

## Supporting Information

# Dust-Catalyzed Oxidative Polymerization of Catechol and its Impacts on Ice Nucleation Efficiency and Optical Properties

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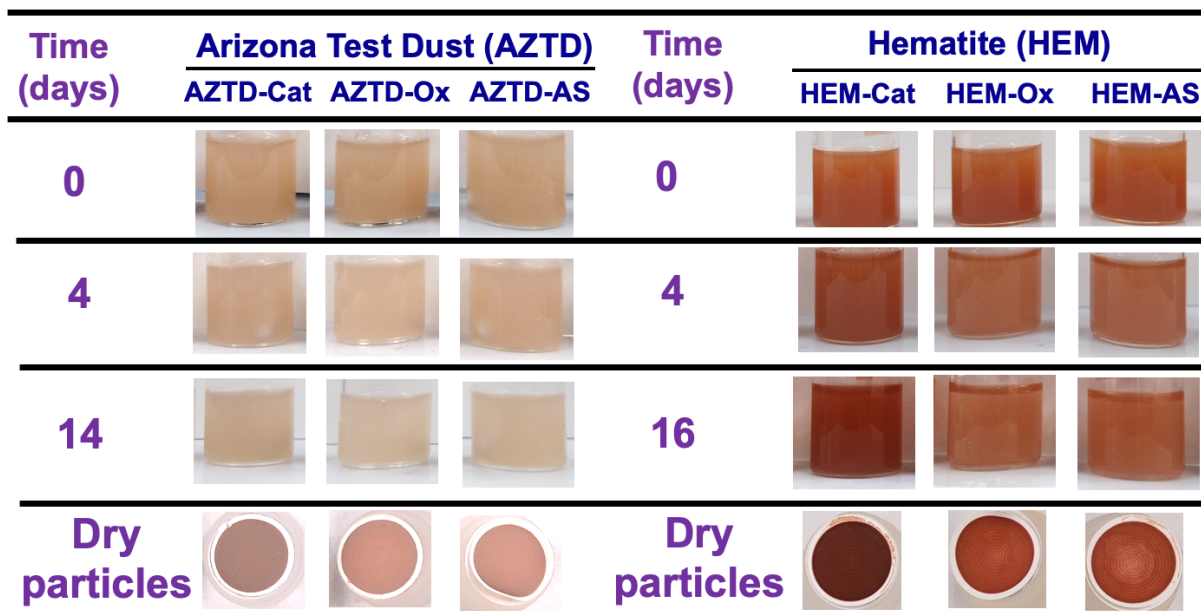
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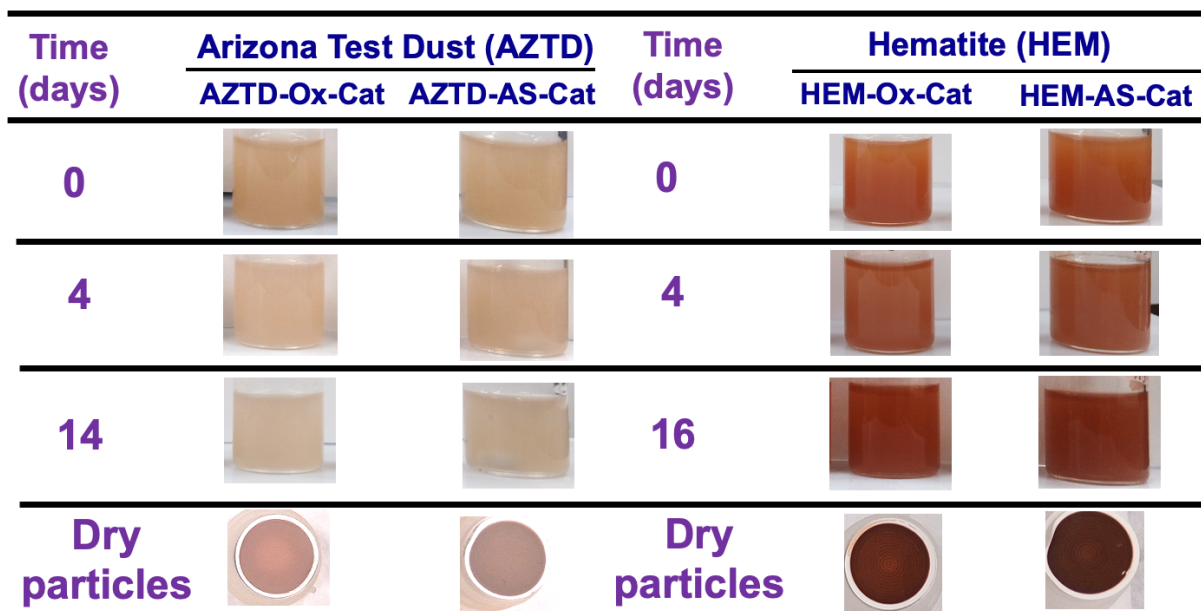
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Supplementary Data (9 pages)

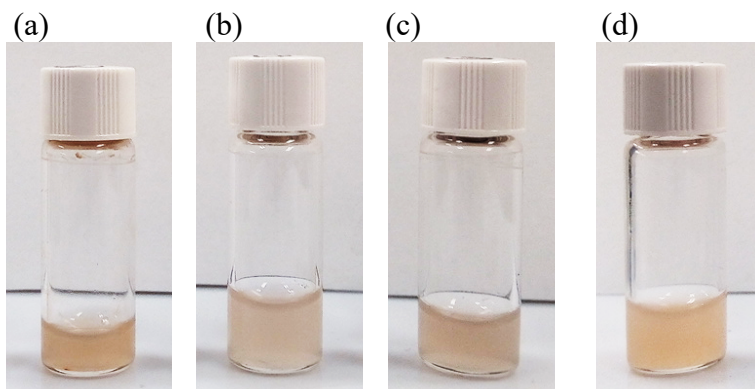
|                  |    |
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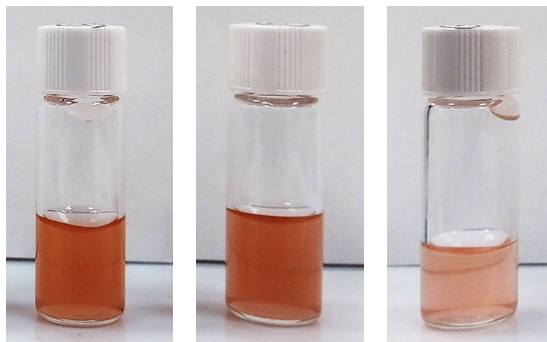
**Figure S1.** Selected photos of AZTD ( $1 \text{ g L}^{-1}$ ) and hematite ( $0.3 \text{ g L}^{-1}$ ) slurries as a function of reaction time with catechol (Cat), oxalic acid (Ox) and ammonium sulfate (AS) at pH 1 in the dark. Concentration of ligands in the dust slurries is  $1 \text{ mM}$  and in the hematite slurries is  $100 \text{ }\mu\text{M}$ . Also shown are filters loaded with the dry particles.



**Figure S2.** Selected photos of ATD ( $1 \text{ g L}^{-1}$ ) and hematite ( $0.3 \text{ g L}^{-1}$ ) slurries as a function of reaction time in solutions containing catechol (Cat)/oxalic acid (Ox), and Cat/ammonium sulfate (AS) at pH 1 in the dark. Concentration of ligands in the dust slurries is  $1 \text{ mM}$  and in the hematite slurries is  $100 \text{ }\mu\text{M}$ . Also shown are filters containing the dry particles.

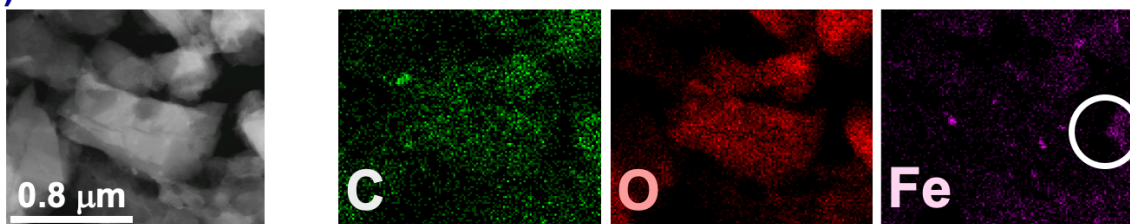


**Figure S3.** AZTD slurries at pH 1 containing (left to right): (a) Cat, (b) Cat and Ox, (c) Cat and AS, and (d) no Cat or Ox or AS used for STEM images and elemental mapping shown in Figures 3 and S5.

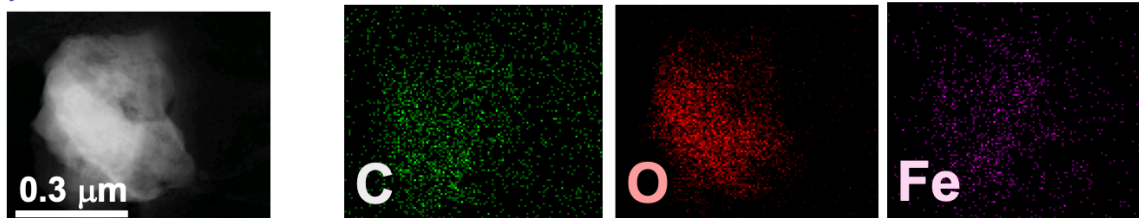


**Figure S4.** HEM slurries at pH 1 containing left to right: (a) Cat and Ox, (b) Cat and AS, and (c) no Cat or Ox or AS used for STEM images and elemental mapping shown in Figure 4.

**(a) AZTD-Ox-Cat**

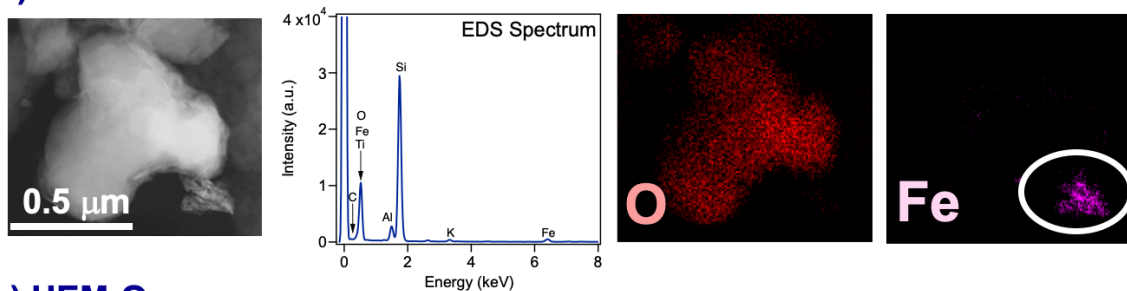


**(b) AZTD-AS-Cat**

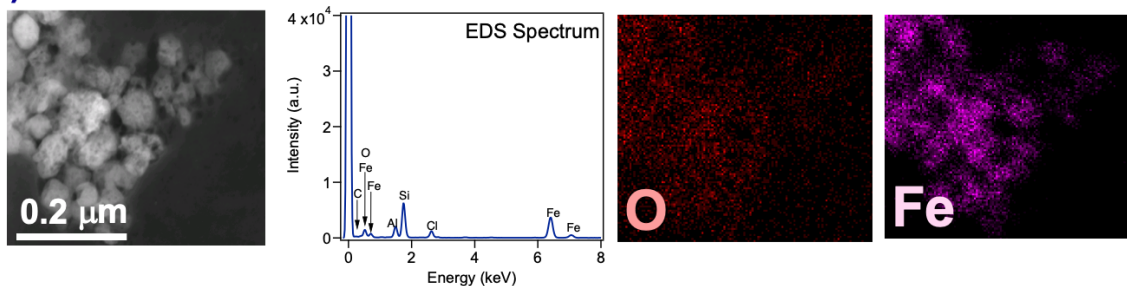


**Figure S5.** Representative STEM images and elemental mapping of AZTD particles with polycatechol in the presence of oxalate and ammonium sulfate. Slurries used for the images are shown in Figure S3.

**(a) AZTD-Ox**



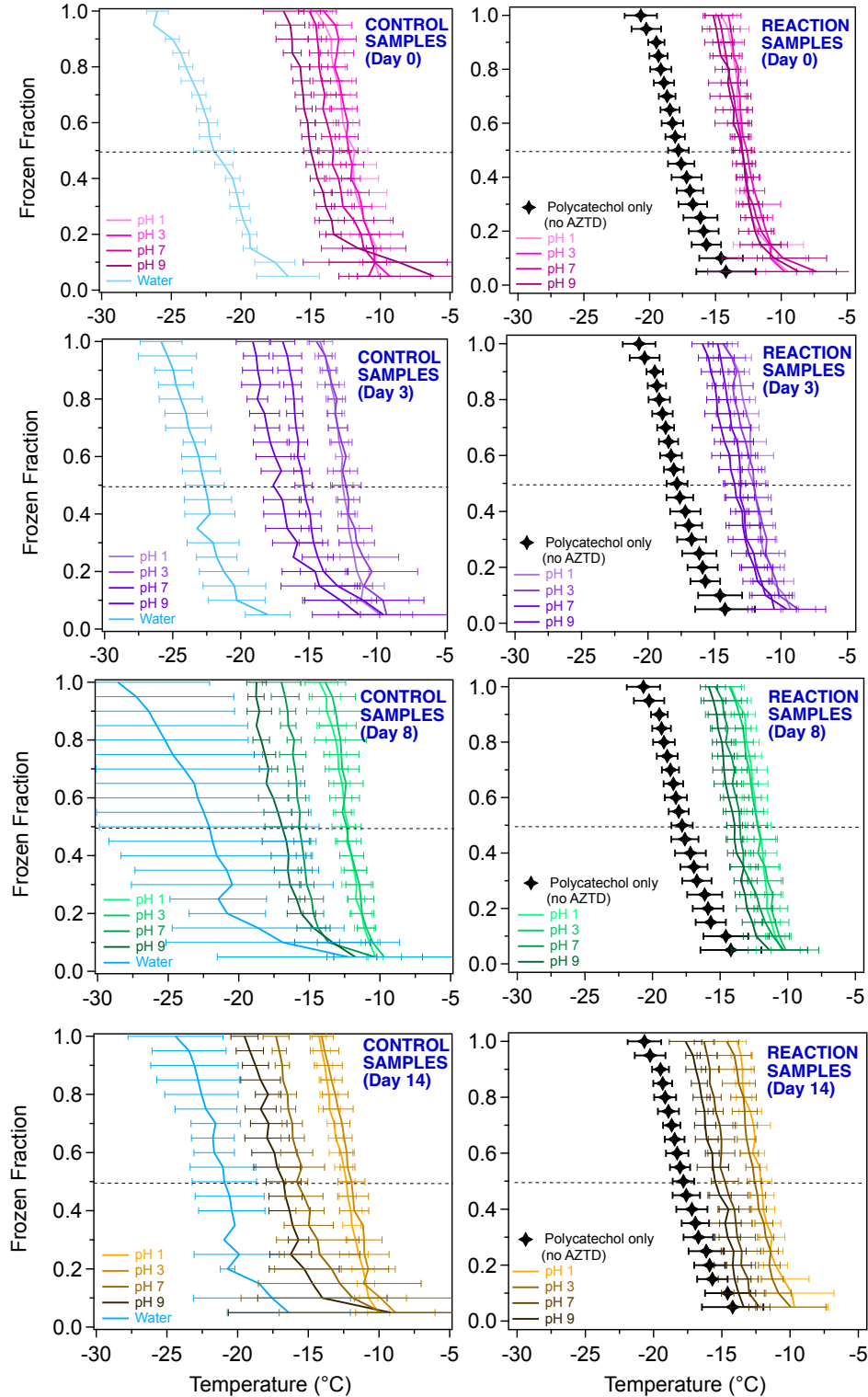
**(b) HEM-Ox**



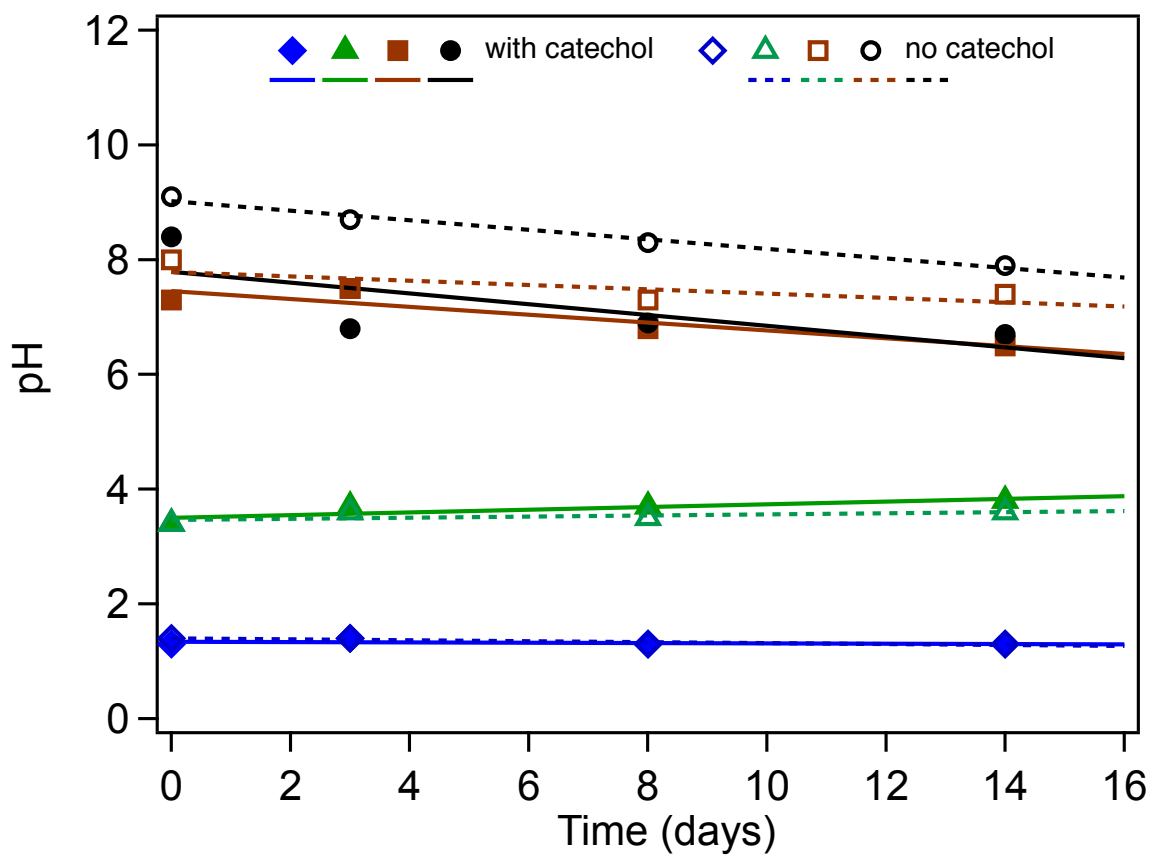
**Figure S6.** Representative STEM images and EDS spectra of (a) AZTD and (b) HEM particles reacted with oxalate only (no catechol). There is no carbon signal in the EDS spectra. Hence, no elemental map for carbon was generated.

**Table S1:** Results of EDS elemental analysis expressed as atomic% for the STEM images of AZTD and HEM nanoparticles. The x-ray elemental analysis is based on the intensity originating from the Ka1 shell.

| <b>Sample</b>                   | <b>Fe_Ka1</b> | <b>O_Ka1</b> | <b>C_Ka1</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|---------------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Figure 2a – AZTD-Cat            | 3.7           | 91.8         | 4.5          | 100          |
| Figure 2b – AZTD only (control) | 4.5           | 95.5         | -            | 100          |
| Figure S5a – AZTD-Ox-Cat        | 1.5           | 96.6         | 1.9          | 100          |
| Figure S5b – AZTD-AS-Cat        | 1.5           | 96.1         | 2.4          | 100          |
| Figure 3a – HEM-Ox-Cat          | 36.6          | 59.3         | 4.1          | 100          |
| Figure 3b – HEM-AS-Cat          | 44.6          | 51.2         | 4.2          | 100          |
| Figure 3c – HEM only (control)  | 35.4          | 64.6         | -            | 100          |



**Figure S7:** Fraction of droplets frozen containing known concentrations of AZTD particles as a function of pH and simulated atmospheric aging time. The samples were taken from the vials shown in Figure 1. For comparison, similar data for water droplets and those containing known concentration of polycatechol only (no AZTD) are also shown. The dashed line marks 50% of the frozen fraction at a given freezing temperature ( $T_{50}$ ). Error bars in  $T_{50}$  represent propagated  $\pm 2\sigma$ . See section 2.5 for surface area of AZTD in these experiments.



**Figure S8:** Variation of pH in the AZTD vials shown in Figure S6 with catechol, and control (no catechol), as a function of simulated atmospheric aging time.

**Table S2:** Point of zero charge ( $\text{pH}_{\text{PZC}}$ ) of minerals in AZTD

| <b>Mineral</b> | <b>PZC</b>                        | <b>Reference</b> |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Muscovite      | 5.8-6.8                           | 1                |
| Quartz         | < 3                               | 2,3              |
| Albite         | < 2                               | 4                |
| Kaolinite      | 5.5-6 and < 2 depending on source | 2                |
| Sanidine       | < 1                               | 1                |
| Calcite        | $\leq 9.5$ depending on source    | 1                |



## References:

- (1) Kosmulski, M., *Surface charging and points of zero charge*. CRC Press: Boca Raton, FL, 2009; Vol. 145.
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- (3) Kosmulski, M., Isoelectric points and points of zero charge of metal (hydr)oxides: 50 years after Parks' review. *Adv. Coll. Inter. Sci.* **2016**, *238*, 1-61.
- (4) Kursun, I., Determination of flocculation and adsorption-desorption characteristics of Na-feldspar concentrate in the presence of different polymers. *Physicochem. Probl. Miner. Process.* **2010**, *44*, 127-142.