## **Electronic supplementary information**

## Sorption of Cr(VI) on Mg-Al-Fe Layered Double Hydroxides

## Synthesized by Mechanochemical Method

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Fig. S1 (a) Nitrogen adsorption-desorption isotherms and (b) pore size distribution curves of Mg-Al-Fe LDHs samples.<sup>†</sup>

<sup>†</sup> The N<sub>2</sub> adsorption-desorption isotherms were performed using an Autosorb IQ-MP system (Quantachrome Instruments, USA), and the samples were degassed at 120 °C for 5 h under vacuum prior to measurements. The specific surface area (A<sub>s</sub>) and pore volume of the samples were estimated from the isotherms by the Brunauer–Emmett–Teller (BET) and Barrett–Joyner–Halenda (BJH) methods, respectively.



Fig. S2 Nonlinear correlation plots of pseudo first-order kinetics for Cr(VI) sorption onto Mg-Al-Fe LDHs.



Fig. S3 Nonlinear correlation plots of Langmuir isotherm for Cr(VI) sorption onto

Mg-Al-Fe LDHs



Fig. S4 (a) Survey XPS spectrum of  $K_2Cr_2O_7$  and (b) HR-XPS spectrum of

Cr2p in K<sub>2</sub>Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>.



Fig. S5 XPS spectra of LDHs and LDHs-Cr.



Fig. S6 HR-XPS spectra of Cr 2p for various LDHs-Cr samples. The *R* value in each figure is the area ratio of the peak about at  $E_B$  576 eV to the peak about at  $E_B$  579 eV.

Samples $Mg(OH)_2$ $Al(OH)_3$ $Fe(NO_3)_3 \cdot 9H_2O$ $Mg(NO_3)_2 \cdot 9H_2O$	5H <sub>2</sub> O
$\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{F} = $	
LDH <sub>0</sub> 0.069 0.029 / 0.017	
LDH <sub>1/3</sub> 0.117 0.026 0.013 /	
$LDH_{1/2}$ 0.100 0.017 0.017 /	
LDH <sub>2/3</sub> 0.103 0.011 0.022 /	
LDH <sub>1</sub> 0.086 / 0.029 /	

Table S1 Amounts (in mol) of starting materials used in synthetic tests for Mg-Al-Fe LDHs.