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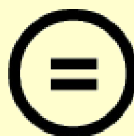
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**EFFECTIVE CONTROL OF  
PHARMACEUTICALS IN WATER USING  
OXIDATION TECHNOLOGIES**

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2013

**EFFECTIVE CONTROL OF  
PHARMACEUTICALS IN WATER USING  
OXIDATION TECHNOLOGIES**

Lee Hye-Jin

Environmental Engineering Program  
Graduate school of UNIST

# **Effective Control of Pharmaceuticals in Water Using Oxidation Technologies**

A thesis  
submitted to the Graduate School of UNIST  
in partial fulfillment of the  
requirements for the degree of  
Master of Science

Lee Hye-Jin

2. 20. 2013

Approved by



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Major Advisor

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# Effective Control of Pharmaceuticals in Water Using Oxidation Technologies

Lee Hye-Jin

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## ABSTRACT

In recent years, there has been growing concern about the appearance of pharmaceuticals in surface water as their uses increase. Even though the toxicological effect of low concentrations of pharmaceuticals in drinking water is not yet fully understood, these compounds should be minimized to reduce the risk of unpredictable long term effects based on the precautionary principles. Therefore, ozonation and copper catalyzed Fenton and photo-Fenton are discussed to be potential methods for effective control of pharmaceuticals in this study. In order to establish a practical and mechanistic database for pharmaceutical compounds using these methods, the following issues were investigated in this study.

Firstly, the oxidative degradation of pharmaceutical compounds is demonstrated during ozonation of different water samples in Ulsan. Diclofenac, carbamazepine, bezafibrate, and ibuprofen were selected as surrogate pharmaceutical compounds, and ozonation experiments were performed using four different water samples; Surface water samples (Hoeya Dam and Sayeon Dam) are the source of drinking water production in Ulsan. In addition, raw water and water after filtration were collected from the treatment process of Hoeya drinking water plant. Diclofenac and carbamazepine which have high reactivity with molecular ozone showed higher removal efficiencies than bezafibrate and ibuprofen during ozonation. The addition of *tert*-butanol, a hydroxyl radical scavenger, increased the removal efficiencies of diclofenac and carbamazepine by increasing the ozone exposure. However, the oxidation of bezafibrate and ibuprofen was inhibited by the presence of *tert*-butanol due to the suppression of the exposure to hydroxyl radical. The elimination of the selected pharmaceuticals could be successfully predicted by the kinetic model base on the  $R_{ct}$  concept. Depending on the experimental condition,  $R_{ct}$  values were determined to be  $(1.54\sim 3.32)\times 10^{-7}$  and  $(1.19\sim 3.04)\times 10^{-7}$  for the Sayeon Dam and the Hoeya Dam waters, respectively. Relatively high  $R_{ct}$  values indicate that the conversion of  $O_3$  into  $\cdot OH$  is more pronounced for surface waters in Ulsan compared to other water sources. Furthermore, model prediction of 19 pharmaceutical compounds including diclofenac, carbamazepine, bezafibrate, and ibuprofen was conducted in investigated water samples with various concentrations of ozone dose.

Secondly, the degradation of diclofenac and carbamazepine by the copper-catalyzed Fenton and photo-Fenton systems was investigated with respect to several reaction parameters such as pH, scavenger and catalyst concentration. The removal rates of targeted pharmaceutical compounds by the  $Cu(II)/H_2O_2$  system were found to be gradually increased with rising pH from 3 to 8, but decreased at more alkaline

pH. The possible mechanism was discussed based on Fenton chemistry, and two factors are recommended to be attributable for. First, the reduction reaction of Cu(II) is accelerated by the H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and Cu(II) complexation, which favors the reaction of HO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> with Cu(II). Second, oxidants produced by the Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system are likely shifted from <sup>•</sup>OH to Cu(III) as pH increases up to the alkaline region, and the oxidants responsible for the degradation of diclofenac and carbamazepine was not Cu(III) but <sup>•</sup>OH. On the other hand, the rate of pharmaceutical compounds removal by the Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system were monitored under UV irradiation, and a significant enhancement was observed in the degradation rates at a range of pH (3-10). It is believed that the decomposition of pharmaceuticals is leveled up because of the Cu(II) reduction by HO<sub>2</sub><sup>•</sup> which is produced from H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> photolysis. The evidences was shown in the comparison of Cu(II) and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> absorbance at λ<sub>max</sub> = 365 nm and measurement of Cu(I) conversion rates.





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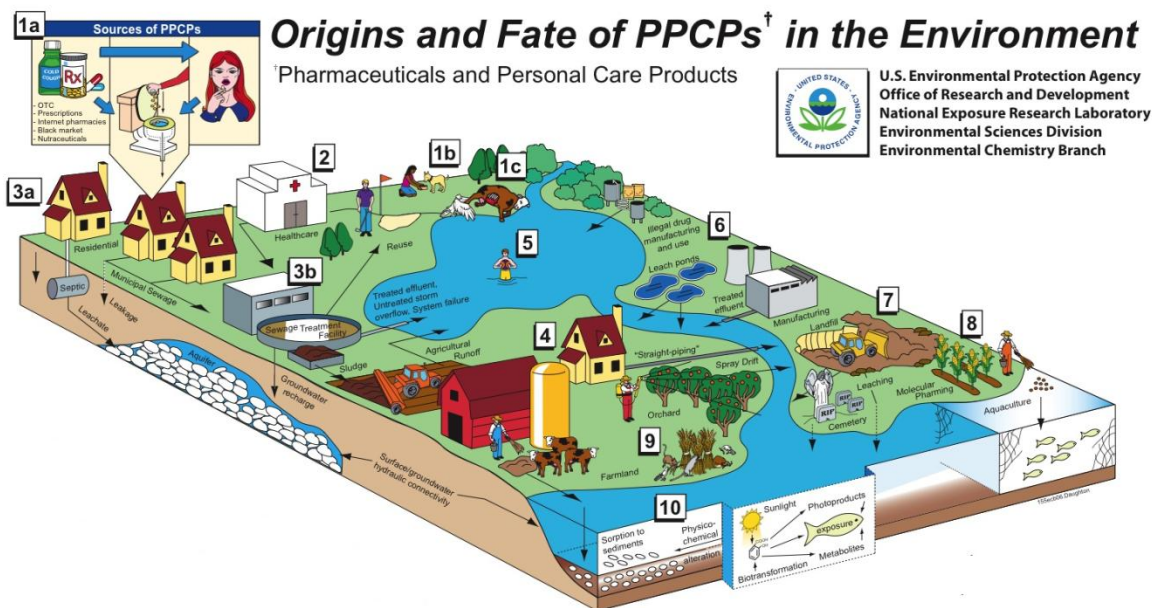
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# Chapter 1. Introduction

## I. Research background

Micropollutants, such as endocrine disrupting compounds (or EDCs), pharmaceuticals, and personal care products have been a worldwide issue for the past several years because of potential adverse health effects via the consumption of drinking water. However, conventional drinking water treatment (coagulation/flocculation, filtration, chlorination) shows insufficient removal of emerging contaminants due to persistence in the aquatic environment by their chemical structure. Therefore, a number of studies for effective control of emerging contaminants including pharmaceuticals compounds have been reported.



**Figure 1. Origins and Fate of PPCPs in the Environment**

(<http://www.epa.gov/ppcp/>)

Especially, researches concerning pharmaceutical compounds are newly highlighted since various pharmaceuticals are commonly used with development of modern pharmaceutical industry. Several studies have reported that pharmaceuticals in the nanogram per liter range are routinely detected in

surface waters (Santos et al., 2010), many of them mainly released from undegradable substance from the waste treatment process (Ternes, 1998). Even though the toxicological effect of low concentrations of pharmaceuticals in drinking water is not yet fully understood yet, these compounds should be minimized to reduce the risk of unpredictable long term effects based on the precautionary principles. It has been proven that conventional processes of drinking water treatment are fairly ineffective to completely remove several pharmaceuticals (Ternes et al., 2002). In contrast, a large number of studies have demonstrated that chemical oxidation using ozone, UV radiation, Fe(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and other methods is an effective treatment process for organic micropollutants including pharmaceuticals (Benitez et al., 2011; Lee and von Gunten, 2010).

### **1.1. Oxidative degradation of pharmaceutical compounds during ozonation**

A large number of studies have demonstrated validation of the ozone process to oxidative decomposition of pharmaceutical compounds among the advanced oxidation technologies (Huber et al., 2003; Deborde et al., 2005; Broseus et al., 2009). Previous studies reported that pharmaceutical compounds with high reactivity to ozone, such as carbamazepine, ethinylestradiol, diclofenac, sulfamethoxazole, and roxithromycin, were completely removed with more than 1 ppm of ozone injection. Cases such as ibuprofen and iopromide, which have less reactivity to ozone, also shows acceptable removal efficiency by employing the O<sub>3</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> process. Effective decomposition of pharmaceuticals by ozonation has been reported in waste water treatment plants as well as drinking water treatment plants (Huber et al., 2005; Dodd et al., 2006; Lee and von Gunten, 2010). An extensive database related to the decomposition of pharmaceuticals was mainly investigated in developed countries including Switzerland and the United States.

Domestically, a number of studies regarding the ozone process have been reported (Rhim, 2003; Kang et al., 2005), and several researches were also conducted to provide removal efficiency of the pharmaceuticals during ozonation (Son et al., 2009; Kim, 2010). However, there is insufficient information about the characteristic behaviors of ozone decomposition affecting the pharmaceuticals removal efficiency. In particular, no study concerning quantitative prediction based on removal kinetics of pharmaceutical and oxidants (ozone and hydroxyl radical) utilized in the ozonation process has been published.

Decomposition of organic contaminants during the ozone process occurs by the direct reaction with ozone and indirect reaction with hydroxyl radical. Therefore, a prediction for removal efficiency of



targeted organic contaminants can be made as far as concentration change and rate constants of ozone with organic contaminants and hydroxyl radical are known (Elovitz and von Gunten, 1999). Removal efficiency of the ozone process is influenced by several factors such as concentration and characteristics of natural organic matter, reactivity of targeted organic contaminants with ozone and so on (Elovitz et al., 2000; von Gunten, 2003).

This study investigated the removal efficiency of pharmaceuticals in river waters of Ulsan during the ozonation. In addition, the removal efficiency of pharmaceuticals was predicted based on the  $R_{ct}$  value involving the ratio of the OH radical exposure to the ozone exposure and rate constants.

## **1.2. Oxidation of pharmaceutical compounds by copper-catalyzed Fenton and photo-Fenton systems**

The advanced oxidation processes that employ hydrogen peroxide ( $H_2O_2$ ) and iron have been widely utilized as methods for the oxidation of recalcitrant contaminants in drinking water, industrial wastewater, and soils (Pignatello et al., 2006). In spite of the volume of work published on Fenton processes ( $Fe^{2+}/H_2O_2$ ), there appears to be a lack of information concerning the usage of other transition metals with hydrogen peroxide to treat organic contaminants. Among the transition metals, copper has been discussed as a potentially promising catalyst by demonstrating that copper presumably undergoes a similar reaction with  $H_2O_2$  as iron does.

It is well known that the typical Fenton reaction occurs only at acidic pH which limits its application because of the low solubility of iron as a catalyst. To the contrary, copper as a catalyst enables activity in a wider range of pH due to the better solubility of copper ions than iron ions at neutral pH (Masarwa et al., 1988; Yip et al., 2005). On the other hand, copper has been proved to be an effective catalyst for oxidizing a range of organic compounds, for example p-coumaric acid, phenol, benzoic acid, humic acid and so on, owing to its relatively high solubility at neutral pH, considerable efficiency at low concentration, and little requirement of post processing after treatment (Liao et al., 2001; Mantzavinos et al., 1996; Mantzavinos, 2003; Santos et al., 2001).

However, there are only a few studies related to the usage of copper catalysts to degrade pharmaceutical contaminants (Sires et al., 2006; Sun et al., 2011), and the underlying mechanism is also little known. Kinetics and the reaction pathway in the decomposition of  $H_2O_2$  catalyzed by Cu(II) is available in previous literature (Moffett and Zika, 1987; Luo et al., 1988), but most of the earlier work has

been carried out in a limited pH range or discussed apart from decomposition of organic compounds. This research attempts to examine the degradation efficiency of pharmaceuticals by a copper-catalyzed Fenton-like reaction and photo-Fenton-like reaction under various conditions of copper concentration, solution pH, and UV irradiation. A series of experiments performed to elucidate the mechanism through which the pharmaceuticals are oxidized in the Fenton-like systems, and the results are also discussed with those of the respective Fenton system.

## II. Objectives of the study

In the study presented here after, two specific objectives were sought:

1. To assess the validity of model prediction for oxidation of pharmaceuticals and to discuss characteristic behaviors of ozone decomposition in the river waters of Ulsan:

For this purpose, the  $R_{ct}$  value is determined to predict oxidation kinetics of pharmaceuticals during the ozonation of river waters in Ulsan, and the  $R_{ct}$  concept was adapted to make a prediction. A characteristic behaviors of ozone decomposition is discussed by hiring a radical scavenger and comparison with previous studies.

2. To examine the degradation efficiency of pharmaceuticals by copper-catalyzed Fenton-like reaction and photo-Fenton-like reaction and to elucidate the mechanism through which the pharmaceuticals are oxidized in the Fenton-like systems:

For this purpose, carbamazepine and diclofenac were selected as surrogate pharmaceutical compounds, and the effects of copper dose and pH of the solution were studied in the absence and presence of UV irradiation. The mechanism involved in degradation of selected pharmaceuticals is experimentally identified.

## Chapter 2. Materials and Methods

### I. Characteristic behaviors of ozone decomposition and oxidation of pharmaceuticals during ozonation of water samples in Ulsan

#### 1.1. Reagents

Carbamazepine, Diclofenac, Mefenamic acid and Lincomycin were obtained from Sigma-Aldrich with purity higher than 99%. Stock solutions of these pharmaceuticals were prepared with Milli-Q purified water (Millipore). All of the chemicals used for solutions (buffer, eluents, etc.) were reagent grade and used without further purification. Ozone stock solutions (~30 ppm) were produced by sparging O<sub>3</sub>-containing oxygen through Milli-Q water that was cooled in an ice bath, and daily prepared.

#### 1.2. Natural water samples

To simulate real treatment conditions, experiments were performed using natural waters that differed in dissolved organic carbon content (DOC) and alkalinity. Surface water samples (Hoeya Dam and Sayeon Dam) are the source of drinking water production in Ulsan. In addition, raw water and water after filtration was collected from the treatment process of Hoeya drinking water plant (HY WTP). Major water quality parameters of the tested water are indicated in Table 1. All waters were filtered (0.45- $\mu$ m Nylon membrane) upon arrival and stored at 4 °C until use.

**Table 1. Water quality parameters of the tested water**

Water type	pH	TOC (mgL <sup>-1</sup> )	Alkalinity (mgL <sup>-1</sup> CaCO <sub>3</sub> )
Hoeya Dam	7.2	2.6	18
Sayeon Dam	7.4	3.0	31
Raw water (from HY WTP)	7.6	2.3	40
Water after filtration (from HY WTP)	7.5	2.1	33

### 1.3. Experimental procedure and analytic methods

All the experiments were performed in a batch system using a 100 mL Pyrex flask open to the atmosphere at room temperature ( $22 \pm 2$  °C). Desired concentration of pharmaceuticals was intentionally injected to the natural water samples for degradation experiments. Concentration of ozone stock solution was spectrophotometrically determined by measuring the absorbance at 260 nm ( $3000 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) and diluted to desired concentration. Experiments were conducted with different concentrations of ozone (0.5, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0 ppm). Sampling was done at 20, 40, 60, 120, 180, 240, 300, and 600 sec after initiation of reaction, and sodium sulfite solution was used to remove ozone in the sampled solution. Variation of pH in the reaction solution was minimized by employing 10 mM phosphate buffer.

All pharmaceuticals were determined by high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC, Agilent, 1200 series). Depending on the compounds and experiments, isocratic elutions were used with varying eluent ratios, and 100 $\mu$ L of the sample volumes were injected. Detailed information of analysis conditions for pharmaceuticals by HPLC is given in Table 2 (column: Inertsil ODS-4, 5- $\mu$ m C18), and all the calibration curves reveal a good correlation coefficient ( $R^2 > 0.98$ ) in a range of concentrations (0.05~1  $\mu$ M).

The  $R_{ct}$  concept was suggested by Elovitz & von Gunten to describe characteristic behaviors of ozone decomposition in investigated water, and it is defined as the ratio of the OH radicals exposure to the ozone exposure (Elovitz and von Gunten, 1999). Dissolved ozone was determined with the indigo method (Bader and Hoigne, 1982), concentration of hydroxyl radical was calculated from measuring the decomposition rate of p-chlorobenzoic acid (pCBA). Initial concentration of pCBA was 0.5  $\mu$ M, and analyzed by HPLC.

**Table 2. HPLC analytical conditions for pharmaceutical compounds**

	<b>Carbamazepine</b>	<b>Diclofenac</b>	<b>Bezafibrate</b>	<b>Ibuprofen</b>
Flow rate	0.8 mL/min	1.0 mL/min	1 mL/min	1 mL/min
Eluent	10 mM CH <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	50%	40%	40%
	Acetonitrile	50%	60%	60%
Run time	10 min	10 min	10 min	10 min
Retention Time	4.623 min	5.569 min	3.601 min	6.354 min
Detection $\lambda$	285 nm	277 nm	226 nm	215 nm

## II. Oxidation of Carbamazepine and Diclofenac by Copper-Catalyzed Fenton and Photo-Fenton Systems

### 2.1. Reagents

All chemicals were of reagent grade and used without further purification. All pharmaceuticals and chemicals including carbamazepine (CA), diclofenac (DF), copper sulfate ( $\text{CuSO}_4$ ), hydrogen peroxide ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ ), *tert*-butyl alcohol- (*tert*-BuOH) and ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA) were obtained from Sigma–Aldrich except for acetonitrile from J.T. Baker and 2,9-Dimethyl-1,10-phenanthroline (DMP) from TCI. All the stock and buffer solutions were prepared in 18 M $\Omega$  Milli-Q water from a Millipore system. Stock solutions of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  (10.2 M), carbamazepine (0.1 mM), and diclofenac (1 mM) were prepared prior to experiments.

### 2.2. Experimental apparatus and procedure

All the experiments were performed in a batch system using a 100 mL Pyrex flask open to the atmosphere at room temperature ( $22 \pm 2$  °C). Photochemical experiments were conducted in a dark chamber equipped with 4 W Black Light Blue (BLB) lamps (Philips. Co;  $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 365$  nm), a sampling port, a stirrer, and a cooling fan. The incident photon flow (light intensity) of the setup for the photochemical experiments was measured to be  $1.06 \times 10^{-6}$  (2 Lamp);  $3.42 \times 10^{-6}$  (6 Lamp) Einstein  $\text{L}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$  by ferrioxalate actinometry (Hatchard and Parker, 1956). No pH buffer was used for reactions at pH 3-5, while 1 mM phosphate buffer and 1 mM borate buffer were employed for experiments at the pH range of 6-7 and pH 8-10 respectively. The initial pH of solutions was correspondingly adjusted with 0.1 N NaOH and 0.1 N HCl after adding catalysts and pharmaceuticals, and the pH variation was monitored at the end of the reaction. The reaction was initiated by adding  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  (simultaneously starting the UV irradiation in the case of photochemical experiments); 1 mL samples withdrawn at a predetermined time intervals were immediately quenched by 20  $\mu\text{L}$  of 200mM EDTA which was priorly prepared. The samples were then analyzed by high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC, Agilent 1200) at 285 and 277 nm to detect the level of carbamazepine and diclofenac, respectively. Separation was performed on an Inertsil<sup>®</sup> ODS-4 C18 column (150 mm  $\times$  4.6 mm, 5  $\mu\text{m}$ ), using water with 10 mM formic acid and acetonitrile with varying eluent ratios. All the experiments were carried out at least in duplicate and average values and the standard deviations are presented.

### **2.3. Analytical methods of Cu(I) and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>**

The concentration of Cu(I) was determined by the spectrophotometric method using a S-3100 UV/vis spectrophotometer (Scinco Co.) to measure copper complex with neocuproine as described elsewhere (Eaton et al., 2005) with a slight modification. Hydroxylamine-hydrochloride, a substance that reduces cupric ions [Cu(II)] into cuprous [Cu(I)] ions, was not applied and excess DMP concentration (0.5 mM) was employed to prevent rapid oxidation of Cu(I) to Cu(II) in the presence of oxygen. Meanwhile, the titanium sulfate method was applied to measure the level of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> absorbance at 405 nm by UV/vis spectrophotometer (Eisenberg, 1943).

## Chapter 3. Results and Discussion

### I. Characteristic behaviors of ozone decomposition and oxidation of pharmaceuticals during ozonation of water samples in Ulsan

#### 1.1. Determination of $R_{ct}$ values in water samples of Ulsan

The  $R_{ct}$  value was calculated to verify characteristic behaviors of ozone decomposition under the various concentrations of ozone prior to assessment for removal efficiency of selected pharmaceutical compounds during the ozonation. The  $R_{ct}$  value (Elovitz and von Gunten, 1999) is defined as the ratio of the OH radicals exposure to the ozone exposure in Eq. (3.1).

$$R_{ct} = \int [\cdot\text{OH}]_t dt / \int [\text{O}_3]_t dt \quad (3.1)$$

The ozone exposure ( $\int [\text{O}_3]_t dt$ ) is calculated by measuring the concentration of dissolved ozone as a function of time, and the OH radicals exposure ( $\int [\cdot\text{OH}]_t dt$ ) is calculated from the decomposition results of pCBA by employing pCBA as a probe compound (Eq. 3.2, 3.3).  $k_{OH, pCBA}$  in Eq. (3.2, 3.3) is  $5 \times 10^9 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$  (Buxton et al., 1988) as a rate constants of pCBA with hydroxyl radical in a second-order reaction.

$$\ln([\text{pCBA}]/[\text{pCBA}]_0) = -k_{OH, pCBA} \int [\cdot\text{OH}]_t dt \quad (3.2)$$

$$\int [\cdot\text{OH}]_t dt = -\ln([\text{pCBA}]/[\text{pCBA}]_0) / k_{OH, pCBA} \quad (3.3)$$

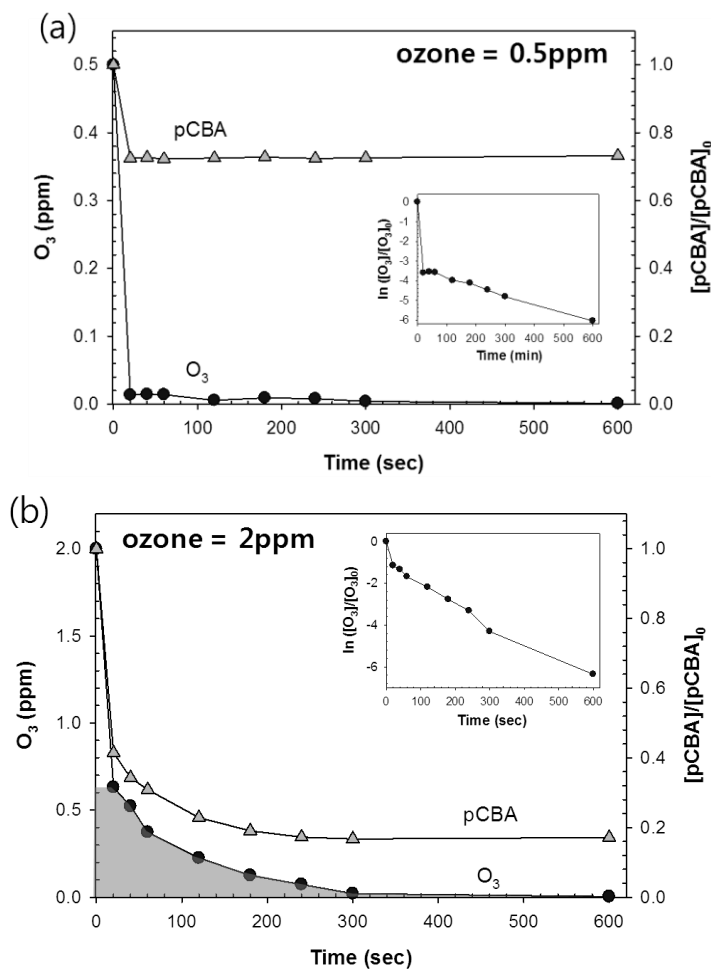
The  $R_{ct}$  value is described as a (Eq. 3.4) from (Eq. 3.1) and (Eq. 3.3). Finally, the  $R_{ct}$  value is determined by the linear slope, which is obtained from plotting of  $\ln([\text{pCBA}]/[\text{pCBA}]_0)$  and  $\int [\text{O}_3]_t dt$ , divided by  $-k_{OH, pCBA}$ .

$$R_{ct} = -\ln([\text{pCBA}]/[\text{pCBA}]_0) / (k_{OH, pCBA} \int [\text{O}_3]_t dt) \quad (3.4)$$

Plotting of  $\ln([\text{pCBA}]/[\text{pCBA}]_0)$  and  $\int [\text{O}_3]_t dt$  in various conditions of ozone concentrations is illustrated in Figure 3 and Figure 4, using Hoeya Dam and Sayeon Dam waters samples respectively, and

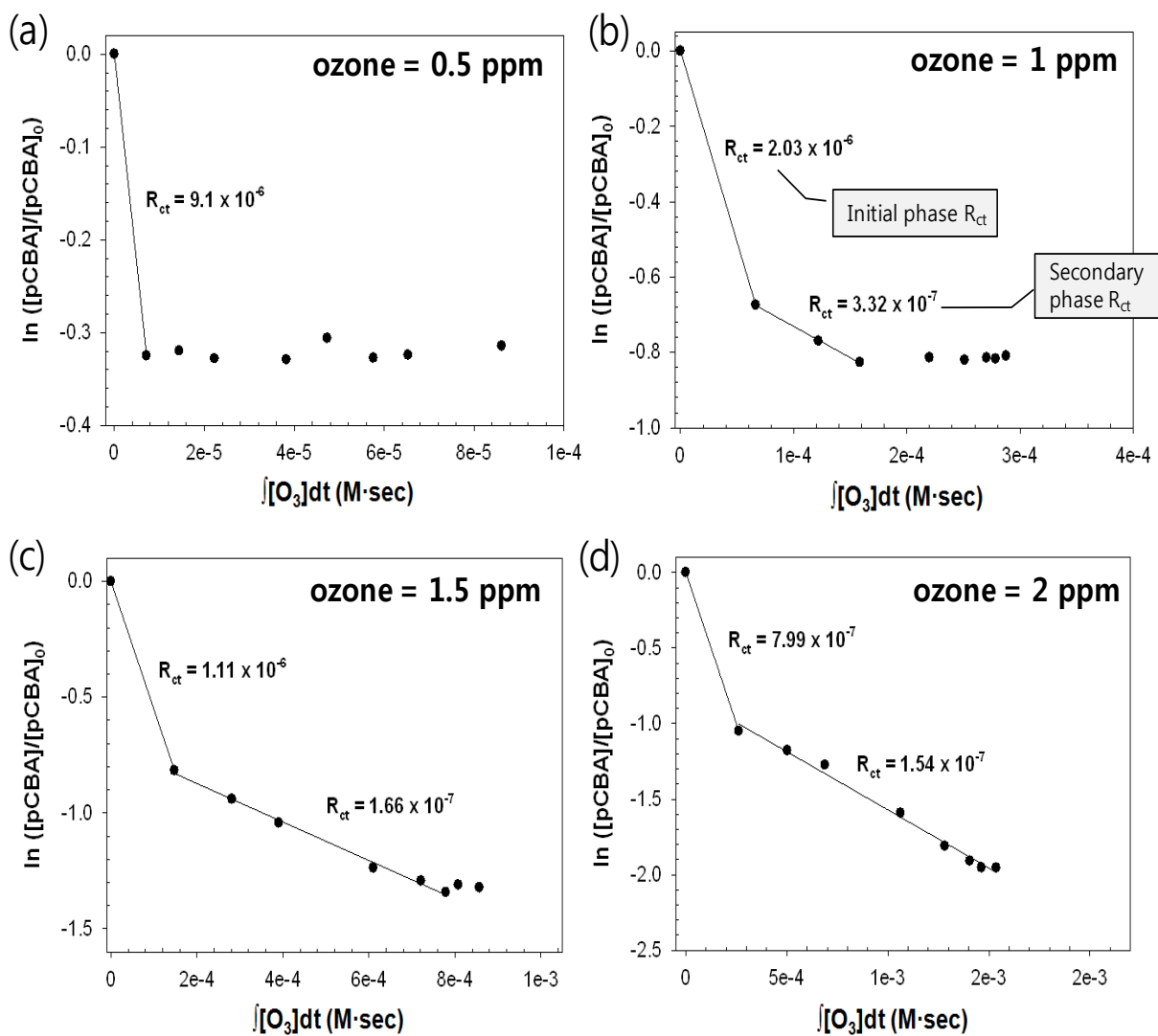


also described employing raw water and water after filtration (Figure 5, Figure 6). Decomposition of ozone and pCBA can be classified as two steps. In the first step, ozone is rapidly consumed to produce hydroxyl radicals by the Instantaneous Ozone Demand (IOD) of natural organic matter in water. Therefore, it leads to instantaneous decomposition of ozone and pCBA. Gradual decomposition of ozone and pCBA occurs after the first step consuming IOD, thus two different value of  $R_{ct}$  can be determined at each steps as shown in Figure 3-6. For the case in which the initial concentration of ozone is too low, the  $R_{ct}$  value in the second step could not be decided since the injected ozone was all consumed by the IOD (Figure 2). For instance, complete ozone depletion at the initial step reveals in 0.5 ppm of ozone injection for Hoeya Dam (Figure 2, (a)) and 0.5, 1 ppm of ozone injection for Sayeon Dam (Figure 3, (a, b)). Prominent ozone depletion was observed in Sayeon Dam according to the relatively higher concentration of DOM, because IOD increases as natural organic matters in water increases in general (Cho et al., 2003).



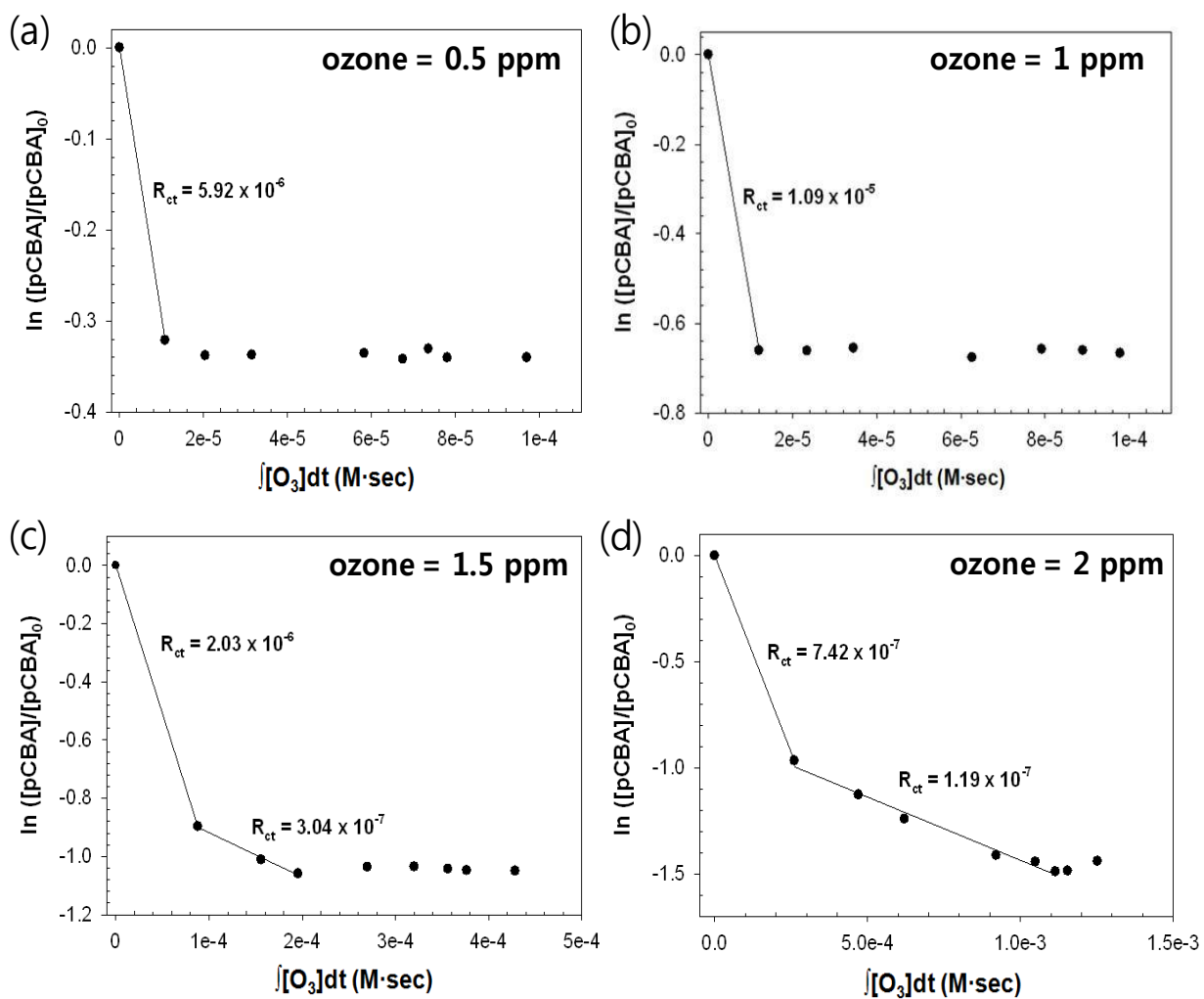
**Figure 2. Depletion of ozone and pCBA as a function of reaction time**

( $[O_3]_0 = 0.5$  ppm(a), 2 ppm(b); pCBA = 0.5  $\mu$ M)



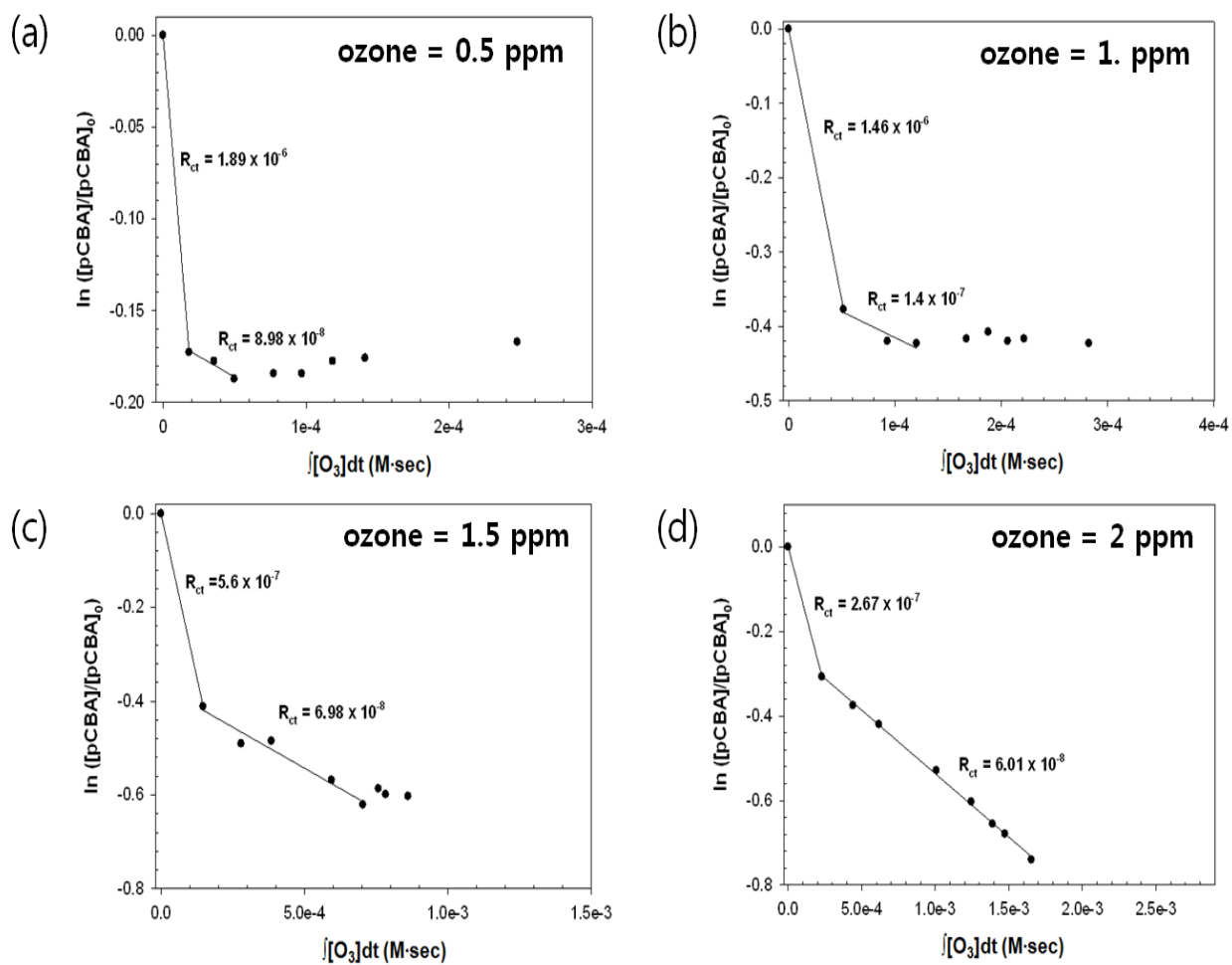
**Figure 3. Plots of  $\ln([pCBA]/[pCBA]_0)$  versus the  $\int [O_3]_t dt$  for calculating  $R_{ct}$  values in the Hoeya Dam water**

( $[O_3]_0 = 0.5$  ppm(a), 1 ppm(b), 1.5 ppm(c), 2 ppm(d); pCBA =  $0.5 \mu M$ )

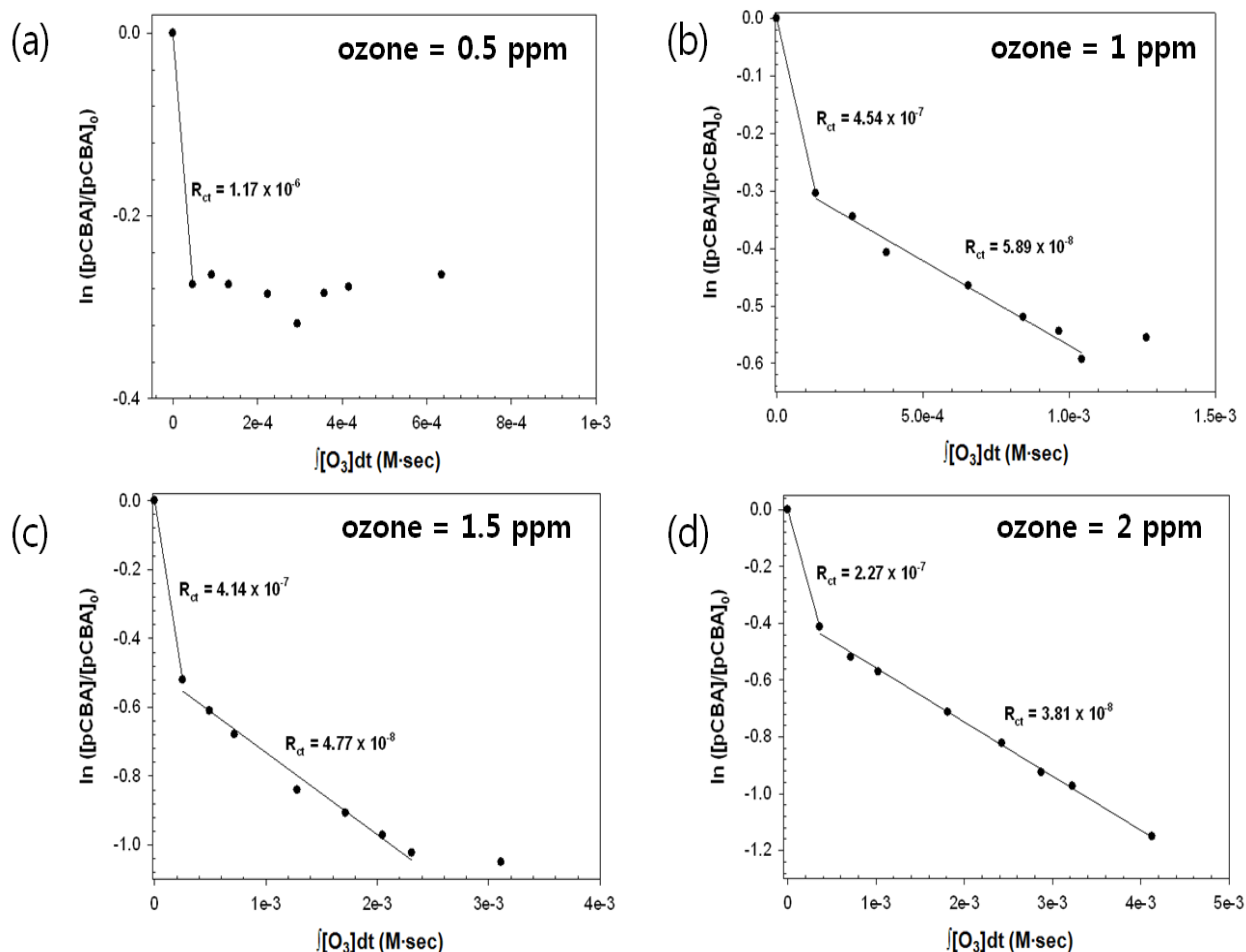


**Figure 4. Plots of  $\ln([pCBA]/[pCBA]_0)$  versus the  $\int [O_3]_t dt$  for calculating  $R_{ct}$  values in the Sayeon Dam water**

( $[O_3]_0 = 0.5$  ppm(a), 1 ppm(b), 1.5 ppm(c), 2 ppm(d); pCBA = 0.5  $\mu$ M)



**Figure 5.** Plots of  $\ln([pCBA]/[pCBA]_0)$  versus the  $\int [O_3]_t dt$  for calculating  $R_{ct}$  values in Raw water ( $[O_3]_0 = 0.5$  ppm(a), 1 ppm(b), 1.5 ppm(c), 2 ppm(d); pCBA = 0.5  $\mu$ M)



**Figure 6. Plots of  $\ln([pCBA]/[pCBA]_0)$  versus the  $[O_3]_t dt$  for calculating  $R_{ct}$  values in Water after filtration**

$([O_3]_0 = 0.5 \text{ ppm(a)}, 1 \text{ ppm(b)}, 1.5 \text{ ppm(c)}, 2 \text{ ppm(d)}; pCBA = 0.5 \mu\text{M})$

Determined  $R_{ct}$  values at the second step show a similar figure;  $(1.54\sim 3.32)\times 10^{-7}$  for Hoeya Dam and  $(1.19\sim 3.04)\times 10^{-7}$  for Sayeon Dam. Comparison was made between the second step  $R_{ct}$  values obtained from surface waters of Ulsan in the present study and reported values from different water samples (Table 3).  $R_{ct}$  values in surface waters of Ulsan were calculated as  $((1.2\sim 1.5)\times 10^{-7})$  at 2 ppm of injected ozone; it is approximately two times higher than  $(4.6\times 10^{-8})$  in Han river of Seoul under the given conditions. Furthermore, the  $R_{ct}$  values in this study are about 10 times higher than the determined  $R_{ct}$  values  $((1.8\sim 1.9)\times 10^{-8})$  in the other water samples. A high  $R_{ct}$  value indicates that the generation reaction of hydroxyl radical reaction is favored by deposition of ozone. Conventionally, addition of  $H_2O_2$  ( $O_3/H_2O_2$ ) is applied to achieve an increase of hydroxyl radical production, but determined  $R_{ct}$  values in the surface

waters of Ulsan shows significantly high values without the addition of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (O<sub>3</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) which was comparable to the value in the O<sub>3</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> obtained from Lake Zurich water, Switzerland (Table 3).

**Table 3. Comparison of R<sub>ct</sub> values determined during ozonation of natural waters**

No.	Conditions	R <sub>ct</sub>	Reference
1	Surface waters of Ulsan, Korea	ozone, [O <sub>3</sub> ] <sub>0</sub> = 2 ppm	(1.2~1.5)×10 <sup>-7</sup> This study
2	Han River of Seoul, Korea	ozone, [O <sub>3</sub> ] <sub>0</sub> = 1.56 ppm	4.6×10 <sup>-8</sup> Cho et al., 2003
3	North Saskatchewan River water, Canada	ozone, [O <sub>3</sub> ] <sub>0</sub> = 5 ppm	1.8×10 <sup>-8</sup> Chelme-Ayala et al., 11
4	Lake Zurich water, Switzerland	ozone, [O <sub>3</sub> ] <sub>0</sub> = 2 ppm	1.9×10 <sup>-8</sup> Lee et al., 2007
5	Lake Zurich water, Switzerland	O <sub>3</sub> /H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> , [O <sub>3</sub> ] <sub>0</sub> = 2 ppm	7.8×10 <sup>-7</sup> Lee et al., 2007

## 1.2. Degradation of pharmaceutical compounds during ozonation of water samples in Ulsan

Elovitz and von Gunten (Elovitz and von Gunten, 1999) developed the R<sub>ct</sub> concept to predict the oxidation of a micropollutant. The R<sub>ct</sub> concept is an experimental approach to calibrate ozonation processes and ozone-based AOPs with respect to ozone and OH radical exposure, because the oxidation of a micropollutant can occur due to either ozone or OH radicals. This calibration is done by determining the ratio of the OH radicals exposure to the ozone exposure in investigated water. After an initial phase, the R<sub>ct</sub> value remains constant for the rest of the ozonation process and therefore, also represents the ratio of OH radicals concentration to ozone concentration. Consequentially the R<sub>ct</sub> concept allows the prediction of the time-dependent transformation of a compound based on rate constants and oxidant behavior. As shown in (Eq. 3.5-3.7), decomposition of particular pharmaceuticals (P) during the ozonation can be predicted by utilizing determined R<sub>ct</sub> values in each water samples under the different concentrations of ozone.

Selected pharmaceuticals (P) decomposed by reaction with ozone and hydroxyl radical, thus concentration change can be described as (Eq. 3.5). Eq. 3.6 is obtained by the integration of (Eq. 3.5), and here we apply the R<sub>ct</sub> concept to get (Eq. 3.7) that decomposition of P is defined as ozone exposure. Eventually, decomposition of P can be predicted by measuring the concentration change of ozone as a

function of time.  $k_{O_3}$  and  $k_{OH}$  are rate constants of P with ozone and hydroxyl radical in a second-order reaction respectively, and literature values of selected pharmaceuticals in this study are listed in Table 4.

$$-d[P]/dt = k_{O_3}[P][O_3] + k_{OH}[P][\cdot OH] \quad (3.5)$$

$$\ln([P]/[P]_0) = - (k_{O_3} \int [O_3]dt + k_{OH} \int [\cdot OH]dt) \quad (3.6)$$

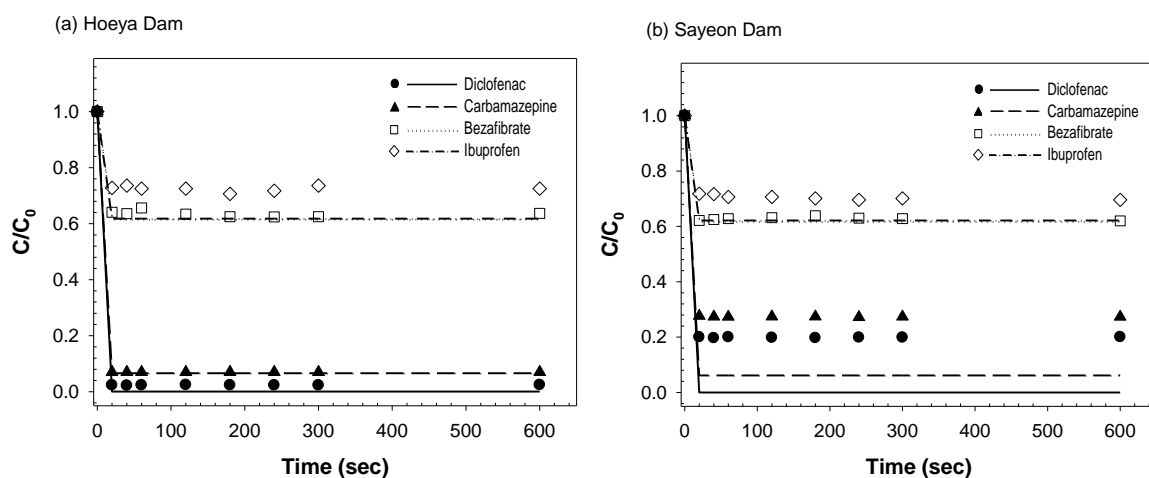
$$\ln([P]/[P]_0) = - (k_{O_3} + R_{ct} k_{OH}) \int [O_3]dt \quad (3.7)$$

**Table 4. Second-order rate constants for the reactions of selected pharmaceuticals with molecular ozone and hydroxyl radical (Huber et al., 2003)**

Compound	$k_{O_3}$ ( $M^{-1} s^{-1}$ )	$k_{OH}$ ( $M^{-1} s^{-1}$ )
Ibuprofen	9.6	$7.4 \times 10^9$
Bezafibrate	$5.9 \times 10^2$	$7.4 \times 10^9$
Carbamazepine	$3 \times 10^5$	$8.8 \times 10^9$
Diclofenac	$10^6$	$7.5 \times 10^9$

Decomposition experiment of pharmaceuticals (Diclofenac, Carbamazepine, Bezafibrate, Ibuprofen) was performed under the conditions of 0.5 ppm, initial injected ozone concentration (Figure 7 and Figure 8). Removal predictions of selected pharmaceuticals are illustrated in solid lines, and measured values are represented as symbols. Comparison between prediction and measured data was made to assess the validity of the prediction model based on the  $R_{ct}$  concept. Diclofenac and carbamazepine, which have relatively higher rate constants with ozone, mainly oxidize through direct reaction with the ozone, whereas removal of bezafibrate and ibuprofen due to the relatively slower rate constants with ozone largely depends on reaction with OH radicals. Therefore, diclofenac and carbamazepine show higher removal efficiency than ibuprofen and benzafibrate in all the investigated water samples (Figure 7 and Figure 8). This tendency is fairly consistent with modeling results using Eq. 3.7. Particularly modeling results for Hoeya Dam (Figure 7, (a)) shows well matching with measured results, whereas modeling results for Sayeon Dam (Figure 7, (b)) reveal differences from measured results in some parts. We suppose that this deviation came from low concentration of residential ozone due to the rapid ozone depletion in Sayeon Dam. When it is considered along with the detection limit (0.01 ppm) of the indigo method which is used for measuring the concentration of residential ozone, a low concentration of

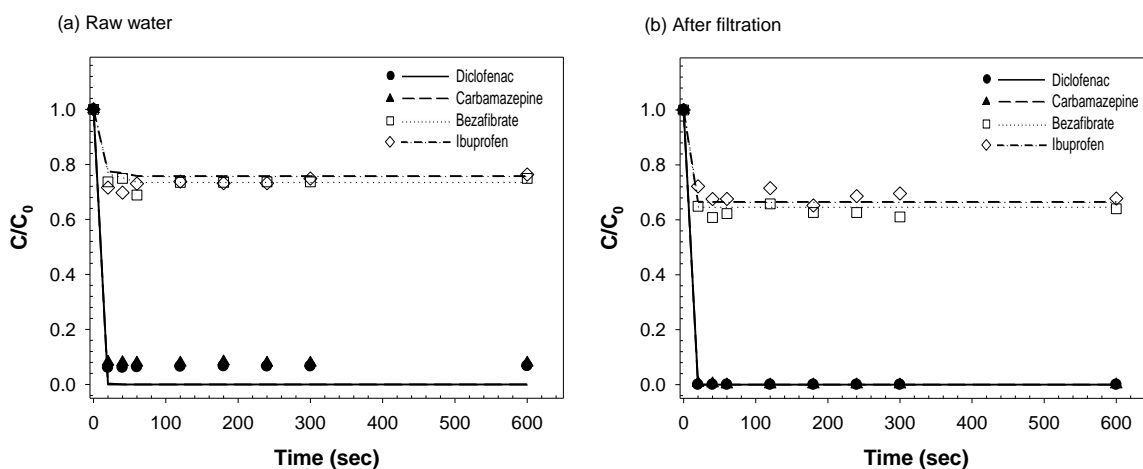
residential ozone generates deviation in measurement of the ozone exposure ( $\int [O_3] dt$ ) to apply (Eq. 3.7). On the other hand, the  $R_{ct}$  concept was successfully applied to the prediction of the oxidation of pharmaceuticals for the cases of raw water and water after filtration, exhibiting only a little difference between measured data and the predictions of the model. Higher removal efficiency of pharmaceutical degradation regarding water after filtration was observed in comparison between raw water and water after filtration (Figure 8), and this result indicates that putting the ozone process after the filtration is preferred for the better removal efficiency of pharmaceutical compounds.



**Figure 7. Oxidation of pharmaceutical compounds in the Hoeya Dam water (a) and the Sayeon Dam water (b)**

(Symbols and solid lines indicate measured data and model predictions, respectively;  $[O_3]_0 = 0.5$  ppm;  $[Carbamazepine, Bezafibrate, Ibuprofen]_0 = 1 \mu M$ ;  $[Diclofenac]_0 = 0.5 \mu M$ )



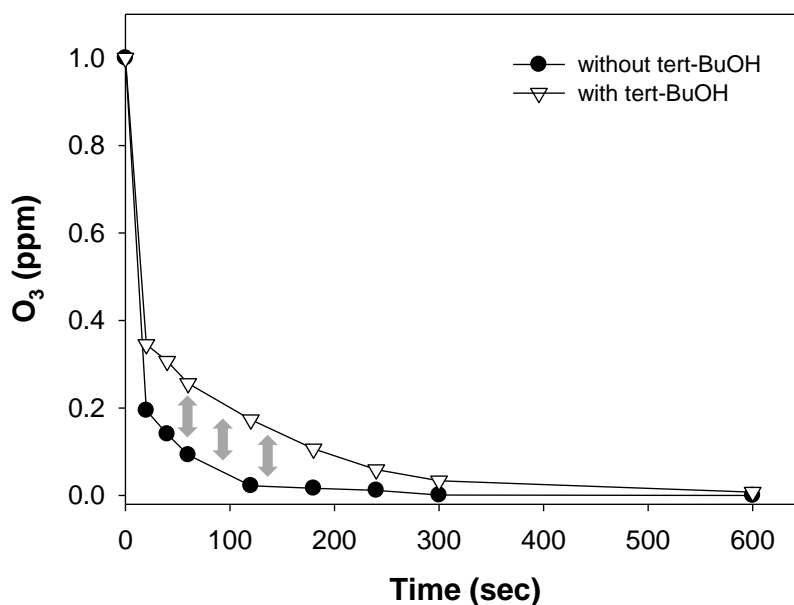


**Figure 8. Oxidation of pharmaceutical compounds in the raw water (a) and the water after filtration (b)**

(Symbols and solid lines indicate measured data and model predictions, respectively;  $[O_3]_0 = 0.5$  ppm;  $[Carbamazepine, Bezafibrate, Ibuprofen]_0 = 1 \mu\text{M}$ ;  $[Diclofenac]_0 = 0.5 \mu\text{M}$ )

### 1.3. Effect of hydroxy radical scavengers

The effect of hydroxyl radicals on the decomposition of ozone and selected pharmaceuticals was investigated by using excess amounts of *tert*-butanol (20 mM), well known as a scavenger of hydroxyl radicals. It is found that some portion of IOD was reduced in the reaction with *tert*-butanol (20 mM) as shown in Figure 9, and this result is contrasted to the previous study using Han river water (Cho et al., 2003). No change of IOD was observed in the Cho et al. (2003) results regardless of the existence of *tert*-butanol. Consequently, this observation regarding a decrease of IOD in the presence of *tert*-butanol could be evidence for the contribution of hydroxyl radical, which is generated during the rapid decomposition of ozone at the initial step, to the acceleration of ozone depletion.

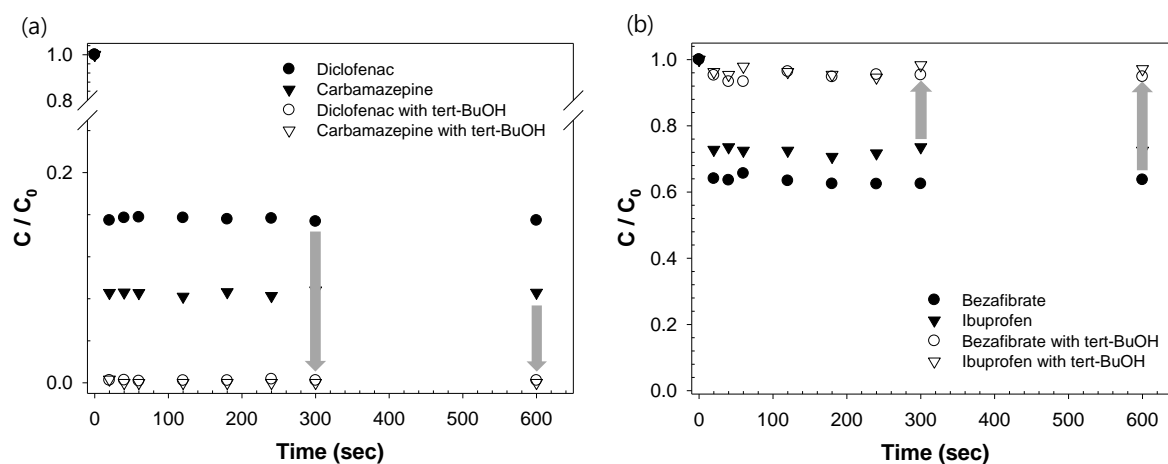


**Figure 9. Effect of *tert*-butanol on decomposition of ozone in the Hoeya Dam water**

( $[O_3]_0 = 1$  ppm; pCBA = 0.5  $\mu$ M; *tert*-BuOH = 20 mM)

On the other hand, Figure 10 shows the effect of *tert*-butanol on the decomposition of pharmaceutical compounds. Removal efficiency of diclofenac and carbamazepine is increased in the presence of *tert*-butanol (Figure 10, (a)), whereas the case of bezafibrate and ibuprofen reveals a decrease of removal efficiency (Figure 10, (b)). For diclofenac and carbamazepine, a rapid direct reaction occurs with ozone in the presence of *tert*-butanol, and removal reaction is accelerated by the increase of ozone exposure as shown in Figure 4. However, the decomposition rate of bezafibrate and ibuprofen, which have less reactivity to ozone, is inhibited by the existence of *tert*-butanol. These results explain that decomposition

of compounds with high reactivity to ozone can be favored when numerous substances that work as a scavenger of hydroxyl radical appear in natural water samples, though it can be a disadvantage for decomposition of the compounds that have less reactivity to ozone.

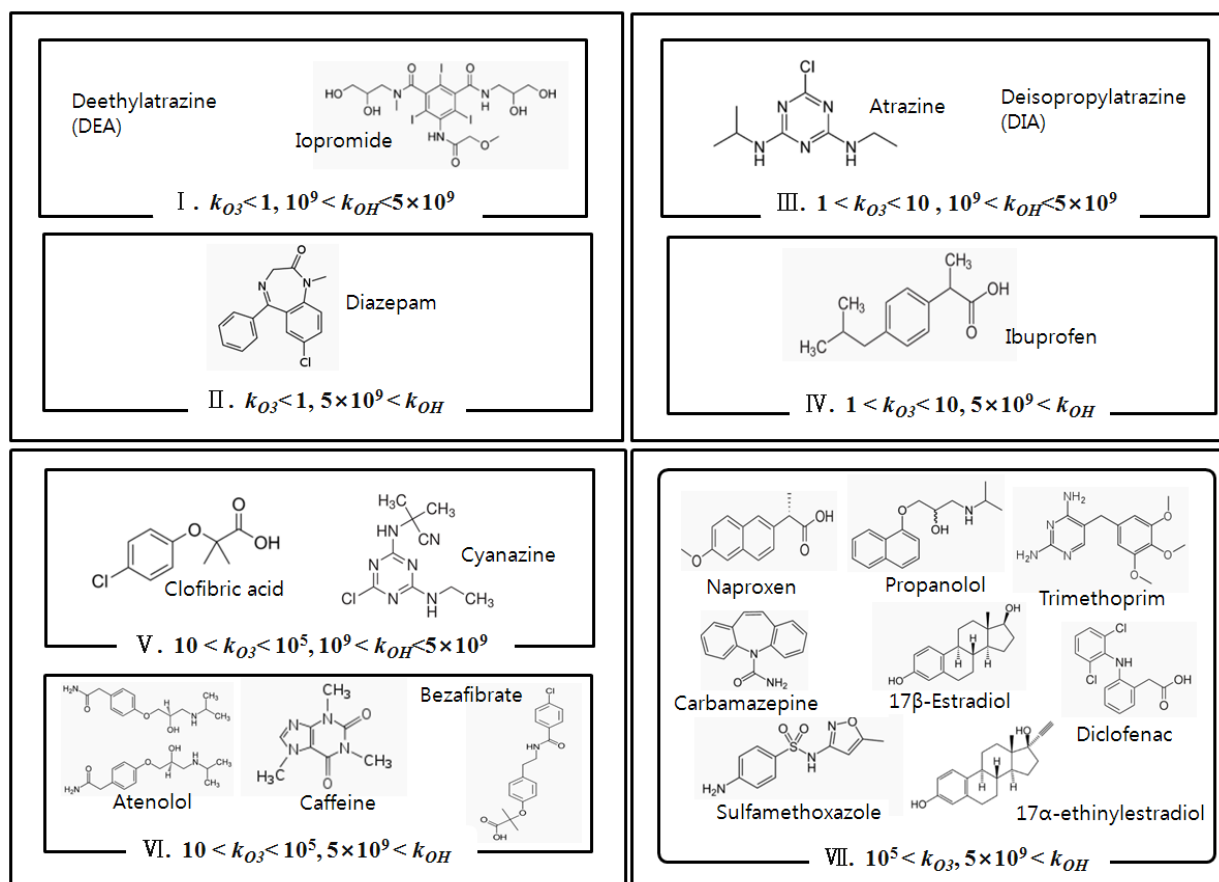


**Figure 10. Effect of *tert*-butanol on oxidation of pharmaceutical compounds in the Hoeya Dam water**

( $[O_3]_0 = 0.5$  ppm;  $[Carbamazepine, Diclofenac]_0 = 1$   $\mu$ M(a);  $[Bezafibrate, Ibuprofen]_0 = 1$   $\mu$ M(b) )

## 1.4. Modeling for pharmaceuticals degradation

Modeling was conducted for 19 listed pharmaceuticals, whose constants are already known (Table 5), including carbamazepine, diclofenac, bezafibrate and ibuprofen (Table 4), and we classify the pharmaceuticals into 7 groups based on differences of rate constants to compare the importance of reaction with the ozone and OH radicals as shown in Figure 11. Since  $k_{O_3}$ ,  $k_{OH}$  is a constant, the prediction for a micropollutant depends on the ozone and OH radicals exposure based on Eq. 3.5.



**Figure 11. Grouped pharmaceuticals according to rate constant with  $O_3$  and OH radicals**

The prediction model of grouped pharmaceuticals removal efficiency was made in 0.5 ppm of ozone dose (Figure 12). Group II appears higher elimination efficiency than group I due to the faster rate constant with hydroxyl radical, when group I and group II are considered. The same results are also revealed in group III and group IV. It is meaningful that surface waters (Hoeya Dam and Cheonsang Dam) show superior removal efficiency compare to the others (raw water and water after filtration) according to

the significantly high  $R_{ct}$  values in surface waters from group I to group VI. For group VII, 100 % removal efficiency is achieved in raw water and water after filtration, whereas some pharmaceutical compounds were not degraded completely by the low residential ozone concentration. Elimination of pharmaceutical compounds is enhanced as injection of ozone dose increases (Figure 13). Specifically, 5-15% and 15-20% of improvement was observed in groups I and III, and groups II and IV respectively. On the other hand, efficiency enhancements are got clearer in groups V and VI by rising injected ozone concentration. Prediction modeling was conducted as a function of ozone dose (0.5 ppm – 2ppm), it is then possible to evaluate the effect of ozone dose on decomposition of each compounds (Figure 14). The modeling result clearly shows that eliminations of group I – VI constantly increases as the ozone dose increases until 1.5 ppm, whereas there are no remarkable differences when the 1.5 ppm of ozone dose changes to 2 ppm. Compounds that have a high rate constant ( $5 \times 10^9 < k_{OH}$ ) for groups II, IV, and VI show more or less similar results meaning their removal efficiency mostly depends on OH radicals. However, an ozone dose of 0.5 ppm was sufficient to achieve elimination of >99% for group VII.

**Table 5. Second-order rate constants for the reaction of ozone with the investigated pharmaceuticals**

Compound	pKa	$k_{O_3}$ ( $M^{-1}s^{-1}$ )	$k_{OH}$ ( $M^{-1}s^{-1}$ )
Deethylatrazine (DEA)	1.4	0.2 (R.Broseus et al., 2009)	$2 \times 10^9$ (R.Broseus et al., 2009)
Diazepam	-	0.75 (Hubber et al., 2003)	$7.2 \times 10^9$ (Hubber et al., 2003)
Iopromide	-	< 0.8 (Hubber et al., 2003)	$3.3 \times 10^9$ (Hubber et al., 2003)
Atrazine	-	6-7.9 (R.Broseus et al., 2009)	$2.4-3.0 \times 10^9$ (R.Broseus et al., 2009)
Deisopropylatrazine (DIA)	1.5	7.5 (R.Broseus et al., 2009)	$2.1 \times 10^9$ (R.Broseus et al., 2009)
Clofibric acid	-	<20 (Huber et al., 2005)	$4.7 \times 10^9$ (Huber et al., 2005)
Cyanazine	1.1	7.34-61.8 (R.Broseus et al., 2009)	$1.9 \times 10^9$ (R.Broseus et al., 2009)
Atenolol	-	110 (Benner et al., 2008)	$7.05 \times 10^9$ (Song et al., 2008)
Caffeine	10.4	650 (R.Broseus et al., 2009)	$5.9-6.9 \times 10^9$ (R.Broseus et al., 2009)
Propanolol	-	$1 \times 10^5$ (Benner et al., 2008)	$1 \times 10^{10}$ (Benner et al., 2008)
Naproxen	4.15	$\sim 2 \times 10^5$ (Huber et al., 2005)	$9.6 \times 10^9$ (Huber et al., 2005)
Trimethoprim	7.12	$2.7 \times 10^5$ (R.Broseus et al., 2009)	$6.9 \times 10^9$ (R.Broseus et al., 2009)
17 $\beta$ -Estradiol	-	$10^6$ (R.Broseus et al., 2009)	$1.41 \times 10^{10}$ (R.Broseus et al., 2009)
Sulfamethoxazole	5.7	$\sim 2.5 \times 10^6$ (Hubber et al., 2003)	$5.5 \times 10^9$ (Hubber et al., 2003)
17 $\alpha$ -ethinylestradiol	10.4	$\sim 7 \times 10^9$ (Hubber et al., 2003)	$9.8 \times 10^9$ (Hubber et al., 2003)

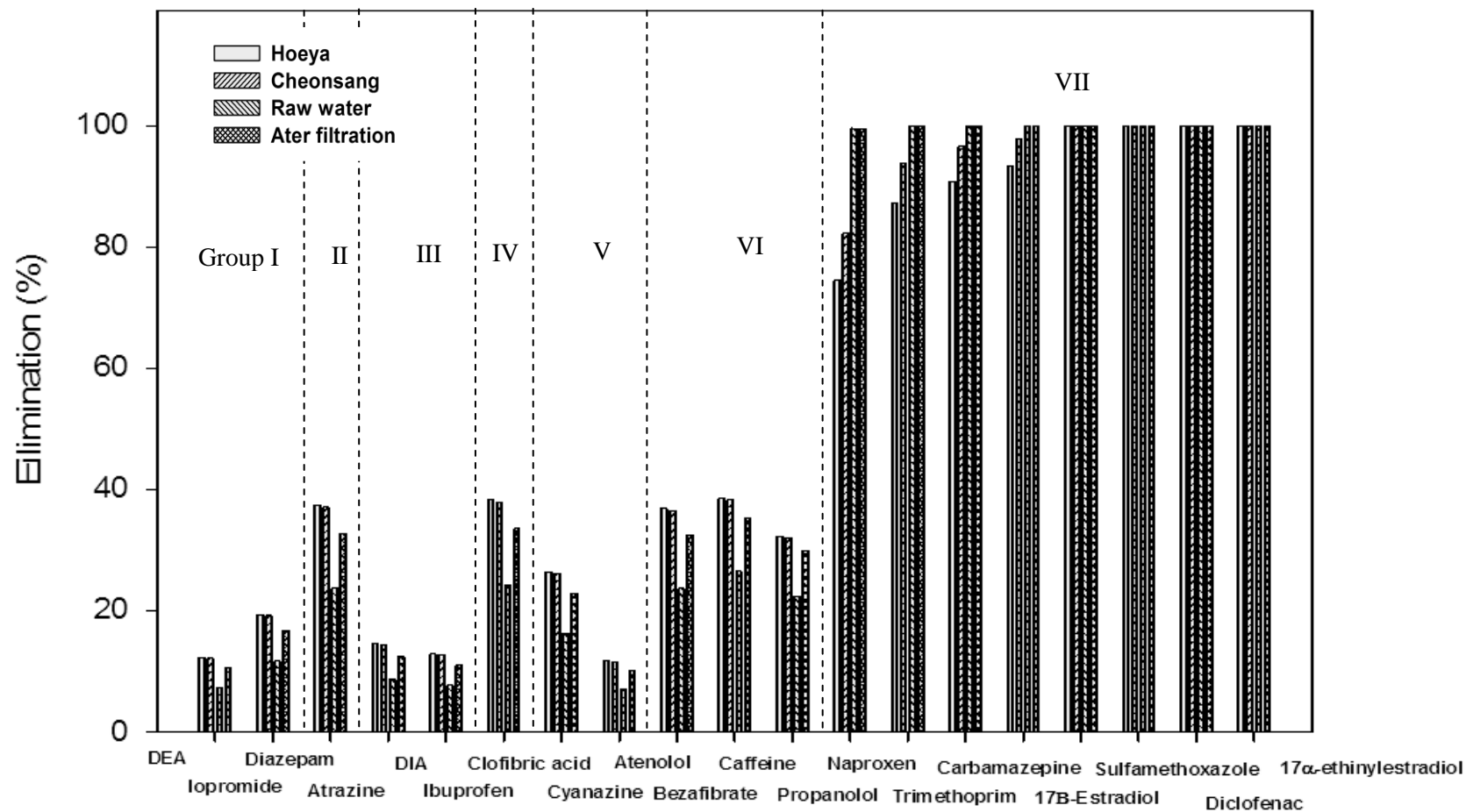


Figure 12. Predicted oxidation of grouped pharmaceuticals in 0.5 ppm of ozone dose

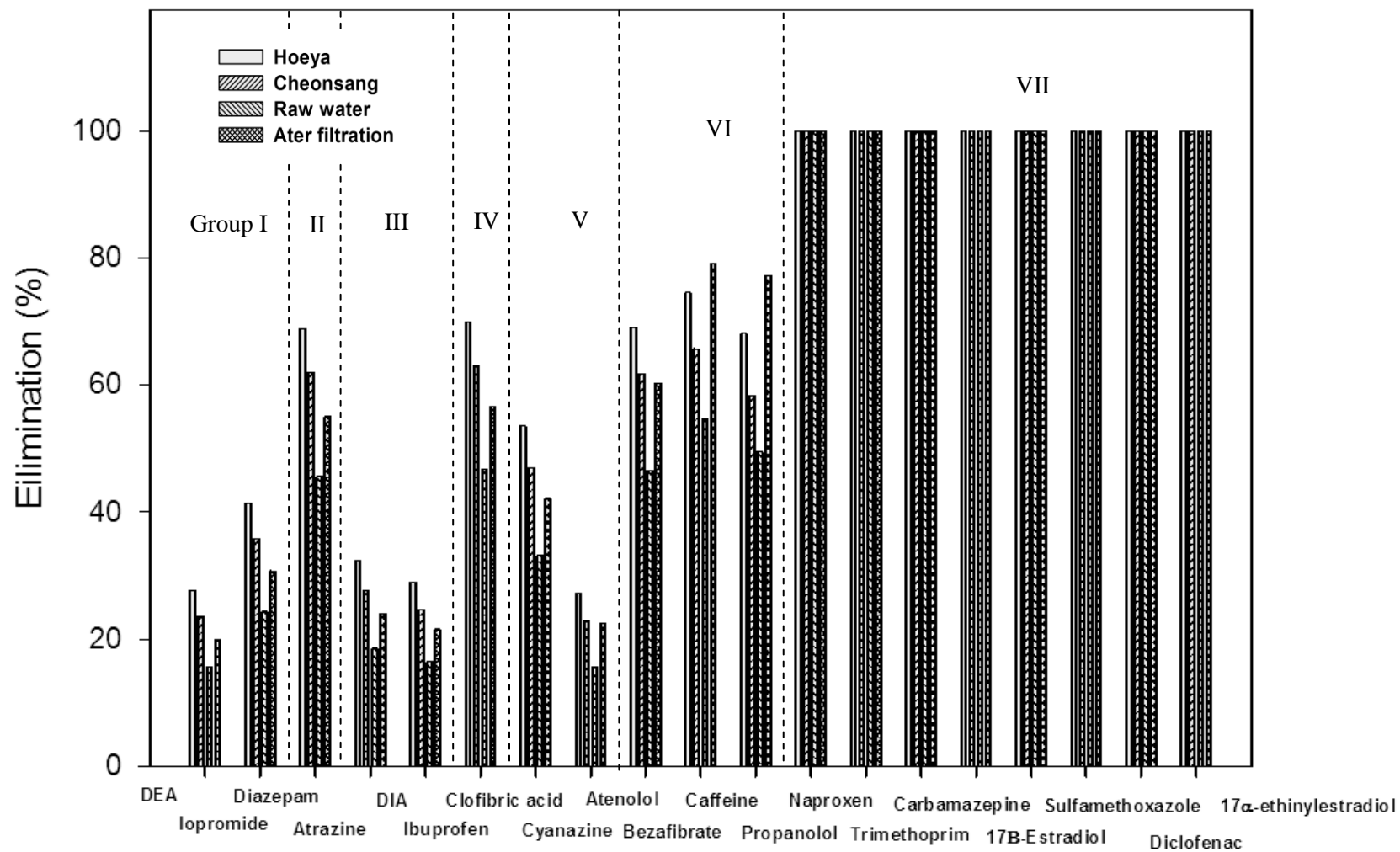


Figure 13. Predicted oxidation of grouped pharmaceuticals in 1 ppm of ozone dose



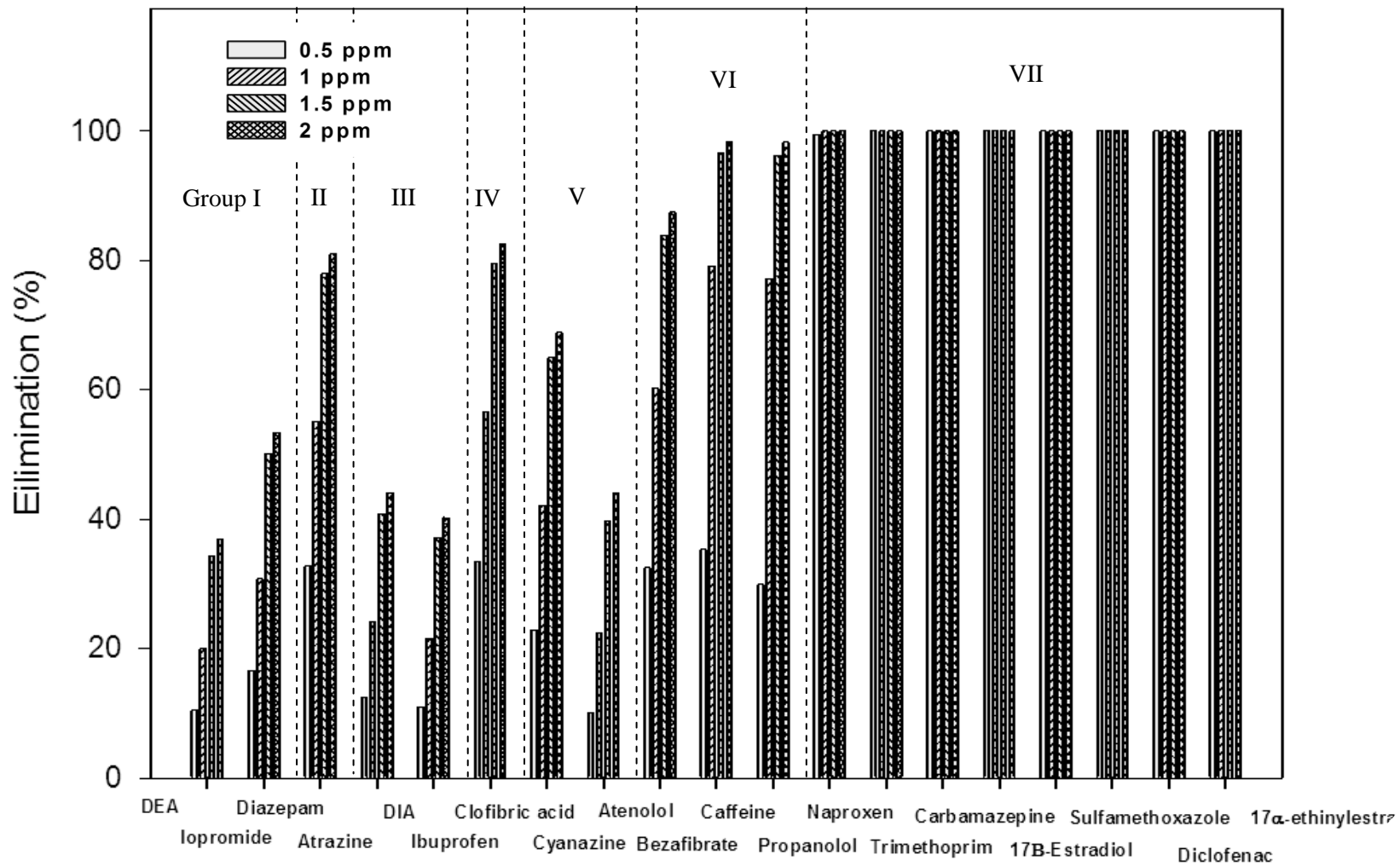


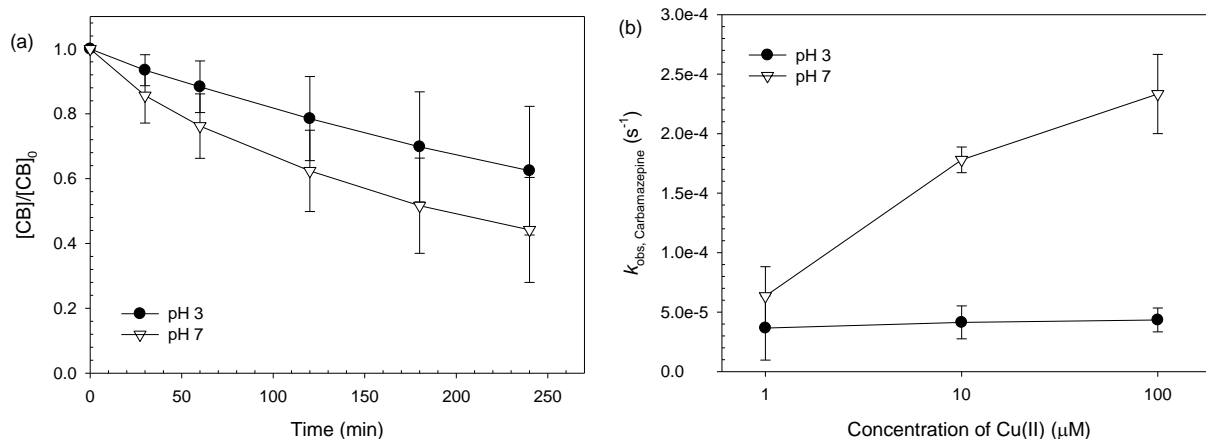
Figure 14. Predicted oxidation of grouped pharmaceuticals as a function of ozone dose

## II. Oxidation of carbamazepine and diclofenac by copper-catalyzed Fenton and photo-Fenton systems

### 2.1. Effect of Cu(II) concentration and the solution pH on oxidation of pharmaceuticals

The effect of Cu(II) concentration was investigated on pharmaceutical degradation at pH 3 and pH 7. As shown in Figure 15, (a), the concentration of carbamazepine was gradually decreased by the Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system over 240 min at both pH 3 and pH 7. Removal of carbamazepine at pH 7 was slightly faster than at pH 3. The carbamazepine decomposition rate obeyed pseudo-first-order kinetics and the observed rate constant of carbamazepine,  $k_{\text{obs, Carbamazepine}}$  (s<sup>-1</sup>), can be readily determined by Eq. (3.8). As was the case with carbamazepine, the oxidation of diclofenac was also successfully expressed as pseudo-first-order kinetics.

$$-\frac{d\ln[\text{Carbamazepine}]}{dt} = k_{\text{obs, Carbamazepine}} \quad (3.8)$$

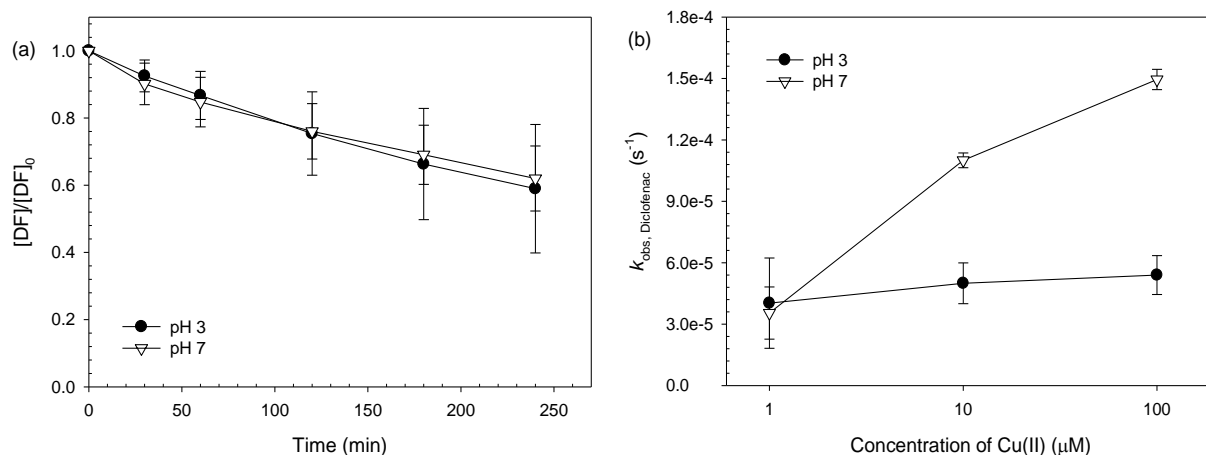


**Figure 15. Removal of carbamazepine by Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system as a function of Cu(II) concentration at acidic pH and neutral pH**

([Cu(II)]<sub>0</sub> = 1 μM for (a); [Cu(II)]<sub>0</sub> = 1, 10, 100 μM for (b); [CA(carbamazepine)]<sub>0</sub> = 1 μM; [H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>]<sub>0</sub> = 10 mM; [phosphate buffer] = 1 mM at pH 7; reaction time = 4 hr)

Figure 15, (b) describes the effect of initial Cu(II) concentration on the carbamazepine decomposition rate over the range of Cu(II) concentration of 1-100 μM. The linear increase of  $k_{\text{obs, Carbamazepine}}$  is observed

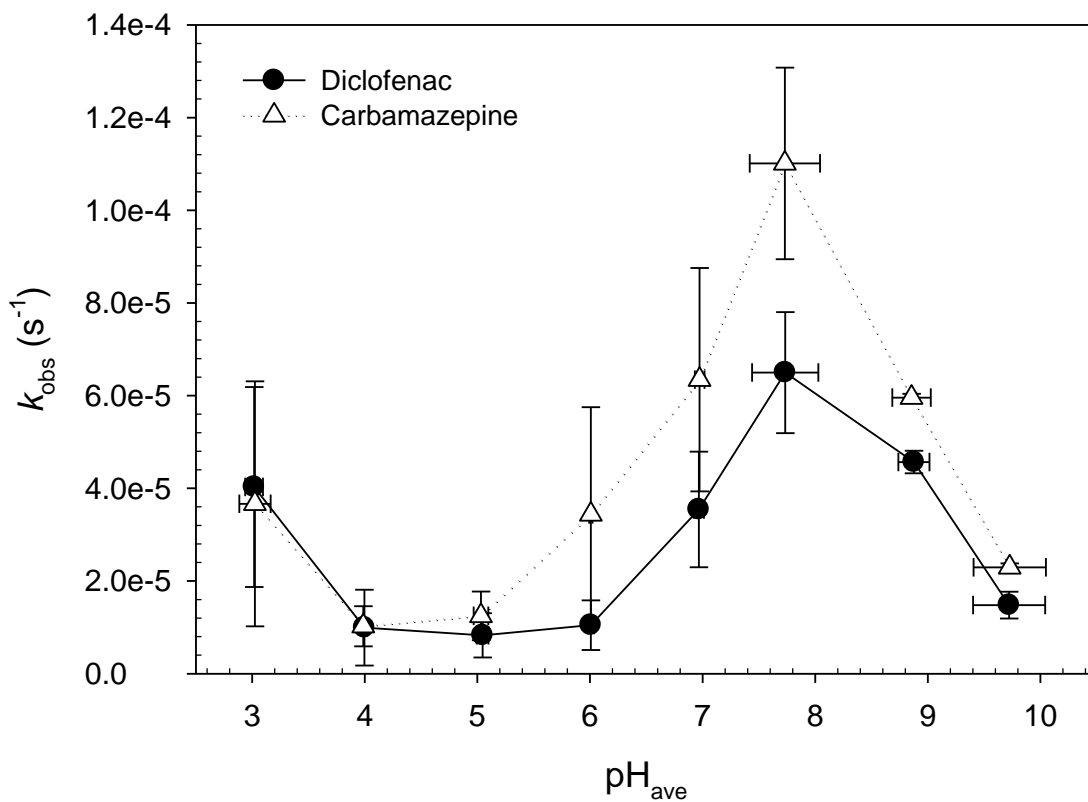
with respect to the increase of Cu(II) concentration at pH 7, whereas  $k_{\text{obs, Carbamazepine}}$  at pH 3 remains fairly constant regardless of Cu(II) concentration. Likewise, the oxidation of diclofenac shows similar trends of concentration-dependency with carbamazepine (Figure 16). The enhancement of removal rate by the increase of copper concentration is more rapid from 1  $\mu\text{M}$  to 10  $\mu\text{M}$  than from 10  $\mu\text{M}$  to 100  $\mu\text{M}$ .



**Figure 16. Removal of diclofenac by Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system as a function of Cu(II) concentration at acidic pH and neutral pH**

( $[\text{Cu(II)}]_0 = 1 \mu\text{M}$  for (a);  $[\text{Cu(II)}]_0 = 1, 10, 100 \mu\text{M}$  for (b);  $[\text{DF(diclofenac)}]_0 = 1 \mu\text{M}$ ;  $[\text{H}_2\text{O}_2]_0 = 10 \text{ mM}$ ; [phosphate buffer] = 1 mM at pH 7; reaction time = 4 hr)

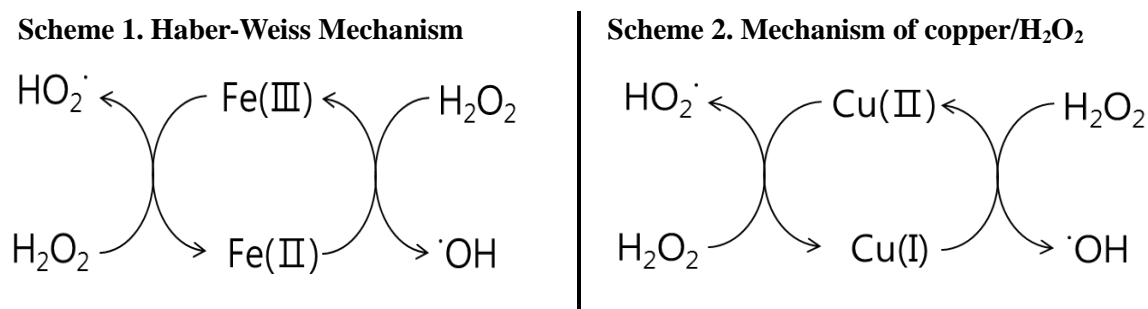
In the Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system, effects of the solution pH on oxidation of carbamazepine and diclofenac were monitored from pH 3 to 10 (Figure 17). The removal rate was optimized at around pH 8 for both carbamazepine and diclofenac, exhibiting substantial decrease in acidic and alkaline conditions except at pH 3 where somewhat affect enhancement. In the whole range of pH, the rate constant of carbamazepine keeps a higher position than diclofenac; in addition, it even reaches a rate approximately double that of diclofenac at the points where the maximum  $k_{\text{obs}}$  show. It has been shown that the maximum decomposition rate of both target compounds occurs around pH 8 in the Cu(II)/ H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system due to increasing reduction rates of Cu(II) by H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> as pH increases from 3 to 8. However, the decrease of the removal rate above pH 8 suggests that less  $\cdot\text{OH}$  is produced. Here we propose the mechanism change to be the formation of an alternate oxidant at elevated pH values, such as Cupryl [Cu(III)] ion. Further experiments have provided to gather evidence about the increasing and decreasing decomposition rates as a function of pH except pH 3.



**Figure 17. Removal of diclofenac and carbamazepine by Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system as a function of pH**  
 ([carbamazepine]<sub>0</sub> = [diclofenac]<sub>0</sub> = 1 μM; [Cu(II)]<sub>0</sub> = 1 μM; [H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>]<sub>0</sub> = 10 mM; [phosphate buffer] = 1 mM at pH 6-7; [borate buffer]<sub>0</sub> = 1 mM at pH 8-10; reaction time = 4 hr)

## 2.2. Cu(I) production by reactions at Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>

The pH dependency of Cu(I) production by the Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system can be explained by comparison with the Fe(III)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system based on the similarity of iron and copper ions. As described in the scheme 1 and 2, Cu(I) and Fe(II) oxidize to Cu(II) and Fe(III) to produce the most powerful oxidant  $\cdot\text{OH}$  by reaction with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>. Conversely, reduction of Cu(II) and Fe(III) occurs by reaction with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and follows the formation of HO<sub>2</sub> $\cdot$ . It is noteworthy that the former oxidation reaction is significantly faster than the latter reduction reaction, thus the latter reaction becomes the rate determination step for both iron and copper (Table 6).



**Table 6. Mechanism of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> decomposition with iron and copper catalyst**

<b>Haber-Weiss mechanism</b>	<b>k (M<sup>-1</sup>s<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>reference</b>
Fe(II) + H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> → Fe(III) + $\cdot\text{OH}$ + OH <sup>-</sup>	6.3 × 10	De Laat and Gallard, 1999
Fe(III) + H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> → Fe(II) + HO <sub>2</sub> $\cdot$ + H <sup>+</sup>	1.0 × 10 <sup>-2</sup>	Walling and Goosen, 1973
<b>Mechanism of copper/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>k (M<sup>-1</sup>s<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>reference</b>
Cu(I) + H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> → Cu(II) + $\cdot\text{OH}$ + OH <sup>-</sup>	1.0 × 10 <sup>4</sup>	Sharma and Millero, 1988
Cu(II) + H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> → Cu(I) + HO <sub>2</sub> $\cdot$ + H <sup>+</sup>	2.2-2.8 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	Perez-Benito, 2004

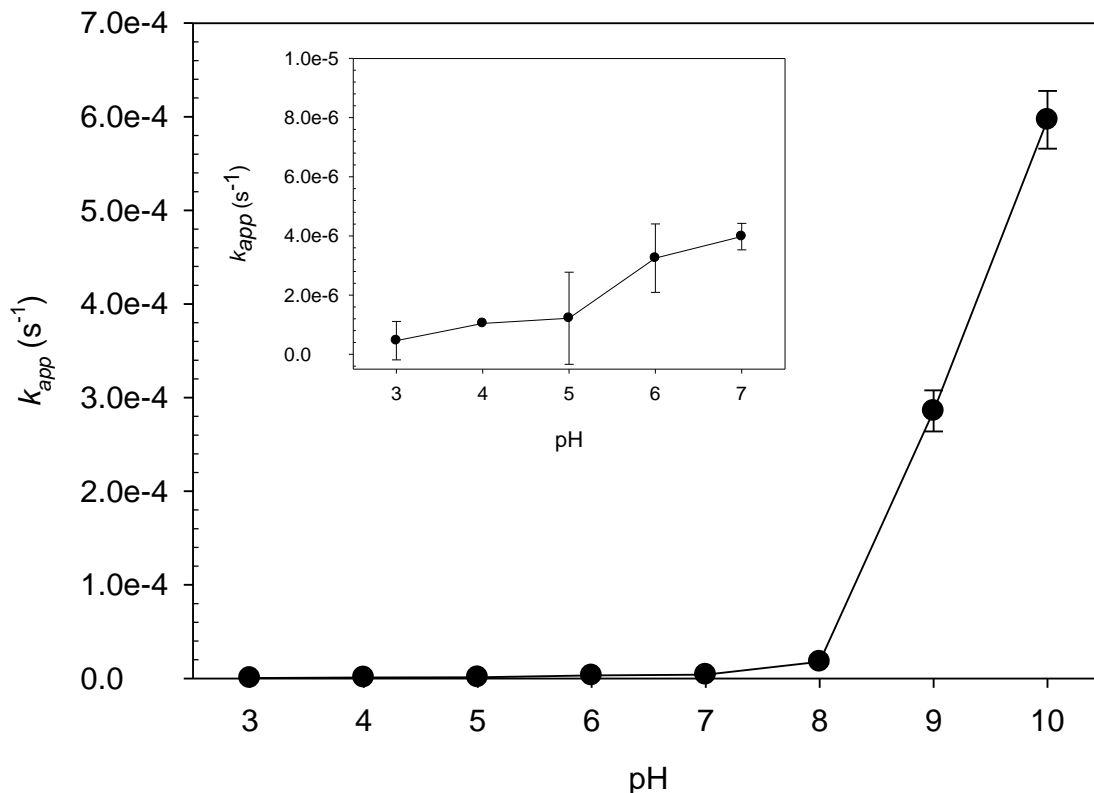
The work of Gallard et al.(1999) has demonstrated that the reduction reaction of Fe(III) by H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> is enhanced with pH increase in the pH range 1-3 by the formation of a Fe-(III)-hydroperoxy complex formulated as Fe<sup>III</sup>(HO<sub>2</sub>)<sup>2+</sup>. In the presence of an excess amount of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, complexation in which the reaction of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> with Fe<sup>3+</sup> leads to the formation of a Fe-(III)-hydroperoxy complex formulated as Fe<sup>III</sup>(HO<sub>2</sub>)<sup>2+</sup> occurs, and Fe<sup>III</sup>(HO<sub>2</sub>)<sup>2+</sup> is produced more as pH increases according to the equilibrium constant with protonated and deprotonated H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> in a range of pH < 3 (ferric ion in homogeneous aqueous solution) (Table 7). No previous studies provide evidence for a copper complexation reaction in the presence of an excess amount of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>. However, this mechanism is more likely plausible relying on the

fact that it will go through a similar reaction as iron, although clear experiment data has not yet been provided for supporting such complex mechanisms. The decomposition rate of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and the production rate of Cu(I) measured in this study provide evidence of the complexation reaction of Cu(II) by H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>.

**Table 7. Equilibrium constants of Fe<sup>III</sup>-hydroxy complexes (Gallard et al., 1999)**

<b>Complexation reactions of Fe<sup>III</sup> by H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub></b>	
$\begin{array}{l} (\text{Fe}^{\text{III}})^{3+} + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \leftrightarrow [\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}(\text{HO}_2)]^{2+} \leftrightarrow \text{Fe}^{2+} + \text{HO}_2 \cdot \\ (\text{Fe}^{\text{III}})^{3+} + \text{HO}_2^- \end{array}$	
<b>Equilibrium constant of reaction</b>	<b>K</b>
$(\text{Fe}^{\text{III}})^{3+} + \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \leftrightarrow [\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}(\text{HO}_2)]^{2+}$	$3.1(\pm 0.4) \times 10^{-3}$
$(\text{Fe}^{\text{III}})^{3+} + \text{HO}_2^- \leftrightarrow [\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}(\text{HO}_2)]^{2+}$	$1.74 \times 10^9$

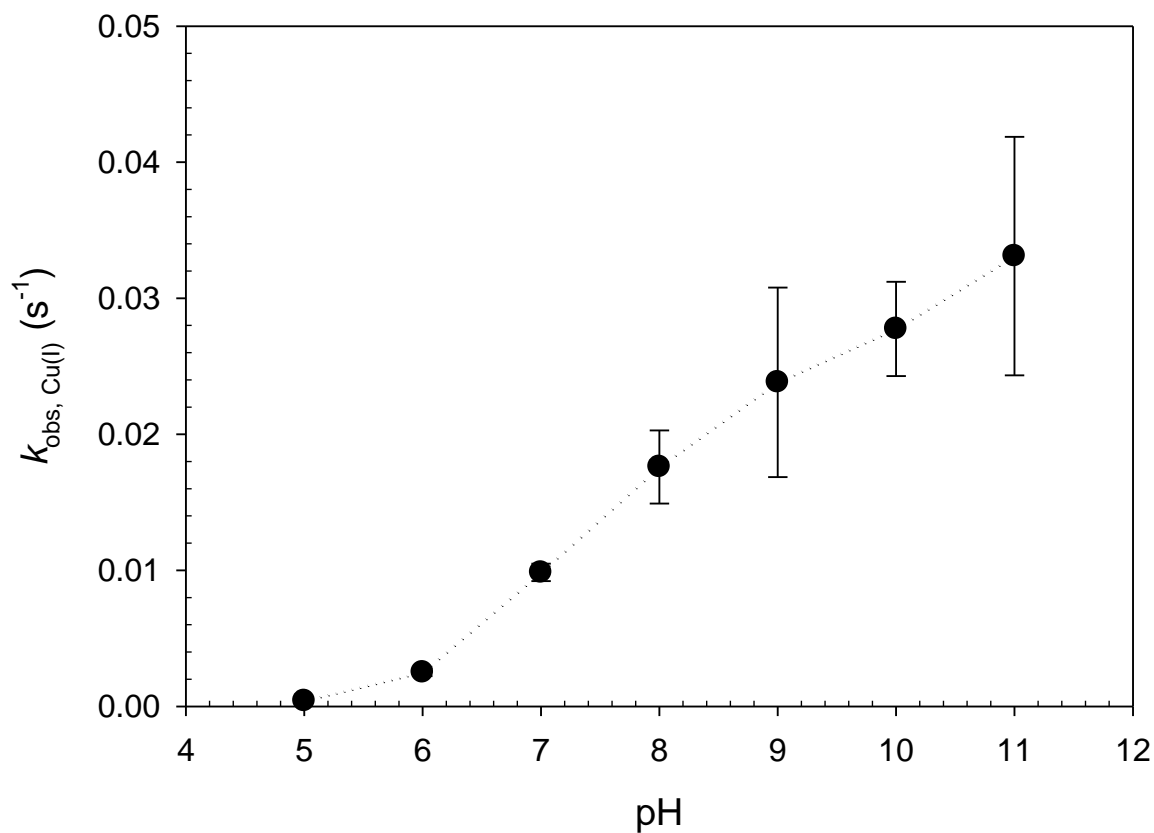
Several important remarks on the Cu(II) reduction by pH dependence can be made on the basis of the results in Figure 18 and Figure 19. As motioned above, it is apparent that pH increase has affected the reaction of Cu(II)/ H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>. Therefore, the experiment was conducted to measure the decomposition rate constant of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> by Cu(II) from pH 3 to 10. The range of pH from 3 to 7 was found to approximately double the rate constant despite the fact that it shows only observable enhancement compared to the increase at pH 8-10. On the other hand, the H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> decomposition rate is noticeably increased from pH 8 to 10, and particularly the rate constant at pH 10 was observed to be 2-fold higher than the one at pH 3. This pH effect results on the Cu(II) catalyzed decomposition of hydrogen peroxide shows agreement with the work of Perez-Benito (2001), showing that a pH increase from 6.2 to 7.1 resulted in a 7 times increase of the hydrogen peroxide initial decomposition rate under the given experimental condition. H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> decomposition by copper gets clearer from pH 7 because the reaction is going to be faster with the increase of deprotonated H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> until pKa of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> which is 11.75 (Table 7) like the complexation reaction with iron.



**Figure 18. Decomposition rate of  $H_2O_2$  by  $Cu(II)/H_2O_2$  system as a function of pH**  
 ( $[Cu(II)]_0 = 10 \mu M$ ;  $[H_2O_2]_0 = 1 \text{ mM}$ ; [phosphate buffer] = 1 mM at pH 6-7; [borate buffer]<sub>0</sub> = 1 mM at pH 8-10; reaction time = 2hr)

The  $Cu(I)$  conversion rate (Figure 19) reveals a good consistency with the result of the decomposition rate of  $H_2O_2$  in improvement of reaction rate over the pH range; the  $Cu(I)$  production rate, which is the determination step in a cycle of the Fenton-like reaction by the  $Cu(II)/H_2O_2$  system is continuously increased when the pH increases as shown in Figure 17. The production rate of  $Cu(I)$  by the reduction of  $Cu(II)$  with  $H_2O_2$  gradually increased over the whole pH 5-11 range, although the reaction was too slow to measure at low pH (3-4). The kinetic data of the  $Cu(I)$  production rate along with catalytic decomposition of  $H_2O_2$  by  $Cu(II)$  as a function of pH indicate that this reaction follows a rather complex mechanism. It appears that the nonprotonated form of  $H_2O_2$ , which is the predominant species present over the range of pH of 2-11 in aqueous solution, is responsible for the reduction of  $Cu(II)$ . Perez-Benito (2004) and Berdnikov (1973) also suggested the possibility of a complex mechanism for copper ions with  $H_2O_2$ .

Controversy, the other literature reported that  $\text{Cu}(\text{OH})_2$  is the reactive species to reduction (Millero et al., 1992).



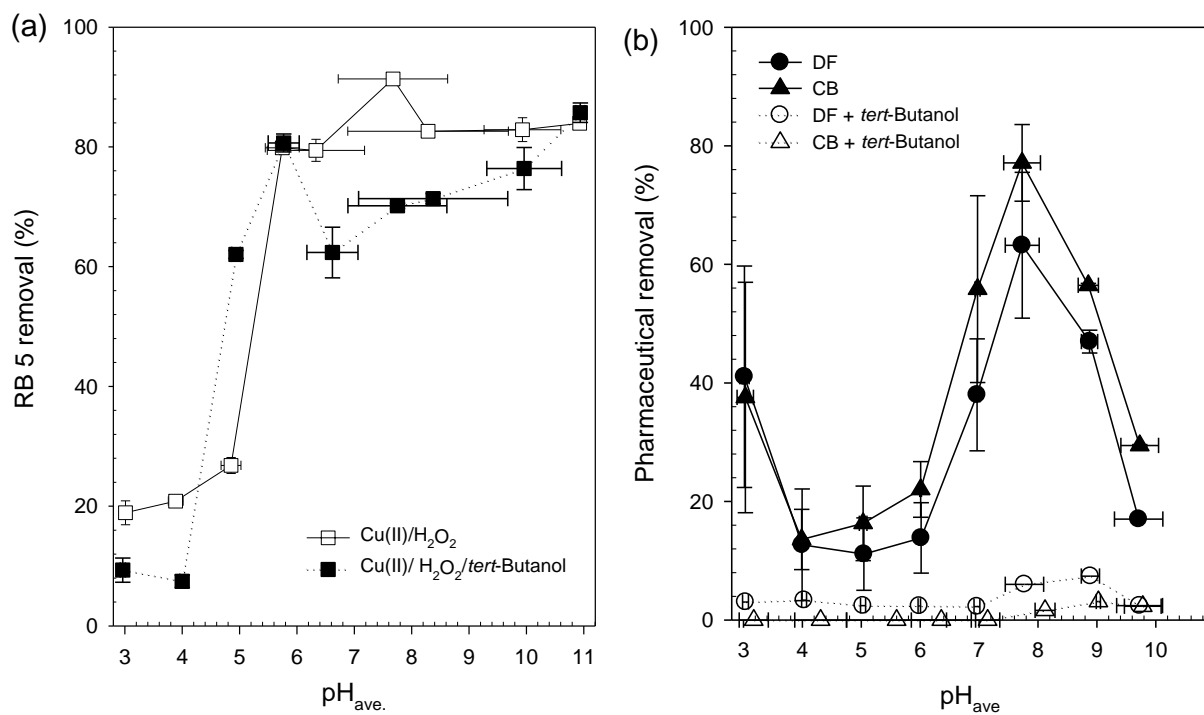
**Figure 19. Cu(I) conversion rate by Cu(II)/ $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  as a function of pH**

$(-\ln(1-[\text{Cu(I)}]/[\text{Cu(II)}]_0) = kt; [\text{Cu(II)}]_0 = 10 \mu\text{M}; [\text{H}_2\text{O}_2]_0 = 1 \text{ mM}; [\text{phosphate buffer}] = 1 \text{ mM at pH 6-7}; [\text{borate buffer}]_0 = 1 \text{ mM at pH 8-10}; [\text{DMP}]_0 = 0.5 \text{ mM})$



### 2.3. Identity of oxidants by the Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system as a function of pH

The study conducted to elucidate oxidants that are produced by the Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system as a function of pH by employing the well known OH radical scavenger *tert*-BuOH. As shown in Figure 20, the pharmaceutical removal reaction totally stops in the presence of *tert*-BuOH throughout all the pH range. This result indicates that the OH radical is the only oxidant responsible for degradation of selected pharmaceuticals and suggests the formation of a different oxidant, most likely the cupryl ion (Cu(III)) as pH increases. We supposed that the mixture of OH radical and Cu(III) is produced by the Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system, and a larger amount of Cu(III) is produced rather than OH radical with increase of pH. This assumption is supported by demonstrating the formation of Cu(III) for a decrease of removal rate in pharmaceuticals at alkaline pH. The formation of alternative oxidants, such as Cu(III) appears in comparison of experimental results between selected pharmaceuticals and RB5 (Figure 20). In addition to *tert*-BuOH, the oxidation reaction of RB5 is maintained though it exhibits a minor inhibition over the pH range as shown in Figure 20. RB5 can decompose easily by relatively weak oxidants contrary to selected pharmaceuticals in which are only oxidized by OH radical. Decolorization of RB5 in the presence of an <sup>•</sup>OH scavenger is constantly achieved, including alkaline pH in where pharmaceuticals removal starts to decrease, and it would be expected by the generation of Cu(III) which is a weak oxidant. Similarly, the Fenton reaction (i.e., Fe(II)/ H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) rapidly converts H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> into a stoichiometric amount of hydroxyl radical (<sup>•</sup>OH) under acidic conditions (Table 1). However, at circumneutral pH there are several reports that demonstrate evidence of Fe(IV) generation, which is a weaker oxidant than <sup>•</sup>OH. Fe(IV) is able to decompose a selection of compounds, bulky things such as RB5. Likewise, at acidic pH the Cu(II)/ H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system produces strong oxidant hydroxyl radical (<sup>•</sup>OH). However, as pH increases up to the alkaline region, the major oxidants produced by the Cu(II)/ H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system is likely shifted from hydroxyl radical (<sup>•</sup>OH) to Cu(III). By the means of generation of different oxidants in alkaline pH, it also reveals a possible usage of selectivity for a target compound. The possible mechanisms of Cu(III) formation have been reported in previous studies (Johnson et al., 1988; Meyerstein, 1971) similar to the appearance of Fe(IV) by the Fe(III)/ H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system at neutral pH. Compared to the active researches about Fe(IV) (Lee et al. 2008a, b; Pang et al., 2011; Remucal et al., 2011), Cu(III) needs more research to assess the origin of oxidants in the Cu(II)/ H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> systems.

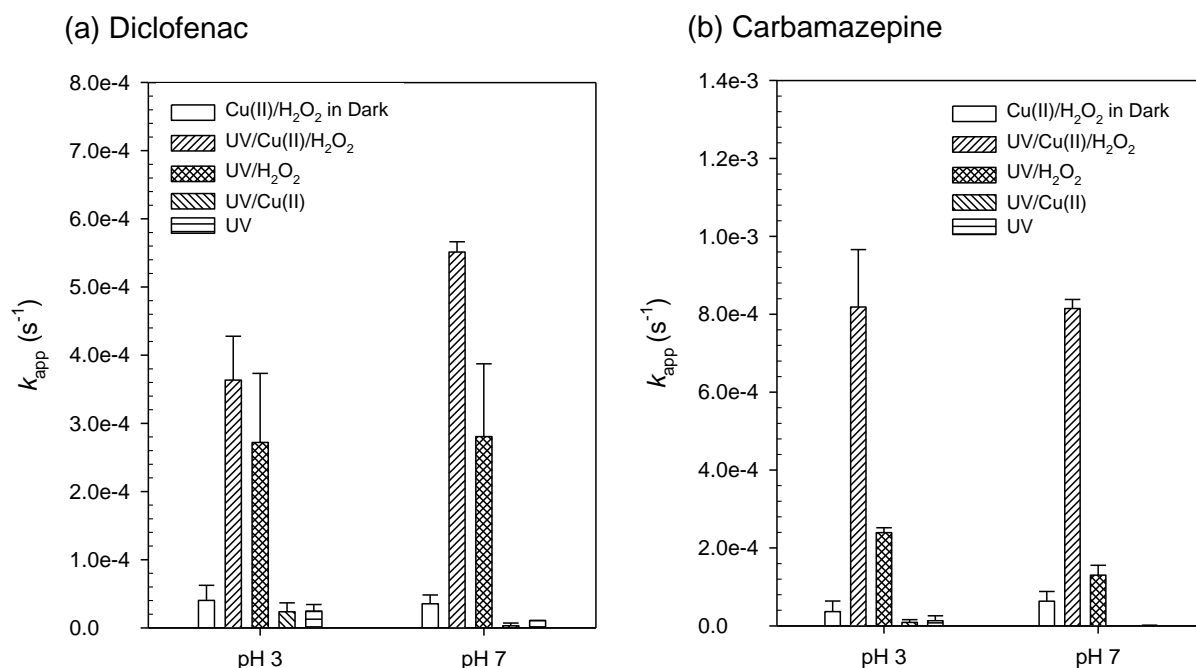


**Figure 20. Removal of (a) RB 5 and (b) pharmaceuticals by Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> in the presence and absence of *t*-BuOH**

((a): [RB 5]<sub>0</sub> = 0.01 mM; [Cu(II)]<sub>0</sub> = 0.1 mM; [*tert*-BuOH] = 100 mM; [H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>]<sub>0</sub> = 10 mM; reaction= 1 hr; (b): [CA(carbamazepine)]<sub>0</sub> = [DF(diclofenac)]<sub>0</sub> = 1 μM; [Cu(II)]<sub>0</sub> = 1 μM; [*tert*-Butanol] = 10 mM; reaction= 1 hr; [H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>]<sub>0</sub> = 10 mM; [phosphate buffer] = 1 mM; [borate buffer] = 1 mM)

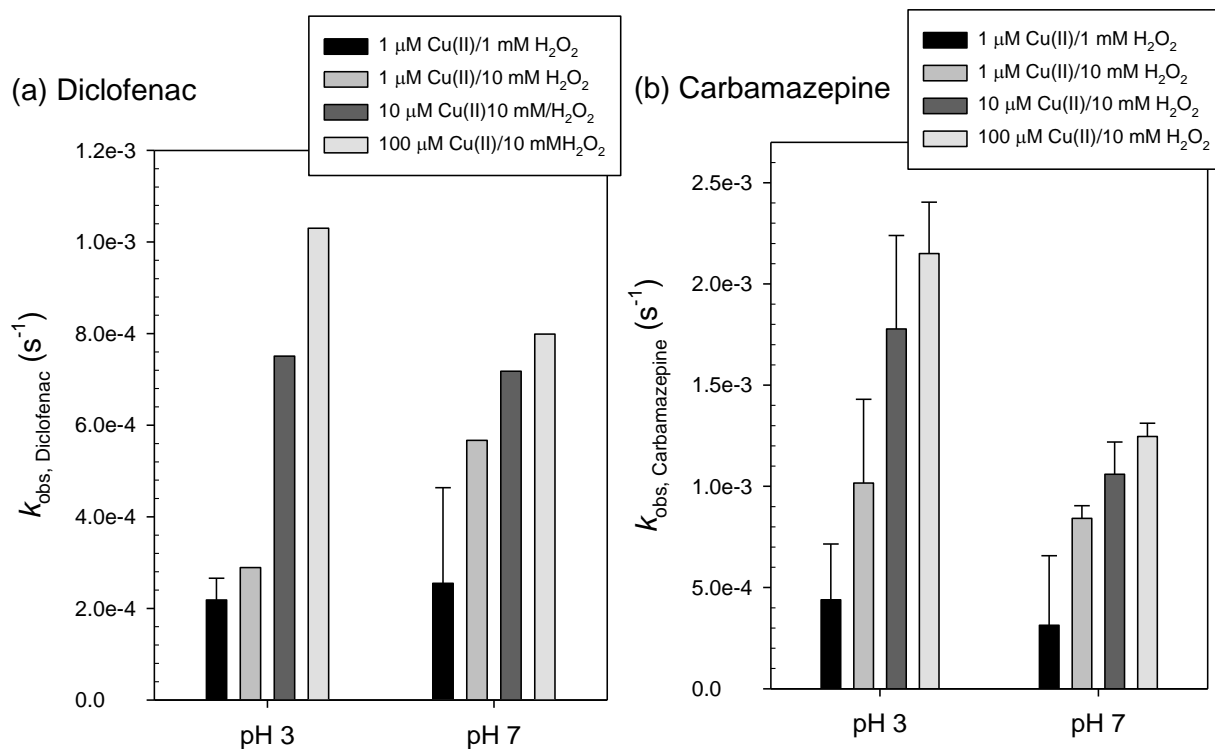
## 2.4. Enhanced degradation of pharmaceuticals in the presence of UV

The effect of ultraviolet (UVA) irradiation in the Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system was investigated in the degradation of diclofenac and carbamazepine during a period of 60 min. Several combination of the experiment with UV were conducted to assess enhancement of the Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system in the presence of UV (Figure 21). Only UV and UV/Cu(II) show a negligibly slower removal rate than the Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system, whereas UV/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> reveals a considerably high rate constant. However, the greatest removal rate is shown under the coexistence of Cu(II) and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> with UV for both diclofenac and carbamazepine. In addition, the degradation rate reveals a constant increase as Cu(II) concentration increases, and it drops with lower concentrations of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (Figure 22).



**Figure 21. Removal of diclofenac and carbamazepine by various combinations of Cu(II) ion, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and UV at acidic pH and neutral pH**

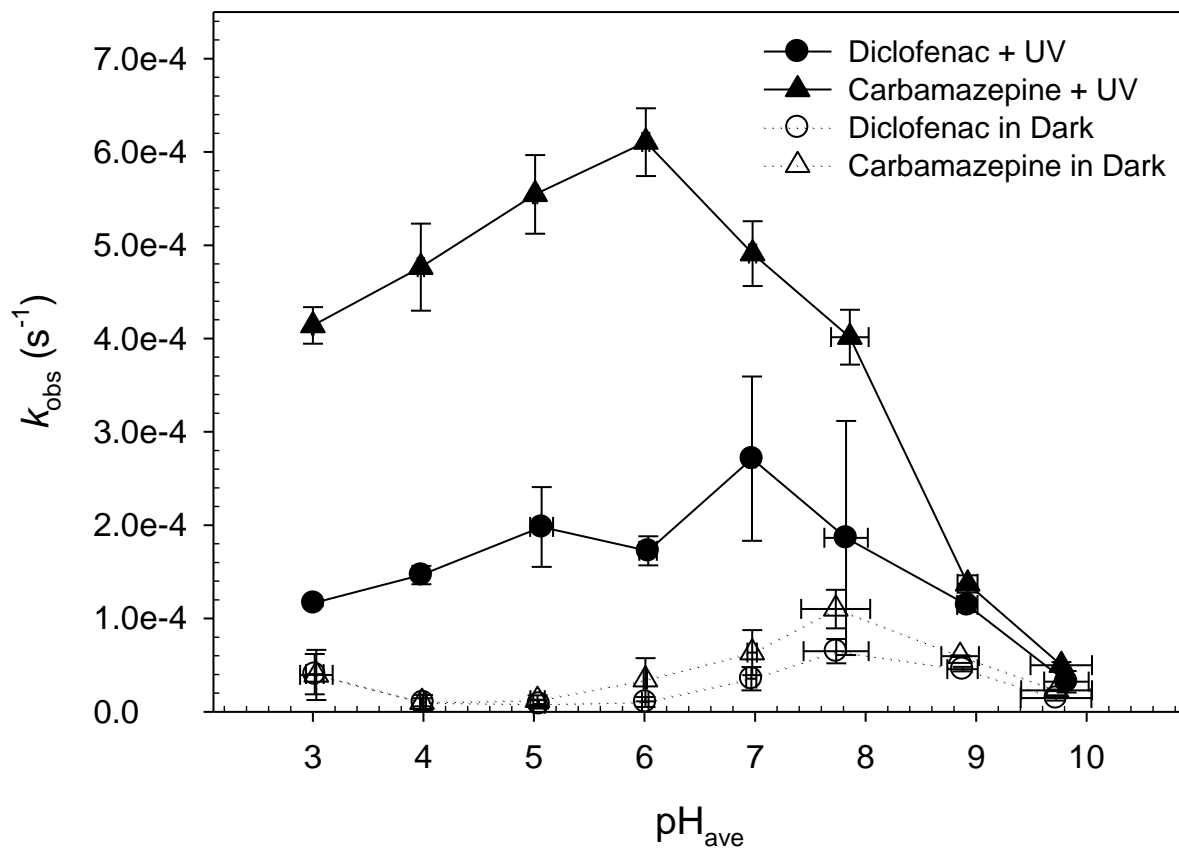
([carbamazepine]<sub>0</sub> = [diclofenac]<sub>0</sub> = 1 μM; [Cu(II)]<sub>0</sub> = 1 μM; [H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>]<sub>0</sub> = 10 mM; [phosphate buffer]<sub>0</sub> = 1 mM at pH 7; reaction time = 1 hr; 6 Lamp)



**Figure 22. Removal of pharmaceuticals as Cu(II) doses in the Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>/UV system at acidic pH and neutral pH**

([diclofenac]<sub>0</sub> = [carbamazepine]<sub>0</sub> = 1  $\mu\text{M}$ ; [Cu(II)]<sub>0</sub> = 1, 10, 100  $\mu\text{M}$ ; [H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>]<sub>0</sub> = 1, 10 mM; [phosphate buffer]<sub>0</sub> = 1 mM at pH 7; Reaction time = 1 hr; 6 Lamp)

It was found that degradation of pharmaceuticals by the Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system was enhanced throughout the pH range in the presence of UV compared to the one in the absence of UV (Figure 23). The highest apparent rate constant of diclofenac and carbamazepine in the UV/Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system was observed near neutral pH with approximately  $3 \times 10^{-4}$  (s<sup>-1</sup>) at pH 7 and  $6 \times 10^{-4}$  (s<sup>-1</sup>) at pH 6 (Figure 23), and it decreased in acidic and alkaline pH. Notably, an extreme decrease of the degradation rate under alkaline conditions is consistent with previous experiments with Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> due to the formation of alternative oxidants. This similar trends in pH dependence regardless of UV suggests that the Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> reaction predominantly produces different oxidants, likely Cu(III), in the alkaline pH range, although the removal rates were significantly higher relative to the one in the absence of UV.



**Figure 23. Removal of diclofenac and carbamazepine by the Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system and UV/Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system as a function of pH**

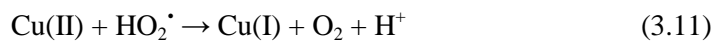
([carbamazepine]<sub>0</sub> = [diclofenac]<sub>0</sub> = 1 μM; [Cu(II)]<sub>0</sub> = 1 μM; [H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>]<sub>0</sub> = 10 mM; [phosphate buffer] = 1 mM at pH 6-7; [borate buffer]<sub>0</sub> = 1 mM at pH 8-10; reaction time = 4 hr for The Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system; reaction time = 1 hr (2 Lamp) for The Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>/UV system)

## 2.5. Mechanism of oxidant production from the UV/Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system

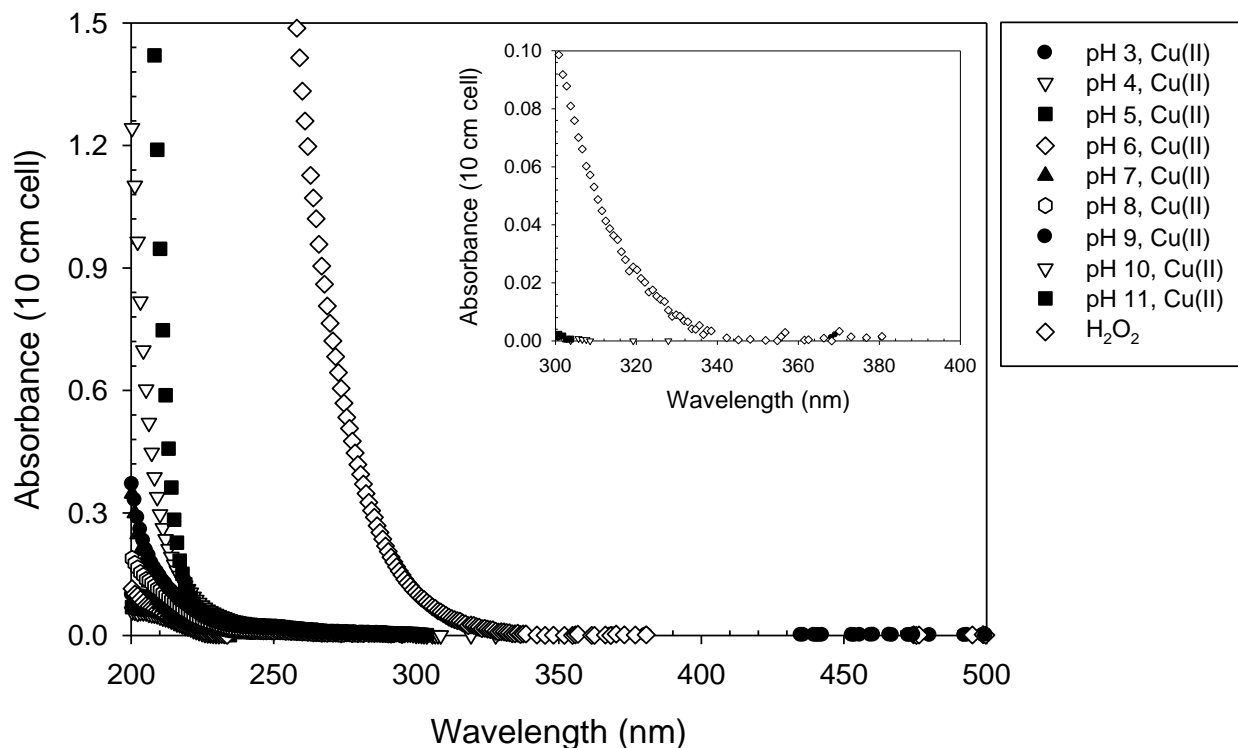
Absorbance of Cu(II) and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> was monitored to clarify the main product that absorbs the UV light (Figure 24). 10 mM H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> shows relatively higher absorbance than 1 μM Cu(II) at 365 nm where λ<sub>max</sub> appears from the lamp, thus H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> absorbed UV light accounts for the enhancement of the removal rate. We suppose H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> absorbs UV light to produce OH radicals, which can involve the cycle reaction by reduction of Cu(II) to Cu(I) with HO<sub>2</sub><sup>•</sup> as shown in reaction (3.11), and the rate constant of the reduction reaction by HO<sub>2</sub><sup>•</sup> is 12 orders of magnitude higher than the reaction by H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (Table 6). This presumable assumption has also been supported in a previous study (Kozlov and Berdnikov, 1973), but no clear data was provided.



$$k = 3.3 \times 10^7 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ (Christensen et al., 1982)}$$

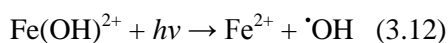


$$k = 5 \times 10^7 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ (Bielski et al., 1985)}$$

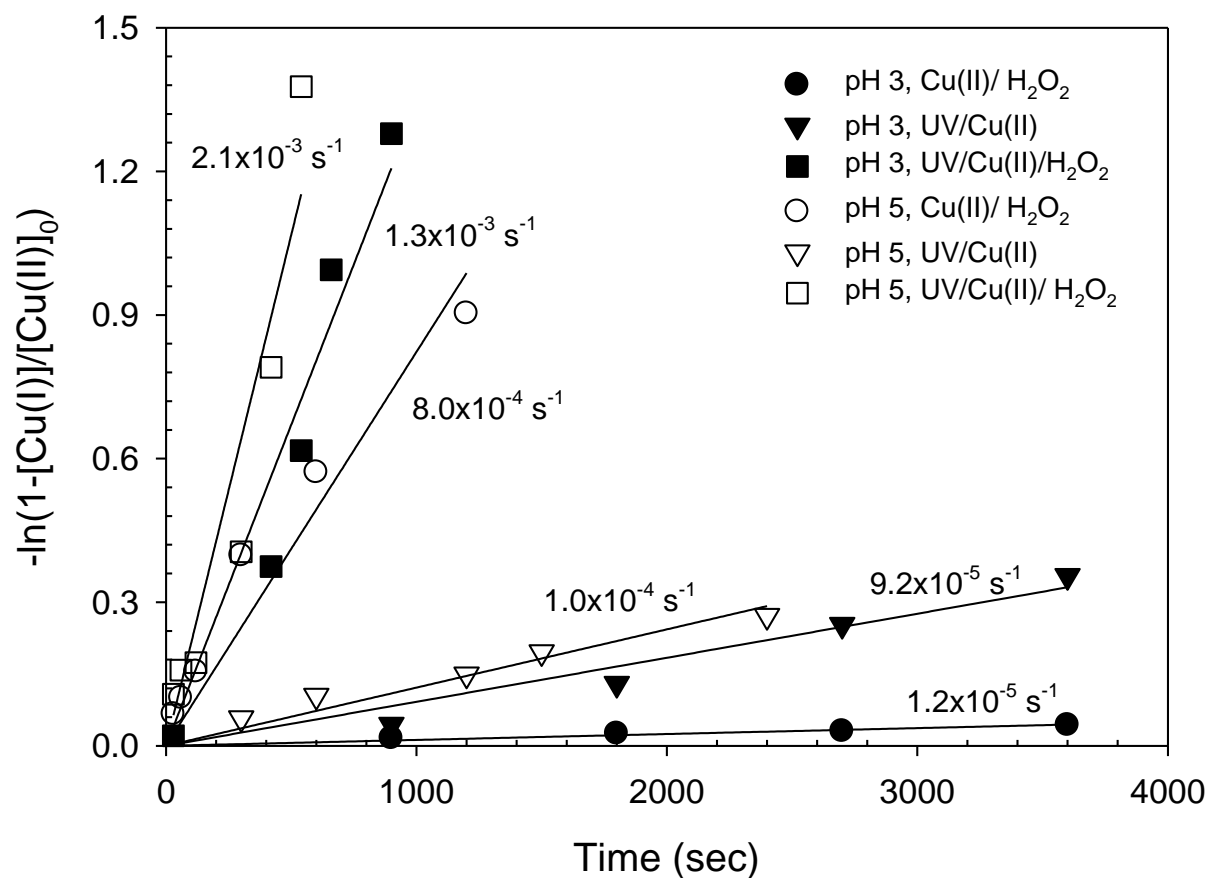


**Figure 24. UV/vis absorption spectra of 1  $\mu\text{M}$  Cu(II) at pH 3-11 and 10 mM  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$**   
 ( $[\text{Cu(II)}]_0 = 1 \mu\text{M}$ ;  $[\text{H}_2\text{O}_2]_0 = 10 \text{ mM}$ ;  $[\text{phosphate buffer}]_0 = 1 \text{ mM}$  at pH 6-7;  $[\text{borate buffer}]_0 = 1 \text{ mM}$   
 at pH 8-10)

The Cu(I) conversion kinetics of different combinations of Cu(II),  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ , and UV were investigated at pH 3 and 5 (Figure 25). The kinetic data shows a big difference of Cu(I) conversion rate between the UV/Cu(II) system and the UV/Cu(II)/ $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  system. In other words,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  is involved in the reaction for generating Cu(I). This result verifies the reduction mechanism that we suggested above: the enhanced reduction of Cu(II) by  $\text{HO}_2^\cdot$  produced from the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  photolysis. As with the monitoring results of absorbance, mediator from  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  is likely involved in the reduction; the reduction reactions of Cu(II) by UV irradiation were much slower than UV/Cu(II)/ $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  at pH 3 and pH 5, 15 times and 21 times respectively. This results are very different from the photo-Fenton reaction related to the irradiation of solutions with UV light to favor the regeneration of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  from additional photoreduction of  $\text{Fe(OH)}^{2+}$  (Reaction 3.12) (Lee and Yoon, 2004).



Reduction reactions in each system accelerated with pH increase, from 3 to 5, despite the fact that the gap between pH 3 and pH 5 in the UV/Cu(II) system is smaller than the one in the UV/Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>.



**Figure 25. Cu(I) conversion rate from the Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>/UV systems**  
 ([Cu(II)]<sub>0</sub> = 10 μM; [H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>]<sub>0</sub> = 10 mM; [DMP]<sub>0</sub> = 0.5 mM; 6 Lamp)

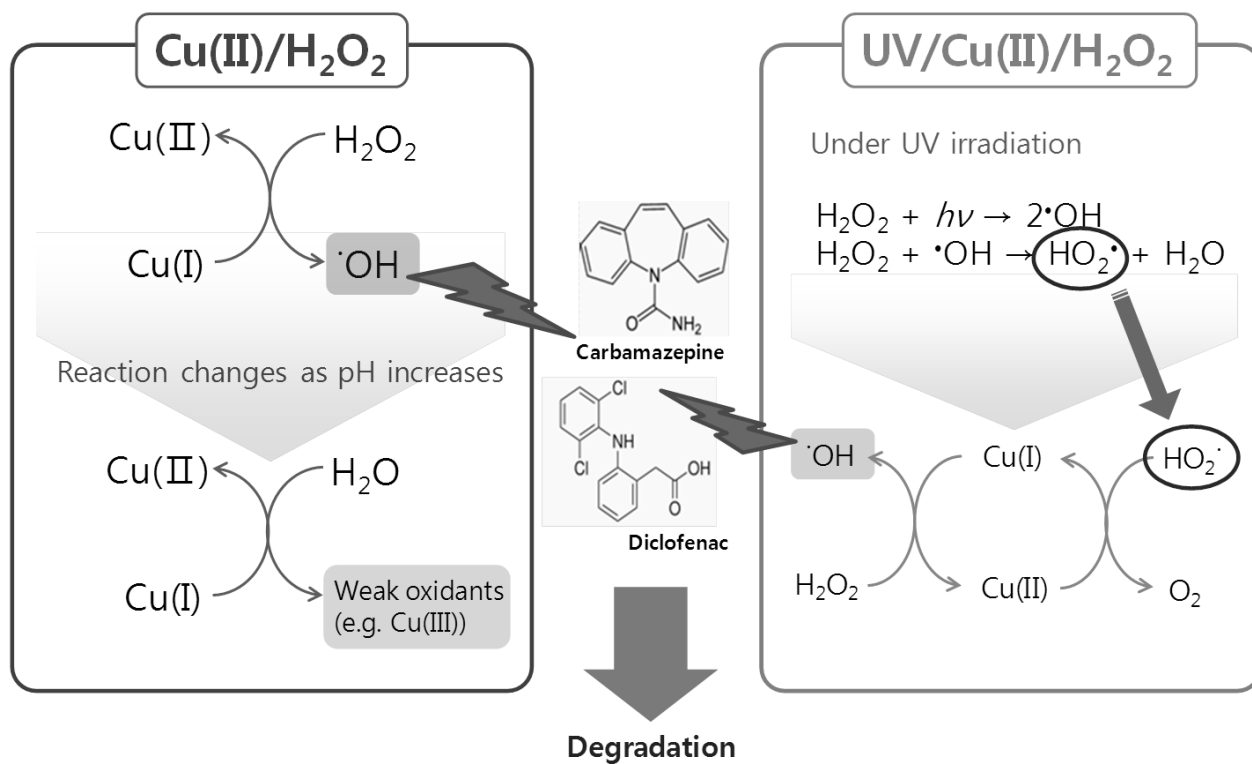


## Chapter 4. Conclusions

The first part of this study was concerning to a quantitative prediction base on the removal kinetics of pharmaceuticals and oxidants (ozone and hydroxyl radical) utilized in ozonation to discuss the characteristic behaviors of ozone decomposition and the oxidation of pharmaceuticals during ozonation of water samples in Ulsan. The conversion of  $O_3$  into  $\cdot OH$  was more pronounced in the surface waters of Ulsan than other natural waters. That appears to be caused by as a relatively high  $R_{ct}$  value which is in the range  $0.78 \sim 1.5 \times 10^{-7}$  and a relatively high inhibitor effect of  $\cdot OH$  scavengers. It is expected that decomposition of organic contaminants which have less reactivity with molecular ozone is favored over the contaminants which rapidly react with ozone, owing to the fast conversion from ozone to hydroxyl radical. The efficacy of the ozonation process for the removal of pharmaceuticals was investigated in different water samples in Ulsan, and experiments demonstrated that the model calculation by the  $R_{ct}$  concept was feasible to predict the oxidation of pharmaceuticals. Modeling of the pharmaceuticals removal was evaluated in terms of rate constant with  $O_3$  and  $OH$  radicals by grouping each compound. It is possible to predict removal efficiency of any pharmaceuticals as long as its rate constants is known since the results show that overall removal efficiency of the pharmaceuticals was fairly consistent in each group.

Secondly, the reactive oxidant produced by the  $Cu(II)/H_2O_2$  system and the  $UV/Cu(II)/H_2O_2$  system effectively oxidized pharmaceuticals. The observed rate constants for each system were monitored at various pH in given experimental conditions, and an additional experiment was conducted to demonstrate the working mechanisms we suggest. The pH dependence of the reactive oxidant in the  $Cu(II)/H_2O_2$  system can be explain by two factors: production of reactive oxidants grows as pH increases due to raising of the  $Cu(II)$  reduction rate. In addition, formation of a weaker oxidant, likely  $Cu(III)$ , at alkaline pH causes a decline of the removal rate for declofenac and carbamazepine. The  $UV/Cu(II)/H_2O_2$  system shows much higher efficiency than the  $Cu(II)/H_2O_2$  system, which is attributable to the enhanced reduction of  $Cu(II)$  by  $HO_2\cdot$  produced from the  $H_2O_2$  photolysis. The principal results obtained in this study are illustrated in Scheme 3.

**Scheme 3 Reaction pathways of oxidation of organic compounds in the Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system and UV/Cu(II)/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system**



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