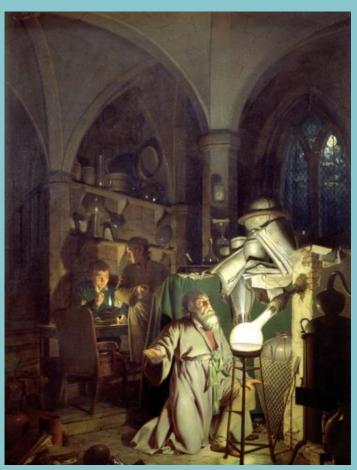
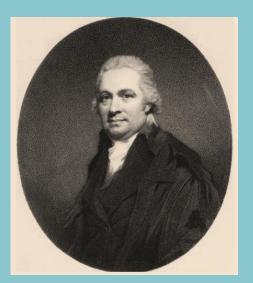
# 'The Discovery of Phosphorus' by Joseph Wright (1734–1797)

## 2. NUTRIENTS AND THEIR PROCESSES



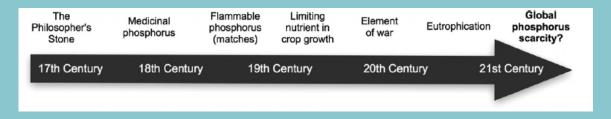
**Alchemist Hennig Brand 1699** 



Nitrogen discovered by Daniel Rutherford in 1772

## Phosphorus (P) ♀

- Phos = light, phorus = bearer (Greek)
- Apatite
  - 79% of mined P used for fertilizers
  - Other industry 11%
  - Food and feed 5%
  - Detergents 3%
  - Other 2%
- Concentration in Earth's crust 0.1%
- Plants 0.3–0.4% DW
- Humans 1.1% (about 700 g ind<sup>-1</sup>)



## FREEMAN'S SYRUP OF PHOSPHORUS.

NATURE'S GREAT BRAIN AND NERVE TONIC, and the most wonderful Blood Purifier ever discovered; cleanses the most vitiated system, and

SUPPLIES NEW AND RICH PURE BLOOD.

FREEMAN'S SYRUP OF PHOSPHORUS. PHOSPHORUS is now acknowledged by the highest medical authorities to be the only cure for Consumption, Wasting Diseases, Mental Depression, Loss of Energy, Stomach and Liver Complaints, and many other dreadful maladies at one time thought incurable.

FREEMAN'S SYRUP OF PHOSPHORUS. THE climax of Chemical discovery, supplying the long-felt want of a perfect cure and reliable Solution of Phosphorus. It is very pleasant to the taste, and may be taken by the most delicately-constituted female or infant. It thoroughly revitalizes the human frame, and

BUILDS UP A NEW AND HEALTHY CONSTITUTION.

FREEMAN'S SYRUP OF

PHOSPHORUS.

INDIGESTION, Constitution, Loss of Energy, Mental Depression, especially when caused by excessive brainwork in general, are quickly and permanently relieved by a few doses of FREEMAN'S SYRUP OF PHOSPHORUS. Highly and confidently recommended

TO ALL WHO ARE ENGAGED IN EXCESSIVE BRAIN-WORK.

FREEMAN'S

SYRUP OF

PHOSPHORUS.

CONSUMPTION and Wasting Diseases, hitherto pronounced incurable, can be cured by a course of FREEMAN'S SYRUP OF PHOSPHORUS. Quickly supplies the system with new, rich, and pure blood, restoring the failing functions of life; the Appetite returns, the long-lost colour once more appears giving a healthful sparkle to the eye, the true sign of a return of Health, Strength and Vitality. No More Cod-Liver Oil.—One dose of FREEMAN'S SYRUP OF PHOSPHORUS is equal to twenty doses of Cod-Liver Oil.

FREEMAN'S SYRUP OF PHOSPHORUS. NONE NOW NEED DESPAIR OF LIFE—With FREEMAN'S SYRUP OF PHOSPHORUS a man may easily add twenty years to his life. Thousands have been snatched from the brink of the grave by an early use of FREEMAN'S SYRUP OF PHOSPHORUS. The most extreme cases need not despair.

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ORDER it of any Chemist. Should there be any difficulty in procuring it from your Chemist, our Special Agents will, upon receipt of Stamps or Post Office Order for the amount, forward it to any part, packed securely.

Sold in Bottles at 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., 11s. and 33s, each, by Chemists and Patent Medicine Dealers.

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## Do we get too much P in diet?

ELSEVIER

NUTRITION RESEARCH 37 (2017) 58-66

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Original Research

Dietary phosphorus intake is negatively associated with bone formation among women and positively associated with some bone traits among men—a cross-sectional study in middle-aged Caucasians



Suvi T. Itkonen<sup>a</sup>, Hannu J. Rita<sup>b</sup>, Elisa M. Saarnio<sup>a</sup>, Virpi E. Kemi<sup>a</sup>, Heini J. Karp<sup>a</sup>, Merja U.M. Kärkkäinen<sup>a</sup>, Minna H. Pekkinen<sup>c</sup>, E. Kalevi Laitinen<sup>d</sup>, Juha Risteli<sup>e,f,g</sup>, Marja-Kaisa Koivula<sup>e,f,g</sup>, Harri Sievänen<sup>h</sup>, Christel J.E. Lamberg-Allardt<sup>a,\*</sup>

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### ARTICLEINFO

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Bone mineral density
Bone turno wer markens
Peripheral quantitative computed
tomography
Cross-sectional study

BSTRACT

Figh dictary phosphonus (f) intake has acute negative effects on cakium (ca) and bone metabolism, but long-term diricted aftst are contradictory. We hypothesized that high P intake is associated with impaired bone health as suggested by earlier short-term studies on bone metabolism. In this cores-excitoral study, we investigated associations between dietary Pintake, bone traits in the ndius and this, and bone turnover in a population-based sample of 57- to 47-year-old Caucusian premenopausal women (n = 373) and men (n = 179) living in Southern Finland (67%). We used various regression models in an "abboration approach" to elucidate the role of F intake in bone traits and turnover. The addition of relevant covariates to the models mainly semoned the significance of F intake as a determinant of bone traits. In the final regression model (F intake, weight, height, age, Ca intake, serum 5-hydroxydramin D, physical activity, smoking, contanceptive use in women). F intake was slightly positively associated only with bone mineral content and cross-sectional cortical bone area in the this of men. Among women, inclusion of Ca removed all existing significance in the crude models for any bone trait. In women F intake was negatively associated with thebone formation maker serum intert pro-collagent type I

http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.nutres.2016.12.009 0271-5317/© 2016 Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved

Abbreviations: 25(bHD, 25-hydroxyvitamin D; aBMD, areal bone mineral density; BMC, bone mineral content; BMD, bone mineral density; Ca, calcium; S-CTX, serum collagen type 1 cross-linked C-terminal telopeptide; CV, coefficient of viatation; S-IPNP, serum intact pro-collagen type 1 animo-terminal propeptide; F, phosphorus; PHF, parathyroid hormone; BMD, bone mineral density.

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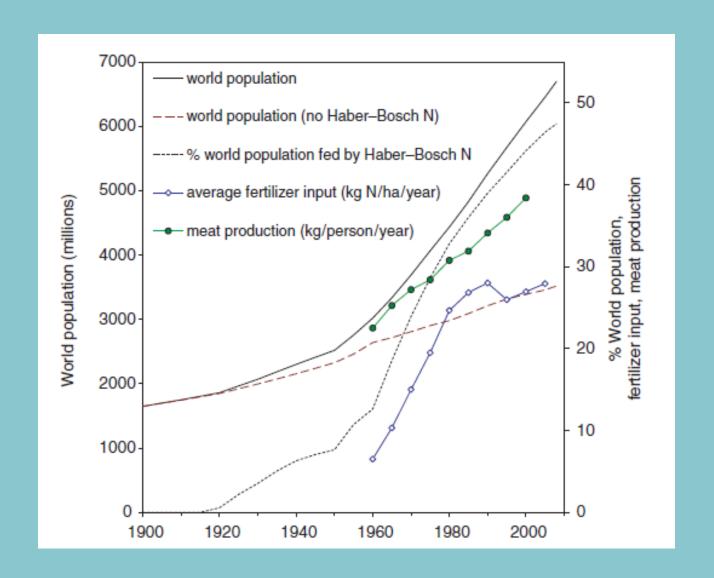
## Nitrogen (N)

- No major geological source
- Concentration in Earth's crust 0.002%
- Synthesis of ammonia (Fritz Haber, Nobel 1918)

$$N_2$$
+ 3  $H_2 \leftrightarrow$  2  $NH_3$ 

- Requires a lot of energy
- Production of 'reactive N'
  - 1860: 15 Tg y<sup>-1</sup> N
  - 1990: 156 Tg y<sup>-1</sup> N
  - More than 100 Tg y<sup>-1</sup> N in fertilizers
- Plants <2% DW</li>
  - Plants take up NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> and NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>
- Humans 2.6 %

## Nitrogen fertilizers and world population



Sutton et al. (2011) 5

## Apatite mineral $Ca_{10}(X)(PO_4)_6$ , $X = 2OH^-$ , $2F^-$ , $2CI^-$ , $CO_3^{2-}$

απατείν (apatein, Greek) = to deceive or to be misleading

### 1. Magmatic apatite

- Russia, Finland, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Brazil
- Weak fertilizer value as such, mycorrhizae can solubilize to small extent
- Finnish (young) soils contain a high concentration of apatite

### 2. Sedimentary apatite

- 80% of production
- USA (Florida), Morocco, China
- Higher reactivity
- Cd, U



Apatity, Russia

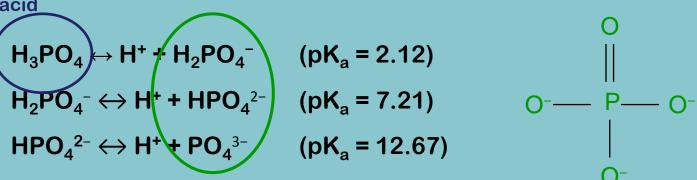


Western Sahara

## Phosphoric acid and its anions

## Orthophosphoric acid

Weak triprotic acid

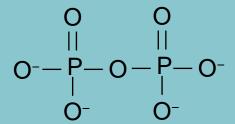


## Anion of phosphoric acid = dissolved orthophosphate

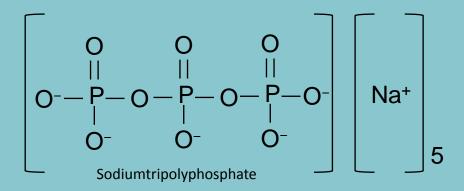
- The only P-compound that ubiquitously can pass the cell wall, that is the only directly available P form
- Highly reactive

## **Other P-compounds**

## Phosphate can be condensed:



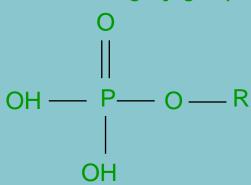
Pyrophosphate



### Form P-C bonds:

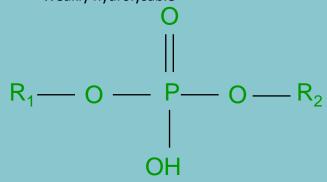
Glyphosate – a phosphonate

### Bind with an organyl group:



Phosphate monoester (P-O-C)

- · E.g. phytic acid
- Weakly hydrolysable

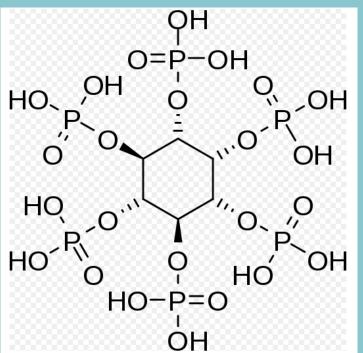


Phosphate diester (C-O-P-O-C)

- E.g. nucleotides and phospholipides
- Easily hydrolysable

## Phytic acid (myo-inositol hexakis phosphoric acid)

- Salts of phytic acid: phytates
- Storage form of P in bran and seeds
- Stable, weakly hydrolysable monoester
- Fungi can exrete phytase and utilise inositol P
- Nonruminants cannot utilise, only rumen microorganism produce phytase
- Can be bound to same sorption sites as orhophosphate

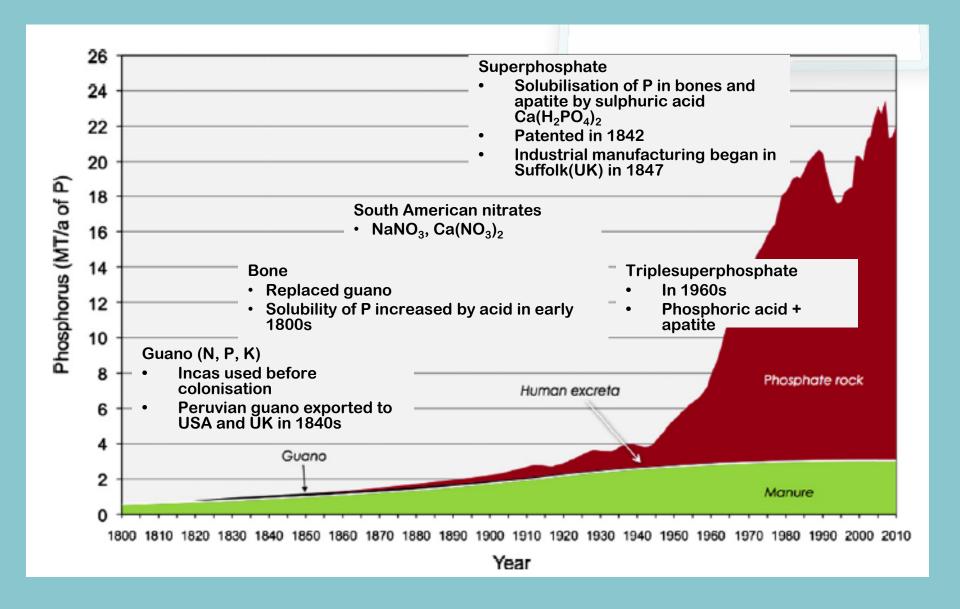


Wikipedia

## Phosphates in detergents

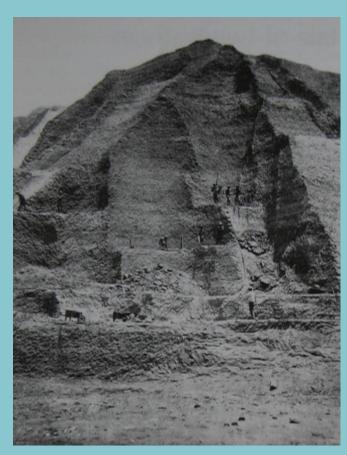
- Sodium tripolyphosphate (Na<sub>5</sub>P<sub>3</sub>O<sub>10</sub>)
  - Chelates Ca<sup>2+</sup> and Mg<sup>2+</sup>, which would react with surfactants, "water softener"
  - Used to be as much as 40% of ingredients
  - Hydrolyses easily to orthophosphate
- EU regulation
  - No phosphate in laundry detergents for consumer use after 30.6.2013
  - No phosphate in dish machine detergents for consumer use after 1.1.2017
- Phosphate replaced by zeolite, citrate, polycarboxylates, phosphonates
- SCOPE Newsletter
  - http://phosphorusplatform.eu/

## Phosphorus fertilizers

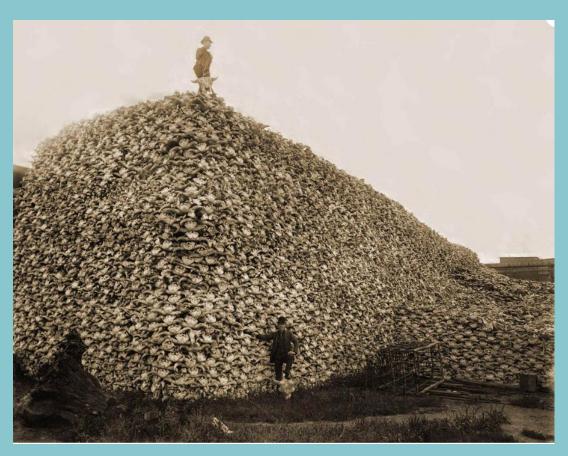


Ashley et al. (2011) 11

## **Ancient P sources**



Guano mine in Peru in about 1860 (Wikipedia)



Skulls of bisons for manufacturing fertilizers in 1870s (https://rarehistoricalphotos.com/bison-skulls-pile-used-fertilizer-1870/)

## **Future P sources?**

- Mineable P reserves will last for 40–400–X years
- China forbade P export in 2008, price of rock P increased by 700%
- EU has defined P as a critical raw material

"Trilemma" (Obersteiner et al. 2013)

- 1. Rich P consumers
  - Use too much P
  - Try to secure import
- 2. Poor and food unsecure P consumers
  - 30% cultivated land suffers from P deficiency
- 3. P producers
  - Known reserves: Morocco 75%, China 6%, Algeria 3.3 %, Syria 2.7 %, South Africa 2.2 %, Russia 1.9%, Jordan 1.9%, USA 1.6% (USGS 2015)
  - Try to control the price of P
  - High price would secure P reserves but cause problems for the developing countries
- P reserves should be known better, P should be used in moderation and recycled

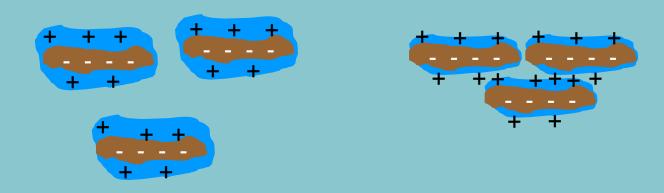
## Siilinjärvi open mine – The only phosphate mine in western Europe

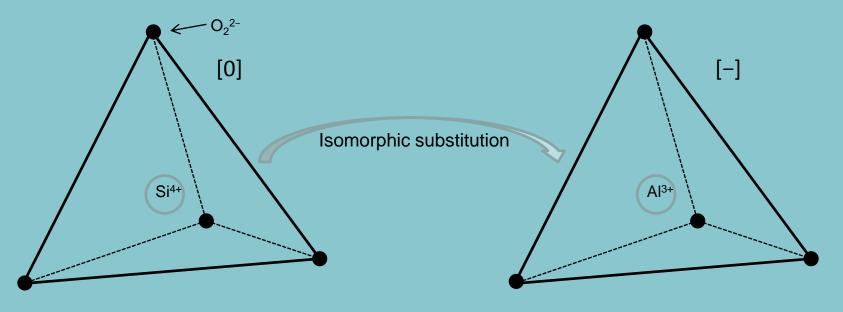


Gypsum heap in Siilinjärvi (CaSO $_4 \cdot 2H_2O$ ) Ca $_5(PO_4)_3X + 5H_2SO_4 + 10H_2O \rightarrow 3H_3PO_4 + 5CaSO_4 \cdot 2H_2O + HX$ 



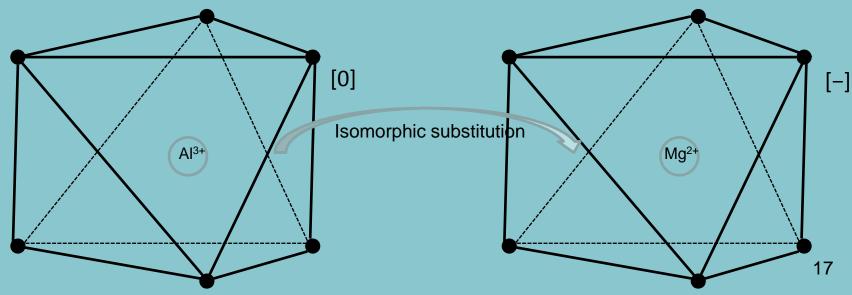
## Soil particles are negatively charged...





Silicon tetrahedron

## ...due to isomorphic substitution



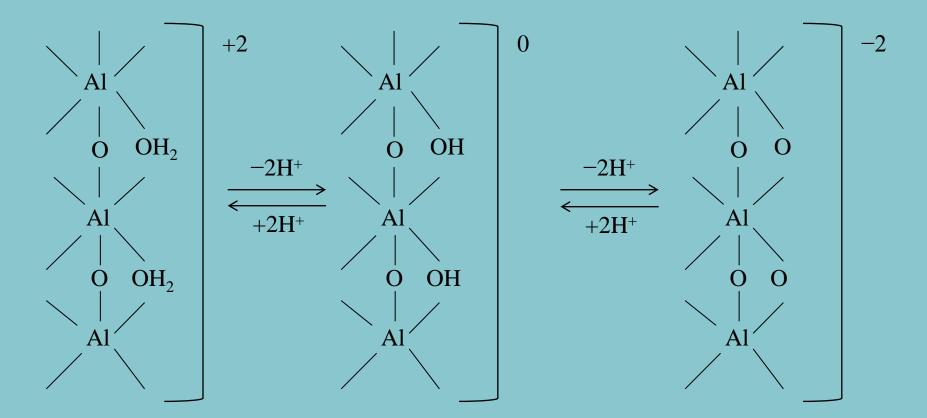
Aluminium octahedron

## Recap I

- What is apatite?
  - $Ca_{10}(X)(PO_4)_6$ , X = 2OH-, 2F-, 2CI-,  $CO_3^{2-}$
- Orthophosphoric acid?
  - $H_3PO_4$
- Dissolved orthophosphate?
  - H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>, HPO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>, PO<sub>4</sub><sup>3-</sup>
- Why it is important?
  - Only P-compound that passes the cell wall
- What is the charge of soil particles?
  - Mostly negative

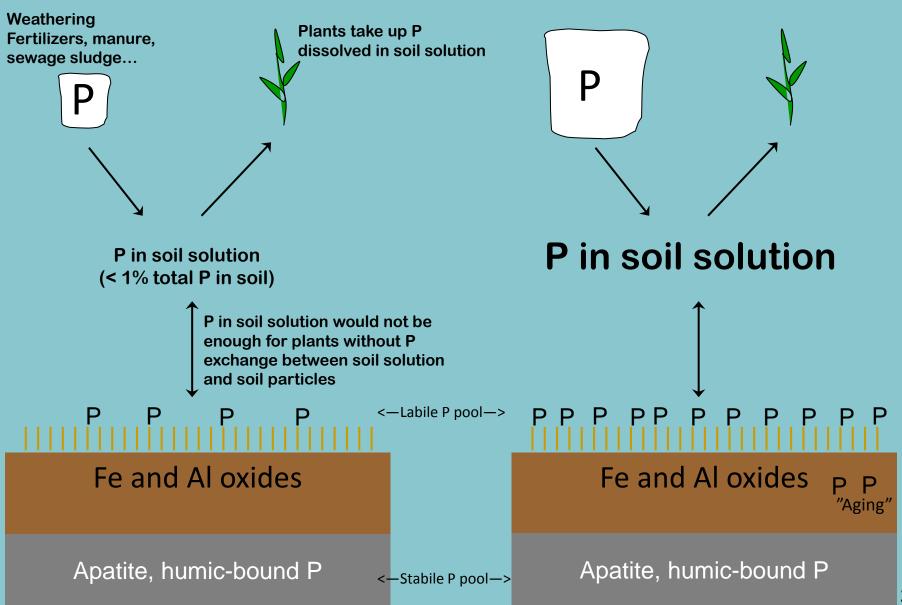
## Iron and aluminium oxides

- Aluminium 3rd commonest element in Earth crust (8%)
- Iron 4th commonest (5%)
- Weathering produces Fe and Al hydroxides, oxyhydroxides, hydrated oxides, poorly crystalline oxides, amorphous oxides, sesquioxides..
- Charge depends on pH, positive at low pH



Picture: Hartikainen (2017, Modified)

## Sorption-desorption reactions



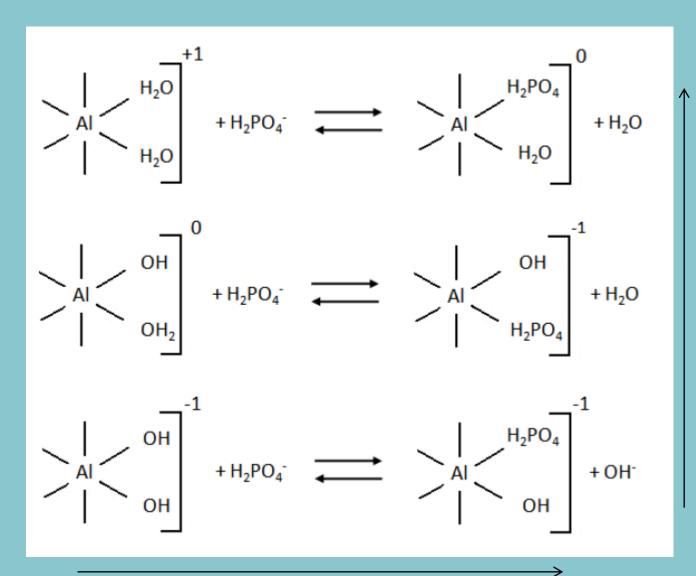
## **Binding of anions**

- An electrostatic repulsion between a negatively charged soil particle and a negatively charged anion
- Unspecific binding
  - Possible to positive surfaces, which only occur in Finland under very acidic conditions
- Spesific binding
  - Spesific ligand exchange reaction (Hingston et al. 1967)
    - Some anions can bind chemically to the central cation of Al and Fe oxides
  - Charge of Al and Fe oxides depend on the pH
  - Anion (e.g. H₂PO₄⁻) replaces H₂O or OH⁻ group and binds by its O₂ to the central cation



Central cation can be compared to H<sup>+</sup>
Acids donate H<sup>+</sup> the more eagerly the stronger the acid
The stronger the acid, the weaker the corresponding base
Weak base does not take H<sup>+</sup> or bind to central cation

## Phosphate binding to Al oxide



With lowering pH the surface charge of oxides

22

Negative charge increases upon binding of an anion -> binding tendency decreases

Picture: Hartikainen (2009)

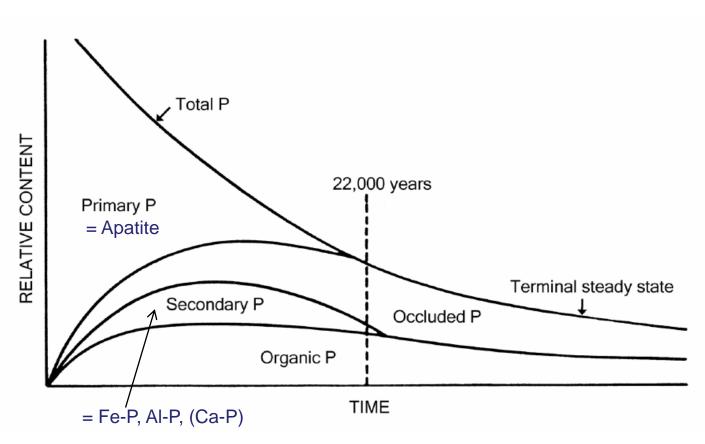
## Sorption desorption reactions are not fully reversible

- Sorption initially fast (min, h), followed by a slow reaction (d)
- Binding may first occur binuclearly, i.e. anion is bound to two central cations
- With the increase in anion saturation, binding becomes monodental and weaker
- In time, binding may become stronger
  - Binding is changed from monodental to bidental
  - Adsorption is followed by absorption (P is diffused into a soil particle)
  - Adsorbed P is covered by Al ja Fe oxides (occlusion)
- In addition to sorption, secondary P minerals may be formed, if concentrations exceed solubility product, e.g. after fertilising

## Characteristics affecting P binding

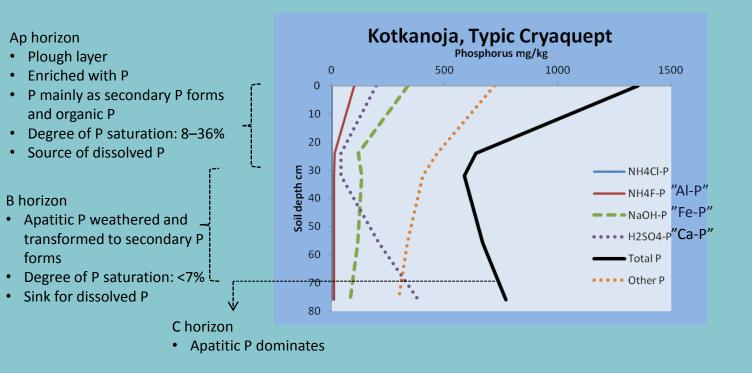
	Sorption promoted	Desorption promoted
Sorptive components	Plenty	Little
Saturation of sorptive componer	nts Low	High
Ionic strength	High	Low
Competing anions	Little	Plenty
рН	Low	High

## Development of soil P reserves over time

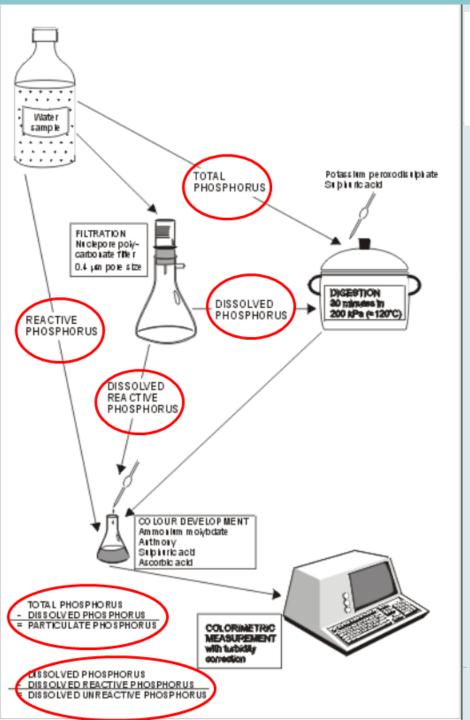


**Figure 1.1** Changes in the amount and composition of soil P over time (Walker and Syers, 1976. © Elsevier, reproduced with permission).

## An example on vertical P stratification in a cultivated soil



Peltovuori (2006)



## Phosphorus determination

## PERUSMÄÄRITYKSET:

- Kokonais-P, Total P (TP, PTOT, Ptot,...)
- Liuennut (kokonais-) P, Total dissolved P (TDP)
- 3. Liuennut reaktiivinen P, *Dissolved* reactive P (DRP, SRP)
- 4. Reaktiivinen P, *Reactive P* (RP)

## LASKENNALLISET JAKEET:

- Hiukkasmainen P, Particulate P (PP)
- Liuennut ei-reaktiivinen P, Dissolved unreactive P (DUP)

## **Operational P forms**

- DRP ≠ dissolved orthophosphate!!
  - In acid conditions labile esters and polyphosphates will be hydrolysed
  - Complexes between phosphate and metals will be degraded
  - Colloidal metal oxides will be dissolved
  - Silicate, germanium and arsenate interfere with the determination

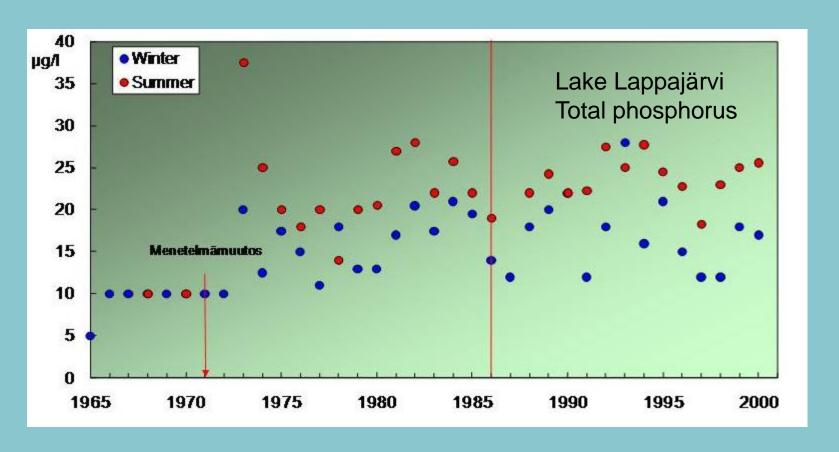
## DUP

- P forms that go through the filter, but require digestion to react with molybdate
- e.g. RNA, DNA, AMP, phospholipids, inositol phosphate

## RP

**–** ?

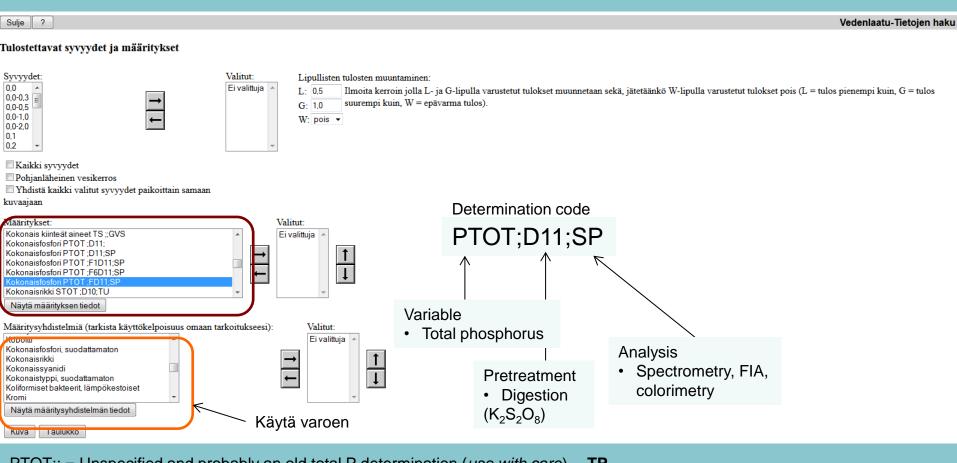
## Changes in the phosphorus determination



- Digestion with sulphuric acid and hydrogen peroxide, reduction with stannochloride
- Larger results (precision 10 μg l<sup>-1</sup>)
- Digestion with peroxodisulfate, molybdenum blue method

- Acidity increased
- Somewhat larger results

## Be careful with the P varieties in HERTTA!



- PTOT;; = Unspecified and probably an old total P determination (<u>use with care</u>)... **TP**PTOT;D11; = Total P determination with a peroxodisulfate digestion (<u>probably OK</u>)... **TP**PTOT;D11;SP = Total P determination with a peroxodisulfate digestion and a spectrometric analysis (<u>OK</u>)... **TP**PTOT;FD11;SP = Dissolved total P, filtered but no information how (<u>use with utmost care</u>)... **TDP**
- PTOT;F1D11;SP = Dissolved total P, filtered through an unspecified membrane with a 0.45 µm pore size (<u>result may be too high</u>)... **TDP**
- PTOT;F6D11;SP = Dissolved total P, filtered through a Nuclepore, polycarbonate membrane with a 0.4 µm pore size (<u>OK</u>)...**TDP**
- PO4P;; = Unspecified phosphate P determination, probably old (<u>use with utmost care</u>)... **RP**
- PO4P;;SP = Unspecified phosphate P determination, probably old (<u>use with utmost care</u>)... **RP?**
- PO4P;F6;SP = Phosphate P analysed from a sample filtered through a Nuclepore polycarbonate membrane, 0.4 µm (OK)... DRP 30

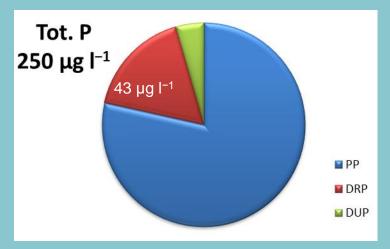
## Difference between phosphorus and nitrogen

	Phosphorus	Nitrogen
Origin	Rock	Atmosphere
Main species	PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>3-</sup> as bound in various ways	NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> Organic N
Binding	Onto surfaces	Organic matter NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> on surfaces
Redox sensivity	No	Yes
Directly available forms	H <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup> , HPO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> , PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>3-</sup>	NO <sub>3</sub> -N NH <sub>4</sub> -N Low molecular weight organic compounds
Losses are governed by	Sorption-desorption reactions, i.e. 'chemistry'	Mineralisation, i.e. '[micro]biology'
Is transported as	With soil particles and in a dissolved form Surface runoff, drainage flow	Mainly in a dissolved form Especially in drainage flow Atmospheric deposition

## Phosphorus forms in two agricultural rivers in Finland

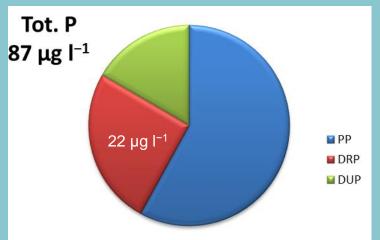
The Paimionjoki

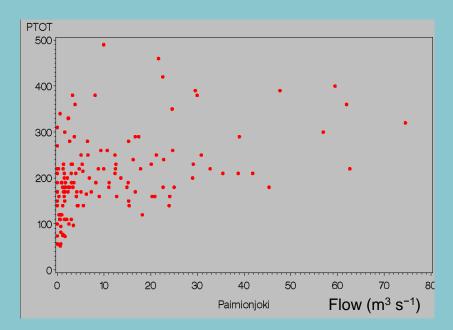
Field percentage 43, of which 12% grassland, Clayey soil

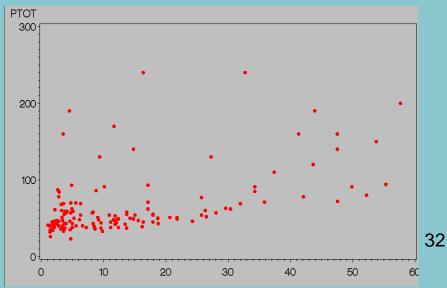


## The Lestijoki

Field-% 11, of which 31% grassland, coarse mineral and organic soils



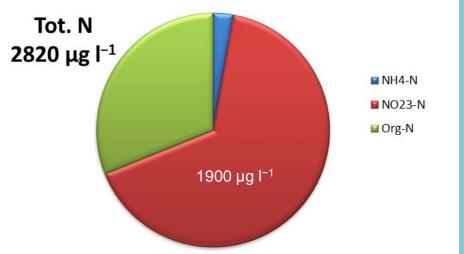


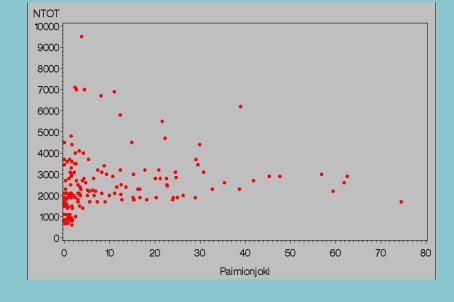


## Nitrogen forms in two agricultural rivers in Finland

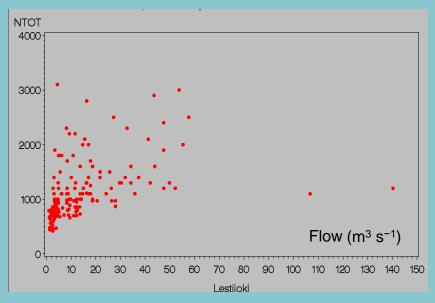
## The Paimionjoki

Field percentage 43, of which 12% grassland, Clayey soil





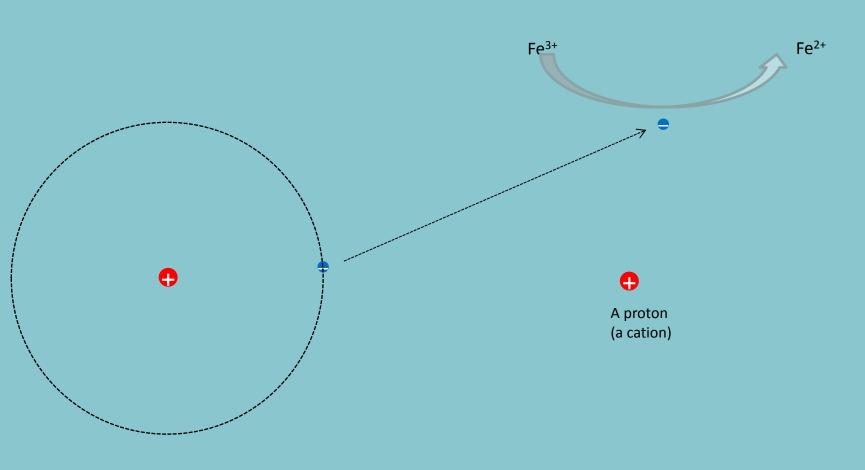
## The Lestijoki Field-% 11, of which 31% grassland, coarse mineral and organic soils Tot. N 1410 µg l<sup>-1</sup> NO23-N Org-N



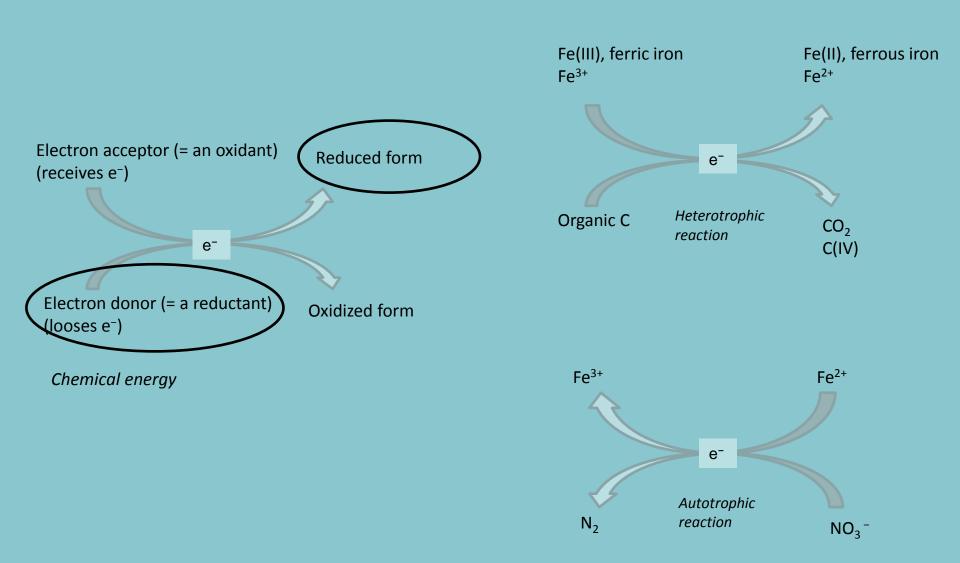
## Recap II

- What happens to the surface charge of AI and Fe oxides when pH increases?
  - It becomes more negative
- Is NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> attached to Al and Fe oxides?
  - No
- Does an increase in pH promote sorption or desorption of dissolved orthophoshate?
  - Desorption
- What about an increase in ionic strenght?
  - Promotes sorption
- Is dissolved reactive P = dissolved orthophosphate?
  - No
- What is the dominant P fraction in agricultural rivers?
  - Particulate P
- What is the dominant N fraction in agricultural rivers?
  - $NO_3-N$

## **Back to school**



"The chemistry of life, however, is based on redox reactions, i.e., successive transfers of electrons and protons from a relatively limited set of chemical elements." (Falkowski et al. 2008)



Burgin et al. (2011)

## Mineralisation pathways



## Primary production (CH<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>106</sub>(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>16</sub>(H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>)

### Aerobic mineralisation(23%)\*

$$\mathbf{0_2} + \frac{1}{2} C_2 H_3 O_2^- \rightarrow HC \mathbf{0_3}^- + \frac{1}{2} H^+$$

 $C_2H_3O_2^-$  = acetate = electron donor

### Denitrification (5%)\*

$$\frac{4}{5}$$
 NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>(I) +  $\frac{3}{5}$  H<sup>+</sup> +  $\frac{1}{2}$  C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>  $\rightarrow \frac{2}{5}$  N<sub>2</sub>(g) + HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> +  $\frac{1}{5}$  H<sub>2</sub>O

### **Manganese reduction**

$$^{7}/_{2}H^{+} + 2MnO_{2}(s) + ^{1}/_{2}C_{2}H_{3}O_{2}^{-} \rightarrow 2Mn^{2+}(l) + HCO_{3}^{-} + 2H_{2}O$$

### Iron reduction(17%)\*

$$^{15}/_{2} H^{+} + 4$$
**FeOOH** (**s**)  $+ ^{1}/_{2} C_{2} H_{3} O_{2}^{-} \rightarrow HCO_{3}^{-} + 4$ **Fe<sup>2+</sup>**(**l**)  $+ 6H_{2}O$ 

### Sulfate reduction (55%)\*

$$^{1}/_{2}H^{+} + ^{1}/_{2}SO_{4}^{2-}(I) + ^{1}/_{2}C_{2}H_{3}O_{2}^{-} \rightarrow ^{1}/_{2}H_{2}S(g) + HCO_{3}^{-}$$

### Methane

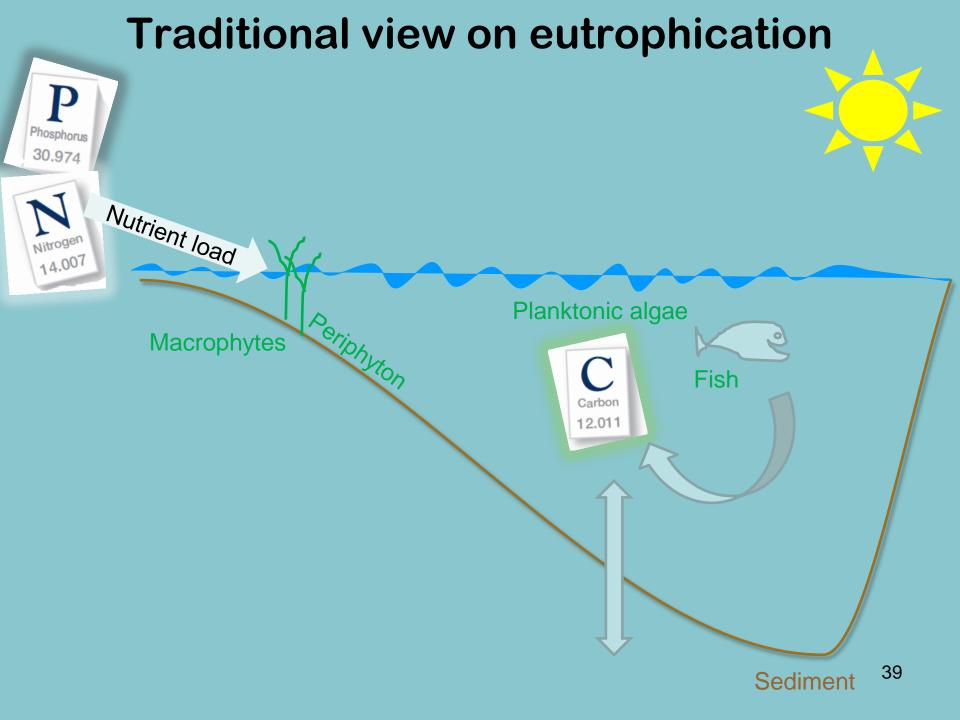
$$^{1}/_{2} H_{2}O + ^{1}/_{2} C_{2}H_{3}O_{2}^{-} \rightarrow CH_{4} + ^{1}/_{2} HCO_{3}^{-}$$

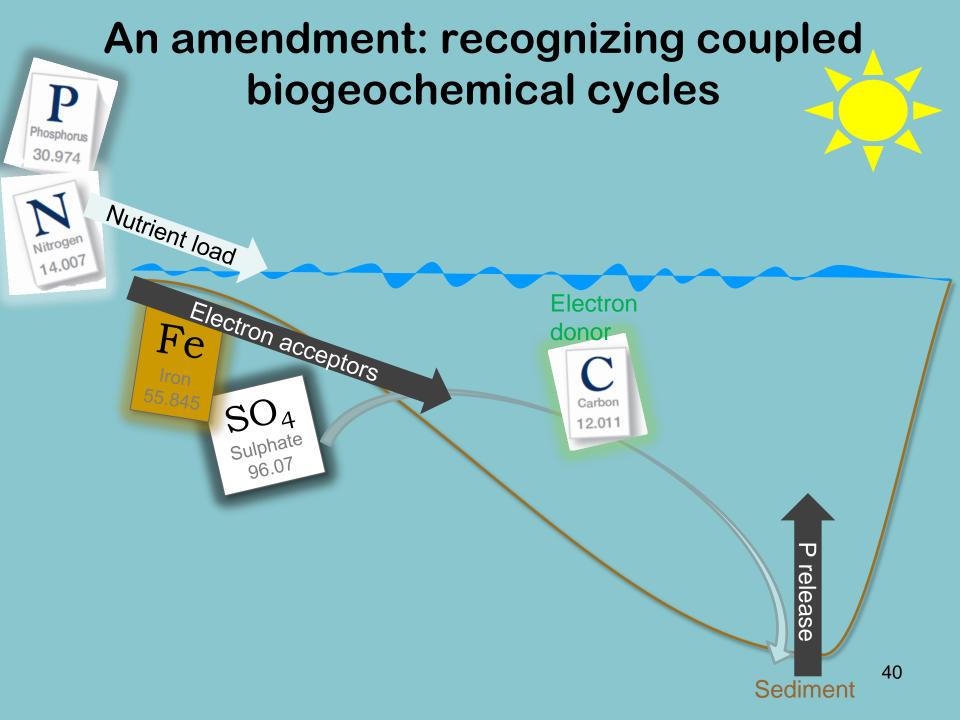
## Iron, the most abundant redox-sensitive metal



Oxidation of iron (chemically or microbiologically)

$$4 \, \text{Fe}^{2+} + \text{O}_2 + 4 \, \text{H}^+ \rightarrow 4 \, \text{Fe}^{3+} + 2 \, \text{H}_2 \text{O}$$

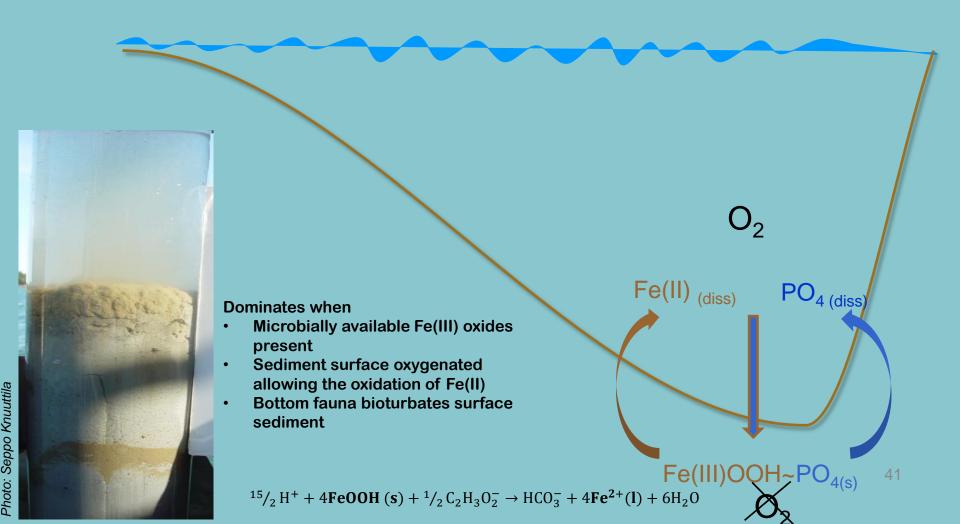




## P release from sediments

1. Prevalence of microbial Fe reduction and a coupled Fe and P cycling

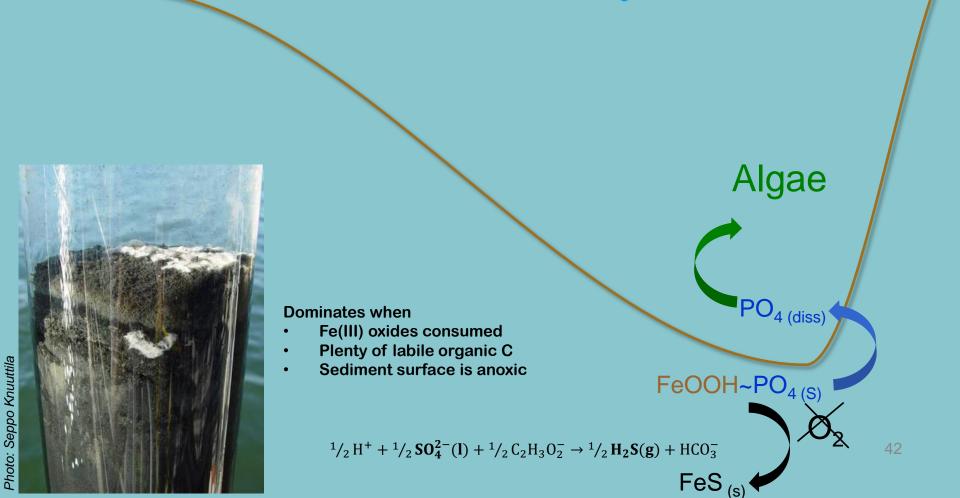


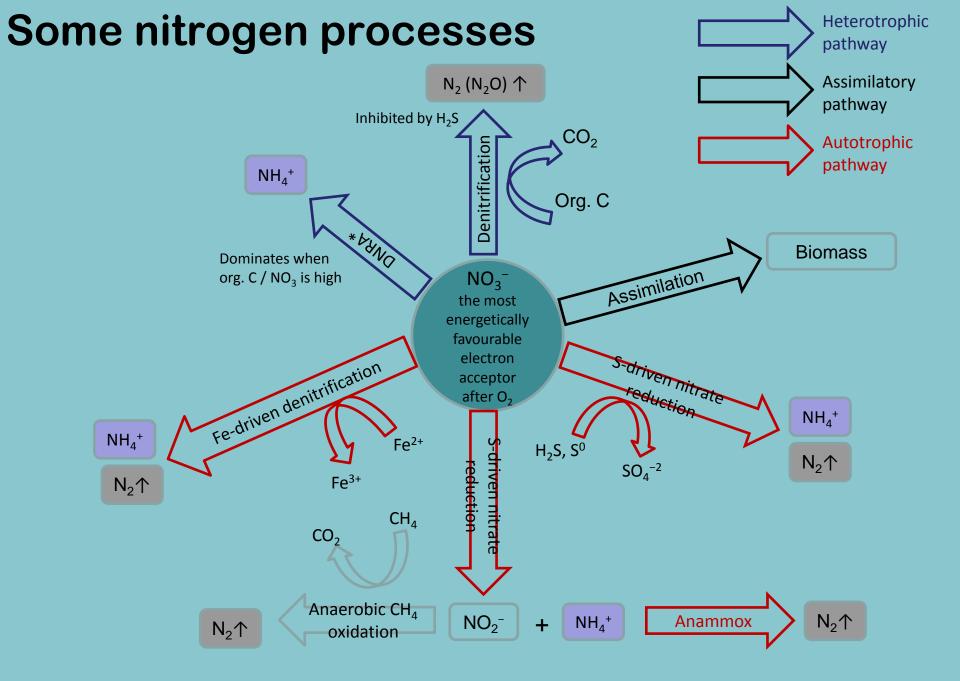


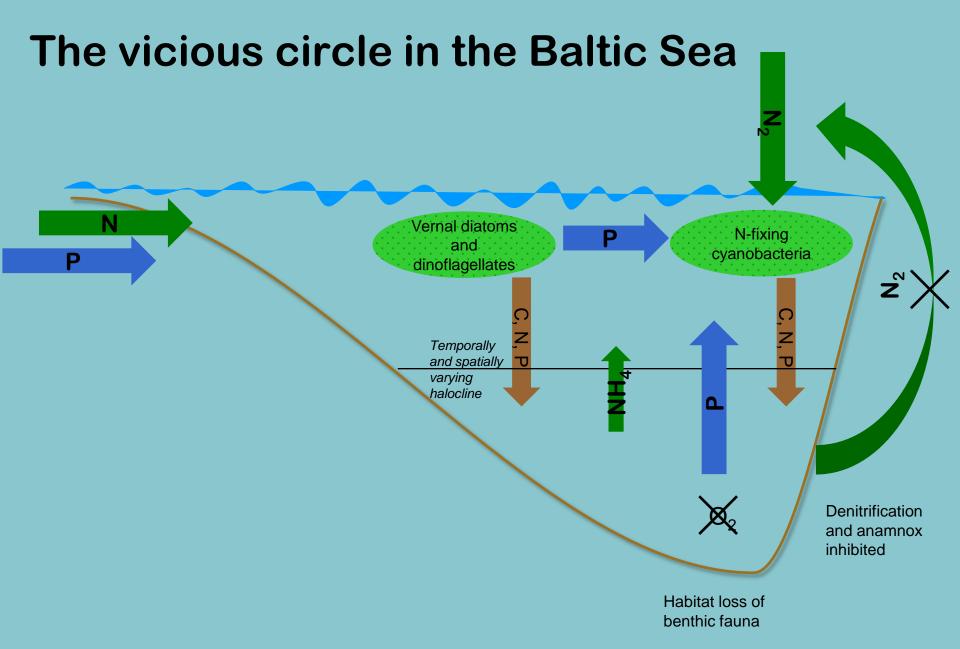
## P release from marine sediments

2. Prevalence of microbial SO<sub>4</sub> reduction and an uncoupled Fe and P cycling









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