

Department of Chemistry - Macquarie University

Student Learning Experiences in the Laboratory

This survey will be used by the Department of Chemistry for the purpose of maintaining or improving the quality of this experiment for teaching purposes. Your cooperation in completing this anonymous form is greatly appreciated. It is not connected in any way to your assessment for this unit. Completion of this survey is voluntary.

Occasionally we would like to release this information into the public domain, for instance through presentations at conferences and publication in articles for journals. Such publication encourages discussion on good teaching practice. We would appreciate receiving your permission to publish your anonymous comment. If you **do not** wish to release your comments, please tick the box below.

I do not give permission for my comments to be used beyond the Department of Chemistry, Macquarie University.

The ethical aspects of this study have been approved by the Macquarie University Ethics Review Committee (Human Research). If you have any complaints or reservations about any ethical aspect of your participation in this research, you may contact the Committee through the Research Ethics Officer (telephone [02] 9850 7854, fax [02] 9850 8799, email: kdesilva@vc.mq.edu.au). Any complaint you make will be treated in confidence and investigated, and you will be informed of the outcome.

Unit: **CHEM329**

Experiment Name or Number: **Preparation and Infrared Spectrum of Peroxyacetylnitrate**

1 Did this experiment help you to understand the theory and concepts of the topic? If so, how, or if not, why not?

Yes, but only in the first half. Once we started looking at spectra, I got a bit confused at what we were trying to achieve.

2 How is this experiment relevant to you in terms of your interests and goals?

I enjoy making things in the lab and PAN is a pollutant which we confirmed in F?IR so that was pleasing.

3 Did you find this experiment interesting? If so, what aspects of this experiment did you find of interesting? If not, why not?

Yes, UV light was interesting to mimic the sun. Finally getting the PAN spectrum was exciting.

4 Can the experiment be completed comfortably in the allocated time? Is there time to reflect on the tasks while performing them?

Analysing spectra took long time but there was a bit of confusion.

5 Does this experiment require teamwork and if so, in what way? Was this aspect of the experiment beneficial?

Well one of our teammembers left to join another team! But yes it did require everyone to think together.

6 Did you have the opportunity to take responsibility for your own learning, and to be active as learners?

Yes, Ian was always available for questions.

7 Does this experiment provide for the possibility of a range of student abilities and interests? If so, how?

8 Did the laboratory notes, demonstrators' guidance and any other resources help you in learning from this experiment? If so, how?

Yes, questioned us until we understood.

9 Are there any other features of this experiment that made it a particularly good or bad learning experience for you?

10 What improvements could be made to this experiment?

Smaller groups (more groups) so that dominant students won't dominate too much.

11 Any Other Comments