

Supporting Information

for

An Anionic Metal–Organic Framework For Adsorption and Separation of Light Hydrocarbons

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I) Experimental Section

Materials and Methods. Chemicals were purchased from commercial sources and were used without further purification. Thermogravimetric analysis was performed on a NETZSCH TG 209 thermobalance in a nitrogen atmosphere, sample was placed in alumina containers and data were recorded at 10 °C/min between 20 and 1000 °C. IR spectra (KBr pellet) were obtained from a Nicolet 5DX spectrometer in the region of 400–4000 cm⁻¹. Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) data were collected on Bruker D8 ADVANCE diffractometer at room temperature using Cu K α (λ = 1.5418 Å) radiation. Elemental analysis of carbon, hydrogen and nitrogen was carried out on a Vario EL III analyzer. The single-crystal X-ray diffraction data were collected on an Agilent Technologies SuperNova X-ray diffractometer with Cu K α radiation (λ = 1.54178 Å) at 100 K. The data were processed using CrysAlis^{pro},^[1] the structure was solved and refined using Full-matrix least-squares based on F^2 with program SHELXS-97 and SHELXL-97^[2] within Olex2.^[3] The contribution of highly disordered solvent molecules was treated using SQUEEZE procedure implemented in PLATON program.^[4] Gas sorption isotherms were performed on Micromeritics ASAP 2020 and Trist 3020 apparatus. Magnetic susceptibility measurements were carried out on a Quantum Design MPMS XL7 SQUID magnetometer in the 2–300 K temperature range under magnetic field of 1000 Oe. Magnetic data were calibrated with the sample holder, and diamagnetic corrections were estimated from Pascal's constants.

[1] CrysAlisPro, Version 1.171.35.19. (2011). Agilent Technologies Inc. Santa Clara, CA, USA.

[2] Sheldrick, G. M. (2008). A short history of SHELX. *Acta Cryst.* A64, 112-122.

[3] Dolomanov et al. (2009). OLEX2: a complete structure solution, refinement and analysis program. *J. Appl. Cryst.* 42, 339-341.

[4] Spek, A. L. *Acta Cryst.* 1990, A46, 194-201.

Synthesis of (H₃O)₄[Ni₆(μ_3 -O)₂(μ_2 -OSC₂H₆)₂(SO₄)₂(TATB)_{8/3}](C₂H₆O)₄·(H₂O)₁₃
[(H₃O)₄1·S]: 1) Solid NiSO₄·6H₂O (0.1650 g, 0.6 mmol) was dissolved in 5 mL DMSO; 2) 4,4',4''-s-triazine-2,4,6-triyl-tribenzoic (TATB) acid (0.0441 g, 0.1 mmol)

and triethylamine (100 uL) was added to 5 mL EtOH and the solution was stirred 15 min to let TATB acid completely dissolve; 3) The two solutions were mixed in a 23 ml Teflon-lined stainless steel vessel, and the vessel was sealed and heated to 130 °C within 3600 min, maintained at that temperature for another 3600 min and then cooled to 30 °C in 2880 min. Dark yellow block crystals of the title complex were washed by EtOH and separated by filtration. Yield: ~63%. Elemental analysis (%) for $C_{76}H_{106}Ni_6O_{49}N_8S_4$: calcd: C 38.16, H 4.47, N 4.69, S 5.35; found: C 37.75, H 4.77, N 4.71, S 5.07. IR (KBr, cm^{-1}): 3412, 1612, 1566, 1520, 1384, 1356, 1101, 1016, 819, 755, 506.

II) Tables

Table S1. Crystal Data and Structure Refinements for the title complex.

Solvent-free formula	$Ni_3C_{34}H_{22}O_{14}N_4S_2$
$M_r / g\ mol^{-1}$	950.81
cryst syst	cubic
space group	$Im\bar{3}$
$a / \text{\AA}$	26.7674(5)
$V / \text{\AA}^3$	19178.7(6)
Z	12
Solvent-free $D_c / g\ cm^{-3}$	0.988
μ / mm^{-1}	2.017
reflns collected	8128
GOF	1.321
R_{int}	0.1240
$R_1 (I > 2\sigma(I))^a$	0.1055
wR_2 (all data)	0.2833

$$^a R_1 = \|F_o\| - \|F_c\|/\|F_o\|; wR_2 = \{[w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2]/[w(F_o^2)^2]\}^{1/2}; w = 1/[\sigma_2(F_o^2) + (ap)^2 + bp], \text{ where } p =$$

$$[\max(F_o^2, 0) + 2F_c^2]/3; \text{ and } Rw = [w(\|F_o\| - \|F_c\|)^2/w\|F_o\|^2]^{1/2}, \text{ where } w = 1/\sigma^2(\|F_o\|).$$

Table S2. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (deg).

Ni(1)-O(1)	1.971(4)	Ni(1)-O(6)	2.189(5)
Ni(1)-O(3)	1.969(4)	Ni(2)-O(3)	1.956(8)
Ni(1)-O(5)	2.103(4)	Ni(2)-O(2)	2.032(4)
Ni(1)-Ni(1b)	2.922(2)		
Ni(2)-O(3)-Ni(1)	115.1(2)	Ni(1)-O(5)-Ni(1b)	88.4(2)
Ni(1a)-O(3)-Ni(1)	129.7(4)	Ni(1)-O(6)-Ni(1b)	83.7(3)

Symmetry codes: a) $-x, 1-y, z$; b) $x, 1-y, -z$; c) $-x, y, -z$.

Table S3. Virial graph analysis and separation selectivity of C2 hydrocarbons over methane.

Adsorbate	T K	K_H mol g ⁻¹ Pa ⁻¹	A_0 ln(mol g ⁻¹ Pa ⁻¹)	A_1 g mol ⁻¹	R^2	$S_{i/j}^{[a]}$	Q_{st} kJ mol ⁻¹
CH ₄	273	1.320×10^{-8}	-18.142	-502.079	0.99918		17.62
	297	7.2×10^{-9}	-18.755	-392.171	0.99908		
C ₂ H ₂	273	3.294×10^{-7}	-14.926	-893.646	0.99467	24.95	29.37
	297	1.175×10^{-7}	-15.957	-748.37	0.99767	16.32	
C ₂ H ₄	273	1.978×10^{-7}	-15.436	-757.639	0.99658	14.98	28.62
	297	7.68×10^{-8}	-16.382	-627.907	0.99884	10.67	
C ₂ H ₆	273	3.659×10^{-7}	-14.821	-1043.231	0.99923	27.72	27.27
	297	1.325×10^{-7}	-15.837	-810.772	0.99782	18.41	

[a] The Henry's Law selectivity for gas component i over j is calculated based on: $S_{i/j} = K_H(i)/K_H(CH_4)$.

III) Additional Figures

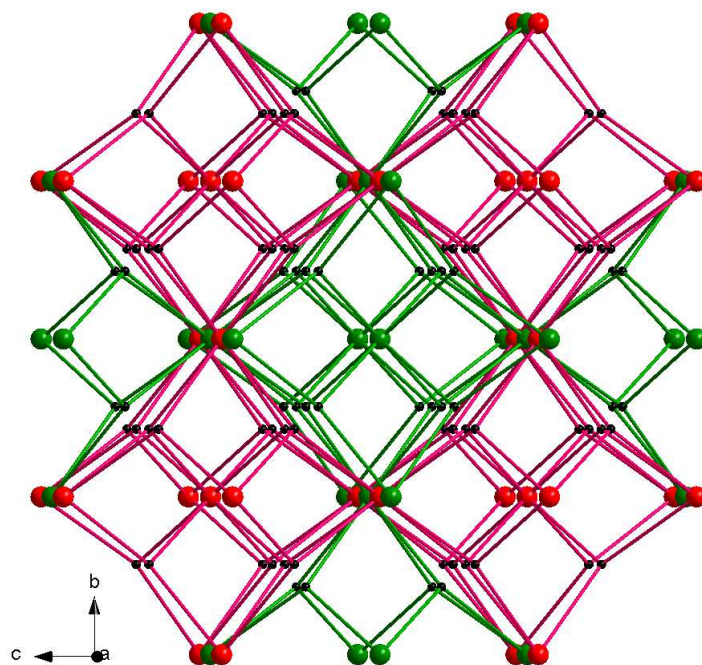


Figure S1. The two-fold interpenetrated three-dimensional topological structure. Black balls: centers of organic ligands; Green and red balls: eight-connected Ni_6 units.

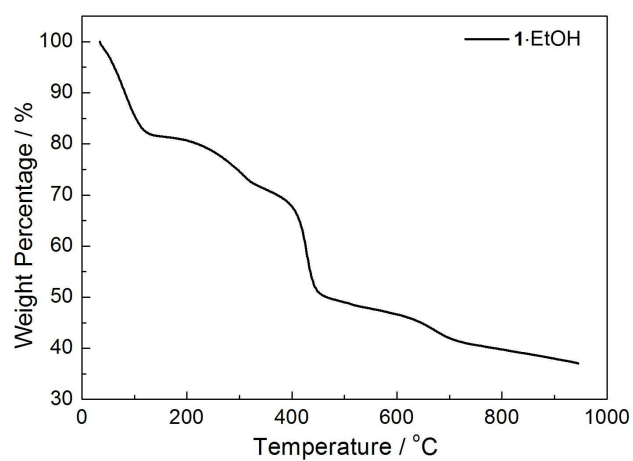


Figure S2. TGA pattern.

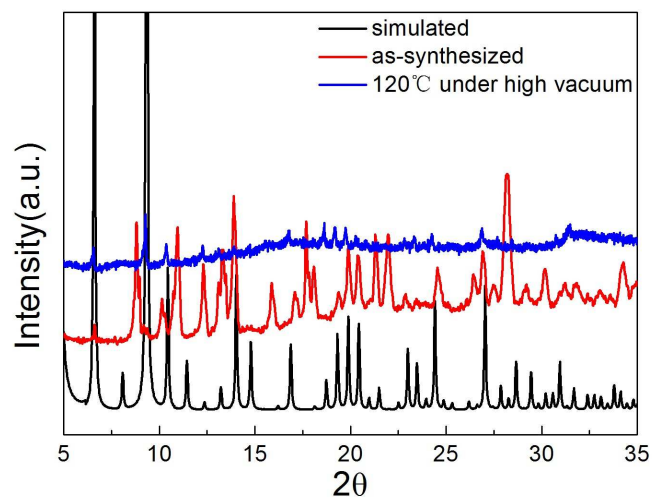


Figure S3. PXPD pattern.

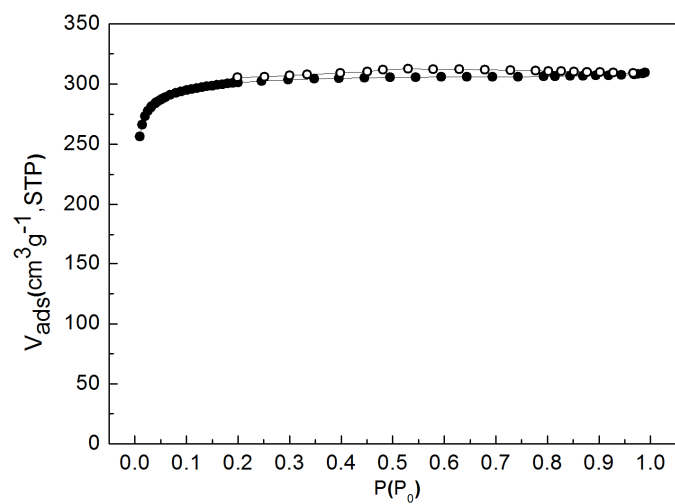


Figure S4. Nitrogen adsorption isotherms of activated sample. Full symbol: adsorption; empty symbol: desorption.

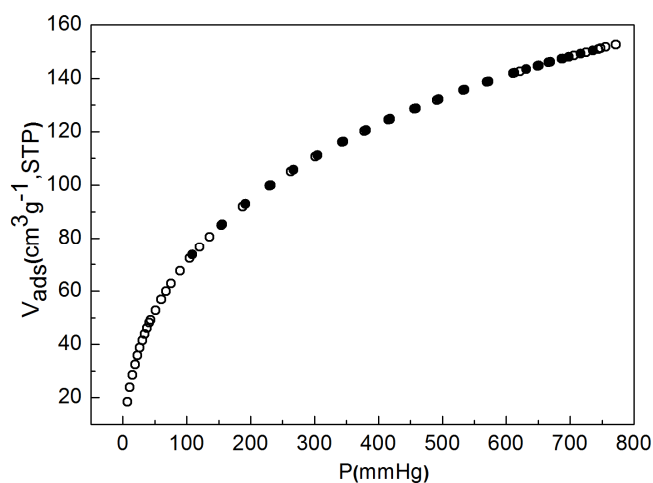
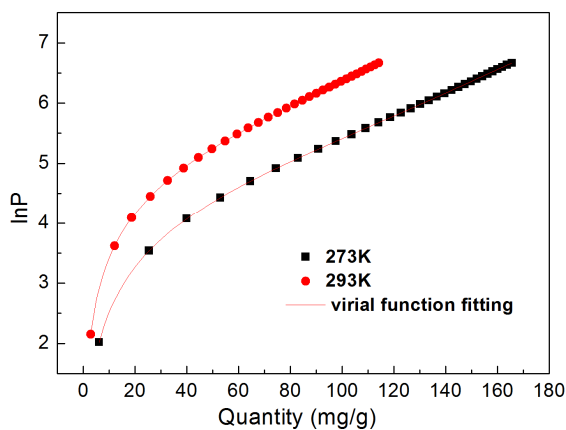


Figure S5. Hydrogen adsorption isotherms of activated sample. Full symbol: adsorption; empty symbol: desorption.



Equation	$y = n(x) + 1/k * (a0 + a1*x + a2*x^2 + a3*x^3 - a4*x^4 + a5*x^5) - (b0 - b1*x + b2*x^2)$	
	Value	Stander Error
a0*	-3087.1902	3.44531
a1*	3.54566	0.11386
a2*	-0.05134	0.00113
a3*	-6.4375/E-5	1.48649E-5
a4*	7.50613E-7	9.66257E-8
a5*	-2.0837E-9	2.25241E-10
b0*	11.46617	0.01198
b1*	-0.00807	4.06782E-4
b2*	2.06381E-4	2.97551E-6
k	273.15	0
k	297	0

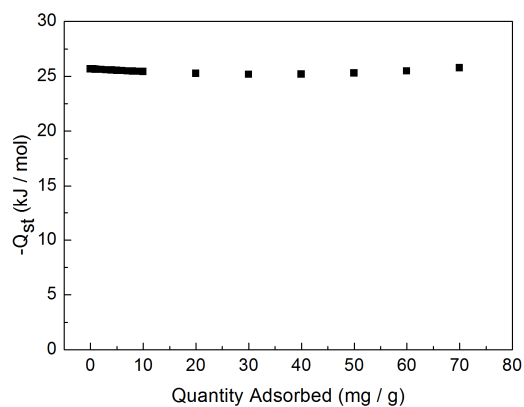


Figure S6. Virial fitting (lines) of the CO₂ adsorption isotherms (points) measured at 273 and 297 K.

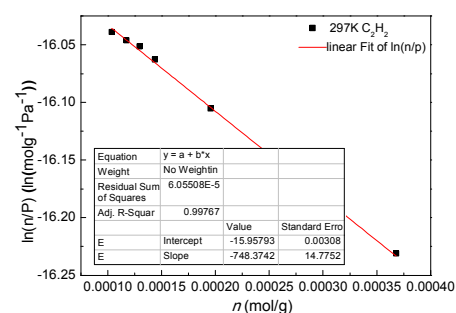
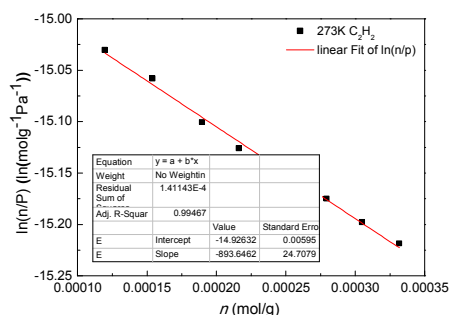
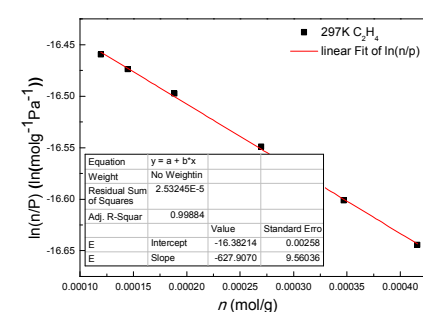
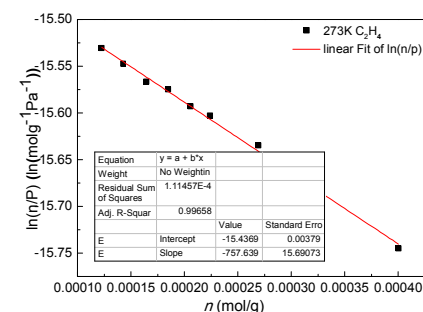
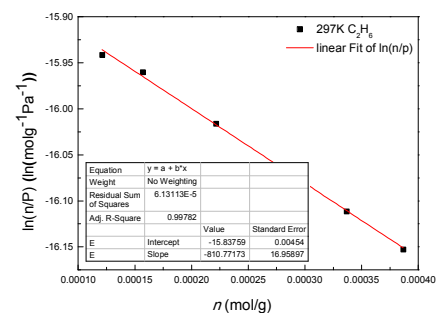
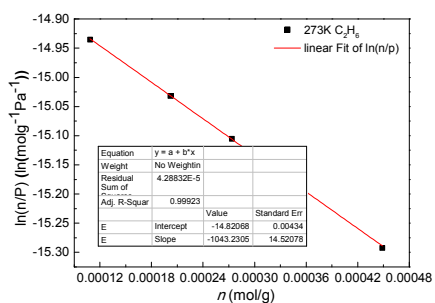
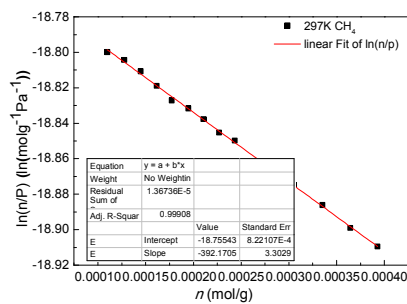
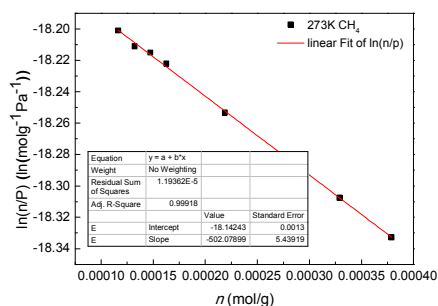


Figure S7. The virial graphs for adsorption of methane and C₂ hydrocarbons at 273 K (left) and 297 K (right).

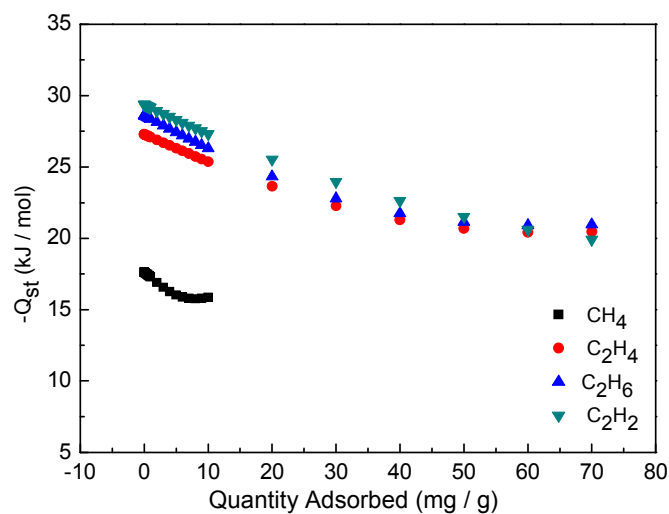


Figure S8. Virial fitting (lines) of the methane and C₂ hydrocarbons adsorption isotherms (points) measured at 273 and 297 K.

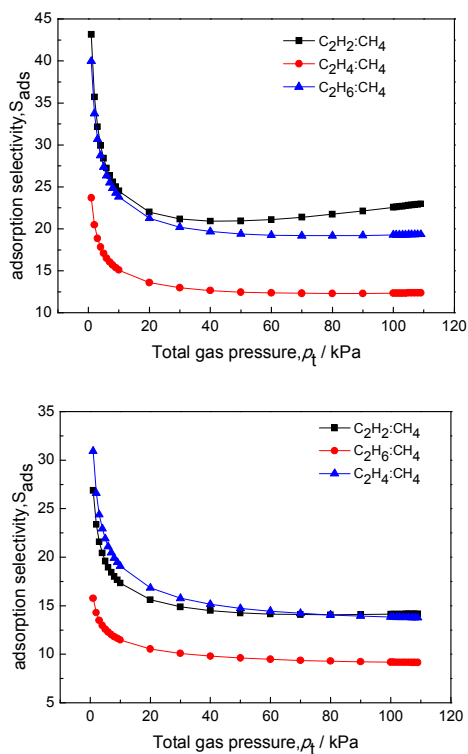


Figure S9. IAST calculations of the C₂H₆/CH₄, C₂H₄/CH₄ and C₂H₂/CH₄ adsorption selectivity for adsorption from an equimolar mixture at total bulk gas phase at 273 K (top) and 297 K (bottom).

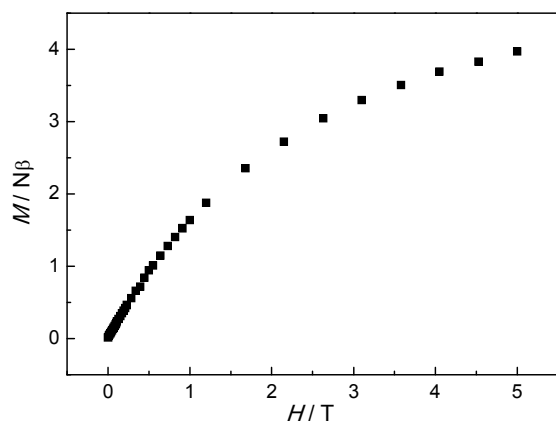


Figure S10. Field-dependent magnetization at 2 K.

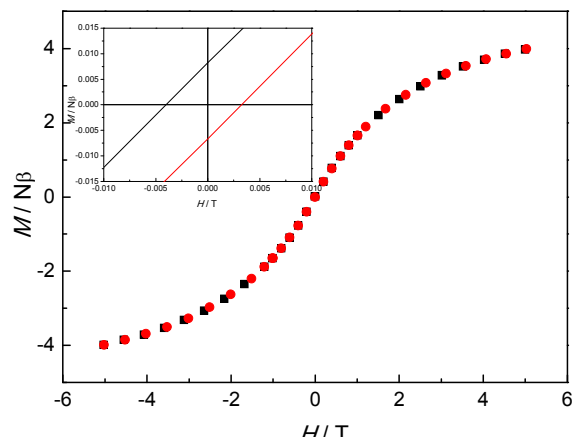


Figure S11. The hysteresis loop at 2 K.

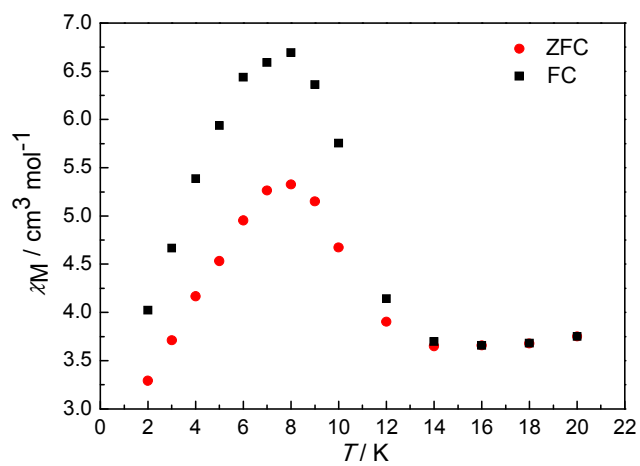


Figure S12. ZFC-FC magnetization versus temperature.

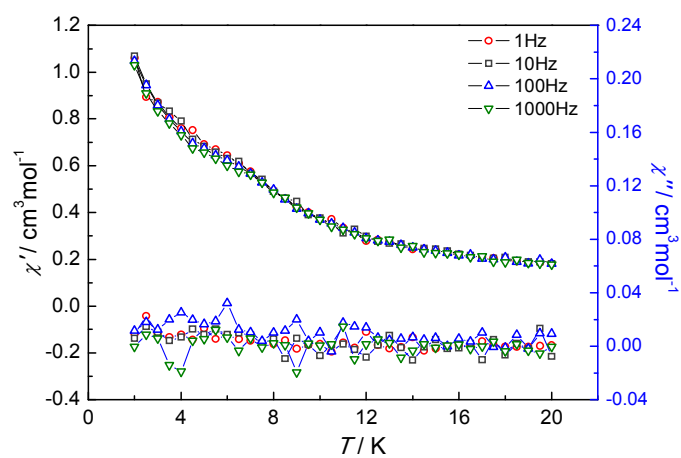


Figure S13. AC magnetic susceptibility of $(\text{H}_3\text{O})_4\text{I}\cdot\text{S}$ under 3 Oe AC magnetic field and zero DC magnetic field.

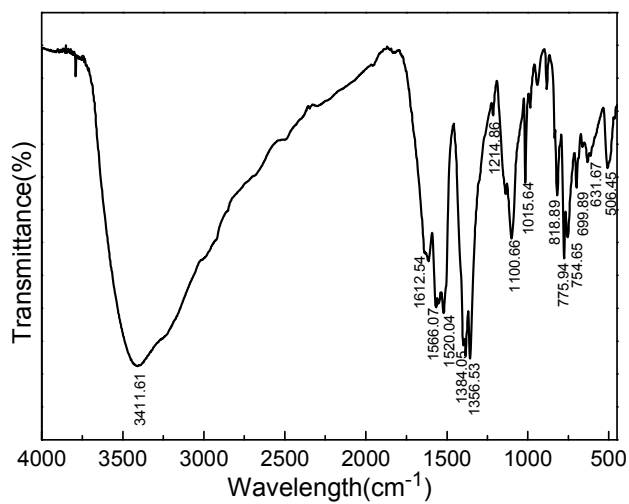


Figure S14. Infrared spectra.