# 基于柔性双(甲基苯并咪唑)和羧酸配体的 Cd(II)/Co(II)/Zn(II)配合物的合成和表征

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摘要:通过水热或溶剂热合成的方法制备了 3 个 Cd(II)/Co(II)/Zn(II)配位聚合物[ $Cd(hbmb)_{0.5}(pta)$ ], (1), [Co(hbmb)(1,4-bdc)], (2)和{[ $Zn_2(hbmb)_{1.5}(bptc)(H_2O)$ ]·0.5hbmb·3 $H_2O$ }, (3)(hbmb=1,1'-(1,6-己烷)双-(2-甲基苯并咪唑),  $H_2pta$ =邻羧基苯乙酸,1,4- $H_2bdc$ =1,4-苯二乙酸,  $H_4bptc$ =3,3',4,4'-二苯甲酮四羧酸))。单晶结构解析表明配合物 1 是一个 4-连接的二维平面网络,拓扑符号为( $4^4$ - $6^2$ )。配合物 2 是一个 4-连接的二维褶皱网络,拓扑符号为( $4^2$ - $6^2$ - $6^3$ -8)。配合物 3 是一个(3,4,4)-连接的三重穿插网络,拓扑符号为( $4^2$ - $6^2$ - $8^2$ ) (4- $6^2$ ) (4- $6^4$ -8)。其中配合物 1 属于单斜晶系,空间群为  $P2_1/c$ , a=0.758 32(15) nm, b=1.452 8(3) nm, c=1.911 3(5) nm,  $\beta$ =112.26(3)°, Z=4;配合物 2 属于单斜晶系,空间群为  $P2_1/n$ , a=1.090 8(2) nm, b=1.873 1(4) nm, c=1.301 9(3) nm,  $\beta$ =91.09(3)°, Z=4;配合物 3 属于三斜晶系,空间群为  $P\overline{1}$ , a=1.119 6(2) nm, b=1.481 2(3) nm, c=1.926 6(4) nm,  $\alpha$ =89.72(3)°,  $\beta$ =87.65(3)°,  $\gamma$ =68.28(3)°, Z=2。

关键词:配合物;晶体结构;拓扑

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## Syntheses, Characterization and Crystal Structures of Cd(II)/Co(II)/Zn(II) Complexes Based on Flexible Bis(methylbenzimidazole) and Carboxylate Ligands

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**Abstract:** Three Cd(II)/Co(II)/Cn(II) coordination complexes, formulated as  $[Cd(hbmb)_{0.5}(pta)]_n$  (1),  $[Co(hbmb)(1,4-bdc)]_n$  (2),  $\{[Zn_2(hbmb)_{1.5}(bptc)(H_2O)] \cdot 0.5hbmb \cdot 3H_2O\}_n$  (3) (hbmb=1,1'-(1,6-hexane)bis-(2-methylbenzimidazole),  $H_2pta=homophthalic$  acid,  $1,4-H_2bdc=1,4-benzenedicarboxylic$  acid,  $H_4bptc=3,3',4,4'$ -benzophenone tetracarboxylic acid), have been obtained by hydrothermal/solvothermal reactions. Complex 1 is a flat 4-connected 2D topology net with point symbol of  $(4^4 \cdot 6^2)$ , complex 2 features a undulated 2D network with point symbol of  $(4^2 \cdot 6)$ 

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 $(4^2 \cdot 6^3 \cdot 8)$ , while complex **3** (3,4,4)-connected 3-fold interpenetrating network with a vertex symbol of  $(4^2 \cdot 6^2 \cdot 8^2)(4 \cdot 6^2 \cdot 8)(4 \cdot 6^4 \cdot 8)$  topology. Crystal data are monoclinic, space group,  $P2_1/c$ , a=0.758 32 (15) nm, b=1.452 8 (3) nm, c=1.911 3(5) nm,  $\beta=112.26(3)^\circ$ , Z=4 for **1**; and monoclinic, space group,  $P2_1/n$ , a=1.090 8(2) nm, b=1.873 1(4) nm, c=1.301 9(3) nm,  $\beta=91.09(3)^\circ$ , Z=4 for **2**; and triclinic, space group,  $P\overline{1}$ , a=1.119 6(2) nm, b=1.481 2(3) nm, c=1.926 6(4) nm,  $\alpha=89.72(3)^\circ$ ,  $\beta=87.65(3)^\circ$ ,  $\gamma=68.28(3)^\circ$ , Z=2 for **3**. CCDC: 1885275, **1**; 1885276, **2**; 1885277, **3**.

Keywords: coordination complex; crystal structure; topology

The thriving regions of crystal engineering have offered a sane junction between aesthetics of crystalline architectures and their potential applications, of which the eventual destination is to triumphantly acquire target materials that own tailored structures and physicochemical properties<sup>[1-10]</sup>. So far, although lots of 0D/1D/2D/3D frameworks have been reported, the construction of novel-innovative architectures and a systematic study still require a long-term challenge<sup>[11-13]</sup>. Flexible N-donors ligands are highly attractive, because their free conformation allows for greater structural diversity. Carboxylates serving as co-ligands have also been extensively adopted to build new complexes<sup>[14-17]</sup>. Furthermore, the two-ligand assembly system could provid more variability to fabricate complicated structures. Taking this idea into consideration, in this paper, we choose 1,1'-(1,6-hexane)bis-(2-methylbenzimidazole) (hbmb) as the flexible N-donor ligand and three disparate O-donor carboxylates, homophthalic acid (H<sub>2</sub>pta), 1,4-benzenedicarboxylic acid (1,4-H<sub>2</sub>bdc) and 3, 3',4, 4'-benzophenone tetracarboxylic acid (H<sub>4</sub>bptc), as auxiliary ligands in the synthesis of metalorganic coordination polymer materials. At last, three new complexes, [Cd(hbmb)<sub>0.5</sub>(pta)]<sub>n</sub> (1), [Co(hbmb)(1,4- $[bdc]_{n}$  (2) and  $[Zn_{2}(hbmb)_{1.5}(bptc)(H_{2}O)] \cdot 0.5hbmb$ .  $3H_2O_{l_n}$  (3) were prepared successfully. The structures of 1~3 have been determined by single-crystal X-ray diffraction analyses and further characterized by infrared spectra, elemental analyses. Besides, the effect of flexible ligand hbmb and three carboxylate co-ligands on the frameworks of 1~3 are debated in detail.

#### 1 Experimental

#### 1.1 Materials and methods

All reagents and solvents were commercially

available except for hbmb, which was synthesized according to the literature<sup>[18]</sup>. FT-IR spectra were recorded on a FTIR-7600 spectrophotometer with KBr pellets in 400~4 000 cm<sup>-1</sup> region. Elemental analyses (C, H and N) were carried out on a FLASH EA 1112 elemental analyzer.

#### 1.2 Synthesis of [Cd(hbmb)<sub>0.5</sub>(pta)]<sub>n</sub> (1)

A mixture of  $Cd(Ac)_2 \cdot 2H_2O$  (0.1 mmol), hbmb (0.1 mmol),  $H_2pta$  (0.05 mmol), EtOH(5 mL) and  $H_2O$  (5 mL) was placed in a 25 mL Teflon-lined stainless steel container. The mixture was sealed and heated at 160 °C for three days. After the mixture was cooled to ambient temperature at a rate of 5 °C ·h <sup>-1</sup>, colorless irregular-shaped crystals of **1** were obtained with a yield of 10% (based on Cd). Anal. Calcd. for  $C_{21}H_{21}Cd$   $N_2O_4(\%)$ : C, 52.78; H, 4.42; N, 5.86. Found(%): C, 52.75; H, 4.40; N, 5.90. IR (KBr, cm <sup>-1</sup>): 3 056(w), 3 027 (w), 2 931(m), 2 863(w), 1 562(s), 1 508(m), 1 459(m), 1 388(w), 1 292(m), 1 238(m), 1 153(m), 1 014(m), 941(s), 833(w), 746(s), 673(s).

#### 1.3 Synthesis of $[Co(hbmb)(1,4-bdc)]_n$ (2)

A mixture of  $CoCl_2 \cdot 6H_2O$  (0.1 mmol), hbmb (0.1 mmol), 1,4-H<sub>2</sub>bdc (0.2 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>O (8 mL) was placed in a 25 mL Teflon-lined stainless steel container at 120 °C for three days. After the mixture was cooled to room temperature at a rate of 5 °C · h<sup>-1</sup>, purple irregular-shaped crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were obtained with a yield of 15% (based on Co). Anal. Calcd. for  $C_{30}H_{30}CoN_4O_4(\%)$ : C, 63.26; H, 5.30; N, 9.83. Found(%): C, 63.31; H, 5.31; N, 9.80. IR(KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2 937(m), 2 865(m), 1 814(vs), 1 461(s), 1 334 (vs), 1 292(w), 1 137(m), 1 081(m), 1 016(s), 927(m), 887(m), 811(vs), 744(vs), 595(s).

## 1.4 Synthesis of $\{[Zn_2(hbmb)_{1.5}(bptc)(H_2O)]\cdot 0.5hbmb\cdot 3H_2O\}_n$ (3)

A mixture of ZnCO<sub>3</sub> (0.1 mmol), hbmb (0.1 mmol),

H<sub>4</sub>bptc (0.05 mmol), H<sub>2</sub>O (7 mL) was placed in a 25 mL Teflon-lined stainless steel container. The mixture was sealed and heated at 160 °C for three days. After the mixture was cooled to ambient temperature at a rate of 5 °C ·h <sup>-1</sup>, yellow block-shaped crystals of **3** were obtained with a yield of 5% (based on Zn). Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>61</sub>H<sub>66</sub>Zn<sub>2</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>13</sub>(%): C, 58.61; H, 5.32; N, 8.96. Found (%): C, 58.65; H, 5.29; N, 8.99. IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3 427 (s), 2 036(w), 1 634(m), 1 493(vw), 1 395(vw), 1 319 (vw), 1 254(vw), 1 188(m), 1 112(m), 797(s), 623(w).

#### 1.5 Crystal structural determination

The data of the  $1\sim3$  were collected on a Rigaku Saturn 724 CCD diffractomer (Mo  $K\alpha$ ,  $\lambda=0.071~073$ 

nm) at temperature of  $(20\pm1)$  °C. Absorption corrections were applied by using multi-scan program. The data were modified for Lorentz and polarization effects. The structures were solved by direct methods and then refined by means of  $F^2$  with a full-matrix least-squares technique that adopted the SHELX-97 crystallographic software package<sup>[19]</sup>. The hydrogen atoms were placed at calculated positions and refined as riding atoms with isotropic displacement parameters. Crystallographic crystal data and structure processing parameters for  $1\sim3$  are summarized in Table 1. Selected bond lengths and bond angles of  $1\sim3$  are listed in Table 2.

CCDC: 1885275, 1; 1885276, 2; 1885277, 3.

Table 1 Crystal data and structure refinement details for complexes 1~3

Complex	1	2	3
Formula	$C_{21}H_{21}CdN_2O_4$	C <sub>30</sub> H <sub>30</sub> CoN <sub>4</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	$C_{61}H_{66}Zn_2N_8O_{13}$
Formula weight	477.80	569.51	1 249.96
Crystal system	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	Triclinic
Space group	$P2_{1}/c$	$P2_{1}/n$	$P\overline{1}$
a / nm	0.758 32(15)	1.090 8(2)	1.119 6(2)
b / nm	1.452 8(3)	1.873 1(4)	1.481 2(3)
c / nm	1.911 3(5)	1.301 9(3)	1.926 6(4)
α / (°)			89.72(3)
β / (°)	112.26(3)	91.09(3)	87.65(3)
γ / (°)			68.28(3)
$V / \text{nm}^3$	1.948 7(8)	3.378 1(12)	2.965 3(10)
Z	4	4	2
$D_{\rm c}$ / (g·cm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.629	1.422	1.400
$\mu$ / mm $^{-1}$	1.150	0.689	0.880
F(000)	964	1 188	1 304
$\theta$ range / (°)	2.70~25.50	2.65~23.50	1.96~25.50
GOF	1.044	1.069	1.015
$R_1 [I > 2\sigma(I)]^a$	0.071 1	0.090 1	0.055 8
$wR_2 [I > 2\sigma(I)]^b$	0.227 2	0.145 8	0.129 1

 $<sup>^{\</sup>text{a}} \ R_{1} = \sum ||F_{\text{o}}| - |F_{\text{c}}|| / \sum |F_{\text{o}}|; \ ^{\text{b}} \ w R_{2} = [\sum w (F_{\text{o}}^{\ 2} - F_{\text{c}}^{\ 2})^{2} / \sum w (F_{\text{o}}^{\ 2})^{2}]^{1/2}.$ 

Table 2 Selected bond lengths (nm) and bond angles (°) for 1~3

		1			
Cd(1)-N(1)	0.222 1(6)	Cd(1)-O(4)#1	0.227 5(11)	Cd(1)-O(3)#2	0.228 2(7)
Cd(1)- $O(1)$	0.230 4(9)	Cd(1)- $O(2)$	0.238 9(7)		
N(1)-Cd(1)-O(4)#1	104.8(4)	N(1)-Cd(1)-O(3)#2	99.6(3)	O(4)#1-Cd(1)-O(3)#2	114.2(3)
N(1)-Cd(1)-O(1)	140.6(3)	O(4)#1-Cd(1)-O(1)	106.5(4)	O(3)#2-Cd(1)-O(1)	89.0(3)
N(1)-Cd(1)-O(2)	104.9(2)	O(4)#1-Cd(1)-O(2)	84.7(3)	O(3)#2-Cd(1)-O(2)	144.0(3)
O(1)-Cd(1)-O(2)	55.5(3)				

Continued Table 2								
2								
Co(1)-O(3)	0.193 5(3)	Co(1)-O(2)	0.195 0(3)	Co(1)-N(1)	0.202 7(3)			
Co(1)-N(3)	0.203 9(3)							
O(3)-Co(1)-O(2)	119.35(11)	O(3)-Co(1)-N(1)	110.46(11)	O(2)-Co(1)-N(1)	103.28(12)			
O(3)-Co(1)-N(3)	102.13(12)	O(2)- $Co(1)$ - $N(3)$	116.00(12)	N(1)-Co(1)-N(3)	104.89(12)			
		3						
Zn(1)-O(3)	0.194 9(3)	Zn(1)-O(9)#2	0.196 3(2)	Zn(1)-N(1)	0.200 8(3)			
Zn(1)-O(5)	0.202 0(3)	Zn(2)-O(1)	0.192 2(3)	Zn(2)-O(7)#2	0.196 6(2)			
Zn(2)- $N(5)$	0.199 4(3)	Zn(2)-N(3)	0.201 5(3)					
O(3)-Zn(1)-O(9)#2	120.67(12)	O(3)-Zn(1)-N(1)	118.10(12)	O(9)#2-Zn(1)-N(1)	109.34(12)			
O(3)-Zn(1)-O(5)	101.31(12)	O(9)#2-Zn(1)-O(5)	98.23(11)	N(1)- $Zn(1)$ - $O(5)$	105.36(12)			
O(1)-Zn(2)-O(7)#2	110.46(11)	O(1)-Zn(2)-N(5)	120.79(13)	O(7)#2-Zn(2)-N(5)	106.12(12)			
O(1)-Zn(2)-N(3)	108.54(13)	O(7)#2-Zn(2)-N(3)	96.02(12)	N(5)-Zn(2)-N(3)	112.06(14)			

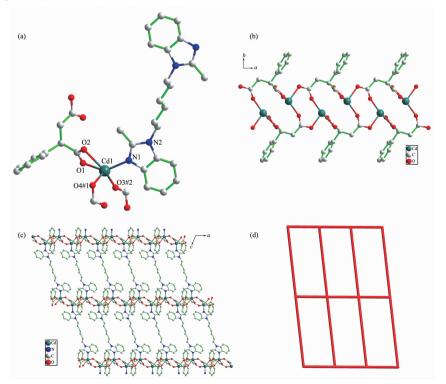
Symmetry codes: #1: x+1, y, z; #2: -x+1, -y+1, -z+2 for 1; #2: x, y-1, z for 3.

#### 2 Results and discussion

#### 2.1 Crystal structure of [Cd(hbmb)<sub>0.5</sub>(pta)]<sub>n</sub> (1)

Structural analysis indicates that complex **1** is a 2D structure with point symbol of  $(4^4 \cdot 6^2)$  and crystall-

izes in the monoclinic  $P2_1/c$  space group. The asymmetric unit of  $\mathbf{1}$  is composed of one crystallographically independent  $Cd(\mathbb{I})$  ion, half a hbmb ligand, and one pta<sup>2-</sup> ligand. As shown in Fig.1a, the  $Cd(\mathbb{I})$  ion exhibits



Symmetry codes: #1: 1+x, y, z; #2: 1-x, 1-y, 2-z

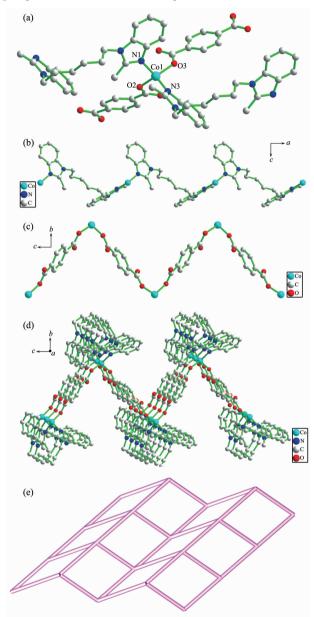
Fig.1 (a) Coordination environment of Cd(II) ion in 1 with hydrogen atoms omitted for clarity; (b) One-dimensional (1D) chain generated by Cd(II) ions and pta<sup>2-</sup> linkers in 1; (c) Schematic view of the 2D net built by 1D Cd(II)/pta<sup>2-</sup> chain and hbmb in 1; (d) Schematic representation of 4<sup>4</sup>·6<sup>2</sup> topology of complex 1

a five-coordinated environment, which is provided by one nitrogen atom (N1) from one separate hbmb and four oxygen atoms (O1, O2, O3#2, O4#1) from three independent pta2- anions. The structural index parameter  $(\tau)^{[20]}$  is close to 0.00, indicating that the geometry around Cd(II) can be described as an ideal squarepyramidal geometry. The Cd-O distances are in a range of 0.227 5(11)~0.238 9(7) nm, while the Cd1-N1 bond length is 0.222 1(6) nm. hbmb shows the symmetric trans-conformation with the  $N_{donor} \cdots N - C_{so}$  $\cdots C_{\frac{3}{50}}$  torsion angle of 72.219°. The two carboxylic groups of pta<sup>2-</sup> ligand take an inconsistent coordination mode. One carboxylate group of pta<sup>2-</sup> ligand adopts a chelating bidentate mode, and the other is in a bridging mono-bidentate mode. Each pta<sup>2-</sup> anion bridges three Cd(II) ions in this way to give rise to a 1D infinite chain (Cd(II)/pta<sup>2-</sup> chain) along the c-axis, containing a binuclear unit [Cd<sub>2</sub>(CO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] with the Cd···Cd separation of 0.424 00 nm (Fig.1b). The Cd (II) ions of two neighboring 1D Cd(II)/pta<sup>2-</sup> chains were connected by the trans-conformational hbmb ligands generating the 2D sheet of 1 (Fig.1c). The bridged Cd···Cd distance along  $\mu$ -hbmb is 1.643 36 nm. Topological analysis was performed on 1. As depicted in Fig.1d, if the binuclear unit [Cd<sub>2</sub>(CO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] is taken as a 2-connector and hbmb is defined as linkers, the 2D framework of 1 can be described as  $(4^4 \cdot 6^2)$  topology.

#### 2.2 Crystal structure of [Co(hbmb)(1,4-bdc)]<sub>n</sub> (2)

Complex **2** crystallizes in the monoclinic space group  $P2_1/n$  and features a 2D network motif. The asymmetric unit consists of one crystallographically unique Co(II) ions, one deprotonated 1,4-bdc<sup>2-</sup> anions, and one hbmb ligand. As illustrated in Fig.2a, the Co (II) ion displays distorted tetrahedral geometry, defined by two carboxyl oxygen atoms (O2, O3) from two 1,4-bdc<sup>2-</sup> anions and two nitrogen atoms (N1, N3) from two hbmb ligands. The  $\tau_4$  parameters introduced by Houser<sup>[21]</sup> of Co1 are 0.88. The Co1-O2 and Co1-O3 bond distances are 0.195 0(3) and 0.193 5(3) nm, respectively, while the Co1-N1 and Co1-N3 bond lengths are 0.202 7(3) and 0.203 9(3) nm, respectively. The hbmb ligand adopts asymmetric *trans*-conformation with two different  $N_{donor} \cdots N - C_{sp} \cdots C_{sp}$  torsion angles of

73.233° and 88.281°. This kind of hbmb connect the adjacent Co(II) ions giving rise to a 1D Co(II)/hbmb chain along the *b*-axis with a  $Co\cdots Co$  separation of 1.090 80 nm (Fig.2b). Interestingly, two carboxylate groups of 1,4-bdc<sup>2-</sup> both adopt bi-monodentate coor-



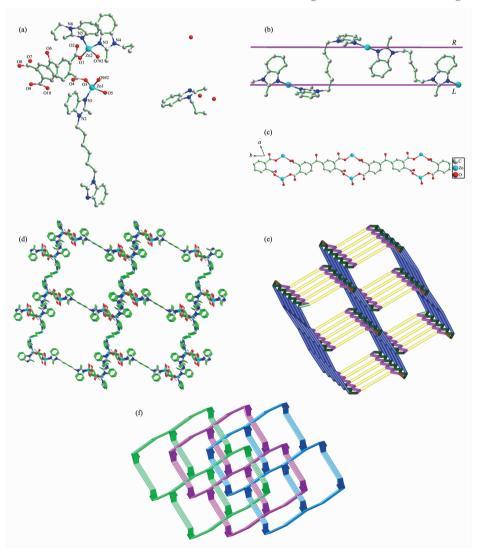
g.2 (a) Coordination environment of Co(II) ion in 2 with hydrogen atoms omitted for clarity; (b) 1D chain along b-axis alternately generated by ligand hbmb bridging two adjacent Co(II) ions; (c) 1D chain resulting from 1,4-bdc²- anions connectting two adjacent Co(II) ions along a-axis; (d) Undulated 2D network bridged by hbmb and 1,4-bdc²- in 2; (e) Schematic description of a 4-connected 2D network with (4³·6²·8) topology for 2

dination mode. The nearby Co(II) ions are bridged by 1,4-bdc<sup>2-</sup> anions to product a 1D Co(II)/1,4-bdc<sup>2-</sup> chain along the *a*-axis with a Co···Co separation of 1.105 50 nm (Fig.2c). The interlaced connection of the 1D Co(II)/hbmb chain and 1D Co(II)/1,4-bdc<sup>2-</sup> chain constructs the corrugated 2D network by sharing Co(II) ions (Fig. 2d). Topological analysis was performed on **2**. As depicted in Fig.2e, each Co(II) ion is encircled by four organic ligands (two hbmb ligands and two 1,4-bdc<sup>2-</sup> ligands). If the Co(II) ion is taken as a 4-connector, the 1,4-bdc<sup>2-</sup> and hbmb can be defined as linkers, the

2D framework of **2** can be described as  $(4^2 \cdot 6)(4^2 \cdot 6^3 \cdot 8)$  topology.

## 2.3 Crystal structure of $\{[\mathbf{Zn_2(hbmb)_{1.5}(bptc)} (\mathbf{H_2O})] \cdot \mathbf{0.5hbmb \cdot 3H_2O}\}_n$ (3)

Complex **3** exhibits a beautiful 3-fold interpenetrating 3D network, which crystallizes in the triclinic system, space group  $P\overline{1}$ . Each asymmetric unit of **3** consists of two crystallographically independent Zn(II) ions, one and a half hbmb ligands, one bptc<sup>4-</sup>, one coordinated water molecule, half a dissociative hbmb and three guest water molecules. Fig.3a illustrates the



Symmetry code: #2: x, -1+y, z

Fig.3 (a) Coordination environment of Zn (II) ion in 3 with hydrogen atoms omitted for clarity; (b) Pseudo meso-helix alternately generated by hbmb- I and hbmb- II bridging two adjacent Zn(II) ions; (c) 1D chains built though Zn(II) ions and bptc<sup>4</sup>- linkers in 3; (d) Perspective view of 3D coordination framework fabricated by 1D Zn(II)/bptc<sup>4</sup>- chains and 1D Zn(II)/hbmb chains; (e) Single 3D topology network; (f) Schematic representation of 3-fold interpenetrated topology nets for 3

coordination environment of the Zn (II) ions. The distorted tetrahedral coordination geometry of the central Zn1 ion is completed by one N atom (N1) of one hbmb ligand, two O atoms (O3 and O9#2) of two bptc<sup>4-</sup> anions and one O atom (O5) of one coordinated water molecule. Zn2 ion also shows a distorted tetrahedral coordination geometry, which is defined by two oxygen atoms (O1 and O7#2) from two bptc<sup>4</sup> anions, and two nitrogen atoms (N3 and N5) from two hbmb ligands. The distortion of tetrahedron can be indicated by the calculated value of the  $\tau_4$  parameter introduced by Houser ( $\tau_4 \approx 0.85$  for Zn1 and  $\tau_4 \approx 0.90$ for Zn2)[21-22]. The distances of Zn-O/N bond are in a range of 0.192 2(3)~0.202 0(3) nm, which are in the normal range<sup>[23-24]</sup>. There are four independent hbmb ligands in complex 3, all of which exhibit symmetrical trans-conformation.  $N_{\text{donor}} \cdots N - C_{sp}^{-3} \cdots C_{sp}^{-3}$  torsion angle of hbmb- I is 73.968°.  $N_{donor} \cdots N - C_{sp}^{3} \cdots C_{sp}^{3}$  torsion angle of hbmb-II is  $62.966^{\circ}$ .  $N_{donor} \cdots N - C_{sp} \cdots C_{sp} \cdots C_{sp}$ torsion angle of hbmb-III is 92.459°.  $N_{donor} \cdots N - C_{sp}^{-3} \cdots$  $C_{sp}^{-3}$  torsion angle of hbmb-IV that is dissociative is 75.848°. The two types of hbmb (hbmb- I and hbmb-II) act as bidentate mode to link two adjacent Zn2 ions alternately to generate a pseudo meso-helix (Fig. 3b). The Zn2···Zn2 distances across the hbmb bridges are 1.181 11 (hbmb- I ) and 1.333 29 (hbmb- II ) nm, separately. hbmb-III only connect two Zn1 ions and the Zn1···Zn1 distance across the hbmb-Ⅲ bridges is 1.630 76 nm. In 3, the bptc<sup>4-</sup> anions connects four Zn (II) cations, and four carboxylate group all takes bridging monodentate coordination mode. The nearby Zn1 and Zn2 ions are linked together by the carboxylate O atoms of the bptc<sup>4-</sup> to form a 1D Zn(II)/bptc<sup>4-</sup> chain along the c-axis containing the 14-membered rings (Fig.3c). In this ring, the Zn1···Zn1 distance is 0.504 89 nm. The combination of 1D chains of Zn(II)/ bptc<sup>4-</sup> and Zn(II)/hbmb produces the 3D structure of 3 (Fig.3d). From a topological perspective, each Zn1 ion is surrounded by four organic ligands (two hbmb ligands and two bptc4- ligands), each Zn2 ion is surrounded by three organic ligands (one hbmb ligand and two bptc<sup>4-</sup> ligands), and each bptc<sup>4-</sup> ligand is connected to four Zn ions. Hence, the Zn1 ions can be regarded as 4-connected nodes, the Zn2 ions can be regarded as 3-connected nodes, the bptc<sup>4-</sup> anions are defined as 4-connected nodes and hbmb ligands are considered as linkers, respectively. The 3D framework of 3 can be represented as a (3,4,4)-connected 3-fold interpenetrating network with a vertex symbol of  $(4^2 \cdot 6^2 \cdot 8^2)(4 \cdot 6^2)(4 \cdot 6^2)(4 \cdot 6^2)$  (Fig.3e and 3f).

### 2.4 Effect of hbmb and carboxylate co-ligands on the structures of 1~3

According to the above description, we find that the flexible hbmb ligand presents symmetric transconformation in 1 and 3, asymmetric trans-conformation in 2. All of the  $N_{donor} \cdots N - C_{sp}^{3} \cdots C_{sp}^{3}$  torsion angles are different in 1~3. The free conformations of -(CH<sub>2</sub>)spacer greatly enrich structures of complexes 1~3. In 1, hbmb connects two neighboring 1D Cd (II)/pta<sup>2</sup> chains by sharing the Cd(II) ions to build a 2D sheet. In 2, hbmb links the adjacent Co(II) ions, resulting in a 1D Co(II)/hbmb chain. In 3, hbmb- I and hbmb- II join two adjacent Zn2 ions alternately to produce a pseudo Zn (II)/hbmb meso-helix, while hbmb-III only connect two Zn1 ions. Owing to the flexible nature of the -(CH<sub>2</sub>)- spacers, two bis (methylbenzimidazole) groups of hbmb can rotate freely when coordinating with metal centers, which can greatly beautify the structure of complexes 1~3. On the other side, the carboxylate anions also have significant influence on the constructing of resultant structures of 1 ~3. In synthesis process of 1 ~3, we have selected three carboxylates as auxiliary ligands. In 1, each pta<sup>2-</sup> anion bridges three Cd(II) ions to generate a 1D infinite Cd (II)/pta<sup>2-</sup> chain containing a binuclear unit [Cd<sub>2</sub>(CO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]. Under the connection of hbmb, 1 shows a flat 2D framework with the point symbol of  $(4^4 \cdot 6^2)$ . In 2, we select 1,4-H<sub>2</sub>bdc with a rigid spacer and an angle of 180° between the two carboxylic groups as a coligand. 1,4-bdc<sup>2-</sup> anions bridge the nearby Co(II) ions, forming a 1D Co(II)/1,4-bdc<sup>2-</sup> chain. By sharing Co(II) ions, the interlaced connection of the 1D Co(II)/hbmb chain and 1D Co(II)/1,4-bdc<sup>2-</sup> chain induce the corrugated 2D framework with the point symbol of  $(4^2 \cdot 6)(4^2 \cdot 6^3 \cdot 8)$  of **2**. By introducing tetracarboxylic

acid ligand  $H_4$ bptc, 3D 3-fold interpenetrating (3,4,4)-connected  $(4^2 \cdot 6^2 \cdot 8^2)(4 \cdot 6^2)(4 \cdot 6^4 \cdot 8)$  networks **3** are obtained. The bptc<sup>4</sup>- link the nearby Zn1 and Zn2 ions to form a 1D Zn (II)/bptc<sup>4</sup>- chain containing a 14-membered rings. The above discussions indicate the configuration of hbmb and diverse carboxylate coligands play a critical role in the construction resultant complexes. The three different structures also show that more complex carboxylic acid co-ligands will lead to the production of higher dimensional complexes.

#### 2.5 Photoluminescence properties

Currently, the researchers have great interest in fluorescence complexes by reason of their potential applications. Hence, the photoluminescent spectra of complexes 1 and 3, the free hbmb ligand and two carboxylic acids were investigated at ambient temperature. As depicted in Fig.4, the photoluminescent spectra of the free ligand hbmb,  $H_2$ pta and  $H_4$ bptc showed different emission peak at 302 nm ( $\lambda_{ex}$ =286 nm), 330 nm ( $\lambda_{ex}$ =260 nm) and 425 nm ( $\lambda_{ex}$ =330 nm), severally. Complexes 1 and 3 exhibited the emission

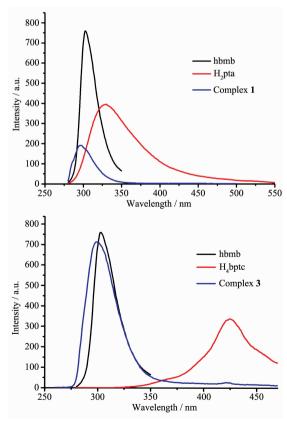


Fig.4 Photoluminescent spectra of free hbmb ligand, free carboxylate ligands and complexes 1 and 3

maxima at 297 nm ( $\lambda_{\rm ex}$ =245 nm) for 1, 299 nm ( $\lambda_{\rm ex}$ = 245 nm) for 3, severally. For 1, the emission band was blue-shifted (5 and 33 nm) compared with that of the ligand hbmb and H<sub>2</sub>pta. The emission spectrum for 3 also presented blue shifts (3 and 126 nm) with respect to the ligand hbmb and H<sub>4</sub>bptc. The hypsochromic shifts of the emission peaks of 1 and 3 indicate that the coordination of the ligand to Cd(II)/Zn(II) ions increases the rigidity, leading to less vibrations of the skeleton and reducing the loss of energy by radiationless decay of the intraligand emission excited state<sup>[25]</sup>.

#### 3 Conclusions

In summary, by introducing different carboxylate co-ligands into Cd(II)/Co(II)/Zn(II)-hbmb system, three varied architectures have been constructed and characterized by single-crystal X-ray diffraction analyses, infrared spectra and elemental analyses. Complexes 1~3 exhibit enthralling 2D/3D architectures with versatile topologies. The results of the above work manifest that distinct metal ions and various carboxylate co-ligands can greatly affect the final structures of complexes. In addition, 1 and 3 maybe potential optical materials.

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