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**Electronic Supplementary Information**

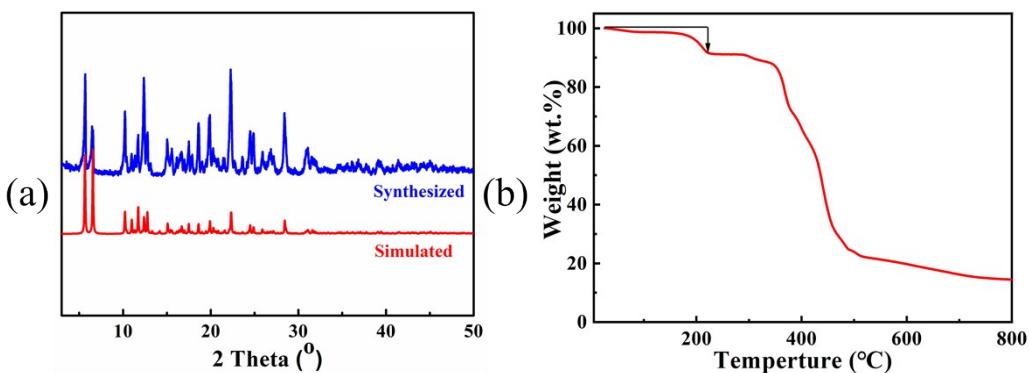
**Metal-organic Frameworks constructed with acid-base mixed ligands carboxylic acids and N-containing chalcone and their catalytic performance for Knoevenagel condensation**

Limin Cheng, Junyong Zhang, Caihong Zhan,\* Hao Xu, Chunhua Gong,\* Jingli Xie\*

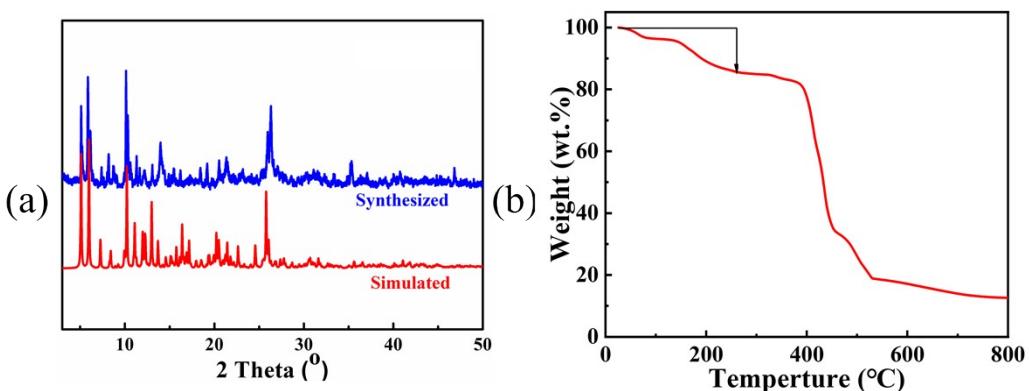
**Table S1.** Crystal data and structure refinements for MOFs **1–3**

| MOFs   | <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b>  |
|--|---|---|---|
| Empirical formula  | C <sub>45</sub> H <sub>36</sub> CdN <sub>6</sub> O <sub>8</sub> | C <sub>50</sub> H <sub>47</sub> CdN <sub>7</sub> O <sub>9</sub> | C <sub>50</sub> H <sub>47</sub> CoN <sub>7</sub> O <sub>9</sub> |
| Formula weight   | 901.20  | 1002.34   | 948.87  |
| Temperature (K)  | 300   | 300.15  | 300.15  |
| Crystal system   | triclinic   | triclinic   | triclinic   |
| Space group  | <i>P</i> 1   | <i>P</i> 1   | <i>P</i> 1   |
| <i>a</i> (Å)   | 8.7214(9)   | 9.6539(4)   | 9.6124(3)   |
| <i>b</i> (Å)   | 15.1141(14)   | 14.9335(6)  | 14.9026(5)  |
| <i>c</i> (Å)   | 17.2898(19)   | 17.6393(7)  | 17.2025(6)  |
| $\alpha$ (°)   | 114.157(10)   | 81.467(3)   | 82.802(3)   |
| $\beta$ (°)  | 95.733(9)   | 82.719(3)   | 81.793(3)   |
| $\gamma$ (°)   | 94.009(9)   | 89.187(3)   | 87.487(3)   |
| <i>V</i> (Å <sup>3</sup> )   | 2053.6(4)   | 2494.54(18)   | 2418.92(15)   |
| <i>Z</i>   | 2   | 2   | 2   |
| <i>D<sub>c</sub></i> (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )                                    | 1.338   | 1.334   | 1.303   |
| $\mu$ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )  | 4.703   | 4.007   | 3.297   |
| <i>F</i> (000)   | 838   | 1032.0  | 990.0   |
| Radiation  | Cu- <i>K</i> α<br>( $\lambda$ = 1.54184)                       | Cu- <i>K</i> α<br>( $\lambda$ = 1.54184)                       | Cu- <i>K</i> α<br>( $\lambda$ = 1.54184)                       |
| Reflections collected  | 11681   | 14420   | 36110   |
| Independent reflections  | 7754  | 9410  | 9814  |
| <i>R</i> <sub>int</sub>  | 0.0818  | 0.0427  | 0.1540  |
| Data/restraints/parameters   | 7755/269/590  | 9410/589/876  | 9814/467/876  |
| GOF on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>   | 0.984   | 1.088   | 0.997   |
| <i>R</i> <sub>I</sub> /w <i>R</i> <sub>2</sub> [ <i>I</i> > 2σ ( <i>I</i> )] | 0.0673/0.1514   | 0.0524/0.1412   | 0.0731/0.1725   |
| <i>R</i> <sub>I</sub> /w <i>R</i> <sub>2</sub> [all data]                    | 0.1078/0.1830   | 0.0595/0.1485   | 0.1375/0.2154   |

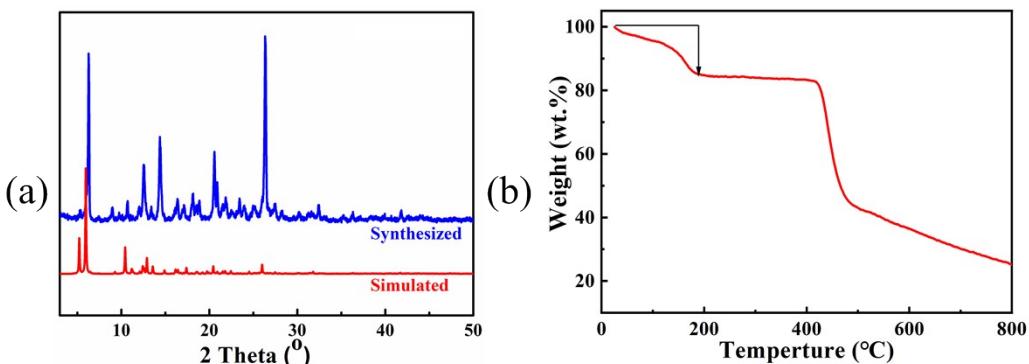
<sup>a</sup>*R*<sub>1</sub> =  $\sum |F_o| - |F_c| / \sum |F_o|$ . <sup>b</sup>w*R*<sub>2</sub> =  $(\sum [w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2] / \sum [w(F_o^2)^2])^{1/2}$



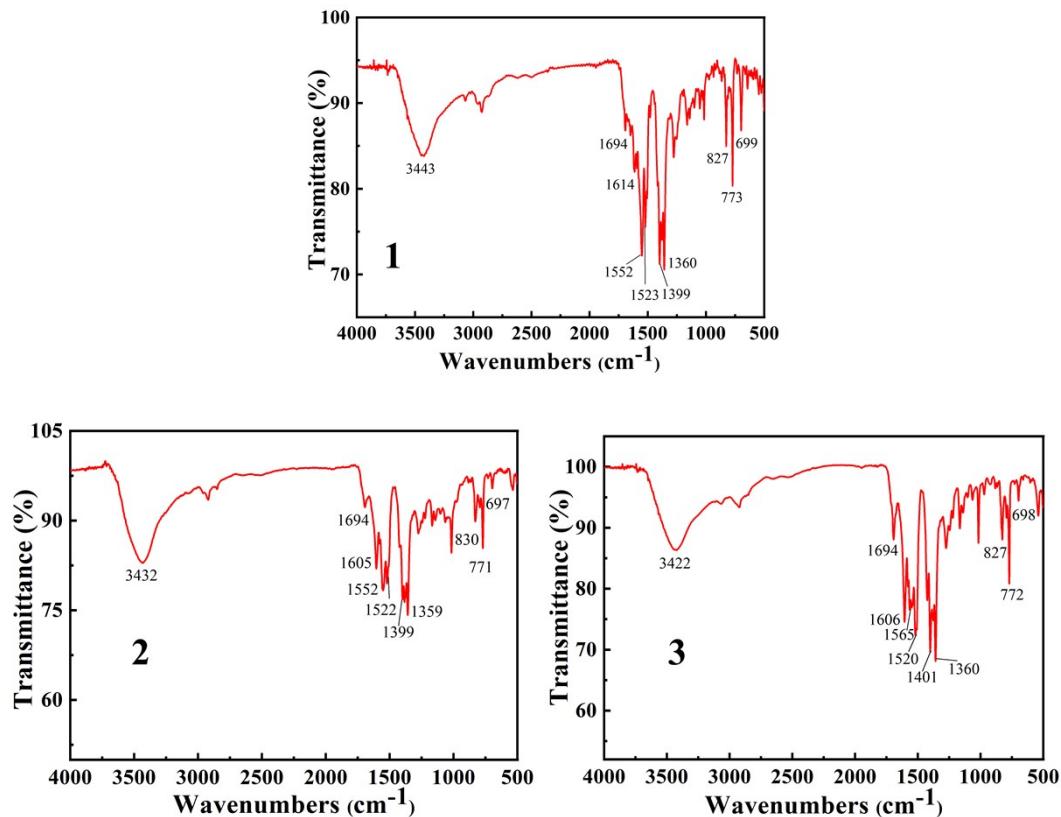
**Fig. S1** PXRD pattern and TGA curve of **1**.



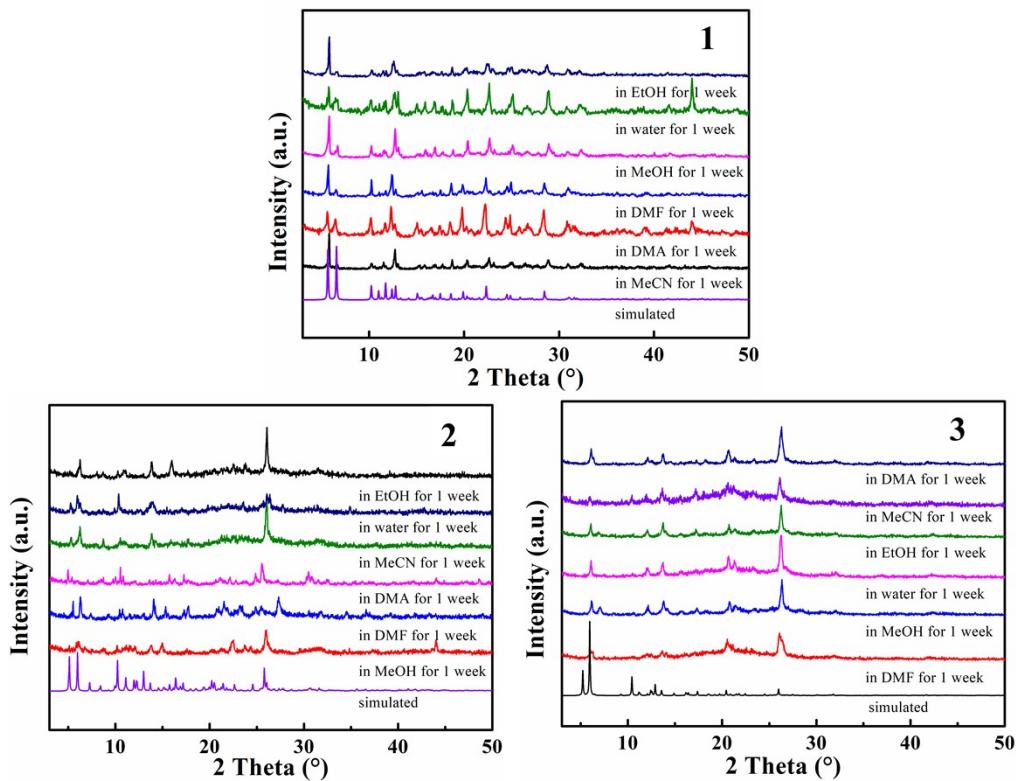
**Fig. S2** PXRD pattern and TGA curve of **2**.



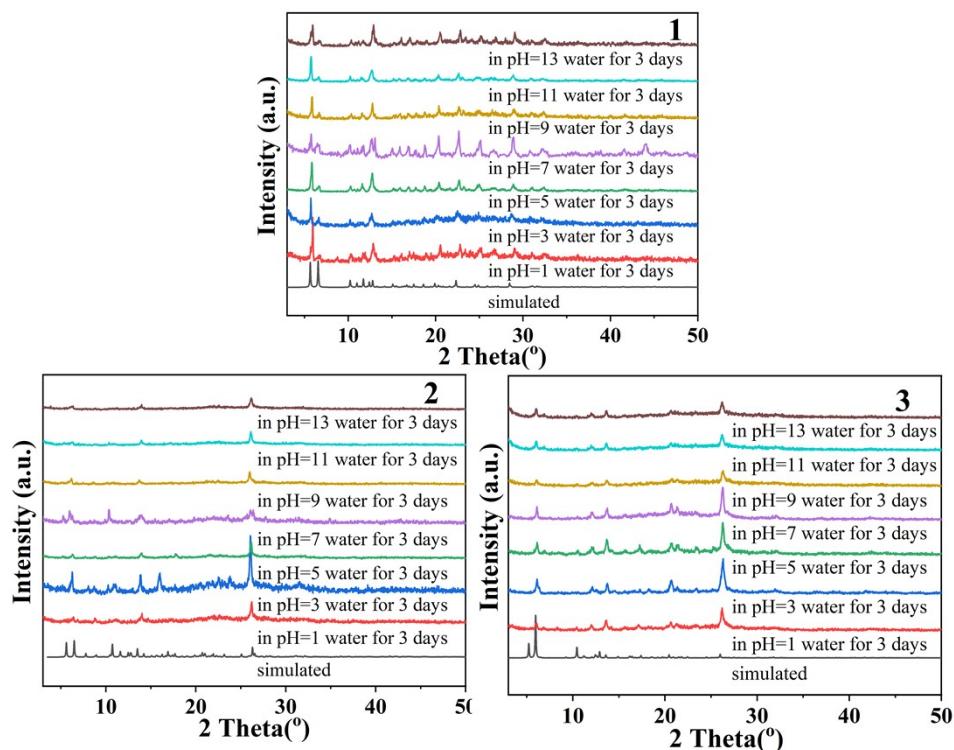
**Fig. S3** PXRD pattern and TGA curve of **3**.



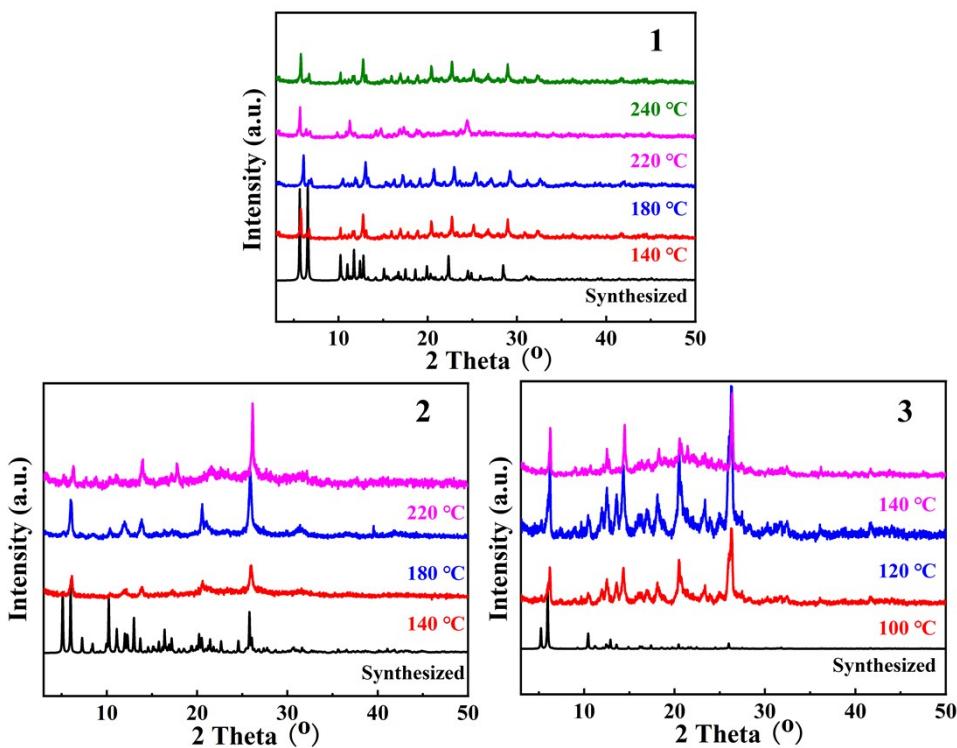
**Fig. S4** IR spectra of **1**, **2**, and **3**.



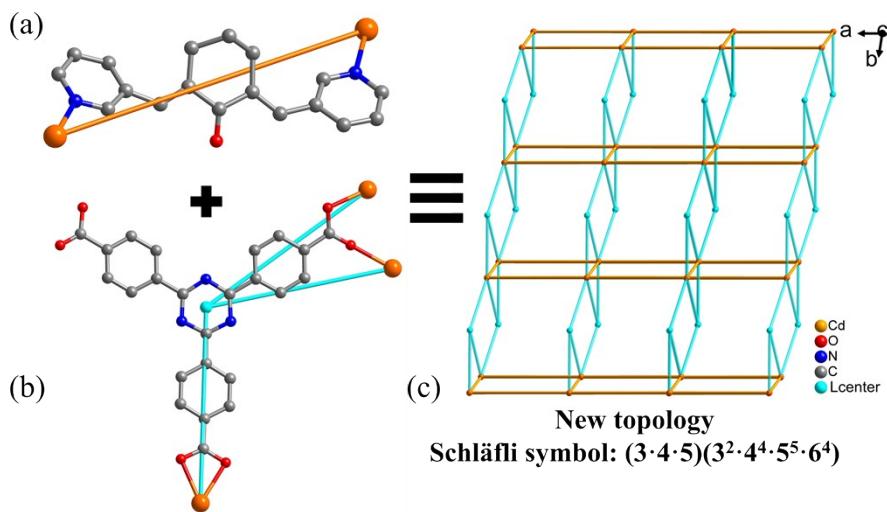
**Fig. S5** PXRD patterns of **1**, **2**, and **3** soaked in different solvents.



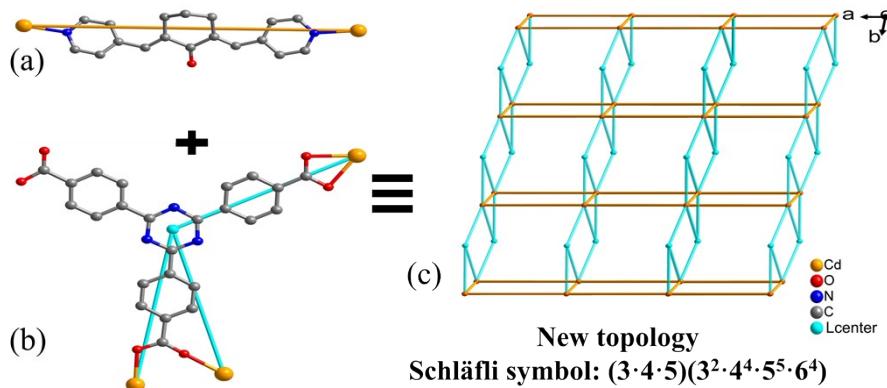
**Fig. S6** PXRD patterns for water-, acid- and alkali-treated **1-3**.



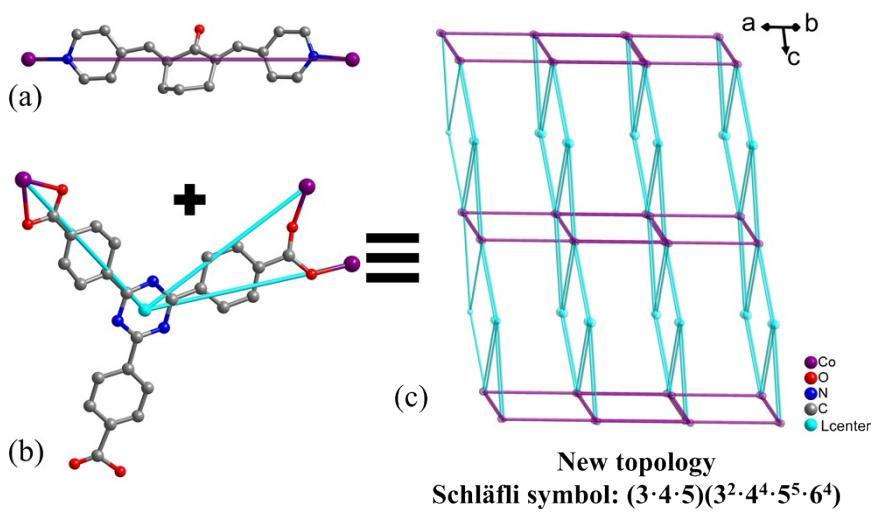
**Fig. S7** Variable temperature PXRD patterns of **1-3**.



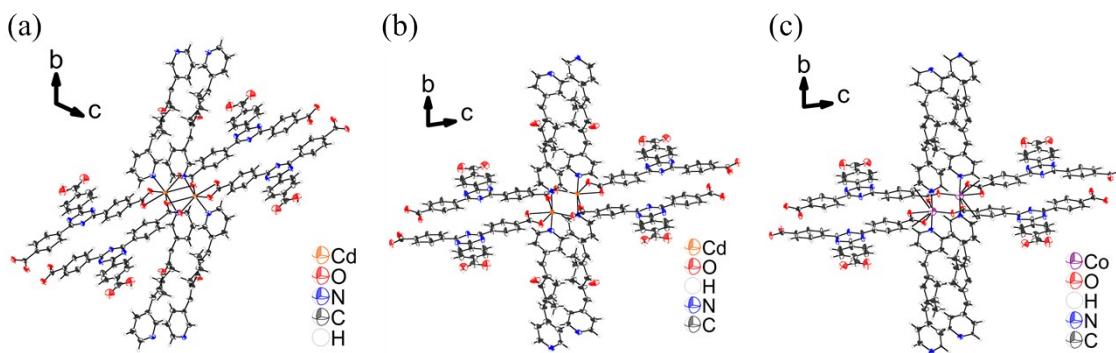
**Fig. S8** Topology analysis of **1**.



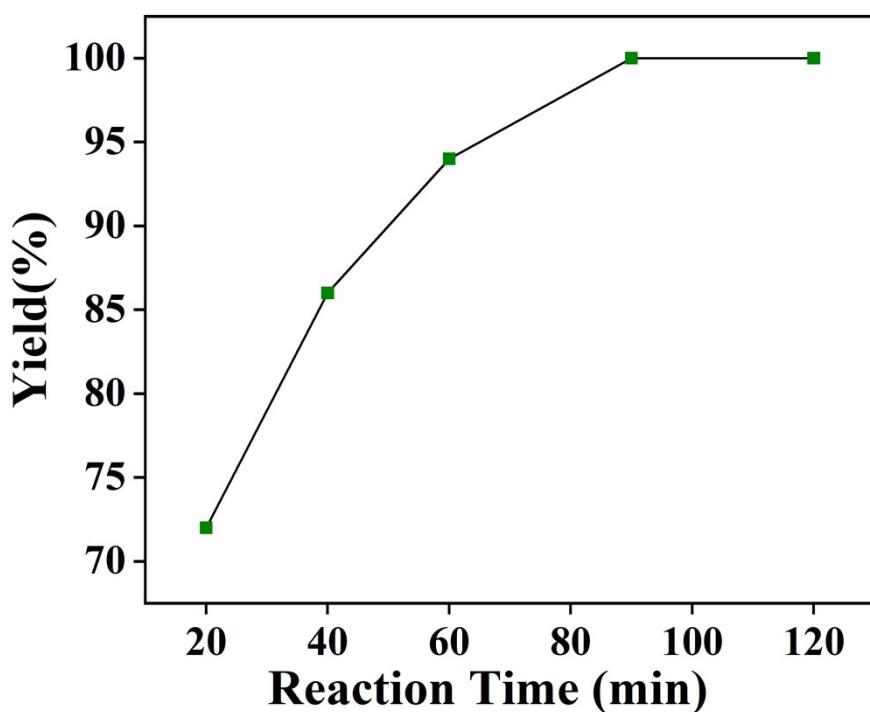
**Fig. S9** Topology analysis of **2**.



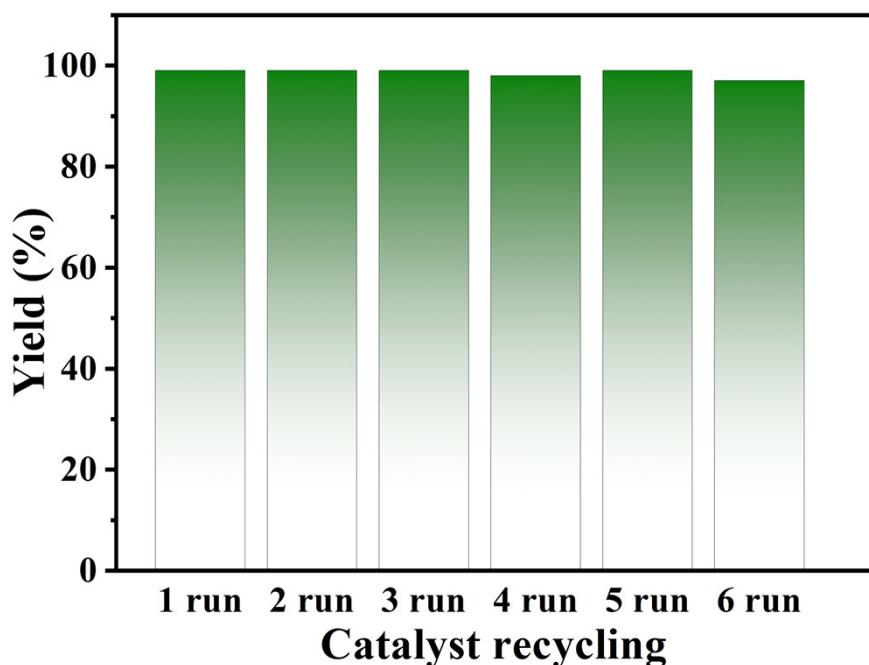
**Fig. S10** Topology analysis of **3**.



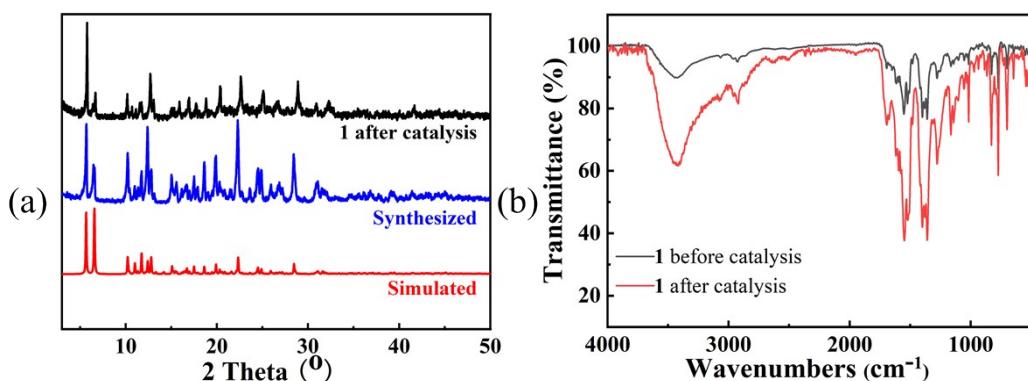
**Fig. S11** The ellipsoid diagram of dinuclear metal unit in **1-3**.



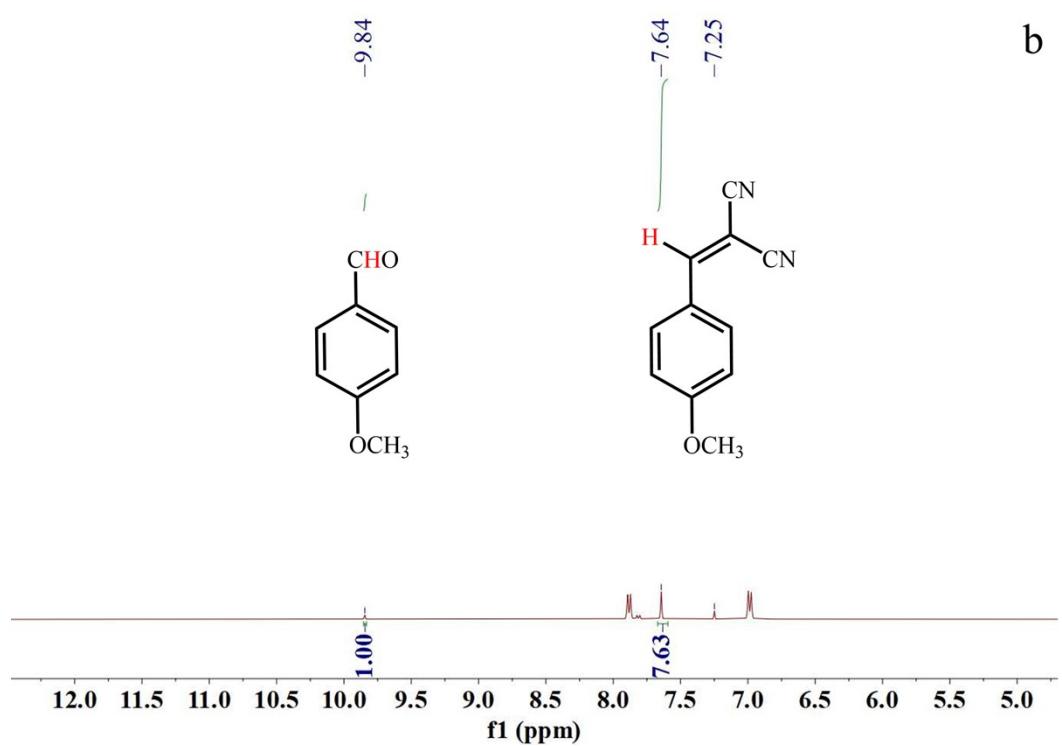
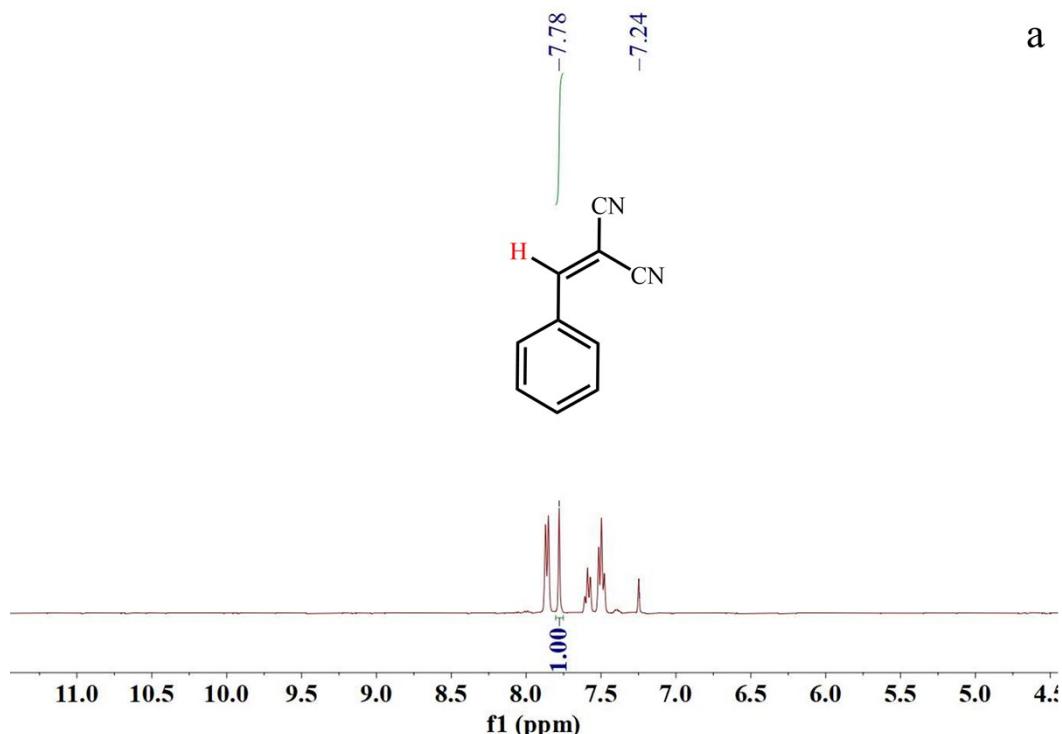
**Fig. S12** Kinetics curves of Knoevenagel condensation catalyzed by **1** at 25°C

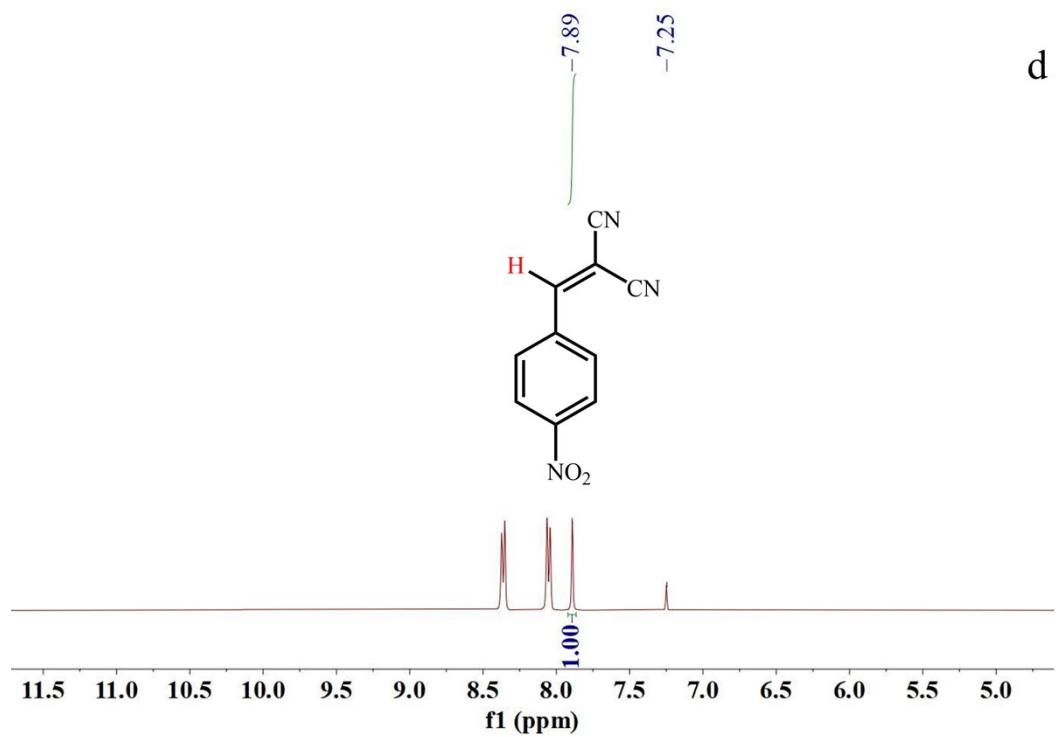
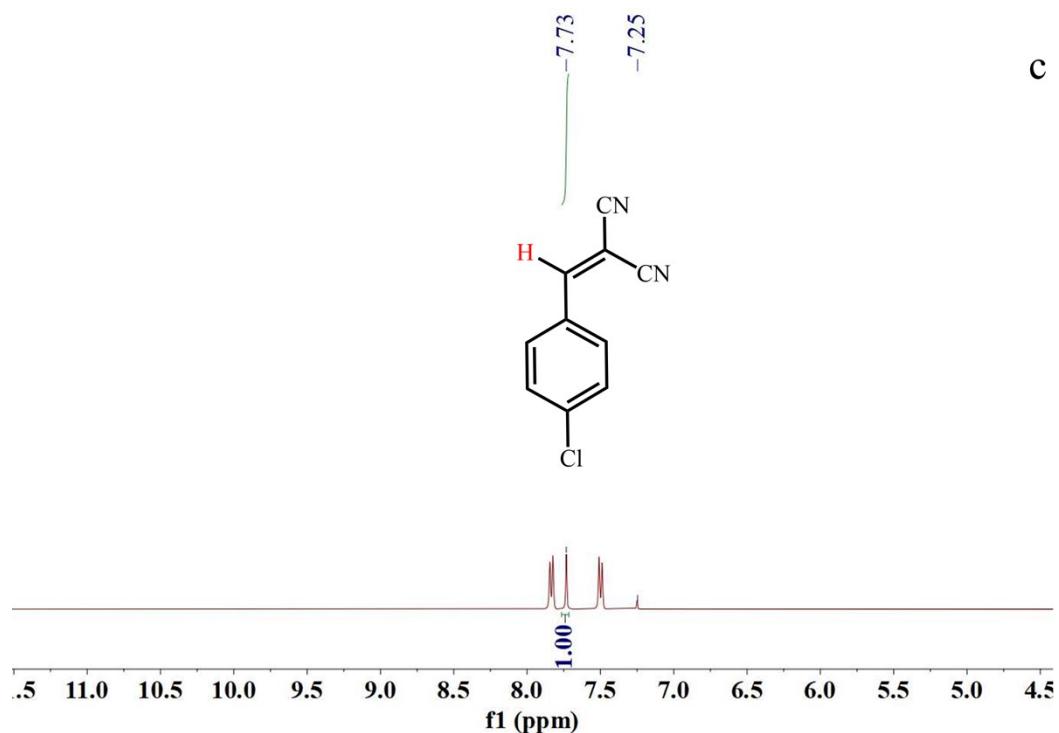


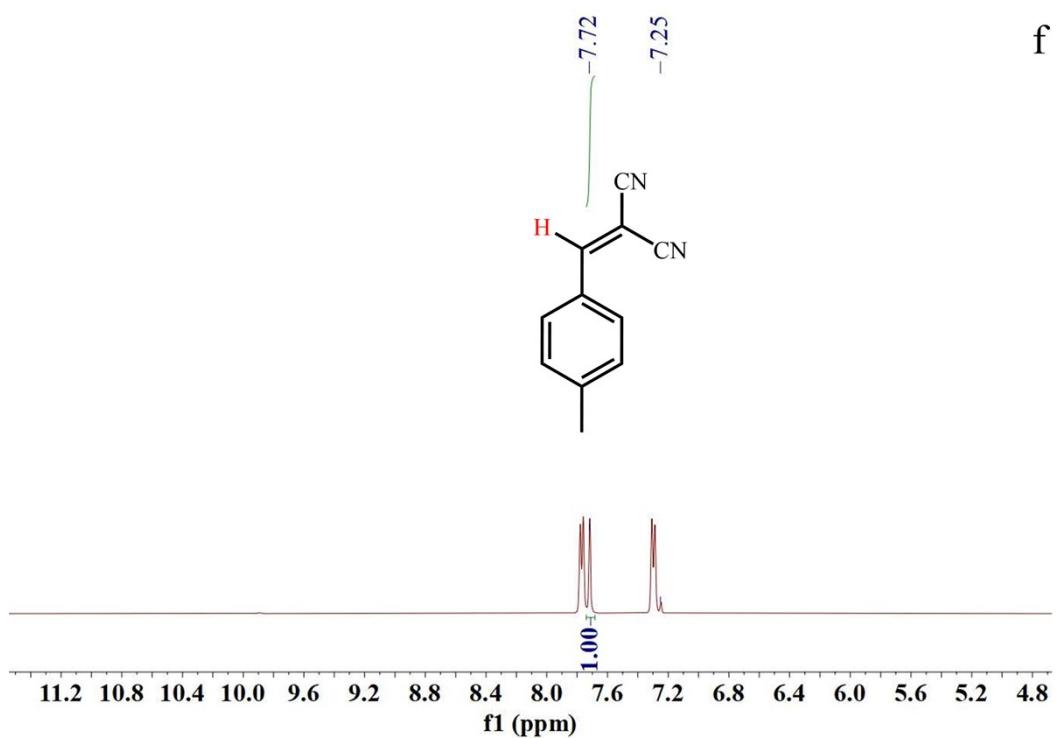
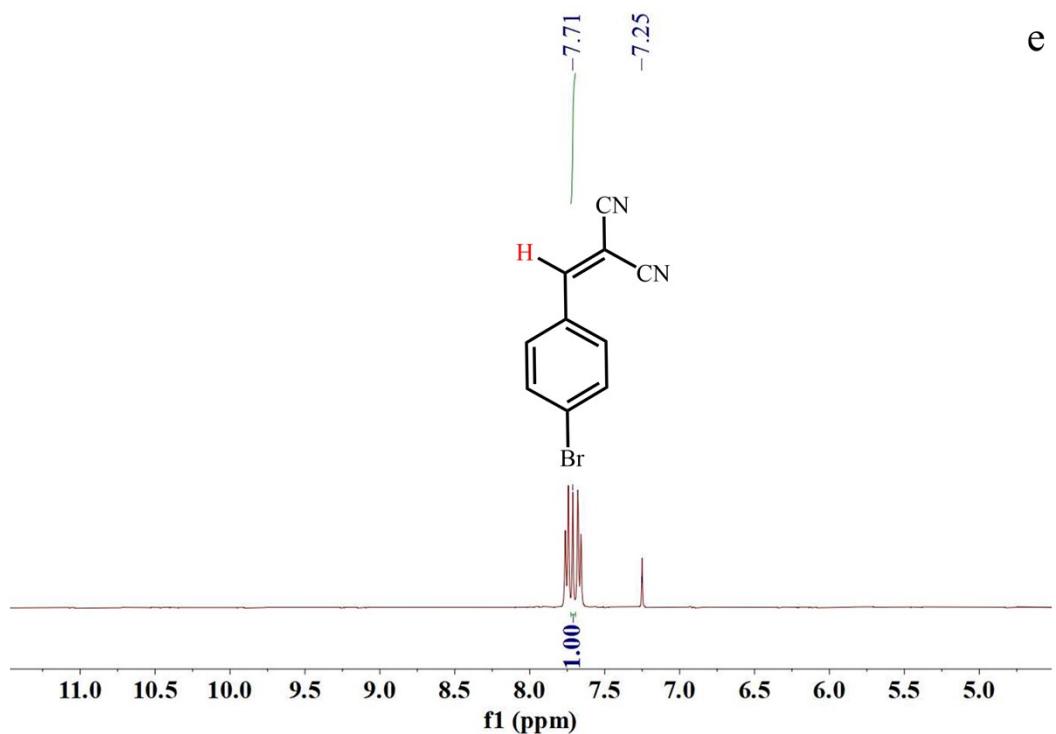
**Fig. S13** Catalyst recycling experiments in the Knoevenagel condensation of benzaldehyde with propanedinitrile catalyzed by **1**.

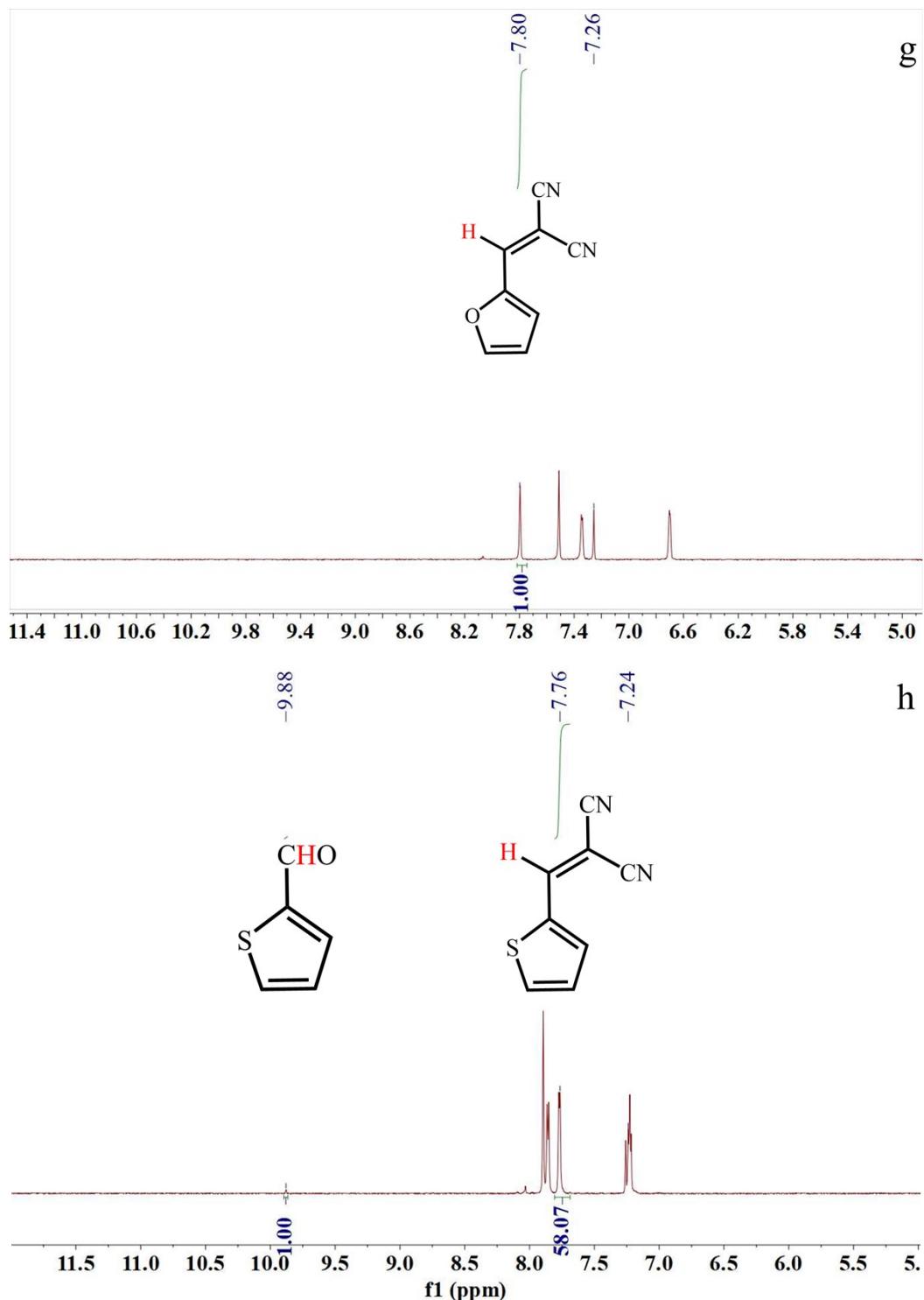


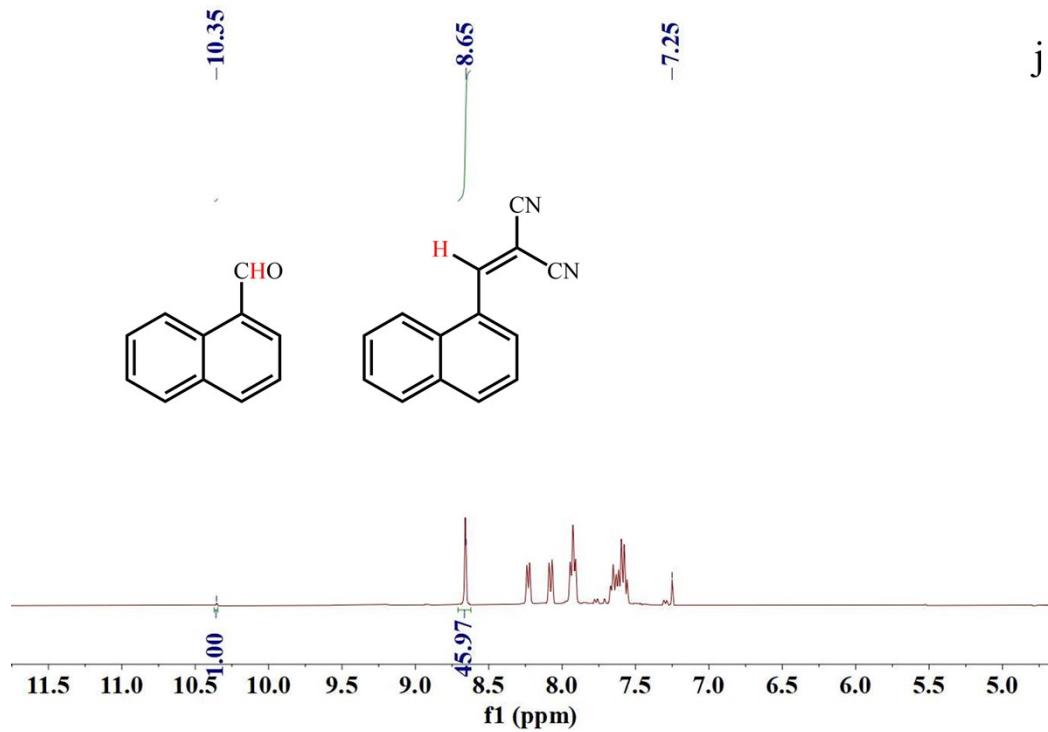
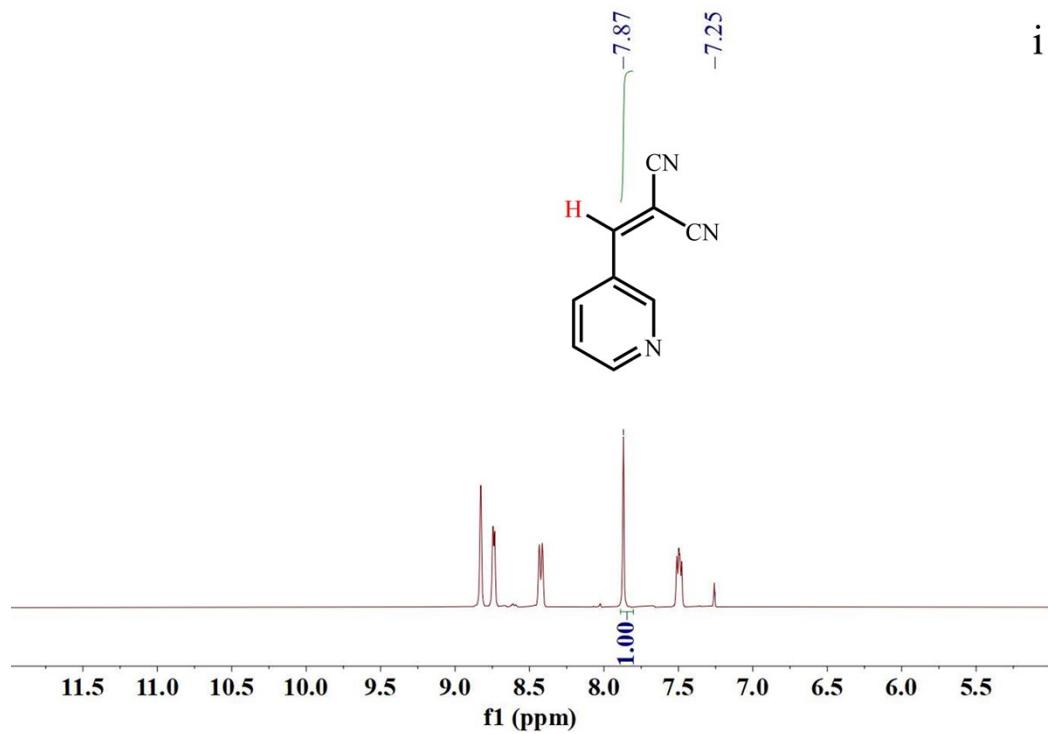
**Fig. S14** (a) PXRD patterns and (b) IR spectra of **1** after catalytic reaction

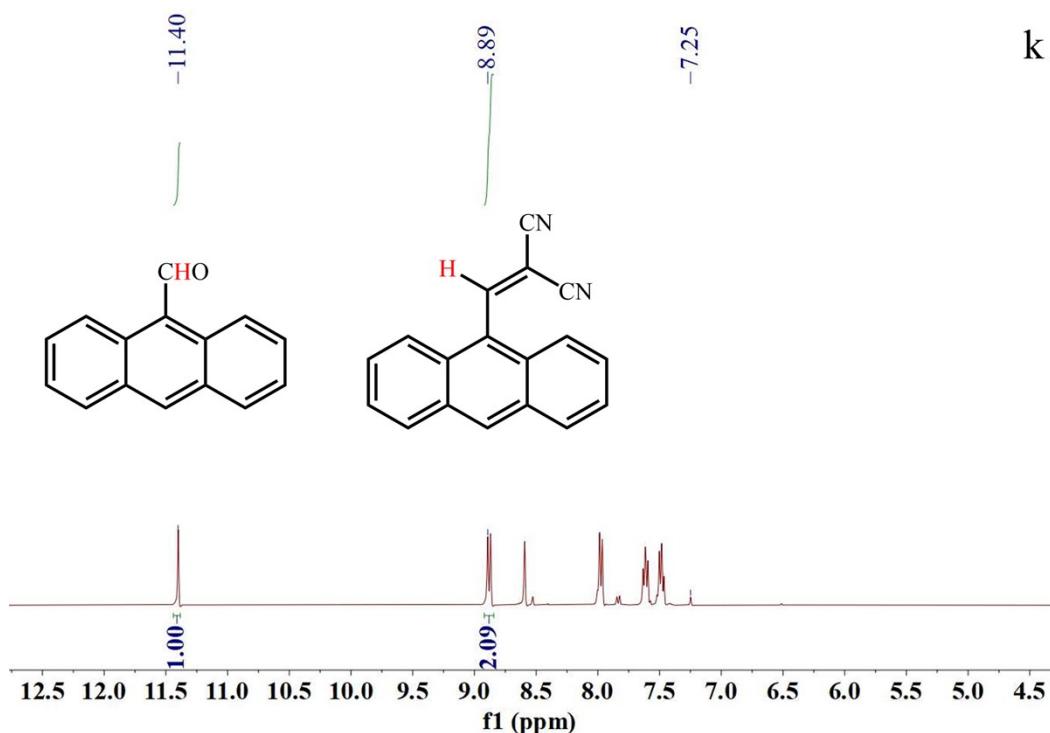












**Fig. S15** Examples for integration of <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra for the determination of Knoevenagel condensation products.

**Table S2.** Comparison of the catalytic activity of various MOFs for the Knoevenagel condensation reaction

| MOF   | catalyst (mol%) | solvent                          | temperature (°C) | time (h) | yield (%) | refs      |
|---|-----------------|----------------------------------|------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| [Zn <sub>2</sub> (TCA)(BIB) <sub>2.5</sub> ](NO <sub>3</sub> )  | 0.3             | C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> OH | 60               | 1        | 99        | 1         |
| {[Cu <sub>2</sub> (μ <sub>3</sub> -pdba) <sub>2</sub> (bipy)]·2H <sub>2</sub> O} <sub>n</sub>   | 2               | CH <sub>3</sub> OH               | RT               | 1        | >99       | 2         |
| Cd <sub>2</sub> (2-bpbg)(fum) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub>  | 1               | -                                | 27               | 3        | 100       | 3         |
| Cd-CDA-MOF  | 0.4             | C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> OH | RT               | 12       | 98        | 4         |
| [Zn <sub>15</sub> (mbpz) <sub>6</sub> (Hmbpz) <sub>6</sub><br>(L-NO <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> (HL-NO <sub>2</sub> )(μ <sub>3</sub> -OH) <sub>2</sub> ] <sub>n</sub> | 0.6             | -                                | 80               | 1        | >99       | 5         |
| NUC-58a   | 0.5             | C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> OH | 65               | 7        | 98        | 6         |
| [Co <sub>2</sub> (bptc)(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> ]·5DMA   | 2               | -                                | 60               | 6        | 99        | 7         |
| <b>1</b>  | 2               | CH <sub>3</sub> OH               | 25               | 1.5      | 100       | this work |
| <b>2</b>  | 2               | CH <sub>3</sub> OH               | 25               | 1.5      | 99        | this work |
| <b>3</b>  | 2               | CH <sub>3</sub> OH               | 25               | 1.5      | 96        | this work |

**Table S3.** Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles [°] for MOFs **1–3**.

| 1                                     |            |   |           |
|---------------------------------------|------------|---|-----------|
| Cd1-O3 <sup>i</sup>                   | 2.335(6)   | Cd1-N2                                  | 2.325(6)  |
| Cd1-O2                                | 2.232(5)   | Cd1-O5 <sup>ii</sup>                    | 2.363(6)  |
| Cd1-O4 <sup>ii</sup>                  | 2.414(5)   | Cd1-N1 <sup>iii</sup>                   | 2.331(7)  |
| O3 <sup>i</sup> -Cd1-O4 <sup>ii</sup> | 86.65(18)  | O5 <sup>ii</sup> -Cd1-O4 <sup>ii</sup>  | 55.05(18) |
| O3 <sup>i</sup> -Cd1-O5 <sup>ii</sup> | 141.70(18) | N1 <sup>iii</sup> -Cd1-O3 <sup>i</sup>  | 83.2(2)   |
| N2-Cd1-N1 <sup>iii</sup>              | 168.1(2)   | N1 <sup>iii</sup> -Cd1-O4 <sup>ii</sup> | 88.4(2)   |
| O2-Cd1-O3 <sup>i</sup>                | 125.3(2)   | N1 <sup>iii</sup> -Cd1-O5 <sup>ii</sup> | 93.7(2)   |
| O2-Cd1-O4 <sup>ii</sup>               | 147.8(2)   | N2-Cd1-O3 <sup>i</sup>                  | 85.9(2)   |
| O2-Cd1-O5 <sup>ii</sup>               | 92.9(2)    | N2-Cd1-O4 <sup>ii</sup>                 | 86.3(2)   |
| O2-Cd1-N1 <sup>iii</sup>              | 91.4(2)    | N2-Cd1-O5 <sup>ii</sup>                 | 92.0(2)   |
| O2-Cd1-N2                             | 98.8(2)    |   |           |

Symmetry codes: (i)  $I-x$ ,  $I-y$ ,  $2-z$ ; (ii)  $x$ ,  $I+y$ ,  $I+z$ ; (iii)  $x$ ,  $-I+y$ ,  $I+z$ .

| 2                                     |            |   |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|---|------------|
| Cd1-O1                                | 2.187(3)   | Cd1-O6 <sup>ii</sup>                    | 2.402(3)   |
| Cd1-O2 <sup>i</sup>                   | 2.312(3)   | Cd1-N2 <sup>iii</sup>                   | 2.302(3)   |
| Cd1-O5 <sup>ii</sup>                  | 2.375(3)   | Cd1-N1                                  | 2.332(3)   |
| O1-Cd1-O2 <sup>i</sup>                | 121.72(13) | O5 <sup>ii</sup> -Cd1-O6 <sup>ii</sup>  | 55.01(11)  |
| O1-Cd1-O5 <sup>ii</sup>               | 147.87(12) | N2 <sup>iii</sup> -Cd1-O2 <sup>i</sup>  | 85.43(13)  |
| O1-Cd1-O6 <sup>ii</sup>               | 92.91(12)  | N2 <sup>iii</sup> -Cd1-O5 <sup>ii</sup> | 89.41(13)  |
| O1-Cd1-N2 <sup>iii</sup>              | 97.49(14)  | N2 <sup>iii</sup> -Cd1-O6 <sup>ii</sup> | 97.35(14)  |
| O1-Cd1-N1                             | 90.74(15)  | N2 <sup>iii</sup> -Cd1-N1               | 169.13(13) |
| O2 <sup>i</sup> -Cd1-O5 <sup>ii</sup> | 90.00(12)  | N1-Cd1-O5 <sup>ii</sup>                 | 87.33(13)  |
| O2 <sup>i</sup> -Cd1-O6 <sup>ii</sup> | 144.72(12) | N1-Cd1-O6 <sup>ii</sup>                 | 89.27(14)  |
| O2 <sup>i</sup> -Cd1-N1               | 84.21(13)  |   |            |

Symmetry codes: (i)  $-I-x$ ,  $I-y$ ,  $2-z$ ; (ii)  $+x$ ,  $+y$ ,  $I+z$ ; (iii)  $-I+x$ ,  $I+y$ ,  $+z$ .

| 3                       |            |   |           |
|-------------------------|------------|---|-----------|
| Co1-O1                  | 1.999(3)   | Co1-O6 <sup>ii</sup>                    | 2.261(3)  |
| Co1-O2 <sup>i</sup>     | 2.032(3)   | Co1-N2 <sup>iii</sup>                   | 2.160(3)  |
| Co1-O5 <sup>ii</sup>    | 2.122(3)   | Co1-N1                                  | 2.157(3)  |
| O1-Co1-O2 <sup>i</sup>  | 112.87(13) | O2 <sup>i</sup> -Co1-N1                 | 87.26(13) |
| O1-Co1-O5 <sup>ii</sup> | 154.64(14) | O5 <sup>ii</sup> -Co1-O6 <sup>ii</sup>  | 59.81(12) |
| O1-Co1-O6 <sup>ii</sup> | 94.87(12)  | O5 <sup>ii</sup> -Co1-N2 <sup>iii</sup> | 89.62(12) |

|  |            |   |            |
|--|------------|---|------------|
| O1-Co1-N2 <sup>iii</sup>               | 94.33(13)  | O5 <sup>ii</sup> -Co1-N1                | 87.93(13)  |
| O1-Co1-N1                              | 90.30(13)  | N2 <sup>iii</sup> -Co1-O6 <sup>ii</sup> | 94.97(13)  |
| O2 <sup>i</sup> -Co1-O5 <sup>ii</sup>  | 92.31(13)  | N1-Co1-O6 <sup>ii</sup>                 | 88.71(13)  |
| O2 <sup>i</sup> -Co1-O6 <sup>ii</sup>  | 151.97(12) | N1-Co1-N2 <sup>iii</sup>                | 173.81(14) |
| O2 <sup>i</sup> -Co1-N2 <sup>iii</sup> | 87.16(13)  |   |            |

Symmetry codes: (i) - $I-x$ ,  $I-y$ ,  $2-z$ ; (ii)  $+x$ ,  $+y$ ,  $I+z$ ; (iii) - $I+x$ ,  $I+y$ ,  $+z$ .

**Table S4.** The hydrogen-bonding geometry ( $\text{\AA}$ ,  $^\circ$ ) of MOFs **1-3**.

| D-H $\cdots$ A   | d(D-H) | d(H $\cdots$ A) | d(D $\cdots$ A) | $\angle$ D-H $\cdots$ A |
|--|--------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| <b>1</b>   |        |                 |                 |                         |
| C41-H41 $\cdots$ O1 <sup>i</sup>   | 0.931  | 2.645           | 3.329           | 130.78                  |
| C16-H16 $\cdots$ O5 <sup>ii</sup>  | 0.931  | 2.678           | 3.401           | 135.18                  |
| C10 $\cdots$ H10B $\cdots$ O1 <sup>iii</sup>   | 0.971  | 2.691           | 3.351           | 125.69                  |
| C5-H5 $\cdots$ O2 <sup>iv</sup>  | 0.93   | 2.678           | 3.309           | 125.72                  |
| C1-H1 $\cdots$ O4 <sup>v</sup>   | 0.931  | 2.702           | 3.28            | 121.09                  |
| Symmetry codes: (i) $x$ , $2+y$ , $z+I$ ; (ii) $2-x$ , $-y$ , $I-z$ ; (iii) $3-x$ , $2-y$ , $2-z$ ; (iv) $x$ , $I+y$ , $z$ ; (v) $x$ , $2+y$ , $z+I$ |        |                 |                 |                         |
| <b>2</b>   |        |                 |                 |                         |
| C5-H5 $\cdots$ O5 <sup>i</sup>   | 0.931  | 2.452           | 3.130           | 129.84                  |
| C41-H41 $\cdots$ O9 <sup>ii</sup>  | 0.929  | 2.685           | 3.238           | 129.09                  |
| Symmetry codes: (i) $I+x$ , $-I+y$ , $z+I$ ; (ii) - $I-x$ , $-y$ , $2-z$   |        |                 |                 |                         |
| <b>3</b>   |        |                 |                 |                         |
| C41-H41 $\cdots$ O2 <sup>i</sup>   | 0.929  | 2.713           | 3.615           | 163.94                  |
| C5-H5 $\cdots$ O5 <sup>ii</sup>  | 0.930  | 2.299           | 2.943           | 125.93                  |
| Symmetry codes: (i) $-x$ , $-y$ , $2-z$ ; (ii) $I+x$ , $-I+y$ , $I+z$  |        |                 |                 |                         |

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