## Fabrication of fluorescent $SiO_2$ @ zeolitic imidazolate framework-8 nanosensor for $Cu^{2+}$ detection

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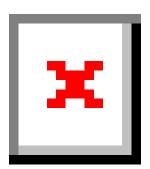


Fig. S1 SEM image of .ZIF-8

ZIF-8 nanocrystals were prepared for comparison. Typically, DMF solution of Zn(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (50 mM, 4 mL) and 2-methylimidazole (50 mM, 4 mL) were mixed and stirred in a 50 mL three-necked bottle for 2 h in an oil bath (150 °C). The ZIF-8 nanocrystals were obtained by centrifugation at 10000 rpm for 10 min and washed with ethanol for three times. Finally, the ZIF-8 nanocrystals were dried in vacuum at °C.

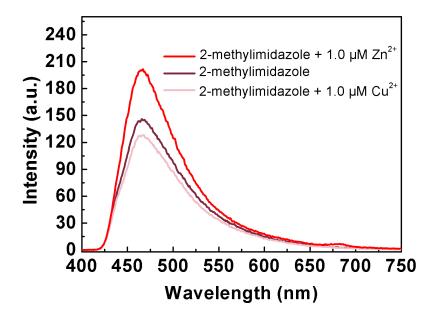
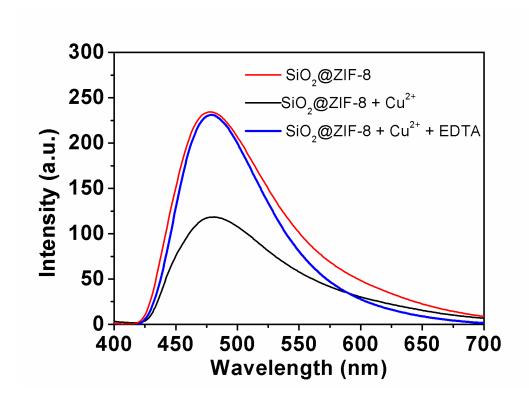


Fig. S2 Fluorescence emission spectra of 2-methylimidazole in the presence of 1.0  $\mu$ M Zn<sup>2+</sup> (red), 2-methylimidazole (brown) and 2-methylimidazole in the presence of 1.0  $\mu$ M Cu<sup>2+</sup> (pink).



**Fig. S3** Fluorescence emission spectra of ZIF-8 (red), ZIF-8 in the presence of Cu<sup>2+</sup> (black) and ZIF-8 in the presence of Cu<sup>2+</sup> and EDTA (blue).

Table S1. Detection of Cu<sup>2+</sup> in Yao Lake water samples.

Sample	Spiked Cu <sup>2+</sup> (nM)	Detected Cu <sup>2+</sup> (nM)	Recovery (%)
Water sample 1	0	Not detected	
Water sample 2	50	$51.36 \pm 0.05$	100.71
Water sample 3	100	$103.54 \pm 0.02$	103.54
Water sample 4	300	$307.65 \pm 0.08$	102.55