

Electronic Supplementary Tables and Figures for:

**Antibiotics detoxification from synthetic and real effluents using a novel  
MTAB surfactant-montmorillonite (organoclay) sorbent**

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Number of pages (including cover sheet) = 9

Number of Supplementary Tables = 4

Number of Supplementary Figures = 7

**Table S1.** The compositions of synthetic effluents containing amoxicillin and ampicillin

Effluents*	Amoxicillin (g)	Ampicillin (g)
A	0.2614	0.0871
B	0.1749	0.1751
C	0.0879	0.2637

\*Volume of the effluents: 1 L

**Table S2.** Textural properties of Na-MMT and O-MMT adsorbents

Adsorbents	$S_{\text{BET}}$ (m <sup>2</sup> /g)	$S_{\text{mic}}$ (m <sup>2</sup> /g)	$S_{\text{ext}}$ (m <sup>2</sup> /g)	$V_{\text{mic}}$ (cm <sup>3</sup> /g)	$V_{\text{ext}}^{\text{a}}$ (cm <sup>3</sup> /g)	$V_{\text{T}}$ (cm <sup>3</sup> /g)
Na-MMT	122.2	46.5	72.2	0.027	0.085	0.112
O-MMT	65.8	17.3	44.9	0.010	0.045	0.055

$$^{\text{a}}V_{\text{ext}} = V_{\text{T}} - V_{\text{mic}}$$

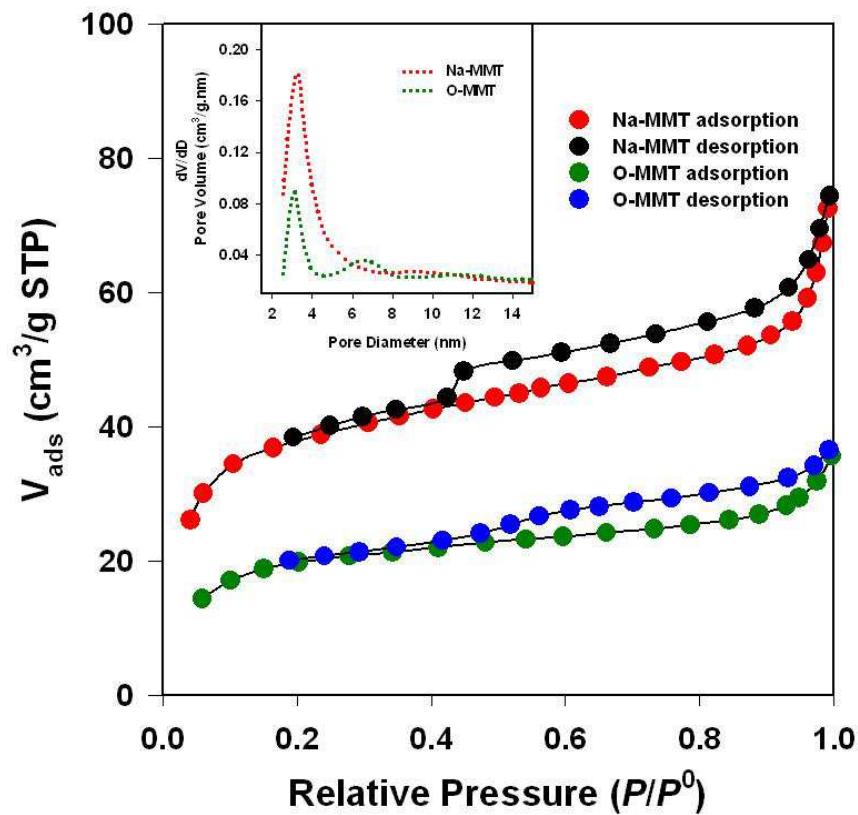
**Table S3.** Elemental contents of Na-MMT and O-MMT adsorbents

Adsorbents	Carbon (wt%)	Nitrogen (wt%)	Carbon/Nitrogen
Na-MMT	-	-	-
O-MMT	12.1	0.83	14.58

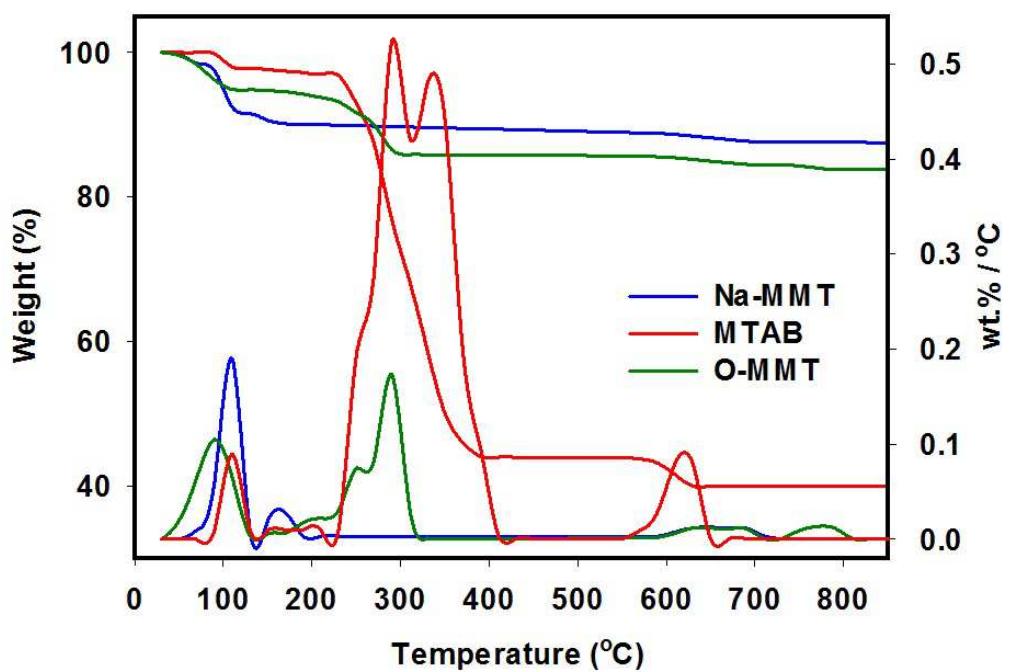
**Table S4.** The compositions of real pharmaceutical effluents

Sampling Point	pH	Concentration (mmol/L)				
		Amoxicillin	Ampicillin	Ciprofloxacin	Chloramphenicol	Cefotaxime
A	5.72	0.17	0.14	$6.44 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.86 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.84 \times 10^{-3}$
B	5.91	0.15	0.09	$6.78 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.64 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.88 \times 10^{-3}$
C	5.85	0.17	0.11	$6.56 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.02 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.82 \times 10^{-3}$
D	6.07	0.16	0.12	$7.05 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.71 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.75 \times 10^{-3}$
E	5.63	0.15	0.09	$6.82 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.92 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.91 \times 10^{-3}$
AVC*		0.16	0.11	$6.73 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.83 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.84 \times 10^{-3}$

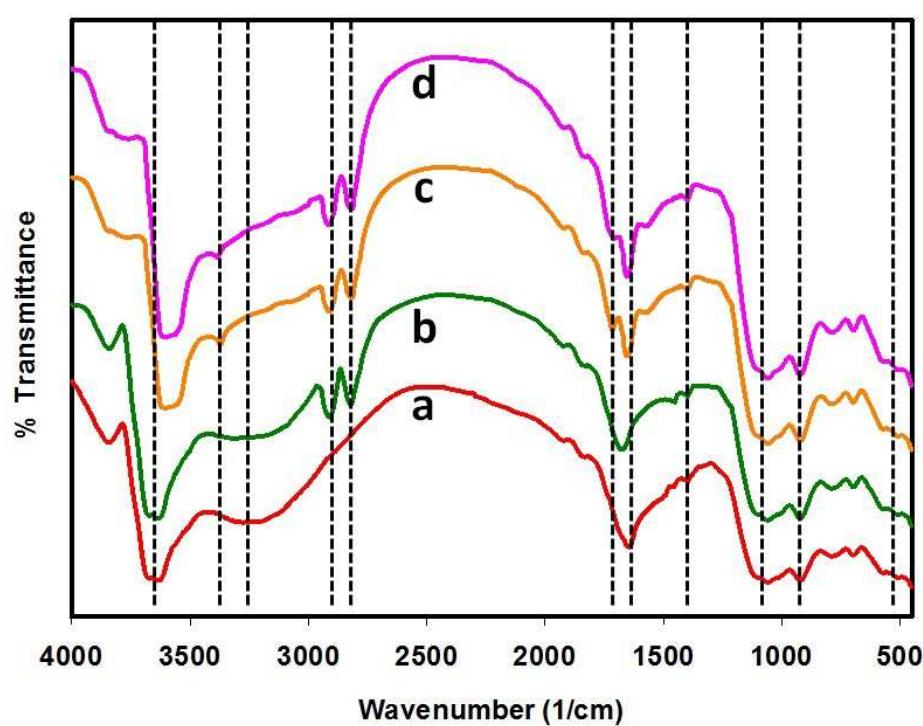
\*AVC = average concentrations of each antibiotic in the effluents



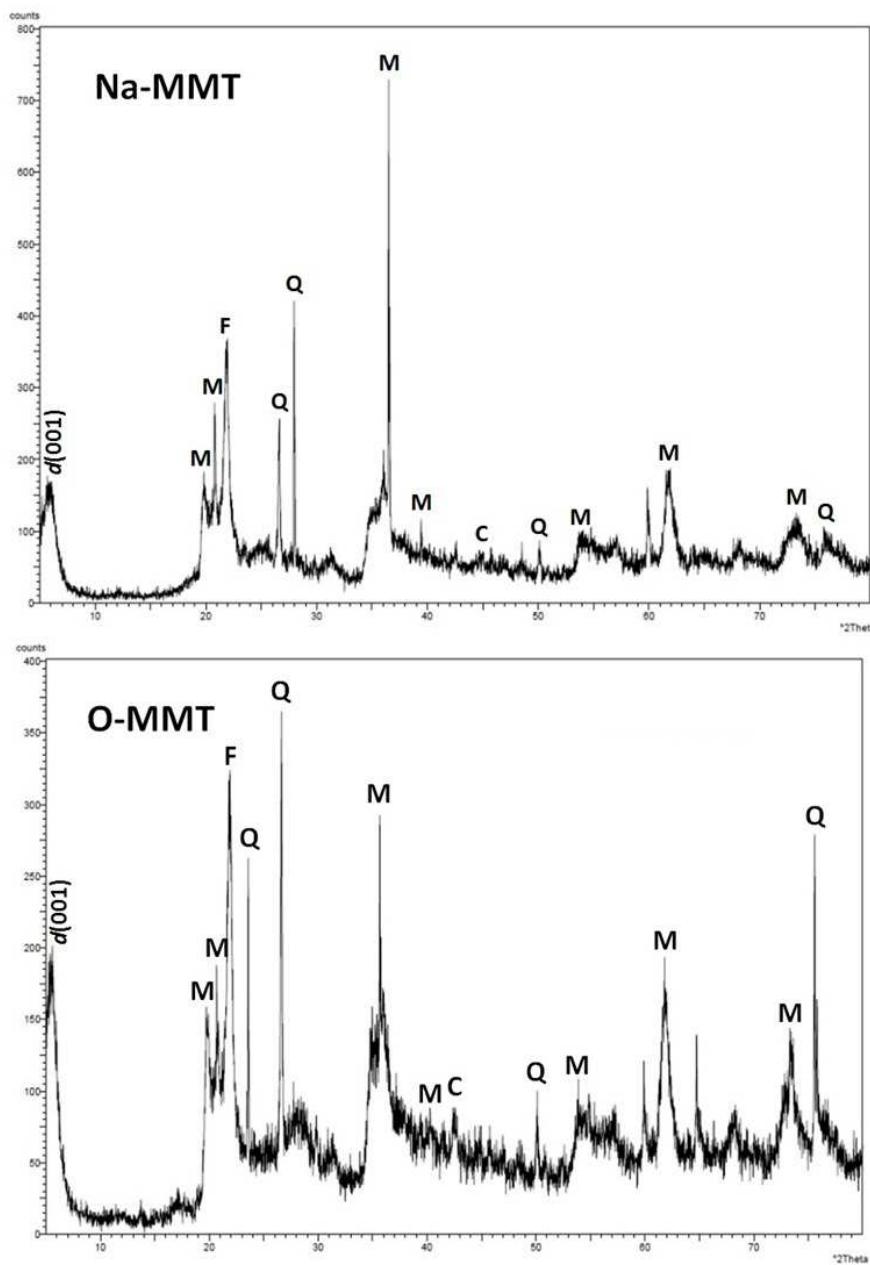
**Figure S1.** Nitrogen adsorption/desorption isotherms of Na-MMT and O-MMT at 77.15 K  
(inset figure is the BJH pore size distribution curves)



**Figure S2.** TG-DTG curves for bare MTAB surfactant, Na-MMT and organically-modified montmorillonite (O-MMT)



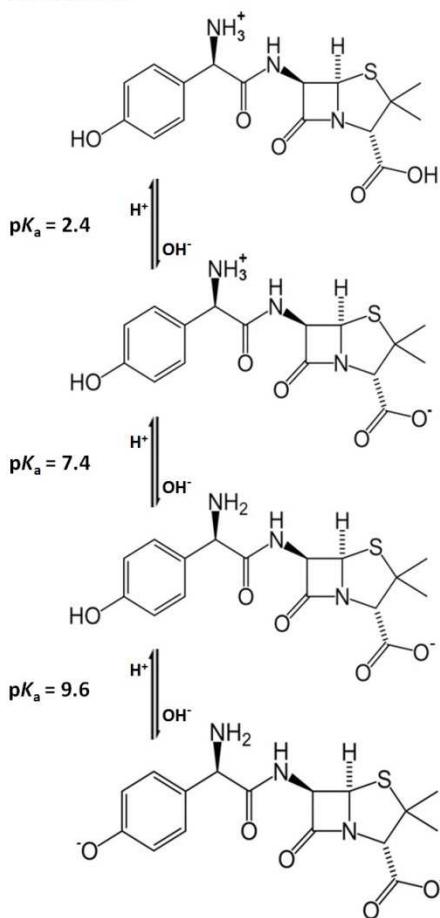
**Figure S3.** FT-IR transmittance spectra of Na-MMT (a), O-MMT (b), O-MMT after antibiotics sorption (c) and O-MMT after desorption by 0.1 M  $\text{CaCl}_2$  solution (d)



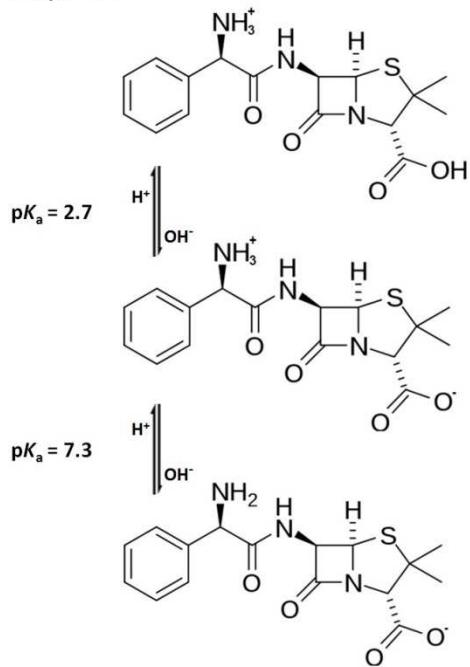
**Figure S4.** X-ray diffraction patterns of Na-MMT and O-MMT

( $d(001)$  – basal spacing; M – montmorillonite; F – feldspars; Q – quartz; C – calcite)

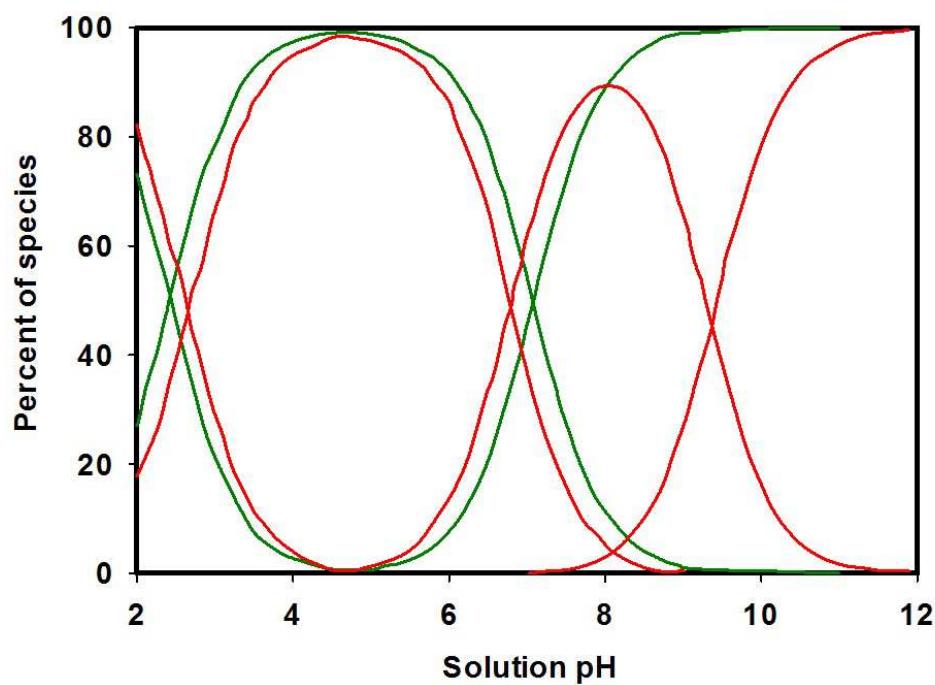
Amoxicillin



Ampicillin

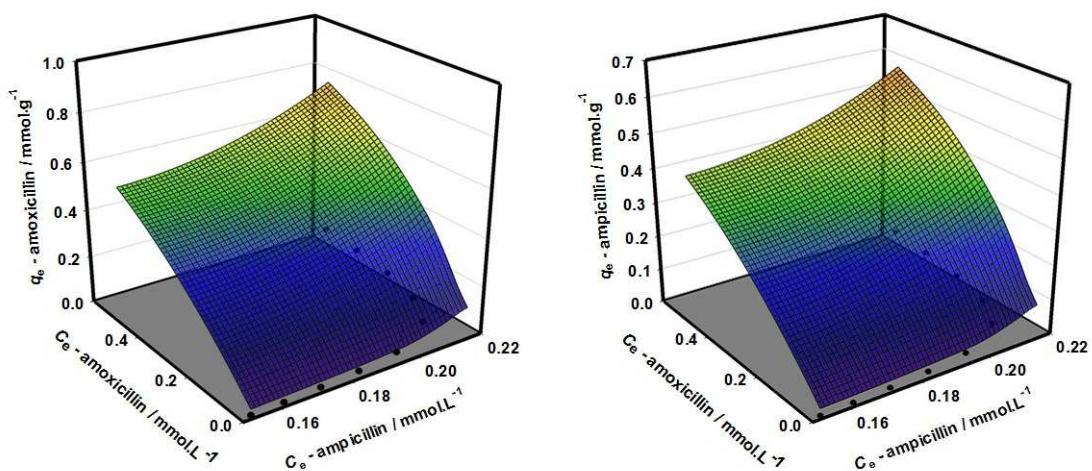


**Figure S5.** Ionic speciations of amoxicillin and ampicillin with variation of solution pHs

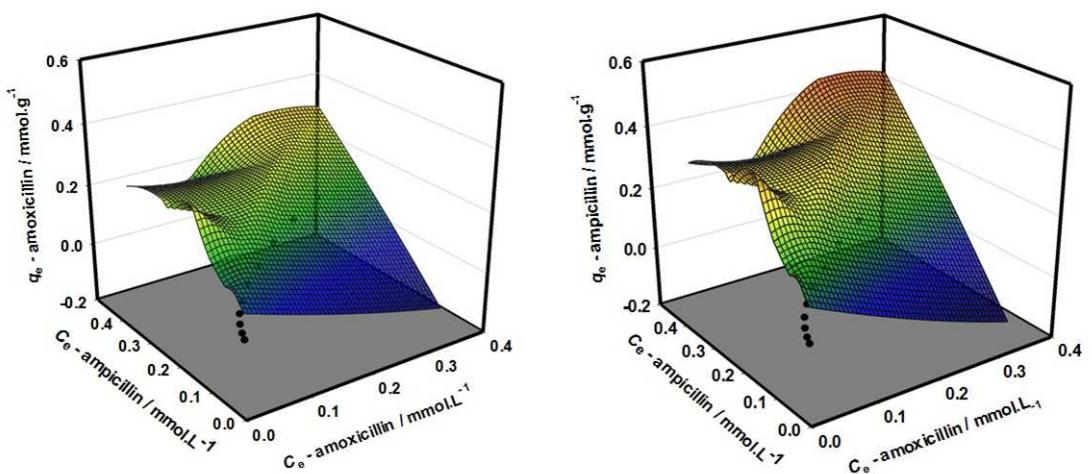


**Figure S6.** Distribution diagrams of amoxicillin and ampicillin species at room temperature (303.15 K) and different solution pHs

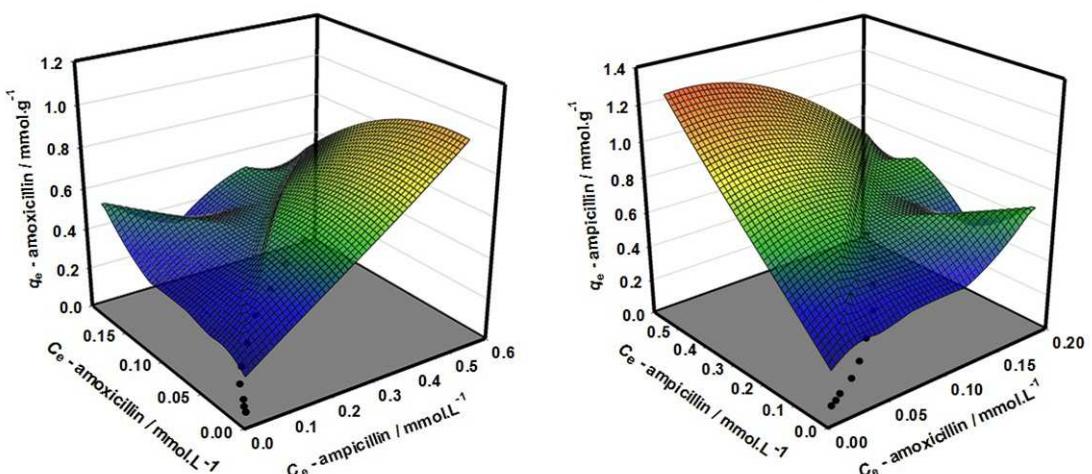
**Effluent A (75 wt.% amoxicillin + 25 wt.% ampicillin)**



**Effluent B (50 wt.% amoxicillin + 50 wt.% ampicillin)**



**Effluent C (25 wt.% amoxicillin + 75 wt.% ampicillin)**



**Figure S7.** Correlation results of binary adsorption equilibrium data of mixtures containing amoxicillin and ampicillin as predicted with the original extended-Langmuir model