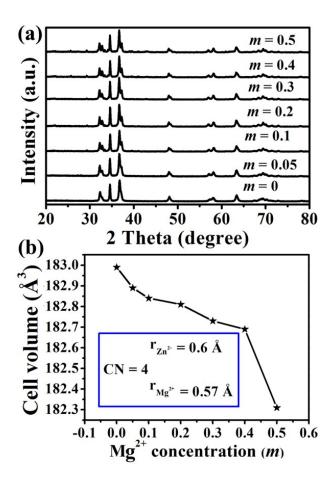
Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Journal of Materials Chemistry C. This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2015

## **Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)**



**Figure S1** (a) XRD patterns of  $Zn_{1-m}Mg_mGeN_2:0.02Mn^{2+}$ ; (b) cell volume variation with  $Mg^{2+}$  concentration in  $Zn_{1-m}Mg_mGeN_2:0.02Mn^{2+}$ .

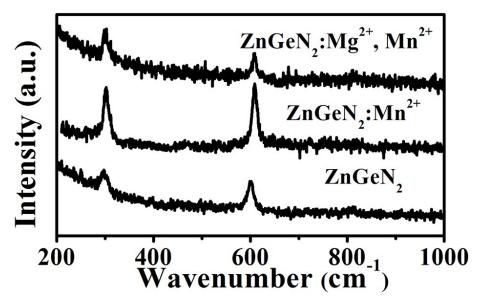


Figure S2 Roman spectra of  $ZnGeN_2$ ,  $ZnGeN_2$ :  $Mn^{2+}$ , and  $ZnGeN_2$ : $Mg^{2+}$ ,  $Mn^{2+}$ .

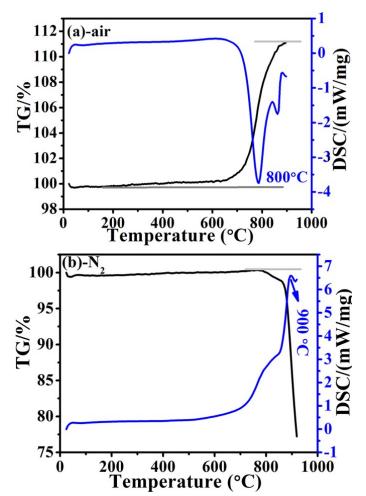
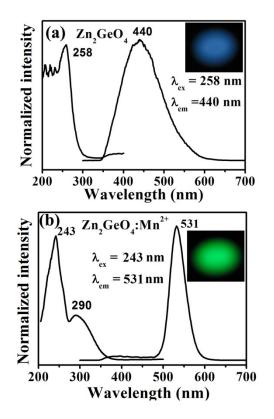


Figure S3 TG-DSC curves of the  $ZnGeN_2$  sample in air (a) and  $N_2$  (b) atmospheres.



**Figure S4** Photoluminescence excitation and emission spectra of hydrothermal product (a)  $Zn_2GeO_4$ sample and (b)  $Zn_2GeO_4:Mn^{2+}$  sample. The inset photographs represent the luminescence photographs of  $Zn_2GeO_4$  and  $Zn_2GeO_4:Mn^{2+}$  samples under UV lamp (254 nm) irradiation.

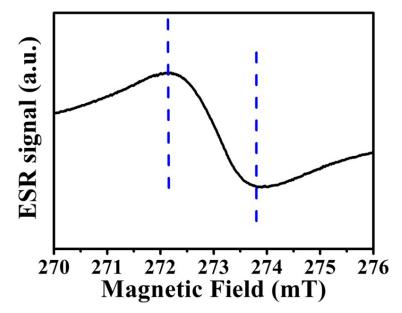


Figure S5 ESR spectrum of  $ZnGeN_2$ :  $Mn^{2+}$  phosphor measured at 300 K.

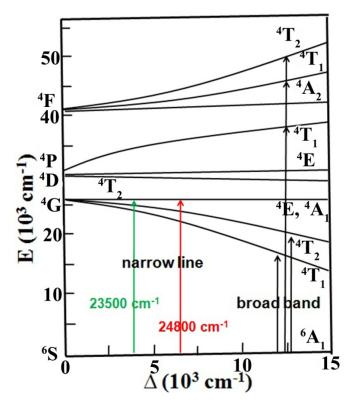


Figure S6 Tanabe–Sugano energy-level diagram for Mn<sup>2+</sup>.

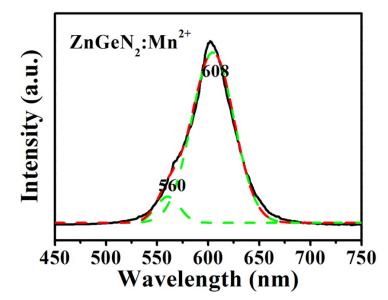
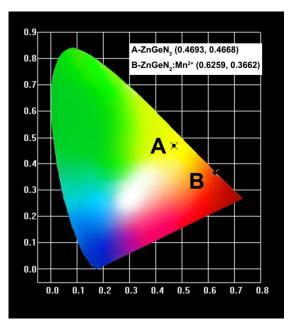


Figure S7 Observed (solid) and Gaussian fitting (dashed) emission spectrum for ZnGeN<sub>2</sub>:Mn<sup>2+</sup>.



**Figure S8** The CIE chromaticity diagram for  $ZnGeN_2$  (A) and  $ZnGeN_2$ :Mn<sup>2+</sup> (B) samples under 340 nm UV light excitation.

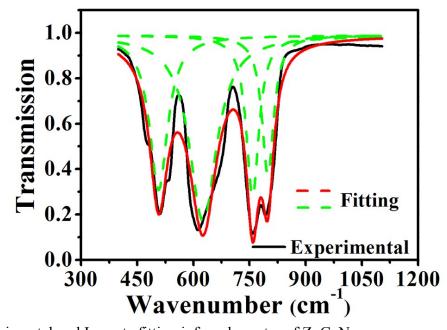
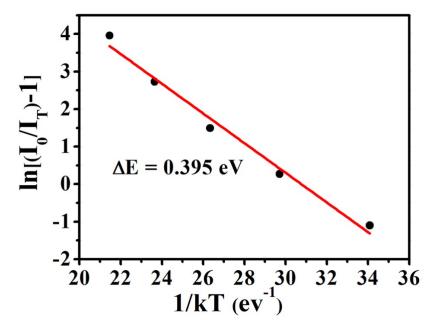


Figure S9 Experimental and Lorentz fitting infrared spectra of ZnGeN<sub>2</sub>.



**Figure S10** The plot of  $\ln (I_0/I_T-1)$  vs. 1/kT of the ZnGeN<sub>2</sub>:Mn<sup>2+</sup> phosphors.

Table S1 The fitting parameters for the IR-active modes of  $ZnGeN_2$ .

$\omega_{i}(\text{cm-1})$	506	625	758	798	_
S	0.68	0.82	0.71	0.61	$\varepsilon_0 = 1.2$
γ	59	88	41	38	