Supporting information:

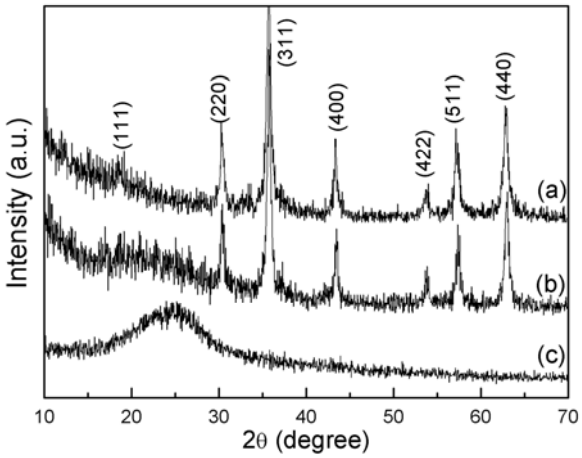

Fig. S1 XRD patterns of (a) Fe_3O_4 microspheres, (b) Fe_3O_4/PPy composite microspheres and (c) porous PPy microspheres.

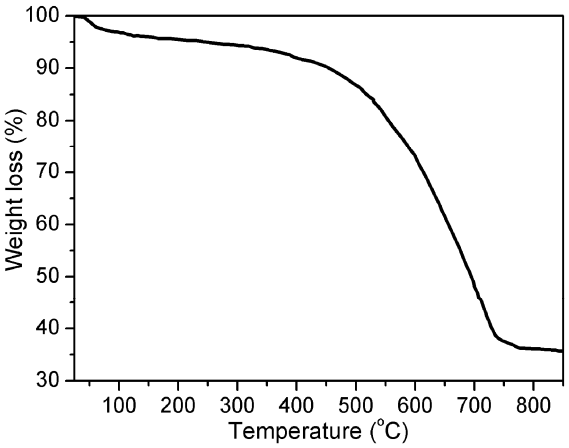

Fig. S2 TG analysis of Fe3O4/PPy composite microspheres.

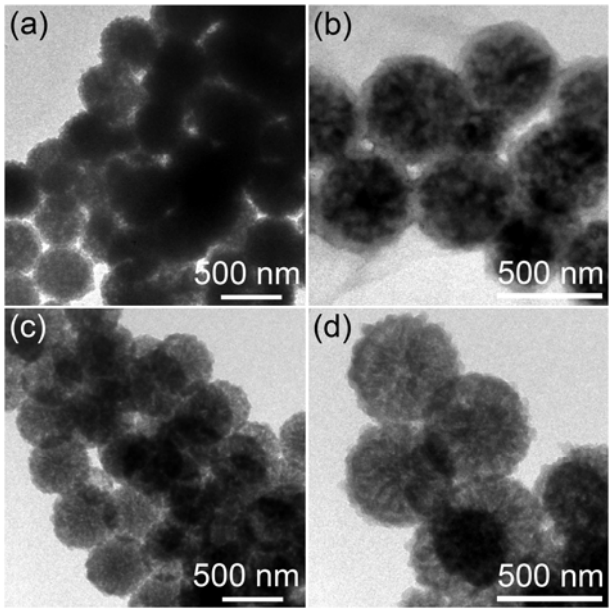

Fig. S3 TEM images (a) and (b) Fe_3O_4/PPy composite microspheres synthesized under mechanical stirring for 1.5 h and (c) and (d) their corresponding porous PPy microspheres after residual Fe3O4 nanoparticles were removed.

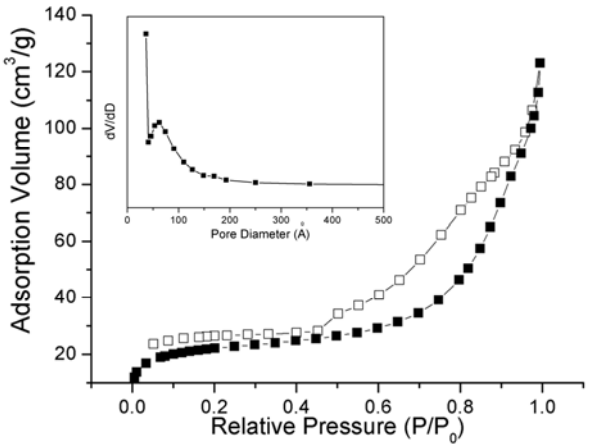

Fig. S4 N_2 adsorption/desorption isotherm for the Fe_3O_4/PPy composite microspheres. (Inset: BJH pore-size distribution curve obtained from the desorption data)

Table S1 Langmuir and Freundlich isothermal parameters for Cr(VI) adsorption on Fe_3O_4/PPy composite microspheres.

Langmuir			Freundlich		
Qm (mg g^{-1})	b (L mg^{-1})	R^2	k	1/n	R^2
209.2	0.11	0.99	27.97	0.498	0.96

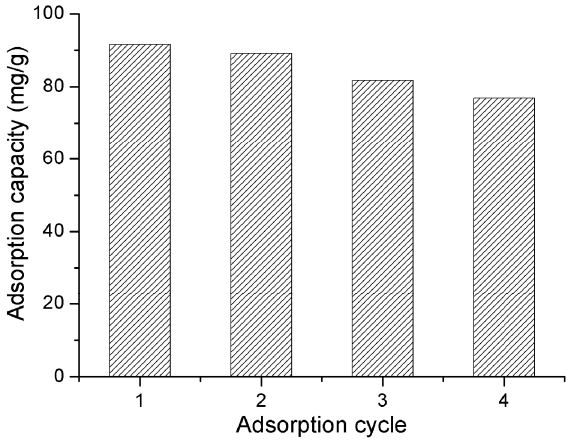

Fig. S5 Adsorption-desorption cycles.