

## Supplementary Material

# Visible-Light-Excited Room Temperature Phosphorescent Carbon Dots

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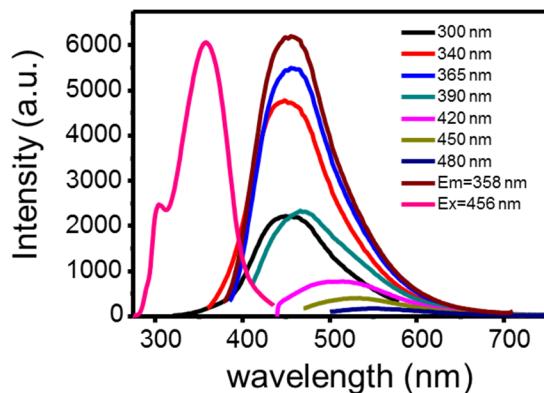
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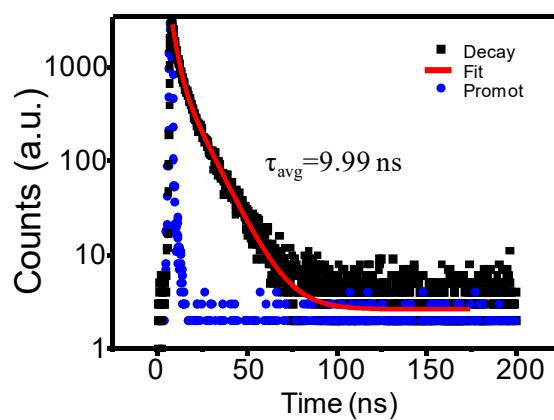
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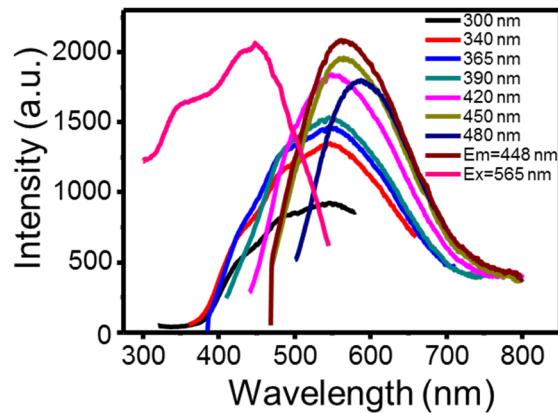
### Supporting Figures and Tables



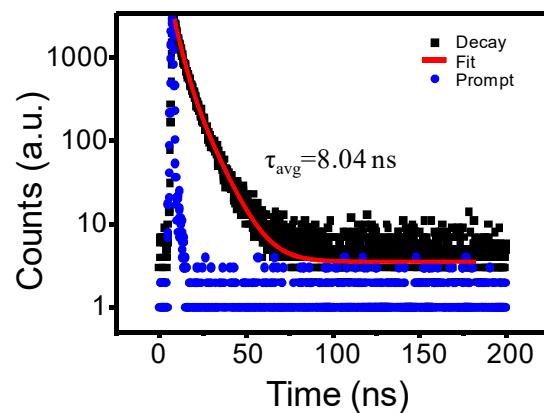
**Figure S1.** The FL emission spectra of the AA-CDs water dispersion under different excitation wavelengths and excitation spectrum at emission of 456 nm.



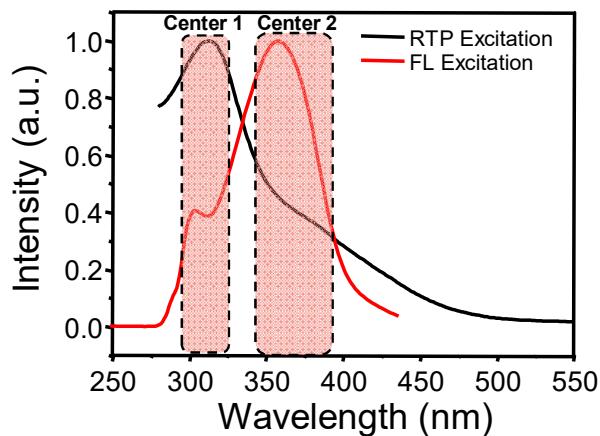
**Figure S2.** Time-resolved FL spectrum and fitting curve of AA-CDs aqueous solution ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}}=376 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{em}}=456 \text{ nm}$ ) at ambient conditions.



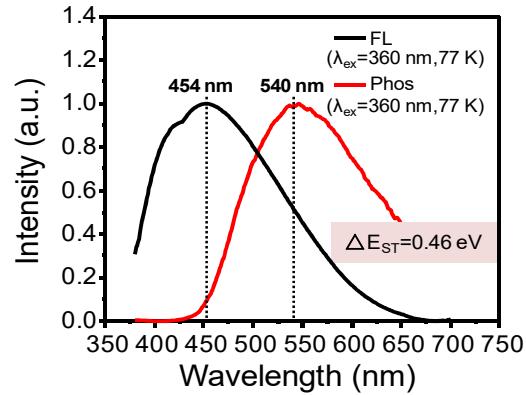
**Figure S3.** FL emission spectra of the AA-CDs powder under different excitation wavelengths and excitation spectrum at emission of 565 nm.



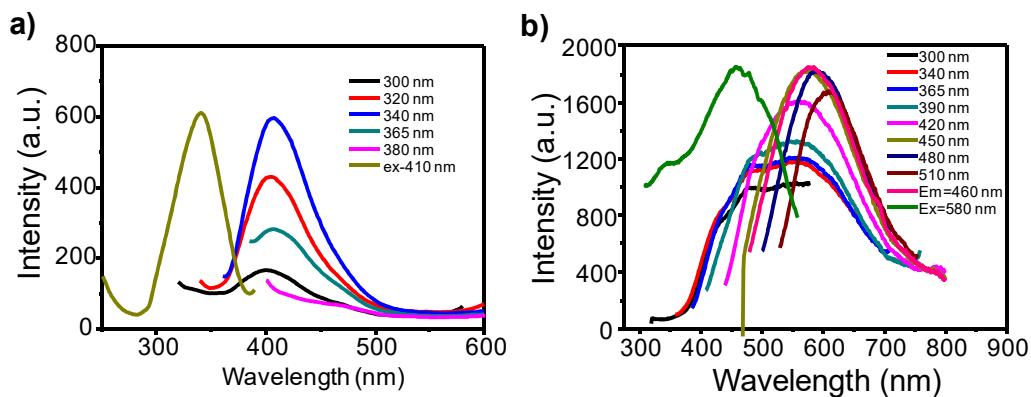
**Figure S4.** Time-resolved FL spectrum and fitting curve of AA-CDs powder ( $\lambda_{ex}=376 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{em}=565 \text{ nm}$ ) at ambient conditions.



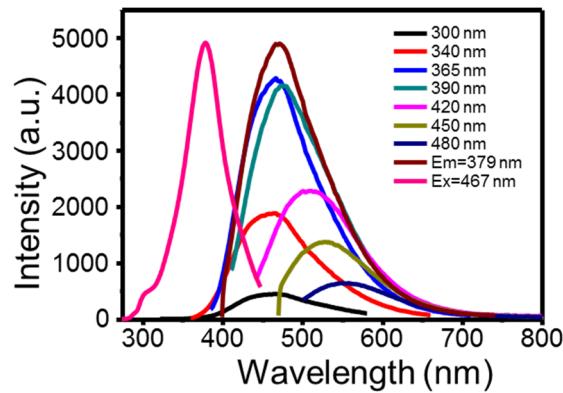
**Figure S5.** Normalized FL excitation spectrum of the AA-CDs water dispersion and RTP excitation spectrum of AA-CDs powder under ambient conditions.



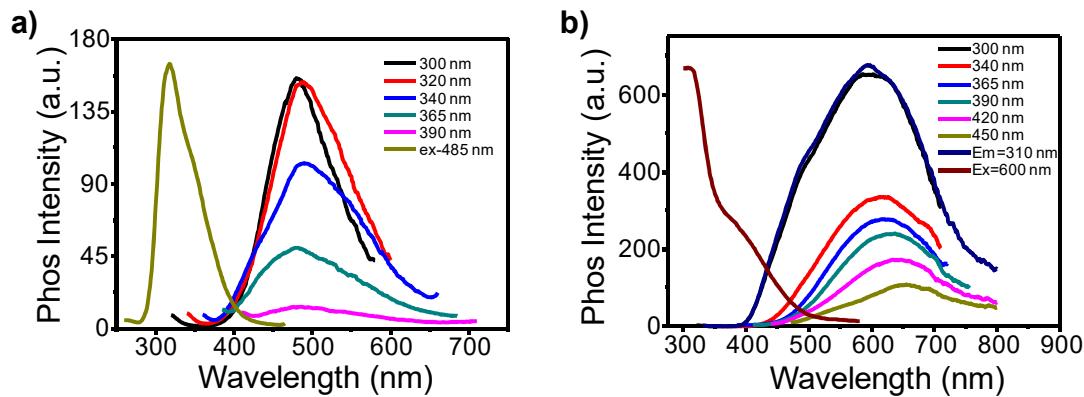
**Figure S6.** The low temperature (77 K) FL and phosphorescence spectra of the AA-CDs water dispersion at air conditions under the excitation wavelength at 360 nm.



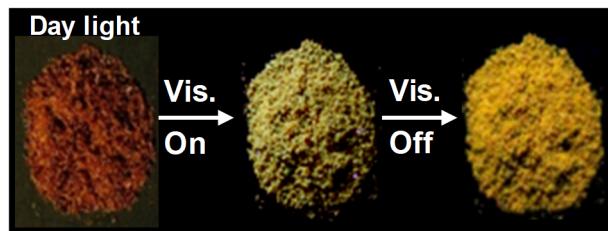
**Figure S7.** (a) FL emission spectra at different excitation wavelengths and excitation spectra of AA powder. (b) FL emission spectra at different excitation wavelengths and excitation spectra of AA-CDs-2 powder.



**Figure S8.** FL emission spectra at different excitation wavelengths and excitation spectrum at emission of wavelength 467 nm of AA-CDs-2 water dispersion.



**Figure S9.** Phosphorescence emission spectra at different excitation wavelengths and excitation spectrum of the L-aspartic acid (a) and AA-CDs-2 (b) powders at ambient conditions.



**Figure S10.** Photographs of the AA-CDs-2 powder at ambient conditions under day light, and visible (Vis.) light LED ( $\lambda_{em}=420$  nm) on and just being switched off, respectively.

**Table S1.** QYs of AA-CDs and AA-CDs-2 aqueous dispersion.

Sample	Solvent	$\lambda_{ex}$ (nm)	$\Phi_1$ (%)	$\Phi_2$ (%)	$\Phi_3$ (%)	$\Phi_{avg}$ (%)	$\Phi_{corr.}$ (%)
Rh-6G	EtOH	488	95.92	94.36	95.09	95.12	95
AA-CDs	H <sub>2</sub> O	365	22.30	22.54	22.62	22.48	22.45
AA-CDs-2	H <sub>2</sub> O	365	18.26	18.76	18.79	18.57	18.55

**Table S2.** Fitted parameters of the FL decay curves of the AA-CDs powder and water dispersion.

Sample	Solvent	$\tau_1$ (ns)	B <sub>1</sub> (%)	$\tau_2$ (ns)	B <sub>2</sub> (%)	$\tau_{avg}$ (ns)	$\phi$
AA-CDs	Powder	3.86	50.96	9.76	53.95	8.04	1.27
AA-CDs	H <sub>2</sub> O	2.73	37.63	11.07	62.37	9.99	1.17

**Table S3.** Fitted parameters of the phosphorescence decay curves of the L-aspartic acid, AA-CDs and AA-CDs-2 powder.

Sample	$\tau_1$ (ms)	B <sub>1</sub> (%)	$\tau_2$ (ms)	B <sub>2</sub> (%)	$\tau_3$ (ms)	B <sub>3</sub> (%)	$\tau_{avg}$ (ms)	$\phi$
AA	5.37	15.76	33.86	51.10	192.53	33.13	157.09	1.27
AA-CDs	9.90	21.92	51.78	48.04	298.76	30.04	240.79	1.16
AA-CDs-2	2.82	9.40	31.85	64.93	168.61	25.68	123.89	1.11

**Table S4.** Relative contents of C, N and O elements of the AA-CDs and AA-CDs-2 on the basis of the XPS data.

Sample	C (%)	N (%)	O (%)
AA-CDs	59.55	13.3	27.15
AA-CDs-2	57.99	12.63	29.38

**Table S5.** Relative contents of different functional groups in the AA-CDs and AA-CDs-2.

Sample	C 1s					N 1s			O 1s			
	C-C/C=C	C-N	C-O	C=N/C=O	N-C=O	Pyrrolic N	Graphite N	Amino N	O-H	C-O-C	C=O	N-C=O
AA-CDs	24.02	17.02	29.17	17.44	12.34	36.77	30.26	32.91	48.53	-	22.40	29.08
AA-CDs-2	26.94	35.86	-	37.21	-	-	68.03	31.97	-	72.33	27.67	-