

学位論文（要約）

Doctoral Dissertation (Censored)

Photo-oxidation of ferrous iron: Implications for hydrogeochemistry of early

lakes on Gale Crater, Mars

（二価鉄の光酸化：火星ゲイルクレータ古湖の水文地球化学への示唆）

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# Abstract

Lines of geological records obtained by Mars exploration suggest that Mars once had liquid water on its surface and that the water environment experienced acidification and oxidation about 3.5 billion years ago. Since the record of liquid water on the surface disappears at 3.5 billion years ago, revealing the acidification and the oxidation mechanism is important for understanding the evolution of the Martian surface. To reconstruct the early Martian hydrogeochemistry, in this thesis, I focused on the ferrous iron (Fe(II)) photo-oxidation mechanism.

When UV light of wavelength at  $< 300$  nm is irradiated onto an aqueous solution containing dissolved Fe(II) salts,  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  ions are photo-oxidized to ferric iron (Fe(III)) through producing  $\text{H}^+$  via the following equation:



The reaction rate of the photochemical reaction is determined by experimentally measuring the quantum yield (i.e., the number of Fe(III) produced per the number of photons absorbed). However, previous studies have quantified the quantum yield of Fe(II) photo-oxidation only at  $\text{pH} < 3$  due to the difficulty avoiding the oxidation by the dissolved  $\text{O}_2$ , which the reaction rate increases exponentially as pH increases. Since the pH of the early Mars aqueous environment is estimated to be  $\text{pH} \sim 7$ , it was not possible to apply it for the Martian aqueous environment. Furthermore, at neutral pH, a fraction of the dissolved Fe(II) ion is converted to  $\text{FeOH}^+$ , which could absorb photons of wavelength at  $< 460$  nm, and the quantum yield of  $\text{FeOH}^+$  photo-oxidation has not been reported.

In Chapter 2 of this thesis, I performed a laboratory experiment of Fe(II) photo-oxidation utilizing an Ar-purged glovebox and a zirconia pump deoxygenating system, which could achieve low  $\text{O}_2$  partial pressure of  $< 10^{-15}$  bar. By preparing the pH buffer solution inside the glovebox, the quantum yields of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  photo-oxidation ( $\varphi_{\text{Fe}^{2+}}$ ) at pH of 2.0–7.6 was measured as follows:

$$\varphi_{\text{Fe}^{2+}} = 0.103 (\pm 0.005) + 2.17 (\pm 0.27) \times [\text{H}^+]^{0.5}.$$

The quantum yield of  $\text{FeOH}^+$  was also measured to be  $0.08 \pm 0.01$  at pH 7.1–7.6 by adjusting the irradiation spectra of the light source to the wavelength of  $> 300$  nm using an optical filter.

To evaluate the wavelength dependence of  $\text{FeOH}^+$  photo-oxidation, experiments with the irradiation wavelength at  $> 200$  nm,  $> 260$  nm, and  $> 300$  using optical filters against solutions without pH buffer were performed to investigate the timescale of acidification (Chapter 3). The quantum yields of  $\text{FeOH}^+$  photo-oxidation were obtained from the initial reaction rate to be  $0.13 \pm 0.03$  and  $0.09 \pm 0.01$  for irradiation with a wavelength of  $> 260$  nm and  $> 300$  nm, respectively. The about 1.4 times higher quantum yield at irradiation of  $> 260$  nm compared to  $> 300$  nm suggests that although the quantum yield of  $\text{FeOH}^+$  photo-oxidation shows a wavelength dependence, its variation is relatively small.

On the course of irradiation, while the solution pH drastically decreased to pH  $\sim 4$  when irradiated with  $> 200$  nm, it remained circum-neutral pH of  $\sim 6$  for irradiations with  $> 260$  nm and  $> 300$  nm within the experimental time. Using the obtained reaction rate, the acidification timescale for Martian solar flux under various  $\text{CO}_2$ – $\text{SO}_2$  atmospheric compositions were calculated. It was found that although the reaction rate seems slow,  $\text{FeOH}^+$  photo-oxidation would acidify the surface water pH to  $\sim 4$  within a short timescale of  $\sim 10^2$  years. Since various episodic warming mechanism has been proposed to sustain surface water for  $> 10^2$  years, this result suggests the existence of a pH buffering mechanism on early Mars.

In order to constrain the geochemical conditions on Hesperian Mars, the reaction rates of  $\text{Fe(II)}$  photo-oxidation derived in Chapter 2 are applied to a reaction-transport model simulating the early Gale lake settings (Chapter 4). The appearances of oxidizing Fe oxides (e.g., hematite) in the coarser sediments and reducing Fe oxides (e.g., magnetite) in the finer sediments discovered by the Curiosity rover landed in the Gale Crater have led to a hypothesis that early Gale lakes could have been redox stratified.  $\text{Fe(II)}$  photo-oxidation could have created a vertical redox gradient because the oxidation tends to proceed near the surface due to an attenuation of solar photons. I constructed a one-dimensional geochemical model that aimed to investigate  $\text{Fe(II)}$  input fluxes,  $\text{Fe(II)}$  source (via rivers or groundwater), advection rate of the water column, pH of lake water, and atmospheric compositions to achieve redox stratification on early Gale lakes.

The results suggest that when Fe(II) is supplied via rivers, both acidic pH of 5 and a high Fe input flux are required for redox stratification. This is because dissolved Fe(II) supplied from the top layer needs to be transported to a deep part before Fe(II) photo-oxidation for redox stratification and because Fe(II) photo-oxidation rates are low at low pH. On the other hand, when Fe(II) is supplied via groundwater upwelling, redox stratification occurs in a wide range of parameters (pH 5–7) and moderate Fe input flux as long as the advection rate is kept small. High input fluxes of Fe(II) or CO<sub>2</sub> partial pressure of ~bar result in saturation with Fe(II)-carbonate, which is inconsistent with the in-situ observations detecting almost no carbonate minerals. Considering the recent estimate of the circum-neutral pH of early Gale lakes, these results prefer scenarios that Fe(II) was supplied via groundwater upwelling on paleo-Gale lakes. Required low advection rates imply that the depth of early Gale lakes would have been relatively deep (i.e., several hundred meters). Preferred low CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere suggests a need for an abundance of other efficient greenhouse effect gases than CO<sub>2</sub> to warm the surface on early Mars.

A groundwater-supported aqueous environment on early Mars has been suggested in numerous locations based on geomorphological analyses. This thesis adds new hydrogeochemical constraints by combining laboratory experiments of Fe(II) photo-oxidation and hydrogeochemical model, utilizing the in-situ geochemical data obtained by the rover. A number of planned and ongoing planetary missions (e.g., Perseverance rover, ExoMars, MMX) are equipped with instruments capable of geochemical analyses. Therefore, the importance of understanding the fundamental geochemical processes in the planetary environments, as pursued in this thesis, is increasing.

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# Chapter 1. General Introduction

本章については、5年以内に雑誌掲載等の形で公開予定のため非公開とする。

# Chapter 2. An experimental study on photo-oxidation reactions of ferrous iron: Quantum yields at pH 3–7

## 2.1. Background of quantum yield of photo-oxidation of ferrous iron

Photo-oxidation of dissolved ferrous iron (Fe(II):  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and  $\text{FeOH}^+$  at  $\text{pH} < 8$ ) would have been a predominant process involved in the formation of ferric iron (Fe(III)) (hydro)oxides in aqueous environments on early Mars (e.g., Hurowitz et al., 2010, 2017). Through this reaction, the pH of surface water could have decreased to 2–4, which is consistent with the occurrence of jarosite—an Fe(III) hydrous sulfate that is thermodynamically stable at acidic pH—at Meridiani Planum (Tosca et al., 2005). Photo-oxidation of Fe(II) might also have generated Fe(III) (hydro)oxides in early lakes at Gale Crater on early Hesperian Mars (Hurowitz et al., 2017) (see Sec. 1.2).

Photo-oxidation of Fe(II) could have proceeded under a range of pH conditions in aqueous environments on early Mars. Previous studies have suggested that the pH of early Gale lakes would have been circumneutral (Bristow et al., 2017; Hurowitz et al., 2017) to weakly alkaline (Fukushi et al., 2019), based on the mineralogy of lacustrine sediments at Gale Crater. On early Mars, the pH of groundwater would have been near neutral to alkaline, owing to water-rock interactions involving mafic rocks (e.g., Zolotov and Mironenko, 2016; Kite and Melwani Daswani, 2019). At locations where upwelling of groundwater occurred, photo-oxidation would thus have proceeded in circumneutral to alkaline water (Hurowitz et al., 2017).

Although Fe(II) photo-oxidation would have proceeded under a range of pH conditions in aqueous environments on early Mars (e.g., Zolotov and Mironenko, 2016; Kite and Melwani Daswani, 2019; Fukushi et al., 2019), the quantum yield  $\varphi$  (defined as the number of oxidized ferrous ions divided by the number of photons absorbed by ferrous ions) were determined for a limited pH range of 0.4–3.0 previously (Jortner and Stein, 1962a, 1962b). Previous experimental studies investigated the pH dependence of the reaction at  $\text{pH} > 3$  (Braterman et al., 1983, 1984; Konhauser et al., 2007; Nie et al., 2017). However, quantum yields at  $\text{pH} > 3$  contained large uncertainties because photon fluxes were not measured (Braterman et al., 1983; 1984; Konhauser et al., 2007; Nie et al., 2017)



(Sec. 1.3).

Jortner and Stein (1962b) reported an empirical relationship for pH and quantum yield for Fe(II) photo-oxidation based on the experimental data obtained at pH 0.4–3.0 (see Eq. 1–2 in Part 1). As pH increases above 6, FeOH<sup>+</sup> becomes a predominant Fe(II) species in solution (Fig. 1–1a). Since Eq. 1–2 was obtained only to the pH range of 0.4–3.0, and since Fe<sup>2+</sup> and FeOH<sup>+</sup> have different UV absorptivity spectra (Fig. 1–1b; Anbar and Holland, 1992; Ehrenfreund and Leibenguth, 1970), Eq. 1–2 cannot be simply extrapolated to a higher pH to calculate the photo-oxidation rate of Fe(II).

Furthermore, the experimental studies, from which Eq. 1–2 was derived, employed only a Hg lamp as a light source (Jortner and Stein, 1962b). This limits the applicability of Eq. 1–2 because the solar spectrum is continuous and markedly different from that of a Hg lamp. If there is a wavelength dependence of quantum yield, Eq. 1–2 cannot be used to determine contributions of photo-oxidation in precipitating Fe(III) (hydro)oxides on early Mars.

A major difficulty in estimating photo-oxidation quantum yields at pH > 3 is the avoidance of oxidation of aqueous Fe(II) by dissolved O<sub>2</sub>. The rate of oxidation of aqueous Fe(II) by O<sub>2</sub> increases with O<sub>2</sub> concentration and pH (e.g., Stumm and Lee, 1961; Kanzaki and Murakami, 2013);

$$-d[\text{Fe}^{2+}]_{\text{tot}}/dt = k[\text{Fe}^{2+}]_{\text{tot}}[\text{O}_2]^x[\text{OH}^-]^2 \quad (2-1)$$

where [X] denotes the molar concentration of species X in solution;  $[\text{Fe}^{2+}]_{\text{tot}} = [\text{Fe}^{2+}] + [\text{FeOH}^+]$  (at pH < 8);  $k$  is the reaction constant; and  $x$  is the reaction order with respect to O<sub>2</sub> (0.5–1). The rate of Fe<sup>2+</sup> oxidation by O<sub>2</sub> can be comparable to, or even greater than, the expected photo-oxidation rates at circumneutral pH (e.g., Anbar and Holland, 1992) if O<sub>2</sub> concentrations reach to 1 ppm (= 3.1 × 10<sup>-5</sup> mol L<sup>-1</sup>). The 1 ppm of O<sub>2</sub> were, in general, involved in the previous experiments on photo-oxidation of Fe(II) (Braterman et al., 1983, 1984; Nie et al., 2017). Dissolved O<sub>2</sub> concentrations of << 1 ppm are thereby necessary for quantitative measurements of Fe<sup>2+</sup> photo-oxidation rates at circumneutral pH.

In this study, Fe(II) photo-oxidation experiments were conducted utilizing a glovebox connected with a gas-circulating system, in which dissolved O<sub>2</sub> concentrations of < 0.01 ppm were achieved. This system allows us to obtain quantum yields at pH > 3. Based on the results, we discuss the pH and wavelength dependences of photo-oxidation of Fe<sup>2+</sup> and FeOH<sup>+</sup>.

## 2.2. Methods of photo-oxidation experiments to obtain quantum yields

The experimental setup of the Fe(II) photo-oxidation is illustrated in Fig. 2–1. The system was mainly composed of a reaction vessel and a light source. Experimental solutions were prepared in a glovebox and then were introduced into the quartz reaction vessel with a volume of 500 mL (diameter 8 cm, height 10 cm; Fig. 2–1). The quartz glass was chosen as it transmits more than 90% of light at a wavelength of 200–460 nm (e.g., Kitamura et al., 2007). The detailed descriptions of the procedure, light source, and reactant solutions are shown below in Secs. 2.2.1, 2.2.2, and 2.2.3, respectively. During the irradiation of UV light onto the experimental solution, a part of the solution was collected for the measurements of Fe(II) concentration. The detailed descriptions of the measurements and data analyses are shown below in Secs. 2.2.4 and 2.2.5, respectively. The reaction conditions are summarized in Sec. 2.2.6.

### 2.2.1. Solution preparation

Solutions containing Fe(II) ions were prepared and sealed in the reaction vessel within a 180-L Ar-purged, acrylic glovebox connected to a deoxygenation system (SiOC-2000GB; STLab Co., Japan) to provide low-O<sub>2</sub> conditions ( $[O_2] \leq 0.01$  ppm). The detailed descriptions of the glovebox can also be found in Kanzaki and Murakami (2019) and Tabata et al. (2021).

Before preparation of solutions, the glovebox was purged for 10 hours using pure Ar gas (>99.9999 vol.%, Nissan Tanaka Corp., Japan), after which the remaining gas was circulated through the deoxygenation system for ~10 hours to remove remaining O<sub>2</sub>. The partial pressure of O<sub>2</sub> ( $pO_2$ ) within the glovebox was decreased to  $<10^{-15}$  bar during this procedure.

When  $pO_2$  was  $<10^{-15}$  bar in the glovebox, the pH buffer solution described below was bubbled with Ar gas at  $1.4 \text{ L min}^{-1}$  for over 4 hours for deoxygenation. Concentrations of dissolved oxygen (DO) in solutions were monitored during bubbling using a DO meter (TOX-02H; Toko Kagaku, Japan) until levels were below the detection limit ( $[O_2] \leq 0.01$  ppm) (Fig. 2–2).

After deoxygenation, dissolved Fe(II) as Fe(NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> powder (purity >99%; Wako Pure Chemical Industries (WPCI), Japan) was added to the buffer solution. and its pH was adjusted by adding H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (purity > 99%; WPCI) for pH < 3, HNO<sub>3</sub> (purity > 99%; WPCI) for pH 4–5, and bis-tris C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> (purity >99%; Dojindo Laboratories, Japan) for pH 6–7.6. Ultrapure Milli-Q water (18.2 MΩ; Millipore) was used as a solvent for the

buffer solutions, and pH was measured using a pH meter (LAQUAtwin pH-33; Horiba, Japan). Use of H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> as the buffer at pH < 3 is in accord with Jortner and Stein (1962a; 1962b) and thus enables us to examine the validity of our experimental setup by comparing the results. The solution pH was stabilized using the above buffers within a range of  $\pm 0.2$  during the experiments.

### 2.2.1. Experimental procedure

Prior to an irradiation of the light source, the reaction vessel was filled with deoxygenated experimental solution, tightly sealed, and covered with a weighed sheet of aluminum foil inside the glovebox. Then, the reaction vessel was taken out of the glovebox and weighed to measure the initial amount of the experimental solution. The reaction vessel was set on a thermostat-magnetic stirrer at a distance of 20 cm from the lamp (Fig. 2–1). The solution was kept at room temperature ( $\sim 25^\circ\text{C}$ ) and stirred continuously. The lamp was turned on 30 minutes before starting the irradiation to ensure that the photon flux was stabilized.

At intervals during the experiment,  $\sim 1$  mL of irradiated solution was collected as a sample after another  $\sim 1$  mL of solution was drained to waste through a Teflon sampling cock. This was done because the first 1 mL may contain unmixed solution from near the cock. In both the draining and sampling procedures, the solution was withdrawn from the reaction vessel by injecting 1 mL of pure He into the vessel through the butyl-rubber plug, using a gas-tight syringe (Fig. 2–1). About half (i.e.,  $\sim 0.5$  mL) of each collected sample was used for pH measurement, and the other half for Fe(II) concentration ( $[\text{Fe}^{2+}]_{\text{tot}} = [\text{Fe}^{2+}] + [\text{FeOH}^+]$ ) measurement. Samples collected for  $[\text{Fe}^{2+}]_{\text{tot}}$  measurement were introduced directly into polypropylene vessels filled with acidic solution buffered at pH 3.5 to avoid oxidation of Fe<sup>2+</sup> by air after sampling. The oxidation of Fe<sup>2+</sup> by atmospheric O<sub>2</sub> is negligible at pH < 3.5; Eq. 2–1; (Stumm and Lee, 1961; Kanzaki and Murakami, 2013). At low pH, all dissolved Fe(II) was supposed to be converted to Fe<sup>2+</sup>, which can be quantified using the phenanthroline method.

The irradiation time for each experiment was set to ensure that the total fraction of oxidized Fe<sup>2+</sup> ions did not exceed the initial concentration of Fe<sup>2+</sup> by more than a few percent. This was done because the UV absorption by Fe(III) (hydro)oxide particles can be safely assumed to be negligible compared with absorption by aqueous Fe<sup>2+</sup> ions (Sec. 2.2.5). The precipitated Fe(III) (hydro)oxide particles are known to adsorb dissolved Fe(II) species and catalyze oxidation reaction by dissolved O<sub>2</sub> (Tamura et al., 1976; Sung and Morgan, 1980). Although the catalyzed oxidation by the dissolved O<sub>2</sub> would be

negligible due to reduced  $[O_2]$  (Sec. 2.2.1) (Sung and Morgan, 1980), the high fraction of adsorbed Fe(II) could reduce the apparent photo-oxidation rate. However, the ratio of the adsorbed Fe(II) ( $[Fe^{2+}]_{ad}$ ) to the remaining dissolved  $[Fe^{2+}]$  is reported to be linearly proportional to ( $[Fe^{2+}]_{ad}/[Fe^{2+}] = K_{ad}[Fe(III)]/[H^+]$ , where  $K_{ad}$  is the constant =  $10^{-9.6}$  mol  $mg^{-1}$ ) (Tamura et al., 1976). Thus, the adsorbed fraction of Fe(II) would remain  $< 1\%$  of the total Fe(II) in the solution even at pH 7, as long as  $[Fe(III)]$  is kept at below a few percent of the initial  $[Fe^{2+}]$  (i.e.,  $10^{-3}$  mol  $L^{-1}$ , see Sec. 2.2.5 below). Photo-oxidation quantum yields were calculated on the basis of the dissolved Fe(II) concentrations of the samples (Sec. 2.2.6).

### 2.2.3. Light sources and photon-flux actinometry

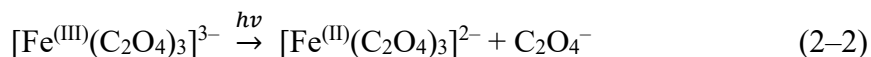
In most experiments, a 150 W Xe lamp (L7810; Hamamatsu Photonics, Japan) was used as the light source, although a low-pressure Hg lamp (80-1057-01; BHK Inc., USA) was used in some experiments to compare quantum yields with those obtained in the previous studies (Jortner and Stein, 1962a; 1962b). We used an optical filter that passes through photons with a wavelength of  $> 300$  nm in some experiments in order to investigate the quantum yields of  $FeOH^+$  photo-oxidation.

A low-pressure Hg lamp provides UV light at 254 nm wavelength ( $\lambda$ ), and a Xe lamp provides light continuously from UV ( $\lambda > 200$  nm) to visible wavelengths, with the spectrum of the latter being similar to solar spectra in the UV range (Fig. 2–3). The spectrum of the low-pressure Hg lamp in Fig. 2–3 was obtained using a calibrated UV-Vis spectrometer (USB4000; Ocean Optics, USA). An optical filter with  $>99\%$  cutoff at  $\lambda = 300$  nm (N-WG-320; Schott AG, Germany) was used with the Xe lamp in  $FeOH^+$  experiments, allowing oxidation of Fe(II) ions to be attributed solely to photo-oxidation of  $FeOH^+$  (Fig. 1–1b). The optical filter was set to the aperture of the Xe lamp (Fig. 2–1).

Since the irradiated light from the Xe lamp includes photons with the minimum energy required of photolysis of liquid  $H_2O$  ( $\sim 6$  eV: corresponding to a photon with a wavelength of  $\sim 200$  nm) (Sander et al., 1993; Bernas et al., 1997), reactive oxygen species could be generated via  $H_2O$  photolysis in our experiments. However, UV absorptivity of liquid  $H_2O$  at 200 nm is  $0.0026$   $cm^{-1}$  (Fewell and Trojan, 2019), which is an order of magnitude lower than that of  $Fe^{2+}$  at the concentration of  $10^{-3}$  mol  $L^{-1}$  in our experiments ( $0.0286$   $cm^{-1}$ ) (Heinrich and Seward, 1990). Also, the quantum yield of  $H_2O$  photolysis is reported to be in the order of 0.001 by a photon at  $\sim 180$  nm (Nikogosyan et al., 1983), which is two orders of magnitude lower than that of  $Fe^{2+}$  photo-oxidation (see Sec. 2.3 and the previous studies (e.g., Jortner and Stein, 1962a)). Thus, the contribution of oxidants

produced via H<sub>2</sub>O photolysis to oxidize Fe<sup>2+</sup> is more than three orders of magnitude smaller than Fe<sup>2+</sup> photo-oxidation. Furthermore, the effect of H<sub>2</sub>O photolysis should be even smaller because Fe<sup>2+</sup> can utilize photons of 200–300 nm for photo-oxidation, unlike H<sub>2</sub>O.

Photon fluxes of wavelengths at 200–460 nm were quantified using the potassium ferrioxalate (K<sub>3</sub>[Fe<sup>(III)</sup>(C<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>]) actinometry method (e.g., Hatchard and Parker, 1956; Kuhn et al., 2004), in which dissolved Fe(III) of potassium ferrioxalate is photo-reduced to Fe(II) when potassium ferrioxalate solution is irradiated at  $\lambda < 460$  nm (Eq. 2–2).



With a known photo-reduction quantum yield (Fig. 2–4), the photon flux can be determined through measurement of photo-reduced [Fe<sup>2+</sup>] (see Sec. 2.2.4) in the potassium ferrioxalate solution upon irradiation (Eq. 2–3):

$$I_{abs,f} = \frac{[\text{Fe}^{2+}]}{\varphi_f t} \quad (2-3)$$

where  $I_{abs,f}$  is the photon flux absorbed by the ferrioxalate (mol L<sup>-1</sup> min<sup>-1</sup>),  $\varphi_f$  is the quantum yield of the photo-reduction reaction of ferrioxalate, and  $t$  (min) is the irradiation time. The geometric configuration during photon-flux measurements was the same as that of the photo-oxidation experiments.

In the photon-flux measurements, potassium ferrioxalate solution at concentrations of  $6 \times 10^{-3}$  or  $15 \times 10^{-3}$  mol L<sup>-1</sup> was introduced into the reaction vessel (Table 2–1). The concentrations of ferrioxalate were chosen to ensure that the photo-reduced fraction of ferrioxalate is < 10%. The ferrioxalate was synthesized from potassium oxalate monohydrate ((COOK)<sub>2</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O; purity > 99%; WPCI) and ferric chloride hexahydrate (FeCl<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O; purity > 99%; WPCI), following previously published methods (e.g., Kuhn et al., 2004). All procedures were conducted under a > 500-nm Safelight (PTP760; Paterson Photographic Ltd., UK) to avoid photochemical artifacts.

The Fe<sup>2+</sup> concentration in potassium ferrioxalate solution increased linearly with irradiation time (Fig. 2–5). Photon flux was calculated from the quantum yield of potassium ferrioxalate (Eq. 2–3) (Murov, 1993; Goldstein and Rabani, 2008). The measured photon fluxes are summarized in Table 2–1.

#### 2.2.4. Fe(II) concentration measurement

The total Fe(II) concentrations of samples were determined using the phenanthroline

method (e.g., Saywell and Cunningham, 1937; Kuhn et al., 2004), in which o-phenanthroline displays an absorption centered at  $\lambda = 510$  nm in an acidic (pH 3.5) solution through the formation of a chelate complex with  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ .

Phenanthroline solutions were prepared as described in Hatchard and Parker (1956). For each  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  analysis, 2.5 mL of solution was prepared in a polypropylene tube from 1 mL  $5.5 \text{ mmol L}^{-1}$  o-phenanthroline solution (purity >99%; WPCI), 0.25 mL ultrapure water, and 1.25 mL of a mixture of  $0.18 \text{ mol L}^{-1}$   $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  and  $0.6 \text{ mol L}^{-1}$   $\text{CH}_3\text{COONa}$  (purity >99%; WPCI) solutions (i.e., an  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ – $\text{CH}_3\text{COONa}$  pH buffer at pH 3.5). Each collected sample was added to a tube of a prepared solution and kept in the dark for 30 minutes to stabilize the  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ –phenanthroline chelate complex (Kuhn et al., 2004). All these procedures were conducted under a Safelight (as above) to avoid photo-oxidation of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  after the sampling. Sample absorbances were measured by UV–visible spectrophotometry (Lambda 650; Perkin Elmer, USA). A calibration plot was generated with solutions of known  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  concentration (Fig. 2–6).

### 2.2.5. Reaction conditions and evaluation of air contamination

Reaction conditions involved systematically varied irradiation conditions and solution pH in experiments, referred to by ‘run’ numbers in Table 2–2: (a) using the Hg lamp (runs 1–3); (b) using the Xe lamp without an optical filter (runs 4–9); (c) using the Xe lamp with an optical filter (runs 10–12); and (d) a control experiment using no light source (run 13). These groups of experiments were respectively intended for (a) comparison with previous studies (Jortner and Stein, 1962a; 1962b) without deoxygenation of solutions (runs 1–3); (b) study of the pH dependence of the  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  photo-oxidation rate (runs 4–9); (c) study of  $\text{FeOH}^+$  photo-oxidation (runs 10–12); and (d) a background check on the effect of  $\text{Fe(II)}$  oxidation due to  $\text{O}_2$  contamination during the procedures (run 13). In the background check, the measured  $[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  remained unchanged from the initial value within a  $1\sigma$  of measurement error ( $\pm 6.6 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mmol L}^{-1}$ ) for 600 min (Fig. 2–7), which indicates that oxidation of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  due to air contamination during sampling was negligible.

### 2.2.6. Photo-oxidation analysis

After irradiation,  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  was determined; i.e., the difference in  $[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  from the initial value ( $[\text{Fe}^{2+}]_0$ ) after a certain time,  $t$  (min), of irradiation ( $[\text{Fe}^{2+}]_t$ ):  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}] = [\text{Fe}^{2+}]_0 - [\text{Fe}^{2+}]_t$ . The increasing rate of  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  gradually decreased over the irradiation time, because  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  is consumed by photo-oxidation, and because UV light is absorbed by

produced Fe(III) ions ( $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Fe}(\text{OH})^{2+}$ , and  $\text{Fe}(\text{OH})_2^+$ ). The latter reduces the photon flux absorbed by Fe(II) (i.e., absorbed photon flux,  $I_{\text{abs,Fe}^{2+}}$  and  $I_{\text{abs,FeOH}^+}$ ; unit  $\text{mol min}^{-1} \text{L}^{-1}$ ), the so-called inner-filter effect (Jortner and Stein, 1962a, 1962b). In determining quantum yields of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and  $\text{FeOH}^+$  photo-oxidation ( $\varphi_{\text{Fe}^{2+}}$  and  $\varphi_{\text{FeOH}^+}$ , respectively) from  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$ , the effect of the inner-filter effects must be taken quantitatively into account as follows.

The theoretical time trend (i.e., the trend with irradiation time) of  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  was first considered for a given set of quantum yields, based on quantum yields,  $\varphi_{\text{Fe}^{2+}}$  and  $\varphi_{\text{FeOH}^+}$ , and absorbed photon flux,  $I_{\text{abs,Fe}^{2+}}$  and  $I_{\text{abs,FeOH}^+}$ :

$$\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}] = \int_0^t \varphi_{\text{Fe}^{2+}} I_{\text{abs,Fe}^{2+}}(t) + \varphi_{\text{FeOH}^+} I_{\text{abs,FeOH}^+}(t) dt. \quad (2-4)$$

The functions  $I_{\text{abs,Fe}^{2+}}$  and  $I_{\text{abs,FeOH}^+}$  are represented as:

$$I_{\text{abs,Fe}^{2+}}(t) = \int_{200}^{300} I_0(\lambda) (1 - 10^{-k(\lambda)}) \frac{\varepsilon_{\text{Fe}^{2+}} [\text{Fe}^{2+}]_t}{\sum \varepsilon_X [\text{X}]_t} d\lambda \quad (2-5)$$

$$I_{\text{abs,FeOH}^+}(t) = \int_{200}^{460} I_0(\lambda) (1 - 10^{-k(\lambda)}) \frac{\varepsilon_{\text{FeOH}^+} [\text{FeOH}^+]_t}{\sum \varepsilon_X [\text{X}]_t} d\lambda \quad (2-6)$$

where  $I_0(\lambda)$  is the irradiated photon flux at wavelength  $\lambda$  ( $\text{mol cm}^{-2} \text{min}^{-1} \text{nm}^{-1}$ ),  $\varepsilon_X$  is the molar absorptivity of species X ( $\text{mol}^{-1} \text{L cm}^{-1}$ ), and  $k(\lambda)$  represents the total absorption due to all dissolved species. The function  $k(\lambda)$  is expressed as:

$$k(\lambda) = \sum \varepsilon_X [\text{X}] d \quad (2-7)$$

where  $d$  is the optical path length (6.3 cm was used as an average optical path length based on the geometry of the reaction vessel). To obtain  $k(\lambda)$ , the respective concentrations of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Fe}(\text{OH})^+$ ,  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Fe}(\text{OH})^{2+}$ , and  $\text{Fe}(\text{OH})_2^+$ , based on ion speciation in a solution at 25°C for the pH of the experiment, were applied (Fig. 2–8) (Stefansson, 2007). Assuming that Fe(III) ions formed solely during photo-oxidation of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ , the total concentration of Fe(III) ions ( $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_{\text{tot}} = [\text{Fe}^{3+}] + [\text{Fe}(\text{OH})^{2+}] + [\text{Fe}(\text{OH})_2^+]$ ) was treated as per  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  as long as its value was lower than the solubility of ferrihydrite ( $\text{Fe}(\text{OH})_3$ ; an initial Fe(III) precipitation phase; Stefansson (2007)). When  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  exceeded the solubility of ferrihydrite, the concentrations of Fe(III) ions were assumed to be in equilibrium with the solubility of ferrihydrite at the applied pH. Published values were used for the molar absorptivity ( $\varepsilon_X$ ) of each species (Heinrich and Seward, 1990; Anbar and Holland, 1992; Stefansson, 2007; Fig. 1–1 and Fig. 2–8). For Fe(III) ions,  $\varepsilon_X$  was assumed to be zero at  $\lambda > 350 \text{ nm}$  for  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ ,  $>400 \text{ nm}$  for  $\text{FeOH}^{2+}$ , and  $>400 \text{ nm}$  for

$\text{Fe}(\text{OH})_2^+$ , because  $\epsilon_X$  decreases markedly at longer wavelengths (and no published values for longer wavelengths were available). Measured total Fe(II) concentrations and published  $\epsilon_X$  values were used to calculate  $k(\lambda)$  for the applied pH. The spectral irradiated photon flux,  $I_0(\lambda)$ , was calculated by scaling the manufacturer-specified spectral irradiance (Fig. 2–3) so that the integrated irradiation flux matched the photon flux measured by chemical actinometry (Table 2–1). For the Hg lamp, the measured photon flux was assumed to be attributed to the emission line at  $\lambda = 254$  nm (Fig. 2–3). Photon absorption calculations (Eqs. 2–5 and 2–6) involved integration over the range of  $\lambda = 200$ –460 nm at 10-nm intervals. The time trends of  $I_{\text{abs, Fe}^{2+}}$ ,  $I_{\text{abs, FeOH}^+}$ , and  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  were then determined for a given set of quantum yields.

Quantum yields were based on least-squares fitting of experimental time trends of  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  with the theoretical predictions of  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$ . The  $\text{FeOH}^+$  concentration becomes non-negligible at  $\text{pH} > 5$  (e.g., runs 8 and 9; Fig. 1–1a), so the time trend of  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  at  $\text{pH} > 5$  could be caused by photo-oxidation of both  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and  $\text{FeOH}^+$ . To distinguish between these reactions,  $\phi_{\text{FeOH}^+}$  was first obtained using the optical filter (runs 10–12), then employed in the photo-oxidation analyses to obtain  $\phi_{\text{Fe}^{2+}}$  based on the time trend of  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  at  $\text{pH} > 5$ . Errors in quantum yields were evaluated by the propagation of uncertainties and errors in measurements and calculations, applying  $1\sigma$  uncertainties for  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$ ,  $[\text{Fe}^{2+}]_0$ , and  $I_0$ . The calculated errors in quantum yields were  $\leq 10\%$ .

In the analysis, reductive dissolution of Fe(III) (hydro)oxides by dissolved  $\text{H}_2$  was not considered. Although the kinetic rate of such a reaction is not reported, a decrease in photo-oxidation rate would be observed if such a reaction occurs. However, as shown in Sec. 2.3, the time evolutions of photo-oxidation rates are quantitatively explained by the inner-filter effect, suggesting the reductive dissolution of Fe(III) (hydro)oxides by  $\text{H}_2$  is less important, possibly due to the low solubility of  $\text{H}_2$  in water. The precipitation of Fe(II) (hydro)oxide,  $\text{Fe}(\text{OH})_2$ , was also not considered as its precipitation is negligible at the experimental pH of this study (Fig. 1–1a).

## 2.3. Results

### 2.3.1. $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ photo-oxidation at 254 nm

Time trends of  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  during UV irradiation with the Hg lamp with  $[\text{Fe}^{2+}]_0 = 0.02$ , 0.01, and 0.001 mol L<sup>-1</sup> (runs 1–3, respectively) are shown in Fig. 2–9, where an increase in  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  indicates consumption of Fe(II) species. Throughout the experiments, the measured  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  values increase continuously with  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  photo-oxidation (Fig. 2–9).



However, the rate of increase decreases gradually, owing to the inner-filter effect (see Sec. 2.2.6). By fitting the measured time trend of  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  with the theoretical equation by Eqs. 2–4 to 2–6 for  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$ , the quantum yields of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  photo-oxidation,  $\varphi_{\text{Fe}^{2+}}$ , for runs 1–3 were determined as  $0.29 \pm 0.03$  (at pH 0.5),  $0.29 \pm 0.03$  (at pH 0.6), and  $0.24 \pm 0.02$  (at pH 0.4), respectively (Fig. 2–10), which are consistent with yields reported previously using a similar Hg lamp (Jortner and Stein, 1962a; Fig. 2–9a), and which confirm the validity of our experimental system and procedure.

### 2.3.2. $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ photo-oxidation by UV–visible light ( $> 200 \text{ nm}$ )

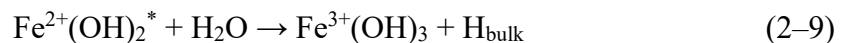
Time trends of  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  during experiments with the Xe lamp (runs 4–12) are shown in Fig. 2–11. Measured  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  values increase with irradiation time, as well as runs 1–3 with the Hg lamp. The inner-filter effect becoming less significant as pH increases, thus increasing almost linearly against irradiation time at pH 6 compared to pH 1.9 (e.g., compare Fig. 2–11a and f). This is because the solubility of ferrihydrite decreases exponentially as pH increases from 2 to 7 (Stefansson, 2007). The fraction of photons absorbed by aqueous Fe(III) ions ( $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Fe}(\text{OH})^{2+}$ , and  $\text{Fe}(\text{OH})_2^+$ ) decreases markedly at higher pH, resulting in an almost linear increase in  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  with irradiation time (Fig. 2–11).

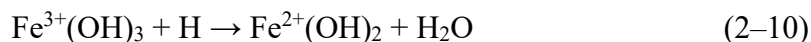
Measured quantum yields of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  photo-oxidation,  $\varphi_{\text{Fe}^{2+}}$  are plotted against pH in Fig. 2–12. Their decrease as pH increases can be fitted by the function:

$$\varphi_{\text{Fe}^{2+}} = 0.103 (\pm 0.005) + 2.17 (\pm 0.27) \times [\text{H}^+]^{0.5}. \quad (2-8)$$

Here, the contribution of  $\text{FeOH}^+$  photo-oxidation is excluded using the quantum yield obtained in runs 10–12 (see the next section; also Sec. 2.2.6). Thus,  $\varphi_{\text{Fe}^{2+}}$  represents the quantum yield solely by photo-oxidation of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ . Jortner and Stein (1962a, 1962b) reported a similar pH dependence (the  $\propto [\text{H}^+]^{0.5}$  term) for quantum yield at pH 0.4–3.0 with a Hg lamp (Eq. 1–2) and attributed it to a reaction mechanism where electrons (i.e., H atoms) produced by photo-oxidation of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  are consumed more effectively in solutions with higher  $\text{H}^+$  concentrations.

The effective quantum yield of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  photo-oxidation is determined by the sum of the three following processes: 1. Photo-oxidation of UV-excited  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  ( $\text{Fe}^{2+}(\text{OH})_2^*$ ) followed by an escape of hydrogen atom into the bulk solvent (Eq. 2–9), 2. Backreaction of photo-oxidation (Eq. 2–10), and 3. Backreaction inhibited by  $\text{H}^+$  scavenging the hydrogen atom, releasing  $\text{H}_2^+$  into the bulk solvent (Eq. 2–11).





While the quantum yield via the first process (Eq. 2-9) is pH-independent, corresponding to the first term in Eq. 2-8, the quantum yield via the second and third process would be pH-dependent as the  $\text{H}^+$  involves as a reactant. The pH dependence of such a system would be determined by the competition of the reaction of Eq. 2-10 and 2-11, which was investigated by Noyes (1955).

When the probability that the backreaction occur at a time interval between  $t$  and  $t + dt$  is expressed as  $h(t)$ , the probability of the back reaction occurring after the photo-oxidation,  $\beta$ , could be written as follows:

$$\int_0^{\infty} h(t) dt = \beta. \quad (2-12)$$

Since the backreaction requires the recombination of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  and H, its probability would be expected to be proportional to  $\propto t^{-3/2}$ , assuming the 3-D random walk for  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  and H (Noyes, 1955). Thus  $h(t) = a/t^{3/2}$ , where  $a$  is a constant parameter. On the other hand, the probability that H reacts with  $\text{H}^+$  during the random walk of  $t$  min could be expressed as follows:

$$1 - e^{-2k_{11}[\text{H}^+]t}, \quad (2-13)$$

where  $k_{11}$  is the reaction rate constant of Eq. 2-11 (Noyes, 1955). Thus, the fraction that escapes the back reaction could be given by the time integration of the product of  $h(t)$  and Eq. 2-13 as follows:

$$\int_0^{\infty} h(t)(1 - e^{-2k_{11}[\text{H}^+]t})dt = 2a\sqrt{2\pi k_{11}[\text{H}^+]} + \dots. \quad (2-14)$$

Here, the definite integration was conducted using the characteristics of the Gauss error function. Therefore, the result that the quantum yield shows a pH-dependence of  $[\text{H}^+]^{0.5}$  suggests that the  $\text{H}^+$  is interacting with the H atoms (i.e., electrons) produced in the photo-oxidation reaction via the scavenging processes rather than through other mechanisms.

The similar pH dependence observed here at higher pH under continuous UV-visible irradiation (Fig. 2-12) suggests a similar reaction mechanism, despite variations in solution composition and irradiation wavelength. Furthermore, if the electron consumption by  $\text{H}^+$  fully accounts for the pH dependence of Eq. 8, then the elementary process of the  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  photo-oxidation itself could be pH-independent.

Although our measured quantum yields display a similar pH dependence to those obtained under the Hg lamp, the absolute values using the Xe lamp are significantly

different from previous ones using the Hg lamp (Fig. 2–12). For example, the yield at pH 1.9 (run 4;  $\phi_{\text{Fe}^{2+}} = 0.34 \pm 0.03$ ) obtained using the Xe lamp in deoxygenated solution is higher than that reported previously using the Hg lamp against deoxygenated solutions ( $\phi_{\text{Fe}^{2+}} \sim 0.1$  at pH 1.9; Jortner and Stein, 1962b; Fig. 2–10). This suggests a wavelength dependence of the quantum yield of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  photo-oxidation, as discussed in Sec. 2.4.1.

### 2.3.3. $\text{FeOH}^+$ photo-oxidation

Time trends of  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  with the Xe lamp plus optical filter (i.e.,  $\lambda > 300$  nm; runs 10–12) are shown in Fig. 2–11; as explained in Sec. 2.2.3, only  $\text{FeOH}^+$  can be photo-oxidized under these conditions (Fig. 1b). The low inner-filter effect (due to the low solubility of ferrihydrite at pH  $> 7.1$ ) means that  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  values increase linearly with irradiation time (Fig. 2–11). Quantum yields of  $\text{FeOH}^+$  photo-oxidation,  $\phi_{\text{FeOH}^+}$ , at pH 7.1, 7.4, and 7.6 were  $0.071 \pm 0.006$ ,  $0.096 \pm 0.009$ , and  $0.072 \pm 0.006$ , respectively (Fig. 2–12). The investigated pH range was narrow for  $\phi_{\text{FeOH}^+}$  compared with that of  $\phi_{\text{Fe}^{2+}}$  because  $[\text{FeOH}^+]$  is very low at pH  $< 7$  (Fig. 1–1a), and because oxidation by dissolved  $\text{O}_2$  cannot be excluded at pH  $> 8$ . Within the pH range of 7.1–7.6, no obvious pH dependence of  $\phi_{\text{FeOH}^+}$  was observed (Fig. 2–12). The measured  $\phi_{\text{FeOH}^+}$  value of  $0.08 \pm 0.01$  at pH 7.1–7.6 is comparable with  $\phi_{\text{Fe}^{2+}}$  at pH  $\sim 7$  (Fig. 2–12).

## 2.4. Discussion

### 2.4.1. Wavelength dependence of $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ photo-oxidation

Our results indicate that the quantum yield of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  photo-oxidation by the Xe lamp ( $\lambda > 200$  nm; Fig. 2–12) is significantly higher than that obtained using the Hg lamp ( $\lambda = 254$  nm; Fig. 2–10), with the former representing an average over the UV–visible ( $\lambda > 200$  nm) range, and the latter the yield at  $\lambda = 254$  nm.

A shorter wavelength means higher energy, so the Xe lamp could produce higher  $\phi_{\text{Fe}^{2+}}$  values. Logan (1990) demonstrated that the quantum yield of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  photo-oxidation with UV at  $\lambda = 229$  nm from a Cd lamp was 1.4 times that at 254 nm (Hg lamp). For the Xe-lamp quantum yield ( $\phi_{\text{Fe}^{2+}} \sim 0.35$  at pH 2; Fig. 2–12) to be a few times that of  $\lambda = 254$  nm (Hg-lamp  $\phi_{\text{Fe}^{2+}} \sim 0.1$  at pH 1.9; Fig. 2–10), the yields at  $\lambda < 230$  nm must be  $> 0.35$ .

In experiments with the Xe lamp, 40–50% of the total photons absorbed by  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  ions are at  $\lambda < 230$  nm, based on the integration of emission intensities from the Xe lamp (Fig. 2–3) using Eq. 2–5 to 2–7. Although the irradiation flux at  $\lambda < 230$  nm is relatively small,

high absorption cross-sections of Fe(II) at  $\lambda < 230$  nm (Fig. 1–1) results in such efficient absorption of photons at short wavelengths. Assuming  $\phi_{\text{Fe}^{2+}}$  values of 0.1–0.14 at  $\lambda > 230$  nm at pH 2 (Jortner and Stein, 1962b; Logan, 1990),  $\phi_{\text{Fe}^{2+}}$  at  $\lambda = 200$ –230 nm must be 0.5–0.6 to account for the average  $\phi_{\text{Fe}^{2+}}$  of 0.35 obtained in our experiment with irradiation at  $\lambda > 200$  nm (Fig. 2–3).

The quantum yield of 0.5–0.6 may seem high compared to the previous reports (Jortner and Stein, 1962b; Logan, 1990). However, Horvath and Papp (1984) report the quantum yields of 0.6–1.0 at solution pH of  $-0.5$ – $2.0$  for the  $\text{Cu}^+$  photo-oxidation reaction, which also demonstrates pH dependence of  $\propto [\text{H}^+]^{0.5}$  (see Sec. 2.3.1). In the photo-oxidation reactions that the produced radicals (i.e., H atoms) are also involved in the oxidation reactions, quantum yields of the net oxidation reaction tends to be high. In fact, an apparent quantum yield of  $> 1.0$  is observed in the experiment at a pH of  $-0.3$ , which abundant  $[\text{H}^+]$  sufficiently scavenges the H atoms (Horvath and Papp, 1984).

Further systematic investigation of the wavelength dependence of the quantum yield of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  photo-oxidation is required, but our results indicate that  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  photo-oxidation proceeds efficiently under irradiation at  $\lambda = 200$ –230 nm. UV light at  $\lambda = 200$ –250 nm might have reached the surfaces of early Mars when shielding by  $\text{O}_2$  and/or  $\text{O}_3$  was absent in their atmospheres (e.g., Ranjan and Sasselov, 2016).

#### 2.4.2. Quantum yield of $\text{FeOH}^+$ photo-oxidation

Previous studies of  $\text{FeOH}^+$  photo-oxidation used an optical filter ( $\lambda > 366$  nm) with a medium-pressure Hg lamp (Braterman et al., 1983; 1984) or a borosilicate glass reaction vessel that transmits UV only at  $\lambda > \sim 300$  nm (Nie et al., 2017). Quantum yields of  $\text{FeOH}^+$  photo-oxidation have been determined as  $\sim 0.01$ – $0.05$  (Braterman et al., 1983; 1984) or  $\sim 0.07$  (Nie et al., 2017), based on concentrations of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  (Braterman et al., 1983; 1984) or  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  (Nie et al., 2017) ions measured during irradiation. However, these studies involved no quantitative photon flux measurements (Nie et al., 2017), or photo-oxidation experiments without pH buffers (Braterman et al., 1983; 1984). As the concentration of  $\text{FeOH}^+$  is strongly dependent on pH (Fig. 1–1a), the use of a pH buffer is crucial when determining quantum yield.

In contrast, through measurement of photon flux and usage of pH buffers, the present study determined a quantum yield,  $\phi_{\text{FeOH}^+}$ , of  $0.08 \pm 0.01$  for  $\text{FeOH}^+$  photo-oxidation at pH 7.1–7.6, which is consistent with that estimated at pH 7.3 ( $\sim 0.07$ ) by Nie et al. (2017). Braterman et al. (1983; 1984) might have underestimated  $\phi_{\text{FeOH}^+}$  (0.01–0.05) at circumneutral pH, possibly because they used no pH buffers. In that case, a decrease in

pH due to photo-oxidation could have inhibited further photo-oxidation of  $\text{FeOH}^+$  (Fig. 1–1)

At pH 7.0 with no optical filter (run 9), only  $\sim 1\%$  of the total  $\text{Fe(II)}$  ions were consumed through  $\text{FeOH}^+$  photo-oxidation, with  $\sim 99\%$  occurring through  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  photo-oxidation. Despite the low abundance of  $\text{FeOH}^+$  at pH  $\sim 7$  ( $[\text{FeOH}^+]/[\text{Fe}^{2+}] \approx 10^{-2.5}$ ) (Fig. 1–1a), the loss of  $\text{Fe(II)}$  through  $\text{FeOH}^+$  photo-oxidation occurred because  $\text{FeOH}^+$  mainly absorbs UV–visible light at  $\lambda > 300$  nm (Fig. 1–1b). The high emission intensity of the Xe lamp at  $\lambda > 300$  nm (Fig. 2–3) and the effective absorption of long-wavelength light by  $\text{FeOH}^+$  result in efficient  $\text{FeOH}^+$  photo-oxidation at pH  $\sim 7$ . In an alkaline solution (pH  $> 8$ ), where  $\text{FeOH}^+$  is the predominant form of  $\text{Fe(II)}$ , it would enhance the overall photo-oxidation.

### 2.4.3. Implications for Fe photo-oxidation on early Mars

As described in Sec. 2.1, photo-oxidation of ferrous ions is suggested to be a possible mechanism to explain the depositions of  $\text{Fe(III)}$  (hydro)oxides in the middle Hesperian on Mars (e.g., Hurowitz et al., 2010; Nie et al., 2017). Nie et al. (2017) estimated the efficiency of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  photo-oxidation on early Mars by taking into account the wavelength dependence of the absorption. They assumed a constant quantum yield,  $\phi_{\text{Fe}^{2+}}$ , of 0.07 for  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  photo-oxidation throughout pH 2–7 and considered no photo-oxidation of  $\text{FeOH}^+$ . In addition, they assumed no absorption of UV light due to  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  ions in solutions.

As shown in Eq. 2–8, the obtained  $\phi_{\text{Fe}^{2+}}$  in our experiments is significantly higher than 0.07 that were assumed by Nie et al. (2017). In addition, we showed  $\phi_{\text{FeOH}^+} = 0.08$  for  $\text{FeOH}^+$  photo-oxidation (see Sec. 2.4.2), which was ignored previously (Nie et al., 2017). Accordingly, we suggest that the previous study would underestimate the efficiency of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  photo-oxidation on early Mars, especially in surface water with circumneutral pH. We also confirmed the occurrence of the inner-filter effects in our experiments, especially low pH. This was because at low pH,  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  ions can be present in the solutions. Thus, we also suggest that the previous study would overestimate the efficiency of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  photo-oxidation in the low pH range.

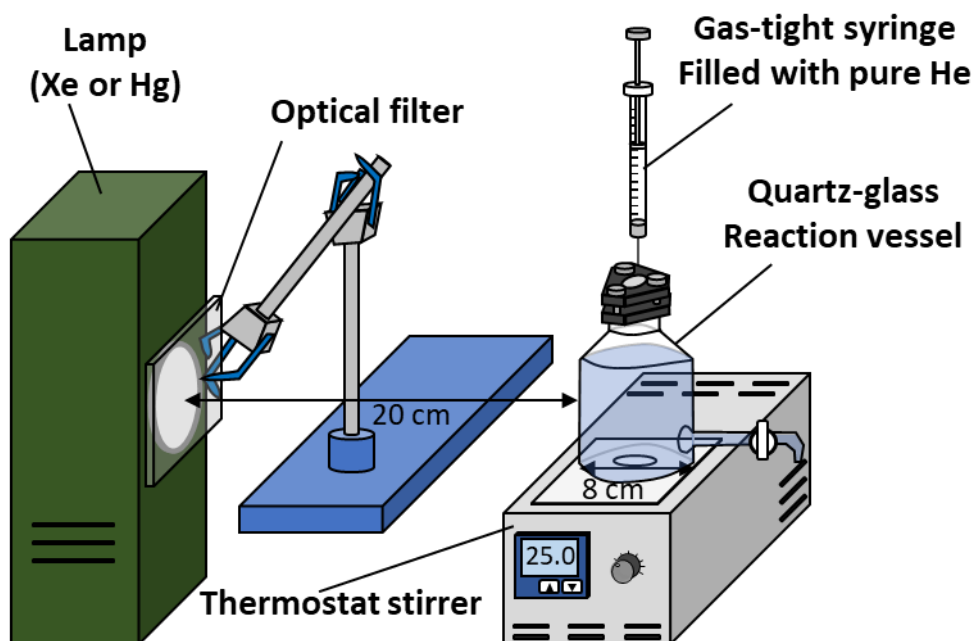
In Part 4 of this thesis, we calculate the photo-oxidation rate and  $\text{Fe(III)}$  (hydro)oxide precipitation for various pH of surface water on early Mars using a one-dimensional geochemical model by introducing Eq. 2–8. Based on the model results, we will evaluate the geochemical conditions that can account for the  $\text{Fe(III)}$  (hydro)oxide precipitation on early Gale Lake (see Part 4 for the detailed results and discussion).

## 2.5. Summary

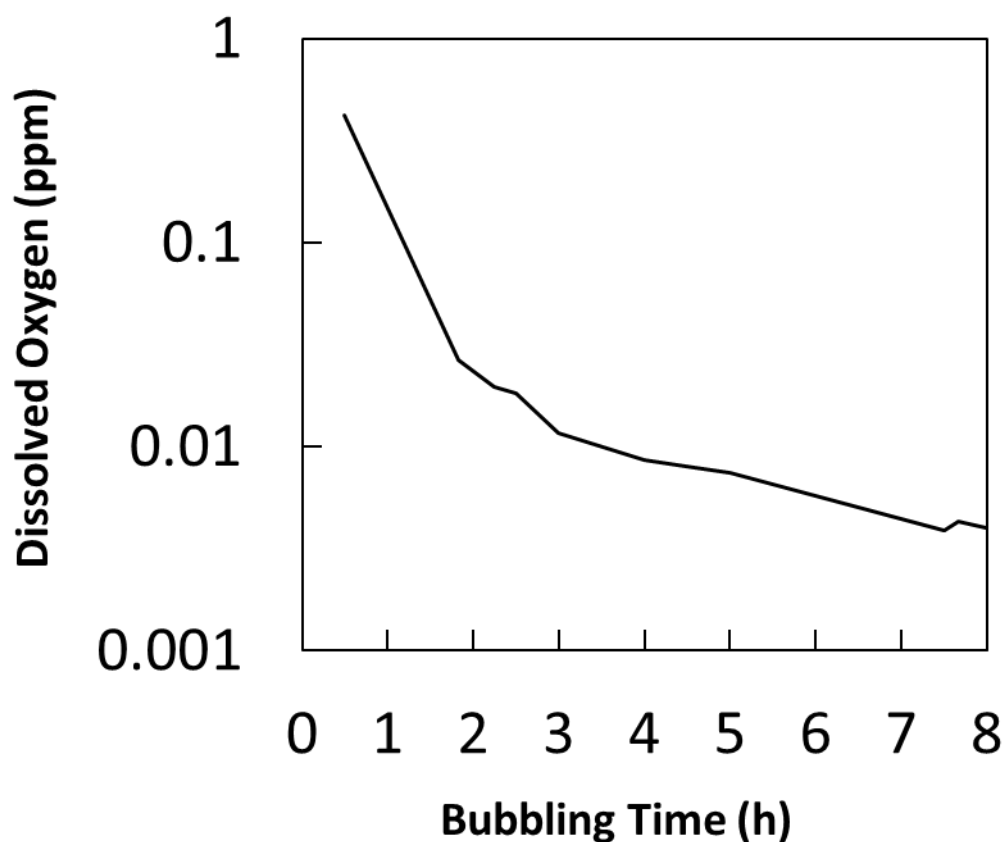
In the present study, the reaction rate (i.e., quantum yields;  $\phi$ ) of the photo-oxidation reaction of Fe(II) ( $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and  $\text{FeOH}^+$ ) were determined by conducting laboratory experiments. The semi-empirical equation of quantum yields of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  photo-oxidation at pH 3.0–7.6 under continuous UV–visible irradiation with wavelengths at  $> 200$  nm using Xe-lamp was determined as follows:

$$\phi_{\text{Fe}^{2+}} = 0.103 (\pm 0.005) + 2.17 (\pm 0.27) \times [\text{H}^+]^{0.5}.$$

The quantum yield of  $\text{FeOH}^+$  photo-oxidation reaction was also determined at pH 7.1–7.6, under continuous UV–visible irradiation with wavelength at  $> 300$  nm using a UV cutoff filter, as  $0.08 \pm 0.01$ . The obtained quantum yield values were a few times higher than that reported by the previous studies at pH  $< 3.0$  under single-wavelength irradiation at 254 nm using Hg-lamp, suggesting that the quantum yields are wavelength dependent. Although further investigation on such wavelength dependence is desirable, the quantum yields obtained in the present study under continuous UV-visible irradiation similar to that of solar spectra should serve as a first-order value for investigating the contribution of Fe(II) photo-oxidation reaction on early Mars.

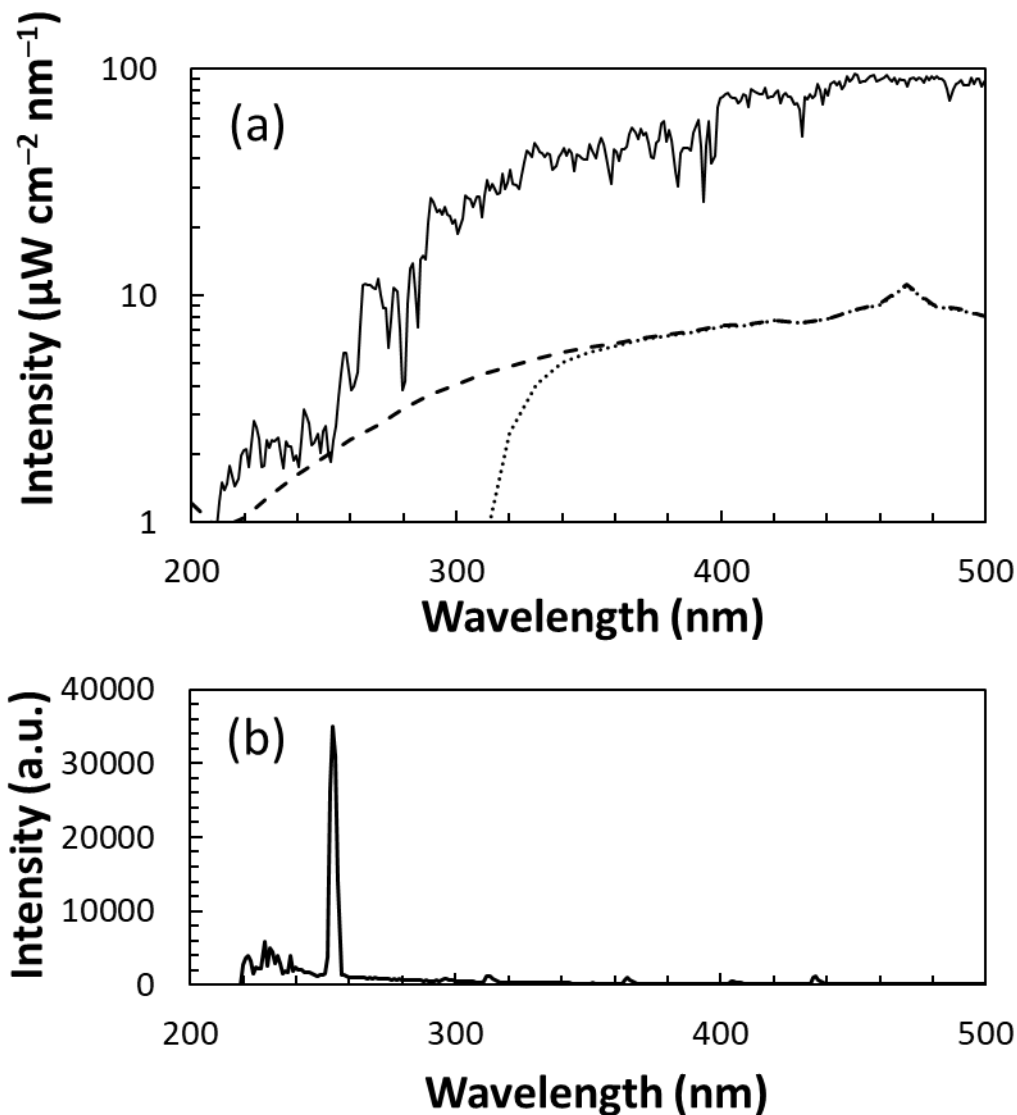


**Fig. 2-1.** Experimental setup. The Xe lamp was placed 20 cm from the quartz-glass reaction vessel, which was stirred continuously by a thermostat-magnetic stirrer at 25°C. The optical filter, when used, was set in front of the lamp. During irradiation, solution samples were collected continuously via the Teflon sampling cock upon injection of pure He through the butyl-rubber cap on the top.

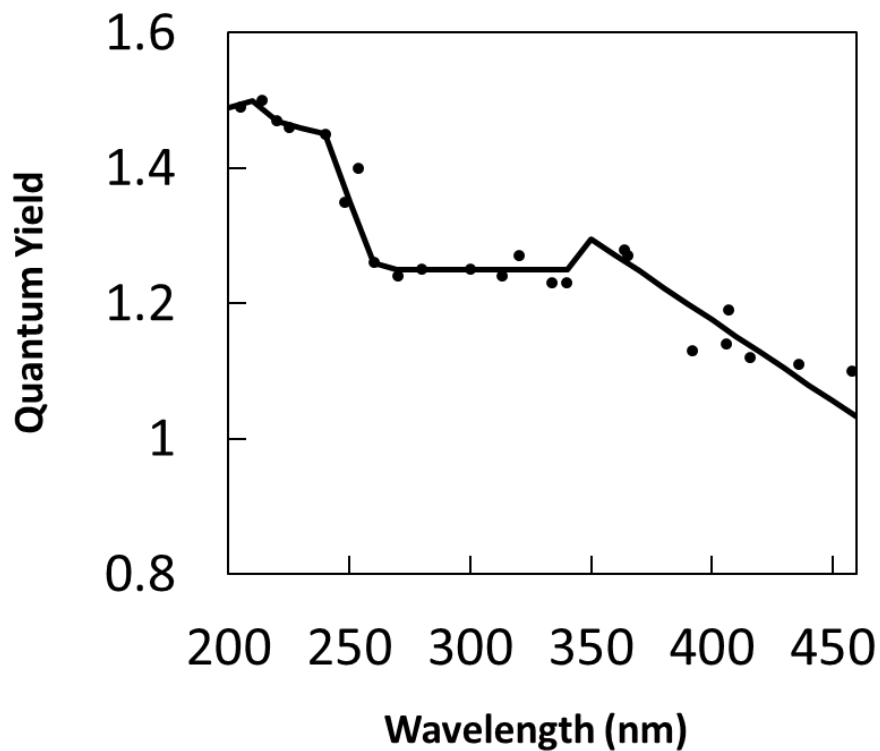


**Fig. 2–2.** Dissolved oxygen concentration (DO) during Ar gas bubbling. The dissolved oxygen concentration was continuously monitored during Ar gas bubbling inside the deoxygenated glovebox. The DO levels of < 0.01 ppm were achieved in ~4 hours from the start of Ar gas bubbling. Gas bubbling rate was  $1.4 \text{ L min}^{-1}$ , and  $p\text{O}_2$  inside the glovebox during bubbling was  $\sim 10^{-15} \text{ atm}$ .

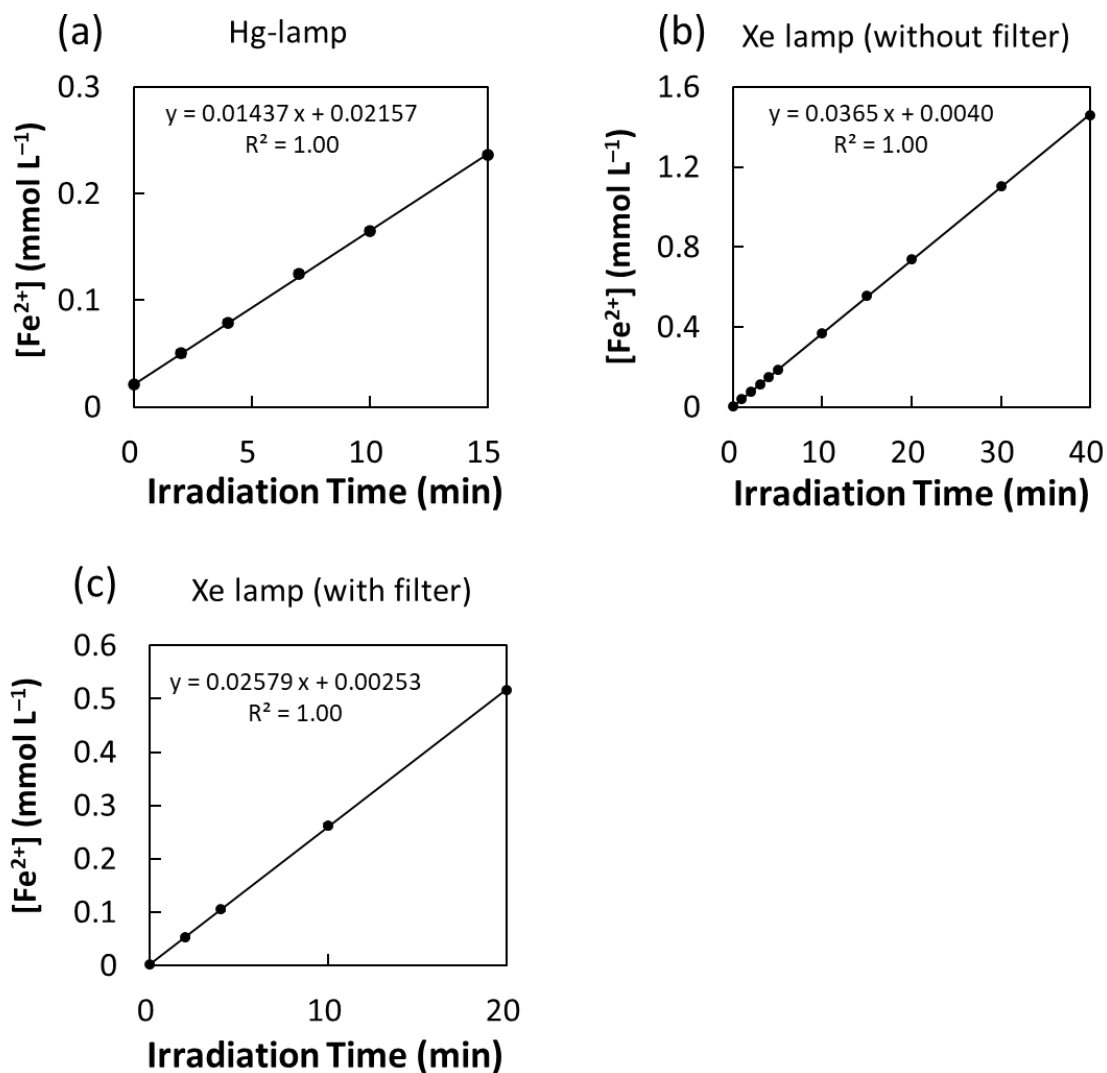




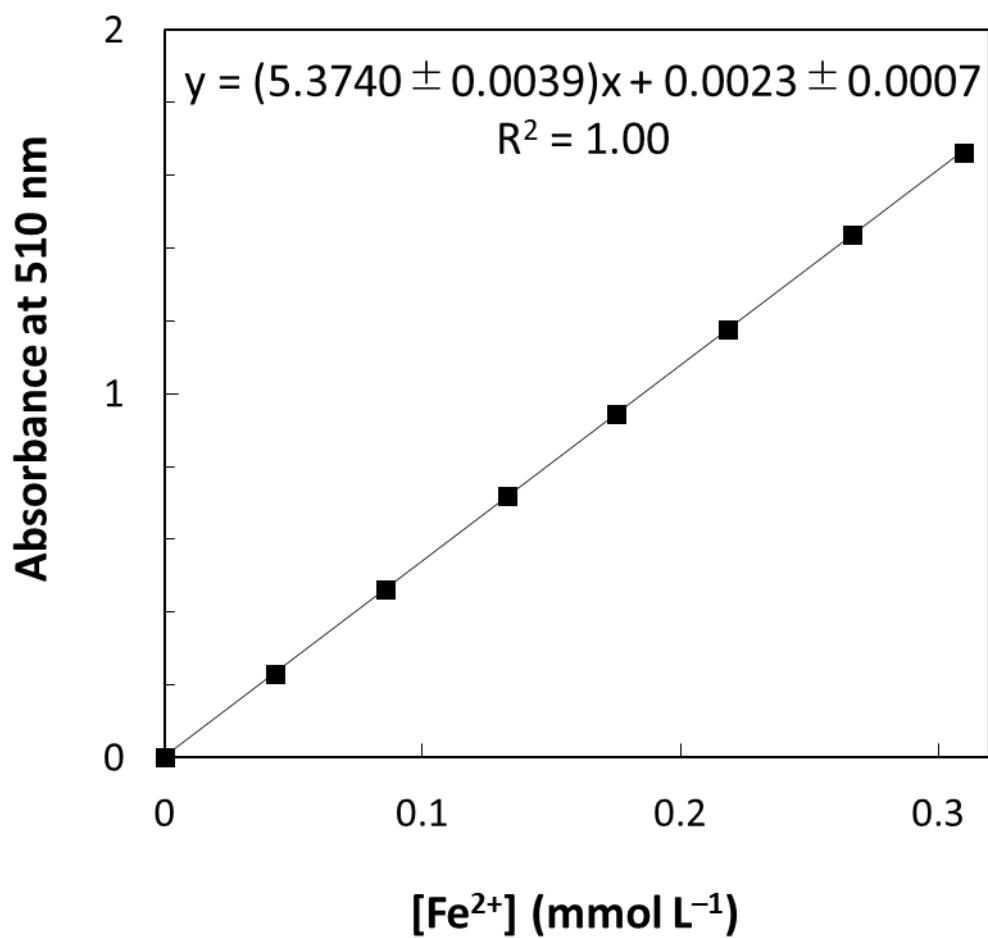
**Fig. 2–3.** UV and visible spectra of light sources. (a) UV and visible spectra of a Xe lamp without the optical filter and with the optical filter (dashed and dotted lines, respectively) compared with the solar spectrum (solid line). Xe-lamp irradiance and filter transmittance data were provided by the relevant manufacturer; solar irradiance data are based on the American Society for Testing and Materials air mass zero reference spectrum (ASTM E-490), corrected for distance for the average Martian semi-major axis (1.5 AU). (b) UV–visible spectra of a low-pressure Hg lamp, based on irradiance data obtained by UV–vis spectrophotometry. Although intensity is given in an arbitrary unit, relative intensities were determined from the irradiance of the Xe lamp.



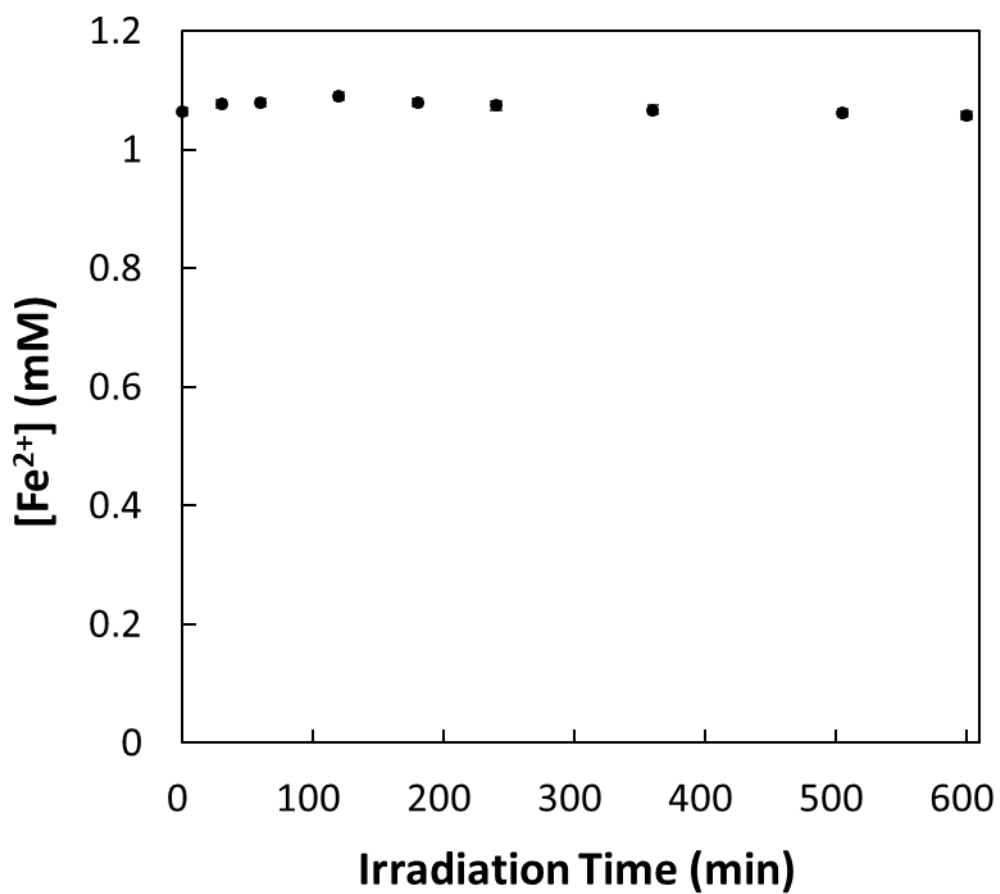
**Fig. 2–4.** Compiled quantum yields of potassium ferrioxalate photo-reduction at various wavelengths. The quantum yield data are from Murov (1993) and Goldstein and Rabani (2008). The thick line represents the 10-nm step values used in the calculation of photon flux.



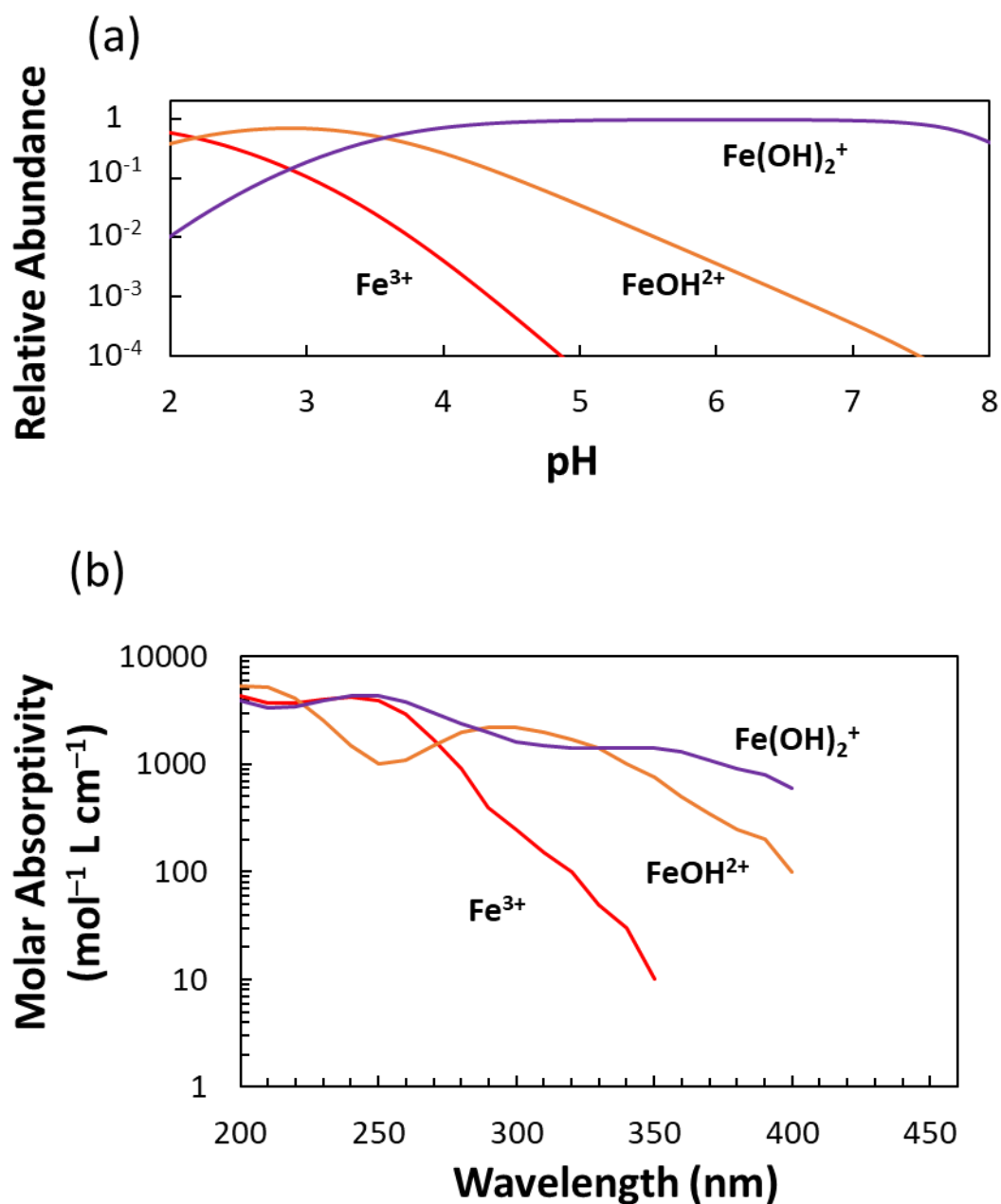
**Fig. 2-5.** Time trends of  $[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  during irradiation of Hg-lamp, Xe-lamp, and Xe-lamp with the filter in actinometry experiments. (a) Hg lamp; (b) Xe lamp ; (c) Xe lamp with the optical filter. The linear increase trend of  $[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  over irradiation time shows that dissolved potassium ferrioxalates are photo-reduced to ferrous ions.



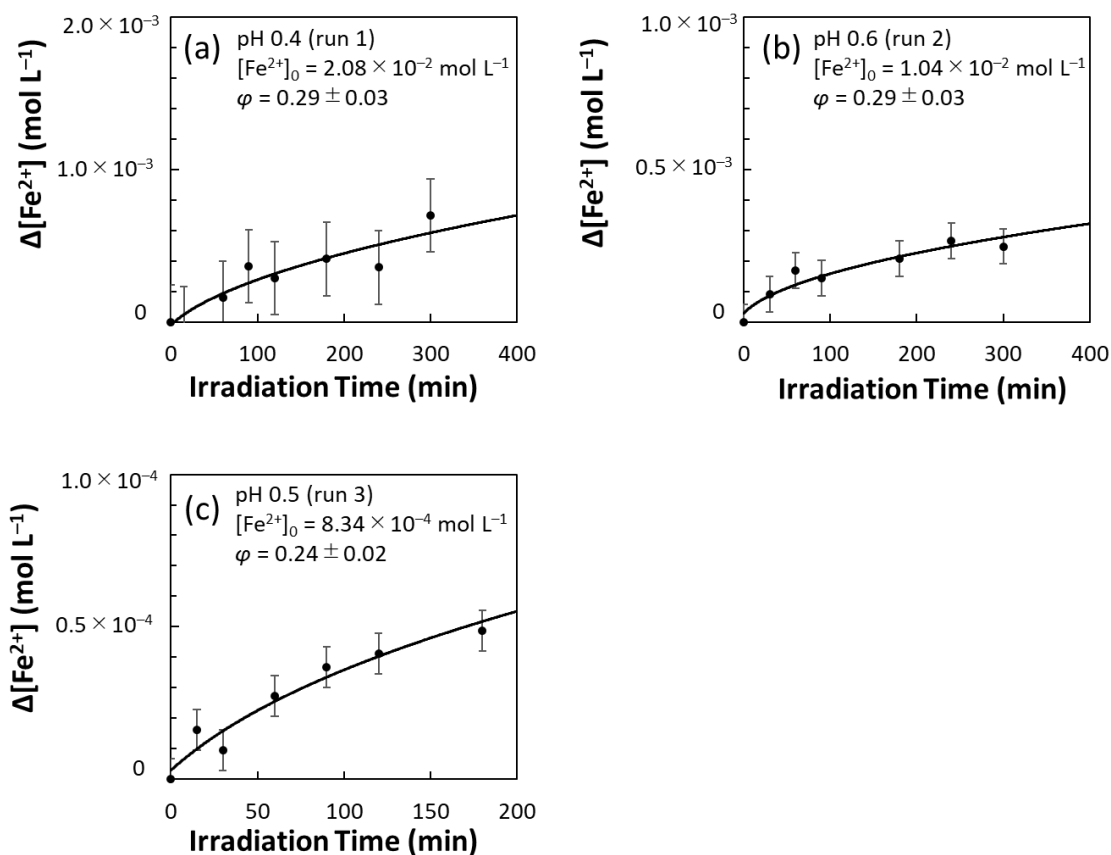
**Fig. 2–6.** Calibration line for measurement of  $[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  in the phenanthroline method. The absorbance at 510 nm shows a linear relationship with  $[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$ . The fitted curve obtained by the least-square fitting is also shown.



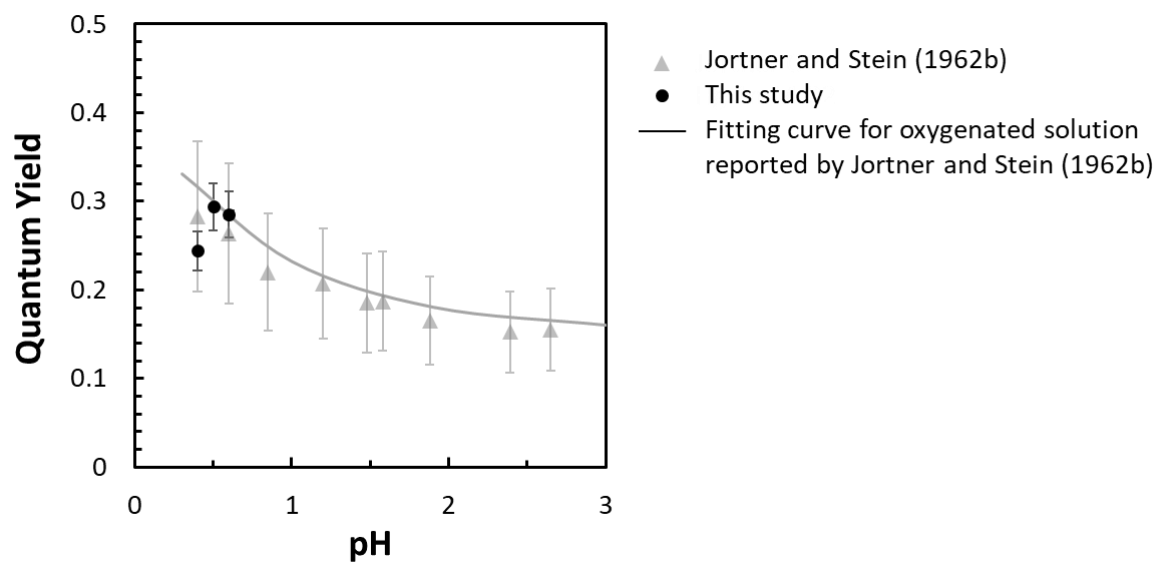
**Fig. 2–7.** Time trend of [Fe<sup>2+</sup>] in the experimental solution without irradiation (run 13). A deoxygenated experimental solution was prepared in the glovebox with initial [Fe<sup>2+</sup>]<sub>tot</sub> = 1.06 mmol L<sup>-1</sup> and pH buffered to 7.1 by Bis-Tris and HNO<sub>3</sub>. The reaction vessel was covered with aluminum foil and kept in the dark to avoid photo-oxidation.



**Fig. 2–8.** UV absorptivity and pH dependence of Fe(III) species in solution. (a) Relative abundances (molar fractions) of aqueous and Fe (III) species as a function of pH, based on the equilibrium constants of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  hydrolysis reactions at 25°C reported by Stefansson (2007). (b) Molar absorption coefficients of aqueous Fe(III) species based on absorptivity data from Stefansson (2007).

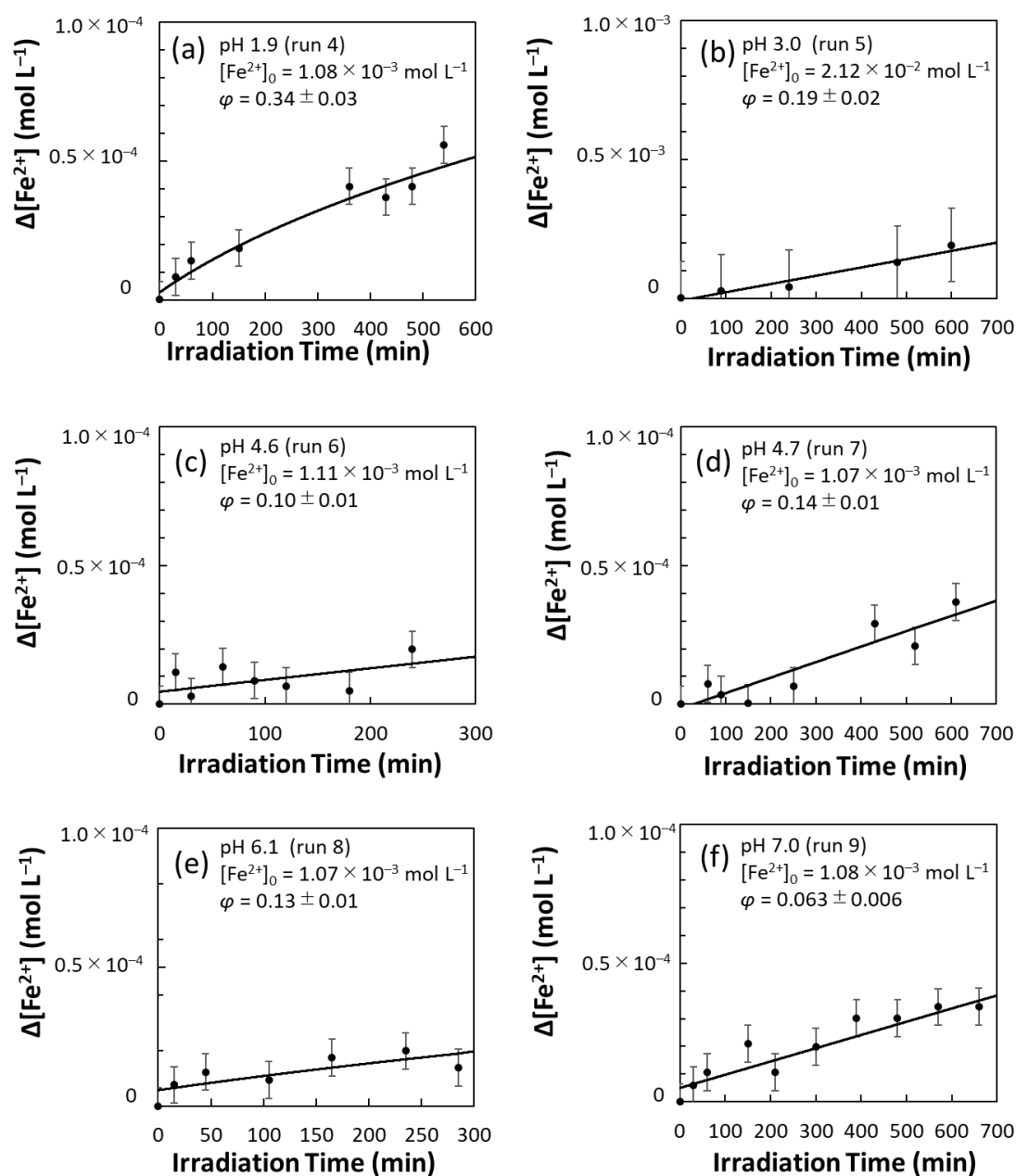


**Fig. 2-9.** Time trends of  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  during UV irradiation by the Hg lamp at different pH and initial  $[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  values. (a) pH 0.4,  $[\text{Fe}^{2+}]_0 = 2.08 \times 10^{-2}$  mol L<sup>-1</sup>; (b) pH 0.6,  $[\text{Fe}^{2+}]_0 = 1.04 \times 10^{-2}$  mol L<sup>-1</sup>; (c) pH 0.5,  $[\text{Fe}^{2+}]_0 = 8.34 \times 10^{-4}$  mol L<sup>-1</sup>. Estimated quantum yields,  $\varphi$ , are shown in each panel. Solid least-squares regression lines are shown. Run numbers refer to **Table 2-2**.  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  is the difference in  $[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  from the initial value ( $[\text{Fe}^{2+}]_0$ ) after a certain time,  $t$  (min), of irradiation ( $[\text{Fe}^{2+}]_t$ ):  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}] = [\text{Fe}^{2+}]_0 - [\text{Fe}^{2+}]_t$ . Error bars are  $1\sigma$ .



**Fig. 2–10.** Quantum yields of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  photo-oxidation under irradiation by Hg lamp plotted as a function of solution pH (black dots). Quantum yields of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  photo-oxidation at pH 0.4–3.0 in oxygenated solutions (gray triangles) and their pH dependence (gray curve) (Jortner and Stein, 1962b) are shown for comparison.





**Fig. 2–11.** Time trends of  $\Delta[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  during Xe-lamp irradiation. (a–f) Solution pH was 1.9, 3.0, 4.6, 4.7, 6.1, and 7.0, respectively, without the optical filter. (g–i) Solution pH was 7.1, 7.4, and 7.6, respectively, with the optical filter applied. Derived quantum yields and initial  $[\text{Fe}^{2+}]$  values are shown in each panel with least-squares regression lines. Run numbers refer to **Table 2–2**. Error bars are  $1\sigma$ .

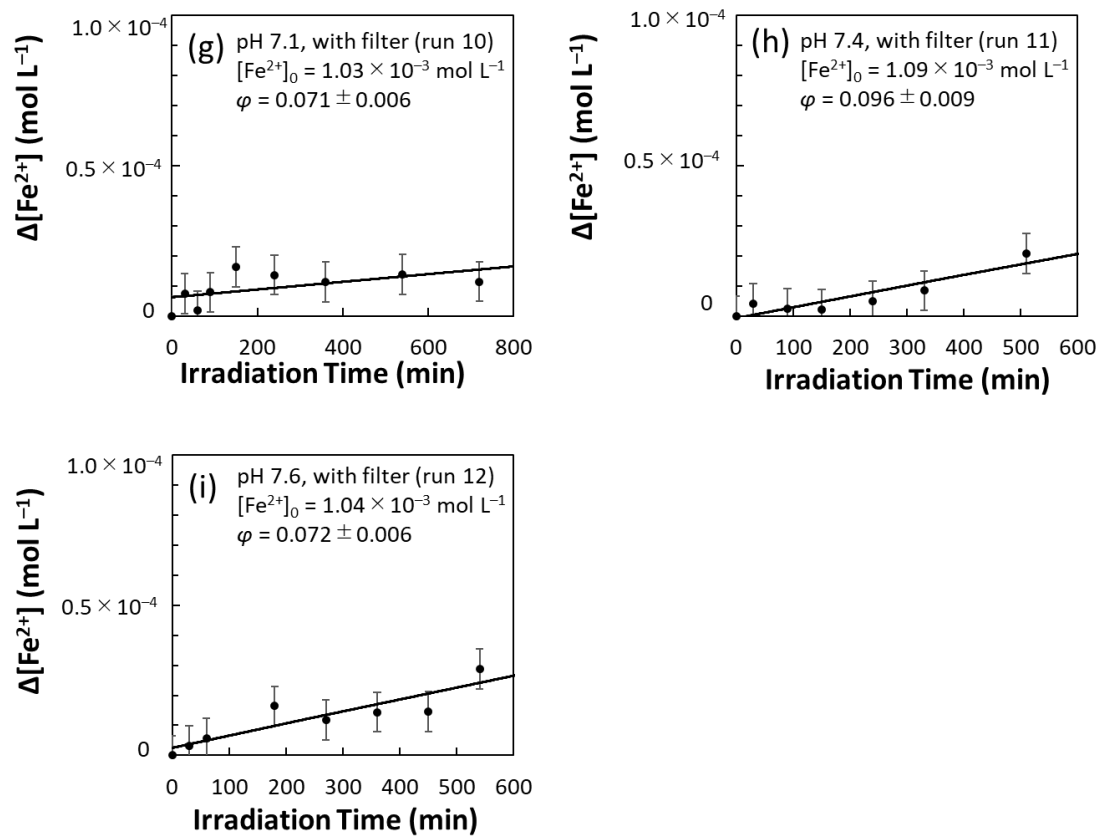
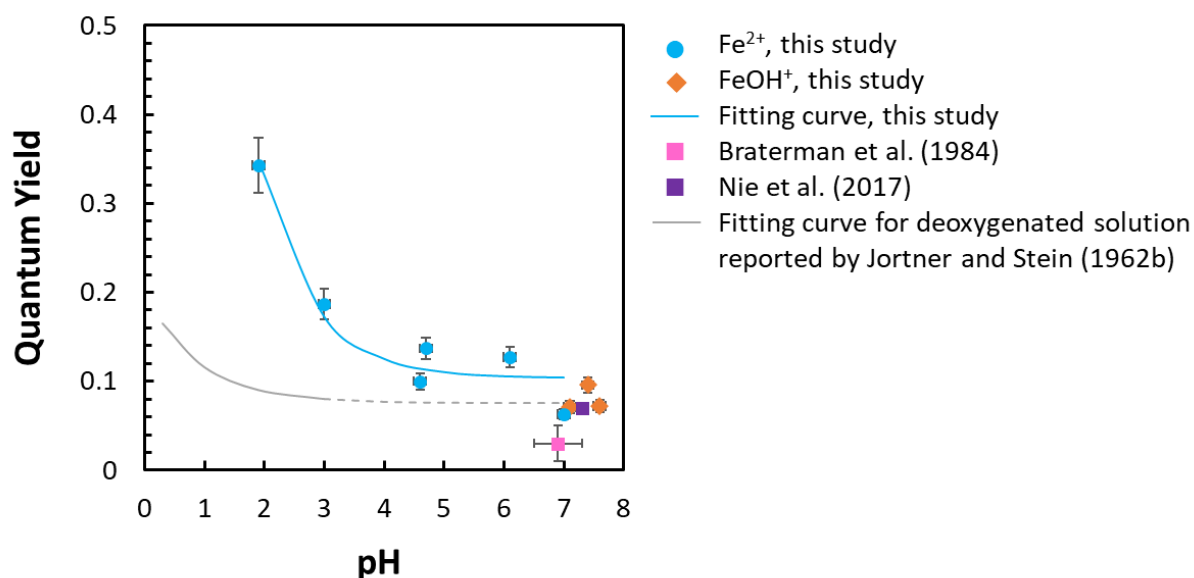


Fig. 2–11. (continued).



**Fig. 2–12.** Quantum yields of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and  $\text{FeOH}^+$  photo-oxidation under irradiation by Xe lamp plotted as a function of solution pH (cyan dots and orange diamonds, respectively). Plotted with the semi-empirical equation of the pH-dependence of quantum yield of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  photo-oxidation derived in this study (Eq. 2–8; cyan curve). Quantum yields of  $\text{FeOH}^+$  photo-oxidation estimated by Braterman et al. (1984) (0.01–0.05) and Nie et al. (2017) (0.07) are shown for comparison (pink and purple squares, respectively). Solid and dashed gray curves represent the pH-dependence of quantum yield for  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  photo-oxidation at pH 0.4–3.0 in deoxygenated solutions (Eq. 1–2; Jortner and Stein, 1962b) and its extrapolation to pH > 3.0, respectively.

**Table 2–1.** Measured photon fluxes in the actinometry experiments. The photon fluxes of light sources measured by the potassium ferrioxalate actinometry method are shown with initial concentrations of potassium ferrioxalate and irradiation time.

Light source	Initial [K-ferrioxalate] (mol L <sup>-1</sup> )	Irradiation time (min)	Photon flux (mol min <sup>-1</sup> L <sup>-1</sup> )
Hg lamp	$6.01 \times 10^{-3}$	15	$1.15 \pm 0.01 \times 10^{-5}$
Xe lamp without filter (> 200 nm)	$1.53 \times 10^{-2}$	40	$3.09 \pm 0.01 \times 10^{-5}$
Xe lamp with filter (> 300 nm)	$6.12 \times 10^{-3}$	20	$2.23 \pm 0.01 \times 10^{-5}$

**Table 2–2.** Summary of experimental conditions. The initial pH and its compositions of the experimental solutions, initial concentration of Fe(II), the light source used, and the duration of irradiation in each experimental run are summarized.

Run number	Light source	pH	Buffer composition	Initial [Fe <sup>2+</sup> ] (mol L <sup>-1</sup> )	Irradiation time (min)
1	Hg	0.5	0.4 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	$2.08 \times 10^{-2}$	300
2	Hg	0.6	0.4 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	$1.04 \times 10^{-2}$	300
3	Hg	0.4	0.4 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	$8.34 \times 10^{-4}$	180
4	Xe	1.9	$10^{-2}$ M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	$1.08 \times 10^{-3}$	540
5	Xe	3.0	$10^{-3}$ M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	$2.12 \times 10^{-2}$	600
6	Xe	4.6	$10^{-5}$ M HNO <sub>3</sub>	$1.11 \times 10^{-3}$	240
7	Xe	4.7	$10^{-5}$ M HNO <sub>3</sub>	$1.07 \times 10^{-3}$	610
8	Xe	6.1	0.029 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> + 0.071 M Bis-Tris	$1.07 \times 10^{-3}$	290
9	Xe	7.0	0.013 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> + 0.087 M Bis-Tris	$1.08 \times 10^{-3}$	660
10	Xe + filter	7.1	0.017 M HNO <sub>3</sub> + 0.083 M Bis-Tris	$1.03 \times 10^{-3}$	720
11	Xe + filter	7.4	0.011 M HNO <sub>3</sub> + 0.089 M Bis-Tris	$1.09 \times 10^{-3}$	510
12	Xe + filter	7.6	0.007 M HNO <sub>3</sub> + 0.093 M Bis-Tris	$1.04 \times 10^{-3}$	540
13	No light	7.1	0.017 M HNO <sub>3</sub> + 0.083 M Bis-Tris	$1.06 \times 10^{-3}$	600

# **Chapter 3. Effect of UV spectrum on photo-oxidation of ferrous iron: Implications for the trigger of acidification on Mars**

本章については、5年以内に雑誌掲載等の形で公開予定のため非公開とする。

# **Chapter 4. Implications for atmospheric and hydrological conditions for redox stratification on early Gale lakes**

本章については、5年以内に雑誌掲載等の形で公開予定のため非公開とする。

## **Chapter 5. General conclusions**

本章については、5年以内に雑誌掲載等の形で公開予定のため非公開とする。

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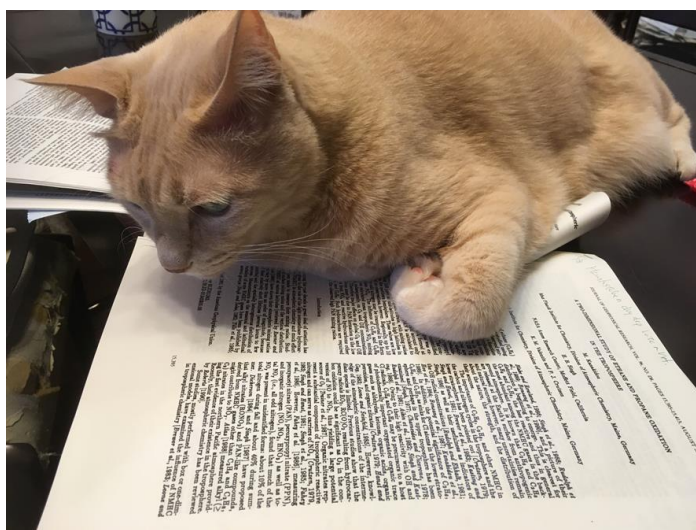
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