## Carbon quantum dot/CuS<sub>x</sub> nanocomposite towards high efficient lubrication and metal wear repair

## **Supporting Information**



Figure S1. Photo image of figure for the mass preparation product (0.25 kg/h) of  $CQDs/CuS_x$  nanocomposites.



Figure S2. The size distribution of CQDs/CuS<sub>x</sub> nanocomposites.



**Figure S3.** The FTIR spectrum of CQDs/CuS<sub>x</sub> nanocomposites.



Figure S4. The TEM image (a) and size distribution (b) of  $CuS_x$  nanoparticles.



Figure S5. Photographs of CQDs/CuS<sub>x</sub> soaked in liquid paraffin (a, 5.0 wt %; b, 10.0 wt %) at different time periods, showing the dissolution process.



Figure S6. UV-Vis spectra of liquid paraffin with or without CQDs/CuS<sub>x</sub>.



Figure S7. The amplified variation of friction coefficient with different contents (0-1.0) of CQDs/CuS<sub>x</sub> nanocomposites in liquid paraffin.



**Figure S8.** The effects of different components on antiwear abilities with liquid paraffin, CQDs, CuS, CQDs and  $CuS_x$  mixture, and CQDs/CuS<sub>x</sub> nanocomposites as additives, respectively.



**Figure S9.** The designed device to understand the effect of  $CQDs/CuS_x$  nanocomposites on the lubrication and repair of worn surface behaviour. Stainless steel 304L is used as frictional couple.



Figure S10. (a) SEM image of  $CQDs/CuS_x$  nanocomposites on the repair of worn surface and the corresponding EDS elemental mapping images of (b) Fe, (c) Cu and (d) S.

![](_page_4_Figure_2.jpeg)

**Figure S11.** (a) SEM image of  $CQDs/CuS_x$  nanocomposites on the repair of worn surface and the corresponding EDS elemental mapping images of (b) Fe, (c) Cu and (d) S.

![](_page_5_Figure_0.jpeg)

Figure S12. Typical full-survey XPS spectrum of CQDs/CuS<sub>x</sub> nanocomposites on repair of worn surface.

![](_page_6_Figure_0.jpeg)

**Figure S13.** The friction coefficient without CQDs/CuS<sub>x</sub> nanocomposites (a), with (b) and after insertions 1000 times (c) under compression and extension.

![](_page_7_Picture_0.jpeg)

Figure S14. The variation of automobile exhaust after using CQDs/CuS<sub>x</sub> nanocomposites as additive.