



Dichlor & Trichlor Water Chemistry Implications

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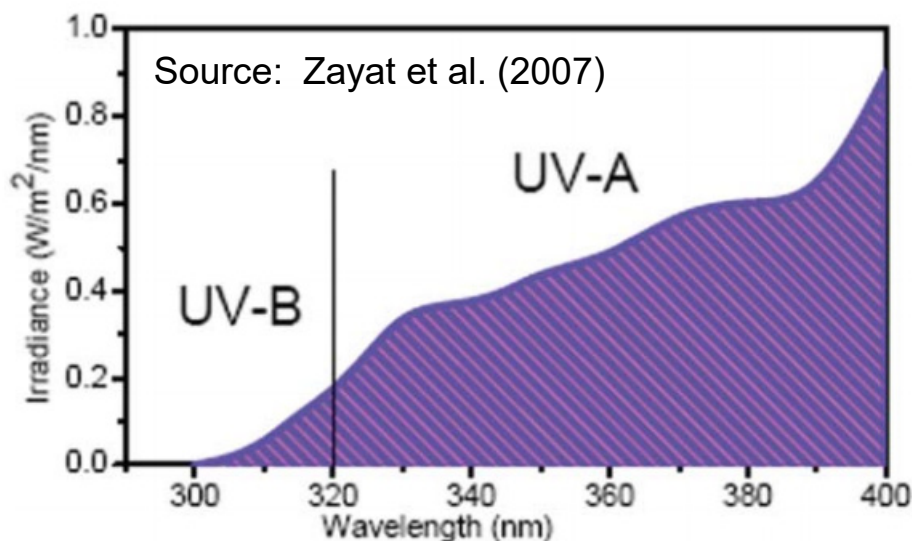
After this presentation:

1. Familiar with chlorinated cyanurates & use
2. Understand water chemistry & implications
3. Aware of things to consider in practice
4. Familiar with web-based application



Free Chlorine & Sunlight (Pools)

- Free chlorine
 - Hypochlorous acid (HOCl) + hypochlorite ion (OCl^-)
 - Absorbs ultraviolet (UV) light \rightarrow decomposes
- Wavelengths $> \sim 280$ nm reach Earth's surface
 - Peak absorbance (λ_{max}): $\text{OCl}^- = 292$ nm & $\text{HOCl} = 235$ nm
 - 30 minute half-life





Cyanuric Acid Addition (Pools)

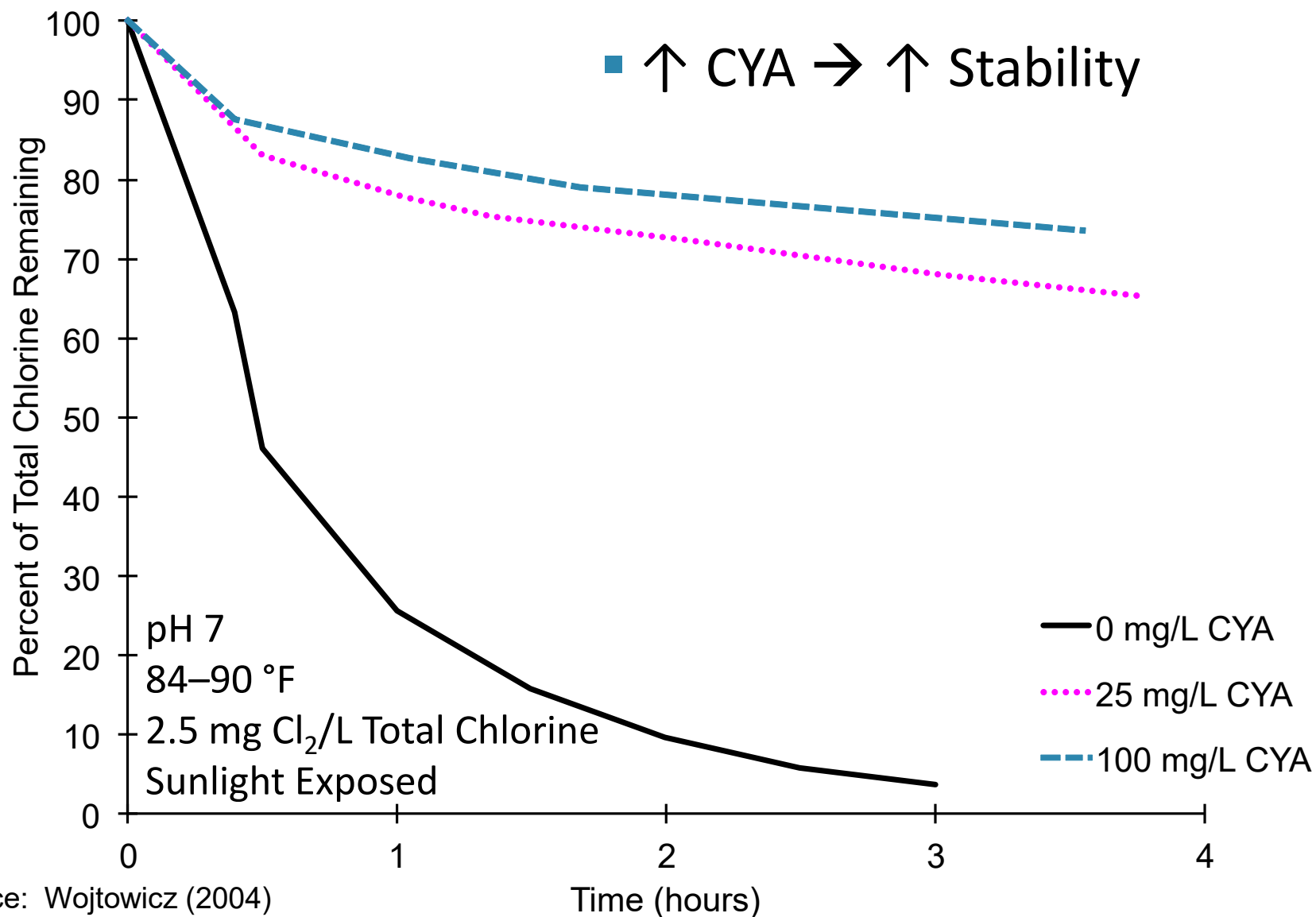
- Cyanuric acid (CYA)
 - Not related to cyanide
 - Outdoor pools since 1958
 - Added to “stabilize” free chlorine
 - Forms chlorinated cyanurates
 - Lowers free chlorine concentration
 - “Reservoir” of free chlorine → releases back into water
 - $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 215\text{--}220\text{ nm}$ → more stable in sunlight
- Public pool concentrations (ANSI/APSP 2009)



Parameter	Minimum	Ideal	Maximum
Total (Available) Chlorine (mg Cl_2 /L)	1	2–4	4
Cyanuric Acid (mg/L)	N/A	30–50	100

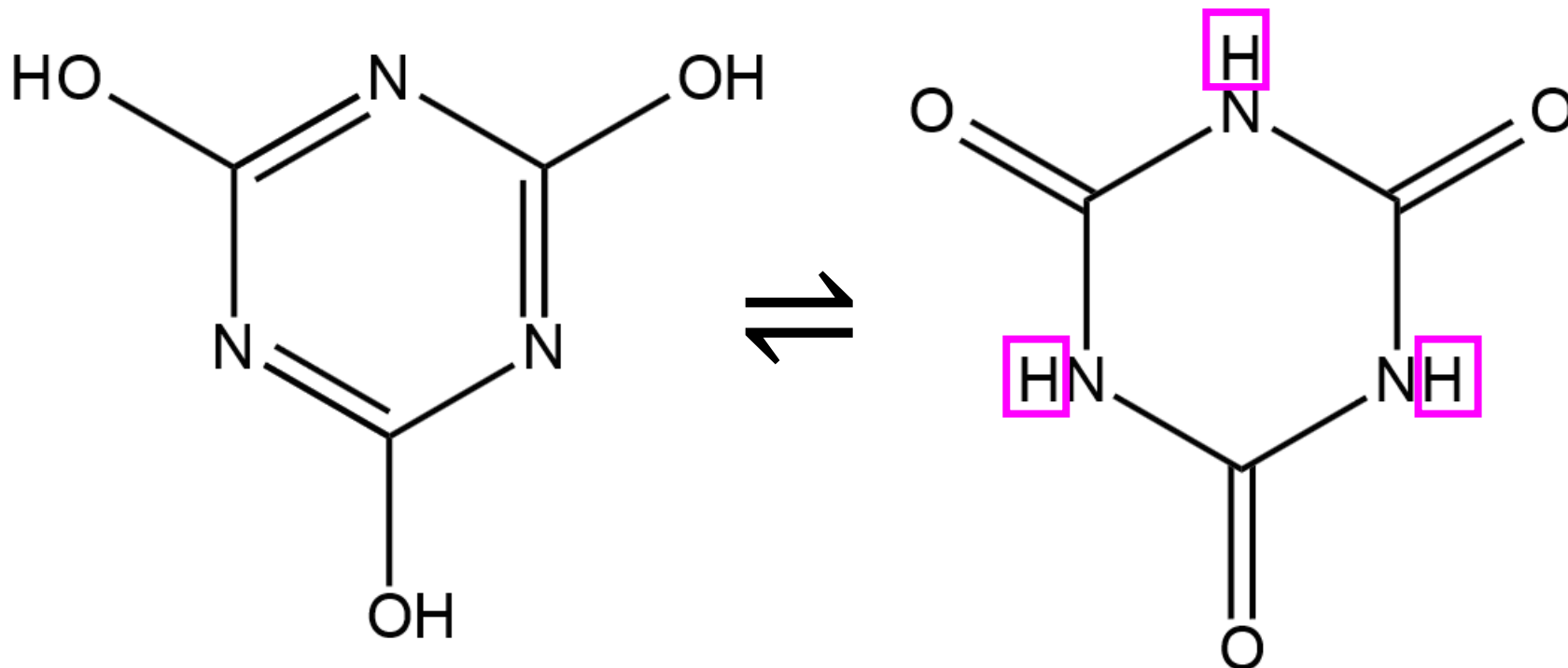


CYA Stabilization (Concentration)



Source: Wojtowicz (2004)

Cyanuric Acid (H_3Cy)



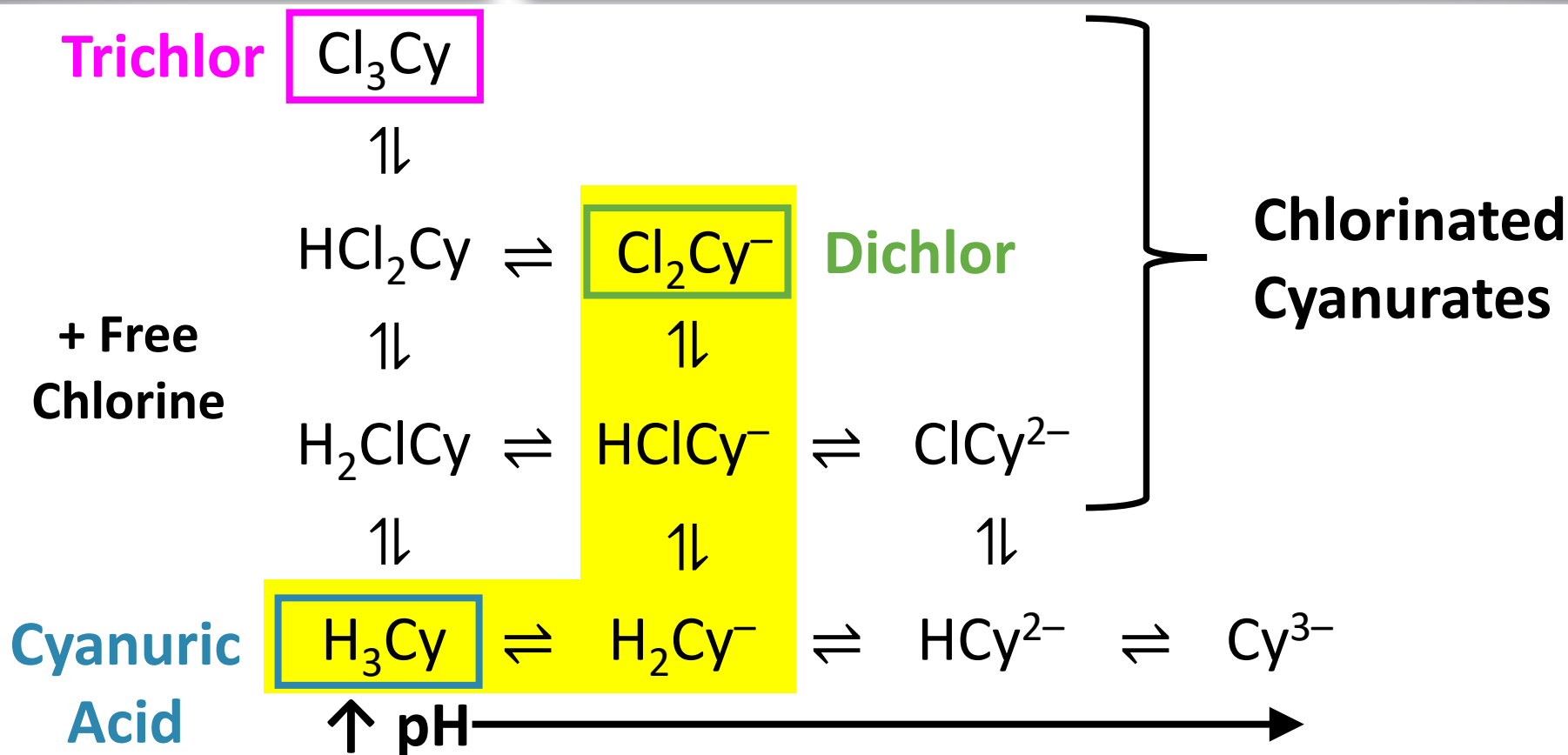
Cyanuric Acid
(enol form)

Isocyanuric Acid
(keto form)

- “Cy” = Cyanurate structure $\rightarrow H_3Cy$



Chlorinated Cyanurates

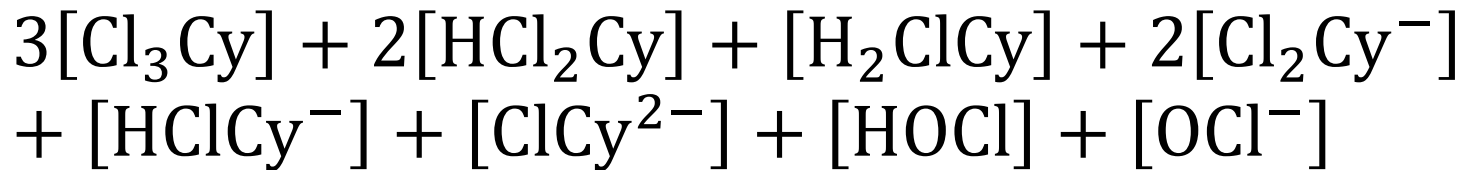


- $\text{Cy} + \text{free chlorine} \rightleftharpoons \text{chlorinated cyanurates}$
- Free chlorine is disinfectant

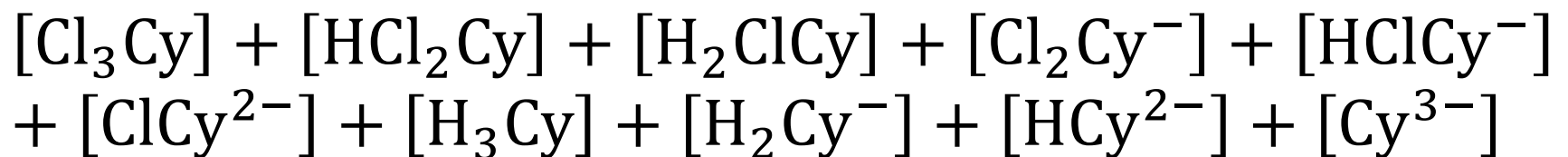


Terminology

- No ammonia present (i.e., no chloramines)
- Free chlorine = hypochlorous acid + hypochlorite ion
- Available chlorine = six chlorinated cyanurates
- Total (available) chlorine (TOTCl) = free chlorine + available chlorine



- Total cyanurate (TOTCy) = 10 species with Cy





Drinking Water Use

- Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Registration Act
 - 1st approval, July 2001 → Oxychem Corporation
 - Routine treatment of drinking water
- Manufacturer NSF 60 Certification
 - Function → disinfection & oxidation (30 mg/L max)
 - Dichlor¹ = 6 (2 others for well cleaning)
 - Trichlor² = 7
- World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines
 - Sodium dichloroisocyanurate (Dichlor): 50 mg/L
 - Cyanuric acid: 40 mg/L
- Practical TOTCy concentration
 - 5–10 mg/L maximum
 - 100 mg/L pool maximum
- Safe Drinking Water Act primacy agencies may approve use

¹<http://info.nsf.org/Certified/PwsChemicals/Listings.asp?ChemicalName=Sodium+Dichloroisocyanurate>

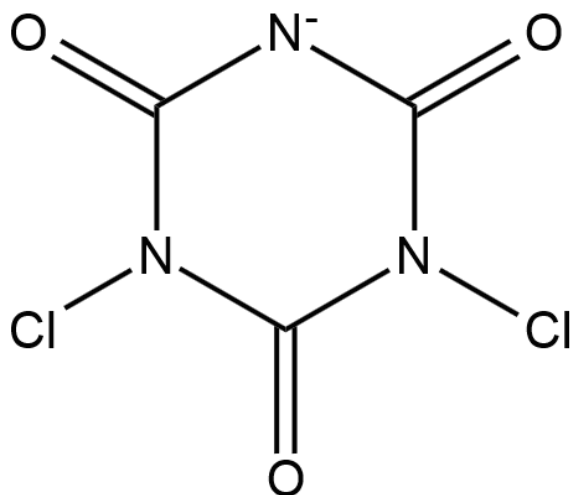
²<http://info.nsf.org/Certified/PwsChemicals/Listings.asp?ChemicalName=Trichloroisocyanuric+Acid>



Dichlor & Trichlor

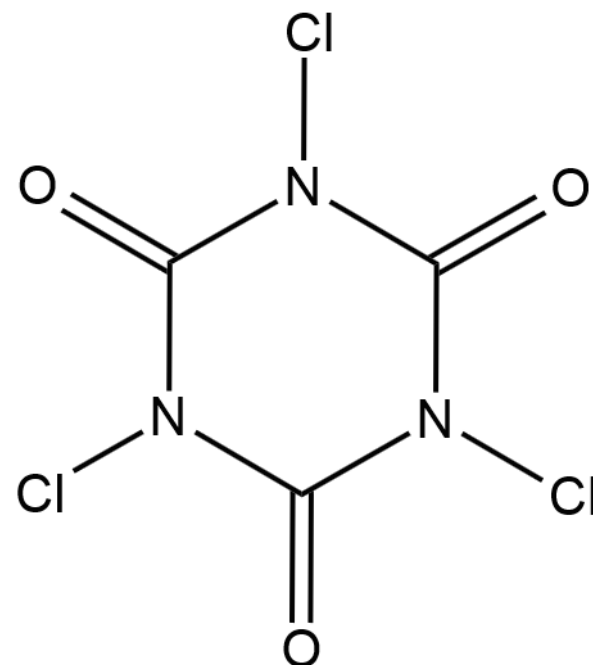
Dichlor Anhydrous (Dihydrate)

Na⁺



•2 H₂O

Trichlor



Property	Dichlor Anhydrous	Dichlor Dihydrate	Trichlor
% Available Chlorine	65	55	92
pH, 1% solution	6.0–7.0	6.0–7.0	3.0
Solubility (25°C, %)	24	28	1.2
Total Chlorine (mg Cl ₂ /L) per Label	0.81	0.69	0.76
Total Cyanurate (mg/L) per Label	0.73	0.63	0.46



Dichlor & Trichlor Addition

Chemical Addition Scenario Assumes 100% Chemical Purity	Dichlor Anhydrous	Dichlor Dihydrate	Trichlor
$\frac{\text{TOTCl (mg Cl}_2\text{)}}{\text{Chemical (mg)}}$	0.65	0.55	0.92
$\frac{\text{TOTCy (mg)}}{\text{Chemical (mg)}}$	0.59	0.50	0.56
$\frac{\text{Chemical (mg)}}{\text{TOTCl (mg Cl}_2\text{)}}$	1.54	1.82	1.09
$\frac{\text{TOTCy (mg)}}{\text{TOTCl (mg Cl}_2\text{)}}$	0.91	0.91	0.61



Reasons for Use (Free Cl_2)

- Benefits (Kuechler 2009)
 - Easier to handle
 - Tablet or granules
 - Safer than liquids or gases
 - Long storage life (i.e., years)
 - Concentrated chlorine
 - Trichlor → 90%
 - Dichlor → 55–65%
 - Calcium hypochlorite → 65–70%
 - Sodium hypochlorite → 10–15%
 - No calcium addition
 - Dichlor specific
 - Easily dissolves
 - More soluble
 - Neutral pH





After this presentation:

1. Familiar with chlorinated cyanurates & use
 - Dichlor & trichlor for drinking water
 - Free chlorine source
 - FIFRA approved & NSF 60 certified
 - Cy + free chlorine \rightleftharpoons chlorinated cyanurates

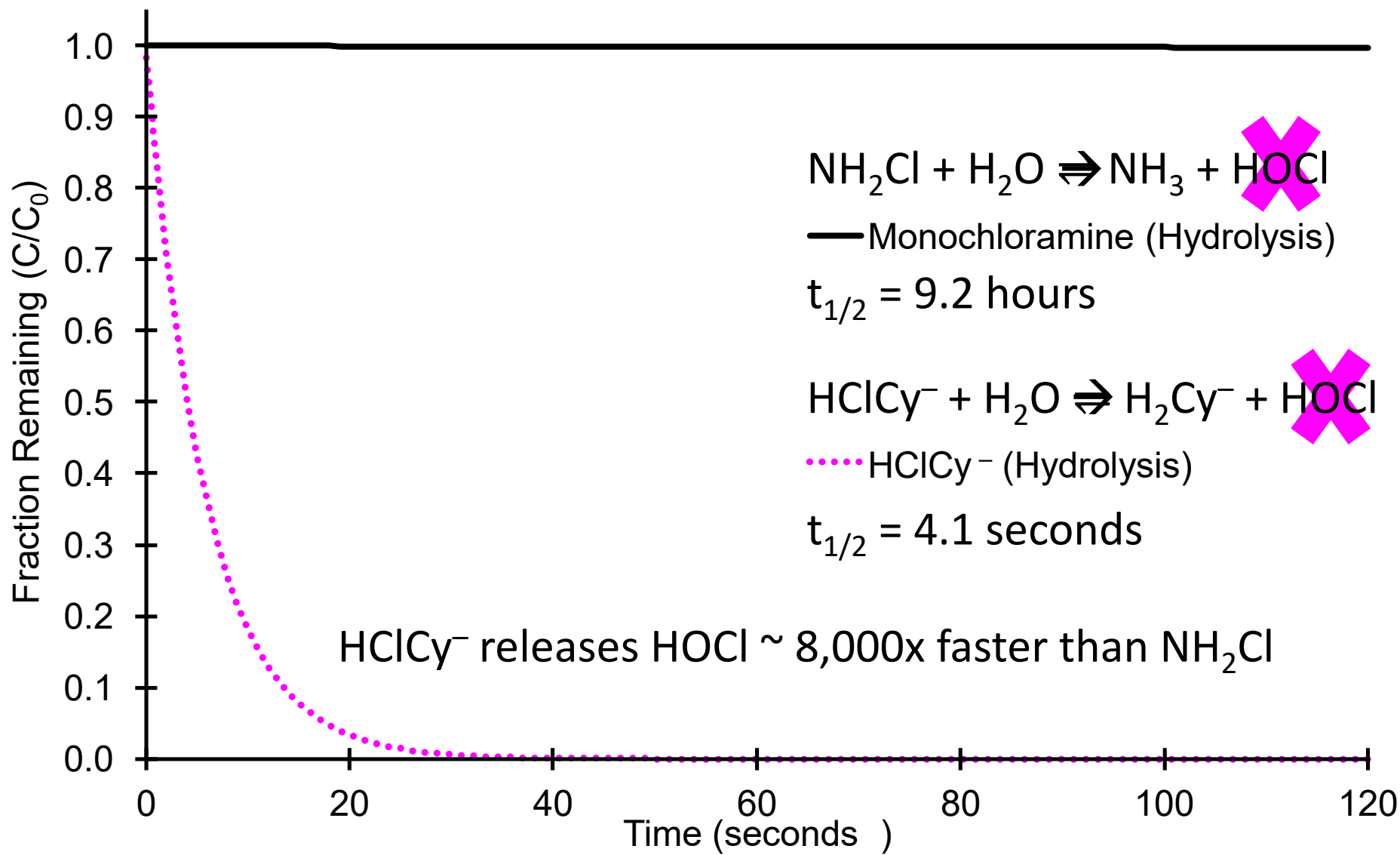


Water Chemistry

- No ammonia present
- Issue → free chlorine measurement bias → measure total
- O'Brien (1972) → equilibrium system (25°C)
- 3 known species: TOTCl, TOTCy, and pH → $[H^+]$
- 12 unknown chemical species
 $[Cl_3Cy]$, $[HCl_2Cy]$, $[H_2ClCy]$, $[Cl_2Cy^-]$, $[HClCy^-]$, $[ClCy^{2-}]$,
 $[H_3Cy]$, $[H_2Cy^-]$, $[HCy^{2-}]$, $[Cy^{3-}]$, $[HOCl]$, $[OCl^-]$
- 12 equations
 - TOTCl
 - TOTCy
 - Free chlorine equilibrium
 - 9 cyanurate equilibrium
- Unknowns = Equations → Solvable

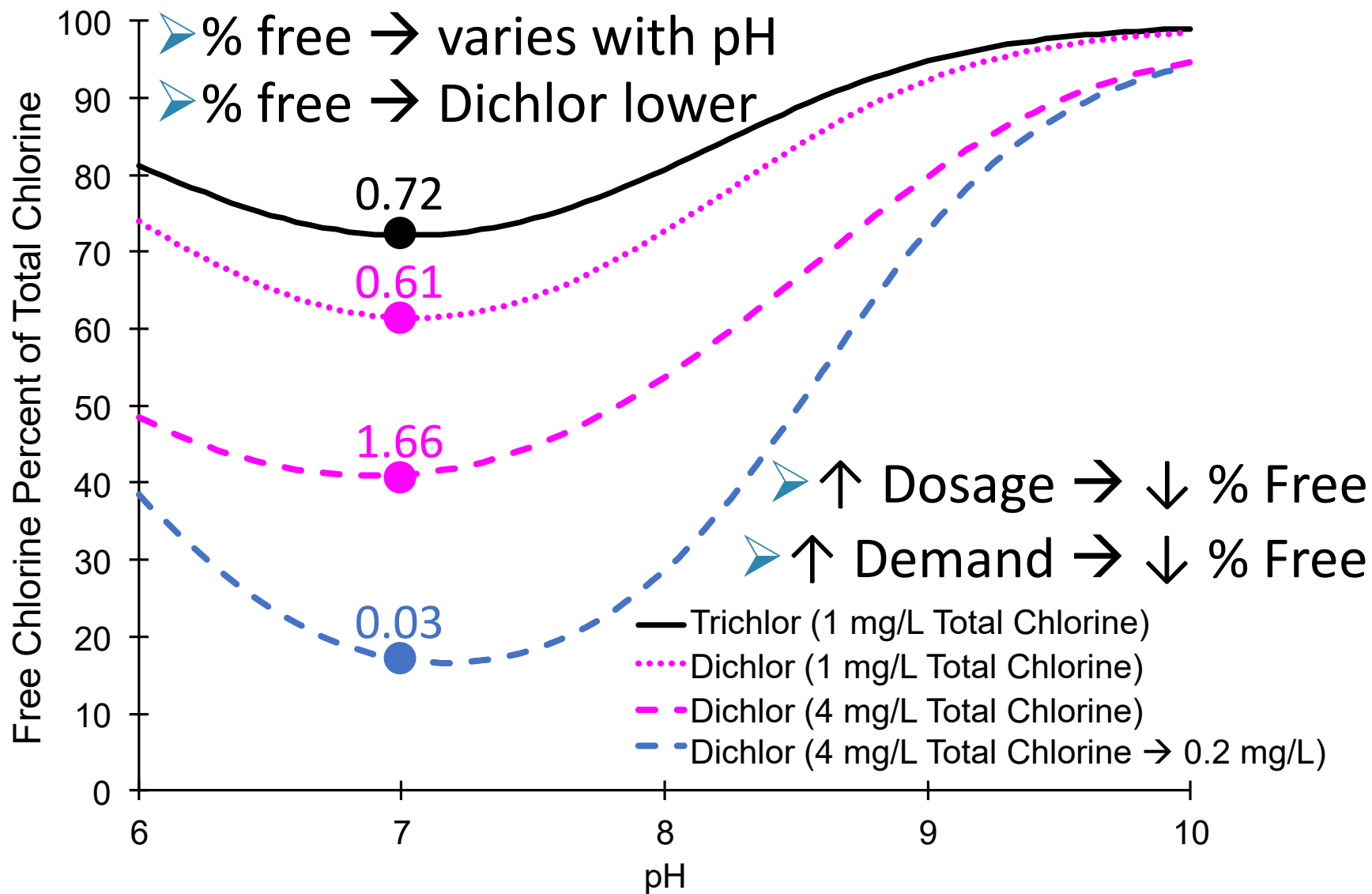


Equilibrium – “Fast” System





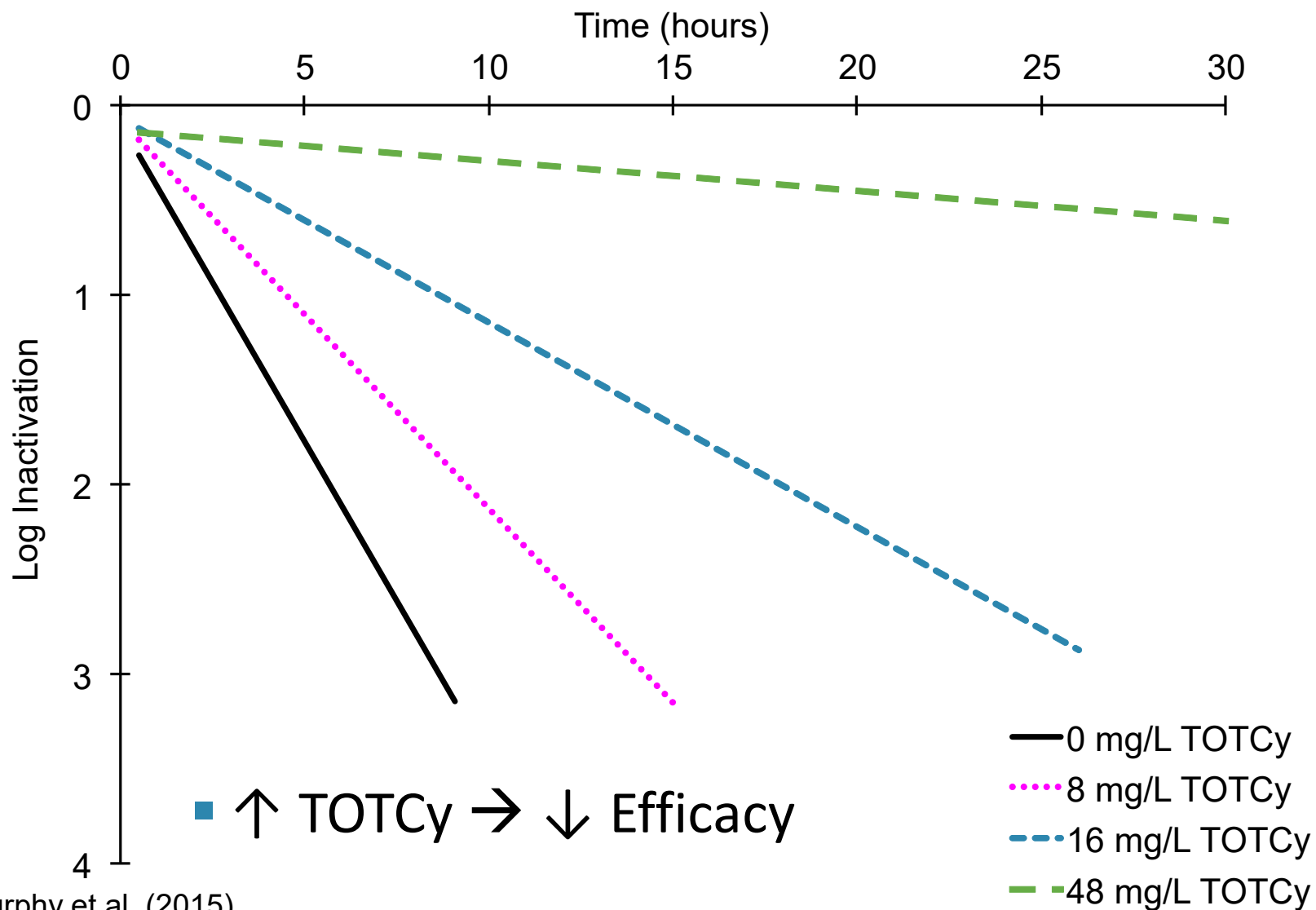
Free Chlorine % Variation



- Disinfection process
 - HOCl reacting with an organism
 - $\text{HOCl} + \text{Organism} \rightarrow \text{Inactivation}$
 - Reaction Rate = $k_1[\text{HOCl}][\text{Organism}]$
- For same total chlorine
 - $\uparrow \text{TOTCl} \rightarrow \downarrow [\text{HOCl}]$
 - \downarrow reaction rate (i.e., speed)
 - \downarrow disinfection



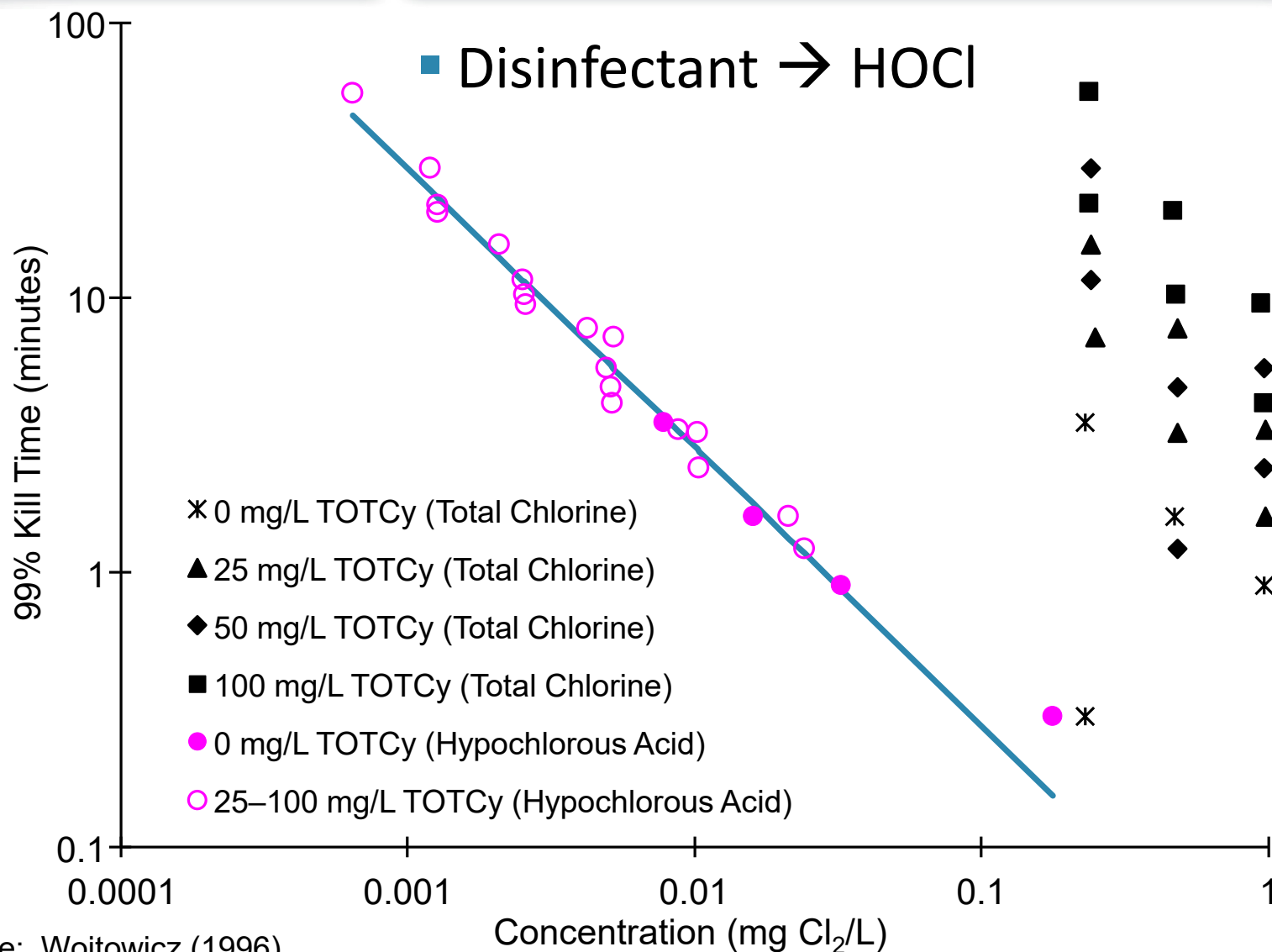
Disinfection Impacts (*C. parvum*)



Source: Murphy et al. (2015)



Actual Disinfectant (*S. faecalis*)



2. Understand water chemistry & implications
 - Temperature → only 25°C known
 - % Free Cl_2 → varies with pH
 - ↑ Dosage or ↑ Demand → ↓ % Free
 - HOCl is disinfectant in system

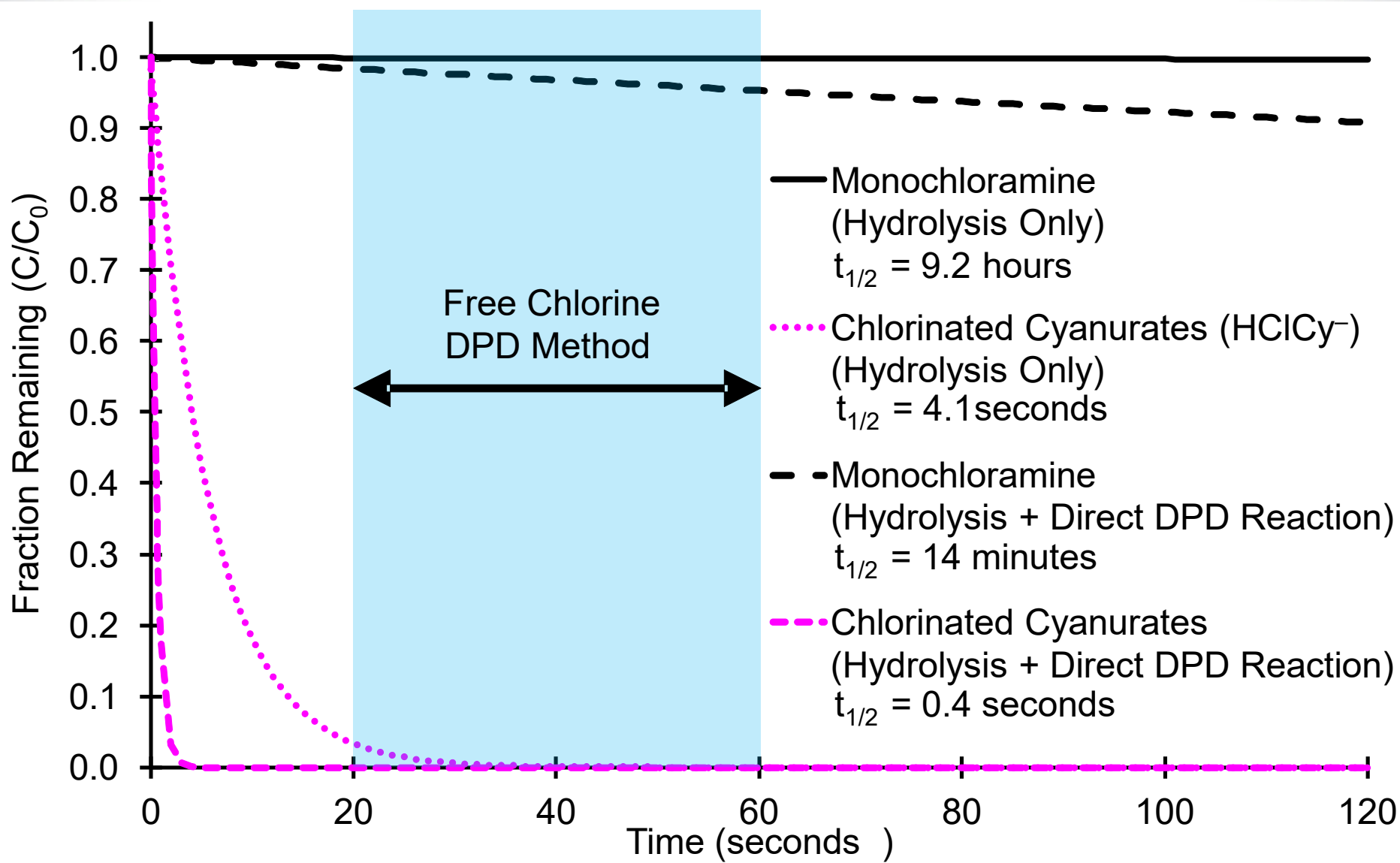


Things to Consider Free Chlorine Measurement

- $\text{Cy} + \text{free chlorine} \rightleftharpoons \text{chlorinated cyanurates}$
 - Fast equilibrium
 - Method cannot react with free chlorine
 - Method cannot change pH
 - Free chlorine test \rightarrow measures total chlorine
- What does not work?
 - DPD (Whittle 1970; Wajon & Morris 1980)
 - Amperometric titration (Wajon & Morris 1980)
 - Indophenol (Wahman et al. 2017)
 - ChemKeys (Wahman et al. 2017)
 - Currently, no approved method



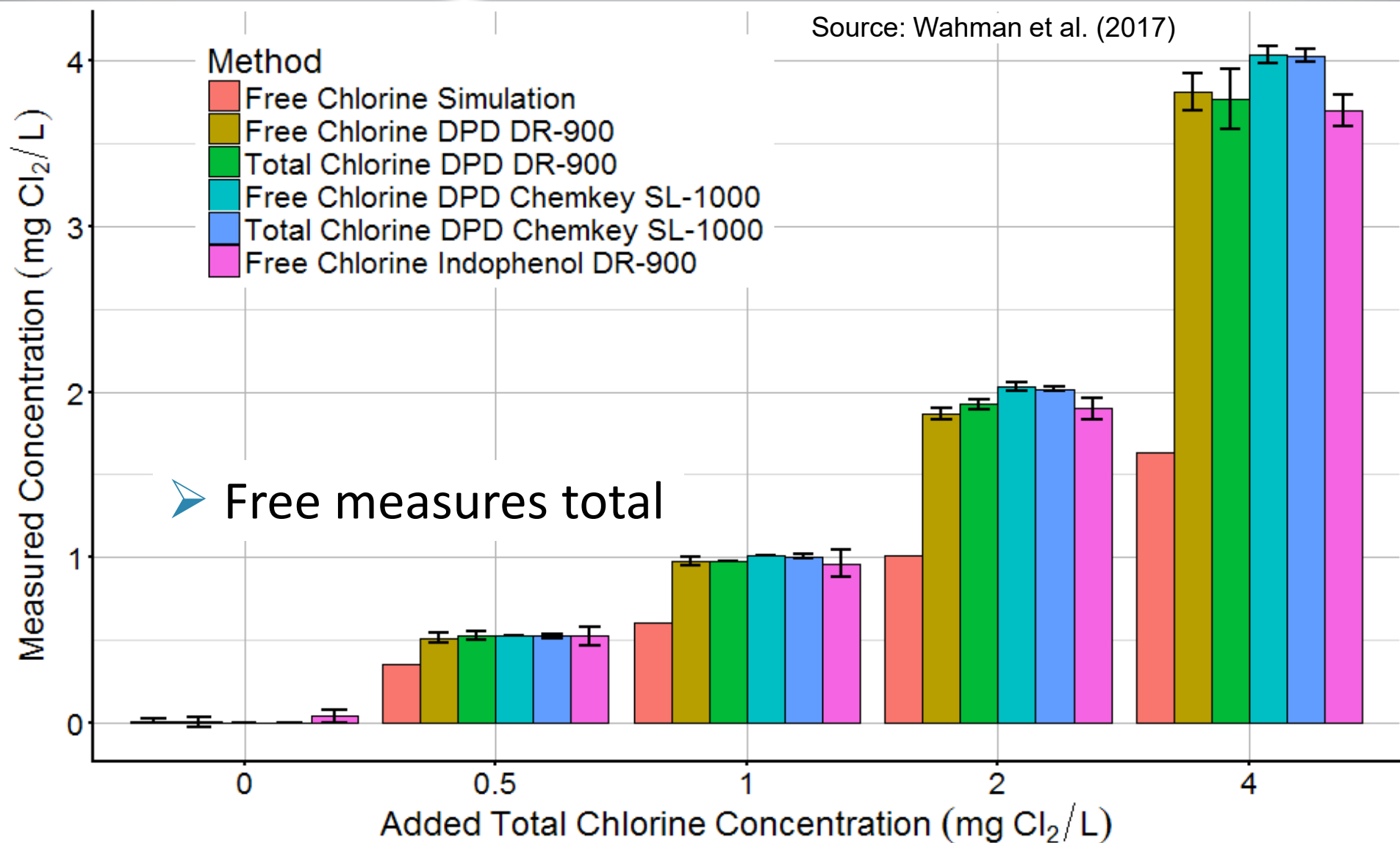
Hydrolysis & Direct Reaction





Dichlor at pH 7

Source: Wahman et al. (2017)





Things to Consider

Free Chlorine Measurement

- What could work?
 - Cannot disturb equilibrium → no reaction or Δ pH
 - Direct measurement
- UV absorption → interferences & detection limit
- Amperometric electrode → mixed results
- Water chemistry estimate from actual sample
 - pH → directly measure
 - Total chlorine (TOTCl) → free chlorine DPD
 - Total cyanurate (TOTCy)
 - Current methods for pools (> 5 mg/L TOTCy)
 - Need drinking water field method (0.1–5 mg/L TOTCy)
 - Alternative → estimate from chemical dosing
 - Temperature → only 25°C (10 equilibrium constants)
 - Only known for 25°C
 - 10 equilibrium constants

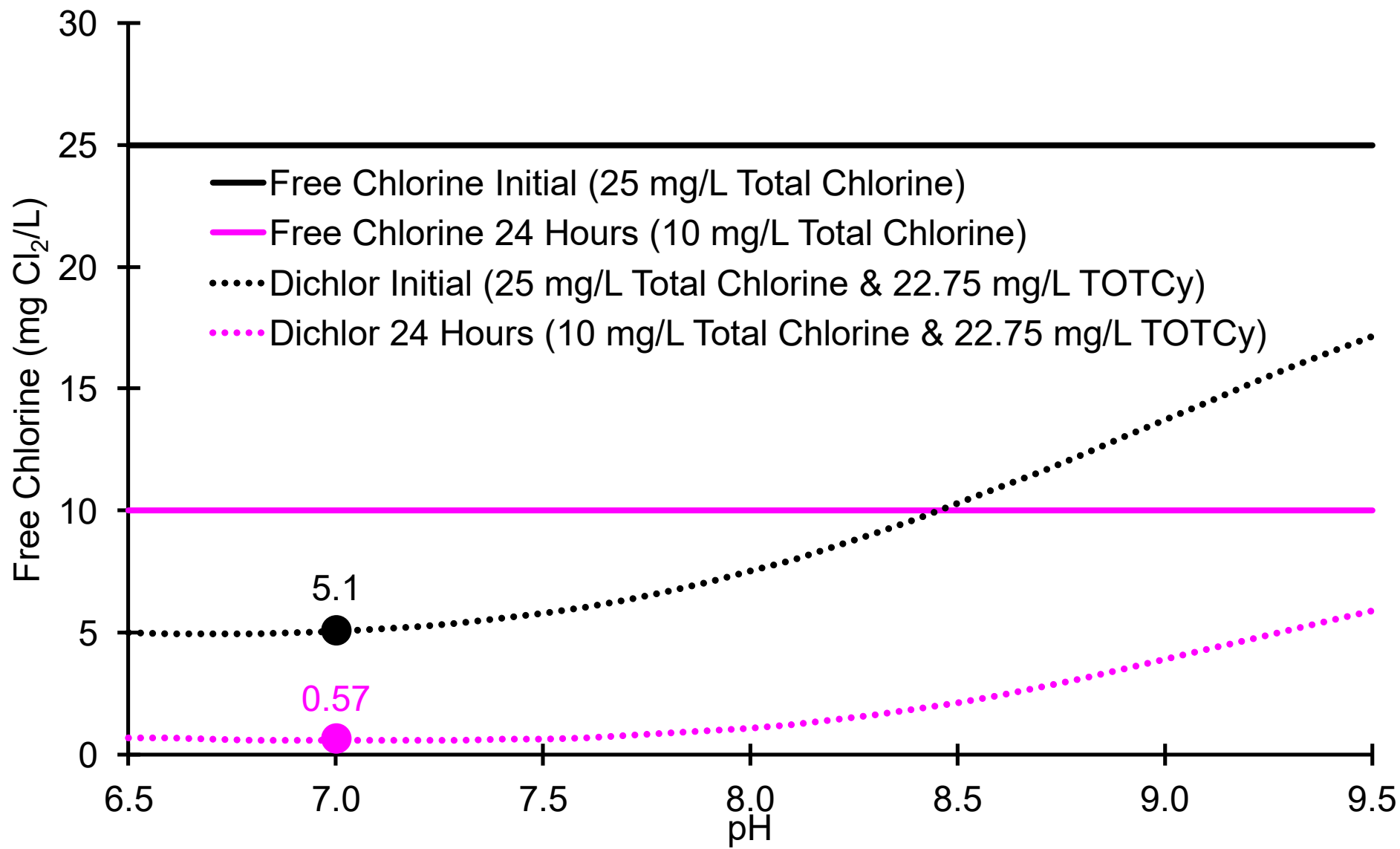


Other Things to Consider?

- Goal of providing disinfectant residual
 - System integrity indicator
 - Quantifiable target → “detectable” vs. number
 - Microbial barrier (e.g., 0.5 mg Cl_2 /L for *N. fowleri*)
- Feed solution degradation
 - TOTCl/TOTCy ratio
 - Decrease with time?
 - Impact on estimating TOTCy dose?
 - Chlorite/chlorate formation (10,000 mg Cl_2 /L → ~1% Free)
- Disinfection of mains and/or tanks
 - ANSI/AWWA C652–11 (Water Storage Facilities)
 - ANSI/AWWA C651–14 (Water Mains)
- Chloramines & blending disinfectants
- Cyanurate related DBPs



ANSI/AWWA C651-14 Example (Continuous Feed Method)



3. Aware of things to consider in practice
 - No approved method for free chlorine
 - Simulation possible
 - Need TOTCl, TOTCy, pH
 - Temperature limitation
 - Other practical issues



Free Chlorine & Cy App

<https://usepaord.shinyapps.io/cyanuric/>

■ Assumptions

- Full O'Brien model → 25°C
- Know total chlorine
- Know total cyanurate
- Know pH range

■ Features

- User-selectable inputs
- Two side-by-side simulations
- Chemical addition scenarios
- Download simulation data (.csv)

■ Application Description

- <https://nepis.epa.gov/Exe/ZyPU RL.cgi?Dockkey=P100S368.txt>



EPA/600/S-17/165
June 2017
www.epa.gov/research

Free Chlorine and Cyanuric Acid Simulator Application Description - Version 0.50



Office of Research and Development
National Risk Management Research Laboratory
Water Systems Division



Application Layout

Header

Input
Simulation
Conditions

Sim Plot Pref Sim
A B

Simulation
Output
Plots



Application Header

Free Chlorine and Cyanuric Acid System Simulator

Version 0.50, Last Updated May 10, 2017

Created by David G. Wahman (wahman.david@epa.gov), United States Environmental Protection Agency

The provided application simulates the water chemistry, at the selected conditions, associated with the free chlorine and cyanuric acid system (i.e., chlorinated cyanurates). The application allows the user to estimate the free chlorine concentration when cyanuric acid is present as is the case when adding chlorine-containing chemicals commonly referred to as Dichlor (anhydrous sodium dichloroisocyanurate or sodium dichloroisocyanurate dihydrate) or Trichlor (trichloroisocyanuric acid) to water. Equilibrium equations and associated constants are for a temperature of 25 degrees Celsius as presented by Obrien et al. ([Chemistry of Water Supply, Treatment, and Distribution, 1974, pp 333-358](#)).

To open a document describing the application in a new window, click on the following link: [Application Documentation](#)

The application was developed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). No warranty expressed or implied is made regarding the accuracy or utility of the system, nor shall the act of distribution constitute any such warranty. EPA has relinquished control of the information and no longer has responsibility to protect the integrity, confidentiality, or availability of the information. Any reference to specific commercial products, processes, or services by service mark, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise, does not constitute or imply their endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by EPA. The EPA seal and logo shall not be used in any manner to imply endorsement of any commercial product or activity by EPA or the United States Government. The views expressed in this application do not necessarily represent the views or policies of the EPA. Although a reasonable effort has been made to assure that the results obtained are correct, this application is experimental. Therefore, the author and the EPA are not responsible and assume no liability whatsoever for any results or any use made of the results obtained from this application, nor for any damages or litigation that result from the use of the application for any purpose.

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	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
1		pH	chemical	log_concentration_molar														
2	1	6	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
3	2	6.05	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
4	3	6.1	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
5	4	6.15	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
6	5	6.2	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
7	6	6.25	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
8	7	6.3	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
9	8	6.35	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
10	9	6.4	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
11	10	6.45	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
12	11	6.5	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
13	12	6.55	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
14	13	6.6	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
15	14	6.65	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
16	15	6.7	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
17	16	6.75	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
18	17	6.8	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
19	18	6.85	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
20	19	6.9	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
21	20	6.95	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
22	21	7	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
23	22	7.05	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
24	23	7.1	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
25	24	7.15	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
26	25	7.2	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
27	26	7.25	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
28	27	7.3	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
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30	29	7.4	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
31	30	7.45	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
32	31	7.5	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
33	32	7.55	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														
34	33	7.6	Total Chlorine	-4.45331834														

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Ready

100%

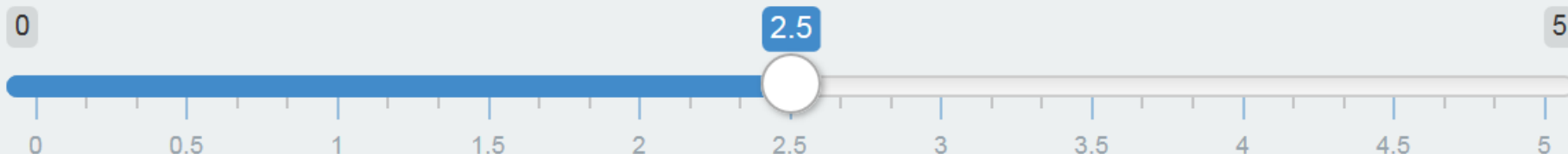


Application Tooltips

Free Chlorine as chlorine (75.45 MW) or Hypochlorous Acid as itself (129.07 MW)▼

Set slider to known added free chlorine concentration in mg per liter as chlorine

Added Free Chlorine Concentration (mg Cl_2 /L)

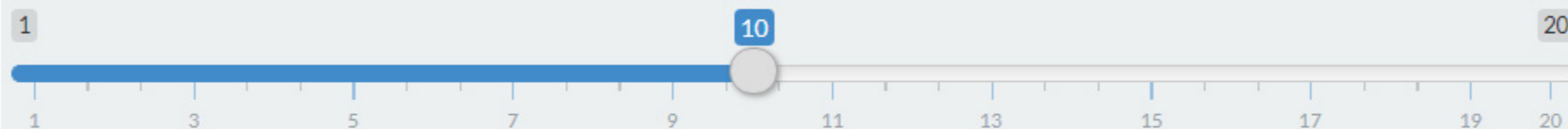




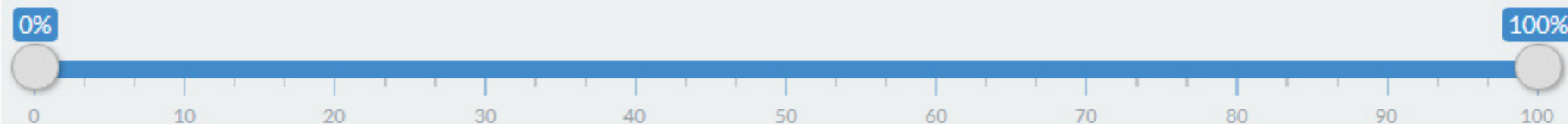
Application Plot Preferences

Simulation A Plot Preferences

Select Range for Y-axis on log Concentration Plots



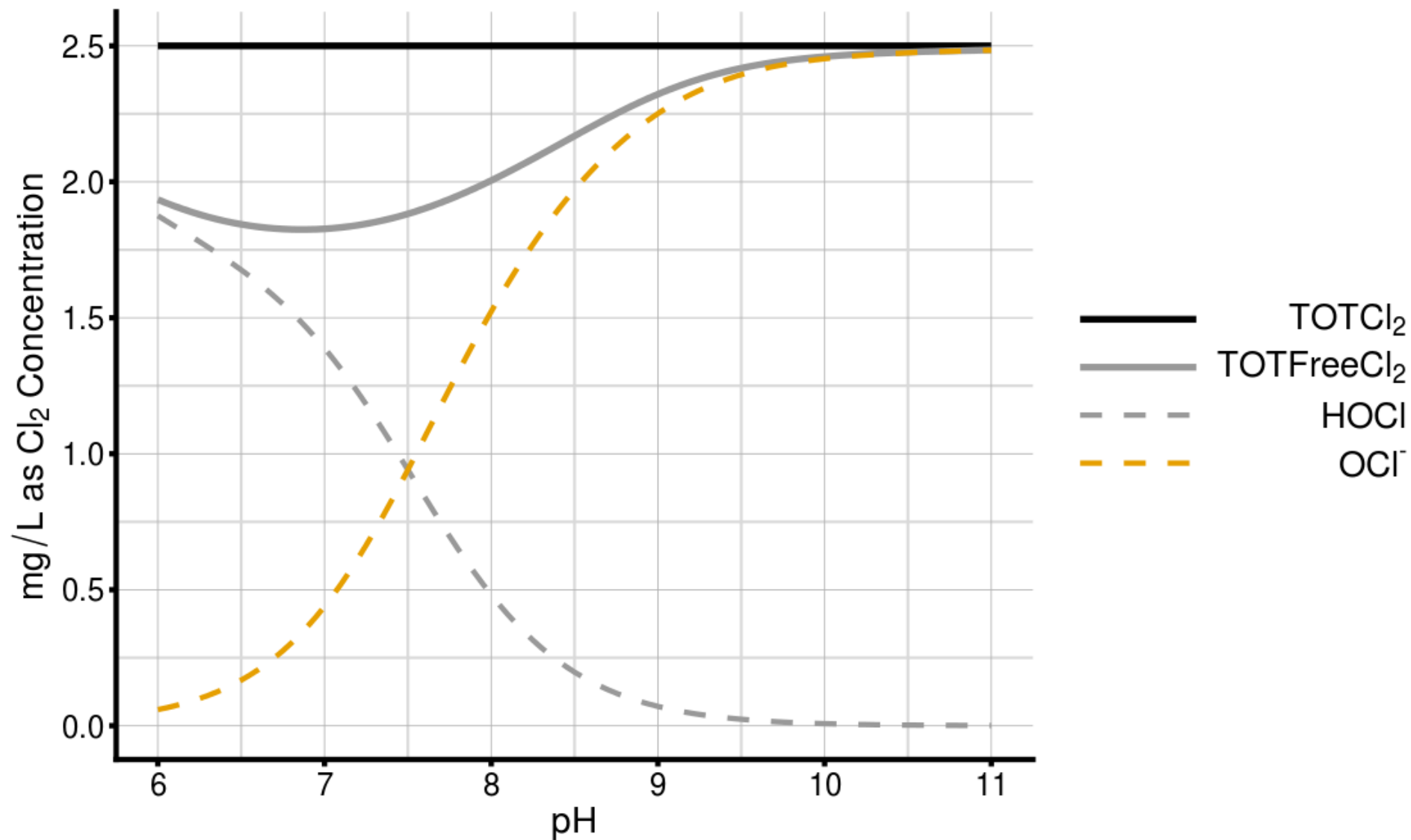
Select the Percent of Total Chlorine to use for the Lower and Upper Limits on the mg/L Plot Y-axis



 Update Plots for Simulation A



Application Output Plots



4. Familiar with web-based application
 - Implements O'Brien model (25°C)
 - Inputs → TOTCl, TOTCy, pH
 - Outputs → All chemical species
 - Future update for temperature



References

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Additional Resources

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Web–Based Application

- Free Chlorine and Cyanuric Acid Chemistry Simulator: <https://usepaord.shinyapps.io/cyanuric/>
- Free Chlorine and Cyanuric Acid Simulator Application Description - Version 0.50: <https://nepis.epa.gov/Exe/ZyPURL.cgi?Dockkey=P100S368.txt>



Questions?

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