

Case study: Lead

- Regulations
 - 0.015 mg/L action level in drinking water
- Sources
 - Natural: lead minerals
 - Industrial: paints
 - Plumbing: service connections, solder, brass alloy faucets
- Health Effects
 - Kidney, nervous system damage

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A short history of Lead

- Emperor Nero & others
 - a predilection to lead-tainted diets and suffered from gout and other symptoms of chronic lead poisoning
 - Not only did the Romans drink legendary amounts of wine, but they flavored their wines with a syrup made from simmered grape juice that was brewed in lead pots. The syrup was also used as a sweetener in many recipes favored by Roman gourmands.
 - "One teaspoon of such syrup would have been more than enough to cause chronic lead poisoning," Dr. Nriagu said.



Peter Ustinov as Nero

NY Times: March 17, 1983

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Our continuing love affair with lead

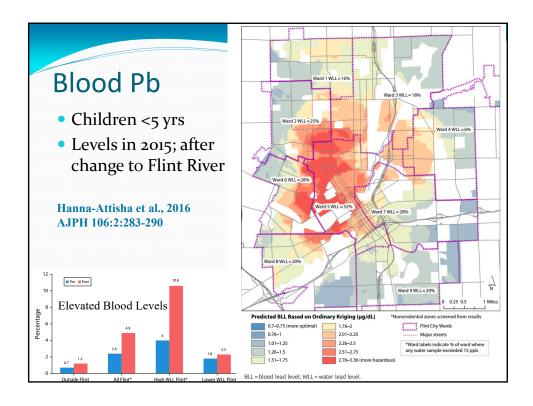
- Used for some of the earliest pressurized water pipes
 - Malleable, plentiful
 - Plumbing and plumbers use Pb
- Used with modern urban water systems
 - Lead service lines esp. 1920s-1940s
 - Lead solder: until 1986
 - · Brass fittings with lead



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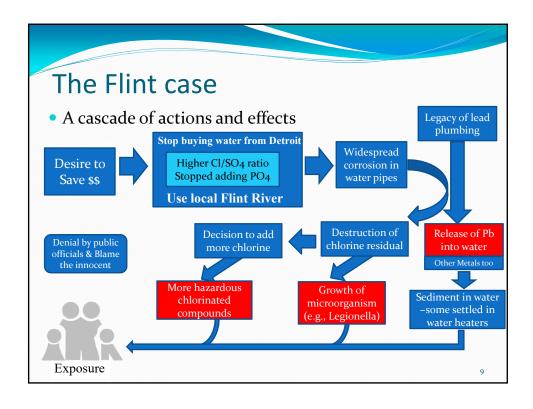


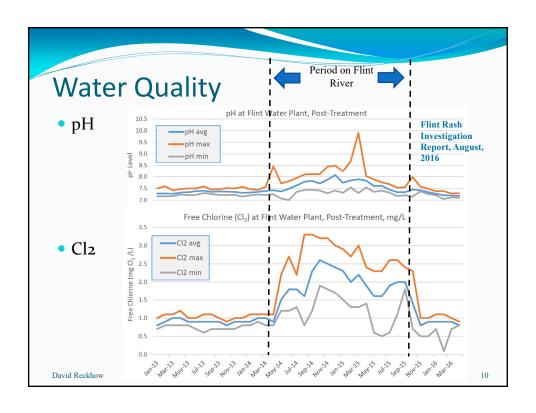


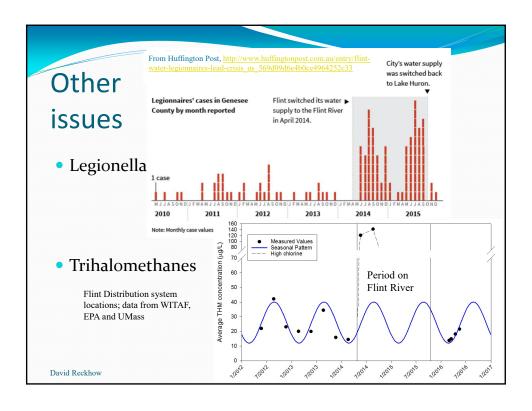
Flint Michigan Crisis

- Timeline
 - April 2014: the city stopped getting its water from Detroit as a cost-saving measure and began instead drawing water from the Flint River.
 - High blood lead levels noted in children
 - Water led levels were above standard
 - Oct 16, 2015: Flint switches back to Detroit Water
- Sources
 - EPA website: http://www.epa.gov/flint/flint-drinking-water-documents
 - VPI website: http://flintwaterstudy.org/
 - 12/22/2015 <u>Rachel Maddow video</u>:

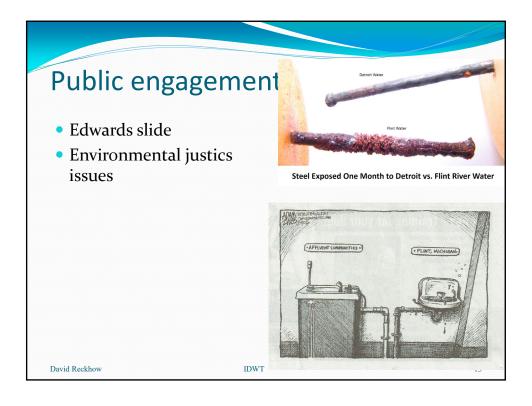
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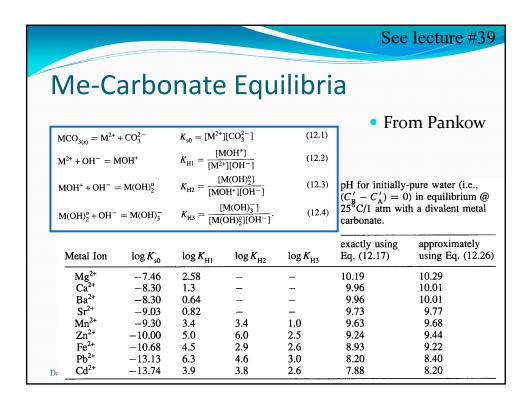


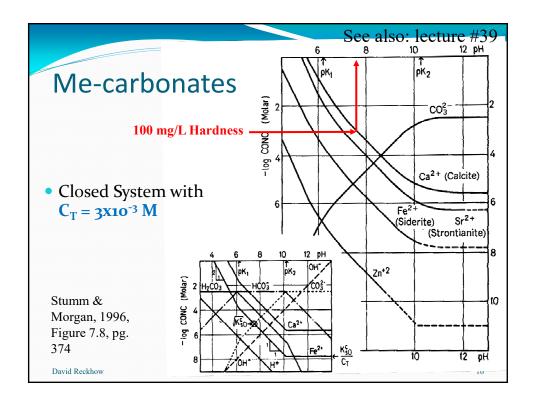


Protection by a CaCO₃ film?

- Calcium carbonate will precipitate when the solubility product is exceeded
 - This occurs at elevated pHs where the equilibrium shifts toward more carbonate
 - Of course there has to be a certain amount of calcium (hardness present as well)
- This film has been shown to protect pipes from corrosion
 - for this reason, high pHs and high alkalinities can help with corrosion control
 - How high should the pH be?

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Langelier Index (LI)

- A measure of the degree of saturation of calcium carbonate in water
 - When a water is exactly in equilibrium with CaCO₃ such that neither dissolution nor precipitation is occurring,
 - LI = 0
 - When CaCO₃ precipitation is occurring, the water is oversaturated and by definition:
 - LI >0
 - So the extent of oversaturation (ie., the LI) is defined as the number of log units of the actual, measured, water pH (pH_{act}) above the theoretical value that gives perfect equilibrium (pH_{sat})

$$LI \equiv pH_{act} - pH_{sat}$$

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LI continuted

• The saturation pH can be calculated using the solubility product constant (Kso) and knowing the water's carbonate content from knowledge of the alkalinity

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No assumptions on mass balance

 Returning to the basic solubility, but not requiring that calcium and total carbonates be equal

$$K_{SO} = \left[Ca^{+2}\right]\left[CO_3^{-2}\right]$$
 $K_{SO} = \left[Ca^{+2}\right]\alpha_2C_T$
 $\alpha_2 = \frac{1}{\frac{[H^+]^2}{K_1K_2} + \frac{[H^+]}{K_2} + 1}$
And so at $pH = 6.3 - 10.3$
 $\alpha_2 \approx \frac{1}{\frac{[H^+]}{K_2}} = \frac{K_2}{[H^+]}$
 $K_{SO} = \left[Ca^{+2}\right]\frac{K_2}{[H^+]}C_T$
 $\left[H^+\right] = \left[Ca^{+2}\right]\frac{K_2}{K_{SO}}C_T$

LI (cont)

• Continuing $[H^+] = \left[Ca^{+2}\right] \frac{K_2}{K_{so}} C_T$ $log [H^+] = log \left[Ca^{+2}\right] + log K_2 - log K_{so} + log C_T$ $pH_{sat} = -log \left[Ca^{+2}\right] + pK_2 - pK_{so} - log C_T$

• And now combining with the LI definition $LI \equiv pH_{act} - pH_{sat}$

$$LI = pH_{act} + log[Ca^{+2}] - pK_2 + pK_{so} + logC_T$$

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LI (cont)

• And since in the pH range below 10.3, the alkalinity is mostly due to bicarbonate, we can equate the C_T to the alkalinity

$$LI = pH_{act} + log[Ca^{+2}] - pK_2 + pK_{so} + log[Alk]$$

- And general practice has been to increase pH so that the LI is 0.2 to 1.0
- While CaCO₃ films have been found to inhibit iron corrosion, there is little evidence that a high LI can reduce the level of soluble Pb

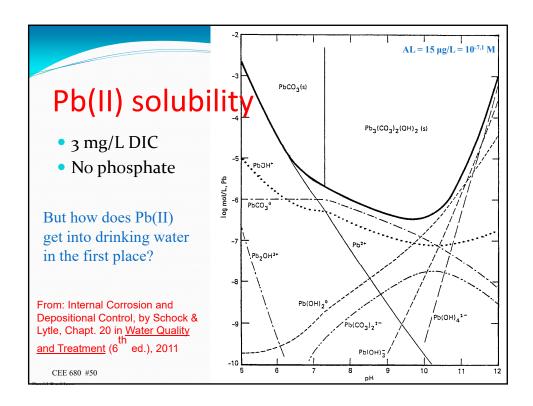
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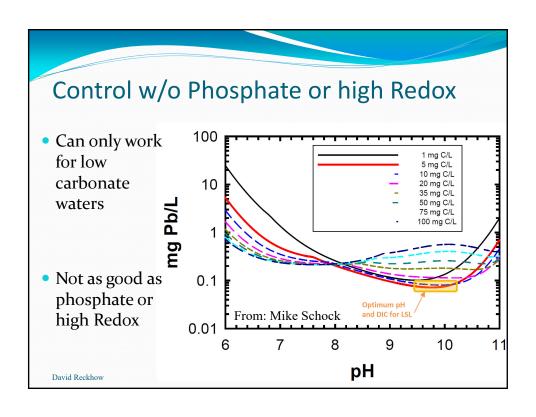
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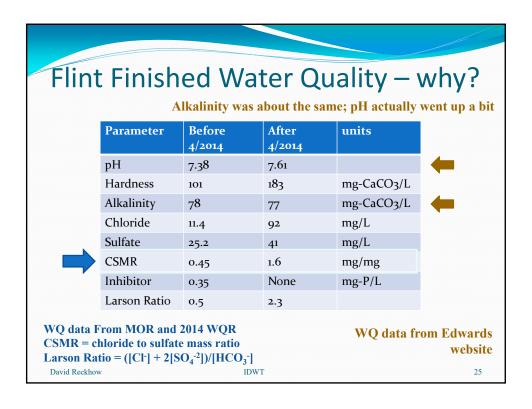
Flint Water Quality – why?

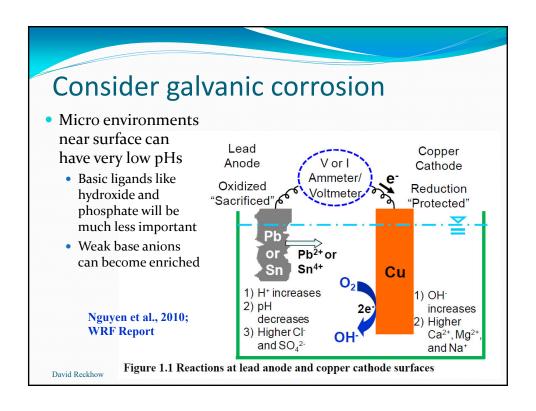
Parameter	Before 4/2014	After 4/2014	units
pН	7.38	7.61	
Hardness	101	183	mg-CaCO ₃ /L
Alkalinity	78	77	mg-CaCO ₃ /L
Chloride	11.4	92	mg/L
Sulfate	25.2	41	mg/L
CSMR	0.45	1.6	mg/mg
Inhibitor	0.35	None	mg-P/L
Larson Ratio	0.5	2.3	

WQ data From MOR and 2014 WQR CSMR = chloride to sulfate mass ratio Larson Ratio = $([Cl^-] + 2[SO_4^{-2}])/[HCO_3^-]$









Sulfate and Chloride

- In bulk water neither sulfate nor chloride can compete well with hydroxide for lead
- Near surface with active galvanic corrosion, pH drops and hydroxide is very low
 - Sulfate forms insoluble PbSO₄ precipitate

$$K_{so} = [Pb^{+2}][SO_4^{-2}] = 1.54x10^{-8}$$

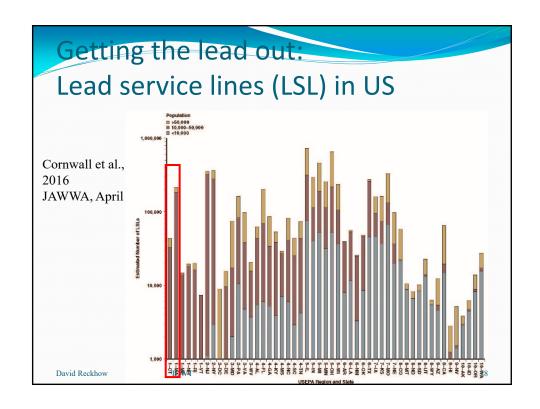
• Chloride forms soluble PbCl+ complex

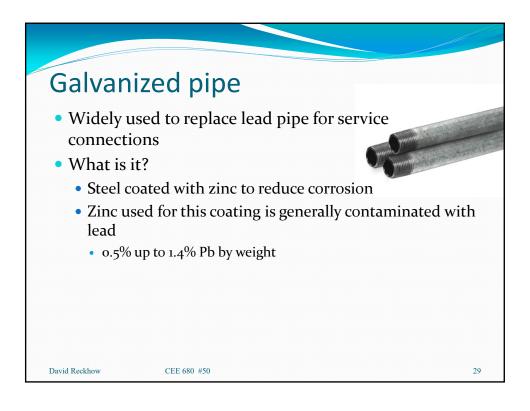
$$K_1 = \frac{[PbCl^+]}{[Pb^{+2}][Cl^-]} = 59.5$$

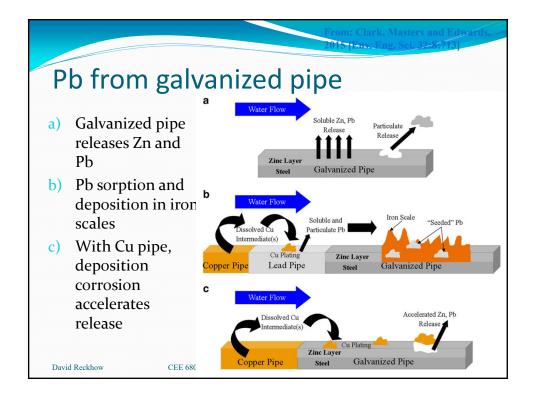
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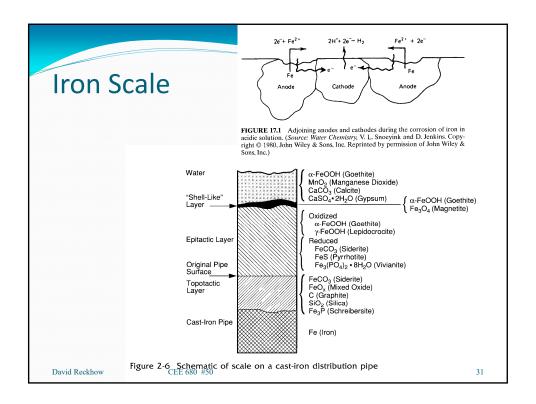
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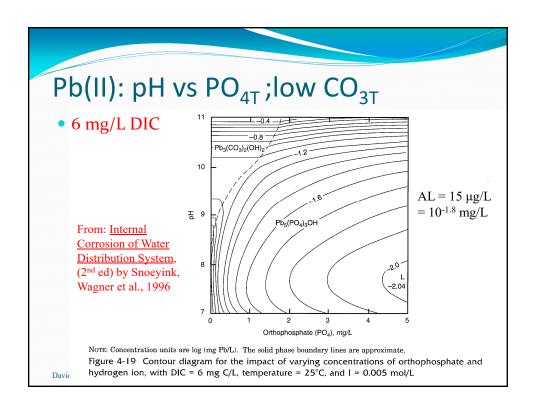
Nguyen et al., 2010; WRF Report 27

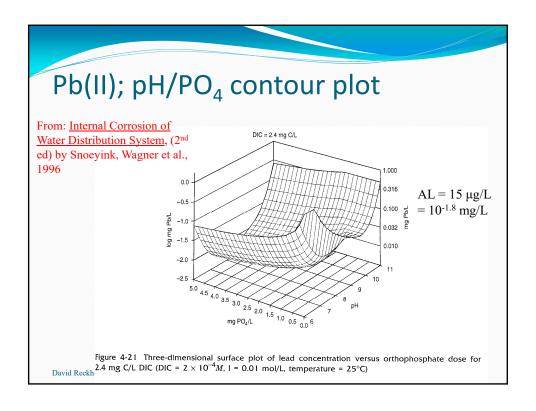


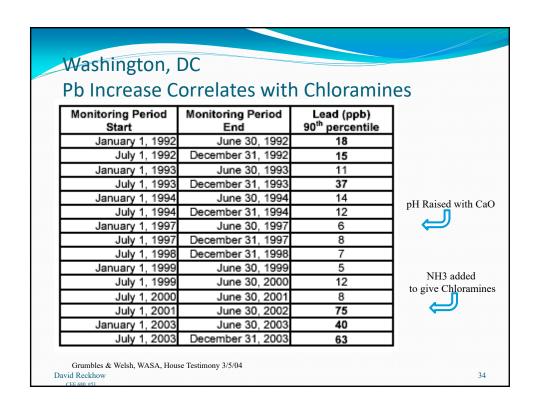


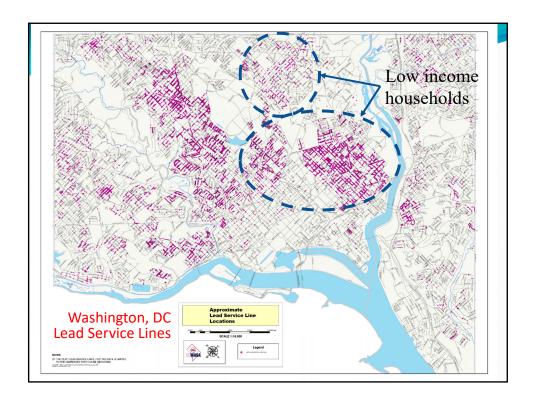


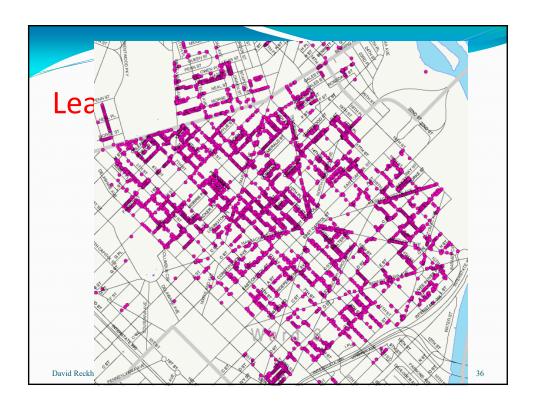










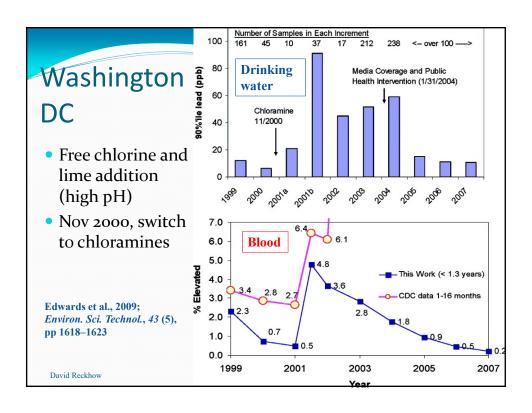


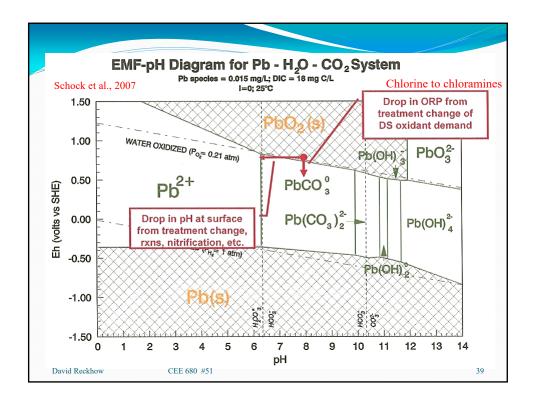
Chloramines: a solution to the DBP problem?

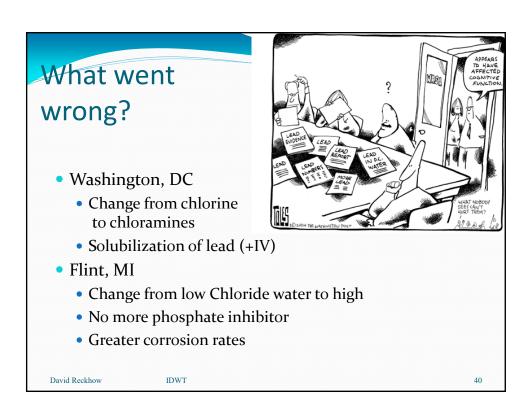
• Inorganic chloramines are formed by the reaction of free chlorine with ammonia.

$$NH_3 + HOCI -----> NH_2CI + H_2O$$
 (1)

- Monochloramine is formed very quickly (in minutes)
- Although it is not as powerful an oixidant or disinfectant as free chlorine, it does continue to provide some pathogen protectionl
- It does not continue to produce THMs and most HAAs like free chlorine does
- Therefore, many cities like DC have decided to convert their distribution system disinfectant to chloramines







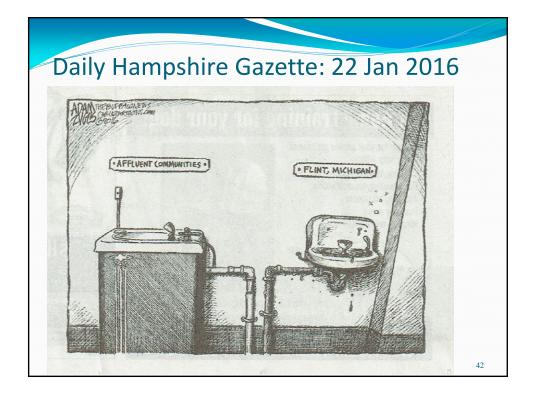
How to avoid Lead problems

- Optimized corrosion control treatment
 - Control of pH and alkalinity
 - Addition of orthophosphate based corrosion inhibitors
 - Keep oxidized environment
- Minimize changes in distributed water chemistry
- Removal lead from system
 - Lead service lines
 - Lead in plumbing fixtures

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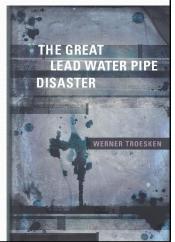






 The Great Lead Water Pipe Disaster

- Werner Troesken
- 2006 MIT Press



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Why did the DC crisis happen?

- Unintended consequences of decisions made to protect public health
- Need to provide clean water to cities
 - Disinfect with chlorine
 - Lead is a great piping material
- Some secondary problems that need fixing carcinogens
 - Solution: Convert chlorine to chloramines?
 - Oops

First, a short history of municipal drinking water

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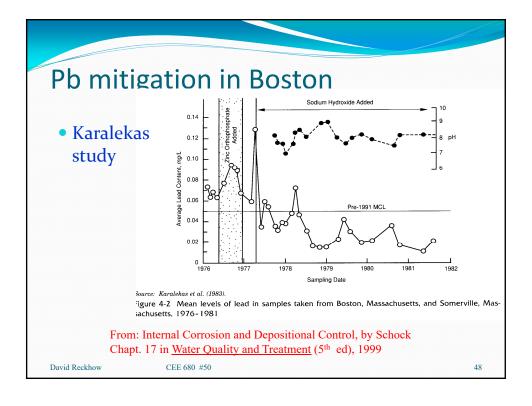
How to avoid Lead problems

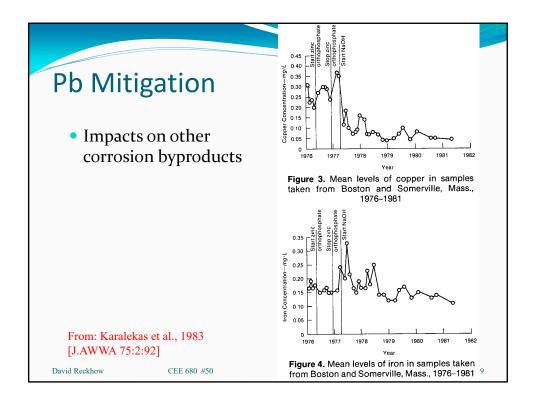
- Optimized corrosion control treatment
 - Elevated pH and control of alkalinity
 - Addition of orthophosphate based corrosion inhibitors
- Other guidance
 - Keep oxidized environment
 - Keep chloride to sulfate ratio low
 - Minimize changes in distributed water chemistry
- Removal lead from system
 - Lead service lines
 - Lead in plumbing fixtures

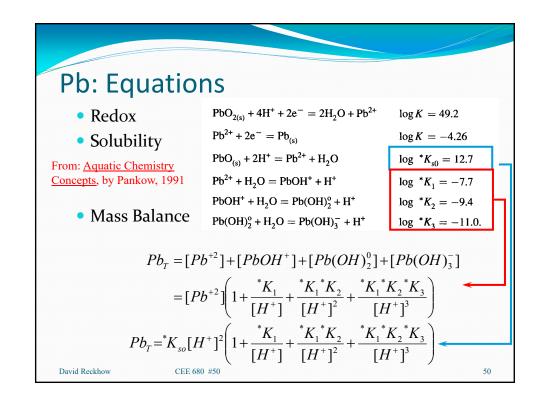
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Pb (+II): Solubility • Red- PbO(s) log Concentration (M) Pb(OH) $Pb_{T} = 10^{-6}$ From: Aquatic Chemistry Concepts, by Pankow, 1991 David Reckhow CEE 680 #50

Pb: Predominance Equations I

- Again, in general $Pb_{T}={}^{*}K_{so}[H^{+}]^{2}\left(1+\frac{{}^{*}K_{1}}{[H^{+}]}+\frac{{}^{*}K_{1}{}^{*}K_{2}}{[H^{+}]^{2}}+\frac{{}^{*}K_{1}{}^{*}K_{2}{}^{*}K_{3}}{[H^{+}]^{3}}\right)$ Which can reduce to (depending on predominance):
- - For Pb+2

$$Pb_{T} \approx {}^{*}K_{so}[H^{+}]^{2}(1) = 10^{-12.7}[H^{+}]^{2}$$

• For Pb(OH)₂°

• For Pb(OH)₂°
$$Pb_{T} \approx {}^{*}K_{so}[H^{+}]^{2} \left(\frac{{}^{*}K_{1}}{[H^{+}]}\right) = {}^{*}K_{so} {}^{*}K_{1}[H^{+}] = 10^{-20.4}[H^{+}]$$
• For Pb(OH)₂°

$$Pb_T \approx {}^*K_{so}[H^+]^2 \left(\frac{{}^*K_1{}^*K_2}{[H^+]^2}\right) = {}^*K_{so}{}^*K_1{}^*K_2 = 10^{-29.8}$$

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Oxidation Chemistry of Pb

- Oxidation States
 - o, +II, +IV
- Solubility
 - o oxidation state: insoluble
 - Pb(s)
 - +II oxidation state: relatively soluble
 - PbO(s) (red & yellow), Pb(OH)₂(s)
 - +IV oxidation state: essentially insoluble
 - PbO₂(s)

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Pb: Predominance Equations II $PbO_{\underline{2(s)}}$ $2pe = 49.2 + log\{PbO_{2(s)}\} - log\{Pb^{2+}\} - 2log\{H_2O\} - 4pH$ (21.12)PbO_(s) $log{Pb^{2+}} + log{H₂O} = 12.7 - 2pH + log{PbO_(s)}$ (21.16)Pb²⁺ $PbO_{\underline{2}\underline{(s)}}$ $2pe = 36.5 - 2pH + \log\{PbO_{2(s)}\} - \log\{PbO_{(s)}\} -$ (21.17) $\overline{PbO}_{(s)}$ Pb2+ $2pe = -4.26 + \log\{Pb^{2+}\} - \log\{Po_{(s)}\}$ (21.14) $Pb_{(s)}$ PbO_(s) + $log{Pb^{2+}} + log{H₂O} = 12.7 - 2pH + log{PbO_(s)}$ (21.16)Pb²⁺ $PbO_{(s)}$ $2pe + log\{H_2O\} = 8.44 - 2pH + log\{PbO_{(s)}\} - log\{Pb_{(s)}\}$ (21.19) $Pb_{(s)}$ From: Aquatic Chemistry Concepts, by Pankow, 1991 David Reckhow CEE 680 #50

