

## Supporting Information

### **Elucidating the photoprotective properties of natural UV screening agents: ZEKE-PFI spectroscopy of methyl sinapate**

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**Table S1** Assignment of higher-intensity bands observed in ZEKE-PFI spectrum of  $D_0$  after excitation from vibrationless level of  $S_1$  of the *syn/cis* conformer of methyl sinapate for bands up to vibrational excess energies of  $\sim 500 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

Frequency ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) <sup>a,d</sup>	Intensity (%) <sup>b</sup>	Assignment <sup>c</sup>
0.0	100	
59.9	164	$56^1$
120.5	132	$56^2$
162.8	22	$55^1$
180.1	72	$56^3$
223.0	34	$55^1 56^1$
235.1	33	$53^1$
240.3	37	$56^4$
270.3	21	$52^1$
276.4	27	-
284.3	40	$55^1 56^2$
294.3	27	$53^1 56^1$
298.6	19	$56^5$
321.7	14	$51^1$
330.5	38	$52^1 56^1$
336.2	41	$276.4 + 56^1$
344.5	31	$55^1 56^3$
354.5	20	$53^1 56^2$
380.5	15	$51^1 56^1$
390.5	35	$52^1 56^2$
395.3	33	$276.4 + 56^2$
404.5	22	$55^1 56^4$
411.7	16	$53^1 56^3$
439.7	19	$51^1 56^2$
455.1	22	$52^1 56^3$
473.2	15	$53^1 56^4$
432.4	7	$52^1 55^1$
500.1	19	$51^1 56^3$

<sup>a</sup> Frequency with respect to  $D_0$  adiabatic ionization energy from vibrationless level of  $S_0$  ( $60291.1 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ).

<sup>b</sup> Intensity with respect to intensity of  $D_0 \leftarrow S_1$  0-0 band. Starting from energies above  $\sim 200 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  bands are superimposed on a background signal that masks true band intensities.

<sup>c</sup> Standard labelling vibrational modes:  $a'(1-56)$ ,  $a''(57-87)$  with decreasing frequencies.

<sup>d</sup> For vibrational excess energies higher than  $\sim 500 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  the ZEKE-PFI spectrum still shows quite a number of bands with minor intensities but these cannot be assigned unambiguously.

**Table S2** Assignment of higher-intensity bands observed in ZEKE-PFI spectrum of  $D_0$  after excitation from vibrationless level of  $S_1$  of the *anti/cis* conformer of methyl sinapate for bands up to vibrational excess energies of  $\sim 400 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

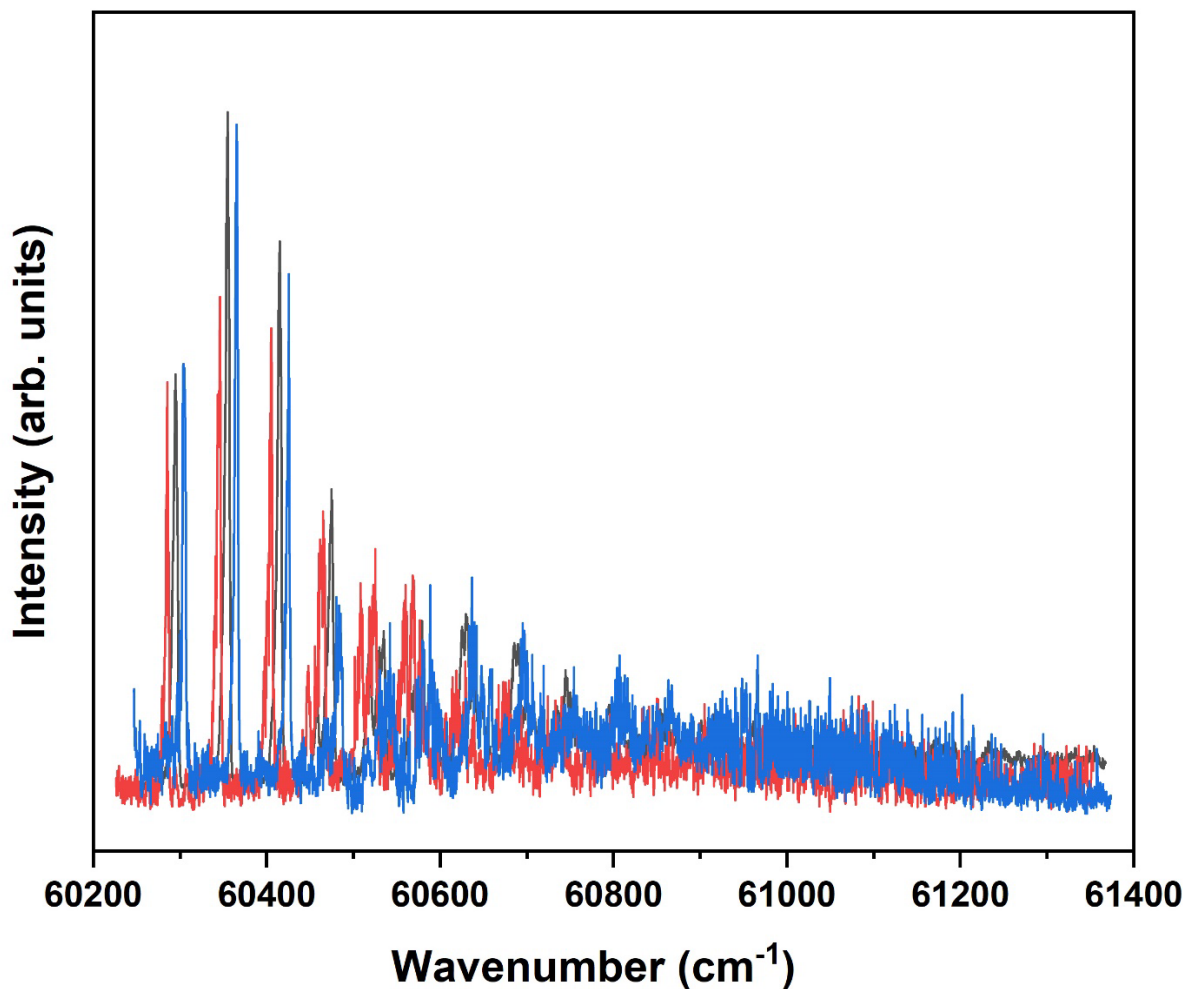
Frequency ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) <sup>a,d</sup>	Intensity (%) <sup>b</sup>	Assignment <sup>c</sup>
0.0	100	
60.2	69	$56^1$
119.8	25	$56^2$
163.3	5	$55^1$
171.9	3	$54^1$
179.2	4	$56^3$
223.7	4	$55^1 56^1$
230.7	4	$54^1 56^1$
267.9	5	$52^1$
277.5	2	-
281.4	1	$55^1 56^2$
291.8	1	$54^1 56^2$
319.7	1	$51^1$
326.6	2	$52^1 56^1$
336.2	1	$277.5 + 56^1$
353.7	1	$50^1$
380.3	1	$51^1 56^1$
386.9	1	$52^1 56^2$

<sup>a</sup> Frequency with respect to  $D_0$  adiabatic ionization energy from vibrationless level of  $S_0$  ( $60366.9 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ).

<sup>b</sup> Intensity with respect to intensity of  $D_0 \leftarrow S_1$  0-0 band.

<sup>c</sup> Standard labelling vibrational modes:  $a'(1-56)$ ,  $a''(57-87)$  with decreasing frequencies.

<sup>d</sup> For vibrational excess energies higher than  $\sim 400 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  the ZEKE-PFI spectrum still shows quite a number of bands with minor intensities but these cannot be assigned unambiguously.



**Figure S1** Time-dependent ZEKE spectra obtained for excitation at the  $S_1 \leftarrow S_0$  origin transition ( $31059.8 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) of the *syn/cis* conformer of MS for a delay between excitation and ionization laser of  $-10 \text{ ns}$  (red),  $0 \text{ ns}$  (black), and  $+10 \text{ ns}$  (blue). For clarity traces have been displaced horizontally with respect to each other. Figure S1 is the full-range version of Figure 8 in the main article.