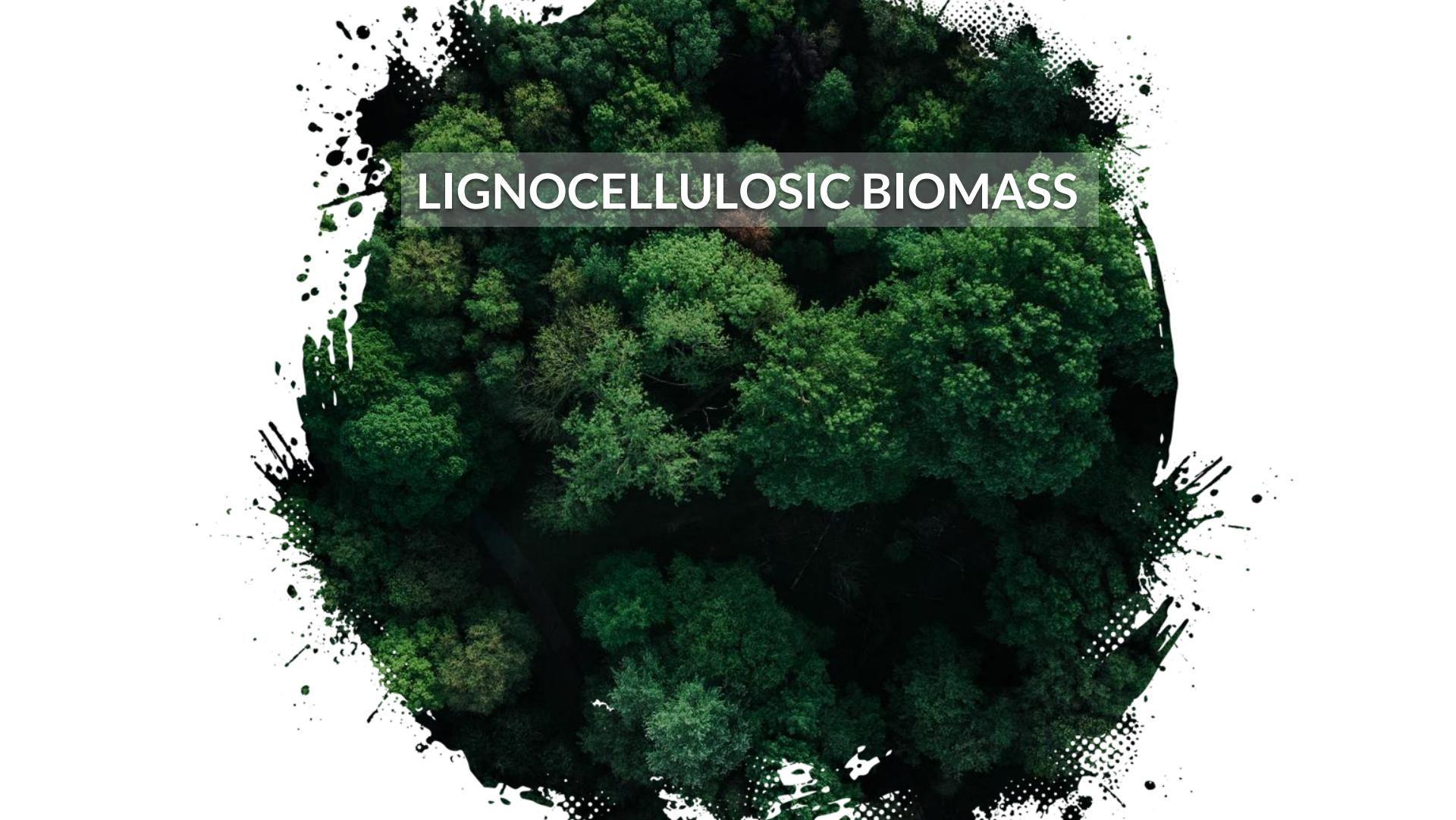


PhD student: Eleonora Monti  
Department of Industrial Chemistry "Toso Montanari"-  
Alma Mater Studiorum-University of Bologna  
Prof. Fabrizio Cavani, Prof. Nikolaos Dimitratos

# Investigation of gold-based catalysts for liquid phase oxidation of glucose to glucaric acid

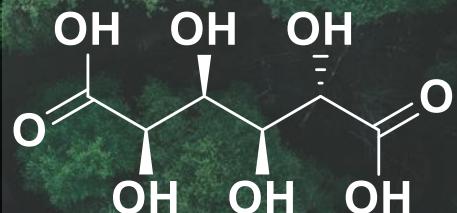
An aerial photograph of a lush green forest, showing a dense canopy of trees. The image is framed by a white border with black ink splatters and a halftone pattern, giving it a graphic, modern look.

# LIGNOCELLULOSIC BIOMASS

# LIGNOCELLULOSIC BIOMASS

Top 12 value  
added  
chemical

GLUCARIC ACID





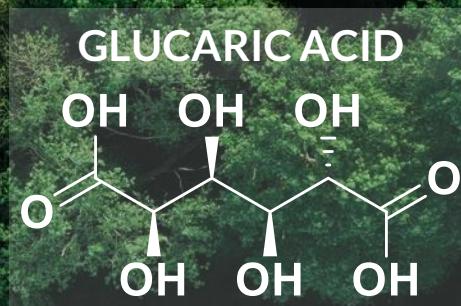
Anti-corrosion  
additives



Phosphate-free  
detergents and  
biodegradable  
cleaners



Adhesive and  
coating



Intermediate in  
the production  
of biobased  
adipic acid



## STATE OF ART

Oxidation of Glucose to Glucaric acid (GA) by  $\text{HNO}_3$ , giving a yield of 43% of Glucaric acid (GA)

## STATE OF ART

Oxidation of Glucose to Glucaric acid (GA) by  $\text{HNO}_3$ , giving a yield of 43% of Glucaric acid (GA)

T.S. Moon et al.: **Biochemical conversion** with Recombinant *E. Coli*  
using a glucose solution 0,05M at 30°C

Oxidation of Glucose to Glucaric acid (GA) by  $\text{HNO}_3$ , giving a yield of 43% of Glucaric acid (GA)

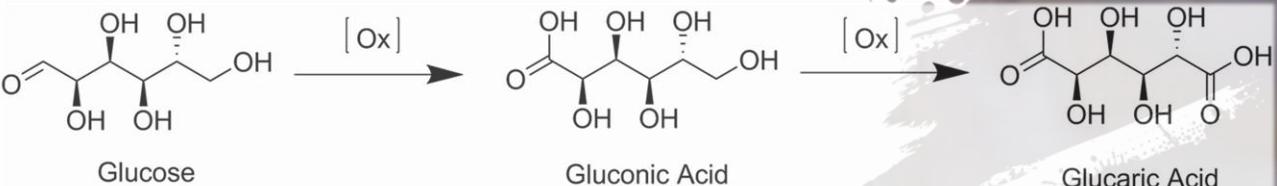
T.S. Moon et al.: **Biochemical conversion** with Recombinant *E. Coli*  
using a glucose solution 0,05M at 30°C

Rennovia Inc. : alloy Au-Pt/TiO<sub>2</sub> gave 64% yield GA for 5 h  
under 5 bar O<sub>2</sub> at 90°C neutral pH conditions

Derrien et al. : alloy Au-Pt/ZrO<sub>2</sub> yield of 50% of GA for 10 h under 40 bar of  
air at 100°C with a Glucose:metal molar ratio of 80:1 in neutral conditions

Solmi et al. : Au-Bi/AC yield of 31% of GA for 3 h under 10 bar O<sub>2</sub> at  
60°C with a Glucose:metal:NaOH molar ratio of 500:1:1500

## MAIN GOAL



## Optimization of reaction parameters

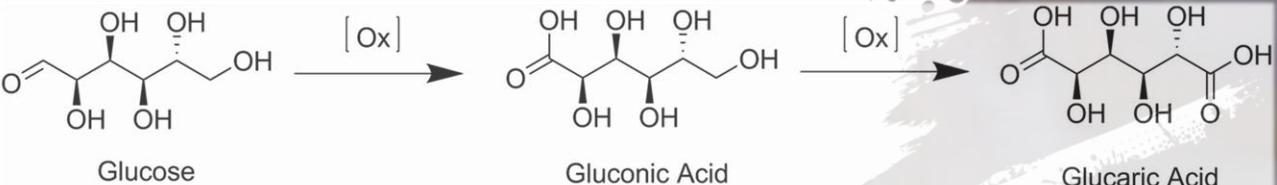
5% wt Glucose solution, 10 bar of O<sub>2</sub>

Quantitative analysis by HPLC

- Stirring rate
- Glu:Au molar ratio
- Time on line



## MAIN GOAL



## Optimization of reaction parameters

5% wt Glucose solution, 10 bar of O<sub>2</sub>

Quantitative analysis by HPLC

- Stirring rate
- Glu:Au molar ratio
- Time on line

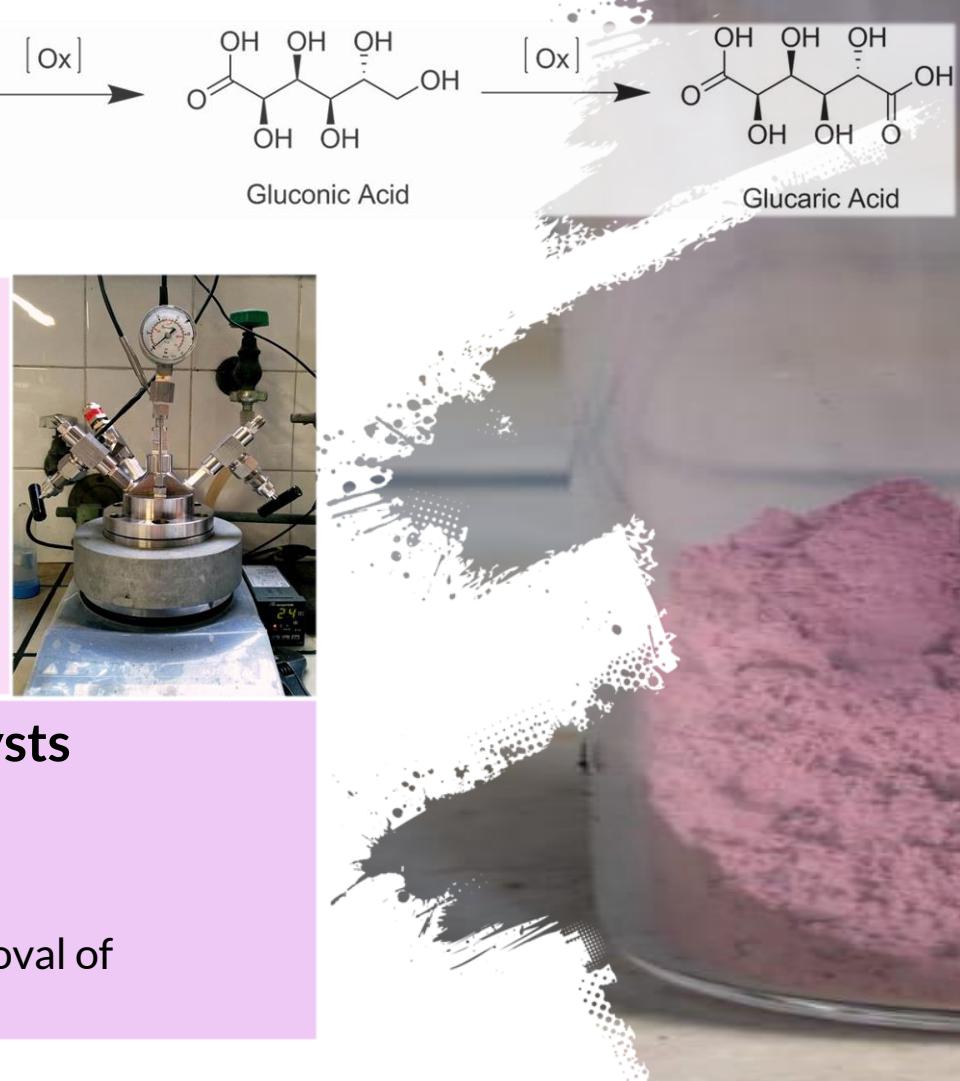


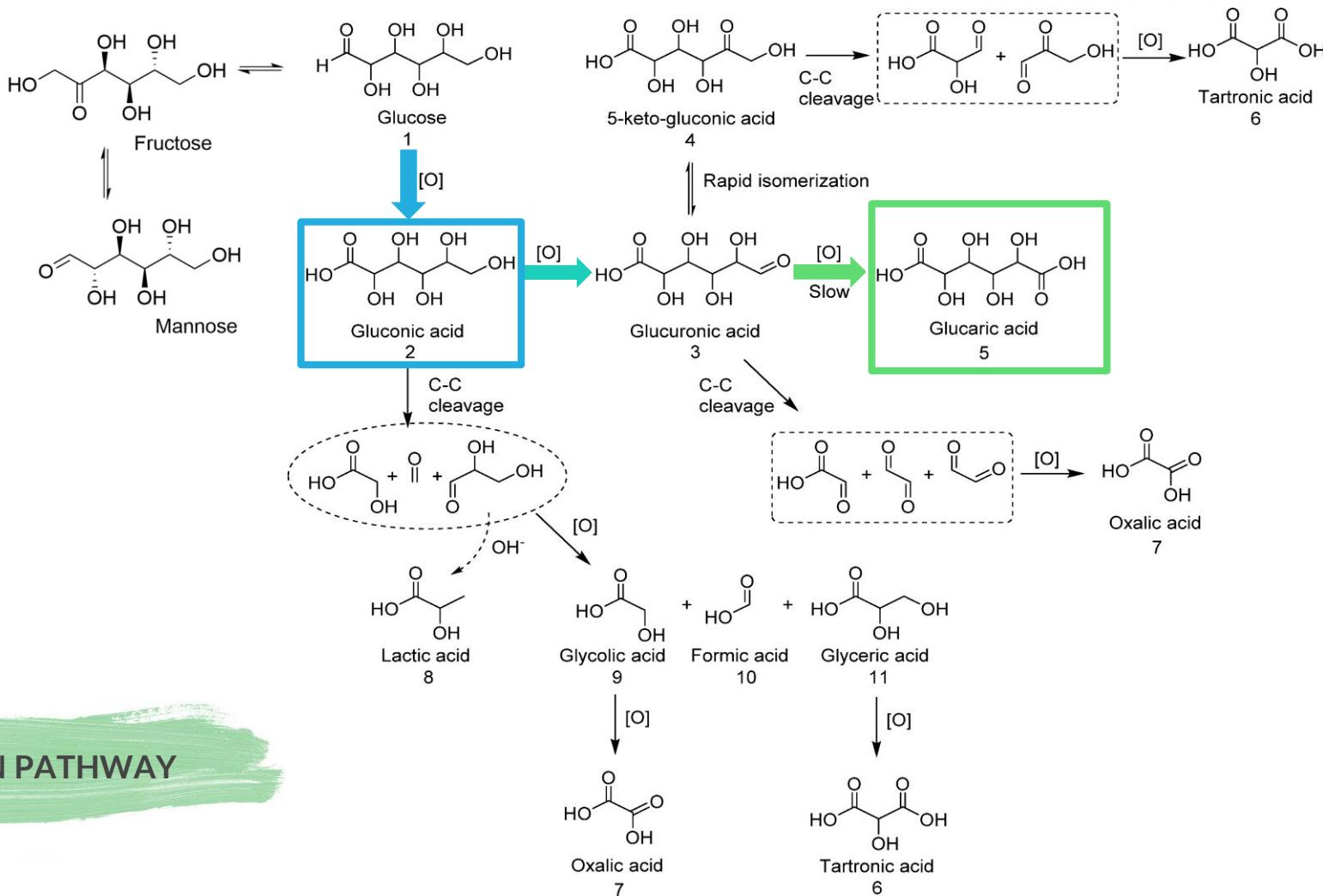
## Synthesis of Au based catalysts

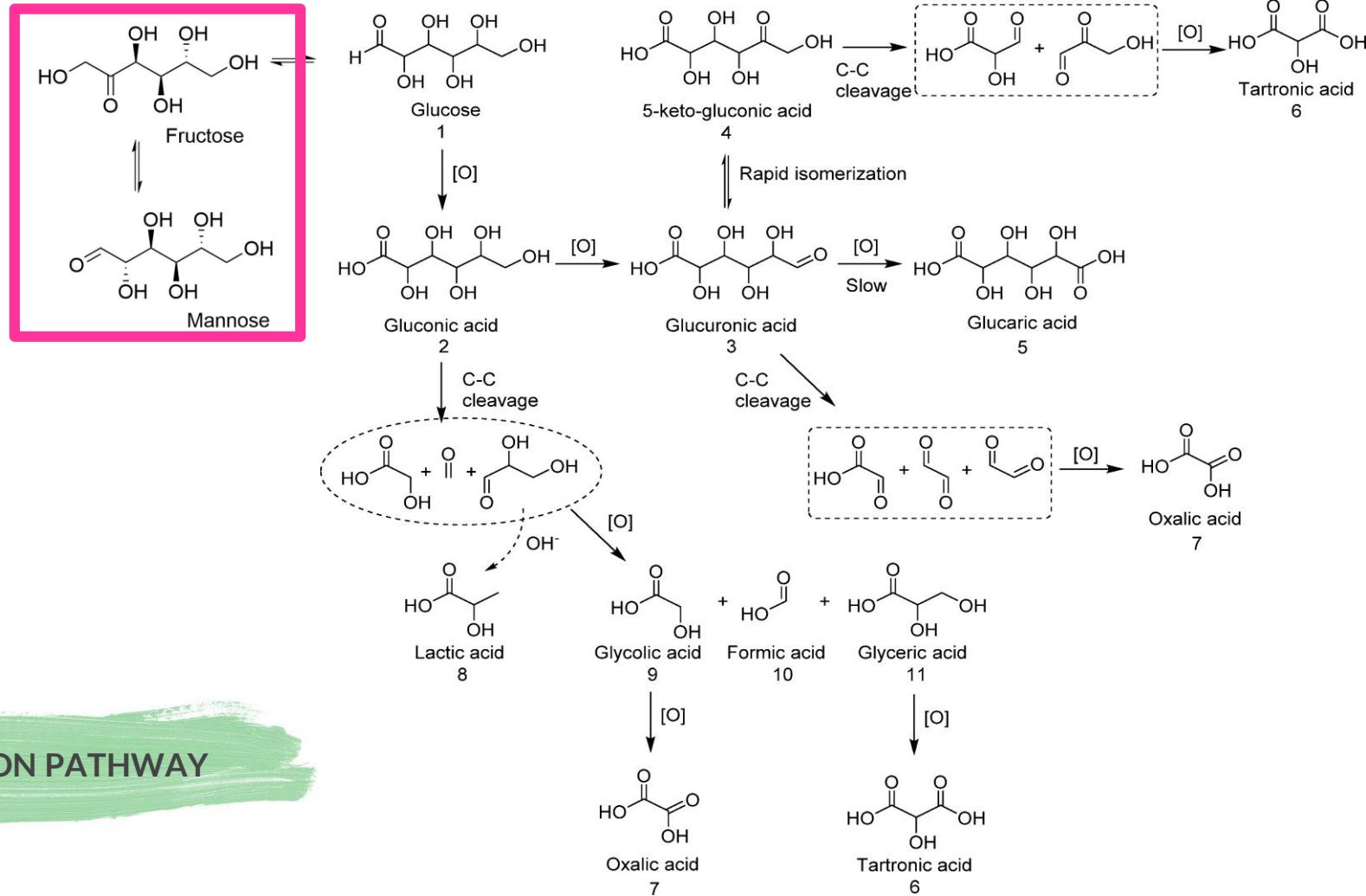
Sol immobilization technique

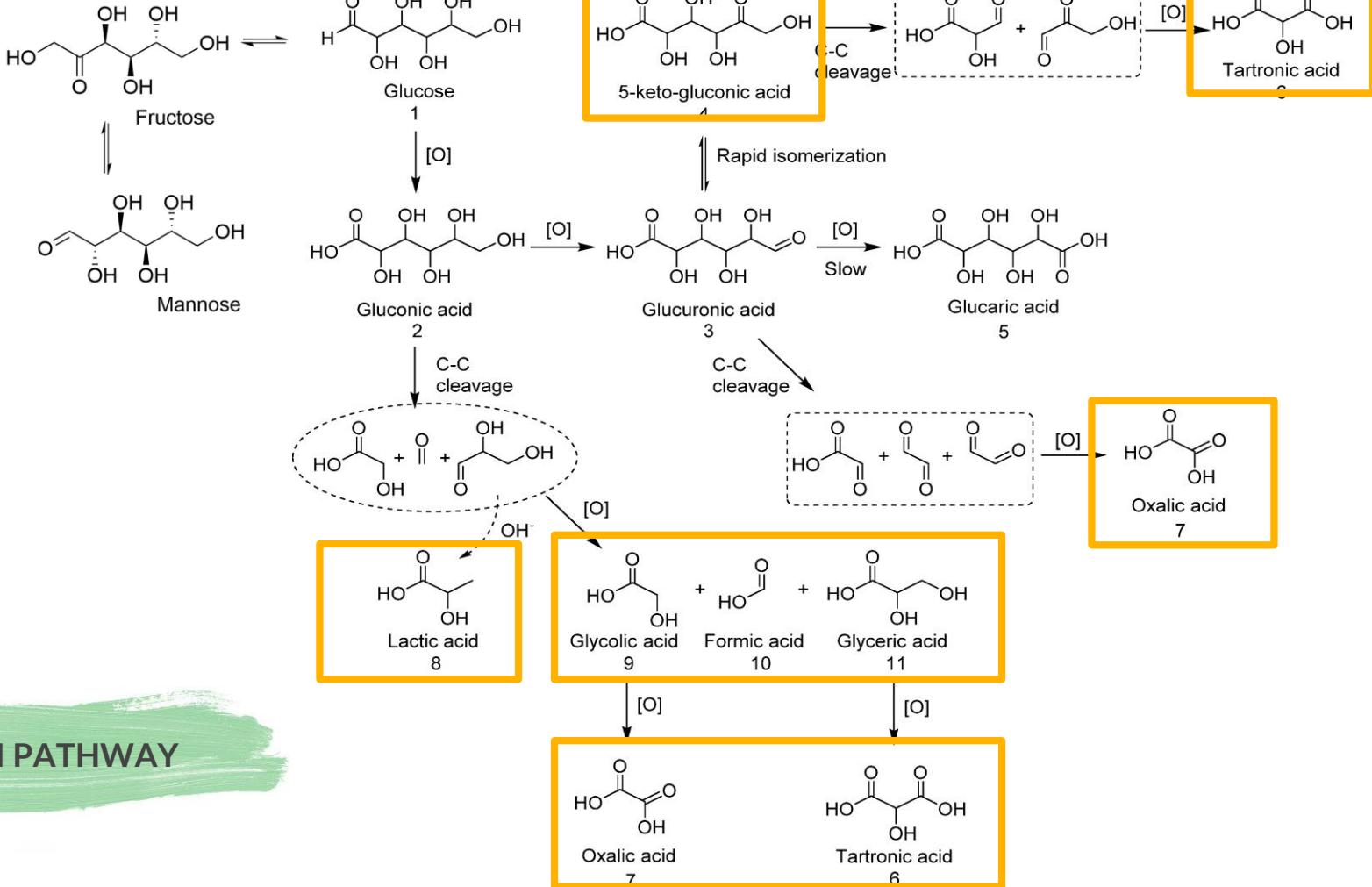
Metal loading 1% wt Au/AC

- Tuning of nanoparticle size
- Effect of heat treatment for removal of protective ligands

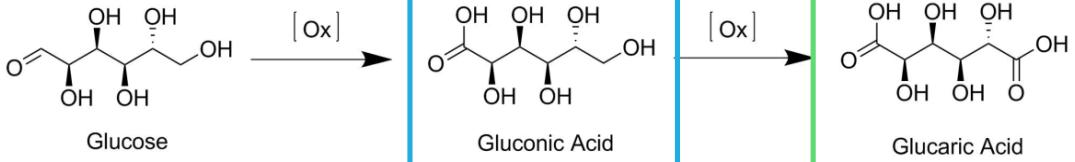




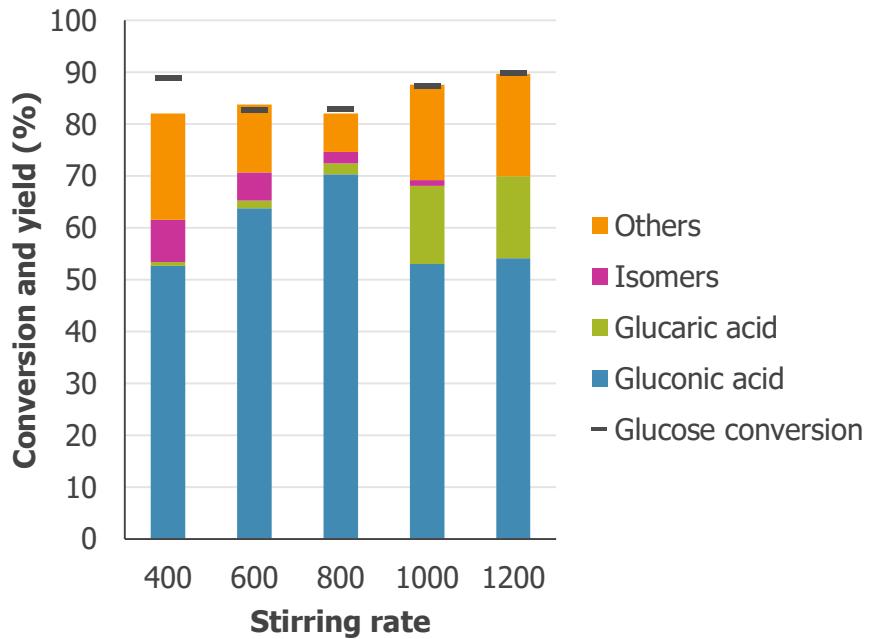




## OPTIMIZATION OF REACTION PARAMETERS

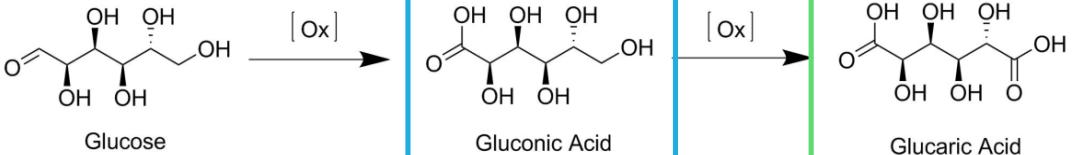


Effect of stirring rate

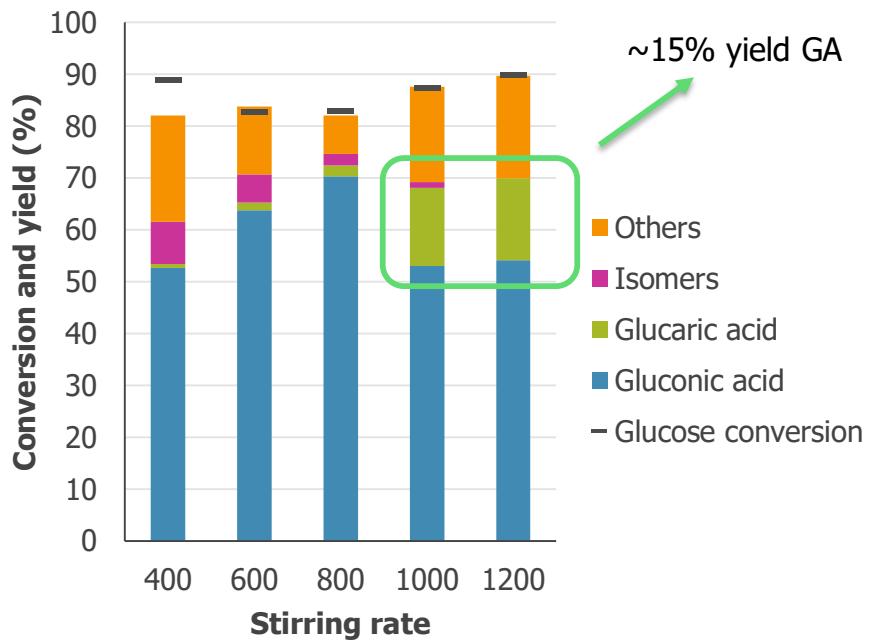


Reaction conditions: 15 min, 60°C, 10 bar O<sub>2</sub>,  
Glu:Au:NaOH molar ratio of 1000:1:3000

## OPTIMIZATION OF REACTION PARAMETERS

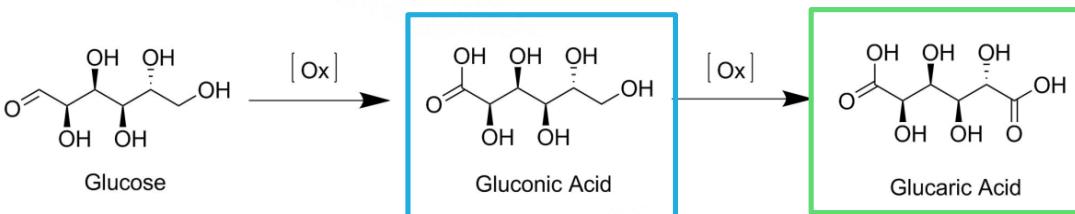


Effect of stirring rate

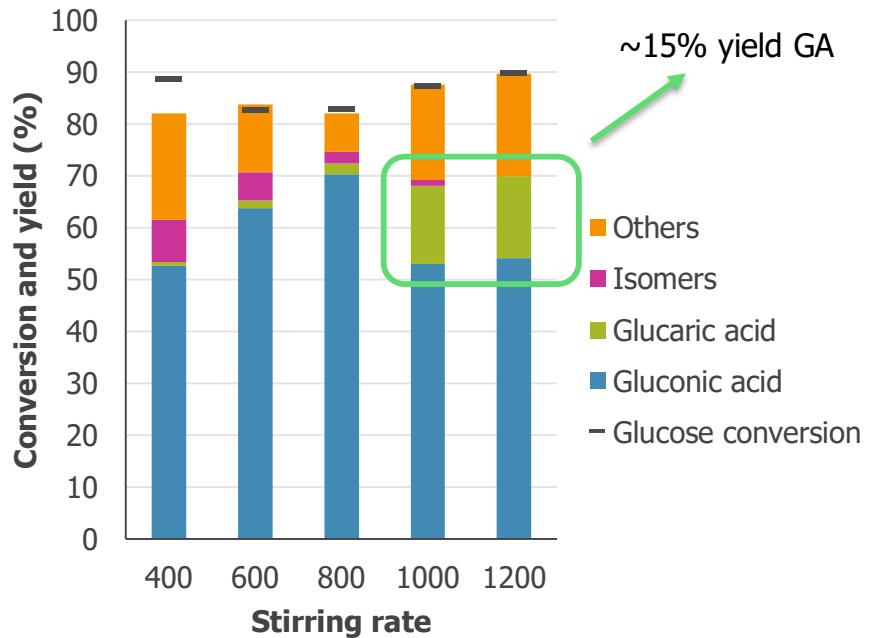


Reaction conditions: 15 min, 60°C, 10 bar O<sub>2</sub>,  
Glu:Au:NaOH molar ratio of 1000:1:3000

## OPTIMIZATION OF REACTION PARAMETERS

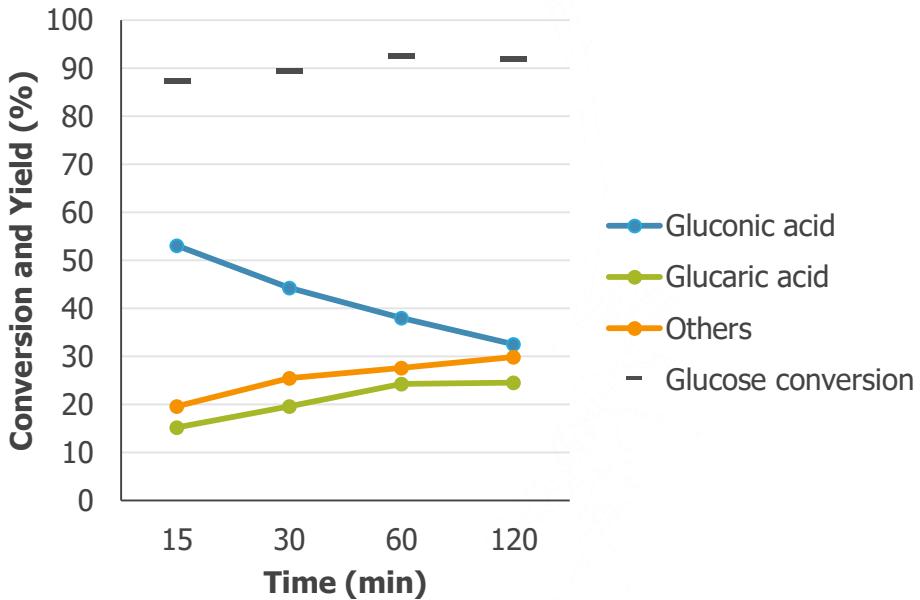


Effect of stirring rate



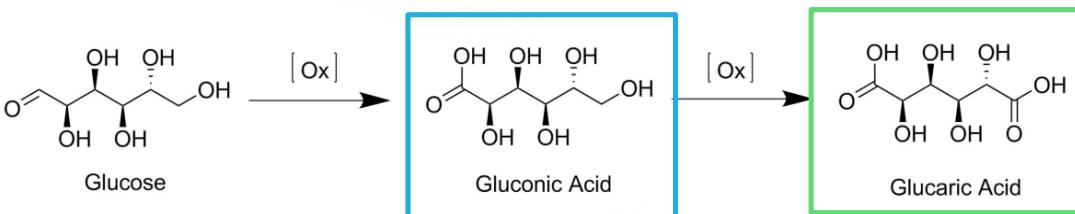
Reaction conditions: 15 min, 60°C, 10 bar O<sub>2</sub>,  
Glu:Au:NaOH molar ratio of 1000:1:3000

Study time on line

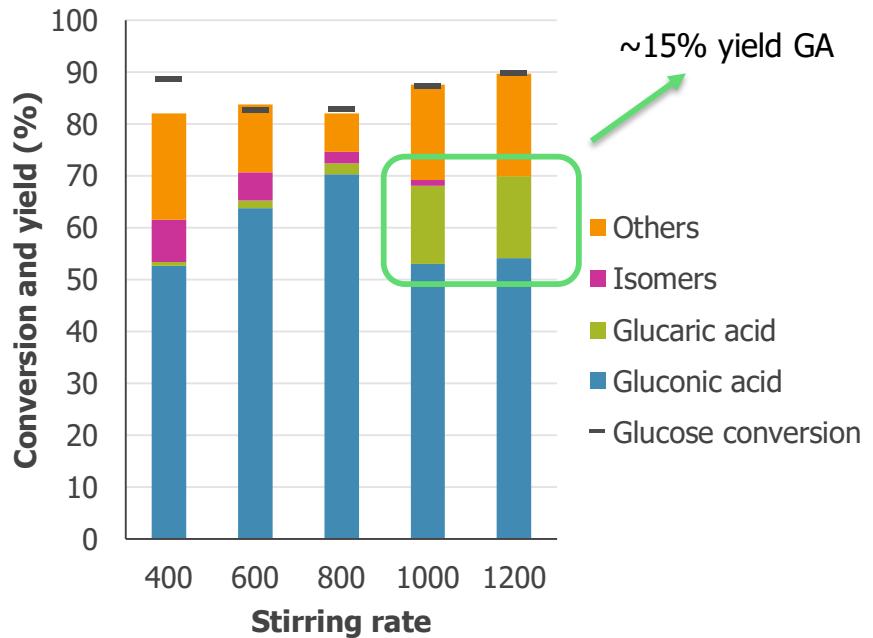


Reaction conditions: 60°C, 1000 rpm, 10 bar O<sub>2</sub>,  
Glu:Au:NaOH molar ratio of 1000:1:3000

## OPTIMIZATION OF REACTION PARAMETERS

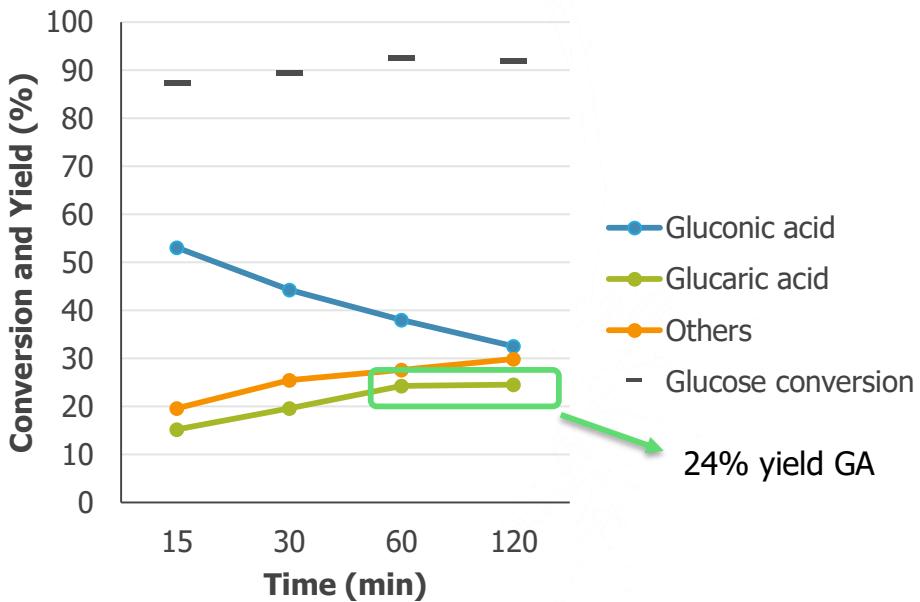


Effect of stirring rate



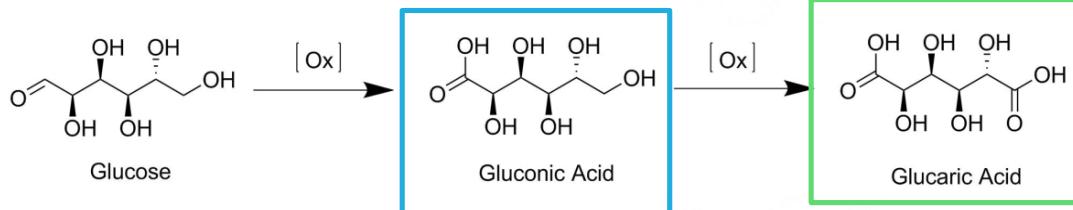
Reaction conditions: 15 min, 60°C, 10 bar O<sub>2</sub>,  
Glu:Au:NaOH molar ratio of 1000:1:3000

Study time on line

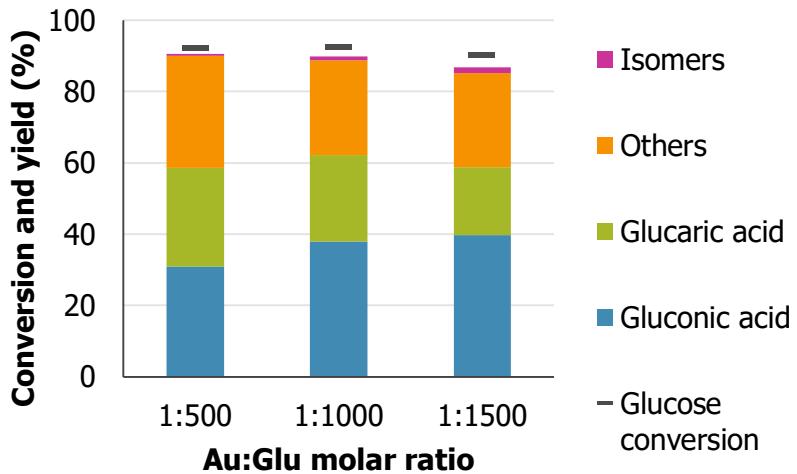


Reaction conditions: 60°C, 1000 rpm, 10 bar O<sub>2</sub>,  
Glu:Au:NaOH molar ratio of 1000:1:3000

## OPTIMIZATION OF REACTION PARAMETERS

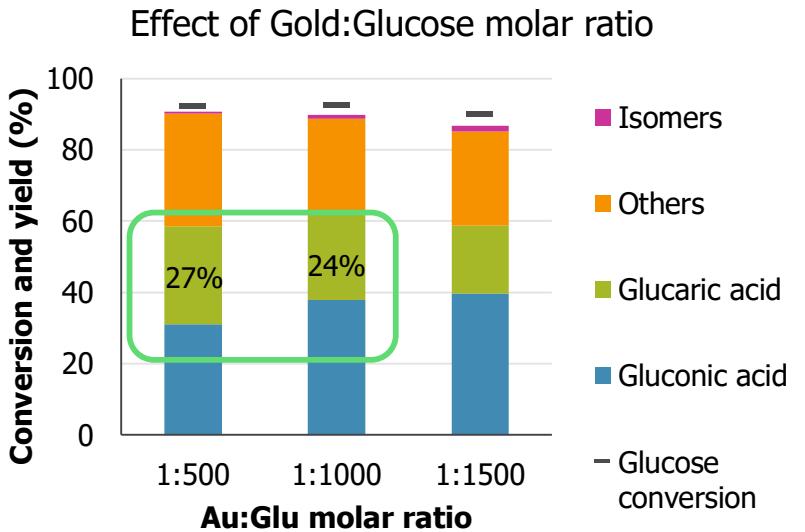
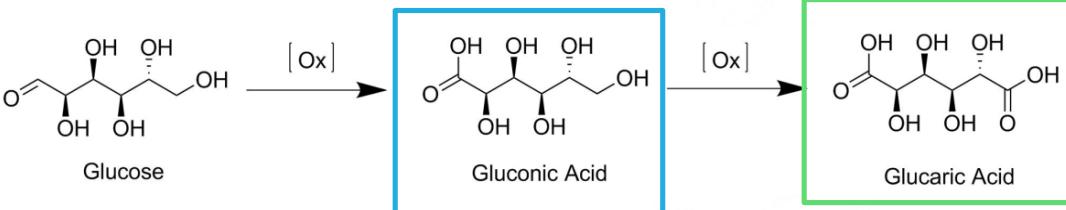


Effect of Gold:Glucose molar ratio



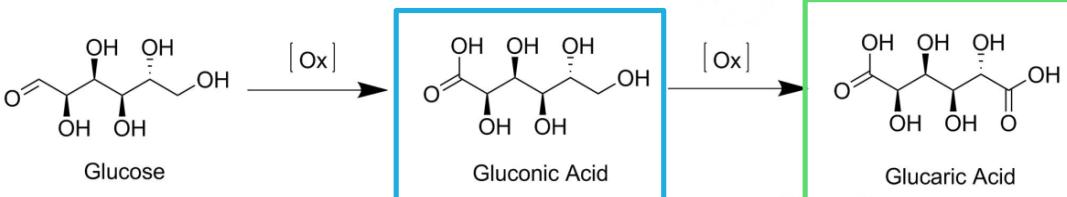
Reaction conditions: 1 h, 60°C, 1000 rpm, 10 bar O<sub>2</sub>,  
Glu:NaOH molar ratio of 1:3

## OPTIMIZATION OF REACTION PARAMETERS

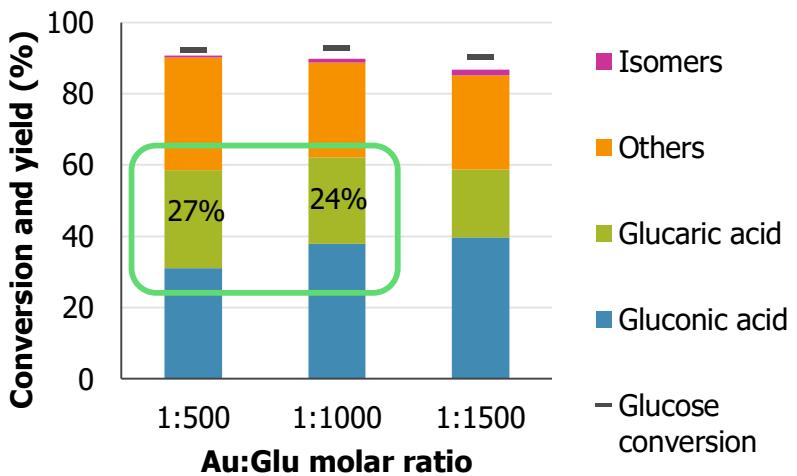


Reaction conditions: 1 h, 60°C, 1000 rpm, 10 bar O<sub>2</sub>,  
Glu:NaOH molar ratio of 1:3

## OPTIMIZATION OF REACTION PARAMETERS



Effect of Gold:Glucose molar ratio



### Reaction parameters:

- » 1 hour
- » 60°C
- » 1000 rpm
- » 10 bar O<sub>2</sub>
- » Glu:Au:NaOH molar ratio of 1000:1:3000

Reaction conditions: 1 h, 60°C, 1000 rpm, 10 bar O<sub>2</sub>,  
Glu:NaOH molar ratio of 1:3

# Au NPS SYNTHESIS- SOL IMMOBILIZATION METHOD

Au precursor  
 $\text{HAuCl}_4 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$   
+PVA



# Au NPS SYNTHESIS- SOL IMMOBILIZATION METHOD

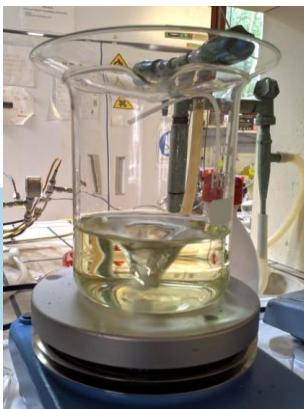


Au precursor  
 $\text{HAuCl}_4 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$   
+PVA



$\text{NaBH}_4$   
solution

# Au NPS SYNTHESIS- SOL IMMOBILIZATION METHOD



Au precursor  
 $\text{HAuCl}_4 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$   
+PVA



$\text{NaBH}_4$   
solution



Activated  
carbon

# Au NPS SYNTHESIS- SOL IMMOBILIZATION METHOD



Au precursor  
 $\text{HAuCl}_4 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$   
+PVA



$\text{NaBH}_4$   
solution



Activated  
carbon



Filtration

# Au NPS SYNTHESIS- SOL IMMOBILIZATION METHOD



Au precursor  
 $\text{HAuCl}_4 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$   
+PVA



$\text{NaBH}_4$   
solution



Activated  
carbon



Filtration

Dry @ 80°C  
for 4h



# INFLUENCE OF PVA:Au WEIGHT RATIO



PVA:Au weight ratio

0:1

0.3:1

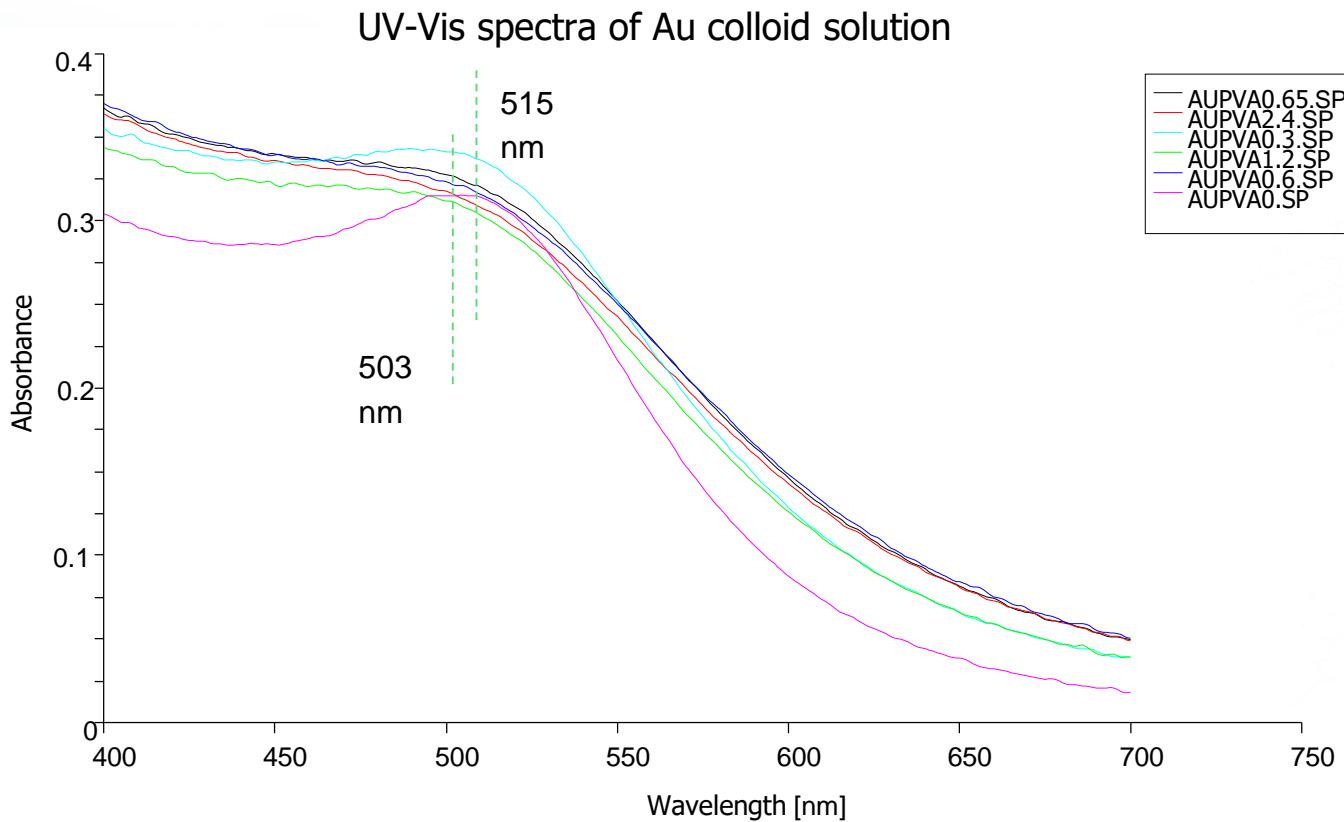
0.6:1

1.2:1

2.4:1

- Study effect of PVA in Au nanoparticles size
- Study the presence of PVA on the surface of the catalyst

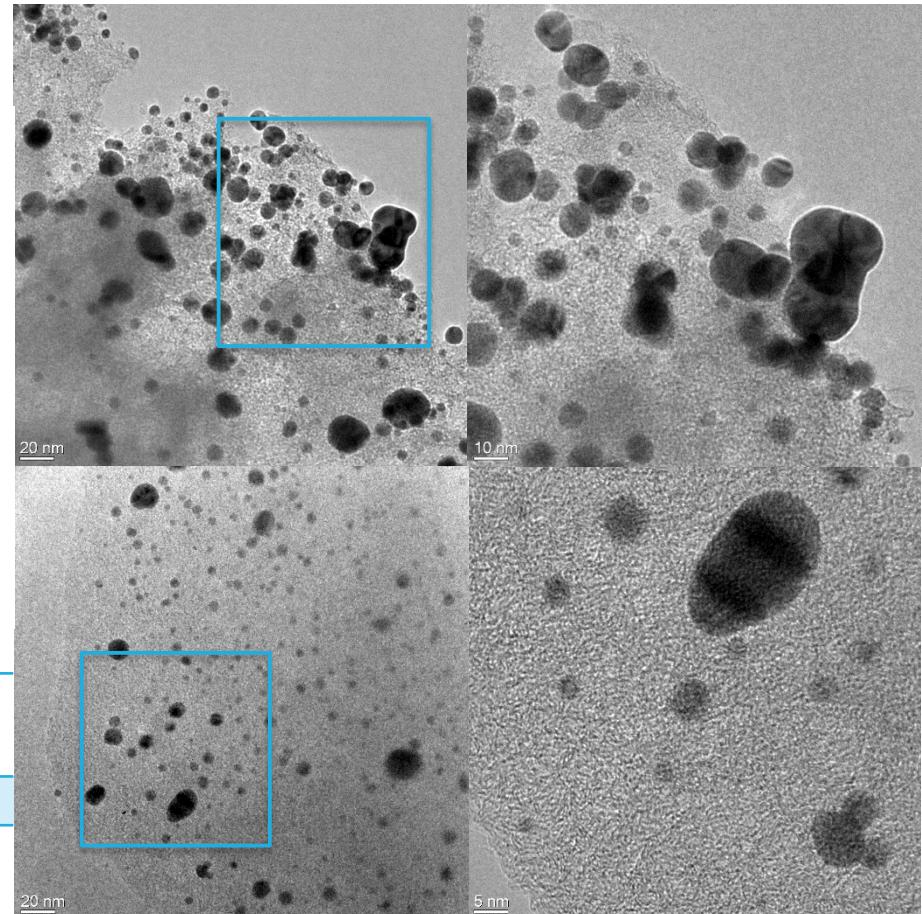
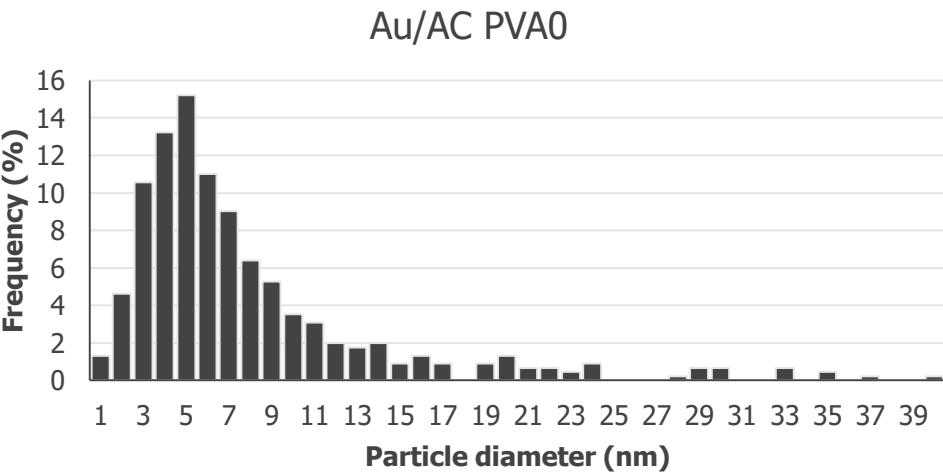
# INFLUENCE OF PVA:Au WEIGHT RATIO



PVA:Au weight ratio
0:1
0.3:1
0.6:1
1.2:1
2.4:1

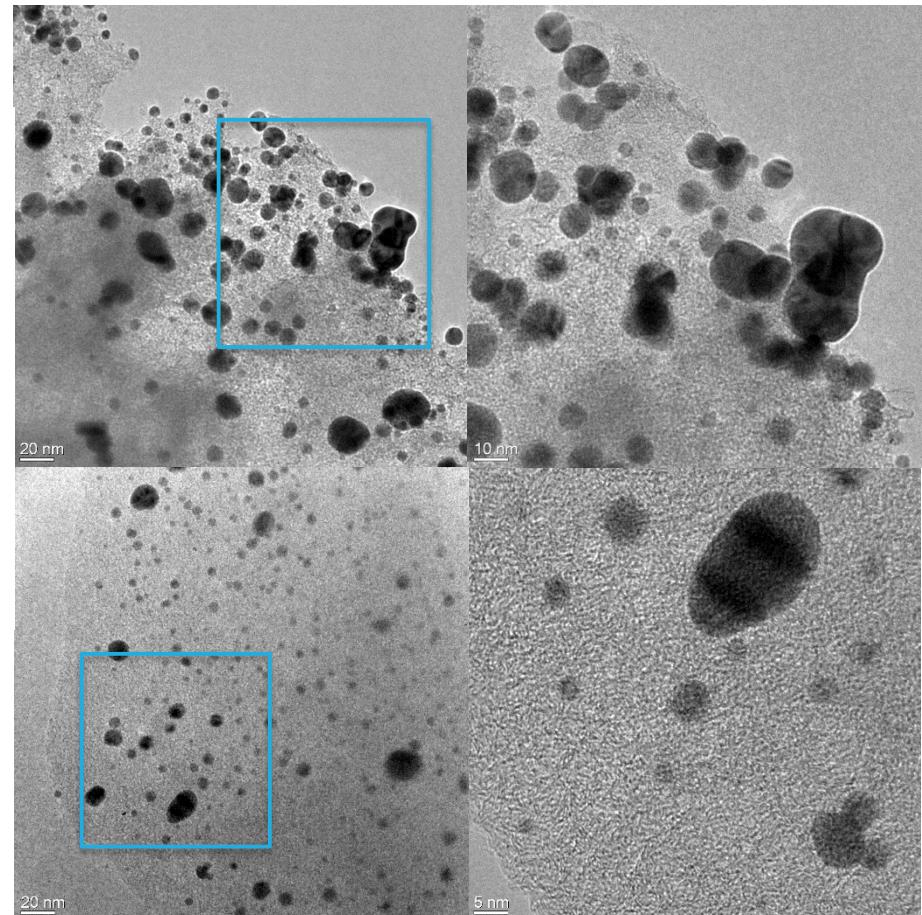
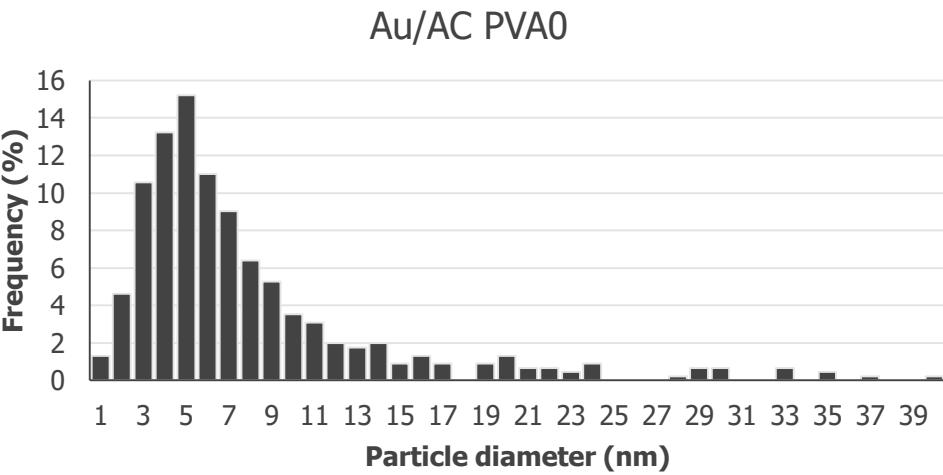
- Study effect of PVA in Au nanoparticles size
- Study the presence of PVA on the surface of the catalyst

## INFLUENCE OF PVA:Au WEIGHT RATIO



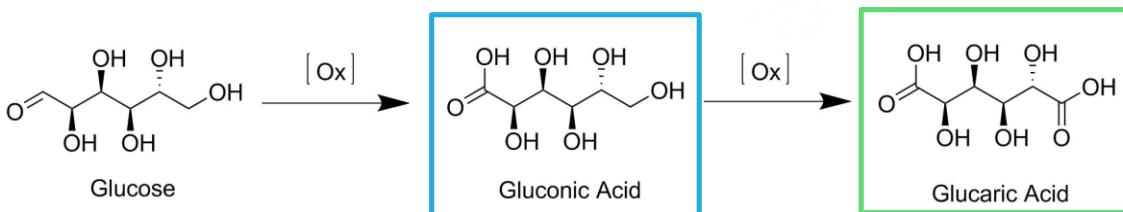
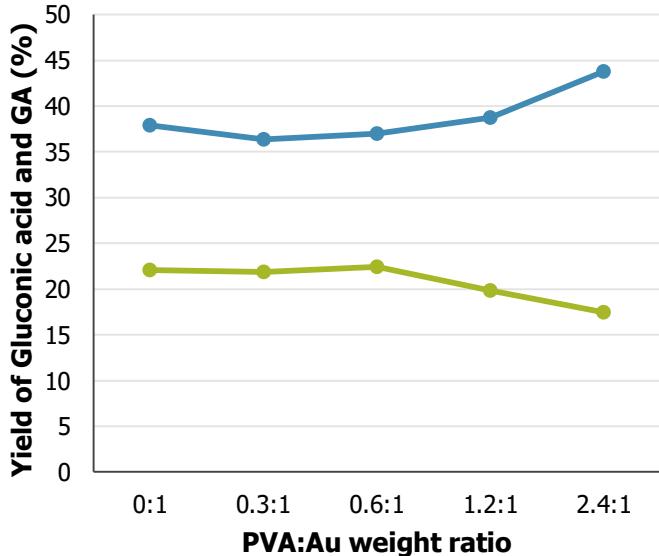
Catalyst	Average particle diameter (nm)	Standard deviation (nm)
Au/AC PVA0	6.6 (particles <20 nm)	3.8

# INFLUENCE OF PVA:Au WEIGHT RATIO

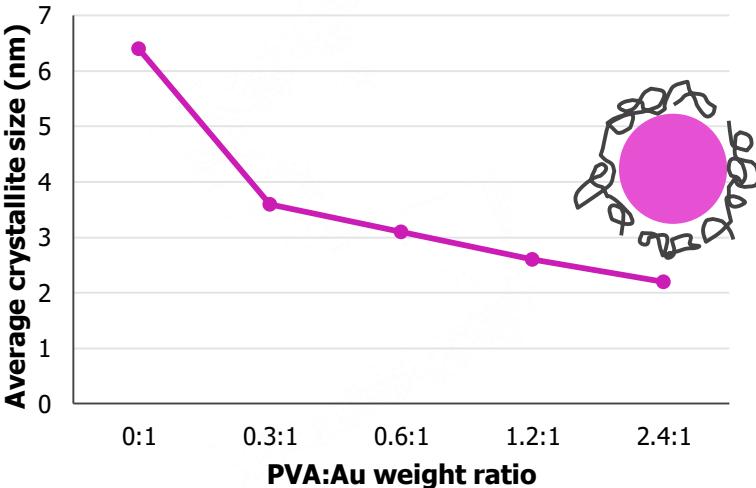


Catalyst	Average crystallite size (nm)
Au/AC PVA0	6.4
Au/AC PVA0.3	3.6
Au/AC PVA0.6	3.1
Au/AC PVA1.2	2.6
Au/AC PVA2.4	2.2

## INFLUENCE OF PVA:Au WEIGHT RATIO



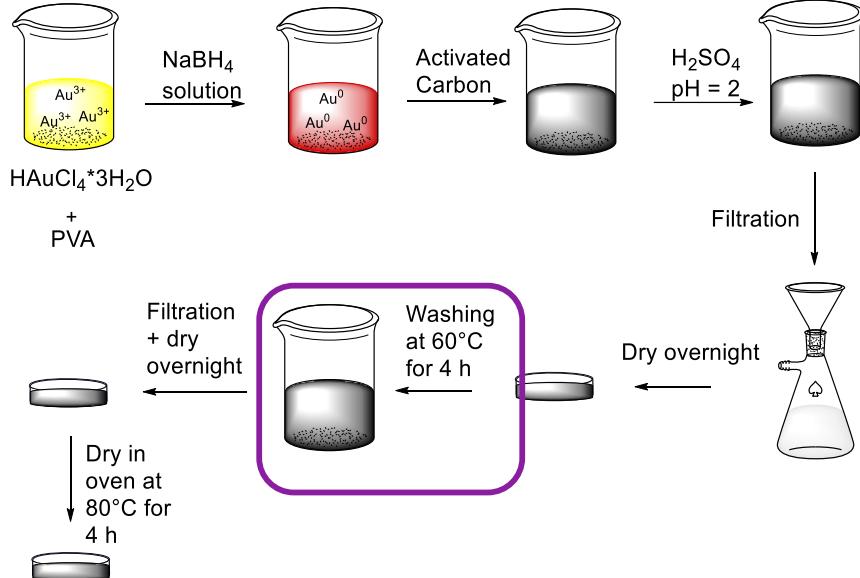
Average crystallite size



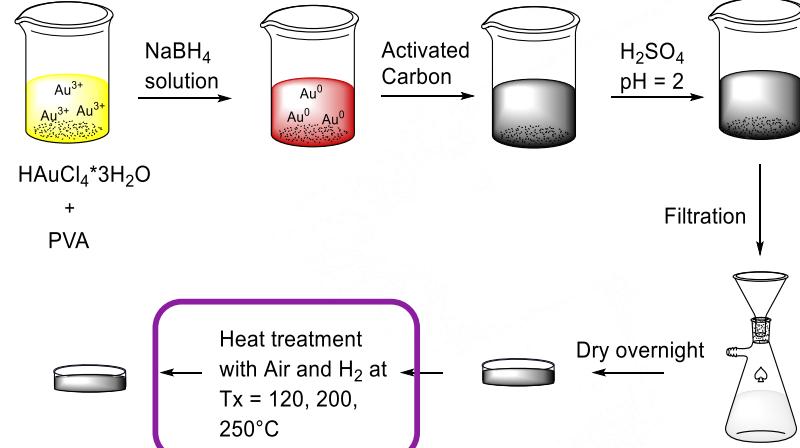
Reaction conditions: 1 h, 60°C, 1000 rpm, 10 bar O<sub>2</sub>,  
Glu:Au:NaOH molar ratio of 1000:1:3000

# PVA REMOVING: WASHING vs HEAT TREATMENT

## Washing

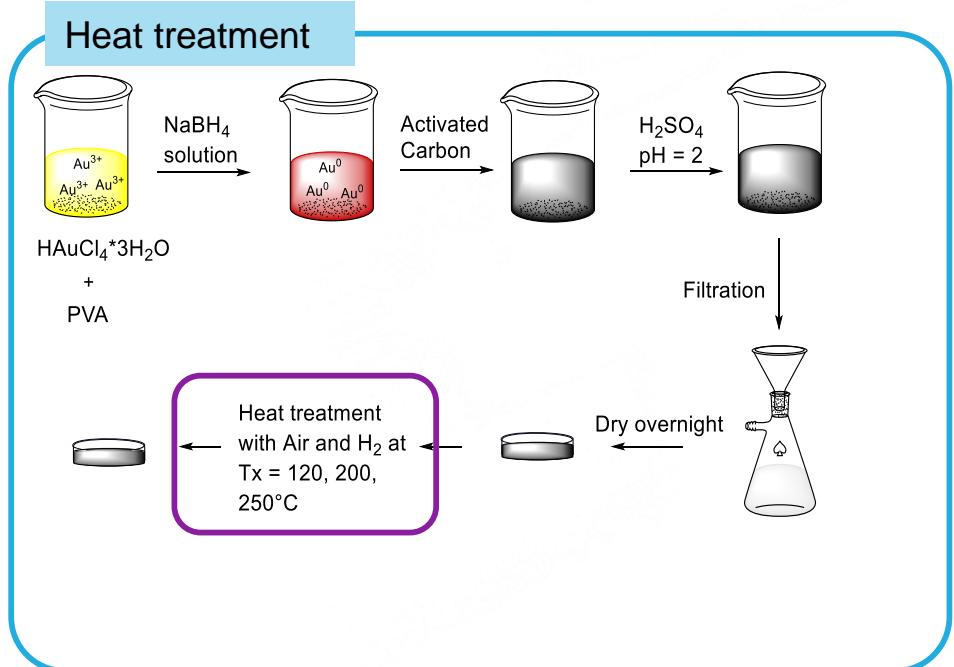


## Heat treatment



# PVA REMOVING: WASHING vs HEAT TREATMENT

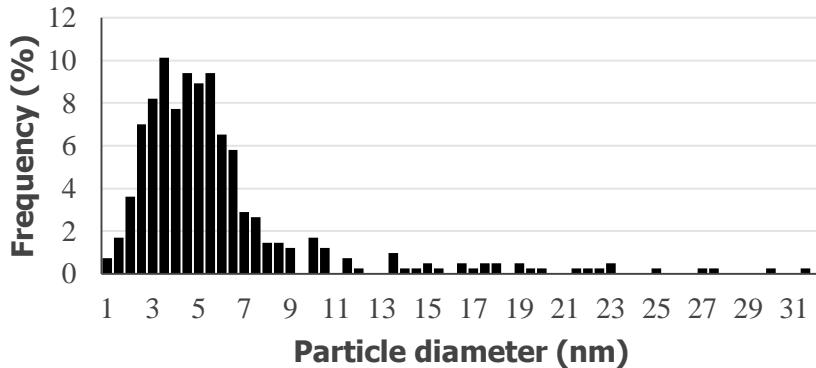
Catalyst	Average crystallite size (nm)
Au/AC HT120°C	2.9
Au/AC HT200°C	4.1
Au/AC HT250°C	7.5



## PVA REMOVING: WASHING vs HEAT TREATMENT

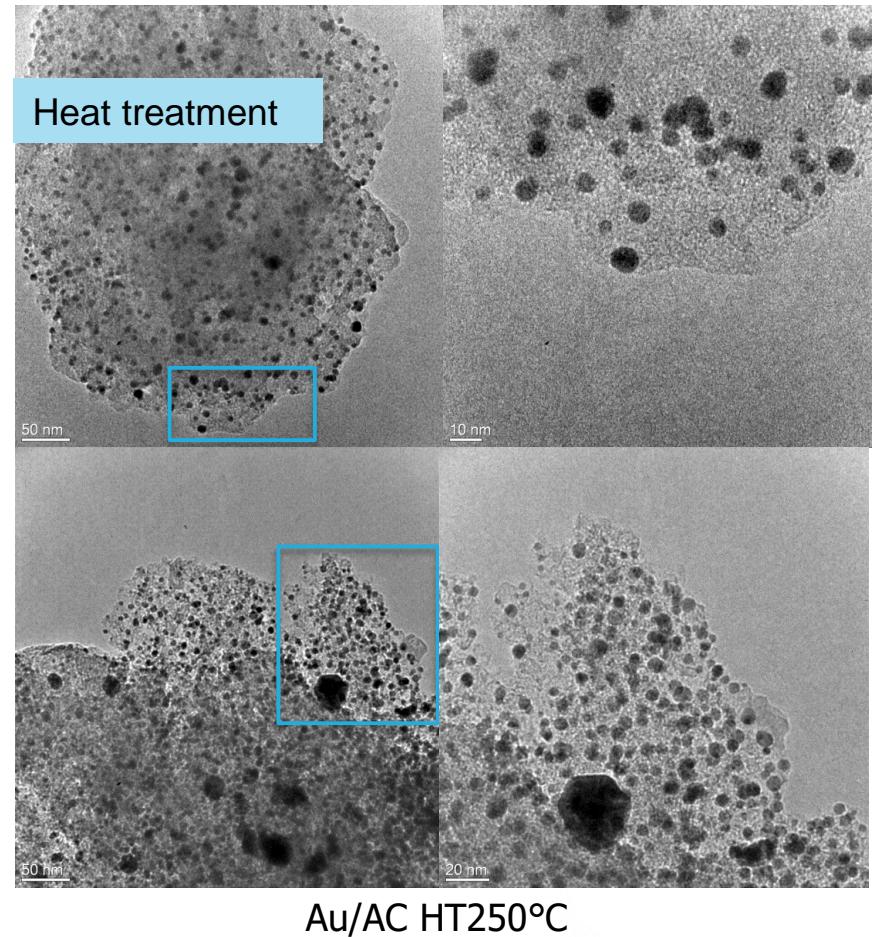
Catalyst	Average crystallite size (nm)
Au/AC HT120°C	2.9
Au/AC HT200°C	4.1
Au/AC HT250°C	7.5

Au/AC HT250°C

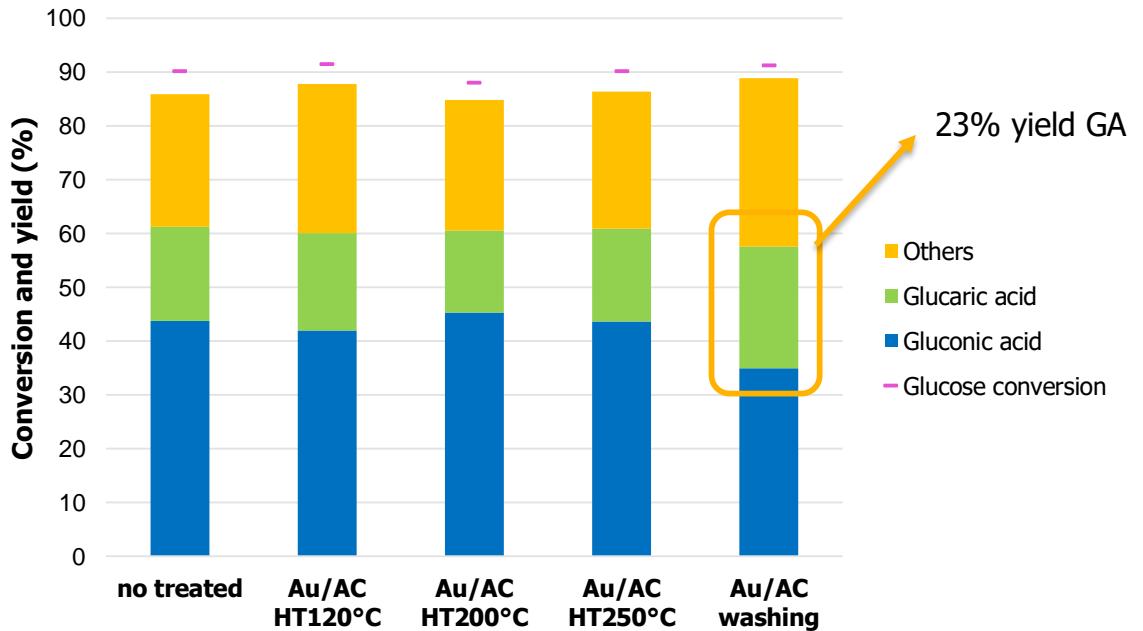
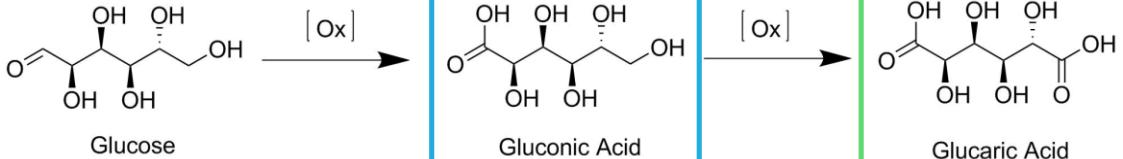


Catalyst	Average particle diameter (nm)	Standard deviation (nm)
Au/AC HT250°C	5.0 (particles < 15 nm)	2.4

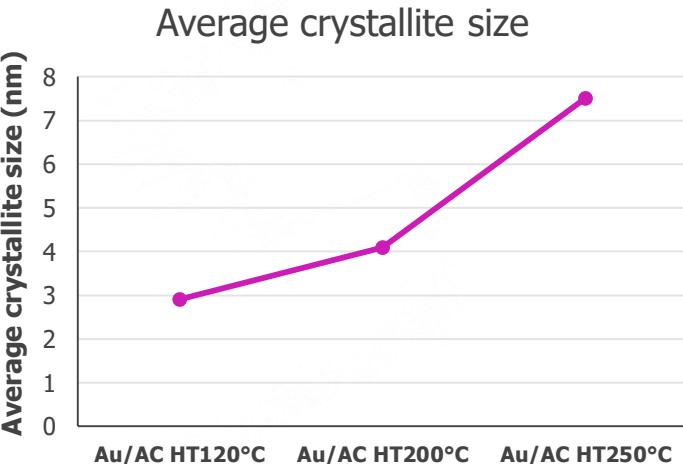
TEM images



# PVA REMOVING: WASHING vs HEAT TREATMENT

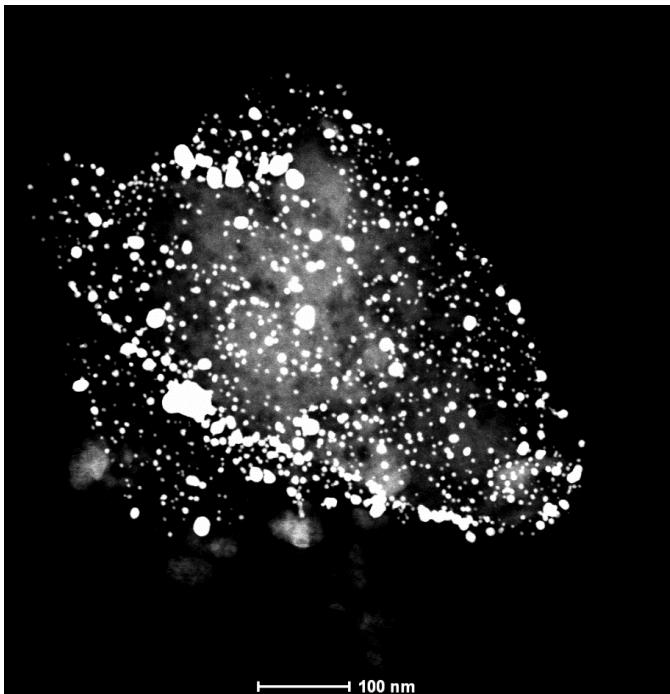


Reaction conditions: 1 h, 60°C, 1000 rpm, 10 bar O<sub>2</sub>,  
Glu:Au:NaOH molar ratio of 1000:1:3000

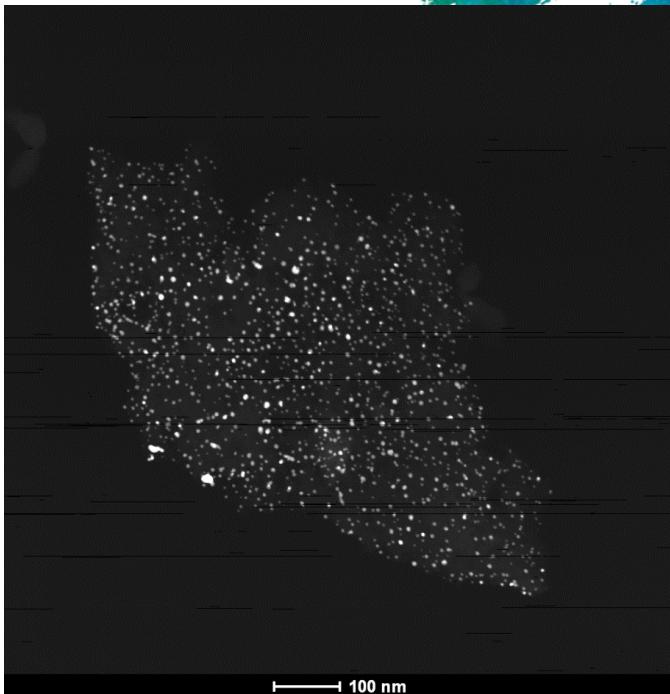


## EFFECT ON THE DISPERSION

STEM-HAADF images



Au/AC PVA0  
Without PVA



Au/AC HT250°C  
With PVA

## CONCLUSION

Study of reaction: kinetic regime

stirring rate  $\geq$ 1000 rpm, Au:Glu molar ratio 1:1000, for 1 h of reaction (**24% yield GA**)

Higher PVA concentration in the preparation of Au NPs results in smaller size

Au/AC PVA0, Au/AC PVA0.3 and Au/AC PVA0.6 resulted in the highest formation of GA  
**(22% yield GA)**

Method of removal of stabilizing agent:

Washing with water at 60°C (**23% yield GA**)





Thank you  
for your kind  
attention