

***Electronic Supplementary Information***

**Development of a new Lindqvist-like  $\text{Fe}_6$  cluster secondary building unit for MOFs**

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**Section S1** Experimental Section

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**Section S3** Additional Structural Figures and Characterizations.

## Section S1 Experimental Section

**Materials:** All chemicals were commercially purchased and used without further purification. The ligand H<sub>3</sub>L<sup>1</sup> was synthesized according literatures procedure.

**Instruments:** Elemental analyses of C, H and N were carried out with a Vario EL III elemental analyzer. IR spectra were recorded on an Opus Vertex 70 FT-IR infrared spectrophotometer in the range of 450-4000 cm<sup>-1</sup>. X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) was carried out on an ESCALAB 250 spectrometer with an Al-Ka (1486.6 eV) achromatic X-ray source. Thermogravimetric analysis was performed on a Mettler Toledo TGA/SDTA 851e analyzer under an air-flow atmosphere with a heating rate of 10 °C/min in the temperature of 30-800 °C. Powder XRD patterns were obtained using a Philips X'Pert-MPD diffractometer with CuKα radiation ( $\lambda = 1.54056 \text{ \AA}$ ).

**Gas adsorption measurement:** N<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption isotherm were recorded in the ASAP (Accelerated Surface Area and Porosimetry) 2020 System. Before measurement, **1** and **3** was activated by soaking the crystals in acetonitrile for three days to exchange solvent molecules and then degassed at 333K for 12 h under vacuum. Unfortunately, the framework of **3** suffered collapse during the activation process.

**Proton-conducting measurement:** Ac impedance measurements were carried out with a zennium/IM6 IMPEDANCE/GAINPHASE analyzer over the frequency range from 0.1 Hz to 5 MHz with an applied voltage of 50 mV. The relative humidity was controlled by a STIK Corp CIHI-150B incubator. The samples were pressed to form a cylindrical pellet of crystalline powder sample (~1.2 mm thickness  $\times$  5 mm  $\phi$ ) coated with C-pressed electrodes. Two silver electrodes were attached to both sides of pellet to form four end terminals (quasi-four-probe method). The bulk conductivity was estimated by semicircle fittings of Nyquist plots.

**Magnetic properties measurement:** Variable temperature susceptibility measurements were carried out in the temperature range 2-300 K with a scan rate of 2 K/min at a magnetic field of 0.1 T on polycrystalline samples with a Quantum Design PPMS-9T magnetometer. The experimental susceptibilities were corrected for the Pascal's constants.

### Synthesis of [NH<sub>2</sub>(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]Fe<sup>III</sup><sub>6</sub>OCl<sub>6</sub>(L)<sub>4</sub>Fe<sup>II</sup>Cl<sub>2</sub>(NMF)<sub>2</sub>[Fe<sup>II</sup>(NMF)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>0.5</sub>·4NMF·4H<sub>2</sub>O (**1**)

A 20 mL vial containing SbCl<sub>3</sub> (0.032 g, 0.14 mmol), FeCl<sub>3</sub> (0.025 g, 0.15 mmol), H<sub>3</sub>L (0.018 g, 0.10 mmol), NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (0.030 g, 0.56 mmol), N-Methylformamide (NMF, 5.0 mL) and 1,4-dioxane (1.0 mL) was sealed and heated in an oven at 100 °C for 72 h, then cooled to room temperature. Large brown block crystals were obtained after washed with fresh acetonitrile. The yield was about 32% based on FeCl<sub>3</sub>. Elemental analysis calcd (%) for H<sub>93</sub>C<sub>52</sub>N<sub>12</sub>O<sub>25</sub>Cl<sub>8</sub>Fe<sub>7.5</sub> (M<sub>r</sub> = 1988.82): C, 31.40; H, 4.71; N, 8.45. Found: C, 31.46; H, 4.53; N, 8.38. IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3319 (w), 3071 (w), 2870 (w), 1647 (s), 1534 (w), 1462 (w), 1359 (m), 1230 (w), 1154 (w), 1062 (vs), 926 (s), 819 (w), 775 (w), 678 (w), 510 (vs).

**Synthesis of  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}_6\text{OCl}_6(\text{L})_4\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}(\text{NMF})_2 \cdot 4\text{NMF} \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (2):** A 20 mL vial containing  $\text{SbCl}_3$  (0.032 g, 0.14 mmol),  $\text{FeCl}_3$  (0.023 g, 0.14 mmol),  $\text{H}_3\text{L}$  (0.018 g, 0.10 mmol),  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  (0.032 g, 0.60 mmol), isonicotinic acid (0.06 g, 0.49 mmol) and N-Methylformamide (NMF) (5.0 mL) was sealed and heated in an oven at 100°C for 72h, then cooled to room temperature. Brown flake crystals were obtained after cooling to room temperature. The yield was about 12% based on  $\text{FeCl}_3$ . Elemental analysis calcd (%) for  $\text{H}_{82}\text{C}_{48}\text{N}_{10}\text{O}_{25}\text{Cl}_6\text{Fe}_7$  ( $M_r = 1802.85$ ): C, 31.98; H, 4.58; N, 7.77. Found: C, 31.76; H, 4.42; N, 7.72. IR (KBr,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3333 (w), 3061 (w), 2858 (w), 1647 (s), 1541 (w), 1465 (w), 1373 (m), 1226 (w), 1156 (w), 1058 (vs), 920 (s), 827 (w), 764 (w), 687 (w), 512 (vs).

**Synthesis of  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}_6\text{OCl}_6(\text{L})_4(\text{CuI})[\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}(\text{NMF})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2] \cdot 7\text{NMF} \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (3):** A 20 mL vial containing  $\text{SbCl}_3$  (0.032 g, 0.14 mmol),  $\text{FeCl}_3$  (0.025 g, 0.15 mmol),  $\text{H}_3\text{L}$  (0.018 g, 0.10 mmol),  $\text{CuI}$  (0.019g, 0.1 mmol)  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  (0.03 g, 0.56 mmol) and N-Methylformamide (NMF, 5.0 mL) was sealed and heated in an oven at 100°C for 72 h, then cooled to room temperature. Brown block crystals were obtained after washed with fresh acetonitrile. The yield was about 42% based on  $\text{FeCl}_3$ . Elemental analysis calcd (%) for  $\text{H}_{107}\text{C}_{54}\text{N}_{13}\text{O}_{33}\text{Cl}_6\text{Fe}_7\text{CuI}$  ( $M_r = 2260.58$ ): C, 28.69; H, 4.77; N, 8.05. Found: C, 28.49; H, 4.57; N, 8.16. IR (KBr,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3319 (w), 3071 (w), 2865 (w), 1646 (s), 1538 (w), 1462 (w), 1376 (m), 1235 (w), 1154 (w), 1062 (vs), 932 (s), 819 (w), 765 (w), 678 (w), 515 (vs).

**Single-crystal structure analyses:** Single-crystal X-ray diffraction data for **1-3** were collected on a Bruker APEX II diffractometer at 150 K equipped with a fine focus, 2.0 kW sealed tube X-ray source (MoK radiation,  $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$ ) operating at 50 kV and 30 mA. The program SADABS was used for the absorption correction. The structures were solved by the direct method and refined on  $F^2$  by full-matrix least-squares methods using the SHELX-2013 program package. All hydrogen atoms attached to carbon atoms were generated geometrically. Due to the highly porous characteristic of structures, the charge compensation anions and guest solvent molecules cannot be definitely mapped by single-crystal X-ray diffractions. The residual electron density that could not sensibly be modeled as solvent or cations were removed *via* application of the SQUEEZE<sup>2</sup> function in PLATON. The final formula of **1-3** were determined by the combination of single-crystal X-ray diffractions with the elemental analysis, thermogravimetric analysis (Fig. S21) and charge balance. Crystallographic data and structure refinements for **1-3** are summarized in Table S1. CCDC **1** (1915563), **2** (1915565) and **3** (1915564) involves the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre *via* [www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data\\_request/cif](http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif).

## Section S2 Additional Tables

**Table S1** X-ray crystallographic data for **1-3**

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
Empirical formula	C <sub>52</sub> H <sub>92</sub> O <sub>25</sub> N <sub>12</sub> Cl <sub>8</sub> Fe <sub>7.5</sub>	C <sub>48</sub> H <sub>82</sub> O <sub>25</sub> N <sub>10</sub> Cl <sub>6</sub> Fe <sub>7</sub>	C <sub>54</sub> H <sub>107</sub> O <sub>33</sub> N <sub>13</sub> Cl <sub>6</sub> Fe <sub>7</sub> CuI
Formula weight	1987.81	1802.85	2260.58
Crystal system	Triclinic	Orthorhombic	Monoclinic
Space group	<i>P</i> 1	<i>Ccca</i>	<i>P21/c</i>
<i>a</i> (Å)	11.4330(16)	22.375(2)	11.4027(18)
<i>b</i> (Å)	14.879(2)	23.965(2)	54.461(8)
<i>c</i> (Å)	25.862(4)	27.502(3)	18.009(3)
$\alpha$ (°)	88.484(3)	90	90
$\beta$ (°)	84.890(3)	90	112.514(8)
$\gamma$ (°)	77.817(3)	90	90
<i>V</i> (Å <sup>3</sup> )	4283.1(11)	14747(2)	10331(3)
<i>Z</i>	2	8	4
<i>F</i> (000)	1644	5871	3327
$\rho_{calcd}$ (g cm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.265	1.312	1.079
Temperature (K)	175(2)	175(2)	175(2)
$\mu$ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	1.532	1.605	1.648
Refl. Collected	32542	33142	33580
Independent refl.	14985	6522	17877
Parameters	701	337	700
GOF on F <sup>2</sup>	1.030	1.004	1.009
Final <i>R</i> indices ( <i>I</i> = 2σ( <i>I</i> ))	<i>R</i> <sub><i>I</i></sub> =0.0765 <i>wR</i> <sub><i>I</i></sub> =0.2294	<i>R</i> <sub><i>I</i></sub> =0.0375 <i>wR</i> <sub><i>I</i></sub> =0.1090	<i>R</i> <sub><i>I</i></sub> =0.0964 <i>wR</i> <sub><i>I</i></sub> =0.2490
<i>R</i> indices (all data)	<i>R</i> <sub><i>I</i></sub> = 0.0997 <i>wR</i> <sub><i>I</i></sub> = 0.2433	<i>R</i> <sub><i>I</i></sub> =0.0423 <i>wR</i> <sub><i>I</i></sub> =0.1114	<i>R</i> <sub><i>I</i></sub> =0.1313 <i>wR</i> <sub><i>I</i></sub> =0.2619

$R_1 = \sum ||F_o| - |F_c|| / \sum |F_o|$ .  $wR_2 = [\sum w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2 / \sum w(F_o^2)^2]^{1/2}$ ;  $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (xP)^2 + yP]$ ,  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$ , where  $x = 0.164560$ ,  $y = 0$  for **1**;  $x = 0.048900$ ,  $y = 100.833911$  for **2**;  $x = 0.178700$ ,  $y = 27.248402$  for **3**.

**Table S2** The bond valence sum calculations for **1**

<i>Atoms</i>	<i>Calcd for Fe<sup>II</sup></i>	<i>Calcd for Fe<sup>III</sup></i>	<i>Oxidation</i>
Fe1	2.815	3.020	<i>Fe<sup>III</sup></i>
Fe2	2.791	2.994	<i>Fe<sup>III</sup></i>
Fe3	2.754	2.961	<i>Fe<sup>III</sup></i>
Fe4	2.816	3.022	<i>Fe<sup>III</sup></i>
Fe5	2.788	2.990	<i>Fe<sup>III</sup></i>
Fe6	2.770	2.971	<i>Fe<sup>III</sup></i>
Fe7	2.149	2.278	<i>Fe<sup>II</sup></i>
Fe8	1.901	2.004	<i>Fe<sup>II</sup></i>

**Table S3** The bond valence sum calculations for **2**

<i>Atoms</i>	<i>Calcd for Fe<sup>II</sup></i>	<i>Calcd for Fe<sup>III</sup></i>	<i>Oxidation</i>
Fe1	2.741	3.020	<i>Fe<sup>III</sup></i>
Fe2	2.765	2.994	<i>Fe<sup>III</sup></i>
Fe3	2.848	2.961	<i>Fe<sup>III</sup></i>
Fe4	2.823	3.022	<i>Fe<sup>III</sup></i>
Fe5	1.730	1.783	<i>Fe<sup>II</sup></i>

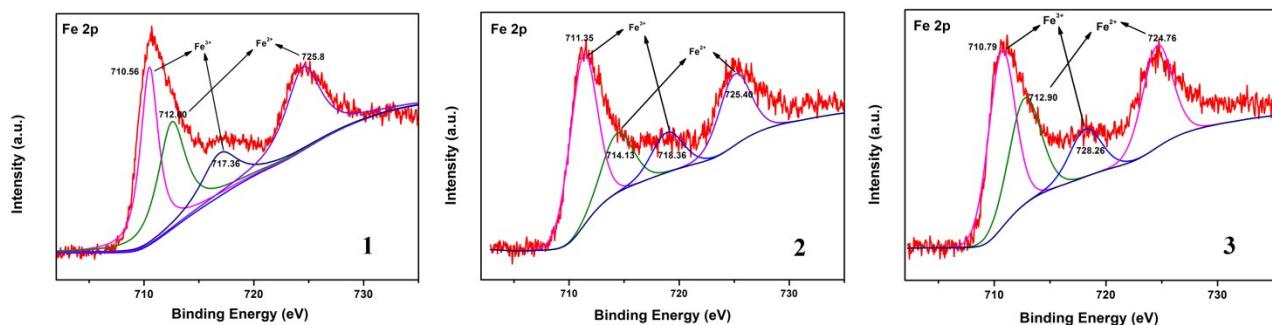
**Table S4** The bond valence sum calculations for **3**

<i>Atoms</i>	<i>Calcd for Fe<sup>II</sup></i>	<i>Calcd for Fe<sup>III</sup></i>	<i>Oxidation</i>
Fe1	2.723	2.922	<i>Fe<sup>III</sup></i>
Fe2	2.728	2.928	<i>Fe<sup>III</sup></i>
Fe3	2.919	3.077	<i>Fe<sup>III</sup></i>
Fe4	2.703	2.900	<i>Fe<sup>III</sup></i>
Fe5	2.796	2.999	<i>Fe<sup>III</sup></i>
Fe6	2.709	2.907	<i>Fe<sup>III</sup></i>
Fe7	1.723	1.801	<i>Fe<sup>II</sup></i>

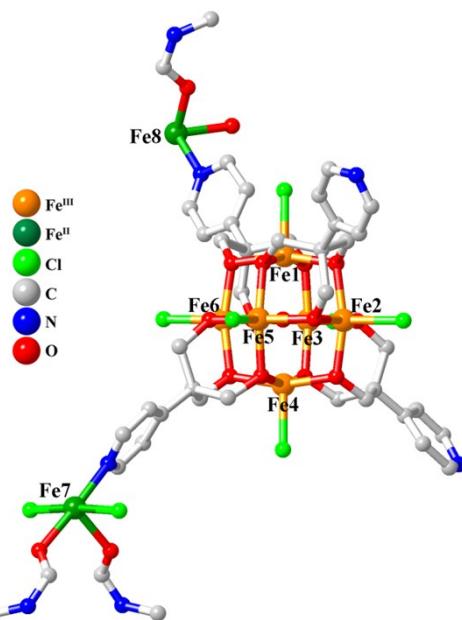
**Table S5** The proton conductivity values of reported MOFs up to  $10^{-3}$  S cm $^{-1}$ :

Compounds	Proton Conductivity Value (S cm $^{-1}$ )	Conditions	Activation Energy (eV)	Ref.
<b>1</b>	$2.84 \times 10^{-2}$	85 °C, 98% RH	0.24	This
<b>2</b>	$6.37 \times 10^{-3}$	85 °C, 98% RH	0.39	This
PSM-1	$1.64 \times 10^{-1}$	80 °C, 95% RH	0.107	Ref. <sup>3</sup>
BUT-8-(Cr)A	$1.27 \times 10^{-1}$	80 °C, 100% RH	0.11	Ref. <sup>4</sup>
PCMOF2 $^{1/2}$ (Tz)	$1.17 \times 10^{-1}$	85 °C, 90% RH	0.22	Ref. <sup>5</sup>
PCMOF2 $^{1/2}$ (Pz)	$1.10 \times 10^{-1}$	85 °C, 90% RH	0.16	Ref. <sup>5</sup>
UIO-66-(SO <sub>3</sub> H) <sub>2</sub>	$8.4 \times 10^{-2}$	80 °C, 90% RH	0.32	Ref. <sup>6</sup>
TfOH@MIL-101	$8.0 \times 10^{-2}$	60 °C, 15% RH	0.18	Ref. <sup>7</sup>
CPM-103a	$5.8 \times 10^{-2}$	22.5 °C, 98% RH	0.66	Ref. <sup>8</sup>
Fe-CAT-5	$5.0 \times 10^{-2}$	25 °C, 98% RH	0.24	Ref. <sup>9</sup>
BUT-8-(Cr)	$4.63 \times 10^{-2}$	80 °C, 100% RH	0.21	Ref. <sup>4</sup>
[(Me <sub>2</sub> NH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> (SO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ] <sub>2</sub> [Zn <sub>2</sub> (ox) <sub>3</sub> ]	$4.2 \times 10^{-2}$	25°C, 98% RH	0.13	Ref. <sup>10</sup>
PCMOF-10	$3.55 \times 10^{-2}$	70°C, 95% RH	0.40	Ref. <sup>11</sup>
VNU-15	$2.9 \times 10^{-2}$	95°C, 60% RH	0.22	Ref. <sup>12</sup>
COG-10P	$2.3 \times 10^{-2}$	60°C, anhydrous	0.29	Ref. <sup>13</sup>
PCMOF2 $^{1/2}$	$2.1 \times 10^{-2}$	85°C, 90% RH	0.21	Ref. <sup>14</sup>
MROF-1	$1.72 \times 10^{-2}$	70°C, 97% RH	0.37	Ref. <sup>15</sup>
Im@Fe-MOF	$1.21 \times 10^{-2}$	60°C, 98% RH	0.436	Ref. <sup>16</sup>
MIL-101-SO <sub>3</sub> H	$1.16 \times 10^{-2}$	80 °C, 100% RH	0.23	Ref. <sup>4</sup>
FJU-17	$1.08 \times 10^{-2}$	100 °C	0.29	Ref. <sup>17</sup>
H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> @MIL-101	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	150 °C, 0.13% RH	0.42	Ref. <sup>18</sup>
H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> @MIL-101	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	140 °C, 1.1% RH	0.25	Ref. <sup>18</sup>
(NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (adp)[Zn <sub>2</sub> (ox) <sub>3</sub> ]·3H <sub>2</sub> O	$8 \times 10^{-3}$	25 °C, 98% RH	0.63	Ref. <sup>19</sup>
PSM-2	$4.6 \times 10^{-3}$	80 °C, 95% RH	0.292	Ref. <sup>3</sup>
Cu-TCPP MOF	$3.9 \times 10^{-3}$	25°C, 98% RH	0.28	Ref. <sup>20</sup>
PCMOF-5	$2.5 \times 10^{-3}$	60 °C, 98% RH	0.16	Ref. <sup>21</sup>
UiO-66(Zr)-(CO <sub>2</sub> H) <sub>2</sub>	$2.3 \times 10^{-3}$	90 °C, 95% RH	0.17	Ref. <sup>22</sup>
$\beta$ -PCMOF2	$1.3 \times 10^{-3}$	85 °C, 90% RH	0.28	Ref. <sup>14</sup>
PCMOF-17	$1.17 \times 10^{-3}$	25 °C, 40% RH	0.31	Ref. <sup>23</sup>

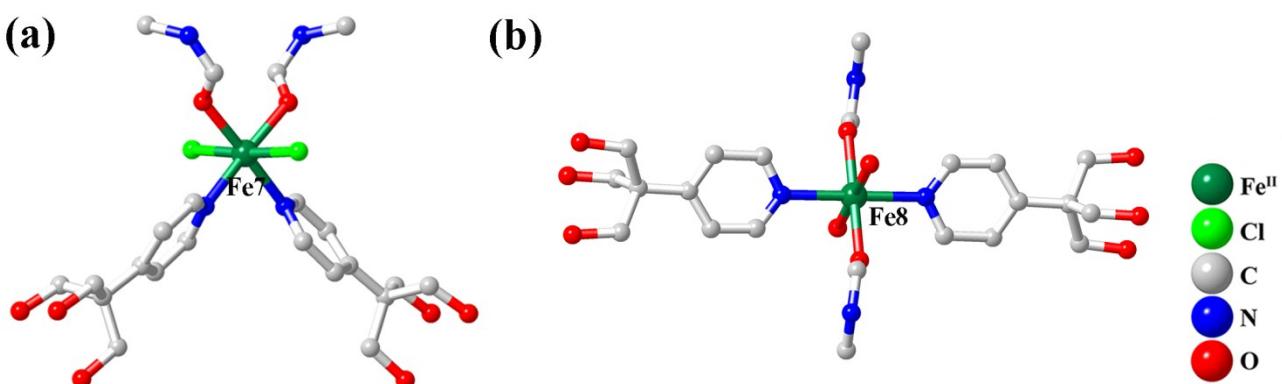
### Section S3 Additional Structural Figures and Characterizations



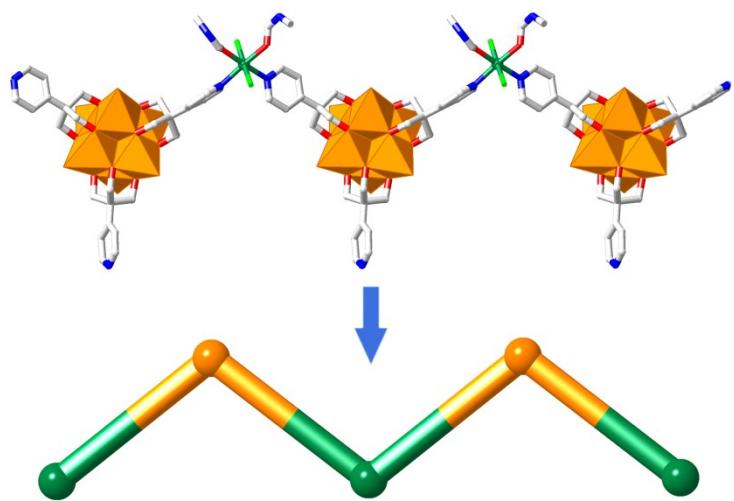
**Fig. S1** X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy of **1-3**.



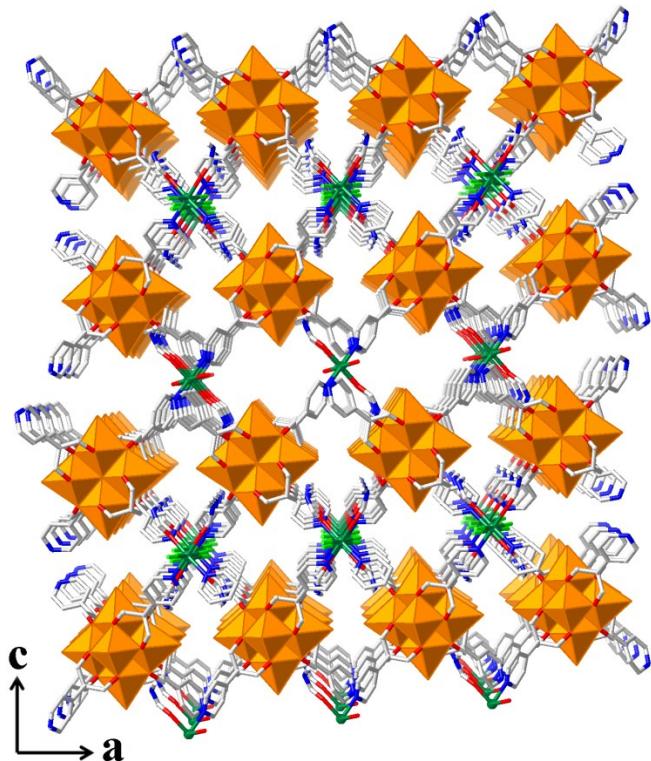
**Fig. S2** The asymmetric unit of **1**.



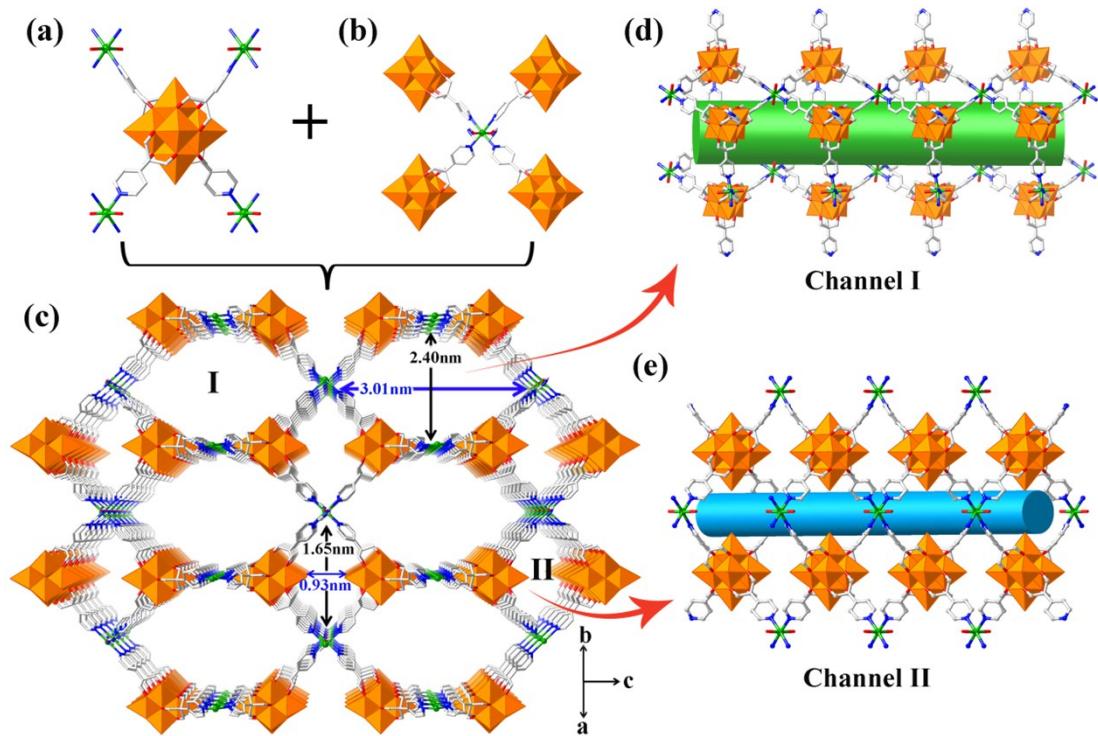
**Fig. S3** The  $\{FeCl_2L_2(\text{NMF})_2\}$  fragment (a) and the  $\{Fe(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2L_2(\text{NMF})_2\}$  fragment (b) in **1**.



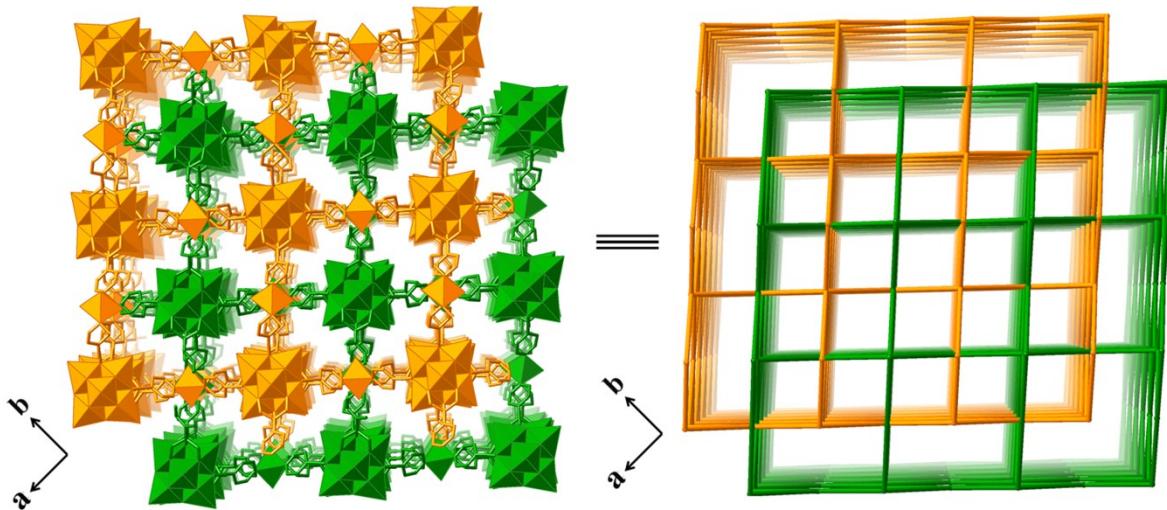
**Fig. S4** The 1D infinite Z-shape chain in **1**.



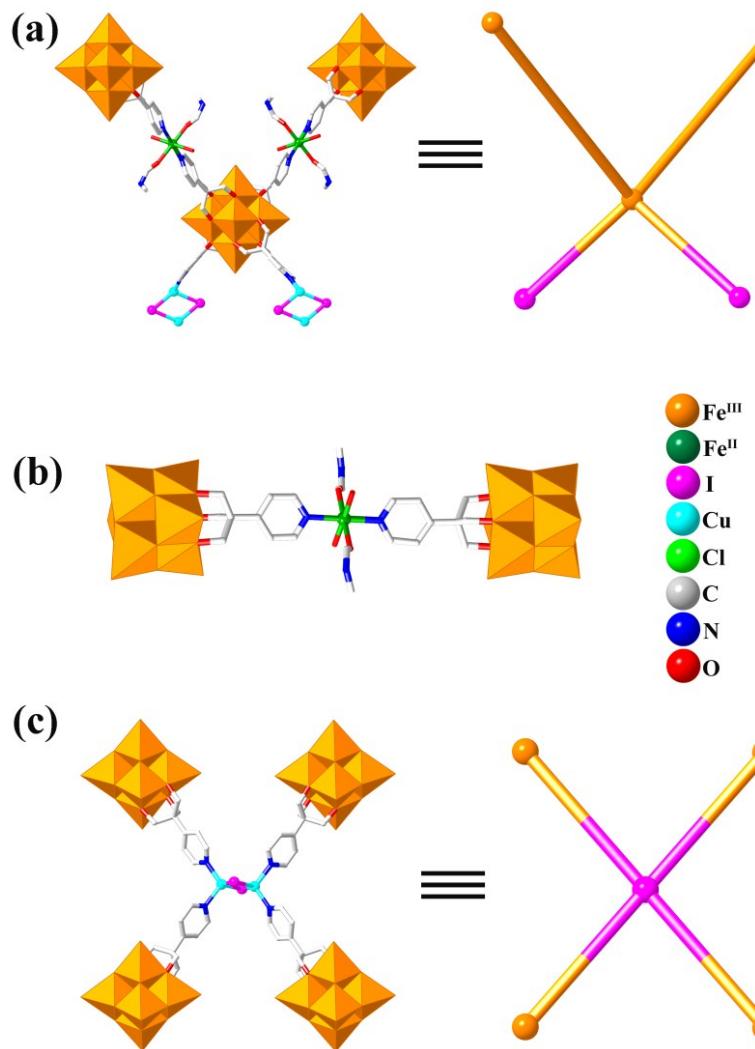
**Fig. S5** The 1D channels in **1** along the *b*-axis.



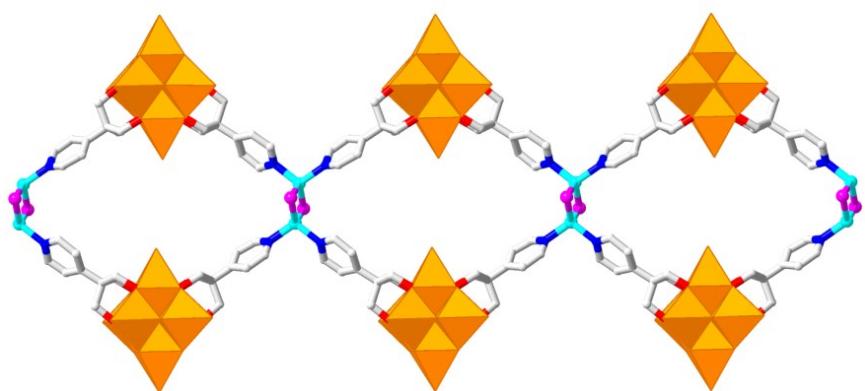
**Fig. S6** (a) The 4-connected  $\text{Fe}_6$  cluster in **2**; (b) 4-connected  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  ion in **2**; (c) the 3D framework of **2** based on  $\text{Fe}_6$  cluster and  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  ions; (d) hexagonal channel I and (e) rhombic channel II in **2**.



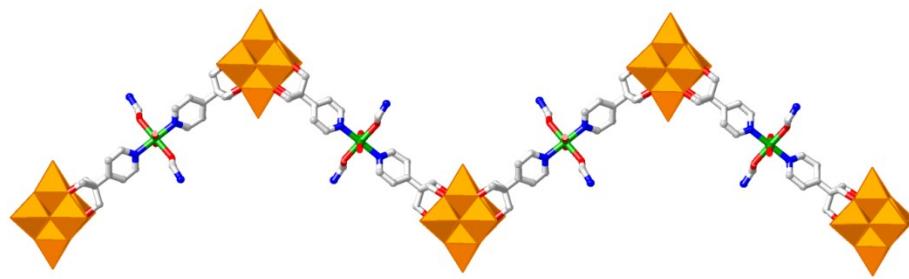
**Fig. S7** (a) The pts-type 2-fold interpenetrated framework in **2**.



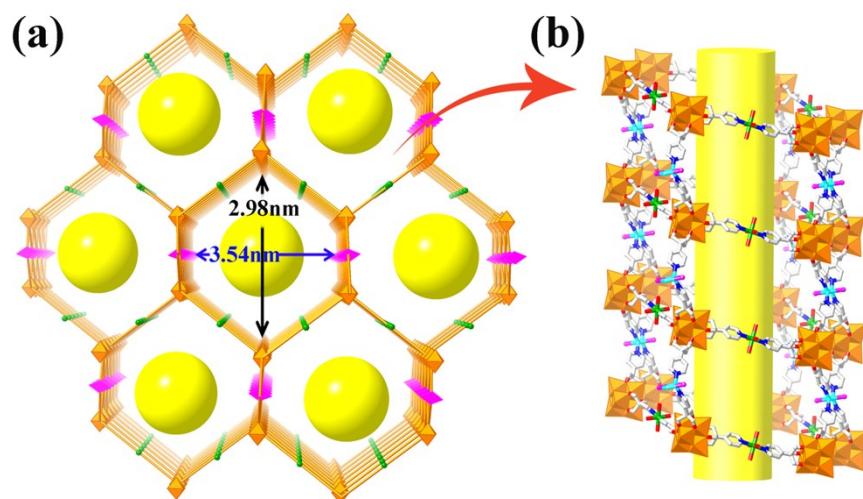
**Fig. S8** (a) The 4-connected  $\text{Fe}_6$  cluster and its node representation; (b) the  $\text{FeL}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2(\text{NMF})_2$  fragment connects two identical  $\text{Fe}_6$  cluster; (c) the 4-connected  $\text{Cu}_2\text{I}_2$  cluster and its node representation.



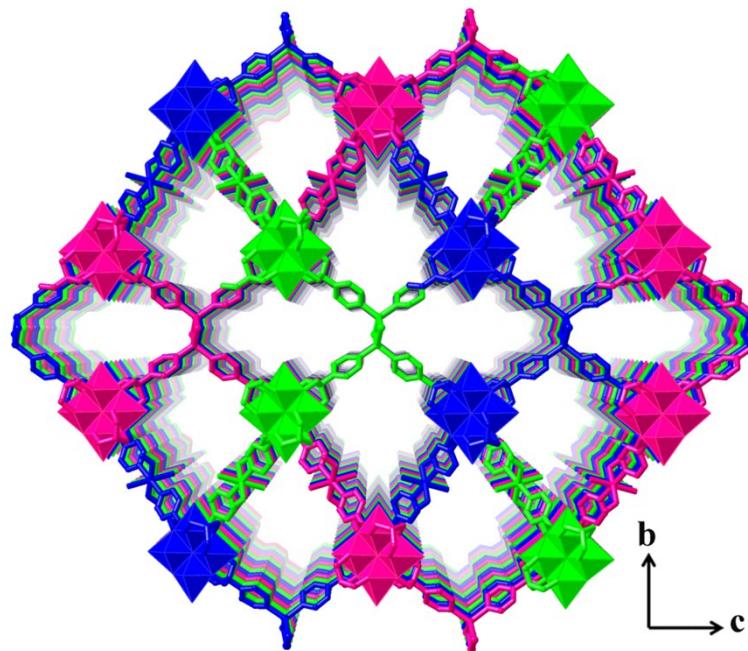
**Fig. S9** View of the ribbon chain of 3.



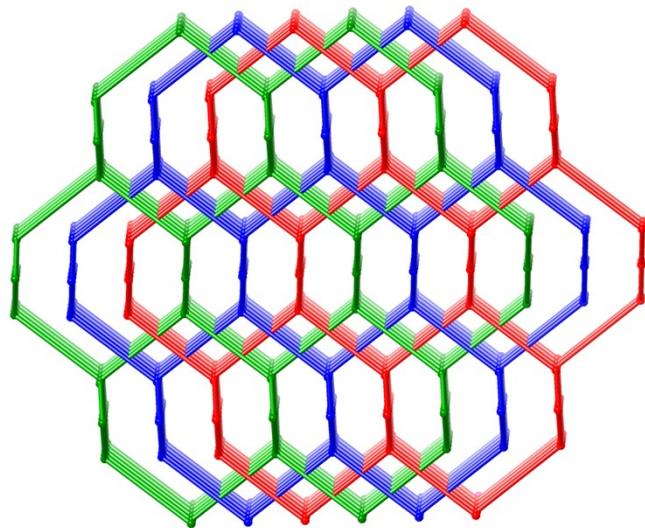
**Fig. S10** View of the zigzag chain of **3**.



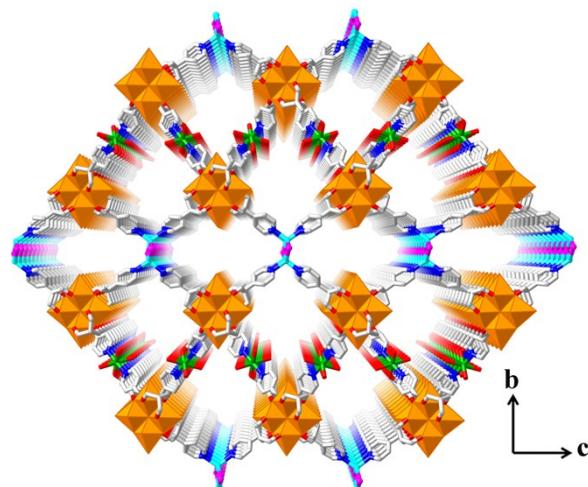
**Fig. S11** The mog-type 3D framework of **3** based on Cu<sub>2</sub>I<sub>2</sub> cluster, Fe<sub>6</sub> cluster and Fe<sup>2+</sup> ions (a), showing a hexagonal nanometer size 1D channel (b).



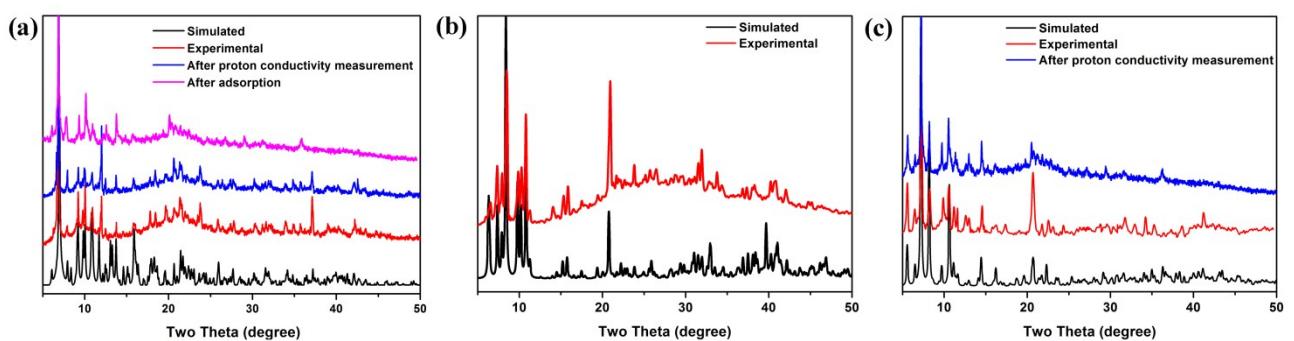
**Fig. S12** The 3-fold interpenetrated framework of **3**.



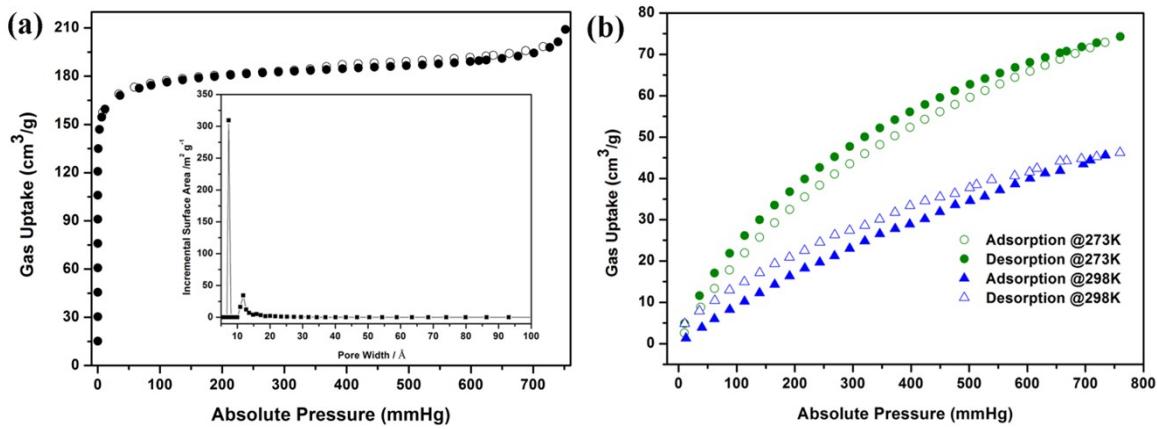
**Fig. S13** The *mog*-type 3-fold interpenetrated framework in **3**.



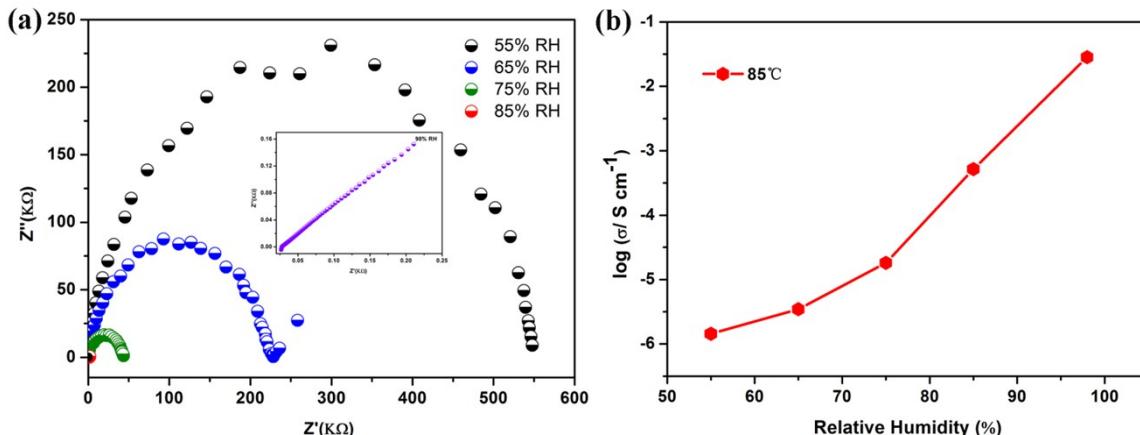
**Fig. S14** The 3D framework of **3** along the *a* axis.



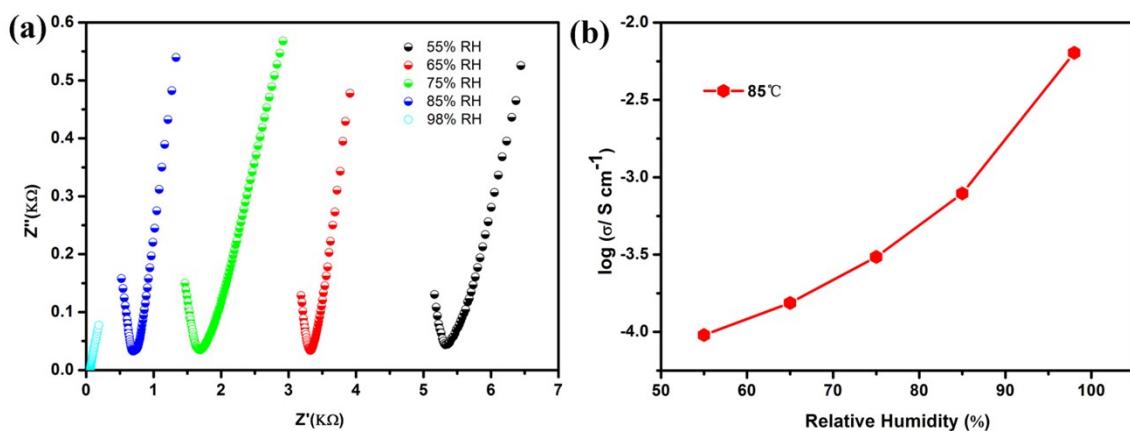
**Fig. S15** Powder XRD patterns for **1** (a), **2** (b) and **3** (c).



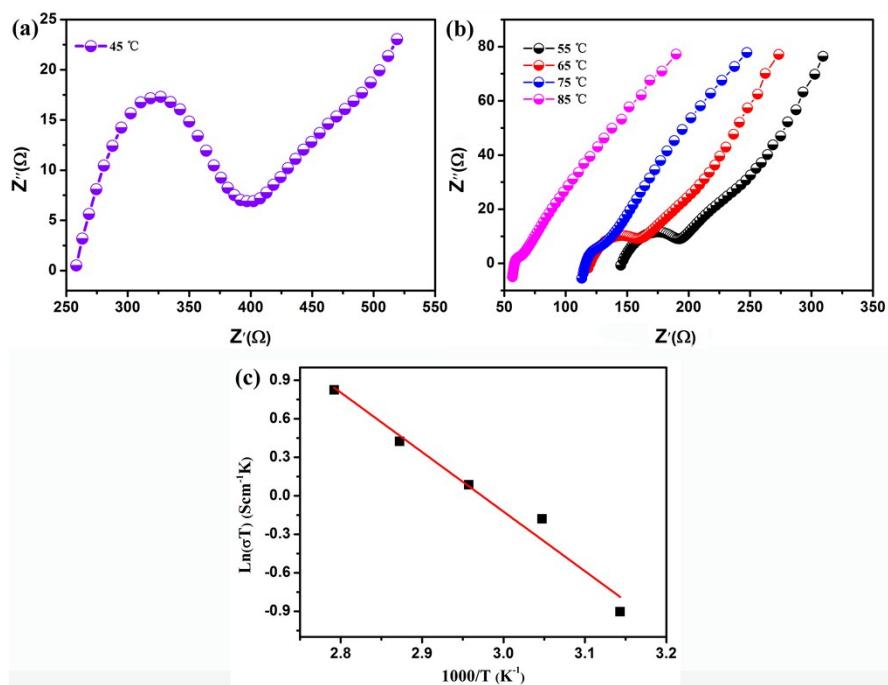
**Fig. S16** (a)  $\text{N}_2$  sorption isotherms at 77 K for **1**. Inset: Pore size distribution analyzed by a density functional theory (DFT) model. (b)  $\text{CO}_2$  gas adsorption properties of **1** at 273 K and 298 K.



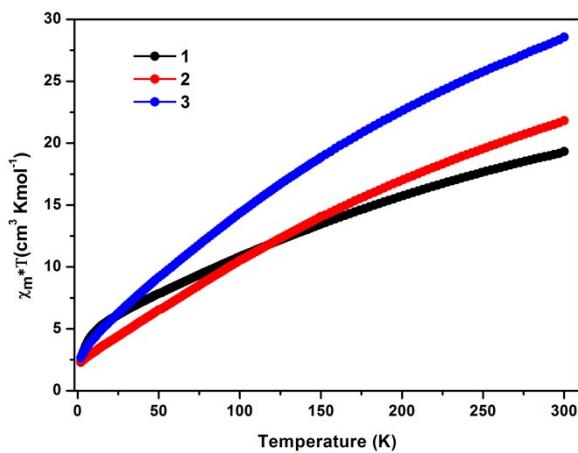
**Fig. S17** (a) Impedance diagrams of **1** at 85 °C with different RHs. (b) Dependence of proton conductivity in **1** as a function of relative humidity at 85 °C.



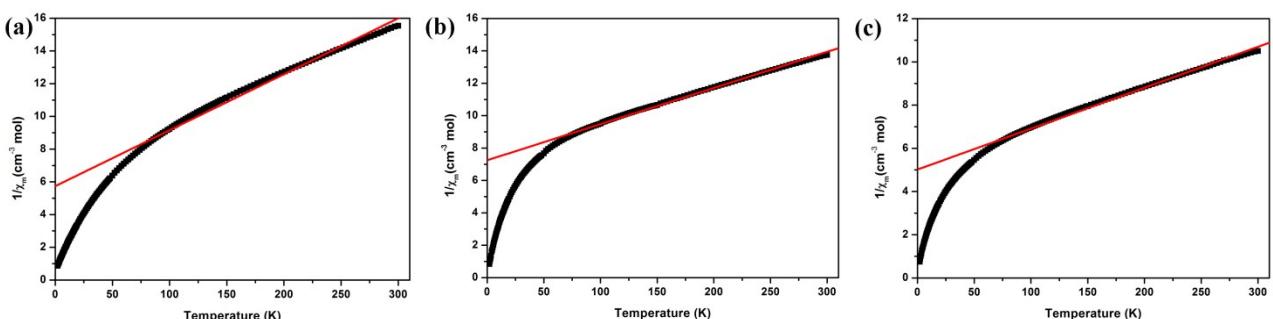
**Fig. S18** (a) Impedance diagrams of **3** at 85 °C with different RHs. (b) Dependence of proton conductivity in **3** as a function of relative humidity at 85 °C.



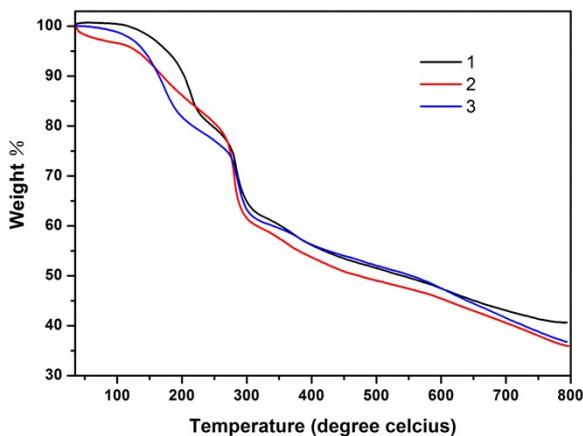
**Fig. S19** (a) and (b) temperature-dependent impedance diagrams of **3** at 98% RH; (c) Arrhenius plots of **3**.



**Fig. S20** Plot of  $\chi_M T$  versus the temperature for **1-3** in the temperature range of 2-300K in an applied magnetic field of 1000 Oe.



**Fig. S21** Plot of  $1/\chi_m$  versus the temperature for **1(a)**, **2 (b)** and **3 (c)** in the temperature range of 2-300 K in an applied magnetic field of 1000 Oe.



**Fig. S22** TG curves of **1-3**.

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