# Facile synthesis of yolk shell $Mn_2O_3@Mn_5O_8$ as an effective catalyst for peroxymonosulfate activation

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### Text S1.

#### Chemicals

 $Mn(CO)_3 (\geq 99\%), Co(NO_3)_2.6H_2O (\geq 99\%), Cu(NO_3)_2.4H_2O (\geq 99\%), NaHCO_3 (\geq$ 99.5%), NaCl ( $\geq$ 99%), NaNO<sub>3</sub> ( $\geq$ 99%), NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> ( $\geq$ 99%), NaClO<sub>4</sub> ( $\geq$ 99%), NaOH ( $\geq$ 99.8%), MnSO<sub>4</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O ( $\geq$  99%), Nitric acid (65~68%), 1,4-benzoquinone (98.7%), Phosphoric acid, chlorophenols (4-CP, 2,4-DCP, 2,4,6-TCP), phenol, tert-Butanol, methanol and other chemicals were purchased from Sinopharm Chemical Reagent Co., Ltd (Shanghai, China). 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidinol (TMP, 99%) and sodium azide (NaN<sub>3</sub>) were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, Iron oxoide (II, III) (>99.5%) and Potassium periodate were purchased from Aladdin industrial corporation. Oxone (2KHSO<sub>5</sub>•KHSO<sub>4</sub>•K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and 5, 5-dimethyl-1-pyrolene-N-oxide (DMPO) (98%) were purchased from Adamas Reagent Co., Ltd and was used as received without further purification.

#### Text S2.

#### 2.3 Characterizations

X-ray diffraction (XRD) equipped with diffractometer of Cu K- $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda$ =1.540598 Å) (PAN alytical B.V. EMPYREAN) was used to analyze the crystallinity of catalysts in powder form. The morphology of the catalyst was characterized by a high resolution field emission (FEI Nova Nano SEM 450) and a high resolution transmission electron microscopy (TEM) Tecnai G20 American. The surface area and pore size distribution was analyzed by micromeritrics ASAP 2420 USA. FTIR was obtained in the range of 400-4000 cm<sup>-1</sup> by Fourier transforms infrared (FTIR) spectrophotometer with KBr as the reference transmittance (Bruker vertex 70 American). Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) was used for phase change and thermal stability of catalysts by a TGA6

PerkinElmer with a rising temperature rate of 10 °C min<sup>-1</sup> from room temperature to 1000 °C. X-ray photoelectron spectra (XPS) on Kratos Axis Ultra spectrometer ELD (Kratos Corporation) with monochromic Al K $\alpha$  radiation as the exciting source (225 W) was used for the analysis of composition and oxidation states. Binding energies were calibrated versus the carbon signal at 285 eV.

#### Thermodynamic tests

First order kinetic model (equation 1) was used for the curve fitting of oxidative degradation, whereas k was the first order rate constant, C was the detected concentration after certain reaction time (t), and  $C_0$  was the initial concentration.

$$\ln\left(\frac{C}{C_0}\right) = -kt \tag{1}$$

Kinetic rate constants of 4-CP degradation by  $Mn_2O_3@Mn_5O_8$  were measured separately under different temperatures of 25, 35 and 45 °C, respectively. The correlation between constants and temperatures was fitted by the Arrhenius relationship, based on which the activation energy was calculated.

#### **Text Detail of EPR studies**

Electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR) spectrometry studies was conducted as follows: a solution of 0.3 g/L catalyst, 1.5 mM PMS, 4-CP 80 ppm and different spin-trapping reagent was mixed and analyzed by EPR spectrometer (JEOL FA200, Japan) at room temperature. Conditions: sweep width: 100 G; microwave frequency: 9.87 GHz; modulation frequency: 100 GHz; and power: 18.11 mW.

## Text. 3. Detail of analysis manganese ions (Mn<sup>2+</sup> and Mn<sup>4+</sup>) in reaction solution via UV-Vis spectroscopy

The leached sample was analysised by ICP for sample, 5.6 mg/L was detected at lower pH =3.6. Moreover, both  $Mn^{2+}$  and  $Mn^{4+}$  in reaction solution were investigated by UV-Vis spectroscopy. First, the stock solution of manganese ions (100 ppm Mn) was prepared from MnSO<sub>4</sub>. The deionized water was used for solutions manganese ions ( $Mn^{2+}$ ), and was an almost colourless solution. For manganese ions, acid ( $H_3PO_4 = 5 \text{ mL}$ ) was used for easily oxidized to permanganate ions, Potassium periodate, KIO<sub>4</sub> (0.4 g) was used to oxidize  $Mn^{2+}(aq)$  to the purple  $MnO_4$  (aq) ion. Small quantities of manganese can be determined as highly coloured permanganate ion, which exhibits a maximum absorbance at 525 nm. Then, UV-Vis spectroscopy was used for all standards solutions as well as for leached Mn ions sample. Various concentration of  $Mn^{2+}$  ions and leached Mn ions Solution were prepared and diluted to 50 mL. The absorbance values mentioned in table. S2. It should be noted that 15 mL leached sample of Mn ions was also diluted to 50 mL. Then plotted standard solution ppm vs absorbance values as shown in table.S2

y=mx+c

0.32423= slope \* Conc + intercept

Conc= 0.32423-(intercept)/Slope

Conc= 0.32423-(-0.00219)/0.06957

Conc= 4.69 ppm

Total leaching = 5.6 ppm

Thus, from above calculation, we got concentration for  $Mn^{2+}$  (4.69 ppm) and others for  $Mn^{4+}$  (0.91 ppm).

Table. S1. Amounts of the precursors used for calcination process and the percentage yield of the catalysts

Catalysts	Amount of precursors	Amount of catalysts a	after	Percentage yield
	MnCO-100	calcination		of catalysts
E-MnO <sub>2</sub>	5.045 g	4.315 g		85.46%
$Mn_2O_3@Mn_5O_8$	5.027 g	3.541 g		70.43%
$Mn_2O_3$	5.008 g	3.379 g		67.47%
Mn <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	5.005 g	3.233 g		64.59%

S.No	Mn (ppm)	Absorbance
1	1	0.070619
2	2	0.130324
3	3	0.208135
4	4	0.268715
5	5	0.352542
6 (sample)		0.097272, (0.097272*3.33 = 0.32423)

Table. S2. Show  $Mn^{2+}$  ion (ppm) and absorbance values



Fig. S1. XRD pattern of  $Co_3O_4$  and CuO

Fig. S1



Fig. S2 TGA profiles of (a)  $\mathcal{E}$ -MnO<sub>2</sub>, (b) Mn<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and (c) Mn<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> in air at a heating rate of 10 °C/min.





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Fig. S5. Effect of temperature and First order kinetic model of  $Mn_2O_3$  ( $Mn_5O_8$  catalytic 4-CP reactions.





**Fig. S6.** Effect of PMS concentration on 4-CP removal. Reaction conditions: Catalyst 0.3 g/L, 4-CP 80 ppm, and temperature: 25 °C.





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**Fig. S8.** 4-CP degradation of by homogeneous and heterogeneous catalysis. Reaction condition: Catalyst 0.3 g/L, PMS, 1.5 mM, 4-CP 80 ppm, and temperature: 25 °C.





Time (60 min)

**Fig. S9.** Removal of various pollutants on  $Mn_2O_3@Mn_5O_8$ . Reaction conditions: Catalyst 0.3 g/L, PMS 1.5 mM, contaminants (4-CP, 2, 4,-DCP, Phenol = 80 ppm 2, 4, 6-TCP =10 ppm) and temperature: 25 °C.





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