Accepted Manuscript

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 PII:
 S0167-577X(18)30834-6

 DOI:
 https://doi.org/10.1016/j.matlet.2018.05.081

 Reference:
 MLBLUE 24381

To appear in: Materials Letters

Received Date:17 April 2018Revised Date:12 May 2018Accepted Date:16 May 2018



Please cite this article as: C. Lu, J. Wu, D. Liu, Graphitic carbon nitride nanoplate for elemental mercury capture, *Materials Letters* (2018), doi: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.matlet.2018.05.081

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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Graphitic carbon nitride nanoplate for elemental mercury capture

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Abstract: Graphitic carbon nitride (g-C₃N₄) as a nanocarbon material has attracted accelerated concern because of its layered structure, facile synthesis route and lower capital cost. Here, three kinds of g-C₃N₄ are fabricated via simply thermal polycondensation of dicyandiamide, melamine, and urea at high temperature, and they are applied for elemental mercury (Hg⁰) capture in a fixed-bed reactor. We found that the g-C₃N₄ nanoplate attained by urea pyrolysis exhibited prominent Hg⁰ capture ability with Hg⁰ removal efficiency of ~84% which is much higher than that of the g-C₃N₄ derived from dicyandiamide and melamine pyrolysis, probably attributed to its bigger BET surface area and pore volume.

Keywords: carbon materials; porous materials; graphitic carbon nitride; mercury removal

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