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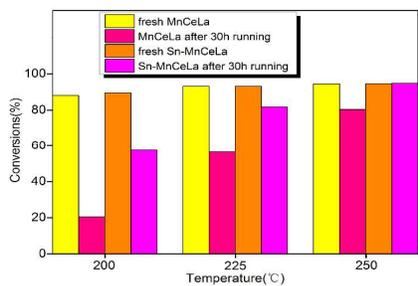
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Table of contents entry



The Sn-Modified MnCeLa catalysts show significantly higher resistance to chlorine poisoning than that of MnCeLa catalysts at different temperatures.

1 **Enhancement of resistance to chlorine poisoning of Sn-modified**
2 **MnCeLa catalysts for chlorobenzene oxidation at low temperature**

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Abstract

1
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3 In this article, MnCeLa and Sn-MnCeLa mixed oxide catalysts prepared by sol-gel and
4 coprecipitation method were evaluated for the catalytic combustion of chlorobenzene (CB), which
5 was employed as a model compound for volatile organic chlorinated aromatics. The activity tests
6 revealed that both catalysts presented an excellent activity in catalytic destruction of CB showing
7 90% conversion below 210 °C. A considerably higher stability was observed for the Sn-MnCeLa
8 catalyst compared with MnCeLa sample, indicating that the catalytic stability of MnCeLa catalyst
9 for chlorobenzene oxidation could be significantly enhanced via the introduction of Sn. X-ray
10 photoelectron Spectroscopy (XPS) demonstrated that Sn modification can increase the
11 concentration of surface reactive oxygen species, which is critical to remove Cl species.
12 Additionally, Raman and hydrogen temperature programmed reduction (H₂-TPR) showed that the
13 addition of Sn inhibited the formation of MnO_xCl_y on the active sites of MnCeLa catalyst. These
14 two aspects are responsible for the remarkably improved resistance to chlorine poisoning of
15 Sn-Modified MnCeLa catalyst.
16 **Key words:** Sn; MnCeLa; Chlorobenzene; Chlorine removal; Catalytic combustion

1 1. Introduction

2 Chlorinated volatile organic compounds (CVOCs), due to their acute toxicity, strong odor and
3 potential bioaccumulation are not only hazardous air pollutants,^{1,2} but are also highly carcinogenic,
4 teratogenic and mutagenic in nature.^{3,4} Therefore, it is essential to develop practical and
5 cost-effective methods to eliminate CVOCs from gases. Of the available techniques, the
6 catalytic combustion is one of the most effective technologies for the removal of CVOCs
7 emissions due to its low energy consumption, low processing temperature and high destructive
8 efficiency.

9 Among the catalysts used for the catalytic combustion of CVOCs, manganese oxides have been
10 reported as the most active ones on account of their high oxygen storage ability and redox
11 properties.⁵⁻⁹ Furthermore, when these Mn-based catalysts are modified by rare earth elements,
12 such as $\text{MnO}_x\text{-CeO}_2$, LaMnO_3 and Mn-Ce-La-O catalysts, they have been found to display a
13 higher catalytic performance in the oxidation of CVOCs in comparison with MnO_x catalysts
14 alone.¹⁰⁻¹³ Notably, catalysts MnCeLa are reported to present the best catalytic activity in the
15 catalytic oxidation of CB among them. However, these oxides are susceptible to rapid catalytic
16 deactivation due to strong adsorption of dissociative Cl species that are mainly generated from the
17 combustion processes. Undoubtedly, any improvement in these catalysts' resistance to
18 deactivation will extend the application range of manganese oxides in industry. To this end, some
19 researchers attempted to remove the Cl species through desorption or oxidation by increasing the
20 reaction temperature.¹⁴

21 SnO_2 , which was employed as a catalyst support^{15,16} or a promoter,¹⁷⁻¹⁹ has received
22 considerable attentions as a heterogeneous catalyst. Recently, Sn modified $\text{MnO}_x\text{-CeO}_2$ catalysts

1 have been used in the selective catalytic reduction of NO_x by NH_3 and exhibited considerably high
2 activity and better resistance to sulfur poisoning, due to the enhanced concentration of oxygen
3 vacancies²⁰ and Lewis acid sites.²¹ However, as far as we know, Sn modified Mn-based catalysts
4 for catalytic combustion of CB are rarely reported. In order to solve the problem mentioned above,
5 in this work, we have introduced Sn into Mn-based catalysts (MnCeLa) for catalytic combustion
6 of chlorobenzene. It was found that the Sn-MnCeLa catalysts presented excellent activity and
7 higher stability compared to MnCeLa catalysts at low temperature region. Additionally, the
8 possible reasons for the better stability of Sn-MnCeLa catalyst have been elucidated through
9 several characterization techniques.

10 **2. Experimental**

11 *2.1 Catalysts preparation*

12 Sn-MnCeLa mixed oxides were prepared by sol-gel and coprecipitation method, as follows: In
13 the first step, an aqueous solution containing $\text{Mn}(\text{NO}_3)_2$ (50 wt.% solution), $\text{Ce}(\text{NO}_3)_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$
14 (SCRC, 99.0%), $\text{La}(\text{NO}_3)_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (SCRC, 99.0%) and citric acid (SCRC, 99.0%, citric
15 acid/(Mn/1.5 + Ce + La + Sn) = 0.3, molar ratio) (in the solution, Mn/(Ce + La) = 12:1, Ce/La =
16 1:1, molar ratio) was gradually heated to 80 °C and kept at this temperature with stirring until the
17 color of the solution turned yellowish. It was then dried at 110 °C for 12 h. In the second step, the
18 resulting solid mass was added to a $\text{SnCl}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ solution (SCRC, 98.0%, Sn/(Sn + Mn + Ce + La)
19 = 0.08:1, molar ratio) and then the PH was adjusted to 9~10 with $\text{NH}_3 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ and kept for aging
20 overnight. On filtration, a precipitate was obtained which was washed with deionized water until
21 no chloride ion was detected. The obtained solid was dried overnight at 110 °C, followed by
22 calcination at 650 °C in a muffle furnace for 5 h under air. The same method was employed to

1 prepare MnCeLa, MnLa, MnCe and LaCe catalysts. The compositions of the reaction solution and
2 calcination temperature were the same as those in the aforementioned procedure. The synthesized
3 catalysts are denoted as MnCeLa and Sn-MnCeLa, respectively. Sometimes, Sn(x)-MnCeLa can
4 also be abbreviated as Sn(x), where x represents the molar ratio for Sn/(Sn + Mn + Ce + La), e.g.
5 Sn(0.08).

6 *2.2 Characterization*

7 The phase structure of catalyst was recorded on an X'Pert PW3050/60 X-ray diffractometer
8 with Cu K α radiation (40 kV and 40 mA). The Raman spectra were analyzed by a laser confocal
9 microscopy Raman spectrometer (DXR, American Thermo Electron) operated at a wavelength of
10 532 nm. The nitrogen adsorption and desorption isotherms were measured on Micromeritics
11 ASAP 2020 nitrogen-adsorption apparatus. The specific surface areas of samples were measured
12 using Brunauer-Emmett-Teller (BET) model, and the pore volume and pore size distributions were
13 calculated by Barrett-Jioner-Halenda (BJH) method. X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy with Al K α
14 X-ray ($h\nu=1253.6$ eV) radiation (XPS: VG Multilab 2000) was used to analyze the surface atomic
15 states of the catalysts. The H₂-temperature programming reduction (H₂-TPR) was investigated by
16 heating catalysts with a linear heating rate (10 °C/min) in a flow of 10% H₂ in argon with a flow
17 rate of 40 mL/min. The rate of hydrogen consumption was measured by a thermal conductivity
18 detector (TCD).

19 *2.3 Catalytic activity test*

20 The activity of the catalysts was measured at atmospheric pressure, under continuous flowing
21 air, in a micro reactor with an inner diameter of 8 mm, in which 0.2 g of the catalyst was placed at

1 the center. Chlorobenzene was introduced into the reactor by N₂ (carrying gas), flowing through a
2 saturator maintained at 0 °C, and then mixed with N₂ and O₂ in a mixing drum. The feed stream
3 through the reactor was prepared by delivering liquid chlorobenzene with concentration of CB
4 2500 mg/m³ and the gas hourly space velocity (GHSV) was maintained at 20,000 h⁻¹. The
5 conversion of the chlorobenzene by the catalyst was expressed as the activity of the catalyst. The
6 temperature of the reaction was measured and controlled with a thermocouple located just at the
7 thermal spot of the reactor. The effluent gases were analyzed at a given temperature by using an
8 online gas chromatograph (GC) equipped with flame ionization detector (FID) for the quantitative
9 analysis of CB. The hydrogen consumption was measured quantitatively by a thermal conductivity
10 detector (TCD).

11 **3.Results and discussions**

12 *3.1. Catalytic activity for CB oxidation*

13 The activities of SnO₂, MnCeLa and Sn-MnCeLa catalysts are shown in Fig. 1. As seen in Fig
14 S1 (Supporting Information), the conversions of CB follow the sequence: MnCeLa > MnCe >
15 MnLa > MnO_x > La₂O₃ > LaCe > CeO₂, indicating that after modification by La and Ce, MnO_x
16 possesses the best activity. Notably, La₂O₃ and CeO₂, acting as additives, can promote the thermal
17 stability and redox ability of the Mn-based catalyst, respectively.²² In comparison to SnO₂, which
18 shows no significant oxidation of CB at temperatures up to 250 °C, the catalyst MnCeLa exhibits
19 excellent catalytic activity showing conversions of 50% and 90% (T_{50%} and T_{90%}) at 149°C and
20 210°C, respectively. In the case of Sn-MnCeLa catalysts, when the content of Sn is not greater
21 than 8% (Sn/(Sn + Mn + Ce + La) = 8%, molar ratio), the activity is almost identical to that of the
22 MnCeLa catalyst. However, on further addition of Sn, the activity of Sn-MnCeLa catalysts

1 decreased significantly due to the decrease of Mn amount. These results reveal that MnO_x is the
2 main active component in the catalysts: Sn acts as an additive, and the small amount of Sn affects
3 the activity of the catalyst barely.

4 3.2. Stability studies of the catalysts

5 For commercial applications, stability of catalysts is an important factor. Fig. 2 shows the
6 stabilities of MnCeLa and Sn(0.08)-MnCeLa catalysts which were reacted continuously at
7 different temperatures for 30 h. It can be seen in figures 2a, 2b and 2c that both the catalysts were
8 deactivated to some extent at temperatures less than 250 °C. The activity of MnCeLa catalyst was
9 not stable until 300 °C. However, for Sn(0.08)-MnCeLa, the temperature needed for stable activity
10 was 250 °C, which was much lower than other manganese-containing catalysts,^{10,23,24} noble metal
11 catalysts^{25,26} and other catalysts.²⁷ Moreover, compared with the MnCeLa catalyst, the
12 deactivation rate of Sn(0.08)-MnCeLa was slower and the final stable activity was higher below
13 300 °C. These facts indicate that the addition of Sn resulted in an obvious enhancement in the
14 stability of the MnCeLa catalyst. Subsequently, a series of characterizations were conducted to
15 investigate the effect of Sn.

16 3.3. Catalyst characterizations

17 3.3.1. BET and XRD

18 To investigate whether the physical structures of the catalysts change during the catalytic
19 reaction, the BET (Table 1) of the fresh and used catalysts (used catalysts refer to the most
20 poisoned catalysts, which are reacted at 200 °C for 30 h, denoted as used MnCeLa or Sn-MnCeLa
21 in the later text) was employed. The results indicated that the aforementioned parameters

1 minimally changed after the oxidation of CB for both the MnCeLa and Sn-MnCeLa catalysts,
2 manifesting that the physical structures of catalysts do not change during the stability test. Fig. 3
3 presents wide angle XRD patterns of fresh and used catalysts. The diffractogram of CeO₂ shows
4 the diffraction peaks (at 28.5°, 33.1°, 47.5°, 56.5° and 59.2°) of cerianite characterized with a
5 fluorite-like structure (JCPDS #43-1002). For fresh samples, no obvious reflections belonging to
6 cubic fluorite structure of CeO₂ can be observed, except for a small peak at ca. 33°, which is
7 attributed to (2 0 0) lattice plane of cerianite. Compared to fresh MnCeLa, the diffraction peak of
8 fresh Sn-MnCeLa become less intense and shift to higher Bragg angles, from 32.9° to 33.3°,
9 indicating that part of Sn species can enter the fluorite lattice to form SnCeO_x solid solutions.²⁸
10 This result is because that the ionic radius of Sn⁴⁺ (0.071nm) is smaller than that of Ce⁴⁺
11 (0.094nm), and the incorporation of Sn⁴⁺ into the fluorite lattice will result in the decrease in
12 lattice parameters. These very low intensity reflections of Sn-MnCeLa catalysts confirm that the
13 crystallinity of the samples can significantly decrease due to Sn doping,²⁹ which is better
14 illustrated by the XRD patterns of different Sn amounts of Sn-MnCeLa catalysts in Fig S2
15 (Supporting Information).

16 In addition to the reflections of the cerianite, no signals corresponding to Mn species appear for
17 the fresh and used catalysts, except for used MnCeLa sample, on which the reflections from
18 α-Mn₂O₃ at 55.17° and 65.77° (JCPDS #24-0508) and MnO₂ at 37.05° (JCPDS #42-1169)³⁰ are
19 observed. The crystalline phase corresponding to La species (49.27° and 45.18° (JCPDS
20 #54-1275))¹² cannot be observed, due to a high dispersion of La species either into or between
21 fluorite matrix.

22 3.3.2. Raman

1 To further explore the effect of Sn on MnCeLa, Raman spectroscopy was employed. As shown
2 in Figure 4, Raman spectra of fresh and used samples were collected for comparisons and the
3 main characteristic peaks of pure SnO₂, MnO_x, La₂O₃ and CeO₂ were also given as contrast. For
4 MnCeLa catalysts, no characteristic vibrational modes of CeO₂ or La₂O₃³¹ are observed, except a
5 broad peak in the region of 500-700 cm⁻¹, which can be assigned to a Mn-O-Mn stretching mode
6 of Mn₃O₄-like species ($\nu_{\text{Mn-O-Mn}}$).¹² Combining with XRD analysis, it is reasonable to infer that the
7 symmetry band of $\nu_{\text{Mn-O-Mn}}$ at 633 cm⁻¹ can be attributed to the presence of Mn₂O₃ or MnO₂
8 species. After catalytic oxidation of CB, the band became broader with the intensity decreasing
9 drastically, indicating that the vibrational mode of Mn-O-Mn became asymmetric due to the
10 formation of Mn-O-Cl. This result demonstrated that the MnO_x species, acted as main active
11 component, reacted with dissociative Cl species during the catalytic reaction and thus formed
12 oxychlorinated manganese (MnO_xCl_y).³² However, for Sn-MnCeLa, there were no apparent
13 differences between the fresh and used samples, manifesting that the addition of Sn could inhibit
14 the formation of MnO_xCl_y, avoiding the chlorine poisoning of the MnCeLa catalyst. As reported in
15 Refs,^{33,34} the peak at 643 cm⁻¹ can be attributed to the overlapping of MnO₂ and SnO₂. In addition,
16 compared to pure MnO₂ and SnO₂, red shift and blue shift of the peak were observed respectively,
17 implying that there were interactions between Sn and Mn species. It is likely that Sn entered into
18 MnO_x lattice to form SnMnO_x solid solution.³⁵ Furthermore, compared to fresh MnCeLa sample,
19 the band shifted to higher wavenumbers by 10 cm⁻¹, indicating that Sn modification maintained
20 the structure of MnO_x in the form of SnMnO_x solid solution during CB decomposition.
21 Additionally, a new peak centered at ca. 450 cm⁻¹ appeared by Sn doping for fresh Sn-MnCeLa
22 catalyst. As supported by XRD results, it is reasonable to infer that the peak is attributed to

1 SnCeO_x solid solutions. It is interesting to find that the Raman peak disappeared after CB
2 oxidation, implying the structure of SnCeO_x solid solution was destroyed by Cl species. From the
3 analysis above, we can deduce that Cl species preferentially reacted with the SnCeO_x solid
4 solution rather than MnO_x species. In other words, SnCeO_x solid solution “sacrificed” itself to
5 maintain the high activity of MnO_x species during CB oxidation.

6 3.3.3. XPS

7 To gain better insight into the nature of the species and the surface groups of the catalysts, the
8 catalysts were examined using XPS (see Fig. 5), and the data were summarized in Table 1. Mn
9 species with Mn 2p levels of 640.5, 641.8 and 643.7 eV on the surface of catalysts containing Mn
10 can be ascribed to Mn²⁺, Mn³⁺ and Mn⁴⁺ ions.³⁶ The fitted XPS spectra of Mn 2p were shown in
11 Fig. 5(A). From table 1, it can be seen that the atomic ratio of Mn⁴⁺ and Mn³⁺ in fresh Sn-MnCeLa
12 (35.2% and 47.1%) was higher than that of fresh MnCeLa (26.2% and 39.6%), respectively. It
13 indicated that the addition of Sn affects the oxidation state of Mn with high valence, which was
14 more effective in the oxidation of the adsorbed chlorobenzene.³⁷ Therefore, the increased ratios of
15 Mn with high valence imparted high reducibility within the catalyst, or in other words, introduced
16 enhanced activity within the catalyst Sn-MnCeLa. As shown in Fig. 5(B), the O 1s profile mainly
17 includes two components, 531.3–532.2 eV and 529.2–530.0 eV. The peak at the high binding
18 energies (BE) corresponds to the surface adsorbed oxygen (O_{ads}) such as O₂²⁻ or O⁻ and hydroxyl
19 OH⁻, whereas that at the low BE is attributed to the lattice oxygen O²⁻ (O_{latt}).²⁰ For fresh samples,
20 the ratio O_{ads} / (O_{ads} + O_{latt}) in Sn-MnCeLa (30.2%) was higher than that in MnCeLa (21.9%),
21 implying that Sn addition can significantly increase the concentration of the surface adsorbed
22 oxygen, which was consistent with the results of Chang and co-workers.²⁰ Since the surface

1 adsorption oxygen (O_{ads}) was active in HCl oxidation reaction (i.e., the so-called Deacon process,
2 $4\text{HCl} + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow 2\text{H}_2\text{O} + 2\text{Cl}_2$),³⁸ higher the O_{ads} ratio in Sn-MnCeLa catalysts, easier was the Cl
3 species removal from the catalysts' surface.

4 Figure S3 (a) (Supporting Information) represents the XPS spectra of Ce 3d in the MnCeLa and
5 Sn-MnCeLa samples. The spectra were deconvoluted into two spin-orbits, and letters U and V refer
6 to the $3d_{3/2}$ and $3d_{5/2}$ spin-orbit components respectively. All the peaks V, V^{II}, U, U^{II} and U^{III} were
7 attributed to Ce⁴⁺.³⁹ The La 3d core level is shown in Figure S3 (b) (Supporting Information) and
8 the spectrum of La $3d_{3/2}$ and La $3d_{5/2}$ appeared at ca. 850 eV and 834.1-834.0 eV,¹² respectively.

9 The Sn 3d XPS spectra are presented in Fig. 5(C). It is worth mentioning that the intensity of
10 Sn²⁺ peak (485.2 eV) increased after stability test, revealing that some Sn⁴⁺ participated in the
11 catalytic oxidation process and was reduced to Sn²⁺, which was evidenced by Raman results.

12 As reported in Reference,⁴⁰ the Cl 2p peak appeared at around 198.3 eV. From figure 5 (D), it
13 can be seen that the Cl species deposited on the surface of the used Sn-MnCeLa (0.71%) was
14 lower than that on used MnCeLa (1.29%), indicating that the addition of Sn could improve the
15 resistance to Cl poisoning and therefore promote the stability of the catalysts.

16 3.3.4. H_2 -TPR

17 Fig. 6 presents the H_2 -TPR results of the MnCeLa and Sn-MnCeLa catalysts. Assuming that
18 MnO is the final reduction state⁴¹ from various Mn species in the initial MnO_x , it is reasonable to
19 propose that the peak at low temperature could be assigned to the reduction of $\text{MnO}_2/\text{Mn}_2\text{O}_3$ to
20 Mn_3O_4 , and the one at high temperature corresponds to the reduction of Mn_3O_4 to MnO.^{42,43} For
21 fresh MnCeLa catalyst, two broad overlapped reduction peaks representing the reduction of
22 $\text{MnO}_2/\text{Mn}_2\text{O}_3 \rightarrow \text{Mn}_2\text{O}_3$ and $\text{Mn}_3\text{O}_4 \rightarrow \text{MnO}$ appeared around 312 and 371 °C, respectively. In

1 addition, shoulders were observed on the left side of the low reduction peaks of MnO_x around
2 220 °C, which were attributed to the “isolated” Mn ions with high valence state that were
3 “embedded” within the surface defects of the catalyst.¹² Compared with fresh MnCeLa, the
4 intensity of the low temperature reduction peaks for these used catalysts decreased, implying that
5 the content of high valence Mn decreased after the oxidation of CB, which was consistent with the
6 XPS results. Moreover, new shoulder peaks centered at approximately 360 °C were observed,
7 which can be attributed to the removal of Cl species adsorbed on the surface of Mn,²⁹ that is, H_2
8 reacted with adsorbed Cl to form HCl. For MnCeLa (300 °C), the reduction temperatures of Mn
9 shifted to lower values, this phenomenon indicated that high temperature promotes the activation
10 of catalyst to some extent. It is noteworthy that a new broad peak centered in the region of
11 700-800 °C appeared for the used catalysts, especially for MnCeLa (275 °C) and MnCeLa
12 (300 °C), which can be ascribed to the reduction of oxychlorinated manganese (MnO_xCl_y).^{32,44}
13 This peak appeared due to the reaction between the adsorbed Cl species with surface Mn during
14 CB decomposition, which was in agreement with the Raman result.

15 For fresh Sn-MnCeLa, two broad overlapped reduction peaks of Mn appeared at around 350 °C
16 and 460 °C, implying that the addition of Sn increased the difficulty of reducing the Mn species,
17 which was consistent with the results of Corradini and co-workers⁴⁵ and Raman. Moreover, the
18 TPR profile of fresh Sn-MnCeLa showed a peak with a maximum at approximately 540 °C, which
19 was attributed to the reduction of SnO_2 ,²¹ i.e., $\text{Sn}^{4+} \rightarrow \text{Sn}^{2+}$ and $\text{Sn}^{2+} \rightarrow \text{Sn}^0$. For the used samples,
20 the TPR reduction peaks corresponding to the Mn species followed a nearly similar pattern as
21 those for the fresh Sn-MnCeLa catalyst. On the other hand, the TPR peaks of the MnO_x were less
22 intense compared with those of fresh MnCeLa, indicating that Mn existed mainly in low valence

1 state, which was in accord with the XPS results. In addition, no reduction peaks were observed in
2 the region of 700-800 °C for the used Sn-MnCeLa catalysts, indicating that Sn doping could
3 inhibit the formation of MnO_xCl_y .

4 3.4. Reaction mechanism

5 In the catalytic oxidation of CB, the CB molecule is adsorbed and dissociated on MnO_x active
6 sites via nucleophilic attacks on C-Cl bond.^{46,47} Subsequently, the dissociated CB can be easily
7 completely oxidized into H_2O and CO_2 by active oxygen species. Simultaneously, the dissociative
8 Cl species adsorbed on the metal cation (i.e., $\text{Mn}^{\text{X}+}$ or $\text{Sn}^{\text{X}+}$) are oxidized into Cl_2 by surface
9 reactive oxygen species. However, the removal of Cl species from the active sites of Mn-based
10 catalysts is considerably more difficult, which requires enough surface reactive oxygen species.
11 According to the XPS results, the doping of Sn can significantly increase the concentration of the
12 surface adsorbed oxygen, which is used for Deacon Process. On the other hand, the addition of Sn
13 inhibits the formation of MnO_xCl_y , avoiding MnCeLa catalyst deactivating. These two aspects are
14 the reasons for the enhanced resistance to chlorine poisoning of Sn modified MnCeLa catalysts.
15 According to the analysis above, a plausible reaction mechanism can be proposed for the catalytic
16 combustion of CB over Mn-based and Sn doped Mn-based catalysts as shown in Scheme 1.

17 4. Conclusions

18 In summary, it has been found that both MnCeLa and SnMnCeLa mixed oxide catalysts
19 prepared by sol-gel and coprecipitation method exhibited high activity for the low temperature
20 catalytic destruction of CB, whereas the Sn-MnCeLa catalysts showed significantly higher
21 stabilities than that of the MnCeLa catalysts. At 250 °C, Sn-MnCeLa showed more stable activity

1 with a conversion of greater than 95% during the 30 h reaction than all reported catalysts for CB
2 oxidation, implying that the addition of Sn could remarkably improve the stability of MnCeLa
3 catalysts for chlorobenzene oxidation. The characterization results revealed that the enhanced
4 stability of the Sn-MnCeLa catalysts can be attributed to the fact that the addition of Sn could
5 increase the concentration of surface adsorbed oxygen species for removal of the adsorbed Cl
6 species and inhibit the formation of MnO_xCl_y , avoiding the deactivation of the MnCeLa catalyst.
7 Therefore, the Sn-modified MnCeLa catalyst appears to be a promising candidate in the abatement
8 of CVOCs at low-temperatures.

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Figure captions

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- 3 **Table 1** Physical properties and XPS data of MnCeLa and Sn-MnCeLa catalysts.
- 4 **Fig. 1** The activity of SnO₂, MnCeLa and Sn-MnCeLa catalysts for CB combustion. Reaction
5 conditions: 200 mg samples, 2500 mg/m³ CB, 20% O₂, N₂ balance; GHSV = 20,000 h⁻¹.
- 6 **Fig. 2** The stabilities of MnCeLa and Sn(0.08)-MnCeLa catalysts for CB combustion at different
7 temperatures: a) 200 °C; b) 225 °C; c) 250 °C; d) 275 °C; e) 300 °C; gas composition: 2500
8 mg/m³ CB, 20% O₂, N₂ balance; GHSV = 20,000 h⁻¹.
- 9 **Fig. 3** XRD patterns of MnCeLa and Sn-MnCeLa catalysts before and after CB oxidation: used
10 MnCeLa and Sn-MnCeLa represent catalysts reacted at 200 °C for 30 h.
- 11 **Fig. 4** Raman spectra of MnCeLa and Sn-MnCeLa catalysts before and after CB oxidation.
- 12 **Fig. 5** Mn 2p (A), O 1s (B), Sn 3d (C) and Cl 2p (D) XPS spectra of MnCeLa and Sn-MnCeLa
13 catalysts: a, fresh MnCeLa; b, used MnCeLa; c, fresh Sn-MnCeLa; d, used Sn-MnCeLa.
- 14 **Fig. 6** H₂-TPR profiles of MnCeLa (A) and Sn-MnCeLa (B) catalysts: fresh represents fresh
15 catalysts; 225 °C, 250 °C, 275 °C and 300 °C represent the catalysts reacted at corresponding
16 temperatures for 30 h, respectively, and denoted as MnCeLa(X) or Sn-MnCeLa(X) in the text, i.e.,
17 MnCeLa (275°C).
- 18 **Scheme 1** The proposed reaction mechanism for the catalytic combustion of CB over Mn-based
19 and Sn doped Mn-based catalysts.
- 20

Table 1

Physical properties and XPS data of MnCeLa and Sn-MnCeLa catalysts.

Catalysts	Surface area (m ² /g) ^a	Pore volume (×10 ⁻² cm ³ /g)	Average pore (nm)	Mn (at.%)			O (at.%)		Sn (at.%)	
				Mn ⁴⁺	Mn ³⁺	Mn ²⁺	O _{ads}	O _{latt}	Sn ⁴⁺	Sn ²⁺
Fresh MnCeLa	75	21.09	5.04	26.2	39.6	34.2	21.9	78.1	-	-
Used MnCeLa	55	20.43	5.26	15.9	47.0	37.1	12.8	87.2	-	-
Fresh Sn-MnCeLa	93	26.41	5.10	35.2	47.1	17.7	30.2	69.8	70.1	29.9
Used Sn-MnCeLa	62	25.98	5.27	30.7	45.5	23.8	17.6	82.4	63.8	36.2

^a The specific surface area is calculated using the BET model.

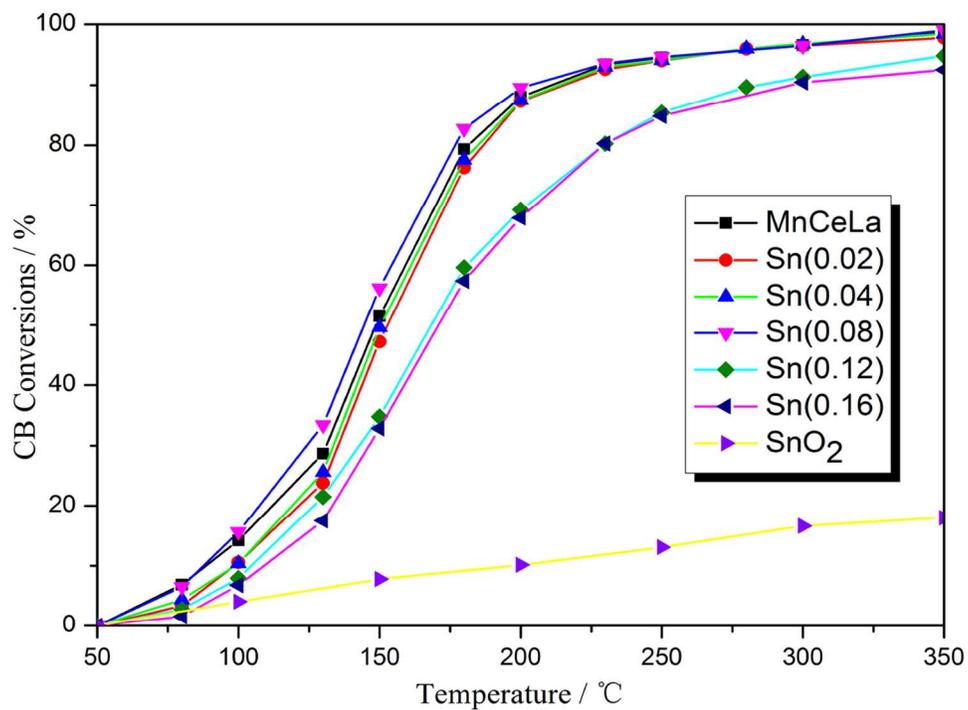


Fig. 1 The activity of SnO₂, MnCeLa and Sn-MnCeLa catalysts for CB combustion. Reaction conditions: 200 mg samples, 2500 mg/m³ CB, 20% O₂, N₂ balance; GHSV = 20,000 h⁻¹. 60x43mm (600 x 600 DPI)

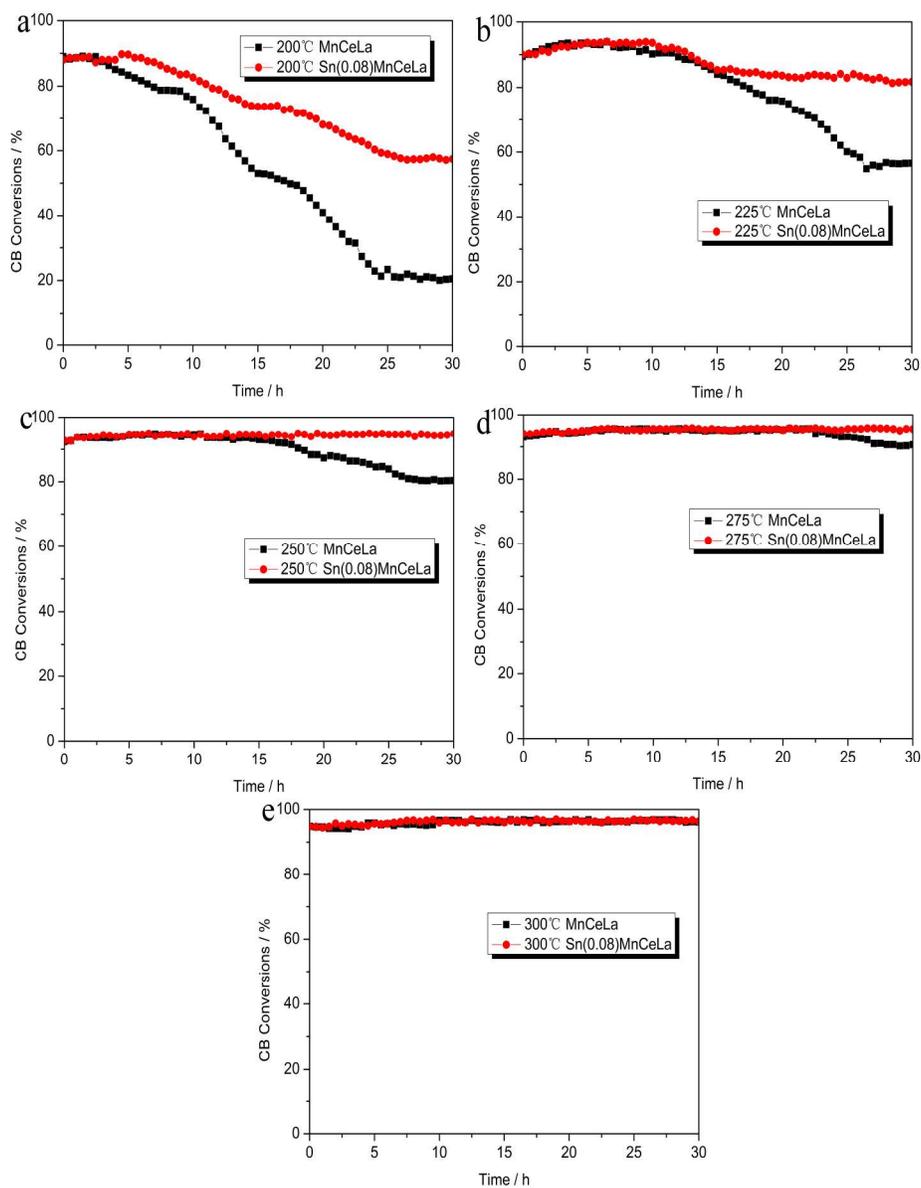


Fig. 2 The stabilities of MnCeLa and Sn(0.08)-MnCeLa catalysts for CB combustion at different temperatures: a) 200 °C; b) 225 °C; c) 250 °C; d) 275 °C; e) 300 °C; gas composition: 2500 mg/m³ CB, 20% O₂, N₂ balance; GHSV = 20,000 h⁻¹. 219x283mm (300 x 300 DPI)

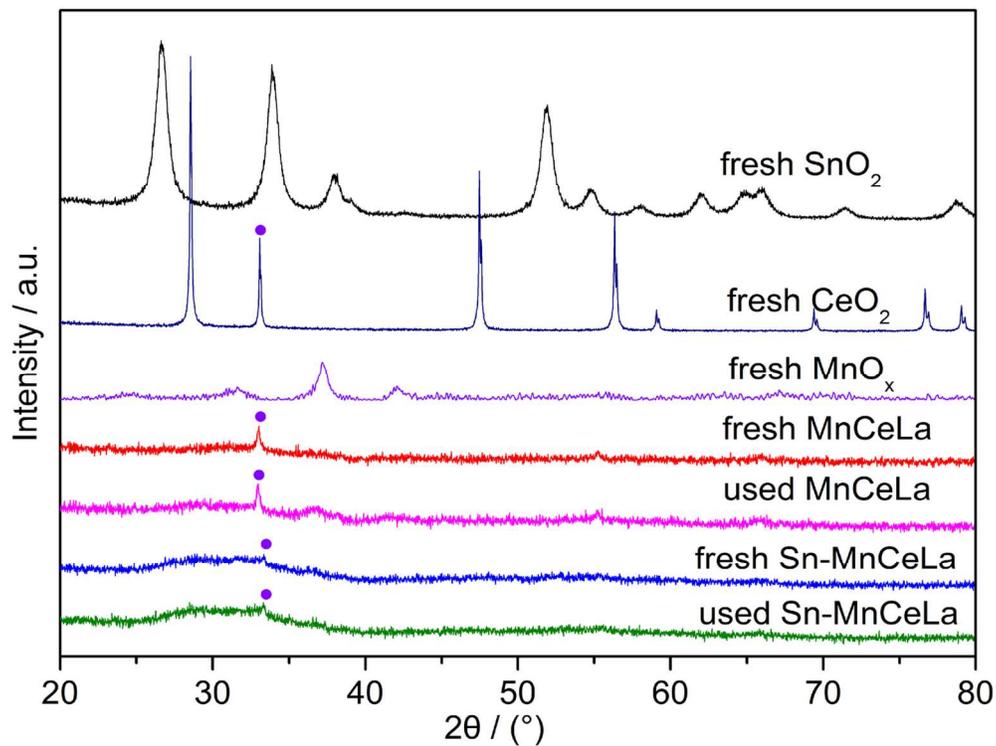


Fig. 3 XRD patterns of MnCeLa and Sn-MnCeLa catalysts before and after CB oxidation: used MnCeLa and Sn-MnCeLa represent catalysts reacted at 200 °C for 30 h.
62x47mm (600 x 600 DPI)

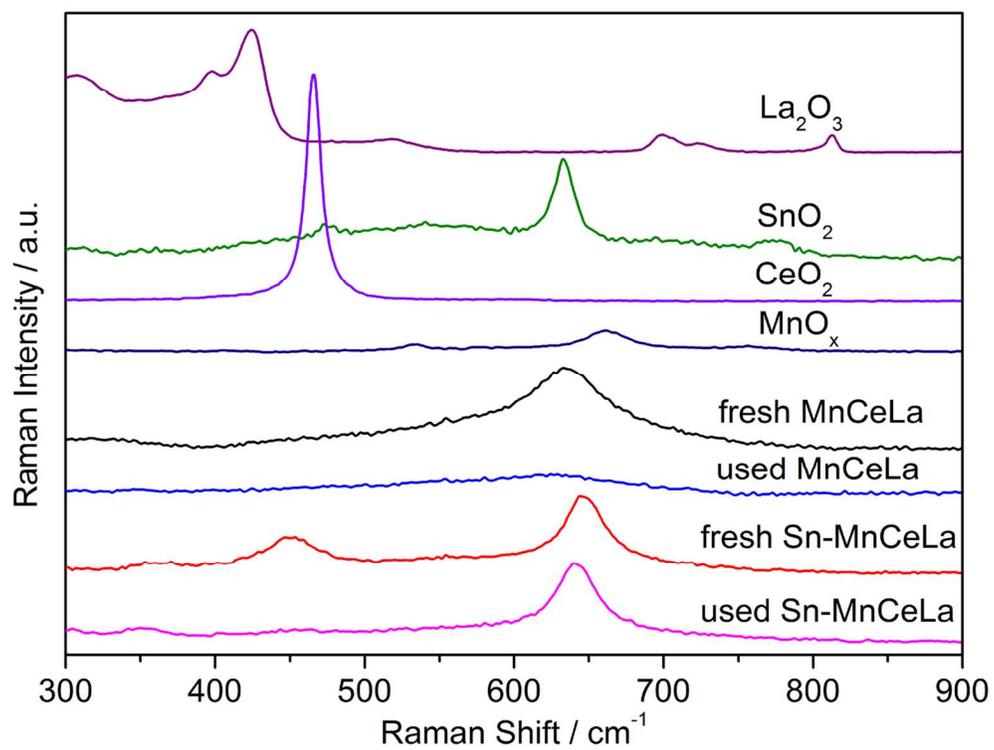


Fig. 4 Raman spectra of MnCeLa and Sn-MnCeLa catalysts before and after CB oxidation.
62x47mm (600 x 600 DPI)

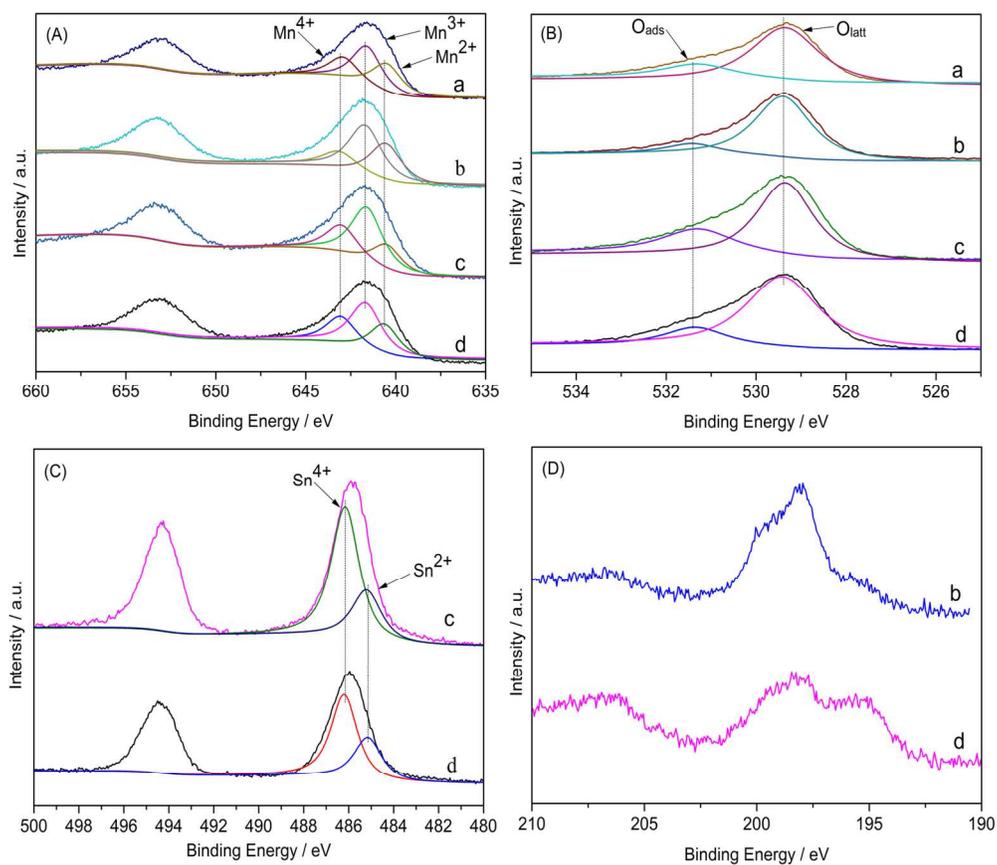


Fig. 5 Mn 2p (A), O 1s (B), Sn 3d (C) and Cl 2p (D) XPS spectra of MnCeLa and Sn-MnCeLa catalysts: a, fresh MnCeLa; b, used MnCeLa; c, fresh Sn-MnCeLa; d, used Sn-MnCeLa.
149x131mm (300 x 300 DPI)

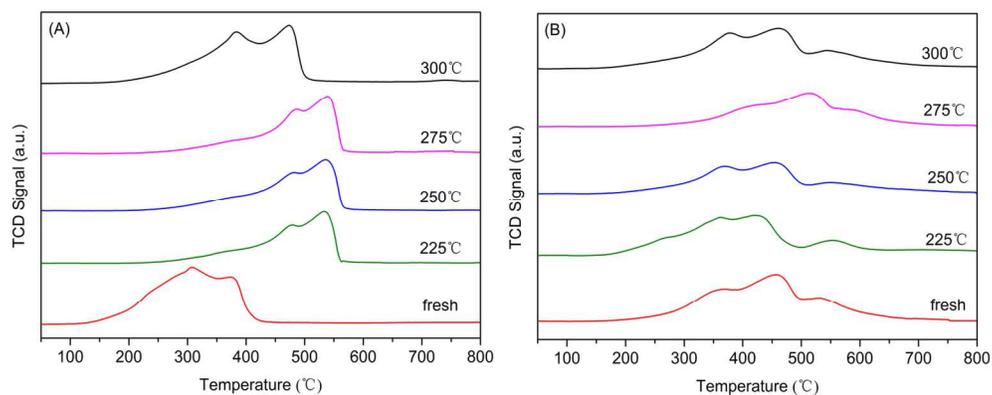
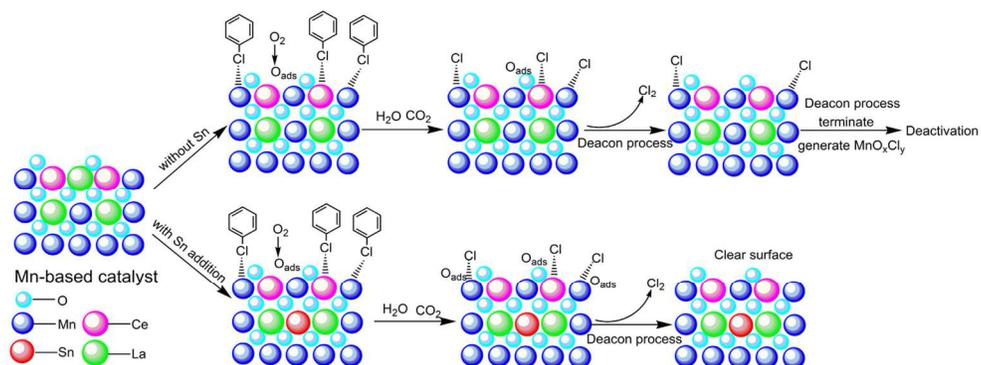


Fig. 6 H₂-TPR profiles of MnCeLa (A) and Sn-MnCeLa (B) catalysts: fresh represents fresh catalysts; 225 °C, 250 °C, 275 °C and 300 °C represent the catalysts reacted at corresponding temperatures for 30 h, respectively, and denoted as MnCeLa(X) or Sn-MnCeLa(X) in the text, i.e., MnCeLa (275°C).
69x28mm (600 x 600 DPI)



Scheme 1 The proposed reaction mechanism for the catalytic combustion of CB over Mn-based and Sn doped Mn-based catalysts.
64x24mm (600 x 600 DPI)