

# **Prediction of SOC breakthrough in Granular Activated Carbon(GAC) Adsorption**

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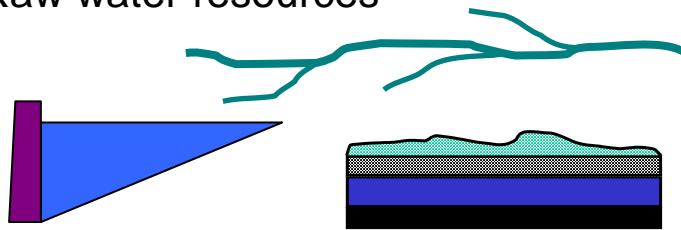
**(3) Technische Universität Dresden  
Chair of Water Supply Engineering**

# Motivation

Synthetic Organic Compounds



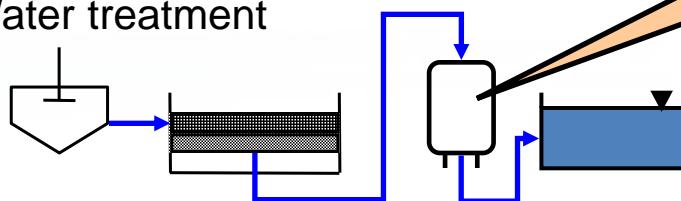
Raw water resources



Prediction of breakthrough behavior of SOCs during granular activated carbon filtration?



Water treatment

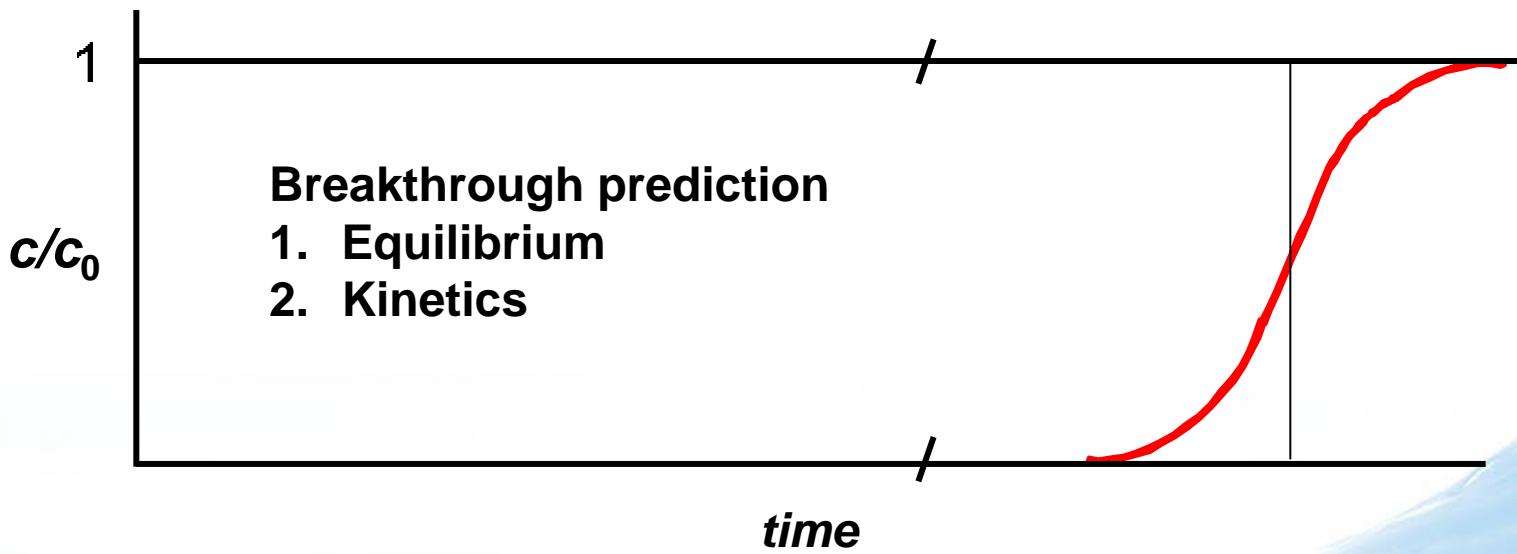
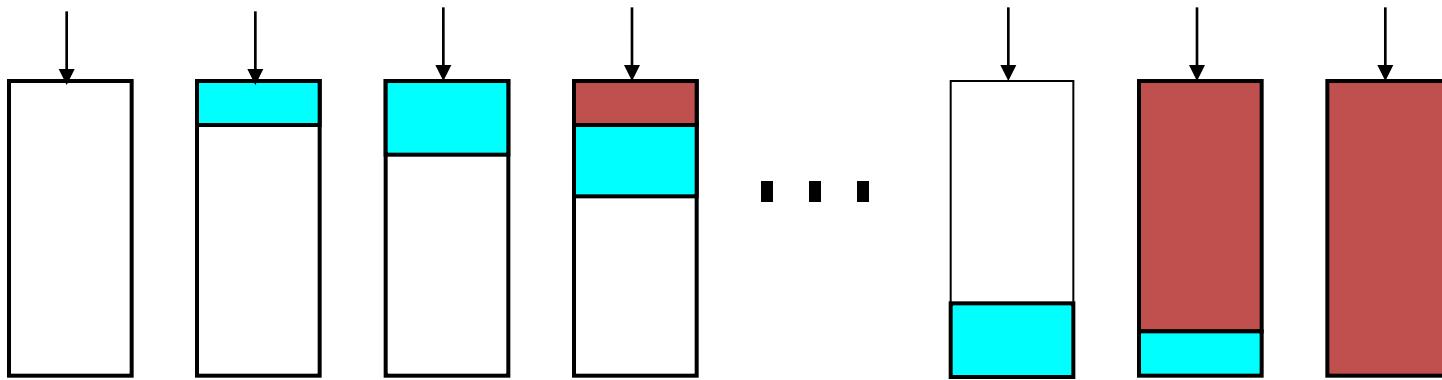


Removal of SOCs during drinking water treatment by activated carbon filtration?

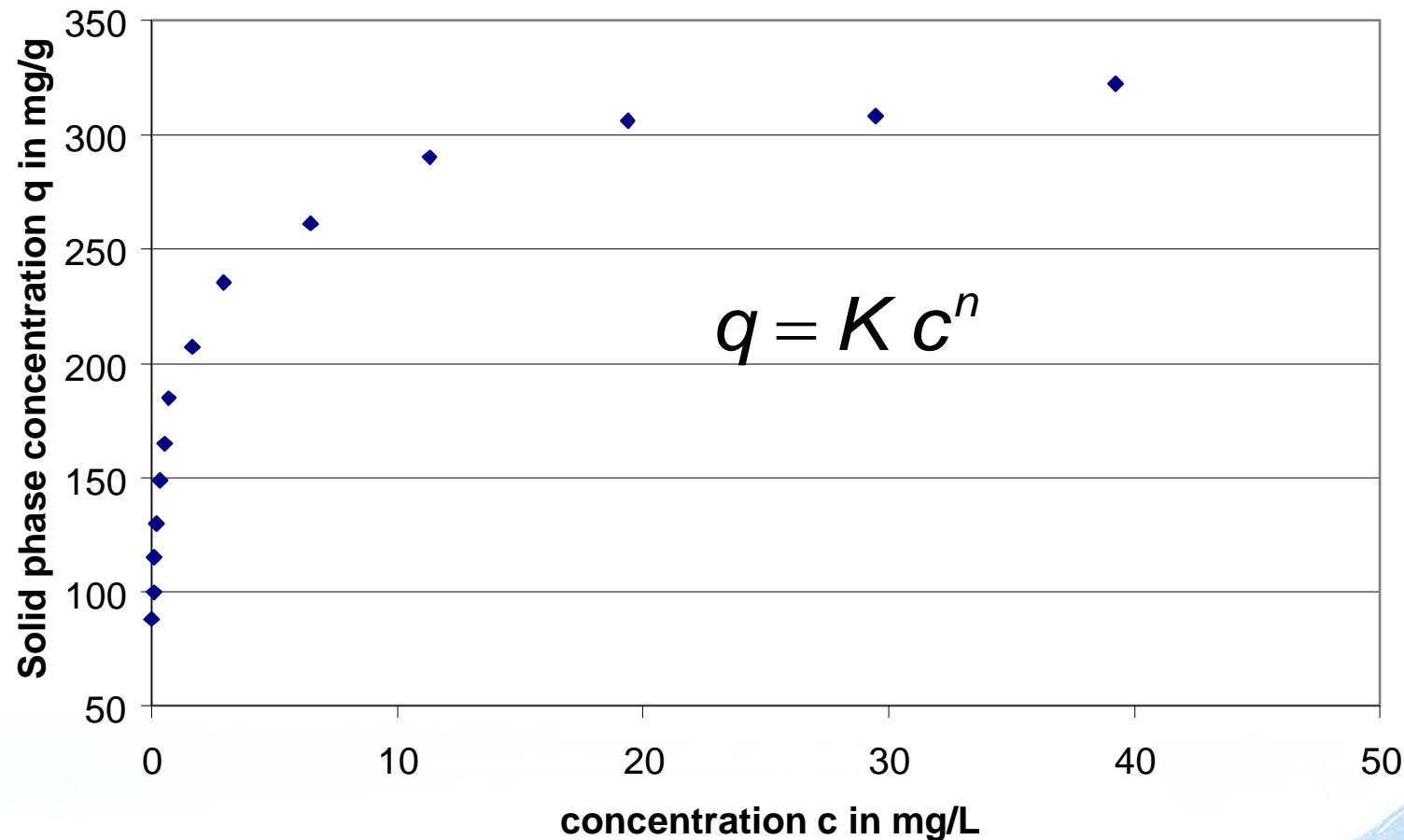
# Water treatment using GAC



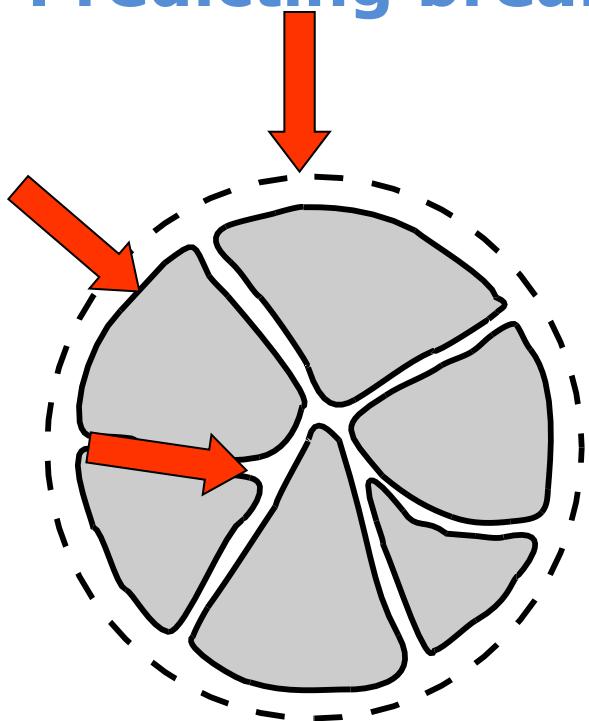
# Breakthrough



# Predicting breakthrough: equilibrium



# Predicting breakthrough: kinetics



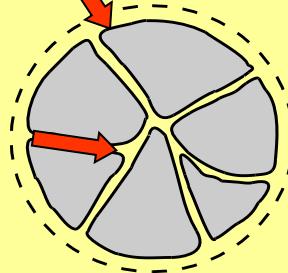
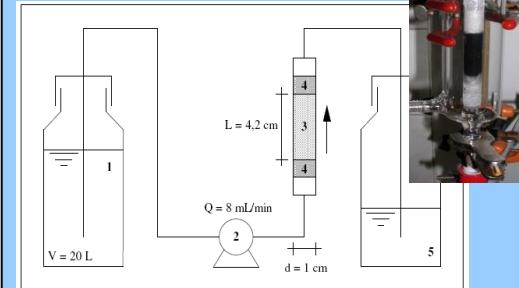
Filmdiffusion to the grain surface

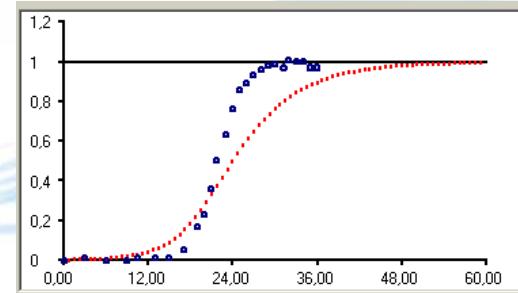
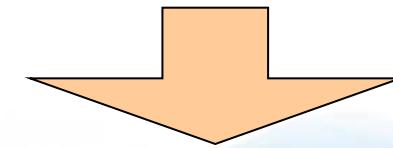
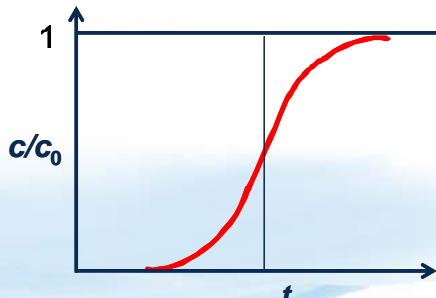
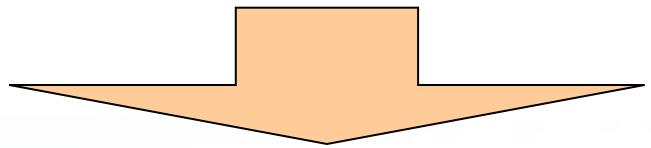
$$\dot{n}_F = k_F \cdot (c - c_S)$$

Surface diffusion inside the grain

$$\dot{n}_S = \rho_K \cdot k_S \cdot (q_S - \bar{q})$$

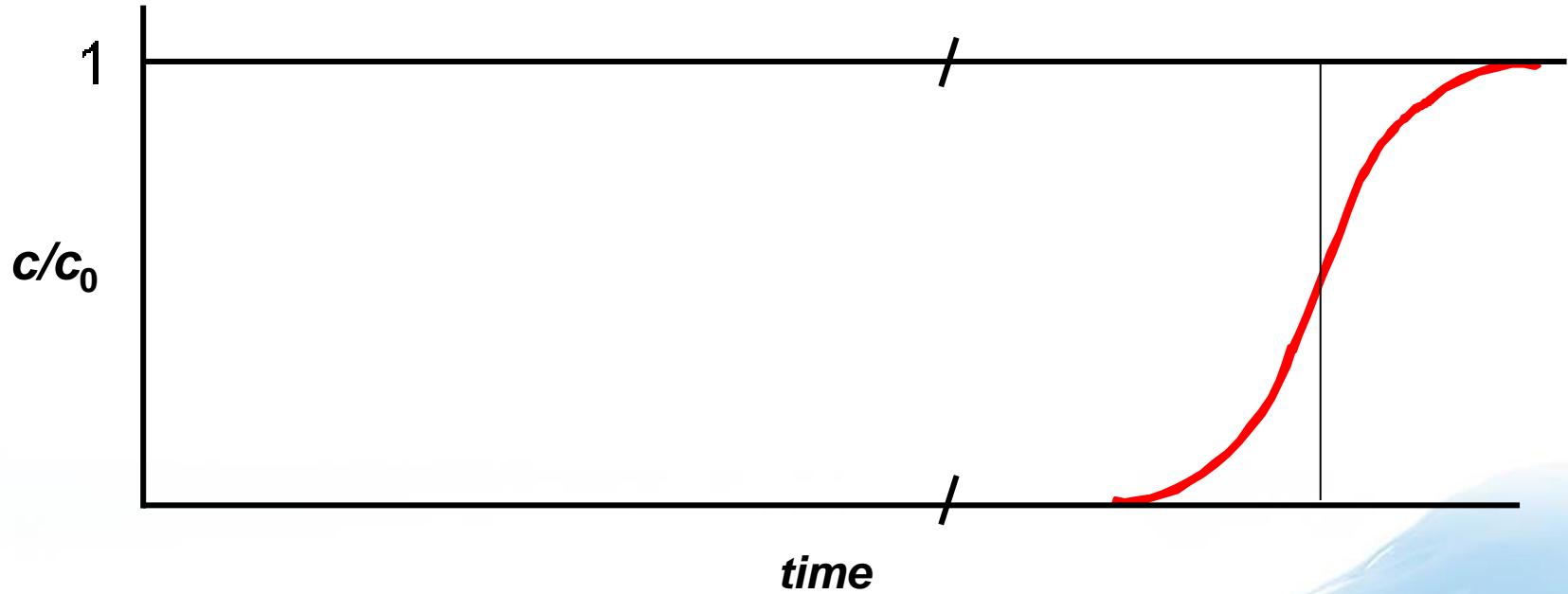
# Two ways to predict breakthrough of new substances

Simulation			Lab-scale filter test
Equilibrium (Freundlich-parameters)	Kinetics	Model:	• e.g. rapid small scale column tests (RSSCTs)
<p><u>Models:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Polanyi-theory</li><li>• LSER</li><li>• normalized Freundlich-equation</li></ul>	<p><u>Experiment:</u></p> 		



# Objectives

**Appropriate prediction of  
breakthrough behavior possible?**



# Approach

## Prediction of breakthrough behavior

### Simulation

#### Equilibrium (Freundlich-parameters)

##### Models:

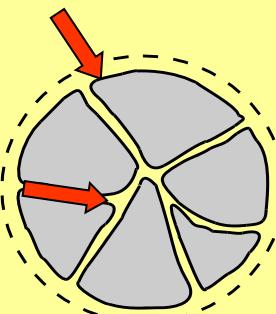
- Polanyi-theory
- LSER
- normalized Freundlich-equation

##### Experiment:



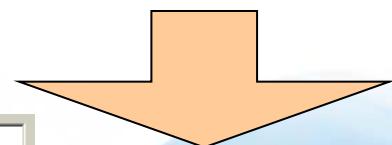
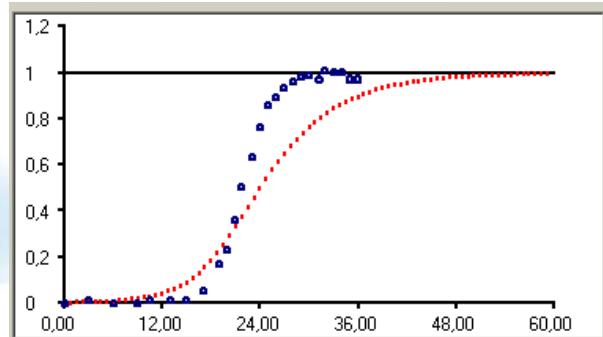
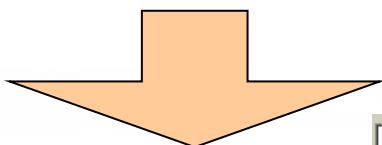
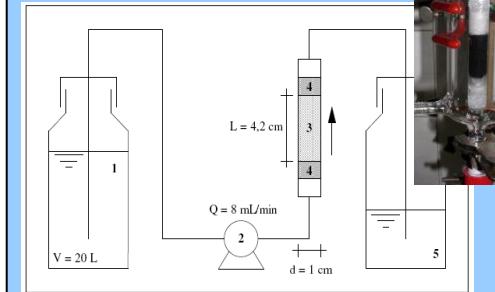
#### Kinetics

##### Model:

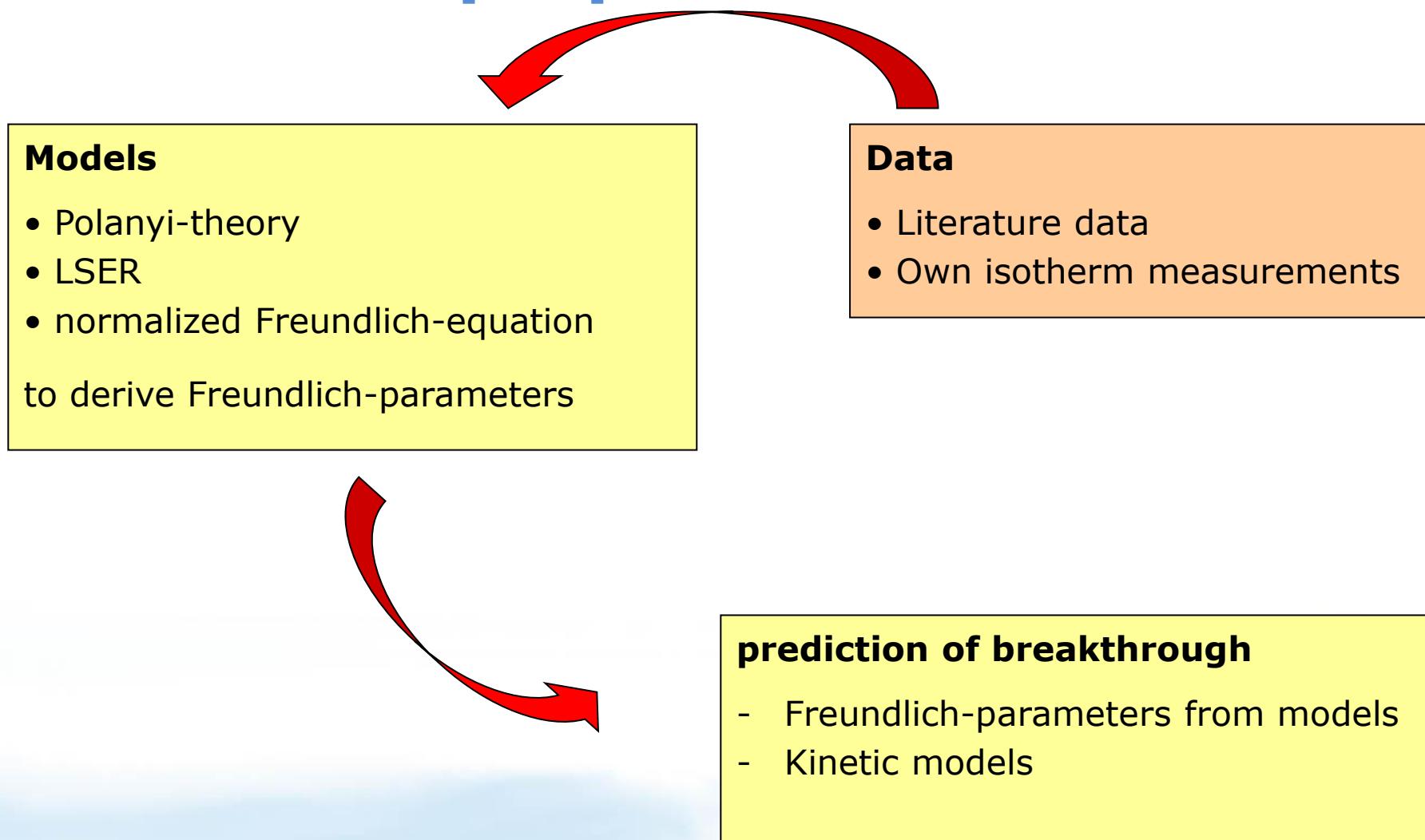


### Lab-scale filter test

- e.g. rapid small scale column tests (RSSCTs)



# Isotherm Freundlich coefficients from SOC's properties



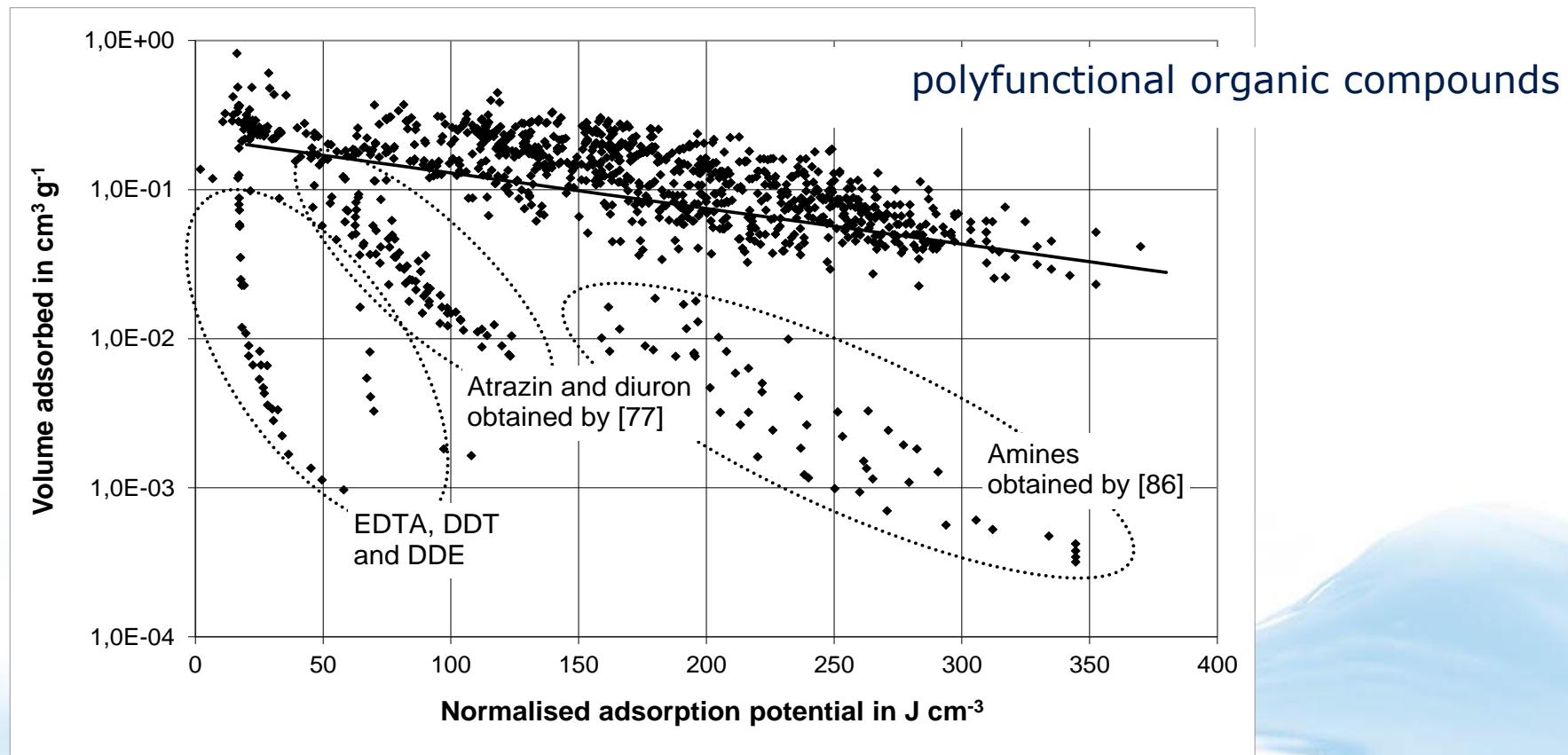
# Compounds investigated

Group of compounds	Alpha-X	Ar / Ar-X	Poly-FG	Ar-Sul	Amines	Phenols	Pesticides	All
Number of compounds	26	24	51	14	15	35	7	112

# Correlation of isotherm data using the Polanyi-model

$$\ln V_{ads} = \ln \frac{q_{eq}}{\rho} = \ln V_0 - A \cdot \left( \frac{RT \ln(S/c_{eq})}{V_m} \right)$$

$$K = \rho \cdot V_0 \cdot \exp \left( -\frac{A \cdot R \cdot T}{V_m} \cdot \ln S \right)$$
$$n = \frac{A \cdot R \cdot T}{V_m}$$

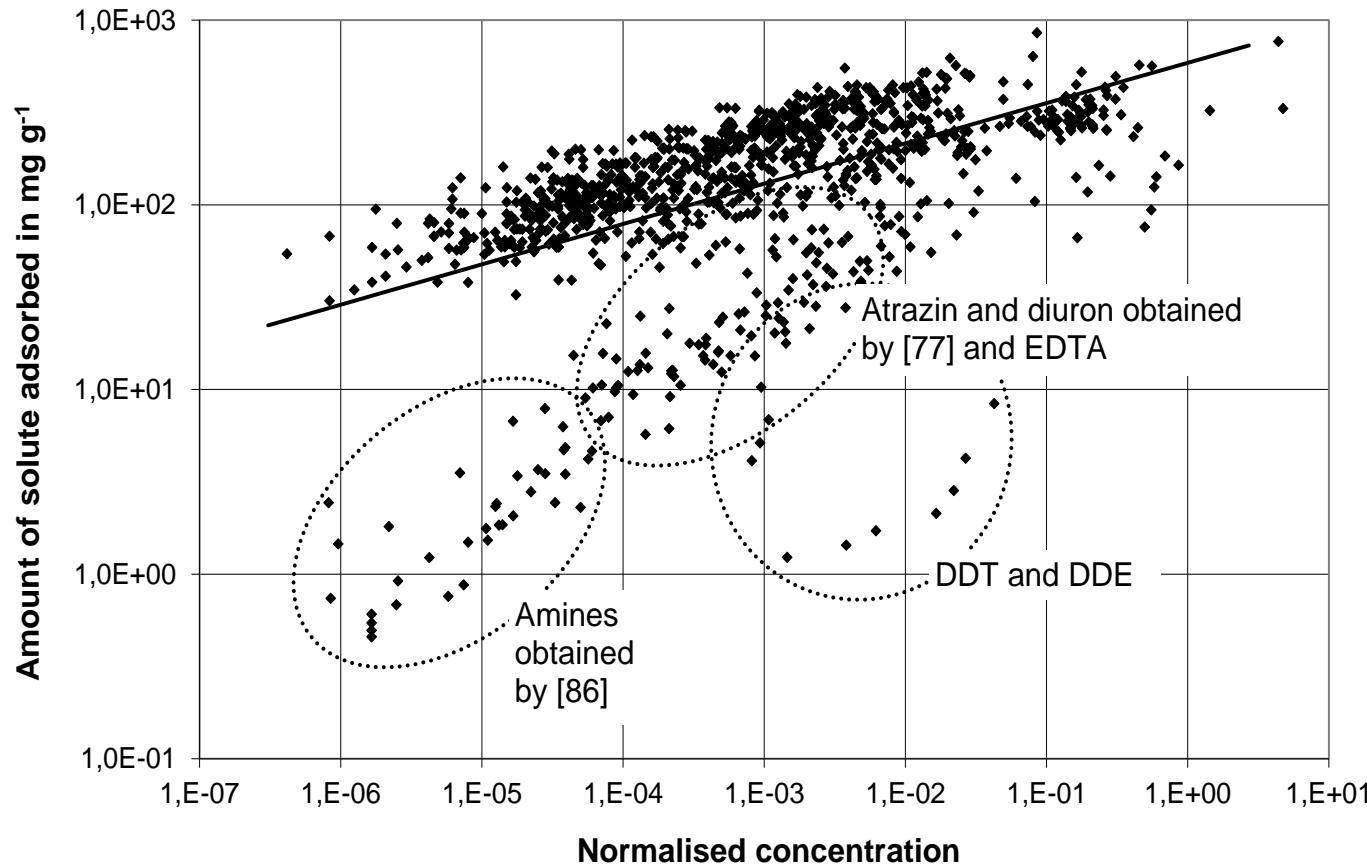


# Correlation of isotherm data using the normalized Freundlich-equation

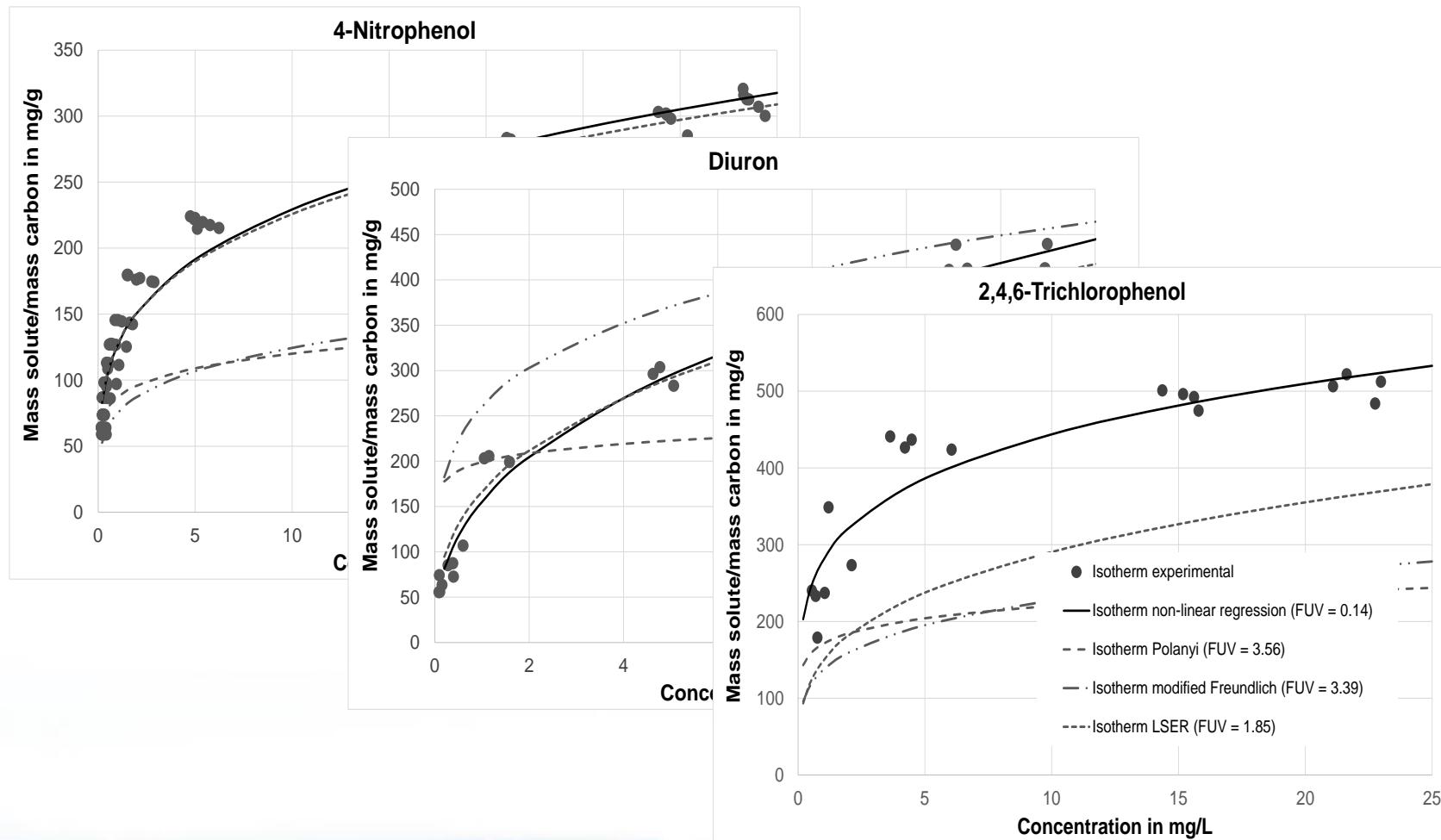
polyfunctional organic compounds

$$q_{eq} = K^* \cdot \left( \frac{c_{eq}}{S} \right)^n$$

$$K = K^* \cdot \frac{1}{S^{n^*}}$$
$$n = n^*$$

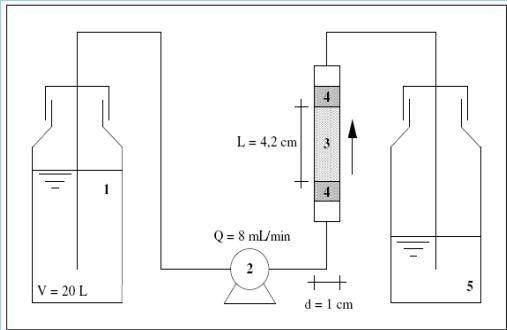


# Comparison of adsorption isotherms obtained by theory and experiment



# Can breakthrough be described using Freundlich coefficients from compound properties?

## Lab-scale filter test



## Data

- Literature data
- Own isotherm measurements

## Models

- Polanyi-theory
  - LSER
  - normalized Freundlich-equation
- to calculate Freundlich-parameters

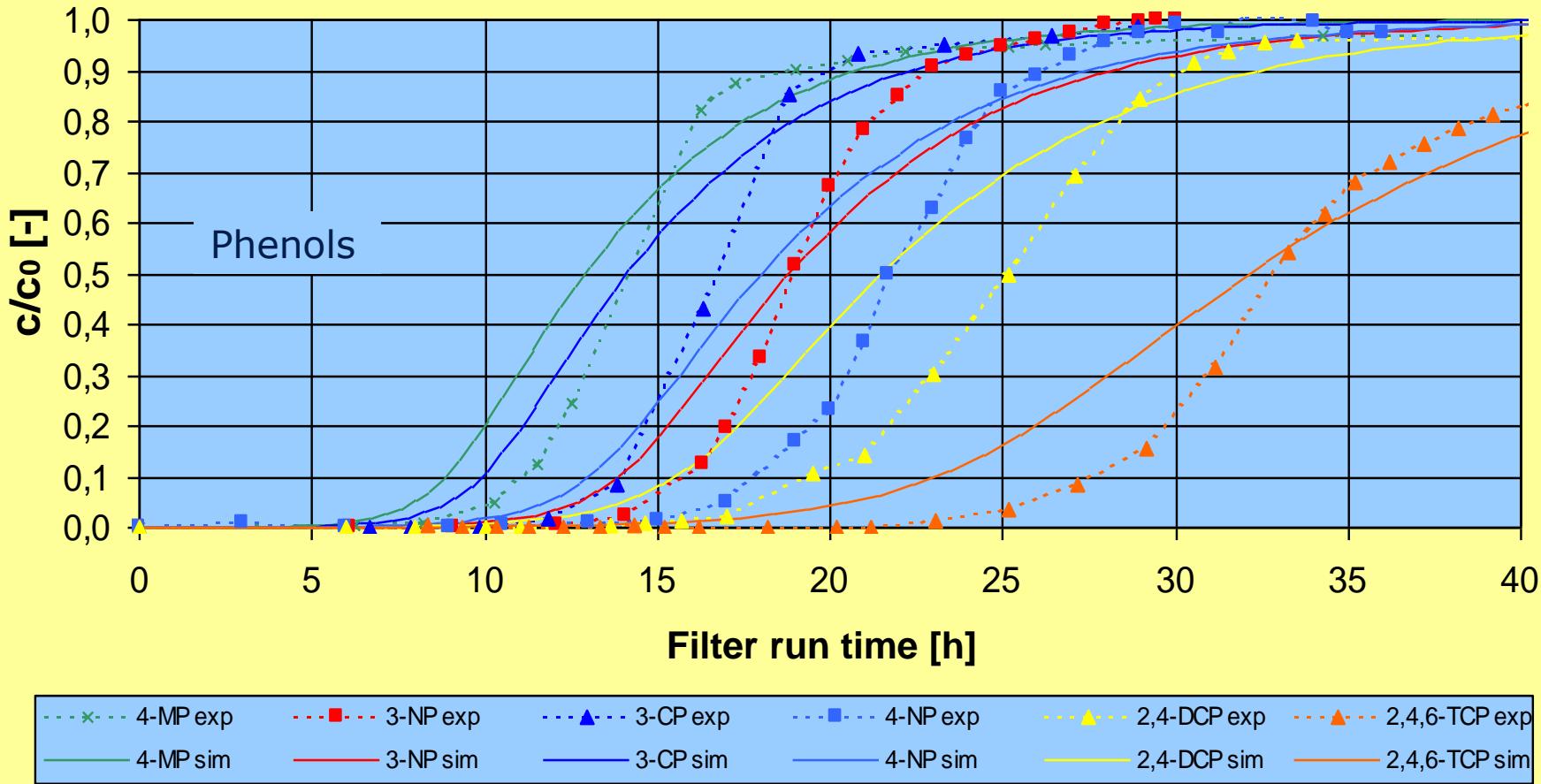
## Plot of breakthrough

as determined in experiment

## Simulation of breakthrough

using calculated Freundlich-parameters

# Breakthrough in SSCT from experiment and predicted using the normalized Freundlich equation



# Results

## Comparison of breakthrough at $C/C_0 = 0.1$

Compound	Exp. break- through	Simulated breakthrough					
		Polanyi- model		LSER- model		normalized Freundlich- equation	
[h]	[h]	[Δh]	[h]	[Δh]	[h]	[Δh]	
<b>4-MP</b>	11	7	-36 %	9	-18 %	9	-18 %
<b>3-CP</b>	14	9	-36 %	12	-14 %	10	-29 %
<b>3-NP</b>	16	13	-19 %	14	-13 %	14	-13 %
<b>4-NP</b>	18	12	-33 %	12	-33 %	13	-28 %
<b>2,4-DCP</b>	19	17	-11 %	16	-16 %	16	-16 %
<b>2,4,6-TCP</b>	28	26	-7 %	19	-32 %	23	-18 %
		-24 %		-21 %		-20 %	

# Results

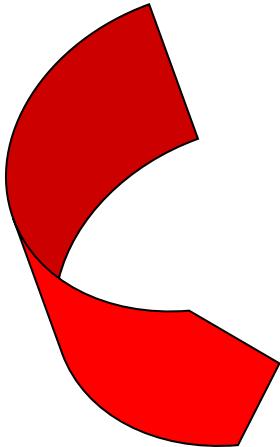
## Comparison of breakthrough at $C/C_0 = 0.8$

Compound	Exp. break- through	Simulated breakthrough					
		Polanyi- model		LSER- model		normalized Freundlich- equation	
[h]	[h]	[ $\Delta h$ ]	[h]	[ $\Delta h$ ]	[h]	[ $\Delta h$ ]	
<b>4-MP</b>	16	17	6 %	18	13 %	17	6 %
<b>3-CP</b>	18	19	6 %	22	22 %	18	0 %
<b>3-NP</b>	22	23	5 %	25	14 %	24	9 %
<b>4-NP</b>	24	25	4 %	22	-8 %	24	0 %
<b>2,4-DCP</b>	29	31	7 %	29	0 %	28	-3 %
<b>2,4,6-TCP</b>	39	54	38 %	36	-8 %	41	5 %
			11 %		11 %		4 %

# Conclusions

- Using the huge dataset and the models helps to identify non reliable data
- Using Freundlich coefficients derived using compound properties
  - breakthrough behavior is best described using Freundlich coefficients using the normalized Freundlich equation
  - begin of breakthrough (10 %) was predicted about 22 % too early
  - 80 %-breakthrough is predicted well with an average deviation of 8 %

# Conclusions



## **SOC breakthrough prediction**

using Freundlich-coefficients determined  
using compound properties

**is appropriate for a conservative  
risk assessment**



Slavik, Uhl, Börnick, Worch  
Assessment of SOC adsorption prediction in activated  
carbon filtration based on Freundlich coefficients  
calculated from compound properties

**RSC Advances 2016, 6, 19587-19604**

**Thanks for your  
attention!**