一例基于 5-((萘-1-基甲基)氨基)间苯二甲酸配体的 Cd(II) 金属有机骨架的合成、晶体结构及对酸性氨基酸的检测

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摘要:以5-((萘-1-基甲基)氨基)间苯二甲酸(H₂L)与Cd²⁺通过溶剂热法合成出二维层状金属有机骨架[Cd(L)(H₂O)]·H₂O (1)。结构 分析显示层与层之间通过π-π和C—H···π相互作用形成了三维超分子结构。值得注意的是,1在酸性条件下发光会显著增强,这可用于选择性的检测酸性氨基酸,1对天冬氨酸和谷氨酸的检测限分别为3.88和5.43 μmol·L⁻¹。

关键词:金属有机骨架;晶体结构;发光;酸性氨基酸;检测
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Synthesis, Crystal Structure, and Detection of Acidic Amino Acids of a Cd(II) Metal-Organic Framework Based on 5-((Naphthalen-1-ylmethyl)amino)isophthalic Acid

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Abstract: A 2D layered metal-organic framework $[Cd(L)(H_2O)] \cdot H_2O$ (1) was synthesized from 5-((naphthalen-1-ylmethyl)amino)isophthalic acid (H₂L) and Cd²⁺ by a solvothermal method. Structural analysis reveals that the adjacent layers are connected by π - π stacking and C—H… π interactions to form a 3D supramolecular structure. Notably, the luminescence of 1 was significantly enhanced under acidic conditions, which can be used for selective and sensitive detection of acidic amino acids. The limits of detection of 1 for aspartic acid and glutamic acid were 3.88 and 5.43 µmol·L⁻¹, respectively. CCDC: 2158763.

Keywords: metal-organic framework; crystal structure; luminescence; acidic amino acids; detection

0 Introduction

Amino acids are important substances that constitute peptides and proteins and have an important role in metabolic and neurotransmitter transmission processes in living organisms^[1]. Among them, aspartic acid (Asp) and glutamic acid (Glu) are also known as acidic amino acids because they both have two carboxylate groups. Asp is an excitatory neurotransmitter in the central nervous system. When Asp is in excess in the body, it may cause many diseases such as stroke, epilepsy, and even Lou Gehrig's disease^[2]. In contrast, Glu is the most abundant and strongest excitatory neurotransmitter in the central nervous system. Abnormal concentrations of Glu in the body can lead to amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) and Parkinson's disease, $etc^{[3]}$. Therefore, fast and accurate detection of Asp and Glu is very important. Current methods for their detection include spectrophotometric, chromatographic, and electrochemistry^[4], but these methods have the disad-

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vantages of time - consuming, cumbersome, and high cost. Therefore, it is urgent to find a fast, convenient, and low - cost method to detect the two acidic amino acids.

Luminescent metal-organic frameworks (LMOFs) are a new type of functional luminescent materials, which are self-assembled by metal ion/cluster nodes and organic linkers^[5-7]. LMOFs have the advantages of abundant excited energy levels, diverse weak interactions, and tunable structures, and have potential applications in sensing^[8-9]. Up to now, many LMOFs have been used as probes to detect various analytes, but most of them are "turn-off" type probes. In contrast, the number of "turn - on" type probes that exhibit enhanced luminescence response to analytes remains limited. In addition, many LMOFs are unstable in water and can only work in non-aqueous systems when used as probes, thus limiting their further development. So far, some MOFs have been used as probes for the detection of amino acids^[10-11]. However, MOF probes for Asp or Glu detection are still rare^[12]. Therefore, it is of great significance to develop water-stable "turn-on" type LMOF probes for Asp and Glu detection.

Herein, a water-stable 2D LMOF $[Cd(L)(H_2O)] \cdot H_2O(1)$ with kgd topology was synthesized through the reaction of Cd²⁺ and ligand 5-((naphthalen-1-ylmethyl) amino)isophthalic acid (H₂L, Scheme 1). Photoluminescence (PL) studies show that the luminescence of 1 can be significantly enhanced in a pH range of 3-4 due to the protonation of the —NH— group of the ligand. This interesting property allows 1 to be used as a "turn-on" probe for the detection of acidic amino acids in an aqueous solution with limits of detection (LODs) of 3.88 and 5.43 μ mol·L⁻¹ for Asp and Glu, respectively. The detailed structure and detection behavior are reported.



Scheme 1 Structure of H₂L

1 Experimental

1.1 Material and methods

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H₂L was synthesized according to the literature method^[13]. All other chemicals employed were commercially available reagents of analytical grade and were used as received. FT-IR spectra were recorded (650-4 000 cm⁻¹) from a Nicolet-20DXB spectrometer via a KBr pellet pressing method. Thermogravimetric analyses (TGA) were carried out on a TA-Q50 thermogravimetric analyzer with a heating rate of 10 °C •min⁻¹ under N₂ protection. Elemental analyses of C, H, and N were performed on a Vario EL III elemental analyzer. Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) patterns were collected on a D/MAX-2400 X-ray Diffractometer with Cu Kα radiation ($\lambda = 0.154$ 060 nm) at a scan rate of 10 (°). \min^{-1} (V=40 kV, I=25 mA, 2 θ range: 5°-50°). The steadystate emission spectra were obtained on a Hitachi F-7000 FL spectrophotometer.

1.2 Synthesis of $[Cd(L)(H_2O)] \cdot H_2O(1)$

A mixture containing 32.1 mg of H_2L (0.10 mmol) and 31 mg of $Cd(NO_3)_2 \cdot 4H_2O$ (0.1 mmol) was dissolved in *N*, *N* - dimethylformamide (DMF)/H₂O (2 and 1 mL, respectively) in a 20 mL glass vial. Then the vial was sealed and placed in an oven at 105 °C for one day, cooled naturally to room temperature. The brown lumpy crystals could be obtained, washed with DMF several times and then air-dried at room temperature. Element analysis Calcd. for $C_{19}H_{17}NO_6Cd(\%)$: C, 48.79; H, 3.66; N, 2.99. Found(%): C, 48.83; H, 3.79; N, 3.11. IR(KBr, cm⁻¹): 3 386 (m), 1 693 (w), 1 609 (w), 1 532 (s), 1 419 (s), 1 355 (w), 1 314 (w), 1 242 (s), 1 244 (m), 1 140 (w), 1 037 (w), 931 (w), 908 (m), 771 (s), 732 (m), 684 (m).

1.3 Structure determination

The intensity data from the single crystal of **1** was collected at 150 K on a Bruker SMART APEX II CCD area detector system with graphite-monochromated Mo $K\alpha$ (λ =0.071 073 nm) radiation. Data reduction and unit cell refinement were performed with Smart-CCD software. The structure was solved by the direct method using SHELXS - 2014 and refined by the full - matrix least-squares method using SHELXL-2014^[14]. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. The

hydrogen atoms related to C and N atoms were generated geometrically. Hydrogen atoms attached to oxygen atoms were located from the difference Fourier map and refined with restrained O—H and H…H distances. The naphthyl group was found to be disordered. The site occupancy factors determined using the free variable were 0.486 and 0.514 for the two parts, respectively. A summary of crystal structure refinement data is given in Table 1. Selected bond lengths and angles of **1** are given in Table S1 (Supporting information). CCDC: 2158763.

Parameter	1	Parameter	1
Formula	$\mathrm{C_{19}H_{17}NO_6Cd}$	Z	2
Formula weight	467.73	$D_{\rm c}$ / (g·cm ⁻³)	1.783
Crystal system	Triclinic	μ / mm ⁻¹	1.291
Space group	$P\overline{1}$	F(000)	468.0
<i>a</i> / nm	0.816 78(5)	θ range / (°)	3.12-27.50
<i>b</i> / nm	0.829 85(5)	Reflection collected, unique, observed	29 977, 2 987, 2 982
<i>c</i> / nm	1.377 05(8)	$R_{ m int}$	0.062 4
α / (°)	74.965(2)	GOF on F^2	1.162
β/(°)	81.463(2)	$R_{1}^{a}, wR_{2}^{b} [I > 2\sigma(I)]$	0.024 3, 0.057 3
γ / (°)	76.023(2)	R_1, wR_2 (all)	0.024 3, 0.057 3
V / nm^3	0.871 06(9)	Max and mean shift in final cycle	0.001 and 0.000

 Table 1
 Crystal data collection and structure refinement parameters for compound 1

 ${}^{a}R_{1} = \sum \left(||F_{o}| - |F_{c}|| \right) / \sum |F_{o}|; {}^{b}wR_{2} = \{ \sum w[(F_{o}^{2} - F_{c}^{2})^{2}] / \sum w(F_{o}^{2})^{2} \}^{1/2}, w = 1 / [\sigma^{2}F_{o}^{2} + (aP)^{2} + bP], P = (F_{o}^{2} + 2F_{c}^{2}) / 3, a = 0.011 9, b = 0.888 3.$

2 Results and discussion

2.1 Crystal structure of 1

Single-crystal X-ray diffraction study reveals that

1 is a 2D neutral coordination polymer. As shown in Fig.1a, two neighboring Cd^{2+} ions are linked by two carboxylate oxygen atoms to form a binuclear { $Cd_2(COO)_4$ }



Symmetry codes: A: -x, -y+2, -z; B: x-1, y+1, z; C: -x+1, -y+1, -z; D: x-1, y, z

Fig.1 Structure of 1: (a) coordination environment of the Cd(II) ion; (b) coordination mode of the ligand; (c) packing of the layers viewed along the *c* axis; (d) topology of the framework; (e) π - π interactions between the neighboring layers, where the interaction is represented as green dotted line

second building unit (SBU) with Cd···Cd separation of ca. 0.368 nm. Each Cd²⁺ ion bears a distorted octahedral {NO₅} coordination polyhedron and is coordinated by one oxygen atom from the coordination H₂O molecule, one nitrogen, and four oxygen atoms from the ligand. The Cd—O bond lengths and $\angle O$ —Cd—O angles range from 0.219 1(2) to 0.242 9(2) nm and from 55.01(5)° to 156.03(7)°, respectively. Fig.1b shows that each ligand is utilized to coordinate four metal ions, and the coordination mode may be described as μ_4 - κ_N^{-1} : κ_0^{-1} : κ_0^{-2} .

The ligand and {Cd₂(COO)₄} SBU act as 3-connected and 6-connected nodes respectively, which are interconnected in a 2:1 ratio to form a 2D network with kgd topology. The corresponding point symbol is $(4^3)_2$ (4^6) , 4^6 , 8^3). The packing of adjacent layers is so close that strong π - π stacking interactions can occur between the aromatic rings of the ligands. As shown in Fig.1e, there is offset face-face π - π interaction between naphthalene groups from different layers with ring-ring separations of about 0.379 nm. Furthermore, C—H··· π interactions are also observed between the naphthalene group and the benzene group. The corresponding separation between the carbon atom of the naphthalene group to the benzene ring is ca. 0.290 nm. These interactions connect the layers into a 3D supramolecular structure, thus improving the structural stability.

2.2 Characterization of the compound

To demonstrate the purity and crystallinity of the bulk sample, a PXRD test was performed. As shown in Fig. S1, the peak positions in the experimental pattern were in good agreement with those in the calculated pattern, indicating that the sample has good phase purity and crystallinity. Furthermore, **1** retained its original framework after one month of immersion in water, indicating its excellent stability in an aqueous solution. TGA of **1** (Fig. S2) reveals that **1** lost all solvent water molecules between 100 and 150 °C (Obsd. 7.59%; Calcd. 7.70%), followed by a relatively stable plateau in a range of 150-388 °C. After 388 °C, **1** lost weight significantly, indicating the destruction and collapse of the framework.

The solid-state luminescence spectra of H_2L and **1** were obtained at room temperature (Fig.S3). Under 375 nm excitation, the ligand had a strong blue emission peaking at 435 nm. In contrast, **1** had an emission peak at 425 nm under the same excitation, which can be attributed to ligand-based emission.

2.3 pH-modulated luminescence enhancement of LMOF 1

Considering the excellent stability of **1** in water, the PL properties of the suspensions of **1** under different acid-base conditions (pH was adjusted by 0.1 mol· L^{-1} HCl or NaOH aqueous solution) were firstly investigated. As shown in Fig.2a and Fig.S4, the suspension of **1** had an emission peak at 421 nm at pH=7. The luminescence intensity remained stable in a pH range of 5 - 10. However, the intensity gradually increased when the acidity gradually increased from pH=5, increased sharply in a pH range of 3-4, and reached a



 I_0 and I are the luminescence intensity before and after the addition of amino acids (1.0 mmol·L⁻¹), respectively

Fig.2 Luminescence response of the suspensions of **1** to pH and amino acids: (a) line chart of luminescence intensity in a pH range of 1-13; (b) variation in the luminescence intensity toward different amino acids

maximum at pH=2, accompanied by an obvious red shift of the peak position. When the acidity continued to increase to pH=1, there was a certain degree of weakening of the luminescence. Furthermore, there was a relatively small luminescence enhancement in a pH range of 10-13 as the alkalinity of the system increased. The above results indicate that 1 has good sensitivity to the pH range of 3-4 and can be used as a good luminescence sensor for detecting pH in a small range. To further explore the effect of pH on the PL of 1, PXRD tests were performed on the samples immersed in aqueous solutions of different pH values for one day. As shown in Fig. S1, the framework was stable in a pH range of 2-13, indicating that the enhanced PL of 1 at a low pH value is not due to the collapse of the framework.

We speculate that the above pH-dependent luminescence changes may be due to the fact that the secondary amine group in the ligand is easily protonated under acidic conditions, resulting in the weakening of the coordination of the Cd²⁺ ion with the N atom. This ultimately leads to enhanced luminescence.

2.4 Sensing of acidic amino acids

The excellent response of **1** to a small range of pH prompts us to further explore the possibility of using **1** to detect common amino acids. When different amino acids were added to the aqueous suspension of **1**, only two acidic amino acids, Asp and Glu, significantly enhanced the luminescence of the suspension. As shown in Fig. 2b and S5, the luminescence of **1** was

enhanced by 14.4-fold and 9.0-fold after the addition of Asp and Glu, respectively, accompanied by an obvious red shift of the emission peak (429 nm). In contrast, lysine (Lys) could only lead to a 2.8-fold enhancement, while other amino acids did not affect the luminescence of **1**. Therefore, **1** can effectively distinguish acidic amino acids from other amino acids by the difference in luminescence intensity.

Further titration experiments were performed to investigate the possibility of 1 as a probe. The luminescence intensity of 1 was gradually enhanced as the amount of the two acidic amino acids increased (Fig.3a and 4a). For Asp, a linear relationship was followed in wide concentration range of 0-0.67 mmol· L^{-1} а (Fig.3b), and the linear correlation could be fitted as *I*= 4 412.63c+321.17. The corresponding LOD was calculated to be 3.88 μ mol·L⁻¹ based on the signal-noise ratio of $3\sigma/k$. Similarly, a linear range of 0-0.58 mmol. L^{-1} was also observed in the Glu case (Fig.4b) with the fitted equation of I=3 151.37c+298.57, and the corresponding LOD was 5.43 μ mol·L⁻¹. The correlation coefficients (R^2) were calculated to be 0.996 and 0.995 for the two fits respectively, indicating that 1 can be a good probe for the quantitative detection of Asp and Glu in the concentration range.

In addition, after adding 1.0 mmol·L⁻¹ Asp or Glu solution to the suspension of 1, the luminescence intensity of the suspension tended to stabilize within 300 s (Fig.S6), indicating that 1 has a fast response speed as an acidic amino acid probe. Anti-interference experi-



Fig.3 Detection of Asp by compound 1: (a) emission spectra of the aqueous dispersion of 1 after incremental addition of Asp solution (λ_{ex} =375 nm); (b) corresponding linear fitting plot



Fig.4 Detection of Glu by compound 1: (a) emission spectra of the aqueous dispersion of 1 after incremental addition of Glu solution (λ_{es} =375 nm); (b) corresponding linear fitting plot

ments were also carried out in the presence of other amino acids at the same concentration (Fig.S7 and S8). Except for the most basic arginine which can cause some interference, the addition of other amino acids did not affect the luminescence of the system, indicating that **1** has good selectivity for acidic amino acids.

So far, several MOF-related composite probes prepared by post-synthetic modification have been used to detect Asp or Glu^[15], but they suffer from the drawbacks of the leaching of the loaded metal ions from the composites as well as the possibility of channel blockage. Several MOFs have also been directly used to detect Asp or Glu^[10], but their LODs are relatively high. In addition, the preparation of some of the probes more or less requires the use of expensive rare earth metal ions, either Tb³⁺ or Eu^{3+[2,11]}. In contrast, the probe we report here is a non-composite probe, which uses transition metal ions as nodes, has excellent stability in water, and has a low LOD. Therefore, it has certain advantages.

3 Conclusions

To sum up, a water-stable MOF (1) with 2D kgd topology was prepared. The interesting luminescence enhancement of 1 under acidic conditions allows 1 to be used for the detection of acidic amino acids in an aqueous solution with LODs of 3.88 and 5.43 μ mol·L⁻¹ for Asp and Glu, respectively. The work provides a good example of the preparation of an LMOF - based probe for amino acid detection.

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Supporting information is available at http://www.wjhxxb.cn

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