

1 **Facile synthesis of hydrangea-like copper-tannic acid**
2 **networks for separation and purification of His-rich proteins**
3 **with exceptional performance**

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27 **Experimental Section**

28 **Materials.**

29 Tannic acid (TA) and copper sulfate pentahydrate ($\text{CuSO}_4 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$) were purchased
30 from Aladdin (Shanghai, China). Sodium chloride (NaCl) and 2-methylimidazole were
31 bought from Adamas-beta (Shanghai, China). Sodium hydroxide (NaOH), acetonitrile
32 (ACN), disodium hydrogen phosphate (Na_2HPO_3), sodium dihydrogen phosphate
33 (NaH_2PO_3), hydrochloric acid (HCl, AR, 36%-38%) and nitric acid (HNO_3 , AR, 65%-
34 68%) were obtained from Sinopharm (Shanghai, China). Sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS)
35 and hexadecyl trimethyl ammonium bromide (CTAB) were purchased from Sigma-
36 Aldrich (Shanghai, China). Bovine hemoglobin (BHb), bovine serum albumin (BSA),
37 lysozyme (Lyz) and cytochrome c (Cyt C) were bought from Lanji (shanghai, China).
38 Bovine whole blood were obtained from Dingguo (Fujian, China). Deionized water
39 ($18.2 \text{ M}\Omega \text{ cm}^{-1}$) was purified with Milli-Q water system (Millipore, USA). All reagents
40 listed above were of analytical grade or better.

41 **Characterization.**

42 Scanning electronic microscopy (SEM) images were obtained by Zeiss Gemini
43 300. Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) analysis was conducted by the FEI
44 Tecnai F20 with an accelerating voltage of 100 kV. N_2 adsorption/desorption isotherms
45 was finished on ASAP 2460 (Micromeritics, USA) at 77K. Before analysis, the samples
46 were degassed by vacuum at 100 °C for 10 h. Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD)
47 patterns were obtained at a scan rate of 5° min^{-1} over a range of 10-80° (2 θ) on a X'Pert-
48 Pro MPD (Philips, Holland) power diffractometer with Cu K α source ($\lambda=1.5418 \text{ \AA}$).

49 Fourier-transform infrared spectra (FT-IR) were analyzed by attenuated total
50 reflectance (ATR) on a Nicolet iS50 spectrometer (Thermo Fisher, USA) in the
51 wavenumber range of 4000-400 cm^{-1} . The X-ray photoelectron spectra (XPS) were
52 analyzed by Thermo Kalpa. Inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectrometer
53 (ICP-OES) analysis was conducted on iCAP 7400 (Thermo Fisher, USA). For the
54 sample preparation, 100.3 mg material was digested in a mixed solution of concentrated
55 HNO_3 (2 mL) and HCl (6 mL), and then diluted to 50 mL by 5% HNO_3 solution.
56 Finally, the obtained solution was diluted 100 times for further ICP-OES analysis.
57 (TGA) was carried out on a thermal analyzer (STA449F5 Jupiter) at a heating rate of
58 10 K min^{-1} to 800 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ in air atmosphere at 50 mL min^{-1} . HPLC analysis was performed
59 using a Shimadzu HPLC system (Prominence LC-20A, Kyoto, Japan) and a Ultimate
60 LP-C18 (4.6 mm \times 150 mm, 5 μm , 300 \AA) column (Welch Tech., Shanghai, China).
61 The proteins were analyzed under gradient conditions: a gradient was used with buffer
62 A (0.1% TFA aqueous solution) and buffer B (0.08% TFA acetonitrile solution); 0–7.0
63 min, a linear gradient of buffer B from 33 to 70% was used; the flow rate was 1.0 mL
64 min^{-1} ; the column temperature was 35 $^{\circ}\text{C}$. The injected sample volume was 10 μL , and
65 then was detected by a UV detector at 280 nm for BSA and Lyz, 406 nm for BHb and
66 Cyt C. Electrophoresis of proteins was performed by regular sodium dodecyl sulfate
67 polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) using a Mini-protean II system (Bio-
68 Rad, USA) with 12% running and 5% stacking gels. Proteins were stained with
69 Coomassie Brilliant Blue R-250.

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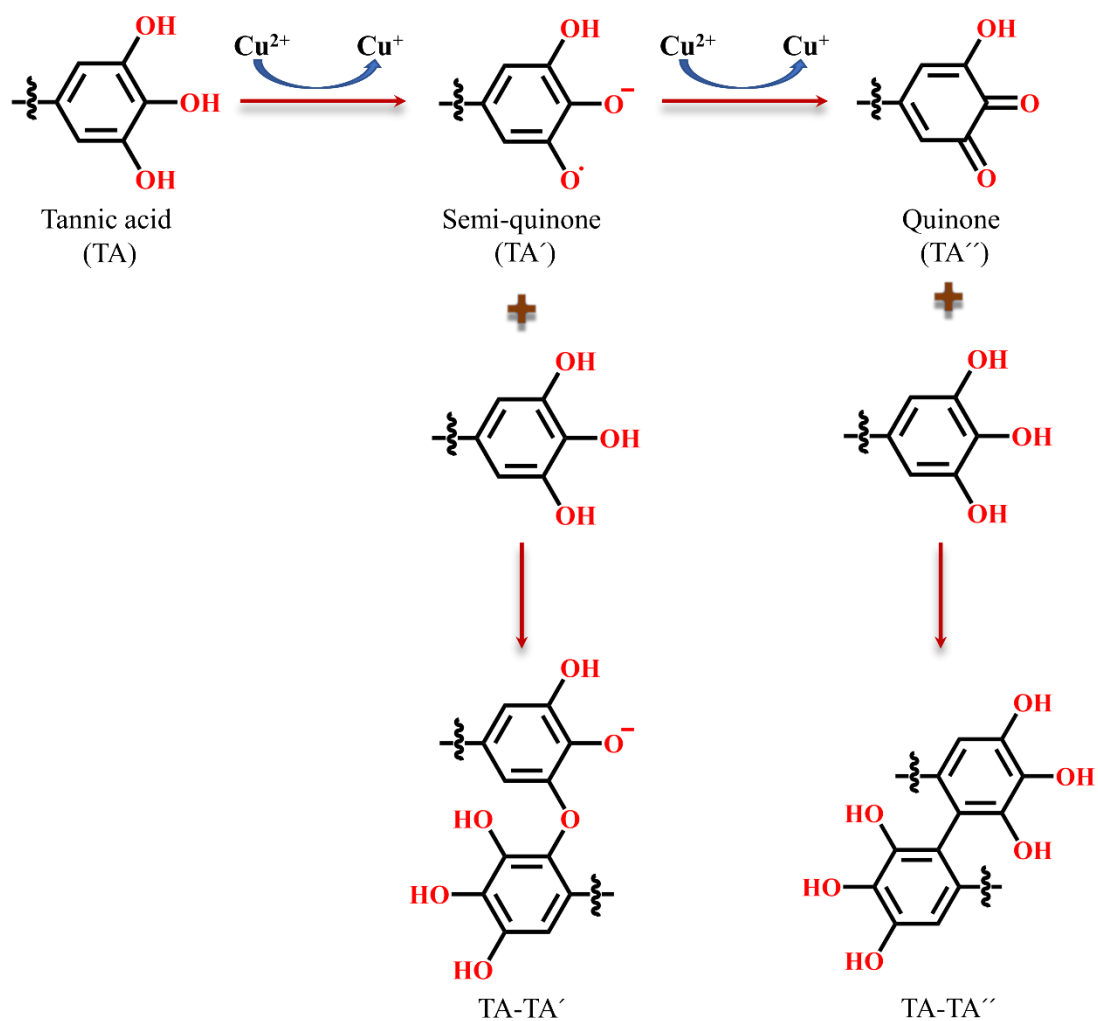
71 **Supplementary figures**

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77 **Figure S1** Cu²⁺-mediated oxidative coupling assembly of tannic acid (TA).

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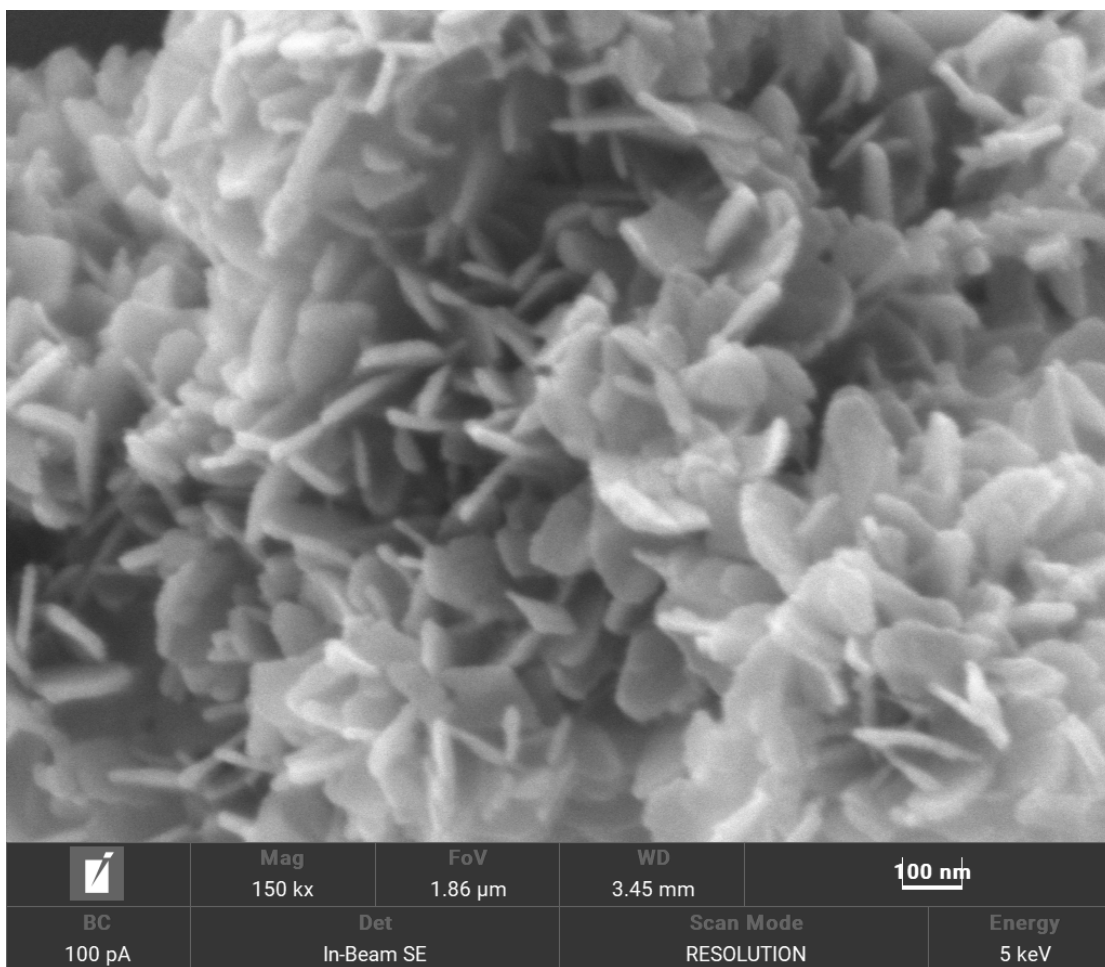
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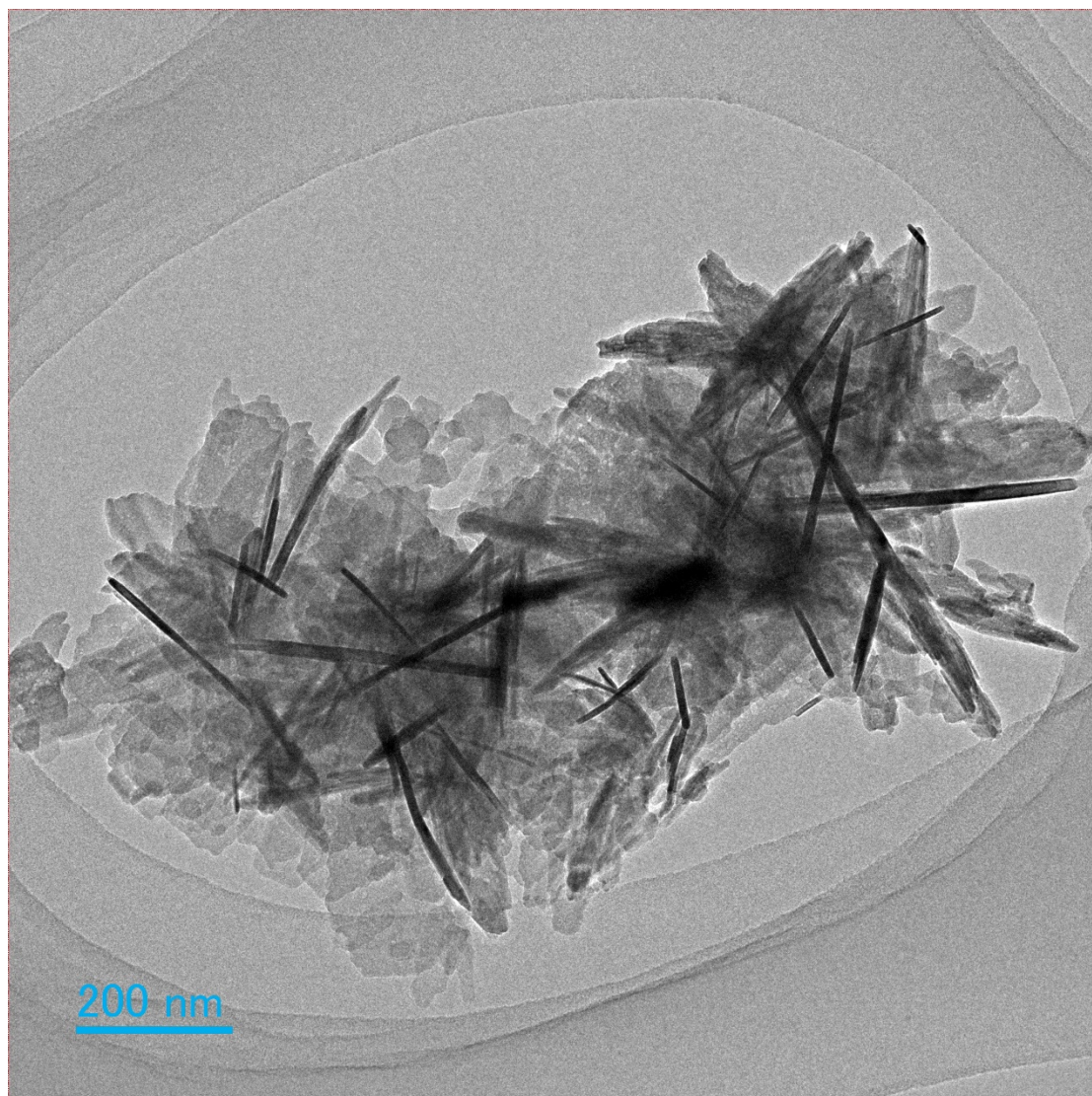
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Figure S2 SEM image of hydrangea-like Cu-TA networks.

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Figure S3 TEM image of hydrangea-like Cu-TA networks.

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126 **Table S1** Isothermal parameters for BHb adsorption onto hydrangea-like Cu-TA
 127 networks calculated using Freundlich model.

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Isothermal model	Freundlich model			
Linear form of equation	$\ln Q_e = \ln k_F + \frac{\ln C_e}{n}$			
Isothermal parameters	k_F (mg/g)	n	R^2	Linear range (mg/mL)
Cu-TA	5568.33	0.782	0.9625	0.1-2.5

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135 **Table S2** Kinetic parameters for BHb adsorption on hydrangea-like Cu-TA networks
 136 calculated using the pseudo-second order kinetic model and intraparticle diffusion
 137 model.

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Kinetic model	Pseudo-second-order model			Weber-Morris model		
Linear form of equation	$\frac{t}{Q_t} = \frac{t}{Q_m} + \frac{1}{k_1 Q_m^2}$			$Q_t = k_2 t^{1/2} + C$		
Kinetic parameters	k_1 (g mg ⁻¹ h ⁻¹)	Q_m (mg/g)	R^2	k_2 (mg g ⁻¹ h ^{-1/2})	C	R^2
Cu-TA	1.28*10 ⁻⁵	28280.70	0.9991	7792.30	769.08	0.9734
				3111.77	12194.96	0.9615
				1649.15	17392.09	0.9460

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