Color Chemistry: **Electronic Transitions**

β-Carotene (orange plants -carrots)

 $\rightarrow \pi^* 454$ nm (blue light absorbed) See Wade Chapter 15-13

Lycopene

(green plants)

$$\begin{array}{c|c} & \text{HO} & \text{SO}_3\text{H} \\ \hline \text{CH}_3\text{O} & \text{N} \\ & \text{Red } \#40 \\ \text{(artificial color)} \end{array}$$