Supporting Information

One-pot Facile Synthesis of Graphene Quantum Dots from Rice Husks for Fe³⁺ Sensing

Weilin Wang, ^{1,2} Zhaofeng Wang, ^{2,3} Jingjing Liu, ^{2,4} Yikang Peng, ^{2,4} Xiaoyuan Yu, ^{2,5} Weixing Wang, ¹ Zhengguo Zhang, ^{1,*} Luyi Sun^{2,4,6,*}

¹Ministry of Education Key Laboratory of Enhanced Heat Transfer & Energy Conservation, School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, South China University of Technology, Guangzhou, Guangdong 510640, China

²Polymer Program, Institute of Materials Science, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT 06269. United States

³State Key Laboratory of Solid Lubrication, Lanzhou Institute of Chemical Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Lanzhou, Gansu 730000, China

⁴Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT 06269, United States

⁵Institute of Biomaterials, College of Materials and Energy, South China Agricultural University, Guangzhou, Guangdong 510642, China

⁶Department of Biomedical Engineering, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT 06269, United States

*Authors to whom correspondence should be addressed:

Dr. Luyi Sun, Tel: (860) 486-6895; Fax: (860) 486-4745; Email: luyi.sun@uconn.edu

Dr. Zhengguo Zhang, Tel: 086-87112845; Email: cezhang@scut.edu.cn

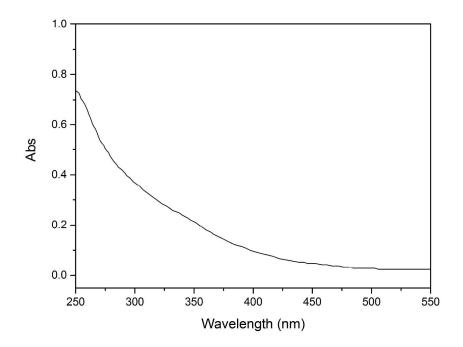


Figure S1. UV-Vis spectrum of the RH-GQDs.

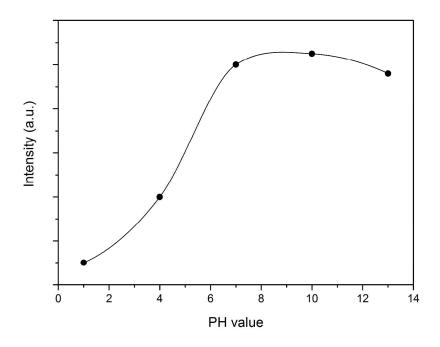


Figure S2. PL intensity of the RH-GQDs as a function of pH value.

Quantum yield calculation

The photoluminescence quantum yield (QY) of the as-prepared RH-GQDs was calculated using Rhodamine B in water (literature quantum yield 0.31)¹ as the reference dye based on the following equation:²

$$\eta_s = \eta_{ref} \times \frac{I_s \times A_{ref} \times n_s^2}{I_{ref} \times A_s \times n_{ref}^2}$$

where I, A, and n represent the integrated area of the PL emission, optical density at the excitation wavelength (400 nm), and refractive index of the solvent, respectively, for the sample (s) and reference (ref).

Table S1. Quantum yield of the RH-GQDs.

Sample	I	A	n	η
Rhodamine B	372493527	0.2769	1.33	0.31
RH-GQDs	36509484	0.09562	1.33	0.088

References:

- 1. Magde, D.; Rojas Gail, E.; Seybold Paul, G., Solvent Dependence of the Fluorescence Lifetimes of Xanthene Dyes. *Photochemistry and Photobiology* **2008**, 70, (5), 737-744.
- 2. Shen, J.; Zhu, Y.; Chen, C.; Yang, X.; Li, C., Facile preparation and upconversion luminescence of graphene quantum dots. *Chemical communications* **2011**, 47, (9), 2580-2582.