## **Supplementary Information:**

## Synthesis and structures of soluble magnesium and zinc carboxylates Containing

## intramolecular NH ••• O hydrogen bonds in nonpolar solvents

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	L0H·3(AcOEt)	$(NMe_4)[L1]\cdot 2$ $H_2O\cdot 1,4-$ dioxane	<b>L2</b> H·1/2(1,4-dioxane)	$Ca_2L1_4 \cdot 4(1, 4-dioxane) \cdot 4H_2$	MgL1 <sub>2</sub> (EtOH) -4EtOH	MgL2 <sub>2</sub> (EtOH) -5EtOH
formula	C83H108N2O10	C52H77N3O8	C41H49NO4	C <sub>196</sub> H <sub>270</sub> Ca <sub>2</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O <sub>35</sub>	$\begin{array}{c} C_{104}H_{154}Mg \\ N_4O_{16} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} C_{96}H_{142}Mg \\ N_2O_{15} \end{array}$
fw	1293.71	872.16	619.81	3378.34	1740.61	1588.42
cryst syst	monoclinic	triclinic	triclinic	monoclinic	monoclinic	monoclinic
space group	Сс	$P\overline{1}$	$P\overline{1}$	$P2_{1}/c$	<i>C</i> 2/ <i>c</i>	$P2_{1}/c$
a, Å	18.9473(8)	11.5622(9)	11.7369(14)	18.0688(18)	28.1365(10)	14.5903(5)
b, Å	13.9306(6)	11.6068(8)	12.6605(17)	11.3006(12)	11.8861(4)	27.0129(9)
<i>c</i> , Å	28.662(2)	19.7688(14)	12.8455(17)	50.441(5)	31.198(2)	25.7904(17)
$\alpha$ , deg	90	92.302(6)	73.348(5)	90	90	90
$\beta$ , deg	96.968(7)	105.780(7)	71.463(5)	108.006(6)	102.064(7)	112.681(7)
γ, deg	90	100.231(7)	83.617(6)	90	90	90
<i>V</i> , Å <sup>3</sup>	7509.4(7)	2501.4(3)	1733.4(4)	9795.1(18)	10203.1(9)	9378.6(9)
Ζ	4	2	2	2	4	4
$d_{\text{calc}}$ , g cm <sup>-3</sup>	1.144	1.158	1.187	1.145	1.133	1.125
$\mu$ , mm <sup>-1</sup>	0.074	0.077	0.075	0.129	0.081	0.080
GOF	1.029	1.019	1.033	0.945	1.021	1.015
$R1^{a}[I > 2\sigma(I)]$	0.0770	0.0741	0.0649	0.1481	0.0756	0.0852
w $R2^{b}$ (all data)	0.2156	0.2071	0.1634	0.4705	0.2164	0.2429

 ${}^{a}R1 = \Sigma ||F_{o}| - |F_{c}|| / \Sigma |F_{o}|. {}^{b}wR2 = \{\Sigma [w(F_{o}^{2} - F_{c}^{2})^{2}] / \Sigma [w(F_{o}^{2})^{2}]\}^{1/2}$ 

	MgL12(EtOH)	MgL2 <sub>2</sub> (EtOH)
Mg-O11	2.049(2)	2.021(3)
Mg-O21		2.042(3)
mean		2.031
M–O(EtOH)	2.070(3)	2.076(4)
		2.117(4)
	$2.090(2)^{a}$	$2.068(3)^{a}$
		2.085(3) <sup><i>a</i></sup>
mean	2.080	2.087
C1011	1.274(4)	1.262(4)
C1-O21		1.261(4)
C1O12	1.247(4)	1.259(4)
C1–O22		1.261(4)

Table S2 Selected bond distances (Å) for MgL12(EtOH) and MgL22(EtOH)

<sup>*a*</sup>Forming intramolecular OH····O=C hydrogen bond.



**Fig. S1** Molecular structures of (a) **L0**H, (b) (NMe<sub>4</sub>)[**L1**], and (c) **L2**H. **L2**H forms intermolecular hydrogen bonds with the neighboring **L2**H in the crystal.



**Fig. S2** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of (a) **L0**H, (b) **L1**H, (c) (NMe<sub>4</sub>)[**L1**], (d) **L2**H, and (e) (NMe<sub>4</sub>)[**L2**] in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 30 °C.



**Fig. S3** Schematic drawing of hydrogen bond networks in the crystals for (a) **MgL1**<sub>2</sub>, (b) **MgL2**<sub>2</sub>, (c) **ZnL1**<sub>2</sub>, and (d) **ZnL2**<sub>2</sub> (see Figures 1 and 2). Red and blue broken lines denote intra- and intermolecular hydrogen bonds, respectively, accompanying the distances (Å). O(d) represents the oxygen atom of 1,4-dioxane in the crystal.



**Fig. S4** Space-filling model of **MgL1**<sub>2</sub> (a) and a side view (b). The water molecule (indicated by blue arrows) is hydrogen-bonding to the coordinated water. Another water molecule is the back of the red arrow. Compare with Figure S3a.



**Fig. S5** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of **ZnL1**<sup>2</sup> in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at (a) 30 °C, (b) 0 °C, (c) -30 °C, -60 °C, and -90 °C. The asterisk denotes the signal of 1,4-dioxane as a crystal solvent.



**Fig. S6** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of (a) **ZnL1**<sub>2</sub>, (b) **ZnL1**<sub>2</sub> + (NMe<sub>4</sub>)[**L1**] ( = (NMe<sub>4</sub>)[**ZnL1**<sub>3</sub>]), (c) **ZnL1**<sub>2</sub> +  $2(NMe_4)[L1]$ , (d) **ZnL1**<sub>2</sub> +  $4(NMe_4)[L1]$ , and (e) (NMe<sub>4</sub>)[L1] in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 30 °C.



**Fig. S7** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of (NMe<sub>4</sub>)[**ZnL1**<sub>3</sub>] in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at (a) 30 °C, (b) 0 °C, (c) -30 °C, -60 °C, and -90 °C.



Fig. S8 Optimized structures of (a) *fac*-[MgL13]<sup>-</sup> and (b) *mer*-[MgL13]<sup>-</sup>.