Supporting information

Reactive adsorption of low concentration methyl mercaptan on Cu-

based MOF with controllable size and shape

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Figure S1. (a) Dicopper tetracarboxylate building block of HKUST-1. (b) HKUST-1 polymer framework viewed down the (1 0 0) direction. (c) HKUST-1 viewed along the cell body diagonal (1 1 1).

MOF-199 is a well-known Cu-based MOF material first reported by Chui et al. [1] The structure of MOF-199 is as follows. The polymer forms face-centered-cubic crystals that contain an intersecting three-dimensional system of large square-shaped pore (9 Å by 9 Å). The pores themselves contain up to 10 additional water molecules per formula unit. A view down the (1 0 0) direction of the cubic cell of HKUST-1 reveals about 1 nm size channels with fourfold symmetry. A view through the cell body diagonal (1 1 1) reveals a honeycomb arrangement of large hexagonal-shaped windows, each composed of a ring of six metal dimmers and six trimesate groups, which measure 18.6 Å between opposite vertices. The windows are cross sections of the "cavities" formed at the intersection of the three orthogonal sets of channels.



Figure S2. The adsorption system for gaseous CH₃SH.



Figure S3. SEM image of (a) commercialized AC and (b) Cu-0.7.

Ref.	Activation temperature ($^{\circ}$ C)	BET surface area (m^2/g)
our	70	903.9, 684.5, 580.7
our	150	960.4, 729.8, 631.1
[2]	170	1264
[3]	85	857, 1482
[4]	120	1040
[5]	120	909
[6]	150	940
[7]	170	1507

 Table S1. Comparison of BET surface area between MOF-199 in our work and

 previously reported work.

We also measured the BET surface area activating at 150 °C and BET surface area of L O, S O, and sphere like MOF-199 is 960 m²/g, 729 m²/g and 631 m²/g, respectively. The BET surface area activated at 150 °C is little higher than that of 70 °C which proves that the activation temperature at 70 °C is enough to activate the synthesized MOF-199. The room temperature synthesis of MOF-199 has even lower BET surface area because of the partial inclusion of PVP [8], interconnected MOF networks [9], or the existence of nanocrystalline domains [10].



Figure S4. XRD patterns of AC and Cu loaded AC with different loading amount.



Figure S5. (a) N_2 adsorption-desorption and (b) pore size distributions of commercialized AC.



Figure S6. CH₃SH breakthrough curves for different loading amount of Cu on AC.

Preparation of Cu loaded AC. Certain amount of copper nitrate trihydrate was dissolved in ethanol and 10 g of AC was added in the solution with continuous stirring. After stirring for 8 h, the ethanol was removed by heating the solution. The modified AC was then dried at 80 °C for 5 h. Then the dry Cu loaded AC was placed in a tube furnace, heated to 300 °C with a ramping rate of 5 °C min⁻¹ and maintained for 4 h in nitrogen. At last, the temperature was decreased to 25 °C. The Cu loaded AC was labelled as Cu-x, and x represent the loading amount of Cu (mmol/g AC)



Figure S7. Illustration of the remaining PVP on the surface of S O MOF-199.

The remaining PVP attached on the surface of S O MOF-199 can reduce the surface energy of S O MOF-199 and alter the coordination equilibrium at the crystal surface during the growth process in the synthesis. However, the remaining PVP occupy the surface sites of S O MOF-199 resulting to steric hindrance. Therefore, The CH₃SH molecule is more difficult to get access to the open metal Cu in MOF-199 leading to bad performance in the breakthrough experiment.

Sample	Sulfur compound	Sulfur compound capacity (mg/g adsorbent)	Ref.
HKUST-1	CH ₃ SH	74.7	Our
HKUST-1	SO_2	32	[11]
HKUST-1 with GOPSN	H_2S	109	[10]
HKUST-1 with GOSA	H_2S	133	[12]
UVUST 1	C_2H_5SH	18.3	[12]
пкозт-т	CH ₃ SCH ₃	24.4	[15]
HKUST-1	dibenzothiophene	45	[14]
Cu-BTC	t-butylmercaptan	300	[15]

 Table S2. Summary of sulfur compound capacity of L O and previously reported

 work.

Table S3. Assignment of XPS peaks of fresh and exhausted L O MOF-199 materials

Species	Cu 2p _{3/2}	S 2p	
Fresh L O	935.1 eV Cu-O		
		168.3 eV methyl thiolate	
	935.1 eV Cu-O	162.0 eV 2p _{3/2}	162.6 eV 2p _{1/2}
Exhausted L O		sulfur anions	sulfur anions
	933.2 eV CuS	163.4 eV 2p _{3/2}	164.3 eV 2p _{1/2}
		CuS	CuS

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