

Supporting Information

Cobalt-based silica nanospheres for enhanced peracetic acid activation: The efficiency and mechanism to degrade tetracycline hydrochloride

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Fig. S1. Consumption curves of PAA in TCH/Co@SiO₂/PAA systems. Conditions: TCH = 10 mg/L, PAA = 0.5 mM, Co@SiO₂ = 200 mg/L, initial pH = 7, temperature = 25 °C.

Fig. S2. Zeta potential of Co@SiO₂.

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Fig. S6. The removal efficiency of other organic pollutants by the Co@SiO₂/PAA system. Reaction conditions: Co@SiO₂ = 200 mg/L, PAA = 0.5 mM, TCH = CTC = OTC = MO = 10 mg/L, temperature = 25 °C, pH = 7.

Fig. S7. Changes of TOC in the degradation of TCH by Co@SiO₂/PAA system. Reaction conditions: TCH = 10 mg/L, PAA = 0.5 mM, Co@SiO₂ = 200 mg/L, initial pH = 7, temperature = 25 °C.

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Table S2. The structural information of the intermediate products.

Table S3. The characteristic parameters of tap water, lake water and river water.

Text S1. HPLC conditions for pollutant concentrations.

An Agilent TC-C18 C18 column (4.6 × 250 mm) was utilized. The detection wavelength was set at 355 nm, the column temperature was maintained at 35°C, and the mobile phase flow rate was fixed at 1 mL/min. TCH was detected using a mobile phase of 0.1% formic acid/acetonitrile at a ratio of 80%/20% (v/v), with an injection volume of 10 µL. In contrast, for CTC, OTC, and MO, the mobile phase ratio of 0.1% formic acid/acetonitrile was adjusted to 60%/40% (v/v).

Text S2. Toxicity evaluation experimental procedure.

Select 50 black bean seeds of comparable weight. First, soak them in 75% ethanol for 30 s to cleanse. Then promptly immerse them in distilled water, gently agitating for 30 s. Repeat this process three times to remove residual alcohol. After rinsing with Solution 1, place the seeds in a hollowed-out culture container. Next, measure 100 mL of Solution A and pour it evenly into the container. Finally, place the container in natural conditions (approximately 25°C) for dark cultivation. Observe growth trends at 24 h, 48 h, and 96 h, adding 100 mL of Solution A each time. Replace Solution 1 with Solutions 2, 3, and 4, respectively, and repeat the above process. Each treatment group includes three replicates. Compare the growth of black beans cultivated in the four solutions.

Text S3. Test and characterization methods.

Scanning electron microscope (SEM, Hitachi Regulus 8230, Japan), X-ray diffraction (XRD, D8 ADVANCE, Germany) and Raman spectroscopy (Raman, WITec alpha300R, Germany) were used to measure the prepared materials to analyze their physicochemical properties. Elemental distribution was analyzed using an energy-dispersive X-ray spectrometer (EDS). Detailed structural analysis was performed using a FEI Tecnai G2 F20 S-Twin high-resolution transmission electron microscope (HRTEM) operating at 200 kV to investigate crystalline phases and lattice structures. Radical trapping experiments were performed by electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR, Bruker A300, Germany) spectrometry. Surface chemical states were analyzed by X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) on a Thermo Fisher Scientific K-Alpha system with monochromatic Al K α radiation under 1.5×10^{-9} Torr vacuum. The intermediates of TCH transformation were detected by liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry (LC-MS, Thermo Fisher Scientific Ultimate 3000 UHPLC -Q Exactive, USA). The concentrations of PAA and H₂O₂ in PAA stock solution were measured using titration method as previously described,¹ and the residual PAA and H₂O₂ in the PAA working solution was monitored by a modified spectrophotometric method according to our previous research.² An examination of total organic carbon (TOC) was conducted using the Shimadzu TOC-L CPH from Japan to measure the degree of mineralization. The leaching of cobalt (Co) and the cobalt content in the catalyst were examined using a Agilent 7850 (MS) (U.S.) inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectrometer (ICP-OES).

Text S4. Calculation equations for the contributions of different reactive species to TCH reactivity of Co@SiO₂/PAA system.

The contribution of each ROS to the oxidation of TCH in the Co@SiO₂/PAA system was quantitatively assessed using a radical probe method. The corresponding calculation equations are as follows:

$$kt = \ln \left(\frac{C_{\text{TCH},0}}{C_{\text{TCH},t}} \right) \#(1)$$

$$CR_{\cdot\text{OH}/\text{R}\cdot\text{O}\cdot} \approx \frac{k_{\text{blank}} - k_{\text{MeOH}}}{k_{\text{blank}}} \#(2)$$

$$CR_{\text{R}\cdot\text{O}\cdot} \approx \frac{k_{\text{blank}} - k_{2,4\text{-HD}}}{k_{\text{blank}}} \#(3)$$

$$CR_{\text{CH}_3\text{C(O)OO}\cdot} \approx \frac{k_{\text{blank}} - k_{\text{Mn}^{2+}}}{k_{\text{blank}}} \#(4)$$

$$CR_{1\text{O}_2} \approx \frac{k_{\text{blank}} - k_{\text{FFA}}}{k_{\text{blank}}} \#(5)$$

$$CR_{\cdot\text{OH}} \approx \frac{k_{\text{blank}} - k_{\text{TBA}}}{k_{\text{blank}}} \#(6)$$

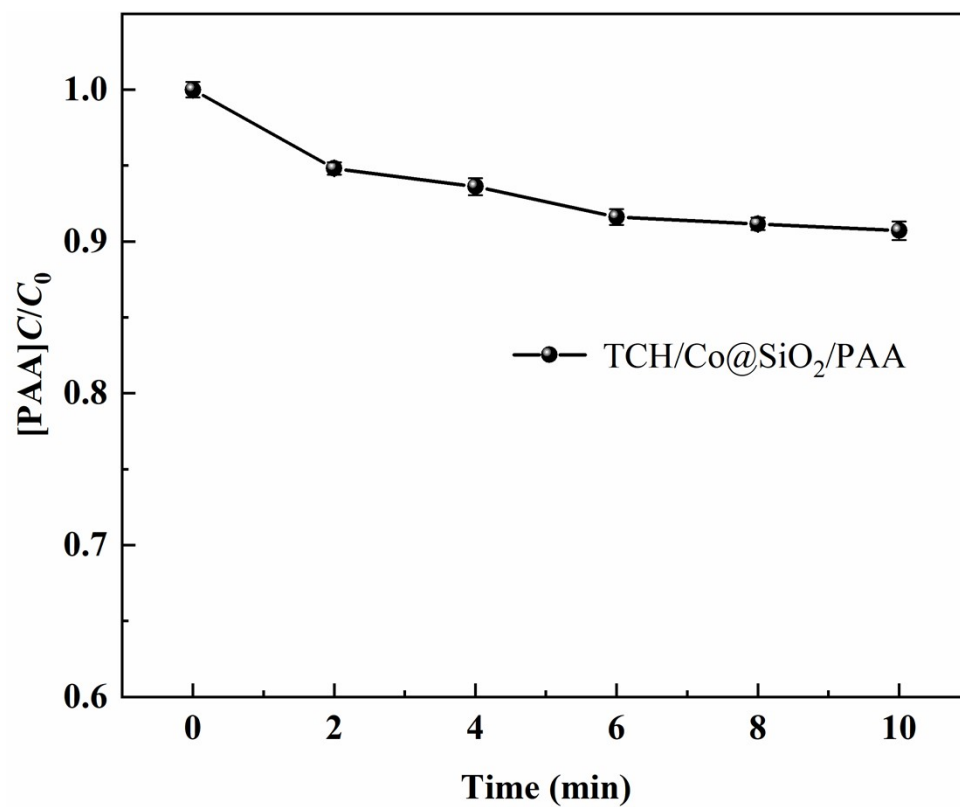


Fig. S1. Consumption curves of PAA in TCH/Co@SiO₂/PAA systems. Conditions: TCH = 10 mg/L, PAA = 0.5 mM, Co@SiO₂ = 200 mg/L, initial pH = 7, temperature = 25 °C.

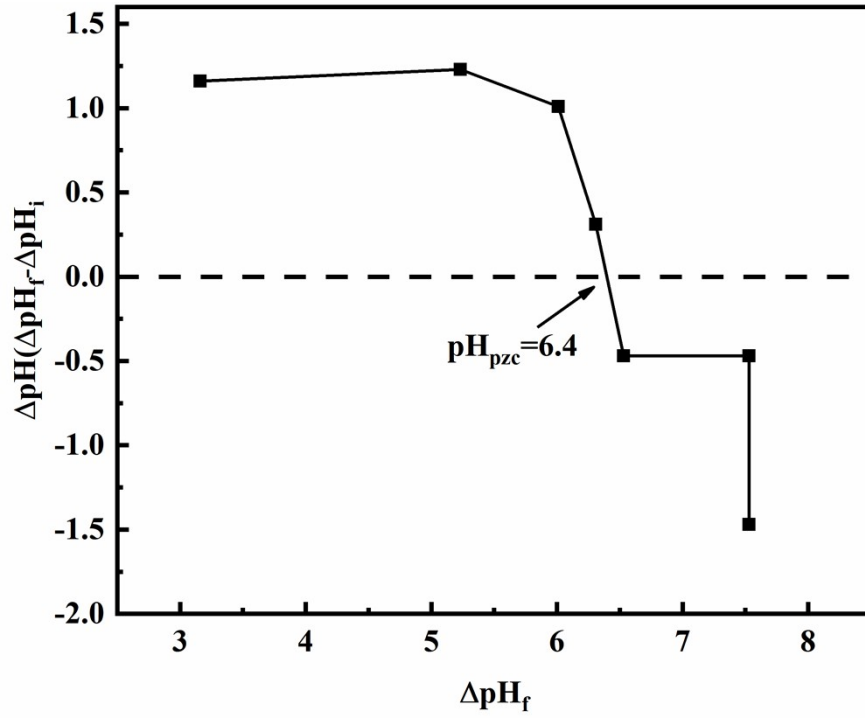


Fig. S2. Zeta potential of Co@SiO₂.

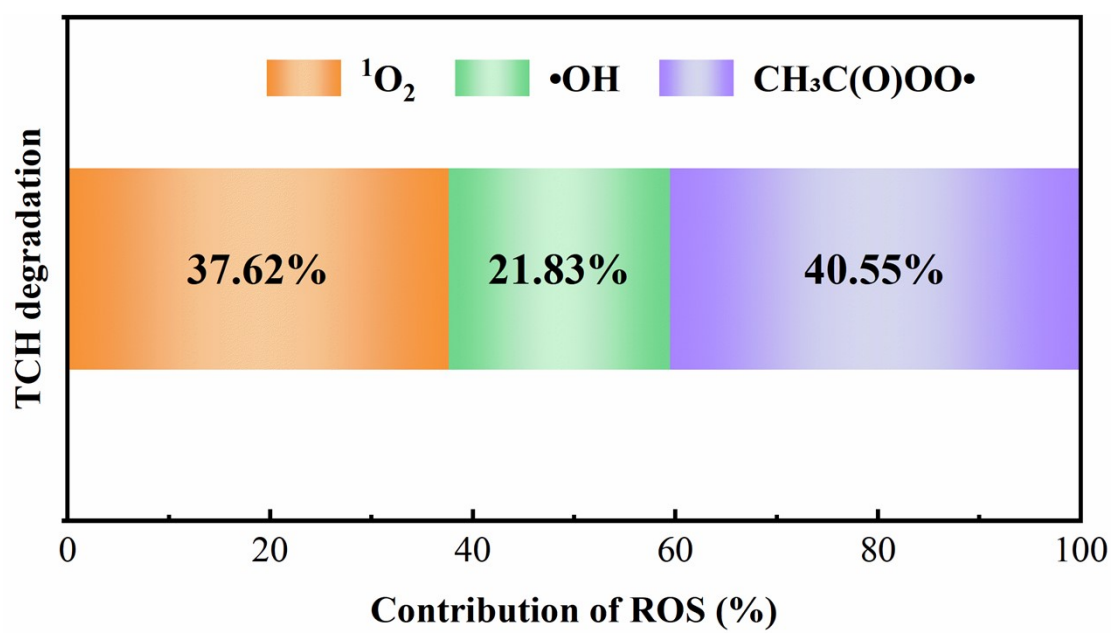
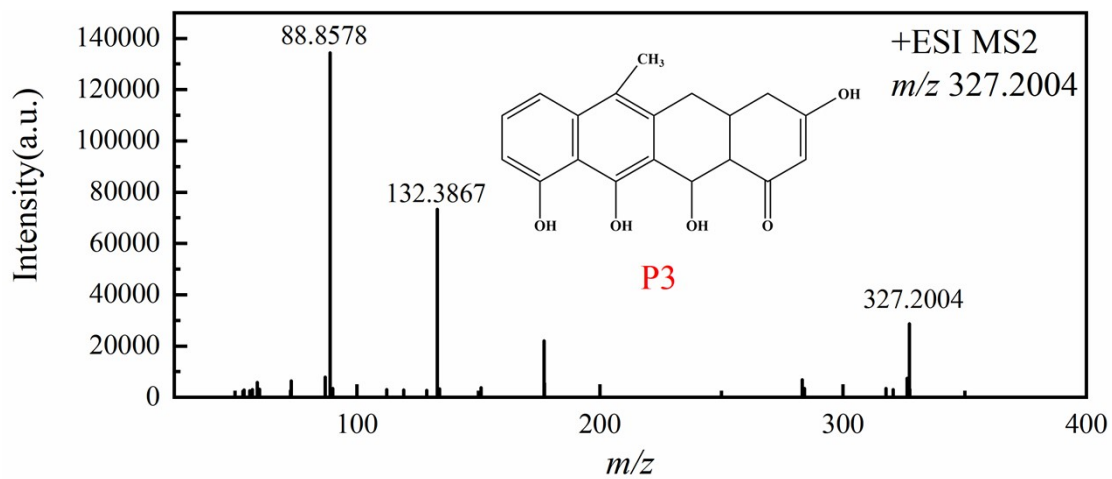
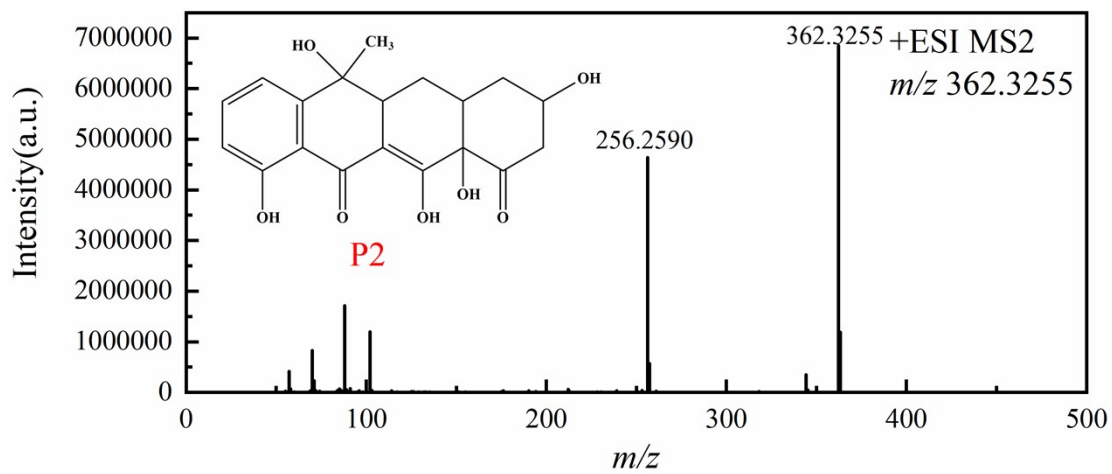
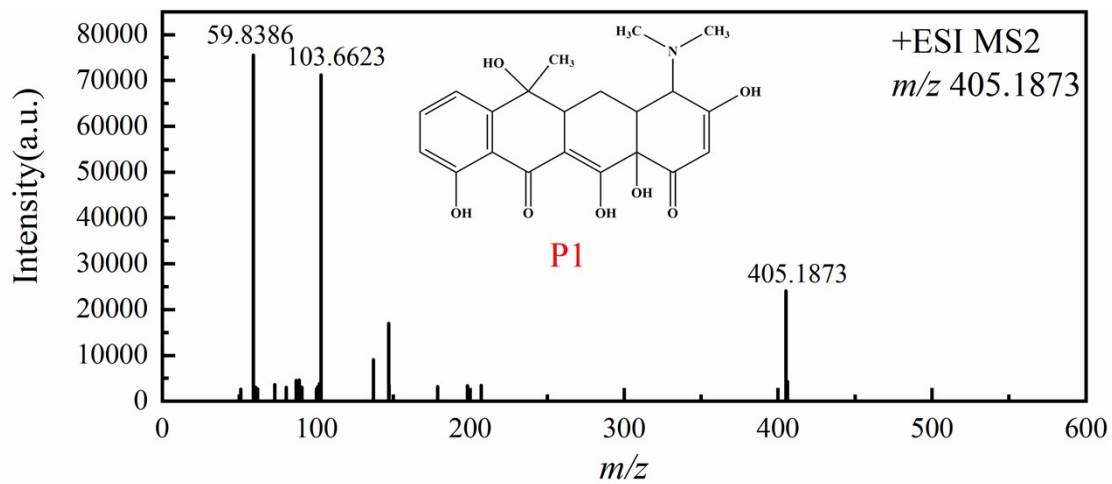
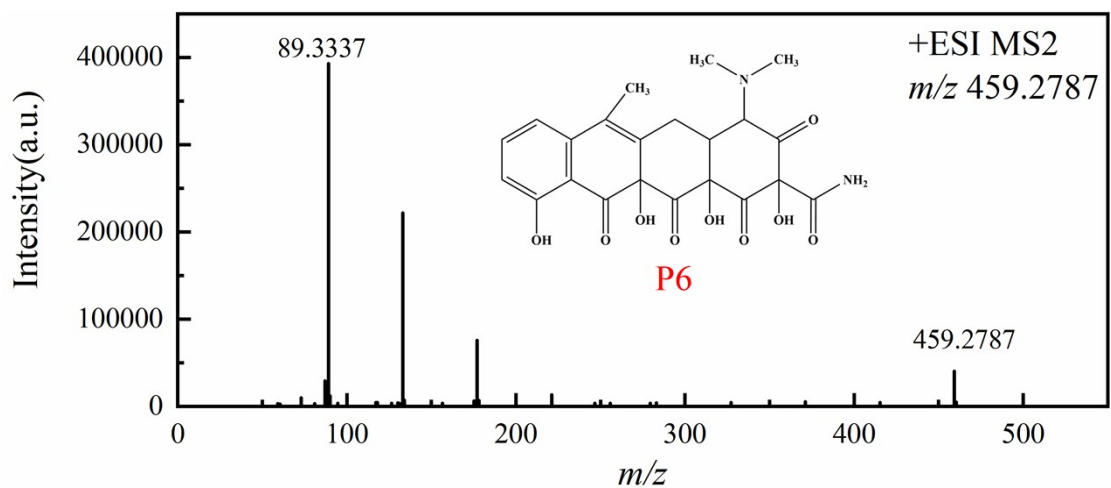
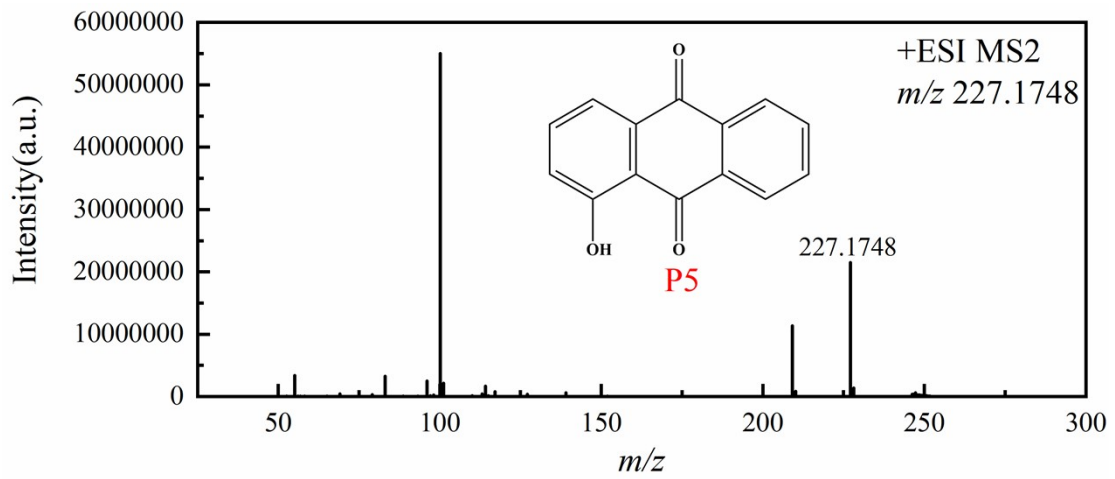
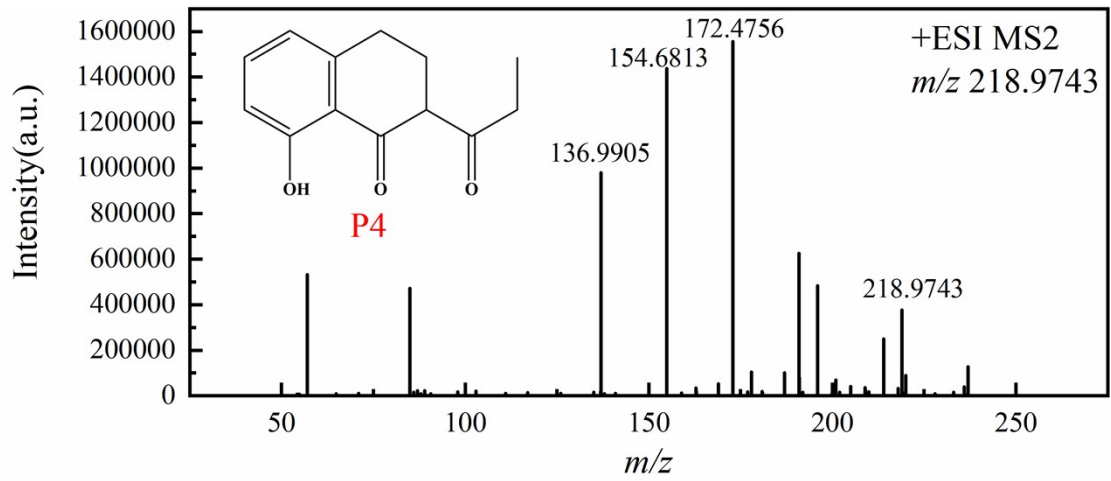
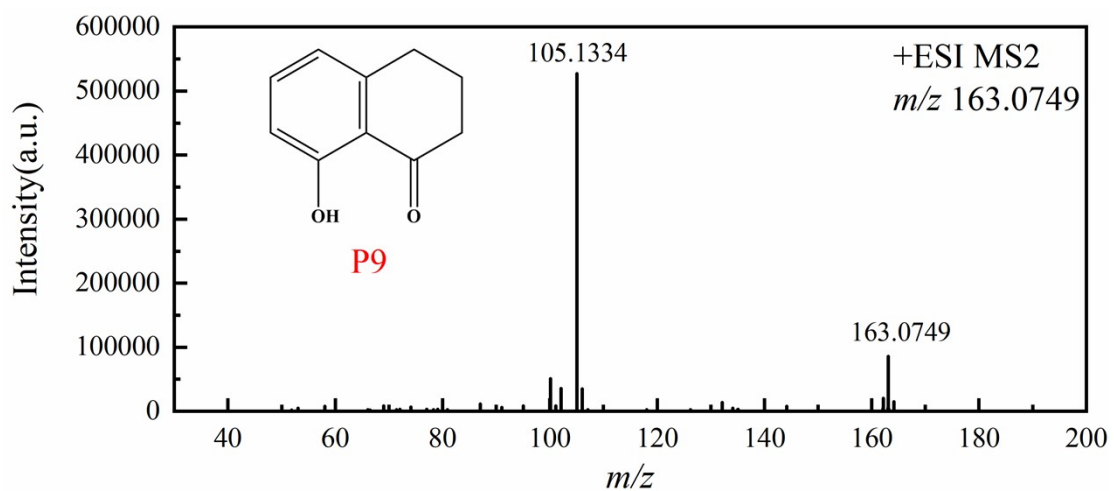
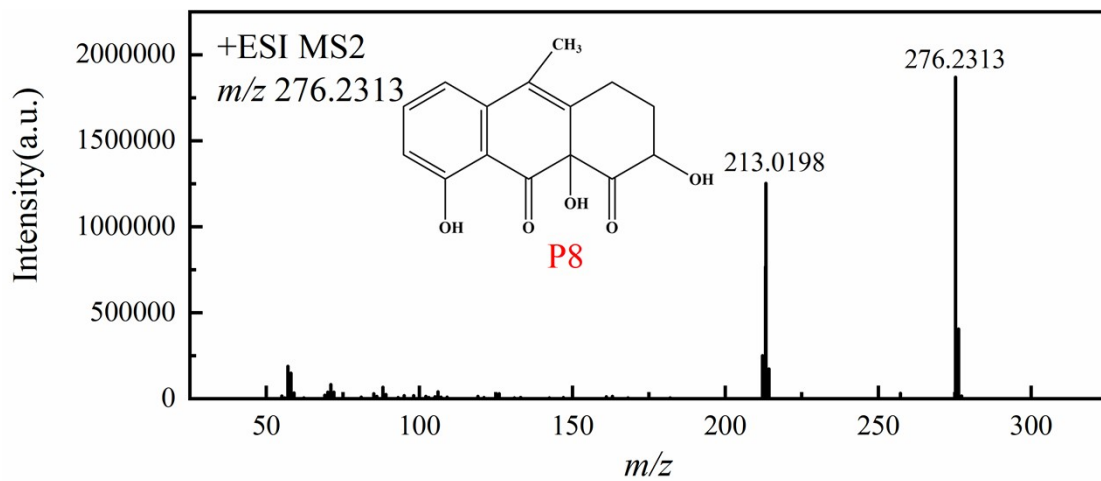
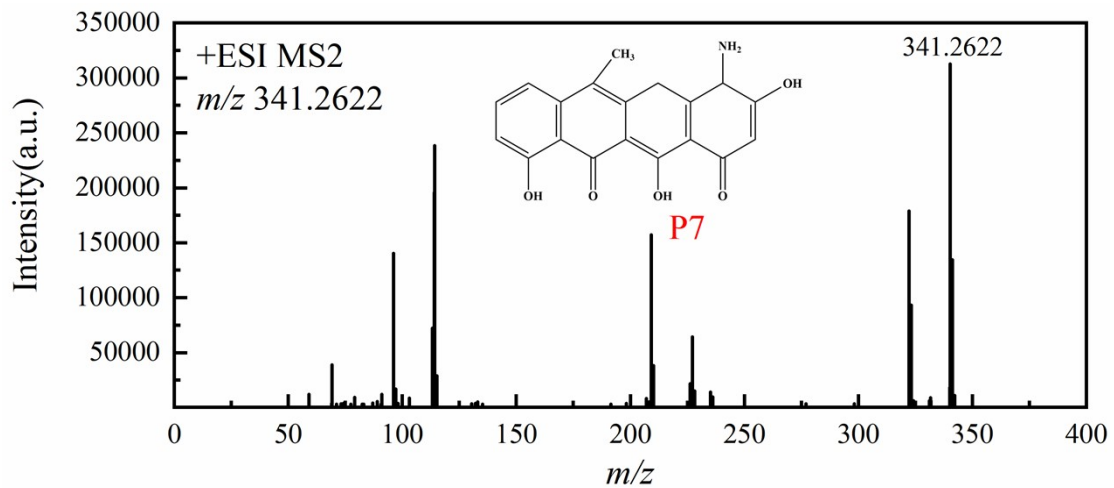


Fig.S3. Contributions of ROS on TCH degradation in the Co@SiO₂/PAA system.







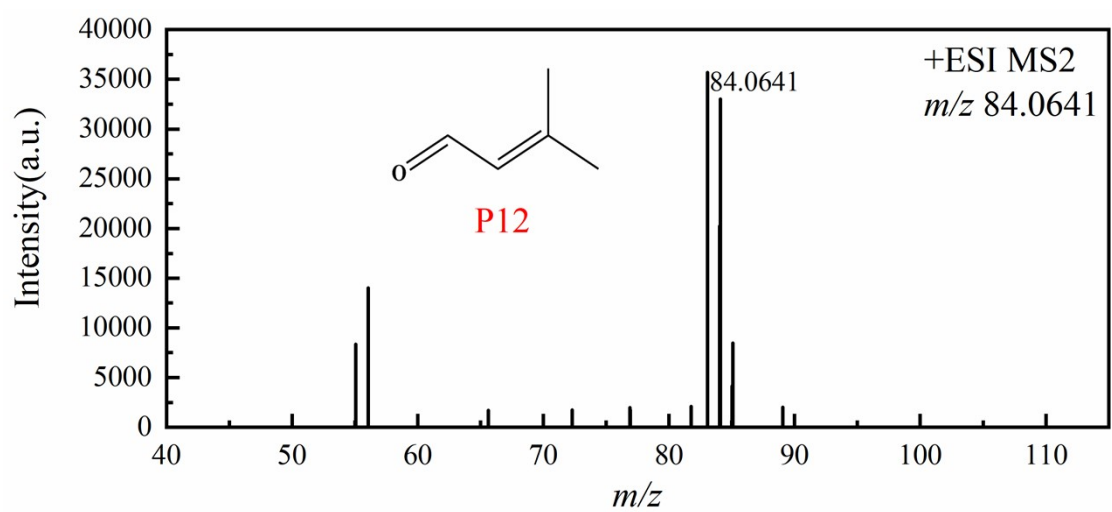
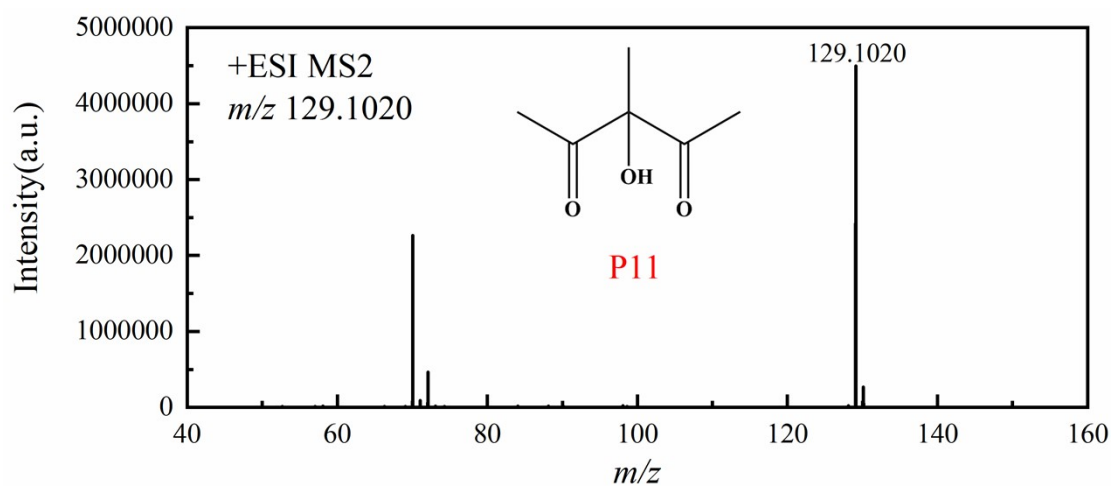
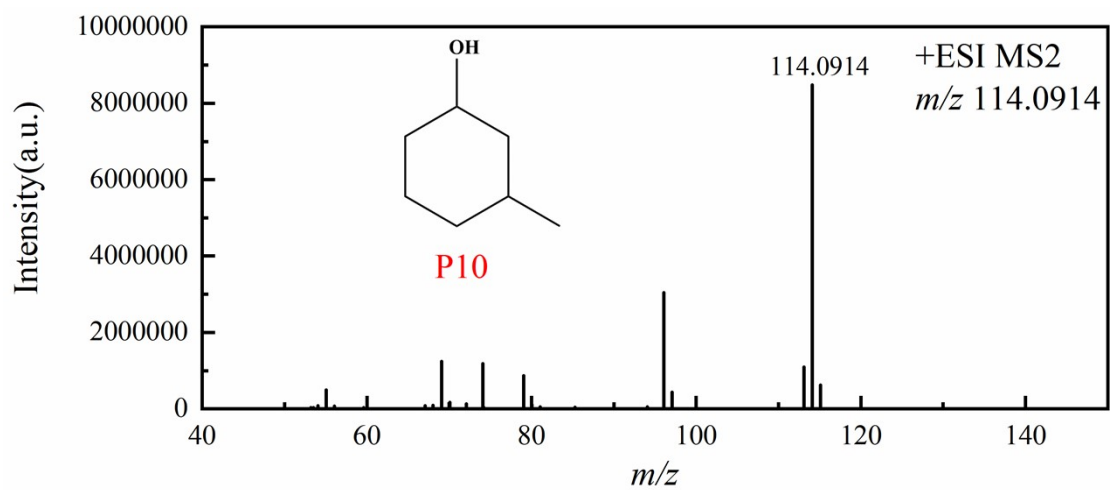


Fig. S4. The MS and MS² spectra of TCH and intermediates.

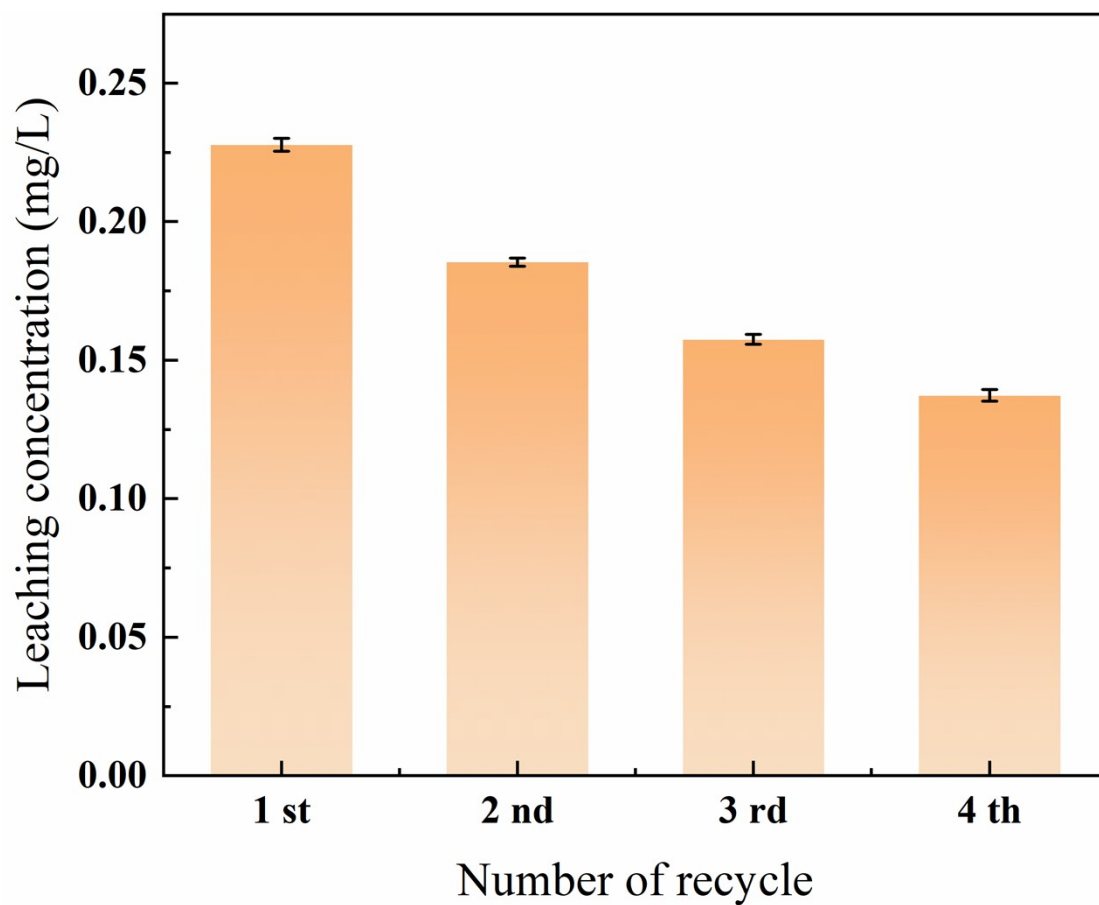


Fig. S5. Leaching concentrations of cobalt ions after each cycle. Reaction conditions: TCH = 10 mg/L, PAA = 0.5 mM, Co@SiO₂ = 200 mg/L, initial pH = 7, temperature = 25 °C.

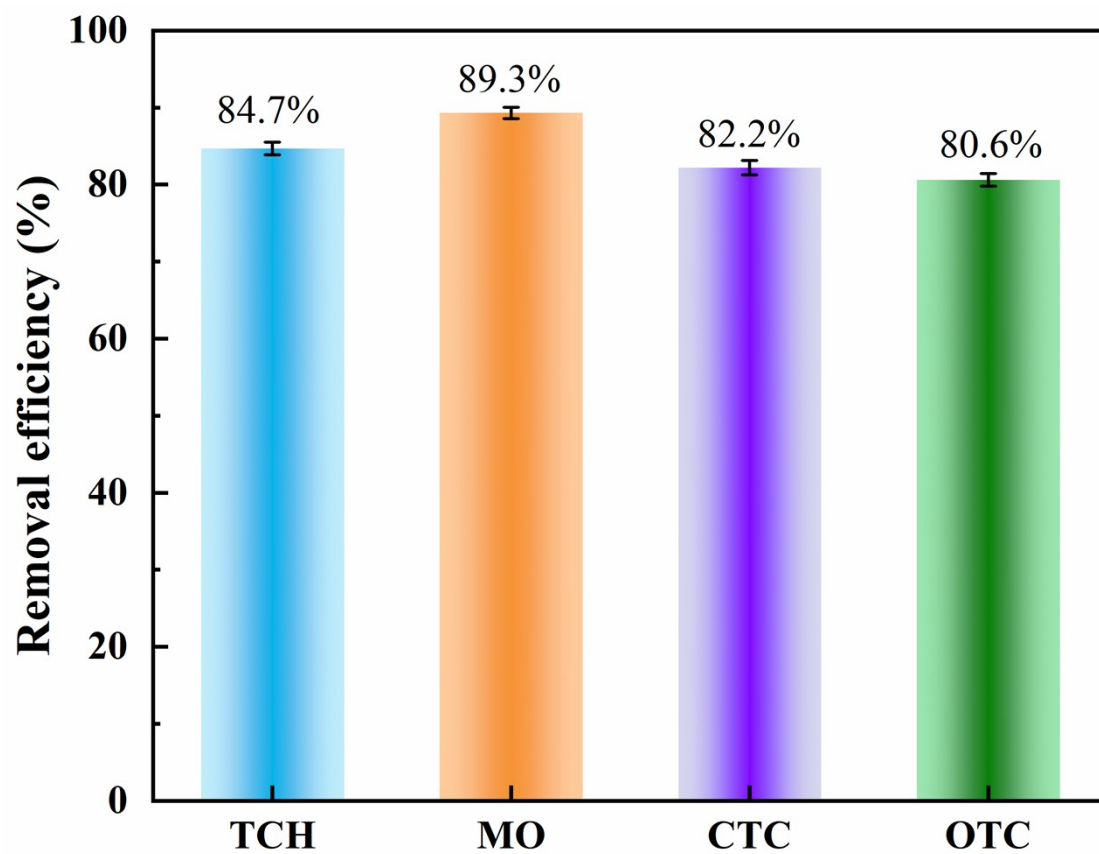


Fig. S6. The removal efficiency of other organic pollutants by the Co@SiO₂/PAA system. Reaction conditions: Co@SiO₂ = 200 mg/L, PAA = 0.5 mM, TCH = CTC = OTC = MO = 10 mg/L, temperature = 25 °C, pH = 7.

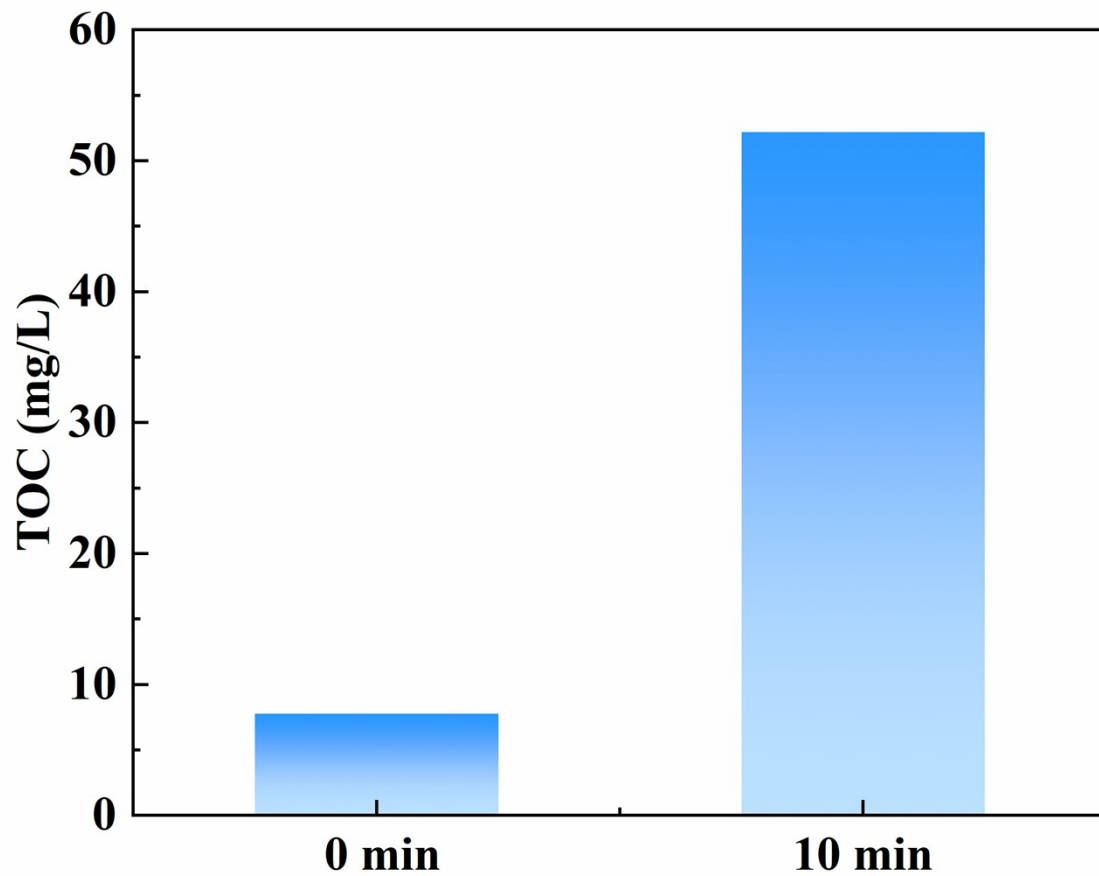
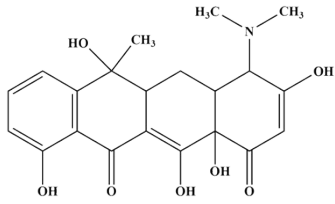
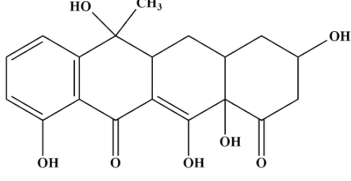
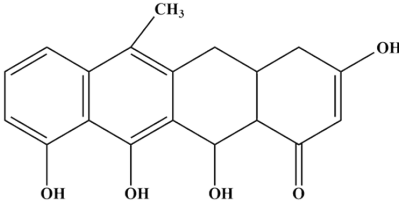
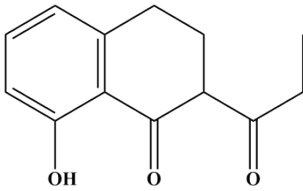
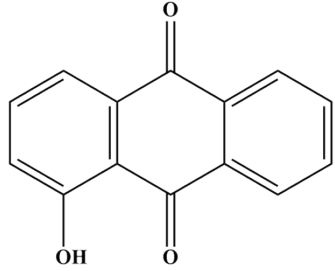
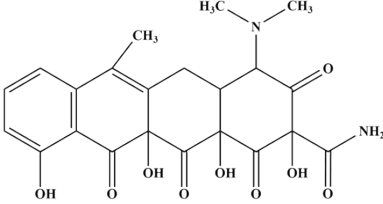
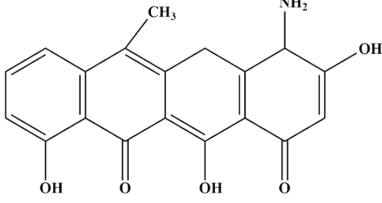


Fig. S7. Changes of TOC in the degradation of TCH by Co@SiO₂/PAA system. Reaction conditions: TCH = 10 mg/L, PAA = 0.5 mM, Co@SiO₂ = 200 mg/L, initial pH = 7, temperature = 25 °C.

Table S1. Comparison of cobalt-based catalysts for the degradation of organic pollutants.

Pollutant	C₀	Catalyst	PAA Dose (mM)	Time (min)	K_{obs} (min⁻¹)	Removal efficiency	Ref.
SMX	10 μM	CoFe ₂ O ₄	0.2	30	0.0465	87.3%	3
TCH	10 mg/L	FeCo ₂ S ₄ /AC	1	20	0.099	94.12%	4
RhB	50 mg/L	CoFe ₂ O ₄ @N-C	0.5	30	0.166	98%	5
SDZ	10 mg/L	Co-K-N-O-C	0.1	50	0.046	100%	6
SMR	20 μM	CoFe-LDH	0.2	30	0.067	82.3%	7
SDZ	20 μM/L	Co ₃ O ₄ -in-CNTs	0.23	5	1.33	100%	8
SMX	100 mg/L	BFC5O	0.1	30	0.102	96.2%	9
TCH	50 μM	Co _{NC} -CNF	0.15	60	-	55.5%	10
TCH	10 mg/L	Co@SiO ₂	0.5	10	0.1751	84.7%	This work

Table S2. The structural information of the intermediate products.

Product number	<i>m/z</i>	Molecule formula	Possible structure
P1	405	C ₂₁ H ₂₃ O ₇ N	
P2	362	C ₁₉ H ₂₀ O ₇	
P3	327	C ₁₉ H ₁₈ O ₅	
P4	218	C ₁₃ H ₁₄ O ₃	
P5	227	C ₁₄ H ₈ O ₃	
P6	459	C ₂₂ H ₂₂ O ₉ N ₂	
P7	341	C ₁₉ H ₁₅ O ₅	

P8	276	$C_{15}H_{14}O_5$	
P9	163	$C_{10}H_{10}O_2$	
P10	114	$C_7H_{14}O$	
P11	129	$C_6H_{10}O_3$	
P12	84	C_5H_8O	

Table S3. The characteristic parameters of tap water, lake water and river water.

Parameter	Unit	Tap water	Lake water	River water
pH	1	6.83	7.21	7.28
NH ₃ -N	mg/L	0.08	0.1	0.08
TN	mg/L	1.16	1.67	2.1
COD	mg/L	2.8	10.4	16.5

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