*Editor Decision: Reconsider after major revisions (25 Feb 2016) by Dr. Markus Ammann*

*Comments to the Author:*

*Dear authors*

*Referee 1 reiterates his strong and rather well justified concerns of the first round. Therefore, I cannot accept this manuscript in this form. I am willing to also consider a third reviewer in the next round; but first I would like to see your response to the comments and your actions on the manuscript.*

Dear Editor,

We have addressed all the comments raised by the reviewers. Concerning those more unfavorable pointed by referee #3, we cannot agree with some of his/her arguments, mainly related to the lack experimental information to estimate the integrated cross section of the ammonium iodate salt. Referee #3 (but not other reviewers) also argues that our presented estimation is standing on ill-defined bases, mainly arising from the way to evaluate the irradiation from the lamp. In the previous response, and also in this one, we have given strong arguments about the convenience of our approach.

In addition, and as personal opinion, in some parts of his/her review, we think that the terms and expressions used result somewhat inappropriate for a scientific report.

We again like to highlight that this work present relevant and new information on the photolysis process of the iodate on ice, providing information about the absorption cross section, and evaluating the impact of this photolytic process on the atmospheric chemistry of iodine in the polar regions. Of course, future studies should be carried out to further explore this process with the aim to finally confirm the role of this process as a source of active iodine in the polar regions.

Sincerely,

Dr. Óscar Gálvez
Instituto de Estructura de la Materia, CSIC
Serrano, 123,
28006, Madrid,
Spain
Phone: +34 915616800 - ext 1130
e-mail: oscar.galvez@csic.es

Anonymous Referee #1

Referee

*The majority of my suggestions has been answered satisfactorily.*

*I would, however, still strongly recommend to remove the tentative reaction mechanism from the manuscript. It is, in its current form, stoichometrically impossible: the only oxidant present that could oxidise hydroxylamine to nitrate would be the iodine-oxy-compounds. This, however, would require consumption of more than one iodate ion per ammonium ion, which would disagree with the 1:1 ratio observed in the study.*

Answer:

We agree with the referee that, according to our previously proposed mechanism, for hydroxylamine to be converted to nitrate it requires two iodine-oxy compounds, so this would not agree with the ratio 1:1 observed in this study.

In consequence, and due to both we don't know exactly which species of nitrogen is finally formed as products of this process, and the fact that we are more interested in the iodine chemistry which is the atmospherically relevant part of this study, we have decided to strongly simplify the proposed mechanism to just some possible reactions involving iodine compounds:

$IO_3^- + \text{light} \rightarrow OIO + O^-$ (R1) (Klaning et al., 1981)

$OIO + \text{light} \rightarrow O_2 + I \rightarrow\rightarrow$ active iodine (gas phase) (R2)

Anonymous Referee #3

Referee:

*In my opinion, based on the offered answers to the referees, manuscript should be either rejected or restricted to the facts that it really bring: observation of ammonium iodate photolysis. Data do not bring any information about the absorption cross section neither to the mechanism of the discussed reaction*

Answer:

We disagree with this opinion. Our work definitely brings information about the absorption cross section, and also about the potential of this process as a source of active iodine in the polar regions. Please see our arguments below.

Moreover, we would like again to clarify (such as was presented in our first answers to the referee report), that the proposed mechanism was only tentative, and we do not claim that is a definitive mechanism, since we do not have enough information from our experiments to make a conclusive proposal, so we only claim that this is a possible hypothesis to be assessed in future studies. Nevertheless, we have rewritten this part to be limited to the most plausible reactions concerning iodine species.

Referee:

*I consider the answers to the posed comments as unsatisfactory. They either: “do not have experimental equipment…” (no equipment is needed) or the answer reveals deep misunderstanding or ignorance.*

Answer:

We are not familiar with the use of chemical actiometers to estimate the radiant power of the lamp as the referee suggested in his/her previous comment. However, and motivated by the Referee´s suggestion we further looked into it. According to our investigation, we noted that, apart of certain reactants (which could present some difficulties to be inserted in our vacuum chamber), we would need certain equipment as a calibrated radiometer, photocell or photodiode. We again admit that we are not experts in this technique, so our consideration could not be strictly correct, but according to our review of this issue, we concluded that currently we cannot carry out this experiment. In any case, the methodology employed, using the thermopile and taken into account the spectrum of the lamp, it is strictly correct for the quantification of the radiation power incident in our samples. We will come back to this point below.

Referee:

*A few answers send the reader into the previous papers of the authors. I think the article should be self-standing and should contain all the information to understand the experiments. Referring backword is often making the reader to believe – without the possibility to check.*

Answer:

We are not sure which part of the manuscript is alluded in this comment. We have only referred to previous work when the high vacuum chamber (which has been used in many experimental works in the past) is described, and when the properties of the water ice generated in our chamber, in strictly identical conditions than previous work, is described. In both cases, we think that the reference to our previous work is clearly justified.

Referee:

*Spectrum of NH4IO3*

*My original comment of giving the Epsilons values was gently suggesting, that the author do not use UV-Vis measurements correctly, since their detector is saturated. The fitted absorption curves, as provided in the response, has maximum at 205 nm (A = 2.6 !!!!) whereas the maximum at Figure 2 (with declared identical concentration) is below 200 nm (A = 1.7). This effect is most probably caused by detector saturation and therefore any interpretation should be standing on it.*

Answer:

We think that our explanation of this figure and the way that it is used to simulate the cross section probably was not clear enough, and this may have misled the referee. We have tried to explain better these points in the new version of the manuscript.

According to Figure 2, some important aspects should be taken into account:

- The technical characteristics of the UV-Vis spectrometer used support that absorbance values up to 4 can be measured. However, we agree with the referee that our spectrum with an A=2.6 value could be saturated. In fact, in Figure 2 we deliberately included several saturated spectra (see trace red, green and black in panel a), with the aim to see which could be the extension of the absorption range for the different solutions at wavelength above 250 nm. Especially interesting for us it is to know the limit of the absorption of the samples at longer wavelengths. In fact, this was one of the main important features to be shown in figure 2. In addition, we also show the cutoff of the irradiation by our glass window. Both features occur in the range of 250 to 300 nm, which is a key wavelength interval in these experiments.
- We do not know where a maximum at A=1.7 for $NH_4IO_3$ solutions is showed in the figures (both in Fig. 2 in the MS and the figure inserted in the response). Both figures included the same UV-Vis Spectrum of $NH_4IO_3$ at $9.610^{-4}$ M, with a maximum at around A= 2.6.
- In addition, and it could be the reason for referee´s misunderstanding, the shape of the UV-Vis spectrum was used to simulate the cross section of the ammonium iodate, knowing the value for the integrated cross section which was previously determined. We again like to clarify that the measured value in this work is the “integrated cross section”, so the shape of the cross section shown in figure 7 is based on a simulation (as it is indicated in the figure caption and in the text).
- We think that in order to model the loss of iodate in the polar ice by this process, it is more realistic to use a simulation of the cross section and not using a linear cross section value for all the range encompassed in the integrated cross section measured. This was the aim to make such simulation. We have highlighted this point in the new version of the MS.
- In order to carry out this simulation, it is reasonable to use the information given by the UV-Vis spectrum of the solution, which mainly indicated that there is a maximum

around 200 nm, and then the absorption decreases rapidly in the range of 200 to 300 nm. The spectrum of $NH_4IO_3$ was also recorded at lower concentration to avoid saturation problems, but apart from the slight deviation of the maximum of absorption (around 10 nm), the shape is essentially the same. It is important to highlight that the variation of the cross section with wavelength in our solid samples should be different than in solution, because in solution the absorbance is null above 300 nm, and we (and previous works) clearly observed the photolysis of the iodate above this wavelength. So, although it is reasonable to use the shape of the solution UV-Vis spectrum to simulate the cross section in the solid ice, it should be taken with caution.

Referee:

*As obvious from the fit provided in the response to the referees neither the Gaussian nor the Lorentzian single functions suffice, therefore the model is not describing observation. Apparently, there is a shoulder at 230 nm and another band at 260 nm (Figure 2). As described in the response the parameter "w" and thus also the cross section is "selected completely arbitrary" and therefore, in my opinion, should not be published, not to confuse those who would not study this detailed description.*

Answer:

As was mentioned before, the cross section showed is a simulation based in some experimental information (the UV-Vis spectrum of the $NH_4IO_3$ solution), and this point is clearly highlighted in the new version of the text. Certainly, the choice of a key parameter as "w" is to some degree arbitrary, and this issue is explicitly mentioned in the MS. In any case, we strongly think that it is worth to make this simulation to provide a more realistic variation of the cross section value at different wavelengths, and then to obtain a better estimation of the importance of this photolytic process as a source of iodine.

Referee:

*Cubic ice*

*The authors link their experimental observations to the Polar environments. The fact that their observations of photochemistry are on the cubic ice (What is its relevance to the Polar environments?) was hidden in the reference to the previous research and is not pronounce loudly enough.*

Answer:

As was mentioned in the text and specially shown in Figure 6, the photolysis rate obtained for the different samples studied, which present different dilutions and water ice phases (from amorphous to crystalline) are similar (under our experimental uncertainties) for all the cases. This was widely commented in our previous response to the referee reports. This result suggests that the fact that our crystalline phase of ice is cubic and not hexagonal, could have a limited influence. This is one of the main reasons for that our work contributes to the understanding of this photolytic process in the polar environment.

The work "cubic" (referring to cubic ice) appear four times in the MS. Nevertheless, this point has been stressed in the new version.

Referee:

*Quantum yield*

*The explanation of using the quantum yield = 1 has no justification.*

Answer:

This point was discussed in our previous answer, and in fact, we admitted that we do not have information to select the quantum yield to a certain value. This is the reason why we arbitrary chose it to be =1. According to the equation E4 of the MS,

$$J = \int_{\lambda_1}^{\lambda_2} F(\lambda)\sigma(\lambda)\phi(\lambda)d\lambda \qquad \text{(E4)}$$

J value depends, apart from the radiative flux, on both magnitudes $\sigma(\lambda)$ (the absorption cross section) and $\phi(\lambda)$ (the quantum yield of the photolysis reaction). In some way, since we do not know the value for quantum yield, we have determined the product of both magnitudes.

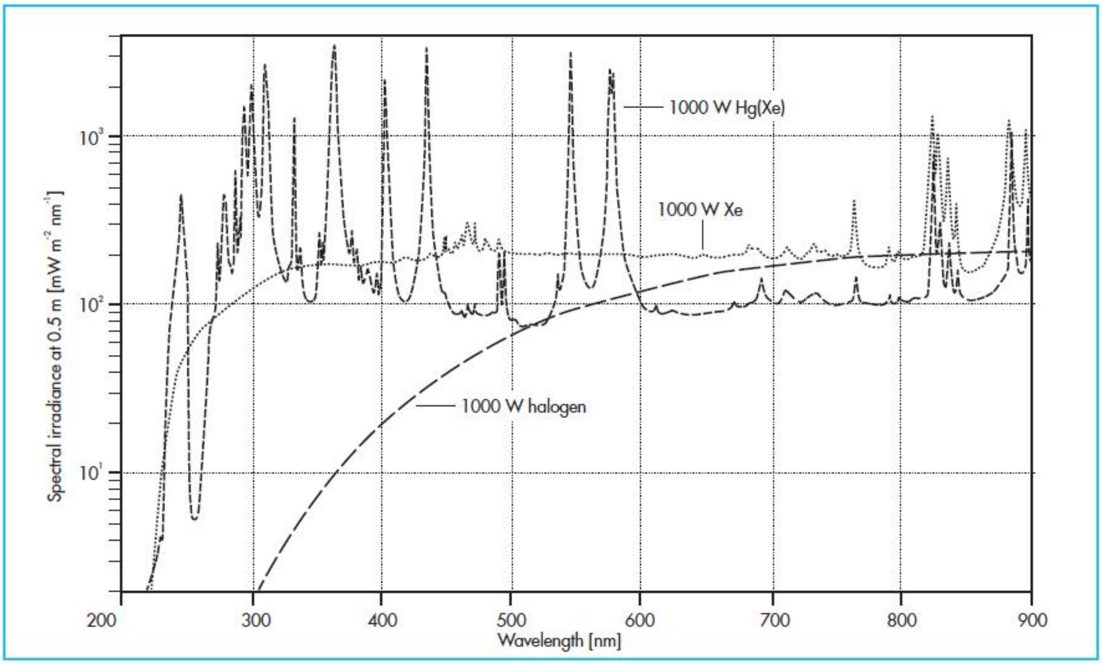
Referee:

*Lamp*

*The provided spectral irradiance demonstrates best that the lamp is not stable in give spectral range and therefore the presented calculation are standing on ill-defined bases.*

Answer:

We really do not see how the spectral irradiance given by the manufacturer demonstrates that the lamp is not stable.



As it can be seen in the figure above, the spectral irradiance for the “1000 W Xe” lamp (“short dot” trace), is practically a horizontal line from 300 to 900 nm.

In any case, the important value in our calculation is to know the lamp power emitted in the short wavelength interval (where the photolysis takes place). Due to the measured power by our thermopile cover all the spectral range, we have to estimate (using the lamp spectra provided by the manufacturer) the proportion of the power due to that interval, in order to give a more enclosed value for the integrated cross section, namely from 300 to 900 nm. We have entirely digitalized the whole spectra to calculate exactly the proportion of the power irradiance emitted in this interval, obtaining a similar value to that given supposing a constant irradiance value on that interval.

Referee:

*Mechanism*

*As mentioned by the authors "is hard to support" and as indicated by the referee 1 not possible and therefore should not be spread further.*

Answer:

Following the suggestion of referee 1 and 3, we have decided to strongly simplify the mechanism proposed just to some possible reactions involving iodine compounds::

$IO_3^- + \text{light} \rightarrow OIO + O^-$ (R1) (Klaning et al., 1981)

$OIO + \text{light} \rightarrow O_2 + I \rightarrow\rightarrow$active iodine (gas phase) (R2)

Referee:

*In conclusions, the facts that the author are not willing to share the data that they refer to (being asked by referee 1), do not reveal sufficient knowledge of the problematics, centre the arguments on self-citation instead on logical arguments classes this manuscript, in my opinion, into the category "not to be recommended for publishing". The publication of the not correct absorption cross section or the proposal of the mechanism may lead the non-specialists into the error.*

Answer:

We answered all the points raised by referee 1, sharing all the information that we have been asked to clarify. We have only discussed the convenience or not to include a supplementary section with all the spectra and integration limits used in the analysis of the results. In our opinion, we think that this supplementary section would not give more relevant information to the future reader, and we have preferred to add more details in the main part of the manuscript and not to include a supplementary section. According to the response of the referee 1, he/she is satisfied with our explanations.

In the response given above, we have given solid arguments to show that our cross section value is correct, under the experimental uncertainties, and also we have eliminated the prickliest part of the proposed mechanism, limiting it to some plausible reactions occurring to the iodine species.

Again, we would like to highlight that this work present relevant and new information about the photolysis process of the iodate on ice. However, future studies should be carried out to further explore this process as a source of active iodine to the polar environment.

# Photolysis of frozen iodate salts as a source of active iodine in the polar environment

**Óscar Galvez[1], M. Teresa Baeza-Romero[2], Mikel Sanz[2] and Alfonso Saiz-Lopez[3]**

[1]{Departamento de Física Molecular, Instituto de Estructura de la Materia, IEM-CSIC, 28006 Madrid, Spain}

[2]{Escuela de Ingeniería Industrial, Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha, 45071, Toledo, Spain}

[3]{Department of Atmospheric Chemistry and Climate, Institute of Physical Chemistry Rocasolano, CSIC, 28006 Madrid, Spain}

Correspondence to: O. Gálvez (oscar.galvez@csic.es)

## Abstract

Reactive halogens play a key role in the oxidation capacity of the polar troposphere. However, sources and mechanisms, particularly those involving active iodine, are still poorly understood. In this paper, the photolysis of an atmospherically relevant frozen iodate salt has been experimentally studied using infrared (IR) spectroscopy. The samples were generated at low temperatures in the presence of different amounts of water. The IR spectra have confirmed that under near-UV/Vis radiation iodate is efficiently photolyzed. The integrated IR absorption coefficient of the iodate anion on the band at 750 $cm^{-1}$ has been measured to be $A=9.5x10^{-17}$ cm $molec^{-1}$. Monitoring the decay of ammonium IR band (1430 $cm^{-1}$) in the presence of a solar simulator, which was observed to correlate with iodate anion IR band, photolysis rate of ammonium iodate salt was measured. A lower limit of the integrated absorption cross section of iodate, in an ammonium frozen salt, has been estimated for the first time at wavelengths relevant for tropospheric studies ((1.1± 0.6) $x10^{-20}$ $cm^2$ nm from 300 to 900 nm). According to this, we suggest that the photolysis of iodate in frozen salt can potentially provide a pathway for the release of active iodine to the polar atmosphere.

# 1 Introduction

Atmospheric iodine compounds are present in the marine and polar boundary layers (Saiz-Lopez et al., 2012), where it plays a relevant role in catalytic ozone destruction (Saiz-Lopez et al., 2007b) (Read et al., 2008) and could also be involved in new particle formation in the polar environment (Allan et al., 2015;Roscoe et al., 2015). Moreover, in the polar atmosphere, iodine has also been suggested as one of the possible sinks of gaseous elemental mercury (Calvert and Lindberg, 2004;Saiz-Lopez et al., 2008).

Despite the concentration of atmospheric iodine being highly variable at different regions, ground- (Frieß et al., 2001) (Saiz-Lopez et al., 2007b) (Atkinson et al., 2012) and satellite-based instrumentation (Saiz-Lopez et al., 2007a;Schönhardt et al., 2008) measurements have confirmed remarkably high concentrations (up to 20 pptv) of IO in coastal Antarctica. Nevertheless, the sources and mechanisms of iodine emissions from ice remain poorly understood (Saiz-Lopez et al., 2015;Kim et al., 2016).

Apart from observations of gaseous iodine species, different studies have conducted analysis of the iodine fraction in rainwater (Laniewski et al., 1999) and aerosol (Baker et al., 2000). In all of them, iodine concentrations are considerably enriched over seawater, and an appreciable fraction of soluble iodine species like $I^-$ and $IO_3^-$ is observed, although the mechanism determining the $I^-/IO_3^-$ ratio is still unclear. Thus, for example since $IO_3^-$ has been considered an inert inorganic iodine species, and therefore a sink molecule in the atmospheric iodine cycle, model calculations (Pechtl et al., 2006) suggest that $IO_3^-$ should accumulate in marine aerosol. However, several field campaigns (Baker, 2004;Gilfedder et al., 2008) have revealed that the iodide/iodate ratio is rather variable in aerosol, showing significant $I^-$ concentration.

A recent study has suggested that $IO_3^-$ anions show a substantial reactivity in frozen solutions under near-UV/Visible light irradiation (Spolaor et al., 2013). During the irradiation of $IO_3^-$ solutions reactive gaseous iodine species were produced and converted to iodine oxide particles (IOP) for detection. Inspired by these results, we have further studied the photo-stability of iodate frozen salts to assess its potential role in iodine emissions to the polar atmosphere. In this work, we have determined for the first time the integrated absorption cross section of frozen ammonium iodate solutions at wavelengths relevant for the troposphere. Using this value (which should be taken as a lower limit that need to be confirmed in future works), and the recorded UV-Vis spectra for the liquid solution, we have also simulated the differential absorption cross section from 300 to 900 nm. This information has been incorporated into an atmospheric model of the Antarctic boundary layer to assess the potential of iodate photolysis to release reactive iodine in coastal Antarctica during springtime.

## 2 Experimental methods

For the study of the photolysis of iodate salts, we have chosen aqueous solutions of $NH_4IO_3$. The choice of this species was based on several reasons:

(i) It was not possible to monitor iodate signal in the presence of high concentration of water since the infrared iodate band overlaps with water absorptions. The fact that the chosen salt has a cation like $NH_4^+$ that presents a band with no interference (and that it is consumed in a 1:1 ratio with iodate) allowed us to measure the photolysis of iodate indirectly as described below.

(ii) The integrated IR absorption coefficient of iodate band was unknown, and in consequence, it was not possible to quantify the amount of iodate in the samples. One of the possibilities to solve this problem is to use an iodate salt for which the integrated absorption coefficient of the IR band of the counter-ion was known, like ammonium iodate. More details of these calculations are given in the next section.

(iii) Moreover, ammonium iodate is expected to be one of the abundant iodate salts in the atmosphere, since ammonium concentrations are high in some environments, and it could be deposited into the ice as large fluxes of iodinated compounds have been observed during glacial period (Spolaor et al., 2013), and the presence of ammonium ions in ice samples is also expected. Moreover, ammonium and iodinated compounds have been detected at the same time in melting Artic sea ice, implying that this salt could be atmospherically relevant (Assmy et al., 2013).

However, other salts like $NaIO_3$ or $KIO_3$ would be representative of polar environments also, and further experiments using these compounds should be addressed in the future.

Solid samples containing iodate anions were produced through the sudden freezing of droplets of aqueous solutions of $NH_4IO_3$ on a cold Si substrate located inside a vacuum chamber. A detailed description of the experimental setup can be found elsewhere (Maté et al., 2009;Gálvez et al., 2010), and only a brief description of the most relevant aspects for the present experiments is given here. The solid substrate is mounted in a Cu block in contact with a liquid nitrogen Dewar. The substrate temperature can be controlled with 1 K accuracy between 90 K and 300 K. The vacuum chamber, which is coupled to a Vertex70 Bruker FTIR spectrometer through a purged pathway, is evacuated with a turbomolecular pump to a background pressure of ∼$10^{-8}$ mbar. Transmission spectra of the samples were recorded, with 2 $cm^{-1}$ resolution, using an MCT (Mercury Cadmium Telluride) detector refrigerated with liquid nitrogen. Liquid solution droplets from a room temperature pulsed valve (General Valve, series 9), usually employed for the generation of free jets and molecular beams (Abad et al., 1995), were made to impinge on the cold Si substrate placed at ∼15-20 mm. When a desired amount of sample is on the substrate, this can be rotated to record the IR spectra, or to be processed by simulated Solar light. A scheme of the experimental setup is shown in Fig. 1. Solar irradiance was simulated by a 1000 W LOT® Xenon Arc lamp that radiate between around 250 nm to 2.5 μm, although an important fraction of the output is given below 900 nm according to the supplier of this lamp, where a fairly constant spectral irradiance is obtained between 300 to 900 nm. Power light received on the substrate is measured by a portable meter Thermal Detector, model 407A by Spectra-Physics, which operates in a wavelength range from 250 nm to 11 μm without significant sensitivity variations (less than 3 %).

UV-Vis spectra of studied salts were obtained in water solution at different concentrations using an UV-Visible Uvikon spectrophotometer 930 from Kontron Instruments equipped with quartz cuvettes of 10 mm size. The spectra resolution was fixed at 0.5 nm, from 190 to 500 nm.

In all experiments, pulsed valve was filled by a solution 0.1 M of ammonium iodate (Across Organics, for analysis). A slight He overpressure behind the liquid solution filling the valve improved the performance. This generation procedure does not lead to a uniform film, and the thickness of the ice samples, which typically range from 0.1 to 1 μm approximately (Mate et al., 2012), can vary among different experiments. Solid samples generated by this technique contain compact ices structures in a hyperquenched glassy water morphology (Mayer, 1985) in which the water molecules retain their amorphous liquid structure, and where ions are solvated by water molecules instead of being segregated in the ice (Mate et al., 2012). When the temperature of substrate is below water sublimation (around 170 K), the concentration of ammonium iodate salt in the ices samples is very low (comparable to the liquid solution), and infrared spectra of these ice mixtures are dominated by water absorptions. In these cases, water bands hide the IR features of the salt, and prevent monitoring its evolution during irradiation. For this reason, most of the samples are slowly warmed above water sublimation to achieve a lower water concentration to avoid that problem, or just to study dry samples (although an amount of water is always present). Nevertheless, some samples were also reserved in their original diluted salt proportion to explore this possible variable. We refer to the samples that have suffered this process as *hyperquenched (HQ) samples*. In other experiments, samples are dry, and then a controlled water vapour flux is added to be adsorbed on the salt, which was kept at low temperatures (100 or 140 K) to condense water. With this procedure, solid samples present a different morphology since water molecules are deposited uniformly on the salt surface resulting in a more porous structure. When the condensation of water occurs at 100 K, a homogeneous film of low-density amorphous water ice is deposited on top of the salt. If the temperature of deposition is 140 K, the ice film has crystal cubic ice structure (Mate et al., 2012). In both cases, we refer to these samples as *Vapor deposited (Vap) samples*.

Initially, and it has been mentioned above, deposition at low temperature (< 120 K) leads to amorphous ices samples, which show high specific surface areas (SSA) (Mate et al., 2012), around 100 times higher, or even more, than typical atmospheric ice samples. However, when temperature is increased amorphous samples are irreversibly transformed to cubic crystal ice, leading to a reduction of the SSA by a factor of 100 or even higher (Ocampo and Klinger, 1982), which are common values of freshly atmospheric ice samples.

Due to the requirements of the experimental setup, the ratio of $NH_4IO_3$:$H_2O$ in the samples is considerable much higher than for environmental ices, however, some more diluted samples has been studied to see the effect of this variable in the photolysis process, although always our samples were much more concentrated than in natural polar conditions.

To summarize the procedure to generate the samples, they were firstly generated by HQ deposition at 100, 140, 160, 200, 260 or 298 K. After deposition at those temperatures, three different processes could be carried out: (i) the samples at the deposition temperature were just irradiated, (ii) samples were firstly annealing to eliminate part of the water, then cold down to a certain temperature and then irradiated, (iii) or samples were annealing until to be completely dry, then cold down to a selected temperature at which a certain amount of water from vapor phase was deposited, and finally irradiated.

## 2.1 Determination of the concentration of species in the samples

Column densities of water, $NH_4^+$ and $IO_3^-$ ions in the ice mixtures were calculated via the Lambert–Beer equation, using the integrated values of the infrared absorption bands, and the corresponding integrated absorption coefficients, *A*. The bands chosen for this purpose were the $\nu_2$ and $\nu_2+\nu_R$ bands of water around 1650 and 2220 $cm^{-1}$, respectively, the $\nu_4$ band of $NH_4^+$ around 1430 $cm^{-1}$, and the $\nu_3$ band of $IO_3^-$ at approx. 740 $cm^{-1}$. For water band intensity, we have used the values reported by Mastrapa *et al*. (Mastrapa et al., 2009) for an amorphous or crystalline (cubic) phase at 100 K. For *HQ* samples the values of amorphous ice are used: $A(H_2O)_{amorphous} = 1.6 \times 10^{-17}$ and $9.8 \times 10^{-18}$ cm $molec^{-1}$, while for *Vap* samples the integrated absorption coefficients of cubic ice are more representative: $A(H_2O)_{cubic} = 1.8 \times 10^{-17}$ and $1.1 \times 10^{-17}$ cm $molec^{-1}$, for 1650 and 2220 $cm^{-1}$ bands, respectively. In the case of $NH_4^+$, different values of the absorption coefficient have been reported in the literature, ranging from 2.5 to $4.4 \times 10^{-17}$ cm $molec^{-1}$ (Maté et al., 2009) (Schutte and Khanna, 2003). Due to these discrepancies, we have selected a suitable value of $4.0 \times 10^{-17}$ cm $molec^{-1}$, close to that given by Schutte & Khanna (Schutte and Khanna, 2003) for solid samples, which are more representative of our case. For iodate, we are not aware of previous data of *A* values in the IR region. In this case, we have estimated this value for pure ammonium iodate samples, based on that previously given for $NH_4^+$, obtaining a mean integrated absorption coefficients $A(IO_3^-) = 9.5 \times 10^{-17}$ cm $molec^{-1}$ for the band centred at 750 $cm^{-1}$.

## 2.2 Calculation of spectral irradiance received by the samples

We assumed that the observed photolysis of ammonium iodate samples should be mainly due to the highest frequency photons emitted by the Solar lamp. The reason is that $IO_3^-$ in aqueous media absorbs light only in the UV range (Awtrey and Connick, 1951), at wavelengths below 270 nm, which is also in agreement with our near UV-Vis spectra of iodate salts (see Fig. 2). In consequence, the UV-Vis spectrum of the glass window, through which light penetrates before reaching the sample (see Fig. 1), was recorded to demarcate the transparent interval of frequencies, especially the UV cutoff, see Fig. 2. Taking into account this spectrum, and in combination with that provided by the lamp manufacturer for the lamp spectra and spectral irradiance at 0.5 m, we estimated that only 42% of the total lamp power is emitted in the wavelength interval from 300 to 900 nm. Consequently, since our Thermopile covers the whole range of frequencies without significant variations, only a 42 % of the measured power is due to the impinged photons of 300 to 900 nm. The average reading in the Thermopile along the experiments was around 1.5 W $cm^{-2}$, which was regularly monitored during the experiments. Thus, according to the above estimation, the substrate was irradiated with an average light power of 0.66 W $cm^{-2}$, in the wavelength range of 300 to 900 nm. In order to illustrate whether this irradiance power is characteristic of environmental conditions, we estimated that around 2.8 x $10^{15}$ photons $cm^{-2}$ $s^{-1}$ are impinging the substrate at 500 nm, which result in around 8 times higher irradiance than the measured mean Solar irradiance on Earth surface at mid-latitudes, ca. 3.5 x $10^{14}$ photons $cm^{-2}$ $s^{-1}$. Nevertheless, we take into account that, due to our experimental procedure, samples are not homogeneously distributed on the substrate, and consequently the photon flux impacting on the samples was, to a certain degree, lower. This consideration is further explored in the following section.

## 3 Results and Discussions

### 3.1 Laboratory experiments

Fig. 3 shows IR spectra of different samples of solid ammonium iodate salt at 200 and 100 K including those of 3.6 and 2.1 $H_2O/NH_4IO_3$ ice mixtures deposited at 100 K obtained by the hyperquenching (*HQ*) technique or via vapor deposited (*Vap*) $H_2O$, respectively. Table 1 displays the positions of bands of the IR spectra of $NH_4IO_3$ shown in Fig. 3. Sharper and more defined bands appear in spectra at 100 K, showing also a slight displacement, which are typical effects when temperature is decreased (Gálvez et al., 2009). When water is present, $IO_3^-$ bands undergo a small blue-shift, which can be related to the overlap with the $\nu_R$ libration water mode at ca. 800 $cm^{-1}$. Moreover, some differences in the water bands become visible on the spectra of the mixtures, arising from the solid structure of water ice. In the *HQ* sample show in the figure, the initial deposited ice mixture at 100 K is slightly warmed to 200 K to dry the sample and to achieve the water/salt composition desired and then cold down to 100 K for recording the spectrum. Therefore, in this process, initial amorphous water matrix is crystallized during annealing, showing an IR spectrum typical of a cubic phase. In the case of *Vap* samples, initial deposits at 100 K are completely dried at high temperature, and, after decreasing to 100 K, water is added at this temperature to achieve the water/salt composition required. Therefore, in this case, water ice shows a low-density amorphous structure, which corresponds to deposition at 100 K, showing broader bands in the IR spectrum.

After generation, samples were irradiated during 3 to 5 hours by a 1000 W Xenon Arc lamp. This process has been carried out for all samples generated by means of the different procedures mentioned in the experimental section. In all samples $NH_4^+$ and $IO_3^-$ IR bands diminish during irradiation process, which is especially evident when 1430 and 745 $cm^{-1}$ bands are monitored. The photo-reduction of iodate in solid or ice samples has recently been suggested by Spolaor *et al*. (Spolaor et al., 2013). To illustrate this effect, Figure 4 shows the relation between the integrated infrared intensity on these bands for some pure samples irradiate at different temperatures, revealing the linear correlation existing between these values during the irradiation process (typical $R^2$ value higher than 0.99). Note that this correlation is more difficult to examine in the case of $H_2O$/salt mixtures, since both i) the overlap of water and $IO_3^-$ bands, ii) and the different changes that integrated absorption coefficients of $NH_4^+$ and $IO_3^-$ infrared bands could undergo in the presence of water, due to the intermolecular hydrogen bond formed in the hydration process. Nevertheless, and taking into account these considerations, the linear correlation (higher than 0.9) between both integral values can be observed in these cases, too, although it is not shown here.

Is important to highlight that not any evolution of the IR spectra of the samples was observed in dark conditions (this fact was checked many times along the experimental campaign).

Typical UV-Vis spectra of common ammonium salts (i.e. $NH_4Cl$) do not display significant absorption bands in the near- UV and visible regions (see Fig. 2), and, to the best of our knowledge, no literature exists on the photolysis of this species. Based on this, the photolysis of ammonium ions is not expected to occur in this spectral range. Consequently, reduction of the IR ammonium bands should be caused by a fast reaction with “reacting” species produced by photolysis of frozen iodate during the irradiation process: HOI, IO and $I_2$ (Spolaor et al., 2013), or OIO (Klaning et al., 1981), or other reacting species (e.g.: oxygen atoms or anions, see above). We observed that iodine reacts with ammonia in aqueous solution (McAlpine, 1952), and consequently, we expected that any of these iodinated compounds obtained, which could be even more reactive than $I_2$, could react very fast with the present $NH_4^+$.

In addition to those at the 1430 and 740 $cm^{-1}$ bands, other changes are evident in the IR spectra, revealing that not only ammonium and iodate ions are consumed, but also new products are formed. These changes are more evident in the low temperature experiments, around 100 K, since volatile products formed during the photolysis can also be retained on the substrate. Figure 5 shows an example of a pure solid $NH_4IO_3$ salt deposited at 100 K and irradiated at that temperature. Dotted lines indicate bands that undergo clear changes during the photolysis.

Stretching of the $NH_4^+$ bands around 3000 $cm^{-1}$ diminishes with irradiation, although an increase of water band intensities, more evident in the peak around 3360 $cm^{-1}$, also occurs, probably due to the residual water background always present in the chamber (note that this effect only occurs at temperatures below 150 K). Two new peaks emerge during photolysis, around 2227 and 1300 $cm^{-1}$. The first one is only visible at 100 K but the low frequency peak can also be observed at higher temperatures. The bands around 2227 $cm^{-1}$ could belong to infrared absorptions of C-O stretching modes. Slight carbon contamination mainly by $CO_2$ molecules are usually found in this type of experiments (Mate et al., 2014). Another possibility could be the formation of $N_2O$ molecules which bear infrared signal around 2200 $cm^{-1}$. The band around 1300 $cm^{-1}$ can also be caused by N-O stretching vibration, which could be formed by reaction of O* species with ammonium. Nevertheless, all these assignments should be considered as speculative.

According to the peaks observed as products in the IR spectra, the behaviour of reactant´s IR peaks, and previous work on laser flash photolysis of iodate aqueous solution (Klaning et al., 1981) and photolysis of ice samples (Spolaor et al., 2013), we tentatively proposed some reactions that can occur in the photolysis of ammonium iodate ice, although further experiments to elucidate a complete mechanism are required:

$IO_3^- + \text{light} \rightarrow OIO + O^-$ (R1) (Klaning et al., 1981)

$OIO + \text{light} \rightarrow O_2 + I \rightarrow\rightarrow$ active iodine (gas phase) (R2)

OIO, IO, I and $I_2$ or even HOI (by reaction of I or IO with $OH/HO_2$) could be the active iodine products that are released to the atmosphere. $O^-$ (in reaction R1) could be the activated specie that reacts with $NH_4^+$, or derivative, to consume it in a 1:1 ratio, although further studies are needed to clarify this point.

According to this mechanism, OIO is the initial iodine species formed. The IR band for this compound is about 800 $cm^{-1}$ (Maier and Bothur, 1997), and consequently, it cannot be monitored due to its overlap with the $IO_3^-$ band. Nevertheless, as was mentioned above, more studies should be carried out to further understand the mechanism.

However, independently of the mechanism of the photolytic process, the photolytic rate constant, *J* value, for the iodate ion can be calculated according to equation E1:

$$-\frac{d[IO_3^-]}{dt} = J[IO_3^-] \qquad \text{(E1)}$$

The concentration of iodate ion can be monitored by integration of the infrared band intensity at ca. 740 cm$^{-1}$, that, as shown in Fig. 4, is equivalent to monitor the $NH_4^+$ band at 1430 cm$^{-1}$:

$$-\frac{d[IO_3^-]}{dt} = J[IO_3^-] \quad \ll=\gg \quad -\frac{d[NH_4^+]}{dt} = J[NH_4^+] \qquad \text{(E2)}$$

Integrating E2 and considering that concentration is proportional to IR band intensity:

$$\ln(I_t) = \ln(I_0) - Jt \qquad \text{(E3)}$$

where $I_t$ and $I_0$ are the intensity of the band of $NH_4^+$ (or $IO_3^-$) at time *t* and zero, respectively.

According to E3, a representation of the natural logarithm of the integrated band intensities of $NH_4^+$ or $IO_3^-$ signals versus time of photolysis will give us the *J* value, as the slope of the line of the best linear fit. This calculation has been done for all deposited samples at different temperatures and water concentrations (see Figure 6 as an example for some of the samples). Integration limits of the bands differ among the different samples, due to baseline of the spectra are rather sensitive to the generation process and morphologies of the ices mixtures. For this reason, the integration limits of the bands were adjusted for each sample studied in order to minimize the errors during this process. The calculated mean value for all experiments carried out (at an average light power of 0.66 W cm$^{-2}$, see above) is $J = (4 \pm 2) \times 10^{-5}$ s$^{-1}$. Significant differences in the *J* values have not been observed among the samples prepared at different conditions, i.e. *Vap* o *HQ* deposition of water, different water ice structure (amorphous or cubic), different temperatures of generation and irradiation (from 100 to 298 K) or different amount of water in the mixtures, although in this last case, for more diluted samples the resulting *J* values are usually higher in absolute terms (the average *J* value considering only diluted samples is around 10 % higher). This effect could be due to a larger surface/bulk ratio in diluted samples, although in any case, it is always within the experimental uncertainties. The fact that not significant variations on the calculated *J* values were obtaining in the experiments point to the photo-reduction process do not notably depends on the morphology of the ices, or even the amorphous or crystalline structure, at least in the range of samples studied.

If the photolysis rate and the radiative flux are known, the integrated cross section of the iodate ion can be estimated according to E4:

$$J = \int_{\lambda_1}^{\lambda_2} F(\lambda)\sigma(\lambda)\phi(\lambda)d\lambda \quad \text{(E4)}$$

where $F(\lambda)$ is the radiative flux, $\sigma(\lambda)$ is the absorption cross section and $\phi(\lambda)$ is the quantum yield of the photolysis reaction. The radiative flux employed in the experiment has been calculated previously (see experimental section). If we assume a constant quantum yield of unity in the interval, the integrated absorption cross section from 300 to 900 nm yields a value of $(1.1\pm 0.6)\times10^{-20}$ $cm^2$ nm. For comparison purposes, the integrated cross section of $O_3$ in the spectral interval 410–690 nm (Chappuis band) is around $6.6\times10^{-20}$ $cm^2$ nm (Bogumil et al., 2001).

The assumption of a constant quantum yield of unity in the interval should be regarded with caution. It is known that this value depends not only on the wavelength value but the dilution and conditions of the samples, too (as for example on their aggregation phase) (Rahn et al., 2003). However, there is no information about this value for any frozen iodate frozen salt, and in consequence the integrated cross section determined in this study assumes that the quantum yield of the photolysis process. This assumption has to be taken into account in order to use this integrated cross section value for any purpose.

In order to estimate the near visible absorption of iodate salts, UV-Vis spectra were recorded for water solution of $NH_4IO_3$, $NH_4Cl$ and $KIO_3$ salts (see Fig. 2). In all cases, nearly null absorptions were recorded above 300 nm. These results are in agreement with that of Saunders *et al*, (Saunders et al., 2012) and Awtrey and Connick, (Awtrey and Connick, 1951), who also found nearly null absorption above 300 nm for $NaIO_3$ salt solutions. According to these results, the photo-reactivity of the iodate salts should be related to the low-temperature effect, and the fact that iodate solutions or salts are frozen, in agreement with the results from Spolaor *et al*.(Spolaor et al., 2013). It is well known that different photochemical reactions are greatly accelerated in frozen solution due, for example, by the concentration of solutes in porous or channel formed in the water ice network (see e.g. Grannas *et al.* (Grannas et al., 2007) and references therein).

In order to model the influence of the photolytic process of iodate in the polar environment, it could be more convenient to use an estimation of the variation of the absorption cross section, instead of the integrated cross section measured, due to the large variation of the spectral actinic flux in this interval. With this aim, we provide an estimation of the variation of the absorption cross section, using as a reference the spectral shape of the $NH_4IO_3$ solutions showed in Fig. 2. According to this, it seems reasonable to approximate the spectral shape to a decay tail of a Gaussian function (although no significant differences would be obtained if a Lorentzian function would be used) peaking in 205 nm (according to the spectrum of 9.6 x $10^{-4}$ M $NH_4IO_3$ shown in Figure 2), which is presented in Fig. 7. The total area of the Gaussian function simulation (from 300 to 900 nm) has been fixed to the previous calculated value for the integrated absorption cross section, and the width of the Gaussian function has arbitrarily selected to force that approx. 95 % of the value of the integrated cross section would be in the range from 300 to 500 nm. In this calculation, a $\sigma$ of 1.35 x $10^{-22}$ $cm^2$ is obtained at 350 nm, a value, for example, relatively close to that recorded for $O_3$ at this frequency, approx. 4 x $10^{-22}$ $cm^2$ (Burrows et al., 1999), but quite far lower than the one for $NO_3$ at 662 nm that is 1.90 x $10^{-17}$ $cm^2$ at 298 K (Ravishankara and Mauldin, 1986).

However, due to the above mentioned limitations in our experimental set-up the integrated absorption cross-section of iodate should be regarded as a lower limit. The reason is mainly the limitations associated with distributing the samples homogeneously during deposition, which could generate areas free of samples on the substrate. For these cases, the irradiance received by the samples could be lower than calculated (which assume a homogeneous distribution of the sample), leading finally to a higher calculated absorption cross section value than the one obtained in this work. Based on the dispersion of our results, we have estimated that this effect could account for an increase on this value by up to a factor of two. In addition, diluted samples showed an increase of the $J$ values of around 10 %, which, although in within experimental limitations, also would cause a higher absorption cross section value. In conclusion, both effects could account for a cross section value up to an order of magnitude higher than that reported here, so we emphasize that it should be considered as a lower limit. Nevertheless, further experiments should be done to confirm the integrated absorption cross section value.

## 3.2 Model simulations

In spite of the experimental limitations mentioned above, we have incorporated the experimentally-derived absorption cross section value into an atmospheric model in order to assess the implications that this process could have in polar atmospheric chemistry.

Although high levels of reactive iodine have been measured in coastal Antarctica, the emission mechanism over ice still remains unclear. We use an atmospheric model (for details see Saiz-Lopez et al.(Saiz-Lopez et al., 2008)) of the Antarctic boundary layer to assess the potential of iodate photolysis to release reactive iodine to the polar atmosphere. The model is initialized with typical concentrations of atmospheric constituents in coastal Antarctica (Jones et al., 2008) for October. We constrain the ice surface in the model with an average iodate concentration at the ice surface of 19 nM, as recently measured over the Weddell Sea (Atkinson et al., 2012). The model incorporates a 2-stream radiation code to compute the actinic flux at the surface for springtime Antarctic irradiation conditions (Saiz-Lopez et al., 2008), and the mean iodate integrated absorption cross section estimated in this work, which again recall that it is a lower limit. We assume that there is an iodine atom unity conversion of iodate into reactive gas phase following iodate photolysis. The model results indicate that the photoreduction of iodate in ice, and subsequent equilibration of the reactive iodine species, yields atmospheric IO levels around 1-1.5 pptv. These levels of IO are lower than the highest values measured in the biologically-active Weddell Sea region. However, lower IO concentrations have also been reported in other coastal regions away from the Weddell Sea (Schönhardt et al., 2008). We would like to highlight that the IO concentration given by the model is proportional to the cross section values used for iodate, so much larger IO levels could be obtained. The photolysis of iodate could provide a source of iodine that accounts for some of the comparatively low levels observed, and, to a lesser extent, also contribute to the iodine emissions over the Weddell Sea zone. Note that the model does not consider the potential loss at the ice surface of the iodine photofragments resulting from the iodate photolysis. The model results suggest, within the uncertainties highlighted above, that the photolysis of iodate on the surface of ice can potentially constitute an abiotic pathway for the release of active iodine to the polar atmosphere. Further laboratory and field work is needed to better assess the environmental implications of iodate photolysis in the ice.

## 4 Conclusions

We have explored the photolysis of ammonium iodate salt in frozen solutions. The samples were generated by different deposition methods, and at different temperatures and water concentrations, in order to obtain samples of different morphologies. The samples were processed by simulated Solar light with an average light power of 0.66 W cm$^{-2}$, in the wavelength range of 300 to 900 nm. In all cases, the evolution of the IR spectra confirms the photolysis of iodate salt for all samples in a similar way. The photolysis rates obtained are similar for all the samples generated, within our experimental uncertainties, indicating that in the photolytic process there is a limited influence of the morphology and structure of the water ice matrix. The bands of $NH_4^+$ and $IO_3^-$ decrease during irradiation and new small bands appear, too. Some relevant reactions of the photolysis process are presented, in which OIO is formed as a first step of the photolysis of iodate. Both OIO and other reactive iodine species, which could be formed in subsequent reactions (IO, $I_2$, HOI, etc.), could be released to the gas phase. As result of these experiments, the integrated absorption cross section of iodate in an ammonium frozen salt has been estimated for the first time at wavelengths relevant for tropospheric studies ($\sigma = (1.1 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{-20}$ cm$^2$ nm from 300 to 900 nm). However, due to the experimental limitations, this value has to be considered mainly as a lower limit, and further experiments are needed to confirm it. A simulated absorption cross section in this interval region has also been proposed, which has been included in an atmospheric model of the Antarctic boundary layer to assess its potential environmental relevance. The model predicts that the photolysis of iodate in ice could yield atmospheric IO levels around 1-1.5 pptv, which could be higher if we consider a larger absorption cross sections value for the photolysis of iodate. According to this, we suggest that the photolysis of iodate on the surface of ice can potentially constitute a pathway for the release of active iodine to the polar atmosphere.

## Acknowledgements

O. G. acknowledges financial support from Ministerio de Ciencia e Innovación, “Ramón y Cajal” program and financial support from Ministerio de Economía y Competitividad, project “CGL2013-48415-C2-1-R”. M.T.B-R and M.S. acknowledge financial support from Ministerio de Economía y Competitividad, project “CGL2013-48415-C2-2”. O. G., M.T.B-R and M.S. acknowledge financial support from the Spanish crowdfunding platform PRECIPITA from FECYT foundation.

## References

Abad, L., Bermejo, D., Herrero, V. J., Santos, J., and Tanarro, I.: Performance of a solenoid-driven pulsed molecular-beam source, Review of Scientific Instruments, 66, 3826-3832, doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.1063/1.1145444, 1995.

Allan, J. D., Williams, P. I., Najera, J., Whitehead, J. D., Flynn, M. J., Taylor, J. W., Liu, D., Darbyshire, E., Carpenter, L. J., Chance, R., Andrews, S. J., Hackenberg, S. C., and McFiggans, G.: Iodine observed in new particle formation events in the Arctic atmosphere during ACCACIA, Atmos. Chem. Phys., 15, 5599-5609, 10.5194/acp-15-5599-2015, 2015.

Assmy, P., Ehn, J. K., Fernández-Méndez, M., Hop, H., Katlein, C., Sundfjord, A., Bluhm, K., Daase, M., Engel, A., Fransson, A., Granskog, M. A., Hudson, S. R., Kristiansen, S., Nicolaus, M., Peeken, I., Renner, A. H. H., Spreen, G., Tatarek, A., and Wiktor, J.: Floating Ice-Algal Aggregates below Melting Arctic Sea Ice, PLoS ONE, 8, e76599, 10.1371/journal.pone.0076599, 2013.

Atkinson, H. M., Huang, R. J., Chance, R., Roscoe, H. K., Hughes, C., Davison, B., Schönhardt, A., Mahajan, A. S., Saiz-Lopez, A., Hoffmann, T., and Liss, P. S.: Iodine emissions from the sea ice of the Weddell Sea, Atmos. Chem. Phys., 12, 11229-11244, 10.5194/acp-12-11229-2012, 2012.

Awtrey, A. D., and Connick, R. E.: The Absorption Spectra of $I_2$, $I_3^-$, $I^-$, $IO_3^-$, $S_4O_6^=$ and $S_2O_3^=$. Heat of the Reaction $I_3^- = I_2 + I$, Journal of the American Chemical Society, 73, 1842-1843, 10.1021/ja01148a504, 1951.

Baker, A. R., Thompson, D., Campos, M. L. A. M., Parry, S. J., and Jickells, T. D.: Iodine concentration and availability in atmospheric aerosol, Atmospheric Environment, 34, 4331-4336, http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S1352-2310(00)00208-9, 2000.

Baker, A. R.: Inorganic iodine speciation in tropical Atlantic aerosol, Geophysical Research Letters, 31, n/a-n/a, 10.1029/2004gl020144, 2004.

Bogumil, K., Orphal, J., Burrows, J. P., and Flaud, J. M.: Vibrational progressions in the visible and near-ultraviolet absorption spectrum of ozone, Chemical Physics Letters, 349, 241-248, http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0009-2614(01)01191-5, 2001.

Burrows, J. P., Richter, A., Dehn, A., Deters, B., Himmelmann, S., Voigt, S., and Orphal, J.: Atmospheric remote-sensing reference data from GOME---2. Temperature-dependent absorption cross sections of O3 in the 231-794 nm range, Journal of Quantitative Spectroscopy and Radiative Transfer, 61, 509-517, http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0022-4073(98)00037-5, 1999.

Calvert, J. G., and Lindberg, S. E.: The potential influence of iodine-containing compounds on the chemistry of the troposphere in the polar spring. II. Mercury depletion, Atmospheric Environment, 38, 5105-5116, http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.atmosenv.2004.05.050, 2004.

Frieß, U., Wagner, T., Pundt, I., Pfeilsticker, K., and Platt, U.: Spectroscopic measurements of tropospheric iodine oxide at Neumayer Station, Antarctica, Geophysical Research Letters, 28, 1941-1944, 10.1029/2000gl012784, 2001.

Gálvez, O., Maté, B., Herrero, V., J. , and Escribano, R.: Ammonium and Formate Ions in Interstellar Ice Analogs, The Astrophysical Journal, 724, 539, 2010.

Gálvez, Ó., Maté, B., Martín-Llorente, B., Herrero, V. J., and Escribano, R.: Phases of Solid Methanol, The Journal of Physical Chemistry A, 113, 3321-3329, 10.1021/jp810239r, 2009.

Gilfedder, B. S., Lai, S. C., Petri, M., Biester, H., and Hoffmann, T.: Iodine speciation in rain, snow and aerosols, Atmos. Chem. Phys., 8, 6069-6084, 10.5194/acp-8-6069-2008, 2008.

Grannas, A. M., Jones, A. E., Dibb, J., Ammann, M., Anastasio, C., Beine, H. J., Bergin, M., Bottenheim, J., Boxe, C. S., Carver, G., Chen, G., Crawford, J. H., Dominé, F., Frey, M. M., Guzmán, M. I., Heard, D. E., Helmig, D., Hoffmann, M. R., Honrath, R. E., Huey, L. G., Hutterli, M., Jacobi, H. W., Klán, P., Lefer, B., McConnell, J., Plane, J., Sander, R., Savarino, J., Shepson, P. B., Simpson, W. R., Sodeau, J. R., von Glasow, R., Weller, R., Wolff, E. W., and Zhu, T.: An overview of snow photochemistry: evidence, mechanisms and impacts, Atmos. Chem. Phys., 7, 4329-4373, 10.5194/acp-7-4329-2007, 2007.

Jones, A. E., Wolff, E. W., Salmon, R. A., Bauguitte, S. J. B., Roscoe, H. K., Anderson, P. S., Ames, D., Clemitshaw, K. C., Fleming, Z. L., Bloss, W. J., Heard, D. E., Lee, J. D., Read, K. A., Hamer, P., Shallcross, D. E., Jackson, A. V., Walker, S. L., Lewis, A. C., Mills, G. P., Plane, J. M. C., Saiz-Lopez, A., Sturges, W. T., and Worton, D. R.: Chemistry of the Antarctic Boundary Layer and the Interface with Snow: an overview of the CHABLIS campaign, Atmos. Chem. Phys., 8, 3789-3803, 10.5194/acp-8-3789-2008, 2008.

Kim, K., Yabushita, A., Okumura, M., Saiz-Lopez, A., Cuevas, C. A., Blaszczak-Boxe, C. S., Min, D. W., Yoon, H.-I., and Choi, W.: Production of molecular iodine and triiodide in the frozen solution of iodide: implication for polar atmosphere, Environmental Science & Technology, 10.1021/acs.est.5b05148, 2016.

Klaning, U. K., Sehested, K., and Wolff, T.: Laser flash photolysis and pulse radiolysis of iodate and periodate in aqueous solution. Properties of iodine(VI), Journal of the Chemical Society, Faraday Transactions 1: Physical Chemistry in Condensed Phases, 77, 1707-1718, 10.1039/f19817701707, 1981.

Laniewski, K., Borén, H., and Grimvall, A.: Fractionation of halogenated organic matter present in rain and snow, Chemosphere, 38, 393-409, http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0045-6535(98)00181-7, 1999.

Maier, G., and Bothur, A.: Matrix-Isolation of Iodine Superoxide and Iodine Dioxide, Chemische Berichte, 130, 179-181, 10.1002/cber.19971300207, 1997.

Mastrapa, R. M., Sandford, R. M., Roush, T. L., Cruikshank, D. P., and Dalle Ore, C. M.: Optical Constants of Amorphous and Crystalline H2O-ice: 2.5-22 µm (4000-455 cm–1) Optical Constants of H2O-ice, The Astrophysical Journal, 701, 1347, 2009.

Mate, B., Rodriguez-Lazcano, Y., and Herrero, V. J.: Morphology and crystallization kinetics of compact (HGW) and porous (ASW) amorphous water ice, Physical Chemistry Chemical Physics, 14, 10595-10602, 10.1039/c2cp41597f, 2012.

Mate, B., Tanarro, I., Moreno, M. A., Jimenez-Redondo, M., Escribano, R., and Herrero, V. J.: Stability of carbonaceous dust analogues and glycine under UV irradiation and electron bombardment, Faraday Discussions, 168, 267-285, 10.1039/c3fd00132f, 2014.

Maté, B., Gálvez, O., Herrero, V. J., Fernández-Torre, D., Moreno, M. A., and Escribano, R.: Water-Ammonium ICES and the Elusive 6.85 µm Band, The Astrophysical Journal Letters, 703, L178, 2009.

Mayer, E.: New method for vitrifying water and other liquids by rapid cooling of their aerosols, Journal of Applied Physics, 58, 663-667, doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.1063/1.336179, 1985.

McAlpine, R. K.: The Reaction of Dilute Iodine and Ammonia Solutions, Journal of the American Chemical Society, 74, 725-727, 10.1021/ja01123a041, 1952.

Ocampo, J., and Klinger, J.: Adsorption of N2 and CO2 on ice, Journal of Colloid and Interface Science, 86, 377-383, http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/0021-9797(82)90083-2, 1982.

Pechtl, S., Lovejoy, E. R., Burkholder, J. B., and von Glasow, R.: Modeling the possible role of iodine oxides in atmospheric new particle formation, Atmos. Chem. Phys., 6, 505-523, 10.5194/acp-6-505-2006, 2006.

Rahn, R. O., Stefan, M. I., Bolton, J. R., Goren, E., Shaw, P.-S., and Lykke, K. R.: Quantum Yield of the Iodide–Iodate Chemical Actinometer: Dependence on Wavelength and Concentration¶, Photochemistry and Photobiology, 78, 146-152, 10.1562/0031-8655(2003)0780146qyotic2.0.co2, 2003.

Ravishankara, A. R., and Mauldin, R. L.: Temperature dependence of the NO3 cross section in the 662-nm region, Journal of Geophysical Research: Atmospheres, 91, 8709-8712, 10.1029/JD091iD08p08709, 1986.

Read, K. A., Mahajan, A. S., Carpenter, L. J., Evans, M. J., Faria, B. V. E., Heard, D. E., Hopkins, J. R., Lee, J. D., Moller, S. J., Lewis, A. C., Mendes, L., McQuaid, J. B., Oetjen, H., Saiz-Lopez, A., Pilling, M. J., and Plane, J. M. C.: Extensive halogen-mediated ozone destruction over the tropical Atlantic Ocean, Nature, 453, 1232-1235, http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v453/n7199/suppinfo/nature07035_S1.html, 2008.

Roscoe, H. K., Jones, A. E., Brough, N., Weller, R., Saiz-Lopez, A., Mahajan, A. S., Schoenhardt, A., Burrows, J. P., and Fleming, Z. L.: Particles and iodine compounds in coastal Antarctica, Journal of Geophysical Research: Atmospheres, 120, 7144-7156, 10.1002/2015jd023301, 2015.

Saiz-Lopez, A., Chance, K., Liu, X., Kurosu, T. P., and Sander, S. P.: First observations of iodine oxide from space, Geophysical Research Letters, 34, n/a-n/a, 10.1029/2007gl030111, 2007a.

Saiz-Lopez, A., Mahajan, A. S., Salmon, R. A., Bauguitte, S. J.-B., Jones, A. E., Roscoe, H. K., and Plane, J. M. C.: Boundary Layer Halogens in Coastal Antarctica, Science, 317, 348-351, 10.1126/science.1141408, 2007b.

Saiz-Lopez, A., Plane, J. M. C., Mahajan, A. S., Anderson, P. S., Bauguitte, S. J. B., Jones, A. E., Roscoe, H. K., Salmon, R. A., Bloss, W. J., Lee, J. D., and Heard, D. E.: On the vertical distribution of boundary layer halogens over coastal Antarctica: implications for O3, HOx, NOx and the Hg lifetime, Atmos. Chem. Phys., 8, 887-900, 10.5194/acp-8-887-2008, 2008.

Saiz-Lopez, A., Plane, J. M. C., Baker, A. R., Carpenter, L. J., von Glasow, R., Gómez Martín, J. C., McFiggans, G., and Saunders, R. W.: Atmospheric Chemistry of Iodine, Chemical Reviews, 112, 1773-1804, 10.1021/cr200029u, 2012.

Saiz-Lopez, A., Blaszczak-Boxe, C. S., and Carpenter, L. J.: A mechanism for biologically-induced iodine emissions from sea-ice, Atmos. Chem. Phys. , 15, 9731-9746, 10.5194/acp-15-9731-2015, 2015.

Saunders, R. W., Kumar, R., MacDonald, S. M., and Plane, J. M. C.: Insights into the Photochemical Transformation of Iodine in Aqueous Systems: Humic Acid Photosensitized Reduction of Iodate, Environmental Science & Technology, 46, 11854-11861, 10.1021/es3030935, 2012.

Schönhardt, A., Richter, A., Wittrock, F., Kirk, H., Oetjen, H., Roscoe, H. K., and Burrows, J. P.: Observations of iodine monoxide columns from satellite, Atmos. Chem. Phys., 8, 637-653, 10.5194/acp-8-637-2008, 2008.

Schutte, W. A., and Khanna, R. K.: Origin of the 6.85 micron band near young stellar objects: The ammonium ion (NH4+) revisited, A&A, 398, 1049-1062, 2003.

Spolaor, A., Vallelonga, P., Plane, J. M. C., Kehrwald, N., Gabrieli, J., Varin, C., Turetta, C., Cozzi, G., Kumar, R., Boutron, C., and Barbante, C.: Halogen species record Antarctic sea ice extent over glacial–interglacial periods, Atmos. Chem. Phys., 13, 6623-6635, 10.5194/acp-13-6623-2013, 2013.

**Table 1**. Positions (in cm$^{-1}$) and assignment of the mid-IR spectra bands of the $NH_4IO_3$ salt shown in Fig. 2.

| **Experiment** | **$\nu_1,\nu_3$ ($IO_3^-$)** | **$\nu_4$ ($NH_4^+$)** | **$2\nu_1,\nu_3$ ($IO_3^-$)?** | **$2\nu_4,\nu_2+\nu_4,\nu_3$ ($NH_4^+$)** |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| $NH_4IO_3$ 200 K | 742, 792$^{sh}$ | 1428, 1451$^{sh}$ | 1683 | 2839, 3020, 3165 |
| $NH_4IO_3$ 100 K | 738, 772$^{sh}$, 792$^{sh}$ | 1432, 1456$^{sh}$ | 1683 | 2839, 3020, 3154 |
| 3.6 $H_2O/NH_4IO_3$ 100 K HQ | 745, 769$^{sh}$, 794$^{sh}$ | 1432, 1456$^{sh}$ | 1683 | 2839, 3020, 3154$^{sh}$ |
| 2.1 $H_2O/NH_4IO_3$ 100 K Vap | 749, 792$^{sh}$ | 1432, 1456$^{sh}$ | 1683 | 2839, 3020, 3154$^{sh}$ |

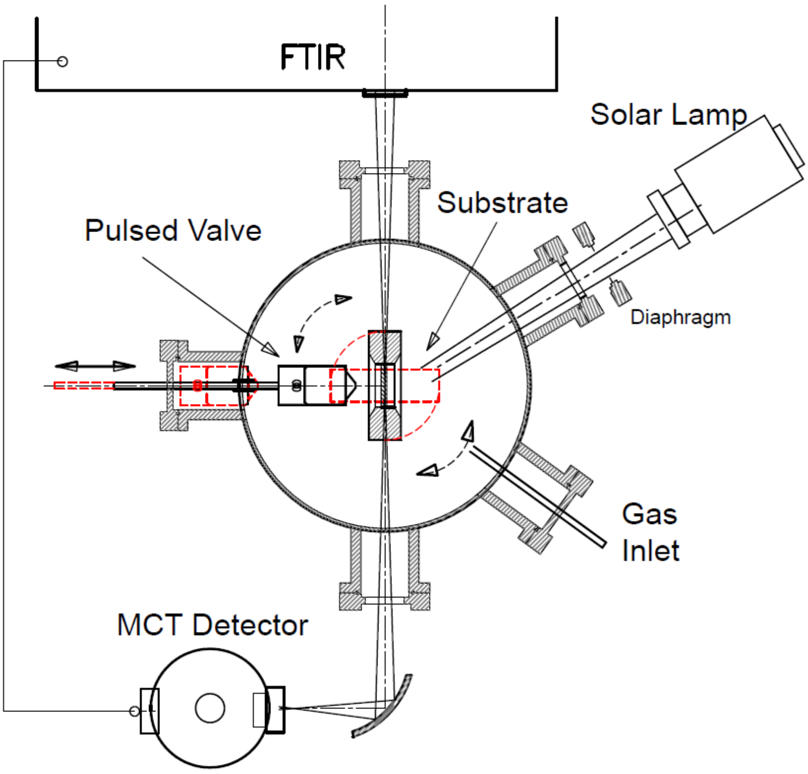


**Figure 1**. Schematic view of the experimental setup.

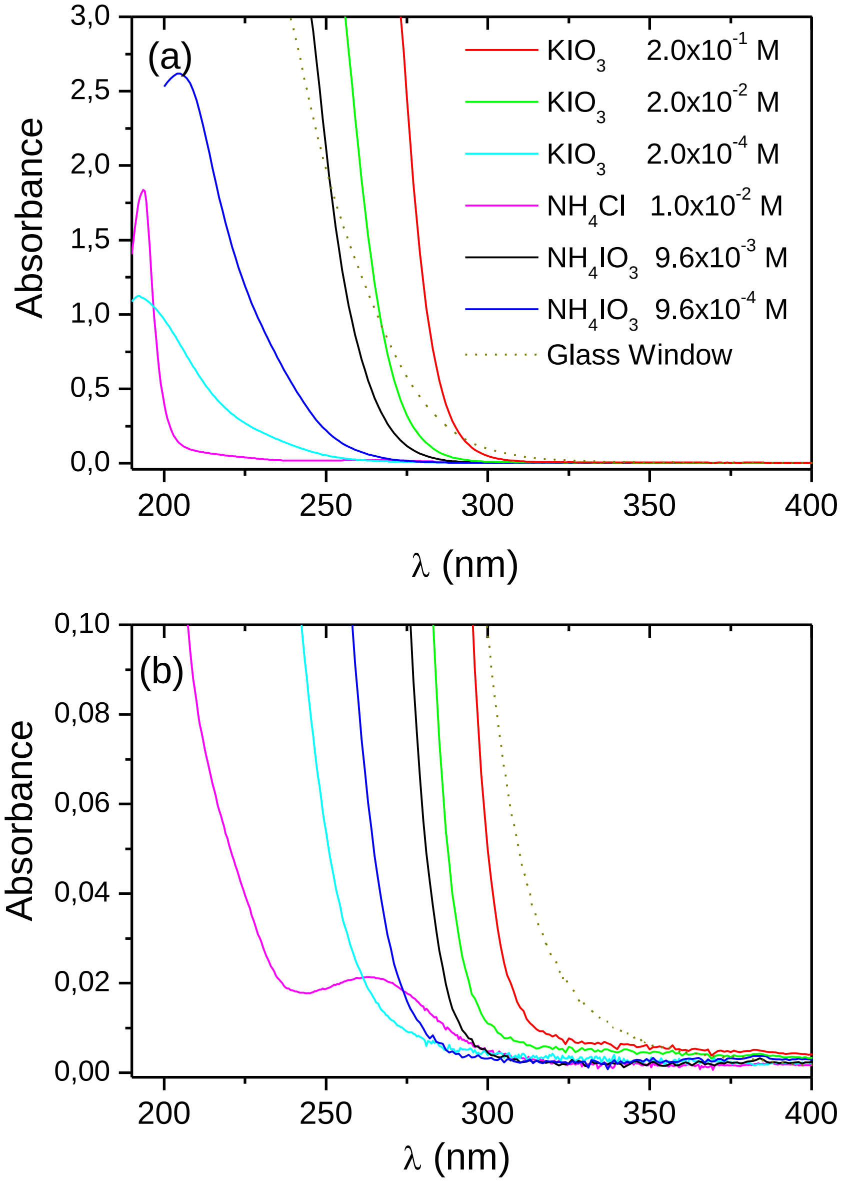


**Figure 2**. (a) UV-Vis absorption spectra from 190 to 400 nm for KIO$_3$, NH$_4$Cl and NH$_4$IO$_3$ aqueous solutions. (b) Zoom-in of the low absorbance values.

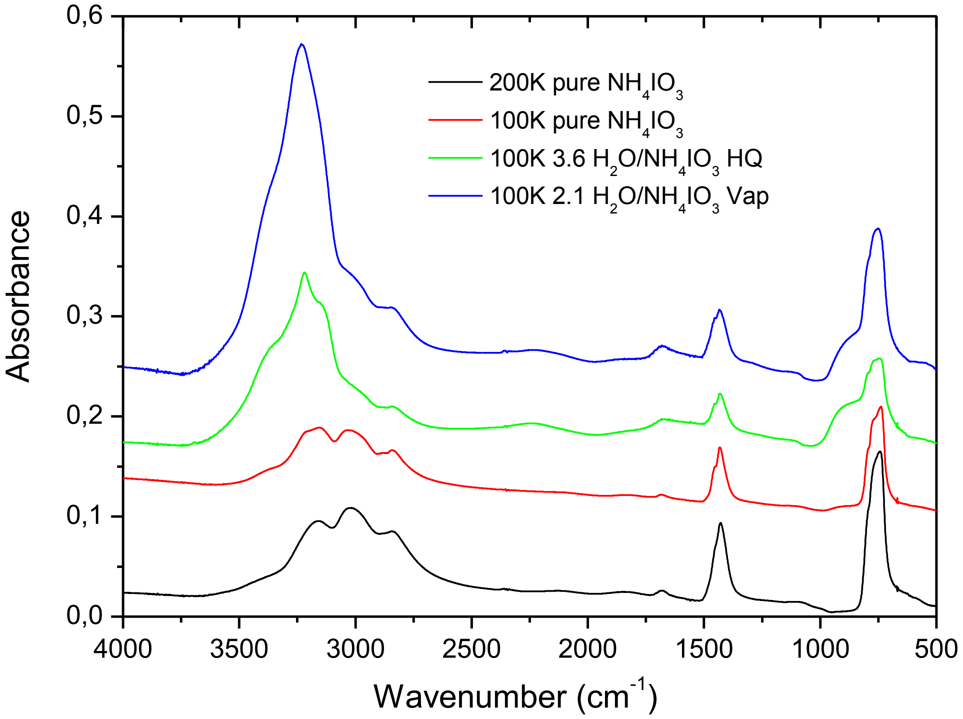


**Figure 3**. Mid-IR transmission spectra of pure $NH_4IO_3$ and $H_2O/NH_4IO_3$ ice mixtures generated at different temperatures.

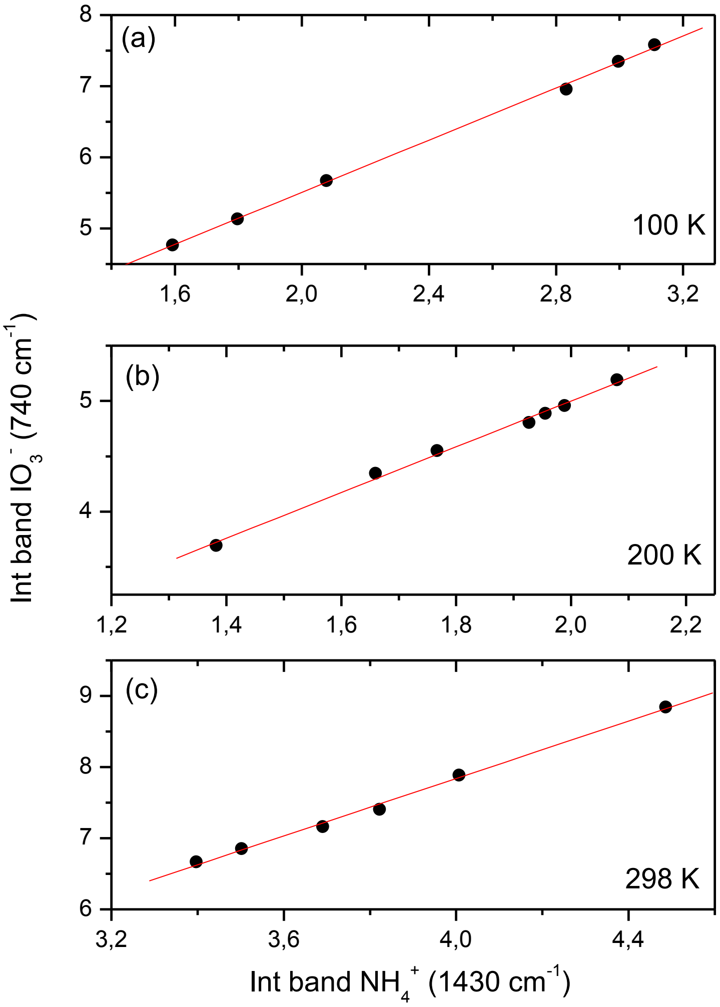


**Figure 4**. Integrated intensities (in arbitrary units) of the $\nu_4$ band of $NH_4^+$ and the $\nu_3$ of $IO_3^-$ of pure ammonium iodate samples generated and irradiated at (a) 100 K (b) 200 K and (c) 298 K. Fit linear regression lines are shown in red.

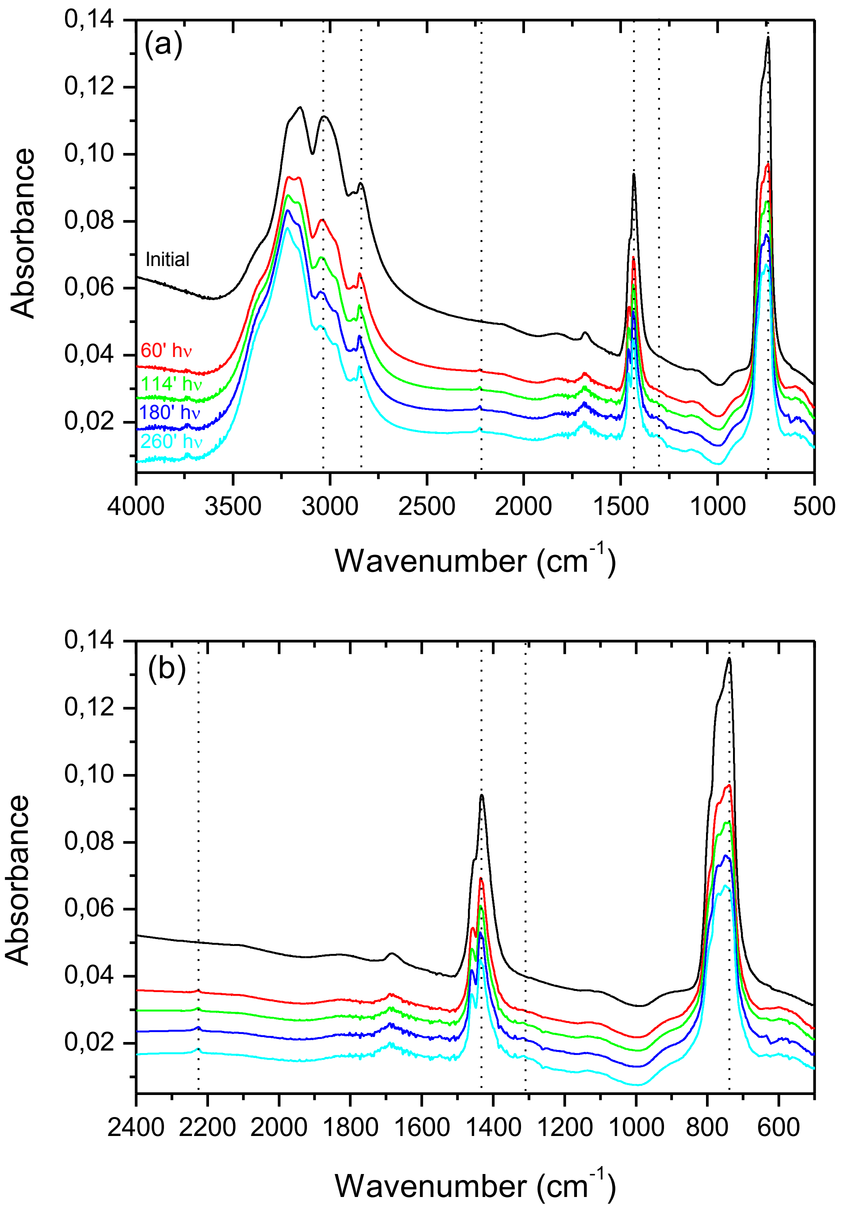


**Figure 5**. Evolution of the mid-IR transmission spectra of a pure $NH_4IO_3$ deposited at 100 K during photolysis at that temperature: Zero time, 60, 114, 180 and 260 min of photolysis in black, red, green, dark and light blue, respectively. The upper panel shows the whole IR spectra between 4000 and 500 $cm^{-1}$, the bottom panel is a zoom in the range 2400-600 $cm^{-1}$. Dotted lines indicate bands that undergo clear changes during the photolysis.

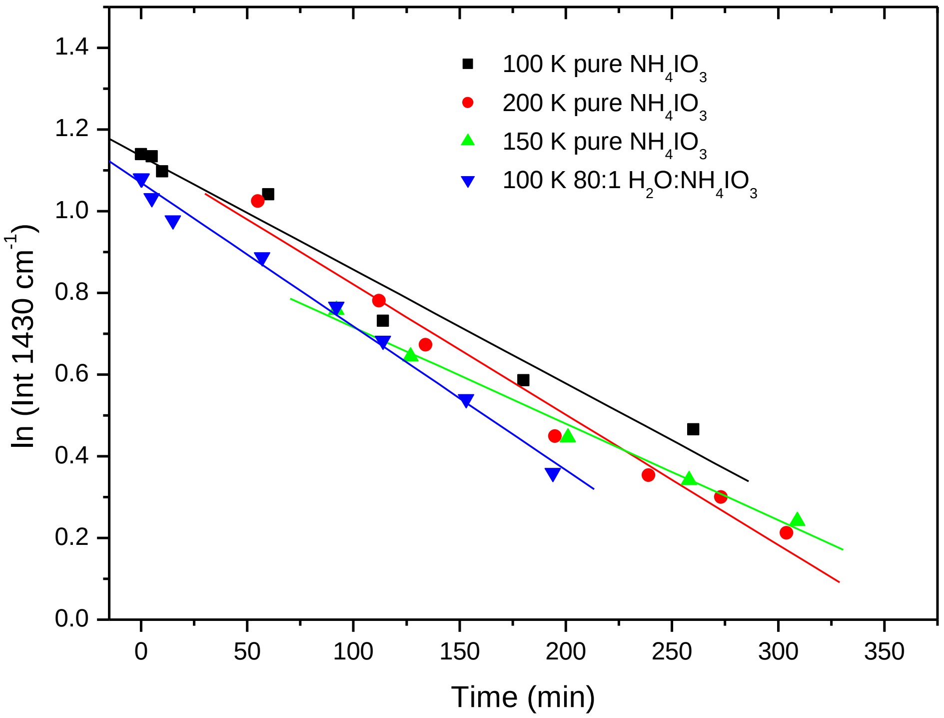


**Figure 6**. Representation of the natural logarithm of the integrated band intensity of $NH_4^+$ at 1430 $cm^{-1}$ band versus photolysis time for some selected samples generated and irradiated at different temperatures.

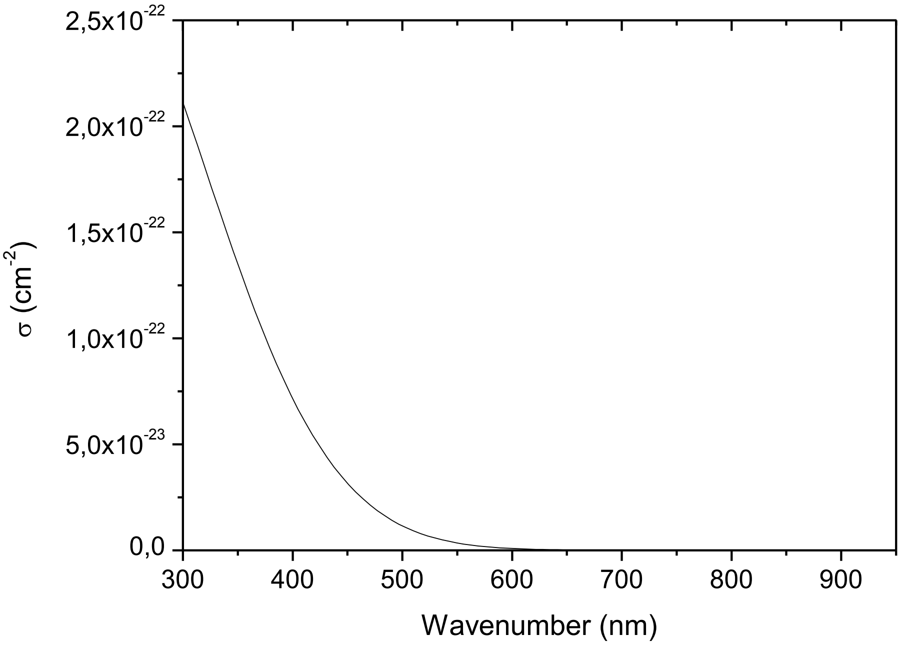


**Figure 7**. Simulated absorption cross section of iodate ion in a frozen ammonium iodate salt.