

Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Journal of Materials Chemistry A.

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**MOF Derivative Porous ZnO Integrated with NiO and Colloidal QDs
for Efficient Hydrogen Generation via Synergistic
Photoelectrochemical and Electrochemical Process**

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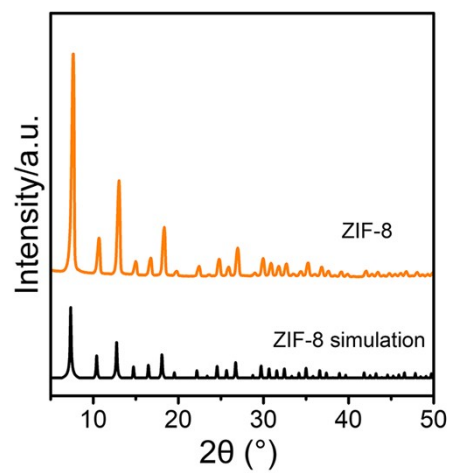


Fig. S1 XRD patterns of as-synthesized ZIF-8.

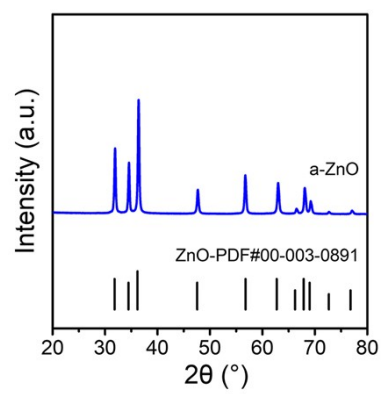


Fig. S2 XRD patterns of MOF derivative a-ZnO.

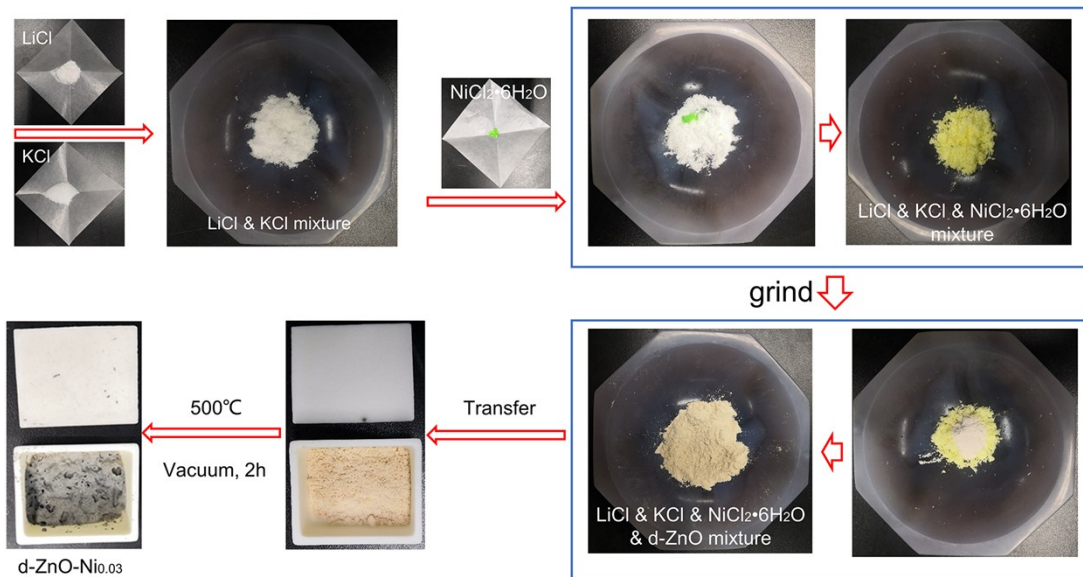


Fig. S3 The photos of the mixture of $\text{NiCl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$, LiCl , and KCl at different stages of the MSM process.

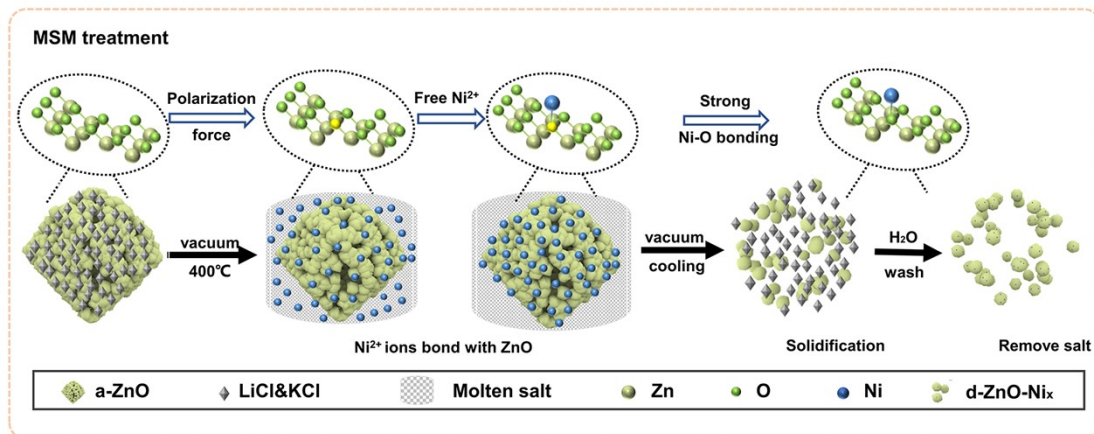


Fig. S4 Illustration of molten-salt-mediated (MSM) preparation of d-ZnO-Ni.

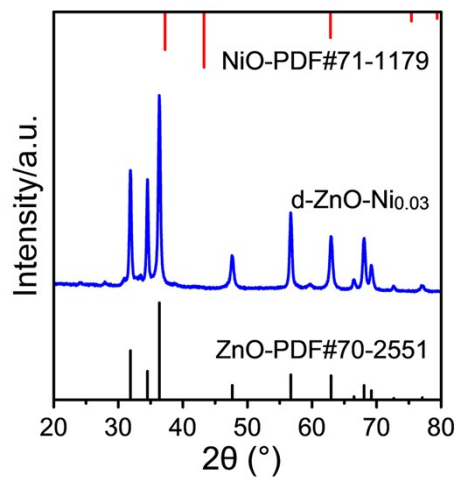


Fig. S5 XRD patterns of MOF derivative d-ZnO-Ni_{0.03}.

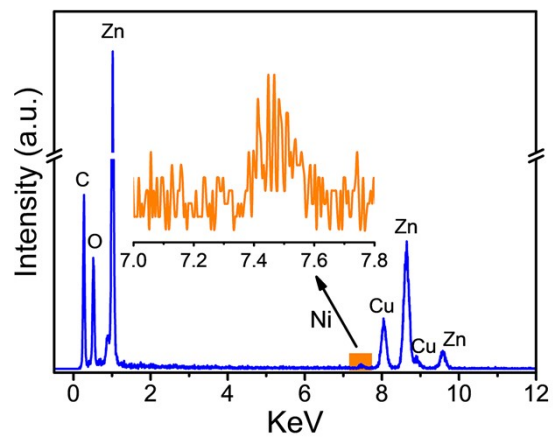


Fig. S6 EDX spectrum of d-ZnO@NiO_{0.03}.

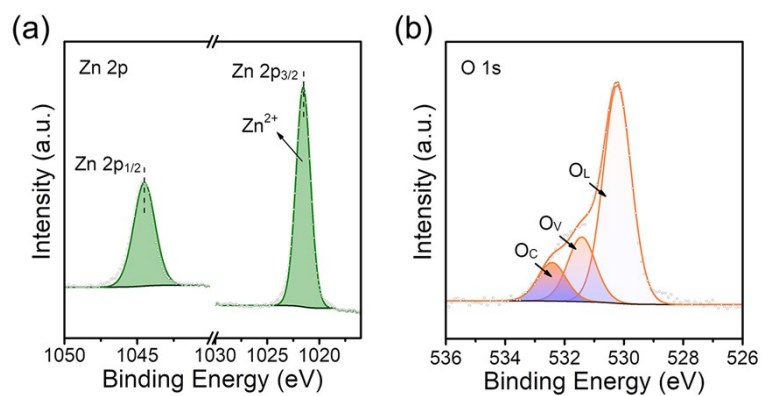


Fig. S7 High-resolution XPS spectra of d-ZnO@NiO_{0.03}: (a) Zn 2p, (b) O 1s.

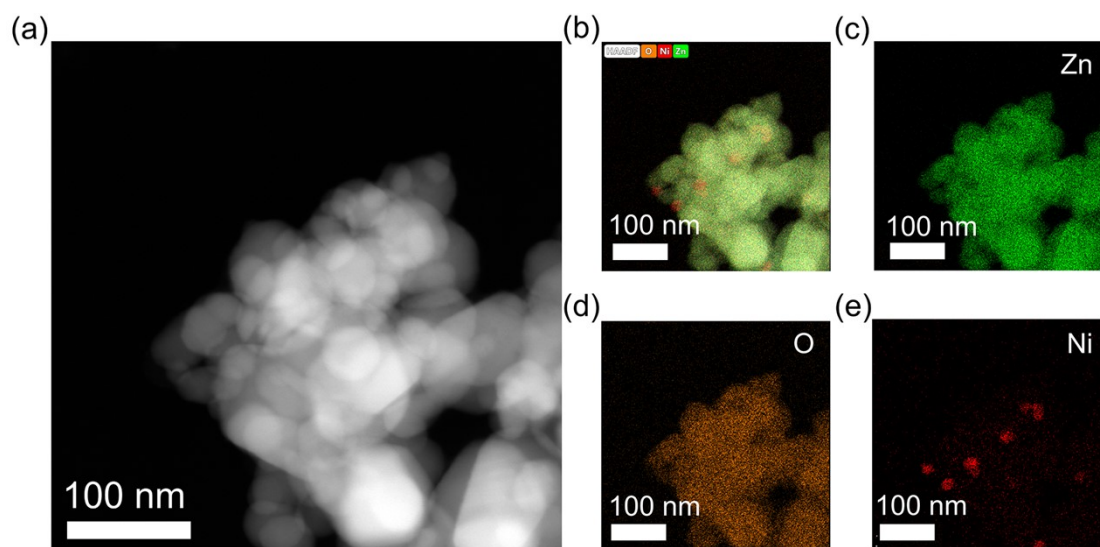


Fig. S8 Representative HAADF image (a) of d-ZnO@NiO_{0.06} and related EDX mapping of (b) comprehensive image, (c) Zn, (d) O, (e) Ni.

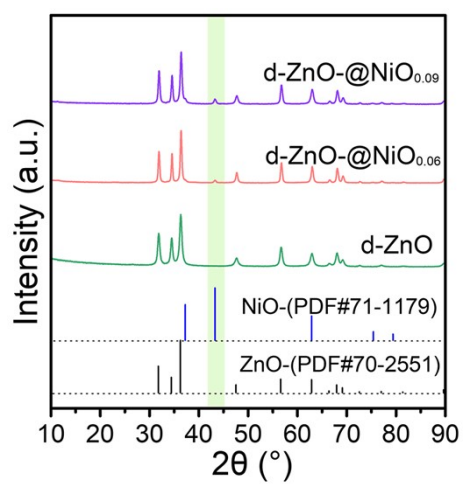


Fig. S9 XRD patterns of d-ZnO, d-ZnO@NiO_{0.06}, and d-ZnO@NiO_{0.09}.

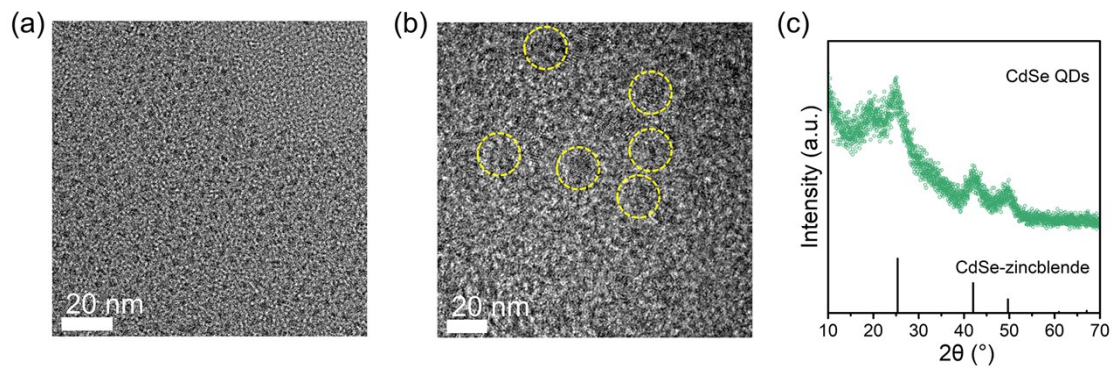


Fig. S10 (a) Representative TEM image of CdSe QDs. (b) HRTEM of CdSe QDs. (c) XRD patterns of CdSe QDs.

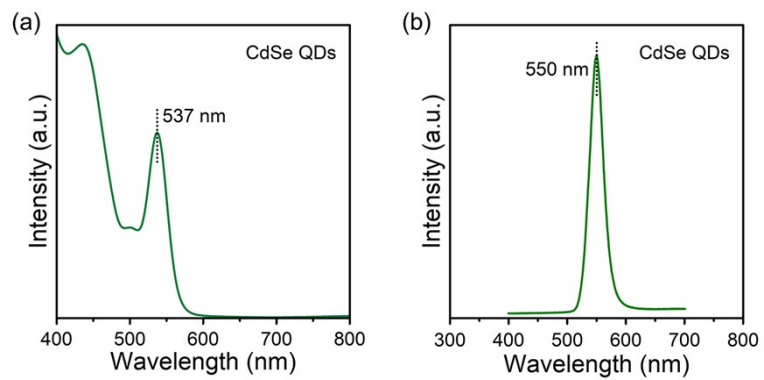


Fig. S11 (a) UV-Vis absorption spectrum and (b) PL spectrum of CdSe QDs in toluene.

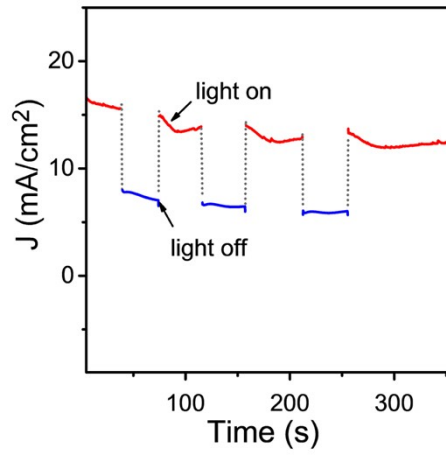


Fig. S12 Current density-time under chopped illumination.

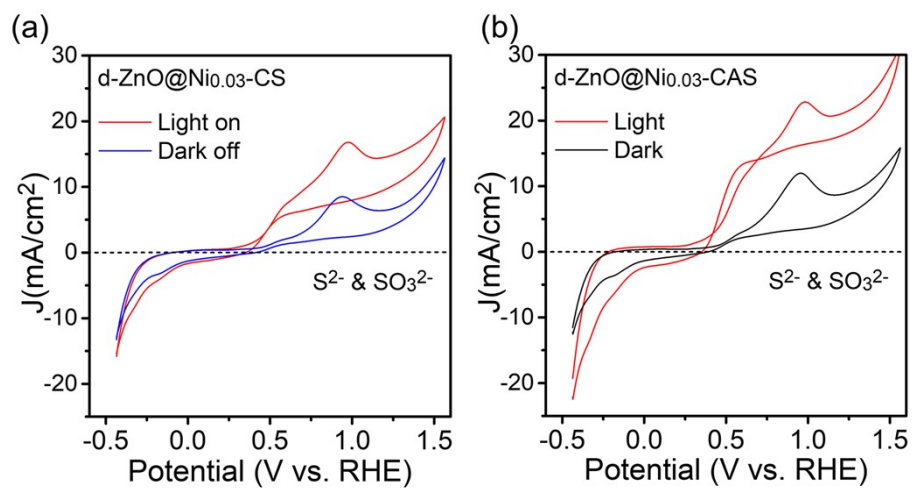


Fig. S13 Cyclic voltammetry (CV) curves of (a) d-ZnO@NiO_{0.03}-CS and (b) d-ZnO@NiO_{0.03}-CAS in the S²⁻ & SO₃²⁻ electrolyte (pH ~ 13).

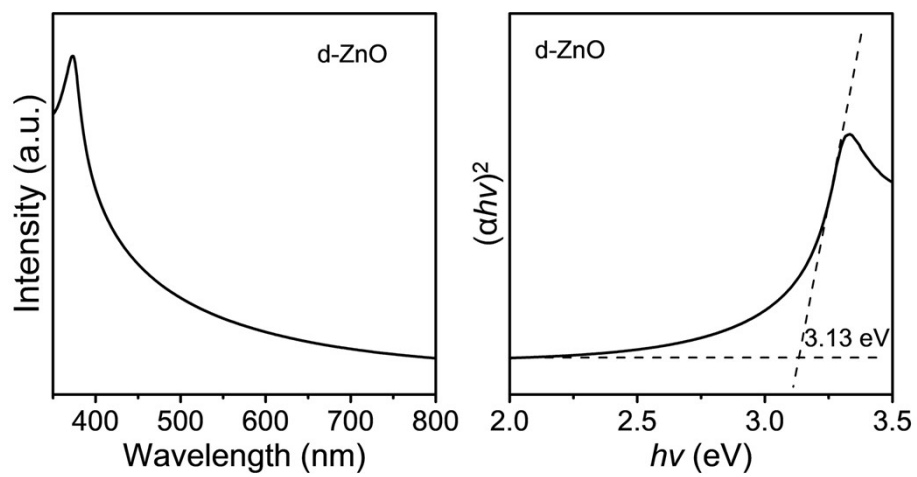


Fig. S14 The UV-vis spectroscopy measurement and the related Tauc plot for d-ZnO.

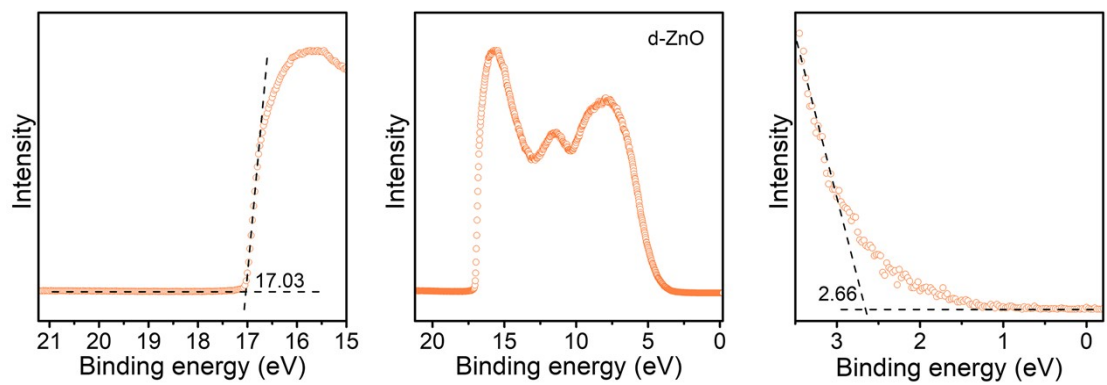


Fig. S15 UPS measurement of d-ZnO: high binding energy cut-off (left); overall UPS spectrum (middle); low binding energy cut-off (right).

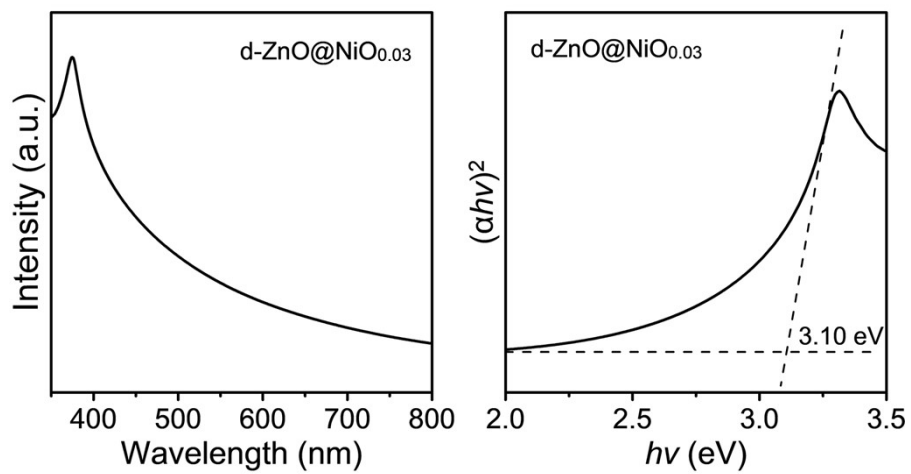


Fig. S16 The UV-vis spectroscopy measurement and the related Tauc plot for d-ZnO@NiO_{0.03}.

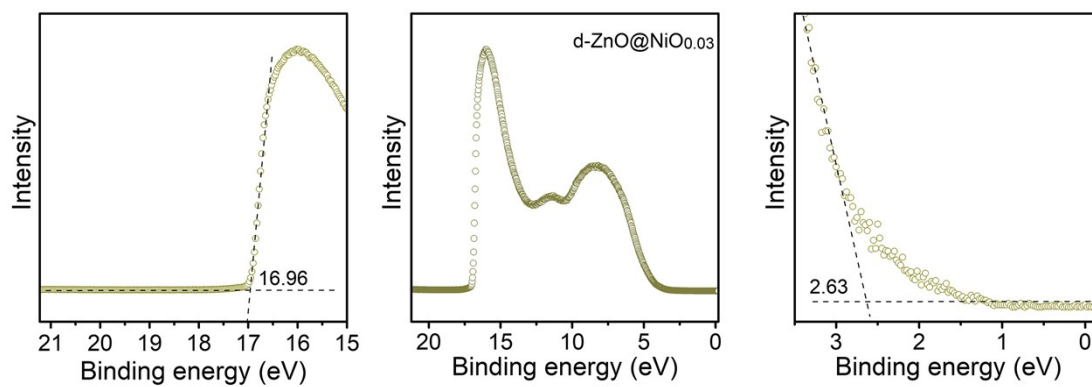


Fig. S17 UPS measurement of d-ZnO@Ni_{0.03}: high binding energy cut-off (left); overall UPS spectrum (middle); low binding energy cut-off (right).

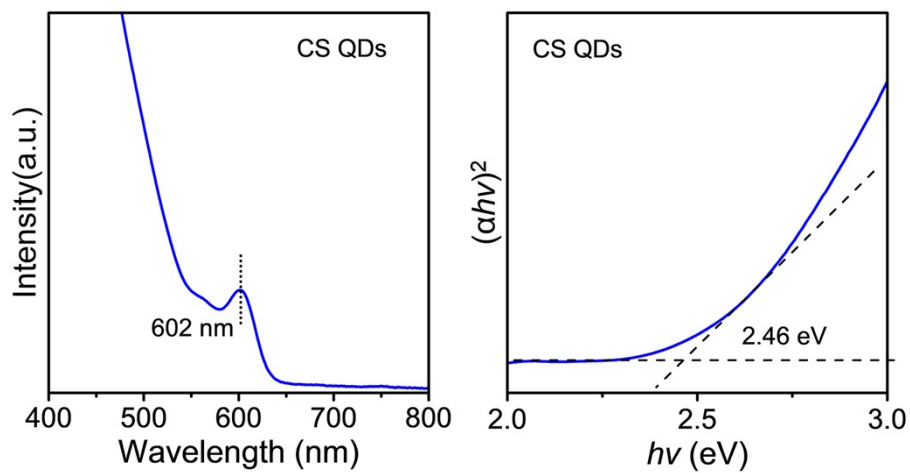


Fig. S18 The UV-vis spectroscopy measurement and the related Tauc plot for CS QDs.

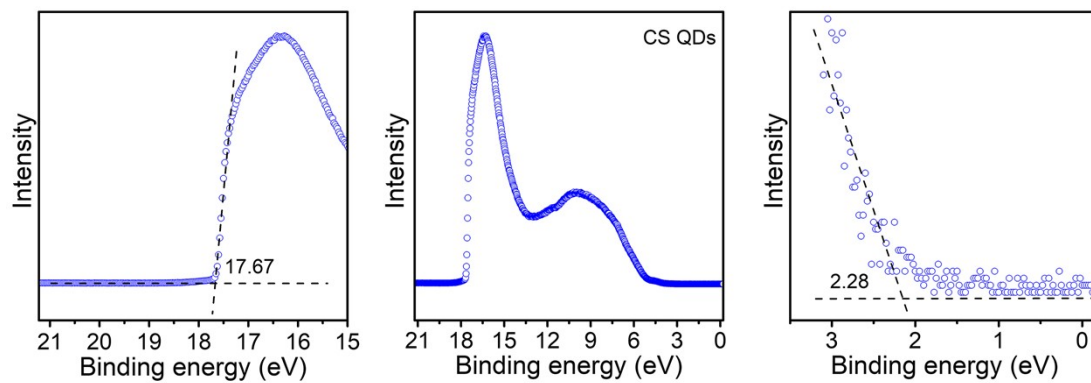


Fig. S19 UPS measurement of CS QDs: high binding energy cut-off (left); overall UPS spectrum (middle); low binding energy cut-off (right).

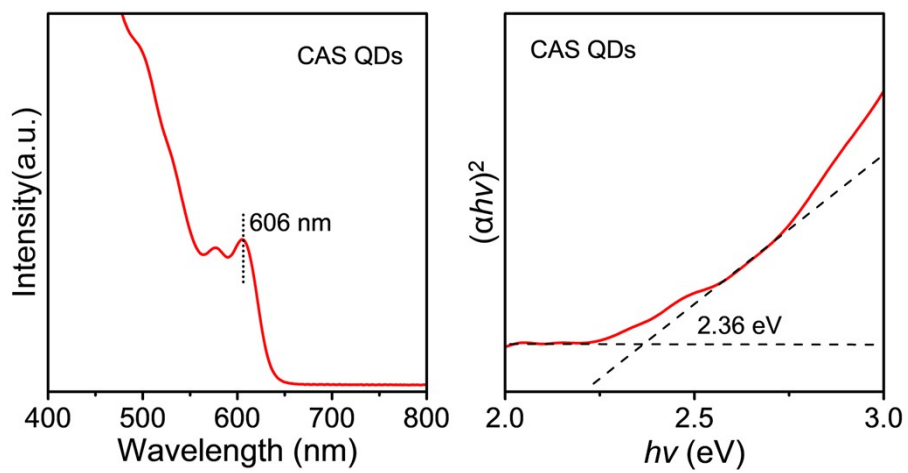


Fig. S20 The UV-vis spectroscopy measurement and the related Tauc plot for CAS QDs.

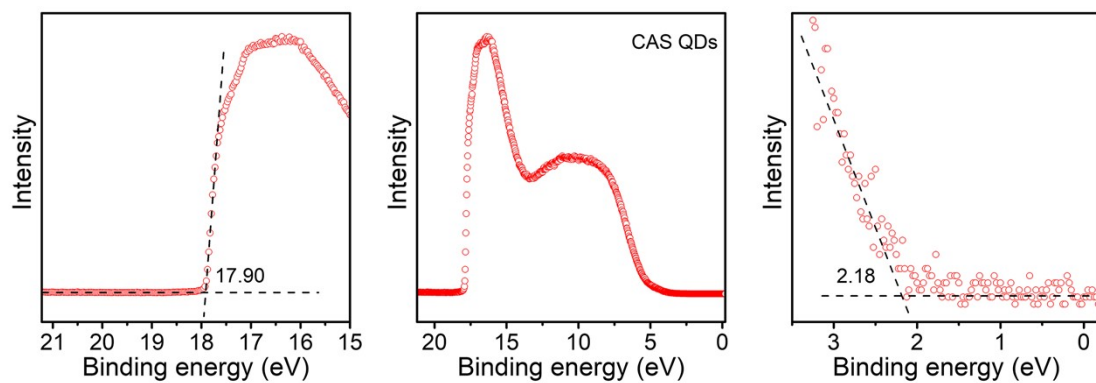


Fig. S21 UPS measurement of CAS QDs: high binding energy cut-off (left); overall UPS spectrum (middle); low binding energy cut-off (right).

Table S1 The feeding ratio of Ni/Zn and ICP tests of d-ZnO@NiO_x.

Sample	Feeding ratio		ICP	
	Ni/Zn(at%)	Ni/Zn(at%)	Ni(wt%)	
d-ZnO@NiO _{0.03}	3	0.62	0.45	
d-ZnO@NiO _{0.06}	6	1.28	0.91	
d-ZnO@NiO _{0.09}	9	2.09	1.48	

Table S2 Comparison of saturated photocurrent density of PEC devices based on QDs in this work and the reported literature. The configuration of PEC cell is identical in all of devices.

Photoanode structure	QDs types	J (mA.cm ⁻²)	Ref.
d-ZnO@Ni _{0.03} -CAS	Colloidal	21.7	This work
d-ZnO@CAS	Colloidal	15.6	This work
d-ZnO@Ni _{0.03} -CS	Colloidal	14.9	This work
d-ZnO@CS	Colloidal	8.8	This work
ZnO/CdSe/CdS/IrO _x	Non-colloidal	13.9	1
CdS/Ni(OH) ₂ &Co(OH) ₂	Non-colloidal	1.2	2
TiO ₂ /CdSe/5CdSe _{0.5} S _{0.5} /CdS	Colloidal	12.0	3
m-TiO ₂ /CdSe/(CdS) ₆	Colloidal	10.7	4
TiO ₂ /CdSe/CdS	Colloidal	10.0	5
H-TiO ₂ -CdSe	Non-colloidal	16.2	6
TiO ₂ /CdS/Zn _y Cd _{1-y} S/ZnS	Colloidal	20.5	7
TiO ₂ /PbS/CdS	Colloidal	5.3	8
TiO ₂ /CdSe/3Pb _x Cd _{1-x} S/3CdS	Colloidal	6.0	9
TiO ₂ /CdSe/5CdSe _x S _{1-x} /2CdS	Colloidal	11.3	10
TiO ₂ /CdSe/5CdSe _x S _{1-x} /CdS	Colloidal	17.5	11
TiO ₂ /CdS/(CdSe) ₆	Colloidal	16.0	12

Table S3 The R_s and R_{ct} for the d-ZnO-QDs, d-ZnO@NiO_{0.03}-CS and d-ZnO@NiO_{0.03}-CAS photoanodes.

Sample	$R_s(\Omega)$	$R_{ct}(\Omega)$
d-ZnO@CS	41	776
d-ZnO@NiO _{0.03} -CS	39	367
d-ZnO@NiO _{0.03} -CAS	42	272

Table S4 Ratio of Se/S in the shell as a function of SILAR cycle.

	Shell	1	2	3	4	5	6
CS QD	S	0/10	0/10	0/10	0/10	0/10	0/10
CAS QDs	Se/S	8/2	6/4	4/6	2/8	0/10	0/10

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