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# **Supporting Information**

# Single Crystal Growth of Coordination Networks via Gas Phase and Crystal Size Dependence of Iodine Encapsulation

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### **General Experimental Details**

#### **Reagents and general procedures**

All the chemicals were used without any further purification. TPT (TPT = 2,4,6-tris(4-pyridyl)triazine) was synthesized according to the procedure described in the literature (ref 1).

Powder X-ray diffraction data were collected on a Bruker D8 ADVANCE instrument in house (CuK $\alpha_1$ ,  $\lambda$ =1.5406 Å). Synchrotron PXRD pattern of the powder of **2** immersed in nitrobenzene was recorded in transmission mode [0.3 mm capillary; synchrotron radiation  $\lambda$ = 0.99967 Å; Blue-IP detector; 2 $\theta$  range: 2–70°; step width: 0.02°; data collection time: 15 min] on a diffractometer equipped with a blue imaging plate detector at SPring-8 BL19B2 beam line. FTIR-ATR (attenuated total reflection) spectra were recorded on a Varian 670-IR FT-IR spectrometer (650–4000 cm<sup>-1</sup>). Thermogravimetric (TG) analysis was carried out at a ramp rate of 10 K/min in a nitrogen flow (20 ml/min) with Scinco TGA N-1000. Elemental analyses were performed by Vario MICRO Cube (Elementar) at Technical Support Center in Pohang University of Science and Technology. SEM images were collected by Hitachi S-4800 at 3.0kV.

### Single crystal X-ray structure determination

The diffraction data for **1** was recorded with a RIGAKU/MSC Mercury CCD X-ray diffractometer with a synchrotron radiation ( $\lambda = 0.6889$  Å) at PF-AR (NW2A beamline) of the High Energy Accelerator Research Organization (KEK). The diffraction images were processed by using HKL2000.<sup>2</sup> The diffraction data for **2** and **3** were recorded with an ADSC Q210 CCD area detector with a synchrotron radiation at 2D beamline in Pohang Accelerator Laboratory (PAL). The diffraction images were processed by using HKL3000.<sup>2</sup> Absorption correction for all data was performed with the program PLATON.<sup>3</sup> Each structure was solved by the direct method of SHELXS-97 and refined by the full-matrix least-squares method on F<sup>2</sup> using SHLEXL-97.<sup>4</sup>

### Synthesis

Preparation of 1 via gas phase.

TPT (3.1 mg, 0.01 mmol) and ZnI<sub>2</sub> (3.2 mg, 0.01 mmol) were uniformly mixed by a mortar and put into a glass ample (10 ml). After evacuating inside (~ 0.1 Torr), the glass ample was sealed. On rapidly heating it at 708 K and keeping the temperature for 2 hours, single crystals of **1** were formed inside of the glass ample (yield: 92.1%). Found: C, 34.05; H, 1.83; N, 13.16. Calc. for  $C_{18}H_{12}I_2N_6Zn_1$  {[(ZnI<sub>2</sub>)(TPT)]}: C, 34.23; H, 1.92; N, 13.31 %. IR (ATR,  $\nu$ max/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3050vw, 1620m, 1600m, 1580m, 1520vs, 1420w, 1370s, 1320m, 1240w, 1220m, 1210w, 1160w, 1100w, 1060m, 1020m, 995vw, 965vw, 890vw, 875w, 860w, 840w, 800s, 750w, 735w, 720vw, 700w, 670m, 660m.

### Preparation of 2 via gas phase.

TPT (3.1 mg, 0.01 mmol) and ZnI<sub>2</sub> (4.8 mg, 0.015 mmol) were uniformly mixed by a mortar and put into a glass ample (10 ml). After evacuating inside (~ 0.1 Torr), the glass ample was sealed. On rapidly heating it at 743 K and keeping the temperature for 2 hours, single crystals of **2** were formed inside of the glass ample (yield: 92.1%). Found: C, 27.41; H, 1.64; N, 10.69. Calc. for  $C_{36}H_{24}I_6N_{12}Zn_3$  {[(ZnI<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>(TPT)<sub>2</sub>]}: C, 27.33; H, 1.53; N, 10.62 %. IR (ATR,  $\nu$ max/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3050vw, 1620m, 1580m, 1520vs, 1490m, 1420w, 1380s, 1320m, 1235w, 1215m, 1100w, 1060m, 1020m, 990vw, 980vw, 890w, 875w, 860w, 840w, 800s, 750w, 740w, 700w, 670m, 650m.

Preparation of **3** via gas phase.

TPT (3.1 mg, 0.01 mmol) and ZnI<sub>2</sub> (6.4 mg, 0.02 mmol) were uniformly mixed by a mortar and put into a glass ample (10 ml). After evacuating inside (~ 0.1 Torr), the glass ample was sealed. On rapidly heating it at 843 K and keeping the temperature for 4 min, single crystals of **3** were formed inside of the glass ample (yield: 56.4%). Found: C, 22.74; H, 1.27; N, 8.84. Calc. for  $C_{18}H_{12}I_4N_6Zn_2$  {[(ZnI<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(TPT)]}: C, 22.83; H, 1.39; N, 8.74 %. IR (ATR,  $\nu$ max/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3050vw, 1620m, 1570m, 1520vs, 1480m, 1420w, 1375s, 1315m, 1235w, 1210w, 1100w, 1060m, 1020m, 990vw, 970vw, 870w, 850w, 840w, 800s, 750w, 730w, 710w, 670m, 650m.



Fig S1. Photographs of time-dependent reaction and single crystals of each phase. a) timedependent reaction of  $ZnI_2$  and TPT (6 mg, at the mole ratio of 2:1, ~0.1 Torr, at 850 K). b) Mixture of single crystals of 1 and 2. Single crystals of 2 grew on the surface of single crystals of 1, indicating that 2 is more thermodynamic product than 1. c) Single crystals of 2. d) Mixture of single crystals of 2 (tiny plate) and 3 (block). e) Observation of time-dependent crystal growth of 3 at same position (repeat of heating at 800 K, 7.2 mg of  $ZnI_2$  and TPT at 2:1mole ratio, ~0.25 Torr). Crystal size in orange doted circle increased, indicating crystal growth via gas phase rather than solid-liquid interface. \*: scratch as a scale.



**Fig S2**. Overlay plot of the observed and simulated XRPD patterns of single crystals of **1**. Black: observed from the isolated single crystals of **1**. Blue: simulated from single crystal XRD data of **1**.



**Fig S3**. Overlay plot of the observed and simulated XRPD patterns of single crystals of **2**. Black: observed from the isolated single crystals of **2**. Red: simulated from single crystal XRD data of **2**.



**Fig S4**. Overlay plot of the observed and simulated XRPD patterns of single crystals of **3**. Black: observed from the isolated single crystals of **3**. Orange: simulated from single crystal XRD data of **3**.



**Fig S5**. Overlay plot of the observed and simulated XRPD patterns, showing temperature dependence of products obtained from 1:1 mole ratio of  $ZnI_2$ :TPT. Top) Black: observed from the single crystals obtained at 708 K. Blue: simulated from single crystal XRD data of **1**. Middle) Black: observed from the single crystals obtained at 723 K, includes two phases. Blue: simulated from single crystal XRD data of **1**. Red: simulated from single crystal XRD data XRD data of **2**. Bottom) Black: observed from the single crystals obtained at 743 K. Red: simulated from single crystal XRD data of **2**.



**Fig S6**. Overlay plot of the observed and simulated XRPD patterns, showing temperature dependence of products obtained from 2:3 mole ratio of  $ZnI_2$ :TPT. Top) Black: observed from the single crystals obtained at 708 K, which includes two phases. Blue: simulated from single crystal XRD data of **1**. Red: simulated from single crystal XRD data of **2**. Bottom) Black: observed from the single crystals obtained at 743 K. Red: simulated from single crystal XRD data of **2**.



**Fig S7**. Overlay plot of the observed and simulated XRPD patterns, showing temperature dependence of products obtained from 1:2 mole ratio of  $ZnI_2$ :TPT. Top) Black: observed from the single crystals obtained at 743 K. Red: simulated from single crystal XRD data of **2**. Middle) Black: observed from the single crystals obtained at 788 K, which includes two phases. Red: simulated from single crystal XRD data of **2**. Orange: simulated from single crystal XRD data of **3**. Bottom) Black: observed from the single crystals obtained at 843 K. Orange: simulated from single crystal XRD data of **3**.



**Fig S8**. Ellipsoidal models of asymmetric unit in **1**, **2** and **3**, and number of bond formation (Zn-N, Zn-I, and N---H) in asymmetric unit. Displacement ellipsoids for non-H atoms are scaled to enclose 50% probability levels.



Fig S9. TG plots of single crystals of 1, 2, and 3. Blue: 1. Red: 2. Orange: 3. The first decrease of weight in 1 (16.4 %) corresponds to TPT /  $3 \times [(ZnI_2)(TPT)] = 312.3$  / 1894.6 = 0.165, indicating removal of one TPT from  $3 \times [(ZnI_2)(TPT)]$  (ex.  $3 \times [(ZnI_2)(TPT)] \rightarrow [(ZnI_2)_3(TPT)_2] + TPT$ ).



Fig S10. XRPD change of 1 by heating at 703 K, showing phase transition from 1 to 2. Top) Black: observed from the single crystals of 1. Blue: simulated from single crystal XRD data of 1. Middle) Black: observed from the single crystals after heating 1 at 703 K for 30 min. Blue: simulated from single crystal XRD data of 1. Red: simulated from single crystal XRD data of 2. c) Black: observed from the single crystals after heating 1 at 703 K for 60 min. Red: simulated from single crystal XRD data of 2.



**Fig S11**. Microscope images and face indexing of single crystals of **2**. a) Crystal growth of **2** via gas phase in the direction to red arrow. b) Face indexing of single crystal of **2**. The direction of crystal growth via gas phase is [001].



Fig S12. Scheme of crystal growth of 2 via gas phase along the [001] direction which corresponds to pore channel. Stacking of one dimensional saddle units via  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interaction.



**Fig S13**. Crystal structures of **2** and **2**·nitrobenzen. a) 1D channel of pore in **2**. b) Symmetrically disordered nitrobenzene with site occupancy factor 0.5/0.5 in **2**·nitrobenzen. The angle of N-Zn-N in saddle unit increased from 92.3(3) ° to 97.0(7) ° in **2**·nitrobenzen and the void space increased from 147 Å<sup>3</sup> to 262 Å<sup>3</sup> (Calculated on PLATON).<sup>3</sup>



Fig S14. Overlay plot of the observed and simulated XRPD patterns of 2 nitrobenzen. Black: Synchrotron PXRD pattern of the powder of 2 immersed in nitrobenzene. The data was collected at SPring-8 BL19B2 beam line ( $\lambda = 0.99967$  Å, at R.T.). Green: simulated from single crystal XRD data of 2 nitrobenzen. Inset shows magnified XRPD patterns.



Fig S15. Scheme of nitrobenzene encapsulation from cut edge along channel direction, [001].



Fig S16. Overlay plot of the observed XRPD patterns of  $I_2$  encapsulation in microcrystalline powder and single crystals of 2. a) Microcrystalline powder of 2. b) Microcrystalline powder of 2 after exposure to  $I_2$  vapor for 12h. c) Single crystals of 2. d) Single crystals of 2 after exposure to  $I_2$  vapor for 12h.



Fig S17. Microscope images of a single crystal of 2 after exposure to  $I_2$  vapor for 12h without nitrobenzene treatment. Left) As it is after exposure to  $I_2$  vapor, showing crystal surface was covered with  $I_2$ . Right) Cracked by a cutter at red broken lines and inverted, showing colorless inside.



Fig S18. SEM images of 2 and microscope images of 2 immersed in  $I_2$  nitrobenzene solution without and with nitrobenzene treatment. (a-b) SEM images of smooth *bc* and *ca* crystal surface of 2 without nitrobenzene treatment. c) SEM image of a rough *ab* crystal surface of 2, indicating porous channels without nitrobenzene treatment. d) Microscope images of a single crystal of 2 immersed in  $I_2$ -nitrobenzene solution under polarizer. Neither polarization nor surface of crystal changed for 42 min, and, after evaporation of  $I_2$ , both of them changed from the cut edge. (e-f) SEM image of *a* rough *ab* crystal surface of 2, indicating porous channels with nitrobenzene treatment. g) SEM image of a rough *ab* crystal surface of 2, indicating porous channels with nitrobenzene treatment. h) Microscope images of a single crystal of 2 with nitrobenzene treatment immersed in  $I_2$ -nitrobenzene solution under polarizer. Polarization and surface of crystal changed uniformly just after immersing.



Fig S19. Scheme of capping the channel entrance by  $I_2$  and nitrobenzene encapsulation. a)  $I_2$  molecules block the entrance of 1D channel and subsequent  $I_2$  molecules and nitrobenzene cannot go through the 1D channel (~42 min). b) Evaporation of  $I_2$  from the solution (~58 min). c) Nitrobenzene molecules start encapsulating along the pore (~ 61 min). d) Nitrobenzene accommodation in the pores.



Fig S20. Overlay plot of the observed XRPD patterns of nitrobenzene treatment and  $I_2$  encapsulation in single crystals of 2. a) Single crystals of 2. b) Single crystals of 2 after immersing in nitrobenzene. c) Single crystals of 2 after evacuating 2 nitrobenzene for 6 hours at 200°C. d) Single crystals of 2 after exposure to  $I_2$  vapor for 12h with nitrobenzene treatment.



**Fig S21**. Microscope images of a single crystal of **2** with nitrobenzene treatment after exposure to  $I_2$  vapor for 12h. Left) As it is after exposure to  $I_2$  vapor, showing crystal surface was covered with  $I_2$ . Center) Cracked by a cutter at red broken lines. Right) Inverted, showing black inside.

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