Electronic Supplementary Information

4-Dimethylaminobenzoate-functionalized Ti_6 -oxo cluster with a narrow band gap and enhanced photoelectrochemical activity: a combined experimental and computational study

Hai-Ting Lu,^{‡a} Ying Cui,^{‡a} Yu-Min Zhang,^a Hua-Min Li,^a Guo-Dong Zou,^a Rui-Huan Duan,^b Jun-Tao Cao,^{*a} Qiang-Shan Jing^a and Yang Fan^{*a}

^aHenan Province Key Laboratory of Utilization of Non-metallic Mineral in the South of Henan, College of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Xinyang Normal University, Xinyang 464000, China

^bFujian Institute of Research on the Structure of Matter, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Fuzhou 350002, China

CONTENTS

Table S1 Crystal data and structure refinements summary for C1, C2 and C3.

 Table S2 TDDFT calculated main orbital contributions to the intense low-energy transitions of C1.

Figure S1 Coordination mode of the TiO core and packing mode for (a) C1, (b) C2 and (c) C3.

Figure S2 XRD patterns of (a) C1, (b) C2 and (c) C3.

Figure S3 FT-IR spectra of C1, C2 and C3.

Figure S4 Photo of the crystals (a) C1, (b) C2 and (c) C3.

Figure S5 UV-vis spectra of 4-dimethylaminobenzoic acid and the deprotonated acid (by adding n-BuLi to the acid in dry THF) in THF solutions.

Figure S6 UV-vis spectra of the clusters in CH₂Cl₂.

Figure S7 Selected frontier orbital plots calculated for C1.

Figure S8 Selected frontier orbital plots calculated for C2.

Figure S9 Selected frontier orbital plots calculated for C3.

Figure S10 DOS plots for (a) C2 and (b) C3.

	C1	C2	C3
Empirical formula	$C_{86}H_{118}O_{24}N_6Ti_6$	$C_{84}H_{132}O_{24}Ti_6$	$C_{52}H_{110}O_{25}Ti_6$
Formula weight	1907.26	1813.29	1422.79
Crystal system	monoclinic	monoclinic	monoclinic
Space group	C2/c	$P2_1/n$	C2/c
a (Å)	23.6329(11)	15.6777(6)	23.3256(12)
b (Å)	16.0739(7)	16.4880(6)	19.2083(10)
<i>c</i> (Å)	27.4246(11)	18.4096(7)	18.3696(10)
β (°)	112.380(5)	103.720(4)	110.276(6)
$V(Å^3)$	9633.2(8)	4623.0(3)	7720.4(8)
Ζ	4	2	4
$ ho_{ m calcd} ({ m g \ cm^{-3}})$	1.315	1.303	1.224
$\mu (\mathrm{mm}^{-1})$	0.545	0.562	0.655
<i>F</i> (000)	4000	1920	3016
<i>T</i> (K)	295(2)	295(2)	295(2)
Measured refls.	23090	20893	28089
Independent refls.	9444	9058	7572
<i>R</i> _{int}	0.0378	0.0378	0.0409
GOF	1.066	1.037	1.044
$R_1 \left[I > 2\sigma(I)\right]^{[a]}$	0.0556	0.0765	0.0610
$wR_2 [I > 2\sigma(I)]^{[b]}$	0.1350	0.2069	0.1466

Table S1 Crystal data and structure refinements summary for C1, C2 and C3.

^[a] $R_1 = \sum ||F_o| - |F_c|| / \sum |F_o|$ ^[b] $wR_2 = [\sum w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2 / \sum w(F_o^2)^2]^{1/2}$

Table S2 TDDFT calculated main orbital contributions to intense low-energy transitions ofC1 (E = energy, f = oscillator strength).

Main orbital contributions	E (eV)	λ (nm)	f
HOMO → LUMO+1 (52%) HOMO-2 → LUMO (22%) HOMO-1 → LUMO+2 (16%)	3.1186	397.57	0.2161
HOMO \rightarrow LUMO+3 (42%) HOMO-2 \rightarrow LUMO+2 (35%) HOMO-1 \rightarrow LUMO (11%)	3.1251	396.74	0.2239
HOMO-5 \rightarrow LUMO (40%) HOMO-4 \rightarrow LUMO+1 (27%) HOMO-3 \rightarrow LUMO+3 (14%)	3.1574	392.68	0.3985
HOMO-5 \rightarrow LUMO+2 (33%) HOMO-4 \rightarrow LUMO+3 (27%) HOMO-3 \rightarrow LUMO+1 (16%)	3.1612	392.21	0.3997
HOMO-3 \rightarrow LUMO+4 (79%) HOMO-5 \rightarrow LUMO (12%)	3.2852	377.40	0.1684
HOMO-4 \rightarrow LUMO+4 (79%) HOMO-5 \rightarrow LUMO+2 (14%)	3.2867	377.23	0.1496
HOMO–3 \rightarrow LUMO+5 (100%)	3.4272	361.76	0.0537
HOMO-2 \rightarrow LUMO+8 (54%) HOMO-1 \rightarrow LUMO+8 (22%) HOMO-2 \rightarrow LUMO+8 (12%)	3.6059	343.83	0.1739



Fig. S1 Coordination mode of the TiO core and packing mode for (a) **C1**, (b) **C2** and (c) **C3**. Color code: blue Ti; red O; gray C. Polyhedral color code: pink TiO₆.



Fig. S2 XRD patterns of (a) C1, (b) C2 and (c) C3.



Fig. S3 FT-IR spectra of C1, C2 and C3.



Fig. S4 Photo of the crystals (a) C1, (b) C2 and (c) C3.



Fig. S5 UV-vis spectra of 4-dimethylaminobenzoic acid and the deprotonated acid (by adding n-BuLi to the acid in dry THF) in THF solutions.



Fig. S6 UV-vis spectra of the clusters in CH₂Cl₂.



Fig. S7 Selected frontier orbital plots calculated for C1.



Fig. S8 Selected frontier orbital plots calculated for C2.



Fig. S9 Selected frontier orbital plots calculated for C3.



Fig. S10 DOS plots for (a) C2 and (b) C3.