# **Supporting information**

## µ-Hydroxyl Trinuclear Copper(II) Cluster: Reactivity and Unusual Formation in Three-Component Synthesis of 1,2,3-Triazoles in Aqueous Media

Yuan-Bo Cai,<sup>a</sup> Lei Liang,<sup>a</sup> Jing Zhang,<sup>b</sup>\* Hao-Ling Sun,<sup>c</sup> and Jun-Long Zhang<sup>a</sup>\*

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**Figure S1.** UV-vis spectra of (a)  $\mu$ -O(H) trinuclear copper(II) cluster (**Cu-6**) in aqueous solution with a concentration of  $2.29 \times 10^{-5}$  mol/L. Inset: A expanded spectra from 400 nm to 800, with a concentration of  $2.29 \times 10^{-4}$  mol/L. The  $\lambda_{max}$ /nm ( $\epsilon$ /M<sup>-1</sup>• cm<sup>-1</sup>) are 242 (91500), 270 (sh), 343 (10950), 564 (285); and (b) **Cu-1** in aqueous solution. Inset: A expanded spectra from 400 nm to 800, with a concentration of  $3.15 \times 10^{-4}$  mol/L. The  $\epsilon$  at 564 nm is 149 M<sup>-1</sup>• cm<sup>-1</sup>.

### 2. Characterizations of *µ*-O(H) trinuclear copper(II) cluster (Cu-6):

#### **ESI-MS** (negative) and FTIR spectra

#### μ-O(H) trinuclear copper(II) cluster (Cu-6)



**Figure S2** ESI-MS (negative) spectra of  $\mu$ -O(H) trinuclear copper(II) cluster (**Cu-6**). Insert are the structure and simulated spectrum.





Figure S3. FTIR spectrum of  $\mu$ -O(H) trinuclear copper(II) cluster (Cu-6). (KBr)

# 3. UV-vis spectra of trinuclear copper(II) cluster Cu-7



Figure S4. UV-vis spectra of nuclear copper(II) cluster Cu-7 in methanol.

#### 4. GC detection of $\beta$ -hydroxy benzyl azide

Gas chromatography was performed on an Agilent 7890A gas chromatography with FID detector, using a 30 m×0.25 mm<sup>2</sup> Chiral G-TA capillary column.

**Sample preparations: Cu-1** (0.03 mmol), NaN<sub>3</sub> (0.5 mmol), and styrene epoxide (0.5 mmol) was added to water (10 mL) and stirred at room temperature overnight. 1 mL of the suspension was extracted by ethyl acetate. Then 25  $\mu$ L chlorobenzene was added as an internal standard. The solution was dried by anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and used for GC experiments.

#### GC conditions for measuring the enantiomers of $\beta$ -hydroxy benzyl azide:

Inlet temperature: 250 °C No split. Step 1: 50 °C for 1 min. Step 2: 70 °C for 10 min. Step 3: 180 °C for 5 min. Flow: 3.9 mL/min



**Figure S5.** GC curve for  $\beta$ -hydroxy benzyl azide, the product of styrene epoxide and NaN<sub>3</sub> in aqueous solution in the presence of catalyst **Cu-1**. The integrated areas of two enantiomers are quite similar, which indicates that there is no enantiomeric excess for the products.

# 5. Crystal data and structure refinement for Cu-1.

Identification code	Cu-1
Empirical formula	C20 H29 Cu N2 Na2 O14.50 S2
Formula weight	703.09
Temperature	296(2) K
Wavelength	0.71073 A
Crystal system, space group	Triclinic, P-1
Unit cell dimensions	a = 7.8998(4) A alpha = 103.382(4) deg. b
= 11.5756(7)  A beta $= 94.177(4)$	) deg. $c = 16.6900(9) A$ gamma = 103.844(4) deg.
Volume	1428.30(14) A^3
Z, Calculated density	2, 1.635 Mg/m^3
Absorption coefficient	1.013 mm^-1
F(000)	724
Crystal size	0.10 x 0.06 x 0.04 mm
Theta range for data collection	2.52 to 27.75 deg.
Limiting indices	-10<=h<=10, -14<=k<=15, -21<=l<=21
Reflections collected / unique	12691 / 6590 [R(int) = 0.0460]
Completeness to theta $= 27.75$	97.7 %
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.8067 and 0.4012
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	6590 / 0 / 436
Goodness-of-fit on F^2	1.121
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0762, wR2 = 0.2168
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0960, wR2 = 0.2273
Largest diff. peak and hole	1.500 and -0.758 e.A^-3

# Crystal data and structure refinement for Cu-5.

Identification co	ode	Cu-5		
Empirical form	ıla	C13 H2	2 Cu N2 O	7 S
Formula weight	,	413.93	5	
Temperature		296(2)	) K	
Wavelength		0.710	073 A	
Crystal system,	space group	Triclinic,	P-1	
Unit cell dimen	sions	a = 9.402	1(13) A	alpha = 65.210(2) deg. b
= 9.6265(13) A	beta = 76.389(2) de	eg. $c = 10.599$	93(14) A ga	mma = 73.383(2)  deg.
Volume		827.	18(19) A^3	ł
Z, Calculated de	ensity	2, 1.662	Mg/m^3	
Absorption coef	ficient	1.485 mm	<b>^-</b> 1	
F(000)		430		
Crystal size		0.20 x 0	.18 x 0.10 r	nm
Theta range for	data collection	2.28 to 27.58	deg.	
Limiting indices	\$	-12<=h<	=11, -12<=	=k<=11, -13<=l<=13
Reflections coll	ected / unique	4890 / 3650	$[\mathbf{R}(\mathrm{int})=0.$	0138]
Completeness to	theta = 27.58	95.3 %		
Absorption corr	ection	Semi-em	pirical from	n equivalents
Max. and min. t	ransmission	0.8657 an	d 0.7555	
Refinement met	hod	Full-m	natrix least-	squares on F^2
Data / restraints	/ parameters 3	650 / 6 / 286	)	
Goodness-of-fit	on F^2	1.035		
Final R indices	[I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0328	8, wR2 = 0.	0837
R indices (all da	ita)	R1 = 0.039	1, wR2 = 0	.0872
Largest diff. pea	ak and hole	0.502 and -(	0.368 e.A^-	3

### Crystal data and structure refinement for Cu-6.

Identification code	Cu-6
Empirical formula	C41 H66 Cu3 N6 O19 S3
Formula weight	1233.80
Temperature	293(2) K
Wavelength	0.71073 A
Crystal system, space group	Trigonal, P3(1)
Unit cell dimensions	a = 14.083(2) A alpha = 90 deg. b =
14.083(2) A beta = 90 deg. $c = 23$	3.118(5) A gamma = 120 deg.
Volume	3970.4(11) A^3
Z, Calculated density	3, 1.548 Mg/m^3
Absorption coefficient	1.389 mm^-1
F(000)	1923
Crystal size	0.15 x 0.13 x 0.10 mm
Theta range for data collection	1.89 to 27.62 deg.
Limiting indices	-13<=h<=18, -18<=k<=13, -26<=l<=29
Reflections collected / unique	23778 / 11017 [R(int) = 0.0286]
Completeness to theta $= 27.62$	99.4 %
Absorption correction	None
Max. and min. transmission	0.8187 and 0.7996
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F^2
Data / restraints / parameters	11017 / 2 / 654
Goodness-of-fit on F^2	0.969
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0387, wR2 = 0.0970
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0525, $wR2 = 0.1046$
Absolute structure parameter	0.032(10)
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.746 and -0.579 e.A^-3



# 6. NMR spectra of catalysts and products















The above spectra is <sup>1</sup>H NMR, and the below spectra is <sup>13</sup>C NMR



The above spectra is  ${}^{1}$ H NMR, and the below spectra is  ${}^{13}$ C NMR



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The above spectra is  ${}^{1}$ H NMR, and the below spectra is  ${}^{13}$ C NMR



















Cu-7













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Peking University Mass Spectrometry Sample Analysis Report



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