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# Conversion from Heterometallic to Homometallic Metal–Organic Frameworks

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**Abstract:** Two new heterometallic metal–organic frameworks (MOFs), LnZnTPO **1** and **2**, and two homometallic MOFs, LnTPO **3** and **4** (Ln = Eu for **1** and **3**, and Tb for **2** and **4**; H<sub>3</sub>TPO = tris-(4-carboxyphenyl)phosphine oxide) were synthesized, and their structures and properties were analyzed. They were prepared by solvothermal reaction of the C<sub>3</sub>-symmetric ligand H<sub>3</sub>TPO with the corresponding metal ion(s) (a mixture of Ln<sup>3+</sup> and Zn<sup>2+</sup> for **1** and **2**, and Ln<sup>3+</sup> alone for **3** and **4**). Single-crystal X-ray diffraction (SXRD) analysis revealed that **1** and **3** are isostructural to **2** and **4**, respectively. Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) showed that the framework is thermally stable up to about 400 °C for **1** and **2**, and about 450 °C for **3** and **4**. Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) analysis showed their pore structure changes during drying processes. The shapes of gas sorption isotherms for **1** and **3** are almost identical to those for **2** and **4**, respectively. Solvothermal immersion of **1** and **2** in Tb<sup>3+</sup> and Eu<sup>3+</sup> solutions resulted in the framework metal-ion exchange affording **4** and **3**, respectively, as confirmed by photoluminescence (PL), PXRD, infrared (IR), and inductively coupled plasma atomic emission spectroscopy (ICP-AES) analyses.

## Introduction

Metal–organic frameworks (MOFs), also called porous coordination polymers (PCPs), are porous crystalline solids composed of metal nodes and organic bridges.<sup>[1]</sup> They are receiving much attention due to their ease of designed synthesis for implementing the predefined porosity and functionality in

dimensional structures of porous materials. MOFs with predetermined structures and properties can be practically constructed by stitching metal-containing secondary building units (SBUs) formed *in situ* and organic linkers preassembled by organic synthesis. They are of great interest for gas storage,<sup>[2]</sup> gas capture and separation,<sup>[3]</sup> catalysis,<sup>[4]</sup> and sensing.<sup>[5]</sup>

Post-synthetic modifications of nanoporous MOFs can be an effective way to modulate their structures and properties. They include metal-ion exchange in the metal nodes and pores without losing the structural integrity of original MOFs.<sup>[6]</sup> While metal-ion exchange in the pores is frequently exercised, that in the metal nodes is rarely achieved due to its difficulty without significantly altering the original framework structure.<sup>[7]</sup> Accordingly, luminescent MOFs for sensing a specific metal ion or molecule are often designed based on their spectral changes upon exchange of metal ions and molecules in the pores, but rarely metal ions in the metal nodes.<sup>[8]</sup>

Lanthanide–organic frameworks (LOFs) containing lanthanide ions in the metal nodes can be useful for directly sensing metal-ion exchange in the metal nodes.<sup>[6d, 8d, 9]</sup> This is because the photoluminescence<sup>[10]</sup> (PL) intensity of LOFs decreases as the PL lanthanide ions in the metal nodes are removed from LOFs upon their exchange with other optically different metal ions. However, LOFs containing lanthanide ions in the metal nodes are rarely explored despite their potential for directly sensing metal-ion exchange in the metal nodes. LOFs with the open metal sites capable of increasing gas adsorption enthalpy for stronger metal ion–gas binding can be easily prepared.<sup>[9, 11]</sup> This is because lanthanide ions have high coordination numbers and thus lanthanide-coordinating solvent molecules can be easily removed under vacuum post-synthetically to form the open metal sites without losing the framework integrity of original LOFs. LOFs with the Lewis basic sites capable of increasing gas adsorption enthalpy can be prepared by using a phosphine oxide-based tricarboxylate ligand.<sup>[3c, 3e, 12]</sup> This is because this ligand has a lone pair of electrons on the O atom of the P=O bond, with the O atom arranged in the pores of LOFs. However, LOFs with open metal sites and Lewis basic sites<sup>[3c, 3e, 12c, 13]</sup> are rarely explored despite their potential for exhibiting improved gas capture properties.

Herein, we report the syntheses, structures, and properties of two new heterometallic MOFs, LnZnTPO **1** and **2**, and two homometallic MOFs, LnTPO **3**<sup>[9]</sup> and **4** (Ln = Eu for **1** and **3**, and Tb for **2** and **4**; H<sub>3</sub>TPO = tris-(4-carboxyphenyl)phosphine oxide, Figure 1a). LnZnTPO and LnTPO containing both Ln<sup>3+</sup> and Zn<sup>2+</sup>, and Ln<sup>3+</sup> alone, respectively, in the metal nodes were prepared by solvothermal reaction of the corresponding metal ion(s) with the C<sub>3</sub>-symmetric ligand H<sub>3</sub>TPO. The crystal structures,

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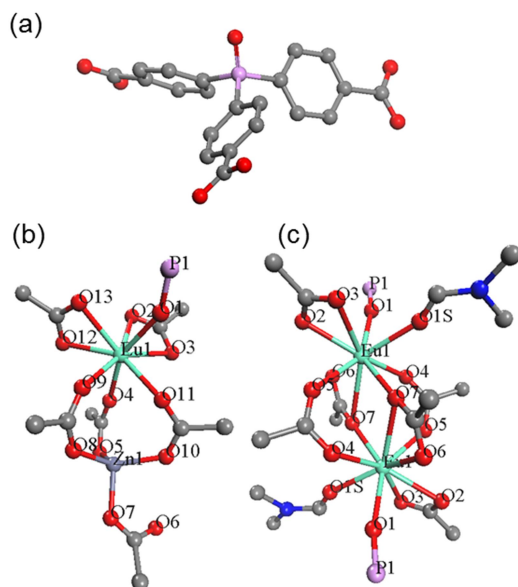
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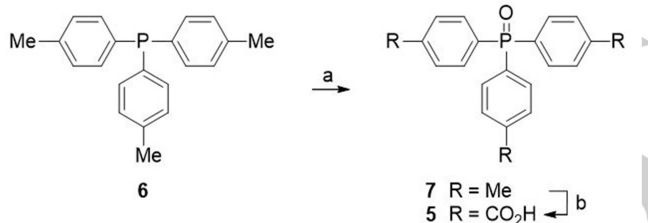
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framework stabilities, and gas sorption properties of LnZnTPO and LnTPO were analyzed. Solvothermal immersion of LnZnTPO in Ln<sup>3+</sup> solution resulted in metal-ion exchange in the metal nodes, affording LnTPO, as confirmed by spectroscopic analyses.



**Figure 1.** Structures of TPO ligand (a) and SBUs in **1** (b) and **3** (c). Structures of SBUs in **2** and **4** are shown in Figure S1 of the Supporting Information. The structure of TPO was modeled by single crystal X-ray diffraction analysis.



**Scheme 1.** <sup>a</sup>Reagents and conditions: (a) H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt, 100%; (b) KMnO<sub>4</sub>, Py/H<sub>2</sub>O (1:3), 140 °C, 84%.

## Results and Discussion

### Syntheses

Solvothermal reaction of H<sub>3</sub>TPO with a mixture of Ln(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O and Zn(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O in DMF, or Ln(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O alone in a mixed solvent (DMF/H<sub>2</sub>O/MeOH = 3:3:1 v/v), together with a small amount of HNO<sub>3</sub>, if needed, produced MOFs **1–4** as a colorless crystal. Here, H<sub>3</sub>TPO **5** was synthesized from tri(*p*-tolyl)phosphine by the modified method of refs. 6a and 6c (Scheme 1). Oxidation of phosphorus to its oxide with H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and then of the methyl to carboxyl group with KMnO<sub>4</sub> provides H<sub>3</sub>TPO in a higher yield within a shorter time when compared to their oxidation only with KMnO<sub>4</sub>. Note that acidic conditions are needed for the formation of **1–3** and adjusted with HNO<sub>3</sub>.

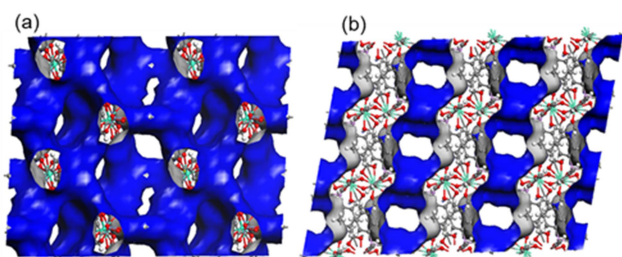
### Crystal structures

The single crystals of both **1** and **2** are in the triclinic system with a *P*-1 space group (Figure S1 and Tables S1 and S2 of the Supporting Information). They are isostructural, with the only difference being the Ln<sup>3+</sup> ion (Eu<sup>3+</sup> for **1** and Tb<sup>3+</sup> for **2**), one of two different metal ions (Ln<sup>3+</sup> and Zn<sup>2+</sup>) present in their one SBU (Figure 1b and Figure S3 of the Supporting Information). The Ln<sup>3+</sup> ion is coordinated by eight O atoms of five carboxylates and one P=O bond from six TPOs, whereas the Zn<sup>2+</sup> ion is tetrahedrally coordinated by four O atoms of four carboxylates from four TPOs. These two different metal ions are triply bridged by three carboxylates of three TPOs, leading to the construction of a paddle wheel-like SBU acting as a 6-connected node. The average distance between Ln<sup>3+</sup> and Zn<sup>2+</sup> ions is 4.08 Å for **1** and 4.06 Å for **2**. The average Ln–O and Zn–O bond lengths are 2.46 Å and 1.95 Å for **1** and 2.44 Å and 1.94 Å for **2**, respectively. There are two kinds of TPOs in the unit cell, each of which has seven O atoms, six from three carboxylates and one from one P=O bond (Figure S1 of the Supporting Information). Only the six O atoms of one TPO are coordinated to metal ions in both kinds of TPOs, but show different coordination modes between the two kinds of TPOs. The O atom of the P=O bond, one of the seven O atoms presented in each TPO, is coordinated to the Ln<sup>3+</sup> ion in one TPO centered at P1 atom and to neither Ln<sup>3+</sup> nor Zn<sup>2+</sup> ion in the other TPO centered at P2 atom. That is, the O atom of the P=O bond is coordinated to the Ln<sup>3+</sup> ion and to none of the Ln<sup>3+</sup> and Zn<sup>2+</sup> ions when one and none of the six O atoms from three carboxylates is free from metal coordination, respectively. Note that the average Ln–O bond lengths are 2.385(3) and 2.404(3)–2.791(3) for a coordination bond of the Ln<sup>3+</sup> ion with O atoms of the P=O bond and carboxylates, respectively, indicating a stronger 3D network-forming bond between the Ln<sup>3+</sup> ion and the O atom of the P=O bond. In a unit cell of **1** and **2**, there are two SBUs, two Ln<sup>3+</sup> ions, two Zn<sup>2+</sup> ions, four TPOs, and four non-coordinated O atoms. SBUs are connected to each other by TPOs to form a three-dimensional structure and thereby a net entangled structure. Note that the frameworks of **1** and **2** have a charge of –1 per SBU when considering the charges of metal ions and ligand. One H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> ion per SBU was added when they were prepared by solvothermal reaction under acidic conditions as confirmed by elemental analysis.

The single crystals of both **3** and **4** are in the triclinic systems with a *P*-1 space group (Figure S2 and Tables S3 and S4 of the Supporting Information). They are isostructural, with the only difference being the Ln<sup>3+</sup> ion (Eu<sup>3+</sup> for **3** and Tb<sup>3+</sup> for **4**), two of which are present in their one SBU (Figure 1c and Figure S4 of the Supporting Information). Each Ln<sup>3+</sup> ion is coordinated by nine O atoms: eight O atoms of five carboxylates and one P=O bond from six TPOs and one O atom of one dimethylamide group from one DMF molecule. The two Ln<sup>3+</sup> ions are quadruply bridged by four carboxylates of four TPOs, leading to the construction of a paddle-wheel like SBU acting as an 8-connected node. The average distance between two Ln<sup>3+</sup> ions is 4.08 Å for **3** and 4.06 Å for **4**. The average Ln–O bond length is 2.34 Å for **3** and 2.31 Å for **4**. There are two TPOs in the unit cell

(Figure S2 of the Supporting Information). All seven atoms of each TPO are coordinated to the  $\text{Ln}^{3+}$  ion. The O atom of the P=O bond in each TPO centered at P1 atom is coordinated to each of two  $\text{Ln}^{3+}$  ions in one SBU. There are two kinds of carboxylates bridging between two  $\text{Ln}^{3+}$  ions. Two of those four carboxylates are bidentate, bridging two  $\text{Ln}^{3+}$  ions in such a way that each of two O atoms of one carboxylate is coordinated to each of two  $\text{Ln}^{3+}$  ions in one SBU. The two remaining carboxylates are tridentate, bridging two  $\text{Ln}^{3+}$  ions in such a way that one O atom of one carboxylate is coordinated to one of two  $\text{Ln}^{3+}$  ions and the other O atom to both of two  $\text{Ln}^{3+}$  ions. In a unit cell of **3** and **4**, there are one SBU, two  $\text{Ln}^{3+}$  ions, two TPOs, no non-coordinated O atoms, and two DMF molecules. SBUs are connected to each other by TPOs to form a three-dimensional structure and thereby a net entangled structure.

Solvent molecules in pores of **1–4** were removed using PLATON and Squeeze of WinGX. When solvent-accessible void volumes are calculated using the SOLV function of PLATON, **1–4** are 0.529, 0.562, 0.413, and 0.421  $\text{cm}^3/\text{g}$ , which correspond to about 54.2%, 55.7%, 34.2%, and 49.2% of the total unit cell volume, respectively (Figure 2, Tables S5, and S6). Note that these values for **3** and **4** cannot be accurately calculated due to  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$  ions in the pores.

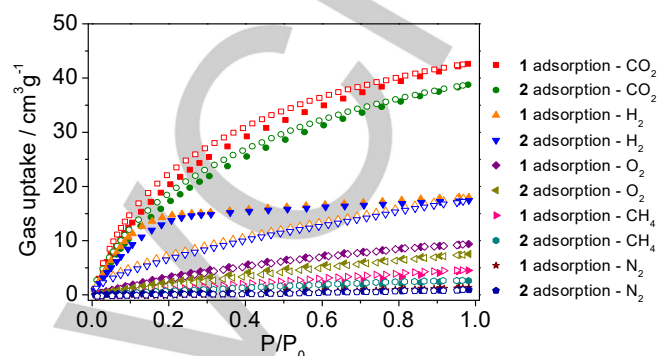


**Figure 2.** Solvent-accessible void volumes of **1** (a) and **3** (b). The results for **2** and **4** are almost identical to those for **1** and **3**, respectively.

### Thermogravimetric and PXRD analysis

To investigate the gas adsorption properties of **1–4**, the structural stability of their pores in the empty state needs to be examined beforehand. TGA data show that **1** and **2** are thermally stable up to about 400 °C, whereas **3** and **4** are thermally stable up to about 450 °C (Figures S5 and S6 of the Supporting Information). The solvent molecules in the pore start to be removed at about 30 °C for **1–4**. The number of DMF and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  molecules in the pore is calculated by TGA to be 2.5 and 1.5 for **1**, 5.5 and 6 for **2**, 2 and 1.5 for **3**, and 2 and 2 for **4**. This is consistent with the number of solvent molecules identified by elemental analysis. The difference in the amount of solvent molecules in the pore between **1** and **2** and between **3** and **4** appears to be due to their different degrees of drying. Comparing the PXRD data of **1–4** prepared with and without complete removal of solvents in the pore shows that the peak shift occurs primarily at large angles upon their removal (Figure S7). This result indicates that the framework of **1–4** remains unchanged, but their pore structure is distorted and thus the structural environment in the pore changes during drying

processes.<sup>[14]</sup> We performed Pawley refinement using experimental data and single crystal structure data through MS Modeling software. The simulated PXRD pattern data and the actual experimental data obtained through Pawley Refinement were displayed as one graph and inserted into the supporting information (Figure S8).



**Figure 3.** Gas sorption isotherms at 273 K for **1** and **2**. The solid and open shapes represent adsorption and desorption isotherms, respectively.

### Gas sorption

To study the gas sorption properties of **1–4**, their gas sorption isotherms were measured at various temperatures (see the Supporting Information for full description). All the gas adsorption isotherms at 273 K for **1** and **2** are shown in Figure 3. The  $\text{N}_2$  sorption isotherms at 77 K for **1** and **2** show typical type I behavior, thus ensuring permanent microporosity (Figure S9 of the Supporting Information).<sup>[15]</sup> Comparing the  $\text{N}_2$  and  $\text{H}_2$  adsorption isotherms at 77 K for **1** and **2**, it is seen that a large amount of  $\text{N}_2$  is precipitously adsorbed even at low pressure.  $\text{N}_2$  adsorption at 273 K for **1** and **2** was almost not achieved. The Brunauer–Emmett–Teller (BET) and Langmuir specific surface areas for **1** and **2** are shown in Table S5 of the Supporting Information. The pore volumes calculated from the single crystal structures of **1** and **2** are larger than those calculated from their experimental BET specific surface areas. This is due to the occupancy of pore space by  $\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$  ions in **1** and **2**, both of which have an electric charge of  $-1$  per SBU. The  $\text{H}_2$  sorption isotherms at 77, 87, and 273 K for **1** and **2** show typical type I behavior (Figure S10 of the Supporting Information). The maximum adsorption amount of  $\text{H}_2$  at 1 atm was measured for **1** and **2** at 77, 87, and 273 K. The maximum adsorption amount at theoretical high pressure was calculated using the Langmuir–Freundlich (LF) equation for **1** and **2** at 77 K (Figures S11 and S12 of the Supporting Information). The fitting parameters of the LF equation were determined for the  $\text{H}_2$  adsorption isotherms at 77 K and 87 K and then plugged into the Clausius–Clapeyron equation to calculate  $\text{H}_2$  adsorption enthalpy (Figures S11–S13 of the Supporting Information).<sup>[16]</sup> The maximum  $\text{H}_2$  adsorption enthalpy is about 8.11 kJ/mol for **1** and about 7.63 kJ/mol for **2** (Figures S14 and S15 of the Supporting Information). Note that the O atom of the P=O bond in the TPO centered at P2 atom is arranged in the pores of **1** and **2**, acting as a Lewis basic site for strong interaction with  $\text{H}_2$  molecules and thus increasing  $\text{H}_2$  adsorption enthalpy. The average  $\text{H}_2$  adsorption enthalpies were

7.69 and 6.64 kJ/mol for MOFs with and without open metal sites, respectively.<sup>[2a]</sup> Thus, the H<sub>2</sub> adsorption enthalpies for **1** and **2** having such Lewis basic sites are higher than those for MOFs having open metal sites. The CO<sub>2</sub> sorption isotherms at 195 and 273 K for **1** and **2** show typical type I behavior (Figure S16 of the Supporting Information). Their shapes at 195 K are similar to those of the N<sub>2</sub> sorption isotherms at 77 K. Compared with the N<sub>2</sub> adsorption isotherms, however, the CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption isotherms show a gentle curve, even with high adsorption achieved at 273 K. The O<sub>2</sub> sorption isotherms at 77 K for **1** and **2** show typical type I behavior at low pressure, but are attained only up to the relative pressure of 0.15, above which gaseous O<sub>2</sub> is driven to be liquefied by phase equilibrium (Figure S17 of the Supporting Information). The O<sub>2</sub> adsorption at 273 K is a very small amount compared with that at 77 K. The CH<sub>4</sub> sorption isotherms at 195 K for **1** and **2** show typical type I behavior (Figure S18 of the Supporting Information). Their shapes at 195 K are very similar to those of the H<sub>2</sub> sorption isotherms at 77 and 87 K. CH<sub>4</sub> adsorption at 273 K hardly occurs.

The N<sub>2</sub> sorption isotherms at 77 K for **3** and **4** show typical type I behavior, as in the case of **1** and **2** (Figure S19 of the Supporting Information). Comparing the N<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub> adsorption isotherms at 77 K for **3** and **4**, it is seen that a large amount of N<sub>2</sub> is precipitously adsorbed at low pressure. The BET and Langmuir specific surface areas for **3** and **4** are shown in Table S6 of the Supporting Information. The pore volumes calculated from the single crystal structures of **3** and **4** are similar to those calculated from their experimental BET specific surface areas. The H<sub>2</sub> sorption isotherms at 77, 87, and 273 K for **3** and **4** show typical type I behavior, as in the case of **1** and **2** (Figure S20 of the Supporting Information). The maximum H<sub>2</sub> adsorption enthalpy is about 8.15 kJ/mol for **3** and about 7.62 kJ/mol for **4** (Figures S20–S24 of the Supporting Information). Note that each Ln<sup>3+</sup> ion in **3** and **4** is coordinated by nine O atoms, one of which is from DMF molecule that can be removed upon high temperature activation under vacuum to form an open metal site without losing their framework integrity. Such an open metal site can act as a Lewis acidic site for strong interaction with H<sub>2</sub> molecules and thus increase H<sub>2</sub> adsorption enthalpy.<sup>[9]</sup> Thus, the H<sub>2</sub> adsorption enthalpies for **3** and **4** having such open metal sites are higher than those for MOFs having other open metal sites.<sup>[2a]</sup> The CO<sub>2</sub> sorption isotherms at 195 and 273 K for **3** and **4** show typical type I behavior, as in the case of **1** and **2** (Figure S25 of the Supporting Information).

### Metal-Ion exchange

Since **1** and **2** contain photoluminescence (PL) Eu<sup>3+</sup> and Tb<sup>3+</sup> ions in the SBU, they can be a novel PL probe for directly sensing metal-ion exchange in the metal nodes. To test this possibility, the PL properties of **1** and **2** were investigated before and after they were subject to exchange of their Eu<sup>3+</sup> and Tb<sup>3+</sup> with Tb<sup>3+</sup> and Eu<sup>3+</sup>, respectively. The PL spectra of **1** and **2** dispersed in DMF at 1.0 mM are shown in Figure 4. Upon excitation of **1** at 275 nm, a total of five emission peaks associated with <sup>5</sup>D<sub>0</sub>→<sup>7</sup>F<sub>J</sub> (J = 0–4) transitions appear, with the most intense peak for <sup>5</sup>D<sub>0</sub>→<sup>7</sup>F<sub>2</sub> at 620 nm (red).<sup>[17]</sup> Upon

excitation of **2** at 275 nm, a total of four emission peaks associated with <sup>5</sup>D<sub>4</sub>→<sup>7</sup>F<sub>J</sub> (J = 3–6) transitions appear, with the most intense peak for <sup>5</sup>D<sub>4</sub>→<sup>7</sup>F<sub>5</sub> at 550 nm (green).<sup>[17a, 18]</sup>

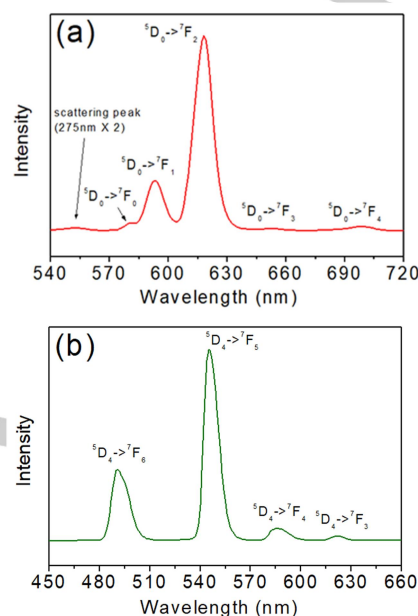


Figure 4. PL spectra of **1** (a) and **2** (b).

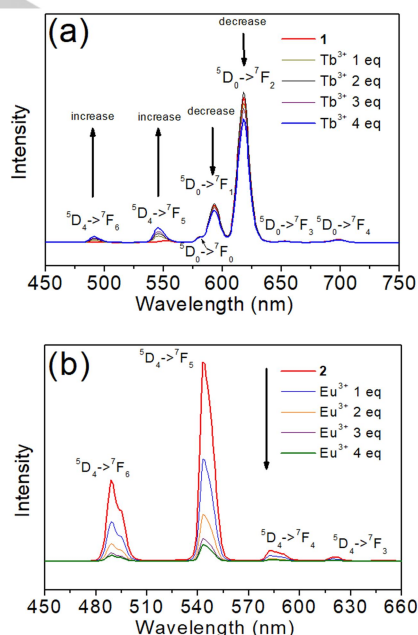
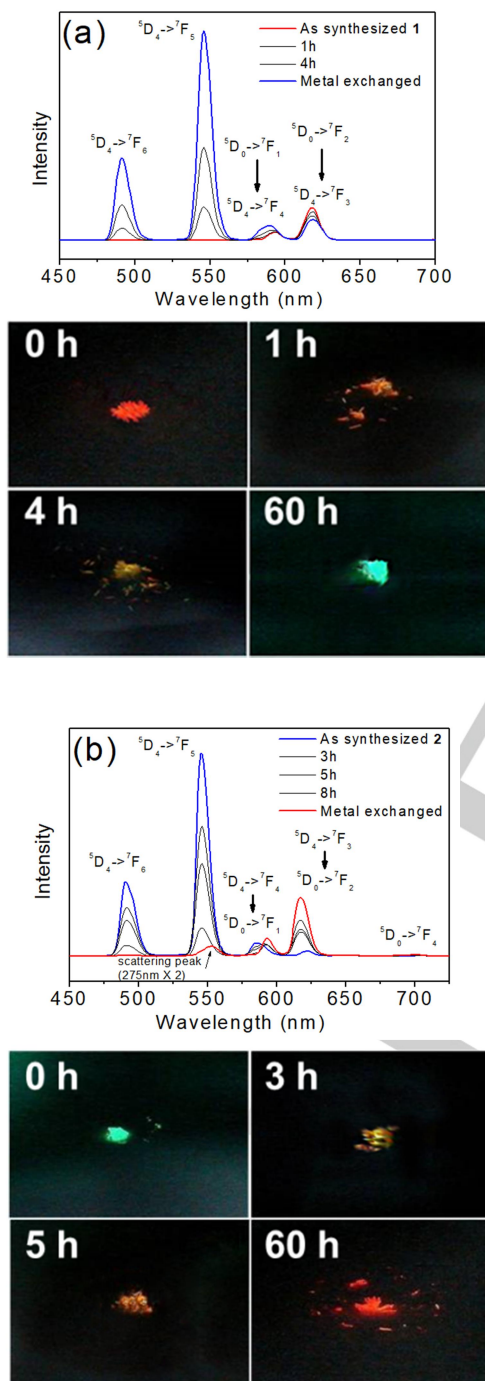


Figure 5. PL spectral changes of **1** (a) and **2** (b) in the presence of varying amounts (in equiv.) of Tb<sup>3+</sup> and Eu<sup>3+</sup> ions, respectively, at room temperature for 7 days.

The UV–vis spectra of TPO ligand show absorption peaks below 300 nm (Figure S26). The PL spectra of **1–4** upon excitation at 275 nm show metal-centered red (Eu) and green (Tb) emission peaks, respectively, which occur in LOFs through

the so-called antenna effect, without exhibiting ligand-centered emission peaks. This result indicates that the efficient ligand to metal energy transfer occurs when **1–4** are excited at 275 nm. No overlap between absorption spectra of ligand and emission spectra of **1–4** indirectly indicates that ligand does not involve the emission (Figure S27 of the Supporting Information)



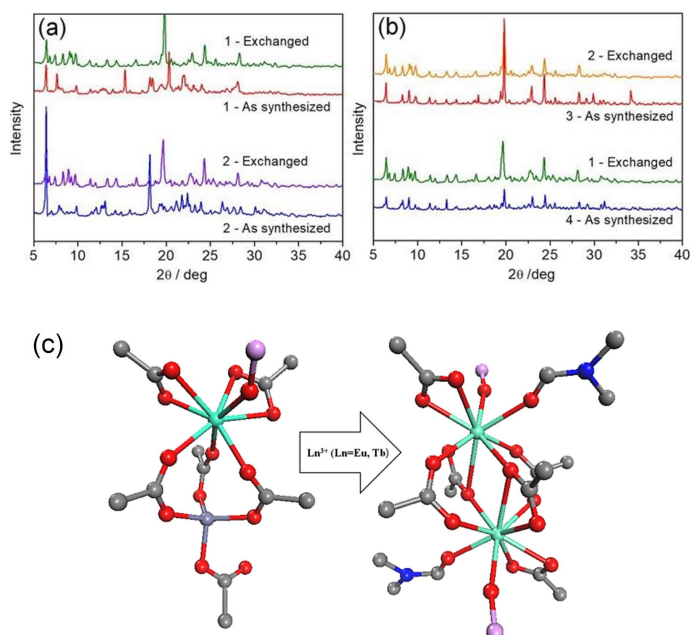
**Figure 6.** PL spectral changes of **1** (a) and **2** (b) in the presence of  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  ions, respectively, at 100 °C for varying times.

The PL spectra of **1** and **2**, which were dispersed in DMF at 1.0 mM and then placed in vials containing 0–4 equiv of  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  ions, respectively, at room temperature for 7 days, are shown in Figure 5. With an increasing amount of  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  added to **1**, the PL intensity for  ${}^5\text{D}_4 \rightarrow {}^7\text{F}_6$  and  ${}^5\text{D}_4 \rightarrow {}^7\text{F}_5$ , initially not detectable, increases, whereas that for  ${}^5\text{D}_0 \rightarrow {}^7\text{F}_1$  and  ${}^5\text{D}_0 \rightarrow {}^7\text{F}_2$  decreases. As the amount of  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  added to **2** increases, the PL intensity of all peaks for  ${}^5\text{D}_4 \rightarrow {}^7\text{F}_J$  ( $J = 3–6$ ) decreases without new peaks appearing. The PL spectral changes were also investigated for various metal ions (nitrate as an anion) including other lanthanide ions and colorless transition metal ions (Figures S28–S46 of the Supporting Information). When they were added to **2**, however, no noticeably significant decrease in the PL intensity of **2** was observed, except for the  $\text{Ce}^{3+}$  ion. These results indicate that the metal-ion exchange in the metal nodes only occur for **2** in the presence of  $\text{Ce}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  ions. Note that the PL spectra of **3** and **4** are almost identical to those of **1** and **2**, respectively (Figures S47 and S48 of the Supporting Information). This phenomenon decreases the emission spectrum of Eu and Tb due to the slow exchange of ions at room temperature.

For rapid metal-ion exchange, experiments were conducted at high metal-ion concentrations and temperatures. The PL spectra of **1** and **2**, which were dispersed in DMF at 1.0 M, placed in vials containing 1.0 M  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  ions, respectively, at 100 °C for 0–60 h, and then diluted 1000-fold for PL measurement, are shown in Figure 6. Upon solvothermal immersion of **1** in  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  solution, the peaks for  ${}^5\text{D}_4 \rightarrow {}^7\text{F}_6$  and  ${}^5\text{D}_4 \rightarrow {}^7\text{F}_5$ , initially not shown, appear, and the peaks for  ${}^5\text{D}_0 \rightarrow {}^7\text{F}_1$  and  ${}^5\text{D}_0 \rightarrow {}^7\text{F}_2$  (red) apparently shift to those for  ${}^5\text{D}_4 \rightarrow {}^7\text{F}_4$  and  ${}^5\text{D}_4 \rightarrow {}^7\text{F}_3$  (green). These peak shifts arise from changes in the combined PL intensities for decreasing  ${}^5\text{D}_0 \rightarrow {}^7\text{F}_1$  and  ${}^5\text{D}_0 \rightarrow {}^7\text{F}_2$  and their overlapping but increasing  ${}^5\text{D}_4 \rightarrow {}^7\text{F}_4$  and  ${}^5\text{D}_4 \rightarrow {}^7\text{F}_3$  with increasing immersion time. The PL spectral change of **1** was completed within 8 h. The PL spectral change of **2** occurred in an opposite manner. Upon solvothermal immersion of **2** in  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  solution, the peaks for  ${}^5\text{D}_4 \rightarrow {}^7\text{F}_6$  and  ${}^5\text{D}_4 \rightarrow {}^7\text{F}_5$  completely disappear, and the peaks for  ${}^5\text{D}_4 \rightarrow {}^7\text{F}_4$  and  ${}^5\text{D}_4 \rightarrow {}^7\text{F}_3$  (green) apparently shift to those for  ${}^5\text{D}_0 \rightarrow {}^7\text{F}_1$  and  ${}^5\text{D}_0 \rightarrow {}^7\text{F}_2$  (red). These peak shifts arise from changes in the combined PL intensities for decreasing  ${}^5\text{D}_4 \rightarrow {}^7\text{F}_4$  and  ${}^5\text{D}_4 \rightarrow {}^7\text{F}_3$  and their overlapping but increasing  ${}^5\text{D}_0 \rightarrow {}^7\text{F}_1$  and  ${}^5\text{D}_0 \rightarrow {}^7\text{F}_2$ . The PL spectral change of **2** was completed within 12 h. As a result, the PL data show that  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  in **1** are replaced with  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$ , and  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  in **2** are replaced with  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$ . The color change shown in the photos of Figure 6 and displayed on the CIE 1931 chromaticities (Figure S49 of the Supporting Information) clearly shows that the metal ions were exchanged.<sup>[19]</sup>

The PXRD patterns of **1** and **2** before and after their solvothermal immersion in  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  solutions, respectively, are shown in Figure 7. The PXRD patterns of **1** and **2** substantially differ between before and after such solvothermal immersion. However, The PXRD patterns of **1** and **2** solvothermally immersed in  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  solutions are almost identical to those of **4** and **3** directly prepared by solvothermal reaction of  $\text{H}_3\text{TPO}$  with  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$ , respectively. These results indicate that metal-ion exchange in the SBUs can occur

without their structural collapse under solvothermal conditions, converting **1** and **2** to **4** and **3**, respectively.

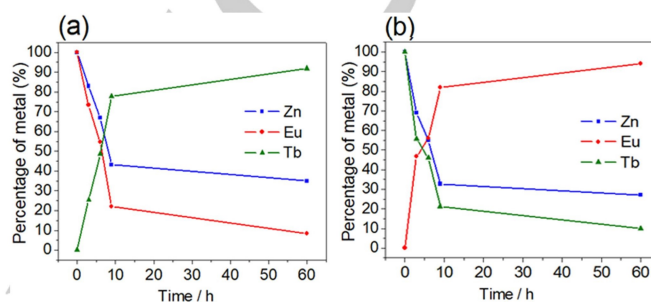


**Figure 7.** PXRD patterns of **1** and **2** before and after their solvothermal immersion in  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  solutions (a), and **3** and **4** directly prepared by solvothermal reaction of  $\text{H}_3\text{TPO}$  with  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  (b), and structural change in the SBUs upon metal-ion exchange converting **1** and **2** to **4** and **3** under solvothermal conditions (c), respectively.

The FTIR spectra of **1** and **2** before and after their solvothermal immersion in  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  solutions, respectively, are shown in Figure S50 of the Supporting Information. The FTIR spectra of **1** and **3** are nearly identical to those of **2** and **4**, indicating that the coordination modes between **1** and **2** and between **3** and **4** are almost vibrationally identical, as expected from having almost the same single crystal structures. The FTIR spectra of **1** and **2** differ between before and after such solvothermal immersion. Upon solvothermal immersion of **1** and **2**, the peak at  $1616\text{ cm}^{-1}$  is split into several peaks, and the peaks at  $1587$ ,  $1630$ ,  $1654$ , and  $1664\text{ cm}^{-1}$  are shifted to  $1178\text{ cm}^{-1}$  near  $1163\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and to  $1139\text{ cm}^{-1}$  near  $1132\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The FTIR spectra of **1** and **2** solvothermally immersed in  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  solutions are almost identical to those of **4** and **3** directly prepared by solvothermal reaction of  $\text{H}_3\text{TPO}$  with  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$ , respectively. These results indicate that metal-ion exchange in the SBUs can occur without the collapse of the coordination modes under solvothermal conditions, converting **1** to **4** and **2** to **3**, respectively.

The ICP-AES analyses of **1** and **2** before and after their solvothermal immersion in  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  solutions, respectively, are shown in Figure 8. Upon solvothermal immersion of **1**, the  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ -ion content in **1** decreases with a concomitant increase in its  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$ -ion content. Upon solvothermal immersion of **2**, the  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ -ion content in **2** decreases with a concomitant increase in its  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$ -ion content. The ICP-AES

analyses showed that about 90% of metal-ion exchange was achieved within 60 h. That is, about 10% of the original metal ions remain and thus not all **1** and **2** have been converted to **4** and **3**, respectively. Note that only about 70% of  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  ions are replaced with  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  ions upon metal-ion exchange in  $\text{CuHTPO}$ .<sup>[6a]</sup> In **1**,  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  ions are diffused through the pores to the surface of  $\text{EuZnTPO}$  and then slowly replaced with  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$ . Since metal-ion exchange takes place first on the surface,  $\text{TbTPO}$  forms on top of  $\text{EuZnTPO}$  and completely surrounds  $\text{EuZnTPO}$  to form the core-shell like structure of  $\text{EuZnTPO@TbTPO}$ . Thereby, the inner  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  was isolated and could not be replaced with  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  and thus only 90% of metal-ion exchange occurred.



**Figure 8.** ICP-AES analyses of **1** (a) and **2** (b) before and after their solvothermal immersion in  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  solutions, respectively.

EDX elemental mapping of **1** and **2** after their solvothermal in  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  solutions, respectively, in Figure S51 of the Supporting Information. Upon solvothermal immersion of **1**, the small amount of  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  and the large amount of  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  were observed. Likewise, upon solvothermal immersion of **1**, the small amount of  $\text{Tb}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  and the large amount of  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  were observed.

## Conclusions

In the present work, we prepared and characterized two new heterometallic MOFs,  $\text{LnZnTPO}$ , and two homometallic MOFs,  $\text{LnTPO}$  ( $\text{Ln} = \text{Eu}$  and  $\text{Tb}$ ). Upon metal-ion exchange in the metal nodes under solvothermal conditions,  $\text{LnZnTPO}$  immersed in  $\text{Ln}^{3+}$  solution converts to  $\text{LnTPO}$ , as confirmed by spectroscopic analyses.

## Experimental section

**General.**  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  spectra were recorded on a Bruker Ascend 500 NMR spectrometer. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) and coupling constants ( $J$ ) are reported in parts per million (ppm) and hertz (Hz), respectively.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra are referenced to  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$  (0.03% v/v tetramethylsilane in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ ) as an internal standard.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra are referenced to solvent ( $^{13}\text{C}$ :  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ ,  $\delta$  35.50 ppm) as an internal standard. High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on a JEOL JMS-700 mass spectrometer using a fast atom bombardment (FAB) technique. Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on silica gel 60  $\text{F}_{254}$  precoated plates (0.25 mm thickness, Merck, Darmstadt). Flash

chromatography was carried out on silica gel 60 (230–400 mesh, Merck). Reagent-grade chemicals were purchased from Aldrich and TCI and used as received unless otherwise specified.

Thermogravimetric analyses were carried out at a ramp rate of 10 °C/min in a N<sub>2</sub> flow using a Scinco TGA N-1000 instrument. PXRD data were recorded using Cu K $\alpha$  ( $\lambda$  = 1.5406 Å) on a Rigaku Ultima III diffractometer with a scan speed of 2°/min and a step size of 0.01°. Photoluminescence were measured with a Hitachi F-7000 FL spectrophotometer. The ICP data were collected on ICP-AES (ICP-OES; JY Ultima2C; Jobin Yvon, France) spectrometer. Infrared spectra were obtained from KBr pellets with a Nicolet-380 spectrometer (Thermo Electron Corp.). Gas sorption isotherms were measured using a BEL Belsorp mini II gas adsorption instrument up to 1 atm of gas pressure unless otherwise stated. The highly pure N<sub>2</sub> (99.999%), CO<sub>2</sub> (99.999%), H<sub>2</sub> (99.999%), CH<sub>4</sub> (99.999%), and O<sub>2</sub> (99.995%) were used in the sorption experiments. X-ray data for **3** was collected using synchrotron radiation ( $\lambda$  = 0.8000 Å) and a 2D-SMC ADSC Quantum-210 detector with a Pt-coated Si double crystal under a cooling stream of N<sub>2</sub> at the Pohang Accelerator Laboratory. The ADSC Quantum-210 ADX program was used for data collection and HKL3000 was used for cell refinement, data reduction, and absorption corrections. The structure was solved by direct methods and refined by the full-matrix least-squares method using anisotropic thermal parameters for non-hydrogen atoms with the SHELXTL program. X-ray data for **1**, **2**, and **4** were collected on a Bruker SMART APEXII diffractometer equipped with graphite monochromated MoK $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda$  = 0.71073 Å). Preliminary orientation matrix and cell parameters were determined from three sets of  $\omega$  scans at different starting angles. Data frames were obtained at scan intervals of 0.5° with an exposure time of 10 s per frame. The reflection data were corrected for Lorentz and polarization factors. Absorption corrections were carried out using SADABS. The structures of **1**, **2**, and **4** were solved by direct methods and refined by full-matrix least-squares analysis using anisotropic thermal parameters for non-hydrogen atoms with the SHELXTL program. Guest molecules in **1–4** are significantly disordered and could not be modeled properly, thus the program SQUEEZE, a part of the PLATON package of crystallographic software, was used to calculate the solvent disorder area and remove its contribution to the overall intensity data.

**Tri-*p*-tolylphosphine oxide (7).** To a stirred solution of tri(*p*-tolyl)phosphine **6** (5 g, 16.43 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (100 mL) was added H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (34.5%, 4.3 mL, 49.3 mmol). After stirring at rt for 10 min, the reaction mixture was quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O (50 mL) and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (50 mL  $\times$  2). The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo to give **7** (5.25 g, 100%) as a white solid. TLC (MeOH/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> = 1:15) *R*<sub>f</sub> = 0.51; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  7.46 (dd, *J* = 11.5, 8.0 Hz, 6H), 7.34 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 6H), 2.36 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  137.84 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz), 127.43 (d, *J* = 9.9 Hz), 125.99 (d, *J* = 104.4 Hz), 125.20 (d, *J* = 12.7 Hz), 17.04; HRMS (FAB+) for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>22</sub>OP (MH<sup>+</sup>), calcd 321.1408, found 321.1403.

**H<sub>3</sub>TPO ligand (5).** To a refluxed and stirred solution of **7** (4 g, 3.12 mmol) in mixed solvent (pyridine/H<sub>2</sub>O = 1:3 v/v, 120 mL) were added KMnO<sub>4</sub> (23.7 g, 149.8 mmol). After stirring at 140 °C for 48 h, the reaction mixture was filtered through Celite 545. The filtrate was acidified with H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (20 mL) at 0 °C. The crude precipitate was filtered and recrystallized with cold MeOH (10 mL) to give **5** (4.3 g, 84%) as a white solid. TLC (MeOH/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> = 1:1) *R*<sub>f</sub> = 0.23; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  13.40 (brs, 3H), 8.13 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.0 Hz, 6H), 7.82 (dd, *J* = 11.5, 8.0 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  162.57, 132.17 (d, *J* = 101.8 Hz), 130.29 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz), 127.94 (d, *J* = 10.1 Hz), 125.59 (d, *J* = 11.8 Hz); HRMS (FAB+) for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>7</sub>P (MH<sup>+</sup>), calcd 411.0634, found 411.0630.

**(H<sub>3</sub>O)[EuZn(TPO)<sub>2</sub>](DMF)<sub>x</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>y</sub> (1).** A mixture of H<sub>3</sub>TPO (100 mg, 0.244 mmol), Eu(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (42.76 mg, 0.096 mmol), Zn(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (42.84 mg, 0.144 mmol), and a small amount of HNO<sub>3</sub> in DMF (10 mL) was placed in a vial (10 mL) and heated at 100 °C for 72 h to reveal a needle-shaped colorless crystal (yield  $\approx$  40%). Anal. for (H<sub>3</sub>O)[EuZn(TPO)<sub>2</sub>](DMF)<sub>5</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3.5</sub>, calcd C 46.27, H 4.70, N 4.73, found C 46.21, H 4.45, N 4.65.

**(H<sub>3</sub>O)[TbZn(TPO)<sub>2</sub>](DMF)<sub>x</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>y</sub> (2).** A mixture of H<sub>3</sub>TPO (100 mg, 0.244 mmol), Tb(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (42.50 mg, 0.096 mmol), Zn(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (42.84 mg, 0.144 mmol), and a small amount of HNO<sub>3</sub> in DMF (10 mL) was placed in a vial (10 mL) and heated at 100 °C for 72 h to reveal a needle-shaped colorless crystal (yield  $\approx$  60%). Anal. for (H<sub>3</sub>O)[TbZn(TPO)<sub>2</sub>](DMF)<sub>5.5</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>6</sub>, calcd C 44.81, H 4.98, N 4.91, found C 44.85, H 4.85, N 5.12.

**[Eu(TPO)(DMF)](DMF)(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>x</sub> (3).** A mixture of H<sub>3</sub>TPO (100 mg, 0.24 mmol), Eu(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (104.40 mg, 0.24 mmol), and a small amount of HNO<sub>3</sub> in mixed solvent (DMF/H<sub>2</sub>O/MeOH = 3:3:1 v/v, 10 mL) was placed in a vial (10 mL) and heated at 100 °C for 24 h to reveal an atypical-shaped colorless crystal (yield  $\approx$  60%). Anal. for [Eu(TPO)(DMF)](DMF)(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>1.5</sub>, calcd C 44.27, H 3.99, N 3.82, found C 44.56, H 3.79, N 3.49.

**[Tb(TPO)(DMF)](DMF)(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>x</sub> (4).** A mixture of H<sub>3</sub>TPO (100 mg, 0.24 mmol) and Tb(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (110.07 mg, 0.24 mmol) in mixed solvent (DMF/H<sub>2</sub>O/MeOH = 3:3:1 v/v, 10 mL) was placed in a vial (10 mL) and heated at 70 °C for 24 h to reveal a small amount of a colorless crystal and a large amount of a bulk white crystalline powder (yield  $\approx$  80%). Anal. for [Tb(TPO)(DMF)](DMF)(H<sub>2</sub>O), calcd C 44.78, H 4.12, N 3.82, found C 44.40, H 3.86, N 3.84.

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**Keywords:** Metal Organic Frameworks • Heterometallic Complexes • Conversion • Lanthanide metals • Photoluminescence

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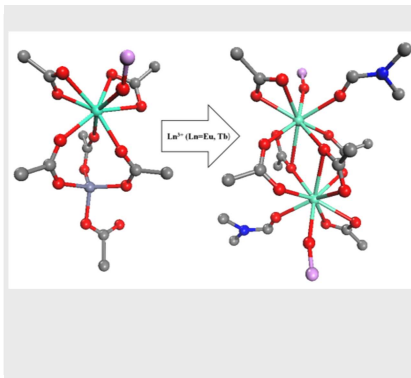
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Two new heterometallic metal-organic frameworks (MOFs), LnZnTPO **1** and **2**, and two homometallic MOFs, LnTPO **3** and **4** (Ln = Eu for **1** and **3**, and Tb for **2** and **4**; H<sub>3</sub>TPO = tris-(4-carboxyphenyl)phosphine oxide) were synthesized, and their structures and properties were analyzed. Single crystal X-ray diffraction (SXRD) analysis revealed that **1** and **3** are isostructural to **2** and **4**, respectively. Solvothermal immersion of **1** and **2** in Tb<sup>3+</sup> and Eu<sup>3+</sup> solutions resulted in the framework metal-ion exchange affording **4** and **3**, respectively, as confirmed by photoluminescence (PL), PXRD, infrared (IR), and inductively coupled plasma atomic emission spectroscopy (ICP-AES) analyses.



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**Conversion from Heterometallic to Homometallic Metal-Organic Frameworks**