

RSC Advances Supporting Information

Development of in-situ synthesized Y-based nanoparticle/ polyethersulfone adsorptive membranes by adjusting the composition of coagulation bath for enhanced removal of fluoride

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The pH effect on the leakage of Y-based NPs

The pH effect on the leakage of Y-based NPs in batch adsorption was also studied by measuring the Y³⁺ concentration via an inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometer (ICP-MS, Agilent 7900).

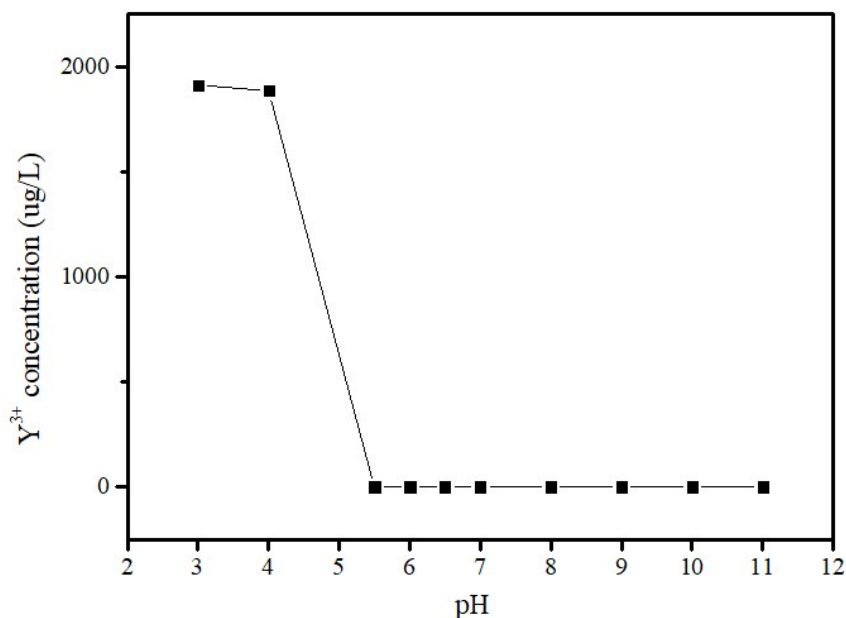


Fig. S1 pH effect on the leakage of Y-based NPs

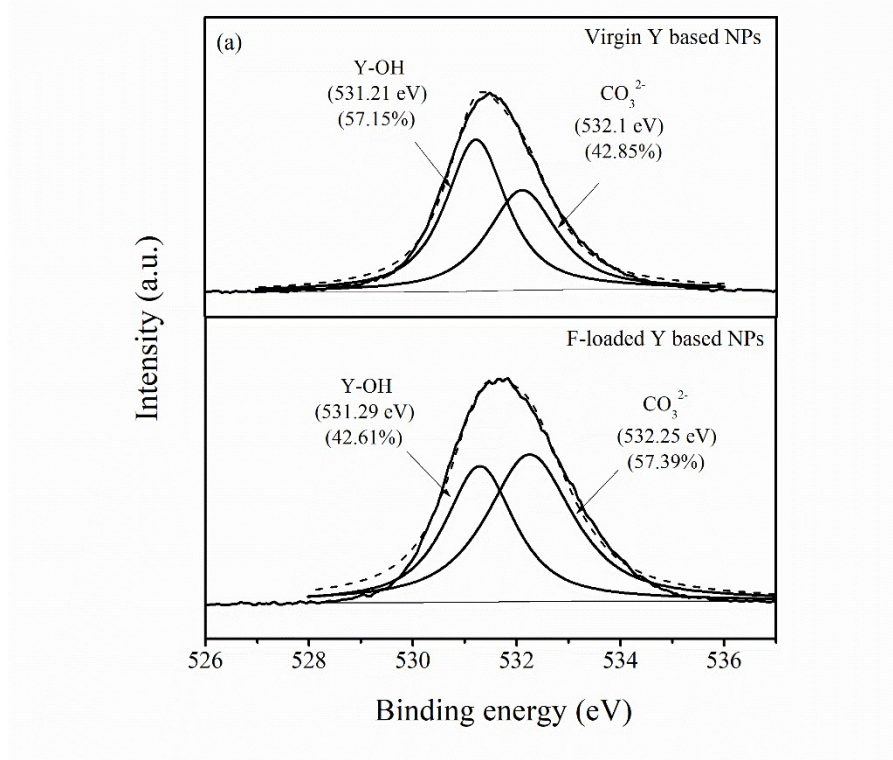
The XPS analysis

The surface chemistry of Y-based NPs before and after adsorption of F⁻ was studied by

the X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) (ESCALAB 250Xi, Thermo Scientific, USA), with a monochromatic Al K α X-ray source (1486.8 eV). The high resolution scans were conducted according to the peak being examined with a pass energy of 30 eV and step size of 0.10 eV. To compensate for the charging effects, all spectra were calibrated with graphitic carbon as the reference at a binding energy (BE) of 284.8 eV. The XPS results were collected in binding energy forms and fit using a nonlinear least-square curve fitting program (XPSPEAK41 software).

Table S1 The atomic content of virgin and F-loaded Y based NPs ¹

Atomic content (%)	C1s	Y3d	O1s	F1s
Y based NPs	34.09	14.46	51.45	0
F-loaded Y based NPs	35.05	14.14	43.86	6.95



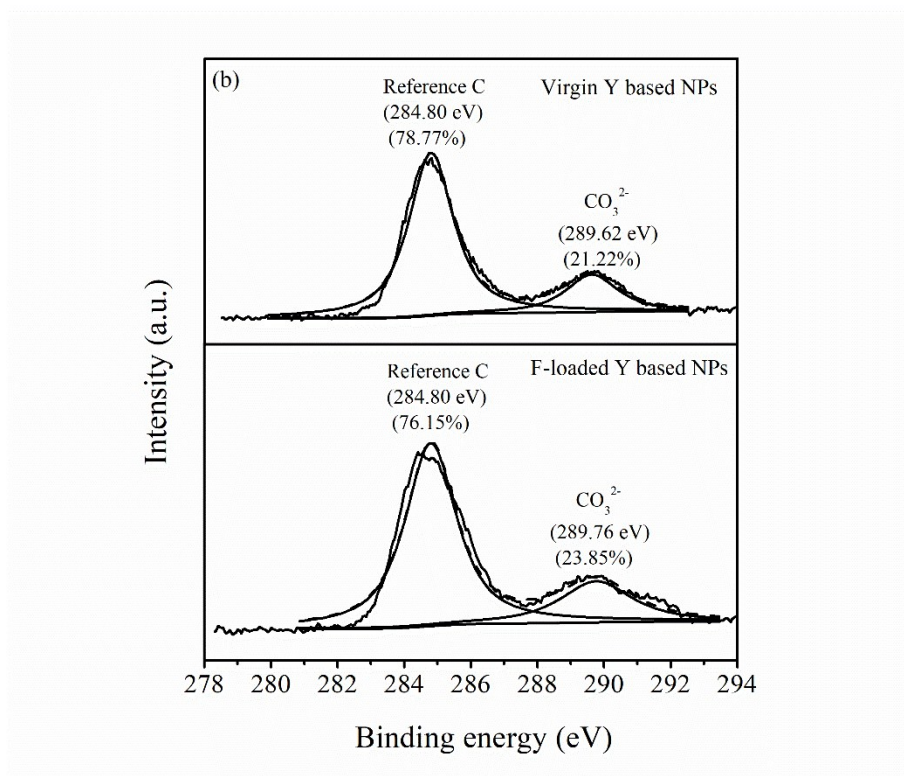


Fig. S2 High resolution XPS spectra of (a) O1s and (b) C1s of Y-based NPs before and after adsorption¹.

Regeneration Experimental

0.05 g membrane M10-2 was first added into 100 mL of 50 mg/L fluoride solution for 24 h. After the adsorption, the used membrane was collected and desorbed into 100 mL of 0.01 M NaOH solution for 12 h. The regenerated membrane was then washed by DI water several times and reused for the subsequent adsorption experiment. Three adsorption-desorption cycles were conducted to evaluate the membrane reusability. The adsorption capacity in each cycle was determined and the regeneration rate was calculated.

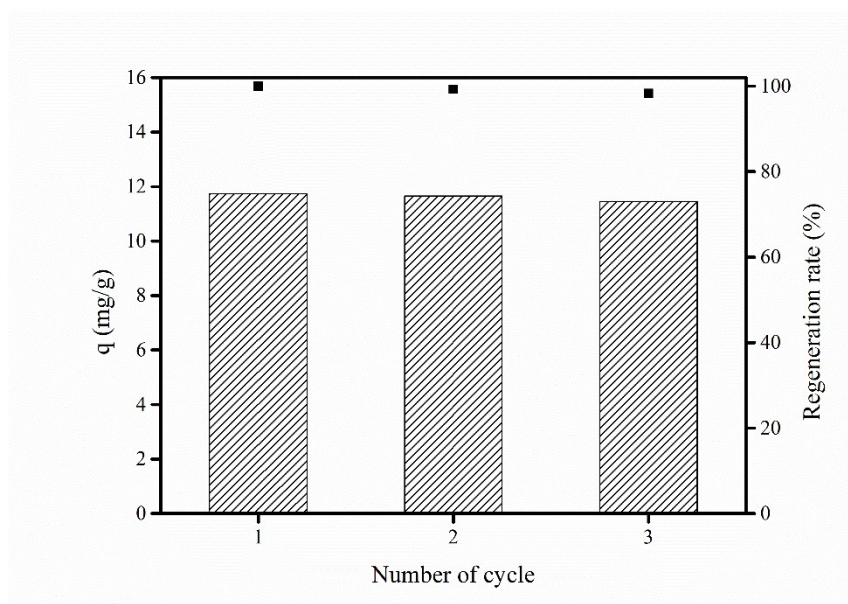


Fig. S3 Regeneration performance of M10-2 for fluoride removal.

References

1. J. He, A. Cui, F. Ni, S. Deng, F. Shen, C. Song, L. Lou, D. Tian, C. Huang and L. Long, *Journal of Colloid and Interface Science*, 2019, 536, 710-721.