

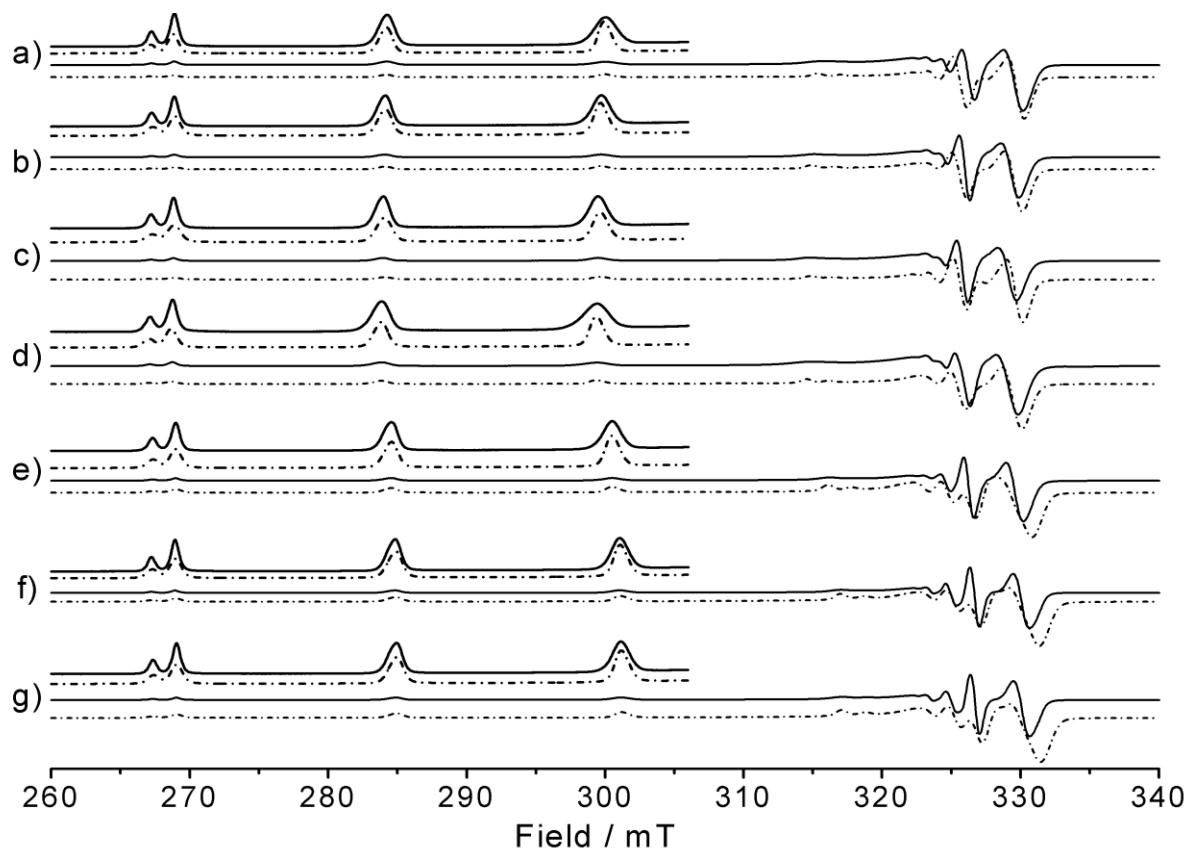
## Structure determination of bound nitrogen-based adducts with copper (II) acetylacetonato; an EPR, ENDOR and DFT study.

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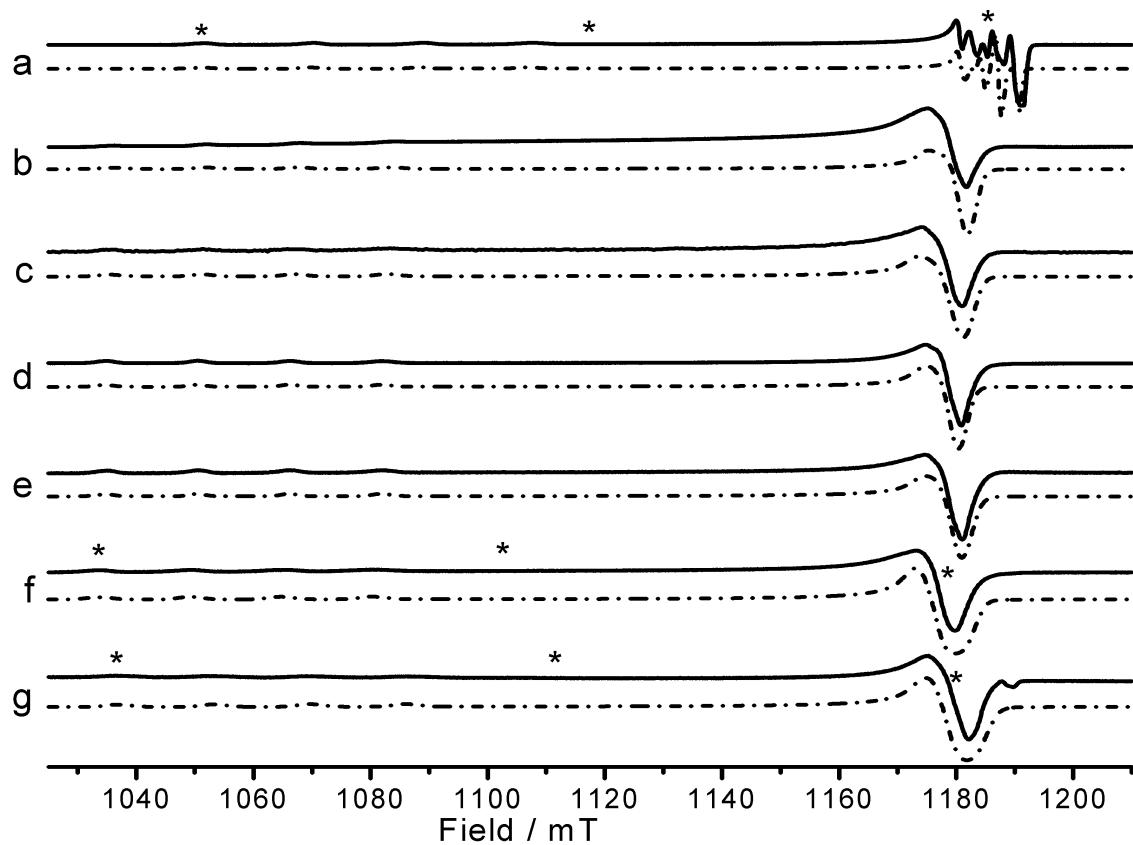
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### Electronic Supplementary Information

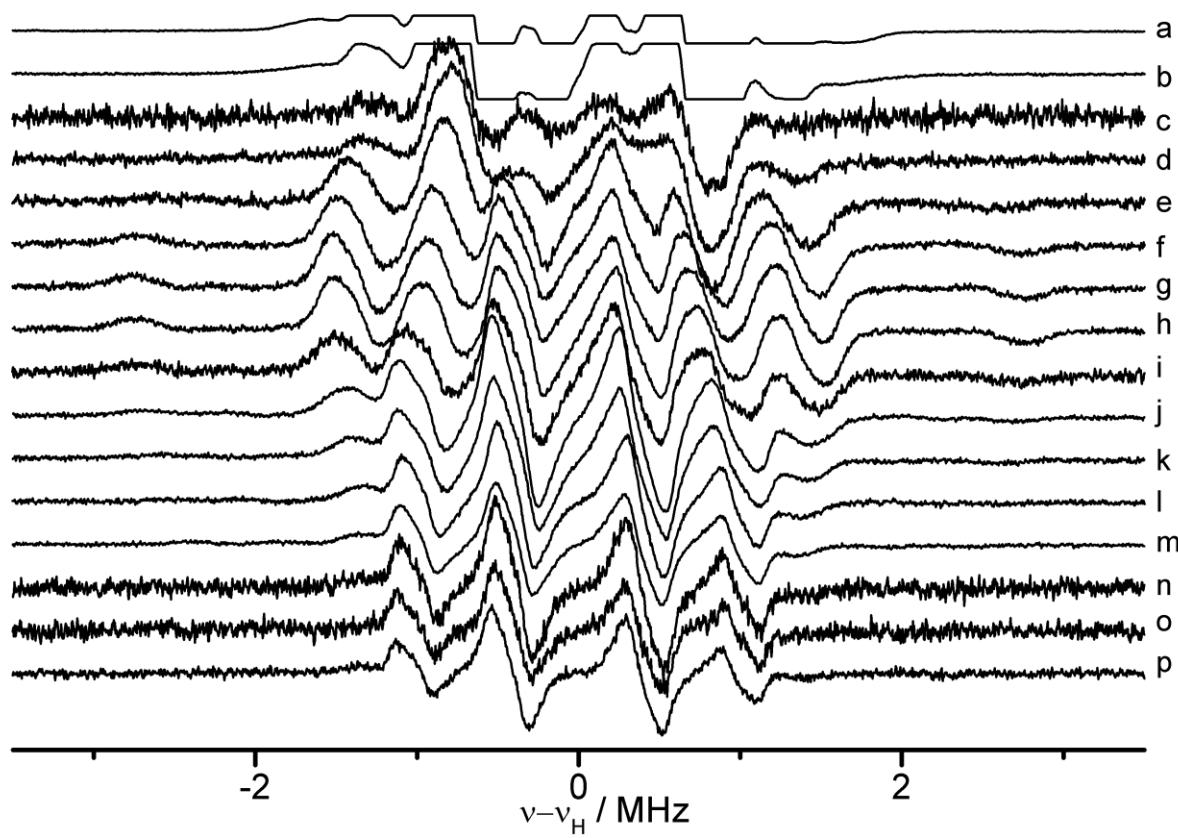
- SI-Fig. 1** Experimental & simulated X-band EPR spectra of  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2]$  with **(3)** – **(10)**.
- SI-Fig. 2** Experimental & simulated Q-band EPR spectra of  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2]$  with **(2)** – **(7)**.
- SI-Fig. 3** CW Q-band  $^1\text{H}$  ENDOR spectra (10 K) of  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2](2\text{-methylpyridine})$  adduct.
- SI-Fig. 4** CW Q-band  $^1\text{H}$  ENDOR spectra (10 K) of  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2](3\text{-methylpyridine})$  adduct.
- SI-Fig. 5** CW Q-band  $^1\text{H}$  ENDOR spectra (10 K) of  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2](4\text{-methylpyridine})$  adduct.
- SI-Fig. 6** CW Q-band  $^1\text{H}$  ENDOR spectra (10 K) of  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2](2\text{-amino-4-methylpyridine})$  adduct.
- SI-Fig. 7** CW Q-band  $^1\text{H}$  ENDOR spectra (10 K) of  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2](\text{d}_2\text{-2-amino-6-methylpyridine})$  adduct.
- SI-Fig. 8** DFT generated structures representing the end-on (left) and side-on (right) coordination mode of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  to  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2]$ . The side on configuration was 8.7 kJ mol $^{-1}$  more stable.
- SI-Table 1** Summary of DFT calculated spin Hamiltonian parameters.



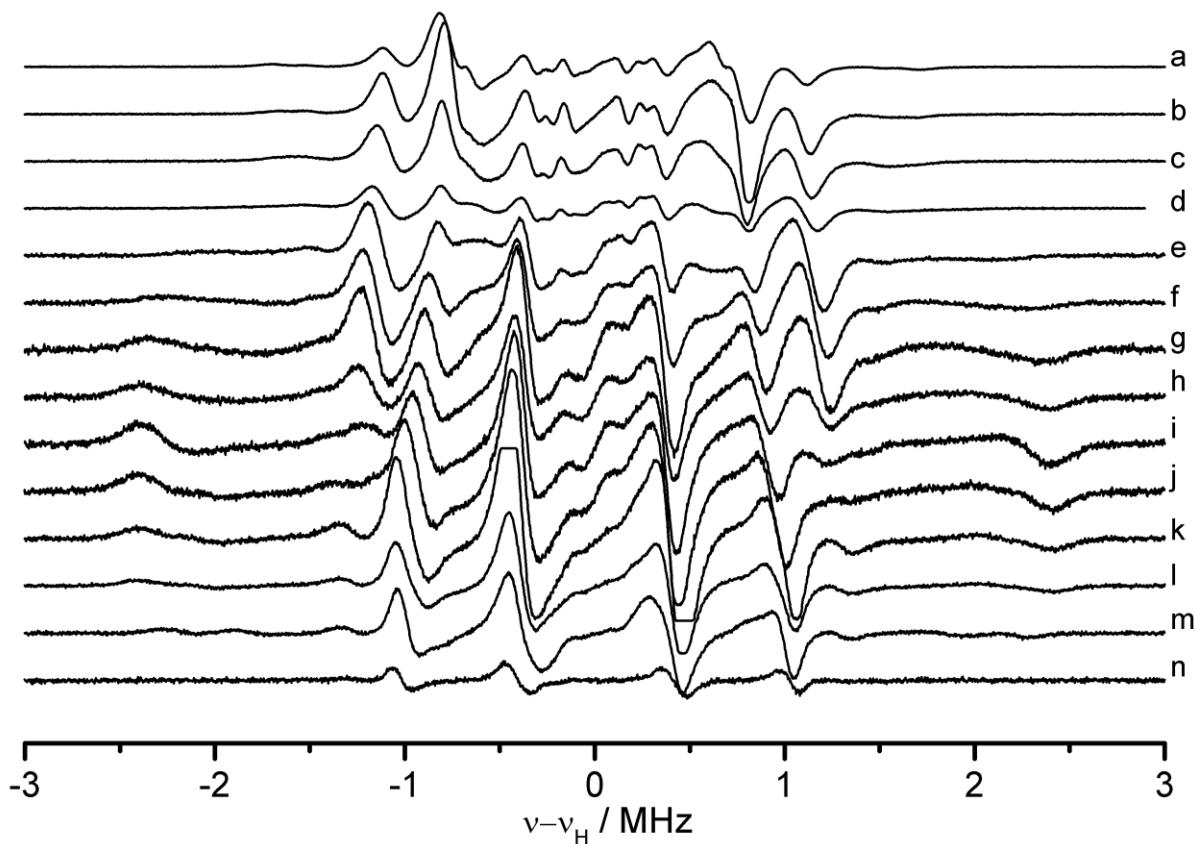
**SI-Fig. 1** CW X-band EPR spectra (recorded at 140 K) of a)  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2]\text{-}(2\text{-methylpyridine})$  b)  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2]\text{-}(3\text{-methylpyridine})$  c)  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2]\text{-}(4\text{-methylpyridine})$  d)  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2]\text{-}(2\text{-amino-4-methylpyridine})$  e)  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2]\text{-}(\text{pyridazine})$  f)  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2]\text{-}(\text{pyrimidine})$  g)  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2]\text{-}(\text{pyrazine})$ . The corresponding simulations are shown with the dashed lines.



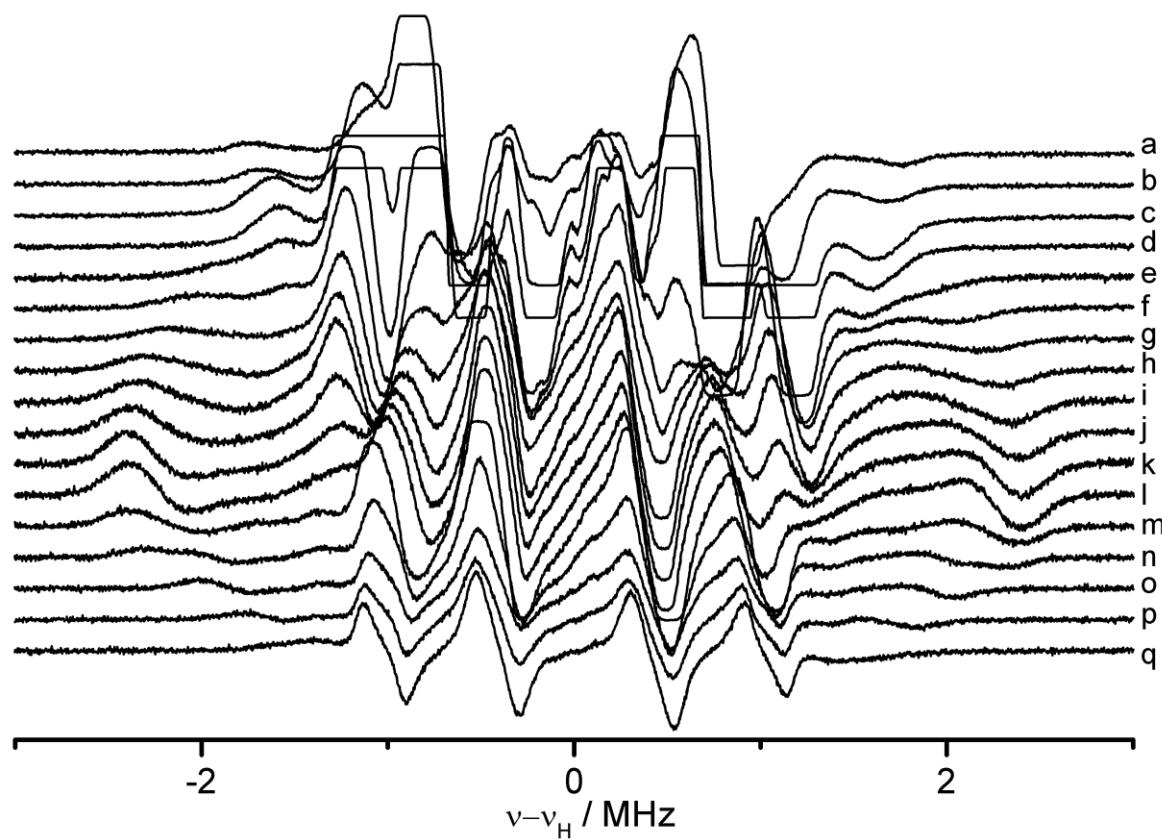
**SI-Fig. 2** CW Q-band EPR spectra (recorded at 140 K) of a)  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2]$  b)  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2]\text{-}(\text{pyridine})$  c)  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2]\text{-}(2\text{-methylpyridine})$  d)  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2]\text{-}(3\text{-methylpyridine})$  e)  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2]\text{-}(4\text{-methylpyridine})$  f)  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2]\text{-}(2\text{-amino-4-methylpyridine})$  g)  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2]\text{-}(2\text{-amino-6-methylpyridine})$ . The corresponding simulations are shown with the dashed lines. Field positions for <sup>1</sup>H ENDOR measurements are indicated with \*.



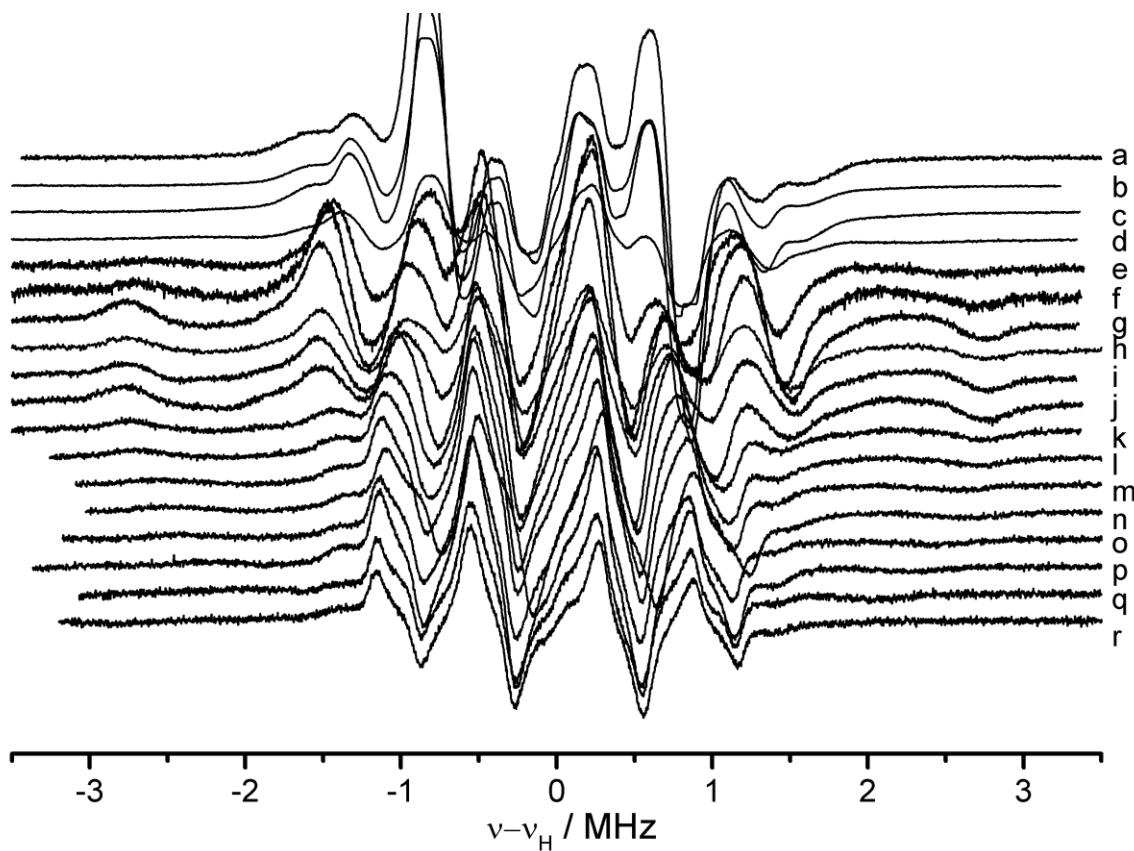
**SI-Fig. 3** CW Q-band  $^1\text{H}$  ENDOR spectra (10 K; 200 kHz RF modulation) of the  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2](2\text{-methylpyridine})$  adduct dissolved in dry  $\text{CDCl}_3/\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$  (1:1), recorded at the field positions a) 1191.4, b) 1188.5, c) 1186.0, d) 1185.0, e) 1175.0, f) 1159.2, g) 1143.5, h) 1120.7, i) 1109.2, j) 1094.9, k) 1086.4, l) 1077.8, m) 1070.6, n) 1060.7, o) 1054.9, and p) 1044.9 mT.



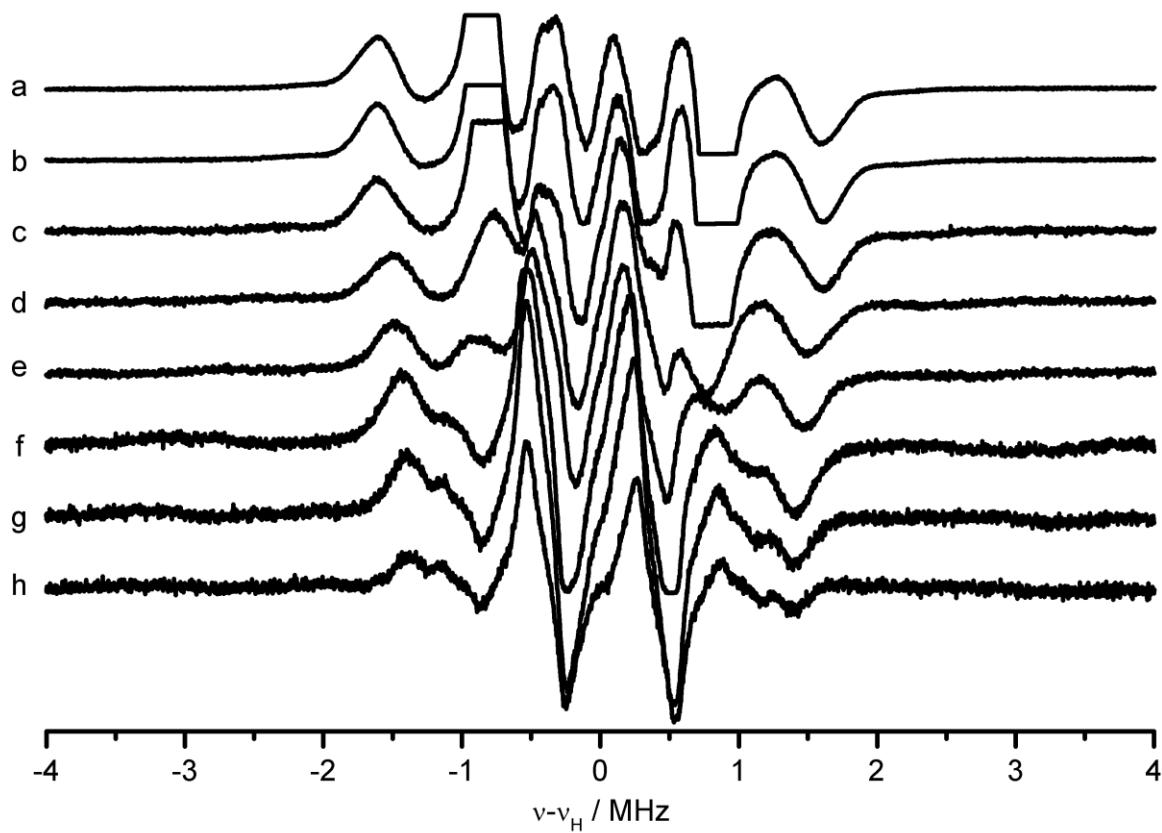
**SI-Fig. 4** CW Q-band  $^1\text{H}$  ENDOR spectra (10 K; 200 kHz RF modulation) of the  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2](3\text{-methylpyridine})$  adduct dissolved in dry  $\text{CDCl}_3/\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$  (1:1), recorded at the field positions a) 1192.1, b) 1185.0, c) 1177.8, d) 1170.7, e) 1162.1, f) 1149.3, g) 1140.7, h) 1132.1, i) 1119.2, j) 1106.3, k) 1092.1, l) 1082.4, m) 1067.8 and n) 1043.5 mT.



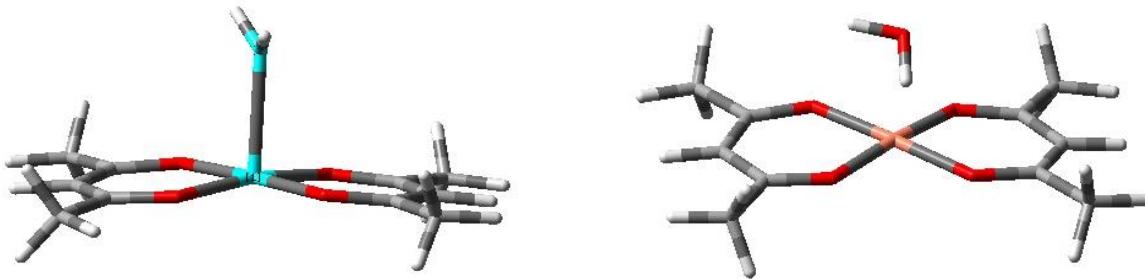
**SI-Fig. 5** CW Q-band  $^1\text{H}$  ENDOR spectra (10 K; 200 kHz RF modulation) of the  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2](4\text{-methylpyridine})$  adduct dissolved in dry  $\text{CDCl}_3/\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$  (1:1), recorded at the field positions a) 1192.1, b) 1189.2, c) 1185.0, d) 1179.2, e) 1170.7, f) 1162.1, g) 1153.5, h) 1144.9, i) 1139.2, j) 1130.6, k) 1122.1, l) 1113.5, m) 1093.5, n) 1072.1, o) 1054.9, p) 1049.2 and q) 1044.9 mT.



**SI-Fig. 6** CW Q-band  $^1\text{H}$  ENDOR spectra (10 K; 200 kHz RF modulation) of the  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2](2\text{-amino-4-methylpyridine})$  adduct dissolved in dry  $\text{CDCl}_3/\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$  (1:1), recorded at the field positions a) 1190.7, b) 1186.4, c) 1183.5, d) 1172.1, e) 1159.2, f) 1147.8, g) 1136.4, h) 1134.0, i) 1125.0, j) 1112.1, k) 1100.7, l) 1092.1, m) 1076.4, n) 1070.0, o) 1066.4, p) 1059.2, q) 1052.1 and r) 1043.5 mT.



**SI-Fig. 7** CW Q-band  $^1\text{H}$  ENDOR spectra (10 K; 200 kHz RF modulation) of the  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2](\text{d}_2\text{-2-amino-6-methyl-pyridine})$  adduct dissolved in dry  $\text{CDCl}_3/\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$  (1:1), recorded at the field positions a) 1181.8, b) 1177.4, c) 1168.9, d) 1154.6, e) 1134.8, f) 1092.1, g) 1066.2 and h) 1048.9 mT.



**SI-Fig. 8** DFT generated structures representing the end-on (left) and side-on (right) coordination mode of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  to  $[\text{Cu}(\text{acac})_2]$ . The side on configuration was  $8.7 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$  more stable.

**SI-Table 1** Summary of DFT calculated spin Hamiltonian parameters

| Molecular structure  | Functional | Cu basis | Ligand basis set | $g_1$  | $g_2$  | $g_3$  | $A_1$ | $A_2$ | $A_3$ | REF |
|----------------------|------------|----------|------------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| Trans <sup>a</sup>   | PBE0       | CP       | EPR(II)          | 2.069  | 2.068  | 2.219  | -72   | -76   | -861  | TW  |
| Trans                | B38LYP     | CP       | IGLO(II)         | 2.0835 | 2.0828 | 2.2824 | 69    | 74    | -557  | 1   |
| Cis <sup>b</sup>     | B38LYP     | CP       | IGLO(II)         | 2.0839 | 2.0848 | 2.2889 | 73    | 76    | -550  | 1   |
| Sq. plr <sup>c</sup> | BP86       | CP       | DB4              | -      | -      | 2.127  | -     | -     | 475   | 2   |
| Sq. plr              | B3LYP      | CP       | DB4              | -      | -      | 2.190  | -     | -     | 554   | 2   |

All  $A$  values given in MHz. <sup>a</sup> Pyridine ring bisects between acac units; <sup>b</sup> Pyridine ring bisects across acac units; <sup>c</sup> Molecular structure of mono adduct not specified.

## References

- K. J. de Almeida, T. C. Ramalho, Z. Rinkevicius, O. Vahtras, H. Ågren and A. Cesar, *J. Phys. Chem. A*, 2011, **115**, 1331-1339; (b) Z. Rinkevicius, K. J. de Almeida and O. Vahtras, *J. Chem. Phys.*, 2008, **129**, 064109-064117; (c) K. J. de Almeida, A. Cesar, Z. Rinkevicius, O. Vahtras and H. Ågren, *Chem. Phys. Lett.*, 2010, **492**, 14-18.
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