## Supporting Information

## Huge enhancement of upconversion luminescence by broadband dye sensitization of core/shell nanocrystals

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Synthesis of core nanocrystals:



Fig. S1 The TEM and HRTEM (inset) images of the core nanocrystal: NaLuF<sub>4</sub>:Gd,Yb,Er

## Synthesis of IR-820:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  7.89 (2H, d, J = 8.5 Hz, Ar), 7.84 (2H, d, J = 13.5 Hz, Ar), 7.50 (4H, m, Ar), 7.39 (4H, m, Ar), 7.21 (2H, t, J = 7 Hz, -CH=CH-), 6.20 (2H, d, J = 14 Hz, =CH-CH=), 4.14 (4H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>), 3.04 (4H, m, -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-), 1.79 (4H, m, -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-), 1.71 (4H, m, -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-), 1.38 (12H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>). MS: calculated for C<sub>44</sub>H<sub>49</sub>O<sub>8</sub>S<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>: 829.25; found: 829.32.



**Fig. S2** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO) spectrum of IR-820.



Fig. S3 ESI Mass spectrum of IR-820