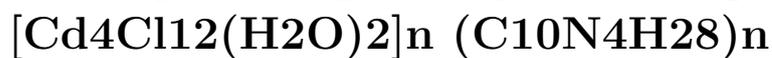




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## Crystal structure, spectroscopic and biological study of a new inorganic-organic hybrid compound



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**Crystal structure, spectroscopic and biological study of a new inorganic-organic hybrid compound  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$**

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**Abstract**

A new organic-inorganic hybrid compound  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$  has prepared with [1,4-Bis(3-aminopropyl)piperazine =  $\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28}$ ] and it was characterized by single crystal X-ray diffraction, spectroscopy measurement, DTA-TG measurement, photoluminescence properties, and biological analysis. It crystallizes in the monoclinic system with the space group of  $P2_1/n$  with the following unit cell parameters:  $a = 9.5808(17)$ ,  $b = 9.8438(18)$ ,  $c = 16.050(3)$  Å,  $\beta = 93.142(6)$  °,  $V = 1511.4(5)$  and  $Z = 2$ . The atomic arrangement can be described as an infinite one-dimensional coordination polymeric double-chain running along the crystallographic b-axis, those chains are interconnected by water molecules via O-H...Cl hydrogen bonds to form layers parallel to (101) plane, between those layer interconnected the organic cations to performed an infinities three dimensional network. The Hirshfeld surfaces and fingerprint plots are used for decoding of the nature and proportion of contacts in the crystal packing. The vibrational properties were investigated experimentally by means of IR spectroscopy and theoretically by DFT calculations on the organic cation. Also the optical absorption and photoluminescence properties of the compound were achieved at room temperature in the solid state. The bioassay results showed

that the structure exhibits significant antibacterial activity. Finally, thermogravimetric analysis shows that this compound is stable until 250 C°.

**Keywords:** organic-inorganic hybrid, X-ray diffraction, double-chains, Hirshfeld surface, Infrared, UV–Vis spectroscopy, DFT calculations, antioxidant activity, antibacterial activity and thermal analysis (TG/DTA).

## 1 Introduction

The field of the hybrid material synthesis widened from up to date day because of their functional properties are various like, photoluminescence, properties magnetic, ferromagnetic and electric [1-9]. These hybrid materials have chemical and physical properties are very interesting because of the combination of the properties on the one hand inorganic component and on the other they share of the organic molecular component within one scale [10]. Beyond the molecular vision, where the atoms combine to form already complex structures, there exists another field of association which implies this time of the molecules to give assemblies to the multiple applications. This field of studies implies the interactions between the components constituting the crystalline compounds. Such interactions include van der Waals interactions, electrostatic interactions, hydrogen bonding. In this area, polynuclear d10-metal complexes have been found to exhibit important structural and photoluminescent properties [11].

Piperazine derivatives have a broad range of applications in pharmaceuticals as antimalarial [12], antituberculosis [13], antitumor [14], anticancer [15] and antiviral [16] agents. The piperazine nucleus was noted as a favored structure because it is able to bind to the multiple receptors with high affinity. In the last decade, a number of piperazine derivatives have been synthesized and evaluated for their cytotoxic activity [17]. The piperazine nucleus is frequently found in biologically active compounds across a number of different therapeutic areas [18]. Some of these therapeutic areas include antimicrobial, anti-tubercular, anticonvulsant, antidepressant, anti-inflammatory, cytotoxic, antimalarial, antiarrhythmic, antioxidant and antiviral activities etc. [19].

## 2 Experimental

### 2.1 Chemical preparation

The solution of (CdCl<sub>2</sub>).5H<sub>2</sub>O (48.6 mg, 0.4 mmol) was added to a solution 1,4-Bis(3-aminopropyl)piperazine (11 mg, 0.1 mmol) in water together with five drops of concentrated

hydrochloric acid. After continuously stirring for 7h, the resultant solution allowed to evaporate at room temperature. Crystals  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$ , which remind stable under normal condition of temperature and humidity, were isolated after a week and subjected to X-ray diffraction analysis.

### 2.1.1 X-ray single crystal structural analysis

A single crystal was carefully selected under a microscope in order to perform its structural analysis by X-ray diffraction. Data were collected at 150 K on a D8 VENTURE Bruker AXS diffractometer using a mirror monochromated Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation,  $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$ . The structure was solved by dual-space algorithm using the SHELXT program [20], and then refined with full-matrix least-square methods based on F2 (SHELXL) [21]. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic atomic displacement parameters. Except nitrogen and water molecule linked hydrogen atoms that were introduced in the structural model through Fourier difference maps analysis, H atoms were finally included in their calculated positions. A final refinement on F2 with 3453 unique intensities and 164 parameters converged at  $\omega R(F2) = 0.0702$  ( $R(F) = 0.0278$ ) for 3312 observed reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ . Crystal data are reported in (Table 1). Drawings were made with Diamonds [22].

### 2.1.2 IR spectroscopy

Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR) spectra of powder samples were obtained using a Nicolet 1000 spectrophotometer. The scanning range was  $4000\text{--}400 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

### 2.1.3 UV spectroscopy

Solid-state electronic and diffuse reflectance spectra were recorded at room temperature with Perkin Elmer Lambda35 UV/Vis spectrophotometer in the wavelength of 200-700 nm.

### 2.1.4 Photoluminescence

Emission spectrum was obtained on a Perkin-Elmer LS55 fluorescence spectrometer equipped with a 450 W xenon lamp as the excitation source using solid sample at room temperature.

### 2.1.5 In vitro antioxidant activity

To access the antioxidant activity of  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$ , two tests DPPH and ABTS were performed. Ascorbic acid was used as positive control for both of the test.

#### 2.1.5.1 DPPH radical scavenging activity

The assay is based on the measurement of the scavenging capacity of antioxidants towards the stable free radical 1,1-diphenyl-2-picrylhydrazil, which presents a deep purple

color and an absorption band in the range of 515–520 nm. The odd electron of nitrogen atom in DPPH is reduced by receiving a hydrogen atom from antioxidants to be converted to a more stable DPPH molecule. Taking into account that the reduced form of DPPH have a pale yellow color, it is possible to determine the antioxidant activity of a compound by studying the color change by spectrophotometry. The results are normally expressed as inhibitory concentration (IC<sub>50</sub>), which is defined as the concentration of antioxidant reducing the free radical DPPH about 50%).

For studying DPPH radical scavenging activity 100µl of [Cd<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>12</sub> (H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>n</sub> (C<sub>10</sub>N<sub>4</sub>H<sub>28</sub>)<sub>n</sub> methanolic solution at different concentrations (0.1-25 mg/ml) was added to 3 ml of DPPH solution (0.1mM) prepared on methanol. The mixture reaction was incubated for 30 min. the absorbance was accessed at 517 nm [23]. The scavenging activity was accessed by the following formula: DPPH radicals scavenged activity (%) = [(A<sub>0</sub> - A<sub>1</sub>)/A<sub>0</sub>] × 100.

Where A<sub>0</sub> is the absorbance of the blank and A<sub>1</sub> is the absorbance measured in the presence of the tested compound.

The results were expressed as the concentration of [Cd<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>12</sub> (H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>n</sub> (C<sub>10</sub>N<sub>4</sub>H<sub>28</sub>)<sub>n</sub> that scavenged 50% of the free radicals from the reaction mixture. Measurements were performed in triplicate, and the presented results are the arithmetic means of the measurements ±SEM.

#### 2.1.5.2 ABTS radical scavenging activity

ABTS is stable, however it is able to react energetically with donating hydrogen atoms or electrons molecules. ABTS assay was done according to the method of [24]. The ABTS stock solution was prepared by reacting 2.45 mM potassium persulphate and 7 mM ABTS (2,2'-azinobis(3-ethylbenzothiazoline-6-sulfonic acid)). The mixture was incubated in the dark for 12–16 h at room temperature.

The working solution was freshly prepared by mixing equal volume of the stock solution and methanol. Free radical scavenging activity was determined by mixing 300 µl of the compound solution at various concentrations with 3 ml of ABTS working solution. The absorbance was measured at 734 nm, after the incubation of the reaction mixture, for 6 min, at room temperature. The scavenging activity was calculated based on the following formula: ABTS radicals scavenged activity (%) = [(A<sub>0</sub> - A<sub>1</sub>)/A<sub>0</sub>] × 100. Where A<sub>0</sub> is the absorbance of the blank (the reaction mixture without the tested compound) and A<sub>1</sub> is the absorbance measured

in the presence of the tested compound. Measurements were performed twice in triplicate, and results are presented as the arithmetic means of the measurements  $\pm$ SEM.

### 2.1.6 Determination of in-vitro antibacterial activity by paper disc diffusion method

Antibacterial activity of  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$  methanolic solution was assessed by the paper disc diffusion method, against 5 bacteria including two gram-positive bacteria, namely *Enterococcus faecalis* ATCC 29212 and *Staphylococcus aureus* NCTC 6571 and three gram-negative bacteria, namely *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* SH 38, *Escherichia coli* JW 1772 and *Salmonella typhimurium* ATCC 14028.

For the paper disc diffusion method, 200 $\mu$ l of each tested bacteria suspension, containing  $10^6$  colony-forming units (cfu/ml), was used for inoculating the plates. Sterile discs (Whatman filter paper), having 6 mm of diameter were soaked with 20 $\mu$ l of  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$  methanolic solution (1mg/ml). Impregnated discs were then dried for 2H and placed on inoculated plates. The seeded plates were, then, incubated for 24h at 37°C. The inhibition's zones diameters were measured in millimeters. Each test was performed twice in triplicate.

### 2.1.7 Thermal Analysis

The thermogravimetric (TGA) and differential thermal analyses (DTA) were coupled using TG Labsys instrument. The powder sample (9.3 mg) was heated rate from 100 C° and reaching 700 C° using a heating rate of 5 C° .min<sup>-1</sup> under argan atmosphere.

## 3 Results and discussion

### 3.1 Structure description

As shown in (Fig.1), all the cadmium ions are octahedrally coordinated. The Cd1 cation is coordinated to six chlorine atoms, while the Cd2 cation is surrounded by five chlorine atoms and one water coordination molecule. The organic groups  $[\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28}]^{4+}$  tetracation does not participate in coordination to the metal atom, but forms ionic and hydrogen-bonded (N–H...Cl and C–H...Cl) contacts with the inorganic layers  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n^{4+}$  ion to perform an infinite three dimensional network (Fig.2). Packing of  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$  (Fig.3), shows an octahedron, within a unit of one  $[\text{CdCl}_5(\text{H}_2\text{O})]$  and one  $[\text{CdCl}_6]$  octahedron, shares three cis-edges to form a tetramer of  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]$  that to form  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{10}(\text{Cl}_4)_{0,5}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n^{4-}$  inorganic anions (Fig.2). The negative charge of this anion is compensated by the organic tetracation, and bridging each other by two chlorine atoms (Cl<sup>iv</sup> and Cl<sup>iii</sup>) (iii:  $-x+1, -y+2, -z+1$ ) to generate an infinite one-dimensional coordination polymeric double-chain running

along the crystallographic b-axis. Like this the infinite anions double-chains were formed, by sharing on the one hand the chlorides of the square plan, and on the second hand they were linked by the axial chlorides (Fig.3). Both types of bonds formed the tetrahedral empty sites between the octahedral environments in the same double-chain.

The Cd–Cd shortest distances within the chain, Cd1–Cd2 = 3.773(1) Å, is fairly close to those reported in the case of one-dimensional chain of slightly distorted edge-sharing octahedra [25]. The chains are interconnected by water molecules via O–H...Cl hydrogen bonds to form layers parallel to (101) plane (Fig.2). The organic cation and the inorganic anion are held together by hydrogen bonds N–H...Cl, at one side of the aminic hydrogens and chlorides Cl1, Cl4 and Cl5 of two adjacent tetramer chains, and on the other hand, the same interaction but with another inorganic layer. In the structure, a weak non classical C–H...Cl hydrogen bonding [26–30] is found to stabilize this edifice of about 2.68 Å with the H4B...Cl3 (Fig. 2, Table 2).

In the title compound, the values of the Cd—Cl bond lengths vary between 2.5293 (7) and 2.7934 (7) Å, the Cl—Cd—Cl angles range from 82.23 (2) to 101.78 (2)° (Table 6) . These geometrical parameters agree with those found in Cd<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>10</sub>(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NO)<sub>2</sub>.2H<sub>2</sub>O, In this structure there are also two types of octahedron (CdCl<sub>6</sub> and CdCl<sub>5</sub>O) with the Cd-Cl distances are between 2.4887 (6) and 2.7517 (6) Å and the Cl-Cd-Cl angles ranging from 82.01 (2) to 100.38 (2)° [31], But in this structure the coordinating oxygen atom does not derive from a molecule of water, but from the organic molecule in the same way as the monodentate. The Cd...Cd separations of adjacent octahedral varies from 3.773(1) to 3.792(1) Å. These distances are considerably longer than the values of about 3.36 Å in the linear chain structures and close to those found in a double-chain structure.

All bond distances and angles within the [C<sub>10</sub>N<sub>4</sub>H<sub>28</sub>]<sup>4+</sup> ion are in good agreement with those of another complex containing the same tetracation [32].

### 3.2 Hirshfeld surface

Hirshfeld surface analysis serves as a powerful tool for gaining additional insight into the intermolecular interaction of molecular crystals. The size and shape of Hirshfeld surface allows the qualitative and quantitative investigation and visualization of intermolecular close contacts in molecular crystals [33-34]. Hirshfeld surfaces and their related fingerprint plots are generated using the program Crystal Explorer. The crystallographic information file (.CIF) is given as input to the Crystal Explorer3.0 [35]. Also, an isosurface is obtained, and for each

point of the isosurface two distances can be characterized:  $d_e$ , the distance from the point to the nigh atom extreme to the surface, and  $d_i$ , the distance to the nearby atom internal to the surface. Furthermore, the identification of the regions of particular importance to intermolecular interactions is obtained by mapping normalized contact distance ( $d_{\text{norm}}$ ), expressed as:  $d_{\text{norm}} = (d_i - r_i^{\text{vdw}})/r_i^{\text{vdw}} + (d_e - r_e^{\text{vdw}})/r_e^{\text{vdw}}$ ; where  $r_i^{\text{vdw}}$  and  $r_e^{\text{vdw}}$  are the van der Waals radii of the atoms.

Another way to represent the Hirshfeld surfaces [36] is to generate a representation that involves normalized contact distances taking into account the van der Waals radius of the atoms involved in the analysis. This way of portraying the surface is named  $d_{\text{orm}}$ , this property is constituted by summation of the normalized contribution of  $d_e$  and  $d_i$  in relation to the van der Waals radius of the atoms involved in the expression. More concretely, this type of analysis makes it possible to graphically illustrate the relative positioning of the neighboring atoms belonging to molecules interacting together. Again, a color gradient is used to quantify the interactions taking place between the atoms within the crystal being studied. This gradient varies from blue to red through white. By considering intermolecular interactions, the bluish domains indicate that the distance separating neighboring atoms exceeds the sum of their respective van der Waals radii. The white areas mark the places where the distance separating the neighboring atoms is close to the sum of the van der Waals radius of the considered atoms. The red color is used to represent the places where there is interpenetration of the van der Waals rays of neighboring atoms. From these facts, it is appropriate to suspect the presence of non-covalent interactions between the atoms (or group of atoms) located at the interface of the zones represented in red which show a significant approximation between these atoms. The situation is more delicate when the domains considered are depicted in white, given the distance of the neighboring atoms which is at the limit of the sum of the van der Waals rays. Bluish areas illustrate areas where neighboring atoms are too far apart to interact with one another.

The enrichment ratios of contacts between the different chemical species were computed with software MoProViewer [37], in order to highlight which contacts are statistically favored and are maintaining the crystal packing. Enrichment ratios larger than unity denote contacts which are over-represented in the crystal packing with respect to the chemical composition on the Hirshfeld surface. The hydrophobic Hc atoms bound to carbon were distinguished from the more electropositive H-N and H-O hydrogen atoms (Hno) and

reciprocal contacts XY and YX were merged. The chemical nature of contacts in the crystal structure is shown in Table 3.

The molecular Hirshfeld surfaces of the title compound were generated using a standard (high) surface resolution with the 3D  $d$  norm surfaces, the distance to the nearest nucleus inside the surface “ $d_i$ ” and the distance to the nearest atoms outside “ $d_e$ ”, shape index and curvedness mapped over a fixed color scale of  $-1.109$  (red) to  $1.189 \text{ \AA}$  (blue), from  $0.758$  to  $2.642 \text{ \AA}$  and  $0.757$  to  $2.596 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $-1$  to  $1 \text{ \AA}$  and  $-4$  to  $4.04 \text{ \AA}$ , respectively (Fig.4). The 2D fingerprint maps of  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$  provide some quantitative information about the individual contribution of the intermolecular interaction in the asymmetric unit (Fig.5). Globally,  $\text{H}\cdots\text{Cl}/\text{Cl}\cdots\text{H}$ ,  $\text{H}\cdots\text{H}$  and  $\text{Cd}\cdots\text{Cl}/\text{Cl}\cdots\text{Cd}$  intermolecular interactions were most abundant in the crystal packing (55.8, 22.6, 11.7% respectively). The  $d_e$  (y axis) and  $d_i$  (x axis) represent respectively the nearest internal and external distances ( $\text{ \AA}$ ) from using points on the Hirshfeld surface contacts (Fig.4). The contribution of the  $\text{Cl}\cdots\text{H} / \text{H}\cdots\text{Cl}$  intermolecular interactions for the crystal structure cohesion amounts to 55.8 % and these contacts are attributed to  $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{Cl}$ ,  $\text{N}-\text{H}\cdots\text{Cl}$  and  $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{Cl}$  hydrogen bonding interactions and appear as two shap symmetric spikes (1) in the two- dimensional fingerprint maps with a prominent long spike at  $d_e+d_i\sim 2.6 \text{ \AA}$ . They have the important significant contribution to the total Hirshfeld surface (55.8%) and this type appear with elevated enrichment  $E_{\text{Cl}\cdots\text{H}}=1.92$ . Then the chlorine and hydrogen atoms are often mutual partners in the crystal contacts and they are electrostatically favorable due to the partial positive charge of H atoms. Furthermore, this type of contacts is important frequent interactions due to the abundance of chlorine and hydrogen on the molecular surface (%  $S_{\text{Cl}}=44.26$  and %  $S_{\text{H}}=41.95$ ) (Table 3). The  $\text{Cd}\cdots\text{Cl}/\text{Cl}\cdots\text{Cd}$  interactions are the second most frequent interactions, this interactions covers 11.7 % of the total surface and present in the middle of the scattered points in the two-dimensional fingerprint maps with a single broad peak at  $d_e=d_i\sim 1.3 \text{ \AA}$ , and this type appear with enrichment  $E_{\text{Cd}\cdots\text{Cl}}=1.53$ . Also the  $\text{H}\cdots\text{H}$  contacts shows the presence of scattered points in the middle of the two-dimensional fingerprint maps with a single board peak respectively at  $d_e= d_i\sim 1.4 \text{ \AA}$  and which represent 22.6% . These contacts are impoverished in the crystal with a value of enrichment equal to 0.53. Finally, the three types of contacts present the stability of the crystal structure and the  $\text{Cl}\cdots\text{H}$  is the driving forces in the molecular arrangement.

It is evident that van der Waals forces exert an important influence on the stabilization of the packing in the crystal structure, other intercontacts, i.e.  $\text{Cl}\cdots\text{Cl}$  (4.4%),  $\text{C}\cdots\text{C}$  (1.8%),  $\text{H}\cdots\text{O}/\text{O}\cdots\text{H}$  (2.2%),  $\text{C}\cdots\text{H}/\text{H}\cdots\text{C}$  (0.9%),  $\text{Cd}\cdots\text{H}/\text{H}\cdots\text{Cd}$  (0.5, %), and  $\text{N}\cdots\text{C}/\text{C}\cdots\text{N}$  (0.1%)

contribute less to the Hirshfeld surfaces. So, the relative contributions of the various interactions to the Hirshfeld surfaces were also calculated for the title compound (Fig.6).

The title compound contains 25.58 % Hc, 16.37 % Hno and 44.26 % Cl on the molecular surface. The self-contacts between charged species ( $\text{Cd}^{++}$ ,  $\text{O}^{\delta-}$  and  $\text{Hno}^{\delta+}$ ) have enrichment  $E_{\text{XX}}$  values lower than unity and are systematically avoided. The null values of the enrichment  $\text{Hn}/\text{o} \dots \text{N}$  and  $\text{Hn}/\text{o} \dots \text{O}$  proves well the absence of hydrogen bonding of which the atoms of oxygen and nitrogen are receivers (Table 3).  $\text{Cl} \dots \text{Cd}^{++}$  ionic bridges are very favored ( $E=1.72$ ). All  $E_{\text{XX}}$  values associated to contacts with the same chemical species (diagonal elements in Table 3) are impoverished, except for carbon atoms. The  $\text{C} \dots \text{C}$  contacts between the cationic molecules, represent only 2.3% of the hirshfeld surface, but they are extremely enriched (enrichment  $E_{\text{CC}}= 11.34$ ), while the  $\text{O} \dots \text{C}$  contacts does not have enrichment. The  $\text{N} \dots \text{C}$  interactions show a very high enrichment equal to 7.46 and refer to interactions between the organic cations.

### 3.3 IR spectroscopy

FTIR spectroscopy was used to verify the functional groups present in the crystal and to investigate their vibrational behavior in the solid state. The experimental IR spectrum of the title crystalline complex and corresponding simulated spectrum of the organic cation are superimposed in S.1. The assignment of the characteristic vibrational modes of this compound is mainly based on the theoretical results and on comparison with similar materials [38-40]. In the high frequency domain, the IR spectrum is decomposed in three well separated bands. The first, centered at  $3435 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , do not appear in the simulated spectrum and corresponds to the stretching mode of the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  molecule. The most intense is between  $2850$  and  $3200 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and is related to  $\text{NH}$  and  $\text{NH}_3$  stretching. The later band centered at  $2770 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  attributed to the  $\text{CH}_2$  groups stretching. The bands observed in the range of  $1800$ - $2500 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  are attributed to the harmonic combination bands. At lower frequency range, the bands observed at  $1602$  and  $1496 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  are ascribed to  $\text{NH}_3$  asymmetric and symmetric deformation modes, respectively, while deformation mode of the  $\text{CH}_2$  groups are assigned to the large band between  $1200$  and  $1450 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The deformation of  $\text{N-H}$  is assigned to the band at  $1160 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and the stretching modes of the  $\text{C-C}$  and  $\text{C-N}$  bonds are observed at  $1000$  and  $941 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , respectively. Finally, the series of bands observed from  $900$  to  $400 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  are assigned to the deformation of  $\text{C-C-C}$ ,  $\text{C-C-N}$  and  $\text{C-N-C}$  in the organic skeleton.

It is worthily noting the relative good agreement observed between the theoretical and experimental IR spectra. Good correlation between almost all the vibrational features is

detected and well proved by the calculated correlation coefficient 0.9723 computed in the correlation graph shown in Fig. 7.

### 3.4 Optical Absorption and photoluminescence

The solid state UV-Vis spectrum of crystalline  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$ , measured at room temperature is shown in Fig.8. The absorption spectrum exhibits two distinct absorption bands centered at 290 and 414 nm. This is very similar to that observed for other previously reported chloro-cadmate based hybrid materials [38, 41]. Here, since we used a simple organic molecule transparent in the visible region, we are then brought to attribute the observed optical absorption features to the transitions within the inorganic part.

The minimum energy absorption peak at 414 nm (2.99 eV,  $24.154 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\epsilon_{\text{max}} = 34.5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) is mainly due to the band gap absorption and it is assigned to the excitation of free electron-hole pairs within the  $[\text{CdCl}_6]^{2-}$  octahedron. This band-to-band absorption is characterized by the transition from the top of the valence band consisting of Cl (3p) orbital to the bottom of the Cd (5s) conduction band. The maximum energy absorption peak at 290 nm (4.27 eV,  $34.482 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\epsilon_{\text{max}} = 32.3 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) can be assigned also to band-to-band transitions from highest energetic level in the conduction band. It can be attributed to the excitation of free electron-hole pairs between O (2s or 2p) and Cd(5s) within  $[\text{CdCl}_5(\text{H}_2\text{O})]^-$  octahedron [42]. In addition, the band gap of hybrid compound determinates by using the Tauc method [43], and using the Kubelka-Munk function from the reflectance R [ $F(R) = (1-R)^2/2R$ ] is 2.42 eV (Fig.8). This value indicates that the title compound is a semiconductor with wide band gap [44].

Comparatively, fluorescent properties of the synthesized material were determined at room temperature. Fig. 9-b shows the emission spectrum, studied at the excitation wavelength of 280 nm. The fluorescence spectrum exhibits three peaks in increasing order of intensity respectively at 348, 402 and 435 nm. The two peaks at 402 and 435 nm agree well with recently reported emission peaks at around 423 nm on  $\text{CdCl}_4$  based materials [38]. Except that the degeneration on two peaks can be explained by the coexistence of the two  $[\text{CdCl}_6]^{2-}$  and  $[\text{CdCl}_5(\text{H}_2\text{O})]^-$  octahedrons. The third emission peak at 435 nm is under the estimated gap energy and then can be assigned to luminescence arising from excitonic states formed within the inorganic framework (bound electron-hole pairs). The emergence of excitonic emission with large stokes shift of some hundreds of meV (140 meV in this study) in several hybrid materials has been largely improved in recent decades. Moreover, the excitation spectrum

which represents the variation of the intensity of the emission band at 400 nm as a function of excitation wave lengths is reported in Fig .9-a. It exhibits one band with maximum at 281 nm.

The decay profile for compound recorded at 293 K is depicted in Fig. 10. The curve can be fitted well with single-exponential function  $I = I_0 \exp (-t/ \tau)$ , where  $I_0$  and  $I$  are intensities at zero time and time  $t$ , and  $\tau$  is the lifetime, the latter is equal to 0.47 ms.

### 3.5 In vitro antioxidant activity of $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$

Oxidative stress is usually defined as a disturbance of the balance between oxidants and antioxidants in favor of the oxidants [45]. Indeed maintenance of a physiological level of oxidant, known as oxidative eustress, is essential for many cellular functions [46]. However excessive oxidant causes damage to biomolecules such as (ADN, lipids, and proteins [47] leading to many health diseases including cardiovascular diseases (CVD), neurological diseases and cancer [48].

Antioxidants have two main effects: improving stability of foods and improving human health. Actually, many researchers are interested by searching for new natural or synthetic antioxidant with improved activity. In this context we tried to evaluate the antioxidant activity of our new synthesized compound  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$ . Two methods were used the DPPH radical scavenging and the ABTS radical scavenging.

DPPH test showed that  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$  have a low scavenging activity ( $\text{IC}_{50} = 15.2 \pm 0.03$  mg/ml) compared with the positive reference ascorbic acid ( $\text{IC}_{50} = 0.14 \pm 0.007$  mg/ml) (Table 4). This finding was confirmed with the result obtained in the ABTS test.  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$  showed low scavenging activity ( $\text{IC}_{50} = 36.3 \pm 0.004$  mg/ml) compared with the positive reference ascorbic acid ( $\text{IC}_{50} = 0.532 \pm 0.006$  mg/ml) (Fig.11).

### 3.6 Determination of antibacterial activity by disc diffusion method

The obtained results by the disc diffusion method, showed that  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$  inhibition potential depended on bacteria. Indeed, the most important inhibition zone was recorded in *Escherichia coli* JW 1772 ( $24.5 \pm 0.5$  mm), where  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$  was more efficient than the reference antibiotic Streptomycin.

Nevertheless, for the rest of the tested bacteria, Streptomycin was more efficient than our new synthesized compound. Eventually, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* SH 38, *Enterococcus faecalis*

ATCC 29212 had the greatest resistance toward  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$  methanolic solution (inhibition zone  $\approx 6$  mm) followed by *Staphylococcus aureus* NCTC 6571 (inhibition zone  $= 7 \pm 0.5$  mm) and *Salmonella typhimurium* ATCC 14028 (inhibition zone  $= 15 \pm 0.3$ ).

Results, issued from the in-vitro antibacterial activity, revealed that the sensitivity of the tested bacteria toward  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$  wasn't related to the structure of the bacterial membrane (Table 5, Fig.12).

### 3.7 Thermal Behavior

The thermal analysis (TG/DTA) results are reported in S.2. It was carried out under Ar atmosphere with heating rate of  $5^\circ\text{C}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$  in the range of 100–700 K. The DTA curve shows that this compound undertakes two endothermic phenomena:

The first at  $283^\circ\text{C}$  corresponds to evaporation of Cd(II) coordinated water molecule confirmed with a weight loss in the curve of TG (experimental weight loss: 2.7 % and calculated weight loss: 3.22%).

The second at  $341^\circ\text{C}$ , corresponds to the degradation of the organic entity and the release of chloride acid molecule arising from an intermolecular elimination reaction, with an important weight loss observed in TG curve in the temperature range of 100–700  $^\circ\text{C}$ . A black deposit of carbon was obtained at the end of the experience.

## 4 Conclusion

In this paper we have reported the synthesis, characterization and crystal structure of a new single crystal of an organic-inorganic hybrid compound  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$ . The hybrid compound  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$  crystallize in a monoclinic system with a  $\text{P}2_1/n$  space group. The cohesion of the molecules in the crystal was made by the hydrogen bonds of the N-H...Cl, C-H...Cl, and O-H...Cl between the inorganic covalent framework and the organic cations. Also the calculation of Hirshfeld surfaces has highlighted the different interactions that exist within the crystal. The IR absorption spectroscopy investigation of the compound has made it possible to identify the vibrational characteristic bands. The study by the UV-Visible solid state spectrophotometry technique made it possible to determine the characteristic absorption bands, thus having an idea of its semiconductor behavior. Finally the bioassay results showed that the structure exhibits significant antibacterial activity and the

thermal analysis (TG/DTA) results have an idea about the path of decomposition of the material.

### Supplementary data

Crystallographic data for the structural analysis have been deposited at the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, N° de Cambridge: CCDC 1576947

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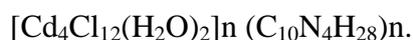


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### Figure captions

#### Fig. 1

Coordination environment of the Cd(II) atom with atomic labels in



#### Fig. 2

Projection along the b-axis of the crystal packing of the title compound. The dotted lines indicate hydrogen bonds.

#### Fig. 3

View along the [101] direction of an inorganic layer in the title compound.

#### Fig. 4

Hirshfeld surface analysis of  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$  : (a)  $d_{\text{norm}}$ , (b)  $d_e$ , (c) curvedness, (d)  $d_i$ , (e) shape-index.

**Fig. 5**

Fingerprint plots of major contacts in  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$ .

**Fig. 6**

The relative contributions to the Hirshfeld surface area for  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$

**Fig. 7**

Correlation graph between the experimental and calculated wavenumbers ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ).

**Fig.8**

Optical absorption spectra measured at room temperature and the gap band.

**Fig. 9**

(a) Excitation and (b) emission spectra of  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$  compound.

**Fig.10**

PL decay curves measured at  $\lambda=280$  nm

**Fig. 11**

DPPH Radical scavenging activity. The data are reported as mean $\pm$  standard deviation. B: Ascorbic Acid, A: tested compound.

**Fig.12**

ABTS radical scavenging activity. The data are reported as mean $\pm$  standard deviation. B: tested compound., A: Ascorbic Acid

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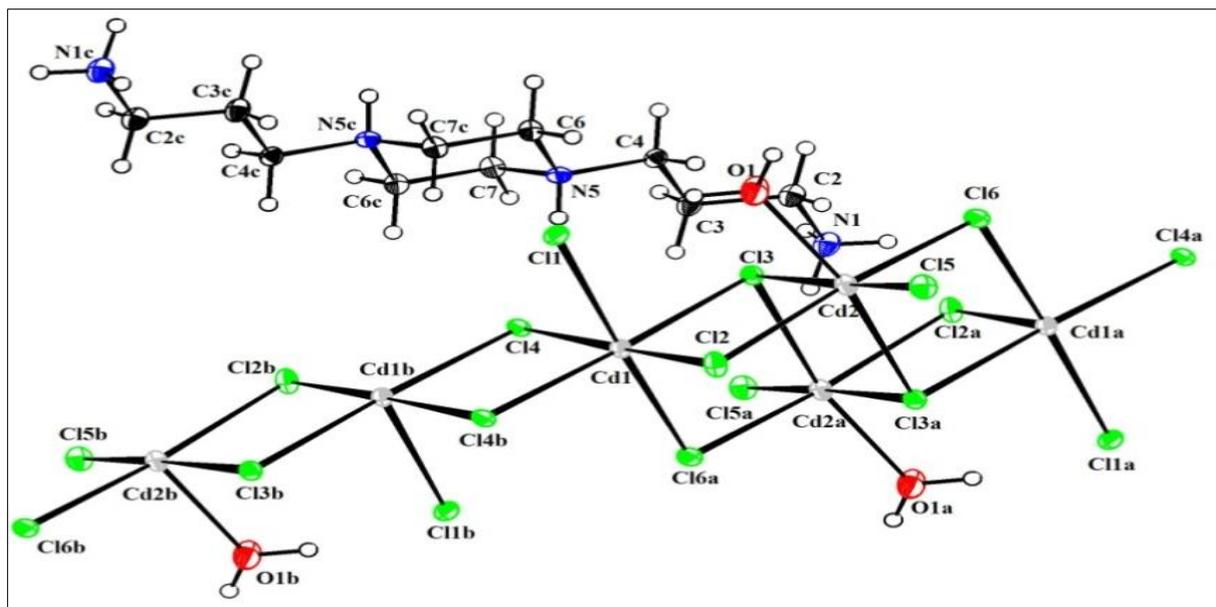


Fig.1

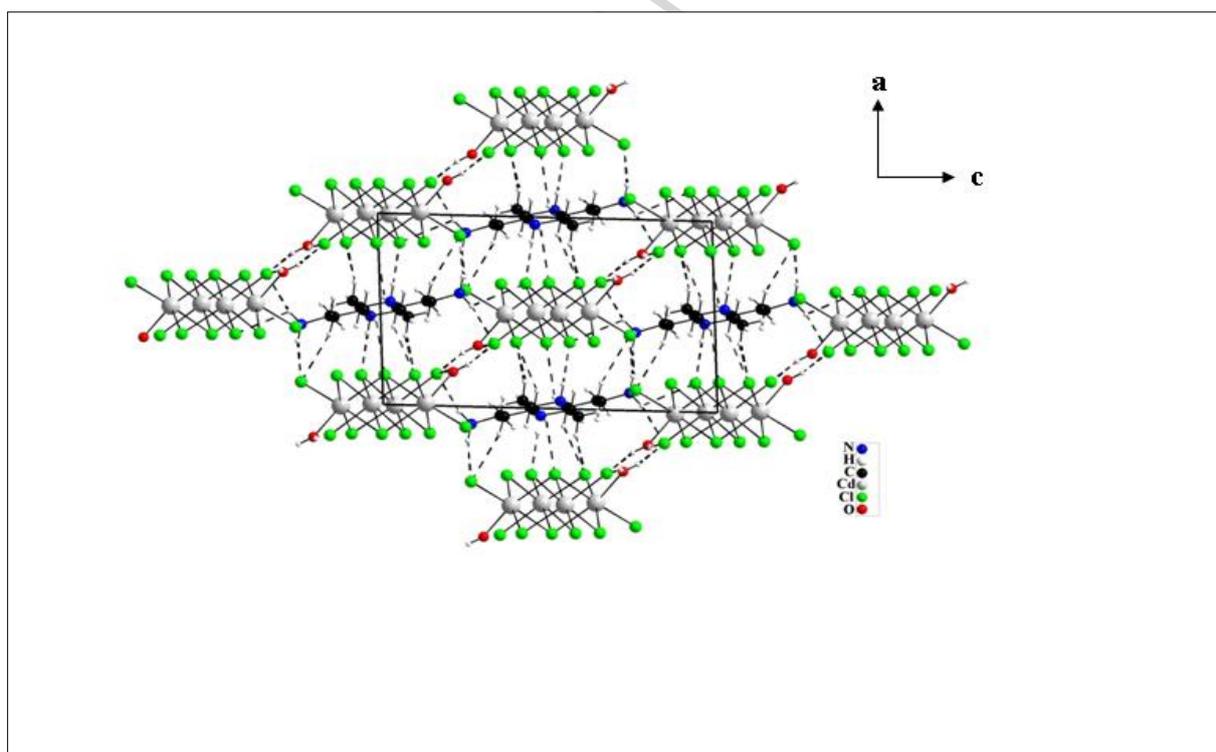


Fig.2

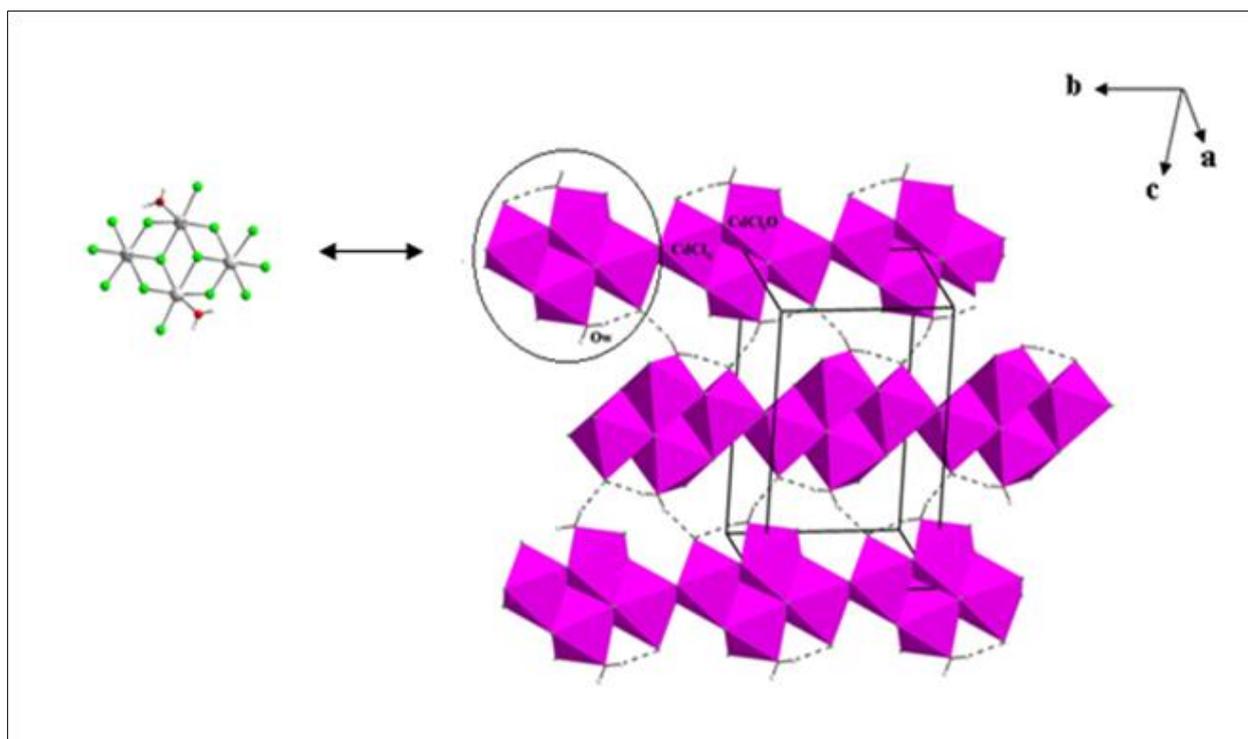


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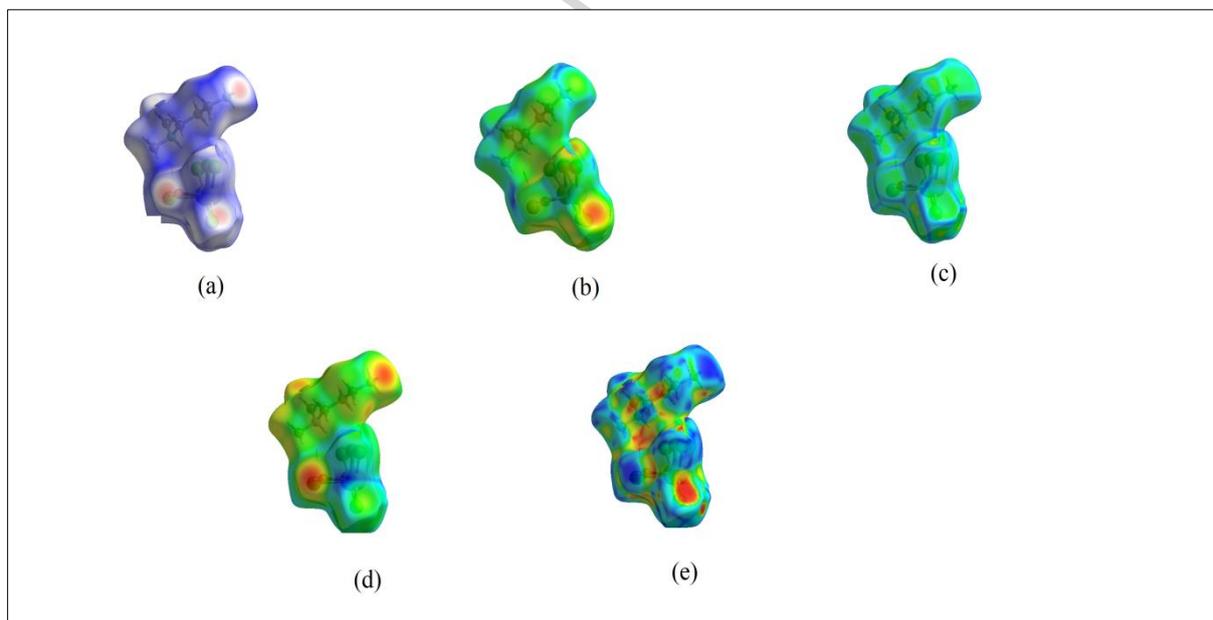


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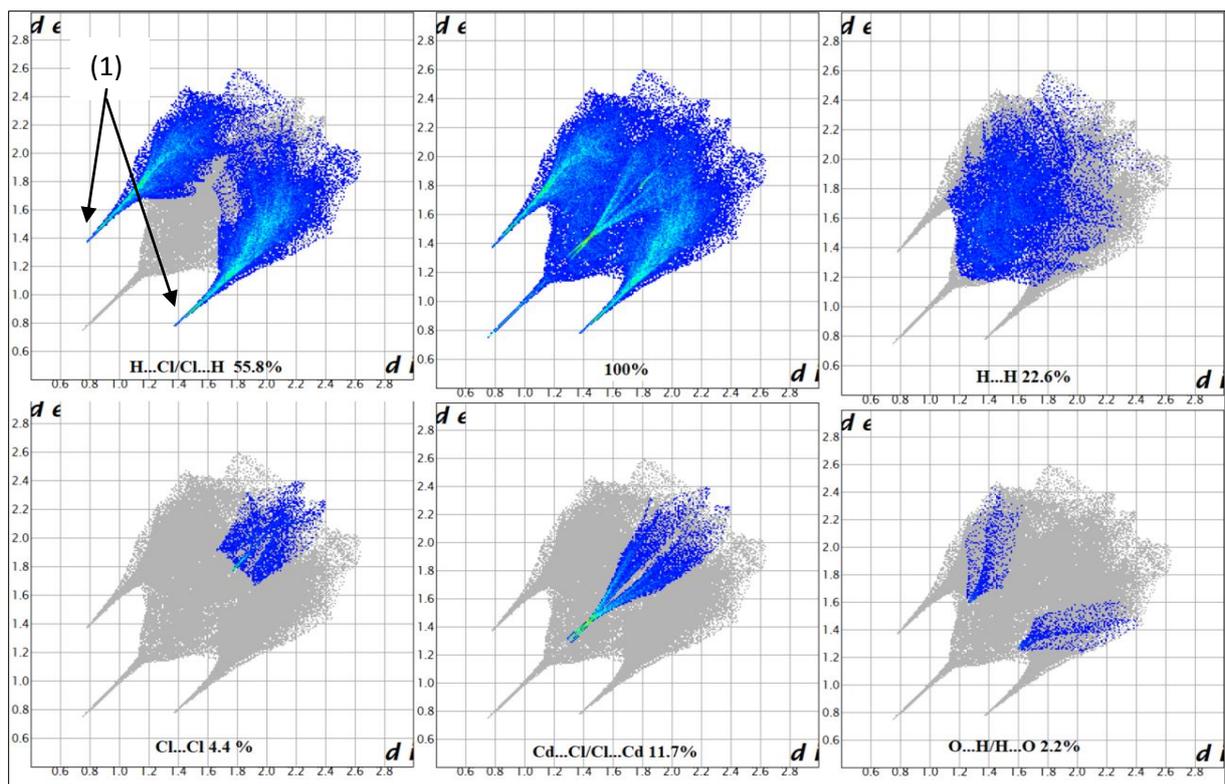


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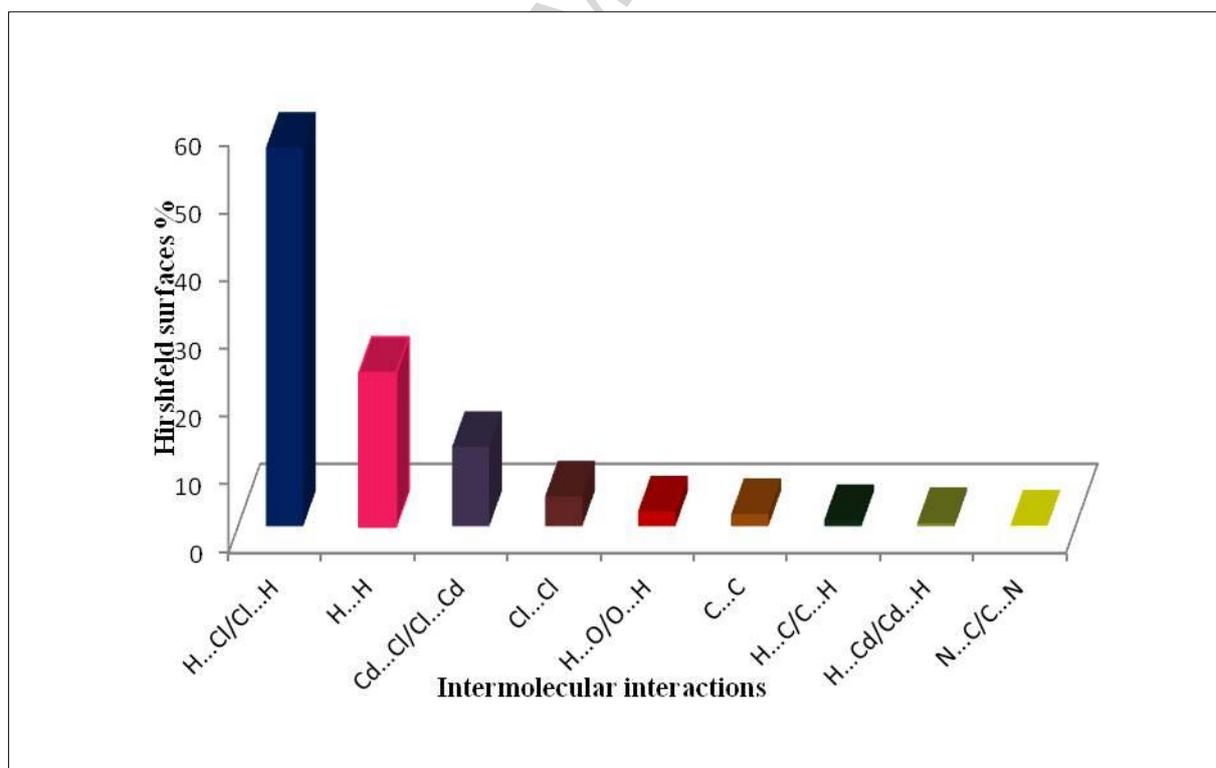


Fig.6

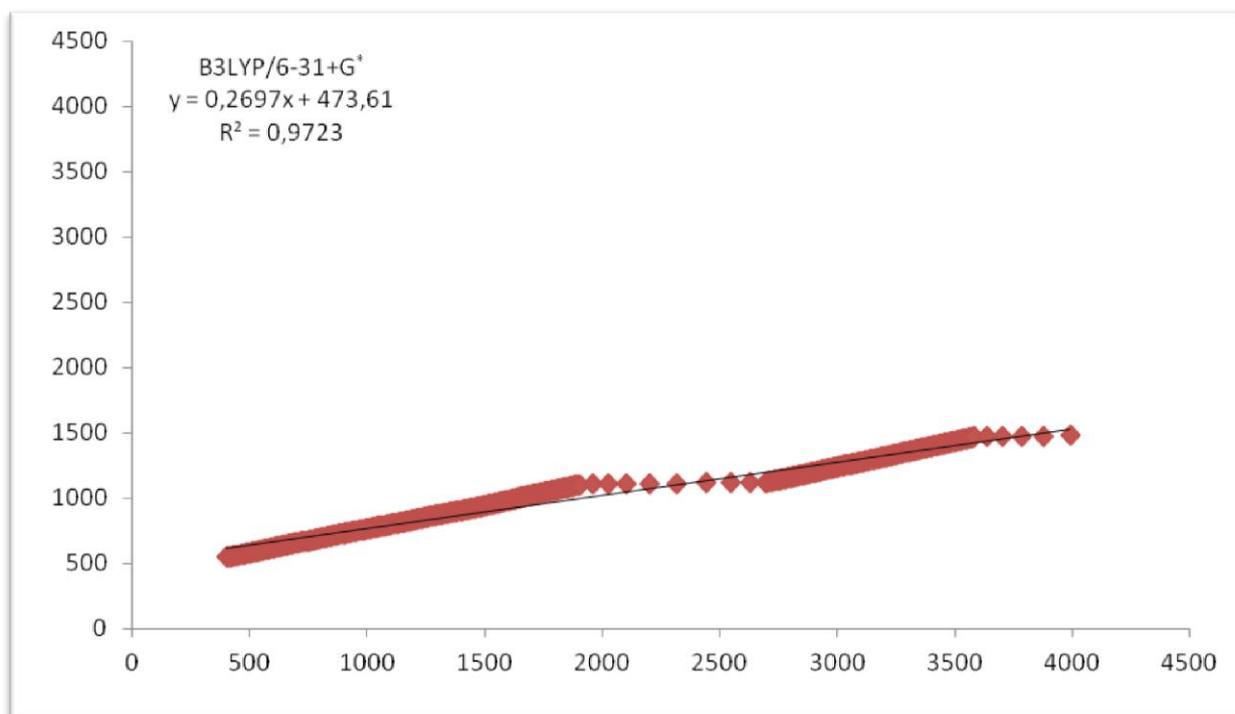


Fig.7

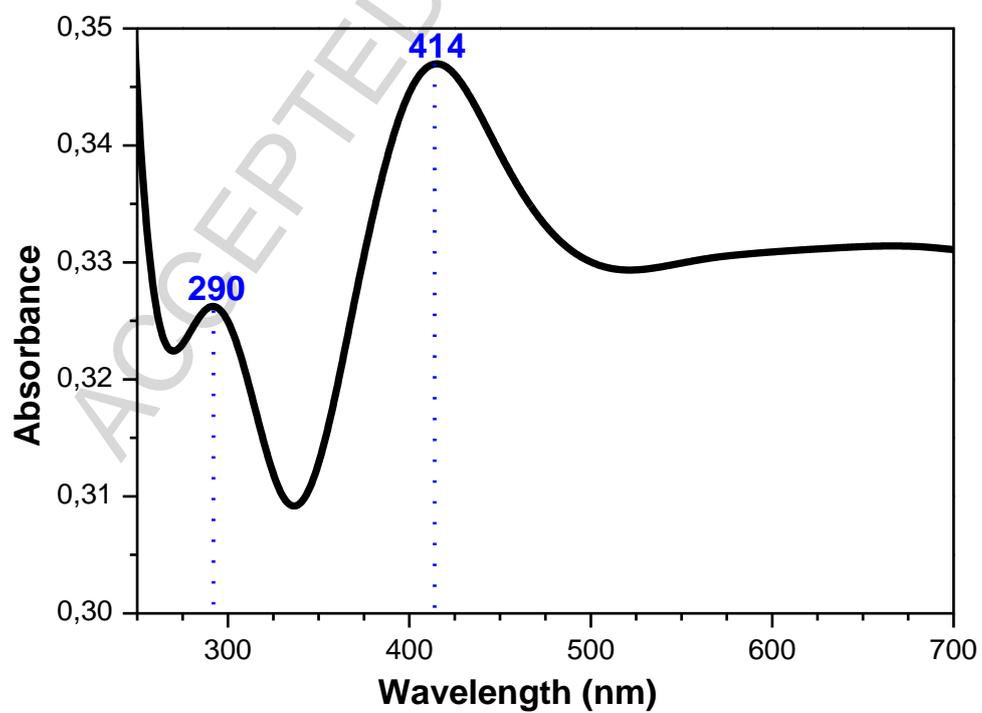


Fig.8

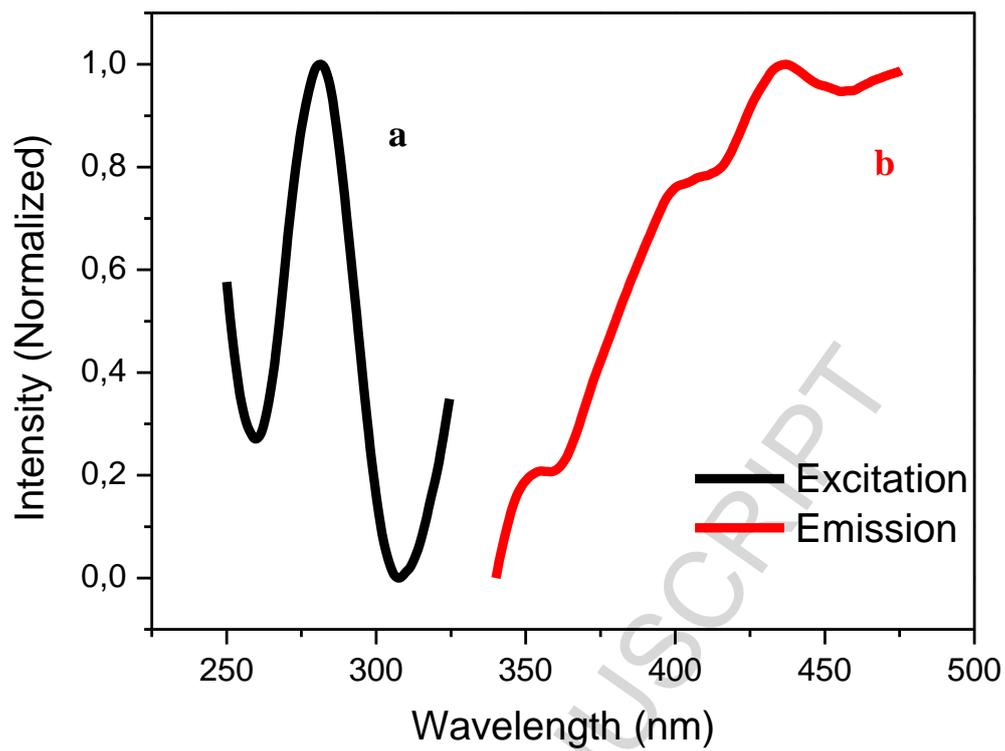


Fig.9

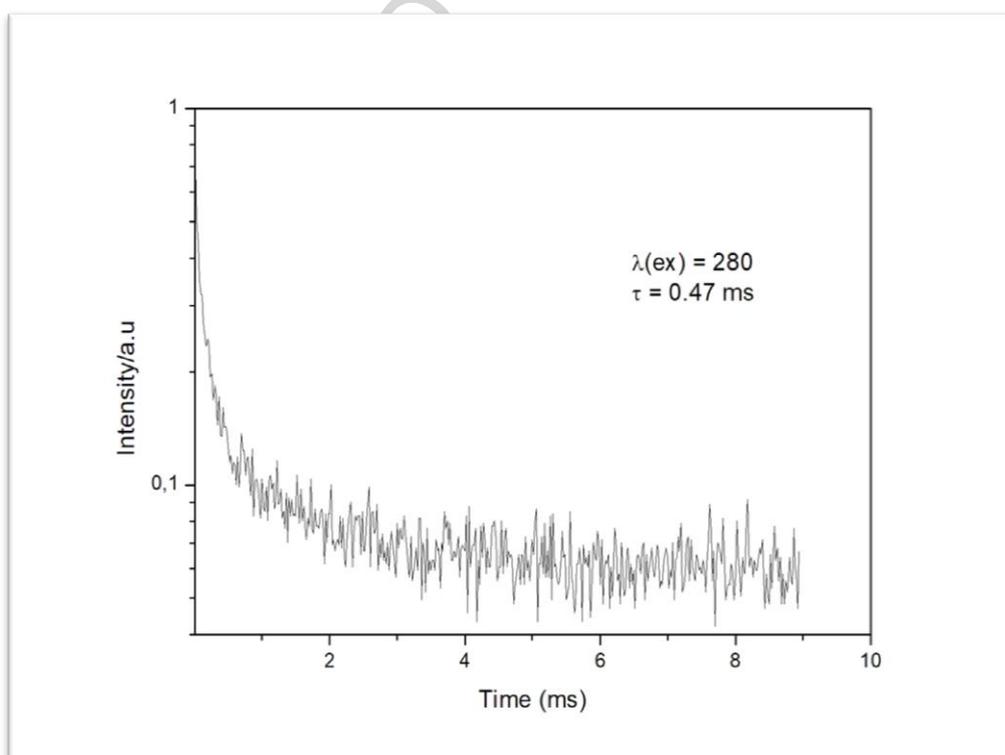


Fig.10

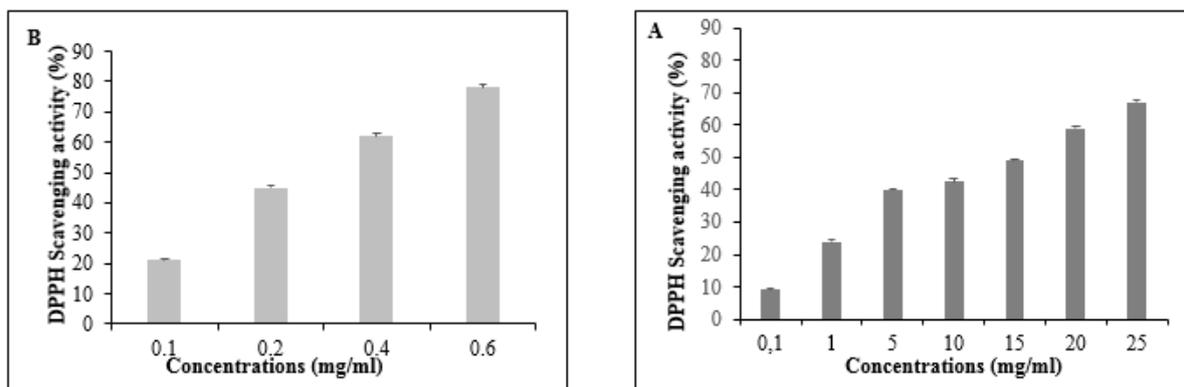


Fig.11

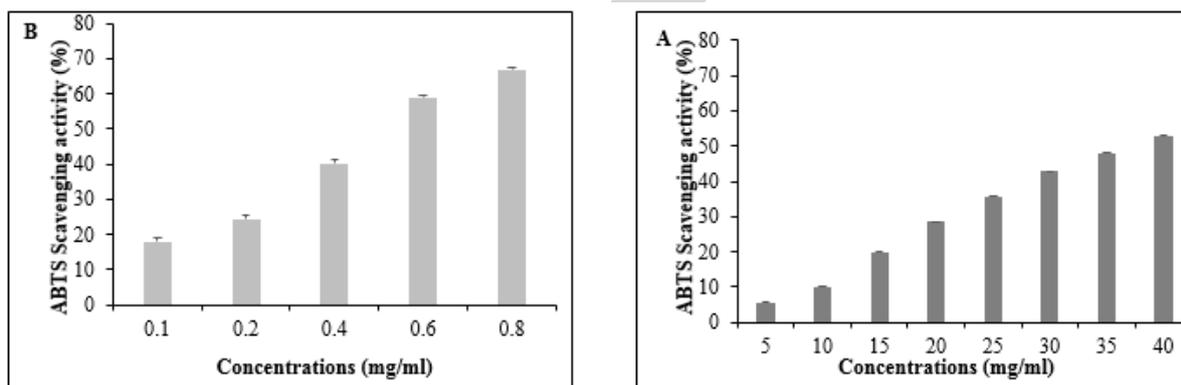


Fig.12

**Table 1.** Experimental details of  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$ **Crystal data**

Chemical formula	$\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}\text{H}_4\text{O}_2 \cdot \text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_4$
<i>Mr</i>	1115.39
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	$P 2_1/n$
Temperature (K)	150
<i>a</i> , <i>b</i> , <i>c</i> (Å)	9.5808 (17), 9.8438 (18), 16.050 (3)
$\beta$ (°)	93.142 (6)
<i>V</i> (Å <sup>3</sup> )	1511.4 (5)
<i>Z</i>	2
Radiation type	Mo $K\alpha$
$\mu$ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	3.86
Crystal size (mm)	0.58 × 0.34 × 0.22

**Data collection**

Diffractometer	D8 VENTURE Bruker AXS
Absorption correction	Multi-scan
<i>T</i> <sub>min</sub> , <i>T</i> <sub>max</sub>	0.199, 0.428
No. of measured, independent and observed [ <i>I</i> ≥ 2σ( <i>I</i> )] reflections	14806, 3453, 3312
<i>R</i> <sub>int</sub>	0.052

**Refinement**

<i>R</i> [ <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup> > 2σ( <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup> )], <i>wR</i> ( <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup> ), <i>S</i>	0.028, 0.071, 1.19
No. of reflections	3453
No. of parameters	164
$\Delta\rho_{\text{max}}$ , $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}}$ (e Å <sup>-3</sup> )	1.03, -1.24

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**Table 2:** Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

D-H...A	D-H	H...A	D...A	D-H...A
N1—H1A...Cl <sub>5</sub> <sup>a</sup>	0.92(2)	2.40(3)	3.290(3)	164(3)
N1—H1B...Cl <sub>5</sub> <sup>b</sup>	0.90(2)	2.46(3)	3.357(3)	178(3)
N1—H1C...Cl <sub>1</sub> <sup>c</sup>	0.91(2)	2.39(3)	3.277(3)	167(3)
N5—H5...Cl <sub>4</sub>	0.87(3)	2.30(3)	3.149(2)	166(3)
O1—H11A...Cl <sub>1</sub> <sup>f</sup>	0.89(3)	2.24(3)	3.085 (2)	158(4)
O1—H11B...Cl <sub>1</sub>	0.91(3)	2.23(3)	3.125 (3)	166(4)
C3—H3B...Cl <sub>5</sub> <sup>a</sup>	0.97	2.81	3.637 (3)	143.8
C4—H4A...Cl <sub>3</sub>	0.97	2.82	3.574 (3)	135.4
C4—H4B...Cl <sub>6</sub> <sup>d</sup>	0.97	2.68	3.500(3)	142.6
C7—H7B...Cl <sub>1</sub> <sup>e</sup>	0.97	2.95	3.525(3)	119.0
C7—H7A...Cl <sub>5</sub> <sup>c</sup>	0.97	2.93	3.573(3)	124.6
C2—H2B...Cl <sub>2</sub> <sup>a</sup>	0.97	2.91	3.629(3)	132.2
C6—H6A...Cl <sub>4</sub> <sup>e</sup>	0.97	2.93	3.678(3)	134.3
C6—H6B...Cl <sub>1</sub>	0.97	2.94	3.618(3)	128.2
C7—H7B...Cl <sub>6</sub> <sup>d</sup>	0.97	2.83	3.632(3)	141.0

<sup>a</sup>Code of symmetry : -x, -y, -z<sup>b</sup>Code of symmetry : x-1/2, -y-1/2, z-1/2<sup>c</sup>Code of symmetry : x-1/2, -y-1/2, z-1/2<sup>d</sup>Code of symmetry : -x, -y, -z<sup>e</sup>Code of symmetry : -x, -y, -z<sup>f</sup>Code of symmetry : -x+1/2, y+1/2, -z+1/2

**Table 3:** The enrichment ratio of contacts highlights if interactions are over or under-represented in the crystal as compared to equiprobable contacts occurring with the same chemical content on the surface

<b>Enrichement</b>	Hn/o	C	N	O	Cl	Cd	Hc
Hn/o	0.25						
C	0.18	11.34					
N	0.00	7.46	0.00				
O	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			
Cl	<b>1.92</b>	0.30	1.91	0.00	0.35		
Cd	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.72	0.76	
Hc	<b>0.53</b>	0.44	0.00	4.01	<b>1.53</b>	0.31	0.71
<b>Surface %</b>	16.37	4.54	0.44	0.82	44.26	7.99	25.58

**Table 4:** Scavenging activity of  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$ . The data are reported as mean  $\pm$  standard deviation, \*\*\* $p < 0.001$  significantly different from the ascorbic acid

DPPH (IC50 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ )	ABTS (IC50 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ )
$[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$ $15.2 \pm 0.03$ ***	$36.3 \pm 0.004$ ***
Ascorbic acid $0.14 \pm 0.007$	$0.532 \pm 0.006$

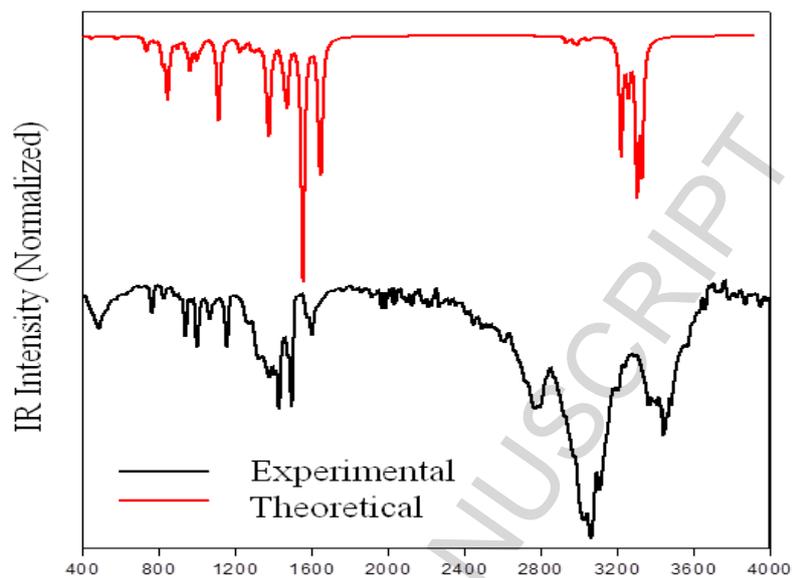
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**Table 5:** Zone of inhibition (mm), of  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2] \cdot n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28}) \cdot n$  against bacteria. The data are reported as mean  $\pm$  standard deviation

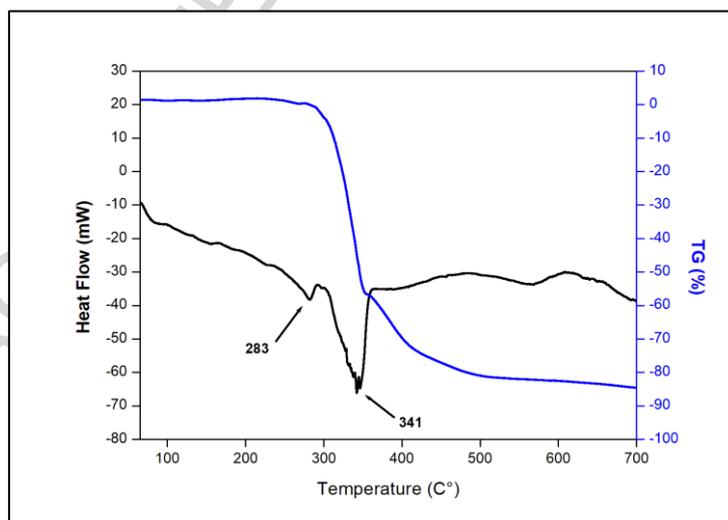
Bacteria	Zone of inhibition (mm)	
	$[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2] \cdot n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28}) \cdot n$	Streptomycine
Pseudomonas aeruginosa SH 38	6 ***	15
Escherichia coli JW 1772	24.5 $\pm$ 0.5**	20
Salmonella typhimurium ATCC 14028	15 $\pm$ 0.3***	26
Staphylococcus aureus NCTC 6571	7 $\pm$ 0.5***	29
Enterococcus faecalis ATCC 29212	6 $\pm$ 0.5***	25

\*\*p<0.01 and \*\*\*p<0.001 significantly different from the Streptomycine inhibition zone

## Supplementary



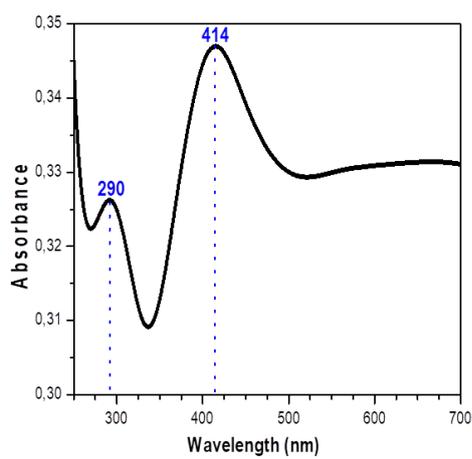
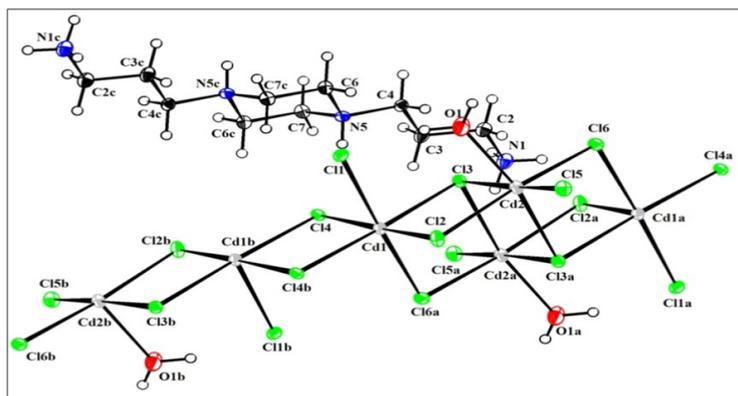
S.1: Simulated and experimental IR spectrum of  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$ .



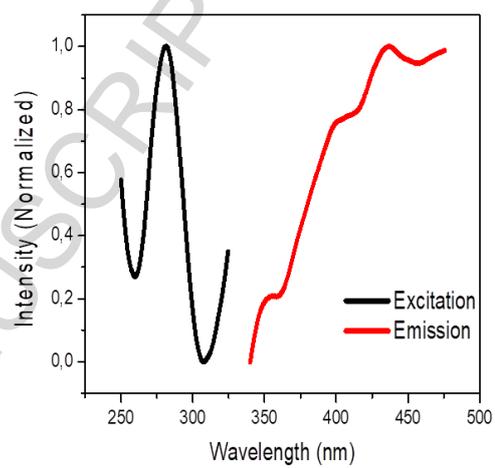
S.2: TG-DTA heating of  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$

### Computational details

It is well known that the vibrational modes of the inorganic entities occur at low frequencies ranges (below  $400\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) which not considered in our IR experimental technique. That's why, in our theoretical study, we have chosen to facilitate the calculations and consider only the organic part. Standard atomic positions of one  $[\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28}]^{4+}$  cation are taken from the X-Ray diffraction data. Complete geometry optimization and normal modes calculations are performed by the DFT theory implemented in the Gaussian 09 software and using B3LYP functional and 6-311G\*\* basis set. The absence of imaginary frequencies was checked and a scale factor (0.972) is used.



Excitation  
↔  
Emission



Graphical abstract

**Highlights**

- Synthesis of new organic-inorganic hybrid material  $[\text{Cd}_4\text{Cl}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n(\text{C}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{H}_{28})_n$ .
- The determination of crystallographic coordinates by XRD on a crystal.
- Vibrational properties were studied by Infrared Spectroscopy.
- The behavior of this new compound is a semiconductor been proved by the study of optical absorption.
- The bioassay results showed that the structure exhibits significant antibacterial activity.
- Thermal properties of the crystal were analyzed by TG-DTA.