## Electronic Supplementary Information

# Destruction and reconstruction of the robust $\left[\mathrm{Cu}_{2}(\mathrm{OOCR})_{4}\right]$ unit during crystal structure transformations between two coordination polymers 

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## Experimental details

Materials and general methods. All starting materials and solvents were obtained commercially and used as received. Fourier transform (FT) IR spectra ( KBr pellets) were recorded on an AVATAR-370 (Nicolet) spectrometer. Elemental analyses for C, H, and N were taken on a CE-440 (Leemanlabs) analyzer. Thermogravimetric (TG) and differential scanning calorimetric (DSC) experiments were performed on a NETZSCH TG209 (Siemens) thermal analyzer under $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ atmosphere in $25-750^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ at a heating rate of $10^{\circ} \mathrm{C} / \mathrm{min}$. Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) patterns were carried out on a Rigaku D/max-2500 diffractometer with $\mathrm{Cu} \mathrm{K} \alpha$ radiation $(\lambda=1.5406 \AA)$, with a step size of $0.02^{\circ}$ in $2 \theta$ and a scan speed of $2 \% \mathrm{~min}$. The simulated PXRD patterns were calculated from single-crystal X-ray diffraction data.

Single-crystal X-ray diffraction. X-ray diffraction data for complexes $\mathbf{1}$ and $\mathbf{2}$ were collected on a Bruker Apex II CCD diffractometer with Mo $\mathrm{K} \alpha$ radiation ( $\lambda=0.71073 \AA$ ) at room temperature. In each case, a semi-empirical absorption correction (SADABS) was applied and the SAINT program was used for integration of the diffraction profiles. The structure was solved by direct methods using the SHELXS program of SHELXTL and refined using SHELXL by full-matrix least-squares methods on $F^{2}$ (with anisotropic thermal parameters for all non-H atoms). In general, C -bound H atoms were located geometrically and refined as riding, whereas O -bound H atoms (in 2) were first determined in difference Fourier syntheses and then fixed at the calculated sites. Isotropic displacement parameters of H atoms were derived from their parent atoms. Further crystallographic details, selected bond lengths and angles, and H-bonding geometries are listed in Table S1, Table S2, and Table S3, respectively.

Preparation of $\left[\mathbf{C u}(5-\mathrm{BN})_{2}\right]_{n}(\mathbf{1})$. A mixture of $5-\mathrm{HBN}(20 \mathrm{mg}, 0.1 \mathrm{mmol})$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{OH}$ ( 5 mL ) and $\mathrm{CuSO}_{4} \cdot 5 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(25 \mathrm{mg}, 0.1 \mathrm{mmol})$ in $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(5 \mathrm{~mL})$ was vigorously stirred for $c a$.

30 min and then filtrated. The solution was left to stand at room temperature. Green block single crystals of $\mathbf{1}$ were formed after 3 days and collected in $47 \%$ yield ( 11 mg , based on 5-HBN). Anal. calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{12} \mathrm{H}_{6} \mathrm{CuN}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4} \mathrm{Br}_{2}$ : C, 30.96; H, 1.30; N, 6.02\%. Found: C, 30.88; H, $1.21 ; \mathrm{N}, 6.11 \%$. IR $\left(\mathrm{cm}^{-1}\right): 1637 \mathrm{vs}, 1441 \mathrm{~m}, 1392 \mathrm{vs}, 1290 \mathrm{~m}, 1236 \mathrm{w}, 1133 \mathrm{~m}, 1025 \mathrm{w}$, $877 \mathrm{w}, 782 \mathrm{~m}, 745 \mathrm{~s}, 686 \mathrm{~m}, 581 \mathrm{w}, 495 \mathrm{~m}$.

Preparation of $\left[\mathrm{Cu}(\mathbf{5}-\mathrm{BN})_{\mathbf{2}}\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)_{2}\right]_{n}$ (2). Blue block crystals of $\mathbf{2}$ were obtained from 1, via a complete single crystal to single crystal (SC-SC) transformation at ambient conditions after a long period of ca. $40-50$ days. Anal. calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{12} \mathrm{H}_{10} \mathrm{CuN}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{6} \mathrm{Br}_{2}$ : C, 28.74; H , 2.01; N, $5.59 \%$. Found: C, 28.66 ; H, 1.93 ; N, $5.73 \%$. IR ( $\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ ): $3435 \mathrm{~b}, 1637 \mathrm{vs}, 1557 \mathrm{~s}$, $1439 \mathrm{~s}, 1386 \mathrm{vs}, 1291 \mathrm{~m}, 1132 \mathrm{~m}, 1095 \mathrm{w}, 1025 \mathrm{w}, 957 \mathrm{w}, 907 \mathrm{w}, 870 \mathrm{w}, 781 \mathrm{~m}, 745 \mathrm{~s}, 686 \mathrm{~m}$, 584w, 484w.

## Computational details

Herein, all calculations were performed with the Vienna Ab-initio Simulation Package (VASP), ${ }^{1,2}$ which is based on an iterative solution of the Kohn-Sham equations by using a plane wave basis set. Exchange-correlation energy was calculated within the generalized gradient approximation (GGA), using the form of the functional proposed by Perdew and Wang, ${ }^{3-5}$ which is usually referred to as Perdew-Wang 91 (PW91). Electron-ion interaction was described by using the projector-augmented wave (PAW) scheme. ${ }^{6,7}$ Reciprocal space of the unit cell was sampled with a $(6 \times 6 \times 4) k$-points grid, generated automatically by using the Monkhorst-Pack method. ${ }^{8}$ Gaussian smearing profile (with a smearing parameter of 0.20 eV ) was imposed at the Fermi level and the energy was extrapolated to zero smearing. Geometry optimization was stopped when atomic force is lower than $0.02 \mathrm{eV} / \AA \AA$. For the isolated water molecules, a cubic box was also built with the lattice length of $15 \AA$. Ground state energies for $\mathbf{1 , 2}$, and water were calculated to be $-181.67,-211.73$, and -14.27 eV , respectively.

## References

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(a)

(b)

Fig. S1 Crystal structure of 1. (a) 2-D layered array (the uncoordinated 5-bromopyridyl segments of 5-BN being omitted for clarity). (b) Packing diagram of the 2-D patterns. The adjacent 5 -BN pendants coming from different layers are parallel with the center-to-center and center-to-plane distances of $3.635(2)$ and $3.461(2) \AA$, respectively.

(a)

(b)

Fig. S2 Crystal structure of 2. (a) 3-D coordination network. (b) Scheme of topological simplification. Cu 1 and Cu 2 nodes are shown in blue and lavender, respectively.


Scheme S1 Change of coordination bonds in transformation from $\mathbf{1}$ (left) to $\mathbf{2}$ (right). The striped lines in $\mathbf{2}$ represent the newly-formed $\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{N}_{\text {pyridyl }}$ and $\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{O}_{\text {water }}$ bonds.


Fig. S3 Crystal photo for $\mathbf{2}$ synthesized at $5^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.


Fig. S4 PXRD patterns for hydrothermal crystalline products at different temperatures.


Fig. S5 Thermogravimetric (TG) curves for $\mathbf{1}$ (green) and 2 (blue).

Table S1 Crystallography data and structural refinement summary for $\mathbf{1}$ and $\mathbf{2}$

|  | 1 | 2 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Chemical formula | $\mathrm{C}_{12} \mathrm{H}_{6} \mathrm{CuN}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4} \mathrm{Br}_{2}$ | $\mathrm{C}_{12} \mathrm{H}_{10} \mathrm{CuN}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{6} \mathrm{Br}_{2}$ |
| Formula weight | 465.55 | 501.58 |
| Crystal size ( $\mathrm{mm}^{3}$ ) | $0.22 \times 0.20 \times 0.18$ | $0.22 \times 0.20 \times 0.18$ |
| Crystal system | monoclinic | monoclinic |
| Space group | $P 2_{1} / \mathrm{c}$ | C2/c |
| $a(\AA)$ | 11.2259(6) | 25.981(3) |
| $b(\AA)$ | 11.6460(7) | 11.213(1) |
| $c(\AA)$ | 12.8181(5) | 11.088(1) |
| $\beta\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ | 116.694(3) | 93.681(2) |
| $V\left(\AA^{3}\right)$ | 1497.2(1) | 3223.4(6) |
| Z | 4 | 8 |
| $\rho_{\text {calcd }}\left(\mathrm{g} \mathrm{cm}^{-3}\right)$ | 2.065 | 2.067 |
| $\mu\left(\mathrm{mm}^{-1}\right)$ | 6.810 | 6.343 |
| No. of reflections measured | 7535 | 8096 |
| No. of independent reflections | 2647 | 2847 |
| $F(000)$ | 892 | 1944 |
| Parameters | 190 | 211 |
| $R_{\text {int }}$ | 0.0198 | 0.0205 |
| Final $R_{l}$ values ( $I>2 \sigma(I)$ ) | 0.0327 | 0.0244 |
| Final $w R\left(F^{2}\right)$ values ( $I>2 \sigma(I)$ ) | 0.0910 | 0.0563 |
| Final $R_{l}$ values (all data) | 0.0433 | 0.0290 |
| Final $w R\left(F^{2}\right)$ values (all data) | 0.1095 | 0.0584 |
| Goodness of fit on $F^{2}$ | 1.092 | 1.035 |
| Residuals (e $\AA^{-3}$ )* | 1.532, -1.155 | 0.840, -0.742 |

[^0]Table S2 Selective bond lengths $(\AA)$ and angles $\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ for $\mathbf{1}$ and $\mathbf{2}$
$\left.\begin{array}{llll}\hline & & & \\ & & 1 & \\ \text { Cu1-O2A } & 1.976(3) & & \text { Cu1-O1B }\end{array}\right] 1.984(3)$

Symmetry codes: $\mathrm{A}=-x+1, y-1 / 2,-z+3 / 2 ; \mathrm{B}=x,-y+3 / 2, z-1 / 2 ; \mathrm{C}=-x+1,-y+1,-z+1$ for $\mathbf{1}$; $\mathrm{A}=-x+2, y,-z+1 / 2 ; \mathrm{B}=-x+3 / 2,-y+3 / 2,-z+1 ; \mathrm{C}=x-1 / 2, y+1 / 2, z ; \mathrm{D}=-x+2,-y+1,-z+1$ for 2.

Table S3 Hydrogen-bonding geometries $\left(\AA,{ }^{\circ}\right)$ in crystal structure of 2
$\mathrm{D}-\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{A} \quad d_{\mathrm{D} \cdots \mathrm{A}} \quad d_{\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{A}} \quad \angle \mathrm{D}-\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{A} \quad$ Symmetry code

| O5-H5A $\cdots \mathrm{O}^{\mathrm{i}}$ | $2.847(3)$ | 2.04 | 159 | $\mathrm{i}=x,-y+1, z-1 / 2$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| O5-H5B $\cdots{ }^{\mathrm{iii}}$ | $2.767(3)$ | 1.95 | 160 | $\mathrm{ii}=-x+2, y,-z+1 / 2$ |
| O6-H6A $^{\mathrm{i}} \cdots \mathrm{O}^{\mathrm{iii}}$ | $2.958(3)$ | 2.24 | 142 | $\mathrm{iii}=-x+3 / 2,-y+3 / 2,-z+1$ |
| O6-H6B $^{\mathrm{O}} \mathrm{O} 2^{\text {iv }}$ | $3.053(3)$ | 2.22 | 166 | $\mathrm{iv}=-x+3 / 2, y-1 / 2,-z+1 / 2$ |


[^0]:    * In 1, the peak and hole positions deviate by $0.99 \AA$ from $\operatorname{Br} 2$ and $0.87 \AA$ from $\operatorname{Br} 1$, respectively.

