

Adsorption properties of lithium-modified mesoporous silica toward sulfur and nitrogen compounds in liquid and gas fuels

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In this work, two types of lithium modified mesoporous silica adsorbents were prepared for selective removal of nitrogen compounds from the residue hydrodesulfurization diesel fuel provided by a refinery factory (430.2 ppmw S and 271.3 ppmw N). In batch experiments run at 15 °C and 45 °C, adsorption performance such as the adsorption capacity, adsorption rate, and the regeneration ability toward nitrogen and sulfur compounds, was measured and compared with the previous results of Si-Zr cogel. Dynamic adsorption properties toward methylmercaptan as an odorant in the city gas were also tested. A mixture of CH₄ and CH₃SH (291 μmol/mol) was used as a feed gas. The adsorption capacities were determined from breakthrough experiments performed at different temperatures and flow rates. The dynamic thermal desorption of adsorbents was studied by stepwise desorption experiments with N₂ or CH₄. The lithium-modified mesoporous silica adsorbents exhibited a much stronger adsorption affinity for N-compounds than for S-compounds in the liquid fuel. And these materials showed ability to adsorb trace amount of sulfur compound from the gas and be easily regenerated.