# Tetraarylpyrrolo[3,2-b]pyrroles as versatile and responsive fluorescent linkers in Metal-Organic Frameworks

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# Supporting Information

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**Figure S1** X-ray powder diffraction pattern for complex **1** (blue, room temperature) compared with the pattern simulated from single crystal diffraction data (red, 100 K)



**Figure S2** X-ray powder diffraction patterns for complex **2** with guest solvents DMA (Black), MeCN (red) and EtOAc (blue), all measured at 100 K, compared with the pattern simulated from single crystal diffraction data (green). The simulated pattern is modelled at FWHM =  $0.2^{\circ}$  to better simulate the loss of angular resolution from measuring and integrating Debye rings using an area detector.



**Figure S3** Enlargement of the X-ray powder diffraction patterns in the  $2\theta = 3-30^{\circ}$  region showing the similarity between the MeCN and EtOAc soaked complex **2** samples.



**Figure S4** X-ray powder diffraction pattern of air-exposed complex **2** (blue, room temperature) compared with the pattern simulated from single crystal data (red, 100 K).



**Figure S5** X-ray powder diffraction pattern for complex **3** (blue, room temperature) compared to the pattern simulated from single-crystal data (red, 100 K), and the pattern observed from the MeCN-exchanged and air-exposed material (green, room temperature).

#### 2. Thermogravimetric Analysis



Figure S6 Thermogravimetric analysis plot for complex 1



**Figure S7** Thermogravimetric analysis plot for complex **2** with DMA (black), MeCN (red) and EtOAc (blue) guests.



Figure S8 Thermogravimetric analysis plot for complex 3, freshly prepared (blue) and following exchange with MeCN (orange).

#### 3. Spectroscopic Data



Figure S9 Normalised emission spectra ( $\lambda_{ex}$  = 366 nm, c = 14 µM) for L1 in various solvents.



Figure S10 Overlay of absorption and excitation spectra ( $\lambda_{em}$  = 460 nm) for L1 in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (c = 2.5  $\mu$ M)



Figure S11 Overlay of absorption (black) and excitation (red) spectra for  $H_2L2$  in low-concentration and high-concentration states. Excitation spectra are measured for  $\lambda_{em}$  at the given concentrations.



Figure S12 Overlaid absorption (black) and excitation (red) spectra for  $H_2L3$  in the low and high concentration states.



**Figure S13** Overlay of sequential dilutions of a solution of  $H_2L2$  (13 µM) in DMSO, showing the concentration dependence on the absorbance (top) and emission profiles (bottom,  $\lambda_{ex} = 366$  nm). Absorbance or emission band maxima are indicated with black lines to aid visualisation.



**Figure S14** Overlay of sequential dilutions of a solution of  $H_2L3$  in DMSO, showing the effect on absorption (top) and emission (bottom,  $\lambda_{ex} = 366$  nm). Black lines added to aid visualisation of the peak maxima.



**Figure S15** Solid-state emission spectrum ( $\lambda_{ex} = 366$  nm) for complex 1.

#### **Quantum Yield Determinations**

Photoluminescence quantum yields were determined by the comparative method,<sup>S1</sup> using quinine sulfate in 2M sulfuric acid as a reference ( $\Phi = 0.546$ ).<sup>S2</sup> The absorbance at 366 nm and emission, integrated across the range 380 – 600 nm (excitation & emission slit widths 2.5 nm), were measured across a range of concentrations and plotted, and the quantum yield of the unknown was given by the following relation, where  $\eta$  is the refractive index of each solvent.

$$\Phi_{\text{unknown}} = \Phi_{\text{standard}}(\text{Grad}_{\text{unknown}}/\text{Grad}_{\text{standard}})(\eta^2_{\text{standard}}/\eta^2_{\text{unknown}})$$

Each series of measurements was carried out in duplicate and the final values averaged, giving agreement within the accepted margin of error of  $\pm$  10%. In the cases of H<sub>2</sub>L2 and H2L3 in DMSO, the high-concentration forms did not return a linear relationship between absorbance and integrated emission intensity at concentrations where the low-concentration form was not present (i.e. above 5  $\mu$ M, where A > 0.2), and so  $\Phi_{PL}$  was not determined.

### 4. Gas Adsorption Data

#### **BET Surface Area Calculations**

**Complex 2:** Datapoints for BET surface area calculation were taken from the desorption branch from the 77 K isotherm.

Relative Pressure	Volume @ STP	1 / [ W((Po/P) - 1) ]		
1.98E-01	202.1495	9.77E-01		
1.49E-01	194.7172	7.17E-01		
1.01E-01	185.5622	4.83E-01		
5.25E-02	172.7989	2.57E-01		
9.94E-03	140.5102	5.71E-02		
7.64E-03	136.6504	4.51E-02		
5.32E-03	131.6596	3.25E-02		
BET summary				
Slope = 4.851				
Intercept = 4.672e-03				
Correlation coefficient, $r = 0.999782$				
C constant = 1039.298				
<b>Surface Area = 717.190 m<sup>2</sup>/g</b>				

Complex 3: Datapoints were taken from the adsorption branch at 77K.

Relative Pressure	Volume @ STP	1 / [ W((Po/P) - 1) ]		
9.22E-03	324.0746	2.30E-02		
1.02E-02	325.0268	2.53E-02		
2.53E-02	337.5448	6.15E-02		
4.96E-02	347.4498	1.20E-01		
7.43E-02	353.6012	1.82E-01		
BET summary				
Slope = 2.433				
Intercept = -2.777e-04				
Correlation coefficient, r = 0.999969				
C constant = 8762.832				
Surface Area = 1431.094 m <sup>2</sup> /g				

#### **Isosteric Heat of Adsorption Calculations**

The heat of adsorption for CO<sub>2</sub> within complexes **2** and **3** was calculated using least-squares fitting of a virial thermal adsorption equation<sup>S3</sup>, which models Ln(P) as a function of gas adsorbed. Datapoints were collected at 273, 283 and 293 K. The model function takes the form  $ln(P) = \{ln(N) + (a_0 + a_1N + a_2N^2...)/T + b\}$ , where N represents the surface excess adsorption (mmol) at temperature T and  $a_0$ ,  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  are coefficients determined through least-squares fitting. The original parameter set of 5 parameters was sequentially reduced to maximise the data:parameter ratio. The enthalpy of adsorption is then given by the relation  $Q(N) = -R(a_0 + a_1N + a_2N^2)$ . Optimised coefficients and parameters are given below.

#### **Complex 2:**

Temperatures (K)	273, 283, 293
<b>a</b> <sub>0</sub>	-2905.92
a <sub>1</sub>	154.6669
a <sub>2</sub>	-12.1149
В	13.6838
R <sup>2</sup>	0.9968
Datapoints fitted	60

#### Complex 3:

Temperatures (K)	278, 293, 308
$a_0$	-3082.19
a <sub>1</sub>	8.5197
В	13.52901
R <sup>2</sup>	0.9853
Datapoints fitted	62



Figure S16 Enthalpy of adsorption estimated as a function of CO<sub>2</sub> loading for complex 2



Figure S17 Enthalpy of adsorption estimated as a function of CO<sub>2</sub> loading for complex 3

## 5. NMR Spectra



15

0.5













S2 Brouwer, A. M.; Standards for photoluminescence quantum yield measurements in solution (IUPAC Technical Report), Pure Appl. Chem. 2011, 83, 2213-2228

**S**1

S3 Czepirski, L.; Jagiello, J.; Virial-type thermal equation of gas-solid adsorption, Chem. Eng. Sci. 1989, 44, 797-801; Tedds, S.; Walton, A.; Broom, D. P.; Book, D.; Characterisation of porous hydrogen storage materials: carbons, zeolites, MOFs and PIMs, Faraday Discuss. 2011, 151, 75-94.