

## Supporting Information

### Modulation of CO<sub>2</sub> Adsorption in Novel Pillar-layered MOFs Based on Carboxylate-pyrazole Flexible Linker

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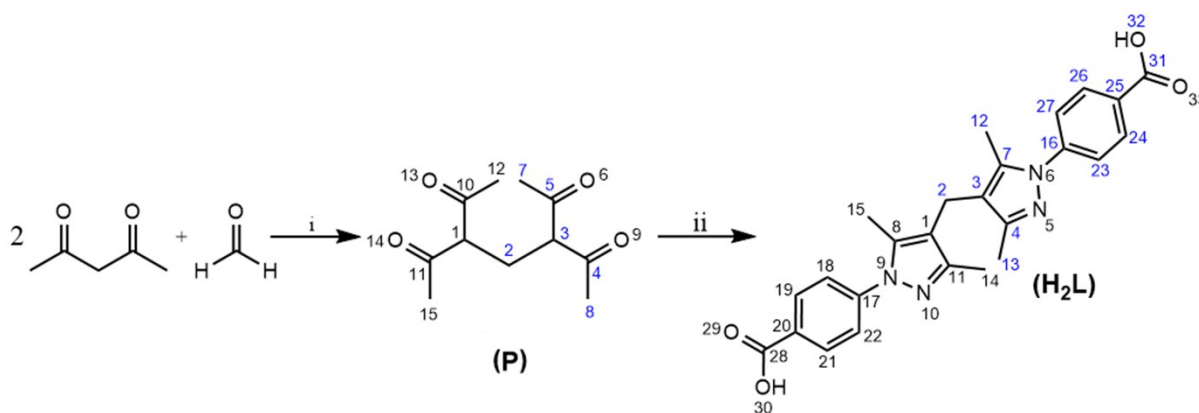
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### Synthesis and Characterization of H<sub>2</sub>L

The linker (H<sub>2</sub>L) was synthesized in two steps according to previous reports<sup>1,2</sup>



i) 5 days. ii) AcOH, EtOAc, 4-hydrazinobenzoic acid, 24 h, reflux

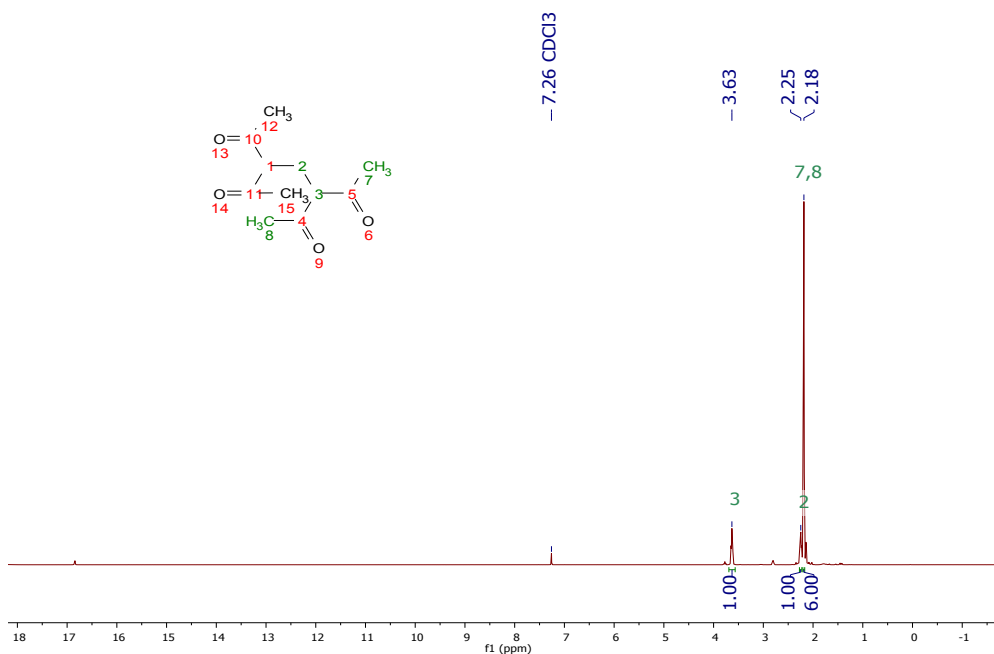
**Scheme 1.** Synthesis of H<sub>2</sub>L

#### Step 1. Synthesis of 3,5-diacetylheptane-2,6-dione (P).<sup>2</sup>

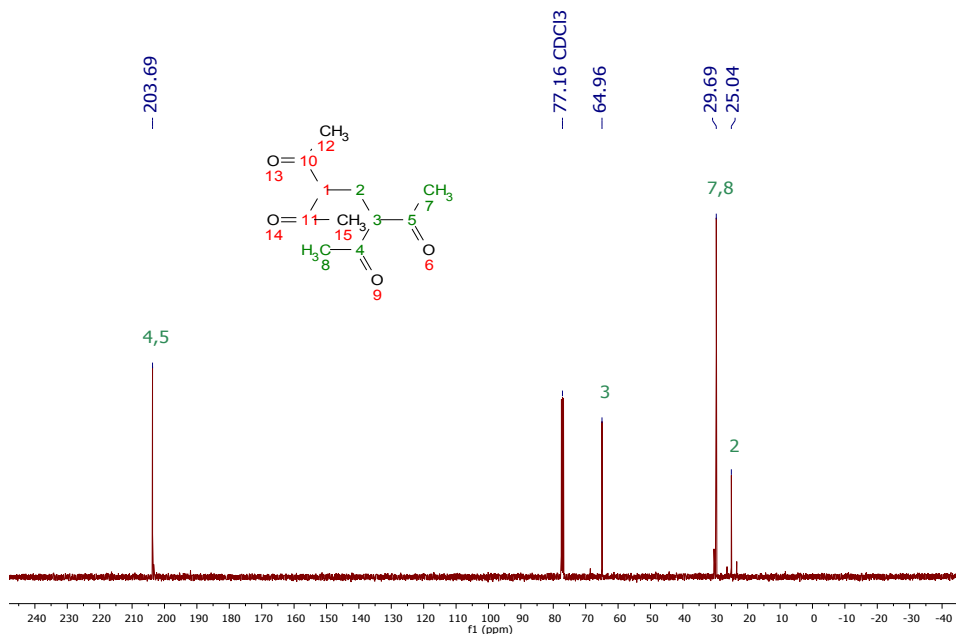
In a round-bottomed flask of 100 mL, a mixture of acetylacetone (20.00 mL, 0.200 mol) and formaldehyde (37% aqueous solution, 13.50 mL, 0.490 mol) was stirred at 1000 rpm for 5 days. When completed, two phases were formed, on the top a light-yellow aqueous layer (~10 mL) and on the bottom gold-colored organic layer (~40 mL). The mixture was separated using a separating funnel. The organic layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, an equal volume of diethyl ether was added and then it was cooled in an ice-ethanol bath to produce white solid (P) (**Scheme 1**). The product was filtered and washed three times with ethyl ether. Finally, it was dried in a vacuum oven at 60 °C for 12 hours.

**Yield:** 30%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298K): δ/ppm= 3.63 (t, J<sub>HH</sub>=6.21 Hz, 2H, H<sub>3</sub>), 2.25 (t, J<sub>HH</sub>=6,10 Hz, 2H, H<sub>2</sub>), 2.18 (s, 12H, H<sub>7,8</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR {<sup>1</sup>H} (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298K): δ/ppm=

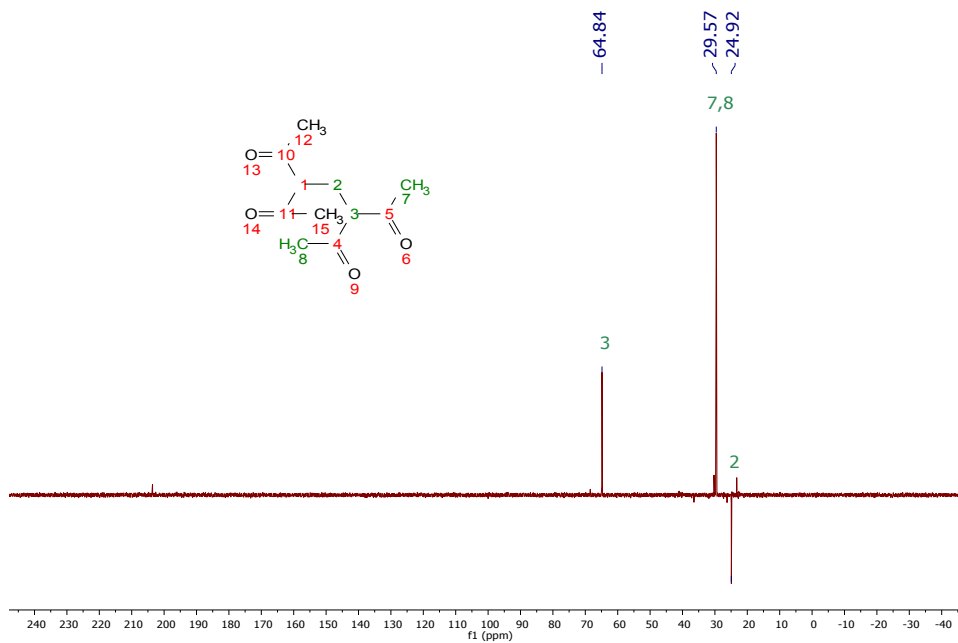
203.69 (C<sub>4,5</sub>), 64.96 (C<sub>3</sub>), 29.69 (C<sub>7</sub>,C<sub>8</sub>), 25.04 (C<sub>2</sub>). **DEPT-135** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$ /ppm = 64.84 (C<sub>3</sub>), 29.57 (C<sub>7,8</sub>), 24.92 (C<sub>2</sub>). **<sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C-HSQC** (400 MHz/100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$ (<sup>1</sup>H)/ $\delta$ (<sup>13</sup>C) = 3.63/64.96 (H<sub>3</sub>/C<sub>3</sub>), 2.25/25.01 (H<sub>2</sub>/C<sub>2</sub>), 2.19/29.72 (H<sub>7,8</sub>/C<sub>7,8</sub>). **<sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C-HMBC** (400 MHz/100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$ (<sup>1</sup>H)/ $\delta$ (<sup>13</sup>C) = 2.18/203.69 (H<sub>7,8</sub>/C<sub>4,5</sub>). **FT-IR (KBr)**:  $\nu$ /cm<sup>-1</sup> = 3402.43 (w), 1689.64 (m), 1427.32 (w), 1365.60 (w), 1319.31 (w), 1149.57 (m), 1080.14 (w), 1041.56 (w), 956.59 (s), 879.54 (w), 810.10 (s), 732.95 (m), 648.08 (m), 594.08 (s), 555.50 (s), 493.78 (s), 493.78 (s), 362.02 (m), 324.04 (m). **HRMS(HESI)**: m/z [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (213.11), found 213.1121. **UV** (nm): 291.



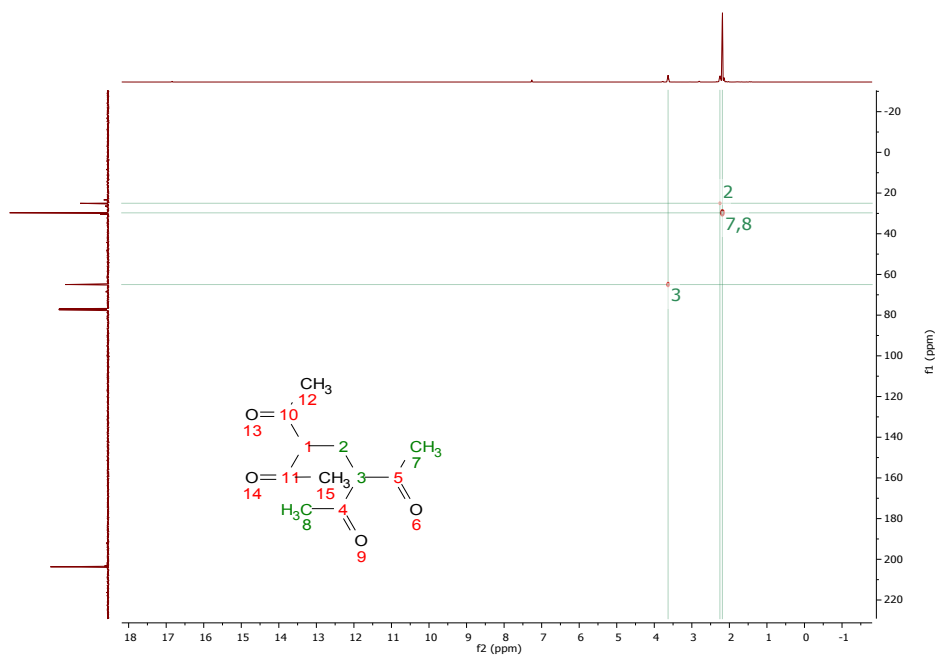
**Figure S1.** 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of P in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



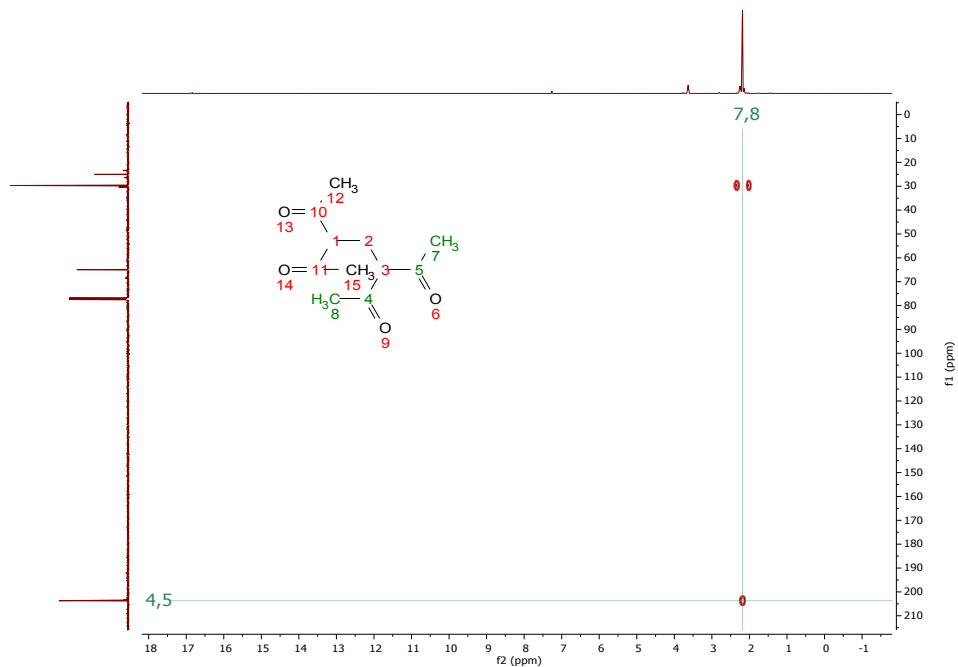
**Figure S2.** 400 MHz  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of P in  $\text{CDCl}_3$



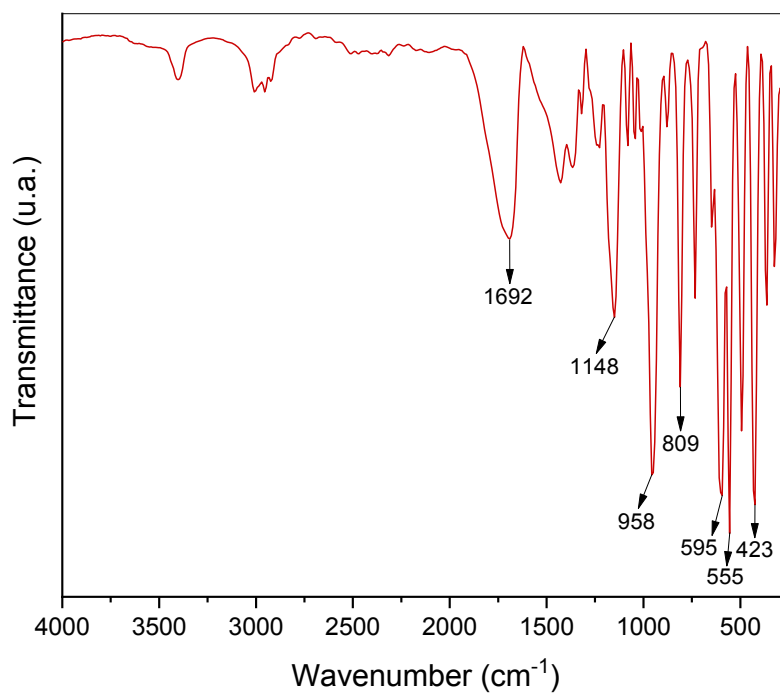
**Figure S3.** 400 MHz DEPT-135 NMR spectrum of P in  $\text{CDCl}_3$



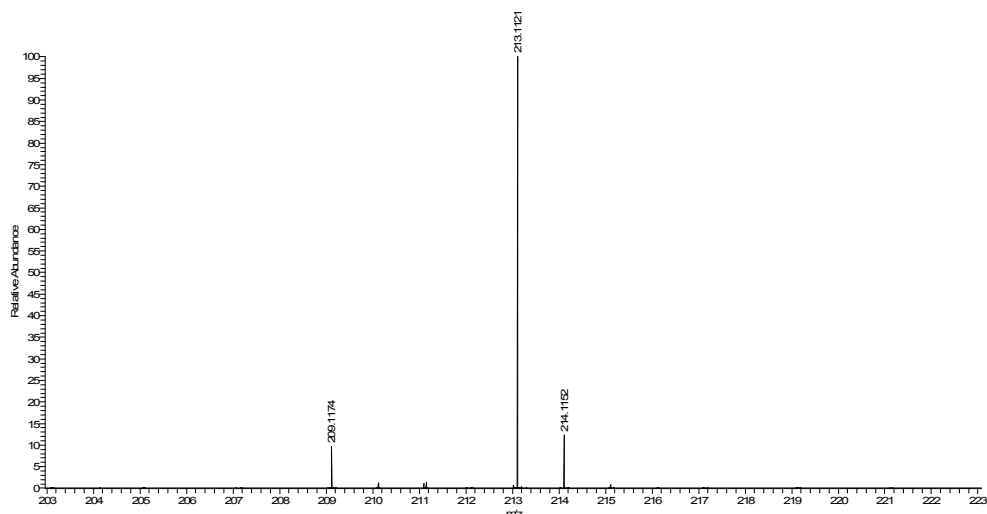
**Figure S4.** 400 MHz HSQC NMR spectrum of P in  $\text{CDCl}_3$



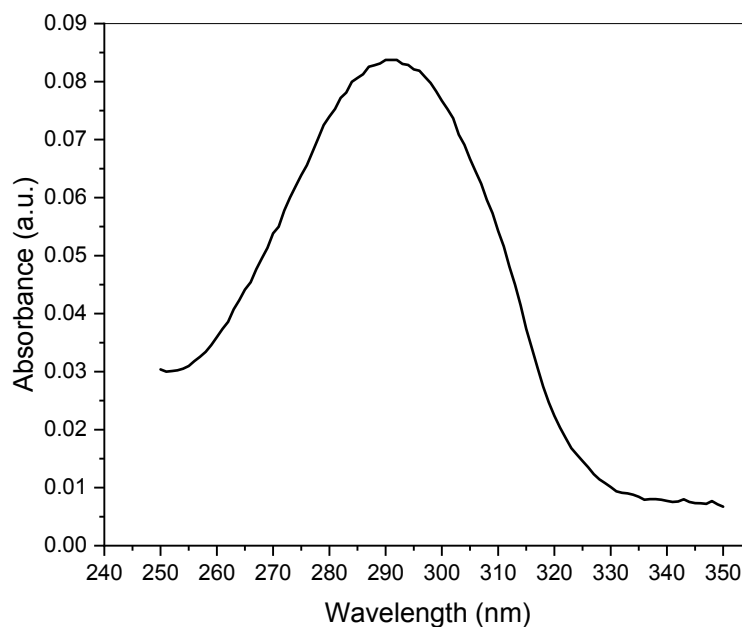
**Figure S5.** 400 MHz HMBC NMR spectrum of P in  $\text{CDCl}_3$



**Figure S6.** FT-IR Spectrum of P



**Figure S7.** HRMS Spectrum of P



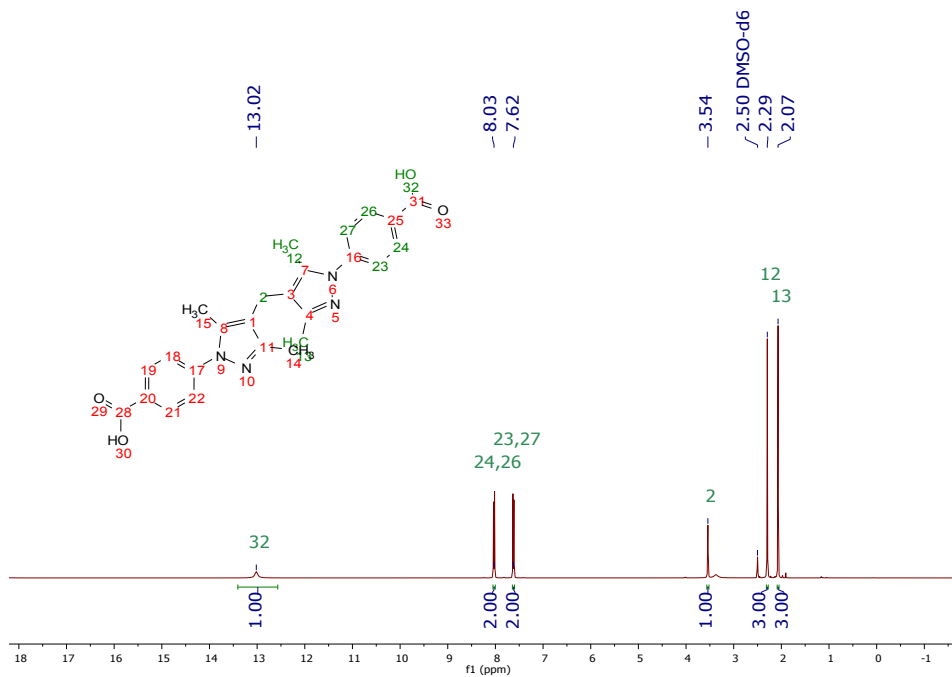
**Figure S8.** UV-Vis Spectrum of P

## Step 2. Synthesis of Linker H<sub>2</sub>L

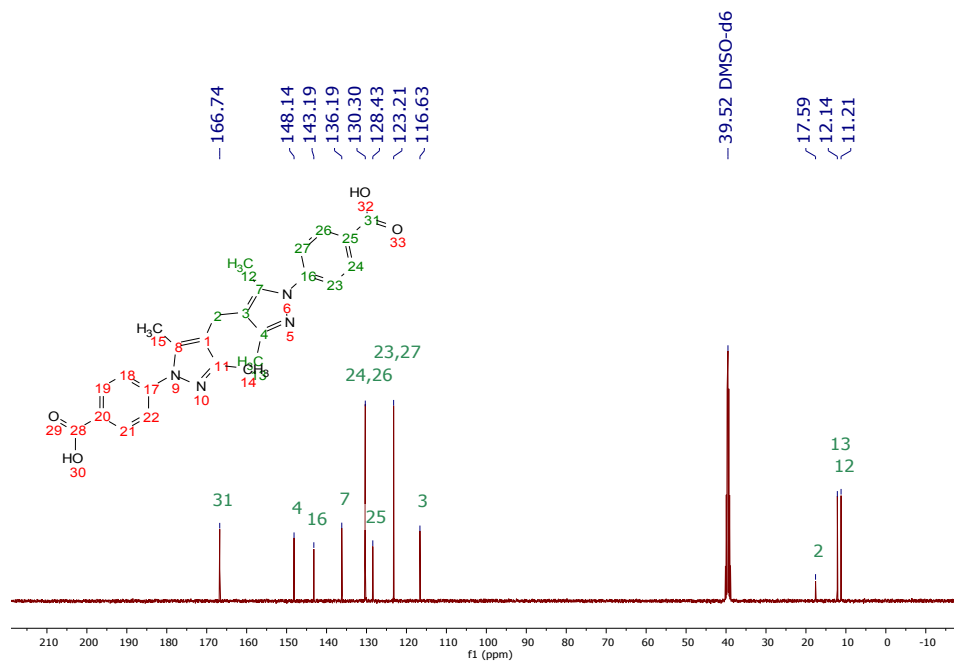
In a 250 mL two-neck round bottom flask, the compound P (2.50 g, 0.012 mol) was dissolved in ethyl acetate (125 mL) and acetic acid (25 mL). The mixture was left under reflux and stirring for one hour until complete dissolution. After cooling down to room temperature, 4-hydrazinobenzoic acid (3.90 g, 0.026 mol) was added and then it was kept under reflux and stirring for 24 hours. A light pink product was filtered, washed with water and ethyl acetate three times each and dried in a vacuum oven at 60 °C for 12 hours.

**Yield:** 83%. **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 298K): δ/ppm = 13.02 (s, 2H, H<sub>32</sub>), 8.03 (d, J<sub>HH</sub>=8.60 Hz, 4H, H<sub>24,26</sub>), 7.62 (d, J<sub>HH</sub>=8.60 Hz, 4H, H<sub>23,27</sub>), 3.54 (s, 2H, H<sub>2</sub>), 2.29 (s, 6H, H<sub>12</sub>),

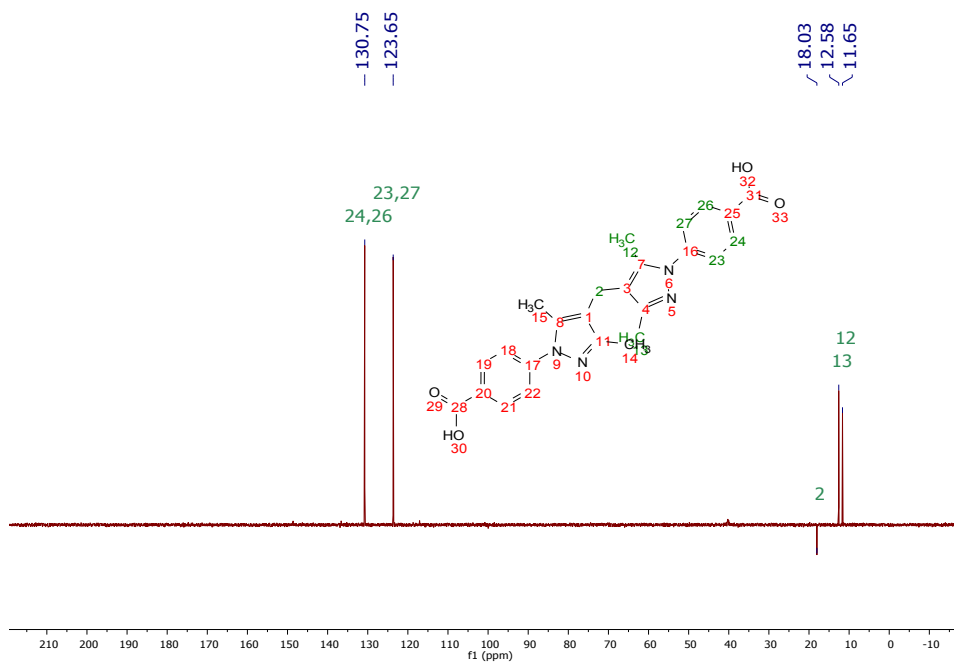
2.07 (s, 6H, H<sub>13</sub>). **<sup>13</sup>C NMR {<sup>1</sup>H}** (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 298K): δ/ppm= 166.74 (C<sub>31</sub>), 148.14 (C<sub>4</sub>), 143.19 (C<sub>16</sub>), 136.19 (C<sub>7</sub>), 130.30 (C<sub>24,26</sub>), 128.43 (C<sub>25</sub>), 123.21 (C<sub>23,27</sub>), 116.63 (C<sub>3</sub>), 17.59 (C<sub>2</sub>), 12.14 (C<sub>13</sub>), 11.21(C<sub>12</sub>). **DEPT-135** (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 298 K): δ/ppm 130.75 (C<sub>24,26</sub>), 123.65 (C<sub>23,27</sub>), 18.03 (C<sub>2</sub>), 12.58 (C<sub>13</sub>), 11.65(C<sub>12</sub>). **<sup>1</sup>H,<sup>13</sup>C-HSQC** (400 MHz/100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 298 K): δ(<sup>1</sup>H)/δ(<sup>13</sup>C) = 8.03/130.31 (H<sub>24,26</sub>/C<sub>24,26</sub>), 7.62/123.22 (H<sub>23,27</sub>/C<sub>23,27</sub>), 3.54/17.60 (H<sub>2</sub>/C<sub>2</sub>), 2.29/11.18 (H<sub>12</sub>/C<sub>12</sub>), 2.07/12.12 (H<sub>13</sub>/C<sub>13</sub>). **<sup>1</sup>H,<sup>13</sup>C-HMBC** (400 MHz/100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 298 K): δ(<sup>1</sup>H)/δ(<sup>13</sup>C)= 8.03/143.20 (H<sub>24,26</sub>/C<sub>16</sub>), 7.62/128.41 (H<sub>23,27</sub>/C<sub>25</sub>), 3,54/116.65, 136.18, 148.13 (H<sub>2</sub>/C<sub>3,7,4</sub>), 2.29/116.65, 136.18 (H<sub>12</sub>/C<sub>3,7</sub>), 2.07/116.65, 148.13 (H<sub>13</sub>/C<sub>3,4</sub>). **FT-IR (KBr)**: ν/cm<sup>-1</sup>= 3672.47 (w), 3402.43 (w), 2924.09 (w), 2522.89 (w), 2036.83 (w), 1705.07 (s), 1604.77 (s), 1512.19 (m), 1481.33 (w), 1427.32 (s), 1373.32 (s), 1273.02 (s), 1172.72 (m), 1103.28 (m), 1064.71 (w), 1018.41 (w), 902.69 (m), 864.11 (m), 810.10 (w), 771.53 (m), 694.37 (m), 570.93 (m), 540.07 (m), 493.78 (w), 408.91 (w), 339.47 (w) **HRMS(HESI)**: m/z [M]<sup>+</sup> calculated for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (444.18), found 445.1868. **UV** (nm): 294.



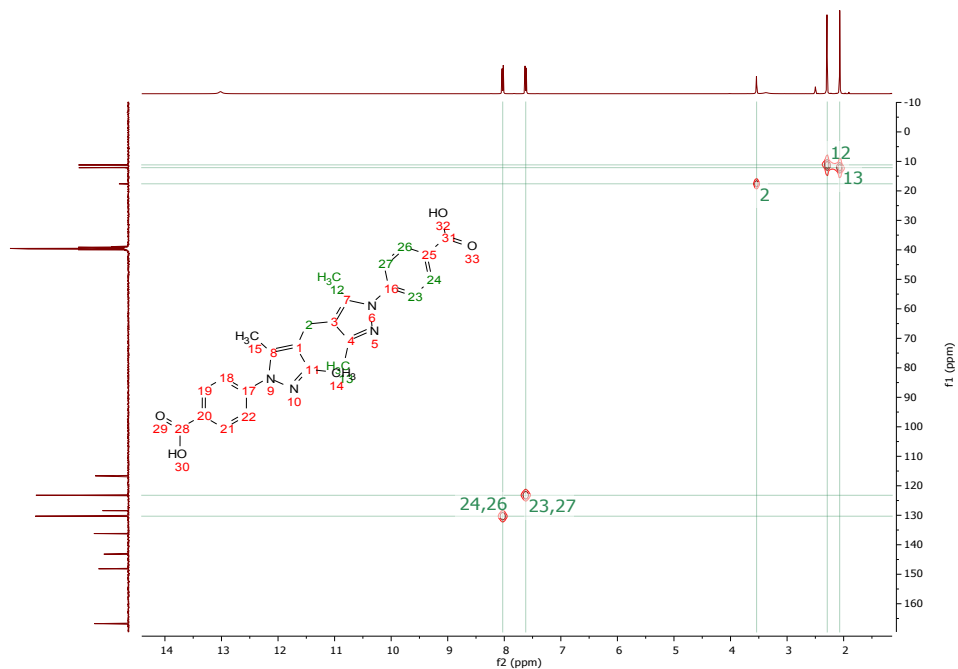
**Figure S9.** 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of H<sub>2</sub>L in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>.



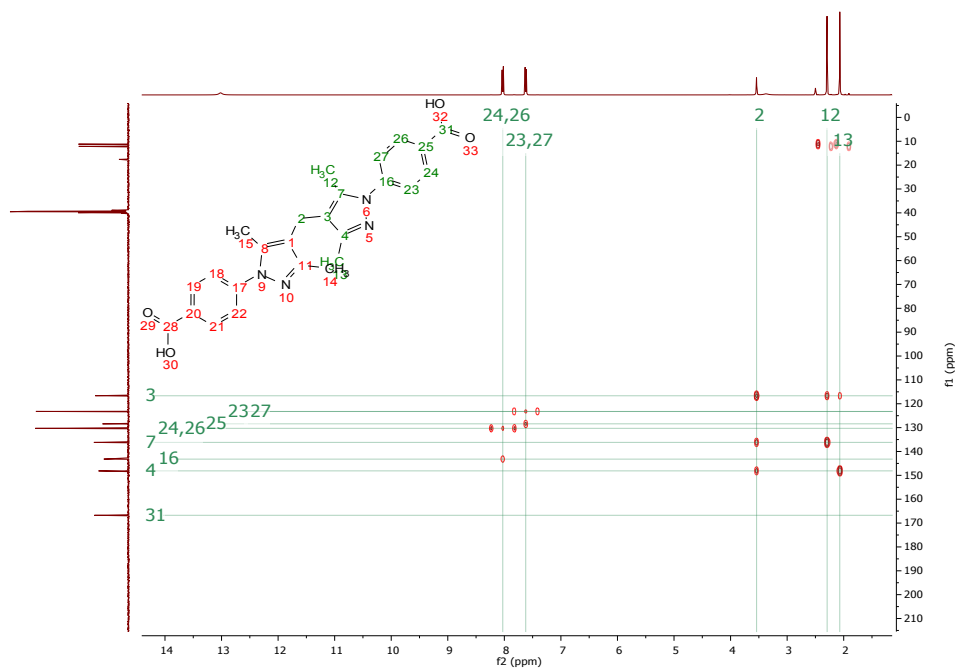
**Figure S10.** 400 MHz <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of H<sub>2</sub>L in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>.



**Figure S11.** 400 MHz DEPT-135 NMR spectrum of H<sub>2</sub>L in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>.

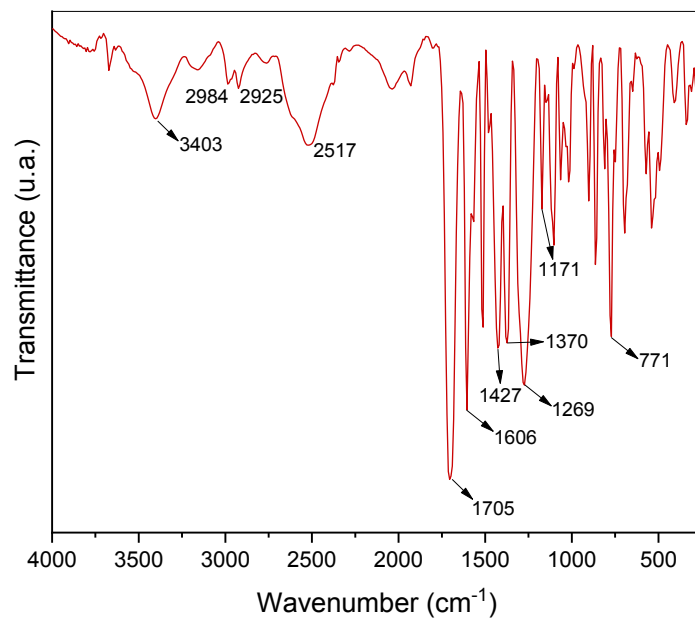


**Figure S12.** 400 MHz HSQC NMR spectrum of H<sub>2</sub>L in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>.

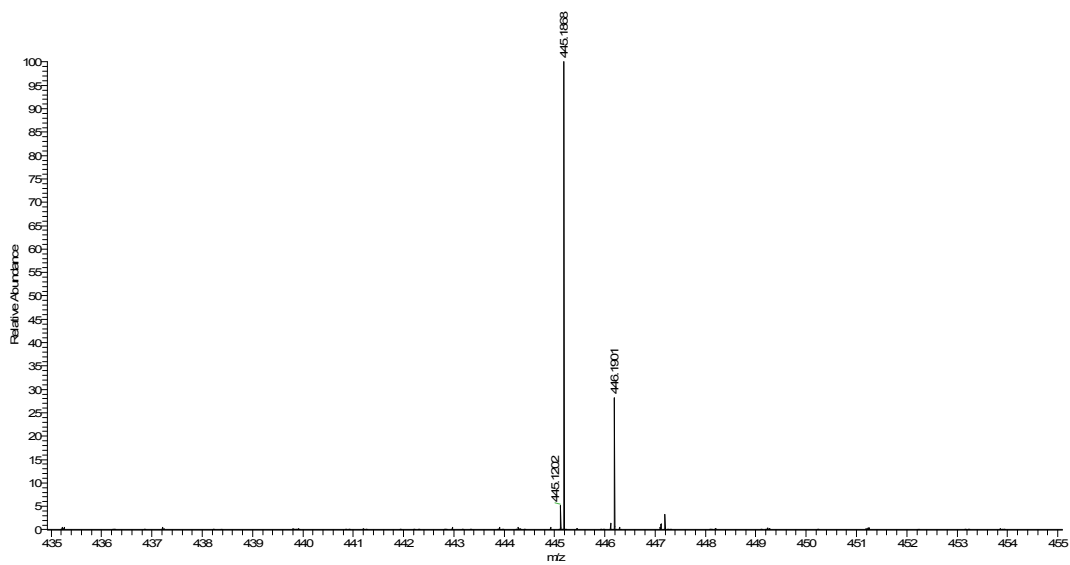


**Figure S13.** 400 MHz HMBC NMR spectrum of H<sub>2</sub>L in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>.

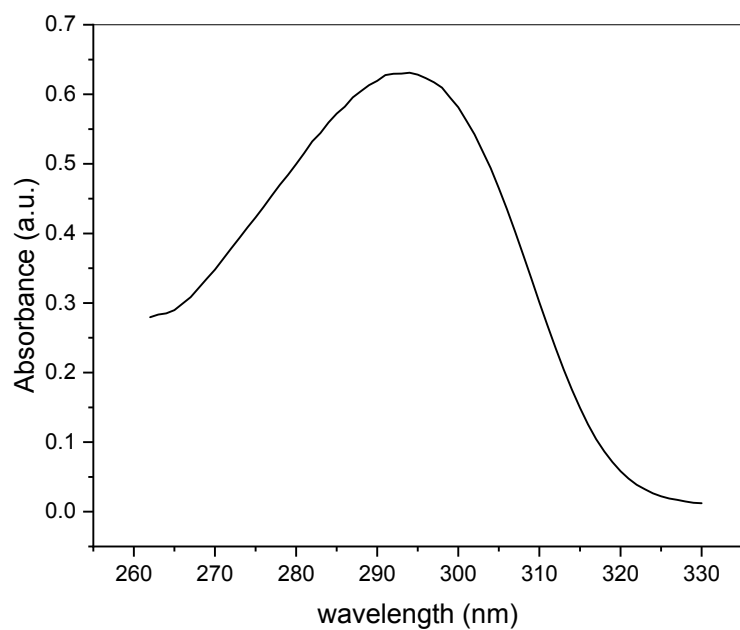




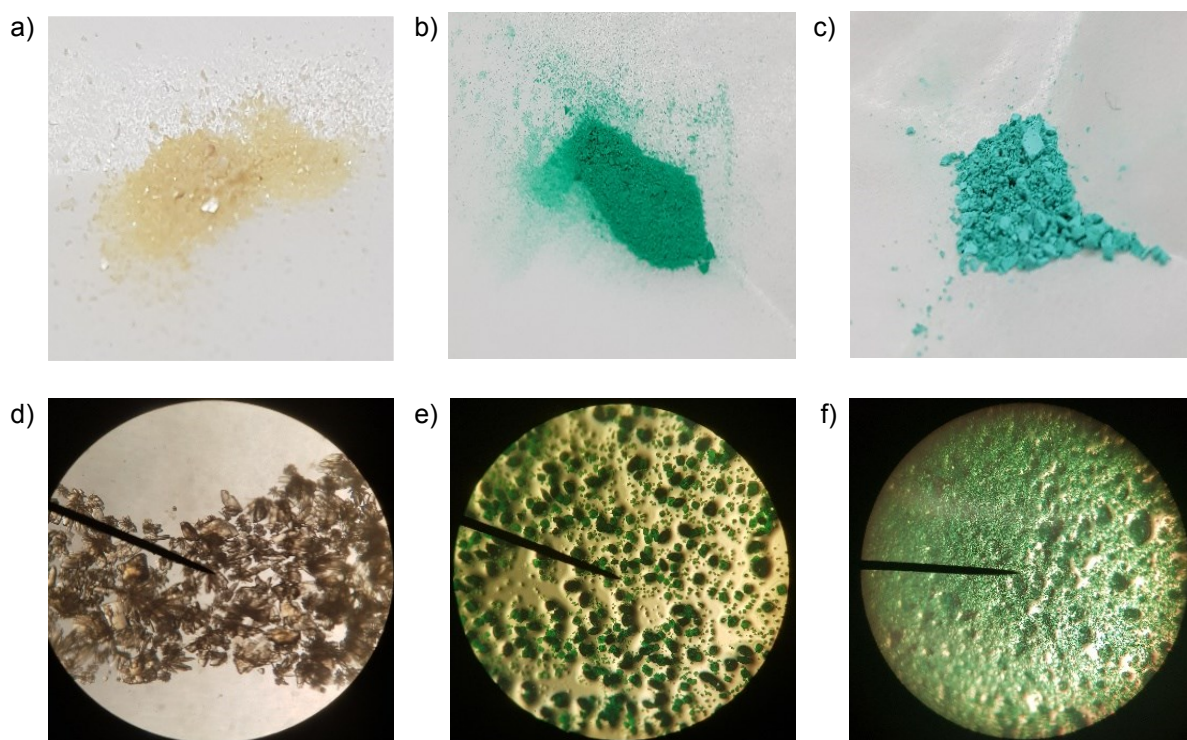
**Figure S14.** FT-IR Spectrum of H<sub>2</sub>L



**Figure S15.** HRMS Spectrum of H<sub>2</sub>L



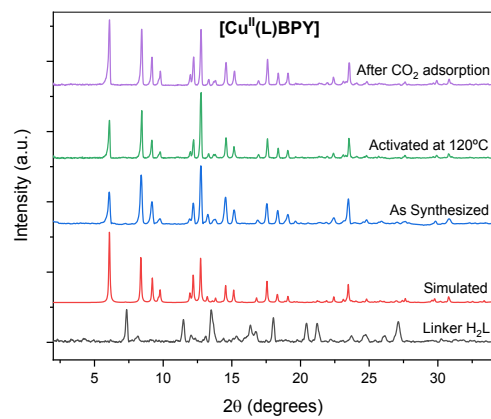
**Figure S16.** UV-Vis Spectrum of H<sub>2</sub>L



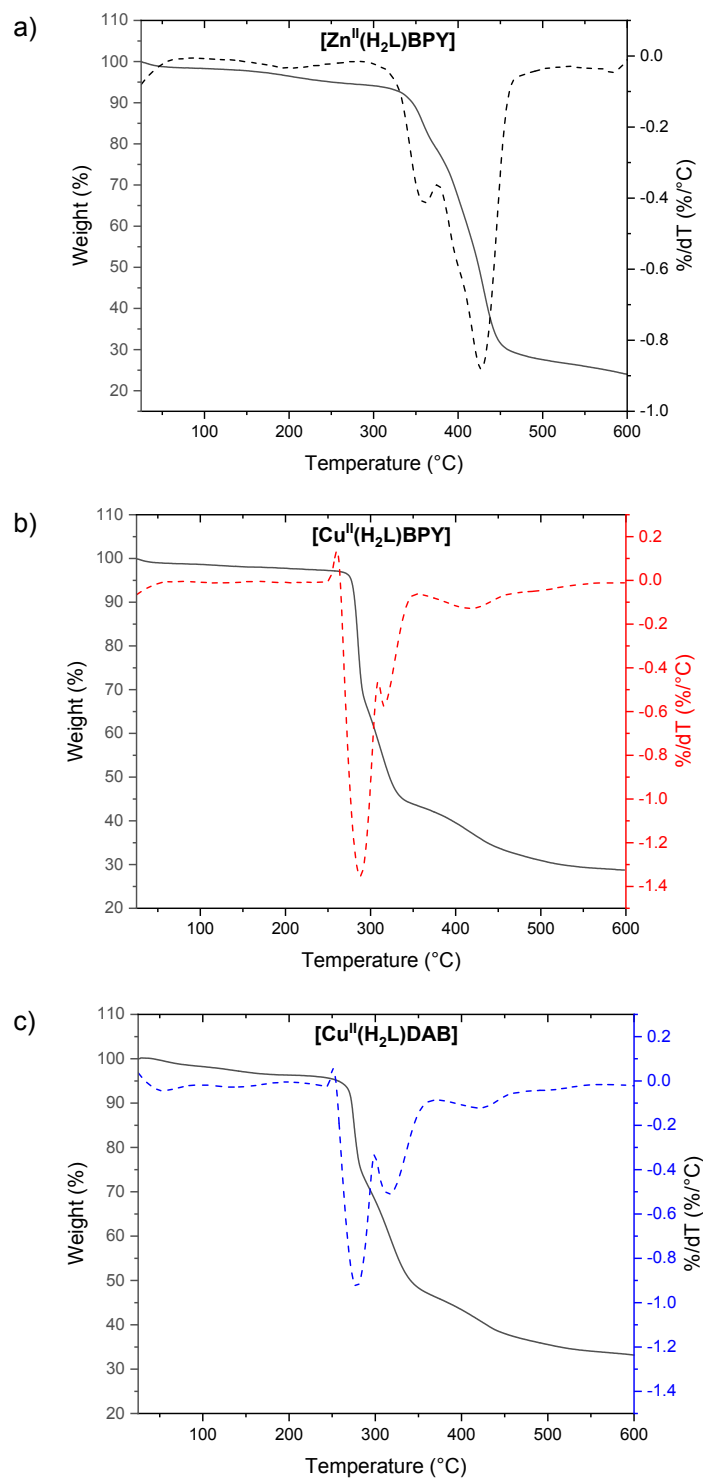
**Figure S17.** Physical aspect for a) [Zn<sup>II</sup>(L)BPY], b) [Cu<sup>II</sup>(L)BPY], and c) [Cu<sup>II</sup>(L)DABCO]. Crystals images using an optical microscope for d) [Zn<sup>II</sup>(L)BPY], e) [Cu<sup>II</sup>(L)BPY], and f) [Cu<sup>II</sup>(L)DABCO].

Identification code	[Zn <sup>II</sup> (L)BPY]	[Cu <sup>II</sup> (L)BPY]	[Cu <sup>II</sup> (L)DABCO]
Empirical formula	C <sub>36</sub> H <sub>44</sub> ZnN <sub>7</sub> O <sub>7</sub>	C <sub>30</sub> H <sub>26</sub> CuN <sub>5</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>31</sub> H <sub>36</sub> CuN <sub>6</sub> O <sub>4</sub>
Formula weight	752.189	584.10	620.20
Temperature/K	99.98(18)	100.02	100.01
Crystal system	monoclinic	monoclinic	monoclinic
Space group	C2/m	C2/m	P2 <sub>1</sub> /n
a/Å	18.3045(4)	18.1598(14)	9.3159(2)
b/Å	24.0896(6)	24.203(2)	26.0056(4)
c/Å	14.0301(3)	13.9450(11)	13.1078(2)
α/°	90	90	90
β/°	97.598(2)	97.387(3)	101.233(2)
γ/°	90	90	90
Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	6132.2(2)	6078.4(8)	3114.73(10)
Z	8	8	4
ρ <sub>calc</sub> /g/cm <sup>3</sup>	1.629	1.277	1.323
μ/mm <sup>-1</sup>	0.870	0.759	1.353
F(000)	3164.1	2416.0	1300.0
Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>	0.3 × 0.2 × 0.1	0.20×0.10×0.05	0.112 × 0.073 × 0.028
Radiation	MoKα (λ = 0.71073)	MoKα (λ = 0.71073)	CuKα (λ = 1.54184)
2θ range for data collection/°	3.84 to 67.64	2.818 to 60.2	6.798 to 146.71°
Index ranges	-27 ≤ h ≤ 21, -33 ≤ k ≤ 36, -21 ≤ l ≤ 20	-25 ≤ h ≤ 25, -34 ≤ k ≤ 33, -19 ≤ l ≤ 19	-11 ≤ h ≤ 9, -31 ≤ k ≤ 31, -16 ≤ l ≤ 16
Reflections collected	43086	60389	21276
Independent reflections	10944 [R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0256, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0278]	9118 [R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0366, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0393]	6032 [R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0488, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0444]
Data/restraints/parameters	10944/0/415	9118/75/398	6032/0/389
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.012	1.036	1.084
Final R indexes [I ≥ 2σ(I)]	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0466, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1267	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0555, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1492	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0521, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1301
Final R indexes [all data]	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0619, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1352	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0842, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1641	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0614, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1376
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup>	0.89/-0.76	0.95/-0.56	0.65/-0.67

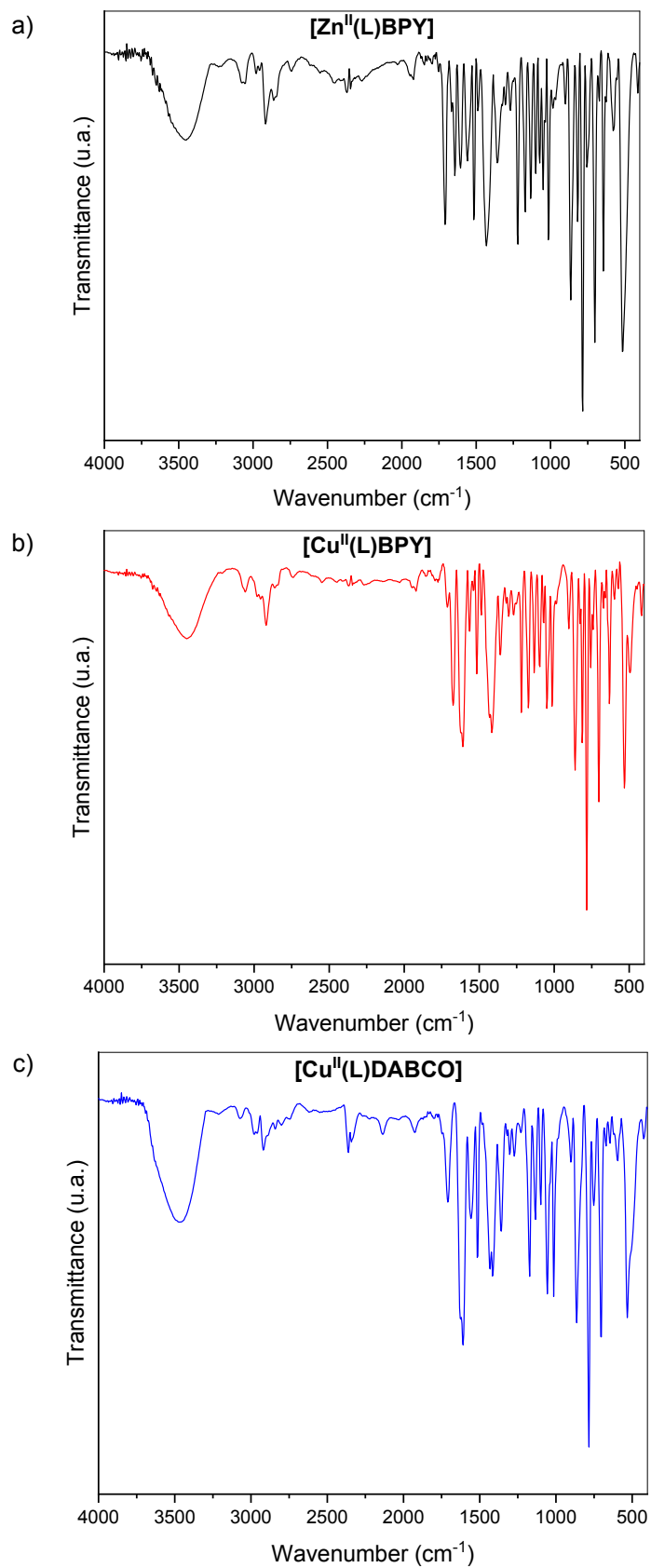
**Table S1.** Crystal data and structure refinement for pillar-MOFs



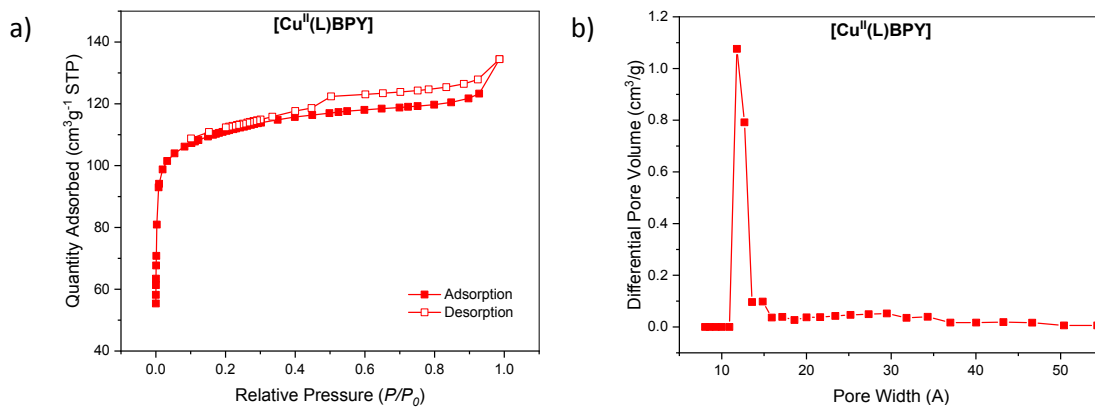
**Figure S18.** PXRD patterns for [Cu<sup>II</sup>(L)BPY]. Linker H<sub>2</sub>L (black); simulated (red); as-synthesized (blue); activated at 120°C x 16h (green); and after CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption (purple).



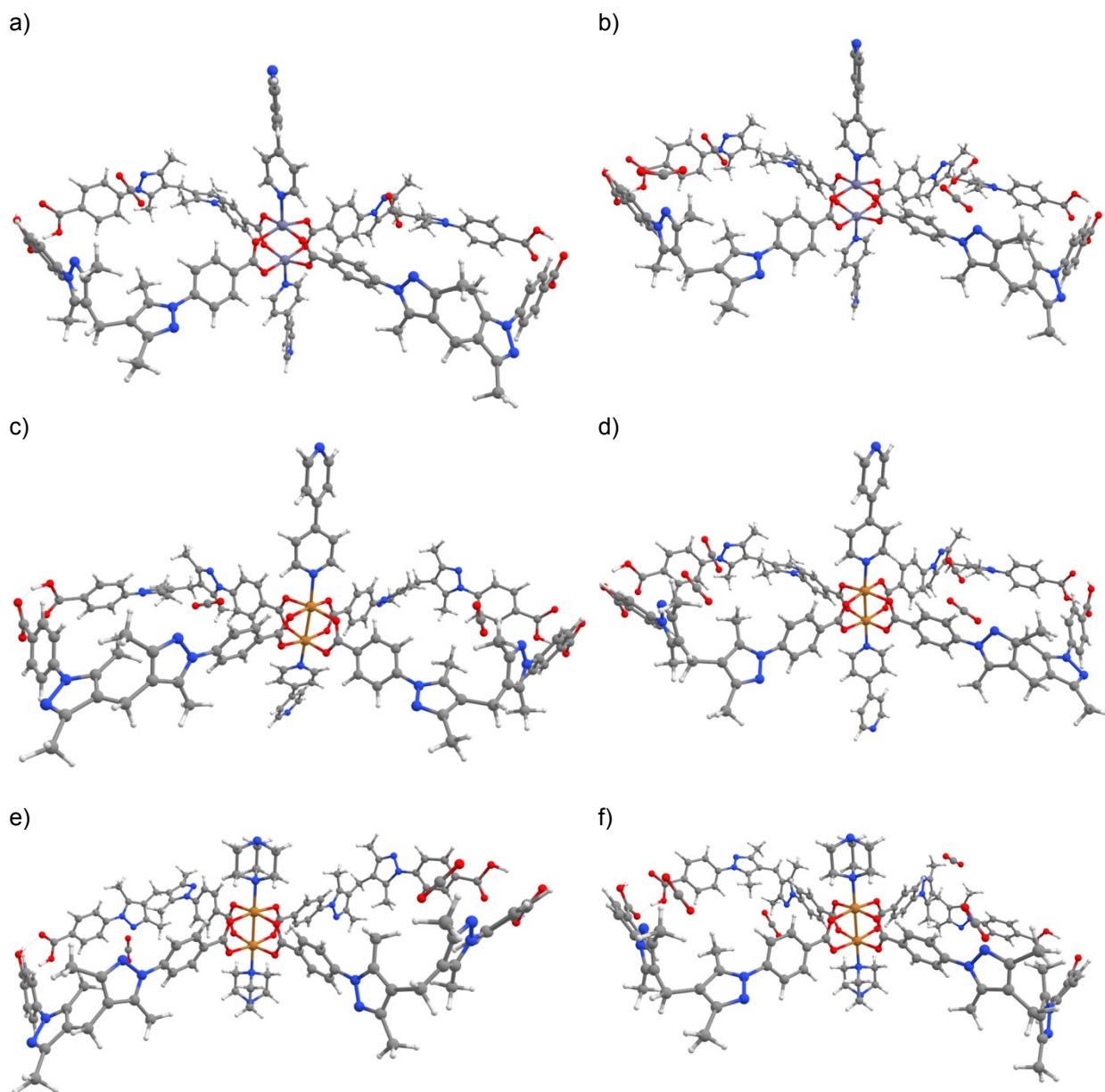
**Figure S19.** TGA profiles for a) [Zn<sup>II</sup>(L)BPY], b) [Cu<sup>II</sup>(L)BPY], and c) [Cu<sup>II</sup>(L)DABCO]



**Figure S20.** FT-IR spectra for a) [Zn<sup>II</sup>(L)BPY], b) [Cu<sup>II</sup>(L)BPY], and c) [Cu<sup>II</sup>(L)DABCO]



**Figure S21.** a) Nitrogen sorption isotherms at 77 K, and b) DFT calculated pore size distributions for [Cu<sup>II</sup>(L)BPY]



**Figure S22.** Studied MOFs and the adsorbed CO<sub>2</sub> molecules through the free nitrogen. [Zn<sup>II</sup>(L)BPY] with a) 2 CO<sub>2</sub> molecules and b) 4 CO<sub>2</sub> molecules. [Cu<sup>II</sup>(L)BPY] with c) 2 CO<sub>2</sub> molecules and d) 4 CO<sub>2</sub> molecules. [Cu<sup>II</sup>(L)DABCO] with e) 2 CO<sub>2</sub> molecules and f) 4 CO<sub>2</sub> molecules.

**Table S2.** Uptake of CO<sub>2</sub> at different temperatures for [Zn<sup>II</sup>(L)BPY], [Cu<sup>II</sup>(L)BPY], and [Cu<sup>II</sup>(L)DABCO]

Temp (K)	[Zn <sup>II</sup> (L)BPY]				[Cu <sup>II</sup> (L)BPY]				[Cu <sup>II</sup> (L)DABCO]			
	(cm <sup>3</sup> /g)	(mg/g)	(mmol/g)	(wt%)	(cm <sup>3</sup> /g)	(mg/g)	(mmol/g)	(wt%)	(cm <sup>3</sup> /g)	(mg/g)	(mmol/g)	(wt%)
195	42.18	83.52	1.90	8.35	91.68	181.53	4.12	18.15	156.33	309.53	7.03	30.95
273	17.14	33.94	0.77	3.39	26.69	52.83	1.20	5.28	36.38	72.03	1.64	7.20
298	13.53	26.79	0.61	2.68	19.88	39.36	0.89	3.94	32.67	64.69	1.47	6.47

**Table S3.** Morokuma-Ziegler EDA in Kcal/mol for the structures optimized with CO<sub>2</sub> proximal to the free nitrogen.

		$\Delta E_{\text{Pauli}}$	$\Delta E_{\text{Elec}}$	$\Delta E_{\text{Orb}}$	$\Delta E_{\text{Dis}}$	$\Delta E_{\text{Int}}$
[Zn <sup>II</sup> (L)BPY]	2 CO <sub>2</sub>	12.9	-7.9	-2.7	-10.8	-8.5
	4 CO <sub>2</sub>	80.7	-42.7	-26.2	-22.2	-10.3
[Cu <sup>II</sup> (L)BPY]	2 CO <sub>2</sub>	14.1	-8.2	-3.9	-11.1	-9.1
	4 CO <sub>2</sub>	26.9	-16.5	-6.7	-21.5	-17.8
[Cu <sup>II</sup> (L)DABCO]	2 CO <sub>2</sub>	14.0	-7.8	-6.3	-11.7	-11.8
	4 CO <sub>2</sub>	21.4	-12.0	-7.4	-21.0	-18.9

**Table S4.** Elemental analysis of the MOFs

	Theoretical (%)	Experimental (%)
[Zn <sup>II</sup> (L)BPY]	C: 61.4, H: 4.4, N: 11.9	C: 59.9, H: 4.1, N: 11.6
[Cu <sup>II</sup> (L)BPY]	C: 61.6, H: 4.45, N: 11.9	C: 55.7, H: 3.96, N: 11.4
[Cu <sup>II</sup> (L)DABCO]	C: 59.9, H: 5.8, N: 13.54	C: 59.89, H: 4.24, N: 11.63

## References

- (1) Tomar, K.; Verma, A.; Bharadwaj, P. K. Exploiting Dimensional Variability in Cu Paddle-Wheel Secondary Building Unit Based Mixed Valence Cu(II)/Cu(I) Frameworks from a Bispirazole Ligand by Solvent/PH Variation. *Cryst. Growth Des.* **2018**, *18* (4), 2397–2404. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.cgd.8b00002>.
- (2) Burton, S.; Fronczek, F. R.; Maverick, A. W. 3,5-Diacetyl-Heptane-2,6-Dione. *Acta Crystallogr. Sect. E Struct. Reports Online* **2007**, *63* (7), 0–5. <https://doi.org/10.1107/S1600536807026323>.