Electronic Supplementary Information

 Zn^{2+} and Cu^{2+} complexes of a Fluorescent Scorpiand-type Oxadiazole Azamacrocycle Ligand: Crystal Structures, Solution Study and Optical Properties

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Table S1. Crystallographic data and refinement parameters for compounds $[ZnL](ClO_4)_2$ and $[CuL](ClO_4)_2$

Figure S1 ORTEP-3 view of $[CuL]^{2+}$ as found in the solid state structure of $[CuL](ClO_4)_2$. Ellipsoids are drawn at 15% probability.

Figure S2. Side (left) and top (right) views of the $[ZnL]^{2+}$ cation as found in the X-ray structures of $[ZnL](ClO_4)_2$ (all atoms ball and stick) superimposed to **FUTPIV** (stick, green) and **ZUHPAV** (stick, red). Structures are superimposed by the atoms labelled with asterisk.

Figure S3. Absorption (a) and emission (b) spectra of L, as a function of pH in aqueous solution. $[L]=7.8 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ M}, \lambda_{ex}=275 \text{ nm}.$

Figure S4. Distribution diagram of the species (–), $[L] = 5.0 \cdot 10^{-6}$, $([Zn^{2+}] = 7.5.0 \cdot 10^{-6}, I = 0.15 \text{ M} \text{ NaClO}_4, T = 298.1 \text{ K}$

Figure S5. ESI-MS spectra of (A) a 20 μ M solution of L and (B) a solution containing 20 μ M of L and 200 μ M of Zn²⁺.

Figure S6. Absorption (**a**) and emission (**b**) spectra of L-Zn(II) system, as a function of pH in aqueous solution. $[L] = [Zn^{2+}] = 1.8 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ M}, \lambda_{ex} = 275 \text{ nm}$

Figure S7. Absorption (**a**) and emission (**b**) spectra of L-Zn(II) system, as a function of pH in aqueous solution; L to Zn(II) 1:1 (– line); L to Zn(II) 2:3 (- - - line). [L]= $4.8 \cdot 10^{-6}$ M, $\lambda_{ex}=275$ nm.

Figure S8. (a) Absorption and **(b)** emission spectra of the Cu^{2+}/L system in an aqueous buffer (HEPES, 0.5 M) solution at pH = 7.4; obtained by adding several amounts of Cu^{2+} up to 2 equivalents.

Figure S9. Absorption spectra of the Zn^{2+}/L system in acetonitrile solution obtained by adding several amounts of Zn^{2+} up to 2 equivalents with respect to L; $[L] = 1.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}.$

	[ZnL](ClO ₄) ₂	[CuL](ClO ₄) ₂
Empirical formula	C ₂₇ H ₃₂ Cl ₂ ZnN ₈ O ₉	C ₂₇ H ₃₂ Cl ₂ CuN ₈ O ₉
Formula weight	748.87	747.04
Temperature (K)	100	110
Wavelength (Å)	1.54184	1.54184
Crystal system, space group	Orthorhombic, Pbca	Orthorhombic, Pbca
Unit cell dimensions (Å)	a = 12.4453(2)	a = 12.3325(3)
	b = 14.3947(3)	b = 14.5161(4)
	c = 33.7578(4)	c = 33.7255(7)
Volume (Å ³)	6047.6(2)	6037.5(3)
$Z, D_c (mg/cm^3)$	8, 1.645	8, 1.644
μ (mm ⁻¹)	3.352	3.249
F(000)	3088	3080
Crystal size (mm)	0.35x0.28x0.25	0.28x0.24x0.23
θ range (°)	8.828 - 143.798	8.884-144.158
Reflections collected / unique	22850 / 5793	16740 / 5774
Data / parameters	5793 / 520	5774 / 520
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.068	1.053
Final R indices [I>2 σ (I)]	R1 = 0.0432, wR2 = 0.1127	R1 = 0.0381, wR2 = 0.0991
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0659, wR2 = 0.1287	R1 = 0.0495, WR2 = 0.1086

Table S1. Crystallographic data and refinement parameters for compounds $[ZnL](ClO_4)_2$ and $[CuL](ClO_4)_2$.



Figure S1 ORTEP-3 view of $[CuL]^{2+}$ as found in the solid state structure of $[CuL](ClO_4)_2$. Ellipsoids are drawn at 15% probability.



b)



a)

Figure S2. (a) Schematic drawing of L and related ligand. (b) Side (left) and top (right) views of the $[ZnL]^{2+}$ cation as found in the X-ray structures of $[ZnL](ClO_4)_2$ (all atoms ball and stick) superimposed to **FUTPIV** (stick, green) and **ZUHPAV** (stick, red). Structures are superimposed by the atoms labelled with asterisk.



a)

0.4

0.2

0.0

250

Figure S3. Absorption (a) and emission (b) spectra of L, as a function of pH in aqueous solution. [L]=7.8·10⁻⁵ M, λ_{ex} =275 nm.

300

nm

350



Figure S4. Distribution diagram of the species (–), $[L] = 5.0 \cdot 10^{-6}$, $([Zn^{2+}] = 7.5.0 \cdot 10^{-6}, I = 0.15 \text{ M} \text{ NaClO}_4, T = 298.1 \text{ K}$



Figure S5. ESI-MS spectra of (A) a 20 μ M solution of L and (B) a solution containing 20 μ M of L and 200 μ M of Zn²⁺.



Figure S6. Absorption (**a**) and emission (**b**) spectra of L-Zn(II) system, as a function of pH in aqueous solution. $[L] = [Zn^{2+}] = 1.8 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ M}, \lambda_{ex} = 275 \text{ nm}.$



Figure S7. Absorption (**a**) and emission (**b**) spectra of **L**-Zn(II) system, as a function of pH in aqueous solution; **L** to Zn(II) 1:1 (– line); **L** to Zn(II) 2:3 (- - line). [**L**]= $4.8 \cdot 10^{-6}$ M, λ_{ex} =275 nm.



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