

## ***Interactive comment on “Aqueous-phase photochemical oxidation and direct photolysis of vanillin – a model compound of methoxy-phenols from biomass burning” by Y. J. Li et al.***

**Y. J. Li et al.**

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I am very excited about this paper and the information presented. I do have a quick question about your experimental conditions. What was the pH these experiments were conducted at?

R: We thank J. Smith for the comment and interest of the paper.

The solution pH was neither controlled nor measured during our experiments. Ammonium sulfate (0.1 mM) was used in experiments under both conditions. Ammonium sulfate aqueous solution is not strictly “neutral” and can also have a small amount of

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H<sup>+</sup>. A simple estimation suggests that the pH of the experiments would be approximately 6, slightly acidic. Note that under condition (A), the pH might decrease slightly after the formation of some carboxylic acids that may dissociate.

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