## **Supplementary Information**

## Host-Guest Carbon Dots as High-Performance Fluorescence Probes

Ping Wang,<sup>a</sup> Jia-Hui Liu,<sup>b,\*</sup> Haidi Gao,<sup>b</sup> Yin Hu,<sup>a</sup> Xiaofang Hou,<sup>a</sup> Gregory E. LeCroy,<sup>a</sup> Christopher E. Bunker,<sup>c</sup> Yuanfang Liu,<sup>d,e</sup> Ya-Ping Sun<sup>a,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Chemistry and Laboratory for Emerging Materials and Technology, Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina 29634, USA. E-mail: yaping@clemson.edu.

<sup>b</sup> Beijing Key Laboratory of Bioprocess, College of Life Science and Technology, Beijing University of Chemical Technology, Beijing 100029, China. E-mail: jhliu@mail.buct.edu.cn.

<sup>c</sup> Air Force Research Laboratory, Propulsion Directorate, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio 45433, USA. E-mail: christopher.bunker@wpafb.af.mil.

<sup>d</sup> Beijing National Laboratory for Molecular Sciences, College of Chemistry and Molecular Engineering, Peking University, Beijing 100871, China. E-mail: yliu@pku.edu.cn.

<sup>e</sup> Institute of Nanochemistry and Nanobiology, Shanghai University, Shanghai 200444, China. E-mail: yliu@pku.edu.cn.

NMR Results of the NB@CDots in Solution:



**Figure S1**. The observed <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of the NB@CDots in  $D_2O$ , exhibiting only signals due to the PEG moieties, as also highlighted for the chemical shift range of 3.50 - 3.65 ppm in the inset.