

## Supporting Information

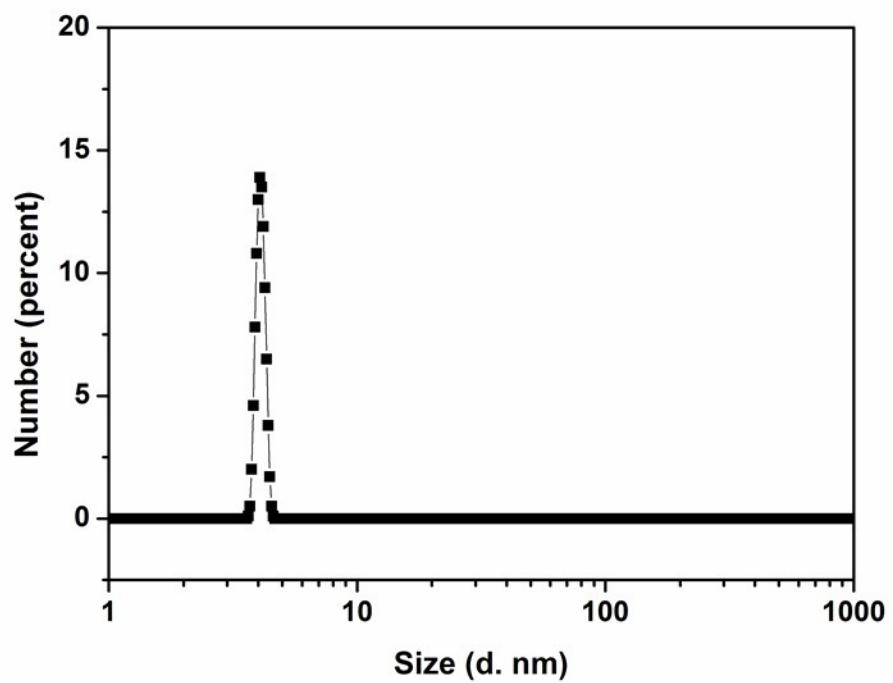
### An “on-off-on” fluorescence assay based on silicon nanoparticles for selective detection of manganese (II)

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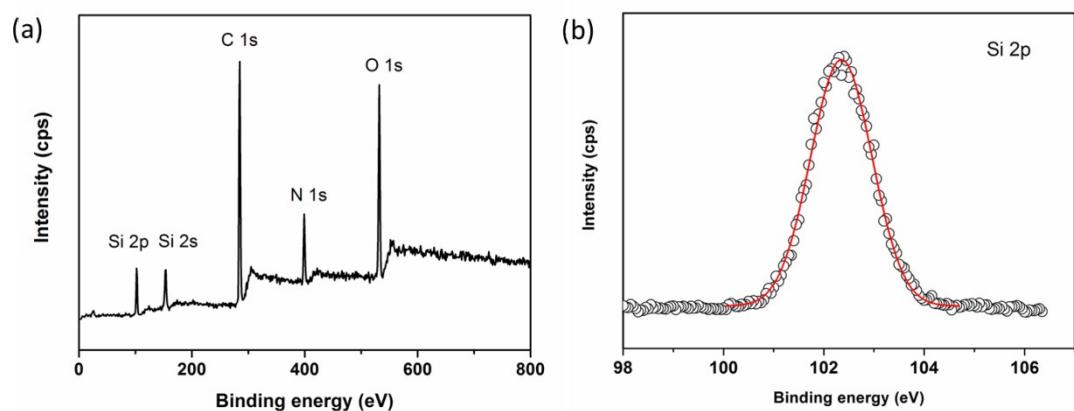
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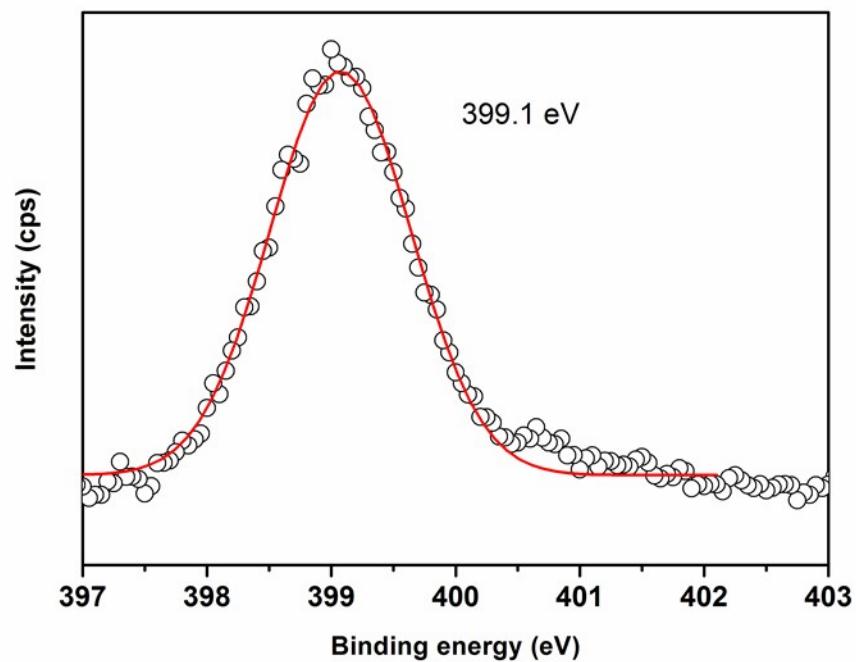
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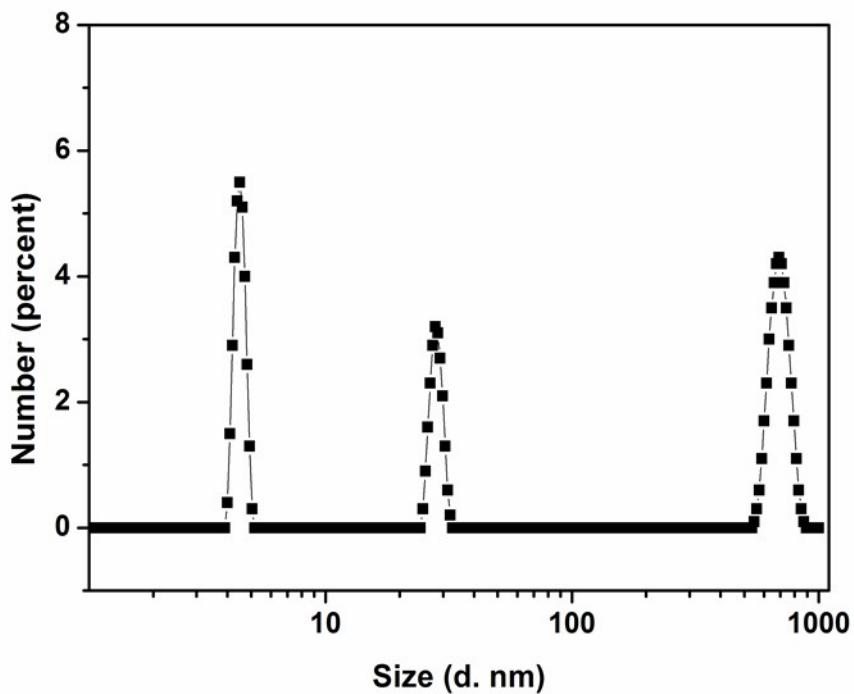
**Fig. S1** DLS size characterization of well dispersed Si NPs



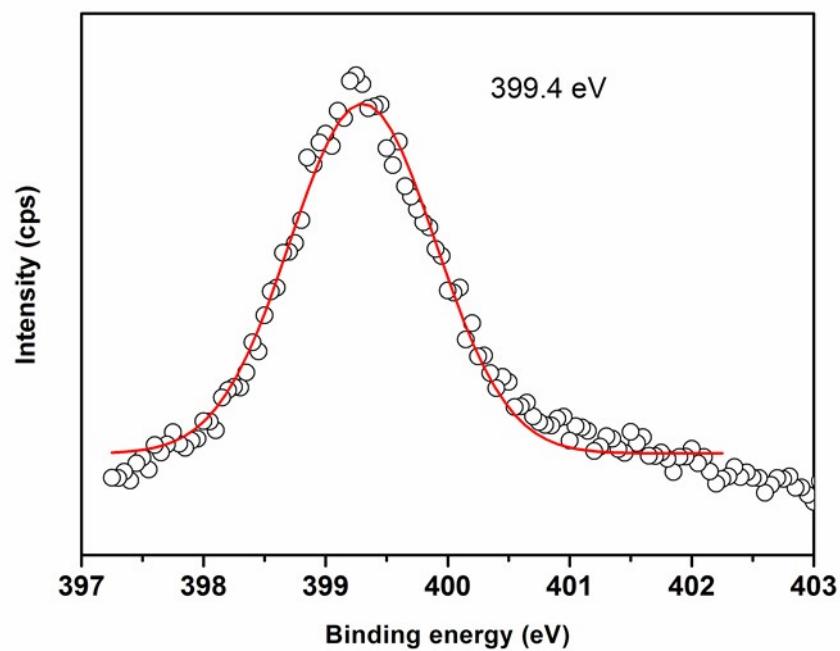
**Fig. S2** High resolution XPS spectra of (a) full range and (b) Si 2p peak of the Si NPs.



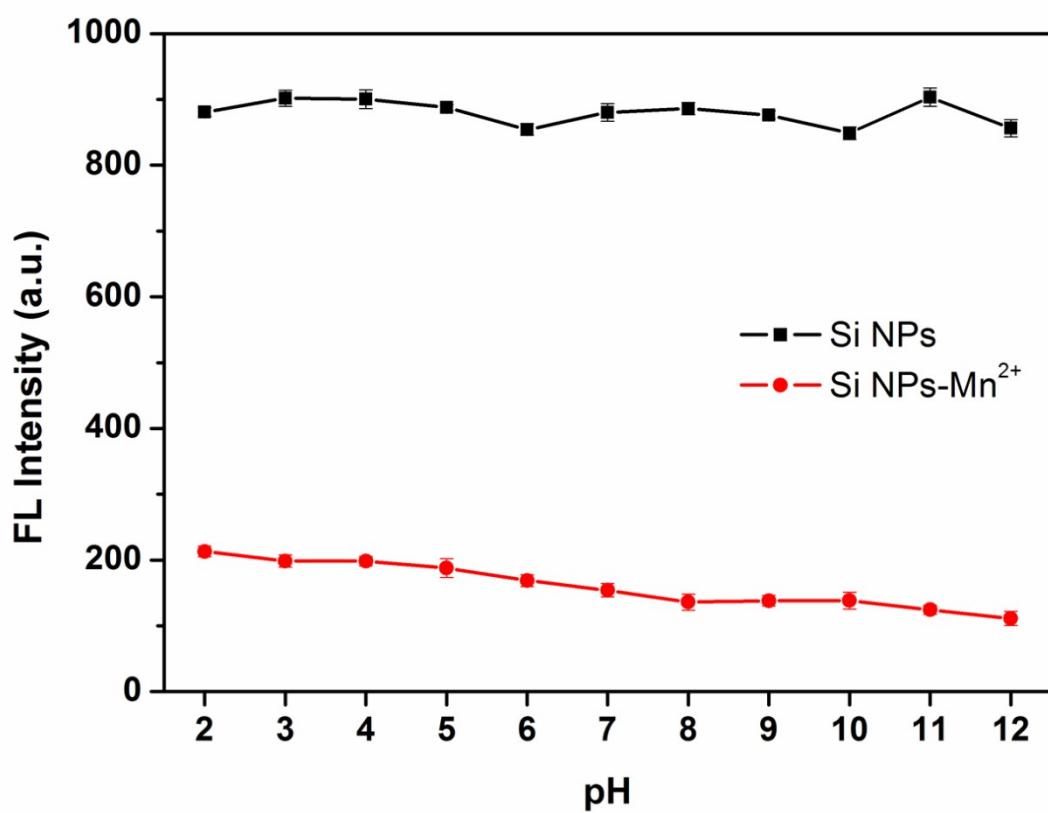
**Fig. S3** XPS spectra of as-prepared Si NPs



**Fig. S4** DLS size characterization of Si NPs after addition of  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$



**Fig. S5** XPS spectra of Si NPs after addition of  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$



**Fig. S6** Relationship between fluorescence intensity of Si NPs (100  $\mu\text{M}$ ) and pH in the absence (black line) and presence of  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  (500  $\mu\text{M}$ , red line).

Table S1. Reports of some sensors for Mn<sup>2+</sup> detection

sensors	methods	detection limit(μM)	reference
Grapheme nanosheets	fluorescence	46.0	[1]
Schiff base	colorimetric	6.03	[2]
Schiff base	colorimetric	7.11	[3]
Schiff base	colorimetric	5.00	[4]
copper nanoparticles	fluorescence	1.60	[5]
Si QDs/aza18C6	fluorescence	0.47	[6]

## References of Table S1

- [1] Mao X, Su H, Tian D, et al. Bipyrene-functionalized graphene as a “turn-on” fluorescence sensor for manganese (II) ions in living cells[J]. ACS applied materials & interfaces, 2013, 5(3): 592-597.
- [2] Lee Y J, Lim C, Suh H, et al. A multifunctional sensor: chromogenic sensing for Mn<sup>2+</sup> and fluorescent sensing for Zn<sup>2+</sup> and Al<sup>3+</sup>[J]. Sensors and Actuators B: Chemical, 2014, 201: 535-544.
- [3] Kim K B, Park G J, Kim H, et al. A novel colorimetric chemosensor for multiple target ions in aqueous solution: simultaneous detection of Mn (II) and Fe (II)[J]. Inorganic Chemistry Communications, 2014, 46: 237-240.
- [4] Hariharan P S, Anthony S P. Substitutional group dependent colori/fluorimetric sensing of Mn<sup>2+</sup>, Fe<sup>3+</sup> and Zn<sup>2+</sup> ions by simple Schiff base chemosensor[J]. Spectrochimica Acta Part A: Molecular and Biomolecular Spectroscopy, 2015, 136: 1658-1665.
- [5] Ma S Y, Yeh Y C. One-step synthesis of water-soluble fluorescent copper nanoparticles for label-free detection of manganese ions[J]. Analytical Methods, 2015, 7(16): 6475-6478.
- [6] Dhenadhayalan N, Lee H L, Yadav K, et al. Silicon Quantum Dot-Based Fluorescence Turn-On Metal Ion Sensors in Live Cells[J]. ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces, 2016, 8(36): 23953-23962.