

## Supporting Information

# Pyridine-driven assembly of Zn(II) and Cd(II) complexes with 2-furoic acid. The role of water in a structural transformation

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## PXRD patterns

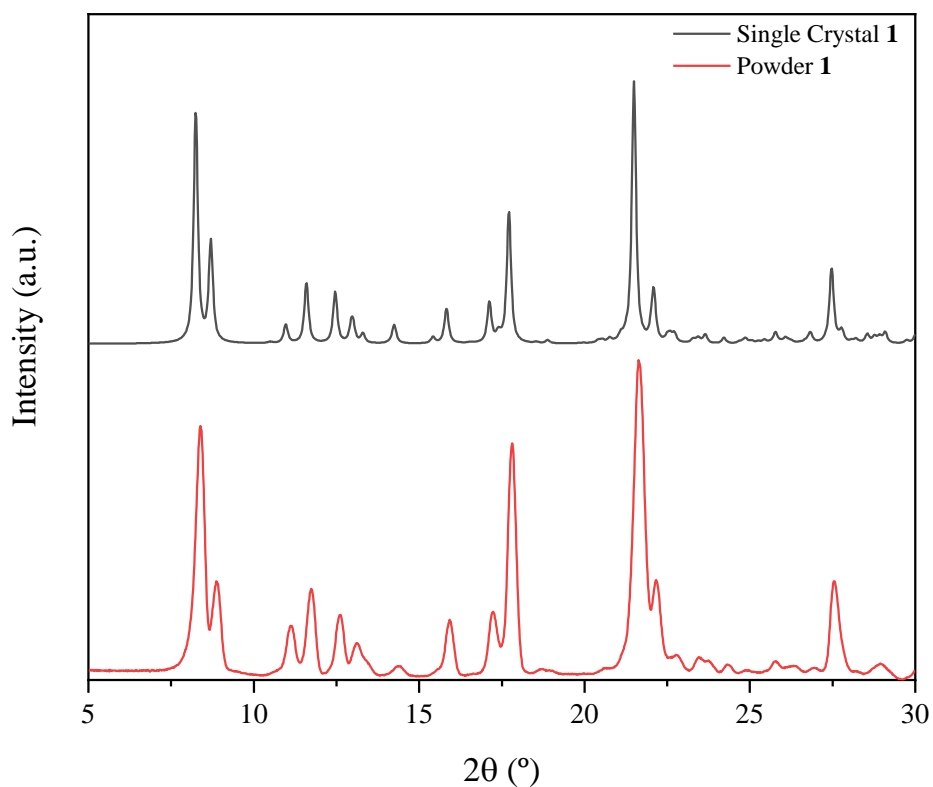


Figure S1. XRD patterns from single crystal collected data at 100 K and powder XRD pattern at 298 K of compound  $[\text{Zn}(\mu\text{-}2\text{-FA})(2\text{-FA})(\text{Isn})_2]_2$  (**1**).

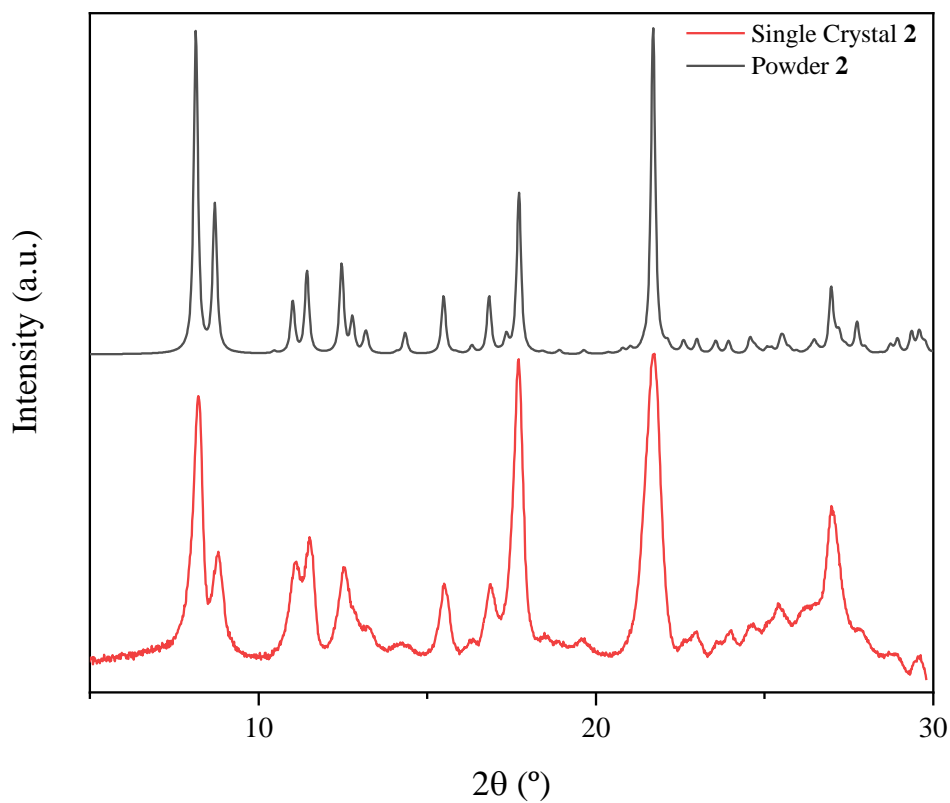


Figure S2. XRD patterns from single crystal collected data at 100 K and powder XRD pattern at 298 K of compound  $[\text{Cd}(\mu\text{-}2\text{-FA})(2\text{-FA})(\text{Isn})_2]_2$  (**2**).

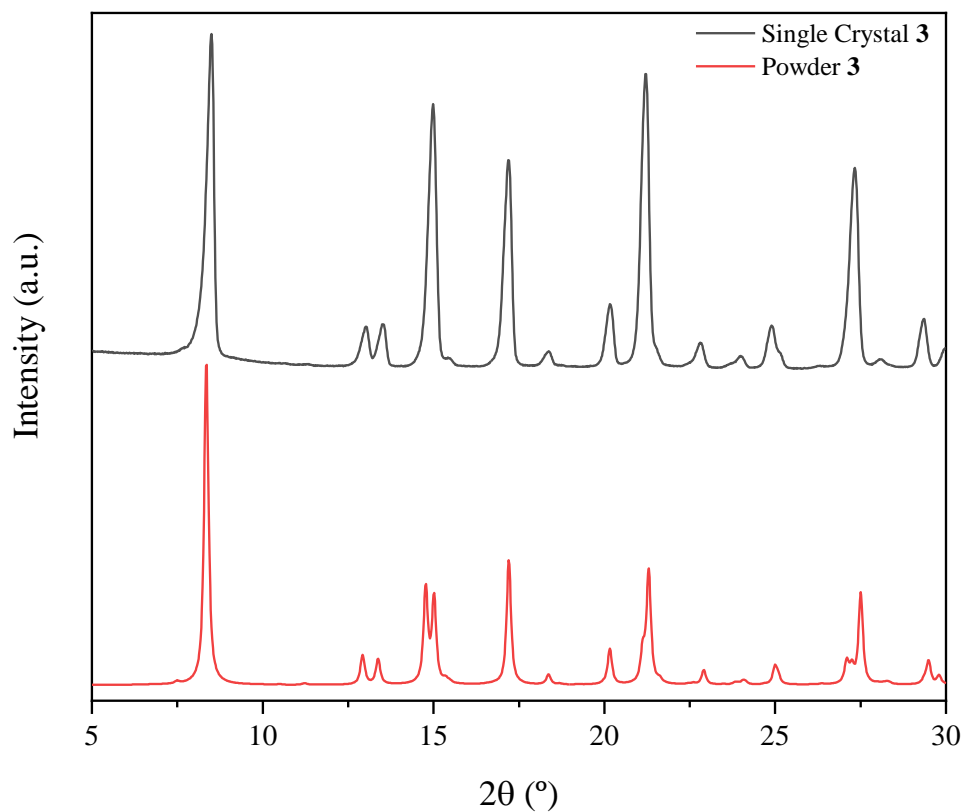


Figure S3. XRD patterns from single crystal collected data at 100 K and powder XRD pattern at 298 K of compound  $[\text{Zn}(\mu\text{-}2\text{-FA})_2(4\text{-Acpy})_2]_2$  (**3**).

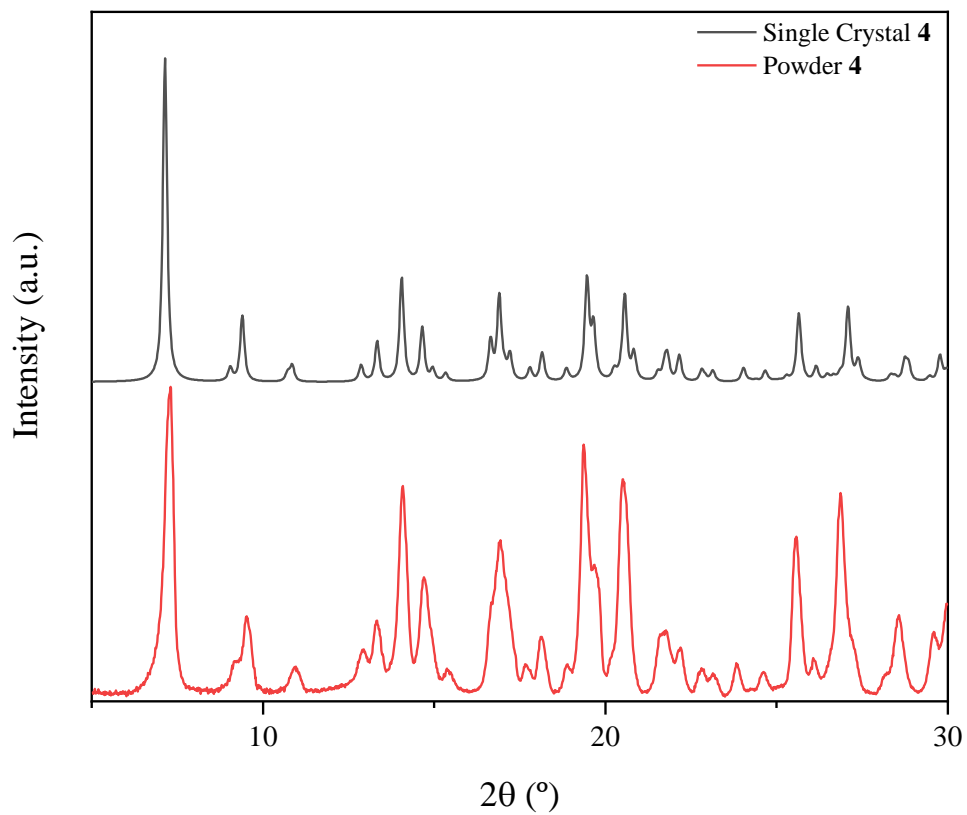


Figure S4. XRD patterns from single crystal collected data at 100 K and powder XRD pattern at 298 K of compound  $[\text{Cd}(2\text{-FA})_2(4\text{-Acpy})_2(\text{OH}_2)]$  (**4**).

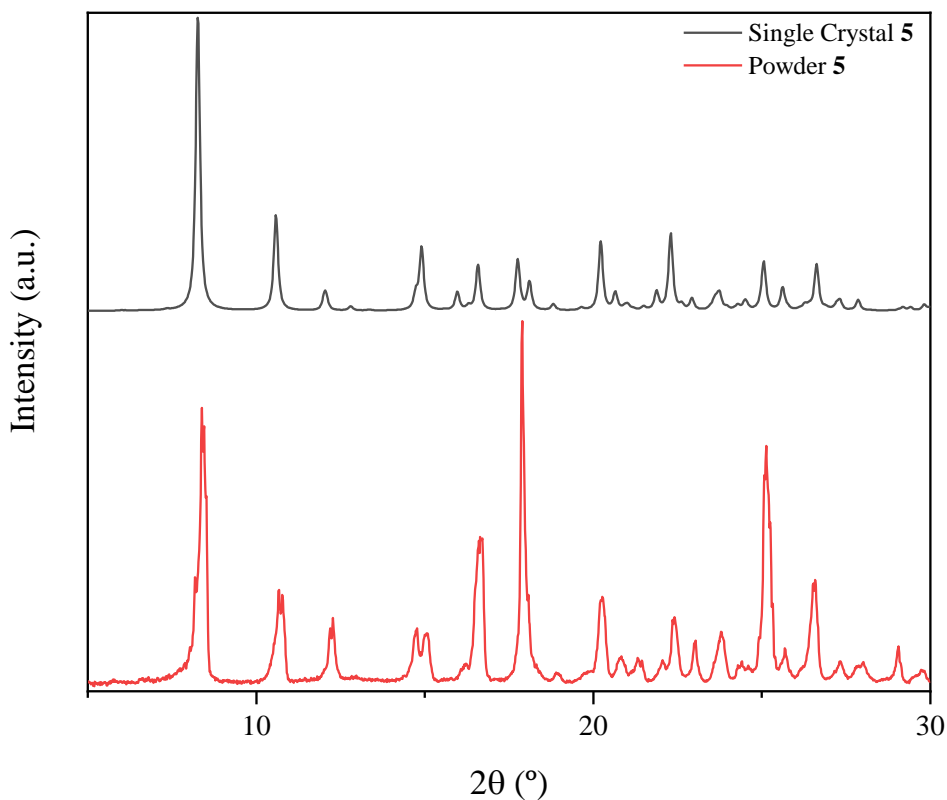


Figure S5. XRD patterns from single crystal collected data at 100 K and powder XRD pattern at 298 K of compound  $\{[\text{Cd}(\mu\text{-}2\text{-FA})_2(\text{OH}_2)_2]_n[\text{Cd}(\mu\text{-}2\text{-FA})_2(4\text{-Acpy})(\text{OH}_2)]_n\}$  (**5**).

### Thermogravimetric analysis

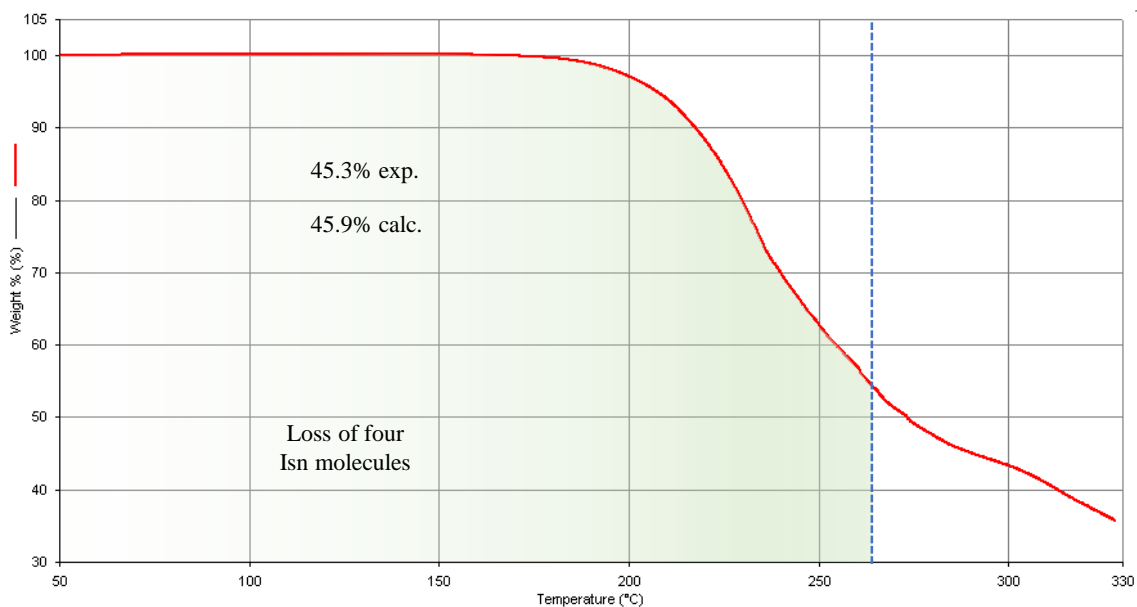


Figure S6. TGA of compound  $[\text{Zn}(\mu\text{-}2\text{-FA})(2\text{-FA})(\text{Isn})_2]_2$  (**1**) recorded from 50 °C to 330 °C.

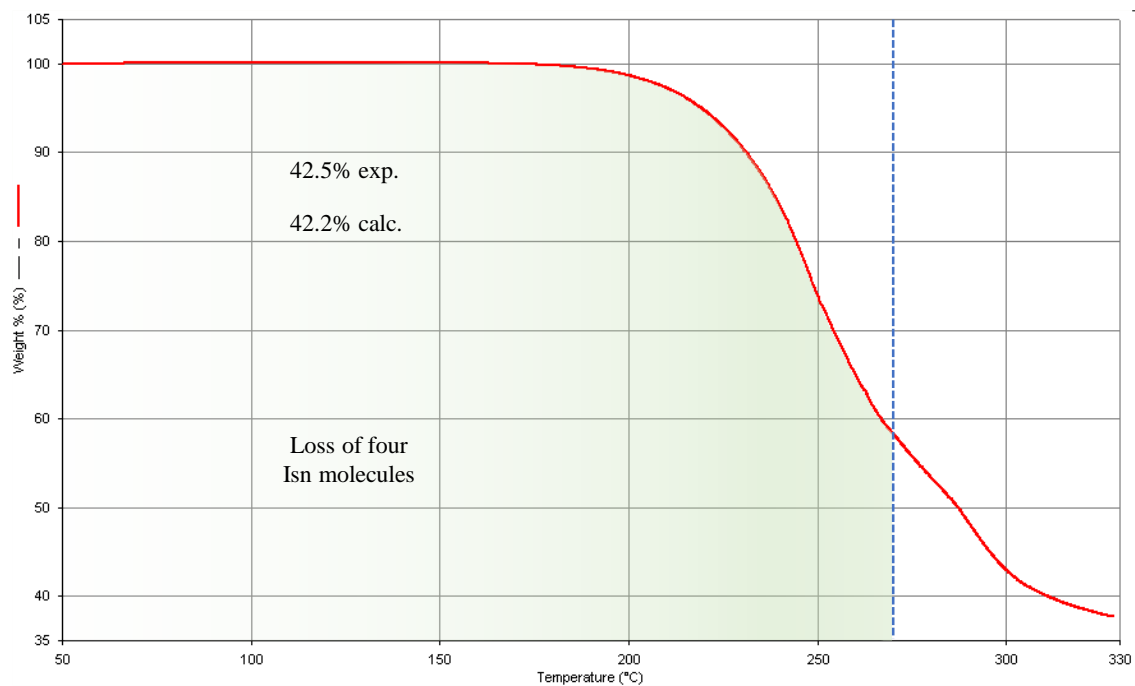


Figure S7. TGA of compound  $[\text{Cd}(\mu\text{-}2\text{-FA})(2\text{-FA})(\text{Isn})_2]_2$  (**2**) recorded from 50 °C to 330 °C.

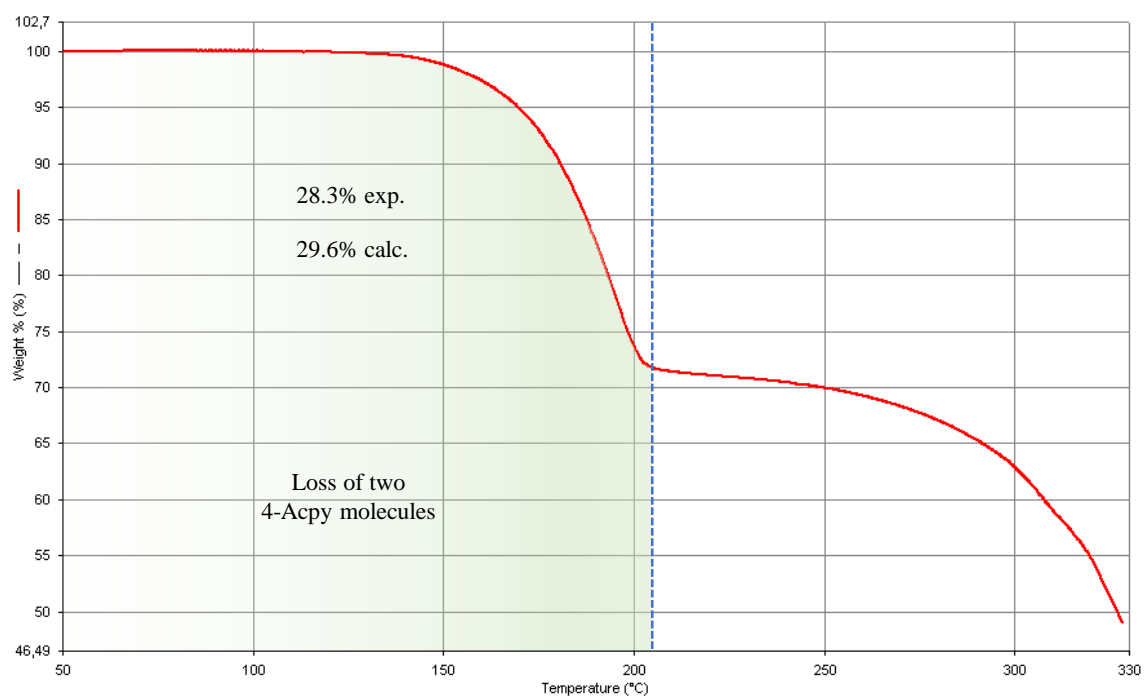


Figure S8. TGA of compound  $[\text{Zn}(\mu\text{-}2\text{-FA})_2(4\text{-Acpy})]_2$  (**3**) recorded from 50 °C to 330 °C.

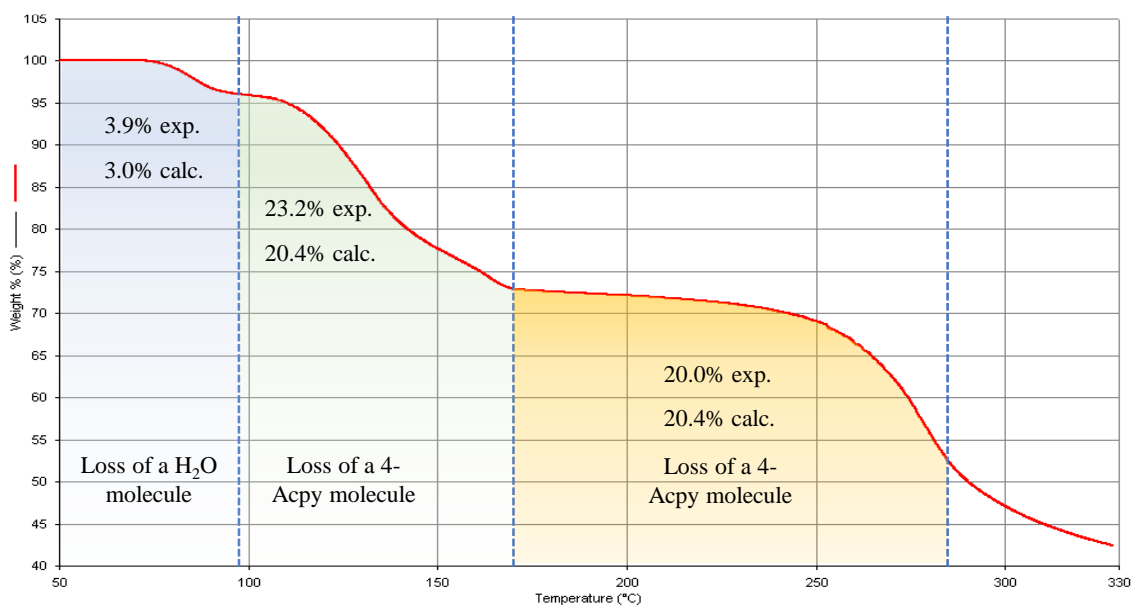


Figure S9. TGA of compound  $[\text{Cd}(\mu\text{-2-FA})_2(4\text{-Acpy})_2(\text{OH}_2)]$  (**4**) recorded from 50 °C to 330 °C.

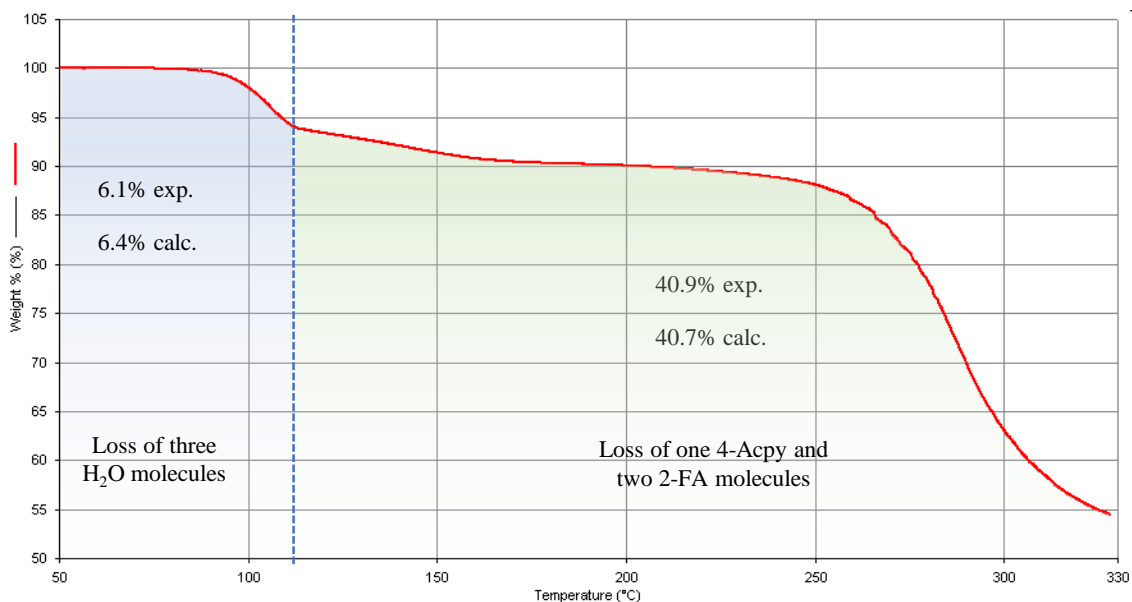


Figure S10. TGA of compound  $\{[\text{Cd}(\mu\text{-2-FA})_2(\text{OH}_2)_2]_n[\text{Cd}(\mu\text{-2-FA})_2(4\text{-Acpy})(\text{OH}_2)]_n\}$  (**5**) recorded from 50 °C to 330 °C.

FTIR-ATR,  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  spectroscopies

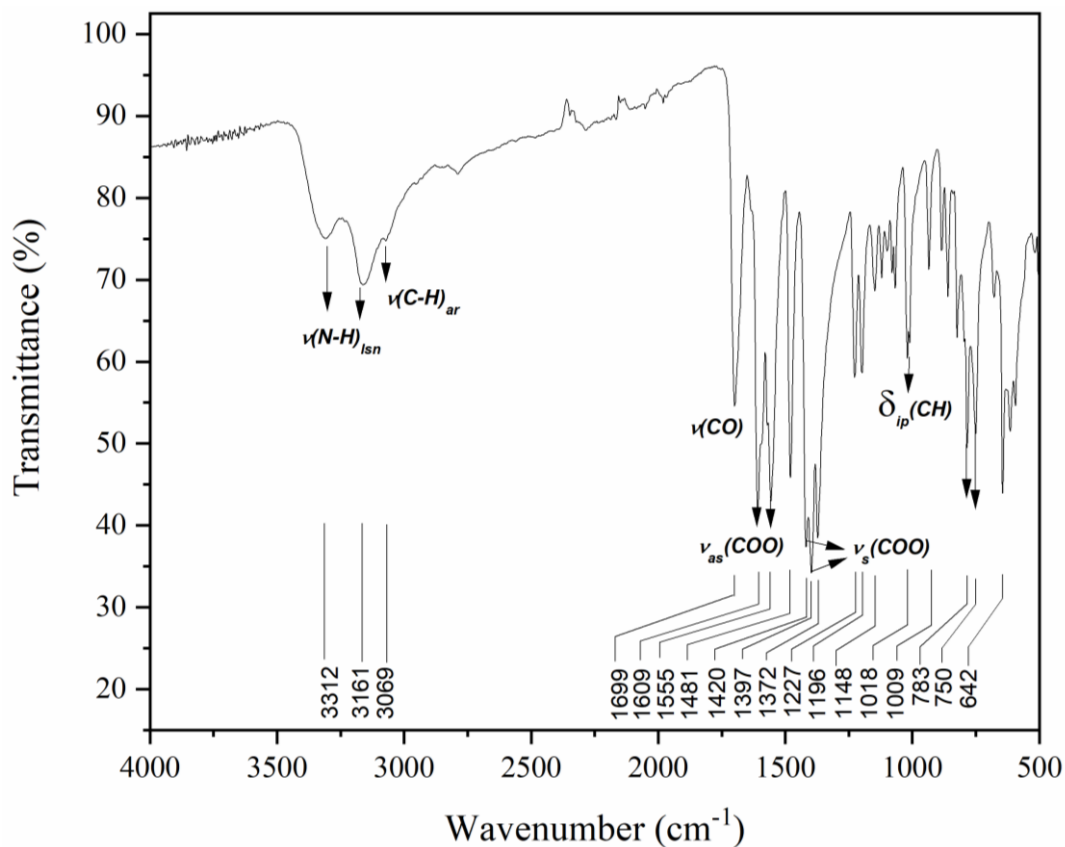


Figure S11. FTIR-ATR spectrum of compound  $[\text{Zn}(\mu\text{-}2\text{-FA})(2\text{-FA})(\text{Isn})_2]_2$  (**1**).

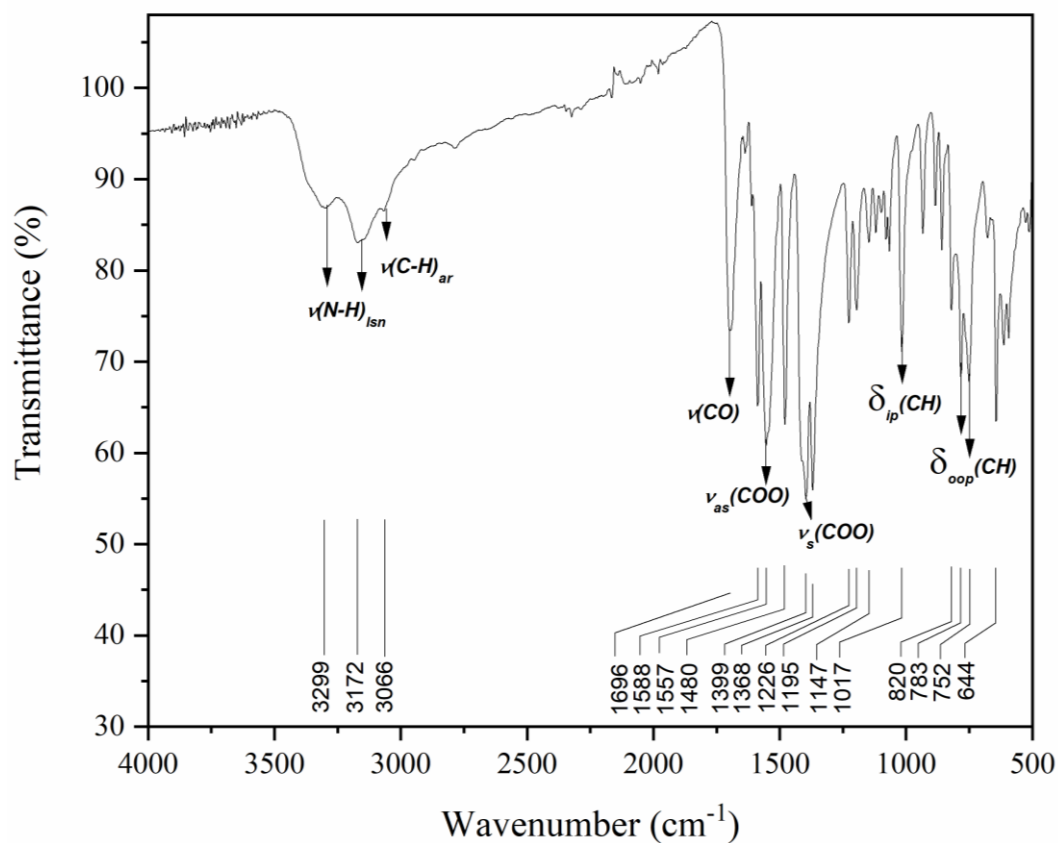


Figure S12. FTIR-ATR spectrum of compound  $[\text{Cd}(\mu\text{-}2\text{-FA})(2\text{-FA})(\text{Isn})_2]_2$  (**2**).

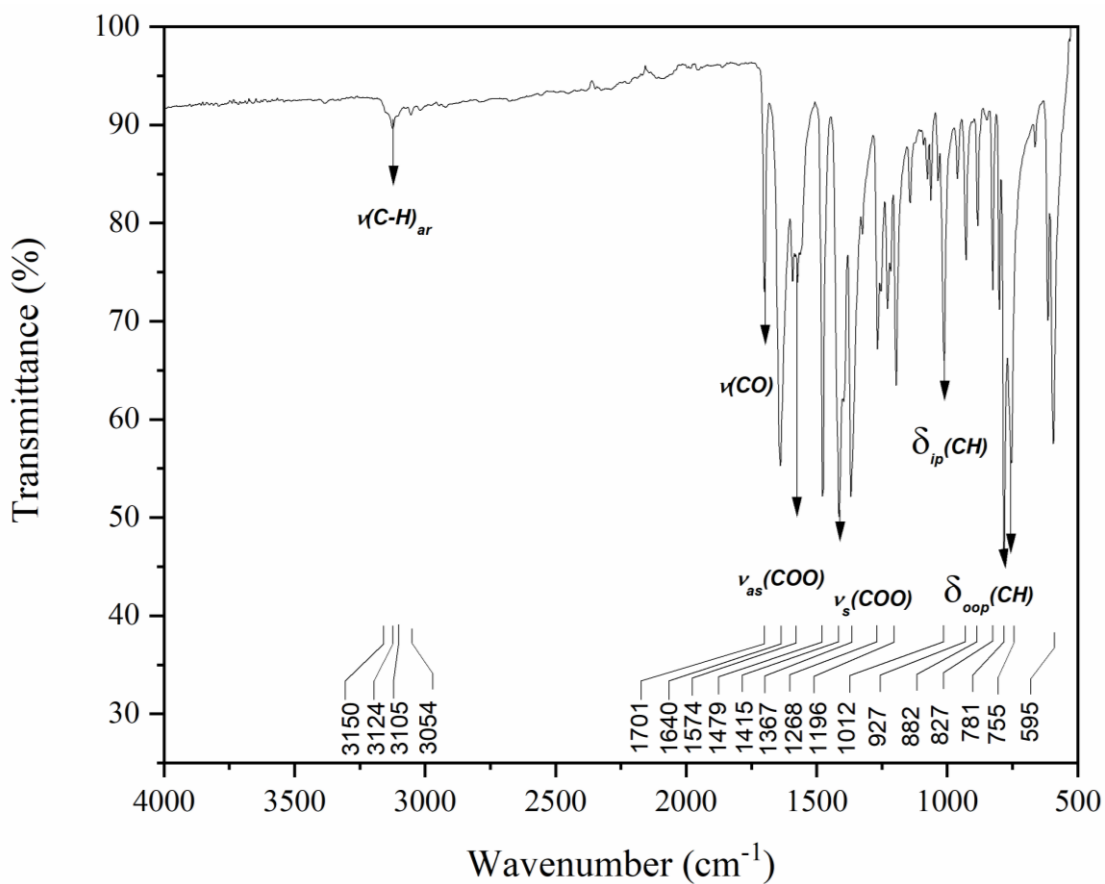


Figure S13. FTIR-ATR spectrum of compound  $[\text{Zn}(\mu\text{-2-FA})_2(4\text{-AcPy})]_2$  (**3**).

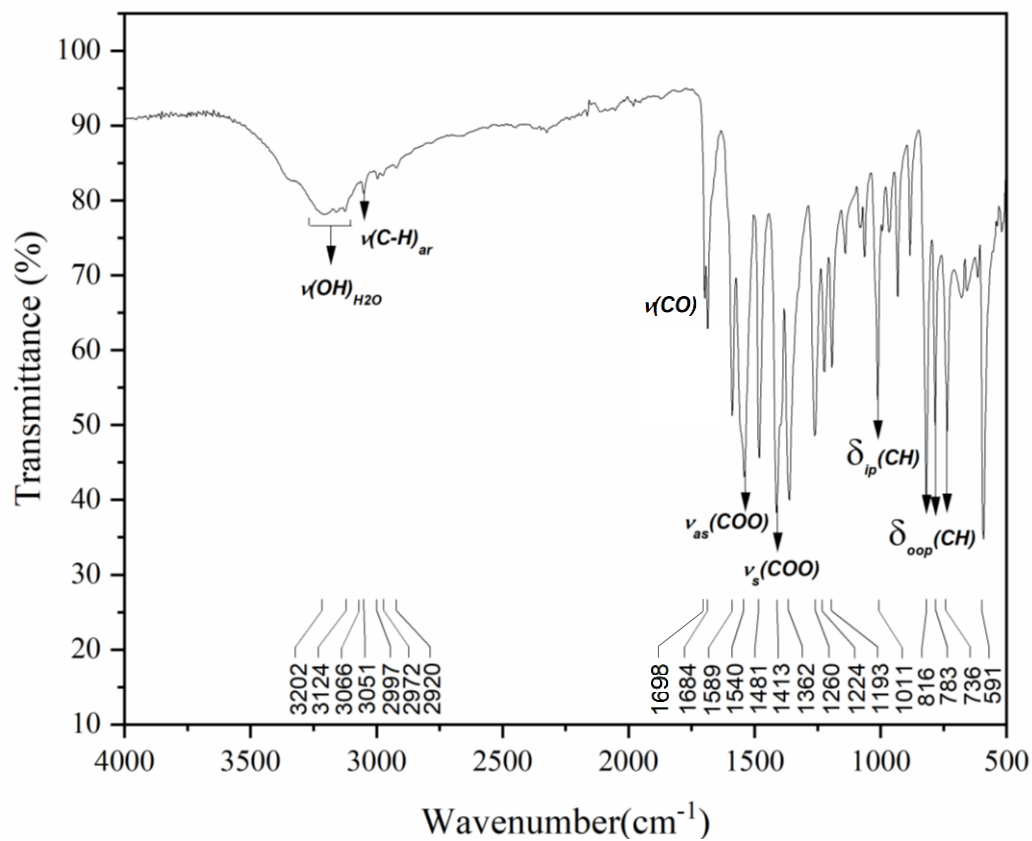


Figure S14. FTIR-ATR spectrum of compound  $[\text{Cd}(2\text{-FA})_2(4\text{-AcPy})_2(\text{OH}_2)]$  (**4**).



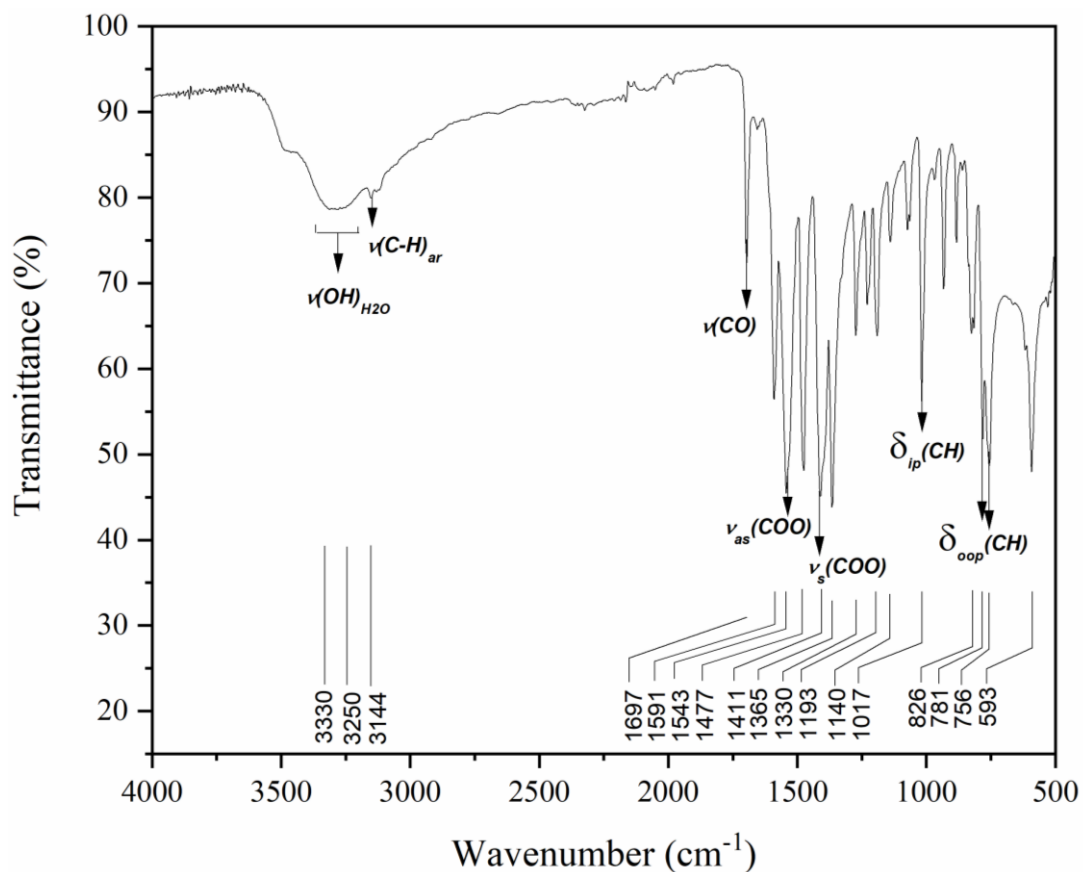


Figure S15. FTIR-ATR spectrum of compound  $\{[\text{Cd}(\mu\text{-}2\text{-FA})_2(\text{OH}_2)_2]_n[\text{Cd}(\mu\text{-}2\text{-FA})_2(4\text{-Acpy})(\text{OH}_2)]_n\}$  (**5**).

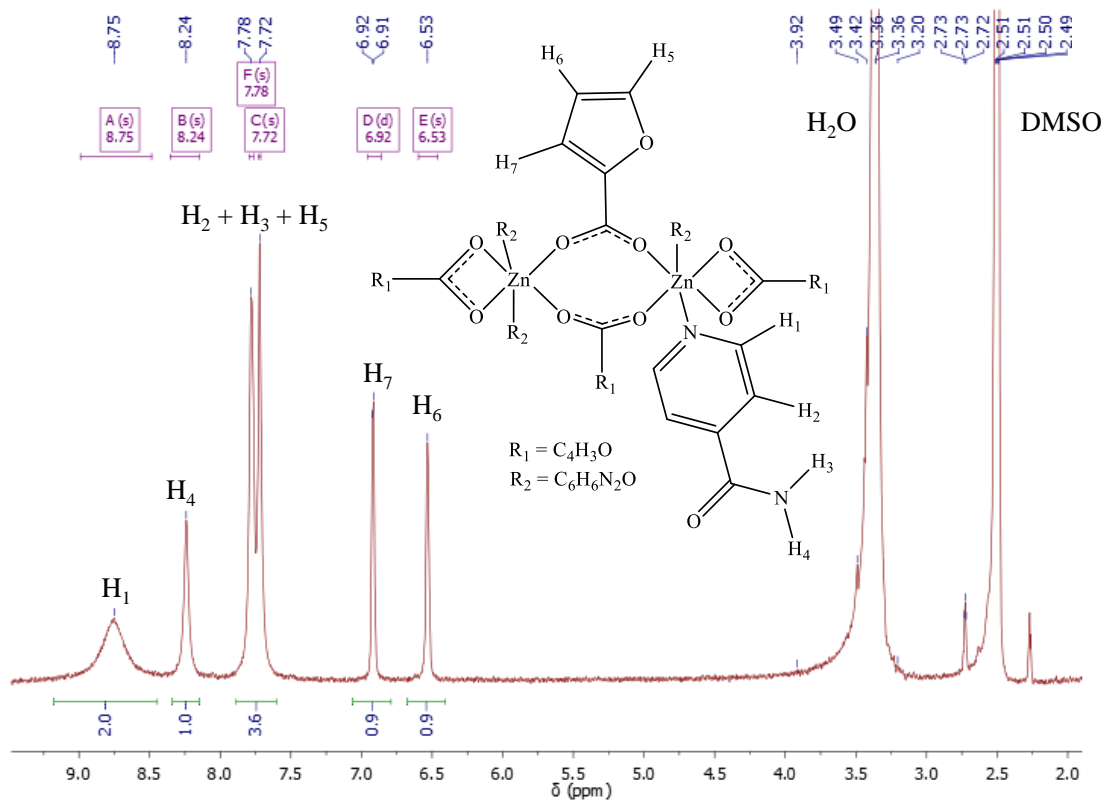


Figure S16.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound  $[\text{Zn}(\mu\text{-}2\text{-FA})(2\text{-FA})(\text{Isn})_2]_2$  (**1**).

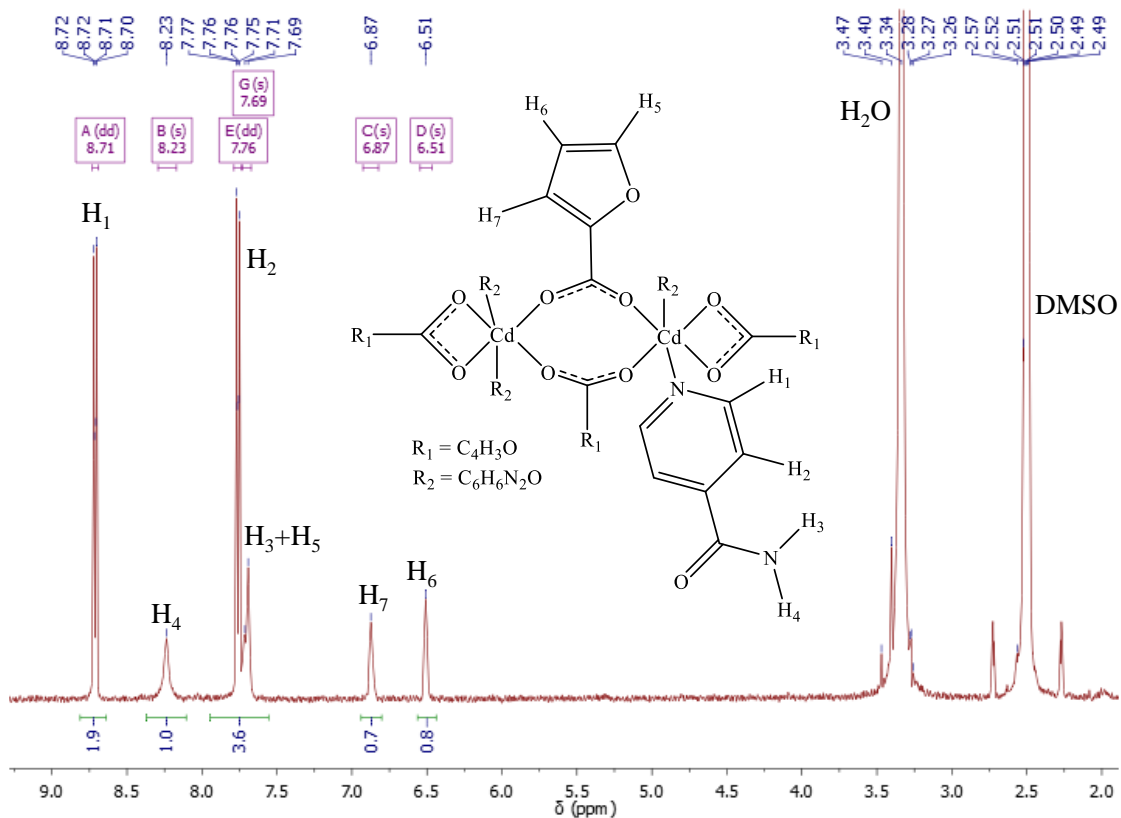


Figure S17. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound [Cd(μ-2-FA)(2-FA)(Isn)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub> (**2**).

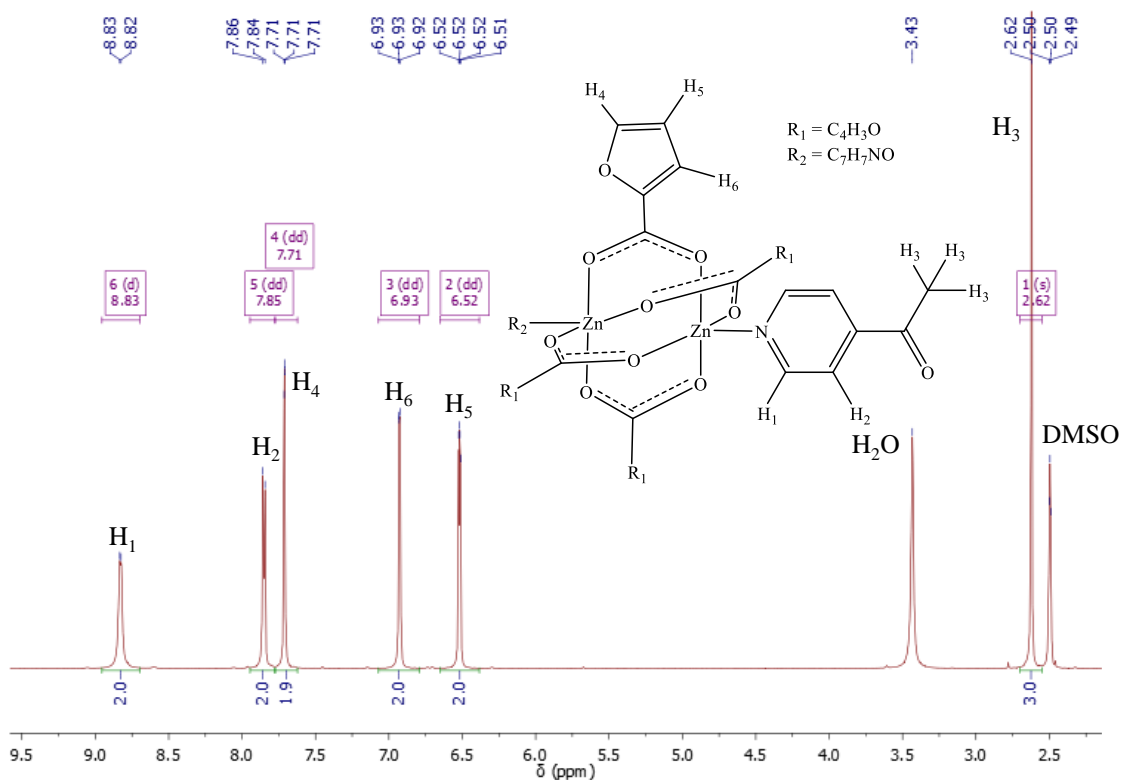


Figure S18. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound [Zn(μ-2-FA)<sub>2</sub>(4-Acpy)]<sub>2</sub> (**3**).

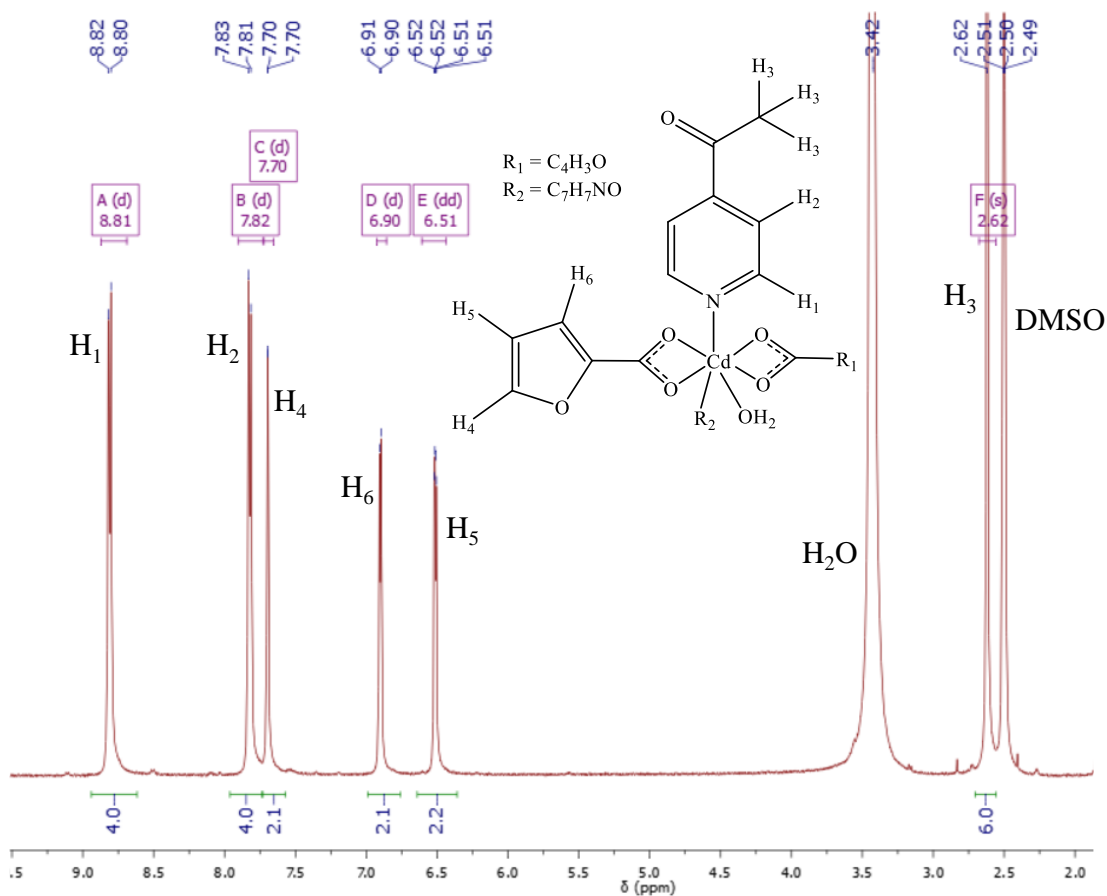


Figure S19.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound  $[\text{Cd}(2\text{-FA})_2(4\text{-AcPy})_2(\text{OH}_2)]$  (**4**).

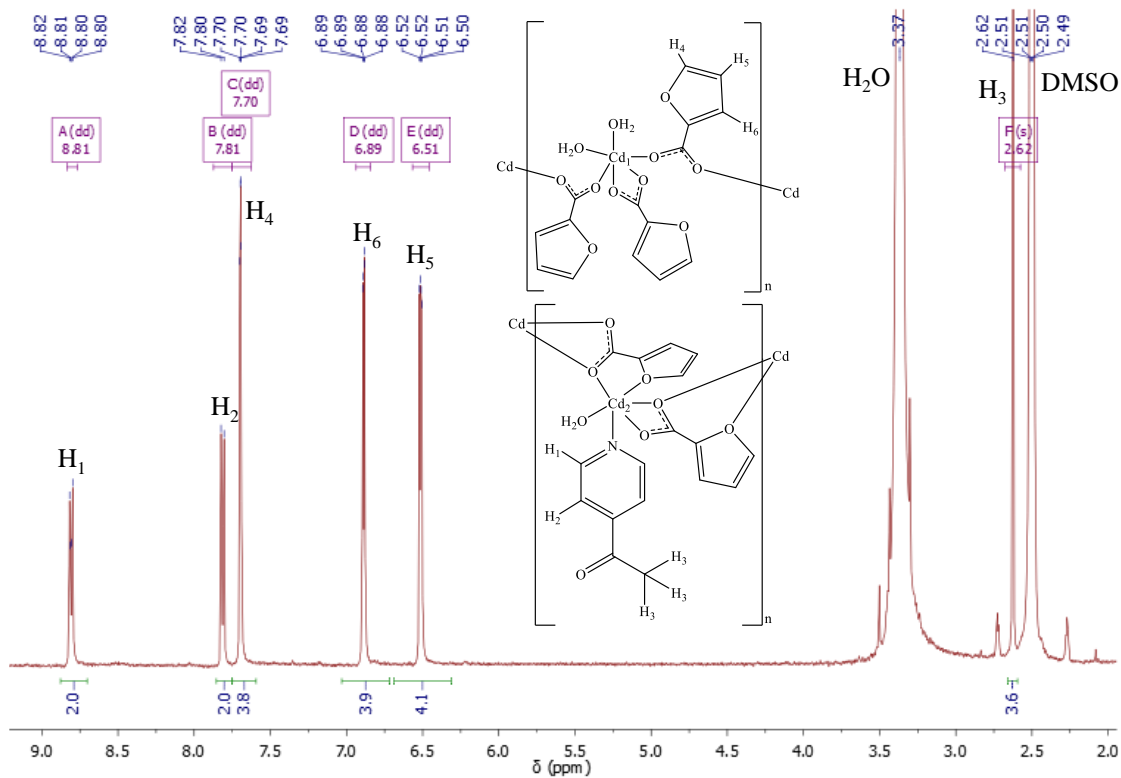
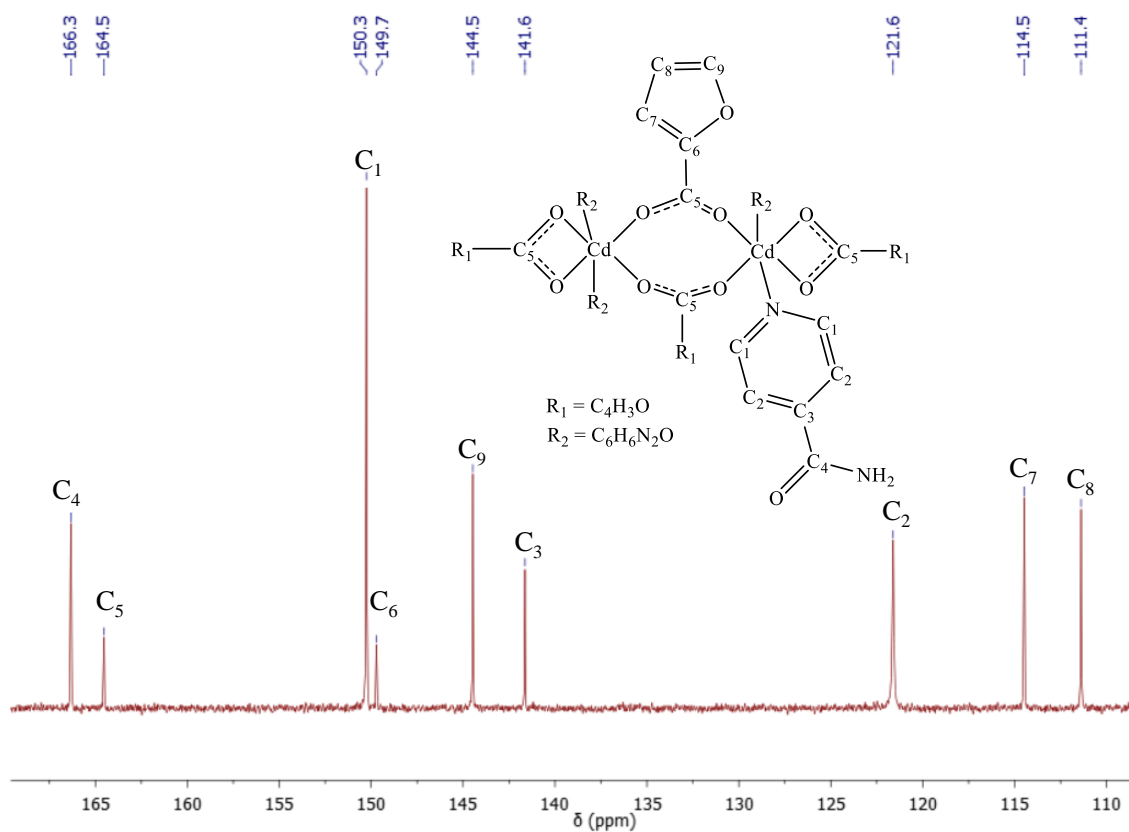
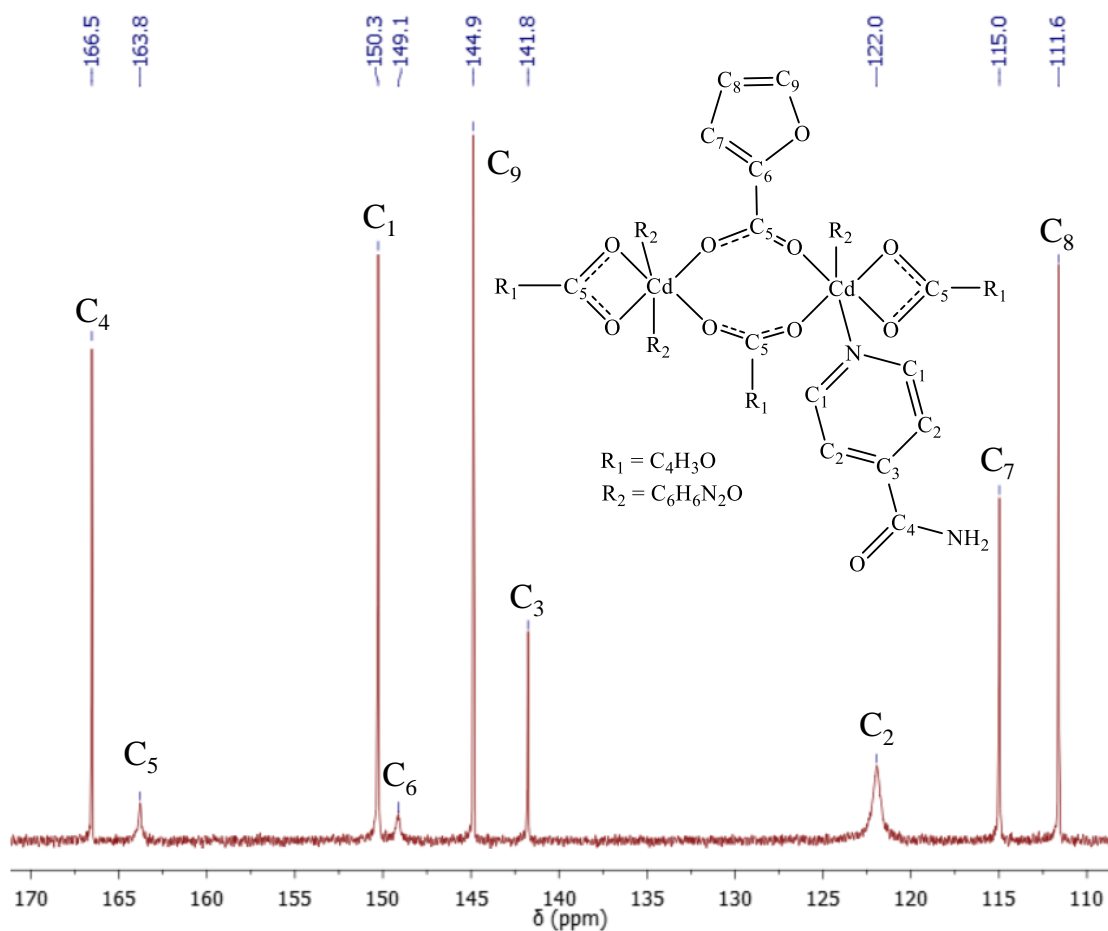


Figure S20.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound  $\{[\text{Cd}(\mu\text{-}2\text{-FA})_2(\text{OH}_2)_2]_n[\text{Cd}(\mu\text{-}2\text{-FA})_2(4\text{-AcPy})(\text{OH}_2)]_n\}$  (**5**).



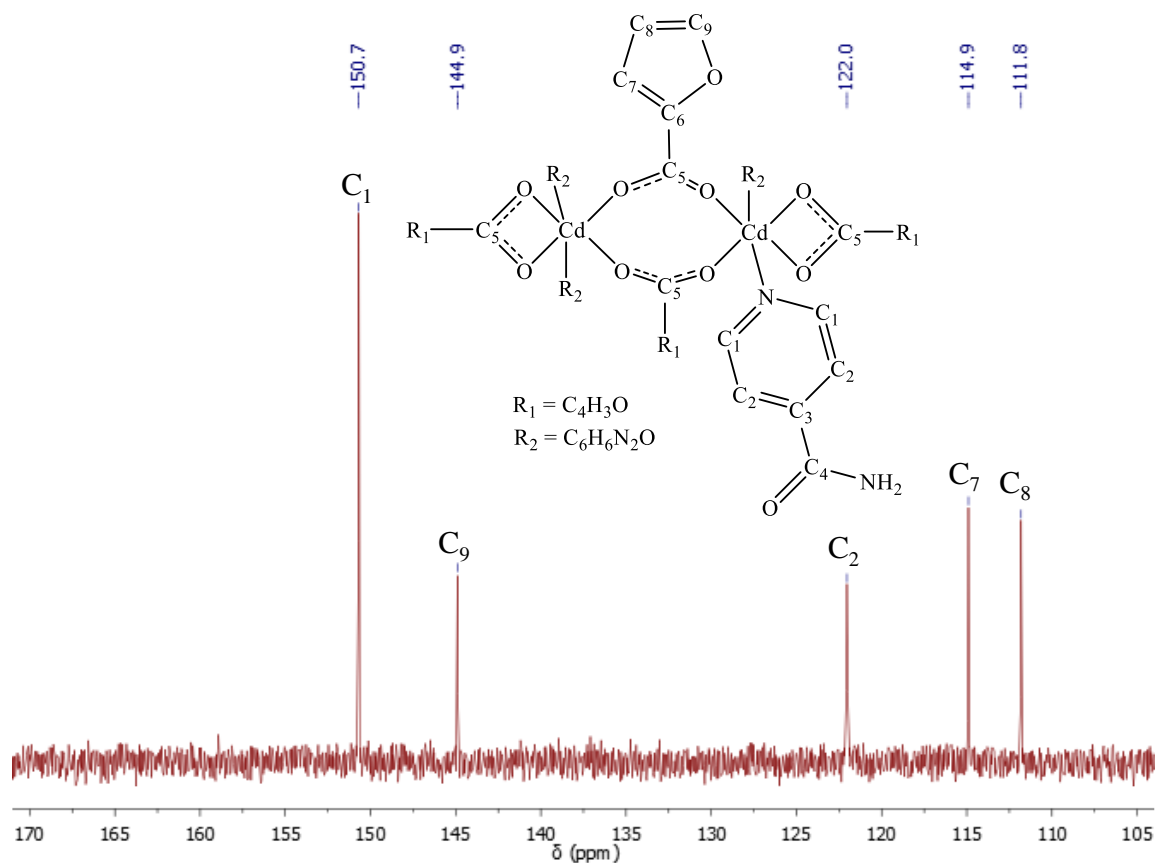


Figure S23. DEPT-135 NMR spectra of compound  $[\text{Cd}(\mu\text{-2-FA})(2\text{-FA})(\text{Isn})_2]_2$  (**2**).

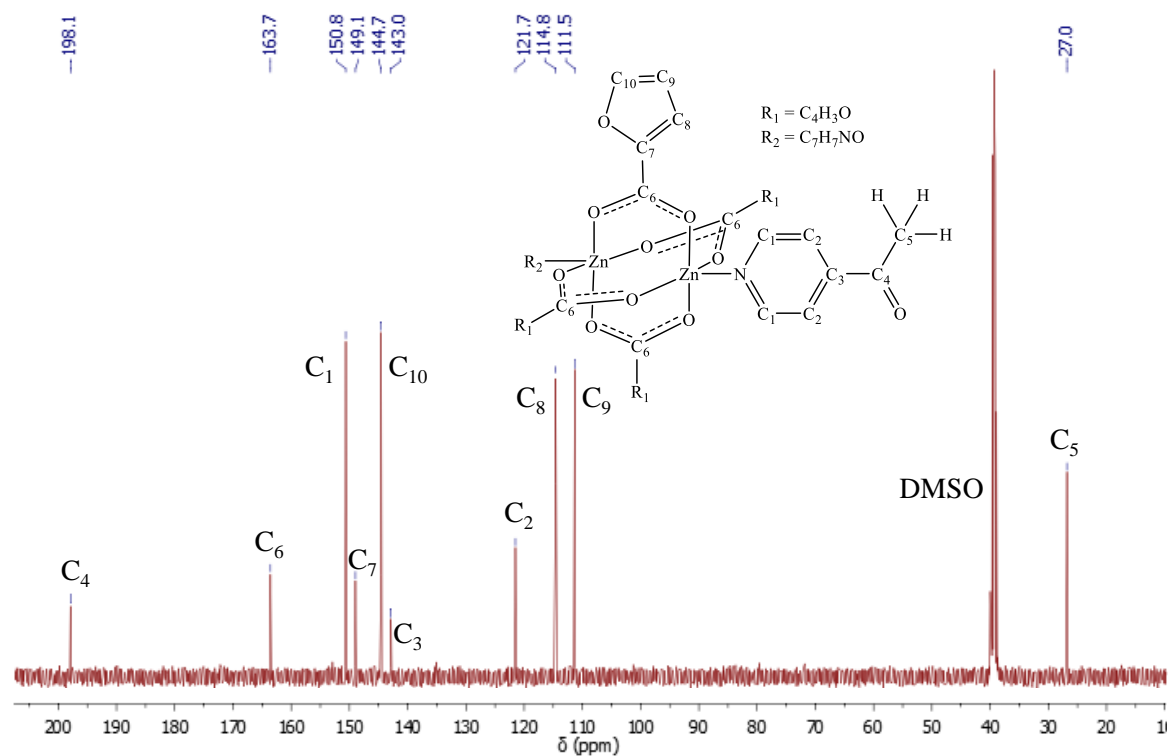


Figure S24.  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectra of compound  $[\text{Zn}(\mu\text{-2-FA})_2(4\text{-Acpy})]_2$  (**3**).

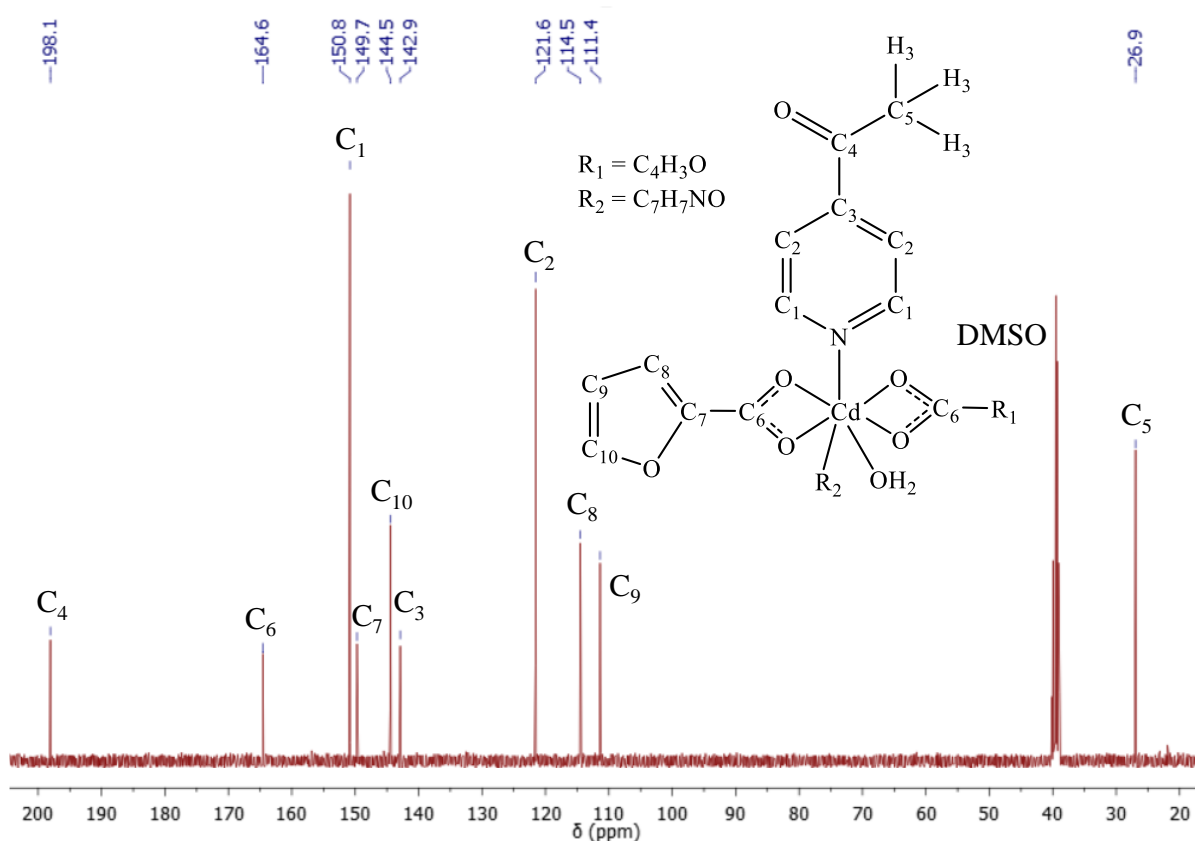


Figure S25.  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectra of compound  $[\text{Cd}(2\text{-FA})_2(4\text{-Acpy})_2(\text{OH}_2)]$  (**4**).

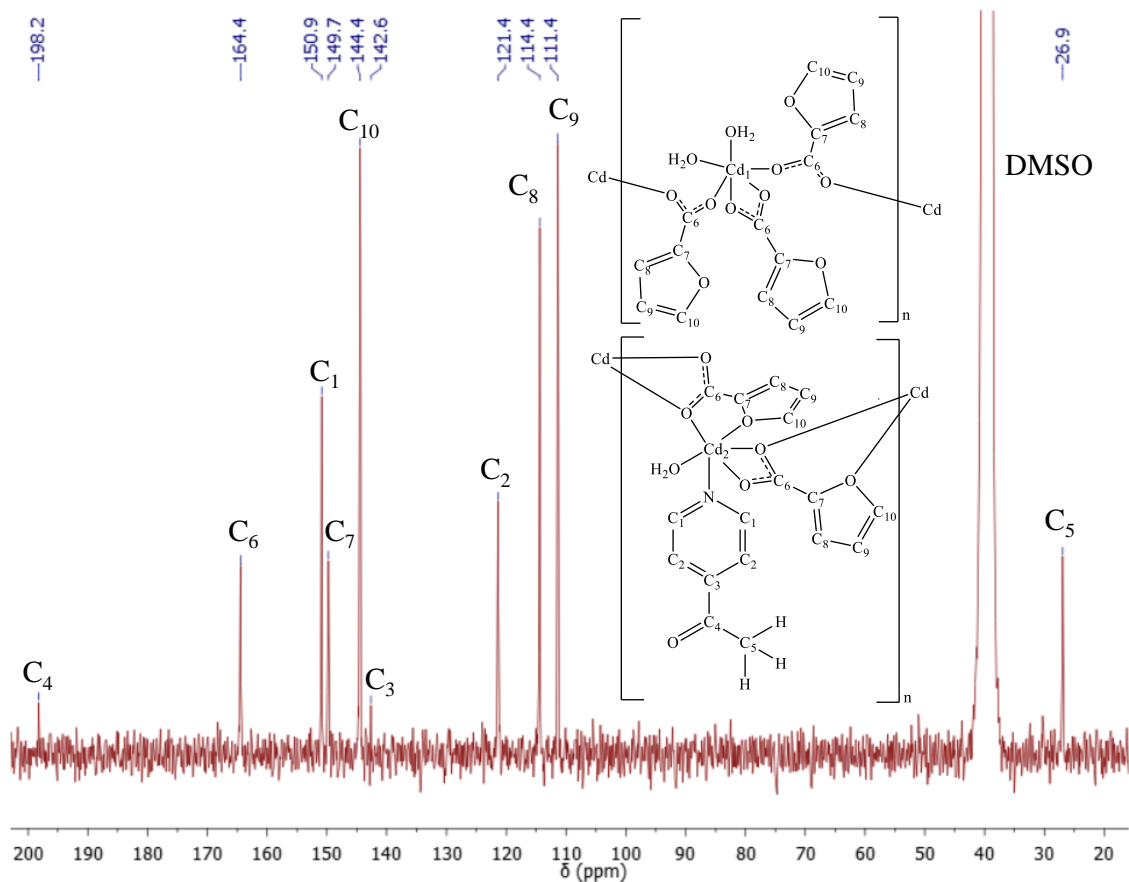


Figure S26.  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectra of compound  $[\text{Cd}(2\text{-FA})_2(\text{OH}_2)_2]_n[\text{Cd}(2\text{-FA})_2(4\text{-Acpy})(\text{OH}_2)]_n$  (**5**).

## Geometric Evaluation

Table S1. Geometry distortion analysis of the Zn(II) and Cd(II) *cores* from **1-5** using *S* parameter calculated with SHAPE.<sup>1,2</sup>

Compound	Label	Geometry <sup>a</sup>	<i>S</i> value
<b>1</b>	Zn(1)	<b>OC-6</b>	<b>6.229</b>
		TPR-6	8.205
<b>2</b>	Cd(1)	<b>OC-6</b>	<b>3.807</b>
		TPR-6	11.205
<b>3</b>	Zn(1)	vOC-5	0.969
		TBPY-5	5.417
		<b>SPY-5</b>	<b>0.199</b>
		JTBPY-5	8.068
	Zn(2)	vOC-5	0.887
		TBPY-5	5.432
<b>SPY-5</b>		<b>0.175</b>	
<b>4</b>	Cd(1)	<b>PBPY-7</b>	<b>2.773</b>
		COC-7	6.222
		CTPR-7	4.805
		JPBPY-7	6.107
<b>5</b>	Cd(1)	CU-8	14.862
		SAPR-8	6.675
		TDD-8	4.316
		JGBF-8	13.844
		JBTP-8	3.364
		BTPR-8	4.158
		JSD-8	4.018
		TT-8	14.518
		PBPY-7	8.756
		COC-7	4.611
		CTPR-7	3.262
		JPBPY-7	9.815
		PPY-6	11.044
		<b>TPR-6</b>	<b>2.895</b>
	Cd(2)	<b>PBPY-7</b>	<b>1.213</b>
		COC-7	8.100
		CTPR-7	6.607
		JPBPY-7	3.849

Closer values have been highlighted in bold. vOC-5 = Vacant octahedron; TBPY-5 = Trigonal bipyramid; SPY-5 = Square pyramid; JTBPY-5 = Johnson trigonal bipyramid; PPY-6 = Pentagonal pyramid; OC-6 = Octahedron; TPR-6 = Trigonal prism; PBPY-7 = Pentagonal bipyramid; COC-7 = Capped octahedron; CTPR-7 = Capped trigonal prism; JPBPY-7 = Johnson pentagonal bipyramid; CU-8 = Cube; SAPR-8 = Square antiprism; TDD-8 = Triangular dodecahedron; JGBF-8 = Johnson - Gyrobifastigium; JBTP-8 = Johnson – Biaugmented trigonal prism; BTPR-8 = Biaugmented trigonal prism; JSD-8 = Snub disphenoid; TT-8 = Triakis tetrahedron.

## Extended structures

**Compounds 1 and 2.** The intermolecular interactions of **1** and **2** are mainly directed by amide-amide homosynthons between the Isn ligands, which associate dimeric units along the [101] direction. In addition, the H-bond interactions involving the *anti* H-atom of the Isn ligands and the oxygen atom from the  $\mu_2$ - $\eta^2$ -2-FA, as well as other additional C-H $\cdots$ O interactions form the final 3D networks (Fig. S17). Relevant distances have been listed in Table S2.

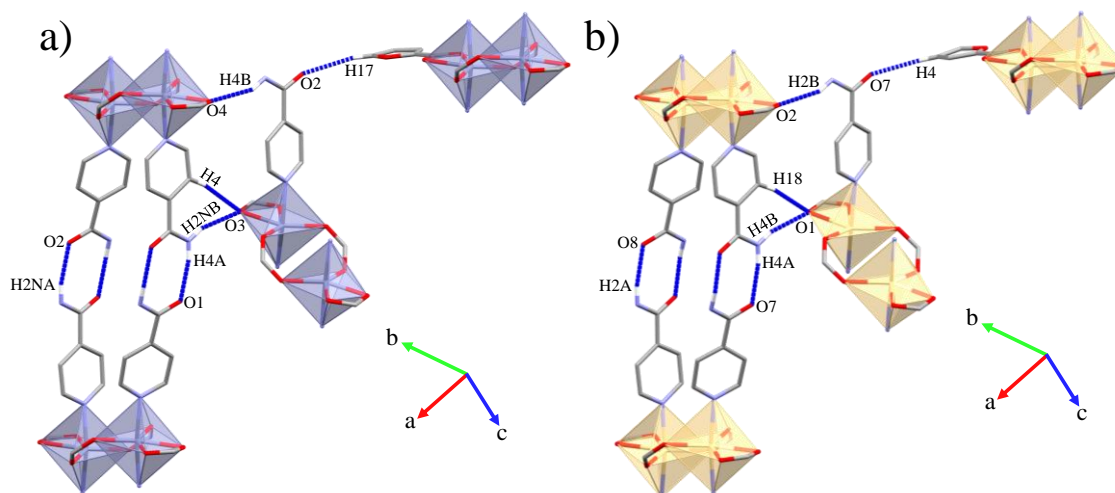


Figure S27. Supramolecular expansion of (a) **1** and (b) **2**. Hydrogen atoms not involved in the intermolecular interactions have been omitted for clarity.

Table S2. Intermolecular interactions present in complexes **1** and **2**.

<b>1</b>	D-H $\cdots$ A	D-H (Å)	H $\cdots$ A (Å)	D $\cdots$ A (Å)	>D-H $\cdots$ A (°)
	N(2)-H(2NA) $\cdots$ O(2)	0.88	2.06	2.930(4)	168
N(4)-H(4A) $\cdots$ O(1)	0.88	2.00	2.877(4)	175	
N(2)-H(2NB) $\cdots$ O(3)	0.88	2.06	2.904(4)	159	
N(4)-H(4B) $\cdots$ O(4)	0.88	2.08	2.891(5)	153	
C(4)-H(4) $\cdots$ O(3)	0.95	2.32	3.252(6)	165	
C(17)-H(17) $\cdots$ O(2)	0.95	2.43	3.359(7)	165	
<b>2</b>	D-H $\cdots$ A	D-H (Å)	H $\cdots$ A (Å)	D $\cdots$ A (Å)	>D-H $\cdots$ A (°)
	N(2)-H(2A) $\cdots$ O(8)	0.88	2.00	2.867(5)	169
N(4)-H(4A) $\cdots$ O(7)	0.88	2.06	2.933(5)	170	
N(2)-H(2NB) $\cdots$ O(2)	0.88	2.07	2.900(6)	156	
N(4)-H(4B) $\cdots$ O(1)	0.88	2.08	2.928(6)	162	
C(4)-H(4) $\cdots$ O(7)	0.95	2.33	3.246(8)	162	
C(18)-H(18) $\cdots$ O(1)	0.95	2.25	3.188(6)	168	

**Compound 3.** The supramolecular expansion of **3** is supported by two groups of three-stacked rings by  $\pi\cdots\pi$  interactions along both  $[1\bar{1}0]$  and  $[110]$  in a 2-FA, 4-Acpy, and 2-FA sequence (Fig. S18a) resulting in the assembly of a 3D supramolecular net. Besides, these  $\pi\cdots\pi$  interactions are supported by C-H $\cdots$ O associations between  $O_{4\text{-Acpy}}$



and *H* atoms from 2-FA units and between methyl and *O* atom from the furane ring (Fig. 18b). Relevant distances have been listed in Table S3.

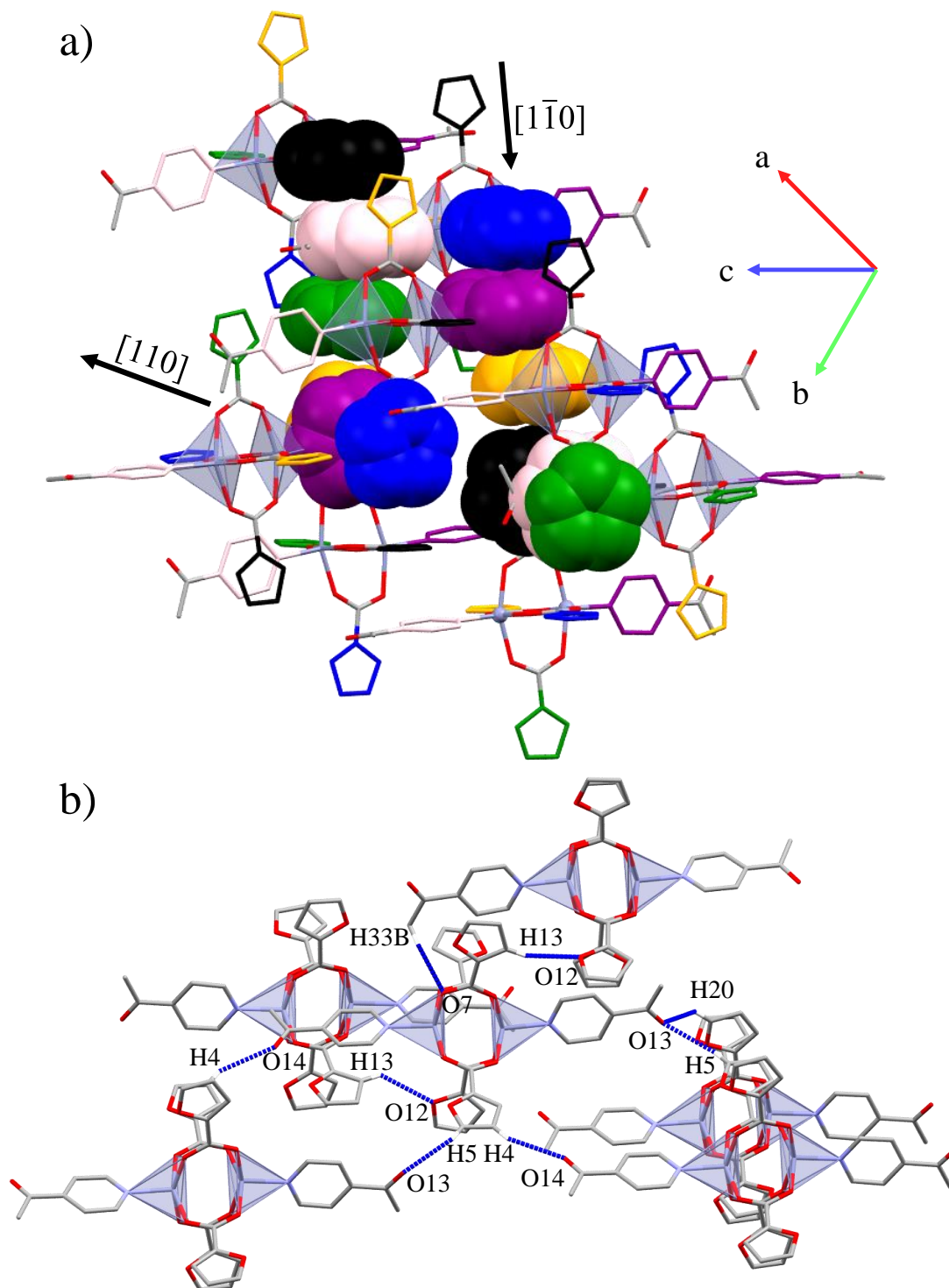


Figure S28. Supramolecular expansion of **3** supported by (a)  $\pi\cdots\pi$  and (b) C-H $\cdots$ O interactions. Hydrogen atoms not involved in the intermolecular interactions have been omitted for clarity.

Table S3. Intermolecular interactions present in **3**.

D-H...A		D-H (Å)	H...A (Å)	D...A (Å)	>D-H...A (°)
C(4)-H(4)...O(14)		0.930	2.642	3.366(5)	135.1
C(5)-H(5)...O(13)		0.930	2.585	3.391(5)	145.2
C(13)-H(13)...O(12)		0.930	2.607	3.317(5)	133.6
C(20)-H(20)...O(13)		0.930	2.488	3.243(5)	138.4
C(33)-H(33B)...O(7)		0.959	2.571	3.521(5)	170.5
$\pi \cdots \pi$ interactions					
Cg(I)...Cg(J)	Cg...Cg <sup>a</sup> (Å)	$\alpha^b$ (°)	$\beta, \gamma^c$ (°)	d <sub>plane-plane</sub> <sup>d</sup> (Å)	d <sub>offset</sub> <sup>e</sup> (Å)
Cg(1)...Cg(5)	3.537(2)	6.79(19)	16.0, 20.5	3.3121(14), 3.3993(16)	0.976
Cg(2)...Cg(5)	3.546(2)	6.94(19)	19.9, 13.2	3.4524(14), 3.3352(15)	1.204
Cg(3)...Cg(6)	3.453(2)	7.09(19)	15.1, 8.5	3.4153(14), 3.3339(15)	0.900
Cg(4)...Cg(6)	3.677(2)	7.95(19)	20.7, 27.1	3.2733(14), 3.4402(15)	1.298

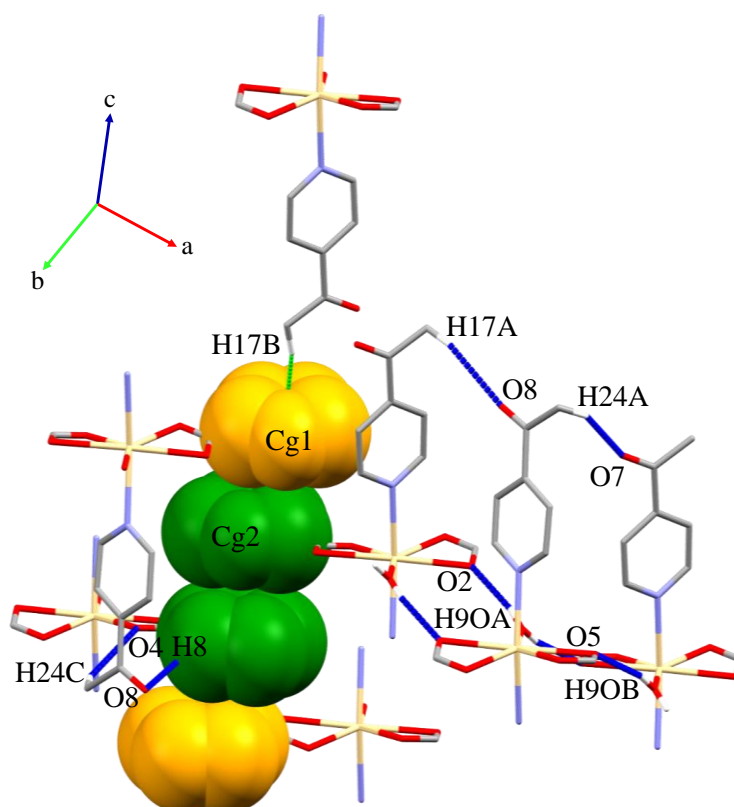
<sup>a</sup>Cg...Cg = distance between ring centroids; <sup>b</sup> $\alpha$  = dihedral angle between Planes I and J; <sup>c</sup>Offset angles:  $\beta$  = angle Cg(I)-Cg(J) and normal to plane I and  $\gamma$  = angle Cg(I)-Cg(J) and normal to plane J ( $\beta = \gamma$ , when  $\alpha = 0^\circ$ ); <sup>d</sup>Perpendicular distance of Cg(I) on plane J and perpendicular distance of Cg(J) on plane I (equal when  $\alpha = 0^\circ$ ); <sup>e</sup>Slippage = Horizontal displacement or slippage between Cg(I) and Cg(J) (equal for both centroids when  $\alpha = 0^\circ$ ). Cg(1) = O(3) C(2) C(3) C(4) C(5); Cg(2) = O(6) C(7) C(8) C(9) C(10); Cg(3) = O(9) C(12) C(13) C(14) C(15); Cg(4) = O(12) C(17) C(18) C(19) C(20); Cg(5) = N(1) C(21) C(22) C(23) C(24) C(25); Cg(6) = N(2) C(28) C(29) C(30) C(31) C32.

**Compound 4.** The supramolecular expansion of **4** is driven by the H-bonds between the water molecules and the carboxylate oxygen atoms, which lengthen the Cd-O bonds (O(2) and O(5)), which form 1D chains along the [100] direction. These chains are supported by weak C-H...O associations between the carbonyl oxygen atoms from 4-AcPy and the methyl hydrogen atoms from nearby 4-AcPy. In addition, there are two types of furoate five-membered rings that display  $\pi \cdots \pi$  interactions between them extending the supramolecular structure along the [001] direction, conjointly with weak C-H... $\pi$  interactions involving the methyl H-atoms from 4-AcPy and the five-membered rings from 2-FA. Additional C-H...O interactions between the acetyl groups of 4-AcPy and the carboxylate and H-atoms from 2-FA support the propagation of the structure. The combination of all these interactions extends the structure along the (101) plane forming 2D layers (Fig. S19). Relevant distances have been listed in Table S4.

Table S4. Intermolecular interactions present in **4**.

D-H...A		D-H (Å)	H...A (Å)	D...A	>D-H...A (°)
O(9)-H(9OA)...O(2)		0.80(3)	1.95(4)	2.737(4)	169(3)
O(9)-H(9OB)...O(5)		0.80(4)	1.95(4)	2.731(4)	166(4)
C(8)-H(8)...O(8)		0.95	2.55	3.451(5)	157
C(17)-H(17A)...O(8)		0.98	2.58	3.542(6)	165
C(24)-H(24A)...O(7)		0.98	2.54	3.379(6)	143
C(24)-H(24C)...O(4)		0.98	2.54	3.346(5)	140
C-H... $\pi$ interactions					
X-H...Cg(J)	H...Cg(J) (Å)	H-Perp <sup>a</sup> (Å)	$\gamma^b$ (°)	X...Cg(J) (Å)	X-H, Pi <sup>c</sup> (°)
C(17)-H(17B)...Cg(1)	2.80	2.66	17.78	3.754(5)	72
$\pi$ ... $\pi$ interactions					
Cg(I)...Cg(J)	Cg...Cg <sup>d</sup> (Å)	$\alpha^e$ (°)	$\beta, \gamma^f$ (°)	d <sub>plane-plane</sub> <sup>g</sup> (Å)	d <sub>offset</sub> <sup>h</sup> (Å)
Cg(1)...Cg(2)	3.451(3)	5.7(3)	18.8, 17.7	3.2879(17), 3.267(2)	1.114
Cg(2)...Cg(2)	3.366(3)	0.0(3)	3.2	3.360(2)	0.188

<sup>a</sup>Perpendicular distance of H to ring plane J. <sup>b</sup>Angle between Cg(J)-H vector and ring J normal. <sup>c</sup>Angle of the X-H bond with the Pi-plane (Perpendicular = 90°, Parallel = 0°) <sup>d</sup>Cg...Cg = distance between ring centroids; <sup>e</sup> $\alpha$  = dihedral angle between Planes I and J; <sup>f</sup>Offset angles:  $\beta$  = angle Cg(I)-Cg(J) and normal to plane I and  $\gamma$  = angle Cg(I)-Cg(J) and normal to plane J ( $\beta = \gamma$ , when  $\alpha = 0^\circ$ ); <sup>g</sup>Perpendicular distance of Cg(I) on plane J and perpendicular distance of Cg(J) on plane I (equal when  $\alpha = 0^\circ$ ); <sup>h</sup>Slippage = Horizontal displacement or slippage between Cg(I) and Cg(J) (equal for both centroids when  $\alpha = 0^\circ$ ). Cg(1) = O(2) C(2) C(3) C(4) C(5); Cg(2) = O(6) C(7) C(8) C(9) C(10).

Figure S29. Supramolecular expansion of **4**. Hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity.

**Compound 5.** The H(8B) atom from a coordinated water molecule in *A* associate with the carbonyl O(15) atom of 4-Acpy, in combination with a  $\pi\cdots\pi$  interaction (Cg(1) $\cdots$ Cg(2), 3.992(3) Å, Table S5) between 2-FA and 4-Acpy resulting in the pilling of *A* and *B* chains along the [10 $\bar{1}$ ] direction (Fig. S20a). Then, an additional  $\pi\cdots\pi$  interaction between furane rings (Cg(3) $\cdots$ Cg(4), 3.677 Å) supplements the association of *A* and *B* in parallel along the *b* axis (Fig. S20b). This combination expands the structure forming a 3D net.

Table S5. Intermolecular interactions present in complex **5**.

Intermolecular Interactions		D-H (Å)	H $\cdots$ A	D $\cdots$ A (Å)	>D-H $\cdots$ A
O(7)-H(7A) $\cdots$ O(10)		0.80(3)	1.91(3)	2.710(5)	175(5)
O(8)-H(8B) $\cdots$ O(15)		0.80(3)	2.02(4)	2.767(6)	155(5)
$\pi\cdots\pi$ interactions					
Cg(I) $\cdots$ Cg(J)	Cg $\cdots$ Cg <sup>a</sup>	$\alpha^b$ (°)	$\beta, \gamma^c$ (°)	$d_{\text{plane-plane}}^d$ (Å)	$d_{\text{offset}}^e$ (Å)
Cg(1) $\cdots$ Cg	3.992(3)	23.9(3)	34.1,	3.887(2), 3.306(2)	2.238
Cg(3) $\cdots$ Cg	3.676(3)	15.9(3)	20.4,	3.591(2), 3.4469(19)	1.279

<sup>a</sup>Cg $\cdots$ Cg = distance between ring centroids; <sup>b</sup>Cg $\cdots$ Cg = distance between ring centroids; <sup>b</sup> $\alpha$  = dihedral angle between Planes I and J; <sup>c</sup>Offset angles:  $\beta$  = angle Cg(I)-Cg(J) and normal to plane I and  $\gamma$  = angle Cg(I)-Cg(J) and normal to plane J ( $\beta = \gamma$ , when  $\alpha = 0^\circ$ ); <sup>d</sup>Perpendicular distance of Cg(I) on plane J and perpendicular distance of Cg(J) on plane I (equal when  $\alpha = 0^\circ$ ); <sup>e</sup>Slippage = Horizontal displacement or slippage between Cg(I) and Cg(J) (equal for both centroids when  $\alpha = 0^\circ$ ). Cg(1) = O(3) C(2) C(3) C(4) C(5); Cg(2) = N(1) C(21) C(22) C(23) C(24) C(25); Cg(3) = O(6) C(7) C(8) C(9) C(10); Cg(4) = O(14) C(17) C(18) C(19) C(20).

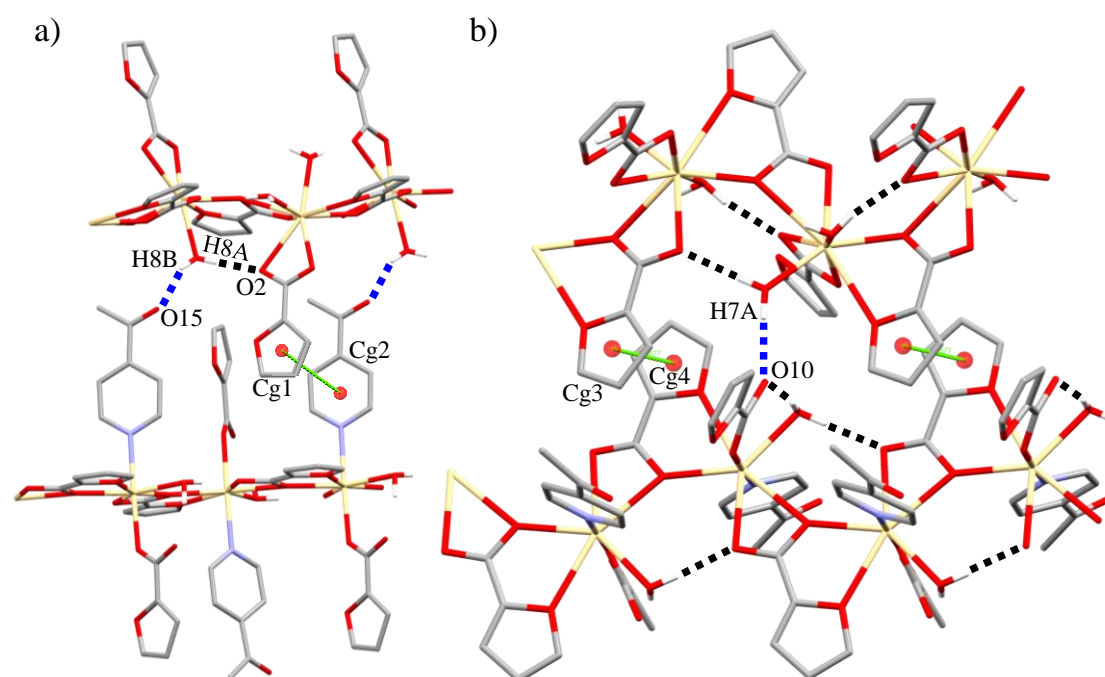


Figure S30. (a) Representation of the intermolecular interactions (blue dashed lines) of **5** assembling *A* and *B* chains. (b) Intramolecular interactions are intended to further differentiation. Hydrogen atoms not involved in the associations have been omitted for clarity.

## Photophysical properties

### UV-Vis spectroscopy

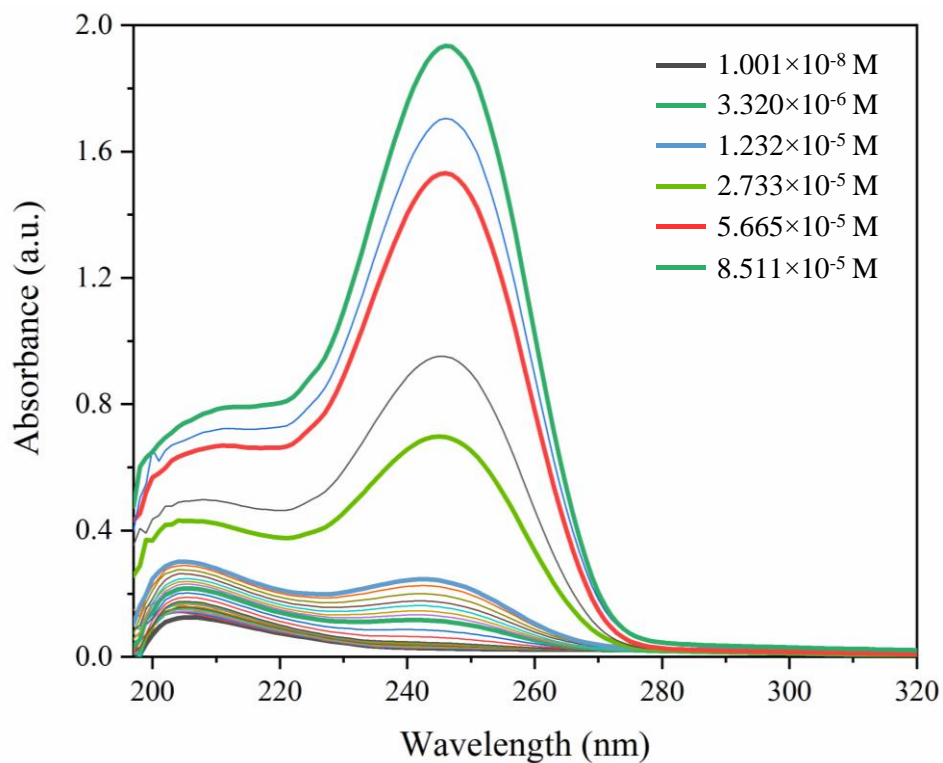


Figure S31. UV-Vis spectrum of 2-furoic acid (2-FA) in MeOH at concentrations between  $1.001 \times 10^{-8}$  M and  $8.511 \times 10^{-5}$  M.

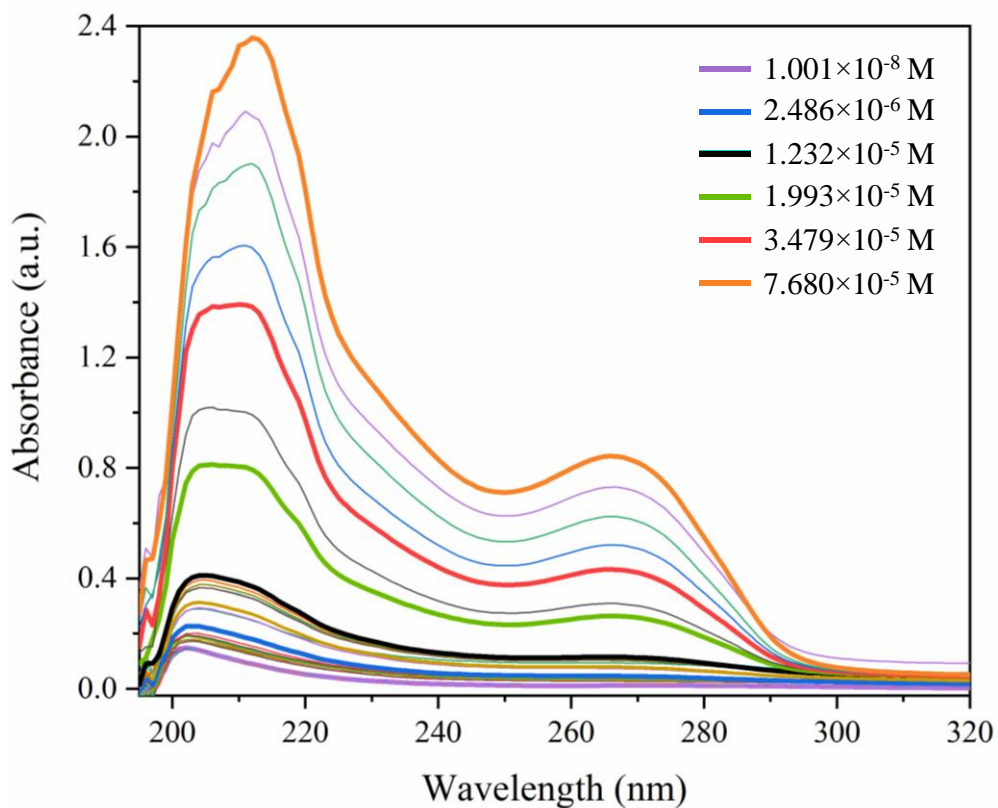


Figure S32. UV-Vis spectrum of isonicotinamide (Isn) in MeOH at concentrations between  $1.001 \times 10^{-8}$  M and  $7.680 \times 10^{-5}$  M.

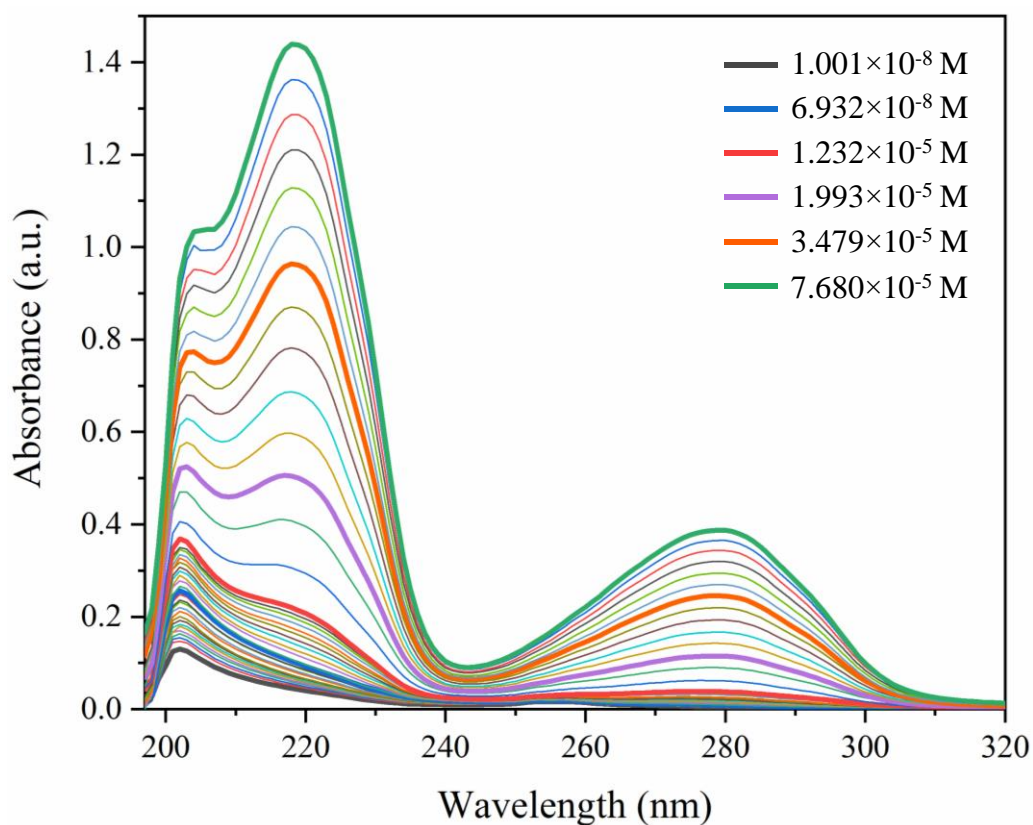


Figure S33. UV-Vis spectrum of 4-acetylpyridine (4-AcPy) in MeOH at concentrations between  $1.001 \times 10^{-8}$  M and  $7.680 \times 10^{-5}$  M.

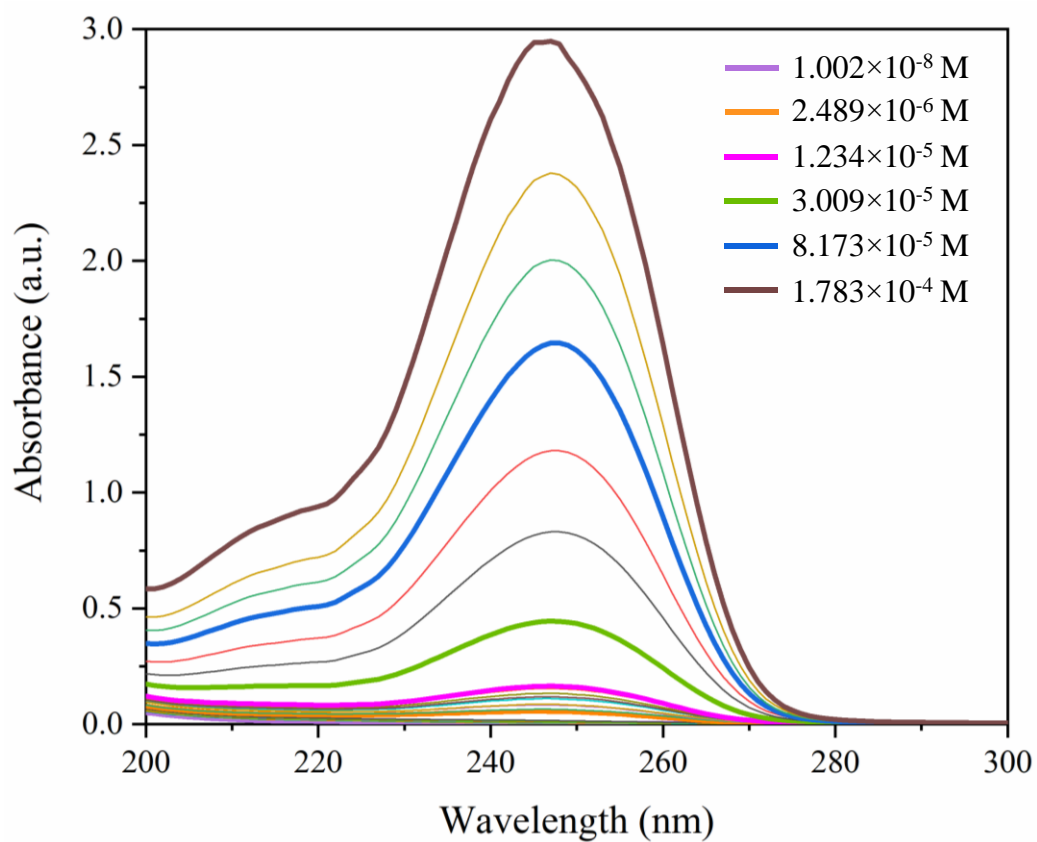


Figure S34. UV-Vis spectrum of 2-furoic acid (2-FA) in ACN at concentrations between  $1.002 \times 10^{-8}$  M and  $1.783 \times 10^{-4}$  M.

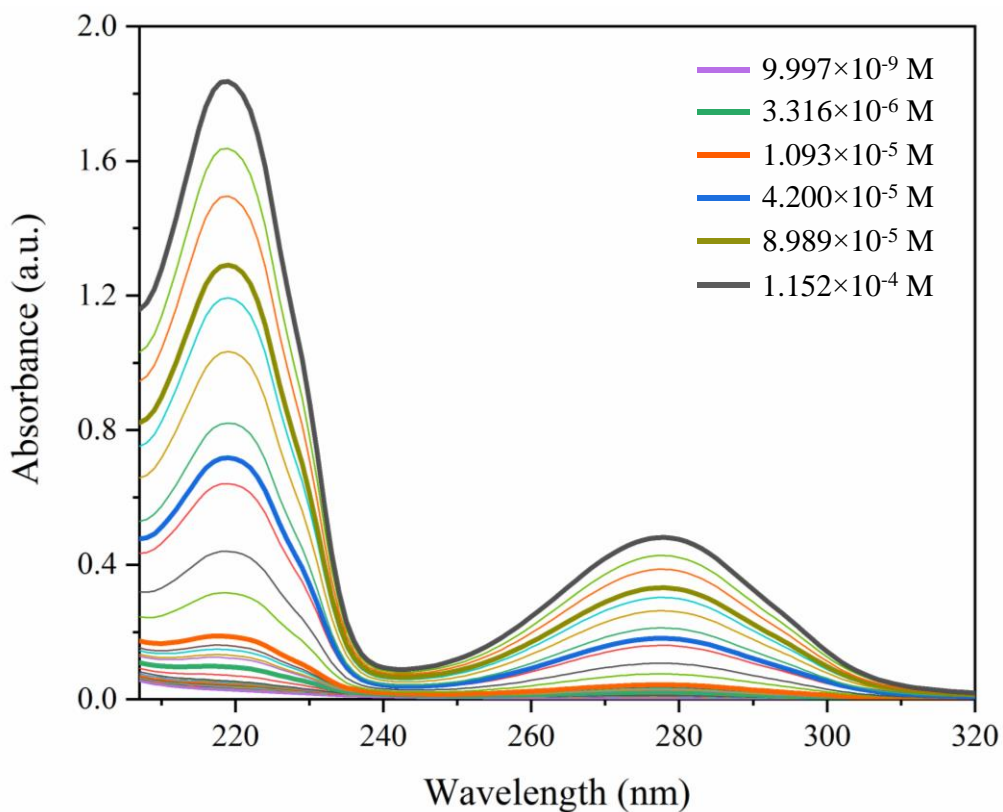


Figure S35. UV-Vis spectrum of 4-acetylpyridine (4-AcPy) in ACN at concentrations between  $9.997 \times 10^{-9}$  M and  $1.152 \times 10^{-4}$  M.

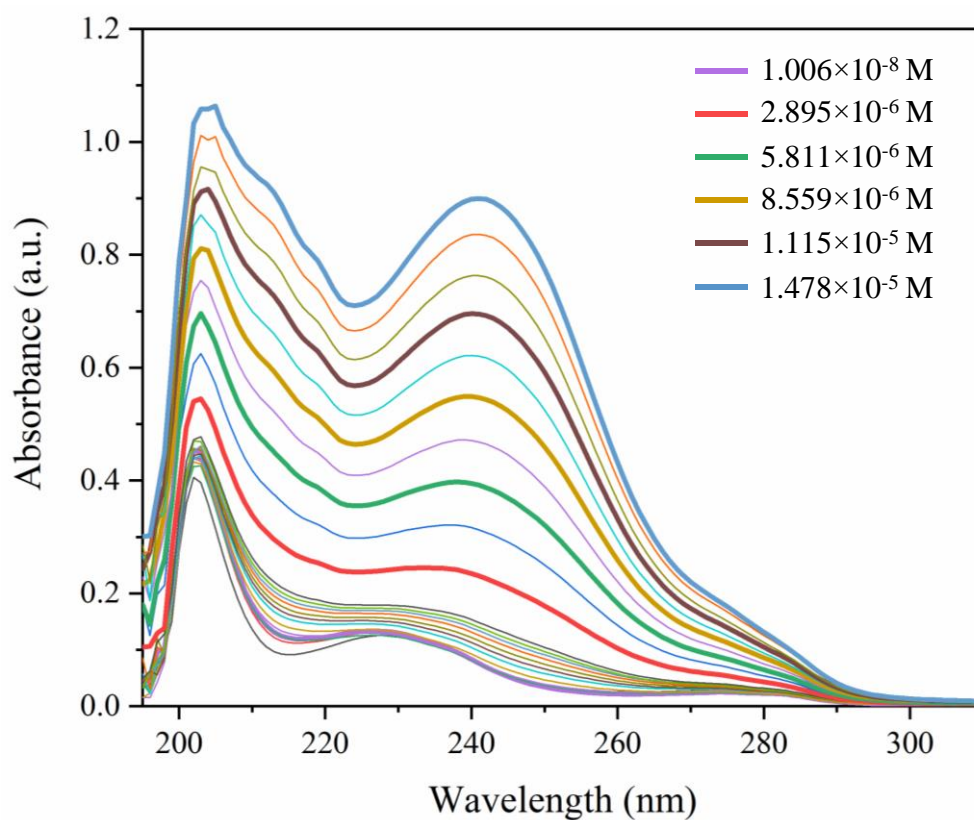


Figure S36. UV-Vis spectrum of  $[\text{Zn}(\mu\text{-}2\text{-FA})(2\text{-FA})(\text{Isn})_2]_2$  (**1**) in MeOH at concentrations between  $1.006 \times 10^{-9}$  M and  $1.478 \times 10^{-5}$  M.

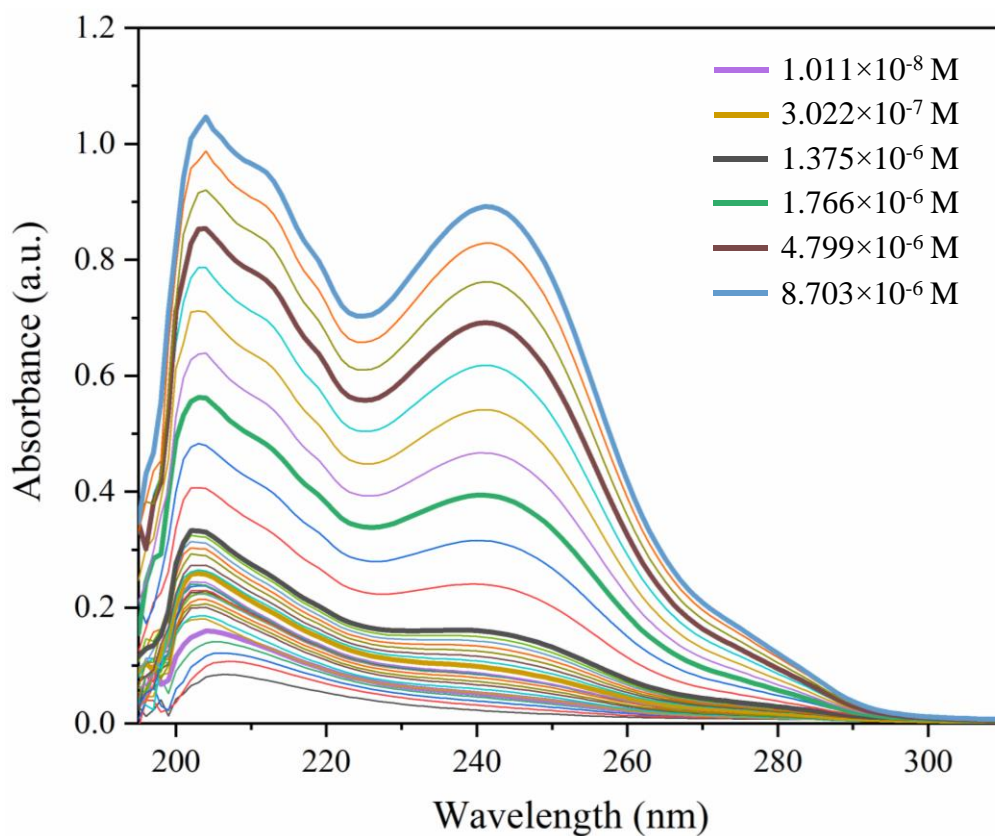


Figure S37. UV-Vis spectrum of  $[\text{Cd}(\mu\text{-2-FA})(2\text{-FA})(\text{Isn})_2]_2$  (**2**) in MeOH at concentrations between  $1.011 \times 10^{-9}$  M and  $8.703 \times 10^{-6}$  M.

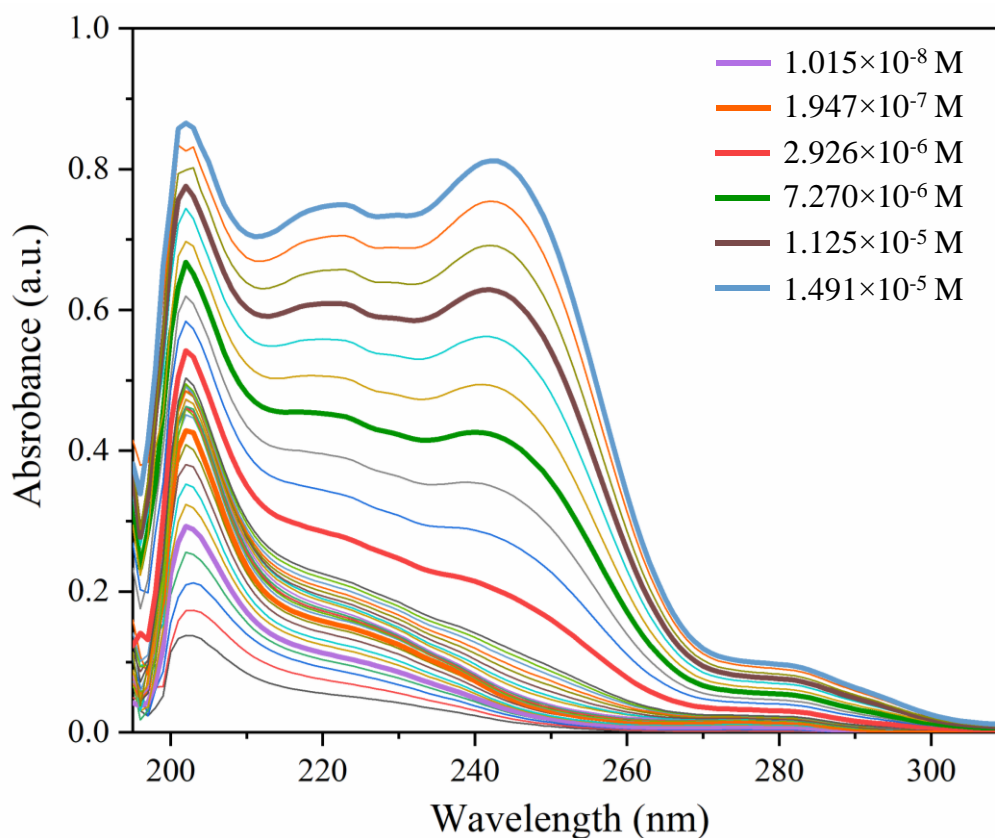


Figure S38. UV-Vis spectrum of  $[\text{Zn}(\mu\text{-2-FA})_2(4\text{-Acpy})]_2$  (**3**) in MeOH at concentrations between  $1.015 \times 10^{-9}$  M and  $1.491 \times 10^{-5}$  M.



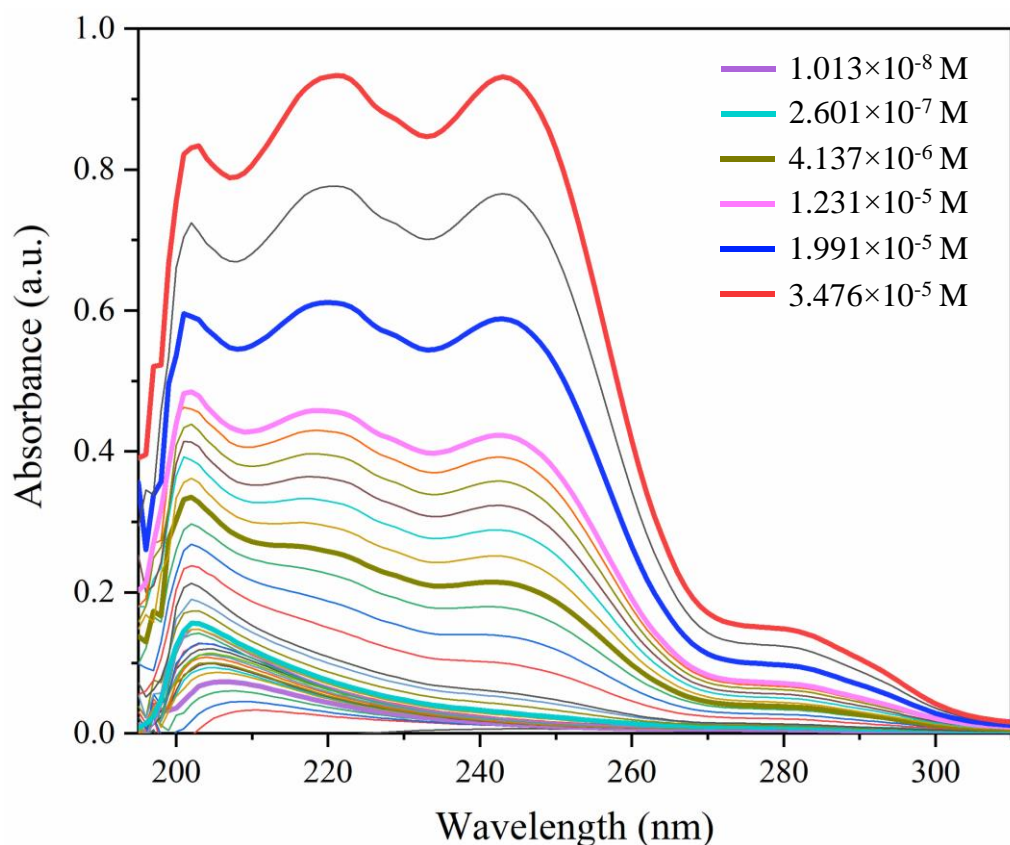


Figure S39. UV-Vis spectrum of  $[\text{Cd}(\text{2-FA})_2(\text{4-AcPy})_2(\text{OH}_2)]$  (**4**) in MeOH at concentrations between  $1.014 \times 10^{-9}$  M and  $3.476 \times 10^{-5}$  M.

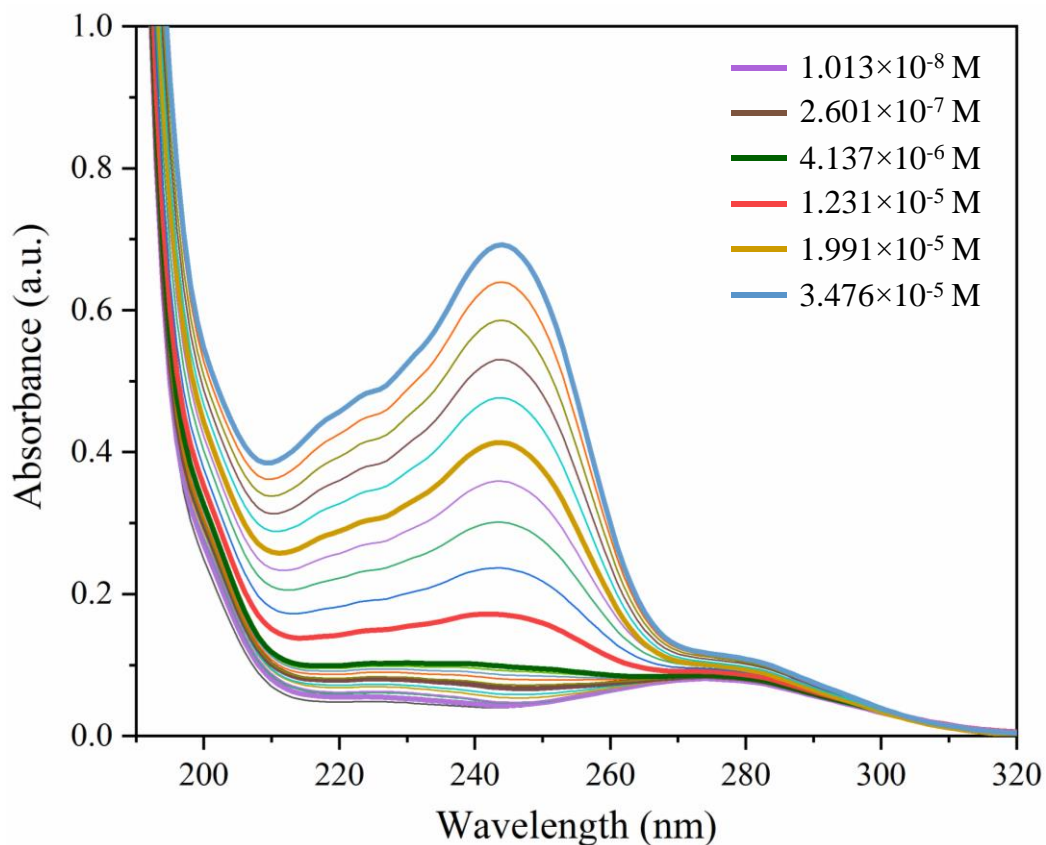


Figure S40. UV-Vis spectrum of  $\{[\text{Cd}(\mu\text{-2-FA})_2(\text{OH}_2)_2]_n[\text{Cd}(\mu\text{-2-FA})_2(\text{4-AcPy})(\text{OH}_2)]_n\}$  (**5**) in ACN at concentrations between  $1.000 \times 10^{-9}$  M and  $1.232 \times 10^{-5}$  M.

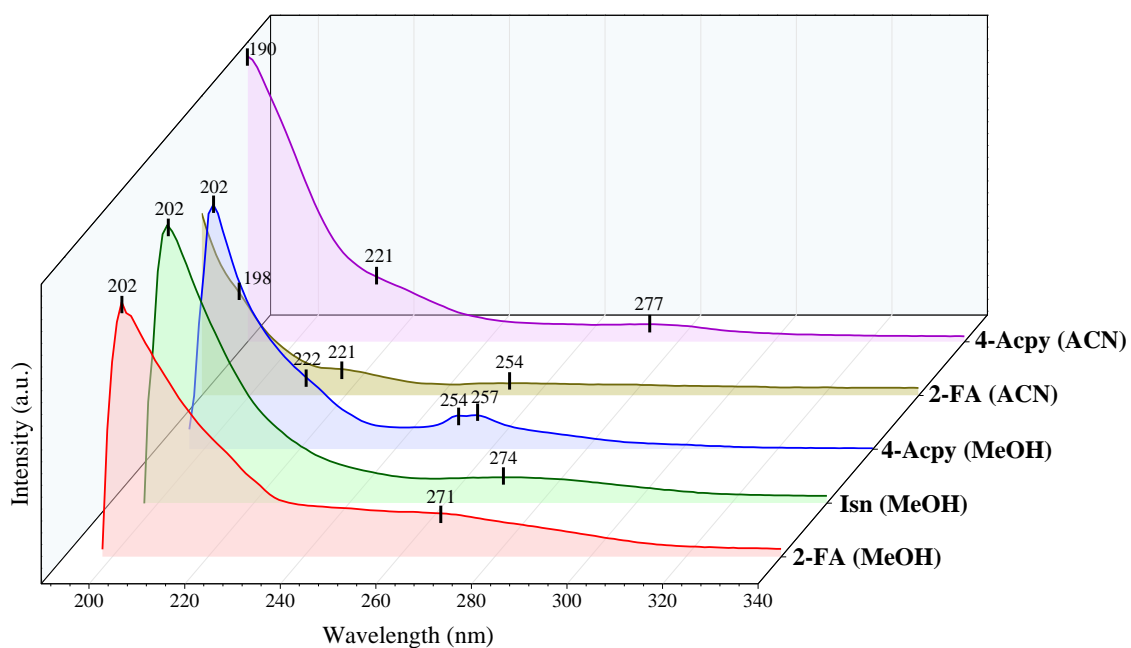


Figure S41. UV-Vis spectra of 2-FA (in MeOH and ACN), Isn (in MeOH) and 4-Acapy (in MeOH and ACN) at a concentration of  $1.001 \times 10^{-8}$  M (2-FA in MeOH),  $1.001 \times 10^{-8}$  M (Isn in MeOH),  $1.001 \times 10^{-8}$  M (4-Acapy in MeOH),  $1.002 \times 10^{-8}$  M (2-FA in ACN), and  $9.997 \times 10^{-9}$  M (4-Acapy in ACN).

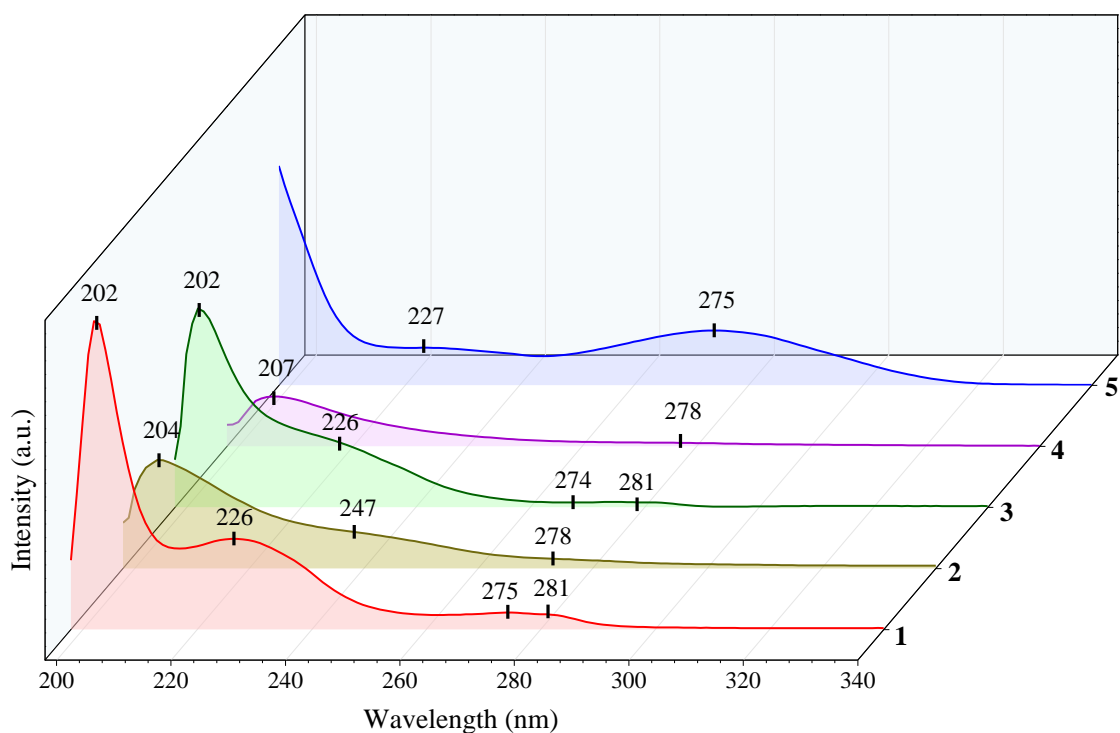


Figure S42. UV-Vis spectra of complexes **1-4** (in MeOH), and **5** (in ACN) at a concentration of  $1.006 \times 10^{-8}$  M (**1**),  $1.011 \times 10^{-8}$  M (**2**),  $1.015 \times 10^{-8}$  M (**3**),  $1.013 \times 10^{-8}$  M (**4**),  $1.000 \times 10^{-8}$  M (**5**).

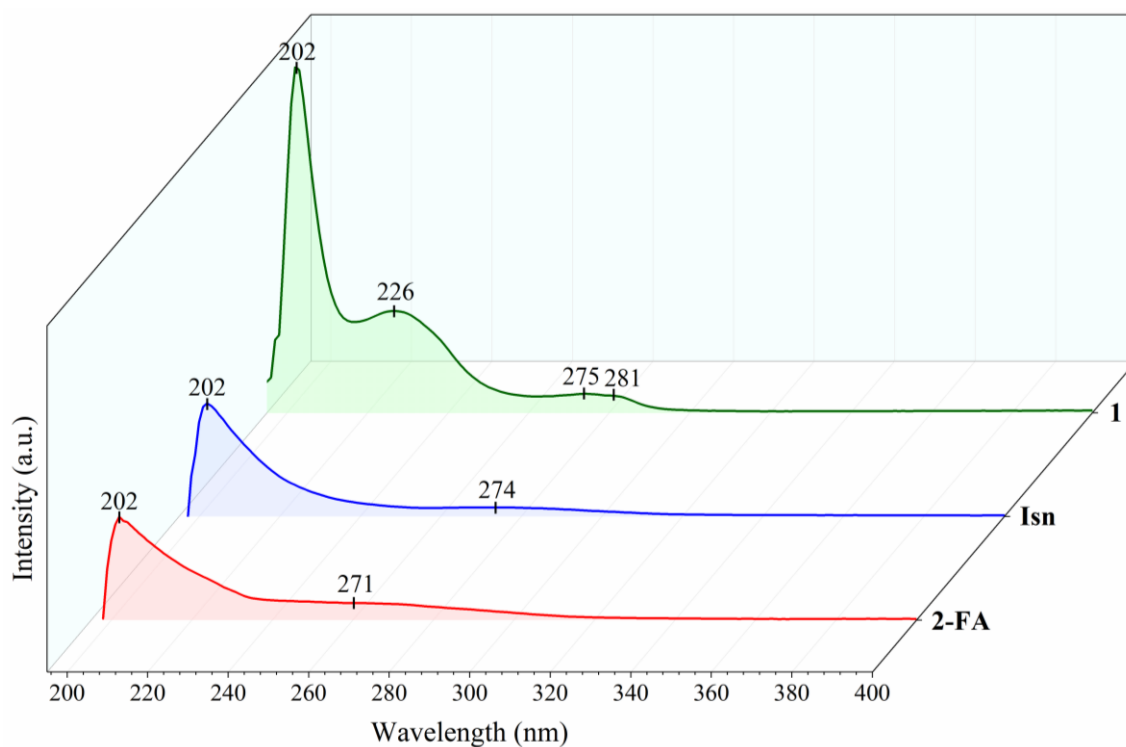


Figure S43. UV-Vis spectra of **1** and their corresponding ligands (2-FA and Isn) using  $1.001 \times 10^{-8}$  M (2-FA),  $1.001 \times 10^{-8}$  M (Isn), and  $1.006 \times 10^{-8}$  M (**1**) solutions in MeOH.

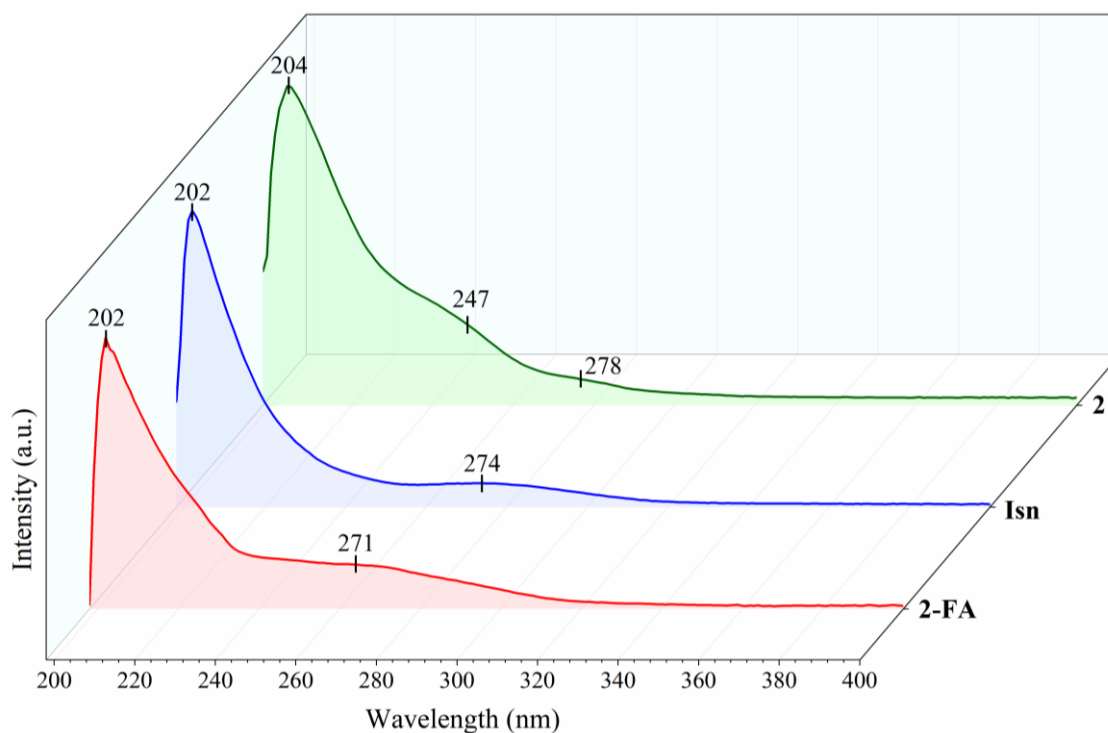


Figure S44. UV-Vis spectra of **2** and their corresponding ligands (2-FA and Isn) using  $1.001 \times 10^{-8}$  M (2-FA),  $1.001 \times 10^{-8}$  M (Isn), and  $1.011 \times 10^{-8}$  M (**2**) solutions in MeOH.

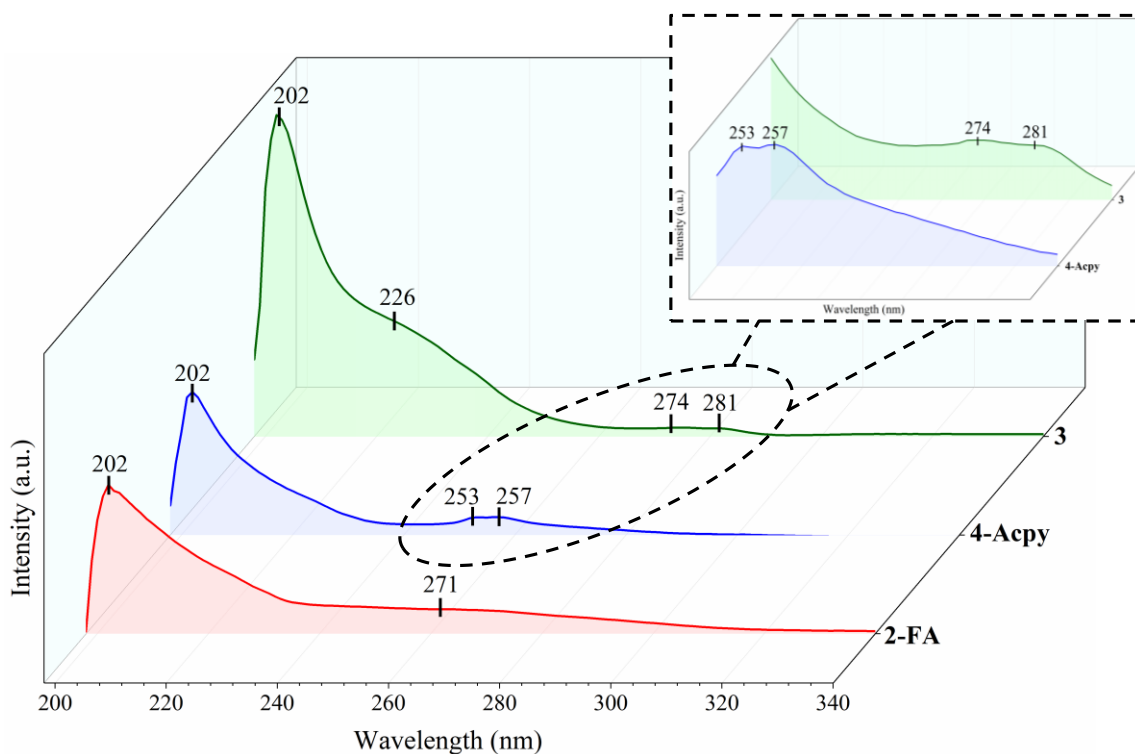


Figure S45. UV-Vis spectra of **3** and their corresponding ligands (2-FA and 4-AcPy) using  $1.001 \times 10^{-8}$  M (2-FA),  $1.001 \times 10^{-8}$  M (4-AcPy), and  $1.015 \times 10^{-8}$  M (**3**) solutions in MeOH.

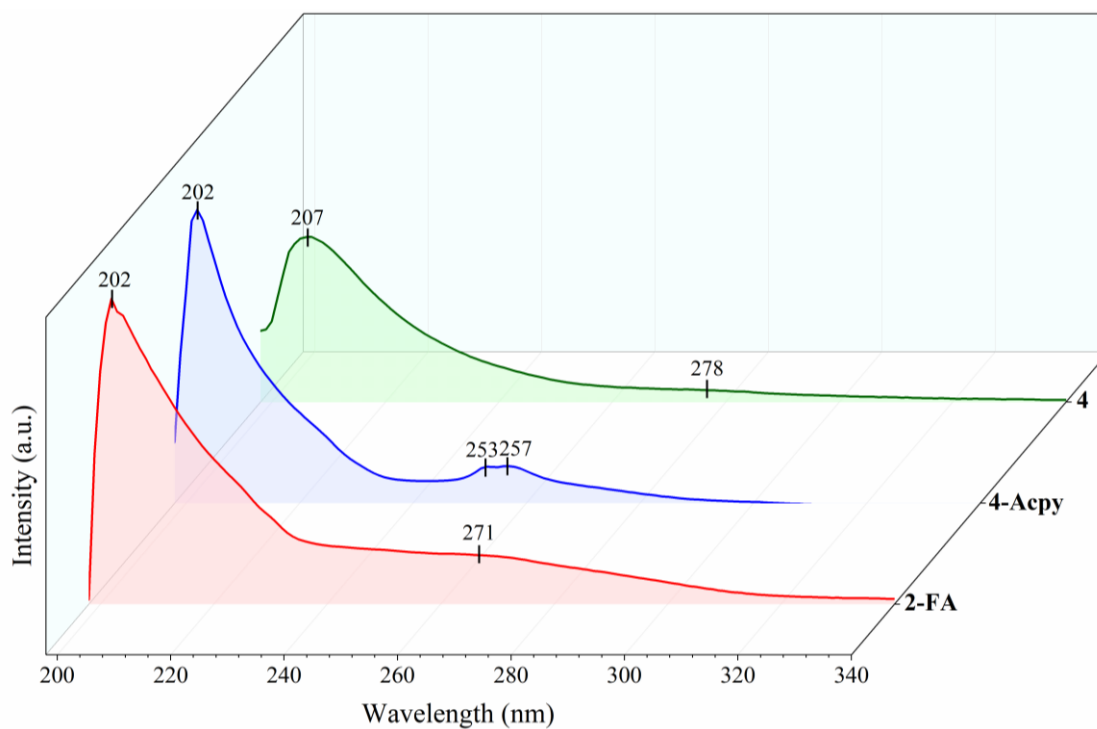


Figure S46. UV-Vis spectra of **4** and their corresponding ligands (2-FA and 4-AcPy) using  $1.001 \times 10^{-8}$  M (2-FA),  $1.001 \times 10^{-8}$  M (4-AcPy), and  $1.013 \times 10^{-8}$  M (**4**) solutions in MeOH.

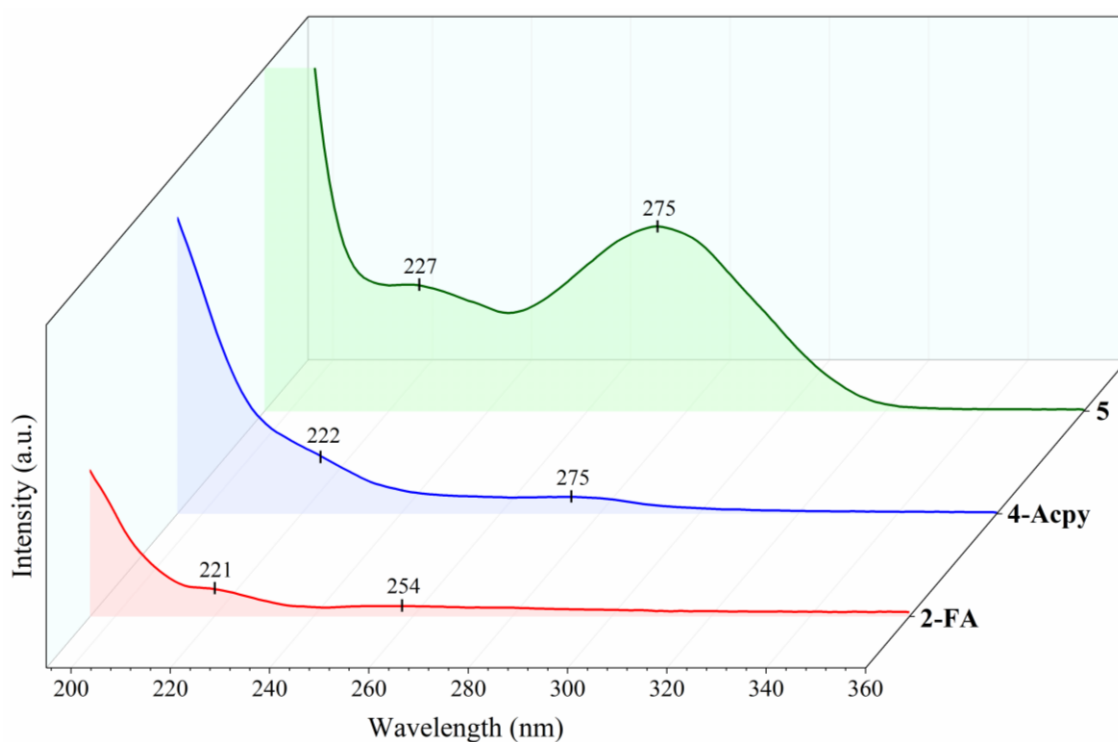


Figure S47. UV-Vis spectra of **5** and their corresponding ligands (**2-FA** and **4-Acapy**) using  $1.002 \times 10^{-8}$  M (**2-FA**),  $9.997 \times 10^{-9}$  M (**4-Acapy**), and  $1.000 \times 10^{-8}$  M (**5**) solutions in ACN.

## Fluorescence

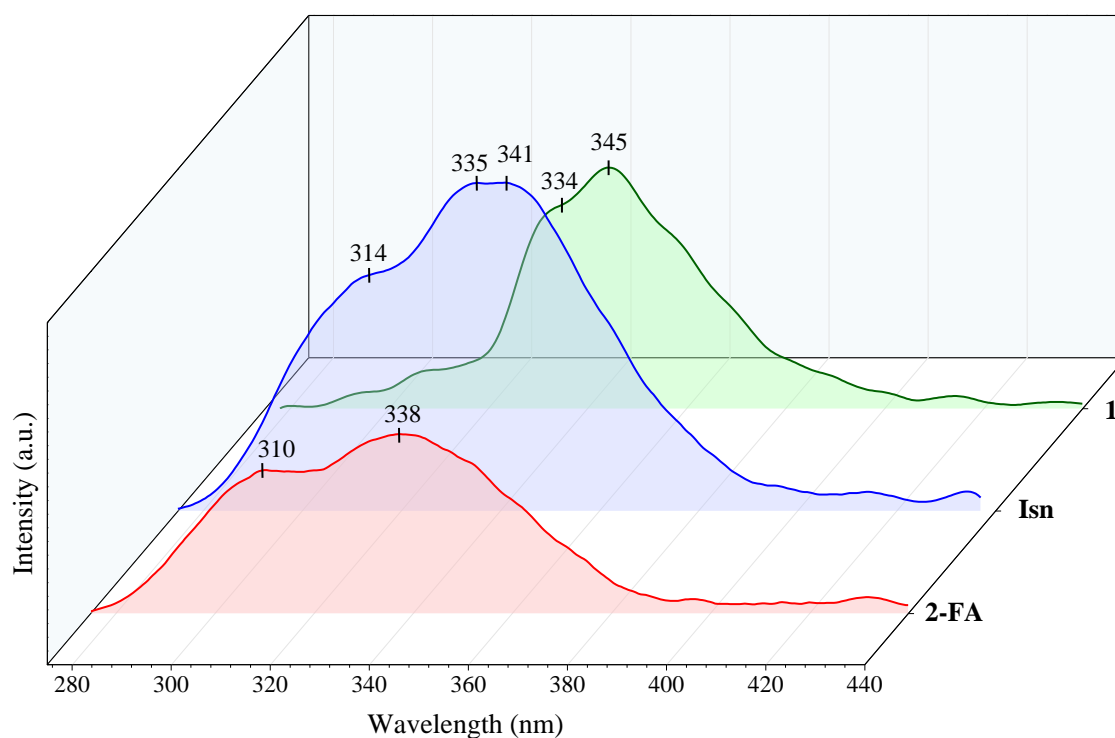


Figure S48. Emission spectra of **1** and their corresponding ligands (**2-FA** and **Isn**) irradiated at 227 nm using  $1.001 \times 10^{-8}$  M (**2-FA**),  $1.001 \times 10^{-8}$  M (**Isn**), and  $1.006 \times 10^{-8}$  M (**1**) solutions in MeOH.

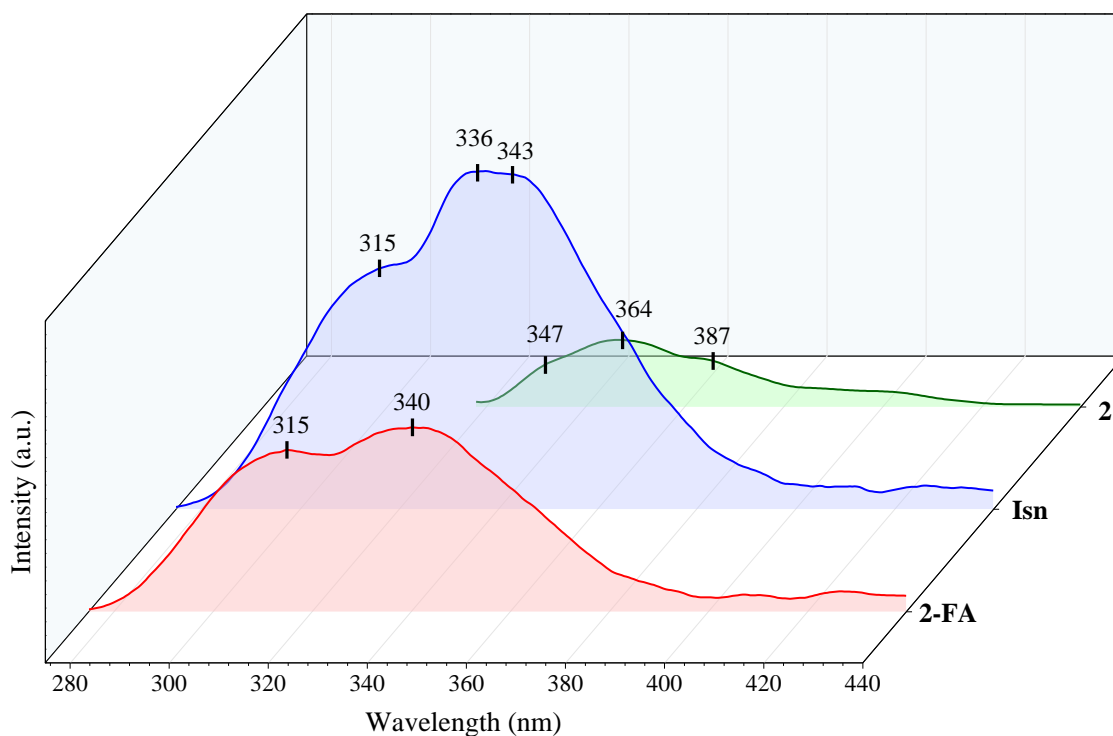


Figure S49. Emission spectra of **2** and their corresponding ligands (**2-FA** and **Isn**) irradiated at 230 nm using  $1.001 \times 10^{-8}$  M (**2-FA**),  $1.001 \times 10^{-8}$  M (**Isn**), and  $1.011 \times 10^{-8}$  M (**2**) solutions in MeOH.

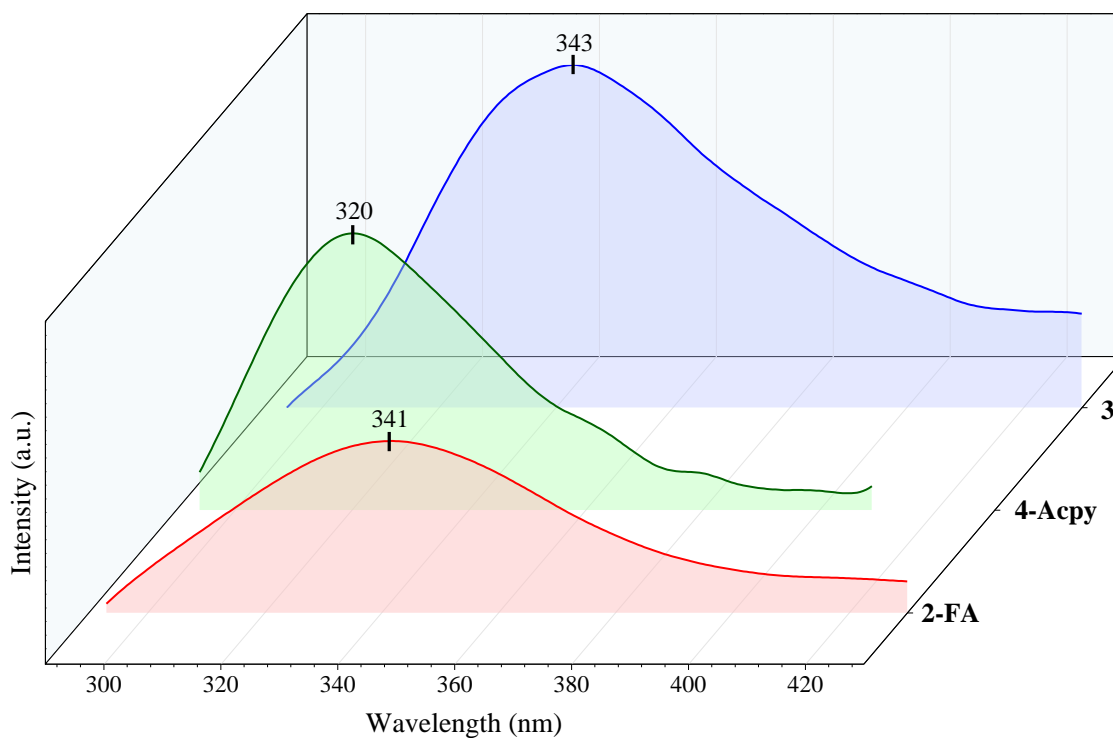


Figure S50. Emission spectra of **3** and their corresponding ligands (**2-FA** and **4-Acpy**) irradiated at 281 nm using  $1.001 \times 10^{-8}$  M (**2-FA**),  $1.001 \times 10^{-8}$  M (**4-Acpy**), and  $1.015 \times 10^{-8}$  M (**3**) solutions in MeOH.

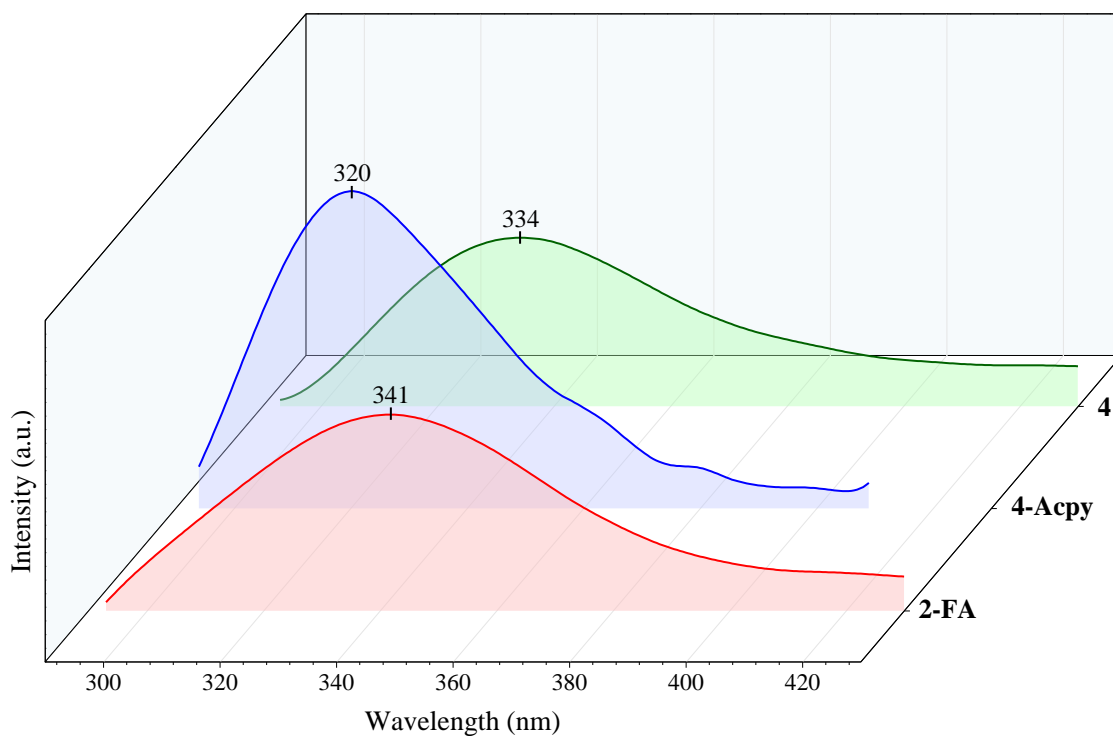


Figure S51. Emission spectra of **4** and their corresponding ligands (2-FA and 4-AcPy) irradiated at 281 nm using  $1.001 \times 10^{-8}$  M (2-FA),  $1.001 \times 10^{-8}$  M (4-AcPy), and  $1.013 \times 10^{-8}$  M (**4**) solutions in MeOH.

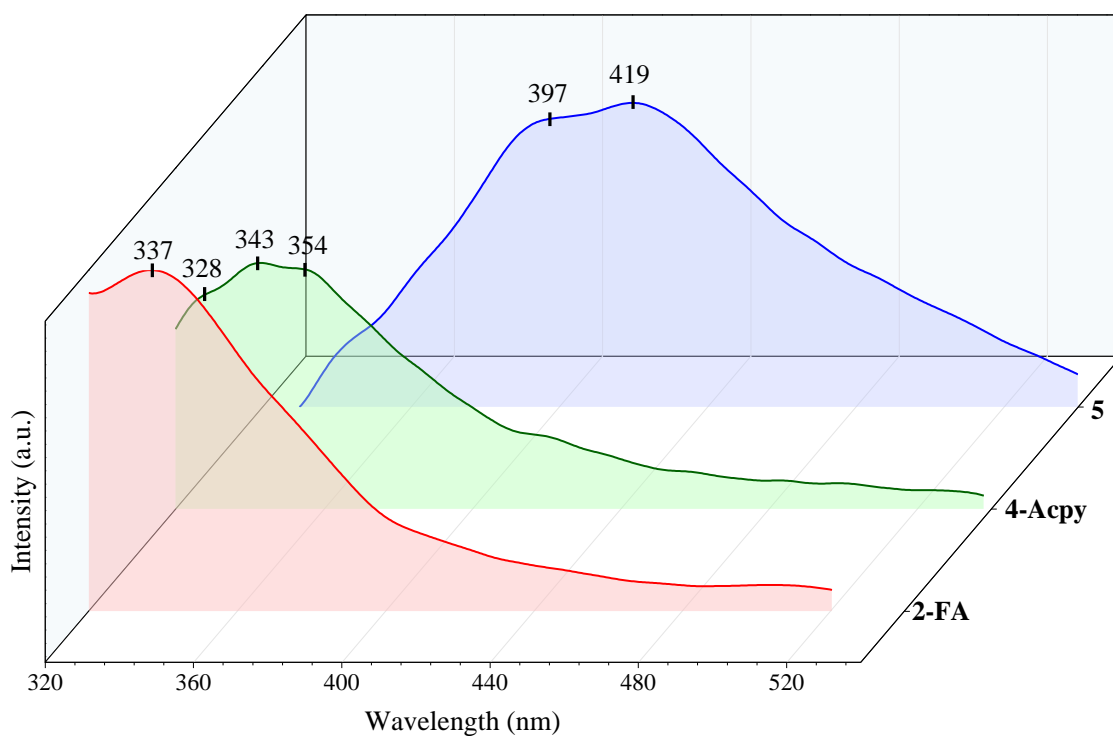


Figure S52. Emission spectra of **5** and their corresponding ligands (2-FA and 4-AcPy) irradiated at 281 nm using  $1.002 \times 10^{-8}$  M (2-FA),  $9.997 \times 10^{-9}$  M (4-AcPy), and  $1.000 \times 10^{-8}$  M (**5**) solutions in ACN.

Table S6. Relevant parameters of the photophysical properties of the ligands<sup>a</sup>.

Ligand	Solvent	$\lambda_{\text{max-abs}} (\log(\epsilon))$	$\lambda_{\text{exc}}$	$\lambda_{\text{max-em}}$	Stokes shift
2-FA	MeOH	202 (3.85), 271 (3.24)	227	310, 338	11795, 14467
			230	315, 340	11732, 14066
			281	341	6262
	ACN	190* (3.63), 198 (3.50), 221 (4.21), 254 (4.07)	281	337	5914
Isn	MeOH	202 (4.43), 274 (4.02)	227	314, 335, 341	12206, 14202, 14727
			230	315, 336, 343	11732, 13716, 14324
4-AcPy	MeOH	202 (4.08), 222 (4.15), 254, 257	281	320	4337
	ACN	190 (5.05), 217 (4.16), 277 (3.59) (3.58)	281	328, 343, 354, 418	5099, 6433, 7339, 11664

\*Absorption maxima is out of range and the data of the highest energy peak is provided. <sup>a</sup>All the wavelengths are given in nm.  $\epsilon$  values are given in  $\text{M}^{-1}\times\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Stokes shift values are given in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $\lambda_{\text{max-abs}}$  = maximum of absorption;  $\lambda_{\text{exc}}$  = excitation maximum;  $\lambda_{\text{max-em}}$  = maximum of emission.

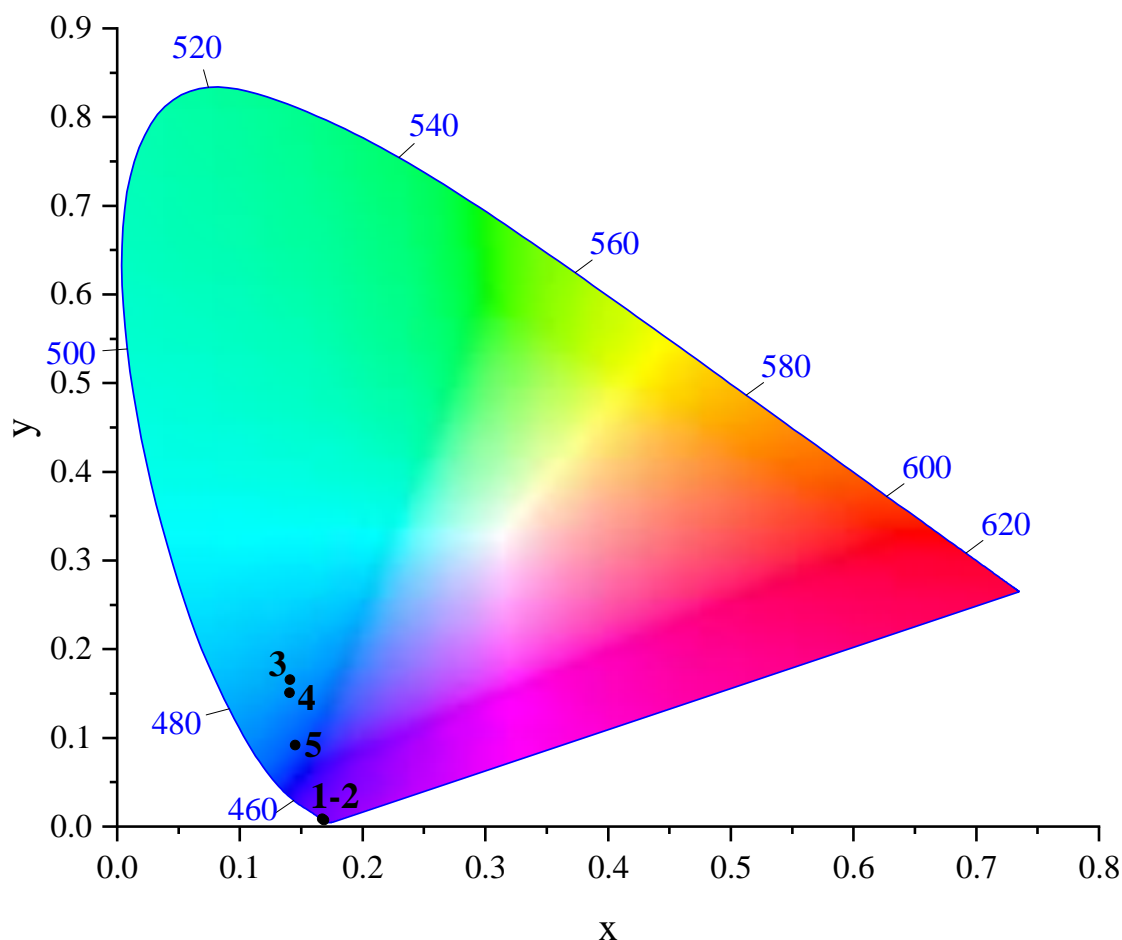


Figure S53. CIE 1931 chromaticity diagram for **1-5**.

## References

- 1 M. Llunell, D. Casanova, J. Cirera, P. Alemany and S. Alvarez. *SHAPE. Program for the Stereochemical Analysis of Molecular Fragments by Means of Continuous Shape Measures and Associated Tools*. Universitat de Barcelona, Barcelona 2013.
- 2 M. Pinsky and D. Avnir, *Inorg. Chem.*, 1998, **37**, 5575–5582.