

Nitrogen-doped Carbon Quantum Dots for Biosensing applications: The Effect of The Thermal Treatments on Electrochemical and Optical Properties

Francesco Ghezzi ¹, Riccardo Donnini ², Antonio Sansonetti ³, Umberto Giovanella ⁴, Barbara La Ferla ⁵, Barbara Vercelli ^{2,*}

¹ *Istituto per la Scienza e la Tecnologia dei Plasmi, CNR-ISTP, Via Cozzi 53, 20125 Milano (Italy).*

² *Istituto di Chimica della Materia Condensata e di Tecnologie per l'Energia, CNR-ICMATE, Via Cozzi 53, 20125 Milano (Italy).*

³ *Istituto di Scienze del Patrimonio Culturale, CNR-ISPC, Via Cozzi 53, 20125 Milano (Italy).*

⁴ *Istituto di Scienze e Tecnologie Chimiche ‘Giulio Natta’, CNR-SCITEC, Via Alfonso Corti 12, 20133 Milano (Italy)*

⁵ *Dipartimento di Biotecnologie e Bioscienze, Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca, Piazza della Scienza 2, 20126 Milano (Italy)*

Contents

Table S1 **page S02**

Figure S1 **page S03**

Figure S2 **page S04**

Figure S3 **page S05**

Table S1 – Fitting parameters, intercept (E_i) and slope, of the peak potentials versus pH of N-CQDs-160-8.

pH range	$E_{i(\text{ox})}/\text{V}$	Slope/mV	$E_{i(\text{red})}/\text{V}$	Slope/mV
1-3	0.43	-55	0.02	-61
5-12	0.17	25	0.2	-126

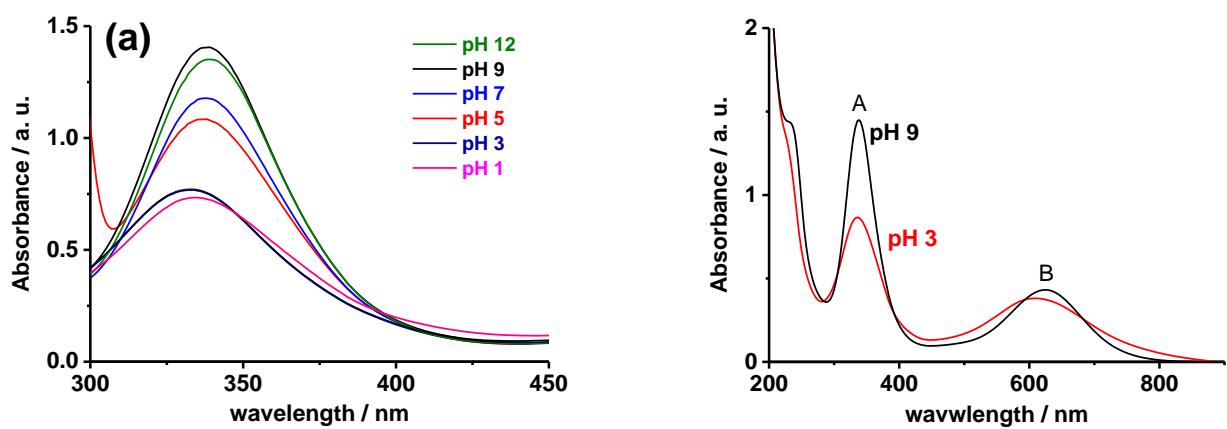
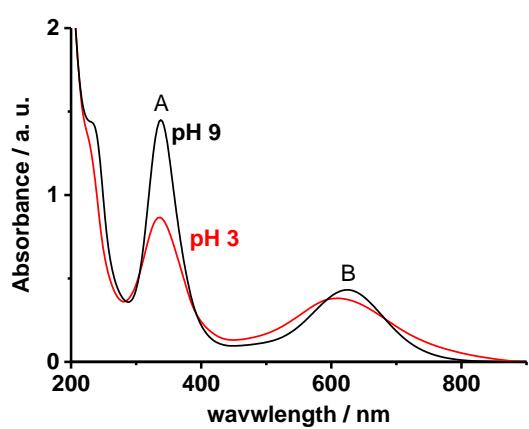


Figure S1 – (a) UV-vis spectra of 0.5 mg ml⁻¹ N-CQDs-160-8 solutions in different pH buffers. (b) UV-vis spectrum of 0.5 mg ml⁻¹ N-CQDs-160-8 solutions at the pH range 3 (red line) and 9 (black line).



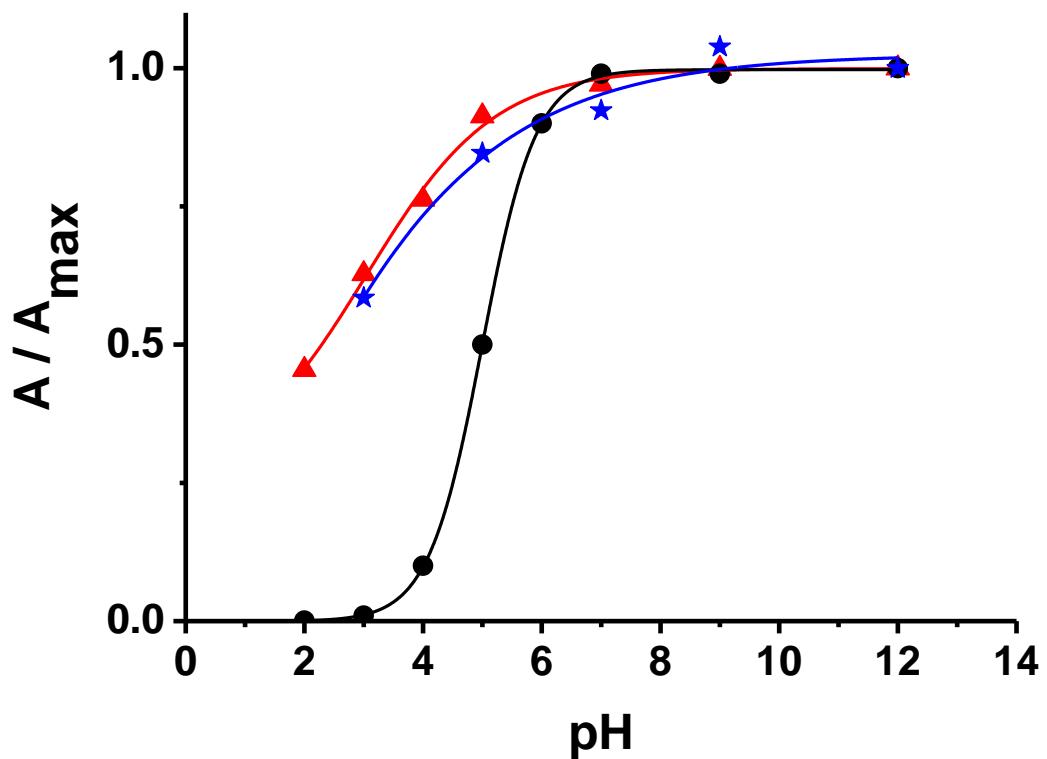


Figure S2 – Dependence vs pH of the un-protonated pyridine N-atom ($\frac{A}{A_{max}}$) of samples N-CQDs-160-1 (red line, triangles), N-CQDs-160-8 (blue line, stars) and theoretical curve (black line, dots).

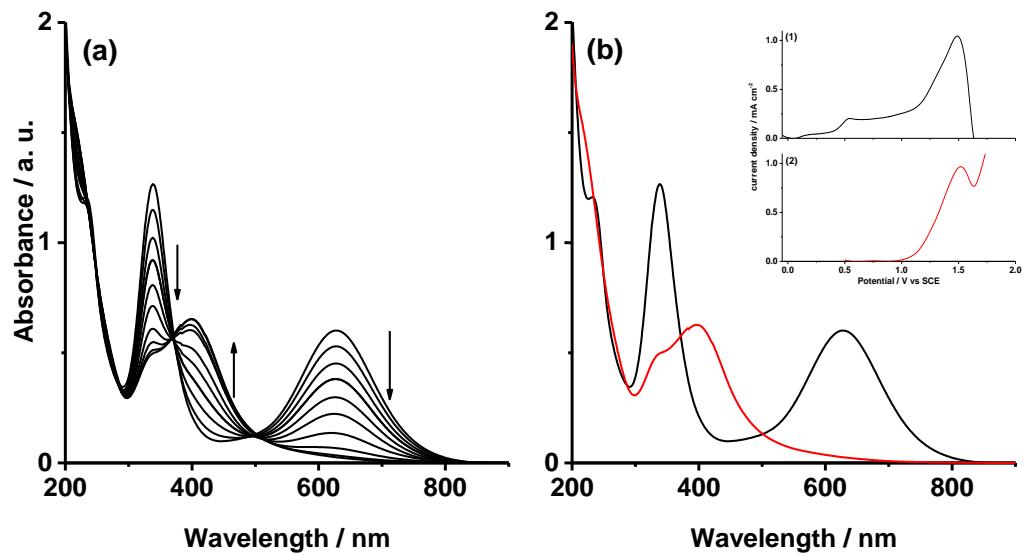


Figure S3 – a) UV-vis spectra of 0.5 mg ml^{-1} N-CQDs-160-8 solution at increasing charge. Applied potential 0.8 V vs SCE. Electrolytic medium $0.1 \text{ M NaClO}_4/\text{pH } 9$ buffer. b) UV-vis spectrum of N-CQDs-160-8 (black line) and of NO-CQDs-160-8 (red line). Inset: single sweep cyclic voltammograms of N-CQDs-160-8 (1) and NO-CQDs-160-8 (2).