Unraveling the Origin of "Turn-On" Effect of Al-MIL-53-NO₂ During H₂S Detection

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S1. BET Surface Area Calculation

Fig.S1 The consistency plot (a) and BET surface area plot (b) of Al-MIL-53-NO₂.

BET analysis is usually performed during the range of $0.05 < P/P_0 < 0.3$ for typical mesoporous materials. As for the microporous MOFs, BET theory can be also applied if the following criteria are satisfied. ¹⁻⁴ (a) The pressure range should have values of $v(P_0 - P)$ increasing with P/P₀; (b) The *y*-intercept of the linear region must be positive to give a meaningful value of BET constant *C*; (c) The BET monolayer capacity

calculated from the linear fit corresponds to certain relative pressure $(\stackrel{P}{P_0})_{v_m}$, which must be located within the linear region chosen for the area calculation. Specifically, the BET surface area is calculated by the equation as follows,

$$S_{BET} = \frac{v_m}{M_v} \sigma_0 N_A$$

where v_m is the monolayer capacity, which could be obtained by the slope ([C-1]/

 $v_m C$) and y-intercept $(1/v_m C)$ $({}^{v_m} = \frac{1}{slope + intercept})$; M_v is the molar volume for nitrogen (22414 cm³); σ_0 is the cross-sectional area of adsorbate (0.162×10⁻¹⁸ m² for nitrogen); N_A is the Avogadro constant (6.023×10²³). Therefore, the BET surface area in this work is calculated as shown below.

$$S_{BET} = 1/(1.07437 \times 10^{-6} + 0.00376)/22414 \times 6.023 \times 10^{23} \times 0.162 \times 10^{-18} = 1157 \text{ m}^2 \text{ g}^{-1};$$

BET constant C = $1 + 0.00376/1.07437 \times 10^{-6} = 3501$;

$$\left(\frac{P}{P_0}\right)_{v_m} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{C} + 1} = 0.0166 \ (0 < 0.0166 < 0.1)$$

S2. Calculation of LOD

The limit of detection (LOD) is calculated according to the following formula: $LOD = \frac{3\sigma}{S}$

where σ is the standard deviation; S is the slope for the suspension and supernatant. ⁵

To calculate the LODs of the suspension and supernatant, 0.0015 g Al-MIL-53-NO₂ was treated by various concentrations of H₂S (0.0-0.7 mM). The emission spectra of suspension and supernatant were recorded. By plotting the fluorescence intensity with H₂S concentration (0.0-0.7 mM), the slope for suspension and supernatant were found to be 3.75×10^5 mM⁻¹ and 2.07×10^6 mM⁻¹, respectively.

The standard deviation was calculated based on the following equation:

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (F_i - \overline{F})^2}{N - 1}}$$

where F_i is the i^{th} value of fluorescence intensity at 450 nm of suspension/supernatant treated with H₂S from 0.0 mM (i = 1) to 0.7 mM (i = 8); F is the average value of these obtained fluorescence intensities; N is the number of data points (N=8). The calculated standard deviations are shown below.

$$\sigma_{suspension} = 86633$$

 $\sigma_{supernatant} = 481016$

The LODs of suspension and supernatant are thus calculated:

 $LOD_{suspension} = 69.3 \ \mu M$ $LOD_{supernatant} = 69.7 \ \mu M$



Fig.S2 Excitation (blue line) and emission (green line) spectra of Al-MIL-53-NO₂ upon $1.0 \text{ mM H}_2\text{S}$ treatment.



Fig. S3 PXRD pattern of Al-MIL-53-NH₂. The pattern matches well with the previous reference. ⁶



Fig. S4 FT-IR spectra of Al-MIL-53-NH $_2$ and undissolved Al-MIL-53-NO $_2$ nanoparticles recollected from 0.0 mM, 0.5 mM, and 1.0 mM NaHS solutions.



Fig. S5 XPS spectra of Al-MIL-53-NO₂ before (black line) $1.0 \text{ mM H}_2\text{S}$ treatment and after (red line) $1.0 \text{ mM H}_2\text{S}$ treatment.



Fig S6. High-resolution XPS spectra of N 1s of as-synthesized Al-MIL-53-NH₂.



Fig. S7 FT-IR spectrum of extracts evaporated from Al-MIL-53-NO₂ supernatant with 1.0 mM NaHS.



Fig S8. Emission spectra of supernatant, initial suspension, and particles recollected from the suspension of Al-MIL-53-NO₂ treated upon various concentration H_2S .

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