Electronic Supplementary Information

## Simple and green synthesis ofnitrogen-, sulfur- and phosphorus-co-doped carbon dots with tunable luminescence properties and sensing application

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## Figures



Fig. S1 High-resolution XPS spectra on  $P_{2p}$  (a) and  $S_{2p}$  (b) in N/S/P-CDs.



Fig. S2 Fluorescence decay curve and the exponential fitting curve of N/S/P-CDs-100 (a), N/S/P-CDs-120 (b) and N/S/P-CDs-150 (c) recorded at room temperature in aqueous solution. The fiting formula:  $F(t) = A + B_1 e^{-t/\tau_1} + B_2 e^{-t/\tau_2} + B_3 e^{-t/\tau_3}$ , where, t is time, A is a constant background,  $B_1$ ,  $B_2$ , and  $B_3$  are fractional intensities,  $\tau_1$ ,  $\tau_2$ , and  $\tau_3$  are fluorescence lifetime. The amplitude-weighted average fluorescence lifetime,  $\langle \tau \rangle = \frac{B_1 \tau_1 + B_2 \tau_2 + B_3 \tau_3}{B_1 + B_2 + B_3}$ 

## Tables

Sample	QY / %	Average lifetimes / ns
N/S/P-CDs-100	2.42	2.83
N/S/P-CDs-120	3.25	2.65
N/S/P-CDs-150	1.72	1.85

Table S1 The quantum yield (QY) and average lifetimes of different N/S/P-CDs.

Table S2 Results of Hg<sup>2+</sup> detection in river water using photoluminescent N/S/P-CDs-120 (*n*=3)

Sample	Added $Hg^{2+}$ / $\mu M$	Found $Hg^{2+}$ / $\mu M$	RSD / %	Recovery / %
river water 1	0	No detected	_	_
river water 2	20.0	20.2	1.7	101.0
river water 3	50.0	51.2	1.3	102.4