

Electronic Supplementary Information

Catecholase activity of Mannich-based dinuclear Cu^{II} complexes with theoretical modeling: New insight into the solvent role in catalytic cycle[†]

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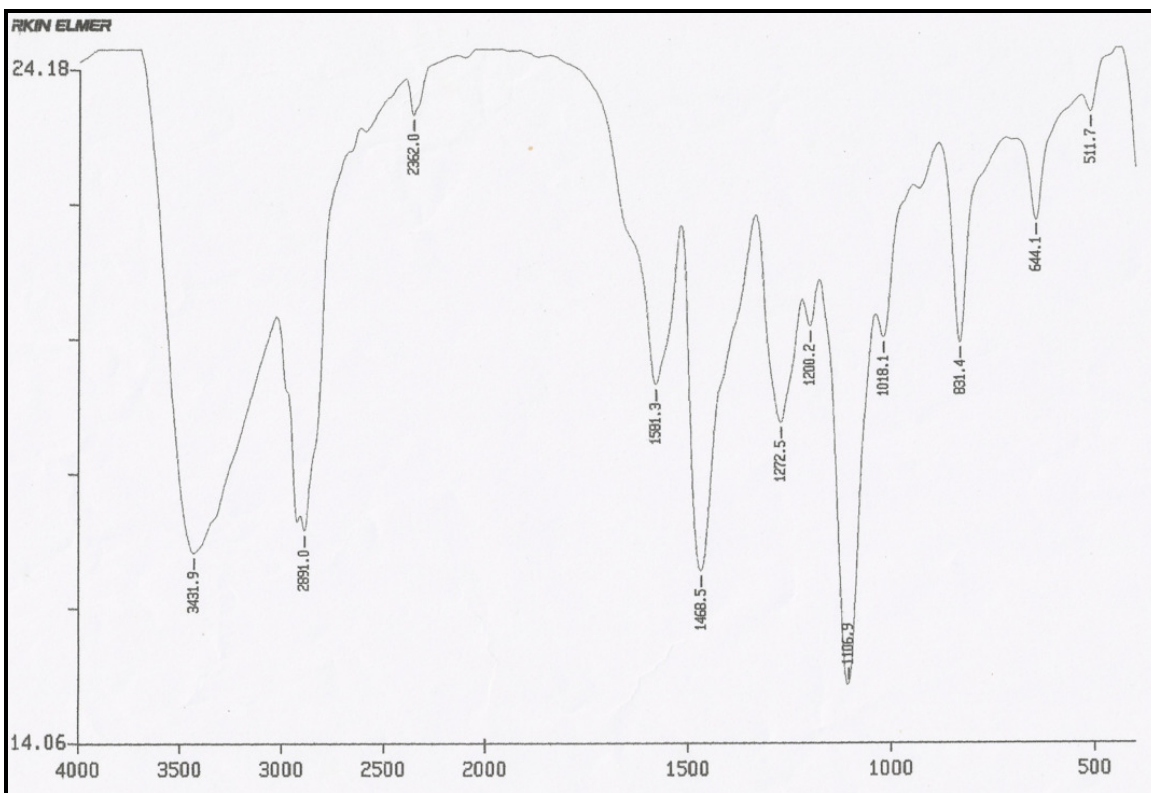


Fig. S1 FTIR spectra of ligand **HL1** in NaCl-plate.

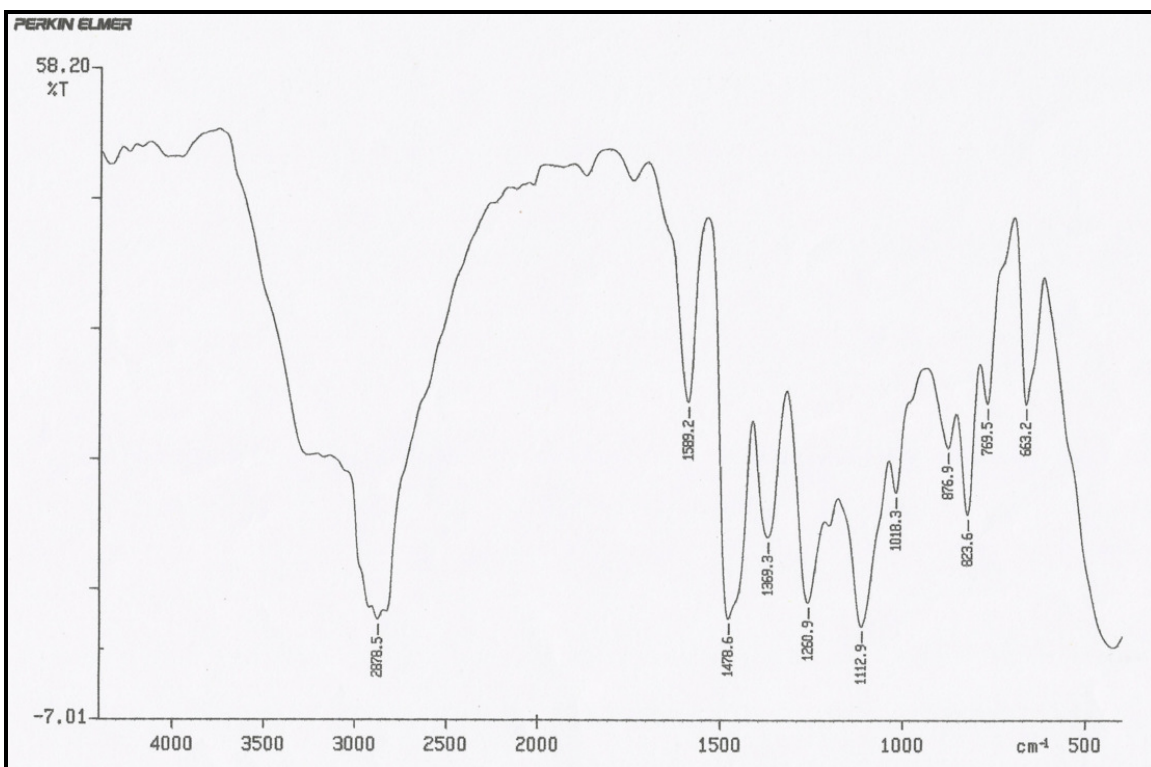


Fig. S2 FTIR spectra of ligand HL2 in NaCl-plate.

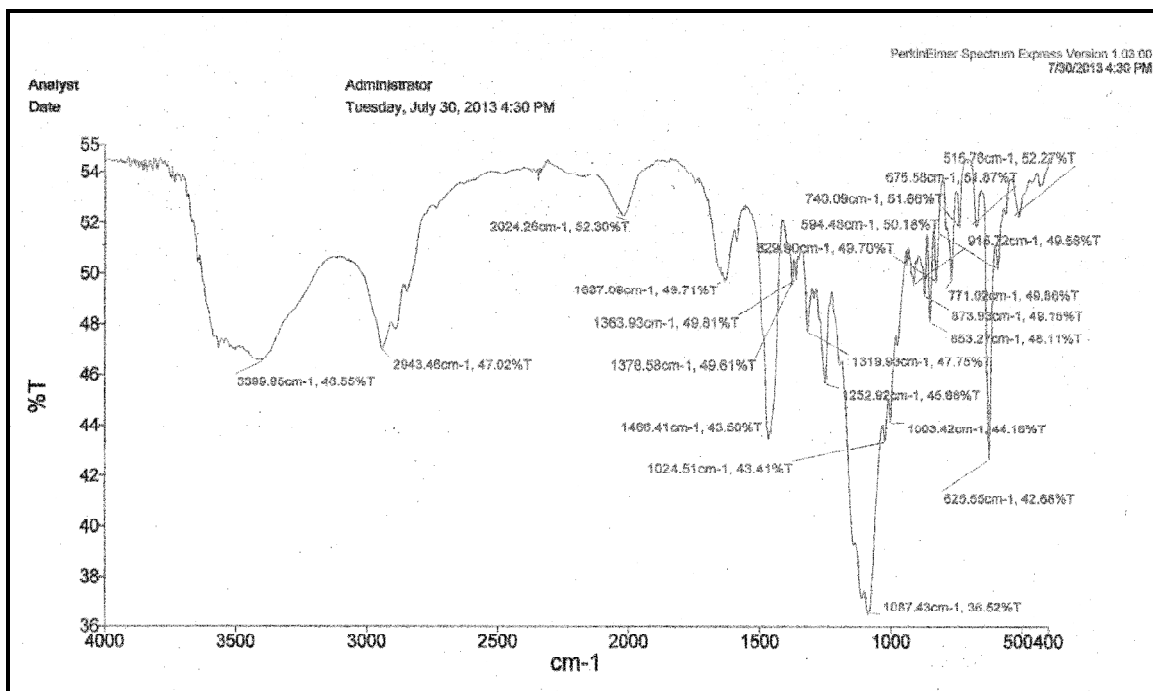


Fig. S3 FTIR spectrum of complex 1 in KBr pellet.

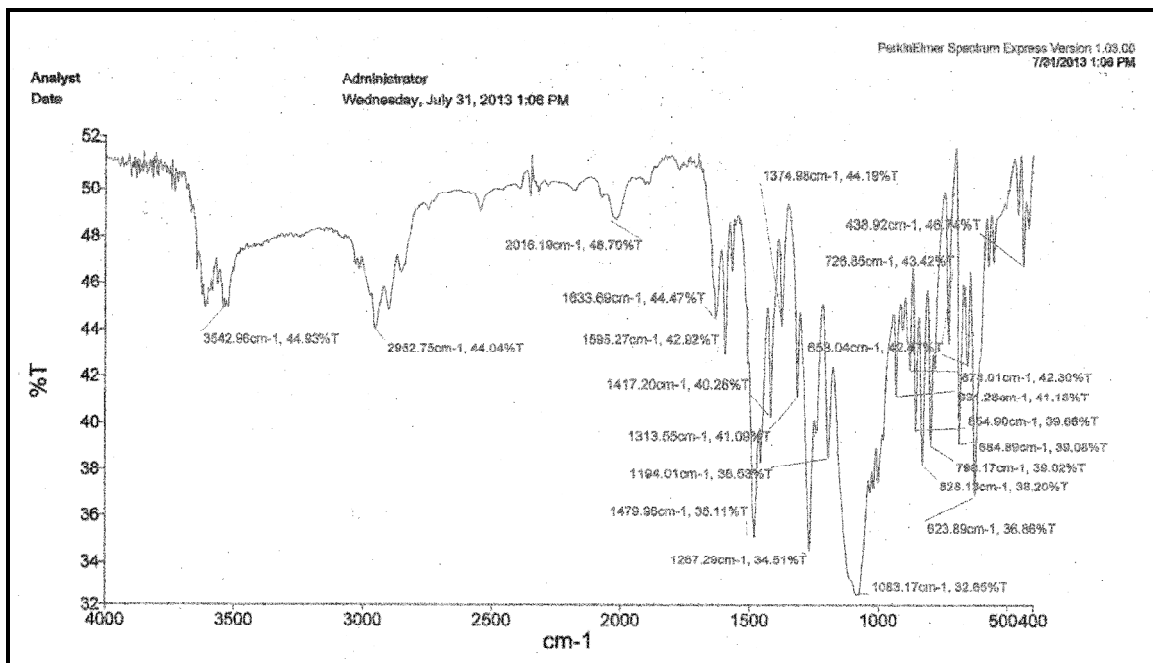


Fig. S4 FTIR spectrum of complex 2 in KBr pellet.

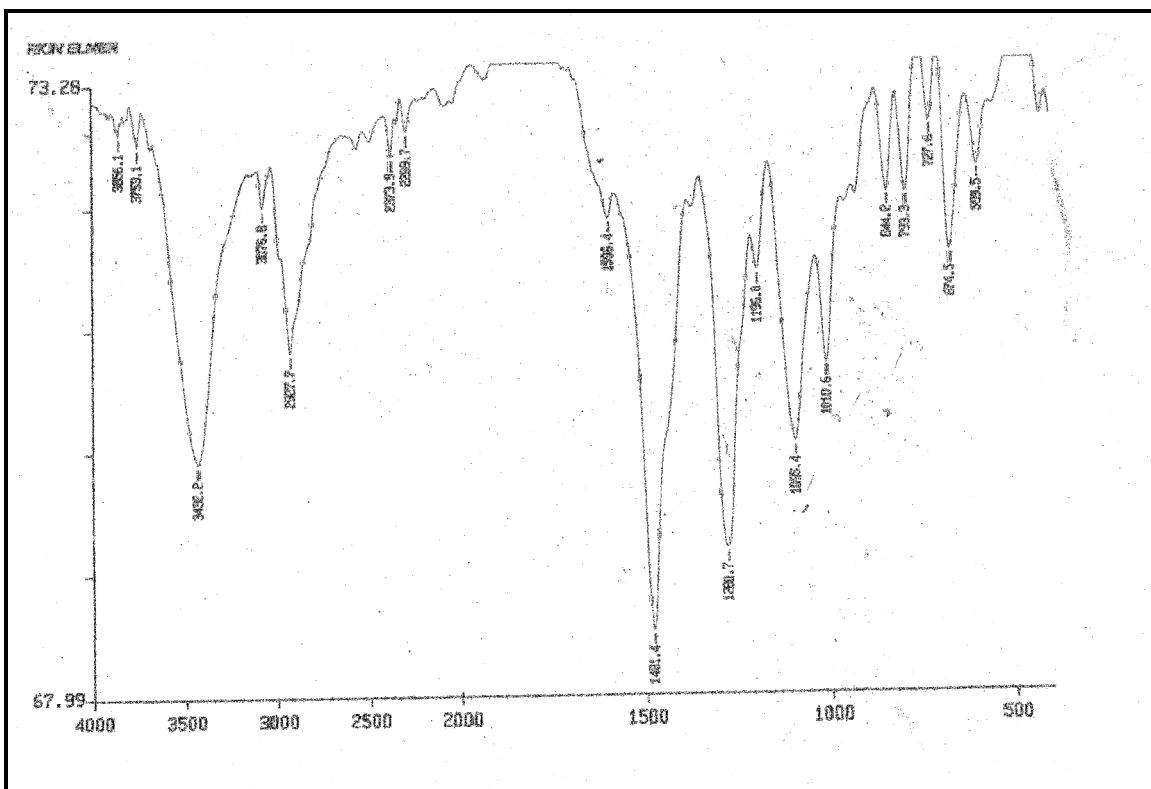


Fig. S5 FTIR spectrum of complex 3 in KBr pellet.

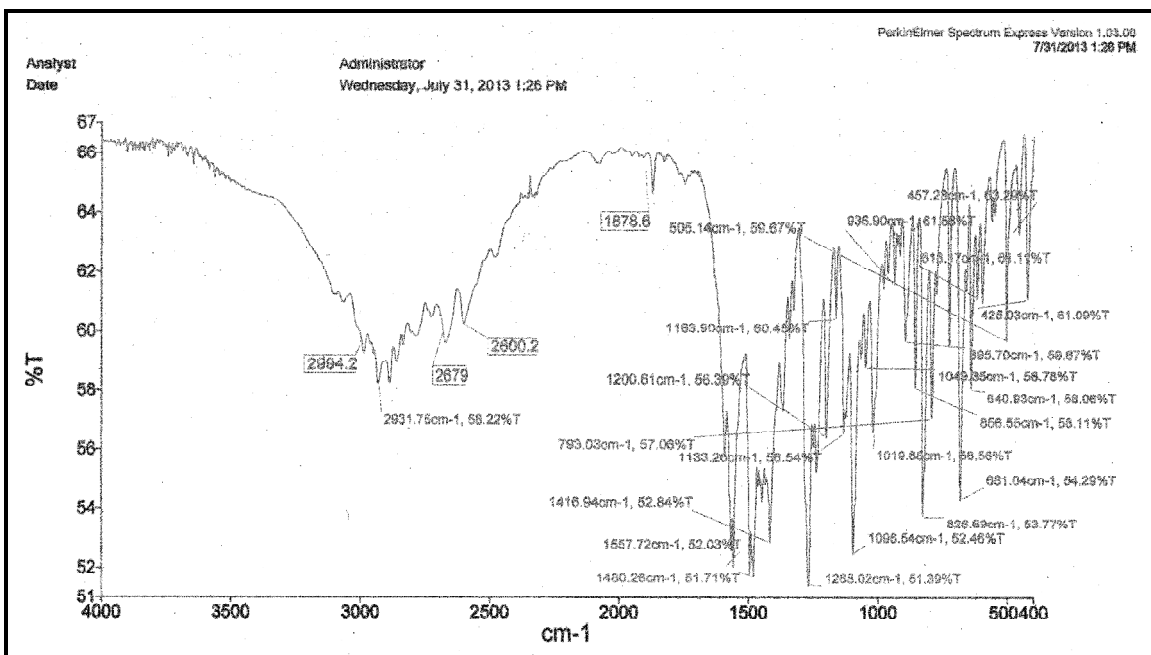


Fig. S6 FTIR spectrum of complex 4 in KBr pellet.

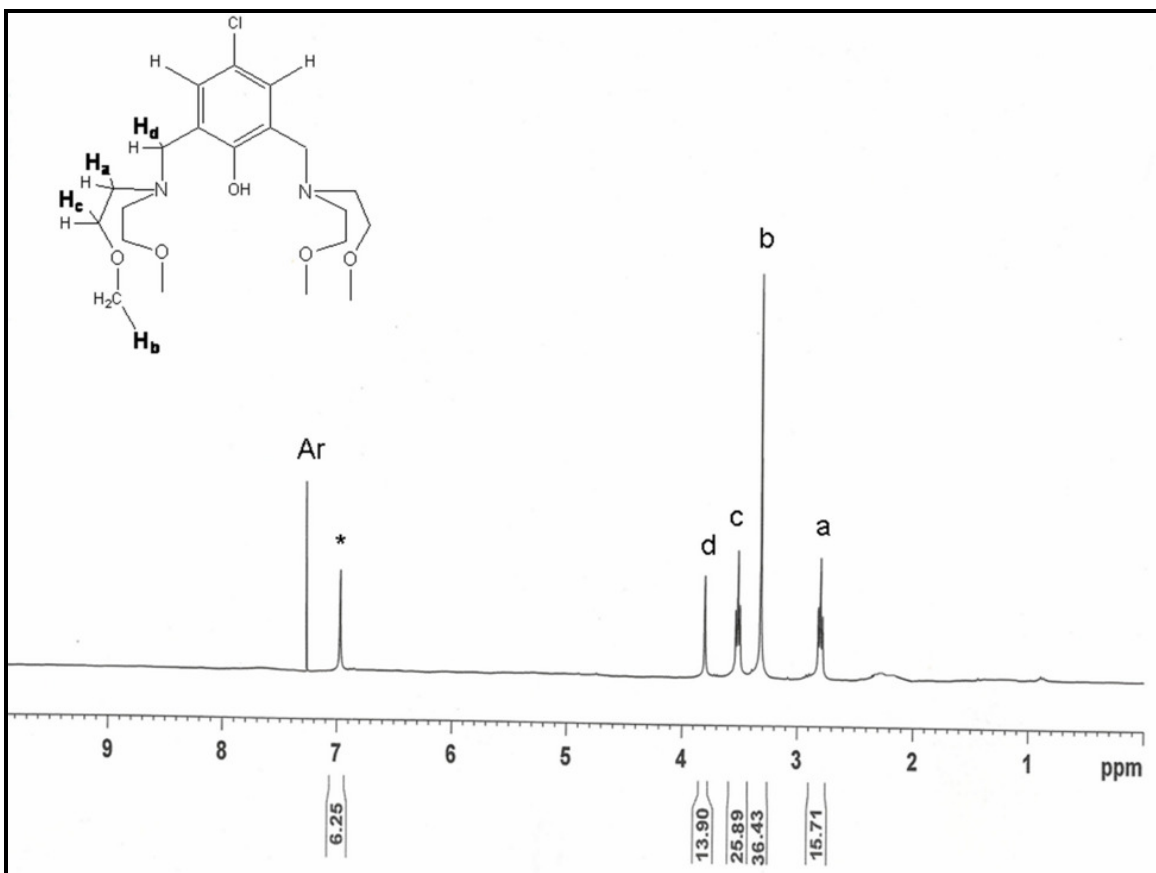


Fig. S7 ¹H-NMR of ligand **HL1** in CDCl₃ at 25°C (Solvent peak is marked as *).

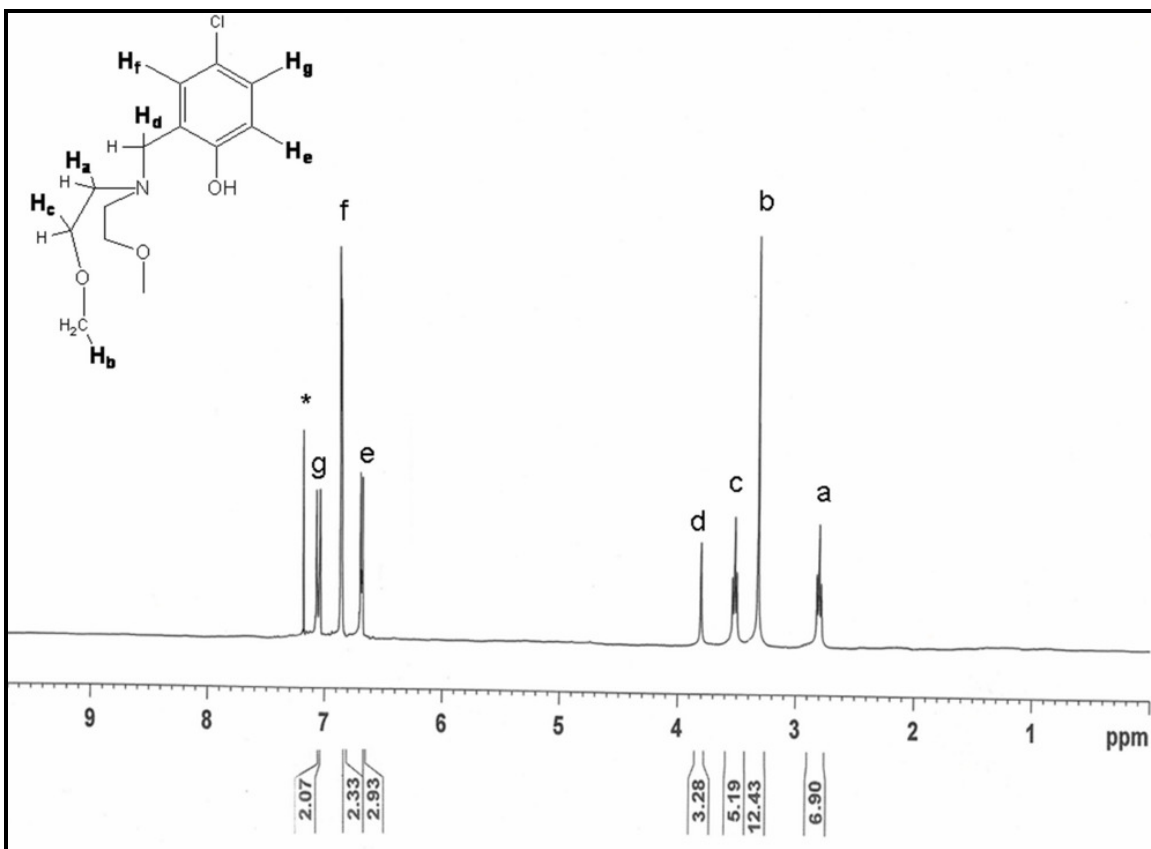


Fig. S8 ¹H-NMR of ligand HL2 in CDCl₃ at 25°C (Solvent peak is marked as *).

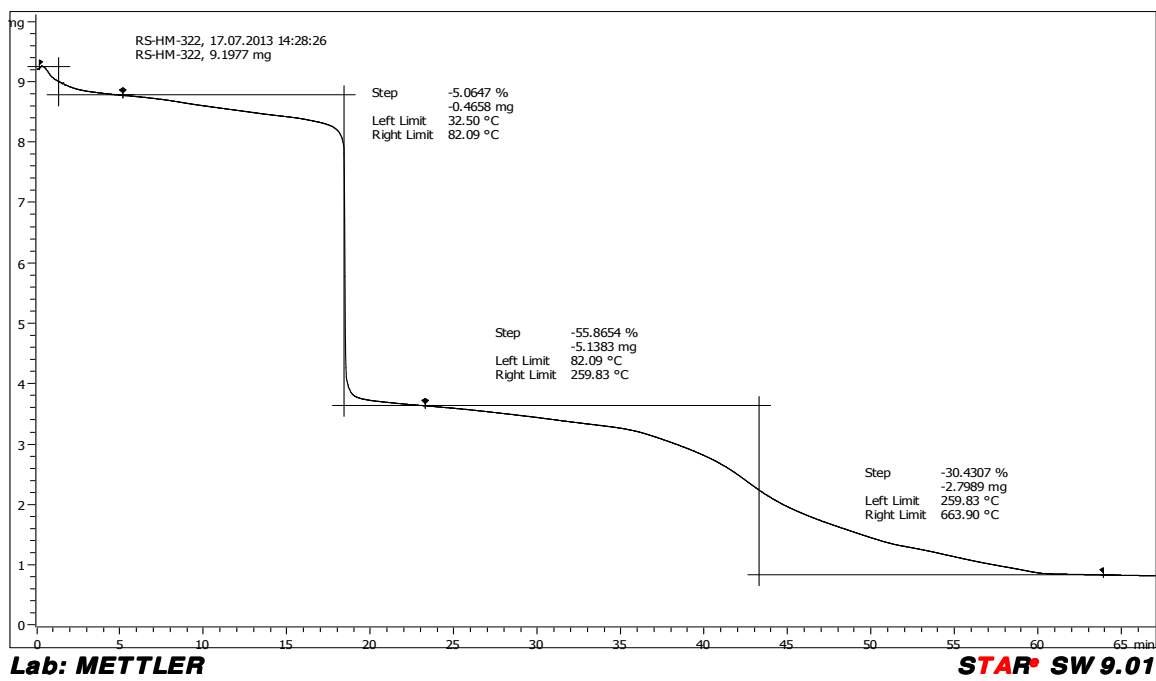


Fig. S9 TGA curve of complex 3.

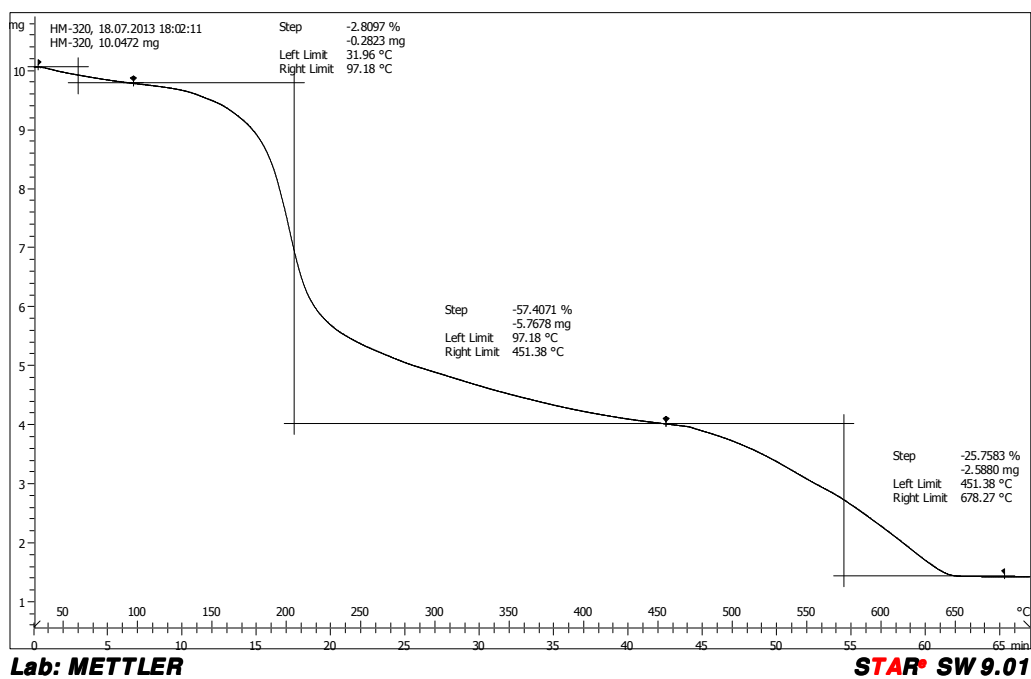


Fig. S10 TGA curve of complex 4.

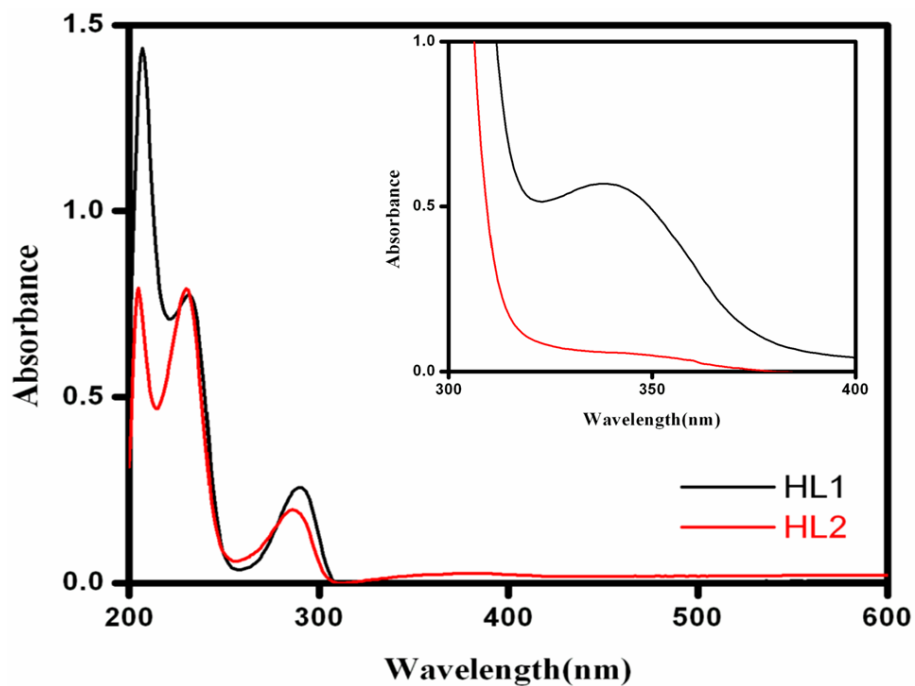


Fig. S11 Electronic spectra of the free ligands in acetonitrile at 25°C.

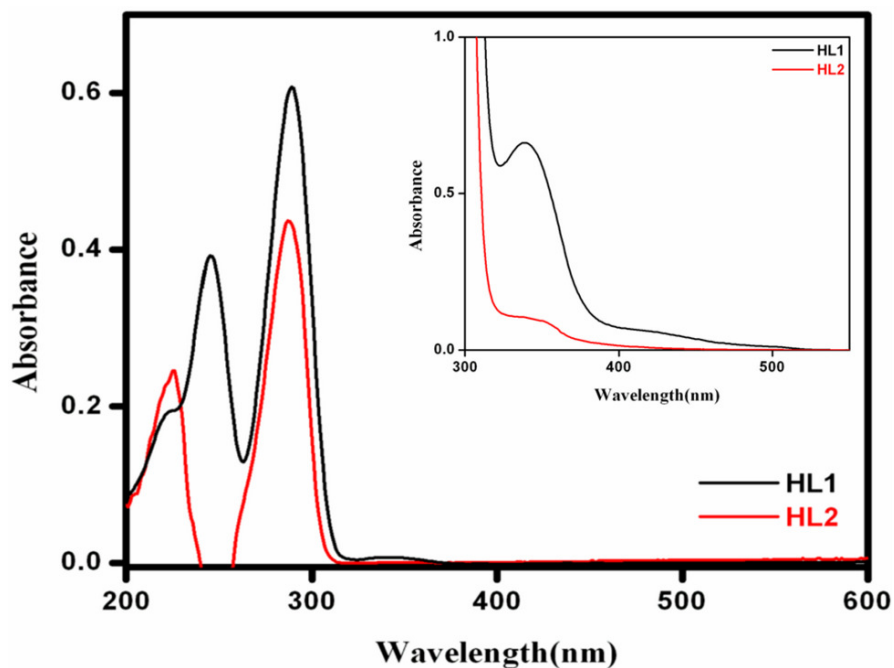


Fig. S12 Electronic spectra of the free ligands in DMSO at 25°C.

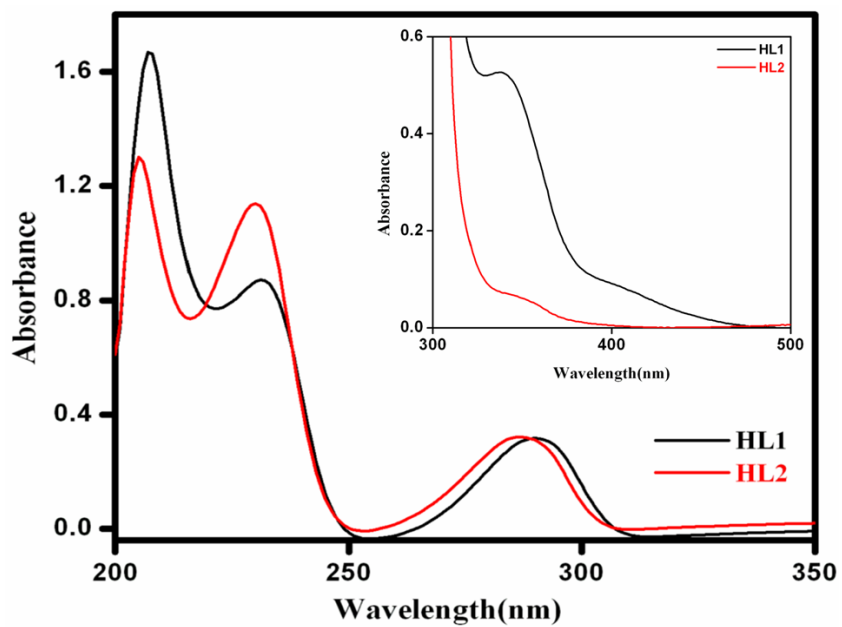


Fig. S13 Electronic spectra of the free ligands in methanol at 25°C.

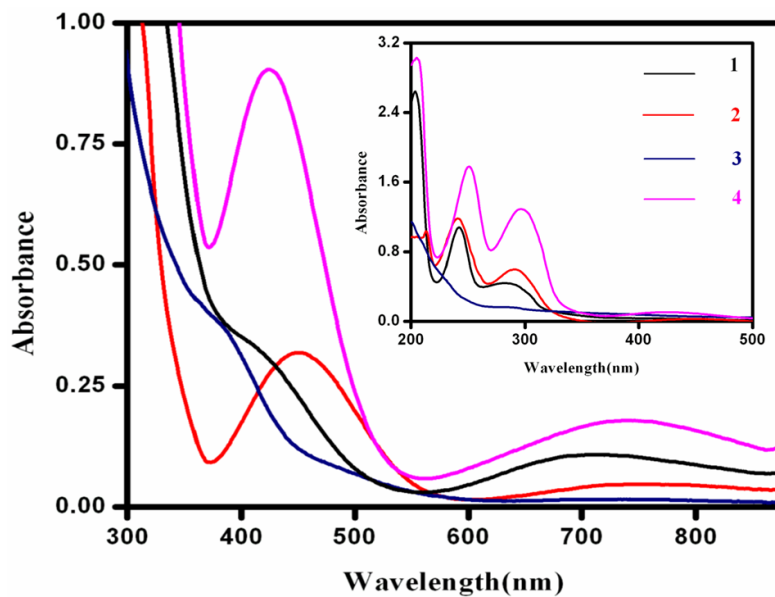


Fig. S14 Electronic spectra of 10^{-3} M acetonitrile solution of complexes **1-4** and in the inset of 10^{-4} M solution.

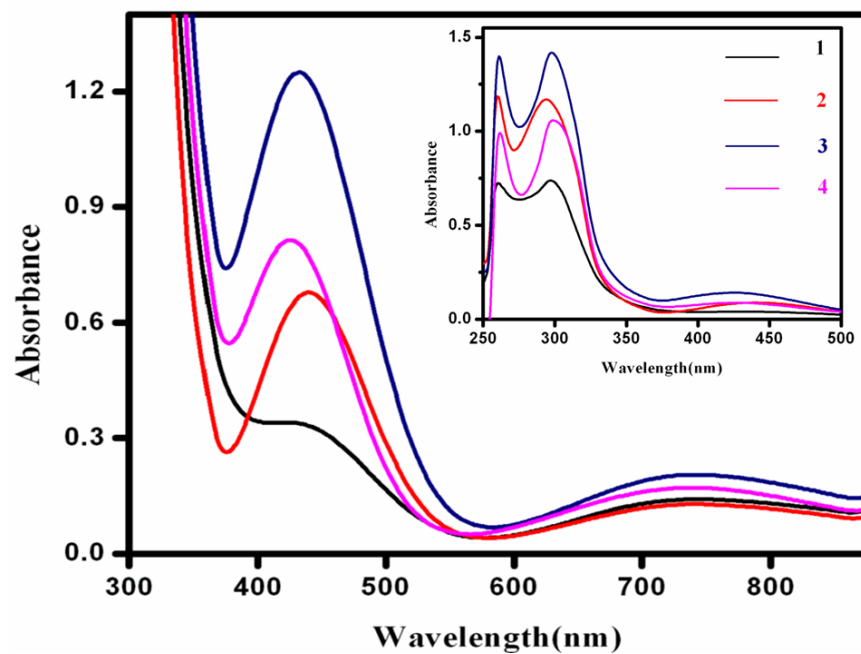


Fig. S15 Electronic spectra of 10^{-3} M DMSO solution of complexes **1-4** and in the inset of 10^{-4} M solution.

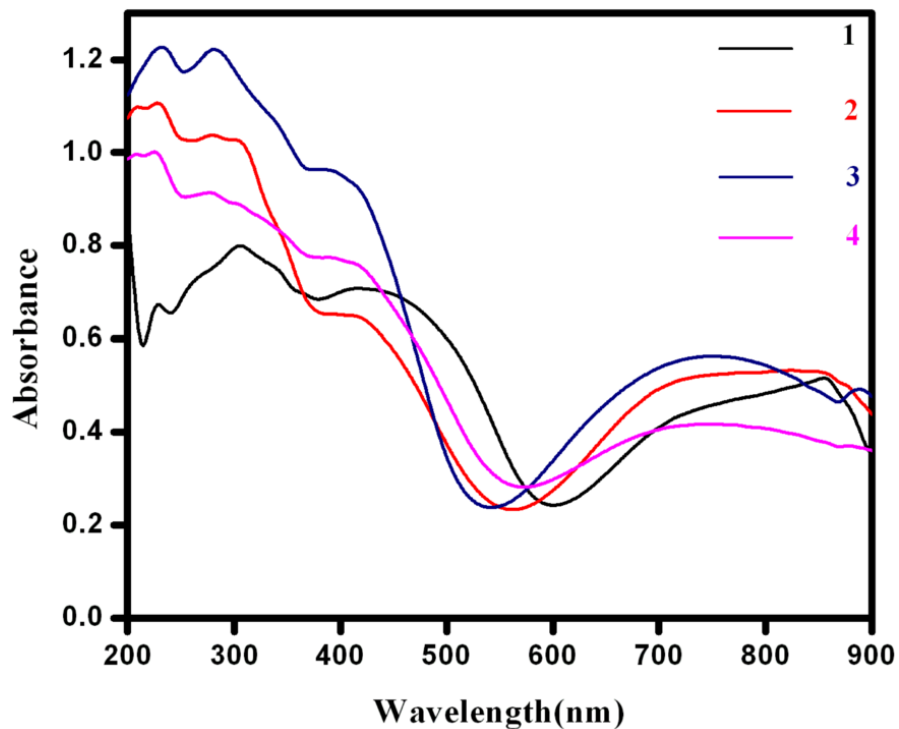


Fig. S16 Electronic spectra of complex 1-4 in the solid-state at 25°C.

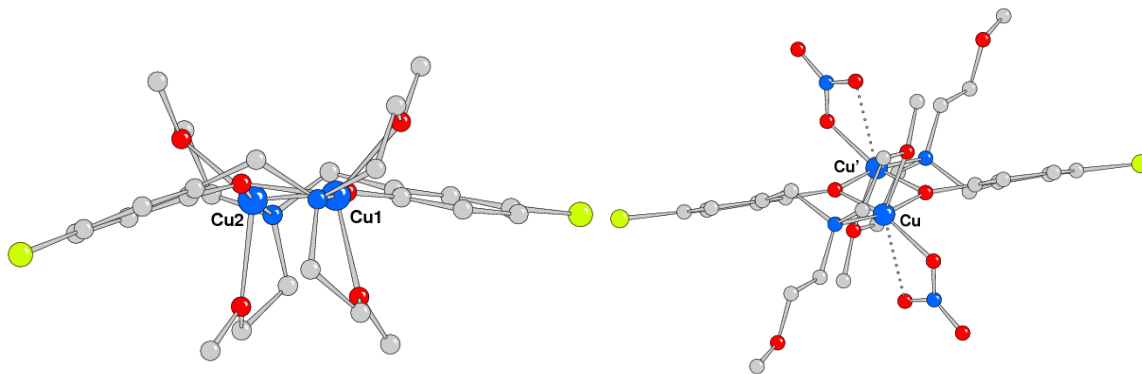


Fig. S17 Side view of complexes 3 and 4 showing the different orientation of the phenolato moieties. Complex 4 shows a comparable arrangement of 3, substituting the nitrates with acetate anions.

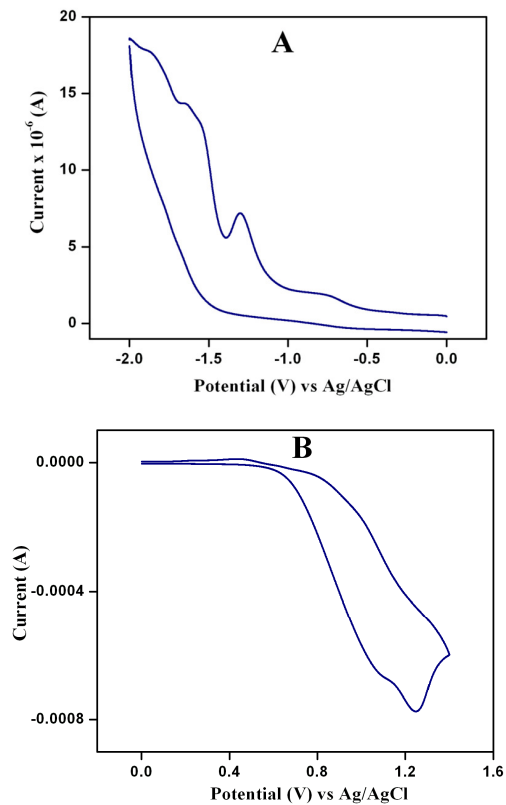


Fig. S18 Cyclic voltammograms of ligand **HL1** in acetonitrile representing (A) reductive wave and (B) oxidative wave.

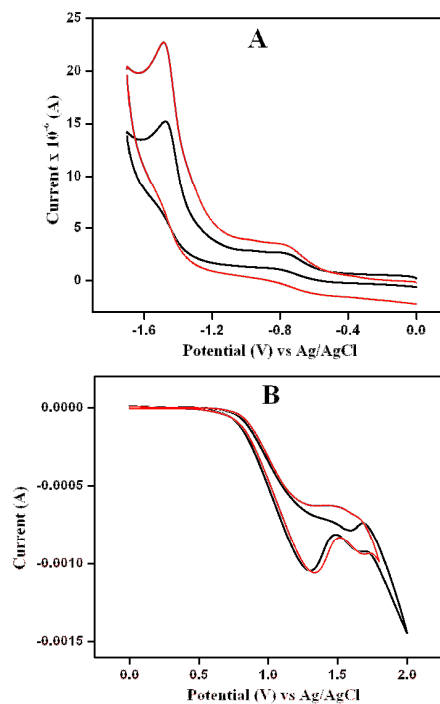


Fig. S19 Cyclic voltammograms of ligand **HL2** in acetonitrile representing (A) reductive wave and (B) oxidative wave.

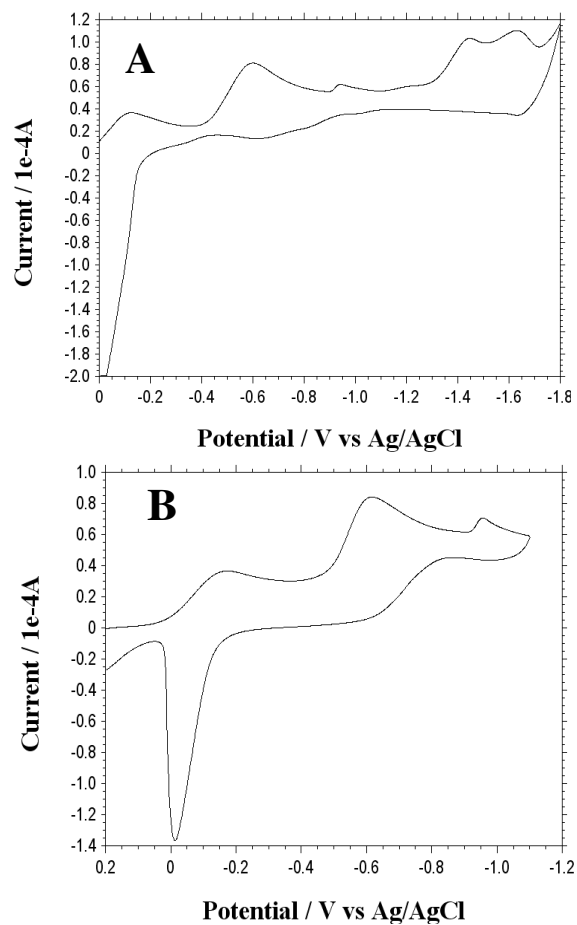


Fig. S20 Cyclic voltammogram of complex **1** (10^{-3} M) in acetonitrile.

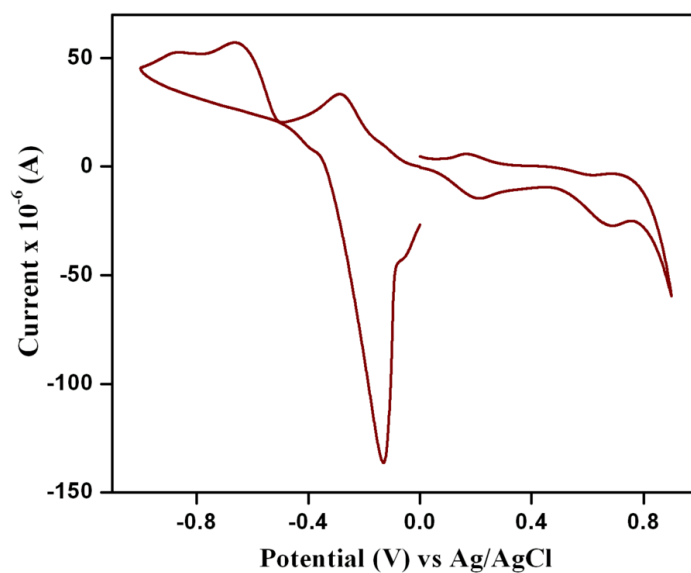


Fig. S21 Cyclic voltammogram of a mixture of complex **1** and 3,5-DTBC (1:100) in acetonitrile.

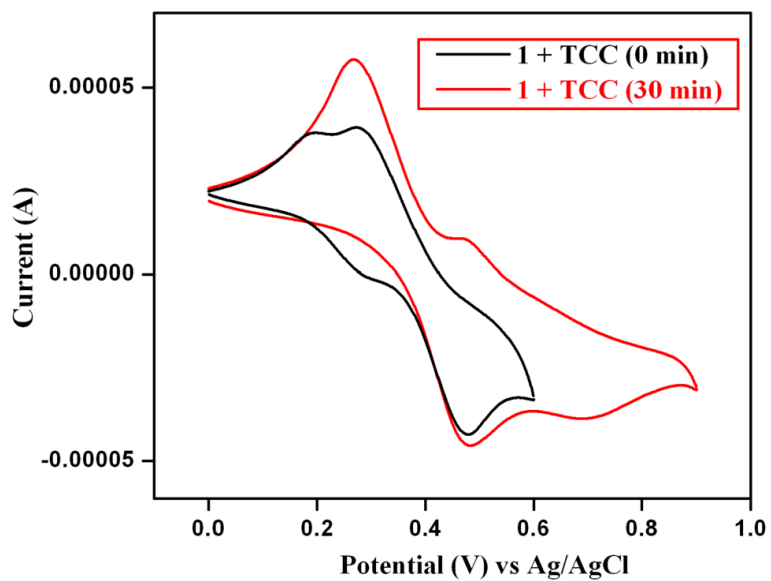


Fig. S22 Cyclic voltammogram of a mixture of complex **1** and TCC (1:100) in acetonitrile.

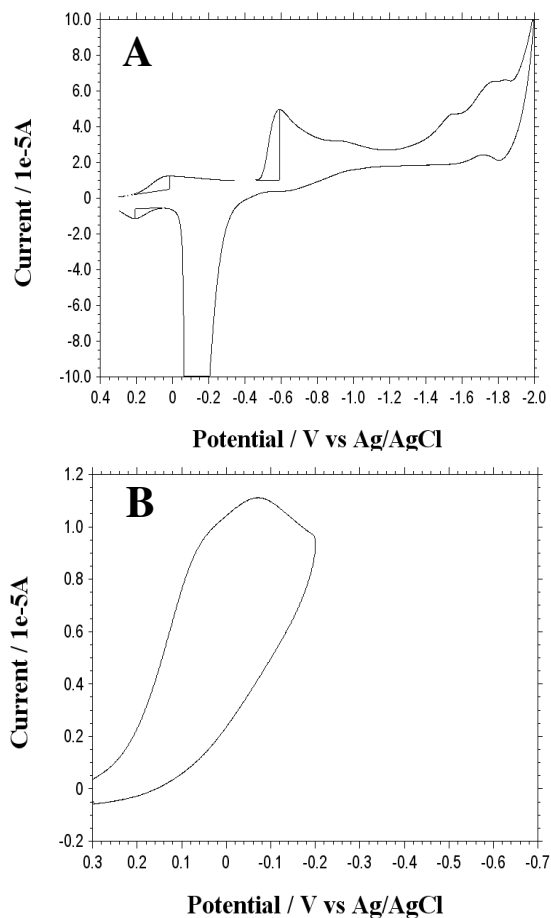


Fig. S23 Cyclic voltammogram of complex **2** (10^{-3} M) in acetonitrile.

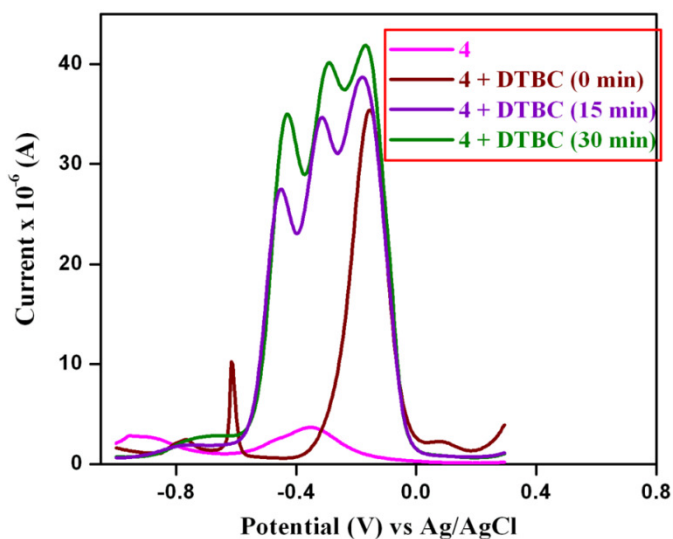


Fig. S24 Differential pulse voltammogram of complex **4** in absence and presence of 3,5-DTBC in acetonitrile.

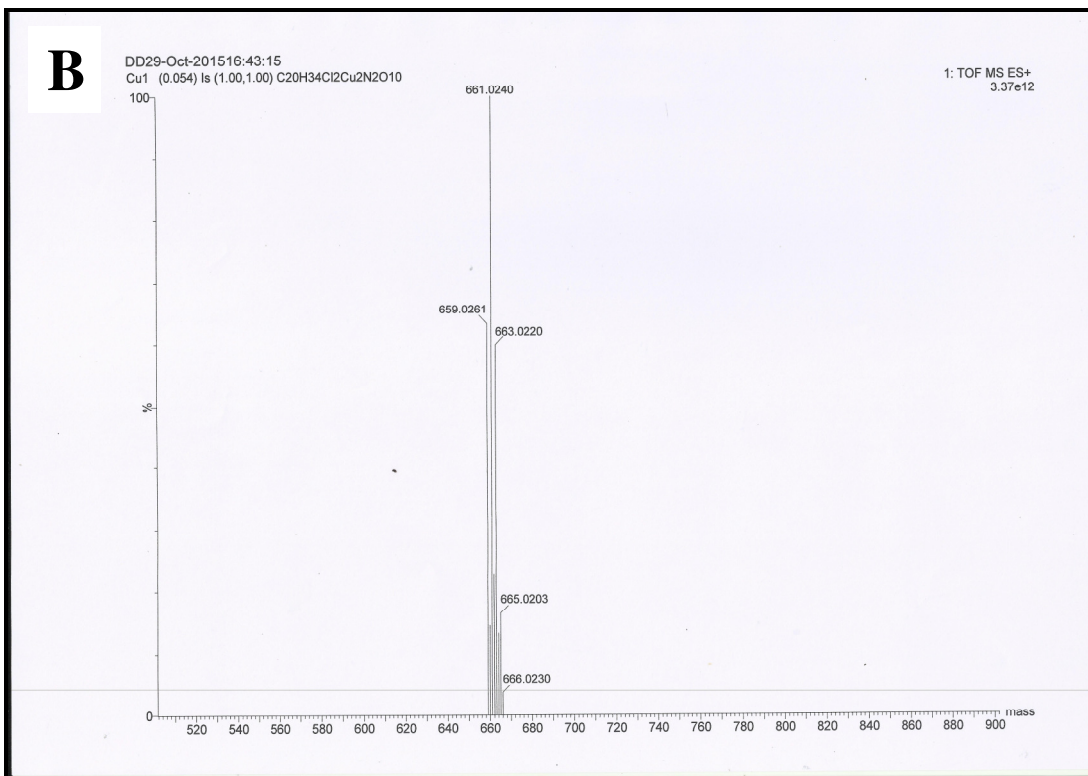
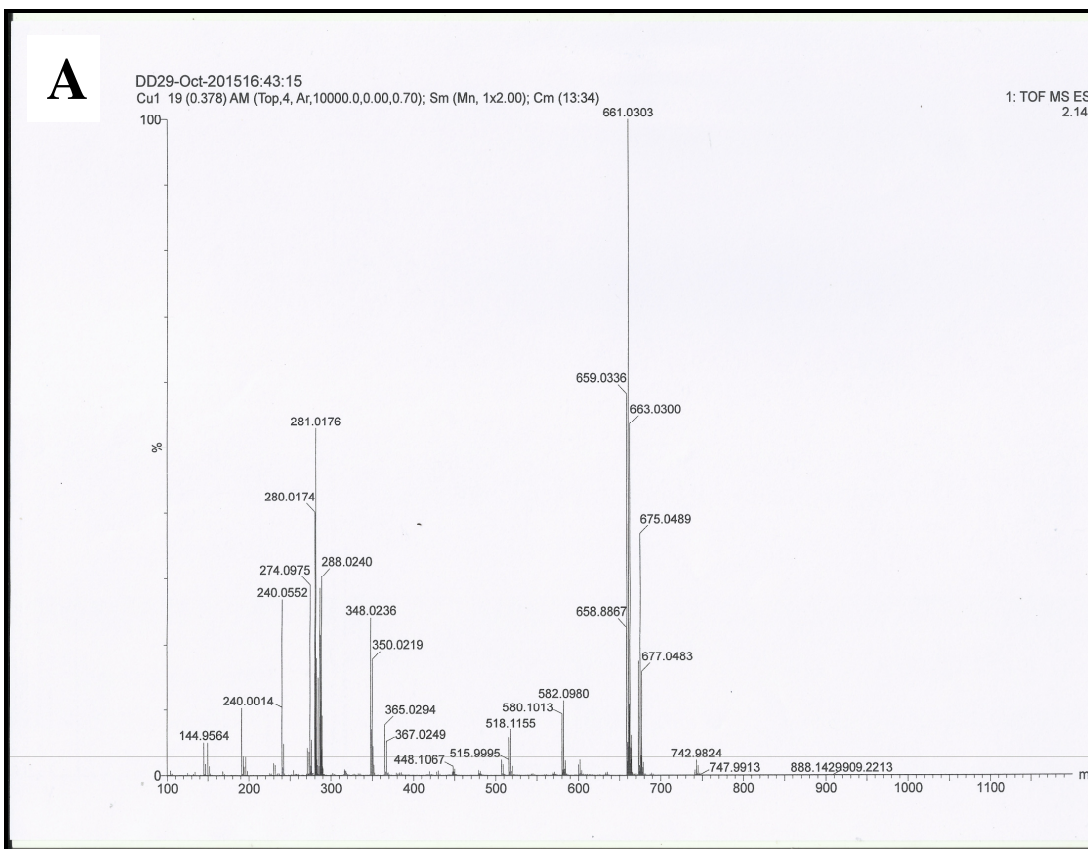


Fig. S25 ESI-MS spectrum of complex **1** in acetonitrile (**A**) experimental (**B**) simulated.

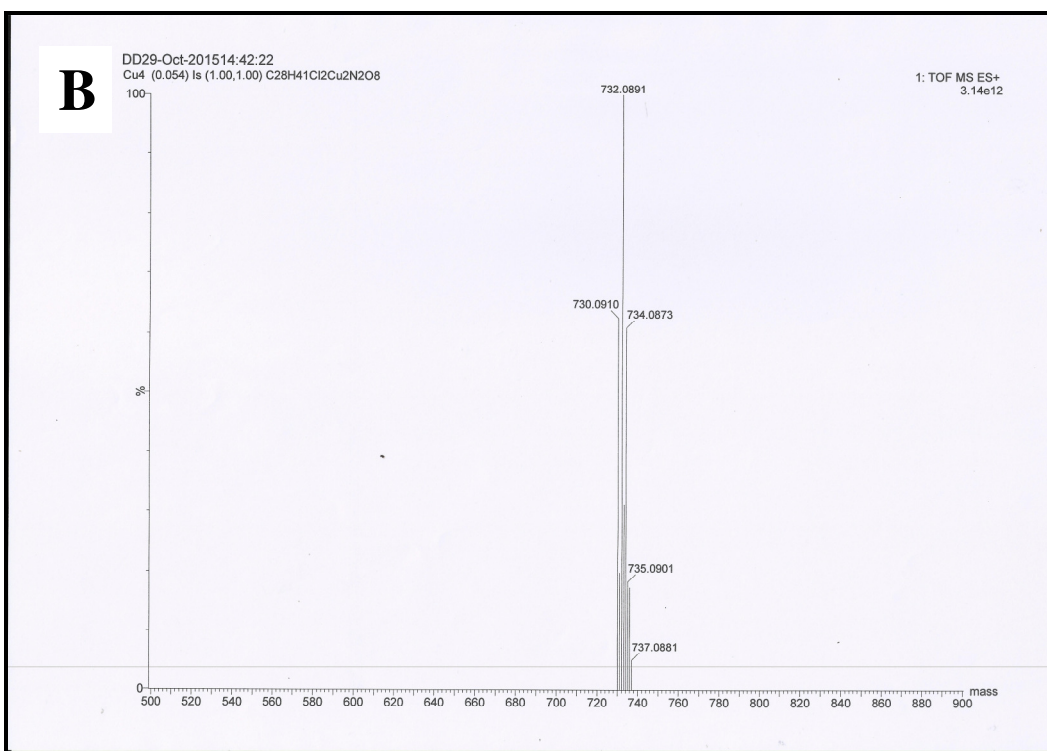
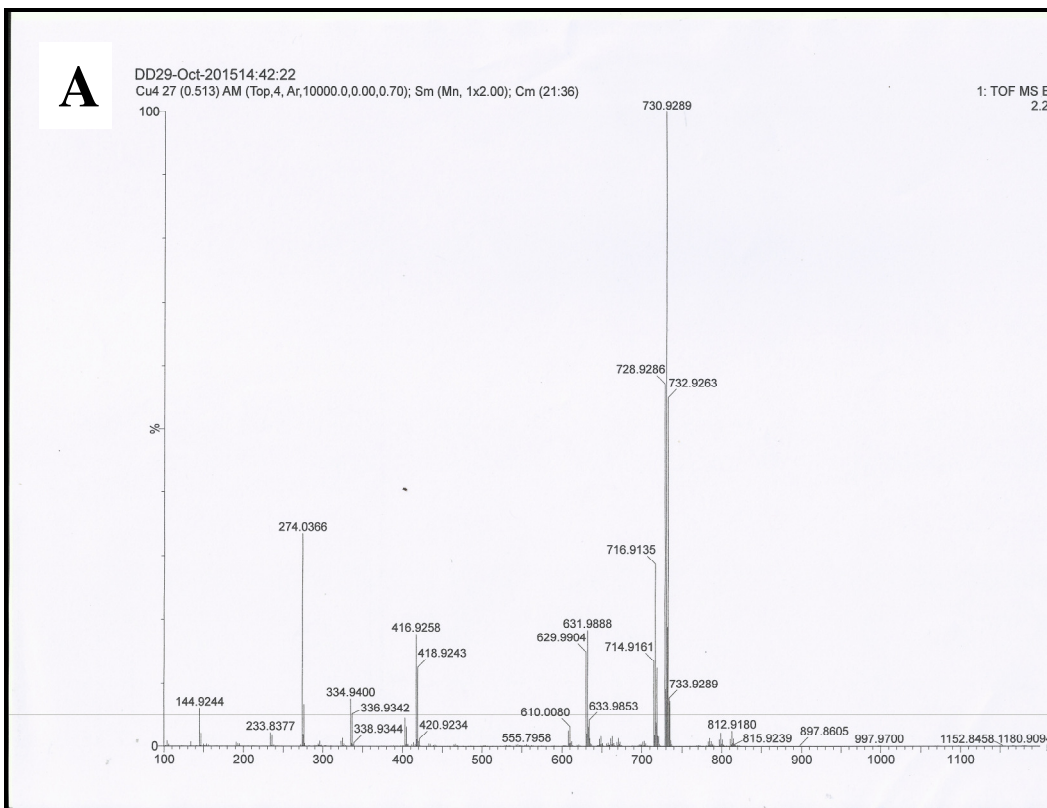


Fig. S26 ESI-MS spectrum of complex **4** in acetonitrile (A) experimental (B) simulated.

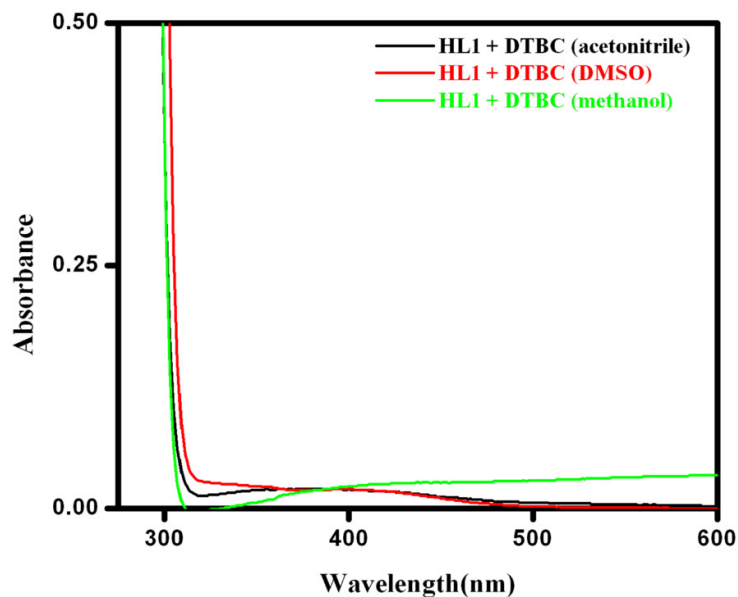


Fig. S27 Control experiment for catecholase activity with 3,5-DTBC and ligand HL1 in three solvents. Conditions: [3,5-DTBC]= 10^{-2} (M); [HL1]= 10^{-4} (M); Temperature=298 K; Total time after mixing= 1 hour.

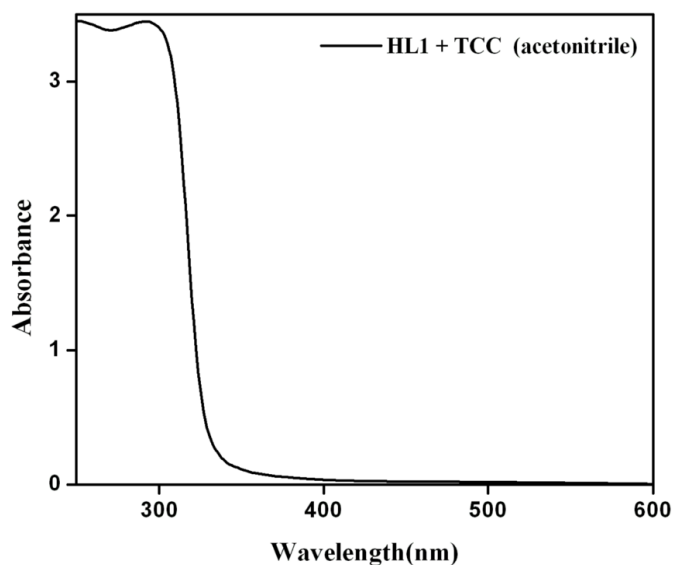


Fig. S28 Control experiment for catecholase activity with TCC and ligand HL1 in acetonitrile. Conditions: [TCC]= 10^{-2} (M); [HL1]= 10^{-4} (M); Temperature=298 K; Total time after mixing= 1 hour.

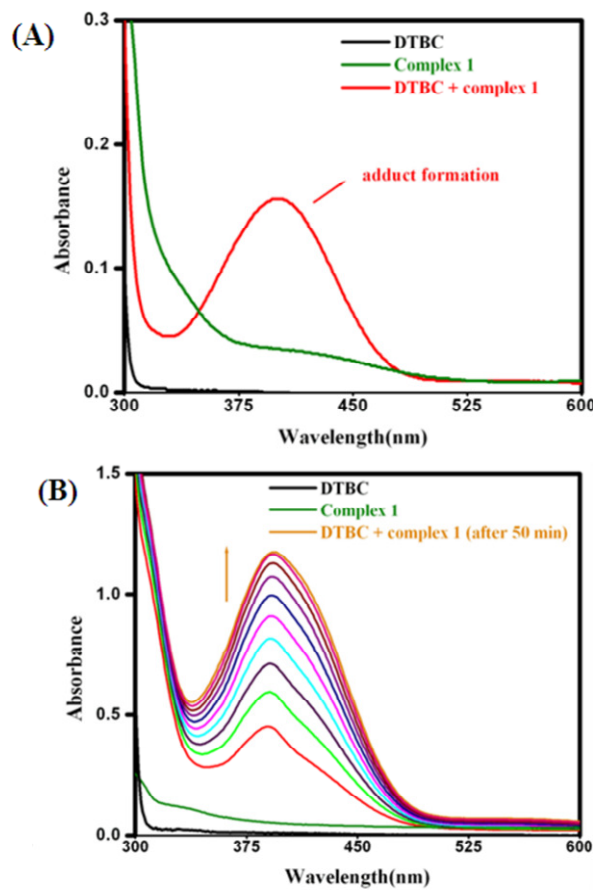


Fig. S29 UV-vis scan of a mixture of 3,5-DTBC and complex **1** (molar stoichiometry=100:1) in (A) acetonitrile and (B) methanol recorded for 50 min at an interval of 5 min.

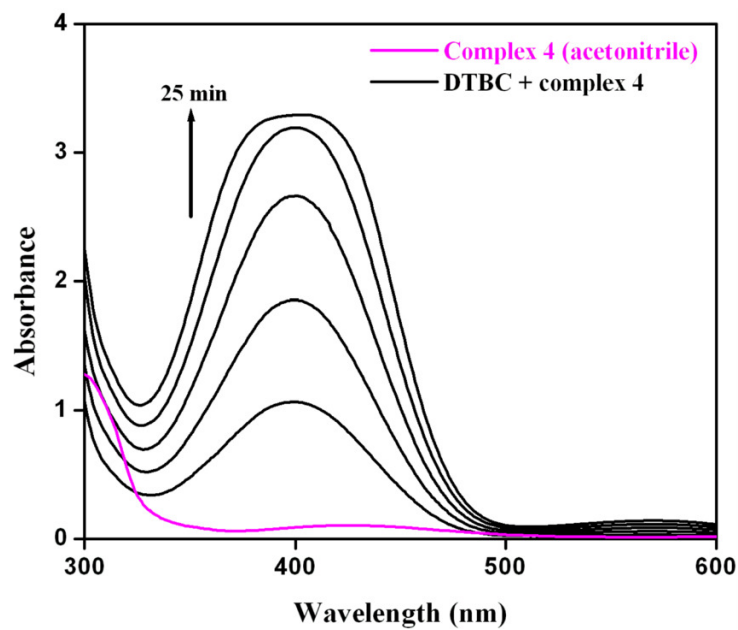


Fig. S30 Wavelength scan of a mixture of complex **4** and 3,5-DTBC in 1:100 molar ratio in acetonitrile for 1 hour at an interval of 5 minutes. Conditions: [Complex **4**]= 10^{-4} (M); [3,5-DTBC]= 10^{-2} (M); Temperature=298K.

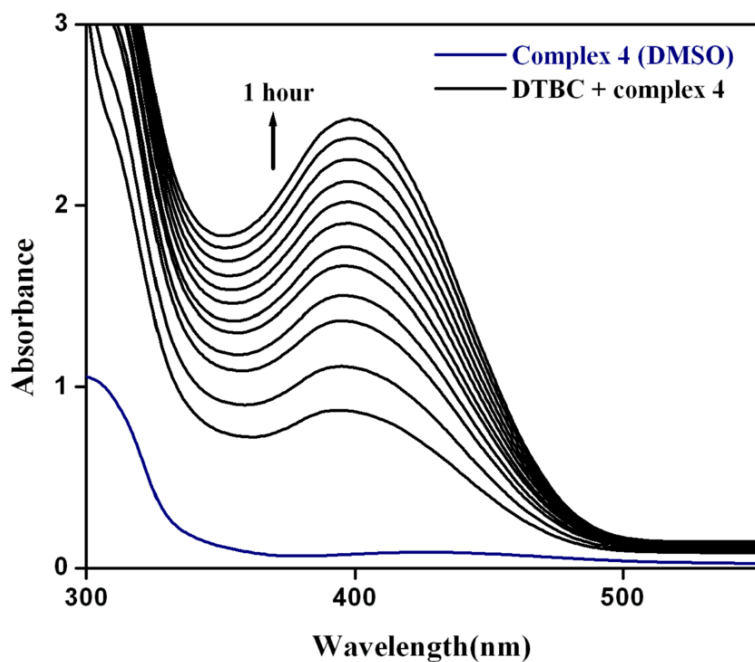


Fig. S31 Wavelength scan of a mixture of complex **4** and 3,5-DTBC in 1:100 molar ratio in DMSO for 1 hour at an interval of 5 minutes. Conditions: [Complex **4**]= 10^{-4} (M); [3,5-DTBC]= 10^{-2} (M); Temperature=298K.

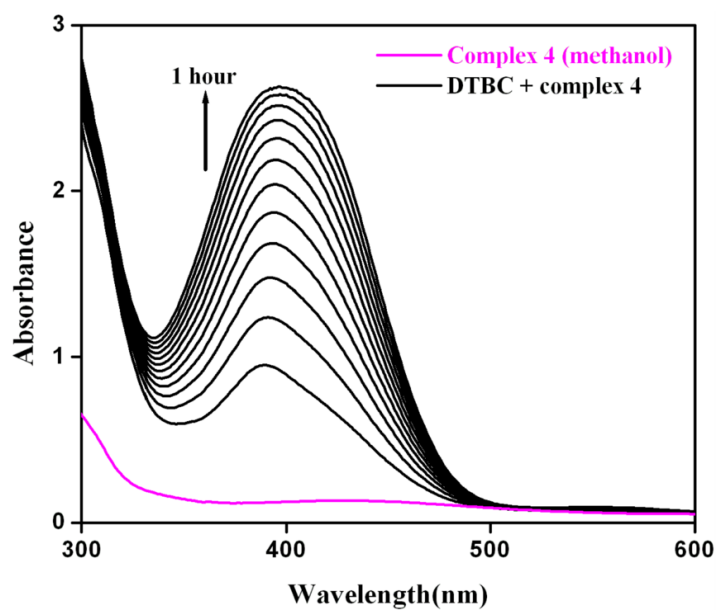


Fig. S32 Wavelength scan of a mixture of complex **4** and 3,5-DTBC in 1:100 molar ratio in methanol for 1 hour at an interval of 5 minutes. Conditions: [Complex **4**]= 10^{-4} (M); [3,5-DTBC]= 10^{-2} (M); Temperature=298K.

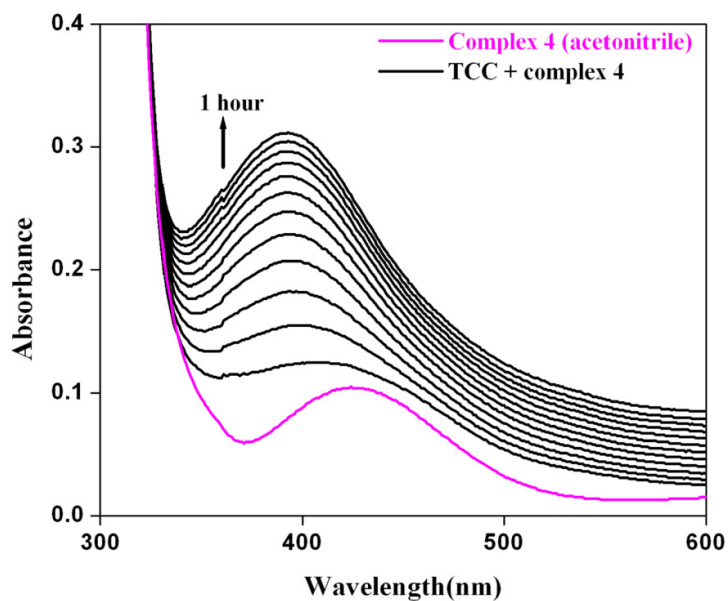


Fig. S33 Wavelength scan of a mixture of complex **4** and TCC in 1:100 molar ratio in acetonitrile for 1 hour at an interval of 5 minutes. Conditions: [Complex **4**]= 10^{-4} (M); [TCC]= 10^{-2} (M); Temperature=298K.

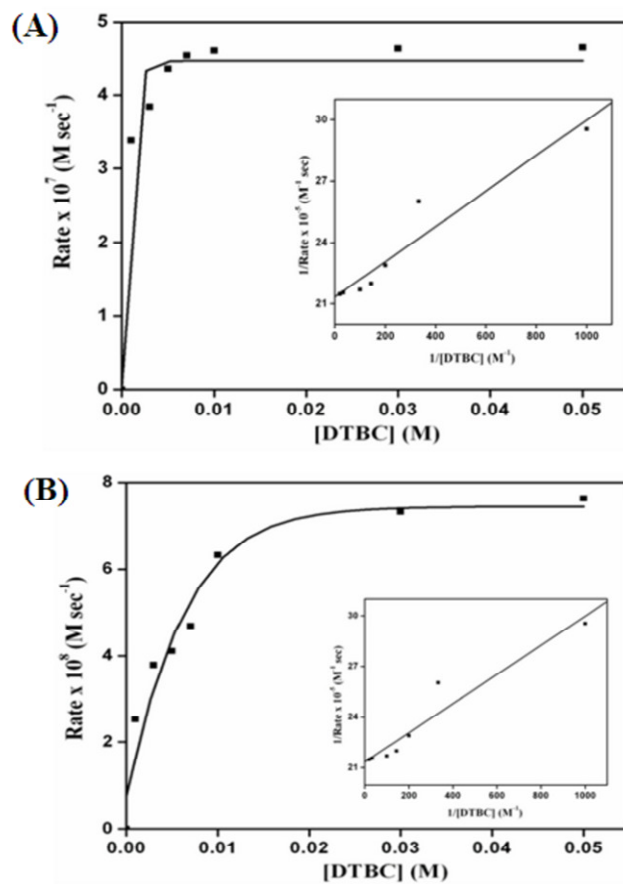


Fig. S34 Kinetic plot of rate vs [3,5-DTBC] (V vs S) for the catecholase activity of complex **1** in (A) methanol ($R^2 = 0.963$, Intercept=21.33417 and Error=0.4433, Slope=0.00865 and Error=0.00108) and (B) DMSO ($R^2 = 0.954$, Intercept=152.63328 and Error=15.01562, Slope=0.25931 and Error=0.03653) at 298 K. Inset shows the double-reciprocal plot (1/V vs 1/S) for the same.

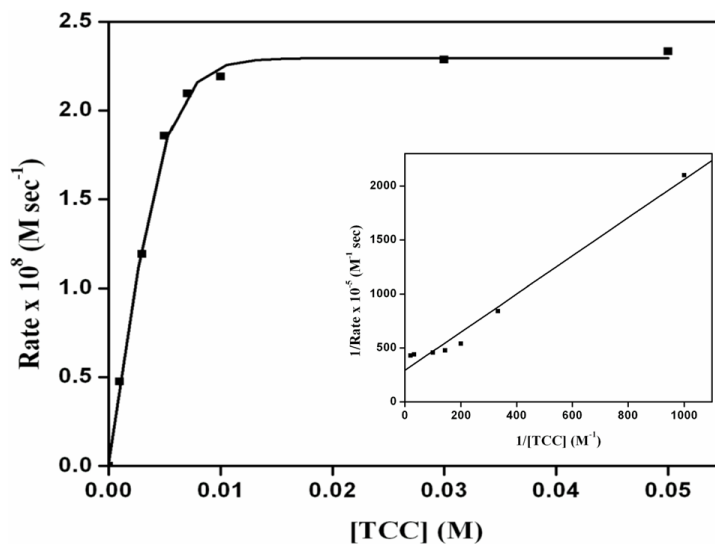


Fig. S35 Kinetic plot of rate vs [TCC] (V vs S) for the catecholase activity of complex **1** in acetonitrile at 298 K. Inset shows the double-reciprocal plot (1/V vs 1/S) for the same having $R^2 = 0.992$ (Intercept=292.35692 and Error=42.2376, Slope=1.76649 and Error=0.10274).

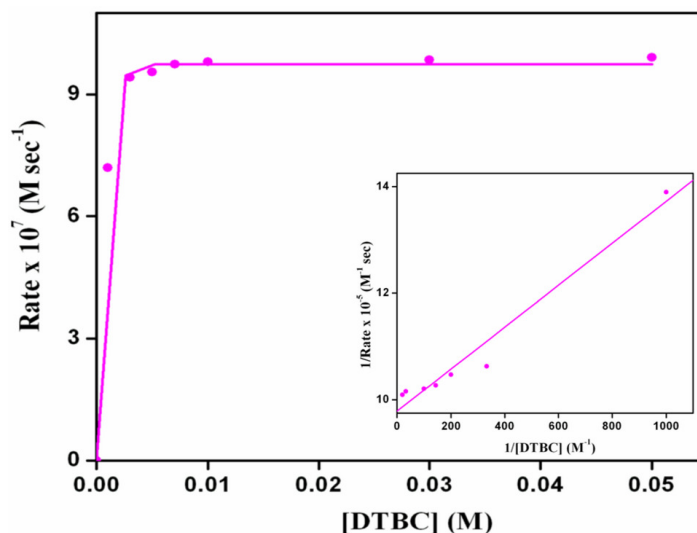


Fig. S36 Kinetic plot of rate vs [3,5-DTBC] (V vs S) for the catecholase activity of complex **4** in acetonitrile at 298 K. Inset shows the double-reciprocal plot (1/V vs 1/S) for the same having $R^2=0.983$ (Intercept=9.7875 and Error=0.1347, Slope=0.0039 and Error= 3.279×10^{-4}).

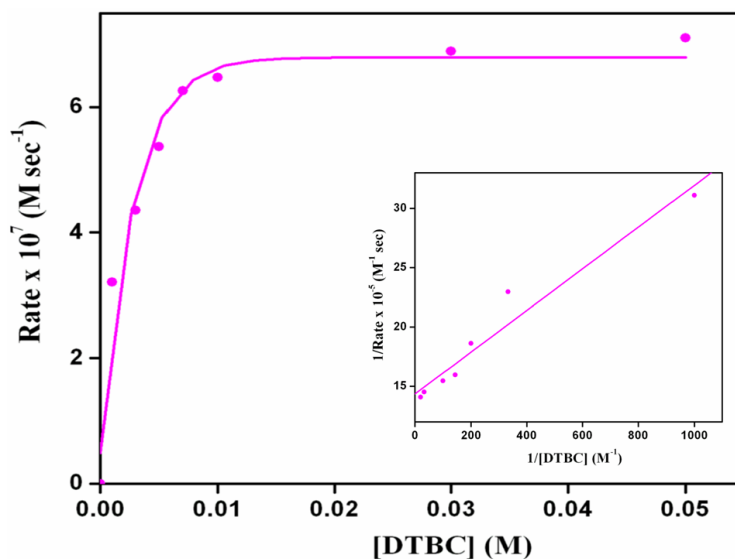


Fig. S37 Kinetic plot of rate vs [3,5-DTBC] (V vs S) for the catecholase activity of complex **4** in DMSO at 298 K. Inset shows the double-reciprocal plot (1/V vs 1/S) for the same having $R^2=0.983$ (Intercept=14.358 and Error=0.712, Slope=0.0176 and Error=0.0017).

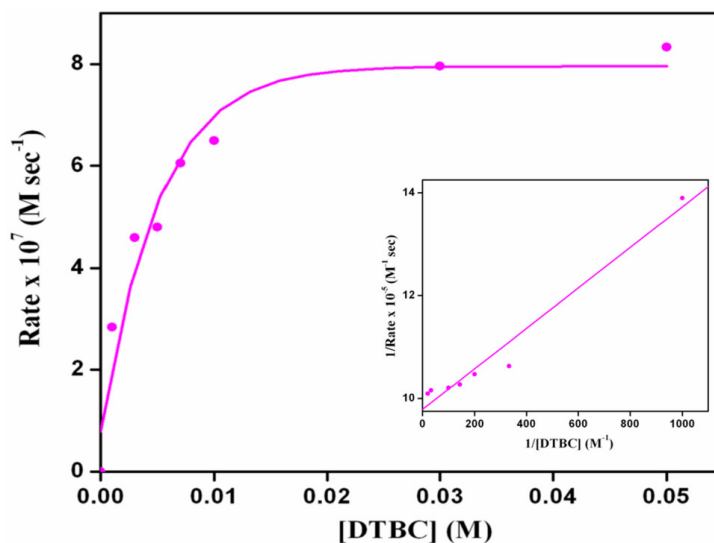


Fig. S38 Kinetic plot of rate vs [3,5-DTBC] (V vs S) for the catecholase activity of complex **4** in methanol at 298 K. Inset shows the double-reciprocal plot (1/V vs 1/S) for the same having $R^2=0.983$ (Intercept=9.7875 and Error=0.1348, Slope=0.0039 and Error=3.279×10⁻⁴).

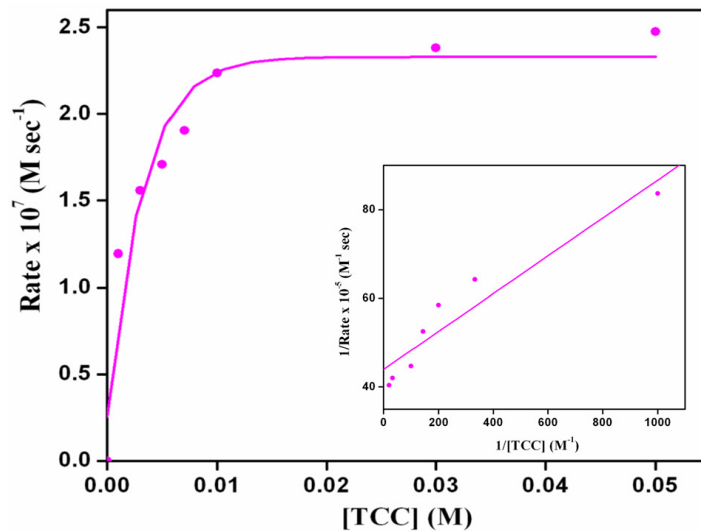


Fig. S39 Kinetic plot of rate vs [TCC] (V vs S) for the catecholase activity of complex **4** in acetonitrile at 298 K. Inset shows the double-reciprocal plot (1/V vs 1/S) for the same having $R^2=0.953$ (Intercept=43.983 and Error=2.505, Slope=0.043 and Error=0.006).

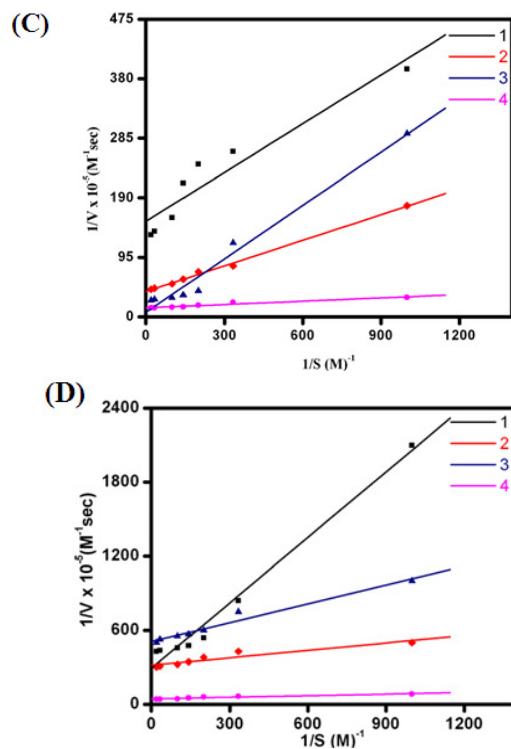


Fig. S40 Overlay of Line-weaver Burk plots for complexes **1-4** with 3,5-DTBC in DMSO (C) and with TCC in acetonitrile (D).

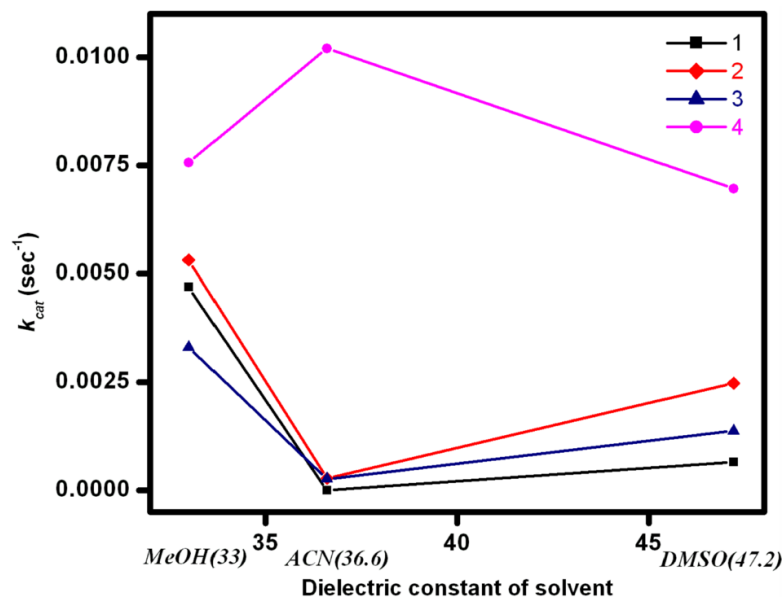


Fig. S41 Variation of k_{cat} values of complex 1-4 with dielectric constant of the solvents.

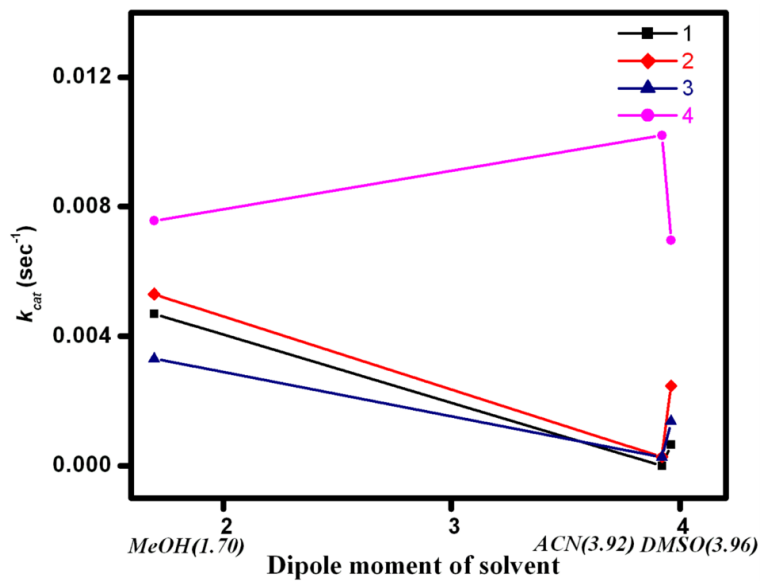


Fig. S42 Variation of k_{cat} values of complex 1-4 with dipole moment of the solvents.

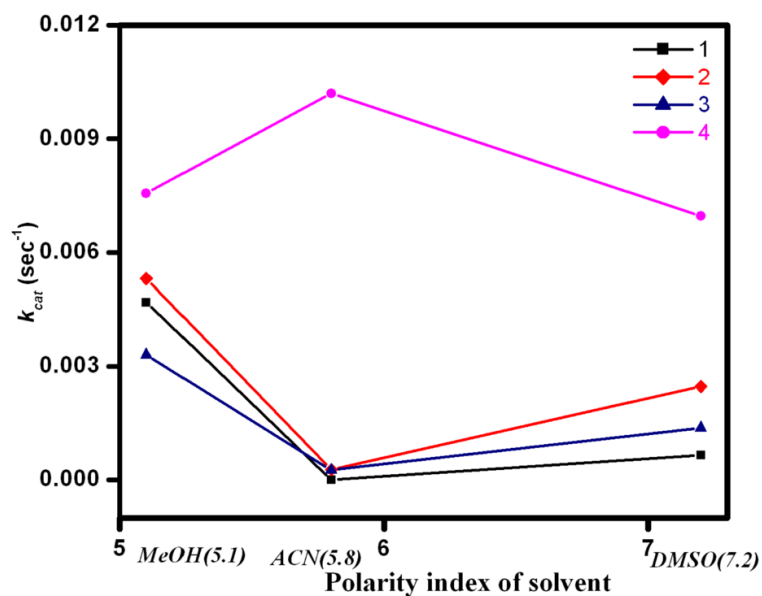


Fig. S43 Variation of k_{cat} values of complex 1 - 4 with polarity index of the solvents.

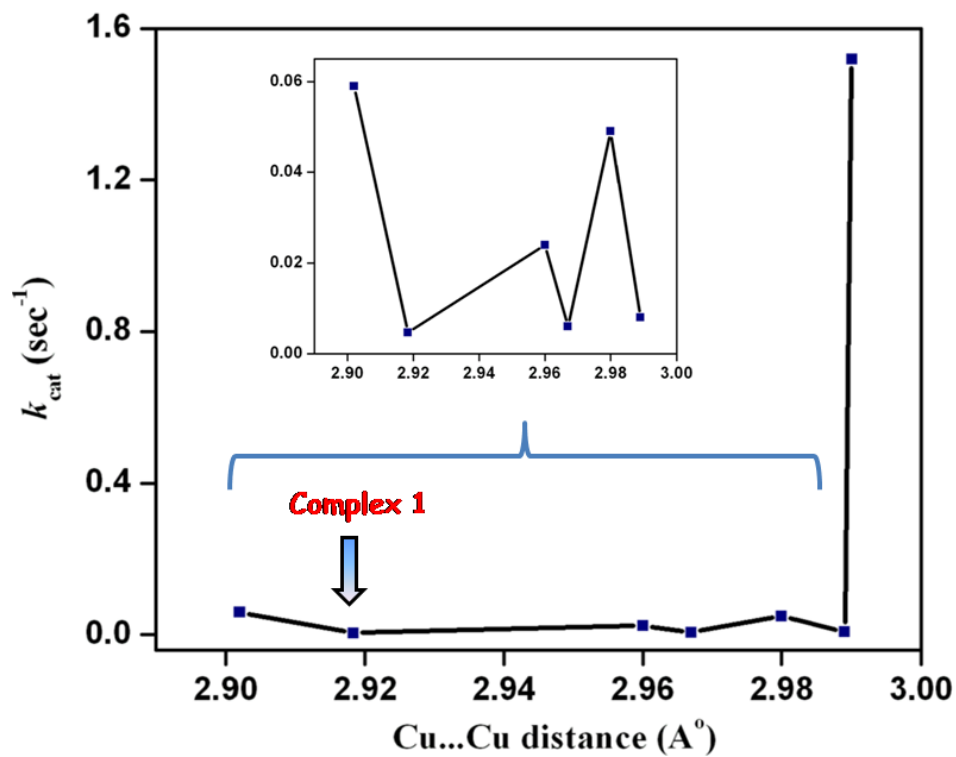


Fig. S44 Interdependence of intermetallic distance and catecholase activity in dinuclear Cu^{II} complex having both phenoxido and hydroxo bridge.

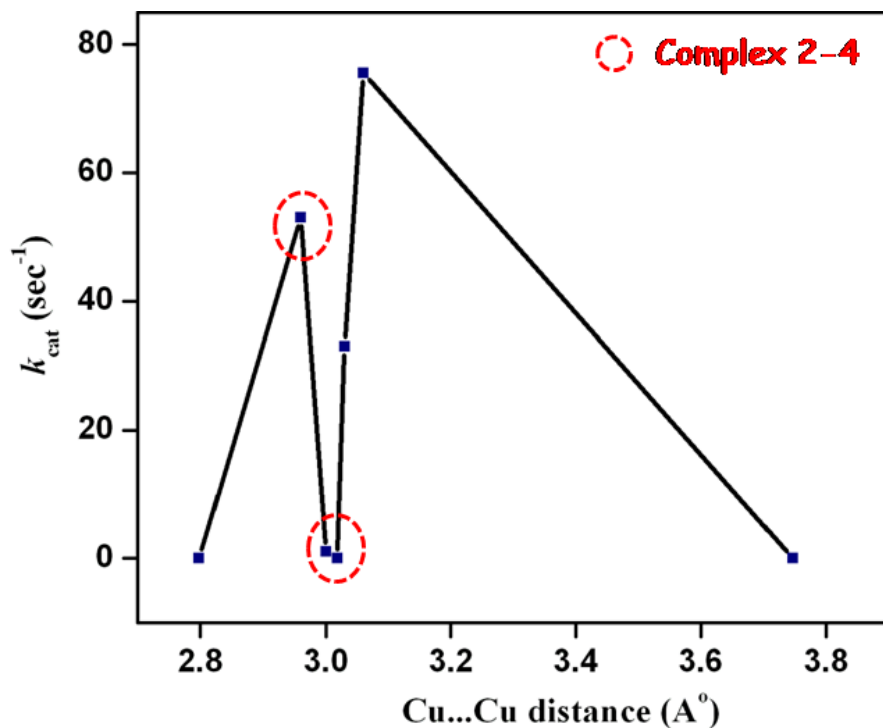


Fig. S45 Interdependence of intermetallic distance and catecholase activity in dinuclear Cu^{II} complex having only phenoxido bridge.

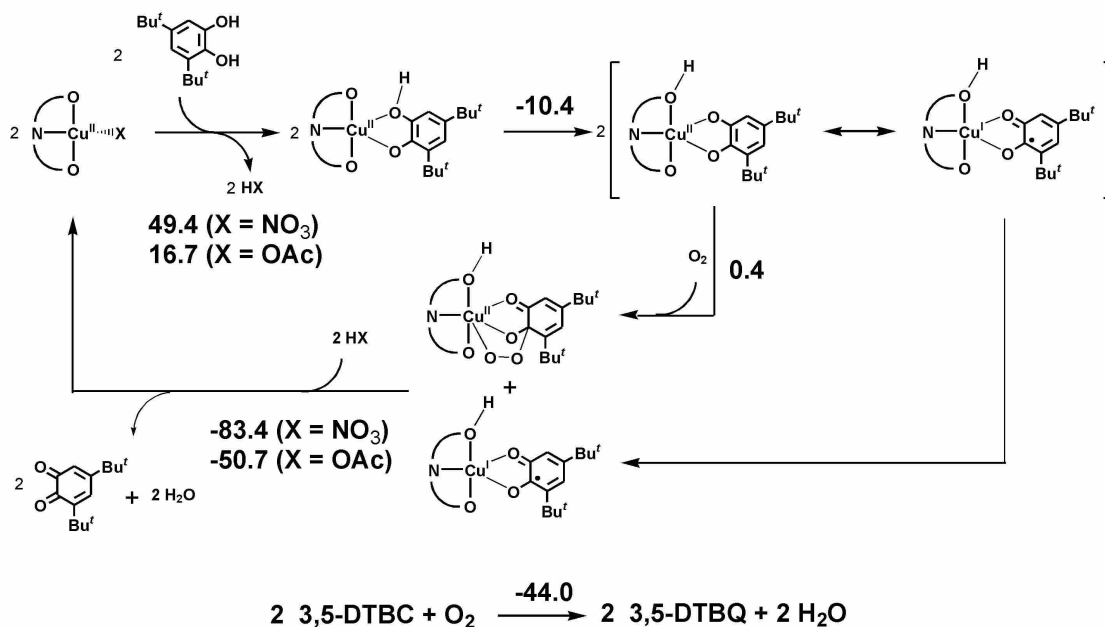


Fig. S46. B3LYP/DGDZVP energy changes (kcal mol^{-1}) in the catalytic cycle based on the monomeric neutral species derived from complexes **3** and **4** in MeCN solution.

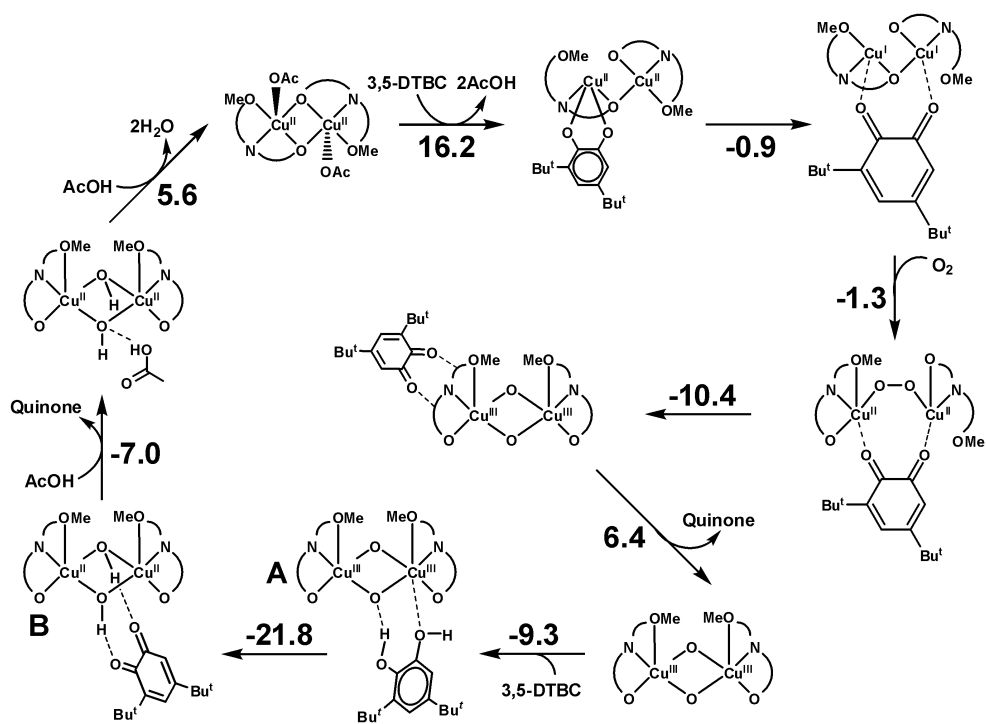


Fig. S47. PBE/TZ2P energy changes (kcal mol^{-1}) in the catalytic cycle based on complex 4 without coordination of AcOH on the complexes.

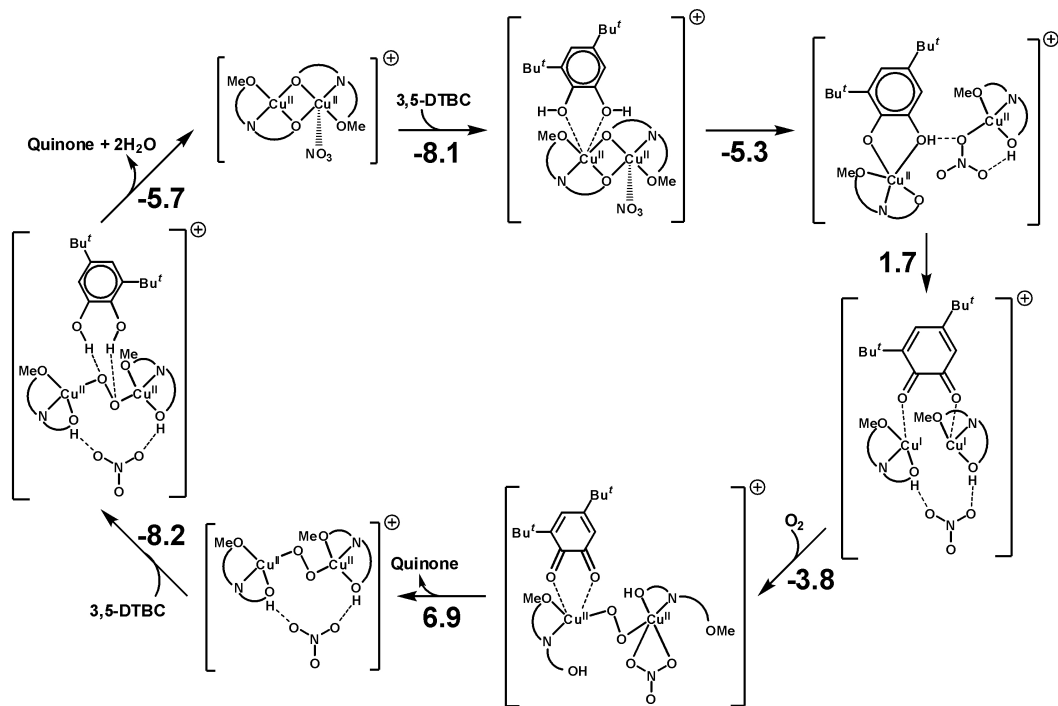


Fig. S48. Oxidation of 3,5-DTBC catalyzed by $[\text{Cu}_2(\text{L2})_2(\text{NO}_3)]^+$. The energy changes (kcal/mol) estimated at the PBE/TZ2P level of theory for each step are given.

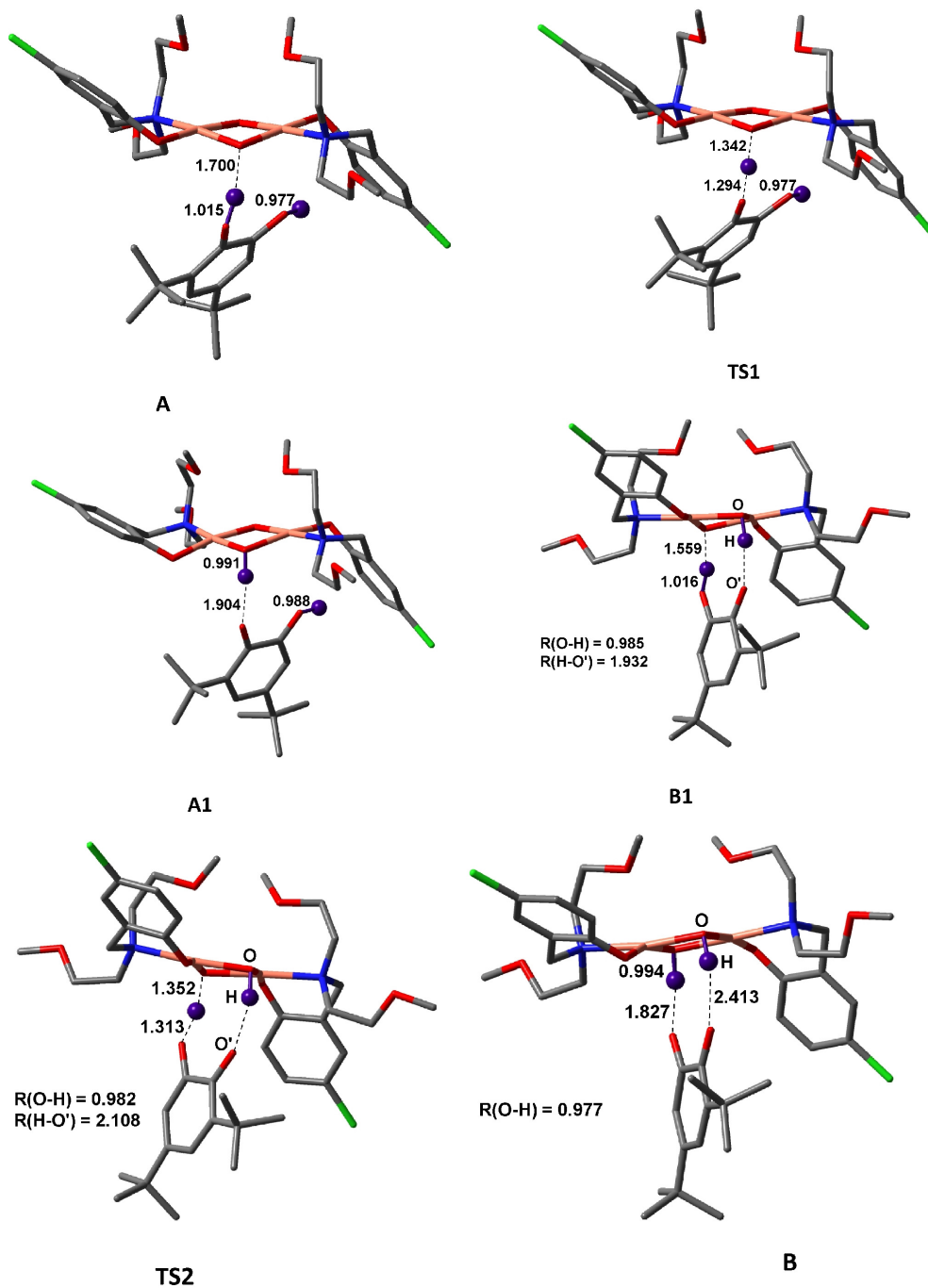


Fig. S49. Optimized (PBE/TZ2P) structures of the intermediates and transition states corresponding to the A→B reaction (Fig. 14). The O-H distances (Å) are given.

Table S1 Theoretical and experimental weight loss (from thermograms) of the complexes (End product = CuO).

Complex	Final temperature	% weight loss	
		Theoretical	Experimental
3	664°C	90.02	91.36
4	678°C	90.17	85.97

Table S2 Molar conductance values ($\text{Scm}^2\text{mol}^{-1}$) of copper complexes at 298 K.

Complex	DMSO		Acetonitrile		Methanol	
	Value	Nature	Value	Nature	Value	Nature
1	75	1:1	166	1:1	143	1:1
2	70	1:1	160	1:1	145	1:1
3	60	1:1	69	1:1	128	1:1
4	45	1:1	50	1:1	33	1:1

Table S3 Kinetic parameters for catecholase activity of complex **1-4** with 3,5-DTBC.

Complex	Solvent	$V_{max} \times 10^7$ (s^{-1})	Standard error $\times 10^7$ (s^{-1})	$k_M \times 10^7$ (M)	Standard error $\times 10^9$ (M)	$k_{assoc} \times 10^{-7}$ (M^{-1})	$k_{cat}/k_M \times 10^{-4}$ ($\text{M}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$)
1	Acetonitrile	-	-	-	-	-	-
	DMSO	0.65	0.065	0.17	4.06	5.88	3.86

	Methanol	4.69	0.1	405	0.59	2.47	0.01
2	Acetonitrile	0.27	0.01	0.14	1.88	7.14	1.95
	DMSO	2.47	0.07	0.34	1.94	2.94	7.35
	Methanol	5.31	0.30	0.18	2.00	5.55	29.17
3	Acetonitrile	0.26	0.09	1.13	48.6	0.88	0.23
	DMSO	1.37	0.85	0.39	0.26	2.56	3.52
	Methanol	3.41	0.10	0.21	1.35	4.76	16.55
4	Acetonitrile	10.20	0.11	0.04	0.38	25.00	250.00
	DMSO	6.96	0.38	0.12	1.89	8.33	57.00
	Methanol	7.56	0.22	0.17	23.03	5.88	43.9

Table S4 Kinetic parameters for catecholase activity of complex **1-4** with TCC in acetonitrile.

Complex	$V_{max} \times 10^7$ (s^{-1})	Standard error \times 10^8	$k_M \times 10^7$ (M)	Standard error \times 10^8	$k_{assoc} \times$ 10^{-7} (M^{-1})	$k_{cat}/k_M \times$ 10^{-4} ($M^{-1}s^{-1}$)
1	0.34	0.50	0.604	1.25	1.66	0.57
2	0.31	0.13	0.063	0.76	15.87	5.00
3	0.19	0.07	0.0998	0.11	10.02	1.96
4	2.27	1.24	0.097	0.19	10.31	23.45

Table S5 First-Order Rate Constants for the oxidation of 3,5-DTBC by Previously Reported Dinuclear Cu^{II} Complexes of Mannich-base and closely similar ligand systems^a

Complex	Cu...Cu (Å)	Bridging	Solvent	k_{cat} (sec ⁻¹)	Reference
[Cu ₂ (L ¹ -O)(μ-OH)][ClO ₄] ₂ , [Cu ₂ (L ³ -O)(μ-C ₃ H ₃ N ₂)(OCIO ₃)(H ₂ O)][ClO ₄].H ₂ O, [Cu ₂ (L ⁴)(μ-OH) ₂][ClO ₄] ₂ .H ₂ O.	2.99 3.37 -	μ-OPh-μ-OH μ-OR-μ-Pz μ-OH	Acetonitrile	1.52 0.029 0.028	14c
[Cu ₂ L ₂ (H ₂ O) _x].yH ₂ O (x,y=0-2)	~3	μ-OPh	Methanol	0.055-1.055	6b
[Cu ₂ L ₂ (ClO ₄) ₂] [Cu ₂ L ₂ (OH)]ClO ₄	3.018 2.798	μ-OPh	Methanol	0.026 0.065	11a
[Cu ₂ (L ¹)(OH)(EtOH)(H ₂ O)][ClO ₄] ₂ .H ₂ O [Cu ₂ (L ⁵)(OMe)][ClO ₄] ₂ .2MeOH [Cu ₂ (L ⁶)(OMe)(MeOH)- (ClO ₄)]ClO ₄ [Cu ₂ (L ⁷)(OMe)(MeOH)(ClO ₄)]ClO ₄	2.902 - 2.938 2.874	μ-OH-μ-OPh - μ-HOMe-μ-OPh μ-HOMe-μ-OPh	Methanol	0.059 0.009 0.013 0.012	4b
[Cu ₂ (L ¹)(μ-OAc)](ClO ₄) ₂ ·(CH ₃) ₂ CHOH [Cu ₂ (L ²)- (μ-OAc)](ClO ₄)·H ₂ O·(CH ₃) ₂ CHOH [Cu ₂ (L ³)(μ-OAc)] ²⁺	3.3975 3.4837 -		Methanol-water (1:1); pH=8.5	0.025 0.051 0.0078	11c,24a
[Cu ₂ (EBA)(H ₂ O) ₄] ⁴⁺	2.988	Double- μ-OH	Methanol-	0.05	9

			water(30:1),pH= 5.1		
[Cu ₂ (LOCH ₃)(μ-OH)][(ClO ₄) ₂].C ₄ H ₈ O, [Cu ₂ (L _F)(μ-OH)][(ClO ₄) ₂]	2.98 2.967	μ-OH-μ-OPh	Acetonitrile or Acetonitrile- water(20:80),pH =7	0.049 0.006	11b
[Cu ₂ (LB5)(H ₂ O) ₂][ClO ₄] ₄ [Cu ₂ (L-55)] ⁴⁺	8.019 -	-	Methanol- water(30:1),pH= 5.1	0.035 0.33	10b
[Cu ₂ (BPMP)(OH)][ClO ₄] ₂ 0.5C ₄ H ₈ O	2.96	μ-OH-μ-OPh	Acetonitrile or Acetonitrile- water(20:80),pH =7	0.024	5b
[Cu ₂ (H ₂ L)(μ-OH)][(ClO ₄) ₂], [Cu ₂ (L)(H ₂ O) ₂ PF ₆	2.9893 3.747	μ-OH-μ-OPh μ-OPh	Methanol- water(30:1),pH= 8.5	0.008 0.01	7a
[Cu ₂ (H ₂ -bbppnol)(μ- OAc)(H ₂ O) ₂]Cl ₂ .2H ₂ O [Cu ₂ (Hbtppnol)(μ-OAc)][(ClO ₄) ₂] [Cu ₂ (P1-O ⁻)(OAc ⁻)-(ClO ₄) ₂]	~3.40	μ-OAc	Methanol- water(30:1),pH= 8	0.0079 0.0078 0.0028	10c
[Cu ₂ (L1)(μ-OAc) ₂](BF ₄).0.25Et ₂ O [Cu ₂ (L2)(μ-OAc) ₂](BF ₄) [Cu ₂ (L3)(μ- OAc) ₂](BF ₄).0.25MeOH.0.75H ₂ O	3.304 3.263 3.299	μ-OAc-μ-OPh	Methanol	0.003 0.008 0.0001	16c

^aOPh=phenoxido, Pz=pyrazolate.

Table S6. Selected interatomic distances (Å) in the optimized **3** and **4** molecules (triplet states). The atom notations correspond to those in Figs. 6, 7.

Atoms	Complex 3		Complex 4	
	PBE/TZ2P	B3LYP/DGDZVP	PBE/TZ2P	B3LYP/DGDZVP
Cu-O(1)	1.973	1.970	1.983	1.987
Cu-O(1')	2.067	2.044	2.058	2.037
Cu-O(3)	2.467	2.458	2.468	2.453
Cu-O(4)	1.983	1.993	1.970	1.964
Cu-N(1)	2.127	2.125	2.123	2.124
Cu-Cu'	3.085	3.071	3.094	3.091

Table S7. Energy changes in the reactions corresponding to oxidation of 3,5-DTBC catalyzed by $[\text{Cu}_2(\text{L}2)_2(\text{AcO})_2]$ (Fig. 13).

Reaction	ΔE , kcal mol ⁻¹
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L}2)_2(\text{OAc})_2] + \text{CatH}_2 \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L}2)_2(\text{Cat})] \cdot 2\text{AcOH}$	-0.4
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L}2)_2(\text{Cat})] \cdot 2\text{AcOH} \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{I}}_2(\text{L}2)_2(3,5\text{-DTBQ})] \cdot 2\text{AcOH}$	-0.9
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{I}}_2(\text{L}2)_2(3,5\text{-DTBQ})] \cdot 2\text{AcOH} + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L}2)_2(3,5\text{-DTBQ})(\text{O}_2)] \cdot 2\text{AcOH}$	-1.3
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L}2)_2(3,5\text{-DTBQ})(\text{O}_2)] \cdot 2\text{AcOH} \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{III}}_2(\text{L}2)_2(\text{O}_2)] \cdot (3,5\text{-DTBQ}) \cdot \text{AcOH} + \text{AcOH}$	-2.1
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{III}}_2(\text{L}2)_2(\text{O}_2)] \cdot (3,5\text{-DTBQ}) \cdot \text{AcOH} + \text{AcOH} \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{III}}_2(\text{L}2)_2(\text{O}_2)] \cdot 2\text{AcOH} + 3,5\text{-DTBQ}$	-1.9
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{III}}_2(\text{L}2)_2(\text{O}_2)] \cdot 2\text{AcOH} + \text{CatH}_2 \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{III}}_2(\text{L}2)_2(\text{O}_2)(\text{CatH}_2)] \cdot \text{AcOH} + \text{AcOH}$	-1.0
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{III}}_2(\text{L}2)_2(\text{O}_2)(\text{CatH}_2)] \cdot \text{AcOH} \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L}2)_2(\text{OH})_2(3,5\text{-DTBQ})] + \text{AcOH}$	-13.5
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L}2)_2(\text{OH})_2(3,5\text{-DTBQ})] + \text{AcOH} \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L}2)_2(\text{OH})_2(\text{AcOH})] + 3,5\text{DTBQ}$	-7.0
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L}2)_2(\text{OH})_2(\text{AcOH})] + \text{AcOH} \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L}2)_2(\text{OAc})_2] + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$	5.6

Table S8. Energy changes in the reactions corresponding to oxidation of 3,5-DTBC catalyzed by monomeric copper complexes (Fig S46).

Reaction	ΔE , kcal mol ⁻¹
$2[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}(\text{L2})(\text{NO}_3)] + 2\text{CatH}_2 \rightarrow 2[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}(\text{L2})(\text{CatH})] + 2\text{HNO}_3$	49.4
$2[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}(\text{L2})(\text{OAc})] + 2\text{CatH}_2 \rightarrow 2[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}(\text{L2})(\text{CatH})] + 2\text{AcOH}$	16.7
$2[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}(\text{L2})(\text{CatH})] \rightarrow 2\{[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}(\text{HL2})(\text{Cat})] \leftrightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{I}}(\text{HL2})(\text{SQ})]\}$	-10.4
$\{[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}(\text{HL2})(\text{Cat})] \leftrightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{I}}(\text{HL2})(\text{SQ})]\} + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}(\text{HL2})(\text{SQ})(\text{O}_2)]$	0.4
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}(\text{HL2})(\text{SQ})(\text{O}_2)] + [\text{Cu}^{\text{I}}(\text{HL2})(\text{SQ})] + 2\text{HNO}_3 \rightarrow 2[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}(\text{L2})(\text{NO}_3)] + 2(3,5\text{-DTBQ}) + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$	-83.4
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}(\text{HL2})(\text{SQ})(\text{O}_2)] + [\text{Cu}^{\text{I}}(\text{HL2})(\text{SQ})] + 2\text{AcOH} \rightarrow 2[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}(\text{L2})(\text{OAc})] + 2(3,5\text{-DTBQ}) + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$	-50.7

Table S9. Energy changes in the reactions corresponding to the catalytic cycle based on complex **4** without coordination of AcOH on the complexes (Fig. S47).

Reaction	ΔE , kcal mol ⁻¹
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L2})_2(\text{OAc})_2] + \text{CatH}_2 \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L2})_2(\text{Cat})] + 2\text{AcOH}$	16.2
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L2})_2(\text{Cat})] \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{I}}_2(\text{L2})_2(3,5\text{-DTBQ})]$	-0.9
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{I}}_2(\text{L2})_2(3,5\text{-DTBQ})] + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L2})_2(3,5\text{-DTBQ})(\text{O}_2)]$	-1.3
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L2})_2(3,5\text{-DTBQ})(\text{O}_2)] \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{III}}_2(\text{L2})_2(\text{O}_2)] \cdot (3,5\text{-DTBQ})$	-10.4
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{III}}_2(\text{L2})_2(\text{O}_2)] \cdot (3,5\text{-DTBQ}) \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{III}}_2(\text{L2})_2(\text{O}_2)] + 3,5\text{-DTBQ}$	6.4
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{III}}_2(\text{L2})_2(\text{O}_2)] + \text{CatH}_2 \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{III}}_2(\text{L2})_2(\text{O}_2)(\text{CatH}_2)]$	-9.3
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{III}}_2(\text{L2})_2(\text{O}_2)(\text{CatH}_2)] \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L2})_2(\text{OH})_2(3,5\text{-DTBQ})]$	-21.8
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L2})_2(\text{OH})_2(3,5\text{-DTBQ})] + \text{AcOH} \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L2})_2(\text{OH})_2(\text{AcOH})] + 3,5\text{DTBQ}$	-7.0
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L2})_2(\text{OH})_2(\text{AcOH})] + \text{AcOH} \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L2})_2(\text{OAc})_2] + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$	5.6

Table S10. Energy changes in the reactions corresponding to the oxidation of 3,5-DTBC catalyzed by $[\text{Cu}_2(\text{L2})_2(\text{NO}_3)]^+$. (Fig. S8).

Reaction	ΔE , kcal mol ⁻¹
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L2})_2(\text{NO}_3)]^+ + \text{CatH}_2 \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L2})_2(\text{NO}_3)(\text{CatH}_2)]^+$	-8.1
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L2})_2(\text{NO}_3)(\text{CatH}_2)]^+ \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L2})(\text{HL2})(\text{NO}_3)(\text{CatH})]^+$	-5.3
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L2})(\text{HL2})(\text{NO}_3)(\text{CatH})]^+ \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{I}}_2(\text{HL2})_2(\text{NO}_3)(3,5\text{-DTBQ})]^+$	1.7
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{I}}_2(\text{HL2})_2(\text{NO}_3)(3,5\text{-DTBQ})]^+ + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{HL2})_2(\text{NO}_3)(3,5\text{-DTBQ})(\text{O}_2)]^+$	-3.8
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{HL2})_2(\text{NO}_3)(3,5\text{-DTBQ})(\text{O}_2)]^+ \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{HL2})_2(\text{NO}_3)(\text{O}_2)]^+ + 3,5\text{-DTBQ}$	6.9
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{HL2})_2(\text{NO}_3)(\text{O}_2)]^+ + \text{CatH}_2 \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{HL2})_2(\text{NO}_3)(\text{O}_2)(\text{CatH}_2)]^+$	-8.2
$[\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{HL2})_2(\text{NO}_3)(\text{O}_2)(\text{CatH}_2)]^+ \rightarrow [\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2(\text{L2})_2(\text{NO}_3)]^+ + 3,5\text{-DTBQ} + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$	-5.7