

# Contents

## Chapter A

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Introduction</b> . . . . .                | 1 |
| 1 Environmental Pollution . . . . .          | 1 |
| 2 Sources, Pathways and Reservoirs . . . . . | 1 |
| 3 Aquatic Ecosystems . . . . .               | 2 |

## Chapter B

|  |    |
|--|----|
| <b>Toxic Metals (G. Wittmann)</b> . . . . .                              | 3  |
| 1 Metals . . . . .   | 3  |
| 1.1 Classification of the Elements . . . . .                             | 3  |
| 1.2 Classification of Metals . . . . .                                   | 6  |
| 1.3 Trace Metal Species in Aquatic Systems . . . . .                     | 7  |
| 2 Trace Metals and Organic Life . . . . .                                | 8  |
| 2.1 Trace Elements Essential to Human Life . . . . .                     | 9  |
| 2.2 Deficiency and Oversupply . . . . .                                  | 11 |
| 2.3 Metal Toxicity . . . . .   | 12 |
| 2.4 Health Hazard Due to Certain Trace Elements . . . . .                | 14 |
| 2.5 Accumulation of Toxic Substances in the Aquatic Food Chain . . . . . | 17 |
| 2.6 Catastrophic Episodes of Metal Poisonings . . . . .                  | 18 |
| 2.6.1 Mercury Poisoning . . . . .  | 18 |
| 2.6.2 Cadmium Poisoning . . . . .  | 21 |
| 2.6.3 Lead Poisoning . . . . .   | 23 |
| 2.6.4 Chromium Poisoning . . . . .                                       | 24 |
| 2.6.5 Arsenic Poisoning . . . . .  | 25 |
| 2.7 Recent Studies on Metal Intoxication . . . . .                       | 25 |
| 3 Water Quality Criteria: Standards . . . . .                            | 26 |
| 3.1 Introduction . . . . .   | 26 |
| 3.2 Criteria Development . . . . .                                       | 26 |
| 3.3 Water Quality Criteria . . . . .                                     | 29 |
| 4 The Sources of Metal Pollution . . . . .                               | 30 |
| 4.1 Geologic Weathering . . . . .  | 31 |
| 4.2 Mining Effluents . . . . .   | 33 |
| 4.3 Industrial Effluents . . . . .                                       | 38 |

|       |  |    |
|-------|--|----|
| 4.4   | Domestic Effluents and Urban Stormwater Runoff | 43 |
| 4.4.1 | Domestic Effluents                             | 43 |
| 4.4.2 | Urban Storm Water Runoff                       | 44 |
| 4.4.3 | Spoil Heaps                                    | 47 |
| 4.5   | Metal Inputs from Rural Areas                  | 48 |
| 4.6   | Atmospheric Sources                            | 49 |
| 4.7   | Special Sources                                | 55 |
| 4.8   | Multi-Source Effects                           | 57 |
| 5     | Metal Analysis                                 | 61 |
| 5.1   | Media of Pollution Assessment                  | 62 |
| 5.2   | Sampling and Analytic Methods                  | 68 |
| 5.2.1 | Sampling                                       | 68 |
| 5.2.2 | Analytic Methods                               | 68 |

### Chapter C

|       |  |     |
|-------|--|-----|
|       | <b>Metal Concentrations in River, Lake, and Ocean Waters (U. Förstner)</b> | 71  |
| 1     | Distribution of Major Ions   | 71  |
| 1.1   | Natural Salt Concentrations  | 71  |
| 1.2   | Man-Made Contamination   | 73  |
| 2     | Chemical Conditions for Trace Metals in Natural Waters                     | 73  |
| 2.1   | Chemical Speciation in Freshwater and Seawater                             | 75  |
| 2.1.1 | Analysis of Trace Metal Speciation   | 75  |
| 2.1.2 | Freshwater/Seawater Model  | 78  |
| 2.2   | Redox Conditions in Natural Waters   | 79  |
| 3     | Trace Metals in Seawater   | 82  |
| 3.1   | Natural Distribution   | 83  |
| 3.2   | Man-Made Effects   | 86  |
| 3.2.1 | Atmospheric Input of Metals  | 88  |
| 3.2.2 | Metal Input from Sewage Effluents  | 89  |
| 4     | Trace Metals in Inland Waters  | 90  |
| 4.1   | Natural Contents   | 90  |
| 4.2   | Metal Pollution in River Water: Regional Examples                          | 93  |
| 4.2.1 | Heavy Metal Pollution in United States Water Systems                       | 93  |
| 4.2.2 | Metal Pollution in Inland and Coastal Waters of<br>Great Britain           | 96  |
| 4.2.3 | Heavy Metals in River Water of the Federal Republic<br>of Germany          | 98  |
| 4.2.4 | Metals in Waters of the People's Republic of China                         | 100 |
| 4.2.5 | Heavy Metals in River Water of the U.S.S.R.                                | 102 |
| 4.2.6 | Heavy Metals in Waters of Japan  | 103 |
| 4.3   | Metal Transport in Freshwater Systems                                      | 104 |
| 4.3.1 | Water Discharge and Metal Transport  | 104 |
| 4.3.2 | Annual Cycles of Metal Transport   | 106 |

**Chapter D****Metal Pollution Assessment from Sediment Analysis (U. Förstner) . . . 110**

|       |  |     |
|-------|--|-----|
| 1     | Introduction . . . . .   | 110 |
| 1.1   | Soluble/Solid Equilibrium . . . . .  | 110 |
| 1.2   | Surface Samples and Sediment Cores . . . . .   | 112 |
| 2     | Metal Investigations on Aquatic Sediments . . . . .  | 113 |
| 2.1   | Sampling and Storage . . . . .   | 114 |
| 2.1.1 | Soils and Sediments . . . . .  | 114 |
| 2.1.2 | Grab and Sore Samplers . . . . .   | 114 |
| 2.1.3 | Bottom Sediment Traps . . . . .  | 115 |
| 2.1.4 | Suspended Materials . . . . .  | 115 |
| 2.1.5 | Recovery of Pore Waters . . . . .  | 115 |
| 2.1.6 | Storage . . . . .  | 115 |
| 2.2   | The Mechanical Sediment Analysis . . . . .   | 116 |
| 2.3   | Mineralogical Analysis . . . . .   | 116 |
| 2.4   | Chemical Analysis of Nutrient Components (C-N-P) . . . . .                                   | 117 |
| 2.4.1 | Determinations of Oxidizable Matter (Organic<br>Carbon) by the Chromic Acid Method . . . . . | 117 |
| 2.4.2 | Determination of Kjeldahl Nitrogen . . . . .   | 117 |
| 2.4.3 | Determination of Total Phosphorus . . . . .  | 117 |
| 2.5   | Sediment Digestion in Metal Analysis . . . . .   | 118 |
| 2.5.1 | Hydrofluoric Acid Decomposition . . . . .  | 118 |
| 2.5.2 | Hydrochloric-Nitric Acid (Aqua Regia)<br>Decomposition or Digestion by Nitric Acid . . . . . | 118 |
| 2.5.3 | Lithium Metaborate Fusion (with Simultaneous<br>Determination of Silica) . . . . .           | 118 |
| 2.5.4 | Transfer of Solid Suspensions into Graphite<br>Cuvettes . . . . .                            | 118 |
| 3     | Geochemical Reconnaissance of Aquatic Sediments . . . . .                                    | 119 |
| 4     | Grain-Size Effects . . . . .   | 121 |
| 4.1   | Grain-Size Dependencies of Trace Metal Concentrations . . . . .                              | 122 |
| 4.2   | Reduction of Grain-Size Effects . . . . .  | 124 |
| 4.2.1 | Extrapolation from Grain-Size Distribution . . . . .   | 124 |
| 4.2.2 | Metal Concentrations vs Surface Area . . . . .   | 126 |
| 4.2.3 | Separation of Clay/Silt and Fine Sand Fractions by<br>Sieving . . . . .                      | 126 |
| 4.2.4 | Separation of the Pelitic Fraction (< 2 $\mu\text{m}$ ) in Settling<br>Tubes . . . . .       | 127 |
| 4.2.5 | Treatment with Dilute Acids (Hydrochloric Acid,<br>Nitric Acid) . . . . .                    | 128 |
| 4.2.6 | Mineral Separation: Quartz Correction Method . . . . .                                       | 128 |
| 4.2.7 | Comparison with "Conservative" Elements . . . . .  | 129 |
| 4.2.8 | The Relative Atomic Variations of Elements . . . . .   | 130 |
| 5     | Factors Controlling the Distribution of Metals in Aquatic<br>Sediments . . . . .             | 131 |

|       |   |     |
|-------|---|-----|
| 6     | Natural Metal Content—Civilizational Accumulation . . . . .                             | 133 |
| 6.1   | Average Shale: Global Standard Value . . . . .  | 133 |
| 6.2   | Fossil Lake Sediments: Standards Regarding Environmental<br>Data . . . . .              | 135 |
| 6.3   | Fossil Fluvial Deposits: Regional Influences . . . . .                                  | 135 |
| 6.4   | Short, Dated Sediment Cores: 200 Years of Industrial<br>Development . . . . .           | 136 |
| 6.5   | Recent Lake Deposits in Relatively Unpolluted Areas . . . . .                           | 137 |
| 6.6   | Metals in Suspended Matter: Background Values in Storm<br>Water . . . . .               | 137 |
| 6.7   | Background Values and Nonpoint Sources . . . . .  | 138 |
| 7     | Lake Sediments as Indicators of Heavy Metal Pollution . . . . .                         | 140 |
| 7.1   | Interference: Geochemical Background and Man's Impact . . . . .                         | 140 |
| 7.2   | Metal Pollution in Lake Sediments (Examples) . . . . .                                  | 143 |
| 7.3   | Metal Contamination Recorded in Dated Sedimentary<br>Cores . . . . .                    | 146 |
| 7.4   | Mercury Poisoning of Lakes . . . . .  | 151 |
| 7.4.1 | Sources of Mercury Pollution . . . . .  | 151 |
| 7.4.2 | Swedish Lakes . . . . .   | 152 |
| 7.4.3 | Canadian Lakes: Clay Lake . . . . .   | 153 |
| 7.4.4 | Laurentian Great Lakes . . . . .  | 153 |
| 8     | Metal Pollution in River Sediments . . . . .  | 157 |
| 8.1   | Geochemical Reconnaissance of Mercury . . . . .   | 158 |
| 8.2   | Stream Sediments: a Response to Environmental<br>Contamination . . . . .                | 158 |
| 8.3   | Heavy Metal Enrichment of River Sediments by Man-Made<br>Influences . . . . .           | 163 |
| 9     | Assessing Metal Pollution in the Sea by Sediment Study . . . . .                        | 171 |
| 9.1   | Mercury Contamination—Forms of Metal Enrichment in<br>Coastal Sediments . . . . .       | 172 |
| 9.1.1 | Minamata—Industrial Metal Contamination in Japanese<br>Coastal Waters . . . . .         | 172 |
| 9.1.2 | Firth of Clyde—Sewage Sludge Disposal . . . . .   | 174 |
| 9.1.3 | Southern Californian Coast—Sewer Outfalls and<br>Atmospheric Influences . . . . .       | 176 |
| 9.1.4 | New Haven—Unregulated Effluent Discharge . . . . .                                      | 178 |
| 9.2   | Marine Waste Deposits in the New York Metropolitan Region . . . . .                     | 178 |
| 9.3   | Industrial Effluents in New Bedford Harbor, Mass. . . . .                               | 182 |
| 9.4   | Heavy Metal Enrichment in the North Sea, Baltic Sea,<br>and Mediterranean Sea . . . . . | 184 |
| 9.4.1 | Metal Pollution in the Mediterranean Sea . . . . .                                      | 184 |
| 9.4.2 | Metal Pollution in the North Sea . . . . .  | 185 |
| 9.4.3 | Metal Contamination of the Baltic Sea . . . . .   | 188 |
| 9.4.4 | Other Restricted Basins—Fjords . . . . .  | 189 |
| 9.5   | Heavy Metal in Estuarine Sediments . . . . .  | 191 |
| 9.5.1 | The Estuarine Environment . . . . .   | 191 |

|                                   |     |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| 9.5.2 The Rhine Estuary . . . . . | 193 |
| 9.5.3 The Elbe Estuary . . . . .  | 194 |
| 9.5.4 Mixing Processes . . . . .  | 194 |

## Chapter E

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| <b>Metal Transfer Between Solid and Aqueous Phases (U. Förstner) . . .</b>  | <b>197</b> |
| 1 Residence Times of Metals in Aquatic Systems . . . . .  | 197        |
| 2 Types of Metal Association in Sediments . . . . .   | 200        |
| 2.1 Classification of Chemical Phases in Sediment . . . . .   | 201        |
| 2.2 Heavy Metals in Detrital Minerals . . . . .   | 201        |
| 2.3 Heavy Metal Precipitation . . . . .   | 203        |
| 2.3.1 Hydroxides . . . . .  | 203        |
| 2.3.2 Sulfides . . . . .  | 205        |
| 2.3.3 Carbonates . . . . .  | 205        |
| 2.4 Cation Exchange and Adsorption . . . . .  | 207        |
| 2.5 Sorption onto Clay Minerals . . . . .   | 210        |
| 2.6 Sorption and Coprecipitation on Hydrous Fe/Mn-Oxides and<br>Fe-Sulfides . . . . .                               | 213        |
| 2.6.1 Formation of Hydrous Mn and Fe Oxides . . . . .   | 214        |
| 2.6.2 Sorption of Heavy Metals onto Fe/Mn Oxides . . . . .  | 216        |
| 2.6.3 Coprecipitation of Trace Elements with Iron Sulfides . .  | 218        |
| 2.7 Metal Associations with Organic Substances . . . . .  | 220        |
| 2.7.1 Organic Substances in Natural Waters . . . . .  | 221        |
| 2.7.2 Sorption and Complexation of Metals by Humic<br>Substances . . . . .  | 222        |
| 2.7.3 Coagulation and Flocculation of Metal-Organic Matter .  | 223        |
| 2.7.4 Associations of Metal-Organic Compounds to<br>Sediments . . . . .   | 224        |
| 2.8 Sorption of Trace Elements on Carbonates and Phosphates . .   | 227        |
| 3 Metal Accumulation in Aquatic Sediments—Interactions and<br>Effects of Various Processes and Sinks . . . . .      | 230        |
| 3.1 Hydroxidic Coatings on Clay Minerals . . . . .  | 230        |
| 3.2 Organic Coatings on Clay Minerals . . . . .   | 232        |
| 3.3 Interactions Between Hydrous Metal Oxides, Organic<br>Substances, Carbonate, and Phosphate . . . . .            | 232        |
| 3.4 Significance of the Different Sinks in Natural Systems . . . . .  | 234        |
| 3.5 Non-Conservative Effects of Trace Metals in Estuaries . . . . .   | 236        |
| 4 Determination of Chemical Phases in Natural and Polluted<br>Sediments . . . . .                                   | 238        |
| 4.1 Proportion of the Individual Types of Metal Associations in<br>Natural and Polluted Aquatic Sediments . . . . . | 239        |
| 4.2 Grain Size and Chronological Variations; Phase Concentration<br>Factor . . . . .                                | 245        |
| 5 Mobilization of Heavy Metals from Sediments . . . . .   | 247        |

|                  |   |            |
|------------------|---|------------|
| 5.1              | Saltwater/Sediment Interactions . . . . .   | 247        |
| 5.1.1            | Desorption Experiments . . . . .  | 248        |
| 5.1.2            | Estuary-Sediment Boundary . . . . .   | 249        |
| 5.2              | Redox Changes and Metal Release . . . . .   | 250        |
| 5.2.1            | Chemical Factors Affecting Metal Distribution in<br>Interstitial Water . . . . .                                  | 252        |
| 5.2.2            | Physical Processes Affecting Metal Release from Pore<br>Water . . . . .   | 254        |
| 5.3              | Metal Release by Acidic Water . . . . .   | 258        |
| 5.3.1            | Acid Mine Drainage . . . . .  | 259        |
| 5.3.2            | Acid Precipitation . . . . .  | 260        |
| 5.4              | Mobilization of Metals by Organic Complexing Agents . . . . .   | 262        |
| 5.5              | Mobilization of Heavy Metals by Microbial Activity . . . . .  | 265        |
| 5.5.1            | Microbial Interactions in Natural Environments . . . . .  | 265        |
| 5.5.2            | Bacterial Leaching of Metals . . . . .  | 266        |
| 5.5.3            | Microbial Action in the Mercury Cycle . . . . .   | 267        |
| 5.5.4            | Bacterial Methylation of Arsenic, Lead, and Selenium . . . . .  | 269        |
| <br>             |   |            |
| <b>Chapter F</b> |   |            |
|                  | <b>Heavy Metals in Aquatic Organisms (F. Prosi) . . . . .</b>   | <b>271</b> |
| <br>             |   |            |
| 1                | Physico-Chemical Influences on the Toxicity and the Uptake of<br>Heavy Metals with Respect to Organisms . . . . . | 273        |
| 1.1              | Temperature and Oxygen Content . . . . .  | 273        |
| 1.2              | Water Hardness . . . . .  | 274        |
| 1.3              | Organic Compounds . . . . .   | 276        |
| 1.4              | pH Values . . . . .   | 279        |
| 1.5              | Salinity . . . . .  | 280        |
| 2                | Biologic Factors Affecting Heavy Metal Concentrations in<br>Aquatic Organisms . . . . .                           | 281        |
| 2.1              | General Physiologic Behavior . . . . .  | 282        |
| 2.2              | Life Cycle and Life History of the Organism . . . . .   | 282        |
| 2.3              | Seasonal Variations of Metal Content in Organisms . . . . .   | 284        |
| 2.4              | Species-Specific and Individual Variability . . . . .   | 285        |
| 2.5              | Contamination by Food and Intestine Content . . . . .   | 285        |
| 3                | Heavy Metal Enrichment in Limnic and Marine Organisms at<br>Different Trophic Levels . . . . .                    | 286        |
| 3.1              | Autotrophic Organisms . . . . .   | 286        |
| 3.1.1            | Phytoplankton . . . . .   | 286        |
| 3.1.2            | Marine Macroalgae . . . . .   | 288        |
| 3.1.3            | Freshwater Algae . . . . .  | 290        |
| 3.1.4            | Mosses . . . . .  | 291        |
| 3.1.5            | Higher Water Plants . . . . .   | 292        |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| 3.2 Heterotrophic Organisms . . . . .  | 294 |
| 3.2.1 Zooplankton . . . . .  | 295 |
| 3.2.2 Bivalves . . . . .   | 297 |
| 3.2.3 Higher Marine Crustaceans . . . . .  | 304 |
| 3.2.4 Freshwater Crustaceans . . . . .   | 305 |
| 3.2.5 Marine and Freshwater Fish . . . . .                                       | 306 |
| 3.3 The Mobilization of Heavy Metals from Sediment by<br>Aquatic Biota . . . . . | 313 |
| 3.4 Food Chain Enrichment in Aquatic Life . . . . .                              | 318 |

## Chapter G

### Trace Metals in Water Purification Processes

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| (U. Förstner and J. H. van Lierde) . . . . .  | 324 |
| 1 Heavy Metal Removal for the Production of Drinking Water . . . . .  | 324 |
| 1.1 Obtaining Water by Bank Filtration . . . . .  | 324 |
| 1.2 Artificial Recharge of Groundwater by Land Spreading<br>and Injection . . . . .                                     | 327 |
| 1.3 Direct Water Purification by Traditional Physico-Chemical<br>Treatment (PCT) and Related Advanced Methods . . . . . | 330 |
| 1.3.1 Traditional Removal of Trace Metals by Pre-Clarification,<br>Chlorination, Flocculation, and Filtration . . . . . | 331 |
| 1.3.2 Heavy Metal Removal by Chemical Precipitation . . . . .   | 333 |
| 1.3.3 Activated Carbon Filtration in Drinking Water<br>Purification . . . . .   | 334 |
| 1.3.4 Heavy Metal Removal by Ion Exchange . . . . .   | 336 |
| 1.3.5 Potential Metal Enrichments in the Water Distribution<br>System . . . . .   | 337 |
| 2 Heavy Metals in Industrial and Domestic Effluents . . . . .   | 340 |
| 2.1 Effluents from the Electroplating Industry . . . . .  | 340 |
| 2.2 Mercury Removal from Chlor-Alkali Plant Effluents . . . . .   | 343 |
| 2.3 Prevention and Control of Acidic Mine Drainage . . . . .  | 344 |
| 2.4 Heavy Metals in Urban Drainage Systems—Biologic<br>Treatment (BT) . . . . .   | 345 |
| 2.4.1 Metal Extraction in the Mechanical (Primary)<br>Sedimentation Unit . . . . .                                      | 346 |
| 2.4.2 Reduction of Metal Loads in the Biologic Stage . . . . .  | 346 |
| 2.5 Tertiary Physico-Chemical Treatment of Wastewater . . . . .   | 347 |
| 3 Heavy Metals in Sewage Sludges . . . . .  | 352 |
| 3.1 Land Application of Sewage Sludges . . . . .  | 352 |
| 3.2 Impact of Heavy Metals on Groundwater Quality . . . . .   | 355 |
| 3.3 Sewage Sludge Disposal to the Sea . . . . .   | 358 |
| 3.4 Incineration of Sewage Sludge . . . . .   | 359 |

**Chapter H**

|                                     |     |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| <b>Concluding Remarks</b> . . . . . | 360 |
| 1 Disposal Versus Reuse . . . . .   | 363 |
| 2 Alternative Materials . . . . .   | 364 |
| <b>Appendix</b> . . . . .           | 367 |
| <b>References</b> . . . . .         | 399 |
| <b>Subject Index</b> . . . . .      | 475 |

The heavy metal concentrations were given mainly in  $\mu\text{g/l}$  (water) and  $\text{ppm}$  (sediment, biological materials).

*1  $\mu\text{g/l}$  ( $1 \mu\text{g}/\text{dm}^3$ ) equals*

*(for water)  $\approx 1 \mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$  or  $1 \text{ mg}/\text{t}$  or  $10^{-7}\%$  or*

*1 ppb (parts per billion)*

*1 ppm (parts per million) equals*

*1 mg/kg or 1 g/t or  $10^{-4}\%$*