## Synthesis and Characterization of divalent metal-betaine-bistriflimide complexes: a property comparison with metal bistriflimide salts

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## Supporting information

<sup>1</sup> H-NMR and <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectra of [HBet][Tf <sub>2</sub> N] and M[Bet] <sub>2-3</sub> [Tf <sub>2</sub> N] <sub>2</sub>	Pages S2-S7
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Figure S1. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of [HBet][Tf<sub>2</sub>N] in CD<sub>3</sub>OD.



Figure S2. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of [HBet][ $Tf_2N$ ] in CD<sub>3</sub>OD.



Figure S3. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of  $Mg[Bet]_2[Tf_2N]_2$  in  $CD_3OD$ .



Figure S4. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of Mg[Bet]<sub>2</sub>[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub> in CD<sub>3</sub>OD.



Figure S5. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of  $Ca[Bet]_2[Tf_2N]_2$  in  $CD_3OD$ .



Figure S6. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of  $Ca[Bet]_2[Tf_2N]_2$  in  $CD_3OD$ .



Figure S7. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of  $Zn[Bet]_2[Tf_2N]_2$  in CD<sub>3</sub>OD.



Figure S8. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of Zn[Bet]<sub>2</sub>[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub> in CD<sub>3</sub>OD.



Figure S9. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of  $Mg[Bet]_3[Tf_2N]_2$  in  $CD_3OD$ .



Figure S10. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of  $Mg[Bet]_3[Tf_2N]_2$  in CD<sub>3</sub>OD.



Figure S11. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of Ca[Bet]<sub>3</sub>[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub> in CD<sub>3</sub>OD.



Figure S12. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of  $Ca[Bet]_3[Tf_2N]_2$  in  $CD_3OD$ .

	Ca[Bet] <sub>3</sub> [Tf <sub>2</sub> N] <sub>2</sub>	$Cu_2[Bet]_4[Tf_2N]_4$
Crystal data		
Formula	$C_{19}H_{33}CaF_{12}N_5O_{14}S_4$	$C_{30}H_{52}Cu_2F_{24}N_8O_{26}S_8$
Molecular weight	951.82	1780.38
Size (mm <sup>3</sup> )	$0.05\times0.05\times0.250$	0.29  imes 0.24  imes 0.20
Crystal system, space group	Triclinic, P-1 (No. 2)	Orthorhombic, Pccn (No. 56)
<i>a</i> (Å)	9.0322(2)	21.4028(8)
<i>b</i> (Å)	15.1177(4)	22.6225(9)
<i>c</i> (Å)	15.2478(4)	13.9791(6)
α (°)	105.4270(10)	90
β (°)	105.0780(10)	90
γ (°)	101.0740(10)	90
$V(Å^3)$	1860.00(8)	6768.5(5)
Z	2	4
$D_{\text{calc}}$ (g cm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.714	1.747
Data collection and refinement		
Radiation, $\lambda$ (Å)	ΜοΚα, 0.71073	ΜοΚα, 0.71073
Temperature (K)	100	100
$2\theta_{\max}$ (°)	56.55	60.10
$\mu (\text{mm}^{-1})$	0.519	1.017
Abs corr	multi-scan	multi-scan
<i>F</i> (000)	972.0	3592
no. of measured reflns	52290	107323
no. of unique reflns	9211	9890
no. of obsd reflns $(I_0 > 2\sigma(I_0))$	8259	8676
R <sub>int</sub>	0.0361	0.0358
$R_{\sigma}$	0.025	0.0177
	$-11 \le h \le 12$	$-29 \le h \le 30$
Range of <i>h</i> , <i>k</i> , <i>l</i>	$-20 \le k \le 20$	$-31 \le k \le 31$
	$-20 \le l \le 20$	$-19 \le l \le 19$
GOF on $F^2$	1.051	1.003
$R_1$	0.0324	0.0308
$R_1$ (all data)	0.0362	0.0365
$wR_2$	0.0801	0.0819
$wR_2$ (all data)	0.0826	0.0860
Maximum and minimum residual	+0.916	+0.86
peak ( <i>e</i> Å <sup>-3</sup> )	-0.471	-0.57

 Table S1. Crystallographic data for Calcium(II) and Copper(II) complexes



Figure S13. ATR-FTIR spectrum of Mg[Bet]<sub>2</sub>[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S14. ATR-FTIR spectrum of Mg[Bet]<sub>3</sub>[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S15. ATR-FTIR spectrum of Mg[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>



Figure S16. Comparison of ATR-FTIR spectra of  $Mg[Bet]_2[Tf_2N]_2$ ,  $Mg[Tf_2N]_2$  and betaine.



Figure S17. ATR-FTIR spectrum of Ca[Bet]<sub>2</sub>[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>



Figure S18a. ATR-FTIR spectrum of Ca[Bet]<sub>3</sub>[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub> (crystals)



Figure S18b. ATR-FTIR spectrum of Ca[Bet]<sub>3</sub>[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub> (synthetized).



Figure S19. ATR-FTIR spectrum of Ca[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>



Figure S20. Comparison of ATR-FTIR spectra of  $Ca[Bet]_2[Tf_2N]_2$ ,  $Ca[Tf_2N]_2$  and betaine.



Figure S21. ATR-FTIR spectrum of  $Zn[Bet]_2[Tf_2N]_2$ 



Figure S22. ATR-FTIR spectrum of Zn[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>



Figure S23. Comparison of ATR-FTIR spectra of Zn[Bet]<sub>2</sub>[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>, Zn[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub> and betaine.



Figure S24. ATR-FTIR spectrum of Cu[Bet]<sub>2</sub>[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S25. ATR-FTIR spectrum of Cu[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S26. Comparison of ATR-FTIR spectra of  $Cu[Bet]_2[Tf_2N]_2$ ,  $Cu[Tf_2N]_2$  and betaine.



Figure S27. ATR-FTIR spectrum of  $Ni[Bet]_2[Tf_2N]_2$ .



Figure S28. ATR-FTIR spectrum of Ni[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S29. Comparison of ATR-FTIR spectra of Cu[Bet]<sub>2</sub>[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>, Cu[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub> and betaine.



Figure S30. ATR-FTIR spectrum of betaine.



Figure S31. ATR-FTIR spectrum of H[Bet][Tf<sub>2</sub>N].



Figure S32. Thermogravimetric analysis of Mg[Bet]<sub>2</sub>[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S33. TGA thermogram of  $Mg[Bet]_3[Tf_2N]_2$ .



Figure S34. Thermogravimetric analysis of Mg[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S35. Comparison of thermogravimetric analysis of  $Mg[Bet]_2[Tf_2N]_2$  and  $Mg[Tf_2N]_2$ .



Figure S36. Thermogravimetric analysis of  $Ca[Bet]_2[Tf_2N]_2$ .



Figure S37. TGA thermogram of  $Ca[Bet]_3[Tf_2N]_2$  (synthesized).



**Figure S38**. Thermogravimetric analysis of  $Ca[Bet]_3[Tf_2N]_2$  crystals (blue and green curves) compared with the thermogravimetric analysis of  $Ca[Bet]_2[Tf_2N]_2$  (violet and black curves).



Figure S39. Thermogravimetric analysis of Ca[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S40. Comparison of thermogravimetric analysis of  $Mg[Bet]_2[Tf_2N]_2$  and  $Mg[Tf_2N]_2$ .



Figure S41. Thermogravimetric analysis of Zn[Bet]<sub>2</sub>[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S42. Thermogravimetric analysis of Zn[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S43. Comparison of thermogravimetric analysis of  $Zn[Bet]_2[Tf_2N]_2$  and  $Zn[Tf_2N]_2$ .



Figure S44. Thermogravimetric analysis of  $Cu[Bet]_2[Tf_2N]_2$ .



Figure S45. Thermogravimetric analysis of Cu[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S46. Comparison of thermogravimetric analysis of  $Cu[Bet]_2[Tf_2N]_2$  and  $Cu[Tf_2N]_2$ .



Figure S47. Thermogravimetric analysis of Ni[Bet]<sub>2</sub>[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S48. Thermogravimetric analysis of Ni[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S49. Comparison of thermogravimetric analysis of  $Ni[Bet]_2[Tf_2N]_2$  and  $Ni[Tf_2N]_2$ .



Figure S50. Thermogravimetric analysis of betaine.



Figure S51. Thermogravimetric analysis of H[Bet][Tf<sub>2</sub>N].



Figure S52. Differential scanning calorimetry of Mg[Bet]<sub>2</sub>[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S53. Differential scanning calorimetry of  $Mg[Tf_2N]_2$ .



Figure S54a. DSC thermogram of Mg[Bet]<sub>3</sub>[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S54b. DSC thermogram of  $Mg[Bet]_3[Tf_2N]_2$ , ramp to 280 °C.



Figure S55. Differential scanning calorimetry of Ca[Bet]<sub>2</sub>[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S56a. Differential scanning calorimetry of Ca[Bet]<sub>3</sub>[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub> crystals.



**Figure S56b**. Differential scanning calorimetry of  $Ca[Bet]_3[Tf_2N]_2$  crystals after the melting transition at about 280 °C.



Figure S56c. DSC thermogram of Ca[Bet]<sub>3</sub>[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub> (synthetized).



Figure S56d. DSC thermogram of  $Ca[Bet]_3[Tf_2N]_2$  (synthetized).



Figure S57a. Differential scanning calorimetry of  $Ca[Tf_2N]_2$ .



Figure S57b. Differential scanning calorimetry of  $Ca[Tf_2N]_2$  above 100 °C.



Figure S58a. Differential scanning calorimetry of  $Zn[Bet]_2[Tf_2N]_2$ .



Figure S58b. Differential scanning calorimetry of Zn[Bet]<sub>2</sub>[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>, performed at 2 K/min



Figure S59. Differential scanning calorimetry of Zn[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S60a. Differential scanning calorimetry of  $Cu[Bet]_2[Tf_2N]_2$ .



Figure S60b. Differential scanning calorimetry of Cu[Bet]<sub>2</sub>[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>, performed at 5 K/min.



Figure S61. Differential scanning calorimetry of Cu[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S62. Differential scanning calorimetry of  $Ni[Bet]_2[Tf_2N]_2$ .



Figure S63a. Differential scanning calorimetry of Ni[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S63b. Differential scanning calorimetry of  $Ni[Tf_2N]_2$  performed at 5 K/min.



Figure S64. Differential scanning calorimetry of H[Bet][Tf<sub>2</sub>N]



Figure S65. Cyclic voltammogram of  $Mg[Bet]_2[Tf_2N]_2 0.1 M$  in MeCN, on a GC working electrode.



Figure S66. Cyclic voltammogram of Ca[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub> 0.1 M in MeCN, on a GC working electrode.



Figure S67. Cyclic voltammogram of  $Ca[Bet]_2[Tf_2N]_2 0.1$  M in MeCN, on a GC working electrode.



Figure S68. Cyclic voltammogram of Ca[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub> 0.1 M in MeCN, on a GC working electrode.



Figure S69. Cyclic voltammogram of  $Zn[Bet]_2[Tf_2N]_2 0.1$  M in MeCN, on a GC working electrode.



Figure S70. Cyclic voltammogram of Zn[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub> 0.1 M in MeCN, on a GC working electrode.



Figure S71. Cyclic voltammogram of  $Cu[Bet]_2[Tf_2N]_2 0.1$  M in MeCN, on a GC working electrode.



Figure S72. Cyclic voltammogram of Cu[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub> 0.1 M in MeCN, on a GC working electrode.



Figure S73. Cyclic voltammogram of Ni[Bet]<sub>2</sub>[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub> 0.1 M in MeCN, on a GC working electrode.



Figure S74. Cyclic voltammogram of Ni[Tf<sub>2</sub>N]<sub>2</sub> 0.1 M in MeCN, on a GC working electrode.



Figure S75. Cyclic voltammogram of  $Cu[Bet]_2[Tf_2N]_2 0.1$  M in MeCN, on a GC working electrode.



Figure S76. Cyclic voltammogram of  $Cu[Tf_2N]_2 0.1$  M in MeCN, on a Pt working electrode.



**Figure S77.** Fitting of data reported in Figure 6b according to Randles-Sevcik method for the determination of *D*.



**Figure S78.** Fitting of data reported in Figure 6b according to Nicholson method for the determination of  $k_0$ .