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# 1 Supplementary Information for

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## Real Roles of FeOCl Nanosheets in Fenton Process 3 Haohao Chen<sup>†,‡</sup>, Na Wen<sup>‡</sup>, Yingping Huang<sup>‡,\*</sup>, Qintian Peng<sup>‡</sup>, Houle Zhou<sup>‡</sup>, Yuqing Zhu<sup>†,‡</sup>, Hailin 4 Tian<sup>†,‡</sup>, Xin Ying Kong,<sup>&</sup> Huaiyong Zhu<sup>§</sup>, and Liqun Ye<sup>†,‡,\*</sup> 5 <sup>†</sup> College of Materials and Chemical Engineering, Key Laboratory of Inorganic Nonmetallic 6 Crystalline and Energy Conversion Materials, China Three Gorges University, Yichang 443002, 7 Hubei, China. 8 <sup>‡</sup> Engineering Research Center of Eco-Environment in Three Gorges Reservoir Region, Ministry of 9 10 Education, China Three Gorges University, Yichang 443002, Hubei, China. & School of Chemistry, Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology, Nanyang Technological 11 University, Singapore, 21 Nanyang Link, 637371 Singapore. 12 13 § School of Chemistry and Physics, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, QLD 4001, Australia. 14 15 \* E-mail: chem ctgu@126.com (Y. Huang); lqye@ctgu.edu.cn (L. Ye) 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 Pages, 22 Figures, 1 Tables 27 28

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ATZ over FeOCl/ $H_2O_2$  system after 60 min (e) and 120 min (f) of reaction.

## 81 1. Experimental Details

1.1. Materials. All chemical reagents including tert-butyl alcohol (TBA) and ethanol (EtOH) 82 are of analytical purity. Terephthalic acid (TA), p-nitro blue chloride (NBT), glacial acetic acid, and 83 84 atrazine were purchased from Aladdin Chemical Company, China. Ferric chloride hexahydrate and ferrous sulfate were purchased from Shanghai Maclean Biochemical Technology Co. The 30% 85 hydrogen peroxide and sodium acetate were purchased from Xilong Science Co. Chromatography 86 grade methanol and acetonitrile were purchased from American Skyland Co. o-Diazophenanthrene 87 was purchased from Shanghai Hao Hong Biopharmaceutical Co whereas sodium hydroxide was 88 purchased from Tianjin Comio Chemical Reagent Co. 89

90 **1.2. Materials characterization.** The X-ray diffraction (XRD) pattern of FeOCl was 91 characterized using a Bruker D8 advanced  $K_{\alpha}$  X-ray diffractometer with a 2 $\theta$  scan rate of 5° min<sup>-1</sup>. 92 The FeOCl surface elemental species and valence states were determined using a Thermos 93 ESCALAB 250Xi XPS instrument (A1 K<sub>a</sub>, 150 W, C 1 s 284.6 eV). The surface morphology of 94 FeOCl was analyzed by JSM-7500F emission scanning electron microscope (SEM), Tecnai G2 F30 95 transmission electron microscope (TEM), and elemental mapping from Nippon Electron 96 Corporation.



99 Figure S1. XRD spectra of FeOCl calcined under different conditions including vacuum, fully open,

100 and partially open glass flasks.



Figure S2. SEM image of FeOCl calcined in a crucible.

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Figure S3. Survey XPS spectrum of FeOCl fabricated in glass flasks.



Figure S4. HPLC chromatograms (a) and calibration curve (b) of different concentrations of
hydrogen peroxide. HPLC chromatograms of ATZ different concentrations (c) and its respective
calibration curve (d).





Figure S5. Adsorption-desorption equilibrium of FeOCl with 5% adsorption. [FeOCl] = 200 mg/L,

115 [ATZ] = 0.5 mg/L.



Figure S6. HPLC chromatograms of  $H_2O_2/ATZ$  system (a) and  $H_2O_2/ATZ$ /light system (b).



Figure S7. The plot of temperature variation in different catalytic systems (a). The plot of dissolved
oxygen variation in different catalytic systems (b).





125 Figure S8. Effect of 500 mM methanol (•OH scavenger) on ATZ degradation, where [MeOH] =

126 500 mM,  $[H_2O_2] = 5$  mM, [FeOC1] = 200 mg/L, [ATZ] = 0.5 mg/L.





Figure S9. Calibration curves for different concentrations of 2-hydroxyterephthalic acid (a). First-order kinetic fitting curves of ·OH concentration in different catalytic systems (b). Fluorescence spectra of FeOCl/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>/light system (c) and FeOCl/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system (d) after adding TA. [TA] = 5 mM, [H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>] = 5 mM, [FeOCl] = 200 mg/L.

Comparison of the amount of hydroxyl radicals produced by the photo-Fenton process and theFenton process:

$$r = \frac{k (H_2O_2/FeOCl/TA/light)}{k (H_2O_2/FeOCl/TA)}$$



Figure S10. Removal rates of NBT in different catalytic systems (a) and standard curve of different concentrations of NBT(b). [NBT] = 24  $\mu$ M, [H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>] = 5 mM, [FeOC1] = 200 mg/L, [ATZ] = 0.5 mg/L.



Figure S11. HPLC chromatograms of FFA consumption by FeOCl/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>/light system (a) and FeOCl/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system (b). FFA removal rates in different catalytic systems (c) and standard curve of FFA at different concentrations (d). [FFA]= 40  $\mu$ M, [H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>] = 5 mM, [FeOCl] = 200 mg.



Figure S12. The quantitative relationships between  $\bullet$ OH, O<sub>2</sub>.<sup>-</sup>, and <sup>1</sup>O<sub>2</sub> in different catalytic systems.



Figure S13. PMSO consumption and PMSO<sub>2</sub> generation in FeOCl/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>/light system (a). PMSO consumption and PMSO<sub>2</sub> generation in the FeOCl/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system (b). HPLC chromatograms and calibration curves of different gradient concentrations of PMSO (c-d) and PMSO<sub>2</sub> (e-f), respectively.



157 Figure S14. Total iron dissolution before reaction and ATZ removal after 2h of reaction at different

158 initial pH in FeOCl/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>/light systems (a). pH change after 2h reaction at different initial pH In

159 FeOCl/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>/light system.  $[H_2O_2] = 5 \text{ mM}$ , [FeOCl] = 200 mg/L, [ATZ] = 0.5 mg/L.



Figure S15. Removal of ATZ by trace iron.  $[H_2O_2] = 5 \text{ mM}$ , [FeOC1] = 200 mg/L, [ATZ] = 0.5 mg/L.



Figure S16. First-order kinetic fitting curves for the removal of atrazine by trace iron ions.
Homogeneous reaction, heterogeneous reaction percentage calculation method:

168 For FeOCl/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> systems:

$$\eta[homogeneous reaction] = \frac{k (Fe^{2+}/Fe^{3+}/H_2O_2)}{k (FeOCl/H_2O_2)}$$

169 For FeOCl/ $H_2O_2$ /light systems:

$$\eta[heterogeneous reaction] = \frac{k (Fe^{2+}/Fe^{3+}/H_2O_2/light)}{k (FeOCl/H_2O_2/light)}$$



Figure S17. Cyclic experiments with FeOCl and dissolved iron for ATZ removal.  $[H_2O_2] = 5 \text{ mM}$ ,

173 [ATZ] = 0.5 mg/L, pH = 4.







Figure S18. Calibration curve for different concentrations of iron.



Figure S19. Calibration curve for different concentrations of Cl<sup>-</sup> (a). IC chromatogram of Cl<sup>-</sup> at different concentrations of FeOCl in FeOCl/H<sub>2</sub>O system at 200 min (b). Concentration of chlorine ions in different catalytic systems (c).  $[H_2O_2] = 5$  mM, [FeOCl] = 200 mg/L, [ATZ] = 0.5 mg/L.





Figure S20. PH changes in different systems (a). XRD spectra of fresh and used FeOCl in FeOC/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>/ATZ/light system (b).  $[H_2O_2] = 5 \text{ mM}$ , [FeOCl] = 200 mg/L, [ATZ] = 0.5 mg/L.



Figure S21. SEM image of FeOCl after one month storage.



Figure S22. ESI(+)-MS to detect the products from ATZ degradation. Degradation of ATZ over FeOCl/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>/light system after 30 min (b), 60 min (c), and 120 min (d) of reaction. Degradation of ATZ over FeOCl/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system after 60 min (e) and 120 min (f) of reaction.

Description	Molecular	Structural	Exact	$[M+H]^+$
	formula	formula	Mass	
ATZ	C8H14N5Cl		215.09	216.10
4,6-diamino-1,3,5 -triazin-2-ol	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>5</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O		127.05	128.05
6-chloro-1,3,5-tria zine-2,4-diamine	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>5</sub> Cl	$\overset{Cl}{\underset{H_2N}{\bigvee}}_{N}\overset{Cl}{\underset{N}{\bigvee}}_{NH_2}$	145.02	146.02
6-chloro-N <sup>2</sup> -ethyl -1,3,5-triazine-2,4 -diamine	C5H8N5Cl		173.05	174.05
6-chloro-N <sup>2</sup> -isopr opyl-1,3,5-triazin e-2,4-diamine	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>5</sub> Cl		187.06	188.06
4-(ethylamino)-6- (isopropylamino)- 1,3,5-triazin-2-ol	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>5</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O		197.13	198.13
N-(4-chloro-6-(is opropylamino)-1, 3,5-triazin-2-yl)ac etamide	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>12</sub> N <sub>5</sub> ClO		229.07	230.08
1-((4-chloro-6-(is opropylamino)-1, 3,5-triazin-2-yl)a mino)ethan-1-ol	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>14</sub> N <sub>5</sub> ClO		231.09	232.09
2-((4-chloro-6-((1 -hydroxyethyl)am ino)-1,3,5-triazin- 2-yl)amino)propa n-2-ol	$C_8H_{14}N_5ClO_2$		247.08	248.09

Table S1. Intermediate products from ATZ degradation over FeOCl/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>/light system and
 FeOCl/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> system.