

# Supporting Information

**Novel core-shell structure microspheres based on lanthanide  
complexes for white light emission and fluorescence sensing**

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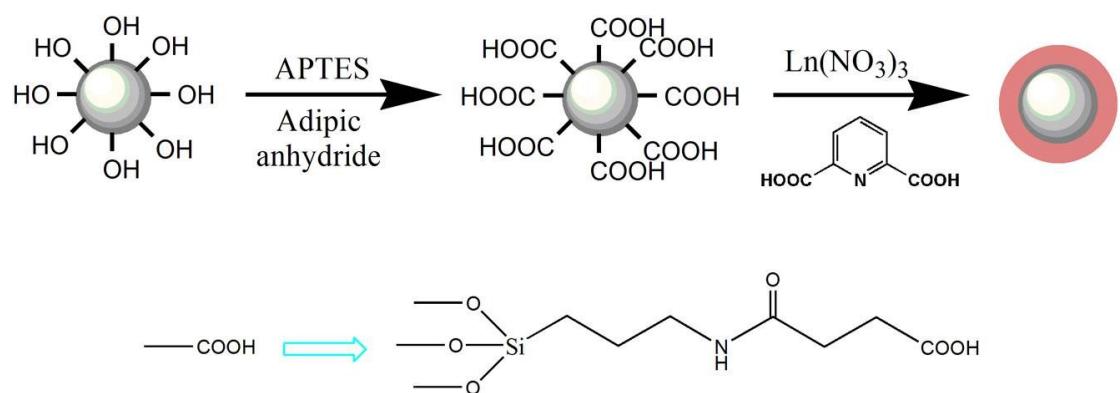
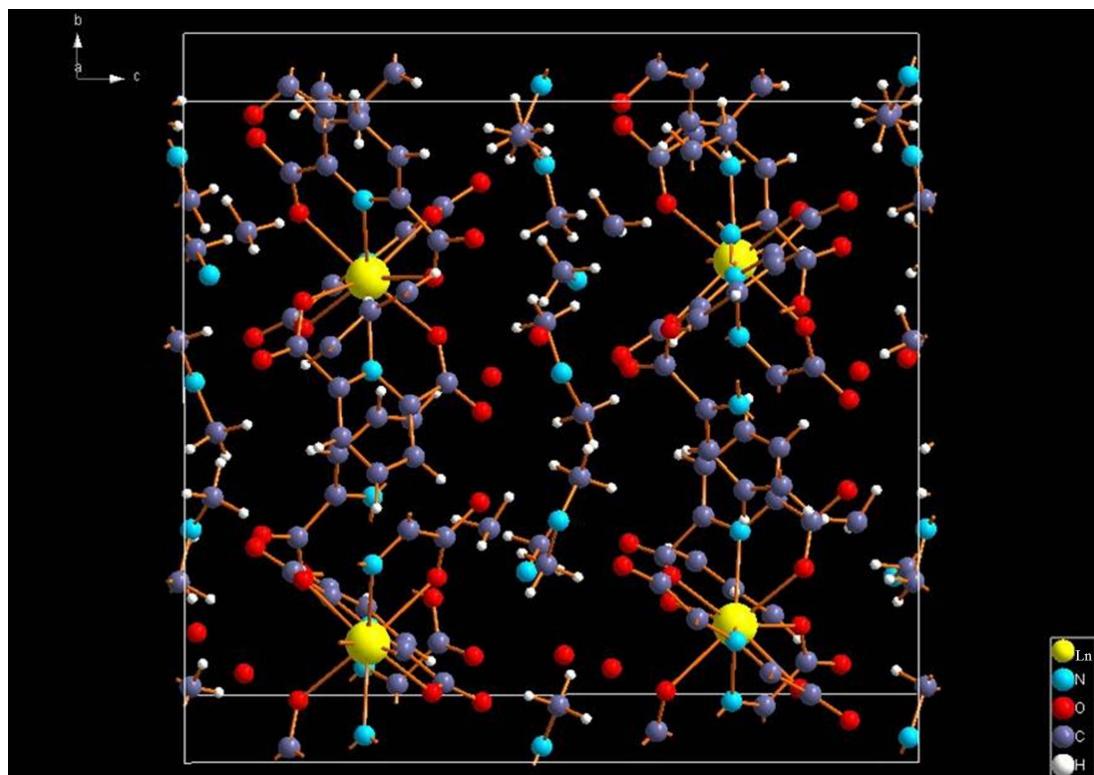


Fig. S1 The synthesis process of  $\text{SiO}_2@\text{Ln-dpa}$ .



Scheme S1. The structure and typical coordination environment of  $[\text{H}_2\text{NMe}_2]_3[\text{Ln}(\text{dpa})_3]$ .

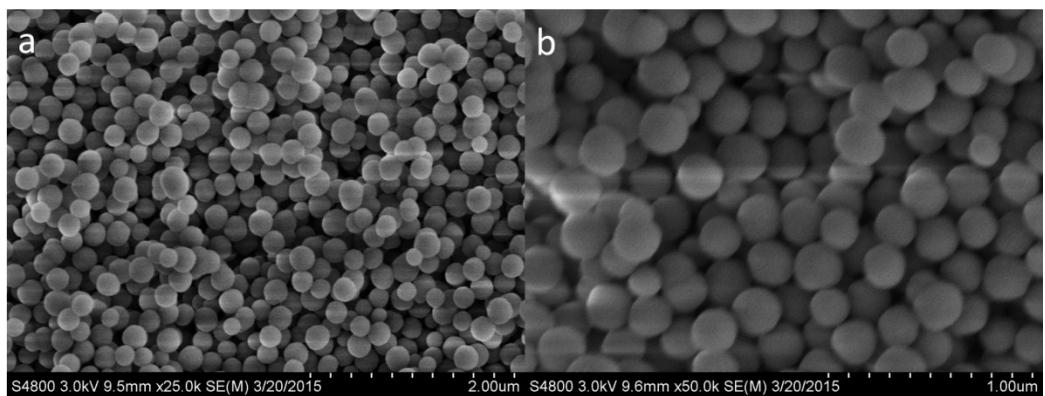


Fig. S2 The selected SEM images of silica microspheres.

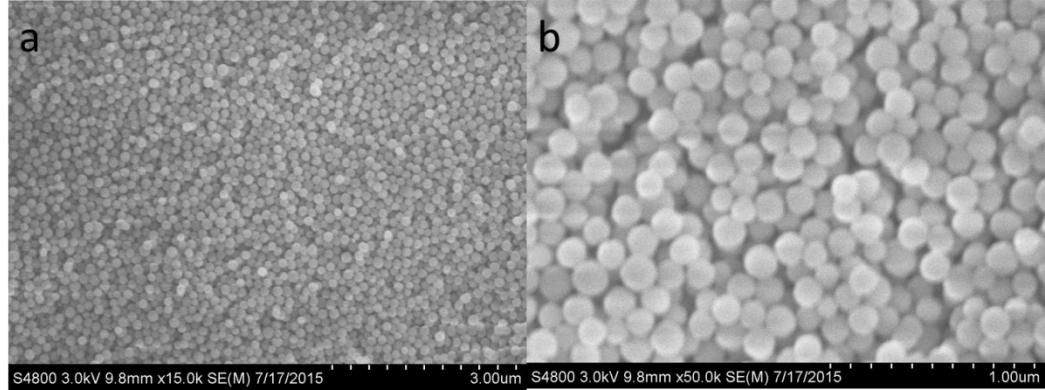


Fig. S3 The selected SEM images of  $\text{SiO}_2@\text{Ln-dpa}$ .

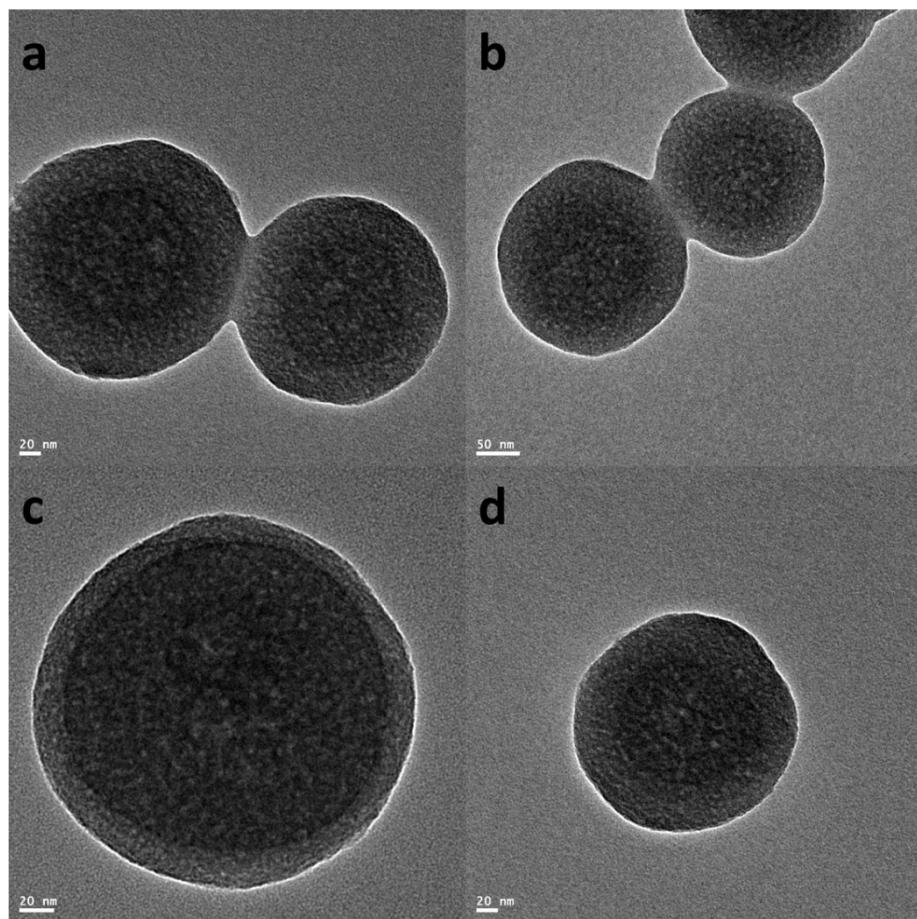


Fig. S4 The selected TEM images of  $\text{SiO}_2@\text{Ln-dpa}$ .

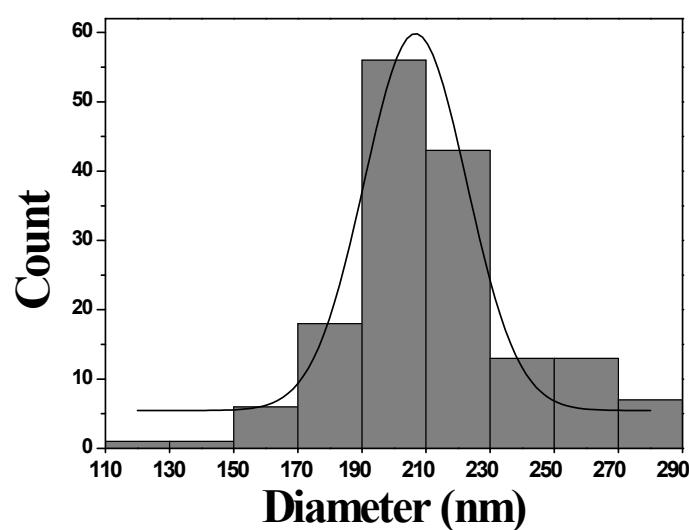


Fig. S5 Particle size distribution of as-synthesized bare silica microspheres.

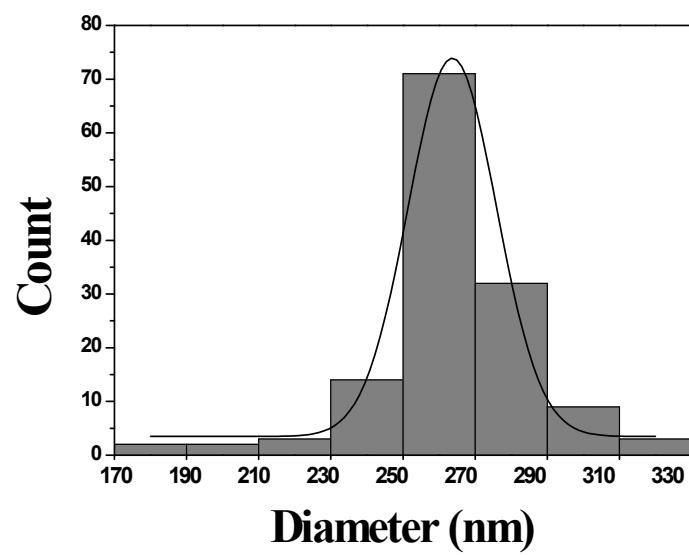


Fig. S6 Particle size distribution of as-synthesized  $\text{SiO}_2@\text{Ln-dpa}$ .

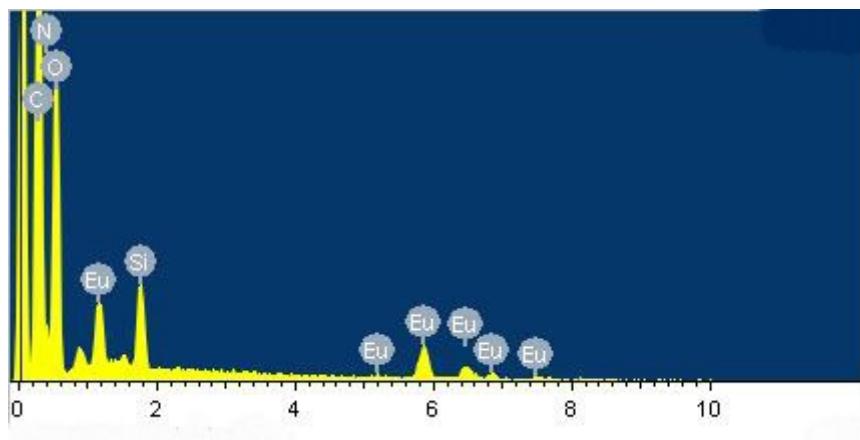


Fig. S7 Energy dispersive analysis by X-rays (EDX) spectroscopy of  $\text{SiO}_2@\text{Eu-dpa}$ .

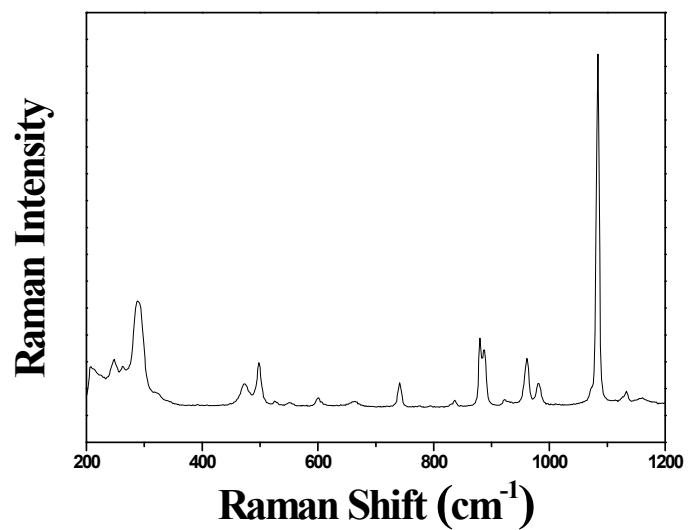


Fig. S8 Raman spectra of  $\text{SiO}_2@\text{Ln-dpa}$ .

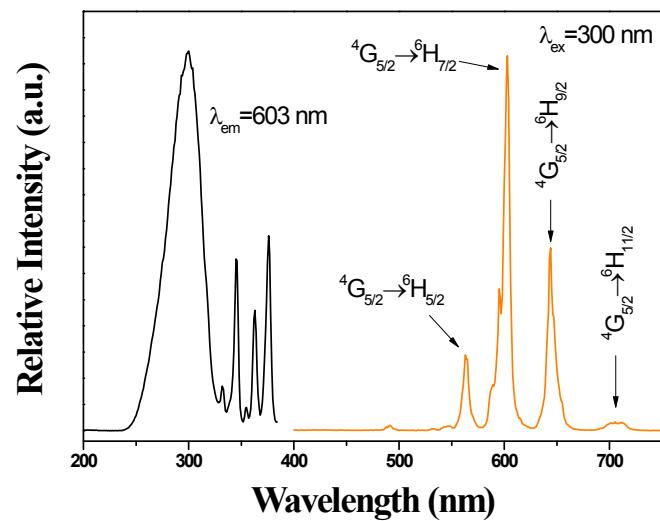


Fig. S9 Excitation spectrum and emission spectrum of  $\text{SiO}_2@\text{Sm-dpa}$ .

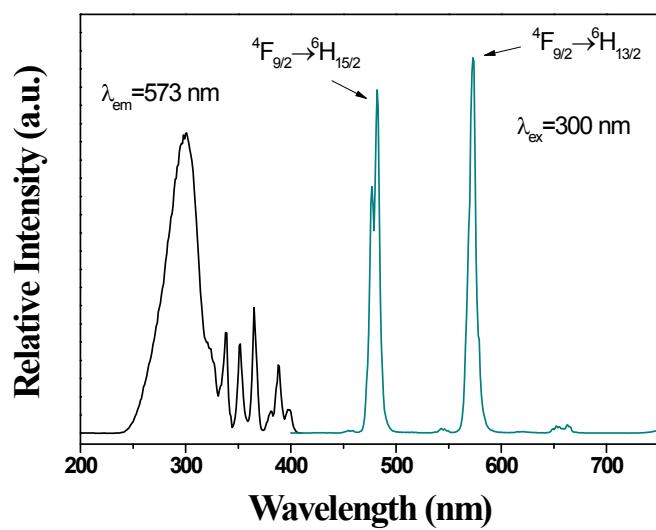


Fig. S10 Excitation spectrum and emission spectrum of  $\text{SiO}_2@\text{Dy-dpa}$ .

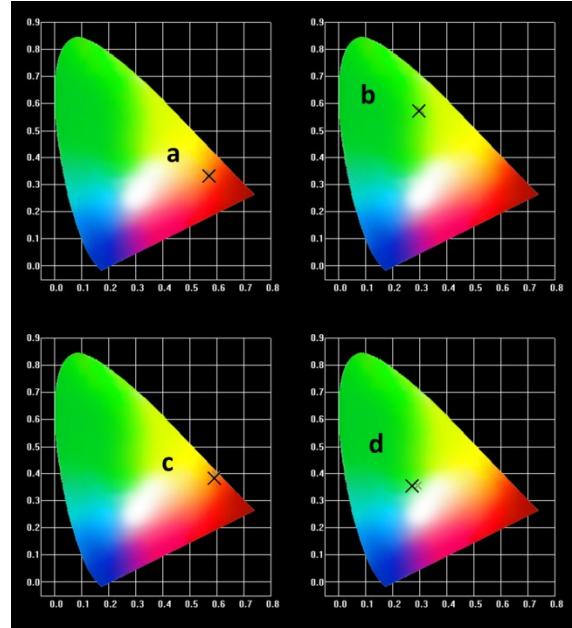


Fig. S11 CIE chromaticity diagram of (a)  $\text{SiO}_2@\text{Eu-dpa}$ ; (b)  $\text{SiO}_2@\text{Tb-dpa}$ ; (c)  $\text{SiO}_2@\text{Sm-dpa}$ ; (d)  $\text{SiO}_2@\text{Dy-dpa}$ .

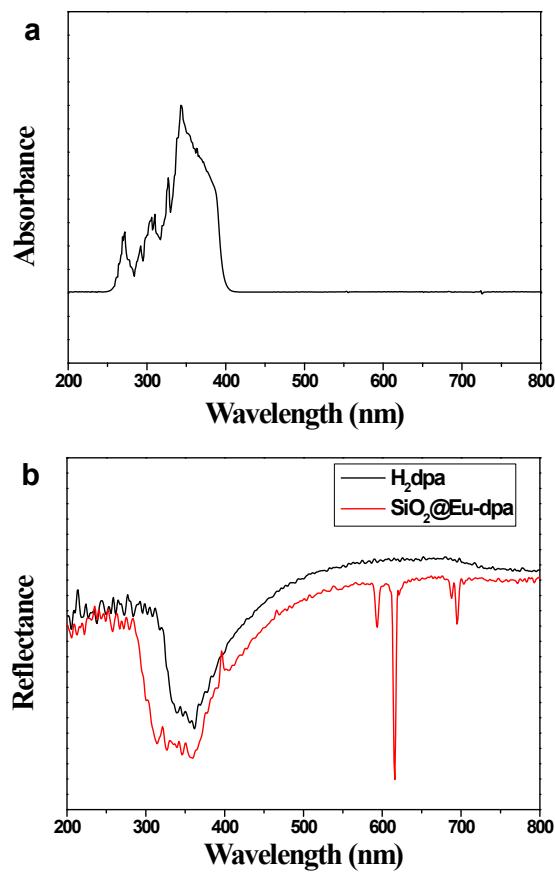


Fig. S12 (a) UV–vis absorption spectroscopy of acetone; (b) ultraviolet diffuse-reflectance spectra of H<sub>2</sub>dpa and SiO<sub>2</sub>@Eu-dpa.

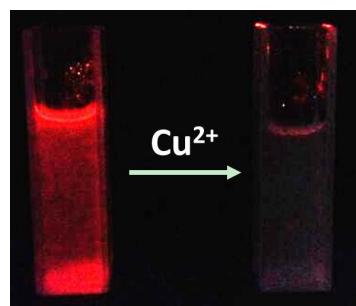


Fig. S13 Photograph of the luminescence change after addition of Cu<sup>2+</sup> in SiO<sub>2</sub>@Eu-dpa suspension under UV light.

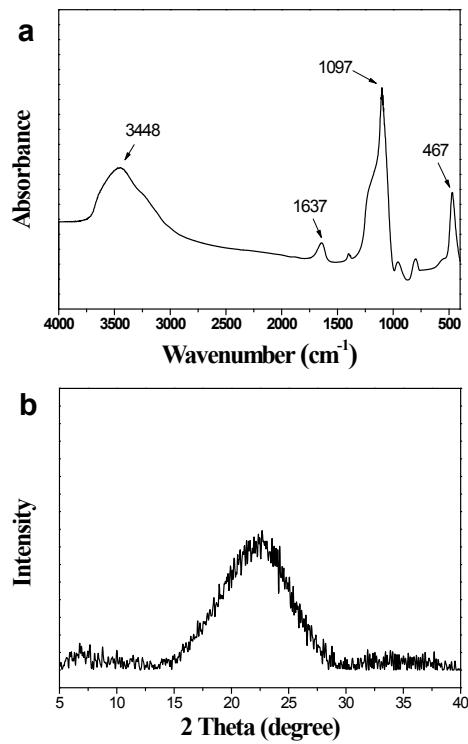


Fig. S14 FTIR spectra (a) and PXRD pattern (b) of the core-shell structure materials after treated with  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ .

Table S1. The luminescent data of as-synthesized materials.

|  | <i>Lifetime</i> | <i>Total quantum yield</i> | <i>Excitation wavelength</i> |
|--|-----------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Eu-dpa                                   | 1882 $\mu$ s    | 34.1%                      | 293 nm                       |
| Tb-dpa                                   | 1663 $\mu$ s    | 23.5%                      | 295 nm                       |
| $\text{SiO}_2@\text{Eu-dpa}$             | 2398 $\mu$ s    | 45.7%                      | 300 nm                       |
| $\text{SiO}_2@\text{Tb-dpa}$             | 2066 $\mu$ s    | 30.4%                      | 300 nm                       |
| $\text{SiO}_2@(\text{Eu:Tb})\text{-dpa}$ | 2358 $\mu$ s    | 38.2%                      | 290 nm                       |
| $\text{SiO}_2@(\text{Dy:Eu})\text{-dpa}$ | 2066 $\mu$ s    | 28.1%                      | 300 nm                       |