Preparation and characterization of aminopropyl-functionalized mesoporous silica MCM-48 for CO₂ capture

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In an effort to develop effective adsorbents for ${\rm CO_2}$ capture, we prepared two different types of aminopropyl-functionalized mesoporous silica MCM-48 materials. Physicochemical information of the functionalized MCM-48 materials was obtained by X-ray powder diffraction (XRD), transmission electron microscopy (TEM), Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FT-IR), ${\rm N_2}$ adsorption/desorption, thermal gravimetric analysis (TGA) as well as ${\rm CO_2}$ adsorption/desorption performance. The ${\rm N_2}$ adsorption-desorption analysis showed a considerable decrease of the pore volume and surface area for the aminopropyl-functionalized mesoporous silica MCM-48 samples. The ${\rm CO_2}$ adsorption properties of the aminopropyl-attached MCM-48 samples were studied using a gravimetric technique based on a microelectronic balance system. The results showed that these materials exhibited high ${\rm CO_2}$ adsorption capacities. The coating method was found to be a better method for the preparation of aminopropyl-functionalized MCM-48 adsorbents than grafting method.