

Supporting Information for

## **Nanoporous Metal-organic Framework as Renewable Size-selective Hydrogen-Bonding Catalyst in Water**

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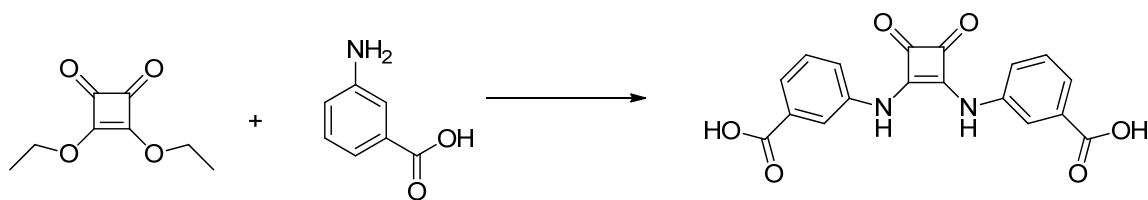
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## Materials and Methods.

**Reagents and chemicals:** All chemicals were of reagent grade quality obtained from commercial sources and used without further purification. 3,4-diethoxy-3-cyclobutene-1,2-dione, 3-aminobenzoic acid, 1-Phenyl-1,3-butanedione, Dibenzoylmethane, Ethyl acetoacetate, 2,4-Pentanedione, Methyl acetoacetate, *tert*-Butyl acetoacetate, *trans*- $\beta$ -Nitrostyrene, *trans*-4-Methoxy- $\beta$ -nitrostyrene,  $\beta$ ,4-Dinitrostyrene, (*E*)-1-Methyl-4-(2-nitrovinyl)benzene, *trans*-3-Bromo- $\beta$ -nitrostyrene and *trans*-2-Bromo- $\beta$ -nitrostyrene were purchased from Beijing Innochem Science & Technology Co.,Ltd.

**Instruments and spectroscopic measurements:** The elemental analyses of C, H and N were performed on a Vario EL III elemental analyzer.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra were measured on a Bruker-400 spectrometer with  $\text{Me}_4\text{Si}$  as an internal standard. X-Ray powder diffraction (XRD) patterns of the Zn-DBDA was recorded on a Rigaku D/max-2400 X-ray powder diffractometer (Japan) using  $\text{Cu-K}\alpha$  ( $\lambda = 1.5405 \text{ \AA}$ ) radiation. Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) was carried out at a ramp rate of  $5 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}/\text{min}$  in a nitrogen flow with a Mettler-Toledo TGA/SDTA851 instrument. FT-IR spectra were recorded as KBr pellets on Bruker Optics TENSOR 27 FT-IR spectrophotometer. The  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  content before and after catalytic were measured by Inductively Coupled Plasma Spectrometer (Perkin Elmer). The solution fluorescent spectra were measured on Jasco V-530. Both excitation and emission slit widths were  $2.5 \text{ nm}$ , and fluorescence measurements were carried out in a  $1 \text{ cm}$  quartzcuvette with stirring the suspension of Zn-DBDA. Gas adsorption isotherms were obtained using a Belsorp-mini volumetric adsorption instrument from BEL Japan Inc. using the volumetric technique. For the Gaussian calculations, we used the popular B3LYP functional combined with the standard basis set 6-31G(d,p). The starting structures of Zn-DBDA is their crystallographic geometries, considering the experimental results, the Gaussian calculations are only performed for the 1:1 complexes, including the geometry optimization and vibrational spectral analysis.

**Synthesis of the H<sub>2</sub>dbda (3,3'-((3,4-dioxocyclobut-1-ene-1,2-diyl)bis(azanediyl))dibenzoic acid) ligand.**



3-Aminobenzoic acid (576 mg, 4.2 mmol), Zn(CF<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (145 mg, 0.4 mmol), and 3,4-diethoxy-3-cyclobutene-1,2-dione (295 uL, 2 mmol) was added into 19.0 mL toluene and 1.0 mL NMP. After heating to reflux at 100 °C for 24 h under a N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere, a yellow precipitate was harvested by filtration and washed with MeOH (10 mL). To further purify the product, the yellow solid was stirred in boiling MeOH (20 mL) for 5 min and then isolated by vacuum filtration, and washed with MeOH (3 × 5 mL). This purification procedure was repeated two more times, and the product was dried at 80 °C for 12 h. Yield: 0.6 g (85%) based on 3,4-diethoxy-3-cyclobutene-1,2-dione. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 11.36 (s, 2H), 8.13 (s, 2H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H). ESI-MS (*m/z*): [M]<sup>-</sup> calculated for [C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub>]<sup>-</sup> 351.3, found 350.9.

## X-ray Crystallography (Single-crystal diffraction) and Characterizations of Zn–DBDA.

### Crystal data of Zn–DBDA:

$C_{33}H_{45}N_7O_{12}Zn_{1.5}$ , Mr = 829.8, Monoclinic, space group  $P2(1)/c$ , a = 5.9994(12), b = 29.661(6), c = 19.068(4) Å,  $\alpha = 90.00$ ,  $\beta = 90.09$ ,  $\gamma = 90.00$ , V = 3393.0(12) Å<sup>3</sup>, Z = 4, Dc = 1.624 g cm<sup>-3</sup>,  $\mu(\text{Mo-K}\alpha) = 1.146 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ , T = 296(2) K. 19212 unique reflections [ $R_{\text{int}} = 0.1398$ ]. Final  $R_1[\text{with } I > 2\sigma(I)] = 0.0637$ ,  $wR_2(\text{all data}) = 0.1262$ , GOOF = 1.003. CCDC number: 1810642.

### Crystallography:

Intensities were collected on a Bruker SMART APEX CCD diffractometer with graphite-monochromated Mo-K $\alpha$  ( $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$ ) using the SMART and SAINT programs. The structure was solved by direct methods and refined on  $F^2$  by full-matrix least-squares methods with SHELXTL version 5.1. Non-hydrogen atoms of the ligand backbones were refined anisotropically. Hydrogen atoms within the ligand backbones were fixed geometrically at calculated positions and allowed to ride on the parent non-hydrogen atoms. In addition to the two DMF molecules that were modelled, the masking process was used and 478 electrons were found in a volume of 988 Å<sup>3</sup> void per unit cell. With Z = 4 in this case, this is equivalent to the removal of  $478/4 = 119.5$  electrons from the formula unit. This is consistent with the presence of 3[C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>NO] per Formula Unit which account for 480 electrons per unit cell.

Selective bond distance (Å) and angle (°) in Zn–DBDA.

Zn(1)–O(1W)	2.04 6(3)	Zn(1)–O(1WA)	2.04 6(3)
Zn(1)–O(3B)	2.1 18(4)	Zn(1)–O(3C)	2.1 18(4)
Zn(1)–O(5A)	2.1 25(4)	Zn(1)–O(5)	2.1 25(4)
Zn(2)–O(6A)	1.9 0 5(5)	Zn(2)–O(4D)	1.9 2 5(5)

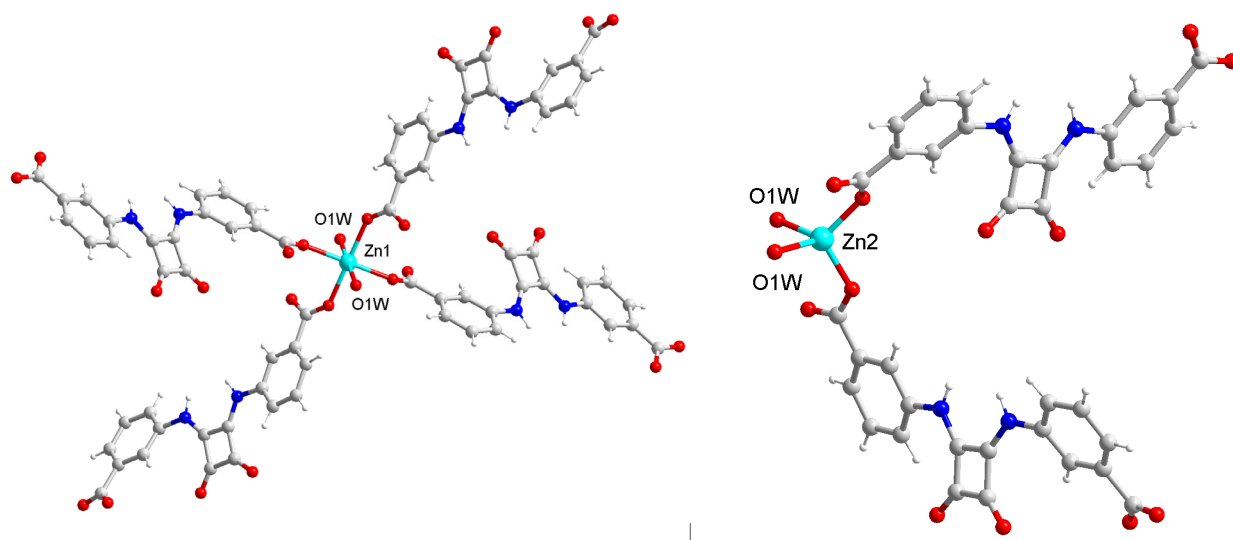
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Zn(2)–O(1W)	1.9 83(3)	Zn(2)–O(1WE)	1.9 99(3)
O(1W)–Zn(1)–O(3B)	97. 11(16)	O(1WA)–Zn(1)–O(3B)	82. 89(16)
O(1W)–Zn(1)–O(3C)	82. 89(17)	O(1WA)–Zn(1)–O(3C)	97. 11(16)
O(3B)–Zn(1)–O(3C)	180.00(13)	O(1W)–Zn(1)–O(5A)	96. 53(16)
O(1WA)–Zn(1)–O(5A)	83. 47(16)	O(3B)–Zn(1)–O(5A)	89. 59(19)
O(3C)–Zn(1)–O(5A)	90. 41(19)	O(1W)–Zn(1)–O(5)	83. 47(16)
O(1WA)–Zn(1)–O(5)	96. 53(16)	O(3B)–Zn(1)–O(5)	90. 41(19)
O(3C)–Zn(1)–O(5)	89. 59(19)	O(5A)–Zn(1)–O(5)	180.0
O(6A)–Zn(2)–O(4D)	107. 6(2)	O(6A)–Zn(2)–O(1W)	118. 26(18)
O(4D)–Zn(2)–O(1W)	117. 80(18)	O(6A)–Zn(2)–O(1WA)	109. 44(18)
O(4D)–Zn(2)–O(1WE)	116. 41(18)	O(1W)–Zn(2)–O(1WE)	86.07(12)
O(1WA)–Zn(1)–O(1W)	180.0		

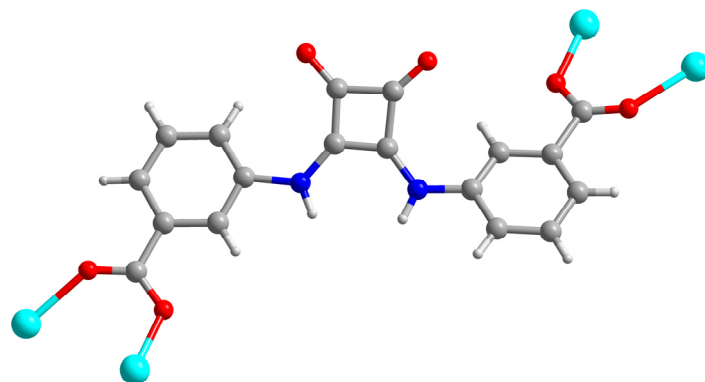
Symmetry code A: 2-x, 1-y, 1-z; B: 3-x, -0.5+y, 1.5-z; C: -1+x, 1.5-y, -0.5+z; D: 2-x, -0.5+y, 1.5-z; E: 1-x, 1-y, 1-z.

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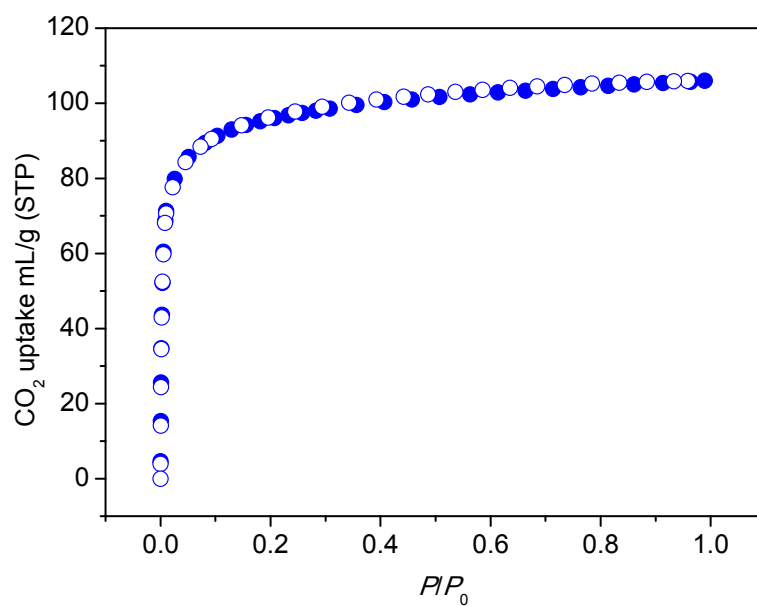
**Figure S1** The coordination environment of Zn(II) in Zn-DBDA.



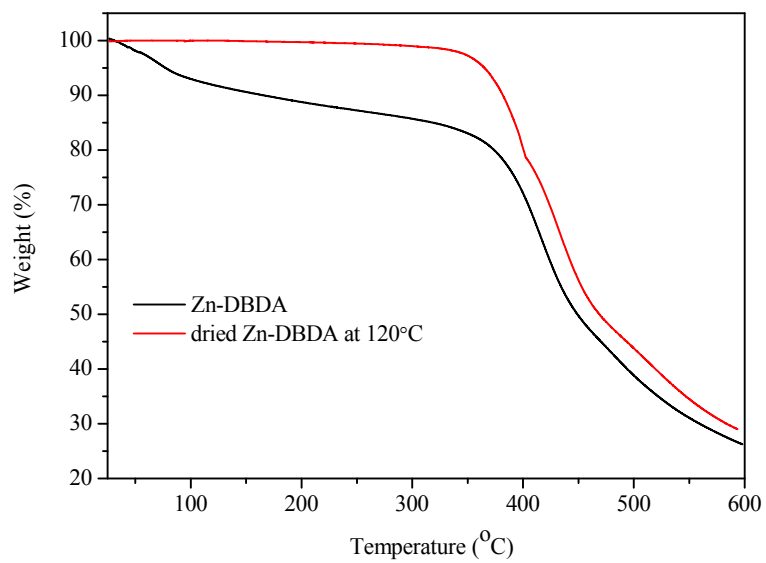
**Figure S2** The coordination mode of  $\text{dbda}^{2-}$  ligands in Zn-DBDA.



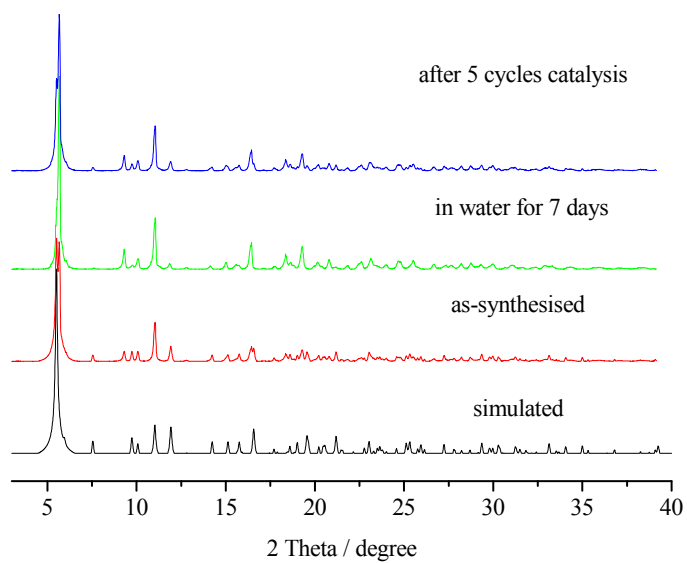
**Figure S3** CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption/desorption isotherms of Zn-DBDA at 195 K.



**Figure S4** TGA traces of Zn-DBDA ranging from room temperature to 600 °C.

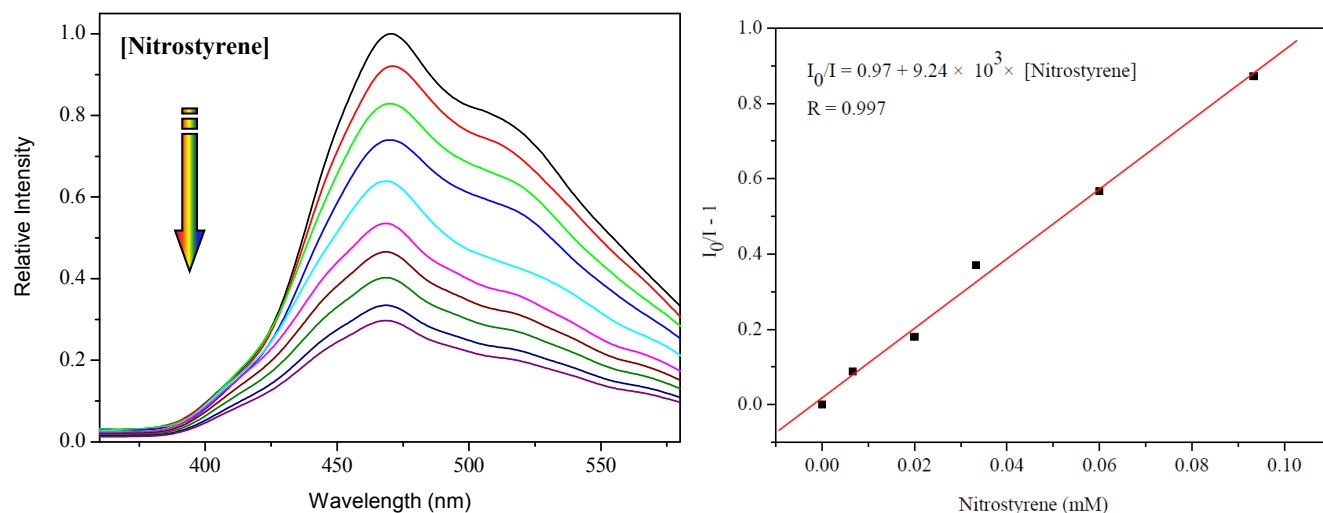


**Figure S5** Powder XRD patterns of Zn-DBDA simulated from single-crystal X-ray diffraction results, the as-synthesized Zn-DBDA and Zn-DBDA treated with water.

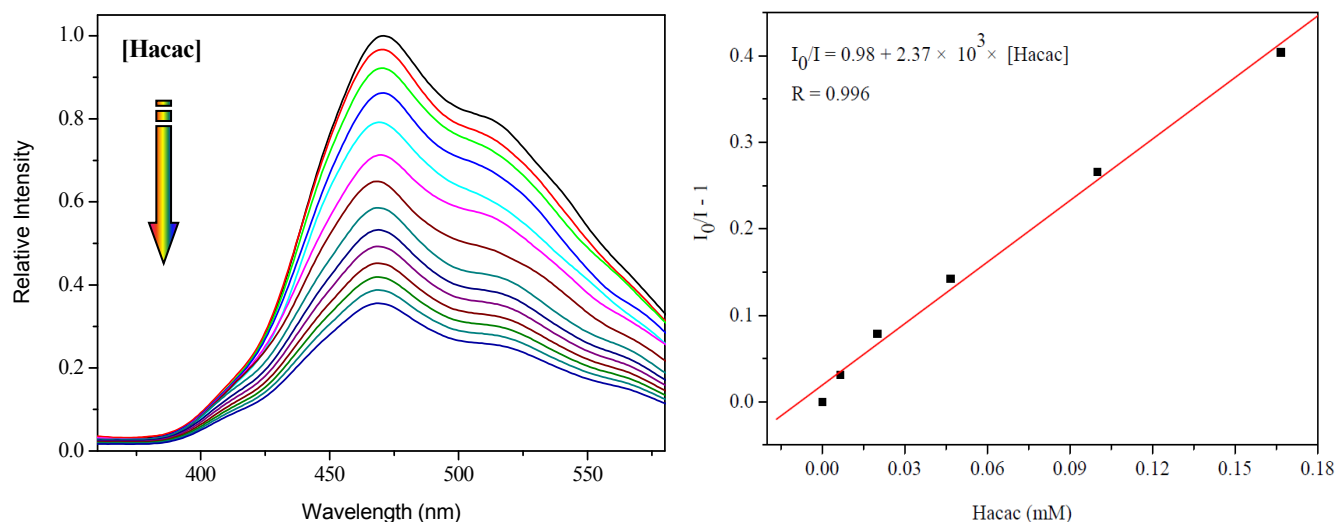




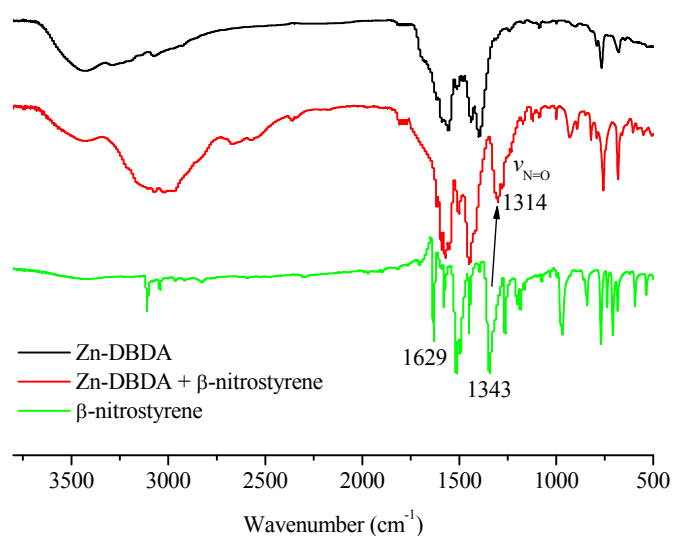
**Figure S6** Family of fluorescence spectra of Zn–DBDA (0.55 mM) upon addition of  $\beta$ -nitrostyrene up to 0.23 mM; and the Stern–Volmer plot of Zn–DBDA quenched by  $\beta$ -nitrostyrene, where  $I_0$  and  $I$  are the fluorescence intensity ratio before and after  $\beta$ -nitrostyrene incorporation, respectively.



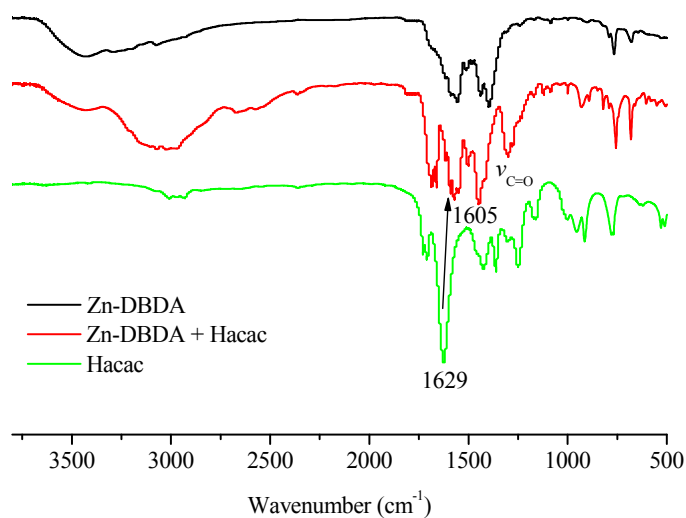
**Figure S7** Family of fluorescence spectra of Zn–DBDA (0.55 mM) upon addition of Hacac up to 1.5 mM; and the Stern–Volmer plot of Zn–DBDA quenched by Hacac, where  $I_0$  and  $I$  are the fluorescence intensity ratio before and after Hacac incorporation, respectively.



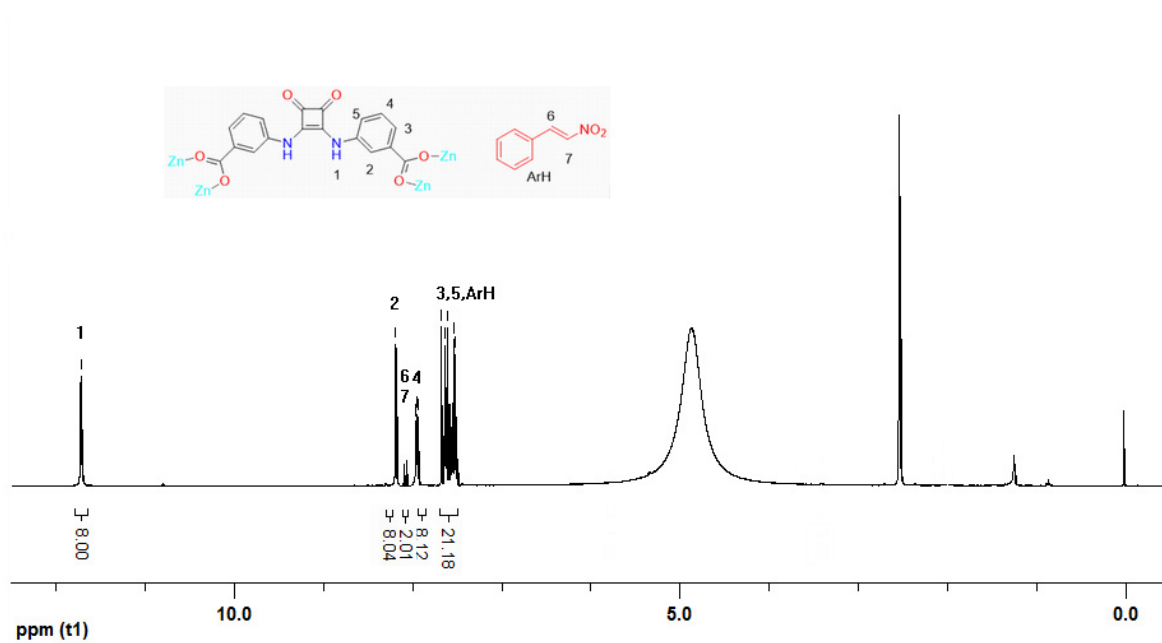
**Figure S8** FT-IR spectra of Zn-DBDA (top), Zn-DBDA obtained after the absorption of  $\beta$ -nitrostyrene (middle) and  $\beta$ -nitrostyrene itself (bottom).



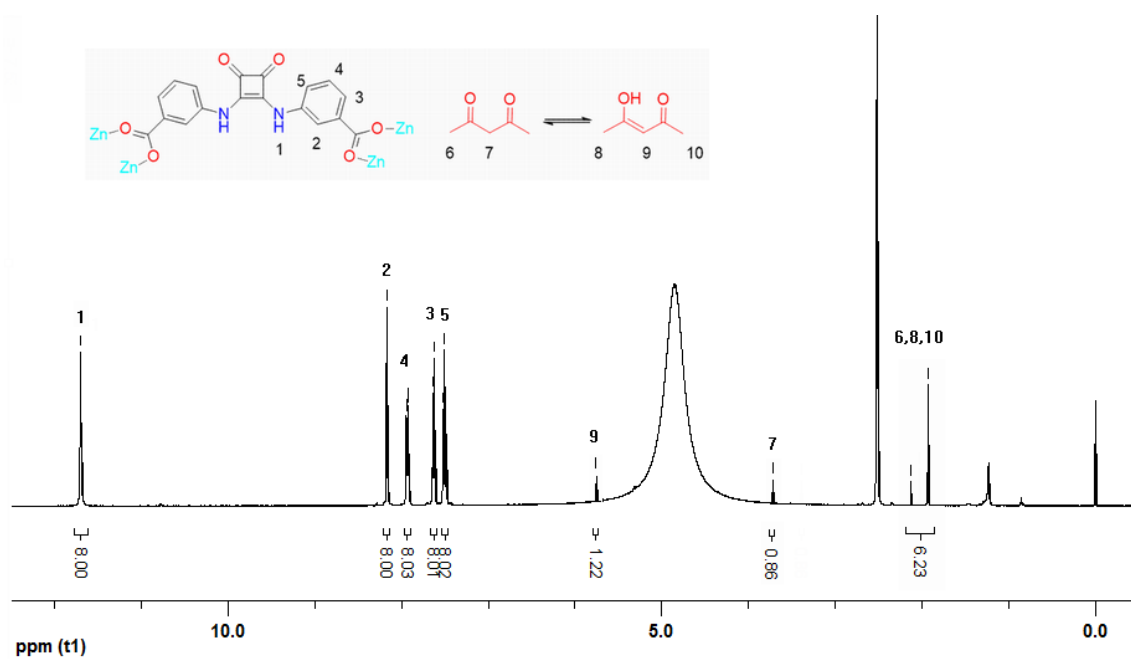
**Figure S9** FT-IR spectra of Zn-DBDA (top), Zn-DBDA obtained after the absorption of Hacac (middle) and Hacac itself (bottom).



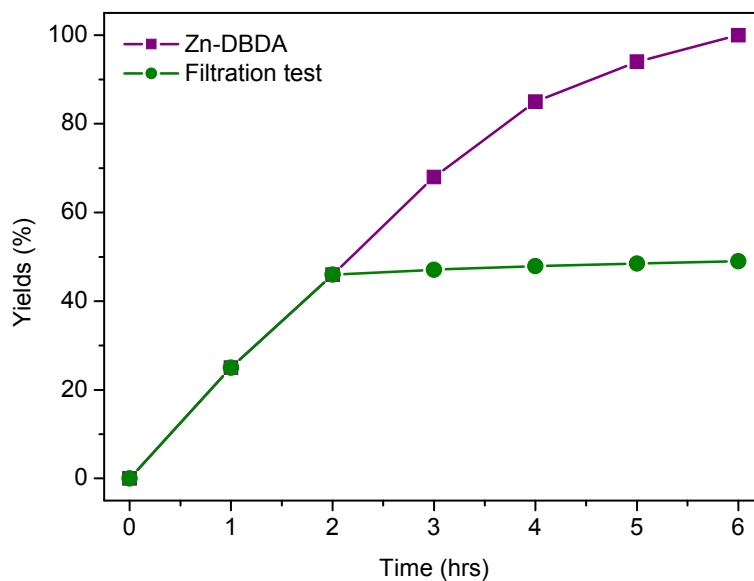
**Figure S10** The  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectra of the Zn-DBDA after  $\beta$ -nitrostyrene adsorption (decomposed by DCI).



**Figure S11** The  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectra of the Zn-DBDA after Hacac adsorption (decomposed by DCI).



**Figure S12** Yields of 3-(2-nitro-1-phenylethyl)pentane-2,4-dione catalyzed by Zn-DBDA (violet) and without Zn-DBDA through filtration after 2 hrs of the reaction (green).



**Figure S13** Study on recycling of catalyst Zn-DBDA for the heterogeneous Michael addition of acetylacetone with  $\beta$ -nitrostyrene.

