

Electronic Supplementary Information

Nanosized manganese oxide/holmium oxide: A new composite for water oxidation†

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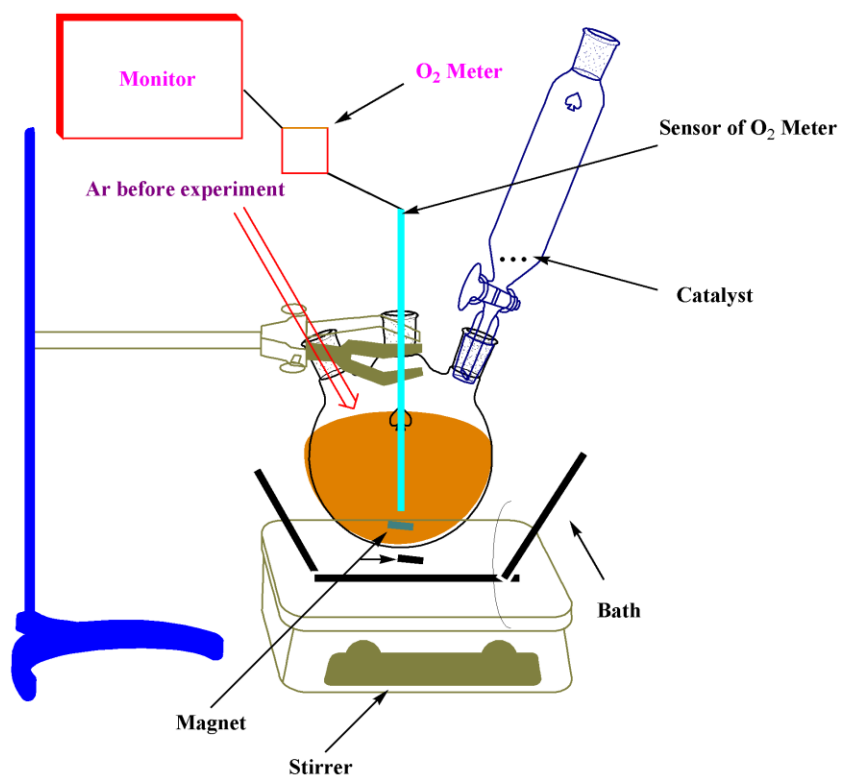
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Water oxidation in the presence of Ce(IV)

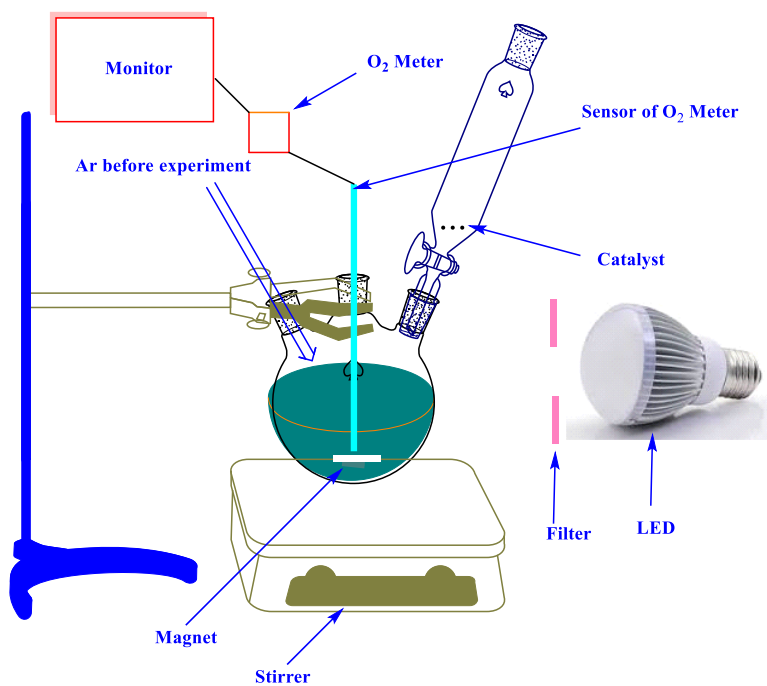
Water oxidation experiments in the presence of Ce(IV) were performed using an HQ40d portable dissolved oxygen-meter connected to an oxygen monitor with digital readout at 25 °C. In a typical run the instrument readout was calibrated against air-saturated distilled water stirred continuously with a magnetic stirrer in an air-tight reactor. After ensuring a constant baseline reading water in the reactor was replaced with a Ce(IV) solution. Without the catalyst, Ce(IV) was stable under these conditions and oxygen evolution was not observed. After deaeration of the Ce(IV) solution with argon, catalyst as several small particles were added, and oxygen evolution was recorded with the oxygen meter under stirring (Scheme S1, ESI[†]). The formation of oxygen was followed and the oxygen formation rates per Mn site were obtained from linear fits of the data by the initial rate. Water oxidation was performed with the use of a setup shown in Scheme S1.

Water oxidation in the presence of [Ru(bpy)₃]⁺³

Photochemical water oxidation experiments were performed in a 100 mL flask containing 80 mL of aqueous buffer (Na₂SiF₆-NaHCO₃, 0.028 M) with pH held at 5.8, Na₂SO₄ (300.0 mg), Na₂S₂O₈ (1300.0 mg), [Ru(bpy)₃]Cl₂·6H₂O (7.0 mg) and the catalyst (50.0 mg). After deaeration of the solution with Ar, the reactor was irradiated with a white LED (100 W) in a home-made device and the oxygen formation was recorded using an HQ40d portable dissolved oxygen-meter connected to an oxygen monitor with digital readout. A longpass filters (> 400 nm) from Thorlabs Company (USA) was used as a light filter.

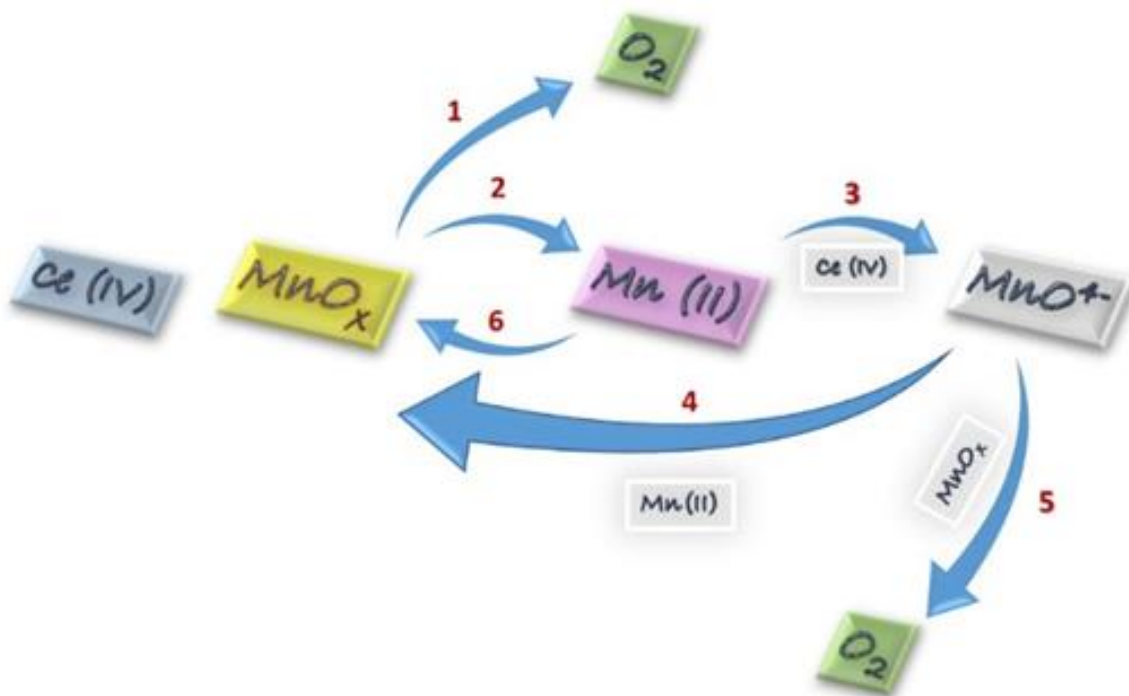


a



b

Scheme S1 Setup for water-oxidation reaction in the presence of Ce(IV) (a) and Ru(bpy)₃³⁺ (b).



Scheme S2 Self-healing in water oxidation catalysed by Mn oxides in the presence of Ce(IV). 1: Oxygen evolution was detected with an oxygen meter. The origin of oxygen is water. 2: Mn(II) was detected by EPR. 3: The MnO_4^- ions formation could be detected with UV-Vis in a reaction of Mn(II) and Ce(IV). 4: It is known that in the reaction of Mn(II) and MnO_4^- at different pH values Mn oxide is produced. 5: The MnO_4^- ions in the presence of Mn oxide oxidize water. In this reaction, the MnO_4^- ions are reduced to Mn oxide. 6: Mn(II) in the presence of Ce(IV) forms Mn oxide. In a typical experiment, the reaction of MnSO_4 in the presence of Ce(IV) (1.0 M) yields MnO_2 that can be detected by XRD. Images and captions are taken from the ref. R1.

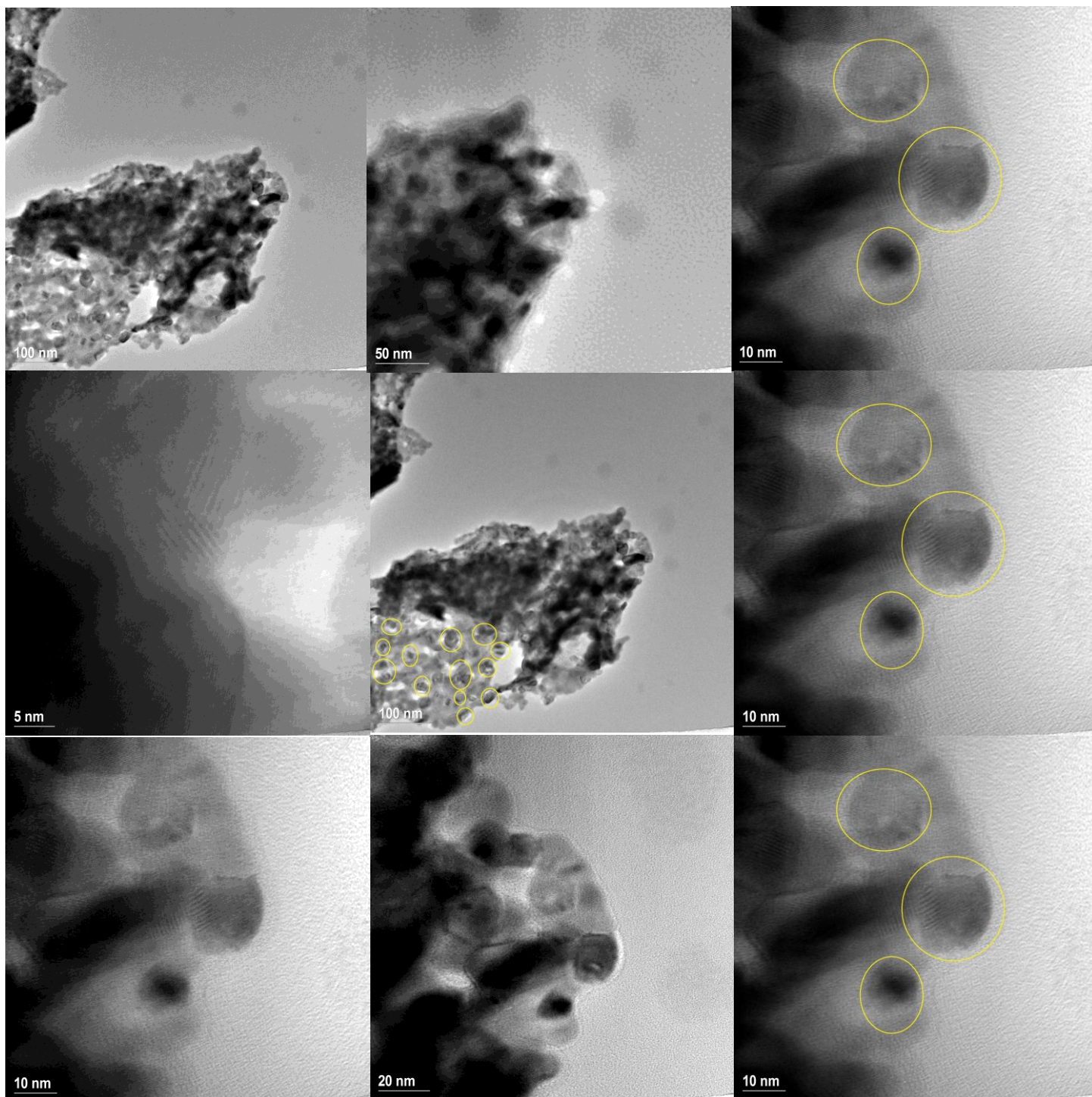


Fig. S1 TEM images for Ho_2O_3 .

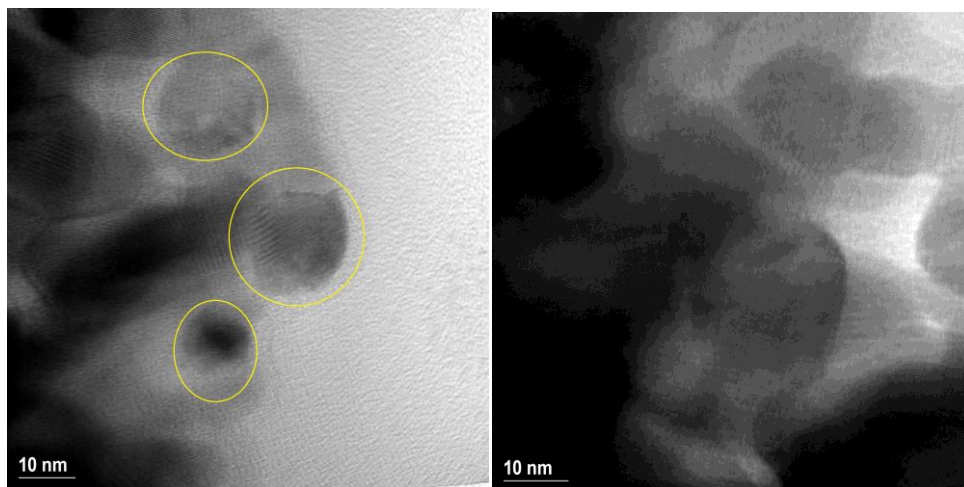


Fig. S2 TEM images for Ho_2O_3 .

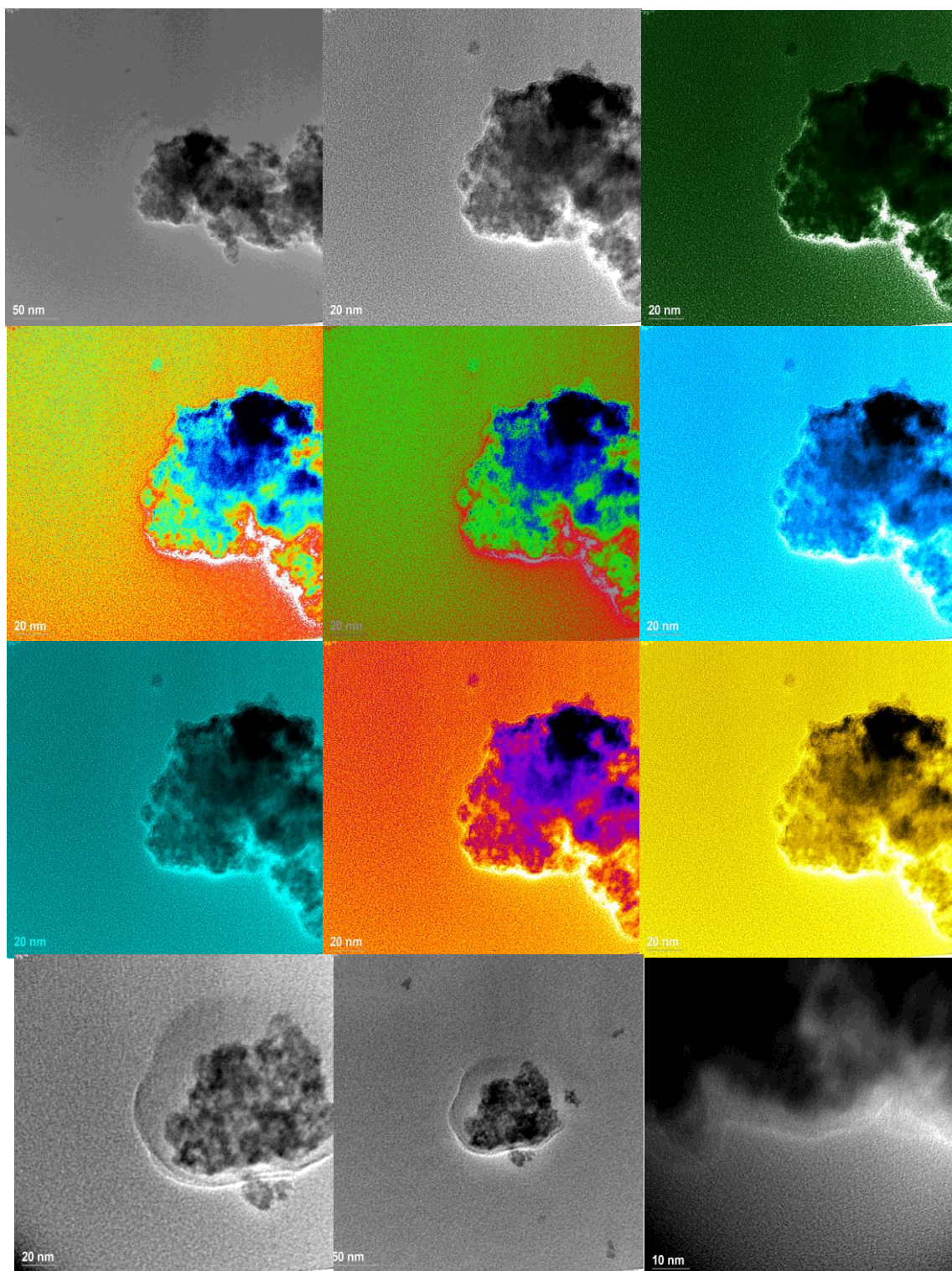


Fig. S3 TEM images for MnO_x/Ho₂O₃.

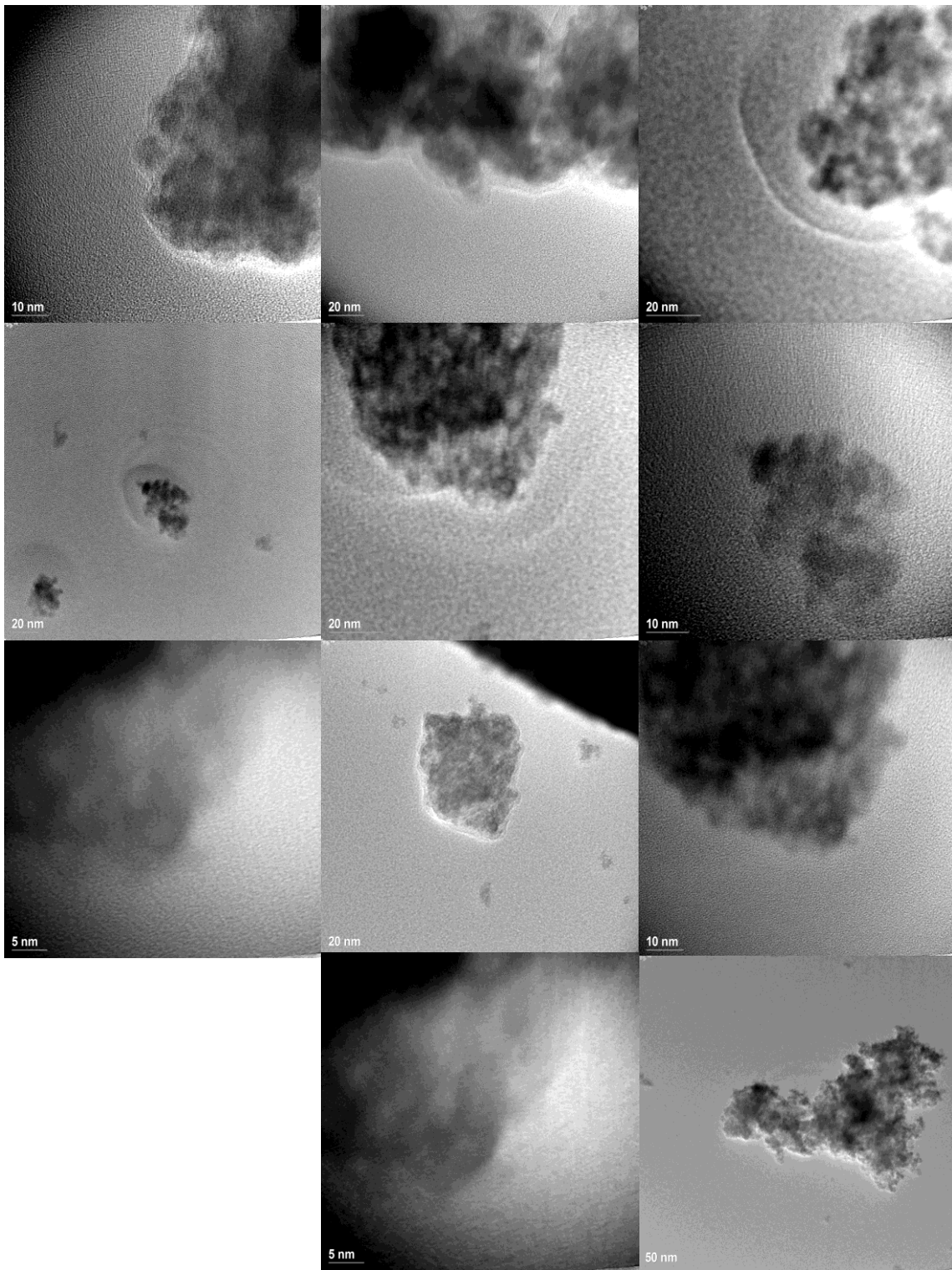


Fig. S4 TEM images for MnO_x/Ho₂O₃.

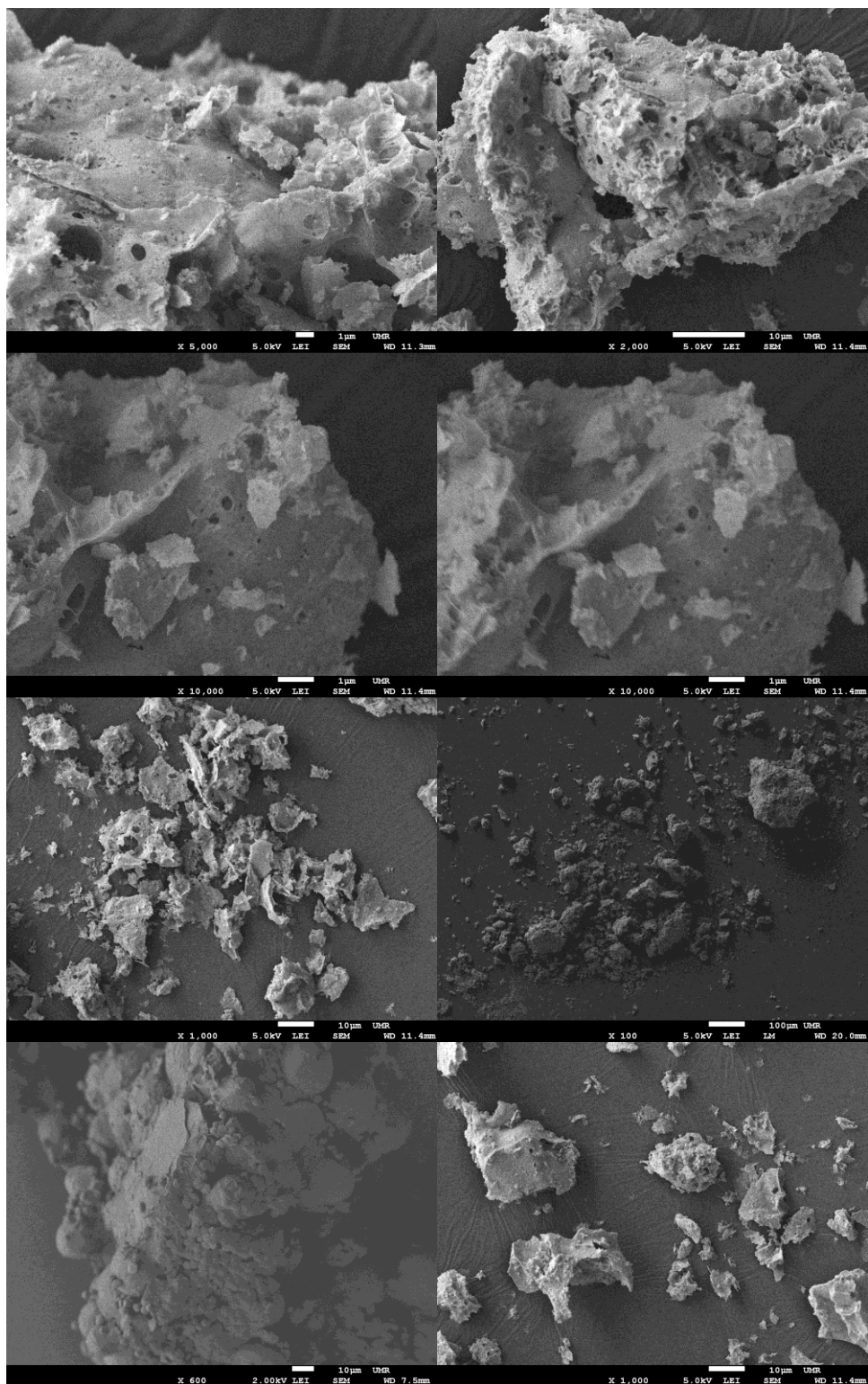


Fig. S5 SEM images for Ho_2O_3 .

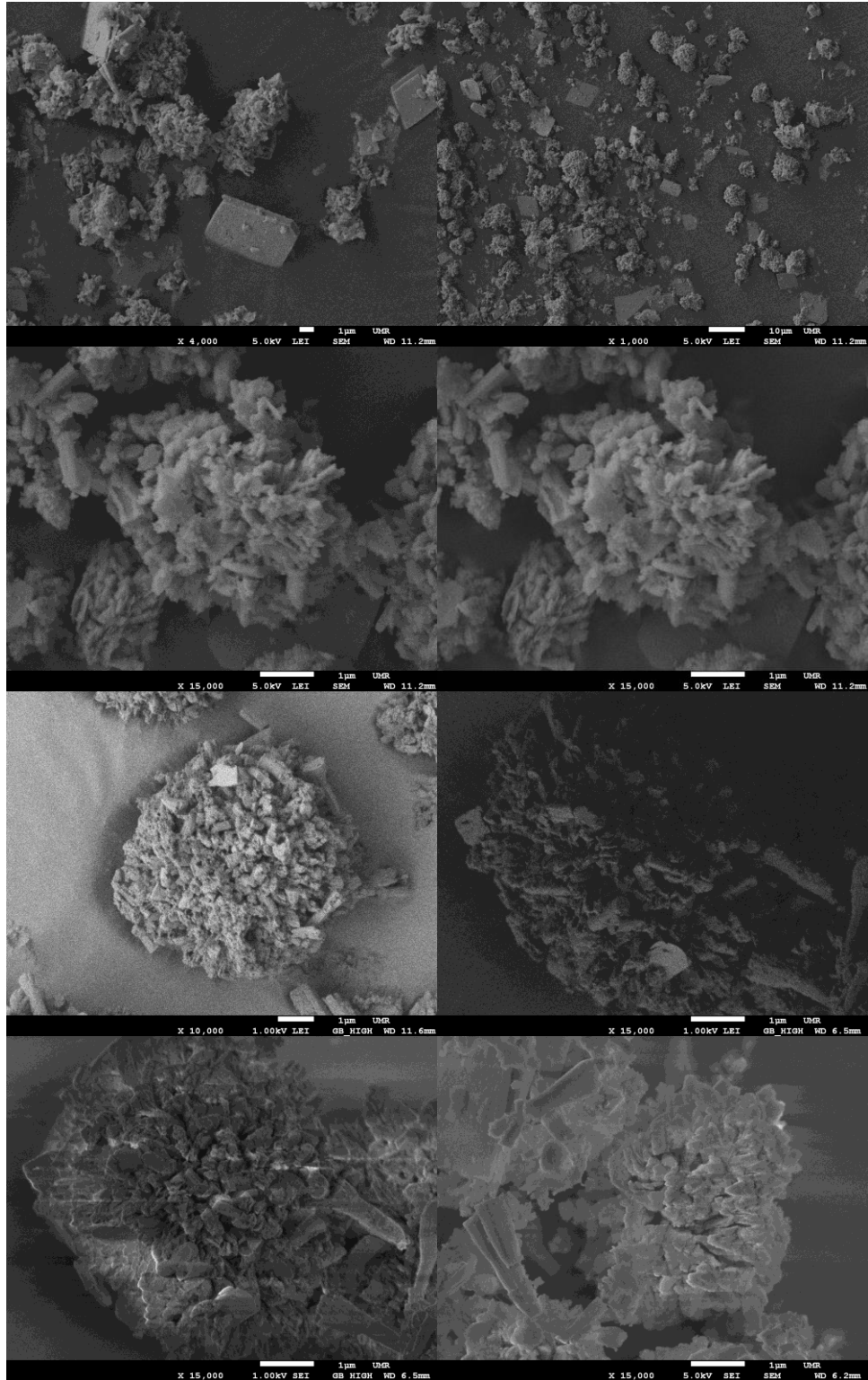


Fig. S6 SEM images for MnO_x/Ho₂O₃.

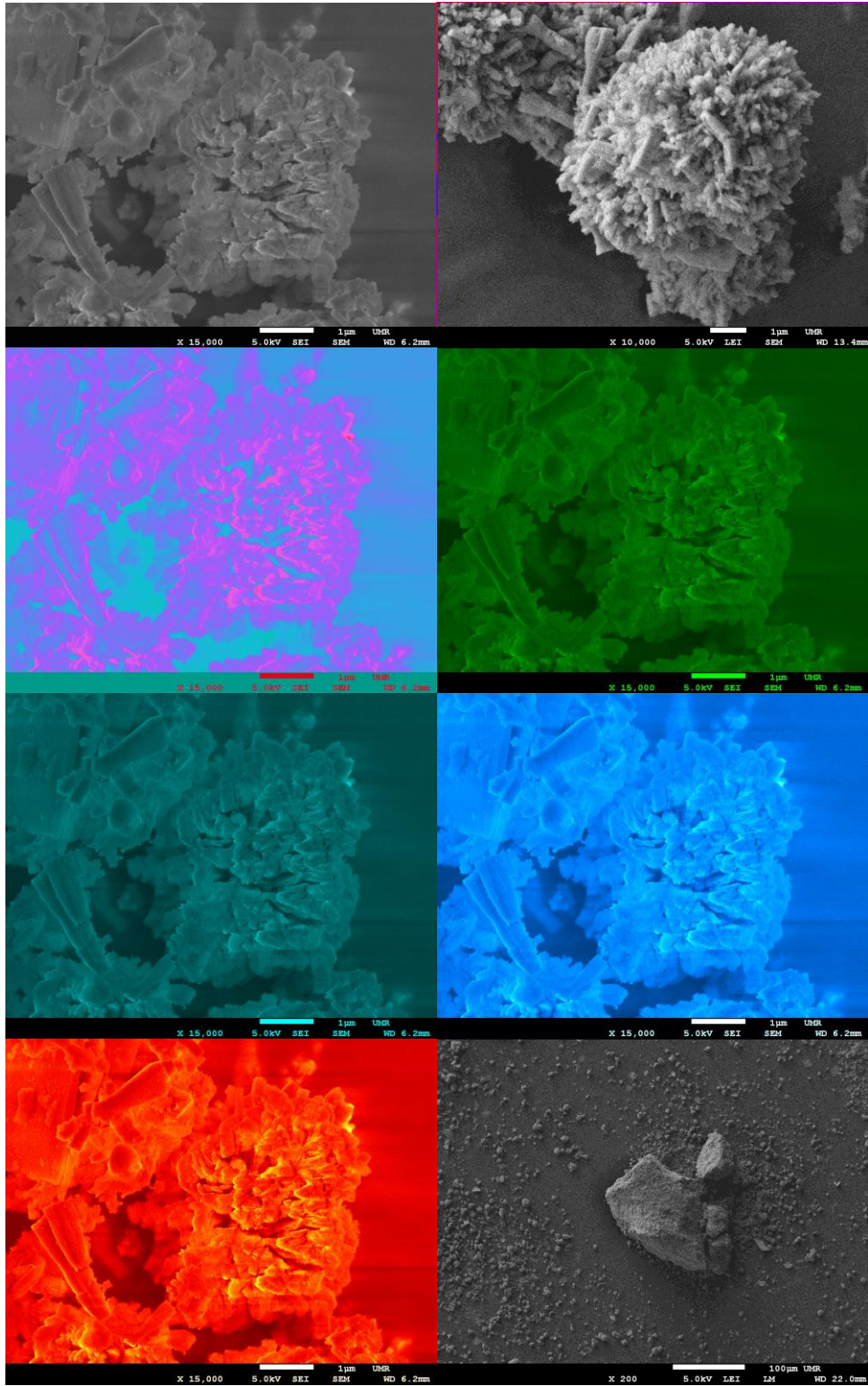


Fig. S7 SEM images for MnO_x/Ho₂O₃.

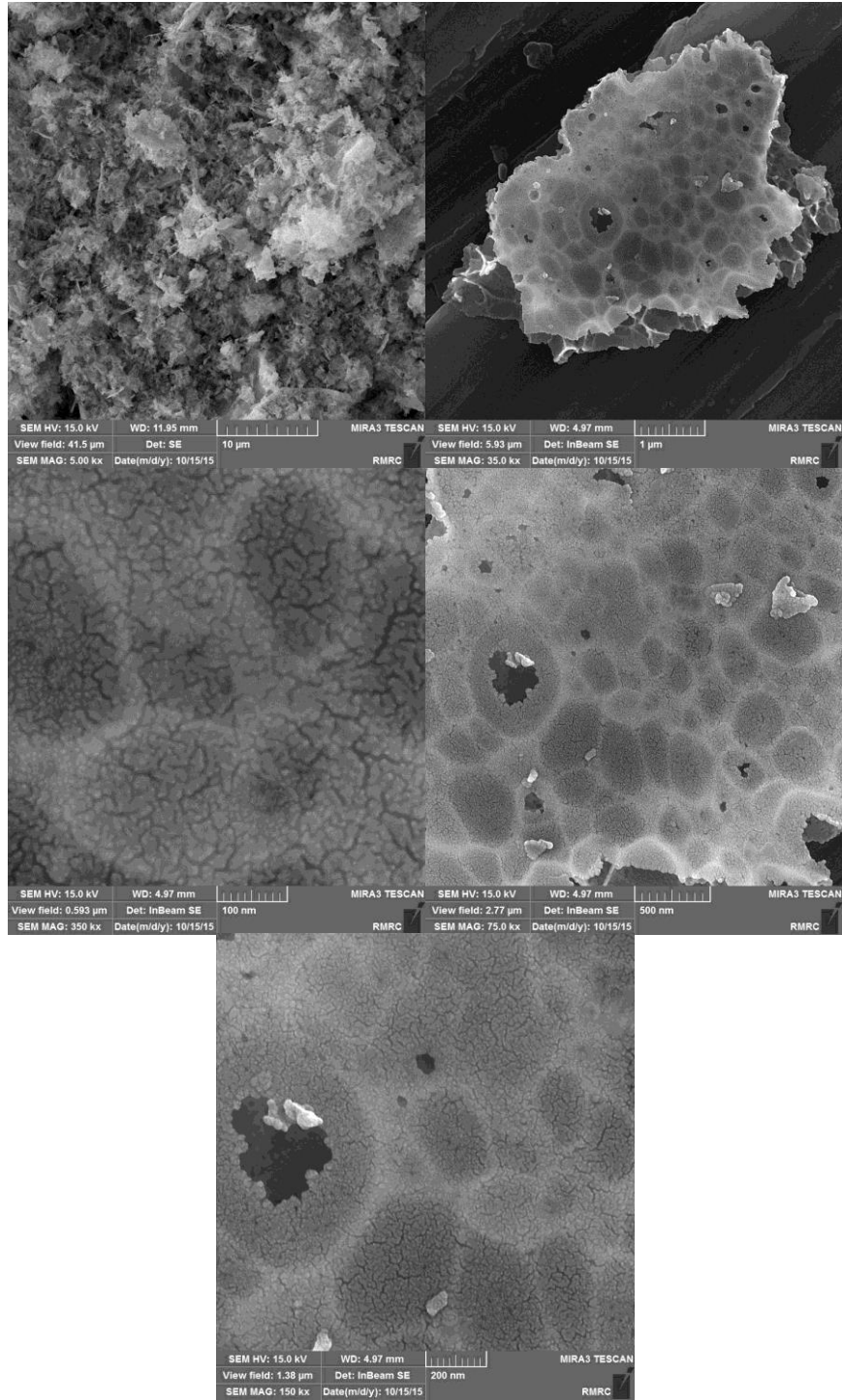


Fig. S8 SEM images for MnO_x/Ho_2O_3 .

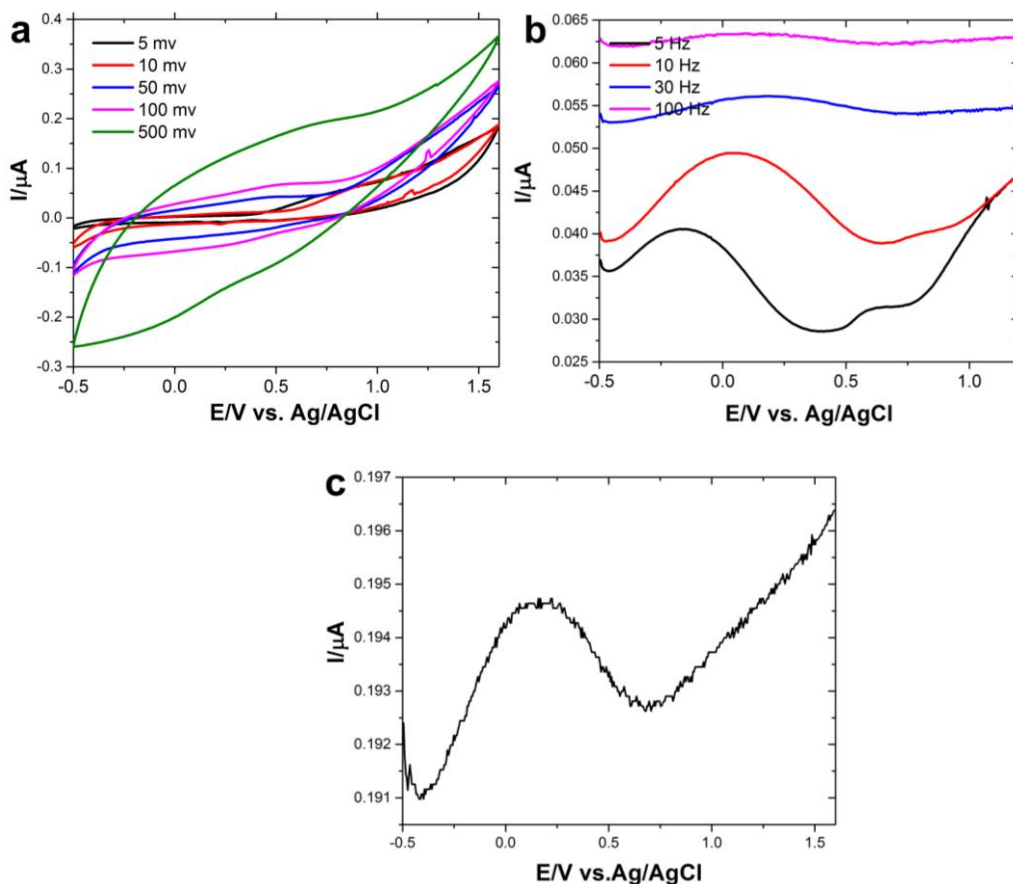


Fig. S9 CV (a), SWV at different frequencies (b) SWV at 75 mV (c) for Ho_2O_3 in LiClO_4 (0.25 M pH = 6.3). 30 μL of dispersed catalyst in water (1mg/mL) was dripped on the FTO and dried at room temperature. Then 10 μL of 0.5 wt % Nafion solution were cast on the surface of the FTO electrode. A three-electrode system includes FTO slide, Pt rod as counter-electrode and $\text{Ag}|\text{AgCl}|\text{KCl}_{\text{sat}}$ as reference electrodes.

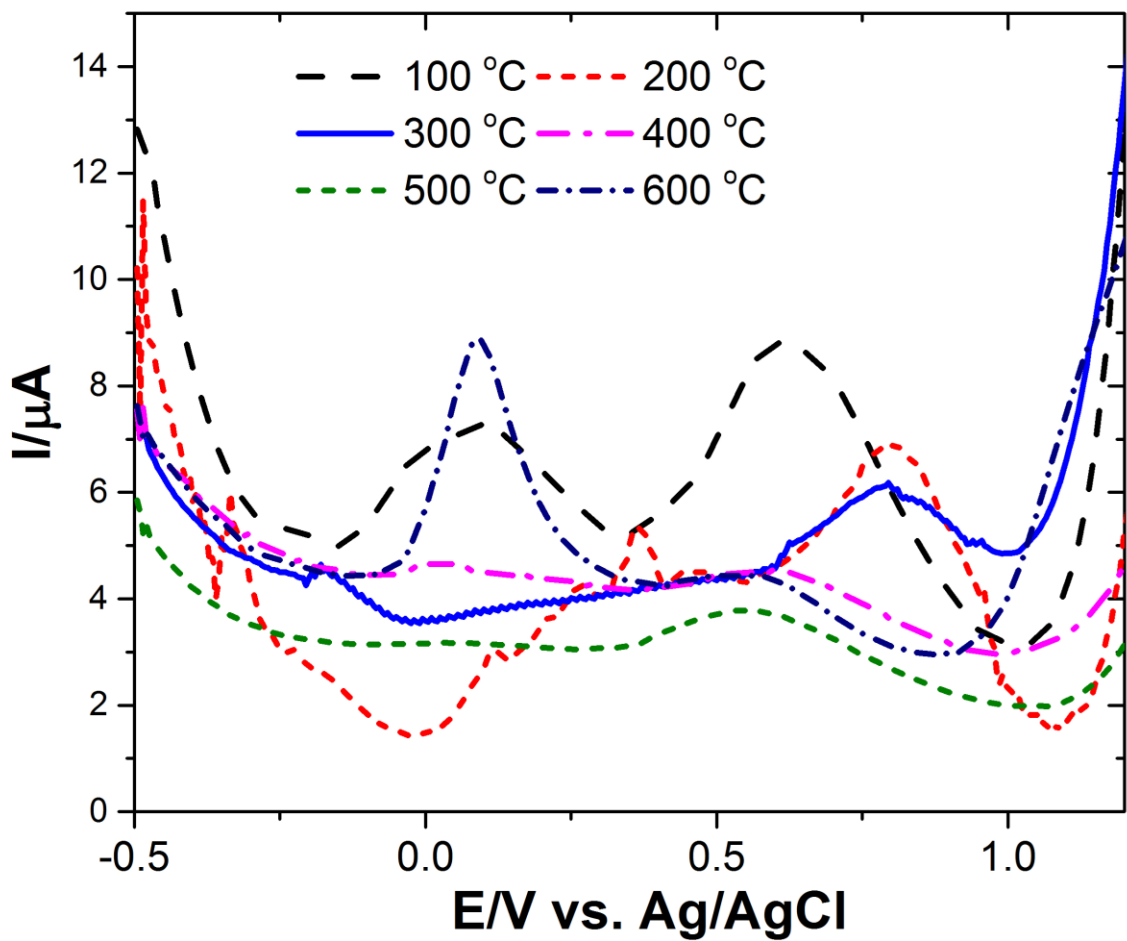


Fig. S10 SWV at 25 mv (a) for Ho₂O₃/MnO_x in different temperature. In LiClO₄ (0.25 M pH = 6.3). 30 μL of dispersed catalyst in water (1mg/mL) was dripped on the FTO and dried at room temperature. Then 10 μL of 0.5 wt % Nafion solution were cast on the surface of the FTO electrode. A three-electrode system includes FTO slide, Pt rod as counter-electrode and Ag|AgCl|KCl_{sat} as reference electrodes.

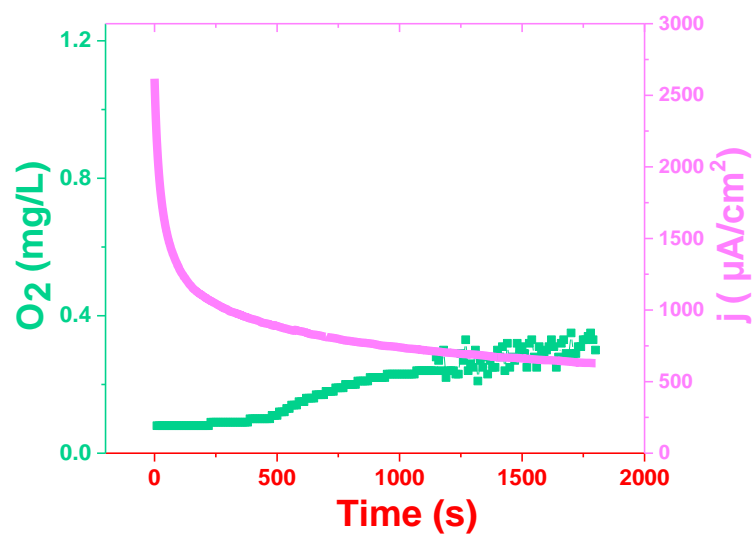


Fig. S11 Oxygen evolution/amperometry diagrams for FTO without catalyst (room temperature, phosphate buffer (0.25 M, pH 7); 1.8 V vs. Ag|AgCl|KCl_{sat}).

Compound	Oxidant	TOF (mmol O ₂ /mol Mn·s)
Nanosized Mn oxide on Ho ₂ O ₃	Ru(bpy) ₃ ³⁺	0.04
	----- Ce(IV)	----- 0.12
Nanosized Mn oxide on the agglomerated Silsesquioxane	Ce(IV)	0.3
Nano scale Mn oxide within NaY zeolite	Ce(IV)	2.62
Layered Mn-Ca oxide	Ce(IV)	2.2
Layered Mn-Al, Zn, K, Cd and Mg oxide	Ce(IV)	0.8-2.2
Layered Ni(II) oxide	Ce(IV)	0.4-0.6
CaMn ₂ O ₄ ·H ₂ O	Ce(IV)	0.54
Amorphous Mn Oxides	Ru(bpy) ₃ ³⁺	0.06
	Ce(IV)	0.52
Nano-sized Mn oxide on high surface (high surface) montmorillonite	Ce(IV)	0.5
Nanolayered Mn oxide	Ce(IV)	0.45
CaMn ₂ O ₄ ·4H ₂ O	Ce(IV)	0.32
Mn oxide nanoclusters	Ru(bpy) ₃ ³⁺	0.28
β-MnO(OH)	CAN	0.24
Mn oxide-coated montmorillonite (low surface)	Ce(IV)	0.22
Layered Mn-Cu(II)	Ce(IV)	0.2-0.35
Mn ₃ O ₄	CAN	0.01-0.17
Octahedral Molecular Sieves	Ru(bpy) ₃ ³⁺	0.11
	----- Ce(IV)	----- 0.05
MnO ₂ (colloid)	Ce(IV)	0.09
α-MnO ₂ nanowires	Ru(bpy) ₃ ³⁺	0.059
CaMn ₃ O ₆	Ce(IV)	0.046
CaMn ₄ O ₈	Ce(IV)	0.035
Mn ₂ O ₃	Ce(IV)	0.027
β-MnO ₂ nanowires	Ru(bpy) ₃ ³⁺	0.02
Ca ₂ Mn ₃ O ₈	Ce(IV)	0.016
CaMnO ₃	Ce(IV)	0.012
Nano-sized λ-MnO ₂	Ru(bpy) ₃ ³⁺	0.03
Bulk α-MnO ₂	Ru(bpy) ₃ ³⁺	0.01
Mn Complexes	Ce(IV)	0.01-0.6
PSII	Sunlight	100-400 × 10 ³

Table S1 Rate of water oxidation by various Mn-based catalysts for water oxidation under the presence of non-oxo transfer oxidant. Data from R2. Turnover frequency was calculated by dividing amounts of formed oxygen, obtained by oxygen meter, by amounts of manganese, obtained by absorption spectroscopy (AAS).

Reference

R1. M. M. Najafpour, M. Khoshkam, D. J. Sedigh, A. Zahraei and M. Kompany-Zareh, *New J. Chem.*, 2015, **39.4**, 2547.

R2. M. M. Najafpour, G. Renger, M. Hołyn'ska, A. Nematı Moghaddam, E. M. Aro, R. Carpentier, H. Nishihara, J. J. Eaton-Rye, J. R. Shen and S. I. Allakhverdiev, *Chem. Rev.*, 2016, **116**, 2886.