## Methodological artefacts in the XANES analysis of hexacoordinated pentavalent arsenic

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The electronic supplementary information includes a description of the mass spectrometric experiment with the As(V)-glycerol compound, along with the results, and the XANES spectra obtained during the pH stability experiment of the As(V)-glycerol experiment.

## **Mass Spectrometric Analysis**

The As(V)-glycerol compound was dissolved in acetonitrile (12 mg in 2.4 mL to obtain ~5mg/mL) and directly infused to a Waters Micromass ZQ mass spectrometer, capable of electrospray (ESI) or atmospheric pressure chemical ionization (APCI). The compound was analyzed in ESI negative mode using the following parameters: capillary voltage 3.00 kV, cone voltage -55.56 V, extractor voltage -4.03 V, source temperature 100°C, desolvation temperature 200°C, desolvation flow rate 250 L/h, cone flow rate 66 L/h. A mass spectrum in ESI positive mode was also obtained with the following parameters: capillary voltage 3.00 kV, cone voltage 36.00 V, extractor voltage 3.00 V, source temperature 90°C, desolvation temperature 250°C, desolvation flow rate 250 L/h, cone flow rate 59 L/h.

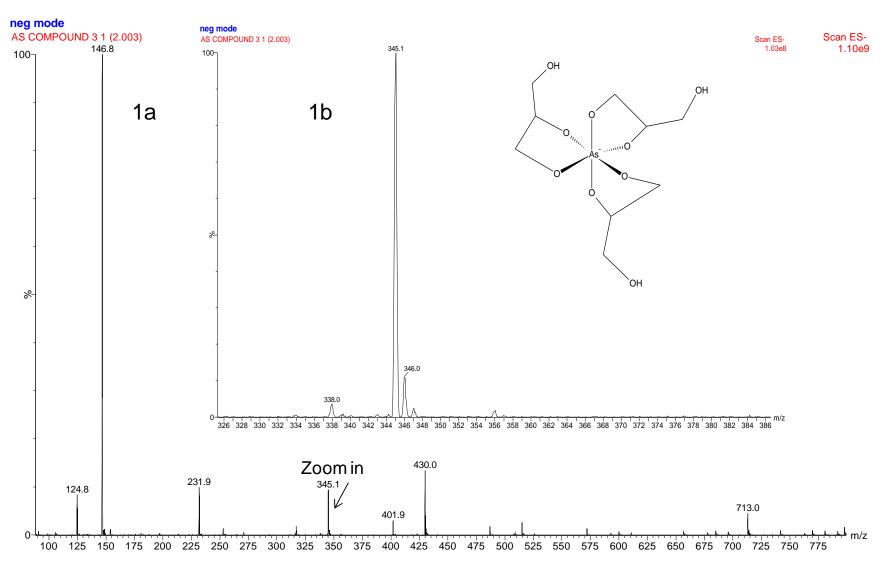
Negative ions ([M] $^-$ ) were observed in ESI negative mode (Figures S1a and S1b) that corresponded to the molecular mass of As(V)-glycerol (75 for As + 3 × 90.33 for glycerol - 1 = m/z 345). Figure S2 shows the observed molecular ion [M] $^-$  was in good agreement with the theoretical mass distribution generated by MassLynx software.

The results from positive ESI are shown in Figure S3, with peaks at m/z 115.5, m/z 207.5 and m/z 279.6 corresponding to [glycerol+Na]+, [2glycerol+Na]+ and [3glycerol-3HO2+K]+ respectively. In the spectrum, a series of unknown polymer pattern peaks with a repeat unit of 85 were also observed.

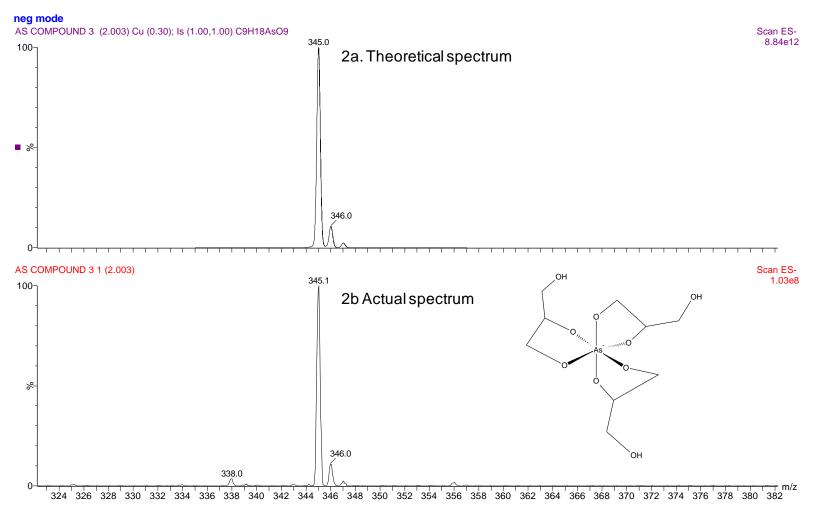
Also included are:
Figure S1
Figure S2

Figure S3

Figure S4



**Figure S1a and 1b (inset).** Negative ESI of As(V)-glycerol compound, with [M] peak at m/z 345.



**Figure S2a and 2b.** Negative ESI mass spectrum of As(V) glycerol compound compared with theoretical ESI mass spectrum generated by MassLynx software.

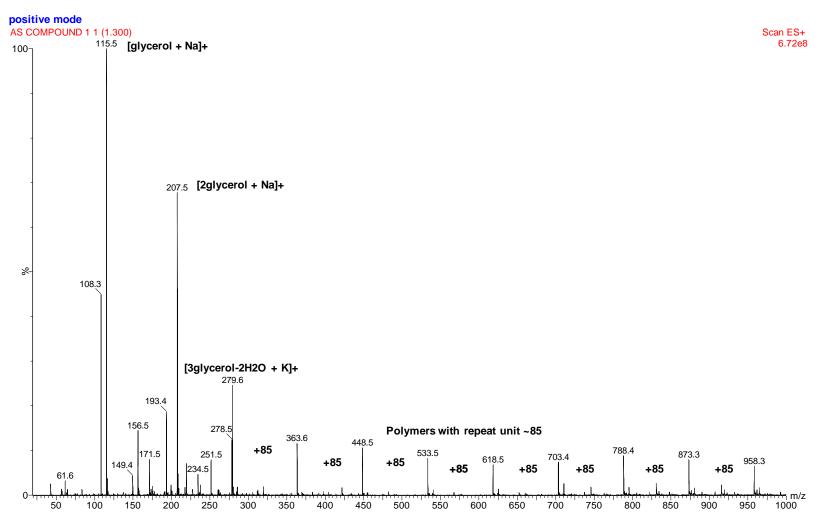
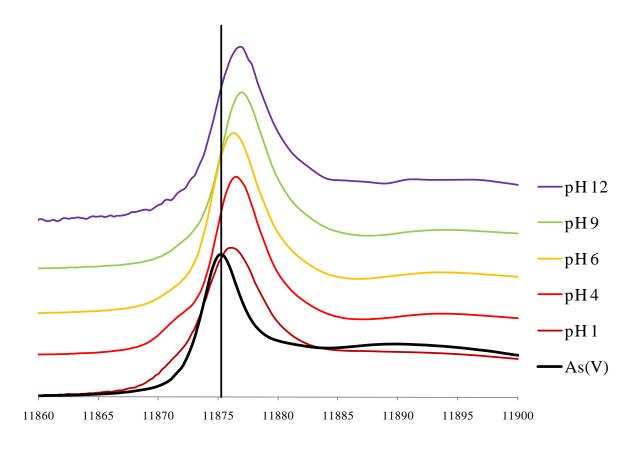


Figure S3. Positive ESI mass spectrum of As(V) glycerol compound.



**Figure S4**. XANES spectra of As(V)-glycerol compound analyzed at different pHs.