

Supporting Information for
Quantifying interactions between singlet oxygen and aquatic fulvic acids

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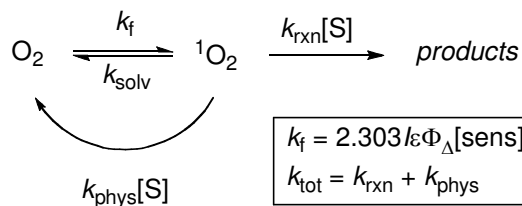
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Section S1. Kinetic model for the formation and loss of $^1\text{O}_2$



O₂ is molecular oxygen. S is substrate, k_f is the zero-order formation rate constant, I is light intensity, ϵ is the absorption coefficient for the sensitizer, Φ_Δ is the quantum yield for ¹O₂(¹Δ_g) formation, and sens is sensitizer. The zero-order ¹O₂ formation rate constant, k_f , is proportional to $I \epsilon \Phi_\Delta [\text{sens}]$. The rate constants k_{solv} , k_{phys} , and k_{rxn} are for deactivation of ¹O₂ by solvent, physical quenching by S, and chemical reaction with S, respectively.

Section S2. Chemical characteristics of end-member fulvic acids**Table S1.** Fulvic acid chemical characteristics

| | Suwannee River Fulvic Acid | Pony Lake Fulvic Acid | Reference |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| SUVA ($\text{m}^2 \text{g}^{-1} \text{C}^{-1}$) | 3.2 | 1.7 | This work |
| Fluorescence index | 1.24 | 1.51 | This work |
| %N | 0.72 | 6.0 | IHSS |
| %O | 43 | 31 | IHSS |
| % aromatic carbon | 24 | 12 | IHSS |
| % aliphatic carbon | 33 | 61 | IHSS |
| $\Phi_{\Delta} {}^1\text{O}_2$ (%) | 0.47 | 0.69 | This work |

^a SUVA = specific absorbance at 254 nm; %N and %O are percent of the fulvic acid by mass; Fluorescence Index = $E_m 520/470$ for $E_x=370$ nm (McKnight et al. 2001). IHSS = <http://www.ihss.gatech.edu/>

Section S3. Experimental solution preparation & analysis

Stock solutions of the fulvic acid isolates were prepared in the range of 500 mg-C L⁻¹ (42 M-C) by dissolving the lyophilized material in nanopure water or deuterium oxide (D₂O) in amber glass bottles, stirring for 24 hours, and adjusting to pH 6-7 using 0.1 N HCl or NaOH (nanopure) or DCl or NaOD (D₂O). Aliquots of the stock solutions were diluted in Nanopure (Barnstead) water or D₂O to reach the desired concentration of organic matter (2-8 mM-C). Concentrations of dissolved organic carbon (DOC) in the stock and experiment solutions were measured by a Shimadzu TOC 5000 analyzer as non-purgeable organic carbon (NPOC) after acidification to pH 2.0 with concentrated hydrochloric acid. Potassium-hydrogen phthalate solutions were used as standards for the DOC analyzer. Standard deviation in DOC concentrations for samples and standards analyzed in triplicate ranged from ± 0.7 M-C (stock solutions) to ± 0.04 M-C (experiment solutions).

To investigate the effect of β -carotene, a hydrophobic quencher of ¹O₂ insoluble in water, fulvic acid solutions were spiked with β -carotene prepared from β -carotene stock solutions in THF (Latch & McNeill, citation 4 in manuscript text).

Fulvic acid solutions were analyzed by UV-Vis absorbance and fluorescence using 1-cm pathlength quartz cuvettes on a Cary 50 Bio Spectrophotometer (Varian) and a Fluoromax-3 fluorometer (Jobin-Yvon Horiba), respectively. Excitation-emission matrices (EEMs) for the fulvic acid solutions were collected with excitation range of 240-400 nm, emission 320-550 nm in reference beam mode, which corrects for first-order variation in the xenon lamp output. Excitation was incremented by 5 nm and emission by 2 nm. EEMs of MilliQ water were subtracted to remove Raman scattering and each EEM was then corrected for the wavelength-dependent contribution that instrumental components have on the measured signal using the emission and excitation correction files provided by the manufacturer (Cory & McKnight, 2005; citation 12 in manuscript text). Concentrated fulvic acid solutions were diluted in Nanopure water and mathematically corrected for the inner-filter effect (McKnight et al. 2001; citation 10 in manuscript text). Intensities were converted to Raman units (Cory & McKnight, 2005; citation 12 in manuscript text). Based on fulvic acid solutions analyzed in triplicate differences in emission intensity less than 10% were determined to be within instrumental error.

Singlet oxygen quantum yield values (Φ_{Δ} ¹O₂; Table S1) were measured for each fulvic acid solution by FFA degradation. Briefly, fulvic acid solutions spiked with 100 μ M FFA were irradiated in a Rayonet photochemical chamber (Southern New England Ultraviolet Company) containing UV light bulbs with a maximum intensity centered at 350 nm. Sub-samples for FFA degradation were collected from each fulvic acid solutions during light exposure as a function of time. Quantum yields were determined through comparison to perinaphthenone as a quantum yield standard ($\Phi = 0.98$; citation 14 in manuscript text).

Section S4. Photochemical uptake of $^1\text{O}_2$ as quantified by membrane inlet mass spectrometry (MIMS): controls

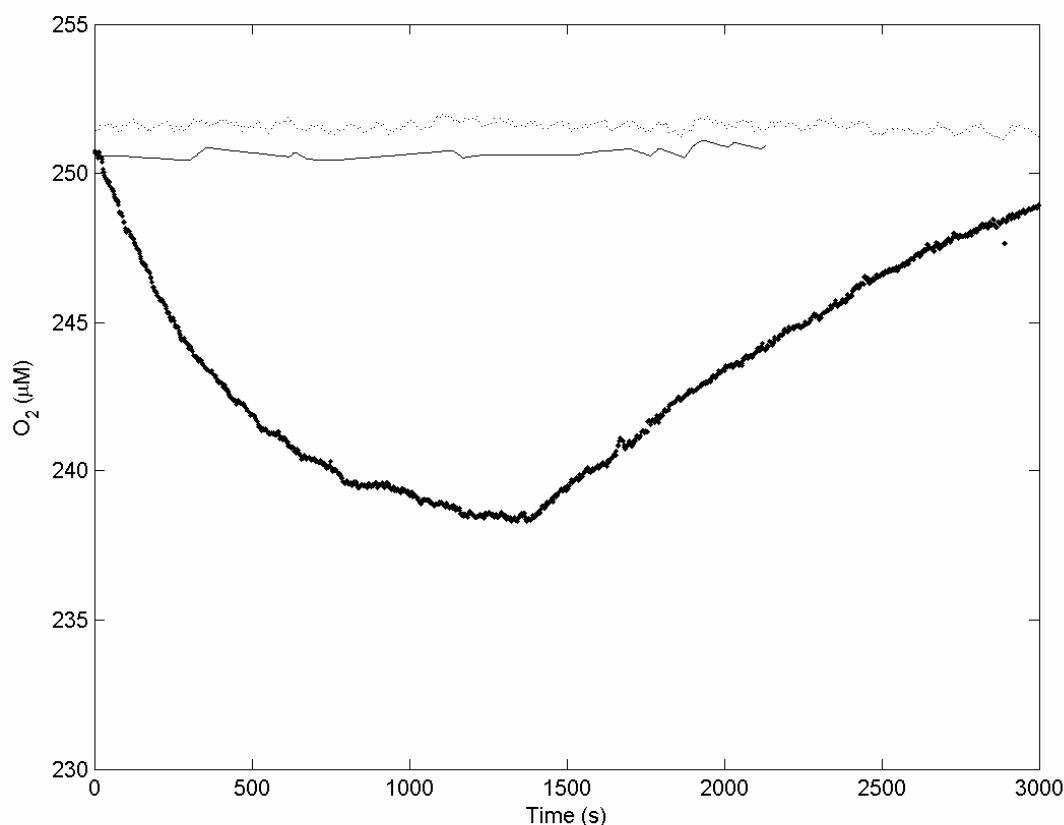


Fig.S1 O₂ vs. time. SRFA (3.3 mM-C), H₂O + Rose Bengal + light(—●—), Rose Bengal, dark (—), SRFA only (— —). Note that the light was switched off at 1400 s.

This figure shows that only in the presence of the $^1\text{O}_2$ sensitizer (Rose Bengal) and the substrate (SRFA) was detectable loss of dissolved O₂ observed. The benefit to using the photochemical oxygen demand to quantify the reaction between $^1\text{O}_2$ and fulvic acid is that only net consumptive reactions will result in oxygen uptake. Other interactions, such as quenching of $^1\text{O}_2$ by the fulvic acid, should not result in oxygen consumption. The dependence of the replenishment rate of O₂ on the oxygen concentration gradient can be seen in Figure S1, after the light was switched off at 1400 s.

Section S5. Calculation of enhancement and quenching factors on rates of $^1\text{O}_2$ uptake

The theoretical, or expected, enhancement or quenching factors on the observed rate of oxygen uptake were calculated as follows using the expected enhancement of $^1\text{O}_2$ process in solution in D_2O relative to H_2O (kinetic isotope solvent effect, KSIE) as an example. The ratio of Eqn. 1 (in manuscript text) is calculated for H_2O relative to D_2O , with $k_{\text{phys}} = 2.5 \times 10^5 \text{ s}^{-1}$ and $1.6 \times 10^4 \text{ s}^{-1}$ for H_2O and D_2O , respectively. In the case of substrate (S) = FFA (Figure 1 in manuscript text), a 10 mM FFA in H_2O stock solution was used for both the D_2O and H_2O experiments. Thus, 50 μM FFA in D_2O (20 mL) contained 0.5% H_2O by volume (the FFA experimental solution in H_2O was 100% H_2O). Therefore, the expected enhancement factor is 12:

$$\frac{k_{\text{obs}, \text{D}_2\text{O}}}{k_{\text{obs}, \text{H}_2\text{O}}} = \frac{0.5\% \times k_{\text{phys}, \text{H}_2\text{O}} + 99.5\% \times k_{\text{phys}, \text{D}_2\text{O}} + k_{\text{rxn}}[\text{S}]}{100\% \times k_{\text{phys}, \text{H}_2\text{O}} + 0\% \times k_{\text{phys}, \text{D}_2\text{O}} + k_{\text{rxn}}[\text{S}]} \quad (\text{S1})$$

In this case, we included the $k_{\text{rxn}}[\text{S}]$ term for 50 μM FFA in Eqn. S1 because it was not $\ll k_{\text{solv}}$.

Stock solutions of each fulvic acid were prepared in either H_2O or D_2O , thus any H_2O contamination in the D_2O experimental solutions likely originated from trace amounts of H_2O in the D_2O or the fulvic acid itself.

The effects of $^1\text{O}_2$ quenchers, sodium azide and β -carotene, were also calculated in a similar manner, using quenching constants cited in the manuscript text.

Section S6. Effect of $^1\text{O}_2$ DOC concentration, absorbance and emission spectra of SRFA

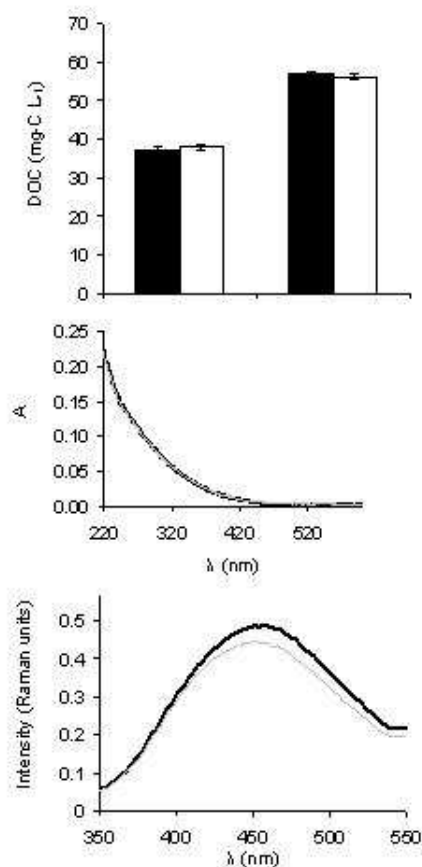


Fig. S2 Effect of $^1\text{O}_2$ on SRFA in D_2O on DOC (top), absorbance (A; middle) and fluorescence (bottom). DOC: control = shaded, reacted = white for two different SRFA concentrations. For absorbance and fluorescence, control = — reacted = - - -

To assess how this reaction alters the chemical quality of the fulvic acid, the absorbance and fluorescence spectra of each fulvic acid were measured before and after reacting with $^1\text{O}_2$ for 30 minutes. A lower concentration of Rose Bengal ($1\text{ }\mu\text{M}$ Rose Bengal, $k_f = 1.5\text{ }\mu\text{M s}^{-1}$) was used for these experiments due to significant interference by $40\text{ }\mu\text{M}$ Rose Bengal in the absorbance and fluorescence spectra.