## Supplementary data

# The laccase-like reactivity of manganese oxide nanomaterials for pollutant conversion: rate analysis and cyclic voltammetry

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#### Text S1. Synthesis of MnO<sub>x</sub> Materials

The five different crystalline  $MnO_x$  were prepared by typical hydrothermal methods according to previously reported procedures (Pokhrel et al., 2015).

1. Synthesis of  $\alpha$ -MnO<sub>2</sub>. KMnO<sub>4</sub> (1.94 g) and MnSO<sub>4</sub> (0.845 g) were dissolved separately in ten milliliter of H<sub>2</sub>O and then combined in a Teflon-lined autoclave. The solution was heated at 160 °C for 12 hours. The resulting product was centrifuged, decanted and washed with H<sub>2</sub>O to remove unwanted ions. The solid was dried in air.

2. Synthesis of  $\beta$ -MnO<sub>2</sub>. In a typical procedure, MnCl<sub>2</sub> (0.475 g) and KMnO<sub>4</sub> (0.2528 g) were dissolved separately in 10 mL H<sub>2</sub>O. The solutions were mixed together and stirred for 1 hour. The stirred solution was heated in a Teflon-lined autoclave at 180 °C for 48 hours. The resulting solid was washed with H<sub>2</sub>O and dried at 180 °C for 18 hours.

3. Synthesis of  $\gamma$ -MnO<sub>2</sub>. MnSO<sub>4</sub> H<sub>2</sub>O (4.25 g) and KMnO<sub>4</sub> (1.715 g) were ground together until evenly mixed. The mixture was dissolved in 100 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O with stirring and 50 mL of 1 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> was added. The reaction mixture was stirred for 20 hours at room temperature. The solution was centrifuged, decanted and washed once with ethanol and twice with H<sub>2</sub>O. The solid was dried at 70 °C overnight.

4. Synthesis of  $\delta$ -MnO<sub>2</sub>. A 1.4 M aqueous glucose solution was added to a 0.38 M aqueous KMnO<sub>4</sub> solution in a 2:5 ratio, forming a brown gel. Water was periodically drained over 2 hours as the gel underwent syneresis. The gel was then dried at 110 °C for 24 hours followed by calcination at 400 °C for 2 hours. The resulting powder was washed

with  $H_2O$  to remove impurities and dried at 90 °C.

5. Synthesis of  $Mn_3O_4$ . An 80% hydrazine solution (5 mL) was added dropwise to an aqueous solution of 0.2 M KMnO<sub>4</sub> (20 mL), and the solution was stirred at room temperature for 12 hours. The resulting solid was centrifuged, decanted, washed with  $H_2O$ , and dried at 110 °C for 10 hours.

#### **Text S2. Mn(II) determination**

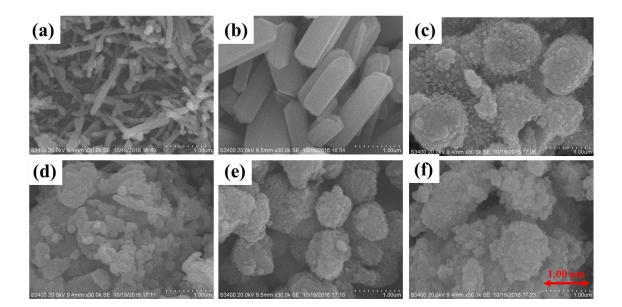
The formaldoxime spectrophotometric method (Morgan, 2005) was used to determine concentrations of Mn<sup>2+</sup>(aq). The study followed a modified procedure as follows: Two mL of the sample suspension was prior pipetted and filtered using the microfilter to remove the manganese oxide particles. Then one mL of filtrate placed into a 15 mL tube for Mn(II) determination. The volume of the tube was adjusted to 6 mL, and the following reagents were added: 1mL of 1 M EDTA solution, 1.2 mL of formaldoxime reagent (stock prepared by dissolving hydroxylamine hydrochloride in MilliQ doubly-distilled water, adding 37% formaldehyde solution, and making to volume), 3 mL of 5 M NaOH, and MilliQ water for a final volume of 15 mL. Standards of 0.1, 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 1.0, and 3.0 ppm Mn are prepared by dilution from a 1000 ppm stock Mn(II) solution. Blanks, standards, and samples are analyzed for absorbance at 450 nm in a Beckman DU 800 spectrophotometer.

# Text S3. HPLC analysis for E2

E2 concentration was quantified using a HPLC (Shimadzu LC 20TA) equipped with a C18 column (25 cm×4.6 mm, 5  $\mu$ m particle, Supelco) and a diode array detector (SPD-M20A) at 40 °C. The flow rate was set at 0.8 mL min<sup>-1</sup>, the injection volume was 20  $\mu$ L, and the gradient was programmed as following: 20 min, 40% ACN; 30 min, 100% ACN; 35 min, 40% ACN.

#### Text S4. HPLC-MS/MS analysis for E2

The intermediates and products of E2 reaction with manganese oxides were identified elaborately using a high resolution hybrid quadrupole time-of-flight mass spectrometer (Triple TOF 5600, AB Sciex, Foster City, CA) equipped with an electrospray ion source. The  $\gamma$ -MnO<sub>2</sub> was selected as the representative nanomaterial for E2 removal in the additional experiment. The samples were taken from the reaction system initially containing 10.0  $\mu$ M E2 and 1mM  $\gamma$ -MnO<sub>2</sub> in 100 mL acetate buffer (pH 4.0, 10 mM) with pH 4.0 after 0.5, 1, 2, 4, and 6 h of reaction, and control samples that didn't contain  $\gamma$ -MnO<sub>2</sub>. The HPLC-MS condition are provided below in detail. A 5  $\mu$ L sample was injected into the source using an Agilent 1260 infinity high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) system. Chromatographic separation was performed on a Thermo BDS Hypersil C<sub>18</sub> column (2.1 mm  $\times$  100 mm, particle size: 2.4 µm; Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, MA) maintained at 30 °C, and the mobile phase consisting of 0.3% formic acid in water (A) and methanol (B) was eluted at a flow rate of 0.2 mL/min. The linear gradient was decreased from 90 % A (2 min) to 10 % A in 1 min, maintained for 23 min, then returned to the starting condition in 1 min, followed by an 8 min equilibration. Mass spectra (m/z 70-1000) were recorded in negative ion mode by using an electrospray ion (ESI) source with the following ion source parameters: ion source gas 1, -55 psi; ion source gas 2, -55 psi; curtain gas, -35 psi; temperature, 550 °C; ionspray voltage floating, -4500 V; declustering potential, -80 V; collision energy, -10 V. Nitrogen gas was used throughout. Following the MS analysis, the individual parent ions of the possible transformation products of E2 were manually selected for MS/MS analysis. A sweeping collision energy setting of  $-30 \pm 10$  V was applied for collision-induced dissociation. The high-resolution LC-MS data were acquired with Analyst TF software (Version 1.6, AB Sciex) and processed using PeakView software (Version 1.2, AB Sciex).



**Fig. S1**. FE-SEM images of MnO<sub>x</sub> nanomaterials (a: α-MnO<sub>2</sub>; b: β-MnO<sub>2</sub>; c: γ-MnO<sub>2</sub>; d: δ-MnO<sub>2</sub>; e: ε-MnO<sub>2</sub>; and f: Mn<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>) (bar 1.00  $\mu$ m).

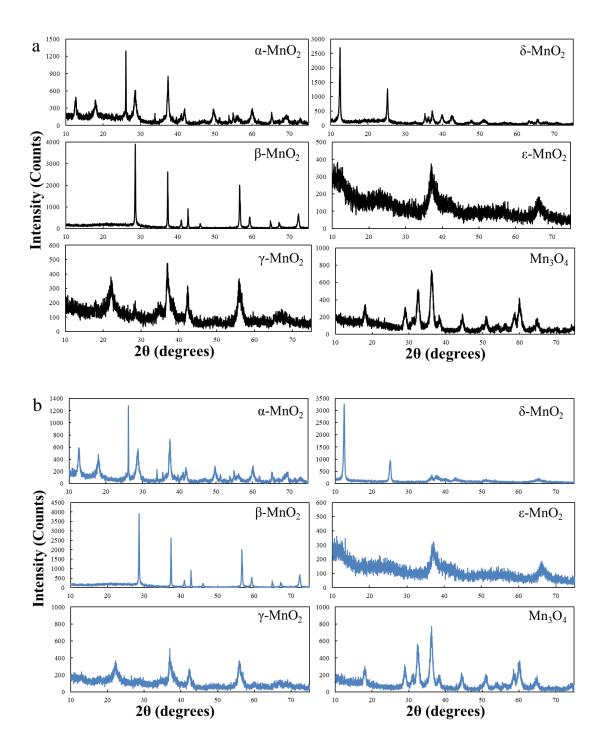
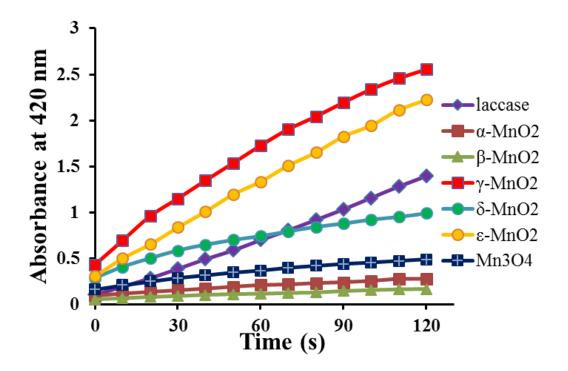
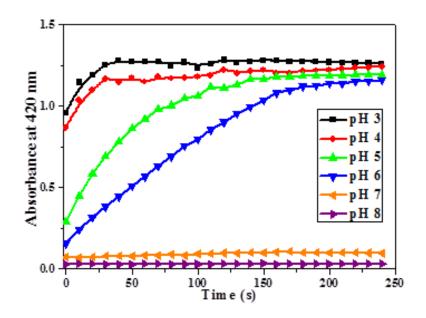


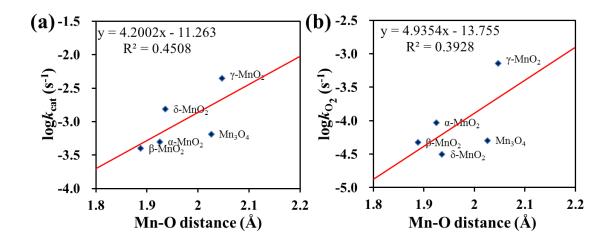
Fig. S2. Powder X-ray diffraction patterns of six  $MnO_x$  nanomaterials (a) before and (b) after oxidation with E2.



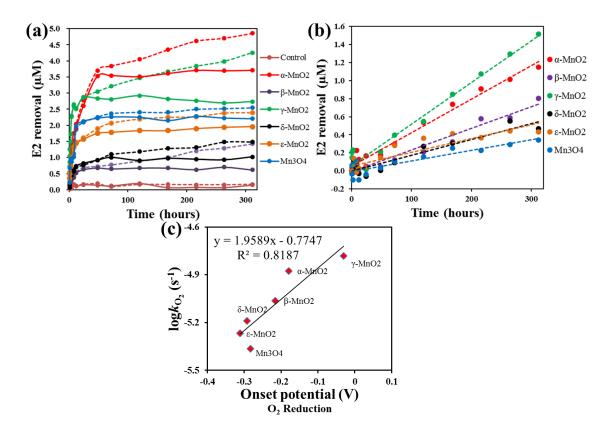
**Fig. S3**. The oxidation of ABTS (2 mM) by laccase (5 mg/mL) and different MnO<sub>x</sub> (5 mg/mL) at pH 6.0. The result shows that the reaction rates of  $\gamma$ -MnO<sub>2</sub> (the red line) and  $\varepsilon$ -MnO<sub>2</sub> (the yellow line) are greater than the natural laccase (the purple line).



**Fig. S4**. The oxidation of ABTS (2 mM) by  $\gamma$ -MnO<sub>2</sub> (336  $\mu$ M) under different pH. The initial reaction rate constant ( $k_{initial}$ ) of ABTS oxidation at different pH is obtained by fitting the data to the pseudo-first-order rate equation ln ( $C_0/C_t$ ) =  $k_{initial}$  t, where  $C_0$  is the initial concentration of ABTS, and  $C_t$  is the residual concentration of ABTS at reaction time t.



**Fig. S5**. (a) The relationship between  $\log k_{cat}$  of ABTS initial reaction and the Mn-O bond length in different MnO<sub>x</sub> nanomaterials. (b) The relationship between  $\log k_{O2}$  of ABTS oxidation and the Mn-O bond length of different MnO<sub>x</sub> nanomaterials.



**Fig. S6**. (a) E2 removal by different MnO<sub>x</sub> in systems with O<sub>2</sub> saturated (21.5 mg/L, dash line) or depleted (0.30 mg/L, solid line). Initial conditions:  $[E2] = 10 \mu M$ ,  $[MnO_x] = 2.0 \mu M$ , pH 4.0. (b) The difference of E2 removal by MnO<sub>x</sub> between the two systems tested in a. (c) The correlation between the log $k_{O2}$  and the onset potential of O<sub>2</sub> reduction by different MnO<sub>x</sub> nanomaterials at pH 4.0.

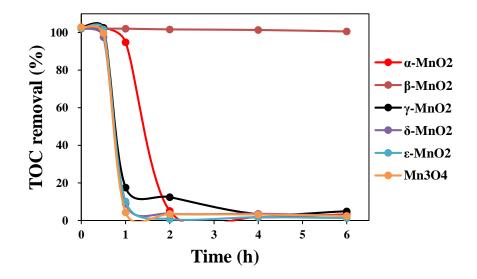


Fig. S7. Removal percentage rate of the TOC vs. reaction time in solution with  $E2_0=10$   $\mu$ M in the presence of six different manganese oxides with 1.0 mM.

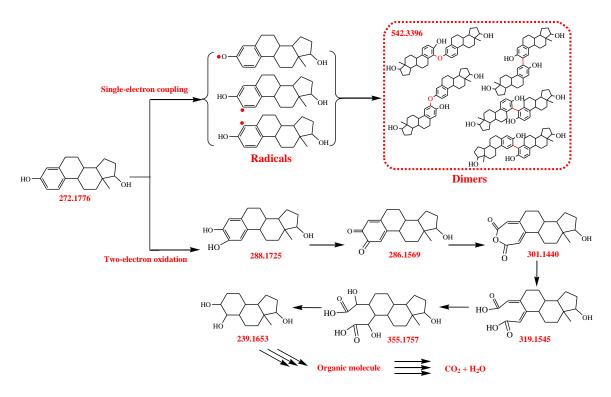


Fig. S8. The product intermediates and two pathways of E2 conversion in the presence of  $\gamma$ -MnO<sub>2</sub>.

Sample	Phase	Experim	Surface area		
		oxidant	reductant	T (°C)	$(m^2/g)$
1	α-MnO <sub>2</sub>	KMnO <sub>4</sub>	MnSO <sub>4</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O	160	34.4
2	β-MnO <sub>2</sub>	KMnO <sub>4</sub>	MnCl <sub>2</sub>	180	56.5
3	γ-MnO <sub>2</sub>	KMnO <sub>4</sub> and H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	MnSO <sub>4</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O	25	167.4
4	δ-MnO <sub>2</sub>	KMnO <sub>4</sub>	glucose	400	32.9
5	ε-MnO <sub>2</sub>	no	Mn(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> 4H <sub>2</sub> O	550	193.9
6	Mn <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	KMnO <sub>4</sub>	80% hydrazine	25	49.3

 Table S1. Manganese oxides nanomaterials obtained under different reaction conditions.

pН	3.0	4.0	5.0	6.0	7.0	8.0
$k_{\text{initial}}(s^{-1})$	$1.42 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.57 \times 10^{-3}$	1.11 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	5.50 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.72 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>	2.66 × 10 <sup>-6</sup>

**Table S2**. Rate constants for the ABTS oxidation by  $\gamma$ -MnO<sub>2</sub> under different pH values.

MnO <sub>x</sub>	Avg. Mn-O distance, Å	References
$\alpha$ -MnO <sub>2</sub>	1.925	(Robinson et al., 2013)
β-MnO <sub>2</sub>	1.888	(Robinson et al., 2013)
γ-MnO <sub>2</sub>	2.047	(Kohler et al., 1997)
δ-MnO <sub>2</sub>	1.936	(Robinson et al., 2013)
ε-MnO <sub>2</sub>	-	-
Mn <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	2.026	(Robinson et al., 2013)

Table S3. The average Mn-O distance in selected structures of manganese oxides.

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