

## *Supporting information*

### **Brønsted-Lewis acidic ionic liquid-derived ZnS quantum dots: Synthesis, characterization, and multifunctional applications in pollutant degradation and iodine sorption**

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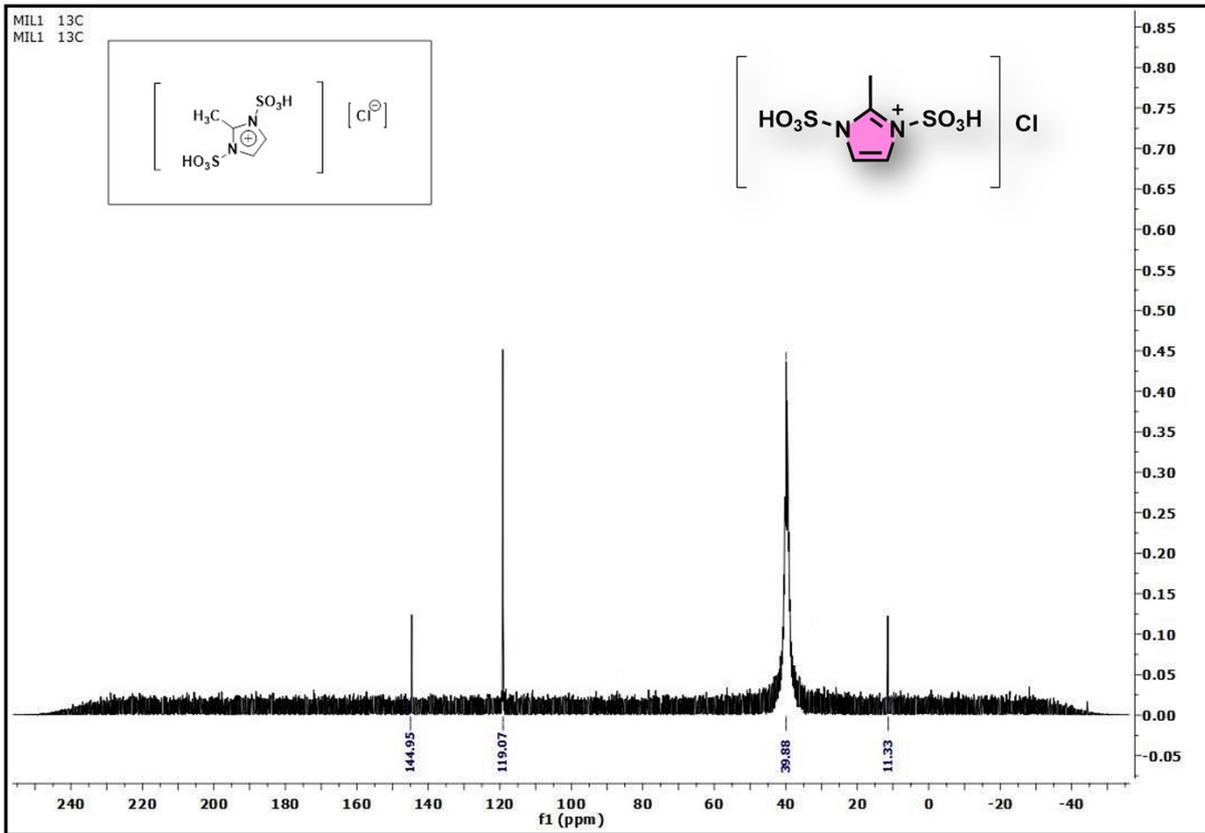
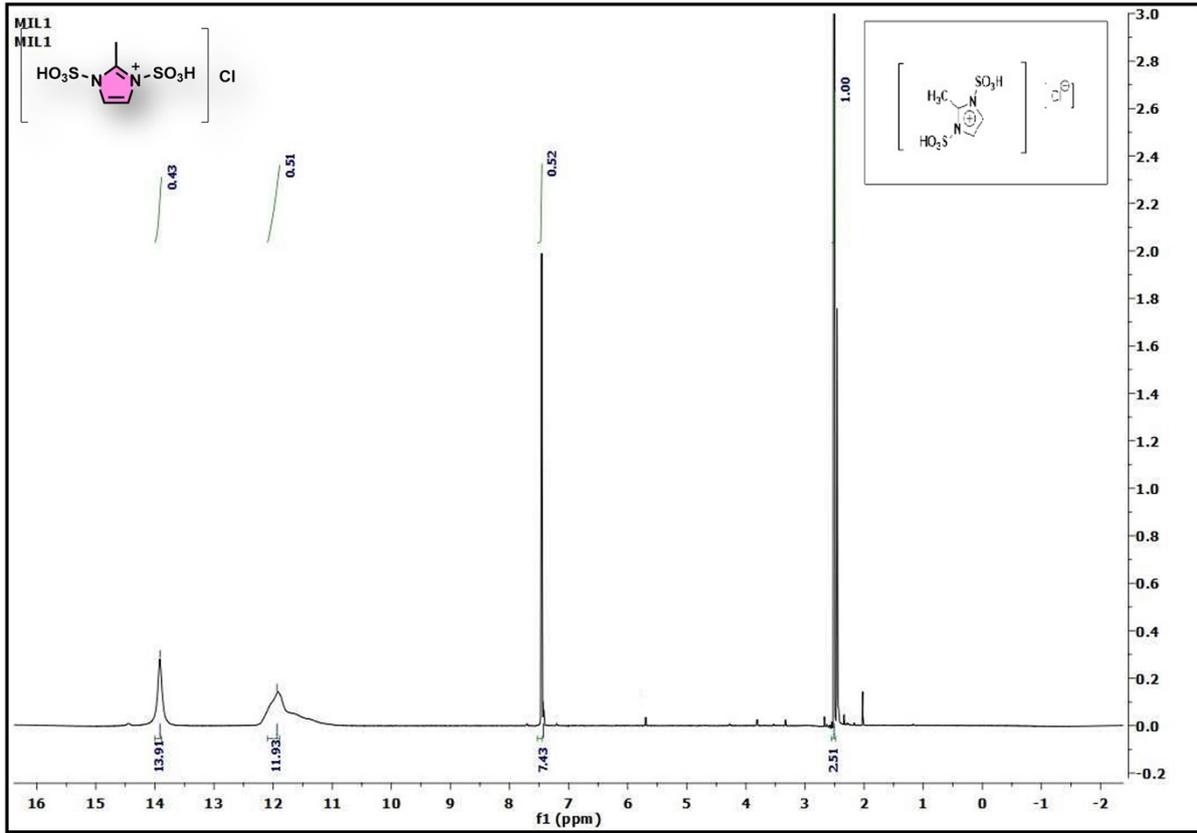
**Fig. S15:** Representative desorption plot

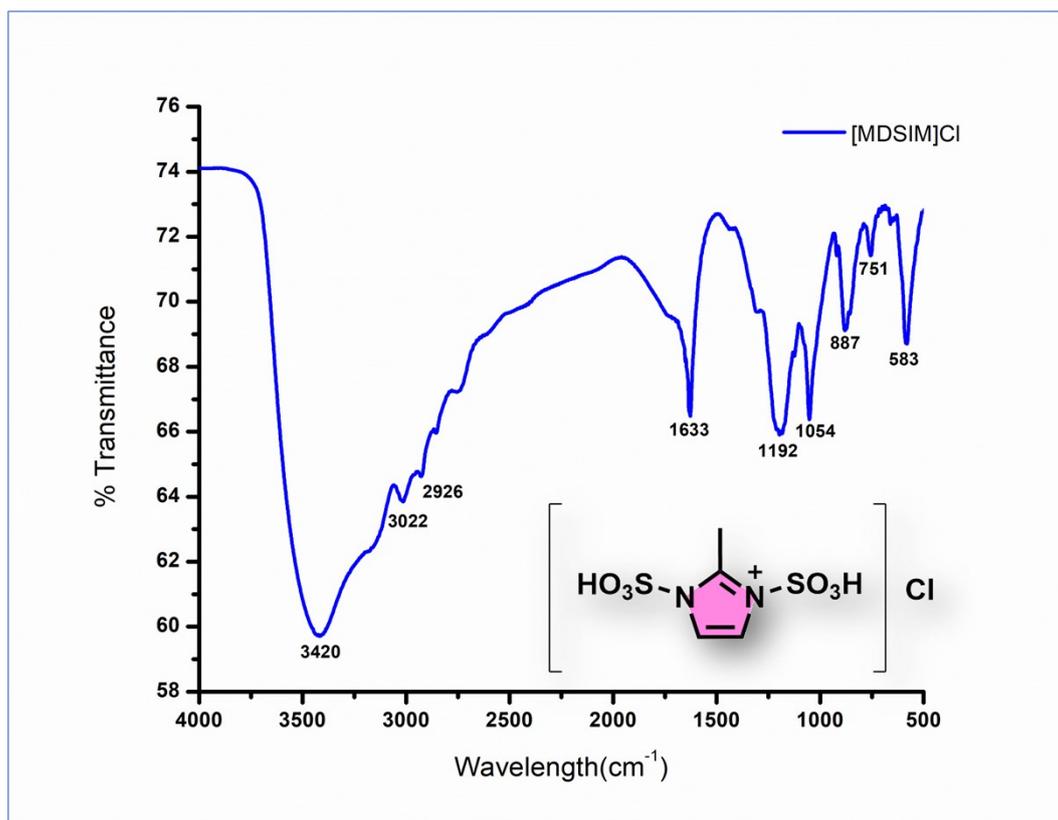
**Fig. S16:** Iodine adsorption recyclability plot

**Typical procedure for synthesis of 2-alkyl-1,3-disufoimidazolium chloride:** Approximately 20 mmol of 2-alkylimidazole was taken in a 100 mL two necked round bottom flux. The compound was dissolved in 10 ml dry DCM ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) and stirred for few minutes. Then 2.66 mL (40 mmol) of  $\text{ClSO}_3\text{H}$  was added drop by drop to the stirred solution kept on ice bath. After stirring for two hours, the reaction mixture was separated into two layers of DCM and ionic liquid. The DCM layer was decanted, and the IL layer was washed 3 times with an excess amount of DCM solvent. The crude ionic liquid layer was dried under vacuum to get dark brown color viscous ionic liquid  $[\text{RDSIM}]\text{Cl}$  (R= Methyl/ Butyl).

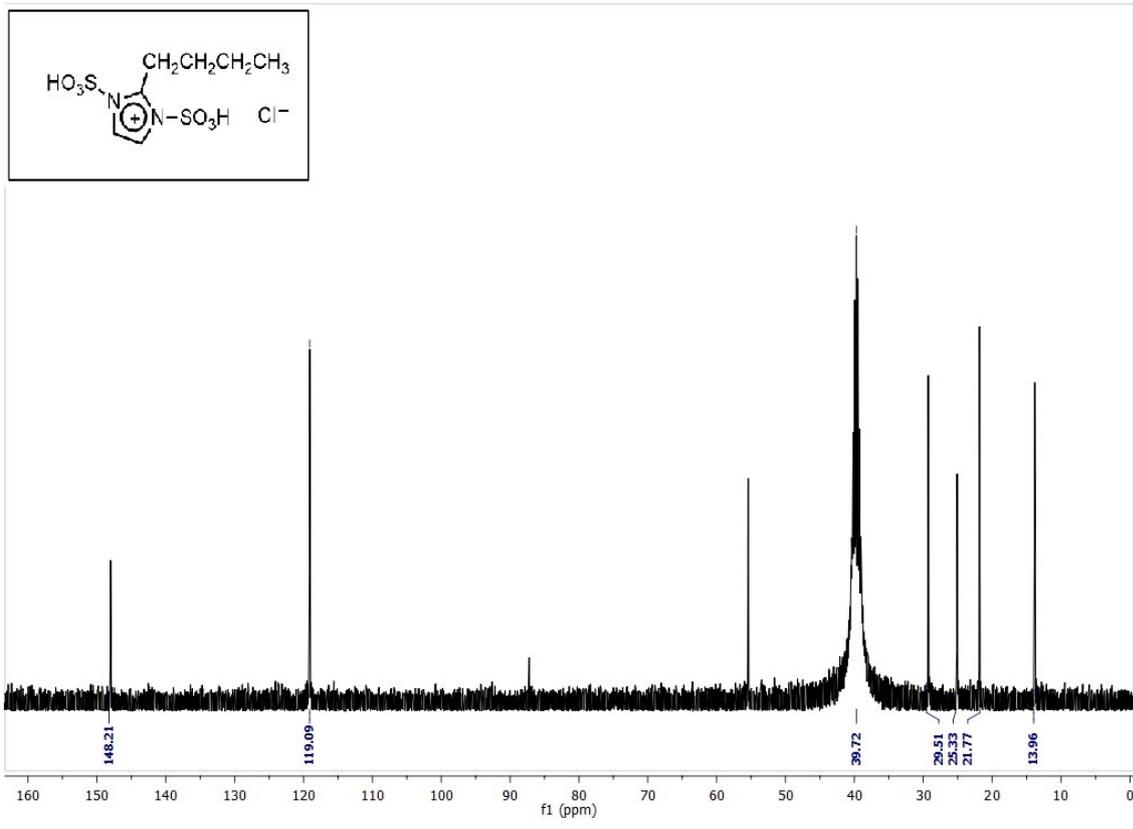
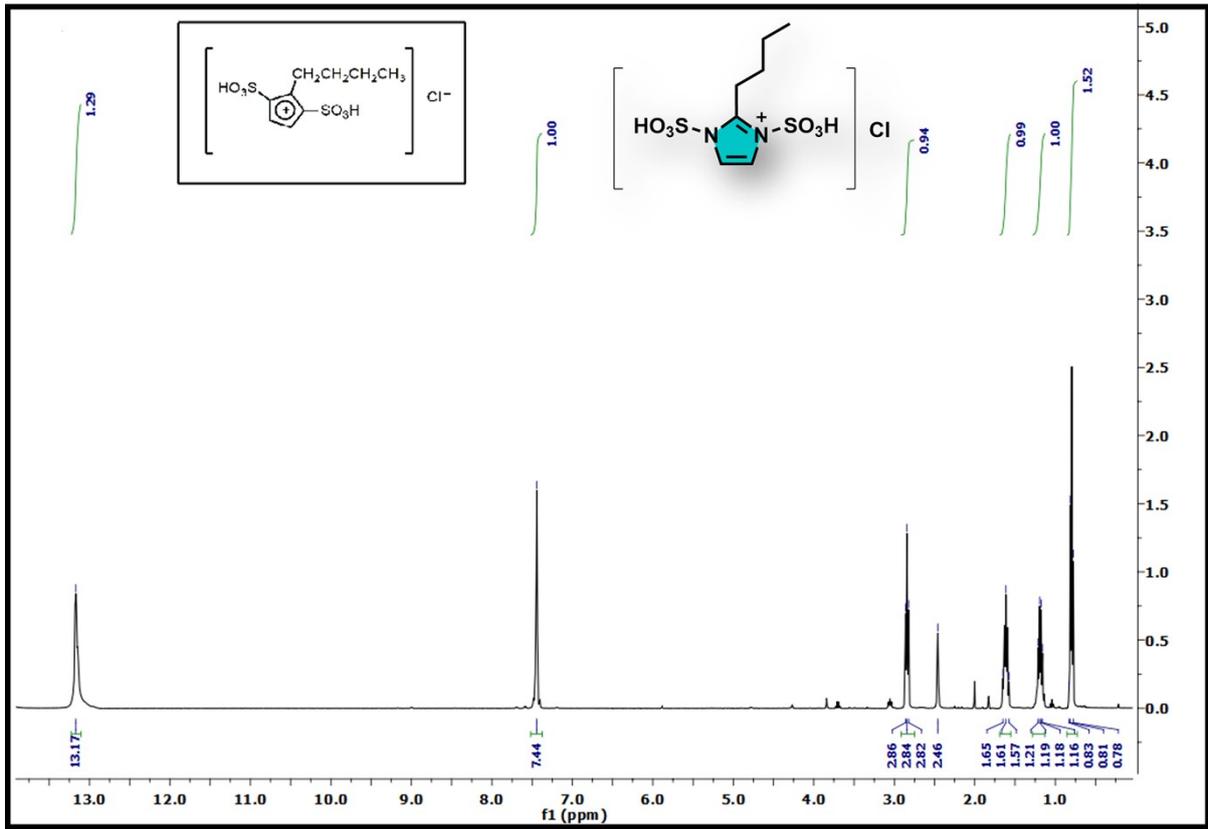
### Spectral data of ionic liquids

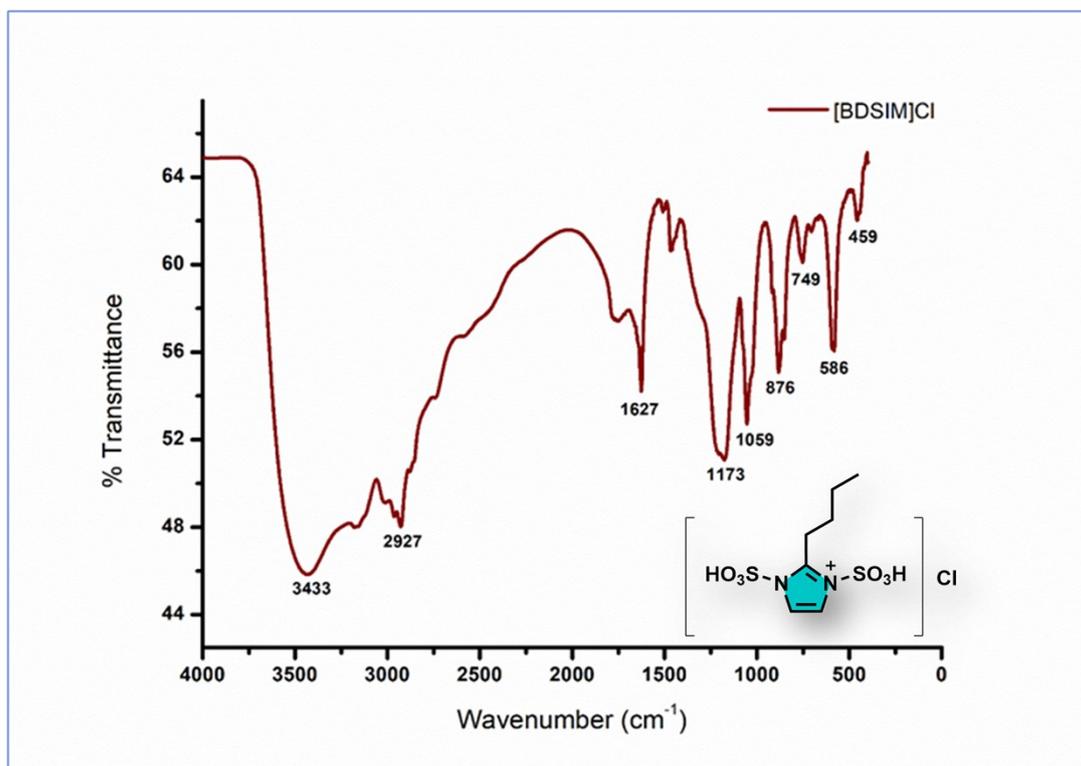
Entry	Spectral data
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>[MDSIM]Cl</b></p>	Brownish viscous liquid; FT-IR data (KBr) $\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 3420, 3022, 2926, 1633, 1192, 1054, 887, 751, 583; $^1\text{H}$ NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ , 400 MHz): $\delta$ 13.91 (s, 1H), 11.93 (s, 1H), 7.43 (s, 2H), 2.51-2.44(m, 3H); $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ , 100 MHz): $\delta$ 144.95, 119.15, 31.42, 11.62.
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>[BDSIM]Cl</b></p>	Yellowish viscous liquid; FT-IR data (KBr) $\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 3433, 2927, 1627, 1173, 1059, 876, 586, 459; $^1\text{H}$ NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ , 400 MHz): $\delta$ 13.17 (s, 2H), 7.44 (s, 2H), 2.86-2.82 (t, 2H), 1.65-1.57 (m, 2H), 1.21-1.16 (m, 2H), 0.78-0.83 (m, 3H); $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ , 100 MHz): $\delta$ 148, 119.54, 100.13, 29.16, 24.92, 13.89, 4.73.



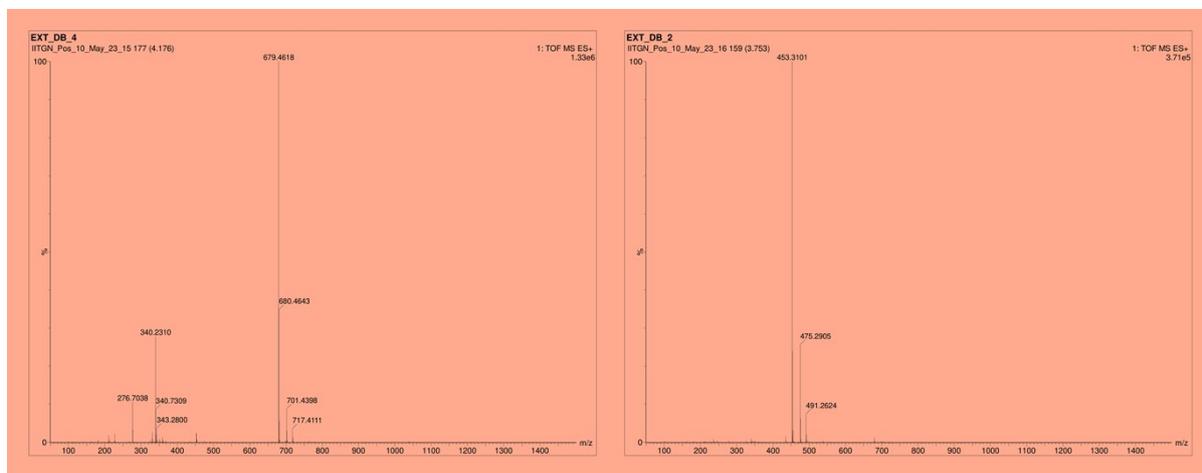


**Fig. S1:** <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C and FT-IR plots of [MDSIM]Cl

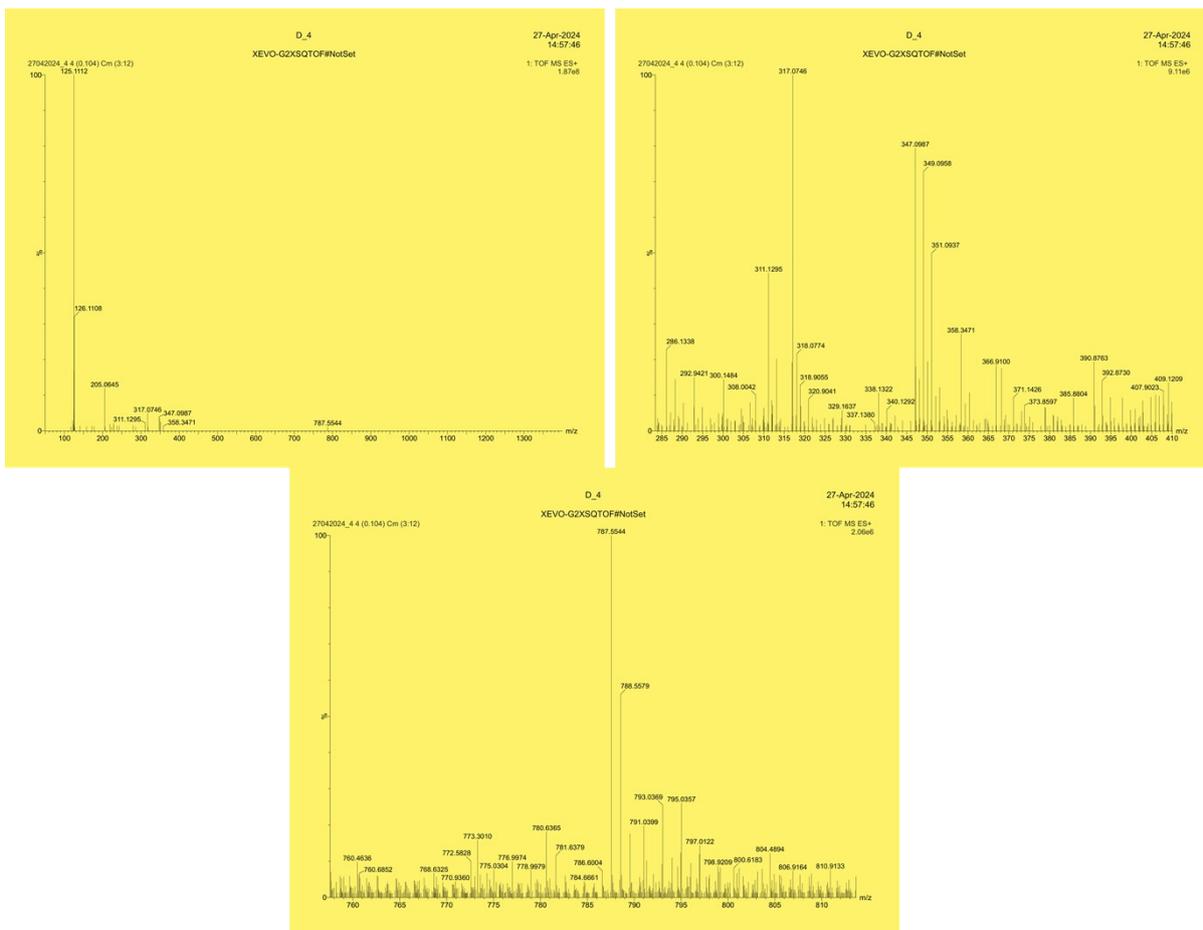




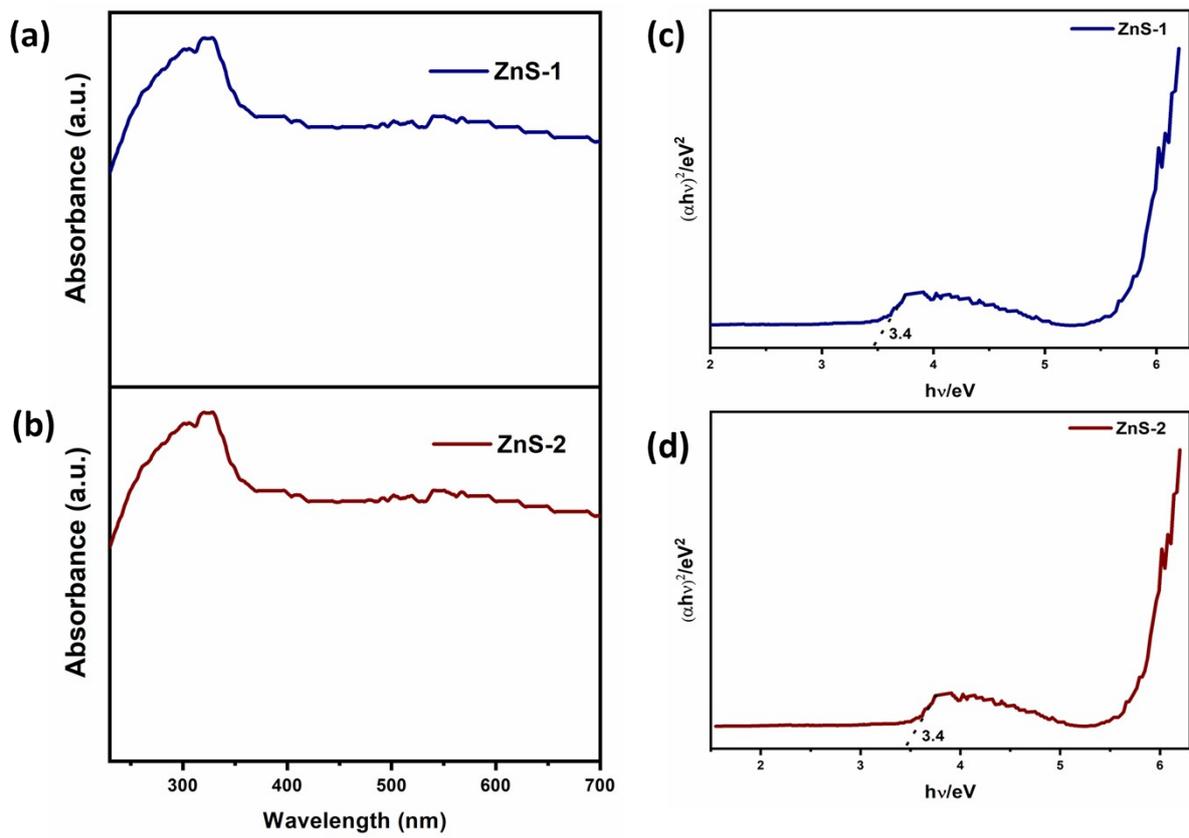
**Fig. S2:** <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C and FT-IR plots of [BDSIM]Cl



**Fig. S3 :** HRMS plots of the [MDSIM]<sub>2</sub>[Zn<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>6</sub>]



**Fig. S4:** HRMS plots of the  $[\text{BDSIM}]_2[\text{Zn}_2\text{Cl}_6]^{2-} / [\text{ZnCl}_4]^{2-}$



**Fig. S5:** UV-DRS and Tauc plots of ZnS-1 and ZnS-2

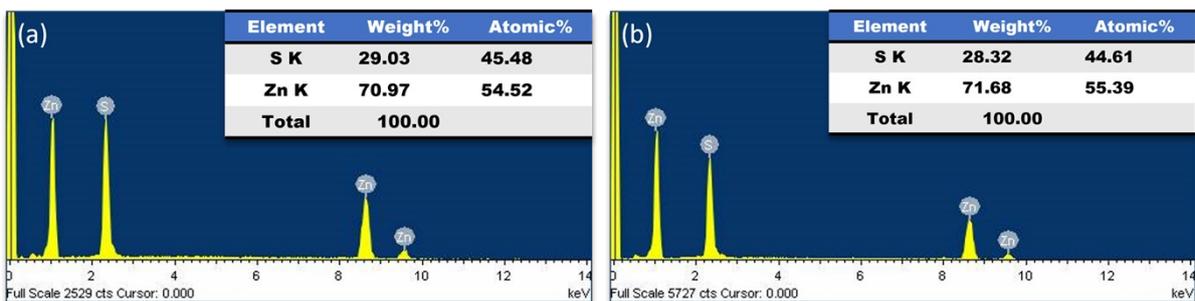
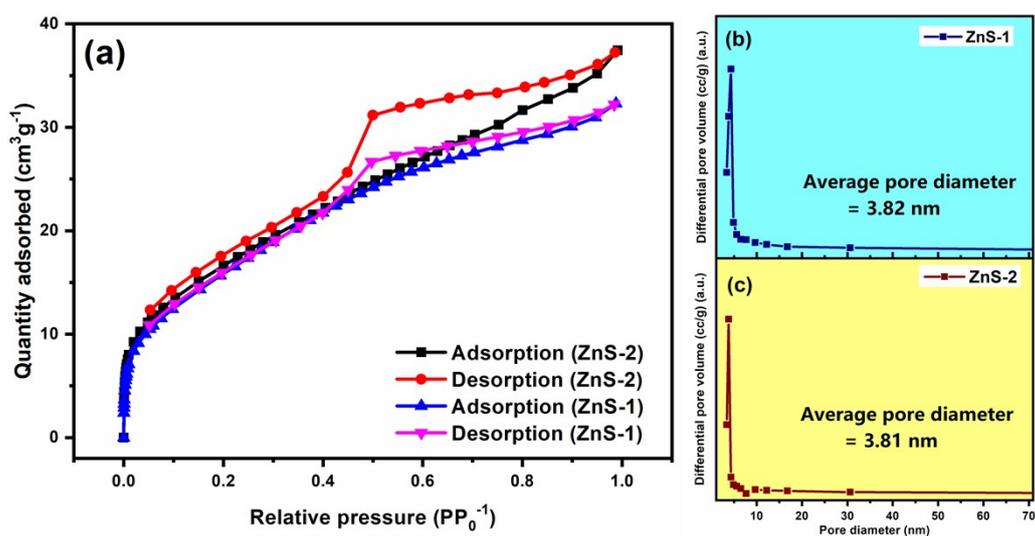


Fig. S6: EDS plots of ZnS-1 and ZnS-2



Sample	Specific surface area (m <sup>2</sup> /g)	Average pore diameter (nm)	Average pore volume (nm)
ZnS-1	60.7	3.82	0.031
ZnS-2	62.5	3.81	0.035

Fig. S7: BET N<sub>2</sub> adsorption-desorption isotherms of ZnS-1 and ZnS-2 QDs (a); BJH pore size distribution of ZnS-1 (b) and ZnS-2 QDs (c)

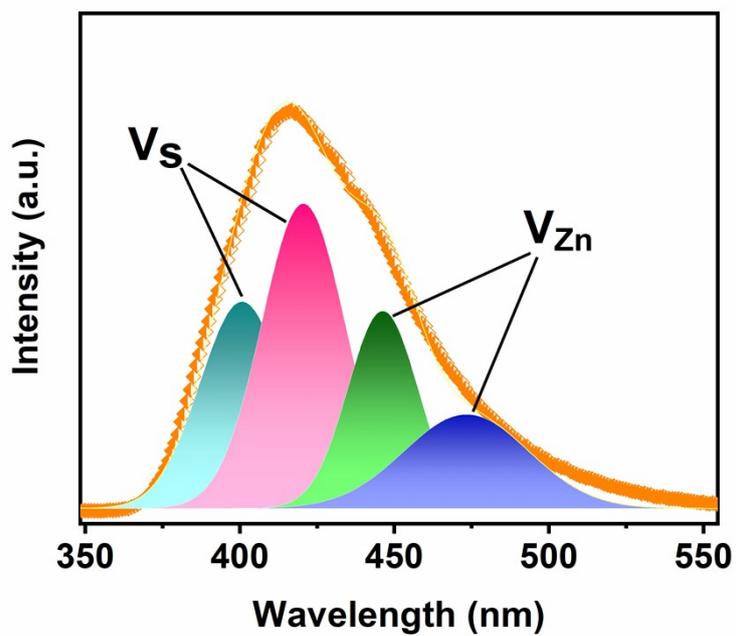
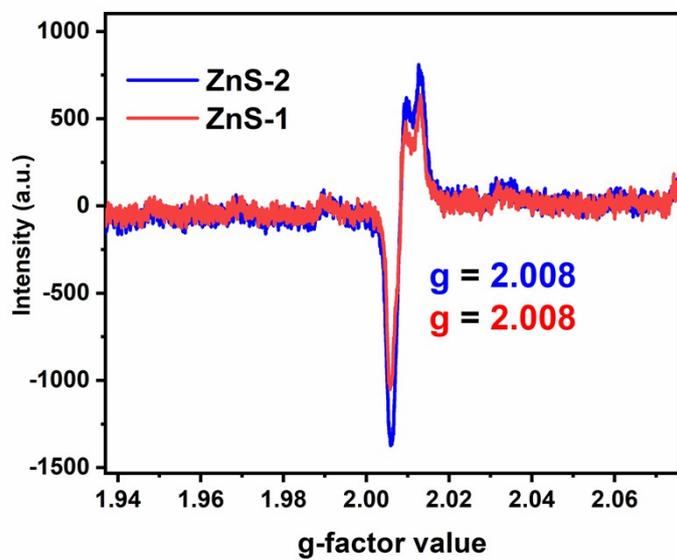
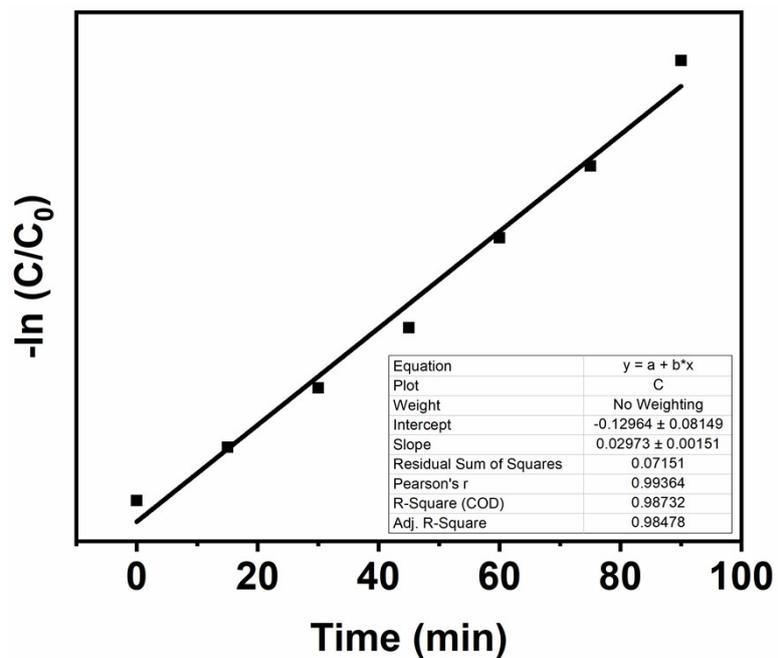


Fig. S8 and S9: EPR g-value plot and PL plot



**Fig. S10:** pseudo first order plot of CV degradation using ZnS-2/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>/UV condition.

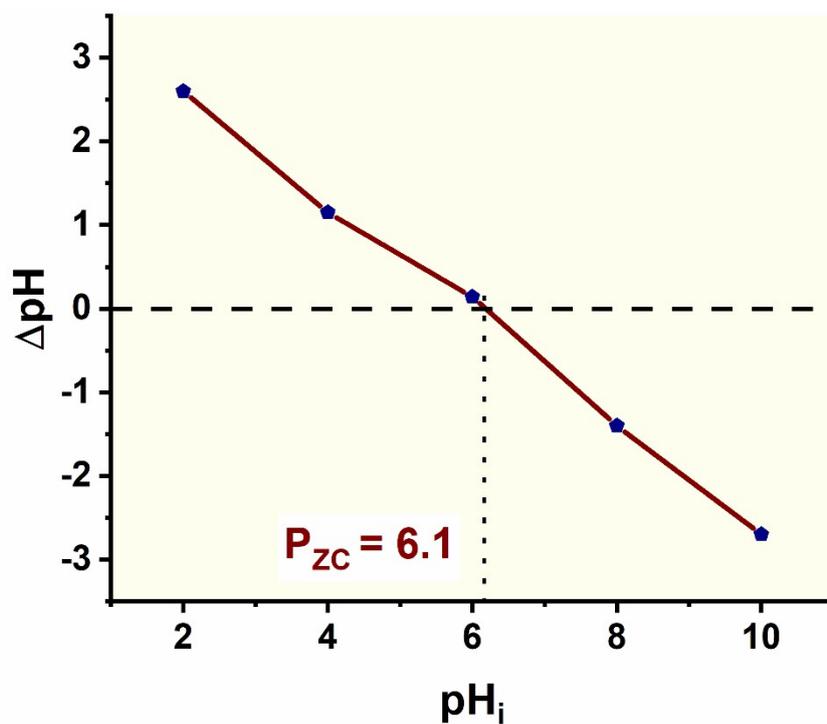


Fig. S11: Zero point charge (Pzc) plot of the ZnS-2 QDs

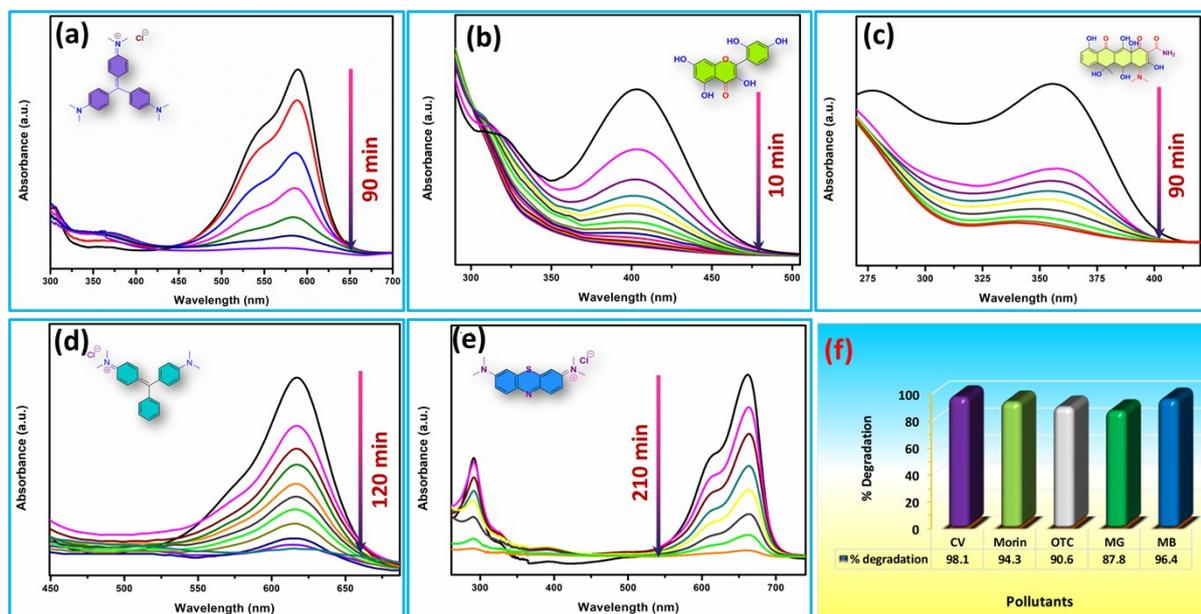
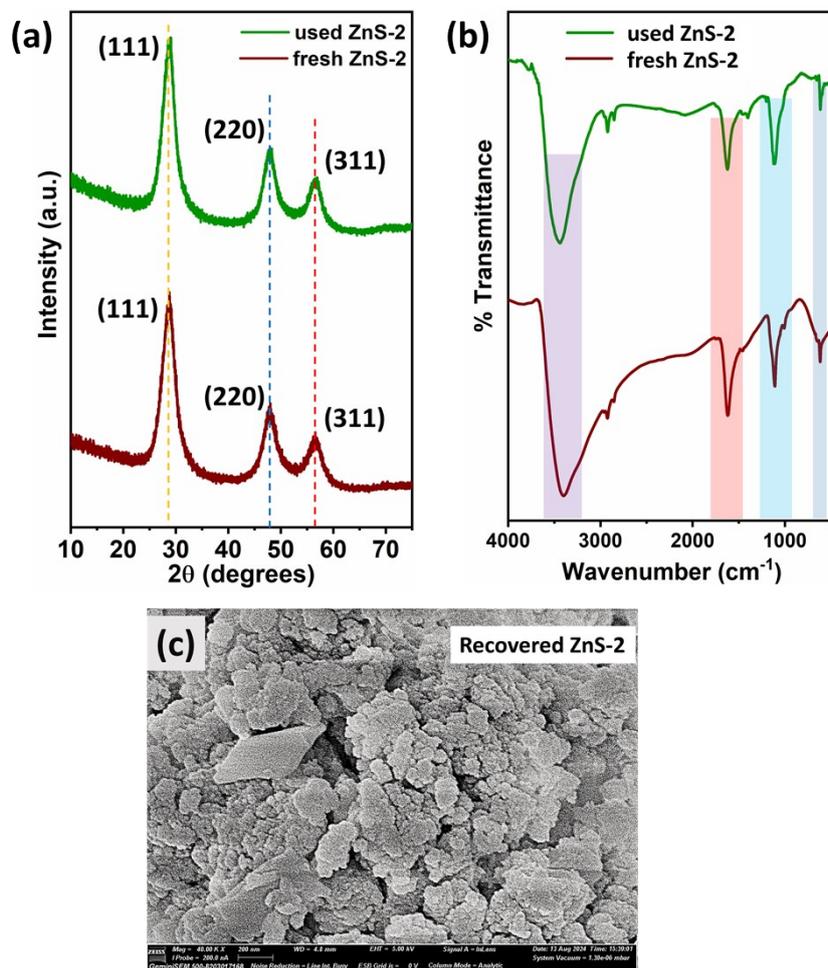
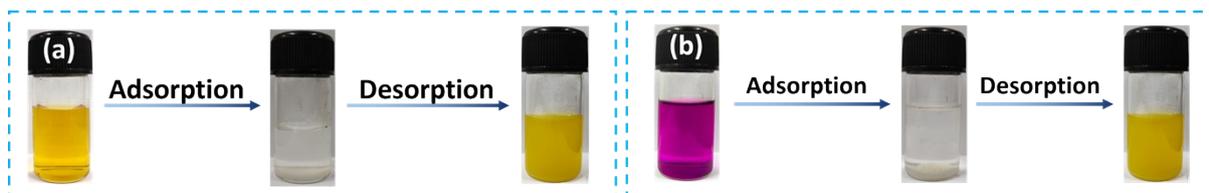


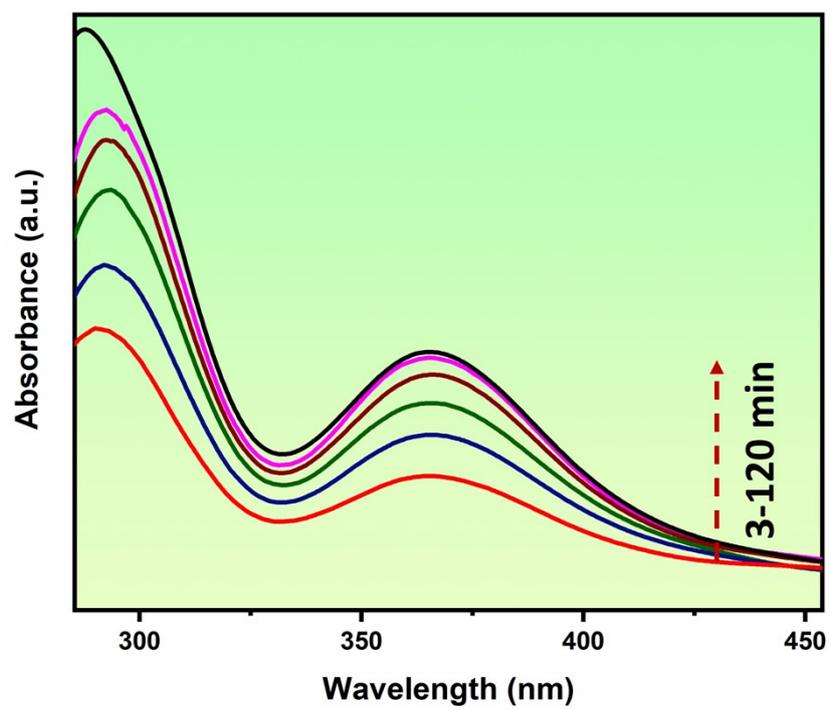
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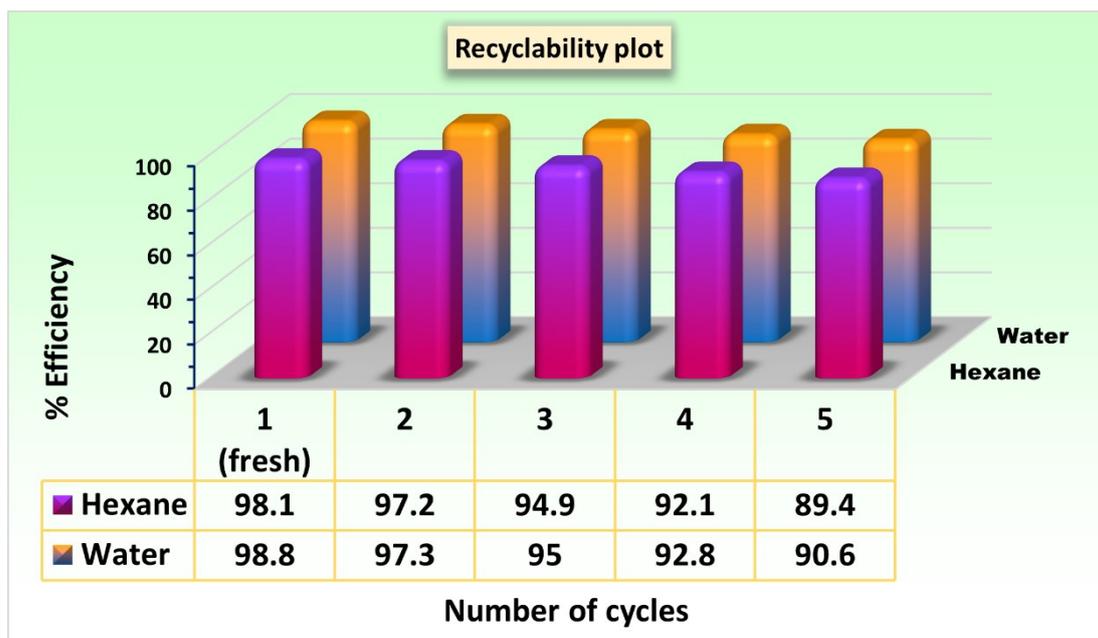
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