

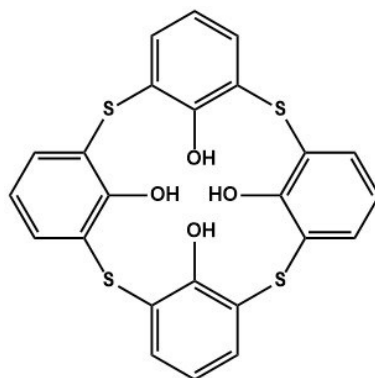
## Assembly of $\{Co_{14}\}$ nanoclusters from adenine-modified $Co_4$ -thiacalix[4]arene units

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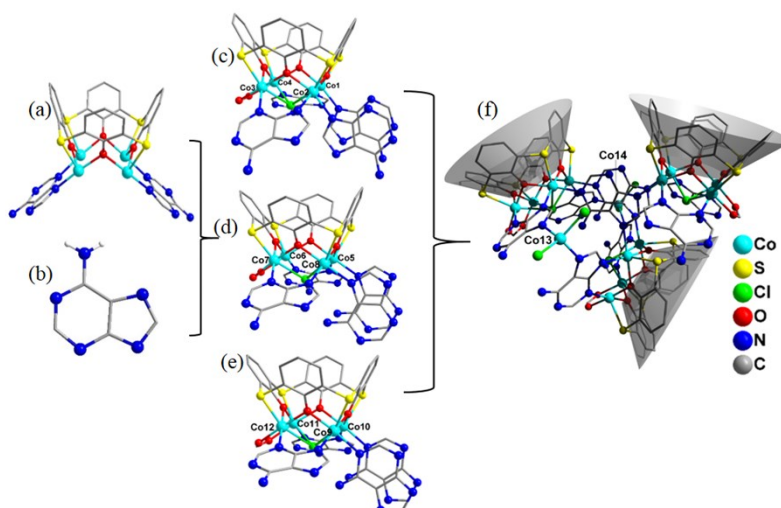
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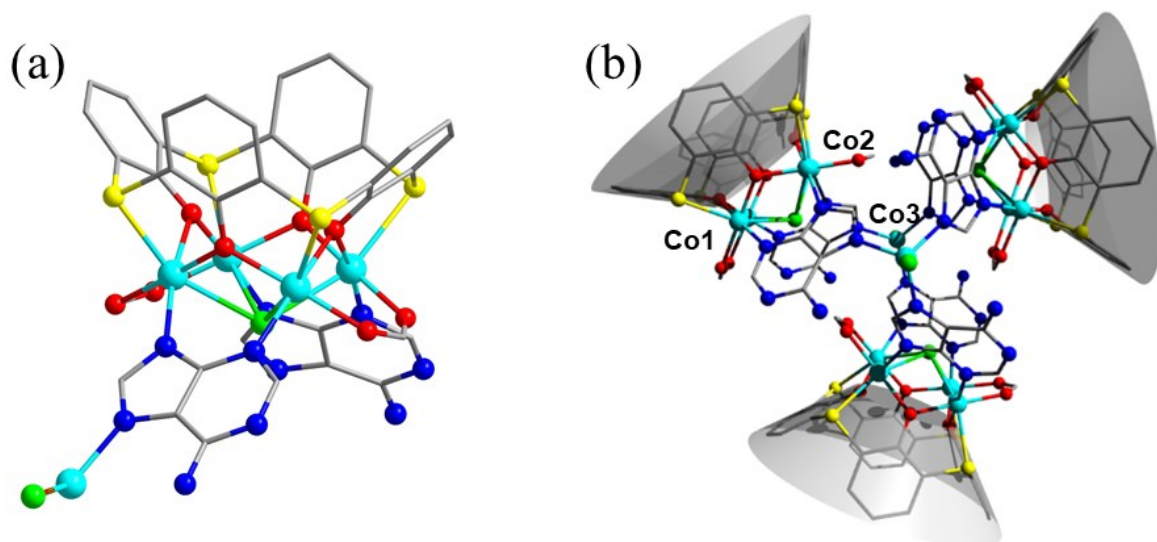
### Additional figures



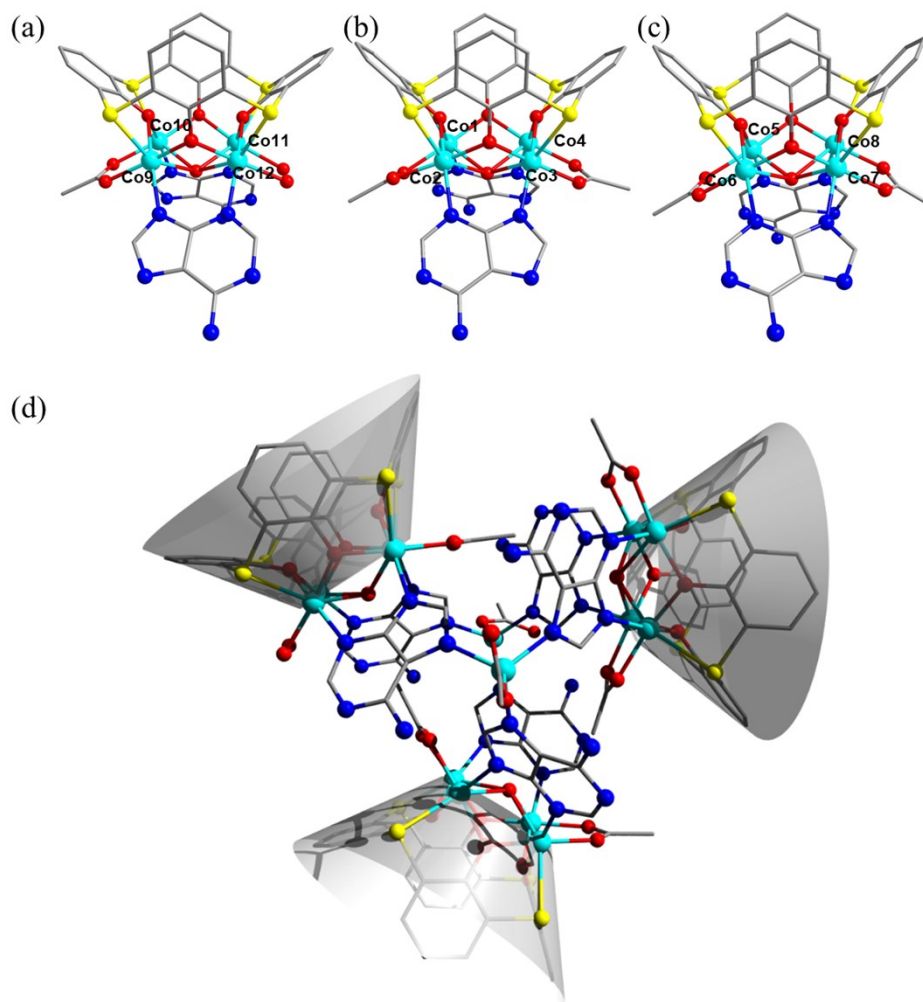
**Figure S1.** The structure of H<sub>4</sub>T4A.



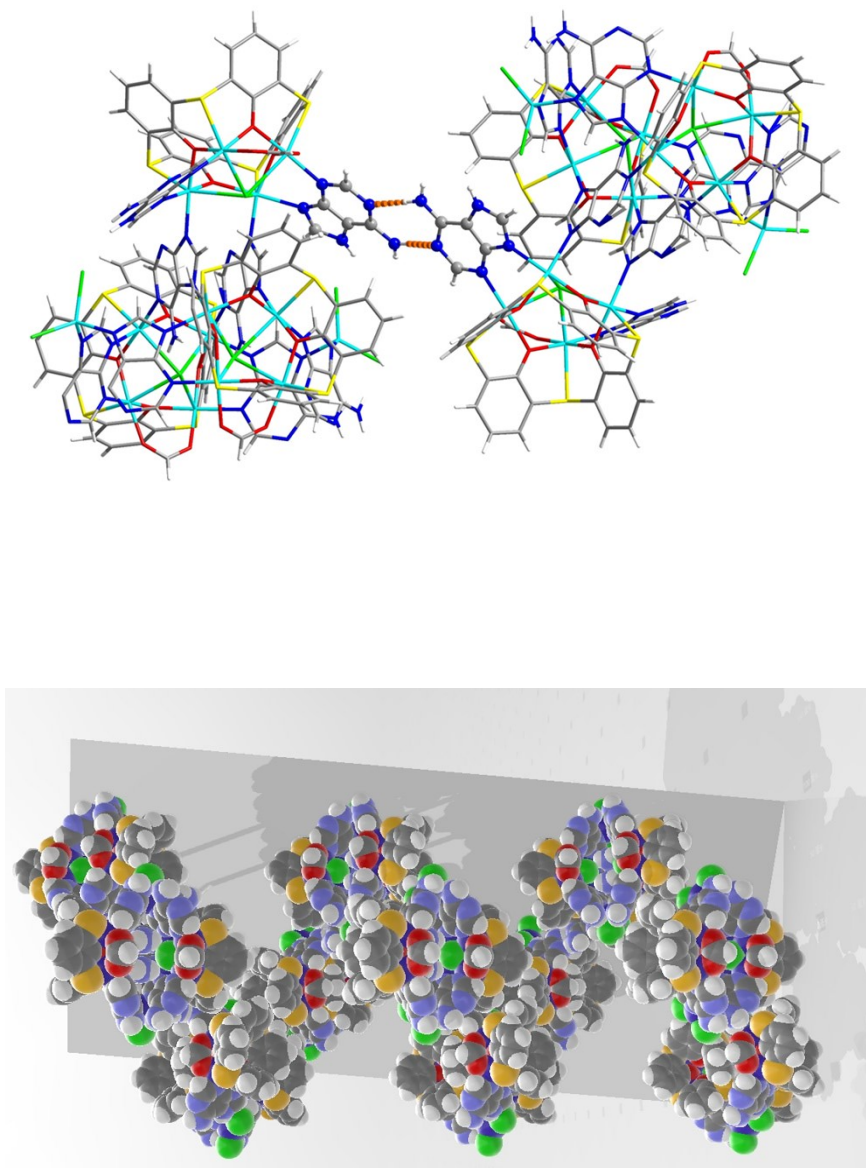
**Figure S2.** The assembly of  $Co_{14}\alpha$ : (a) the adenine-functionalized  $Co_4$ -T4A secondary building unit (SBU); (b) adenine ligand; (c), (d), (e) the asymmetric units; (f) the crystal structure of  $Co_{14}\alpha$ .



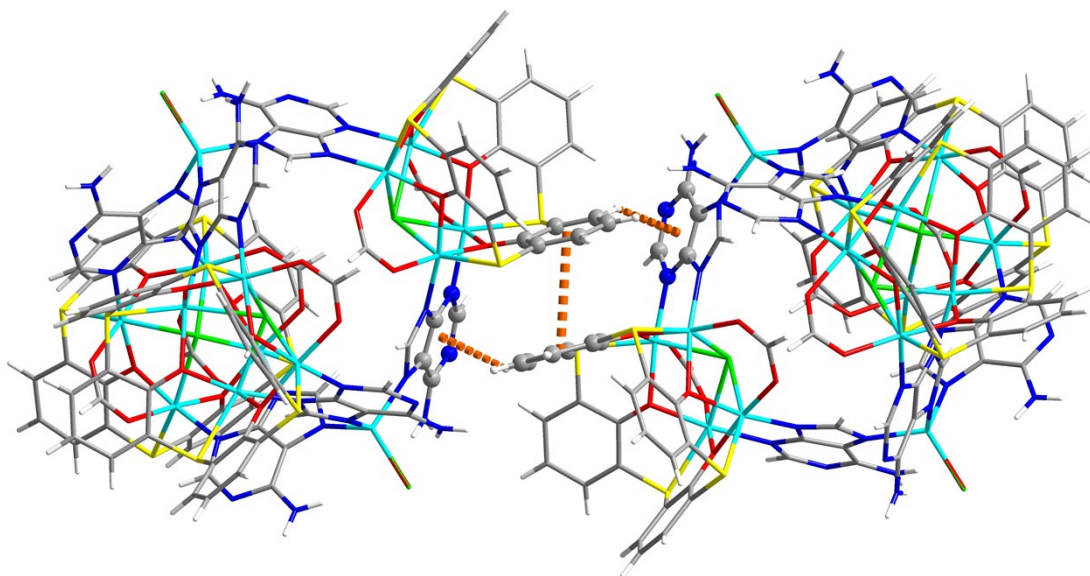
**Figure S3.** (a) The asymmetric unit of and (b) the crystal structure of  $\text{Co}_{14}\beta$ .



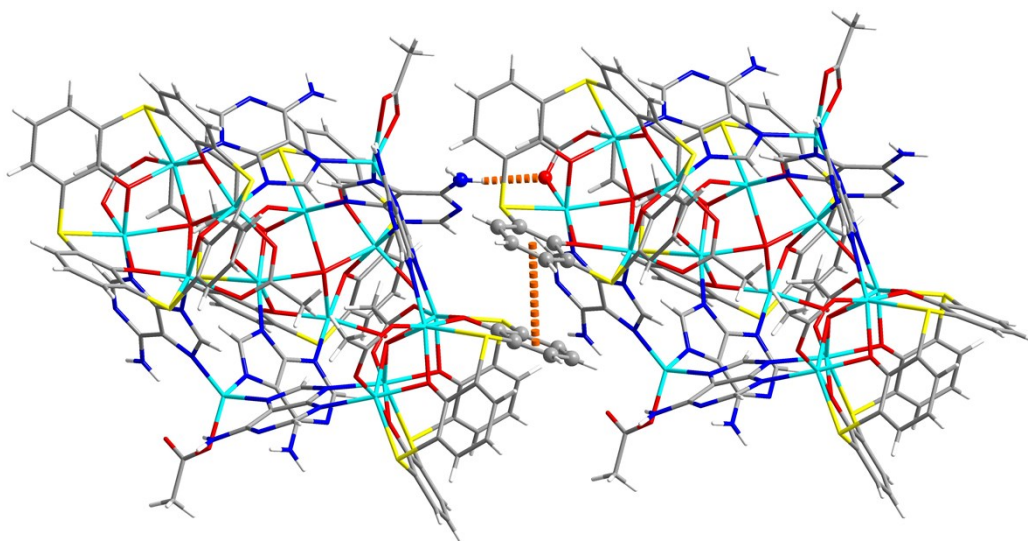
**Figure S4.** (a,b,c) Three adenine-functionalized  $\text{Co}_4$ -T4A SBUs and (d) the crystal structure of  $\text{Co}_{14}\gamma$ .



**Figure S5.** The intermolecular hydrogen bonds N-H...N (up) and right-hand helical chain along *c* axis (down) in  $\text{Co}_{14}\alpha$



**Figure S6.** The intercluster CH... $\pi$  and face-to-face  $\pi$ ... $\pi$  interactions in **Co<sub>14</sub> $\beta$** .



**Figure S7.** The intermolecular hydrogen bond N-H...O and face-to-face  $\pi$ ... $\pi$  interactions in **Co<sub>14</sub> $\gamma$** .

## **PXRD measurements**

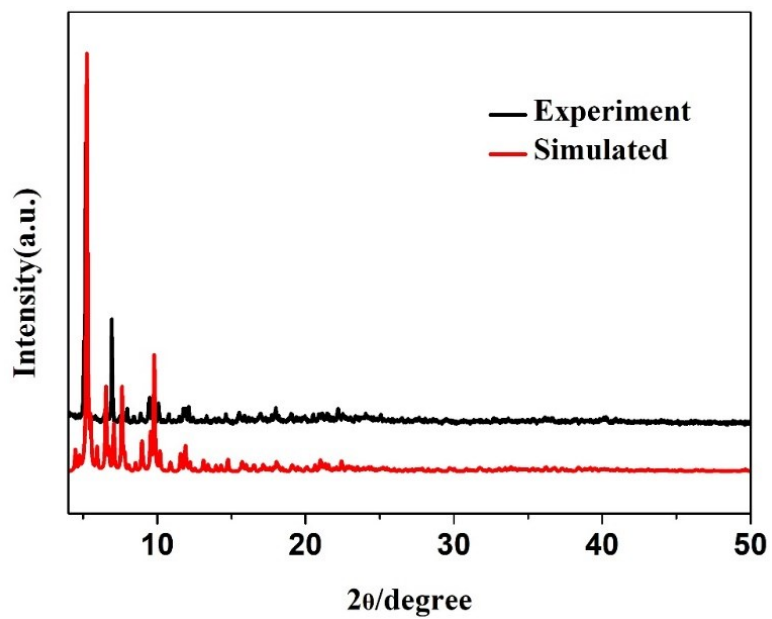


Figure S8. PXRD of the compound  $\text{Co}_{14}\alpha$ .

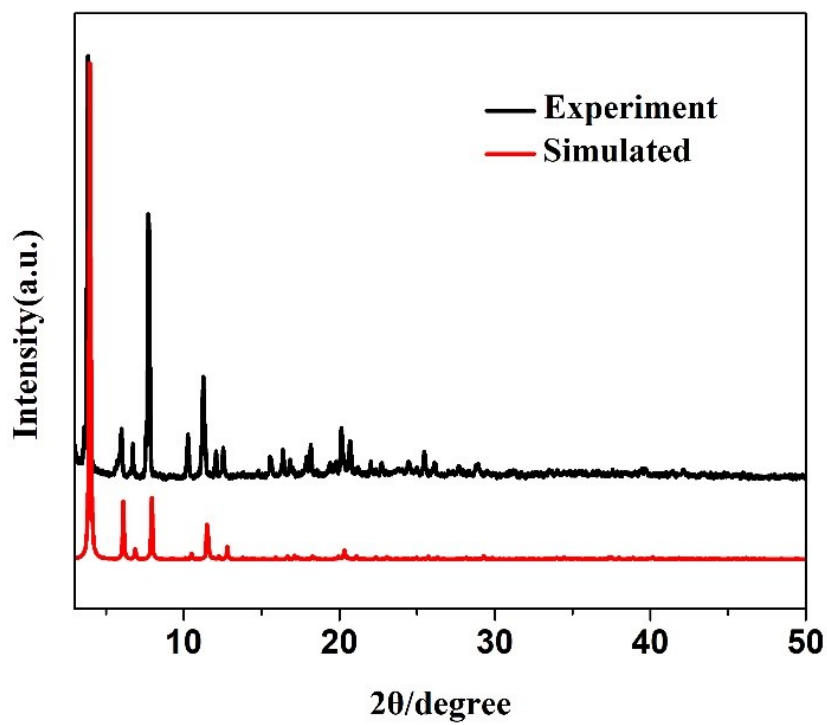
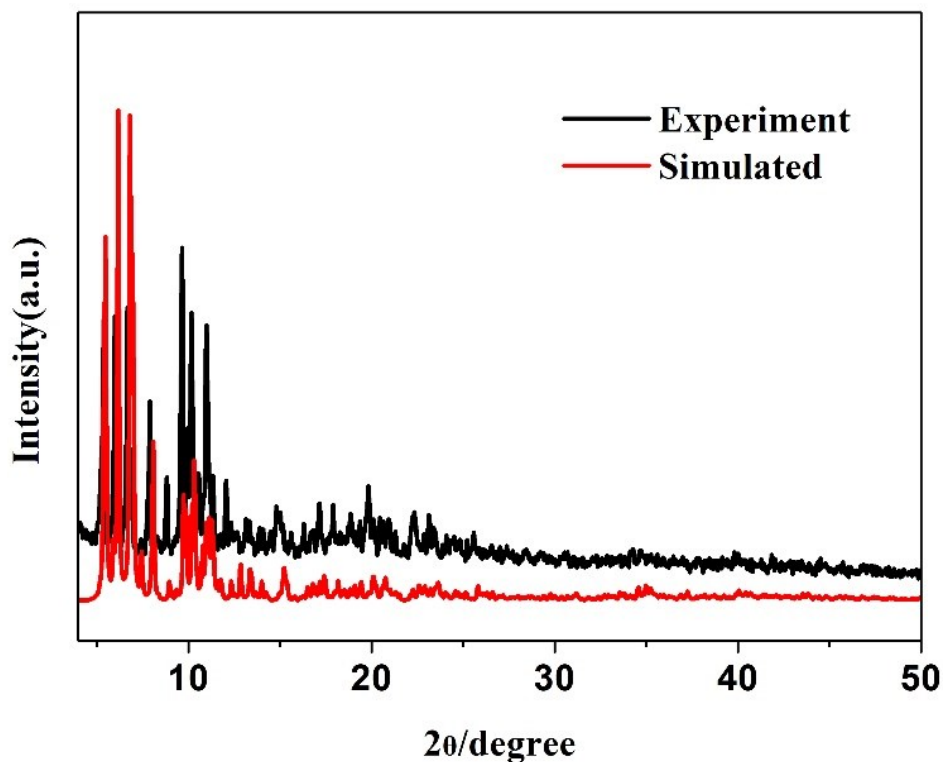


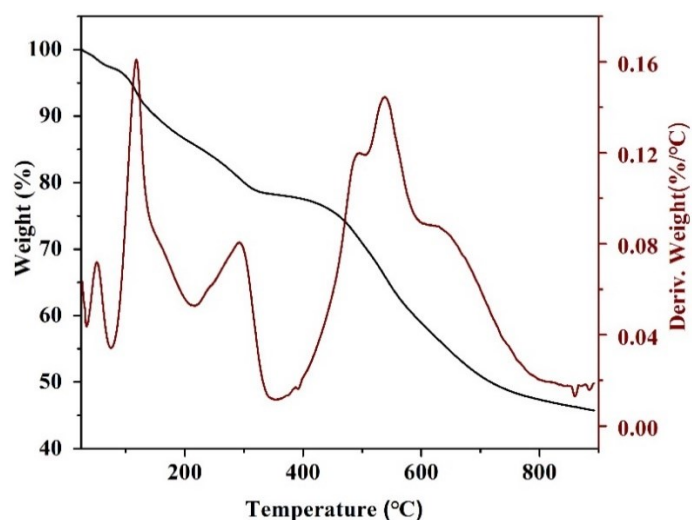
Figure S9. PXRD of compound  $\text{Co}_{14}\beta$ .



**Figure S10.** PXRD of compound  $\text{Co}_{14}\gamma$ .

The experimental PXRD patterns of the three compounds are consistent with the simulation results derived from the single crystal X-ray data, confirming the phase purity of the samples.

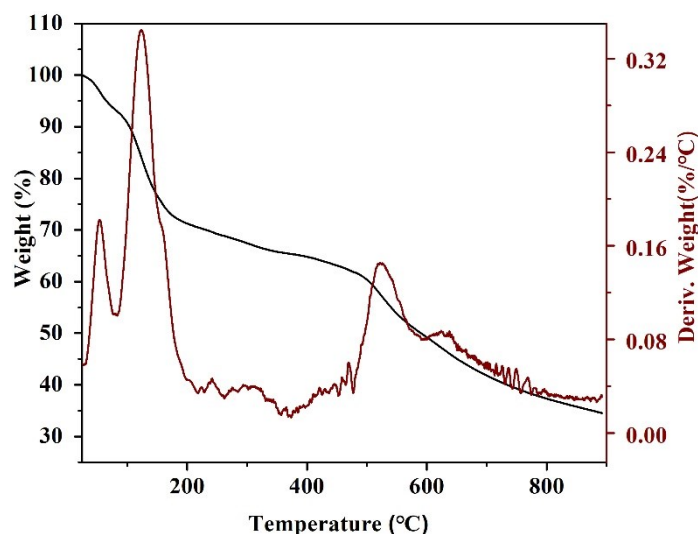
## TGA experiments



**Figure S11.** The TGA curves of  $\text{Co}_{14}\alpha$  recorded in high pure  $\text{N}_2$  (99.999%) at 20 mL/min with heating rate of 10  $^{\circ}\text{C}$  /min.

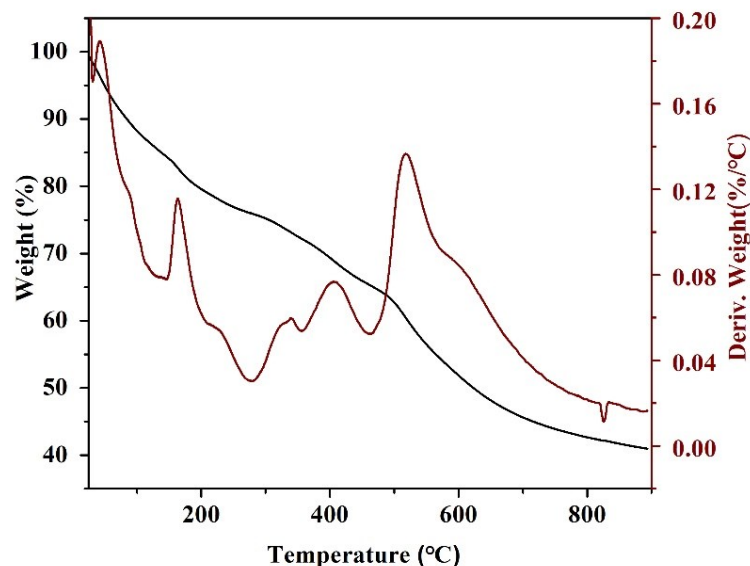
In the TGA plot of  $\text{Co}_{14}\alpha$ , the weight loss is ca. 20% from the beginning to 300  $^{\circ}\text{C}$  corresponding to loss solvent molecules in the lattice and weakly coordinated molecules (eg.  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , DMF).

From 300 °C to 450 °C, the weight decreases slowly. Further weight loss decreases sharply which can be assigned to the decompose of thiacalix[4]arene and adenine ligands. After 800 °C, the TGA map reached a relatively slow weight loss area. Finally, a dark black deposition product was observed at 900 °C.



**Figure S12.** The TGA curves of **Co<sub>14</sub>β** recorded in high pure N<sub>2</sub> (99.999%) at 20 mL/min with heating rate of 10 °C /min.

In the TGA plot of **Co<sub>14</sub>β**, the weight loss is ca. 30% from the beginning to 200 °C corresponding to loss solvent molecules in the lattice and weakly coordinated molecules (eg. CH<sub>3</sub>OH, H<sub>2</sub>O, DMF). From 200 °C to 500 °C, the weight decreases slowly. Further weight loss decreases sharply which can be assigned to the decompose of thiacalix[4]arene and adenine ligands. After 800 °C, the TGA map reached a relatively slow weight loss area. Finally, a dark black deposition product was observed at 900 °C.

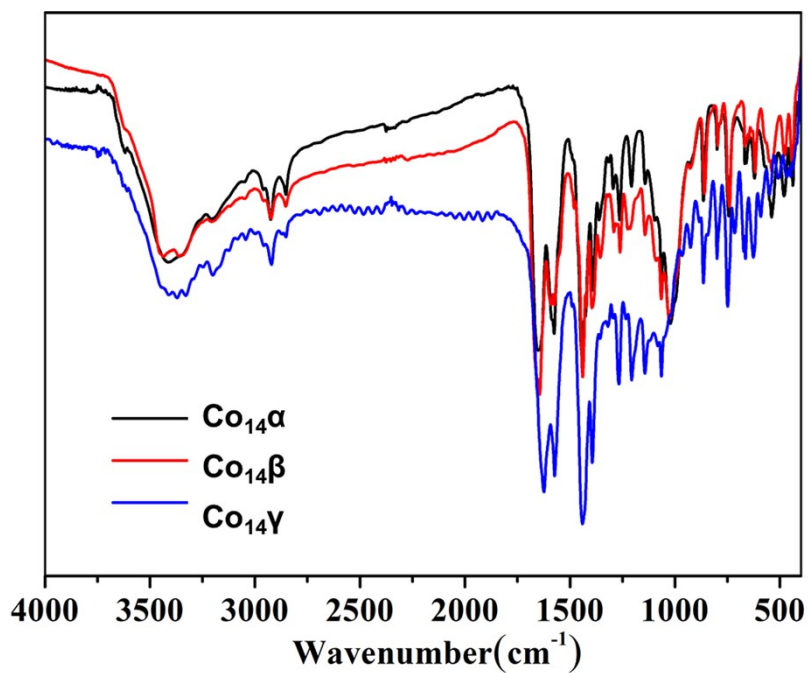


**Figure S13.** The TGA curves of **Co<sub>14</sub>γ** recorded in high pure N<sub>2</sub> (99.999%) at 20 mL/min with heating rate of 10 °C /min.

In the TGA plot of **Co<sub>14</sub>γ**, the weight loss is ca. 20% from the beginning to 200 °C corresponding to loss solvent molecules in the lattice and weakly coordinated molecules (eg. CH<sub>3</sub>OH, H<sub>2</sub>O, DMF). From 300 °C to 500 °C, the weight decreases slowly. Further weight loss decreases sharply which

can be assigned to the decompose of thiacalix[4]arene and adenine ligands. After 800 °C, the TGA map reached a relatively slow weight loss area. Finally, a dark black deposition product was observed at 900 °C.

## FTIR spectra

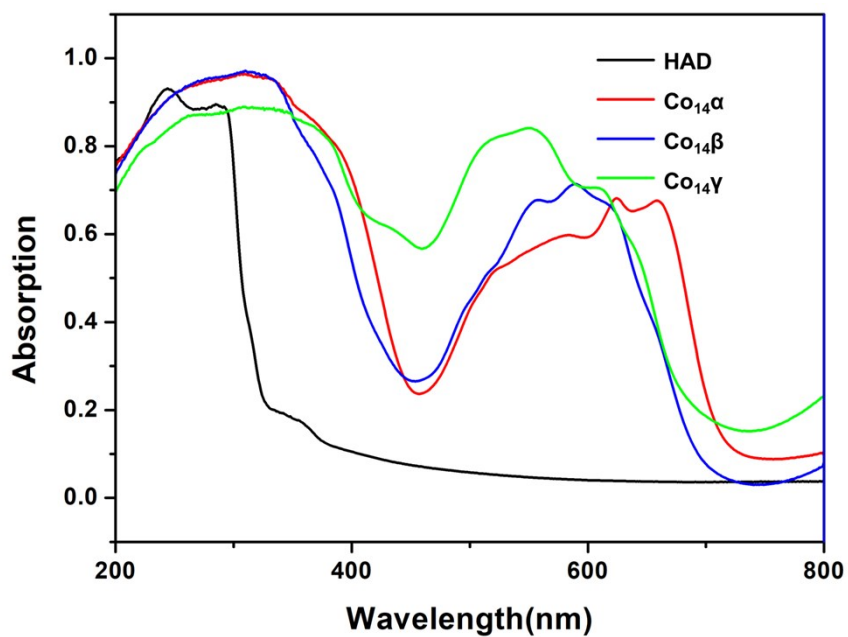


**Figure S14.** FTIR spectra of  $\text{Co}_{14}\alpha$ ,  $\text{Co}_{14}\beta$  and  $\text{Co}_{14}\gamma$ ,  $\nu_s(-\text{NH}) = 3618\text{cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\nu_{\text{as}}(-\text{NH}) = 3411\text{cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\nu(-\text{C}=\text{C})$  &  $\nu(-\text{C}=\text{N}) = 1650\text{cm}^{-1}$ ,  $1445\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

## Solid-state UV-vis light absorption







**Figure S15.** The photos pictures (up) and solid-state UV-vis absorption for  $\text{Co}_{14}\alpha$ ,  $\text{Co}_{14}\beta$  and  $\text{Co}_{14}\gamma$  (HAD supplied for comparison).

**Table S1.** Selected bond distances ( $\text{\AA}$ ) and BVS calculations for  $\text{Co}_4$ ,  $\text{Co}_{14}\alpha$ ,  $\text{Co}_{14}\beta$  and  $\text{Co}_{14}\gamma$

$\text{Co}_4$							
Band	Distance	r	Valu	Band	Distance	r	Value
Co(1)-O(1)	2.0029(19)	1.69	0.432	Co(3)-O(3)	2.024(6)	1.69	0.449
Co(1)-O(6)	2.022(2)	1.69	0.410	Co(3)-O(2)	2.037(6)	1.69	0.410
Co(1)-O(4)	2.048(2)	1.69	0.382	Co(3)-O(8)	2.114(7)	1.69	0.408
Co(1)-N(1)	2.069(2)	1.84	0.539	Co(3)-N(6)	2.127(8)	1.84	0.474
Co(1)-S(1)	2.5401(9)	2.06	0.273	Co(3)-S(3)	2.514(3)	2.06	0.280

Co(1)-Cl(1)	2.6660(9)	2.01	0.170	Co(3)-Cl(1)	2.684(3)	2.01	0.204
valence			<b>2.205</b>	valence			<b>2.225</b>
Co(2)-O(1)	1.9886(19)	1.69	0.449	Co(4)-O(3)	2.002(2)	1.69	0.433
Co(2)-O(2)	2.025(2)	1.69	0.407	Co(4)-O(4)	2.010(2)	1.69	0.423
Co(2)-O(7)	2.054(2)	1.69	0.376	Co(4)-O(5)	2.027(2)	1.69	0.404
Co(2)-N(2)	2.075(2)	1.84	0.530	Co(4)-N(7)	2.116(2)	1.84	0.474
Co(2)-S(2)	2.5417(9)	2.06	0.272	Co(4)-S(4)	2.5605(9)	2.06	0.259
Co(2)-Cl(1)	2.6419(8)	2.01	0.181	Co(4)-Cl(1)	2.6304(8)	2.01	0.187
valence			<b>2.214</b>	valence			<b>2.180</b>
<b>Co<sub>14</sub>a</b>							
Band	Distance	r	Valu	Band	Distance	r	Value
Co(1)-O(4)	2.015(5)	1.69	0.418	Co(8)-O(8)	2.032(5)	1.69	0.399
Co(1)-O(1)	2.016(5)	1.69	0.417	Co(8)-O(7)	2.031(4)	1.69	0.400
Co(1)-N(1)	2.032(7)	1.84	0.595	Co(8)-N(7)	2.112(6)	1.84	0.479
Co(1)-N(11)	2.123(6)	1.84	0.465	Co(8)-N(26)	2.130(6)	1.84	0.457
Co(1)-S(1)	2.460(2)	2.06	0.339	Co(8)-S(8)	2.513(2)	2.06	0.294
				Co(8)-Cl(2)	2.683(2)	2.01	0.162
valence			<b>2.234</b>	valence			<b>2.191</b>
Co(2)-O(1)	2.012(5)	1.69	0.421	Co(9)-O(9)	2.020(5)	1.69	0.412
Co(2)-O(2)	2.015(5)	1.69	0.418	Co(9)-O(12)	2.037(5)	1.69	0.394
Co(2)-N(6)	2.083(7)	1.84	0.519	Co(9)-N(31)	2.093(7)	1.84	0.505
Co(2)-N(16)	2.162(7)	1.84	0.419	Co(9)-N(4)	2.117(7)	1.84	0.473
Co(2)-S(2)	2.470(2)	2.06	0.330	Co(9)-S(9)	2.518(2)	2.06	0.290
Co(2)-Cl(1)	2.729(2)	2.01	0.143	Co(9)-Cl(3)	2.695(2)	2.01	0.157
valence			<b>2.250</b>	valence			<b>2.230</b>
Co(3)-O(3)	1.997(5)	1.69	0.439	Co(10)-O(9)	2.020(5)	1.69	0.412
Co(3)-O(2)	2.001(5)	1.69	0.434	Co(10)-O(10)	2.029(6)	1.69	0.402
Co(3)-O(14)	2.037(6)	1.69	0.394	Co(10)-N(36)	2.103(7)	1.84	0.491
Co(3)-N(18)	2.097(7)	1.84	0.499	Co(10)-N(9)	2.131(7)	1.84	0.455
Co(3)-S(3)	2.545(2)	2.06	0.270	Co(10)-S(12)	2.500(2)	2.06	0.304
Co(3)-Cl(1)	2.625(2)	2.01	0.190	Co(10)-Cl(3)	2.673(2)	2.01	0.167
valence			<b>2.225</b>	valence			<b>2.232</b>
Co(4)-O(3)	1.988(5)	1.69	0.449	Co(11)-O(10)	1.995(6)	1.69	0.441
Co(4)-O(4)	2.014(5)	1.69	0.419	Co(11)-O(11)	2.013(6)	1.69	0.420
Co(4)-O(13)	2.037(5)	1.69	0.394	Co(11)-O(17)	2.033(7)	1.69	0.398
Co(4)-N(13)	2.090(6)	1.84	0.509	Co(11)-N(38)	2.098(8)	1.84	0.498
Co(4)-S(4)	2.517(2)	2.06	0.291	Co(11)-S(11)	2.499(3)	2.06	0.305
Co(4)-Cl(1)	2.604(2)	2.01	0.201	Co(11)-Cl(3)	2.734(3)	2.01	0.141
valence			<b>2.262</b>	valence			<b>2.203</b>
Co(5)-O(8)	2.016(5)	1.69	0.417	Co(12)-O(11)	1.986(6)	1.69	0.452
Co(5)-O(5)	2.043(5)	1.69	0.387	Co(12)-O(12)	2.016(6)	1.69	0.417
Co(5)-N(21)	2.078(6)	1.84	0.526	Co(12)-O(18)	2.046(8)	1.69	0.384
Co(5)-N(2)	2.112(6)	1.84	0.479	Co(12)-N(33)	2.077(8)	1.84	0.527
Co(5)-S(5)	2.520(2)	2.06	0.288	Co(12)-S(10)	2.494(3)	2.06	0.309
Co(5)-Cl(2)	2.649(2)	2.01	0.178	Co(12)-Cl(3)	2.704(2)	2.01	0.153
valence			<b>2.275</b>	valence			<b>2.242</b>

Co(6)-O(6)	1.972(5)	1.69	0.469	Co(13)-N(27)	1.987(6)	1.84	0.672
Co(6)-O(5)	2.008(5)	1.69	0.426	Co(13)-N(37)	2.023(8)	1.84	0.610
Co(6)-O(16)	2.061(6)	1.69	0.369	Co(13)-Cl(4)	2.256(2)	2.01	0.514
Co(6)-N(23)	2.055(7)	1.84	0.559	Co(13)-Cl(5)	2.267(3)	2.01	0.499
Co(6)-S(6)	2.495(2)	2.06	0.309				
valence			<b>2.132</b>	valence			<b>2.296</b>
Band	Distance	r	Valu	Band	Distance	r	Value
Co(7)-O(6)	1.964(5)	1.69	0.479	Co(14)-N(32)	2.028(8)	1.84	0.602
Co(7)-O(7)	2.002(5)	1.69	0.433	Co(14)-N(22)	2.025(7)	1.84	0.607
Co(7)-O(15)	2.060(6)	1.69	0.370	Co(14)-Cl(7)	2.244(3)	2.01	0.531
Co(7)-N(28)	2.070(6)	1.84	0.537	Co(14)-Cl(6)	2.250(3)	2.01	0.523
Co(7)-S(7)	2.485(2)	2.06	0.317				
Co(7)-Cl(2)	2.715(2)	2.01	0.149				
valence			<b>2.285</b>	valence			<b>2.262</b>
<b>Co<sub>14</sub>β</b>							
Band	Distance	r	Valu	Band	Distance	r	Value
Co(1)-O(2)	1.974(6)	1.69	0.467	Co(3)-N(2)	1.992(6)	1.84	0.663
Co(1)-O(4)	2.025(7)	1.69	0.407	Co(3)-N(2)	1.992(6)	1.84	0.663
Co(1)-O(1)	2.031(6)	1.69	0.400	Co(3)-N(2)	1.992(6)	1.84	0.663
Co(1)-N(4)	2.087(7)	1.84	0.513	Co(3)-O(6)	2.20(13)	1.69	0.253
Co(1)-S(1)	2.516(3)	2.06	0.292	Co(3)-Cl(2)	2.22(5)	2.01	0.567
Co(1)-Cl(1)	2.585(2)	2.01	0.211				
valence			<b>2.289</b>	valence			<b>2.810</b>
Co(2)-O(2)	2.003(6)	1.69	0.431				
Co(2)-O(5)	2.017(6)	1.69	0.415				
Co(2)-O(3)	2.048(6)	1.69	0.382				
Co(2)-N(1)	2.075(6)	1.84	0.530				
Co(2)-S(2)	2.543(2)	2.06	0.271				
Co(2)-Cl(1)	2.633(3)	2.01	0.186				
valence			<b>2.216</b>	valence			
<b>Co<sub>14</sub>γ</b>							
Band	Distance	r	Valu	Band	Distance	r	Value
Co(1)-O(4)	1.981(4)	1.69	0.458	Co(8)-O(8)	1.986(4)	1.69	0.452
Co(1)-O(1)	2.041(4)	1.69	0.389	Co(8)-O(20)	2.040(5)	1.69	0.390
Co(1)-O(13)	2.064(4)	1.69	0.366	Co(8)-S(8)	2.573(2)	2.06	0.250
Co(1)-N(1)	2.121(5)	1.84	0.468	Co(8)-O(7)	2.018(4)	1.69	0.414
Co(1)-O(29)	2.262(4)	1.69	0.214	Co(8)-N(12)	2.074(5)	1.84	0.531
Co(1)-S(1)	2.5762(18)	2.06	0.248				
valence			<b>2.143</b>	valence			<b>2.038</b>
Co(2)-O(2)	1.991(4)	1.69	0.446	Co(9)-O(12)	1.995(5)	1.69	0.441
Co(2)-O(1)	2.018(4)	1.69	0.414	Co(9)-O(21)	2.054(5)	1.69	0.376
Co(2)-O(14)	2.072(4)	1.69	0.358	Co(9)-O(31)	2.283(4)	1.69	0.202
Co(2)-N(6)	2.102(5)	1.84	0.493	Co(9)-O(9)	2.044(4)	1.69	0.386
Co(2)-S(2)	2.5758(18)	2.06	0.248	Co(9)-N(21)	2.077(5)	1.84	0.527
				Co(9)-S(9)	2.626(2)	2.06	0.217
valence			<b>1.959</b>	valence			<b>2.149</b>

Co(3)-O(2)	1.994(4)	1.69	0.442	Co(10)-O(10)	1.992(5)	1.69	0.444
Co(3)-O(15)	2.037(5)	1.69	0.394	Co(10)-O(9)	2.040(5)	1.69	0.390
Co(3)-O(3)	2.047(4)	1.69	0.383	Co(10)-O(31)	2.358(5)	1.69	0.165
Co(3)-O(29)	2.322(7)	1.69	0.182	Co(10)-O(22)	2.030(5)	1.69	0.401
Co(3)-N(9)	2.106(5)	1.84	0.487	Co(10)-N(26)	2.099(6)	1.84	0.497
Co(3)-S(3)	2.6175(19)	2.06	0.222	Co(10)-S(10)	2.612(2)	2.06	0.225
valence			2.107	valence			2.123
Co(4)-O(3)	2.009(4)	1.69	0.425	Co(11)-O(10)	1.995(5)	1.69	0.441
Co(4)-O(4)	1.978(4)	1.69	0.462	Co(11)-O(23)	2.128(8)	1.69	0.308
Co(4)-O(16)	2.027(4)	1.69	0.404	Co(11)-O(31)	2.240(4)	1.69	0.227
Co(4)-O(29)	2.367(4)	1.69	0.161	Co(11)-O(11)	2.044(5)	1.69	0.386
Co(4)-N(2)	2.057(5)	1.84	0.556	Co(11)-N(27)	2.148(6)	1.84	0.435
Co(4)-S(4)	2.6215(19)	2.06	0.219	Co(11)-S(11)	2.616(2)	2.06	0.223
valence			2.227	valence			2.020
Co(5)-O(8)	1.999(4)	1.69	0.436	Co(12)-O(12)	1.981(5)	1.69	0.458
Co(5)-O(17)	2.059(5)	1.69	0.371	Co(12)-O(24)	2.090(7)	1.69	0.341
Co(5)-O(30)	2.257(4)	1.69	0.217	Co(12)-S(12)	2.569(2)	2.06	0.253
Co(5)-O(5)	2.032(4)	1.69	0.399	Co(12)-O(11)	2.035(5)	1.69	0.396
Co(5)-N(11)	2.120(5)	1.84	0.469	Co(12)-N(24)	2.118(6)	1.84	0.472
Co(5)-S(5)	2.6300(19)	2.06	0.214				
valence			2.107	valence			1.919
Co(6)-O(6)	1.985(5)	1.69	0.453	Co(13)-O(25)	1.935(5)	1.69	0.519
Co(6)-O(5)	2.017(4)	1.69	0.415	Co(13)-N(8)	1.992(5)	1.84	0.663
Co(6)-O(30)	2.363(4)	1.69	0.163	Co(13)-N(29)	2.021(5)	1.84	0.613
Co(6)-O(18)	2.013(5)	1.69	0.420	Co(13)-N(18)	2.008(5)	1.84	0.635
Co(6)-N(16)	2.094(5)	1.84	0.503				
Co(6)-S(6)	2.5736(19)	2.06	0.250				
valence			2.204	valence			2.430
Co(7)-O(6)	1.987(4)	1.69	0.451	Co(14)-O(27)	1.941(6)	1.69	0.510
Co(7)-O(19)	2.043(5)	1.69	0.387	Co(14)-N(3)	2.008(5)	1.84	0.635
Co(7)-O(30)	2.253(4)	1.69	0.220	Co(14)-N(22)	2.011(5)	1.84	0.630
Co(7)-O(7)	2.012(4)	1.69	0.421	Co(14)-N(13)	2.008(5)	1.84	0.635
Co(7)-N(19)	2.083(5)	1.84	0.519				
Co(7)-S(7)	2.637(2)	2.06	0.210				
valence			2.207	valence			2.410

BVS calculations reveal that all the cobalt atoms in these four metal clusters are divalent.