

## **Supporting Information**

for

### **Synthesis of hydrophobic photoluminescent carbon nanodots by using L-tyrosine and citric acid through a thermal oxidation route**

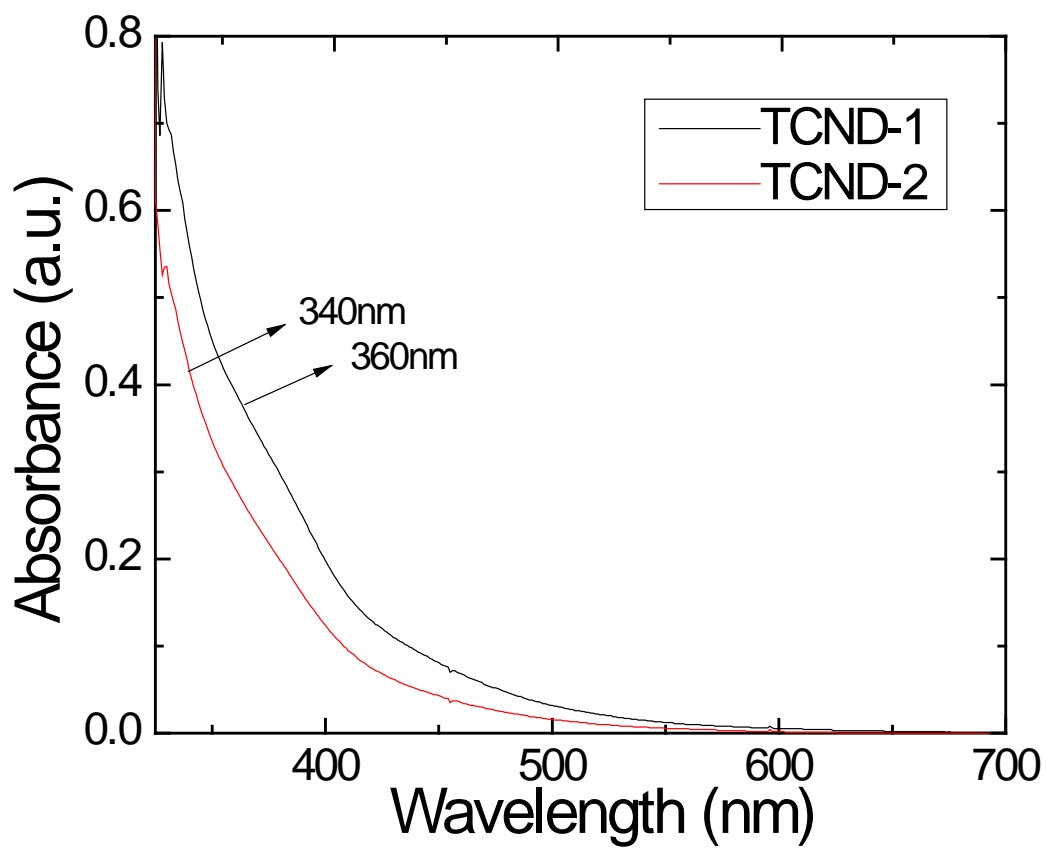
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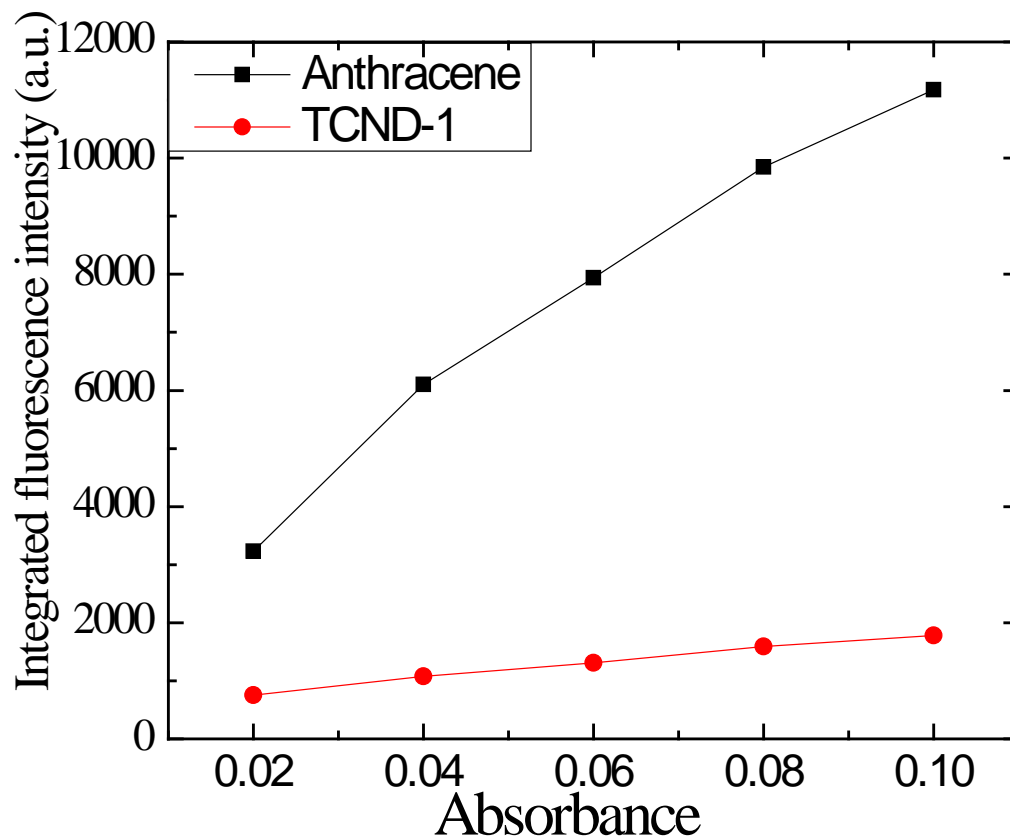
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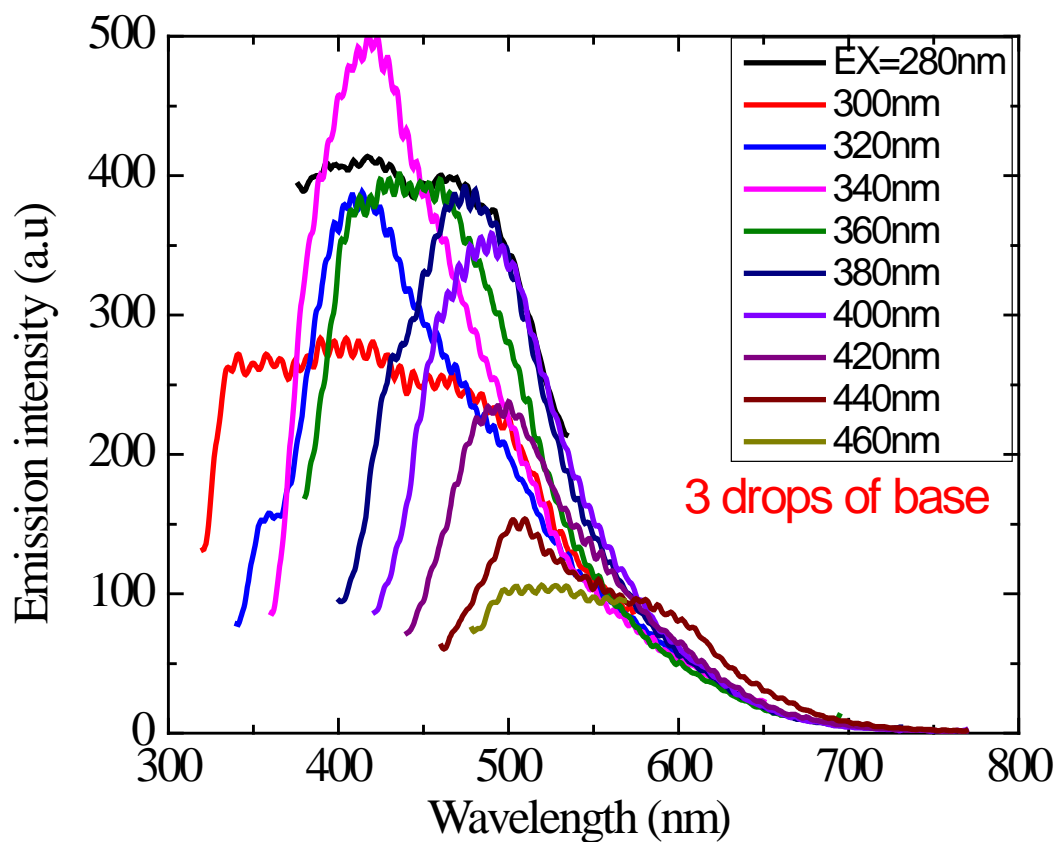
**Figure S1:** Absorption spectra of TCND-1 and TCND-2.



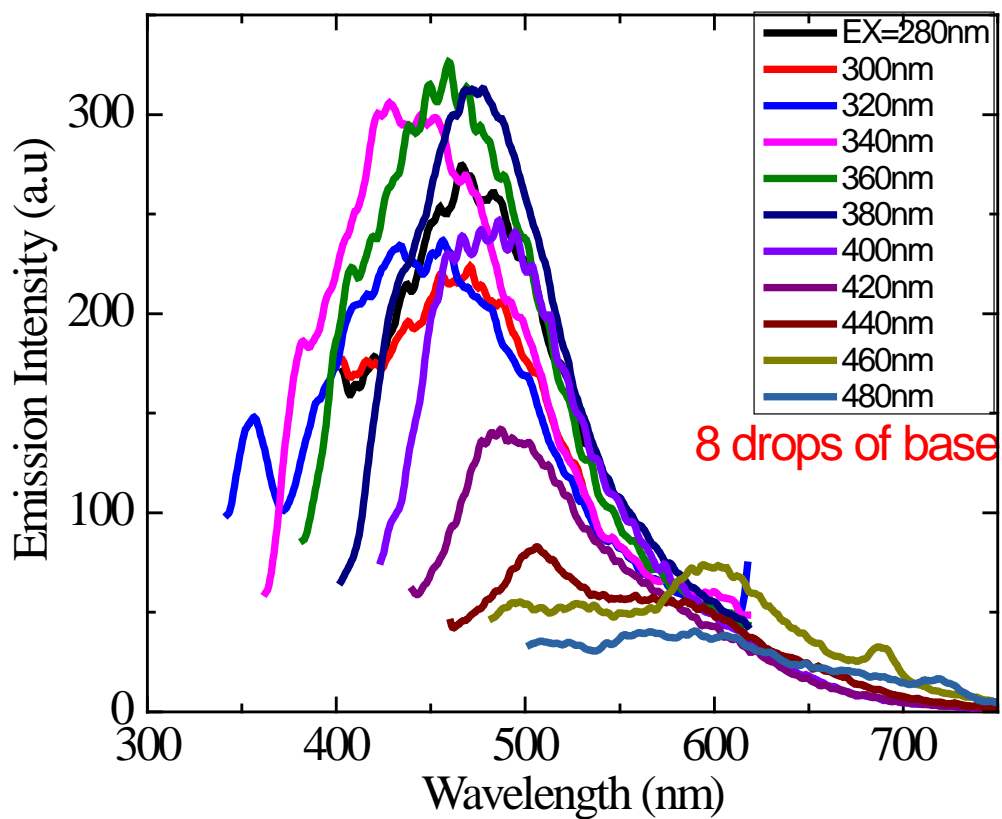
**Figure S2:** Plot for the measurement of the quantum yield of TCND-1 using anthracene as reference in ethanol at an excitation wavelength of 340 nm.

Formula used to measure the quantum yield ( $\Phi$ ) of TCND-1:

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_{\text{TCND-1}} &= \frac{\Phi_{\text{anthracene}} \times \text{gradient}_{\text{TCND-1}}}{\text{gradient}_{\text{anthracene}}} \\ &= 0.27 \times \frac{\text{gradient}_{\text{TCND-1}}}{\text{gradient}_{\text{anthracene}}} \end{aligned}$$



**Figure S3:** Recorded PL emission spectra of TCND-1 in ethanol after addition of 3 drops of base at different excitation wavelength.



**Figure S4:** Recorded emission spectra of TCND-1 in ethanol after addition of 8 drops of base at different excitation wavelength.