## **Supporting Information**

## Cu(II) inhibited the transport of tetracycline in porous media: Role of

## complexation

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## **Figure Captions**

**Fig. S1** The breakthrough curves of TC transport in saturated porous media in the presence of Cu(II) in seawater (A) and freshwater (B).

**Fig. S2** The optimized structures of (A) TC, (B-D) TC-Cu complex A, B, and C with atomic number labels.

**Fig. S3** The optimized adsorption structure of (A) Complex A (CuHTC<sup> $\pm$ </sup>), (B) Complex B (CuHTC<sup> $\pm$ </sup>) and (C) Complex C (Cu<sub>2</sub>TC<sup> $\pm$ </sup>) on SiO<sub>2</sub> (001) surface with only weak intermolecular interactions.

**Fig. S4** The PDOS of (A) TC-SiO<sub>2</sub>, (B) Complex A-SiO<sub>2</sub>, (C) Complex B-SiO<sub>2</sub>, and (D) Complex C-SiO<sub>2</sub>.

Table S1 Common ions and water quality parameters in seawater and freshwater.

**Table S2** The total DFT energies of TC species with different charges or spin multiplicities before complexation process.

**Table S3** The total DFT energies of TC-Cu species with different charges or spin multiplicities after complexation process.

Table S4 The Cu-O bond distances and Mayer bond orders in TC-Cu complexes.

**Table S5** The typical intermolecular bond distances and bond population between the TC/TC-Cu complex and  $SiO_2$  (001) surface.



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| Test item         | Unit  | Seawater             | Freshwater |
|-------------------|-------|----------------------|------------|
| Ca <sup>2+</sup>  | mg/L  | 438                  | 80.1       |
| $Mg^{2+}$         | mg/L  | 804                  | 19.1       |
| NO <sub>3</sub> - | mg/L  | 4.89                 | < 0.004    |
| SO4 <sup>2-</sup> | mg/L  | 1.88×10 <sup>3</sup> | 81.6       |
| Cl-               | mg/L  | $1.58 \times 10^{4}$ | 104        |
| Na <sup>+</sup>   | mg/L  | 7.88×10 <sup>3</sup> | 42.6       |
| pН                | -     | 7.86                 | 8.51       |
| TOC               | mg/L  | 7.83                 | 10.16      |
| Conductivity      | mS/cm | 32.4                 | 0.67       |

 Table S1 Common ions and water quality parameters in seawater and freshwater.

| Structure                        | Charge | Number of<br>unpair electron | Spin multiplicity | Energy<br>(Hartree) |
|----------------------------------|--------|------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| $\mathrm{HTC}^{\pm}(\mathrm{A})$ | 0      | 1                            | 2                 | -1560.711           |
| HTC <sup>-</sup> (A)             | -1     | 0                            | 1                 | -1560.886           |
| $\mathrm{HTC}^{\pm}(\mathrm{B})$ | 0      | 1                            | 2                 | -1560.707           |
| HTC <sup>-</sup> (B)             | -1     | 0                            | 1                 | -1560.892           |
| $TC^{\pm}(C)$                    | 0      | 0                            | 1                 | -1560.022           |
| $TC^{\pm}(C)$                    | 0      | 2                            | 3                 | -1560.060           |
| TC <sup>-1</sup> (C)             | -1     | 1                            | 2                 | -1560.245           |
| TC <sup>-2</sup> (C)             | -2     | 0                            | 1                 | -1560.412           |
| TC <sup>-2</sup> (C)             | -2     | 0                            | 3                 | -1560.059           |

**Table S2** The total DFT energies of TC species with different charges or spin multiplicities before complexation process.

Blue indicates the lowest energy of TC species under this condition.

| Structure   | Charge | Numbers of<br>unpair electron | spin<br>multiplicity | Energy<br>(Hartree) |
|---|--------|-------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Complex A (CuHTC <sup>+</sup> )                             | 1      | 1                             | 2                    | -3200.633           |
| Complex A (CuHTC <sup>±</sup> )                             | 0      | 0                             | 1                    | -3200.833           |
| Complex B (CuHTC <sup>+</sup> )                             | 1      | 1                             | 2                    | -3200.651           |
| Complex B (CuHTC <sup>±</sup> )                             | 0      | 0                             | 1                    | -3200.840           |
| Complex C (Cu <sub>2</sub> TC <sup>2+</sup> )               | 2      | 0                             | 1                    | -4839.888           |
| Complex C (Cu <sub>2</sub> TC <sup>2+</sup> )               | 2      | 2                             | 3                    | -4839.924           |
| Complex C (Cu <sub>2</sub> TC <sup>+</sup> )                | 1      | 1                             | 2                    | -4840.130           |
| Complex C (Cu <sub>2</sub> TC <sup><math>\pm</math></sup> ) | 0      | 0                             | 1                    | -4840.313           |

**Table S3** The total DFT energies of TC-Cu species with different charges or spin multiplicities after complexation process.

Blue indicates the lowest energy of the complex under this condition.

| Structure  | Cu-O distance (Å) | Mayer bond order |
|--|-------------------|------------------|
|  | 1.950             | 0.377            |
| Complex A (CuHIC <sup>+</sup> )  | 1.943             | 0.398            |
|  | 1.952             | 0.389            |
| Complex B (CuHIC <sup>+</sup> )  | 1.945             | 0.408            |
|  | 1.948             | 0.380            |
| $C_{\rm employ} C_{\rm employ} C_{$ | 1.942             | 0.400            |
| Complex C ( $Cu_2 I C^2$ )   | 1.948             | 0.396            |
|  | 1.942             | 0.413            |

 $\textbf{Table S4} \ \textbf{The Cu-O bond distances and Mayer bond orders in TC-Cu complexes.}$ 

| Structure –                   | Hydrogen bond |            | Cu-O         |            |
|-------------------------------|---------------|------------|--------------|------------|
|                               | distance (Å)  | population | distance (Å) | population |
| TC-SiO <sub>2</sub>           | 1.569         | 0.13       | /            | /          |
|                               | 2.476         | 0.00       | /            | /          |
|                               | 2.488         | 0.01       | /            | /          |
| Complex<br>A-SiO <sub>2</sub> | 1.648         | 0.11       |              |            |
|                               | 1.917         | 0.05       | 2 000        | 0.00       |
|                               | 2.117         | 0.02       | 2.008        | 0.09       |
|                               | 2.464         | 0.01       |              |            |
| Complex<br>B-SiO <sub>2</sub> | /             | /          | 1.943        | 0.10       |
| Complex<br>C-SiO <sub>2</sub> | 2.477         | 0.01       | 1.892        | 0.14       |

**Table S5** The typical intermolecular bond distances and bond population between the TC/TC-Cu complex and  $SiO_2$  (001) surface.