

Supporting Information (SI)

**Reconstructing Atomic Fe Coordination in PMS Activation Process to Realize
Efficient BPA Degradation at Low Temperature**

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The supplementary materials include 32 Pages, 2 Texts, 5 Tables, 17 Figures.

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Fig. S11. The relationship between the initial reaction rates removing different pollutants over the Fe–N/P_{1.6}–C SAC and their IP values ([BPA]₀ = 20 mg/L, PMS = 0.2 g/L, [Catalyst]₀ = 0.1 g/L, pH₀ = 6.8, T = 4°C).

Fig. S12. Stability of the Fe–N/P_{1.6}–C SAC in the Fenton-like reaction for the BPA degradation ([BPA]₀ = 20 mg/L, PMS = 0.2 g/L, [Catalyst]₀ = 0.1 g/L, pH₀ = 6.8, T = 4°C).

Fig. S13. BPA removal over Fe-based catalysts alone with the addition of different (a) N or (b) P sources ([BPA]₀ = 20 mg/L, PMS = 0.2 g/L, [Catalyst]₀ = 0.1 g/L, pH₀ = 6.8, T = 4°C).

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Fig. S15. Effect of SCN[−] on BPA degradation in the Fe SACs/PMS system ([BPA]₀ = 20 mg/L, PMS = 0.2 g/L, [Catalyst]₀ = 0.1 g/L, [SCN[−]]₀ = 4.38 mM, pH₀ = 6.8, T = 4°C).

Fig. S16. The simplified models of (a) Fe–N–C and (b) Fe–N/P_{1.6}–C SACs.

Fig. S17. PDOS of Fe–N–C and Fe–N/P_{1.6}–C SACs.

Text S1. Materials synthesis.

Synthesis of N/P–C catalyst. Similar to the synthesis of Fe–N/P_{1.6}–C SAC, 400 μ L (6 mmol) of pyrrole monomer and 737 μ L (0.8 mmol) of phytic acid were mixed with 2 mL of ethanol/water (v/v = 1:1). 684 mg (3 mmol) of ammonium persulfate was dissolved into another 6 mL of ethanol/water (v/v = 1:1). The subsequent steps were identical to those for Fe–N/P_{1.6}–C SAC to prepare N, P co-doped porous carbon materials, and the resulting samples were named as N/P–C catalyst.

Synthesis of N–C catalyst. Except for the addition of phytic acid, nitrogen-doped porous carbon (NC) was prepared by the same procedure as for N/P–C catalyst. The resulting sample was named as N–C catalyst.

Synthesis of Fe–N–C SAC. For the synthesis of Fe–N–C SAC, 10 mg of FeCl₃·6H₂O and 30 mg of 1,10-phenanthroline were added to 2 mL of ethanol, mixed well and added dropwise into 100 mg of N–C. The solution was stirred continuously at room temperature until it evaporated. Then, the powder was dried at 80 °C. After drying, the powder was calcinated at 700 °C for 2 h under an N₂ atmosphere at a heating rate of 5 °C/min. The final product was etched with 1 M H₂SO₄ at 80 °C for 2 h to produce Fe–N–C SAC.

Synthesis of Fe–P–C catalyst. Instead of standing overnight, the samples were aged at 70 °C for 2 h under stirring, and then dried at 80 °C overnight, except for the addition of pyrrole monomer. Then, only P-doped porous carbon materials were prepared by the same procedure as Fe–N/P_{1.6}–C SAC. The obtained sample was named as Fe–P–C catalyst.

Synthesis of Fe–N/P_n–C SACs. Consistent with the preparation of Fe–N/P_{1.6}–C SAC, the only difference was that phytic acids (0.2, 0.5, 1, and 1.5 mmol) were added to obtain catalysts with different N/P ratios (0.4, 1, 2, and 3).

Text S2. Contributions of diverse ROS to BPA oxidation in Fe–N/P_n–C/PMS systems.

On the basis of the BPA degradation in the presence of radical scavengers, the contributions of diverse ROS to BPA removal in Fe–N/P_n–C/PMS systems were determined as follows¹:

$$\lambda(\bullet\text{OH}\&\text{SO}_4^{\bullet-}) = [(1 - C/C_0)_{\text{Control}} - (1 - C/C_0)_{\text{TBA}} - (1 - C/C_0)_{\text{methanol}}] \times 100\% \quad (\text{S1})$$

$$\lambda(\text{HO}_2^{\bullet}/\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}) = [(1 - C/C_0)_{\text{Control}} - (1 - C/C_0)_{\text{p-BQ}}] \times 100\% \quad (\text{S2})$$

$$\lambda(^1\text{O}_2) = 1 - \lambda(\bullet\text{OH}) - \lambda(\text{HO}_2^{\bullet}/\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}) \quad (\text{S3})$$

Where $[1 - (C/C_0)_{\text{Control}}]$ stands for the degradation efficiency of BPA in the absence of quenching agent, and $[1 - (C/C_0)_{\text{TBA}}]$, $[1 - (C/C_0)_{\text{methanol}}]$ and $[1 - (C/C_0)_{\text{p-BQ}}]$ are the degradation efficiency of BPA after adding TBA, methanol, and p-BQ, respectively.

Table S1. High performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) operating conditions for organic analysis.

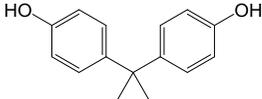
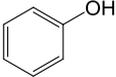
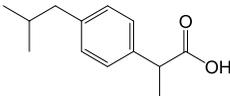
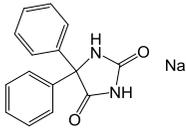
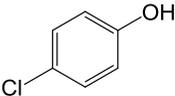
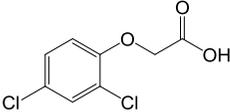
| Compounds | Wavelength (nm) | Flow rate (mL/min) | Ultrapure | 0.2% Acetic | Acetonitrile (%) | Methanol (%) | Structural formula | |
|-----------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------|-------------|------------------|--------------|---|---|
| | | | water (%) | acid (%) | | | | |
| BPA | 276 | 1.0 | 30 | - | - | 70 |  | |
| Phenol | 254 | | - | 40 | - | 60 |  | |
| IBP | 222 | | 25 | - | 75 | - |  | |
| PHT | 225 | | 40 | - | 60 | - |  | |
| 4-CP | 280 | | 40 | - | - | 60 |  | |
| 2,4-D | 284 | | - | - | 75 | - | 26 |  |

Table S2. Summary of Fe loading in the Fe–N–C SACs for activating PMS systems.

| Catalyst | Loading (wt.%) | Reference |
|--------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Fe–N/P _{1.6} –C | 2.32 | This work |
| Fe–N/C | 0.88 | 2 |
| SA–Fe/CN | 0.62 | 3 |
| SAFe–OCN | 0.84 | 4 |
| Fe–N–C | 0.82 | 5 |
| Fe–SAC | 0.71 | 6 |
| SA–Fe–NC | 1.12 | 7 |
| Fe–SAC | 2.60 | 8 |

Table S3. Comparison of the BPA degradation over different SACs in the Fenton-like reaction for activating PMS near neutral pH.

| Catalyst | BPA (mg/L) | Catalyst dosage (g/L) | PMS concentration (g/L) | T (°C) | Removal efficiency | TOF (L/(min·g)) | E_a (kJ/mol) | Reference |
|--------------------------|------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Fe-N/P _{1.6} -C | 20 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 25 | 98.3% (5 min) | 24.49 | 3.7 | This work |
| Co-N ₂ | 20 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 30 | 100% (5 min) | 3.47 | - | 1 |
| Co-N ₄ -C | 20 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 25 | 100% (60 min) | 4.52 | - | 9 |
| 3SACu@NBC | 20 | 0.1 | 0.4 | 25 | 100% (30 min) | 1.57 | - | 10 |
| Fe _{SA} -N-C-20 | 20 | 0.15 | 0.4 | - | 100% (20 min) | 1.6 | - | 2 |
| Mn-ISA@CN | 20 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 25 | 100% (6 min) | 5.69 | - | 11 |
| NiZn@N-G-900 | 20 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 30 | 100% (80 min) | 2.67 | 15.75 | 12 |
| Cu-N ₄ /C-B | 20 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 25 | 98% (5 min) | 5.6 | - | |
| Cu-N ₄ /C-P | 20 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 25 | 11% (5 min) | 0.08 | - | 13 |
| Cu-N ₄ /C | 20 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 25 | 57% (5 min) | 1.02 | - | |

Table S4. Comparison on the BPA degradation over different Fe-based nanocatalysts in the Fenton-like reaction.

| Catalyst | BPA (mg/L) | Catalyst dosage (g/L) | Oxidant | Oxidant concentration (mM) | pH | T (°C) | Removal efficiency | TOF (L/(min·g)) | E_a (kJ/mol) | Reference |
|--|------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-----|--------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Fe-N/P _{1.6} -C | 20 | 0.1 | PMS | 0.65 | 6.8 | 4 | 98.3% (5 min) | 24.5 | 3.7 | This work |
| GS-Fe-NPs | 25 | 0.3 | H ₂ O ₂ | 1000 | 6.9 | 30 | 95% (140 min) | 0.1067 | 128.8 | 14 |
| MIL-101(Fe) | 50 | 0.2 | H ₂ O ₂ | 10 | 6.0 | 30 | 100% (30 min) | 1.75 | 46 | 15 |
| Fe _{0.8} Co _{2.2} O ₄ | 20 | 0.1 | PMS | 0.65 | 3.0 | 30 | 95% (60 min) | 0.49 | 19.45 | 16 |
| FeCA-g-C ₃ N ₄ | 20 | 0.5 | H ₂ O ₂ | 10 | 4.0 | - | 92.5% (30 min) | 0.17 | - | 17 |
| Fe ³⁺ @g-C ₃ N ₄ | 20 | 0.2 | PMS | 0.65 | 3.0 | - | 100% (15 min) | 3.02 | - | 18 |
| Ag/AgCl/Fh | 30 | 1 | H ₂ O ₂ | 5 | 3.0 | - | 100% (60 min) | 0.05 | - | 19 |
| CN-Cu(II)-CuAlO ₂ | 25 | 1 | H ₂ O ₂ | 5 | 6-7 | 35 | 98% (120 min) | 0.03 | - | 20 |
| Fe-Co-85 | 20 | 0.2 | H ₂ O ₂ | 80 | 6.0 | 25 | 85% (6 min) | 0.38 | - | 21 |

Table S5. Parameters of the obtained water samples.

| | Secondary effluent | South-to-North Water Diversion |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| pH | 6.56 | 8.36 |
| TOC (mg/L) | 5.22 | 3.07 |
| Cl ⁻ (mg/L) | 6.05 | 0.23 |
| HCO ₃ ⁻ (mg/L) | 21.36 | - |
| SO ₄ ²⁻ (mg/L) | 47.62 | 23.49 |

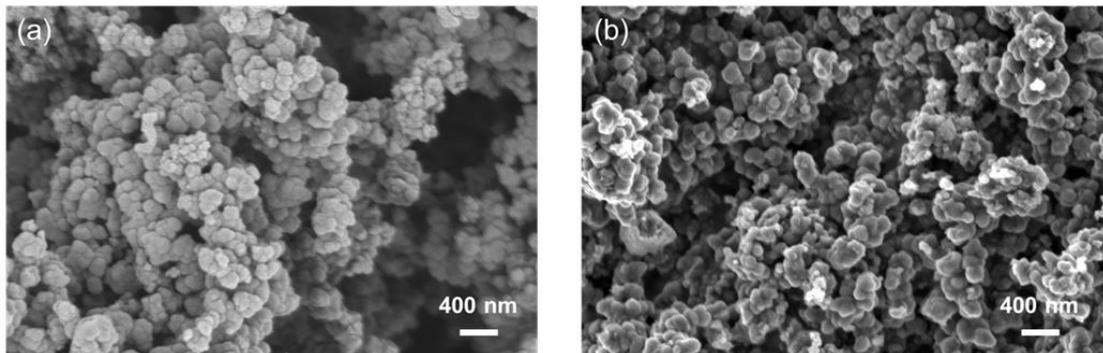


Fig. S1. SEM images of (a) Fe-N-C and (b) Fe-N/P_{1.6}-C SACs.

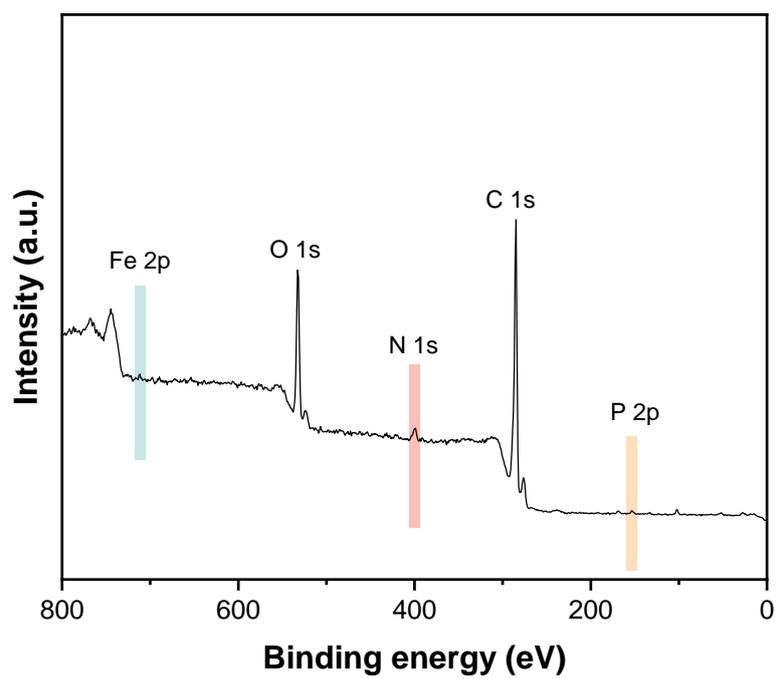


Fig. S2. XPS survey spectrum for the Fe-N/P_{1.6}-C SAC.

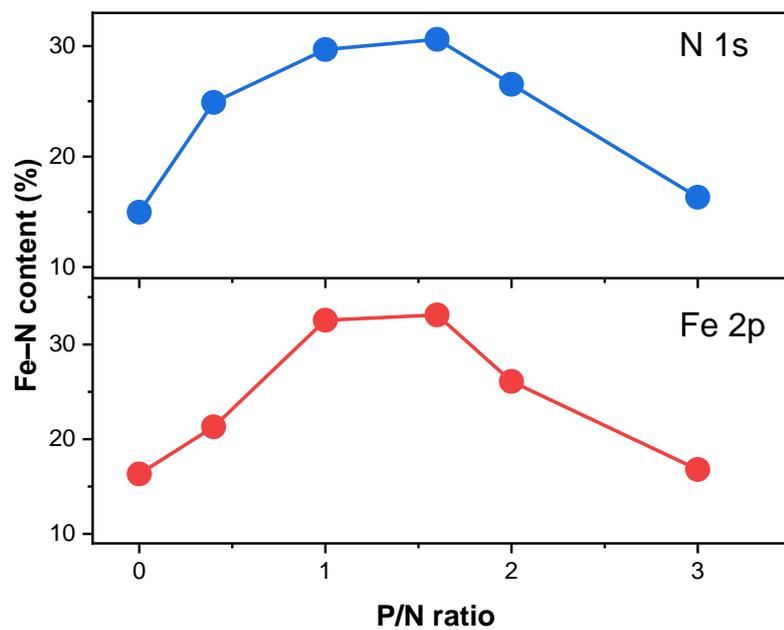


Fig. S3. Fe-N contents of N 1s and Fe 2p XPS spectra for the Fe-N/P_n-C SACs.

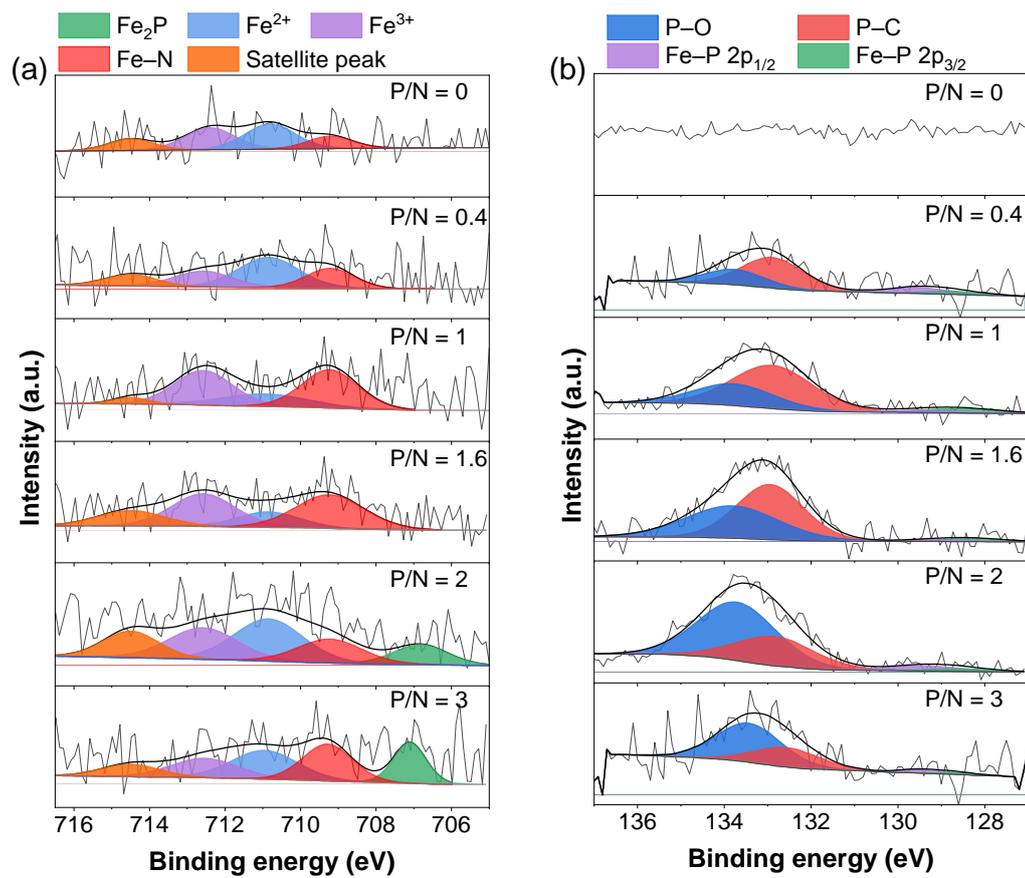


Fig. S4. XPS spectra of (a) Fe 2p and (b) P 2p for the Fe-N/P_n-C SACs.

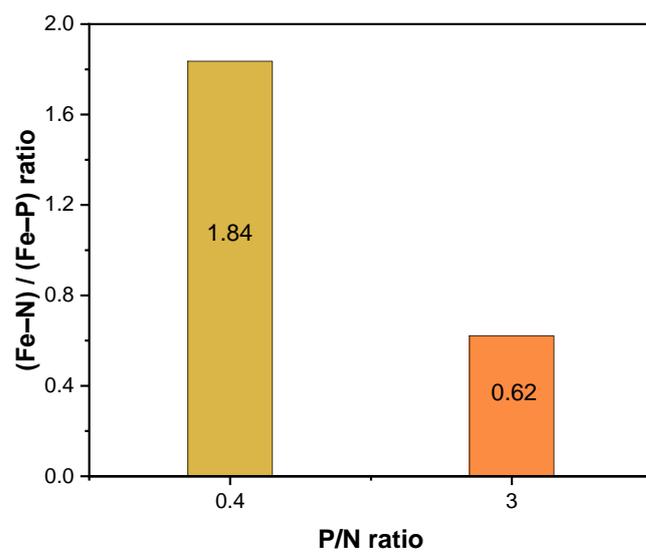


Fig. S5. The ratio of (Fe-N)/(Fe-P) for the Fe-N/P_n-C SACs.

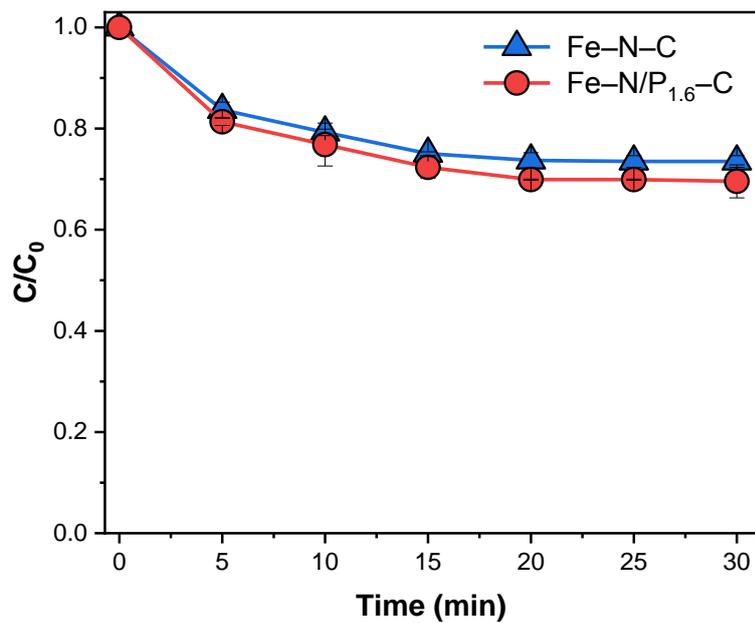


Fig. S6. Adsorption of BPA on the Fe SACs in the heterogeneous Fenton-like reaction

($[BPA]_0 = 20$ mg/L, $[Catalyst]_0 = 0.1$ g/L, $pH_0 = 6.8$, $T = 4^\circ\text{C}$).

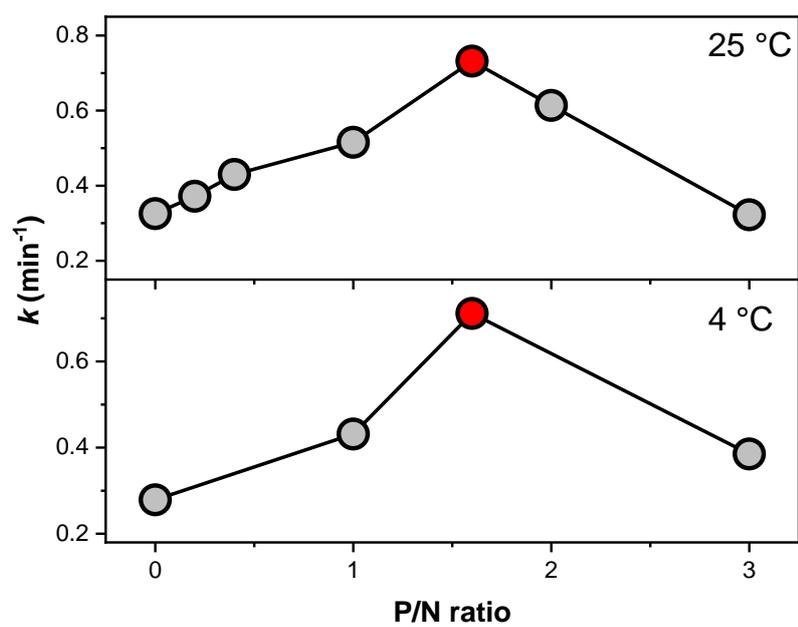


Fig. S7. Relationship between different P/N ratios of the Fe–N/P_n–C SACs and the initial reaction rate for the BPA degradation ([BPA]₀ = 20 mg/L, PMS = 0.2 g/L, [Catalyst]₀ = 0.1 g/L, pH₀ = 6.8).

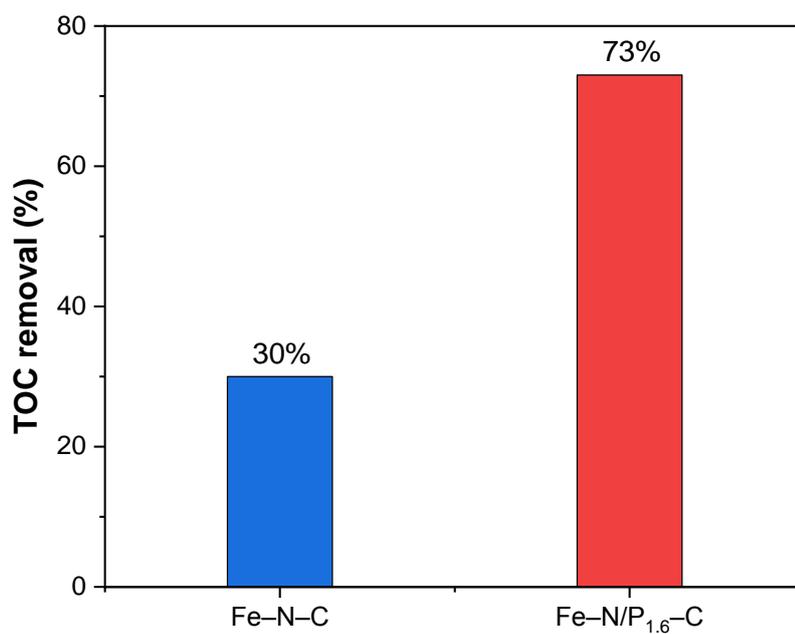


Fig. S8. TOC removal during BPA degradation in the Fe SACs/PMS systems ($[BPA]_0 = 20$ mg/L, PMS = 0.2 g/L, $[Catalyst]_0 = 0.1$ g/L, $pH_0 = 6.8$, $T = 4^\circ C$).

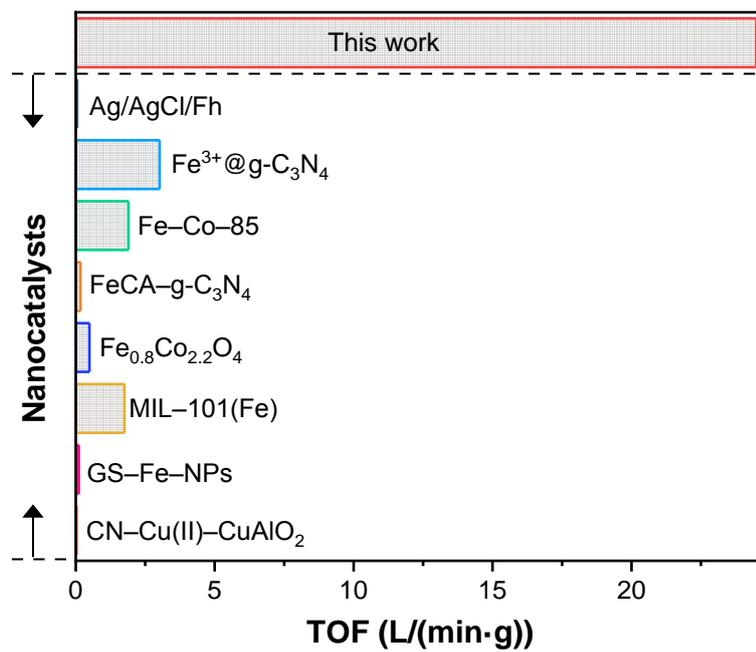


Fig. S9. Comparison of the TOF over the reported nanocatalysts for the BPA degradation.

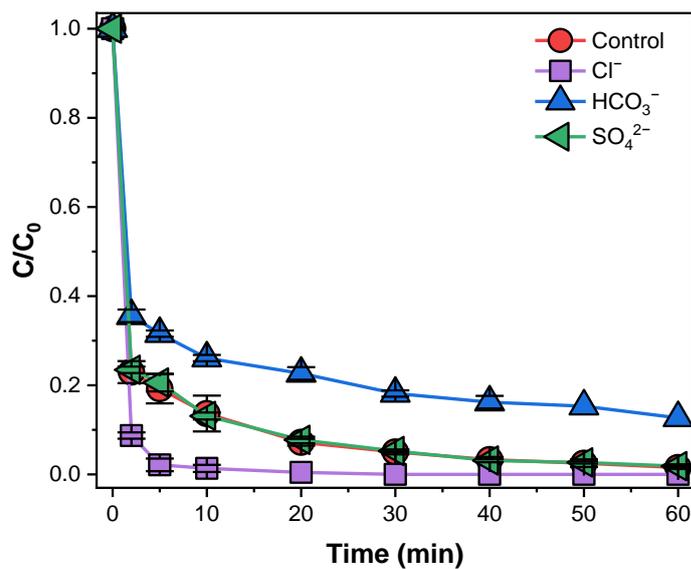


Fig. S10. The BPA removal in the presence of inorganic anions (Cl^- , HCO_3^- , SO_4^{2-}) in the Fenton-like reaction over the Fe-N/P_{1.6}-C SAC ($[\text{BPA}]_0 = 20 \text{ mg/L}$, $\text{PMS} = 0.2 \text{ g/L}$, $[\text{Catalyst}]_0 = 0.1 \text{ g/L}$, $\text{pH}_0 = 6.8$, $T = 4^\circ\text{C}$).

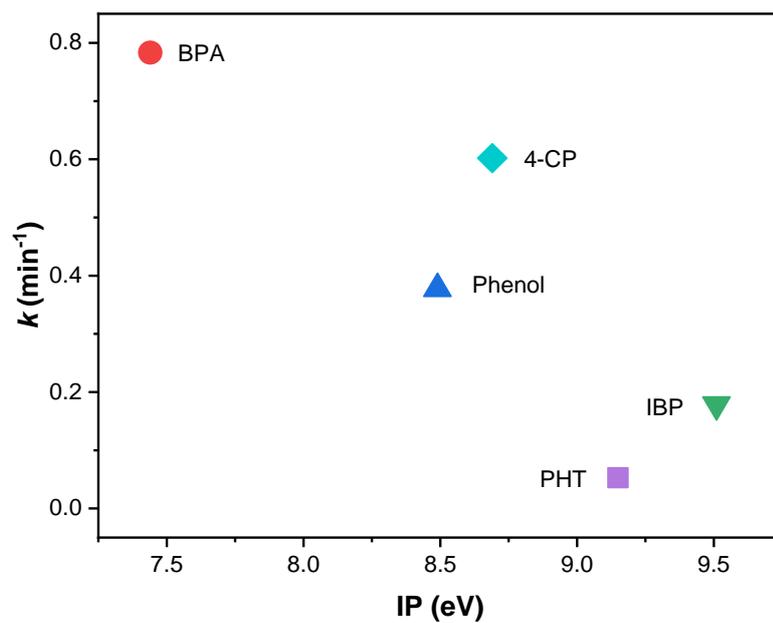


Fig. S11. The relationship between the initial reaction rates removing different pollutants over the Fe–N/P_{1.6}–C SAC and their IP values ($[BPA]_0 = 20$ mg/L, PMS = 0.2 g/L, $[Catalyst]_0 = 0.1$ g/L, $pH_0 = 6.8$, $T = 4^\circ C$).

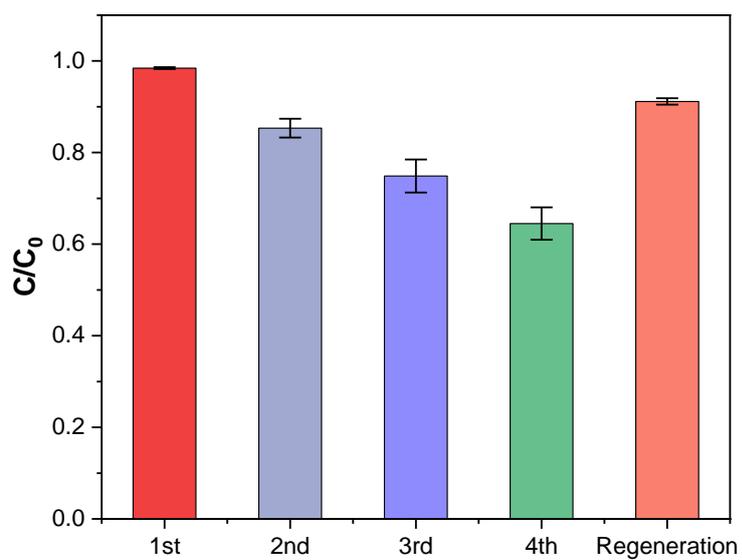


Fig. S12. Stability of the Fe-N/P_{1.6}-C SAC in the Fenton-like reaction for the BPA degradation ([BPA]₀ = 20 mg/L, PMS = 0.2 g/L, [Catalyst]₀ = 0.1 g/L, pH₀ = 6.8, T = 4°C).

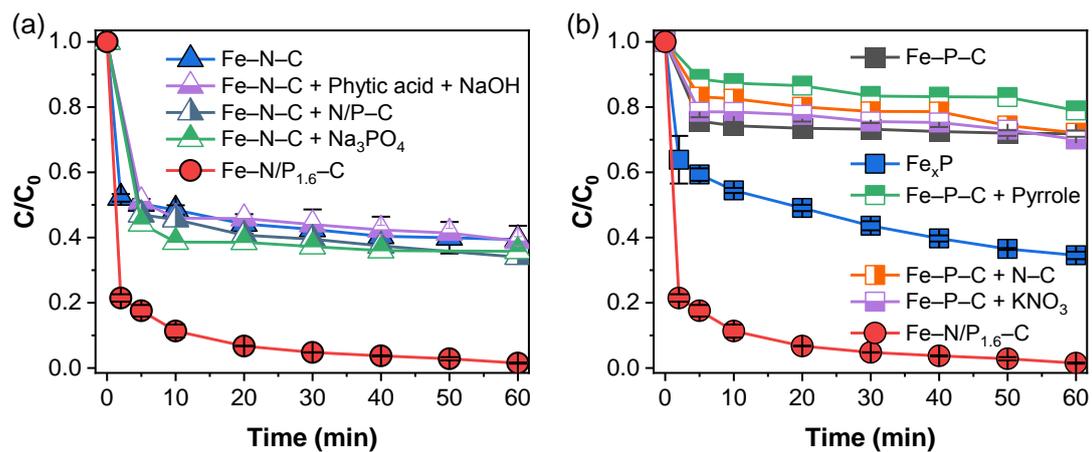


Fig. S13. BPA removal over Fe-based catalysts alone with the addition of different (a) N or (b) P sources ($[\text{BPA}]_0 = 20 \text{ mg/L}$, $\text{PMS} = 0.2 \text{ g/L}$, $[\text{Catalyst}]_0 = 0.1 \text{ g/L}$, $\text{pH}_0 = 6.8$, $T = 4^\circ\text{C}$).

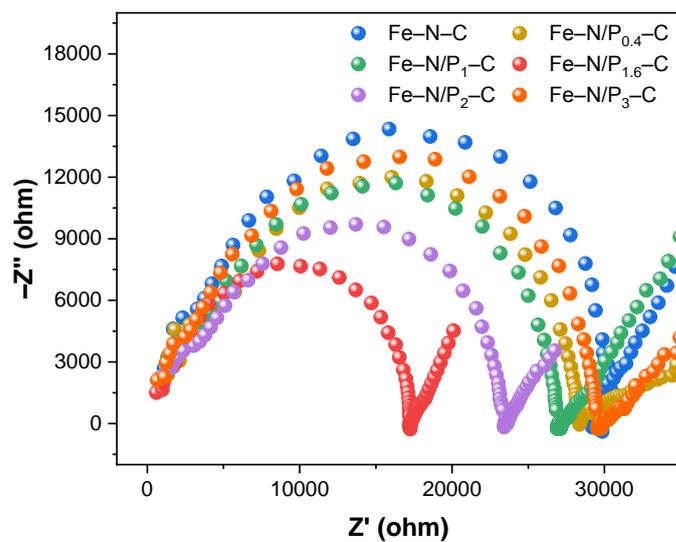


Fig. S14. EIS curves of the Fe-N/P_n-C SACs.

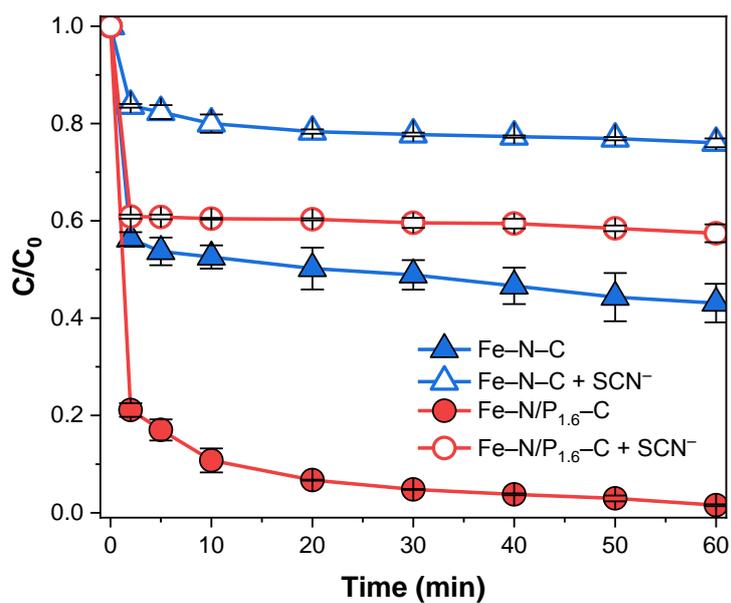


Fig. S15. Effect of SCN^- on BPA degradation in the Fe SACs/PMS system ($[\text{BPA}]_0 = 20 \text{ mg/L}$, $\text{PMS} = 0.2 \text{ g/L}$, $[\text{Catalyst}]_0 = 0.1 \text{ g/L}$, $[\text{SCN}^-]_0 = 4.38 \text{ mM}$, $\text{pH}_0 = 6.8$, $T = 4^\circ\text{C}$).

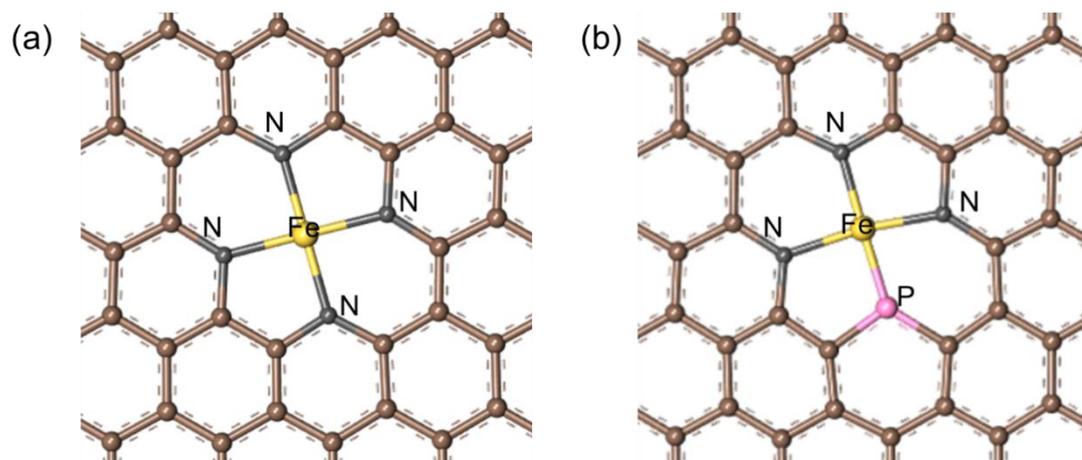


Fig. S16. The simplified models of (a) Fe-N-C and (b) Fe-N/P_{1.6}-C SACs.

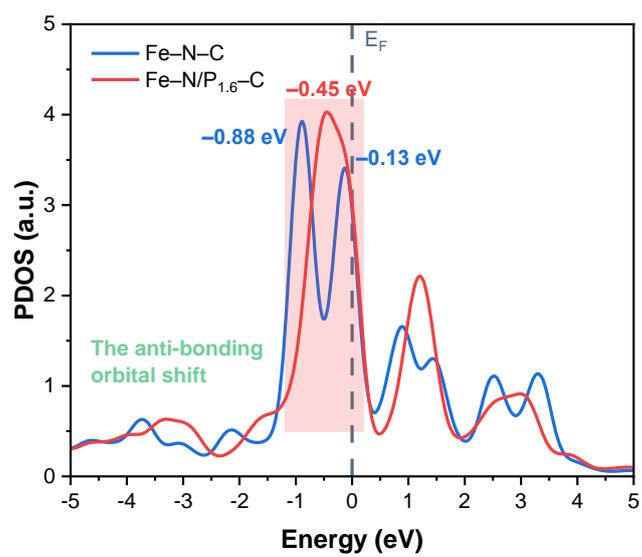


Fig. S17. PDOS of Fe-N-C and Fe-N/P_{1.6}-C SACs.

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