## **Supporting information**

# Heterogeneous Fenton-like activity of novel metallosalophen magnetic nanocomposites: Significant anchoring group effect

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## Experimental

### Remarks

All chemicals were analytical grade reagents and used without further purification. FT-IR spectra were recorded on a Nicolet-Impact 400D spectrometer in the range of 400-4000 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) of powders carried out on Shimadzu 50 under the air flow at a uniform heating rate of 10 °C min<sup>-1</sup> in the range of 30-800 °C. Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) measurements were obtained by a 906 E instrument (Zeiss, Jena, Germany). The Fe and Mn content of the catalyst was measured by an inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectrometry (ICP-OES), using a VISTA-PRO ICP analyzer. UV-Vis spectra were recorded on a V670 JASCO spectrophotometer. Magnetic properties measurements were performed using vibrating sample magnetometer (VSM, Lake Shore Cryotronics 7407). Powder X-ray diffraction (XRD) was performed on a Bruker D8-advance X-ray diffractometer with Cu Ka ( $\lambda$ = 1.5406 Å) radiation. EDX elemental analysis performed by Scanning Electron Microscope TESCAN Vega Model with EDX detector. GC-MS analysis was performed by Agilent 5975c.

## The Preparation of γ-Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (MNP)

 $\gamma$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> MNPs were synthesized by a chemical co-precipitation technique reported previously.<sup>1,2</sup> FeCl<sub>2</sub>. 4H<sub>2</sub>O (1.99 g) and FeCl<sub>3</sub>.6 H<sub>2</sub>O (3.25 g) were dissolved in deionized water (30 mL) under Ar atmosphere at room temperature. An NH<sub>4</sub>OH solution (0.6 M, 200 mL) was then added dropwise (drop rate = 1 mL min<sup>-1</sup>) to the stirring mixture at room temperature to reach the reaction pH to 11. The resulting black dispersion was continuously stirred for 1 h at room temperature and then heated to reflux for 1 h to yield a brown dispersion. The magnetic nanoparticles were then

separated by an external magnet and washed with deionized water until it was neutralized. The assynthesized sample was heated at 2 °C min<sup>-1</sup> up to 250 °C and then kept in the furnace for 3 h to give a reddish-brown powder.

#### Synthesis of silica-coated maghemite nanoparticles (SMNP)

The silica-coated maghemite nanoparticles were synthesized with minor modifications of literature.<sup>3</sup> 1.7 g of synthesized Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, suspended in 80 mL methanol and 20 mL deionized water and sonicated for 1 h at 40 °C. Then aqueous ammonia (25%, 1.8 mL) was added slowly over 10 min and the mixture was heated at 40 °C for 30 min under mechanical stirrer. Then 1 mL of tetraethylorthosilicate (TEOS) was added slowly to the mixture and then stirred mechanically for 24 h at room temperature. The iron oxide nanoparticles with a thin layer of silica (Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>@SiO<sub>2</sub>) were separated by an external magnet and washed two times with ethanol and diethyl ether and dried under vacuum.

#### **Preparation of Fe(III)SalophenCl complex**

Fe(III)SalophenCl was prepared as previously described.<sup>4</sup> In brief, Salophen ligand was synthesized by dropwise adding of two equivalents of 2-hydroxybenzaldehyde (20 mmol) in 25 mL ethanol to one equivalent of 1,2-phenylendiamine (10 mmol) in 25 mL ethanol and refluxing for 1 h that resulted in the yellow precipitate of Salophen. The precipitate cooled down to room temperature and filtered and washed with cold methanol and water. The FeCl<sub>3</sub>.6H<sub>2</sub>O (0.3 mmol) was mixed with the equivalent amount of Salophen in 10 mL ethanol and heated to 70 °C for 1 h under argon atmosphere. This resulted solution was cooled down to room temperature and filtrated off and washed with cool ethanol and dried under vacuum with P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>.

#### Preparation of Mn(III)SalophenCl complex

Mn(III)SalophenCl synthesized according to the method described previously in the literature.<sup>5</sup> 0.3 mmol of Salophen ligand is in 10 mL hot absolute ethanol. Then Solid Mn(OAc)<sub>2</sub>.H<sub>2</sub>O (0.3 mmol) is added in one portion and the solution is refluxed for 1 h. Approximately 1 mmol of solid LiCl are then added and, the mixture is heated to reflux for an additional 0.5 h. Cooling the mixture

to 0 °C affords the Mn(III)complex as dark brown crystals that are washed thoroughly with cool ethanol and  $H_2O$  and dried under vacuum.



Fig. S1. FT-IR spectra of SAPy



Fig. S2. FT-IR spectra of Fe(III)SalophenCl



Fig. S3. FT-IR spectra of (a) SMNP@SAPy/MnSal, (b) Mn(III)(Salophen)Cl.



Fig. S4. EDS Spectrum of the as-prepared (a) SMNP@SAPy/FeSal, (b) SMNP@SAPy/MnSal.



Fig. S5. XRD pattern of (a) SMNP@SAPy, (b) SMNP@SAPy/FeSal and (c) SMNP@SAPy/MnSal .



Fig. S6. TGA thermograms of SMNP@SAPy/MnSal (B) in comparison with SMNP@SAPy (A) .



Fig. S7. Hysteresis loops of the as-synthesized (a) bare  $\gamma$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, (b) SMNP@SAPy, and (c) SMNP@SAPy/MnSal, at 298 K.



Fig. S8. FT-IR spectra of SAET



Fig. S9. FT-IR spectra of MNP (a), SMNP (b), SMNP@SAET (c) and SMNP@SAET/FeSal (d).



Fig. S10. FT-IR spectra of SMNP@SAET/MnSal



Fig. S11. EDS Spectrum of the as-prepared (a) SMNP@SAET/FeSal, (b) SMNP@SAET/MnSal.



Fig. S12. XRD pattern of (a) SMNP@SAET, (b) SMNP@SAET/FeSal, and (c) SMNP@SAET/MnSal.



Fig. S13. TGA thermograms of (a,B) SMNP@SAET/FeSal and (b,B) SMNP@SAET/MnSal in comparison with SMNP@SAET (A in a,b).



**Fig. S14.**  $Ln[RhB]_o/[RhB]_t$  as a function of reaction time for T = 298, 308, 313, 323 K.



**Fig. S15.**  $Ln[C]_0/[C]_t$  as a function of reaction time for RhB, methylene blue (MB), methyl orange (MO) and crystal violet (CV) at T = 323 K.





Fig. S16. GC trace and MS spectra of intermediates of RhB degradation in the present system.



Fig. S17. UV-Vis spectral changes of RhB in the present system.

## References

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