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In situ spectroscopy in and above manganese catalyzed oxidations

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STELLINGEN

1. A negative result is still a result.
2. The observation of a certain species under reaction conditions makes it less likely to be catalytically active.
3. Competition experiments are dependent on equal opportunity.
4. It is dangerous to decide on a mechanism purely on the basis of the data you have.
5. A simple experiment can lead to a complicated analyses and a lot of head scratching. (Chapter 3)
6. Spectroscopic analysis with catalyst concentrations 100-fold higher than under catalytic conditions, are at best a waste of catalyst (Chapter 1, Figure 8).
7. A lag phase followed by an autocatalytic acceleration makes a catalytic system interesting; this statement also holds for a PhD.
8. Scientific output is not linearly related to the length of time spent in the lab – it can be highly nonlinear.
9. Life is chemistry, but not only chemistry.