

## **The low dielectric constant and relaxation dielectric behavior in hydrogen-bonding metal-organic frameworks**

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## 1. Experimental

### 1.1. Chemicals and reagents

The reagents and solvents were purchased from commercial sources and used without further purification. The compound 2-ethyl-4H-imidazole-4,5-dicarbonitrile was synthesized by literature.

### 1.2. Physical measurements

Elemental analyses (C, H and N) were performed with an Elementar Vario EL III analytical instrument. IR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Vector 22 Fourier Transform Infrared Spectrometer (170SX) (KBr disc). Thermogravimetric (TG) experiment was performed with a TA2000/2960 thermogravimetric analyzer from 40 to 700°C at a warming rate of 10 K/min under a nitrogen atmosphere, and the polycrystalline samples were placed in an aluminum crucible. Temperature and frequency dependent dielectric constant,  $\epsilon'$ , and dielectric loss,  $\tan(\delta)$ , measurements were carried out employing Concept 80 system (Novocontrol, Germany); the powdered pellet, with a thickness of ca. 0.40 mm and 78.5 mm<sup>2</sup> in the area, was coated by gold films on the opposite surfaces and sandwiched by the copper electrodes and the ac frequencies span from 1 Hz to 10<sup>6</sup> Hz. Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) data for the as-prepared and the DMF-free samples were collected using Bruker D8 Advance powder diffractometer operating at 40 kV and 40 mA with Cu K radiation  $\lambda = 1.5418 \text{ \AA}$  at ambient temperature.

### 1.3. Preparations for 1

The preparation of **1** was different from our previous reported work<sup>1</sup>. The main difference is we used 2-ethyl-4H-imidazole-4,5-dicarbonitrile (EIDN) in this paper replaced 2-ethyl-4H-imidazole-4,5-dicarboxylic as the ligand. The synthesis procedure of this compound is in following described: First, the EIDN (4 mmol) and Zn(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mmol) in 4:1 mol ratio were dissolved in 20 ml DMF. The mixture were refluxed for 2h, then 6 ml distilled water was added and sealed in Teflon-lined

autoclave and heated to 80°C for 48h. The reaction product was filtered and the solution was slowly evaporated. Colorless block-shaped crystals were obtained after 7 days in solution. The crystals were washed with DMF and acetone and dried in air. The yield is ca. 65% based on EIDN, which is higher than our previous reported. The crystal structure of **1** is the same as our previous reported. The carboxyl group was produced by hydrolysis of the cyano group of the EIDN ligand.

[1] S. S. Yu, H. Zhou and H. B. Duan, *Synth. React. Inorg. Met.-Org. Chem.*, 2013, **43**, 1521.

Figure S1 Powder X-ray diffraction patterns for the as-prepared sample of **1**, confirming the phase purity of the as-prepared sample (Black lines: experimental patterns; red lines: simulated profiles).

Figure S2 H-bond interactions between O atoms of DMF molecule and H<sub>2</sub>EIDA ligand as well as between O atoms of H<sub>2</sub>O and N atoms of H<sub>2</sub>EIDA ligand.

Figure S3 Crystal structure of **1** illustrating the 3D framework forming by H-bond and O···O interactions.

Figure S4 Complex impedance of **1** at selected temperature