# In Situ Chemical Reduction (ISCR)

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# The Four Pillars of ISCR



- 1. Abiotic processes are frequently based on reduced metals
- 2. Abiotic pathways are different than biological pathways
- 3. Abiotic process are surface catalyzed
- 4. Abiotic processes can be enhanced by chemical reductants or biological reduction



## Reduced Iron Minerals Active in Dechlorination

- Pyrite FeS,
- Marcasite FeS<sub>2</sub>
- Green Rust [Fe<sup>2+</sup><sub>6</sub>Fe<sup>3+</sup><sub>2</sub>(OH)<sub>18</sub>-4(H<sub>2</sub>O)]
- Magnetite Fe<sup>3+</sup><sub>2</sub>Fe<sup>2+</sup>O<sub>4</sub>
- Siderite FeCO<sub>3</sub>
- Artificially Created
  - Steel Slag amended with Fe<sup>+2</sup>
  - Cement amended with Fe<sup>+2</sup>
  - Minerals treated with reductants



# Reduction of TCE by FeS



W.O./Init./Date, 4



## Products Formed





**Biotic** 

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## Abiotic Pathways



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## Surface Catalysis



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Delivering sustainable solutions in a more competitive world

Scherer, Balko, & Tratnyek (1998) ACS Symp. Ser. No. 715

cathode

/ RX (sur)

RH

Solution

RX - RH (sur) (sur)

RX

(sur)

(sur)

(sur)



# **Enhancing Abiotic Reactions**

#### Chemical Enhancements

- Increasing reduced iron ISRM
- Enhancing Reactivity
- Biological Enhancements
  - Synergy
  - Biogenic reduced minerals (FeS)





## In Situ Redox Manipulation

**Iron Chemistry:** 

 $6Fe^{+3} + S_2O_4^{=} + 4H_2O \rightarrow 6Fe^{+2} + 2SO_4^{=} + 8H^+$ Dechlorination:



ERM

#### In Situ Redox Manipulation



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# Reduced Minerals can be Biogenic

Iron Reduction  $3Fe_2O_3 + 2e^- + 2H^+ \rightarrow 2Fe_3O_4 + H_2O$ 

Sulfate Reduction  $SO_4^{=} + 8H^{+} + 8e^{-} \rightarrow S^{=} + 4H_2O$  $4Fe_2O_3 + 9S^{=} + 16H^{+} \rightarrow 8FeS + SO_4^{=} + 8H_2O$ 



ERM

# Conclusions

- Reduced iron minerals can effectively degrade chlorinated solvents including chloroethenes (PCE, TCE), chloroethanes (TCA, DCA) and chloromethanes (carbon tetrachloride),
- Reduced iron minerals react by generally the same pathways as ZVI to dechlorinate chlorinated solvents.
- A number of iron minerals such as pyrites, green rust (mixed Fe (II) and Fe (III) oxides and hydroxides), and magnetite are active reductants,
- Oxidized iron minerals can be reduced in situ by the application of a chemical reductant or by biological reduction generating active reduction zones.



## Combinations with ISCR

- Spatially
  - ISCO→ISCR
  - BRD→ISCR
  - Thermal→ISCR
  - BRD→ISCR→MNA
  - ISCR→MNA
  - ZVI→ISCR→MNA

- Temporally
  - ISCO (Persulfate) → ISCR
  - BRD→ISCO
  - AS/SVE→ISCR

**BRD = Biological Reductive Dechlorination** 





## "If you only knew the power of the Dark Side!"



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