Functional Nanomaterials Using Phenolic Chelating Molecules as Colorimetric and Biological Sensors



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## **Nanostructured Materials**

- Materials which features with at least one of its critical dimensions between 1 nm to 100nm.
- Nanomaterials can be of two types; engineered or nonengineered
- Engineered nanoparticles are intentionally created to meet the specific applications e.g. CNT, Fullerene etc.
- Non-engineered nanoparticles are unintentionally created by nature such as volcanic ash, DNA and protein.



### **Synthesis of Nanoparticles (Wet Chemical Approach)**





#### Size or shape – modulate optical and catalytic property





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# Surface functionality – Cell permeability and interaction with biomolecules



(J. D. Padmos et al. Langmuir, 2015)





## **Phenolic Functional Molecules**

- Redox reagent Plasmonic NPs (Ag and Au) preparation with surface functionality
- Strong interaction/coordination with metal ions
  - Surface functionality Plasmonic Sensor
- Synthetic versatility to modulate the structure Structureproperty studies
- High Water solubility Biological studies and

environmentally benign



# Three in one -**Plasmonic nano**sensor







- 1. Multi-functional role in plasmonic nanosensors
  - □ Used as reducing, stabilizing and surface functionalizing agents
  - Surface functionality used for selective sensing of metal cations and anions
  - Role of phenolic chelating molecules structure on selectivity of cations/anions



#### **Phenolic Chelating Molecules**



#### Scheme of AgNPs synthesis with ligand functionality



#### **Distance dependent optical properties**

- Decrease in size of Ag, AuNPs produce-colour
- Modulation of shape & change in the distance between NPs effects the electronic coupling and change the colour



#### **Tuning of VP- and ILP-AgNPs metal ions sensing**





#### 1. Amino acids based phenolic chelating ligands functionalized AgNPs



I row: Gly-Glycine, Ala-Alanine, Val-Valine, Leu-Leucine II row: Ile-Isoleucine, Phe-Phenylalanine, Trp-Tryptophan, Tyr-Tyrosine

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Compound		Metal cations sensed	
	VP-AgNPs	Cd <sup>2+</sup> , Pb <sup>2+</sup>	
VP-AgNPs	VP-AgNPs-TSC	Cd <sup>2+</sup> , Pb <sup>2+</sup>	
	VP-AgNPs-PVA	$\mathrm{Hg}^{2+}$	
	VP-AgNPs-EDTA	Cd <sup>2+</sup> , Pb <sup>2+</sup>	
ILP-AgNPs	ILP-AgNPs	Cd <sup>2+</sup> , Pb <sup>2+</sup>	
	ILP-AgNPs-TSC	Cd <sup>2+</sup> , Pb <sup>2+</sup>	
	ILP-AgNPs-PVA	Hg <sup>2+</sup>	
	ILP-AgNPs-EDTA	Cd <sup>2+</sup> , Pb <sup>2+</sup> , Hg <sup>2+</sup>	
AP-AgNPs	AP-AgNPs	Zn <sup>2+</sup> , Cd <sup>2+</sup> , Pb <sup>2+</sup>	
	AP-AgNPs-TSC	Zn <sup>2+</sup> , Cd <sup>2+</sup> , Pb <sup>2+</sup>	
	AP-AgNPs-PVA	Hg <sup>2+</sup>	
	AP-AgNPs-EDTA	Cd <sup>2+</sup> , Pb <sup>2+</sup>	
	GP-AgNPs	Pb <sup>2+</sup>	
GP-AgNPs	GP-AgNPs-TSC	Zn <sup>2+</sup> , Cd <sup>2+</sup> , Pb <sup>2+</sup> , Mn <sup>2+</sup> , Cr <sup>3+</sup>	
	GP-AgNPs-PVA	$\mathrm{Hg}^{2+}$	
	GP-AgNPs-EDTA	Zn <sup>2+</sup> , Cd <sup>2+</sup> , Pb <sup>2+</sup> , Hg <sup>2+</sup>	
	LP-AgNPs	Cd <sup>2+</sup> , Pb <sup>2+</sup>	
	LP-AgNPs-TSC	Cd <sup>2+</sup> , Pb <sup>2+</sup>	
LP-AgNPs	LP-AgNPs-PVA	Hg <sup>2+</sup>	
	LP-AgNPs-EDTA	Cd <sup>2+</sup> , Pb <sup>2+</sup>	
TYP-AgNPs	TYP-AgNPs	$\mathrm{Hg}^{2+}$	
	TYP-AgNPs-TSC	Hg <sup>2+</sup>	
	TYP-AgNPs-PVA	Hg <sup>2+</sup>	
	TYP-AgNPs-EDTA	Zn <sup>2+</sup> , Cd <sup>2+</sup> , Pb <sup>2+</sup> , Hg <sup>2+</sup>	





□ Amino acid attached phenolic ligands were chosen due to its redox properties

- Phenolic unit reduces silver ions into AgNPs and also provides stability and surface functionality to the NPs
- Phenolic chelating ligands were known to form strong coordination with metal ions
- Coordination expected to produce smaller aggregates of AgNPs that would show different colour due to distance dependent optical properties

#### Selectivity!!!





# 2. Isopropyl amine based phenolic chelating ligands functionalized AgNPs



(V. V. Kumar et al. New J Chem., 2015)







Guest	LOD (µg/ml)	LOQ (µg/ml)	Guest	LOD (ug/ml)	LOQ (ug/ml)
Co <sup>2+</sup>	85	255	H <sub>2</sub> PO <sup>-</sup> <sub>4</sub>	130	390
$Ni^{2+}$	65 80	195 240	HPO <sup>2-</sup> 4	145	435
Cd <sup>2+</sup>	210	630	$(COO)^{2-}_{2}$	160	480

Absorbance spectra of IPA-AgNPs for (a) different metal ions (b) anions with inset digital image (c) LOD and LOQ values for detectable metal ions and anions 4-Mar-18 TEL AUIU UNIVERSITY NALY

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#### 3. Role of structural flexibility of phenolic chelating ligands for sensing



(V. V. Kumar et al. RSC Adv., 2015)







Guest	LOD (µg/ml)	LOQ (µg/ml)	Guest	LOD (µg/ml)	LOQ (µg/ml)
C0 <sup>2+</sup>	155	465	$H_2PO_4$	275	825
<b>Pb</b> <sup>2+</sup>	160	480	$(COO)^{2-}_{2}$	225	675
Hg <sup>2+</sup>	120	360	NO <sub>2</sub>	110	330
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**OPD-AgNPs-** (a) inset of digital image for different anions (b) Absorbance spectra (c) LOD and LOQ value for  $NO_2^-$  and (d) Real water samples ISR

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(V. V. Kumar et al. ACA, 2015)

LOQ

 $(\mu g/ml)$ 

0.300





✓ Tunable sensitivity and selectivity



#### **Precursor for CQDs -Fluorescence Sensor**







- C-dots are composed of carbon-core and surface domains
- CQDs characterized by UV-Visible, Fluorescence, XPS and FE-TEM
- Successfully use for selective sensing and potential bioimaging probes for Zn<sup>2+</sup>, Pb<sup>2+</sup>





(V. V. Kumar et al. New J Chem., 2017)

#### **Role of phenolic structure on CQDs formation**



2018





Emission spectra monitored at different excitation wavelengths in the range of 280–480 nm, inset digital images of CQD









(a) HR-TEM of CQD and (b) XPS spectra CQD and (c) Digital images of pH tuned studies with its Fluorescence spectra in acidic and basic studies







Fig. 8 Biological application of CQD-based fluorescence sensing of Zn<sup>2+</sup> and Pb<sup>2+</sup> in zebrafish eggs.

New J. Chem., 2017, 41, 15157





Table 1 Different CQD fluorescence sensors reported for metal cations	
Source for CQDs	Metal ions detected
Pomelo peel	Hg <sup>2+</sup>
Rose-heart radish	Fe <sup>3+</sup>
Citric acid	Cu <sup>2+</sup>
Citric acid/urea/cysteine	Hg <sup>2+</sup>
Citric acid/cysteine	Cu <sup>2+</sup>
Valine	Hg <sup>2+</sup>
Poly(ethylenimine) functionalized CQDs	Cu <sup>2+</sup>
$N-(\beta-Aminoethyl)-\gamma-aminopropyl methyldimethoxysilane$	Cu <sup>2+</sup>
Jinhua bergamot	$Hg^{2+}$ , $Fe^{3+}$
L-Glutamic acid	Fe <sup>3+</sup>
Sweet potato	Fe <sup>3+</sup>
Colistin	Fe <sup>3+</sup>
L-Arginine	Cu <sup>2+</sup>
Glucose, 1,2-ethylenediamine (EDA) and concentrated phosphoric acid (H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> )	Cr <sup>6+</sup>
Biomass	Cr <sup>6+</sup>
Ocimum sanctum	Pb <sup>2+</sup>
2-(2-Hydroxybenzylamino)propanoic acid	$Zn^{2+}, Pb^{2+}$







- Fluorescent CQDs were prepared via a hydrothermal reaction using amino acid based phenolic molecule
- Investigated the role of phenolic structure on CQDs formation
- Demonstrated selective metal ions sensing of  $(Zn^{2+}, Pb^{2+})$









#### Present Work @ Water Tech Laboratory

- Constructing a UVA/visible-light-driven photocatalytic membrane reactor with improved permeability and low energy consumption
- Develop ceramic/polymer coated membranes and 3D printed membranes by simple spray coating and FDM technologies.





## **Thank You**



