

Supplementary Materials

# Improvement of Manganese Feroxyhyte's Surface Charge with Exchangeable Ca Ions to Maximize Cd and Pb Uptake from Water

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## Text S1: Determination of Manganese Valence

The valence of oxy-hydroxides Mn was chemically determined by the following procedure [1]: Depending on Mn content a sample of 200–400 mg were dissolved in 10 mL of 0.1 M Fe(II) solution and 3 mL of conc. H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> under mild heating. Then, 10 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O and 7 mL of conc. H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> were also added. After cooling at room temperature, 10 mL of 85% H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, 25 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O and 3 drops of indicator (3 wt.% diphenylamine in ethanol) were added and the solution was titrated with the standard solution 0.05 N K<sub>2</sub>CrO<sub>7</sub>. The difference between this titration and the respective blank one was used for the Mn valence calculation, according to the following equations:

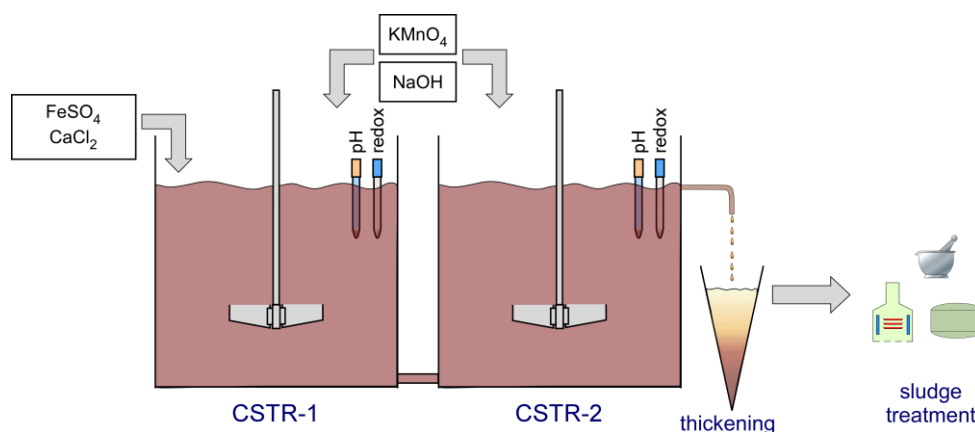
$$\text{meq} = (V_{\text{blank}} - V_{\text{sample}}) \times 0.05 \quad (1)$$

$$\text{meq Mn}^{3+} = m_{\text{Mn}} / \text{MW}_{\text{Mn}} = \% \text{ Mn} \times m_{\text{sample}} / 54.94 \quad (2)$$

$$\text{meq Mn}^{4+} = 2 \times (\% \text{ Mn} \times m_{\text{sample}} / 54.94) \quad (3)$$

$$\text{Mn oxidation state} = 3 + (\text{meq} - \text{meq Mn}^{3+}) / (\text{meq Mn}^{4+} - \text{meq Mn}^{3+})$$

**Ref.:** Jiménez Mateos, J.M.; Macías, M.; Morales, J.; Tirado, J.L. Mn and Co substitution in δ-FeOOH and its decomposition products. *J. Mater. Sci.* **1990**, *25*, 5207–5214.



**Figure S1.** Schematic representation of TMF<sub>x</sub>-Ca preparation using a 2-stage continuous flow reactor.

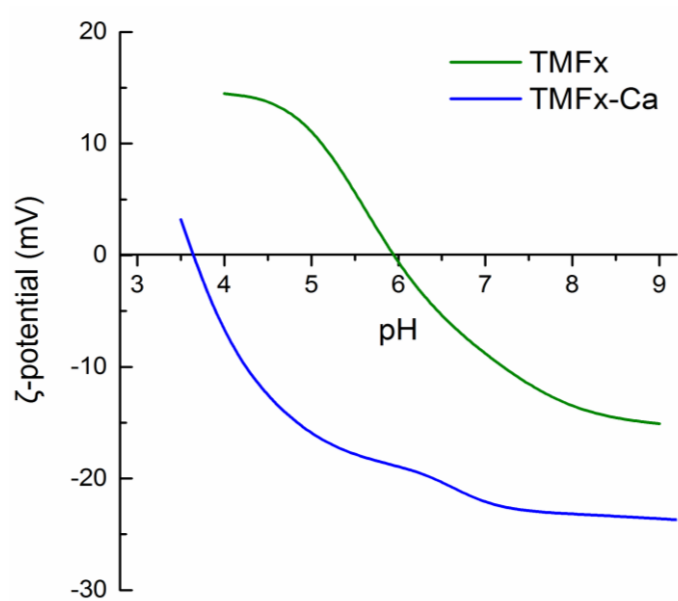


Figure S2.  $\zeta$ -potential curves of TMFx and TMFx-Ca materials.

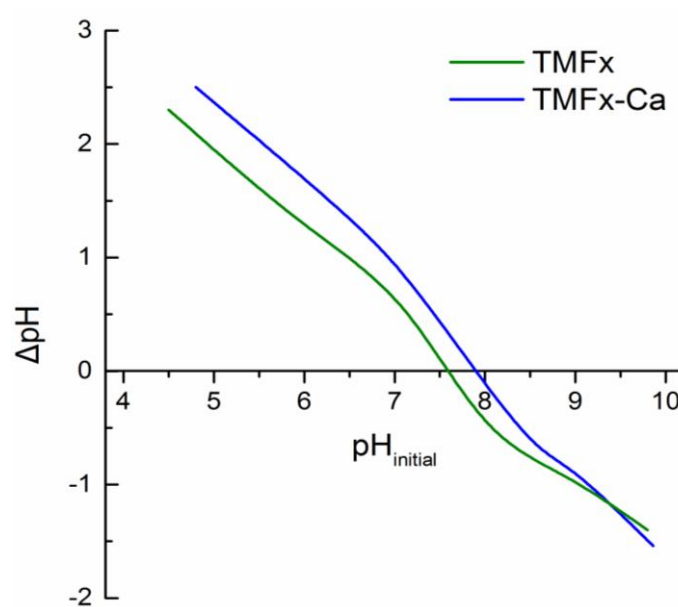
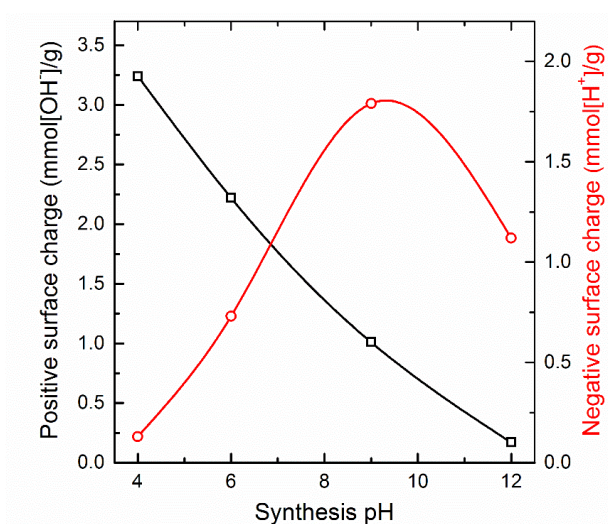
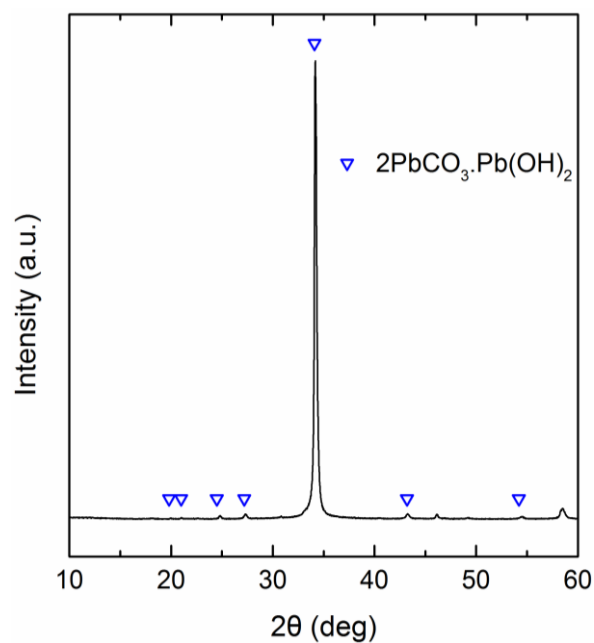


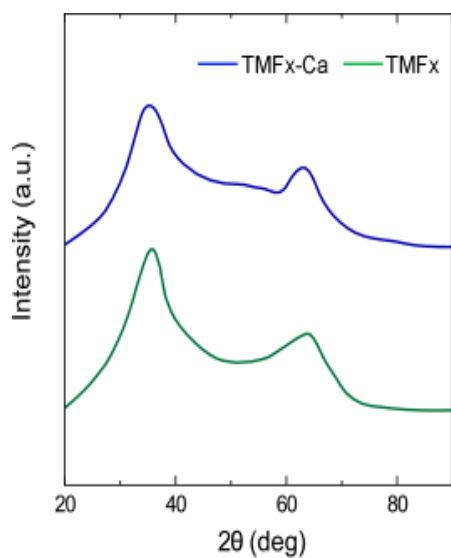
Figure S3. Determination of PZC by potentiometric mass titration curves [18].



**Figure S4.** The surface charge distribution of TMFx material at various synthesis pH values.



**Figure S5.** XRD diagram of the Pb precipitate and diffraction angles (triangles), according to ICDD/JCPDS database PDF#01-0687 [21].



**Figure S6.** The XRD diagrams of saturated TMFx and TMFx-Ca sorbent materials (i.e., after adsorption). It is noted that the examined metals (i.e., Cd and Pb) have not provoked any significant variation in the spectra of saturated adsorbents.