Supporting Information

## Effects of Organic Ammonium Cations on Isolation of {Ti<sub>4</sub>} Cyclic Clusters from Water: An <sup>17</sup>O NMR Study

Weiming Liu,<sup>a</sup> Caiyun Liu,<sup>a</sup> Wenli Wu,<sup>b</sup> Guanyun Zhang,<sup>a</sup> Jian Zhang,<sup>c</sup> Chen-Ho Tung<sup>a</sup> and Yifeng Wang<sup>\*a</sup>

<sup>*a*</sup> Key Lab for Colloid and Interface Science of Ministry of Education, School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Shandong University, Jinan 250100, China

<sup>b</sup> Qilu University of Technology (Shandong Academy of Sciences), Shandong Analysis and Test Center, Keyuan Street No 19, Jinan 250014, China

<sup>c</sup> State Key Laboratory of Crystal Materials, Shandong University, Jinan 250100, China

## 1. Crystallography

Single crystal X-ray diffraction analysis was performed on a Bruker SMART APEX II diffractometer using Cu-K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 1.54178$  Å) at 173 K. APEX2, SaintPlus 6.01,<sup>1</sup> SADABS<sup>2</sup> and Olex2<sup>3</sup> were used for indexing, data integration/reduction, absorption correction and refinement. Hydrogen atoms of the organic ammonium cations were added as riding atoms theoretically. The crystallographic data are list in the following table:

Compound	Ti <sub>4</sub> b-CHexDA	Ti <sub>4</sub> b-BuDA	Ti <sub>4</sub> c-OcDA	Ti <sub>4</sub> c-HMTA
Formula unit	$C_{12}H_{48}N_4O_{36}S_6Ti_4\\$	$C_8H_{44}N_4O_{36}S_6Ti_4$	$C_{36}H_{114.5}Cl_{1.5}N_9O_{45}S_{8.5}Ti_4$	$H_{36}O_{50}S_8Ti_4$
CCDC number	1977579	1977578	1977580	1977581
Moieties	$\begin{array}{l}(C_6H_{16}N_2)_2[Ti_4O_4(OH_2)_8(S\\O_4)_4](SO_4)_2\end{array}$	$\begin{array}{l}(C_4H_{14}N_2)_2[Ti_4O_4(OH_2)_8(S\\O_4)_4](SO_4)_2\end{array}$	$\begin{array}{l}(C_8H_{22}N_2)_{4.5}[Ti_4O_4(OH_2)_4(SO_4)_8](SO_4)_{0.5}{}^{\cdot}1.5HCl{}^{\cdot}3H_2O\end{array}$	$\begin{array}{l} [Ti_4O_4(OH_2)_4(SO_4)_8\\ H_8]\cdot 10H_2O \end{array}$
Formula weight (g/mol)	1208.4	1156.3	1911.0	1284.2
Crystal system	tetragonal	tetragonal	triclinic	tetragonal
Space group (Nr.)	I4/mcm	I4/mcm	P-1	I-42d
a (Å)	13.7675(2)	13.8316(2)	15.4295(4)	24.0919(2)
b (Å)	13.7675(2)	13.8316(2)	17.3585(5)	24.0919(2)
c (Å)	20.9391(4)	20.2120(4)	18.1126(4)	23.1592(3)
α (°)	90	90	109.769(2)	90
β (°)	90	90	90.193(2)	90
γ (°)	90	90	109.105(2)	90
Volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )	3968.88(14)	3866.82(14)	4278.1(2)	13442.1(3)
Ζ	1	4	1	12
Density <sub>calc</sub> (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	2.022	1.959	1.482	1.892
Abs. Coeff. $\mu$ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	10.700	10.944	6.253	10.586
Temperature (K)	173	173	173	173
Total reflections	5055	5413	42809	17257
Min-max 20 (°)	9.084 to 152.578	8.75 to 152.536	5.228 to 153.256	5.294 to 144.96
Unique reflections	1094	1080	16946	6388
$R_1[I \ge 2\sigma(I)]$	0.0858	0.0995	0.1504	0.0439
wR <sub>2</sub> (all data)	0.1897	0.2269	0.4155	0.1175
R <sub>int</sub>	0.0407	0.0393	0.1331	0.0328
Goodness of fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.228	1.129	1.045	1.082
Parameters	131	149	987	401
Restraints	108	187	303	359
Largest diff. peak/hole (e Å <sup>-3</sup> )	0.78/-0.76	1.34/-077	1.65/-1.26	0.54/-0.46

Table S1	. The	crystall	lographic	data
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## 2. Additional characterization



Figure S1. The Raman spectra of the  ${Ti_4}$  compounds.





Figure S2. The PXRD spectra of the  ${Ti_4}$  compounds.



Ti<sub>4</sub>b-CHexDA

Ti<sub>4</sub>b-BuDA

Ti<sub>4</sub>c-HMTA

Ti<sub>4</sub>c-OcDA

Figure S3. The photos of the crystals.



**Figure S4.** TGA data. The data were recorded on an SDT Q600 instrument from room temperature to ca. 800 °C at a heating rate of 10 °C min<sup>-1</sup>, under high purity N<sub>2</sub> flow (100 mL min<sup>-1</sup>).



Figure S5. The <sup>17</sup>O NMR spectra of  $Ti_4c$ -OcDA (ca. 0.10 M) dissolved in 1.0 M HCl or  $H_2SO_4$ .

**Discussion.** For above experiments, <sup>17</sup>O-enriched Ti<sub>4</sub>c-OcDA was first prepared using an <sup>17</sup>O-enriched solution (5%). <sup>17</sup>O-enriched Ti<sub>4</sub>c-OcDA was then dissolved in 5% <sup>17</sup>O-enriched 1.0 M HCl or H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The concentration of Ti<sub>4</sub>c-OcDA was ca. 0.10 M. Thus, the concentration of Ti<sup>4+</sup> was ca. 0.40 M. The three peaks of  $\mu_2$ -O suggest Ti<sub>4</sub>c decomposed in prior to the NMR measurements. Moreover, according to the peak area analysis, the concentrations of  $\mu_2$ -O are estimated to be 0.11 and 0.10 M in the two solutions, respectively. The much lower concentrations of  $\mu_2$ -O than that of Ti<sup>4+</sup> clearly indicate Ti<sub>4</sub>c decomposed.



**Figure S6.** <sup>17</sup>O NMR spectra of TiCl<sub>4</sub> with and without added LiCl. It can be seen that LiCl leads to little change to the speciation.



**Figure S7.** The packing diagram of  $\{Ti_{18}O_{27}\}$  clusters in  $\{Ti_{18}O_{27}\}$ -TBAC.<sup>4</sup> The TBA<sup>+</sup> cations assemble into a "honeycomb" for accommodating the  $\{Ti_{18}O_{27}\}$  clusters, Cl<sup>-</sup> anions and solvent H<sub>2</sub>O.



**Figure S8.** The packing diagram of  $\{Ti_6O_8\}$  cluster in  $Ti_6$ -TBAC.<sup>5</sup> The TBA<sup>+</sup> cations are organized into hydrophobic shells and inside the shells are located the  $\{Ti_6O_8\}$  cluster, Cl<sup>-</sup>and solvent H<sub>2</sub>O.



**Figure S9.** The packing diagram of  $\{Ti_6O_8\}$  clusters in  $\{Ti_6O_8\}$ -NDS. The  $\{Ti_6O_8\}$  clusters are separated by many one-dimensional chain-like fabrics of the assembled 2,7-naphthalenedisulfonate.

## 3. References

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