



Air-soil partitioning and cycling of persistent organic pollutants: methods and processes

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Soils are the main reservoir of historical and emerging persistent organic pollutants (POPs) at regional and global scales. Therefore the understanding of the processes controlling the air-soil exchanges of POPs is key for assessing their fate, transport and impact. Several methodological and theoretical approaches have been suggested for the study of air-soil partitioning, however, much less knowledge is available on the dynamic air-soil cycling of POPs. Here we will review these approaches and show results from modeling and field work on the air-soil dynamics of polychlorinated biphenyls, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and other POPs. The results on air-soil fluxes will be put in the context of current knowledge of sorption processes (molecular scale) and its implications for regional and global dynamics and modeling of POPs.