^{201}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  for all treatments. In addition, the concentrations of natural  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  increased gradually with the increasing concentration of spiked  $^{201}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  (more  $^{201}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  was instantly adsorbed on cinnabar). These results indicate that the initial increase in Hg concentration may be due to the isotopic replacement of the residual adsorbed Hg on cinnabar with the spiked isotope-enriched Hg, rather than the cinnabar dissolution. Therefore, this Hg was deducted from the measured  $C_d(\text{aq})$  when calculating the total released Hg from cinnabar dissolution ( $C_d(\text{tot})$ ).

For traditional isotope dilution methods, Hg isotope ratios in the solution are expected to be a known constant (natural abundance of Hg in most cases) (143-147). However, Hg isotope ratios would change with time when investigating dynamic processes in which isotope tracers were spiked. For example, isotope ratios in the filtrates changed over time (Fig. 2.2) accompanying Hg dissolution from cinnabar and adsorption of the spiked  $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  in this study. If traditional isotope dilution approaches are adopted, Hg isotope ratios in the filtrates before the addition of  $^{199}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  should also be analyzed as well as that in the filtrates after spiking  $^{199}\text{Hg}^{2+}$ . However, this would make the analysis more tedious and may introduce extra errors. In this study, we developed a new isotope dilution method to determine both Hg released from cinnabar and residual spiked enriched Hg in the aqueous phase according to the detected Hg ratios in only the filtrates after spiking  $^{199}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  at each sampling time. This method may also be applicable in studying other dynamic processes of Hg using isotope tracer techniques.



**Figure 2.3** Nonlinear regressions of spiked  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  (A), total dissolved Hg (B), and dissolved Hg in the aqueous phase (C) against time.

### 2.3.3 Thermodynamics of Hg adsorption on cinnabar and validation of the developed method

Thermodynamics of Hg adsorption on cinnabar were investigated by using the isotope-tracer method. As shown in Fig. 2.4A, percentage of  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  adsorbed on cinnabar decreased from 94 to 48% with the increase of initial  $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  concentration from 0 to  $400 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ , while the equilibrium adsorption capacity increased from 94 to  $1930 \mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ . At higher concentrations of initial Hg, adsorption sites on cinnabar may be over occupied which could explain the negative relation of Hg removal efficiency with initial Hg concentration (148). The increasing equilibrium adsorption capacity at higher Hg concentrations could

be attributed to higher adsorption rate at higher concentration and occupation of more available active sites (140). Nonlinear regression of the equilibrium adsorption capacity  $q_e$  ( $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ ) against the equilibrium concentration of  $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$   $C_e$  ( $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ ) using both Langmuir and Freundlich models was performed to estimate parameters of isotherms. Langmuir model predicted the experimental data better than Freundlich model, indicated by its higher  $R^2$  (Table 2.1, and Fig. 2.4B).

**Table 2.1** Parameters of adsorption kinetics and isotherms of Hg on cinnabar using different models (in the absence of  $\text{O}_2$ ) and dissolution (in the present of  $\text{O}_2$ )

Kinetic models	Parameters	Values	$R^2$
The pseudo-second order rate equation	$q_e$ ( $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ )	485.4	0.9999
$\frac{dq_t}{dt} = k_1(q_e - q_t)^2$ $\frac{t}{q_t} = \frac{1}{K_2 q_e^2} + \frac{1}{q_e} t$	$K_2$ ( $\text{g } \mu\text{g}^{-1}\text{h}^{-1}$ )	0.00663	
Dissolution kinetic model	$C_0$ (tot)( $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ )	430.26	0.9898
$C = C_0 \cdot (1 - e^{-kt})$	$K$ (tot)( $\text{hour}^{-1}$ )	0.0208	
	$C_0$ (aq)( $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ )	217.55	0.9851
	$K$ (aq) ( $\text{hour}^{-1}$ )	0.0109	
Langmuir model	$q_m$ ( $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ )	2137.1	0.9952
$q_e = \frac{q_m k_L C_e}{1 + k_L C_e}$	$K_L$ ( $\text{L } \mu\text{g}^{-1}$ )	0.0450	
Freundlich model	$K_F$	275.89	0.9390
$q_e = K_F C_e^{1/n}$	$1/n$	0.375	

In order to derive the equation for calculating the total released Hg ( $C_d(\text{tot})$ ), it was assumed that the isotope ratios of Hg in the solution were identical with that adsorbed on cinnabar (Eq. (2.7)). This assumption was formulated based partially on that the rates of Hg adsorption/desorption were much higher than cinnabar dissolution. As shown in Fig. 2.2B and 2.2D, the dissolution of cinnabar has not achieved equilibrium at the end of the

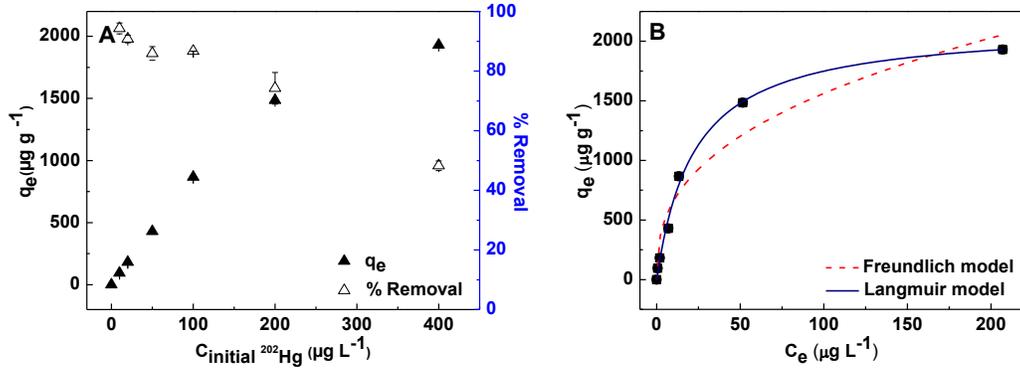
experiments (54 hours), while the equilibrium time for Hg adsorption was determined to be less than 6 hours, supporting this assumption. In order to further verify the hypothesis, the concentrations of dissolved Hg in the solution  $C_d(\text{tot})$  were also calculated based on the thermodynamic model (Langmuir model). Total Hg detected at  $t$  time can be considered as  $C_e$  (i.e.  $C_d(\text{aq}) + C_x(\text{aq})$ ). Parameters ( $K_L$  and  $q_m$ ) obtained from the thermodynamic experiments in the presence of  $N_2$  were adopted. By using Langmuir model, total adsorbed Hg on cinnabar can be calculated as (Eq. (S1))  $C_{d+x}(\text{ads})$ . Then, the total amount of dissolved Hg can be estimated as:

$$C_d(\text{tot}) = C_d(\text{aq}) + C_d(\text{ads}) = C_d(\text{aq}) + (C_{d+x}(\text{ads}) - C_x(\text{ads})) \quad (2.12)$$

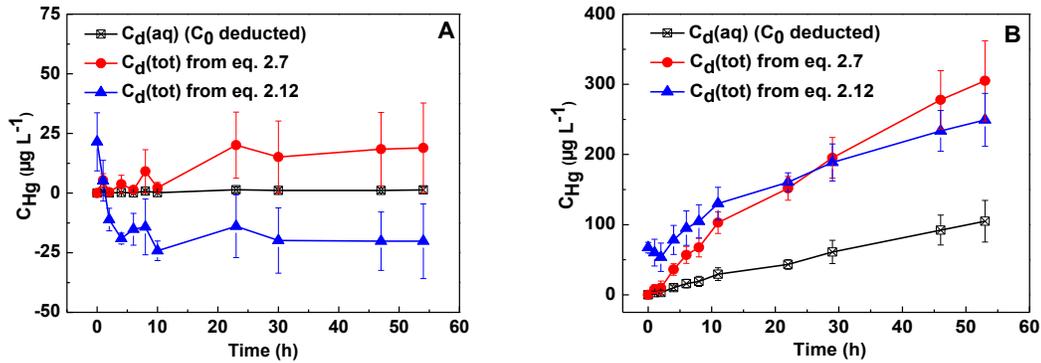
The comparisons of total released Hg calculated by both methods (Eqs. 2.7 and 2.12) were shown in Fig. 2.5. In the presence of  $O_2$ , the total dissolved Hg estimated by Langmuir model (Eq. (2.12)) was observed to be higher than that estimated using the newly developed method for the first 6 hours, and then became very close with time (Fig. 2.5B). This is reasonable since the adsorption of spiked Hg had not achieved equilibrium at the beginning of the experiment, which was expected to result in the overestimation of Hg adsorbed on cinnabar if Langmuir model was adopted. Dissolved Hg estimated using both methods were observed to be similar ( $p > 0.05$ , two-way ANOVA), especially after 6 hours ( $p > 0.1$ , two-way ANOVA, with an average RSD of 9.9% (2.4-16.6%) when Hg in the aqueous phase and cinnabar surface was expected to be equilibrated. These results further support the hypothesis that the isotope ratio of Hg in the solution is approximately identical with that adsorbed on cinnabar, suggesting the reliability of the proposed method in estimating the real dissolution of cinnabar. On the basis of these validations, the proposed method is expected to be a reliable technique in studying the dissolution of cinnabar.

Isotope tracers have been already used for determining adsorption and desorption processes (73, 83). It has also been applied in investigating the methylation rates of geochemically relevant inorganic Hg(II) species, including isotopically labeled cinnabar, metacinnabar, adsorbed Hg(II), and complexed Hg(II) (84). The application of the newly developed isotope tracer techniques in this study provides new insights on how Hg dissolution occurs, evidencing the importance of re-adsorption process. The estimated dissolution rate without considering the re-adsorption is much lower than that with the consideration of re-adsorption on cinnabar surface. The cinnabar dissolution rates with the consideration of the Hg adsorbed on cinnabar surface have been previously estimated using an indirect method, from the increase in the concentration of  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  in the solution. However, it should be noted that the calculation of Hg dissolution rates from changes in  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  concentration could underestimate the dissolution rate since sulfide oxidation intermediates (e.g.,  $\text{S}_2\text{O}_3^{2-}$ ) also exist in the solution or on the cinnabar surface (69). In addition, this method cannot be applied in quantitatively measuring cinnabar dissolution rates under natural conditions, where a variety of factors (e.g., Eh, DOM, pH) can affect the transformations of sulfur, resulting in a large variation in the ratio of released Hg to  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ . In de-ionized water, the dissolution rates within 48h were determined to be 0.71 to 0.82  $\mu\text{mol} (\text{SO}_4^{2-}) \text{ m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$  for cinnabar (69). This rate (within 48h) was calculated to be 3.63  $\mu\text{mol} \text{ m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$  using the new method developed in this study, larger than that determined by the generated  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ , which is supposed to underestimate the dissolution rate. The thermodynamic parameters of  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  adsorption on cinnabar, i.e.,  $q_m$  (the maximum monolayer adsorption capacity) and  $K_L$  (the Langmuir constant) were also estimated using isotope tracer techniques. The estimated  $q_m$  of  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  adsorption on cinnabar (2137.1  $\mu\text{g} \text{ g}^{-1}$ )

was only one order of magnitude less than the values on some clays, illustrating the high affinity of  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  toward Hg (e.g., Sepiolite,  $q_m = 34.1 \text{ mg g}^{-1}$  and Montmorillonite,  $q_m = 50.2 \text{ mg g}^{-1}$ ). These clays have already been proposed to have the capability of removing Hg from polluted environmental water (149).



**Figure 2.4** The thermodynamic of  $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  adsorption on cinnabar. A, variation of equilibrium concentrations of  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  ( $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ ) at 24 h with different initial  $^{202}\text{Hg}^{2+}$  concentrations (0, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, 400  $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ ). B, non-linear regression of  $q_e$  against  $C_e$  using Langmuir and Freundlich models ( $T = 20 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ).



**Figure 2.5** Comparisons of total dissolved Hg estimated by the thermodynamic equilibrium using Langmuir model (Eq.2.12) and by the new method developed in this study (Eq. 2.7). A, without  $\text{O}_2$  (purging with  $\text{N}_2$ ); B, with  $\text{O}_2$  (purging with  $\text{O}_2$ ).

Dissolution of cinnabar can serve as a continuous source for bioavailable  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  in the environment, and subsequently enhances the methylation process and increasing the amount of more toxic methylmercury. Due to the lack of a feasible technique for measuring

Hg adsorbed on cinnabar, only the Hg detected in the aqueous phase was considered to be dissolved from cinnabar in previous studies (57, 69), although several of which have speculated that dissolved Hg from cinnabar surface could be re-adsorbed back onto cinnabar surface (56, 57, 69). The developed isotope tracer method makes it possible to simultaneously monitor both the dissolution and re-adsorption of Hg. A variety of environmental factors, including pH, redox potential (Eh), and Hg binding ligands (57, 60, 63, 69), are expected to enhance or inhibit cinnabar dissolution via affecting the fate of cinnabar dissolution products and Hg adsorption/desorption. It should be noted that experiments in this study were conducted in a dilute NaNO<sub>3</sub> solution system without the addition of any inorganic or organic ligands. Future work of applying the developed method in determining cinnabar dissolution in natural waters would be helpful for better understanding the importance of cinnabar dissolution in Hg cycling.

## **2.4 Conclusions**

In this study, an isotope tracer based method was developed to investigate both dissolution and re-adsorption of Hg during the course of cinnabar dissolution. The rationale of the proposed method is that re-adsorbed Hg on cinnabar surface can be estimated from decreasing in the amount of spiked isotope-enriched Hg (<sup>202</sup>Hg<sup>2+</sup>) in aqueous phase. A modified isotope dilution method (<sup>199</sup>Hg<sup>2+</sup>) was developed to simultaneously calculate Hg originated from cinnabar dissolution and residual spiked <sup>202</sup>Hg<sup>2+</sup> in the filtrates. The amount of re-adsorbed Hg was calculated from the adsorption of spiked <sup>202</sup>Hg<sup>2+</sup> on cinnabar based on the validated assumption that the isotope ratios of Hg in the aqueous phase are approximately equal to that adsorbed on cinnabar. By using the developed method, cinnabar dissolution rate with the consideration of Hg re-adsorption using the

newly developed method ( $0.0208 \text{ h}^{-1}$ ) was approximately 2 times the value calculated solely from the Hg detected in the aqueous phase ( $0.0109 \text{ h}^{-1}$ ). The results suggest that re-adsorption of Hg on cinnabar surface play an important role in accurately evaluating cinnabar dissolution, and omission of the Hg re-adsorbed on cinnabar surface would significantly underestimate the importance of cinnabar dissolution in Hg cycling. Experiments in this study were conducted in a simulated system without the addition of any inorganic or organic ligands. Future work of applying the developed method in determining cinnabar dissolution in natural waters with different water chemical characteristics is necessary for better understanding the importance of cinnabar dissolution in Hg cycling.

## **Supplementary Data**

### **Reagents**

Metallic  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  ( $^{202}\text{Hg}(0)$ , 99.20%) was purchased from Cambridge Isotope Laboratories (Andover, MA). Enriched  $^{201}\text{HgO}$  (atomic percentage,  $96.17 \pm 0.56\%$ ) and  $^{199}\text{HgO}$  (atomic percentage,  $91.09 \pm 0.05\%$ ) were from Oak Ridge National Laboratory (Oak Ridge, Tennessee).  $^{202}\text{Hg}(\text{NO}_3)_2$  (measured atomic percentage, 99.70%) was prepared by dissolving  $^{202}\text{Hg}(0)$  in concentrated  $\text{HNO}_3$ , while  $^{201}\text{HgCl}_2$  (measured atomic percentage, 96.17%) and  $^{199}\text{HgCl}_2$  solution (measured atomic percentage, 90.66%) were prepared by dissolving  $^{201}\text{HgO}$  and  $^{199}\text{HgO}$  in 10%  $\text{HCl}$  (v/v). Cinnabar ( $\text{HgS}$ , 99%) was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. Concentrated nitric acid and hydrochloric acid were trace metal grade (Fisher Scientific). Stannous chloride ( $\text{SnCl}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , 99.2%) and other chemicals were all reagent grade or higher (Fisher Scientific). Argon, nitrogen and oxygen (ultra high purity) were purchased from Airgas.  $\text{NaNO}_3/\text{NaOH}$  solution was prepared by

adding 0.01mol L<sup>-1</sup> NaOH into 10 μmol L<sup>-1</sup> HNO<sub>3</sub> solution until achieving pH 8.0. <sup>202</sup>Hg(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> was used for the kinetic dissolution and thermodynamic Hg adsorption experiments, tracing the adsorption processes of Hg<sup>2+</sup> on cinnabar surface. <sup>199</sup>HgCl<sub>2</sub> was utilized in all conducted experiments when analyzing Hg<sup>2+</sup> concentrations using isotope dilution method, serving as an internal standard. <sup>201</sup>HgCl<sub>2</sub> was adopted to investigate Hg isotope replacement.

### **Selection of proper filter for cinnabar suspension filtration**

A proper filter for cinnabar suspension filtration should not adsorb Hg in the aqueous phase. Experiments were conducted to test the adsorption of Hg on four commercial filters (0.22 μm PTFE, 0.45 μm PTFE, 0.22 μm PVDF and 0.45 μm PVDF filters) at different pH (4-6, and 8). PVDF and PTFE membranes were selected as the candidate filters since Hg is considered to have a weak affinity with these two materials. <sup>201</sup>Hg<sup>2+</sup> in NaNO<sub>3</sub>/NaOH solution (50 μg L<sup>-1</sup>) with a pH of 4-6 and 8 was filtered through the candidate filters, and <sup>201</sup>Hg<sup>2+</sup> concentrations in the filtrates were determined by the isotope-dilution method. PTFE membranes (both the 0.22 μm and the 0.45 μm) and 0.45 μm PVDF membrane showed a good recovery of Hg (>95%) at all the tested pH (Table S2). However, a bad recovery was observed for the 0.22μm PVDF filter, especially at higher pH (<10%). Since a smaller size of filter can reduce the amount of residual small-size particles in the filtrates, 0.22μm PTFE filter was chosen to be used in this study.

**Table S2.** Recoveries of spiked <sup>201</sup>Hg<sup>2+</sup> after getting through different filters

pH\Recovery%	0.22μm PTFE filter(17mm)	0.45μm PTFE filter(33mm)	0.22μm PVDF filter(33mm)	0.45μm PVDF filter(17mm)
4-6	99%±2.2%	97%±2.2%	10%±80%	97%±1.8%
8	96%±2.2%	96%±1.5%	5%±24%	96%±3.0%

### Determination of mercury isotopes in the solution

Dissolved mercury isotopes were analyzed using a flow injection analysis system (FIAS 400, from Perkin Elmer company, MA) coupled with a ICP/MS (ELAN DRC-e ICP/MS from Perkin-Elmer company, MA). By using the FIAS system, a sample loop on the flow injection valve was filled with the acidified sample, blank or standard. 3% hydrochloric acid was adopted as the carrier solution.  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  was reduced to gaseous mercury vapors by mixing with a pumped stream of 1.1%  $\text{SnCl}_2$ . Generated  $\text{Hg}^0$  was then introduced into the ICP/MS via a gas/liquid separator and Hg isotopes were detected. Parameters for the set-up of the ICP/MS were illustrated in Table S3.

**Table S3.** General operating settings of the ICP/MS system

Parameters	Values
Nebulizer gas flow(NEB) (L min <sup>-1</sup> )	0.89
Auxiliary gas flow (L min <sup>-1</sup> )	1.2
Plasma gas flow (L min <sup>-1</sup> )	14
RF power (W)	1400
Lens Voltage (V)	11.25
Dead time of detector (ns)	55

### Isotherms of Hg adsorption on cinnabar

Langmuir (Eq. (S1)) and Freundlich isotherms (Eq. (S2)) (134-140) are the two most commonly used adsorption isotherm equations which have been utilized to describe the adsorption of metal ions (including Hg) on solid adsorbents. Both models were adopted here to calculate the thermodynamic parameters of Hg adsorption on cinnabar. Nonlinear regression of  $q_e$  against  $C_e$  was conducted using OriginPro 8 (OriginLab) to calculate the parameters related to the Hg adsorption on cinnabar ( $q_m$  and  $K_L$ ,  $K_F$  and  $n$ ).

$$q_e = \frac{q_m k_L C_e}{1 + k_L C_e} \quad (\text{S1})$$

$$q_e = K_F C_e^{1/n} \quad (S2)$$

where  $q_e$  is the adsorption capacity at equilibrium ( $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ ),  $q_m$  is the maximum monolayer adsorption capacity ( $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ ),  $K_L$  is the Langmuir constant ( $\text{L } \mu\text{g}^{-1}$ ),  $C_e$  is the concentration of residual  $^{202}\text{Hg}$  in the solution after equilibrium ( $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ ),  $K_F$  is the Freundlich adsorption capacity constant ( $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ ),  $n$  is the Freundlich constant related to the surface heterogeneity.

### **Kinetic parameters related to adsorption of Hg on cinnabar and dissolution of cinnabar**

The kinetic adsorption of  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  on cinnabar can be described as a pseudo-second order reaction (Eq. (S3)) (141) while first order reaction (Eq. (S4)) (142) has been previously used to describe cinnabar dissolution. These models were selected and tested in this study. By integrating Eq. (S3) and (S4), variations in  $q_t$  and  $C$  with time can be described as Eq. (S5) and (S6), respectively. Nonlinear regression was conducted to calculate the adsorption rate constant ( $K_2$ ) and dissolution rate constant of cinnabar ( $k$ ).

$$\frac{dq_t}{dt} = k_2(q_e - q_t)^2 \quad (S3)$$

$$\frac{dC}{dt} = k(C_0 - C) \quad (S4)$$

$$\frac{t}{q_t} = \frac{1}{K_2 q_e^2} + \frac{1}{q_e} t \quad (S5)$$

$$C = C_0 \cdot (1 - e^{-kt}) \quad (S6)$$

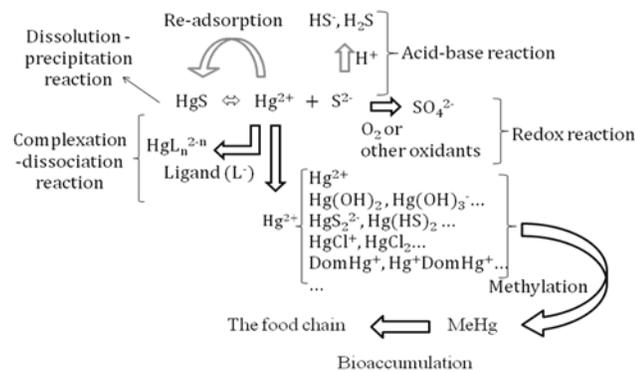
Where  $q_t$  is the adsorption capacity at time  $t$  ( $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ ),  $K_2$  is the adsorption rate constant ( $\text{g } \mu\text{g}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$ ),  $C_0$  is the concentration of released Hg after equilibrium ( $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ ),  $C$  is the concentration of released Hg at time  $t$  ( $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ ), and  $k$  is the apparent dissolution rate constant ( $\text{hour}^{-1}$ ).

## Hg isotope replacement experiments

Experiments were conducted to assess the replacement between Hg isotopes in the cinnabar adsorbed phase and aqueous phase. 0.04g (wt.) pretreated HgS on 0.45  $\mu\text{m}$  PVDF filter was transferred into a 500 mL Teflon bottle with 400 mL pH8.0  $\text{NaNO}_3/\text{NaOH}$  solution. The final concentration of HgS suspension was approximately  $100 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ . After shaking well, 10 mL sample was collected from each bottle using a 10 mL syringe and filtered through a 0.22  $\mu\text{m}$  PTFE membrane filter.  $^{201}\text{HgCl}_2$  was added into the rest bottles with cinnabar suspension to form a final concentration of 1, 6, 20, and 50  $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$  as  $^{201}\text{Hg}$ , respectively. After shaking well, 10 mL suspension sample was immediately taken from each bottle and filtered through 0.22  $\mu\text{m}$  PTFE membrane. Concentrations of residual spiked  $^{201}\text{Hg}$  and natural Hg in these samples were analyzed using the isotope dilution technique mentioned in the Materials and method part of the main text.

**Table S1.** Reactions involved in the dissolution of cinnabar in natural environment

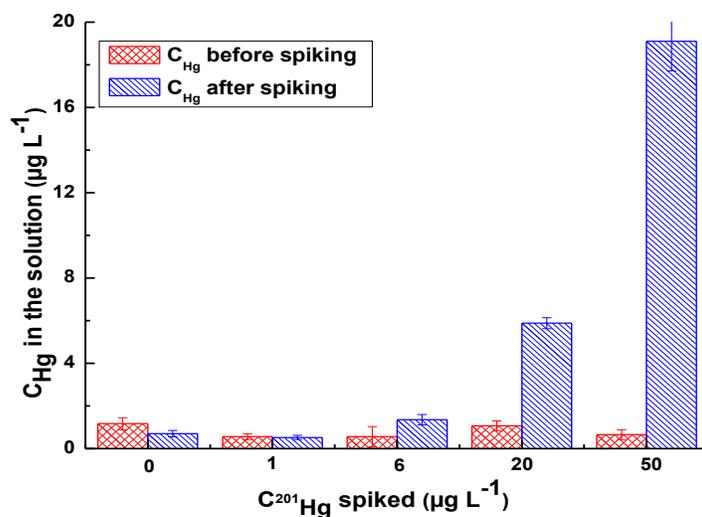
Condition	Equation	Overall equation
<b>In the absence of <math>\text{O}_2</math></b>	$\text{HgS} = \text{Hg}^{2+} + \text{S}^{2-}$ $\text{S}^{2-} + \text{H}_2\text{O} = \text{HS}^- + \text{OH}^-$ (pH>7) $\text{S}^{2-} + 2\text{H}_2\text{O} = \text{H}_2\text{S} + 2\text{OH}^-$ (pH<7)	$\text{HgS}_{(s)} + \text{H}_2\text{O} = \text{Hg}(\text{HS})^+ + \text{OH}^-$ $\text{HgS}_{(s)} + \text{H}_2\text{O} = \text{Hg}(\text{OH})_2 + \text{H}^+$
<b>In the presence of <math>\text{O}_2</math></b>	$2\text{O}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{S} = 2 \text{H}^+ + \text{SO}_4^{2-}$ $\text{HS}^- + 2\text{O}_2 + \text{OH}^- = \text{SO}_4^{2-} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$	$\text{HgS}_{(s)} + 2 \text{O}_2 + 2 \text{OH}^- = \text{Hg}(\text{OH})_2 + \text{SO}_4^{2-}$
<b>In the present of ligands</b>	$\text{Hg}^{2+} + 2\text{H}_2\text{L} = \text{Hg}(\text{HL})_2 + 2\text{H}^+$	$\text{HgS}_{(s)} + 2\text{H}_2\text{L} + \text{OH}^- = \text{Hg}(\text{HL})_2 + \text{HS}^- + \text{H}_2\text{O}$



**Figure S1.** A conceptual model showing the reactions involved in the dissolution of cinnabar.



**Figure S2.** Size distribution of the cinnabar suspension used in this study.



**Figure S3.** Concentrations of Hg originated from cinnabar in the aqueous phase before and after the addition of  $^{201}\text{Hg}^{2+}$

### **Chapter 3. Effects of Thiol-containing Ligands on Cinnabar Dissolution and Re-adsorption of Released Hg(II)**

#### **Abstract**

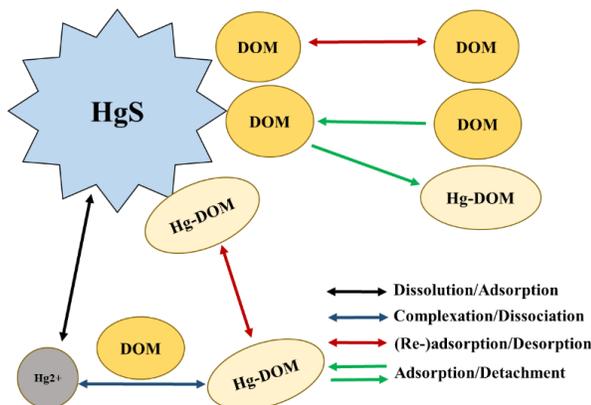
Cinnabar dissolution is an important process during mercury (Hg) transport and transformation and this process can be affected by a variety of environmental factors. One of the most studied factors is the presence of thiol-containing organic ligands such as dissolved organic matter (DOM) because of the ubiquitous existence of DOM in natural environment. Several processes have been proposed with respect to the interaction of DOM with cinnabar which could inhibit or enhance cinnabar dissolution. During the related processes, the roles played by thiol-containing organic ligands and re-adsorption of released Hg, particularly through complexation with Hg, are still not clear. Using L-cysteine (Cys) as a model compound for low molecular weight (LMW) thiol-containing ligands and Waskish fulvic acid (FA) for natural DOM, the complexation of Hg with these ligands and the role of Hg-ligand complexation in cinnabar dissolution and Hg(II) re-adsorption were investigated. Titration methods were used to determine the ratios of Hg to L-cysteine when forming complexes in solution to prepare the Hg-Cys complex and to examine its adsorption on cinnabar. Thermodynamic adsorption experiments were performed to investigate the adsorption of Hg and Hg-Cys on cinnabar. The Hg-Cys shows a lower adsorption capacity than that of unbound dissolved Hg on cinnabar surface. Therefore, the presence of L-cysteine during cinnabar dissolution would form complex with the released Hg, thus enhancing cinnabar dissolution through the decreased re-adsorption of Hg-Cys complex. The Waskish FA used in this work did not enhance cinnabar dissolution, possibly because of the adsorption of FA on cinnabar surface that

may block dissolution sites on the cinnabar surface. The inhibitory effect of DOM on cinnabar dissolution observed here, in contrary to previously reported enhancing effect, suggest that caution should be exercised when evaluating the role of DOM in cinnabar dissolution, as the interaction of DOM with cinnabar is rather complicated depending on the varieties of DOM structures and compositions, the ratio between DOM and cinnabar, and probably other experiment conditions.

### **3.1 Introduction**

Cinnabar dissolution is an important process controlling mercury cycling, making Hg reactive and bioavailable, increasing the possibility of Hg transport, methylation, and bioaccumulation in aquatic environment (36, 150). A variety of environmental factors can facilitate the dissolution process including the presence of iron(III) in acidic water (60), sulfide in water (100), and dissolved organic matter (DOM) (59, 62, 63). The important processes and reactions involved during the enhanced dissolution of cinnabar were summarized in chapter 2. Re-adsorption of released Hg has previously been neglected because of the lack of a feasible technique during the study of cinnabar dissolution. As a part of the overall effort to understand the dissolution of cinnabar under environmental conditions, an efficient method was developed to investigate the cinnabar dissolution and the concurrent re-adsorption of released Hg under both aerobic and anaerobic conditions. The results, as described in Chapter 2 showed that the cinnabar dissolution rate with re-adsorption was found to be two times the rate calculated from detecting Hg alone, clearly indicating the significance of understanding Hg re-adsorption during the process of cinnabar dissolution.

The experiments described in Chapter 2 were performed in a simple  $\text{NaNO}_3/\text{NaOH}$  medium without addition of organic and other inorganic ligands. In fact, various organic ligands exist extensively in natural aquatic systems, and mercury could bind with these ligands, particularly thiol-containing moieties in dissolved organic matter (DOM). Previous studies have showed that the binding of Hg and the presence of various ligands could have important effects on cinnabar dissolution and the re-adsorption of Hg (63, 67, 128). For example, the presence of DOM was found to enhance the release of mercury from cinnabar under aerobic and anaerobic conditions (58, 59, 63). The interactions between mercury and DOM play an important role in cinnabar dissolution, as shown in Fig. 3.1, which depicts the multiple processes presumably affecting cinnabar dissolution and re-adsorption of the released Hg.



**Figure 3.1** Possible reactions involved in cinnabar dissolution in the presence of DOM.

First, the complexation of DOM with dissolved Hg is expected to reduce the amount of free  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$  in the aqueous phase around the cinnabar and thus enhance cinnabar dissolution on the basis of Le Chatelier's principle (151). Second, it is speculated that DOM could be adsorbed on the cinnabar surface to form Hg-DOM complexes through surface complexation with the mercury of cinnabar (56, 75, 152). In this process, the Hg-DOM

complex slowly detaches from the initial surface and a new site is regenerated. This pathway requires stronger binding between Hg and DOM than that of Hg and S. Third, oxidation of surface sulfur (S) species by the organic matter has been also proposed as a pathway to enhance cinnabar dissolution (63). The oxidants (or the organic matter), which are adsorbed on the cinnabar surface, could oxidize S(-2) to S(0) or other oxidation states from the surface making the initial binding sites available (63). The sulfur oxidation pathway leading to cinnabar dissolution is not shown in the diagram (Fig. 3.1), as this research is focused on the role of Hg-DOM complexation in cinnabar dissolution and re-adsorption of the released Hg.

Contrary results have been observed regarding the effects of organic ligands on cinnabar dissolution. For instance, minor changes in cinnabar dissolution were observed in the presence and absence of some ligands (salicylic acid, acetic acid, EDTA, or cysteine), whereas major enhancement effects were observed for some DOM fractions and isolates such as fulvic acid (FA) and humic acid (HA) (59, 62, 63, 68). These inconsistent results were speculated to be attributed to the differences in binding strength between those ligands and Hg and/or the possible re-adsorption of released Hg on the cinnabar without further explanation in previous research (63). We believe that in the presence of some ligands such as cysteine and FA which have similar binding strength with Hg, the levels of enhanced released Hg from HgS should be similar. The observation of different levels of Hg released from cinnabar was caused by the effects of various degrees of re-adsorption of formed Hg-ligand complexes on cinnabar surface. However, it is not clear whether the Hg-ligand complex could be re-adsorbed on cinnabar and if the re-adsorption happens, the amount of Hg-ligand complex that could be absorbed remains unknown. This missing information is

important for an improved understanding of the effect of ligands during cinnabar dissolution and the re-adsorption of the released Hg.

### **3.2 Objective**

The objective of this study was to understand the role played by thiol-containing organic ligands during cinnabar dissolution and re-adsorption of the released Hg, particularly through complexation with Hg. To achieve this goal, L-cysteine (Cys) was selected as a model compound of low molecular weight (LMW) thiol-containing ligand and FA was chosen to represent DOM. Following investigation of the complexation of these organic ligands with Hg, thermodynamic adsorption experiments of the Hg-cysteine complex and cinnabar dissolution in the presence of FA were conducted to evaluate the effect of Hg-thiol complexation in cinnabar dissolution and re-adsorption of Hg.

### **3.3 Materials and methods**

#### **3.3.1 Materials and Reagents**

Fulvic acid was purchased from IHSS (International Humic Substances Society, Waskish peat). Mercury(II) nitrate stock solution ( $\text{HgNO}_3$ , 1000ppm), boric acid ( $\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3$ ), sodium dihydrogen phosphate ( $\text{NaH}_2\text{PO}_4$ ), sodium hydrogen phosphate ( $\text{Na}_2\text{HPO}_4$ ), and sodium hydroxide were purchased from Fisher Scientific. Cinnabar ( $\text{HgS}$ , 99%), L-cysteine ( $\geq 97\%$ ), and ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA) were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. Fluorescent reagent 4-fluoro-7-sulfobenzofurazan, ammonium salt (SBD-F) ( $\geq 98.0\%$ ) was purchased from Dojindo Molecular Technologies, Inc. Concentrated nitric acid and hydrochloric acid were all trace metal grade (Fisher Scientific). Stannous chloride ( $\text{SnCl}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , 99.2%) and other chemicals were all reagent grade or higher (Fisher Scientific). Argon and nitrogen (ultra high purity) were purchased from Airgas. Borate

buffer solution (0.1 M) was prepared by dissolving 6.183 g of  $\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3$  in 800 mL ultra pure water, adjusted to pH 9.5 by 3 M NaOH, then calibrated to 1000 mL with water. Phosphate buffer (0.005 M) was prepared by adding 5.3 mL of 0.2 M  $\text{NaH}_2\text{PO}_4$  solution to 94.7 mL of 0.2 M  $\text{Na}_2\text{HPO}_4$  solution to achieve pH 8.0, then diluted 40 times. 0.005 M SBD-F solutions are prepared in 0.1 M borate buffer (pH 9.5) containing 2 mM EDTA.

### **3.3.2 Derivatization of L-cysteine with SBD-F**

To evaluate the binding ratio between Hg and L-cysteine, various molar ratios of  $\text{HgNO}_3$  and L-cysteine were mixed, and the remaining unbound L-cysteine was determined via fluorescence analysis following a traditional SBD-F labeling method (153). Only free L-cysteine can be labeled to show fluorescence and the free L-cysteine can be distinguished from the cysteine in the Hg-cysteine complexes which was proved in this work and discussed in my discussion. For SBD-F derivatization, 500  $\mu\text{L}$  of cysteine solution (10 $\mu\text{M}$ ), 200  $\mu\text{L}$  of 0.1M borate buffer (pH 9.5), 40  $\mu\text{L}$  SBD-F, and 20  $\mu\text{L}$  of 1M NaOH were mixed in a 7 mL glass bottle covered with aluminum foil to avoid light. After vortex mixing for 20 s, the derivatization reaction was carried out in a water bath at 60°C for 1 h. The reaction was then stopped by adding 20  $\mu\text{L}$  of 4 M HCl. The cysteine derivatives were stored at 4 °C under dark for later fluorescence detection. Ultrapure water was added to each bottle to make 3 mL solution for fluorescence analysis by a fluorometer (Fluoromax-3, Horiba Jobin Yvon Inc.).

In order to improve the method detection limit, the amount of SBD-F was optimized for fluorescence signals for the SBD-F derivatives. A series of concentrations of 40  $\mu\text{L}$  of SBD-F (0, 0.05, 0.1, 0.25, 0.5, 1, 2.5, 5 mg/ml) were used to react with 500  $\mu\text{L}$  of 10  $\mu\text{M}$  L-cysteine to obtain the derivatives and then fluorescence responses were detected.

### 3.3.3 Formation of Hg-ligand complexes

In order to better evaluate the adsorption of Hg-ligands complexes on cinnabar surface, the complexes of Hg-ligands must be present in a solution without the free Hg (II). Such a condition, however, is very difficult to reach. In an attempt to produce Hg-ligands complexes with minimal free Hg and ligands left in the system, titration methods were applied to determine the titration end points with minimum free L-cysteine for Hg-cysteine titration and minimum free Hg for Hg-fulvic acid (Hg-FA) titration, respectively. Different titration end points were set to determine the binding ratios of L-cysteine and FA with Hg. Since unbound Hg and Hg complexed with L-cysteine can't be distinguished by Hg analysis, unbound FA and FA complexes with Hg couldn't be identified. Hg-cysteine complexes can be obtained by reaction of inorganic mercury with L-cysteine simply at room temperature. The reaction was reported to occur instantaneously between Hg(II) and ligand with molar ratios of 1:2 and lower without a prolonged incubation time required, while it took longer periods of time for the molar ratios of 2:1 and 1:1 which generally was completed within 15 min (154). However, more than 20 h was required for the formation of Hg-FA (155).

The titration for the evaluation of Hg-cysteine formation was performed by testing separate solutions with a series of molar ratios of HgNO<sub>3</sub> to L-cysteine (2:1, 1:1, 1:1.2, 1:1.4, 1:1.7, 1:2, 1:4). The solutions were prepared separately by mixing 10 µM of L-cysteine solution and HgNO<sub>3</sub> solution in corresponding decreasing concentrations (20-2.5 µM). Then, 1060-138 µL of 0.01M NaOH were used to adjust the solution pH to 8. After the reaction was carried out for 20 minutes, the unbound L-cysteine present in the resulting solutions was derivatized by SBD-F and followed by fluorometer detection as described.

To evaluate Hg-FA complex formation, a titration was performed by testing separate solutions with a series of mass ratios of HgNO<sub>3</sub> and fulvic acid (1:2, 1:5, 1:10, 1:50, and 1:100). These mass ratios were used because of the uncertainty of FA's molecular weight. The solutions were prepared separately by mixing FA (20 mg/L) and HgNO<sub>3</sub> solution in corresponding decreasing concentrations (10-0.02 mg/L) in 7 mL glass vials covered with aluminum foil. The FA was prepared in a 0.005 M NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>/Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> buffer solution (pH 8). The resulting solutions were then measured for mercury after 1, 24, and 72 h. by cold vapor atomic fluorescence spectrometry (CV-AFS).

### **3.3.4 Adsorption of Hg-cysteine complex on cinnabar surface**

An HgNO<sub>3</sub> and L-cysteine ratio of 1:1.4 was found to be optimal for preparing Hg-cysteine complexes (see results and discussion below). Thus a series of solutions with Hg-cysteine complexes were prepared in this ratio (HgNO<sub>3</sub>:L-cysteine = 1:1.4) for studying isotherms of Hg-cysteine adsorption on cinnabar surface. At the ratio of 1:1.4, appropriate amounts of HgNO<sub>3</sub> and L-cysteine solutions were mixed in 250 mL Teflon bottles with 130 mL of 0.005 M NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>/Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> buffer solution to form Hg-cysteine complexes with Hg concentrations ranging approximately from 0 to 7 μM. For preparation of HgS to be used in the adsorption experiments, 150 mg of HgS was flushed using 1.5 L of ultrapure water through filtration with a 0.45 μm PVDF membrane, and then transferred to a 250 mL Teflon bottle. Phosphate buffer solutions was added to adjust the volume to 150 mL, achieving a HgS concentration of 0.1 g/L in the suspension. The HgS suspension was mixed well and transferred into two 125 mL Teflon bottles with roughly 75mL in each bottle. This step was performed very fast to avoid powder settlement. These procedures were performed in a glove box (Aldrich AtmosBag, Sigma-Alodrich) with continuous N<sub>2</sub>

purging to avoid introduction of oxygen into the system. All solutions used were purged with N<sub>2</sub> overnight to remove O<sub>2</sub>. All samples were shaken on an orbital shaker after taken out of the glove box at 125 rpm under purging of a flow of 50 mL/min N<sub>2</sub>. Samples were collected after 24 h, and the Hg concentrations in solutions were detected by CV-AFS after being filtrated by 0.2µM PTFE membrane to separate HgS solids from solution.

### **3.3.5 The role of Hg-FA complexes in cinnabar dissolution**

The results from the titration experiment of Hg-FA showed that a considerable amount of free Hg was present in the solutions under all Hg:FA ratios. Therefore, it was not practical to prepare Hg-FA complexes and then study the role of Hg-FA complexes during cinnabar dissolution under the experimental conditions used here. Therefore, FA solution was added directly to cinnabar suspension, and the concentrations of Hg-FA complexes and unbound Hg were determined. In this experiment, a series FA solutions were prepared in 130 mL of NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>/Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> buffer solution (0.005 M, pH 8) in 250 mL Teflon bottles. Then, 150 mg of HgS was flushed by 1.5 L of ultrapure water through filtration with 0.45 µm PVDF membrane, and then transferred to each Teflon bottle. Phosphate buffer solution was added to adjust the volume to 150 mL to make 0.1 g/L HgS suspension and FA concentrations 1, 2.5, 5, 10, 20 mg/L separately. The HgS suspension was mixed well and divided into two aliquots (75ml each in two 125 mL Teflon bottles). These procedures were performed in a glove box with continuous N<sub>2</sub> purging to avoid introduction of oxygen into the system. All solutions used were purged with N<sub>2</sub> overnight to remove O<sub>2</sub>. All samples were shaken on an orbital shaker at 125 rpm under purging of a flow of 50 mL/min N<sub>2</sub>. Samples were collected after 24 h, and Hg concentrations in solutions were detected by CV-AFS followed by filtration to separate HgS solids from solution.

### **3.3.6 Detection of free L-cysteine and Hg**

A fluorometer was used to detect the concentration of SBD-F labeled L-cysteine. The excitation and emission wavelengths were set at 380 and 515 nm, respectively. These wavelengths were determined by full wavelength scan and agree with previous work (156, 157). The fluorescent response of each sample was obtained three times. The analysis of L-cysteine was on the basis of the linear positive correlation between concentrations of L-cysteine derivative and fluorescent response.

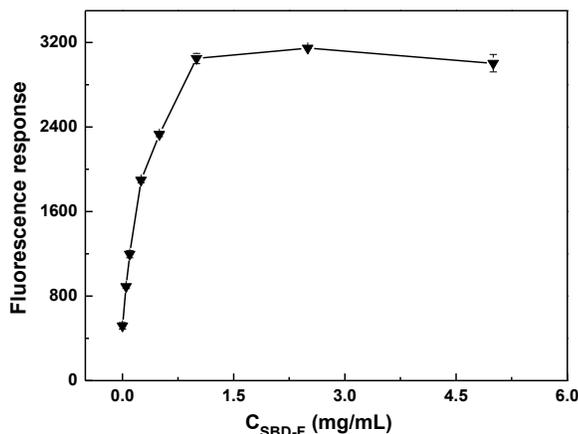
Concentrations of mercury in various Hg:FA samples including free mercury and total mercury were determined by CV-AFS. Unbound Hg was detected by CV-AFS after sample filtration without further sample treatment as reported previously for the reason that this part of Hg can be reduced to Hg(0) by SnCl<sub>2</sub> directly (94). bound Hg e.g., Hg in Hg-FA couldn't be reduced by SnCl<sub>2</sub> unless extra steps such as UV irradiation, chemical oxidation, or ultrasonic treatment were taken to convert DOM bound Hg to 'reactive' Hg which are reducible (94, 155). Therefore, for total mercury analysis in this work, samples were diluted 100 fold in 100 mL quartz bottles, digested under ultraviolet radiation overnight, and oxidized by adding 2 mL of 0.2 M BrCl solution for 3 hours. Samples were analyzed by CV-AFS after adding 500 μL of 24% NH<sub>2</sub>OH·HCl solution to remove excessive BrCl (158).

## **3.4 Results and discussion**

### **3.4.1 Derivatization of L-cysteine with SBD-F**

The SBD-F derivatization technique is generally used for measuring low-molecular weight thiols, such as cysteine and glutathione in biological and environmental matrices (159-161). The major advantages of the technique are high reaction selectivity of SBD-F

towards thiol groups and the stability of derivatives without other interferences (162). In this study, SBD-F derivatization method was used to detect free L-cysteine in the titration experiments. In order to optimize derivatization conditions, various concentrations of SBD-F were investigated. Experimental conditions such as reaction time and temperature were selected using previously reported research work (153). As shown in Fig. 3.2, a solution of 500  $\mu$ L of SBD-F ranging from 0 to 5 mg/mL was used to react with 40  $\mu$ L of 10 mg/L L-cysteine. The fluorescence response of the SBD-F derivative increased with the concentrations of SBD-F and reached a plateau when the SBD-F concentration was 1.0 mg/mL. At this point, the molar ratio of L-cysteine and SBD-F is 1:4.17. An SBD-F concentration of 1 mg/mL was chosen for later experiments for thiol detection.

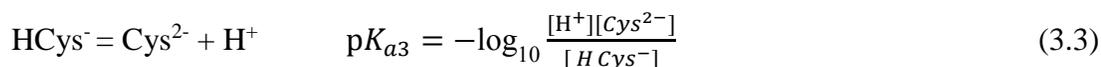
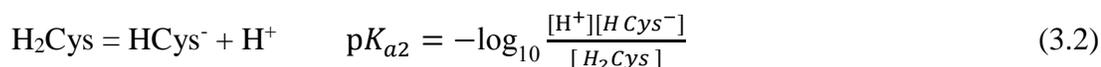
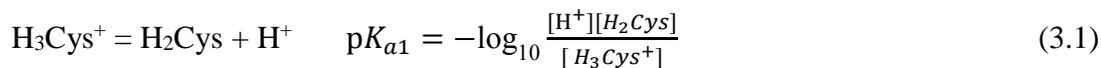


**Figure 3.2** The effect of concentration of SBD-F on fluorescence response of the derivative of L-cysteine.

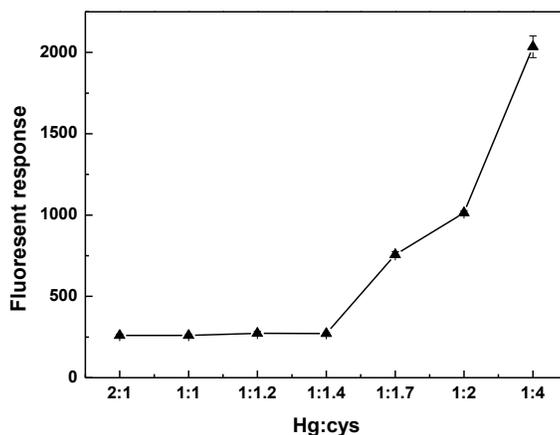
### 3.4.2 Determination of Hg and L-cysteine complexing ratio

L-cysteine is an amino thiol [ $\text{NH}_3^+\text{CH}(\text{CH}_2\text{SH})\text{COOH}$ ] that has three reactive centers: a carboxylate group, an amino group, and a thiol group. There are four different forms of L-cysteine represented as  $\text{H}_3\text{Cys}^+$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{Cys}$ ,  $\text{HCys}^-$ , and  $\text{Cys}^{2-}$  in the pH range of 2.0-12.0

depending on the pH and dissociation constants of L-cysteine. The dissociation constants were obtained as  $pK_{a1} = 1.86-2.12$ ,  $pK_{a2} = 8.14-8.21$ , and  $pK_{a3} = 10.28-10.38$  from previous work by hydrogen titration, acid-base titration, and spectrophotometric techniques (163, 164). The equations can be expressed as:



The  $pK_{a1}$  value is low and easily identified for the carboxyl group. However, the amino and thiol groups have similar  $pK_a$  which means these two groups dissociate almost at the same time (164). For this reason, it's difficult to identify the dissociation constant values between these two groups. When the pH equals  $(pK_{a1}+pK_{a2})/2$ , which is also called the isoelectric point (pI), only neutral form  $H_2Cys$  exists. Under pH 8, cysteine exists as  $H_2Cys$ ,  $HCys^-$  and  $Cys^{2-}$  with the percentages of 60.1%, 39.7%, and 0.2%, respectively.



**Figure 3.3** The effect of  $HgNO_3$  and cysteine molar ratio on the SBD-Cys fluorescent response of L-Cysteine.

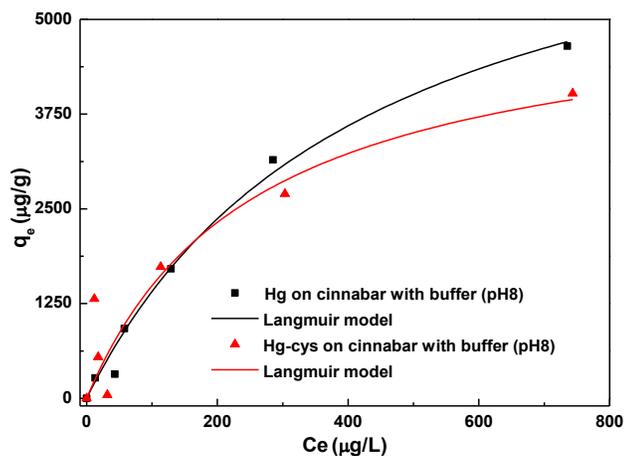
A titration method was used to determine the proper ratio of Hg and L-cysteine, and the end point was selected at the point when free L-cysteine is present in the solution. When preparing Hg-cysteine complex under different Hg:Cysteine ratios, no free cysteine was detected when Hg concentrations were relatively higher (e.g., at Hg:Cysteine ratios of 2:1 to 1:1.2), as all cysteine should be bound with Hg, giving no fluorescence signals (Fig. 3.2). With decreasing Hg concentrations, free cysteine became detectable after the Hg:Cysteine ratios reached 1:1.4, and when the ratios were 1:1.7 or lower. Free cysteine was apparently present in the solutions, as evidenced by the increasing fluorescence signals. Higher fluorescent responses were observed with lower HgNO<sub>3</sub> and cysteine molar ratio (1:1.7 to 1:4) because of the increase in the amount of free cysteine. A molar ratio of 1:1.4 was considered to be a proper ratio to prepare Hg-cysteine complex with minimum amount of free cysteine. Concurrence of several forms of complexes between Hg and L-cysteine could occur at a binding ratio of 1:1.4 between Hg and L-cysteine. It was reported that 2:2, 1:2, and 3:2 of Hg-cysteine complexes, namely Hg<sub>2</sub>(RS)<sub>2</sub>, Hg(RS)<sub>2</sub>, and Hg<sub>3</sub>(RS)<sub>2</sub> are the primary forms of Hg-cysteine (165, 166)(154, 167). While in the range of 1:1.2-1:2 for Hg:Cysteine, the formation of complexes were determined to occur mainly as 1:1 or 2:2 and 1:2 (154). Therefore, it is conceivable that in this study the molar ratio of 1:1.4 could contain the complexes with molar ratios 2:2 and 1:2, specifically 57% of Hg(RS)<sub>2</sub> and 43% of Hg<sub>2</sub>(RS)<sub>2</sub>. Considering the specific charged forms, the abovementioned complexes forms can be written as Hg(H<sub>2</sub>Cys)<sub>2</sub>, [Hg(HCys)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup>, Hg<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>Cys)<sub>2</sub>, [Hg<sub>2</sub>(HCys)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>-</sup>, along with lower amounts of [Hg(Cys)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>2-</sup> and [Hg<sub>2</sub>(Cys)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>2-</sup> at pH 8. It should be noted that for HCys<sup>-</sup>, half of both thiol and amino groups were considered dissociated because of their similar pK<sub>a</sub> at pH 8. Hg-cysteine complexes prepared at a 1:1.4

molar ratio of HgNO<sub>3</sub> to L-cysteine and used in adsorption experiments didn't produce fluorescent response, indicating the absence of free L-cysteine. The results also agree with the fact that only free cysteine rather than Hg-cysteine complexes could react with SBD-F and show fluorescence.

### **3.4.3 Adsorption of Hg-cysteine complexes on cinnabar surface**

Reduced sulfur functional groups are considered as the strongest binding site for Hg complexed with DOM (59), and in this study, L-cysteine was used to represent a low molecular weight moiety of the DOM. Previous studies have suggested that organic ligands such as cysteine, salicylic acid, FA, and HA could enhance cinnabar dissolution. However, the effects of organic ligands on cinnabar dissolution vary (63). The mechanisms underlying the enhanced dissolution have been proposed, however none of them were confirmed (63). My previous studies (see Chapter 2) have indicated that re-adsorption of the released Hg plays an important role in determining the amount of Hg eventually released into solution during cinnabar dissolution. Therefore, it was speculated that cysteine-enhanced cinnabar dissolution could be related to the changes in adsorption behavior of Hg because of the complexation of Hg by cysteine. The adsorption capacity of the Hg-cysteine complex was expected to be important with respect to the dissolution of cinnabar and should be investigated. Hence, adsorption isotherm experiments were performed in NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>/Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> buffer solution to study the adsorption process by spiking a series of amounts of Hg in the forms of Hg(II) (HgNO<sub>3</sub>) or Hg-Cysteine complexes into a cinnabar suspension. Phosphate buffer solution was used to keep the pH steady during the dissolution and eliminate the effect of pH changes in the process. Experiments were first conducted to determine if the addition of phosphate buffer could alter the dissolution

of cinnabar. The results indicated that concentrations of Hg released from cinnabar dissolution in  $\text{NaH}_2\text{PO}_4/\text{Na}_2\text{HPO}_4$  buffer solution compared with those in  $\text{NaNO}_3/\text{NaOH}$  solution were not significantly different.



**Figure 3.4** Adsorption isotherm of Hg ( $\text{HgNO}_3$ ) and Hg-cysteine complex on cinnabar in  $\text{NaH}_2\text{PO}_4/\text{Na}_2\text{HPO}_4$  buffer (0.005 M, pH 8),  $t = 20^\circ\text{C}$ .

**Table 3.1** Comparisons of parameters of adsorption isotherm between Hg and Hg-Cys on cinnabar

Parameters	Adsorption of Hg on cinnabar	Adsorption of Hg-cys on cinnabar
$q_m$ ( $\mu\text{g/g}$ )	7454.4	5304.4
$k_L$ ( $\text{L}/\mu\text{g}$ )	0.0023	0.0039
$R^2$	0.9890	0.8599

A Langmuir model was applied to fit thermodynamic data to obtain adsorption isotherms for adsorption of Hg as well as Hg-cysteine complexes on the cinnabar surface (In Fig. 3.4). The maximum adsorption capacity ( $q_e$ ) of Hg-cysteine was calculated to be 5304.4  $\mu\text{g/g}$ , which was 29 % less than that of free Hg 7454.4  $\mu\text{g/g}$  ( $p < 0.001$ ) for equilibrium concentrations from 0-800  $\mu\text{g/L}$ . This result suggests that under pH 8, there was less released Hg which could be re-adsorbed back on cinnabar surface in the presence

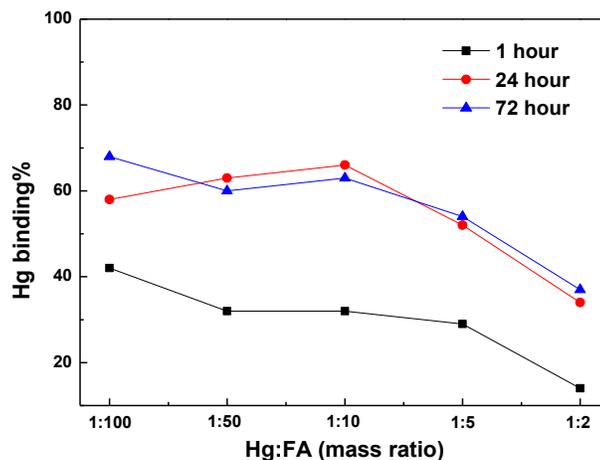
of L-cysteine than that in the absence of L-cysteine. This phenomenon could be associated with the electric charge of Hg species with or without L-cysteine on cinnabar surface. The surface of cinnabar, with a zero charge point pH (pzc) of 3-4, is expected to be negatively charged in natural aquatic environments at a pH of 6-8 because of the deprotonation of exposed sulfhydryl groups (63, 76). Since Hg exists primarily as neutral species such as Hg(OH)<sub>2</sub> in the absence of organic ligands (pH 8) (77), surface complexation was proposed as the adsorption mechanism for released Hg on cinnabar (56, 152). With L-cysteine, Hg-Cysteine complexes are partially negatively charged making this less conducive towards adsorption behavior. Also, surface complexation may not occur for the Hg-Cysteine complexes in the neutral form because of the lower binding strength between Hg and exposed sulfide on cinnabar surface when compared to complexes formed between Hg and L-cysteine (63). The stability constant (Log K) was 42 for the formation of Hg(SR)<sub>2</sub> with LMW thiols such as L-cysteine. Our results showed that less Hg could be re-adsorbed on cinnabar surface in the presence of L-cysteine because of Hg-cysteine complexation, partially accountable for the enhanced cinnabar dissolution (63).

#### **3.4.4 Determination of Hg-FA complexation ratio**

As an important component of DOM in most natural waters, including pore-waters, FA has lower molecular weight and better solubility property than the other fractions HA and can be dissolved in both acidic and basic aqueous systems (168). Several FA isolates have been obtained and found to enhance the dissolution of cinnabar (59, 63). Therefore, FA was chosen to represent natural DOM in this study to investigate the role of Hg-DOM complexation in cinnabar dissolution. In particular, the study focused on the re-adsorption of Hg-FA on cinnabar. Similar to the previous experiments on the adsorption of Hg-

cysteine on cinnabar, titration was conducted to determine a proper ratio between Hg(II) ( $\text{HgNO}_3$ ) and FA in order to prepare Hg-FA complexes with minimal free Hg and FA present in the resulting mixture. Either free Hg or FA has an impact on the adsorption of Hg-FA by decreasing or increasing released Hg from cinnabar dissolution (63, 152). These experiments were performed by adding decreasing amounts of  $\text{HgNO}_3$  to a fixed concentration of FA to produce Hg-FA complexes with a range of Hg:FA mass ratios (1:2, 1:5, 1:10, 1:50, and 1:100). The range of Hg:FA mass ratios was determined by a preliminary estimate. The elemental sulfur content of the Waskish FA was known as 0.29% (w/w, IHSS). However, it was reported that not all S could bind with Hg. The reactive center (RSH) was assumed roughly accounting for 0.15% of DOC on a mass basis by Skyllberg (169). Since the FA used in this work contains 53.63% of DOC, RSH equals 0.08% of FA on the basis of Skyllberg's estimation. Reduced S fraction (mol/mol of DOM) was calculated as 0.21% for two DOM fractions isolated from Everglades (170). Therefore, if 0.0038 mol (1 g) of  $\text{HgNO}_3$  was used to bind with FA, a similar number of moles of RSH which is 0.125 g should be used to form Hg-FA complex. Since the mass of RSH is 0.21 % of FA, the FA needed should be around 60 g. The estimated mass ratio of 1:60 just falls in the range used in this work. The titration end point for this Hg-FA complexation experiment was free Hg that was not bound by FA (which in some cases was called "reactive" Hg in previous studies). One of the key analytical steps was to distinguish Hg-DOM from other forms of Hg present in the solution. Previous studies have confirmed that the Hg(II) complexes containing inorganic ligands (e.g. chloride or hydroxide) and LMW organic ligands (e.g. cysteine) are generally considered reducible by  $\text{SnCl}_2$  completely (155), whereas the Hg-FA complexed formed through complexation of Hg with

Waskish FA could not be reduced, just like Hg-DOM complexes of a variety of other DOM(155). The Hg which could be reduced by SnCl<sub>2</sub> was labeled reactive Hg and used to represent unbound Hg in my work.



**Figure 3.5** The percentage of Hg bound with FA with different mass ratios of Hg to FA at 1, 24 and 72 hours.

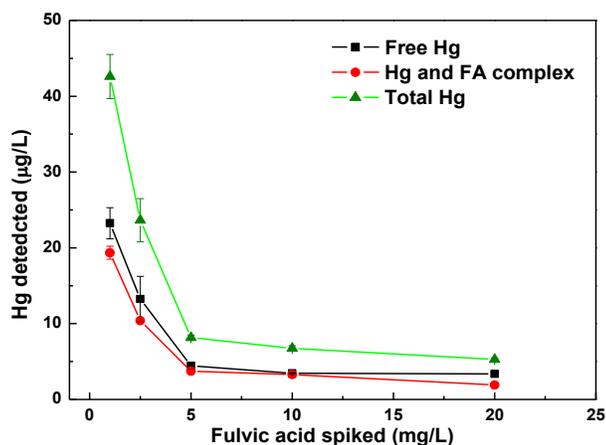
Previous study indicated that greater than 85% Hg can bind with dissolved fraction of natural organic matter (NOM) in the presence of excess amounts of NOM after 24 hours (155). To determine a proper binding ratio between Hg and FA, unbound and bound Hg were detected after 1, 24, and 72 hours in this work. The binding percentages for samples with different ratios of Hg and FA after 1, 24, and 72 hours were shown in Fig. 3.5. The binding percentage of Hg increased from 1 to 24 hours and no significant differences in Hg binding percentages were observed between 24 and 72 hours (One way ANOVA, T test,  $P > 0.05$ ). Therefore, the complexation reaction reached equilibrium in 24 hours. Largest Hg binding percentage by FA occurred at a Hg:FA ratio of 1:100 under the experimental conditions. Further increases in FA concentration were not tested. However, even at the Hg:FA ratio of 1:100, 30 - 40% of free Hg existed in the solutions. It's possible

that lower mass ratio of Hg:FA ( $< 1:100$ ) should be applied to make a complex with minimum unbound Hg because of the uniqueness of FA isolated in this work. While, lower Hg and FA ration may decrease the percentage of bound Hg and bring more unbound FA. The extra FA could enhance cinnabar dissolution to make the adsorption underestimated. Therefore, a proper binding ratio of Hg and FA couldn't be determined in this experimental condition.

### **3.4.5 The role of Hg-FA complexes in cinnabar dissolution**

Without preparation of a Hg-FA complex with minimum amount of free Hg and FA, the role of complexation between Hg and FA in cinnabar dissolution was investigated by adding FA solution directly to cinnabar suspension rather than performing a thermodynamic adsorption experiment by spiking Hg-FA to cinnabar. Reactive Hg was detected by directly reduced by  $\text{SnCl}_2$  and total Hg was detected using additional pre-oxidation process involving UV and  $\text{BrCl}$  treatment. Then the concentrations of complexes were calculated by subtraction of reactive Hg from total Hg and the percentage of bound Hg could be estimated. The effect of re-adsorption in cinnabar dissolution was expected to be evaluated by comparing the increasing extent of unbound Hg and complexed Hg with the increasing of FA. The results of cinnabar dissolution in the presence of FA are shown in Fig. 3.6. Less Hg was detected in solution including both unbound Hg and complexed Hg with the increase in the amounts of FA added. After 1 mg/L of FA was spiked into the cinnabar suspension, around 43 ppb of Hg was released from cinnabar including 23 ppb of unbound Hg and 20 ppb of complexed Hg. Decreasing amounts of all these Hg fractions were observed with higher concentrations of spiked FA. When 20 mg/L of FA was spiked, only 5.3 ppb of total Hg was released from cinnabar and 2 ppb of this Hg was in the bound

form. These results indicated that FA inhibits rather than enhances cinnabar dissolution and the inhibition effect increases at higher concentrations of FA. A possible pathway that could account for the inhibitory effects of FA on cinnabar dissolution is proposed. The adsorption of FA could lead to the coating of active surface sites on cinnabar to inhibit cinnabar dissolution. Upon mixing of the FA solution with cinnabar suspension, rapid adsorption of FA onto cinnabar surface happens as proposed by Ravichandran and Waples (59, 63). Concentrations of DOM decreased following the reaction with cinnabar in both works. In Ravichandran's work, about 15% of DOM (10.6 mg C/L) was observed decreasing after spiked into 2 g/L of cinnabar. In Waples's work, an adsorption isotherm was fitted by the Langmuir model and the values of  $q_m$  and  $k$  were determined to be 0.14 mg C/m<sup>2</sup> and 0.14 L/mg C using 2 to 16 mg C/L of DOM spiked in 10 g/L of HgS at pH 6 (59). They also obtained an estimated amount of DOM on HgS that ranged from 0.03 to 0.84 mg C/m<sup>2</sup> when 10 mg C/L of DOM was spiked in 2 to 80 g/L of cinnabar. The adsorption of DOM on cinnabar has been further confirmed via an electrophoretic mobility experiment (63). In Ravichandran's work, the negative potential of cinnabar surface increased from -35 to -55 mV at pH 6 indicating that the adsorption of humic substances on cinnabar (63). Previous work has reported that the adsorption of DOM enhances cinnabar dissolution by forming complexes with Hg on cinnabar surface and then releasing to the solution. In this work, the adsorption of FA on cinnabar plays another role by covering the dissolution sites and inhibiting cinnabar dissolution. The opposite reports in the literature could be the result of differences in DOM structures from various sources. The variety of DOM sources makes understanding the interaction between either Hg or HgS and DOM complicated (59).



**Figure 3.6** Concentrations of released Hg as unbound Hg, bound Hg, and total Hg from cinnabar dissolution at 24h in the presence of 1, 2.5, 5, 10, and 20mg/L of FA.

The inhibition effect may be related to the ratios between DOM and HgS used. As in this work, 1-20 mg DOM/L or 0.54-10.8 mg C/L of FA and 0.1 g/L of cinnabar were mixed. While in previous studies, around 10 mg C/L of DOM was used with 10 g/L of cinnabar. The ratio of DOM to cinnabar was 0.0054-0.108 in this work, much higher than that previously used which was 0.001 (59). However, other studies with ratios as high as 0.05 showed DOM enhanced cinnabar dissolution. When the concentration of cinnabar is fixed, the concentration of dissolved Hg does not increase linearly with the concentrations of DOM, as observed in Ravichandran's work (63). This observation could be caused by the inhibition of the adsorption of DOM on cinnabar dissolution. Therefore, the ratio of DOM to HgS could be a factor affecting the role of DOM in cinnabar dissolution, among other factors such as the composition and properties of DOM.

### 3.5 Conclusions

In this work, the roles of thiol-containing organic ligands and re-adsorption of released Hg were investigated. The results indicate that the roles of small molecules and complex

DOM fractions in cinnabar dissolution are different. In the presence of a small molecule L-cysteine, re-adsorption of Hg-Cys plays an important role on cinnabar dissolution. As proposed in Fig. 3.1, the complexation of Hg-Cys decreases the concentrations of dissolved Hg and forces the dissolution reaction to move to the right direction, which is one role L-cysteine plays in enhancing cinnabar dissolution. Meanwhile, the presence of L-cysteine decreases the re-adsorption of dissolved Hg via complexation, as Hg-Cys shows lower adsorption capacity than that of unbound dissolved Hg on cinnabar surface. For the role of DOM in cinnabar dissolution, the Waskish FA used in this work does not enhance but inhibits cinnabar dissolution, possibly through coating the dissolution sites on cinnabar surface. The inhibitory effect of FA on cinnabar dissolution observed here, in contrary to previously reported enhancing effect, suggest that caution should be exercised when evaluating the role of DOM in cinnabar dissolution, as the interaction of DOM with cinnabar is rather complicated depending on the varieties of DOM structures and compositions, the ratio between DOM and cinnabar, and probably other experiment conditions.

## **Chapter 4. Geochemical Modeling of Mercury Speciation in Surface Water and Implications on Mercury Cycling in the Florida Everglades**

### **Abstract**

The speciation of mercury is of paramount importance with respect to transport, transformation, and cycling of mercury in aquatic environments, including the process of cinnabar dissolution. Since different Hg species may have different transport and transformation behaviors under varying environmental conditions, it would be helpful to know the distribution patterns of inorganic Hg species to have a better understanding of aquatic Hg cycling. Previous studies have shown that cinnabar dissolution can be facilitated by a variety of environmental factors to potentially make cinnabar a continuous source of dissolved inorganic Hg and consequently control mercury (Hg) cycling in the aquatic environment. It would be an ideal extension to this work if the speciation of Hg could be investigated during cinnabar dissolution. However, it is not feasible at this stage to geochemically model Hg speciation during cinnabar dissolution, as this process has not been studied in sufficient detail. Therefore, in this chapter, I selected a relatively well-studied system, the Florida Everglades for which various environmental parameters including Hg are available, and applied a geochemical modeling approach to examine Hg speciation in surface water, aiming to provide an improved understanding towards how Hg species distribution affects MeHg production and the overall Hg cycling in the aquatic environment.

The Florida Everglades is a subtropical wetland ecosystem located in South Florida. It provides significant ecological, water storage, flood control and recreational benefits to the region and important habitat for wildlife including endangered species. However, elevated

levels of mercury (Hg), especially methylmercury (MeHg), a potent neurotoxin, have been measured in fish and wildlife in the Everglades over the last few decades. This is not only an issue for human consumption of fish, but also threatens fish-eating wildlife species and the biological diversity of this ecosystem.

Efforts have been made to investigate source, transport, transformation (reduction/oxidation and in particular methylation/demethylation), and bioaccumulation of Hg in fish and wildlife in the Everglades. Spatial patterns in mercury cycling and bioaccumulation in the Everglades have been investigated. However, much remains unclear about how elevated levels of Hg in fish and wildlife are accumulated and the biogeochemical cycling of mercury in this system. Of particular concern is the lack of studies that deal with the speciation of inorganic Hg, whether being dissolved Hg ions (or neutral species) or bound to particles and organic matter, and the effect of these Hg species on Hg transformation (e.g., methylation and photochemical reactions) and bioaccumulation. The objective of this study is to understand how geochemical factors such as pH, dissolved ions, and organic matter affect inorganic Hg species and subsequently control Hg cycling and bioaccumulation.

In this work, geochemical models are used to model the distribution of inorganic Hg species. The data are from the Everglades Regional Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program (R-EMAP). The United States Environmental Protection Agency began the probability-based R-EMAP survey in 1993, and since then has collected and analyzed samples, including surface water, soil, vegetation, and fish, throughout the Everglades at about 1000 different locations. This program generated massive datasets, including total mercury, methylmercury, and biogeochemical characteristics parameters,

for the entire Everglades freshwater marsh ecosystem, which provides an unprecedented data source for geochemical modeling. The distribution of inorganic Hg species in surface water throughout the entire Everglades is determined by applying geochemical models to different R-EMAP sampling sites. The distribution of inorganic Hg species is related to MeHg levels in different environmental matrices to examine how inorganic Hg species potentially affect the production and fate of MeHg, and then further related to fish Hg levels to explore the relationship between inorganic Hg speciation, MeHg production, and Hg bioaccumulation. The implications of the distribution of inorganic Hg species on important Hg transformation processes and the overall Hg cycling in this ecosystem are discussed.

#### **4.1 Introduction**

The enhanced dissolution of cinnabar is an important process to control mercury (Hg) cycling in the aquatic environment (69). A variety of environmental factors can facilitate cinnabar dissolution to potentially make cinnabar a continuous source of dissolved inorganic Hg being released into the aqueous phase (e.g., pore water in sediment) (56-58, 60). The forms of dissolved Hg species released through cinnabar dissolution are dependent upon specific environmental conditions, in particular the presence of inorganic and organic ligands (56-60, 63, 68). Subsequently, the variety of Hg species released by cinnabar dissolution under varying environmental conditions may have distinct implications on aquatic Hg cycling, as each Hg species could behavior differently with respect to transport and transformation in the environment (85-88, 171).

The transformation, transport, toxicity, bioaccumulation, and fate of mercury are closely associated with the chemical forms of mercury present in the environment (49, 89, 171). In aquatic environments, mercury is present primarily as various Hg(II) compounds.

These Hg(II) compounds are found in a variety of physical and chemical forms through complexing with different inorganic (e.g., chloride and sulfide) and organic (e.g., DOM) ligands (7, 8). Methylmercury (MeHg), which also exists in aquatic environments, is the most bioavailable and toxic Hg species and can be bioaccumulated in the food web leading to elevated Hg concentrations in fish and other animals, posing health risks to human beings and ecosystems (9, 52, 89). Previous studies have shown that inorganic Hg biogeochemistry, in particular the relative distribution of dissolved Hg species, influences methylmercury production in aquatic ecosystems, as some Hg species may be more bioavailable to Hg methylating bacteria (e.g., sulfate and iron reducing bacteria) than others (52, 92, 93, 172). It would be helpful to know the distribution patterns of inorganic Hg species (e.g., what species are present at what percentages) for a better understanding of aquatic Hg cycling. Since it is practically impossible to use analytical techniques to determine all inorganic Hg species present through complexing with inorganic and organic ligands in aqueous phase, geochemical modeling provides a good alternative method to examine the distribution of Hg species.

Geochemical modeling of Hg speciation requires a relatively clear understanding of major Hg transport and transformation processes in a given system, in particular types and concentrations of inorganic and organic ligands present in the system and the stability constants of the complexes of these ligands with Hg. Although knowing the Hg species released during cinnabar dissolution would be helpful to understand the role of cinnabar dissolution in aquatic Hg cycling, it is not feasible at this stage to geochemically model Hg speciation during cinnabar dissolution, as this process has not been studied in sufficient detail. Even for aquatic Hg cycling in general, much remains unclear about how inorganic

Hg species are distributed in aqueous phase and how their varying bioavailability influence the uptake by methylating bacteria for production of MeHg. Applying geochemical modeling approach to a relatively well-studied system with ancillary environmental parameters (e.g., concentrations of inorganic and organic ligands) to examine Hg speciation would be beneficial to improve understanding towards how Hg species distribution affects MeHg production and the overall Hg cycling in the aquatic environment.

The Florida Everglades is a subtropical wetland ecosystem located in South Florida. It provides significant ecological, water storage, flood control and recreational benefits to the region and important habitat for wildlife including endangered species. However, elevated levels of mercury, especially MeHg, a potent neurotoxin, have been measured in fish and wildlife e.g., wading birds, alligators, and Florida panthers in the Everglades over the last few decades (108-111). This not only is an issue for human consumption of fish, but also threatens fish-eating wildlife species and the biological diversity of the ecosystem (112-114). As a result, extensive studies have been conducted in the Everglades to determine the magnitude of Hg contamination and biogeochemical cycling of Hg, plus geochemical and ecological studies on this system (79, 89, 119, 173). For instance, the Everglades Regional Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program (R-EMAP) has sampled and analyzed surface water, soil, vegetation, and fish samples throughout the entire Everglades at about 1000 locations for mercury and a variety of biogeochemical parameters by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Region 4 (174). Therefore, the Florida Everglades is an appropriate object to study the Hg species distribution, including Hg transformation and bioaccumulation, using geochemical models, as well as the released Hg

from HgS and potential threat to human being and other animals. Efforts have been made to investigate source, transport, transformation (reduction/oxidation and in particular methylation/demethylation), and bioaccumulation of Hg in fish and wildlife in the Everglades (45, 116-118, 173). Spatial patterns in mercury cycling and bioaccumulation in the Everglades have been investigated. However, much remains unclear about how elevated levels of Hg in fish and wildlife are accumulated and the biogeochemical cycling of mercury in this system (109, 175). One of the particular concerns is the lack of study that deals with the speciation of inorganic Hg, whether being dissolved Hg ions (or neutral species) or bound to particles and organic matter, and the effect of these Hg species on Hg transformation (e.g., methylation and photochemical reactions) and bioaccumulation.

#### **4.2 Objective**

The objective of this study is to understand how geochemical factors such as pH, dissolved ions, and organic matter affect inorganic Hg species and subsequently control Hg cycling and bioaccumulation in the Florida Everglades. To achieve this goal, geochemical models are used to model the distribution of inorganic Hg species in this work. The distribution of inorganic Hg species in surface water throughout the entire Everglades is determined by applying geochemical models to different R-EMAP sampling sites. The patterns of inorganic Hg species distribution are related to MeHg levels in environmental matrices to examine how inorganic Hg species potentially affect the production and fate of MeHg, and then further related to fish Hg levels to explore the relationship between inorganic Hg speciation, MeHg production, and Hg bioaccumulation. The implications of the inorganic Hg species distribution on important Hg transformation processes and the overall Hg cycling in the Florida Everglades are discussed.

## **4.3 Methods**

### **4.3.1 Data sources**

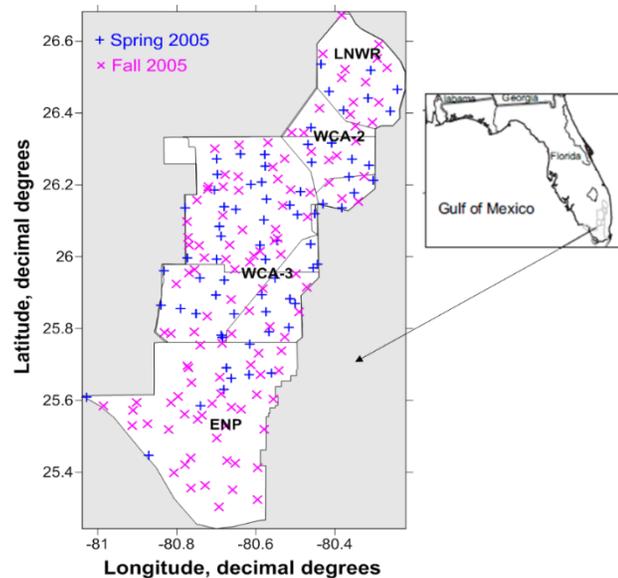
The data used for this study are mainly from R-EMAP. The ultimate goal of this program is to provide critical information to decision makers for multiple environmental issues and restoration of the Everglades ecosystem by improving environmental management decisions (*176*). Mercury contamination was one of these issues. To achieve this goal, the USEPA began to monitor the condition of the South Florida ecosystem in 1993 and has completed 4 phases from different environmental media at more than 1000 different locations throughout the entire freshwater Everglades so far (*177*). A statistical, probability-based sampling strategy was used to select sampling sites from Lake Okeechobee in the north to Florida Bay in the south, from Miami urban area on the east to Big Cypress on the west to provide the foundation for ecological risk assessment in South Florida (*176, 178*). To be specific, phase I of the project was conducted from 1992 to 1996. Measurements were made on samples from water, marsh soil, canal sediment, algae, and mosquitofish. These samples were collected from 200 sampling stations from canal and 500 from marsh during successive dry and wet season (*176*). In addition, four marsh transects (44 stations) were sampled during 1994. Phase II sampling was conducted during 1999 from another 126 selected marsh sites during both dry and wet seasons. Two other biogeochemical media, pore water and floc, were added at each site in phase II (*179*). Phase III was conducted in 2005 at another 228 Everglades marsh sites (*174*). Phase IV was initiated in 2013, but samples were only collected from 52 stations and not completed because of the federal government shut down during that period (*177*). Sampling was then restarted and completed in 2014. However, the details of the complete phase IV are still

not publically available yet. In addition to the differences of sampling media and stations, some studies on macrophytic plants and community ecology were also added during these phases.

Data from phase III in 2005 were chosen in this work. In 2005, the R-EMAP Phase III sampling was conducted at 109 randomly selected stations in dry season (May) and 119 in wet season (November) in Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge (LNWR or Water Conservation Area 1, WCA-1), Water Conservation Areas 2 and 3 (WCA-2 and WCA-3), and Everglades National Park (ENP). Massive datasets were generated for total mercury, methylmercury, and a large number of biogeochemical parameters including pH, dissolved oxygen, sulfide, and dissolved organic carbon (DOC) for the entire Everglades ecosystem. The unprecedented data source provides a good chance for geochemical modeling. In this research, surface water was studied using geochemical models for inorganic Hg speciation distribution which was subsequently related to MeHg in other environmental media. The locations of sampling stations which contain all necessary data were shown in Fig. 4.1 including 69 in May and 113 in November. However, the concentrations of an important geochemical factor, inorganic sulfide in surface water, were found below the detection limit (0.02 mg/L) in most sampling stations, which decreased the available modeling stations to 18 in dry season and 21 in wet season if only stations with detectable sulfide were considered.

To better evaluate the distribution of Hg species in surface water of Everglades, for the stations where the concentrations of sulfide were reported below the detection limit, special treatment was taken by assigning environmentally relevant sulfide concentrations to these stations. This treatment was due to the relatively high detection limit of 0.02 mg/L for the

sulfide determination method used in R-EMAP project, which provided limited information on accurately evaluate the effect of sulfide on Hg speciation, as a sulfide concentration significantly (a few orders of magnitude) below 0.02 mg/L would still play a dominant role in regulating Hg speciation. During the process to select these values, data from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) were used for reference. The USGS established a Critical Ecosystems Program for South Florida for the ecosystem restoration (180). As part of the study for the evaluation of biogeochemical processes in sediments in the cycling of carbon, nitrogen, phosphorus, and sulfur, concentrations of sulfide in surface water and pore water were analyzed from 12 sites including LNWR, WCA 3, WCA 2, and ENP in South Florida which were used in this work. Detailed information on the selection of environmentally relevant sulfide concentrations and the role of sulfide in regulating Hg speciation can be found in the Results and discussion below.



**Figure 4.1** A map showing sampling sites in the Florida Everglades during the dry (spring) and wet season (fall) in 2005.

### 4.3.2 Determination of THg, MeHg, and other ancillary parameters

In this work, THg and other ancillary parameters were applied to model the distribution of Hg species. Concentrations of MeHg in soil in surface water, soil, floc, periphyton, and mosquitofish were used to evaluate the relationship between Hg species and methylation. The analysis methods for some important parameters are summarized here. For THg analysis, samples from soil, floc, and periphyton were homogenized by blender first, acidified by 10% HCl to release CO<sub>2</sub>, and digested with concentrated HNO<sub>3</sub> in 10mL ampoules for 1h at 121 °C using autoclave (158). The samples were then cooled and diluted for analysis. Mosquitofish samples were digested using the same closed-ampoule acid digestion process directly after were weighed without being homogenized. After dilution, concentrations of samples were determined by cold vapor atomic fluorescence spectrometry (CVAFS) (Merlin 10.035, PS Analytical, UK). Standard operating procedures (SOPs) modified after EPA method 7474 were followed (158, 181). EPA method 1631E was used to analyze water samples were by gold amalgamation with CVAFS (182).

For MeHg analysis, after soil, floc, and periphyton samples were homogenized and acidified, they were then isolated by an acidic KBr/ H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>/ CuSO<sub>4</sub> (1.5/1.8/1 M) solution followed by extraction of MeHg by organic phase CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Two mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> extract were transferred to 40 mL distilled deionized water in a 50 mL centrifuge tube in a 45 °C water bath with 100 mL/min N<sub>2</sub> purged for 30 min to volatilize CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and leave MeHg in aqueous phase (183). Before analysis, samples were ethylated by reacting with 0.2 mL of 1% NaBEt<sub>4</sub> (Strem Chemicals, Newburyport, MA) in 2 mL of acetate buffer (2M) for 15 min. The ethylation products were then purged and trapped on a Tenax trap, dried and

analyzed by Brooks Rand (Seattle, WA) MeHg analytical system following aqueous ethylation-purge and trap-gas chromatography (GC)-AFS. The procedures were modified after EPA method 1630 (184). Water samples were distilled to liberate MeHg from the matrix before analysis. MeHg analysis wasn't conducted for mosquitofish samples since more than 95% of THg in mosquitofish was MeHg (179). Concentrations of MeHg could be represented by those of THg. The calculations of Hg concentrations were based on dry weight for soil, floc, and periphyton and wet weight for mosquitofish. Both THg and MeHg were analyzed by Southeast Environmental Research Center at Florida International University (SERC, FIU). Mercury Laboratory at Florida International University (SERC, FIU), a testing lab accredited by the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (NELAP).

Another important parameter sulfide in surface water was sampled by a special sampling system because of the reducibility. The sampling system, included two 60 mL plastic syringe, a 3-way valve, and a leur-loc tip (123). One syringe was previously prepared with zinc acetate/6N sodium hydroxide preservative solution. Another syringe was used to remove air from tip of syringe by pulling sample through the side port before sampling underwater. The analysis of sulfide followed Hach method 8131 (EPA accepted method) (185). Sulfides react with N,N-dimethyl-p-phenylenediamine sulfate to form methylene blue. Since the intensity of blue color is proportional to the sulfide concentration, samples were detected by colorimeter with the measurement wavelength 610 nm after dilution. The method detection limit was 0.02 mg/L for sulfide. Sulfate was analyzed following EPA method 300.0 (186) using ion chromatography by Science and Ecosystem Support Division (SESD) of USEPA and DOC was analyzed using the

Shimadzu TOC analyzer following SOP NU-062-1.19 by Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) (187). All other analytical methods used for involved parameters were summarized in EPA Technical Report (123).

### **4.3.3 Geochemical modeling**

#### **4.3.3.1 Model background**

Geochemical models are mostly used to simulate chemical equilibrium with thermodynamic databases of elements considered to be of environmental interest (188). Equilibrium models assume that all reactions have completed and are in equilibrium with one another. These models have common capabilities in calculating speciation, sorption, and precipitation of aquatic chemical components (107). PHREEQC is a popular geochemical modeling program, which was first developed in 1995 by the US Geological Survey (USGS) and has been updated to version 3 by Parkhurst and Appelo in 2013 (189, 190). PHREEQC version 3 is a computer program designed for a wide variety of low-temperature aqueous geochemical calculations including laboratory or environmental water systems. In addition to simulate speciation, saturation index, batch reaction, surface complexation, adsorption and ion exchange at equilibrium which are similar features to other models, PHREEQC also has capabilities of reversible reactions, kinetic reactions, with rate expressions defined by the modeler and one dimensional (1-D) transport simulations (190).

A geochemical model consists of several components: the input file describing the problem to be solved, the geochemical database, the parser reading the input file and deriving a series of equations from it, the solver for a series of resulting nonlinear functions (Newton-Raphson), the output file containing the results, and optional graphical or tabular presentations of results. PHREEQC is the core of the geochemical model containing the

parser and the solver. The parser extracts species information from the input file and links it based on the equations in the database in nonlinear reaction equations. These species equations are then substituted by mole- and charge-balance equations. The goal is to reach equilibrium, where all functions relevant to a specific equilibrium calculation are equal to zero. The Newton-Raphson approach is used to find the zeros of the functions by which each function is differentiated with respect to each master unknown to form the Jacobian matrix. A set of linear equations is formed from the Jacobian matrix that can be solved to approximate iteratively a solution to the nonlinear equations (190).

#### **4.3.3.2 Selection of important mercury species and complexation reactions**

Generally, temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen (redox potential) and concentrations of elements and (or) element valence states are the essential data needed for a speciation calculation (190). All these geochemical factors should be carefully considered and included in input interface. However, most reactions involved do not provide  $\Delta H$  values. Therefore, the effect of temperature was not considered during the modeling. The speciation of Hg is strongly regulated by redox and pH conditions as well as the concentrations of binding ligands in aquatic systems (7). Sulfide, dissolved organic matter (DOM) and halogens (mainly chloride) are mainly the primary complex agents with Hg (8). In addition, other ligands such as sulfate were also considered due to their widely existence. All these parameters were obtained from the REMAP program (Table 1). It should be noted that because of the lack of Eh or pe values, the redox condition was calculated from the O(0)/O(-2) redox couple, which corresponds to the dissolved oxygen/water couple. The calculated pe values were used for all calculations that require a pe. However, the redox potential of an aqueous solution is a result of the sum of the redox

potentials of different redox pairs. Although the solutions from surface water are under strong oxidation state because of high concentrations of dissolved oxygen, the oxidation state could be overestimated which then lead to the underestimate of concentration of Hg(0). The distribution of Hg(II) species doesn't change which was verified during the modeling by applying different concentrations of dissolved O<sub>2</sub>.

In addition, mass concentrations of DOC obtained from R-EMAP should be converted to concentrations of DOM (as thiol RS<sup>-</sup>). The concentration conversion was completed by applying characteristics of two DOM fractions isolated from the Florida Everglades. Hydrophobic and hydrophilic acid fractions (HPoA and HPiA) were isolated from surface water of WCA2 by passing through XAD-8 and XAD-4 resin columns. These two fractions constitute about 80-90% of humic substances which are also the most reactive fractions for the binding with trace metal like Hg (67). For each fraction, molecular weight, carbon content, reduced S (RS<sup>-</sup>) fraction, and carboxyl group (RO<sup>-</sup>) fraction were determined. Therefore, the relationship between mass concentrations of DOC and molar of RS<sup>-</sup> can be obtained. The percentages of HPoA were found slightly higher than those of HPiA in approximately 100 surface waters in the USA but much less HPiA were observed than HPoA from 25 groundwater samples in the USA (191). In this work, the proportion of each fraction was roughly considered to be equal. The concentrations of RS<sup>-</sup> were calculated as the average of these of two fractions.

Database files WATEQ4F.dat, MINTEQ.dat, MINTEQ V4.dat, PHREEQC.dat and LLNL.dat were provided with the program PHREEQC. The file MINTEQ.dat was used to provide thermodynamic data for simulations in this work. This database was derived from that provided by another commonly used geochemical model MINTEQA2 (192). Most

equilibrium constants involved are presented in Table 4.2 and used directly (reactions 4.1 to 4.18). However, important reactions and mercury species are not included in the database MINTEQ.dat in PHREEQC, for instance, Hg-DOM and Hg-S complexes. Because of the importance of these complexes in determining Hg speciation, the complexation of Hg with DOM or sulfide were carefully considered based on the literature, and the selection of appropriate Hg-DOM and Hg-S complexes and the corresponding formation constants was detailed below.

**Table 4.1** List of biogeochemical parameters used in the modeling and the concentration ranges found in the Everglades surface water

<b>Biogeochemical parameters</b>	<b>Ranges</b>
pH	5.33-8.06
Dissolved oxygen	0.85-11.22 mg/L
pe (O(0)/O(-2))	12.88-13.16
Total mercury	1.1-7.4 ng/L
Fluoride	0.025-1 mg/L
Chloride	16-260 mg/L (*1100 mg/L in station 12)
Bromide	0.059-3.7 mg/L
Sulfide	0.02-0.24 mg/L
Sulfate	0.012-110 mg/L
DOM	9.25-100.5 mg/L

### **Selection of Hg-DOM complexes**

It is well known that Hg interacts very strongly with DOM and the complexes formed can determine the speciation, mobility, and bioavailability of mercury in the aquatic environment (54, 63, 193, 194). The conditional formation constants for Hg-DOM complexes vary because of the differences in DOM composition and experimental conditions (67). The generally binding sites of DOM by Hg are the acid sites including

carboxylic acids, phenols, amino ions, alcohols and thiols (67). The interactions between Hg and groups such as thiol groups ( $RS^-$ ) and oxygen functional groups ( $RO^-$ ) contained in these binding sites can be described by Hard and Soft Acid-Base Rules. On the basis of this rule, divalent Hg is classified as a B type metal cation and also soft sphere cation for its low electronegativity and high polarizability (97). Therefore, metal cations of type B coordinate preferentially with ligands containing low electronegative S rather than O (97). Carboxylic acids and phenols contribute up to 90% of the functional groups from DOM, while  $RS^-$  occupies minor constituent comparing with the  $RO^-$  (67). Although the percentage of  $RS^-$  is small, the amount of  $RS^-$  in humic substances is more abundant than the natural levels of Hg in environment (195). It's not surprising that Hg was observed to bind preferentially to  $RS^-$  rather than  $RO^-$  in natural environment when the ratio of Hg and DOM is less than 1  $\mu\text{g}$  of Hg to 1 mg of DOM (195). While Hg(II)/DOM ratios above approximately 10  $\mu\text{g}$  Hg(II) per mg DOM show Hg(II) binding mainly to oxygen functional groups (196). The complexation reaction can be expressed as reaction (4.19) or (4.20). Meanwhile, the conditional stability constants ( $K'$ ) for Hg complexes with DOM fractions were determined (170, 196, 197).



The stability constants (Log K) between Hg and fully ionized ligand  $RS^-$  expressed as  $RS^{(n+1)-}$  were determined from 23.8 to 28.7 for reaction 4.19 by using different techniques (170, 196, 197). This reaction can be converted to another way by adding reaction



to get Log K for reaction 4.20 from 13.8 to 18.7 (170, 196, 197). While Log K for Hg and

weak sites  $RO^-$  was determined only 10.7 which is much lower than that for the reaction between Hg and  $RS^-$  (196). The average Log K obtained via various techniques was applied in this work as 14.7. To be consistent with other reactions from database where Hg was presented as the hydrate form, the reaction was converted to



by adding another reaction



**Table 4.2** The reactions and equilibrium constants of Hg available in PHREEQC (198).

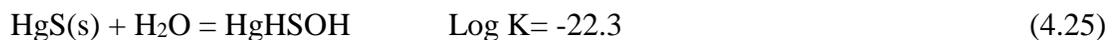
Reaction number	Reactions	Log K
4.1	$Hg(OH)_2 + H^+ = HgOH^+ + H_2O$	2.70
4.2	$Hg(OH)_2 + 2H^+ = Hg^{2+} + 2H_2O$	6.10
4.3	$Hg(OH)_2 + H_2O = Hg(OH)_3^- + H^+$	-15.00
4.4	$Hg(OH)_2 + 2HS^- = HgS_2^{2-} + 2H_2O$	31.24
4.5	$Hg(OH)_2 + 2HS^- + 2H^+ = Hg(HS)_2 + 2H_2O$	43.82
4.6	$Hg(OH)_2 + SO_4^{2-} + 2H^+ = HgSO_4 + 2H_2O$	7.49
4.7	$Hg(OH)_2 + Cl^- + 2H^+ = HgCl^+ + 2H_2O$	12.85
4.8	$Hg(OH)_2 + 2Cl^- + 2H^+ = HgCl_2 + 2H_2O$	19.22
4.9	$Hg(OH)_2 + 3Cl^- + 2H^+ = HgCl_3^- + 2H_2O$	20.12
4.10	$Hg(OH)_2 + 4Cl^- + 2H^+ = HgCl_4^{2-} + 2H_2O$	20.53
4.11	$Hg(OH)_2 + Cl^- + H^+ = HgClOH + H_2O$	9.31
4.12	$Hg(OH)_2 + F^- + 2H^+ = HgF^+ + 2H_2O$	8.08
4.13	$Hg(OH)_2 + Br^- + 2H^+ = HgBr^+ + 2H_2O$	15.83
4.14	$Hg(OH)_2 + 2Br^- + 2H^+ = HgBr_2 + 2H_2O$	23.61
4.15	$Hg(OH)_2 + 2H^+ + 3Br^- = HgBr_3^- + 2H_2O$	25.79
4.16	$Hg(OH)_2 + 2H^+ + 4Br^- = HgBr_4^{2-} + 2H_2O$	27.06
4.17	$Hg(OH)_2 + Br^- + Cl^- + 2H^+ = HgBrCl + 2H_2O$	22.01
4.18	$Hg(OH)_2 + Br^- + H^+ = HgBrOH + H_2O$	11.60

### Selection of Hg-S complexes

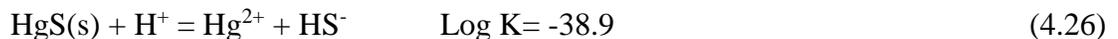
Another important Hg binding ligand is sulfide. The complexation of Hg and sulfide was found to be the main factor controlling inorganic Hg species even as low as  $10^{-7}$  M of sulfide presents (127). Sulfide could form numerous species with mercury depending on the conditions. Some of the relevant species such as  $\text{HgS}_2^{2-}$ ,  $\text{Hg}(\text{HS})_2$  are included in the database from PHREEQC and directly used in the modeling. In addition, to avoid missing important Hg-S species, other Hg-S species such as  $\text{HgHS}_2^-$  and  $\text{HgHSOH}$  are also included in the modeling. The complexation reaction for species  $\text{HgHS}_2^-$  as following was obtained from the literature and the value of Log K was generally accepted to be 38.1 (52).



However, the neutral  $\text{HgHSOH}$  species had to be carefully examined for inclusion in the model, as there was a controversy about the Log K of this complex and even about the specific form it presents in aqueous solution. The species was generally written as  $\text{HgHSOH}$ , but in many cases as  $\text{HgS}^0$ , and the formation of this species was first proposed by Dyrssen and Wedborg on the basis of theoretical calculation (199). The reaction and Log K were expressed as



Combine reaction (4.25) with the dissolution reaction of  $\text{HgS}(\text{s})$  and dissociation reaction of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (reaction (4.26) and (4.27))



Then the Log K for the complexation of  $\text{HgHSOH}$  would be calculated as 30.3 for reaction



The controversy over Log K of HgHSOH (or HgS<sup>0</sup>) was summarized as follows for a better selection of Log K. When Dyrssen and Wedborg compared the reaction of HgS(s)/HgHSOH to the analog reaction of ZnS(s)/ZnHSOH obtained by Gubeli and Ste-Marie, they found that the experimental Log K for ZnHSOH was much lower than the calculation value and that the relation between them was  $\text{Log } K_{s1}(\text{calc}) = 2.26 \text{ Log } K_{s1}(\text{exp})$  (199-201). This relation was also observed for CdS(s)/CdHSOH. Based on this observation, Log K for reaction 4.25 was suggested to be changed to -10 (199). However, when Skyllberg combined this value with the solubility product of HgS(s) and ionic product of water, he got a Log K value of 40.5 for reaction 4.28 (169). It was concluded that this value was theoretically unreasonable and unacceptable. This was because this value was even higher than the Log K of Hg(HS)<sub>2</sub> complex, which was inconsistent with the fact that Hg has a preference for interaction with S than with O and consequently the complex of Hg with two HS<sup>-</sup> groups (Hg(HS)<sub>2</sub>) should have a higher Log K than the complex of Hg with a HS<sup>-</sup> and a OH<sup>-</sup> group (HgHSOH) (169). The reason that Dyrssen and Wedborg observed a higher experimental Log K than theoretically calculated value could be because of the presence of colloids in aqueous phase during the experiment that would result in an overestimated experimental value (199). Based on these considerations, in my work, Log K= 30.3 was selected as a proper value for reaction 4.28. Reactions (4.22), (4.24), and (4.29) including related stability constants were supplemented in input interface while modeling.

It should be noted that, when the species was written as the form of  $\text{HgS}^0$ , the Log K was suggested by Benoit et al to be 26.5 for the reaction (52).



There are two reasons why this reaction and Log K value was not used in this work. Firstly, the two Hg forms actually represent same species and the species should exist as HgHSOH rather than  $\text{HgS}^0$ , as  $\text{HgS}^0$  was confirmed as a theoretically unstable form in the presence of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (199, 202). It is impossible to distinguish  $\text{HgS}^0$  and HgHSOH since the Log K for reaction



is very small ( $\sim 3$ ), which proves the coexistence of  $\text{OH}^-$  and  $\text{HS}^-$  in same complex. Secondly, in the process of derivation of reaction 30 by Benoit et al, the Log K=-10 for reaction (4.25) was used, which was considered theoretically unreasonable as aforementioned.

#### 4.3.4 Statistics analysis

After obtaining the distribution of inorganic Hg species through geochemical modeling, Spearman's rank correlation was employed to examine the relationship between the dominant inorganic Hg(II) species and MeHg in environmental matrices, including water, periphyton, floc, and soil, and biological body, specifically mosquitofish, by using software OriginPro 8 (OriginLab). The groups of these parameters that were found to have significant correlation coefficients were used to help explore the relationship between inorganic Hg speciation, MeHg production, and Hg bioaccumulation.

## 4.4 Results and discussion

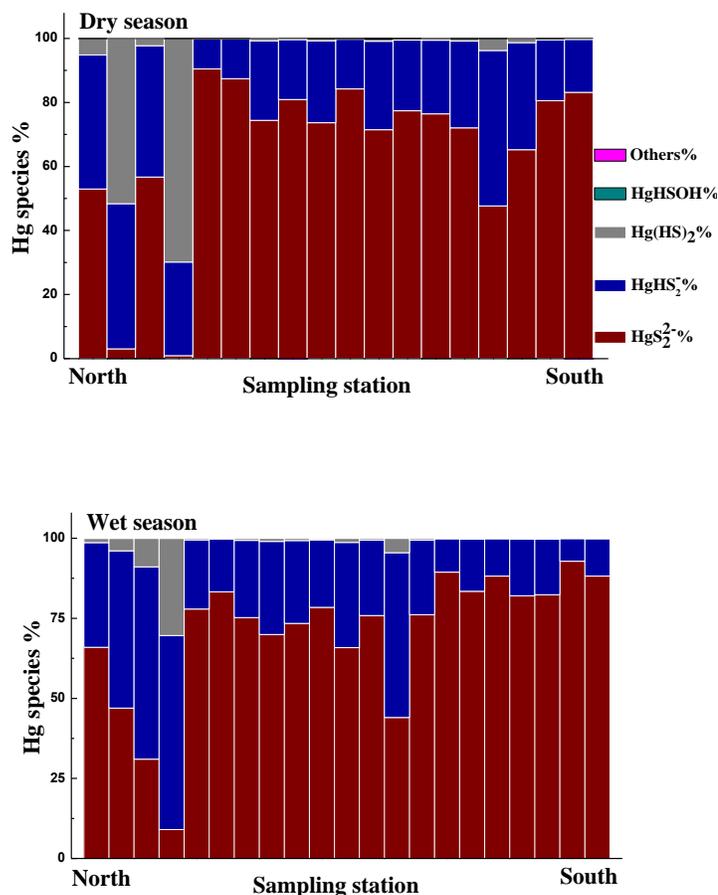
### 4.4.1 Distribution of inorganic Hg species in surface water

#### 4.4.1.1 The complexes of sulfides and inorganic mercury

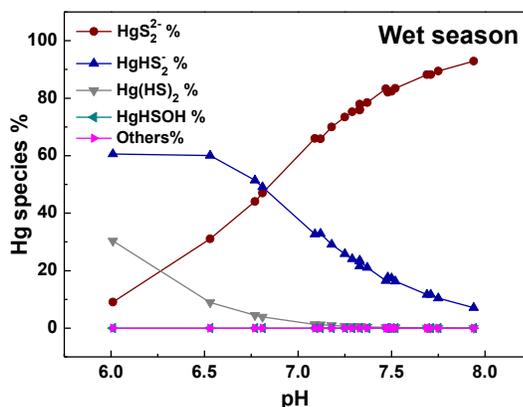
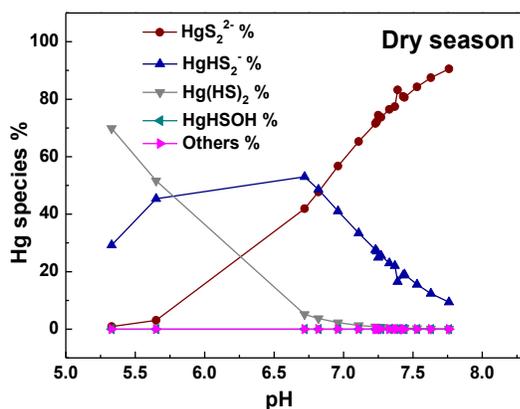
Speciation calculation for mercury using PHREEQC provides concentrations of Hg species in each sampling station on the basis of database and geochemical parameters described above. The modeling results are shown in appendix A. Modeling results indicate that Hg(II) was the major species while Hg(0) and Hg(I) were barely or not existed at all in surface waters of the Everglades. It is understandable that Hg(I) does not normally exist in surface water because of the lack of stability of Hg(I) species (7). However, Hg(0) has been frequently reported to be present in surface waters, including the Florida Everglades (117, 203). One of the major sources of Hg(0) in surface water is the input from atmospheric deposition (123). A large part of the Hg(0) from atmosphere could reemit back to the air before participating in the transformation reactions, i.e. playing a minor role in the redox and complexation equilibrium of Hg in water phase. Therefore, in this study, only Hg(II) species were taken into consideration to evaluate the distribution and bioavailability of Hg speciation.

As aforementioned, sulfide was detected only in limited sampling stations due to the lack of sensitivity of the analytical techniques used. The detection limit for sulfide was 0.02 mg/L. During the course of modeling, it became very clear that mercury speciation is determined substantially by the concentration of sulfide. At all sampling stations with measurable concentrations of sulfide (> 0.02 mg/L), the complexes between Hg and sulfide, including  $\text{HgS}_2^{2-}$ ,  $\text{HgHS}_2^-$ ,  $\text{Hg}(\text{HS})_2$ , and  $\text{HgHSOH}$  are found to be the dominant Hg species, accounting for almost 100% (Figure 4.2). Among these species, the concentrations

of  $\text{HgS}_2^{2-}$  were the highest at most stations for both dry and wet seasons, followed by  $\text{HgHS}_2^-$ ,  $\text{Hg(HS)}_2$ , and  $\text{HgHSOH}$  except for some stations from LNWR where  $\text{HgHS}_2^-$  is the most major Hg species instead of  $\text{HgS}_2^{2-}$ . The sum of  $\text{HgS}_2^{2-}$  and  $\text{HgHS}_2^-$  occupied more than 90 % of inorganic Hg(II) species except for three stations located at LNWR including stations 117 and 120 (30.2 % and 48.3 % separately) in dry season and station 239 (70.0 %) in wet season. The concentrations of  $\text{HgHSOH}$  were extremely low in all the stations.



**Figure 4.2** The percentages of Hg species in surface water of Florida Everglades in dry and wet seasons of 2005 at stations where sulfide concentrations were  $>0.02$  mg/L.



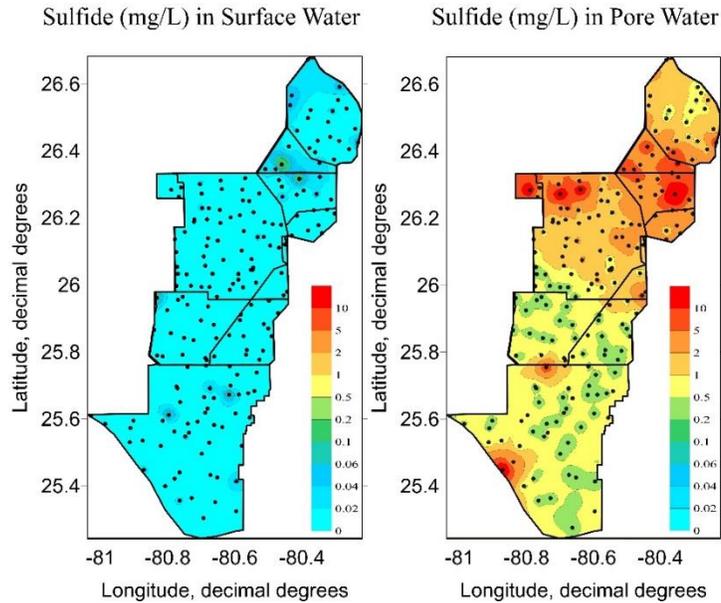
**Figure 4.3** Variations of percentages of Hg species in surface water of Florida Everglades in dry and wet seasons of 2005 at stations where sulfide concentrations were >0.02 mg/L.

Sulfur contamination is a critical water quality issue in the Florida Everglades (174). The major form of sulfur entering the ecosystem is water-soluble sulfate (204). The highest levels of sulfate (60-70 mg/L) were found in canal water within EAA of South Florida (204, 205). In Everglades, the concentration levels of sulfate in 60 % of the freshwater were estimated exceeding background levels and some of them were even more than 60 times higher than the background concentrations (123, 176, 180, 206). The average sulfate concentrations from the contaminated areas decrease along a north-south gradient (207). The major sources of sulfur contamination in South Florida are agricultural fertilizer, soil

amendments, and fungicide used in EAA (both new and original sulfur in the soil) (205). Soil sulfur levels of EAA are considerably higher than those of Everglades. The total sulfur (TS) contents vary from 0.1 to 2.5 % (dry wt. basis) in Everglades (204). The accumulation rates of total sulfur were 11 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/day in northern Everglades and 1.4 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/day in southern Everglades during 1995-2000 (204). The applied sulfur could be leached into canals as sulfate from EAA to the Everglades and spread out over a large area (205, 207). Sulfate then slowly diffuses into soils and stimulates microbial sulfate reduction (MSR) to produce sulfide under anoxic conditions (205). The concentrations of sulfide in Everglades pore water range from <0.1 to 13000 µg/L (180). Sulfide in soil pore water could diffuse or advect back to surface water and then oxidized to sulfate via sulfur oxidizing bacteria (204). Therefore, sulfide was absent in most Everglades except some heavily sulfate-contaminated sites with concentrations up to 0.100 µg/L in surface water during 1994-1995 (180).

Concentrations of sulfate and sulfide were measured in surface water and pore-water during the R-EMAP 2005 investigation (174). In both dry and wet seasons, sulfide concentrations in pore water ranged from 0.02 to 11.65 mg/L with a mean value of 0.82 mg/L and median value of 0.13 mg/L (Fig. 4.4A). Most of the sampling stations with high sulfide concentrations were located up north, in the areas of WCA2 and the north of WCA3, which are downstream of the agricultural region. Sulfide in surface water, ranging from 0.021 to 0.235 with a mean value of 0.046 mg/L and median value of 0.027 mg/L, showed a different distribution pattern mainly in ENP (Fig. 4.4B). Sampling stations with sulfide concentration larger than 0.021 mg/L were scattered through the studied area with more a frequently appearance in not only the north but also the south of the Everglades. As for

sulfate, very similar distribution patterns were observed for both surface and pore-water, decreasing from north to south, which is in good agreement with literature (Fig. 4.5A and 4.5B) (174, 180, 204, 205).

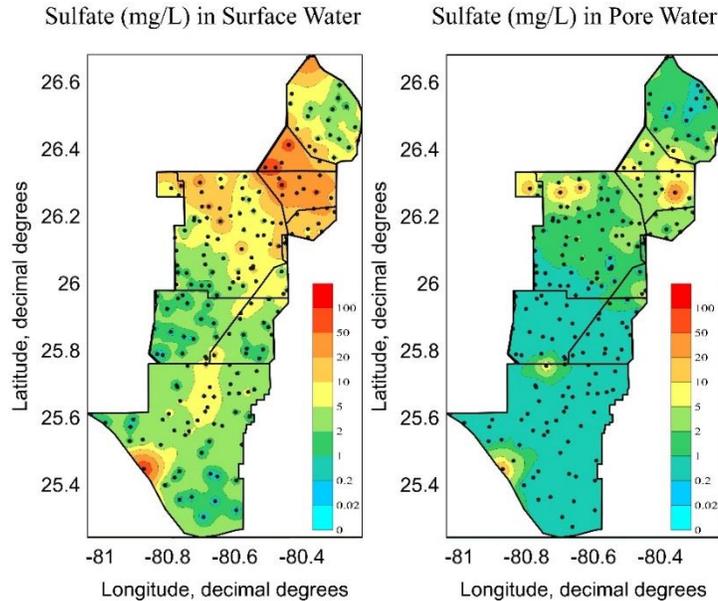


**Figure 4.4** Sulfide concentrations (mg/L) in pore water and surface water from the Florida Everglades during both seasons (please note that the detection limit is 0.02 mg/L).

Sulfur generally occurs in surface water in the oxidized state as sulfate. However, observations of sulfide in surface water at measurable levels has been reported in ocean (e.g., the Atlantic ocean) and fresh water (e.g., the Florida Everglades) systems (123, 127, 180, 208). Elevated concentrations of sulfide were found in WCA 2 and WCA 3 up to 0.1 mg/L by USGS from 22 sites of South Florida as early as 1995 (180). Sulfide concentrations from surface water were also analyzed during R-EMAP phase I and II by USEPA from 1995 to 1999. The highest level of sulfide was from WCA 2 with median concentration of 0.21 mg/L in phase II (123). In this study, the concentrations of sulfide in Everglades surface water were below the detection limit (0.02 mg/L) in most sampling sites (Fig. 4.4). The measurable reduced sulfide was only found in 39 sampling stations in both

seasons in 2005. Sulfide in surface water could result from several sources including the hydrolysis of carbonyl sulfide, the emissions from marine phytoplankton and the MSR from sulfate in soil pore water (180, 205-208). While, the first two sources were always related with ocean and the generally accepted way for sulfide to enter surface water in Everglades was from pore water by diffusion followed by the reduction of sulfate to sulfide in soil pore water as mentioned above (204). The process of MSR was considered to occur only under anoxic conditions, typically in soil/sediment. However, periphyton communities were found to be another types of site for MSR (116). The composition of periphyton communities range from filamentous green mats in eutrophic areas to calcareous mats in not heavily impacted areas (209). The occurrence of sulfide in the Everglades surface water could be associated with these pathways. These pathways may be used to explain the different trends of sulfide concentrations in pore water and surface water in this work. The main difference was the higher average concentrations of sulfide in ENP than those in southern WCA 2 in surface water. Since ENP were less impacted by contaminated runoff from canal than WCA 2 and other northern areas, both sulfide and sulfate from EAA should be shown in similar pattern which is decreasing from northern to southern areas. Obviously, they were, except the trend of sulfide concentration in surface water. This observation could be related to the MSR process happening in surface water in the sites with the presence of periphyton. As MeHg is produced during MSR as a byproduct and the concentrations of MeHg has been thought connected with sulfide and/or sulfate concentrations, it may also be related to the presence of periphyton in surface water. The coexistence of sulfide and dissolved oxygen in surface water has been reported because of the relatively slow oxidation of sulfide to sulfate in oxygen-containing waters through the

activity of various sulfur oxidizing bacteria comparing with MSR in surface water and diffusion of sulfide from pore water (180, 207, 210, 211).



**Figure 4.5** Sulfate concentrations (mg/L) in pore water and surface water from the Florida Everglades during both seasons.

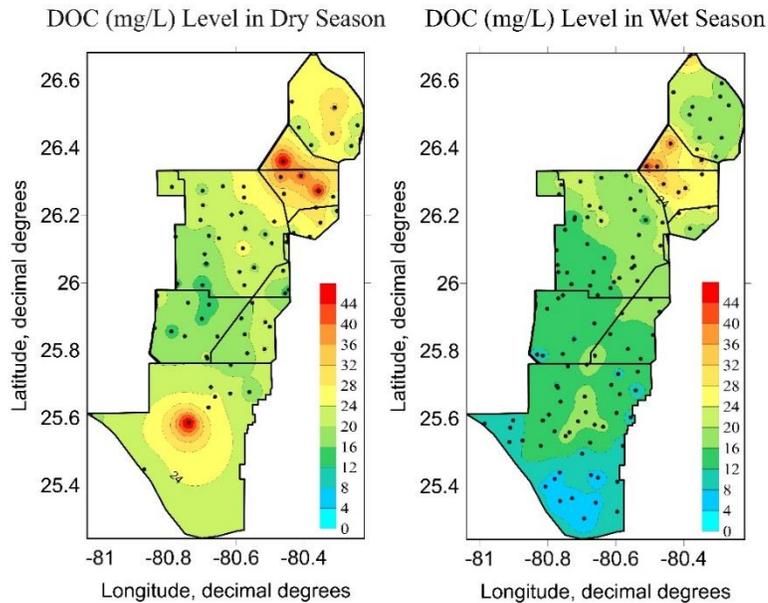
The lack of sulfide data in most sampling areas of the Florida Everglades required the use of estimated sulfide levels for the sampling stations with sulfide concentrations less than detection limit to complete the modeling. The proper sulfide concentrations to be selected should be close to the actual concentrations and cover the distribution of Hg speciation as much as possible in the sampling stations. To reflect the sulfide concentrations in surface water in most areas of Everglades, the determinations of the data from previous work were collected. Since sulfide was usually considered not existing in surface water, not much work was found. As mentioned above, sulfide concentrations were determined by USGS and in phase I & II by EPA. The detection limit of sulfide concentration in phase I & II from EPA was same with this work, while that from USGS

was  $10^{-5}$  mg/L (180). However, dissolved sulfide level was reported even lower than 0.01  $10^{-5}$  mg/L, even absent from surface water in most sampling stations of Everglades except in some heavily-enriched areas by USGS (180, 204). Therefore, the concentrations of sulfide in most areas were narrow down to  $0 - 10^{-5}$  mg/L. In Reddy's work, he suggested that Hg-DOM and Hg-S complex concentrations were equivalent under very low sulfide concentrations (about  $10^{-11}$  M or  $3.2 \times 10^{-7}$  mg/L) in surface water of Everglades by PHREEQC modeling. While about  $10^{-12}$  M ( $3.2 \times 10^{-8}$  mg/L) or less of sulfide was applied, Hg-DOM dominated Hg species; If  $10^{-10}$  M ( $3.2 \times 10^{-6}$  mg/L) or more of sulfide was used, Hg-S occurred primarily (127). Two concentrations of sulfide were finally selected,  $3.2 \times 10^{-7}$  mg/L and  $\ll 3.2 \times 10^{-7}$  mg/L representing the scenarios of virtual non-existence of sulfide and occurrence at a very low level, respectively, to cover situations that only Hg-DOM or both Hg-DOM and Hg-S dominate.

#### **4.4.1.2 The complexes of DOM and inorganic mercury**

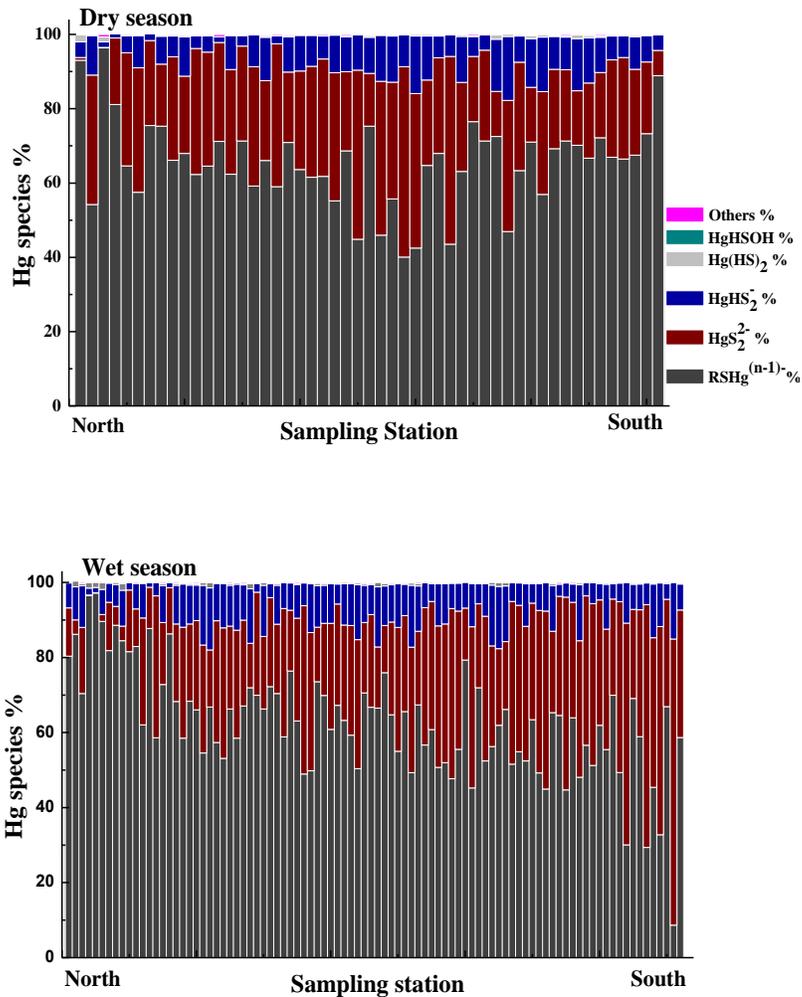
Using  $3.2 \times 10^{-7}$  mg/L as the concentration of sulfide in the sampling stations with low levels of sulfide, the modeling results showed that Hg-DOM complexes represented 40.1 to 96.4 % of surface water total inorganic mercury in the dry season and 8.67 to 97.2 % in the wet season (Fig. 4.7). The Hg-DOM complexes were the dominant Hg species in some areas, while  $\text{HgS}_2^{2-}$  prevailed in other sites. A small fraction of  $\text{HgHS}_2^-$  was also shown in both season, ranging from 1.27 to 26.2 % in dry season and 1.14 to 17.2 % in wet season. From north to south, the percentages of Hg-DOM decreased which relates to the trend of reducing concentrations of dissolved organic carbon (DOC) in the wet season, while in the dry season the concentrations of Hg-DOM increased back to the similar level with the north

area in south. DOC is largely distributed in the Everglades because of the extensively existing peat soils (174).



**Figure 4.6** DOC concentrations (mg/L) in surface water from the Florida Everglades in dry season and wet season.

During 2005, the DOC distribution pattern showed a high seasonality with higher values in the dry than those in the wet season (Fig. 4.6). The lowest concentrations of DOC was found in the area of ENP with a lower organic carbon content of marl soils in the wet season. While the highest concentrations of DOC were found in the areas of WCA 2 in both seasons and central ENP in dry season near arid region. The peat soils from Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) is the most likely source of DOC and the higher concentration of DOC in WCA 2 due to the exportation of stormwater from EAA (174). The trend of Hg-DOM concentrations in surface water in both seasons was also found same with that of Hg from north to south. The existing of Hg and DOM as Hg-DOM complex could be the reason of the significant correlations observed in previous research between Hg and DOM (121).



**Figure 4.7** The percentages of Hg species in surface water of Florida Everglades in dry and wet seasons of 2005 at stations where sulfide concentrations were  $<0.02$  mg/L and assigned  $3.2 \times 10^{-7}$  mg/L.

Another scenario modeled was that the sulfide concentration was set much lower than  $3.2 \times 10^{-7}$  mg/L. In this case, Hg-DOM was the predominant Hg species in both seasons accounting for nearly 100% of total Hg. Under this condition, concentrations of Hg-DOM are almost same with those of total Hg in surface water. This result suggests that, in the Everglades which is an organic-rich wetland (with surface water DOC averaging around  $\sim 20$  mg/L and even higher than 50 mg/L in many areas), such inorganic ligands as chloride,

hydroxyl group, and sulfate would play a minor role in determining Hg species, in comparison to DOM. In the model, the speciation calculation of Hg-DOM was based on the binding constant between Hg and -HS group, rather than -COOH, within DOM. This treatment was based on the following considerations: 1) it is unlikely that surface water DOM contains no -HS group, even under the oxidized condition, since natural water DOM is usually known for containing both oxidizing and reducing moieties due to structural complexity; and 2) Hg is present at extremely low concentrations in Everglades surface water (averaging 2 ng/L) and the presence of even very low levels of -HS group within DOM should be sufficiently high for binding Hg. In fact, the prevalence of Hg-DOM in Everglades water and the ubiquitous presence of DOM-bound Hg in various natural waters in general suggest that this treatment is reasonable and the modeling results are valid.

Therefore, the concentrations of sulfide and DOM control the speciation distribution of mercury in the surface water of sampled sites in the Florida Everglades. The Hg-S complexes occur primarily in the areas with measurable sulfide, while the concentrations of Hg-DOM and Hg-S complexes are comparable under the condition of very low sulfide ions concentrations around  $3.2 \times 10^{-7}$  mg/L, then Hg-DOM complexes are the major species in the absence of sulfide if considering -HS as the Hg binding site of DOM. The distribution of different Hg-S specifically  $\text{HgS}_2^{2-}$ ,  $\text{HgHS}_2^-$ , and  $\text{Hg}(\text{HS})_2$  was affected by pH as fig. 4.3 shows. In the areas with pH elevated from 6.5 to 8, concentrations of  $\text{HgS}_2^{2-}$  increase and the other two species decrease. The concentrations of  $\text{HgHSO}_2^-$  were extremely low because of the lower binding constant than those for the other three Hg-S species. The distribution of Hg-DOM is strongly associated with this trend of Hg and DOC in surface water with the presence of sulfide concentrations  $3.2 \times 10^{-7}$  mg/L in both seasons ( $r=0.99$ ,

$p < 0.001$ ;  $0.43$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ). Significant correlation was also found between Hg and DOC in all sampling stations ( $r = 0.45$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ). For the condition without the presence of sulfide and reduced -HS in DOM, pH and concentrations of halogen would become primary factors. Some of these results were verified by Reddy's work published in 2001 (127). They use PHREEQC to model the competition of Hg with negatively charged functional groups of fulvic acid and sulfide in Everglades. The fulvic acid and sulfide-bound inorganic mercury fractions were found as the function of sulfide concentration in WCA 3. Hg-FA dominates Hg species with the concentrations of sulfide from  $10^{-13}$ - $10^{-11}$  mol/L and Hg-S dominates when sulfide concentration was higher than  $10^{-11}$  mol/L. Their modeling results match this work perfectly.

#### **4.4.2 Inorganic Hg species in surface water and MeHg in different media**

Dissolved inorganic Hg is the source of MeHg and the methylation of mercury is strongly determined by the mercury species existing in aquatic systems (90, 92, 93, 212). The widely accepted mediators of methylation are sulfate- and iron-reducing bacteria (SRB and IRB) (52, 213, 214). The synthesis of MeHg is very complex and influenced by many environmental factors, one of which is the concentration of bioavailable Hg rather than total inorganic Hg in aquatic system (84, 92, 215). The presence of sulfide and DOM was found to affect the formation of MeHg by controlling Hg speciation (52, 212, 216, 217). Therefore, Hg speciation could actually control the methylation, bioaccumulation, and consequently the cycling of Hg (52, 218).

The correlation between Hg species and MeHg could indicate the uptake of inorganic species by Hg methylating bacteria. As the key Hg-methylating organisms in most aquatic systems, SRB present widely in aquatic ecosystems (35, 213). As obligate anaerobes, SRB

could obtain energy for growing through the oxidation of organic substrates. They use sulfate as the terminal electron acceptor to reduce sulfate to sulfide (219). Sulfate reduction process is linked to Hg methylation and the methylation can occur via the enzymatic transfer of methyl group from methylcobalamin (a vitamin B<sub>12</sub> derivative, also called methylcorrinoid) to inorganic Hg ions inside SRB accidentally (220, 221). The uptake pathways of Hg by SRB have been proposed by many researchers, however, the mechanism is still not fully understood.

In this work, I focused on the correlation between inorganic Hg species in surface water and MeHg in different environmental media to evaluate the role of Hg speciation distribution on Hg methylation. Since not all geochemical parameters were obtained from pore water near sediments where the methylation happens, I explored the correlation between Hg species and MeHg in surface water instead of that in pore water with the assumption that the distribution patterns of Hg speciation in surface water, mainly as Hg-DOM and Hg-S complexes, were similar with those in pore water in most areas of Florida Everglades. This assumption should be valid, as the important ligands such as sulfide and DOM are mainly transferred from pore water to surface water by diffusion or advection(204). This statement could be confirmed by the significant correlation between DOM in surface water and pore water ( $r_s=0.69$ ,  $p<0.001$ ,  $N=189$ ). Although for some sampling sites with higher concentrations of sulfide in surface water, they were not the “hot spot” areas for sulfide in pore water (Fig. 4.4). This observation could be because of another way that MSR occurred in ether floating mat or epiphytic periphyton to produced sulfide and then diffused to surface water(79). These sampling sites with unusual higher concentrations of sulfide in surface water than those in pore water were mostly located at

ENP. Epiphytic periphyton could not be found in many sites, however, they were collected in these stations as predicted.

Spearman's rank correlation coefficient ( $r_s$ ) were obtained by evaluating the correlation between primary Hg species in surface water and MeHg present in different media, including in periphyton (floating mat and epiphytic), floc, soil, fish, and surface water of the Everglades in both seasons. In the areas with measurable sulfide ( $> 0.02$  mg/L),  $\text{HgS}_2^{2-}$  and  $\text{HgHS}_2^-$  are dominant species in surface water. In wet season, significant correlation was observed between  $\text{HgS}_2^{2-}$  and MeHg in surface water ( $r_s = 0.53$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ,  $N = 21$ ). While in dry season, significant correlations were found between  $\text{HgS}_2^{2-}$  and MeHg in surface water ( $r_s = 0.88$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ,  $N = 18$ );  $\text{HgS}_2^{2-}$  and MeHg in epiphytic periphyton ( $r_s = 0.9$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ,  $N = 5$ );  $\text{HgS}_2^{2-}$  and MeHg in floc ( $r_s = 0.50$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ,  $N = 16$ );  $\text{HgHS}_2^-$  and MeHg in epiphytic periphyton ( $r_s = 0.9$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ,  $N = 5$ ). Hg species  $\text{HgHS}_2^-$  and  $\text{Hg}(\text{HS})_2$  in surface water had significant correlation with MeHg in the soil ( $r_s = 0.67$ ,  $p < 0.01$ ,  $N = 18$ ,  $r_s = 0.72$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ,  $N = 18$ , respectively). However, when we check the relationships between these each data pair,  $\text{Hg}(\text{HS})_2$  concentrations of some samples located at LNWR were found extremely high which leads to the distorting of dataset. If they are removed, no more correlation would still exist. Therefore, there is actually no significant correlation between concentrations of  $\text{Hg}(\text{HS})_2$  in surface water and MeHg in soil. Significant correlations are mostly between Hg-S and MeHg in surface water, in epiphytic periphyton, and in floc. These media are all related to the activity of sulfate reduction bacteria in surface water where were proposed to happen (79).

**Table 4.3** Spearman's correlation matrix - coefficients between concentrations of Hg species and methylmercury in various ecosystem compartments in dry and wet seasons with measurable sulfide.

MeHg	Surface water					
	HgS <sub>2</sub> <sup>2-</sup>		HgHS <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>		Hg(HS) <sub>2</sub>	
	Dry	Wet	Dry	Wet	Dry	Wet
<b>Surface water</b>	0.88** (18)	0.39 (21)	0.08 (18)	0.53** (21)	-0.37 (18)	0.42 (21)
<b>Epiphytic periphyton</b>	0.9* (5)	0.11 (11)	0.9* (5)	0.32 (11)	-0.3 (5)	0.28 (11)
<b>Floc</b>	0.50* (16)	-0.10 (17)	0.18 (16)	0.42 (17)	0.01 (16)	0.45 (17)
<b>Soil</b>	-0.22 (18)	0.13 (21)	0.67** (18)	0.20 (21)	0.72** (18)	0.21 (21)

\*\* indicates significant correlations at  $p < 0.001$  level; \* indicates significant correlations at  $p < 0.05$  level

In the areas with sulfide concentrations lower than measurable sulfide, sulfide concentration was assigned as  $3.2 \times 10^{-7}$  mg/L. Hg-DOM and Hg-S complexes, including RSHg<sup>(n-1)-</sup>, HgS<sub>2</sub><sup>2-</sup>, HgHS<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, and Hg(HS)<sub>2</sub> were major Hg species. In wet season, all Hg species including RSHg<sup>(n-1)-</sup>, HgS<sub>2</sub><sup>2-</sup>, HgHS<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> and Hg(HS)<sub>2</sub> have significant correlation with MeHg in soil ( $r_s=0.30$ ,  $p<0.001$ ,  $N=91$ ;  $r_s=0.36$ ,  $p<0.001$ ,  $N=91$ ,  $r_s=0.24$ ,  $p<0.05$ ,  $N=91$ ;  $r_s=0.30$ ,  $p<0.001$ ,  $N=91$ ). Significant correlations were also found between HgHS<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> and MeHg in surface water ( $r_s=0.21$ ,  $p<0.05$ ,  $N=92$ ); Hg(HS)<sub>2</sub> and MeHg in floc ( $r_s=0.26$ ,  $p<0.05$ ,  $N=71$ ); RSHg<sup>(n-1)-</sup> and MeHg in surface water ( $r_s = 0.48$ ,  $P < 0.001$ ,  $N = 92$ ), MeHg in soil ( $r_s=0.30$ ,  $p<0.001$ ,  $N=91$ ), and MeHg in epiphytic periphyton ( $r_s=0.40$ ,  $p<0.001$ ,  $N=64$ ). In dry season, RSHg<sup>(n-1)-</sup> has significant correlation with MeHg in surface water ( $r_s=0.41$ ,  $p<0.001$ ,  $N=51$ ). Under this circumstance, all Hg species were found have significant correlation with MeHg in soil which reflect the methylation via sulfate reducing bacteria in soil pore water. The high percentages species RSHg<sup>(n-1)-</sup> has significant correlation with MeHg in periphyton, floc, and soil.

**Table 4.4** Spearman's correlation matrix - coefficients and sample numbers between concentrations of Hg species in surface water and MeHg in various ecosystem compartments in both seasons ( $[S^{2-}] = 3.2 \times 10^{-7}$  mg/L).

MeHg	Surface water							
	HgS <sub>2</sub> <sup>2-</sup>		HgHS <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>		Hg(HS) <sub>2</sub>		RSHg <sup>(n-1)-</sup>	
	Dry	Wet	Dry	Wet	Dry	Wet	Dry	Wet
<b>Surface water</b>	0.27 (51)	-0.12 (92)	-0.12 (51)	0.21* (92)	-0.18 (51)	0.20 (92)	0.41** (51)	0.48** (92)
<b>Floating mat periphyton</b>	0.09 (6)	-0.10 (16)	-0.26 (6)	0.21 (16)	-0.26 (6)	0.15 (16)	0.09 (6)	0.48 (16)
<b>Epiphytic periphyton</b>	0.34 (17)	-0.12 (64)	-0.34 (17)	0.24 (64)	-0.35 (17)	0.22 (64)	0.34 (17)	0.40** (64)
<b>Floc</b>	0.26 (50)	-0.25 (71)	-0.27 (50)	0.15 (71)	-0.23 (50)	0.27* (71)	0.19 (50)	0.26* (71)
<b>Soil</b>	0.07 (51)	0.30** (91)	-0.20 (51)	0.24* (91)	-0.01 (51)	0.36** (91)	0.31* (51)	0.30** (91)

\*\* indicates significant correlations at  $p < 0.001$  level; \* indicates significant correlations at  $p < 0.05$  level

In the scenario where sulfide concentration was assigned much lower than  $3.2 \times 10^{-7}$  mg/L to represent the situation with extremely low concentrations of sulfide in surface water, Hg-DOM complexes, specifically RSHg<sup>(n-1)-</sup>, dominated Hg speciation. In both season, significant correlations were observed between RSHg<sup>(n-1)-</sup> and MeHg in surface water (dry season:  $r_s=0.45$ ,  $P<0.001$ ,  $N=51$ ; wet season:  $r_s=0.46$ ,  $P<0.001$ ,  $N=92$ ) or MeHg in soil (dry season:  $r_s=0.31$ ,  $P<0.05$ ,  $N=51$ ; wet season:  $r_s=0.26$ ,  $P<0.05$ ,  $N=92$ ). In wet season, significant correlation was found between RSHg<sup>(n-1)-</sup> and MeHg in floating mat and epiphytic periphyton, suggesting that RSHg<sup>(n-1)-</sup> is an inorganic Hg species that could be related to MeHg production. It is worth noting that significant correlations were observed between total Hg and DOC and between total Hg and MeHg in surface water of the Everglades (121). As a consequence, the correlations between RSHg<sup>(n-1)-</sup> species and MeHg in water, soil, or periphyton might be unable to reflect the actual causal effect of RSHg<sup>(n-1)-</sup> on MeHg production, since RSHg<sup>(n-1)-</sup> was the predominant species of inorganic Hg formed through complexation with DOM that could be used as a surrogate for THg.

**Table 4.5** Spearman's correlation matrix - coefficients and sample numbers between concentrations of Hg species and MeHg in various ecosystem compartments in both seasons ( $[S^{2-}] < 3.2 \times 10^{-7}$  mg/L).

MeHg	RSHg <sup>(n-1)</sup> in surface water	
	Dry	Wet
Surface water	0.45** (51)	0.46** (92)
Floating mat periphyton	-0.14 (6)	0.51* (16)
Epiphytic periphyton	0.34 (17)	0.37** (64)
Floc	0.23 (50)	0.23 (71)
Soil	0.31* (51)	0.26* (91)

\*\* indicates significant correlations at  $p < 0.001$  level; \* indicates significant correlations at  $p < 0.05$  level

To summarize the relationship between Hg speciation and MeHg in environmental matrices, the results here suggest that in the sites with measurable sulfide where Hg-S complexes, mostly  $HgS_2^{2-}$ ,  $HgHS_2^-$ ,  $Hg(HS)_2$ , are major Hg species, negatively charged Hg-S species show significant correlation with MeHg in periphyton, floc and surface water. In the sampling stations with an assigned sulfide level of  $3.2 \times 10^{-7}$  mg/L (where lower than 0.02 mg/L detection limit was reported), all major Hg-S species have significant correlations with methylmercury in soil and Hg-DOM shows significant correlation with MeHg in surface water, periphyton, floc, and soil. In the sampling stations with sulfide concentrations much lower than  $3.2 \times 10^{-7}$  mg/L, significant correlations were found between Hg-DOM and MeHg in surface water, periphyton, and soil. This may indicate that both major Hg-S and Hg-DOM complexes can be taken up by Hg methylators such as SRB and IRB in periphyton, floc, and soil. For different species of Hg-S, no preference was observed for being taken up, probably because of the existence of multiple uptake pathways of Hg species by microbes (see discussion below).

Some researchers consider passive diffusion of neutral Hg(II) species as the uptake pathway of Hg by SRB cells through external membranes (92). Diffusion rather than active transport tends to occur because methylation process is an accidental side reaction. This speculation was also supported by the studies of the diffusion of neutral Hg species ( $\text{HgCl}_2^0$ ) across artificial membranes and diatoms by Mason's group (222, 223). During these experiments, Hg species calculated by MINEQL were controlled by adjusting the chloride concentration and pH. The uptake rate of Hg(II) appeared to decrease with the lower concentration of  $\text{HgCl}_2$  in their experimental media. The octanol-water partitioning coefficient of neutral Hg species was also shown in proportion to the permeability of Hg to cell membranes (223). Barkay observed that negatively charged Hg species  $\text{HgCl}_3^-$  and  $\text{HgCl}_4^{2-}$  induced less light production than neutral form  $\text{HgCl}_2$  by using *Escherichia coli* HMS174(pRB28) as an indicator. This observation indicated that negatively charged species reduced their bioavailability to bacteria by reaching the bacteria cytoplasm (91). Another evidence is that under sulfidic conditions, correlation was found between  $\text{HgS}^0$  species in pore water and MeHg in sediment in Florida Everglades and Patuxent River by Benoit by using a model constructed (52). Their group suggested that the  $\text{HgS}^0$  is the dominant neutral dissolved complex in sulfidic sediments which was also confirmed by the model. Speciation were calculated by the MINEQL<sup>+</sup> program (52).

Other researchers suggested that Hg species could be taken up by bacteria via facilitated transport. Schaefer suggested that  $\delta$ -proteobacterium *Geobacter sulfurreducens* may take up Hg by transport of Hg and specific thiols and/or sulfide complexes to cells, rather than diffusion of neutral species by cell membranes (224). The formation of Hg-cysteine complex promotes the uptake of Hg by SRB and this process occurs via a cysteine

transporter (224). Several experiments were conducted by Golding to evaluate how the Hg species affect the uptake of them by bacteria *Vibrio anguillarum* and *Escherichia coli* (93). Hg species  $\text{Hg}(\text{OH})_2$ ,  $\text{Hg}(\text{NH}_3)_2^{2+}$ ,  $\text{HgCl}_2$ ,  $\text{HgOHCl}$  were all observed occupying high percentages of Hg species taken up and methylated by bacteria without discrimination which coincide with the proposed uptake way that it was kinetically controlled facilitated uptake by Hudson (93).  $\text{Hg}(\text{II})$  has stronger affinity with transport ligand and faster rate to entry the cell than that with extracellular complex. Hence, the uptake of  $\text{Hg}(\text{II})$  under anaerobic conditions were proportional to the abundance of total concentration of Hg. This observation was also observed between the concentration of Hg and MeHg in surface water in the Florida Everglades in my work ( $r_s = 0.50$ ,  $P < 0.001$ ,  $N=182$ ). In Golding's work, low molecule organic acid was also found enhance the uptake of  $\text{Hg}(\text{II})$  by bacteria. Facilitated transport requires transport agent, no energy is needed. However, Schaefer demonstrated that  $\text{Hg}(\text{II})$  uptake occurs by active transport which is energy dependent, through an electrogenic or ATP-driven mechanism to the cells of *G. sulfurreducens* (90). His results doubt the point of view that  $\text{Hg}(\text{II})$  uptake by bacteria is an accident and bring up that the process may be specific for  $\text{Hg}(\text{II})$  via some essential metal importer (90).

According to the Spearman correlation analysis results in this work, major Hg-S species and Hg-DOM may be taken up by bacteria. The uptake pathways could be related to active transport, passive transport, and facilitated transport. Many factors can affect the uptake process including the type of bacteria and the methylation location. In addition to SRB, IRB was also confirmed as an important type of bacteria to methylate Hg. Even for the same type of bacteria, various specific bacteria strains could take up Hg for methylation in different media and locations. Therefore, it is possible that a variety of Hg species could

be taken up by bacteria in Everglades, since multiple inorganic Hg species were related to MeHg in the environmental matrices.

#### **4.4.3 The influences of distribution of Hg species on bioavailability and bioaccumulation**

Spearman correlation analysis was also applied between Hg species in surface water and MeHg in fish to estimate the role of Hg speciation distribution in MeHg bioaccumulation. The results were shown in Table 4.6. No significant correlation was found between Hg species and MeHg in fish. Therefore, the distribution of inorganic Hg species in surface water alone could not be used to estimate the bioaccumulation of MeHg. The result is not unexpected, as MeHg bioaccumulation is an extremely complicated process involving not only Hg methylation processes, but also MeHg bioaccumulation through the food web. The methylation of Hg(II) could happen in sediment, soil, water body including fresh water and marine, and periphyton (10). In the Everglades, the relative MeHg (MeHg to THg ratios) concentrations were found highest in water, then periphyton, followed by floc and soil in Everglades by Liu et al.(121). After methylation, MeHg could be released from these environmental matrices to water column and re-distributed among these compartments (121). MeHg in these ecosystem compartments could enter the food web and then be transferred to mosquitofish or taken up directly by mosquitofish. MeHg in periphyton and floc may be particularly important with respect of Hg bioaccumulation, since periphyton could serve as a primary food source for small fishes, while floc acts as an active medium on the top layer of soil preventing MeHg deposition into soil to make MeHg more mobile and bioavailable (121). All these processes affect MeHg bioaccumulation, and thus the distribution of inorganic Hg species in surface water, albeit

possibly correlated to MeHg production in periphyton, floc, and soil, could probably not a good indicator for estimating the bioaccumulation of MeHg.

**Table 4.6** Spearman's correlation matrix - coefficients and sample numbers between concentrations of Hg species in surface water and MeHg in fish in both seasons.

Sulfide concentrations	Hg species in surface water	MeHg in fish	
		Dry season	Wet season
[S] > 0.02 mg/L	HgS <sub>2</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	0.47 (16)	0.11 (20)
	HgHS <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	-0.16 (16)	-0.14 (20)
	Hg(HS) <sub>2</sub>	-0.29 (16)	-0.21 (20)
[S] = 3.2×10 <sup>-7</sup> mg/L	RSHg <sup>(n-1)-</sup>	0.06 (39)	0.15 (85)
	HgS <sub>2</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	0.02 (39)	-0.02 (85)
	HgHS <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	0.18 (39)	0.14 (85)
	Hg(HS) <sub>2</sub>	0.06 (39)	0.06 (85)
[S] << 3.2×10 <sup>-7</sup> mg/L	RSHg <sup>(n-1)-</sup>	0.08 (39)	0.17 (85)

#### 4.5 Conclusions

Geochemical modeling results of Hg speciation in surface water suggest that sulfide and DOM are important factors that regulate inorganic Hg speciation, the bioavailability of inorganic Hg species for Hg methylation, and the bioaccumulation of MeHg in the Florida Everglades. In the sampling stations with measurable concentrations of sulfide (> 0.02 mg/L), Hg-S species dominate Hg species, occurring with the highest concentration of HgS<sub>2</sub><sup>2-</sup> followed by HgHS<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> and Hg(HS)<sub>2</sub> in most areas, except for some sites in LNWR where the percentages of HgHS<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> and Hg(HS)<sub>2</sub> are higher than those of HgS<sub>2</sub><sup>2-</sup>. The distribution of these Hg-S species is affected by pH, among other factors. In the sampling stations with low concentrations of sulfide (< 0.02 mg/L), when a sulfide concentration of 3.2×10<sup>-7</sup> mg/L was assigned to represent the scenario of the presence of very low sulfide in natural waters, both Hg-DOM and Hg-S exist, and both of them are major Hg species.

In some stations, percentages of Hg-DOM were higher than 50%, while the percentages were not completely dependent on the concentrations of DOC, with other environmental factors playing a role as well. In the areas where concentrations of sulfide were reported below 0.02 mg/L and assigned much lower than  $3.2 \times 10^{-7}$  mg/L, Hg-DOM occurs as the predominant Hg species, accounting for almost 100% of all Hg species. Under different circumstances of these three scenarios, the major significant correlations could be observed between Hg-S Hg species or Hg-DOM complex and MeHg in environmental media, although with a few exceptions. These results suggest that these Hg species could be taken up by bacteria via passive, active, and facilitated transport for Hg methylatoin, and that multiple Hg species being bioavailable, depending on specific environmental and ecological conditions, could be related to the existence of multiple pathways for Hg uptake. No significant correlation was found between Hg species in surface water and MeHg in fish, which suggests that inorganic Hg species distribution in surface water alone is not an accurate way to assess Hg bioaccumulation in fish because of the complexity of Hg methylation, distribution of MeHg, and sources and pathways of MeHg during Hg bioaccumulation.

## Chapter 5. Summary and Future work

### 5.1 Summary

An isotope tracer based method was developed to investigate both dissolution and re-adsorption of Hg during the course of cinnabar dissolution in Chapter 2 of this dissertation. It was found that the released Hg for trials purged with oxygen could reach several hundred  $\mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ , while no significant cinnabar dissolution was detected under anaerobic conditions. The cinnabar dissolution rate when considering Hg re-adsorption was approximately two times the value calculated solely with the Hg detected in the aqueous phase. These results suggest that ignoring the Hg re-adsorption process can significantly underestimate the importance of cinnabar dissolution, highlighting the necessity of applying the developed method in future cinnabar dissolution studies.

Various organic ligands exist extensively in natural aquatic systems, and mercury could bind with these ligands, particularly thiol-containing moieties in dissolved organic matter (DOM). Several processes have been proposed with respect to the interaction of DOM with cinnabar which could inhibit or enhance cinnabar dissolution. During these processes, the roles played by these thiol-containing organic ligands and re-adsorption of released Hg, particularly through complexation with Hg, are still not clear. Using L-cysteine (Cys) as a model compound for low molecular weight (LMW) thiol-containing ligands and Waskish fulvic acid (FA) for natural DOM, the complexation of Hg with these ligands and the role of Hg-ligand complexation in cinnabar dissolution and Hg(II) re-adsorption were investigated. Hg-Cys shows lower adsorption capacity than that of unbound dissolved Hg on cinnabar surface. Therefore, the presence of L-cysteine during cinnabar dissolution would form complex with the released Hg, thus enhancing cinnabar dissolution through

the decreased re-adsorption of Hg-Cys complex. The Waskish FA used in this work did not enhance but instead showed inhibiting effect on cinnabar dissolution, possibly because of the adsorption of FA on cinnabar surface that might be able to cover dissolution sites on the cinnabar surface.

In chapter 4, the distribution of inorganic Hg species in surface water throughout the entire Everglades was determined by applying geochemical model PHREEQC to different R-EMAP sampling sites. The patterns of inorganic Hg species distribution were related to MeHg levels in environmental matrices to examine how inorganic Hg species potentially affect the production and fate of MeHg, and then further related to fish Hg levels to explore the relationship between inorganic Hg speciation, MeHg production, and Hg bioaccumulation. It was found that Sulfur and DOM are important factors to regulate Hg speciation in the surface water of Florida Everglades. The distribution of Hg-S was controlled by pH. Through statistical analysis, the major significant correlations were observed between all Hg species and MeHg in all media which reflect that these Hg species could be uptaken by bacteria via passive, active, and facilitated transport. No significant correlation was found between Hg species and MeHg in fish which suggests that Hg species distribution is not a way to assess bioaccumulation in fish or other organism because of the multi sources of MeHg and pathways for organism to take up.

## **5.2 Future work**

This dissertation investigated the role of Waskish FA in cinnabar dissolution in chapter 3. Contrary results comparing with other studies suggest that the role of DOM during cinnabar dissolution is rather complicated and could be determined by the structure and properties of DOM and specific environmental conditions. Although it is known through

this work that Waskish FA affects cinnabar dissolution by covering dissolution sites on cinnabar surface to inhibit cinnabar dissolution. But large remains unclear about under what conditions what types (or fractions) of DOM could be adsorbed onto cinnabar surface and how they are adsorbed. In future work, more work will be focused on the characterization of properties of Waskish FA and other DOM fractions which enhance cinnabar dissolution. The properties and roles in cinnabar dissolution of DOM fractions will then be compared to investigate the connection between them.

In Everglades, no directly connection was found between inorganic Hg species and MeHg in fish. As bioaccumulation of MeHg in fish involves several food sources including water, soil, floc, and periphyton and complicated food chains. In future work, a model is expected to be built to evaluate the contribution of each factor on bioaccumulation of MeHg in fish by combining the preference uptake of MeHg species by organisms, the contribute of each food source for organisms, and the transfer of food through food chain.

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## Appendices

Appendices show the distribution of Hg speciation calculated by PHREEQC modeling from surface water of the Florida Everglades in dry (spring) and wet (fall) seasons in 2005.

**Table A1** Concentrations of Hg species in surface water of Everglades in spring 2005 ( $[S^{2-}] > 0.02$  mg/L)

Station	Hg mol/L	HgS <sub>2</sub> <sup>2-</sup> mol/L	HgHS <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> mol/L	Hg(HS) <sub>2</sub> mol/L	HgHSOH mol/L	RSHg <sup>(n-1)-</sup> mol/L	HgCl <sub>2</sub> mol/L
12	1.45E-11	1.20E-11	2.39E-12	4.43E-14	1.70E-21	1.94E-22	3.44E-29
35	9.97E-12	8.04E-12	1.90E-12	3.48E-14	2.81E-22	5.42E-24	4.19E-33
40	1.70E-11	1.11E-11	5.67E-12	2.23E-13	2.30E-21	1.15E-22	9.01E-32
64	8.97E-12	4.28E-12	4.36E-12	3.36E-13	1.18E-21	4.49E-23	3.43E-32
72	6.48E-12	4.67E-12	1.76E-12	5.10E-14	1.22E-21	1.16E-22	1.29E-31
74	5.98E-12	4.57E-12	1.38E-12	3.23E-14	7.99E-22	5.28E-23	4.48E-32
76	1.15E-11	8.88E-12	2.53E-12	5.48E-14	1.73E-21	1.17E-22	5.20E-32
86	1.15E-11	8.20E-12	3.17E-12	9.42E-14	2.83E-21	2.53E-22	2.88E-31
96	1.10E-11	9.24E-12	1.70E-12	2.49E-14	1.39E-21	2.16E-22	2.56E-31
97	3.09E-11	2.28E-11	7.91E-12	2.14E-13	3.71E-21	2.59E-22	2.43E-31
100	1.30E-11	1.05E-11	2.43E-12	4.48E-14	1.31E-21	1.34E-22	1.66E-31
102	1.40E-11	1.04E-11	3.48E-12	9.55E-14	2.72E-21	6.59E-22	1.90E-30
110	3.49E-11	3.16E-11	3.28E-12	2.78E-14	2.31E-22	5.12E-24	6.31E-33
117	2.54E-11	2.34E-13	7.43E-12	1.78E-11	1.67E-19	7.16E-19	7.12E-27
118	1.65E-11	9.33E-12	6.75E-12	3.74E-13	7.93E-21	1.10E-21	1.39E-30
120	3.29E-11	9.97E-13	1.49E-11	1.70E-11	1.43E-19	2.65E-19	3.03E-27
121	7.98E-12	3.34E-12	4.23E-12	4.08E-13	2.68E-21	2.49E-22	3.67E-31
350	2.24E-11	1.96E-11	2.78E-12	3.20E-14	3.38E-22	1.10E-23	2.40E-32

Table A1 (Cont.)

Station	HgBrCl mol/L	HgCl <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> mol/L	HgClOH mol/L	Hg(OH) <sub>2</sub> mol/L	HgBr <sub>2</sub> mol/L	HgBrOH mol/L	HgCl <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> mol/L
12	3.21E-29	8.52E-30	3.37E-30	1.70E-30	1.31E-30	1.12E-30	8.84E-31
35	2.28E-33	6.23E-35	8.22E-33	5.94E-32	8.25E-35	1.34E-33	3.21E-37
40	6.22E-32	8.93E-34	1.62E-31	6.22E-31	5.61E-33	2.55E-32	3.04E-36
64	2.87E-32	2.55E-34	3.31E-32	1.09E-31	1.75E-33	8.01E-33	6.43E-37
72	5.56E-32	1.85E-33	2.03E-31	7.70E-31	2.71E-33	2.12E-32	9.25E-36
74	3.26E-32	5.75E-34	7.69E-32	5.17E-31	1.46E-33	1.73E-32	2.58E-36
76	3.59E-32	4.69E-34	1.58E-31	1.43E-30	2.16E-33	2.94E-32	1.44E-36
86	1.73E-31	3.56E-33	3.84E-31	2.22E-30	5.71E-33	7.52E-32	1.52E-35
96	1.54E-31	6.35E-33	3.40E-31	2.03E-30	4.83E-33	6.80E-32	5.60E-35
97	2.63E-31	3.51E-33	4.73E-31	1.68E-30	4.47E-32	1.08E-31	1.76E-35
100	6.41E-32	3.73E-33	2.17E-31	1.00E-30	1.74E-33	2.47E-32	3.00E-35

<b>102</b>	4.59E-31	6.84E-32	1.10E-30	2.03E-30	8.82E-33	7.42E-32	9.07E-34
<b>110</b>	4.87E-33	2.70E-34	1.00E-32	5.00E-32	3.05E-34	2.14E-33	4.25E-36
<b>117</b>	7.87E-27	4.01E-29	2.14E-28	4.12E-29	2.91E-28	9.34E-29	7.61E-32
<b>118</b>	8.33E-31	1.44E-32	1.19E-30	4.40E-30	2.71E-32	2.32E-31	5.12E-35
<b>120</b>	2.14E-27	2.66E-29	1.63E-28	3.17E-29	1.04E-28	3.43E-29	7.95E-32
<b>121</b>	2.41E-31	3.47E-33	2.73E-31	4.60E-31	1.93E-32	4.22E-32	1.12E-35
<b>350</b>	1.56E-32	1.08E-33	3.07E-32	9.33E-32	1.15E-33	4.80E-33	1.77E-35

Table A1 (Cont.)

<b>Station</b>	<b>HgBr<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup></b> mol/L	<b>HgBr<sup>+</sup></b> mol/L	<b>HgCl<sup>+</sup></b> mol/L	<b>HgOH<sup>+</sup></b> mol/L	<b>HgBr<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup></b> mol/L	<b>Hg(OH)<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup></b> mol/L	<b>Hg<sup>2+</sup></b> mol/L
<b>12</b>	1.32E-32	9.00E-34	6.22E-34	3.97E-35	1.51E-35	4.75E-38	5.30E-39
<b>35</b>	1.92E-38	8.71E-37	1.03E-36	1.11E-36	0.00E+00	1.68E-39	1.15E-40
<b>40</b>	5.61E-37	3.53E-35	3.29E-35	2.48E-35	0.00E+00	8.19E-39	6.90E-39
<b>64</b>	2.85E-37	2.14E-35	1.65E-35	8.45E-36	0.00E+00	7.34E-40	3.65E-39
<b>72</b>	2.85E-37	2.18E-35	3.26E-35	2.28E-35	0.00E+00	1.37E-38	4.52E-39
<b>74</b>	4.22E-37	1.45E-35	1.29E-35	1.25E-35	0.00E+00	1.14E-38	1.65E-39
<b>76</b>	2.95E-37	2.22E-35	2.08E-35	3.12E-35	0.00E+00	3.41E-38	4.08E-39
<b>86</b>	1.49E-36	7.90E-35	8.45E-35	6.73E-35	0.00E+00	3.86E-38	1.05E-38
<b>96</b>	2.66E-36	3.64E-35	3.89E-35	3.15E-35	1.67E-40	7.18E-38	2.53E-39
<b>97</b>	8.42E-36	1.04E-34	6.20E-35	4.68E-35	5.38E-40	3.22E-38	9.83E-39
<b>100</b>	4.12E-37	1.66E-35	2.77E-35	1.96E-35	0.00E+00	2.82E-38	2.20E-39
<b>102</b>	1.85E-36	7.69E-35	2.05E-34	6.07E-35	0.00E+00	3.82E-38	1.14E-38
<b>110</b>	2.37E-37	6.85E-37	5.73E-37	4.62E-37	0.00E+00	3.04E-39	0.00E+00
<b>117</b>	1.03E-31	7.70E-30	4.50E-30	9.80E-32	2.56E-36	8.91E-39	9.80E-34
<b>118</b>	5.94E-36	4.52E-34	4.85E-34	2.48E-34	1.50E-40	4.10E-38	7.11E-38
<b>120</b>	1.80E-32	1.36E-30	1.24E-30	3.63E-32	4.51E-37	1.44E-38	2.28E-34
<b>121</b>	1.89E-36	1.43E-34	1.40E-34	4.50E-35	0.00E+00	2.46E-39	2.97E-38
<b>350</b>	5.65E-37	2.06E-36	2.05E-36	1.16E-36	0.00E+00	4.19E-39	1.01E-40

**Table A2** Concentrations of Hg species in surface water of Everglades in fall 2005 ( $[S^{2-}] > 0.02$  mg/L)

<b>Station</b>	<b>Hg</b> mol/L	<b>HgS<sub>2</sub><sup>2-</sup></b> mol/L	<b>HgHS<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup></b> mol/L	<b>Hg(HS)<sub>2</sub></b> mol/L	<b>HgHSOH</b> mol/L	<b>RSHg<sup>(n-1)-</sup></b> mol/L	<b>HgCl<sub>2</sub></b> mol/L
<b>131</b>	8.48E-12	7.48E-12	9.90E-13	9.87E-15	6.38E-22	1.09E-23	3.24E-33
<b>146</b>	1.65E-11	1.35E-11	2.91E-12	4.84E-14	1.75E-21	1.26E-22	9.73E-32
<b>150</b>	7.98E-12	7.03E-12	9.33E-13	9.59E-15	6.53E-22	4.90E-23	2.92E-32
<b>155</b>	9.47E-12	8.47E-12	9.91E-13	8.90E-15	1.74E-22	2.51E-24	8.32E-34
<b>172</b>	9.47E-12	4.17E-12	4.87E-12	4.25E-13	6.49E-21	5.44E-22	2.45E-31
<b>189</b>	2.09E-11	1.59E-11	4.94E-12	1.17E-13	4.03E-21	3.08E-22	1.58E-31
<b>205</b>	8.97E-12	5.91E-12	2.95E-12	1.13E-13	2.13E-21	1.63E-22	1.65E-31
<b>211</b>	1.89E-11	1.49E-11	3.99E-12	8.47E-14	3.33E-21	4.05E-22	4.66E-31

<b>216</b>	1.45E-11	1.06E-11	3.74E-12	1.04E-13	3.20E-21	4.34E-22	1.64E-30
<b>228</b>	1.35E-11	9.42E-12	3.92E-12	1.29E-13	2.99E-21	3.46E-22	6.08E-31
<b>231</b>	1.79E-11	1.35E-11	4.33E-12	1.10E-13	3.08E-21	3.74E-22	8.54E-31
<b>234</b>	1.35E-11	1.12E-11	2.22E-12	3.65E-14	1.50E-21	2.91E-22	6.09E-31
<b>236</b>	2.14E-11	1.67E-11	4.63E-12	1.05E-13	2.28E-21	2.57E-22	2.20E-30
<b>239</b>	2.14E-11	1.94E-12	1.30E-11	6.50E-12	7.65E-20	4.14E-20	1.14E-28
<b>249</b>	2.49E-11	1.17E-11	1.22E-11	9.67E-13	6.57E-21	3.88E-22	3.18E-31
<b>251</b>	1.10E-11	9.15E-12	1.79E-12	2.71E-14	1.19E-21	8.95E-23	7.87E-32
<b>252</b>	1.30E-11	9.87E-12	3.02E-12	7.14E-14	2.47E-21	1.79E-22	2.03E-31
<b>253</b>	1.79E-11	1.67E-11	1.27E-12	7.43E-15	9.97E-22	3.14E-23	1.07E-32
<b>255</b>	6.98E-12	5.75E-12	1.21E-12	1.94E-14	4.49E-22	7.69E-24	5.97E-33
<b>367</b>	2.64E-11	8.21E-12	1.59E-11	2.36E-12	1.19E-20	1.21E-21	5.46E-30
<b>488</b>	1.15E-11	7.57E-12	3.75E-12	1.50E-13	2.97E-21	4.82E-22	1.72E-30

Table A2 (Cont.)

<b>Station</b>	<b>HgBrCl mol/L</b>	<b>HgCl<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> mol/L</b>	<b>HgClOH mol/L</b>	<b>Hg(OH)<sub>2</sub> mol/L</b>	<b>HgBr<sub>2</sub> mol/L</b>	<b>HgBrOH mol/L</b>	<b>HgCl<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> mol/L</b>
<b>131</b>	3.59E-33	1.83E-35	3.44E-32	1.08E-30	3.44E-34	1.02E-32	3.47E-38
<b>146</b>	4.07E-32	1.45E-33	2.09E-31	1.66E-30	1.13E-33	2.63E-32	7.46E-36
<b>150</b>	1.15E-32	4.61E-34	9.71E-32	1.17E-30	3.10E-34	1.14E-32	2.52E-36
<b>155</b>	4.69E-34	9.19E-36	3.94E-33	8.86E-32	1.29E-35	7.56E-34	3.49E-38
<b>172</b>	4.22E-31	8.81E-34	3.57E-31	2.60E-30	3.33E-32	2.15E-31	1.06E-36
<b>189</b>	1.09E-31	1.43E-33	4.21E-31	3.63E-30	5.89E-33	8.18E-32	4.40E-36
<b>205</b>	9.70E-32	1.75E-33	2.24E-31	1.05E-30	4.13E-33	3.82E-32	6.36E-36
<b>211</b>	2.28E-31	8.29E-33	7.01E-31	3.42E-30	8.71E-33	9.66E-32	5.23E-35
<b>216</b>	7.31E-31	4.79E-32	1.16E-30	2.56E-30	2.69E-32	1.43E-31	5.00E-34
<b>228</b>	3.15E-31	1.09E-32	5.74E-31	1.81E-30	1.23E-32	8.49E-32	6.99E-35
<b>231</b>	4.08E-31	2.12E-32	7.87E-31	2.25E-30	1.60E-32	1.03E-31	1.87E-34
<b>234</b>	4.95E-31	2.33E-32	5.24E-31	1.61E-30	2.79E-32	1.26E-31	3.32E-34
<b>236</b>	9.12E-31	1.29E-31	9.77E-31	1.29E-30	3.27E-32	1.09E-31	2.78E-33
<b>239</b>	1.58E-28	5.15E-31	2.87E-29	2.36E-29	1.68E-29	1.12E-29	7.79E-34
<b>249</b>	2.93E-31	2.15E-33	3.42E-31	1.17E-30	2.15E-32	8.76E-32	4.91E-36
<b>251</b>	3.02E-32	1.28E-33	1.71E-31	1.36E-30	7.77E-34	1.96E-32	7.21E-36
<b>252</b>	9.67E-32	2.65E-33	3.77E-31	2.23E-30	3.66E-33	5.01E-32	1.20E-35
<b>253</b>	6.84E-33	1.03E-34	9.97E-32	3.50E-30	2.86E-34	1.94E-32	3.41E-37
<b>255</b>	3.93E-33	5.65E-35	2.21E-32	2.71E-31	1.96E-34	4.14E-33	1.83E-37
<b>367</b>	2.65E-30	7.01E-32	1.86E-30	1.56E-30	1.40E-31	2.21E-31	3.11E-34
<b>488</b>	1.11E-30	4.64E-32	9.17E-31	1.54E-30	5.80E-32	1.64E-31	4.54E-34

Table A2 (Cont.)

Station	HgBr <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> mol/L	HgBr <sup>+</sup> mol/L	HgCl <sup>+</sup> mol/L	HgOH <sup>+</sup> mol/L	HgBr <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> mol/L	Hg(OH) <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> mol/L	Hg <sup>2+</sup> mol/L
131	4.70E-38	3.51E-36	2.05E-36	1.07E-35	0.00E+00	5.60E-38	6.28E-40
146	2.02E-37	1.56E-35	2.40E-35	2.84E-35	0.00E+00	5.14E-38	2.68E-39
150	5.41E-38	4.16E-36	6.79E-36	1.23E-35	0.00E+00	5.86E-38	7.24E-40
155	3.14E-39	2.40E-37	2.74E-37	8.11E-37	0.00E+00	5.10E-39	0.00E+00
172	8.65E-36	6.41E-34	2.39E-34	2.24E-34	2.13E-40	1.54E-38	8.96E-38
189	8.97E-37	6.80E-35	6.35E-35	8.71E-35	0.00E+00	7.92E-38	1.21E-38
205	6.77E-37	5.16E-35	5.66E-35	4.09E-35	0.00E+00	1.41E-38	9.03E-39
211	1.86E-36	7.45E-35	9.81E-35	7.62E-35	0.00E+00	8.32E-38	1.02E-38
216	8.14E-36	1.46E-34	2.10E-34	7.54E-35	4.47E-40	4.74E-38	1.36E-38
228	2.91E-36	1.01E-34	1.26E-34	6.25E-35	1.14E-40	2.84E-38	1.27E-38
231	4.40E-36	9.61E-35	1.30E-34	6.03E-35	2.19E-40	4.56E-38	9.93E-39
234	2.39E-35	7.90E-35	6.26E-35	2.92E-35	3.28E-39	5.05E-38	3.19E-39
236	1.75E-35	9.43E-35	1.47E-34	3.22E-35	1.86E-39	2.92E-38	5.20E-39
239	2.59E-33	1.92E-31	8.98E-32	1.17E-32	6.39E-38	2.43E-38	3.27E-35
249	3.20E-36	2.40E-34	1.68E-34	9.23E-35	0.00E+00	7.65E-39	4.21E-38
251	1.38E-37	1.06E-35	1.79E-35	2.13E-35	0.00E+00	4.64E-38	1.85E-39
252	5.47E-37	4.18E-35	5.66E-35	5.39E-35	0.00E+00	4.89E-38	7.61E-39
253	5.22E-38	3.95E-36	3.96E-36	2.06E-35	0.00E+00	3.10E-37	6.54E-40
255	3.07E-38	2.32E-36	2.28E-36	4.40E-36	0.00E+00	8.74E-39	4.07E-40
367	1.52E-35	1.16E-33	1.55E-33	2.38E-34	3.87E-40	5.43E-39	2.38E-37
488	2.38E-35	2.43E-34	2.43E-34	6.59E-35	1.77E-39	1.98E-38	1.75E-38

**Table A3** Concentrations of Hg species in surface water of Everglades in spring 2005 ( $[S^{2-}] = 3.2 \times 10^{-7}$  mg/L)

Station	Hg mol/L	RSHg <sup>(n-1)-</sup> mol/L	HgS <sub>2</sub> <sup>2-</sup> mol/L	HgHS <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> mol/L	Hg(HS) <sub>2</sub> mol/L	HgHSOH mol/L	HgCl <sub>2</sub> mol/L
28	3.34E-11	2.97E-11	2.28E-12	1.39E-12	6.56E-14	3.78E-16	1.99E-20
30	1.50E-11	1.10E-11	2.89E-12	1.07E-12	3.03E-14	3.23E-16	1.23E-20
31	1.10E-11	7.43E-12	2.54E-12	9.71E-13	2.88E-14	2.08E-16	7.97E-21
33	1.20E-11	7.98E-12	3.28E-12	7.02E-13	1.17E-14	1.90E-16	5.02E-21
37	1.25E-11	8.37E-12	3.28E-12	7.99E-13	1.50E-14	2.51E-16	4.31E-21
43	1.35E-11	9.75E-12	2.37E-12	1.28E-12	5.30E-14	3.55E-16	8.20E-21
45	1.05E-11	7.01E-12	2.12E-12	1.28E-12	5.91E-14	2.83E-16	9.19E-21
46	9.47E-12	6.65E-12	1.39E-12	1.33E-12	9.76E-14	2.68E-16	1.16E-20
47	1.35E-11	9.63E-12	2.59E-12	1.19E-12	4.19E-14	3.40E-16	8.34E-21
49	1.20E-11	8.31E-12	2.57E-12	1.06E-12	3.36E-14	2.43E-16	1.04E-20
51	7.48E-12	4.26E-12	2.07E-12	1.10E-12	4.44E-14	2.17E-16	3.51E-21
52	1.10E-11	7.82E-12	1.62E-12	1.44E-12	9.66E-14	3.48E-16	6.90E-21

<b>53</b>	1.10E-11	6.97E-12	3.21E-12	7.74E-13	1.42E-14	2.14E-16	2.93E-21
<b>54</b>	5.98E-12	2.81E-12	2.11E-12	1.03E-12	3.82E-14	1.89E-16	1.27E-21
<b>55</b>	9.47E-12	6.87E-12	1.15E-12	1.33E-12	1.18E-13	2.96E-16	1.01E-20
<b>56</b>	1.50E-11	1.07E-11	3.67E-12	6.15E-13	7.96E-15	2.35E-16	7.22E-21
<b>57</b>	1.75E-11	1.34E-11	3.07E-12	9.40E-13	2.22E-14	2.86E-16	1.10E-20
<b>59</b>	9.47E-12	5.98E-12	2.27E-12	1.17E-12	4.60E-14	2.73E-16	6.16E-21
<b>61</b>	7.48E-12	3.26E-12	3.78E-12	4.34E-13	3.76E-15	1.49E-16	4.72E-22
<b>62</b>	9.97E-12	6.46E-12	2.29E-12	1.18E-12	4.65E-14	2.62E-16	5.37E-21
<b>63</b>	1.30E-11	8.84E-12	3.35E-12	7.61E-13	1.33E-14	2.38E-16	4.66E-21
<b>66</b>	5.48E-12	2.33E-12	2.28E-12	8.48E-13	2.45E-14	1.49E-16	4.42E-21
<b>67</b>	6.48E-12	2.60E-12	3.32E-12	5.53E-13	7.03E-15	1.32E-16	1.13E-21
<b>68</b>	7.48E-12	4.17E-12	2.35E-12	9.29E-13	2.83E-14	1.77E-16	4.22E-21
<b>69</b>	6.98E-12	3.21E-12	2.89E-12	8.64E-13	1.96E-14	1.99E-16	1.62E-21
<b>70</b>	1.50E-11	1.13E-11	2.13E-12	1.46E-12	7.58E-14	4.34E-16	6.67E-21
<b>73</b>	6.48E-12	2.91E-12	2.95E-12	6.15E-13	9.99E-15	1.17E-16	3.21E-21
<b>75</b>	1.25E-11	8.59E-12	2.66E-12	1.17E-12	3.93E-14	3.39E-16	6.67E-21
<b>77</b>	7.48E-12	4.13E-12	2.58E-12	7.59E-13	1.74E-14	1.34E-16	2.49E-21
<b>80</b>	1.05E-11	6.49E-12	3.32E-12	6.47E-13	9.80E-15	1.71E-16	4.76E-21
<b>81</b>	9.97E-12	6.14E-12	2.98E-12	8.29E-13	1.78E-14	2.07E-16	6.33E-21
<b>82</b>	9.97E-12	6.35E-12	2.64E-12	9.57E-13	2.70E-14	2.15E-16	8.97E-21
<b>83</b>	1.30E-11	9.22E-12	2.47E-12	1.23E-12	4.72E-14	3.37E-16	1.07E-20
<b>84</b>	1.05E-11	6.20E-12	4.04E-12	2.23E-13	9.69E-16	9.03E-17	2.02E-21
<b>85</b>	1.05E-11	6.94E-12	2.26E-12	1.22E-12	5.10E-14	2.98E-16	1.49E-20
<b>88</b>	9.47E-12	5.61E-12	3.04E-12	8.11E-13	1.67E-14	2.01E-16	4.38E-21
<b>89</b>	1.50E-11	1.07E-11	3.83E-12	4.39E-13	3.98E-15	1.63E-16	6.42E-21
<b>90</b>	9.47E-12	5.91E-12	2.67E-12	8.66E-13	2.18E-14	1.82E-16	6.31E-21
<b>91</b>	1.60E-11	1.14E-11	4.26E-12	2.48E-13	1.12E-15	1.51E-16	1.76E-21
<b>93</b>	1.20E-11	7.75E-12	3.68E-12	5.35E-13	6.03E-15	1.82E-16	3.30E-21
<b>94</b>	1.15E-11	7.17E-12	3.90E-12	3.97E-13	3.11E-15	1.55E-16	1.63E-21
<b>95</b>	1.10E-11	7.48E-12	2.29E-12	1.16E-12	4.52E-14	2.63E-16	1.22E-20
<b>99</b>	1.20E-11	7.94E-12	3.34E-12	6.73E-13	1.05E-14	1.86E-16	4.04E-21
<b>101</b>	1.84E-11	1.39E-11	4.21E-12	3.33E-13	2.02E-15	2.09E-16	1.45E-21
<b>105</b>	8.48E-12	4.88E-12	2.84E-12	7.38E-13	1.48E-14	1.50E-16	2.98E-21
<b>106</b>	1.20E-11	7.76E-12	3.65E-12	5.51E-13	6.39E-15	1.86E-16	1.40E-21
<b>107</b>	2.34E-11	1.90E-11	4.19E-12	2.67E-13	1.38E-15	1.45E-16	1.00E-20
<b>114</b>	1.40E-11	1.35E-11	1.73E-14	2.09E-13	1.90E-13	1.53E-16	6.26E-20
<b>119</b>	1.30E-11	1.21E-11	9.62E-14	5.52E-13	2.39E-13	2.40E-16	5.86E-20
<b>351</b>	1.50E-11	1.13E-11	2.51E-12	1.12E-12	3.87E-14	2.84E-16	1.70E-20
<b>365</b>	7.98E-12	4.33E-12	2.78E-12	8.50E-13	2.01E-14	1.81E-16	2.99E-21

Table A3 (Cont.)

Station	HgBrCl mol/L	HgCl <sub>3</sub> - mol/L	HgClOH mol/L	Hg(OH) <sub>2</sub> mol/L	HgBr <sub>2</sub> mol/L	HgBrOH mol/L	HgCl <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> mol/L
28	4.92E-20	2.55E-22	1.15E-20	5.69E-20	2.87E-21	1.30E-20	1.13E-24
30	9.77E-21	1.63E-22	1.74E-20	9.01E-20	5.22E-22	4.14E-21	7.47E-25
31	6.06E-21	1.24E-22	9.60E-21	3.93E-20	3.38E-22	2.10E-21	6.69E-25
33	3.47E-21	7.69E-23	9.21E-21	8.09E-20	1.15E-22	2.17E-21	4.10E-25
37	1.46E-21	4.66E-23	1.34E-20	1.10E-19	4.96E-23	1.15E-21	1.74E-25
43	4.48E-21	7.39E-23	1.35E-20	6.22E-20	2.28E-22	1.92E-21	2.27E-25
45	5.08E-21	1.03E-22	6.25E-21	3.56E-20	6.78E-23	1.56E-21	4.00E-25
46	6.65E-21	1.25E-22	6.84E-21	1.93E-20	1.85E-22	1.34E-21	4.63E-25
47	5.24E-21	8.27E-23	1.45E-20	7.22E-20	2.97E-22	2.41E-21	2.80E-25
49	6.37E-21	1.60E-22	9.15E-21	4.61E-20	1.49E-22	2.09E-21	8.48E-25
51	2.43E-21	3.17E-23	5.88E-21	2.78E-20	1.54E-22	1.07E-21	9.72E-26
52	6.15E-21	4.82E-23	9.18E-21	3.28E-20	5.38E-22	2.10E-21	1.14E-25
53	1.76E-21	3.04E-23	6.93E-21	8.45E-20	4.64E-23	1.48E-21	1.08E-25
54	1.26E-21	8.03E-24	2.97E-21	2.45E-20	8.66E-23	8.61E-22	1.71E-26
55	7.52E-21	8.39E-23	9.14E-21	1.94E-20	6.53E-22	1.63E-21	2.38E-25
56	3.42E-21	1.14E-22	2.15E-20	1.81E-19	1.48E-22	2.68E-21	6.22E-25
57	7.96E-21	1.61E-22	1.71E-20	9.66E-20	3.86E-22	3.68E-21	8.16E-25
59	4.25E-21	6.10E-23	1.03E-20	4.24E-20	3.24E-22	1.74E-21	2.07E-25
61	4.50E-22	3.08E-24	3.28E-21	1.54E-19	1.34E-23	1.27E-21	6.81E-27
62	3.79E-21	5.20E-23	5.91E-21	3.86E-20	9.90E-23	1.59E-21	1.72E-25
63	2.43E-21	5.56E-23	8.66E-21	1.12E-19	3.85E-23	1.86E-21	2.29E-25
66	2.69E-21	6.77E-23	7.82E-21	2.36E-20	2.82E-22	9.72E-22	3.61E-25
67	6.62E-22	1.19E-23	4.56E-21	6.50E-20	2.73E-23	7.86E-22	4.33E-26
68	2.05E-21	5.42E-23	7.23E-21	2.89E-20	1.16E-22	8.37E-22	2.40E-25
69	1.28E-21	1.28E-23	3.29E-21	5.28E-20	2.62E-23	1.14E-21	3.42E-26
70	6.58E-21	4.21E-23	1.32E-20	6.49E-20	7.03E-22	3.21E-21	9.04E-26
73	1.79E-21	6.07E-23	3.80E-21	3.56E-20	2.59E-23	9.33E-22	4.01E-25
75	4.61E-21	6.01E-23	1.24E-20	7.65E-20	2.42E-22	2.44E-21	1.85E-25
77	1.15E-21	3.37E-23	4.40E-21	2.71E-20	3.75E-23	5.91E-22	1.59E-25
80	1.78E-21	7.94E-23	8.62E-21	7.81E-20	3.03E-23	1.13E-21	4.62E-25
81	2.87E-21	9.55E-23	1.24E-20	6.30E-20	1.34E-22	1.41E-21	4.99E-25
82	4.48E-21	1.46E-22	1.14E-20	4.48E-20	1.84E-22	1.56E-21	8.23E-25
83	6.05E-21	1.18E-22	1.46E-20	6.27E-20	2.73E-22	2.29E-21	4.50E-25
84	8.92E-22	4.54E-23	8.18E-21	2.20E-19	1.27E-23	1.46E-21	3.61E-25
85	9.28E-21	2.08E-22	1.64E-20	4.56E-20	6.17E-22	2.54E-21	1.01E-24
88	2.09E-21	5.73E-23	7.72E-21	6.36E-20	4.93E-23	1.24E-21	2.58E-25
89	2.96E-21	1.39E-22	1.24E-20	1.75E-19	3.90E-23	2.41E-21	1.06E-24
90	2.42E-21	1.02E-22	9.60E-21	3.96E-20	9.01E-23	9.48E-22	5.78E-25

<b>91</b>	8.40E-22	2.30E-23	1.09E-20	5.36E-19	1.04E-23	2.29E-21	1.04E-25
<b>93</b>	1.50E-21	4.53E-23	7.66E-21	1.44E-19	1.70E-23	1.54E-21	2.16E-25
<b>94</b>	8.67E-22	1.91E-23	5.48E-21	2.03E-19	7.90E-24	1.51E-21	7.71E-26
<b>95</b>	5.26E-21	1.76E-22	1.24E-20	4.01E-20	1.82E-22	1.49E-21	8.77E-25
<b>99</b>	1.77E-21	5.73E-23	7.72E-21	8.65E-20	2.91E-23	1.28E-21	2.81E-25
<b>101</b>	1.06E-21	1.24E-23	9.46E-21	5.63E-19	1.66E-23	3.25E-21	3.67E-26
<b>105</b>	1.73E-21	4.16E-23	6.26E-21	3.97E-20	8.51E-23	9.85E-22	2.01E-25
<b>106</b>	9.93E-22	1.23E-23	4.27E-21	1.42E-19	1.23E-23	1.56E-21	3.72E-26
<b>107</b>	4.95E-21	3.16E-22	2.29E-20	3.97E-19	6.63E-23	4.86E-21	3.61E-24
<b>114</b>	7.86E-20	3.10E-22	7.89E-21	3.22E-21	7.68E-21	2.79E-21	5.16E-25
<b>119</b>	5.06E-20	4.22E-22	1.20E-20	6.28E-21	4.60E-21	2.59E-21	1.03E-24
<b>351</b>	1.48E-20	2.79E-22	2.06E-20	5.47E-20	1.62E-21	4.14E-21	1.61E-24
<b>365</b>	1.62E-21	3.44E-23	4.66E-21	4.27E-20	3.27E-23	9.56E-22	1.37E-25

Table A3 (Cont.)

<b>Station</b>	<b>HgBr<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> mol/L</b>	<b>HgBr<sup>+</sup> mol/L</b>	<b>HgCl<sup>+</sup> mol/L</b>	<b>HgOH<sup>+</sup> mol/L</b>	<b>HgBr<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> mol/L</b>	<b>Hg(OH)<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> mol/L</b>	<b>Hg<sup>2+</sup> mol/L</b>
<b>28</b>	7.36E-24	2.16E-23	5.64E-24	2.74E-24	9.52E-28	6.24E-28	4.99E-28
<b>30</b>	1.57E-25	4.15E-24	3.36E-24	2.61E-24	6.76E-30	1.64E-27	4.16E-28
<b>31</b>	1.04E-25	2.22E-24	1.88E-24	1.20E-24	5.05E-30	6.87E-28	2.09E-28
<b>33</b>	4.84E-26	1.29E-24	1.20E-24	1.39E-24	2.10E-30	2.51E-27	1.17E-28
<b>37</b>	3.48E-27	7.65E-25	1.45E-24	2.10E-24	5.21E-32	3.03E-27	2.56E-28
<b>43</b>	2.29E-26	2.78E-24	3.28E-24	2.59E-24	4.54E-31	7.80E-28	6.63E-28
<b>45</b>	3.33E-26	2.53E-24	2.95E-24	1.67E-24	8.40E-31	3.98E-28	2.97E-28
<b>46</b>	4.55E-26	3.45E-24	3.86E-24	1.43E-24	1.14E-30	1.36E-28	5.17E-28
<b>47</b>	3.90E-26	2.96E-24	3.04E-24	2.56E-24	9.81E-31	1.06E-27	5.52E-28
<b>49</b>	6.91E-26	2.36E-24	2.49E-24	1.50E-24	2.64E-30	7.50E-28	2.21E-28
<b>51</b>	1.99E-26	1.50E-24	1.40E-24	1.13E-24	4.98E-31	3.57E-28	2.81E-28
<b>52</b>	6.51E-26	4.88E-24	3.53E-24	2.21E-24	1.62E-30	2.53E-28	9.21E-28
<b>53</b>	1.26E-26	9.53E-25	1.02E-24	1.57E-24	3.16E-31	2.37E-27	1.38E-28
<b>54</b>	1.47E-26	1.10E-24	7.20E-25	9.06E-25	3.65E-31	3.43E-28	1.83E-28
<b>55</b>	6.66E-26	5.02E-24	4.33E-24	1.73E-24	1.66E-30	1.14E-28	1.01E-27
<b>56</b>	2.31E-26	1.23E-24	1.68E-24	2.41E-24	7.06E-31	7.25E-27	1.98E-28
<b>57</b>	1.16E-25	3.07E-24	2.74E-24	2.33E-24	5.01E-30	2.12E-27	3.11E-28
<b>59</b>	3.84E-26	2.40E-24	2.25E-24	1.69E-24	1.06E-30	5.57E-28	4.41E-28
<b>61</b>	5.09E-27	3.81E-25	2.58E-25	1.34E-24	1.26E-31	9.22E-27	4.77E-29
<b>62</b>	3.50E-26	2.19E-24	2.00E-24	1.54E-24	9.67E-31	5.07E-28	2.69E-28
<b>63</b>	1.50E-26	1.15E-24	1.42E-24	2.00E-24	3.81E-31	3.30E-27	1.48E-28
<b>66</b>	2.93E-26	1.00E-24	1.06E-24	7.03E-25	1.12E-30	4.22E-28	1.63E-28
<b>67</b>	4.62E-27	3.51E-25	3.85E-25	8.38E-25	1.16E-31	2.64E-27	6.02E-29
<b>68</b>	1.18E-26	8.99E-25	1.20E-24	8.98E-25	2.98E-31	4.92E-28	1.87E-28

<b>69</b>	1.20E-26	9.02E-25	7.37E-25	1.21E-24	2.99E-31	1.20E-27	1.07E-28
<b>70</b>	7.71E-26	5.82E-24	3.80E-24	3.40E-24	1.93E-30	6.46E-28	1.15E-27
<b>73</b>	2.03E-26	5.42E-25	6.25E-25	5.97E-25	8.84E-31	1.13E-27	3.96E-29
<b>75</b>	3.78E-26	2.86E-24	2.67E-24	2.59E-24	9.48E-31	1.18E-27	4.99E-28
<b>77</b>	6.27E-27	4.85E-25	6.79E-25	6.43E-25	1.61E-31	6.11E-28	8.67E-29
<b>80</b>	7.89E-27	6.09E-25	1.05E-24	1.22E-24	2.02E-31	2.66E-27	9.28E-29
<b>81</b>	1.70E-26	1.08E-24	1.53E-24	1.39E-24	4.76E-31	1.52E-27	1.97E-28
<b>82</b>	3.45E-26	1.58E-24	2.04E-24	1.30E-24	1.15E-30	8.20E-28	2.28E-28
<b>83</b>	4.05E-26	3.09E-24	3.53E-24	2.45E-24	1.03E-30	8.46E-28	5.60E-28
<b>84</b>	7.49E-27	2.29E-25	3.34E-25	1.00E-24	3.11E-31	2.62E-26	1.97E-29
<b>85</b>	9.63E-26	3.78E-24	3.91E-24	1.96E-24	3.44E-30	5.63E-28	5.53E-28
<b>88</b>	1.18E-26	9.03E-25	1.22E-24	1.33E-24	3.00E-31	1.60E-27	1.39E-28
<b>89</b>	2.59E-26	7.94E-25	1.11E-24	1.66E-24	1.08E-30	9.99E-27	6.60E-29
<b>90</b>	1.10E-26	8.51E-25	1.43E-24	1.03E-24	2.83E-31	8.13E-28	1.69E-28
<b>91</b>	4.75E-27	3.64E-25	4.93E-25	2.46E-24	1.21E-31	6.16E-26	4.45E-29
<b>93</b>	8.04E-27	6.18E-25	8.80E-25	1.67E-24	2.05E-31	6.61E-27	7.52E-29
<b>94</b>	5.47E-27	4.17E-25	5.06E-25	1.62E-24	1.38E-31	1.34E-26	4.35E-29
<b>95</b>	2.69E-26	2.07E-24	3.09E-24	1.61E-24	6.87E-31	5.31E-28	3.82E-28
<b>99</b>	9.22E-27	7.07E-25	1.04E-24	1.38E-24	2.35E-31	2.87E-27	9.89E-29
<b>101</b>	9.13E-27	6.97E-25	6.18E-25	3.49E-24	2.31E-31	4.80E-26	7.93E-29
<b>105</b>	1.54E-26	7.00E-25	7.80E-25	8.17E-25	5.11E-31	1.02E-27	1.01E-28
<b>106</b>	8.36E-27	6.36E-25	5.79E-25	1.67E-24	2.11E-31	6.32E-27	6.67E-29
<b>107</b>	7.25E-26	9.32E-25	1.22E-24	2.20E-24	4.83E-30	3.98E-26	5.09E-29
<b>114</b>	1.17E-24	8.72E-23	4.48E-23	2.91E-24	2.89E-29	1.83E-30	1.49E-26
<b>119</b>	5.18E-25	3.89E-23	2.91E-23	2.73E-24	1.29E-29	7.49E-30	7.55E-27
<b>351</b>	3.52E-25	5.15E-24	3.81E-24	1.96E-24	2.08E-29	8.15E-28	4.93E-28
<b>365</b>	1.04E-26	7.99E-25	9.50E-25	1.03E-24	2.65E-31	9.35E-28	1.11E-28

**Table A4** Concentrations of Hg species in surface water of Everglades in fall 2005 ( $[S^{2-}] = 3.2 \times 10^{-7}$  mg/L)

<b>Station</b>	<b>Hg mol/L</b>	<b>RSHg<sup>(n-1)- mol/L</sup></b>	<b>HgS<sub>2</sub><sup>2- mol/L</sup></b>	<b>HgHS<sub>2</sub><sup>- mol/L</sup></b>	<b>Hg(HS)<sub>2</sub> mol/L</b>	<b>HgHSOH mol/L</b>	<b>HgCl<sub>2</sub> mol/L</b>
<b>128</b>	2.49E-12	2.16E-13	1.90E-12	3.74E-13	5.61E-15	3.74E-17	1.14E-22
<b>130</b>	1.40E-11	9.37E-12	4.01E-12	5.77E-13	6.28E-15	3.78E-16	3.51E-21
<b>135</b>	5.98E-12	1.96E-12	3.32E-12	6.94E-13	1.09E-14	1.95E-16	8.54E-22
<b>136</b>	7.48E-12	3.40E-12	2.98E-12	1.07E-12	2.86E-14	3.55E-16	1.95E-21
<b>138</b>	5.98E-12	1.76E-12	3.87E-12	3.45E-13	2.32E-15	1.21E-16	3.03E-22
<b>141</b>	1.35E-11	9.33E-12	3.21E-12	9.03E-13	1.95E-14	2.99E-16	7.60E-21
<b>142</b>	5.48E-12	1.65E-12	3.24E-12	5.92E-13	8.28E-15	1.38E-16	9.99E-22
<b>143</b>	8.48E-12	4.19E-12	3.86E-12	4.21E-13	3.53E-15	1.58E-16	2.12E-21
<b>145</b>	1.50E-11	1.05E-11	3.84E-12	6.09E-13	7.40E-15	3.01E-16	5.74E-21
<b>147</b>	7.98E-12	4.43E-12	2.56E-12	9.57E-13	2.77E-14	2.05E-16	7.43E-21

<b>148</b>	1.15E-11	7.13E-12	3.84E-12	4.92E-13	4.85E-15	1.99E-16	2.93E-21
<b>149</b>	8.97E-12	4.60E-12	3.87E-12	4.99E-13	4.85E-15	2.11E-16	8.64E-22
<b>151</b>	9.97E-12	5.65E-12	3.97E-12	3.47E-13	2.35E-15	1.39E-16	2.35E-21
<b>152</b>	6.98E-12	3.36E-12	2.54E-12	1.04E-12	3.21E-14	2.35E-16	1.19E-21
<b>153</b>	7.98E-12	3.57E-12	4.10E-12	3.05E-13	1.71E-15	1.44E-16	3.26E-22
<b>154</b>	1.30E-11	8.40E-12	4.13E-12	4.21E-13	3.24E-15	2.58E-16	1.79E-21
<b>156</b>	1.05E-11	6.86E-12	2.28E-12	1.28E-12	5.51E-14	3.26E-16	1.32E-20
<b>157</b>	6.98E-12	3.14E-12	3.31E-12	5.26E-13	6.50E-15	1.21E-16	1.83E-21
<b>158</b>	7.98E-12	3.93E-12	3.46E-12	5.74E-13	7.29E-15	1.60E-16	1.52E-21
<b>159</b>	1.15E-11	7.30E-12	3.57E-12	5.91E-13	7.63E-15	1.90E-16	4.22E-21
<b>160</b>	8.48E-12	4.45E-12	3.04E-12	9.62E-13	2.29E-14	2.90E-16	2.22E-21
<b>161</b>	9.47E-12	5.20E-12	3.70E-12	5.62E-13	6.42E-15	2.05E-16	7.35E-22
<b>162</b>	8.97E-12	4.63E-12	3.89E-12	4.48E-13	3.89E-15	1.81E-16	5.42E-22
<b>163</b>	8.97E-12	5.94E-12	1.62E-12	1.33E-12	8.46E-14	2.89E-16	1.76E-20
<b>165</b>	8.97E-12	5.56E-12	1.83E-12	1.49E-12	9.12E-14	3.90E-16	6.23E-21
<b>166</b>	7.48E-12	4.21E-12	2.01E-12	1.21E-12	5.58E-14	2.58E-16	7.73E-21
<b>167</b>	8.48E-12	4.45E-12	3.27E-12	7.38E-13	1.27E-14	2.08E-16	1.75E-21
<b>169</b>	6.98E-12	3.16E-12	3.00E-12	8.03E-13	1.63E-14	1.91E-16	1.27E-21
<b>170</b>	9.47E-12	5.26E-12	3.49E-12	7.08E-13	1.07E-14	2.43E-16	4.11E-22
<b>171</b>	1.84E-11	1.46E-11	2.55E-12	1.27E-12	4.95E-14	3.84E-16	2.42E-20
<b>173</b>	7.98E-12	3.81E-12	3.62E-12	5.39E-13	6.03E-15	1.72E-16	4.49E-22
<b>174</b>	7.98E-12	4.15E-12	2.95E-12	8.57E-13	1.90E-14	2.08E-16	2.76E-21
<b>175</b>	7.98E-12	4.05E-12	3.01E-12	8.95E-13	2.00E-14	2.39E-16	1.04E-21
<b>176</b>	1.10E-11	6.69E-12	3.76E-12	5.15E-13	5.43E-15	1.91E-16	3.29E-21
<b>177</b>	9.47E-12	5.37E-12	3.47E-12	6.28E-13	8.75E-15	1.89E-16	2.82E-21
<b>178</b>	1.15E-11	7.75E-12	2.26E-12	1.39E-12	6.45E-14	3.93E-16	7.13E-21
<b>179</b>	5.98E-12	2.95E-12	2.00E-12	9.87E-13	3.77E-14	1.70E-16	4.76E-21
<b>180</b>	1.15E-11	7.55E-12	2.94E-12	9.57E-13	2.42E-14	2.67E-16	1.07E-20
<b>181</b>	8.48E-12	4.67E-12	2.80E-12	9.82E-13	2.58E-14	2.48E-16	8.32E-22
<b>182</b>	1.05E-11	6.80E-12	2.60E-12	1.04E-12	3.22E-14	2.50E-16	1.33E-20
<b>183</b>	1.50E-11	1.14E-11	1.89E-12	1.58E-12	9.93E-14	4.56E-16	5.09E-21
<b>184</b>	8.97E-12	5.97E-12	1.46E-12	1.44E-12	1.06E-13	3.26E-16	3.67E-21
<b>185</b>	1.25E-11	8.35E-12	3.09E-12	1.00E-12	2.44E-14	3.33E-16	2.89E-21
<b>186</b>	1.30E-11	9.18E-12	2.44E-12	1.29E-12	5.22E-14	3.68E-16	7.35E-21
<b>187</b>	6.98E-12	3.52E-12	2.40E-12	1.02E-12	3.30E-14	2.11E-16	1.39E-21
<b>188</b>	9.47E-12	5.62E-12	2.77E-12	1.05E-12	3.02E-14	2.80E-16	2.29E-21
<b>190</b>	9.97E-12	6.31E-12	2.53E-12	1.10E-12	3.67E-14	2.63E-16	5.89E-21
<b>191</b>	1.30E-11	8.75E-12	3.51E-12	6.94E-13	1.06E-14	2.39E-16	3.66E-21
<b>192</b>	9.97E-12	6.07E-12	2.82E-12	1.05E-12	2.95E-14	2.91E-16	1.94E-21
<b>193</b>	1.30E-11	9.09E-12	2.50E-12	1.32E-12	5.22E-14	4.00E-16	3.51E-21
<b>194</b>	1.40E-11	1.03E-11	2.04E-12	1.55E-12	8.88E-14	4.79E-16	6.74E-21

<b>195</b>	6.98E-12	3.48E-12	2.57E-12	9.09E-13	2.47E-14	1.83E-16	2.58E-21
<b>197</b>	7.98E-12	3.91E-12	3.58E-12	4.84E-13	5.00E-15	1.38E-16	9.94E-22
<b>198</b>	1.10E-11	6.94E-12	3.02E-12	9.83E-13	2.41E-14	3.02E-16	1.39E-21
<b>199</b>	1.74E-11	1.33E-11	2.82E-12	1.26E-12	4.24E-14	4.72E-16	5.93E-21
<b>200</b>	9.97E-12	5.87E-12	3.41E-12	6.85E-13	1.05E-14	2.07E-16	1.95E-21
<b>202</b>	1.30E-11	9.16E-12	2.40E-12	1.35E-12	5.72E-14	4.05E-16	4.09E-21
<b>203</b>	1.55E-11	1.12E-11	3.68E-12	5.84E-13	7.31E-15	2.16E-16	7.16E-21
<b>204</b>	9.97E-12	6.61E-12	1.93E-12	1.36E-12	7.28E-14	3.33E-16	4.03E-21
<b>206</b>	1.50E-11	1.05E-11	4.12E-12	3.57E-13	2.37E-15	1.87E-16	2.25E-21
<b>207</b>	1.10E-11	7.92E-12	1.30E-12	1.60E-12	1.48E-13	4.27E-16	9.79E-21
<b>208</b>	1.15E-11	7.72E-12	2.63E-12	1.08E-12	3.44E-14	2.72E-16	9.61E-21
<b>210</b>	7.98E-12	4.67E-12	2.30E-12	9.74E-13	3.22E-14	1.86E-16	7.92E-21
<b>212</b>	1.15E-11	7.63E-12	2.54E-12	1.25E-12	4.61E-14	3.56E-16	2.98E-21
<b>213</b>	7.98E-12	4.24E-12	2.78E-12	9.38E-13	2.40E-14	2.21E-16	1.42E-21
<b>214</b>	8.48E-12	5.67E-12	1.29E-12	1.40E-12	1.16E-13	3.13E-16	7.02E-21
<b>215</b>	8.97E-12	5.15E-12	2.91E-12	8.92E-13	2.07E-14	2.22E-16	1.88E-21
<b>217</b>	6.98E-12	3.81E-12	2.01E-12	1.11E-12	4.70E-14	2.13E-16	3.50E-21
<b>218</b>	1.10E-11	7.27E-12	2.62E-12	1.04E-12	3.23E-14	2.52E-16	8.91E-21
<b>219</b>	1.05E-11	7.18E-12	2.16E-12	1.09E-12	4.38E-14	2.21E-16	2.77E-20
<b>220</b>	7.98E-12	4.67E-12	2.36E-12	9.18E-13	2.82E-14	1.72E-16	6.31E-21
<b>221</b>	1.15E-11	7.86E-12	2.37E-12	1.19E-12	4.57E-14	2.89E-16	8.23E-21
<b>223</b>	3.29E-11	2.84E-11	4.06E-12	4.55E-13	4.15E-15	2.54E-16	3.69E-20
<b>224</b>	1.40E-11	1.02E-11	2.31E-12	1.38E-12	6.24E-14	4.01E-16	9.18E-21
<b>225</b>	9.97E-12	5.85E-12	3.77E-12	3.51E-13	2.63E-15	1.07E-16	4.46E-21
<b>227</b>	3.69E-11	3.24E-11	4.04E-12	4.66E-13	4.43E-15	2.57E-16	3.84E-20
<b>229</b>	9.97E-12	6.19E-12	2.84E-12	9.21E-13	2.28E-14	2.26E-16	3.38E-21
<b>230</b>	2.29E-11	1.90E-11	2.30E-12	1.55E-12	7.92E-14	5.64E-16	1.12E-20
<b>233</b>	2.34E-11	1.91E-11	3.84E-12	4.67E-13	4.72E-15	1.82E-16	3.64E-20
<b>237</b>	1.55E-11	1.31E-11	6.06E-13	1.48E-12	2.75E-13	4.58E-16	2.79E-20
<b>238</b>	2.04E-11	1.67E-11	2.63E-12	1.04E-12	3.43E-14	2.58E-16	7.70E-20
<b>240</b>	1.94E-11	1.74E-11	3.53E-13	1.30E-12	3.57E-13	5.12E-16	2.82E-20
<b>242</b>	1.79E-11	1.74E-11	1.84E-14	2.47E-13	2.46E-13	1.99E-16	6.57E-20
<b>244</b>	2.29E-11	2.21E-11	4.02E-14	4.25E-13	3.37E-13	3.10E-16	9.11E-20
<b>245</b>	1.74E-11	1.50E-11	6.69E-13	1.54E-12	2.67E-13	4.59E-16	1.73E-20
<b>254</b>	1.20E-11	7.68E-12	3.69E-12	5.82E-13	7.05E-15	2.17E-16	4.06E-21
<b>256</b>	1.50E-11	1.08E-11	3.35E-12	8.02E-13	1.49E-14	2.69E-16	8.21E-21
<b>257</b>	1.10E-11	6.46E-12	3.74E-12	7.59E-13	1.17E-14	4.24E-16	5.33E-21
<b>258</b>	1.05E-11	6.19E-12	3.55E-12	7.23E-13	1.13E-14	2.78E-16	6.43E-21
<b>368</b>	1.99E-11	1.60E-11	2.56E-12	1.32E-12	5.14E-14	4.29E-16	3.02E-21
<b>374</b>	1.20E-11	8.45E-12	2.12E-12	1.33E-12	6.34E-14	3.29E-16	4.70E-21
<b>489</b>	2.99E-11	2.65E-11	1.50E-12	1.76E-12	1.63E-13	5.65E-16	1.66E-19

Table A4 (Cont.)

Station	HgBrCl mol/L	HgCl <sub>3</sub> - mol/L	HgClOH mol/L	Hg(OH) <sub>2</sub> mol/L	HgBr <sub>2</sub> mol/L	HgBrOH mol/L	HgCl <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> mol/L
128	7.87E-23	1.03E-24	5.58E-22	6.54E-21	6.17E-24	9.31E-23	3.15E-27
130	3.03E-21	2.53E-23	1.81E-20	5.97E-19	8.76E-23	6.17E-21	6.19E-26
135	8.43E-22	5.39E-24	4.41E-21	9.04E-20	5.02E-23	1.35E-21	1.15E-26
136	2.45E-21	9.66E-24	8.86E-21	1.15E-19	2.79E-22	2.94E-21	1.61E-26
138	2.88E-22	1.98E-24	2.77E-21	1.64E-19	9.07E-24	1.05E-21	4.37E-27
141	3.96E-21	9.08E-23	1.48E-20	1.20E-19	1.19E-22	2.46E-21	3.73E-25
142	6.58E-22	9.46E-24	4.60E-21	5.99E-20	3.99E-23	7.95E-22	3.06E-26
143	1.01E-21	2.76E-23	8.95E-21	1.85E-19	2.26E-23	1.47E-21	1.24E-25
145	3.17E-21	6.46E-23	2.31E-20	3.21E-19	1.26E-22	3.70E-21	2.50E-25
147	3.02E-21	1.14E-22	9.37E-21	3.96E-20	9.18E-23	1.09E-21	6.05E-25
148	1.50E-21	3.57E-23	1.04E-20	2.14E-19	2.93E-23	2.00E-21	1.49E-25
149	8.52E-22	5.45E-24	6.58E-21	2.41E-19	4.03E-23	2.22E-21	1.16E-26
151	9.28E-22	3.71E-23	9.88E-21	2.15E-19	1.60E-23	1.39E-21	2.03E-25
152	1.37E-21	6.45E-24	3.67E-21	4.51E-20	9.52E-23	1.32E-21	1.17E-26
153	3.46E-22	1.91E-24	3.95E-21	3.17E-19	1.18E-23	1.69E-21	3.77E-27
154	1.46E-21	1.37E-23	1.24E-20	5.40E-19	4.08E-23	3.95E-21	3.57E-26
156	6.77E-21	1.61E-22	1.36E-20	5.05E-20	2.33E-22	2.07E-21	6.73E-25
157	7.80E-22	2.69E-23	4.62E-21	5.88E-20	1.49E-23	6.90E-22	1.37E-25
158	9.13E-22	1.57E-23	5.35E-21	9.17E-20	2.58E-23	1.11E-21	5.60E-26
159	1.97E-21	6.18E-23	1.03E-20	1.24E-19	4.29E-23	1.67E-21	3.16E-25
160	2.12E-21	1.45E-23	7.26E-21	9.57E-20	1.20E-22	2.17E-21	3.20E-26
161	7.81E-22	4.30E-24	4.91E-21	1.72E-19	3.58E-23	1.86E-21	8.51E-27
162	5.76E-22	3.17E-24	5.62E-21	2.20E-19	3.94E-23	1.81E-21	6.27E-27
163	1.07E-20	2.34E-22	1.21E-20	2.59E-20	5.35E-22	2.03E-21	1.07E-24
165	6.15E-21	3.93E-23	8.98E-21	4.36E-20	4.50E-22	2.54E-21	8.38E-26
166	4.36E-21	8.53E-23	8.94E-21	3.12E-20	2.09E-22	1.37E-21	3.23E-25
167	1.30E-21	1.45E-23	5.65E-21	8.90E-20	4.58E-23	1.45E-21	4.14E-26
169	1.06E-21	9.44E-24	3.79E-21	5.85E-20	3.88E-23	1.13E-21	2.38E-26
170	7.10E-22	1.48E-24	4.00E-21	1.45E-19	8.08E-23	2.08E-21	1.78E-27
171	1.34E-20	3.54E-22	2.31E-20	7.79E-20	5.20E-22	3.75E-21	1.81E-24
173	5.17E-22	2.43E-24	3.70E-21	1.29E-19	3.33E-23	1.37E-21	4.42E-27
174	1.73E-21	2.73E-23	5.77E-21	5.99E-20	5.02E-23	1.26E-21	9.25E-26
175	1.20E-21	5.62E-24	3.92E-21	7.48E-20	6.19E-23	1.59E-21	1.02E-26
176	1.54E-21	4.37E-23	1.11E-20	1.75E-19	3.53E-23	1.76E-21	2.01E-25
177	1.47E-21	3.37E-23	9.67E-21	1.07E-19	6.00E-23	1.42E-21	1.39E-25
178	5.97E-21	5.30E-23	1.08E-20	6.26E-20	3.14E-22	2.76E-21	1.34E-25
179	2.95E-21	6.22E-23	5.31E-21	2.00E-20	1.35E-22	9.44E-22	2.82E-25
180	4.43E-21	1.62E-22	1.74E-20	7.75E-20	1.73E-22	1.86E-21	8.48E-25

<b>181</b>	1.15E-21	3.75E-24	3.72E-21	6.22E-20	1.04E-22	1.55E-21	5.67E-27
<b>182</b>	4.89E-21	2.24E-22	1.49E-20	5.07E-20	1.53E-22	1.49E-21	1.32E-24
<b>183</b>	6.39E-21	2.52E-23	8.36E-21	5.48E-20	4.83E-22	3.28E-21	4.21E-26
<b>184</b>	4.41E-21	1.90E-23	5.05E-21	2.62E-20	3.42E-22	1.84E-21	3.31E-26
<b>185</b>	2.75E-21	1.89E-23	8.93E-21	1.19E-19	1.44E-22	2.76E-21	4.17E-26
<b>186</b>	5.49E-21	6.12E-23	1.20E-20	6.80E-20	2.96E-22	2.61E-21	1.74E-25
<b>187</b>	1.37E-21	8.78E-24	3.65E-21	3.54E-20	8.95E-23	1.08E-21	1.87E-26
<b>188</b>	2.18E-21	1.49E-23	6.28E-21	6.82E-20	1.26E-22	1.86E-21	3.30E-26
<b>190</b>	3.46E-21	6.24E-23	8.32E-21	4.93E-20	1.15E-22	1.57E-21	2.27E-25
<b>191</b>	2.32E-21	3.96E-23	1.00E-20	1.41E-19	6.46E-23	2.25E-21	1.48E-25
<b>192</b>	2.07E-21	1.14E-23	6.00E-21	7.54E-20	1.29E-22	2.01E-21	2.25E-26
<b>193</b>	4.04E-21	1.90E-23	8.85E-21	8.00E-20	3.19E-22	3.01E-21	3.46E-26
<b>194</b>	7.45E-21	3.79E-23	1.25E-20	6.78E-20	7.34E-22	3.69E-21	7.21E-26
<b>195</b>	1.58E-21	2.61E-23	4.90E-21	3.56E-20	6.18E-23	9.19E-22	9.10E-26
<b>197</b>	6.24E-22	9.85E-24	4.83E-21	9.90E-20	2.20E-23	9.73E-22	3.35E-26
<b>198</b>	1.74E-21	6.88E-24	6.44E-21	9.90E-20	1.66E-22	2.30E-21	1.15E-26
<b>199</b>	5.85E-21	3.74E-23	1.67E-20	1.38E-19	5.13E-22	4.40E-21	7.98E-26
<b>200</b>	1.35E-21	1.76E-23	6.83E-21	1.07E-19	4.87E-23	1.56E-21	5.40E-26
<b>202</b>	4.53E-21	2.31E-23	1.04E-20	7.51E-20	4.58E-22	3.03E-21	4.39E-26
<b>203</b>	4.22E-21	1.21E-22	1.71E-20	1.67E-19	1.46E-22	3.19E-21	7.22E-25
<b>204</b>	4.12E-21	2.45E-23	7.89E-21	3.99E-20	4.34E-22	2.03E-21	5.03E-26
<b>206</b>	1.19E-21	2.63E-23	1.41E-20	3.87E-19	3.43E-23	2.45E-21	1.06E-25
<b>207</b>	1.00E-20	5.95E-23	9.57E-21	3.22E-20	7.41E-22	2.84E-21	1.22E-25
<b>208</b>	4.50E-21	1.28E-22	1.17E-20	5.64E-20	1.28E-22	1.70E-21	5.88E-25
<b>210</b>	3.90E-21	1.30E-22	8.17E-21	2.80E-20	1.45E-22	1.14E-21	7.50E-25
<b>212</b>	3.29E-21	1.68E-23	7.50E-21	7.19E-20	2.32E-22	2.53E-21	3.19E-26
<b>213</b>	1.35E-21	9.29E-24	4.42E-21	5.35E-20	8.01E-23	1.30E-21	2.06E-26
<b>214</b>	6.25E-21	4.90E-23	6.91E-21	2.21E-20	4.33E-22	1.73E-21	1.16E-25
<b>215</b>	1.53E-21	1.44E-23	5.85E-21	6.22E-20	9.03E-23	1.37E-21	3.76E-26
<b>217</b>	2.41E-21	3.15E-23	4.96E-21	2.53E-20	1.14E-22	1.01E-21	9.68E-26
<b>218</b>	5.25E-21	1.22E-22	1.13E-20	5.15E-20	2.13E-22	1.97E-21	5.86E-25
<b>219</b>	9.06E-21	6.87E-22	1.56E-20	2.92E-20	2.21E-22	1.45E-21	6.10E-24
<b>220</b>	5.89E-21	1.01E-22	7.42E-21	2.73E-20	4.47E-22	1.92E-21	5.71E-25
<b>221</b>	4.64E-21	9.08E-23	1.02E-20	4.79E-20	1.70E-22	1.75E-21	3.44E-25
<b>223</b>	2.04E-20	1.25E-21	6.68E-20	4.05E-19	8.42E-22	1.06E-20	1.54E-23
<b>224</b>	6.86E-21	7.65E-23	1.37E-20	6.74E-20	3.93E-22	2.90E-21	2.17E-25
<b>225</b>	1.64E-21	1.21E-22	1.23E-20	1.14E-19	4.46E-23	1.30E-21	1.17E-24
<b>227</b>	2.83E-20	1.30E-21	6.25E-20	3.90E-19	1.32E-21	1.41E-20	1.62E-23
<b>229</b>	2.12E-21	3.35E-23	7.71E-21	5.85E-20	1.01E-22	1.38E-21	1.14E-25
<b>230</b>	1.06E-20	7.28E-23	2.00E-20	1.05E-19	8.89E-22	5.10E-21	1.61E-25
<b>233</b>	1.36E-20	1.64E-21	4.35E-20	1.83E-19	3.56E-22	4.76E-21	2.76E-23

<b>237</b>	2.65E-20	1.82E-22	1.17E-20	2.00E-20	1.48E-21	3.51E-21	4.02E-25
<b>238</b>	4.76E-20	2.95E-21	3.21E-20	5.09E-20	1.88E-21	6.05E-21	4.19E-23
<b>240</b>	3.90E-20	1.27E-22	1.38E-20	1.93E-20	4.93E-21	5.03E-21	1.92E-25
<b>242</b>	1.01E-19	2.67E-22	8.92E-21	4.19E-21	1.11E-20	3.98E-21	3.62E-25
<b>244</b>	1.26E-19	4.11E-22	1.59E-20	7.48E-21	1.70E-20	5.63E-21	6.21E-25
<b>245</b>	1.99E-20	9.34E-23	8.47E-21	2.06E-20	1.05E-21	3.40E-21	1.70E-25
<b>254</b>	1.97E-21	5.21E-23	1.55E-20	1.76E-19	8.33E-23	2.02E-21	2.31E-25
<b>256</b>	5.12E-21	1.15E-22	1.67E-20	1.27E-19	2.10E-22	3.14E-21	5.58E-25
<b>257</b>	4.33E-21	4.08E-23	2.52E-20	4.03E-19	2.59E-22	5.88E-21	1.06E-25
<b>258</b>	3.23E-21	7.97E-23	2.05E-20	1.79E-19	1.55E-22	2.67E-21	3.39E-25
<b>368</b>	3.98E-21	1.43E-23	9.94E-21	9.38E-20	4.73E-22	3.46E-21	2.27E-26
<b>374</b>	4.18E-21	3.28E-23	7.41E-21	4.45E-20	2.37E-22	2.01E-21	7.75E-26
<b>489</b>	6.77E-20	3.29E-21	4.54E-20	5.13E-20	1.59E-21	5.88E-21	2.31E-23

Table A4 (Cont.)

<b>Station</b>	<b>HgBr<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> mol/L</b>	<b>HgBr<sup>+</sup> mol/L</b>	<b>HgCl<sup>+</sup> mol/L</b>	<b>HgOH<sup>+</sup> mol/L</b>	<b>HgBr<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> mol/L</b>	<b>Hg(OH)<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> mol/L</b>	<b>Hg<sup>2+</sup> mol/L</b>
<b>128</b>	6.46E-28	4.87E-26	4.55E-26	9.88E-26	1.62E-32	2.25E-28	9.81E-30
<b>130</b>	3.11E-26	2.33E-24	1.74E-24	6.51E-24	7.74E-31	2.83E-26	3.00E-28
<b>135</b>	9.87E-27	7.39E-25	4.83E-25	1.43E-24	2.45E-31	2.97E-27	1.17E-28
<b>136</b>	3.65E-26	2.72E-24	1.39E-24	3.07E-24	9.01E-31	2.22E-27	4.91E-28
<b>138</b>	3.26E-27	2.44E-25	1.65E-25	1.10E-24	8.11E-32	1.26E-26	3.11E-29
<b>141</b>	2.45E-26	1.87E-24	2.31E-24	2.63E-24	6.20E-31	2.88E-27	3.01E-28
<b>142</b>	5.14E-27	3.89E-25	3.81E-25	8.46E-25	1.29E-31	2.22E-27	7.32E-29
<b>143</b>	5.70E-27	4.35E-25	5.89E-25	1.58E-24	1.44E-31	1.14E-26	6.53E-29
<b>145</b>	2.08E-26	1.58E-24	1.84E-24	3.95E-24	5.24E-31	1.37E-26	2.74E-28
<b>147</b>	1.46E-26	1.12E-24	1.78E-24	1.18E-24	3.72E-31	7.07E-28	2.02E-28
<b>148</b>	9.11E-27	6.95E-25	8.77E-25	2.15E-24	2.31E-31	1.12E-26	9.69E-29
<b>149</b>	9.99E-27	7.47E-25	4.88E-25	2.34E-24	2.48E-31	1.28E-26	1.09E-28
<b>151</b>	4.35E-27	3.35E-25	5.47E-25	1.50E-24	1.11E-31	1.64E-26	4.99E-29
<b>152</b>	1.88E-26	1.40E-24	7.84E-25	1.38E-24	4.65E-31	7.57E-28	2.20E-28
<b>153</b>	4.37E-27	3.26E-25	1.98E-25	1.77E-24	1.08E-31	2.93E-26	4.10E-29
<b>154</b>	1.41E-26	1.06E-24	8.39E-25	4.17E-24	3.51E-31	3.62E-26	1.38E-28
<b>156</b>	4.12E-26	3.13E-24	3.95E-24	2.21E-24	1.04E-30	6.07E-28	5.33E-28
<b>157</b>	3.94E-27	3.03E-25	4.60E-25	7.46E-25	1.01E-31	2.46E-27	4.56E-29
<b>158</b>	6.51E-27	4.95E-25	5.32E-25	1.18E-24	1.64E-31	3.73E-27	7.40E-29
<b>159</b>	1.21E-26	7.70E-25	1.06E-24	1.65E-24	3.40E-31	4.96E-27	1.07E-28
<b>160</b>	2.39E-26	1.79E-24	1.21E-24	2.28E-24	5.95E-31	2.08E-27	2.82E-28
<b>161</b>	9.85E-27	7.36E-25	4.47E-25	1.96E-24	2.44E-31	7.77E-27	1.03E-28
<b>162</b>	7.26E-27	5.43E-25	3.29E-25	1.90E-24	1.80E-31	1.31E-26	8.75E-29
<b>163</b>	1.01E-25	4.56E-24	4.83E-24	1.68E-24	3.32E-30	2.10E-28	6.45E-28

<b>165</b>	7.20E-26	5.39E-24	3.52E-24	2.67E-24	1.79E-30	3.68E-28	9.19E-28
<b>166</b>	2.92E-26	2.22E-24	2.54E-24	1.46E-24	7.37E-31	3.50E-28	4.10E-28
<b>167</b>	1.16E-26	8.74E-25	7.55E-25	1.55E-24	2.90E-31	2.68E-27	1.29E-28
<b>169</b>	1.06E-26	7.93E-25	6.11E-25	1.19E-24	2.63E-31	1.49E-27	1.12E-28
<b>170</b>	1.46E-26	1.08E-24	4.02E-25	2.16E-24	3.57E-31	4.94E-27	1.72E-28
<b>171</b>	1.14E-25	5.22E-24	6.09E-24	3.14E-24	3.81E-30	1.03E-27	7.17E-28
<b>173</b>	7.07E-27	5.27E-25	2.95E-25	1.43E-24	1.75E-31	5.95E-27	8.05E-29
<b>174</b>	1.29E-26	9.76E-25	1.00E-24	1.34E-24	3.24E-31	1.40E-27	1.43E-28
<b>175</b>	1.64E-26	1.22E-24	6.83E-25	1.66E-24	4.05E-31	1.73E-27	1.72E-28
<b>176</b>	8.57E-27	6.55E-25	9.02E-25	1.89E-24	2.17E-31	8.60E-27	1.00E-28
<b>177</b>	9.11E-27	6.95E-25	8.59E-25	1.52E-24	2.30E-31	3.97E-27	1.25E-28
<b>178</b>	5.93E-26	4.46E-24	3.43E-24	2.92E-24	1.48E-30	6.97E-28	7.20E-28
<b>179</b>	2.82E-26	1.28E-24	1.33E-24	7.85E-25	9.35E-31	2.71E-28	1.77E-28
<b>180</b>	2.17E-26	1.67E-24	2.60E-24	2.01E-24	5.53E-31	1.59E-27	3.26E-28
<b>181</b>	1.88E-26	1.40E-24	6.54E-25	1.62E-24	4.65E-31	1.23E-27	2.25E-28
<b>182</b>	2.14E-26	1.65E-24	2.88E-24	1.62E-24	5.47E-31	8.45E-28	3.13E-28
<b>183</b>	9.52E-26	7.10E-24	3.65E-24	3.43E-24	2.36E-30	4.51E-28	1.11E-27
<b>184</b>	6.28E-26	4.68E-24	2.51E-24	1.93E-24	1.55E-30	1.83E-28	7.52E-28
<b>185</b>	3.11E-26	2.33E-24	1.58E-24	2.90E-24	7.73E-31	2.52E-27	3.56E-28
<b>186</b>	4.86E-26	3.67E-24	3.17E-24	2.77E-24	1.22E-30	8.71E-28	6.29E-28
<b>187</b>	1.61E-26	1.20E-24	7.87E-25	1.14E-24	4.00E-31	5.68E-28	1.96E-28
<b>188</b>	2.46E-26	1.84E-24	1.25E-24	1.95E-24	6.12E-31	1.23E-27	2.93E-28
<b>190</b>	2.42E-26	1.84E-24	2.02E-24	1.68E-24	6.11E-31	7.63E-28	2.95E-28
<b>191</b>	1.92E-26	1.21E-24	1.23E-24	2.20E-24	5.35E-31	4.79E-27	1.62E-28
<b>192</b>	2.61E-26	1.95E-24	1.18E-24	2.11E-24	6.46E-31	1.39E-27	3.04E-28
<b>193</b>	5.52E-26	4.12E-24	2.31E-24	3.16E-24	1.37E-30	1.04E-27	6.79E-28
<b>194</b>	9.77E-26	7.30E-24	4.26E-24	3.87E-24	2.42E-30	6.11E-28	1.32E-27
<b>195</b>	1.15E-26	8.78E-25	9.22E-25	9.83E-25	2.91E-31	6.77E-28	1.46E-28
<b>197</b>	4.65E-27	3.53E-25	3.63E-25	1.04E-24	1.17E-31	4.95E-27	5.60E-29
<b>198</b>	2.60E-26	1.94E-24	9.96E-25	2.41E-24	6.44E-31	2.09E-27	3.30E-28
<b>199</b>	6.86E-26	5.13E-24	3.36E-24	4.63E-24	1.70E-30	2.11E-27	9.33E-28
<b>200</b>	1.10E-26	8.35E-25	7.80E-25	1.66E-24	2.77E-31	3.61E-27	1.28E-28
<b>202</b>	5.94E-26	4.44E-24	2.59E-24	3.18E-24	1.47E-30	9.15E-28	8.15E-28
<b>203</b>	4.73E-26	1.45E-24	1.58E-24	2.20E-24	1.97E-30	6.92E-27	1.55E-28
<b>204</b>	5.00E-26	3.75E-24	2.36E-24	2.13E-24	1.24E-30	3.87E-28	7.18E-28
<b>206</b>	7.54E-27	5.76E-25	6.99E-25	2.63E-24	1.91E-31	3.01E-26	9.10E-29
<b>207</b>	1.22E-25	9.11E-24	5.74E-24	2.98E-24	3.02E-30	1.79E-28	1.54E-27
<b>208</b>	2.50E-26	1.92E-24	2.64E-24	1.84E-24	6.37E-31	9.17E-28	3.19E-28
<b>210</b>	2.96E-26	1.36E-24	1.78E-24	9.60E-25	9.91E-31	4.37E-28	1.92E-28
<b>212</b>	4.32E-26	3.23E-24	1.88E-24	2.65E-24	1.07E-30	1.01E-27	5.19E-28
<b>213</b>	1.53E-26	1.15E-24	7.78E-25	1.37E-24	3.81E-31	1.08E-27	1.84E-28

214	6.62E-26	4.97E-24	3.60E-24	1.83E-24	1.65E-30	1.38E-28	8.67E-28
215	1.48E-26	1.11E-24	8.83E-25	1.45E-24	3.69E-31	1.38E-27	1.90E-28
217	1.98E-26	1.50E-24	1.40E-24	1.08E-24	4.96E-31	3.09E-28	2.52E-28
218	4.77E-26	2.18E-24	2.38E-24	1.64E-24	1.59E-30	8.59E-28	2.95E-28
219	4.57E-26	2.15E-24	4.24E-24	1.25E-24	1.57E-30	3.75E-28	3.17E-28
220	1.57E-25	2.13E-24	1.47E-24	8.80E-25	9.79E-30	4.60E-28	1.71E-28
221	3.11E-26	2.36E-24	2.70E-24	1.87E-24	7.83E-31	6.45E-28	3.95E-28
223	4.02E-25	3.61E-24	4.21E-24	4.01E-24	3.24E-29	2.30E-26	2.40E-28
224	6.08E-26	4.58E-24	3.96E-24	3.08E-24	1.52E-30	7.70E-28	8.01E-28
225	1.15E-26	3.59E-25	6.27E-25	9.11E-25	4.88E-31	7.90E-27	4.31E-29
227	9.93E-25	5.08E-24	4.44E-24	4.06E-24	1.08E-28	2.12E-26	2.44E-28
229	1.58E-26	1.20E-24	1.23E-24	1.47E-24	3.98E-31	1.22E-27	2.12E-28
230	1.20E-25	9.00E-24	6.09E-24	5.37E-24	2.99E-30	1.07E-27	1.63E-27
233	1.63E-25	1.85E-24	3.19E-24	2.05E-24	1.21E-29	9.36E-27	1.40E-28
237	3.00E-25	2.25E-23	1.52E-23	3.70E-24	7.47E-30	5.58E-29	3.53E-27
238	1.33E-24	7.58E-24	7.90E-24	1.84E-24	1.38E-28	8.01E-28	3.89E-28
240	6.39E-25	4.75E-23	2.22E-23	5.25E-24	1.58E-29	3.62E-29	8.59E-27
242	1.84E-24	1.36E-22	5.73E-23	4.15E-24	4.52E-29	2.17E-30	2.25E-26
244	2.06E-24	1.53E-22	7.16E-23	5.88E-24	5.09E-29	4.88E-30	2.84E-26
245	2.72E-25	2.03E-23	1.14E-23	3.56E-24	6.73E-30	6.17E-29	2.89E-27
254	1.13E-26	8.64E-25	1.15E-24	2.17E-24	2.87E-31	7.49E-27	1.62E-28
256	5.31E-26	2.09E-24	2.16E-24	2.44E-24	1.91E-30	3.51E-27	2.60E-28
257	4.18E-26	3.14E-24	2.49E-24	6.21E-24	1.04E-30	1.35E-26	5.37E-28
258	1.93E-26	1.47E-24	1.88E-24	2.85E-24	4.87E-31	5.94E-27	2.83E-28
368	6.21E-26	4.62E-24	2.26E-24	3.62E-24	1.53E-30	1.25E-27	8.34E-28
374	4.43E-26	3.32E-24	2.40E-24	2.12E-24	1.10E-30	4.84E-28	5.37E-28
489	4.27E-25	1.98E-23	3.13E-23	4.99E-24	1.44E-29	2.86E-28	2.60E-27

**Table A5** Concentrations of Hg species in surface water of Everglades in spring 2005 ( $[S^2] \ll 3.2 \times 10^{-7}$  mg/L)

Station	Hg mol/L	RSHg <sup>(n-1)</sup> - mol/L	HgCl <sub>2</sub> mol/L	HgBrCl mol/L	HgCl <sub>3</sub> - mol/L	HgClOH mol/L	Hg(OH) <sub>2</sub> mol/L
28	3.34E-11	3.34E-11	2.24E-20	5.53E-20	2.87E-22	1.30E-20	6.41E-20
30	1.50E-11	1.50E-11	1.67E-20	1.33E-20	2.22E-22	2.37E-20	1.23E-19
31	1.10E-11	1.10E-11	1.18E-20	8.95E-21	1.83E-22	1.42E-20	5.81E-20
33	1.20E-11	1.20E-11	7.53E-21	5.21E-21	1.15E-22	1.38E-20	1.21E-19
37	1.25E-11	1.25E-11	6.42E-21	2.18E-21	6.94E-23	1.99E-20	1.63E-19
43	1.35E-11	1.35E-11	1.13E-20	6.18E-21	1.02E-22	1.86E-20	8.59E-20
45	1.05E-11	1.05E-11	1.37E-20	7.59E-21	1.55E-22	9.34E-21	5.31E-20
46	9.47E-12	9.47E-12	1.65E-20	9.47E-21	1.78E-22	9.74E-21	2.75E-20
47	1.35E-11	1.35E-11	1.17E-20	7.32E-21	1.16E-22	2.02E-20	1.01E-19
49	1.20E-11	1.20E-11	1.50E-20	9.17E-21	2.30E-22	1.32E-20	6.64E-20

<b>51</b>	7.48E-12	7.48E-12	6.17E-21	4.26E-21	5.56E-23	1.03E-20	4.89E-20
<b>52</b>	1.10E-11	1.10E-11	9.69E-21	8.63E-21	6.76E-23	1.29E-20	4.61E-20
<b>53</b>	1.10E-11	1.10E-11	4.62E-21	2.78E-21	4.79E-23	1.09E-20	1.33E-19
<b>54</b>	5.98E-12	5.98E-12	2.72E-21	2.68E-21	1.71E-23	6.33E-21	5.23E-20
<b>55</b>	9.47E-12	9.47E-12	1.39E-20	1.04E-20	1.16E-22	1.26E-20	2.68E-20
<b>56</b>	1.50E-11	1.50E-11	1.01E-20	4.80E-21	1.60E-22	3.01E-20	2.55E-19
<b>57</b>	1.75E-11	1.75E-11	1.43E-20	1.04E-20	2.10E-22	2.22E-20	1.26E-19
<b>59</b>	9.47E-12	9.47E-12	9.75E-21	6.73E-21	9.66E-23	1.64E-20	6.71E-20
<b>61</b>	7.48E-12	7.48E-12	1.08E-21	1.03E-21	7.08E-24	7.53E-21	3.55E-19
<b>62</b>	9.97E-12	9.97E-12	8.29E-21	5.86E-21	8.03E-23	9.13E-21	5.96E-20
<b>63</b>	1.30E-11	1.30E-11	6.83E-21	3.56E-21	8.15E-23	1.27E-20	1.64E-19
<b>66</b>	5.48E-12	5.48E-12	1.04E-20	6.33E-21	1.59E-22	1.84E-20	5.54E-20
<b>67</b>	6.48E-12	6.48E-12	2.81E-21	1.65E-21	2.97E-23	1.14E-20	1.62E-19
<b>68</b>	7.48E-12	7.48E-12	7.57E-21	3.67E-21	9.72E-23	1.30E-20	5.19E-20
<b>69</b>	6.98E-12	6.98E-12	3.52E-21	2.78E-21	2.78E-23	7.17E-21	1.15E-19
<b>70</b>	1.50E-11	1.50E-11	8.84E-21	8.72E-21	5.57E-23	1.75E-20	8.60E-20
<b>73</b>	6.48E-12	6.48E-12	7.16E-21	4.00E-21	1.35E-22	8.47E-21	7.94E-20
<b>75</b>	1.25E-11	1.25E-11	9.68E-21	6.69E-21	8.72E-23	1.80E-20	1.11E-19
<b>77</b>	7.48E-12	7.48E-12	4.52E-21	2.08E-21	6.10E-23	7.97E-21	4.92E-20
<b>80</b>	1.05E-11	1.05E-11	7.68E-21	2.87E-21	1.28E-22	1.39E-20	1.26E-19
<b>81</b>	9.97E-12	9.97E-12	1.03E-20	4.66E-21	1.55E-22	2.02E-20	1.02E-19
<b>82</b>	9.97E-12	9.97E-12	1.41E-20	7.03E-21	2.28E-22	1.79E-20	7.03E-20
<b>83</b>	1.30E-11	1.30E-11	1.51E-20	8.51E-21	1.67E-22	2.05E-20	8.83E-20
<b>84</b>	1.05E-11	1.05E-11	3.40E-21	1.51E-21	7.67E-23	1.38E-20	3.72E-19
<b>85</b>	1.05E-11	1.05E-11	2.24E-20	1.40E-20	3.13E-22	2.48E-20	6.87E-20
<b>88</b>	9.47E-12	9.47E-12	7.40E-21	3.53E-21	9.67E-23	1.30E-20	1.07E-19
<b>89</b>	1.50E-11	1.50E-11	8.99E-21	4.14E-21	1.94E-22	1.74E-20	2.45E-19
<b>90</b>	9.47E-12	9.47E-12	1.01E-20	3.88E-21	1.64E-22	1.54E-20	6.34E-20
<b>91</b>	1.60E-11	1.60E-11	2.46E-21	1.17E-21	3.21E-23	1.52E-20	7.47E-19
<b>93</b>	1.20E-11	1.20E-11	5.10E-21	2.31E-21	7.00E-23	1.18E-20	2.23E-19
<b>94</b>	1.15E-11	1.15E-11	2.61E-21	1.39E-21	3.06E-23	8.77E-21	3.25E-19
<b>95</b>	1.10E-11	1.10E-11	1.79E-20	7.71E-21	2.57E-22	1.82E-20	5.89E-20
<b>99</b>	1.20E-11	1.20E-11	6.08E-21	2.67E-21	8.63E-23	1.16E-20	1.30E-19
<b>101</b>	1.84E-11	1.84E-11	1.93E-21	1.40E-21	1.65E-23	1.26E-20	7.48E-19
<b>105</b>	8.48E-12	8.48E-12	5.18E-21	3.00E-21	7.23E-23	1.09E-20	6.90E-20
<b>106</b>	1.20E-11	1.20E-11	2.16E-21	1.53E-21	1.90E-23	6.59E-21	2.19E-19
<b>107</b>	2.34E-11	2.34E-11	1.24E-20	6.11E-21	3.90E-22	2.83E-20	4.90E-19
<b>114</b>	1.40E-11	1.40E-11	6.45E-20	8.10E-20	3.20E-22	8.13E-21	3.32E-21
<b>119</b>	1.30E-11	1.30E-11	6.29E-20	5.43E-20	4.53E-22	1.29E-20	6.74E-21
<b>351</b>	1.50E-11	1.50E-11	2.25E-20	1.96E-20	3.70E-22	2.72E-20	7.24E-20
<b>365</b>	7.98E-12	7.98E-12	5.52E-21	2.99E-21	6.34E-23	8.59E-21	7.86E-20

Table A5 (Cont.)

Station	HgBr <sub>2</sub> mol/L	HgBrOH mol/L	HgCl <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> mol/L	HgBr <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> mol/L	HgBr <sup>+</sup> mol/L	HgCl <sup>+</sup> mol/L	HgOH <sup>+</sup> mol/L
28	3.24E-21	1.46E-20	1.27E-24	8.29E-24	2.43E-23	6.35E-24	3.08E-24
30	7.11E-22	5.64E-21	1.02E-24	2.14E-25	5.65E-24	4.58E-24	3.56E-24
31	5.00E-22	3.11E-21	9.88E-25	1.54E-25	3.28E-24	2.78E-24	1.77E-24
33	1.73E-22	3.26E-21	6.15E-25	7.26E-26	1.94E-24	1.81E-24	2.08E-24
37	7.39E-23	1.72E-21	2.59E-25	5.19E-27	1.14E-24	2.16E-24	3.13E-24
43	3.15E-22	2.66E-21	3.14E-25	3.16E-26	3.83E-24	4.53E-24	3.58E-24
45	1.01E-22	2.33E-21	5.97E-25	4.98E-26	3.78E-24	4.41E-24	2.49E-24
46	2.63E-22	1.91E-21	6.59E-25	6.47E-26	4.91E-24	5.50E-24	2.04E-24
47	4.14E-22	3.36E-21	3.91E-25	5.46E-26	4.13E-24	4.24E-24	3.58E-24
49	2.14E-22	3.01E-21	1.22E-24	9.95E-26	3.39E-24	3.59E-24	2.16E-24
51	2.71E-22	1.87E-21	1.71E-25	3.50E-26	2.64E-24	2.46E-24	1.99E-24
52	7.55E-22	2.94E-21	1.60E-25	9.13E-26	6.85E-24	4.95E-24	3.10E-24
53	7.30E-23	2.33E-21	1.70E-25	1.98E-26	1.50E-24	1.61E-24	2.48E-24
54	1.85E-22	1.84E-21	3.65E-26	3.14E-26	2.35E-24	1.53E-24	1.93E-24
55	8.99E-22	2.25E-21	3.28E-25	9.18E-26	6.91E-24	5.97E-24	2.38E-24
56	2.08E-22	3.76E-21	8.73E-25	3.24E-26	1.73E-24	2.35E-24	3.38E-24
57	5.03E-22	4.79E-21	1.06E-24	1.51E-25	4.00E-24	3.57E-24	3.03E-24
59	5.13E-22	2.76E-21	3.28E-25	6.07E-26	3.81E-24	3.55E-24	2.68E-24
61	3.08E-23	2.92E-21	1.56E-26	1.17E-26	8.75E-25	5.92E-25	3.07E-24
62	1.53E-22	2.45E-21	2.66E-25	5.41E-26	3.38E-24	3.08E-24	2.37E-24
63	5.65E-23	2.72E-21	3.36E-25	2.20E-26	1.69E-24	2.08E-24	2.93E-24
66	6.63E-22	2.29E-21	8.49E-25	6.88E-26	2.36E-24	2.49E-24	1.65E-24
67	6.82E-23	1.96E-21	1.08E-25	1.15E-26	8.75E-25	9.60E-25	2.09E-24
68	2.07E-22	1.50E-21	4.30E-25	2.11E-26	1.61E-24	2.14E-24	1.61E-24
69	5.70E-23	2.48E-21	7.45E-26	2.61E-26	1.96E-24	1.60E-24	2.63E-24
70	9.31E-22	4.25E-21	1.20E-25	1.02E-25	7.71E-24	5.04E-24	4.51E-24
73	5.78E-23	2.08E-21	8.94E-25	4.52E-26	1.21E-24	1.39E-24	1.33E-24
75	3.50E-22	3.54E-21	2.68E-25	5.49E-26	4.14E-24	3.87E-24	3.75E-24
77	6.80E-23	1.07E-21	2.88E-25	1.14E-26	8.79E-25	1.23E-24	1.17E-24
80	4.88E-23	1.81E-21	7.45E-25	1.27E-26	9.83E-25	1.70E-24	1.97E-24
81	2.18E-22	2.30E-21	8.11E-25	2.76E-26	1.75E-24	2.49E-24	2.25E-24
82	2.90E-22	2.45E-21	1.29E-24	5.41E-26	2.47E-24	3.20E-24	2.05E-24
83	3.84E-22	3.21E-21	6.33E-25	5.70E-26	4.34E-24	4.97E-24	3.45E-24
84	2.14E-23	2.46E-21	6.10E-25	1.26E-26	3.86E-25	5.63E-25	1.69E-24
85	9.30E-22	3.83E-21	1.52E-24	1.45E-25	5.70E-24	5.89E-24	2.96E-24
88	8.33E-23	2.10E-21	4.36E-25	1.99E-26	1.52E-24	2.06E-24	2.25E-24
89	5.46E-23	3.38E-21	1.49E-24	3.62E-26	1.11E-24	1.56E-24	2.33E-24
90	1.44E-22	1.52E-21	9.26E-25	1.77E-26	1.36E-24	2.29E-24	1.65E-24

<b>91</b>	1.45E-23	3.19E-21	1.45E-25	6.63E-27	5.07E-25	6.87E-25	3.43E-24
<b>93</b>	2.62E-23	2.38E-21	3.34E-25	1.24E-26	9.54E-25	1.36E-24	2.57E-24
<b>94</b>	1.26E-23	2.42E-21	1.23E-25	8.75E-27	6.67E-25	8.10E-25	2.59E-24
<b>95</b>	2.68E-22	2.19E-21	1.29E-24	3.95E-26	3.03E-24	4.53E-24	2.36E-24
<b>99</b>	4.38E-23	1.93E-21	4.24E-25	1.39E-26	1.07E-24	1.57E-24	2.08E-24
<b>101</b>	2.20E-23	4.32E-21	4.87E-26	1.21E-26	9.25E-25	8.20E-25	4.63E-24
<b>105</b>	1.48E-22	1.71E-21	3.49E-25	2.68E-26	1.22E-24	1.35E-24	1.42E-24
<b>106</b>	1.89E-23	2.41E-21	5.74E-26	1.29E-26	9.81E-25	8.93E-25	2.57E-24
<b>107</b>	8.19E-23	6.01E-21	4.46E-24	8.96E-26	1.15E-24	1.50E-24	2.71E-24
<b>114</b>	7.92E-21	2.87E-21	5.32E-25	1.21E-24	8.99E-23	4.62E-23	3.00E-24
<b>119</b>	4.94E-21	2.78E-21	1.11E-24	5.56E-25	4.18E-23	3.12E-23	2.93E-24
<b>351</b>	2.15E-21	5.49E-21	2.13E-24	4.66E-25	6.82E-24	5.05E-24	2.60E-24
<b>365</b>	6.04E-23	1.76E-21	2.52E-25	1.92E-26	1.47E-24	1.75E-24	1.90E-24

Table A5 (Cont.)

<b>Station</b>	<b>HgBr<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> mol/L</b>	<b>Hg(OH)<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> mol/L</b>	<b>Hg<sup>2+</sup> mol/L</b>
<b>28</b>	1.07E-27	7.03E-28	5.62E-28
<b>30</b>	9.21E-30	2.24E-27	5.67E-28
<b>31</b>	7.46E-30	1.01E-27	3.09E-28
<b>33</b>	3.16E-30	3.77E-27	1.76E-28
<b>37</b>	7.76E-32	4.51E-27	3.81E-28
<b>43</b>	6.27E-31	1.08E-27	9.16E-28
<b>45</b>	1.25E-30	5.95E-28	4.44E-28
<b>46</b>	1.63E-30	1.94E-28	7.36E-28
<b>47</b>	1.37E-30	1.49E-27	7.71E-28
<b>49</b>	3.80E-30	1.08E-27	3.19E-28
<b>51</b>	8.75E-31	6.26E-28	4.93E-28
<b>52</b>	2.27E-30	3.54E-28	1.29E-27
<b>53</b>	4.98E-31	3.74E-27	2.17E-28
<b>54</b>	7.79E-31	7.31E-28	3.91E-28
<b>55</b>	2.29E-30	1.57E-28	1.40E-27
<b>56</b>	9.90E-31	1.02E-26	2.77E-28
<b>57</b>	6.52E-30	2.76E-27	4.04E-28
<b>59</b>	1.68E-30	8.83E-28	6.98E-28
<b>61</b>	2.90E-31	2.12E-26	1.09E-28
<b>62</b>	1.49E-30	7.82E-28	4.16E-28
<b>63</b>	5.59E-31	4.84E-27	2.18E-28
<b>66</b>	2.64E-30	9.92E-28	3.84E-28
<b>67</b>	2.90E-31	6.59E-27	1.50E-28
<b>68</b>	5.35E-31	8.81E-28	3.35E-28
<b>69</b>	6.51E-31	2.62E-27	2.32E-28

70	2.56E-30	8.55E-28	1.53E-27
73	1.97E-30	2.53E-27	8.84E-29
75	1.37E-30	1.71E-27	7.24E-28
77	2.92E-31	1.11E-27	1.57E-28
80	3.26E-31	4.30E-27	1.50E-28
81	7.74E-31	2.46E-27	3.20E-28
82	1.80E-30	1.29E-27	3.58E-28
83	1.44E-30	1.19E-27	7.88E-28
84	5.25E-31	4.43E-26	3.32E-29
85	5.19E-30	8.49E-28	8.33E-28
88	5.06E-31	2.70E-27	2.34E-28
89	1.51E-30	1.40E-26	9.24E-29
90	4.53E-31	1.30E-27	2.71E-28
91	1.68E-31	8.59E-26	6.20E-29
93	3.17E-31	1.02E-26	1.16E-28
94	2.21E-31	2.15E-26	6.96E-29
95	1.01E-30	7.78E-28	5.60E-28
99	3.53E-31	4.33E-27	1.49E-28
101	3.07E-31	6.37E-26	1.05E-28
105	8.87E-31	1.78E-27	1.76E-28
106	3.26E-31	9.75E-27	1.03E-28
107	5.97E-30	4.92E-26	6.29E-29
114	2.98E-29	1.89E-30	1.54E-26
119	1.39E-29	8.04E-30	8.11E-27
351	2.75E-29	1.08E-27	6.53E-28
365	4.89E-31	1.72E-27	2.05E-28

**Table A6** Concentrations of Hg species in surface water of Everglades in fall 2005 ( $[S^{2-}] \ll 3.2 \times 10^{-7}$  mg/L)

Station	Hg mol/L	RSHg <sup>(n-1)</sup> - mol/L	HgCl <sub>2</sub> mol/L	HgBrCl mol/L	HgCl <sub>3</sub> - mol/L	HgClOH mol/L	Hg(OH) <sub>2</sub> mol/L
128	8.48E-12	8.48E-12	4.46E-21	3.08E-21	4.02E-23	2.19E-20	2.56E-19
130	1.40E-11	1.40E-11	5.23E-21	4.52E-21	3.77E-23	2.69E-20	8.89E-19
135	5.98E-12	5.98E-12	2.61E-21	2.58E-21	1.65E-23	1.35E-20	2.77E-19
136	7.48E-12	7.48E-12	4.28E-21	5.38E-21	2.12E-23	1.95E-20	2.53E-19
138	5.98E-12	5.98E-12	1.03E-21	9.80E-22	6.72E-24	9.41E-21	5.58E-19
141	1.35E-11	1.35E-11	1.10E-20	5.72E-21	1.31E-22	2.14E-20	1.73E-19
142	5.48E-12	5.48E-12	3.33E-21	2.19E-21	3.15E-23	1.53E-20	1.99E-19
143	8.48E-12	8.48E-12	4.28E-21	2.04E-21	5.59E-23	1.81E-20	3.74E-19
145	1.50E-11	1.50E-11	8.17E-21	4.51E-21	9.20E-23	3.29E-20	4.57E-19
147	7.98E-12	7.98E-12	1.34E-20	5.44E-21	2.05E-22	1.69E-20	7.12E-20
148	1.15E-11	1.15E-11	4.72E-21	2.41E-21	5.74E-23	1.68E-20	3.44E-19

<b>149</b>	8.97E-12	8.97E-12	1.69E-21	1.66E-21	1.06E-23	1.28E-20	4.69E-19
<b>151</b>	9.97E-12	9.97E-12	4.15E-21	1.64E-21	6.54E-23	1.74E-20	3.80E-19
<b>152</b>	6.98E-12	6.98E-12	2.48E-21	2.85E-21	1.34E-23	7.62E-21	9.35E-20
<b>153</b>	7.98E-12	7.98E-12	7.28E-22	7.74E-22	4.26E-24	8.83E-21	7.09E-19
<b>154</b>	1.30E-11	1.30E-11	2.77E-21	2.25E-21	2.12E-23	1.92E-20	8.32E-19
<b>156</b>	1.05E-11	1.05E-11	2.02E-20	1.03E-20	2.46E-22	2.07E-20	7.72E-20
<b>157</b>	6.98E-12	6.98E-12	4.08E-21	1.73E-21	5.97E-23	1.03E-20	1.31E-19
<b>158</b>	7.98E-12	7.98E-12	3.08E-21	1.85E-21	3.19E-23	1.08E-20	1.86E-19
<b>159</b>	1.15E-11	1.15E-11	6.63E-21	3.10E-21	9.71E-23	1.62E-20	1.95E-19
<b>160</b>	8.48E-12	8.48E-12	4.23E-21	4.03E-21	2.76E-23	1.38E-20	1.82E-19
<b>161</b>	9.47E-12	9.47E-12	1.34E-21	1.42E-21	7.84E-24	8.95E-21	3.13E-19
<b>162</b>	8.97E-12	8.97E-12	1.05E-21	1.12E-21	6.15E-24	1.09E-20	4.26E-19
<b>163</b>	8.97E-12	8.97E-12	2.66E-20	1.62E-20	3.54E-22	1.83E-20	3.91E-20
<b>165</b>	8.97E-12	8.97E-12	1.01E-20	9.92E-21	6.34E-23	1.45E-20	7.04E-20
<b>166</b>	7.48E-12	7.48E-12	1.37E-20	7.75E-21	1.52E-22	1.59E-20	5.54E-20
<b>167</b>	8.48E-12	8.48E-12	3.32E-21	2.48E-21	2.77E-23	1.08E-20	1.70E-19
<b>169</b>	6.98E-12	6.98E-12	2.80E-21	2.35E-21	2.08E-23	8.37E-21	1.29E-19
<b>170</b>	9.47E-12	9.47E-12	7.40E-22	1.28E-21	2.67E-24	7.20E-21	2.60E-19
<b>171</b>	1.84E-11	1.84E-11	3.06E-20	1.69E-20	4.48E-22	2.93E-20	9.86E-20
<b>173</b>	7.98E-12	7.98E-12	9.42E-22	1.08E-21	5.09E-24	7.75E-21	2.70E-19
<b>174</b>	7.98E-12	7.98E-12	5.30E-21	3.33E-21	5.25E-23	1.11E-20	1.15E-19
<b>175</b>	7.98E-12	7.98E-12	2.05E-21	2.36E-21	1.11E-23	7.73E-21	1.48E-19
<b>176</b>	1.10E-11	1.10E-11	5.40E-21	2.53E-21	7.17E-23	1.81E-20	2.88E-19
<b>177</b>	9.47E-12	9.47E-12	4.98E-21	2.60E-21	5.95E-23	1.71E-20	1.89E-19
<b>178</b>	1.15E-11	1.15E-11	1.06E-20	8.84E-21	7.84E-23	1.59E-20	9.27E-20
<b>179</b>	5.98E-12	5.98E-12	9.64E-21	5.97E-21	1.26E-22	1.08E-20	4.06E-20
<b>180</b>	1.15E-11	1.15E-11	1.63E-20	6.73E-21	2.46E-22	2.64E-20	1.18E-19
<b>181</b>	8.48E-12	8.48E-12	1.51E-21	2.09E-21	6.81E-24	6.76E-21	1.13E-19
<b>182</b>	1.05E-11	1.05E-11	2.04E-20	7.53E-21	3.45E-22	2.30E-20	7.80E-20
<b>183</b>	1.50E-11	1.50E-11	6.68E-21	8.39E-21	3.31E-23	1.10E-20	7.20E-20
<b>184</b>	8.97E-12	8.97E-12	5.51E-21	6.62E-21	2.86E-23	7.59E-21	3.94E-20
<b>185</b>	1.25E-11	1.25E-11	4.31E-21	4.11E-21	2.82E-23	1.33E-20	1.77E-19
<b>186</b>	1.30E-11	1.30E-11	1.04E-20	7.75E-21	8.65E-23	1.70E-20	9.60E-20
<b>187</b>	6.98E-12	6.98E-12	2.76E-21	2.72E-21	1.74E-23	7.22E-21	7.00E-20
<b>188</b>	9.47E-12	9.47E-12	3.85E-21	3.67E-21	2.51E-23	1.06E-20	1.15E-19
<b>190</b>	9.97E-12	9.97E-12	9.31E-21	5.48E-21	9.86E-23	1.32E-20	7.80E-20
<b>191</b>	1.30E-11	1.30E-11	5.42E-21	3.43E-21	5.86E-23	1.48E-20	2.09E-19
<b>192</b>	9.97E-12	9.97E-12	3.19E-21	3.39E-21	1.87E-23	9.86E-21	1.24E-19
<b>193</b>	1.30E-11	1.30E-11	5.01E-21	5.76E-21	2.71E-23	1.26E-20	1.14E-19
<b>194</b>	1.40E-11	1.40E-11	9.15E-21	1.01E-20	5.15E-23	1.70E-20	9.20E-20
<b>195</b>	6.98E-12	6.98E-12	5.17E-21	3.18E-21	5.24E-23	9.83E-21	7.14E-20

<b>197</b>	7.98E-12	7.98E-12	2.03E-21	1.27E-21	2.01E-23	9.86E-21	2.02E-19
<b>198</b>	1.10E-11	1.10E-11	2.20E-21	2.76E-21	1.09E-23	1.02E-20	1.57E-19
<b>199</b>	1.74E-11	1.74E-11	7.77E-21	7.66E-21	4.90E-23	2.19E-20	1.80E-19
<b>200</b>	9.97E-12	9.97E-12	3.31E-21	2.29E-21	2.98E-23	1.16E-20	1.82E-19
<b>202</b>	1.30E-11	1.30E-11	5.80E-21	6.41E-21	3.26E-23	1.47E-20	1.06E-19
<b>203</b>	1.55E-11	1.55E-11	9.89E-21	5.83E-21	1.67E-22	2.37E-20	2.32E-19
<b>204</b>	9.97E-12	9.97E-12	6.07E-21	6.22E-21	3.69E-23	1.19E-20	6.03E-20
<b>206</b>	1.50E-11	1.50E-11	3.21E-21	1.71E-21	3.76E-23	2.02E-20	5.53E-19
<b>207</b>	1.10E-11	1.10E-11	1.36E-20	1.39E-20	8.24E-23	1.32E-20	4.45E-20
<b>208</b>	1.15E-11	1.15E-11	1.43E-20	6.69E-21	1.90E-22	1.74E-20	8.37E-20
<b>210</b>	7.98E-12	7.98E-12	1.35E-20	6.66E-21	2.22E-22	1.40E-20	4.78E-20
<b>212</b>	1.15E-11	1.15E-11	4.48E-21	4.95E-21	2.52E-23	1.13E-20	1.08E-19
<b>213</b>	7.98E-12	7.98E-12	2.68E-21	2.55E-21	1.75E-23	8.32E-21	1.01E-19
<b>214</b>	8.48E-12	8.48E-12	1.05E-20	9.34E-21	7.32E-23	1.03E-20	3.30E-20
<b>215</b>	8.97E-12	8.97E-12	3.28E-21	2.67E-21	2.51E-23	1.02E-20	1.08E-19
<b>217</b>	6.98E-12	6.98E-12	6.40E-21	4.42E-21	5.77E-23	9.08E-21	4.63E-20
<b>218</b>	1.10E-11	1.10E-11	1.34E-20	7.91E-21	1.85E-22	1.71E-20	7.76E-20
<b>219</b>	1.05E-11	1.05E-11	4.05E-20	1.32E-20	1.00E-21	2.27E-20	4.26E-20
<b>220</b>	7.98E-12	7.98E-12	1.08E-20	1.01E-20	1.72E-22	1.27E-20	4.67E-20
<b>221</b>	1.15E-11	1.15E-11	1.20E-20	6.77E-21	1.33E-22	1.50E-20	7.00E-20
<b>223</b>	3.29E-11	3.29E-11	4.27E-20	2.36E-20	1.44E-21	7.74E-20	4.70E-19
<b>224</b>	1.40E-11	1.40E-11	1.26E-20	9.38E-21	1.05E-22	1.88E-20	9.22E-20
<b>225</b>	9.97E-12	9.97E-12	7.61E-21	2.80E-21	2.06E-22	2.09E-20	1.95E-19
<b>227</b>	3.69E-11	3.69E-11	4.38E-20	3.23E-20	1.48E-21	7.12E-20	4.45E-19
<b>229</b>	9.97E-12	9.97E-12	5.44E-21	3.42E-21	5.39E-23	1.24E-20	9.43E-20
<b>230</b>	2.29E-11	2.29E-11	1.35E-20	1.28E-20	8.79E-23	2.41E-20	1.27E-19
<b>233</b>	2.34E-11	2.34E-11	4.46E-20	1.67E-20	2.01E-21	5.33E-20	2.25E-19
<b>237</b>	1.55E-11	1.55E-11	3.29E-20	3.13E-20	2.15E-22	1.38E-20	2.36E-20
<b>238</b>	2.04E-11	2.04E-11	9.41E-20	5.82E-20	3.60E-21	3.93E-20	6.22E-20
<b>240</b>	1.94E-11	1.94E-11	3.15E-20	4.35E-20	1.42E-22	1.54E-20	2.15E-20
<b>242</b>	1.79E-11	1.79E-11	6.77E-20	1.04E-19	2.74E-22	9.19E-21	4.31E-21
<b>244</b>	2.29E-11	2.29E-11	9.44E-20	1.30E-19	4.25E-22	1.65E-20	7.75E-21
<b>245</b>	1.74E-11	1.74E-11	2.01E-20	2.32E-20	1.09E-22	9.87E-21	2.41E-20
<b>254</b>	1.20E-11	1.20E-11	6.32E-21	3.06E-21	8.11E-23	2.42E-20	2.73E-19
<b>256</b>	1.50E-11	1.50E-11	1.14E-20	7.10E-21	1.59E-22	2.32E-20	1.75E-19
<b>257</b>	1.10E-11	1.10E-11	9.05E-21	7.36E-21	6.93E-23	4.27E-20	6.84E-19
<b>258</b>	1.05E-11	1.05E-11	1.09E-20	5.47E-21	1.35E-22	3.47E-20	3.04E-19
<b>368</b>	1.99E-11	1.99E-11	3.76E-21	4.95E-21	1.78E-23	1.24E-20	1.17E-19
<b>374</b>	1.20E-11	1.20E-11	6.65E-21	5.92E-21	4.64E-23	1.05E-20	6.31E-20
<b>489</b>	2.99E-11	2.99E-11	1.87E-19	7.64E-20	3.71E-21	5.12E-20	5.79E-20

Table A6 (Cont.)

Station	HgBr <sub>2</sub> mol/L	HgBrOH mol/L	HgCl <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> mol/L	HgBr <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> mol/L	HgBr <sup>+</sup> mol/L	HgCl <sup>+</sup> mol/L	HgOH <sup>+</sup> mol/L
128	2.42E-22	3.65E-21	1.23E-25	2.53E-26	1.91E-24	1.78E-24	3.87E-24
130	1.31E-22	9.20E-21	9.22E-26	4.63E-26	3.48E-24	2.60E-24	9.70E-24
135	1.54E-22	4.15E-21	3.51E-26	3.02E-26	2.26E-24	1.48E-24	4.36E-24
136	6.13E-22	6.46E-21	3.54E-26	8.02E-26	5.97E-24	3.06E-24	6.76E-24
138	3.08E-23	3.57E-21	1.48E-26	1.11E-26	8.30E-25	5.62E-25	3.75E-24
141	1.71E-22	3.55E-21	5.38E-25	3.54E-26	2.70E-24	3.34E-24	3.80E-24
142	1.33E-22	2.65E-21	1.02E-25	1.71E-26	1.29E-24	1.27E-24	2.82E-24
143	4.57E-23	2.98E-21	2.52E-25	1.15E-26	8.80E-25	1.19E-24	3.19E-24
145	1.79E-22	5.27E-21	3.55E-25	2.96E-26	2.25E-24	2.63E-24	5.63E-24
147	1.65E-22	1.96E-21	1.09E-24	2.62E-26	2.02E-24	3.20E-24	2.12E-24
148	4.71E-23	3.22E-21	2.41E-25	1.47E-26	1.12E-24	1.41E-24	3.45E-24
149	7.87E-23	4.33E-21	2.26E-26	1.95E-26	1.46E-24	9.52E-25	4.56E-24
151	2.82E-23	2.45E-21	3.59E-25	7.68E-27	5.91E-25	9.66E-25	2.65E-24
152	1.97E-22	2.74E-21	2.44E-26	3.89E-26	2.90E-24	1.63E-24	2.87E-24
153	2.65E-23	3.77E-21	8.43E-27	9.76E-27	7.29E-25	4.43E-25	3.96E-24
154	6.30E-23	6.09E-21	5.51E-26	2.17E-26	1.63E-24	1.29E-24	6.44E-24
156	3.56E-22	3.16E-21	1.03E-24	6.29E-26	4.78E-24	6.03E-24	3.38E-24
157	3.31E-23	1.53E-21	3.04E-25	8.75E-27	6.74E-25	1.02E-24	1.66E-24
158	5.23E-23	2.25E-21	1.14E-25	1.32E-26	1.00E-24	1.08E-24	2.40E-24
159	6.75E-23	2.62E-21	4.96E-25	1.89E-26	1.21E-24	1.67E-24	2.59E-24
160	2.28E-22	4.13E-21	6.11E-26	4.56E-26	3.41E-24	2.31E-24	4.35E-24
161	6.51E-23	3.40E-21	1.55E-26	1.79E-26	1.34E-24	8.14E-25	3.57E-24
162	7.64E-23	3.51E-21	1.22E-26	1.41E-26	1.05E-24	6.38E-25	3.69E-24
163	8.08E-22	3.07E-21	1.62E-24	1.52E-25	6.89E-24	7.29E-24	2.53E-24
165	7.26E-22	4.10E-21	1.35E-25	1.16E-25	8.70E-24	5.69E-24	4.31E-24
166	3.71E-22	2.43E-21	5.75E-25	5.19E-26	3.95E-24	4.51E-24	2.60E-24
167	8.72E-23	2.77E-21	7.89E-26	2.20E-26	1.67E-24	1.44E-24	2.95E-24
169	8.58E-23	2.49E-21	5.25E-26	2.33E-26	1.75E-24	1.35E-24	2.63E-24
170	1.45E-22	3.74E-21	3.21E-27	2.62E-26	1.94E-24	7.24E-25	3.89E-24
171	6.58E-22	4.74E-21	2.29E-24	1.44E-25	6.61E-24	7.71E-24	3.97E-24
173	6.98E-23	2.87E-21	9.27E-27	1.48E-26	1.10E-24	6.19E-25	3.00E-24
174	9.64E-23	2.42E-21	1.78E-25	2.48E-26	1.88E-24	1.93E-24	2.57E-24
175	1.22E-22	3.13E-21	2.02E-26	3.22E-26	2.40E-24	1.35E-24	3.28E-24
176	5.79E-23	2.88E-21	3.29E-25	1.41E-26	1.07E-24	1.48E-24	3.10E-24
177	1.06E-22	2.50E-21	2.44E-25	1.61E-26	1.23E-24	1.52E-24	2.68E-24
178	4.64E-22	4.09E-21	1.98E-25	8.78E-26	6.60E-24	5.08E-24	4.32E-24
179	2.74E-22	1.91E-21	5.71E-25	5.71E-26	2.60E-24	2.70E-24	1.59E-24
180	2.63E-22	2.82E-21	1.29E-24	3.29E-26	2.53E-24	3.96E-24	3.05E-24

<b>181</b>	1.88E-22	2.82E-21	1.03E-26	3.42E-26	2.54E-24	1.19E-24	2.95E-24
<b>182</b>	2.36E-22	2.30E-21	2.03E-24	3.29E-26	2.54E-24	4.44E-24	2.49E-24
<b>183</b>	6.34E-22	4.30E-21	5.52E-26	1.25E-25	9.32E-24	4.79E-24	4.51E-24
<b>184</b>	5.14E-22	2.76E-21	4.98E-26	9.44E-26	7.04E-24	3.78E-24	2.90E-24
<b>185</b>	2.15E-22	4.12E-21	6.22E-26	4.64E-26	3.48E-24	2.35E-24	4.33E-24
<b>186</b>	4.18E-22	3.68E-21	2.46E-25	6.87E-26	5.18E-24	4.48E-24	3.90E-24
<b>187</b>	1.77E-22	2.14E-21	3.71E-26	3.19E-26	2.39E-24	1.56E-24	2.25E-24
<b>188</b>	2.13E-22	3.13E-21	5.55E-26	4.15E-26	3.11E-24	2.10E-24	3.29E-24
<b>190</b>	1.82E-22	2.47E-21	3.59E-25	3.82E-26	2.91E-24	3.19E-24	2.65E-24
<b>191</b>	9.57E-23	3.33E-21	2.19E-25	2.84E-26	1.79E-24	1.83E-24	3.25E-24
<b>192</b>	2.12E-22	3.30E-21	3.70E-26	4.28E-26	3.20E-24	1.94E-24	3.47E-24
<b>193</b>	4.55E-22	4.29E-21	4.93E-26	7.87E-26	5.88E-24	3.29E-24	4.51E-24
<b>194</b>	9.96E-22	5.01E-21	9.78E-26	1.33E-25	9.91E-24	5.78E-24	5.26E-24
<b>195</b>	1.24E-22	1.84E-21	1.83E-25	2.32E-26	1.76E-24	1.85E-24	1.97E-24
<b>197</b>	4.49E-23	1.99E-21	6.83E-26	9.50E-27	7.21E-25	7.41E-25	2.12E-24
<b>198</b>	2.62E-22	3.64E-21	1.82E-26	4.11E-26	3.07E-24	1.58E-24	3.81E-24
<b>199</b>	6.71E-22	5.76E-21	1.04E-25	8.98E-26	6.72E-24	4.39E-24	6.07E-24
<b>200</b>	8.28E-23	2.65E-21	9.18E-26	1.88E-26	1.42E-24	1.32E-24	2.82E-24
<b>202</b>	6.48E-22	4.28E-21	6.21E-26	8.40E-26	6.29E-24	3.67E-24	4.51E-24
<b>203</b>	2.01E-22	4.41E-21	9.99E-25	6.54E-26	2.00E-24	2.19E-24	3.04E-24
<b>204</b>	6.55E-22	3.06E-21	7.60E-26	7.55E-26	5.65E-24	3.56E-24	3.22E-24
<b>206</b>	4.89E-23	3.50E-21	1.52E-25	1.08E-26	8.22E-25	9.98E-25	3.75E-24
<b>207</b>	1.03E-21	3.93E-21	1.69E-25	1.68E-25	1.26E-23	7.95E-24	4.13E-24
<b>208</b>	1.90E-22	2.53E-21	8.73E-25	3.72E-26	2.85E-24	3.93E-24	2.73E-24
<b>210</b>	2.48E-22	1.95E-21	1.28E-24	5.06E-26	2.32E-24	3.04E-24	1.64E-24
<b>212</b>	3.49E-22	3.80E-21	4.79E-26	6.49E-26	4.85E-24	2.83E-24	3.99E-24
<b>213</b>	1.51E-22	2.44E-21	3.87E-26	2.88E-26	2.16E-24	1.46E-24	2.57E-24
<b>214</b>	6.46E-22	2.59E-21	1.73E-25	9.89E-26	7.43E-24	5.38E-24	2.74E-24
<b>215</b>	1.57E-22	2.39E-21	6.55E-26	2.57E-26	1.94E-24	1.54E-24	2.53E-24
<b>217</b>	2.09E-22	1.86E-21	1.77E-25	3.63E-26	2.74E-24	2.56E-24	1.97E-24
<b>218</b>	3.21E-22	2.97E-21	8.83E-25	7.19E-26	3.28E-24	3.59E-24	2.48E-24
<b>219</b>	3.23E-22	2.12E-21	8.90E-24	6.67E-26	3.13E-24	6.18E-24	1.82E-24
<b>220</b>	7.64E-22	3.27E-21	9.74E-25	2.68E-25	3.64E-24	2.52E-24	1.50E-24
<b>221</b>	2.48E-22	2.55E-21	5.02E-25	4.53E-26	3.44E-24	3.94E-24	2.73E-24
<b>223</b>	9.75E-22	1.22E-20	1.78E-23	4.66E-25	4.19E-24	4.88E-24	4.64E-24
<b>224</b>	5.37E-22	3.97E-21	2.97E-25	8.31E-26	6.27E-24	5.41E-24	4.21E-24
<b>225</b>	7.61E-23	2.22E-21	2.00E-24	1.96E-26	6.12E-25	1.07E-24	1.55E-24
<b>227</b>	1.50E-21	1.61E-20	1.85E-23	1.13E-24	5.79E-24	5.06E-24	4.63E-24
<b>229</b>	1.62E-22	2.22E-21	1.83E-25	2.55E-26	1.93E-24	1.99E-24	2.37E-24
<b>230</b>	1.07E-21	6.15E-21	1.94E-25	1.45E-25	1.09E-23	7.35E-24	6.48E-24
<b>233</b>	4.36E-22	5.84E-21	3.38E-23	2.00E-25	2.27E-24	3.91E-24	2.52E-24

<b>237</b>	1.74E-21	4.14E-21	4.75E-25	3.54E-25	2.66E-23	1.80E-23	4.37E-24
<b>238</b>	2.30E-21	7.39E-21	5.12E-23	1.62E-24	9.25E-24	9.65E-24	2.25E-24
<b>240</b>	5.49E-21	5.61E-21	2.14E-25	7.13E-25	5.30E-23	2.47E-23	5.86E-24
<b>242</b>	1.14E-20	4.10E-21	3.72E-25	1.89E-24	1.40E-22	5.90E-23	4.27E-24
<b>244</b>	1.76E-20	5.84E-21	6.43E-25	2.14E-24	1.59E-22	7.42E-23	6.10E-24
<b>245</b>	1.22E-21	3.96E-21	1.98E-25	3.17E-25	2.36E-23	1.32E-23	4.15E-24
<b>254</b>	1.30E-22	3.15E-21	3.59E-25	1.76E-26	1.35E-24	1.79E-24	3.38E-24
<b>256</b>	2.90E-22	4.35E-21	7.74E-25	7.36E-26	2.90E-24	3.00E-24	3.38E-24
<b>257</b>	4.40E-22	9.98E-21	1.80E-25	7.10E-26	5.33E-24	4.23E-24	1.05E-23
<b>258</b>	2.63E-22	4.51E-21	5.74E-25	3.26E-26	2.48E-24	3.19E-24	4.83E-24
<b>368</b>	5.89E-22	4.31E-21	2.83E-26	7.73E-26	5.75E-24	2.82E-24	4.51E-24
<b>374</b>	3.36E-22	2.85E-21	1.10E-25	6.27E-26	4.70E-24	3.40E-24	3.00E-24
<b>489</b>	1.80E-21	6.64E-21	2.60E-23	4.82E-25	2.23E-23	3.53E-23	5.63E-24

Table A6 (Cont.)

<b>Station</b>	<b>HgBr<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> mol/L</b>	<b>Hg(OH)<sub>2</sub> mol/L</b>	<b>Hg<sup>2+</sup> mol/L</b>
<b>128</b>	6.33E-31	8.83E-27	3.84E-28
<b>130</b>	1.15E-30	4.22E-26	4.47E-28
<b>135</b>	7.50E-31	9.08E-27	3.57E-28
<b>136</b>	1.98E-30	4.88E-27	1.08E-27
<b>138</b>	2.76E-31	4.30E-26	1.06E-28
<b>141</b>	8.95E-31	4.15E-27	4.34E-28
<b>142</b>	4.29E-31	7.38E-27	2.44E-28
<b>143</b>	2.92E-31	2.30E-26	1.32E-28
<b>145</b>	7.47E-31	1.95E-26	3.90E-28
<b>147</b>	6.70E-31	1.27E-27	3.64E-28
<b>148</b>	3.71E-31	1.81E-26	1.56E-28
<b>149</b>	4.83E-31	2.49E-26	2.12E-28
<b>151</b>	1.96E-31	2.89E-26	8.81E-29
<b>152</b>	9.64E-31	1.57E-27	4.55E-28
<b>153</b>	2.42E-31	6.55E-26	9.17E-29
<b>154</b>	5.41E-31	5.59E-26	2.13E-28
<b>156</b>	1.59E-30	9.27E-28	8.14E-28
<b>157</b>	2.24E-31	5.48E-27	1.01E-28
<b>158</b>	3.33E-31	7.57E-27	1.50E-28
<b>159</b>	5.34E-31	7.79E-27	1.69E-28
<b>160</b>	1.13E-30	3.95E-27	5.37E-28
<b>161</b>	4.45E-31	1.41E-26	1.87E-28
<b>162</b>	3.49E-31	2.54E-26	1.69E-28
<b>163</b>	5.02E-30	3.18E-28	9.75E-28
<b>165</b>	2.89E-30	5.93E-28	1.48E-27

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166	1.31E-30	6.21E-28	7.28E-28
167	5.53E-31	5.10E-27	2.46E-28
169	5.82E-31	3.30E-27	2.48E-28
170	6.43E-31	8.88E-27	3.09E-28
171	4.82E-30	1.31E-27	9.07E-28
173	3.67E-31	1.25E-26	1.69E-28
174	6.22E-31	2.69E-27	2.75E-28
175	7.98E-31	3.42E-27	3.39E-28
176	3.57E-31	1.41E-26	1.64E-28
177	4.07E-31	7.01E-27	2.20E-28
178	2.19E-30	1.03E-27	1.06E-27
179	1.89E-30	5.49E-28	3.58E-28
180	8.40E-31	2.41E-27	4.95E-28
181	8.44E-31	2.23E-27	4.08E-28
182	8.42E-31	1.30E-27	4.82E-28
183	3.09E-30	5.92E-28	1.46E-27
184	2.34E-30	2.76E-28	1.13E-27
185	1.15E-30	3.76E-27	5.32E-28
186	1.72E-30	1.23E-27	8.88E-28
187	7.92E-31	1.12E-27	3.89E-28
188	1.03E-30	2.07E-27	4.93E-28
190	9.66E-31	1.21E-27	4.66E-28
191	7.93E-31	7.09E-27	2.40E-28
192	1.06E-30	2.28E-27	4.99E-28
193	1.95E-30	1.49E-27	9.67E-28
194	3.29E-30	8.30E-28	1.79E-27
195	5.85E-31	1.36E-27	2.93E-28
197	2.39E-31	1.01E-26	1.14E-28
198	1.02E-30	3.31E-27	5.22E-28
199	2.23E-30	2.76E-27	1.22E-27
200	4.71E-31	6.14E-27	2.18E-28
202	2.09E-30	1.29E-27	1.15E-27
203	2.72E-30	9.56E-27	2.14E-28
204	1.88E-30	5.83E-28	1.08E-27
206	2.73E-31	4.29E-26	1.30E-28
207	4.18E-30	2.48E-28	2.13E-27
208	9.46E-31	1.36E-27	4.74E-28
210	1.69E-30	7.46E-28	3.28E-28
212	1.61E-30	1.51E-27	7.79E-28
213	7.18E-31	2.04E-27	3.47E-28
214	2.47E-30	2.07E-28	1.30E-27

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<b>215</b>	6.43E-31	2.41E-27	3.31E-28
<b>217</b>	9.09E-31	5.66E-28	4.61E-28
<b>218</b>	2.39E-30	1.30E-27	4.45E-28
<b>219</b>	2.28E-30	5.47E-28	4.62E-28
<b>220</b>	1.67E-29	7.85E-28	2.93E-28
<b>221</b>	1.14E-30	9.42E-28	5.76E-28
<b>223</b>	3.75E-29	2.66E-26	2.78E-28
<b>224</b>	2.08E-30	1.05E-27	1.09E-27
<b>225</b>	8.31E-31	1.35E-26	7.35E-29
<b>227</b>	1.23E-28	2.42E-26	2.78E-28
<b>229</b>	6.42E-31	1.97E-27	3.41E-28
<b>230</b>	3.60E-30	1.29E-27	1.97E-27
<b>233</b>	1.48E-29	1.15E-26	1.71E-28
<b>237</b>	8.82E-30	6.58E-29	4.16E-27
<b>238</b>	1.69E-28	9.79E-28	4.75E-28
<b>240</b>	1.76E-29	4.04E-29	9.58E-27
<b>242</b>	4.66E-29	2.23E-30	2.32E-26
<b>244</b>	5.28E-29	5.05E-30	2.95E-26
<b>245</b>	7.84E-30	7.19E-29	3.36E-27
<b>254</b>	4.47E-31	1.17E-26	2.53E-28
<b>256</b>	2.64E-30	4.87E-27	3.60E-28
<b>257</b>	1.77E-30	2.30E-26	9.12E-28
<b>258</b>	8.24E-31	1.00E-26	4.79E-28
<b>368</b>	1.91E-30	1.56E-27	1.04E-27
<b>374</b>	1.56E-30	6.86E-28	7.60E-28
<b>489</b>	1.63E-29	3.23E-28	2.93E-27

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