



# **Rapid Small Scale Column Test (RSSCT) – Procedures for Arsenic Studies and Application of Results**

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August 2004**

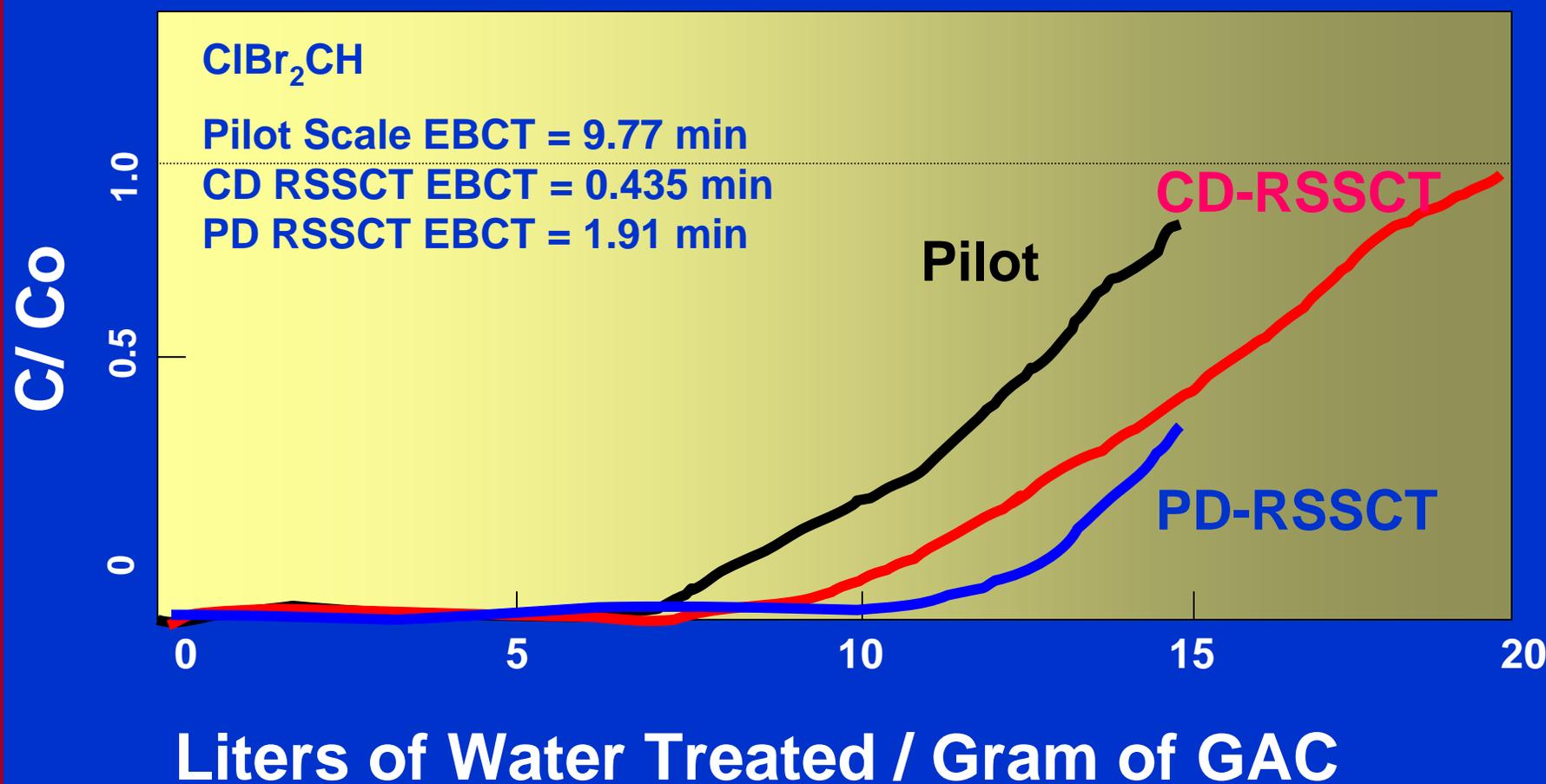
## Objectives for Talk

- Describe advantages of RSSCTs for arsenic adsorptive media testing
- Describe basis for applying RSSCTs
- Demonstrate use of RSSCTs

## What is an RSSCT?

- **Rapid Small Scale Column Tests (RSSCTs) were initially developed by Crittenden and others for evaluating organic compound removal on activated carbon**
- **Fundamentally, the concept is to scale the hydrodynamics and mass transport from full-sized media in a pilot or full scale reactor *down* to smaller test media in a small-scale bench-top continuous flow test**

# Rapid Small Scale Column Tests (RSSCTs) For GAC versus Pilot GAC Data

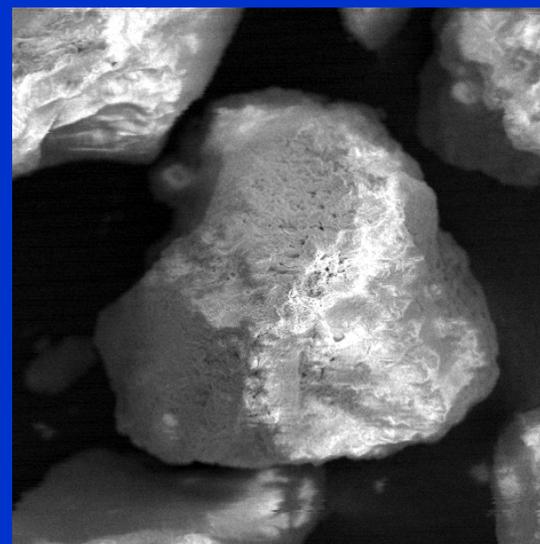
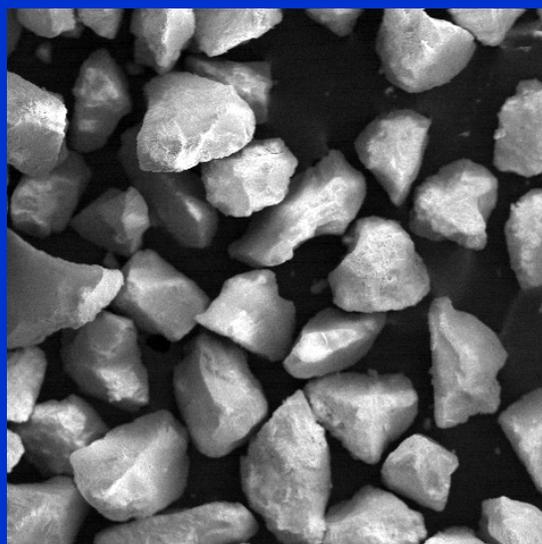


## Advantages of RSSCT

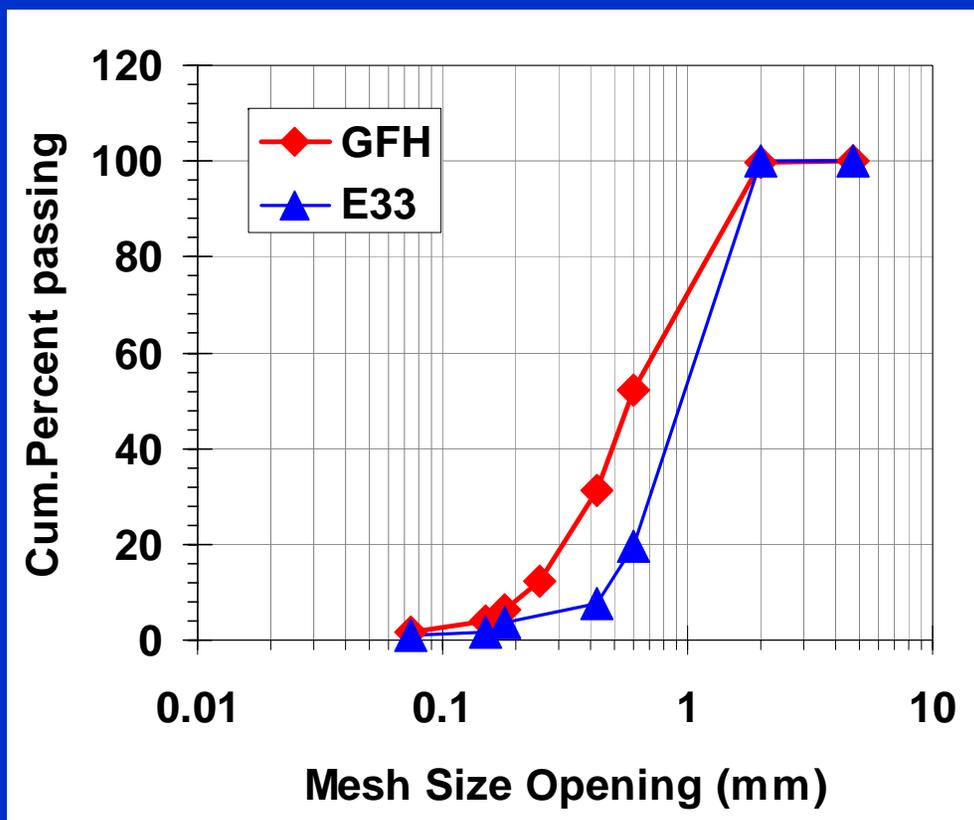
- RSSCTs can be conducted in a fraction of the time required of pilot tests (1% to 10% of the time)
- RSSCTs require less water than pilot tests, and can be conducted under controlled laboratory conditions
- RSSCTs are generally cheaper than pilot tests
- RSSCTs are continuous flow tests and allow evaluation of dynamic behavior and competition reactions that are more representative than batch tests
- RSSCTs were used during the USEPA ICR for organic carbon removal
- RSSCTs facilitate comparison of media and water quality effects

## Today's Question

Are RSSCTs suitable for  
evaluating arsenic removal  
by porous metal (hydr)oxide  
medias?

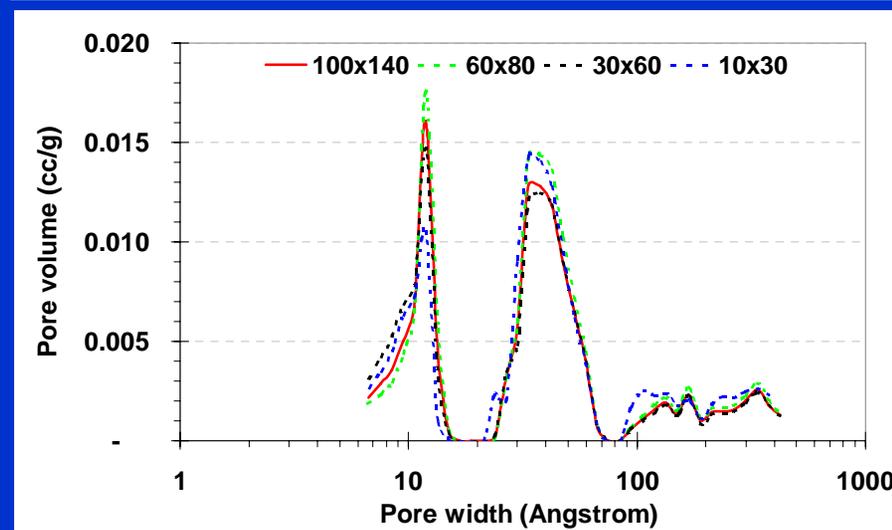
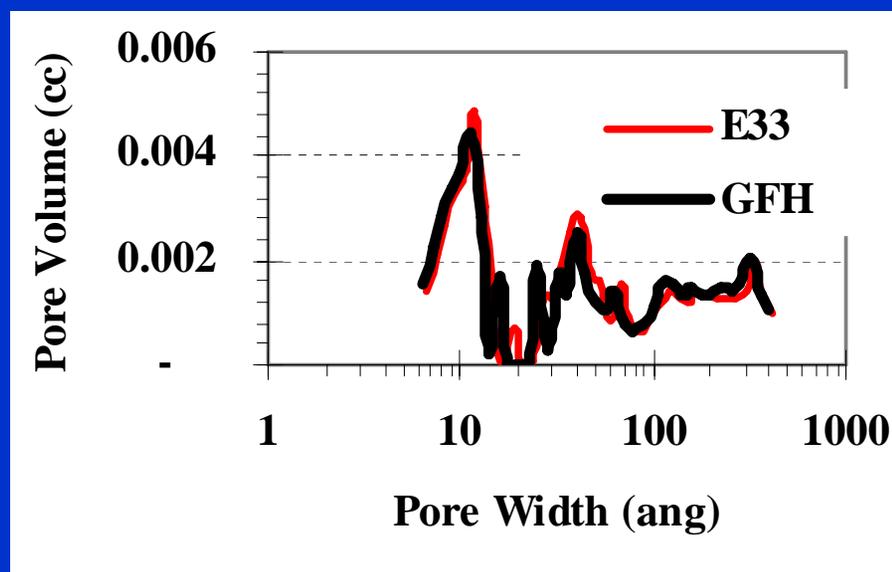


# Adsorbent Material Sieved into discrete particle / mesh sizes

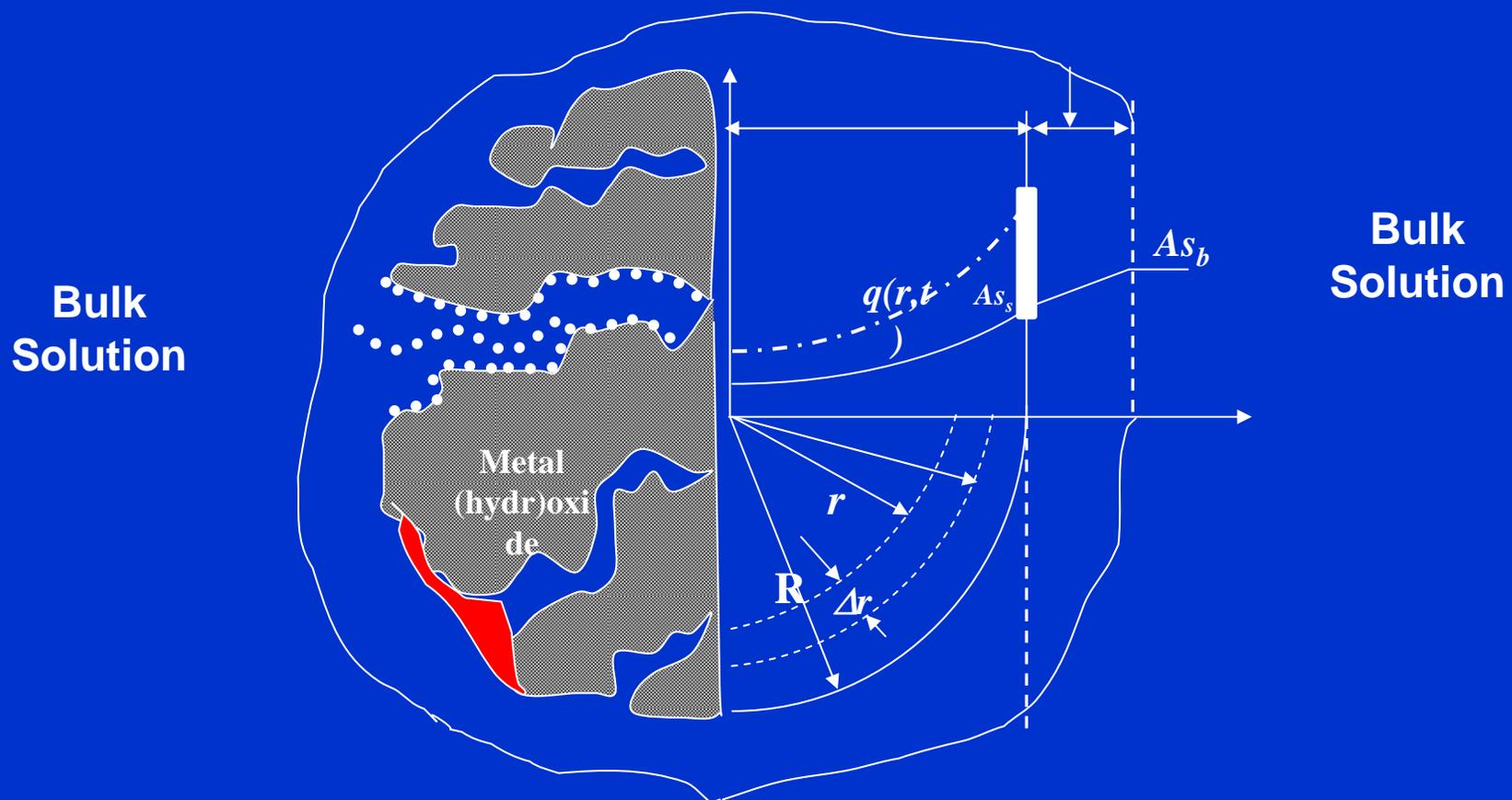


# Basis for RSSCT

- Key assumption - Internal mass transport is limiting (therefore only applicable to microporous materials)
- GFH surface area is 230 m<sup>2</sup>/g and E33 is 130 m<sup>2</sup>/g
- GFH and E33 have comparable pore structure
- Pore size distribution is nearly independent of particle radius ( $r_p$ ) or mesh size
- Conclusion: Internal mass transfer is probably important & RSSCTs could be viable testing technologies



# Porous Adsorbents



$$\frac{\partial q(r,t)}{\partial t} = D_s \left( \frac{\partial^2 q(r,t)}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial q(r,t)}{\partial r} \right)$$

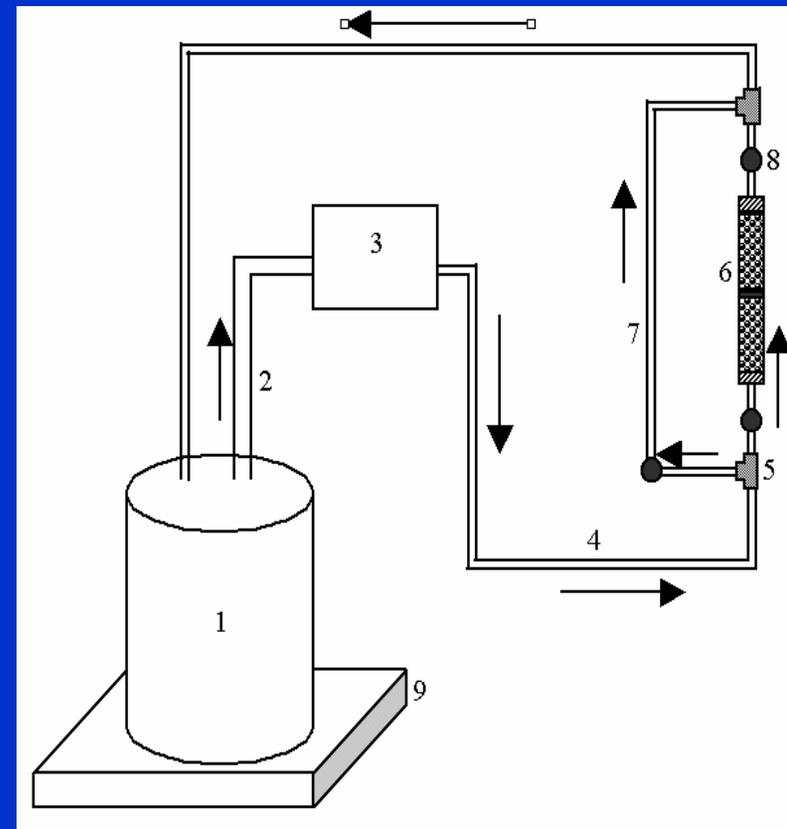
# Results

- **Differential Column Batch Reactor (DCBR) Study**
- RSSCTs with different particle diameters
- RSSCTs versus pilot performance
- Application of RSSCTs for arsenic removal media



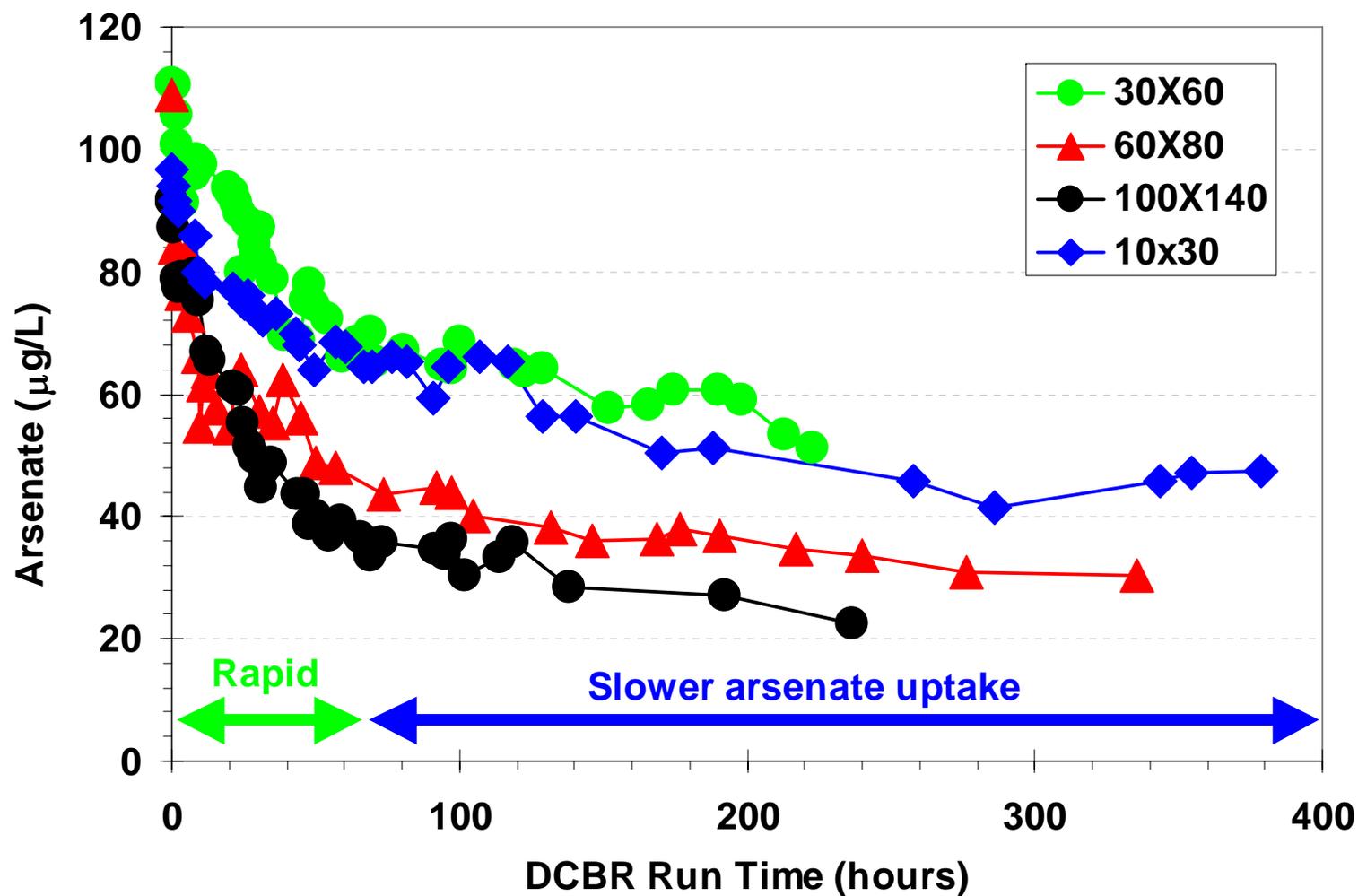
# DCBR Apparatus

- DCBR Apparatus is used to determine internal mass transfer coefficients
- Results are used to evaluate applicability of RSSCT scaling theory

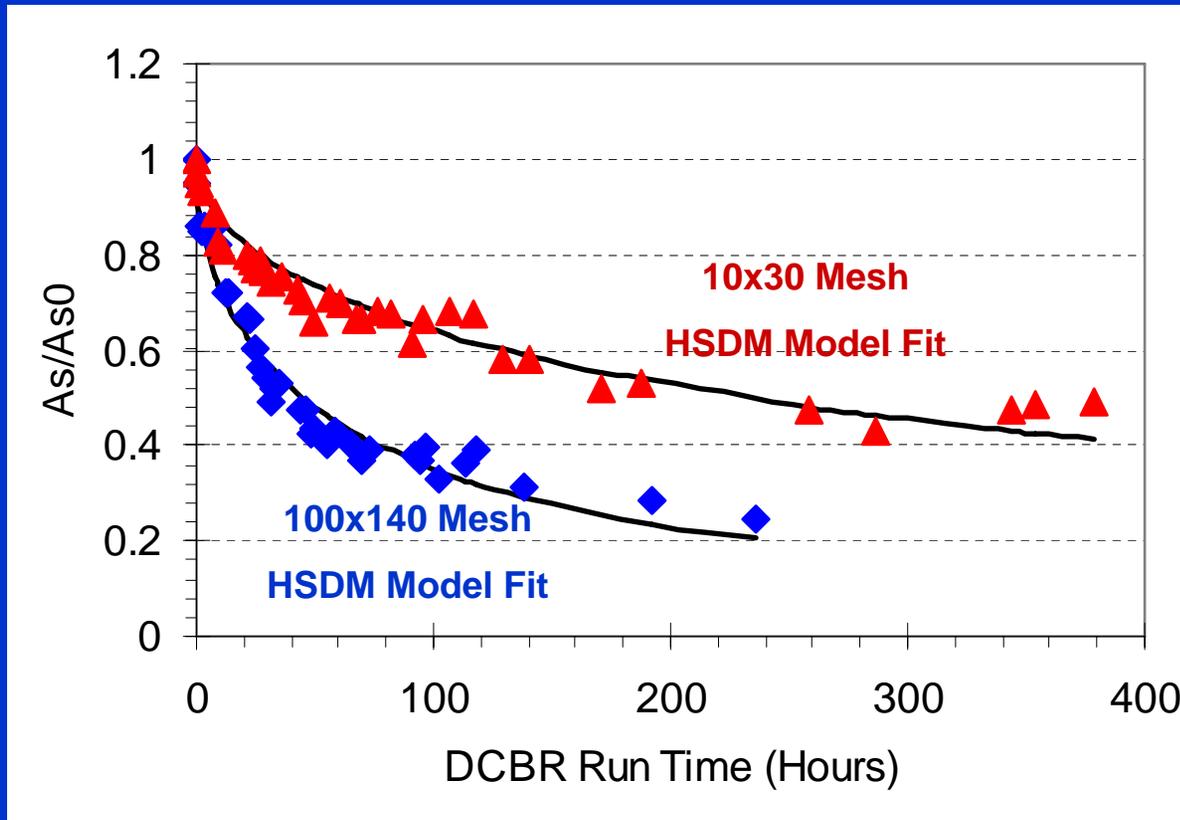


**Differential Column  
Batch Reactor  
(DCBR)**

# DCBR Data for Various Mesh Sizes



# DCBR Results & Modeling with GFH



Equilibrium Isotherm

$$q = K C^{1/n}$$

$$K = 4.0 \text{ \& } 1/n = 0.3$$

$$SPDFR = \frac{\rho_p D_s (D_p = 0) q_0}{\epsilon_p D_L A s_0}$$

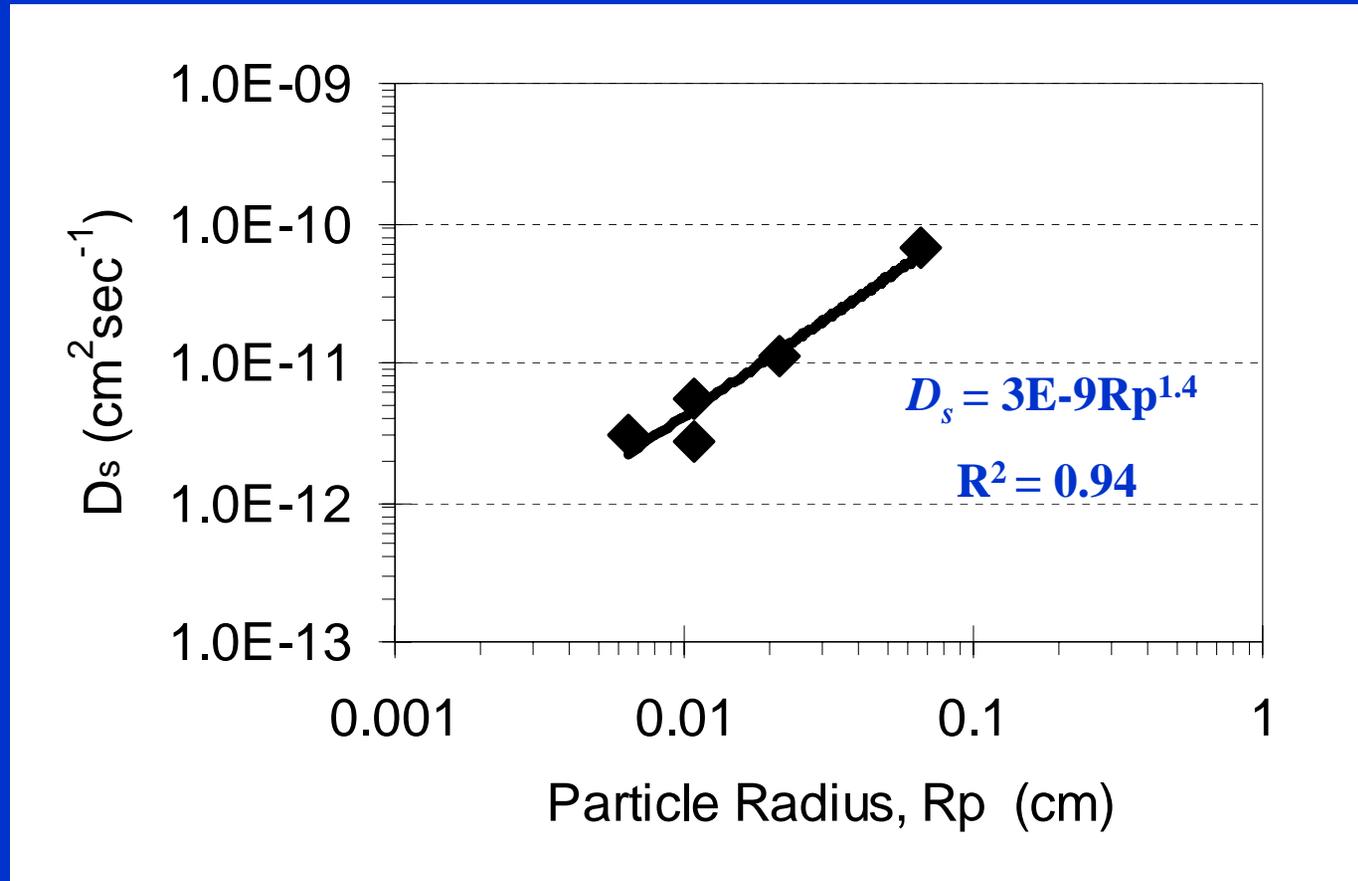
SPDFR Ranged 6 ~150

$$Bi = \frac{k_f d_p C_0}{2 D_s \rho_p q_0}$$

Bi ranges 7 ~57

$$\frac{\partial q(r,t)}{\partial t} = D_s \left( \frac{\partial^2 q(r,t)}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial q(r,t)}{\partial r} \right)$$

# Fitted Surface Diffusivities



**Conclusion: Surface diffusivity is not constant, but proportionate to GFH particle radius**

# Results

- Differential Column Batch Reactor (DCBR) Study
- **RSSCTs with different particle diameters**
- RSSCTs versus pilot performance
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# RSSCT Scaling Relationships

- Empty bed contact times (EBCTs) are scaled based upon particle radius (R)

- Constant Diffusivity (CD)

- ◆  $D_{s, \text{small column media}} \approx D_{s, \text{large column media}}$

- ◆  $R_{SC} \neq R_{LC}$

- ◆  $X = 0$

$$\frac{EBCT_{SC}}{EBCT_{LC}} = \left( \frac{R_{SC}}{R_{LC}} \right)^{2-x}$$

- Proportional Diffusivity (PD)

- ◆ Diffusivity is proportional to adsorbent radius

- ◆ From  $D_s$  data with DCBR

- $X = 0.6$  (assume  $X=1$ )

$$x = \frac{\text{Log} \left( \frac{R_{SC}}{R_{LC}} \right)}{\text{Log} \left( \frac{D_{s,SC}}{D_{s,LC}} \right)}$$

- PD approach should be valid for GFH

## Validating RSSCTs

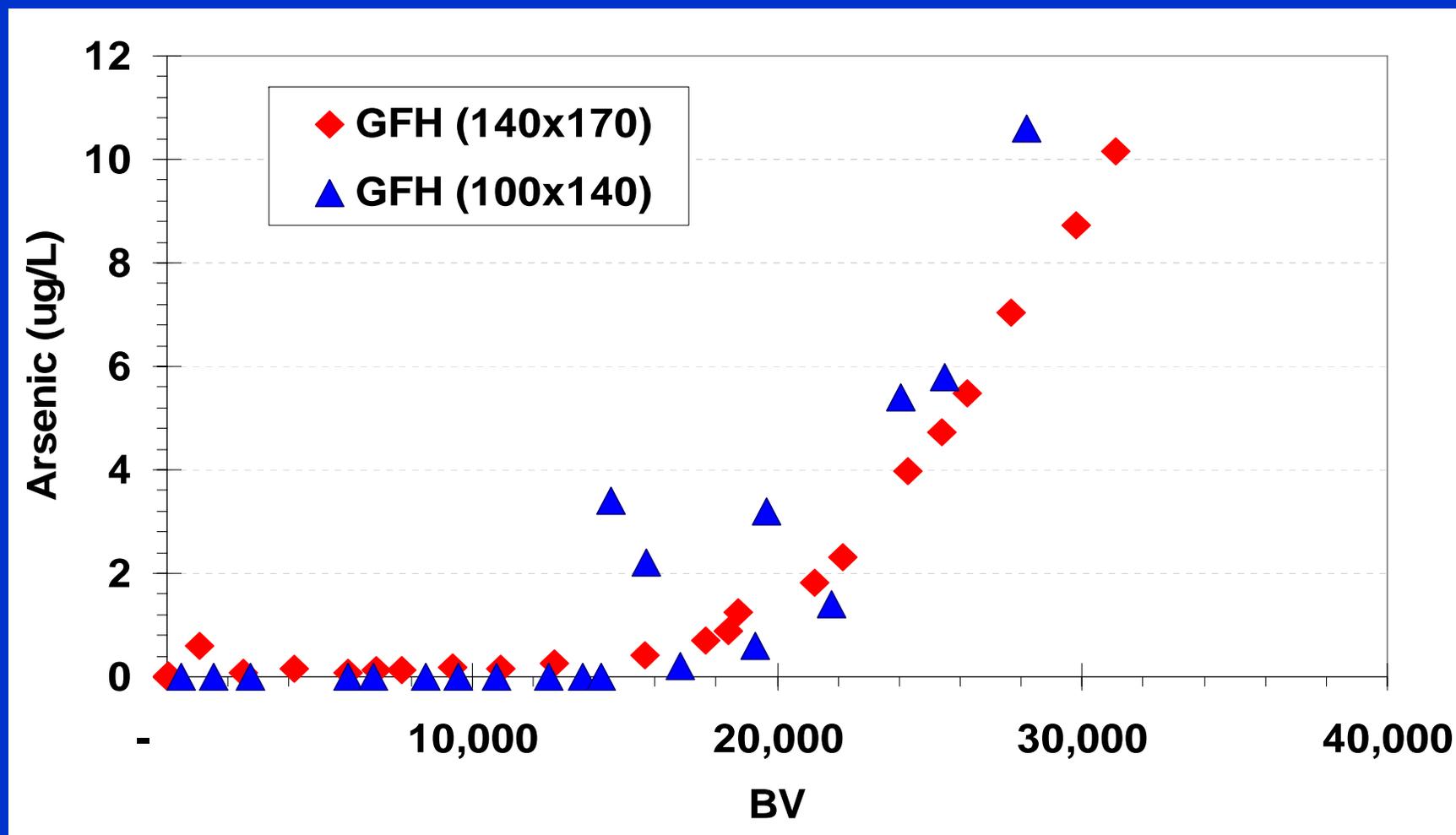
**Approach:**

**Vary Particle Radius ( $R_{SC}$ ) used in  
RSSCT columns**

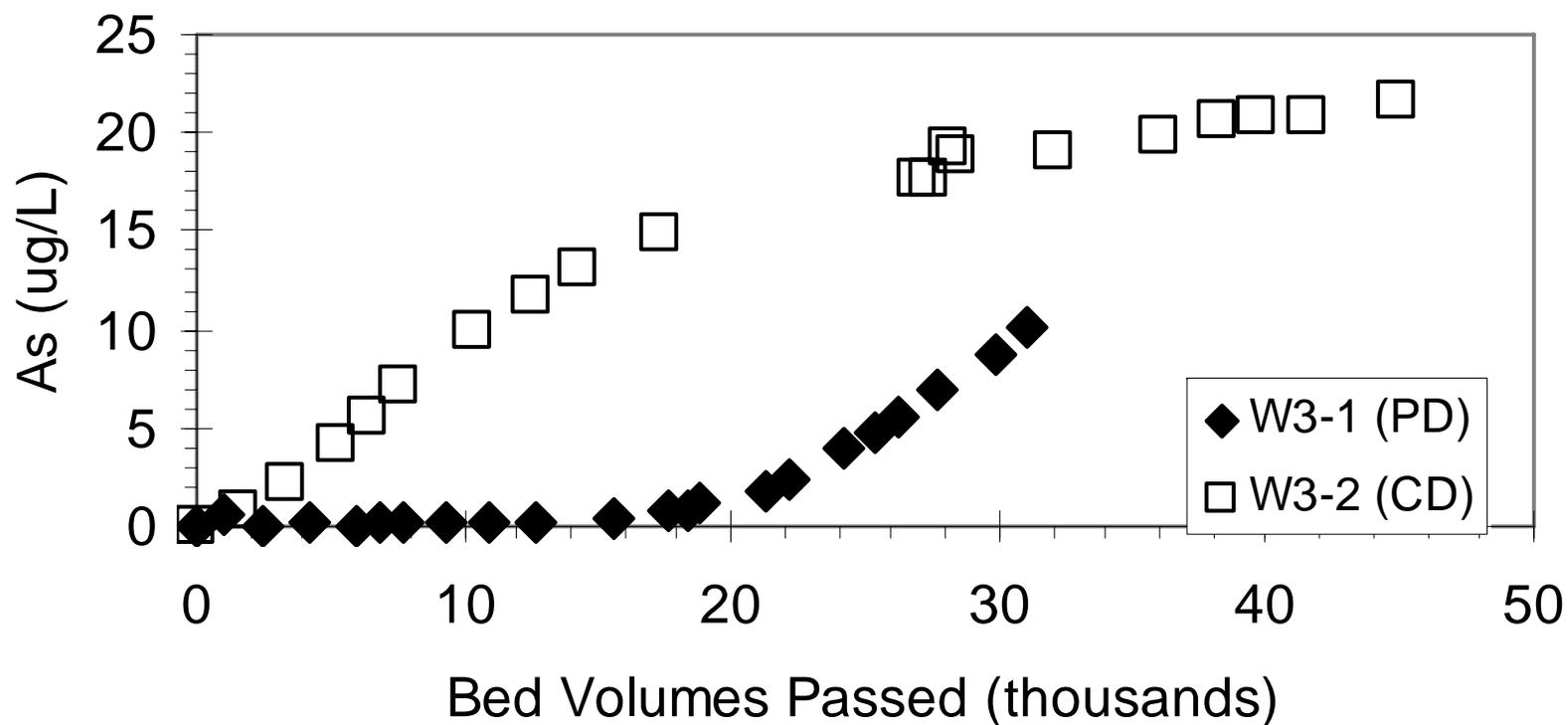
**and**

**scale RSSCTs to a common sized pilot  
column that uses a larger adsorbent  
particle radius ( $R_{LC}$ )**

# PD Scaling “works” with different GFH Mesh Sizes

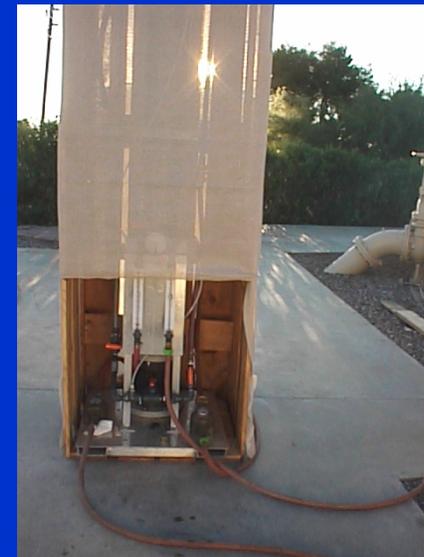


# Comparison of CD versus PD RSSCTs

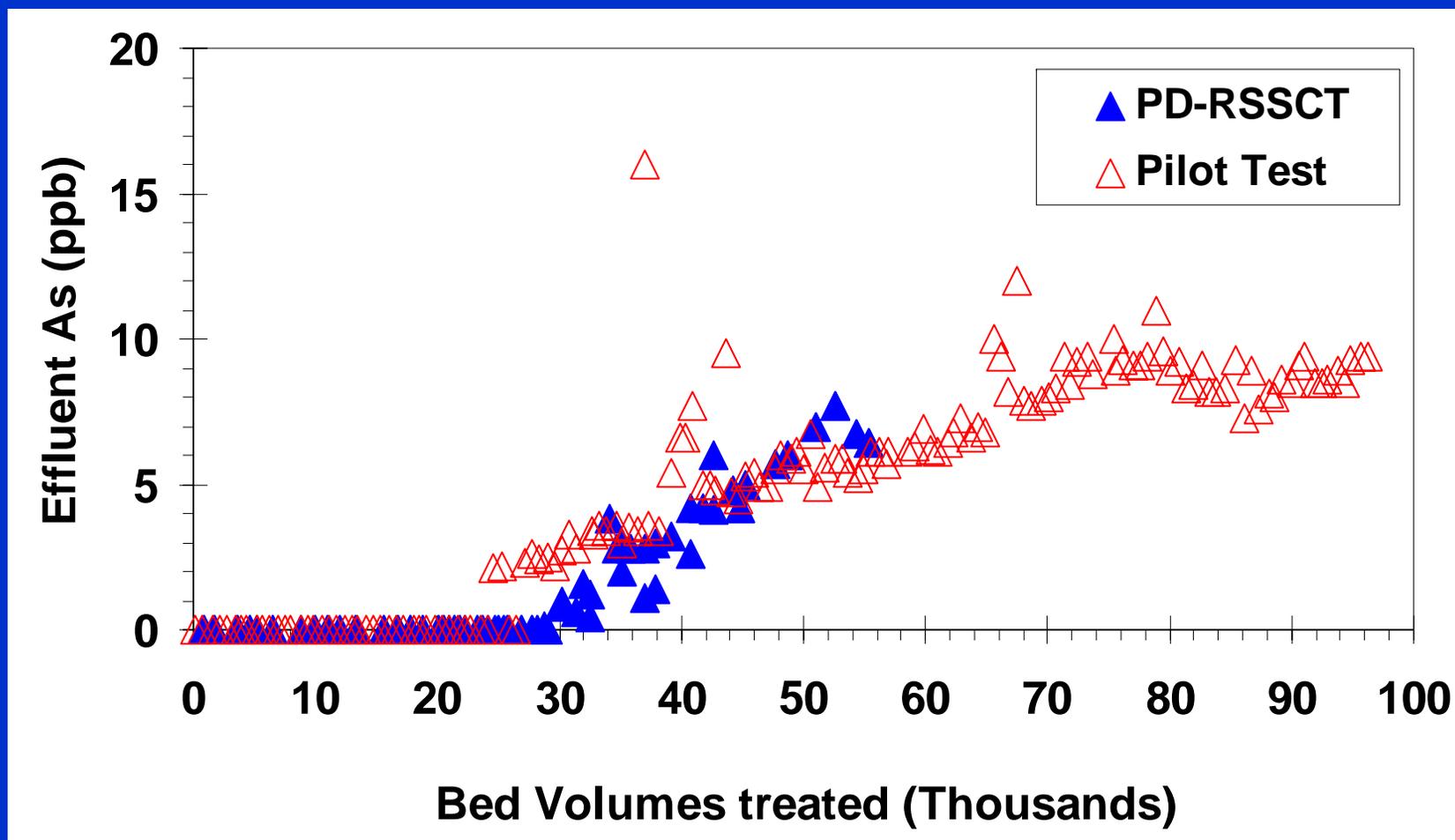


# Results

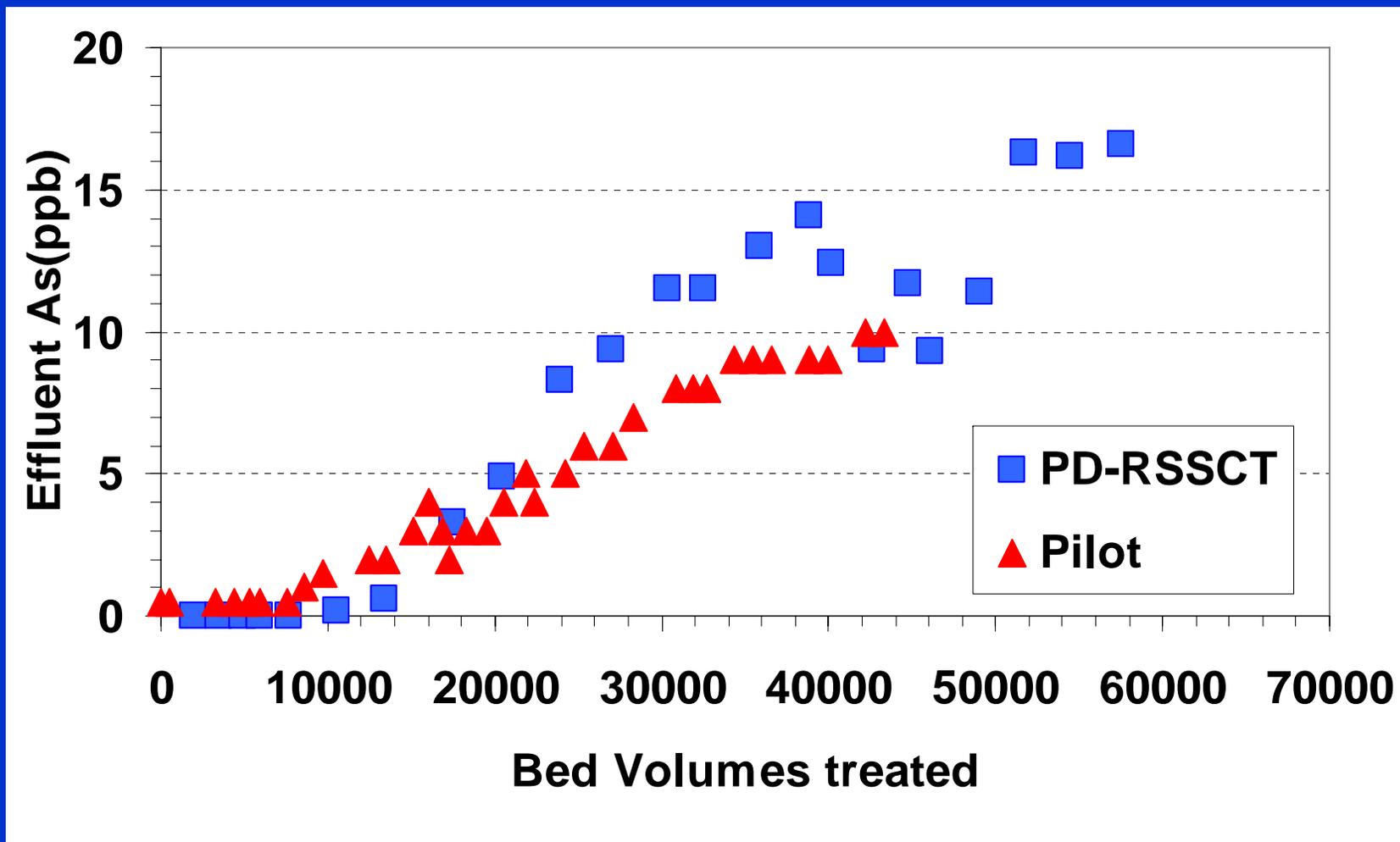
- Differential Column Batch Reactor (DCBR) Study
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- **RSSCTs versus pilot performance**
- Application of RSSCTs for arsenic removal media



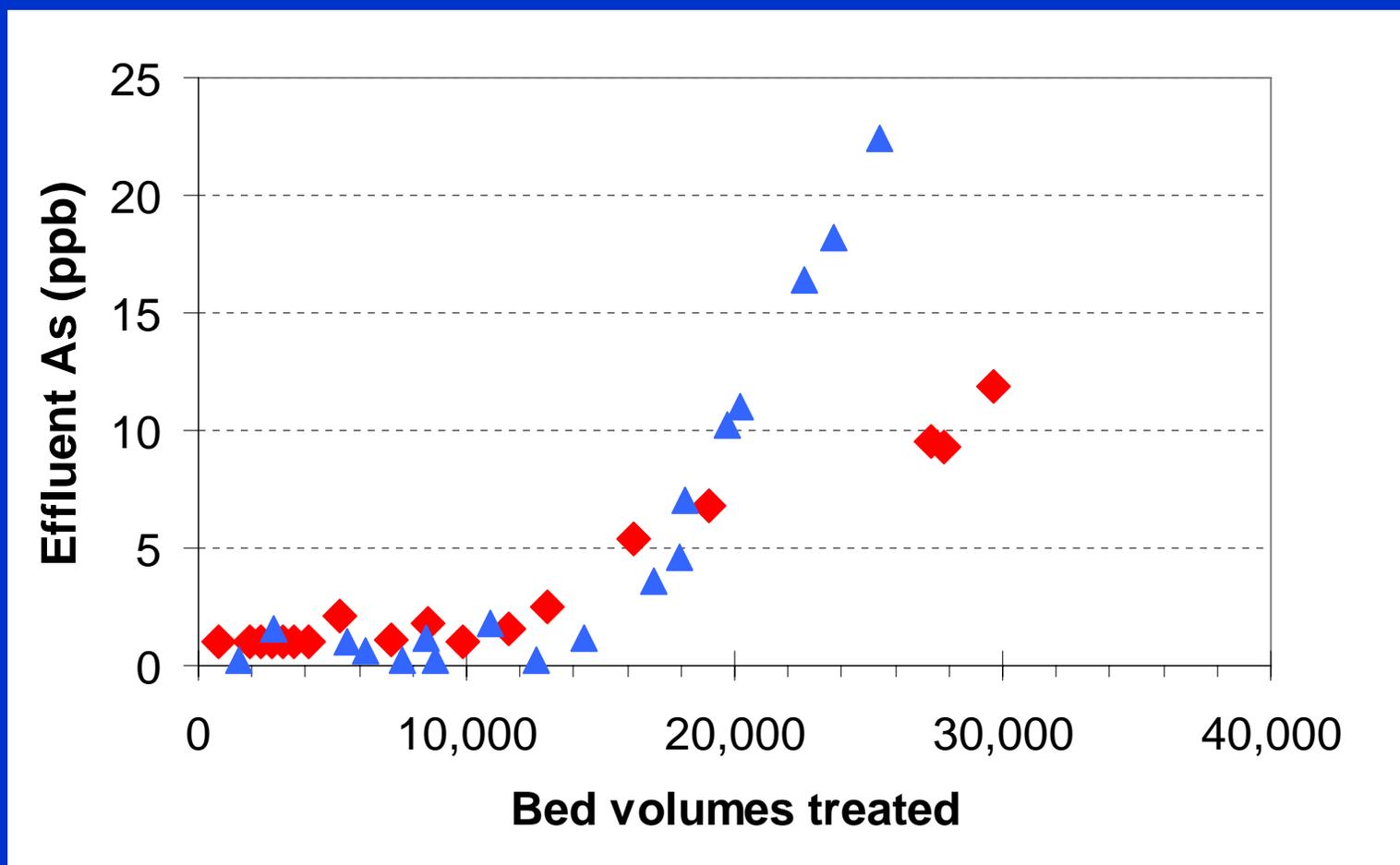
# RSSCT-PD vs Pilot (GFH)



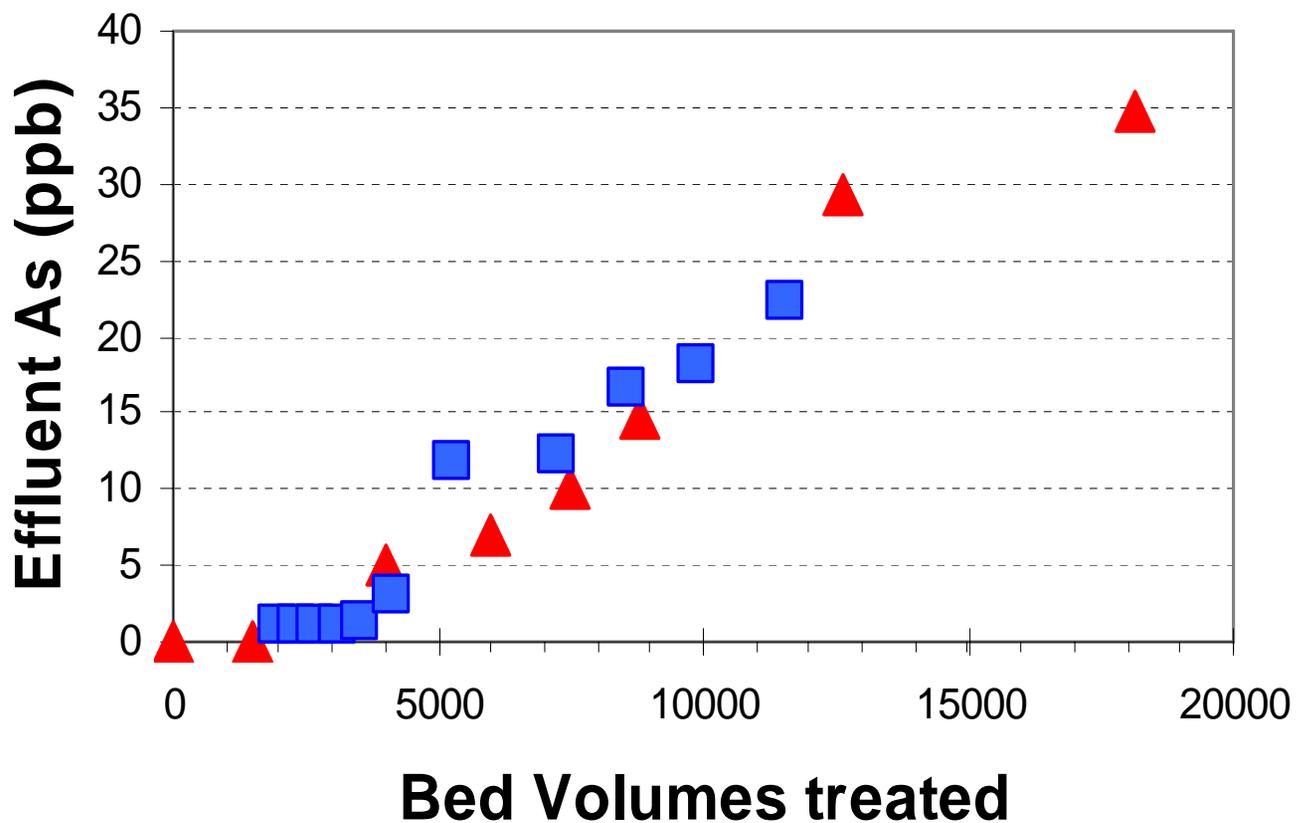
# RSSCT-PD vs Pilot (GFH)



# RSSCT-PD vs Pilot (E33)



# RSSCT-PD vs Pilot (E33)

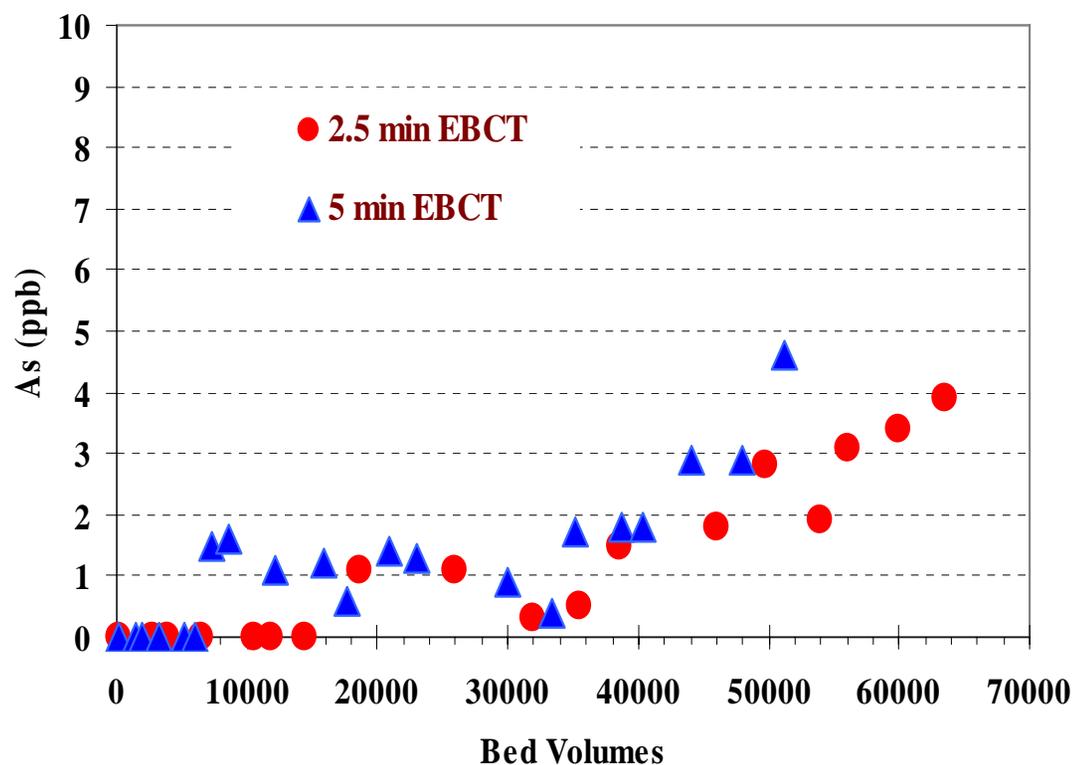


# Results

- Differential Column Batch Reactor (DCBR) Study
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- **Application of RSSCTs for arsenic removal media**

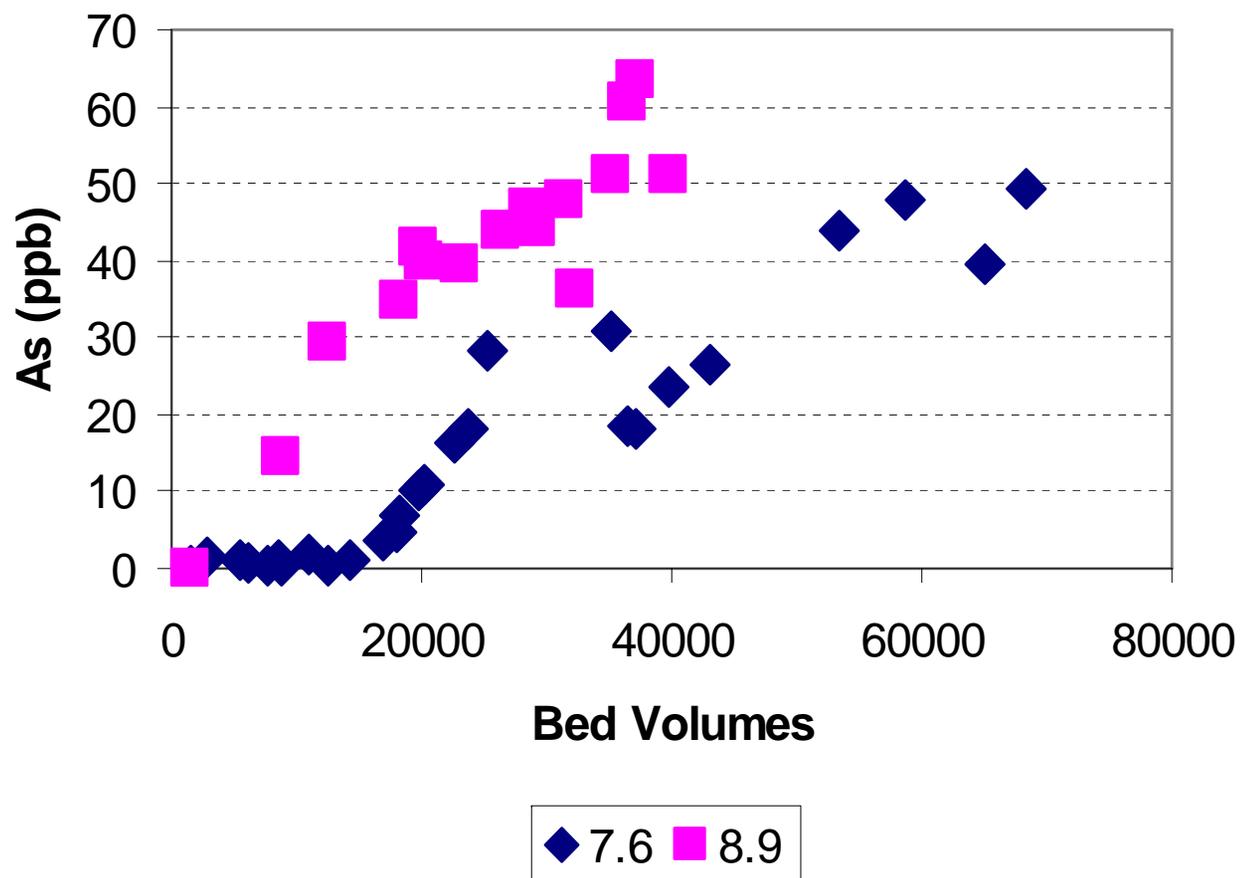


# Effect of EBCT (E33)

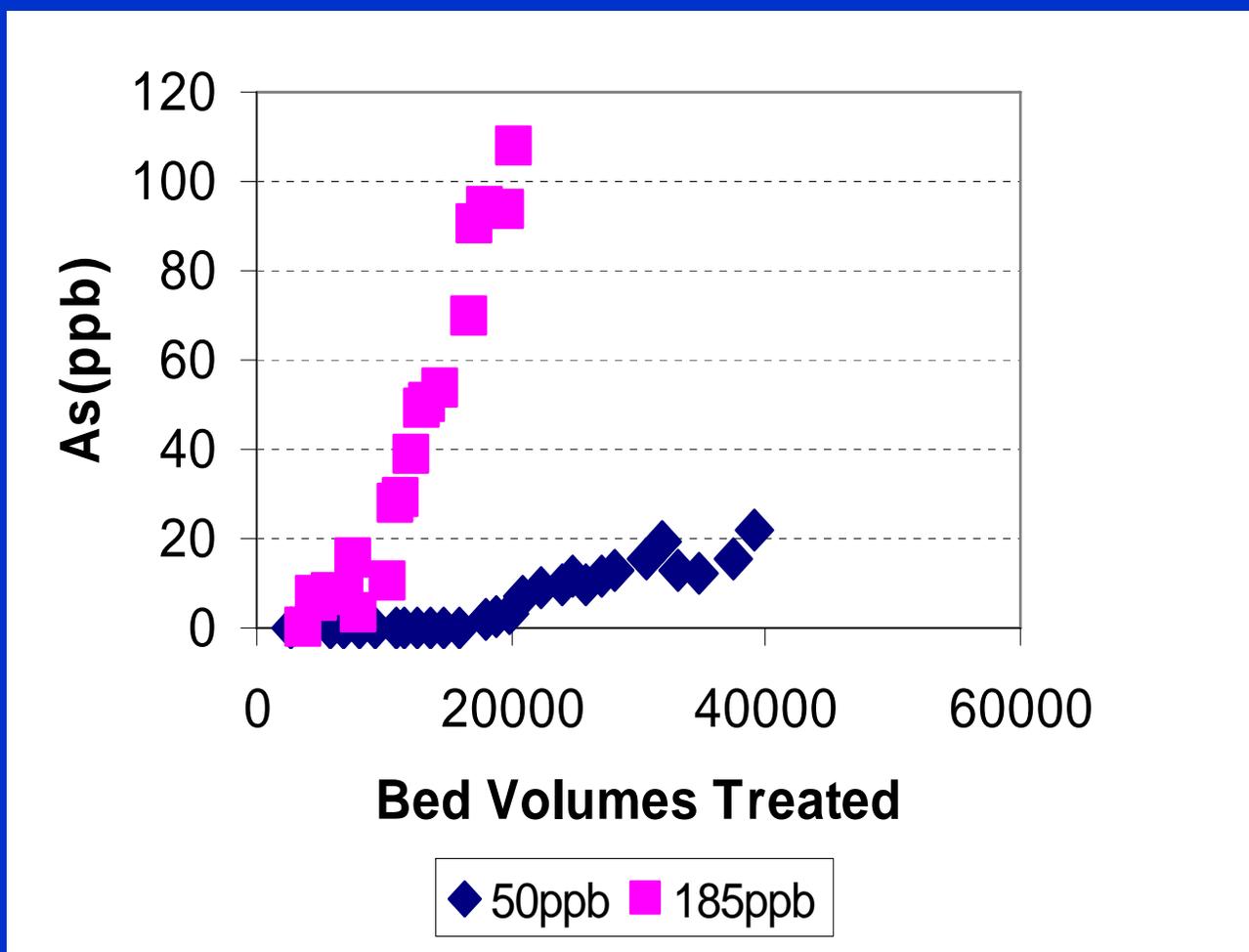


■ No Statistical benefits of increasing EBCT 2.5 to 5min

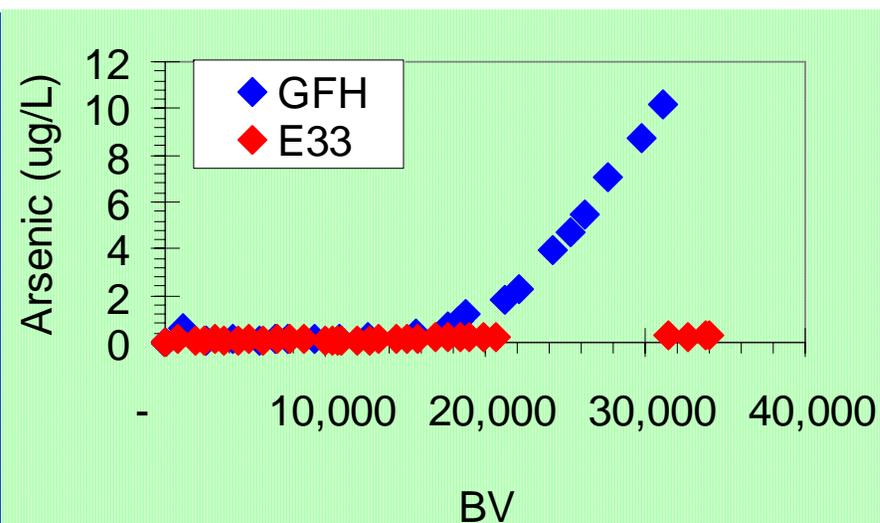
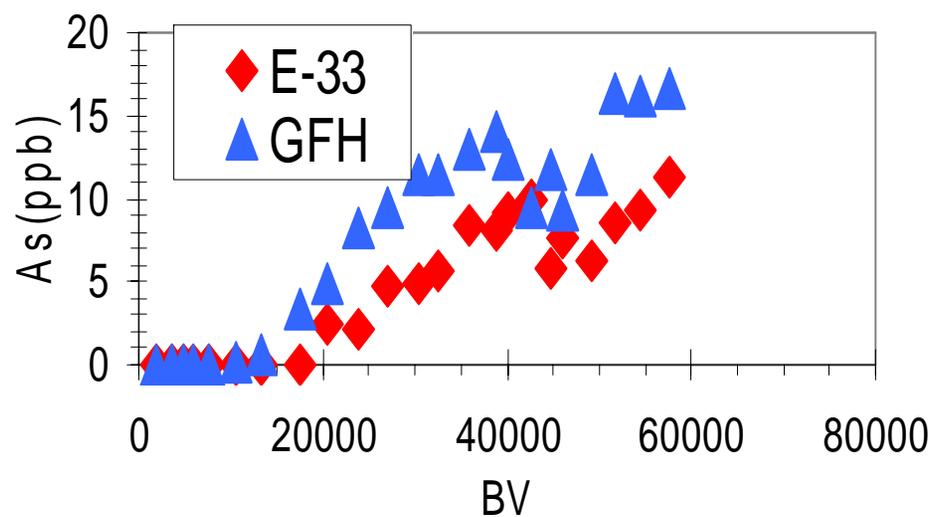
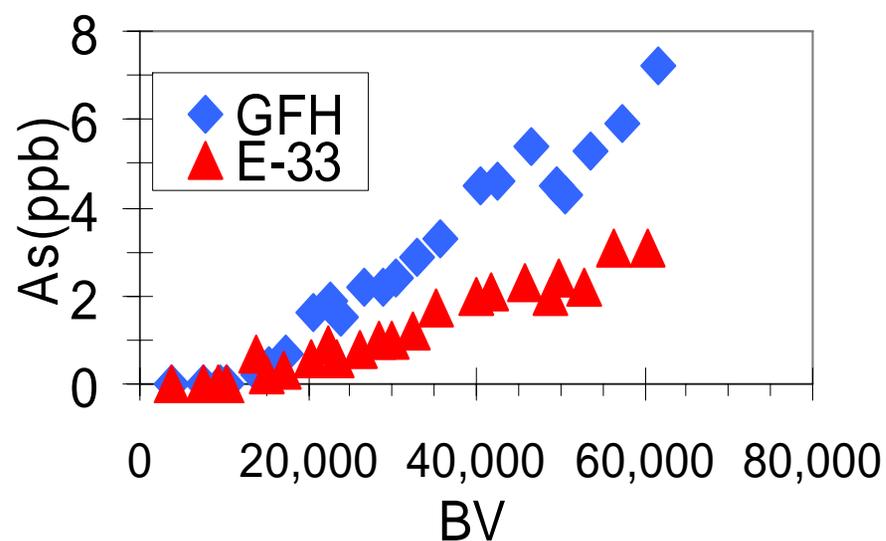
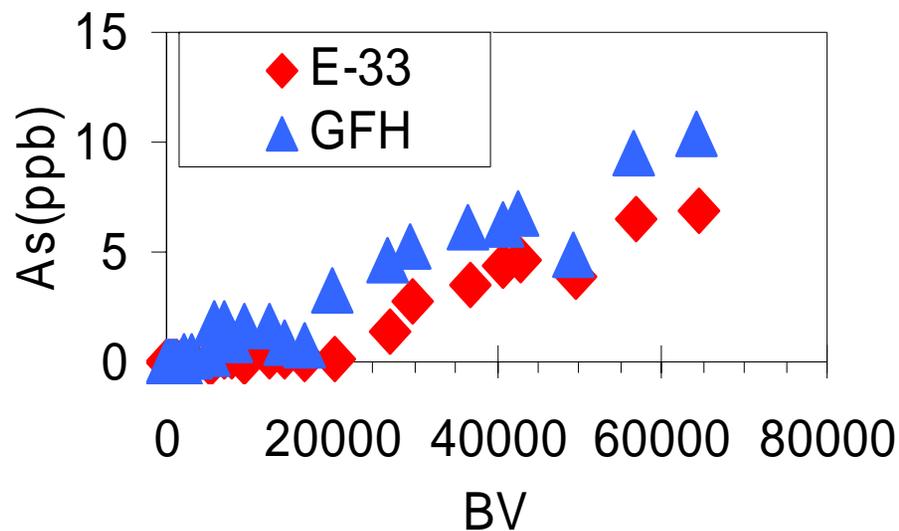
# Effect of pH



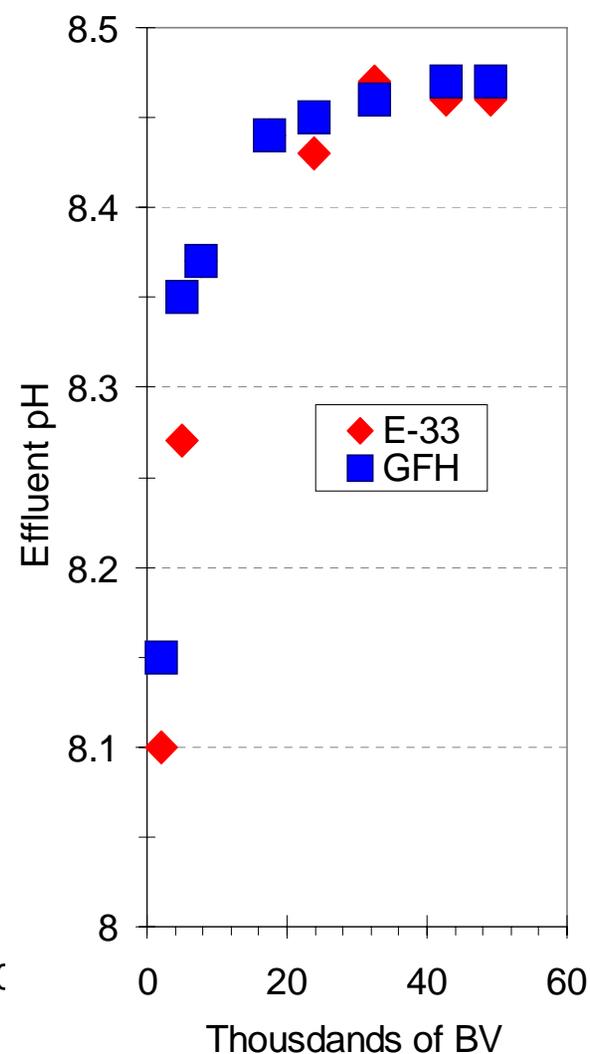
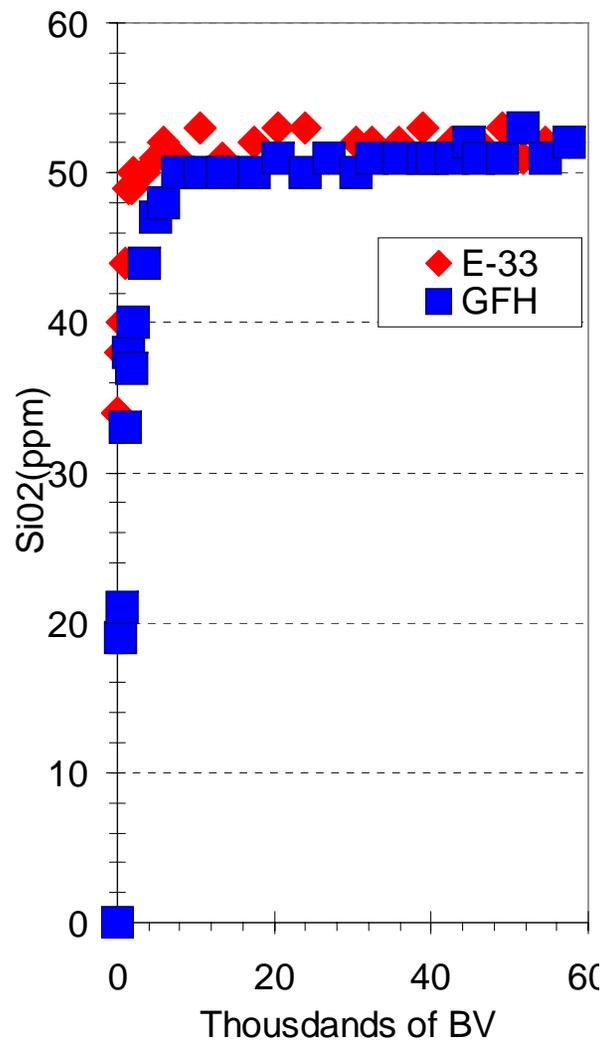
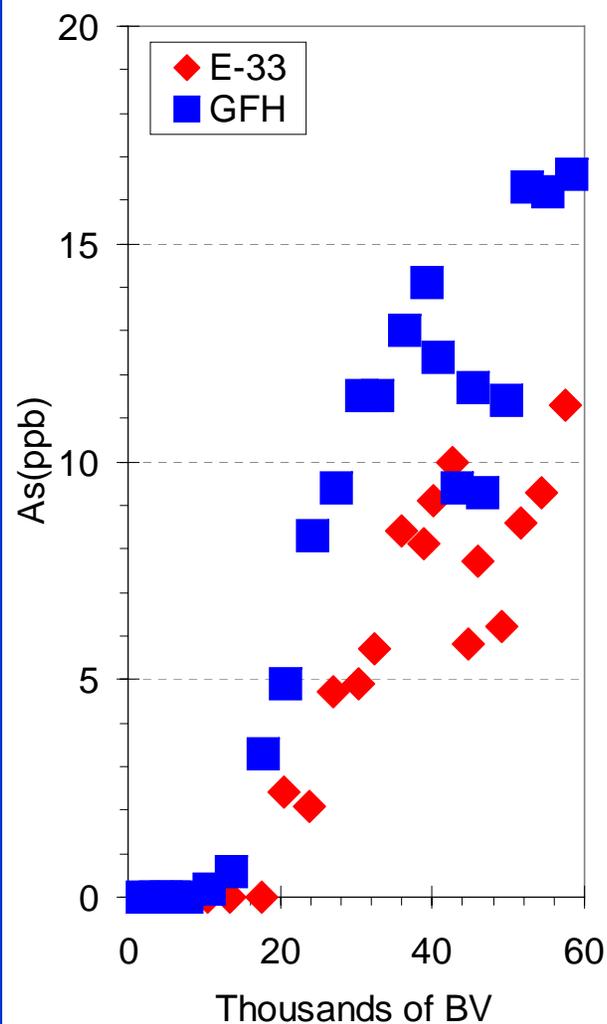
# Effect of Initial Arsenate Concentration



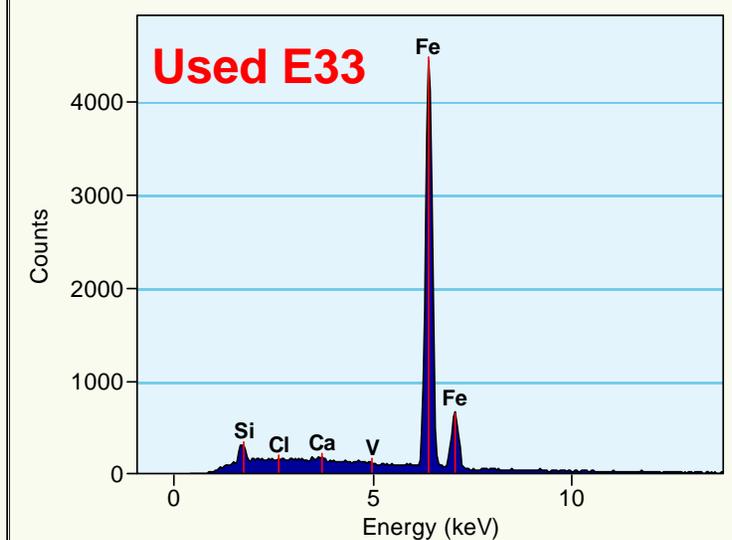
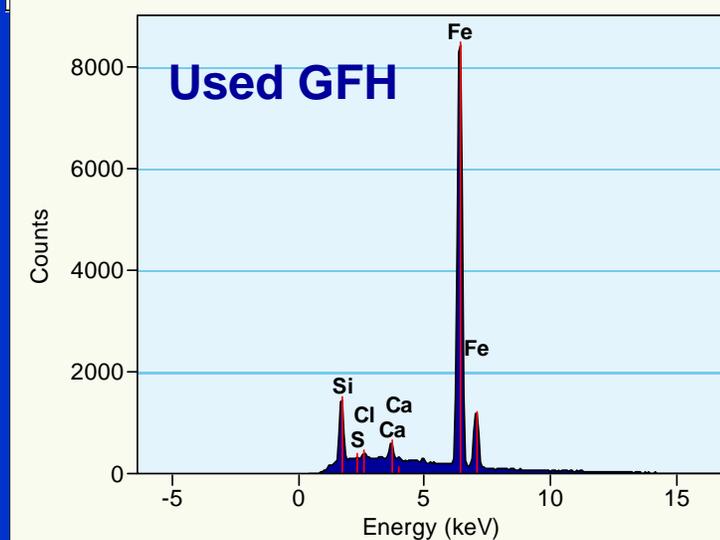
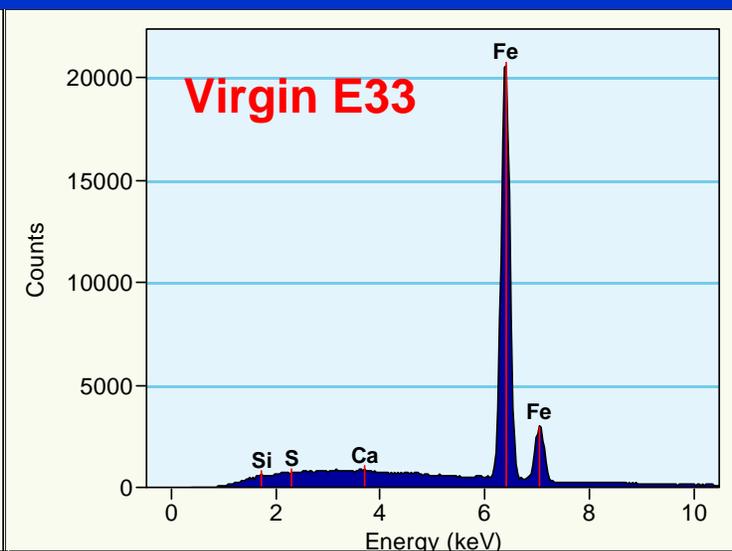
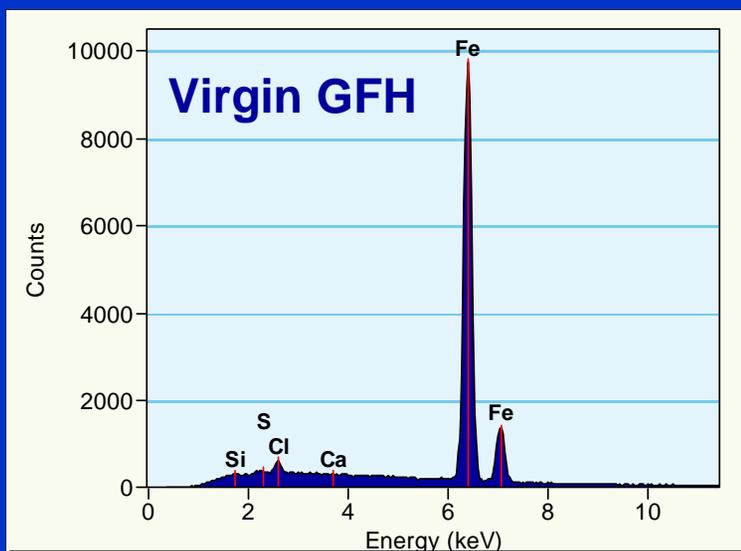
# Comparison E33 & GFH



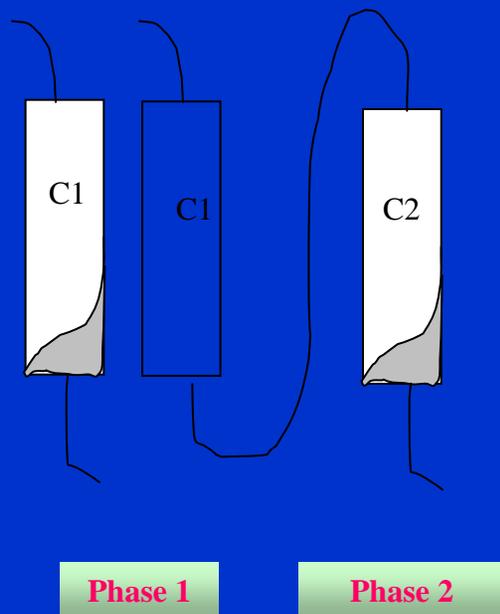
# Why difference in Arsenate removal with E33 & GFH



# Elemental Surface Composition from SEM with EDX



# Series Column Experiments: E33

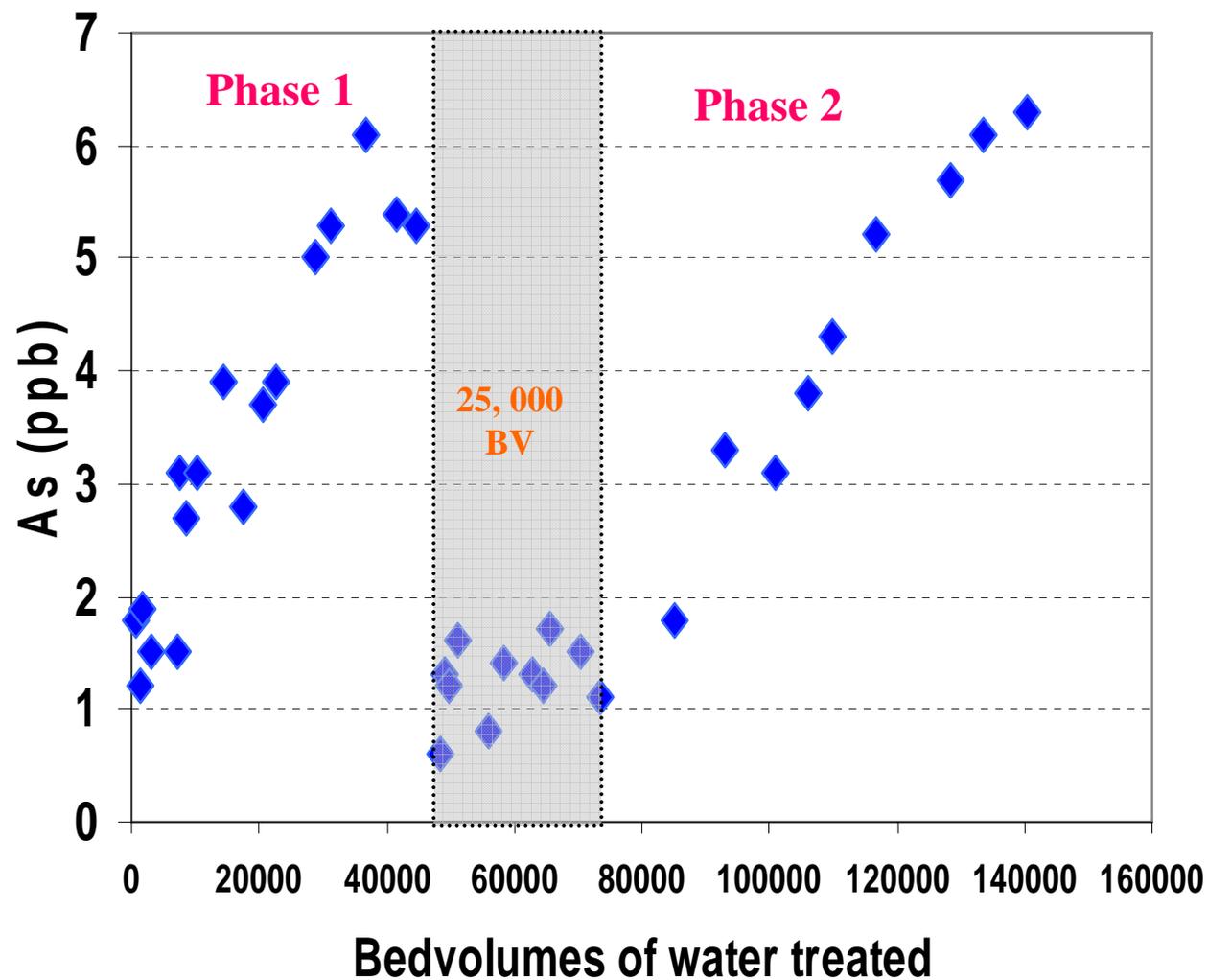


## Simulated EBCT:

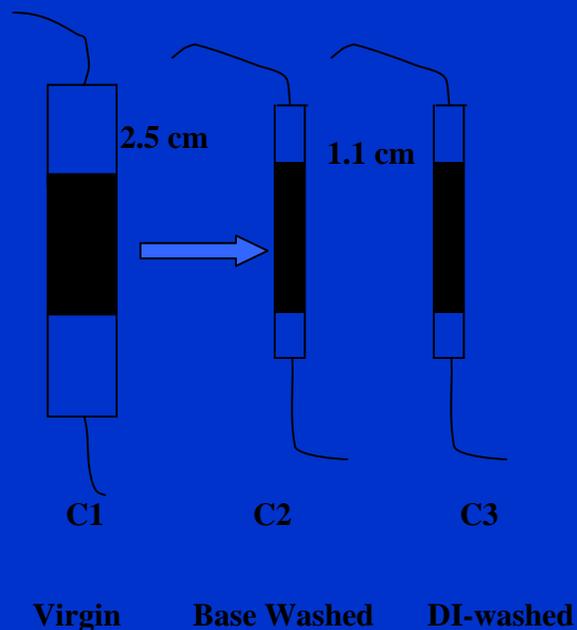
C1 - 2.5 min

C2 - 2.5 min

C2 was connected when effluent conc. was 5ppb, after 7 days ~ 48,000 BVs



# Regeneration of Packed Bed E33



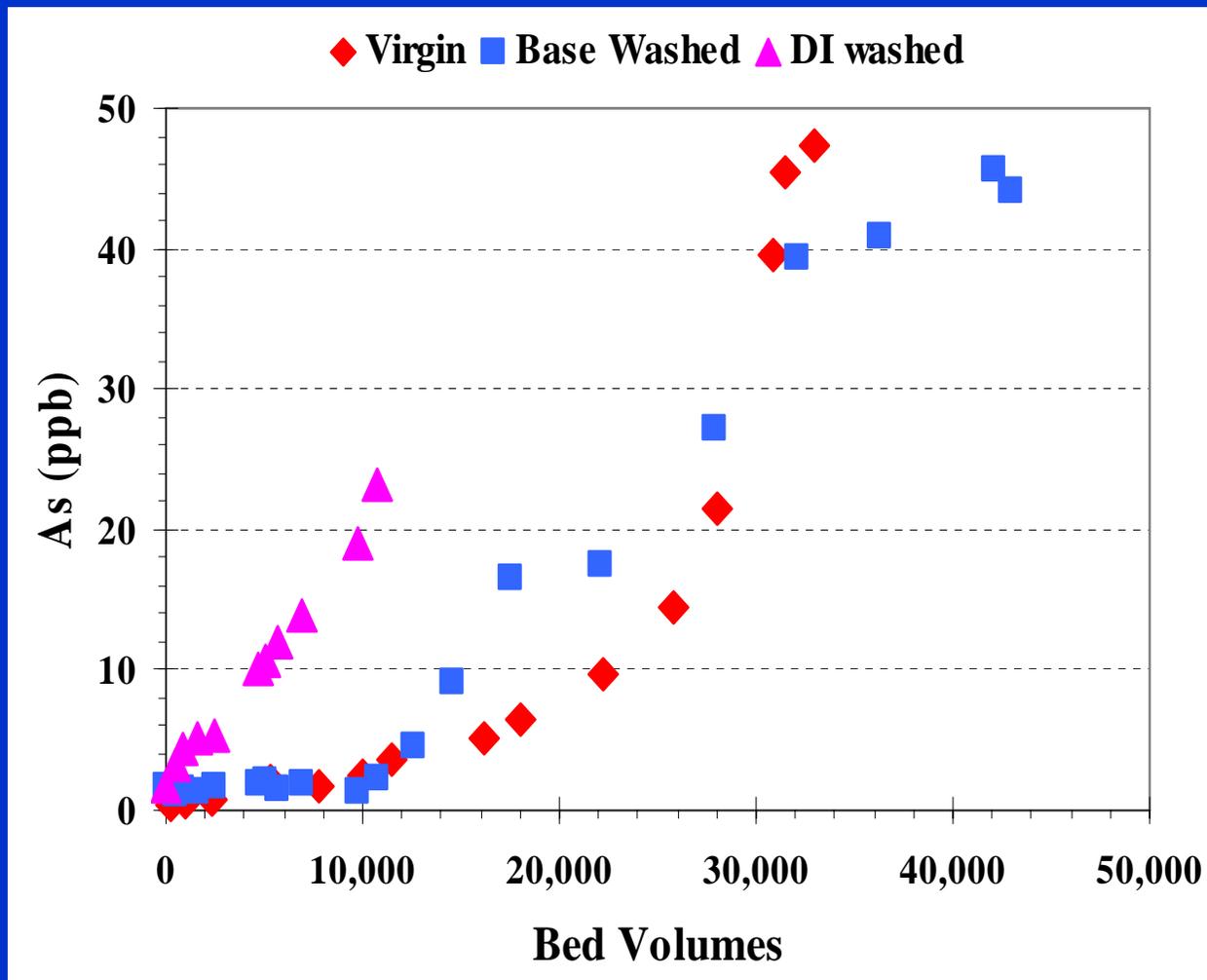
Tap Water Spiked with

As: 50 ppb

Silica : 20 ppb

pH : 8.2

EBCT: C1, C2 and C3 ~ 2.5 min



## Summary

- We have recently demonstrated that RSSCTs can be used to evaluate porous arsenic adsorption media (GFH, E33, MetSorbG, Fe-AA, AA, FerriSorb)
- ASU is currently comparing FS-AA, GFH, and E33 against USEPA demonstration facilities at 4 sites
- RSSCTs can facilitate media selection and optimization or effect of water quality
- RSSCTs can facilitate evaluation of packed-bed operational modes (parallel vs series)
- We have run RSSCTs continuously, but many full-scale systems operate intermittently or in cyclic patterns; RSSCTs give a “conservative” breakthrough curve and actual performance using non-continuous operation would be greater than predicted by RSSCTs
- Media performance is a combination of Adsorption Capacity and Adsorption Kinetics



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**Acknowledgements**

**Mohammad Badruzzaman, David Highfield**  
**Cities of Scottsdale, Mesa & Phoenix**  
**NCS Consulting**  
**Damon S. Williams Inc.**  
**Salt River Project**  
**ASU / National Science Foundation Water**  
**Quality Center**

**Table 1 – RSSCT Scaling Equations.** Empty bed contact time (EBCT), media diameter ( $d_p$ ), run duration ( $t$ ), loading rate ( $V$ ), effective surface diffusivity ( $D$ ), Reynolds number ( $Re$ ), Schmidt number ( $Sc$ ), liquid density ( $\rho_L$ ), viscosity ( $\mu$ ), and liquid diffusivity of arsenic ( $D_L$ ). Subscript “SC” indicates small column (i.e., RSSCT column) and “LC” indicates large column (i.e., pilot column). “X” is a variable defined in equation 3 After (Crittenden et al. 1986; Crittenden et al. 1987; Crittenden et al. 1991).

Scaling Assumption	CD or PD Specific Relationships	General Relationships
Constant Diffusivity (CD: X=0)	$\frac{EBCT_{SC}}{EBCT_{LC}} = \left[ \frac{d_{p,SC}}{d_{p,LC}} \right]^{2-X} = \frac{t_{SC}}{t_{LC}} \text{ Eqn 1}$ $\frac{V_{SC}}{V_{LC}} = \left[ \frac{d_{p,SC}}{d_{p,LC}} \right] \text{ Eqn 2}$	$\frac{V_{SC}}{V_{LC}} = \left[ \frac{d_{p,SC}}{d_{p,LC}} \right] \times \frac{Re_{SC} \times Sc}{Re_{LC} \times Sc} \text{ Eqn 5}$ $Re = \frac{V \times \rho_L \times d_p}{\mu} \text{ Eqn 6}$
Proportional Diffusivity (PD; X=1)	$\frac{D_{SC}}{D_{LC}} = \left[ \frac{d_{p,SC}}{d_{p,LC}} \right]^X \text{ Eqn 3}$ $\frac{EBCT_{SC}}{EBCT_{LC}} = \left[ \frac{d_{p,SC}}{d_{p,LC}} \right] = \frac{t_{SC}}{t_{LC}} \text{ Eqn 4}$	$Sc = \frac{\mu}{D_L \times \rho_L} \text{ Eqn 7}$

# Intermittent Column Operation

