Rational Design of Aminopolymer for Air Pollutants Detection

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Acidic gases such as CO2, SO2, and NO2 are harsh air pollutants with major human health threatening factors, thus, developing new tools to monitor these gases are critically required. However, it is very difficult to selectively detect the acidic air pollutants due to the similar chemistry shared by acidic and oxidizing molecules. In this work, three acidic gases are selectively detected with precise chemical moiety design. By changing the composition ratio of primary, secondary, and tertiary amines of polyethyleneimine (PEI), unprecedented high selectivity between CO2 and SO2 is achieved. Using in–situ FT–IR, distinct adsorption phenomenon of acidic gases on each amine moiety is precisely demonstrated. Our approach is the first attempt at controlling gas adsorption selectivity of solid–state sensor via modulating chemical moiety level within single channel material. In addition, discrimination of CO2, SO2, and NO2 with single channel material solid–state sensor is firstly reported.