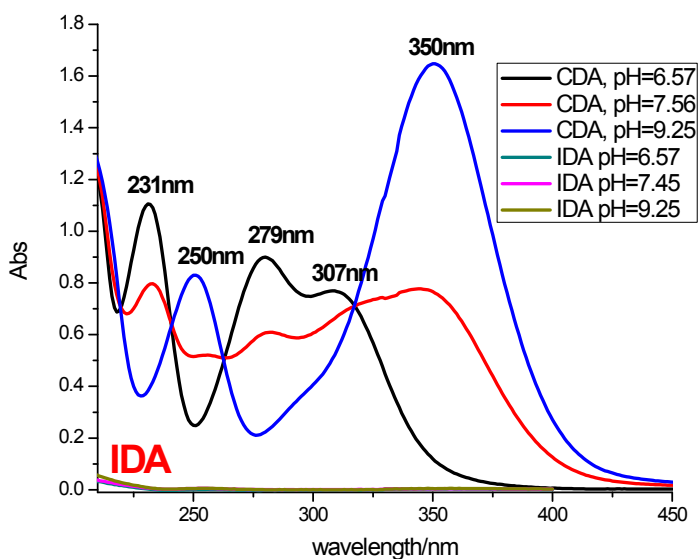


## **Supporting Information**

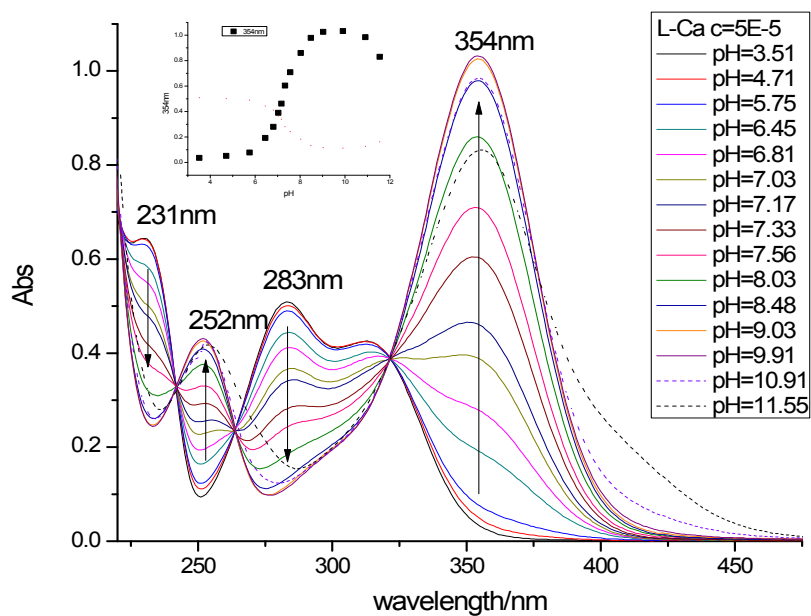
**Synthesis, spectroscopy and binding constants of ketocatechol-containing iminodiacetic acid and its Fe(III), Cu(II) and Zn(II) complexes and reaction of Cu(II) complex with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> in aqueous solution<sup>†</sup>**

**Jiaojiao Gao, Feifei Xing, Yueling Bai and Shourong Zhu\***

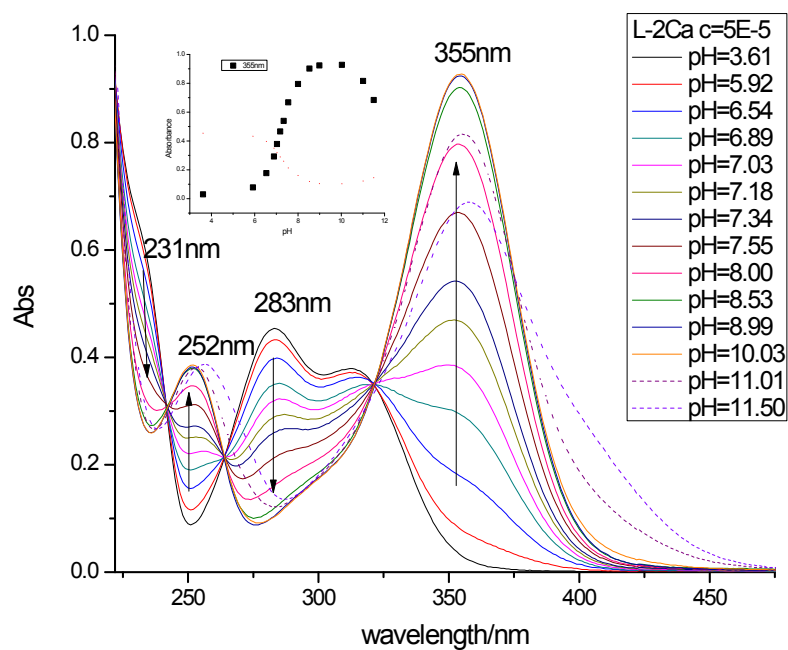
Department of Chemistry, Innovative Drug Research Center, Shanghai University,  
Shanghai, 200444, China.



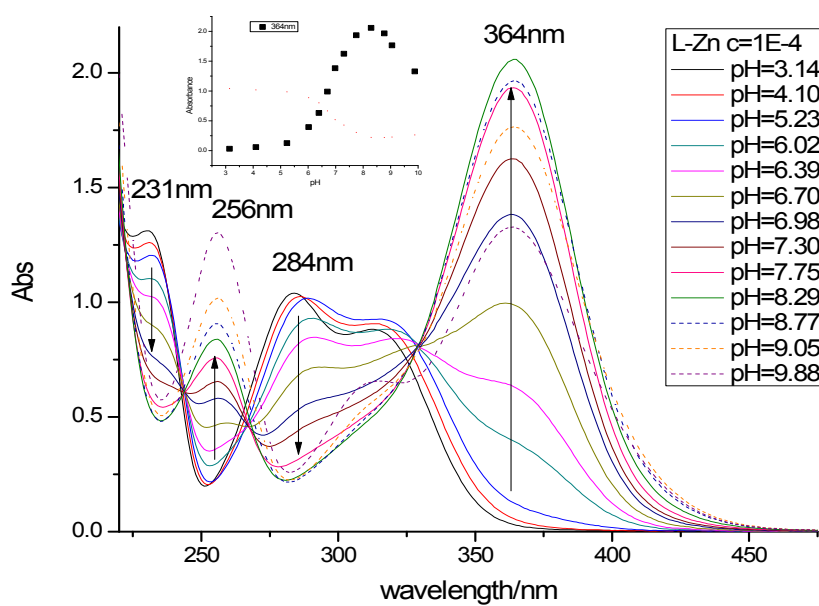
**Fig. S1** UV spectrum of  $1.00 \times 10^{-4}$  M 2-chloro-3',4'-dihydroxyacetophenone (CDA) and IDA at different pH based NaOH (0.1M) at 25°C.



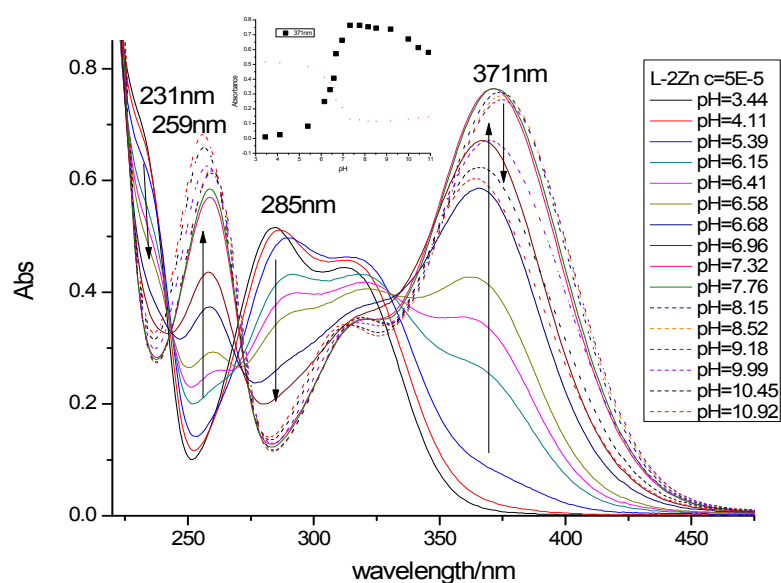
**Fig. s2** UV spectrum of  $5.00 \times 10^{-5}$  M  $H_4L$  and  $5.00 \times 10^{-5}$  M  $Ca(NO_3)_2$  at different pH. pH was adjusted with NaOH (0.1M) at 25°C. The inset figure is the absorbance at 354 nm at different pH.



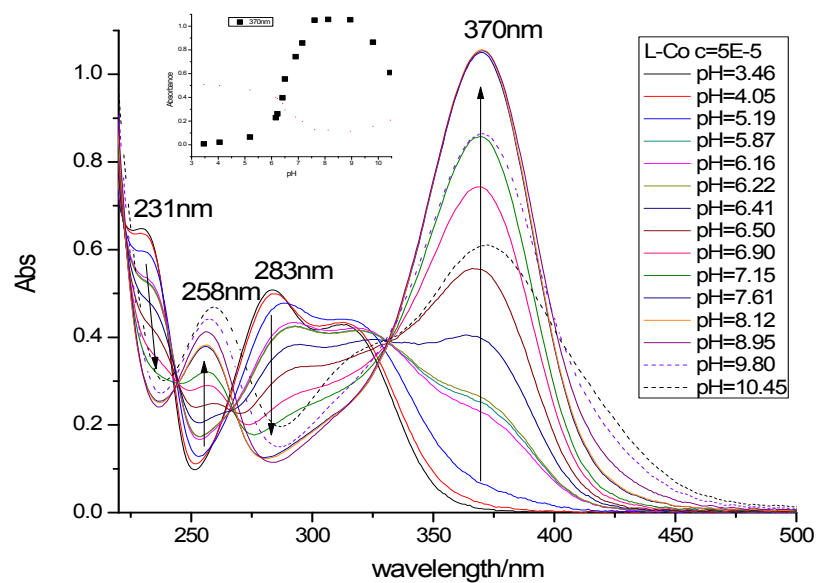
**Fig. s3** UV spectrum of  $5.00 \times 10^{-5}$  M  $H_4L$  and  $1.00 \times 10^{-4}$  M  $Ca(NO_3)_2$  at different pH. pH was adjusted with NaOH (0.1M) at 25°C. The inset figure is the absorbance at 355 nm at different pH.



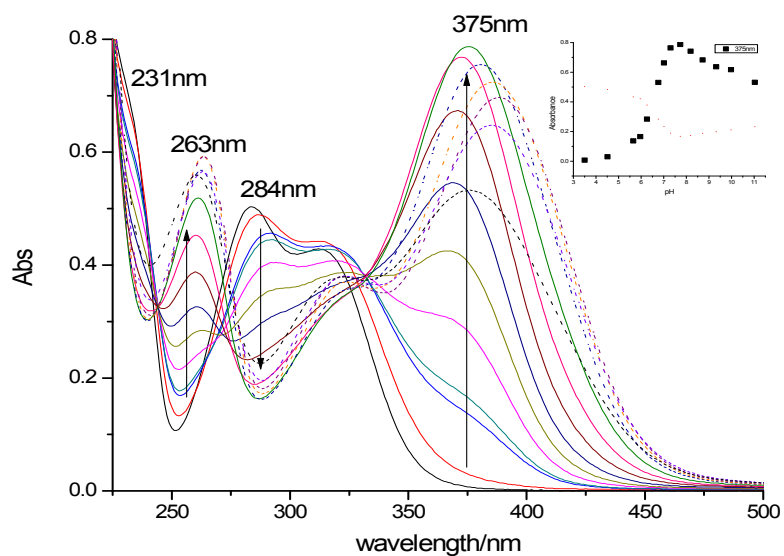
**Fig. s4** UV spectrum of  $1.00 \times 10^{-4}$  M  $H_4L$  and  $1.00 \times 10^{-4}$  M  $Zn(NO_3)_2$  at different pH. pH was adjusted with NaOH (0.1M) at 25°C. The inset figure is the absorbance at 364 nm at different pH.



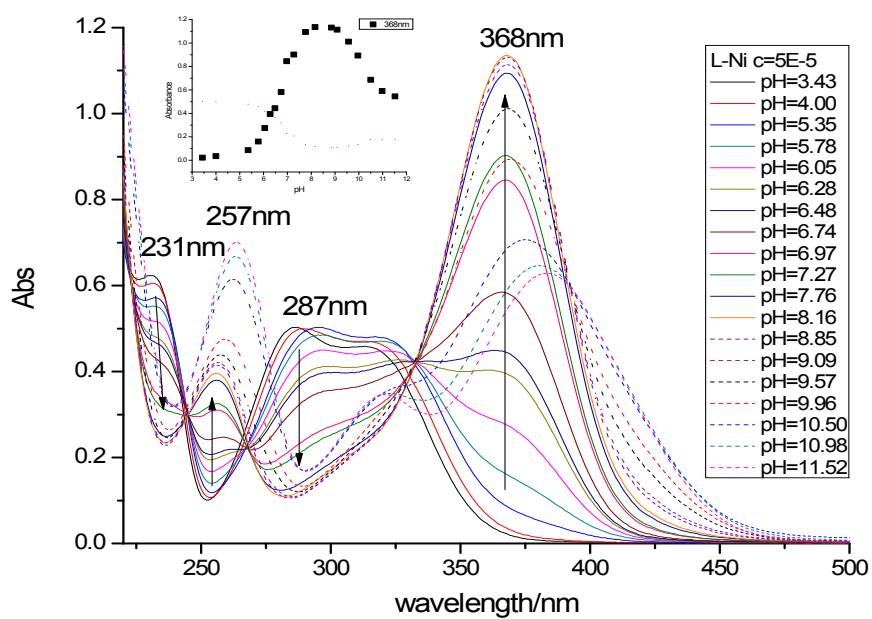
**Fig. s5** UV spectrum of  $5.00 \times 10^{-5}$  M  $H_4L$  and  $1.00 \times 10^{-4}$  M  $Zn(NO_3)_2$  at different pH. pH was adjusted with NaOH (0.1M) at 25°C. The inset figure is the absorbance at 371 nm at different pH.



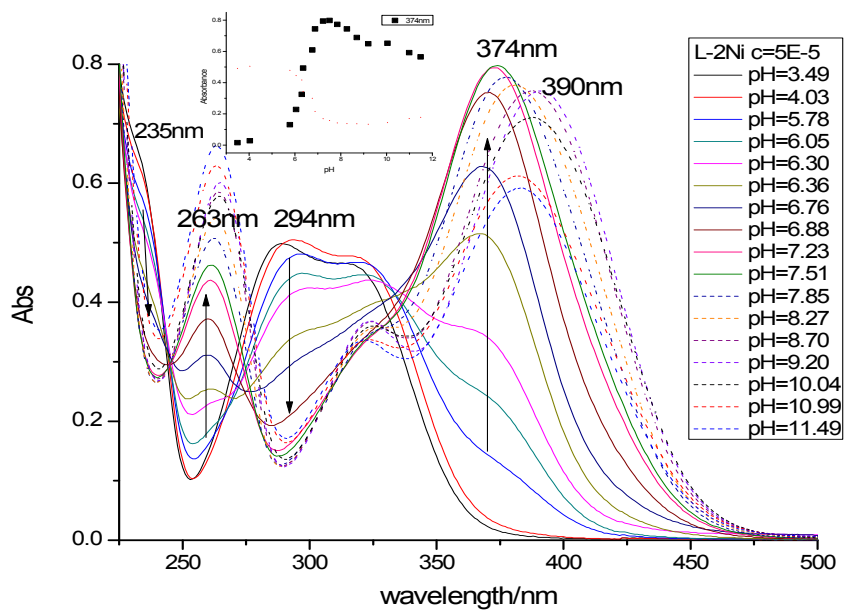
**Fig. s6** UV spectrum of  $5.00 \times 10^{-5}$  M  $H_4L$  and  $5.00 \times 10^{-5}$  M  $Co(NO_3)_2$  at different pH. pH was adjusted with NaOH (0.1M) at 25°C. The inset figure is the absorbance at 370 nm at different pH.



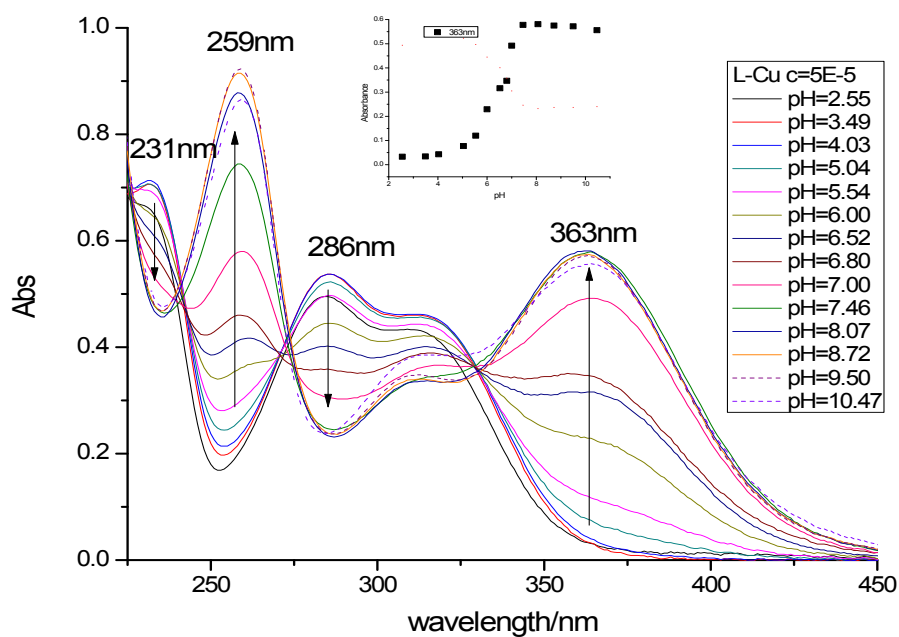
**Fig. s7** UV spectrum of  $5.00 \times 10^{-5}$  M  $H_4L$  and  $1.00 \times 10^{-4}$  M  $Co(NO_3)_2$  at different pH. pH was adjusted with NaOH (0.1M) at  $25^\circ C$ . The inset figure is the absorbance at 375 nm at different pH.



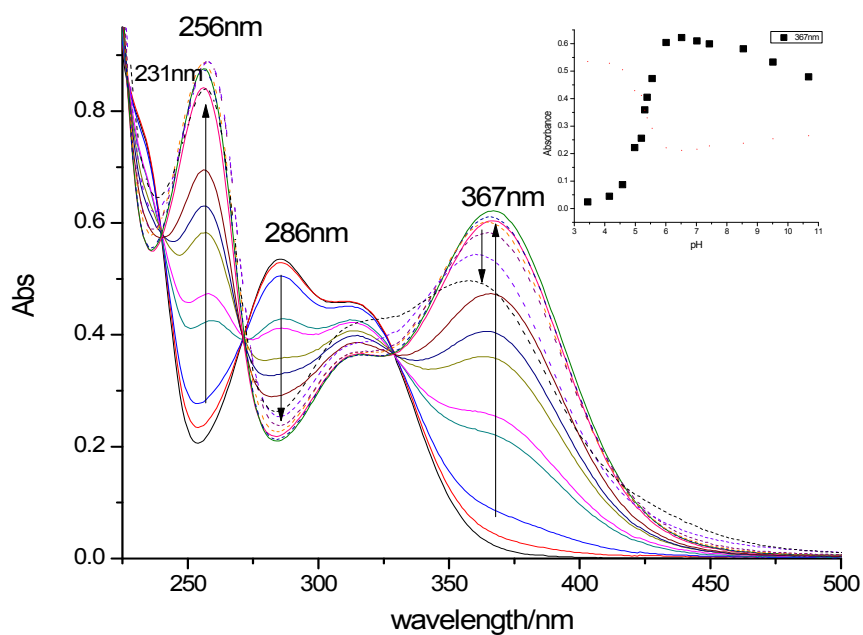
**Fig. s8** UV spectrum of  $5.00 \times 10^{-5}$  M  $H_4L$  and  $5.00 \times 10^{-5}$  M  $Ni(NO_3)_2$  at different pH. pH was adjusted with NaOH (0.1M) at  $25^\circ C$ . The inset figure is the absorbance at 368 nm at different pH.



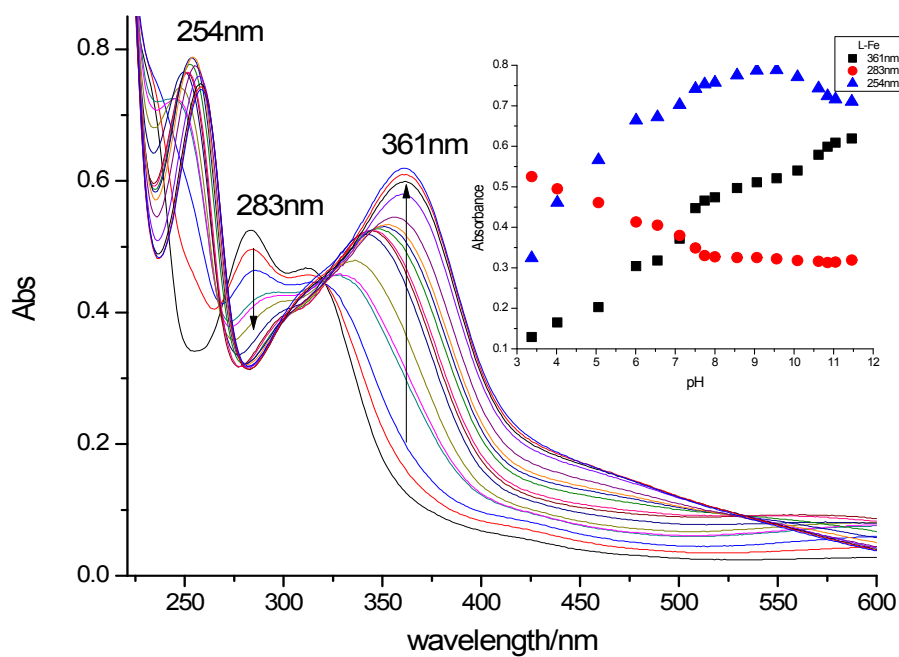
**Fig. s9** UV spectrum of  $5.00 \times 10^{-5}$  M  $H_4L$  and  $1.00 \times 10^{-4}$  M  $Ni(NO_3)_2$  at different pH. pH was adjusted with NaOH (0.1M) at 25°C. The inset figure is the absorbance at 374 nm at different pH.



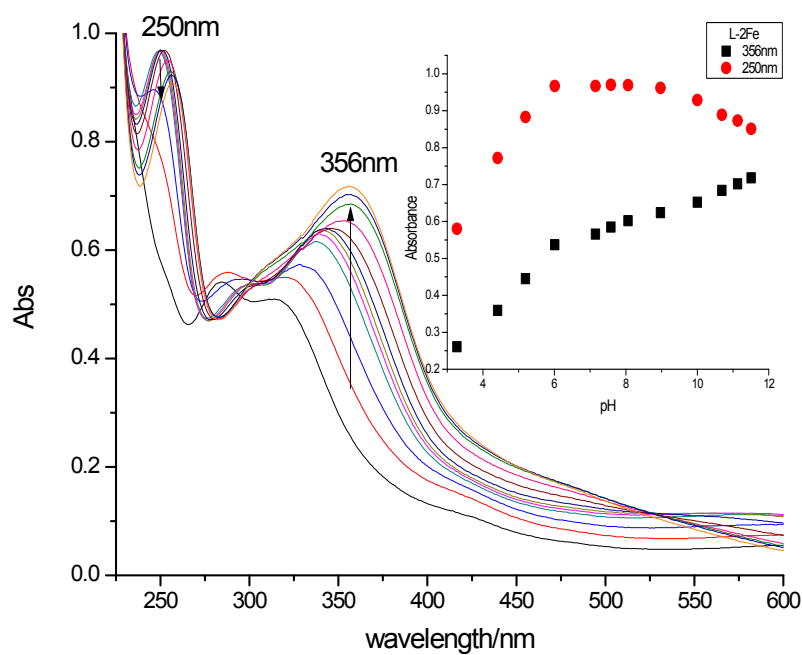
**Fig. s10** UV spectrum of  $5.00 \times 10^{-5}$  M  $H_4L$  and  $5.00 \times 10^{-5}$  M  $Cu(NO_3)_2$  at different pH. pH was adjusted with NaOH (0.1M) at 25°C. The inset figure is the absorbance at 363 nm at different pH.



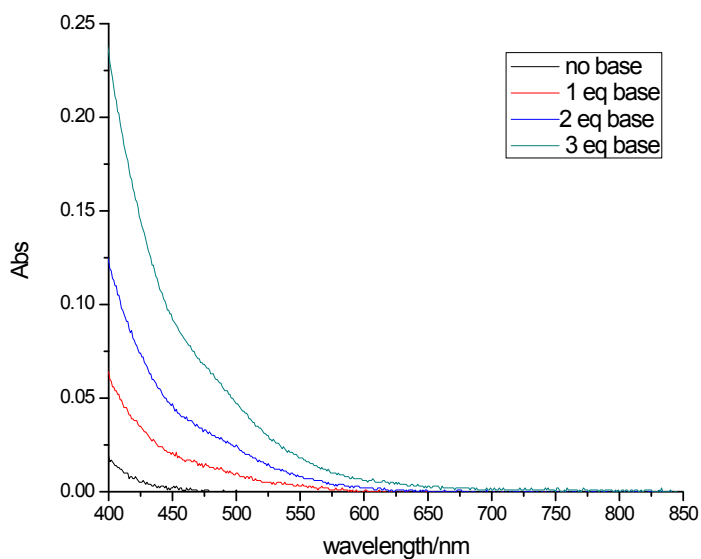
**Fig. s11** UV spectrum of  $5.00 \times 10^{-5}$  M  $\text{H}_4\text{L}$  and  $1.00 \times 10^{-4}$  M  $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2$  at different pH. pH was adjusted with NaOH (0.1M) at  $25^\circ\text{C}$ . The inset figure is the absorbance at 367 nm at different pH.



**Fig. s12** UV spectrum of  $5.00 \times 10^{-5}$  M  $\text{H}_4\text{L}$  and  $5.00 \times 10^{-5}$  M  $\text{Fe}(\text{NO}_3)_3$  at different pH. pH was adjusted with NaOH (0.1M) at  $25^\circ\text{C}$ . The inset figure is the absorbance at 361 (black), 283 (red) and 254 (blue) nm at different pH.

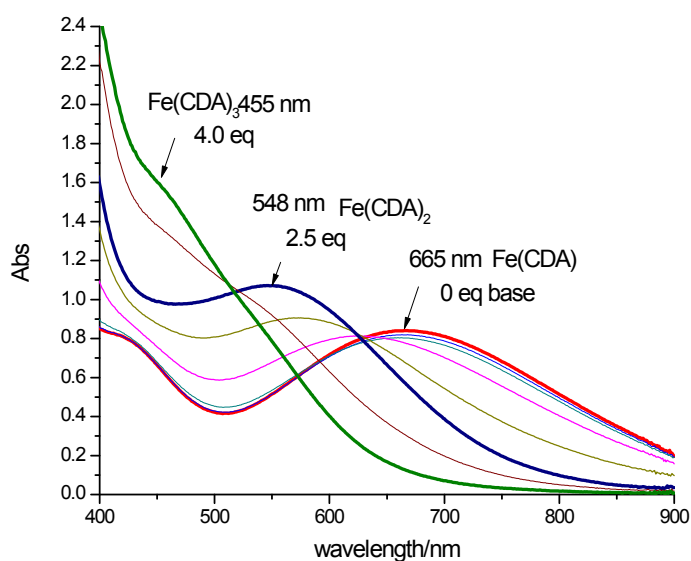


**Fig. s13** UV spectrum of  $5.00 \times 10^{-5}$  M  $H_4L$  and  $1.00 \times 10^{-4}$  M  $Fe(NO_3)_3$  at different pH. pH was adjusted with NaOH (0.1M) at  $25^\circ C$ . The inset figure is the absorbance at 356 (red) and 250 (black) nm at different pH.

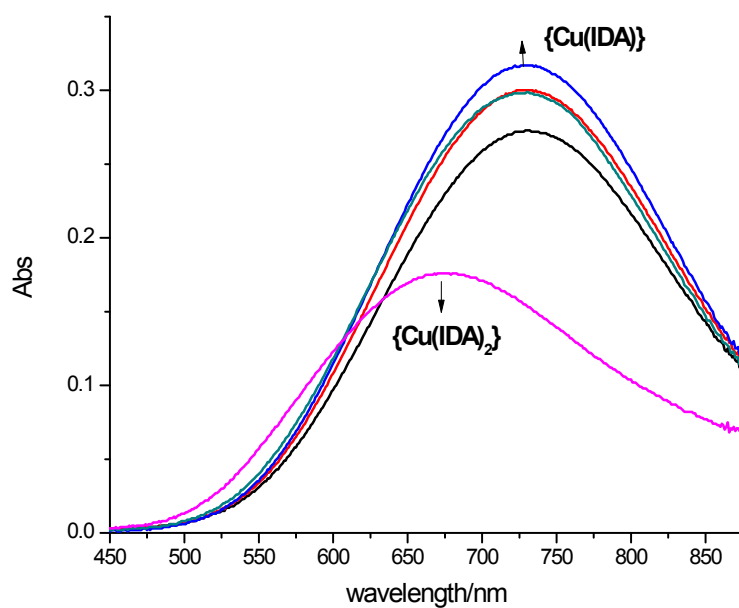


**Fig. s14** UV-vis spectra of a 0.5 mM IDA and 0.5 mM  $Fe(NO_3)_3$  aqueous solution with different amount NaOH.

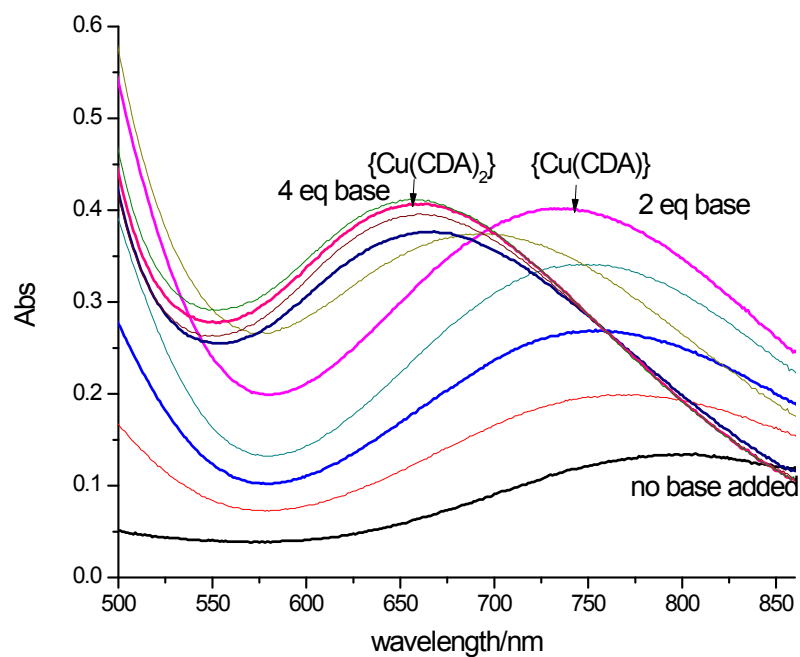




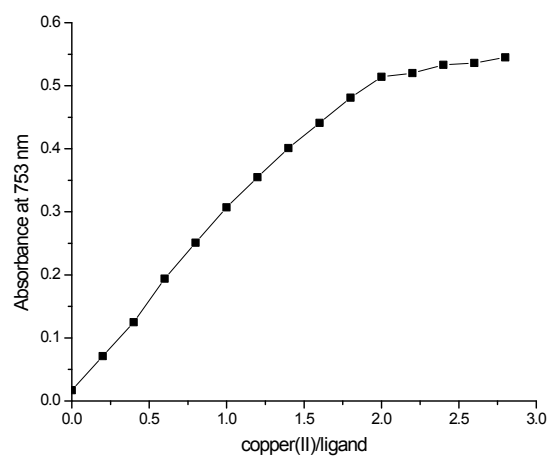
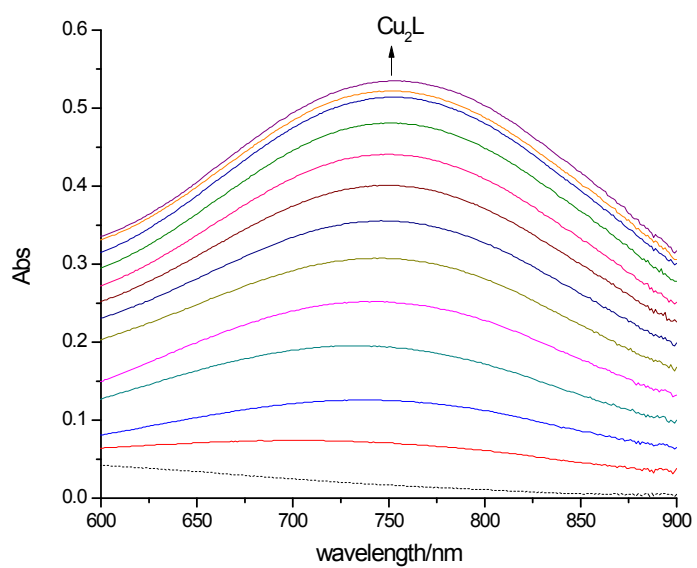
**Fig. s15** UV-vis spectra of a 0.5 mM CDA and 0.5 mM Fe(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> aqueous solution with different amount NaOH. 0 equiv NaOH per Fe(III) formed {Fe(CDA)} species at 665 nm ( $\epsilon_{665} = 1692$ ), 2.5 equiv NaOH per Fe(III) formed {Fe(CDA)<sub>2</sub>} species at 548 nm ( $\epsilon_{548} = 4280$ ) and 4.0 equiv NaOH per Fe(III) formed {Fe(CDA)<sub>3</sub>} species at 455 nm ( $\epsilon_{455} = 9480$ ).



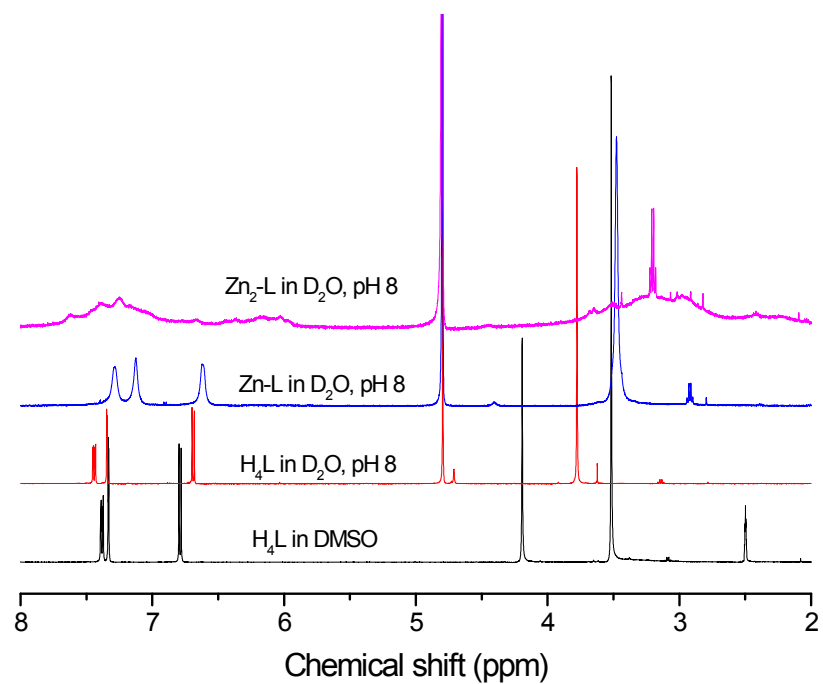
**Fig. s16** UV-vis spectra of a 10 mM IDA and 5 mM Cu(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> aqueous solution with NaOH. 2.0 equiv NaOH per Cu(II) formed {Cu(IDA)} species at 726 nm ( $\epsilon_{726} = 62$ ) and 4.0 equiv NaOH per Cu(II) formed {Cu (IDA)<sub>2</sub>} species at 677 nm ( $\epsilon_{677} = 36$ ). Two species are all pale blue.



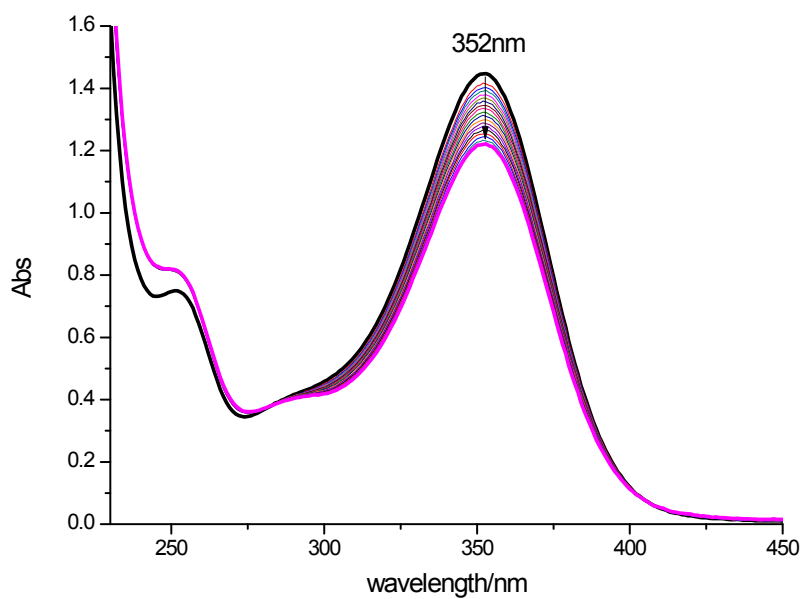
**Fig. s17** UV-vis spectra of a 10 mM 2-chloro-3',4'-dihydroxyacetophenone(CDA) and 10 mM  $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2$  aqueous solution with NaOH. 2.0 equiv NaOH per Cu(II) formed  $\{\text{Cu}(\text{CDA})\}$  species at 732 nm ( $\epsilon_{732} = 40$ ) and 4.0 equiv NaOH per Cu(II) formed  $\{\text{Cu}(\text{CDA})_2\}$  species at 658 nm ( $\epsilon_{658} = 41$ ). The color of two species are dark yellow and dark green respectively.



**Fig. s18** UV-vis spectra of 5.00 mM  $\text{H}_4\text{L}$  with different amount  $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2$  in aqueous solution at pH 4.8 (top) . The absorbance/molar ratio plot with  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  at 753 nm (bottom)



**Fig. s19**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of  $\text{H}_4\text{L}$  in DMSO (1) and pH 8.0  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  solution.  $\text{H}_4\text{L}$  (2),  $\text{Zn-L}$  bright- yellow powder (3) and  $\text{Zn}_2\text{-L}$  green-yellow powder (4)



**Fig. s 20** Spectra changes of  $1.0 \times 10^{-4}$  ligand in 50 mM HEPES buffer at pH=8.0, 50eq  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$

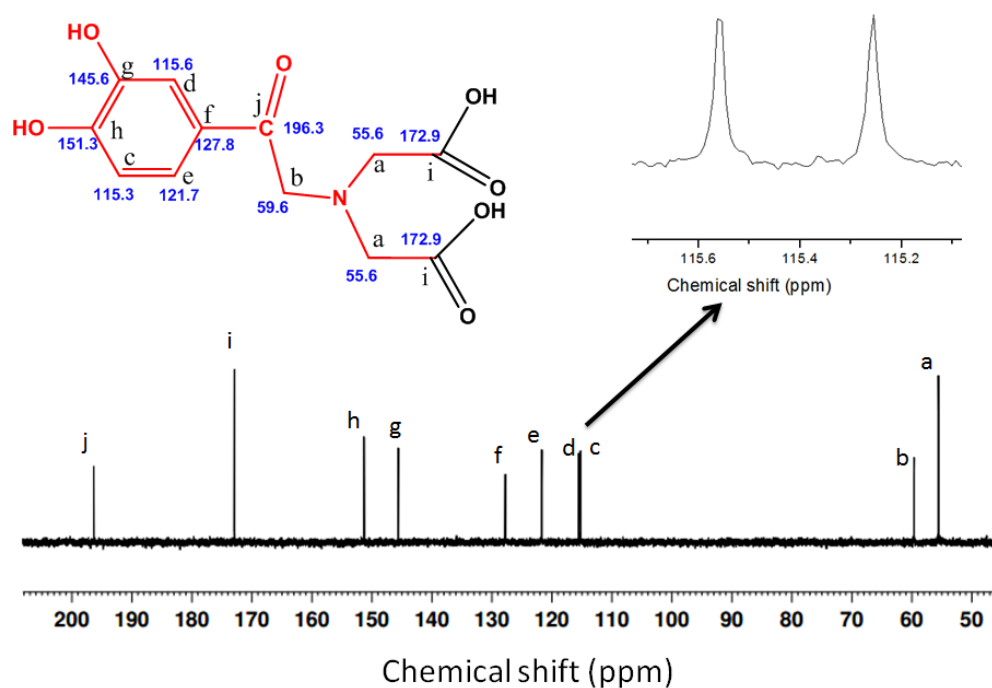


Fig. s 21  $^{13}C$  NMR of  $H_4L$  in DMSO

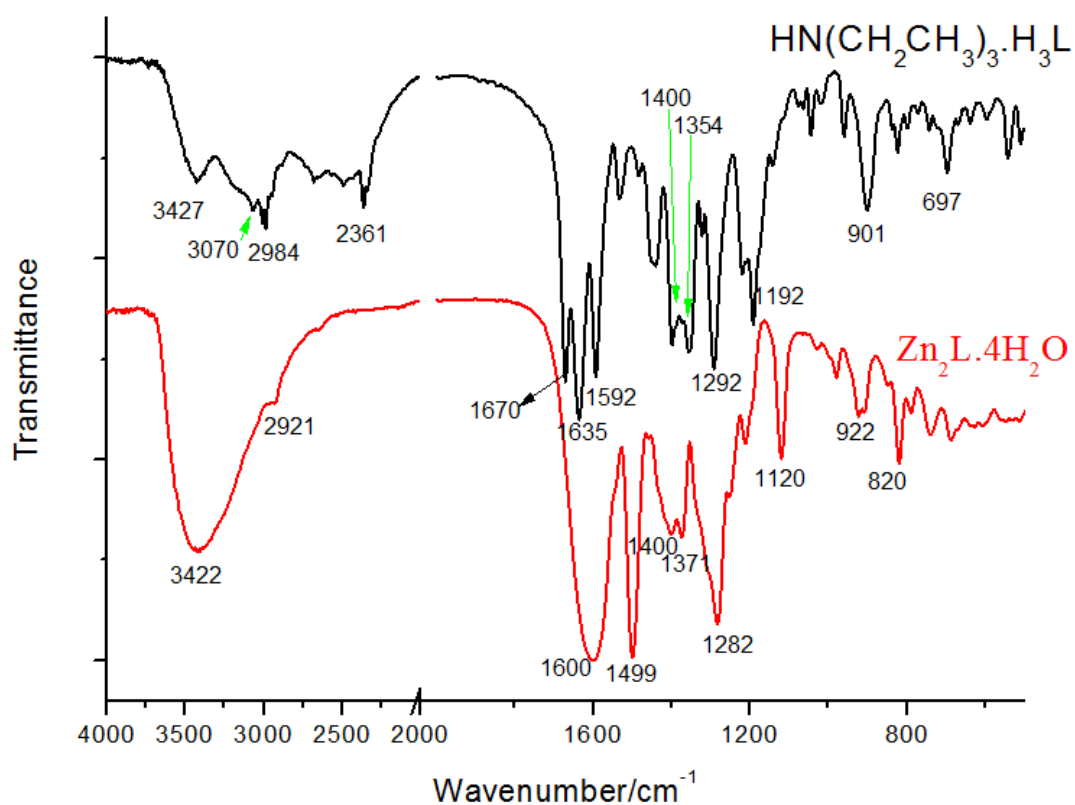


Fig. s 22 IR spectra of  $HN(CH_2CH_3)_3 \cdot H_3L$  and  $Zn_2L \cdot 4H_2O$  (KBr disc)

Table s1. Crystal data and structure refinement for  $\text{HN}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3)_3 \cdot \text{H}_3\text{L}$ .

|                                      |                                                                 |                           |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Identification code                  | $\text{HN}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3)_3 \cdot \text{H}_3\text{L}$  |                           |
| Empirical formula                    | $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{27}\text{N}_2\text{O}_7$                |                           |
| Formula weight                       | 383.42                                                          |                           |
| Temperature                          | 296(2) K                                                        |                           |
| Wavelength                           | 0.71073 Å                                                       |                           |
| Crystal system, space group          | Triclinic, P-1                                                  |                           |
| Unit cell dimensions                 | $a = 8.3882(14)$ Å                                              | $\alpha = 71.834(2)$ deg. |
|                                      | $b = 11.1278(18)$ Å                                             | $\beta = 79.964(2)$ deg.  |
|                                      | $c = 11.3535(18)$ Å                                             | $\gamma = 73.789(2)$ deg. |
| Volume                               | $962.5(3)$ Å <sup>3</sup>                                       |                           |
| Z, Calculated density                | 2, 1.323 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>                                      |                           |
| Absorption coefficient               | 0.102 mm <sup>-1</sup>                                          |                           |
| F(000)                               | 410                                                             |                           |
| Crystal size                         | 0.13 x 0.04 x 0.02 mm                                           |                           |
| Theta range for data collection      | 1.90 to 25.00 deg.                                              |                           |
| Limiting indices                     | $-9 \leq h \leq 9$ , $-13 \leq k \leq 4$ , $-13 \leq l \leq 10$ |                           |
| Reflections collected / unique       | 4320 / 3243 [ $R(\text{int}) = 0.0228$ ]                        |                           |
| Completeness to $\theta = 25.00$     | 95.7 %                                                          |                           |
| Max. and min. transmission           | 0.9980 and 0.9869                                               |                           |
| Refinement method                    | Full-matrix least-squares on $F^2$                              |                           |
| Data / restraints / parameters       | 3243 / 0 / 262                                                  |                           |
| Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$             | 1.047                                                           |                           |
| Final R indices [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ] | $R_1 = 0.0819$ , $wR_2 = 0.1897$                                |                           |
| R indices (all data)                 | $R_1 = 0.1246$ , $wR_2 = 0.2355$                                |                           |
| Extinction coefficient               | 0.011(5)                                                        |                           |
| Largest diff. peak and hole          | 0.420 and -0.230 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>                              |                           |

**Table. S2** Atomic coordinates ( $\times 10^4$ ) and equivalent isotropic displacement parameters ( $\text{\AA}^2 \times 10^3$ ) for  $\text{HN}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3)_3 \cdot \text{H}_3\text{L}$ .  $U(\text{eq})$  is defined as one third of the trace of the orthogonalized  $U_{ij}$  tensor.

|         | x         | y         | z         | U(eq)   |
|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| C (1)   | 1970 (6)  | −1503 (4) | 4576 (4)  | 58 (1)  |
| C (2)   | 2146 (6)  | −2409 (4) | 5755 (4)  | 57 (1)  |
| C (3)   | 2590 (5)  | −2074 (4) | 6702 (4)  | 54 (1)  |
| C (4)   | 2825 (5)  | −833 (4)  | 6504 (4)  | 52 (1)  |
| C (5)   | 2634 (7)  | 62 (4)    | 5341 (4)  | 69 (1)  |
| C (6)   | 2221 (7)  | −285 (4)  | 4385 (4)  | 71 (1)  |
| C (7)   | 3235 (6)  | −505 (4)  | 7551 (4)  | 56 (1)  |
| C (8)   | 3086 (6)  | 918 (4)   | 7442 (4)  | 54 (1)  |
| C (9)   | 3698 (5)  | 2315 (4)  | 8568 (4)  | 49 (1)  |
| C (10)  | 2471 (6)  | 3588 (4)  | 8004 (4)  | 52 (1)  |
| C (11)  | 1681 (5)  | 908 (4)   | 9561 (4)  | 50 (1)  |
| C (12)  | 2084 (6)  | 252 (4)   | 10892 (4) | 49 (1)  |
| C (13)  | 2003 (8)  | 4663 (6)  | 3959 (6)  | 98 (2)  |
| C (14)  | 3572 (8)  | 3959 (7)  | 4481 (6)  | 109 (2) |
| C (15)  | 2043 (9)  | 3398 (6)  | 2502 (6)  | 110 (2) |
| C (16)  | 1170 (9)  | 3370 (7)  | 1494 (6)  | 116 (2) |
| C (17A) | 3070 (30) | 5590 (30) | 1920 (20) | 121 (7) |
| C (18A) | 2800 (20) | 6082 (17) | 593 (15)  | 128 (5) |
| C (17B) | 2900 (50) | 5200 (40) | 1560 (30) | 121 (7) |
| C (18B) | 2720 (30) | 6600 (20) | 1280 (20) | 128 (5) |
| N (1)   | 3194 (4)  | 1092 (3)  | 8672 (3)  | 44 (1)  |
| N (2)   | 1864 (5)  | 4734 (4)  | 2624 (4)  | 67 (1)  |
| O (1)   | 1499 (5)  | −1868 (3) | 3688 (3)  | 76 (1)  |
| O (2)   | 1855 (5)  | −3589 (3) | 5891 (3)  | 76 (1)  |
| O (3)   | 3683 (5)  | −1322 (3) | 8516 (3)  | 75 (1)  |
| O (4)   | 879 (4)   | −34 (3)   | 11646 (3) | 68 (1)  |
| O (5)   | 3524 (4)  | 73 (3)    | 11135 (3) | 64 (1)  |
| O (6)   | 2961 (4)  | 4585 (3)  | 7912 (3)  | 72 (1)  |
| O (7)   | 1152 (4)  | 3559 (3)  | 7676 (3)  | 66 (1)  |

**Table. S3** Bond lengths [Å] and angles [deg] for HN(CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·H<sub>3</sub>L.

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|                |           |
|----------------|-----------|
| C (1)–O (1)    | 1.349 (5) |
| C (1)–C (6)    | 1.374 (6) |
| C (1)–C (2)    | 1.406 (6) |
| C (2)–O (2)    | 1.359 (5) |
| C (2)–C (3)    | 1.378 (5) |
| C (3)–C (4)    | 1.392 (5) |
| C (3)–H (3)    | 0.9300    |
| C (4)–C (5)    | 1.388 (6) |
| C (4)–C (7)    | 1.465 (6) |
| C (5)–C (6)    | 1.383 (6) |
| C (5)–H (5)    | 0.9300    |
| C (6)–H (6)    | 0.9300    |
| C (7)–O (3)    | 1.225 (5) |
| C (7)–C (8)    | 1.521 (5) |
| C (8)–N (1)    | 1.489 (5) |
| C (8)–H (8A)   | 0.9700    |
| C (8)–H (8B)   | 0.9700    |
| C (9)–N (1)    | 1.499 (5) |
| C (9)–C (10)   | 1.525 (5) |
| C (9)–H (9A)   | 0.9700    |
| C (9)–H (9B)   | 0.9700    |
| C (10)–O (7)   | 1.239 (5) |
| C (10)–O (6)   | 1.256 (5) |
| C (11)–N (1)   | 1.497 (5) |
| C (11)–C (12)  | 1.512 (5) |
| C (11)–H (11A) | 0.9700    |
| C (11)–H (11B) | 0.9700    |
| C (12)–O (5)   | 1.234 (5) |
| C (12)–O (4)   | 1.251 (5) |
| C (13)–C (14)  | 1.451 (8) |
| C (13)–N (2)   | 1.517 (7) |
| C (13)–H (13A) | 0.9700    |
| C (13)–H (13B) | 0.9700    |
| C (14)–H (14A) | 0.9600    |
| C (14)–H (14B) | 0.9600    |
| C (14)–H (14C) | 0.9600    |
| C (15)–C (16)  | 1.475 (8) |
| C (15)–N (2)   | 1.499 (7) |
| C (15)–H (15A) | 0.9700    |
| C (15)–H (15B) | 0.9700    |



|               |         |
|---------------|---------|
| C(16)–H(16A)  | 0.9600  |
| C(16)–H(16B)  | 0.9600  |
| C(16)–H(16C)  | 0.9600  |
| C(17A)–C(18A) | 1.47(3) |
| C(17A)–N(2)   | 1.54(2) |
| C(17A)–H(17A) | 0.9700  |
| C(17A)–H(17B) | 0.9700  |
| C(18A)–H(18A) | 0.9600  |
| C(18A)–H(18B) | 0.9600  |
| C(18A)–H(18C) | 0.9600  |
| C(17B)–N(2)   | 1.41(4) |
| C(17B)–C(18B) | 1.46(5) |
| C(17B)–H(17C) | 0.9700  |
| C(17B)–H(17D) | 0.9700  |
| C(18B)–H(18D) | 0.9600  |
| C(18B)–H(18E) | 0.9600  |
| C(18B)–H(18F) | 0.9600  |
| N(1)–H(1N)    | 0.89(4) |
| O(1)–H(1)     | 0.8200  |
| O(2)–H(2)     | 0.8200  |

|                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| O(1)–C(1)–C(6)  | 123.0(4) |
| O(1)–C(1)–C(2)  | 117.5(4) |
| C(6)–C(1)–C(2)  | 119.5(4) |
| O(2)–C(2)–C(3)  | 123.6(4) |
| O(2)–C(2)–C(1)  | 116.7(4) |
| C(3)–C(2)–C(1)  | 119.7(4) |
| C(2)–C(3)–C(4)  | 120.4(4) |
| C(2)–C(3)–H(3)  | 119.8    |
| C(4)–C(3)–H(3)  | 119.8    |
| C(5)–C(4)–C(3)  | 119.6(4) |
| C(5)–C(4)–C(7)  | 122.0(4) |
| C(3)–C(4)–C(7)  | 118.4(4) |
| C(6)–C(5)–C(4)  | 119.9(4) |
| C(6)–C(5)–H(5)  | 120.0    |
| C(4)–C(5)–H(5)  | 120.0    |
| C(1)–C(6)–C(5)  | 120.8(4) |
| C(1)–C(6)–H(6)  | 119.6    |
| C(5)–C(6)–H(6)  | 119.6    |
| O(3)–C(7)–C(4)  | 123.2(4) |
| O(3)–C(7)–C(8)  | 118.2(4) |
| C(4)–C(7)–C(8)  | 118.6(4) |
| N(1)–C(8)–C(7)  | 110.8(3) |
| N(1)–C(8)–H(8A) | 109.5    |

|                        |           |
|------------------------|-----------|
| C (7)–C (8)–H (8A)     | 109.5     |
| N (1)–C (8)–H (8B)     | 109.5     |
| C (7)–C (8)–H (8B)     | 109.5     |
| H (8A)–C (8)–H (8B)    | 108.1     |
| N (1)–C (9)–C (10)     | 115.8 (3) |
| N (1)–C (9)–H (9A)     | 108.3     |
| C (10)–C (9)–H (9A)    | 108.3     |
| N (1)–C (9)–H (9B)     | 108.3     |
| C (10)–C (9)–H (9B)    | 108.3     |
| H (9A)–C (9)–H (9B)    | 107.4     |
| O (7)–C (10)–O (6)     | 126.8 (4) |
| O (7)–C (10)–C (9)     | 119.7 (4) |
| O (6)–C (10)–C (9)     | 113.5 (4) |
| N (1)–C (11)–C (12)    | 113.0 (3) |
| N (1)–C (11)–H (11A)   | 109.0     |
| C (12)–C (11)–H (11A)  | 109.0     |
| N (1)–C (11)–H (11B)   | 109.0     |
| C (12)–C (11)–H (11B)  | 109.0     |
| H (11A)–C (11)–H (11B) | 107.8     |
| O (5)–C (12)–O (4)     | 126.7 (4) |
| O (5)–C (12)–C (11)    | 118.3 (4) |
| O (4)–C (12)–C (11)    | 115.0 (4) |
| C (14)–C (13)–N (2)    | 118.0 (5) |
| C (14)–C (13)–H (13A)  | 107.8     |
| N (2)–C (13)–H (13A)   | 107.8     |
| C (14)–C (13)–H (13B)  | 107.8     |
| N (2)–C (13)–H (13B)   | 107.8     |
| H (13A)–C (13)–H (13B) | 107.1     |
| C (13)–C (14)–H (14A)  | 109.5     |
| C (13)–C (14)–H (14B)  | 109.5     |
| H (14A)–C (14)–H (14B) | 109.5     |
| C (13)–C (14)–H (14C)  | 109.5     |
| H (14A)–C (14)–H (14C) | 109.5     |
| H (14B)–C (14)–H (14C) | 109.5     |
| C (16)–C (15)–N (2)    | 114.5 (5) |
| C (16)–C (15)–H (15A)  | 108.6     |
| N (2)–C (15)–H (15A)   | 108.6     |
| C (16)–C (15)–H (15B)  | 108.6     |
| N (2)–C (15)–H (15B)   | 108.6     |
| H (15A)–C (15)–H (15B) | 107.6     |
| C (15)–C (16)–H (16A)  | 109.5     |
| C (15)–C (16)–H (16B)  | 109.5     |
| H (16A)–C (16)–H (16B) | 109.5     |
| C (15)–C (16)–H (16C)  | 109.5     |

|                      |           |
|----------------------|-----------|
| H(16A)–C(16)–H(16C)  | 109.5     |
| H(16B)–C(16)–H(16C)  | 109.5     |
| C(18A)–C(17A)–N(2)   | 109.7(14) |
| C(18A)–C(17A)–H(17A) | 109.7     |
| N(2)–C(17A)–H(17A)   | 109.7     |
| C(18A)–C(17A)–H(17B) | 109.7     |
| N(2)–C(17A)–H(17B)   | 109.7     |
| H(17A)–C(17A)–H(17B) | 108.2     |
| N(2)–C(17B)–C(18B)   | 112(3)    |
| N(2)–C(17B)–H(17C)   | 109.2     |
| C(18B)–C(17B)–H(17C) | 109.2     |
| N(2)–C(17B)–H(17D)   | 109.2     |
| C(18B)–C(17B)–H(17D) | 109.2     |
| H(17C)–C(17B)–H(17D) | 107.9     |
| C(17B)–C(18B)–H(18D) | 109.5     |
| C(17B)–C(18B)–H(18E) | 109.5     |
| H(18D)–C(18B)–H(18E) | 109.5     |
| C(17B)–C(18B)–H(18F) | 109.5     |
| H(18D)–C(18B)–H(18F) | 109.5     |
| H(18E)–C(18B)–H(18F) | 109.5     |
| C(8)–N(1)–C(11)      | 112.7(3)  |
| C(8)–N(1)–C(9)       | 113.2(3)  |
| C(11)–N(1)–C(9)      | 113.8(3)  |
| C(8)–N(1)–H(1N)      | 108(3)    |
| C(11)–N(1)–H(1N)     | 107(3)    |
| C(9)–N(1)–H(1N)      | 102(3)    |
| C(17B)–N(2)–C(15)    | 98.9(16)  |
| C(17B)–N(2)–C(13)    | 127.2(11) |
| C(15)–N(2)–C(13)     | 110.3(4)  |
| C(17B)–N(2)–C(17A)   | 28.9(14)  |
| C(15)–N(2)–C(17A)    | 123.1(11) |
| C(13)–N(2)–C(17A)    | 100.6(9)  |
| C(1)–O(1)–H(1)       | 109.5     |
| C(2)–O(2)–H(2)       | 109.5     |

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**Table. S4** Anisotropic displacement parameters ( $\text{\AA}^2 \times 10^3$ ) for  $\text{HN}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3)_3 \cdot \text{H}_3\text{L}$ . The anisotropic displacement factor exponent takes the form:  $-2 \pi^2 [h^2 a^{*2} U_{11} + \dots + 2 h k a^* b^* U_{12}]$

|         | U11     | U22      | U33      | U23     | U13      | U12     |
|---------|---------|----------|----------|---------|----------|---------|
| C (1)   | 85 (3)  | 47 (2)   | 45 (2)   | -13 (2) | -11 (2)  | -19 (2) |
| C (2)   | 79 (3)  | 41 (2)   | 57 (3)   | -14 (2) | -9 (2)   | -23 (2) |
| C (3)   | 75 (3)  | 38 (2)   | 50 (2)   | -7 (2)  | -14 (2)  | -15 (2) |
| C (4)   | 68 (3)  | 41 (2)   | 50 (2)   | -12 (2) | -11 (2)  | -14 (2) |
| C (5)   | 117 (4) | 47 (3)   | 52 (3)   | -4 (2)  | -19 (3)  | -35 (3) |
| C (6)   | 125 (4) | 47 (3)   | 46 (3)   | -4 (2)  | -19 (3)  | -30 (3) |
| C (7)   | 75 (3)  | 41 (2)   | 55 (3)   | -13 (2) | -14 (2)  | -16 (2) |
| C (8)   | 79 (3)  | 41 (2)   | 47 (2)   | -10 (2) | -16 (2)  | -18 (2) |
| C (9)   | 58 (2)  | 38 (2)   | 56 (2)   | -12 (2) | -17 (2)  | -15 (2) |
| C (10)  | 70 (3)  | 39 (2)   | 47 (2)   | -10 (2) | -9 (2)   | -14 (2) |
| C (11)  | 54 (2)  | 48 (2)   | 49 (2)   | -6 (2)  | -10 (2)  | -21 (2) |
| C (12)  | 64 (3)  | 40 (2)   | 46 (2)   | -13 (2) | -9 (2)   | -16 (2) |
| C (13)  | 92 (4)  | 103 (5)  | 112 (5)  | -59 (4) | -25 (4)  | 0 (4)   |
| C (14)  | 114 (5) | 108 (5)  | 101 (5)  | -32 (4) | -32 (4)  | -4 (4)  |
| C (15)  | 142 (6) | 77 (4)   | 113 (5)  | -51 (4) | -45 (4)  | 18 (4)  |
| C (16)  | 145 (6) | 99 (5)   | 120 (5)  | -64 (4) | -5 (5)   | -23 (4) |
| C (17A) | 102 (8) | 160 (20) | 99 (16)  | 0 (10)  | -19 (9)  | -63 (9) |
| C (18A) | 154 (9) | 115 (11) | 109 (12) | 16 (8)  | -45 (10) | -58 (9) |
| C (17B) | 102 (8) | 160 (20) | 99 (16)  | 0 (10)  | -19 (9)  | -63 (9) |
| C (18B) | 154 (9) | 115 (11) | 109 (12) | 16 (8)  | -45 (10) | -58 (9) |
| N (1)   | 55 (2)  | 36 (2)   | 44 (2)   | -8 (2)  | -16 (2)  | -13 (2) |
| N (2)   | 75 (3)  | 54 (2)   | 70 (3)   | -21 (2) | -8 (2)   | -9 (2)  |
| O (1)   | 133 (3) | 56 (2)   | 53 (2)   | -11 (2) | -30 (2)  | -34 (2) |
| O (2)   | 129 (3) | 44 (2)   | 67 (2)   | -9 (2)  | -33 (2)  | -33 (2) |
| O (3)   | 120 (3) | 41 (2)   | 67 (2)   | -3 (2)  | -40 (2)  | -18 (2) |
| O (4)   | 75 (2)  | 82 (2)   | 50 (2)   | -8 (2)  | -8 (2)   | -32 (2) |
| O (5)   | 55 (2)  | 81 (2)   | 51 (2)   | -12 (2) | -15 (1)  | -7 (2)  |
| O (6)   | 92 (2)  | 44 (2)   | 90 (2)   | -11 (2) | -30 (2)  | -25 (2) |
| O (7)   | 66 (2)  | 45 (2)   | 87 (2)   | -10 (2) | -23 (2)  | -12 (2) |

Table. S5 Hydrogen coordinates ( $\times 10^4$ ) and isotropic displacement parameters ( $\text{\AA}^2 \times 10^3$ ) for  $\text{HN}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3)_3 \cdot \text{H}_3\text{L}$ .

|        | x         | y        | z         | U(eq)   |
|--------|-----------|----------|-----------|---------|
| H(3)   | 2734      | -2680    | 7477      | 65      |
| H(5)   | 2784      | 894      | 5204      | 83      |
| H(6)   | 2111      | 314      | 3604      | 85      |
| H(8A)  | 3973      | 1219     | 6851      | 65      |
| H(8B)  | 2029      | 1440     | 7133      | 65      |
| H(9A)  | 4762      | 2300     | 8066      | 58      |
| H(9B)  | 3867      | 2309     | 9394      | 58      |
| H(11A) | 1123      | 387      | 9307      | 60      |
| H(11B) | 916       | 1751     | 9516      | 60      |
| H(13A) | 1764      | 5549     | 4017      | 118     |
| H(13B) | 1134      | 4270     | 4482      | 118     |
| H(14A) | 3843      | 3079     | 4428      | 163     |
| H(14B) | 3473      | 3954     | 5338      | 163     |
| H(14C) | 4438      | 4377     | 4024      | 163     |
| H(15A) | 3219      | 3002     | 2358      | 132     |
| H(15B) | 1620      | 2871     | 3284      | 132     |
| H(16A) | 10        | 3787     | 1609      | 174     |
| H(16B) | 1284      | 2482     | 1510      | 174     |
| H(16C) | 1649      | 3822     | 706       | 174     |
| H(17A) | 2888      | 6322     | 2269      | 145     |
| H(17B) | 4213      | 5091     | 2023      | 145     |
| H(18A) | 3554      | 5505     | 154       | 191     |
| H(18B) | 3008      | 6937     | 261       | 191     |
| H(18C) | 1674      | 6122     | 496       | 191     |
| H(17C) | 2630      | 5003     | 855       | 145     |
| H(17D) | 4054      | 4749     | 1696      | 145     |
| H(18D) | 1737      | 7054     | 853       | 191     |
| H(18E) | 3680      | 6829     | 750       | 191     |
| H(18F) | 2627      | 6831     | 2034      | 191     |
| H(1N)  | 4060 (50) | 480 (40) | 9010 (40) | 62 (14) |
| H(1)   | 1417      | -1266    | 3046      | 115     |
| H(2)   | 2117      | -4081    | 6570      | 114     |

**Table S6** Hydrogen bonds for  $\text{HN}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3)_3 \cdot \text{H}_3\text{L}$  [ $\text{\AA}$  and  $^\circ$ ].

| <b>D-H...A</b>      | <b>d(D-H)</b> | <b>d(H...A)</b> | <b>d(D...A)</b> | <b>&lt;(DHA)</b> |
|---------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| N(1)-H(1N)...O(5)#1 | 0.95(4)       | 1.889(5)        | 2.703(5)        | 142.1(5)         |
| O(2)-H(2)...O(6)#4  | 0.821(3)      | 1.853(3)        | 2.658(4)        | 166.7(3)         |
| O(1)-H(1)...O(4)#3  | 0.820(3)      | 1.782(3)        | 2.588(4)        | 167.0(3)         |

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms:

#1 -x+1,-y,-z+2; #2 -x,-y+1,-z+1; #3 x,y,z-1; #4 x,y-1,z