

## Supplementary Information

### Generation of active Mn(III)<sub>(aq)</sub> by a novel heterogeneous Electro-permanganate (E-PM) process with manganese(II) as promoter and stabilizer

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78 Text S1 Reagents and chemicals

79 DCF ( $C_{14}H_{10}Cl_2NNaO_2$ , purity 99.0%) was purchased from the Chengdu Micxy  
80 Chemical Co., Ltd. (China). Sulfamethoxazole (SMX,  $C_{10}H_{11}N_3O_3S$ , 99.0%) and  
81 methyl blue (MB,  $C_{37}H_{27}N_3Na_2O_9S_3$ ) were supplied by Aladdin Chemical Co., Ltd.  
82 (China). Carbamazepine (CBZ) and HA were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich Chemical  
83 Co., Ltd. (USA). Phenol ( $C_6H_6O$ , purity 99.5%), nitrobenzene (NB,  $C_6H_5NO_2$ ),  
84 potassium permanganate ( $KMnO_4$ , purity 99.5%), manganese sulphate ( $MnSO_4 \cdot H_2O$ ,  
85 purity 99.0%), tert-butanol (TBA,  $C_4H_{10}O$ , purity 99.0%), formic acid (HPLC grade),  
86 and acetic acid (HPLC grade), were obtained from Chengdu Kelong Chemical Co., Ltd.  
87 (China). Methanol (MA) and acetonitrile (HPLC grade) were supplied by Honeywell  
88 Burdick & Jackson Inc. (USA). Sulfuric acid ( $H_2SO_4$ , 98.0%), sodium hydroxide  
89 (NaOH, purity 98.0%), hydroxylammonium chloride ( $NH_2OH \cdot HCl$ , purity 98.5%), and  
90 sodium pyrophosphate decahydrate ( $Na_4P_2O_7 \cdot 10H_2O$ , purity 99%), were obtained from  
91 Chongqing Chuandong Chemical Co., Ltd. (China). All sample solutions and mobile  
92 phase were prepared with ultrapure water (resistivity of 18.2 M $\Omega$  cm) obtained from  
93 Millipore Super-Q plus water purification system.

Text S2 The analytical method of the intermediate products

Considering the high detection limit, the intermediates samples were concentrated by solid phase extraction (SPE) prior to UPLC-Vion IMS QTOF-MS analysis. 20 mL solution sample was introduced into Oasis HLB cartridge (Waters, America), and eluted by 2mL pure methanol. Then the chromatographic separation was carried out on a BEH C<sub>18</sub> (100 mM × 2.1 mM × 1.7 μM) maintained at 45 °C. The mobile phase consisted of A (0.1% formic acid in ultrapure water) and B (0.1% formic acid in acetonitrile) at a flow rate of 0.4 mL min<sup>-1</sup>. The gradient was 95% A and 5% B at initial, then increasing to 100% B for 8 min and 12.5 min, changed to 5% A and 95% B for 15 min and 20 min. The injection volume was set to 1 μL. The mass spectrometer (m/z 50-1000) was operated with negative electrospray ionization. The MS operation parameters were set as follows: acquisition mode MS<sup>E</sup>; capillary voltage 2 KV; cone voltage 40V; desolvation temperature 450 °C; desolvation gas 900 L h<sup>-1</sup>; cone gas 50 L h<sup>-1</sup>; source temperature 115 °C; Scan rate 0.2 s; Collision energy 6 eV/20-45 eV.

Text S3 Effect of adding time of  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  on the degradation of DCF by E-PM- $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  process in the presence of PP

To explore whether PP affects the reaction involving Mn(II) in the E-PM- $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  process, UV-vis spectra of  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  solution with and without PP and the comparative experiments according to the different adding time of  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  were carried out.

As illustrated in Figure S10, UV-vis spectra of  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  solution with and without PP (PP 10mM) had no obvious absorption peaks, although the concentration of  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  had increased to 10 to 100 folds. However, an obvious absorbance peak of Mn(III)-PP at 258 nm was observed in E-PM- $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  process (Figure S7(c)). The phenomena indicated that the complex had little effect on the generation of Mn(III) and the UV-vis spectra of Mn(III)-PP, even if  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  complexed with PP.

The comparative experiments according to the different adding time of  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  in E-PM- $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  process were explored. In the experiment A, the solution including PP, DCF and  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  (the supporting electrolyte) was adjusted using  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  or NaOH to 5, and then as the DC power supply was turned on, PM and  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  were immediately spiked into the solution simultaneously, which was the experiment order in the manuscript. In the experiment B,  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  was first added into the solution containing PP, DCF, and  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , and initial pH of solution was adjusted using  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  or NaOH to 5, and then as the DC power supply was turned on, PM was immediately spiked into the solution simultaneously.  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  and PP were sufficiently in contact with each other.

The conditions of the two experiments were same, except for the adding time of  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$ .

As shown in Figure S10, different adding time of  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  had negligible effect on DCF

130 degradation by E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup> process in the presence of PP. Therefore, these results  
131 indicated that the influence of PP on the degradation reaction involving Mn(II) in the  
132 E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup> was negligible in this study.



Text S4 The calculation formula of synergetic effect

$$SE = \frac{k_1(E-PM-Mn^{2+})}{k_1(E-Mn^{2+}) + k_1(PM)} \quad (S1)$$

where SE is the synergetic index,  $k(E-PM-Mn^{2+})$ ,  $k(E-Mn^{2+})$ , and  $k(PM)$  are the pseudo-first-order rate constants of E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup>, E-Mn<sup>2+</sup>, and PM processes, respectively (obtained in Figure 1(a) and the inset of Figure 4(d), s<sup>-1</sup>).

138 Table S1. Water quality parameters of the electrolyte solution, tap water, and surface  
139 water.

Constituent	electrolyte solution	Tap water	Surface water
pH	7.00	7.78	7.44
DOC(mg/L)	0	1.08	10.5
UV <sub>254</sub> (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	-	0.043	0.182
CO <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup> ( mg/L)	-	0.83	1.89
HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> ( mg/L)	-	104	150
Cl <sup>-</sup> ( mg/L)	-	6.6	13.1
SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> ( mg/L)	0	104.1	150.1
PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>3-</sup> ( mg/L)	-	1.63	4.35
NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> ( mg/L)	-	2.03	1.54
Ammonia (mg-N/L)	-	-	1.84

141 Table S2. Details for contaminants analyses by HPLC-UV

Contaminants	Column temperature (°C)	Mobile phase (v)			UV	
		water (%)	methanol (%)	acetonitrile (%)	0.1% formic acid	3% acetic acid
						wavelength (nm)
Diclofenac (DCF)	30			80		20
Carbamazepine (CBZ)	35	40		60		
Sulfamethoxa zole (SMX)	35			38	62	
Nitrobenzene (NB)	35	35	50	15		
phenol	30	20	80			

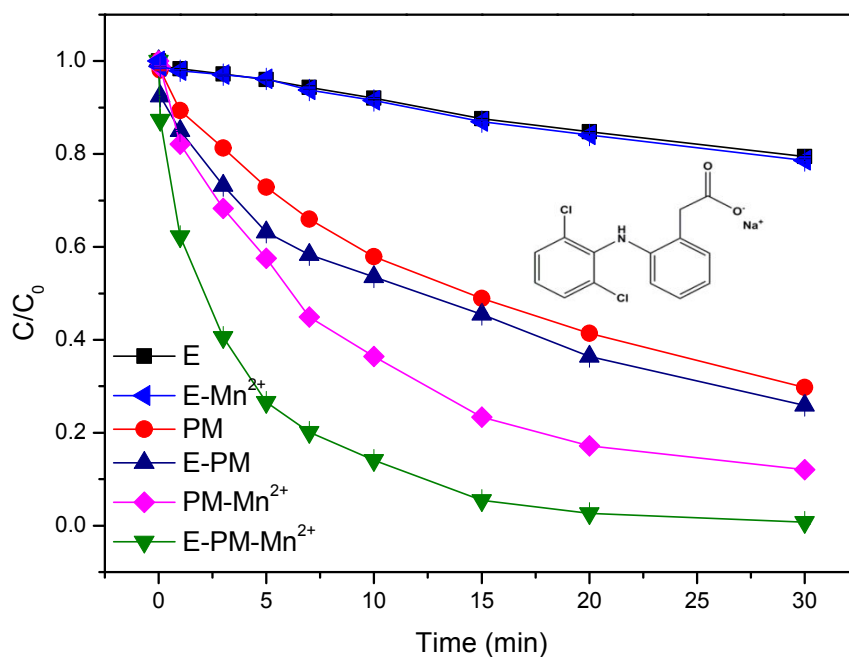
143 Table S3. The comparison of the E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup> process with the other methods for the  
144 degradation of DCF

System	DCF concentration	solution pH	Degradatio n rate	Kinetic constant	Reference
CoFe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /oxone system	10 mg L <sup>-1</sup>	5.0	99 % in 30 min	13.8 s <sup>-1</sup>	1
Photoelectrocata lytic system	5 mg L <sup>-1</sup>	6.23	71.9% in 6 h	0.0036 s <sup>-1</sup>	2
Pyrite nanoparticles hydrodynamic cavitation in conjunction with	25 mg L <sup>-1</sup>	3.0	100% in 3 min	0.461 s <sup>-1</sup>	3
UV/TiO <sub>2</sub> /H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	20 mg L <sup>-1</sup>	4.0	94.78% in 120 min	1.56 s <sup>-1</sup>	4
UV-activated persulfate process	8.88 mg L <sup>-1</sup>	6.0	83% in 60 min	5.0×10 <sup>-4</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>	5
pulsed corona discharge system	5 mg L <sup>-1</sup>	6.0	100% in 10 min	-	6
Fenton reaction system	5 mg L <sup>-1</sup>	4.0	95% in 180 s	0.164 s <sup>-1</sup>	7
ultrasonic irradiation	14.81 mg L <sup>-1</sup>	7.0	67% in 80 min	1.79 s <sup>-1</sup>	8
Ozone and photolytic TiO <sub>2</sub> catalysed processes	29.62 mg L <sup>-1</sup>	5.0	90% in 10 min	-	9
Activated carbon-free ozonation	30 mg L <sup>-1</sup>	7.0	100% in 15 min	-	10
US/ZnO	10 mg L <sup>-1</sup>	2.0	85% in 15 min	-	11
Photoelectro- oxidation	10 mg L <sup>-1</sup>	5.6	85% in 2h	0.0191 s <sup>-1</sup>	12
E-PM-Mn <sup>2+</sup>	6 mg L <sup>-1</sup>	5.0	99.3% in 30 min	9.7314 s <sup>-1</sup>	This work

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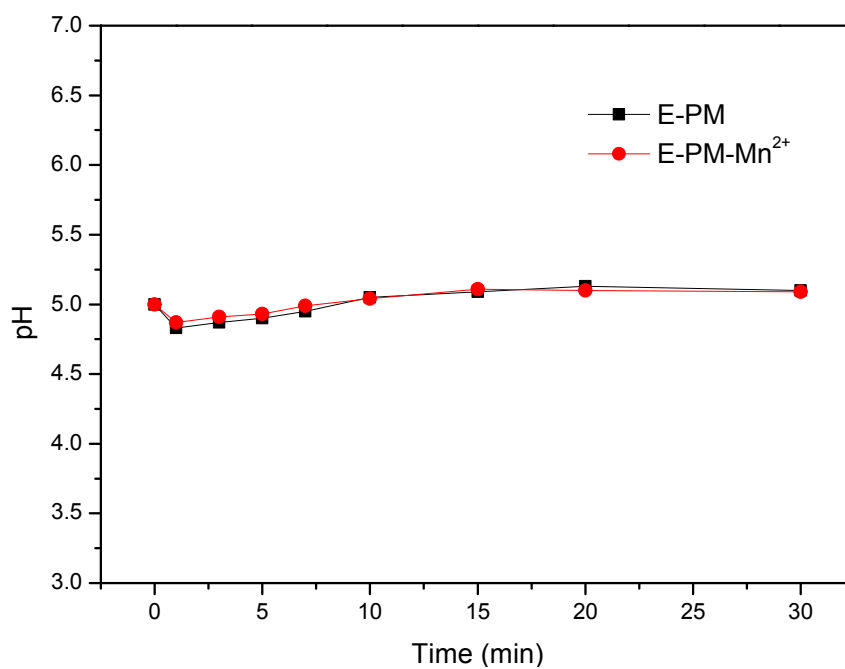
146 Table S4. Kinetic parameters ( $k_1$ ) and the correlation coefficients ( $R^2$ ) of pseudo-first-  
 147 order kinetics for DCF degradation in  $\text{MnO}_2$ ,  $\text{MnO}_2\text{-Mn}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{E-MnO}_2$ , and  $\text{E-MnO}_2\text{-Mn}^{2+}$   
 148 processes

constant	$\text{MnO}_2$	$\text{MnO}_2\text{-Mn}^{2+}$	$\text{E-MnO}_2$	$\text{E-MnO}_2\text{-Mn}^{2+}$
$k_1$ ( $\text{s}^{-1}$ )	0.1032	0.1098	0.3342	0.6594
$R^2$	0.8579	0.8272	0.8610	0.9352



150

151 Figure S1. The degradation of DCF by electrolysis, PM oxidation, E-PM, E-Mn<sup>2+</sup>, PM-  
 152 Mn<sup>2+</sup>, and E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup> processes (Reaction conditions: initial DCF concentration=20  
 153 μM; initial pH=5; T=298±1 K; current=57 A m<sup>-2</sup>; stirring speed=800 rpm; Mn<sup>2+</sup>  
 154 dosage=10 μM; PM dosage=100 μM).

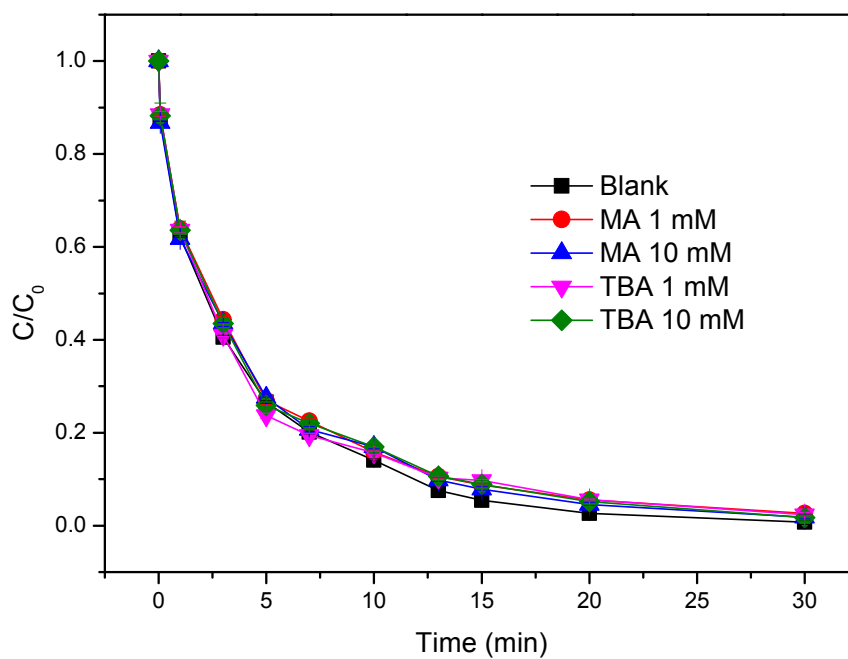


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156 Figure S2. pH variations of solution on the removal of DCF by E-PM and E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup>

157 processes (Reaction conditions: initial DCF concentration=20 μM; T=298±1 K; stirring

158 speed=800 rpm; PM dosage=100 μM; initial pH=5; Mn<sup>2+</sup> dosage=10 μM)



159

160 Figure S3. Effect of Methanol and TBA on DCF degradation by E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup> process

161 (Reaction conditions: initial DCF concentration=20  $\mu$ M; initial pH=5; T=298 $\pm$ 1 K;

162 stirring speed=800 rpm; current=57 A m<sup>-2</sup>; Mn<sup>2+</sup> dosage=10  $\mu$ M; PM dosage=100  $\mu$ M).



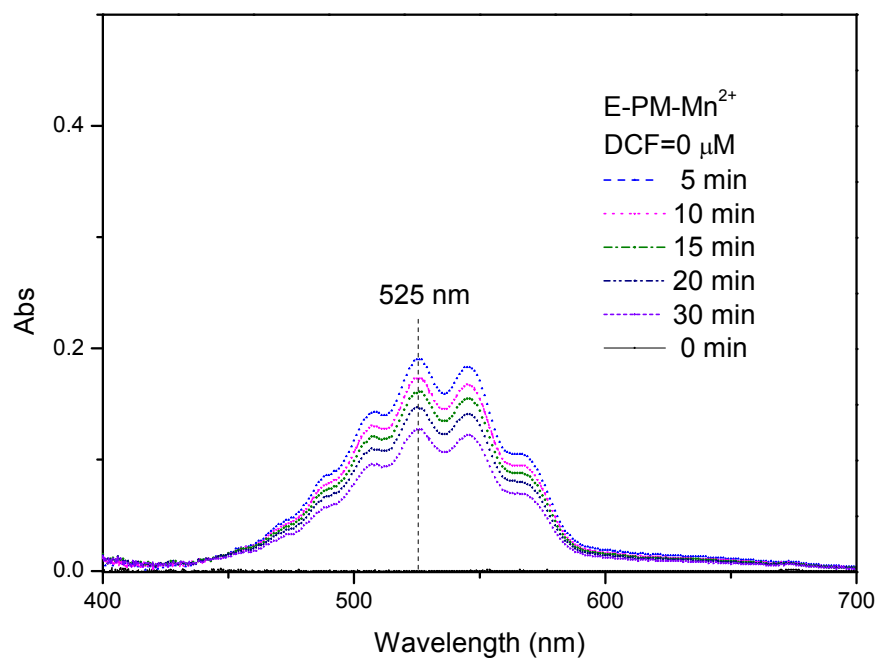
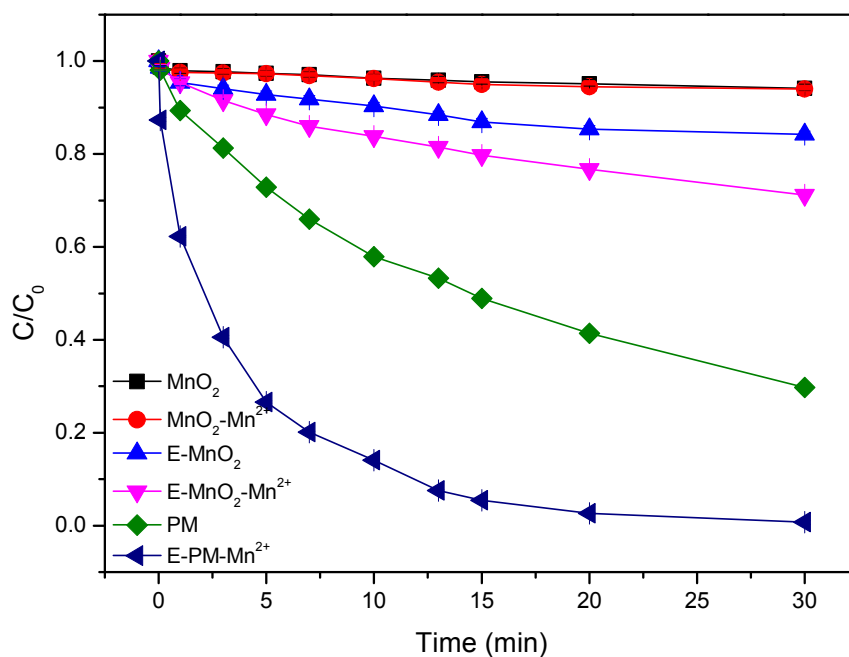
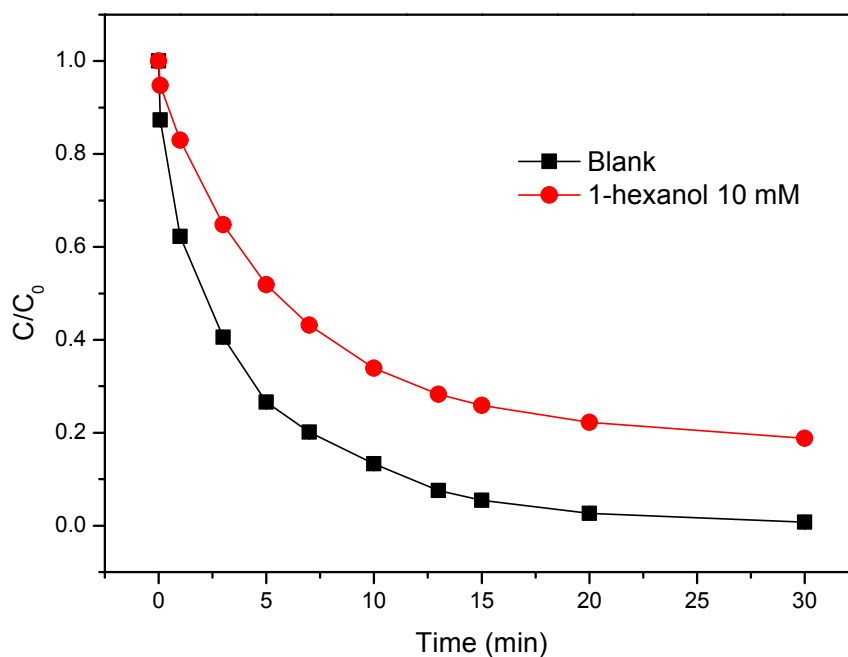


Figure S4. UV-vis spectra of E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup> process without contaminants (Reaction conditions: initial pH=5; T=298±1 K; current=57 A m<sup>-2</sup>; stirring speed=800 rpm; PM dosage=100 μM; Mn<sup>2+</sup> dosage=10 μM).



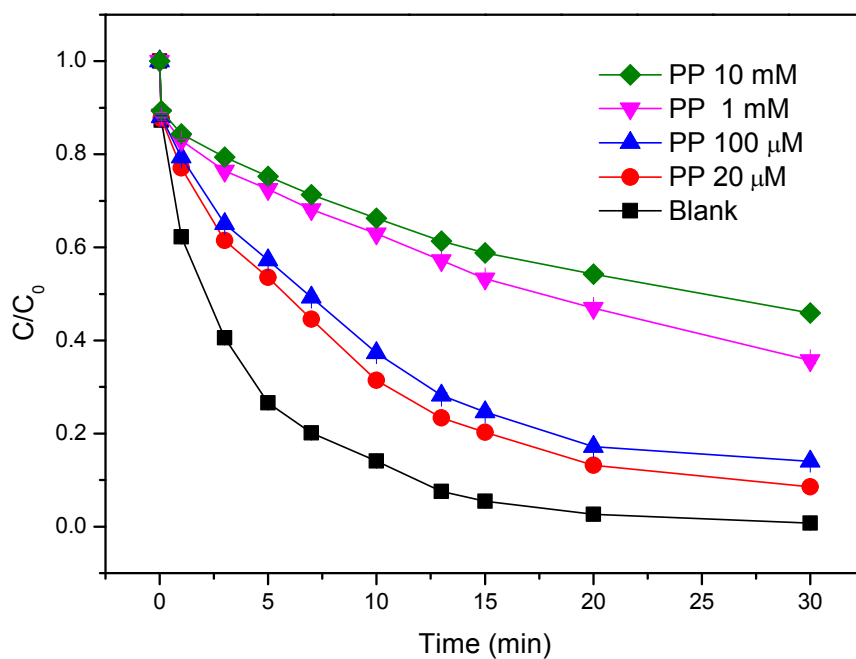
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168 Figure S5. Comparative removal of DCF by MnO<sub>2</sub>, MnO<sub>2</sub>-Mn<sup>2+</sup>, E-MnO<sub>2</sub>, E-MnO<sub>2</sub>-  
 169 Mn<sup>2+</sup>, PM, and E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup> processes (Reaction conditions: initial DCF  
 170 concentration=20 μM; initial pH=5; T=298±1 K; current=57 A m<sup>-2</sup>; stirring speed=800  
 171 rpm; PM dosage=100 μM; MnO<sub>2</sub> dosage=100 μM, Mn<sup>2+</sup> dosage=10 μM).



172

173 Figure S6. Effect of 1-hexanol on DCF degradation by E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup> process (Reaction  
 174 conditions: initial DCF concentration=20  $\mu$ M; initial pH=5; T=298 $\pm$ 1 K; stirring  
 175 speed=800 rpm; current=57 A m<sup>-2</sup>; Mn<sup>2+</sup> dosage=10  $\mu$ M; PM dosage=100  $\mu$ M).

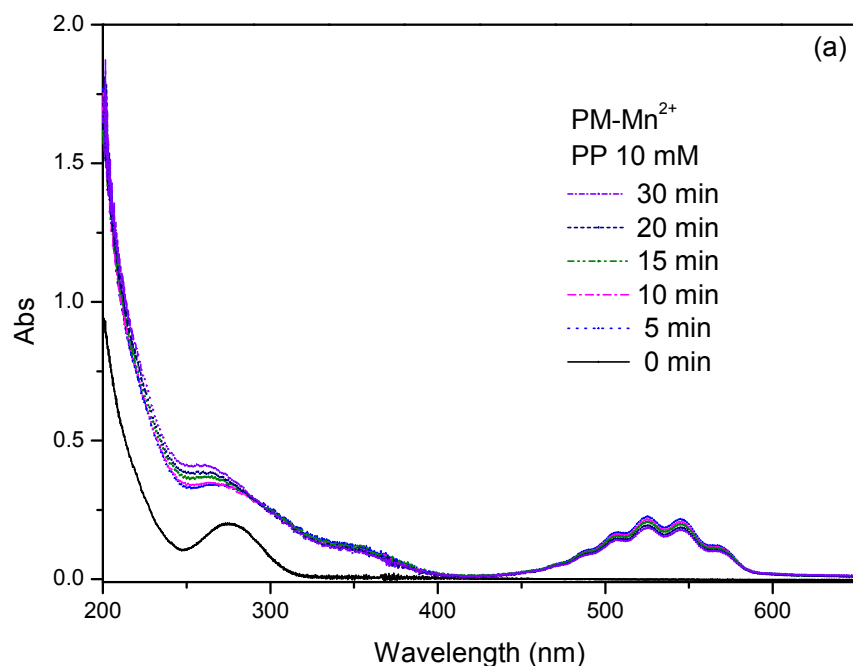


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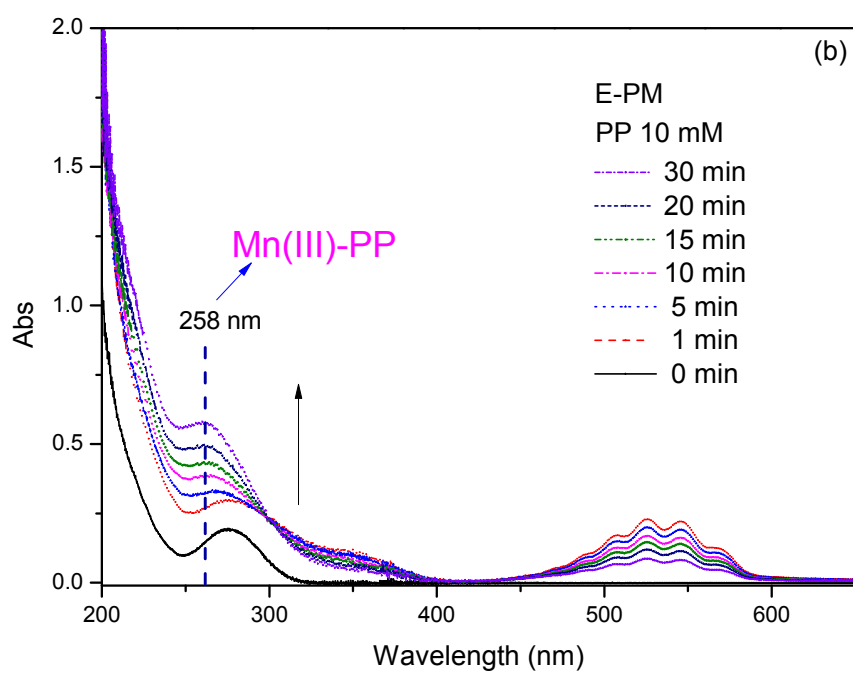
177 Figure S7. Effect of pyrophosphate (PP) on DCF degradation in E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup> process

178 (Reaction conditions: initial DCF concentration=20  $\mu$ M; initial pH=5; T=298 $\pm$ 1 K;

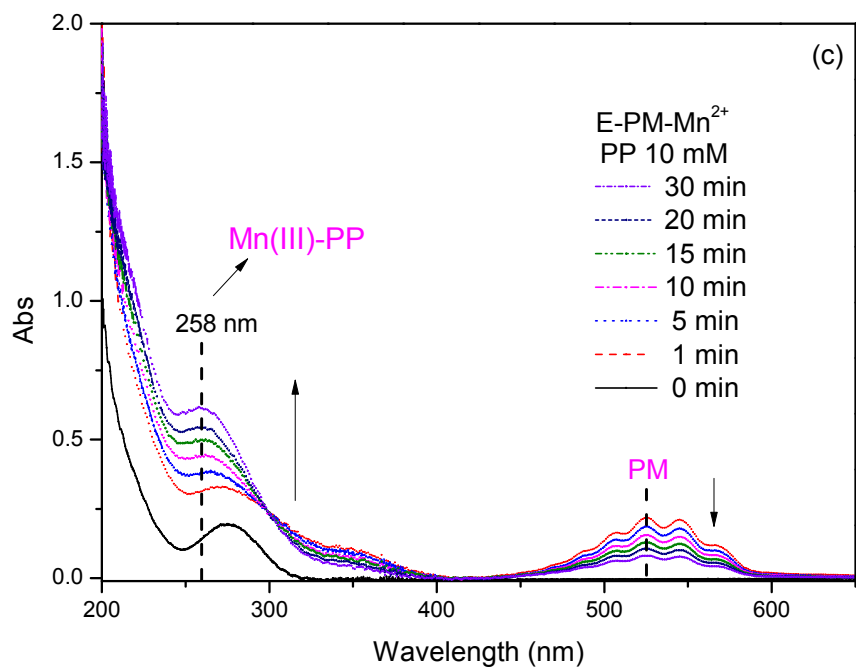
179 stirring speed=800 rpm; current=57 A m<sup>-2</sup>; Mn<sup>2+</sup> dosage=10  $\mu$ M; PM dosage=100  $\mu$ M).



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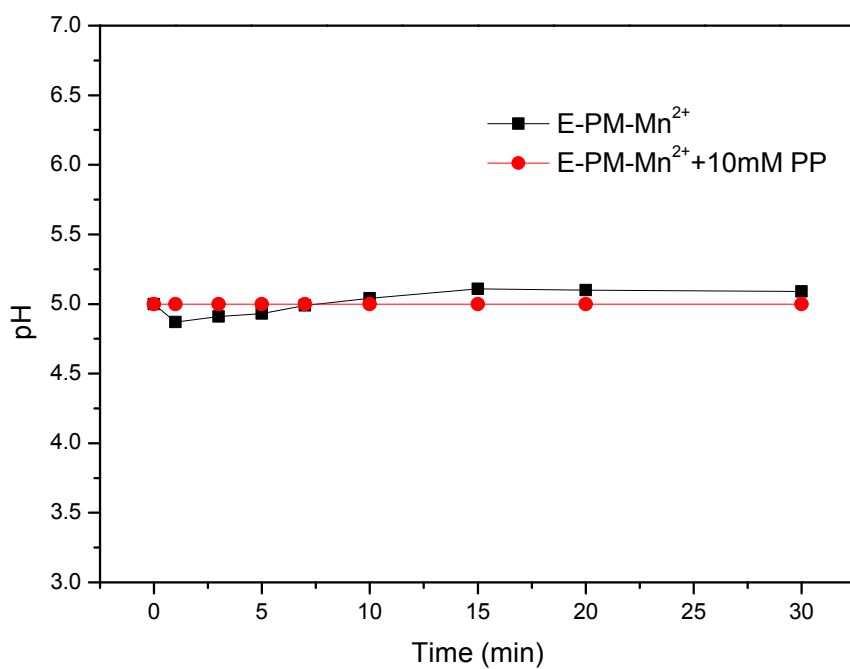
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183 Figure S8. UV-vis spectra of Mn(III)-PP in PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup> (a), E-PM (b) and E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup> (c)

184 processes for DCF removal (Reaction conditions: initial DCF concentration=20  $\mu$ M;

185 initial pH=5; T=298 $\pm$ 1 K; current=57 A m<sup>-2</sup>; stirring speed=800 rpm; PM dosage=100

186  $\mu$ M; Mn<sup>2+</sup> dosage=10  $\mu$ M; PP dosage=10 mM).



187

188 Figure S9. pH variations of solution on the removal of DCF by E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup> process

189 with and without PP (Reaction conditions: initial DCF concentration=20 μM; T=298±1

190 K; stirring speed=800 rpm; PM dosage=100 μM; Mn<sup>2+</sup> dosage=10 μM; initial pH=5;

191 PP dosage=10 mM)

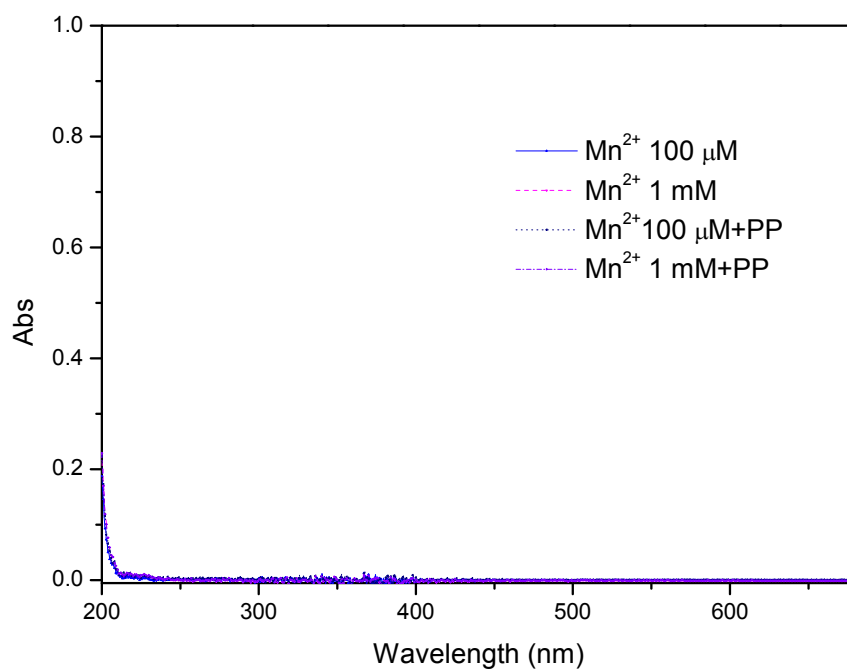
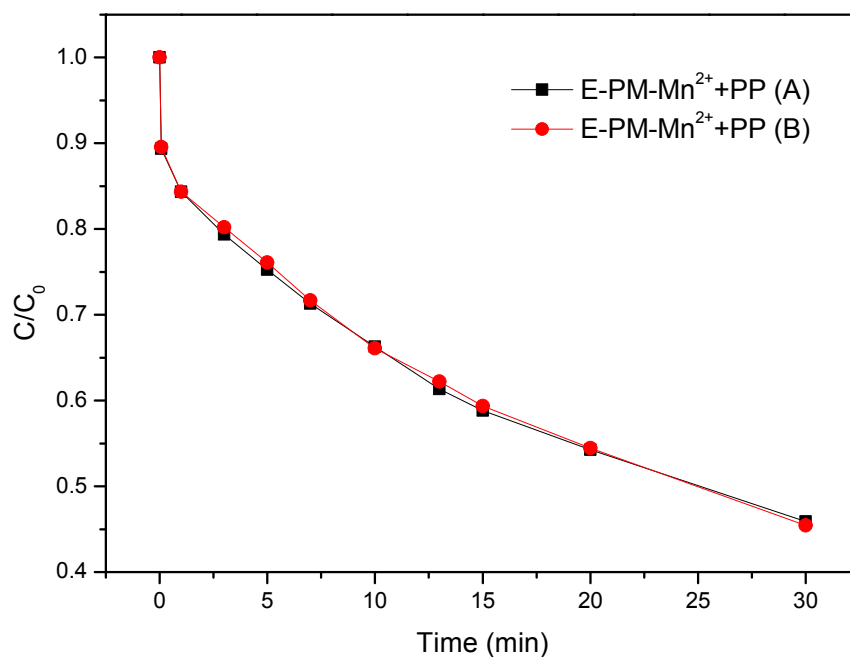


Figure S10. UV-vis spectra in  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  solution with and without PP (Reaction conditions: initial pH=5;  $T=298\pm 1$  K; PP dosage=10 mM).





196

197 Figure S11. Effect of adding time of Mn<sup>2+</sup> on the degradation of DCF by E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup>  
 198 process in the presence of PP (Reaction conditions: initial DCF concentration=20 μM;  
 199 initial pH=5; T=298±1 K; current=57 A m<sup>-2</sup>; stirring speed=800 rpm; PM dosage=100  
 200 μM; Mn<sup>2+</sup> dosage=10 μM; PP dosage=10 mM).

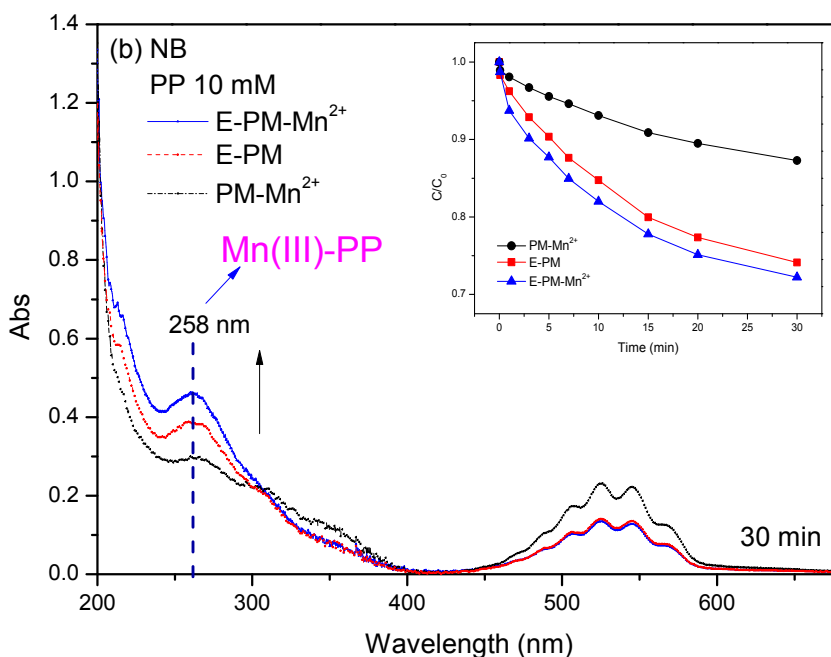
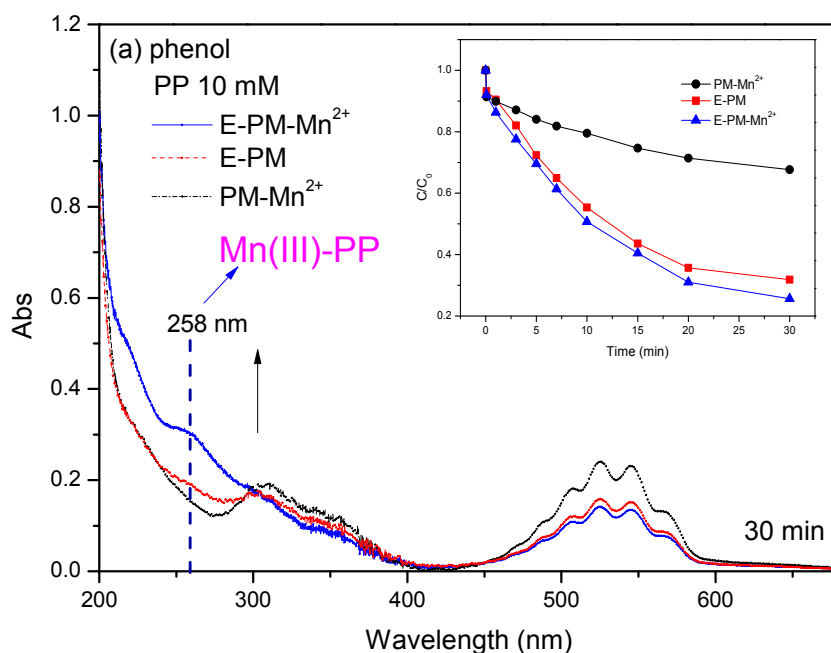
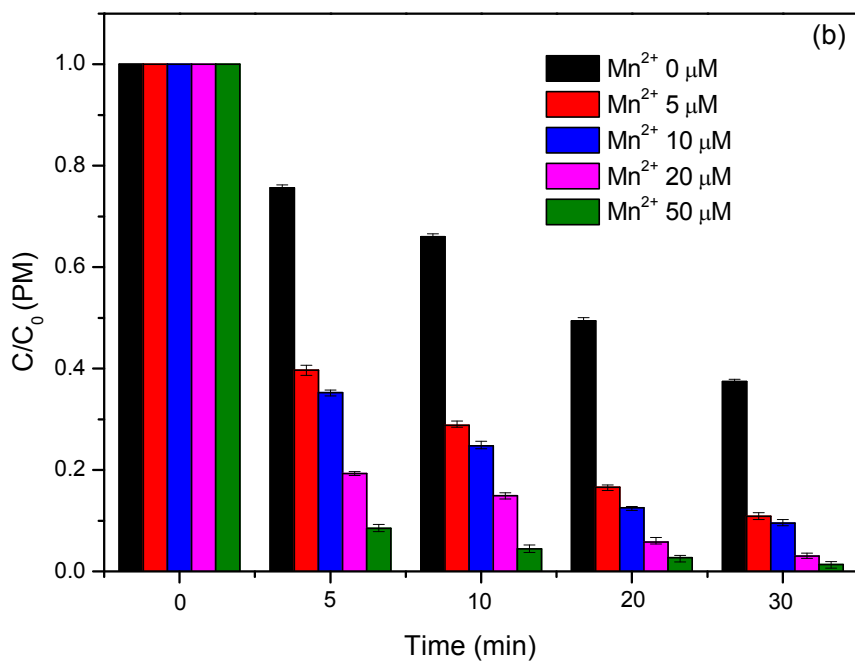


Figure S12. UV-vis spectra of Mn(III)-PP at 30 min in PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup>, E-PM, and E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup> processes for the degradation of phenol (a) and NB (b) (the insets showed the degradation of phenol and NB in PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup>, E-PM, and E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup> processes) (Reaction conditions: initial contaminant concentration=20  $\mu$ M; initial pH=5; T=298 $\pm$ 1 K; current=57 A m<sup>-2</sup>; stirring speed=800 rpm; PM dosage=100  $\mu$ M; Mn<sup>2+</sup> dosage=10  $\mu$ M; PP dosage=10 mM).

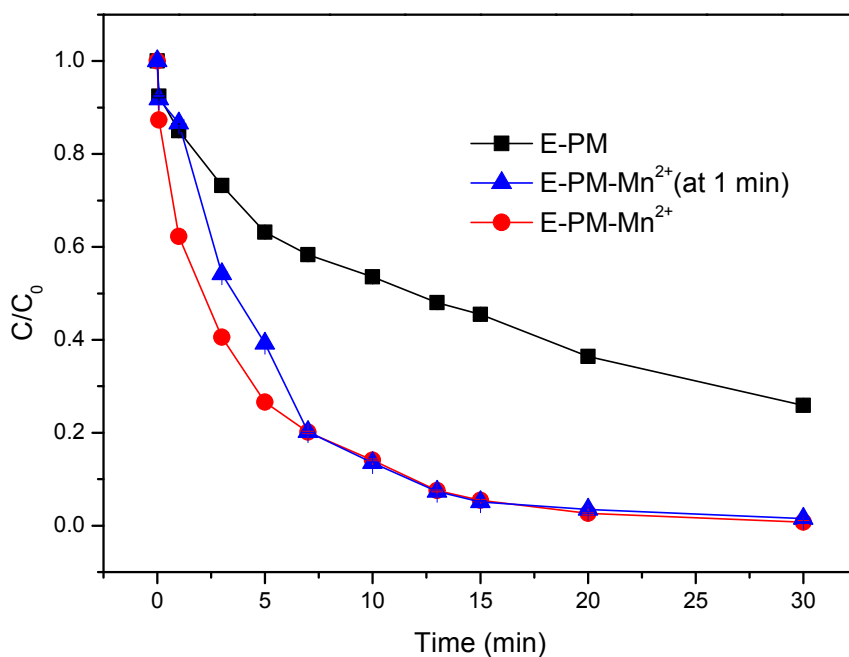


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210 Figure S13. Effect of Mn<sup>2+</sup> dosage on the PM decomposition by E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup> process

211 (Reaction conditions: initial DCF concentration=20 μM; initial pH=5; T=298±1 K;

212 current=57 A m<sup>-2</sup>; stirring speed=800 rpm; PM dosage=100 μM)



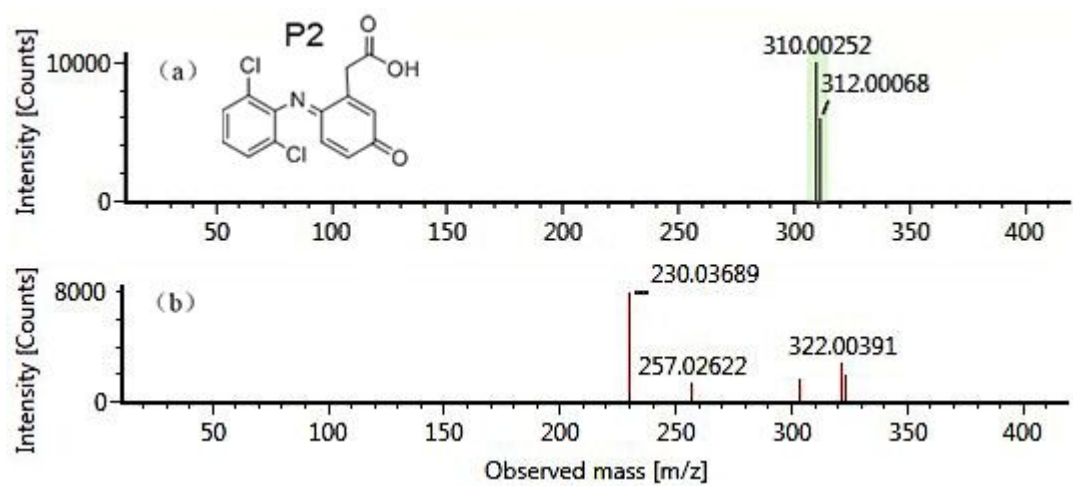
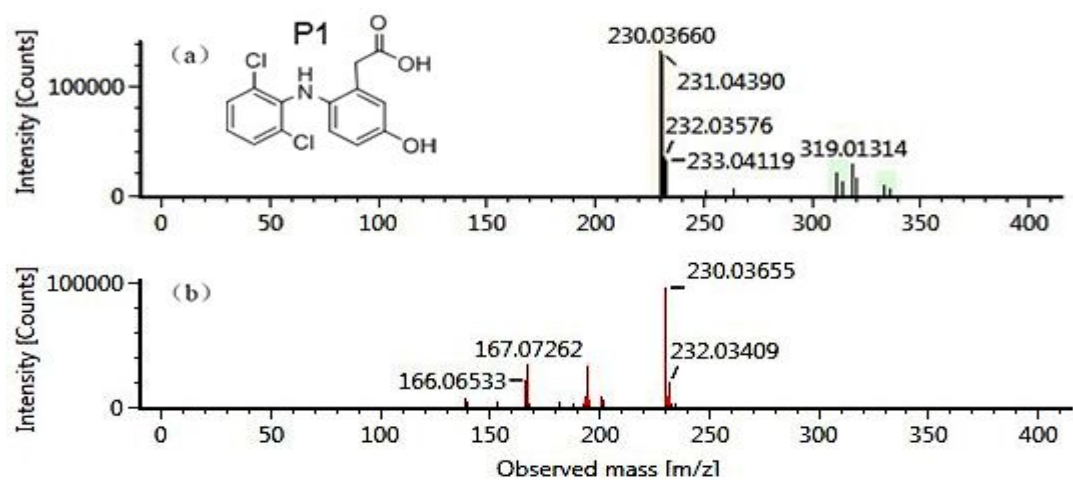
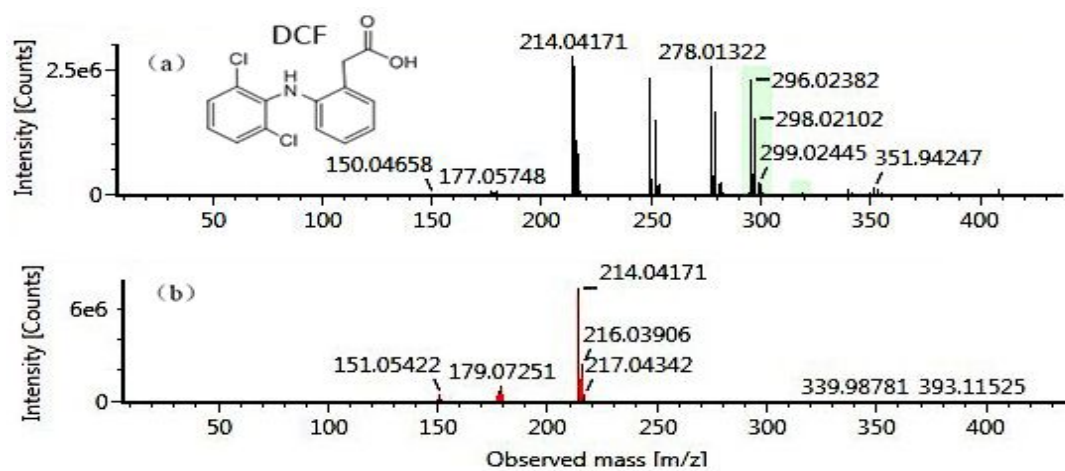
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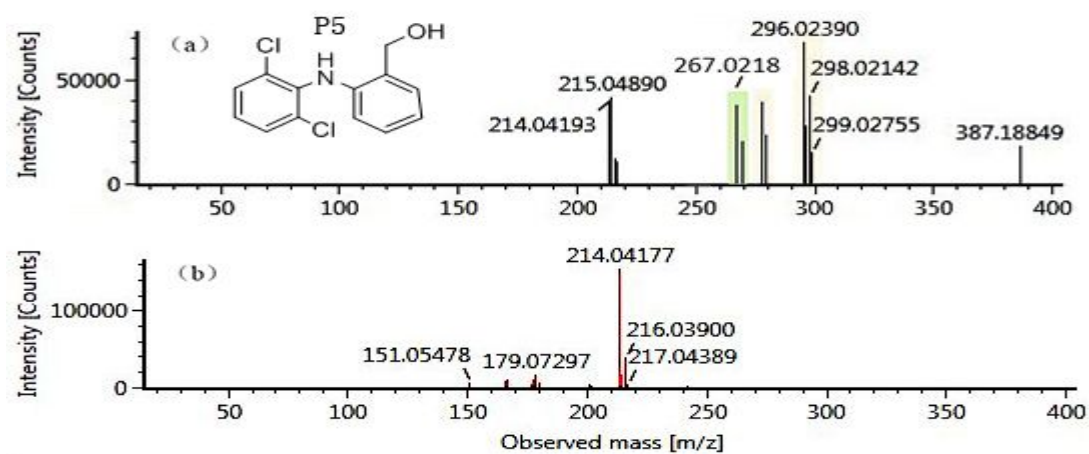
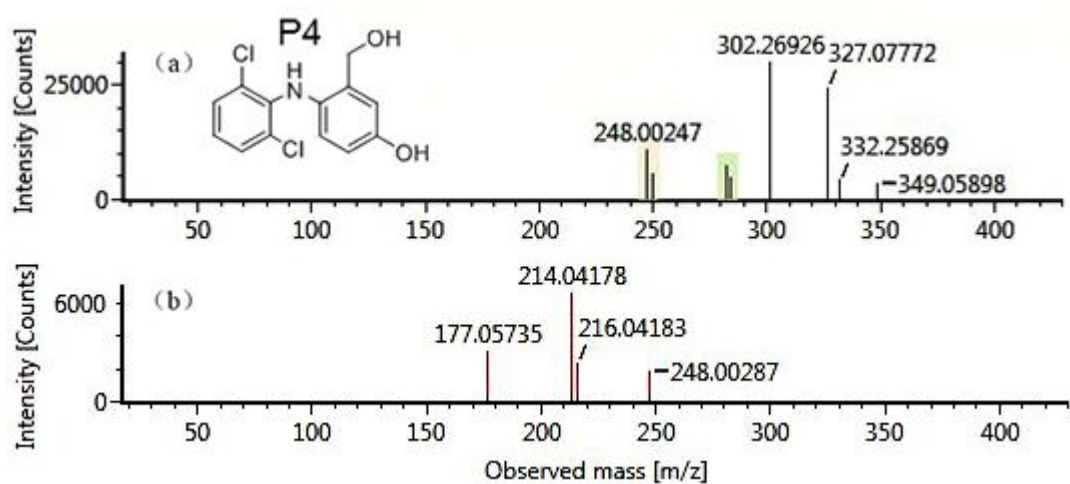
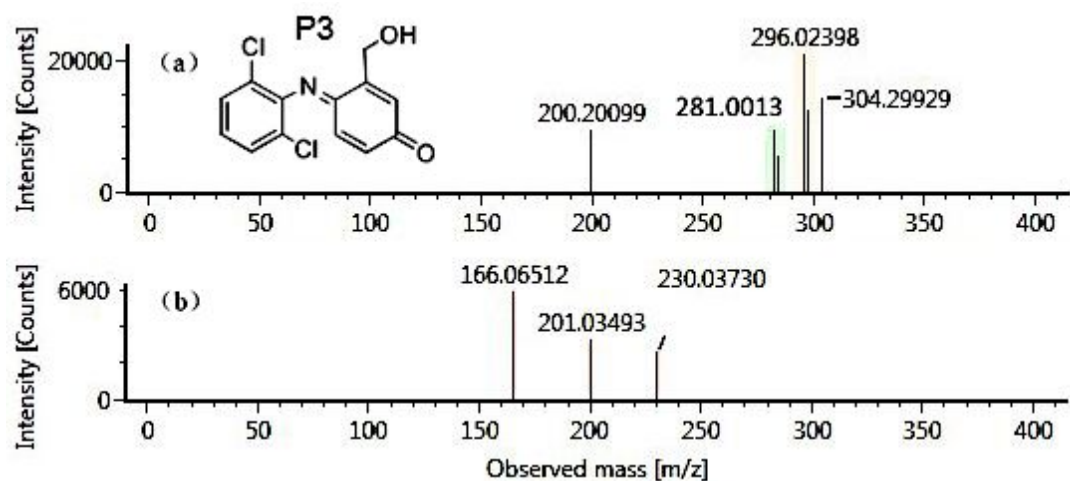
214 Figure S14. Influence of  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  and the addition time on the removal of DCF by E-PM

215 and E-PM- $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  processes (adding  $\text{MnSO}_4$  at the beginning and at 1 min, respectively)

216 (Reaction conditions: initial DCF concentration=20  $\mu\text{M}$ ; initial pH=5;  $T=298\pm 1$  K;

217 stirring speed=800 rpm; current=57  $\text{A m}^{-2}$ ; PM dosage=100  $\mu\text{M}$ ;  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  dosage=10  $\mu\text{M}$ ).





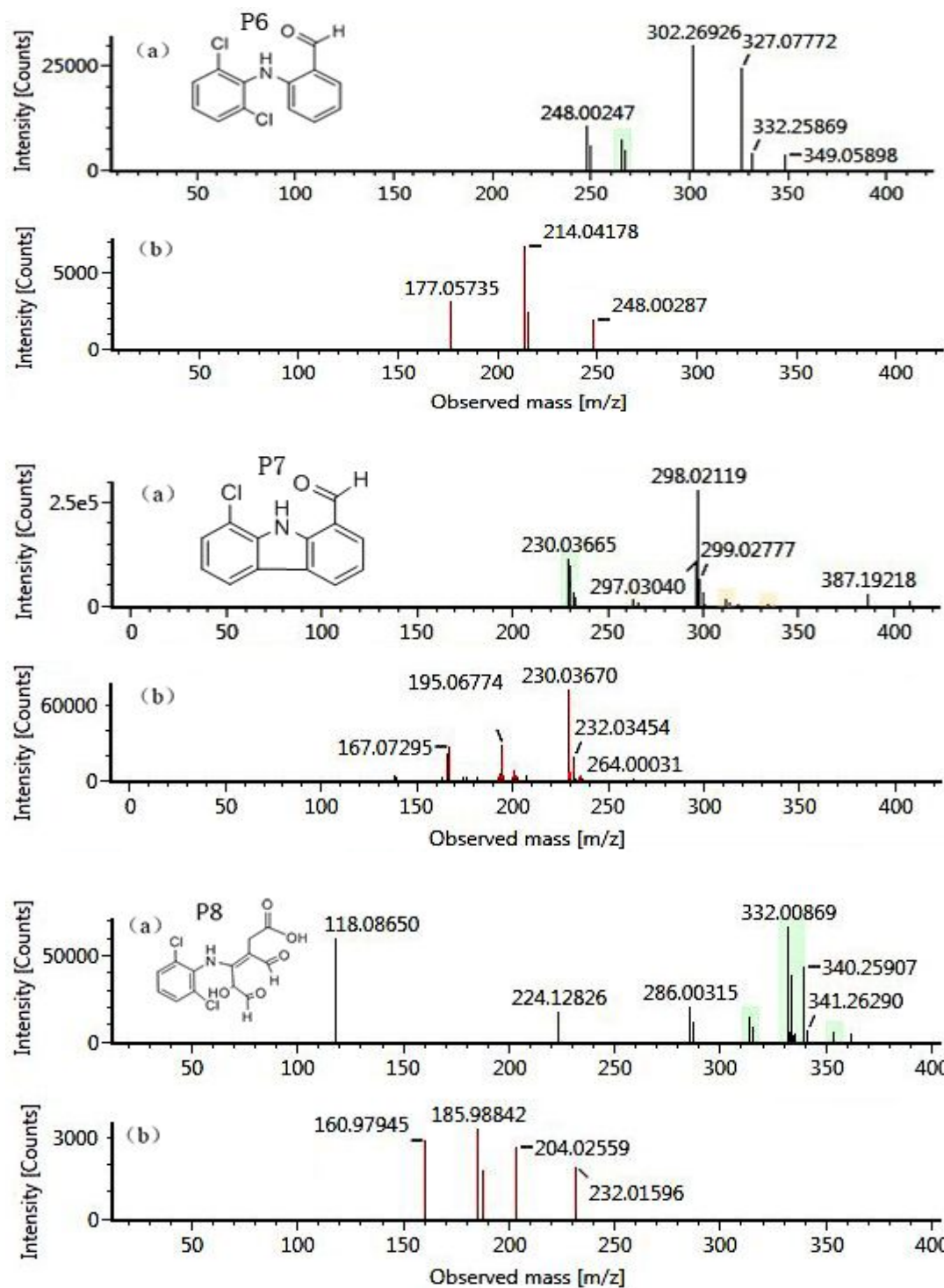
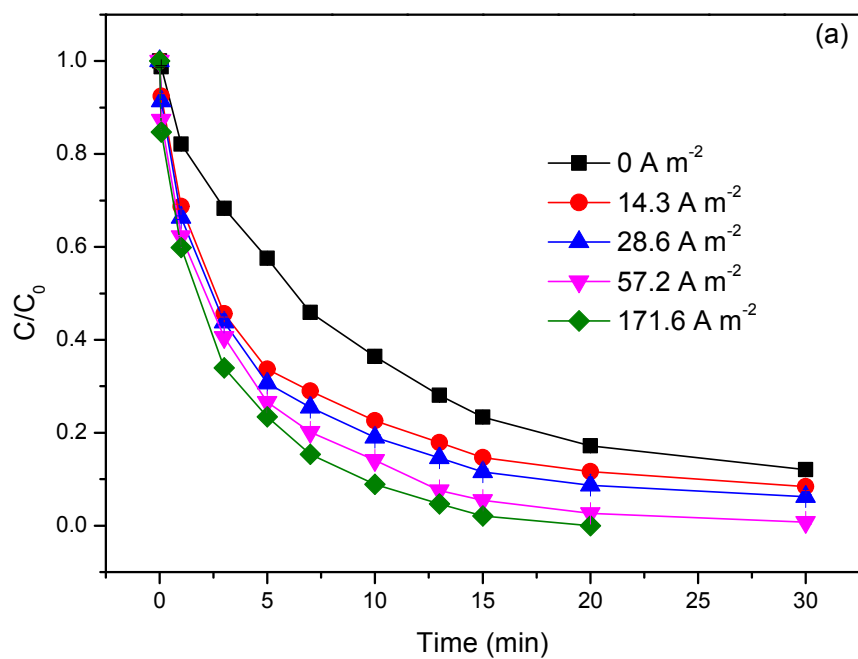
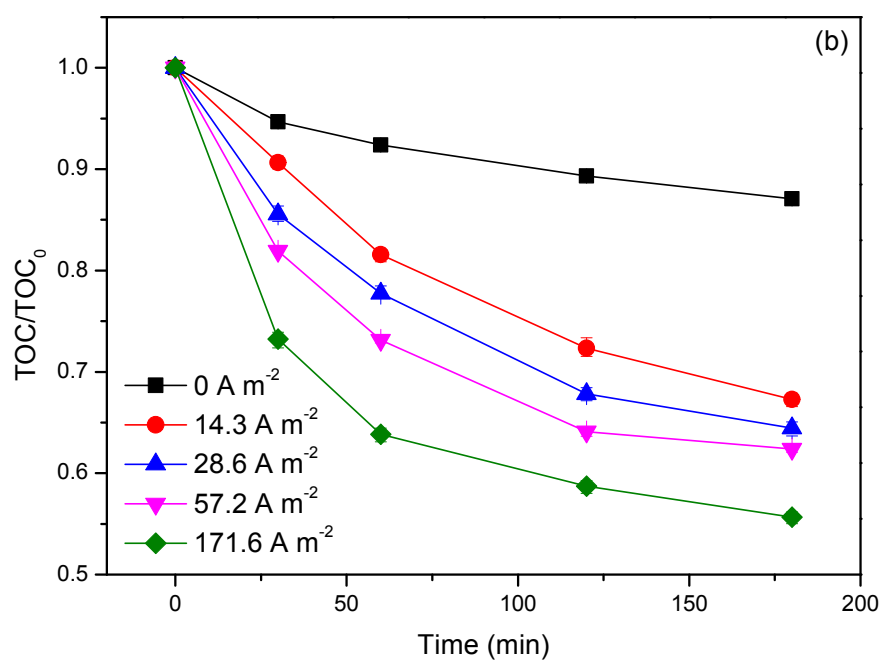


Figure S15. The product ion spectra (a) and the corresponding fragment ion spectra (b) for DCF and its degradation products (P1-P8) detected by UPLC-Vion IMS QTOF-MS (Reaction conditions: initial DCF concentration=20  $\mu$ M; initial pH=5; T=298 $\pm$ 1 K; current=57 A m<sup>-2</sup>; stirring speed=800 rpm; PM dosage=100  $\mu$ M; Mn<sup>2+</sup> dosage=10  $\mu$ M; reaction time=0-30 min).



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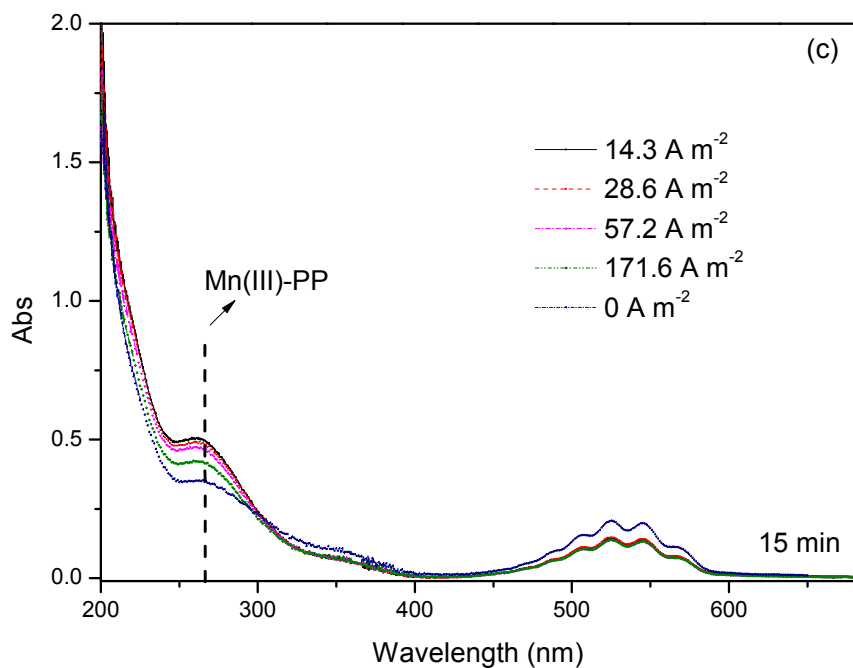
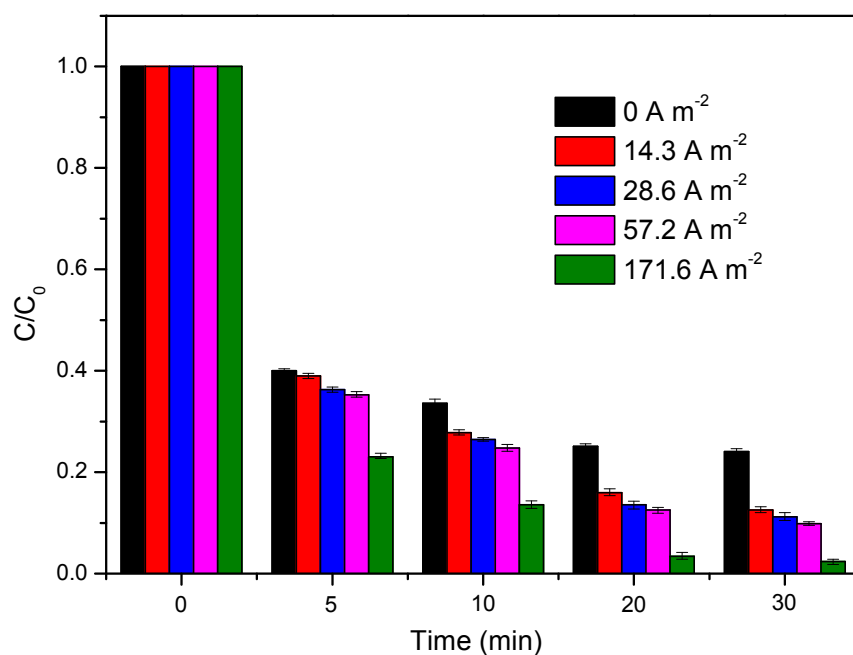


Figure S16. Effect of applied current on the DCF degradation (a), TOC removal (b) and the Mn(III)-PP generation (c) in E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup> process (Reaction conditions: initial DCF concentration=20  $\mu$ M; initial pH=5; T=298 $\pm$ 1 K; stirring speed=800 rpm; PM dosage=100  $\mu$ M; Mn<sup>2+</sup> dosage=10  $\mu$ M; PP dosage=10 mM)



239

240 Figure S17. Effect of applied current on the decomposition of PM for DCF degradation

241 in E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup> process (Reaction conditions: initial DCF concentration=20 μM; initial

242 pH=5; T=298±1 K; stirring speed=800 rpm; PM dosage=100 μM; Mn<sup>2+</sup> dosage=10

243 μM)

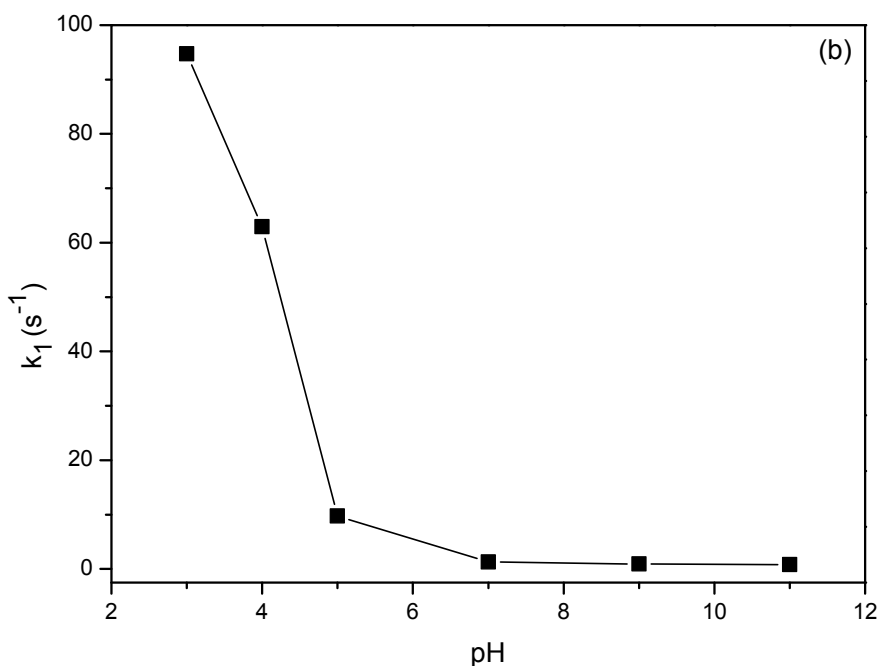
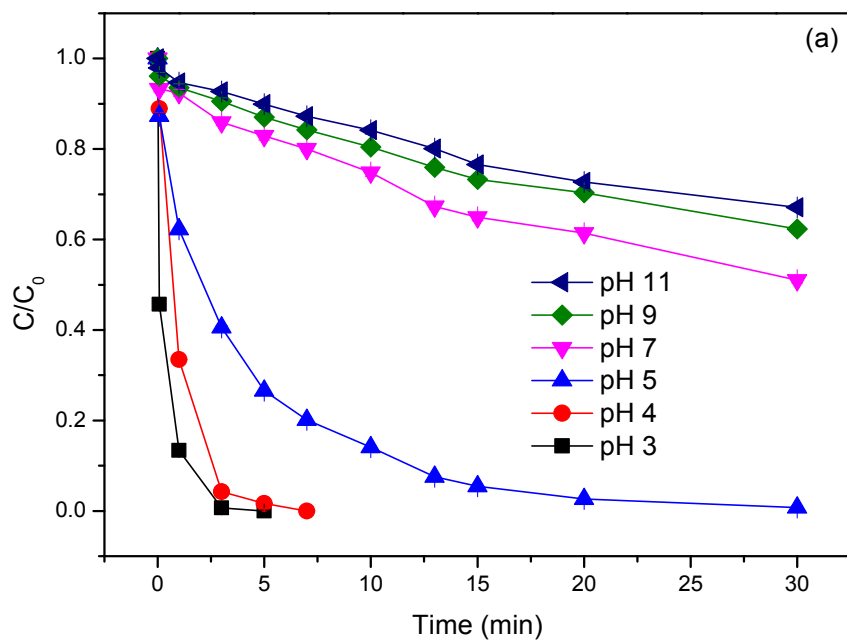
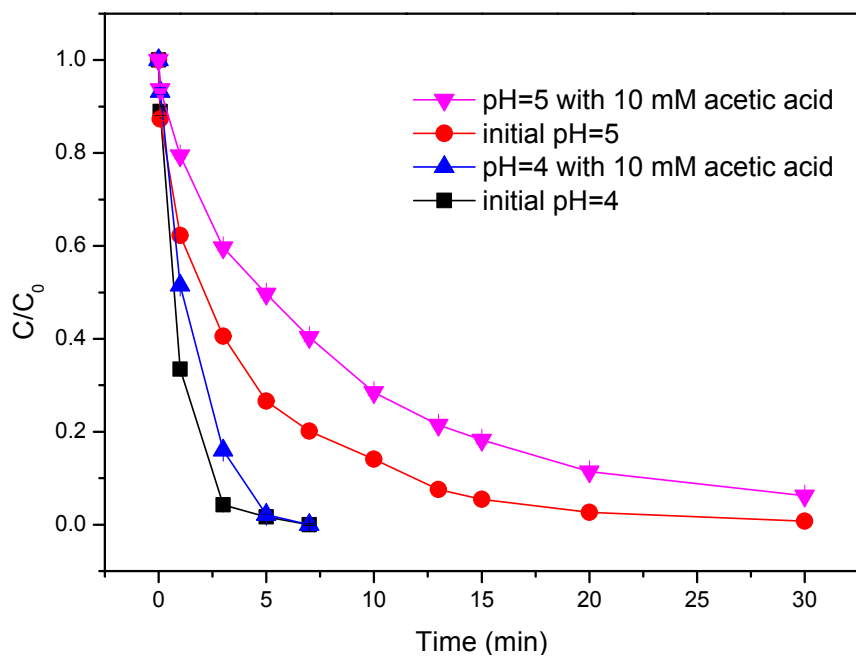


Figure S18. Effect of initial pH and the corresponding  $k_1$  on the removal of DCF in E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup> process (Reaction conditions: initial DCF concentration=20  $\mu$ M; T=298 $\pm$ 1 K; current=57 A m<sup>-2</sup>; stirring speed=800 rpm; PM dosage=100  $\mu$ M; Mn<sup>2+</sup> dosage=10  $\mu$ M)



250

251 Figure S19. The effect of buffers on the removal of DCF in E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup> process at pH  
 252 4 and 5 (Reaction conditions: initial DCF concentration=20 μM; T=298±1 K; stirring  
 253 speed=800 rpm; PM dosage=100 μM; Mn<sup>2+</sup> dosage=10 μM; constant pH 4 and 5  
 254 adjusted by 10 mM acetic acid dosage; initial pH adjusted using 0.1 M or 1 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>  
 255 and NaOH).

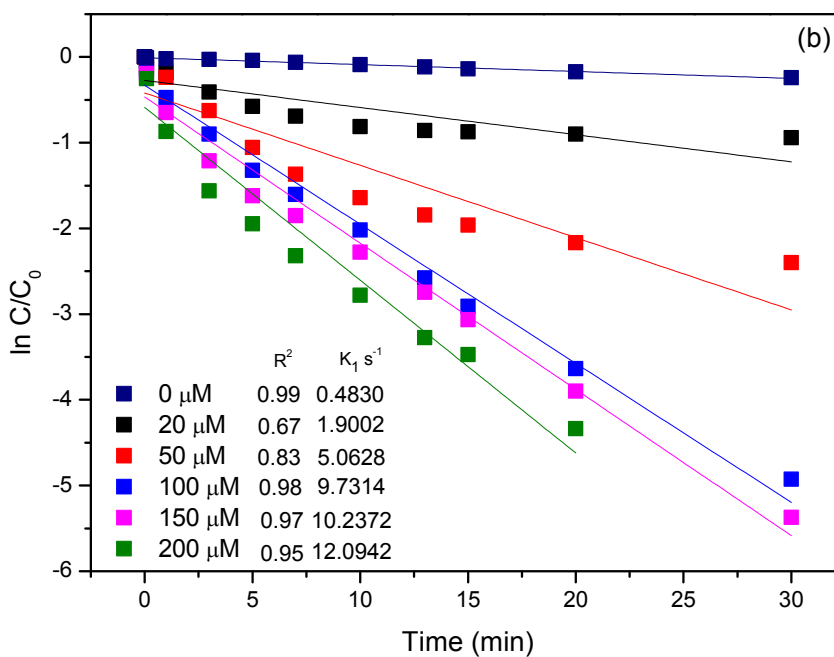
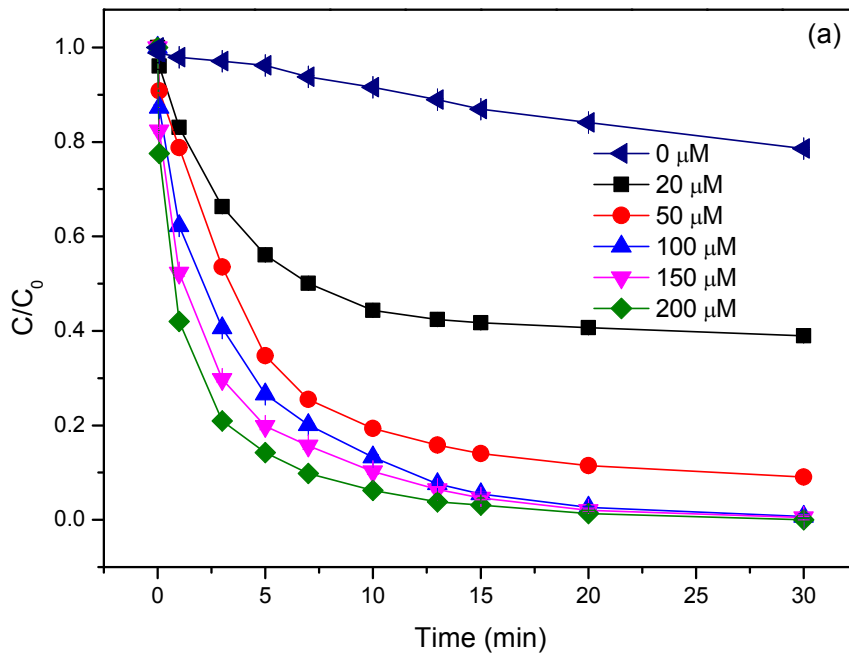


Figure S20. Effect of PM dosage on the degradation ratio (a) and reaction kinetics (b) of DCF by E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup> process (Reaction conditions: initial DCF concentration=20  $\mu\text{M}$ ; initial pH=5; T=298 $\pm$ 1 K; current=57 A m<sup>-2</sup>; stirring speed=800 rpm; Mn<sup>2+</sup> dosage=10 $\mu\text{M}$ ).

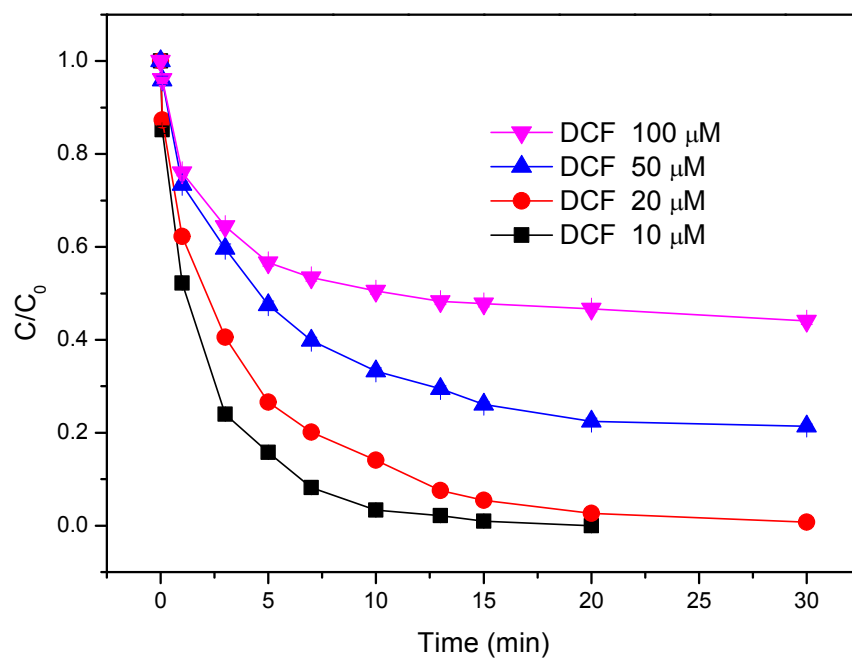


Figure S21. Effect of DCF concentration on the removal of DCF in E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup> process

(Reaction conditions: T=298±1 K; stirring speed=800 rpm; current=57 A m<sup>-2</sup>; initial

pH=5; PM dosage=100  $\mu\text{M}$ ; Mn<sup>2+</sup> dosage=10  $\mu\text{M}$ )

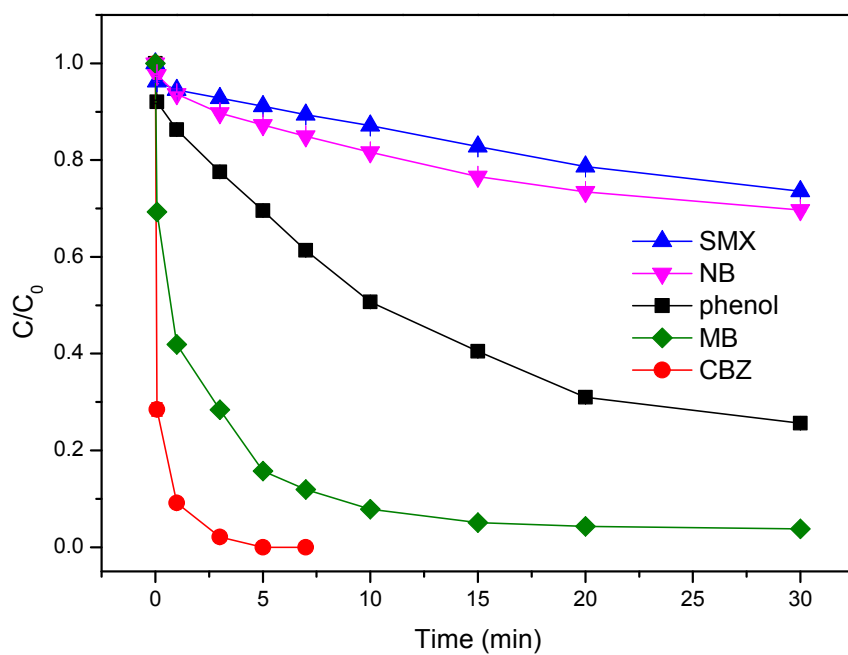


Figure S22. Removal of CBZ, phenol, SMX, NB, and MB in E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup> process

(Reaction conditions: initial contaminants concentration=20  $\mu$ M; initial pH=5;

T=298 $\pm$ 1 K; current=57 A m<sup>-2</sup>; stirring speed=800 rpm; PM dosage=100  $\mu$ M; Mn<sup>2+</sup>

dosage=10  $\mu$ M)

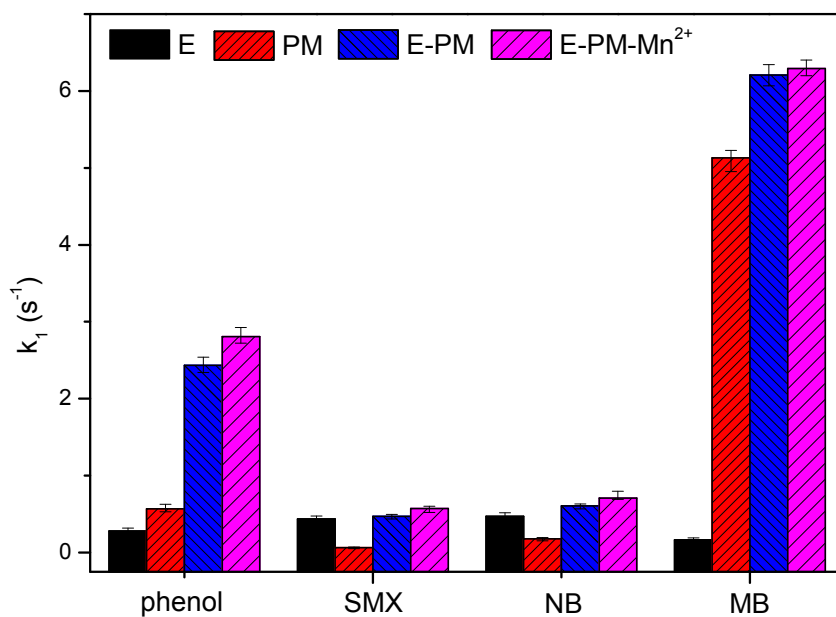
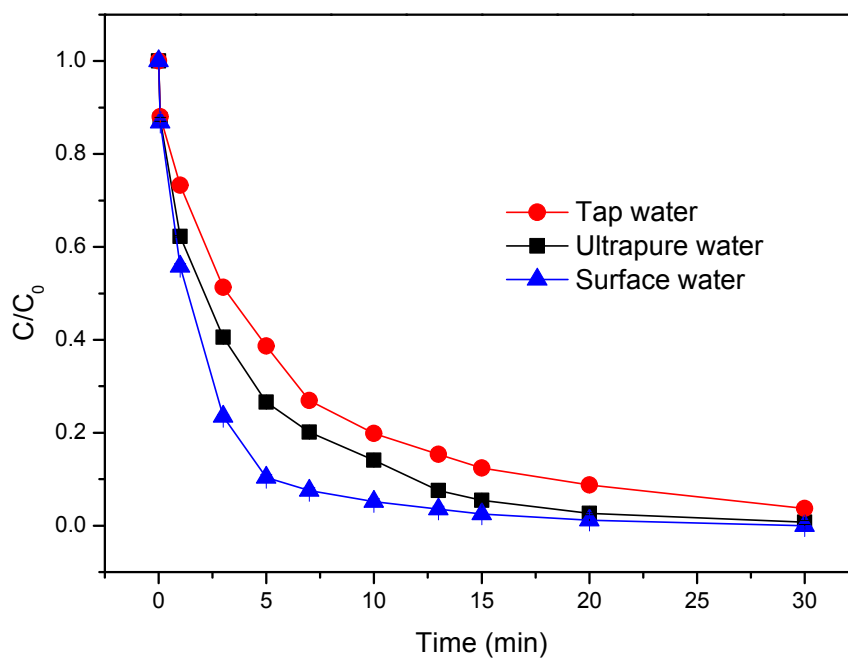


Figure S23. Degradation kinetics constants ( $k_1$ ) of phenol, SMX, NB, MB in electrolysis (E), PM, E-PM, and E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup> processes (Reaction conditions: initial contaminants concentration=20  $\mu$ M; initial pH=5; T=298 $\pm$ 1 K; current=57 A m<sup>-2</sup>; stirring speed=800 rpm; PM dosage=100  $\mu$ M; Mn<sup>2+</sup> dosage=10  $\mu$ M)





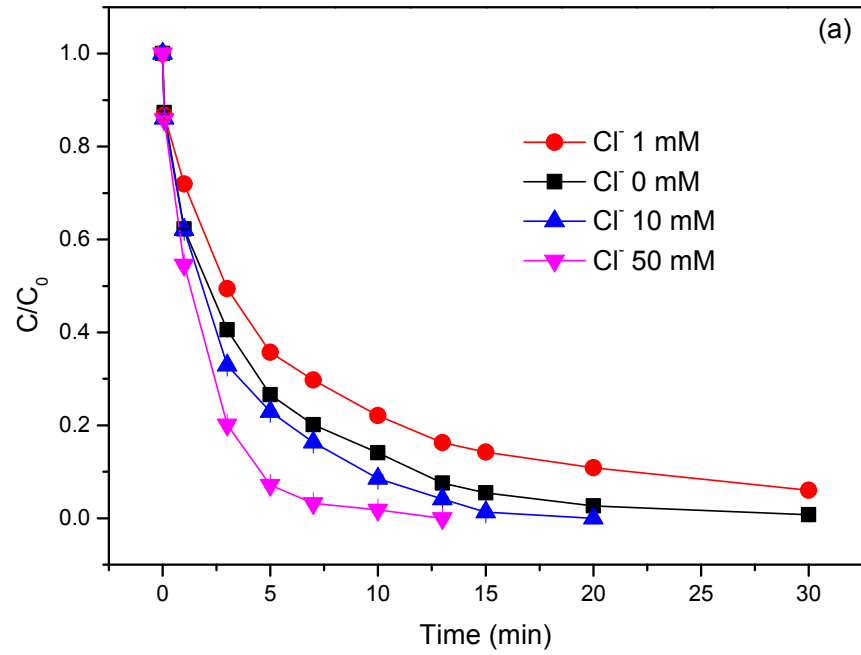
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277 Figure S24. Effect of water matrices on the removal of DCF in E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup> process

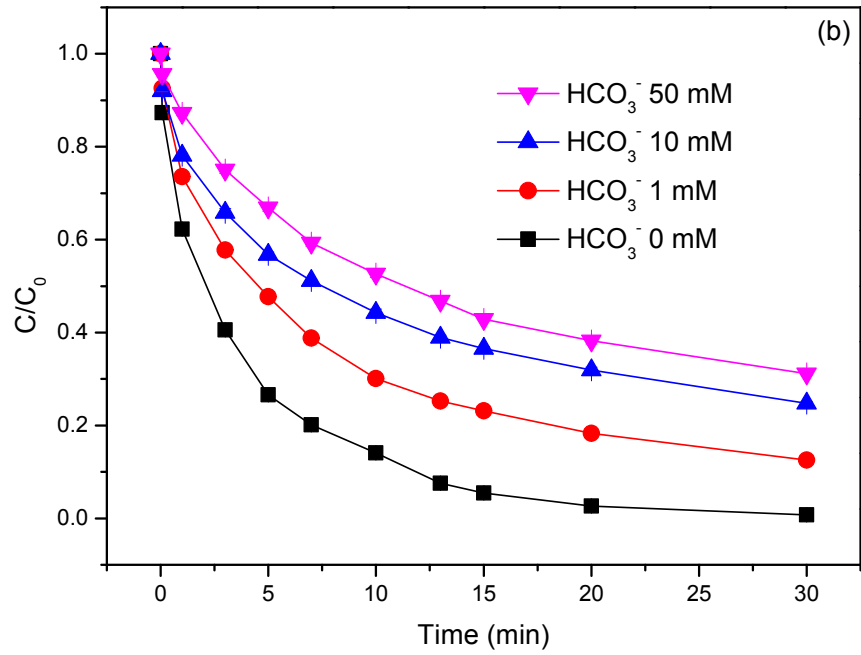
278 (Reaction conditions: initial DCF concentration=20 μM; initial pH=5; T=298±1 K;

279 current=57 A m<sup>-2</sup>; stirring speed=800 rpm; PM dosage=100 μM; Mn<sup>2+</sup> dosage=10 μM).

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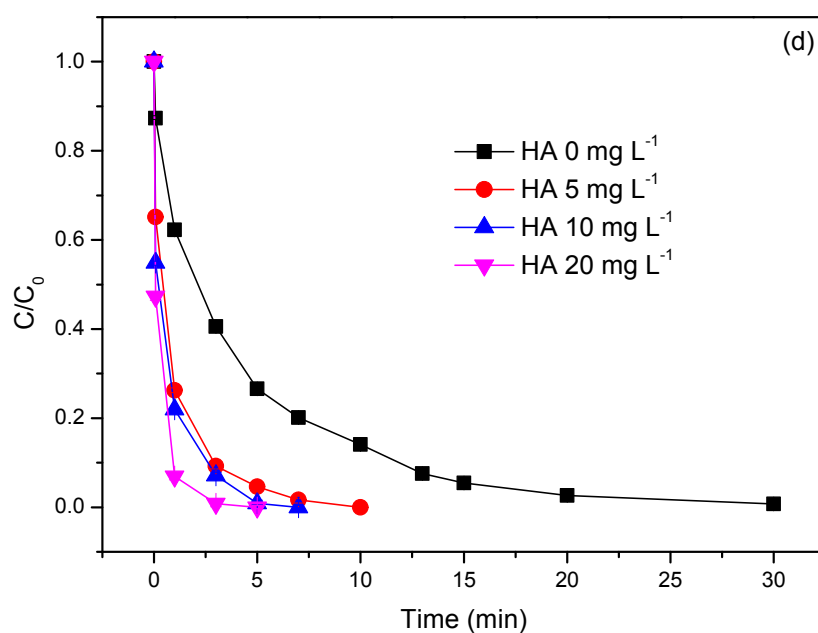
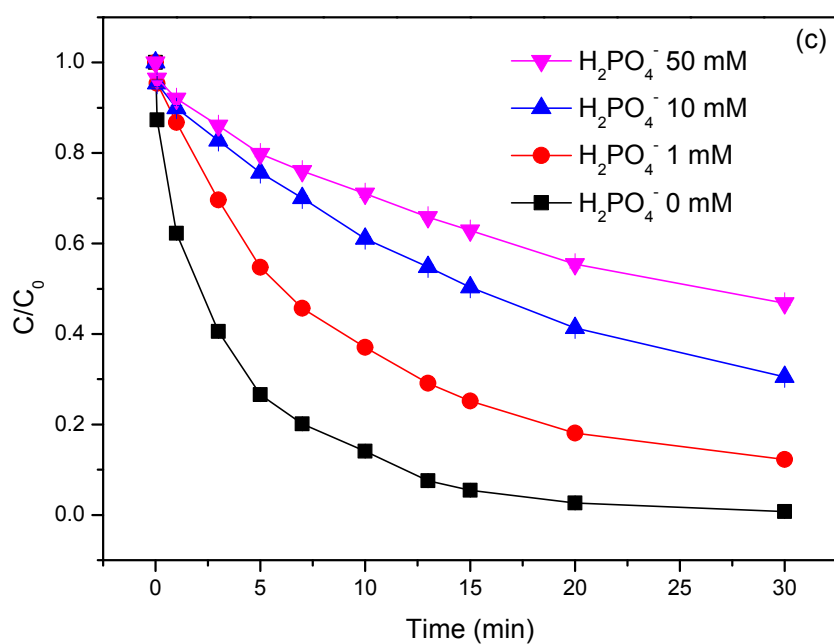
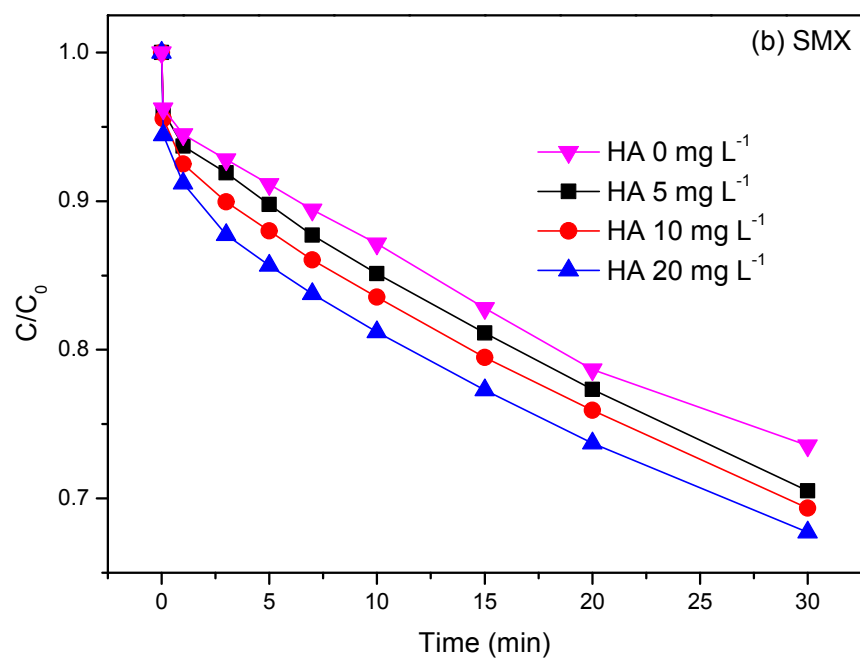
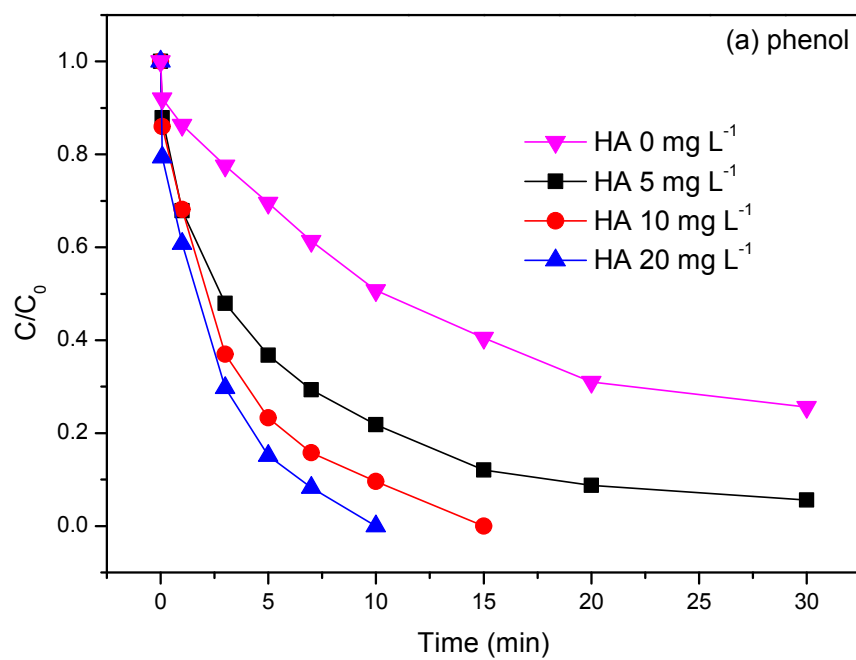


Figure S25. Effect of  $\text{Cl}^-$  (a),  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  (b),  $\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4^-$  (c), and HA (d) on the degradation of DCF in E-PM- $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  process (Reaction conditions: initial DCF concentration= $20\text{ }\mu\text{M}$ ; initial pH=5;  $T=298\pm 1\text{ K}$ ; current= $57\text{ A m}^{-2}$ ; stirring speed=800 rpm; PM dosage= $100\text{ }\mu\text{M}$ ;  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  dosage= $10\text{ }\mu\text{M}$ ).



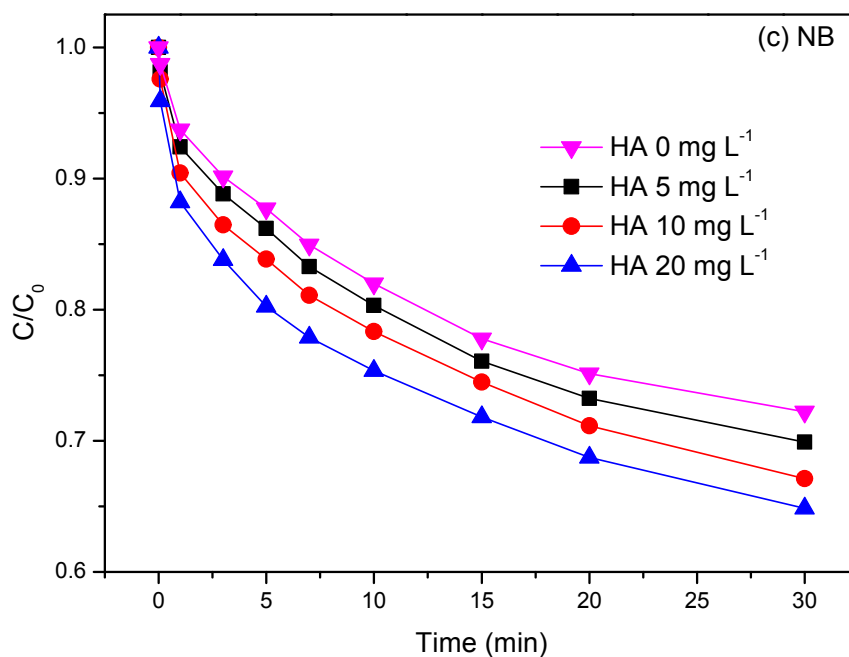


Figure S26. Effect of HA on the degradation of phenol (a), SMX (b) and NB (c) in E-PM-Mn<sup>2+</sup> process (Reaction conditions: initial contaminant concentration=20  $\mu$ M; initial pH=5; T=298 $\pm$ 1 K; current=57 A m<sup>-2</sup>; stirring speed=800 rpm; PM dosage=100  $\mu$ M; Mn<sup>2+</sup> dosage=10  $\mu$ M; initial HA concentration=0, 5, 10, 20 mg L<sup>-1</sup>).

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