## Irradiation intensity dependent heterogeneous formation of sulfate

## and dissolution of ZnO nanoparticles

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#### **Section S1. Experimental**

In-situ diffuse reflectance infrared Fourier transform spectroscopy (DRIFTS) is helpful in discussing the species formed on particles. The schematic diagram of the in-situ setup is present in **Figure S1**. ZnO particles were placed in a ceramic sample cup (0.35 mm depth, 5 mm i.d.). Mass flow controllers (Beijing Sevenstar electronics Co., LTD) were used to adjust the fluxes of reactant gases to the desired flow rate, concentration and relative humidity (RH). A temperature controller was connected to the DRIFTS chamber (Praying Mantis Kit, Harrick) to control the reaction temperature (298 K).



Figure S1. Schematic diagram of experimental setup. The DRIFTS chamber is linked with other parts through Teflon tube. MFC: mass flow controller



Figure S2. Spectral distribution of the Xenon lamp light measured by a fiber optic spectrometer

(AULTT-P4000, Beijing Ceaulight Co., LTD, China).

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Oscillation UV-vis measurement

**Figure S3.** Process of the  $Zn^{2+}$  analysis by means of UV-vis.



Figure S4. Reactor for the ex-situ experiments.

#### Section S2. Kinetics evaluation

In the estimation of the uptake coefficients, both BET surface area ( $A_{BET}$ ) and geometric surface area ( $A_{geo}$ ) are adopted as the reactive surface area ( $A_s$ ). If the reaction probability is high, the reactants would have no time to diffuse into the sample and the  $A_s$  thus be the geometric surface area of the sample cup ( $A_{geo}$ ). On the contrary,  $A_{BET}$ , calculated based on  $S_{BET}$  and particle mass ( $A_{BET}=S_{BET}\times$ mass), would more appropriately represent  $A_s$  when the reaction probability is low and the reactants may have enough time to diffuse into the entire sample. Hence,  $\gamma$ -values estimated via  $A_{BET}$  and  $A_{geo}$  (denoted as  $\gamma_{BET}$  and  $\gamma_{geo}$ , respectively) are mentioned simultaneously to represent the lower and upper limits of  $\gamma$ -values varying with reaction probabilities between the reactants and particles.

Parameter (	Value			
Sulfate formation rate: $d$	According to reactions			
	A <sub>BET</sub> (m <sup>2</sup> )	$S_{BET} \times sample \ mass$		
Particle reactive surface area: As (m <sup>2</sup> )	$A_{geo} \left( m^2 \right)$	1.86×10-5		
Reactant concentration: [S	3.773×10 <sup>20</sup>			
	Gas constant: R (J·mol <sup>-1</sup> ·K <sup>-1</sup> )	8.314		
	Temperature: T (Kelvin)	298		
Velocity of molecule: $v_{SO_2}$	Molar mass: $M_{SO_2}$ (kg·mol <sup>-1</sup> )	64.06		
	Pi: $\pi$ (dimensionless)	3.1416		

Table S1. Parameters for uptake coefficient estimations.



**Figure S5.** Calibration plot with amount of  $SO_4^{2^-}$  versus corresponding integrated areas for sulfate

species.



Figure S6. Cumulative probability of the  $\gamma_{BET}$  values based on Monte Carlo simulation. Inset: actual  $\gamma$ -values (Mean $\pm 1\sigma$ ) and theoretical ones.

Light intensity			$\gamma_{BET}$						$\gamma_{geo}$			
(mW·cm <sup>-2</sup> )	10th	25th	50th	75th	90th	Mean±SD	10th	25th	50th	75th	90th	Mean±SD
0.0	6.83×10 <sup>-10</sup>	7.73×10 <sup>-10</sup>	8.85×10 <sup>-10</sup>	9.93×10 <sup>-10</sup>	1.10×10-9	8.90×10 <sup>-10</sup> ±1.68×10 <sup>-10</sup>	3.83×10 <sup>-6</sup>	4.34×10 <sup>-6</sup>	4.92×10 <sup>-6</sup>	5.48×10 <sup>-6</sup>	6.07×10 <sup>-6</sup>	4.94×10 <sup>-6</sup> ±8.74×10 <sup>-7</sup>
0.71	2.78×10-9	3.02×10-9	3.29×10 <sup>-9</sup>	3.59×10 <sup>-9</sup>	3.86×10-9	$3.32 \times 10^{-9} \pm 4.18 \times 10^{-10}$	1.58×10 <sup>-5</sup>	1.70×10 <sup>-5</sup>	1.83×10 <sup>-5</sup>	1.97×10 <sup>-5</sup>	2.10×10 <sup>-5</sup>	1.84×10 <sup>-5</sup> ±2.03×10 <sup>-6</sup>
1.86	4.44×10 <sup>-9</sup>	4.91×10 <sup>-9</sup>	5.44×10 <sup>-9</sup>	6.00×10 <sup>-9</sup>	6.53×10-9	5.48×10 <sup>-9</sup> ±8.16×10 <sup>-10</sup>	2.51×10 <sup>-5</sup>	2.75×10 <sup>-5</sup>	3.02×10 <sup>-5</sup>	3.31×10 <sup>-5</sup>	3.57×10 <sup>-5</sup>	3.05×10 <sup>-5</sup> ±4.14×10 <sup>-6</sup>
4.30	7.18×10 <sup>-9</sup>	7.65×10 <sup>-9</sup>	8.23×10 <sup>-9</sup>	8.81×10-9	9.37×10 <sup>-9</sup>	$8.27 \times 10^{-9} \pm 8.65 \times 10^{-10}$	4.08×10 <sup>-5</sup>	4.31×10 <sup>-5</sup>	4.58×10 <sup>-5</sup>	4.84×10 <sup>-5</sup>	5.08×10 <sup>-5</sup>	4.59×10 <sup>-5</sup> ±3.94×10 <sup>-6</sup>
7.50	9.78×10 <sup>-9</sup>	1.07×10 <sup>-8</sup>	1.18×10 <sup>-8</sup>	1.30×10 <sup>-8</sup>	1.42×10 <sup>-8</sup>	1.20×10 <sup>-8</sup> ±1.75×10 <sup>-9</sup>	5.51×10 <sup>-5</sup>	6.01×10 <sup>-5</sup>	6.58×10 <sup>-5</sup>	7.18×10 <sup>-5</sup>	7.74×10 <sup>-5</sup>	6.62×10 <sup>-5</sup> ±8.73×10 <sup>-6</sup>
19.4	1.59×10 <sup>-8</sup>	1.71×10 <sup>-8</sup>	1.85×10 <sup>-8</sup>	2.00×10 <sup>-8</sup>	2.15×10 <sup>-8</sup>	1.86×10 <sup>-8</sup> ±2.23×10 <sup>-9</sup>	8.98×10 <sup>-5</sup>	9.60×10 <sup>-5</sup>	1.03×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.10×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.17×10 <sup>-4</sup>	$1.03 \times 10^{-4} \pm 1.08 \times 10^{-5}$
36.2	1.88×10-8	2.07×10 <sup>-8</sup>	2.30×10 <sup>-8</sup>	2.54×10 <sup>-8</sup>	2.77×10 <sup>-8</sup>	2.33×10 <sup>-8</sup> ±3.51×10 <sup>-9</sup>	1.06×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.17×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.28×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.40×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.52×10 <sup>-4</sup>	$1.29 \times 10^{-4} \pm 1.78 \times 10^{-5}$
73.3	2.25×10 <sup>-8</sup>	2.41×10 <sup>-8</sup>	2.61×10 <sup>-8</sup>	2.81×10 <sup>-8</sup>	3.00×10 <sup>-8</sup>	2.62×10 <sup>-8</sup> ±2.95×10 <sup>-9</sup>	1.27×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.36×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.50×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.54×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.63×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.45×10 <sup>-4</sup> ±1.39×10 <sup>-5</sup>
105.7	2.29×10 <sup>-8</sup>	2.47×10 <sup>-8</sup>	2.66×10 <sup>-8</sup>	2.87×10 <sup>-8</sup>	3.06×10 <sup>-8</sup>	2.67×10 <sup>-8</sup> ±3.00×10 <sup>-9</sup>	1.30×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.38×10-4	1.48×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.57×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.66×10 <sup>-4</sup>	$1.49 \times 10^{-4} \pm 1.42 \times 10^{-5}$
125.7	2.16×10 <sup>-8</sup>	2.47×10 <sup>-8</sup>	2.81×10 <sup>-8</sup>	3.16×10 <sup>-8</sup>	3.50×10 <sup>-8</sup>	2.83×10 <sup>-8</sup> ±5.21×10 <sup>-9</sup>	1.22×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.38×10-4	1.57×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.75×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.92×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.58×10 <sup>-4</sup> ±2.74×10 <sup>-5</sup>
145	2.52×10 <sup>-8</sup>	2.68×10 <sup>-8</sup>	2.89×10 <sup>-8</sup>	3.09×10 <sup>-08</sup>	3.29×10 <sup>-8</sup>	2.90×10 <sup>-8</sup> ±3.03×10 <sup>-9</sup>	1.43×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.51×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.61×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.70×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.78×10 <sup>-4</sup>	$1.61 \times 10^{-4} \pm 1.38 \times 10^{-5}$
160	2.48×10 <sup>-8</sup>	2.66×10 <sup>-8</sup>	2.88×10 <sup>-8</sup>	3.12×10 <sup>-08</sup>	3.35×10 <sup>-8</sup>	2.90×10 <sup>-8</sup> ±3.42×10 <sup>-9</sup>	1.40×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.50×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.60×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.72×10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.82×10 <sup>-4</sup>	$1.61 \times 10^{-4} \pm 1.65 \times 10^{-5}$

**Table S2**. Reactive uptake coefficients ( $\gamma_{BET}$  and  $\gamma_{geo}$ ) for the heterogeneous uptake of SO<sub>2</sub> on particles under various light intensities.

#### Section S3. XPS evidence

S (IV) and S(VI) species can be distinguished according to the analysis on the XPS spectra for pure  $ZnSO_4$  and  $ZnSO_3$  (Figure S7), The S(IV) species were observed at 166.8 and 167.9 eV for the  $S2p_{3/2}$  and  $S2p_{1/2}$  transitions, respectively. Correspondingly, the S(VI) ones characterized by  $S2p_{3/2}$  and  $S2p_{1/2}$  transitions could be identified at 169.0 and 170.0 eV, respectively.



Figure S7. High resolution XPS data in the S2p regions for (A) ZnSO<sub>4</sub> and (B) ZnSO<sub>3</sub>.

### Section S4. Detailed reactions in the photocatalytic process

Reactions for the heterogeneous reaction of  $SO_2$  on mineral dust particles are listed below according to some previous studies.

$SO_2(g) \Rightarrow SO_2(ads)$	<i>R</i> .( <i>S</i> 1)
$SO_2 + O^2^- (lattice) \rightarrow SO_3^2^-$	<i>R</i> .( <i>S</i> 2)
$SO_2 + 2OH^- \rightarrow SO_3^2 + H_2O$	<i>R</i> .( <i>S</i> 3)
$SO_2 + OH^- \rightarrow HSO_3^-$	<i>R</i> .( <i>S</i> 4)
$0_2 + e^{-O(vacancy)} O_2^{-}(ads)$	<i>R</i> .( <i>S</i> 5)
$O_2^-(ads) + e^- \rightarrow 2O^-(ads)$	<i>R</i> .( <i>S</i> 6)
$SO_{3}^{2-} + O^{-} \rightarrow SO_{4}^{2-} + e^{-}$	<i>R</i> .( <i>S</i> 7)
$SO_2 + H_2O \rightleftharpoons SO_2 \cdot H_2O \leftrightarrows H_2SO_3$	<i>R</i> .( <i>S</i> 8)
$H_2SO_3 \rightleftharpoons HSO_3^- + H^+$	<i>R</i> .( <i>S</i> 9)
$HSO_{3}^{-} \Leftrightarrow SO_{3}^{2-} + H^{+}$	<i>R</i> .( <i>S</i> 10)
$HSO_{3}^{-} + OH^{-} \rightleftharpoons SO_{3}^{2-} + H_{2}O$	<i>R</i> .( <i>S</i> 11)
$HSO_{3}^{-} + O^{-} \rightleftharpoons HSO_{4}^{-} + e^{-}$	<i>R</i> .( <i>S</i> 12)
$SO_{3}^{2-} + O^{-} \rightarrow SO_{4}^{2-} + e^{-}$	<i>R</i> .( <i>S</i> 13)
$HSO_{3}^{-} + \frac{1}{2}O_{2} \rightleftharpoons HSO_{4}^{-}$	<i>R</i> .( <i>S</i> 14)
$SO_{3}^{2-} + \frac{1}{2}O_{2} \rightarrow SO_{4}^{2-}$	<i>R</i> .( <i>S</i> 15)
$Zn0 + hv(\lambda \le 380nm) \rightarrow h^+ + e^-$	<i>R</i> .( <i>S</i> 16)
$h^+ + H_2 0 \rightarrow H^+ + OH$	<i>R</i> .( <i>S</i> 17)
$e^- + O_2 \rightarrow O_2^{\cdot -}$	R.(S18)
$e^- + O_2 + H^+ \rightarrow HO_2^-$	<i>R</i> .( <i>S</i> 19)
$_{2}h^{+} + 2H_{2}O \rightarrow H_{2}O_{2} + 2H^{+}$	<i>R</i> .( <i>S</i> 20)
$20^{-}_{2} + 2H^{+} \rightarrow H_{2}O_{2} + O_{2}$	<i>R</i> .( <i>S</i> 21)
$H_2O_2 + hv \rightarrow 2^{\circ}OH$	R.(S22)
$SO_3^2^- + H^+ \leftrightarrows HSO_3^-$	R.(S23)
$SO_4^{2-} + H^+ \rightleftharpoons HSO_4^{-}$	<i>R</i> .( <i>S</i> 24)