

Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI) for CrystEngComm  
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## Supporting Information

# Carbon nanodots functional MOFs composites by a stepwise synthetic approach: enhanced H<sub>2</sub> storage and fluorescent sensing

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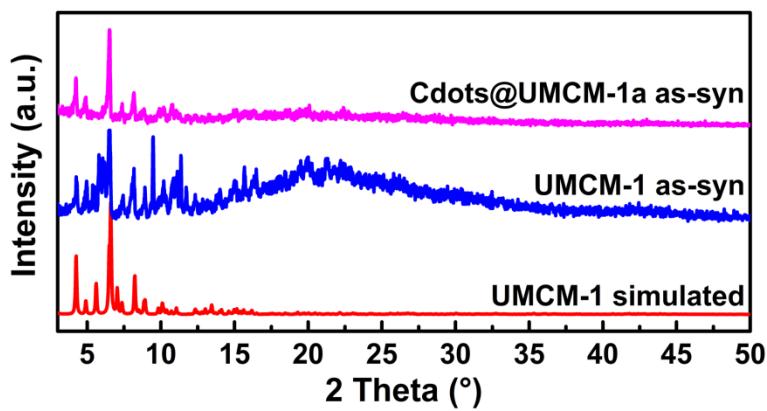
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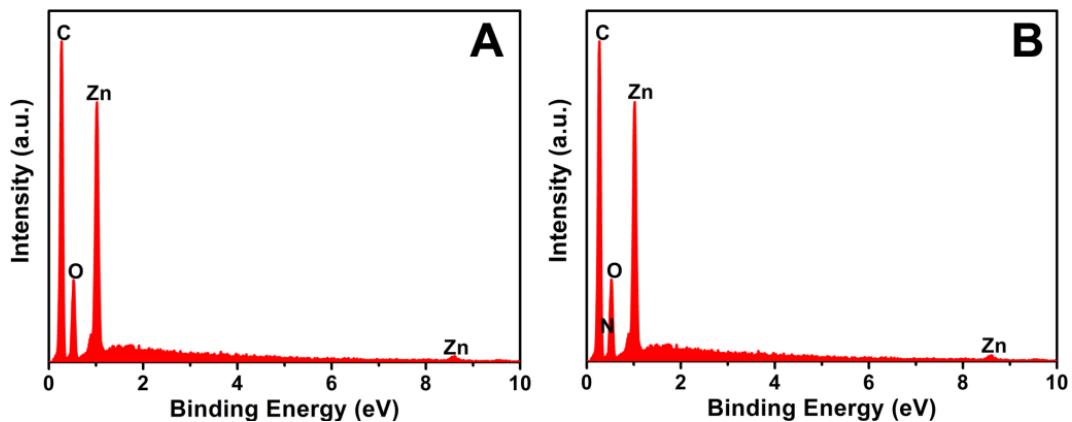
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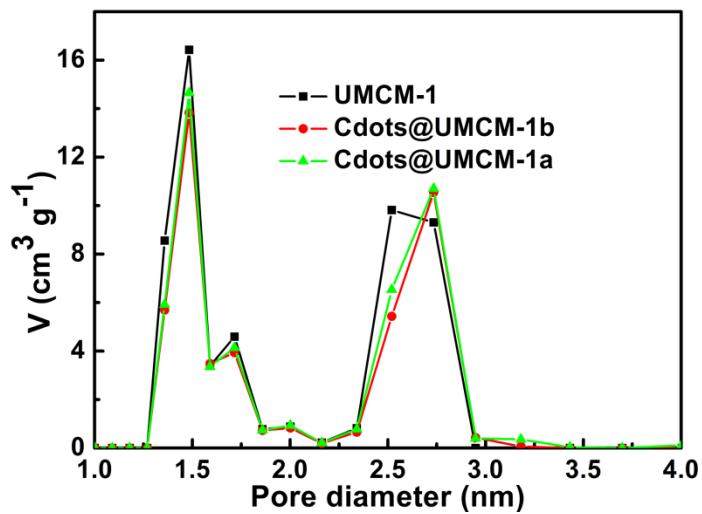
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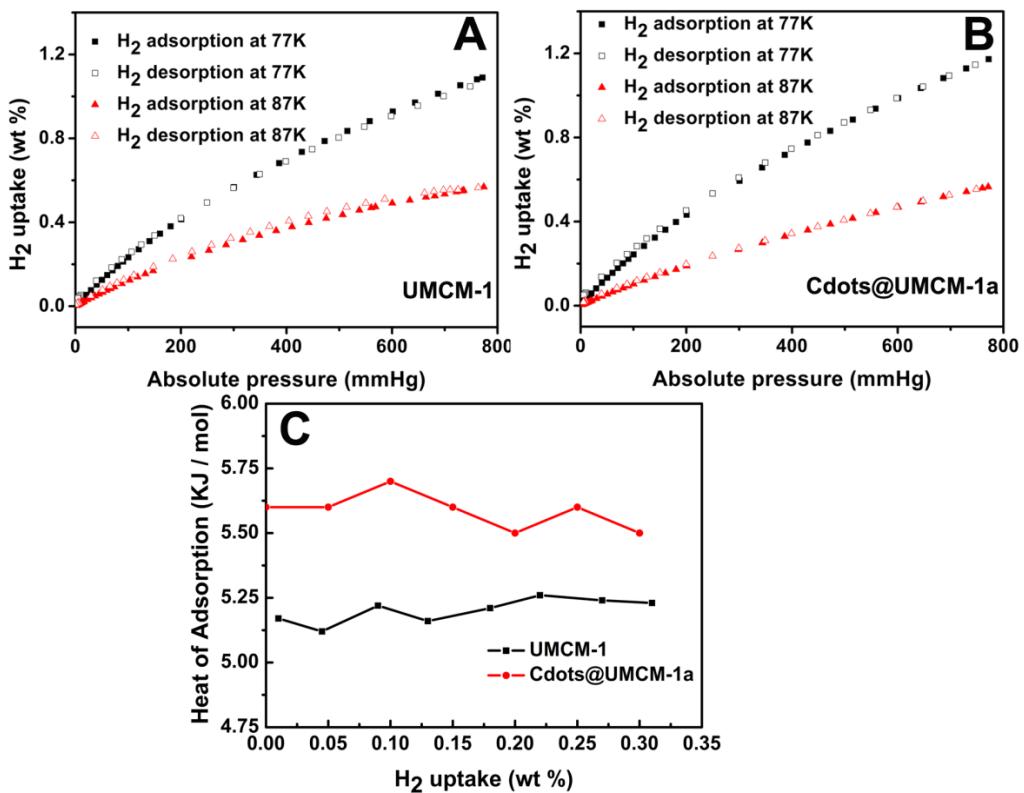
**Fig. S1** PXRD patterns of Cdots@UMCM-1a, as-synthesized UMCM-1, and simulated UMCM-1.



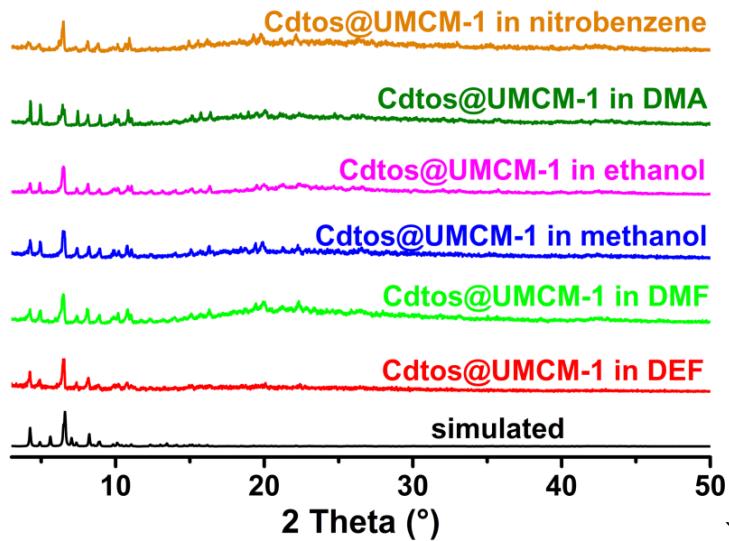
**Fig. S2** EDS of (A) UMCM-1 and (B) Cdots@UMCM-1a.



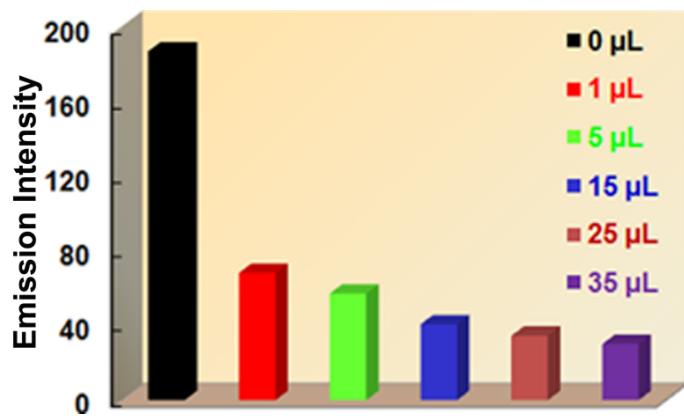
**Fig. S3** Pore size distributions of UMCM-1, Cdots@UMCM-1a, and Cdots@UMCM-1b, respectively.



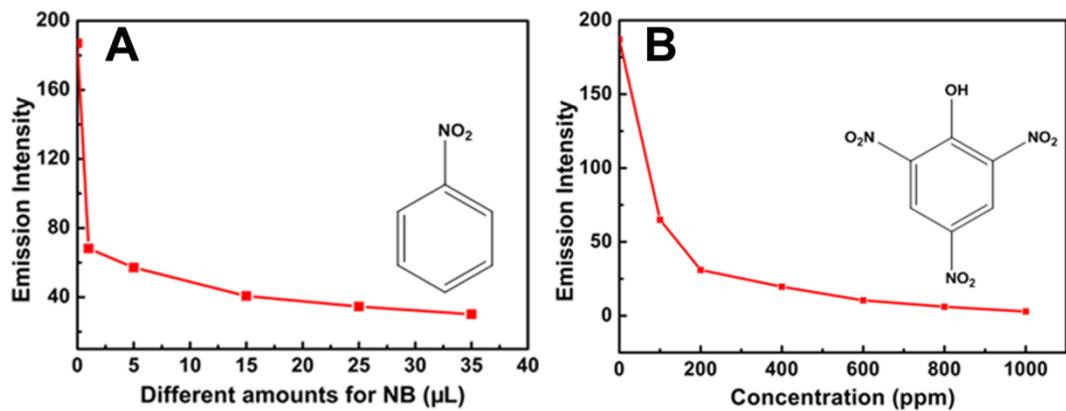
**Fig. S4** (A) and (B) H<sub>2</sub> storage for UMC-1 and Cdots@UMCM-1a at ambient pressure (using the isotherms at 77 K and 87 K). (C) Isosteric heat of adsorption for H<sub>2</sub> on UMC-1 and Cdots@UMCM-1a (using the isotherms at 77 K and 87 K).



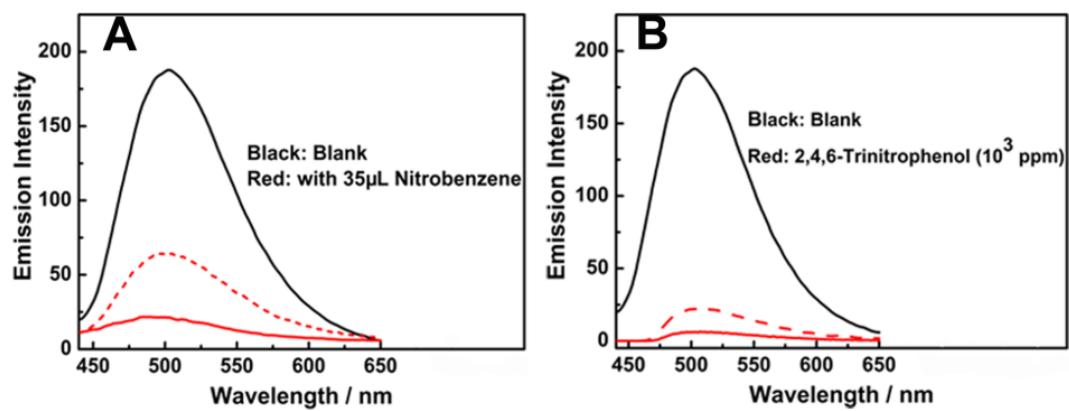
**Fig. S5** PXRD patterns of Cdots@UMCM-1a in different solvents.



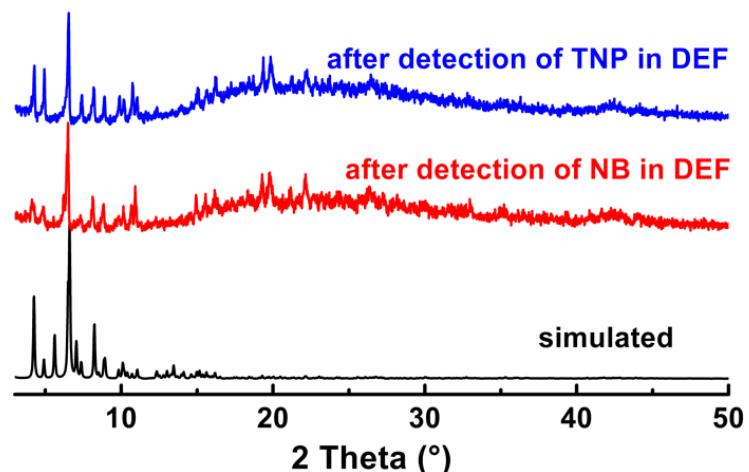
**Fig. S6** The emission intensities of Cdots@UMCM-1a in DEF solution with different amount of NB (excited at 420 nm).



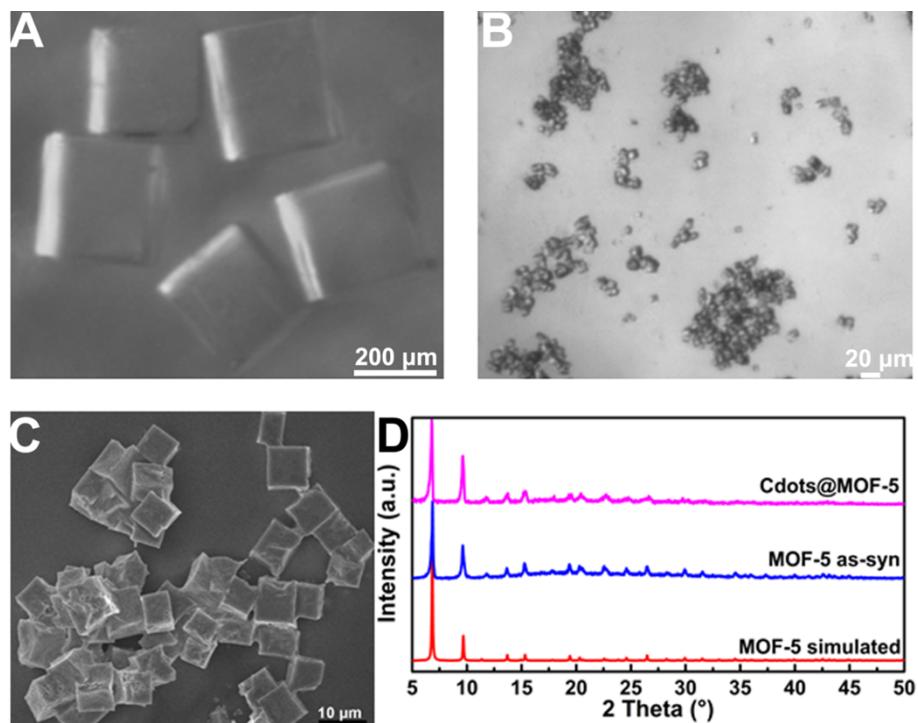
**Fig. S7** The relationship between emission intensity and different amounts for (A) NB, and (B) TNP in DEF solution of Cdots@UMCM-1a, respectively.



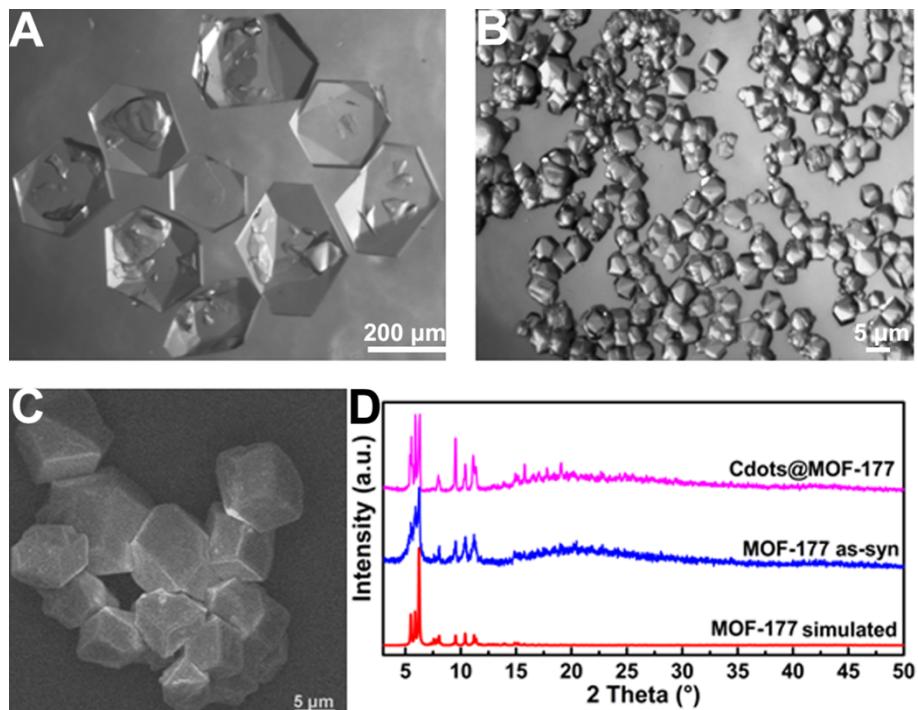
**Fig. S8** FL spectra of Cdots@UMCM-1a (solid line) and Cdots (dash line) in DEF solution with 0  $\mu$ L and 35  $\mu$ L (A) NB or 0 ppm and 1000 ppm (B) TNP, respectively.



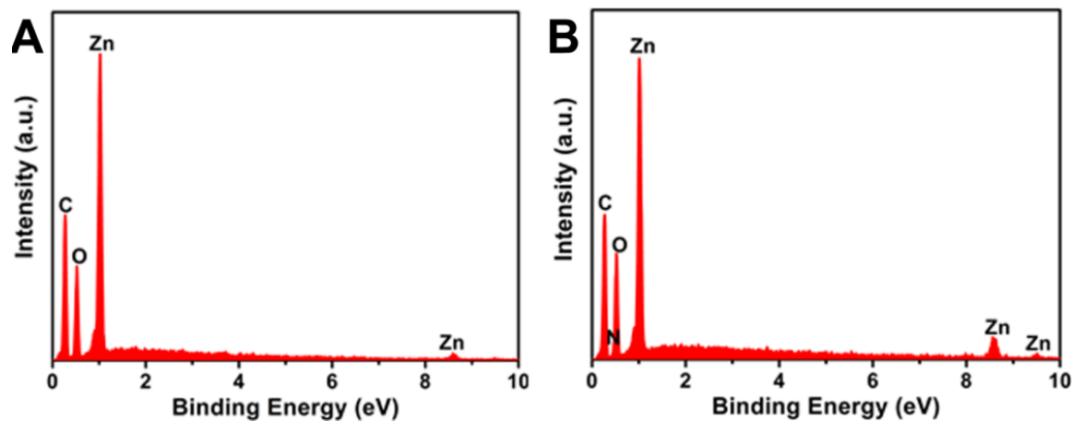
**Fig. S9** PXRD patterns of Cdots@UMCM-1a after detection of NB or TNP in DEF.



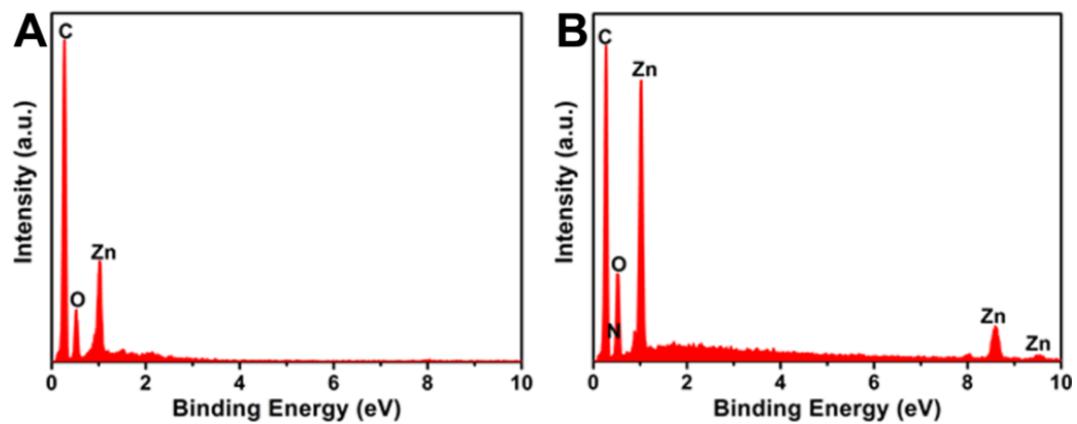
**Fig. S10** Optical micrographs of (A) MOF-5 and (B) Cdots@MOF-5. (C) SEM image of Cdots@MOF-5. (D) PXRD patterns of MOF-5 simulated, MOF-5 as-syn and Cdots@MOF-5 as-syn, respectively.



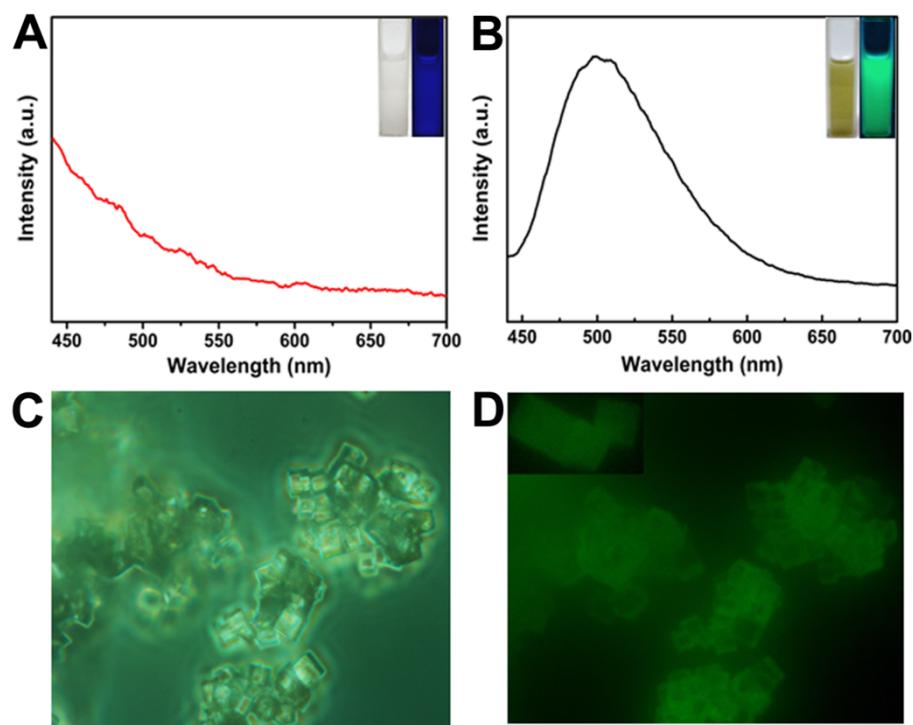
**Fig. S11** Optical micrographs of (A) MOF-177 and (B) Cdots@MOF-177. (C) SEM image of Cdots@MOF-177. (D) PXRD patterns of MOF-177 simulated, MOF-177 as-syn and Cdots@MOF-177 as-syn, respectively.



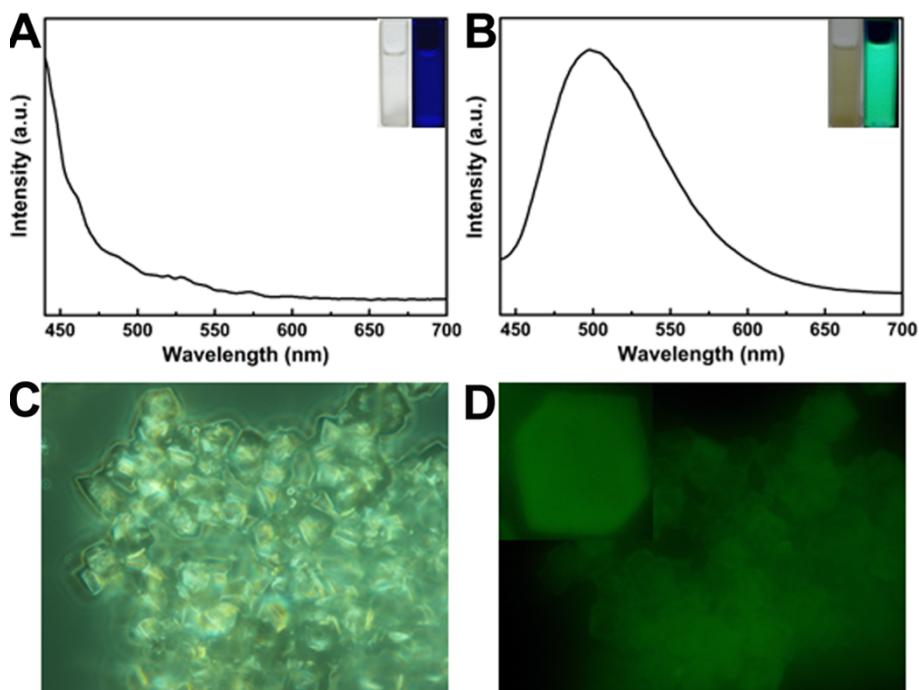
**Fig. S12** EDS of (A) MOF-5 and (B) Cdots@MOF-5, respectively.



**Fig. S13** EDS of (A) MOF-177 and (B) Cdots@MOF-177, respectively.



**Fig. S14** PL spectra of (A) MOF-5, and (B) Cdots@MOF-5 with excitation wavelength at 420 nm (insets: photographs of corresponding samples without (left) and with (right) UV light (365 nm)). (C) and (D) CLSM images of Cdots@MOF-5.



**Fig. S15** PL spectra of (A) MOF-177, and (B) Cdots@MOF-177 with excitation wavelength at 420 nm (insets: photographs of corresponding samples without (left) and with (right) UV light (365 nm)). (C) and (D) CLSM images of Cdots@MOF-177.

**Table S1.** Textural properties and H<sub>2</sub> storage capacities of UMCM-1, Cdots@UMCM-1a, and Cdots@UMCM-1b, respectively.

Materials	Surface area	Total pore volume	Micropore volume	Mesopore volume	H <sub>2</sub> uptake
	(m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	(cm <sup>3</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	(cm <sup>3</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	(cm <sup>3</sup> g <sup>-1</sup> )	(wt %)
UMCM-1	4150 <sup>a</sup> /6669 <sup>b</sup>	2.14	0.88	1.26	1.11
Cdots@UMCM-1b	3435 <sup>a</sup> /5512 <sup>b</sup>	1.79	0.68	1.11	1.22
Cdots@UMCM-1a	3714 <sup>a</sup> /5928 <sup>b</sup>	1.95	0.71	1.24	1.21

a The surface area is estimated by applying the BET equations.

b The surface area is estimated by applying the Langmuir equations.