

# Supplementary Materials

Table S1. Chemical reagent used in the experiment.

Chemical Formula	Purity	Producer	Country
CdCl <sub>2</sub> ·2½H <sub>2</sub> O	AR	Chengdu Kelon Chemical Reagent Factory	China
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> NS	AR	Tianjin Zhiyuan Chemical Reagent Co. Ltd.	China
NaOH	AR	Aladdin	China
C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>7</sub> ·H <sub>2</sub> O	AR	Tianjin Zhiyuan Chemical Reagent Co. Ltd.	China
Tris	AR	Macklin	China
HCl	AR	Chengdu Kelon Chemical Reagent Factory	China
FeCl <sub>2</sub> ·4H <sub>2</sub> O	AR	Tianjin Zhiyuan Chemical Reagent Co. Ltd.	China
FeCl <sub>3</sub> ·6H <sub>2</sub> O	99.000%	Tianjin Fuchen Chemicals Reagent Factory	China
KCl	AR	Molbase	China
LaCl <sub>3</sub>	AR	Tianjin Kemiou Chemical Reagent co., LTD	China
Mg(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ·H <sub>2</sub> O	AR	Tianjin Zhiyuan Chemical Reagent Co. Ltd.	China
MnCl <sub>2</sub> ·4H <sub>2</sub> O	99.0%	Tianjin Fuchen Chemicals Reagent Factory	China
NaCl	AR	Beijing Chemical Factory	China
NiCl <sub>2</sub> ·6H <sub>2</sub> O	98.000%	Beijing Found Stat Science & Thechnology co., LTD	China
Pb(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	AR	Tianjin Zhiyuan Chemical Reagent Co. Ltd.	China
ZnCl <sub>2</sub>	98.0%	Tianjin Fengchuan Chemical Reagent Technologes Co. Ltd.	China
AlCl <sub>3</sub> ·6H <sub>2</sub> O	AR	Tianjin Fengchuan Chemical Reagent Technologes Co. Ltd.	China
BaCl <sub>2</sub> ·2H <sub>2</sub> O	AR	Chengdu Kelon Chemical Reagent Factory	China
CaCl <sub>2</sub>	96.00%	Tianjin Fengchuan Chemical Reagent Technologes Co. Ltd.	China
CoCl <sub>2</sub> ·6H <sub>2</sub> O	99.000%	Tianjin Fengchuan Chemical Reagent Technologes Co. Ltd.	China
CrCl <sub>3</sub> ·6H <sub>2</sub> O	AR	Tianjin Guangfu Fine Chemical Research Institute	China
CuCl <sub>2</sub> ·2H <sub>2</sub> O	99.0%	Tianjin Fengchuan Chemical Reagent Technologes Co. Ltd	China

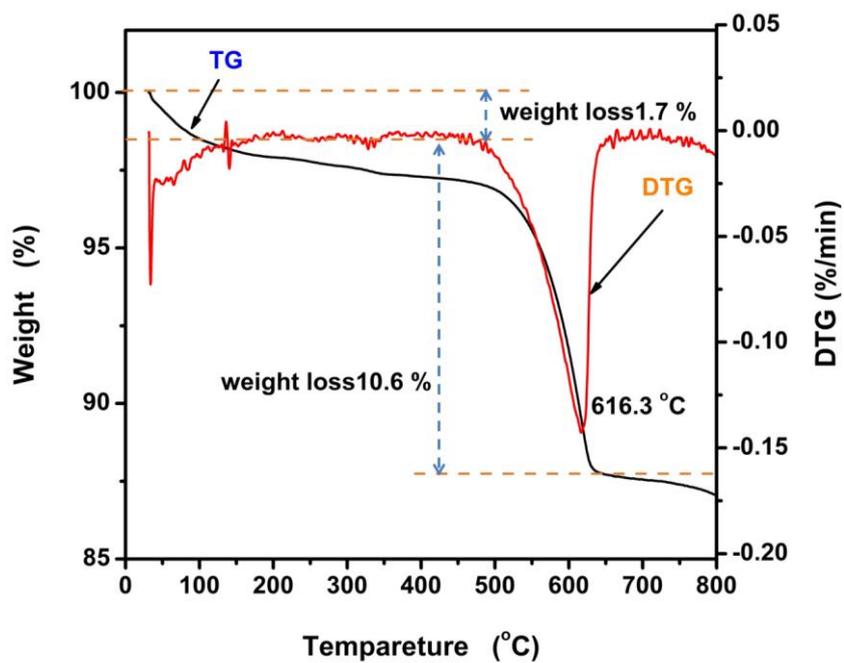


Figure S1. TGA and DTG curves of as-synthesized CA-CdS QDs.

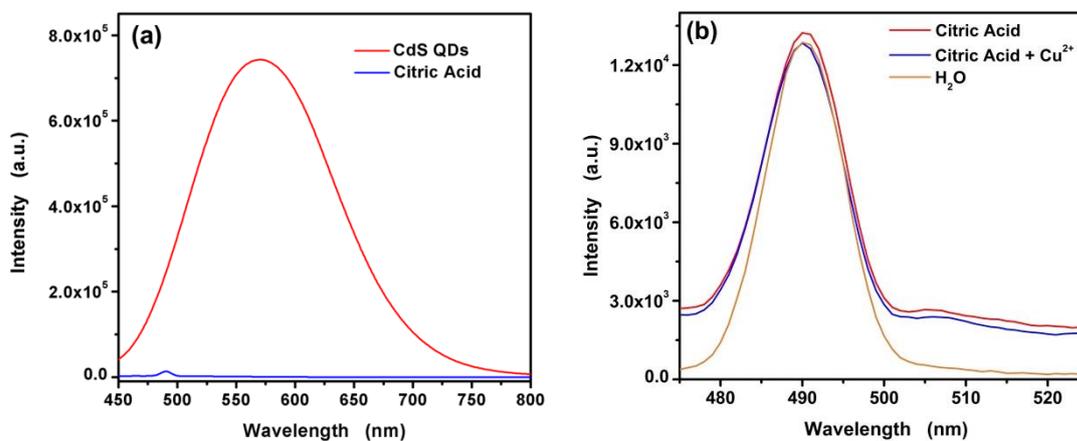
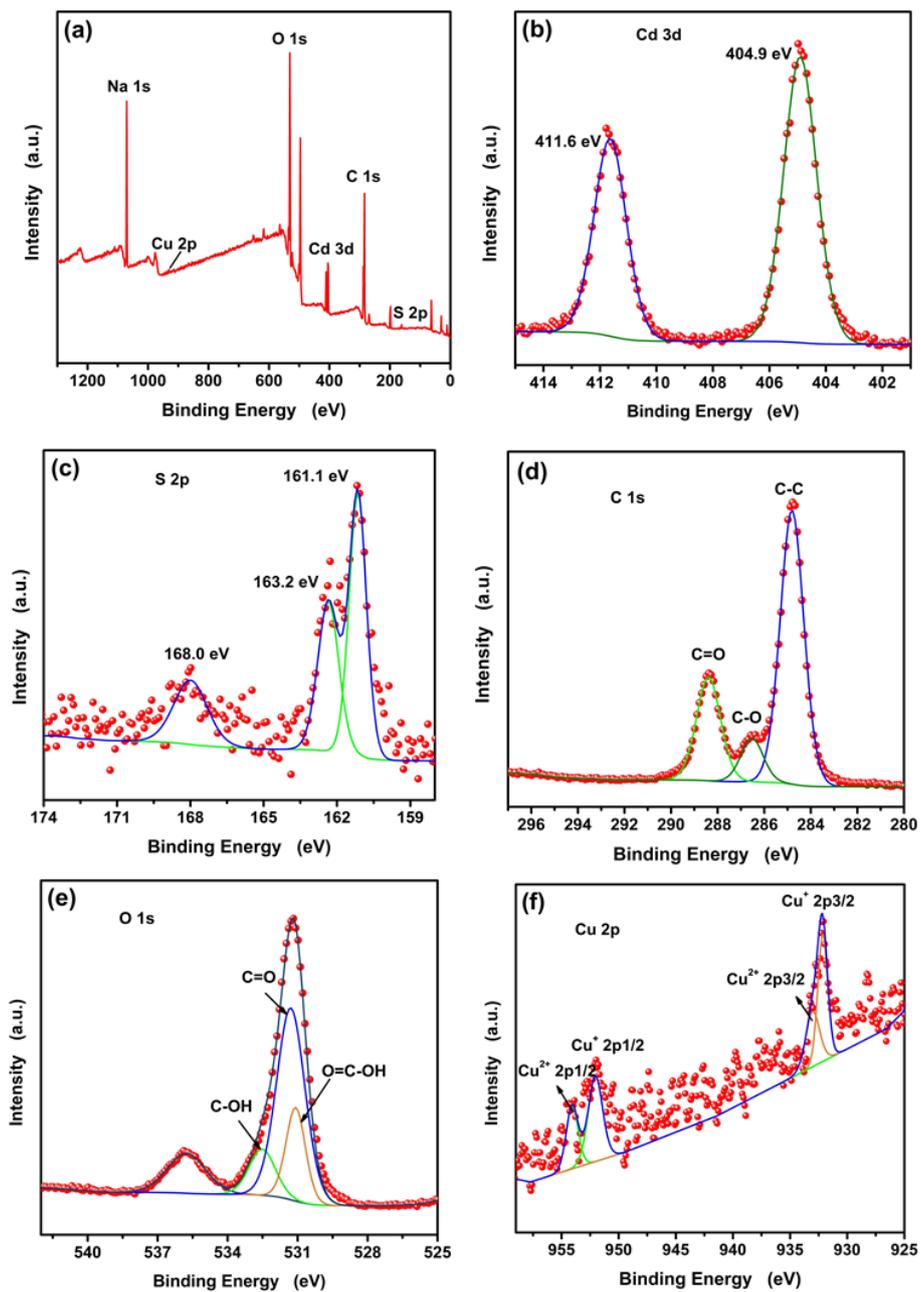


Figure S2. (a) Fluorescence spectra of CdS QDs (red line) and citric acid solution (blue line). (b) Fluorescence spectra of H<sub>2</sub>O (khaki line), citric acid solution in the absence (red line) and in the presence (blue line) of Cu<sup>2+</sup>.



**Figure S3.** The (a) survey, (b) Cd 3d, (c) S 2p, (d) C 1s, (e) O 1s and (f) Cu 2p XPS spectra for the CA-CdS QDs after interaction with  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ .