

## **Supporting Information**

### **Selective Covalent Modification of Layered Double Hydroxide Nanoparticles with Tripodal Ligands on Outer and Interlayer Surfaces**

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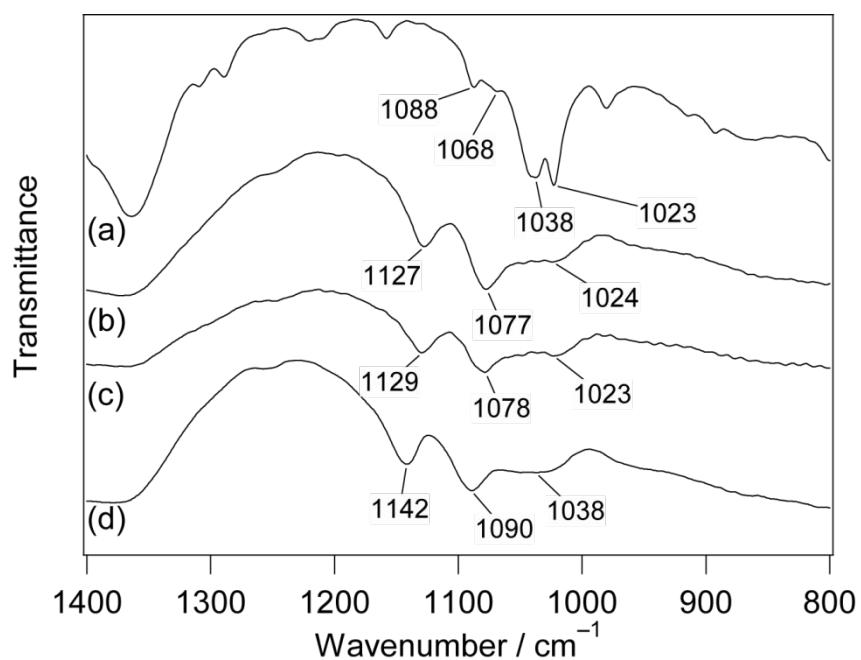
**Table S1.** Compositions of the LDHNP samples.

Entry	Sample name	$M^{2+}/(M^{2+}+Al)$	$Al/(M^{2+}+Al)$	$M^{2+}/Al$	Modifier/ $(M^{2+}+Al)$	$CO_3^{2-}/(M^{2+}+Al)$
1	CoAl_Tris_inter(HT)	0.73	0.27	2.7	0.26	0.22
2	NiAl_Tris_inter(HT)	0.72	0.28	2.5	0.33	0.21
3	CoAl_Tris_outer	0.70	0.30	2.3	0.12	0.14
4	NiAl_Tris_outer	0.70	0.30	2.4	0.13	0.18
5	CoAl_Bis_outer	0.72	0.28	2.6	0.15	0.19
6	NiAl_Bis_outer	0.69	0.31	2.2	0.16	0.21
7	CoAl_Tris_outer(HT)	0.69	0.31	2.3	0.03	0.19
8	CoAl_Bis_outer(HT)	0.73	0.27	2.8	0.05	0.22
9	MgAl_Tris_inter	0.74	0.26	2.9	0.25	0.17
10	MgAl_Tris_outer	0.66	0.34	2.0	0.05	0.16
-	CoAl_none	0.75	0.25	3.0	-	0.16

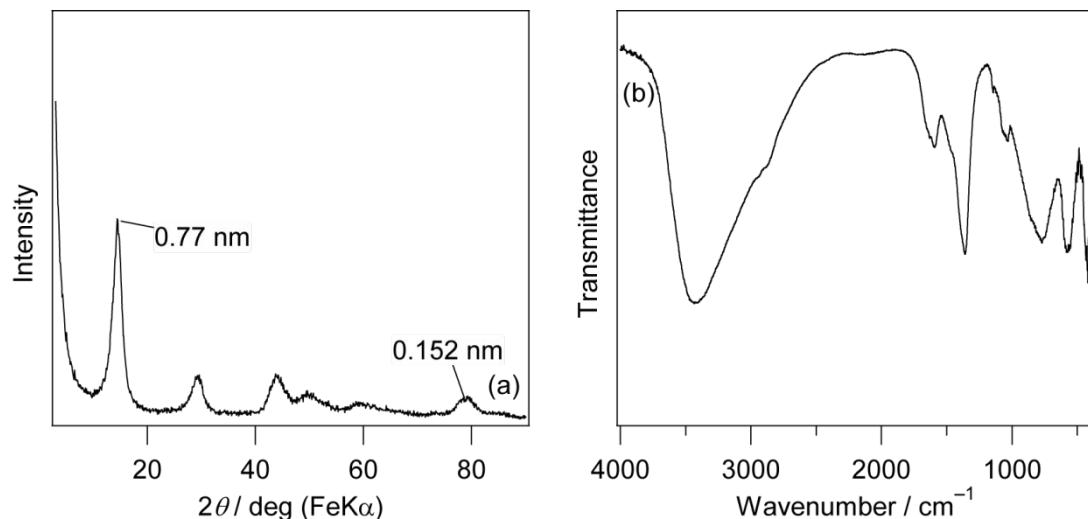
All values are molar ratios.  $M^{2+}$  represents the divalent cation used.

### Interpretation of the change in the $d_{110}$ values of CoAl\_Tris\_inter(HT), CoAl\_Tris\_outer, and CoAl\_none

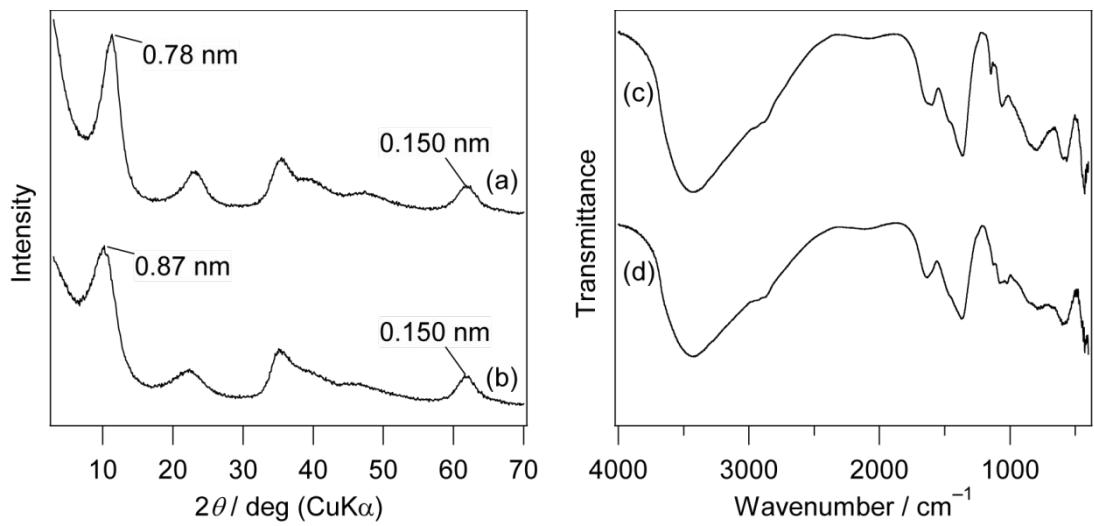
The  $d_{110}$  values of CoAl\_Tris\_inter(HT) (Co/Al = 2.7), CoAl\_Tris\_outer (Co/Al = 2.3), and CoAl\_none (Co/Al = 3.0) are 0.153, 0.152, and 0.154 nm, respectively (Figures 1 (a)–(c) in the main text). The variation in  $d_{110}$  values among the samples are mainly correlated with the variation in the Co/Al ratios. It is general for LDHs that a  $d_{110}$  value changes to be small when a  $M^{2+}/M^{3+}$  ratio decreases<sup>[S1]</sup>. Moreover, the covalent modification with Tris-NH<sub>2</sub> probably causes the lattice contraction of in-plane structure of LDHs because hybrid metal hydroxides modified with tripodal ligands show smaller  $d_{110}$  values than those of unmodified metal hydroxides.<sup>[S2]</sup>



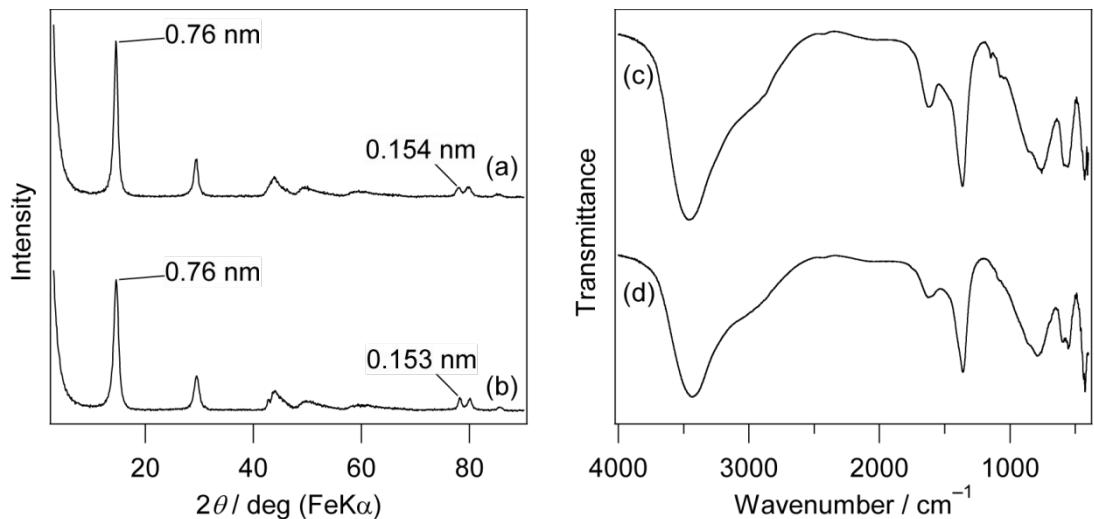
**Figure S1.** FTIR spectra of (a) a physical mixture of CoAl\_none and Tris-NH<sub>2</sub>, (b) CoAl\_Tris\_inter(HT), (c) NiAl\_Tris\_inter(HT), and (d) MgAl\_Tris\_inter at 1400–800 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The mixture was prepared by mixing 30 mg of CoAl\_none and 10 mg of Tris-NH<sub>2</sub>.



**Figure S2.** (a) XRD pattern and (b) FTIR spectrum of CoAl\_Bis\_outer.



**Figure S3.** XRD patterns of (a) NiAl\_Bis\_outer and (b) NiAl\_Tris\_outer. FTIR spectra of (c) NiAl\_Bis\_outer and (d) NiAl\_Tris\_outer.



**Figure S4.** XRD patterns of (a) CoAl\_Bis\_outer(HT) and (b) CoAl\_Tris\_outer(HT). FTIR spectra of (c) CoAl\_Bis\_outer(HT) and (d) CoAl\_Tris\_outer(HT).

**Table S2.** Summary of the effect of the number of bonding sites in a modifier and reaction temperature on the resulted modification mode of organically modified CoAl LDHNPs.

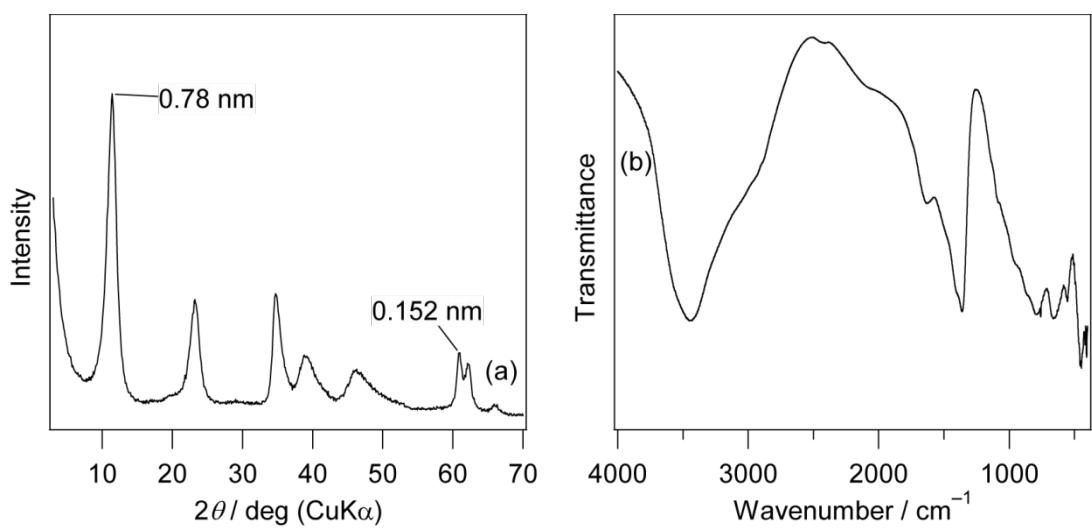
		Number of bonding sites in a modifier	
		Tripodal (Tris-NH <sub>2</sub> )	Dipodal (Bis-NH <sub>2</sub> )
Reaction temperature	80 °C	no precipitate (entry 0)	outer (entry 5)
	180 °C	interlayer (entry 1)	outer (entry 8)

The constituent divalent metal cations, the concentration of both metal ions and modifiers, and reaction time are common among these experiments.

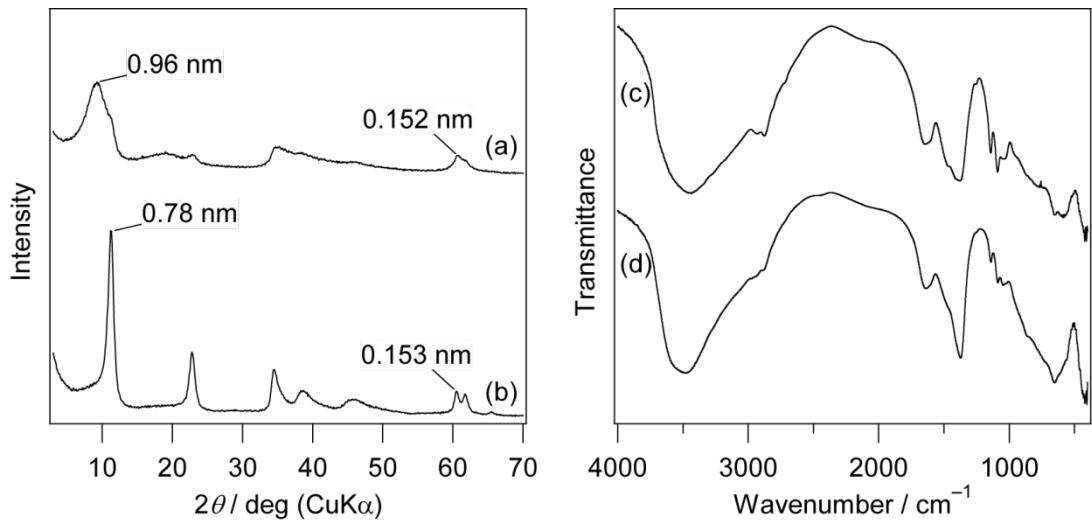
**Table S3.** Summary of the effect of the concentration of Tris-NH<sub>2</sub> and reaction temperature on the resulted modification mode of organically modified CoAl LDHNPs.

		Concentration of Tris-NH <sub>2</sub>	
		0.5 M	0.1 M
Reaction temperature	80 °C	no precipitate (entry 0)	outer (entry 3)
	180 °C	interlayer (entry 1)	outer (entry 7)

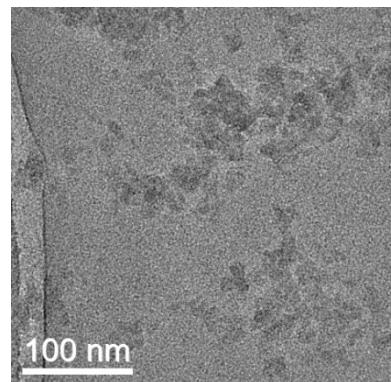
The constituent divalent metal cations, the concentration of metal ions, the type of modifier, and reaction time are common among these experiments.



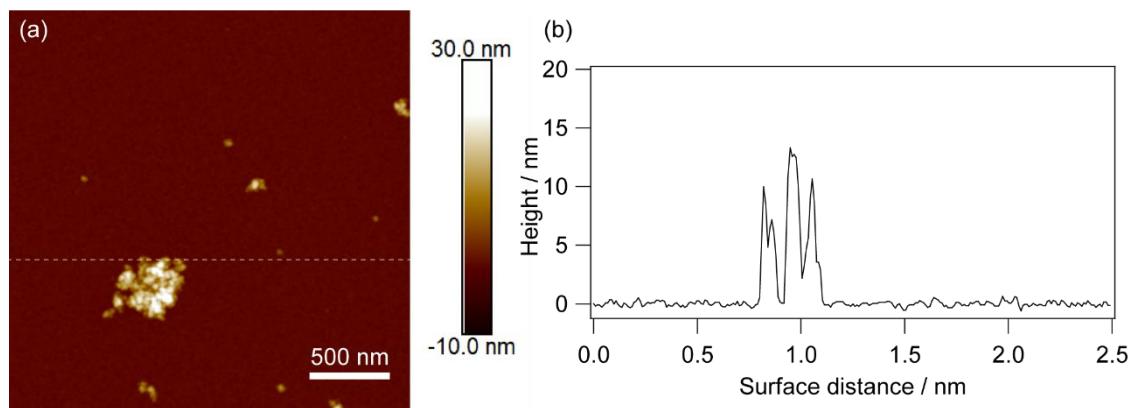
**Figure S5.** (a) XRD pattern and (b) FTIR spectrum of MgAl\_Tris\_outer.



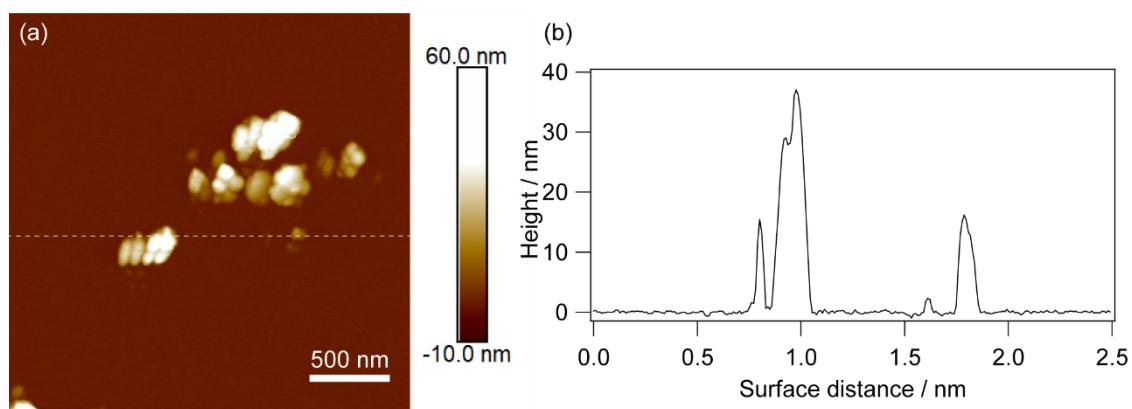
**Figure S6.** XRD patterns of MgAl\_Tris\_inter (a) before and (b) after dispersing in water for 24 h. FTIR spectra of MgAl\_Tris\_inter (c) before and (d) after dispersing in water for 24 h.



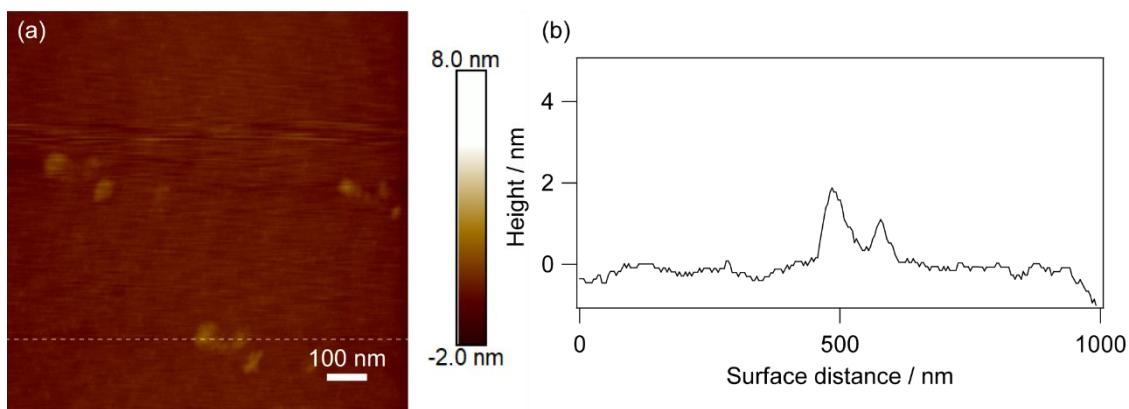
**Figure S7.** TEM image of the delaminated CoAl\_Tris\_inter(HT).



**Figure S8.** (a) AFM image of CoAl\_Tris\_inter(HT) before delamination. (b) The height profile on the lines indicated in (a). The dispersion of CoAl\_Tris\_inter(HT) during washing with water was mounted on a silicon substrate.



**Figure S9.** (a) AFM image of CoAl\_none after ultrasonication in water for 2 h. (b) The height profile on the lines indicated in (a). The dispersion of CoAl\_none after ultrasonication in water for 2 h was mounted on a silicon substrate.



**Figure S10.** (a) AFM image of MgAl\_Tris\_inter after ultrasonication in water for 2 h. (b) The height profile on the lines indicated in (a). The dispersion of MgAl\_Tris\_inter after ultrasonication in water for 2 h was mounted on a silicon substrate.

## References

- [S1] Duan, X.; Evans, D. G., Eds. *Layered Double Hydroxides: Structure and Bonding*; Springer: Berlin/Heidelberg, Germany, 2006.
- [S2] Kuroda, Y.; Koichi, T.; Muramatsu, K.; Yamaguchi, K.; Mizuno, N.; Shimojima, A.; Wada, H.; Kuroda, K., Direct Synthesis of Highly Designable Hybrid Metal Hydroxide Nanosheets by Using Tripodal Ligands as One-Size-Fits-All Modifiers. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2017**, *23*, 5023–5032.