Supporting Information

Assembly of Inorganic [Mo₂S₂O₂]²⁺ Panels Connected by Selenite anions to Nanoscale Chalcogenide-Polyoxometalate Clusters

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1. Crystallography

Value	1	1'	2
Formula	$H_{83}Cs_5K_8Na_4Mo_{16}O_{114}S_{16}Se_{20}$	$H_{79}IK_9Na_9Mo_{16}O_{112}S_{16}Se_{20}$	$H_{195}K_{15}Mo_{28}O_{181}S_{28}Se_{17}$
M _r g mol ⁻¹	6604.17	6184.54	8605.38
crystal system	Tetragonal	Tetragonal	Triclinic
space group	P-42(1)m	P4/nmm	<i>P</i> -1
a [Å]	30.7159(7)	25.5702(7)	22.4356(10)
<i>b</i> [Å]	30.7159(7)	25.5702(7)	23.4055(10)
<i>c</i> [Å]	20.0056(6)	28.9646(10)	23.6633(10)
α [°]	90	90	103.291(2)
β[°]	90	90	108.421(2)
γ [°]	90	90	98.352(2)
$ ho_{cald}$ [g cm ⁻³]	2.320	2.169	2.563
<i>V</i> [Å ³]	18874.6(10)	18938.1(12)	11149.4(8)
Ζ	4	4	2
μ(Mo _{Kα})mm ⁻¹	6.313	5.505	4.942
<i>T</i> [K]	150	150	150
no. rflns (measd)	117659	133578	134465
no. rflns (unique)	14851	9093	43714
no. params	861	5976	2247
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	0.965	1.089	1.079
R1 (I>2σ(I))	0.0879	0.0644	0.0652
wR2 (all data)	0.2591	0.2533	0.2155

 Table S1 X-ray crystallographic data and structure refinement for compounds 1 and 2.



Figure S1 Ball-and-stick representation of **2** {Se₁₇Mo₂₈} (a) and the component parts of the structure inset (b), (c) and (d).



Figure S2 SeO₃²⁻ templates the self-condensation of $[Mo_2O_2S_2]^{2+}$ thiometalate unit to form the following building blocks: (a) $[(Mo_2O_2S_2)_3(OH)_4(SeO_3)]$ and (b) $[(Mo_2O_2S_2)_2(OH)O(SeO_3)]$ (Mo: Blue; S: yellow; Se: Green; O: Red).



Figure S3 Ball-and-stick representation of **1** {Se₂₀Mo₁₆}: (a) The structure has an idealized C_4 symmetry axis and is formed by the [(Mo₂O₂S₂)₃(SeO₃)₆]⁶⁻ repeating unit; (b) The projection view of two divided parts- the upper layer and bottom layer.



Figure S4 (a) The cavity channel in the cage 1; (b) Packing diagram of 1 along c axis.

2. Fourier-transform infrared (FT-IR) spectroscopy.



Figure S5. FT-IR (KBr pellet) spectrum for compound **1** {Se₁₆Mo₂₀}. 3379.6 (s, broad) [-OH]; 1633.4 (m) [H₂O]; 1120.4 (w); 937.2 (m) [Mo=O]; 850.12 (m) [Se-O]; 707.7 (sh) [Mo-OH-Mo]; 531.12 (w) [Mo-S-Mo].



Figure S6. FT-IR (KBr pellet) spectrum for compound **2** {Se₁₇Mo₂₈}. 3375.8 (s, broad) [-OH]; 1616.1 (m) [H₂O]; 943.0 (sh) [Mo=O]; 849.77 (m) [Se-O]; 717.4 (sh) [Mo-OH-Mo]; 518.8 (m) [Mo-S-Mo].

3. UV-Vis spectroscopy

According to the UV-vis studies, compounds **1** and **2** retain their structural integrity in aqueous medium at pH values higher than 5. The recorded UV-vis spectra as a function of the time are shown in Figures S7 and S8 for compounds **1** and **2** respectively, where it's clear that both compounds are stable for at least 24 hours.



Figure S7. UV-vis spectrum for compound **1** {Se₁₆Mo₂₀} in water.



Figure S8. UV-vis spectrum for compound 2 {Se₁₇Mo₂₈} in water.

4. Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA)



Figure S9. Thermal gravimetric analysis of **1** showing the loss of solvent content (RT - 170 °C) followed by the elimination of the sulphur content in the form of SO₂ and subsequent decomposition of the framework.



Figure S10. Thermal gravimetric analysis of **2** showing the loss of solvent content (RT – 190 $^{\circ}$ C) followed by the elimination of the sulphur content in the form of SO₂ (300 – 800 $^{\circ}$ C) and subsequent decomposition of the framework.

5. Proton conductivity

The conductivity is typically derived from the "semi-circle"-shaped high frequency region of the impedance data while the slope which falls within the low frequency region is linked with the diffusion of cations within the electrodes and associated with the Warburg resistance. Very often, the testing system and environmental/experimental variables influence the Warburg diffusion. It is generally acceptable and reasonable that part of the Warburg slope is not perfectly overlapped with the simulated one due to the fact that the actual system under investigation cannot be 100% equivalent within a wide range of frequencies to the ideal simulated circuit. The precisely simulated results for the semi-circle part of the graph though gives accurate and reliable conductivity data.



Figure S11. Nyquist plots for compound **1** at various relative humidity values at 20 °C; black dots are experimental data and red hollow dots are simulated data.



Figure S12. Nyquist plots for compound **2** at various relative humidity values at 20 °C; black dots are experimental data and red hollow dots are simulated data.



Figure S13. Comparison of the proton conductivity as a function of the relative humidity (RH) at 20°C for **1** (red) and **2** (black).