"Toxic Metal Chemistry in Marine Environments" by Muhammad Sadiq, King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals Dharen, Saudi Arabia (Marcel Dekker, Inc).

The book, consisting of 390 pages, focuses the correlation between the chemical behaviour of some toxic metals and their accumulation and toxicity in natural environments. The metals considered are arsenic, cadmium, chromium, copper, mercury and lead, all important from human health point of view. Supported by 1000 illustrious references, the book gives a very useful information on these metals.

Compilation of information on chemical behaviour and toxicity in a nutshell has helped to bridge the gap between marine chemists and biologists.

The book consists of 9 chapters. References are given at the end of each chapter. Data on activity coefficients, chemical forms of metals in sea waters of different salinities, free energy of formation of minerals and solution species and such other important data are given in appendices.

After the first introductory chapter, chapter 2 is focused on basic concepts and definitions of most commonly used terms for the benefit of users who are not wholly familiar with the terminologies. Chapter 3 discusses the solubility equilibria of an overall picture of chemical and geochemical interaction of components.

In the last 6 chapters (chapters 4-9), devoted to one metal each, is highlighted information of their naturally occurring concentrations and chemical species. All processes responsible for their biogeochemical behaviour have been discussed. Thermodynamic models have been suggested. Further, each chapter has at its end, a summary which gives point by point important facts considered in the chapter. Each chapter closes with suggestions on topic for further research.

The book looks very complete and successful in the purpose, as its title signifies. As a reviewer, I am able to keep a copy and this pleases me for it's a book, I would always wish to refer.

This book can be recommended to all environmentalists - a student, a researcher and a manager. To beginners it offers a wealth of information and a volume of useful and uptodate citations of published data. To a researcher, it suggests topics for research. To the environmental managers, it encourages to insist on a comprehensive and systematic monitoring of toxic materials in the environment.

The book has a few printing mistakes which need to be corrected in its future editions.

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