

## Supporting Information

### **Second-harmonic generation in two hybrid organic–inorganic metal chlorides based on L-thiopropine ligand**

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## Synthesis

All starting reagents were used without further purification: L-thioproline (98%), ZnCl<sub>2</sub> (AR, 98%), CuCl (AR, 98%), and H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>2</sub> (AR, 50%) were purchased from Shanghai Macklin Biochemical Co., Ltd. HCl (AR 38%) were purchased from Chengdu Chron Chemical Co., Ltd.

(L-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S)CuCl<sub>2</sub> (**1**) was prepared by mixing CuCl (0.099 g, 1 mmol), L-thioproline (0.268 g, 2 mmol), HCl (38%, 1 mL), and H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>2</sub> (50%, 0.2 mL) in a glass vial. The mixture was stirred for 30 min at room temperature. The resulting clear solution was slowly evaporated at room temperature to give colorless crystals of compound **1** (55% yield based on copper).

(L-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>7</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S)<sub>2</sub>ZnCl<sub>2</sub> (**2**) was prepared by mixing ZnCl<sub>2</sub> (0.136 g, 1 mmol), L-thioproline (0.268 g, 2 mmol), HCl (38%, 0.063 mL), and H<sub>2</sub>O (1.0 mL) in a glass vial. The mixture was stirred for 30 min at room temperature. The resulting clear solution was slowly evaporated at 45 °C to give colorless crystals of compound **2** (65% yield based on zinc).

## Structural determination

Single crystal X-ray diffraction data were collected on Bruker D8 Venture diffractometer at room temperature. The crystal structures were solved by direct methods. The structures were refined on  $F^2$  by full-matrix least-squares methods using the *SHELXTL* program package.<sup>1,2</sup>

## Powder XRD analysis

Powder X-ray diffraction data were obtained using a Shimadzu XRD-6100 diffractometer with Cu-K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 1.5418 \text{ \AA}$ ), in the angular range of  $2\theta = 5\text{--}50^\circ$ , and with a scan step width of  $0.02^\circ$  and a fixed time of 0.2 s.

## Thermal Stability Analysis

Thermal analysis was performed in a dynamic nitrogen atmosphere using a Shimadzu DTG-60H thermal analyzer with a heating rate of 10 °C/min in the range of 30 to 800 °C.

### **IR Spectroscopy**

IR spectra of compounds **1** and **2** were obtained on a Nicolet Impact 4100 FTIR spectrometer by using KBr pellets, with transmission mode from 4000 to 400 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

### **UV-Vis Diffuse Reflectance Spectroscopy**

The UV–vis diffuse reflectance spectra of title compounds were recorded at room temperature on a Shimadzu UV-2600 UV–vis spectrophotometer in the wavelength range of 200–800 nm. BaSO<sub>4</sub> powder was used as 100% reflectance reference. The Kubelka-Munk function<sup>3,4</sup> was used to calculate the absorption spectra from the reflection spectra:  $F(R) = \alpha/S = (1-R)^2/2R$ , where  $R$  is the reflectance,  $\alpha$  is the absorption coefficient, and  $S$  is the scattering coefficient.

### **Birefringence Measurements**

The birefringences of compounds **1** and **2** were characterized by using the polarizing microscope equipped (ZEISS Axio Scope. A5) with a Berek compensator.

### **Second-Harmonic Generation Tests**

The Kurtz and Perry method was used to measure powder second harmonic generation (SHG) signals at room temperature.<sup>5</sup> The SHG efficiency mainly depends on the particle size, and the crystalline compound was ground and divided into the following particle sizes: 25–45, 45–58, 58–75, 75–106, 106–150 and 150–212 μm. Microcrystalline KH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (KDP) with the same particle size was used as a reference. The measurements were performed using Q-switched Nd: YAG lasers with visible light at 1064 nm, and a cut-off filter was used to limit the background flash light on the sample, and the SHG signal is recorded by a photomultiplier tube.

## Computational Methods

In order to understand the relationship between structure and properties of compounds **1**, **2**, the first-principles calculations were carried out by using the CASTEP software package.<sup>6</sup> The band structure, density of states (DOS) / partial density of states (PDOS), and optical properties of compounds **1** and **2** were calculated. The generalized gradient approximation (GGA) with Perdew-Burke-Ernzer (PBE) was used for all the calculations.<sup>7</sup> All the atoms were performed by Norm-conserving pseudopotentials (NCP), with H 1s<sup>1</sup>, C 2s<sup>2</sup>2p<sup>2</sup>, N 2s<sup>2</sup>2p<sup>3</sup>, O 2s<sup>2</sup>2p<sup>4</sup>, S 3s<sup>2</sup>3p<sup>4</sup>, Cl 3s<sup>2</sup>3p<sup>5</sup>, Zn 3d<sup>10</sup>4s<sup>2</sup>, Cu 3d<sup>10</sup>4s<sup>1</sup> treated as valence electrons.<sup>8</sup> The kinetic energy cutoff of 750 eV and the k-point sampling of 5 × 5 × 3 were chosen for the compound **1**. The k-point sampling of 4 × 3 × 2 were chosen for the compound **2**.<sup>9</sup> All other parameter settings are CASTEP default values. In addition, the scissors operators were adopted when calculating the birefringence, and the values are 0.9 eV for compound **1** and 0.0 eV for compound **2**.

To obtain the linear optical properties, the complex dielectric function  $\varepsilon(\omega) = \varepsilon_1(\omega) + i\varepsilon_2(\omega)$  has been determined in the random phase approximation from the PBE wavefunctions. The imaginary part of the dielectric function due to direct inter-band transitions is given by the expression,

$$\varepsilon_2(\hbar\omega) = \frac{2e^2\pi}{\Omega\varepsilon_0} \sum_{k,v,c} \left| \langle \psi_k^c | u \cdot r | \psi_k^v \rangle \right|^2 \delta(E_k^c - E_k^v - E) \quad (\text{equation S1})$$

where  $\Omega$ ,  $\omega$ ,  $u$ ,  $v$  and  $c$  are the unit-cell volume, photon frequencies, the vector defining the polarization of the incident electric field, valence and conduction bands, respectively. The real part of the dielectric function is obtained from  $\varepsilon_2$  by a Kramers-Kronig transformation,

$$\varepsilon_1(\omega) = 1 + \left(\frac{2}{\pi}\right) \int_0^{+\infty} d\omega' \frac{\omega'^2 \varepsilon_2(\omega')}{\omega'^2 - \omega^2} \quad (\text{equation S2})$$

In calculation of the static  $\chi^{(2)}$  coefficients, the so-called length-gauge formalism derived by Aversa and Sipe <sup>10</sup> and modified by Rashkeev *et al* <sup>11</sup> is adopted, which has been proved to be successful in calculating the second order susceptibility for semiconductors and insulators.<sup>12, 13</sup> In the static case, the imaginary part of the static second-order optical susceptibility can be expressed as:

$$\begin{aligned} & \chi^{abc} \\ &= \frac{e^3}{\hbar^2 \Omega} \sum_{nml,k} \frac{r_{nm}^a (r_{ml}^b r_{ln}^c + r_{ml}^c r_{ln}^b)}{2\omega_{nm} \omega_{ml} \omega_{ln}} [\omega_n f_{ml} + \omega_m f_{ln} + \omega_l f_{nm}] \\ &+ \frac{ie^3}{4\hbar^2 \Omega} \sum_{nm,k} \frac{f_{nm}}{\omega_{mn}^2} [r_{nm}^a (r_{mn;c}^b + r_{mn;b}^c) + r_{nm}^b (r_{mn;c}^a + r_{mn;a}^c) + r_{nm}^c (r_{mn;b}^a + r_{mn;a}^b)] \end{aligned} \quad (\text{equation S3})$$

where  $r$  is the position operator,  $\hbar\omega_{nm} = \hbar\omega_n - \hbar\omega_m$  is the energy difference for the bands  $m$  and  $n$ ,  $f_{mn} = f_m - f_n$  is the difference of the Fermi distribution functions, subscripts  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  are Cartesian indices, and  $r_{mn;a}^b$  is the so-called generalized derivative of the coordinate operator in  $k$  space,

$$r_{mn;a}^b = \frac{r_{nm}^a \Delta_{mn}^b + r_{nm}^b \Delta_{mn}^a}{\omega_{nm}} + \frac{i}{\omega_{nm}} \times \sum_l (\omega_{lm} r_{nl}^a r_{lm}^b - \omega_{nl} r_{nl}^b r_{lm}^a) \quad (\text{equation S4})$$

where  $\Delta_{nm}^a = (p_{nn}^a - p_{mm}^a) / m$  is the difference between the electronic velocities at the bands  $n$  and  $m$ .

**Table S1** Selected hydrogen bonds for compound **1**.

D–H···A	D–H (Å)	H···A (Å)	D···A (Å)	<(DHA) (deg)
O(2)–H(2)···Cl(1)#1	0.67(12)	2.41(13)	3.006(6)	150(19)
N(1)–H(1A)···Cl(2)#2	0.89	2.30	3.175(7)	166.0
N(1)–H(1B)···Cl(1)#3	0.89	2.43	3.035(7)	125.3

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms: #1  $l-x, -l/2+y, l-z$ ; #2  $+x, -l+y, +z$ ;

#3  $l+x, -l+y, +z$ .

**Table S2** Selected hydrogen bonds for compound **2**.

D–H···A	D–H (Å)	H···A (Å)	D···A (Å)	<(DHA) (deg)
N(1)–H(1A)···O(2)#1	0.89	1.80	2.673(5)	167.7
N(1)–H(1B)···Cl(1)#1	0.89	2.72	3.344(4)	128.2
N(1)–H(1B)···O(2)	0.89	2.09	2.609(5)	116.1
N(2)–H(2A)···Cl(2)#2	0.89	2.57	3.417(5)	160.5
N(2)–H(2B)···S(2)#3	0.89	2.71	3.339(4)	128.4
N(2)–H(2B)···O(3)	0.89	2.05	2.579(5)	117.1

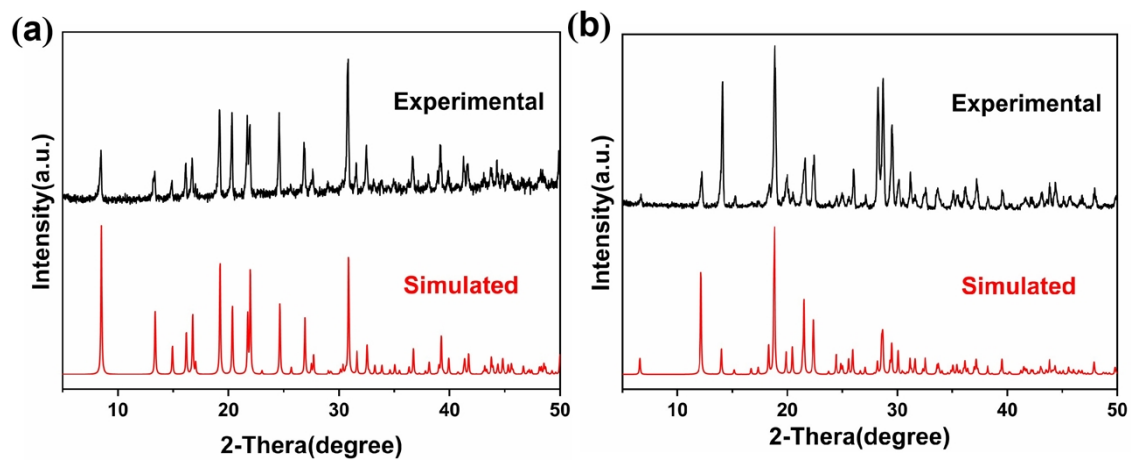
Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms: #1  $l-x, l/2+y, -z$ ; #2  $l-x, l/2+y, l-z$ ;

#3  $-x, l/2+y, l-z$ .

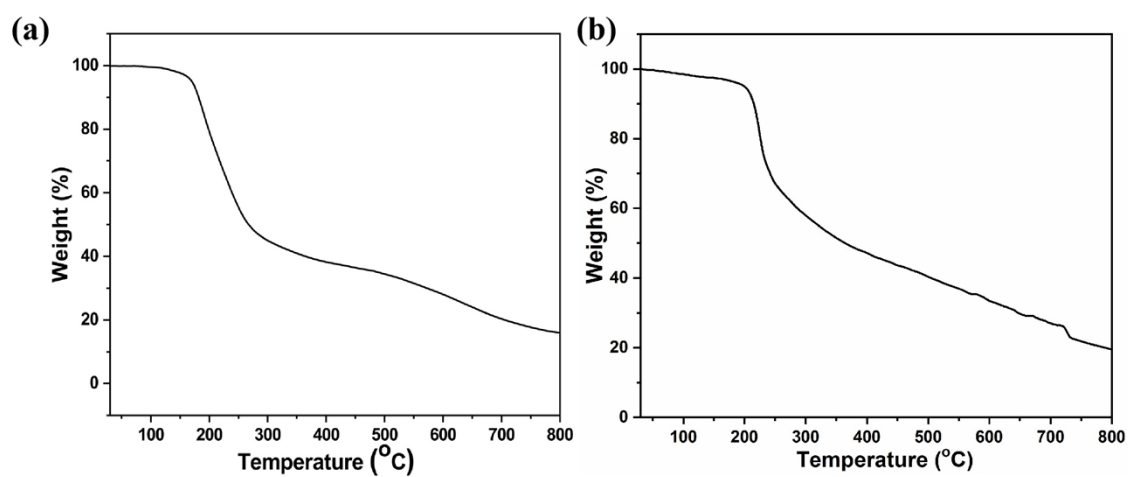
**Table S3.** Bond lengths [Å] for compounds **1** and **2**.

compound 1		compound 2	
Cu1-Cl	2.2610(18)	Zn1-Cl1	2.2528(14)
Cu1-Cl2#1	2.392(2)	Zn1-Cl2	2.2546(13)
Cu1-Cl2	2.3521(19)	Zn1-O1	1.966(4)
Cu1-S1	2.2984(16)	Zn1-O3	1.955(3)
S1-C3	1.815(8)	S1-C3	1.796(6)
S1-C4	1.809(7)	S1-C4	1.764(5)
O1-C1	1.194(10)	S2-C7	1.799(5)
O2-C1	1.312(9)	S2-C8	1.790(6)
N1-C2	1.510(9)	O1-C1	1.258(5)
N1-C4	1.492(11)	O2-C1	1.234(6)
C1-C2	1.525(9)	O3-C5	1.271(5)
C2-C3	1.507(9)	O4-C5	1.213(6)
		N1-C2	1.503(5)
		N1-C4	1.489(6)
		N2-C6	1.487(6)
		N2-C8	1.469(6)
		C1-C2	1.512(7)
		C2-C3	1.506(7)
		C5-C6	1.529(6)
		C6-C7	1.517(6)

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms: #1  $1-x, -1/2+y, 2-z$ .



**Fig. S1** Simulated and experimental powder XRD patterns for compounds **1** (a) and **2** (b).



**Fig. S2** TGA curves of compounds **1** (a) and **2** (b).

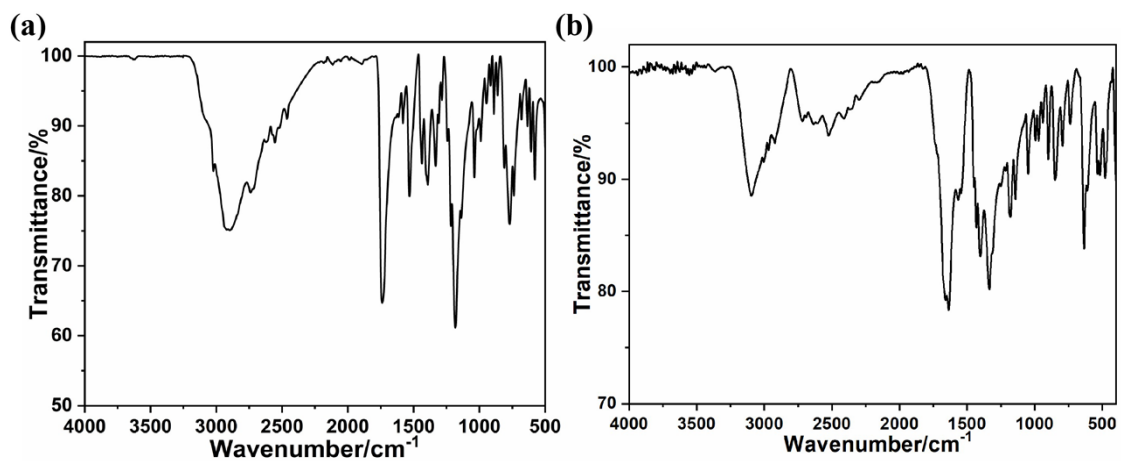


Fig. S3 IR spectra of compounds **1** (a) and **2** (b).

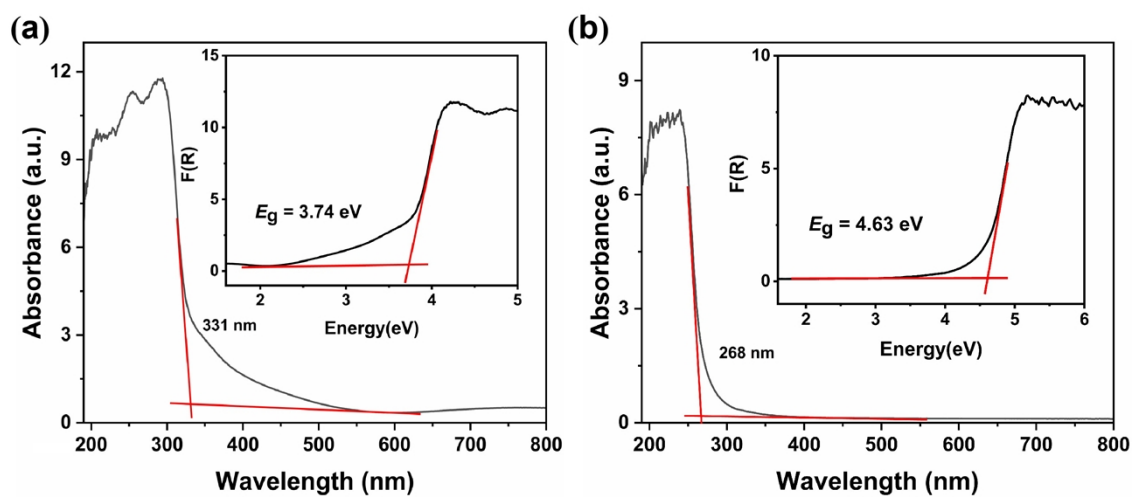
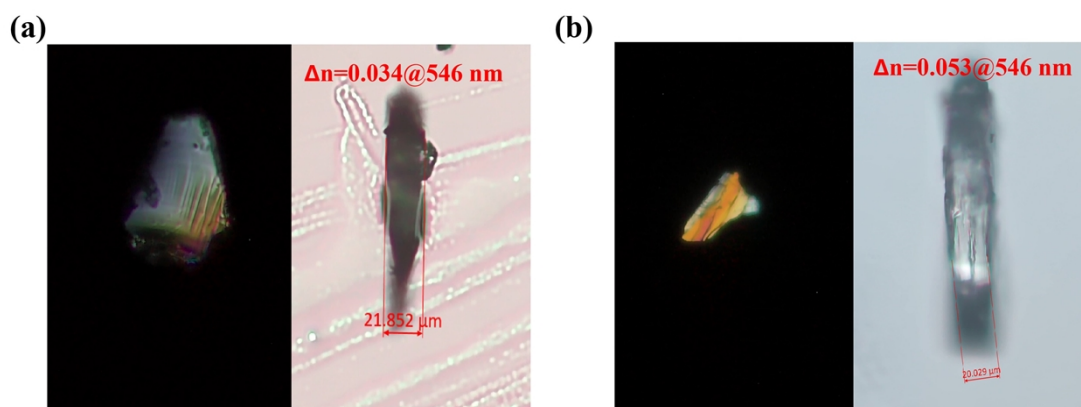
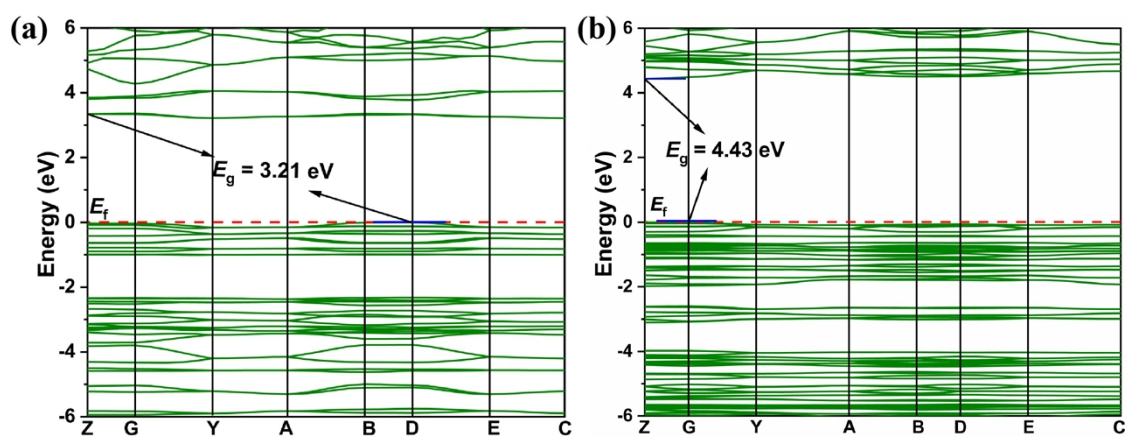


Fig. S4 UV-vis absorption spectra for compounds **1** (a) and **2** (b).



**Fig. S5** Birefringence measurements for compounds **1** (a) and **2** (b) performed using a polarizing microscope.



**Fig. S6** Calculated band structures for compounds **1** (a) and **2** (b) (the Fermi level is set at 0 eV).

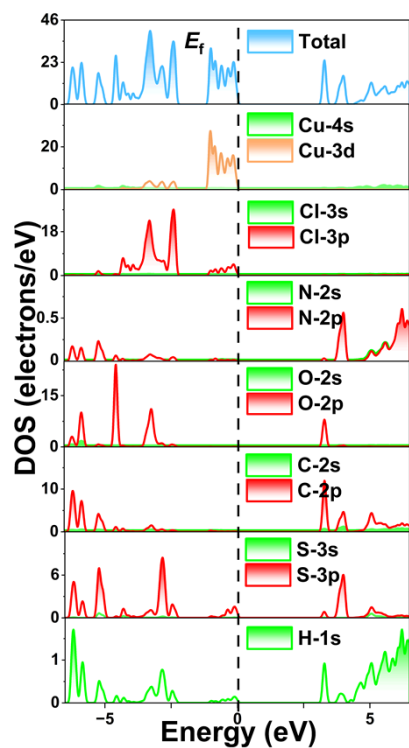


Fig. S7 Total and partial DOS of compound 1.

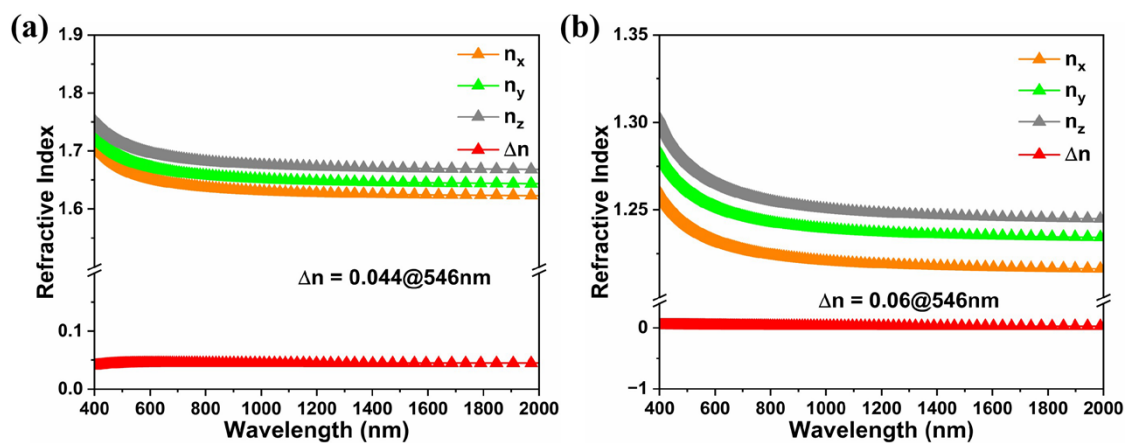
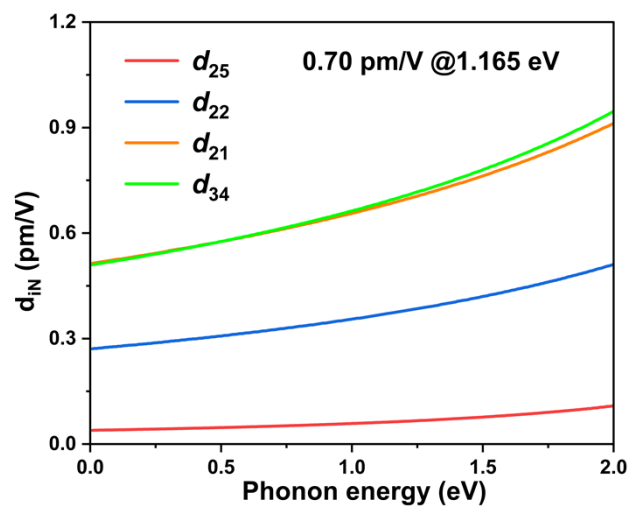


Fig. S8 The calculated linear refractive indices of compounds 1 (a) and 2 (b).



**Fig. S9** Calculated frequency-dependent SHG coefficients for compound 2.

## References

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