# From phosphate rocks to uranium raw materials: hybrid materials designed for selective separation of uranium from phosphoric acid.

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## SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

## **Precursor synthesis**



*Diethyl N,N di*(2-ethylhexyl)carbamoylmethylphosphonate (1) was synthesized according to the procedure describe in the literature.<sup>1</sup>

3-(N,N-di(2-éthylhexyl)carbamoyl)-3-(diéthoxy)phosphono)-ethylpropanoate (2):

A solution of **1** (1 eq.) in anhydrous THF (1 mol/L) was added dropwise to a suspension of sodium hydride (1.5 eq.) in anhydrous THF (2 mol/L). The mixture was stirred for 1 hour at room temperature before cooling at 0°C. Ethyl bromoacetate (1.5 eq.) was slowly added to the cold mixture, after return to room temperature the mixture was stirred for 1h.

The mixture was acidified with HCl (1 mol/L) until the solution reached to pH 1, and then extracted with dichloromethane. The combined extracts were dried over sodium sulphate, filtered and evaporated under *vacuum*. The excess of ethyl bromoacetate was removed by distillation under *vacuum* to give the desired compound **2** (yield >95%).

<sup>1</sup>*H NMR* (400 *MHz*, *CDCl*<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (*ppm*): 0.77 – 0.89 (m, 12H) ; 1.16 – 1.28 (m, 27H) ; 1.63 – 1.70 (m, 1H) ; 1.74 – 1.83 (m, 1H) ; 2.68 – 2.76 (m, 1H) ; 2.70 – 2.90 (m, 1H) ; 3.01 – 3.18 (m, 2H) ; 3.50 – 3.75 (m, 3H) ; 4.01 – 4.13 (m, 6H).

<sup>13</sup>*C NMR* (100 *MHz*, *CDCl*<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (*ppm*): 10.3; 10.5; 10.6; 10.9; 14.0; 14.1; 16.3; 16.4; 23.1; 23.5; 23.7; 24.0; 28.6; 28.7; 28.8; 28.9; 30.2; 30.3; 30.6; 30.7; 32.7; 37.0; 37.1; 37.2; 37.3; 37.7 – 39.1 (d, J = 132.0 Hz); 38.6; 38.7; 38.9; 50.2; 50.6; 50.9; 51.2; 51.9; 52.4; 60.8; 62.4; 62.5; 63.1; 63.2; 63.3; 167.4; 168.5; 171.3 – 171,5 (dd, J = 18.5 Hz, d = 4.5 Hz). <sup>31</sup>*P NMR* (160 *MHz*, *CDCl*<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (*ppm*): 23.1.

#### 3-(N,N-di(2-ethylhexyl)carbamoyl)-3-(ethoxy)hydroxyphosphoryl)-propanoic acid (TR):

To a solution of **2** in ethanol (0.4 mol/L) was added an aqueous solution of potassium hydroxide (20%, 6 eq). The solution was then heated under reflux for 3 h. After return to room temperature, the mixture was acidified with HCl (1 mol/L) until the solution reached to pH 1, and then extracted with dichloromethane. The combined extracts were dried over sodium sulphate, filtered and evaporated under *vacuum* to give the desired compound **TR** (yield >95%).

<sup>1</sup>*H NMR* (400 *MHz, CDCl*<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (*ppm*): 0.82 – 0.92 (m, 12H) ; 1.22 – 1.38 (m, 19H) ; 1.66 – 1.73 (m, 1H) ; 1.74 – 1.82 (m, 1H) ; 2.88 – 3.0 (m, 2H) ; 3.01 – 3.23 (m, 2H) ; 3.46 – 3.80 (m, 3H) ; 4.07 – 4.17 (m, 2H) ; 8.96 (bs, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>*C NMR* (100 *MHz*, *CDCl*<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (*ppm*): 10.3 ; 10.5 ; 10.7 ; 10.8 ; 14.0 ; 16.2 ; 16.3 ; 23.0 ; 23.4 ; 23.6 ; 23.8 ; 28.5 ; 28.6 ; 28.7 ; 30.2 ; 30.3 ; 30.4 ; 32.9 ; 37.1 ; 37.7 - 39.0 (d, J = 132.0 Hz) ; 38.5 ; 38.6 ; 50.4 ; 50.6 ; 52.3 ; 52.8 ; 62.4 168.8 ; 174.2 (d, J = 9.0 Hz) ; 174.4 (d, J = 9.0 Hz). <sup>31</sup>*P NMR* (160 *MHz*, *CDCl*<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (*ppm*): 24.0.



Compound **3** and **4** were synthesized using 11-Bromo-1-undecene and according to the previous protocol.

Diethyl-1-(N, N- di(2-ethylhexyl)carbamoyl)-1-undecenyl phosphonate (3) (yield >95%)

<sup>1</sup>*H NMR* (400 *MHz*, *CDCl*<sub>3</sub>): δ (*ppm*) = 0.74-0.80 (m, 12H) ; 1.15-1.31 (m, 38H) ; 1.51-1.61 (m, 1H) ; 1.64-1.71 (m, 1H) ; 1.89-1.93 (m, 1H) ; 1.97-2.02 (m, 1H) ; 2.76-2.81 (m, 1H) ; 2.82-2.86 (m, 1H) ; 3.06-3.13 (m, 1H) ; 3.42-3.61 (m, 1H) ; 3.61-3.63 (m, 1H) ; 3.98-4.06 (m, 4H) ; 4.78-4.88 (m, 2H) ; 5.64-5.71 (m, 1H).

<sup>13</sup>*C NMR* (100 *MHz*, *CDCl*<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (*ppm*) = 13.8 ; 13.9 ; 22.4 ; 26.3 ; 26.4 ; 27.1 ; 28.9 ; 31.3 ; 31.4 ; 41.2 ; 46.0 ; 48.1 ; 165.8.

<sup>31</sup>**P** NMR (160 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 24.7

Ethyl-1-(N, N- di(2-ethylhexyl)carbamoyl)-1-undecenyl phosphonate (4) (yield >95%)

<sup>1</sup>*H NMR* (400 *MHz*, *CDCl*<sub>3</sub>): δ (*ppm*) = 0.73-0.80 (m, 12H) ; 1.22-1.30 (m, 35H) ; 1.51-1.71 (m, 2H) ; 1.90-1.94 (m, 1H) ; 1.97-2.02 (m, 1H) ; 3.06-3.23 (m, 1H) ; 3.40-3.62 (m, 1H) ; 3.62-3.63 (m, 1H) ; 3.88-3.95 (m, 2H) ; 4.55-4.70 (m, 2H) ; 4.84-5.02 (m, 1H)

<sup>31</sup>**P NMR** (160 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 26.8

#### Ethyl-1-(N, N- di(2-ethylhexyl)carbamoyl)-1-(triethoxysilylundecyl) phosphonate (BP)

To a stirred solution of **4** (1 eq.) in anhydrous THF (0.1 mol/L) heated to reflux was added triethoxysilane (10 eq.) under nitrogen atmosphere, followed by the Karstedt catalyst solution (0.01 eq. ; Pt(0)-1,3-divinyl-1,1,3,3-tetramethyldisiloxane complex, 3% Pt). The reflux was pursued for 24h, then the solvent was evaporated and the residue obtained was washed several times with pentane to give the desired compound **BP** (yield 75%).

<sup>1</sup>*H NMR* (400 *MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>*):  $\delta$  (*ppm*) = 0.6 (m, 2H) ; 0.8-0.87 (m, 12H) ; 1.12-1.34 (m, 41H) ; 1.51-1.71 (m, 2H) ; 1,91-2.02 (m, 2H) ; 3.1-3.22 (m, 1H) ; 3.40-3.65 (m, 2H) ; 3.77-3.98 (m, 6H)

<sup>31</sup>**P NMR** (160 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 26,1

<sup>29</sup>Si NMR (80 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = -44.47

## **Materials synthesis**

Ordered mesoporous silica (SBA15) was synthesized as previously reported in the literature.<sup>2</sup>

Ordered nanoporous carbon material (CMK-3) was prepared following synthesis procedure reported in the literature.<sup>3</sup>

The modification of the surface of SBA<sup>4</sup> (silanisation with APTES or **BP**) or CMK<sup>5</sup> (Diels Adler cycloaddition with propargylamine) was performed according to the procedure reported in the literature.

The introduction of **TR** ligand (2 eq.) onto the modified supports NH2@SBA and NH2@CMK (1eq. of functional group) was performed using the coupling reagent system N,N'-Dicyclohexylcarbodimide (DCC, 2 eq.) / 1-Hydroxybenzotriazole (HOBt, 2 eq.) / N, N- diisopropylethylamine (DIPEA, 1.5 eq) in anhydrous THF. The mixture was stirred for 48h under argon at room temperature; the solid was filtered off, washed several times with methanol and dichloromethane then dried under *vacuum*.

Each step of TR@SBA and BP@SBA synthesis were followed by CP-MAS NMR (<sup>29</sup>Si, <sup>13</sup>C, <sup>31</sup>P) and by XRD and Raman spectroscopy for the CMK based materials. The characterization of the TR@SBA and TR@CMK materials are given hereafter (Figure S3 & S4).

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## **Figures and Table**



Figure S1: SAXS experiments for SBA15; NH2@SBA15 and TR@SBA15 materials.



Figure S2 : 2D hexagonal structure of SBA15.

Sample	q <sub>10</sub> (nm <sup>-1</sup> )	S <sub>BET</sub> (m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	S <sub>µ</sub> (m²g⁻¹)	D <sub>p</sub> ( <i>nm</i> )	a(nm)	t(nm)
SBA15	0.697	760	117	6.7	10.41	3.71
NH2@SBA15	0.702	497	61	5.8	10.33	4.53
TR@SBA15	0.707	286	6	4.7	10.26	5.56
СМКЗ		1400	-	3.5		
NH2@CMK		600	-	3.2		
TR@CMK		300	-	2.8		

Table S1: pores structure and meso-structure of SBA15, NH2@SBA, TR@SBA15 and CMK3, NH2@CMK and TR@CMK samples.  $q_{10}$  is the SAXS diffraction peak characteristics of a 2D-hexagonal structure  $S_{BET}$  is the specific surface area calculated by the BET model;  $S_{\mu}$  is the microporosity surface area obtained by the t-plot model;  $D_p$  is the pore size diameter form BJH model, a is the distance between two pores (calculating from q10 and as according to Figure S2); t is the wall thickness (see Figure S2). Characterization of TR materials:



Figure S3 : <sup>29</sup>Si, <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>31</sup>P CP-MAS spectra



Figure S4: a) X-ray diffraction spectra and b) Raman spectroscopy