

WATER TREATMENT USING PALLADIUM- GOLD NANOPARTICLES ON GRANULAR ACTIVATED CARBON: THE CATALYTIC EFFECTS OF SURFACE AREA USING BET THEORY

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PRESENTATION MAP

Earth's Water

- Where does it come from?

Our Catalyst

- Palladium-Gold Nanoparticles on Granular Activated Carbon
- The Process

Water Contaminants

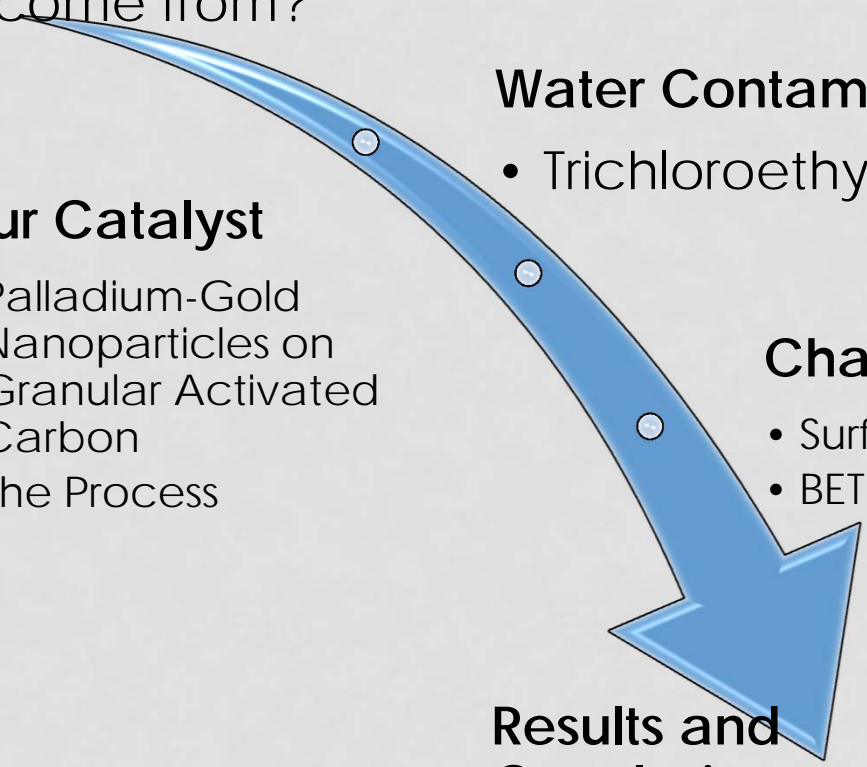
- Trichloroethylene

Characterization

- Surface Area
- BET Theory

Results and Conclusion

- Projects Future



WHAT I DID OVER 7 WEEKS...

The purpose of our research is to find the most effective catalyst that will decrease the amount of Trichloroethylene in water over a specified amount of time.



My research over the past 7 weeks has been to investigate the characteristics of our catalyst, in which I focused on a method called BET Theory.

Earths Water

71% of the Earth is made of water

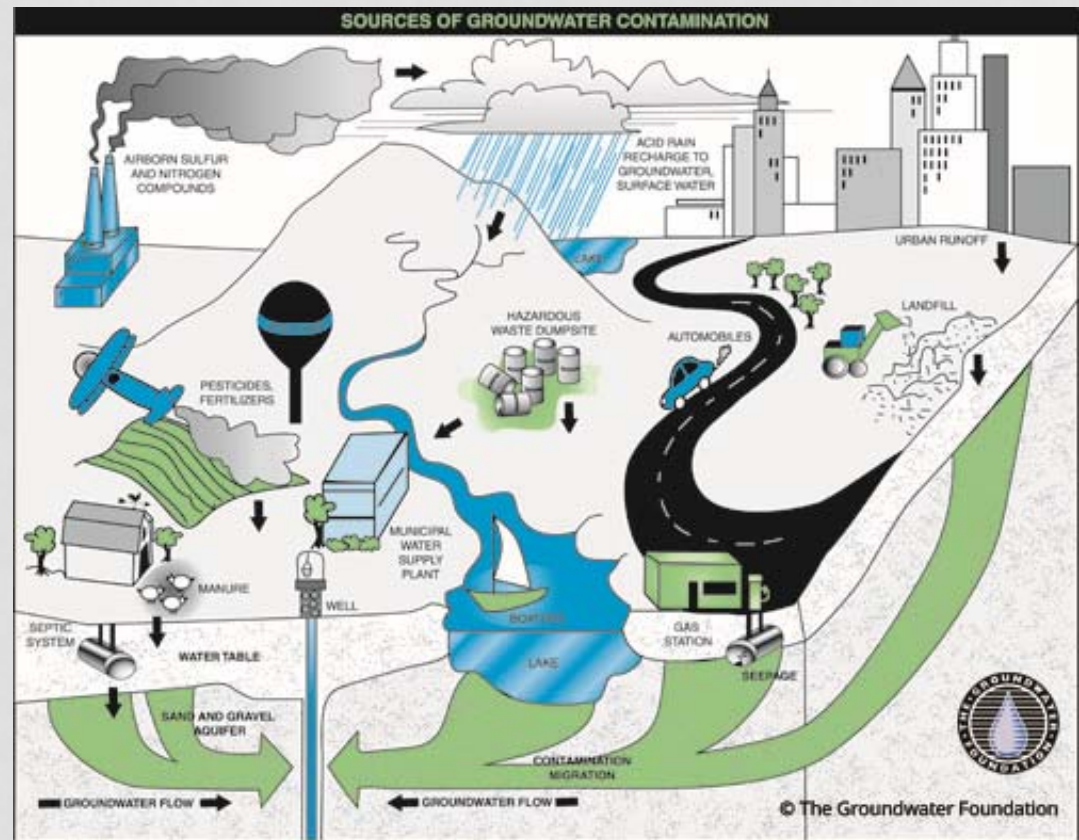
There is only 2.5% of freshwater on Earth

30.1% of freshwater comes from the ground

Over 50% of the U.S. relies on groundwater for drinking water

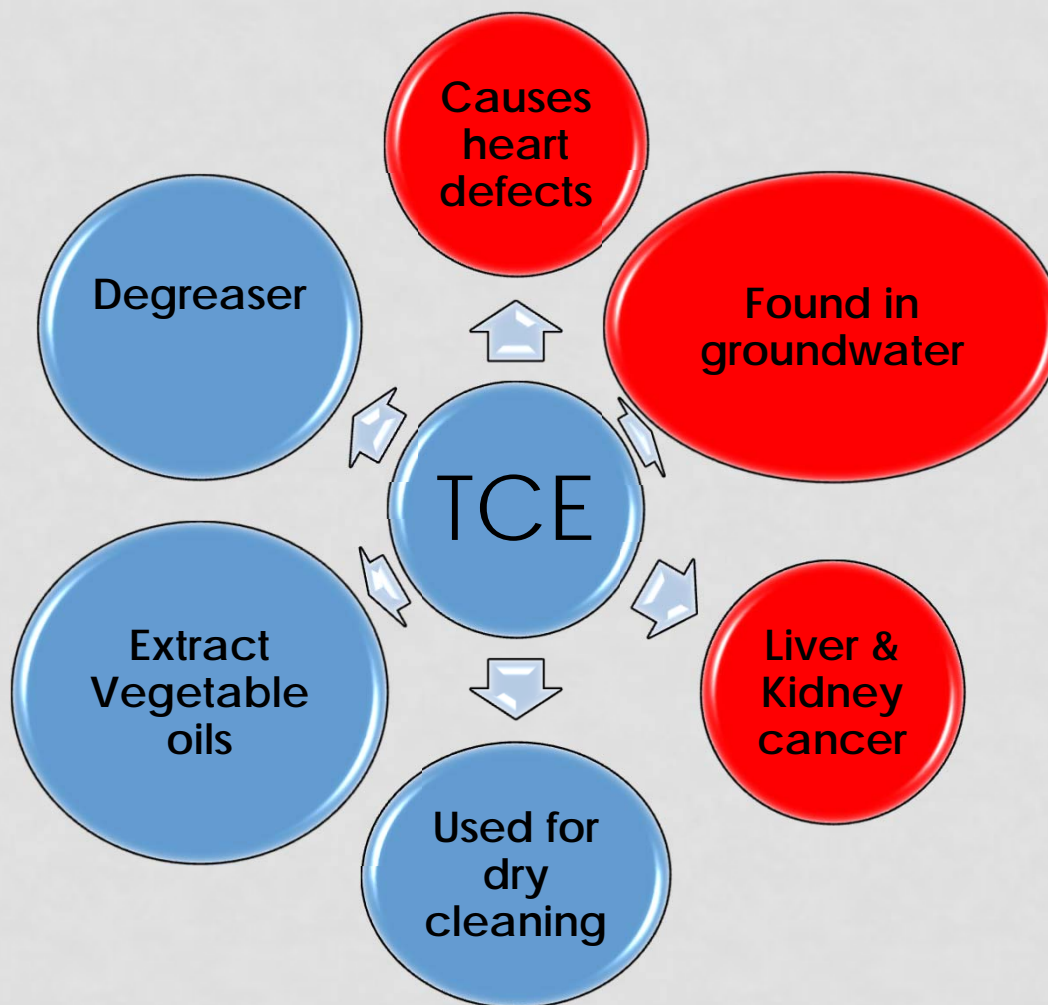
GROUNDWATER CONTAMINANTS

- Ground water contamination occurs when man-made products get into the groundwater and cause the water to become toxic
- Drinking contaminated groundwater can have serious health effects such as cancer and hepatitis

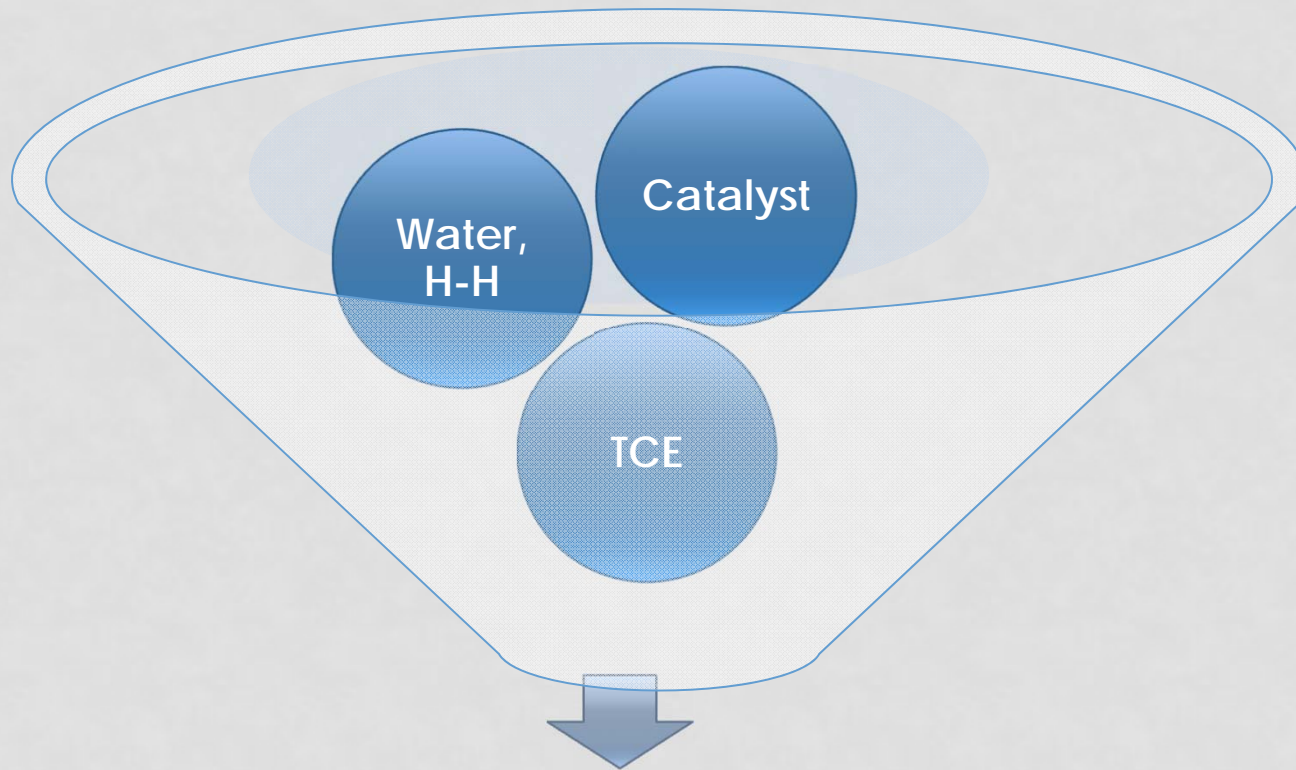


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TRICHLOROETHYLENE (TCE)

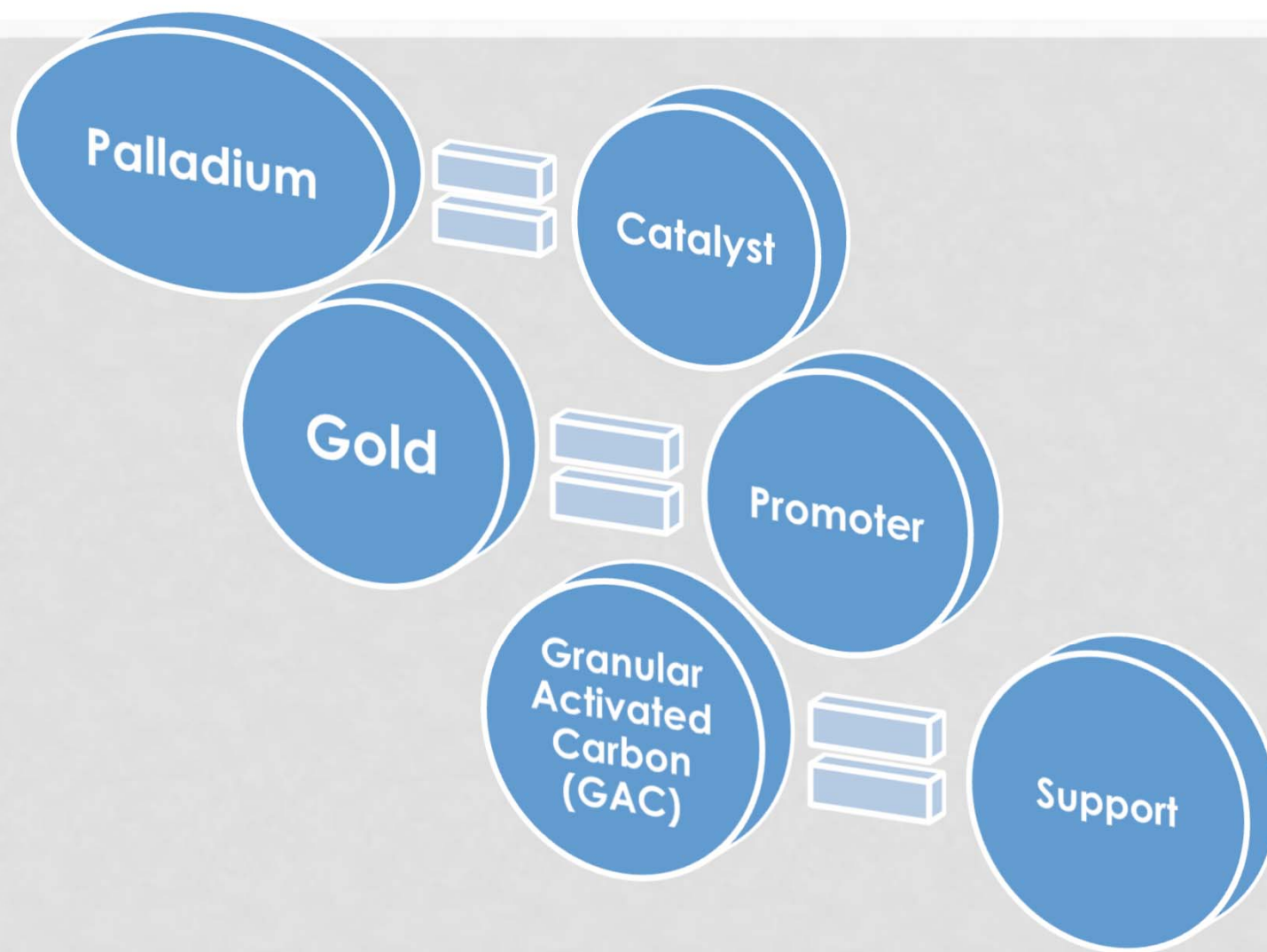


HOW TO REMEDIATE GROUNDWATER



Decrease Amount of TCE

WHY OUR CATALYST IS EFFECTIVE



CHARACTERISTICS OF PRECURSORS

Palladium

Belongs to Platinum Group Metals

Low melting point and low density

Used for catalytic converters

Gold

Transition Metal

Activates catalyst

GAC

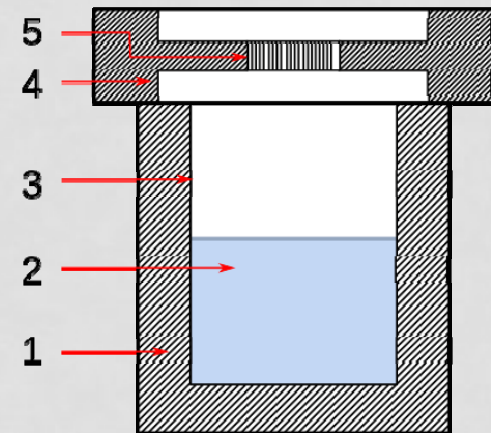
Used to adsorb natural organic compounds in drinking water treatment

Large surface area

Made from coal, charcoal, peanut shells, coconut shells

THE PROCESS

- Solvothermal Method: A transformation of precursors in the presence of a solvent under moderate to high pressure and temperature

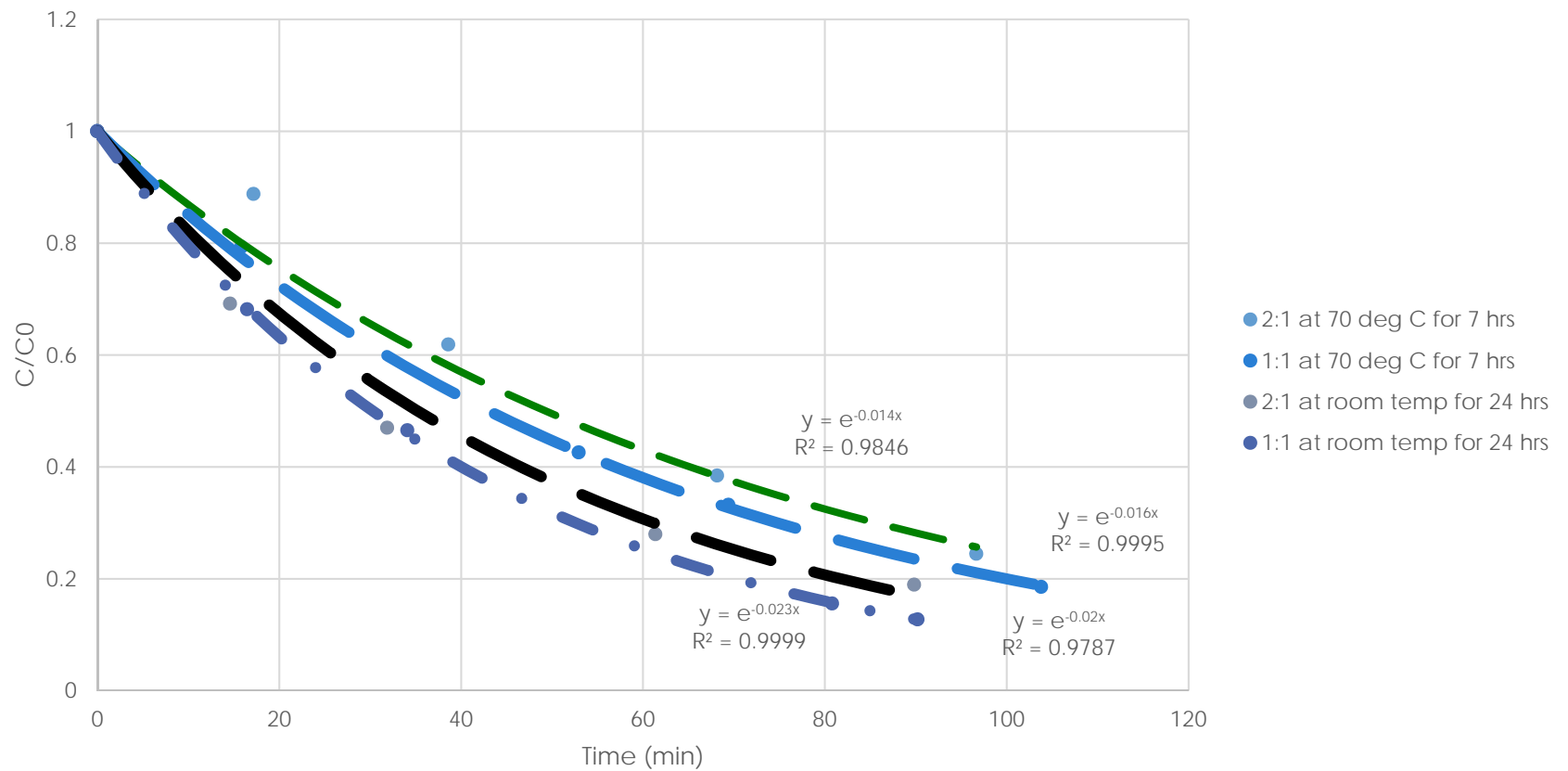


<http://adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/2007JMatS...42.6583X>

1. stainless steel autoclave
2. Solution
3. Teflon liner
4. stainless steel lid
5. Spring

RESULTS

Effect of baking temperature for Pd:Au on finely crushed GAC



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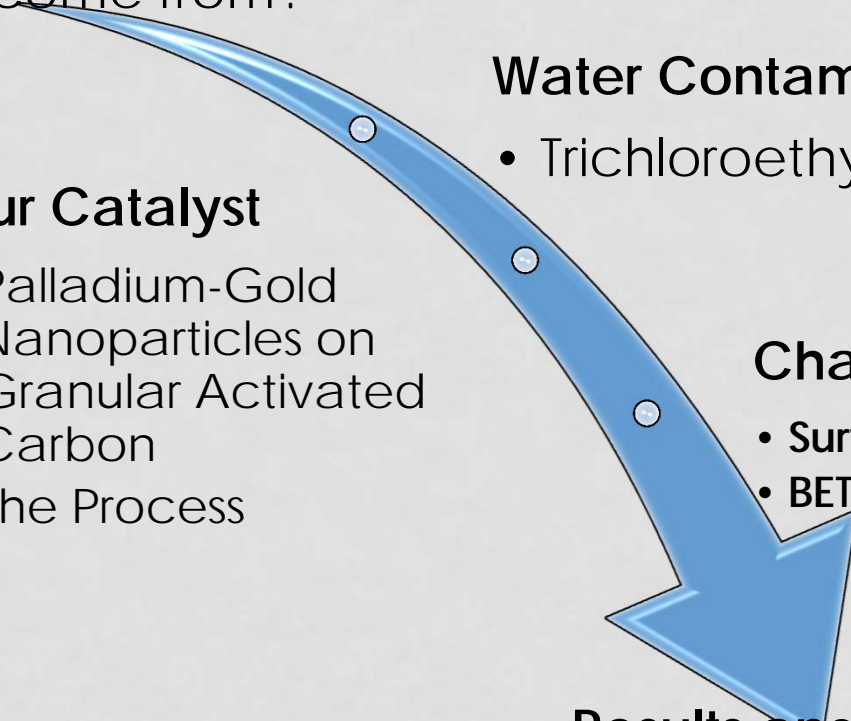
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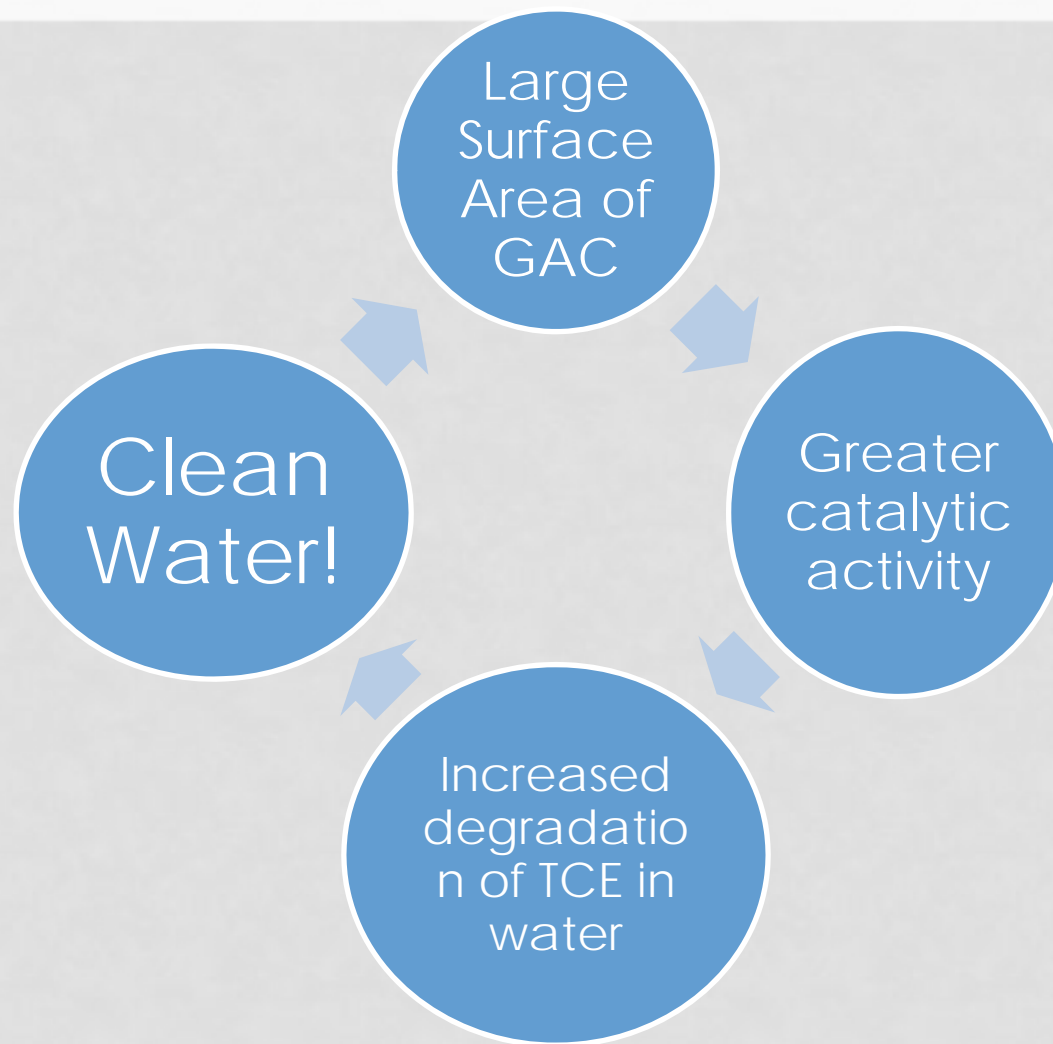
WHY IS SURFACE AREA IMPORTANT?

The surface area of the Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) is extremely large

This indicates that there is more reaction area for the catalyst



RESEARCH PURPOSE



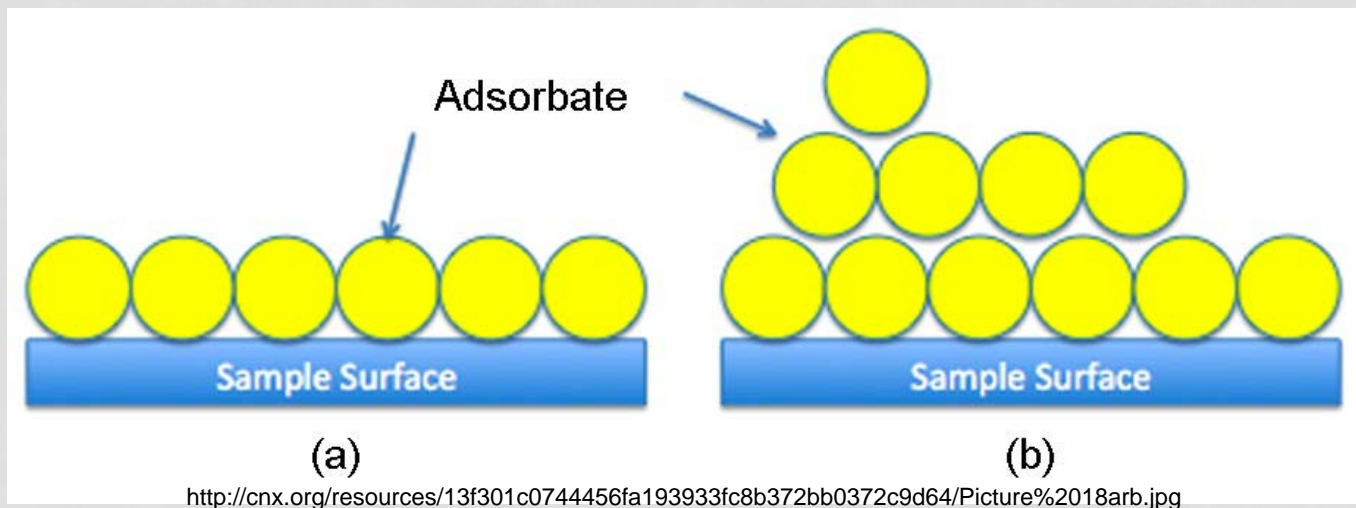
BRUNAUER-EMMETT-TELLER

- Brunauer-Emmett-Teller Theory was developed in 1938 by 3 physicists
- The theory explains the physical adsorption of gas molecules



BET THEORY

The theory aims to explain the physical adsorption of gas molecules on a solid surface and serves as the basis for an important analysis technique for the measurement of the specific surface area of a material



IMPORTANT FACTORS

- BET Equation
- Pressure
- Adsorbate
- The 5 assumptions made when using theory

$$\frac{1}{V_a \left(\frac{P_0}{P} - 1 \right)} = \frac{C-1}{V_m C} \times \frac{P}{P_0} + \frac{1}{V_m C}$$

5 ASSUMPTIONS MADE

Adsorptions only occur on well defined sites

A molecule can act as a single adsorption site for a molecule of the upper layer

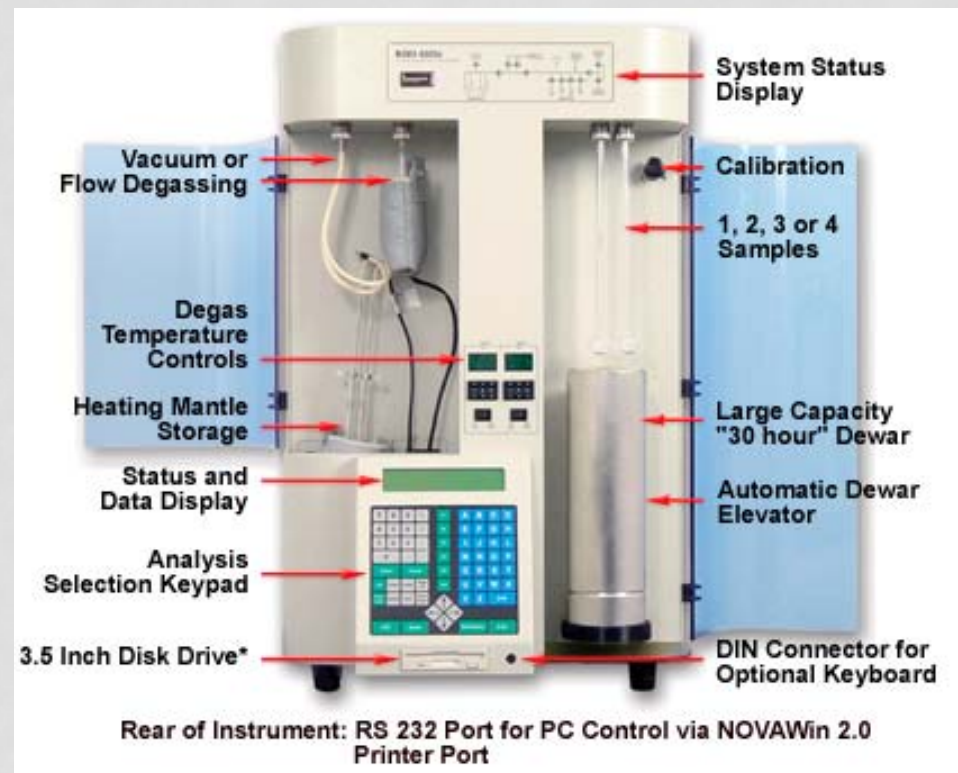
The desorption is a kinetically limited process

The uppermost molecule layer is in equilibrium with the gas layer

At saturation pressure, the molecule number tends to infinity

QUANTACHROME NOVA 2200E SERIES

- Analyzes pore size and surface area
- Affordable
- Small and compact
- Can use any gas as adsorbate
- Calculates BET and Langmuir surface area



<http://www.giangarloscientific.com/graphics/quantachrome/Nova-e-Series.jpg>

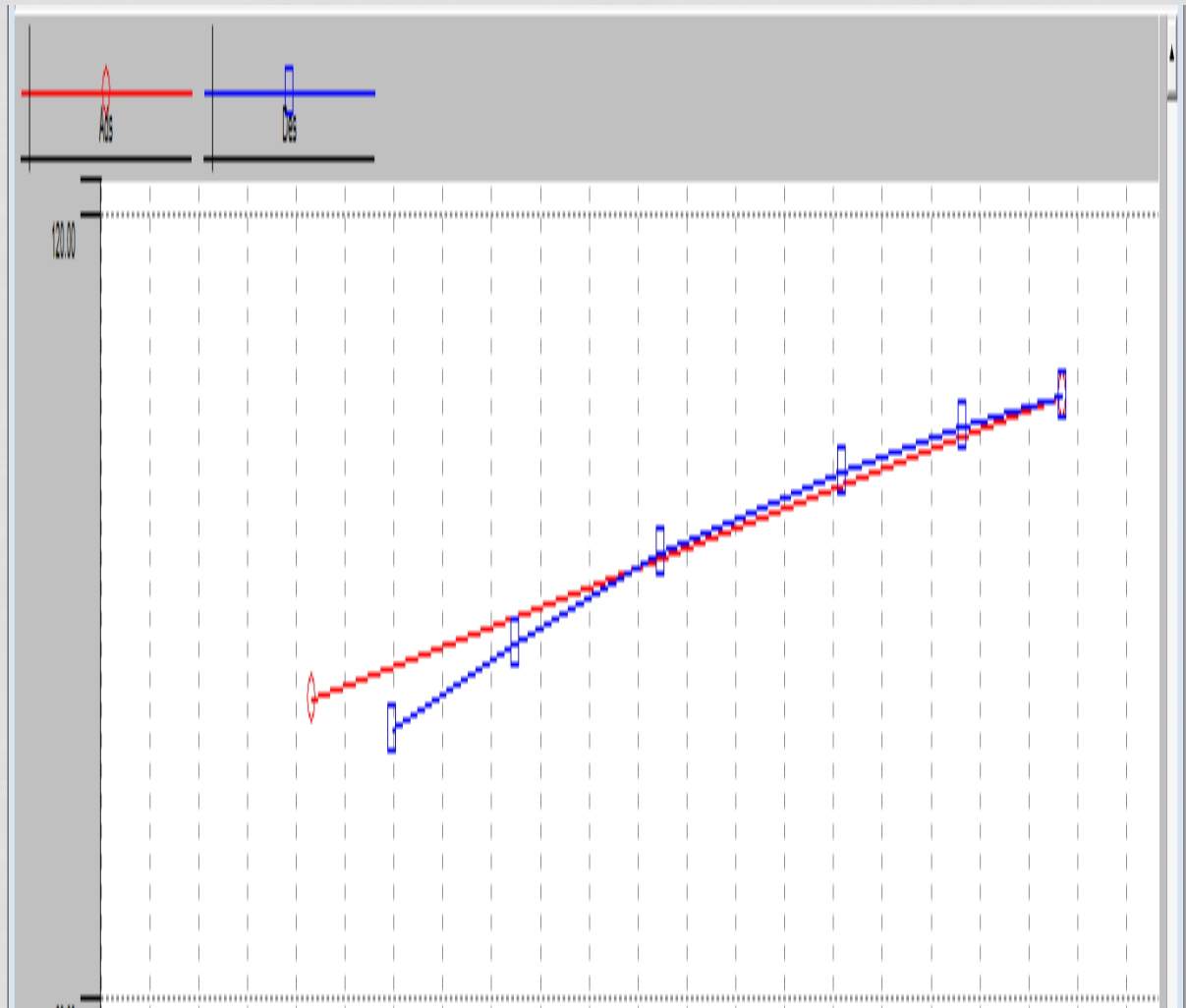
SURFACE AREA RESULTS

Parameters

- Pressure
- Mass of GAC
- Operating time

Results

- Surface Area:
459.989 m²/g



PROJECT FUTURE

- Continue measuring surface area of catalyst using BET Method
- Characterization using SEM and TEM
- Other synthesis techniques



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