## Optimization of Porous Pellets for Phosphate Recovery

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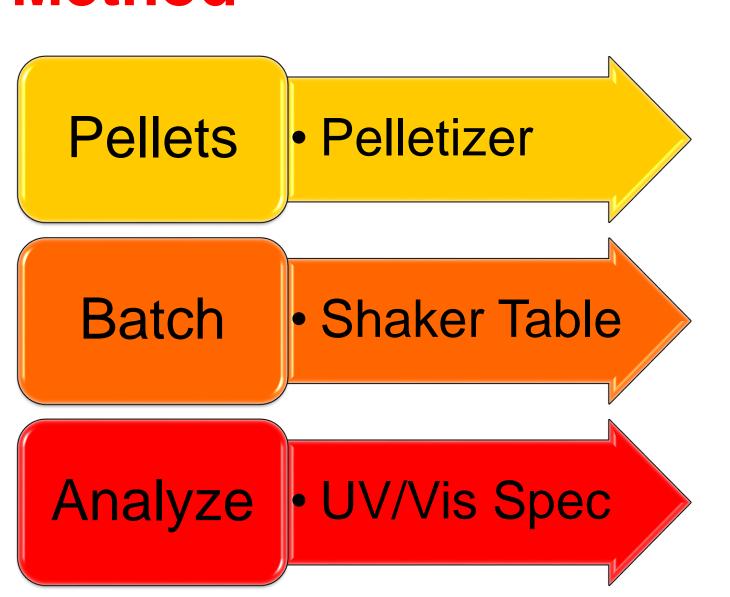
### Introduction

Phosphorus is an essential nutrient and the natural supply is becoming insufficient to meet demand for food production<sup>1-4</sup>. Peak level could occur in 2033, making this an imminent threat<sup>1-2</sup>. Phosphorus can be recovered from water for reuse using adsorptive materials<sup>3-4</sup>, such as pellets. Adding a binder material during pellet synthesis can provide stability then porosity can be created through calcining after to return some of the surface area lost by making the pellet.

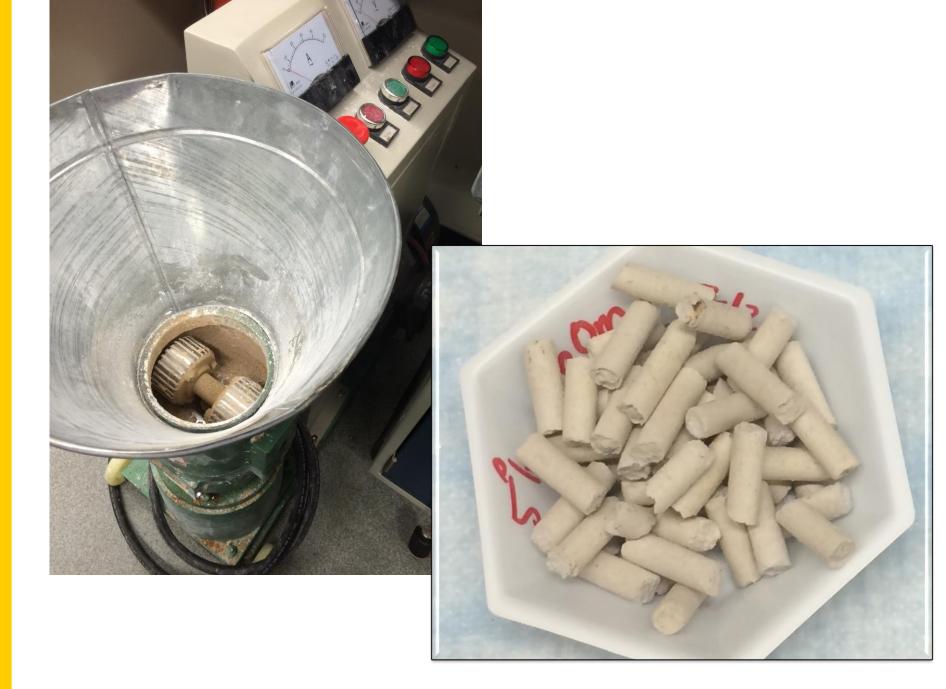
### **Objectives**

- Optimize synthesis for stability and porosity Batch study pellets for equilibrium time
  - Model kinetics to determine model adsorption capacity

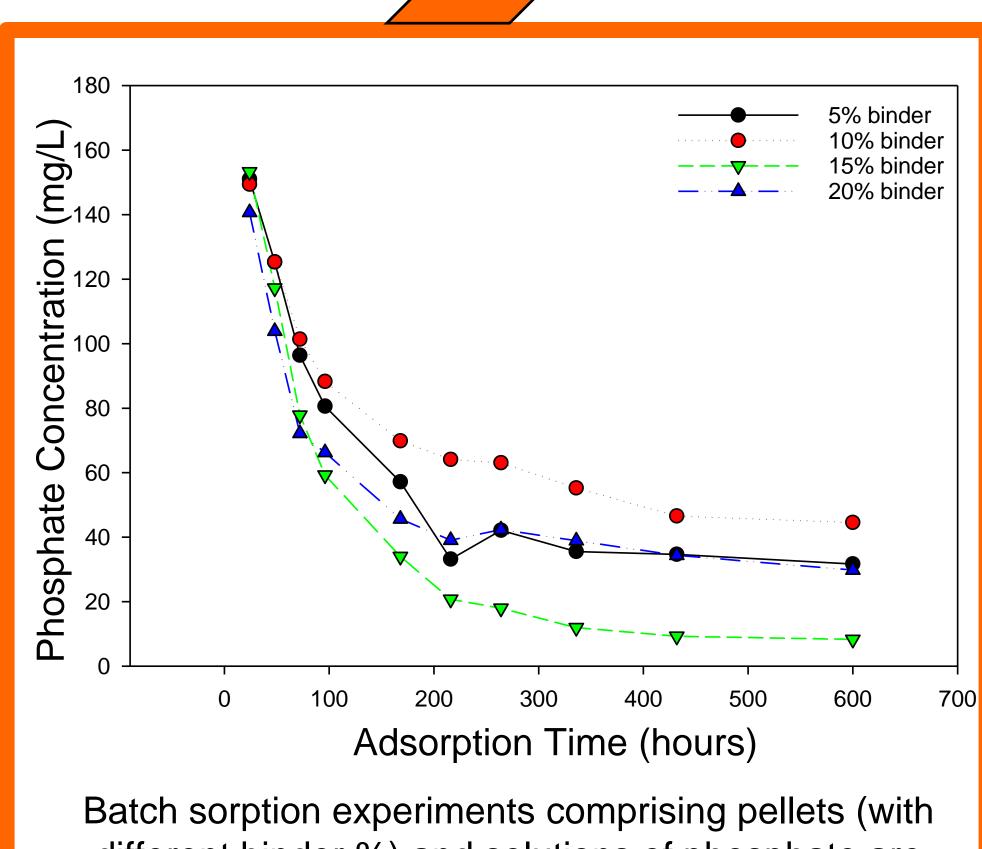
### Method



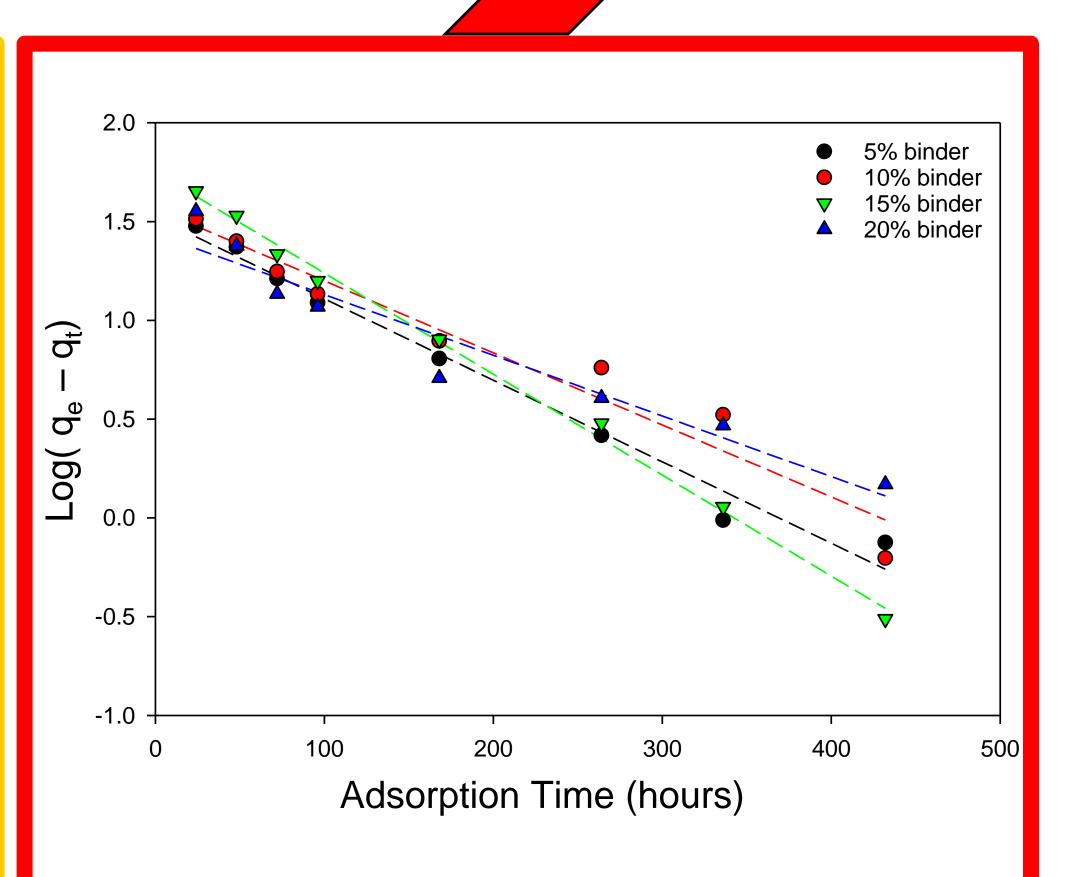
# Results



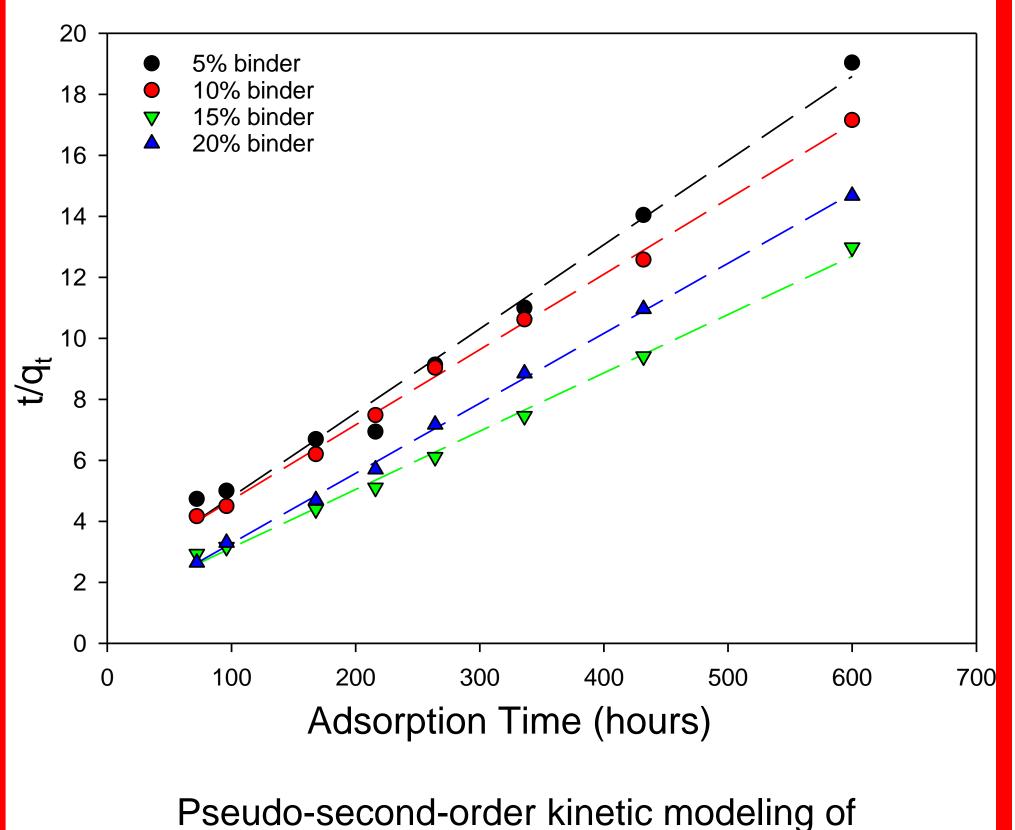
The materials are mixed together and pressed into pellets using the pelletizer as seen in the images above.



different binder %) and solutions of phosphate are mixed on a shaker table and the phosphate concertation in solution sampled over time. The graph above shows apparent equilibrium after 25 days.



Pseudo-first-order kinetic modeling of phosphate sorption for the four varying percentages of binder addition suggests that the 15%-binder recipe achieves the fastest sorption kinetics.



phosphate sorption for the four varying percentages of binder addition also suggests that the 15%-binder recipe achieves the fastest sorption kinetics.

### Conclusion

% Binder	BET Surface Area (m²/g)	Adsorption Capacity (mg/g)
0	27.5	N/A
5	33.2	39.1
10	38.0	42.4
15	43.1	56.2
20	37.6	44.6

### **Future Work**

Batch isotherm study	Column study			
	Model isotherm		Real lake water	

### References

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