

Supplementary information

Table S1. Physical properties of the SBA-15 and ULP SBA-15 materials synthesised in this study: specific surface area (SA), total pore volume (V_{PT}) and pore diameter (d_{pads}), including the mean of the SA, V_{PT} and d_{pads} and standard deviation s of SA, V_{PT} and d_{pads} .

| | SA (m ² /g) | V_{PT} (cm ³ /g) | d_{pads} (nm) |
|---------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| SBA-15-1 | 722 | 0.77 | 7.1 |
| SBA-15-2 | 647 | 0.71 | 6.9 |
| SBA-15-3 | 626 | 0.70 | 6.8 |
| SBA-15-4 | 632 | 0.64 | 7.3 |
| SBA-15-5 | 713 | 0.75 | 7.0 |
| SBA-15-6 | 746 | 0.79 | 7.0 |
| SBA-15-7 | 714 | 0.83 | 8.0 |
| SBA-15-8 | 681 | 0.75 | 7.3 |
| SBA-15-9 | 708 | 0.77 | 6.9 |
| SBA-15-10 | 788 | 0.97 | 8.3 |
| SBA-15-11 | 760 | 0.95 | 8.0 |
| SBA-15-12 | 783 | 0.87 | 7.6 |
| SBA-15-13 | 690 | 0.82 | 7.7 |
| Mean | 710 | 0.80 | 7.4 |
| s | 55 | 0.10 | 0.5 |
| ULP-SBA-15-1 | 640 | 1.32 | 24.6 |
| ULP-SBA-15-2 | 722 | 1.70 | 20.6 |
| ULP-SBA-15-3 | 619 | 1.23 | 19.9 |
| ULP-SBA-15-4 | 652 | 1.29 | 22.6 |
| ULP-SBA-15-5 | 689 | 1.08 | 19.6 |
| ULP-SBA-15-6 | 720 | 1.40 | 20.3 |
| ULP-SBA-15-7 | 643 | 1.41 | 20.2 |
| ULP-SBA-15-8 | 561 | 1.00 | 18.5 |
| ULP-SBA-15-9 | 571 | 1.22 | 19.9 |
| ULP-SBA-15-10 | 630 | 1.55 | 24.9 |
| ULP-SBA-15-11 | 749 | 1.73 | 21.4 |
| ULP-SBA-15-12 | 635 | 1.48 | 24.1 |
| Mean | 657 | 1.37 | 21.4 |
| s | 55 | 0.23 | 2.1 |