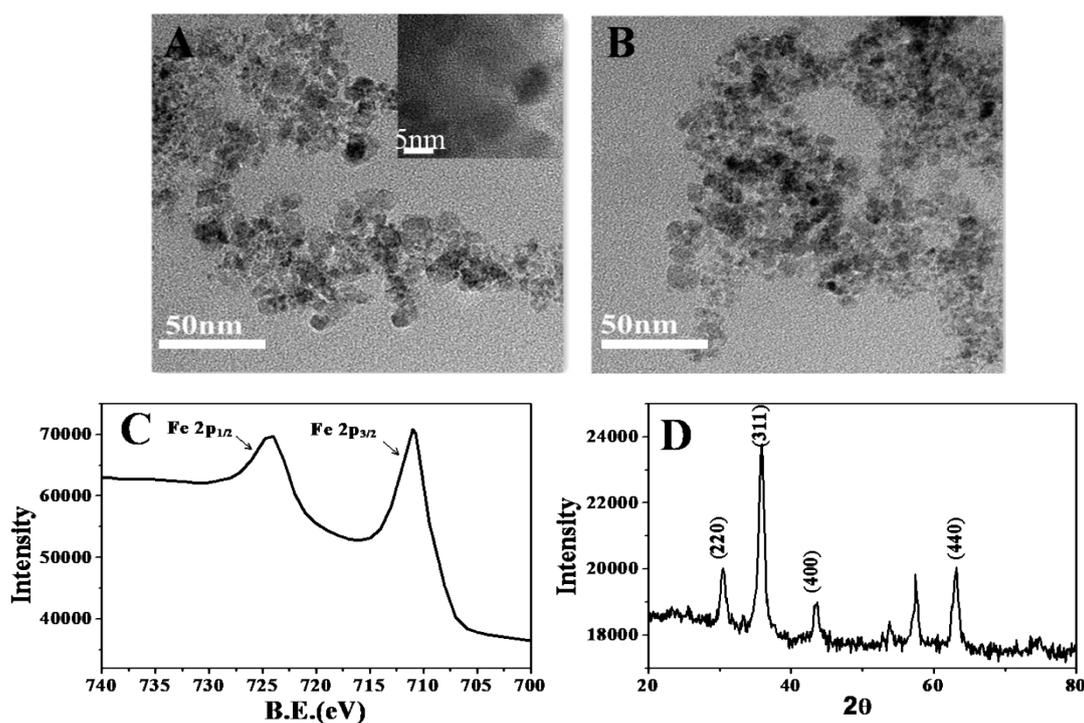


## Supporting Information

### Colorimetric detection of phosphate based on the inhibition of peroxidase-like activity of magnetite nanoparticles

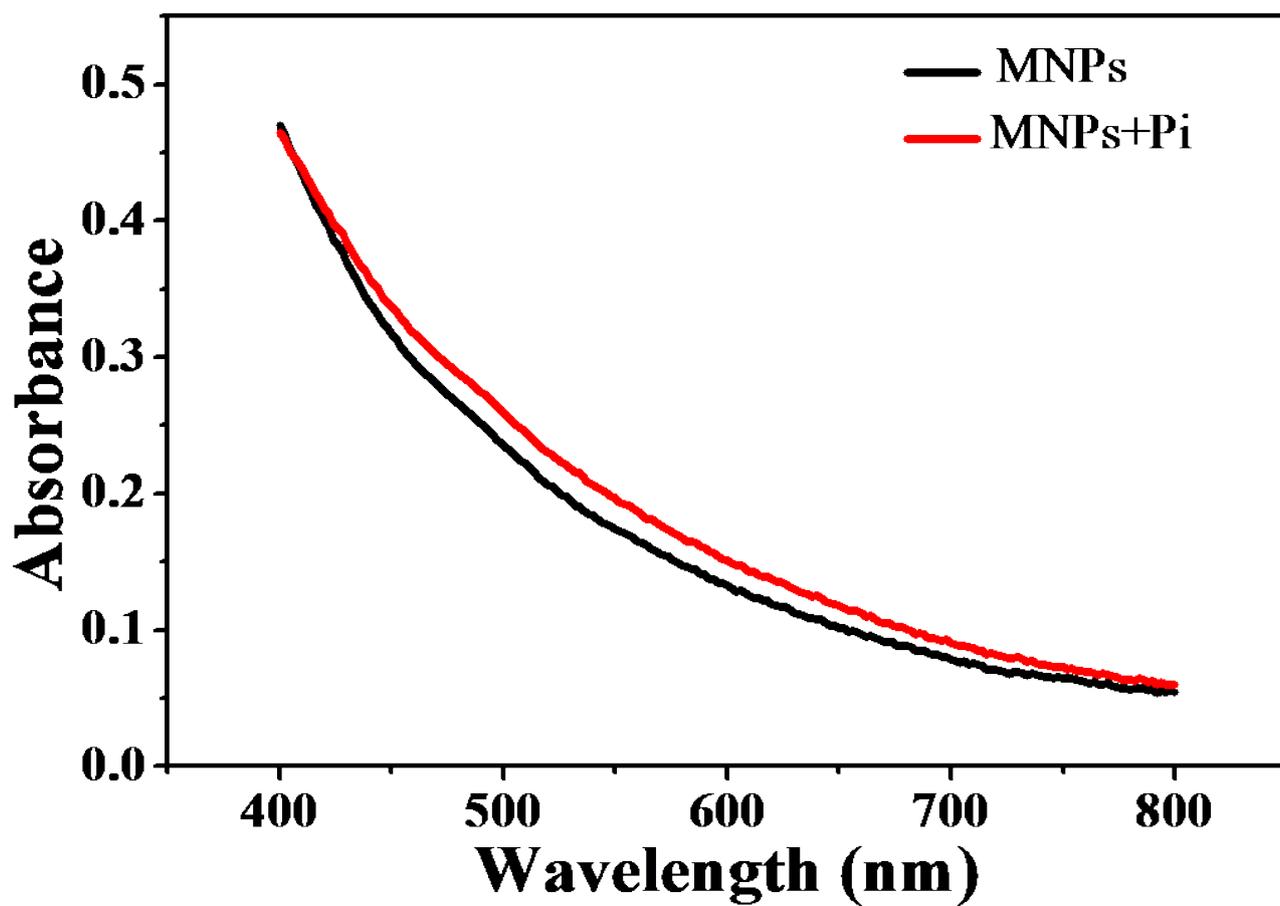
Chuanxia Chen,<sup>a,b</sup> Yu Zheng,<sup>a,b</sup> Fan Yang<sup>a</sup> and Xiurong Yang<sup>\*a</sup>

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Fig.S1 HRTEM images of the Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> MNPs (A) and Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> MNPs + Pi(B). The XPS spectrum of Fe 2p from the fractured surface of the Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> MNPs(C), XRD patterns of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> MNPs(D).



**Fig.S2** UV-vis absorption spectra of the Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> MNPs in HAc-NaAc buffer solution. MNPs: 27.5  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , Pi: 100  $\mu\text{M}$ , HAc-NaAc buffer solution (0.2 M, pH 3.6); and 5 min at room temperature for the coordination reaction.

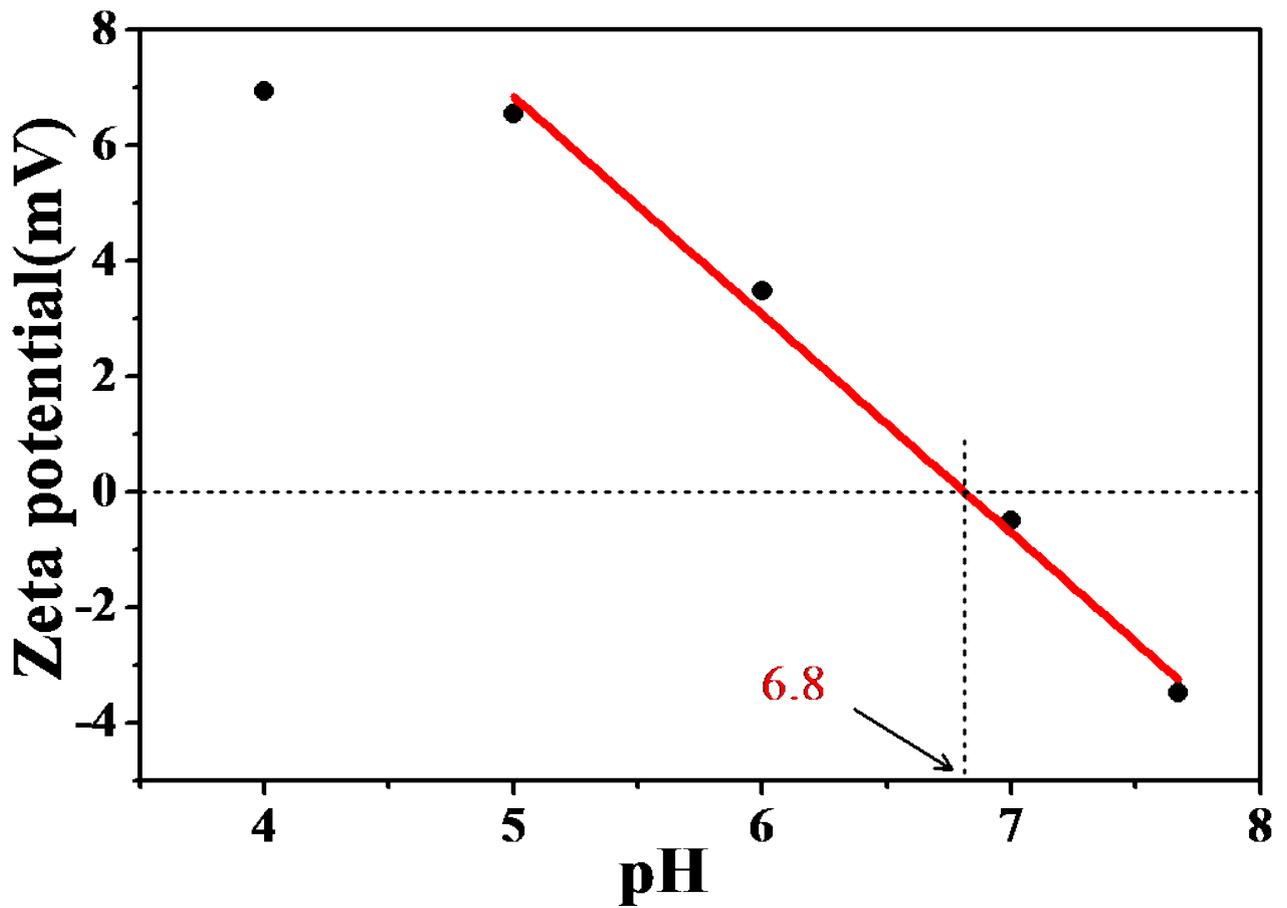


Fig.S3 Zeta potential versus pH of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> MNPs at 25 °C. MNPs: 27.5 µg/mL, HAc-NaAc buffer solution (0.2 M, pH 4.0, 5.0, 6.0, 7.0,7.7) The pI of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> MNPs is 6.8

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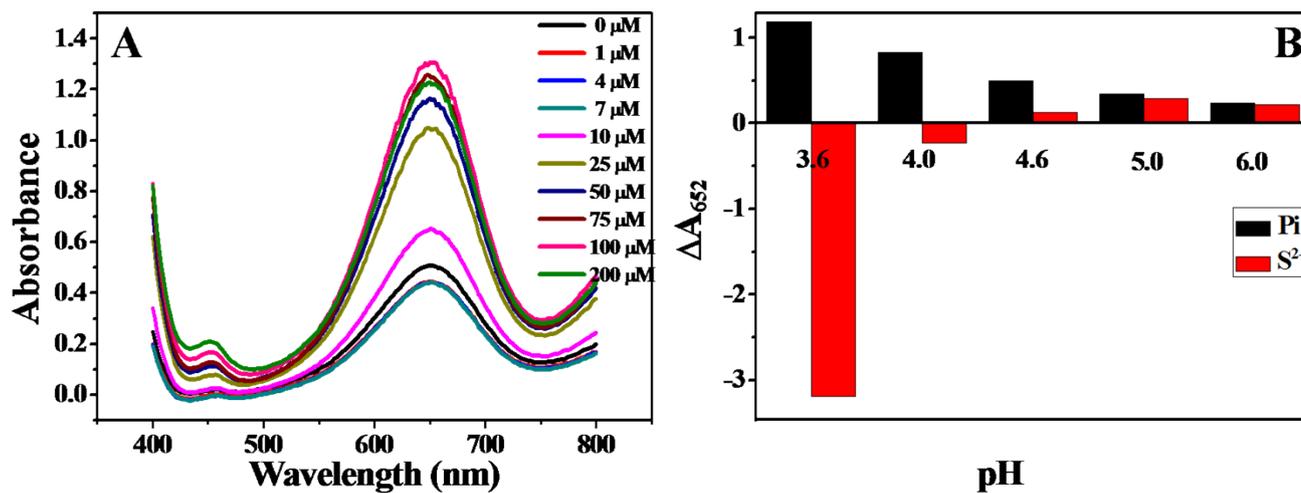


Fig.S4 (A) UV-vis absorption spectra of the  $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4$  MNPs-TMB- $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  system containing various concentrations of  $\text{S}^{2-}$  at pH 3.6. The solution was diluted for 4 times before detection (B) The  $\Delta A_{652}$  response of the assay systems toward phosphate and  $\text{S}^{2-}$  under various pH values. MNPs: 27.5  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ , TMB: 2.5 mM,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ : 4.0 mM, HAc-NaAc buffer solution (0.2 M, pH 3.6, 4.0, 4.6, 5.0, 6.0).

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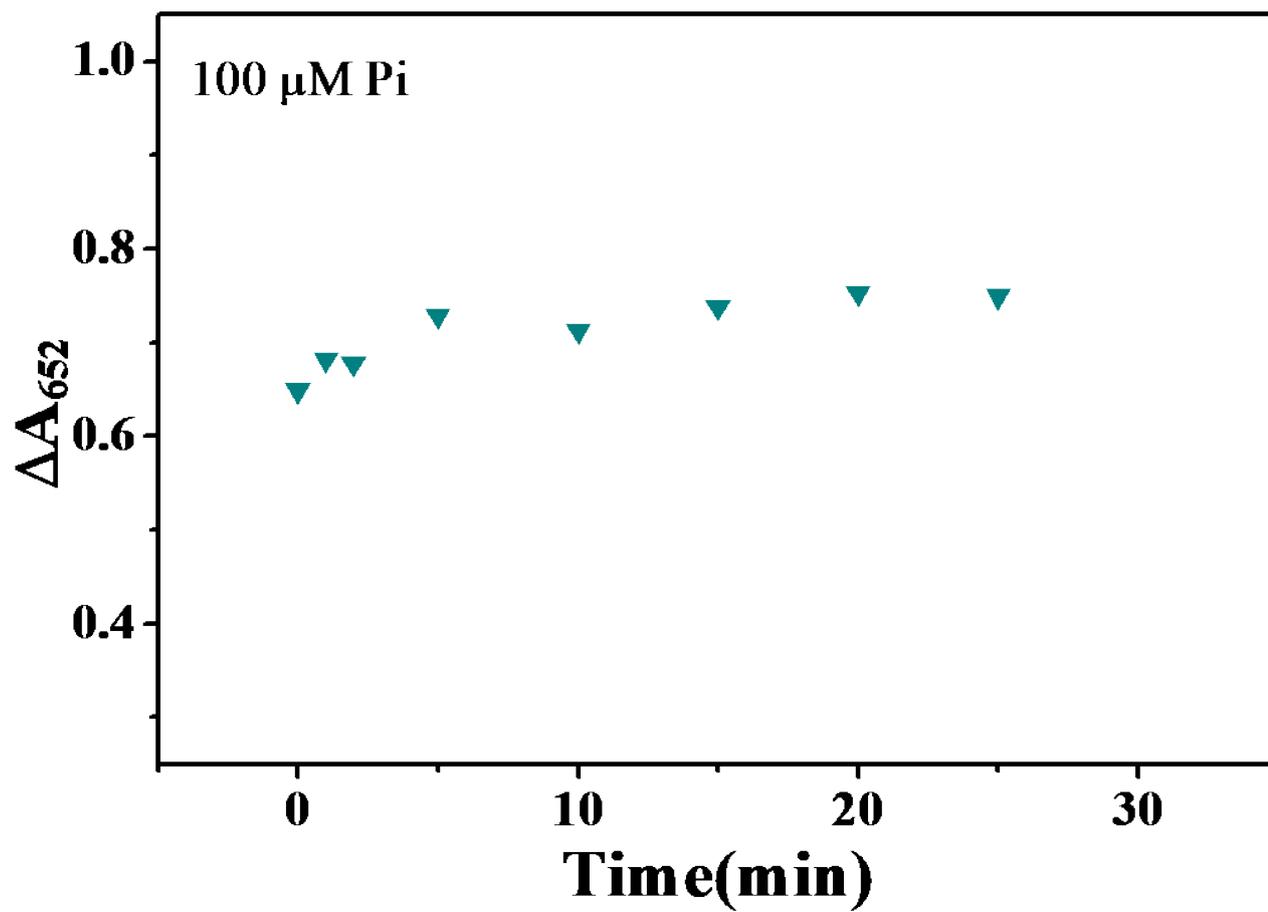
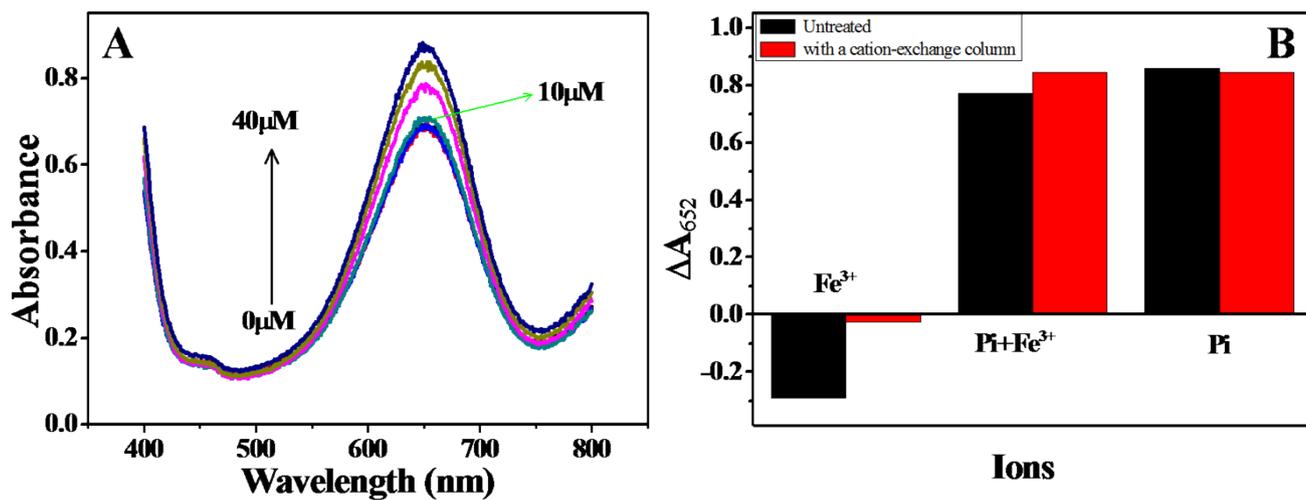


Fig.S5 Plot of  $\Delta A_{652}$  versus time of coordination reaction at ambient temperature. MNPs: 27.5  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ , TMB: 2.5 mM,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ : 4.0 mM, Pi: 100  $\mu\text{M}$ , HAc-NaAc buffer solution (0.2 M, pH 4.0).

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**Fig.S6** (A) UV-vis absorption spectra of the  $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4$  MNPs-TMB- $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ -Pi system containing various concentrations of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ . (B) The  $\Delta A_{652}$  response of the assay systems toward  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Pi}+\text{Fe}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Pi}$  before and after pretreatment by a cation-exchange column. MNPs: 27.5  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ , TMB: 2.5 mM,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ :4.0 mM, HAC-NaAc buffer solution (0.2 M, pH 4.0),  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ : 10  $\mu\text{M}$ .