



# Deep into the Coating – Novel Features of MSS-Coatings

Progress of the INTERREG V A-project AutoProtect

Surfaces with self-protective properties for the  
maintenance of chemical and microbial cleanliness

Webinar#4

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wfk – Cleaning Technology Institute e. V.

wfk

# The Scope of AutoProtect – Functional Coatings

## What is a coating?

The fundamental function of coatings is to build a functional barrier between material and environment:

- protect the surface mechanically → scratches, dents, punches
- protect the surface chemically → corrosion, decomposition of soiling
- ease the cleaning of surfaces → repellent, easy to clean, non-wettable, lotus effect
- yield antimicrobial activity → inactivation, decomposition
- yield electrical properties → conductivity

## Geometric diversity

- thin vs. thick layers (< 1 µm or µm-mm)
- unilayered vs. multilayered
- uniform vs. internally structured

## Chemical diversity

- metals and/or glasses
- crystallite materials (coarse, powdery)
- polymers (+ dielectric coatings)
- semiconductors
- type of deposition

## Diverse application methods

- gaseous (physical vapor deposition, sputtering)
- liquid (spin & dip coating, (spray) painting)
- solid (powder & plasma coating, electro spraying)

# The Scope of AutoProtect – Functional Coatings

## What is hygiene?

- is derived from Hygiéia, Greek Goddess of Health
- is the whole range of measures taken to prevent disease and illness
- is aiming to maintain health of humans and the environment
- is a prophylactic measure but not a cure

## What are catalytic Multi-Stimulus-Systems coatings (MSS)?

- coatings with a set of catalytic properties → additive effect
- harvest diverse environmental stimuli to activate/excite the catalysts
- higher catalytic activity and higher efficiency
- suitable for multi-purpose applications
  - achieve high antimicrobial activity
  - enhance decomposition of organic soilings
  - ease the cleaning of surfaces
  - protect the surface
- reduce/avoid the use of conventional biocides



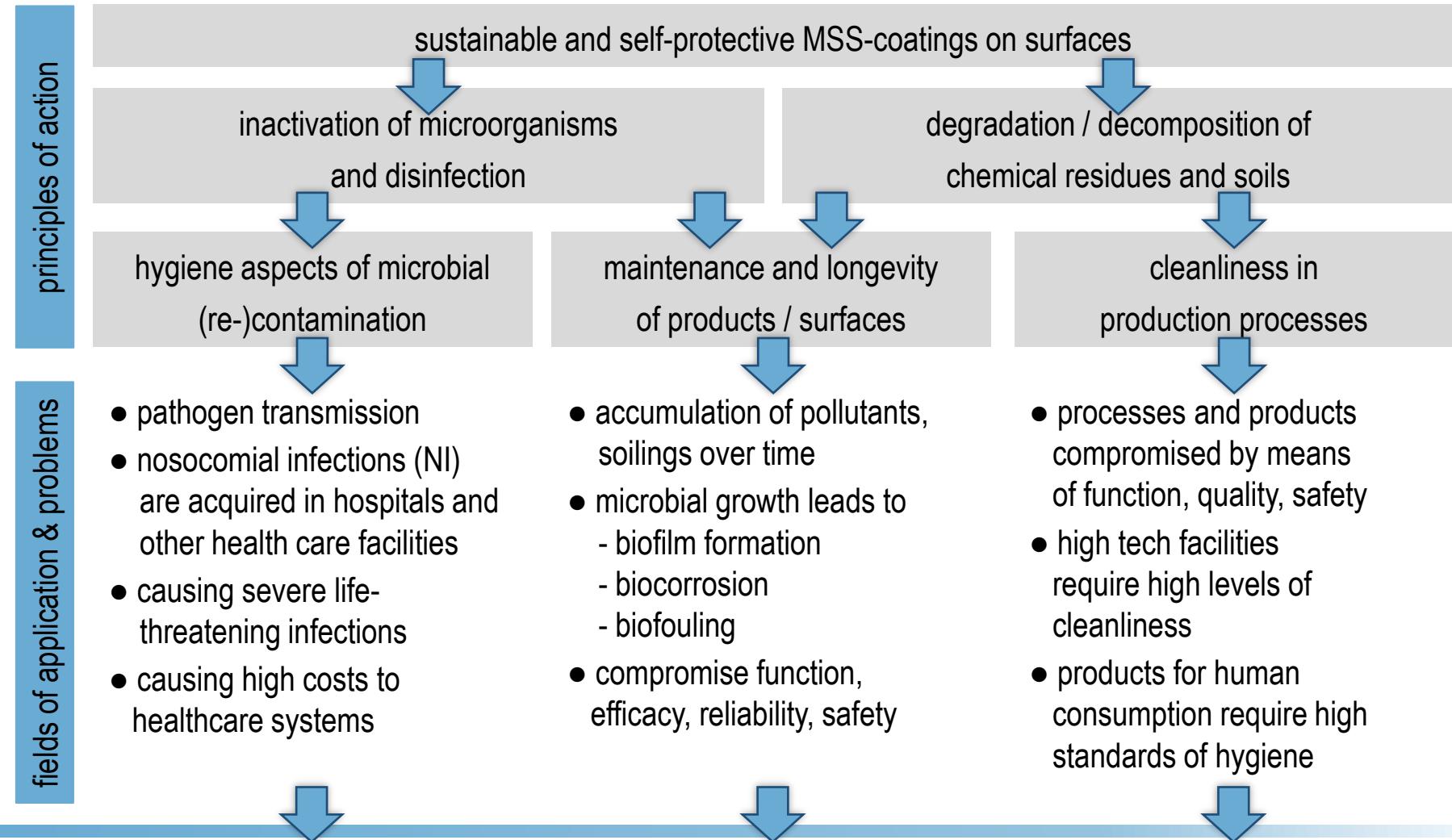
Antimicrobial coatings that release soluble agents

- silver, copper, other metals
- antimicrobial peptides
- antibiotics
- ROS-producing catalysts

# The Scope of AutoProtect – Use of Functional Coatings



## Objectives of AutoProtect and targeted economic sectors



# The Scope of AutoProtect – Use of Functional Coatings

primary beneficiaries

sec. beneficiaries

## Objectives of AutoProtect and targeted economic sectors

medical and health  
care sector

Economic burden of NI is  
estimated to be **9 billion €/year**  
in GER



medical technology  
pharmaceuticals  
analytics  
public health  
public welfare  
renewable energies

maintenance, facility  
management sector

Volume of cleaning services is  
estimated to be **50-80 billion  
€/year** in GER



food processing  
restaurants / catering  
cosmetics  
sports facilities  
wellness/spa/hotel  
wind / solar power plants

production and manufacturing  
sector

Volume of soiling-related  
product failure estimated to be  
**50-100 € billion/year** in GER

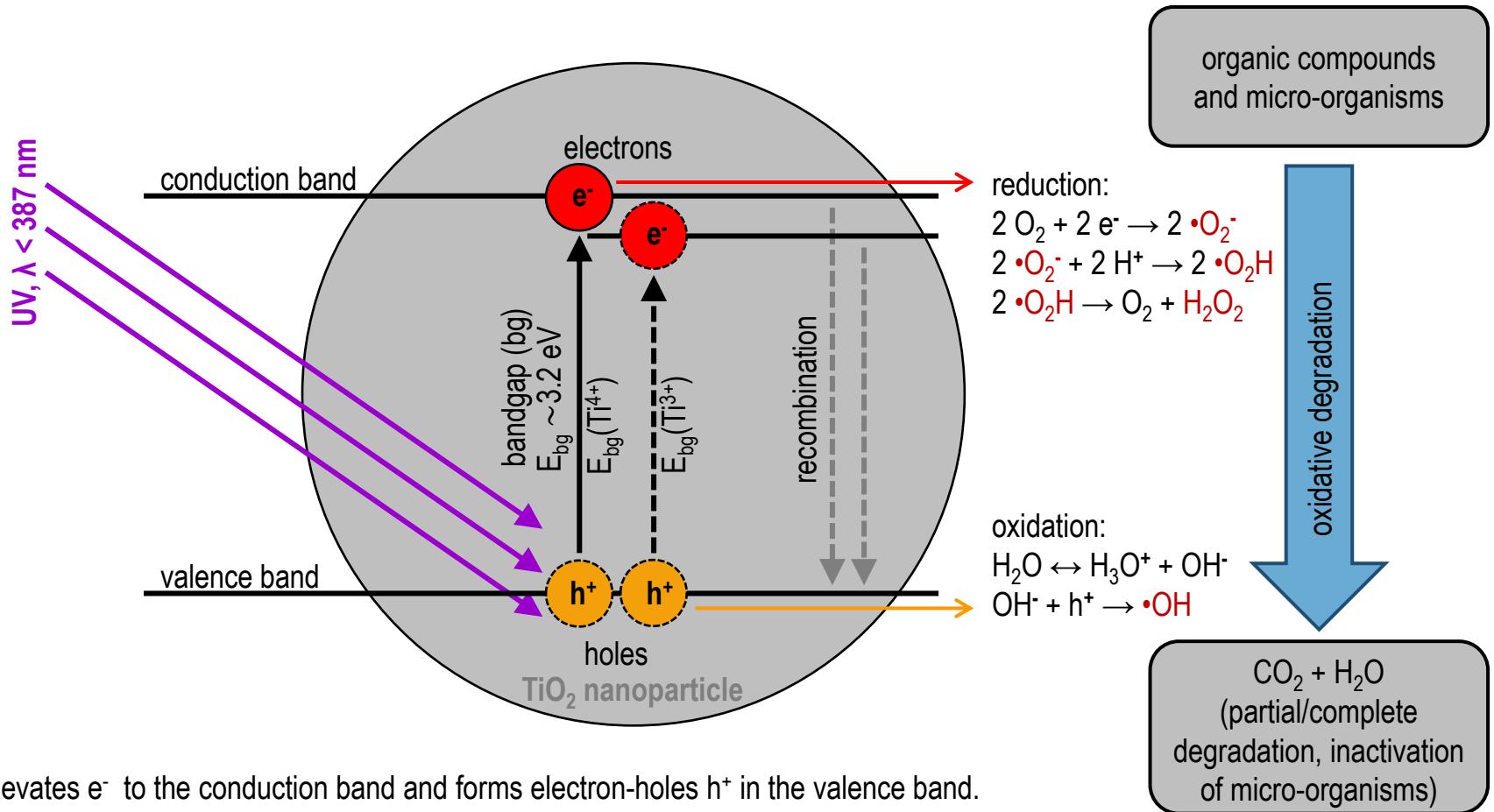


mech. engineering  
metal working  
paint / lacquer / varnish  
construction  
vehicle operators  
vehicle manufacturers

# The Scope of AutoProtect – The MSS Approach



## Mechanisms of catalytic Multi-Stimulus-Systems (MSS) Example: the photocatalysts $\text{TiO}_2$



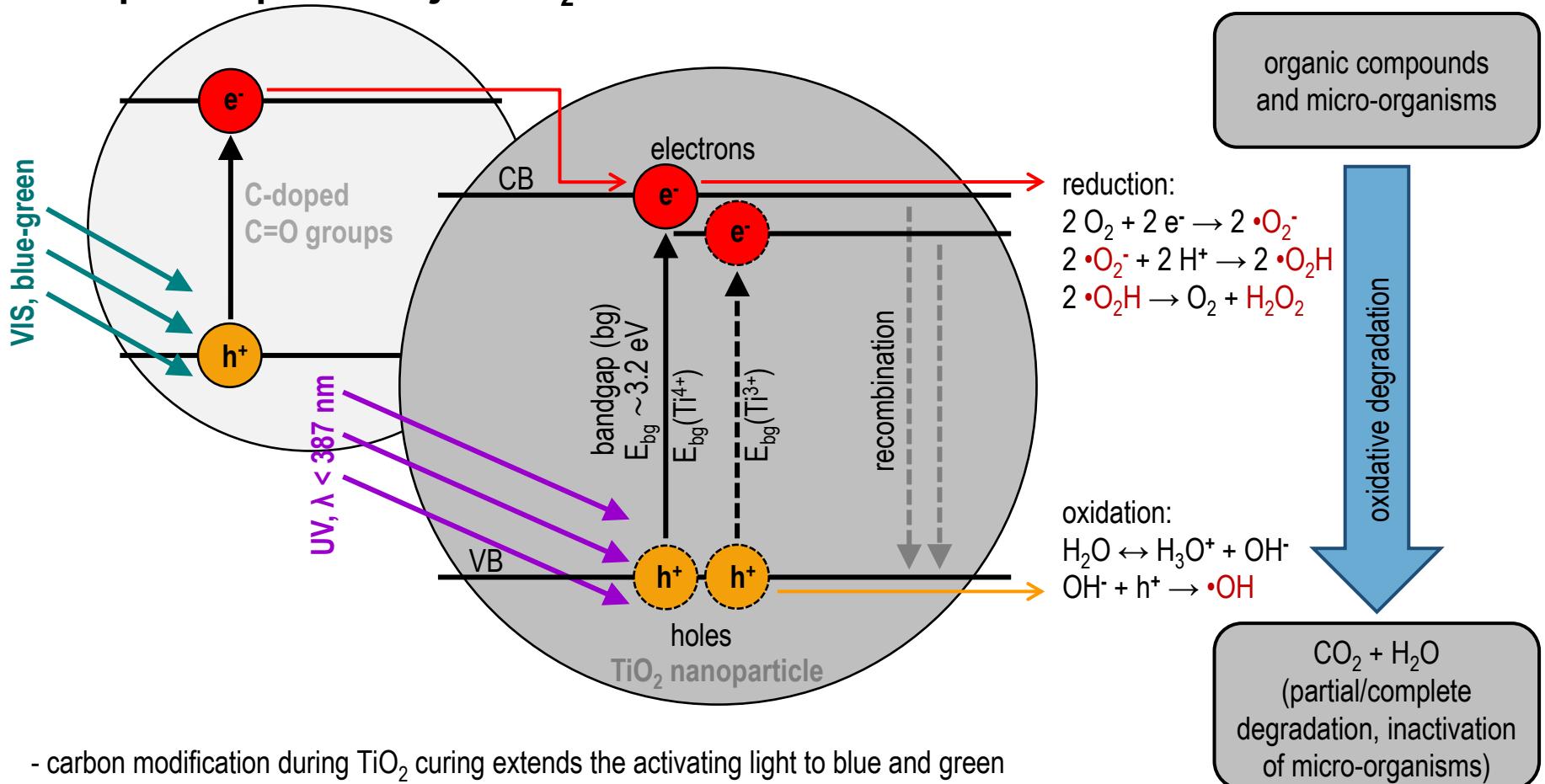
- UV elevates  $e^-$  to the conduction band and forms electron-holes  $h^+$  in the valence band.
- $e^-$  and  $h^+$  can produce ROS which degrade organic compounds and inactivate micro-organisms.

# The Scope of AutoProtect – The MSS Approach



## Mechanisms of catalytic Multi-Stimulus-Systems (MSS)

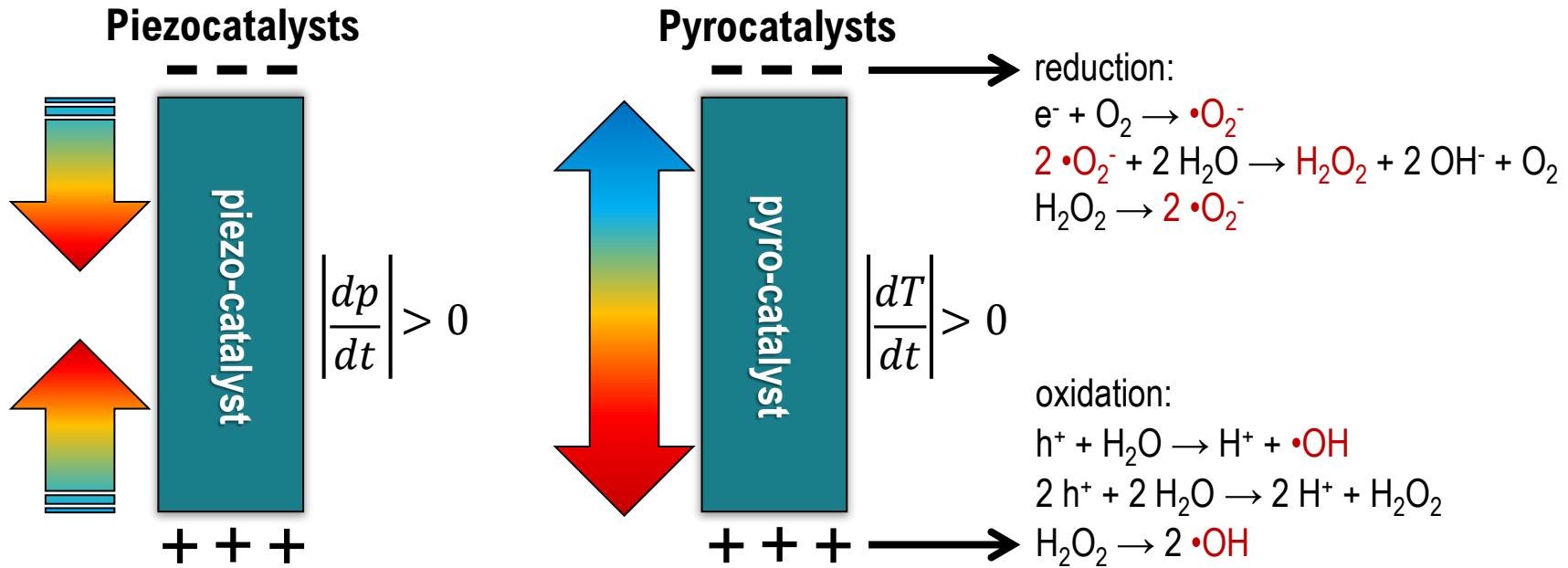
### Example: the photocatalysts $\text{TiO}_2$



- carbon modification during  $\text{TiO}_2$  curing extends the activating light to blue and green
- blue/green may light boost the degradation of (in)organic compounds enormously

# The Scope of AutoProtect – The MSS Approach

## Mechanisms of Catalytic Multi-Stimulus-Systems (MSS)

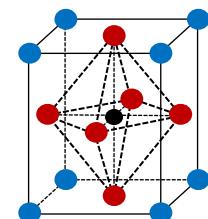


### Piezoelectric effect

- change in electrical polarization when subjected to mechanical load and relaxation

### Pyroelectric effect

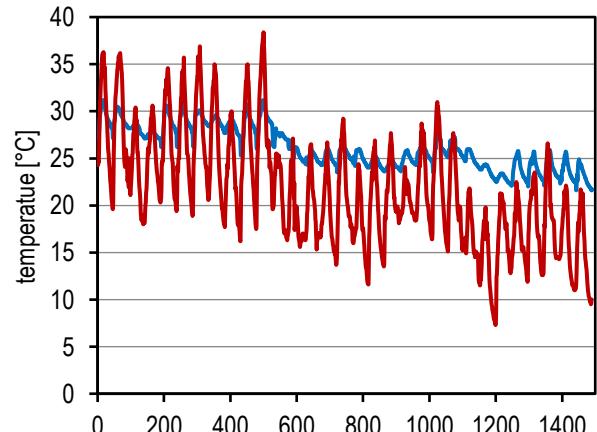
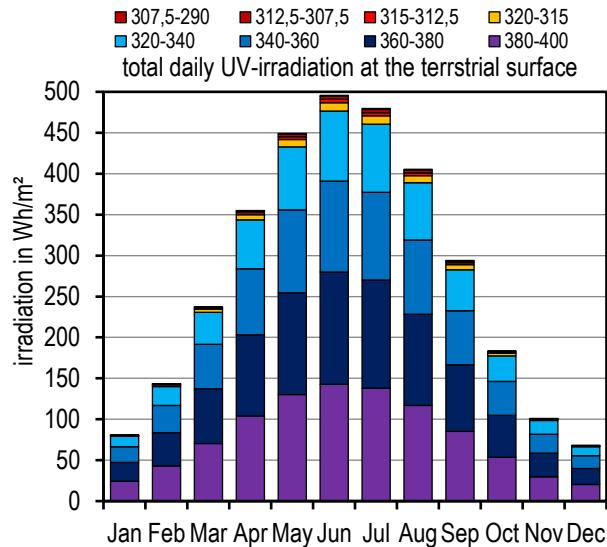
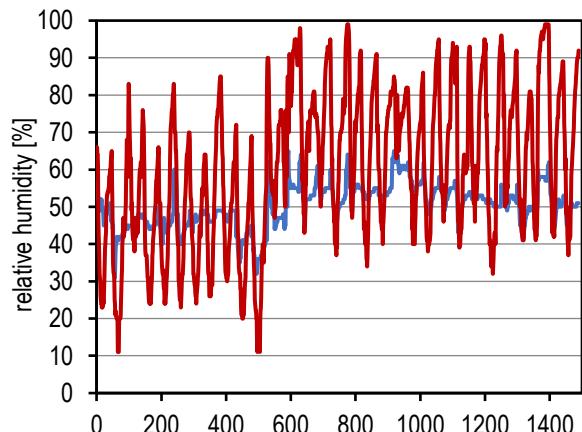
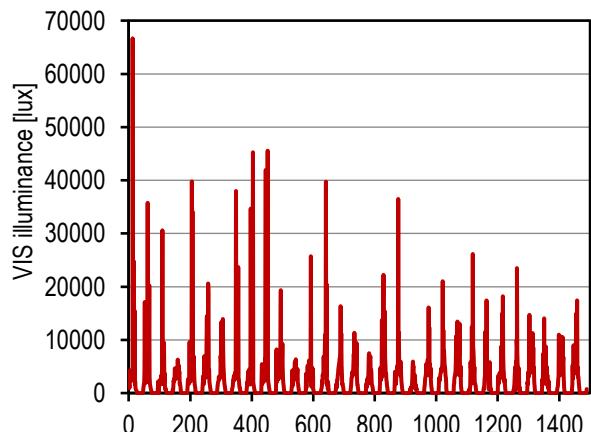
- temperature fluctuations generate an electric potential across the material
- all pyroelectric materials are also piezoelectric



# The Scope of AutoProtect – The MSS Approach

## Stimuli for Catalytic Multi-Stimulus-Systems (MSS)

stimulus	outdoor conditions	indoor conditions
temperature cycling ( $\Delta T$ )	daily and high T cycles ( $>10^{\circ}\text{C}$ , up to $60^{\circ}\text{C}$ )	daily but low ( $<3^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) T cycles, even when not mediated (i.e. AC)
irradiation / insolation / illumination	sufficient insolation 6.500-100.000 lx 80-90% $>1.000$ lx 10-30% $>10.000$ lx 70-495 Wh/m <sup>2</sup> UV per month	insufficient illumination/irradiation 300-2.000 lx at desk height 50-200 lx in w/o windows UV via sunlight is scarce glass filters UV
water availability	sufficient supply of water high precipitation (rain, fog, dew) high air humidity (73-83% rel.H.)	insufficient supply of water no precipitation (rain, fog, dew) low air humidity (30-55% rel.H.)
pressure changes ( $\Delta p$ )	low, mostly very local incidence, mainly vibrational, insufficient data	very low, mostly very local incidence, mainly vibrational, insufficient data



# The Scope of the present Webinar Talk

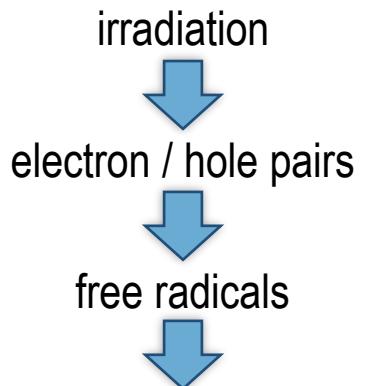
The scope of this talk is to focus on photocatalysts and oligodynamic effects!

## oligodynamic effect

Biocidal effect of metals, especially heavy metals (such as copper and silver) that occurs even in low concentrations

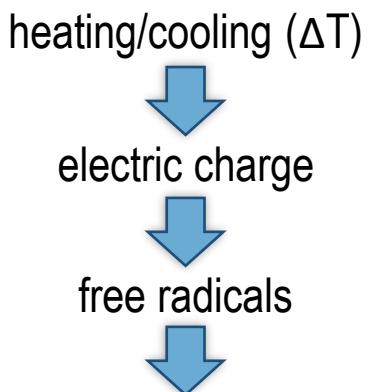
## photocatalysis

photocatalytic activity



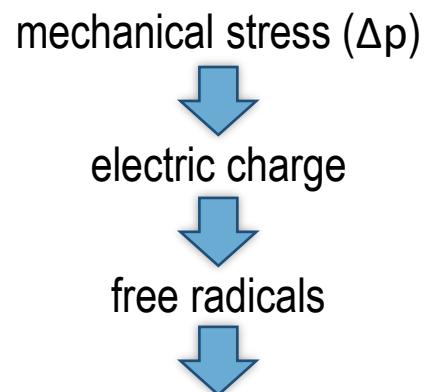
## pyrocatalysis

pyroelectric effect



## piezocatalysis

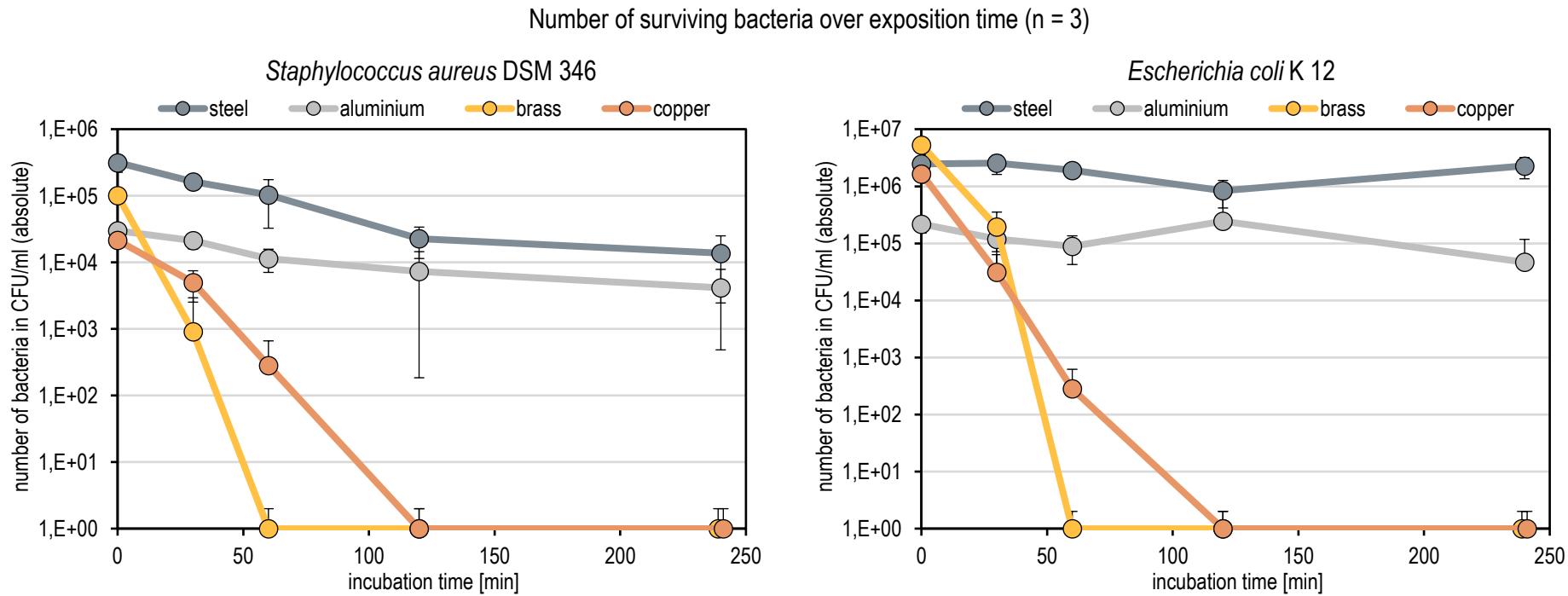
piezoelectric effect



## The Results – Testing the Oligodynamic Effect

### Comparing the effect of metal surfaces with Generation 1 Coatings (metal powder/polymer)

- coatings are an already standing product of an AutoProtect partner
- potential antimicrobial activity is utterly interesting
- tests performed according to ISO 22196:2011-08
- “Measurement of antibacterial activity on plastics and other non-porous surfaces”

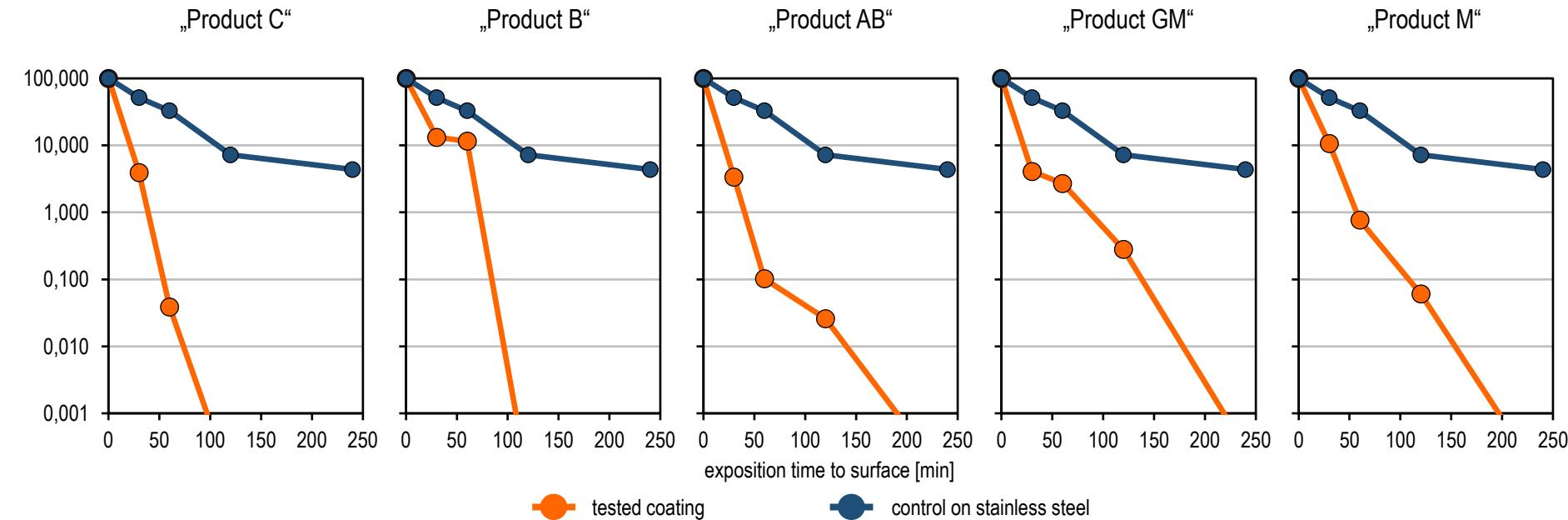


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Percentage of surviving bacteria over exposition time (*S. aureus* DSM 346, n = 6)



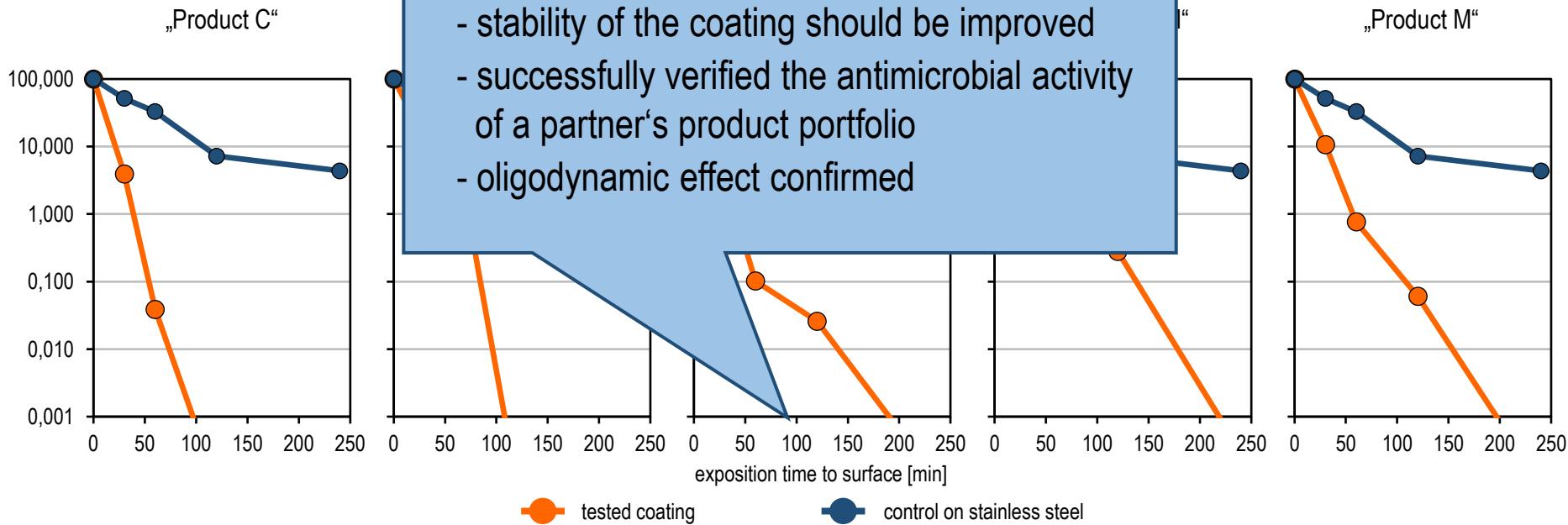
## The Results – Testing the Oligodynamic Effect

### Comparing the effect of metal surfaces with Generation 1 Coatings (metal powder/polymer)

- coatings are an already standing product of an AutoProtect partner
- potential antimicrobial activity of the coatings
- tests performed according to DIN EN ISO 22196
- “Measurement of antimicrobial activity of surfaces”

#### Conclusions

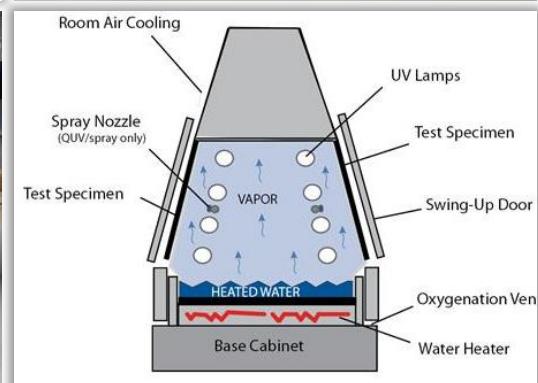
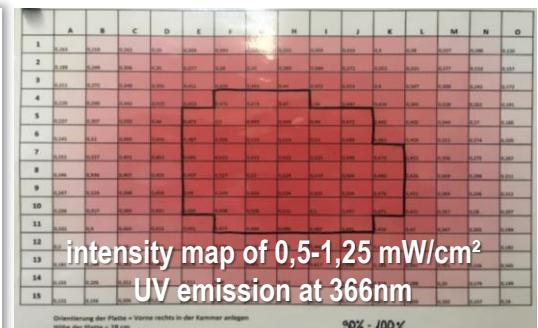
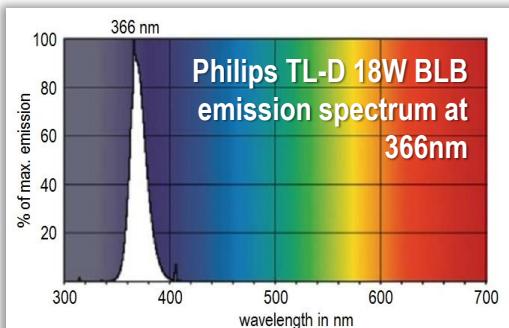
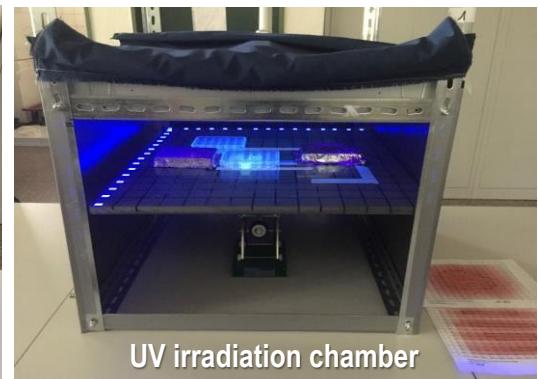
- all coatings show good antimicrobial activity
- reduction of  $4 \log_{10}$  in less than 4 hours
- overall result are consistent
- stability of the coating should be improved
- successfully verified the antimicrobial activity of a partner’s product portfolio
- oligodynamic effect confirmed



## The Results – Characterizing and Testing Potential Photocatalysts

### Establishing irradiation procedures

- three self-made UV-irradiation chambers build
- UV-B irradiation with narrow spectrum around 366 nm
- height-adjustable stage for variable regulation of the UV dose
- 2 modes of operation:
  - no mirrors: diffuse but uniform, up to  $0,52 \text{ mW/cm}^2$
  - with mirrors: highly focussed, up to  $1,25 \text{ mW/cm}^2$
- refurbishable for daylight simulation
- QUV accelerated weathering tester
- UV at 351 nm, up to  $45 \text{ mW/cm}^2$
- saturation with water vapor possible



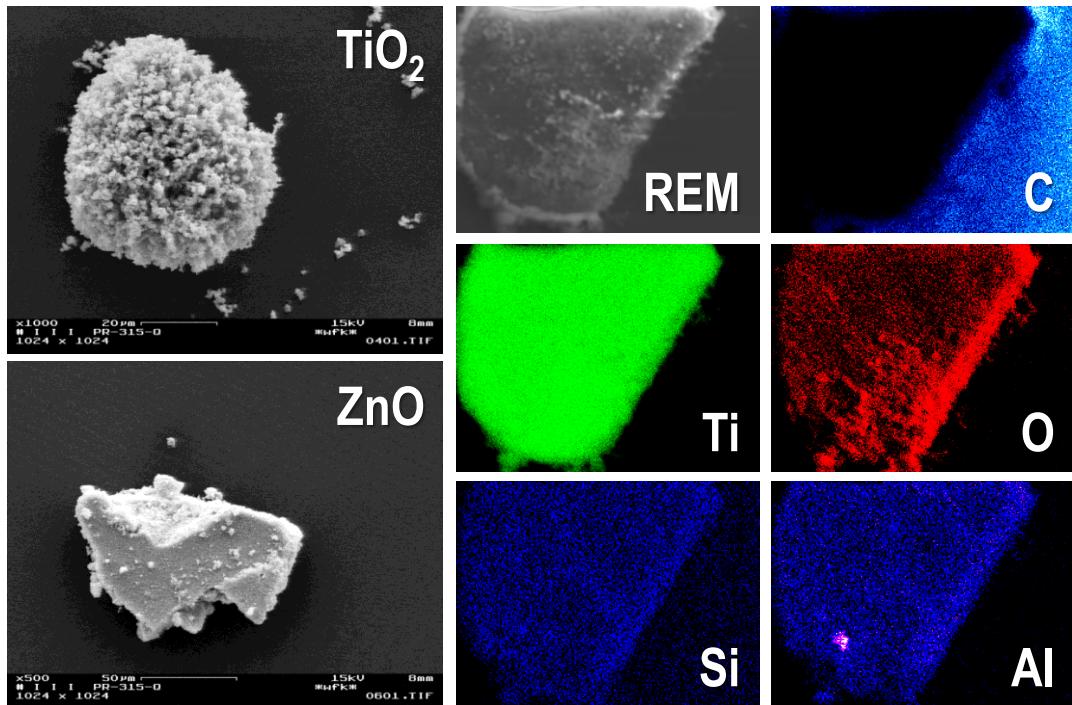
# The Results – Characterizing and Testing Potential Photocatalysts



## Commercial photocatalysts

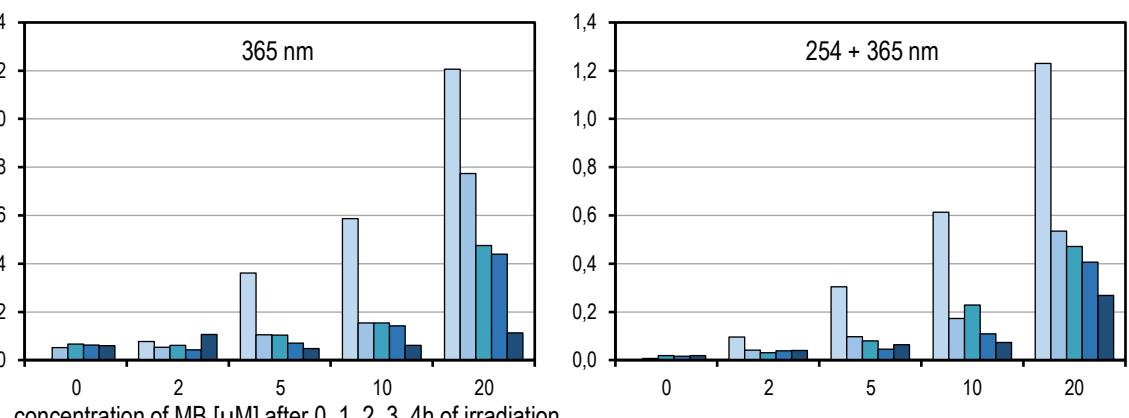
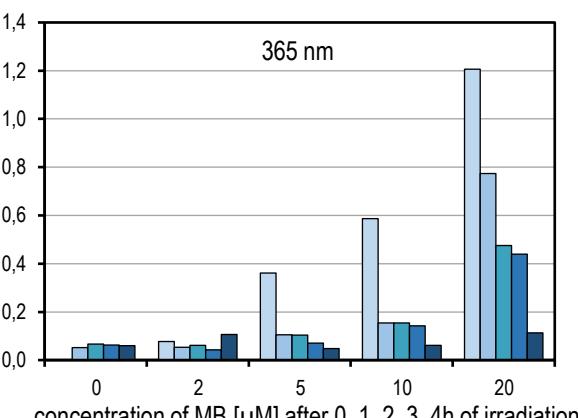
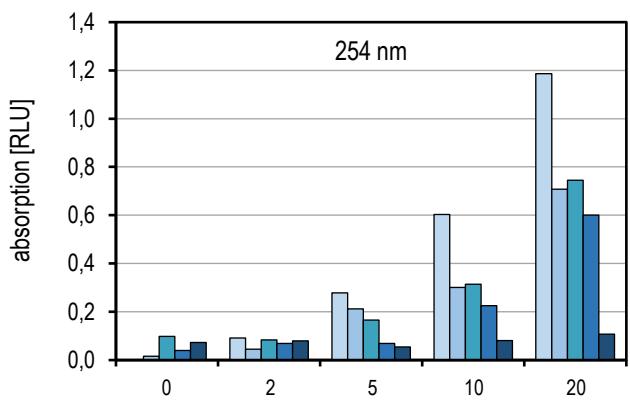
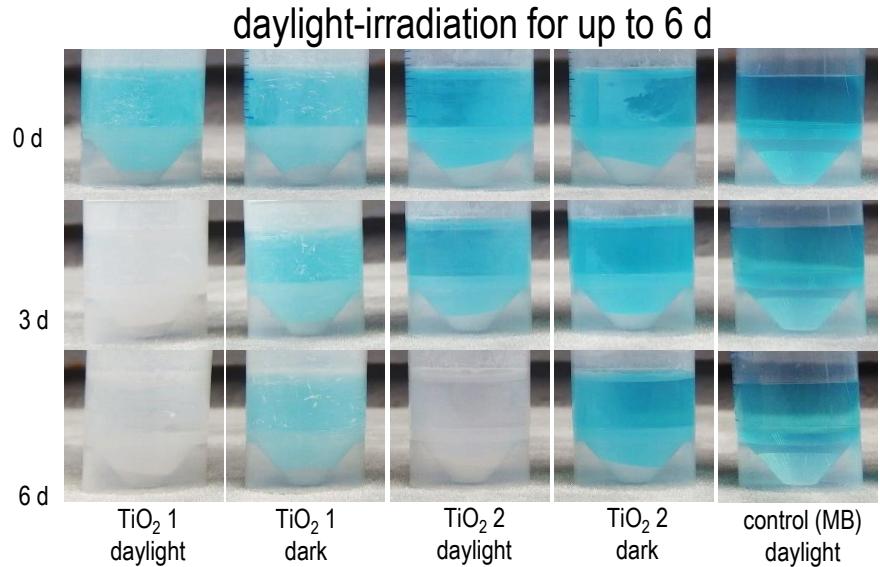
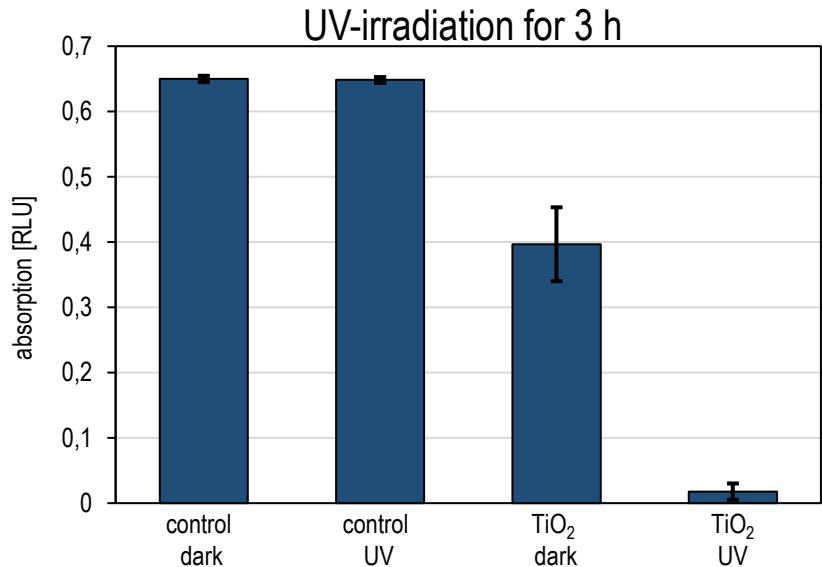
- 13 commercial products tested
- 5 manufacturers
- 11  $\text{TiO}_2$  and 2  $\text{ZnO}$
- 4 rutile-type, 7 anatase-type  $\text{TiO}_2$
- 4 UV+VIS active  $\text{TiO}_2$  tested
- 7 merely UV active  $\text{TiO}_2$  tested
- characterization by
  - particle size (REM)  
 $\text{TiO}_2$ : 0,5-2,0  $\mu\text{m}$   
 $\text{ZnO}$ : <0,5  $\mu\text{m}$
  - aggregation type (REM)  
mostly massive
  - shape (REM)  
mostly irregular
  - elementary composition (EDX)  
 $\text{Si, Al, et al.}$

photocatalys	manufacturer	rutile	anatase	VIS activity
$\text{TiO}_2$	Kronos	1	5	2
$\text{TiO}_2$	Sigma	1	-	-
$\text{TiO}_2$	Evonik	-	1	1
$\text{TiO}_2$	Titan Dix	1	-	-
$\text{TiO}_2$	HW Nanomaterials	1	1	1
$\text{ZnO}$	Sigma	n. a.	n. a.	n. a.
$\text{ZnO}$	HW Nanomaterials	n. a.	n. a.	n. a.



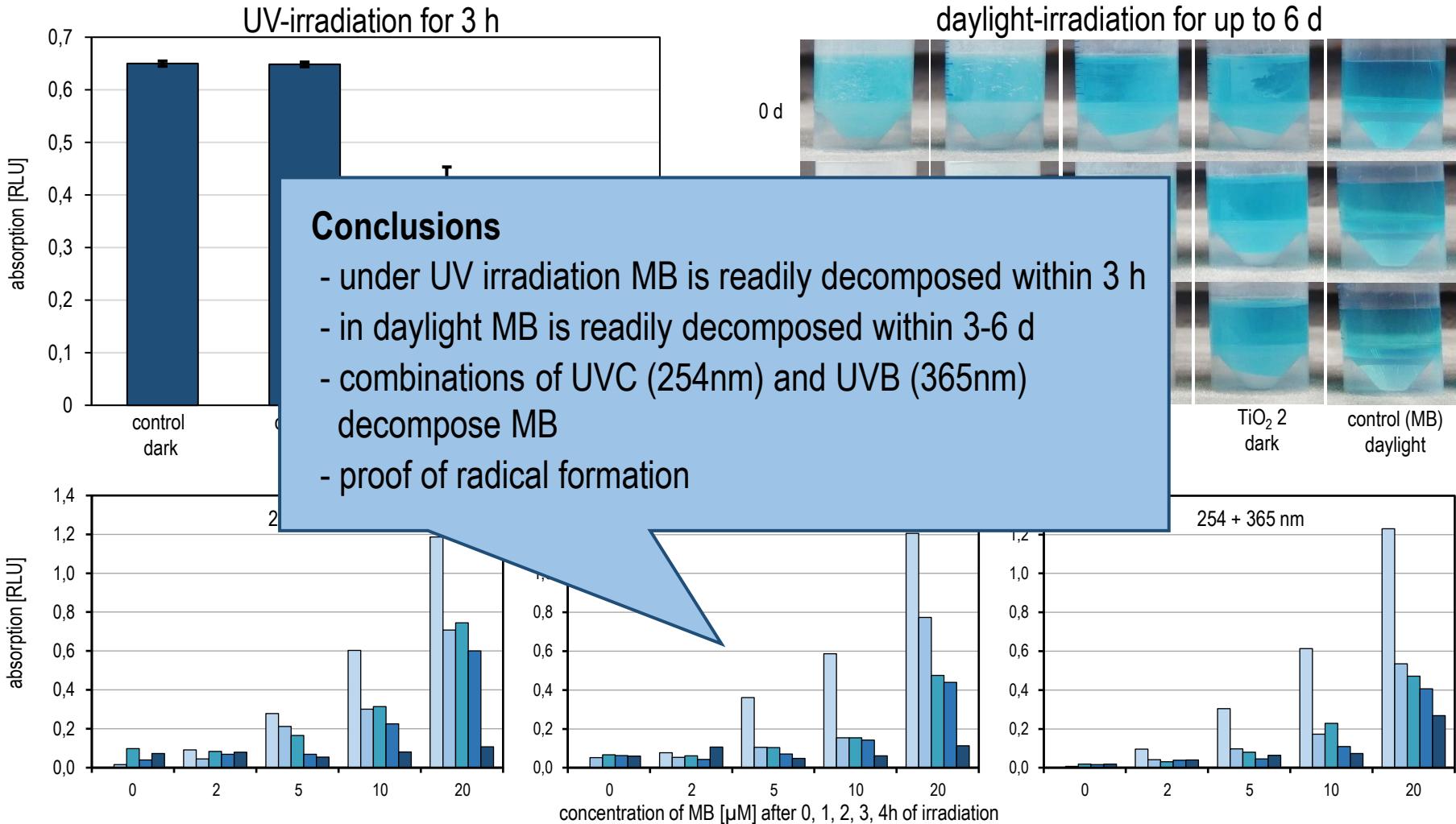
## The Results – Characterizing and Testing Potential Photocatalysts

### Testing radical formation at TiO<sub>2</sub> with methylene blue (MB) according to DIN 52980



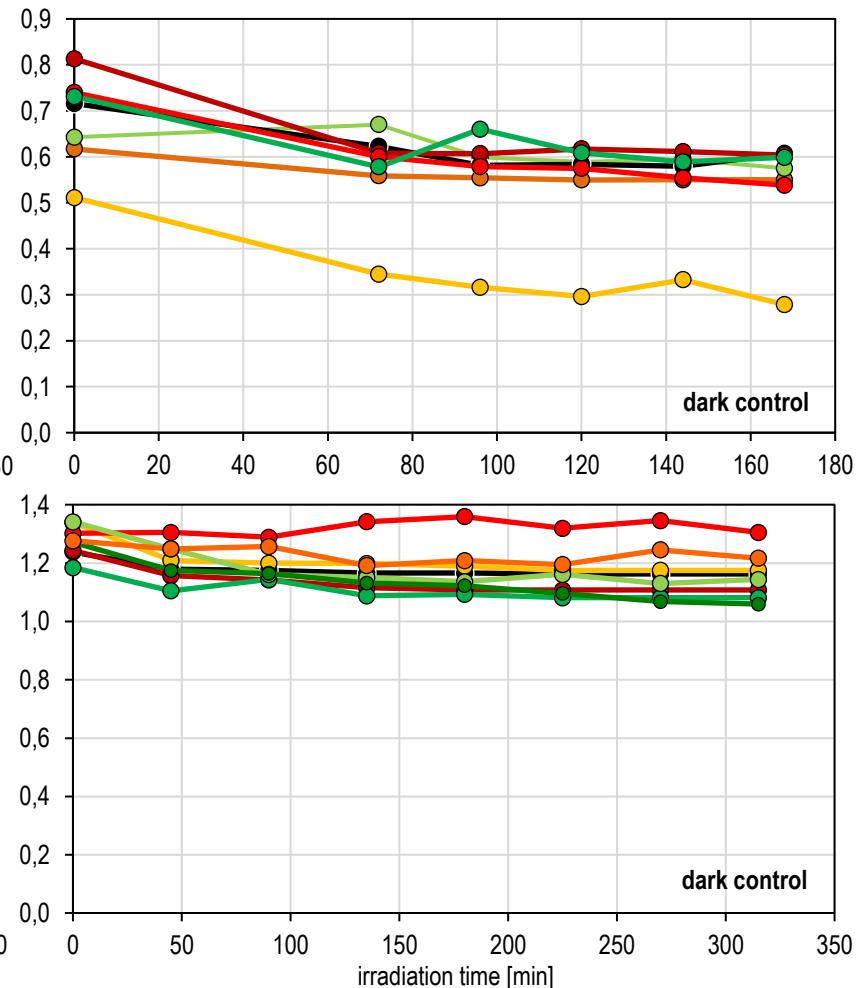
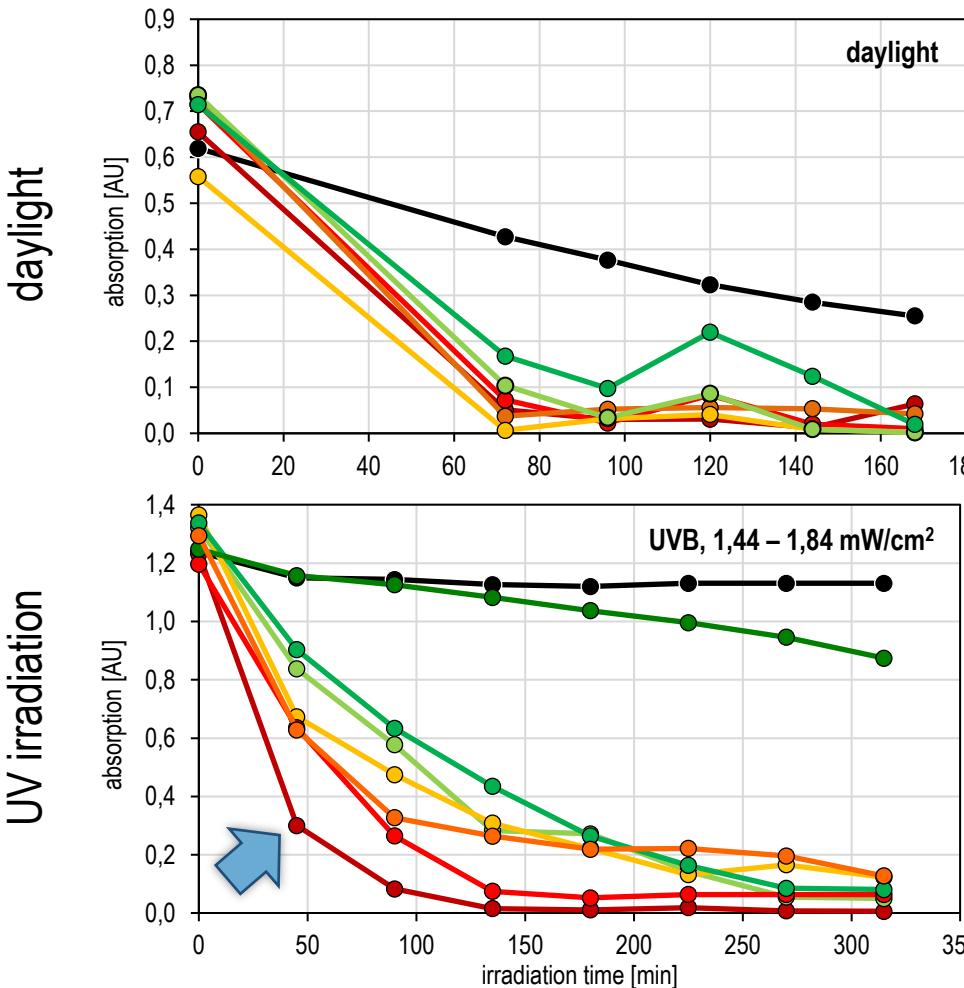
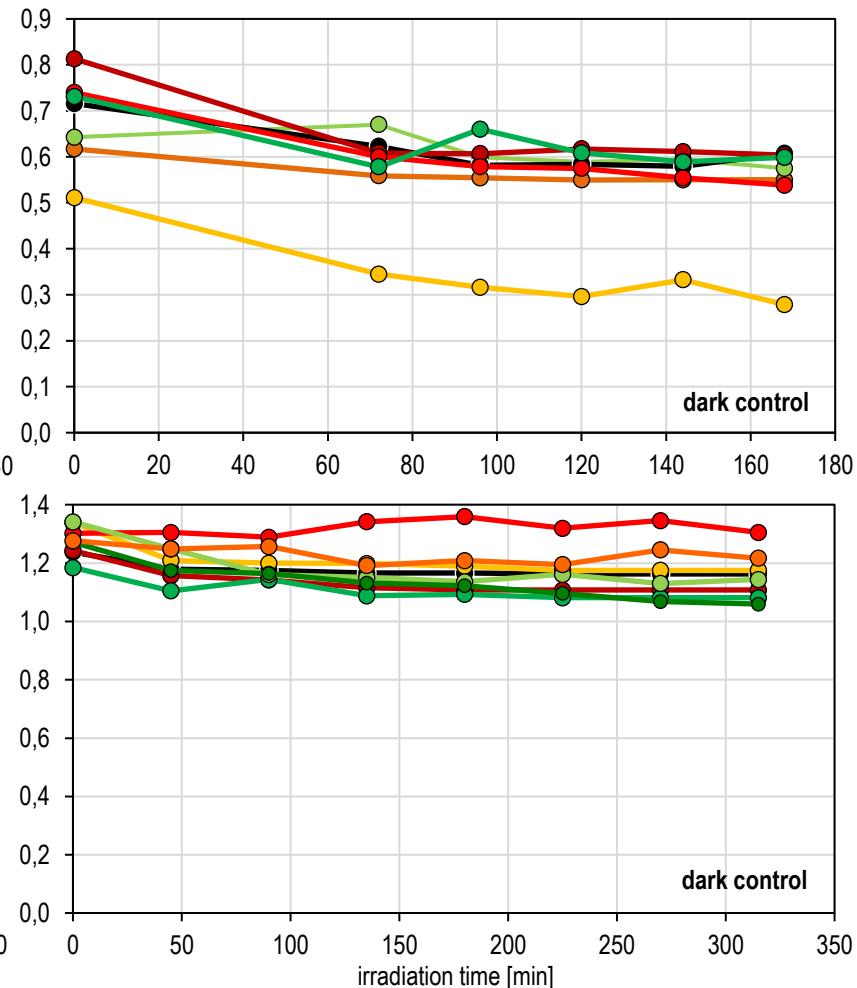
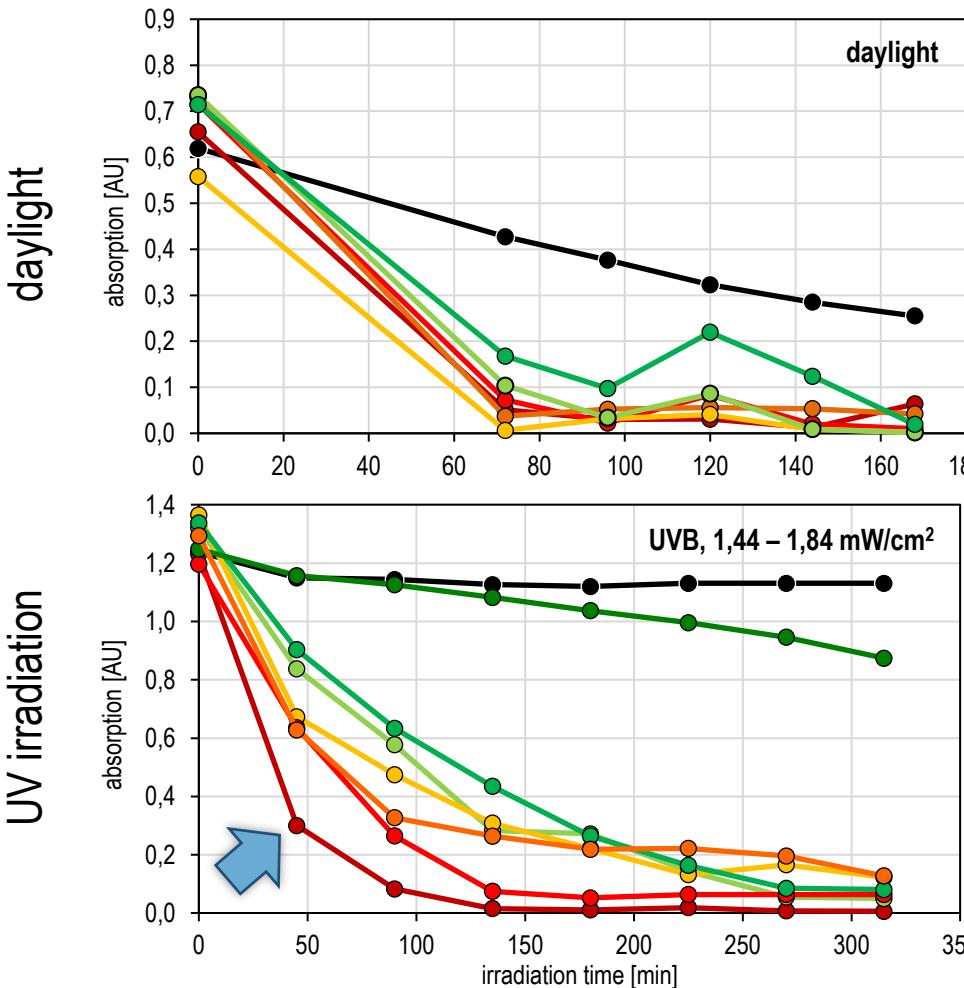
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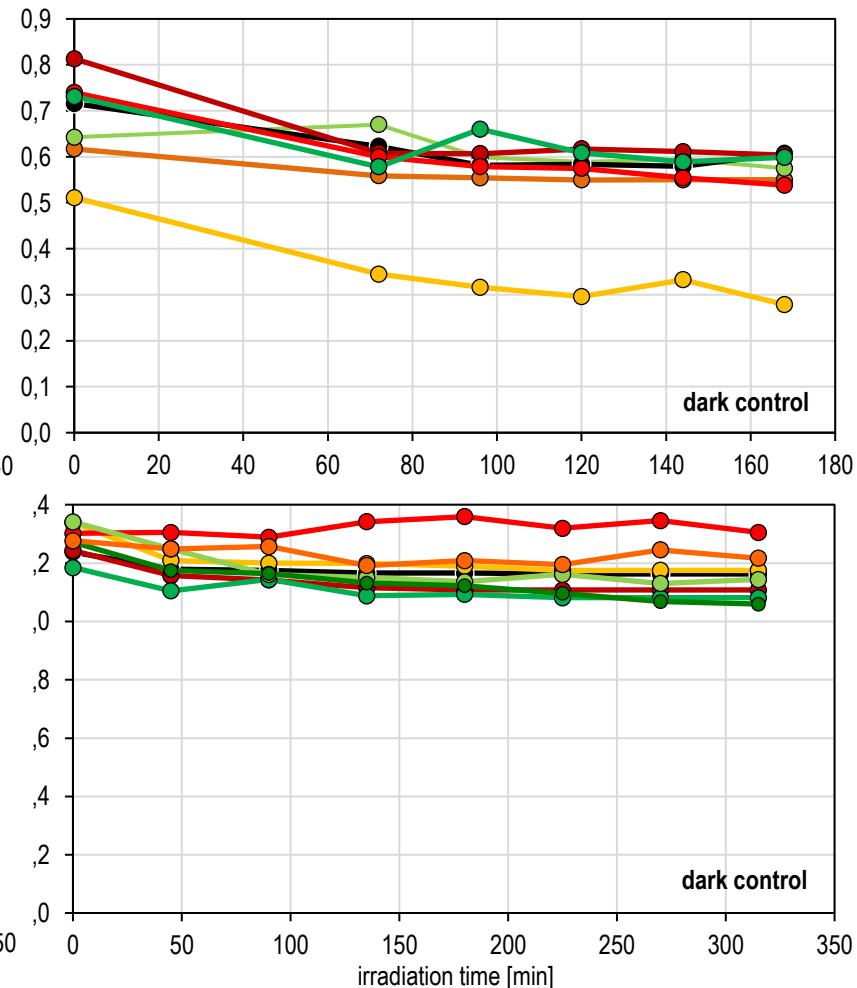
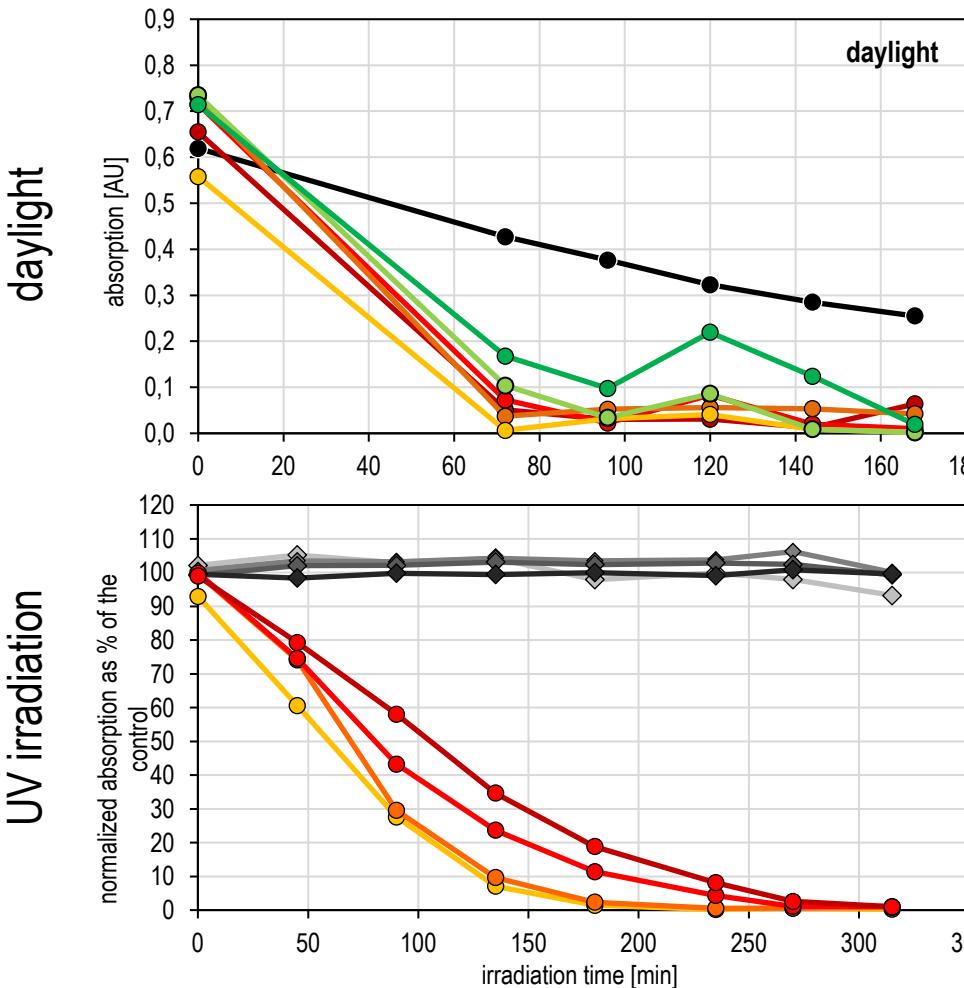
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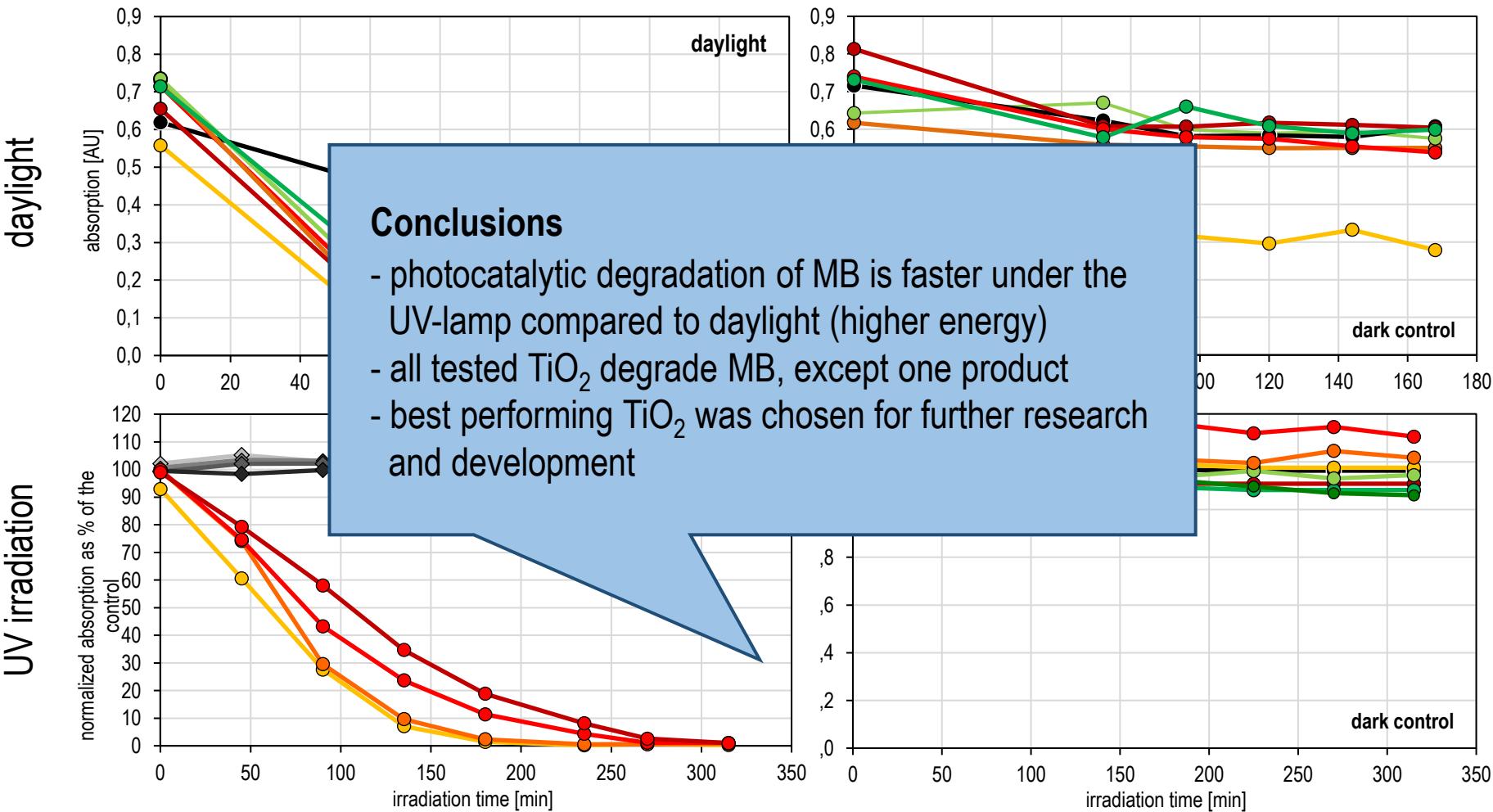
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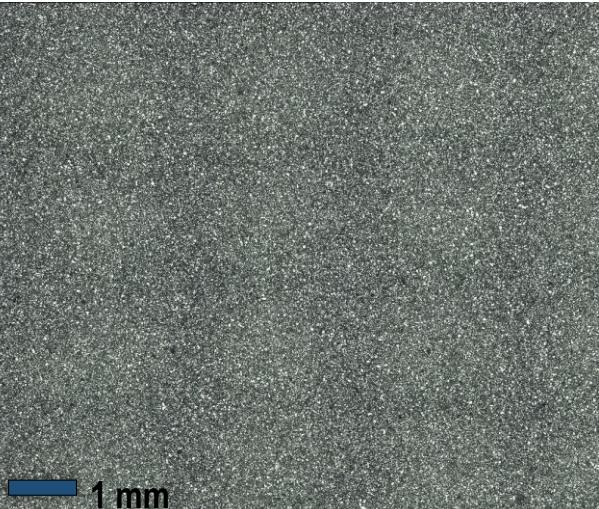
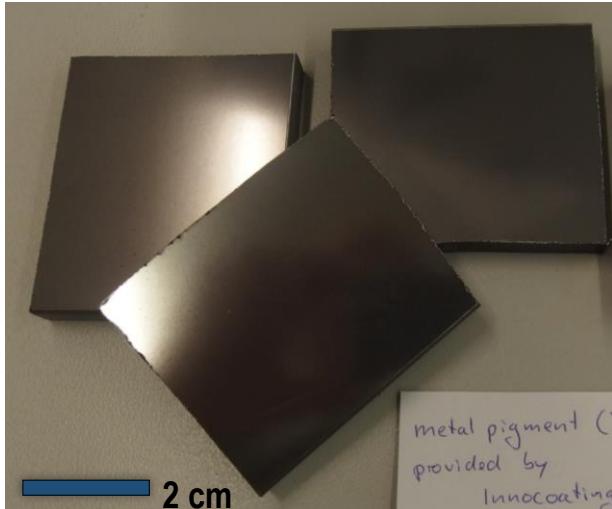


## The Results – Testing the bifunctional Generation 2 Coating

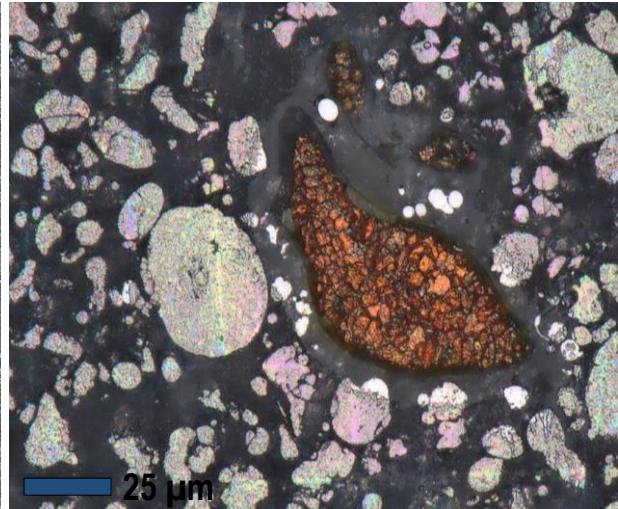
### Performance testing of the generation 2 coatings developed with an AutoProtect partner

- $\text{TiO}_2$  as a photocatalytic additive with degrading and antimicrobial activity
- copper-containing metal pigments with an oligodynamic effect

metal pigment coating supplemented  
with the best performing  $\text{TiO}_2$   
produced & provided by an  
AutoProtect partner



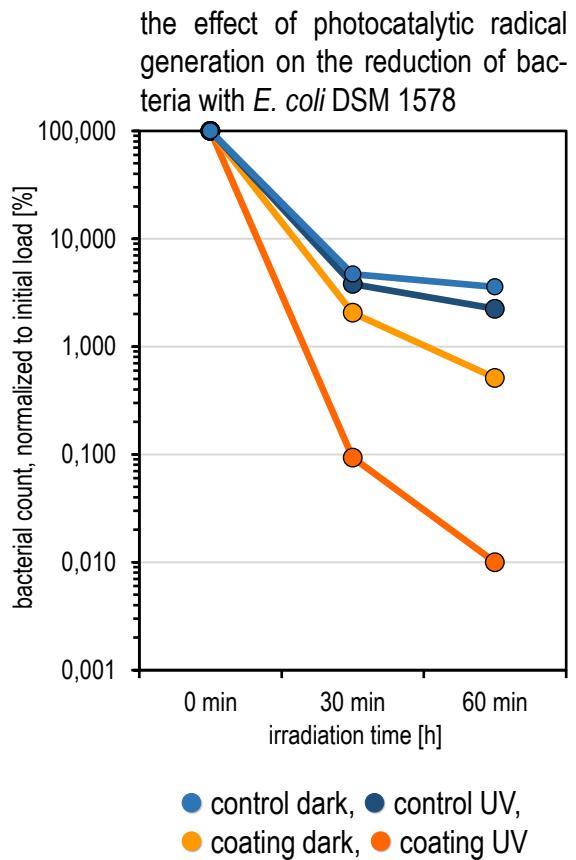
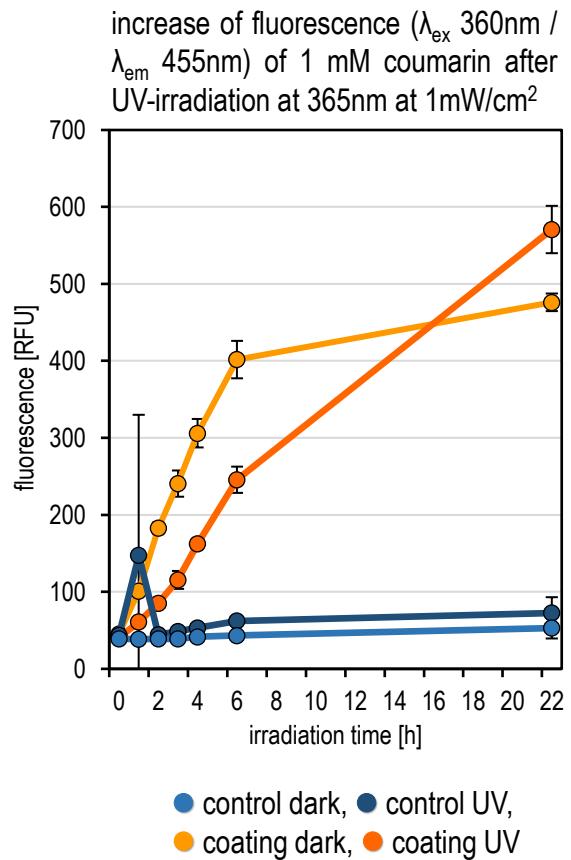
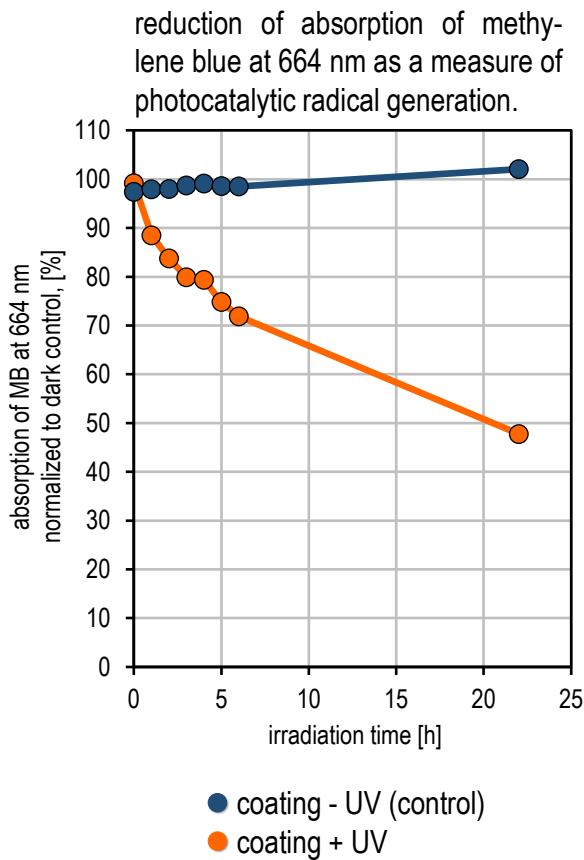
copper-coloured metallic inclusion in  
the coating → metal pigment with  
additional oligodynamic effect



## The Results – Testing the bifunctional Generation 2 Coating

### Testing the bifunctional Generation 2 Coating

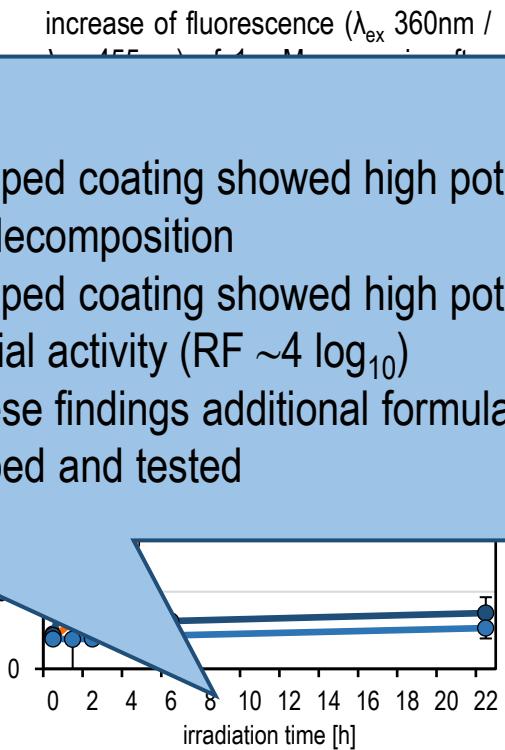
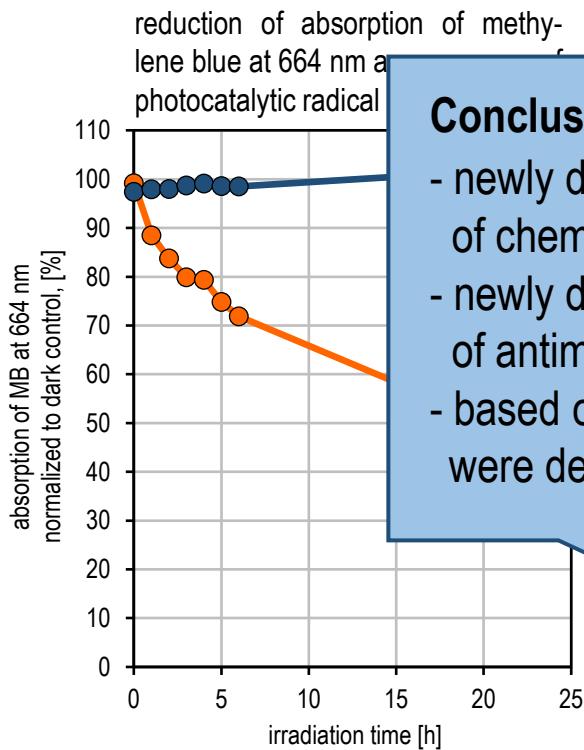
- testing radical formation with the methylene blue and the coumarin assays
- testing the antimicrobial activity with the ISO 22196 assay



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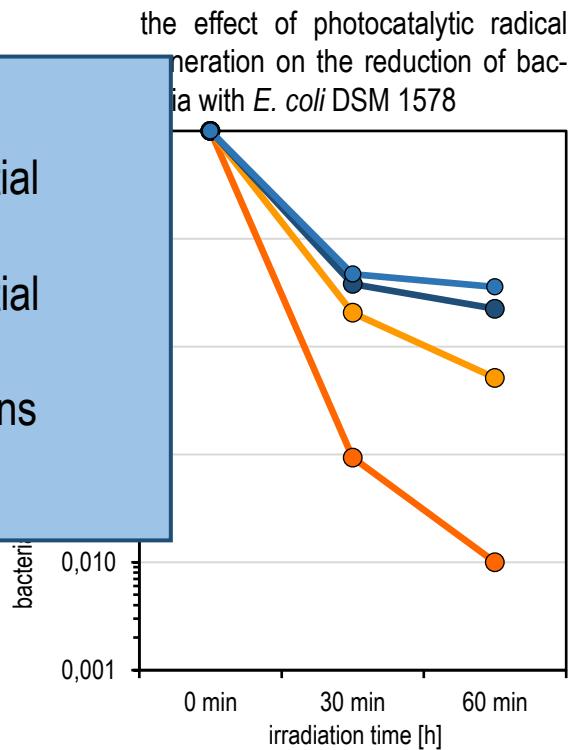
### Testing the bifunctional Generation 2 Coating

- testing radical formation with the methylene blue and the coumarin assays
- testing the antimicrobial activity with the ISO 22196 assay



### Conclusions

- newly developed coating showed high potential of chemical decomposition
- newly developed coating showed high potential of antimicrobial activity (RF  $\sim 4 \log_{10}$ )
- based on these findings additional formulations were developed and tested



● coating - UV (control)  
● coating + UV

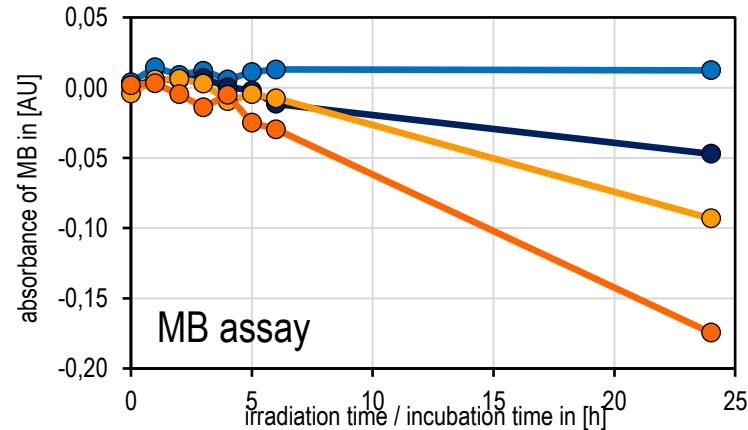
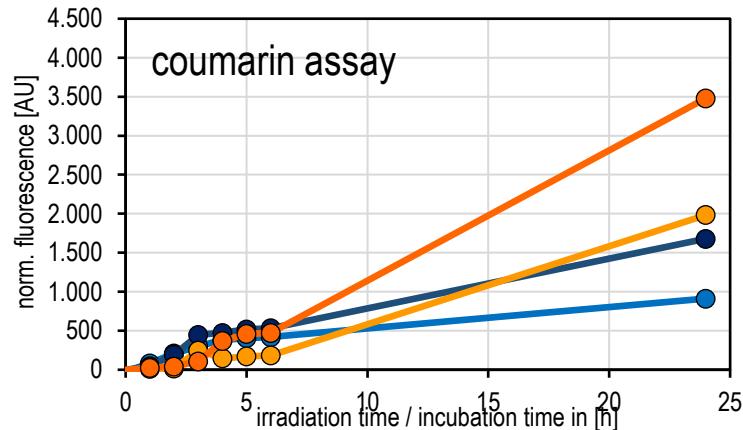
● control dark, ● control UV,  
● coating dark, ● coating UV

● control dark, ● control UV,  
● coating dark, ● coating UV

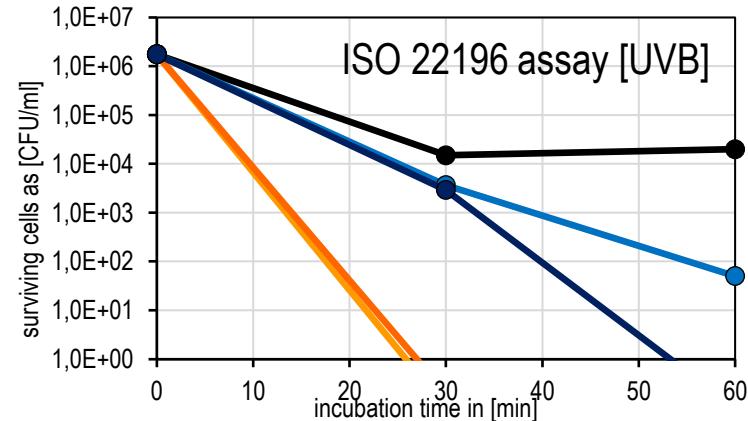
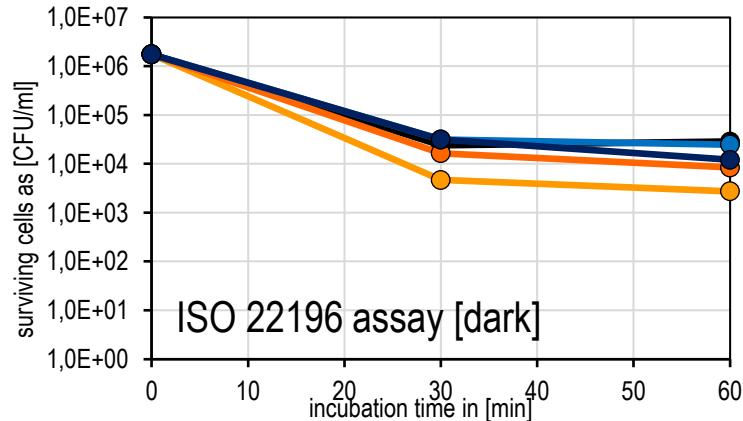
## The Results – Testing the bifunctional Generation 2 Coating



Coating containing metallic particles and a supplement of  $\text{TiO}_2$  in two concentrations  
● A2%, ● A5%



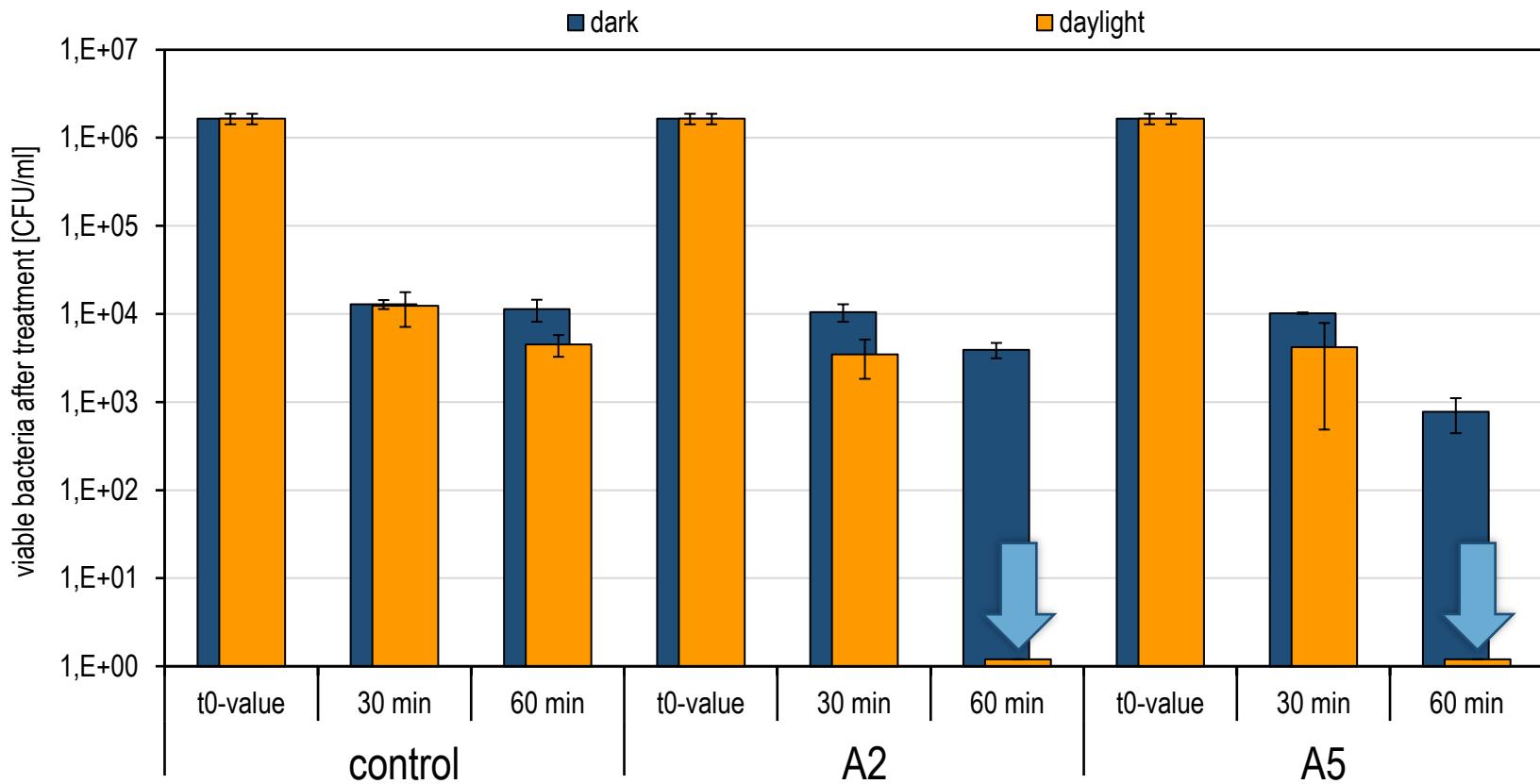
Coating without metallic particles but with a supplement of  $\text{TiO}_2$  in two concentrations  
● B2%, ● B5%



## The Results – Testing the bifunctional Generation 2 Coating

### Performance testing of the generation 2 coatings developed with an AutoProtect partner

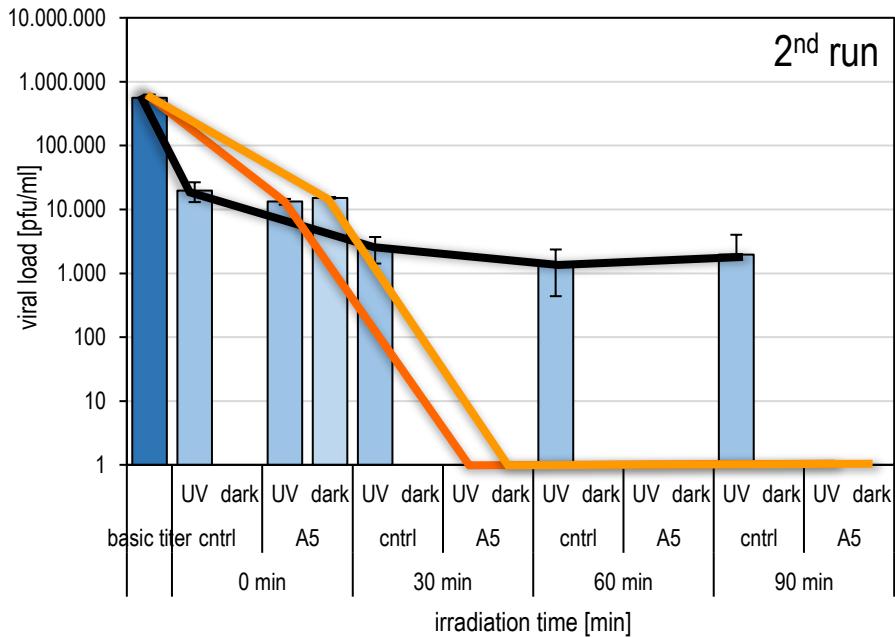
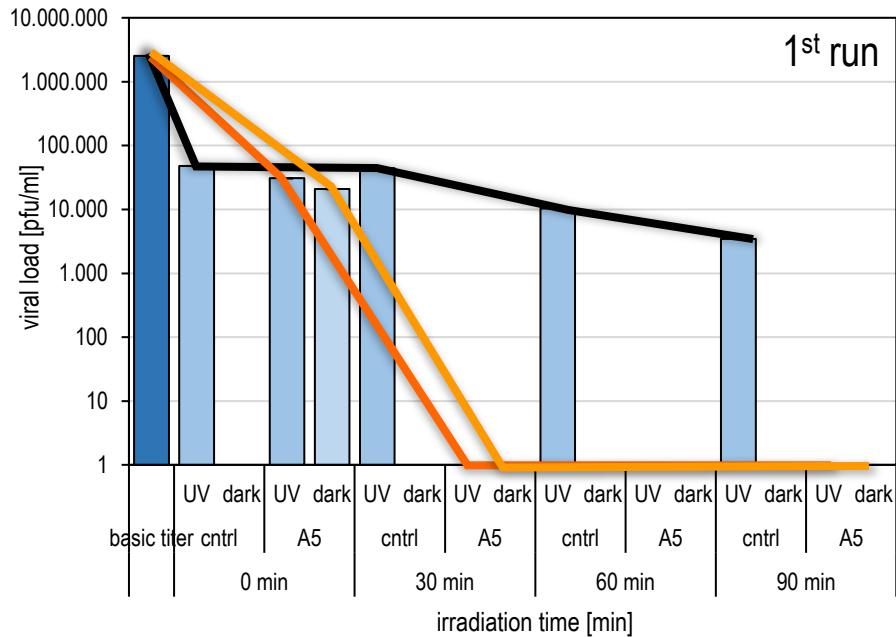
inactivation of *E. coli* on coating A2 and A5 after illumination with daylight neon tubes at 222-246 mJ/cm<sup>2</sup> (30 min) and 444-491 mJ/cm<sup>2</sup> (60 min)



## The Results – Testing the bifunctional Generation 2 Coating

### Performance testing of the generation 2 coatings developed with an AutoProtect partner

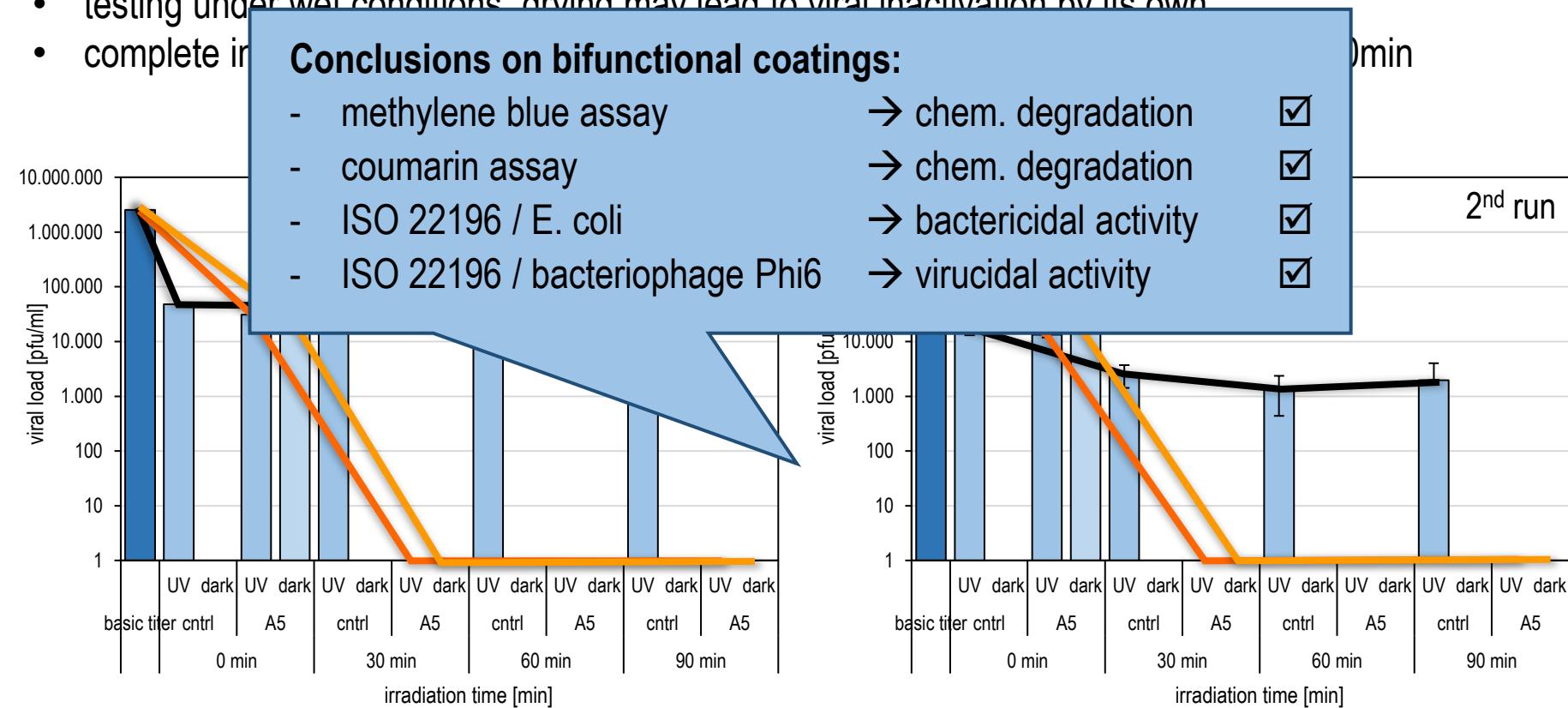
- testing the antiviral capacity in accordance to ISO 22196 towards the bacteriophage Phi 6
- traits of Phi 6 resemble those of SARS-CoV-2 → lipid envelope, +ssRNA, 75nm
- testing under wet conditions, drying may lead to viral inactivation by its own
- complete inactivation of Phi 6 in the dark and under UV after exposure periods of >30min



## The Results – Testing the bifunctional Generation 2 Coating

### Performance testing of the generation 2 coatings developed with an AutoProtect partner

- testing the antiviral capacity in accordance to ISO 22196 towards the bacteriophage Phi 6
- traits of Phi 6 resemble those of SARS-CoV-2 → lipid envelope, +ssRNA, 75nm
- testing under wet conditions, drying may lead to viral inactivation by its own
- complete inactivation after 30 min UV irradiation



## The Results – In-house Synthesis of Photocatalytic ZnS Particles

### Synthesis of zinc sulfide nanoporous nanoparticles

Experiment

- synthesis of zinc sulfide nanoporous nanoparticles (ZnS-NPNPs)
- synthesis according to Hu et al. 2005
- synthesis under Argon at Schlenk's line
- compared to commercial ZnS
- testing with MB and coumarin assays



Results

- photocatalytic effect with both, commercial ZnS and ZnS-NPNPs
- self-made ZnS-NPNPs are slightly more efficient photocatalysts
- results resemble those of mediocre commercial TiO<sub>2</sub>



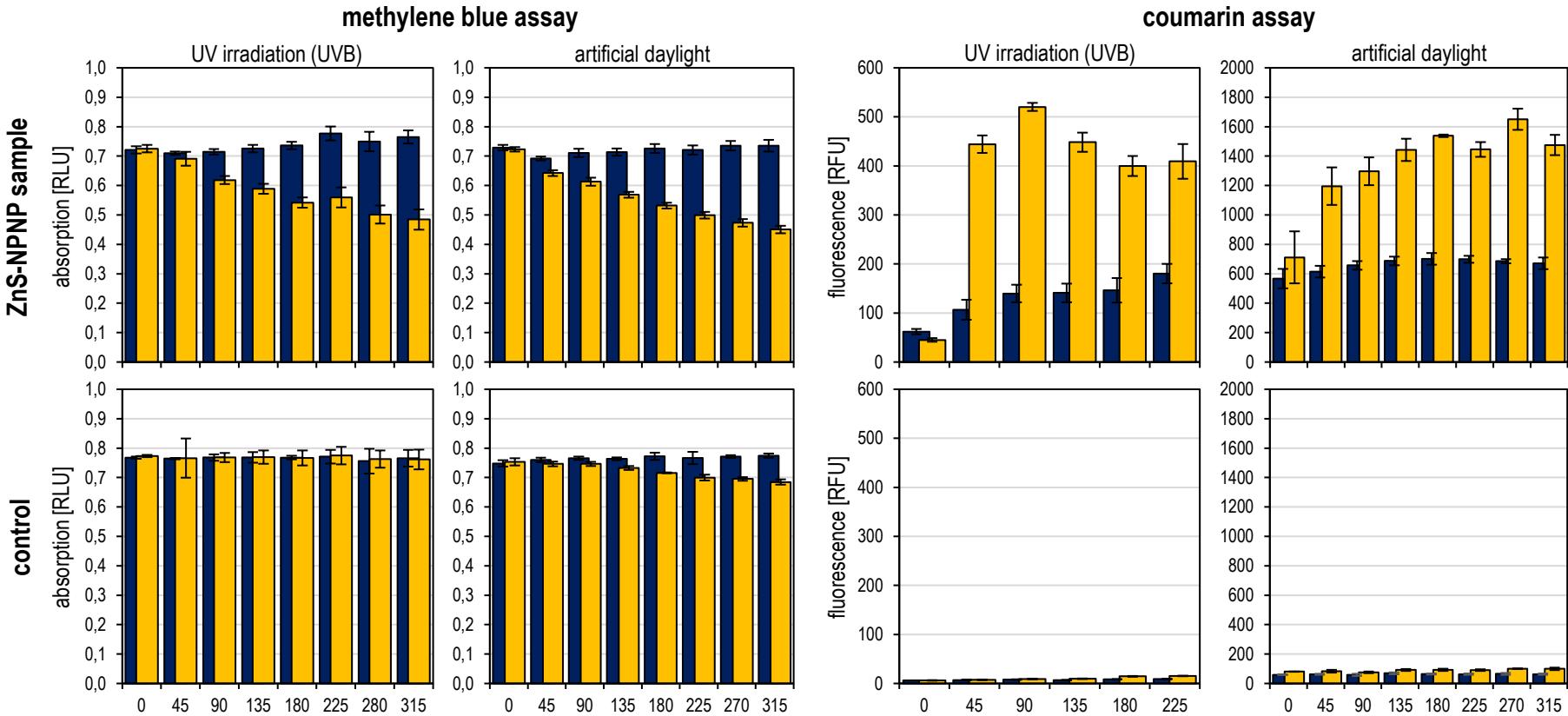
Achievement

- first successful in-house synthesis of a new photocatalyst class

# The Results – In-house Synthesis of Photocatalytic ZnS Particles

## Synthesis of zinc sulfide nanoporous nanoparticles

- Photocatalytic effect with both, commercial ZnS and ZnS-NPNPs
- self-made ZnS-NPNPs are more efficient than commercial ZnS
- but results resemble those of mediocre commercial TiO<sub>2</sub>



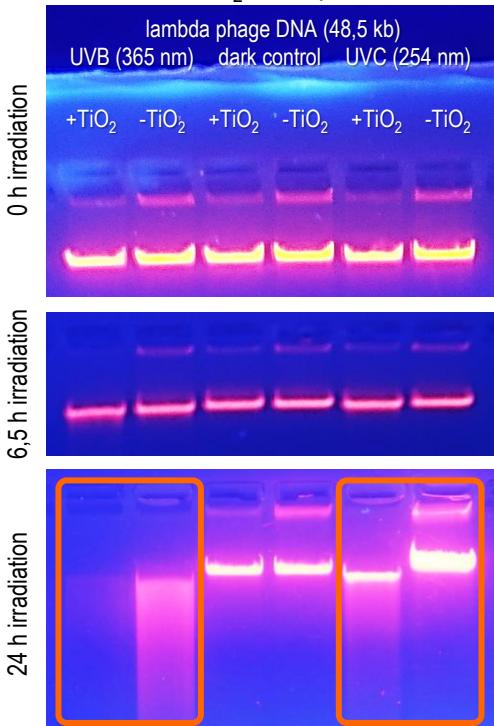
# The Results – Degradation of organic compounds for self-cleaning



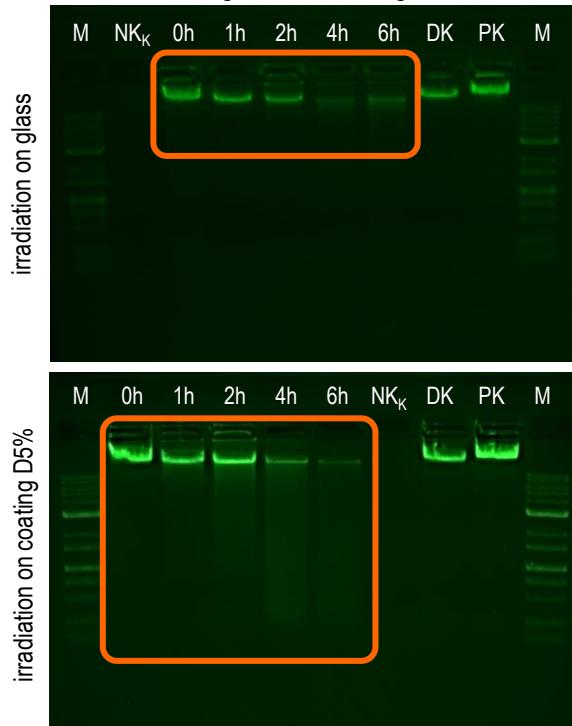
## Degradation of organic compounds – DNA as a substitute for nucleic acid

- besides radical formation, antibacterial and antiviral activity (self-disinfection), MSS-coatings should degrade organic soilings on surfaces (**self-cleaning, easy-to-clean properties**)
- typical biological soilings include macromolecules as nucleic acids, proteins, carbohydrates, lipids

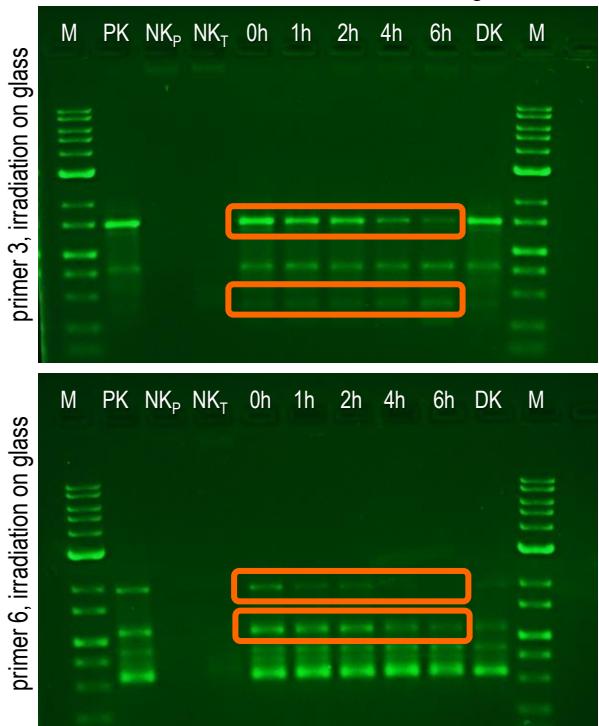
UV-B/C irradiation of lambda DNA with TiO<sub>2</sub> in suspension



351nm irradiation (QUV) of lambda DNA on TiO<sub>2</sub>-coating D5% and on glass control



351nm irradiation (QUV) and susequent RAPD-PCR of lambda DNA on glass

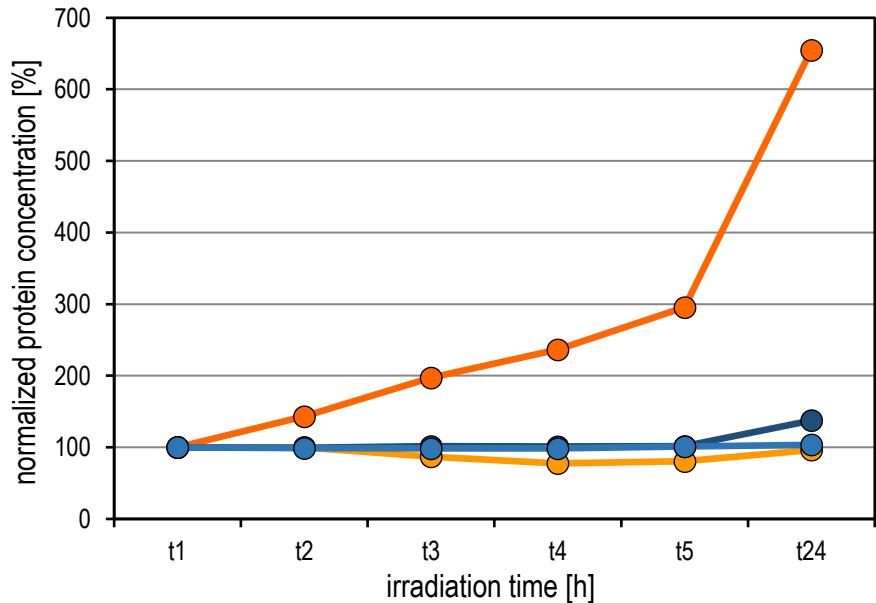
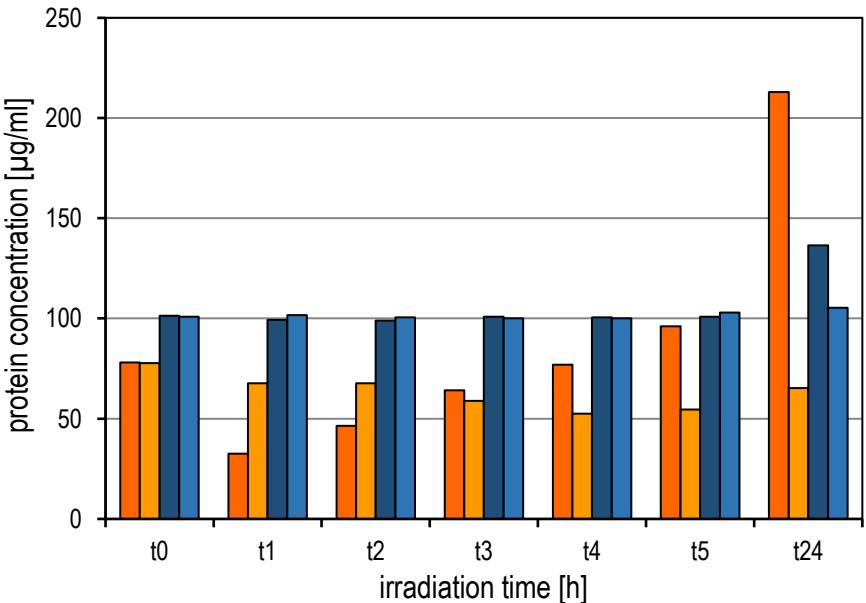


# The Results – Degradation of organic compounds for self-cleaning



## Degradation of organic compounds → bovine serum albumin (BSA) as a common protein

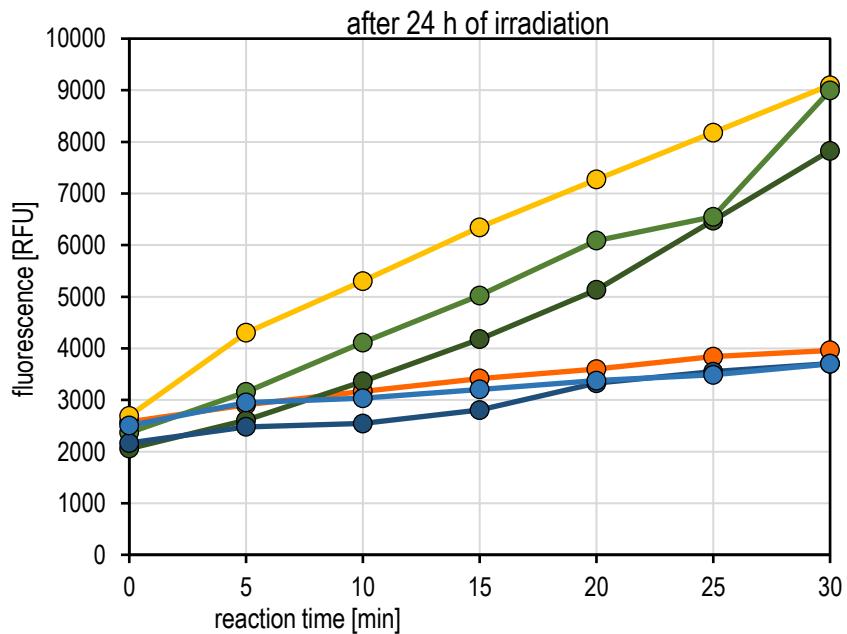
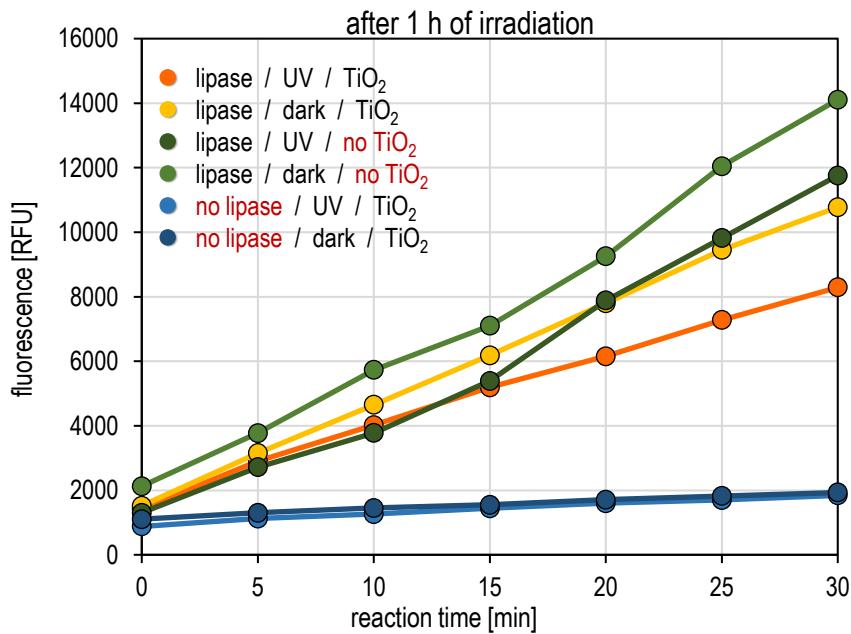
- proteins are extremely critical soilings
- testing with **BSA**: photocatalytic activity breaks up BSA into smaller fragments  
measured protein concentration increases when measured by OPA method



# The Results – Degradation of organic compounds for self-cleaning

## Degradation of organic compounds → lipase from *C. viscosum* as an enzyme

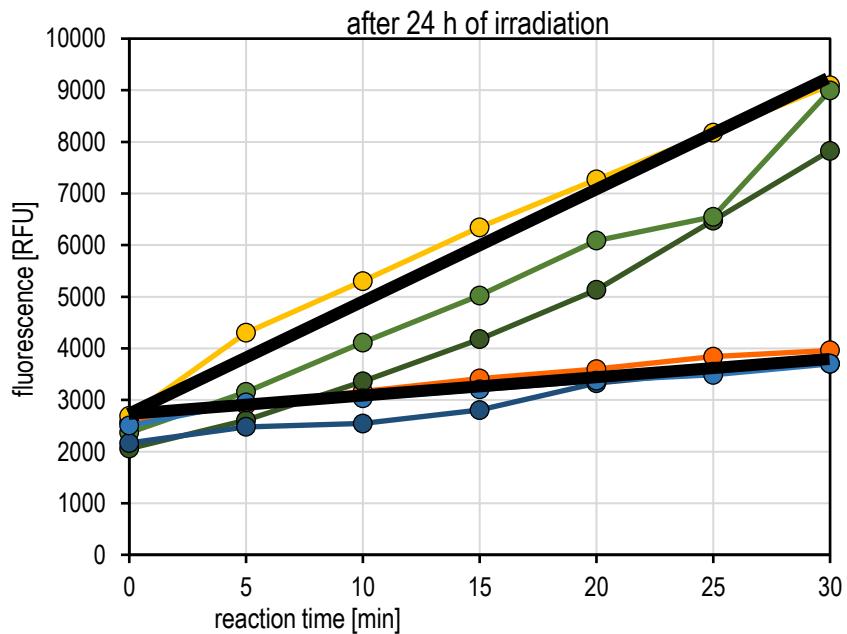
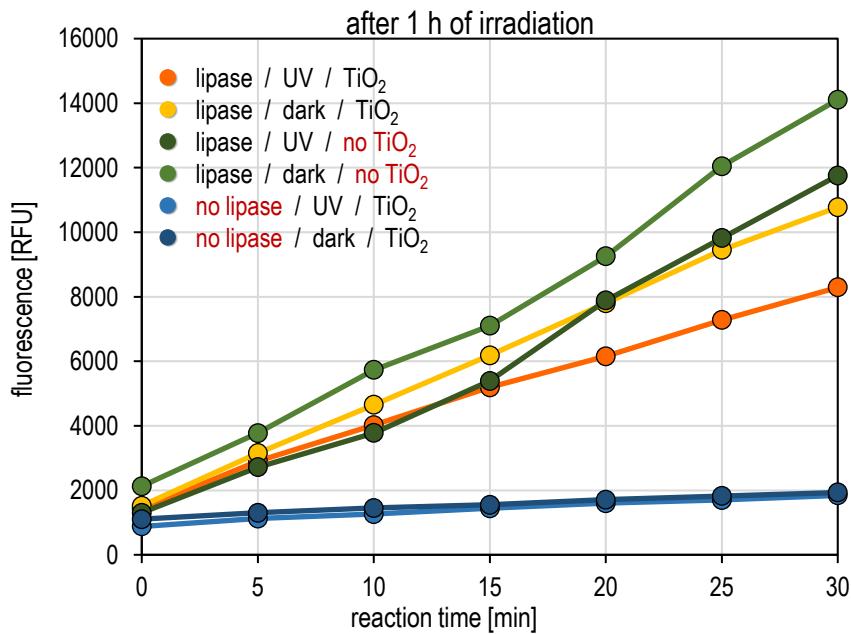
- proteins are extremely critical soilings
- testing with **enzymes**: photocatalytic activity inactivates the enzymes  
enzyme activity decreases when measured in appropriate assay



# The Results – Degradation of organic compounds for self-cleaning

## Degradation of organic compounds → lipase from *C. viscosum* as an enzyme

- proteins are extremely critical soilings
- testing with **enzymes**: photocatalytic activity inactivates the enzymes  
enzyme activity decreases when measured in appropriate assay





# Partners in AutoProtect



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