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## Photolysis effect of UV radiation on reactive species in plasma-activated water

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**Introduction:** Plasma and plasma-activated liquids are used in various medical applications like implants, cleaning, and combating infections. The decontamination efficacy of plasma depends on both short- and long-lived reactive species. Active species like  $\text{NO}_2^-$ ,  $\text{NO}_3^-$ ,  $\text{O}_3$ , and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  have antibacterial effects. Combining plasma-activated water with UV radiation produces highly active short-lived species like OH and ONOOH. In our previous work, the effect of this synergic modality on bacteria had been investigated<sup>1</sup>. Here we focus on chemical interaction of transient spark PAW with UV A radiation.

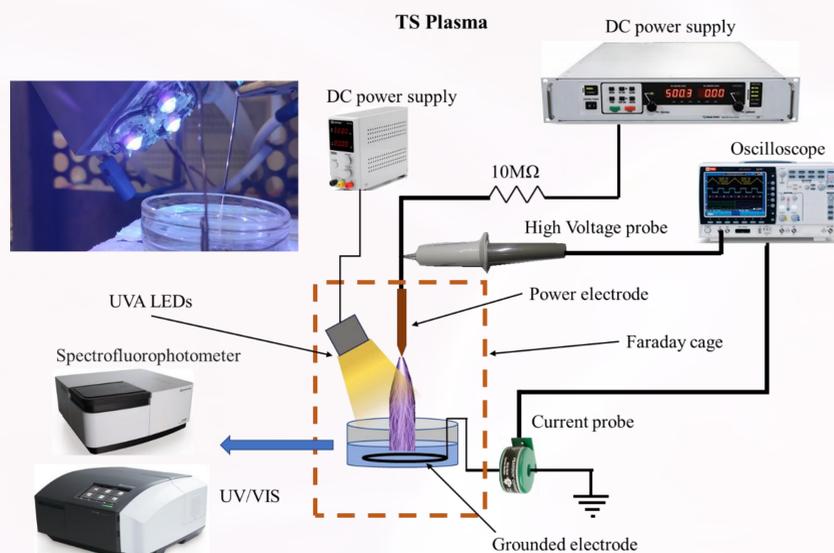


Figure 1. Schematic diagram of the transient spark plasma-UV (A or C) set-up

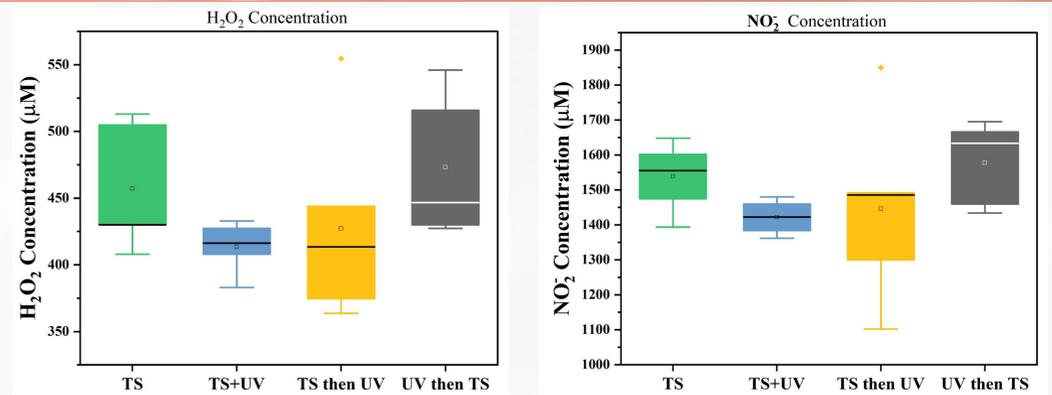


Figure 5. Concentration of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ ,  $\text{NO}_2^-$  and average power with different combining treatment treatments. The power was ~4-6 W

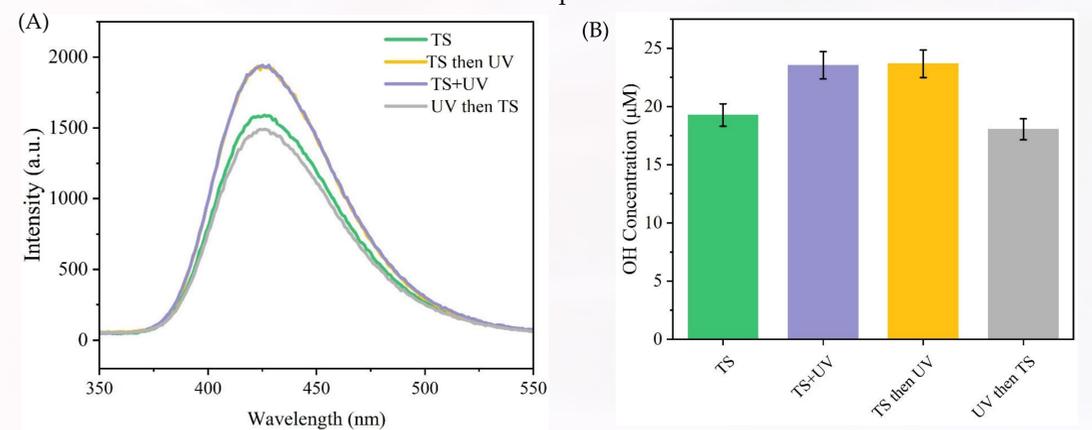


Figure 6. (A) Fluorescence spectra of aqueous TA solutions exposed to the TS, TS+UV, TS then UV and UV then TS. (B) Formation of OH radicals in aqueous TA solution for different treating group.

### Result:

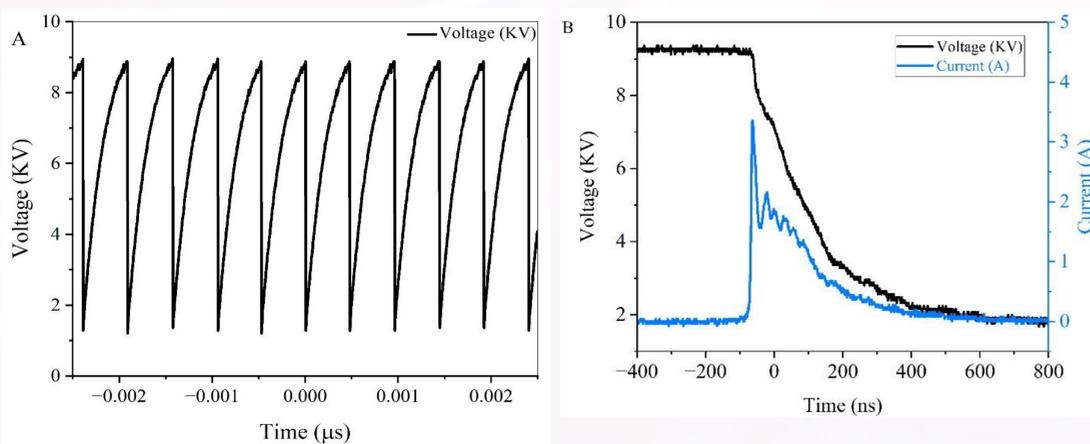


Figure 2. Voltage (A), and current-voltage waveform (B) of transient spark plasma

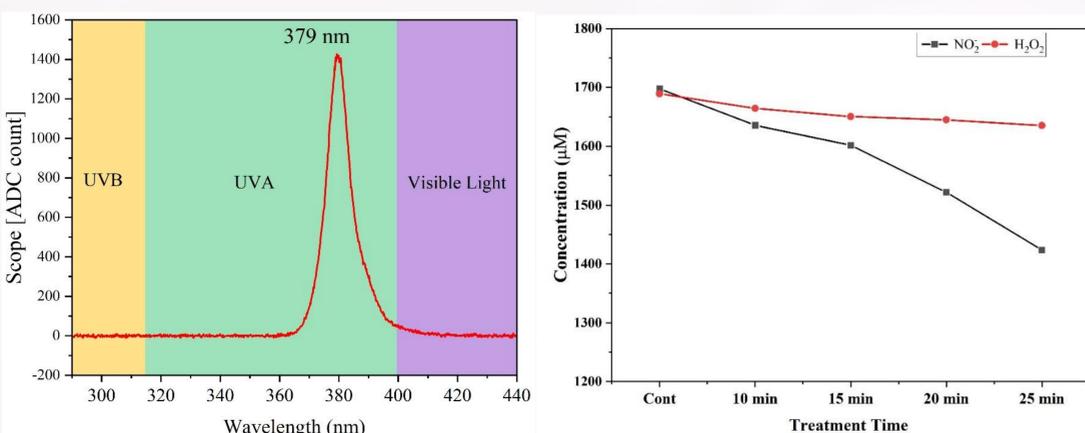


Figure 3. Wavelength of three mounted UVA-LEDs.

Figure 4. Concentrations of  $\text{NO}_2^-$  in pure  $\text{NO}_2^-$  solution and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  in pure  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  solution after UVA irradiation.

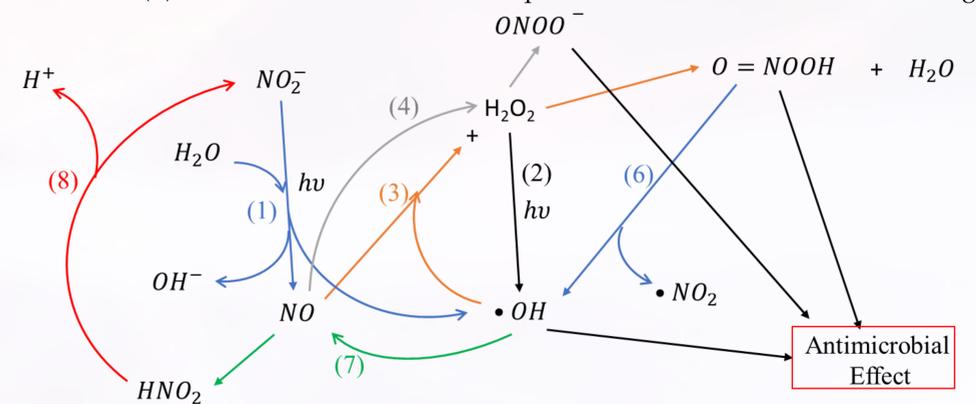


Figure 7. Overview of the chemical pathways involved in the antibacterial interaction between UVA radiation and PAW.

**Conclusion:** The study reveals that external UV radiation significantly improves the functionality of plasma activated water (PAW), particularly through the photochemical production of OH radical. UV radiation can decrease  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  levels through photolysis, leading to the enhanced generation of OH and ONOOH/ONOO<sup>-</sup>. PAW's high reactivity and oxidizing capacity can be thus enhanced by additional UV irradiation that supports OH production to make it more efficient in various fields, including disinfecting biological materials and inactivating bacteria<sup>2</sup>.

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1-R. Mehrabifard, B. Gitura Kimani, and Z. Machala, Sep. 2024, doi: 10.2139/SSRN.4961388.

2-H. Lee, S. Park, J. Y. Park, J. Kim, and W. Choe, SSRN Electron. J., 2022, doi: 10.2139/ssrn.4240411.



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