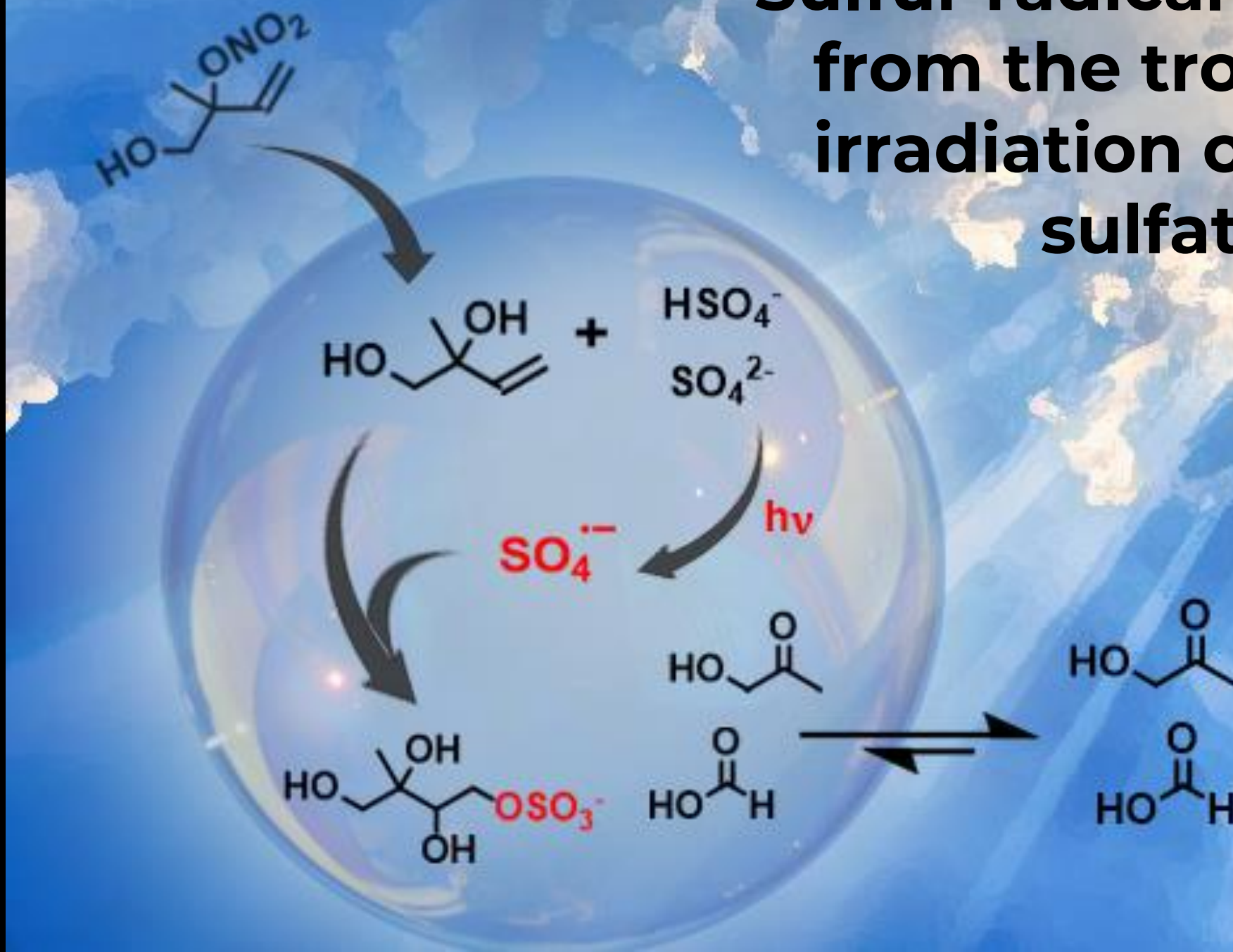


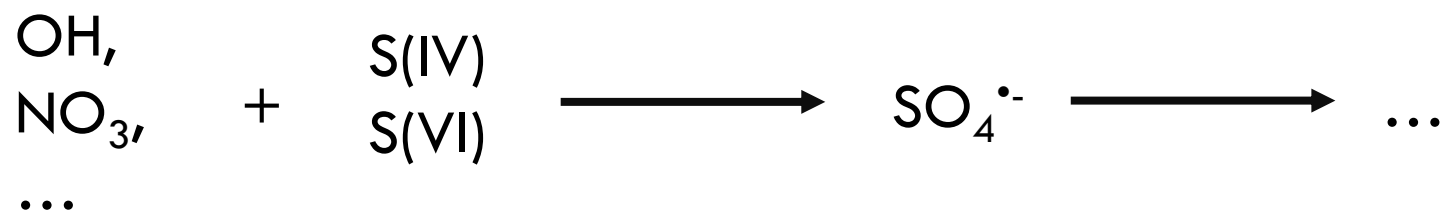
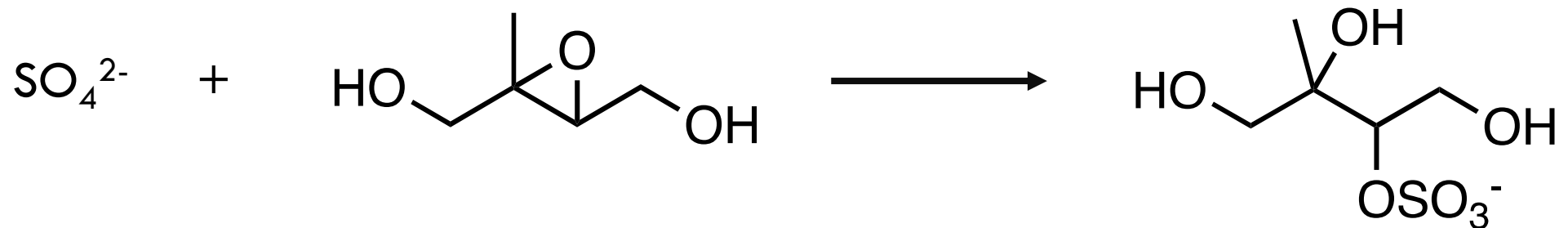
# Sulfur radical formation from the tropospheric irradiation of aqueous sulfate aerosols

Kelvin Bates  
James Cope  
Lillian Tran  
& Tran Nguyen

UC Davis

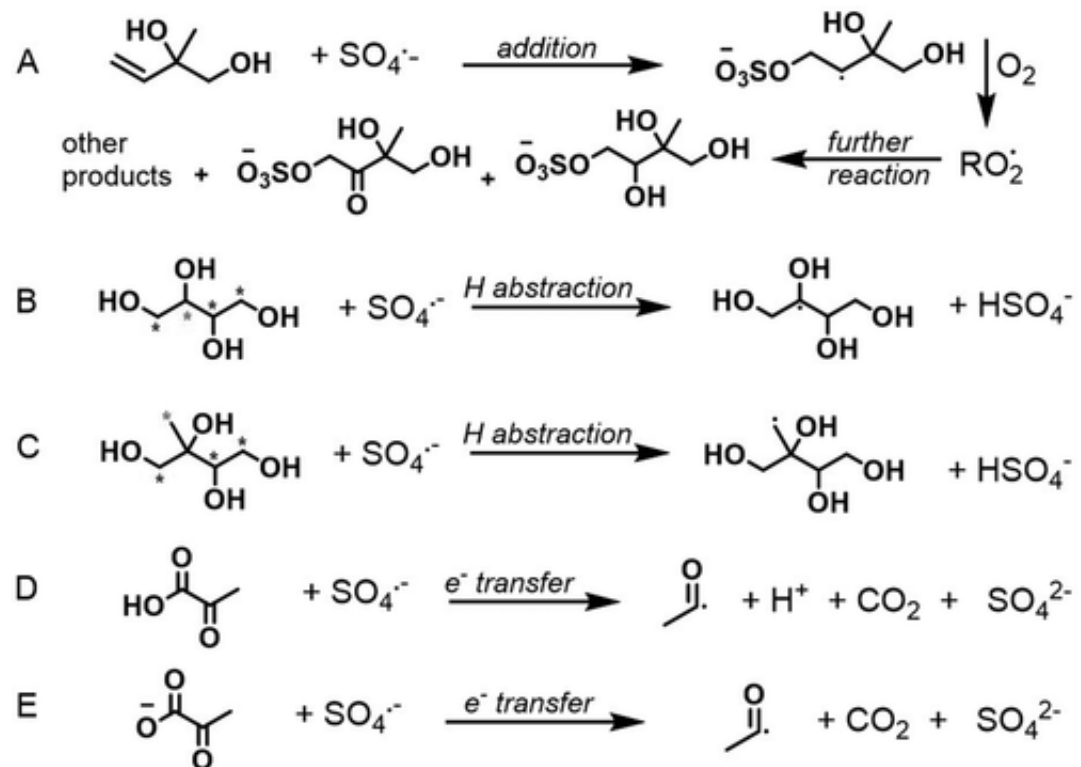
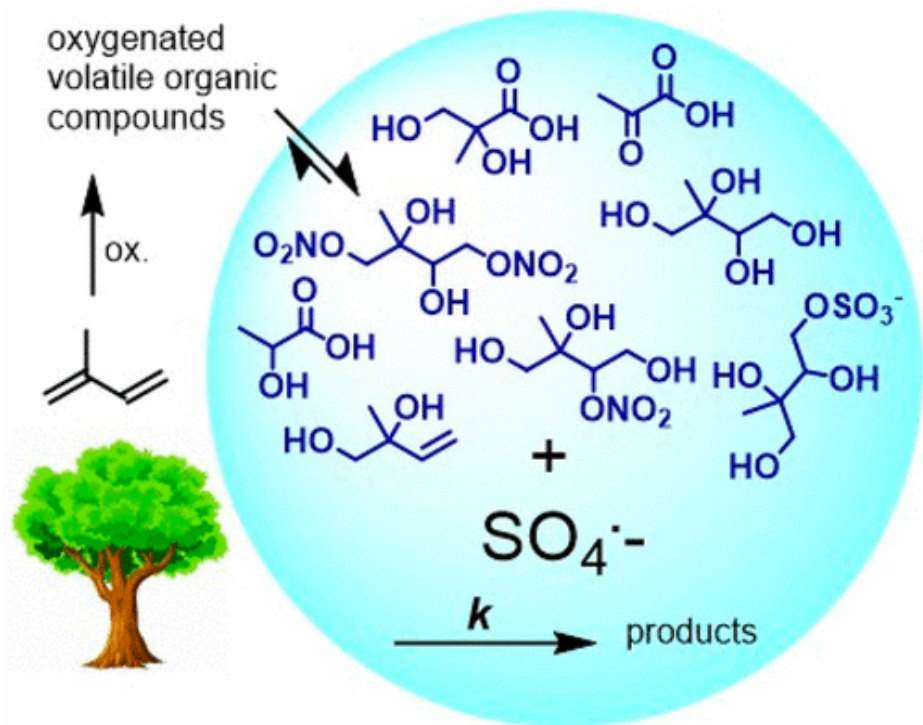


Atmospheric sulfur chemistry doesn't end at sulfate!



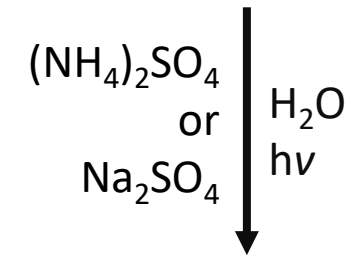
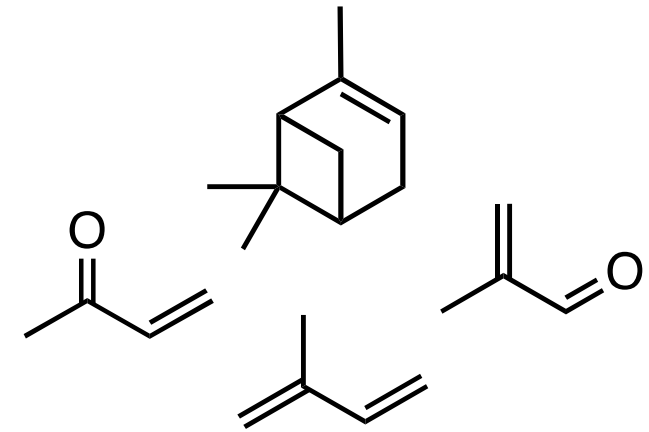
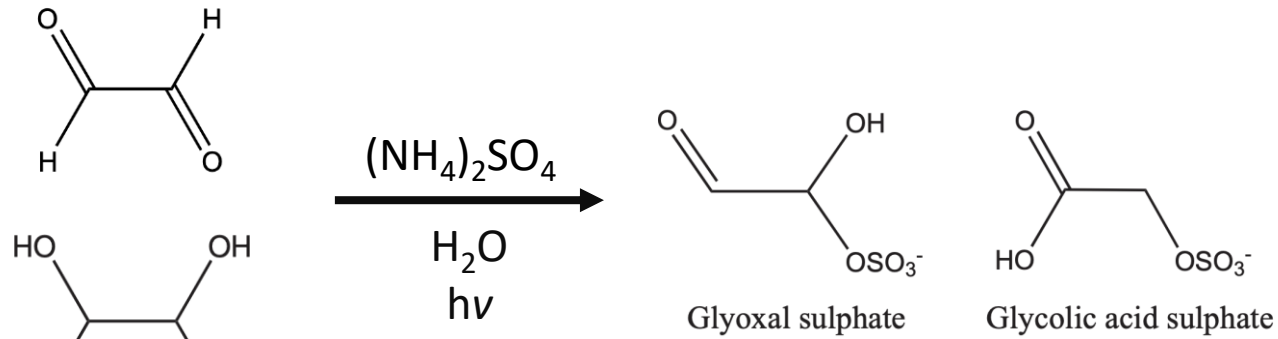
... but the sulfate anion radical ( $\text{SO}_4^{\bullet-}$ ) is considered scarce, and only thought to be formed by more reactive radicals (e.g. OH,  $\text{NO}_3$ )

# Atmospheric sulfur chemistry doesn't end at sulfate!

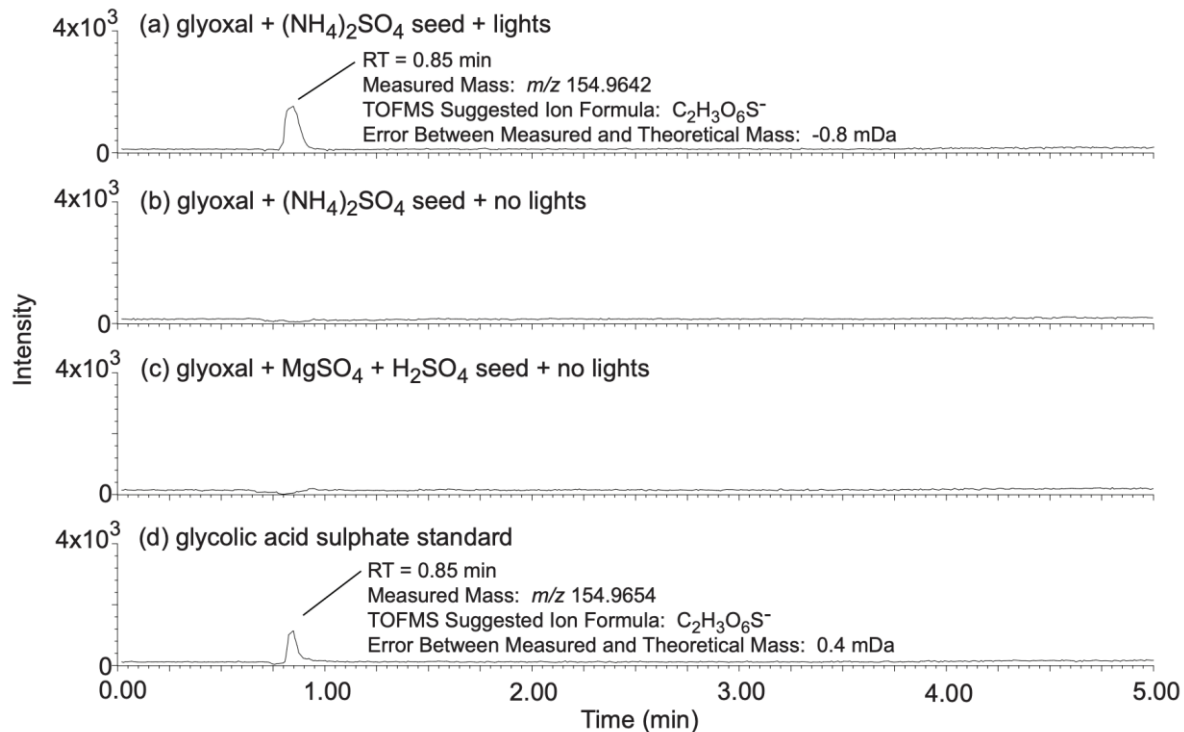


... but the sulfate anion radical ( $\text{SO}_4^{\bullet-}$ ) is considered scarce, and only thought to be formed by more reactive radicals (e.g. OH,  $\text{NO}_3$ )

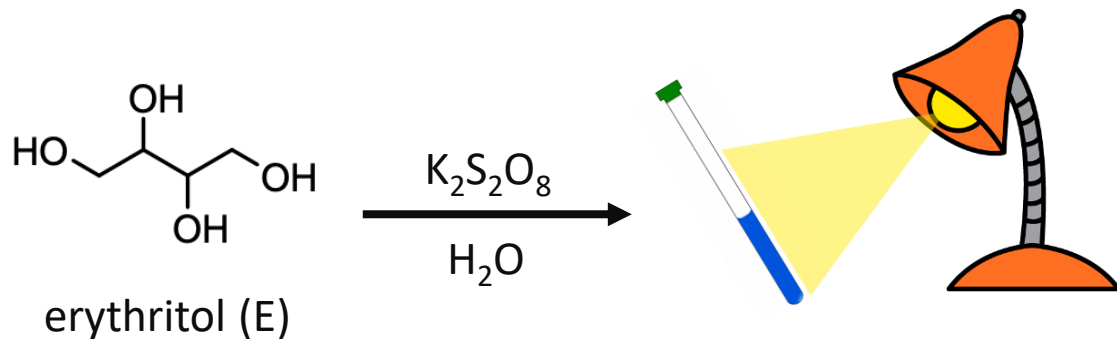
# Previous findings cast doubt on the need for another radical source



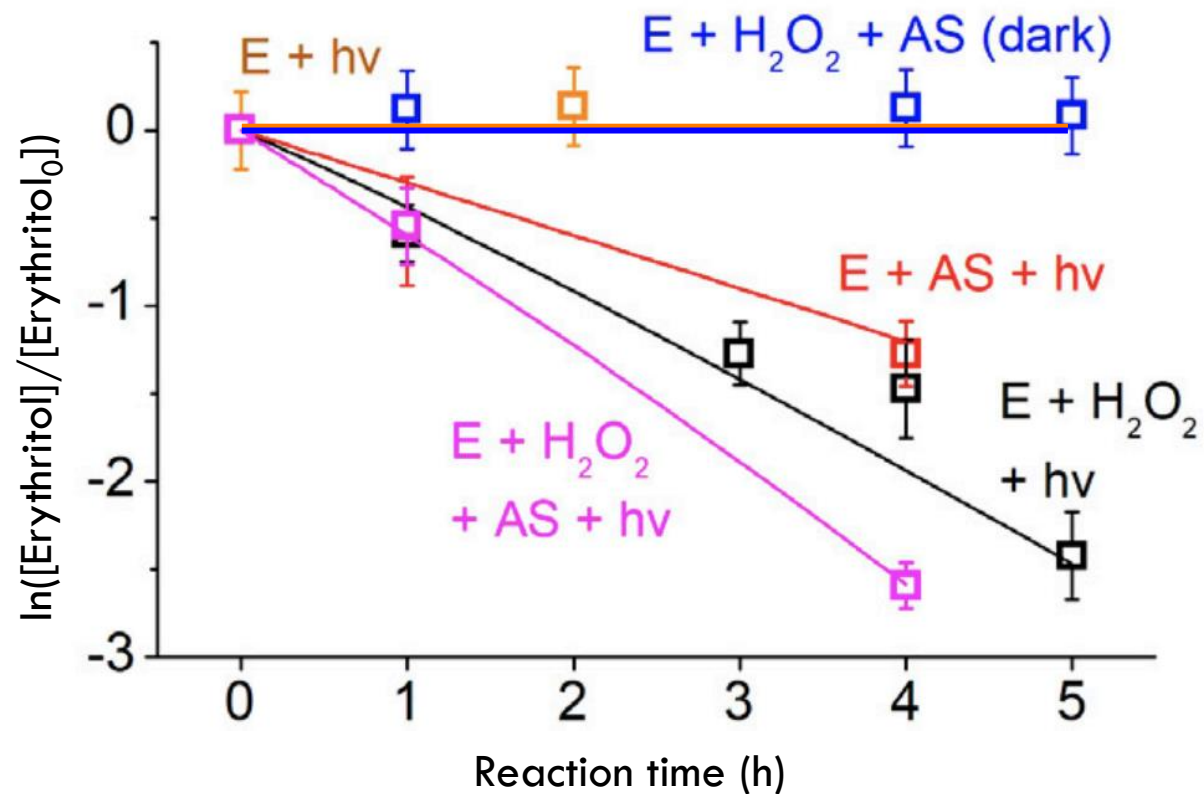
organosulfates



# Can we initiate sulfate radical chemistry from only tropospheric radiation?



- photolysis only: X
- with  $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ , dark: X
- with  $h\nu + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ : ✓
- with  $h\nu + 4\text{M } (\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ : ✓
- with  $h\nu + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + (\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$ : ✓✓

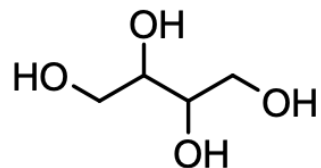


Lines: kinetic model with  $\text{SO}_4^{2-} + h\nu \rightarrow e^- + \text{SO}_4^{\cdot-}$

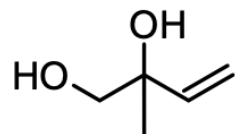


So, **yes**, we can photochemically generate  $\text{SO}_4^{\cdot-}$ , but what if...

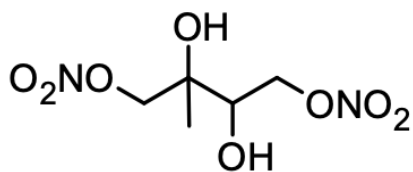
it's just erythritol?



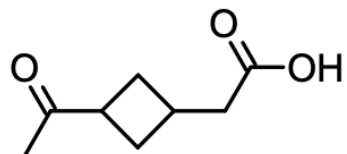
erythritol



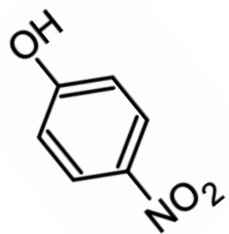
1,2-DHI  
(dihydroxy-isoprene)



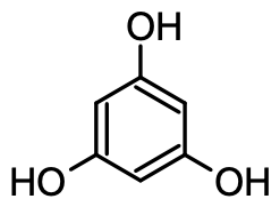
DHDN (dihydroxy-  
dinitrooxy-isoprene)



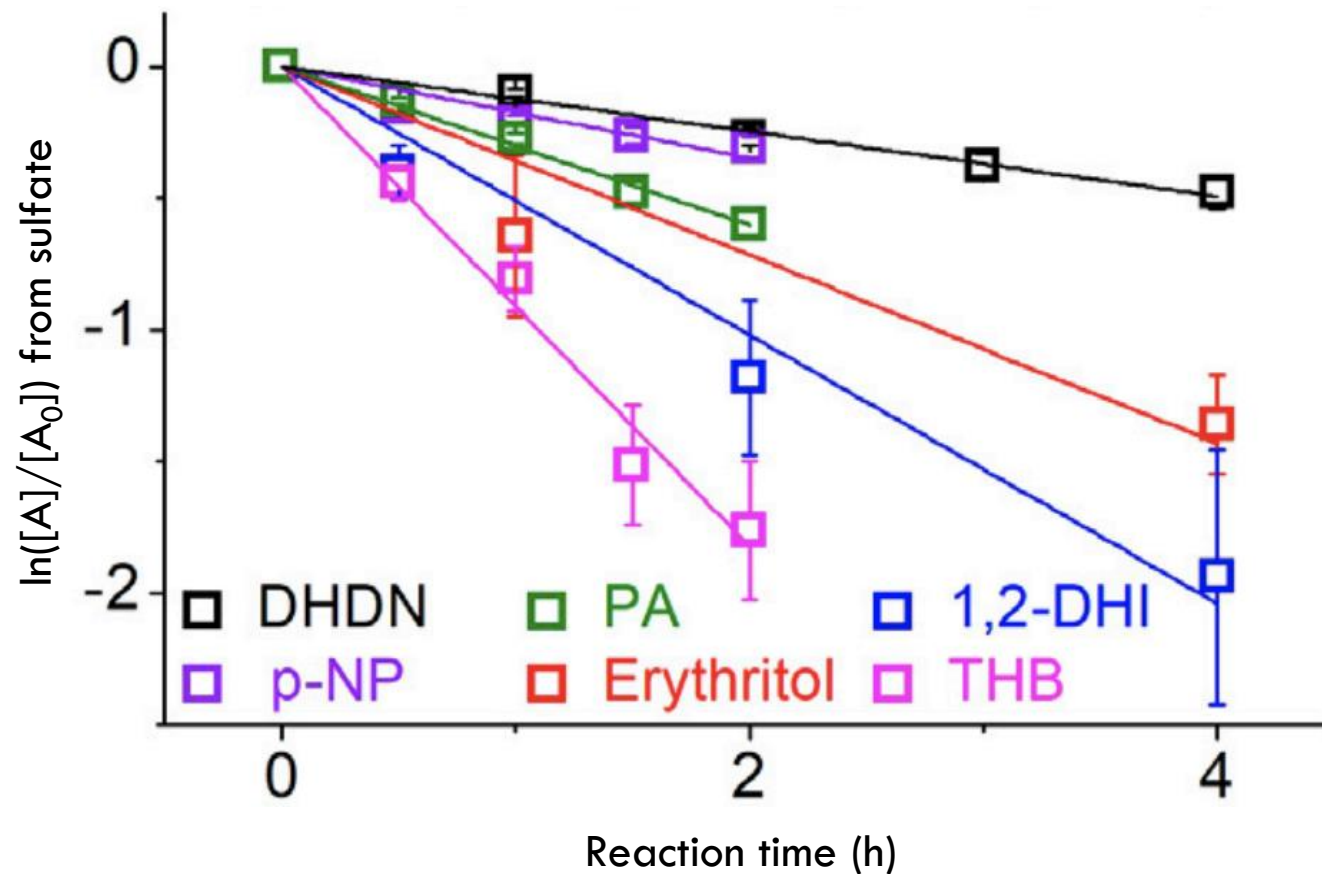
PA  
(pinonic acid)



p-NP  
(para-nitrophenol)



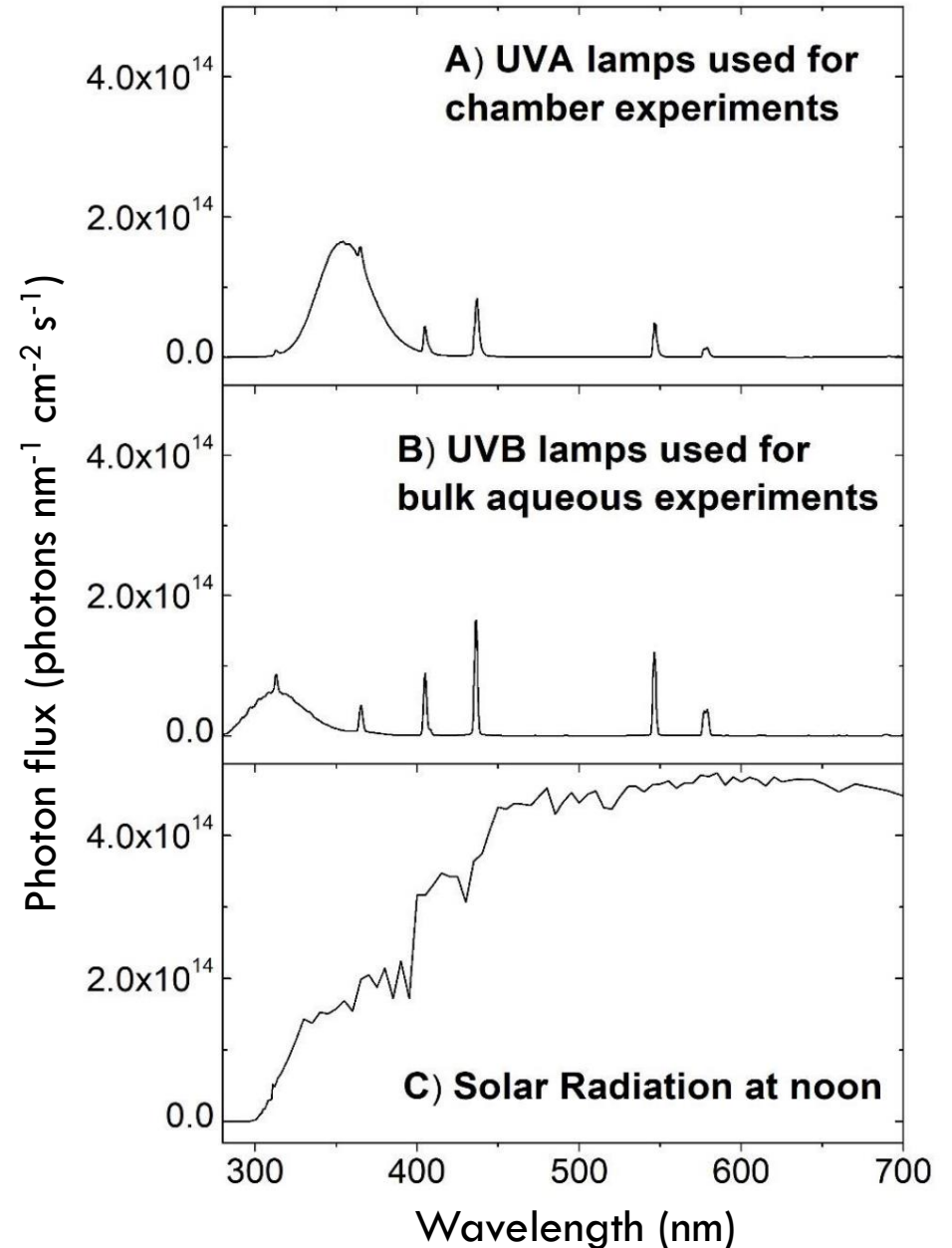
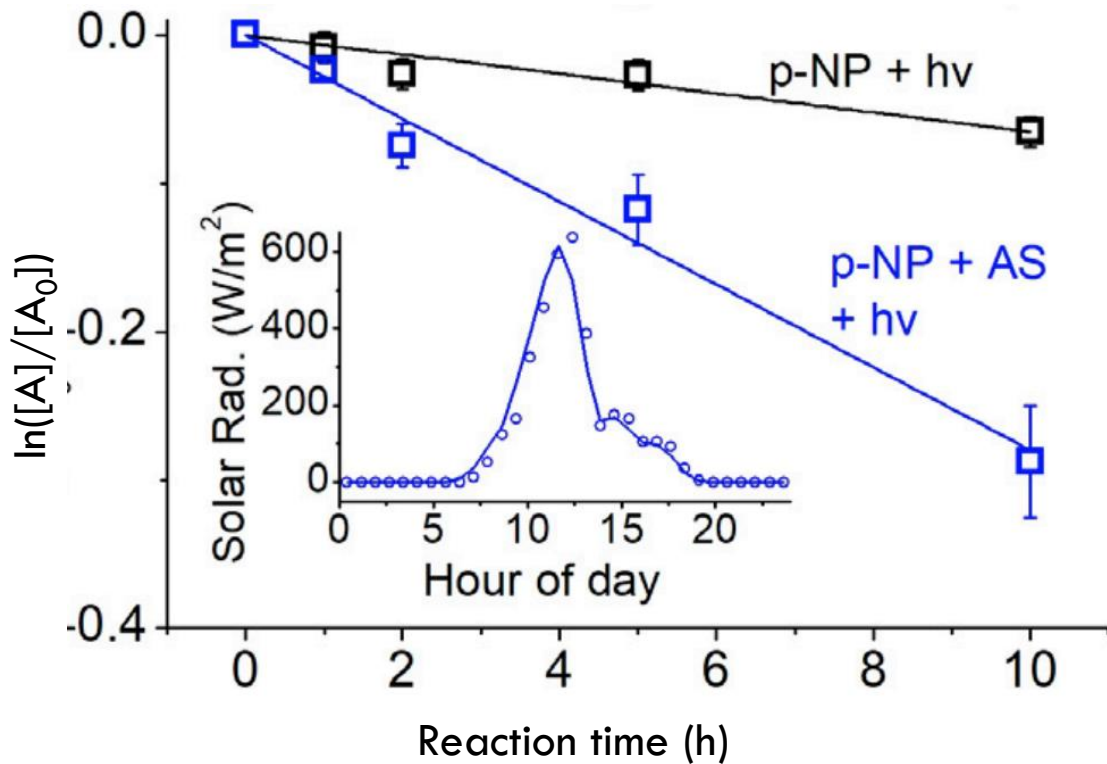
THB  
(trihydroxy benzene)



So, yes, we can photochemically generate  $\text{SO}_4^{\bullet-}$ , but what if...

~~it's just erythritol?~~

it's just our lamp?



So, *yes*, we can photochemically generate  $\text{SO}_4^{\bullet-}$ , but what if...

~~it's just erythritol?~~

~~it's just our lamp?~~

it's actually OH?

$k(\text{OH})$

$k(\text{SO}_4^{\bullet-})$

*tert*-butanol

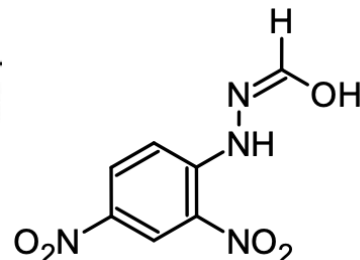
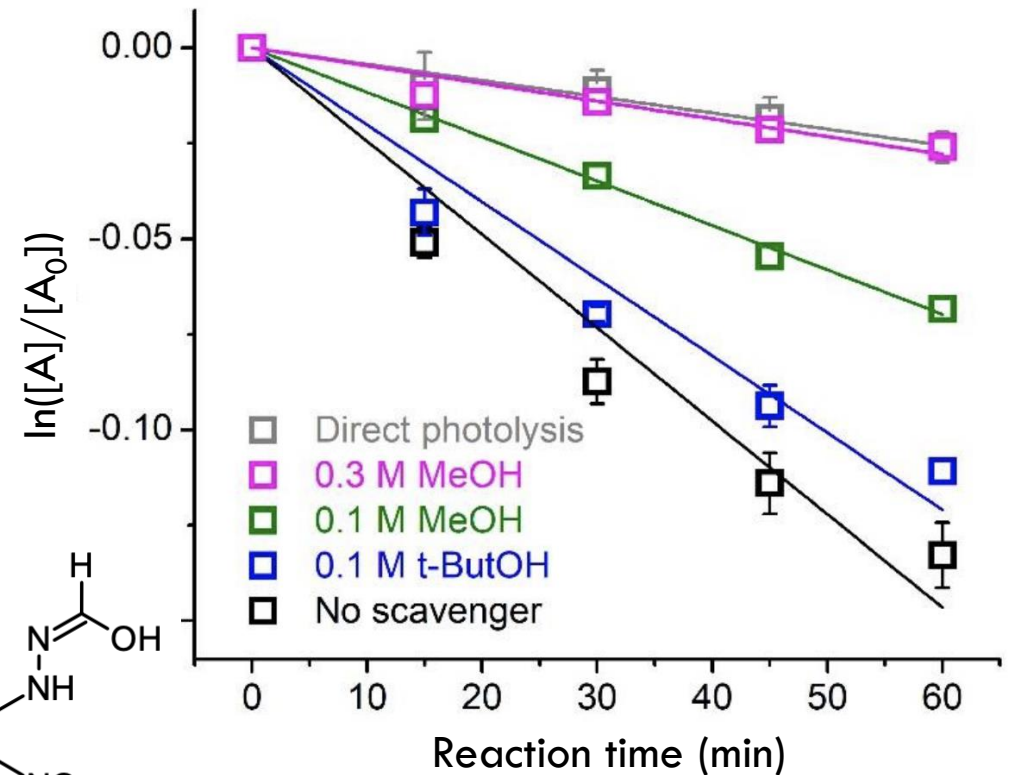
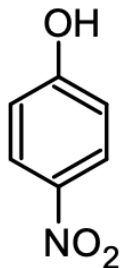
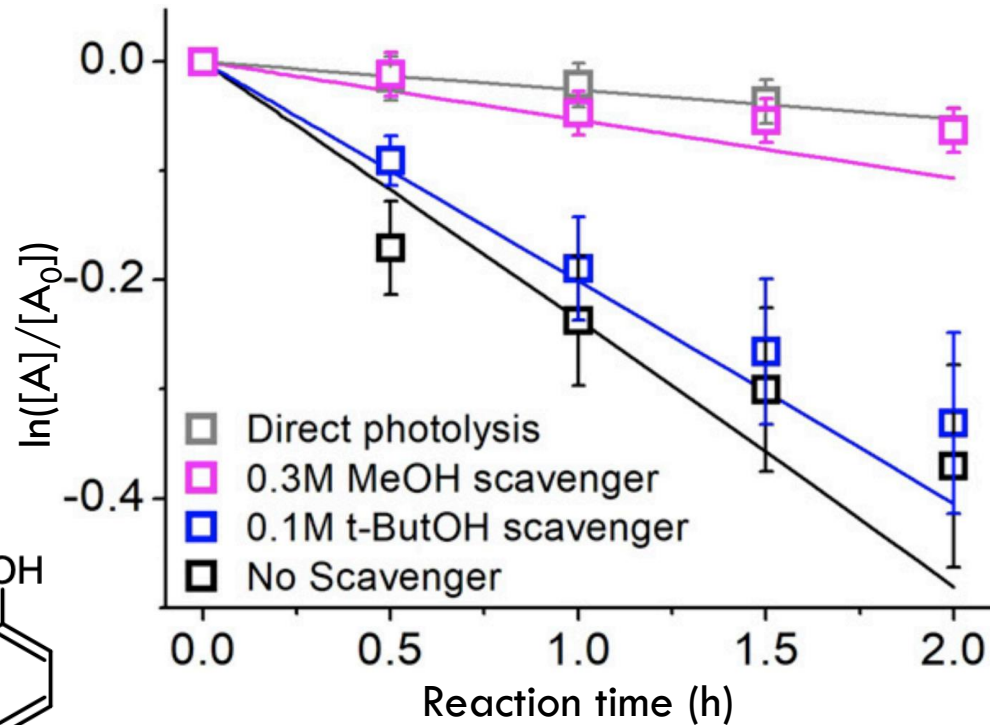
fast

slow

methanol

fast

fast





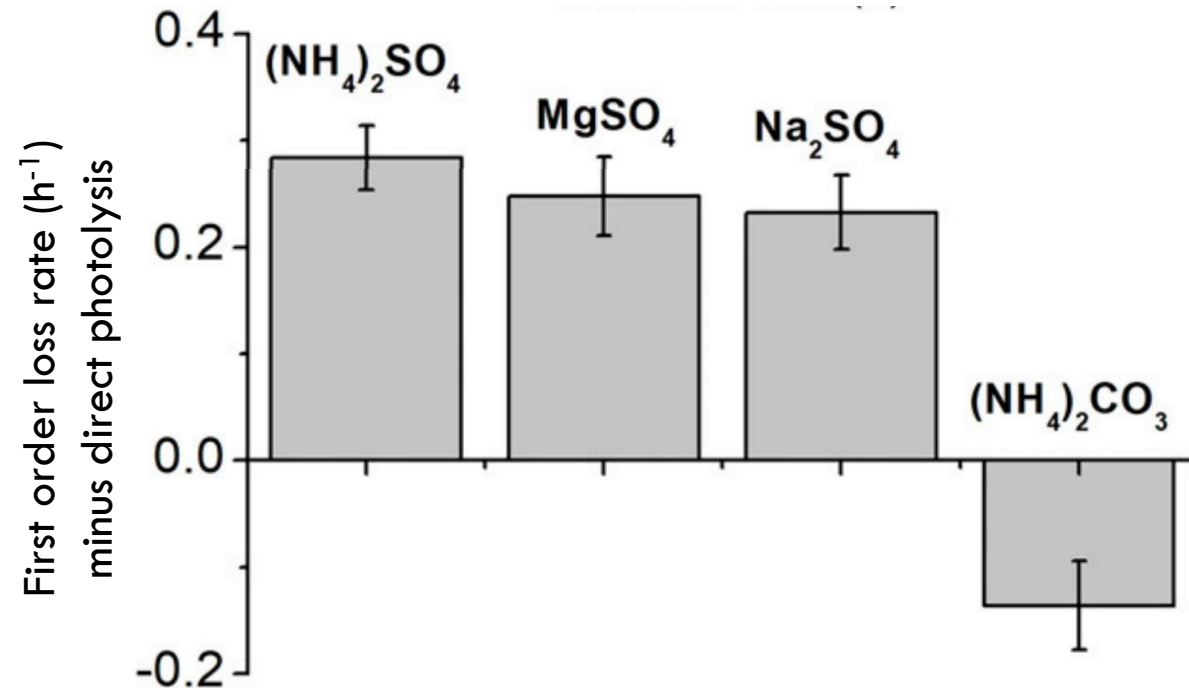
So, **yes**, we can photochemically generate  $\text{SO}_4^{\cdot-}$ , but what if...

~~it's just erythritol?~~

~~it's just our lamp?~~

~~it's actually  $\text{OH}^{\cdot}$ ?~~

it's the ammonium?



So, **yes**, we can photochemically generate  $\text{SO}_4^{\cdot-}$ , but what if...

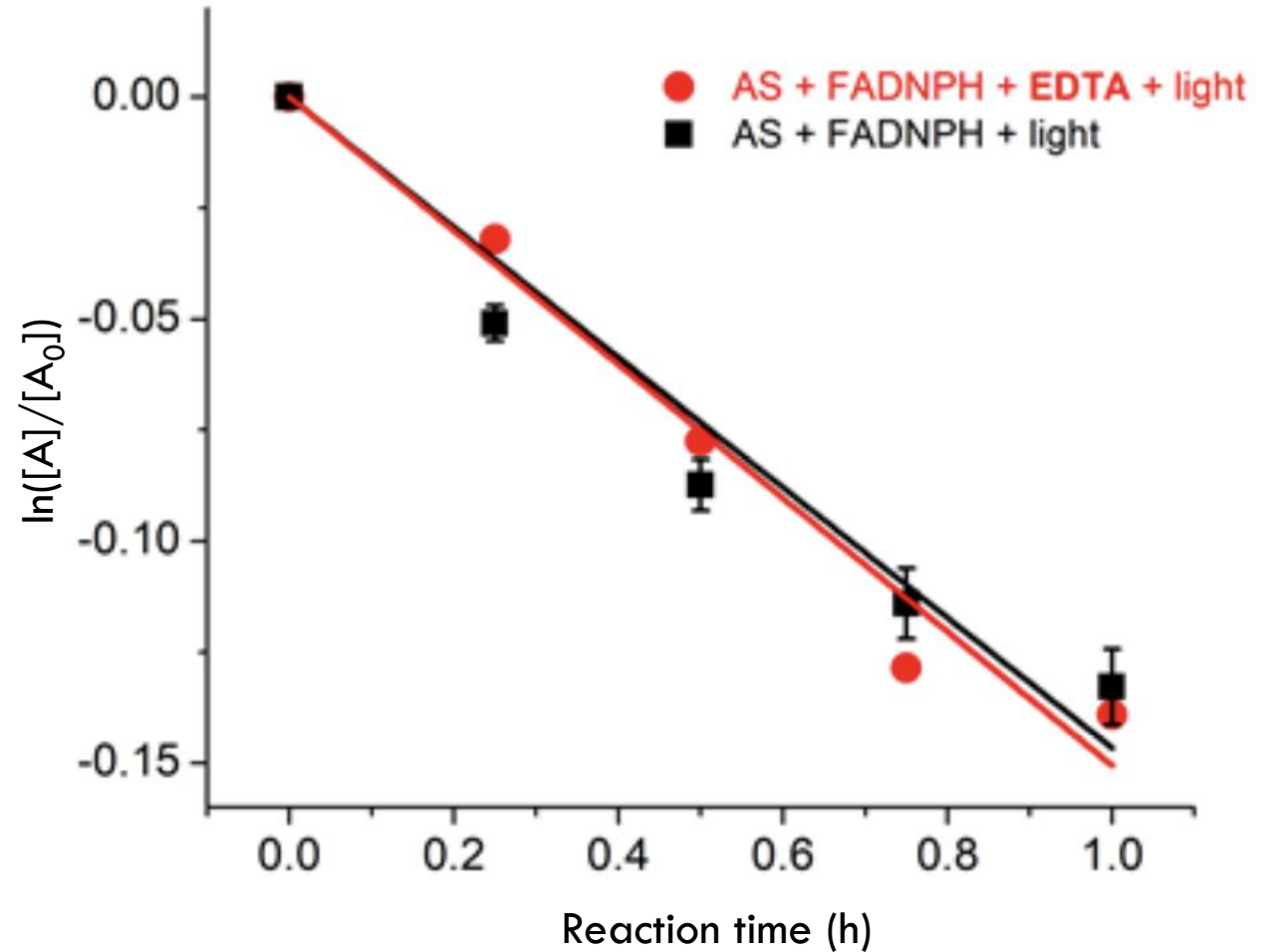
~~it's just erythritol?~~

~~it's just our lamp?~~

~~it's actually  $\text{OH}^\cdot$ ?~~

~~it's the ammonium?~~

it's a metal impurity?



So, **yes**, we can photochemically generate  $\text{SO}_4^{\cdot-}$ , but what if...

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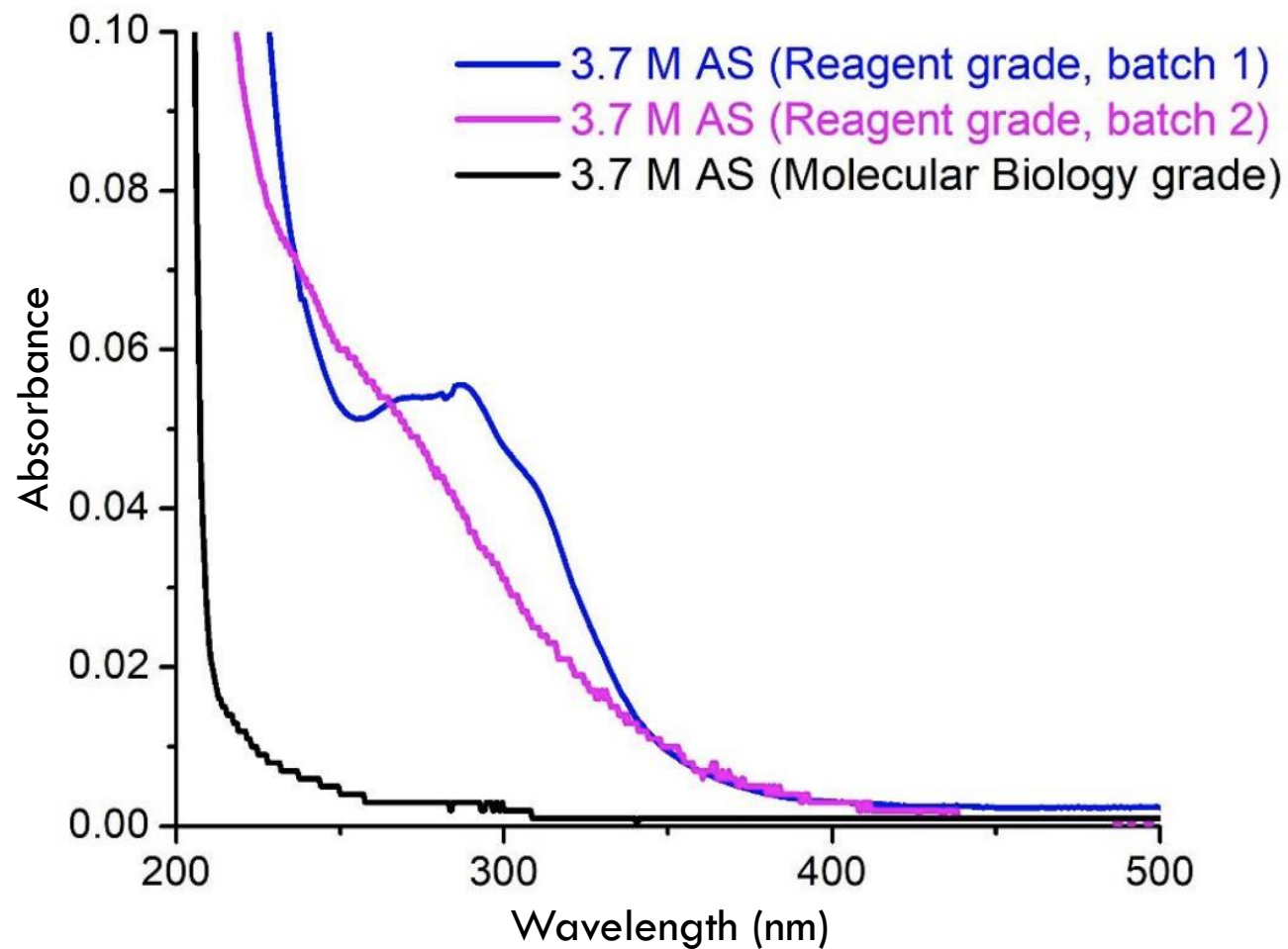
~~it's just our lamp?~~

~~it's actually  $\text{OH}^-$ ?~~

~~it's the ammonium?~~

~~it's a metal impurity?~~

**it's an absorbing impurity?**



So, **yes**, we can photochemically generate  $\text{SO}_4^{\cdot-}$ , but what if...

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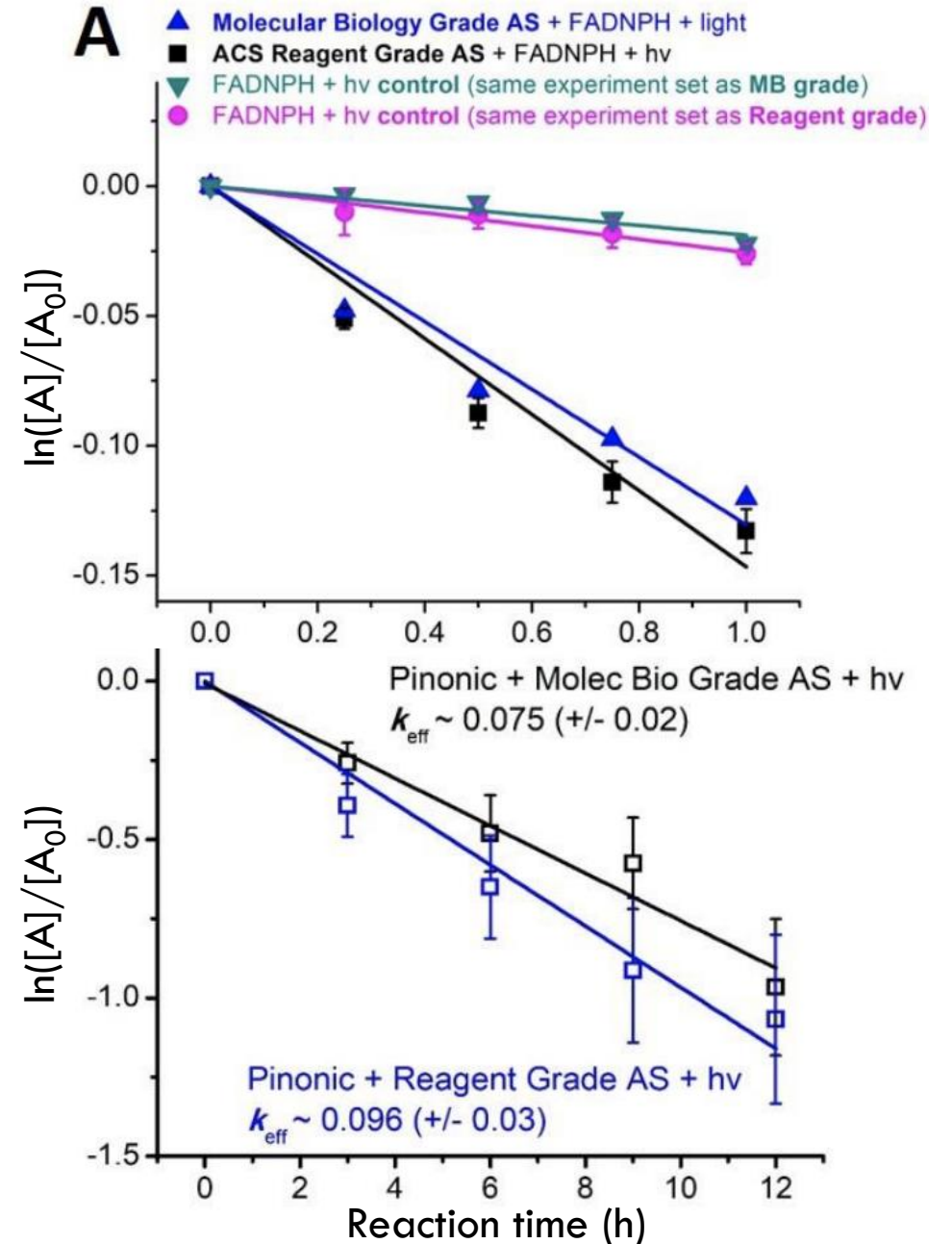
~~it's just our lamp?~~

~~it's actually  $\text{OH}^\cdot$ ?~~

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~~it's a metal impurity?~~

**it's an absorbing impurity?**



So, yes, we can photochemically generate  $\text{SO}_4^{\cdot-}$ , but what if...

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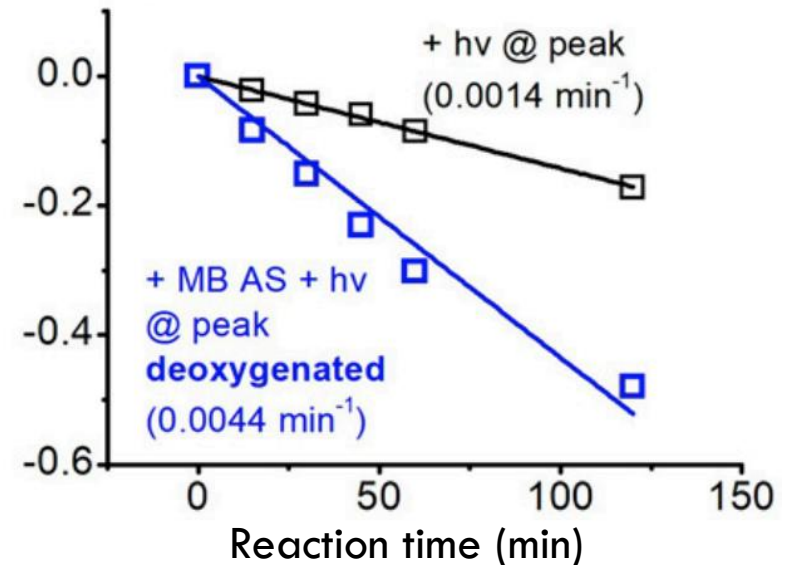
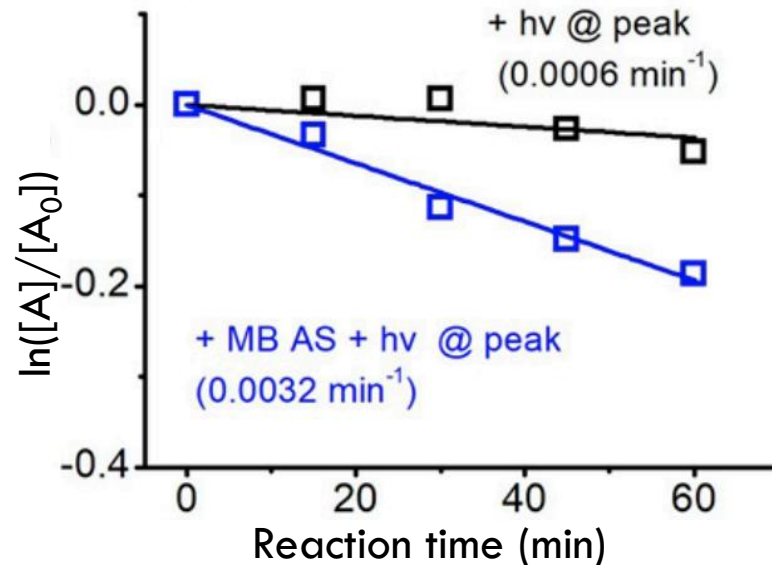
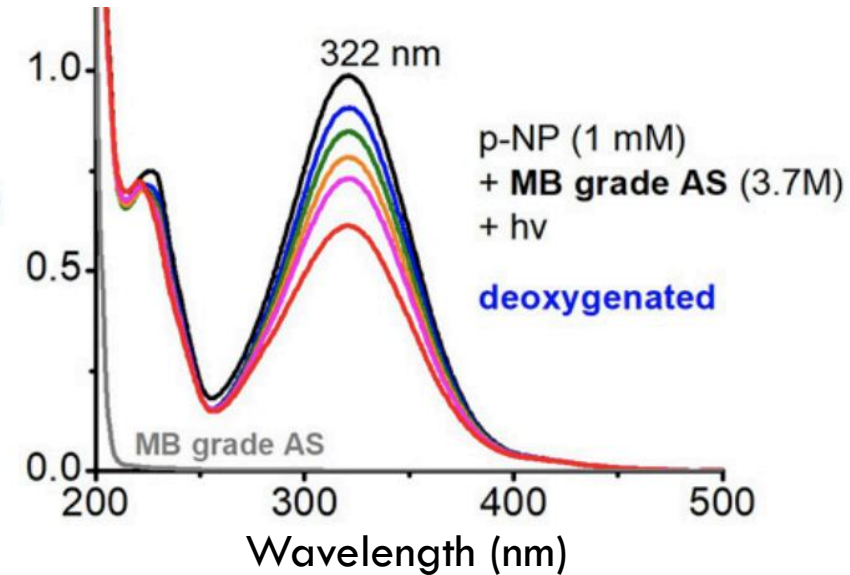
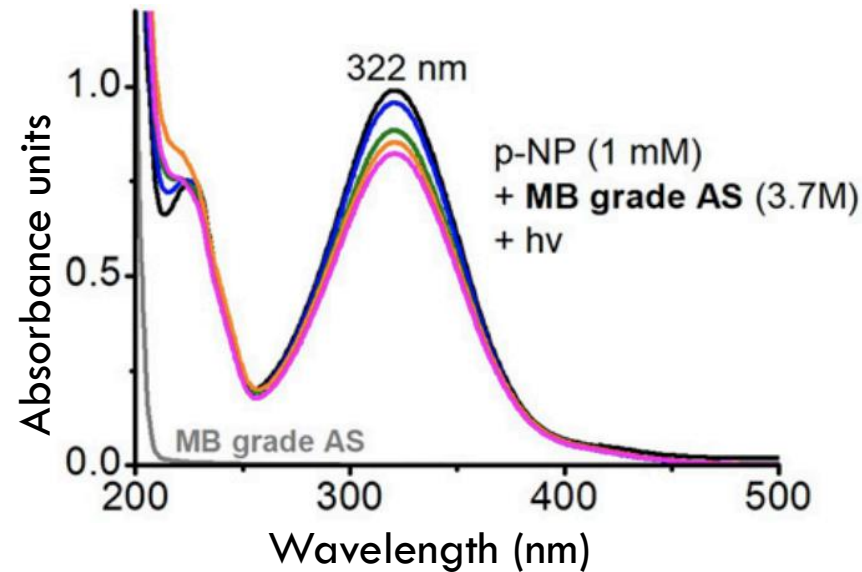
~~it's actually  $\text{OH}^{\cdot}$ ?~~

~~it's the ammonium?~~

~~it's a metal impurity?~~

~~it's another impurity?~~

it's oxygen?





So, **yes**, we can photochemically generate  $\text{SO}_4^{\cdot-}$ , but what if...

~~it's just erythritol?~~

~~it's just our lamp?~~

~~it's actually  $\text{OH}^\cdot$ ?~~

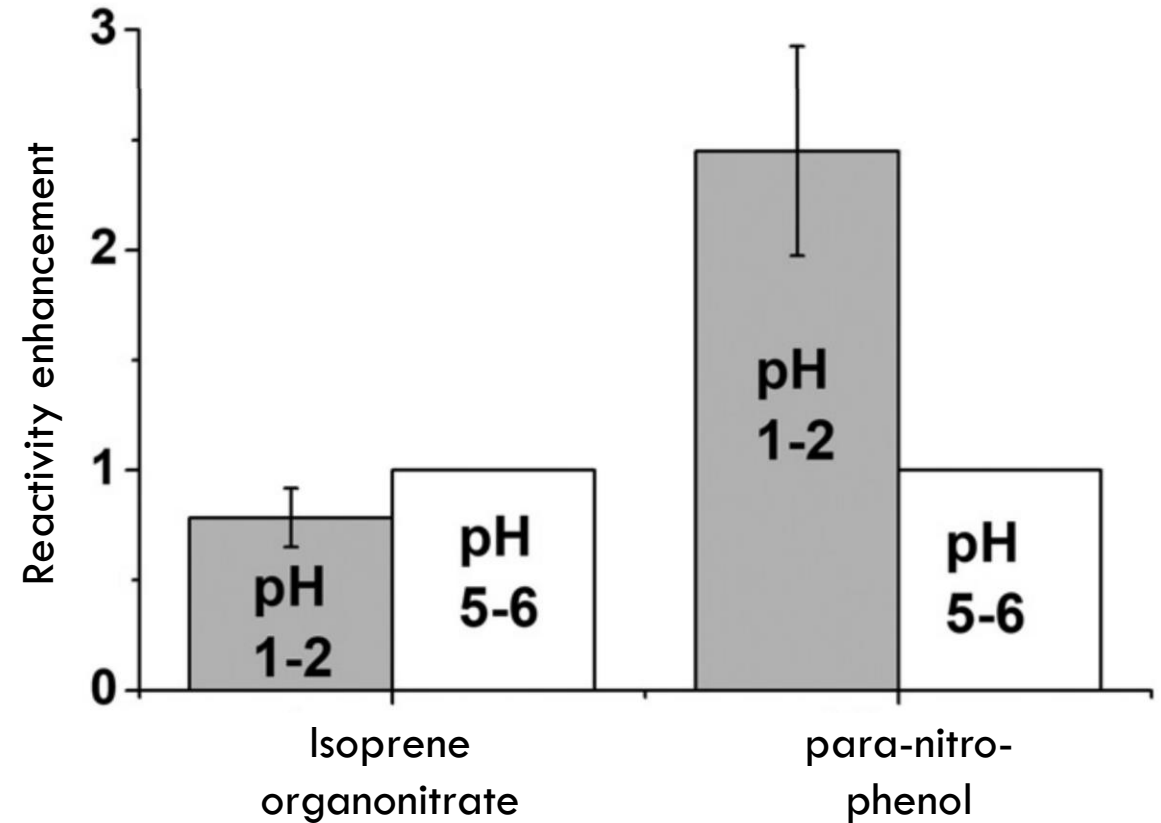
~~it's the ammonium?~~

~~it's a metal impurity?~~

~~it's another impurity?~~

~~it's oxygen?~~

it's pH dependent?



So, **yes**, we can photochemically generate  $\text{SO}_4^{\bullet-}$ , but what if...

~~it's just erythritol?~~

~~it's just our lamp?~~

~~it's actually  $\text{OH}^{\bullet}$ ?~~

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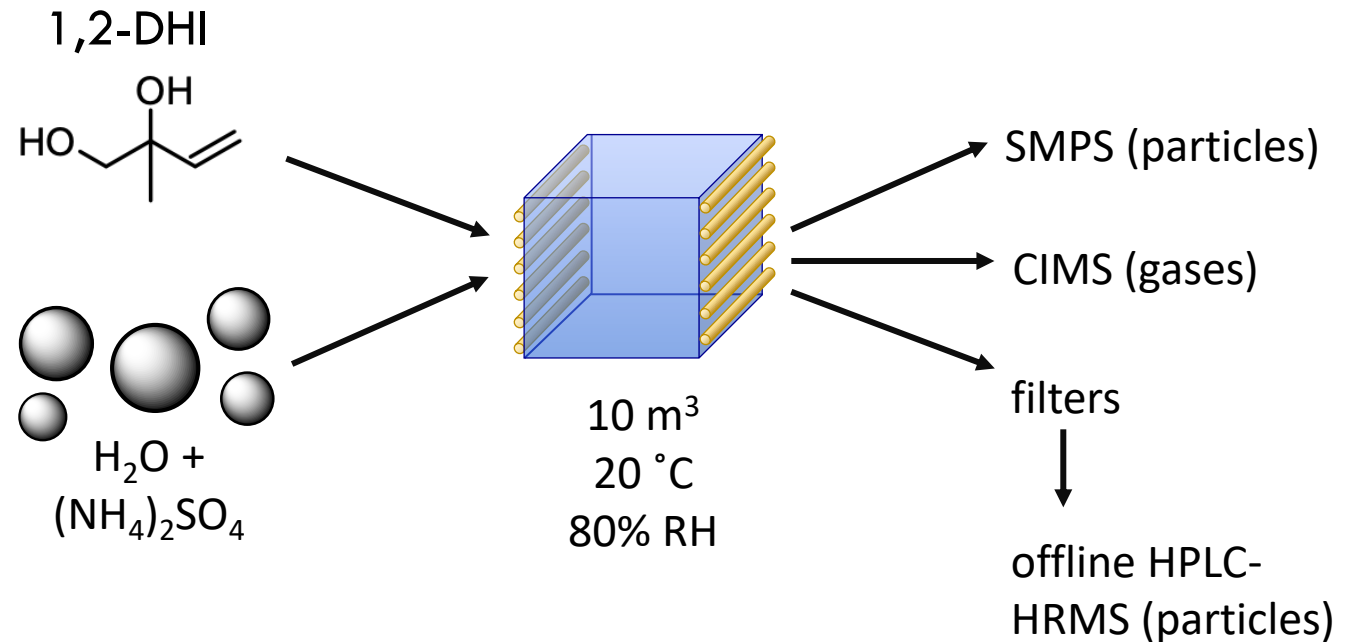
~~it's a metal impurity?~~

~~it's another impurity?~~

~~it's oxygen?~~

~~it's pH dependent? (...?)~~

**it's only in bulk solution?**



So, **yes**, we can photochemically generate  $\text{SO}_4^{\cdot-}$ , but what if...

~~it's just erythritol?~~

~~it's just our lamp?~~

~~it's actually  $\text{OH}^{\cdot}$ ?~~

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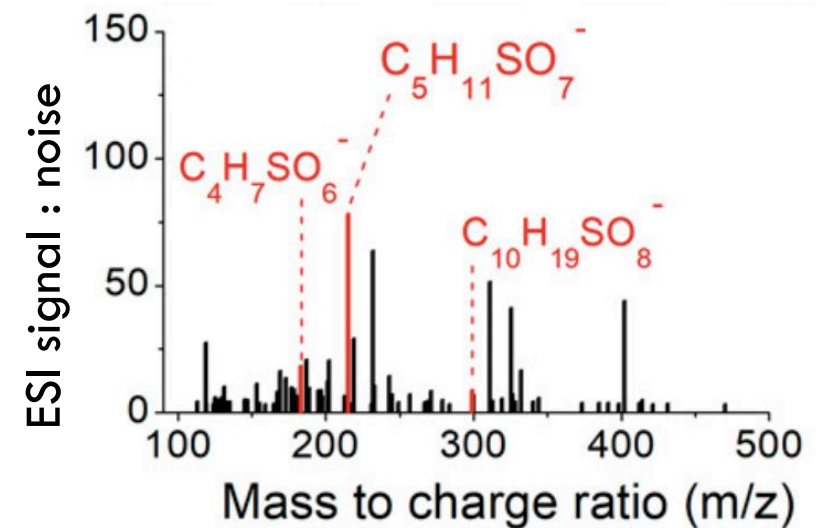
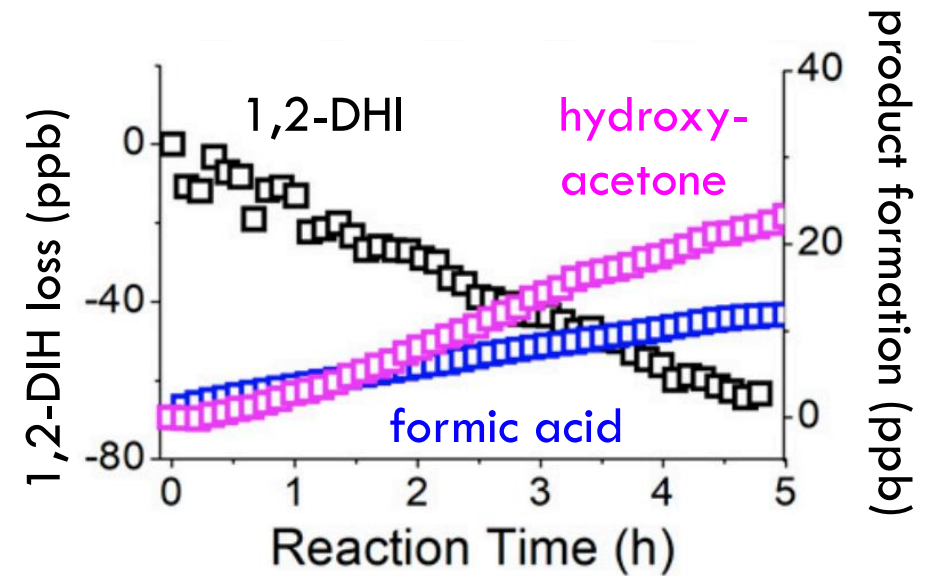
~~it's oxygen?~~

~~it's pH dependent?~~

**it's only in bulk?**

gas phase:  
fragmentation  
products

particle phase:  
organo-  
sulfates



## Limitations & implications

What's the mechanism? (direct  $e^-$  ejection?)

Estimated aerosol  $[\text{SO}_4^{\bullet-}]_{\text{ss}}$  of  $10^{-14} = 10^{-12}$  M, potentially exceeding OH

$\text{SO}_4^{\bullet-}$  oxidation of S(IV) could catalyze more sulfate formation

Fragmentation of organics by  $\text{SO}_4^{\bullet-}$  could lead to particle mass loss and production of gas-phase acids & oxygenates

Functionalization of organics by  $\text{SO}_4^{\bullet-}$  could lead to particle mass gain and changes in surface properties

Chamber experimental results may be complicated (and to some extent explained) by  $\text{SO}_4^{\bullet-}$  chemistry

