

## Supplementary information

### **Synergistic regulation of the $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ solvation environment and interface stability by Rhodamine 6G additive in aqueous zinc ion batteries**

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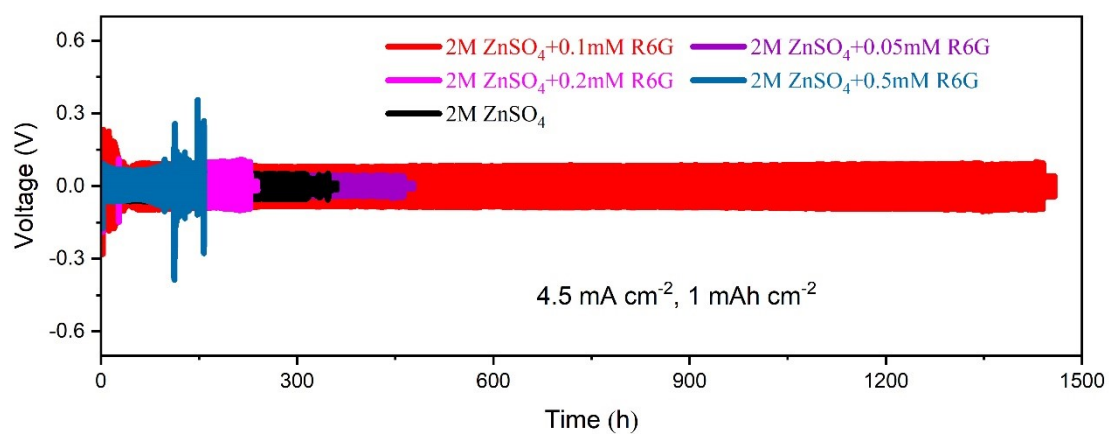


Figure S1. Cycling performance of Zn||Zn symmetric cells in different electrolytes.



Figure S2. Photos of the ZnSO<sub>4</sub>-based electrolytes with R6G additive.

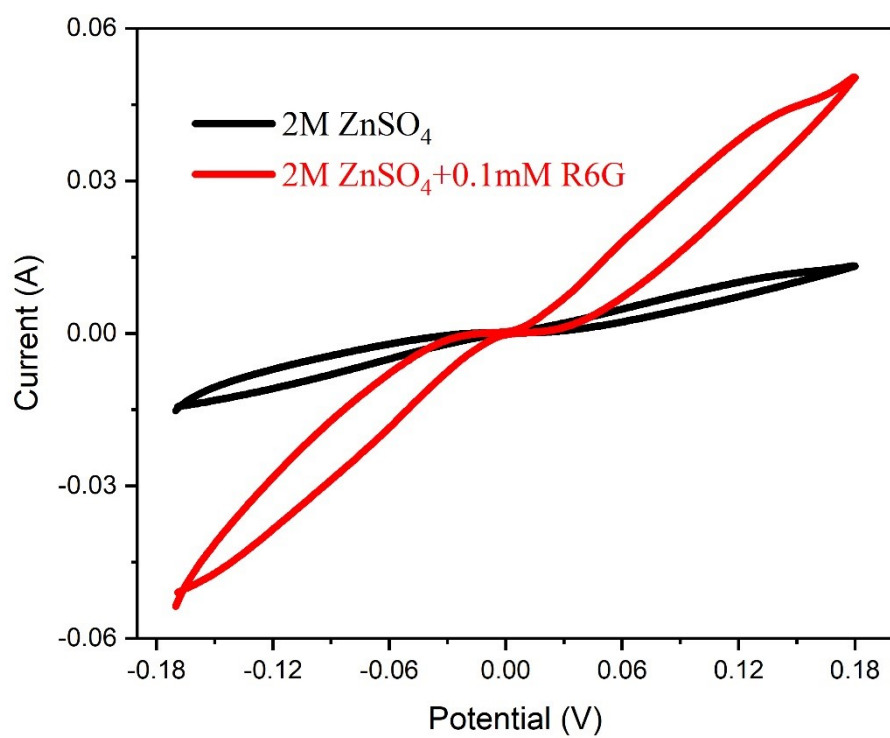


Figure S3. CV curves of zinc symmetric cells in different electrolyte systems.

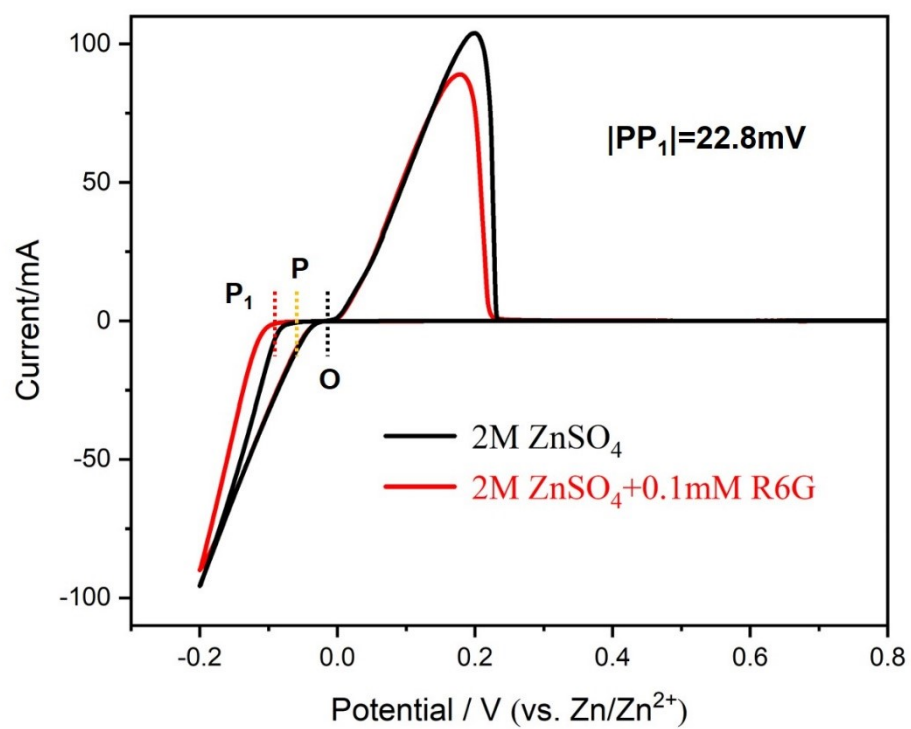


Figure S4. CV curves of Zn||Cu asymmetric cells.

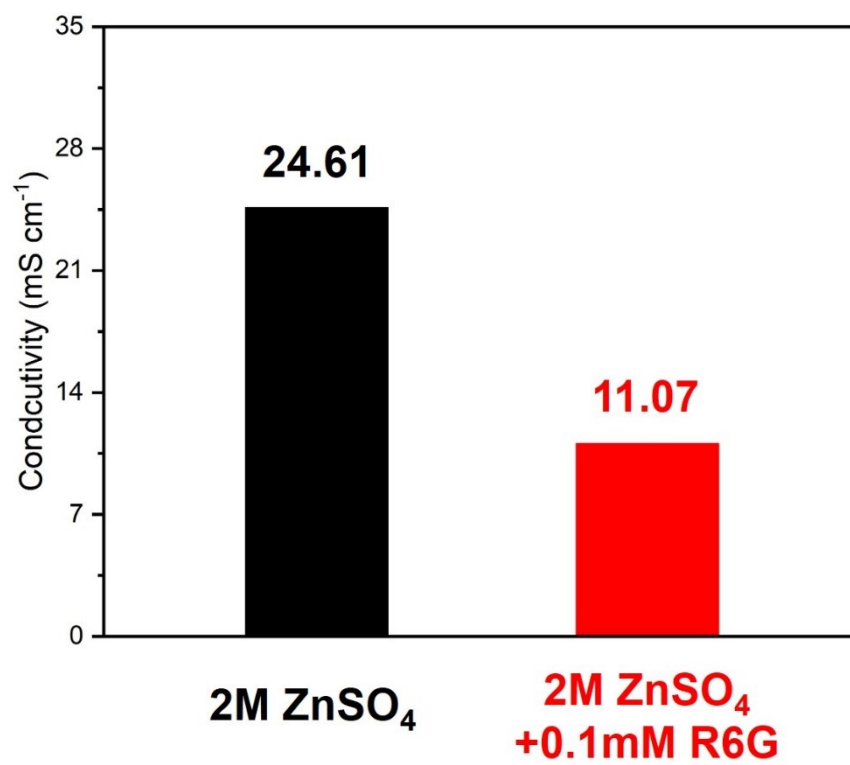


Figure S5. Ionic conductivities of different solutions.

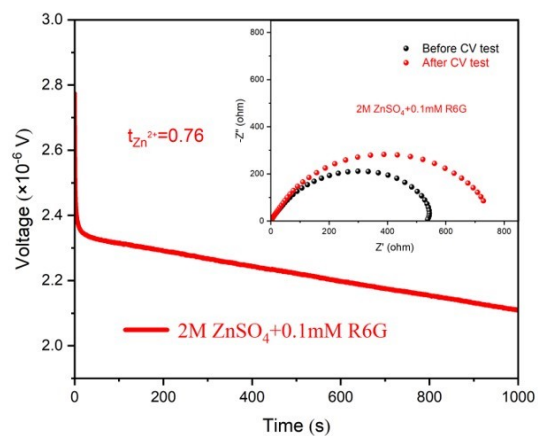
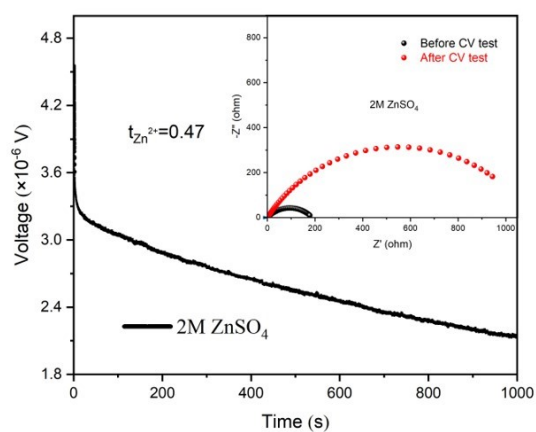
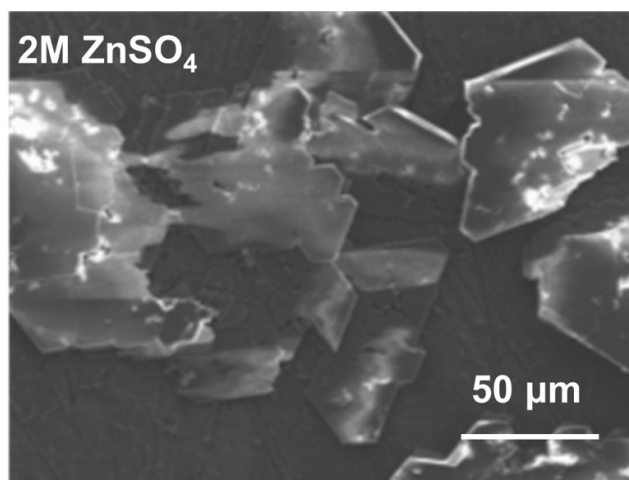


Figure S6. CA curves and corresponding EIS plots before and after cycling: ZnSO<sub>4</sub> and ZnSO<sub>4</sub>-R6G.



| Element | Wt%   |
|---------|-------|
| Zn      | 63.06 |
| O       | 31.28 |
| S       | 5.66  |

Figure S7. SEM image and EDS results on zinc electrode after 50 cycles in 2 M ZnSO<sub>4</sub>.



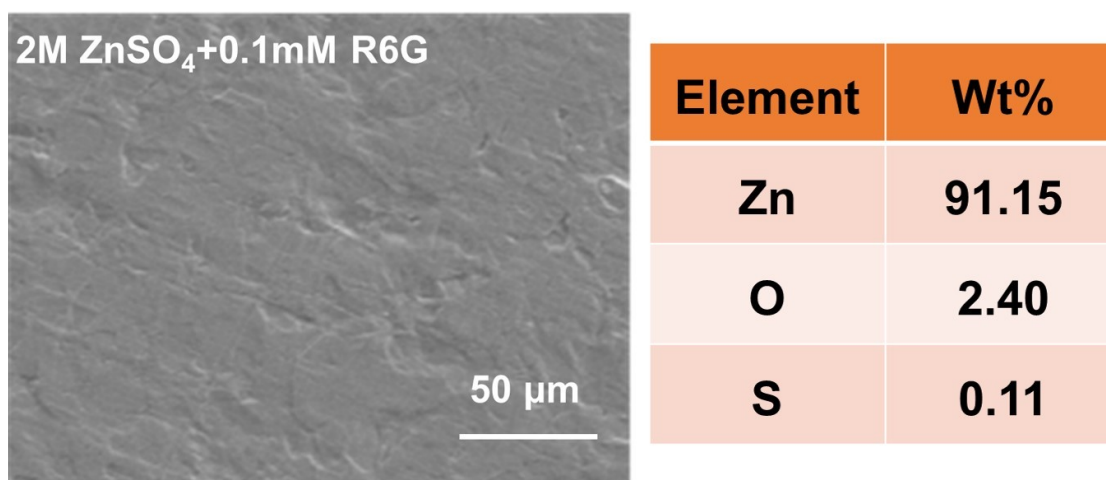
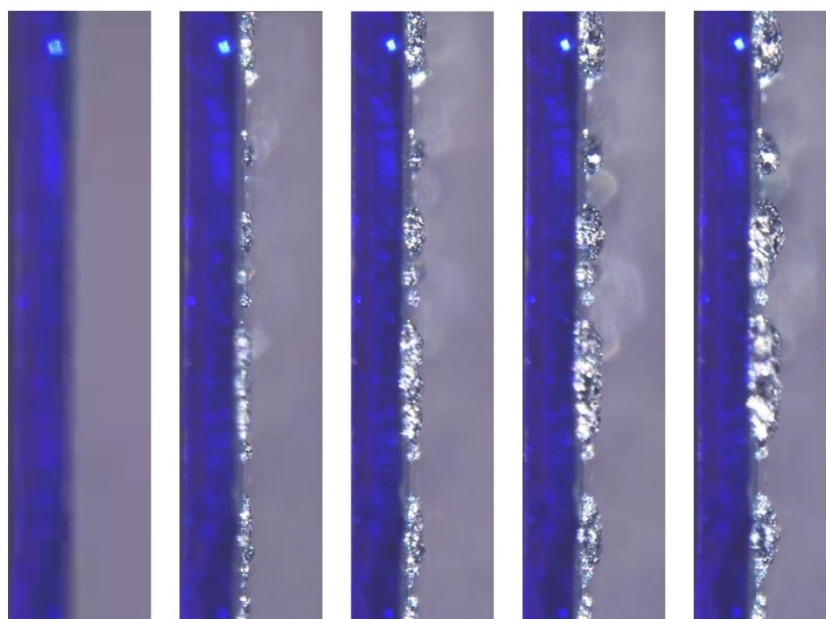


Figure S8. SEM image and EDS results of zinc electrode after 50 cycles in 2 M ZnSO<sub>4</sub>+0.1 mM R6G.

**2M ZnSO<sub>4</sub>**



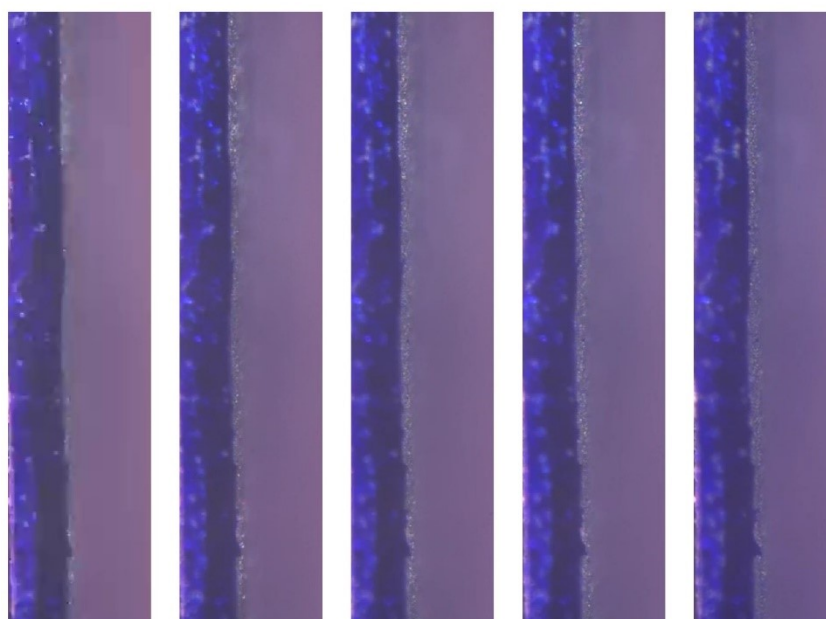
0 min

10 min

20 min

30 min

40 min



**2M ZnSO<sub>4</sub>+ 0.1mM R6G**

Figure S9. In-situ optical microscope images of zinc deposition in ZnSO<sub>4</sub> and ZnSO<sub>4</sub>-R6G electrolyte.

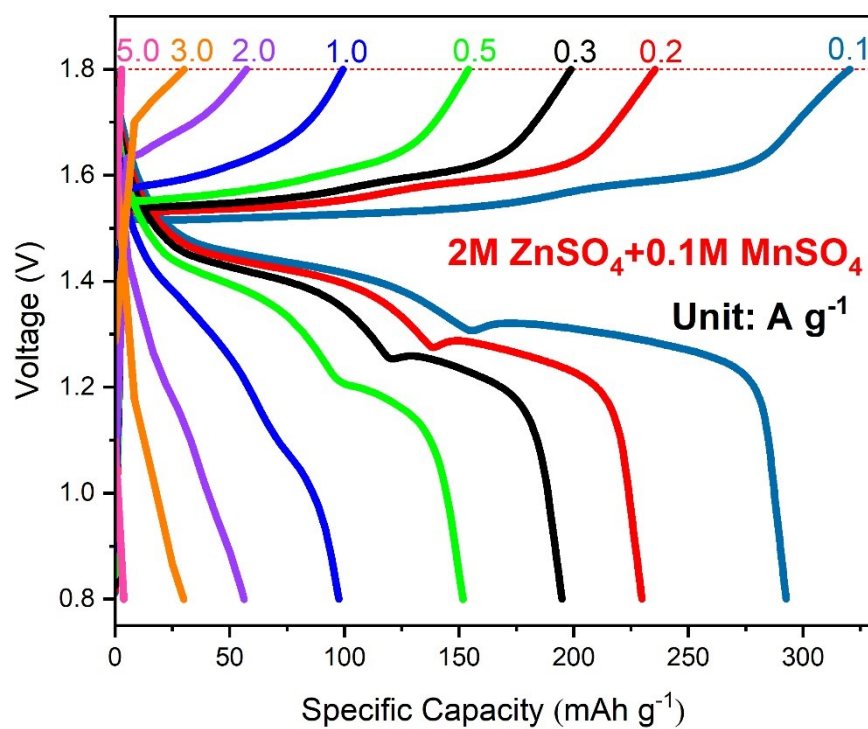


Figure S10. Galvanostatic Charge-Discharge (GCD) curves with 2 M  $\text{ZnSO}_4$  electrolyte at various current densities.

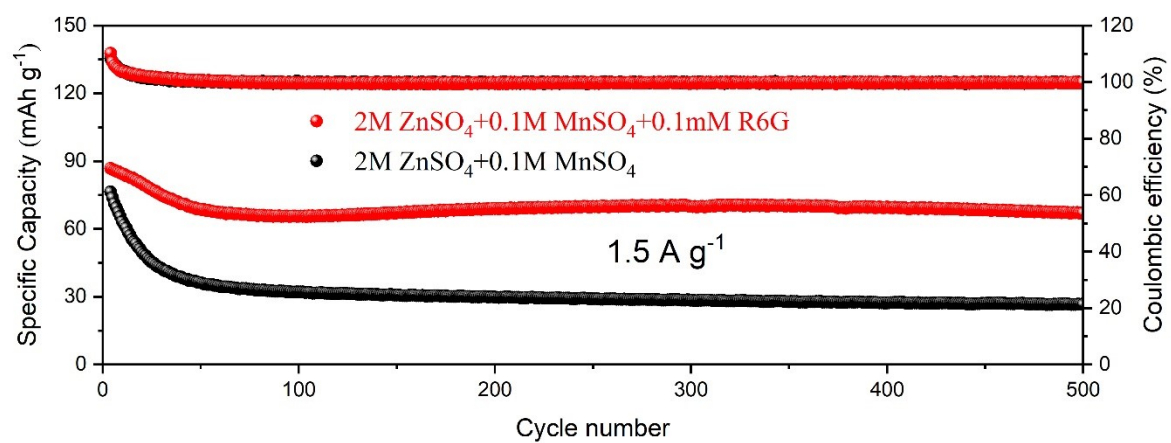


Figure S11. long-term cycling performance at a current density of 1.5 A g<sup>-1</sup>.

Table S1. Comparison of the current density, area capacity and cycle time in recent reports.

| Additive                     | Current Density              | Area Capacity                 | Cycle Time    | Ref.             |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|------------------|
| SC                           | 1 mA/cm <sup>2</sup>         | 1 mAh/cm <sup>2</sup>         | 760 h         | [1]              |
| TG                           | 1 mA/cm <sup>2</sup>         | 0.5 mAh/cm <sup>2</sup>       | 1100 h        | [2]              |
| Ni <sup>2+</sup>             | 1 mA/cm <sup>2</sup>         | 1 mAh/cm <sup>2</sup>         | 900 h         | [3]              |
| SN                           | 1 mA/cm <sup>2</sup>         | 1 mAh/cm <sup>2</sup>         | 877 h         | [4]              |
| ATU                          | 1 mA/cm <sup>2</sup>         | 1 mAh/cm <sup>2</sup>         | 500 h         | [5]              |
| AM                           | 1 mA/cm <sup>2</sup>         | 1 mAh/cm <sup>2</sup>         | 680 h         | [6]              |
| Tp                           | 1 mA/cm <sup>2</sup>         | 1 mAh/cm <sup>2</sup>         | 770 h         | [7]              |
| LAA                          | 1 mA/cm <sup>2</sup>         | 1 mAh/cm <sup>2</sup>         | 1200 h        | [8]              |
| DGME                         | 0.5 mA/cm <sup>2</sup>       | 0.25 mAh/cm <sup>2</sup>      | 3000 h        | [9]              |
| NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> | 1 mA/cm <sup>2</sup>         | 1 mAh/cm <sup>2</sup>         | 1500 h        | [10]             |
| TA-Na                        | 0.5 mA/cm <sup>2</sup>       | 0.25 mAh/cm <sup>2</sup>      | 1500 h        | [11]             |
| HMT                          | 1 mA/cm <sup>2</sup>         | 1 mAh/cm <sup>2</sup>         | 2000 h        | [12]             |
| TG                           | 1 mA/cm <sup>2</sup>         | 0.5 mAh/cm <sup>2</sup>       | 1100 h        | [13]             |
| Na <sub>4</sub> Y            | 1 mA/cm <sup>2</sup>         | 1 mAh/cm <sup>2</sup>         | 1800 h        | [14]             |
| <b>R6G</b>                   | <b>0.5 mA/cm<sup>2</sup></b> | <b>0.5 mAh/cm<sup>2</sup></b> | <b>1410 h</b> | <b>This work</b> |
|                              | <b>1 mA/cm<sup>2</sup></b>   | <b>1 mAh/cm<sup>2</sup></b>   | <b>1175 h</b> |                  |

Table S2. Multidimensional comparison between this work and reported electrolyte additives.

| Electrolyte additive | Current density(A g <sup>-1</sup> ) | Cycles      | Specific capacity(mAh g <sup>-1</sup> ) | Capacity retention rate(%) | Coulomb efficiency(%) | Ref.             |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Lys                  | 5                                   | 1000        | 170                                     | 72                         | 99                    | [15]             |
| Na <sub>3</sub> CA   | 1                                   | 500         | 143                                     | 68.10                      | 95                    | [16]             |
| SDS                  | 5                                   | 4000        | 135.15                                  | 90.1                       | 99.8                  | [17]             |
| Proline              | 3                                   | 2000        | 137.9                                   | 60                         | 99.1                  | [18]             |
| QHKL                 | 1.5                                 | 3000        | 55.4                                    | 50.36                      | 97.98                 | [19]             |
| NADS                 | 5                                   | 13000       | 88                                      | 110                        | 99.87                 | [20]             |
| ICN                  | 1                                   | 800         | 186                                     | 82.2                       | 99.69                 | [21]             |
| NA                   | 0.2                                 | 500         | 240.1                                   | 79.5                       | 99.2                  | [22]             |
| 2,4-DHP              | 5                                   | 1000        | 158                                     | 79                         | 99.2                  | [23]             |
| DMA                  | 1                                   | 800         | 75                                      | 42.9                       | 99.6                  | [24]             |
| MSG                  | 2                                   | 1000        | 183.4                                   | 93.6                       | 99.8                  | [25]             |
| EuCl <sub>3</sub>    | 10                                  | 900         | 138.1                                   | 92.1                       | 99.7                  | [26]             |
| APM                  | 1                                   | 2000        | 105.8                                   | 75.6                       | 99.1                  | [27]             |
| <b>R6G</b>           | <b>1</b>                            | <b>1200</b> | <b>152</b>                              | <b>76.4</b>                | <b>99.7</b>           | <b>This work</b> |

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