#### Electronic Supplementary Information

#### Pore environment reinforced laser dye fluorescence in an adenine-

#### containing metal-organic framework with pocket-like channels

Li-Li Xu, <sup>ac</sup> Hong Cai, <sup>\*a</sup> Dong Luo, <sup>b</sup> Mian Li, <sup>c</sup> Yong-Liang Huang, <sup>d</sup> Jie-Ji Zhu, <sup>a</sup> Mo Xie, <sup>b</sup> Zi-Wei Chen, <sup>a</sup> and Dan Li\* <sup>b</sup>

<sup>*a*</sup> School of Chemical and Environmental Engineering, Hanshan Normal University, Chaozhou, Guangdong 521041, P. R. China.

<sup>b</sup> College of Chemistry and Materials Science, Guangdong Provincial Key Laboratory of Functional Supramolecular Coordination Materials and Applications, Jinan University, Guangzhou 510632, P. R. China.

<sup>c</sup> College of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Shantou University, and Chemistry and Chemical Engineering Guangdong Laboratory, Guangdong 515063, P. R. China.

<sup>d</sup> Department of Medicinal Chemistry, Shantou University Medical College, Shantou, Guangdong 515041, P. R. China.

\* Corresponding author:

E-mail: tiddychen@163.com; danli@jnu.edu.cn

## **Table of Contents**

| Experimental Section  |
|---|
| Materials and Instruments                                     |
| Synthesis of DSM dye4   |
| Synthesis products of DSM@MOF composites5                     |
| Determination of dye contents                                 |
| Crystal Structure Section                                     |
| Crystal Data and Structure Refinements8                       |
| Topological Analysis10  |
| Hydrogen bonding and voids in the 3D frameworks13             |
| Physical Measurements14                                       |
| FTIR  |
| <sup>1</sup> H NMR  |
| PXRD19  |
| TGA23   |
| N <sub>2</sub> Adsorption24                                   |
| Solid-State UV-Vis Absorption Spectra25                       |
| Photoluminescence   |
| CIE Chromaticity Diagram                                      |
| Lifetime Fitting  |
| A summary of the energy transfer efficiency and quantum yield |
| Fluorescent Microscopic Images                                |
| DSM Release Experiments                                       |
| Cell Culture and Cytotoxicity Experiments                     |
| DFT Computation   |
| References  |

## **Experimental Section**

#### **Materials and Instruments**

All reagents and solvents were purchased from commercial sources and used without further purification. Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) was carried out in a nitrogen stream using Q50 TGA (TA) thermal analysis equipment with a heating rate of 10 °C/min. Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) patterns of the bulk samples were measured on a Rigaku Ultima IV X-ray Diffractometer and Mini Flex 600 Benchtop X-ray diffractometer (Cu K $\alpha$ ,  $\lambda = 1.5418$  Å). The solid UV-Vis absorption spectra were measured with a Bio-Logic MOS-450/AF-CD spectrometer with KCl pellets. Fourier transform infrared spectra (FTIR) were obtained by KBr disks on a Nicolet Avatar 360 FTIR spectrometer in the range of  $4000-400 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (abbreviations for the IR bands: w = weak, m = medium, b = broad, s = strong and vs = very strong).  ${}^{1}H$ nuclear magnetic resonance (<sup>1</sup>H NMR) spectra was recorded on Bruker Biospin Avance (400 MHz) equipment. Elemental analysis was carried out with an Elementar vario EL Cube equipment. The steady-state photoluminescence spectra (PL) for all samples were recorded on a PTI QM/TM spectrofluorometer (Birmingham, NJ, USA). Corrections of excitation and emission for the detector response were performed ranging from 200–900 nm. The quantum yields of all samples were measured at room temperature on Hamamatsu C11347-11 (Hamamatsu photonics K.K., Japan). The fluorescence lifetimes of all samples were recorded by an Edinburgh FLS920 spectrometer, which is equipped with a µF900 µs flash lamp. (Edinburgh Instruments Ltd., Livingston, U.K.). Solid-state UV-Vis-NIR diffuse reflection spectra were performed on a Lambda 950 UV/Vis Spectrometer with BaSO<sub>4</sub> pellets as the standard (100% reflectance), the finely ground samples from the crystals were coated on the BaSO<sub>4</sub> plate. Gas adsorption isotherms were measured with a Micromeritics ASAP2020 gas adsorption instrument. The cryogenic temperature of 77 K required in the sorption of N<sub>2</sub> was controlled by using liquid nitrogen bath. The initial outgassing process for the MeOH-exchanged ZnTDCA-1 and DSM@ZnTDCA-1 were carried out under a high vacuum (less than 10<sup>-6</sup> mbar) at 120 °C for 20 h. The desolvated sample and sample tube were weighed precisely and transferred to the analyzer.

#### Synthesis of DSM dye



Scheme S1 Synthetic routes of DSM.

The pyridinium hemicyanine dye 4-(p-dimethylaminostyryl)-1-methylpyridinium (DSM) was prepared as Scheme S1. (1) 4-Methylpyridine (1.3 g) was dissolved in 35 mL toluene and stirred vigorously while 8.5 g methyl iodide was added dropwise. The resultant mixture reacted at room temperature for 4 h, then was heated up to reflux for 1 h. Finally, the mixture was cool down, filtered, and washed with toluene twice, to get 2.7g white solid of 1, 4-dimethylpyridine iodide salt, with a yield of about 82%. (2) 1, 4-Dimethylpyridine iodized salt (2.3 g) and 4-dimethyl-aminobenaldehyde (1.5 g) were dissolved in 35 mL anhydrous ethanol, 0.2 mL piperidine was added as catalyst. The mixture was stirred for 0.5 h under Ar atmosphere, the solution turned red, and then was refluxed for 12 h, the solution turned red and black, precipitated red solid product. Finally, the mixture was cool down and filtered. The precipitate was washed twice with ice ethanol (about -15 °C), and then recrystallized with ethanol to obtain 2.3 g dark red aciculate crystals of DSM iodide, Yield: ca. 64%. Mp: 261 °C. Elemental analysis of DSM iodide (C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>19</sub>IN<sub>2</sub>, 366.24) calculated (%): C, 52.47; H, 5.23; N, 7.65; found (%): C, 52.57; H, 5.36; N, 7.46. 1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 8.67 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 8.04 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 7.90 (d, J = 16.1 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (d, J = 16.1 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 4.17 (s, 3H), 3.02 (s, 6H) (Fig. S9). FTIR spectrum (KBr pellets, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1643 (w), 1578 (vs), 1529 (s), 1508 (s), 1466 (m), 1447 (w), 1433 (m), 1371 (m), 1341 (m), 1316 (m), 1304 (m), 1226 (w), 1164 (vs), 1062 (w), 1040 (w), 982 (m), 941 (w), 871 (w), 825 (m), 536 (w) (Fig. S7).

## Synthesis products of DSM@MOF composites



**Fig. S1** Images of a series of DSM@1(ZnTDCA-1) and DSM@2(ZnTDCA-2) composites.

#### **Determination of dye contents**

Well-dried dye-included crystals of DSM@ZnTDCA-1 or DSM@ZnTDCA-2 (10 mg) were dissolved by concentrated HCl (30  $\mu$ L), and then diluted using moderate DMF, the DSM content was determined by Fluorescence spectrometry (PL) and UV-Vis spectrophotometry (UV-Vis) respectively. The linear correlation can be fitted by intensity-concentration (0.25–4.00  $\mu$ mol/L) by PL, or absorbance-concentration (1.00–48.00  $\mu$ mol/L) by UV-Vis (Fig. S2). The results of DSM content obtained by the two methods were similar (Table S1). Compared with PL, UV-Vis presented a better linear relationship and a wider linear range, but for low content samples, it needed to increase the sample amount for detection. We finally used the results by UV-Vis uniformly.

|         |                          | -                            |
|---------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Sample  | The content of DSM by PL | The content of DSM by UV-Vis |
|         | (wt%)                    | (wt%)                        |
| 1-DSM@1 | 0.01                     | 0.01                         |
| 2-DSM@1 | 0.03                     | 0.02                         |
| 3-DSM@1 | 0.17                     | 0.15                         |
| 4-DSM@1 | 0.79                     | 0.78                         |
| 1-DSM@2 | 0.01                     | 0.01                         |
| 2-DSM@2 | 0.10                     | 0.10                         |
| 3-DSM@2 | 1.01                     | 0.99                         |
| 4-DSM@2 | 3.09                     | 3.15                         |
|         |                          |                              |

Table S1 The content of DSM by PL and UV-Vis



Fig. S2 The standard curve for the DSM solution in DMF by (a) FL ( $\lambda_{ex} = 469 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{em} = 620 \text{ nm}$ ) and (b) UV-Vis ( $\lambda_{max} = 472 \text{ nm}$ ).

## **Crystal Structure Section**

#### **Crystal Data and Structure Refinements**

A suitable crystal of the complex was mounted with glue at the end of a glass fiber. Data collection was performed with a XtaLAB PRO MM007-DW diffractometer system equipped with a RA-Micro7HF-MR-DW(Cu/Mo) X-ray generator and Pilatus3R-200K-A detector (Rigaku, Japan, Cu K $\alpha$ ,  $\lambda = 1.54178$  Å). The structure was solved by direct methods and refined by full-matrix least-squares refinements based on F2. Anisotropic thermal parameters were applied to all non-hydrogen atoms. The hydrogen atoms were generated geometrically. The crystallographic calculations were performed using the *SHELXL-2018/3* programs.<sup>1</sup> The treatment for the guest molecules in the cavities of both ZnTDCA-1 and ZnTDCA-2 crystals involve the use of the SQUEEZE program of PLATON.<sup>2</sup> Crystal data and structure refinement parameters are summarized in Table S2. CCDC Nos. 2225750-2225751.

|   | ZnTDCA-1                          | ZnTDCA-2                          |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Empirical formula                           | $C_{61}H_{41}N_{30}O_{25}S_5Zn_8$ | $C_{28}H_{15}N_{10}O_{13}S_3Zn_4$ |
| Formula weight                              | 2277.50                           | 1057.16                           |
| <b>Temperature(K)</b>                       | 100.15                            | 100.15                            |
| Crystal system                              | Monoclinic                        | Tetragonal                        |
| space group                                 | C2/c                              | I4/mmm                            |
| <i>a</i> (Å)                                | 42.9603(4)                        | 34.1984(7)                        |
| <b>b</b> (Å)                                | 17.2625(2)                        | 34.1984(7)                        |
| <i>c</i> (Å)                                | 15.2664(2)                        | 13.3670(4)                        |
| <i>a =γ</i> ( °)                            | 90                                | 90                                |
| <b>β</b> ( )                                | 106.9427(9)                       | 90                                |
| Volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )                    | 10830.2(2)                        | 15633.1(8)                        |
| Ζ   | 4                                 | 8                                 |
| $\rho_{calc} \ ({ m g cm}^{-3})$            | 1.397                             | 0.898                             |
| <i>F</i> (000)                              | 4548.0                            | 4200.0                            |
| $\mu$ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )                   | 3.452                             | 2.471                             |
| <b>Reflections collected</b>                | 29014                             | 19118                             |
| Unique reflections                          | 9024                              | 4261                              |
| $R_{\rm int}$                               | 0.0192                            | 0.0237                            |
| Data / restraints / parameters              | 9024/433/705                      | 4261/285/192                      |
| GOOF on $F^2$                               | 1.105                             | 1.044                             |
| $R_1[\mathbf{I}\geq 2\sigma(\mathbf{I})]^a$ | 0.0526                            | 0.0676                            |
| $wR_2[I \ge 2\sigma(I)]^b$                  | 0.1190                            | 0.1984                            |
| $R_1$ [all data] <sup>a</sup>               | 0.0545                            | 0.0860                            |
| $wR_2$ [all data] <sup>b</sup>              | 0.1200                            | 0.2260                            |
| Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å $^{-3}$       | 0.94, -0.79                       | 0.87, -0.55                       |
| <b>CCDC</b> number                          | 2225750                           | 2225751                           |

 Table S2 Crystal data and refinement parameters for ZnTDCA-1 and ZnTDCA-2

<sup>*a*</sup>  $R_1 = \Sigma (||F_0| - |F_c||) / \Sigma |F_0|;$  <sup>*b*</sup>  $wR_2 = [\Sigma w (F_0^2 - F_c^2)^2 / \Sigma w (F_0^2)^2]^{1/2}$ 

#### **Topological Analysis**

Methods: *Systre*<sup>3</sup> program and the commercial software *CrystalMaker X* were used to identify the underlying net of MOFs and to generate/process the .cgd file for the nets. *ToposPro*<sup>4</sup> program was used for computing point symbol and vertex symbol<sup>5</sup> of the net. The *RCSR* (Reticular Chemistry Structure Resource)<sup>6</sup> and *Topcryst* (The Samara Topological Data Center)<sup>7</sup> online databases can be used for searching nets and checking their occurrences in crystal structures.

Systre files for the new net **CRYSTAL** NAME ZnTDCA-1 GROUP C12/c1 CELL 4.11364 2.31062 2.03151 90.0000 91.0077 90.0000 NODE 1 6 0.08537 0.05093 0.33137 NODE 2 4 0.44678 0.14954 0.02406 NODE 3 4 0.31775 0.18246 0.34002 EDGE 0.44678 0.14954 0.02406 0.31775 -0.18246 -0.15998 EDGE 0.08537 0.05093 0.33137 0.05322 0.35046 -0.02406 EDGE 0.08537 0.05093 0.33137 0.05322 -0.35046 0.47594 EDGE 0.08537 0.05093 0.33137 0.18225 0.31754 0.65998 EDGE 0.08537 0.05093 0.33137 0.31775 0.18246 0.34002 EDGE 0.08537 0.05093 0.33137 -0.08537 -0.05093 0.66863 EDGE 0.44678 0.14954 0.02406 0.55322 0.14954 0.47594 EDGE 0.08537 0.05093 0.33137 0.18225 -0.31754 0.15998 # EDGE\_CENTER 0.38226 -0.01646 -0.06796 # EDGE\_CENTER 0.06930 0.20069 0.15365 # EDGE CENTER 0.06930 -0.14976 0.40365 # EDGE\_CENTER 0.13381 0.18423 0.49567 # EDGE\_CENTER 0.20156 0.11670 0.33570 # EDGE\_CENTER 0.00000 0.00000 0.50000 # EDGE\_CENTER 0.50000 0.14954 0.25000 # EDGE\_CENTER 0.13381 -0.13330 0.24567



**Fig. S3** Underlying topological network of ZnTDCA-1, where the red balls, cyan balls and blue balls represent  $Zn_2(COO)_2(Ade)_3$  paddlewheel clusters,  $Zn(COO)_2(Ade)_2$  clusters and  $ZnO(\eta^1$ -COO) ( $\eta^2$ -COO) (Ade)\_2 clusters, respectively.

From the topological point of view,  $Zn(COO)_2(Ade)_2$  and  $ZnO(\eta^1-COO)$  ( $\eta^2-COO$ )(Ade)<sub>2</sub> act as two 4-connected nodes, while  $Zn_2(COO)_2(Ade)_3$  acts as a 6-connected node (see Fig. S3 left and middle). Thus, the framework can be simplified as a trinodal 4,4,6-c net with the point symbol of {4.5.6<sup>3</sup>.8}{4<sup>2</sup>.5<sup>2</sup>.6<sup>2</sup>}{4<sup>3</sup>.5<sup>2</sup>.6<sup>8</sup>.7.8}, transitivity: [3882], which is a new topological net checked by Systre and ToposPro. 3,4

Systre files for the new net CRYSTAL NAME ZnTDCA-2 GROUP P4/mmm CELL 5.34533 5.34533 0.50431 90.0000 90.0000 90.0000 NODE 1 3 0.00000 0.31281 0.00000 NODE 3 4 0.00000 0.13216 0.50000 NODE 4 4 0.00000 0.50000 0.00000 EDGE 0.00000 0.13216 0.50000 0.13216 0.00000 0.50000 EDGE 0.00000 0.50000 0.00000 0.00000 0.50000 2.00000 EDGE 0.00000 0.31281 0.00000 0.00000 0.13216 0.50000 EDGE 0.00000 0.31281 0.00000 0.00000 0.50000 0.00000 # EDGE\_CENTER 0.06608 0.06608 0.50000 # EDGE\_CENTER 0.00000 0.50000 1.00000 # EDGE\_CENTER 0.00000 0.22248 0.25000 # EDGE\_CENTER 0.00000 0.40641 0.00000 END



**Fig. S4** Underlying topological network of ZnTDCA-2, where the cyan balls and red balls represent  $Zn(COO)_2(Ade)_2$  and  $Zn_2O(COO)_2(Ade)_2$  coordination nodes, respectively, and blue balls represent Adenine ligands.

From the topological point of view,  $Zn(COO)_2(Ade)_2$  and  $Zn_2O(COO)_2(Ade)_2$  can be simplified to two different 4-connected nodes (see Fig. S4 left and middle), and adenine ligand acts as a 3-connected node. Thus, the total framework can be simplified as a (3,4,4)-c net with the point symbol of  $\{4.6^4.7\}\{6.7^2\}_2\{7^4.8.11\}$ , which is a new topological net checked by Systre and ToposPro. <sup>3,4</sup>

## Hydrogen bonding and voids in the 3D frameworks



**Fig. S5** (a) Hydrogen bonding at the Watson-Crick site of adenine in ZnTDCA-1. Voids in the 3D frameworks of (b) ZnTDCA-1 and (c) ZnTDCA-2 along c axis by Mercury (probe radius:1.2 Å).

## **Physical Measurements**

ZnTDCA-1, ZnTDCA-2 and related ligands (H<sub>2</sub>TDC, Ade) were characterized by FTIR spectra (Fig. S6–S7). FTIR analysis of ZnTDCA-1 (or ZnTDCA-2) reveals the characteristic peaks of related ligands. The structural components of ZnTDCA-1, ZnTDCA-2, DSM were also proved by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (Fig. S8–S9). The peaks of related ligands exist in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of ZnTDCA-1and ZnTDCA-2 and showed the mole ratio of Ade and H<sub>2</sub>TDC was 1:0.82 in ZnTDCA-1, and 1:1.49 in ZnTDCA-2. These are consistent with their single crystal structures (6:5 and 1:1.5, respectively).

The powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) measurements revealed that the bulk ZnTDCA-1 and ZnTDCA-2 closely matched the simulated patterns generated from the results of single-crystal diffraction data, respectively. ZnTDCA-1 and ZnTDCA-2 showed different thermal stability and solvent resistance (Fig. S10-S14). The N<sub>2</sub> DFT adsorption-desorption, size distribution of ZnTDCA-1 pore and DSM@ZnTDCA-1 indicated DSM had been successfully encapsulated into ZnTDCA-1 (Fig. S15). The UV-Vis spectra of ZnTDCA-1 and ZnTDCA-2 exhibited similar features with related ligands, due to the  $\pi \to \pi^*$  and  $n \to \pi^*$  transitions of the H<sub>2</sub>TDC and Ade molecules (Fig. S16).<sup>8</sup> The luminescence and ultraviolet absorption behaves of DSM, Ade, H<sub>2</sub>TDC, 1 (ZnTDCA-1), 2 (ZnTDCA-2), a series of DSM@ZnTDCA-1 composites and DSM@ZnTDCA-2 composites were showed in Fig. S16-S21. The lifetime, energy transfer efficiency, quantum yield of DSM, ZnTDCA-1, ZnTDCA-2, DSM@ZnTDCA-1 and DSM@ZnTDCA-2 showed in Tables S3-S4. The DSM release experiments, cell culture and cytotoxicity experiments, DFT computation were showed in Fig. S22-S24, respectively.

## FTIR



Fig. S6 FTIR spectra of Ade, H<sub>2</sub>TDC and ZnTDCA-1 and ZnTDCA-2.



**Fig. S7** Comparation of FTIR of (a) ZnTDCA-1 and (b) ZnTDCA-2 before and after immersing in DSM solution  $(1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mol/L})$ .

## <sup>1</sup>H NMR



**Fig. S8** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of ZnTDCA-1, ZnTDCA-2 and related ligands in DMSO- $d_6$  and 3 drops of DCl (which were used to disolved complex) at 298 K.



**Fig. S9** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of DSM in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> at 298 K.

PXRD



**Fig. S10** PXRD patterns of the as-synthesized ZnTDCA-1 before and being soaked in different solvents (a) and aqueous solution of pH 3-11 (b) for a week at room temperature. (DMSO: Dimethyl sulfoxide; DMF: N,N-Dimethylformamide).



**Fig. S11** PXRD patterns of the as-synthesized ZnTDCA-2 and ZnTDCA-2 after being soaked in different solvents for four days at room temperature. The small variations in the PXRD pattern may be due to guest molecule interaction.



**Fig. S12** Powder X-ray diffraction pattern (PXRD) of (a) ZnTDCA-1 and (b) ZnFDCA-2 as-synthesized sample and heated in the air. The small variations in the PXRD pattern may result from the loss of guest molecules.



**Fig. S13** Comparation of PXRD of (a) ZnTDCA-1 and (b) ZnTDCA-2 before and after immersing in DSM/DMF solution  $(1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mol/L})$  and PBS solution.



**Fig. S14** TGA plots of ZnTDCA-1 (a) and ZnFDCA-2 (b) after different preprocessing: as synthesized (black), desolvated (red), ZnTDCA-1 packaging 0.78 wt % DSM and ZnFDCA-2 packaging 3.15 wt % DSM (green).

#### $N_2$ Adsorption



Fig. S15 Comparison of the  $N_2$  adsorption-desorption isotherms (a) ZnTDCA-1 (black) and DSM@ZnTDCA-1 (red) at 77 K. (b) Comparison of the  $N_2$  adsorption-desorption isotherms of ZnTDCA-2 at 77 K. Black: pre-treatment by vacuum drying at 50 °C for 0.5 h. Red: pre-treatment by supercritical extraction 1 h × 4 times. (c) DFT pore size distribution plots of ZnTDCA-1 (black) and DSM@ZnTDCA-1 (red).

Solid-State UV-Vis Absorption Spectra



**Fig. S16** Solid-state UV-Vis absorption spectra of ZnTDCA-1 (red), ZnTDCA-2 (green), 2,5-thiophenedicarboxylic acid (blue) and adenine (black) at room temperature.

#### Photoluminescence



**Fig. S17** The excitation (black) and emission (red) spectra of (a) Adenine and (b) 2,5-thiophenedicarboxylic acid in the solid state at room temperature.



**Fig. S18** The emission spectra of (a) Adenine (black) and (b) 2,5thiophenedicarboxylic acid (red) in the solid state at 78K (the unified excitation wavelength is 320 nm).



Fig. S19 The excitation, emission and UV-Vis absorption spectra of DSM powder and DSM in DMF solution  $(1.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ mol/L})$ .

#### **CIE Chromaticity Diagram**



**Fig. S20** CIE chromaticity diagram showing the luminescence colors of (a) DSM, **1** (ZnTDCA-1) and a series of DSM@ZnTDCA-1 composites; (b) DSM, **2** (ZnTDCA-2) and a series of DSM@ZnTDCA-2 composites (the CIE chromaticity of 3-DSM@2 and 4-DSM@2 basically overlapped; the unified excitation wavelength is 340 nm).

## **Lifetime Fitting**

| Sample      | $\lambda_{em}/\mathrm{nm}$ | α <sub>1</sub> | α2    | α <sub>3</sub> | $\tau_{l}/ns$ | $\tau_2/ns$ | $\tau_3/ns$ | $<\tau_{av}>/ns$ | Chi2 |
|-------------|----------------------------|----------------|-------|----------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|------|
| 1(ZnTDCA-1) | 425                        | 0.840          | 0.160 |                | 1.21          | 4.81        |             | 1.79             | 0.64 |
| 1-DSM@1     | 414                        | 0.655          | 0.345 |                | 0.36          | 2.23        |             | 1.01             | 1.10 |
|             | 600                        | 0.851          | 0.149 |                | 2.41          | 6.49        |             | 3.02             | 0.73 |
| 2-DSM@1     | 414                        | 0.792          | 0.208 |                | 0.51          | 2.30        |             | 0.88             | 0.77 |
|             | 610                        | 1.000          |       |                | 2.46          |             |             | 2.46             | 0.72 |
| 3-DSM@1     | 414                        | 0.581          | 0.354 | 0.065          | 0.06          | 0.76        | 2.48        | 0.47             | 1.21 |
|             | 623                        | 1.000          | 0.000 |                | 1.90          |             |             | 1.90             | 0.85 |
| 4-DSM@1     | 414                        | 0.015          | 0.985 |                | 4.57          | 0.06        |             | 0.13             | 1.16 |
|             | 627                        | 1.000          | 0.000 |                | 1.75          |             |             | 1.75             | 0.82 |
| 2(ZnTDCA-2) | 435                        | 0.563          | 0.398 | 0.040          | 1.19          | 2.35        | 7.91        | 1.92             | 1.11 |
| 1-DSM@2     | 414                        | 0.534          | 0.330 | 0.137          | 0.25          | 1.60        | 6.88        | 1.60             | 1.13 |
|             | 596                        | 0.914          | 0.086 |                | 2.87          | 7.97        |             | 3.30             | 0.92 |
| 2-DSM@2     | 414                        | 0.736          | 0.226 | 0.039          | 0.18          | 1.16        | 4.77        | 0.58             | 0.93 |
|             | 610                        | 1.000          | 0.000 |                | 2.86          |             |             | 2.86             | 0.71 |
| 3-DSM@2     | 414                        | 0.916          | 0.064 | 0.020          | 0.05          | 1.25        | 4.27        | 0.21             | 1.58 |
|             | 637                        | 0.613          | 0.387 |                | 0.76          | 2.85        |             | 1.57             | 0.84 |
| 4-DSM@2     | 414                        | 0.030          | 0.960 | 0.010          | 1.66          | 0.02        | 6.27        | 0.13             | 1.63 |
|             | 667                        | 0.603          | 0.397 |                | 0.73          | 2.64        |             | 1.49             | 1.26 |

Table S3. Fitting data of the photoluminescence decay of samples

The emission peaks of 414–435nm were attributable to MOF frameworks, while 596–667nm were assigned to the emission of DSM guest. The amplitude-weighted average fluorescence lifetimes were calculated based on the following equation (1),<sup>9,10</sup> where  $\tau$  and  $\alpha$  are lifetime and amplitude, respectively.

$$< au_{av}>=\sum_i a_i au_i$$
 (1)

# A summary of the energy transfer efficiency and quantum yield

 $\Phi_{\rm ET}$  was calculated based on the following equation (2): <sup>10,11</sup>

$$\phi_{ET} = \frac{k_e}{k_r + k_{nr} + k_e} = \frac{k_e}{k_0 + k_e} = 1 - \frac{\tau_{DSM@MOF}}{\tau_{MOF}}$$
(2)

where  $k_{\rm r}$ ,  $k_{\rm nr}$ , and  $k_e$  are on behalf of radiative decay, nonradiative decay, and energy transfer constants, respectively. The k<sub>0</sub> and k<sub>e</sub> values are found from the lifetime for donor molecule ( $\tau_{\rm MOF}$ ) and donor molecule in the presence of acceptor ( $\tau_{\rm DSM@MOF}$ ), where  $\tau_{\rm MOF} = 1/k_0$  and  $\tau_{\rm DSM@MOF} = 1/(k_0 + k_e)$ , respectively.

**Table S4**. The lifetime, energy transfer efficiency, quantum yield of DSM, ZnTDCA-1, ZnTDCA-2, DSM@ZnTDCA-1 and DSM@ZnTDCA-2 with different DSM content

| Name    | The content<br>of DSM in<br>DSM@MOF<br>(%) | Lifetime of<br>MOF in<br>DSM@MOF<br>(ns) | Lifetime of<br>DSM in<br>DSM@MOF<br>(ns) | Energy<br>transfer<br>efficiency<br>$(\Phi_{\rm ET}) \%^{\rm a}$ | Quantum<br>yield (%) |
|---------|--|--|--|--|----------------------|
| DSM     |  |  |  |  | 2.1                  |
| 1       | 0  | 1.79                                     |  |  | 2.0                  |
| 1-DSM@1 | 0.01                                       | 1.01                                     | 3.02                                     | 43.50%   | 4.1                  |
| 2-DSM@1 | 0.02                                       | 0.88                                     | 2.46                                     | 50.69%   | 29.9                 |
| 3-DSM@1 | 0.15                                       | 0.47                                     | 1.90                                     | 73.77%   | 38.0                 |
| 4-DSM@1 | 0.78                                       | 0.13                                     | 1.75                                     | 92.86%   | 39.3                 |
| 2       | 0  | 1.92                                     |  |  | 2.4                  |
| 1-DSM@2 | 0.01                                       | 1.60                                     | 3.30                                     | 16.55%   | 5.1                  |
| 2-DSM@2 | 0.10                                       | 0.58                                     | 2.86                                     | 51.35%   | 39.9                 |
| 3-DSM@2 | 0.99                                       | 0.21                                     | 1.57                                     | 89.11%   | 17.0                 |
| 4-DSM@2 | 3.15                                       | 0.13                                     | 1.49                                     | 93.01%   | 4.7                  |

<sup>a</sup> The excitation wavelength of the quantum yield was 340 nm, except for DSM (at 470 nm)

### **Fluorescent Microscopic Images**



Fig. S21 Encapsulation of DSM into (a) ZnTDCA-1 and (b)ZnTDCA-2 and the corresponding fluorescent microscopic images evolution (in 1.00 mg/mL DSM solution)

#### **DSM Release Experiments**



**Fig. S22** (a) DSM percentages remained in solutions after being adsorbed into ZnTDCA-1 and ZnTDCA-2, the inner illustrations are photos of DSM/DMF blank solution (left), ZnTDCA-1 soaking in  $Zn(NO_3)_2/DMF$  solution (middle) and ZnTDCA-2 soaking in  $Zn(NO_3)_2/DMF$  solution (right) before and after 24 hours. (b) Absorption spectra of DSM solutions when 2 mg 0.78 wt% DSM@ZnTDCA-1 or 3.15 wt% DSM@ZnTDCA-2 were immersed in 2 mL PBS solutions for 2, 12, and 24 h. 15 *u*mol/L DSM/PBS was used as reference, the inner illustrations are photos of DSM/PBS blank solution (left), 0.78 wt% DSM@ZnTDCA-1 soaking in PBS solution (middle) and 3.15 wt% DSM@ZnTDCA-2 soaking in PBS solution (middle) and 3.15 wt% DSM@ZnTDCA-2 soaking in PBS solution (right) after 24 h.



**Cell Culture and Cytotoxicity Experiments** 

**Fig. S23** HFL1(a) and KYSE150(b) cell viability after exposure to different concentration of ZnTDCA-1(royal) and ZnTDCA-2 (pink) for 48 h.

## **DFT Computation**



**Fig. S24** Charge density difference for the host-guest interaction structures of (a) ZnTDCA-1 and (b) ZnTDCA-2, in which blue and yellow regions indicate electron depletion and accumulation, respectively.

## References

- 1. G. M. Sheldrick, Crystal structure refinement with SHELXL. *Acta Cryst. C.* 2015, **71**, 3-8.
- 2. A. L. Spek, Single-crystal structure validation with the program PLATON. *J. Appl. Crystallogr.* 2003, **36**, 7-13.
- 3. O. Delgado-Friedrichs and M. O'Keeffe, Identification of and symmetry computation for crystal nets, *Acta Cryst. A*, 2003, **59**, 351-360.
- V. A. Blatov, A. P. Shevchenko and D. M. Proserpio, Applied Topological Analysis of Crystal Structures with the Program Package ToposPro, *Cryst. Growth Des.*, 2014, 14, 3576-3586.
- V. A. Blatov, M. O'Keeffe and D. M. Proserpio, Vertex-, face-, point-, Schläfli-, and Delaney-symbols in nets, polyhedra and tilings: recommended terminology, *CrystEngComm*, 2010, **12**, 44-48.
- M. O'Keeffe, M. A. Peskov, S. J. Ramsden and O. M. Yaghi, The Reticular Chemistry Structure Resource (RCSR) Database of, and Symbols for, Crystal Nets, *Acc. Chem. Res.*, 2008, 41, 1782-1789. Online access: http://rcsr.net/
- A. P. Shevchenko, A. A. Shabalin, I. Y. Karpukhin and V. A. Blatov, Topological representations of crystal structures: generation, analysis and implementation in the TopCryst system, *Sci. Technol. Adv. Mater.: Methods*, 2022, 2, 250-265. Online access: https://topcryst.com/
- 8. H. Cai, L.-L. Xu, H.-Y. Lai, J.-Y. Liu, S. W. Ng and D. Li, A highly emissive and stable zinc(II) metal–organic framework as a host–guest chemopalette for approaching white-light-emission, *Chem. Commun.*, 2017, **53**, 7917-7920.
- J. R. Lakowicz, Principles of Fluorescence Spectroscopy(3<sup>rd</sup>), Springer, NewYork, 2016, 143.
- E. A. Dolgopolova, D. E. Williams, A. B. Greytak, A. M. Rice, M. D. Smith, J. A. Krause and N. B. Shustova, A bio-inspired approach for chromophore communication: ligand-to-ligand and host-to-guest energy transfer in hybrid crystalline scaffolds. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2015, 54, 13639-13643.
- H. Cai, W. Lu, C. Yang, M. Zhang, M. Li, C.-M. Che and D. Li, Tandem Förster Resonance Energy Transfer Induced Luminescent Ratiometric Thermometry in Dye-Encapsulated Biological Metal–Organic Frameworks, *Adv. Opt. Mater.*, 2019, 7, 1801149.