Supporting Information

Instantly High-Selectivity Cd-MOF Chemosensor for Naked-Eye Detection of Cu(II) Approved by *in situ* Microcalorimetry

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1. Experimental

1.1. Materials and instrumentation

The H₃L ligand was synthesized by the literature method.^[S1] All other reagents were reagent grade and used as purchased without further purification. ¹H NMR spectra were recorded at 400 MHz and ¹³C NMR spectrum was recorded on Varian INOVA 500M spectrometer. Tetramethylsilane (TMS) served as internal reference ($\delta = 0$) for ¹H NMR, and DMSO-*d*₆ served as internal standard (δ = 39.51) for ¹³C NMR. Elemental analyses of C, H, and N were performed on a Vario EL III analyzer fully automated trace element analyzer. The FT-IR spectra were recorded on a Nicolet Magna 750 FT-IR spectrometer using KBr pellets in the range of 4000-400 cm⁻¹. Fluorescent data were collected on an Edinburgh FLS920 TCSPC fluorescence spectrophotometer equipped with 450W xenon light. Inductively coupled plasma (ICP) analysis was performed on a Perkin-Elmer Optima 3300 DV ICP spectrometer. Thermogravimetric analysis was investigated using a thermogravimetric analyzer at first. The gaseous products from the samples during heating under N2 atmosphere were analyzed by an online FTIR (Bruker, Vertex70) with a 200 ml gas cell in the range of 400-4000 cm⁻¹. The phase purity of the bulk sample was verified by X-ray powder diffraction (XRPD) radiation ($\lambda = 1.5406$ Å), with a scan speed of 5° min⁻¹ and a step size of 0.02° in 2 θ . The calorimetric experiment was performed by using a RD496-III type microcalorimeter.^[S2] The calorimetric constants at 295.15, 298.15, 301.15, 304.15, and 307.15 K were determined, by the Joule effect, to be 63.799 ± 0.025 , 63.901 ± 0.030 , 64.000 ± 0.026 , 64.075 ± 0.038 , and $64.203 \pm 0.043 \ \mu\text{V} \cdot \text{mW}^{-1}$, respectively. The enthalpy of the dissolution of KCl (spectral purity) in deionized water was measured to be 17.238 ± 0.048 kJ \cdot mol⁻¹, which is in good agreement with the value of 17.241 ± 0.018 kJ \cdot mol⁻¹ from ref [S3]. The accuracy is 0.02%, and the precision is 0.3%, which indicates that the calorimetric system is accurate and reliable. The reaction solvent (5 mL) was put into a stainless steel sample cell in a 15 mL container.^[S4] At equilibrium, the containers of the single crystal samples (20-22 mg) were pushed down simultaneously. As a result, the crystal solvent was mixed at 298.15 K, and the thermogram of the crystalline-state-liquid guest exchange was recorded.



Synthesis of triacetyltriphenylamine

To the solution of AlCl₃ (1.8 g, 13.5 mmol) in 50 ml dry CH₂Cl₂, 2.0 ml (28.28 mmol) acetyl chloride in 50 ml dry CH₂Cl₂ was added dropwisely under 0 °C. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and triphenylamine (1.0 g, 4.0 mmol) in 50 ml dry CH₂Cl₂ was added. Then the reaction was carried out at room temperature for 24 h. The mixture was poured into ice-water (200 mL), and extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 × 100 mL), the organic layer was washed with water (5 × 100 mL), dried with Na₂SO₄. After filtration and removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude product was purified by column chromatography with CH₂Cl₂ as an eluent to give a yellow solid (1.20 g, 80.8%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃), δ (ppm): 7.91 (d, *J*=8.8, 6H), 7.16 (d, *J*=8.7, 6H), 2.59 (s, 9H).

Synthesis of tricarboxyltriphenylamine

3 mL Br₂ were added dropwisely to the solution of NaOH (7 g, 0.18 mol) in 30 ml water on ice bath. The mixture was stirred for 20 min and added dropwisely to a solution of triacetyltriphenylamine (2.0 g, 5.4 mmol) in 50 ml 1, 4-dioxane. Then the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature over 1 h and further stirred at 50 °C for 12 h. After cooling to r.t., the mixture was put on ice-bath, saturated hydroxylamine hydrochloride was added to deoxidize excessive sub-bromo-sodium. The solution was acidified by HC1 (2M) and the solid product was filtered and dried under vacuum. The crude was recrystallized from acetic acid to afford pure products as a white solid. (1.56 g, 76.5%). Anal. calcd. for C₂₄H₂₁NO₃: C, 77.61; H, 5.70; N, 3.77. Found: C, 77.68; H, 5.76; N, 3.71. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆), δ (ppm): 12.85 (s, 3H), 7.92 (d, *J*=8.7, 6H), 7.15 (d, *J*=8.7, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm): 166.81, 149.88, 131.25, 125.93, 123.78.

1.3. Synthesis of $\{[NH_2(CH_3)_2] \cdot [Cd_{2.5}(L)_2(H_2O)] \cdot (H_2O)\}_n$ (1).

A mixture of H₃L (37 mg, 0.1 mmol), CdSO₄·8/3H₂O (51 mg, 0.2 mmol), N,N-dimethylformamide (5 mL), acetone (4 mL) and water (3 mL) were placed in a 25 mL Teflon liner. The resulting mixture was stirred for 30 min at room temperature, and then the mixture was sealed in a Parr autolave and kept at 100°C for 3 days and then cooled to room temperature at a rate of 5 °C min⁻¹. Yellow block crystals of **1** were obtained in 47% yield (based on H₃L). Anal. Calcd for $C_{88}H_{72}Cd_5N_6O_{28}$ (2223.52): C, 47.36; H, 3.25; N, 3.77%. Found: C, 47.06; H, 3.49; N, 3.92%. IR (cm⁻¹): 3446 (s), 1590 (s), 1527 (m), 1391 (s), 1318 (m), 1264 (m), 1173 (w), 1104(w), 862 (w), 791 (m), 710 (w), 682 (w).

1.4. X-ray structure determinations

Diffraction intensities of all compounds were collected on a Rigaku SCX mini CCD diffractometer using graphite-mono-chromatized MoK α radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073$ Å) at room temperature. The data integration and reduction were processed with SAINT software. Absorption correction based on multi-scan was performed using the SADABS program.^[S5] The structures were solved by the direct method using SHELXTL and refined by a full-matrix least-squares method on F^2 with the SHELXL-97 program.^[S6] All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. A summary of the crystallographic data and data collection, refinement parameters are listed in Table S1.



Fig. S1 ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) spectrum of triacetyltriphenylamine.



Fig. S2 ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) spectrum of tricarboxyltriphenylamine (H₃L).



Fig. S3 ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) spectrum of tricarboxyltriphenylamine (H₃L).



Fig. S4 3D framework of **1** (a) assembled *via* 2D wave-like double sheet structures (b), which were generated by two kinds of L^{3-} ligands (bule and pink balls) bridging pentanuclear Cd(II) cluster nodes (green balls). All H atoms, counter ions and solvent molecules are omitted for clarity.



Fig. S5 View of the 3D framework of **1** shown in Ball-Stick mode (a) and Spacefill mode (b) along the *a*-axis. All H atoms, counter ions and solvent molecules are omitted for clarity.



Fig. S6 View of the 3D framework of **1** shown in Ball-Stick mode (a) and Spacefill mode (b) along the *b*-axis. All H atoms, counter ions and solvent molecules are omitted for clarity.



Fig. S7 View of the 3D framework of 1 shown in Ball-Stick mode (a) and Spacefill mode (b) along the *c*-axis. All H atoms, counter ions and solvent molecules are omitted for clarity.



Fig. S8 Powder XRD patterns of (a) 1, 1', 1. DMA and 1. CH₃OH; (b) 2 and its simulated one.



Fig. S9 The corresponding Gram–Schmidt signal of 1 · CH₃OH and 1 · DMA.



Fig. S10 Gas phase IR spectra corresponding to the maximum of the Gram–Schmidt signal in Fig. 9 of (a) $1 \cdot CH_3OH$ and (b) $1 \cdot DMA$ as well as reference spectra of (c) methanol and (d) N-dimethylacetamide.



Fig. S11 TG curves for 1, 1 · CH₃OH and 1 · DMA under a nitrogen atmosphere.



Fig. S12 (a) Variation of heat-flow as a function of time, 1-CH₂Cl₂, 1-CHCl₃, 1-CCl₄, 1-benzene, and 1-cyclohexane, (b) $1 \cdot CH_3OH$ and $1 \cdot DMA$.



Fig. S13 Changes in color of addition of various metal ions $(1 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol } \text{L}^{-1}, 10 \text{ mL})$ to the crystals of **1**.



Fig. S14 (a) Coordination environments of the Cd(II) and Cu(II) ions in 2. Symmetry code: A, x+1, -y, -z+2; (b) Two different types of coordination modes of L³⁻ ligand in 2. Symmetry code: A, x, y, z+1; B, -x+1, y-1/2, -z+5/2; C, -x+1, y+1/2, -z+3/2; D, x+1, y, z; (c) View of the 3D framework of 2 shown in Ball-Stick mode along the c-axis. All H atoms, counter ions and solvent molecules are omitted for clarity.

(a)



Fig. S15 (a) Variation of heat-flow as a function of time, $c(Cu^{2+}) = 1 \times 10^{-5} \text{ mol } L^{-1}$, (b) $c(Cu^{2+}) = 1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ mol } L^{-1}$.



Fig. S16 Change in absorption intensity of 1 $(1 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M})$ in DMSO upon addition of various metal ions (10 mM).



Fig. S17 Emission spectra of 1 in DMSO with $Cu(NO_3)_2$ at different concentrations.

Compound	1	2	$1 \cdot CH_3OH$	1 · DMA
Empirical formula	$C_{88}H_{72}Cd_5N_6O_{28}\\$	$C_{88}H_{72}Cd_{3}Cu_{2}N_{6}O_{27}$	$C_{90}H_{76}Cd_5N_6O_{28}$	$C_{96}H_{86}Cd_5N_8O_{28}\\$
Formula weight	2223.52	2109.80	2251.57	2361.73
Crystal system	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	Monoclinic
Space group	$P2_{1}/c$	$P2_{1}/c$	$P2_{1}/c$	$P2_{1}/c$
a/Å	14.6261(6)	14.3997(19)	14.5830(13)	14.5196(9)
<i>b</i> /Å	23.2526(9)	23.362(3)	23.241(2)	23.3670(14)
c/Å	15.7357(7)	15.543(3)	15.6338(14)	15.6042(9)
$\alpha/^{o}$	90	90	90	90
β/°	107.099(2)	106.309(9)	106.990(2)	107.4750(10)
γ/°	90	90	90	90
<i>V</i> /Å ³	5115.1(4)	5018.2(12)	5067.4(8)	5049.8(5)
Ζ	2	2	2	2
$D_c/(g \cdot cm^{-3})$	1.444	1.396	1.476	1.553
<i>T</i> (K)	296(2)	296(2)	296(2)	296(2)
F(000)	2212	2120	2244	2364
Absorption coefficient/mm ⁻¹	1.094	1.114	1.106	1.114
Reflections collected/unique	27989 / 8921	28070 / 8802	19614 / 8639	24914 / 8877
<i>R</i> (int)	0.0320	0.1227	0.0463	0.0407
Goodness-of-fit on F^2	1.074	1.077	1.071	1.076
$R_1^a [I \ge 2\sigma(I)]$	0.0487	0.1094	0.0563	0.0456
wR_2^b (all data)	0.1717	0.3219	0.1818	0.1593
CCDC number	1417833	1417835	1424110	1417834

Table S1 Crystal data and refinement parameters for compounds 1, 2, $1 \cdot CH_3OH$ and $1 \cdot DMA$.

^[a] $R_1 = \sum ||F_0| - |F_c|| / \sum |F_0|$

^[b] wR₂ = $[\sum w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2 / \sum w(F_o^2)^2]^{1/2}$

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