

## Facile synthesis of nitrogen-doped porous carbon spheres

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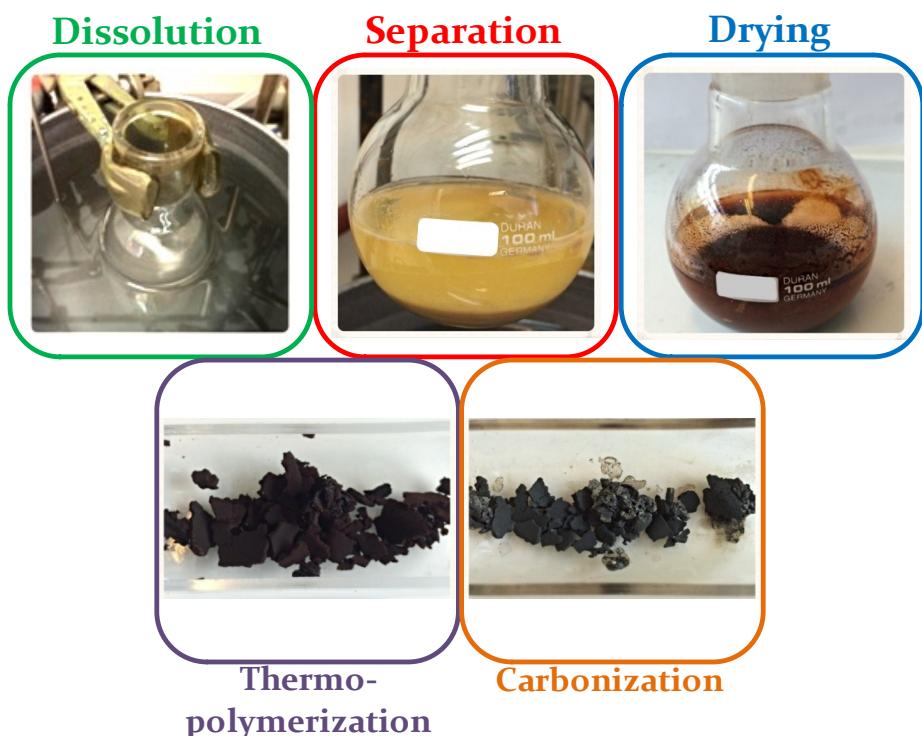
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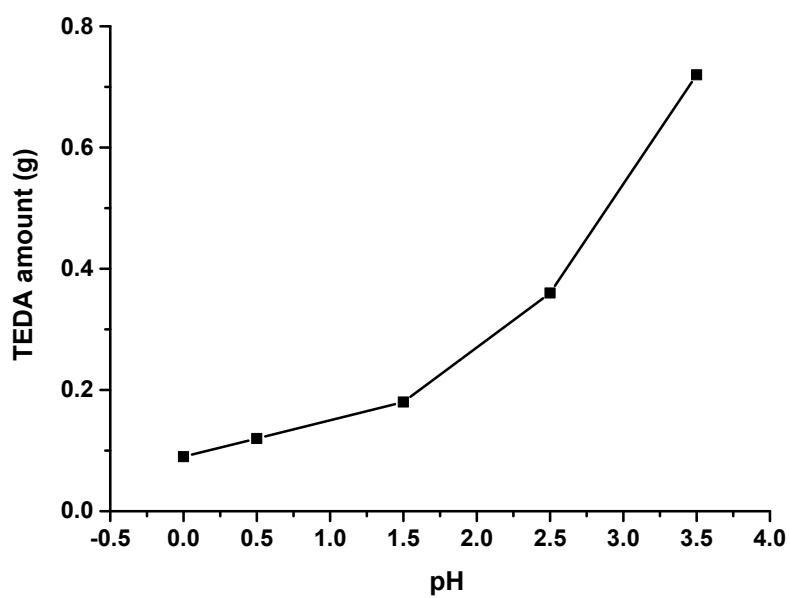
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**Table S1:** Literature review on synthesis conditions employed to synthesize carbon spheres using polymers.

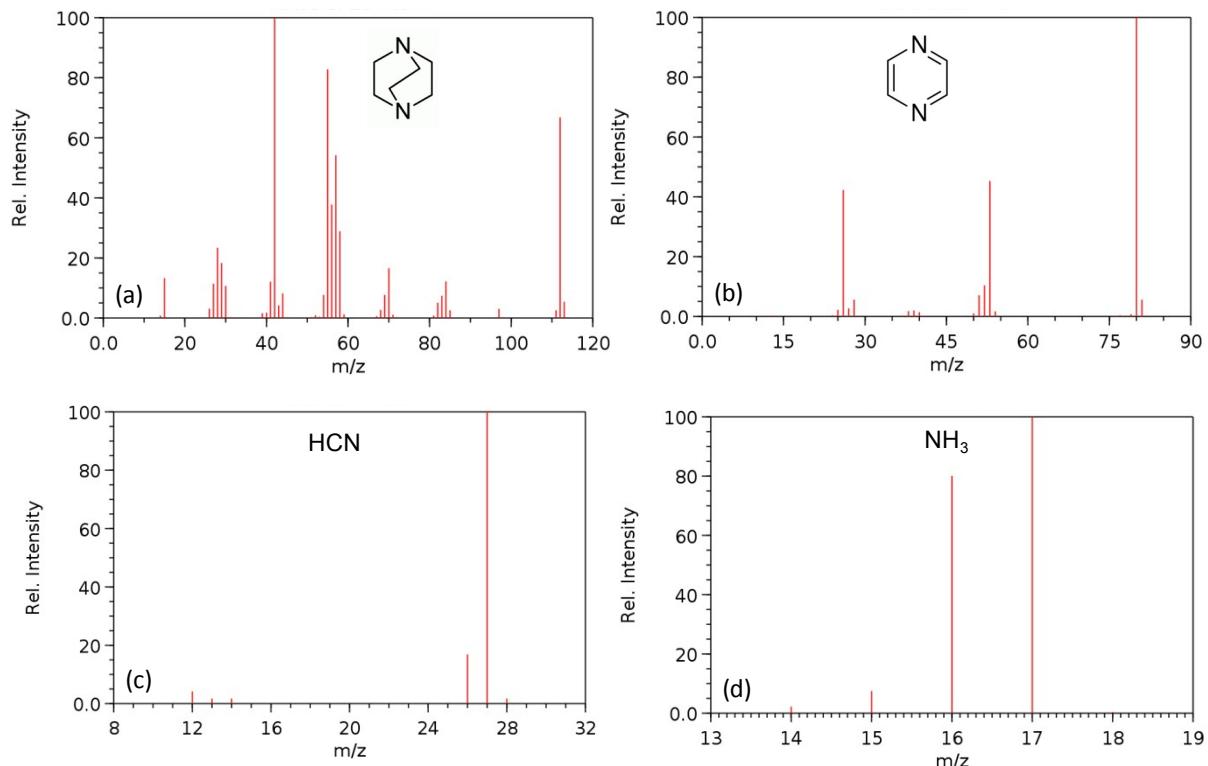
Precursor	Solvent	Catalyst	Temperature/Time	Refs.
Resorcinol/formaldehyde	Ethanol/water	NH <sub>4</sub> OH	10-60°C, 24h 100°C, 24h (autoclave)	<sup>1</sup>
Resorcinol/formaldehyde, colloidal silica	Ethanol/water	NH <sub>4</sub> OH	30° 24h 100°C 24h (autoclave)	<sup>2;3</sup>
Dopamine	Ethanol/water	NH <sub>4</sub> OH	30h at room T	<sup>4</sup>
Dopamine Hydrochloride	Ethanol//water isopropyl alcohol/ethyle ne glycol	-	> 3 days	<sup>5</sup>
3-aminophenol/ formaldehyde	Ethanol/water	Urea	30°-6h	<sup>6</sup>
Melamine Resorcinol Formaldehyde	Water	-	40-80°C, 1h 80-180°C, 24h (autoclave)	<sup>7</sup>
Melamine Formaldehyde	Water	Formic acid	80°C	<sup>8</sup>
Phloroglucinol Terephthaldehyde Resorcinol Formaldehyde	Water	NH <sub>4</sub> OH	70°C, 15-480 min 100°C, 24 (autoclave)	<sup>9</sup>
Resorcinol/ formaldehyde	Ethanol/water	Ethylenediamine	30°C, 24h 100°C, 24h (autoclave)	<sup>10</sup>
Resorcinol/ formaldehyde	Ethanol/water	NH <sub>4</sub> OH, Cysteine	30-90°C, 24h 100°C, 24h (autoclave)	<sup>11;12</sup>
Tannin	Water	NH <sub>4</sub> OH Para- toluenesulphonic acid	180-220°C, 24h (autoclave)	<sup>13;14</sup>
Resorcinol/ formaldehyde	Water	L-lysine NH <sub>4</sub> OH	20°C, 1h 60°C, 10 min	<sup>15</sup>



**Figure S1:** Different steps for the synthesis of the polymer and carbon spheres.



**Figure S2:** Evolution of the pH of solution with the amount of TEDA.



**Figure S3:** Mass spectra of (a) triethylenediamine (b) pyrazine and (c) hydrogen cyanide and (d)  $\text{NH}_3$  (spectra obtained NIST Chemistry WebBook: <http://webbook.nist.gov/chemistry>).