

Electronic supplemental information for

**Stepwise tuning the substituent groups from mother BTB  
ligands to two hexaphenylbenzene based ligands for  
construction of diverse coordination polymers**

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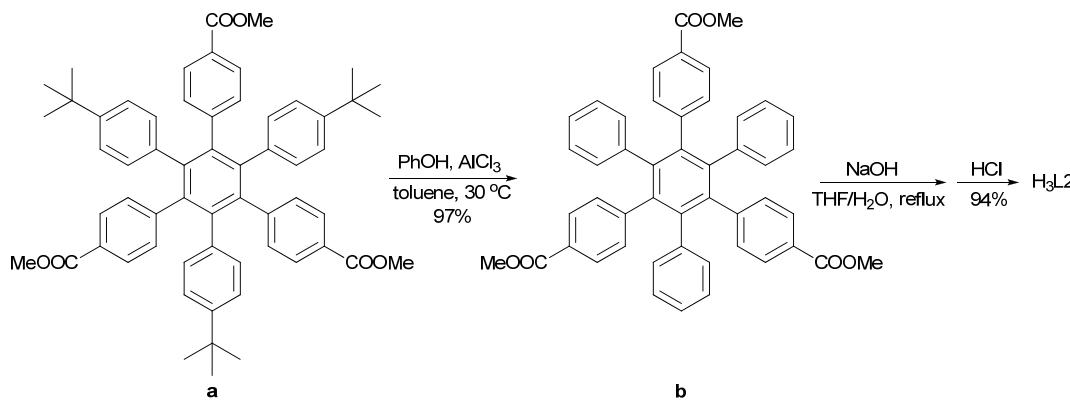
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**Contents**

- 1. Synthesis of H<sub>3</sub>L2**
- 2. Selected bond lengths and angles for 1–6**
- 3. Bond-valence calculations of 1 and 2**
- 4. Additional figures**
- 5. Powder X-ray diffraction**
- 6. Thermogravimetric analysis**
- 7. Fitting of  $\chi_M T$  vs.  $T$  plots**

## 1. Synthesis of H<sub>3</sub>L2.



**Scheme S1.** Synthesis of ligand H<sub>3</sub>L2.

**a** is prepared according to the literature method.<sup>S1</sup> 1.26 g **a** (1.44 mmol), 487 mg PhOH (3.6 equiv.) and 1.92 g AlCl<sub>3</sub> (10 equiv.) were added into a 100 ml two-necked round bottle. The flask was degassed by three evacuation-Ar-backfilled cycles. 60 ml anhydrous toluene was added and the flask was again degassed by three evacuation-Ar-backfilled cycles. The reaction mixture was reacted at 30 °C for 40 hrs, and then poured into dilute hydrochloric acid solution. The aqueous solution was extracted with ethyl acetate (50 ml x 3). The combined organic phase was washed with water and brine, respectively, and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, PE (petraether) : ethyl acetate = 5 : 1 then washed with dichloromethane) to give 986 mg white solid **b** in 97% yield.

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) 7.547 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 6H), 6.872 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 6H), 6.849-6.771 (m, 15H), 3.787 (s, 9H)

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) 167.24, 145.60, 140.58, 139.91, 139.68, 131.54, 131.30, 128.29, 127.31, 127.26, 126.17, 52.07

IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3026.1, 2950.6, 1723.7, 1608.3, 1568.3, 1492.9, 1435.4, 1402.6, 1309.3, 1273.9, 1178.0, 1141.8, 1102.2, 1019.8, 856.6, 822.3, 739.4, 717.2, 700.1

Melting point: > 300 °C

MS: m/z = 731.3 (MALDI-TOF); cald. for [C<sub>48</sub>H<sub>36</sub>O<sub>6</sub> + Na] m/z = 731.2

Elemental Analysis: calculated for C<sub>45</sub>H<sub>36</sub>O<sub>6</sub>·0.5H<sub>2</sub>O: C 80.32, H 5.20, O 14.49; found: C 80.56, H 5.28.

822 mg (1.16 mmol) **b** and 1.39 g (30 equiv.) NaOH in a mixture of 20 ml tetrahydrofuran (THF) and 20 ml H<sub>2</sub>O were refluxed for 2 days. THF was removed under reduced pressure. The aqueous phase was filtered, and the filtrate was acidified with hydrochloric acid. The white precipitate was filtered and washed with water, dried in vacuum to obtain 728 mg H<sub>3</sub>L2 in 94% yield.

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-D6): δ (ppm) 12.725 (s, 3H), 7.416 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 6H), 7.018 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 6H), 6.914-6.819 (m, 15H)

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-D6): δ (ppm) 167.90, 145.51, 140.73, 140.25, 140.11, 131.98, 131.67, 128.62, 128.48, 127.68, 126.79

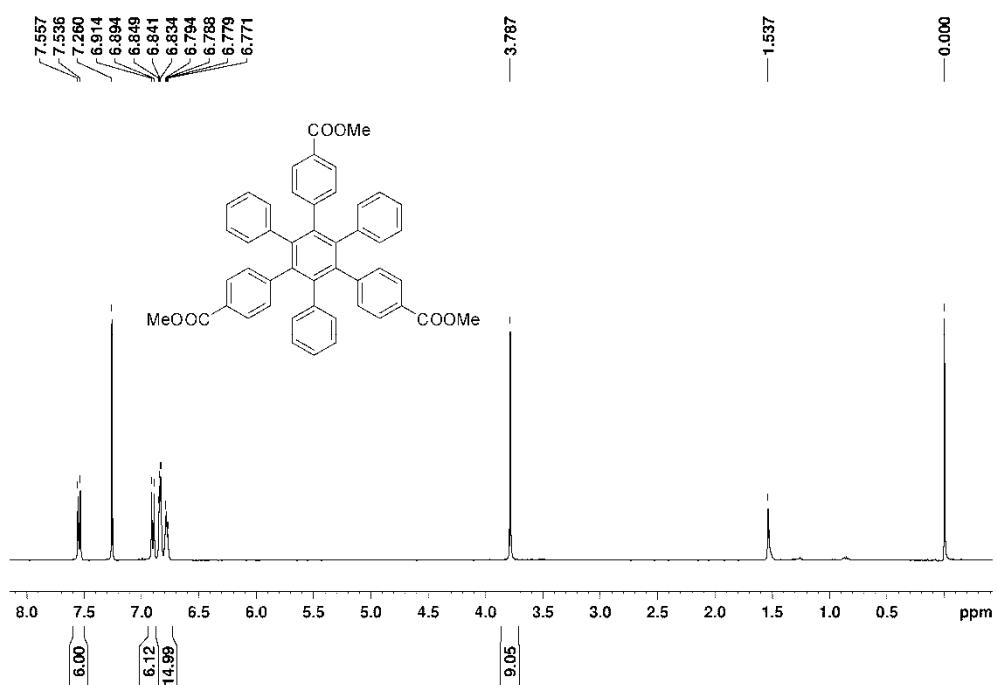
IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3458.3, 3057.4, 2657.1, 1693.5, 1608.5, 1567.9, 1492.8, 1405.7, 1312.3, 1272.9, 1177.1, 1142.3, 1104.6, 913.9, 858.0, 799.7, 729.3, 700.2

Melting point: > 300 °C

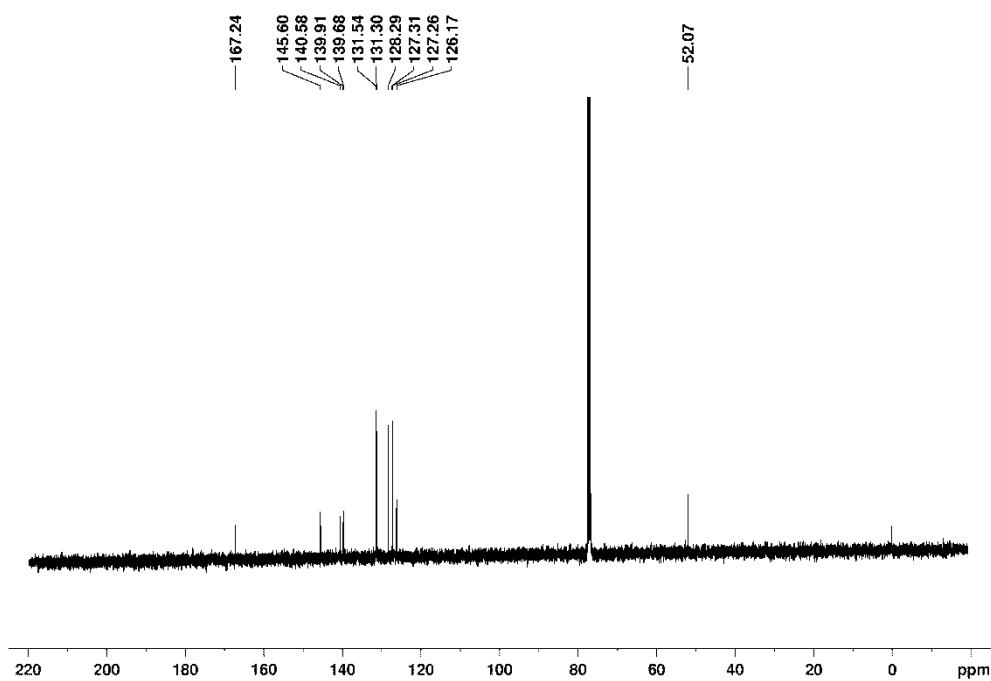
MS: m/z = 665.3 (ESI-); calcd. for C<sub>45</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>6</sub> m/z = 666.2

Elemental Analysis: calculated for C<sub>45</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>6</sub>·1.5H<sub>2</sub>O: C 77.91, H 4.79, O 17.30;  
Found: C 77.86, H 4.68.

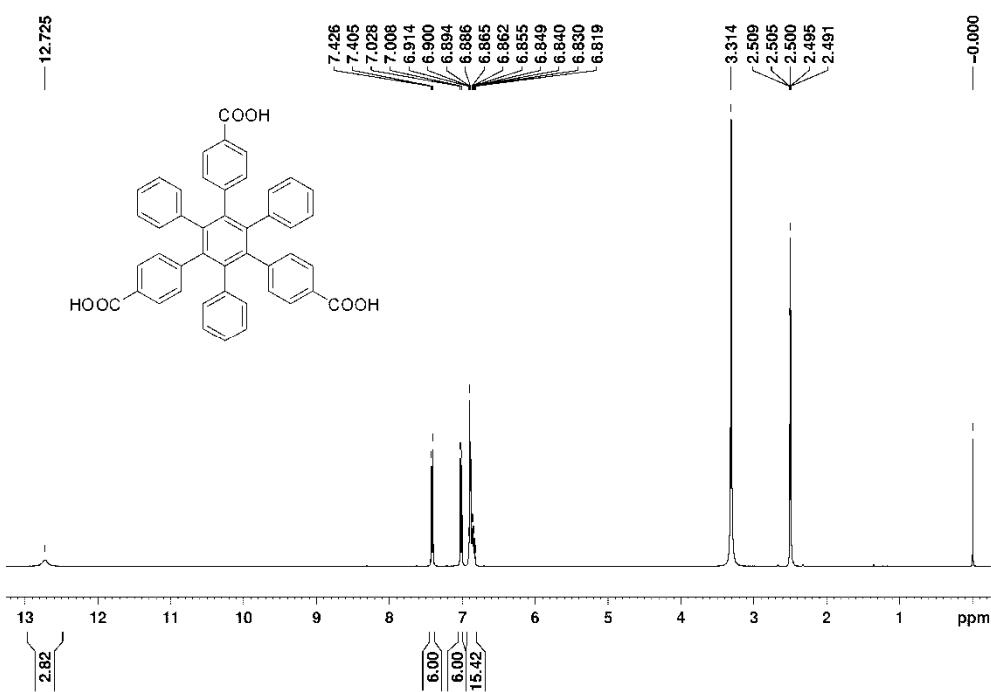
[S1] W. Xiao, X. Feng, P. Ruffieux, O. Gröning, K. Müllen and R. Fasel, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2008, **130**, 8910.



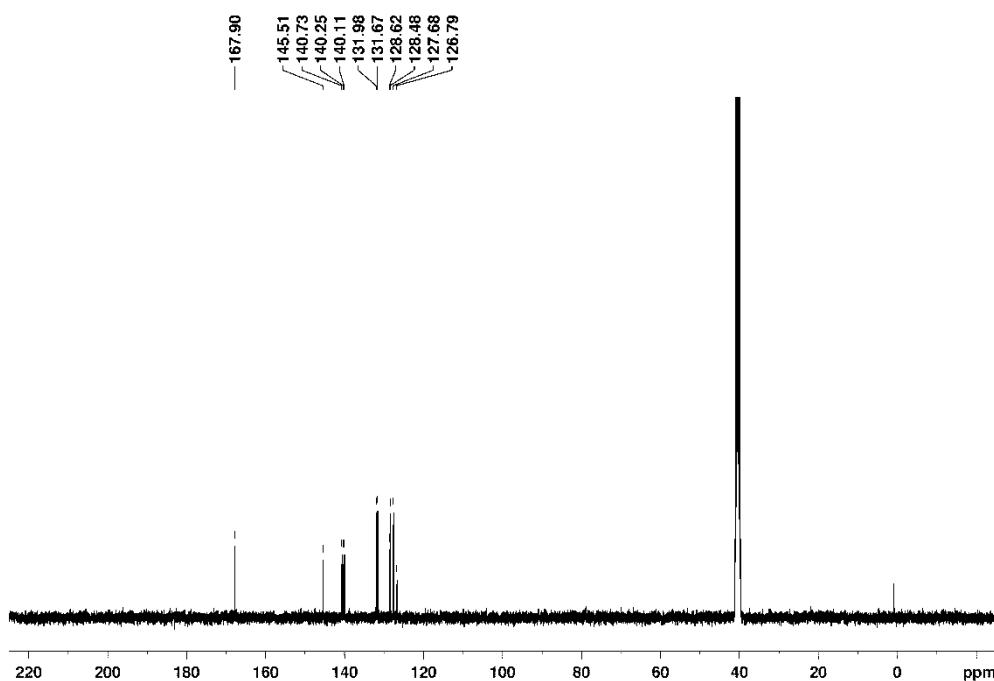
**Figure S1.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of **b**.



**Figure S2.** <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra of **b**.



**Figure S3.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of H<sub>3</sub>L2.



**Figure S4.** <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra of H<sub>3</sub>L2.

## 2. Selected bond lengths and angles for 1–6

**Table S1.** Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (deg) for complexes **1–6**  
compound **1**

|              |            |             |            |              |            |              |            |
|--------------|------------|-------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| Zn1–O1OH     | 1.896(3)   | Zn1–O7      | 1.915(3)   | Zn1–O14      | 1.906(5)   | Zn1–O13      | 2.004(11)  |
| Zn1–O14A     | 2.126(7)   | Zn2–O9      | 1.948(3)   | Zn2–O1OH     | 1.946(3)   | Zn2–O3       | 1.976(2)   |
| Zn2–O1w      | 1.976(3)   | Zn3–O2OH    | 1.924(3)   | Zn3–O1       | 1.939(3)   | Zn3–O11      | 1.962(2)   |
| Zn3–O4       | 2.032(2)   | Zn4–O2OH    | 1.903(3)   | Zn4–O5       | 1.929(3)   | Zn4–O15      | 1.982(3)   |
| Zn4–O16      | 1.967(9)   | O1OH–Zn1–O7 | 129.37(13) | O1OH–Zn1–O14 | 98.7(2)    | O7–Zn1–O14   | 115.0(2)   |
| O1OH–Zn1–O13 | 112.9(4)   | O14–Zn1–O13 | 101.1(3)   | O14–Zn1–O14' | 24.4(2)    | O9–Zn2–O1OH  | 104.05(12) |
| O9–Zn2–O3    | 123.76(11) | O1OH–Zn2–O3 | 110.38(11) | O9–Zn2–O1w   | 116.19(12) | O1OH–Zn2–O1w | 99.87(12)  |
| O3–Zn2–O1w   | 100.24(11) | O2OH–Zn3–O1 | 109.73(12) | O2OH–Zn3–O11 | 122.05(12) | O1–Zn3–O11   | 120.52(11) |
| O2OH–Zn3–O4  | 105.80(11) | O1–Zn3–O4   | 101.05(11) | O11–Zn3–O4   | 91.68(10)  | O2OH–Zn4–O5  | 129.72(13) |
| O2OH–Zn4–O15 | 106.87(12) | O5–Zn4–O15  | 100.67(12) | O2OH–Zn4–O16 | 102.1(3)   | O5–Zn4–O16   | 105.6(3)   |
| O15–Zn4–O16  | 111.6(3)   |             |            |              |            |              |            |

| compound 2  |            |             |           |             |            |             |            |
|-------------|------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| Cd1–O3      | 2.208(2)   | Cd1–O6      | 2.302(2)  | Cd1–O2      | 2.333(2)   | Cd1–O4      | 2.349(3)   |
| Cd1–O5      | 2.380(2)   | Cd1–O1      | 2.421(2)  | Cd1–O7      | 2.572(2)   | Cd2–O9      | 2.221(2)   |
| Cd2–O7      | 2.278(2)   | Cd2–O10     | 2.276(2)  | Cd2–O8      | 2.269(3)   | Cd2–O11     | 2.271(2)   |
| Cd2–O5      | 2.381(2)   | Cd3–O15     | 2.202(2)  | Cd3–O12     | 2.210(2)   | Cd3–O13     | 2.238(2)   |
| Cd3–O17     | 2.247(3)   | Cd3–O14     | 2.404(3)  | Cd3–O11     | 2.428(2)   | O3–Cd1–O6   | 95.10(9)   |
| O6–Cd1–O2   | 91.68(8)   | O6–Cd1–O4   | 87.30(9)  | O3–Cd1–O5   | 91.63(8)   | O2–Cd1–O5   | 142.13(7)  |
| O3–Cd1–O1   | 102.65(8)  | O2–Cd1–O1   | 55.04(8)  | O5–Cd1–O1   | 87.42(8)   | O6–Cd1–O7   | 52.87(7)   |
| O4–Cd1–O7   | 83.60(8)   | O1–Cd1–O7   | 154.26(8) | O9–Cd2–O7   | 81.87(9)   | O7–Cd2–O10  | 98.32(8)   |
| O7–Cd2–O8   | 88.22(13)  | O9–Cd2–O11  | 105.34(9) | O10–Cd2–O11 | 91.73(8)   | O9–Cd2–O5   | 92.56(8)   |
| O10–Cd2–O5  | 174.80(9)  | O11–Cd2–O5  | 91.30(7)  | O15–Cd3–O13 | 101.78(9)  | O15–Cd3–O17 | 89.99(8)   |
| O13–Cd3–O17 | 82.44(9)   | O12–Cd3–O14 | 77.35(9)  | O17–Cd3–O14 | 83.96(10)  | O12–Cd3–O11 | 85.22(8)   |
| O17–Cd3–O11 | 165.13(8)  |             |           |             |            |             |            |
| compound 3  |            |             |           |             |            |             |            |
| Cd1–O2      | 2.263(2)   | Cd1–O1      | 2.288(2)  | Cd1–O6      | 2.314(2)   | Cd1–O4      | 2.322(2)   |
| Cd1–O5      | 2.346(2)   | Cd1–O7      | 2.379(2)  | O5–O9       | 2.725      | O2–Cd1–O1   | 92.11(9)   |
| O1–Cd1–O6   | 109.35(10) | O1–Cd1–O4   | 93.07(9)  | O2–Cd1–O5   | 94.32(9)   | O6–Cd1–O5   | 99.88(9)   |
| O2–Cd1–O7   | 149.34(8)  | O6–Cd1–O7   | 56.13(8)  | O5–Cd1–O7   | 102.27(9)  |             |            |
| compound 4  |            |             |           |             |            |             |            |
| Co1–O19     | 2.037(3)   | Co1–O16     | 2.036(4)  | Co1–O20     | 2.116(4)   | Co1–O8      | 2.157(4)   |
| Co1–O17     | 2.150(3)   | Co1–O7      | 2.225(4)  | Co2–O4      | 2.051(3)   | Co2–O10     | 2.014(4)   |
| Co2–O1      | 2.057(4)   | Co2–O9      | 2.114(3)  | Co2–O14     | 2.204(3)   | Co2–O13     | 2.196(4)   |
| Co3–O3      | 2.031(4)   | Co3–O23     | 2.032(4)  | Co3–O15     | 2.070(3)   | Co3–O18     | 2.093(3)   |
| Co3–O25     | 2.087(5)   | Co3–O14     | 2.133(3)  | O19–Co1–O16 | 99.15(15)  | O16–Co1–O20 | 93.55(19)  |
| O16–Co1–O8  | 152.21(15) | O19–Co1–O17 | 92.68(13) | O20–Co1–O17 | 178.34(15) | O19–Co1–O7  | 164.23(14) |
| O20–Co1–O7  | 81.99(15)  | O17–Co1–O7  | 96.35(12) | O4–Co2–O1   | 169.08(15) | O4–Co2–O9   | 88.06(14)  |
| O1–Co2–O9   | 89.52(14)  | O10–Co2–O14 | 86.09(14) | O9–Co2–O14  | 173.44(13) | O4–Co2–O13  | 84.41(14)  |

|                   |            |             |            |             |            |             |            |
|-------------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| O9–Co2–O13        | 88.46(14)  | O3–Co3–O23  | 89.71(15)  | O23–Co3–O15 | 82.88(14)  | O23–Co3–O18 | 100.47(13) |
| O3–Co3–O25        | 178.91(18) | O15–Co3–O25 | 89.74(19)  | O3–Co3–O14  | 94.07(13)  | O15–Co3–O14 | 85.22(13)  |
| O25–Co3–O14       | 85.36(17)  |             |            |             |            |             |            |
| <b>compound 5</b> |            |             |            |             |            |             |            |
| Mn1–O19           | 2.098(4)   | Mn1–O11     | 2.118(4)   | Mn1–O13     | 2.188(5)   | Mn1–O20     | 2.181(4)   |
| Mn1–O8            | 2.259(4)   | Mn1–O7      | 2.299(4)   | Mn2–O21     | 2.093(4)   | Mn2–O5      | 2.138(4)   |
| Mn2–O16           | 2.044(6)   | Mn2–O15     | 2.181(5)   | Mn2–O3      | 2.200(4)   | Mn3–O6      | 2.117(4)   |
| Mn3–O14           | 2.134(5)   | Mn3–O1      | 2.158(4)   | Mn3–O12     | 2.152(4)   | Mn3–O17     | 2.204(4)   |
| Mn3–O18           | 2.264(4)   | O19–Mn1–O11 | 103.34(17) | O11–Mn1–O13 | 87.71(18)  | O11–Mn1–O20 | 91.25(16)  |
| O19–Mn1–O8        | 157.45(16) | O13–Mn1–O8  | 92.37(17)  | O19–Mn1–O7  | 100.96(16) | O13–Mn1–O7  | 85.74(17)  |
| O8–Mn1–O7         | 57.16(14)  | O21–Mn2–O5  | 92.02(18)  | O5–Mn2–O16  | 96.6(3)    | O5–Mn2–O15  | 89.9(2)    |
| O21–Mn2–O3        | 97.19(17)  | O16–Mn2–O3  | 87.2(2)    | O6–Mn3–O14  | 179.8(2)   | O14–Mn3–O1  | 92.5(2)    |
| O14–Mn3–O12       | 89.4(2)    | O6–Mn3–O17  | 88.31(16)  | O1–Mn3–O17  | 169.55(16) | O6–Mn3–O18  | 87.74(18)  |
| O1–Mn3–O18        | 89.02(16)  | O17–Mn3–O18 | 81.30(15)  |             |            |             |            |
| <b>compound 6</b> |            |             |            |             |            |             |            |
| Zn1–O2            | 1.962(4)   | Zn1–O1      | 1.992(4)   | Zn1–O4      | 1.984(7)   |             |            |
| Zn1–O5            | 2.170(13)  | Zn1–Cl1     | 2.222(4)   | O3–Zn1–O2   | 118.82(18) | O3–Zn1–O1   | 104.06(19) |
| O2–Zn1–O1         | 104.25(18) | O3–Zn1–O4   | 128.9(3)   | O2–Zn1–O4   | 107.3(3)   | O1–Zn1–O4   | 83.5(3)    |
| O3–Zn1–O5         | 78.1(4)    | O2–Zn1–O5   | 78.6(4)    | O1–Zn1–O5   | 174.7(4)   | O4–Zn1–O5   | 91.4(5)    |
| O3–Zn1–Cl1        | 104.38(17) | O2–Zn1–Cl1  | 112.49(16) | O1–Zn1–Cl1  | 112.74(17) |             |            |

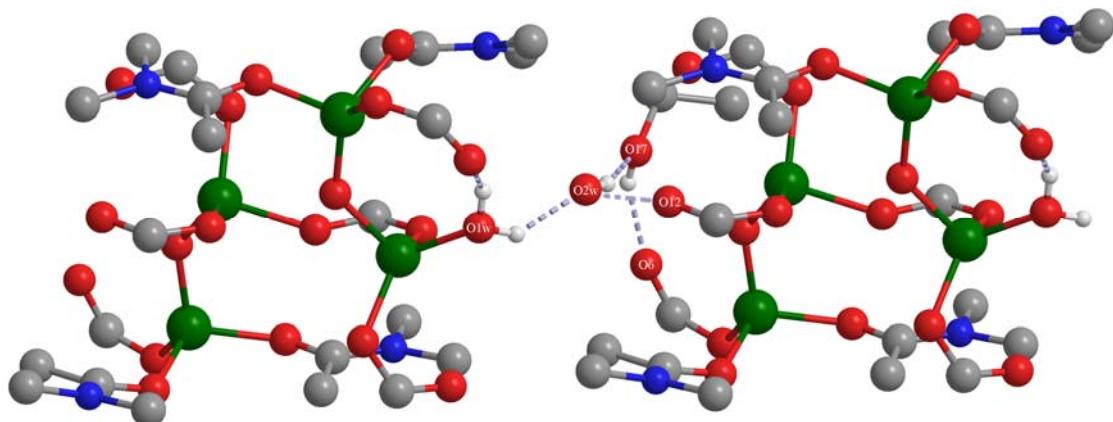
### 3. Bond-valence Calculations of 1 and 2

**Table S2.** Bond-valence calculations between metal and oxygen atoms of **1** and **2**.

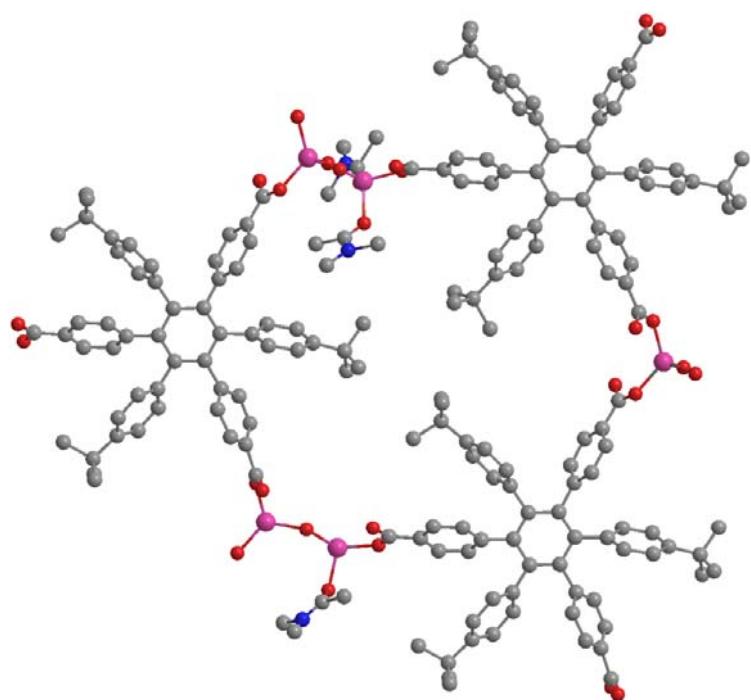
| M–O bond | Bond length (Å) | Bond valence |
|----------|-----------------|--------------|
| Zn1–O1OH | 1.896(3)        | 0.595        |
| Zn2–O1OH | 1.946(3)        | 0.520        |
| Zn3–O2OH | 1.924(3)        | 0.552        |
| Zn4–O2OH | 1.903(3)        | 0.584        |
| Cd1–O5   | 2.380(2)        | 0.276        |

|         |          |       |
|---------|----------|-------|
| Cd2-O5  | 2.381(2) | 0.275 |
| Cd2-O11 | 2.271(2) | 0.371 |
| Cd3-O11 | 2.428(2) | 0.243 |

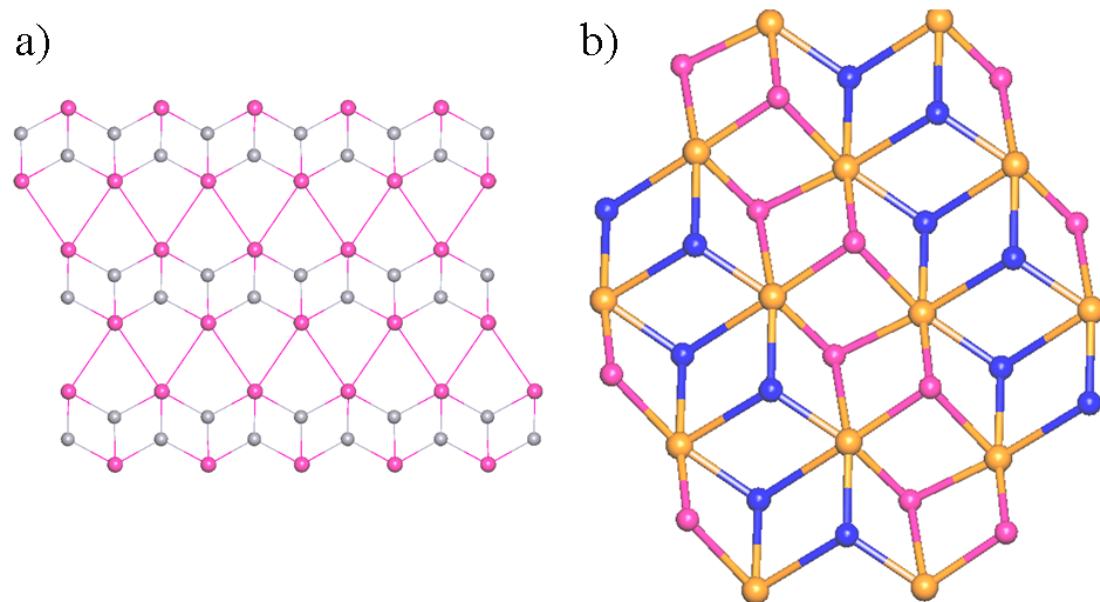
#### 4. Additional Figures



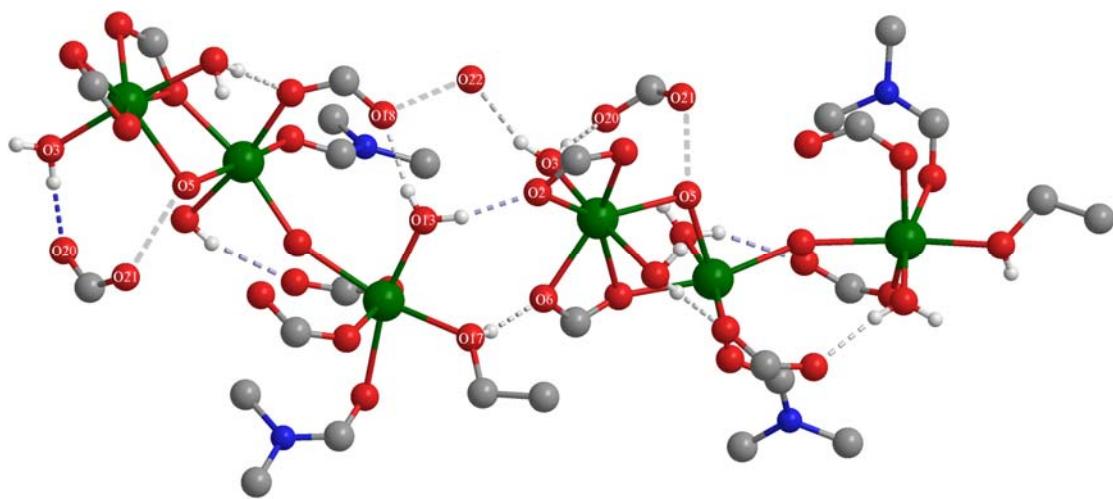
**Fig. S5** The adjacent bilayers are connected by hydrogen bonds between  $\{\text{Zn}_4\}$  clusters by one water and one ethanol molecules in **1**.



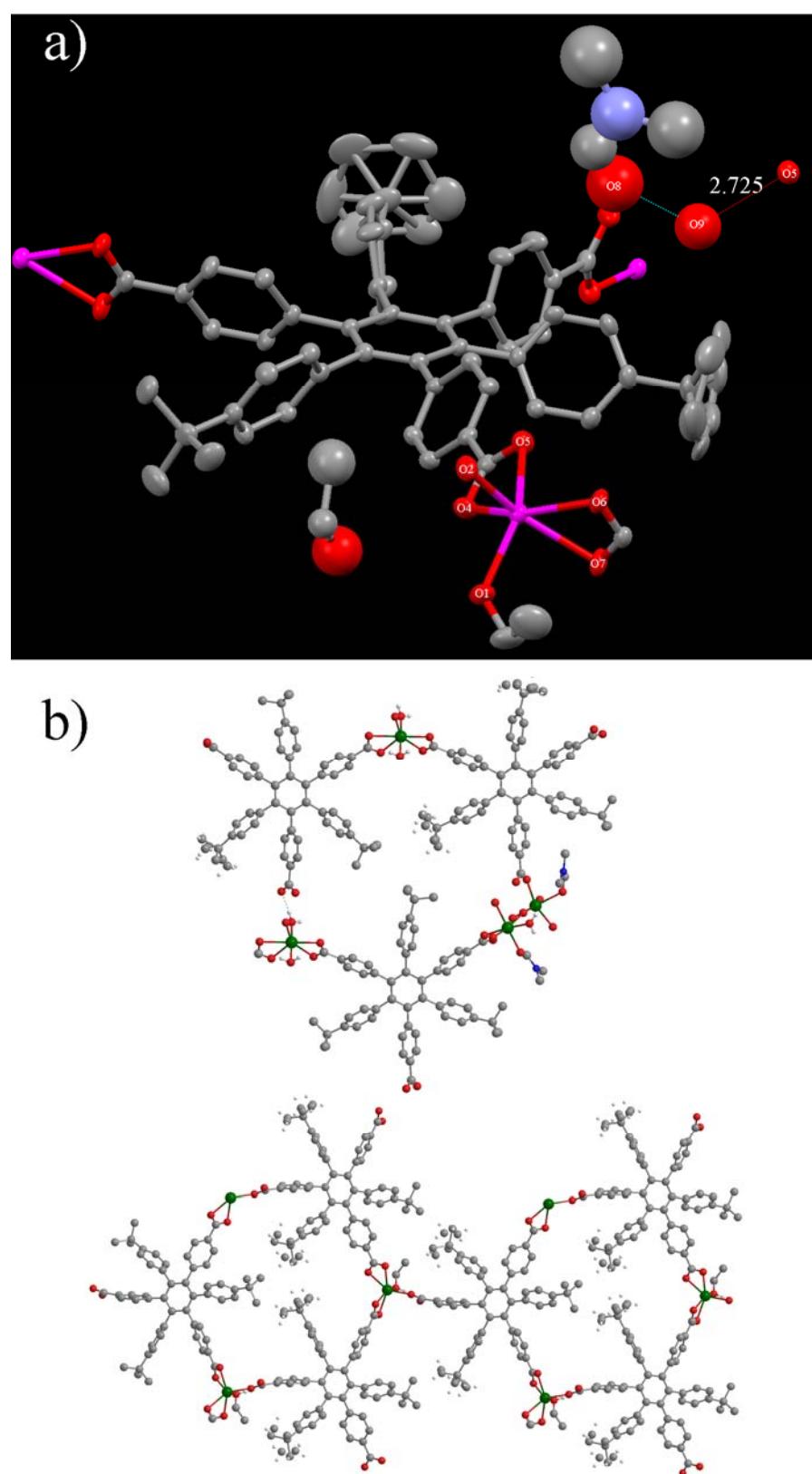
**Fig. S6** The honeycomb in **1**.



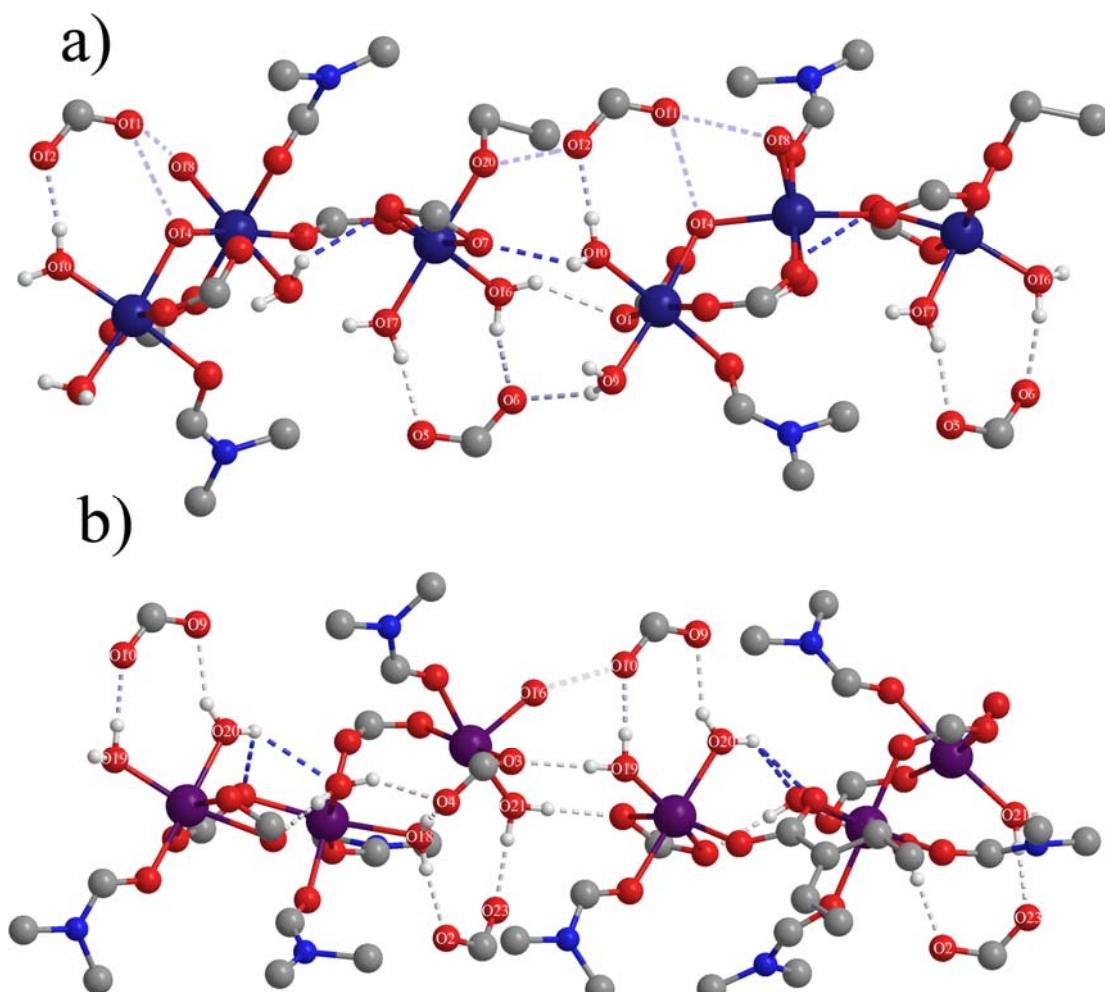
**Fig. S7** (a) The (3, 5)-connected **3,5L24** topological structure only considering coordination interactions. (b) The (3, 6)-connected **kgd** topological structure taking both coordination bonds and hydrogen bonds into consideration.



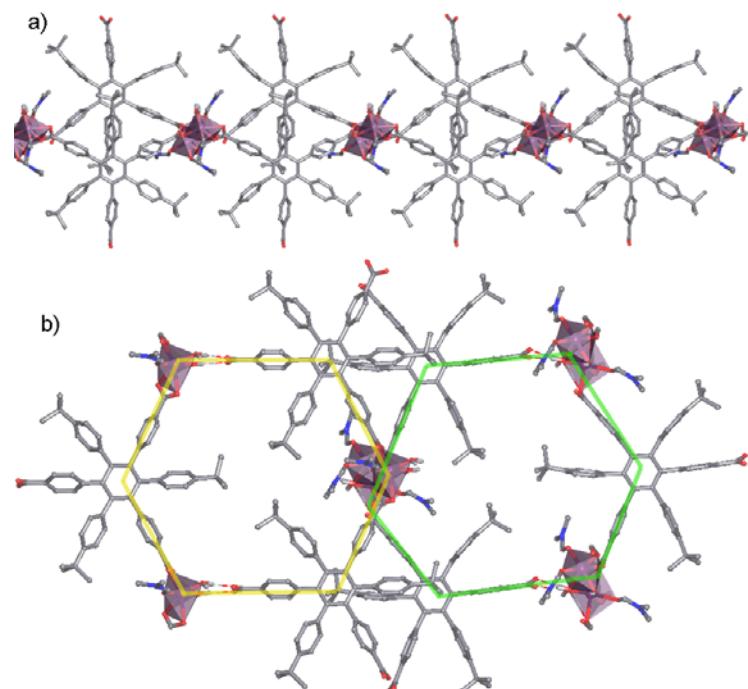
**Fig. S8** The adjacent bilayers are connected by hydrogen bonds between  $\{\text{Cd}_3\}$  clusters in **2**.



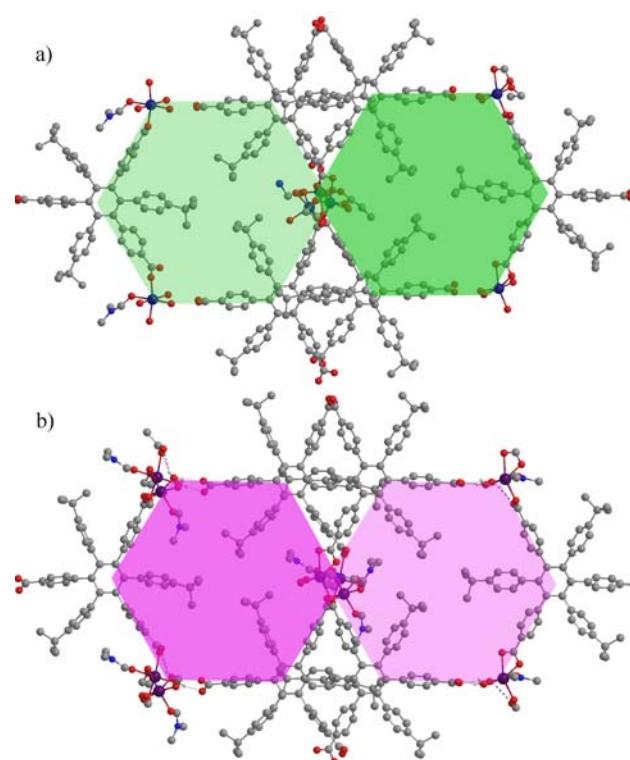
**Fig. S9** (a) The asymmetric unit in **3**, including the disordered solvents; the hydrogen bonded oxygen O9 was recognized as  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$ . (b) The honeycomb in **2** (top), and the corrugated honeycomb in **3** (down).



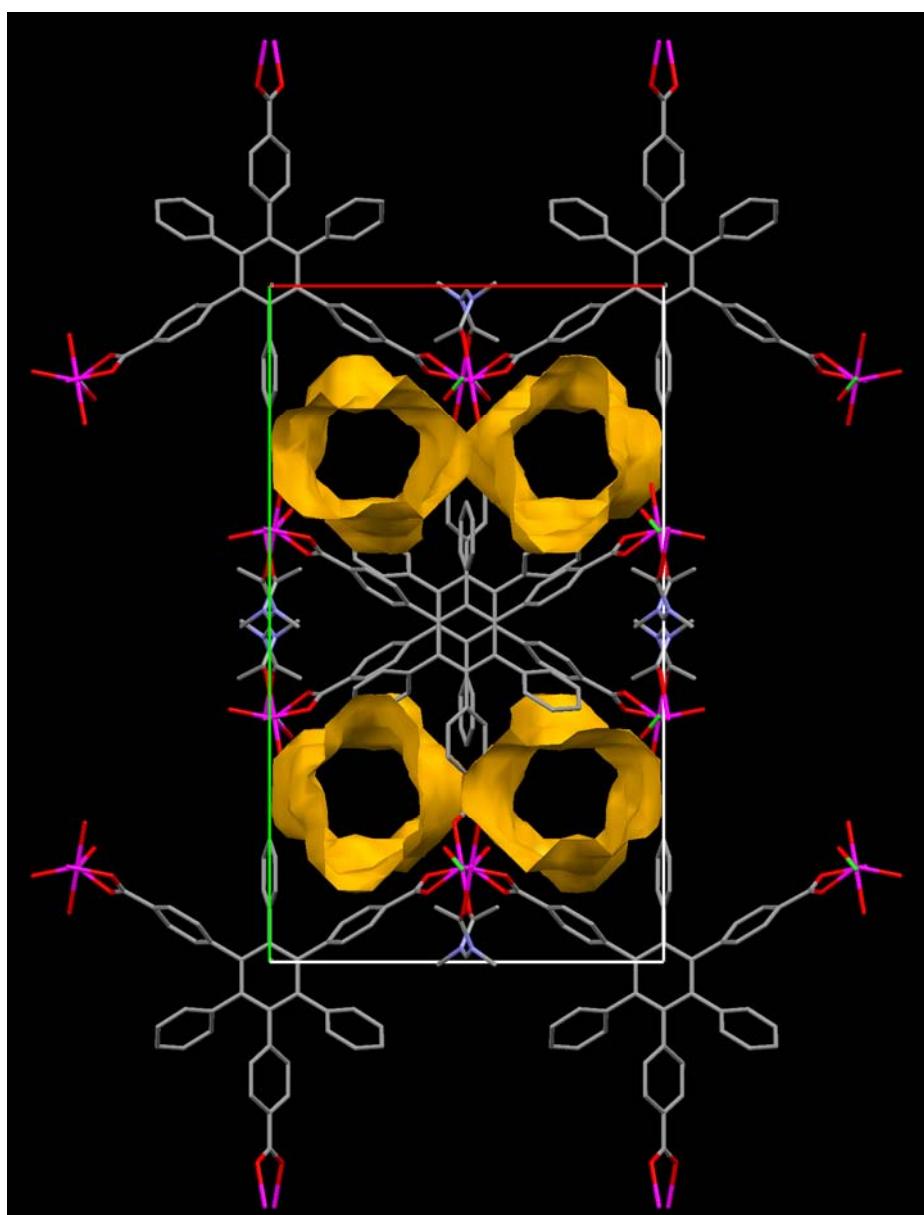
**Figure S10.** Hydrogen bonding interactions between coordination chains. (a)  $\{Co_3\}$  clusters in **4** and (b)  $\{Mn_3\}$  clusters in **5**.



**Fig. S11** (a) The 1D nonplanar coordination chain in **5**. (b) The 2D hydrogen-bonded honeycomb bilayer sheet in **5**.

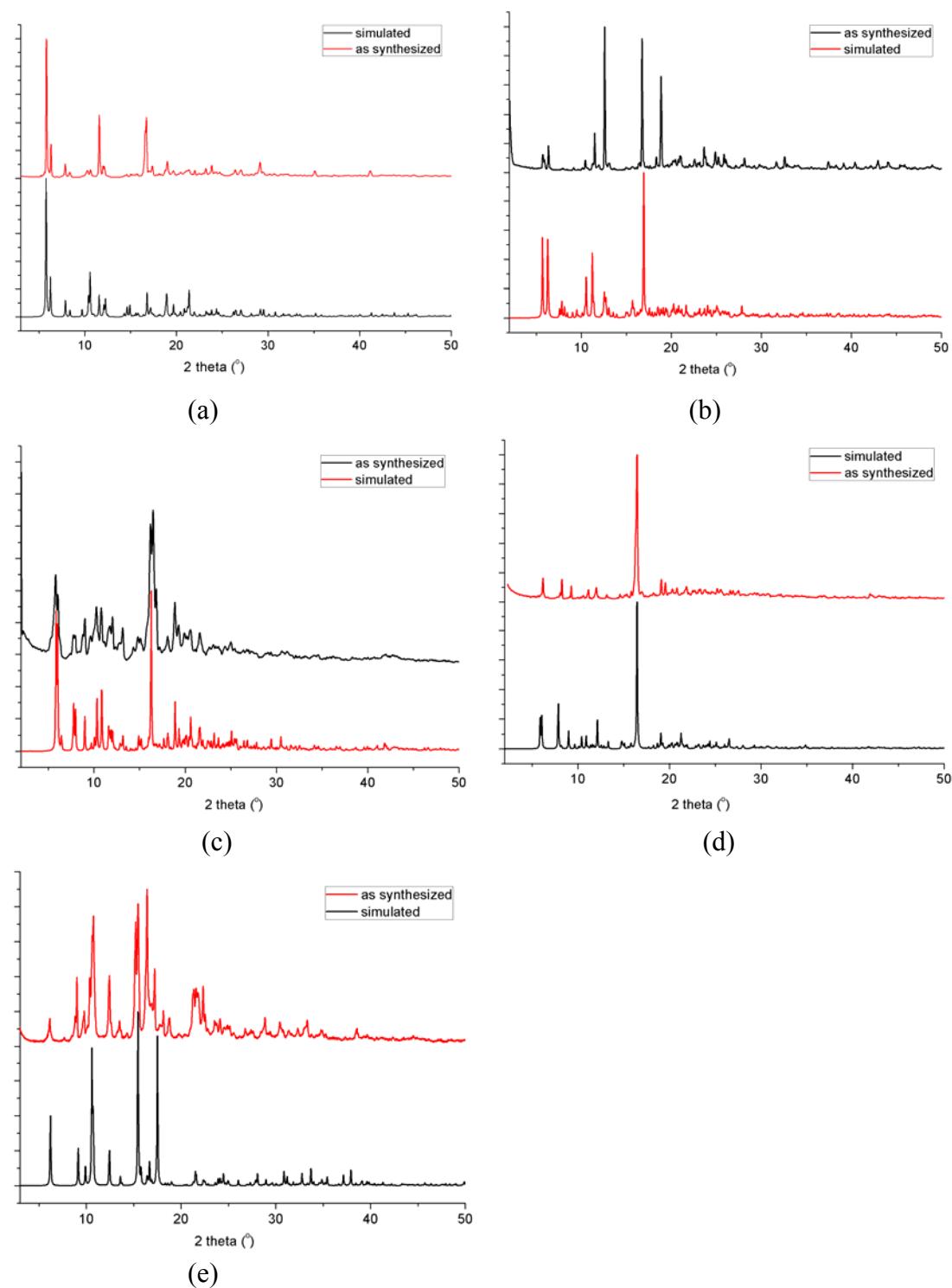


**Fig. S12** Hydrogen bonding interactions between carboxylate groups and coordination water molecules formed honeycombs in (a) **4** and (b) **5**.



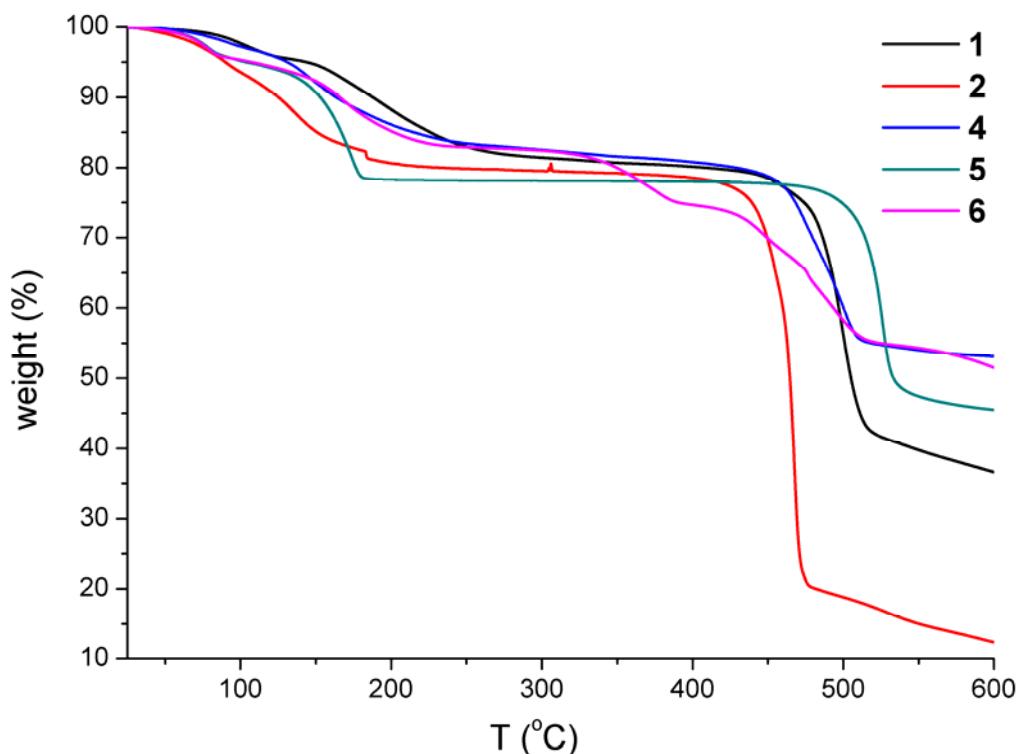
**Fig. S13** The 1D channels in **6** viewed along *c* axis.

## 5. Powder X-ray diffraction



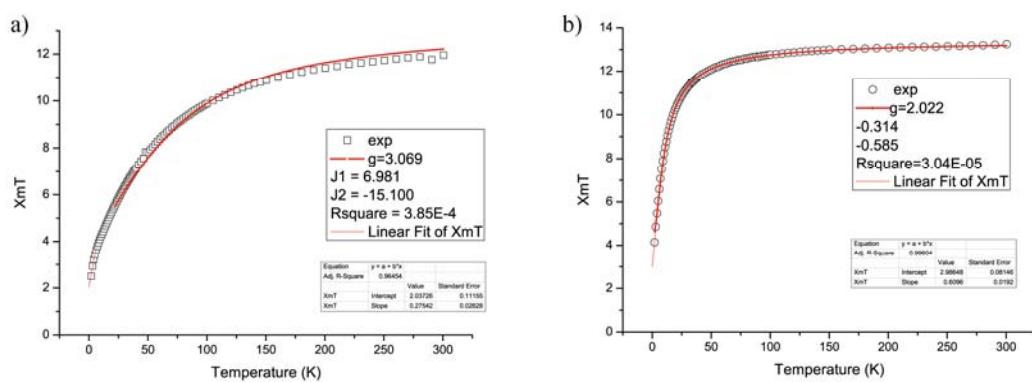
**Fig. S14** Powder X-ray diffraction of (a) compound **1**; (b) compound **2**; (c) compound **4**; (d) compound **5**; (e) compound **6**.

## 6. Thermogravimetric analysis



**Fig. S15** TGA curves for complex **1**, **2**, and **4–6**

## 7. Fitting of $\chi_M T$ vs. $T$ plots



**Fig. S16** Fitting of  $\chi_M T$  vs.  $T$  for a) complex **4** b) complex **5**.