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## ► To cite this version:

Vincent Tesson, Pierre Renault. Reversible immobilization and irreversible removal of viruses in soils or mixtures of soil materials; an open data set enriched with a short review of main trends. 2017. hal-01655017

**HAL Id: hal-01655017**

**<https://hal.science/hal-01655017>**

Preprint submitted on 4 Dec 2017

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# Reversible immobilization and irreversible removal of viruses in soils or mixtures of soil materials; an open data set enriched with a short review of main trends

Tesson V., Renault P. ✉

*INRA, UMR 1114 EMMAH, CS 40509, 84914 Avignon Cedex 9, France*

✉ Pierre Renault

[pierre.renault@inra.fr](mailto:pierre.renault@inra.fr)

## I. Introduction

Human enteric viruses brought to the soil by contaminated irrigation water can reach and contaminate plant or groundwater while remaining fully infective for weeks, and then cause waterborne and foodborne diseases. However, virus immobilization or inactivation within the soil may delay or prevent their transfer. In order to better assess those processes and the resulting sanitary hazards, models have been published. In this paper, we collected data from about 27 papers dealing simultaneously with reversible immobilization of viruses within the soil or in (mixtures of) soil material(s) (clay, sand ...) and irreversible virus removal, without always being able to distinguish between virus destruction and irreversible immobilization.

## II. Reversible virus immobilisation

Some models distinguish kinetic reversible immobilization of free viruses in soil solution, from their kinetic remobilization:

$$\Phi_a = k_{a-r} \times \rho_b \times C_i \quad (1a)$$

$$\Phi_d = k_{d-r} \times \rho_b \times S_r \quad (1b)$$

where  $\Phi_a$  and  $\Phi_d$  are the adsorption and desorption fluxes of viruses per volume of bulk soil, respectively ( $\text{mol day}^{-1} \text{ ml}^{-1}$ ),  $\rho_b$  the bulk density of aggregates ( $\text{g ml}^{-1}$ ),  $C_i$  the concentration of free viruses in soil solution ( $\text{virus ml}^{-1}$ ),  $S_r$  the concentration of reversibly adsorbed viruses ( $\text{virus g}^{-1}$ ),  $k_{a-r}$  the coefficient for reversible adsorption on soil solids ( $\text{ml g}^{-1} \text{ day}^{-1}$ ), and  $k_{d-r}$  the coefficient for desorption of reversibly adsorbed viruses ( $\text{day}^{-1}$ ).

For high  $k_{a-r}$  and  $k_{d-r}$  values and for a constant  $k_{a-r}$ -to- $k_{d-r}$  ratio,  $C_i$  and  $S_r$  satisfy the following equilibrium:

$$\frac{S_r}{C_i} = \frac{k_{a-r}}{k_{d-r}} = k_D \quad (2)$$

where  $k_D$  is the partition coefficient ( $\text{ml g}^{-1}$ ). The adsorbed virus concentration  $S_r$  is then proportional to the concentration of free viruses suspended in water  $C_i$ . Equation (2) may be expressed in decimal logarithms:

$$\log(S_r) = \log(k_D) + \log(C_i) \quad (3)$$

Because this assumption is not valid when adsorption sites differ from each other and/or adsorption cannot exceed a maximum, other mathematical formalisms have been proposed.

Freundlich isotherm corresponds to the following relationship between  $C_i$  and  $S_r$ :

$$S_r = k_F \times C_i^{\frac{1}{n_F}} \quad (4)$$

where  $n_F$  is a parameter that indirectly describes the deviation from the proportional model involving  $k_D$  partition coefficient, and  $k_F$  a proportionality parameter. Equation (4) is often expressed in decimal logarithms:

$$\log(S_r) = \log(k_F) + \frac{1}{n_F} \times \log(C_i) \quad (5)$$

As in the  $k_D$  partition model, there is no maximum adsorption limit in the Freundlich isotherm model.

Langmuir isotherm corresponds to the following relationship between  $C_i$  and  $S_r$ :

$$S_r = S_{max-r} \times \left( \frac{C_i}{\beta + C_i} \right) \quad (6)$$

where  $S_{max-r}$  is the maximal concentration of reversibly adsorbed viruses (virus g<sup>-1</sup>), and  $\beta$  the concentration of free viruses in soil solution (virus ml<sup>-1</sup>) that leads to half of the reversible adsorption sites occupied. Equation (6) may be expressed in decimal logarithms:

$$\log(S_r) = \log(S_{max-r}) + \log\left(\frac{C_i}{\beta + C_i}\right) \quad (7)$$

Main features of the models and the corresponding parameter values are reported in Tables 1 and 2. In Figure 1, adsorbed virus concentrations  $S_r$  are represented as a function of free virus concentrations  $C_i$  in soil solution. In Figure 2, the estimated  $S_r$  values for  $C_i=10^4$  virus ml<sup>-1</sup> are represented as a function of soil clay content.

44%, 28%, 36% and 4% of the publications mentioned in this paper employed the kinetic model, the  $k_D$  partition model, Freundlich isotherm and/or Langmuir isotherm, respectively; three of the publications compared two of these models (Table 1). For a fixed concentration of free viruses in soil solution (e.g.  $10^4$  virus ml<sup>-1</sup>), deviation between minimum and maximum concentration of reversibly adsorbed viruses is about  $6 \log_{10}$  (see Figures 1 and 2). Most Freundlich isotherms use a  $n_F$  value very close to 1, making these isotherms *de facto* close to the  $k_D$  partition model. Due to the various forces involved in virus adsorption, it is difficult to highlight obvious relationships between variables.

**Table 1:** Main features of reversible immobilization models retained in published papers.

References	Reversible adsorption				Irreversible adsorption	
	Kinetic approach	K <sub>D</sub> partition coefficient	Freundlich isotherm	Langmuir isotherm	From soil solution	From reversibly adsorbed pool
Burge & Enkiri (1978)			●			●
LaBelle & Gerba (1979)			●		●	
Vilker & Burge (1980)				●	●	
Moore et al. (1981)			●			●
Tim & Mostaghimi (1991) with experimental results from Lance & Gerba (1984)	●	●				●
Yates & Ouyang (1992) with experimental results from Grosser (1985); Unga <i>et al.</i> (1985); Grondin (1987); Yates <i>et al.</i> (1988); Bales <i>et al.</i> (1989); Ouyang (1990)		●			●	
Grant et al. (1993)	●			●		●
Powelson & Gerba (1994)		●	●		●	
Dowd et al. (1998)	●	●			●	
Thompson et al. (1998)			●			●
Sim & Chrysikopoulos (1999) with experimental results from Hurst et al. (1980)		●			●	
Gantzer et al. (2001)			●		●	
Schijven & Šimůnek (2002) with experimental results from Schijven <i>et al.</i> (1999, 2000)	●				●	
Flynn et al. (2004)	●				●	
Torkzaban et al. (2006)		●			●	
Cheng et al. (2007)		●			●	
Zhao et al. (2008)			●		●	
Zhuang & Jin (2008)		●			●	
Anders & Chrysikopoulos (2009)		●			●	
Cao et al. (2010)	●					●
Syngouna & Chrysikopoulos (2010)		●			●	
Chrysikopoulos & Syngouna (2012)			●		●	
Sadeghi et al. (2013)	●					●
Chrysikopoulos & Aravantinou (2014)			●		●	
Mayotte et al. (2017)	●					●
Sasidharan et al. (2017)		●			●	
Our upcoming study			●			●

**Table 2:** Parameter values used in published reversible immobilization models.

References	Soil type	Virus species	Conc. range or punctual value (log <sub>10</sub> virus ml <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>a</sup>	$K_d$ (ml g <sup>-1</sup> )	Kinetic approach		Freundlich isotherm		Langmuir isotherm	
					$k_{att}$ (h <sup>-1</sup> )	$k_{det}$ (h <sup>-1</sup> )	$K_F$	$n_F$	$S_r$	$\beta$
Chrysikopoulos & Aravantinou (2014)	Quartz sand	Φ174	3-8				1.55	1.15		
							2.57	1.10		
							1.15	1.05		
							0.14	0.97		
							0.52	1.09		
							0.79	1.18		
							0.3	1.08		
							0.52	1.16		
		MS2	3-8				0.63	1.06		
							2.06	1.18		
							3.54	1.41		
							3.55	1.16		
							1.54	1.04		
							2.22	1.18		
							8.51	1.18		
							0.57	1.16		
							2.12	1.33		
							3.08	1.27		
Chrysikopoulos & Syngouna (2012)	Kaolinite	Φ174	3-9				2260	1.00		
		MS2	3-9				758	0.89		
	Montmorillonite	Φ174	3-9				271	1.08		
		MS2	3-9				4340	0.94		
Thompson <i>et al.</i> (1998)	Loamy sand	Φ174	2-7				2.89	1.09		
		MS2	2-7				1.01	1.16		
	Sandy loam	Φ174	2-7				0.076	0.99		
		MS2	2-7				6.52	1.02		
		MS2	2-7				10.99	1.06		
	Sand	Φ174	2-7				0.437	1.01		
		MS2	2-7				0.44	0.99		
LaBelle & Gerba (1979)	Sediments	Echo 1	4-5				10 <sup>4.77</sup>	1.24		
		PV1	4-5				10 <sup>5.42</sup>	3.45		

References	Soil type	Virus species	Conc. range or punctual value (log <sub>10</sub> virus ml <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>a</sup>	K <sub>d</sub> (ml g <sup>-1</sup> )	Kinetic approach		Freundlich isotherm		Langmuir isotherm	
					k <sub>att</sub> (h <sup>-1</sup> )	k <sub>det</sub> (h <sup>-1</sup> )	K <sub>F</sub>	n <sub>F</sub>	S <sub>r</sub>	β
Cao <i>et al.</i> (2010)	Sandy soil	MS2	2.5		0.06	6000				
					0.06	10 <sup>12.78</sup>				
					1.20	12.00				
					16.14	46.38				
					22.56	56.64				
					16.62	54.24				
					15.24	28.80				
					0.06	6000				
					0.06	10 <sup>12.78</sup>				
					3.48	43.62				
					4.62	13.26				
					5.76	32.76				
					6.18	52.32				
					7.32	24.06				
Zhao <i>et al.</i> (2008)	Loam	MS2	2-7				0.228	0.96		
							1.016	0.97		
Sasidharan <i>et al.</i> (2017)	Quartz sand	Φ174	6.7		0.02	0.04				
					0.07	0.02				
					0.07	0.06				
					0.07	0.02				
					0.16	0.06				
		PRD1	6.7		0.02	0.03				
					0.38	0.10				
					0.33	0.09				
Dowd <i>et al.</i> (1998)	Aquifer sand	MS2	9.3		19.08	3.96				
		PRD1	10.5		19.44	4.32				
		Qβ	4.8		24.48	1.44				
		φ 174	6.3		10.44	5.40				
		PM2	7.2		8.64	0.72				

References	Soil type	Virus species	Conc. range or punctual value (log <sub>10</sub> virus ml <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>a</sup>	K <sub>d</sub> (ml g <sup>-1</sup> )	Kinetic approach		Freundlich isotherm		Langmuir isotherm	
					k <sub>att</sub> (h <sup>-1</sup> )	k <sub>det</sub> (h <sup>-1</sup> )	K <sub>F</sub>	n <sub>F</sub>	S <sub>r max</sub>	β
Burge & Enkiri (1978)	Clay loam	Φ174	2-7				72.5	1.06		
							4.61	1.09		
	Silt loam	Φ174	2-7				161	1.10		
							45.7	0.81		
Moore <i>et al.</i> (1981)	Ottawa sand	PV	8-9				0.631	0.83		
Vilker & Burge (1980)	Kranzburg soil	Φ 174	4.2-7.2						10 <sup>8.32</sup>	10 <sup>10.30</sup>
			7.1-10.5						10 <sup>8.28</sup>	10 <sup>10.98</sup>
Powelson & Gerba (1994)	Sandy alluvium	PV	3-6	160.0						
		MS2	3-6	3.70						
		PRD1	3-6	16.00						
Schijven & Šimůnek (2002) with experimental results from Schijven <i>et al.</i> (1999, 2000)	Dune sand	MS2	7.9		0.17	10 <sup>-4.44</sup>				
					0.13	10 <sup>-4.18</sup>				
					0.12	10 <sup>-3.97</sup>				
					0.08	10 <sup>-4.12</sup>				
					0.05	10 <sup>-4.66</sup>				
					0.03	10 <sup>-3.90</sup>				
					0.17	10 <sup>-4.49</sup>				
					0.13	10 <sup>-4.34</sup>				
		PRD1	7		0.09	10 <sup>-4.12</sup>				
					0.06	10 <sup>-3.98</sup>				
					0.05	10 <sup>-4.06</sup>				
					0.03	10 <sup>-3.85</sup>				
Sim & Chrysikopoulos (1999) with experimental results from Hurst <i>et al.</i> (1980)	Loamy sand	PV1	4	0.087						

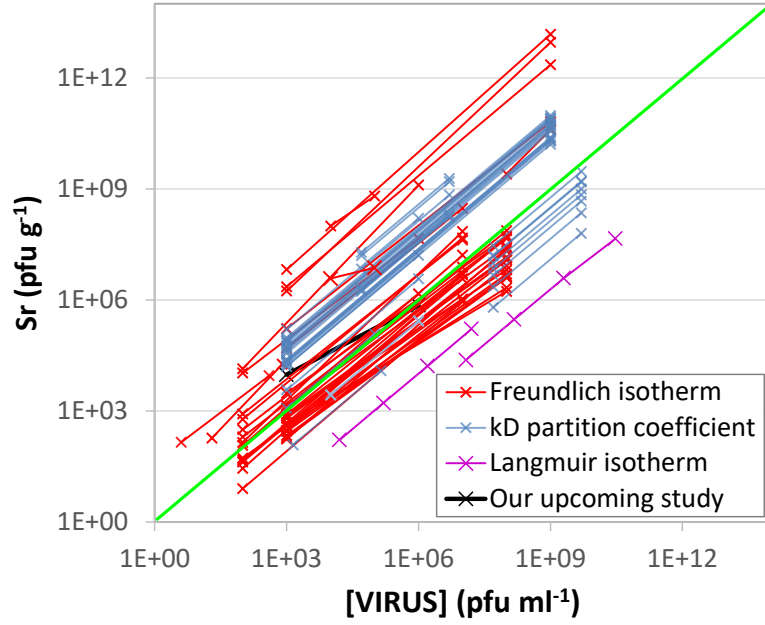
References	Soil type	Virus species	Conc. range or punctual value (log <sub>10</sub> virus ml <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>a</sup>	$K_d$ (ml g <sup>-1</sup> )	Kinetic approach		Freundlich isotherm		Langmuir isotherm	
					$k_{att}$ (h <sup>-1</sup> )	$k_{det}$ (h <sup>-1</sup> )	$K_F$	$n_F$	$S_r$	$\beta$
Syngouna & Chrysikopoulos 2010)	Kaolinite	Φ174	3-9	16.00						
				36.00						
				21.00						
				24.00						
	Montmorillonite	MS2	3-9	78.00						
				68.00						
				19.00						
				21.00						
Tim & Mostaghimi (1991) with experimental results from Lance & Gerba (1984)	Loamy sand	PV1	4	1200						
Cheng <i>et al.</i> (2007)	Sand	MS2	6-9		0.91	0.06				
					0.29	0.01				
					0.35	0.003				
					0.64	0.01				
					0.53	0.01				
Mayotte <i>et al.</i> (2017)	River sand	MS2	8.04-8.34		0.46	0.14				
					0.24	0.21				
					2.08	10 <sup>-5.08</sup>				
					0.72	0.13				



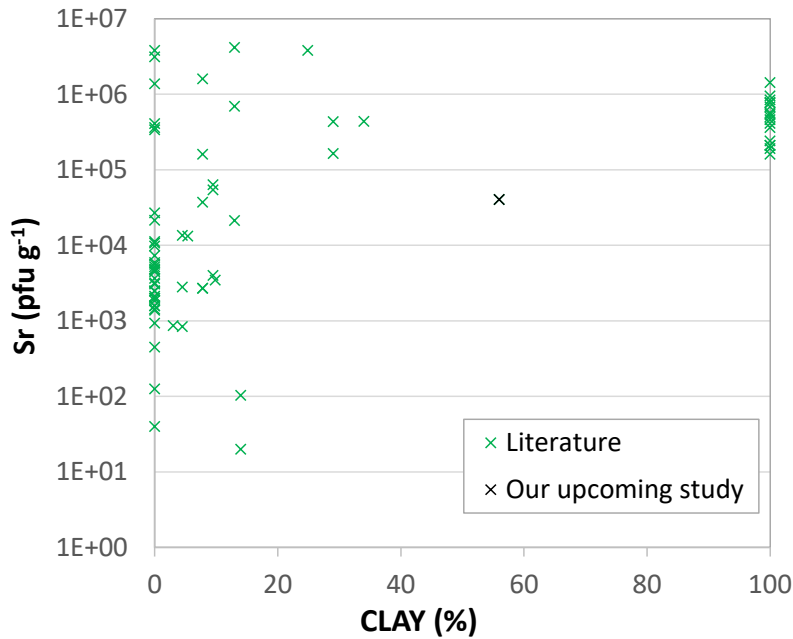
References	Soil type	Virus species	Conc. range or punctual value (log <sub>10</sub> virus ml <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>a</sup>	$K_d$ (ml g <sup>-1</sup> )	Kinetic approach		Freundlich isotherm		Langmuir isotherm	
					$k_{att}$ (h <sup>-1</sup> )	$k_{det}$ (h <sup>-1</sup> )	$K_F$	$n_F$	$S_r$	$\beta$
Flynn <i>et al.</i> (2004)	Fresh kappelen sands	H 40/1	2.6		10 <sup>4.06</sup>	-				
	Quartz sands	H 40/1	2.6		7290	-				
	Granitic sands	H 40/1	2.6		1800	-				
	Quartz-calcite mixture	H 40/1	2.6		3480	-				
	Reused kappelen sands	H 40/1	2.6		1080	-				
	Washed kappelen sands	H 40/1	2.6		10 <sup>4.41</sup>	-				
	Acid-digested sands	H 40/1	2.6		960	-				
Sadeghi <i>et al.</i> (2013)	Quartz sand	PRD1	4.5-5.2		0.19	0.026				
					0.086	0				
					0.21	0.014				
					1.20	10 <sup>-2.85</sup>				
					0.59	10 <sup>-4.57</sup>				
					1.10	10 <sup>-3.43</sup>				
					0.74	10 <sup>-3.04</sup>				
					2.10	10 <sup>-2.44</sup>				
Gantzer <i>et al.</i> (2001)	Cultivated soil	Coli-phages	1.3-2.9				4.34	0.80		
		F-RNA phages	0.6-2.6				40.74	1.11		

References	Soil type	Virus species	Conc. range or punctual value (log <sub>10</sub> virus ml <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>a</sup>	$K_d$ (ml g <sup>-1</sup> )	Kinetic approach		Freundlich isotherm		Langmuir isotherm	
					$k_{att}$ (h <sup>-1</sup> )	$k_{det}$ (h <sup>-1</sup> )	$K_F$	$n_F$	$S_r$	$\beta$
Torkzaban <i>et al.</i> (2006)	Quartz sand	MS2	6		6.00	2820				
					7.80	1800				
					6.00	1200				
					30.00	1320				
					48.00	1500				
					222	1.80				
					306	0.60				
		Φ 174	6		384	0.60				
					25.80	1500				
					49.20	420.00				
					492	84.00				
					780	90.00				
					900	102				
Anders & Chrysikopoulos (2009)	Monterey sand	MS2	5.74		33.72					
					380.9					
					136.7					
		PRD1	5.74		36.17					
					311.9					
					40.75					
Zhuang et al 2008	Goethite-sand mixture	φ 174	8.7		0.319					
					0.138					
					0.093					
					0.197					
		MS2	8.7		0.045					
					0.306					
					0.013					
					0.588					
Our upcoming study	Calcaric phaeozem	MNV	3-6				127.6	1.60		

<sup>a</sup> Virus concentration in our study are expressed in genomic copies per ml (GC ml<sup>-1</sup>)



**Figure 1:** Published relationships between adsorbed virus concentrations  $S_r$  and free virus concentrations  $C_i$  in soil solution. Curves were plotted either in the given range of virus concentrations  $C_i$ , or when a unique  $C_i$  was experimented (especially for  $k_D$  partition models), between one tenth and ten times this value.



**Figure 2:** Relationships between reversibly adsorbed virus concentrations  $S_r$  for free virus concentrations  $C_i = 10^4$  virus  $\text{ml}^{-1}$ , and soil clay contents (%) that were reported or estimated from the soil textural triangle. (Red circle accounts for iron oxide supplemented sands).

### III. Irreversible virus removal

Among the 27 papers dealing with reversible virus adsorption, irreversible virus removal could be neglected over periods not exceeding the duration of reversible virus adsorption experiments in 4 papers (Dowd *et al.*, 1998; Cao *et al.*, 2010; Syngouna & Chrysikopoulos, 2010; Sasidharan *et al.*, 2017). In addition, results were not clear enough in five other papers (Burge & Enkiri, 1978; Chrysikopoulos & Syngouna, 2012; Chrysikopoulos & Aravantinou, 2014), and the estimated inactivation coefficients were probably biased due inappropriate partition coefficient  $k_D$  for reversible adsorption in another paper (Yates & Ouyang, 1992). Lastly, inactivation resulted mainly from the triple phase (air-liquid-solid (tube wall)) boundary in a last paper (Thompson *et al.*, 1998). Therefore, the following analysis focuses on the other 17 publications.

When irreversible virus removal was taken into account, it was described by first order kinetics. For irreversible removal from the soil solution, this may be written:

$$\frac{\partial C_i}{\partial t} = -\lambda \times C_i \quad (8)$$

where  $\lambda$  is a kinetic coefficient ( $\text{day}^{-1}$ ). This equation leads to:

$$C_i(t) = C_i(t=0) \times e^{-\lambda t} = C_i(t=0) \times 10^{-\frac{\lambda}{\ln(10)}t} \quad (9)$$

For irreversible removal from the viruses reversibly adsorbed on the soil, equation (8) could be transposed as:

$$\frac{\partial S_r}{\partial t} = -\lambda \times S_r \quad (10)$$

When the quantity of reversibly adsorbed viruses can be described by the  $k_D$  partition model, the irreversible removal of reversibly adsorbed viruses leads to simultaneous change of virus concentration in soil solution according to equation (8) with the same rate coefficient  $\lambda$ .

When the quantity of reversibly adsorbed viruses can be described by Freundlich isotherms, the irreversible removal of reversibly adsorbed viruses leads to the simultaneous change of virus concentration in soil solution according to the following equation:

$$\frac{\partial C_i}{\partial t} = -\lambda \times n_F \times C_i \quad (11)$$

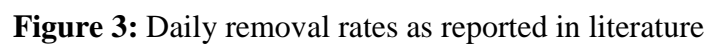
The coefficient rates of the published first order rates models of virus irreversible removals are reported in Table 3, as well as the durations of the corresponding experiments and/or simulations. In addition, coefficient rate values are reported as a function of the iron oxides of the corresponding soil or soil material(s) in Figure 3.

85 non-zero inactivation rate coefficients were reported in Table 3. They varied between 0.001 and 864  $\text{day}^{-1}$ . No significant relationships were noted between coefficient rate values and other values that could affect it, e.g. with the soil clay content (Figure 3), probably because it depends on the simultaneous validation of different condition.

**Table 3:** Daily removal coefficient rates ( $\lambda$ ) reported in literature.

References	Soil type	Virus species	$\lambda$ (day <sup>-1</sup> )	Experiment duration (h)
Zhao et al. (2008)	Ferriudic cambosols	MS2	0.032	1320
		MS2	0.015	1320
		MS2	0.015	1320
		MS2	0.011	1320
	Ustandic primosols	MS2	0.008	1320
		MS2	0.006	1320
		MS2	0.01	1320
		MS2	0.007	1320
Gantzer et al. (2001)	Cultivated soil	Coliphages	0.131	240
		Coliphages	0.017	240
		Coliphages	0.049	240
		F-RNA	0.067	240
		F-RNA	0.075	240
		F-RNA	0.136	240
LaBelle & Gerba (1979)	Sediment	PV1	864.0	0.5
		Cox B4	864.0	0.5
		Echo 1	864.0	0.5
		Echo 7	864.0	0.5
		Rotavirus	864.0	0.5
Powelson & Gerba (1994)	Sandy alluvium	MS2	0.079	72
		PRD1	0.167	72
		PV1	0.719	72
Sim & Chrysikopoulos (1999) with experimental results from Hurst et al. (1980)	Loamy sand	PV1	0.0	1800
Tim & Mostaghimi (1991) with experimental results from Lance & Gerba (1984)	Loamy sand	PV1	2.22	96
Anders & Chrysikopoulos (2009)	Monterey sand	MS2	0.026	2
		MS2	0.066	2
		PRD1	0.001	2
		PRD1	0.002	2
Schijven & Šimůnek (2002) with experimental results from Schijven <i>et al.</i> (1999, 2000)	Dune sand	MS2	0.017	960
		MS2	0.071	960
		MS2	0.024	960
		MS2	0.049	960
		MS2	0.053	960
		MS2	0.053	960
	Dune sand (Well 1-6)	MS2	0.013	2880
	Dune sand (Well 1)	MS2	0.037	2880
	Dune sand (Well 2-6)	MS2	0.040	2880
	Dune sand (Well 1-6)	PRD1	0.052	2880
	Dune sand (Well 1)	PRD1	0.031	2880
	Dune sand (Well 2-6)	PRD1	0.029	2880
Cheng et al. (2007)	Vinton soil	MS2	2.88	50
		MS2	5.76	50
		MS2	6.34	50
Mayotte et al. (2017)	River sand (new)	MS2	0.190	1440
	River sand (new)	MS2	0.083	1440
	River sand (used)	MS2	0.065	1440
	River sand (used)	MS2	0.083	1440
	River sand (new)	MS2	0.013	1440
	River sand (used)	MS2	112.6	1440
Vilker & Burge (1980)	Kranzburg soil	Φ 174	0.620	48

References	Soil type	Virus species	$\lambda$ (day <sup>-1</sup> )	Experiment length (h)
Dowd <i>et al.</i> (1998)	Aquifer sand	MS2	0.02	4
		PRD1	0.03	
		Q $\beta$	0.08	
		$\phi$ 174	0.42	
		PM2	0.58	
Flynn <i>et al.</i> (2004)	Fresh kappelen sands	H40/1	118.82	3
	Quartz sands	H40/1	11.26	3
	Granitic sands	H40/1	10.01	3
	Quartz-calcite mixture	H40/1	265.16	3
	Reused kappelen sands	H40/1	75.98	3
	Washed kappelen sands	H40/1	18.76	3
	Acid-digested kappelen sands	H40/1	36.27	3
Sadeghi <i>et al.</i> (2013)	Quartz sand	PRD1	0.07	30
		PRD1	0.07	30
		PRD1	0.53	30
Torkzaban <i>et al.</i> (2006)	Sand	MS2	0.02	6
		$\phi$ 174	0.01	6
Powelson <i>et al.</i> (1993)	Sandy alluvium	MS2	2.40	6
		MS2	2.71	6
		MS2	3.86	6
		MS2	1.35	6
		MS2	2.40	6
		PRD1	6.77	6
		PRD1	10.42	6
		PRD1	3.65	6
		PRD1	5.94	6
		PRD1	6.15	6
		PRD1	8.55	6
Zhuang & Jin (2008)	Goethite-coated sand	$\phi$ 174	4.59	1320
		$\phi$ 174	13.55	1320
		$\phi$ 174	1.25	1320
		$\phi$ 174	5.73	1320
		MS2	0.21	1320
		MS2	8.13	1320
		MS2	3.13	1320
		MS2	4.69	1320
Our upcoming study	Calcaric phaeozem	MNV	0.38	7



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