SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION TO

Mechanisms and kinetics of CO₂ uptake on bicontinuous mesoporous silica modified with n-propylamine

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Functionalization of AMS-6 with 3-aminopropyl triethoxysilane

AMS-6 was dried in an oven for 20 h at 150 °C before modification. A suspension of AMS-6 (300 mg) in toluene (18 mL) was stirred at 50 °C for 30 min under argon in a closed tube. The tube was opened and water (68 µL, 3.78 mmol) was added dropwise to the mixture. After resealing the tube, the mixture was heated to 120 °C for 1.5 h, after which 3aminopropyltriethoxysilane (2.54 g, 11.4 mmol) was added to the mixture. When the addition was complete, the tube was closed and heated at 120 °C for 72 h. After cooling to room temperature, the tube was opened and the solid was filtered and washed with toluene (3 x 10 mL) and free residual 3-aminopropyltriethoxysilane was removed by soxhlet extraction in EtOH. The resulting solid was dried under reduced pressure over night. Anal. C,15.17; H, 3.67; N, 4.85. Functionalization with 3-aminopropylmethyldiethoxysilane was performed in a similar manner. Functionalization of **MCM-48** 3-aminopropyltriethoxysilane and 3aminopropylmethyldiethoxysilane were performed in a similar manner.

Surface area of AMS-6 in a powder and pellet form

AMS-6. The adsorption isotherms measured on the powder and pellet were practically equivalent proving that no structural collapse of the pore system occurred due to the pellet pressing.



| Reference | Adsorbent* | IR technique | Sample preparation | Model gas | Assignation, compounds (wavenumber in cm ⁻¹) (No water present) | Assignation, compounds (wavenumber in cm ⁻¹) (In the presence of water) |
|-------------------|--|---------------------------|--------------------------|---|--|--|
| Tsuda, 1992 | silica gel/APTES | Simple IR (no in situ) | No preparation | CO_2 in N_2 | Ammonium carbamate (1580, 1330) | - |
| Chang, 2003 | SBA-15/APTES | DRIFT | He flow, 25 °C, 1h | 4 % CO ₂ in He, 2.5 % H ₂ O | bidentate bicarbonate (1634), bidentate carbonate (1575, 1390), monodentate bicarbonate (1493, 1432), monodentate carbonate (1335) | The same as in dry experiments. |
| Khatri, 2005 | SBA-15/ <i>N</i> -(2- aminoethyl)-3- aminopropyl | DRIFT | He flow, 30 °C, 2h | 10% CO ₂ , 4% H ₂ O in He | - | bidentate bicarbonate (1628), bidentate carbonate (1541), monodentate bicarbonate (1470, 1422), monodentate carbonate (1337), carbamic acid (1287), non-discussed band at around 1700 cm ⁻¹ |
| Khatri, 2006 | SBA-15/APTES | DRIFT | N/A | 10 % CO ₂ and 4 % D ₂ O in Ar | - | Bicarbonates and carbonates (shifted band position due to hydrogen/deuterium isotope change) |
| Fisher, 2009 | B Zeolite/TEPA | DRIFT | He flow, 135 °C, 0.5h | 10 % CO ₂ in Ar | bidentate carbonate (1564, 1390), monodentate bicarbonate (1470) monodentate carbonate (1313) | - |
| Tanthana, 2010 | TEPA/SiO ₂ | DRIFT | Ar flow, 55 °C | 15% CO ₂ , 4% H ₂ O in air | - | CO_2 -H ₂ N- (2627), carbamic acid (1680), carbamate (1520), carboxylate (1430), carboxylate and carbamate (1315) |
| Hao, 2010 | Silica (AMS)/APTES | N/A | N/A | N/A | NH stretch in carbamate (3410), NH_3^+ def in carbamate (1632), C=O stretch in carbamate (1563), NCOO (1484), | - |
| Leal, 1995 | Silica gel/APTES | Transm. | 150 °C, 2 h | 10 Torr dry and humid CO_2 | Carbamate (1411), bicarbonate (1385) | The ratio of carbamate (1411) and bicarbonate (1385) changes compare to dry CO ₂ |
| Huang, 2003 | MCM-48/APTES | Transm. | He-flow, N/A | 5% CO ₂ in He | Bicarbonate (1382)((after Leal et al.)), C=O asym. Stretch (1432, 1485) in carbamate, C-O stretch and NH_3^+ def. (1560), NH_3^+ def (1635) | Higher overall intensity of the same bands as in case of dry CO ₂ |
| Wang, 2009 | SBA-15/PEI | Transm. | He flow, 80 °C, 2h | For moist CO ₂ runs: preadsorption of water | NH_3^+ def (1630) and C=O stretch (1520) and NCOO (1410, 1320) in carbamate, chemisorbed CO ₂ (2450, 2160) | Slightly higher uptake, same bands as in case of dry CO ₂ , no bicarbonate formation observed |

Table S1. Identification of the species formed by the reaction of CO_2 and immobilized amine groups with in situ IR spectroscopy

| Zheng, | SBA-15/Ethylene | Transm. | Ar flow, 135 °C | Pure CO ₂ and | NH_2^+ , NH def, C-N (1576) in | The same bands as in case of dry CO_2 |
|------------|-------------------|---------|-----------------------------|--|--|--|
| 2005 | diamine | | | CO ₂ / 2 % H ₂ O | intramolecular carbamate | |
| Hiyoshi, | SBA-15/APTES | Transm. | He flow, 150 | 3% CO ₂ , in He, | NH stretch (3439) and NH_3^+ (1630) and | The same bands as in case of dry CO_2 |
| 2005 | | | °C, 1h | and 3% CO ₂ , 2 % | C=O stretch (1563) and NCOO (1488) in | |
| | | | | H ₂ O in He | carbamate | |
| Knöfel, | Amorph. | Transm. | Evacuation <10 ⁻ | Pure $CO_2(?)$ | NH stretch (3435), NH_3^+ (1626), COO^- | - |
| 2009 | Silica/APTES | | ⁷ mbar, 160 °C, | | asym (1545), NH_3^+ (1487) bend and | |
| | | | overnight | | COO ⁻ sym (1381) in carbamate, C=O | |
| | | | | | stretch in carbamic acid (1680) Faster | |
| | | | | | formation of carbamic acid observed. | |
| Bacsik, | Mesocaged | Transm. | Evacuation <10 ⁻ | 100 % CO ₂ | Physisorbed linear CO ₂ (2340); NH | - |
| 2010 | silica/APTES | | ⁶ Torr, 140 °C, | | stretch (3440), NH ₃ ⁺ (1626), COO ⁻ asym | |
| | | | 6h | | (1567), NH ₃ ⁺ (1500) NCOO ⁻ (1381) in | |
| | | | | | carbamate; C=O stretch in carbamic acid | |
| | | | | | (~1701) | |
| Danon, | SBA-15/APTES | DRIFT | Evacuation <10 ⁻ | Pure CO_2 , 20 | Physisorbed linear CO_2 (2340); NH_3^+ | - |
| 2011 | with different | | ⁷ Torr, 100 °C | Torr | (1625), COO ⁻ asym (1564), NH ₃ ⁺ (1485- | |
| | surface coverages | | | | 1550) NCOO ⁻ (1335-1430) in carbamate; | |
| | _ | | | | C=O stretch in carbamic acid (~1701) | |
| This study | MCM-48/APTES | Transm. | Evacuation <10 ⁻ | 20 V/V% CO ₂ in | NH str. (3440), NH ₃ ⁺ (1630), COO ⁻ asym | Carbamic acid silyl ester does not form; |
| | AMS-6/APTES | | ⁶ Torr, 140 °C, | N_2 , the same | (1564), NH ₃ ⁺ (1484) bend. and COO ⁻ | the ammonium carbamate ion par |
| | | | 6h | saturated with | sym (1433), C=O stretch in H-bonded | formation is enhanced in the present of |
| | | | | H ₂ O | carbamic acid (1680-1700), C=O stretch | water. |
| | | | | | (1715) in carbamic acid silyl ester (See | |
| | | | | | Table 2 in the paper for more details) | |

* In many studies there are more than one adsorbent investigated, here we refer the selected one(s) (silica support/amine)

FIGURES



Figure S1A. Pore volume distribution in unmodified AMS-6, AMS-6/APMDES and AMS-6/APTES. The pore volume distribution (BJH model, desorption) is shifted towards smaller average pore dimensions as the degree of functionalization is increasing.



Figure S1B. Pore volume distribution in unmodified MCM-48, MCM-48/APMDES and MCM-48/APTES. The pore volume distribution (BJH model, desorption) is shifted towards smaller average pore dimensions as the degree of functionalization is increasing.



Figure S2. FTIR spectra of the a) AMS-6, b) AMS-6/APMDES and c) AMS-6/APTES. The spectra were measured in vacuum ($<10^{-6}$ Torr) after pretreatment (140 °C, $<10^{-6}$ Torr, 6 h) of the self-supporting pellets. An empty cell was used as background.



Figure S3. FTIR spectra of AMS-6 material a) measured in near vacuum conditions (<10⁻⁶ Torr) after heat treatment at 140 °C, b) contacted with 760 Torr of pure CO₂, c) after subtraction of the corresponding gaseous reference spectrum for CO₂ and (d) the corresponding gaseous reference spectrum for CO₂.

Spectra were measured at room temperature and the background spectrum was recorded in the empty cell. The changes in the OH-stretchings could not be detected when using this particular background spectrum.



Figure S4. In situ FTIR spectrum of the adsorbed species on AMS-6 equilibrated with 400 Torr pure CO_2 saturated with water (2.1 V/V %). No carbonates or bicarbonates were observed.



Figure S5. In situ FTIR spectra for AMS-6/APMDES and AMS-6/APTES contacted with 100 Torr of pure CO₂.



Figure S6. Differential IR spectra of the two major species form at different reaction rates during the adsorption of CO_2 on AMS-6/APMDES material: a) represents mainly silylpropylcarbamate. It is the difference spectrum of adsorbed species at 50 Torr CO_2 (20 V/V% in N₂) measured after 2 and 25 minutes (equilibrium); b) represents mainly propylammonium propylcarbamate and hydrogen bonded carbamic acid. It is the difference spectrum of the 50 Torr equilibrium spectrum and the difference spectrum Figure 8a (residual).



Figure S7A. ADSORPTION AMS-6/APMDES, **DRY** CO₂ in N₂, 2, 10, 25, 50, 100, 200, 400, 600, 760 Torr pressures (from bottom to top).



Figure S7B. DESORPTION AMS-6/APMDES DRY 20 % CO_2 in N_2 pressure 760, 600, 400,

200, 100, 50, 25, 10, 1 Torr, 30 min evacuation (from top to bottom)



Figure S7C. ADSORPTION AMS-6/APMDES, HUMID CO_2 in N_2 , 2, 10, 26, 50, 100, 200,

400, 600, 760 Torr pressures (from bottom to top)



Figure S7D. DESORPTION AMS-6/APMDES HUMID 20 % CO_2 in N_2 pressure 760, 600,

400, 200, 100, 50, 25, 10, 2 Torr, 30 min evacuation, after heat treatment (from top to bottom)



Figure S8A. ADSORPTION MCM-48/APMDES DRY 20 % CO₂ in N₂ pressure 1, 10, 25, 50,



Figure S8B. DESORPTION MCM-48/APMDES DRY 20 % CO₂ in N₂ pressure 760, 600, 400,

200, 100, 50, 10, 1 Torr, 30 min evacuation, after heat treatment (from top to bottom)



Figure S8C. ADSORPTION MCM-48/APMDES HUMID 20 % CO2 in N2 pressure 8, 30, 54,



Figure S8D. DESORPTION MCM-48/APMDES HUMID 20 % CO_2 in N_2 pressure 760, 600,

400, 200, 100, 50, 10, 1 Torr, 30 min evacuation, (from top to bottom)



Figure S9A. ADSORPTION AMS-6/APTES DRY 20 % CO_2 in N_2 pressure 5.6, 13, 27, 55,



Figure S9B. DESORPTION AMS-6/APTES **DRY** 20 % CO₂ in N₂ pressure 760, 600, 400, 200, 100, 50, 25, 10, 2 Torr, 30 min evacuation, heat treatment (from top to bottom)



Figure S9C. ADSORPTION AMS-6/APTES HUMID 20 % CO2 in N2 pressure 1, 10, 25, 50,



Figure S9D. DESORPTION AMS-6/APTES HUMID 20 % CO_2 in N_2 pressure 760, 600,

400, 200, 100, 50, 24, 10, 1 Torr, 30 min evacuation, heat treatment (from top to bottom)



Figure S10A. ADSORPTION MCM-48/APTES DRY 20 % CO_2 in N_2 pressure 1, 5, 10, 25, 50,



Figure S10B. DESORPTION MCM-48/APTES DRY 20 % CO₂ in N₂ pressure 760, 600,

400, 200, 100, 50, 10, 2 Torr, 30 min evacuation, heat treatment (from top to bottom)

Figure S10C. ADSORPTION MCM-48/APTES HUMID 20 % CO₂ in N₂ pressure 1, 5, 13, 25,

Figure S10D. DESORPTION MCM-48/APTES HUMID 20 % CO₂ in N₂ pressure 760, 600,

400, 200, 100, 50, 10, 2 Torr, 30 min evacuation, heat treatment (from top to bottom)

Figure S11A. The IR spectra of remained species on MCM-48/APTES after a) dry and b) moist CO₂ adsorption and heat (140 °C, 6h) regeneration; c) poly (N-methyl acryl amide) reference spectrum

Figure S11B. IR spectra of the fresh (a) MCM-48/APTES and after 3 (b) and 6 (c) cycles of CO_2 uptake. A spectrum in from an empty cell was used when recording the single beam spectrum for further use as a background spectrum.

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