Supporting Information of

# "Crystal-to-Crystal Transformation from a Chain Compound to a

## Layered Coordination Polymer"

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#### Synthetic procedures:

200.8 mg of CuBr<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O was dissolved in 3.0 ml of CH<sub>3</sub>OH, then 2.0 ml of 1,4-dioxane and 0.5 ml of H<sub>2</sub>O was added and the solution was allowed to stand at room temperature. Green crystals of compound **1** were obtained after seven days, in a yield of 68.3%. Elemental analysis (%): calc. for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>6</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>Cu (435.57): C 22.06, H 4.59; found: C 22.27, H 4.66.

There are two ways to obtain compound **2**. The first way : 224.8 mg of CuBr<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O was dissolved in 3.0 ml of CH<sub>3</sub>OH, then 2.0 ml of 1,4-dioxane was added and the solution was allowed to stand at room temperature. Brown crystals were obtained after seven days, in a yield of 82.6 %. Another way to obtain **2** : blue crystals of **1** were heated at 70 °C for 30 minutes under vacuum or exposed to dry air and brown crystals of **2** were obtain with a yield of 100%. Elemental analysis (%): calc. for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Br<sub>6</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub> (846.27): C 11.35, H 1.91; found: C 11.54, H 2.01. The phase purity of crystals was proved by their powder X-ray diffraction pattern.

### **Physical Characterizations**

Thermogravimetric analysis was carried out on a Shimadzu DTG-60 analyzer at a 5 °C min<sup>-1</sup> heating rate from room-temperature to 800 °C (Figure S1). There were three dominant mass losses in 1: 35 % from 20 -70°C, in which 1 transformed into 2, 30 % from 130-210 °C, and 15 % from 450-540 °C. There were two dominant mass losses in 2: 47 % loss in 130-210°C, 29 % loss in 450-540 °C.

The single crystal X-ray diffraction data was collected at 173 K on Rigaku diffractometer with confused monochromated Mo K $\alpha$  ( $\lambda$  = 0.71073 Å) radiation.<sup>1</sup> The structure was solved by direct method and refined by full-matrix least-squares on  $F^2$  using SHELX program, with anisotropic thermal parameters for all non-hydrogen atoms.<sup>2</sup> Hydrogen atoms of H<sub>2</sub>O and 1, 4-dioxane were located by different Fourier map and refined with constrains for the ideal geometry.

The powder X-ray diffraction pattern was obtained on a Rigaku RINT2000 diffractometer at room temperature with Cu K $\alpha$  ( $\lambda$  = 1.54056 Å) radiation in a flat-plate geometry.

UV-Vis absorption spectra of the solid  $(CuBr_2)_3(1,4-dioxane)_2$  (2) were measured on a Shimadzu UV-2600 spectrophotometer in the range of 220–900 nm at ambient temperatures.

Magnetization measurements were performed against tightly packed polycrystalline sample in capsule on a Quantum Design MPMS 7XL SQUID system. Susceptibility data were corrected for diamagnetism of sample by Pascal constants ( $-2.19 \times 10^{-4}$  cm<sup>3</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup> for **1**;  $-1.18 \times 10^{-4}$  cm<sup>3</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup> for **2**) and background by experimental measurement on the sample holder.

#### References

1. Rigaku CrystalClear (2007). Version 1.4.0. Rigaku Inc., Tokyo, Japan.

2. Sheldrick, G. M. (2008). Acta Cryst. A64, 112-122.



**Figure S1.** Thermogravimetric analysis plot of CuBr<sub>2</sub>(1,4-dioxane)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub> (**1**) and (CuBr<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>(1,4-dioxane)<sub>2</sub> (**2**) at a heating rate of 5 °C / min..



**Figure S2.** X-ray powder diffraction patterns of CuBr<sub>2</sub>(1,4-dioxane)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub> (1) and (CuBr<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>(1,4-dioxane)<sub>2</sub> (2). Bottom: black line is the simulated one based on the single crystal structure of 1; red line is the experiment data from polycrystal. Top: black line is the simulated one based on the single crystal structure of 2; blue line is the experiment data from polycrystal obtained by direct synthesize; green line is the experiment data from polycrystal obtained by transformation from 1 to 2.



Figure S3. UV-Vis spectra of (CuBr<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>(1,4-dioxane)<sub>2</sub> (2).