## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

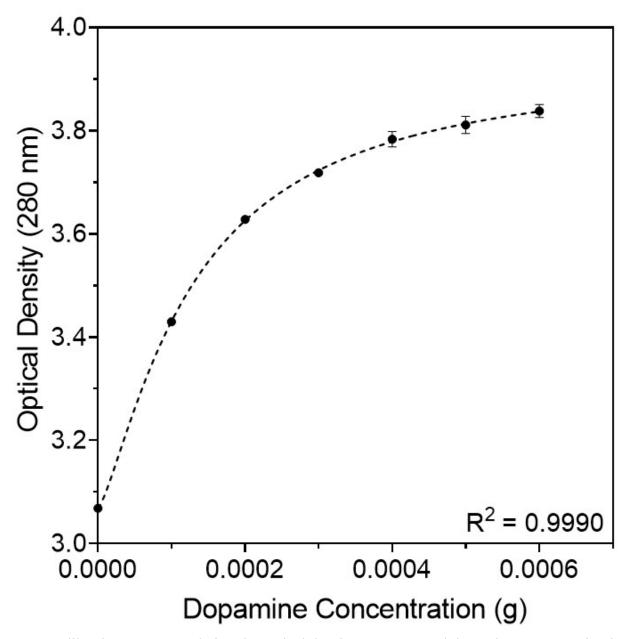
## Agarose-gel coating for improving the polydopamine-based pH sensor stability in continuous pH measurements

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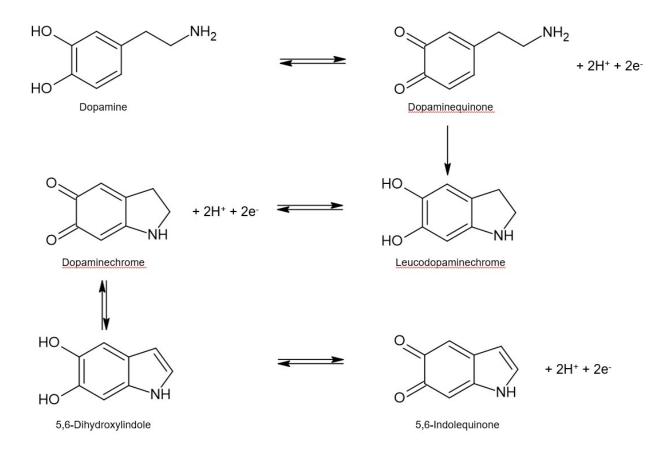
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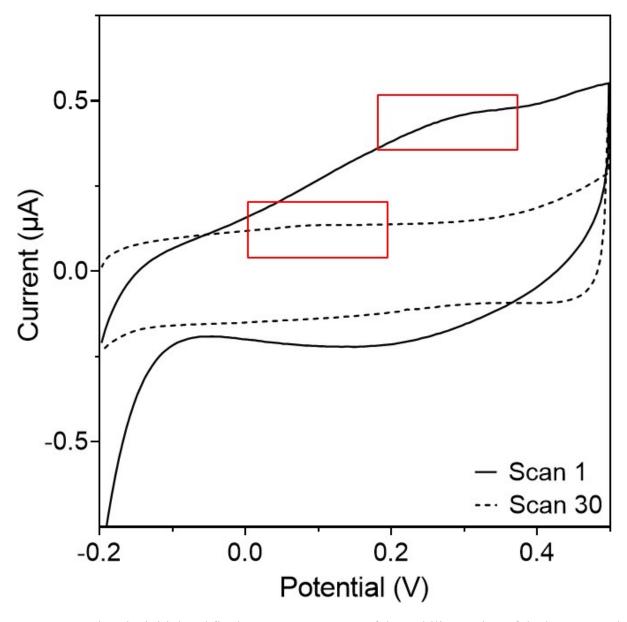
Keywords: pH sensing, continuous monitoring, electrochemical, polydopamine, hydrogel, agarose



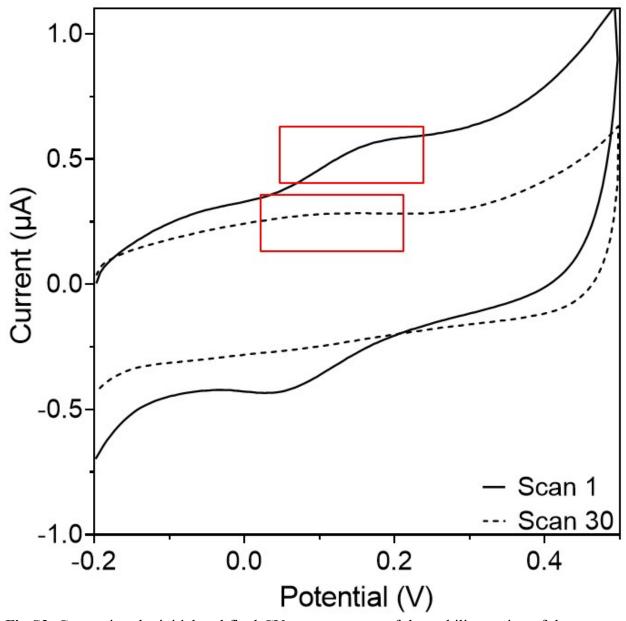
**Fig S1.** Calibration curve correlating the optical density at 280nm and dopamine concentration in 1X PBS at pH 7.3 ( $R^2 = 0.999$ , n = 2). Error bars represent the STD. The optical densities of dopamine from left to right are  $3.838 \pm 0.013$ ,  $3.811 \pm 0.017$ ,  $3.784 \pm 0.015$ ,  $3.719 \pm 0.004$ ,  $3.628 \pm 0.006$ ,  $3.430 \pm 0.003$ , and  $3.069 \pm 0.008$ .



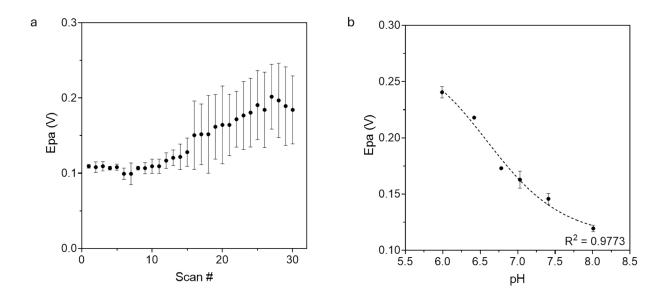
Scheme S1. Schematic of the polymerization of dopamine into polydopamine (PDA).



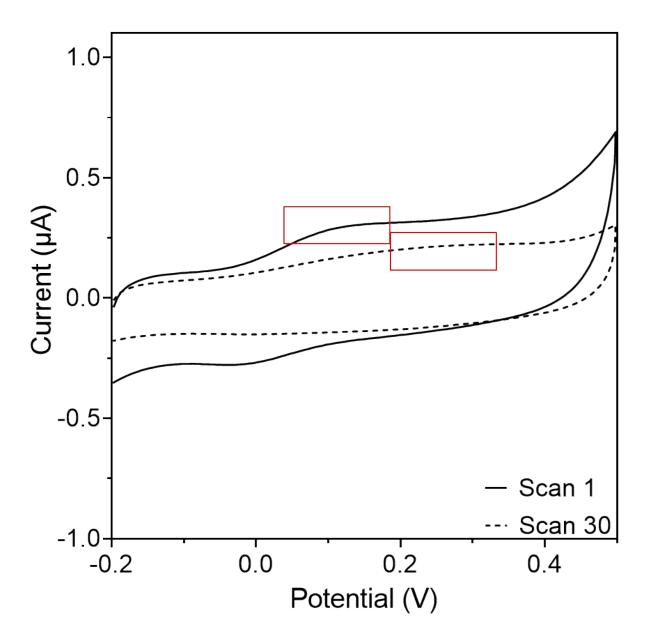
**Fig S2.** Comparing the initial and final CV measurements of the stability testing of the heat-treated pH sensors.



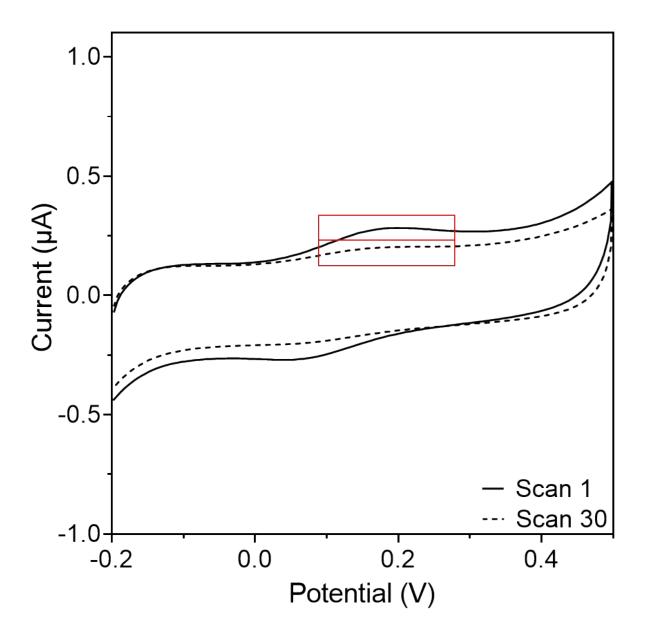
**Fig S3.** Comparing the initial and final CV measurements of the stability testing of the agarosecoated pH sensors.



**Fig S4.** Stability testing the baseline PDA pH sensor in complex biological fluid. (a) Oxidation potentials of pH sensors (n=4) over 30 scans in simulated wound fluid exudate (WFE) at pH 7.32. (b) Calibration curve of pH sensors (n = 4) tested in WFE with varying pH ( $R^2 = 0.98$ , sensitivity = slope of the linear region [6.0 – 7.0] = -0.08). Error bars represent the STD.



**Fig S5.** Comparing the initial and final CV measurements of the stability testing of the baseline PDA pH sensors in WFE.



**Fig S6.** Comparing the initial and final CV measurements of the stability testing of the agarosecoated pH sensors in WFE.