194 - Simultaneous As(III) and As(V) retention by hydrous Mn(IV) oxide

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Heterogeneous As(III) oxidation by Mn(IV) oxides is generally thought to result in the retention of only As(V) at the oxide mineral surface. Using stirred-flow oxidation experiments coupled with solid-phase analysis using As and Mn K-edge XANES, and EXAFS spectroscopy we demonstrate that As(III) and As(V) is retained simultaneously. As(III) retention occurs in conjunction with the appearance of dissolved As(III) and Mn(II) and solid-phase Mn(II). Desorption experiments reveal that As(III) is equally desorbed by 1 mM solutions of NaCl, CaCl, and Na₂PO₄, suggesting a weakly bound complex. However, Na₂PO₄, results in the most As(V) desorption with less As(V) released by CaCl₂ and no As(V) desorption by NaCl. Our results demonstrate that multiple As binding mechanisms may occur during As(III) oxidation by Mn(IV) oxides.

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