

**Supporting information for**

**Polystyrene Controlled Grown Zerovalent Nanoiron/Magnetite on Sponge-like Carbon Matrix toward Effective Cr(VI) Removal from Polluted Water**

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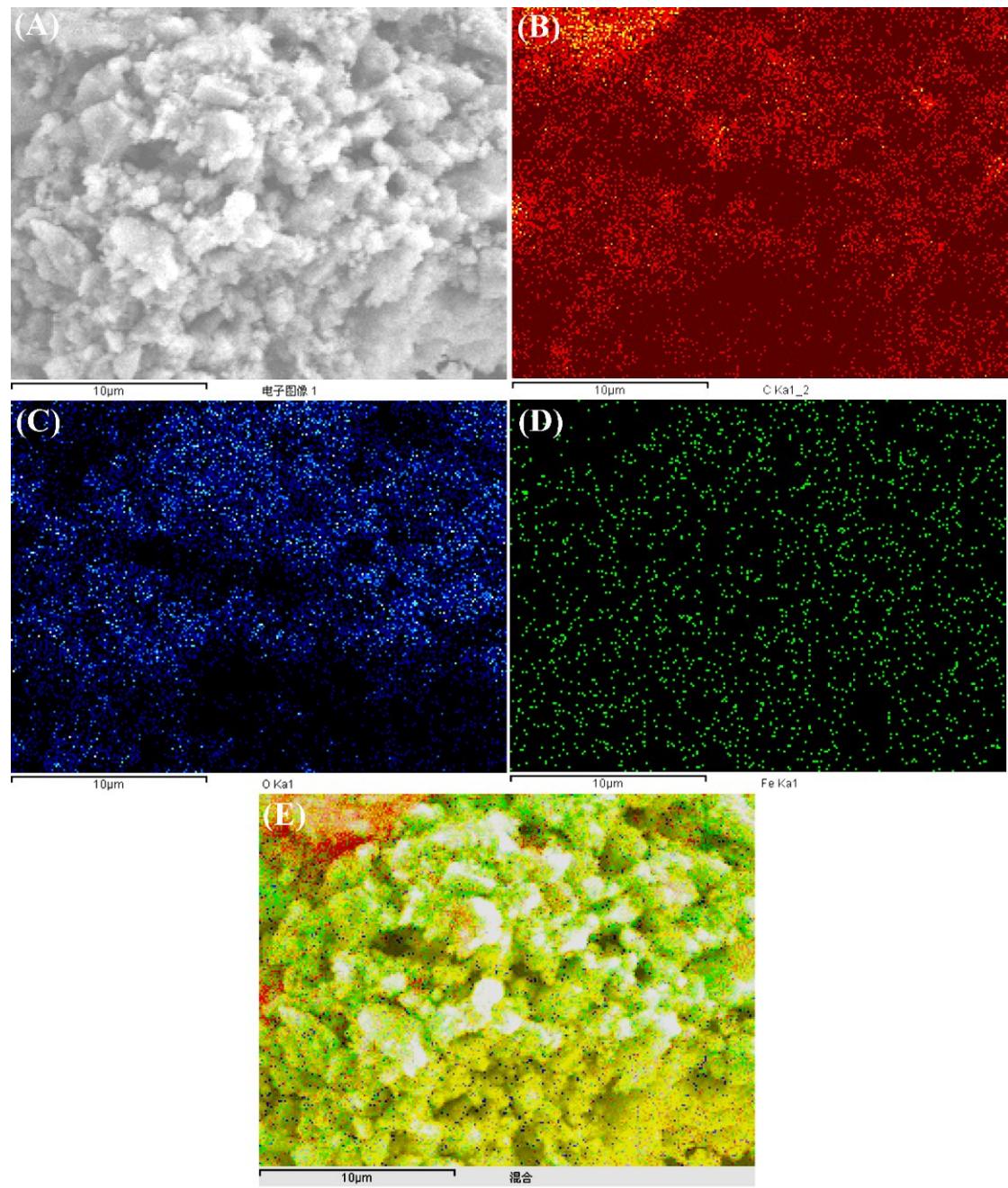
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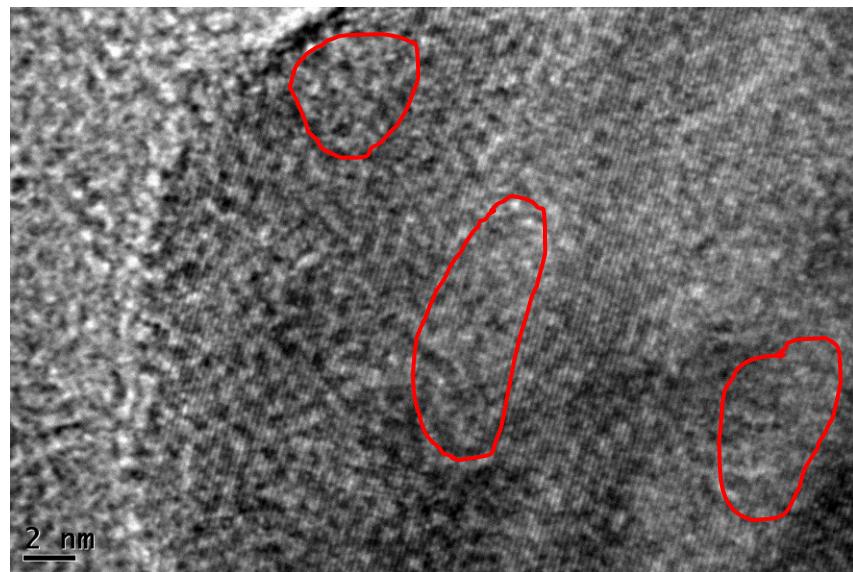
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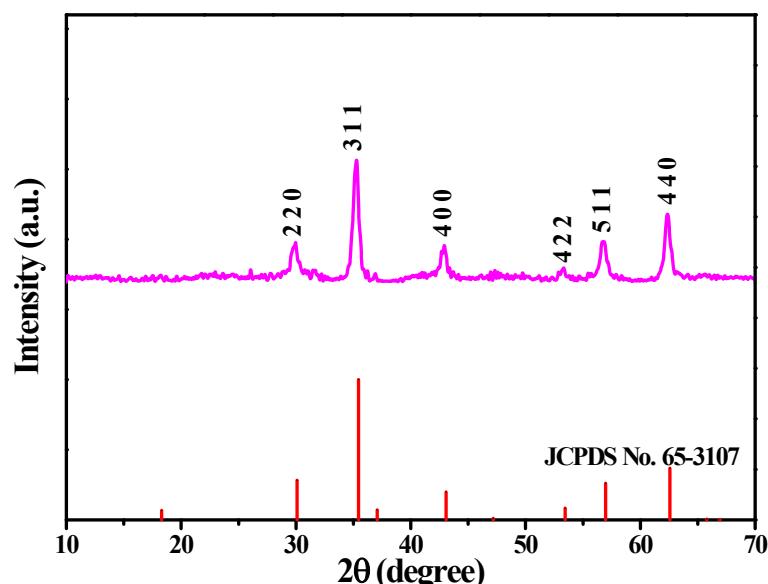
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**Fig. S1** EDS mapping of the FH (A) zero-loss image, (B) C map, (C) O map, (D) Fe map, (E) C + O + Fe map.



**Fig. S2** HRTEM image of UN.



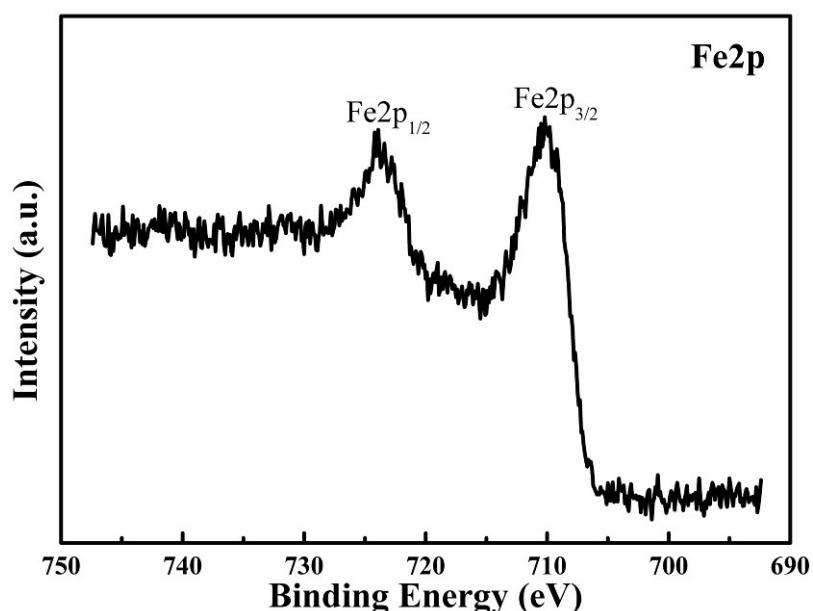
**Fig. S3** XRD pattern of FN.

**Table S1** The total Cr concentrations ( $\text{mg L}^{-1}$ ) detected by ICP-OES and the Cr(VI) concentrations ( $\text{mg L}^{-1}$ ) detected by colorimetric method in the initial Cr(VI) solution ( $5.7 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ ) after treatment with FH for 5 min at different pH values.

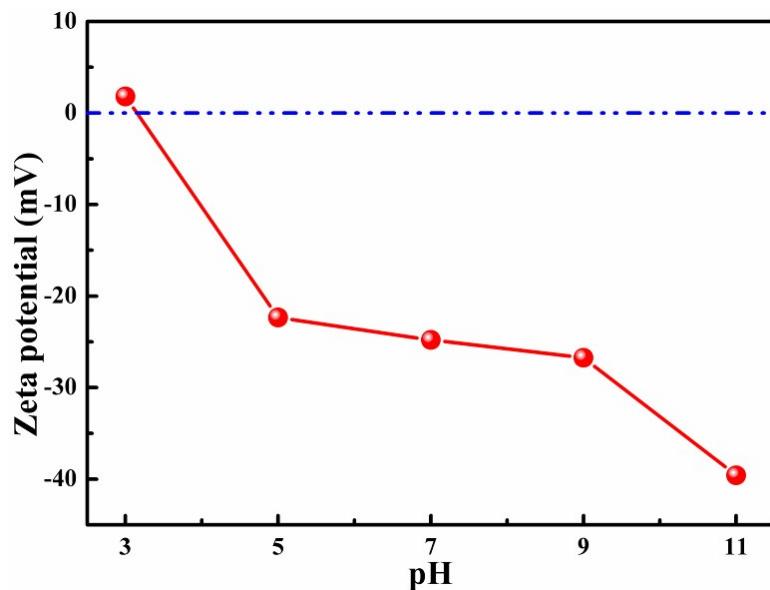
pH	3	5	7	9	11
ICP-OES	0.657	0.542	0.611	0.991	1.777
UV-via	0.532	0.464	0.563	0.957	1.762

**Table S2** Fe ion concentrations ( $\text{mg L}^{-1}$ ) in the Cr(VI) solution ( $5.7 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ ) after treatment with FH at different pH values ( $[C_0[\text{Fe}] = 0]$ ).

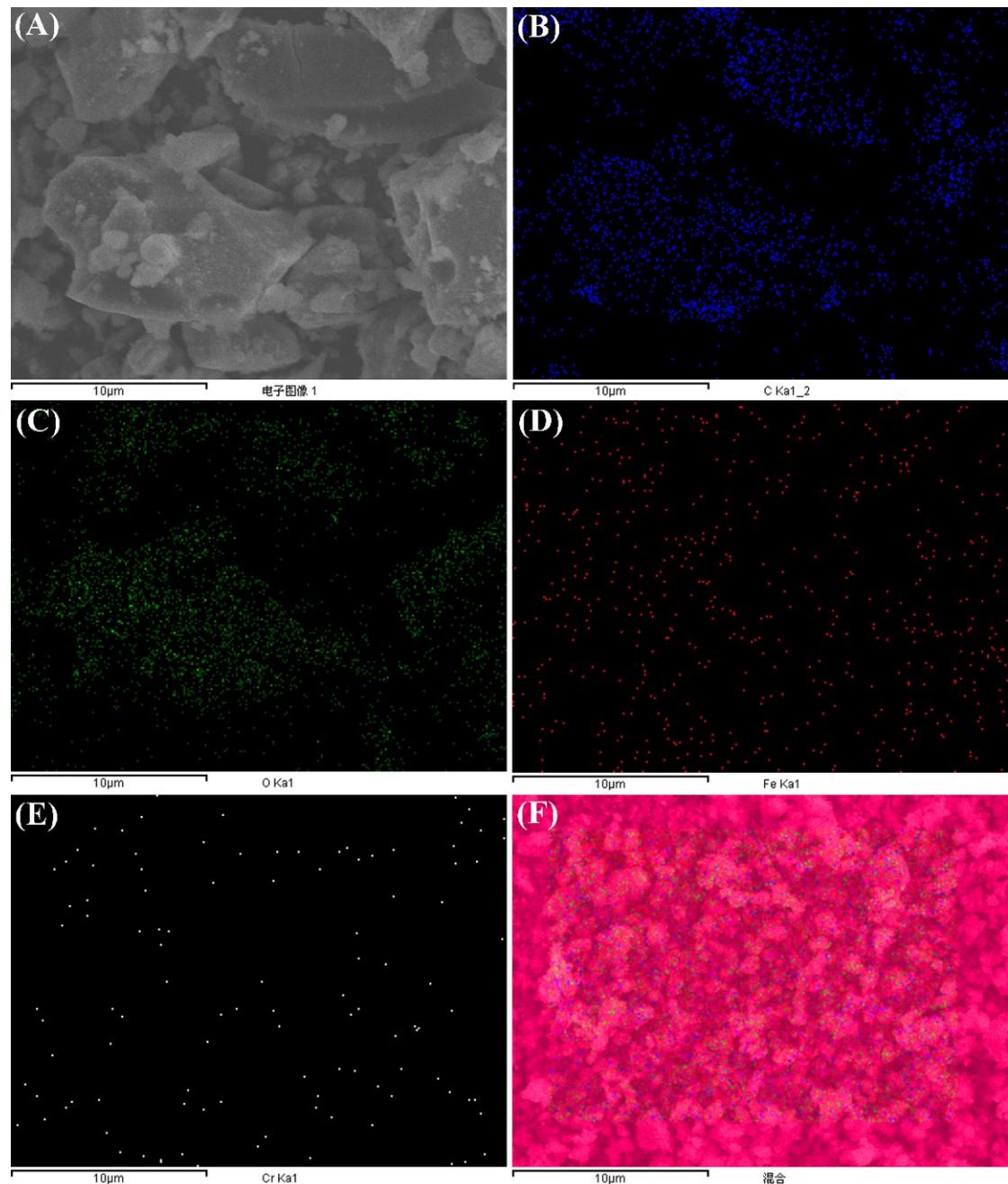
pH	1	2	3	5	7	9	11
$C[\text{Fe}]$	5.030	0.509	0.244	0.001	0	0	0.368



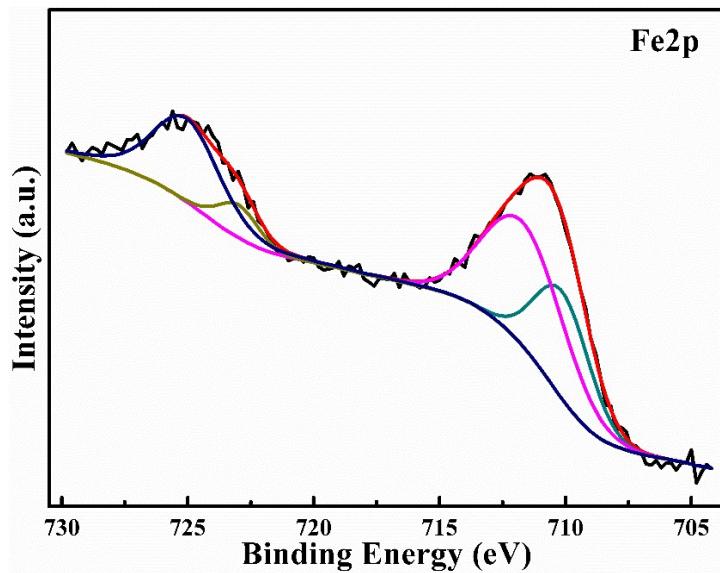
**Fig. S4** High resolution Fe2p XPS spectrum of FN.



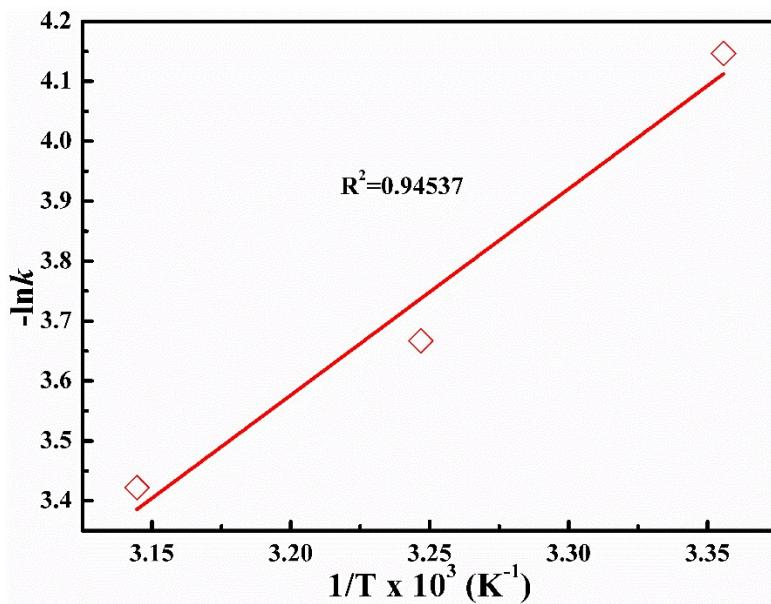
**Fig. S5** Zeta potentials of FH as a function of pH.



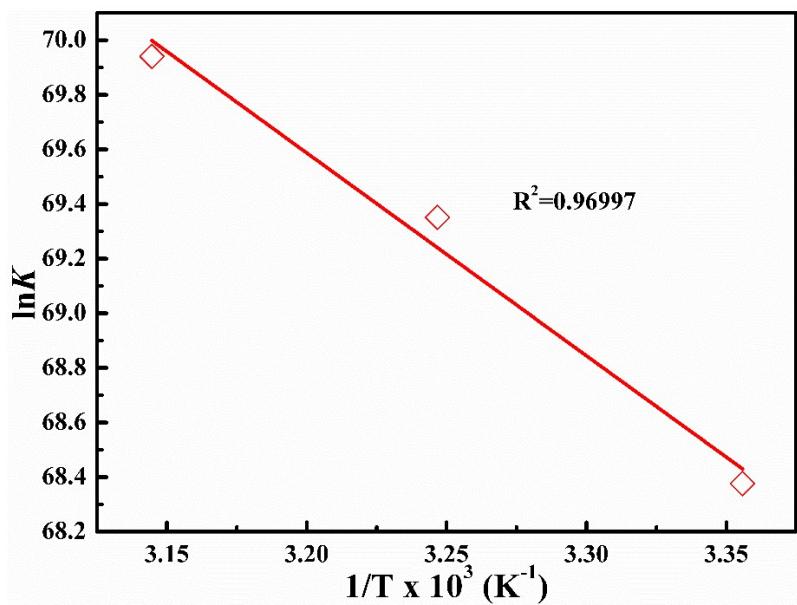
**Fig. S6** EDS mapping of the FH (A) zero-loss image, (B) C map, (C) O map, (D) Fe map, (E) Cr map, (F) C + O + Fe + Cr map after treatment with  $10 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$  Cr(VI) solution at  $\text{pH} = 5.0$  for 5 min at room temperature.



**Fig. S7** Fe2p XPS spectra of FH after treatment with 10.0 mg L<sup>-1</sup> Cr(VI) solution at pH = 5.0 for 5 min at room temperature.



**Fig. S8** Plot of  $-\ln k$  vs.  $1/T \times 10^3$  for treatment of Cr(VI) onto FH.



**Fig. S9** Plot of  $\ln K$  vs.  $1/T \times 10^3$  for thermodynamics of Cr(VI) treatment with FH.