

## Supplementary Information

# Eco-friendly quantum dots for liquid luminescent solar concentrators

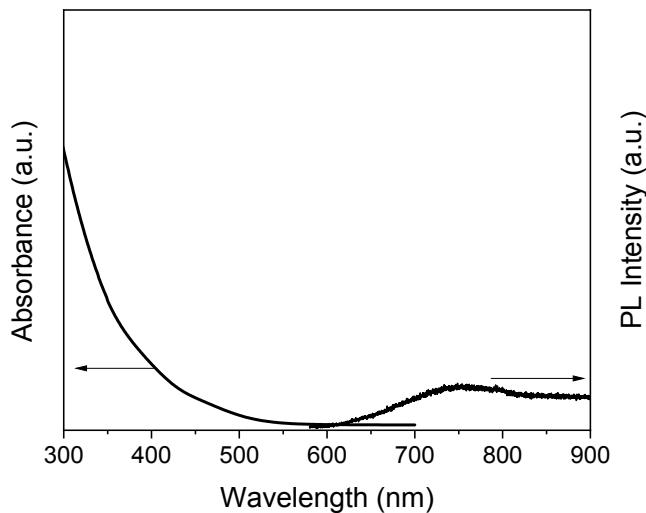
Xin Liu<sup>a</sup>, Bing Luo<sup>a,b</sup>, Jiabin Liu<sup>a</sup>, Dengwei Jing<sup>b</sup>, Daniele Benetti<sup>a,1</sup>, Federico Rosei<sup>a,2</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Centre for Energy, Materials and Telecommunications, Institut National de la Recherche Scientifique, 1650 Boulevard Lionel-Boulet, Varennes, Québec J3X 1S2, Canada.

<sup>b</sup> International Research Center for Renewable Energy & State Key Laboratory of Multiphase Flow in Power Engineering, Xi'an Jiaotong University, Xi'an 710049, China.

Corresponding author. Tel.: 1-514-2286995. E-mail address: daniele.benetti@emt.inrs.ca

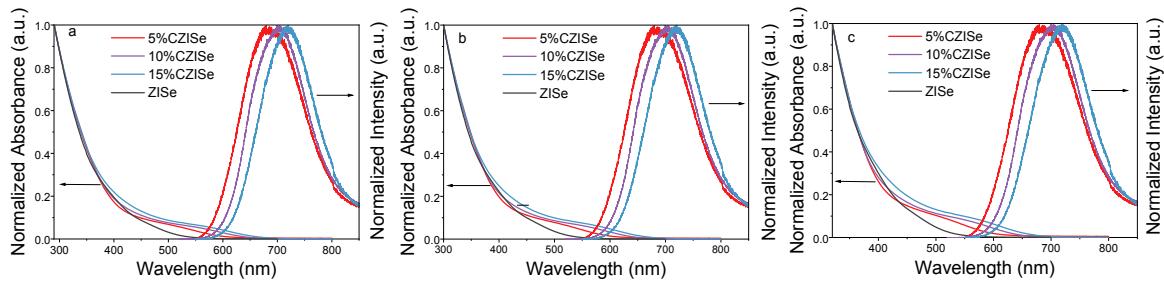
<sup>2</sup> Corresponding author. Tel.: +1-514-2286906; fax: +1-450-9298102. E-mail address:  
rosei@emt.inrs.ca



**FigS1. Absorption and PL emission spectra of ZISe QDs**

**Table S1. Detailed PL properties of ZISe QDs under different nominal Cu dopant ratios**

| Samples     | Peak/nm | FWHM/nm | PL QY/% |
|-------------|---------|---------|---------|
| ZISe        | 753     | 475     | -       |
| 5%CZISe     | 677     | 123     | 22±5%   |
| 10%CZISe    | 702     | 118     | 25±5%   |
| 15%CZISe    | 718     | 115     | 27±5%   |
| 5%CZISe/ZSe | 644     | 136     | 63±5%   |

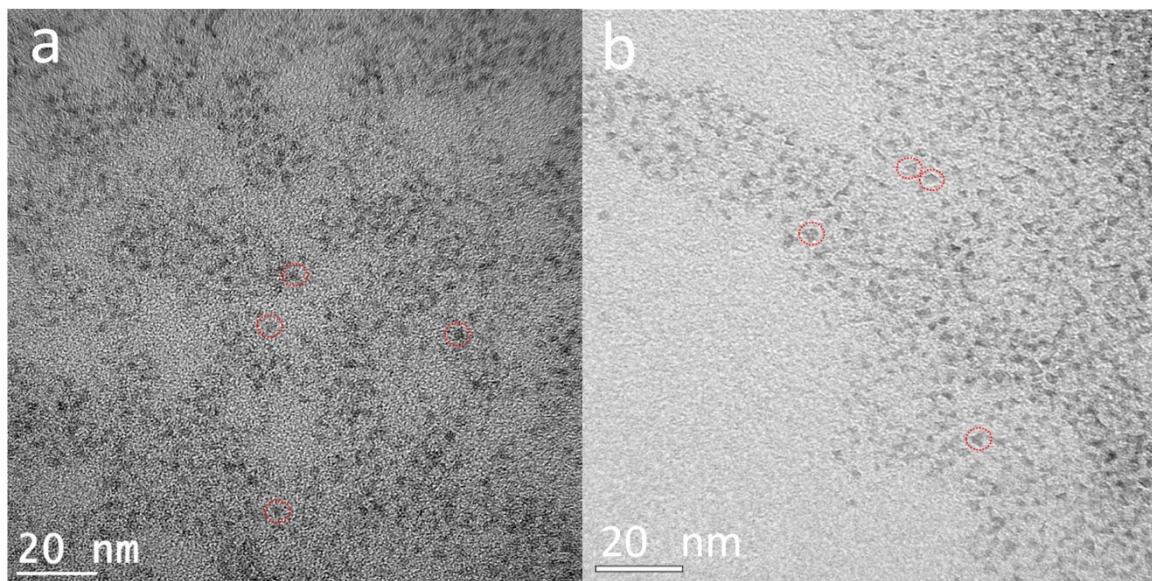


**Fig S2. Normalized absorption spectra and emission spectra of as-prepared QDs for overlap area, assumed absorption peak as the maximum intensity for normalization:(a) 290nm, (b) 300nm, (c) 320nm**

**Table S2. Integrated overlap areas between normalized absorption spectra and PL emission spectra for as-prepared QDs**

|          | 290nm* | 300nm | 320nm |
|----------|--------|-------|-------|
| 5%CZISe  | 1.34   | 1.50  | 1.91  |
| 10%CZISe | 1.81   | 2.00  | 2.44  |
| 15%CZISe | 2.17   | 2.40  | 2.94  |

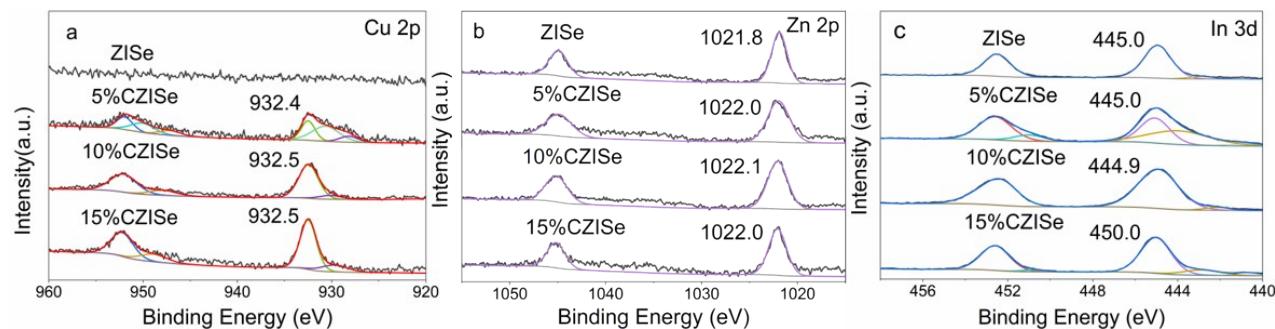
\* Assumed absorption peak as the maximum intensity for normalization.



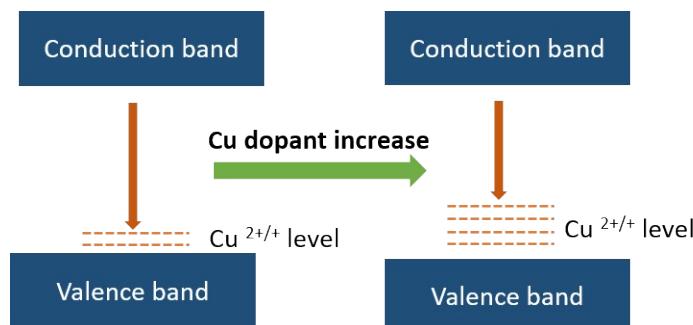
**Fig S3. TEM images of as-prepared QDs: (a)ZISe, (b) 15%CZISe**

**Table S3. Elemental contents in Cu doped ZISe QDs determined by ICP-OES.**

| Samples  | Ion concentration/ppm |      |      | Atomic ratio |            |
|----------|-----------------------|------|------|--------------|------------|
|          | Cu                    | Zn   | In   | In/Zn        | Cu/(Zn+In) |
| ZISe     | 0                     | 1.20 | 4.30 | 2.03         | 0          |
| 5%CZISe  | 0.39                  | 2.19 | 7.58 | 1.97         | 0.062      |
| 10%CZISe | 0.26                  | 0.73 | 2.67 | 2.08         | 0.118      |
| 15%CZISe | 0.73                  | 1.39 | 5.06 | 2.07         | 0.175      |



**Fig S4. XPS spectra of element (a) Cu, (b) Zn, and (c) In of as-prepared ZISe and CZISe QDs**

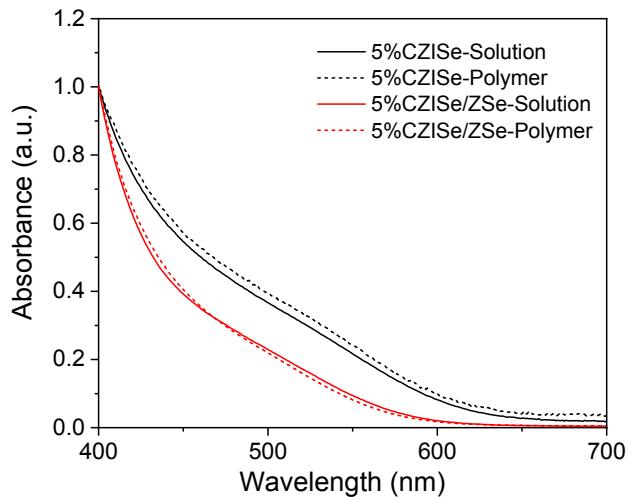


**Fig S5 Schematic illustration of the possible energy states of Cu in Zn-In-Se nanocrystal**

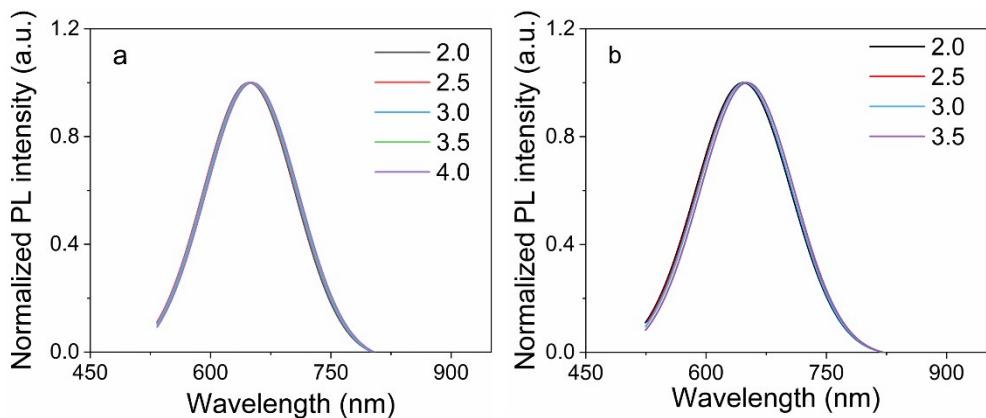
**Table S4. The cost of Liquid LSC and polymer LSC for mass production\***

| Raw Materials | Liquid LSC            | Polymer LSC<br>(based on PMMA)                  |
|---------------|-----------------------|---|
| QDs synthesis | 3.1\$/m <sup>2</sup>  | 3.1\$/m <sup>2</sup>                            |
| Solvent       | 2.5\$/m <sup>2</sup>  | 0.3\$/m <sup>2</sup>                            |
| Waveguide     | 12.0\$/m <sup>2</sup> | 9.6\$/m <sup>2</sup> (glass 6\$, polymer 3.6\$) |
| Total         | 17.7\$/m <sup>2</sup> | 13\$/m <sup>2</sup>                             |

\* From Alibaba and Ref. 1



**Fig S6. Absorption spectra of 5%CZISe QDs and 5%CZISe/ZSe QDs in solution and in polymer**



**Fig S7. Normalized PL spectra of 5% CZISe/ZSe based LSCs measured at different optical paths for the samples (a) Liquid LSC, (b) Polymer LSC**

**Table S5. PL dynamics parameters of as-prepared samples in solution and Polymer**

| Samples              | A <sub>1</sub> | τ <sub>1/ns</sub> | A <sub>2</sub> | τ <sub>2/ns</sub> | A <sub>3</sub> | τ <sub>3/ns</sub> | τ <sub>ave/ns</sub> |
|----------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 5%CZISe-Solution     | 0.15           | 37.6              | 0.82           | 163.0             | 0.03           | 9.0               | 157.7               |
| 5%CZISe-Polymer      | 0.16           | 38.8              | 0.82           | 165.3             | 0.02           | 6.1               | 159.5               |
| 5%CZISe/ZSe-Solution | 0.10           | 43.5              | 0.89           | 174.4             | 0.01           | 7.4               | 170.6               |
| 5%CZISe/ZSe-Polymer  | 0.08           | 43.3              | 0.91           | 180.0             | 0.01           | 8.1               | 176.8               |

**Table S6. Photovoltaic parameters of Si solar cell coupled with different LSCs (G=15)**

| Samples                        | J <sub>sc</sub> /mA cm <sup>-2</sup> | V <sub>oc</sub> /V | FF   | PCE/% | η <sub>opt</sub> /% |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|------|-------|---------------------|
| Only Si solar cell             | 23.56                                | 0.54               | 0.51 | 6.60  | -                   |
| Blank polymer                  | 1.99                                 | 0.18               | 0.26 | 0.10  | 0.56                |
| Blank quartz cell              | 2.81                                 | 0.24               | 0.27 | 0.18  | 0.80                |
| Blank quartz cell with toluene | 3.20                                 | 0.26               | 0.28 | 0.23  | 0.90                |
| 5%CZISe-Solution               | 9.30                                 | 0.45               | 0.38 | 1.63  | 2.63                |
| 5%CZISe-Polymer                | 2.50                                 | 0.21               | 0.27 | 0.15  | 0.70                |
| 5%CZISe/ZSe-Solution           | 9.80                                 | 0.46               | 0.39 | 1.75  | 2.77                |
| 5%CZISe/ZSe-Polymer            | 3.44                                 | 0.27               | 0.29 | 0.28  | 0.97                |

**Table S7. Optical efficiency of bare liquid LSC and LSCs with matching fluids**

| Bare LSCs (test No.)                 | 1    | 2    | 3    | 4    | Average |
|--------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|---------|
| Optical efficiency (%)               | 2.24 | 2.06 | 2.23 | 2.22 | 2.19    |
| LSCs with matching fluids (test No.) | 1    | 2    | 3    | 4    | 5       |
| Optical efficiency (%)               | 2.18 | 1.93 | 2.78 | 2.09 | 2.30    |
|                                      |      |      | 2.98 | 2.38 | Average |

## Reference

1. H. Li, K. Wu, J. Lim, H.-J. Song and V. I. Klimov, *Nat. Energy*, 2016, **1**, 1-9.