

Supporting Information

**Furfuryl alcohol modified melamine sponge for high-efficient oil spill clean-up
and recovery**

Yi Feng,^a Yayan Wang,^{ab} Yaquan Wang^a and Jianfeng Yao^{a*}

^a College of Chemical Engineering, Jiangsu Key Lab for the Chemistry & Utilization of Agricultural and Forest Biomass, Jiangsu Key Lab of Biomass-based Green Fuels and Chemicals, Nanjing Forestry University, Nanjing, Jiangsu 210037, China. Tel: +86 25 85427912, E-mail: jfyao@njfu.edu.cn

^b College of Chemical Engineering, Tianjin University, Tianjin, 300073, China

Oils and organic solvents sorption test

The adsorption capacity was investigated by the following procedure. A weight measured modified melamine sponge was completely filled with oils or organic solvents for 30 s (for heavy oils, 1-2 minutes were needed). Then the absorbed sponge was taken out with tweezers for weight measurement. The absorption capacity is defined as the weight of absorbed substance per unit weight of the dried melamine sponge. Each oil or organic solvent was tested at least three times. For the cyclic absorption measurement, the absorption capacity was obtained through the same method and the absorbed sponge was recovered by squeezed out the oils or organic solvents from sponge.

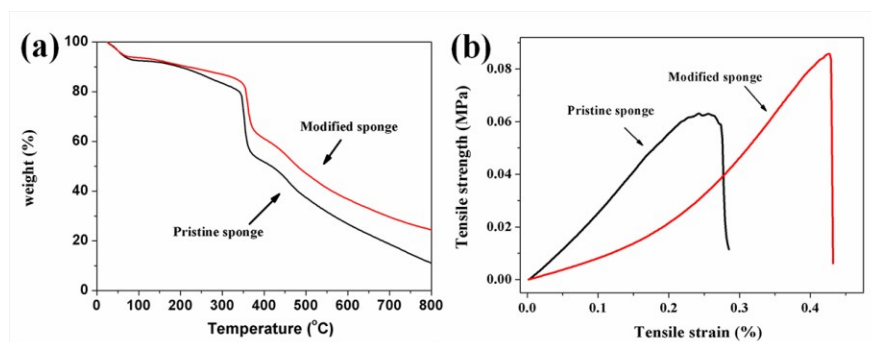


Fig. S1 (a) TGA spectra and (b) mechanical properties of pristine and modified MS

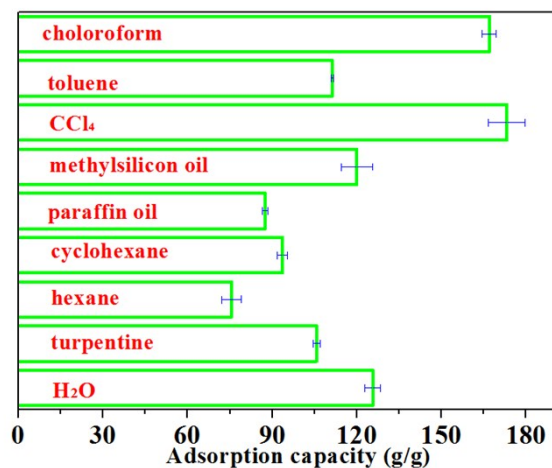


Fig. S2 Sorption capacities of the pristine MS for water and various oils and organic solvents. Pristine MS can absorb both H₂O and oils, showing no separation abilities for H₂O and oils.

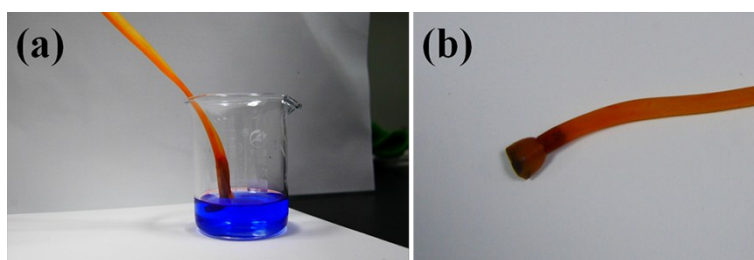


Fig. S3 (a) digital picture showing the modified MS was forced into water and still no water was sucked into tube under vacuum and (b) optical view of modified MS after oil-collecting test and the modified MS was only dyed red without blue, indicating that no water passed MS and flowed into tube.

Table S1. Effects of FA concentration (soaking time was fixed to be 2h) and soaking time (FA concentration was fixed to be 20 mg/mL) on the sorption capacities of FA modified MS

FA concentration, mg/mL	5	10	20	
Hexane, g/g	74±1.2	77.8±0.8	78±0.6	
Turpentine, g/g	100±2.0	100±1.5	102±3.8	
Soaking time	2 h	4 h	6 h	12 h
Hexane, g/g	78±0.6	77.8±0.7	78±0.8	77.9±0.2
Turpentine, g/g	102±3.8	100±4.5	102.5±2.0	101.5±1.8

Table S2. Comparison of oil sorption capacities of different oil absorbents

Absorbent materials	Sorption capacity, g/g	Ref.
FA modified MS	n-hexane, 78	In this work
	Cyclohexane, 85	
	Toluene, 82	
	Chloroform, 160	
rGO/ethylenediamine coated melamine sponge	n-hexane, 58	[1]
	Chloroform, 150	
	Methylbenzene, 70	
	Soybean oil, 75	
Graphene-based melamine foam	Acetone, 60	[2]
	Hexane, 50	
	Paraffin, 75	
	Toluene, 65	
3-MPTES modified melamine foam	Hexane, 75	[3]
	Chloroform, 160	
Poly (divinylbenzene)-coated melamine foam	Hexane, 40	[4]
	Acetone, 50	
	Chloroform, 120	
	Toluene, 50	
Dimethylsiloxane-coated melamine sponge	Hexane, 45	[5]
	Toluene, 75	
	Silicone oil, 50	
Carbonized melamine sponge	n-hexane, 80-90	[6]
	Toluene, 110	
Ligin-coated melamine sponge	Toluene, 125	[7]
	Hexane, 100	
	Chloroform, 200	
	Hexadecane, 100	
rGO-coated melamine sponge	Hexane, 55	[8]
	Toluene, 65	
	Dedocane, 60	
	Chloroform, 125	
	Acetone, 70	
ZIF-8 coated carbonized melamine sponge	Toluene, 77	[9]
	Acetone, 57	
	Hexane, 61	
	Chloroform 136	
Polyurethane@Fe ₃ O ₄ @SiO ₂ @Fluoropolymer Sponges	n-hexane, 20	[10]
	Chloroform, 20	
	Toluene, 20	

graphene/PDMS-coated melamine sponge	Hexane, 55 Motor oil, 90	[11]
Ag/polydopamine-coated melamine sponge	Hexane, 60 Toluene, 95	[12]
polydopamine/1H,1H,2H,2H-per uorodecanethiol-coated melamine sponge	Hexane, 80 Toluene, 112	[13]
PDMS-functionalized melamine sponge M8	Hexane, 45.4 Toluene, 71.5 Octadecene, 55.4 Silicone oil, 61.4 Motor oil, 46.3	[5]
TiO ₂ sol/n-octadecylthiol PU	Engine oil, 83 Chloroform, 110	[14]
Poly(dimethylsiloxane) sponge with NaCl	Chloroform, 21	[15]
Soot dipped PU	Silicon Oil, 43 Chloroform, 82	[16]
Hydrophobic bacterial cellulose aerogel	Hexane, 86 Chloroform, 185	[17]
Carbon nanotube sponge	Hexane, 78 Chloroform, 176	[18]
Spongy graphene	Chloroform, 86	[19]
Twisted carbon fibers from cotton	Chloroform, 115	[20]
Graphene-carbon nanotube sponge	Chloroform, 568	[21]
MTCS-coated chitin sponge	Cyclohexane, 30 Toluene, 32 Chloroform, 54	[22]
Carbon nanotubes/graphene hybrid aerogel	Hexane, 150 Chloroform, 270	[23]
Carbonaceous aerogel	Hexane, 3.5 Engine oil, 12 Crude oil, 10	[24]
Carbon fiber aerogel	Chloroform, 80	[25]

References

- [1] S. Song, H. Yang, C. Su, Z. Jiang, Z. Lu, Ultrasonic-microwave assisted synthesis of stable reduced graphene oxide modified melamine foam with superhydrophobicity and high oil adsorption capacities, *Chem. Eng. J.*, 306 (2016) 504-511.
- [2] C. H. Ji, K. Zhang, L. Li, X. X. Chen, J. L. Hu, D. Y. Yan, G. Y. Xiao, X. H. He,

- High performance graphene-based foam fabricated by a facile approach for oil absorption, *J. Mater. Chem. A*, 5 (2017) 11263-11270.
- [3] K. Hou, Y. Jin, J. Chen, X. Wen, S. Xu, J. Cheng, P. Pi, Fabrication of superhydrophobic melamine sponges by thiol-ene click chemistry for oil removal, *Mater. Lett.*, 202 (2017) 99-102.
- [4] Y. Li, Z. Zhang, M. Wang, X. Men, Q. Xue, One-pot fabrication of nanoporous polymer decorated materials: from oil-collecting devices to high-efficiency emulsion separation, *J. Mater. Chem. A*, 5 (2017) 5077-5087.
- [5] X. Chen, J. A. Weibel, S. V. Garimella, Continuous Oil-Water Separation Using Polydimethylsiloxane-Functionalized Melamine Sponge, *Ind. Eng. Chem. Res.*, 55 (2016) 3596-3602.
- [6] A. Stolz, S. Le Floch, L. Reinert, S. M. M. Ramos, J. Tuaille-Combes, Y. Soneda, P. Chaudet, D. Baillis, N. Blanchard, L. Duclaux, A. San-Miguel, Melamine-derived carbon sponges for oil-water separation, *Carbon*, 107 (2016) 198-208.
- [7] Y. Yang, H. Yi, C. Wang, Oil Absorbents Based on Melamine/Lignin by a Dip Adsorbing Method, *ACS sustain. Chem. Eng.*, 3 (2015) 3012-3018.
- [8] C. Ji, K. Zhang, L. Li, X. Chen, J. Hu, D. Yan, G. Xiao, X. He, High performance graphene-based foam fabricated by a facile approach for oil absorption, *J. Mater. Chem. A*, 5 (2017) 11263-11270.
- [9] D. Kim, D. W. Kim, O. Buyukcakir, M. K. Kim, K. Polychronopoulou, A. Coskun, Highly Hydrophobic ZIF-8/Carbon Nitride Foam with Hierarchical Porosity for Oil Capture and Chemical Fixation of CO₂, *Adv. Funct. Mater.*, 27 (2017) 1700706-1700714.
- [10] L. Wu, L. X. Li, B. C. Li, J. P. Zhang, A. Q. Wang, Magnetic, Durable, and Superhydrophobic Polyurethane@Fe₃O₄@SiO₂@Fluoropolymer Sponges for Selective Oil Absorption and Oil/Water Separation, *ACS Appl. Mater. Interf.*, 7 (2015) 4936-4946.
- [11] D. D. Nguyen, N. H. Tai, S. B. Lee, W. S. Kuo, Superhydrophobic and superoleophilic properties of graphene-based sponges fabricated using a facile dip coating method, *Energ. Environ. Sci.*, 5 (2012) 7908-7912.

- [12] Z. L. Xu, K. Miyazaki, T. Hori, Dopamine-Induced Superhydrophobic Melamine Foam for Oil/Water Separation, *Adv. Mater. Interf.*, 2 (2015)
- [13] C. P. Ruan, K. L. Ai, X. B. Li, L. H. Lu, A Superhydrophobic Sponge with Excellent Absorbency and Flame Retardancy, *Angew. Chem.-Int. Ed.*, 53 (2014) 5556-5560.
- [14] Y. Zhao, C. G. Hu, Y. Hu, H. H. Cheng, G. Q. Shi, L. T. Qu, A Versatile, Ultralight, Nitrogen-Doped Graphene Framework, *Angew. Chem.-Int. Ed.*, 51 (2012) 11371-11375.
- [15] X. Zhao, L. X. Li, B. C. Li, J. P. Zhang, A. Q. Wang, Durable superhydrophobic/superoleophilic PDMS sponges and their applications in selective oil absorption and in plugging oil leakages, *J. Mater. Chem. A*, 2 (2014) 18281-18287.
- [16] P. X. Xi, L. Huang, Z. H. Xu, F. J. Chen, L. An, B. Wang, Z. N. Chen, Low cost and robust soot dipped polyurethane sponge for highly efficient and recyclable oil and organic solvent cleanup, *RSC Adv.*, 4 (2014) 59481-59485.
- [17] H. Z. Sai, R. Fu, L. Xing, J. H. Xiang, Z. Y. Li, F. Li, T. Zhang, Surface Modification of Bacterial Cellulose Aerogels' Web-like Skeleton for Oil/Water Separation, *ACS Appl. Mater. Interf.*, 7 (2015) 7373-7381.
- [18] X. C. Gui, J. Q. Wei, K. L. Wang, A. Y. Cao, H. W. Zhu, Y. Jia, Q. K. Shu, D. H. Wu, Carbon Nanotube Sponges, *Adv. Mater.*, 22 (2010) 617-622.
- [19] H. C. Bi, X. Xie, K. B. Yin, Y. L. Zhou, S. Wan, L. B. He, F. Xu, F. Banhart, L. T. Sun, R. S. Ruoff, Spongy Graphene as a Highly Efficient and Recyclable Sorbent for Oils and Organic Solvents, *Adv. Funct. Mater.*, 22 (2012) 4421-4425.
- [20] H. C. Bi, Z. Y. Yin, X. H. Cao, X. Xie, C. L. Tan, X. Huang, B. Chen, F. T. Chen, Q. L. Yang, X. Y. Bu, X. H. Lu, L. T. Sun, H. Zhang, Carbon Fiber Aerogel Made from Raw Cotton: A Novel, Efficient and Recyclable Sorbent for Oils and Organic Solvents, *Adv. Mater.*, 25 (2013) 5916-5921.
- [21] H. Y. Sun, Z. Xu, C. Gao, Multifunctional, Ultra-Flyweight, Synergistically Assembled Carbon Aerogels, *Adv. Mater.*, 25 (2013) 2554-2560.
- [22] B. Duan, H. M. Gao, M. He, L. N. Zhang, Hydrophobic Modification on Surface

- of Chitin Sponges for Highly Effective Separation of Oil, *ACS Appl. Mater. Interf.*, 6 (2014) 19933-19942.
- [23] S. Chen, G. He, H. Hu, S. Jin, Y. Zhou, Y. He, S. He, F. Zhao, H. Hou, Elastic carbon foam via direct carbonization of polymer foam for flexible electrodes and organic chemical absorption, *Energ. Environ. Sci.*, 6 (2013) 2435-2439.
- [24] Z. Q. Wang, P. X. Jin, M. Wang, G. H. Wu, C. Dong, A. G. Wu, Biomass-Derived Porous Carbonaceous Aerogel as Sorbent for Oil-Spill Remediation, *ACS Appl. Mater. Interf.*, 8 (2016) 32862-32868.
- [25] S. D. Yang, L. Chen, L. Mu, B. Hao, P. C. Ma, Low cost carbon fiber aerogel derived from bamboo for the adsorption of oils and organic solvents with excellent performances, *RSC Adv.*, 5 (2015) 38470-38478.