Electronic Supplementary Information

Copper(I) 5-phenylpyrimidine-2-thiolate complexes showing unique optical properties and high visible light-directed catalytic performance

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Synthesis of [(5-phpyms)₂Cu]_n. To a Pyrex glass tube were added CuBr (3.6 mg, 0.025 mmol), 5-phpymtH (4.7 mg, 0.025 mmol), 2 mL of MeCN and 0.1 mL of DMSO. The tube was sealed and heated in an oven at 120 °C for 48 h and then cooled to room temperature at the rate of 5 °C h⁻¹ to form a large amount of blue crystals of [(5-phpyms)₂Cu]_n, which were collected by filtration, washed with Et₂O and dried in air. Yield: 6.1 mg (46 %). Anal. Calcd (%) for C₂₀H₁₄CuN₄O₆S₂: C 44.98, H 2.64, N 10.49. Found: C 44.54, H 2.81, N 10.62. IR (KBr pellet, ν/cm^{-1}): 3059 (w), 1586 (w), 1454 (w), 1429 (m), 1285 (s) 1229 (w), 1211 (w), 1192 (w), 1007 (s), 778 (m), 764 (m), 642 (m).

X-ray Crystallography for [(5-phpyms)₂Cu]_n. Single crystal of [(5-phpyms)₂Cu]_n suitable for X-ray analysis was obtained directly from the above preparations. The crystal data were collected on a Bruker APEX-II CCD using an enhanced X-ray source Mo K α ($\lambda = 0.71073$ Å). Single crystal of [(5-phpyms)₂Cu]_n was mounted on glass fibers with grease cooled in a liquid nitrogen stream at 273 K. The collected data were reduced by using the program *Bruker APEX2* and an absorption correction (multi-scan) was applied. The reflection data were also corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects. The crystal structure of [(5-phpyms)₂Cu]_n was solved by direct methods and refined on F^2 by full-matrix least-squares methods with the *SHELXL-97* program.^{S1} All non-H atoms were refined anisotropically. All other hydrogen atoms were placed in the geometrically idealized positions and constrained to ride on their parent atoms. Crystallographic data for the structural analysis have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, CCDC No. 1474578.

Crystal Structure of [**Cu**(**5-phpyms**)_{**2**]_{**n**}. Compound [Cu(5-phpyms)₂]_{**n**} crystallizes in the monoclinic space group $P2_1/c$, and its asymmetric unit contains half a discrete [Cu(5-phpyms)₂] unit. Compound [Cu(5-phpyms)₂]_{**n**} has a 1D chain (extending along the *b* axis) in which each Cu atom is bridged by two pairs of 5-phpyms ligands (Fig. S1). Each 5-phpyms in [Cu(5-phpyms)₂]_{**n**} takes a μ_3 - κ^1 (N)- κ^1 (O)- κ^1 (O') chelating/bridging mode to bind at two Cu atoms. Each Cu adopts an octahedral geometry defined by four O and two N from four 5-phpyms ligands. Cu(1)-N(2) bond distance is close to that in [CuBr₂(dpds)] (dpds = 2,2'-dipyridyldisulfide).^{S2} Cu(1)-O(1) bond length is much shorter than the Cu(1)-O(2A) bond distance and that in [Cu(en)₂(1,5-nds)·2H₂O]_{*n*} (2.8128(13) Å; 1,5-nds = naphthalenedisulfonate)^{S3} and {[Cu₃(L)₂(py)₁₂]·py}_{*n*} (2.461(3) Å; H₃L = 1,3,5-Tri(4-sulfonophenyl)-benzene).^{S4}}

Complex $1 \cdot 2$ MeCN			
Cu(1)-N(4)	1.9943(15)	Cu(1)-S(3)	2.2619(5)
Cu(1)-S(1)	2.2635(5)	Cu(2)-N(2)	2.0287(15)
Cu(2)-S(2)	2.2304(5)	Cu(2A)-S(3)	2.2865(5)
Cu(3)-N(5)	2.0236(15)	Cu(3)-S(2)	2.2248(5)
Cu(3A)-S(1)	2.2820(5)	$Cu(2A)\cdots Cu(3)$	3.0335(4)
$Cu(1)\cdots Cu(2)$	2.7758(4)	$Cu(1)\cdots Cu(3)$	2.8388(4)
N(4)-Cu(1)-S(3)	128.33(5)	N(4)-Cu(1)-S(1)	131.09(5)
S(3)-Cu(1)-S(1)	99.082(18)	N(2)-Cu(2)-S(2)	133.54(5)
N(2)-Cu(2)-S(3A)	109.93(5)	S(2)-Cu(2)-S(3A)	110.535(19)
N(5)-Cu(3)-S(2)	133.38(4)	N(5)-Cu(3)-S(1A)	110.57(4)
S(2)-Cu(3)-S(1A)	112.145(19)		
Complex 2			
Br(1)-Cu(1)	2.4256(8)	Cu(1)-N(1)	2.022(3)
Cu(1)-S(2)	2.2342(13)	Cu(2)-N(3)	1.987(3)
Cu(2)-S(1)	2.2327(13)	Cu(2)-S(2A)	2.3582(14)
Cu(1)-Cu(2)	2.6444(8)		
N(1)-Cu(1)-S(2)	138.82(11)	N(1)-Cu(1)-Br(1)	103.48(10)
S(2)-Cu(1)-Br(1)	117.69(4)	N(3)-Cu(2)-S(1)	137.38(11)
N(3)-Cu(2)-S(2A)	111.29(11)	S(1)-Cu(2)-S(2A)	109.47(5)
Complex 3			
Cu(1)-N(3A)	1.958(7)	Cu(1)- $S(1A)$	2.177(2)
Cu(1)-S(1)	2.670(2)	Cu(2)-N(1)	2.040(7)
Cu(2)-S(2)	2.268(2)	Cu(2)-Br(1)	2.6028(13)
Cu(2)-Br(2)	2.6365(14)	Cu(3)-N(4B)	2.020(7)
Cu(3)- $S(1A)$	2.245(2)	Cu(3)- $S(2)$	2.529(2)
Cu(3)-Br(1)	2.5591(14)	Cu(4)-N(2C)	1.991(7)
Cu(4)-S(2D)	2.229(2)	Cu(4)-Br(2)	2.4295(14)
$Cu(4)\cdots Cu(3E)$	2.7794(17)	$Cu(1)\cdots Cu(1A)$	2.527(2)
$Cu(2)\cdots Cu(1A)$	2.7040(16)	$Cu(2)\cdots Cu(3)$	3.0058(16)
N(3A)-Cu(1)-S(1A)	141.6(2)	N(3A)-Cu(1)-S(1)	97.9(2)
S(1A)-Cu(1)-S(1)	118.12(7)	N(1)-Cu(2)-S(2)	157.9(2)
N(1)-Cu(2)-Br(1)	91.6(2)	S(2)-Cu(2)-Br(1)	106.59(7)
N(1)-Cu(2)-Br(2)	101.6(2)	S(2)-Cu(2)-Br(2)	89.74(6)
Br(1)-Cu(2)-Br(2)	94.11(4)	N(4B)-Cu(3)-S(1A)	153.0(2)
N(4B)-Cu(3)-S(2)	94.8(2)	S(1)-Cu(3)-S(2A)	108.27(8)
N(4B)-Cu(3)-Br(1)	102.2(2)	S(1)-Cu(3)-Br(1A)	87.58(7)
S(2)-Cu(3)-Br(1)	100.42(7)	N(2C)-Cu(4)-S(2D)	135.7(2)

Table S1 Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) of 1.2 MeCN, 2-5 and $[(5-phpyms)_2Cu]_n$ Complex 1.2 MeCN

N(2C)-Cu(4)-Br(2)	105.66(19)	S(2)-Cu(4)-Br(2D)	118.36(7)
Complex 4			
I(1)-Cu(1)	2.6611(10)	I(1)-Cu(2)	2.8103(10)
Cu(1)-N(1)	1.984(5)	Cu(1)-S(2A)	2.2061(19)
Cu(2)-N(3)	2.039(5)	Cu(2)-S(1A)	2.252(2)
Cu(2)-Cu(1A)	2.5678(12)	Cu(2)-I(1A)	2.7715(11)
Cu(2)-Cu(2A)	2.997(2)	Cu(1)-Cu(1B)	2.9539(18)
N(1)-Cu(1)-S(2A)	130.20(16)	N(1)-Cu(1)-I(1)	112.66(15)
S(2A)-Cu(1)-I(1)	115.78(6)	N(3)-Cu(2)-S(1A)	134.03(17)
N(3)-Cu(2)-I(1A)	98.66(15)	S(1A)-Cu(2)-I(1A)	114.75(6)
N(3)-Cu(2)-I(1)	102.05(14)	S(1A)-Cu(2)-I(1)	91.77(5)
I(1A)-Cu(2)-I(1)	115.06(4)		
Complex 5			
I(1)-Cu(2)	2.5891(9)	I(1)-Cu(1)	2.9383(10)
Cu(1)-N(1)	1.968(6)	Cu(1)-S(1A)	2.2239(16)
Cu(2)-I(2)	2.5496(16)	Cu(1)-Cu(1A)	2.741(2)
Cu(2)-Cu(2B)	2.665(3)	Cu(1)-Cu(2)	2.6508(14)
N(1)-Cu(1)-S(1A)	149.26(16)	N(1)-Cu(1)-I(1)	103.57(16)
S(1A)-Cu(1)-I(1)	105.19(7)	I(2)-Cu(2)-I(1)	119.88(3)
I(2)-Cu(2)-I(1B)	119.88(3)	I(1)-Cu(2)-I(1B)	118.06(5)
Complex [(5-phpyms) ₂	Cu]n		
Cu(1)-N(2)	1.975(7)	Cu(1) O(1)	1.988(6) . ?
Cu(1)-O(2A)	2.414(6)	Cu(1) O(2A)	87.1(3)
N(2)-Cu(1)-O(1B)	94.4(3)	N(2B) Cu(1) O(1B)	85.6(3)
N(2)-Cu(1)-O(1)	85.6(3)	N(2B) Cu(1) O(1)	94.4(3)
O(1B)-Cu(1)-O(1)	180.000(3)	N(2) Cu(1) O(2C)	92.9(3)
N(2B)-Cu(1)-O(2C)	87.1(3)	O(1B) Cu(1) O(2C)	90.3(2)
O(1)-Cu(1)-O(2C)	89.7(2)	N(2) Cu(1) N(2B)	180.000(1)
N(2B)-Cu(1)-O(2A)	92.9(3)	O(1B) Cu(1) O(2C)	89.7(2)
O(1)-Cu(1)-O(2A)	90.3(2)	O(2C) Cu(1) O(2A)	180.000(1)

Symmetry codes: (A) 1 - x, 1 - y, 1 - z for $1 \cdot 2$ MeCN. (A) - x, 1 - y, 2 - z for 2. (A) - x, 1 - y, 1 - z; (B) - x, - y, 1 - z; (C) 1 - x, 1 - y, 1 - z; (D) 1 - x, - y, 1 - z; (E) 1 + x, y, z for 3. (A) -x, 5/2 + y, 3/2 - z, (B) 1 - x, 5/2 + y, 3/2 - z for 4. (A) x, -y, 1 + z; (B) -x, +y, 1 - z for 5. (A) x, 1 + y, z, (B) 1 - x, 5/2 + y, 3/2 - z, (C) 1 - x, 3/2 + y, 3/2 - z for [(5-phpyms)₂Cu]_n.



Fig. S1 View of a portion of the 1D chain of $[Cu(5-phpyms)_2]_n$ extending along the *b* axis.



Fig. S2 PXRD patterns for 1. (a) simulated; (b) a single-phase polycrystalline sample of 1.



Fig. S3 PXRD patterns for 2. (a) simulated; (b) a single-phase polycrystalline sample of 2.



Fig. S4 PXRD patterns for 3. (a) simulated; (b) a single-phase polycrystalline sample of 3.



Fig. S5 PXRD patterns for 4. (a) simulated; (b) a single-phase polycrystalline sample of 4.



Fig. S6 PXRD patterns for 5. (a) simulated; (b) a single-phase polycrystalline sample of 5.



Fig. S7 PXRD patterns for [(5-phpyms)₂Cu]_n. (a) simulated; (b) a single-phase polycrystalline sample of [(5-phpyms)₂Cu]_n.



Fig. S8 TGA curves of **1-5** and [(5-phpyms)₂Cu]_n.



Fig. S9 View of the 1D hydrogen-bound structure of 2.



Fig. S10 View of the 2D hydrogen-bound structure of 4.



Fig. S11 The UV-vis spectra of complexes 1-5 in the solid state.



Fig. S12 UV-Vis absorption spectra of **1** in various solvents $(1 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol/L})$



Fig. S13 UV-Vis absorption spectra of **1** in CHCl₃, black (1×10^{-4} mol/L), red ($c_{CF3COOH} = 10^{-2}$ mol/L), green ($c_{CF3COOH} = 10^{-1}$ mol/L) and blue ($c_{CF3COOH} = 5 \times 10^{-1}$ mol/L).



Fig. S14 Emission spectrum of 1 in the solid state at room temperature.



Fig. S15 Emission spectra of $1 (1 \times 10^{-6} \text{ mol/L})$ in CHCl₃/isopropanol mixture.





Fig. S18 1 H NMR spectrum of **1** after the addition of CF₃COOH and then Et₃N.

- 8.14



Fig. S19 ¹H NMR spectrum of CF_3COOH .



Fig. S20 Solid-state optical diffuse-reflection spectra of **1-5** and [(5-phpyms)₂Cu]_n with BaSO₄ as background derived from the diffuse reflectance data at ambient temperature.



Fig. S21 PXRD patterns of the simulated, experimental and those after different catalytic cycles of compound 5.



Scheme S1 Proposed mechanism for the oxidative hydroxylation of arylboronic acids.

¹H and ¹³CNMR data of the phenols

Phenol



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 9.32 (s, 1H), 7.36 - 7.02 (m, 2H), 6.75 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 157.20, 129.10, 118.68, 114.77.

4-methoxyphenol



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 8.88 (s, 1H), 6.74 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.67 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 3.65 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 151.98, 151.09, 115.69, 114.39, 55.31.

4-methylphenol

OH

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 9.06 (s, 1H), 6.95 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.64 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 2.17 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 154.55, 129.75, 127.17, 114.76, 19.96.

3-methoxyphenol

OH

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 9.41 (s, 1H), 7.06 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.39 (t, *J* = 11.1 Hz, 3H), 3.69 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 160.7, 158.8, 130.0, 108.0, 104.7, 101.4, 54.9.

3-methylphenol



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 9.98 (s, 1H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (s, 1H), 7.30 - 7.25 (m, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 157.45, 138.48, 129.30, 119.86, 116.26, 112.71, 21.17.

2-methoxyphenol

ОН

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 8.90 (s, 1H), 6.92 – 6.87 (m, 1H), 6.80 – 6.71 (m, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 147.7, 146.6, 120.9, 119.3, 115.6, 112.4, 55.6

2-methylphenol



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 9.24 (s, 1H), 7.11 - 6.96 (m, 2H), 6.85 (s, 1H), 6.70 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.18 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 155.51, 130.63, 126.68, 123.89, 118.86, 114.70, 16.06.

2,6-dimethylphenol



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 8.17 (s, 1H), 6.90 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 6.64 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 2.10 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 152.97, 127.89, 124.27, 119.14, 16.48.

2,4,6-trimethylphenol

ΟН

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 7.89 (s, 1H), 6.69 (s, 2H), 2.11 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 150.75, 128.79, 127.47, 123.97, 19.66, 16.06.

4-nitrophenol

OH O₂N

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 11.03 (s, 1H), 8.11 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 163.89, 139.61, 126.16, 115.77.

4-acetylphenol



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 10.34 (s, 1H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.47 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 195.75, 161.79, 130.69, 128.49, 115.13, 25.86.

4-fluorophenol



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 9.34 (s, 1H), 7.00–6.94 (m, 2H), 6.76–6.71 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 156.7, 154.3, 153.6 (d), 116.1 (d), 115.7, 115.5.

2-naphthylphenol



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 9.71 (s, 1H), 7.78 - 7.72 (m, 2H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.12 - 7.05 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 155.25, 134.57, 129.26, 127.70, 127.51, 126.07, 125.95, 122.60, 118.58, 108.61.

hydroquinone

OH

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 8.61 (s, 2H), 6.55 (s, 4H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 149.73, 115.46.

m-dihydroxybenzene

HO ЮH

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 9.14 (s, 2H), 6.91 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.18 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 158.4, 129.7, 106.2, 102.5.

4-ethylphenol



¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 9.09 (s, 1H), 6.98 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 2H), 6.67 (dd, *J* = 6.5, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 2.47 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.12 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 155.2, 133.8, 128.5, 115.0, 27.3, 16.0.

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Fig. S24 The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra for 4-methylphenol





Fig. S26 The 1 H and 13 C NMR spectra for 3-methylphenol



S28



Fig. S28 The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra for 2-methylphenol











Fig. S31 The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra for 4-nitrophenol



Fig. S32 The 1 H and 13 C NMR spectra for 4-acetylphenol



Fig. S33 The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra for 4-fluorophenol



Fig. S34 The 1 H and 13 C NMR spectra for 2-naphthyphenol











Fig. S37 The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra for 4-ethylphenol