

Supporting Information

Structural Elucidation of the Mechanism of Molecular Recognition in Chiral Crystalline Sponges

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Experimental Section

1. Materials and Synthesis: All reagents and solvents were commercially available and used as received.

1.1. Synthesis of CMOM-**1S·NB** *and* CMOM-**3S·DCB**. The corresponding crystals were synthesized according to our published procedure^{1,2}.

1.2. Synthesis of CMOM-2S·BTF. A 5 mL methanol solution of 0.4 mmol Co(BF₄)₂·6H₂O (136 mg) and 0.4 mmol enantiopure (S)-mandelic acid (60.8mg) was layered above a 5 mL benzotrifluoride (BTF) solution of 0.3 mmol bpy (46.8 mg). The buffer solution of a 5mL 1:1 methanol/benzotrifluoride was layered between the top and the bottom layers to allow slow diffusion for 7 days. Red rectangular crystals were obtained in ~70% yield.

1.3. Synthesis of CMOM-11R·NB, 21R·NB, 31R·NB, and 41R·NB. A general procedure was applied as 1S·NB. (R)-2-chloromandelic acid (0.4 mmol, 740 mg), (R)-3-chloromandelic acid (0.4 mmol, 740 mg), (R)-4-chloromandelic acid (0.4 mmol, 740 mg), and (R)-4-methylmandelic acid (0.4 mmol, 660 mg) were used instead of (S)-mandelic acid for the synthesis of 11R·NB, 21R·NB, 31R·NB, and 41R·NB, respectively. Red rectangular crystals were isolated in ~40-50% yield.

1.4. Preparation of CMOMs Samples. Crystals of as-synthesized CMOMs were exchanged with DCM (5mL) for 5 times to successfully remove NB/DCB/BTF. Samples were stored in DCM for further usage.

2. Characterization.

2.1. Physical measurements: Powder X-Ray diffraction was performed on a PANalytical X'Pert MPD Pro using Cu Ka ($\lambda = 1.5418$ Å) radiation with a 1D X'Celerator strip detector. Thermogravimetric analysis was performed using a TA Instruments TGA-Q50 at a constant rate of 5°C/min from 25°C to 550°C. HPLC measurements were carried out on a Shimadzu HPLC system with Chiralpak IB and ID columns (250 × 4.6 mm i.d.) with a flow rate of 1 mL/min.

2.2. Crystallographic studies: As-synthesized **2S·BTF**, **11R·NB**, **21R·NB**, **31R·NB**, **41R·NB** and guest exchanged **2S·1P1P**, **3S·2P1P** crystals are chosen for single crystal X-ray diffraction

study. The data were collected on a Bruker Quest PHOTON 100 CMOS system equipped with a Cu K α INCOATEC Imus micro-focus source ($\lambda = 1.54178$ Å, T = 100(2) K). In all cases indexing was performed using APEX2.³ Data integration and reduction were performed using SaintPlus 6.01.⁴ Absorption correction was performed by multi-scan method implemented in SADABS.⁵ Space groups were determined using XPREP implemented in APEX2. Structures were solved using Direct Method (SHELXS), expanded using Fourier methods and refined on F² using nonlinear least-squares techniques with SHELXL⁶ contained in APEX2, WinGX v1.70.01⁷ and OLEX2 v1.2.9⁸ programs packages. Geometry calculations and checking for higher symmetry were performed with the PLATON program⁹. The SQUEEZE procedure within PLATON was applied for handling unordered solvent of **21R** and **31R**. Crystallographic data for the as-synthesized and guest exchanged CMOMs are summarized in Tables S1-S7.

3. Chiral Resolution of Phenyl Propanols (PPs).

The DCM exchanged CMOM crystals were evacuated under dynamic vacuum at room temperature. Desolvated materials were immersed in 0.5 mL racemic 1-phenyl-1-propanol (1P1P), 1-phenyl-2-propanol (1P2P), and 2-phenyl-1-propanol (2P1P) for 5 days without stirring or shaking, respectively. The crystallinity of the resulting PPs encapsulated CMOMs was examined by PXRD. Subsequently, CMOM crystals were filtered and washed with cyclohexane (6×1 mL) to remove the residual PPs from the surface of the crystals. DCM was then used to successively extract PPs from the crystals (8×0.5 mL). The resulting extracts were monitored by TLC to ensure that all encapsulated PPs had indeed been released. The filtrates were combined and analyzed by chiral HPLC to determine ee values. The resulting crystals were dried in air and weighed (weights ranged from 0.03~0.04 g).

Hirshfeld surface analysis

The Hirshfeld surface analysis was performed on CrystalExplorer.¹⁰ Inside the Hirshfeld surface the electron distribution due to a sum of spherical atoms for the molecule (the promolecule) dominates the corresponding sum over the crystal (the procrystal), and the Hirshfeld surface is defined implicitly where the ratio of promolecule to procrystal electron densities equals 0.5. For each point on the surface, two colored distance properties are defined: d_e , the distance from the point to the nearest nucleus *external* to the surface, and d_i , the distance to the nearest nucleus *internal* to the surface. *Shape index* is a measure of "which shape", and it can be sensitive to very subtle changes in surface shape, particularly in areas where the total curvature (or the curvedness) is very low. 2D fingerprint plots are derived from the Hirshfeld surface by plotting the fraction of points on the surface as a function of the pair (d_i , d_e). Each point on the standard 2D graph represents a bin formed by discrete intervals of d_i and d_e (0.01 × 0.01 Å), and the points are colored as a function of the fraction of surface points in that bin, with a range from blue (relatively few points) through green (moderate fraction) to red (highest fraction).

Characterization of CMOMs

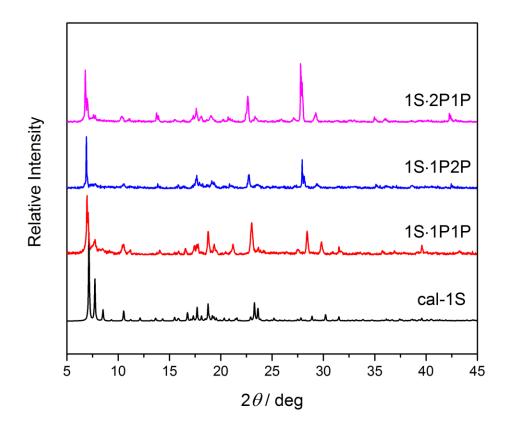


Figure S1. PXRD patterns of calculated **CMOM-1S** (cal-1S), guest molecules encapsulated in **CMOM-1S** with 1P1P, 1P2P and 2P1P (1S·1P1P, 1S·1P2P, 1S·2P1P), respectively.

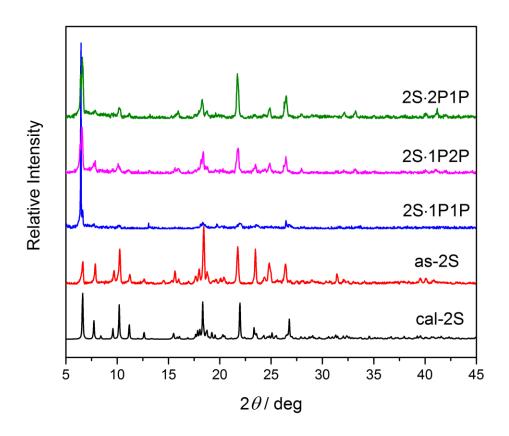


Figure S2. PXRD patterns of calculated **CMOM-2S** (cal-2S), as-synthesized **CMOM-2S** (as-2S), guest molecules encapsulated in **CMOM-2S** with 1P1P, 1P2P and 2P1P (2S·1P1P, 2S·1P2P, 2S·2P1P), respectively.

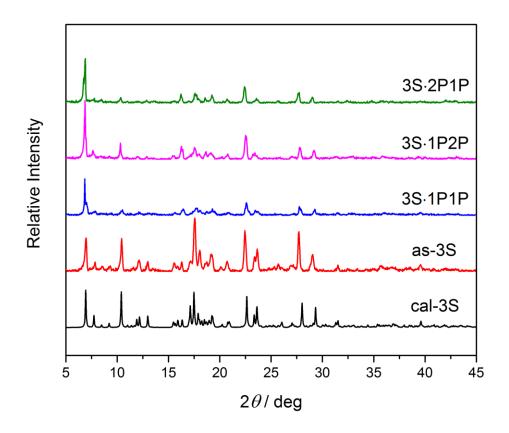


Figure S3. PXRD patterns of calculated **CMOM-3S** (cal-2S), as-synthesized **CMOM-3S** (as-2S), guest molecules encapsulated in **CMOM-3S** with 1P1P, 1P2P and 2P1P (3S·1P1P, 3S·1P2P, 3S·2P1P), respectively.

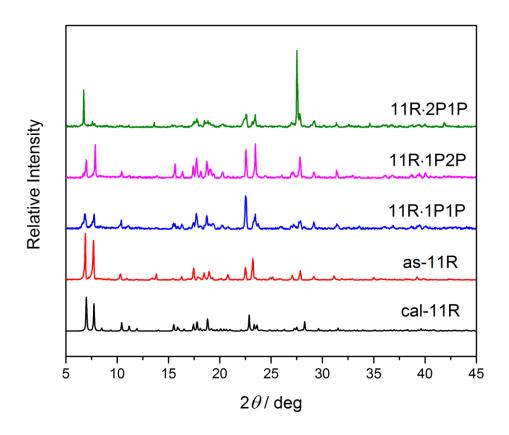


Figure S4. PXRD patterns of calculated **CMOM-11R** (cal-11R), as-synthesized **CMOM-11R** (as-11R), guest molecules encapsulated in **CMOM-11R** with 1P1P, 1P2P and 2P1P (11R·1P1P, 11R·1P2P, 11R·2P1P), respectively.

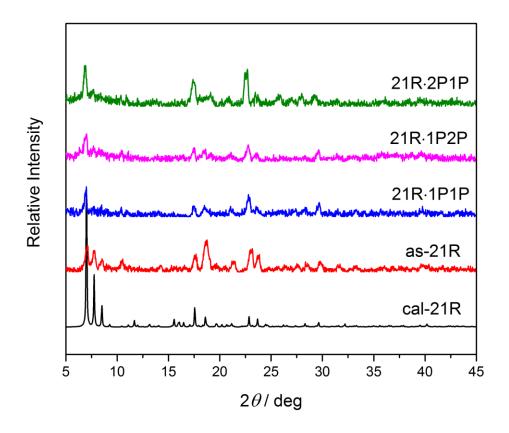


Figure S5. PXRD patterns of calculated CMOM-21R (cal-11R), as-synthesized CMOM-21R (as-11R), guest molecules encapsulated in CMOM-21R with 1P1P, 1P2P and 2P1P (21R·1P1P, 21R·1P2P, 21R·2P1P), respectively.

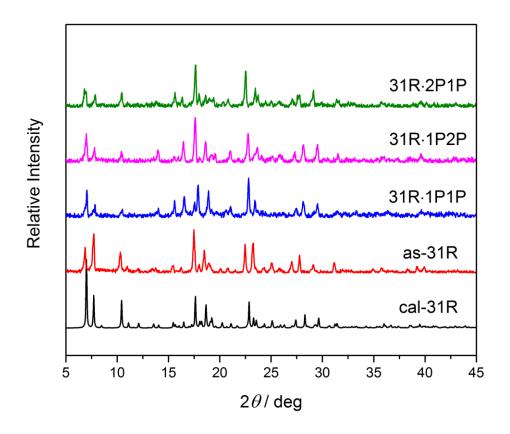


Figure S6. PXRD patterns of calculated **CMOM-31R** (cal-31R), as-synthesized **CMOM-31R** (as-31R), guest molecules encapsulated in **CMOM-31R** with 1P1P, 1P2P and 2P1P (31R·1P1P, 31R·1P2P, 31R·2P1P), respectively.

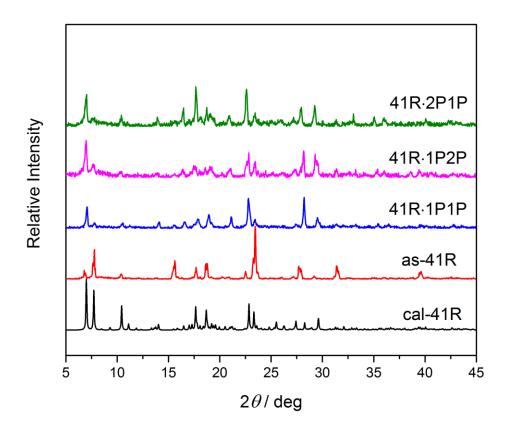


Figure S7. PXRD patterns of calculated **CMOM-41R** (cal-41R), as-synthesized **CMOM-41R** (as-41R), guest molecules encapsulated in **CMOM-41R** with 1P1P, 1P2P and 2P1P (41R·1P1P, 41R·1P2P, 41R·2P1P), respectively.

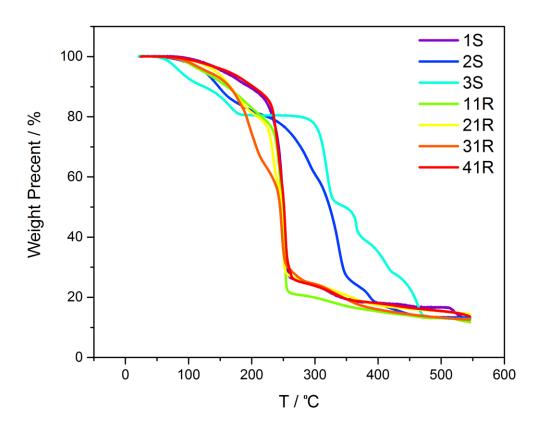


Figure S8. TGA plots of as-synthesized CMOMs.

Additional Figures

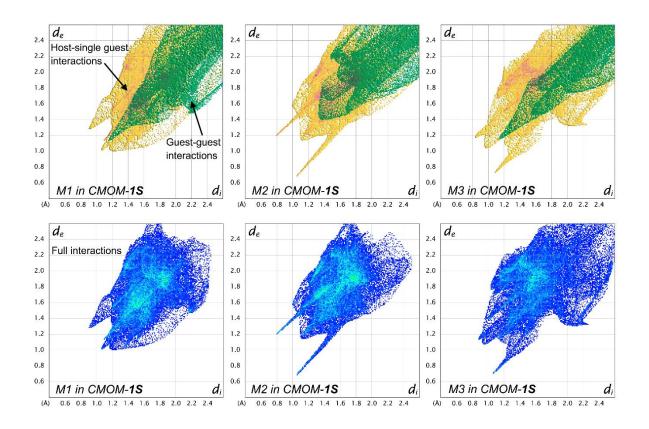


Figure S9. Surface analysis of 1P1P molecules in CMOM-1S.

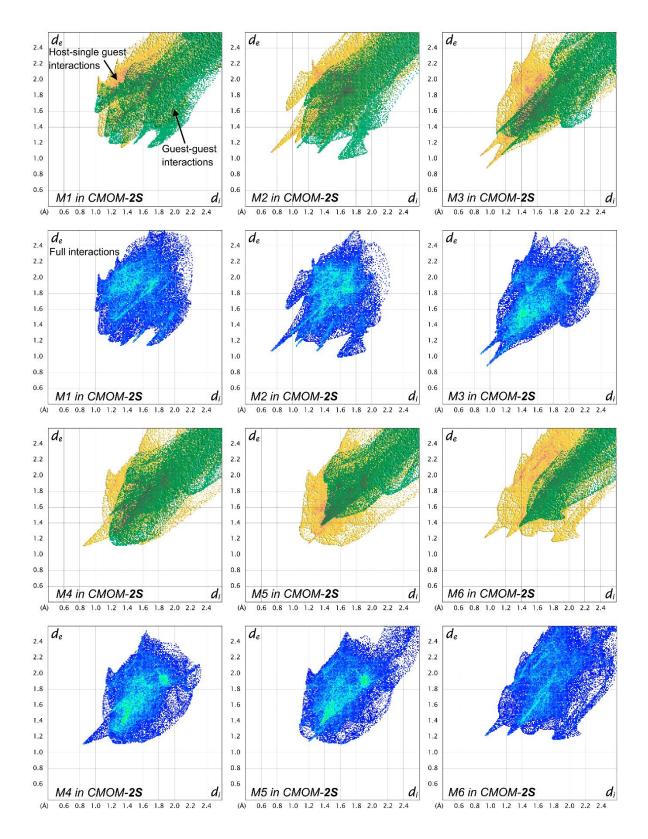


Figure S10. Surface analysis of 1P1P molecules in CMOM-2S.

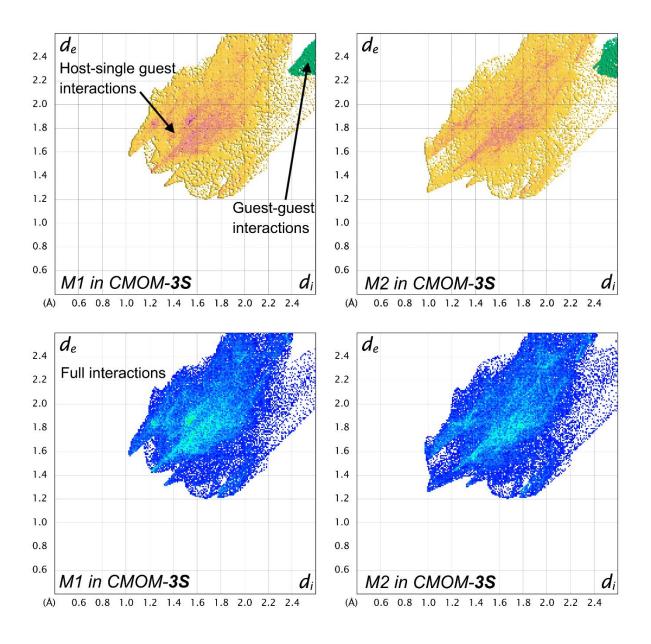


Figure S11. Surface analysis of 1P1P molecules in CMOM-3S.

HPLC traces for chiral resolution

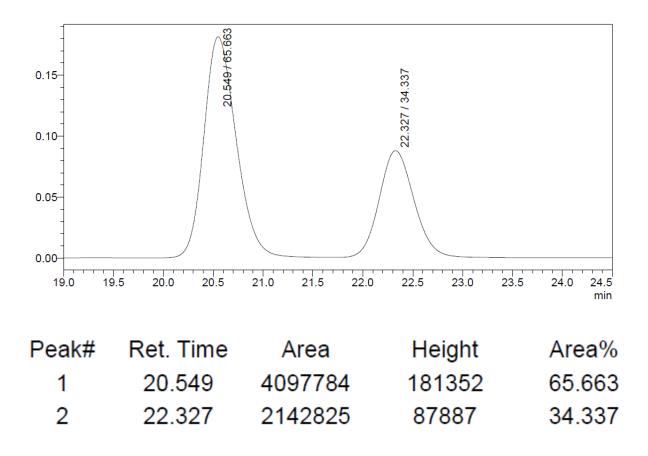


Figure S12. HPLC spectra of the solution extracted from 1P1P encapsulated CMOM-1S for 5d. Eluent: 99% hexane: 1% isopropanol.

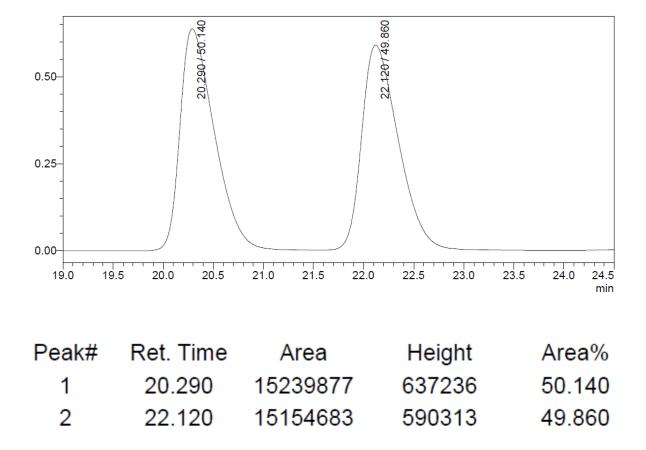


Figure S13. HPLC spectra of the solution extracted from 1P1P encapsulated CMOM-2S for 5d. Eluent: 99% hexane: 1% isopropanol.

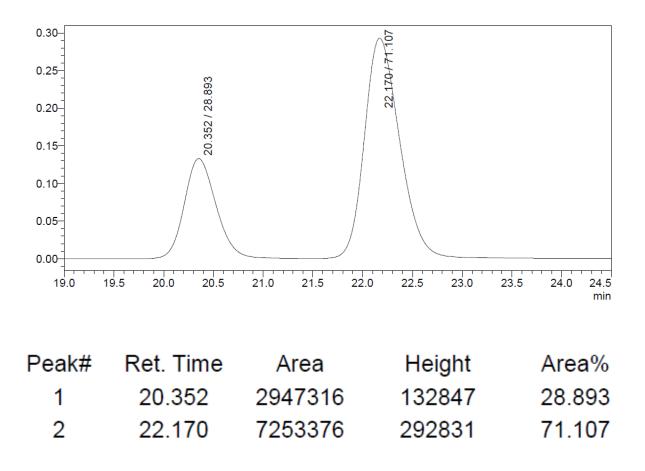


Figure S14. HPLC spectra of the solution extracted from 1P1P encapsulated CMOM-3S for 5d. Eluent: 99% hexane: 1% isopropanol.

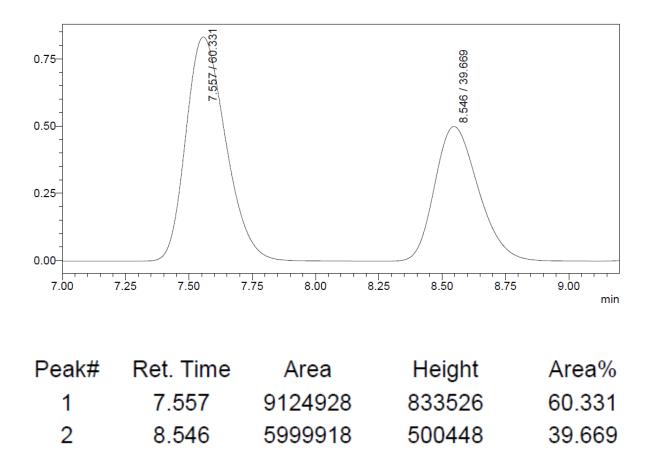


Figure S15. HPLC spectra of the solution extracted from 1P2P encapsulated CMOM-1S for 5d. Eluent: 95% hexane: 5% isopropanol.

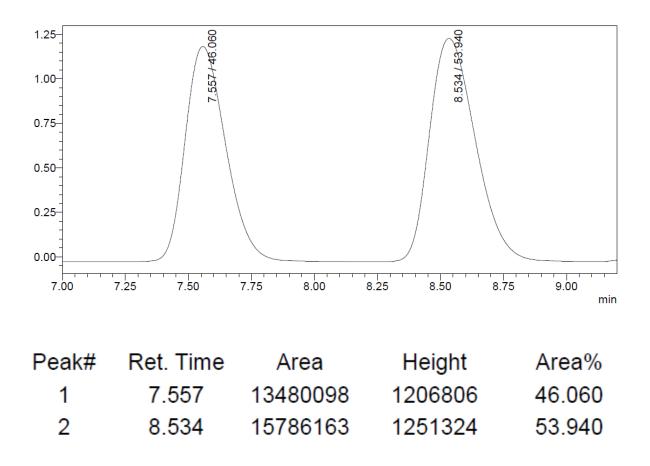


Figure S16. HPLC spectra of the solution extracted from 1P2P encapsulated CMOM-2S for 5d. Eluent: 95% hexane: 5% isopropanol.

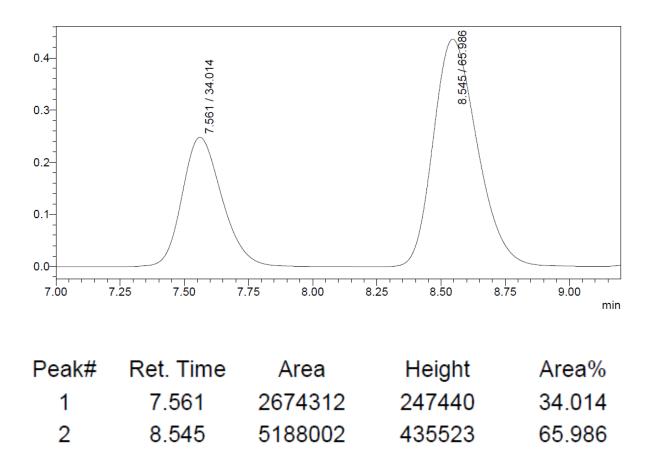


Figure S17. HPLC spectra of the solution extracted from 1P2P encapsulated CMOM-3S for 5d. Eluent: 95% hexane: 5% isopropanol.

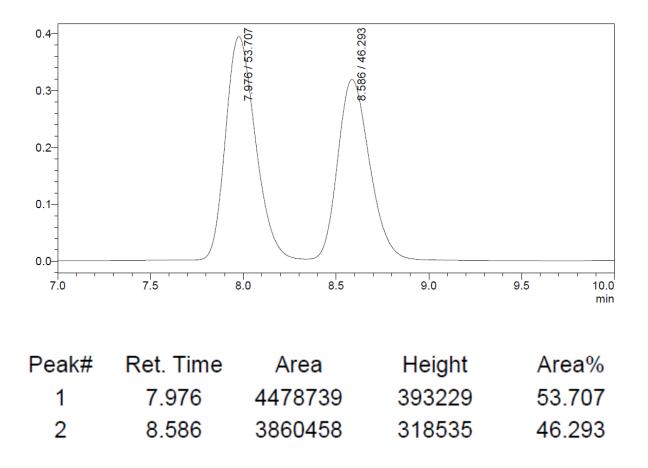


Figure S18. HPLC spectra of the solution extracted from 2P1P encapsulated CMOM-1S for 5d. Eluent: 95% hexane: 5% isopropanol.

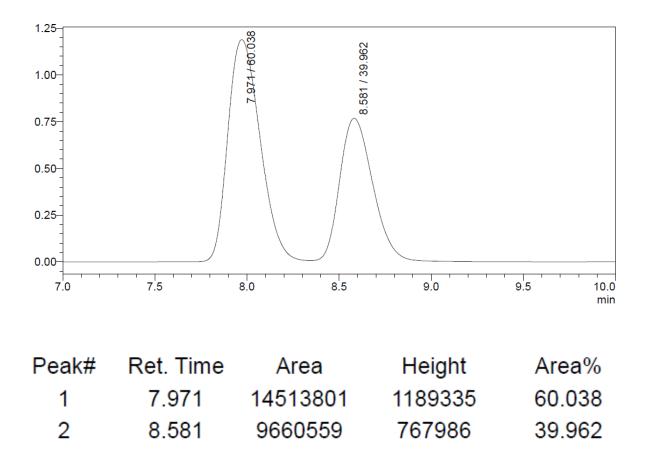


Figure S19. HPLC spectra of the solution extracted from 2P1P encapsulated CMOM-2S for 5d. Eluent: 95% hexane: 5% isopropanol.

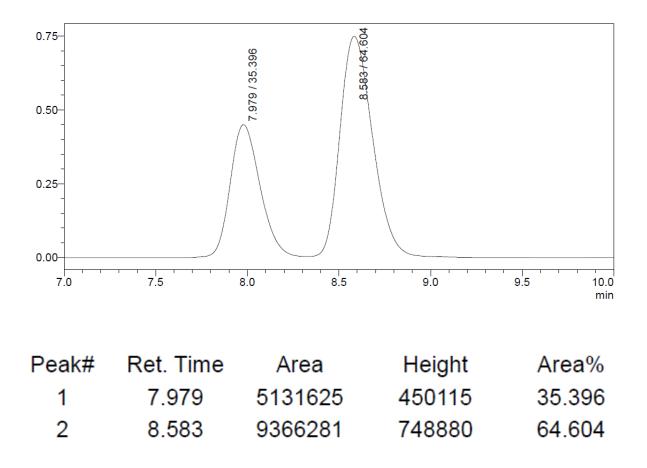


Figure S20. HPLC spectra of the solution extracted from 2P1P encapsulated CMOM-3S for 5d. Eluent: 95% hexane: 5% isopropanol.

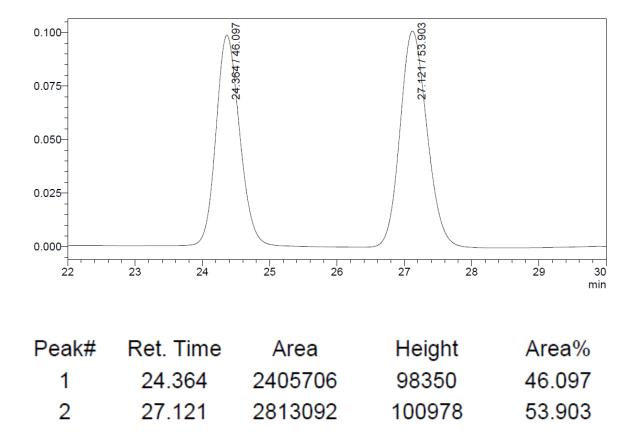


Figure S21. HPLC spectra of the solution extracted from 1P1P encapsulated CMOM-11R for 5d. Eluent: 99% hexane: 1% isopropanol.

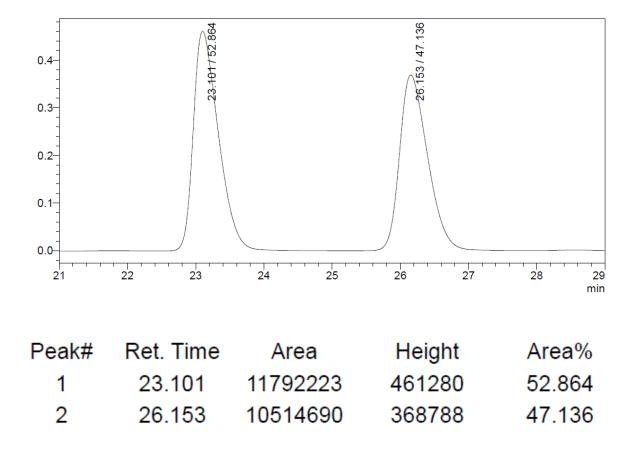


Figure S22. HPLC spectra of the solution extracted from 1P1P encapsulated CMOM-21R for 5d. Eluent: 99% hexane: 1% isopropanol.

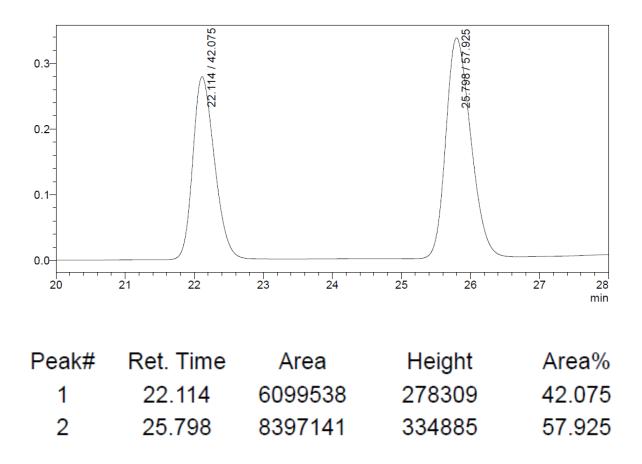


Figure S23. HPLC spectra of the solution extracted from 1P1P encapsulated CMOM-31R for 5d. Eluent: 99% hexane: 1% isopropanol.

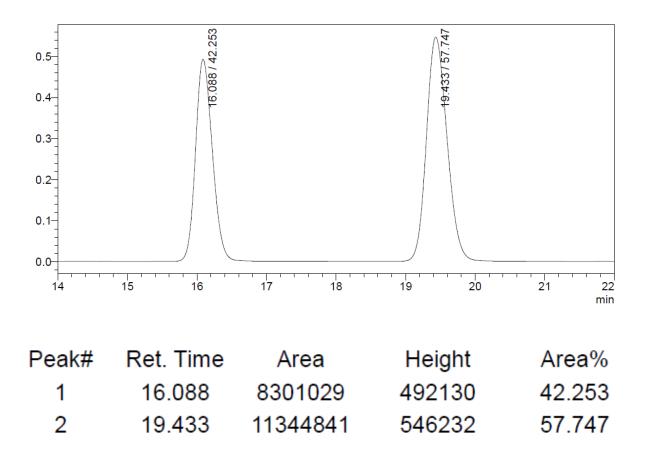


Figure S24. HPLC spectra of the solution extracted from 1P1P encapsulated CMOM-41R for 5d. Eluent: 99% hexane: 1% isopropanol.

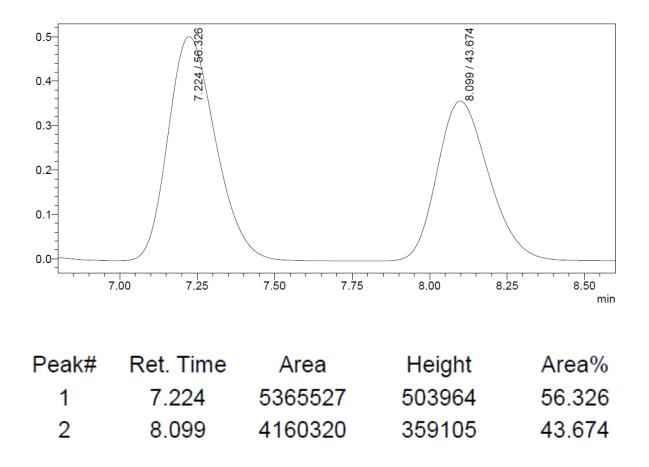


Figure S25. HPLC spectra of the solution extracted from 1P2P encapsulated CMOM-11R for 5d. Eluent: 95% hexane: 5% isopropanol.

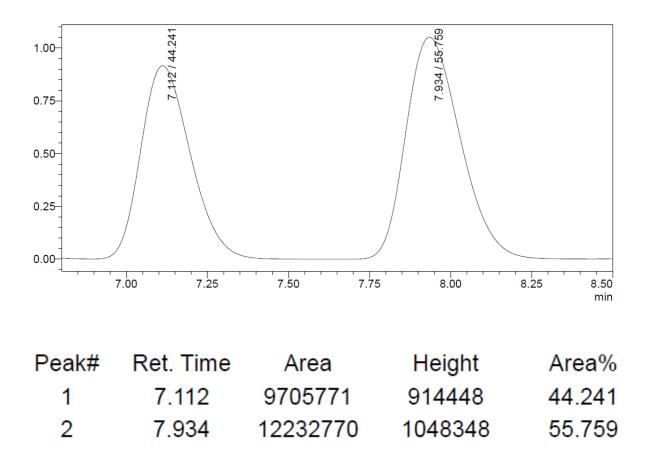


Figure S26. HPLC spectra of the solution extracted from 1P2P encapsulated CMOM-21R for 5d. Eluent: 95% hexane: 5% isopropanol.

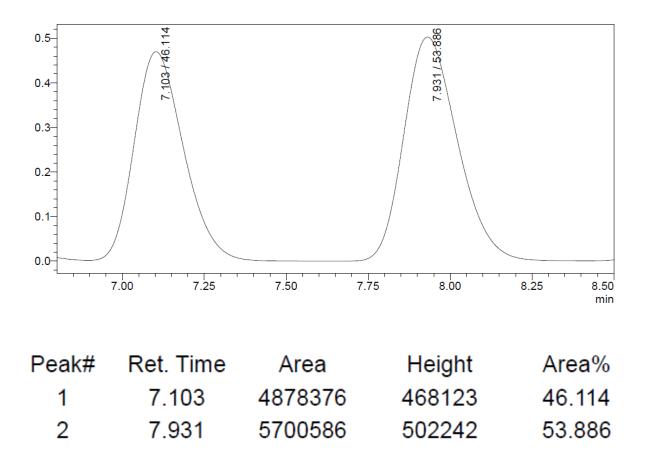


Figure S27. HPLC spectra of the solution extracted from 1P2P encapsulated CMOM-31R for 5d. Eluent: 95% hexane: 5% isopropanol.

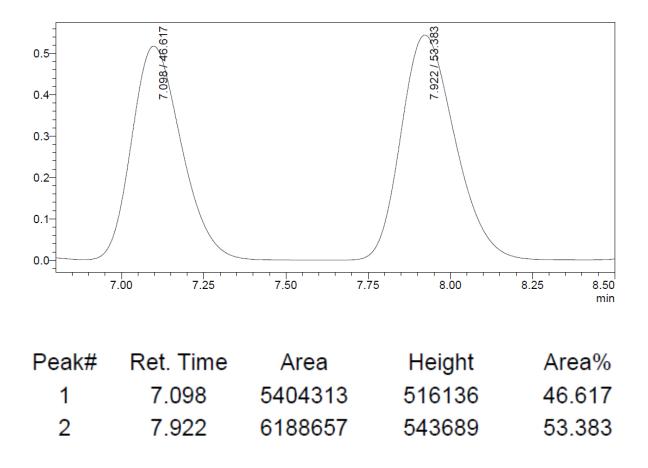


Figure S28. HPLC spectra of the solution extracted from 1P2P encapsulated CMOM-41R for 5d. Eluent: 95% hexane: 5% isopropanol.

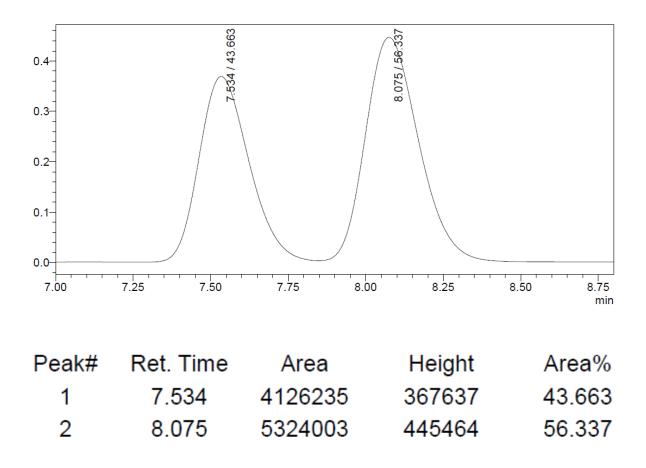


Figure S29. HPLC spectra of the solution extracted from 2P1P encapsulated CMOM-11R for 5d. Eluent: 95% hexane: 5% isopropanol.

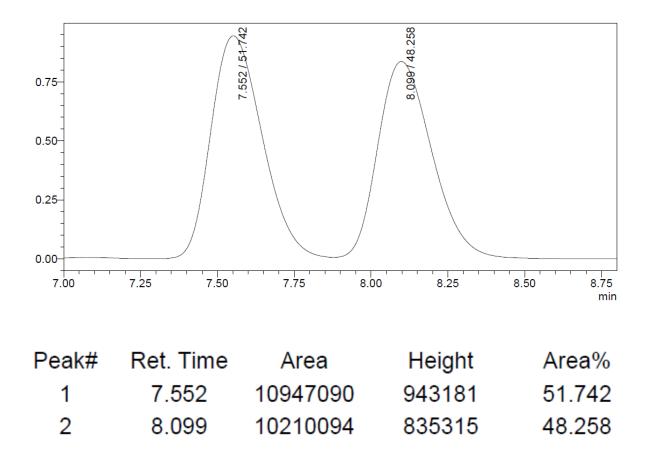


Figure S30. HPLC spectra of the solution extracted from 2P1P encapsulated CMOM-21R for 5d. Eluent: 95% hexane: 5% isopropanol.

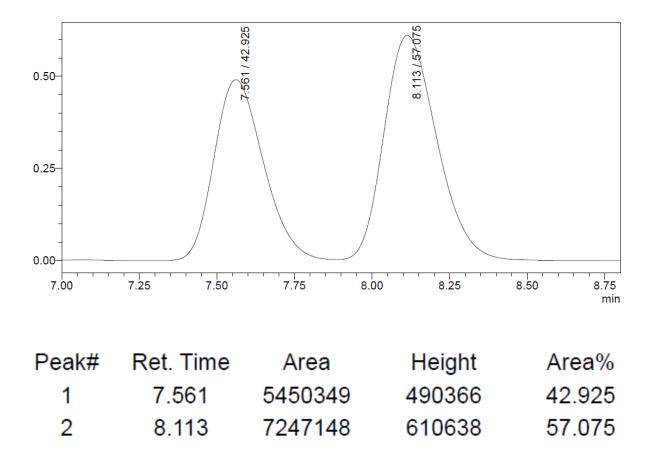


Figure S31. HPLC spectra of the solution extracted from 2P1P encapsulated CMOM-31R for 5d. Eluent: 95% hexane: 5% isopropanol.

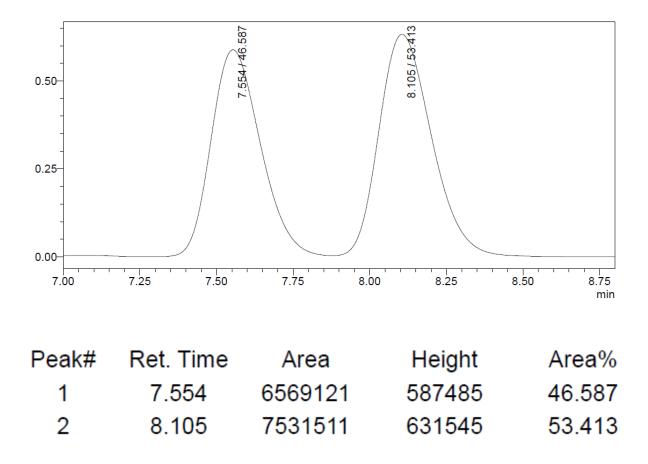


Figure S32. HPLC spectra of the solution extracted from 2P1P encapsulated CMOM-41R for 5d. Eluent: 95% hexane: 5% isopropanol.

Crystallographic Tables for CMOMs

Table S1. Crystal data and structure refinement for CMOM-2S.		
Identification code	CMOM-2S	
Empirical formula	$C_{60}H_{48}B_2Co_2F_{14}N_6O_6$	
Formula weight	1354.52	
Temperature/K	100.3	
Crystal system	Monoclinic	
Space group	$P2_1$	
a/Å	9.6315(3)	
b/Å	26.1464(9)	
c/Å	11.4211(4)	
α/°	90	
β/°	94.7122(17)	
$\gamma/^{\circ}$	90	
Volume/Å ³	2866.44(17)	
Z	2	
$\rho_{calc}g/cm^3$	1.569	
μ/mm^{-1}	5.452	
F(000)	1376.0	
2Θ range for data collection/	° 6.762 to 155.232	
Index ranges	$-9 \le h \le 11, -33 \le k \le 32, -14 \le l \le 14$	
Reflections collected	33897	
Independent reflections	10161 [$R_{int} = 0.0535$, $R_{sigma} = 0.0747$]	
Data/restraints/parameters	10161/231/863	
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.045	
Final R indexes [I>=2 σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0472, wR_2 = 0.1010$	
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0562, wR_2 = 0.1053$	
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å	³ 0.56/-0.54	
Flack parameter	0.086(4)	

Table S2 Crystal data and s	tructure refinement for CMOM-11R.
Identification code	CMOM-11R
Empirical formula	$C_{56.26}H_{42.55}Cl_2Co_2N_{9.71}O_{15.42}$
Formula weight	1290.09
Temperature/K	100.07
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	<i>P</i> 2 ₁
a/Å	10.1762(5)
b/Å	25.2353(14)
c/Å	11.4253(7)
α/°	90
β/°	92.392(3)
$\gamma/^{\circ}$	90
Volume/Å ³	2931.5(3)
Z	2
$\rho_{calc}g/cm^3$	1.462
μ/mm^{-1}	5.917
F(000)	1319.0
20 range for data collection/°	7.006 to 130.442
Index ranges	$-11 \le h \le 11, -29 \le k \le 29, -13 \le l \le 13$
Reflections collected	38004
Independent reflections	9389 [$R_{int} = 0.0575$, $R_{sigma} = 0.0594$]
Data/restraints/parameters	9389/128/751
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.058
Final R indexes [I>= 2σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0554, wR_2 = 0.1412$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0604, wR_2 = 0.1445$
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³	0.58/-0.46
Flack parameter	0.140(4)

Table S2 Crystal data and structure refinement for CMOM-11R.

Table S3 Crystal data and structure refinement for CMOM-21R.

Identification code	CMOM-21R_sq
Empirical formula	$C_{46}H_{36}Cl_2Co_2N_8O_{12}$
Formula weight	1081.59
Temperature/K	100.05
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	$P2_1$
a/Å	10.3301(4)
b/Å	25.1978(9)
c/Å	11.4221(4)
$\alpha/^{\circ}$	90
β/°	94.278(2)
$\gamma^{/\circ}$	90
Volume/Å ³	2964.84(19)
Z	2
$ ho_{calc}g/cm^3$	1.212
μ/mm^{-1}	5.698
F(000)	1104.0
2Θ range for data collection/°	7.016 to 127.97
Index ranges	$-12 \le h \le 11, -29 \le k \le 29, -13 \le l \le 13$
Reflections collected	26426
Independent reflections	8890 [$R_{int} = 0.0840, R_{sigma} = 0.0973$]
Goodness-of-fit on F^2	1.037
Final R indexes [I>= 2σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.1255, wR_2 = 0.2803$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.1462, wR_2 = 0.2962$
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³	1.17/-1.40
Flack parameter	0.323(7)

Table S4. Crystal data	and structure	refinement for	CMOM-31R.
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Identification code	CMOM-31R_sq
Empirical formula	C46H36Cl2C02N8O12
Formula weight	1081.59
Temperature/K	100.11
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	$P2_1$
a/Å	10.2648(6)
b/Å	25.2085(14)
c/Å	11.4477(7)
α/°	90
β/°	90.242(4)
$\gamma/^{\circ}$	90
Volume/Å ³	2962.2(3)
Z	2
$ ho_{calc}g/cm^3$	1.213
μ/mm^{-1}	5.703
F(000)	1104.0
Crystal size/mm ³	$0.08 \times 0.06 \times 0.05$
Radiation	$CuK\alpha \ (\lambda = 1.54178)$
2Θ range for data collection/°	7.012 to 123.166
Index ranges	$-11 \le h \le 11, -28 \le k \le 28, -12 \le l \le 13$
Reflections collected	32897
Independent reflections	9007 [$R_{int} = 0.0763$, $R_{sigma} = 0.0704$]
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.044
Final R indexes [I>= 2σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.1079, wR_2 = 0.2531$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.1216, wR_2 = 0.2676$
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³	0.83/-0.77
Flack parameter	0.026(9)

Table S5 Crystal data and structure refinement for CMOM-41R.
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v	
Identification code	CMOM-41R
Empirical formula	$C_{62.76}H_{53.92}Co_2N_{10.46}O_{16.92}$
Formula weight	1343.22
Temperature/K	99.95
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	$P2_{1}$
a/Å	10.2576(3)
b/Å	25.2319(8)
c/Å	11.4407(4)
$\alpha/^{\circ}$	90
β/°	92.4157(18)
γ/°	90
Volume/Å ³	2958.44(16)
Z	2
$\rho_{calc}g/cm^3$	1.508
μ/mm^{-1}	5.099
F(000)	1386.0
2Θ range for data collection/°	7.006 to 130.636
Index ranges	$-12 \le h \le 12, -29 \le k \le 29, -13 \le l \le 13$
Reflections collected	38384
Independent reflections	9300 [$R_{int} = 0.0443$, $R_{sigma} = 0.0548$]
Data/restraints/parameters	9300/585/1027
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.054
Final R indexes [I>= 2σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0413, wR_2 = 0.0905$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0516$, $wR_2 = 0.0954$
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å $^{\text{-}3}$	0.71/-0.47
Flack parameter	0.066(4)

Identification code	2S·1P1P
Empirical formula	$C_{118.24}H_{108.99}B_4Co_4F_{16}N_{12}O_{14.91}$
Formula weight	2519.70
Temperature/K	99.89
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	$P2_1$
a/Å	11.4090(4)
b/Å	26.5297(9)
c/Å	19.5485(7)
$\alpha/^{\circ}$	90
β/°	93.1780(15)
$\gamma/^{o}$	90
Volume/Å ³	5907.8(4)
Z	2
$ ho_{calc}g/cm^3$	1.416
μ/mm^{-1}	5.113
F(000)	2588.0
2Θ range for data collection/	• 4.528 to 133.666
Index ranges	$-12 \le h \le 13, -31 \le k \le 31, -23 \le l \le 23$
Reflections collected	70522
Independent reflections	19667 [$R_{int} = 0.0725$, $R_{sigma} = 0.0802$]
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.043
Final R indexes $[I \ge 2\sigma(I)]$	$R_1 = 0.0756, wR_2 = 0.1622$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0968, wR_2 = 0.1750$
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å-	3 0.97/-0.68
Flack parameter	0.206(4)

Table S6. Crystal data and structure refinement for 2S·1P1P.

Identification code	3S·2P1P
Empirical formula	C55.99H48.07C02F6N6O12.9S2
Formula weight	1307.25
Temperature/K	100.26
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	$P2_1$
a/Å	10.2309(3)
b/Å	25.4904(8)
c/Å	11.4258(4)
$\alpha/_{\circ}$	90
β/°	91.6204(19)
$\gamma/^{\circ}$	90
Volume/Å ³	2978.54(17)
Ζ	2
$ ho_{calc}g/cm^3$	1.458
μ/mm^{-1}	5.758
F(000)	1338.0
2Θ range for data collection/	6.936 to 118.19
Index ranges	$-11 \le h \le 11, -28 \le k \le 28, -11 \le l \le 12$
Reflections collected	28768
Independent reflections	8159 [$R_{int} = 0.0632$, $R_{sigma} = 0.0773$]
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.063
Final R indexes [I>= 2σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0694, wR_2 = 0.1558$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0881, wR_2 = 0.1661$
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻	3 0.59/-0.55
Flack parameter	0.118(5)

Table S7. Crystal data and structure refinement for 3S·2P1P.

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