



Emerging Pollutants: Protecting Water Quality for the Health of People and the Environment

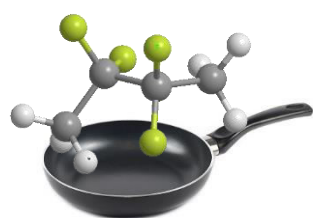
Quantum Chemical Computations Promote Understanding of Microbial Reductive Dehalogenation

Shangwei Zhang, Xinghui Xia

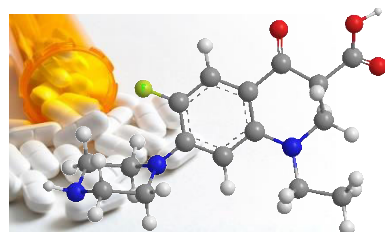
18 January 2023, 13:00 CET



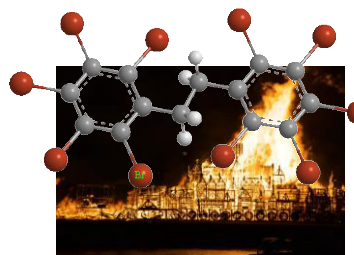
Old and Emerging Organohalides Imperil Health and Ecosystem



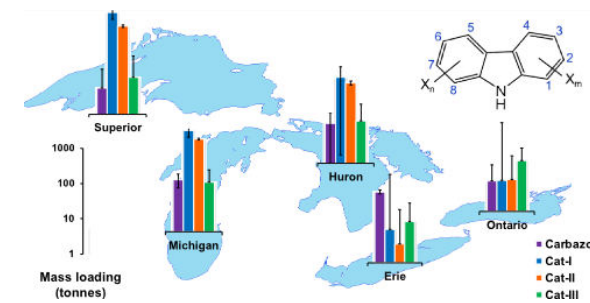
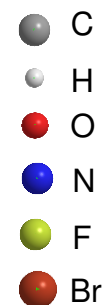
non-stick coatings



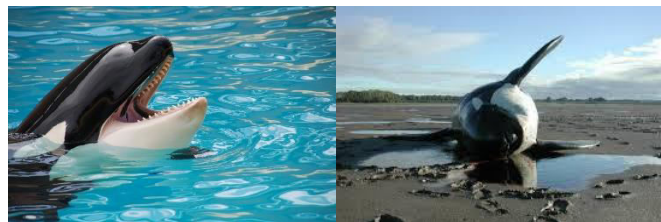
antibiotics



flame retardants



naturally; emerging; conc. increasing



kill whale, global pop. decline, PCBs



chloracne on the ear & neck

Organic chemicals jeopardize the health of freshwater ecosystems on the continental scale

Egina Malaj^{a,b,1}, Peter C. von der Ohe^{a,c}, Matthias Grote^d, Ralph Kühne^e, Cédric P. Mondy^f, Philippe Usseglio-Polatera^g, Werner Brack^h, and Ralf B. Schäfer^{b,1}

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including organohalides

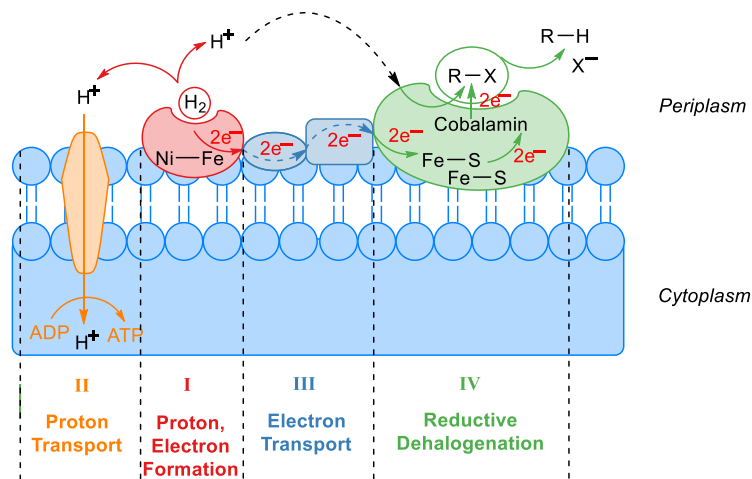
Desforges, J.-P.; Hall, A.; McConnell, B.; Rosing-Asvid, A.; Barber, J. L.; Brownlow, A.; De Guise, S.; Eulaers, I.; Jepson, P. D.; Letcher, R. J.; Levin, M.; Ross, P. S.; Samarra, F.; Vikingson, G.; Sonne, C.; Dietz, R.. *Science* **2018**, *361*, (6409), 1373-1376.

Li, A.; Zhou, S.; He, H.; Guo, J.; Rockne, K. J.; Sturchio, N. C.; Giesy, J. P. *ACS ES&T Water* **2022**, *2*, (9), 1544-1554.

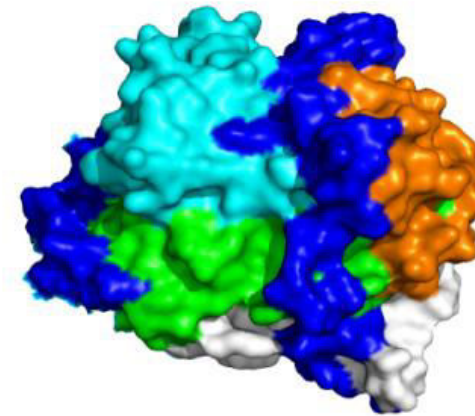
Malaj, E.; von der Ohe, P. C.; Grote, M.; Kühne, R.; Mondy, C. P.; Usseglio-Polatera, P.; Brack, W.; Schäfer, R. B.. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* **2014**, *111*, (26), 9549-9554.

Microbial Reductive Dehalogenation

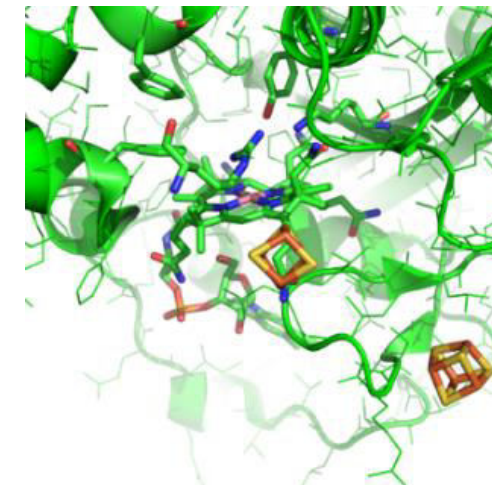
A Highly Desirable Approach Targeting Organohalide Pollution



biochemical process of dehalogenation



reductive dehalogenase and its catalytic site



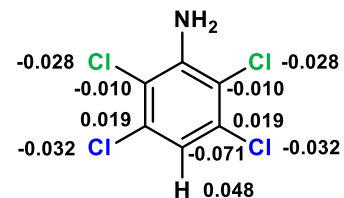
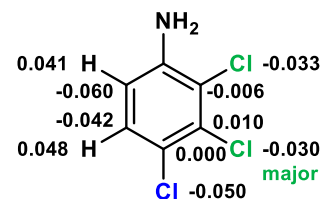
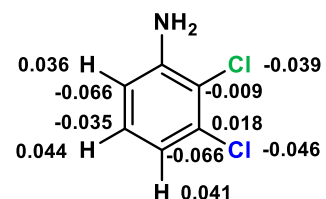
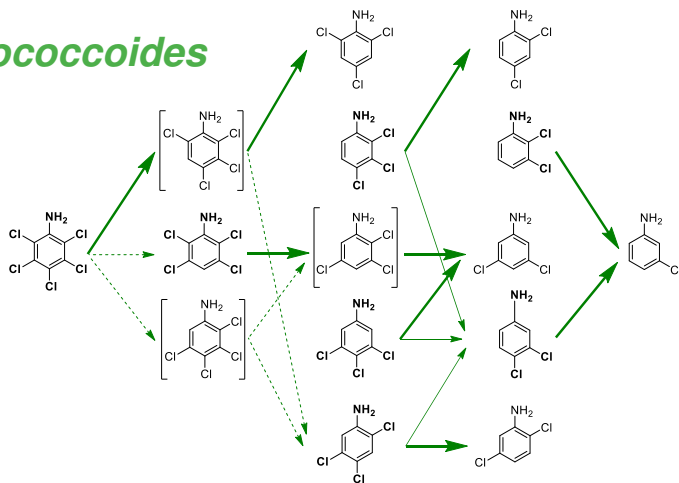
experimental demonstration: cob(I)alamin catalyzes dehalogenation

Further Mechanism: Unknown, experimental bottleneck

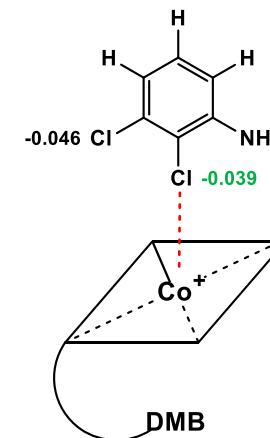
Quantum Chemical Study I

Electron Density Unravels Distinct Electron Transfer in Bacteria

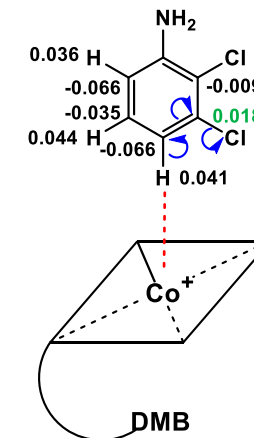
Dehalococcoides



atomic charge



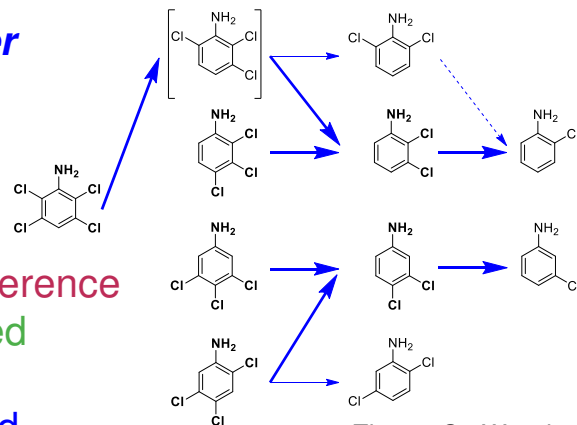
**Dehalococcoides
CBDB1**



**Dehalobacter
14DCB1**

**Distinct ET Mechanisms
Unraveled**

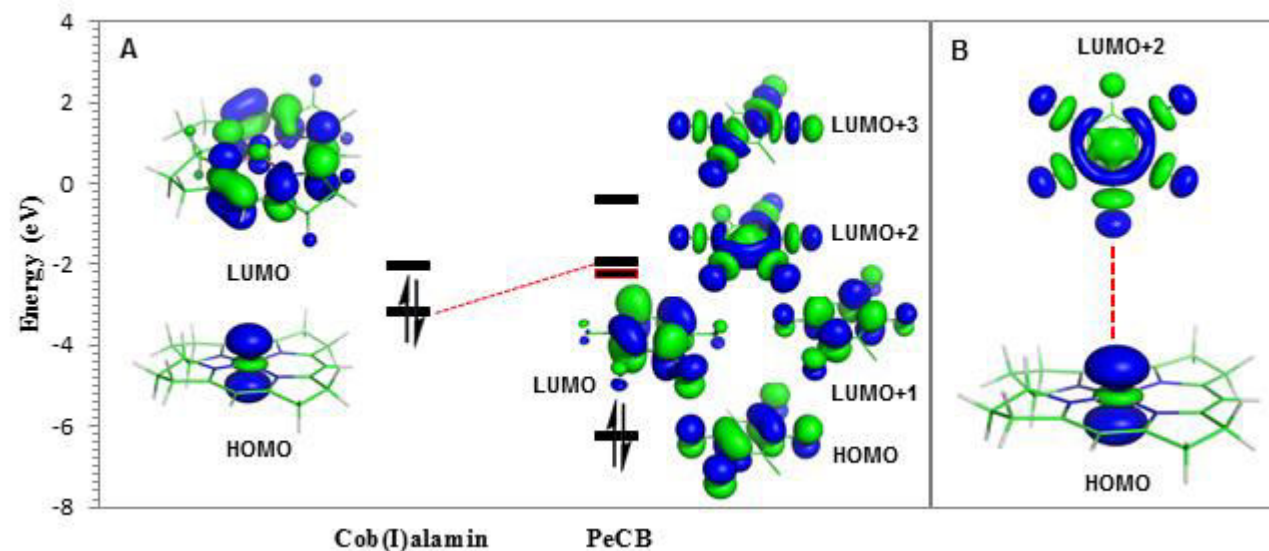
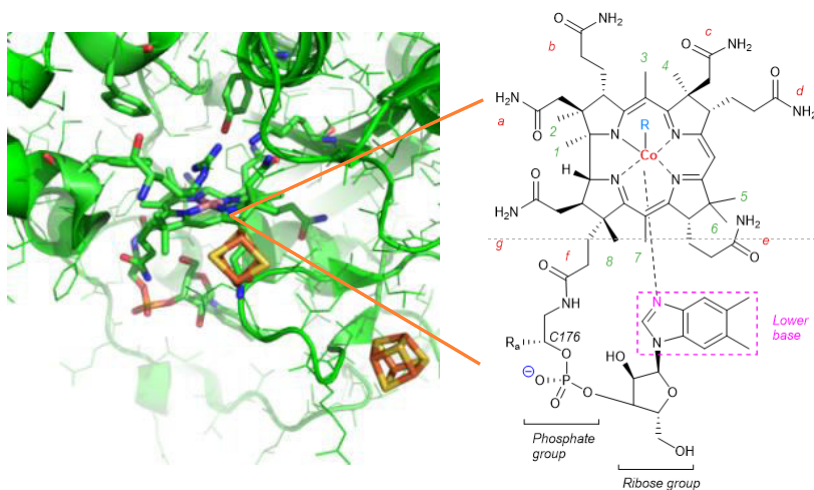
Dehalobacter



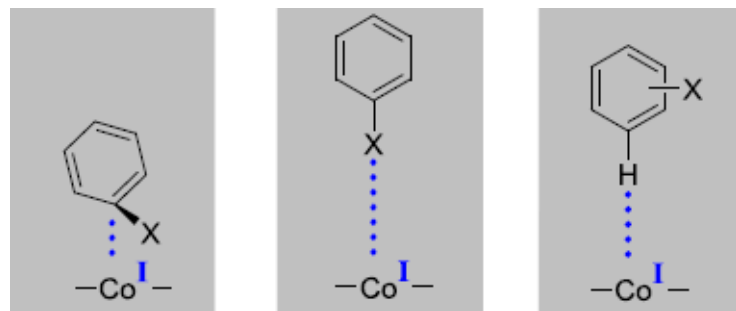
Cl abstraction preference
doubly-flanked
vs.
singly-flanked

Quantum Chemical Study II

Interaction Mode Between Organohalides and Cofactor of RDase



?

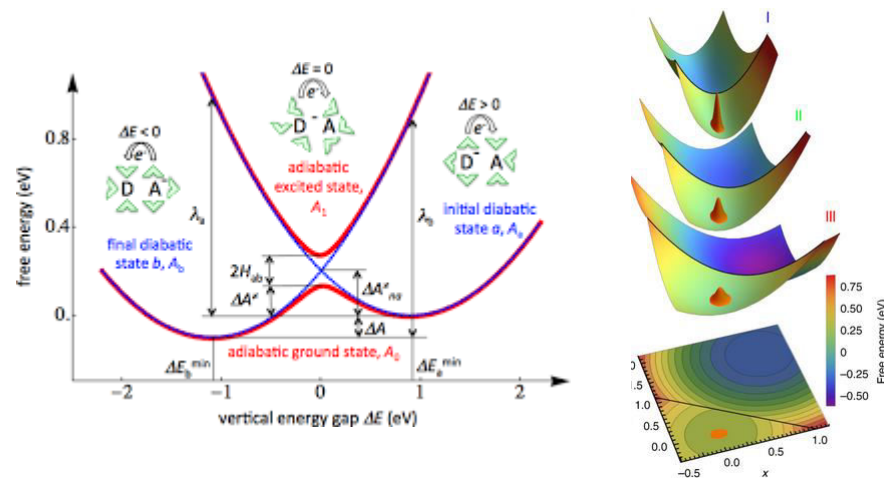
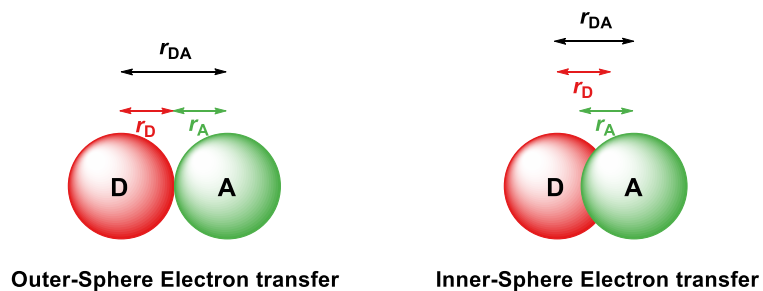


93 chemicals, 5 compound classes, validated by experimental pathways with *Dehalococcoides*

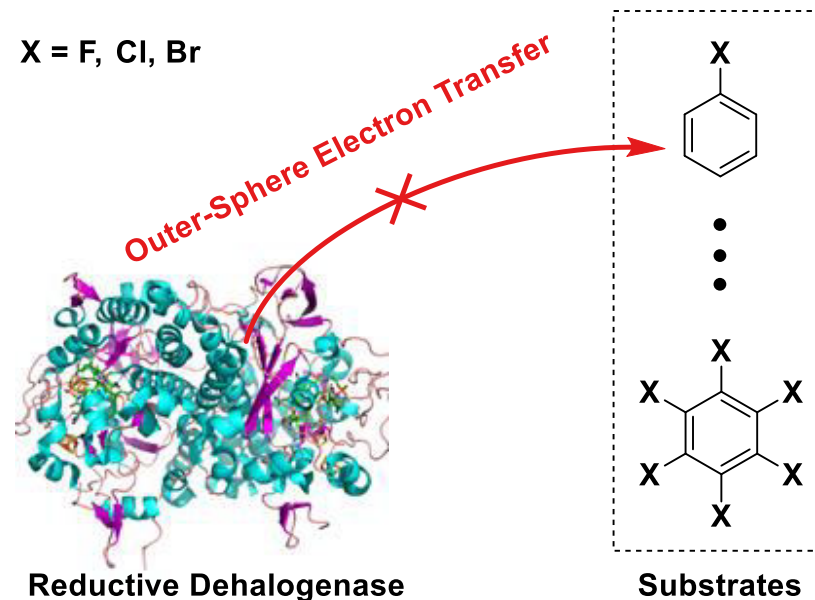
Electron Transfer: $3dz^2 \dots \sigma^*_{C-X}$

Quantum Chemical Study III

Outer-Sphere ET Does Not Underpin Microbial Dehalogenation



X = F, Cl, Br



cover
 36 representative
 substrates

all OS-ET mechanism

336 reaction routes

Free Energy Barriers: 334 reactions > 20 kcal/mol
The Rest 2 Reactions: no ET

Environmental Significance

- ❑ **Guide Dehalogenation Experiments** (e.g., dehalogenation potential and pathway prediction, substrate selection and cell cultivation)
- ❑ **Provide Theoretical Basis for Respective Bioremediation** (e.g., feasibility assessment, strain selection, remediation strategy optimization)

Quantum Chemical Computations Facilitate

Emerging Pollutant Control and Management

&

Green Chemical Synthesis

Acknowledgements



环境与生态前沿交叉研究院
Advanced Interdisciplinary Institute of Environment and Ecology

Thank You So Much !

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