



In situ XANES studies of copper in a contaminated soil under electric field

M.-Y. Yu (1), H. Paul Wang (1,2), C.-Y. Liao (1), Y.-J. Huang (3), and Y.-L. Wei (4)

(1) Department of Environmental Engineering, National Cheng Kung University, Tainan City 70101, Taiwan (wanghp@mail.ncku.edu.tw / +886 6 275 2790), (2) Sustainable Environment Research Center, National Cheng Kung University, Tainan City 70101, Taiwan (wanghp@mail.ncku.edu.tw / +886 6 275 2790), (3) Department of Biomedical Engineering and Environmental Sciences, National Tsing Hua University, Hsinchu City 30013, Taiwan (yjhuang@mx.nthu.edu.tw), (4) Department of Environmental Science and Engineering, Tunghai University, Taichung City 40704, Taiwan (yulin@thu.edu.tw)

Speciation of copper in a contaminated soil during electrokinetic treatments has been studied by in situ X-ray absorption near edge structural (XANES) spectroscopy. The least-square fitted XANES spectra show that CuCO_3 (68%) and CuCl_2 (32%) are the major copper species in the contaminated soil. In the presence of H_3PO_4 (40%), 95% of CuCl_2 and 28% of CuCO_3 are dissolved into the aqueous phase. After 90 minutes of the electrokinetic treatments, at least 26% of Cu(II) are transported toward the cathode under the electric field (1-5 V/cm). Similar dissolution behavior of copper from the soil with 40% of H_3PO_4 and 2% of H_2O_2 is also observed. Migration of Cu(II) to the cathode is highly enhanced under the electric field (5 volts/cm) in the first 90 minutes of the electrokinetic process.