

## Supplementary information

**Crystal to crystal transformation induced a novel Cu(II)-MOF with  
zigzag  $\cdots\text{I}_3^-\cdots\text{I}_3^-\cdots$  chains**

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## Materials and general procedures

Materials and Physical Measurements. All chemicals were commercially available and used as purchased. IR data were recorded on a BRUKER TENSOR 27 spectrophotometer with KBr pellets in the region of 400 – 4000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Elemental analyses (C, H and N) were carried out on a Flash EA 1112 elemental analyzer. Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) patterns were recorded using  $\text{CuK}\alpha$  radiation on a PANalytical X'Pert PRO diffractometer. Energy-dispersive X-ray spectrometry (EDS) was conducted on a Burker ISMNM 761 scanning electron microscope.

**Synthesis of TTTMB.** 1,3,5-tris(triazol-1-ylmethyl)-2,4,6-trimethylbenzene (TTTMB) was prepared according to the literature.<sup>1</sup> Trizole (0.63g, 9mmol) and KOH (2.2g, 40mmol) were dissolved in dimethylsulfoxide (25 mL) and then the mixture was stirred at room temperature. After two hours, 2,4,6 - (bromomethyl) -1,3,5 - trimethylbenzene was added to the mixture with stirring for three hours at room temperature. Then the solution was mixed with 25 mL  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , extracted with  $\text{CHCl}_3$  (4×25 mL), dried with  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ , filtered and evaporated in vacuo. After standing overnight at  $-18^\circ\text{C}$ , the white powder was filtered, washed with diethyl ether and dried in a vacuum desiccator. Yield: 65%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  2.43 (s, 9H), 5.48 (s, 6H), 7.86 (s, 3H), 7.96 (s, 3H). IR (KBr pellet,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3276s, 3085m, 1505s, 1443s, 1332m, 1276s, 1202w, 1135s, 1035w, 1013s, 961m, 880m, 824w, 778w, 682s, 645m. Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_9$ : C, 59.65; H, 5.81; N, 34.71%. Found: C, 59.62; H, 5.71; N, 34.58%.

1 J. L. Du, T. L. Hu, S. M. Zhang, Y. F. Zeng, X. H. Bu, *CrystEngComm*, 2008, , 1866–1874.

**Synthesis of complex  $\{[\text{Cd}_3(\text{TTTMB})_4\text{I}_2]\cdot\text{I}_4\}_n$  (1).**  $\text{CdI}_2$  (0.0370 g, 0.1 mmol), TTTMB (0.0370 g, 0.1 mmol), and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (10 mL) were placed in a Teflon-lined autoclave, and the mixture was sealed and heated to  $130^\circ\text{C}$  for 72 h. The reaction system was cooled to room temperature. Big block yellowish crystals of **1** were obtained. Yield: 80%. Anal. Calcd. For **1** : C, 33.88%, N, 19.76%, H, 3.32%. Found:

C, 33.73%, N, 19.87%, H, 3.37%. IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>, KBr): 3445(m), 3111(m), 1521(s), 1282(s), 1199(s), 1130(s), 1005(m), 983(m), 674(s).

**Synthesis of**  $\{[\text{Cu}_4(\text{TTMB})_4(\text{NO}_3)_4(\text{H}_2\text{O})_5] \cdot (\text{NO}_3)_2(\text{I}_3)_2\text{H}_2\text{O}\}_n$  (**2**) complex **1** was immersed into the aqueous solution of Cu(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and left undisturbed at ambient temperature. Three weeks later, some new dark blue crystals **2** emerged. Yield: 80%. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>72</sub>H<sub>96</sub>Cu<sub>4</sub>I<sub>6</sub>N<sub>42</sub>O<sub>24</sub>: C, 29.32%, N, 19.94% H, 3.28%. Found: C, 29.74%, N, 19.27%, H, 3.12%. IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>, KBr): 3444(m), 3121(m), 1531(s), 1384(s), 1284(s), 1211(m), 1130(s), 1001(m), 882(m), 824(m), 672(s), 638(m).

**Crystal Data Collection and Refinement.** Single-crystal X-ray diffraction for crystal of **1** and **2** were performed using a Oxford Diffraction equipped with graphite monochromated MoK $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$ ) and Rigaku CrystalClear-SM Expert 2.0 diffractometer equipped with graphite monochromatic Mo-K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$ ), respectively. The structures were solved by the direct method and refined by the full-matrix least-squares method on  $F$  with anisotropic thermal parameters for all non-hydrogen atoms. Hydrogen atoms were located geometrically and refined isotropically.

**Table S1.** Crystallographic Data for **1** and **2**<sup>a</sup>

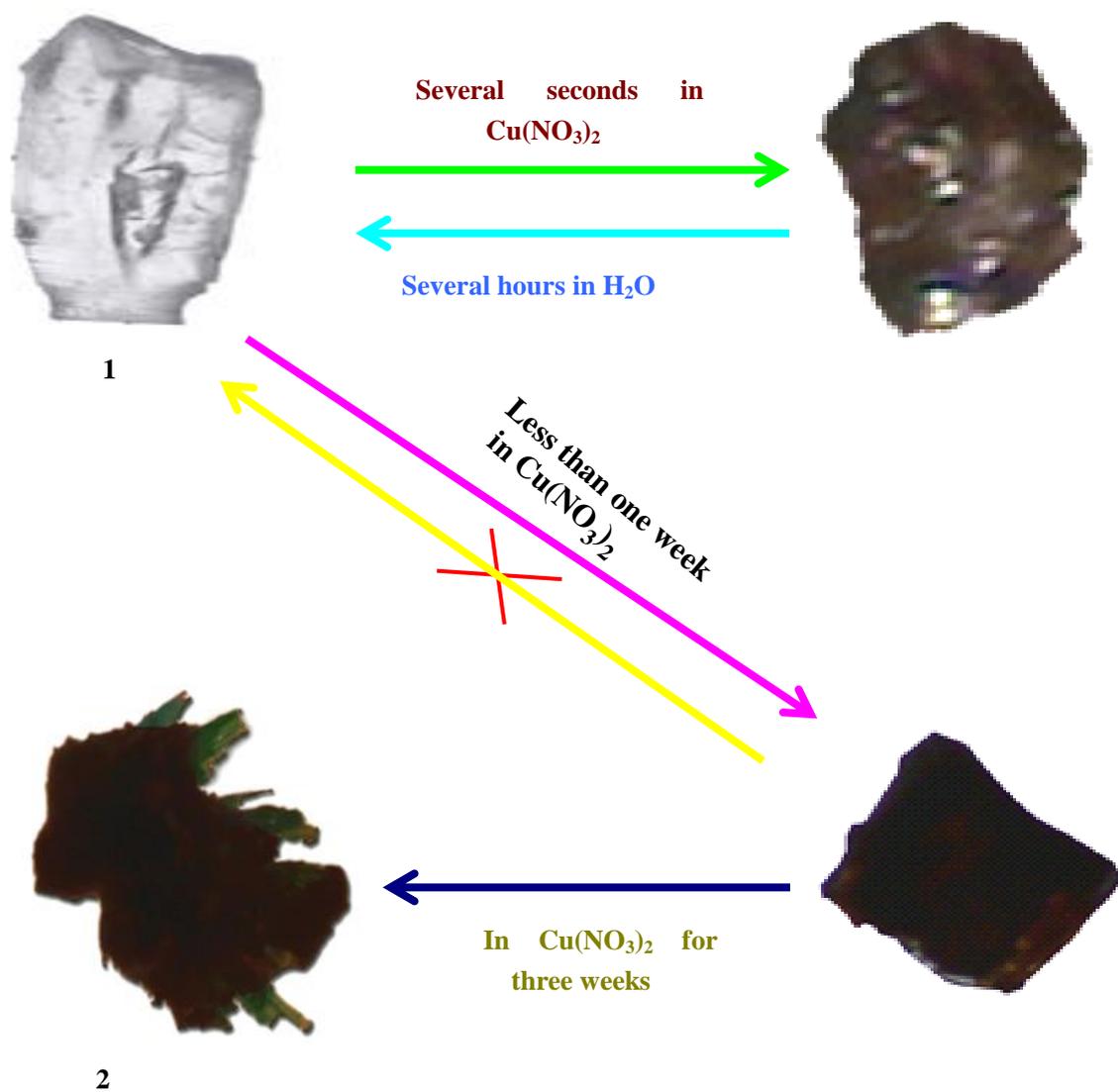
Complex	1	2
formula	C <sub>72</sub> H <sub>84</sub> N <sub>36</sub> I <sub>6</sub> Cd <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>72</sub> H <sub>96</sub> Cu <sub>4</sub> I <sub>6</sub> N <sub>42</sub> O <sub>24</sub>
Formula mass	2552.35	2949.47
Temperature [K]	293(2)	383
Wavelength [Å]	0.71073	0.71073
Crystal system	Tetragonal	Triclinic
Space group	<i>I</i> 4	P-1
a (Å)	17.232(2)	12.365(4)
b (Å)	17.232(2)	17.032(5)
c (Å)	16.444(3)	24.275(8)
α(°)	90	89.682(7)
β(°)	90	89.479(5)
γ(°)	90	88.829(7)
V (Å <sup>3</sup> )	4882.7(14)	5111(3)
Z	2	2
<i>D</i> <sub>calcd.</sub> (g·cm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.736	1.917
<i>F</i> (000)	2460	2896
θ (°)	2.92–24.99	1.46–25.00
GOF	1.050	0.986
<i>R</i> <sub>I</sub> (I>2σ(I))	0.0840	0.0430
<i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub> (I>2σ(I))	0.2200	0.0936

$$^a R_1 = \frac{\sum (|F_o| - |F_c|)}{\sum |F_o|}, \quad wR_2 = \left[ \frac{\sum w(|F_o|^2 - |F_c|^2)^2}{\sum w|F_o|^2} \right]^{1/2}.$$

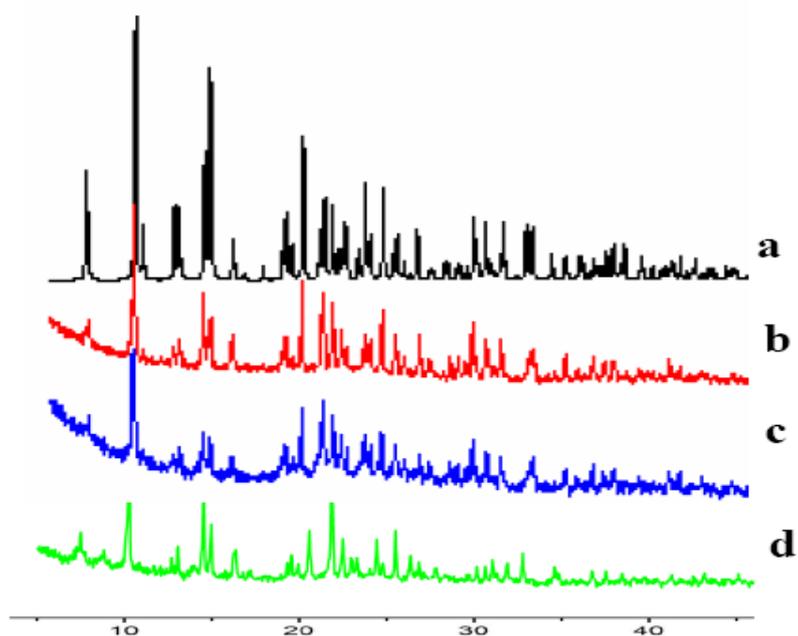
**Table S2.** Selected bond lengths and bond angles

<b>1</b>			
I(1)-Cd(1)	2.913(8)	I(2)-Cd(2)	2.902(3)
Cd(1)-N(1)	2.316(9)	Cd(1)-N(9)#5	2.414(11)
Cd(2)-N(6)#7	2.319(10)	N(1) #4-Cd(1)-N(1)	173.8(5)
N(1)-Cd(1)-N(9)#5	90.1(4)	N(1)-Cd(1)-N(9)#6	85.6(4)
N(9)#5-Cd(1)-N(9)#6	91.6(8)	N(1) #4-Cd(1)-I(1)	88.0(3)
N(1)-Cd(1)-I(1)	96.7(3)	N(9)#5-Cd(1)-I(1)#4	173.6(4)
N(9)#6-Cd(1)-I(1)#4	94.3(4)	I(1)#4-Cd(1)-I(1)	79.9(3)
N(6)#7-Cd(2)-N(6)#8	89.76(4)	N(6) #7-Cd(2)-N(6)	172.5(6)
N(6)-Cd(2)-N(6)#8	89.76(4)	N(6)#7-Cd(2)-I(2)	93.7(3)
<b>2</b>			
Cu(1)-N(9)	1.976(4)	Cu(1)-N(10)	1.987(4)
Cu(1)-N(15)#1	2.065(4)	Cu(1)-O(2)	2.218(4)
Cu(1)-O(4)	2.270(4)	Cu(1)-O(1)	2.298(4)
Cu(2)-N(18)	1.980(4)	Cu(2)-N(3)#2	1.998(4)
Cu(2)-N(6)#3	2.013(4)	Cu(2)-O(25)	2.035(3)
Cu(2)-O(9)	2.418(4)	Cu(3)-N(33)#4	1.985(4)
Cu(3)-N(21)	2.004(4)	Cu(3)-N(24)#1	2.009(4)
Cu(3)-O(13)	2.088(3)	Cu(3)-O(23)	2.253(4)
Cu(4)-N(27)	1.997(4)	Cu(4)-N(30)	1.998(4)
Cu(4)-N(36)#1	2.015(4)	Cu(4)-O(24)	2.023(3)
Cu(4)-O(16)	2.411(4)	I(1)-I(2)	2.8988(10)
I(6)-I(5)	2.9292(8)	I(3)-I(2)	2.9757(11)
I(6)-I(5)-I(4)	177.570(16)	I(1)-I(2)-I(3)	178.582(16)

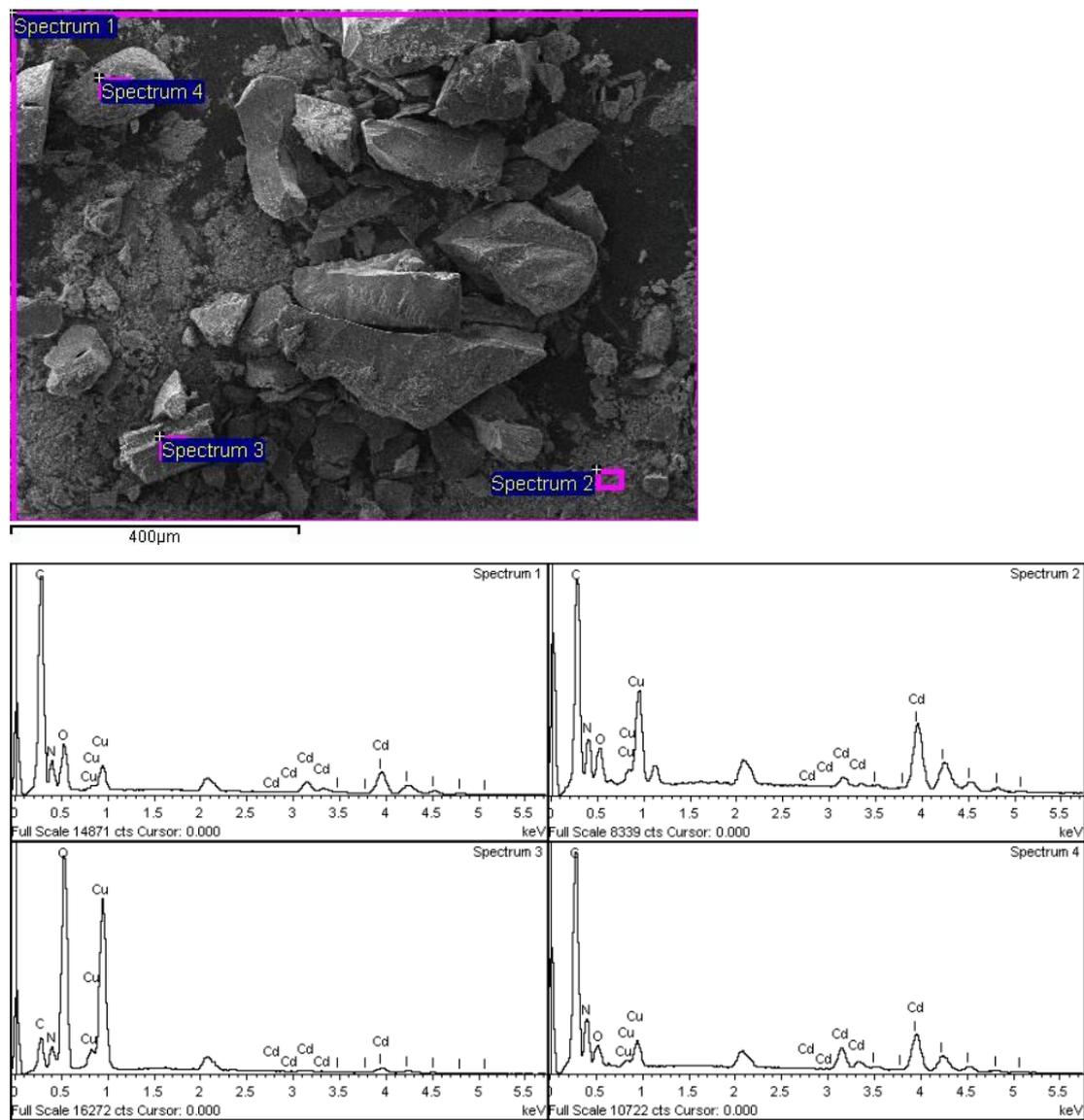
Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms for **1**: #4:  $-x+1, -y, z$ . #5:  $y+1/2, -x+1/2, z+1/2$ . #6:  $-y+1/2, x-1/2, z+1/2$ . #7:  $-x, -y, z$ . #8:  $-y, x, z$ . #9:  $y, -x, z$ ; for **2**: #1:  $x+1, y, z$ . #2:  $x-1, y, z+1$ . #3:  $x, y, z+1$ . #4:  $x+1, y, z-1$ .



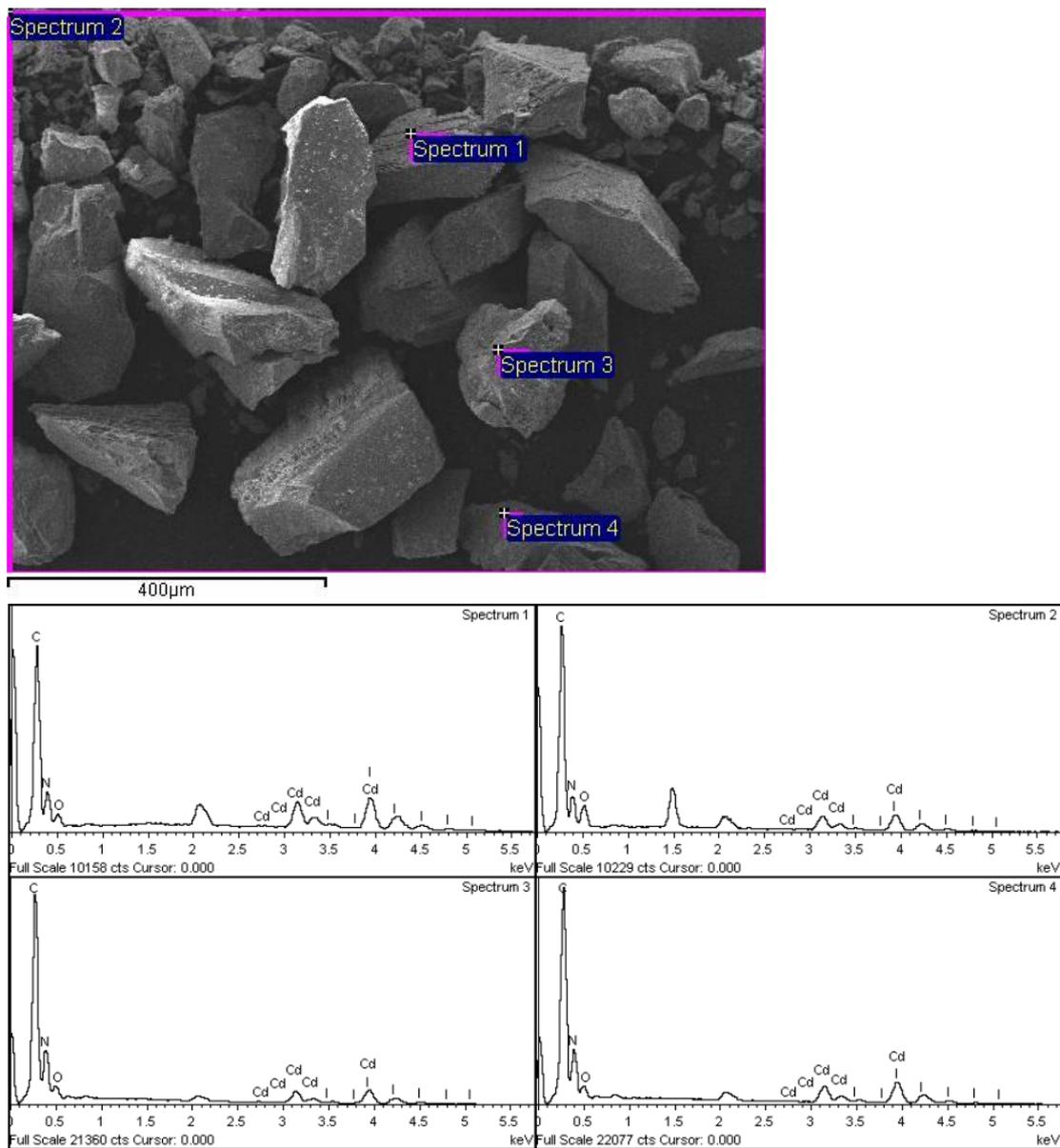
**Fig. S1:** Photographs of single crystals.



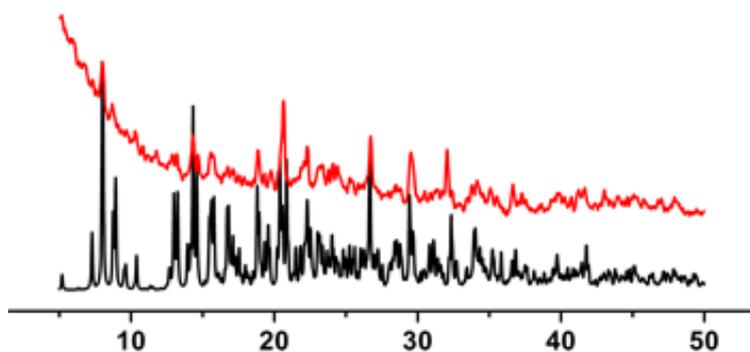
**Fig. S2.** Powder XRD patterns: (a) calculated pattern of **1** based on the structure determined by single-crystal XRD. (b) experimental pattern of **1**. (c) experimental pattern of the black crystals. (d) experimental pattern of the black crystals after soaking in water for several hours.



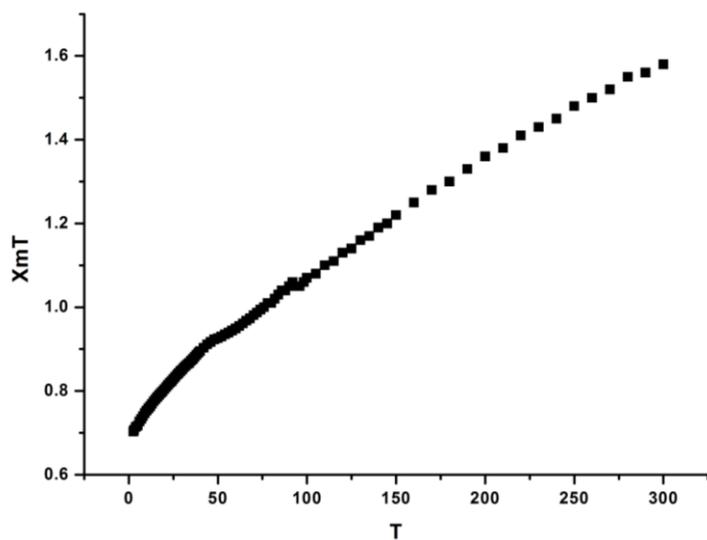
**Fig. S3.** SEM and EDS of the black crystals.



**Fig. S4.** SEM and EDS of the black crystals after soaking in water for several hours.



**Fig. S5:** Powder XRD patterns of **2** calculated based on the structure determined by single-crystal XRD (bottom) and experimental data (top).



**Fig. S6:** Magnetic susceptibility of **2**.