Engineering Nanoporous Materials For Energy-Efficient Carbon Dioxide Capture

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The development of a cost-effective CO-2 capture system is critical to reducing global CO2 emissions that have caused climate change. While current CO2 capture technologies such as amine scrubber are too costly for widespread application, adsorptive carbon capture systems have demonstrated a potential toward reducing cost and improving performance. In my work, various nanoporous materials including zeolites, metal-organic frameworks and amine-appended sorbents were synthesized and evaluated for potential application in post-combustion CO2 capture. Membrane technology has also been considered as an energy-efficient alternative to current energy-intensive CO2 separation methods. One way to synthesize high-performance membrane is via incorporation of nanocrystals of a functional porous material into polymer matrix. We have explored various combinations of nanoporous materials and polymers to design mixed-matrix membranes for applications in CO2 separations.