

**Supporting information (experimental details and crystal-structure determination)  
belonging to the publication:**

**Structural characterization of porphyrin-carborane organometallic  
assemblies based on 1, 2-dicarba-*closo*-dodecaborane (12) ligands**

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**General Considerations.** All reactions were carried out under a nitrogen atmosphere using standard Schlenk techniques. Reagent grade solvents, THF, hexane were dried over sodium benzophenone ketyl and freshly distilled prior to use.  $\text{CHCl}_3$  were refluxed over  $\text{CaH}_2$  for several days and distilled immediately prior to use. All chemicals were purchased from either Aldrich or Sinopharm. Co. and used as received unless otherwise noted.  $\text{Cp}^*\text{Ir}[\text{S}_2\text{C}_2(\text{B}_{10}\text{H}_{10})]_2$  were prepared according to the reported procedures.<sup>5</sup> Infrared spectra were recorded on a Nicolet AVATAR-360IR spectrometer, whereas  $^1\text{H}$ {500MHz},  $^{11}\text{B}$ (160MHz) - NMR spectra were obtained on a Bruker DMX-500 spectrophotometer in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , respectively. Elemental analyses were performed on Elementar vario EI Analyzer. TGA were carried out on a Perkin Elemer TGA-7 analyser. UV/vis spectra were obtained on a HP 8453 spectrophotometer in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  and fluorescence spectra were performed on a Varian Cary Eclipse spectrophotometer.

*Synthesis for 2:* Stirring a mixture of **1** (0.4mmol, 213 mg) and Zn-TpyP(0.1 mmol, 68 mg) in THF at room temperature for 36h. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure, produced deep red solid. After extracted with toluene, the residue solids were recrystallized from THF / hexane to give red crystals of **2**(225 mg, 76%). Elemental analysis calcd for  $\text{C}_{96}\text{H}_{132}\text{B}_{40}\text{N}_8\text{O}_2\text{S}_8\text{Ir}_4\text{Zn}$  (%): C 39.04, H 4.51, N 3.79; found: C 38.87, H 4.38, N 3.69;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 1.83 (s,  $\text{Cp}^*$ , 60H), 1.75, 3.73 (m, THF, 8H), 8.21 (d, 3, 5-pyridyl, 8H), 9.01 (d, 2, 6-pyridyl, 8H), 8.85 (m, pyrrole, 8H);  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (160 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): -6.5, -8.2, -9.0, -10.5. IR (KBr disk):  $\nu = 2572\text{cm}^{-1}(\nu_{\text{B-H}})$ , 1595, 1408, 995,  $793\text{cm}^{-1}$ . UV-vis( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ): 308, 418, 562, 605nm.

*Synthesis for 3:* Stirring a mixture of **1** (0.4mmol, 213 mg) and Cu-TPyP(0.1 mmol, 68 mg) in THF at room temperature for 36h. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure, produced deep red solid. After extracted with toluene, the residue solids were recrystallized from THF / hexane to give red crystals of **3**(245 mg, 83%). Elemental analysis calcd for  $C_{96}H_{132}B_{40}N_8O_2S_8Ir_4Cu$  (%): C 39.07, H 4.51, N 3.80; found: C 39.01, H 4.51, N 3.72;  $^1H$  NMR (500 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ): 1.81 (s, Cp\*, 60H), 1.72, 3.69 (br, THF, 8H), 8.50 (br, pyridyl, 16H), 8.79 (br, pyrrole, 8H);  $^{11}B$  NMR (160 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ): -5.9, -8.1, -9.6, -112. IR (KBr disk):  $\nu = 2565cm^{-1}(v_{B-H}), 1588, 1421, 989, 798cm^{-1}$ .

*Synthesis for 4:* Stirring a mixture of **1** (0.2mmol, 106 mg) and Zn-TPyP(0.1 mmol, 68 mg) in  $CHCl_3$  at room temperature for 48h. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure, produced deep red solid. After extracted with toluene, the residue solids were recrystallized from  $CHCl_3$  / hexane to give red crystals of **3** (153 mg, 62%). Elemental analysis calcd for  $C_{64}H_{74}B_{20}N_8S_4Ir_2Zn \cdot 6CHCl_3$  (%): C 34.10, H 3.27, N 4.54; found: C 33.87, H 3.18, N 4.39;  $^1H$  NMR (500 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ): 1.83 (s, Cp\*, 15H), 1.75 (s, Cp\*, 15H), 1.43 (br, 3,5-pyridyl, 4H, Zn), 3.74 (d, 2,6-pyridyl, 4H, Zn), 2.35 (d, 3, 5-pyridyl, 4H, Ir), 5.01 (br, 2,6-pyridyl, 4H, Ir), 6.97 (m, pyrrole, 8H)  $^{11}B$  NMR (160 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ): -6.6, -8.2, -9.2, -10.3. IR (KBr disk):  $\nu = 2582, 2563 cm^{-1}(v_{B-H}), 1589, 1402, 995, 788cm^{-1}$ . UV-vis( $CHCl_3$ ): 319, 420, 555, 595nm.

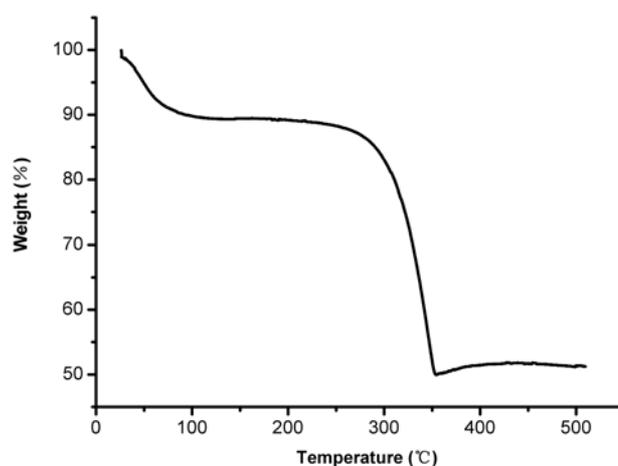


Figure S1. Thermal gravimetric analyses (TGA) spectra of compound **4**

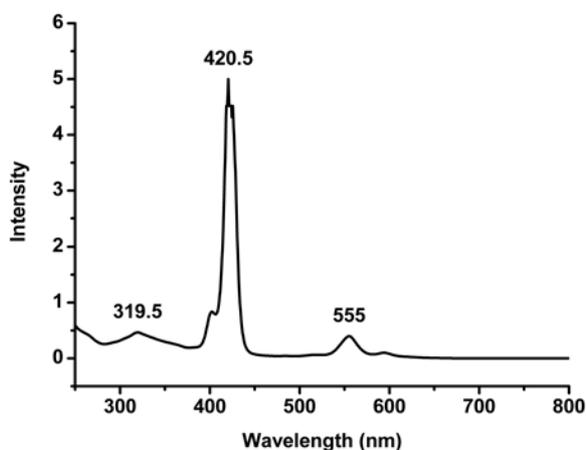
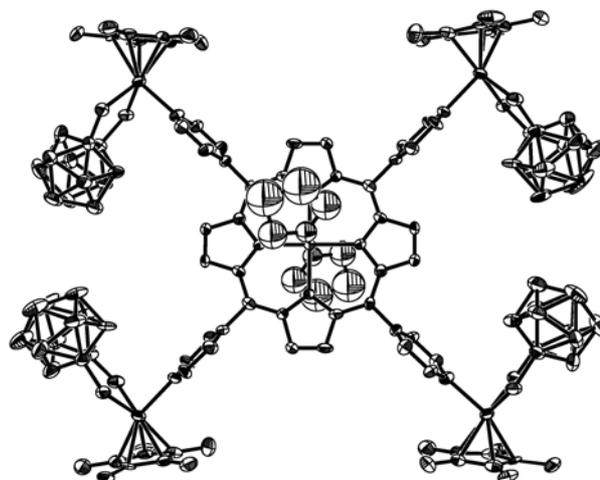


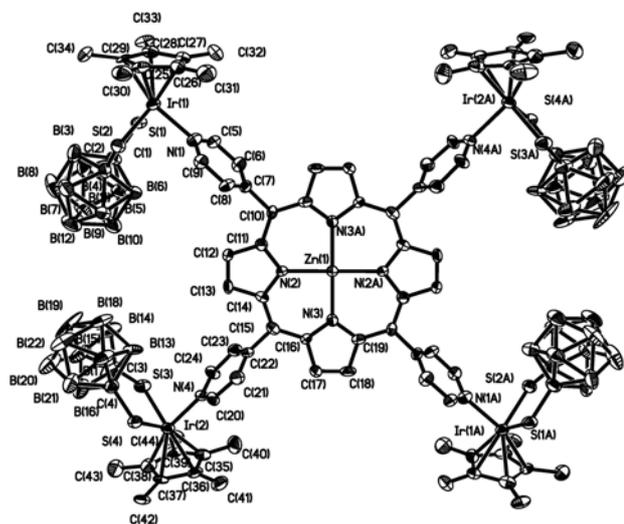
Figure S2. UV/ vis spectra of compound 4

#### Crystal Structure Determination of 2, 3, 4

Crystallographic data for 2, 3 and 4 are summarized in Table S1-S3. Each crystal was mounted on glass fiber. Crystallographic measurements were made on a Bruker Smart Apex 100 CCD area detector using graphite monochromated MoK $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073\text{\AA}$ ) at 293K. Empirical absorption corrections were applied using the program SADABS. The structures were solved by directed methods (SHELXS-97, G. M. Sheldrick, SHELXL-97, Universität Göttingen 1997) and refined on  $F^2$  by full-matrix least squares (SHELX-97, G. M. Sheldrick, SHELXL-97, Universität Göttingen 1997) using all unique data. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically, except for the THF molecule in 2, and  $\text{CHCl}_3$  molecule in 4. The hydrogen atoms were included in the calculated positions. Using the PLATON program (A. L. Spek, 1990) program we estimate overall free voids are 42.9% of the cell volume.



(a)



(b)

Figure S3. (a) An ORTEP representation of **2** with labeling scheme and 30% probability. All hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. (b) An ORTEP representation of **2** with labeling scheme and 30% probability. THF molecular and all hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

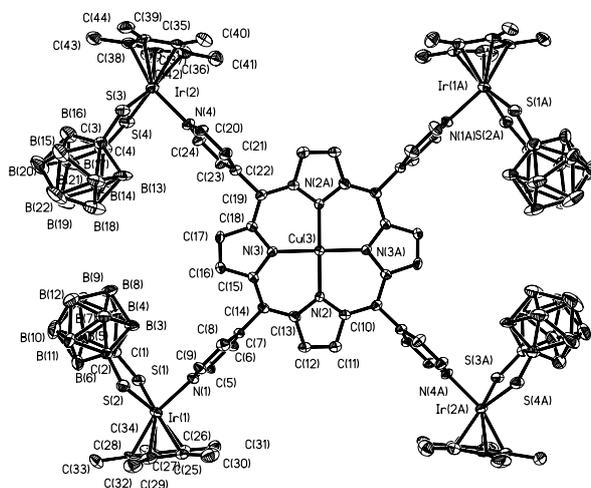


Figure S4. An ORTEP representation of **3** with labeling scheme and 30% probability. THF molecular and all hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

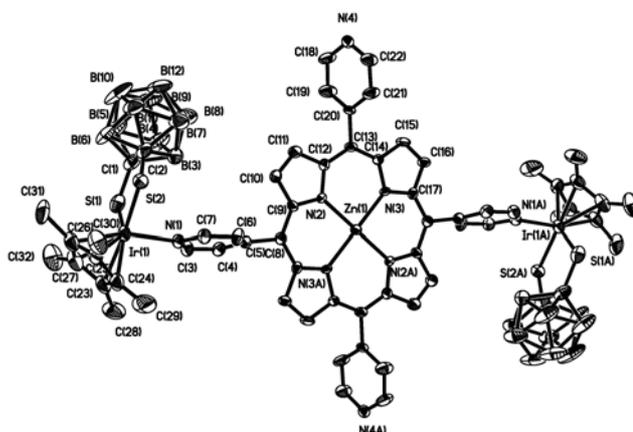


Figure S5. An ORTEP representation of a section of the polymeric **4** with labeling scheme and 30% probability. All hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.