

Supplementary Materials

Preparation of Multicolor Photoluminescent Carbon Dots by Tuning Surface States

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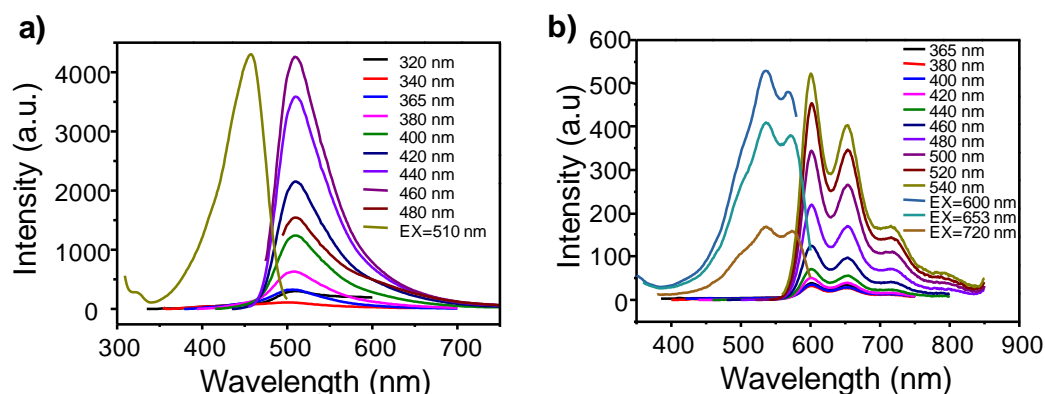


Figure S1 a) PL emission spectra of the g-CDs ethanol dispersion under different excitation wavelengths and PL excitation spectrum at emission wavelength of 510 nm; b) PL emission spectra of the r-CDs ethanol dispersion under different excitation wavelengths and PL excitation spectra at emission wavelengths of 600, 653 and 720 nm.

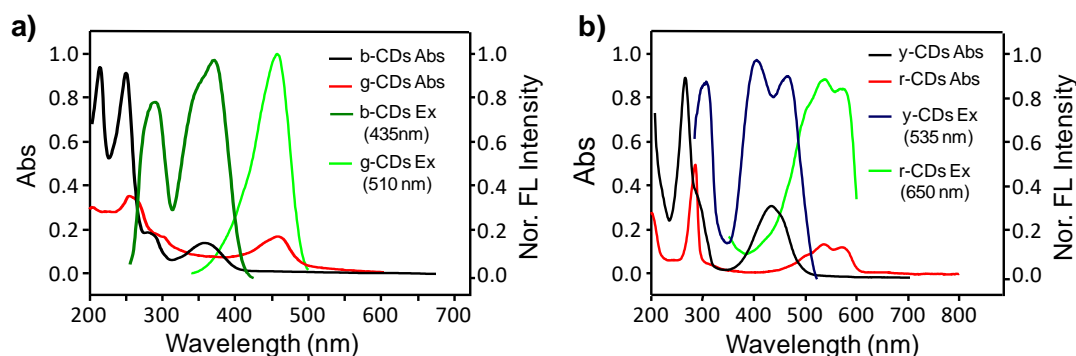


Figure S2 a) UV-Vis absorption and PL excitation spectra of b-CDs and g-CDs (excitation wavelengths at 435 and 510 nm, respectively); b) UV-Vis absorption and PL excitation spectra of y-CDs and r-CDs (excitation wavelengths at 535 and 650 nm, respectively).

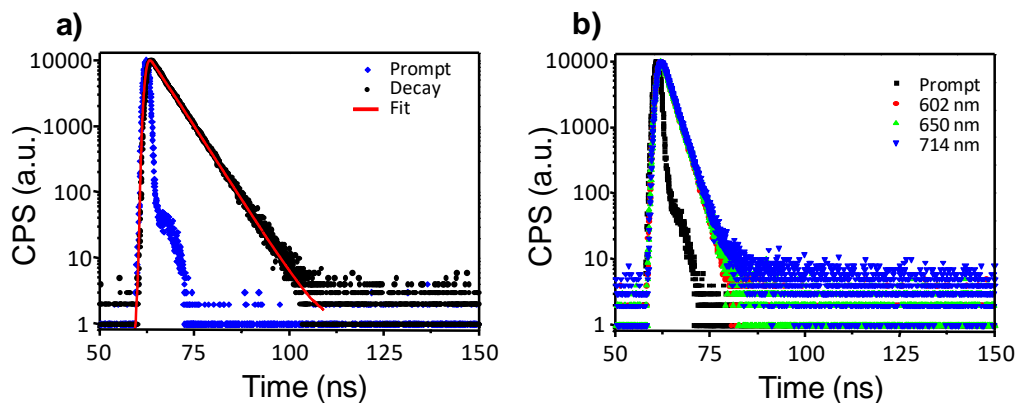


Figure S3 a) PL decay spectra of the g-CDs ethanol dispersion monitored at 510 nm under excitation of 457 nm; b) PL decay spectra of the r-CDs ethanol dispersion monitored at 602, 650 and 714 nm under excitation of 588 nm.

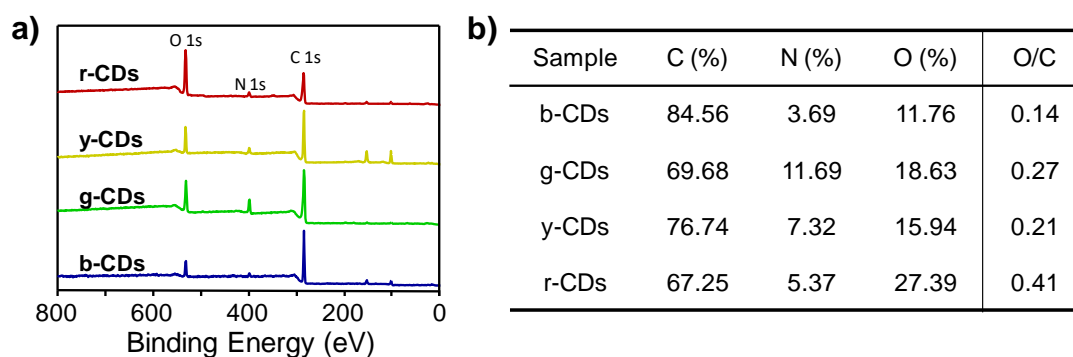


Figure S4 a) XPS survey of the b-CDs, g-CDs, y-CDs, and r-CDs; b) Relative contents of C, N, and O elements of these CDs based XPS data.

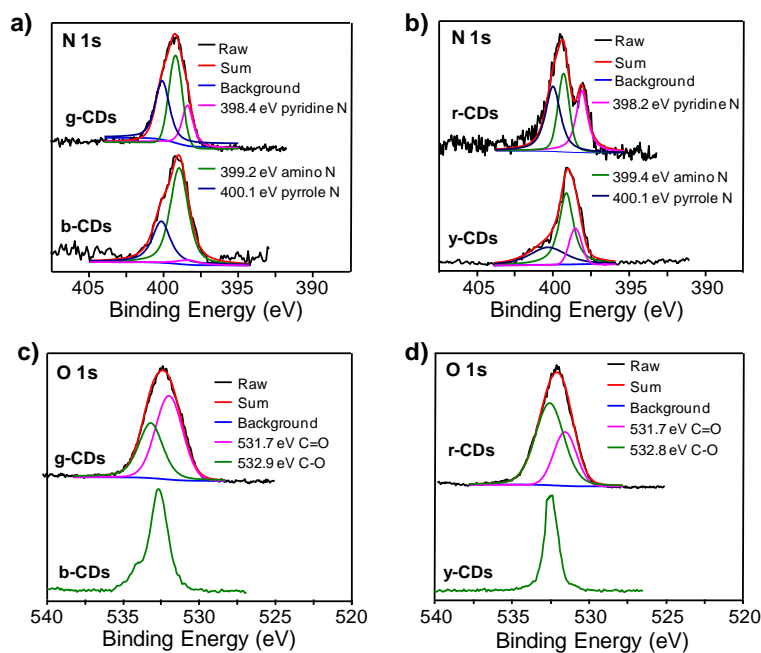


Figure S5 a-b) high resolution XPS N 1s spectra of g-CDs and r-CDs and their comparison to b-CDs and y-CDs, respectively; c-d) high resolution XPS O 1s spectra of g-CDs and r-CDs and their comparison to b-CDs and y-CDs, respectively.

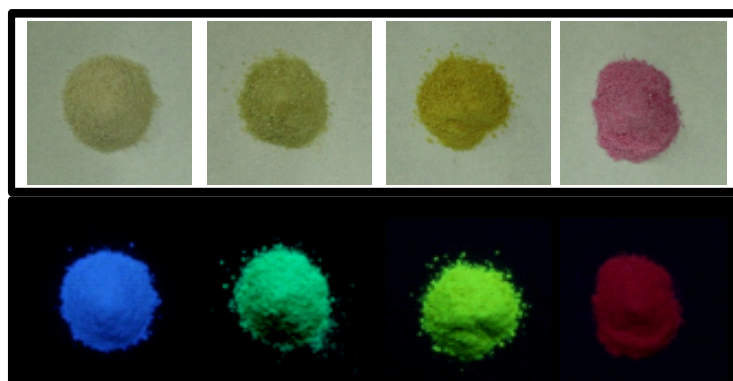


Figure S6 Photographs of the b-CDs@PVP, g-CDs@PVP, y-CDs@PVP, and r-CDs@PVP powders (from left to right) under daylight and UV light (365 nm).

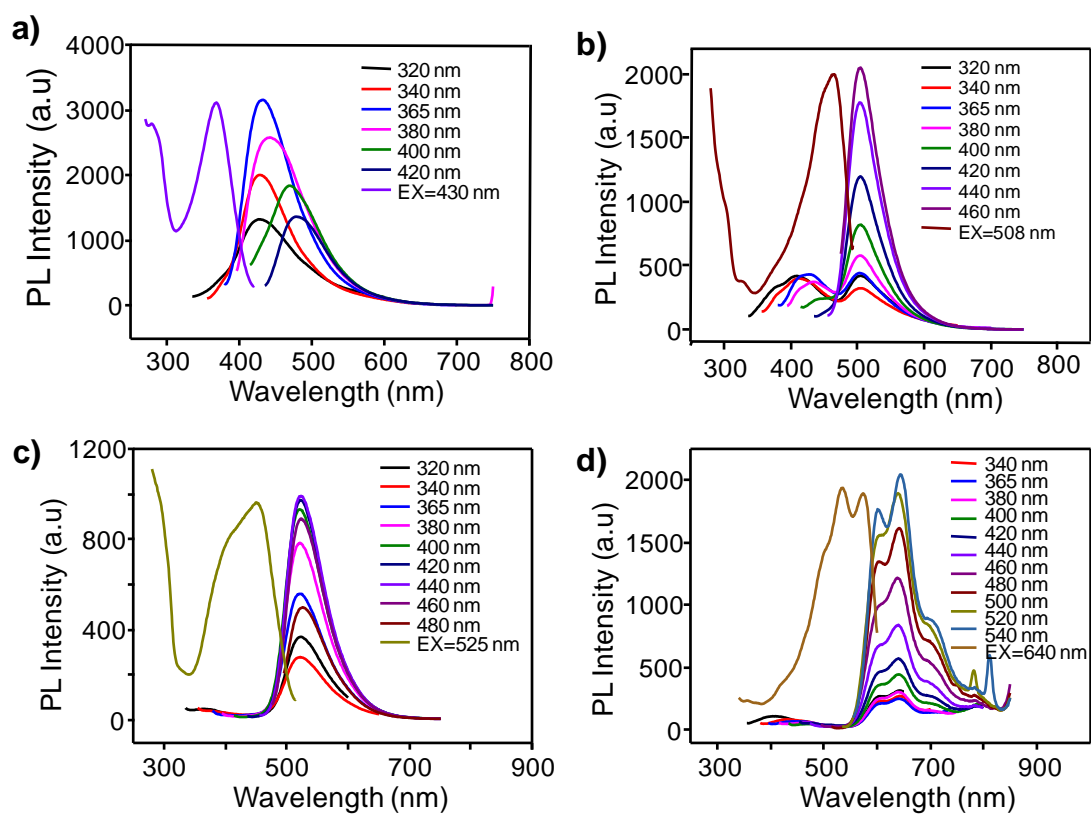


Figure S7 PL emission spectra under different wavelengths and excitation spectra at the corresponding emission maxima of b-CDs@PVP (a), g-CDs@PVP (b), y-CDs@PVP (c), and r-CDs@PVP (d) powders.

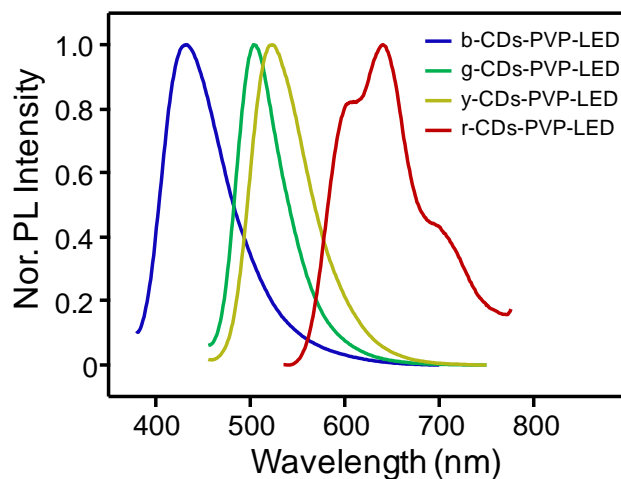


Figure S8 Corresponding emission spectra of the multicolour LEDs.

Table S1. QYs of the g-CDs and r-CDs in ethanol.

| Sample | $\lambda_{ex}(nm)$ | $\Phi_1(\%)$ | $\Phi_2(\%)$ | $\Phi_3(\%)$ | $\Phi_4(\%)$ | $\Phi_5(\%)$ | $\Phi_{avg}(\%)$ | $\Phi_{corr}(\%)$ |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|-------------------|
| R-6G | 488 | 93.45 | 94.33 | 93.18 | 94.02 | 94.27 | 93.85 | 95 |
| g-CDs | 440 | 28.21 | 28.02 | 27.91 | 27.75 | 27.50 | 27.88 | 28.22 |
| r-CDs | 540 | 21.09 | 23.74 | 21.47 | 21.14 | 21.30 | 21.75 | 22.01 |

Table S2. Fitted parameters of the PL decay spectra of the g-CDs and r-CDs.

| Sample | $\lambda_{ex}(nm)$ | $\lambda_{em}(nm)$ | $\tau_1(ns)$ | $B_1(\%)$ | ϕ |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------|-----------|--------|
| g-CDs | 457 | 510 | 4.86 | 100 | 1.067 |
| r-CDs | 588 | 608 | 2.18 | 100 | 1.096 |
| r-CDs | 588 | 650 | 2.20 | 100 | 1.133 |
| r-CDs | 588 | 714 | 2.24 | 100 | 1.057 |

Table S3. PL QYs of the b-CDs@PVP, g-CDs@PVP, y-CDs@PVP and r-CDs@PVP powders.

| Sample | $\lambda_{ex}(nm)$ | Φ_1 | Φ_2 | Φ_3 | Φ_4 | Φ_5 | Φ_{avg} |
|------------------|--------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|--------------|
| b-CDs-PVP | 360 | 9.42 | 8.86 | 9.01 | 8.04 | 8.77 | 8.82 |
| g-CDs-PVP | 450 | 15.36 | 14.93 | 14.74 | 14.03 | 13.50 | 14.44 |
| y-CDs-PVP | 430 | 16.19 | 16.06 | 16.25 | 15.97 | 16.18 | 16.13 |
| r-CDs-PVP | 540 | 15.74 | 14.94 | 14.78 | 14.39 | 14.20 | 14.81 |