

List of Figures

1. Possible mechanisms in the formation of humic acids.
2. A possible model for the structure of humic acid molecule.
3. A map showing the locations of sampling area.
4. A schematic diagram about the extraction procedure of Humic and Fulvic acids from sediment.
5. Photographs of *M. birmanica* and its habitat.
6. a) A plot of pH vs. $\log (1-\alpha) / \alpha$ for HA.
b) A plot of pH vs. $\log (1-\alpha) / \alpha$ for FA.
7. IR spectra of a) HA and b) FA.
8. a) Absorption spectra of FA and FA + Co (II)
b) Absorption spectra of HA and HA + Co (II)
9. Excitation and emission spectra of FA.
10. Excitation and emission spectra of HA.
11. Synchronous fluorescence spectra (SyF) of a) FA and b) HA.
12. pH potentiometric titration curves of HA without and with addition of metals (I= 0.1)
a) for HA, b) for HA and Co (II), c) for HA and Zn (II).
13. pH potentiometric titration curves of FA without and with addition of metals (I= 0.1)
a) for FA, b) for FA and Co (II) , c) for FA and Zn (II)
14. Bjerrum formation plot
a) for HA and Co (II), b) for HA and Zn (II).
15. Bjerrum formation plot
a) for FA and Co (II), b) for FA and Zn (II).

16. pH potentiometric titration curves of HA without and with addition of metals ($I=0.1$)
 - a) for HA, b) for HA and Cu (II), c) for HA and Fe (III).
17. pH potentiometric titration curves of FA without and with addition of metals ($I=0.1$)
 - a) for FA, b) for FA and Cu (II), c) for FA and Fe (III).
18. Bjerrum formation plot
 - a) for HA and Cu (II), b) for HA and Fe (III).
19. Bjerrum formation plot
 - a) for FA and Fe (III), b) for FA and Cu (II).
20. SyF of FA as a function of Cu (II) at $pH=7$ and $I=0.1$.
21. SyF of FA as a function of Fe (III) at $pH=7$ and $I=0.1$.
22. SyF of FA as a function of Co (II) at $pH=7$ and $I=0.1$.
23. SyF of HA as a function of Cu (II) at $pH=7$ and $I=0.1$.
24. SyF of HA as a function of Fe (III) at $pH=7$ and $I=0.1$.
25. SyF of HA as a function of Co (II) at $pH=7$ and $I=0.1$.
26. SyF of HA as a function of Zn (II) at $pH=7$ and $I=0.1$.
27. SyF of FA as a function of Zn (II) at $pH=7$ and $I=0.1$.
28. Life time curve of FA.
29. Surface reaction by the formation of ternary surface complex with Humic acid (Hu).
30. A plot of ΔG° vs. Temperature for the adsorption of Zn on the sediment.
31. A plot of ΔG° vs. Temperature for the adsorption of Cu on the sediment.
32. A plot of ΔG° vs. Temperature for the adsorption of Co on the sediment.
33. Adsorption of Zn (II) (mg/gm) on the sediment with time.

34. Adsorption of Cu (II) (mg/gm) on the sediment with time.
35. Adsorption of Co (II) (mg/gm) on the sediment with time.
36. A plot of first order kinetics study of Zn (II) on the sediment.
37. A plot of first order kinetics study of Cu (II) on the sediment.
38. A plot of first order kinetics study of Co (II) on the sediment.
39. Monthly variation in glycogen content per individual of different size classes of *M. birmanica*.
40. Regression curve between tissue zinc content and metabolic rate of *M. birmanica*.
41. Monthly variations of Glycogen, Protein and O/N ratio of medium size *M. birmanica*.