

## **Chemically and thermally activated persulfate for theophylline degradation and application to a pharmaceutical factory effluent**

Suha Al Hakim, Abbas Baalbaki, Omar Tantawi and Antoine Ghauch\*

*American University of Beirut, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Department of Chemistry*

*P.O. Box 11-0236 Riad El Solh – 1107-2020 Beirut – Lebanon*

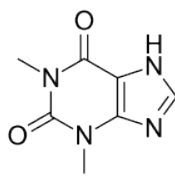
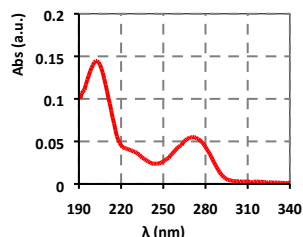
*\*Corresponding author. Tel/fax: +961 1350000/+961 1 365217 Email address: antoine.ghauch@aub.edu.lb*

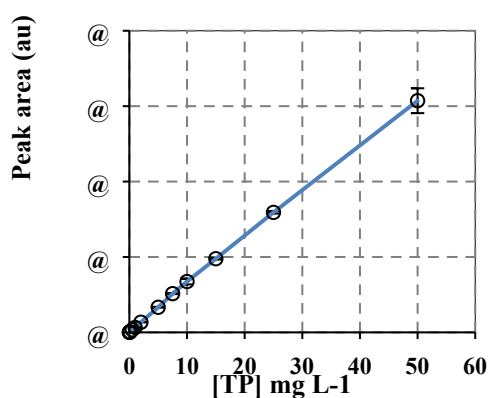
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**Electronic supplementary information**

9 Pages, 3 Texts, 8 Figures, 2 Tables

(b)		(c)			
Chemical formula and CAS number	Chemical structure	Molecular weight (g mol <sup>-1</sup> )	pKa	Water solubility (mg mL <sup>-1</sup> )	Spectrum
C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>8</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O 58-55-9		180.164	8.81 [1]	8.3	



**Fig. 1S.** (a) Table showing selected TP chemical and physical properties. (b) Calibration curve of TP

LINEST Output			
y=mx+b			
<b>m</b>	309.4	<b>b</b>	79.19
<b>s<sub>m</sub></b>	2.466	<b>s<sub>b</sub></b>	39.20
<b>R<sup>2</sup></b>	0.999	<b>s<sub>y</sub></b>	125.1

obtained using HPLC/DAD instrument at a wavelength

of 270 nm, over a linear dynamic range of 0.02-50 mg L<sup>-1</sup> with a detection limit = 0.0176 mg L<sup>-1</sup> and quantification limit = 0.0586 mg L<sup>-1</sup>. (c) LINEST output for TP calibration curve.

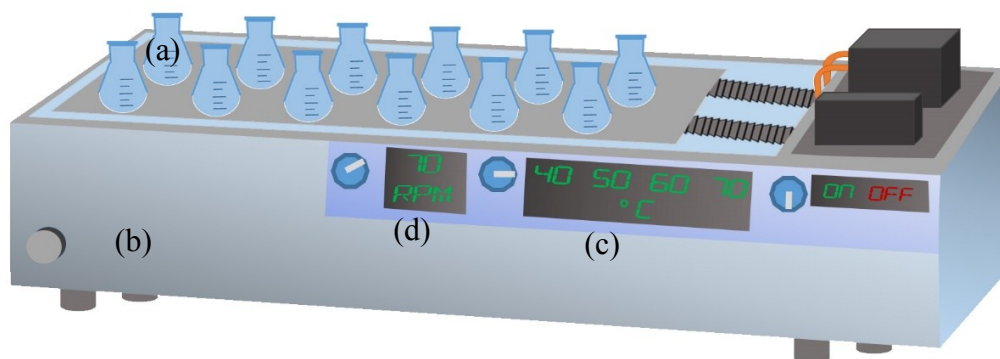
## Text S1

### Theophylline calibration curve

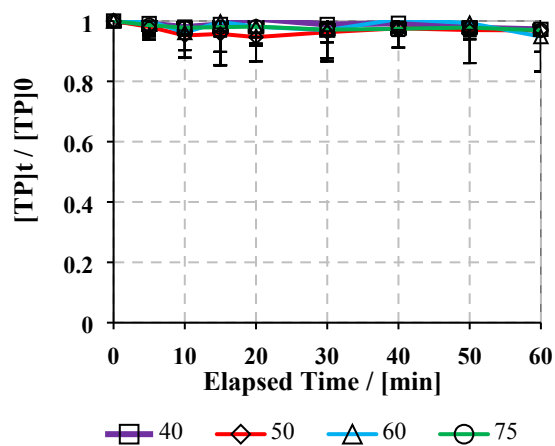
Selected TP physical properties are summarized in Fig. 1S (a). Calibration curve obtained for TP at a wavelength of 270 nm is presented in Fig. 1S(b). High linearity ( $R^2 = 0.999$ ) is obtained over a linear dynamic range of 0.02-50 mg L<sup>-1</sup> with a detection limit = 0.0176 mg L<sup>-1</sup> and quantification limit = 0.0586 mg L<sup>-1</sup>. Error bars for calibration curve are calculated as

$$A = A_{average} \pm \frac{ts}{\sqrt{n}}, \text{ where } n \text{ is the number of replicates, } t \text{ is student value for 95\%}$$

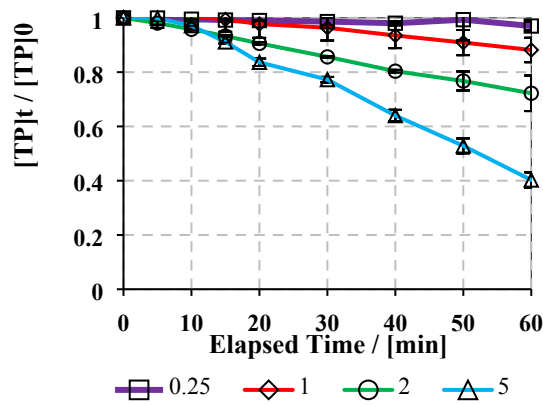
confidence ( $t = 4.303$  for 2 degrees of freedom) and  $s$  is the standard deviation of the three replicates tested.



**Fig. 2S.** Experimental setup showing (a) reactors in (b) water bath equipped with (c) temperature control, and (d) automatic shaker. Temperature is displayed in °C and shaker in revolutions per minute (RPM).

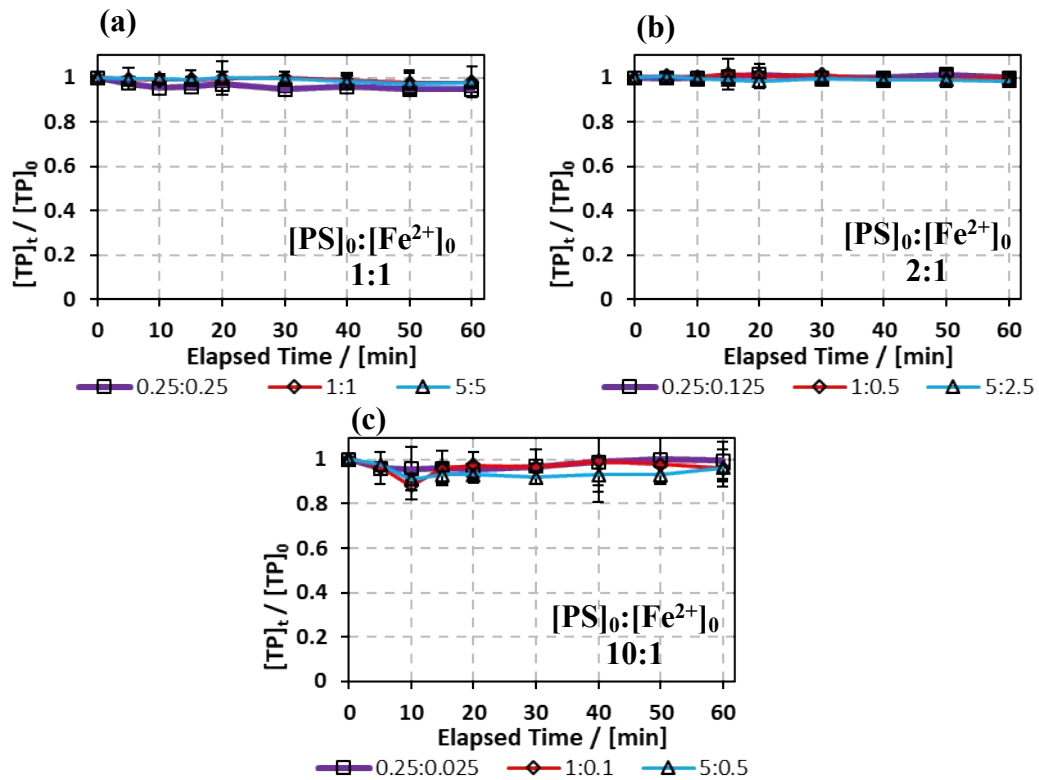


**Fig. 3S.** Stability of TP under heat stress. Experimental conditions:  $[TP]_0 = 10 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ , Temperature = 40, 50, 60 and 75°C.



**Fig. 4S.** Effect of  $[PS]_0$  on TP degradation in TAP systems. Experimental conditions:  $[TP]_0 =$

$10 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ ,  $[PS]_0 = 0.25\text{-}5 \text{ mM}$  and  $T = 60^\circ\text{C}$ . Error bars are calculated as  $\frac{ts}{\sqrt{n}}$ , where absent



bars fall within the symbols.

**Fig. 5S.** Effect of  $[PS]_0:[Fe^{2+}]_0$  ratio on TP degradation in CAP system. Experimental conditions:  $[TP]_0 = 10 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ ,  $[PS]_0 = 0.25, 1$  and  $5 \text{ mM}$ ,  $T = 20^\circ\text{C}$ , and  $[PS]_0:[Fe^{2+}]_0$  ratio is

(a) 1:1 (b) 2:1 and (c) 10:1. Error bars are calculated as  $\frac{ts}{\sqrt{n}}$ , where absent bars fall within the symbols.



## Text S2

### Kinetics study in TAP system

Kinetics study was done in TAP system, for  $T = 55-60^{\circ}\text{C}$ ,  $[\text{PS}]_0 = 0.25-5 \text{ mM}$  and  $[\text{TP}]_0 = 10 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ . Eq. (1) presents the pseudo-first order rate equation, with  $k_{\text{obs}}$  representing the pseudo-first-order rate constant ( $\text{min}^{-1}$ ), and  $t$  representing time (min). Table S1 shows the calculated observed rate constant ( $k_{\text{obs}}$ ) for the different conditions, with the corresponding linearity constant for each plot of  $\ln \frac{[\text{TP}]}{[\text{TP}_0]}$  versus time. The high linearity frequently obtained proves that the reaction follows a pseudo-first order rate. Pseudo-first order kinetics is frequently considered for degradation reactions of organic contaminants by activated PS [2–6].

**Table 1S.**

TP degradation in TAP system at  $T = 55-60^{\circ}\text{C}$ ,  $[\text{PS}]_0 = 0.25-5 \text{ mM}$  and  $[\text{TP}]_0 = 10 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$  for all studied cases.  $k_{\text{obs}}$  is calculated for pseudo-first order reaction rate and the corresponding linearity constant ( $R^2$ ) and reaction half-life ( $t_{1/2}$ ) are presented.

$[\text{TP}]_0$ $\text{mg L}^{-1}$	T $^{\circ}\text{C}$	$[\text{PS}]_0$ $\text{mM}$	$k_{\text{obs}}$ $\text{min}^{-1}$	$R^2$	$t_{1/2}$ $\text{min}$
10	55	2	$2.63 (\pm 0.04) \times 10^{-3}$	0.998	263
		0.25	$3.8 (\pm 0.1) \times 10^{-4}$	0.680	$17 \times 10^2$
	60	1	$2.2 (\pm 0.1) \times 10^{-3}$	0.959	$30 \times 10^1$
		2	$5.52 (\pm 0.08) \times 10^{-3}$	0.998	125
		5	$1.5 (\pm 0.1) \times 10^{-2}$	0.956	46
	65		$1.43 (\pm 0.05) \times 10^{-2}$	0.988	48.2
	70	2	$4.6 (\pm 0.5) \times 10^{-2}$	0.928	15
	75		$5.3 (\pm 0.7) \times 10^{-2}$	0.918	13

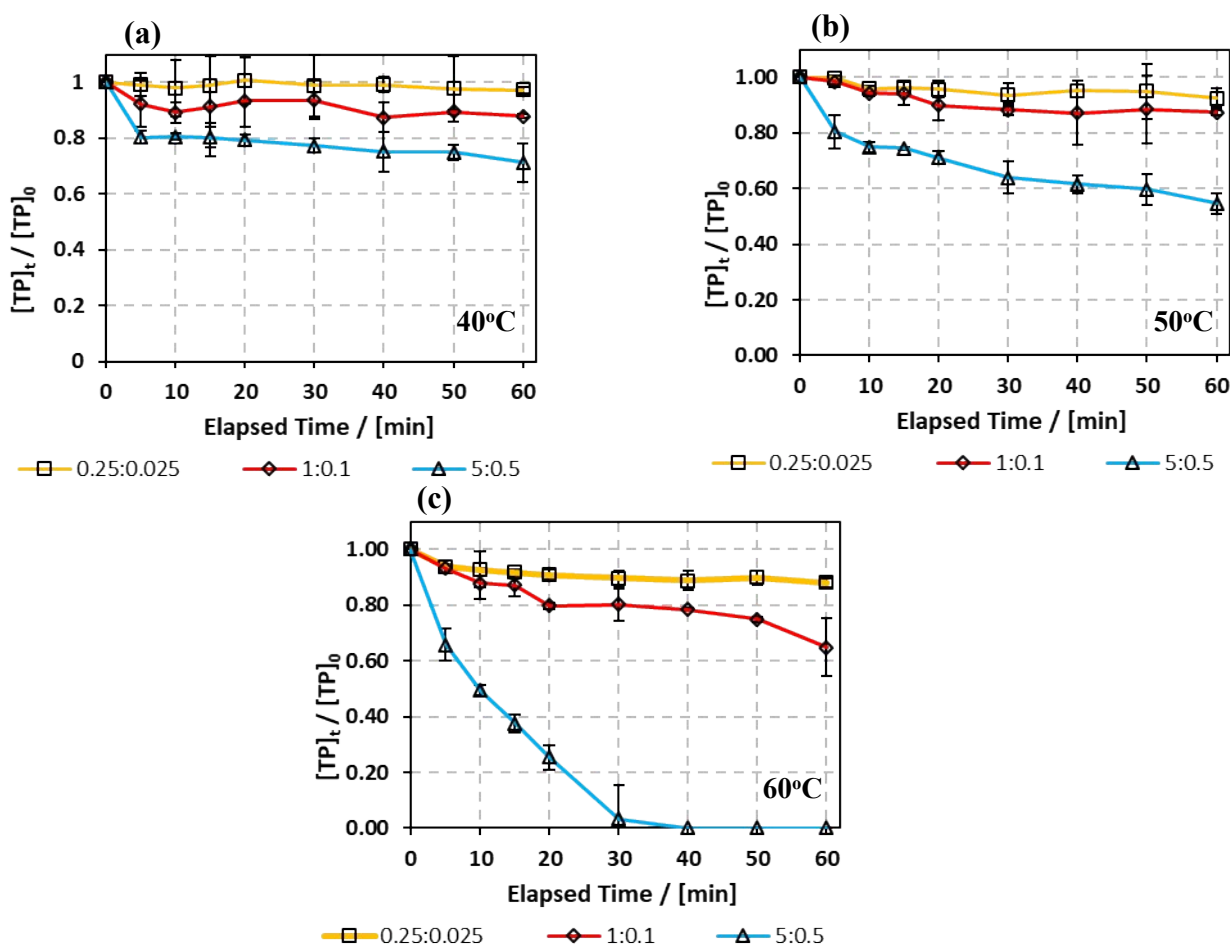
$$\ln \frac{[\text{TP}]}{[\text{TP}_0]} = -k_{\text{obs}}t \quad (1)$$

Text S3

Kinetics study in TCAP system

Kinetics study was done in TCAP system at  $[PS]_0 = 0.25 - 5 \text{ mM}$ ,  $[PS]_0:[Fe^{2+}]_0$  ratio of 1:1, and  $T = 60^\circ\text{C}$ . Eq. (1) presenting the pseudo-first order rate was fitted. Table 3 shows the calculated observed rate constant ( $k_{obs}$ ) for the different  $[PS]_0$ , with the corresponding

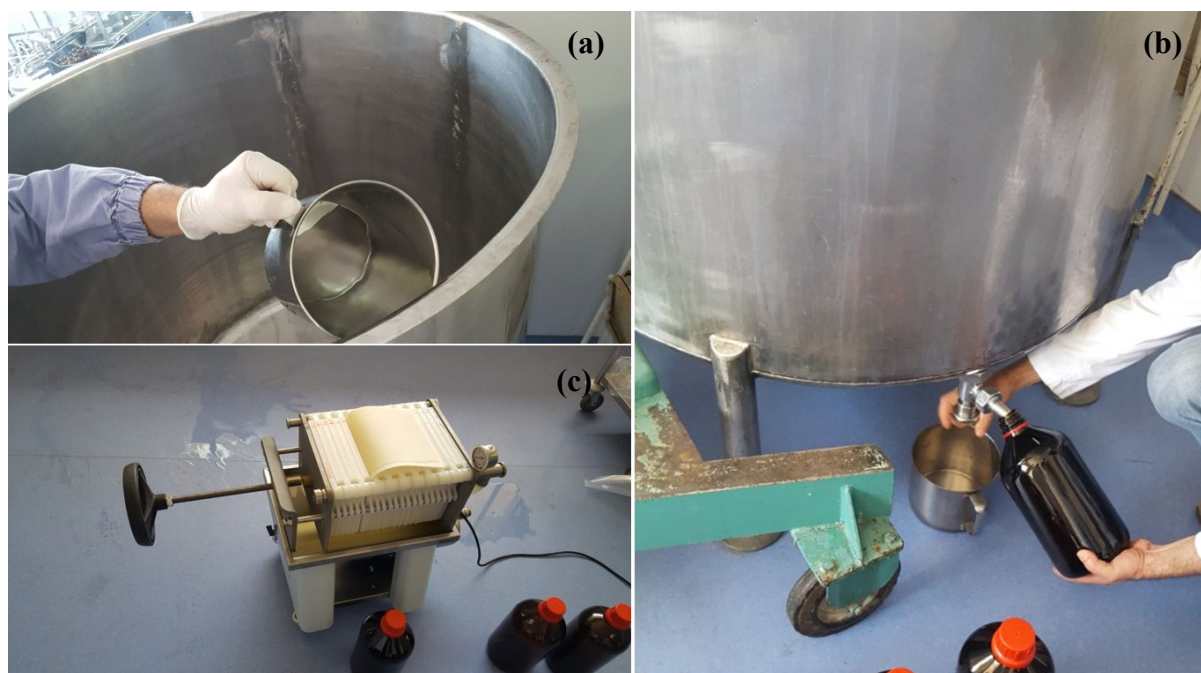
linearity constant for each plot of  $\ln \frac{[TP]}{[TP]_0}$  versus time. The high linearity frequently obtained



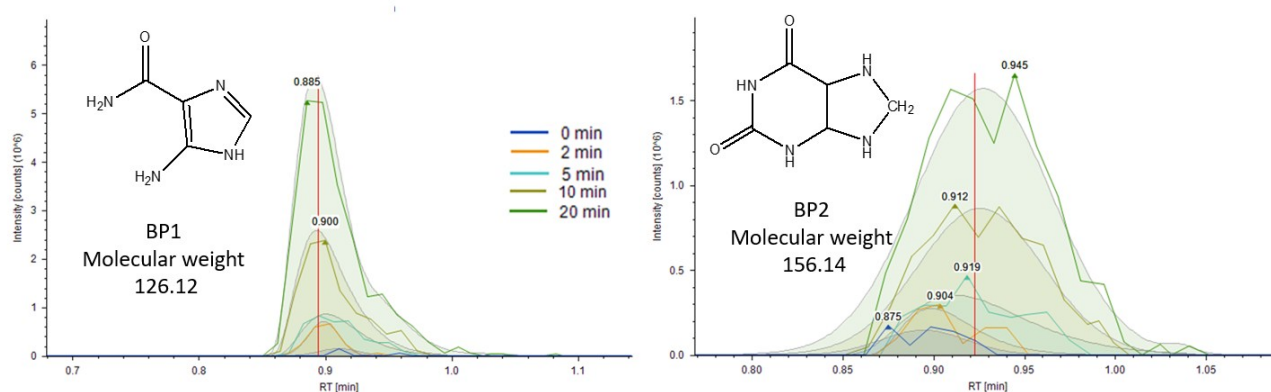
proves that the reaction follows a pseudo-first order rate.

**Fig. 6S.** Effect of temperature on the degradation of TP in TCAP system. Experimental conditions:  $[TP]_0 = 10 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ ,  $[PS]_0 = 0.25, 1 \text{ and } 5 \text{ mM}$ ,  $[PS]_0:[Fe^{2+}]_0$  ratio is 10:1, and

temperature is (a) 40°C (b) 50°C and (c) 60°C. Error bars are calculated as  $\frac{ts}{\sqrt{n}}$ , where absent bars fall within the symbols.



**Fig. 7S.** Collecting pharmaceutical water effluent. (a) Washing of the 1000 L 316 SS L mixing container, (c) water collected from the container, and (c) the filter press used in the manufacturing process.



**Fig. 8S.** Extracted chromatograms of two by-products detected by LC/MS/MS. Intensity of peaks is displayed at reaction time 0 – 20 min.



**Table 2S.**

Masses and prices of reagents used based on commercial prices where 1 kg of PS costs 2 US \$<sup>a</sup>, 1 Kg of FeCl<sub>2</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O costs 1.7 US \$<sup>b</sup>, and 1 L of HCl (37%), used to dissolve the iron salt, costs 0.3 US \$<sup>c</sup>.

[PS] <sub>0</sub> mM	25	50	75	100
[Fe <sup>2+</sup> ] <sub>0</sub> mM	25	50	75	100
Reactor volume L	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
n PS mol	0.005	0.01	0.015	0.02
n Fe mol	0.005	0.01	0.015	0.02
m Na <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>8</sub> g	1.19	2.38	3.57	4.76
m FeCl <sub>2</sub> ·4H <sub>2</sub> O g	0.994	1.99	2.98	3.98
v HCl (37%) mL	1.25	2.50	3.75	5.00
Total cost \$ reactor <sup>-1</sup>	0.00445	0.00889	0.0133	0.0178
Total cost \$ m <sup>-3</sup>	22.2	44.5	66.7	88.9

<sup>a</sup> Based on price obtained from Jinan Shijitongda Chemical Co., Ltd.

<sup>b</sup> Based on price obtained from Gemhold (SJZ) Trading Co., Ltd.

<sup>c</sup> Based on price obtained from Hangzhou Focus Corporation.

## References

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