

Supporting Information
for
Rational Design of a Structural Framework
with Potential Use to Develop Chemical Reagents That
Target and Modulate Multiple Facets of Alzheimer's Disease

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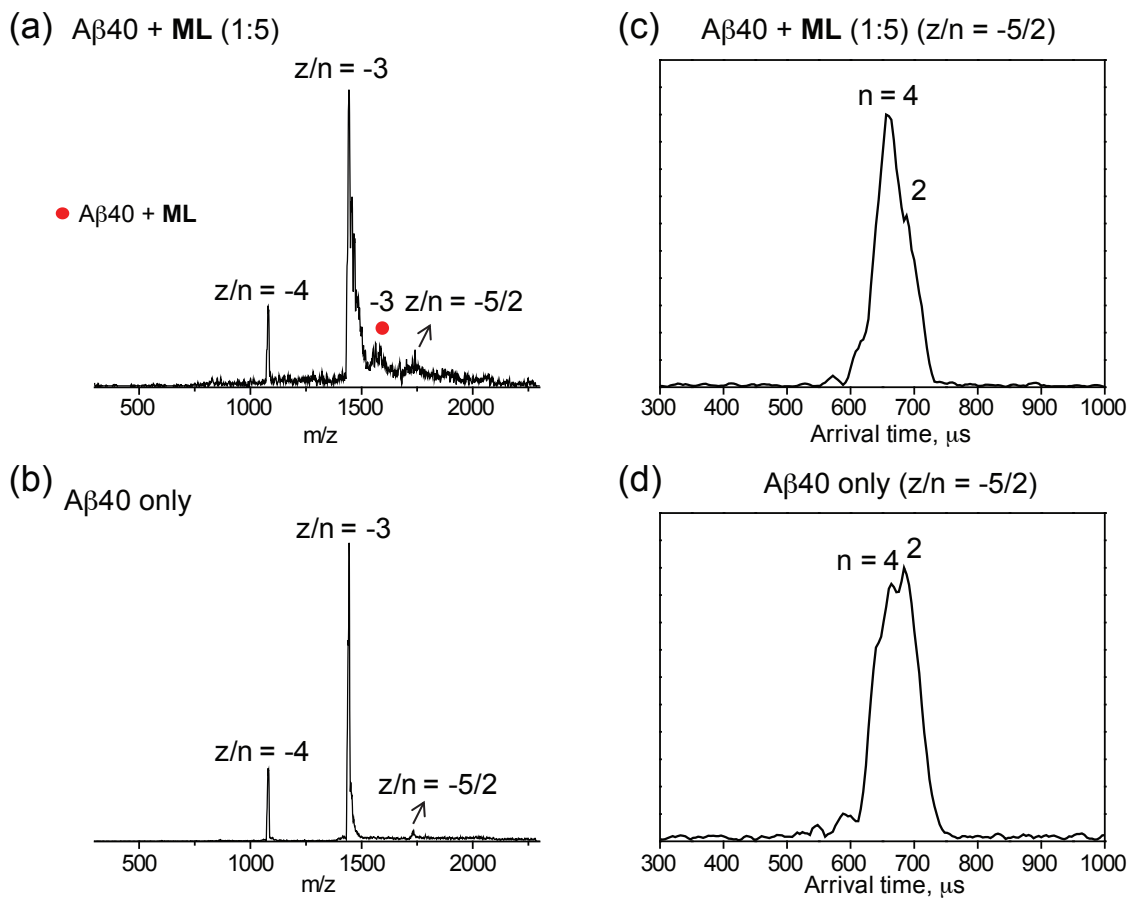


Figure S1. Interaction and effect of **ML** on $A\beta_{40}$ ($A\beta:\mathbf{ML} = 1:5$). (a and b) Mass spectra of $A\beta_{40}$ with and without **ML**, where z/n is charge/oligomer ratio. (c and d) The ATD of $-5/2$ $A\beta_{40}$ in the presence and absence of **ML**. Oligomer number (n) is noted for each feature.

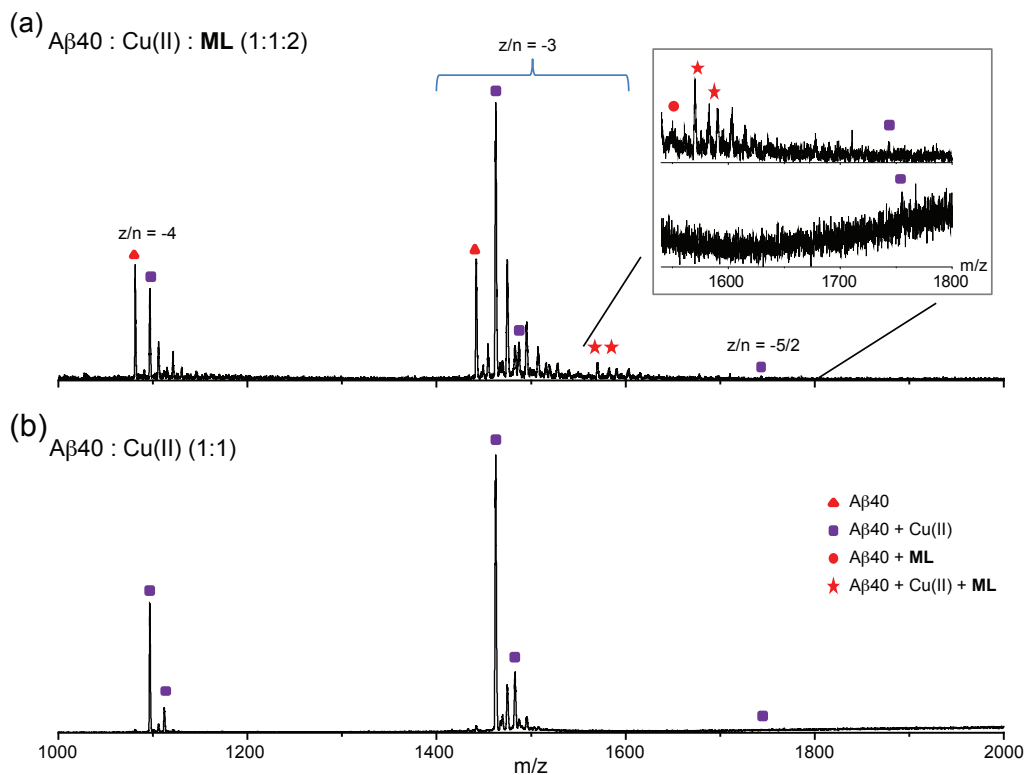


Figure S2. Mass spectra of samples containing $A\beta_{40}$ and $Cu(II)$ in the absence and presence of **ML**. (a and b) Mass spectra of a mixture of $A\beta_{40}:Cu(II):ML (1:1:2)$ and $A\beta_{40}:Cu(II) (1:1)$. The peaks for $A\beta_{40}$, $Cu(II)$ -bound $A\beta_{40}$, **ML**-bound $A\beta_{40}$, and complexes of $A\beta_{40}$, $Cu(II)$, and **ML** are labeled according to the legend.

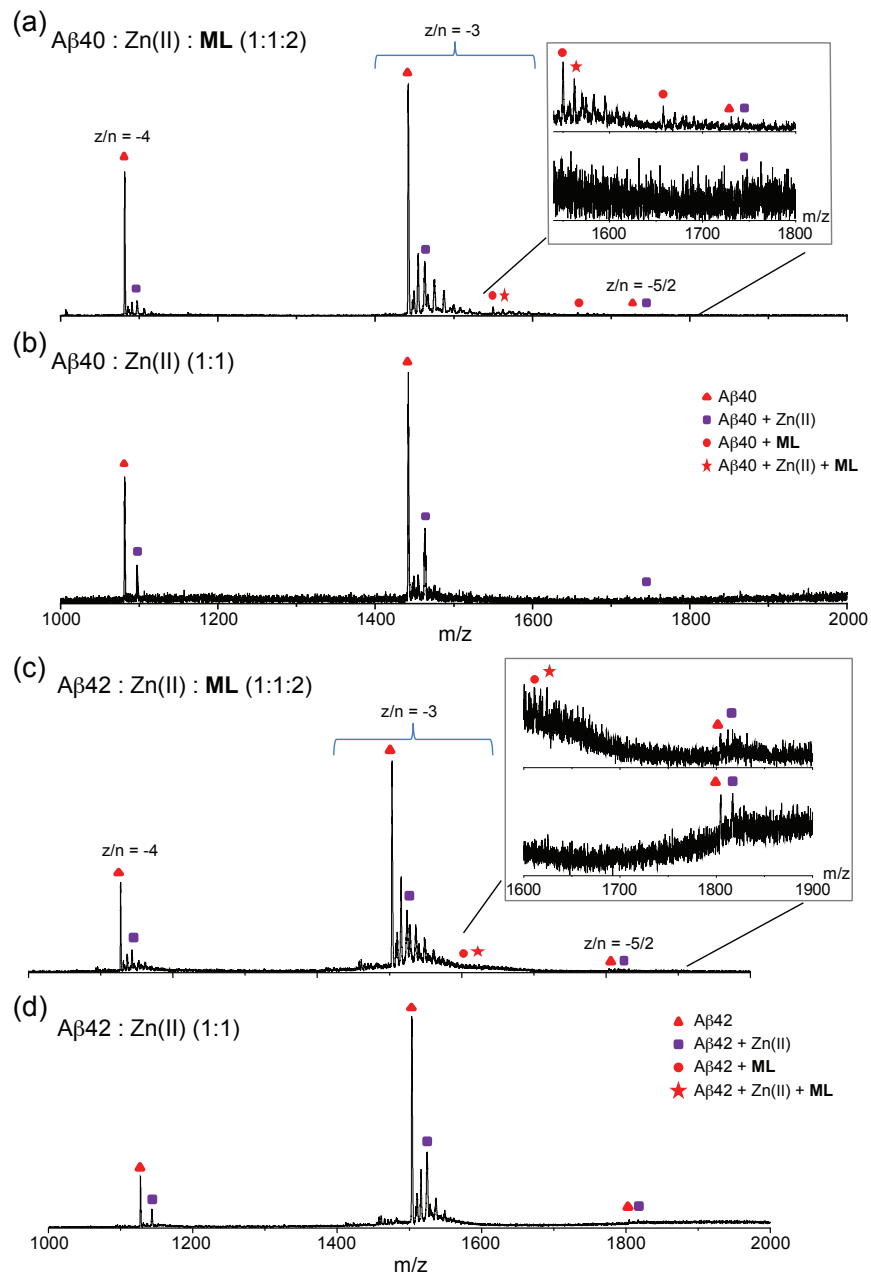


Figure S3. Mass spectra of Zn(II)–A β 40/42 samples with and without ML. Mass spectra of a mixture of A β 40/42:Zn(II):ML (1:1:2, a and c) and A β 40/42:Zn(II) (1:1, b and d). The peaks for A β 40/42, Zn(II)-bound A β 40/42, ML-bound A β 40/42, and complexes of A β 40/42, Zn(II), and ML are labeled according to the legend.

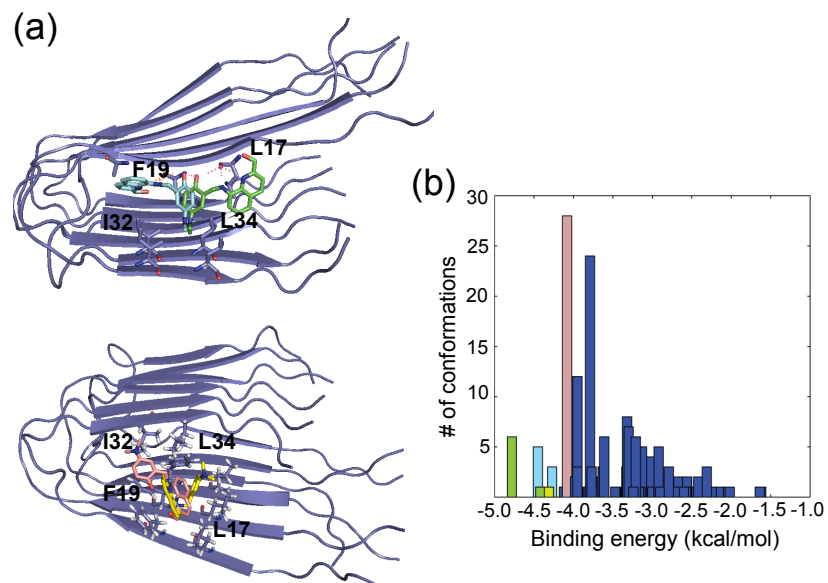


Figure S4. Docking of **ML** to negatively staggered A β 40 fibers (PDB 2LMO). (a) Lowest four energy conformations of **ML** to A β 40 fibers. (b) Cluster energy analysis of **ML** binding to A β 40 fibers. The lowest six energy conformations are color-coded to match the conformations shown in (a). Matching colors indicate conformations closely related by symmetry.

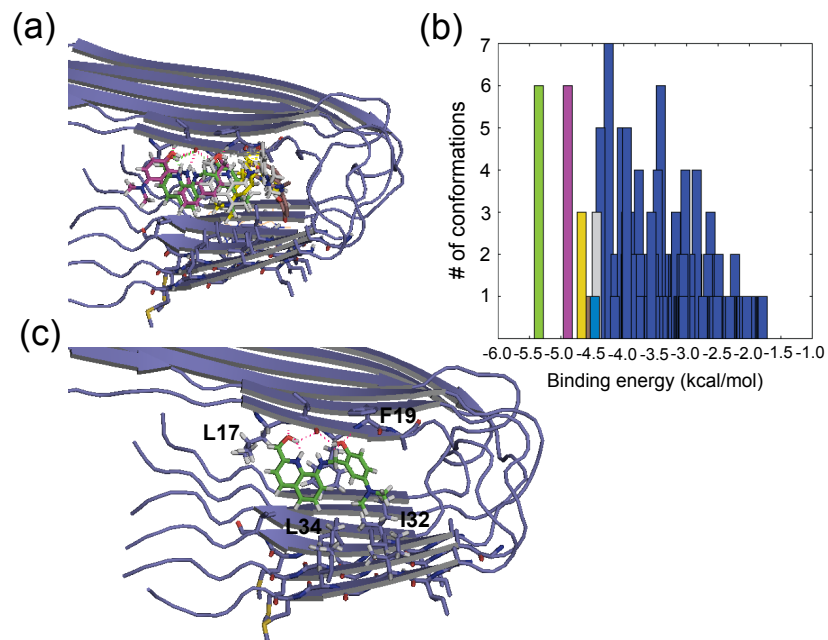


Figure S5. Docking of **ML** to positively staggered A β 40 fibers (PDB 2LMN). (a) Lowest six energy conformations of **ML** to A β 40 fibers. (b) Cluster energy analysis of **ML** binding to A β 40 fibers. The lowest six energy conformations are color-coded to match the structures shown in (a). (c) A close-up of the lowest energy docked conformation.

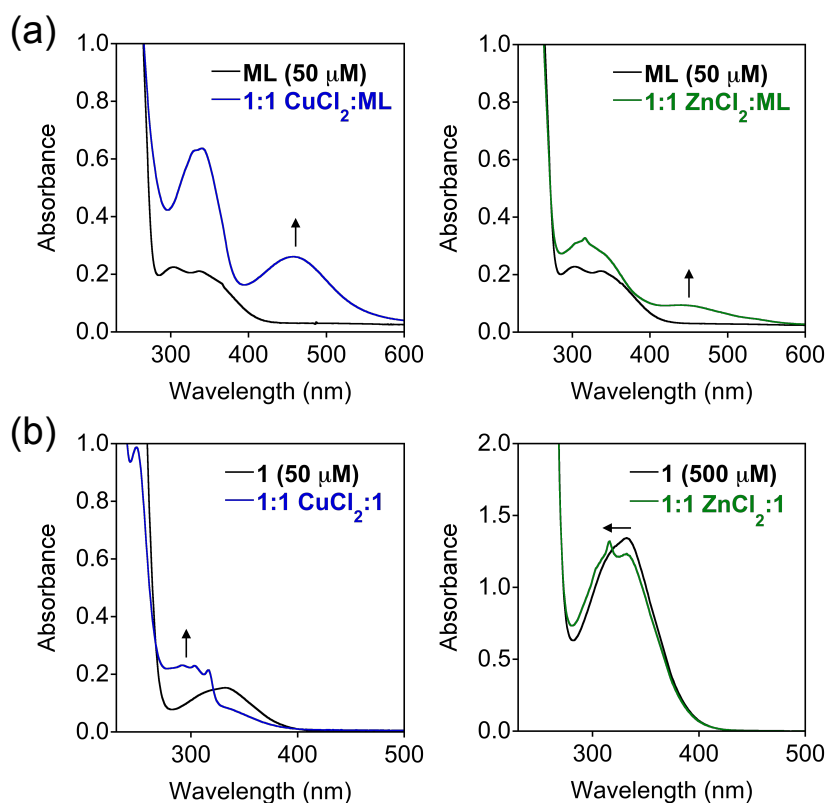


Figure S6. Metal binding studies of **ML** and **1**. (a) UV-Vis spectra of **ML** (black line) and with CuCl₂ (left, blue line; 30 min incubation) or ZnCl₂ (right, green line; 60 min incubation). (b) UV-Vis spectra of **1** (black line) with CuCl₂ (left, blue line; 10 min incubation) or ZnCl₂ (right, green line; 10 min incubation). Note that the scale on **1**:ZnCl₂ is different to other spectra. Experimental conditions: [M(II)]:[L] = 1:1; 20 mM HEPES, pH 7.4, 150 mM NaCl; room temperature.

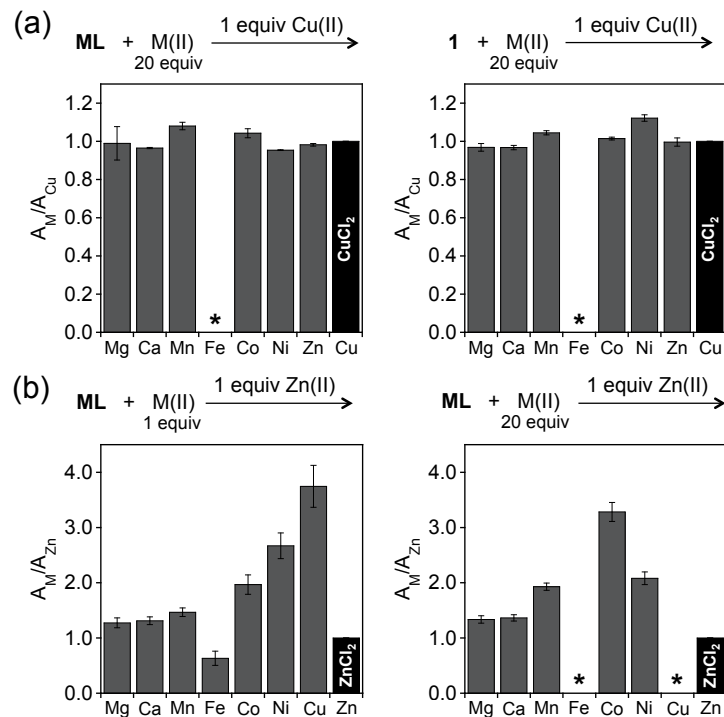


Figure S7. (a) Metal selectivity studies of **ML** and **1** for Cu(II) over other divalent metal ions. Gray bars represent the subsequent addition of CuCl₂ (50 μM) to solutions of the ligand with 20 equivalents of other divalent metal ions (MgCl₂, CaCl₂, MnCl₂, FeCl₂, CoCl₂, NiCl₂, and ZnCl₂). The absorbance of **ML** and **1** at 485 nm at 291 nm, respectively, was used to calculate A_M/A_{Cu} . (b) Metal selectivity studies of **ML** for Zn(II) over other divalent metal ions. Gray bars represent the subsequent addition of ZnCl₂ (50 μM) to solutions of ligand with other divalent metal ions. The absorbance of **ML** at 425 nm was used to calculate A_M/A_{Zn} . Noticeable A_M values at 425 nm were observed upon incubation of some divalent metal ions with **ML**, resulting in $A_M/A_{\text{Zn}} > 1$, although Zn(II) is relatively selective over other divalent metal ions (*i.e.*, Mg(II), Ca(II), and Mn(II)). Experimental conditions: [MCl₂] = 50 μM or 1 mM, [CuCl₂ or ZnCl₂] = 50 μM; 20 mM HEPES, pH 7.4, 150 mM NaCl; 5 or 15 min incubation; room temperature. Due to the limited spectral change, Zn(II) selectivity of **1** was not performed. * Indicates precipitation in the reaction.

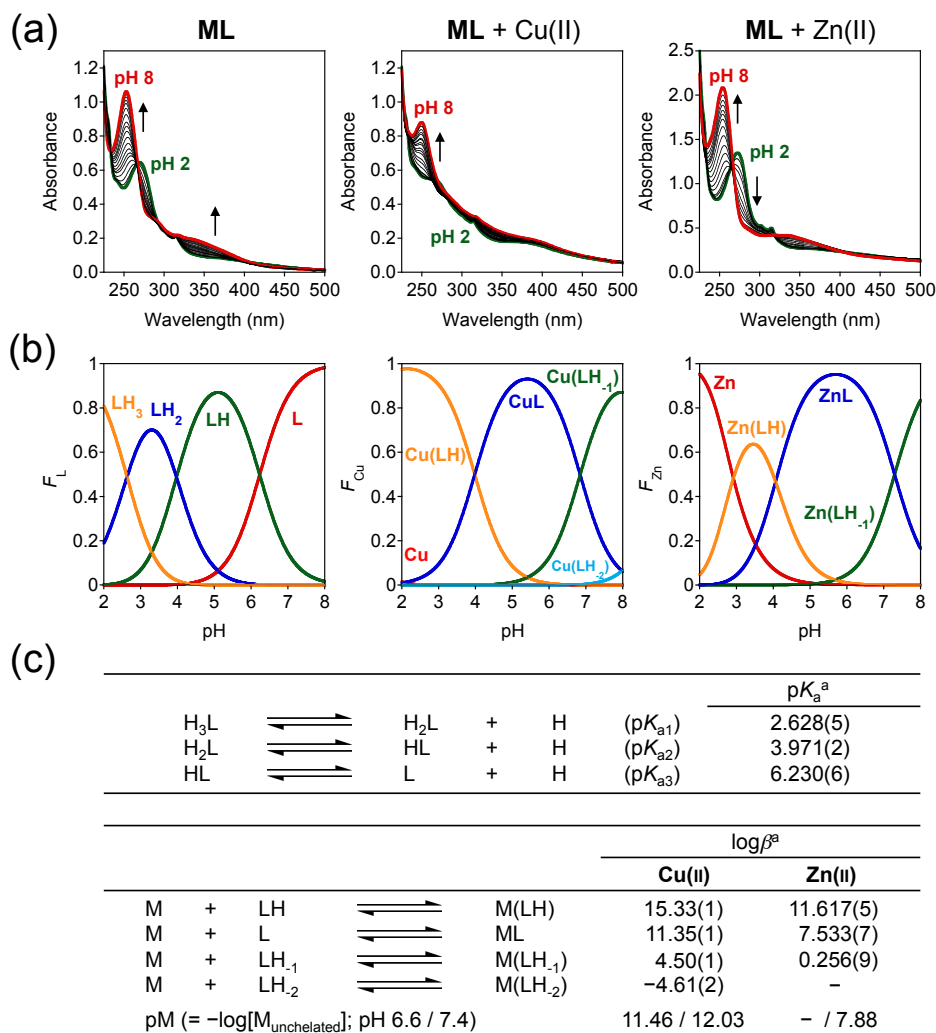


Figure S8. Solution speciation studies of **ML** with and without Cu(II) or Zn(II). (a) UV-Vis variable-pH titration spectra of **ML** in the absence (left) and presence of Cu(II) (middle) or Zn(II) (right). Note that the y scale on **ML** + Zn(II) is different to other spectra. (b) Solution speciation diagrams (F_L = fraction of compound with given protonation). (c) Summary of acidity constants (pK_a) of **ML** (top) and stability constants ($\log\beta$) of Cu(II)–**ML** or Zn(II)–**ML** complexes (bottom). Charges are omitted for clarity. ^a The error of the last digit is shown in parentheses. Experimental conditions: [**ML**] = 50 μ M (for metal-free); [M(II)]:[**ML**] = 1:2, [Cu(II)] = 25 μ M (incubation with **ML** for 1 h), [Zn(II)] = 50 μ M (incubation with **ML** for 2 h); pH 2.0-8.0; I = 0.10 M NaCl; room temperature.

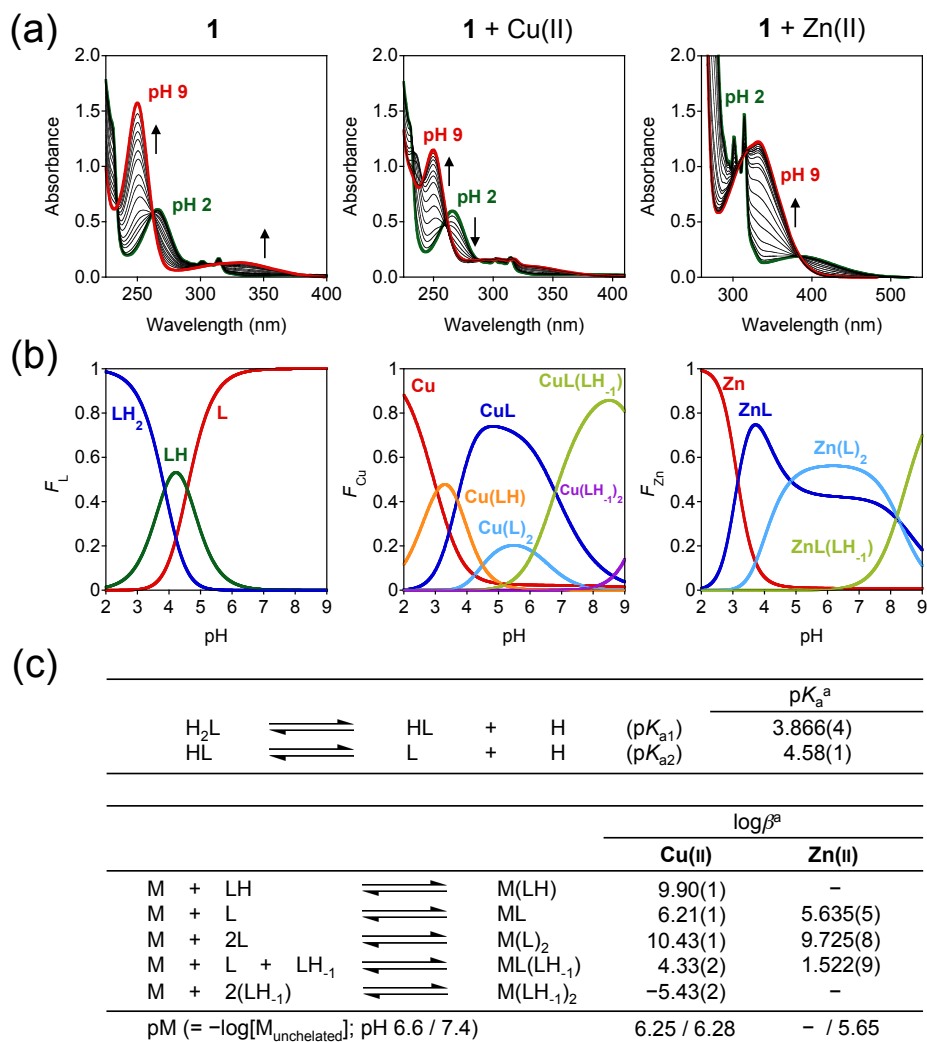


Figure S9. Solution speciation studies of **1** with and without Cu(II) or Zn(II). (a) UV-Vis variable-pH titration spectra of **1** in the absence (left) and presence of Cu(II) (middle) or Zn(II) (right). (b) Solution speciation diagrams (F_L = fraction of compound with given protonation). (c) Summary of acidity constants (pK_a) (top) and stability constants ($\log\beta$) of **1** with Cu(II) and Zn(II) (bottom). Charges are omitted for clarity. ^a The error of the last digit is shown in parentheses. Experimental conditions: $[1] = 50 \mu\text{M}$ (for metal-free); $[M(\text{II})]:[1] = 1:2$, $[\text{Cu}(\text{II})] = 25 \mu\text{M}$ (incubation with **1** for 1 h), $[\text{Zn}(\text{II})] = 250 \mu\text{M}$ (incubation with **1** for 2 h); pH 2.0-9.0; $I = 0.10 \text{ M NaCl}$; room temperature.

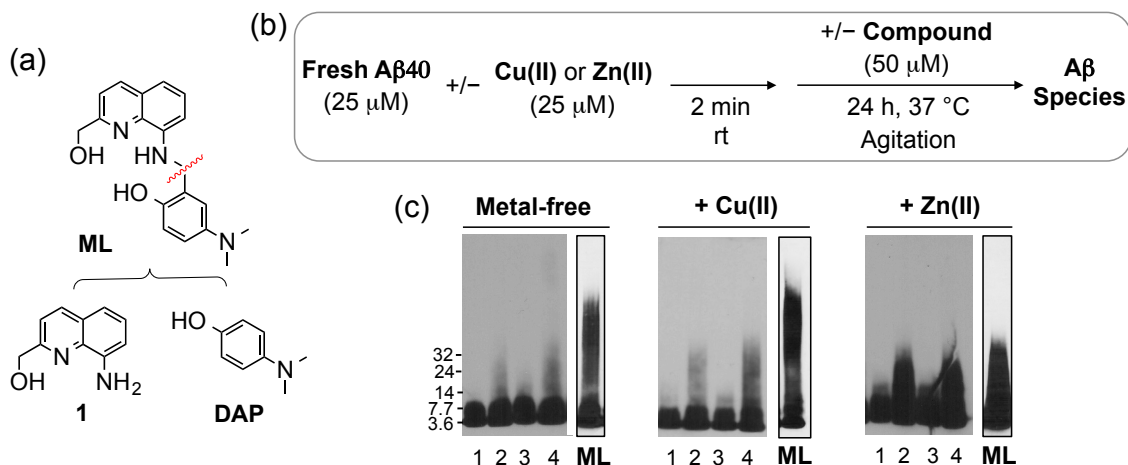


Figure S10. Influence of **1**, **DAP**, or **ML** on the formation of metal-free and metal-induced A β 40 aggregates. (a) Chemical structures of **1**, **DAP**, and **ML**. (b) Scheme of the inhibition experiment. (c) A β species were visualized by gel electrophoresis using immunoblotting with an anti-A β antibody (6E10). Experimental conditions: A β (25 μ M); CuCl₂ or ZnCl₂ (25 μ M); compound (50 μ M); 24 h; pH 6.6 (for Cu(II) experiments) or 7.4 (for metal-free and Zn(II) experiments); 37 °C; constant agitation. Lanes: (1) A β \pm CuCl₂ or ZnCl₂; (2) A β \pm CuCl₂ or ZnCl₂ + **DAP**; (3) A β \pm CuCl₂ or ZnCl₂ + **1**; (4) A β \pm CuCl₂ or ZnCl₂ + (**DAP** + **1**).

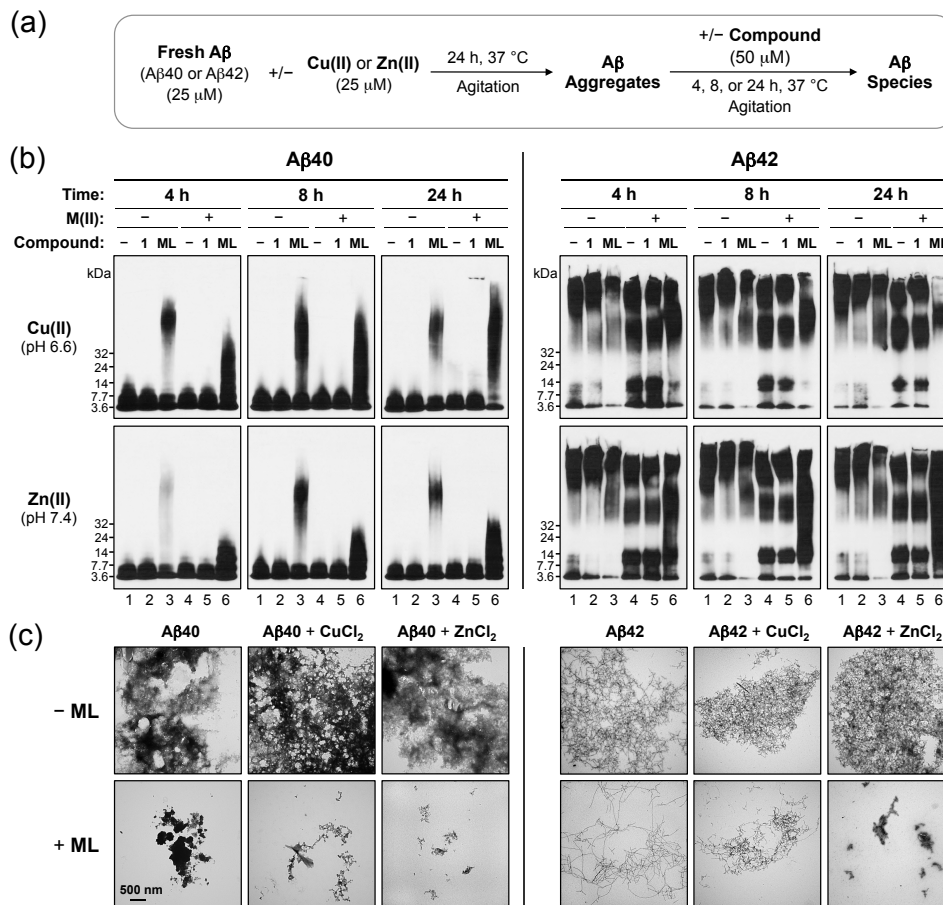


Figure S11. Transformation of preformed metal-free and metal-induced A β 40/42 aggregates in the presence of **ML** or **1**. (a) Scheme of the disaggregation experiment. (b) A β species were visualized by gel electrophoresis using immunoblotting with an anti-A β antibody (6E10). A β aggregates were produced by incubation of A β (25 μ M) with/without CuCl₂ or ZnCl₂ (25 μ M) in 150 μ M NaCl and 20 μ M HEPES, pH 6.6 (for Cu(II) experiment) or pH 7.4 (for metal-free and Zn(II) experiments) at 37 °C with constant agitation for 24 h. **ML** or **1** (50 μ M) was then added to each sample and the resulting solutions were incubated an additional 4, 8, or 24 h. Lanes: (1) A β ; (2) A β + **1**; (3) A β + **ML**; (4) A β + [CuCl₂ or ZnCl₂]; (5) A β + [CuCl₂ or ZnCl₂] + **1**; (6) A β + [CuCl₂ or ZnCl₂] + **ML**. (c) TEM images from (b) samples following 24 h incubation.

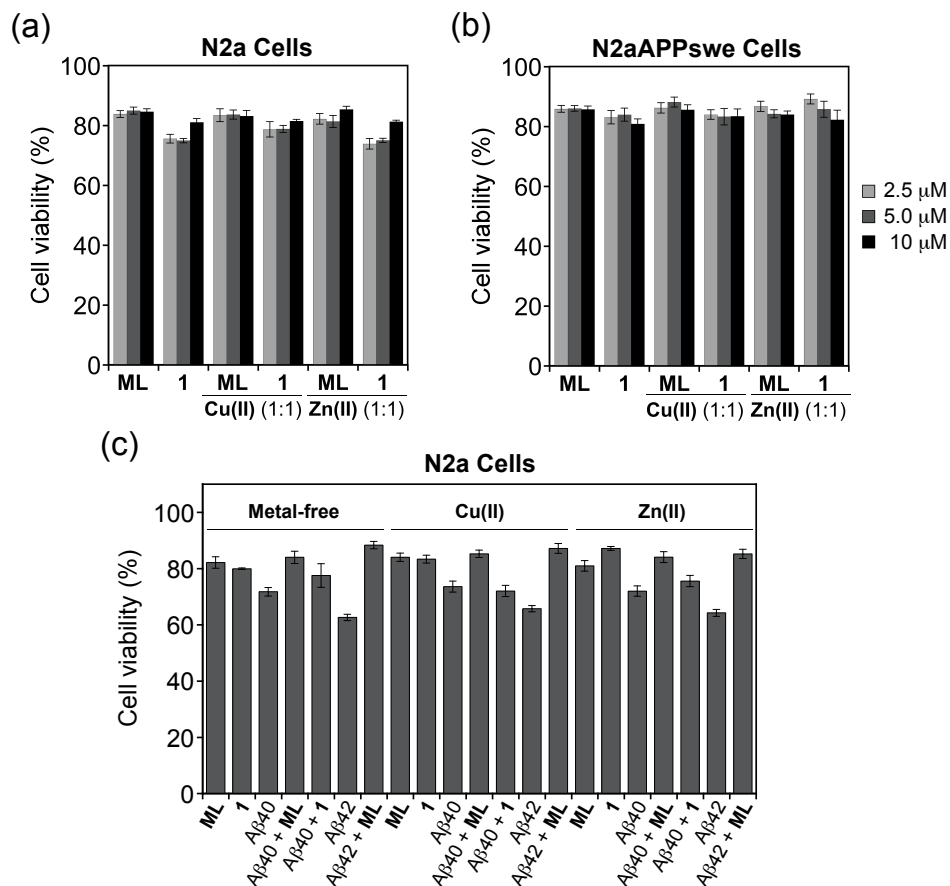


Figure S12. (a and b) Cytotoxicity study of **ML** or **1** in the absence and presence of Cu(II) or Zn(II) and (c) their modulation of toxicity caused by metal-free and metal-treated Aβ species in living cells. Cytotoxicity of **ML** or **1** in (a) murine Neuro-2a (N2a) neuroblastoma cells and (b) N2a cells overexpressing the Swedish mutant human amyloid precursor proteins (APP) (N2aAPPswe). Cells were treated with various concentrations of **ML** or **1** with/without a metal chloride salt (CuCl₂ or ZnCl₂) for 24 h at 37 °C. (c) The effect of **ML** or **1** on metal-free and metal-treated Aβ species in N2a cells. Cells treated with Aβ40 or Aβ42 (10 μM), a metal chloride salt (CuCl₂ or ZnCl₂; 10 μM), with/without **ML** or **1** (10 μM) were incubated for 24 h at 37 °C. Cell viability was determined by the MTT assay and the values of viability (%) were calculated compared to cells treated with DMSO only (0-1%, v/v). Data are mean ± S.E.M. $P < 0.05$, $n = 3$.

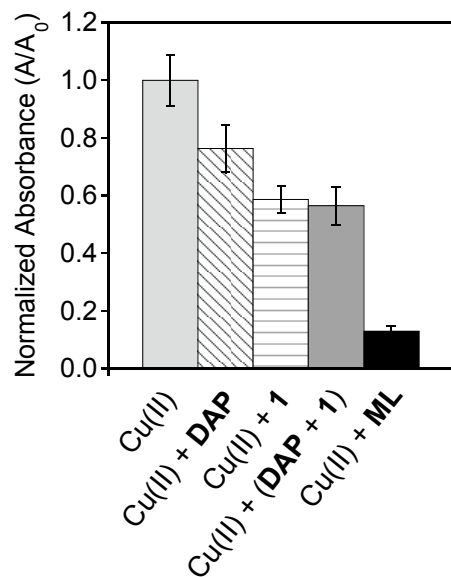


Figure S13. Inhibitory activity of **DAP**, **1**, and a mixture of **DAP** and **1** (**DAP + 1**), relative to **ML**, toward ROS formation, determined by the 2-deoxyribose assay. The absorbance values are normalized compared to ligand-free condition ($\text{CuCl}_2/\text{compound} = 10/125 \mu\text{M}$). The conditions and methods are described in the Experimental Section.