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## A Cucurbit[5]uril Analogue From Dimethylpropanediurea- Formaldehyde Condensation

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### 1. Experimental section:

**General:** TEM images were recorded on a JEOL JEM-1400 and JEM-2100 apparatus.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were measured on a Brüker AM-400 spectrometer. The molecular mass spectra were recorded on a LCT Premier XE mass spectrometer and a 4800 Plus M-TOF/TOF Analyzer (AB SCIEX, USA). The DLS measurements were carried out on a MALV RN, ZETA SIZER, Model ZEN3600. The ITC experiments were carried out on a MicroCal iTC 200.

**Materials:** Chemicals were used as received from Acros, Aldrich, Fluka, or Merck. All solvents were reagent grade, which were dried and distilled prior to use according to standard procedures.

### 2. Synthesis of $\text{Me}_{10}\text{TD}[5]$ :

Paraformaldehyde (0.72 g, 24.0 mmol) was added in a solution of  $\text{Me}_2\text{TD}$  <sup>[1]</sup> (1.84 g, 10.0 mmol) in concentrated HCl (5 ml). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h, and then heated to 95 °C for 24 h. The resulting solution was cooled to room temperature, and the solid was collected by filtration, and recrystallized in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  to afford the desired compound (100 mg, 5%) as a white solid. <sup>[2]</sup>  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ , 298 K):  $\delta$  6.53 (d,  $J$  = 14.9 Hz, 10H) , 4.89 (s, 10H), 4.20 (d,  $J$  = 14.9 Hz , 10H), 1.14 (s, 30H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ ):  $\delta$  154.2, 77.5, 62.0, 29.5, 20.1. MALDI-TOF mass  $m/z$  1041  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ ;  $m/z$  1059  $[\text{M}+\text{H}_2\text{O}+\text{H}]^+$ .

### 3. Preparation of the single crystal of $\text{Me}_{10}\text{TD}[5]$ and the polymer:

The single crystal of  $\text{Me}_{10}\text{TD}[5]$  was formed from a solution of  $\text{Me}_{10}\text{TD}[5]$  (50 mg, 0.05 mmol),  $\text{CaCl}_2$  (22 mg, 0.20 mmol) and 3 drops conc. HCl in distilled water (10 mL) which was allowed to stand slow evaporation in air at room temperature, yielding colorless crystals within 2 weeks. The XRD result is shown in Fig. S13a.

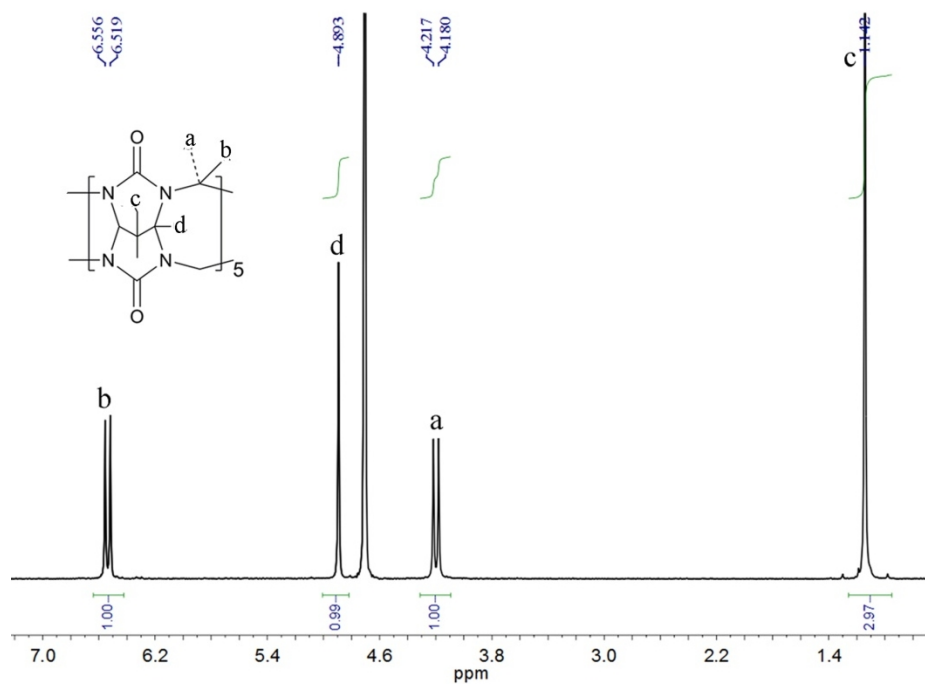
The single crystal of the polymer was formed from a solution of  $\text{Me}_{10}\text{TD}[5]$  (50 mg, 0.05 mmol),  $\text{G}_2$  (10mg, 0.05 mmol) and 6 drops conc. HCl in distilled water (10 mL) which was allowed to stand slow evaporation in air at room temperature, yielding colorless crystals within 4 weeks. The XRD result is shown in Fig. S13b.

### 4. The solubility measurements of $\text{Me}_{10}\text{TD}[5]$ .

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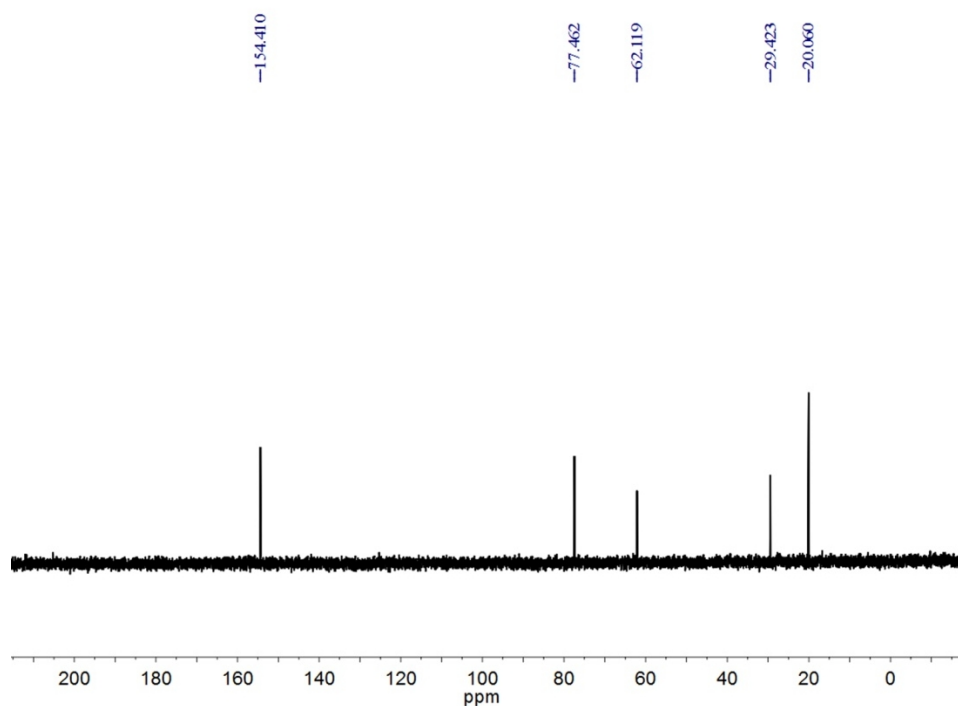
To 500 mg of **Me<sub>10</sub>TD[5]** was added 30.0 ml of solvent, the mixture was stirred at 298 K for 12h. The insoluble solid was filtered and dried in vacuo at 80° for 24h. The weight (M) of the resulting solid was measured and the solubility of **Me<sub>10</sub>TD[5]** was then calculated as  $(500 - M) / (1040 * 0.03)$  mmol/L.

### 5. Supplementary Figures:

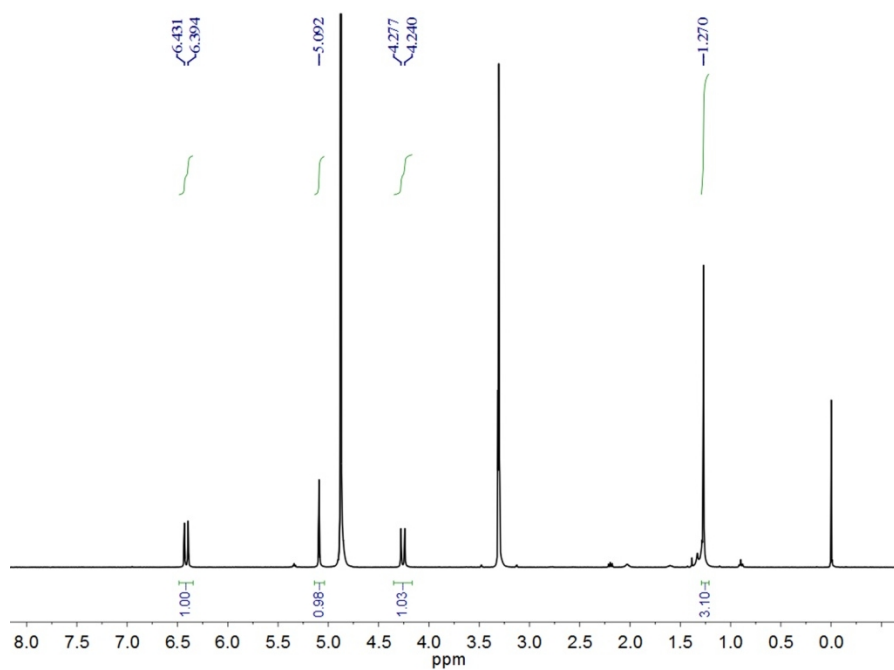


**Fig. S1** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (400MHz, 99% D<sub>2</sub>O, 298 K) of **Me<sub>10</sub>TD[5]**.

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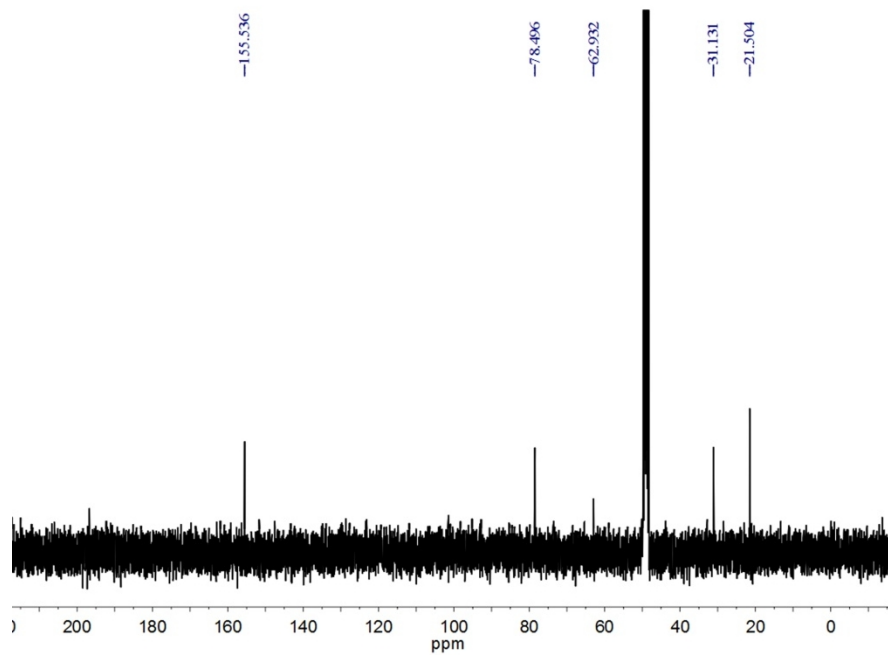


**Fig. S2**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra (100MHz, 99%  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ , 298 K) of  $\text{Me}_{10}\text{TD}[5]$ .

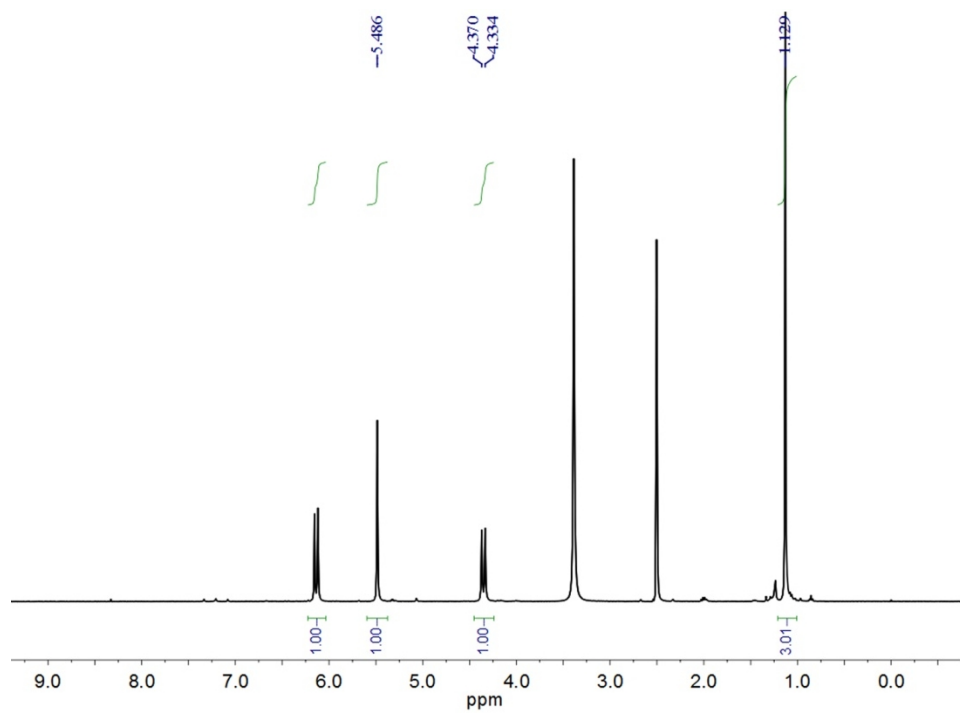


**Fig. S3**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (400MHz, 99%  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ , 298 K) of  $\text{Me}_{10}\text{TD}[5]$ .

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**Fig. S4**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra (100MHz, 99%  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ , 298 K) of  $\text{Me}_{10}\text{TD}[5]$ .



**Fig. S5**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (400MHz, 99%  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ , 298 K) of  $\text{Me}_{10}\text{TD}[5]$ .

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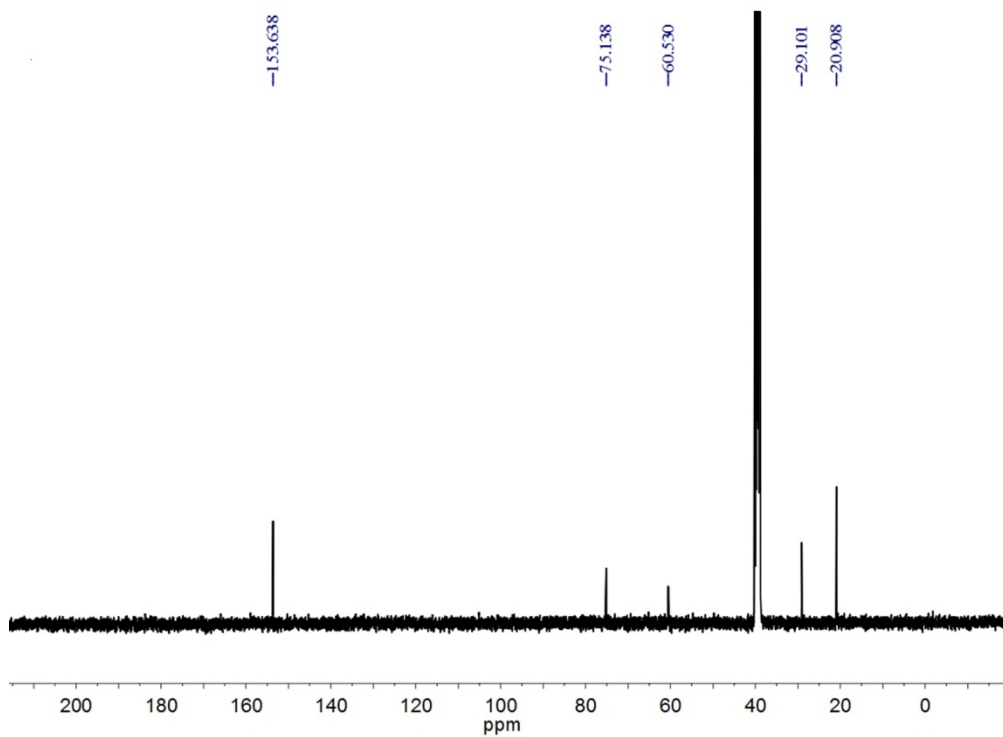


Fig. S6  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra (100MHz, 99% DMSO- $\text{d}_6$ , 298 K) of  $\text{Me}_{10}\text{TD}[5]$ .

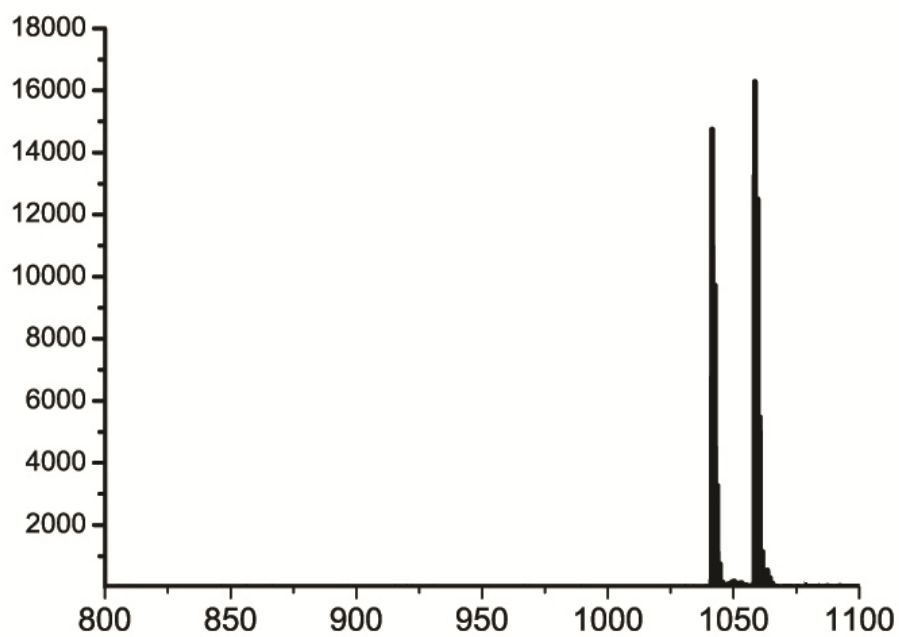
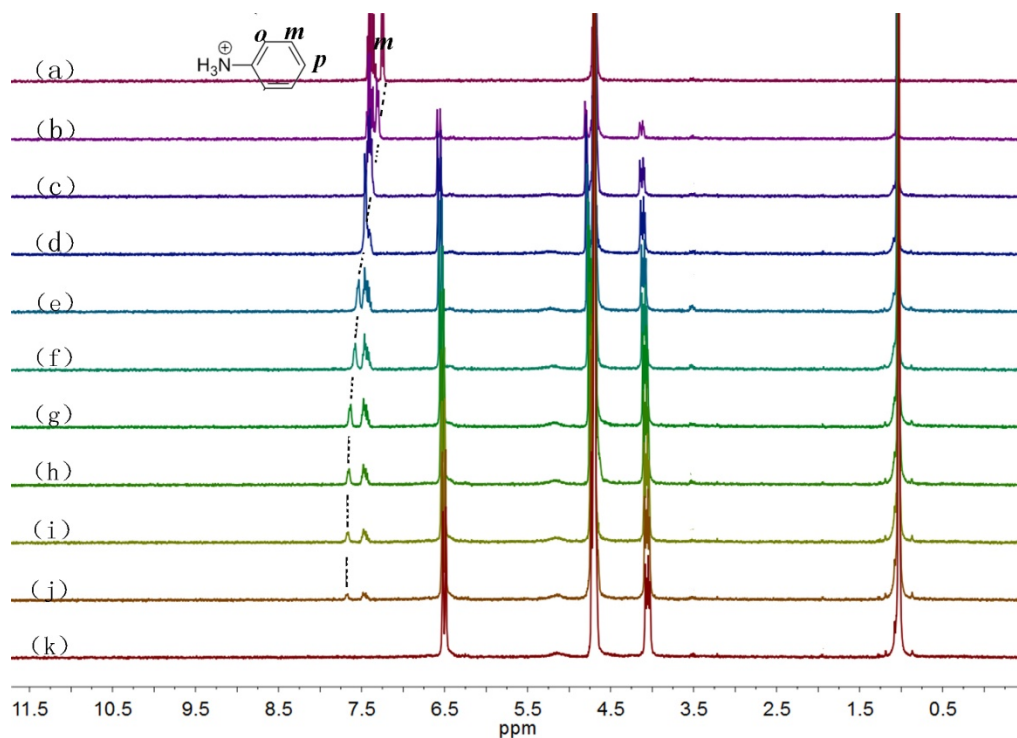
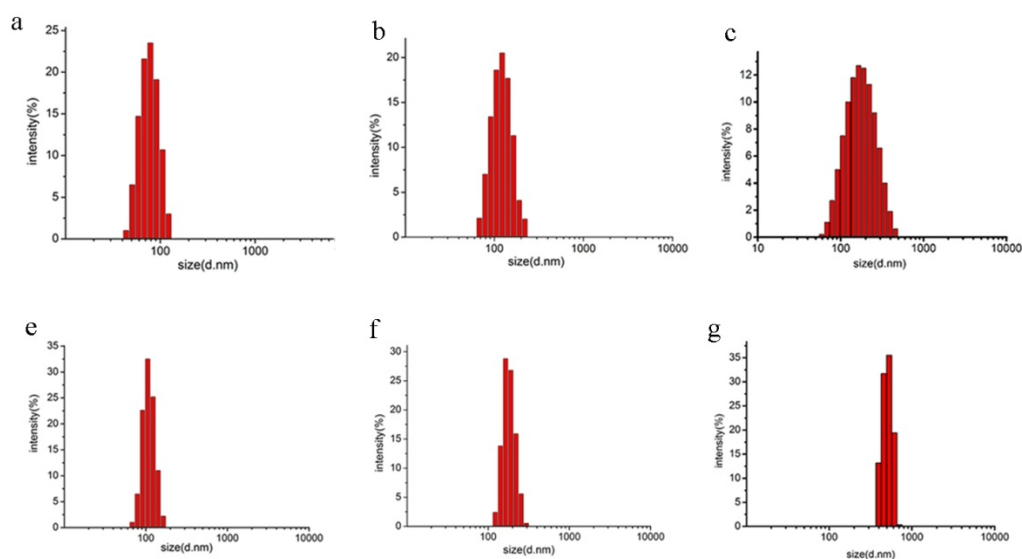


Fig. S7. MALDI-TOF of  $\text{Me}_{10}\text{TD}[5]$ :  $m/z$  1041  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ ;  $m/z$  1059  $[\text{M}+\text{H}_2\text{O}+\text{H}]^+$ .

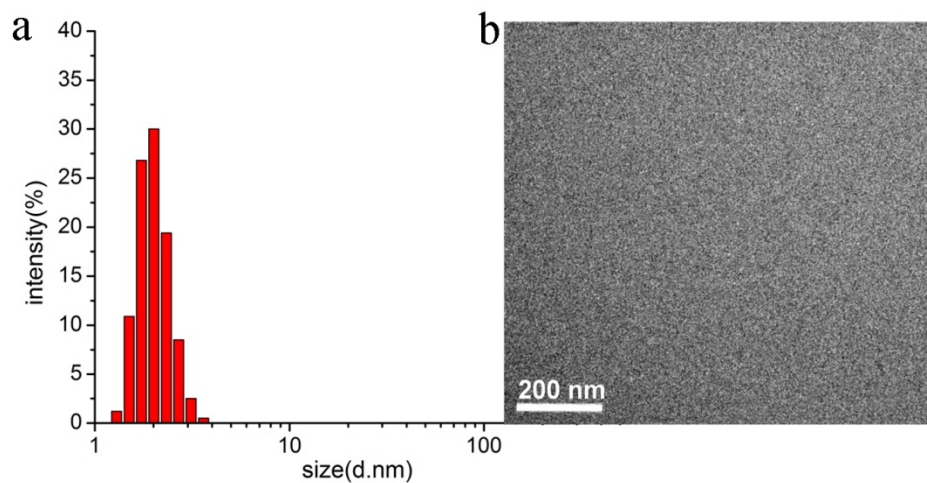
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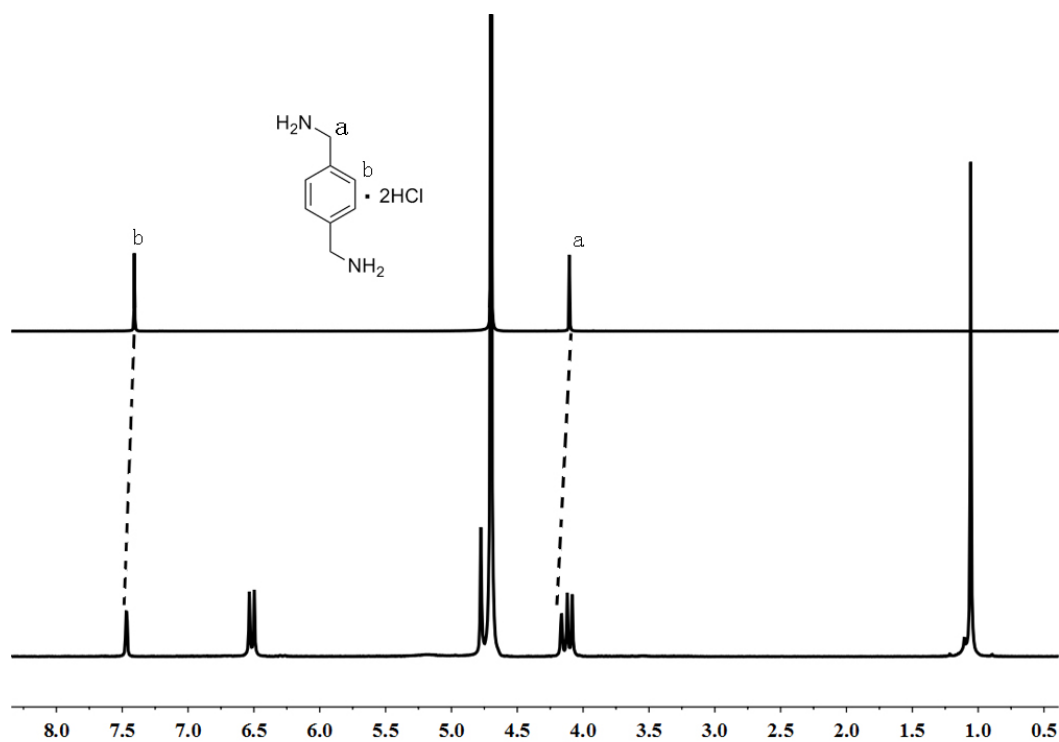
**Fig. S8.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR Job plots experiments in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  for  $\text{Me}_{10}\text{TD}[5]$  and aniline hydrochloride. (a)  $\text{Me}_{10}\text{TD}[5]$  : aniline hydrochloride = 0 : 1. (b) 0.1 : 0.9 (c) 0.2 : 0.8 (d) 0.3 : 0.7 (e) 0.35 : 0.65 (f) 0.5 : 0.5. (g) 0.6 : 0.4. (h) 0.7 : 0.3. (i) 0.8 : 0.2. (j) 0.9 : 0.1 (k) 1 : 0. The total concentration was 4.0 mM.



**Fig. S9.** Dynamic Light Scattering results: (a)  $\text{G}_1 + \text{Me}_{10}\text{TD}[5]$  ( $C = 5 \times 10^{-5}$  M), the peak is at 78 nm in aqueous solution. (b)  $\text{G}_1 + \text{Me}_{10}\text{TD}[5]$  ( $C = 1 \times 10^{-4}$  M), the peak is at 122 nm in aqueous solution. (c)  $\text{G}_1 + \text{Me}_{10}\text{TD}[5]$  ( $C = 2 \times 10^{-4}$  M), the peak is at 190 nm in aqueous solution. (d)  $\text{G}_2 + \text{Me}_{10}\text{TD}[5]$  ( $C = 5 \times 10^{-5}$  M), the peak is at 105 nm in aqueous solution. (e)  $\text{G}_2 + \text{Me}_{10}\text{TD}[5]$  ( $C = 1 \times 10^{-4}$  M), the peak is at 164 nm in aqueous solution. (f)  $\text{G}_2 + \text{Me}_{10}\text{TD}[5]$  ( $C = 2 \times 10^{-4}$  M), the peak is at 295 nm in aqueous solution.



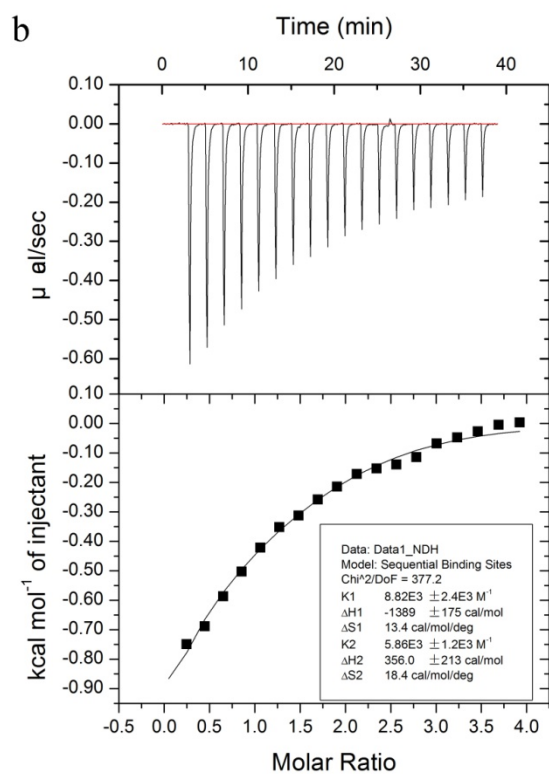
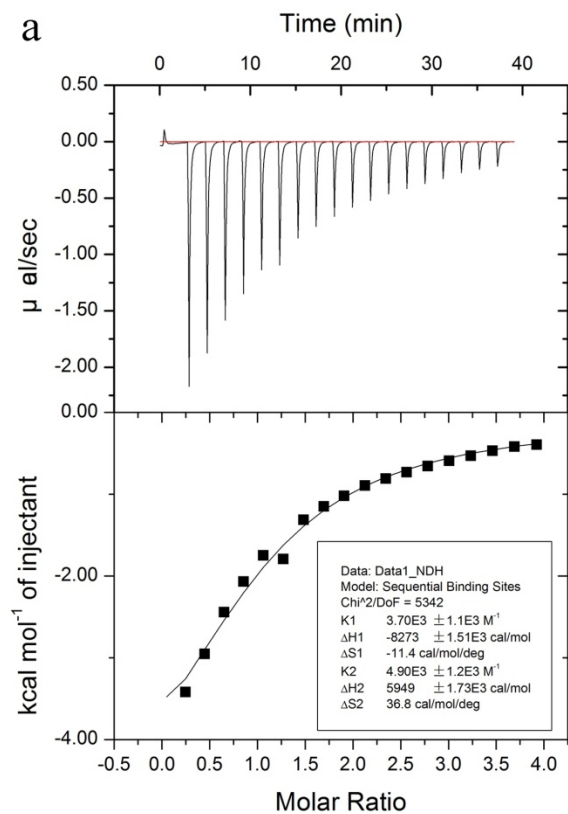
**Fig. S10** (a) Dynamic Light Scattering result for **Me<sub>10</sub>TD[5]** ( $C=2\times 10^{-4}$  M), the peak is at 2 nm in aqueous solution. (b) TEM images of **Me<sub>10</sub>TD[5]** ( $C=2\times 10^{-4}$  M).



**Fig. S11.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of 1,4-xylylene diamine dihydrochloride (up) in D<sub>2</sub>O and the addition of **Me<sub>10</sub>TD[5]** (bottom). (both 1 : 1, 2.0 mM).



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**Fig. S12.** ITC results for the complexation of (a) **Me<sub>10</sub>TD[5]** with aniline hydrochloride, and (b) **Me<sub>10</sub>TD[5]** with benzyl amine hydrochloride, both at 25°C.

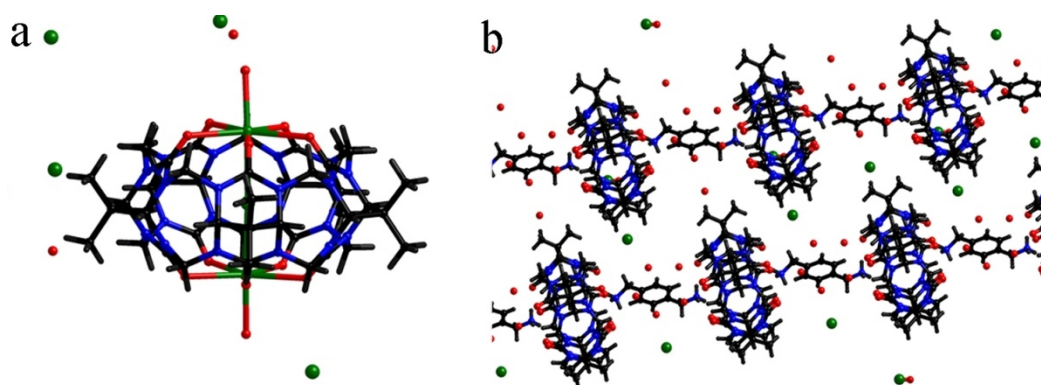


Fig. S13. The single crystal structures of Me<sub>10</sub>TD[5]-CaCl<sub>2</sub> (a) and the polymer Me<sub>10</sub>TD[5]-G<sub>2</sub> (b).

### Reference:

- [1] E. A. Bugnet, T. D. Nixon, C. A. Kilner, R. Greatrex and T. P. Kee, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 2003, **44**, 5491.
- [2] A. I. Day, A. P. Arnold and R. J. Blanch, *J. Org. Chem.*, 2001, **66**, 8094.