# Benzimidazolines convert sulphur dioxide to bisulfate at room temperature and atmospheric pressure utilizing aerial oxygen 

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Figure S 1. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR of $\mathrm{MB1}-\mathrm{H}$ in $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ..... S11
Figure S 2. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR of $\mathrm{MB1}-\mathrm{H}$ in $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$. ..... S12
Figure S 3. ESI-MS of MB1-H. ..... S13
Figure S 4. Isotopic distribution simulated for $\mathrm{MB1}^{+}$cation ..... S14
Figure S 5. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR of $[\mathrm{MB1}]\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$. ..... S15
Figure S 6. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR of $[\mathrm{MB1}]\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$. ..... S16
Figure S 7. ESI-MS of [MB1]((%5Cmathrm%7BHSO%7D_%7B4%7D)) (cation mode) ..... S17
Figure S 8. ESI-MS of [MB1] $\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$ (anion mode). ..... S18
Figure S 9. Isotopic distribution simulated for bisulphate anion. ..... S19
Figure S 10. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR of MB2-H in DMSO-d6. ..... S20
Figure S 11. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR of MB2-H in DMSO-d6. ..... S21
Figure S 12. ESI-MS of MB2-H. ..... S22
Figure S 13. Isotopic distribution simulated for $\mathrm{MB2}^{+}$cation. ..... S23
Figure S 14. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR of $[\mathrm{MB2} 2]\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$ in DMSO-d6. ..... S24
Figure S 15. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR [MB2] $\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$ in DMSO-d6 ..... S25
Figure S 16. ESI-MS of [MB2] $\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$ (cation mode). ..... S26
Figure S 17. ESI-MS of [MB2] $\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$ (anion mode) ..... S27
Figure S 18. Isotopic distribution simulated for $\left[\mathrm{HSO}_{4}^{-} \cdots \mathrm{HSO}_{4}^{-}+\mathrm{H}^{+}\right]^{-}$. ..... S28
Figure S 19. Isotopic distribution simulated for $\left[\mathrm{MB2}^{+} \ldots\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}{ }^{-} \ldots \mathrm{HSO}_{4}{ }^{-}\right)\right]^{-}$ ..... S29
Figure S 20. Isotopic distribution simulated for $\left[\left(\mathrm{MB2HSO}_{4}\right)_{2}-\mathrm{H}^{+}\right]^{-}$. ..... S30
Figure S 21. Isotopic distribution simulated for $\left[\left(\mathrm{MB2HSO}_{4}\right)_{2}+\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right]^{-}$. ..... S31
Figure S 22. Isotopic distribution simulated for $\left[(\mathrm{MB2HSO})_{3}-\mathrm{H}^{+}\right]^{-}$ ..... S32
Figure $\mathbf{S}$ 23. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR of $\mathrm{MB3}-\mathrm{H}$ in $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$. ..... S33
Figure $\mathbf{S}$ 24. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR MB3- H in $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$. ..... S34
Figure S 25. ESI-MS of MB3-H. ..... S35
Figure S 26. Isotopic distribution simulated for $\mathrm{MB3}^{+}$cation. ..... S36
Figure S 27. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR of $[\mathrm{MB3}]\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$ in $\mathrm{DMSO}-\mathrm{d} 6$ ..... S37
Figure S 28. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR of $[\mathrm{MB3}]\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$ in DMSO-d6. ..... S38
Figure S 29. ESI-MS of [MB3] $\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$ (cation mode) ..... S39
Figure S 30. ESI-MS of [MB3] $\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$ (anion mode) ..... S40
Figure S 31. Solid state structure of [MB1] $\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$ ..... S41
Figure S 32. Packing diagram of [MB1] $\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$. ..... S42
Figure S 33. Solid state structure of [MB2] $\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$ ..... S44
Figure S 34. Packing diagram of [MB2] $\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$ ..... S45
Figure S 35. Solid state structure of [MB3] $\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$ ..... S47
Figure S 36. Packing diagram of [MB3] $\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$. ..... S48
Table S 1. Crystal data for [MB1] $\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$. ..... S43
Table S 2. Crystal data for [MB2] $\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$. ..... S46
Table S 3. Crystal data for [MB3] $\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$. ..... S49
References. ..... S51

## Experimental Section

## Materials.

1,2-Phenylenediamine (SDFCL), p-toluenesulfonyl chloride (SDFCL), pyridine (SDFCL), dimethylsulfate (SDFCL), NaOH flakes (Fisher), 6-bromopyridine-2carboxaldehyde (TCI India), benzaldehyde (Rankem) and salicylaldehyde (SRL) were used as received from commercial sources. Solvents were distilled under dry nitrogen atmosphere using conventional methods. $N, N^{\prime}-(1,2-$ Phenylene $)$ bis( $N, 4-$ dimethylbenzenesulfonamide), ${ }^{1} \quad N^{1}, N^{2}$-dimethylbenzene-1,2-diamine ${ }^{2}$ and 1,3-dimethyl-2-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[d]imidazole ${ }^{3}$ were synthesized by following literature methods.

## Methods.

NMR spectra were recorded on JEOL 500 MHz and JEOL 400 MHz spectrometers. Temperature was kept constant using a variable temperature unit within the error limit of $\pm 1 \mathrm{~K}$. The software MestReNova ${ }^{4}$ was used for the processing of the NMR spectra. Tetramethylsilane (TMS) or the deuterated solvent residual peaks were used for calibration. Mass spectrometry experiments were performed on a Waters-Q-ToF-Premier-HAB213 equipped with an electrospray interface. Spectra were collected by constant infusion of the sample dissolved in methanol or acetonitrile with $0.1 \%$ formic acid. The freeware mMass was used to simulate the calculated isotopic distributions. ${ }^{5}$

## Crystal Structure Determinations.

Single-crystal X-ray data were collected at 123 K on a Bruker SMART APEX CCD diffractometer using graphite-monochromated Mo $K \alpha$ radiation ( $\lambda=0.71069 \AA$ ). The linear absorption coefficients, the scattering factors for the atoms, and the anomalous dispersion corrections were taken from International Tables for X-ray Crystallography. Data integration and reduction were conducted with SAINT. An empirical absorption correction was applied to the collected reflections with SADABS using XPREP. Structures were determined by direct method using SHELXTL and refined on $F^{2}$ by a full-matrix least-squares technique using the SHELXL-97 program package. The lattice parameters and structural data are listed somewhere else in this Supporting Information.

## 1,3-dimethyl-2-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[d]imidazole:



MB1-H
In 50 ml Schlenk RB, $\mathrm{N}^{1}, \mathrm{~N}^{2}$-dimethylbenzene-1,2-diamine ( $0.300 \mathrm{~g}, 2.202$ mmol ) was dissolved in 5 ml of dry dichloromethane with activated molecular sieves $3 \AA$. The solution of benzaldehyde ( $0.233 \mathrm{~g}, 2.202 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) in dry dichloromethane ( 5 ml ) was slowly added to pre-stirred dichloromethane solution at $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ under nitrogen atmosphere. The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 h and filtered through cannula under nitrogen atmosphere. The yellow filtrate was concentrated and crystallized in dichloromethane solution. The resulting white crystals was filtered off and dried under high vacuum. (0.050 g, 10\%).

## ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ):

$\delta_{\mathrm{H}}=7.58$ (m, 2H, Ar), 7.41 (m, 3H, Ar), 6.72 (dd, 2H, Ar), 6.43 (dd, 2H, Ar), 4.88 (s, $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}$ ), 2.57(s $6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ ).
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $100 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ):
$\delta_{\mathrm{C}}=142.23,139.20,129.46,128.99,128.60,119.41,105.85,94.18,33.30$.

## High Resolution ESI-MS:

$\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}$ for $\mathrm{C}_{15} \mathrm{H}_{15} \mathrm{~N}_{2}=223.1231($ calcd. 223.1235 $)=[\mathrm{MB} 1]^{+}$.

## 2-(1,3-dimethyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)phenol:



MB2-H
In 50 ml Schlenk $\mathrm{RB}, \mathrm{N}^{1}, \mathrm{~N}^{2}$-dimethylbenzene-1,2-diamine $(0.238 \mathrm{~g}$, 1.747 mmol ) was dissolved in 5 ml of dry dichloromethane with activated molecular sieves $3 \AA$. The solution of salicylaldehyde ( $0.213 \mathrm{~g}, 1.747 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) in dry dichloromethane ( 5 ml ) was slowly added to pre-stirred dichloromethane solution at $0{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ under nitrogen atmosphere. The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 20 h and filtered through cannula under nitrogen atmosphere. The yellow filtrate was concentrated and added dry ethanol ( 5 ml ). The resulting pale yellow powder was filtered off and dried under high vacuum. ( $0.060 \mathrm{~g}, 14 \%$ ).
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( 400 MHz , DMSO-d6):
$\delta_{\mathrm{H}}=9.59(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OH}), 7.48$ (dd, 1H, Ar), 7.16 (dt, 1H, Ar), 6.85-6.56 (m, 4H, Ar), 6.40 (dd, 2H, Ar), 5.32 (s, 1H, CH), 2.46 (s, 6H, CH3).

## ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d6):

$\delta_{C}=157.97,143.15,130.60,130.11,124.62,120.18,119.97,116.50,106.86$, 100.44, 34.20.

High Resolution ESI-MS:
$\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}$ for $\mathrm{C}_{15} \mathrm{H}_{15} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{O}=239.1186$ (calcd. 239.1184) $=[\mathrm{MB} 2]^{+}$.

## 2-(6-bromopyridin-2-yl)-1,3-dimethyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[d]imidazole:



MB3-H
In a oven dried 50 mL Schlenk flask added 2 g of activated $4 \AA$ molecular sieves and 10 mL toluene. It was stirred for 30 minutes at room temperature in $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ atmosphere, added $N^{1}, N^{2}$-dimethylenzene-1,2-diamine ( $0.108 \mathrm{~g}, 0.73 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and the brown solution was heated at $100{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 2 hours in $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ atmosphere. It was cooled to room temperature and 6-bromopyridine-2-carboxaldehyde ( 0.136 g ) was added as solid, immediately colour of the solution turned from brown to yellow. The yellow solution was heated at $100^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 12 hours and refluxed at $130^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 3 hours in $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ atmosphere. The yellow solution cannulated to 50 mL round bottom flask and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure gave orange yellow oil. It was dried under high vacuum for 1 hour gave orange yellow solid, which was dissolved in diethyl ether and left in $-35^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ forms orange crystals suitable for single crystal X-ray diffraction. ( $0.208 \mathrm{~g}, 94 \%$ ).
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR (400MHz, $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ):
$\delta_{H}=7.83$ (d, 1H, Py), 7.66 (t, 1H, Py), 7.52 (d, 1H, Py), 6.74 (dd, 2H, Ph), 6.45 (dd, 2H, Ph), 5.13 (s, 1H), 2.67 (s, 6H).
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (100MHz, $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ):
$\delta_{C}=161.68,141.98,141.03,139.60,128.26,121.54,119.69,106.10,93.50,33.96$.

## High Resolution ESI-MS:

$\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}$ for $\mathrm{C}_{14} \mathrm{H}_{13} \mathrm{BrN}_{3}=302.0284$ (calcd. 302.0293) $=[\mathrm{MB3}]^{+}$.

## Reaction of MB1-H with $\mathrm{SO}_{2}$ :



Yellow crystalline powder of $\mathrm{HL}(0.028 \mathrm{~g}, 0.124 \mathrm{mmol})$ was dissolved in dry acetonitrile ( 5 ml ) and purged $\mathrm{SO}_{2}$ at room temperature for 20 min . While purging $\mathrm{SO}_{2}$, the color of the solution turned to bright red. The resulting solution was stored at $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for one day and evaporated the solvent to get brick red precipitate. Crystals were grown in mixture of methanol and acetonitrile at $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}(0.020 \mathrm{~g}, 51 \%)$.
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d6):
$\delta_{\mathrm{H}}=8.15(\mathrm{dt}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}), 7.91(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}), 7.83(\mathrm{~m}, 5 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}), 3.89\left(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)$.
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( 100 MHz , DMSO-d6):
$\delta_{\mathrm{C}}=151.32,133.92,132.70,131.73,130.44,127.62,121.99,114.39,33.79$.

## High Resolution ESI-MS (cation mode):

$\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}$ for $\mathrm{C}_{15} \mathrm{H}_{15} \mathrm{~N}_{2}=223.1236$ (calcd. 223.1235) $=\mathrm{MB}^{+}$cation .
High Resolution ESI-MS (anion mode):
$\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}$ for $\mathrm{HSO}_{4}=96.9582$ (calcd. 96.9596 ) = bisulfate anion

## Reaction of MB2-H with $\mathrm{SO}_{2}$ :




Yellow crystalline powder of $\mathrm{HL}(0.060 \mathrm{~g}, 0.249 \mathrm{mmol})$ was dissolved in dry acetonitrile ( 4 ml ) and purged $\mathrm{SO}_{2}$ at room temperature for 20 min . While purging $\mathrm{SO}_{2}$, the color of the solution turned to brown. The resulting solution was stored at $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for one day and crystals were grown in one week at room temperature (0.076 g, 91\%).

## ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( 400 MHz , DMSO-d6):

$\delta=11.04(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OH}), 8.12(\mathrm{dd}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}), 7.76$ (dd, 2H, Ar), 7.67 (m, 2H, Ar), 7.22 (m, $2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ar}), 3.87$ (s, 6H, CH ${ }_{3}$ ).
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( 100 MHz , DMSO-d6):
8157.58, 149.98, 135.96, 132.72, 132.63, 127.56, 120.87, 117.84, 114.34, 108.47, 33.54.

High Resolution ESI-MS (cation mode):
$m / z=239.1167($ calcd. 239.1184$)=$ MB2 $^{+}$cation .

## High Resolution ESI-MS (anion mode):

$\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}$ for $\mathrm{HSO}_{4}=96.9572$ (calcd. 96.9596 ) = bisulfate anion

## Reaction of MB-3 with $\mathrm{SO}_{2}$ :



Yellow powder of HL ( $37 \mathrm{mg}, 0.121 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was dissolved in dry acetonitrile (4 ml ) and purged $\mathrm{SO}_{2}$ at room temperature for 20 min . While purging $\mathrm{SO}_{2}$, the color of the solution turned to brown. The resulting solution was stored at $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for one day and crystals were formed immediately at $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}(0.041 \mathrm{mg}, 85 \%)$.
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( 400 MHz , DMSO d6):
$\delta_{H}=8.19(\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ph}), 8.13-8.10(\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{py}), 7.78(\mathrm{dd}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ph}), 4.06\left(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)$.
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( 100 MHz , DMSO-d6):
$\delta_{\mathrm{C}}=146.80,142.93,142.18,142.14,132.98,132.62,128.94,128.25,114.69,34.18$.

High Resolution ESI-MS (cation mode):
$m / z=302.0290($ calcd. 302.0293$)=$ MB3 $^{+}$cation .

## High Resolution ESI-MS (anion mode):

$\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}$ for $\mathrm{HSO}_{4}=96.9590$ (calcd. 96.9596 ) = bisulfate anion

Figure S 1. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR of MB1- H in $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$.


SFigure S 2. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR of MB1-H in $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$.


Figure S 3. ESI-MS of MB1-H.
$[\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{H}]^{+}=\mathrm{C}_{15} \mathrm{H}_{15} \mathrm{~N}_{2}=223.1231$ (obs); 223.1235 (calcd.).


MB1-H


Figure S 4. Isotopic distribution simulated for $\mathrm{MB1}^{+}$cation.


Figure S 5. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR of $[\mathrm{MB1} 1]\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$.



Figure S 6. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR of $[\mathrm{MB} 1]\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$.



Figure S 7. ESI-MS of [MB1] $\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$ (cation mode).



See Figure S 4 for simulated isotopic distribution.

Figure S 8. ESI-MS of [MB1] $\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$ (anion mode).



Figure S 9. Isotopic distribution simulated for bisulphate anion.


Figure $\mathbf{S}$ 10. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR of MB2-H in DMSO-d6.


MB2-H


Figure S 11. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR of MB2-H in DMSO-d6.


Figure S 12. ESI-MS of MB2-H.
$[\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{H}]^{+}=\mathrm{C}_{15} \mathrm{H}_{15} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{O}=239.1186$ (obs); 239.1184 (calcd.).


MB2-H


Figure S 13. Isotopic distribution simulated for $\mathrm{MB2}^{+}$cation.


Figure S 14. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR of $[\mathrm{MB2} 2]\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$ in DMSO-d6.



Figure S 15. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left[\mathrm{MB2} 2\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)\right.$ in DMSO-d6.



Figure S 16. ESI-MS of [MB2] $\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$ (cation mode).


See Figure S 13 for simulated isotopic distribution.

Figure S 17. ESI-MS of [MB2] $\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$ (anion mode).



See Figure S 9, Figure S 18, Figure S 19, Figure S 20, Figure S 21, Figure S 22 for
simulated isotopic distribution.

Figure S 18. Isotopic distribution simulated for $\left[\mathrm{HSO}_{4}^{-} \ldots \mathrm{HSO}_{4}^{-}+\mathrm{H}^{+}\right]^{-}$.


Observed at 194.9240 (calculated $m / z=194.9269$ ). See Figure S 17.

Figure S 19. Isotopic distribution simulated for $\left[\mathrm{MB2}^{+} \ldots\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}^{-} \ldots \mathrm{HSO}_{4}^{-}\right)\right]$.


Observed at 433.0370 (calculated $m / z=433.075$ ). See Figure S 17.

Figure $\mathbf{S}$ 20. Isotopic distribution simulated for $\left[\left(\mathrm{MB2HSO}_{4}\right)_{2}-\mathrm{H}^{+}\right]^{-}$.


Observed at 671.1506 (calculated $m / z=671.1482$ ). Figure S 17.

Figure S 21. Isotopic distribution simulated for $\left[\left(\mathrm{MB2HSO}_{4}\right)_{2}+\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right]^{-}$.


Observed at 769.1174 (calculated $m / z=769.1155$ ). Figure S 17 .

Figure S 22. Isotopic distribution simulated for $\left[\left(\mathrm{MB2}^{2} \mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)_{3}-\mathrm{H}^{+}\right]^{-}$


Observed at 1007.2303 (calculated $m / z=1007.2262$ ). See Figure S 17.

Figure S 23. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR of $\mathrm{MB} 3-\mathrm{H}$ in $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$.


Figure S 24. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR MB3-H in $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$.


Figure S 25. ESI-MS of MB3-H.
$[\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{H}]^{+}=\mathrm{C}_{14} \mathrm{H}_{13} \mathrm{BrN}_{3}=302.0284$ (obs); 302.0293 (calcd.).


MB3-H


Figure S 26. Isotopic distribution simulated for $\mathrm{MB3}^{+}$cation.


Figure S 27. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR of $[\mathrm{MB3}]\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$ in DMSO-d6.



Figure S 28. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR of $[\mathrm{MB3}]\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$ in DMSO-d6.



Figure S 29. ESI-MS of [MB3] $\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$ (cation mode).



See Figure S $\mathbf{2 6}$ for simulated isotopic distribution.

Figure S 30. ESI-MS of [MB3] $\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$ (anion mode).



See Figure S 9 for simulated isotopic distribution.

Figure S 31. Solid state structure of [MB1] $\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$


Selected distances $(\AA \AA)$ and angles( ${ }^{\circ}$ : S(1)-O(2)\#1, 1.408(4); S(1)-O(2), 1.408(4); $\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{O}(2 \mathrm{~A}), 1.477(18) ; \mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{O}(2 \mathrm{~A}) \# 1,1.477(18) ; \mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{O}(1), 1.495(4) ; \mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{O}(1) \# 1$, $1.495(4) ; \mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{O}(1 \mathrm{~A}), 1.528(16) ; \mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{O}(1 \mathrm{~A}) \# 1 \quad, \quad 1.528(16) ; \mathrm{O}(2) \# 1-\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{O}(2)$, 116.5(3); O(2)\#1-S(1)-O(2A)\#1, 50.4(8); O(2)-S(1)-O(2A)\#1, 93.4(7); O(2)\#1-S(1)$\mathrm{O}(1), 106.5(2) ; \mathrm{O}(2)-\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{O}(1), 111.6(3) ; \mathrm{O}(2) \# 1-\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{O}(1) \# 1,111.6(3) ; \mathrm{O}(2)-\mathrm{S}(1)-$ $\mathrm{O}(1) \# 1,106.5(2) ; \mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{O}(1) \# 1,103.4(3) ; \mathrm{O}(2 \mathrm{~A})-\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{O}(1 \mathrm{~A}), 106.1(9) ; \mathrm{O}(2 \mathrm{~A}) \# 1-$ $\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{O}(1 \mathrm{~A}) \quad, 13.8(11) ; \mathrm{O}(2) \# 1-\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{O}(1 \mathrm{~A}) \# 1,73.5(9) ; \mathrm{O}(2)-\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{O}(1 \mathrm{~A}) \# 1,159.5(7) ;$ O(1)-S(1)-O(1A)\#1, 80.1(8); O(1)\#1-S(1)-O(1A)\#1, 53.3(7).

Figure S 32. Packing diagram of [MB1]((%5Cmathrm%7BHSO%7D_%7B4%7D))


Table S 1. Crystal data for $[\mathrm{MB} 1]\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$


| Identification code | 12janb | CCDC- 1541081 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Empirical formula | C16 H20 N2 O5 S |  |
| Formula weight | 352.40 |  |
| Temperature | $100(2) \mathrm{K}$ |  |
| Wavelength | $0.71073 \AA$ |  |
| Crystal system | Orthorhombic | $\alpha=90^{\circ}$. |
| Space group | P n n a | $\beta=90^{\circ}$. |
| Unit cell dimensions | $\mathrm{a}=6.7039(12) \AA$ | $\gamma=90^{\circ}$. |
|  | $\mathrm{b}=10.6697(18) \AA$ |  |
|  | $\mathrm{c}=22.602(4) \AA$ |  |
| Volume | $1616.7(5) \AA^{3}$ |  |
| Z | 4 |  |
| Density (calculated) | $1.448 \mathrm{Mg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ |  |
| Absorption coefficient | $0.230 \mathrm{~mm}-1$ |  |
| F(000) | 744 |  |
| Theta range for data collection | 3.170 to $25.249^{\circ}$. |  |
| Index ranges | $-7<=\mathrm{h}<=8,-12<=\mathrm{k}<=12,-27<=\mathrm{l<}=23$ |  |
| Reflections collected | 11999 |  |
| Independent reflections | $1466[\mathrm{R}($ int $)=0.0789]$ |  |
| Completeness to theta $=$ <br> $25.249^{\circ}$ | $99.9 \%$ |  |
| Absorption correction | Semi-empirical from equivalents |  |
| Max. and min. transmission | 0.7457 and 0.6437 |  |
| Refinement method | Full-matrix least-squares on $\mathrm{F}^{2}$ |  |
| Data / restraints / parameters | $1466 / 13 / 130$ |  |
| Goodness-of-fit on $\mathrm{F}^{2}$ | 1.024 |  |
| Final R indices [l>2sigma(l)] | $\mathrm{R} 1=0.0648, \mathrm{wR2}=0.1552$ |  |
| R indices (all data) | $\mathrm{R} 1=0.1008, \mathrm{wR2}=0.1754$ |  |
| Largest diff. peak and hole | 0.782 and $-0.376 \mathrm{e} . \AA^{\AA}-3$ |  |
|  |  |  |

Figure S 33. Solid state structure of [MB2] $\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$




Selected distances $(\AA)$ and angles $\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ : $\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{O}(8)$
1.4315(16);
$\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{O}(5)$, $1.4385(16) ; \mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{O}(7), 1.4761(15) ; \mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{O}(6), 1.5574(16) ; \mathrm{S}(3)-\mathrm{O}(11), 1.4452(16) ;$ $\mathrm{S}(3)-\mathrm{O}(10), 1.4502(16) ; \mathrm{S}(3)-\mathrm{O}(9), 1.4640(15) ; \mathrm{S}(3)-\mathrm{O}(12), 1.5521(15) ; \mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{C}(11)$, 1.352(3); O(2)-C(26), 1.348(2); N(4)-C(17), 1.338(3); N(4)-C(19), 1.390(3); N(4)$\mathrm{C}(18), 1.460(3) ; \mathrm{N}(3)-\mathrm{C}(17)$, 1.341(3); $\mathrm{N}(3)-\mathrm{C}(20)$, 1.396(3); N(3)-C(16), 1.468(3); $\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(2), 1.341(3) ; \mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(4), 1.388(3) ; \mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(3), 1.467(3) ; \mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2), 1.336(3)$; $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(5), 1.395(3) ; \mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1), 1.469(3) ; \mathrm{O}(8)-\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{O}(5), 115.23(10) ; \mathrm{O}(8)-\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{O}(7)$, 111.48(10); O(5)-S(2)-O(7), 111.59(9); O(8)-S(2)-O(6), 107.90(10); O(5)-S(2)-O(6), 103.69(9); O(7)-S(2)-O(6), 106.17(9); O(11)-S(3)-O(10), 113.61(9); O(11)-S(3)-O(9), 111.64(9); O(10)-S(3)-O(9), 112.04(9); O(11)-S(3)-O(12), 104.15(9); O(10)-S(3)O(12), 107.48(9); O(9)-S(3)-O(12), 107.33(9); C(17)-N(4)-C(19), 108.69(18); C(17)-$\mathrm{N}(4)-\mathrm{C}(18), 126.17(18) ; \mathrm{C}(19)-\mathrm{N}(4)-\mathrm{C}(18), 125.10(18) ; \mathrm{C}(17)-\mathrm{N}(3)-\mathrm{C}(20), 108.57(17)$; $\mathrm{C}(17)-\mathrm{N}(3)-\mathrm{C}(16), \quad 126.32(18) ; \quad \mathrm{C}(20)-\mathrm{N}(3)-\mathrm{C}(16), \quad 125.06(18) ; \quad \mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(4)$, 108.71(17); C(2)-N(2)-C(3), 125.82(18); C(4)-N(2)-C(3), 125.46(18); C(2)-N(1)-C(5), 108.90(17); C(2)-N(1)-C(1), 125.76(18); C(5)-N(1)-C(1), 125.33(18).

Figure S 34. Packing diagram of $[\mathrm{MB2} 2]\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$



Table S 2. Crystal data for $[\mathrm{MB2} 2]\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$



| Identification code | 6nova_0m | CCDC-1541079 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Empirical formula | C15 H16 N2 O5 S |  |
| Formula weight | 336.36 |  |
| Temperature | 293(2) K |  |
| Wavelength | 0.71073 A |  |
| Crystal system | Triclinic |  |
| Space group | P -1 |  |
| Unit cell dimensions | $\mathrm{a}=10.8743$ (8) $\AA$ | $\alpha=64.0149(19)^{\circ}$. |
|  | $\mathrm{b}=12.9713(9) \AA$ | $\beta=71.014(2)^{\circ}$. |
|  | c = 13.3718(10) $\AA$ | $\gamma=70.772(2)^{\circ}$. |
| Volume | 1564.1(2) $\AA^{3}$ |  |
| z | 4 |  |
| Density (calculated) | $1.428 \mathrm{Mg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ |  |
| Absorption coefficient | $0.234 \mathrm{~mm}^{-1}$ |  |
| F(000) | 704 |  |
| Crystal size | $0.22 \times 0.20 \times 0.18 \mathrm{~mm}^{3}$ |  |
| Theta range for data collection | 1.98 to $26.00^{\circ}$. |  |
| Index ranges | -13<=h<=13, -15<=k<=15, -16< | <=16 |
| Reflections collected | 20542 |  |
| Independent reflections | $6143[\mathrm{R}$ (int) $=0.0441]$ |  |
| Completeness to theta $=26.00^{\circ}$ | 99.9 \% |  |
| Absorption correction | None |  |
| Refinement method | Full-matrix least-squares on $\mathrm{F}^{2}$ |  |
| Data / restraints / parameters | 6143 / 0 / 423 |  |
| Goodness-of-fit on $\mathrm{F}^{2}$ | 1.020 |  |
| Final R indices [l>2sigma(I)] | $\mathrm{R} 1=0.0439, \mathrm{wR} 2=0.1279$ |  |
| R indices (all data) | $\mathrm{R} 1=0.0619, \mathrm{wR} 2=0.1427$ |  |
| Largest diff. peak and hole | 0.445 and -0.557e. $\AA^{-3}$ |  |

Figure S 35. Solid state structure of [MB3] $\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$



Selected distances $(\AA)$ and angles $\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ : $\operatorname{Br}(1)-\mathrm{C}(14) 1.896(4) ; \mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{O}(4), 1.431(3) ; \mathrm{S}(1)-$ $\mathrm{O}(1), 1.436(3) ; \mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{O}(3), 1.468(3) ; \mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{O}(2), 1.576(3) ; \mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(2), 1.340(4) ; \mathrm{N}(2)-$ $\mathrm{C}(4), 1.393(4) ; \mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(1), 1.467(4) ; \mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2), 1.344(4) ; \mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(9), 1.389(4) ; \mathrm{N}(1)-$ $\mathrm{C}(3), \quad 1.462(5) ; \quad \mathrm{N}(3)-\mathrm{C}(14), \quad 1.308(5) ; \quad \mathrm{N}(3)-\mathrm{C}(10), \quad 1.333(5) ; \quad \mathrm{O}(4)-\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{O}(1)$, 114.54(17); O(4)-S(1)-O(3), 112.36(17); O(1)-S(1)-O(3), 110.75(17); O(4)-S(1)-O(2), 107.74(16); O(1)-S(1)-O(2), 105.14(14); O(3)-S(1)-O(2), 105.59(15); C(2)-N(2)-C(4), 108.7(3); $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(1), \quad 125.5(3) ; \quad \mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(1), \quad 125.8(3) ; \quad \mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(9)$, 108.3(3); $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(3), \quad 125.9(3) ; \quad \mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(3), \quad 125.6(3) ; \quad \mathrm{C}(14)-\mathrm{N}(3)-\mathrm{C}(10)$, 116.4(3); $\quad \mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{N}(1), \quad 107.2(3) ; \quad \mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{C}(8), \quad 122.2(3) ; \quad \mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{C}(8)$, 130.6(3); $N(2)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{N}(1), \quad 109.4(3) ; \quad \mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(10), \quad 124.8(3) ; \quad \mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(10)$, 125.7(3); $N(3)-C(14)-B r(1), 117.4(3) ; C(13)-C(14)-B r(1), 117.4(3)$.

Figure S 36. Packing diagram of [MB3] $\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$


Table S 3. Crystal data for $[\mathrm{MB3} 3]\left(\mathrm{HSO}_{4}\right)$.



| Identification code | 20febc_0m | CCDC-1541080 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Empirical formula | C14 H14 Br N3 O4 S |  |
| Formula weight | 400.25 |  |
| Temperature | 293(2) K |  |
| Wavelength | 0.71073 A |  |
| Crystal system | Triclinic |  |
| Space group | P-1 |  |
| Unit cell dimensions | $\mathrm{a}=7.907(5) \AA$ | $\alpha=83.119(5)^{\circ}$. |
|  | $\mathrm{b}=8.536(5) \AA$ | $\beta=78.561(5)^{\circ}$. |
|  | $\mathrm{c}=11.911(5) \AA$ | $\gamma=83.567(5)^{\circ}$. |
| Volume | 779.1(7) $\AA^{3}$ |  |
| Z | 2 |  |
| Density (calculated) | $1.706 \mathrm{Mg} / \mathrm{m}^{3}$ |  |
| Absorption coefficient | $2.796 \mathrm{~mm}^{-1}$ |  |
| F(000) | 404 |  |
| Crystal size | $0.20 \times 0.18 \times 0.16 \mathrm{~mm}^{3}$ |  |
| Theta range for data collection | 2.64 to $25.06^{\circ}$. |  |
| Index ranges | $-9<=h<=9,-10<=k<=10$, |  |
| Reflections collected | 9504 |  |
| Independent reflections | $2754[\mathrm{R}$ (int) $=0.0343]$ |  |
| Completeness to theta $=25.06^{\circ}$ | 99.6 \% |  |
| Absorption correction | None |  |
| Refinement method | Full-matrix least-squares |  |
| Data / restraints / parameters | 2754 / 0 / 211 |  |
| Goodness-of-fit on $\mathrm{F}^{2}$ | 1.249 |  |
| Final R indices [ $1>2$ sigma( 1 ]] | $\mathrm{R} 1=0.0428, \mathrm{wR} 2=0.1456$ |  |
| R indices (all data) | $\mathrm{R} 1=0.0495, \mathrm{wR} 2=0.1523$ |  |
| Largest diff. peak and hole | 2.029 and -1.349 e. $A^{-3}$ |  |

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