

Supporting Information

Creation of Hollow Microtubular Iron Oxalate Dihydrate Induced by a Metallo-Supramolecular Micelle Based on the Self-assembly of Potassium Ferrioxalate and Sodium Dodecyl Sulphate

Yue Teng^a, Le Xin Song^{*,a,b}, Wei Liu^{*,a}, Juan Xia^a, Li Zhao^b, Qing Shan Wang^b, Mao Mao Ruan^b

^a CAS Key Laboratory of Materials for Energy Conversion, Department of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Science and Technology of China, Jin Zhai Road 96, Hefei, China 230026

^b Department of Chemistry, University of Science and Technology of China, Jin Zhai Road 96, Hefei, China 230026

Email: solexin@ustc.edu.cn; wliu@ustc.edu.cn;

Fax: +86-551-63601592

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Experimental Section

Materials: Sodium dodecyl sulphate (SDS) and potassium ferrioxalate (PF) were obtained from Shanghai Chemical Reagent.

Synthesis of metallosurfactants of PF and SDS: 0.5 g PF was dissolved in 40 mL of H₂O at 298 K, and then 1.0 g of SDS was dissolved in the PF solution, generating a mixed solution of PF and SDS. A series of solutions composed of PF and SDS were also prepared using the same method but with different initial masses.

Hydrothermal experiments: A solution with 8.68×10^{-2} mol dm⁻³ SDS and 2.50×10^{-2} mol dm⁻³ PF was completely transferred into a 50 mL sealed stainless steel autoclave and heated to 473 K for 4 h. Fine blond tube-like crystals (FeC₂O₄ · 2H₂O, 0.14 g, 76%) were collected by filtration, washed several times with distilled water and ethanol, and dried in vacuum. The synthesis is repeated but with other two concentrations, giving either a reddish-brown powder for 8.68×10^{-3} mol dm⁻³ SDS or no precipitation for 5.0×10^{-3} mol dm⁻³ PF.

Characterization: Field emission scanning electron microscopy (FESEM, Supra 40) has been used to produce the structural information. In addition, the crystallinity of the samples was determined by the powder X-ray diffraction pattern (XRD) (Philips X'Pert Pro X-ray diffractometer) using a monochromatized Cu K α radiation source (40 kV, 40 mA) with a wavelength of 0.1542 nm and analyzed in the range $10^\circ \leq 2\theta \leq 80^\circ$. Thermogravimetry and derivative thermogravimetry (TG/DTG) measurements were determined on a TGA-50 thermogravimetric analyzer at a constant heating rate of 10.0 K min⁻¹ in air. The hydrodynamic radius of the micelles was obtained on a DynaPro-MS800 dynamic light scattering (DLS) instrument (Protein Solution, Lakewood, NJ) equipped with a thermostatic sample chamber.

Conductivity measurements: A Leici DDSJ-308 conductivity meter with automatic temperature compensation and automatic calibration was used to record the conductivity of solutions at 298 K. A conductance cell with a cell constant of 0.984 cm⁻¹ was used in a water bath whose temperature was kept at 298 K.

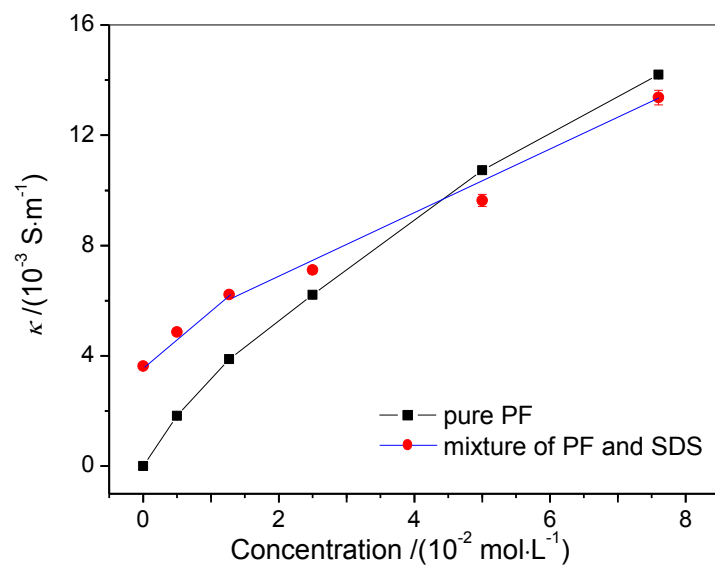


Fig. S1 The κ values of the solutions of PF in the absence and presence of SDS ($C_{\text{SDS}}, 8.68 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$; $C_{\text{PF}}, 0 \sim 7.60 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$). The κ was calculated as an average of three repeated measurements at 293 K.



Fig. S2 The transparent solution obtained in the hydrothermal processes of PF ($5.00 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$) in the presence of SDS ($8.68 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$).

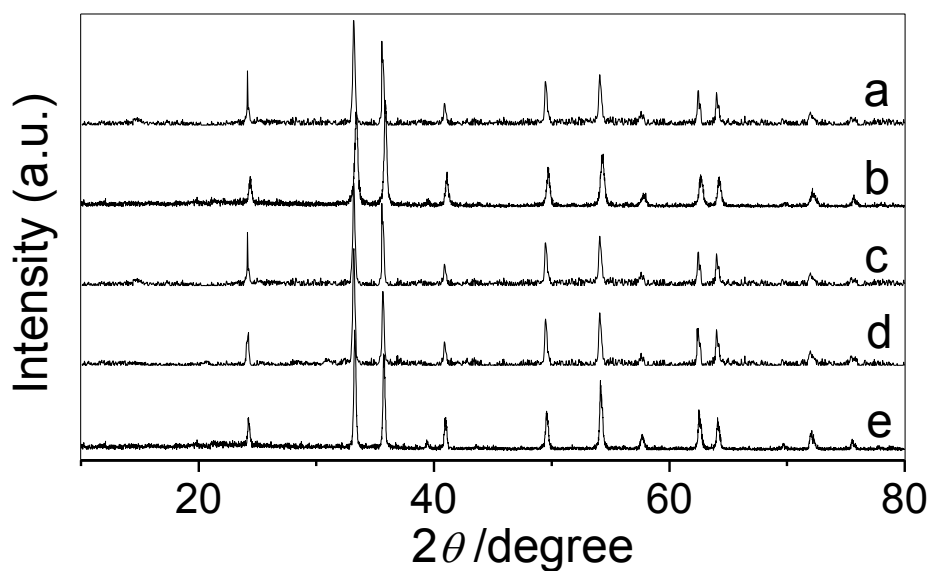


Fig. S3 Powder XRD patterns of the Fe₂O₃ obtained in the hydrothermal processes of PF ($2.50 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$) in the presence of *n*-octane (a), hexadecyl trimethyl ammonium bromide (b), sodium dodecylbenzenesulfonate (c), sodium sulfate (d) and sodium sulfite (e) with the concentration of $8.68 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$.

The thermogravimetric and differential thermogravimetric profiles (Figure S4) of the crystal tubes in air show a two-step degradation process. The first degradation occurred at 445 K with a weight loss of 19.3%, corresponding to the release of two water molecules, which agrees well with the calculated value of 19.0% in IOD. The second degradation occurred at 657 K with a final residual mass of 46.6% due to the Fe_2O_3 (calculated value of 46.5%) resulted from the oxidation of IOD.¹

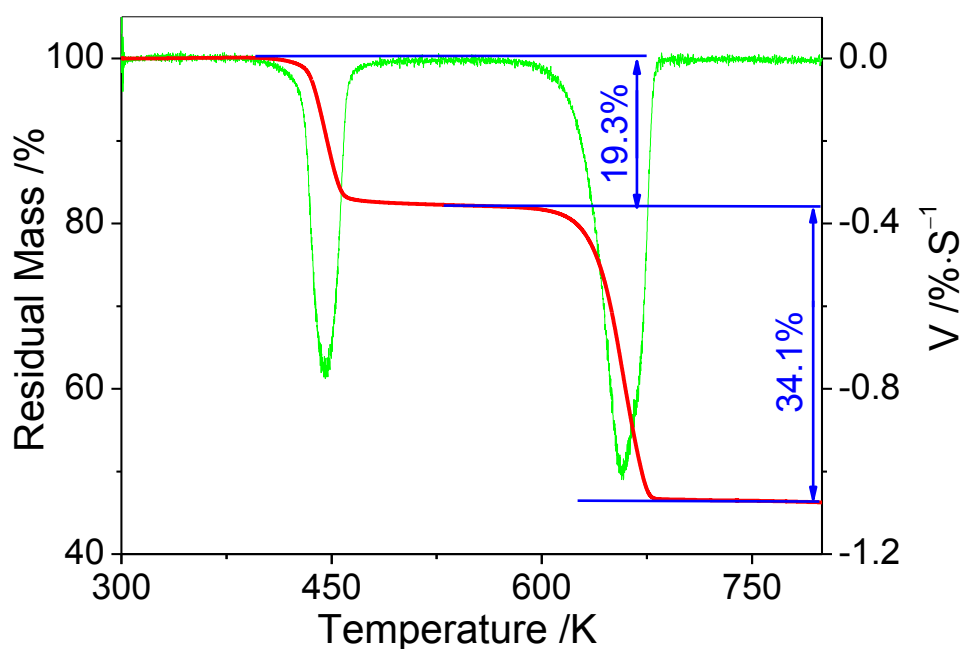


Fig. S4 The TG and DTG profiles of the IOD-1 crystals.

1 a) M. Hermanek, R. Zboril, M. Mashlan, L. Machala, O. Schneeweiss, *J. Mater. Chem.*, 2006, **16**, 1273. b) C. Cavelius, K. Moh, S. Mathur, *Cryst. Growth. Des.*, 2012, **12**, 5948. c) Z. Dang, L. X. Song, J. Yang, J. Chen, Y. Teng, *Dalton T.*, 2012, **41**, 3006.

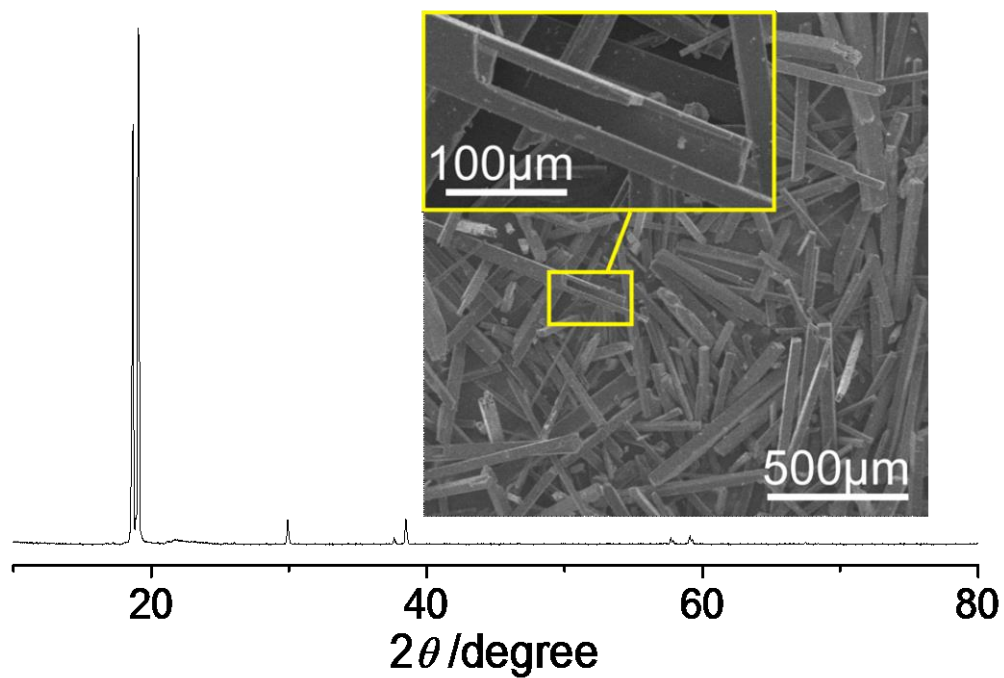


Fig. S5 The powder XRD pattern and SEM image of IOD-3 obtained in the hydrothermal processes of PF ($2.50 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$) in the presence of SDS ($5.00 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$). The yellow boxes exhibit the magnified SEM image of one tube.

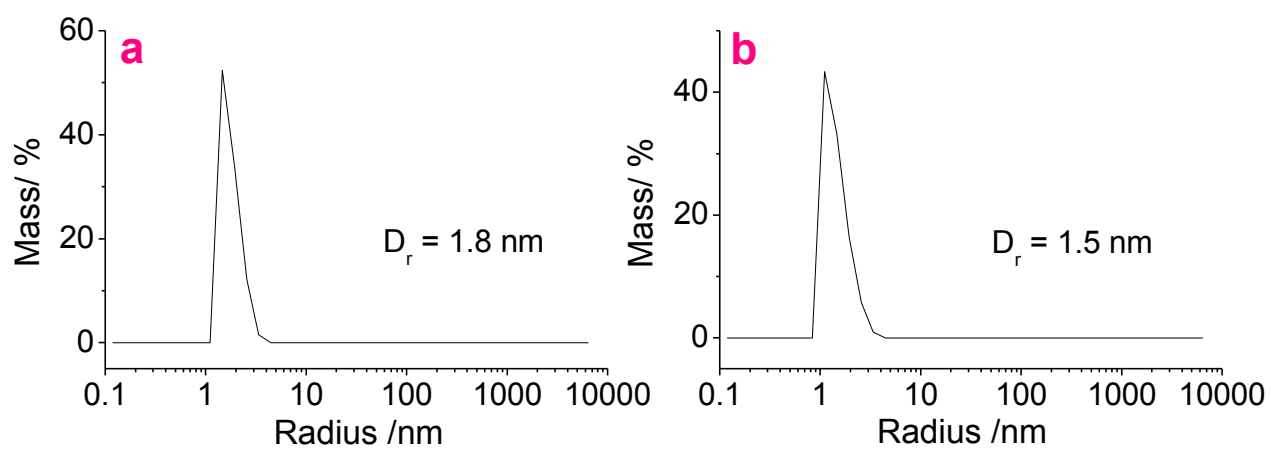


Fig. S6 DLS curves of the PF-SDS-SM in the solutions of SDS ($8.68 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$) in the presence of PF ($2.50 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$, a; and $5.00 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$, b).

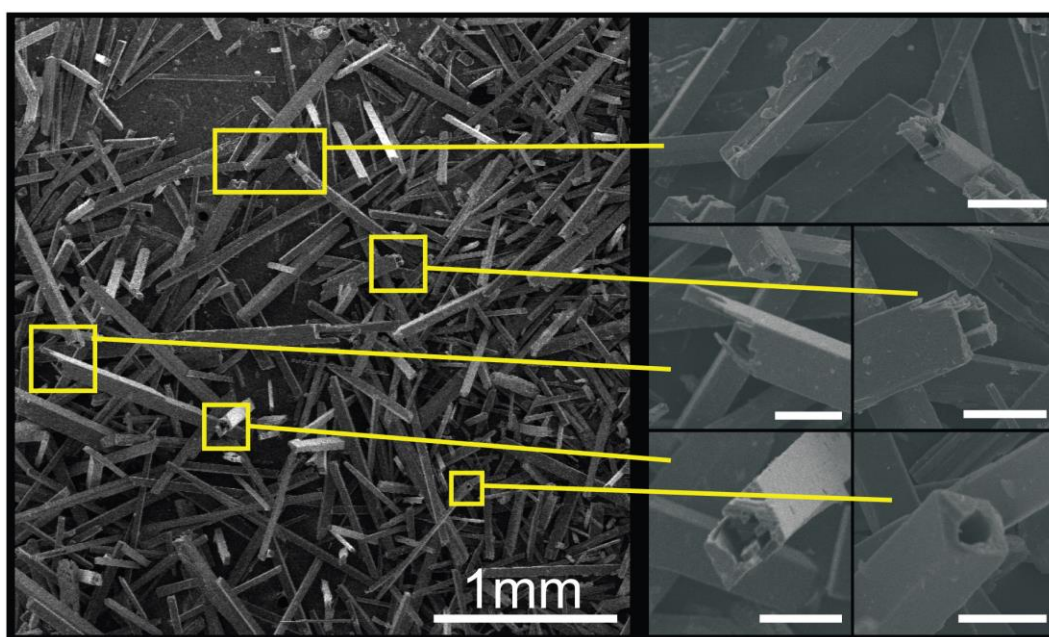


Fig. S7 SEM image of the IOD-1 before removal of SDS micelles. The yellow boxes exhibit magnified cross sections of the tubes. The white bars in the right column refer to 100 μm .