

## Supporting Information

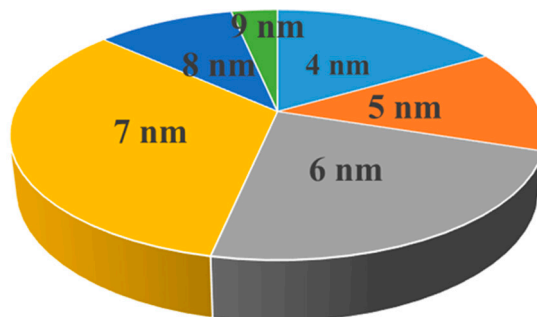
# Carbon Dot-Functionalized Solution-Gated Graphene Transistors for Highly Sensitive Detection of Cobalt(II) Ions

Zhanpeng Ren <sup>1</sup>, Jianying Wang <sup>1,2,\*</sup>, Chenglong Xue <sup>1</sup>, Minghua Deng <sup>1</sup>, Ziqin Li <sup>1</sup>,  
Huibin Zhang <sup>1</sup>, Chen Cai <sup>1</sup>, Bing Xu <sup>1</sup>, Xianbao Wang <sup>1,\*</sup> and Jinhua Li <sup>1,\*</sup>

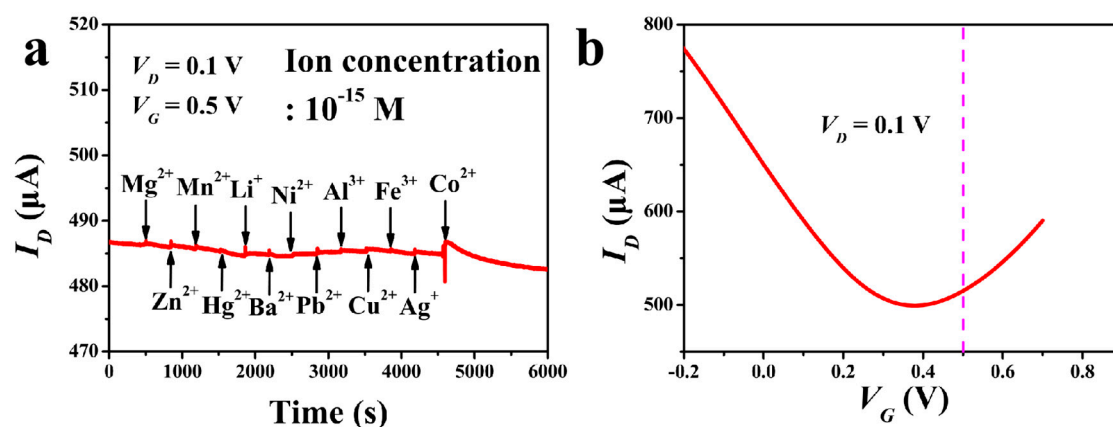
<sup>1</sup> Key Laboratory for the Green Preparation and Application of Functional Materials, Hubei Key Laboratory of Polymer Materials, Collaborative Innovation Center for Advanced Organic Chemical Materials Co-Constructed by the Province and Ministry, School of Materials Science and Engineering, Hubei University, Ministry of Education, Wuhan 430062, China

<sup>2</sup> Key Laboratory of Organosilicon Chemistry and Material Technology of Ministry of Education, Hangzhou Normal University, Hangzhou 311121, China

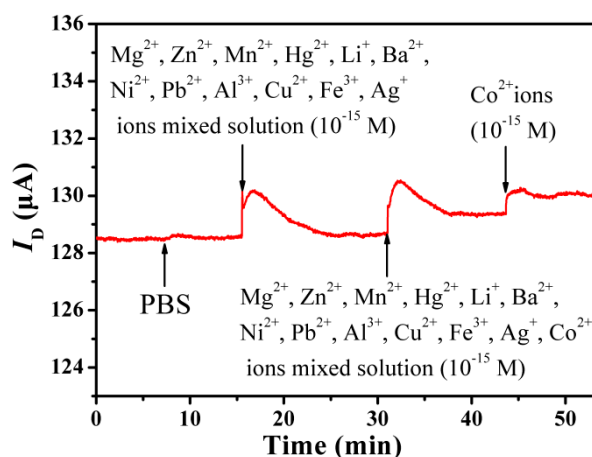
\* Correspondence: wangjy\_2002@163.com (J.W.); wxb@hubu.edu.cn (X.W.); jinhua\_li@hubu.edu.cn (J.L.)



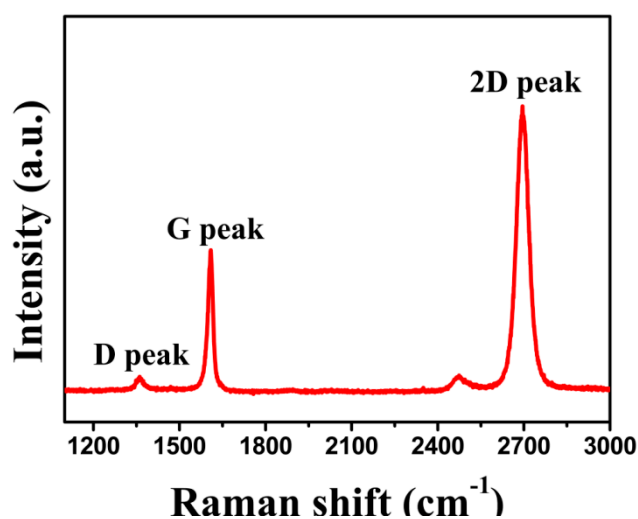
**Figure S1.** The size distribution of the CDs.



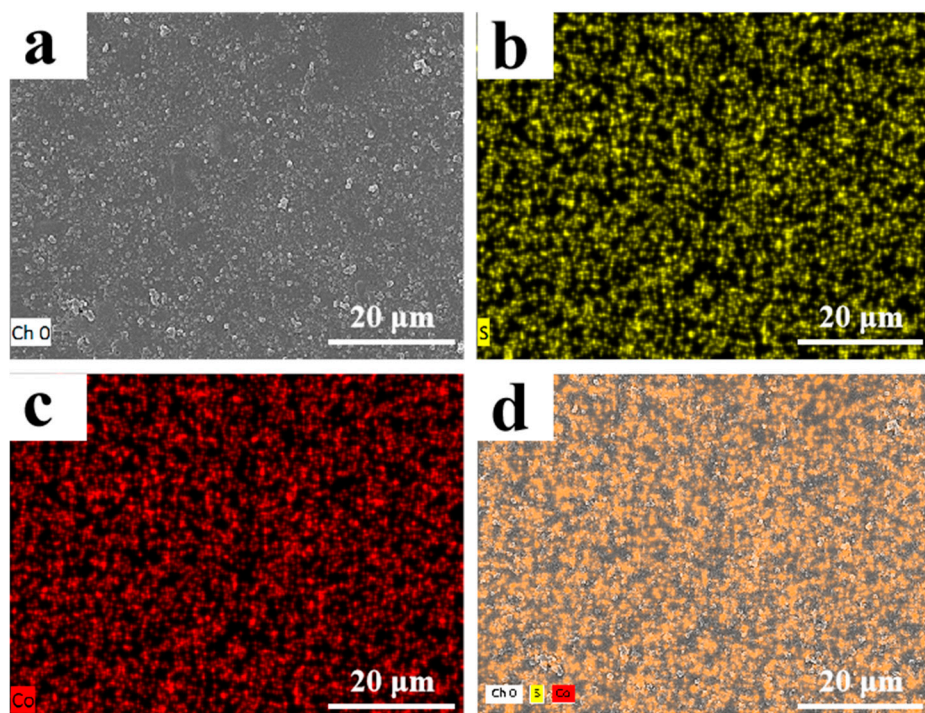
**Figure S2.** (a) Selectivity measurements of the CD-SGGT sensor. Comparison of the sensor in response to the target  $\text{Co}^{2+}$  ions or other metal ions, i.e.  $\text{Ag}^+$ ,  $\text{Al}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Ba}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Li}^+$ ,  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  ions. (The concentration of all the ions is  $1.0 \times 10^{-15}$  M.) (b) The transfer curves of the SGGT under the corresponding condition.



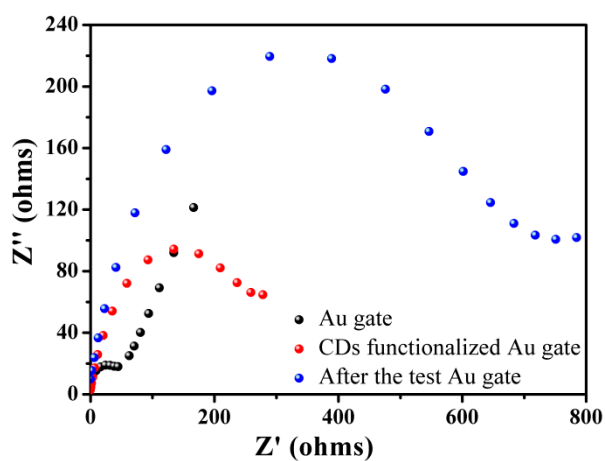
**Figure S3.** Test of the selectivity of the CD-SGGT sensor, i.e. PBS, ( $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Li}^+$ ,  $\text{Ba}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Al}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Ag}^+$ ) ions mixed solution ( $1.0 \times 10^{-15}$  M), ( $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Hg}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Li}^+$ ,  $\text{Ba}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Al}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Ag}^+$  and  $\text{Co}^{2+}$ ) ions mixed solution ( $1.0 \times 10^{-15}$  M),  $\text{Co}^{2+}$  ions ( $1.0 \times 10^{-15}$  M).



**Figure S4.** Raman spectrum of a single-layer graphene on Si substrate.



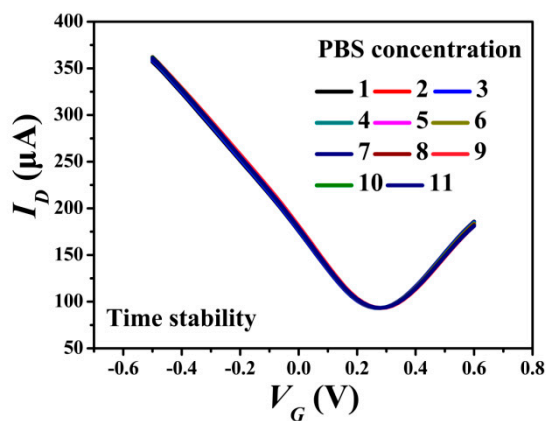
**Figure S5.** Characterization of the gate surface after detection. (a) SEM image of the gate electrodes after detecting  $\text{Co}^{2+}$  ions. (b), (c), (d) Element mapping result of the gate electrodes after detecting  $\text{Co}^{2+}$  ions.



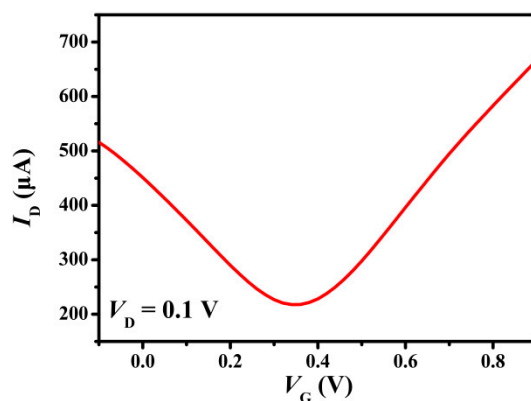
**Figure S6.** Impedance test on gate surface (bare gold, functionalized CDs and after test).

**Table S1.** Comparison on recently reported various methods for detection of  $\text{Co}^{2+}$  ions.

Detection Method	Materials	LOD	Linear Range	Ref
Fluorescence	N-CNDs	230.5 nM	2.5 $\mu\text{M}$ - 25 $\mu\text{M}$	[1]
Fluorescence	N,S-GQDs	1.25 mM	0 - 40 mM	[2]
Colorimetric	coumarin	7.09 $\mu\text{M}$	0 - 90 $\mu\text{M}$	[3]
Absorption	Au@AuAg	0.2 nM	1 nM - 100 nM	[4]
SERS	TPY	1 nM	0 - 100 nM	[5]
Fluorescence	BMBA	1.73 $\mu\text{M}$	0 - 1.02 mM	[6]
SGGT	N,S-CDs	0.1 aM	0.1 aM - 1 fM	This work



**Figure S7.** The transfer curve of CD-SGGT was tested 11 times consecutively.



**Figure S8.** The transfer curves of the SGGT under the corresponding condition. (Figure 6b)

## Reference

1. Du, F.; Cheng, Z.; Kremer, M.; Liu, Y.; Wang, X.; Shuang, S.; Dong, C., A label-free multifunctional nanosensor based on N-doped carbon nanodots for vitamin B12 and  $Co^{2+}$  detection, and bioimaging in living cells and zebrafish. *J. Mater. Chem. B* **2020**, 8 (23), 5089-5095.
2. Boonta, W.; Talodthaisong, C.; Sattayaporn, S.; Chaicham, C.; Chaicham, A.; Sahasithiwat, S.; Kangkaew, L.; Kulchat, S., The synthesis of nitrogen and sulfur co-doped graphene quantum dots for fluorescence detection of cobalt(ii) ions in water. *Mater. Chem. Front.* **2020**, 4 (2), 507-516.
3. Vashisht, D.; Kaur, K.; Jukaria, R.; Vashisht, A.; Sharma, S.; Mehta, S. K., Colorimetric chemosensor based on coumarin skeleton for selective naked eye detection of cobalt (II) ion in near aqueous medium. *Sens. Actuators B Chem.* **2019**, 280, 219-226.

4. He, Z.; Zhu, J.; Li, X.; Weng, G. J.; Li, J. J.; Zhao, J. W., Surface etching-dependent geometry tailoring and multi-spectral information of Au@AuAg yolk-shell nanostructure with asymmetrical pyramidal core: The application in Co<sup>2+</sup> determination. *J. Colloid Interface Sci.* **2022**, 625, 340-353.
5. Tsoutsis, D.; Guerrini, L.; Hermida-Ramon, J. M.; Giannini, V.; Liz-Marzan, L. M.; Wei, A.; Alvarez-Puebla, R. A., Simultaneous SERS detection of copper and cobalt at ultratrace levels. *Nanoscale* **2013**, 5 (13), 5841-6.
6. Mahajan, P. G.; Dige, N. C.; Desai, N. K.; Patil, S. R.; Kondalkar, V. V.; Hong, S. K.; Lee, K. H., Selective detection of Co<sup>2+</sup> by fluorescent nano probe: Diagnostic approach for analysis of environmental samples and biological activities. *Spectrochim. Acta A Mol. Biomol. Spectrosc.* **2018**, 198, 136-144.