



1 Supplementary Information

Removal of CuO Nanoparticles from water by 2

Conventional Treatment C/F/S: Effects of pH and 3

Natural Organic Matter 4

5 Rizwan Khan¹, Muhammad Ali Inam¹, Du Ri Park¹, Sarfaraz Khan², Muhammad Akram³ and Ick 6 Tae Yeom^{1,*}

- 7 ¹ Graduate School of Water Resources, Sungkyunkwan University (SKKU) 2066, Suwon 16419, Korea; 8 rizwankhan@skku.edu (R.K.); aliinam@skku.edu (M.A.I.); enfl8709@skku.edu (D.R.P.)
- 9 2 Key Laboratory of the Three Gorges Reservoir Region Eco-Environment, State Ministry of Education, 10 Chongqing University, Chongqing 400045, China; Sfk.jadoon@yahoo.com (S.K.)
- 11 3 Shandong Key Laboratory of Water Pollution Control and Resource Reuse, School of Environmental 12 Science and Engineering, Shandong University, Qingdao 266200, China; 13 m.akramsathio@mail.sdu.edu.cn (M.A.)
- 14 * Correspondence: yeom@skku.edu; Tel.: +82-31-299-6699
- 15 Received: date; Accepted: date; Published: date

16

17 2. Materials and Methods

18 19 The removal efficiency of CuO NPs was determined according to the following equation. 20 $\alpha = \frac{T_i - T_f}{T_i}$ 21 22 23 Where α is the removal efficiency; T_i and T_f is the initial and final turbidity of solution (NTU). 24

25 3. Results and Discussions

26

Table S1. Physicochemical properties of CuO NPs used in the current study.

27

Parameter	Unit	Value	
Density	g/cm ³	6.372	
Vendor-reported size	nm	<50	
TEM particle size measured (n=20)	particle size measured (n=20) nm		
DLS HDD measured in DI water (n=10)	nm	281±27	
BET specific surface area measured (n=3)	m²/g	29 ± 3	
pH _{iep}	-	8.6	
Zeta potential in DI water $(pH = 7)$	(mV)	$+21.3\pm1.6$	
Purity by ICP-MS	wt %	98.81	
Moisture content by TGA	wt %	1.15	

28 29

30

31

32



Figure S1. (A) Effects of sonication time (5-30 min) and power (100-600 W) on the dispersion stability of CuO NPs stock (100 mg/L) in DI water; **(B)** Size distribution by the intensity of CuO NPs in DI water after 30 min sonication with ultrasonic power of 400 W;



Figure S2. (A) Removal efficiency of CuO NPs (10 mg/L) under control condition at various pH values; **(B)** speciation of Fe(III) as a function of solution pH.

	7.0			7.0	
	HA			SA	
0	10	20	0	10	20
$6.90\pm$	$6.82\pm$	$6.61\pm$	$6.90\pm$	$6.93\pm$	$8.26\pm$
0.10	0.05	0.08	0.10	0.07	0.08
0.701± 0.01	0.912± 0.01	$\begin{array}{c} 1.787 \pm \\ 0.02 \end{array}$	0.701± 0.013	0.819± 0.02	1.140 ± 0.01
	$0 \\ 6.90 \pm \\ 0.10 \\ 0.701 \pm \\ 0.01$	$\begin{array}{c c} & \textbf{7.0} \\ & \textbf{HA} \\ 0 & 10 \\ \hline 6.90 \pm & 6.82 \pm \\ 0.10 & 0.05 \\ \hline 0.701 \pm & 0.912 \pm \\ 0.01 & 0.01 \end{array}$	7.0 HA 0 10 20 $6.90 \pm$ $6.82 \pm$ $6.61 \pm$ 0.10 0.05 0.08 0.701 \pm $0.912 \pm$ $1.787 \pm$ 0.01 0.01 0.02	7.0HA010200 $6.90 \pm$ $6.82 \pm$ $6.61 \pm$ $6.90 \pm$ 0.10 0.050.080.10 $0.701 \pm$ $0.912 \pm$ $1.787 \pm$ $0.701 \pm$ 0.01 0.010.020.013	7.07.0HASA01020010 $6.90 \pm$ $6.82 \pm$ $6.61 \pm$ $6.90 \pm$ $6.93 \pm$ 0.10 0.050.080.100.07 $0.701 \pm$ $0.912 \pm$ $1.787 \pm$ $0.701 \pm$ $0.819 \pm$ 0.01 0.010.020.0130.02

Table.S2. Dissolution of CuO NPs and the change of suspension pH