

Terahertz time-domain absorption spectra of Cu (I) complexes bearing tetraphosphine ligands: the bridge between C-H···π, π···π interactions and photoluminescence properties

Xun Pan,^{†ab} Xiao-Nan Kuang,^{†ab} Ning Zhu,^a Guo Wang,^a Yu-Ping Yang,^c Jian-Ming Liu,^d Zhong-Feng Li,^a Xiu-Lan Xin,^e Hong-Liang Han,^a Qiong-Hua Jin,^{*ab},
Zhi-Gang Ren,^{*f} and Jiang-Wei Zhang^{*g}

^a Department of Chemistry, Capital Normal University, Beijing 100048, China Tel

586-10- 68903033, Fax 86-10-68902320, Email: jingh@cnu.edu.cn,

jingh204@163.com

^b State Key Laboratory of Structural Chemistry, Fujian Institute of Research on the Structure of Matter, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Fuzhou, Fujian 350002, China

^c School of Science, Minzu University of China, Beijing 100081, China

^d School of Mathematical Sciences, Peking University, Beijing 100871, China

^e School of Food and Chemical Engineering, Beijing Technology and Business University, Beijing 100048, China

^f College of Chemistry, Chemical Engineering and Materials Science, Soochow University, Suzhou 215123, China, Email: rezhigang@suda.edu.cn

^g State Key Laboratory of Catalysis, Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Dalian 116023, China, Email: jwzhang@dicp.ac.cn.

Contents

1. **Fig. S1** The molecular structure of complex **2**.
2. **Fig. S2** The molecular structure of complex **3**.
3. **Fig. S3** The molecular structure of complex **4**.
4. **Fig. S4** The UV-vis spectra of complexes and ligands
5. **Fig. S5** The THz absorption spectra of complexes **2-4** at ambient temperature with their ligands.
6. **Fig. S6** Natural transition orbitals for the ten absorptions in Table S3 (isovalue 0.02).
7. **Fig. S7** The NMR spectra of all complexes.
8. **Table. S1** Selected bond length (Å) and angles (°) for complexes **1-4**.
9. **Table. S2** Detailed information about five and six-membered rings in complexes.
10. **Table. S3** The excitation and emission data of the related ligands in the solid state at ambient temperature.
11. **Table. S4** Energy, oscillator strength and major contribution of the calculated transitions for complexes **1-4**.
12. **Table. S5** THz spectral data for ligands and complexes **1-4** at ambient temperature.

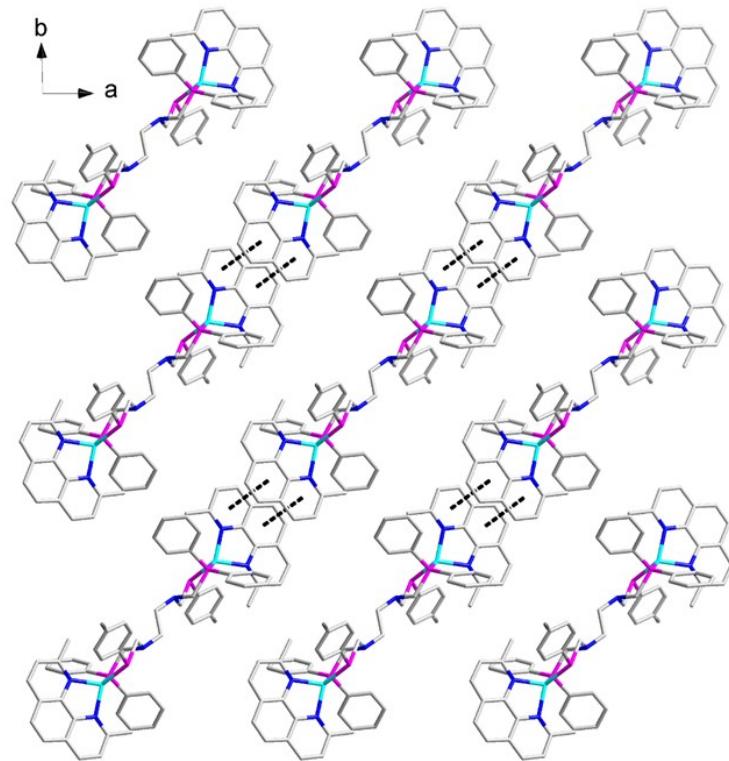


Fig. S1 The 2D mesh structure through a pair of $\pi \cdots \pi$ interaction along the diagonal direction of the *ab* axes for complex **2** (A layer).

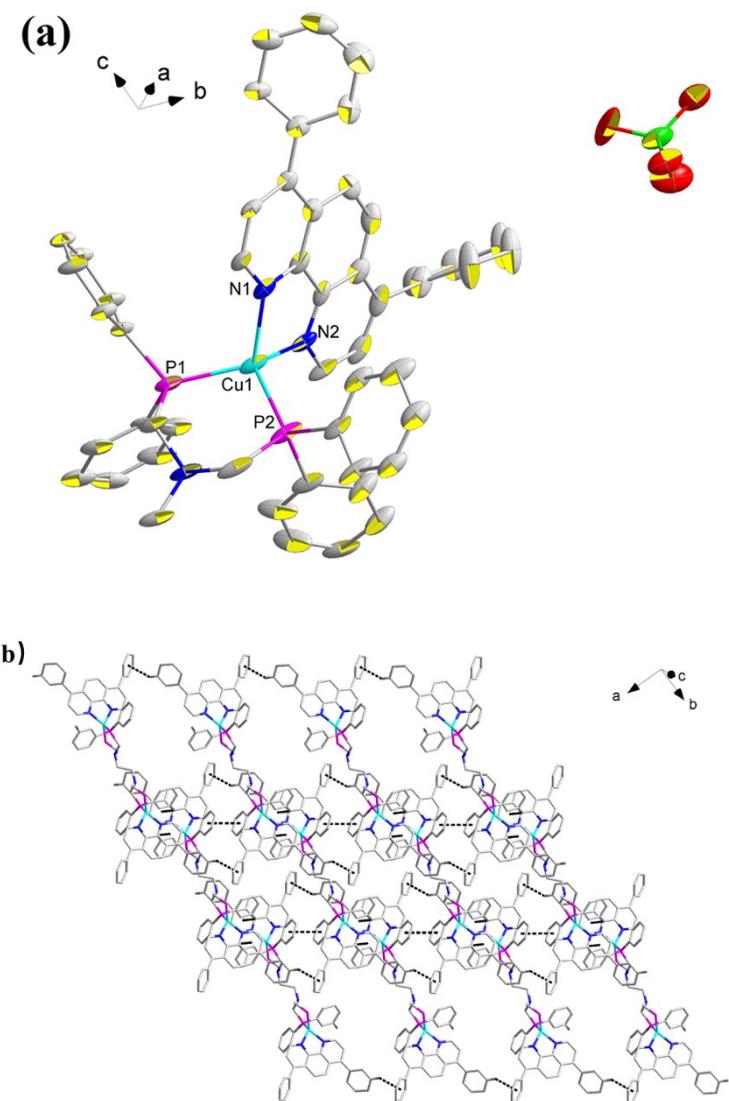


Fig. S2 Structure of complex **3**: (a) coordination environment of Cu (I). Thermal ellipsoids drawn at the 30% probability level. All hydrogen atoms and solvent molecules are omitted for clarity. (d) The 2D mesh-like stacked structure of complex **3**. Some hydrogen atoms and benzenes are omitted for clarity.

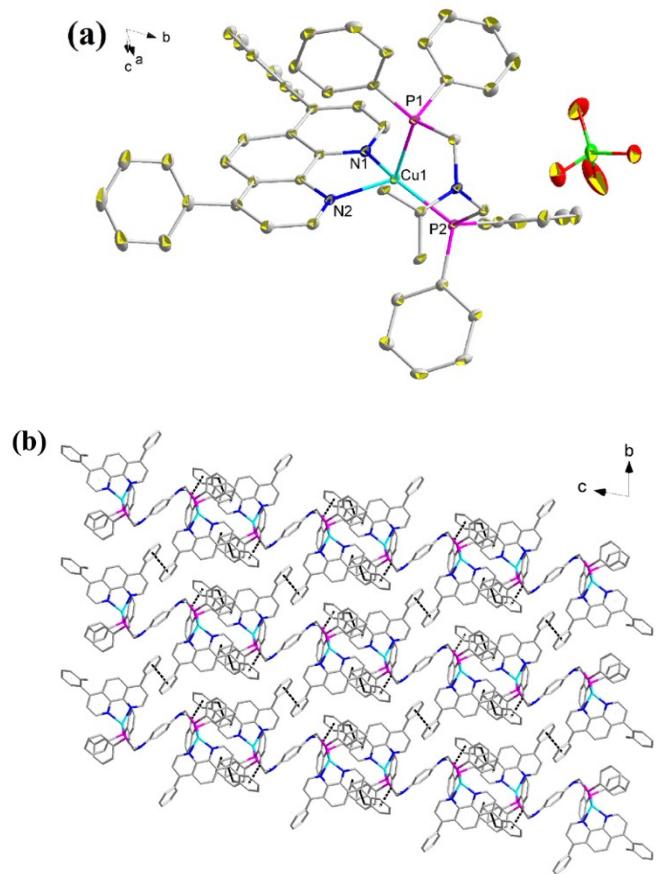
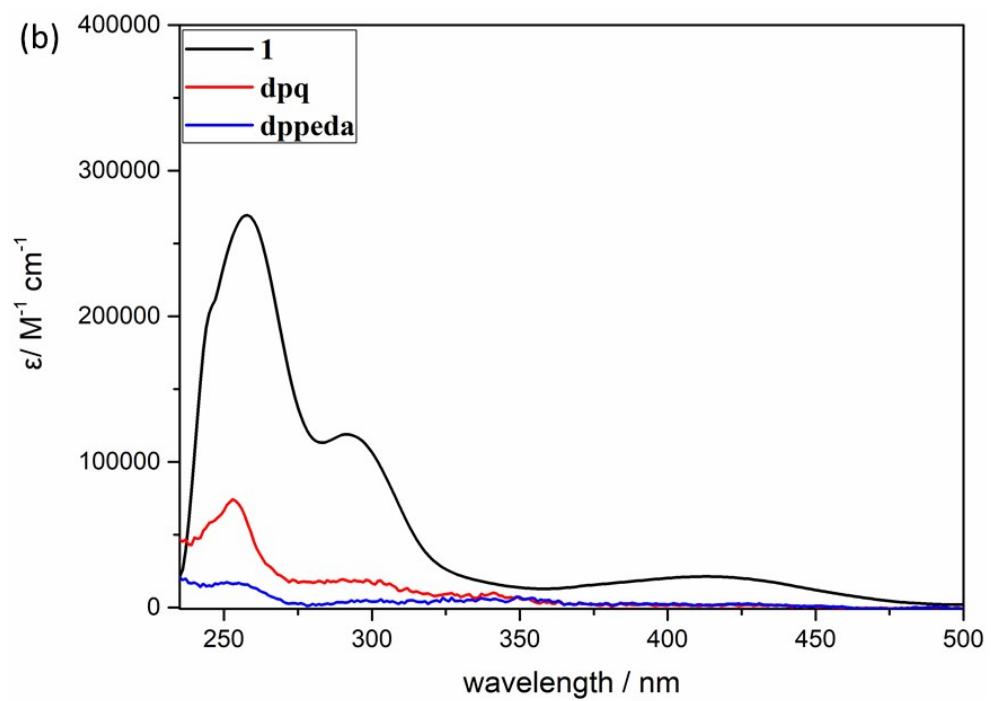
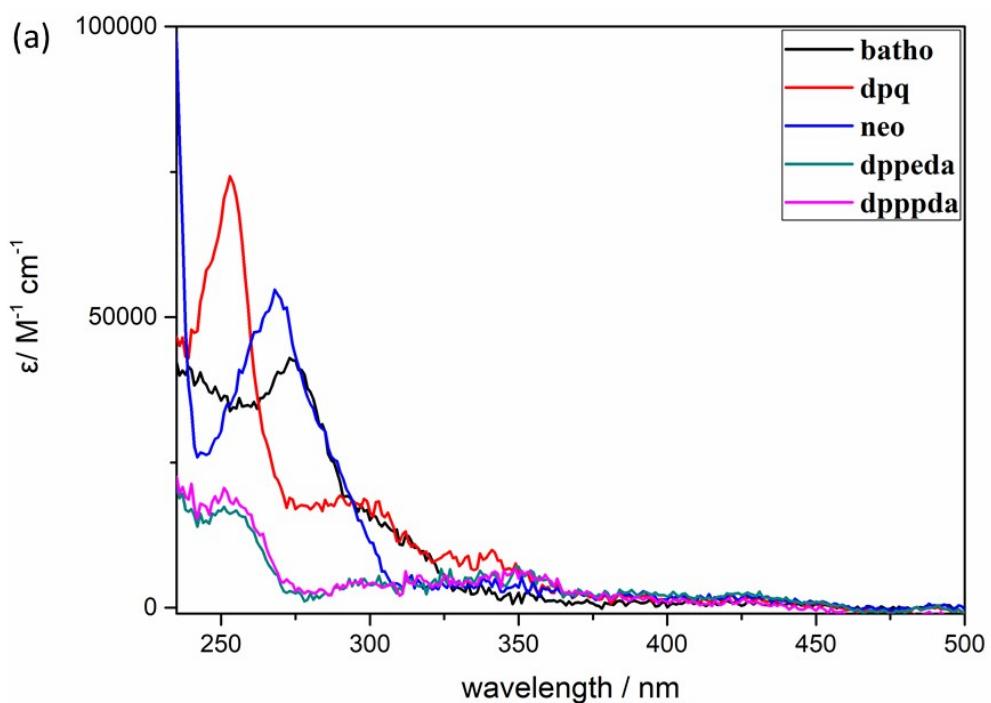
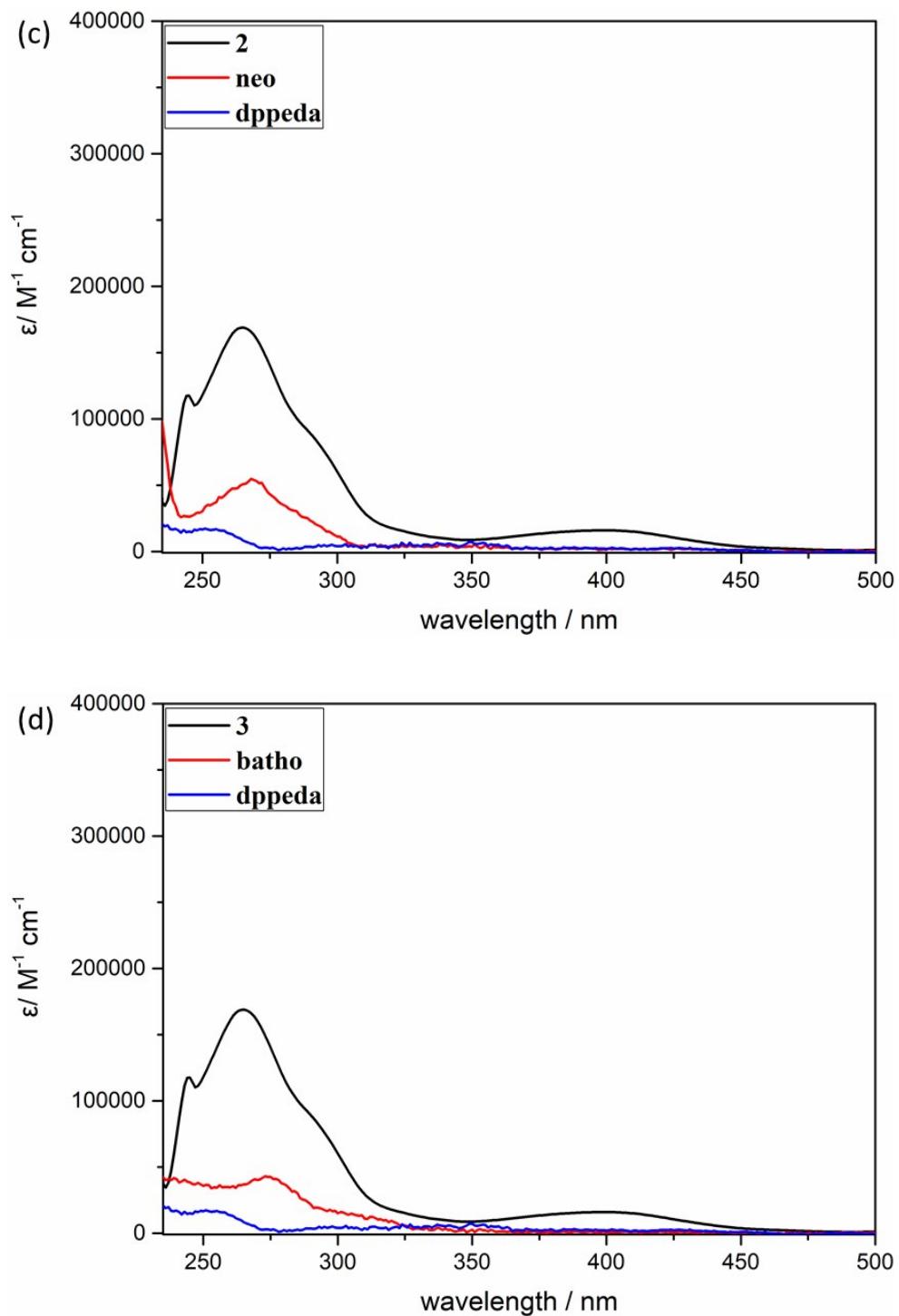


Fig. S3 Structure of complex 4: (a) coordination environment of Cu (I). Thermal ellipsoids drawn at the 30% probability level. (d) The 3D structure of complex 4. Some hydrogen atoms and benzenes are omitted for clarity.





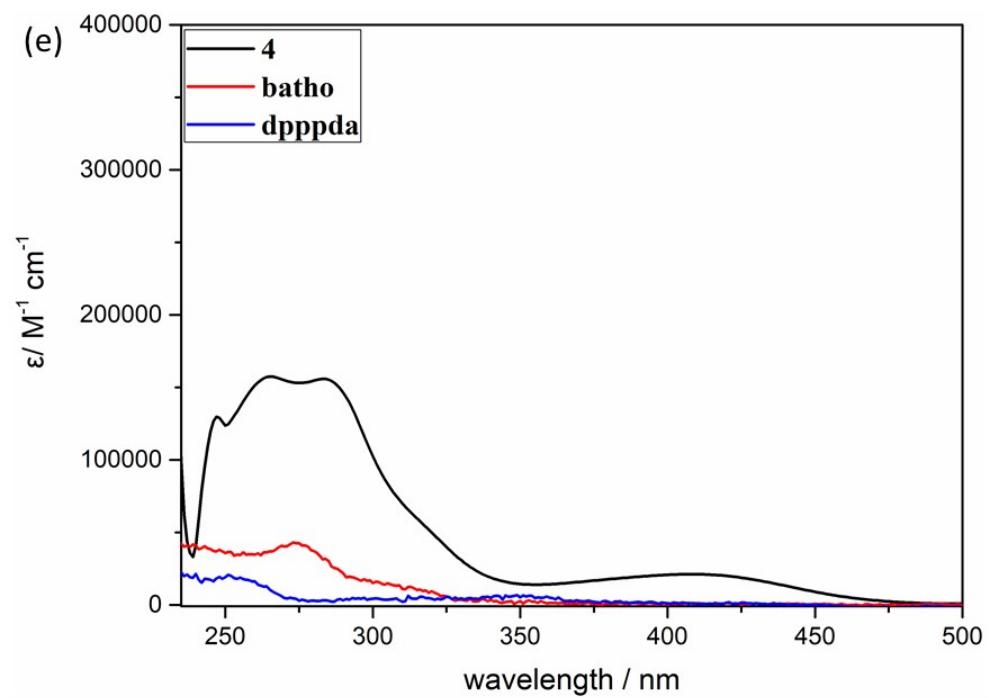


Fig. S4 (a) The UV-vis spectra of all ligands used in synthesizing complexes. (b) complex **1** and its ligands. (c) complex **2** and its ligands. (d) complex **3** and its ligands. (e) complex **4** and its ligands.

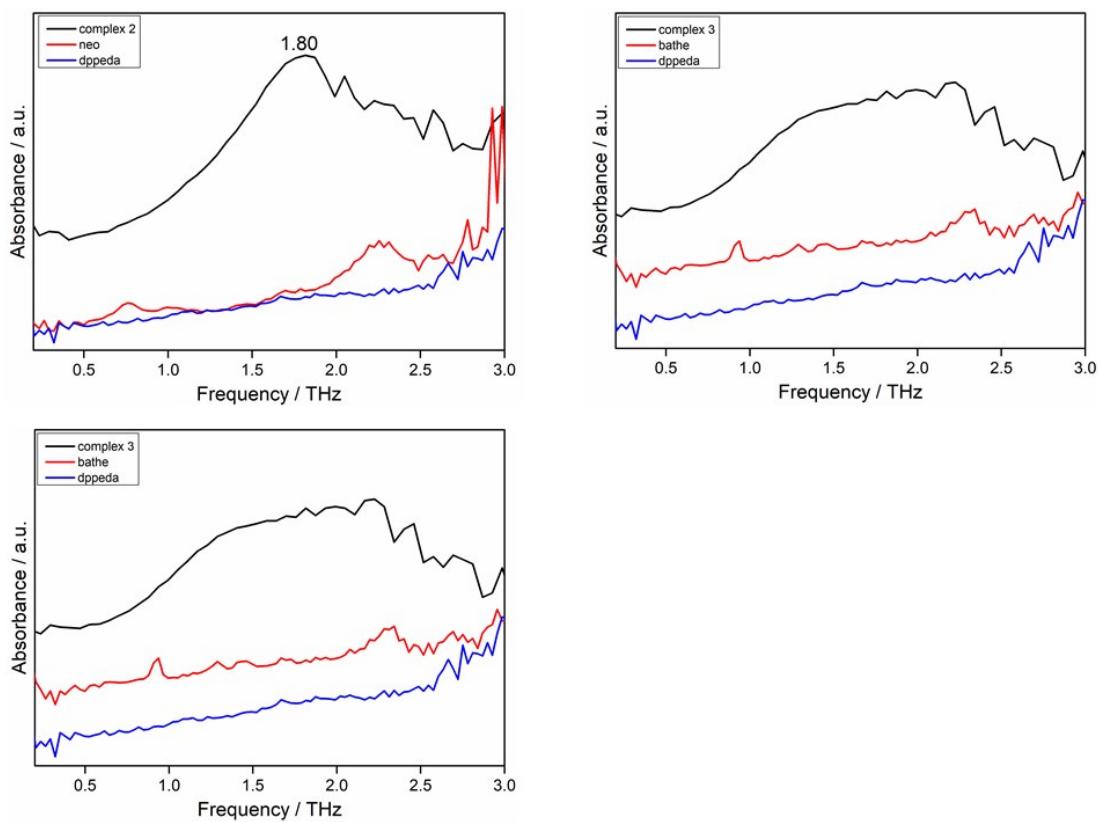
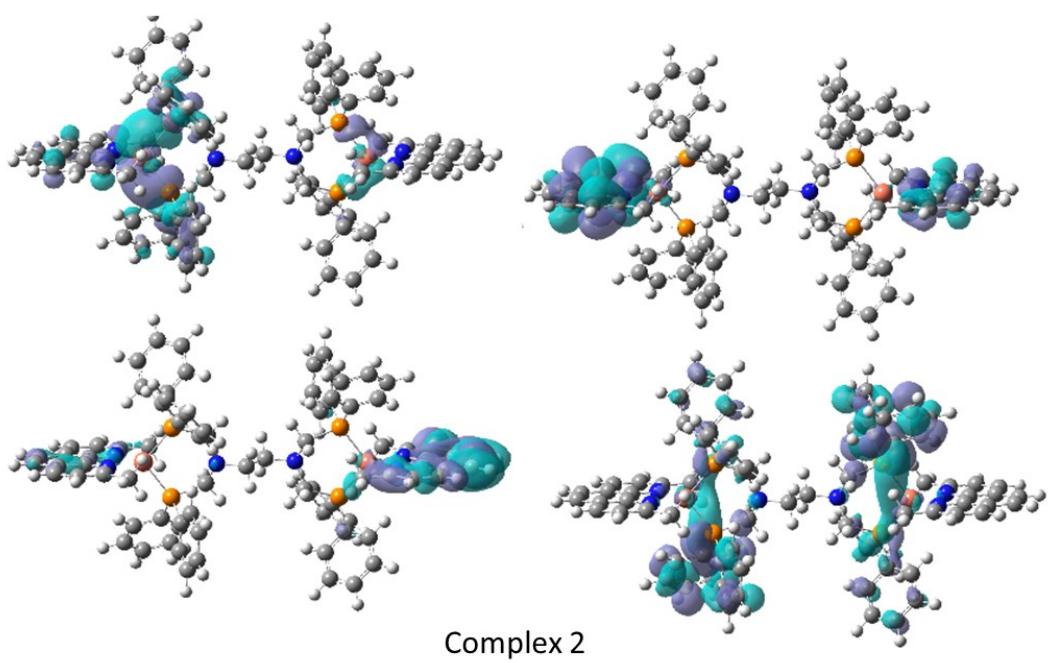
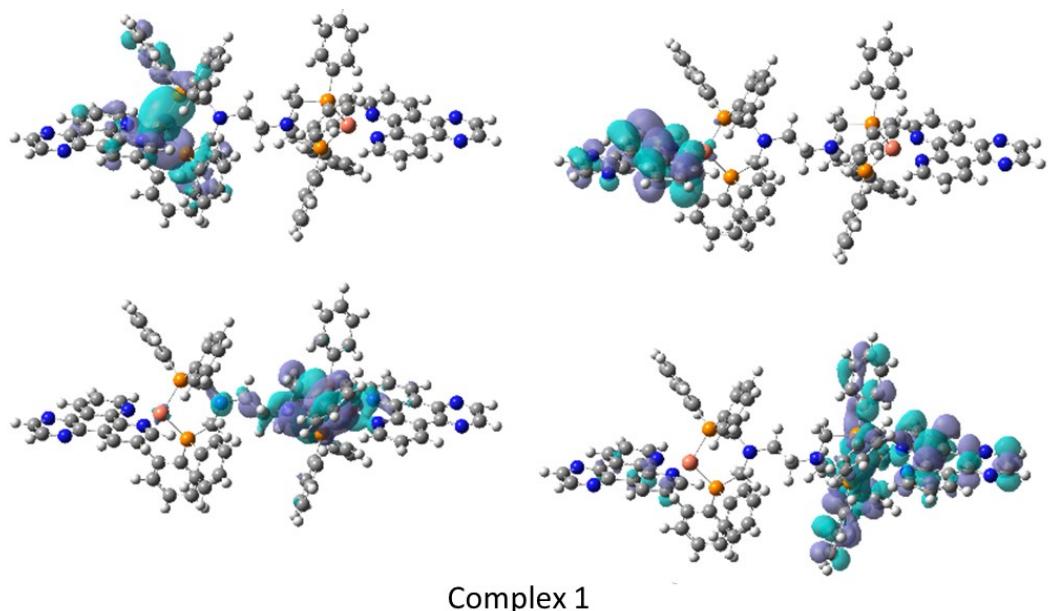
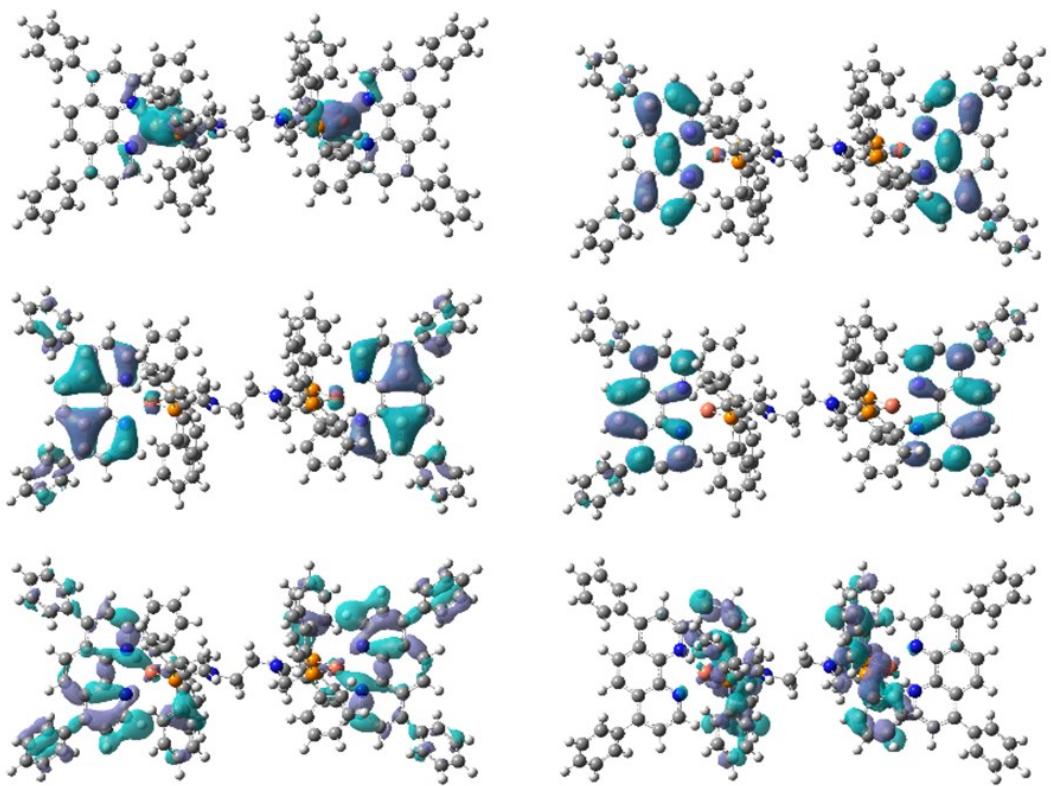


Fig. S5 The THz absorption spectra of complexes **2-4** at ambient temperature with their ligands





Complex 3

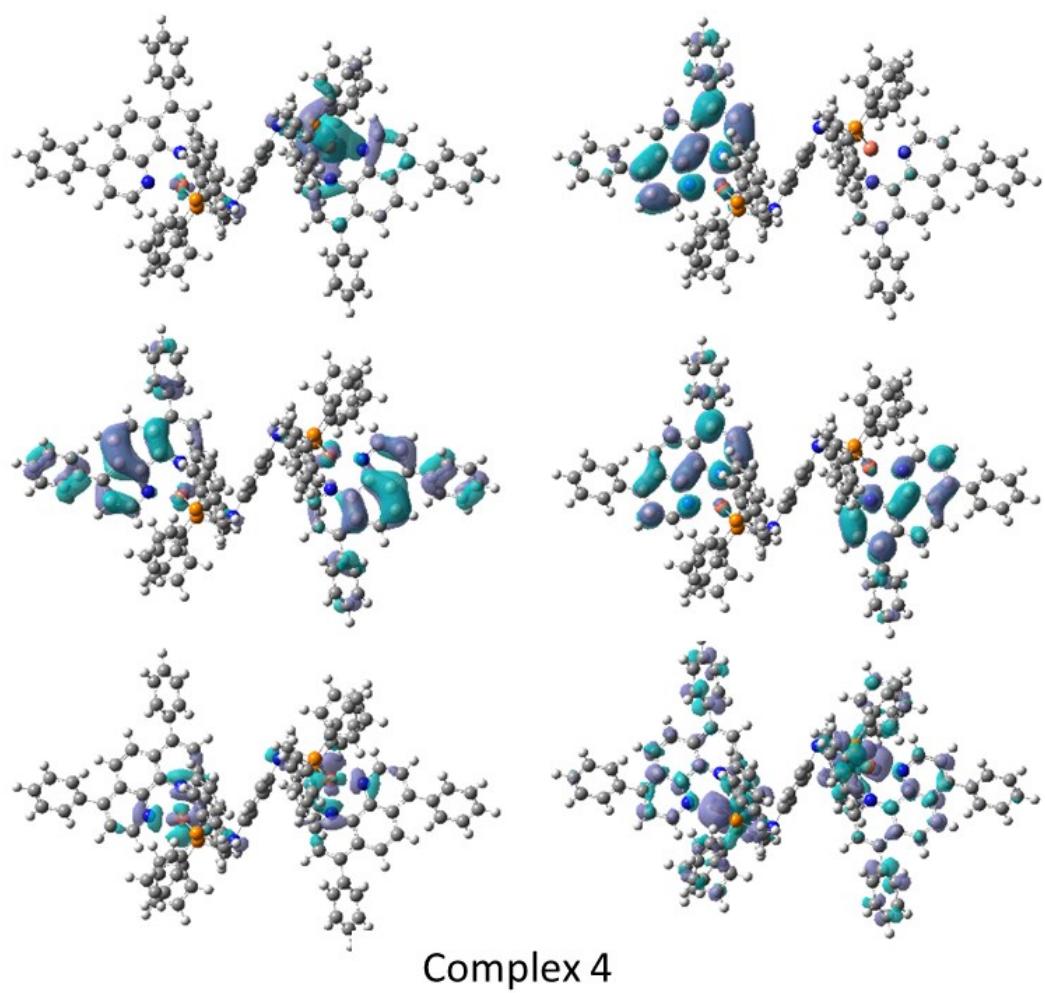
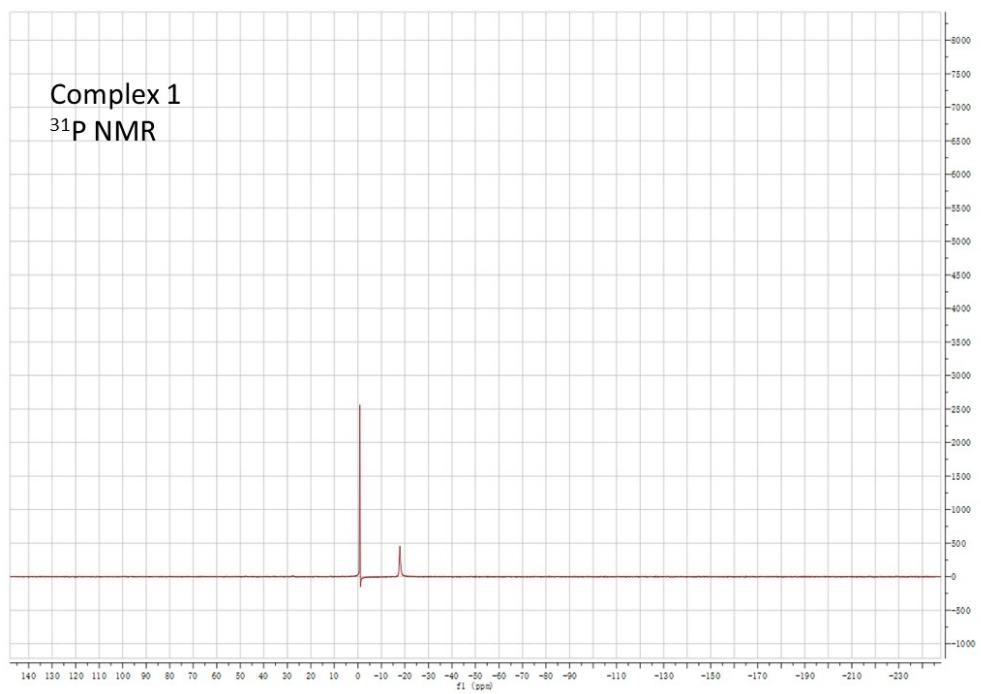
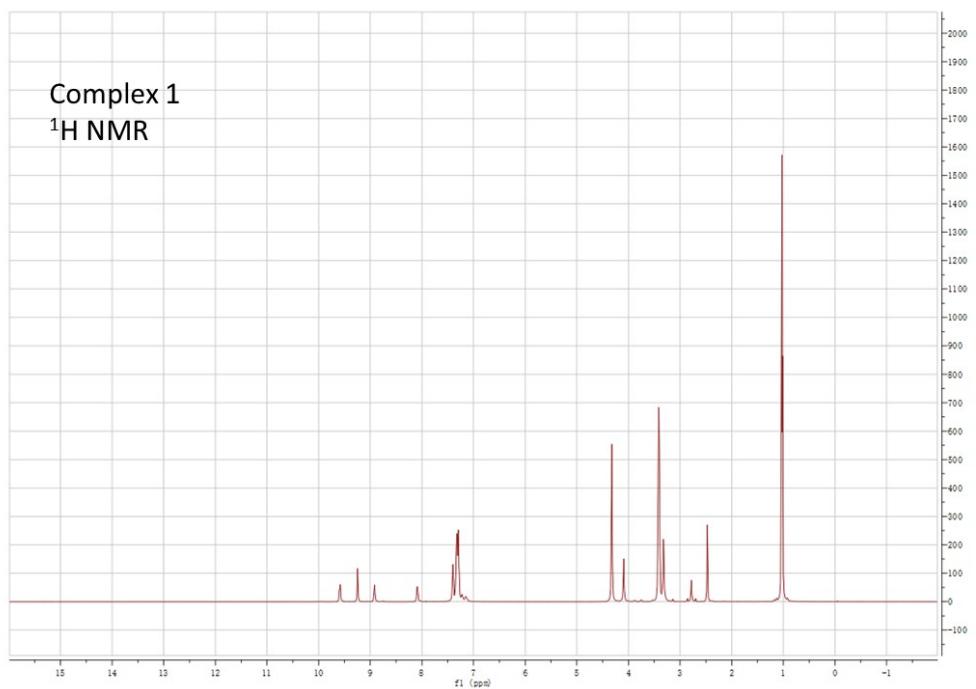
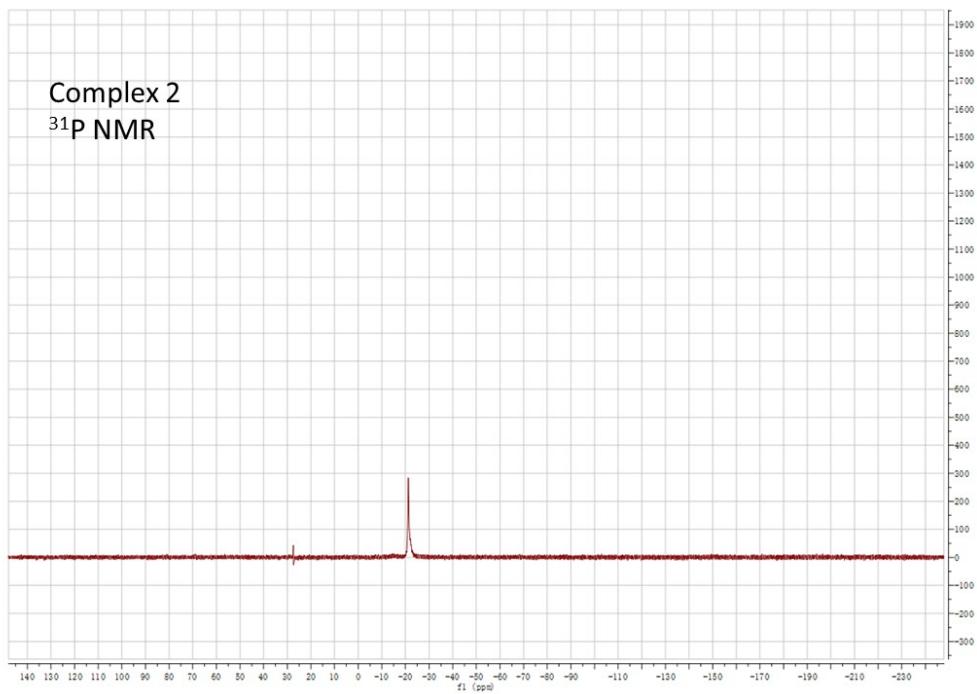
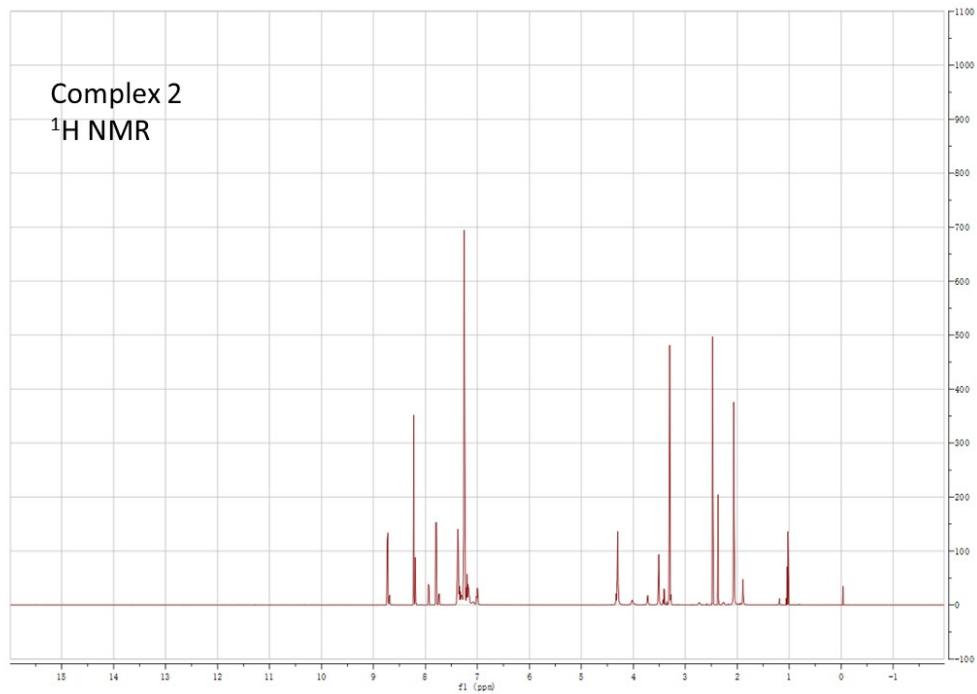
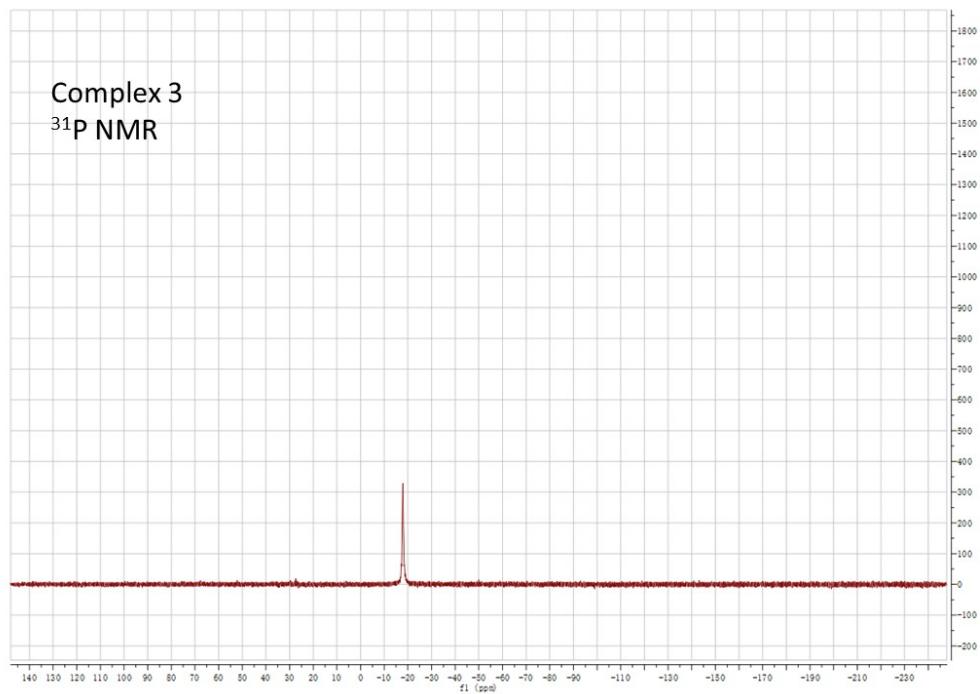
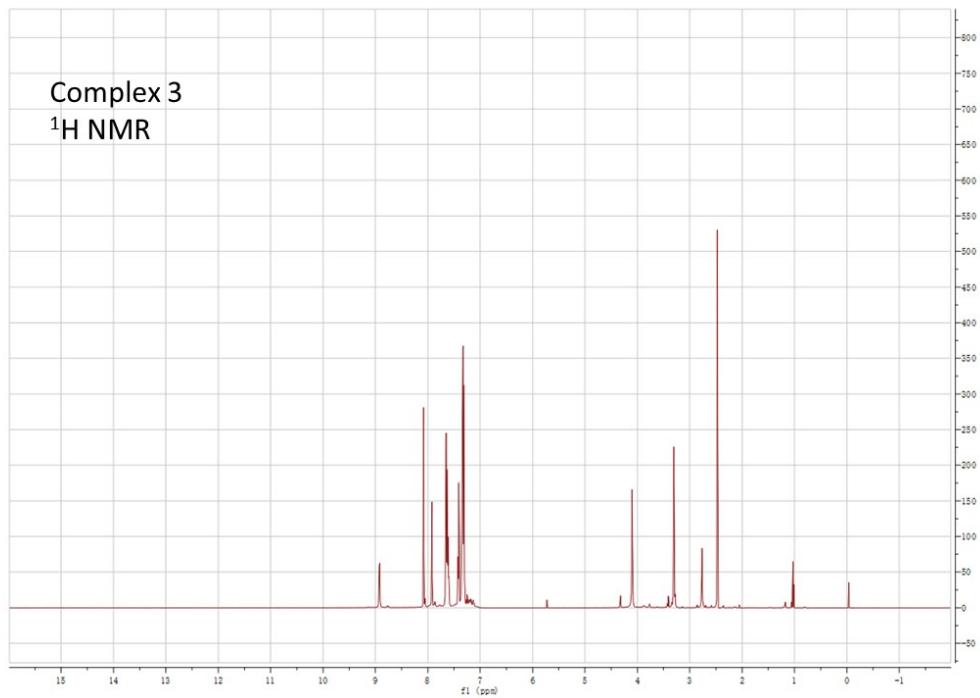


Fig. S6 Fig. S6 Natural transition orbitals for the ten absorptions in Table S4 (isovalue = 0.02). Left is for occupied and right is for unoccupied orbitals. Since each contribution is not dominant, natural transition orbitals were calculated so that the absorption can be attributed to one transition.







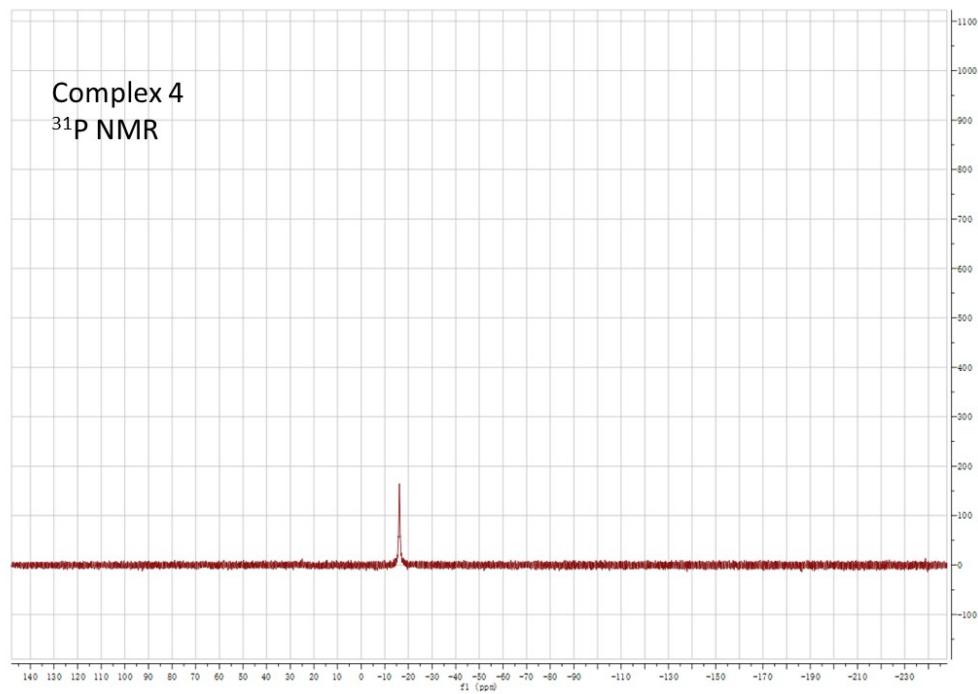
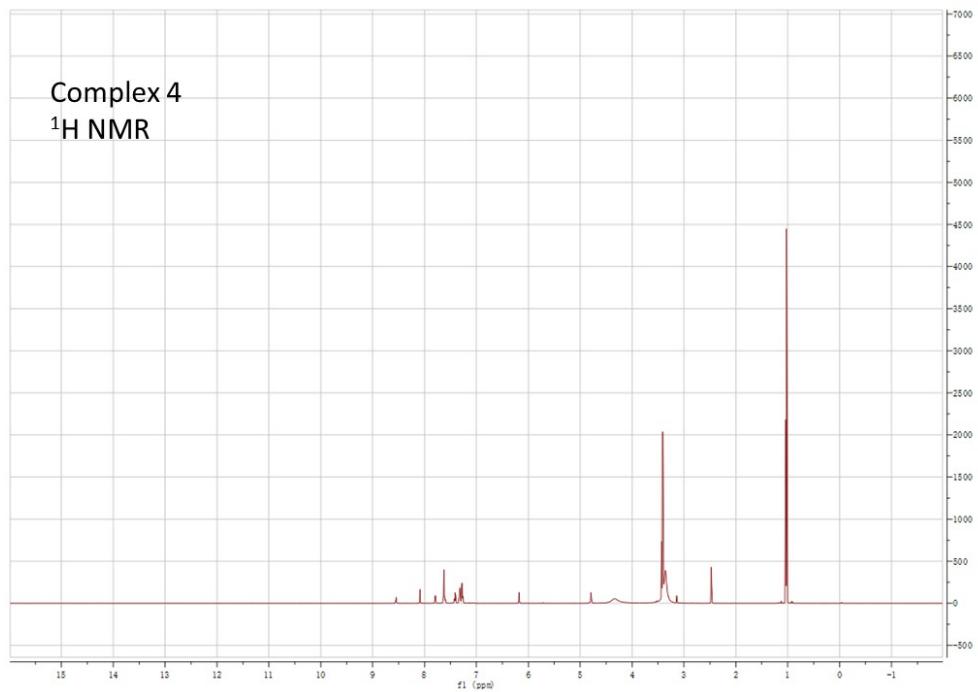


Fig. S7 The NMR spectra of all complexes.

Table S1 Selected bond length (Å) and angles (°) for complexes **1-4**

Complex 1			
bond length (Å)		bond angle (°)	
Cu(1)-N(1)	2.105(3)	N(2)-Cu(1)-N(1)	80.84(13)
Cu(1)-N(2)	2.039(3)	N(2)-Cu(1)-P(2)	120.65(9)
Cu(1)-P(1)	2.2543(11)	N(1)-Cu(1)-P(2)	131.48(9)
Cu(1)-P(2)	2.2325(11)	N(2)-Cu(1)-P(1)	111.37(10)
Cu(2)- N(5)	2.071(3)	N(1)-Cu(1)-P(1)	107.68(10)
Cu(2)- N(6)	2.057(3)	P(2)-Cu(1)-P(1)	103.34(4)
Cu(2)- P(3)	2.2359(11)	N(6)-Cu(2)-N(5)	81.14(13)
Cu(2)- P(4)	2.2332(11)	N(5)-Cu(2)-P(4)	123.92(10)
		N(5)-Cu(2)-P(3)	111.63(10)
		N(6)-Cu(2)-P(4)	115.68(10)
		N(6)-Cu(2)-P(3)	120.13(10)
		P(4)-Cu(2)-P(3)	104.30(4)
Complex 2			
bond length (Å)		bond angle (°)	
Cu(1)-N(1)	2.058(4)	N(2)-Cu(1)-N(1)	81.82(15)
Cu(1)-N(2)	2.065(4)	N(2)-Cu(1)-P(2)	118.77(10)
Cu(1)-P(1)	2.2376(12)	N(1)-Cu(1)-P(2)	119.30(10)
Cu(1)-P(2)	2.2316(12)	N(2)-Cu(1)-P(1)	113.45(11)
		N(1)-Cu(1)-P(1)	121.70(10)
		P(2)-Cu(1)-P(1)	102.07(4)
Complex 3			
bond length (Å)		bond angle (°)	
Cu(1)-N(1)	2.034(6)	N(2)-Cu(1)-N(1)	
Cu(1)-N(2)	2.053(8)	N(2)-Cu(1)-P(2)	109.97(2)
Cu(1)-P(1)	2.222(3)	N(1)-Cu(1)-P(2)	123.17(2)
Cu(1)-P(2)	2.226(2)	N(2)-Cu(1)-P(1)	129.2(2)
		N(1)-Cu(1)-P(1)	111.4(2)
		P(2)-Cu(1)-P(1)	102.55(1)
Complex 4			
bond length (Å)		bond angle (°)	
Cu(1)-N(1)	2.0621(17)	N(2)-Cu(1)-N(1)	80.70(7)
Cu(1)-N(2)	2.0482(17)	N(2)-Cu(1)-P(2)	122.92(5)
Cu(1)-P(1)	2.2583(6)	N(1)-Cu(1)-P(2)	129.43(5)
Cu(1)-P(2)	2.2132(5)	N(2)-Cu(1)-P(1)	113.31(5)
		N(1)-Cu(1)-P(1)	106.10(5)
		P(2)-Cu(1)-P(1)	103.15(2)

Table. S2 Detailed information about five and six-membered rings in complexes.

Complex 1	Cg(1)	Cu(1) --> N(1) --> C(6) --> C(5) --> N(2)
	Cg(2)	Cu(2) --> N(5) --> C(20) --> C(19) --> N(6)
	Cg(3)	Cu(1) --> P(1) --> C(41) --> N(9) --> C(54) --> P(2)
	Cg(4)	Cu(2) --> P(3) --> C(82) --> N(10) --> C(81) --> P(4)
	Cg(5)	N(1) --> C(6) --> C(7) --> C(8) --> C(9) --> C(10)
	Cg(6)	N(2) --> C(1) --> C(2) --> C(3) --> C(4) --> C(5)
	Cg(7)	N(3) --> C(11) --> C(12) --> N(4) --> C(13) --> C(14)
	Cg(8)	N(5) --> C(20) --> C(21) --> C(22) --> C(23) --> C(24)
	Cg(9)	N(6) --> C(15) --> C(16) --> C(17) --> C(18) --> C(19)
	Cg(10)	N(7) --> C(26) --> C(25) --> N(8) --> C(28) --> C(27)
	Cg(11)	C(4) --> C(5) --> C(6) --> C(7) --> C(11) --> C(12)
	Cg(12)	C(18) --> C(19) --> C(20) --> C(21) --> C(26) --> C(25)
	Cg(13)	C(29) --> C(33) --> C(32) --> C(31) --> C(30) --> C(34)
	Cg(14)	C(35) --> C(36) --> C(37) --> C(38) --> C(39) --> C(40)
	Cg(15)	C(42) --> C(43) --> C(44) --> C(45) --> C(46) --> C(47)
	Cg(16)	C(48) --> C(49) --> C(50) --> C(51) --> C(52) --> C(53)
	Cg(17)	C(57) --> C(58) --> C(59) --> C(60) --> C(61) --> C(62)
	Cg(18)	C(63) --> C(64) --> C(65) --> C(66) --> C(67) --> C(68)
	Cg(19)	C(69) --> C(70) --> C(71) --> C(72) --> C(73) --> C(74)
	Cg(20)	C(75) --> C(76) --> C(77) --> C(78) --> C(79) --> C(80)
Complex 2	Cg(1)	Cu(1) --> N(1) --> C(5) --> C(6) --> N(2)
	Cg(2)	Cu(1) --> P(1) --> C(27) --> N(3) --> C(29) --> P(2)
	Cg(3)	N(1) --> C(1) --> C(2) --> C(3) --> C(4) --> C(5)
	Cg(4)	N(2) --> C(6) --> C(7) --> C(8) --> C(9) --> C(10)
	Cg(5)	C(4) --> C(5) --> C(6) --> C(7) --> C(12) --> C(11)
	Cg(6)	C(15) --> C(16) --> C(17) --> C(18) --> C(19) --> C(20)
	Cg(7)	C(21) --> C(22) --> C(23) --> C(24) --> C(25) --> C(26)
	Cg(8)	C(30) --> C(31) --> C(32) --> C(33) --> C(34) --> C(35)
	Cg(9)	C(36) --> C(37) --> C(38) --> C(39) --> C(40) --> C(41)
	Cg(10)	Cu(2) --> N(4) --> C(47) --> C(46) --> N(5)
	Cg(11)	Cu(2) --> P(3) --> C(68) --> N(6) --> C(70) --> P(4)
	Cg(12)	N(4) --> C(47) --> C(48) --> C(49) --> C(50) --> C(51)
	Cg(13)	N(5) --> C(42) --> C(43) --> C(44) --> C(45) --> C(46)
Complex 3	Cg(1)	Cu(1) --> N(1) --> C(6) --> C(5) --> N(2)
	Cg(2)	Cu(1) --> P(1) --> C(33) --> N(3) --> C(31) --> P(2)
	Cg(3)	N(1) --> C(6) --> C(7) --> C(8) --> C(9) --> C(10)
	Cg(4)	N(2) --> C(1) --> C(2) --> C(3) --> C(4) --> C(5)
	Cg(5)	C(4) --> C(5) --> C(6) --> C(7) --> C(12) --> C(11)
	Cg(6)	C(13) --> C(14) --> C(15) --> C(16) --> C(17) --> C(18)
	Cg(7)	C(19) --> C(20) --> C(21) --> C(22) --> C(23) --> C(24)
	Cg(8)	C(25) --> C(26) --> C(27) --> C(28) --> C(29) --> C(30)
	Cg(9)	C(34) --> C(35) --> C(36) --> C(37) --> C(38) --> C(39)

	Cg(10) Cg(11)	C(40) --> C(41) --> C(42) --> C(43) --> C(44) --> C(45) C(46) --> C(47) --> C(48) --> C(49) --> C(50) --> C(51)
Complex 4	Cg(1)	Cu(1) --> N(1) --> C(5) --> C(9) --> N(2)
	Cg(2)	Cu(1) --> P(1) --> C(25) --> N(3) --> C(38) --> P(2)
	Cg(3)	N(1) --> C(1) --> C(2) --> C(3) --> C(4) --> C(5)
	Cg(4)	N(2) --> C(9) --> C(8) --> C(10) --> C(11) --> C(12)
	Cg(5)	C(4) --> C(5) --> C(9) --> C(8) --> C(7) --> C(6)
	Cg(6)	C(13) --> C(14) --> C(15) --> C(16) --> C(17) --> C(18)
	Cg(7)	C(19) --> C(20) --> C(21) --> C(22) --> C(23) --> C(24)
	Cg(8)	C(26) --> C(27) --> C(28) --> C(29) --> C(30) --> C(31)
	Cg(9)	C(32) --> C(33) --> C(34) --> C(35) --> C(36) --> C(37)
	Cg(10)	C(39) --> C(40) --> C(41) --> C(42) --> C(43) --> C(44)
	Cg(11)	C(45) --> C(46) --> C(47) --> C(48) --> C(49) --> C(50)
	Cg(12)	C(51) --> C(52) --> C(53)a --> C(51)a --> C(52)a --> C(53)

Table S3 The excitation and emission data of the related ligands in the solid state at ambient temperature

	Ligands	Excitation (nm)	Emission (nm)
P^P	dppeda	381	454
	dpppda	373	452
	dppBz	355	460
	bdppmapy	380	433
N^N	Dpq	382	419
	neo	388	415
	batho	365	405

Table S4 Energy, oscillator strength and major contribution of the calculated transitions for complexes **1-4**.

Excited state	Energy / eV (/ nm)	Oscillator strength	Major contribution (%)	
1 absorption	2.6580 (466.46)	0.1905	HOMO-1 → LUMO+1 HOMO → LUMO	14.55 79.30
1 absorption	4.9127 (252.37)	0.4040	HOMO-33 → LUMO+3 HOMO-28 → LUMO+2 HOMO-28 → LUMO+5 HOMO-26 → LUMO+3 HOMO-25 → LUMO+3 HOMO-4 → LUMO+17 HOMO-3 → LUMO+17 HOMO-2 → LUMO+17	2.50 3.11 24.93 3.32 4.69 2.09 4.16 10.94
1 emission	2.6626 (465.64)	0.0921	LUMO → HOMO-7 LUMO → HOMO-6 LUMO+1 → HOMO-1	25.22 2.87 63.01
2 absorption	2.8112 (441.03)	0.2192	HOMO-1 → LUMO+1 HOMO → LUMO	48.56 49.40
2 absorption	4.7709 (259.88)	0.3485	HOMO-28 → LUMO HOMO-27 → LUMO+1 HOMO-25 → LUMO HOMO-24 → LUMO+1 HOMO-8 → LUMO+3 HOMO-7 → LUMO+2 HOMO-6 → LUMO+5 HOMO-5 → LUMO+4 HOMO-3 → LUMO+4 HOMO-2 → LUMO+5	3.35 3.28 3.19 3.43 2.67 2.56 9.79 28.06 5.14 4.32
2 emission	2.8167 (440.17)	0.1073	LUMO+1 → HOMO-1	97.96
3 absorption	2.7287 (454.38)	0.3621	HOMO-4 → LUMO HOMO-3 → LUMO+1 HOMO-1 → LUMO+1 HOMO → LUMO	3.35 4.39 43.28 46.32
3 absorption	3.9350 (315.08)	0.6520	HOMO-10 → LUMO+2 HOMO-9 → LUMO+3 HOMO-7 → LUMO+1 HOMO-6 → LUMO HOMO-1 → LUMO+6 HOMO → LUMO+7	32.99 34.00 3.83 3.79 5.57 4.95
3 absorption	4.7517 (260.93)	0.3419	HOMO-37 → LUMO HOMO-36 → LUMO+1 HOMO-35 → LUMO+1	4.18 4.63 5.18

			HOMO-34 → LUMO	5.21
			HOMO-25 → LUMO+3	3.71
			HOMO-24 → LUMO+2	3.25
			HOMO-8 → LUMO+5	4.16
			HOMO-8 → LUMO+7	2.10
			HOMO-5 → LUMO+4	12.04
			HOMO-4 → LUMO+12	2.57
			HOMO-3 → LUMO+4	5.14
3	2.7360	0.1982	LUMO+1 → HOMO-4	7.53
emission	(453.15)		LUMO+1 → HOMO-1	88.42
4	2.7635	0.2133	HOMO-4 → LUMO+1	14.70
absorption	(448.64)		HOMO-3 → LUMO+0	14.86
			HOMO-2 → LUMO+0	31.88
			HOMO-1 → LUMO+1	34.21
4	3.7991	0.4596	HOMO-8 → LUMO+2	44.51
absorption	(326.35)		HOMO-7 → LUMO+3	44.19
4	5.0280	0.2154	HOMO-38 → LUMO+2	2.37
absorption	(246.59)		HOMO-37 → LUMO+3	4.41
			HOMO-10 → LUMO+7	9.41
			HOMO-9 → LUMO+8	7.42
			HOMO-8 → LUMO+7	20.15
			HOMO-7 → LUMO+6	2.41
			HOMO-7 → LUMO+8	17.21
			HOMO-4 → LUMO+11	4.41
			HOMO-4 → LUMO+21	2.04
			HOMO-3 → LUMO+18	2.67
4	2.7881	0.2548	LUMO+1 → HOMO-1	87.09
emission	(444.69)		LUMO+4 → HOMO	9.65

Table S5 THz data for starting materials and complexes **1-4**

Materials and complexes	Terahertz spectra	peak (THz)											
Cu(CH ₃ CN)ClO ₄	0.30	1.30	1.47	1.82	2.05	2.17	2.28						
Dpq	0.30	0.39	1.00	1.25	1.32	1.52	1.71	1.78	2.02	2.14	2.34	2.48	2.55
neo	0.23	0.35	0.53	0.76	0.98	1.41	1.52	1.76	1.98	2.22	2.40	2.69	
batho	0.23	0.41	0.53	0.64	0.76	0.93	1.29	1.47	2.34	2.57	2.69		
dppeda	0.29	0.41	0.52	0.64	0.76	0.88	1.00	1.23	1.40	1.58	1.82	1.99	2.11
dppda	0.26	0.35	0.44	0.61	0.70	0.82	1.07	1.16	1.70	2.08	2.28	2.48	2.54
1	0.29	1.81	2.05	2.22	2.46	2.58	2.75						
2	0.24	1.46	1.71	1.87	2.06	2.17	2.28	2.46	2.70				
3	0.29	1.70	1.82	1.93	2.17	2.22	2.46	2.58	2.69				
4	0.24	1.05	1.70	1.82	1.93	2.05	2.17	2.28	2.46	2.70			