Electronic Supplementary Information

Photomechanical Responses of Coordination Polymers Regulated by Precise Organization of the Photoactive Centers

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Video SV2: photosalient effects of CP_2

Video SV3: photosalient effects of CP₃

Video SV4: photosalient effects of CP3 showing bending behavior

Video SV5: photosalient effects of CP1-CP3

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General procedures

The ligands 4-(3-(4-fluorostyryl)-5-(pyridin-4-yl)phenyl)pyridine (Fsbpe), 4,4'-(5-((4fluorophenyl)ethynyl)-1,3-phenylene)dipyridine (Fepbpe) and 4-(3-(4-fluorostyryl)-5-((E)-2-(pyridin-4-yl)vinyl)styryl)pyridine) (Fsbpeb) were prepared according to literature methods.^{S1} Other reagents were obtained commercially and used without further purification. Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) patterns were acquired on a Bruker D8 advance using Cu K α radiation ($\lambda = 1.5406$ Å) from 5° to 50° with a scanning step size of 0.02°. Single-crystal X-ray diffraction data for CP1, CP2, CP3 and CP3' were recorded on a Bruker Smart CCD diffractometer. ¹H NMR chemical shifts were referenced to the solvent signal in CDCl₃ or DMSO-d₆. ¹³C-NMR spectra were recorded at a resonance frequency of 101.6 MHz on a Bruker AVANCE 400M spectrometer. IR spectra were recorded on a Varian 1000 FT-IR spectrometer (4000-400 cm⁻¹). Elemental analyses (C, H, N) were performed using a PE 2400 II elemental analyzer. Thermogravimetric analyses (TGA) were performed on a Mettler Toledo Star System under a nitrogen atmosphere at a heating rate of 10 °C/min. Photo-irradiation experiments were conducted with a high-pressure mercury lamp at a wavelength of 365 nm.

Experimental

Synthesis of ligand Fsbpe. A 50 mL round-bottom flask was charged with 1-(bromomethyl)-4-fluorobenzene (1.89 g, 10 mmol) and trimethyl phosphite (2.15 mL). The mixture was heated at 120 °C for a period of 8 h and then cooled to room temperature. A solution of 3,5-dibromo-4-methylbenzaldehyde (2.64 g, 11 mmol) in dry tetrahydrofuran was added under ice-water bath conditions, followed by dropwise addition of a solution of potassium tert-butoxide (2 g, 21 mmol) in tetrahydrofuran. The reaction was kept in an ice-water bath for 14 h and then diluted with H₂O (200 mL). The mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 × 50 mL). The organic phase was collected and concentrated to give the crude compound **1**. Yield: 1.99 g (56 %). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, TMS, Figure. S1): δ7.55 (s, 2H, Ph-H), 7.53 (d, 1H, Ph-H), 7.48 (m, 2H, F-Ph-H), 7.09 (m, 2H, F-Ph-H), 7.07 and 7.03 (d, 1H, C=C), 6.86 and 6.82 (d, 1H, C=C). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 163.00, 160.52, 139.81, 131.65, 129.29, 126.99, 124.39, 122.21, 114.90, 114.71 (Figure S1).

A 50 mL round-bottom flask was charged with **1** (1.78 g, 5 mmol), pyridine-4boronic acid (1.84 g, 15 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₂Cl₂ (0.14 g, 0.2 mmol) and a solution of anhydrous caesium carbonate (1.36 g, 10 mmol) in 20 mL of 1,4-dioxane and H₂O (v:v=1:1). The mixture was heated at 120 °C for a period of 48 h and then diluted with H₂O (200 mL). The mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3×50 mL). The organic phase was collected and concentrated to give the crude product. Purification of the residue by flash chromatography (hexanes/EtOAc = 1:1 to 1:2) afforded Fsbpe as a pale yellow powder, Yield: 1.05 g (60 %). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, TMS, Figure. S2): δ 8.73 (m, 4H, Py-H), 7.80 (d, 2H, Ph-H), 7.73 (s, 1H, Ph-H), 7.60 (m, 4H, Py-H), 7.55 (m, 2H, Ph-H), 7.25 and 7.21 (d, 1H, C=C), 7.16 and 7.12 (d, 1H, C=C), 7.11 (t, 2H, Ph-H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 149.40, 146.72, 138.73, 138.04, 128.37, 127.19, 126.12, 124.51, 123.86, 120.75 (Figure S2).



Scheme S1. Synthesis of Fsbpe.

Synthesis of ligand Fepbpe. A 50 mL round-bottom flask was charged with 1,3,5-tribromobenzene (2.00 g, 6.4 mmol), pyridine-4-boronic acid hydrochloride (2.90 g, 12.8 mmol), Pd(PPh_3)_2Cl_2 (0.25 g, 0.35 mmol) and anhydrous caesium carbonate (4.17 g, 12.8 mmol) in 20 mL of 1,4-dioxane and H₂O (v:v=1:1). The mixture was heated at 120 °C for a period of 48 h and then diluted with H₂O (200 mL). The mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3×50 mL). The organic phase was collected and concentrated to give the crude product of **2**, which was then recrystallized from MeOH and collected as a yellow powder. Yield: 1.83 g (92 %). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, TMS): δ 8.72-8.73 (m, 4H, Py-H), 7.83-7.84 (d, 4H, C=C), 7.77 (s, 1H, Ph-H), 7.52-7.53 (m, 2H, Py-H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 149.47, 145.47, 140.6, 129.49, 123.49, 122.99, 122.65 (Figure S3).

A 50 mL round-bottom flask was charged with **2** (2.00 g, 6.4 mmol), 4fluorophenylacetylene (1.10 g, 9.12 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.11 g, 0.095 mmol) and cuprous iodide (0.28 g, 1.5 mmol) in 20 mL of THF and Et₃N (v:v=1:1). The mixture was heated at 80 °C for a period of 24 h and then diluted with H₂O (200 mL). The mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3×50 mL) and the organic layers combined, dried with anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and evaporated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by silica gel column chromatography (hexanes/EtOAc = 1:1 to 1:2) to give a yellow powder of Fepbpe. Yield: 2.06 g (92 %). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, TMS, Figure. S3): δ 8.48(m, 4H, Py-H), 7.58 (m, 3H, Py-H), 7.28-7.29 (d, 6H, Py-H and Ph-H), 6.80-6.82 (d, 2H, Ph-H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 163.03, 160.54, 149.41, 146.05, 138.54, 132.68, 129.45, 124.49, 124.12, 114.95, 114.73, 88.86, 86.83 (Figure S4).



Scheme S2. The synthesis of Fepbpe.

Synthesis of ligand Fsbpeb. A 50 mL round-bottom flask was charged with 5bromobenzene-1,3-dialdehyde (1.00 g, 4.7 mmol) and 4-methylpyridine (0.93 g, 10 mmol), in 2 mL of acetic anhydride. The mixture was heated at 130 °C for a period of 24 h and then diluted with H₂O (200 mL) to form compound **3**, yield: 0.85 g (50 %). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, TMS): δ 8.60 (m, 4H, Py-H), 7.61(d, 2H, Ph-H), 7.54 (s, 1H, Ph-H), 7.36 (m, 4H, Py-H), 7.23 and 7.19 (d, 4H, C=C), 7.05 and 7.01 (d, 4H, C=C). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 149.30, 142.83, 137.60, 130.09, 128.47, 127.03, 123.52, 122.48, 119.93 (Figure S5).

A 50 mL round-bottom flask was charged with 4-Fluorostyrene (2.68 g, 22 mmol), compound 3 (2.61 g, 7.2 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₂Cl₂ (0.14 g, 0.2 mmol) and anhydrous potassium carbonate (2.07 g, 15 mmol) in 20 mL of DMF. The mixture was heated at 105 °C for a period of 2 h and then diluted with H₂O (200 mL). The mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3×50 mL). The combined organic phases were washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and concentrated at reduced pressure. Purification of the residue by flash chromatography (hexanes/EtOAc = 1:1 to 1:2) afforded Fsbpeb as a pale yellow powder. Yield: 1.63 g (56 %). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, TMS, Figure. S1): $\delta 8.62$ (m, 4H, Py-H), 7.64 (s, 2H, Ph-H), 7.60 (s, 1H, Ph-H), 7.57 and 7.55

(d, 2H, Ph-H), 7.42 (m, 4H, Py-H), 7.38 (d, 2H, Ph-H), 7.37 and 7.33 (d, 4H, C=C), 7.21 (s, 1H, C=C), 7.17 (s, 1H, C=C), 7.14 and 7.10 (d, 2H, C=C). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 149.22, 143.38, 137.50, 136.11, 135.87, 131.57, 129.05, 127.80, 125.95, 125.63, 124.28, 123.65, 119.92 (Figure S6).



Scheme S3. The synthesis of Fsbpeb.

Preparation of [Cd(Fsbpe)(DBBA)₂]·**2DMF (CP1)**. A mixture containing 3,5-Dibromobenzoic acid (**DBBA**) (14.0 mg, 0.05 mmol), Fsbpe (17.6 mg, 0.05 mmol) and CdSO₄·8/3H₂O (250 mg, 0.05 mmol) in DMF-H₂O-MeCN-HNO₃ (2 mL, 3:25:1:2 in volume ratio) was sealed in a Pyrex tube and heated at 140 °C for 10 h to yield pale yellowish block crystals of **CP1** (38.0 mg, 65%, based on Fsbpe). Anal. Calcd for C₄₄H₃₇N₄O₆CdFBr₄: C, 45.21; H, 3.19; N, 4.79. found: C, 44.64; H, 3.07; N, 4.76. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, ppm): δ 8.72 and 7.94(m, 8H, Py-H), 8.13 (d, 2H, Ph-H), 8.09 (s, 1H, Ph-H), 8.04 (d, 2H, Ph-H of HL₁), 7.99 (s, 1H, Ph-H of HL₁), 7.72 (m, 2H, F-Ph-H), 7.63 and 7.59 (d, 1H, CH=CH), 7.41 and 7.37 (d, 1H, CH=CH), 7.29 (t, 2H, F-Ph-H). IR (KBr disk, cm⁻¹): 3075(w), 1611(s), 1595(s), 1541(s), 1506(s), 1435(s), 1379(s), 1069 (w), 1019(m), 958(m), 822(m), 787(s), 739(s), 727(s), 628(s).

Preparation of [Cd(Fepbpe)(DBBA)₂**]·2DMF (CP**₂**).** A mixture containing DBBA (14.0 mg, 0.05 mmol), Fepbpe (17.5 mg, 0.05 mmol) and CdSO₄·8/3H₂O (250 mg, 0.05

mmol) in DMF-H₂O-CH₃CN-HNO₃ (2 mL, 4:25:3:2 in volume ratio) was sealed in a Pyrex tube and heated at 140 °C for 10 h to yield yellowish-brown block crystals of **CP₂** (43.6 mg, 75 % based on Fepbpe). Anal. Calcd for C₄₄H₃₄N₄O₆CdFBr₄: C, 44.33; H, 2.94; N, 4.81. found: C, 44.23; H, 2.90; N, 4.77. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, ppm): δ 8.71 and 7.94 (m, 8H, Py-H), 8.23 (s, 1H, Ph-H), 8.02 (d, 2H, Ph-H of HL), 8.10 (s, 2H, Ph-H), 7.98 (s, 2H, Ph-H of HL), 7.70 (m, 2H, F-Ph-H), 7.35 (t, 2H, F-Ph-H). IR (KBr disk, cm⁻¹): 3074(w), 1716(s), 1612(s), 1541(s), 1506(s), 1434(s), 1411(s), 1378(s), 1223(s), 1153(w), 1070(s), 1019(m), 871(m), 830(s), 821(s), 781(s), 740(s), 717(s), 630(s).

Preparation of [Cd(Fsbpeb)(DBBA)₂] **(CP**₃). A mixture containing DBBA (14.0 mg, 0.05 mmol), CdSO₄·8/3H₂O (250 mg, 0.05 mmol) and Fsbpeb (20.2 mg, 0.05 mmol) in DMF-H₂O-HNO₃ (2 mL, 3:5:2 in volume ratio) was sealed in a Pyrex tube and heated at 140 °C for 10 h to yield yellow leaf-shaped crystals of **CP**₃ (42.9mg, 80 %, based on Fsbpeb). Anal. Calcd for C₄₂H₂₇N₂O₄CdFBr₄: C, 46.94; H, 2.53; N, 2.61. found: C, 46.90; H, 2.51; N, 2.59.¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, ppm, Fig. S9b): δ 8.60 and 7.61 (m, 8H, Py-H), 8.03 (d, 2H, Ph-H of HL₁), 7.95 (m, 1H, Ph-H of HL₁), 7.87 (d, 3H, Ph-H), 7.71 (m, 2H, F-Ph-H), 7.63 and 7.59 (d, 2H, CH=CH), 7.43 and 7.39 (d, 2H, CH=CH), 7.41 (s, 1H, CH=CH), 7.30 (s, 1H, CH=CH), 7.28 (t, 2H, F-Ph-H). IR (KBr disk, cm⁻¹):3071(w),1606(s), 1589(s), 1544(s), 1507(s), 1430(s), 1374(s), 1224(s), 1156(m), 1014(m), 977(m), 961(s), 867(m), 845(s), 785(s), 739(s), 726(s).

Photo-irradiation experiments

Crystals (*ca*. 0.5 g) of **CP**₁, **CP**₂ and **CP**₃ were placed between glass plates and exposed to a 100W high-pressure mercury lamp ($\lambda = 365$ nm) for 13h to form the corresponding photoproducts **CP**₁', **CP**₂' and **CP**₃', respectively.

Single crystal structure determination. Structures of **CP₁-CP₃** and **CP₃'** were solved by direct methods and refined by full-matrix least-squares techniques using the *SHELXL*-2019, Olex 2 programs.^{S2} Non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic displacement parameters. The H atoms were introduced at the calculated positions and included in the structure-factor calculations. The crystal of CP3' was cracked after ultraviolet light irradiation, which caused the low diffraction quality and resulted in higher wR₂ value. A summary of key crystallographic information for **CP₁-CP₃** and **CP₃'** is given in Table S1. The CCDC codes for these compounds are 2362977-2362980.

| | CP ₁ | CP ₂ | CP ₃ | CP ₃ ' |
|---|------------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Emperical formula | C44H37Br4CdFN4O6 | C44H34Br4CdFN4O6 | C42H27Br4CdFN2O4 | C42H27Br4CdFN2O4 |
| Formula weight | 1168.81 | 1165.79 | 1074.69 | 1074.69 |
| Crystal system | orthorhombic | orthorhombic | monoclinic | monoclinic |
| Space group | Pbcm | Pbcm | <i>C</i> 2/ <i>c</i> | C2/c |
| a/Å | 13.8988(5) | 14.0326(3) | 32.9042(2) | 31.7904(7) |
| b/Å | 21.9666(6) | 22.0287(5) | 13.83950(10) | 13.9507(3) |
| c/Å | 27.6464(13) | 27.5640(8) | 16.81450(10) | 17.6164(4) |
| a/° | 90 | 90 | 90 | 90 |
| β/° | 90 | 90 | 94.8430(10) | 96.614(2) |
| γ/° | 90 | 90 | 90 | 90 |
| $V/Å^3$ | 8440.7(6) | 8520.6(4) | 7629.61(9) | 7760.8(3) |
| $D_c/g \ cm^{-3}$ | 1.840 | 1.818 | 1.871 | 1.840 |
| Z | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| μ (Mo-K α)/mm ⁻¹ | 9.070 | 8.985 | 9.914 | 9.747 |
| Total reflections | 23314 | 22184 | 30235 | 26895 |
| No. observations | 8512 | 8577 | 7954 | 7054 |
| No. parameters | 513 | 484 | 520 | 581 |
| F (000) | 4592 | 4568 | 4176 | 4176 |
| R_1^a | 0.0601 | 0.0635 | 0.0516 | 0.1154 |
| wR_2^b | 0.1664 | 0.1902 | 0.1428 | 0.3257 |
| GOF ^c | 1.032 | 1.025 | 1.056 | 1.167 |

Table. S1 Summary of crystal data and structure refinement parameters for CP1-CP3 and CP3'.

 ${}^{a}R_{1} = \Sigma ||F_{o}| - |F_{c}||/\Sigma |F_{0}|. {}^{b}wR_{2} = \{\Sigma w (F_{0}^{2} - F_{c}^{2})^{2}/\Sigma w (F_{0}^{2})^{2}\}^{1/2}. {}^{c}\text{GOF} = \{\Sigma w ((F_{0}^{2} - F_{c}^{2})^{2})/(n-p)\}^{1/2}, \text{ where } n = \text{number } n = n = 1, \dots, n = 1,$

of reflections and p = total number of parameters refined.



Figure. S1 The 1 H (a) and 13 C (b) NMR spectra of compound 1 in CDCl₃.



Figure. S2 The $^1\mathrm{H}$ (a) and $^{13}\mathrm{C}$ (b) NMR spectra of Fsbpe in CDCl3.



Figure. S3 The 1 H (a) and 13 C (b) NMR spectra of compound 2 in CDCl₃.



Figure. S4 The 1 H (a) and 13 C (b) NMR spectra of Fepbpe in CDCl₃.



Figure. S5 The 1 H (a) and 13 C (b) NMR spectra of compound 3 in CDCl₃.



Figure. S6 The 1 H (a) and 13 C (b) NMR spectra of Fsbpeb in CDCl₃.



(a)



(b)



(c)

Figure. S7 PXRD patterns of CP1 (a), CP2 (b) and CP3 (c).



(a)



(b)



Figure. S8 Thermogravimetric plots of $CP_1(a)$, $CP_2(b)$ and $CP_3(c)$.



Figure. S9 View of the coordination environments of Cd (II) centers in CP_1 .



Figure. S10 1D chain like motif in CP₁.



Figure. S11 The detailed structure of CP_1 showing the C=C distance of 4.251Å.





Figure. S12 The ¹H NMR spectra of $CP_1(a)$ and $CP_1'(b)$ in DMSO- d_6 .



Figure. S13 Photographs of CP_1 - CP_3 before and after UV light irradiation.



Figure. S14 PS behavior of CP₁.



Figure. S15 1D chain motif of CP₂.



Figure. S16 The ¹HNMR spectra of CP₂ before and after UV light irradiation.



Figure. S17 PS behavior of CP₂.



Figure. S18 1D chain like motif of CP₃.



Figure. S19 The ¹H NMR spectra of CP₃ before and after UV light irradiation.



Figure. S20 The tip displacement angle for CP_3 upon UV light irradiation.



Figure. S21 CP3 showed reversible bending behavior against UV light irradiation.



Figure. S22 Calculated growth morphology of CP₃ from single crystal data (Mercury)^{S3}.



Figure. S23 The ¹H NMR spectra of CP₃ treated by UV light and heating.



Figure. S24 The PS behaviors of CP1-CP3 under UV light irradiation.



Figure. S25 IR spectra of CP3, PVA and CP3-PVA membrane.



Figure. S26 PXRD profile of CP₃-PVA membrane.

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