† Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

Covalent Organic-Inorganic Layered 2D CdCl₂(n-hexylamine)₂ and Not Cd₂S₂(n-hexylamine)

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Table S1: Attempts to synthesize Cd_2S_2 (n-hexylamine) lead to formation of Product 1-6. Detailed synthesis of Product-1 is discussed in the manuscript. Product 2-6 are prepared with the same precursor concentrations as in Product-1, but with difference either in reaction apparatus, or in heating time, or in cooling rate, as tabulated below.

| Name | Apparatus | Heating time | Cooling rate | |
|-----------|-----------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|--|
| Product-1 | Glass vessel in oil bath | 30 minute | natural cooling | |
| Product-2 | Glass vessel in oil bath | 30 minute | slow cooling ~ 2 °C/ hr | |
| Product-3 | Glass vessel in oil bath | 6 hour | natural cooling | |
| Product-4 | Glass vessel in oil bath | 48 hour | natural cooling | |
| Product-5 | Acid-digestion bomb in oven | 48 hour | natural cooling | |
| Product-6 | Acid-digestion bomb in oven | 48 hour | slow cooling ~ 2 °C/ hr | |



Fig. S1: Characterization of synthesized products 1-5 (see Table S1) by (a) Powder XRD and (b) optical absorption and PL spectra ($\lambda_{ex} = 405$ nm laser diode).



Fig. S2: Powder XRD of the Product-1 compared with that of the sulphur precursor.



Fig. S3: Size distribution plot of CdS NCs separated from Product-1



Fig. S4: UV-visible absorption spectrum of colloidal CdS NCs is compared with its PL excitation spectra measured at 480 nm (excitonic) and 600 nm (defect-related) emissions.

| Empirical formula | $(C_6H_{13}NH_2)_2CdCl_2$ | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Formula weight (g/mol) | 385.68 | | |
| Temperature (K) | 100(2) | | |
| Wavelength (Å) | 0.71073 | | |
| Crystal System | Monoclinic | | |
| Space group | $P2_{1}/c$ | | |
| Unit call dimensions | a = 19.6125(16) Å, $b = 5.5243(4)$ Å, | | |
| | $c = 8.0101(7) \text{ Å}, \beta = 90.068(3)^{\circ}$ | | |
| Volume (Å ³) | 867.86(12) | | |
| Ζ | 2 | | |
| Calculated density (g/cm ³) | 1.476 | | |
| F(000) | 396 | | |
| Crystal size | $0.157 \times 0.136 \times 0.104 \text{ mm}^3$ | | |
| $\theta_{\min,\max}$ | 2.077, 28.384 | | |
| h _{min,max} | -26, 26 | | |
| k _{min,max} | -7, 5 | | |
| l _{min,max} | -10, 10 | | |
| Absorption coefficient (mm ⁻¹) | 1.551 | | |
| Reflections collected | 17561 | | |
| Unique reflections/ No. parameters | 2170/81 | | |
| Goodness-of-fit | 1.047 | | |
| Final R indices (I> 2σ (I)) | $R_{obs} = 0.0417, wR_{obs} = 0.0939$ | | |
| CCDC Number | 2356630 | | |

Table S2: Crystallographic data for CdCl₂(n-hexylamine)₂ obtained from single crystal XRD data collected at 100 K.

Table S3: Bond lengths and angles involved in the hydrogen-bonding network of CdCl₂(n-hexylamine)₂.

| Sl. No | D-H -A | D - H(Å) | HA(Å) | DA(Å) | ∠D - HA/° |
|-----------|------------|----------|-------|-------|-----------|
| 1 | N1-H1A-Cl1 | 0.910 | 2.512 | 3.315 | 147.37 |
| 2 | N1-H1B-Cl1 | 0.910 | 2.460 | 3.351 | 166.39 |

Covalent organic-inorganic PbI₂(4,4'-bipyridyl). The synthesis protocol is adapted based on ref 41 of the manuscript, after minor modifications. A solution of PbI₂ was made by adding 230 mg (0.5 mmol) PbI₂ in 1 mL dimethylformamide followed by sonication for 10 minutes. In a different vial, 78 mg (0.5 mmol) 4,4'-bipyridine was dissolved in 1 mL methanol. Then, the methanol solution of 4,4'-bipyridine was slowly injected to the PbI₂ solution along the walls

of the vial. A light yellow colored product precipitated out immediately, which was washed with ethanol three times and then with acetone.



Structure and properties of Pbl₂(4,4'-bipy)

Fig. S5: (a) Packing diagram of $PbI_2(4,4'-bipyridyl)$ as shown by single crystal XRD data reported in ref 41 of the manuscript. (b) Comparison of experimental powder XRD data of $PbI_2(4,4'-bipyridyl)$ with the simulated pattern from reference data (ICSD 154548). Also, the powder XRD pattern of the sample remains unchanged after immersing the sample under water for 4 days. (c) UV-visible absorption and PL spectra of $PbI_2(4,4'-bipyridyl)$ in the powder form. The absorption spectrum is obtained from the measured diffused reflectance spectrum by using Kubelka-Munk equation (see Experimental Section), where α is the absorption coefficient, and *S* is the scattering factor.

Synthesis of PbI₂(ethylenediamine)₂. Lead iodide (0.9 mmol, 414.9 mg,) was dissolved in 1.5 mL of ethylenediamine (solvent as well as reactant) by heating to ~70 °C rendering a transparent solution. The reaction mixture was then left to cool naturally to room temperature, resulting into the formation of a white precipitate. The precipitate was washed with ethanol and acetone, followed by drying in vacuum. The synthesized compound is confirmed to be $PbI_2(ethylenediamine)_2$ on comparison of the powder XRD pattern (Fig. S5) with that in prior literature (Ref. 43 of manuscript).



Fig. S6: (a) Packing diagram of PbI₂(ethylenediamine)₂ obtained from the single crystal XRD data reported in ref 43 of the manuscript. Pb is coordinated with two I and four N atoms. (b) Powder XRD patterns of PbI₂(ethylenediamine)₂ measured at room temperature compared to the simulated reference (ICSD 673646) pattern of the same compound at 123 K. (b) Optical absorption spectrum of PbI₂(ethylenediamine)₂ at room temperature. Experimentally measured diffused reflectance spectrum was converted to the absorption spectrum by using the Kubelka-Munk equation, where α is the absorption coefficient, and *S* is the scattering factor.