Supplementary Information

An Ultra-Sensitive and Selective Nitrogen Dioxide Sensor Based on Novel P₂C₂ Monolayer from Theoretical Perspective

Jin Wang, a Jian-ming Lei, a Guo-feng Yang, b Jun-jun Xue, *c Qing Cai, a Dun-jun Chen, *a Hai Lu, a Rong Zhang, a and You-dou Zheng a

^a Key Laboratory of Advanced Photonic and Electronic Materials, School of Electronic Science and Engineering, Nanjing University, Nanjing 210023, China

^b School of Science, Jiangsu Provincial Research Center of Light Industrial Optoelectronic Engineering and Technology, Jiangnan University, Wuxi 214122, China.

^c School of Electronic Science and Engineering, Nanjing University of Posts and Telecommunications, Nanjing 210023, China.

Table S1. Comparison of the adsorption energy, equilibrium distance, and Mulliken charge transfer of NO₂ adsorbed on P₂C₂ monolayer (4×2 supercell, 11.67×16.36 Å²) and black phosphorene (BP) monolayer (3×4 supercell, 9.95×17.59 Å² for our calculation; 3×3 supercell for Ref. 1 and Ref. 2). The E_a value of NO₂ adsorption on P₂C₂ monolayer is larger than that of NO₂ adsorption on BP, indicating that a higher level sensitivity for NO₂ detection with P₂C₂ monolayer than that with BP.

materials	E_a (eV)	<i>d</i> ₀ (Å)	Q (e)		
P_2C_2	-1.318	2.02	0.117	This work	
BP	-0.556	2.33	0.115	This work	
BP	-0.50	2.27	0.185	Ref. [1]	
BP	Р -0.62		-	Ref. [2]	

Table S2. Comparison of the limit of detection (LOD), and sensitivity of NO₂ adsorbed on black phosphorene based sensors.

materials	LOD	sensitivity	
BP flakes	20 ppb	-	Ref. [3]
Multilayer BP	5 ppb	20% (20 ppb)	Ref. [4]
Multilayer BP	20 ppb	190% (20 ppb)	Ref. [5]

Table S3. Comparison of the adsorption energy (calculated by Eq. (1)), equilibrium distance, and Mulliken charge transfer of different

molecule	E _a (eV)			<i>Q</i> (e)			<i>d</i> ₀ (Å)		
	This work(P ₂ C ₂)	Ref.1	Ref.2	This work(P ₂ C ₂)	Ref.1	Ref.2	This work(P ₂ C ₂)	Ref.1	Ref.2
CO ₂	-0.396	-	-0.41	-0.023	-	-0.04	3.09	-	2.69
H_2	-0.158	-0.13	-	0.018	-0.013	-	3.15	2.46	-
H ₂ O	-0.364	-0.14	-	-0.036	-0.035	-	3.16	2.71	-
N_2	-0.385	-	-	-0.017	-	-	3.16	-	-
NH_3	-0.483	-0.18	-0.50	-0.032	-0.050	-	3.19	2.59	2.14
O ₂	-0.423	-0.27	-	-0.026	0.064	-	3.02	2.76	-
NO ₂	-1.318	-0.50	-0.62	0.117	0.185	-	2.02	2.27	2.2

gas molecules adsorbed on P_2C_2 monolayer (4×2 supercell, 11.67×16.36 Å²) and black phosphorene (BP) (3×3 supercell).



Fig S1. Molecular dynamics simulation results for NO₂-adsorbed P_2C_2 monolayers at T = 300 K. (a): total energy fluctuations with time; (b): structural configurations after 1ps, 2ps, and 3ps. We evaluated the thermal stability of NO₂-adsorbed systems at 300 K for 3 ps with a time step of 1 fs by performing the first-principle molecular dynamics (MD) simulations with the moles-volume-temperature (NVT) Berendsen ensemble.⁶ It can be seen that the fluctuations of energy with time retain around a certain constant. Moreover, NO₂adsorbed system does not suffer pronounced structural distortion or transformation, as shown in Fig. S1(b). Our calculation results reveal that NO₂-adsorbed P₂C₂ monolayer is thermally stable at room temperature.



Fig S2. Adsorption energies of NO_2 adsorbed on monolayer P_2C_2 as a function of temperature.



Fig S3. The side views of electron difference densities (EDD) calculation for (a) CO_2 , (b) H_2 , (c) H_2O , (d) N_2 (e) H_2S (f) NH_3 , (g) O_2 and (h) NO_2 adsorbed on the P_2C_2 monolayer. The isovalue is 0.2 eV/Å^3 . The direction of charge transfer is shown by the arrow.



Fig S4. (a-f) The PDOS of NO₂ molecule adsorbed on P_2C_2 monolayer system. (f) is zoomed from (d) as indicated by red rectangle dotted line. The Fermi energy is set at zero.

References

- 1. Y. Cai, Q. Ke, G. Zhang, Y.-W. Zhang, Journal of Physical Chemistry C, 2015, 119, 3102-3110.
- 2. L. Kou, T. Frauenheim, C. Chen, Journal of Physical Chemistry Letters, 2014, 5, 2675-2681.
- 3. M. Donarelli, L. Ottaviano, L. Giancaterini, G. Fioravanti, F. Perrozzi, C. Cantalini, 2d Materials, 2016, 3, 025002.
- 4. A.N. Abbas, B.L. Liu, L. Chen, Y.Q. Ma, S. Cong, N. Aroonyadet, M. Kopf, T. Nilges, C.W. Zhou, Acs Nano, 2015, 9, 5618-5624.
- 5. S. Cui, H. Pu, S.A. Wells, Z. Wen, S. Mao, J. Chang, M.C. Hersam, J. Chen, Nature Communications, 2015, 6, 8632.
- 6. J. C. Berendsen, J. P. M. Postma, W. F. van Gunsteren, A. DiNola, J. R. Haak, The Journal of Chemical Physics, 1982, 81, 3684.