

## ***Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)***

# **Copper(II) hydrazone complexes with different nuclearities and geometries: synthetic methods and ligand substituent effects**

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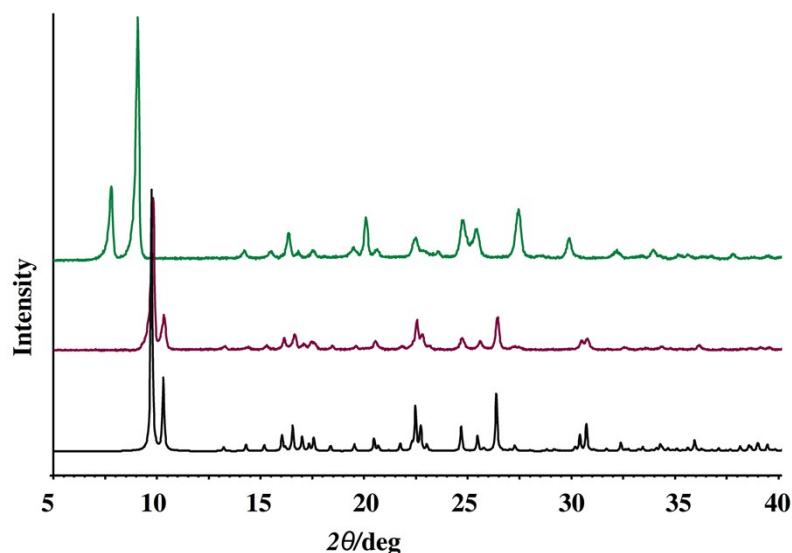
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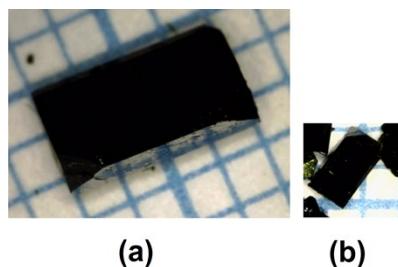
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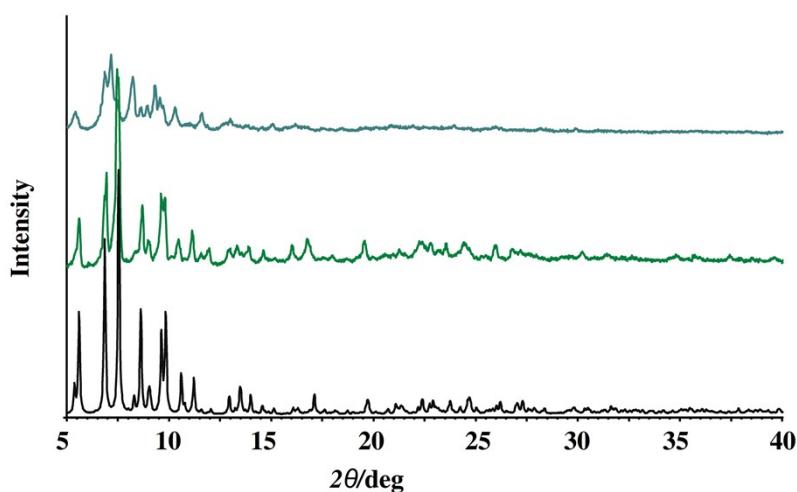
## Powder X-ray diffraction patterns



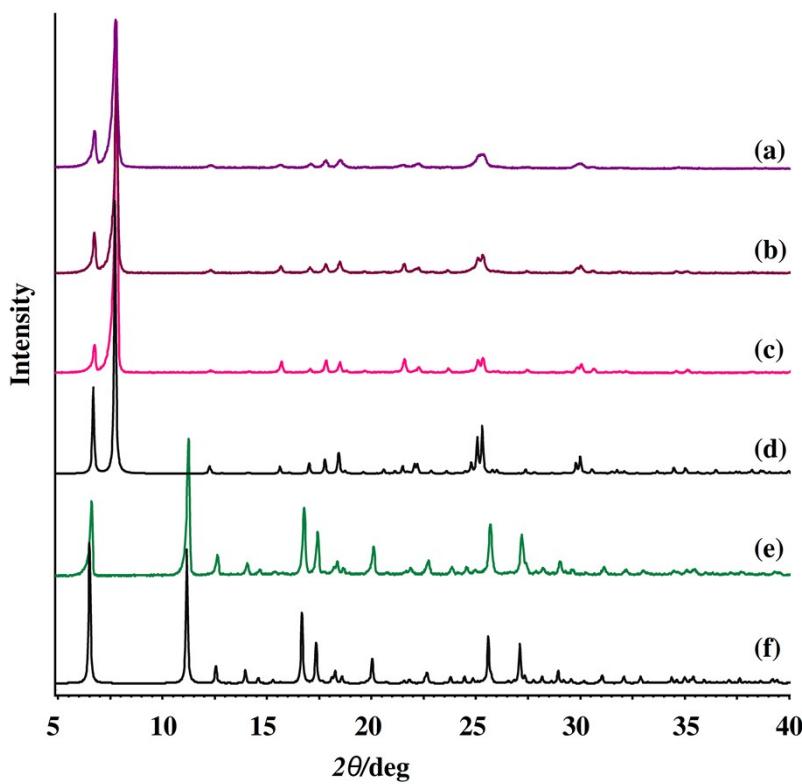
**Fig. S1** PXRD patterns of: **1 $\alpha$**  obtained upon reaction in methanol at room temperature (top); **1 $\beta$**  obtained upon thermally induced transformation in the solid state (middle); and **1 $\beta$**  calculated from the X-ray single-crystal structure (bottom).



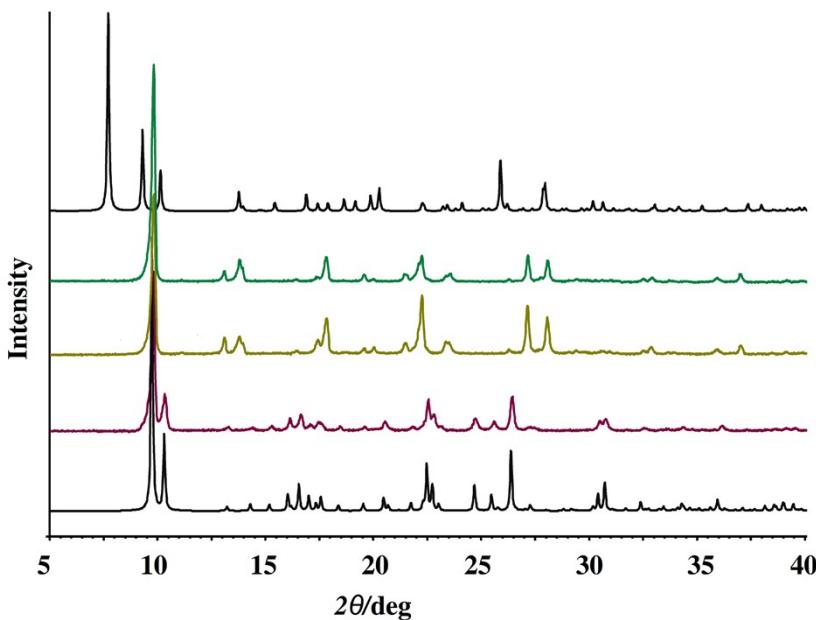
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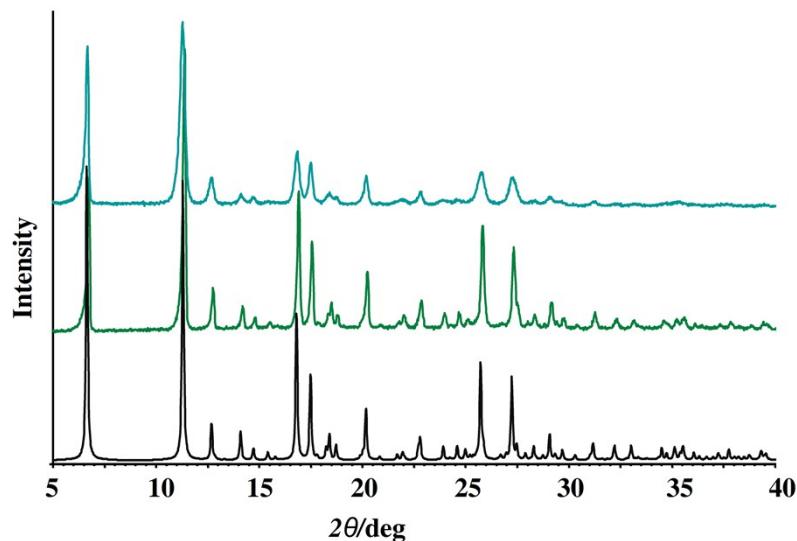
**Fig. S3** PXRD patterns of sample obtained upon standing of **2MeOH** at room temperature for 12 h (top); sample obtained upon standing of **2MeOH** at room temperature for 5 min (middle); and PXRD pattern of **2MeOH** calculated from the X-ray single-crystal structure (bottom).



**Fig. S4** PXRD patterns of (a) **3** obtained by the solid state thermally induced synthesis, (b) **3** obtained by the solvothermal method in MeOH and (c) **3** obtained by the conventional solution-based method in EtOH; (e) PXRD patterns of **3MeOH** obtained by the electrochemical synthesis in MeOH. The black lines (d) and (f) indicate patterns of **3** and **3MeOH**, respectively, calculated from the X-ray single-crystal structures.



**Fig. S5** PXRD patterns (from top to bottom) for: the polinuclear complex **1py\*** calculated from the X-ray single-crystal structure; the dinuclear complex **1py** obtained by the conventional solution-based method; **1py** obtained upon an exposure of **1β** to pyridine vapours; the dinuclear complex **1β** obtained by the solid state thermally induced synthesis form **1py**; and **1β** calculated from the X-ray single-crystal structure.



**Fig. S6** PXRD patterns of: **3MeOH** obtained upon an exposure of the unsolvated complex  $[\text{Cu}_2(\text{L}^{4\text{OMe}})_2]$  to methanol vapours (top); **3MeOH** obtained by the electrochemical synthesis in MeOH (middle); and **3MeOH** calculated from the X-ray single-crystal structure (bottom).

## X-Ray Crystallography. Single crystal diffraction.

**Table S1.** Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles [°] for complexes: **1β**, **1py\***, **2py**, **3** and **3MeOH**

Complex	<b>1β</b>	<b>1py*</b>	<b>2py</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3MeOH</b>
Bond length					
Cu1–N1	1.9140 (18)	1.928 (3)	1.921 (3)	1.905(2)	1.9127 (16)
Cu1–O1	1.9226 (16)	1.943 (3)	1.927 (3)	1.918(2)	1.9469 (14)
Cu1–O2	1.9376 (16)	1.905 (3)	1.883 (3)	1.944(2)	1.9574 (13)
Cu1–N3		2.011 (3)	2.001 (3)		
Cu1–O2 <sup>i</sup>	1.9540 (15)	2.870(4)		1.968(2)	1.9724 (13)
Cu1–O5					2.501(2)
Cu1···Cu1 <sup>i</sup>	2.9827 (11)			3.0052 (7)	3.0316 (5)
N1–C8	1.284 (3)	1.279 (5)	1.293 (5)	1.275(4)	1.281 (2)
N1–N2	1.404 (2)	1.397 (4)	1.401 (4)	1.397(3)	1.395 (2)
N2–C1	1.327 (3)	1.320 (5)	1.322 (5)	1.306(4)	1.314 (2)
O1–C1	1.294 (2)	1.284 (4)	1.299 (4)	1.297(3)	1.296 (2)
O2–C10	1.362 (2)	1.316 (5)	1.305 (5)	1.352(3)	1.350 (2)
Bond angles					
N1–Cu1–O1	81.50 (7)	80.83 (11)	81.17 (13)	81.54(9)	81.37 (6)
N1–Cu1–O2	92.95 (7)	92.13 (12)	93.06 (13)	93.96(9)	93.10 (6)
O1–Cu1–O2	170.49 (6)	170.61 (13)	174.19 (12)	175.49(8)	173.81 (6)
N1–Cu1–O2 <sup>i</sup>	172.33 (7)	91.21(12)		172.66(9)	168.11 (6)
O1–Cu1–O2 <sup>i</sup>	105.94 (6)	87.08(12)		104.85(8)	105.98 (5)
O2–Cu1–O2 <sup>i</sup>	79.93 (7)	99.35(12)		79.62(8)	79.03 (6)
O2–Cu1–N3		93.70 (13)	92.38 (14)		
N1–Cu1–N3		173.86 (12)	174.39 (16)		
O1–Cu1–N3		93.16 (12)	93.41 (13)		
N1–Cu1–Cu1 <sup>i</sup>	133.06 (6)			133.97 (8)	132.19 (5)
O1–Cu1–Cu1 <sup>i</sup>	145.14 (5)			144.36 (6)	145.18 (4)
O2–Cu1–Cu1 <sup>i</sup>	40.17 (4)			40.11 (5)	39.70 (4)
O2 <sup>i</sup> –Cu1–Cu1 <sup>i</sup>	39.76 (5)			39.52 (5)	39.33 (4)

Symmetry code: (i)  $-x+1, -y, -z+2$  for **1β**,  $x, -y, -1/2+z$  for **1py\***,  $i = -x+1, -y, -z$  for **3**,  $i = -x+1, -y, -z+1$  for **3MeOH**.

**Table S2.** Dihedral angles ( $^{\circ}$ ) and atoms defining planes in complexes **1 $\beta$** , **1py\***, **2py**, **3** and **3MeOH**

Complex	Dihedral angle, $^{\circ}$ C1, C2, C3, C4 C5, C6, C7 and C9, C10, C11, C12, C13 and C14	Dihedral angle, $^{\circ}$ O1,C1,N2,N1 and N1,C8,C9,C10, O2
<b>1<math>\beta</math></b>	9.29(12)	3.32(2)
<b>1py*</b>	7.48(21)	16.31(21)
<b>2py</b>	4.79(20)	7.58(26)
<b>3</b>	25.77(12)	2.36(2)
<b>3MeOH</b>	27.59(8)	2.01(1)

**Table S3.** Hydrogen bonds and interactions for complexes: **1 $\beta$** , **1py\***, **2py**, **3**, **3MeOH**, **2EtOH**

D-H···A	d(D-H)	d(H···A)	d(D···A)	$\angle$ (DHA)	Symmetry code
<b>1<math>\beta</math></b>					
O3-H3O···N1	0.81 (1)	2.75(2)	3.450(4)	151(2)	x+1/2, -y+1/2,+z+1/2
O3-H3O···N2	0.81 (1)	1.95 (1)	2.758 (2)	179 (3)	x+1/2, -y+1/2, z+1/2
C7-H7···O3	0.93	2.82	3.472(3)	128	x-1/2, -y+1/2,+z-1/2
C8-H8···O3	0.93	2.93	3.469(3)	118	x-1/2,-y+1/2,+z-1/2
C11-H11···O1	0.93	2.21	3.031 (3)	147	-x+1, -y, -z+2
C4-H4···N1	0.93	2.91	3.619(3)	135	x+1/2,-y+1/2,+z+1/2
C4-H4···N2	0.93	2.78	3.434(3)	128	x+1/2,-y+1/2,+z+1/2
C13-H13···O3	0.93	2.57	3.316(3)	137	-x+1/2+2,+y-1/2, -z+3/2
<b>1py*</b>					
O3-H3O···N1	0.80(4)	2.76(4)	3.450(4)	146(3)	-x+1/2, -y-1/2,+z-1/2
O3-H3O···N2	0.80(4)	1.93(4)	2.725(4)	172(3)	1/2-x, -1/2-y, -1/2+z
C8-H8···O3	0.93	2.76	3.368(4)	124	-x+1/2, -y-1/2,+z+1/2
C16-H16···O3	0.93	2.97	3.594(5)	126	-x+1/2, -y+1/2,+z+1/2
C16-H16···O3	0.93	2.91	3.488(6)	121	-x+1/2,+y+1/2,+z
C15-H15···O1	0.93	2.33	2.910(5)	120	-
C6-H6···N2	0.93	2.96	3.579(4)	126	-x+1/2, -y-1/2,+z-1/2
<b>2py</b>					
O3-H3O···N1	0.78(5)	2.90(5)	3.617(5)	155(4)	-x+1/2+1,+y+1/2, -z+5/2
O3-H13O···N2	0.78(5)	2.02(5)	2.800(5)	178(5)	-x+1/2+1,+y+1/2, -z+5/2
C3-H3···O3	0.93	2.58	3.475(5)	162	-x+1/2+1,+y-1/2, -z+5/2
C4-H4···O4	0.93	2.94	3.750(5)	146	x-1/2, -y+1/2,+z+1/2
C4-H4···N2	0.93	2.75(1)	3.417(6)	130(1)	-x+1/2+1,+y+1/2, -z+5/2
C8-H8···O3	0.93	2.77	3.493(6)	136	-x+1/2+1,+y-1/2, -z+5/2
C16-H16···O1	0.93	2.33	2.908(5)	120	-
C20-H20···O2	0.93	2.33	2.882(5)	118	-
<b>3</b>					
O3-H3O···N1	0.80(3)	2.96(3)	3.618(3)	141(2)	-x+1/2+1, -y+1/2,+z+1/2
O3-H3O···N2	0.80(3)	1.97(3)	2.756(3)	165(4)	3/2-x,1/2-y,1/2+z
C7-H7···O3	0.93	2.79	3.466(4)	130	-x+1/2+1, -y+1/2,+z-1/2
C8-H8···O3	0.93	2.79	3.518(4)	136	-x+1/2+1, -y+1/2,+z-1/2
C11-H11···O1	0.93	2.180	3.011(3)	148	1-x, -y, -z
C15-H15B···O4	0.96	2.72	3.521(5)	142	-x, -y, -z-1
<b>3MeOH</b>					
O5-H5O···O3	0.81(2)	2.14(3)	2.907(2)	161(2)	x+1/2, -y+1/2,+z-1/2
O3-H3O···N1	0.82(2)	2.843(2)	3.532(2)	144(2)	x+1/2, -y+1/2,+z+1/2
O3-H3O···N2	0.83(2)	1.88(2)	2.685(2)	166(2)	x+1/2, -y+1/2,+z+1/2
C3-H3···O3	0.93	2.94	3.766(3)	149	x+1/2, -y+1/2,+z-1/2
C4-H4···N2	0.93	2.93	3.540(3)	125	x+1/2, -y+1/2,+z-1/2
C7-H7···O3	0.93	2.67	3.352(3)	131	x-1/2, -y+1/2,+z-1/2
C8-H8···O3	0.93	2.71	3.428(2)	135	x-1/2, -y+1/2,+z-1/2
C8-H8···O4	0.93	2.66	3.548(3)	159	x-1,+y,+z
C14-H14···O4	0.93	2.72	3.588(3)	156	x-1,+y,+z
C11-H11···O1	0.93	2.19	3.023(2)	149	-x+1, -y, -z+1
C15-H15B···O4	0.96	2.92	3.709(3)	141	-x+1, -y, -z
C16-H16B···O5	0.96	2.61	3.307(3)	130	-x, -y, -z
<b>2MeOH</b>					
O34-H34O···O2W	0.84 (1)	1.83 (1)	2.660 (7)	170 (1)	-
O44-H44O···O5W	0.84 (1)	1.90 (1)	2.711 (8)	162 (1)	-
O54-H54O···O1W	0.84 (1)	1.82 (1)	2.641 (7)	167 (1)	-
O1W-H1WB···N41	0.86(1)	2.86(9)	3.617(7)	148(5)	-
O1W-H1WB···N42	0.86(1)	1.89(7)	2.732(7)	165(6)	-
O2W-H2WA···O10W	0.86(1)	2.20(10)	2.88(13)	135(3)	-
O3W-H3WA···N62	0.86(1)	2.18(9)	2.910(7)	143(6)	-
O4W-H4WA···O10W	0.86(1)	2.06(11)	2.87(13)	157(10)	-
O14-H14O···O31	0.84(1)	1.897(4)	2.698(6)	159(1)	x, -y+1/2,+z+1/2
O24-H24O···N52	0.84(1)	1.960(5)	2.795(7)	172(1)	-x+1,+y-1/2, -z+1/2

O24-H24O···N51	0.84(1)	2.903(5)	3.664(7)	152(1)	-x+1,+y-1/2,-z+1/2
O64-H64O···O51	0.84(1)	1.822(4)	2.655(6)	172(1)	x,-y+1/2,+z-1/2
O4W-H4WB···O1W	0.86(7)	2.03(11)	2.809(8)	151(5)	x,-y+1/2,+z-1/2
O84-H84O···N31	0.84(1)	2.806(5)	3.642(6)	174(1)	-x,+y+1/2,-z+1/2
O1W-H1WA···N81	0.86(7)	2.75(7)	3.475(6)	143(6)	-x+1,+y+1/2,-z+1/2
O1W-H1WA···N82	0.86(7)	1.93(7)	2.773(6)	169(7)	-x+1,+y+1/2,-z+1/2
O2W-H2WB···N21	0.86(7)	2.73(7)	3.494(6)	150(5)	-x+1,+y+1/2,-z+1/2
O2W-H2WB···N22	0.86(7)	1.97(8)	2.801(7)	163(7)	-x+1,+y+1/2,-z+1/2
O7M-H7M···O5W	0.84(1)	1.957(6)	2.65(11)	139(1)	x,-y-1/2,+z-1/2

**Contact distances formed by solvent molecules of crystallization in 2MeOH complex indicating possible hydrogen bonds**

O1W···O4W		2.808(8)			
O2W···N72		2.740(7)			
O2W···O34		2.660(6)			
O3W···O7W		2.641(9)			
O3W···N62		2.910(8)			
O3W···O4W		2.754(9)			
O4W···O3W		2.754(9)			
O5W···O44		2.711(9)			
O6W···O7M		2.598(14)			
O6W···O74		2.900(8)			
O6W···N12		2.885(8)			
O7M···O6W		2.598(14)			
O7M···O5W		2.653(11)			
O7W···O3W		2.641(9)			
O7W···O74		2.677(9)			
O9W···O8W		3.031(15)			
O10W···O2W		2.873(12)			
O34···O2W		2.660(6)			
O54···O10W		3.015(12)			
O74···O7W		2.677(9)			
O74···O6W		2.900(8)			

**2EtOH**

O14-H14O···O14	0.83 (8)	1.93 (9)	2.663 (7)	148 (8)	1-x,y,3/2-z
O34-H34O···N12	0.84(1)	1.930(4)	2.769 (5)	176 (1)	-x+1/2,+y-1/2,-z+3/2
O24-H24O···O31	0.84 (10)	1.95 (10)	2.757 (7)	161 (8)	x-1/2,-y+3/2,+z-1/2

**Contact distances formed by solvent molecules of crystallization in 2EtOH complex indicating possible hydrogen bonds**

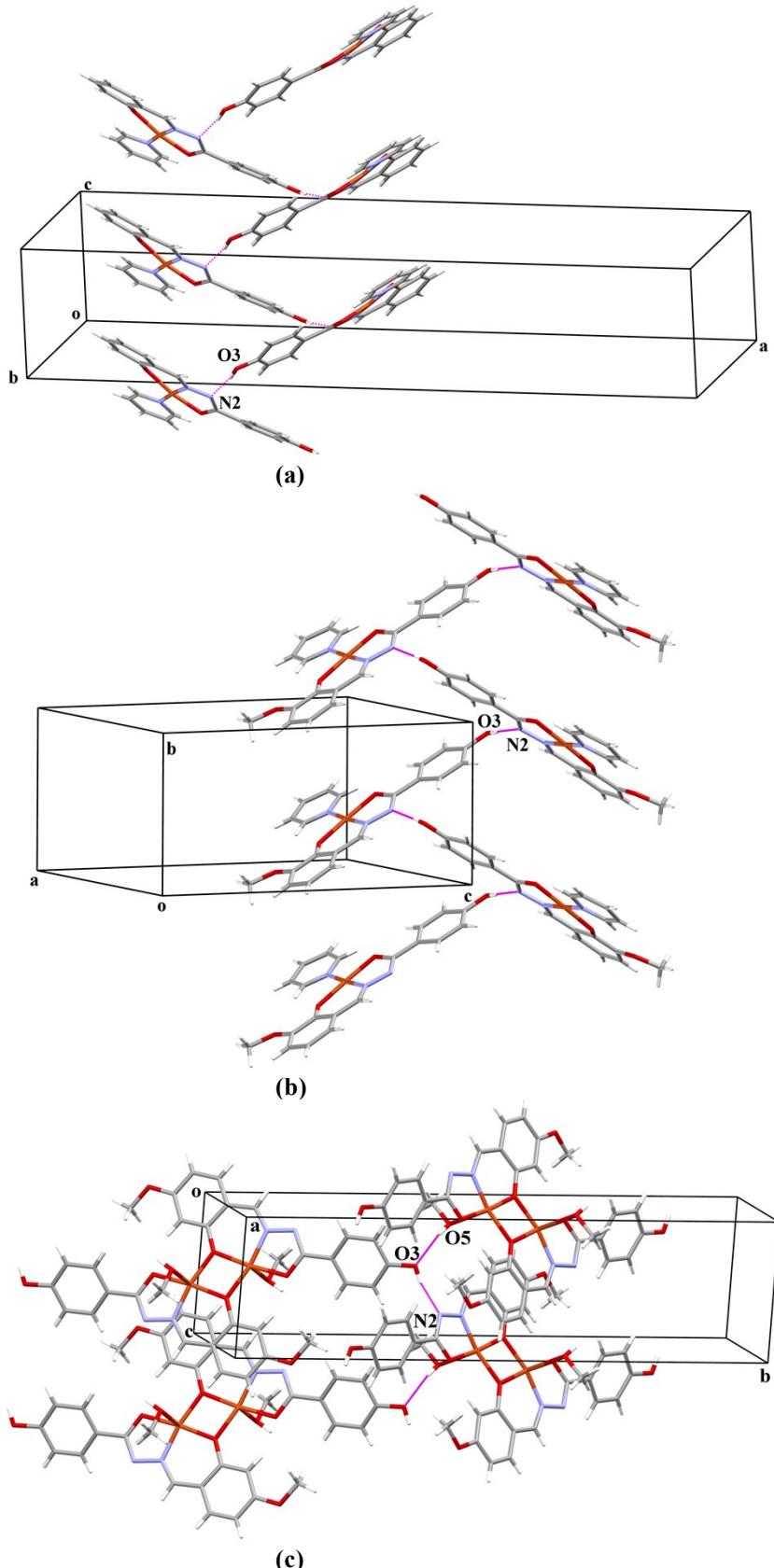
O2E···O1W		2.96(3)		-	
O1E···O14		2.570(8)		-	

**Table S4.** Selected bond lengths [Å] for complex **2MeOH**

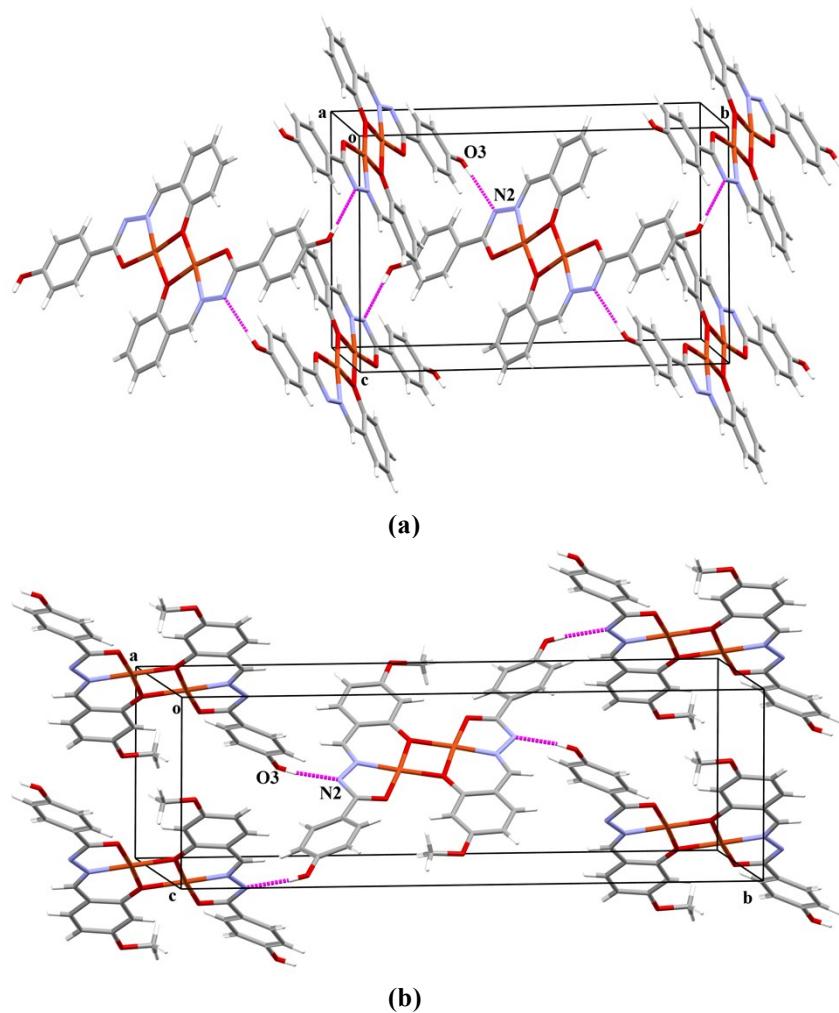
	Bond length		Bond length
Cu1–O11	1.899 (5)	Cu5–O51	1.925 (4)
Cu1–N11	1.913 (4)	Cu5–O52	1.932 (4)
Cu1–O12	1.921 (4)	Cu5–O62	1.982 (4)
Cu1–O42	1.979 (4)	Cu5–O63	2.360 (4)
Cu1–O43	2.306 (4)	Cu5–O72	2.539(4)
Cu1–O22	2.745(4)	Cu6–O61	1.881 (4)
Cu2–N21	1.898 (5)	Cu6–O62	1.916 (4)
Cu2–O21	1.916 (4)	Cu6–N61	1.916 (5)
Cu2–O22	1.947 (4)	Cu6–O72	1.994 (4)
Cu2–O32	1.992 (4)	Cu6–O73	2.335 (4)
Cu2–O33	2.276 (4)	Cu7–N71	1.910 (5)
Cu2–O12	2.663(4)	Cu7–O71	1.927 (4)
Cu3–N31	1.918 (5)	Cu7–O82	1.952 (4)
Cu3–O31	1.920 (4)	Cu7–O72	1.965 (4)
Cu3–O32	1.934 (4)	Cu7–O83	2.277 (4)
Cu3–O12	1.983 (4)	Cu7–O52	2.701(4)
Cu3–O13	2.329 (4)	Cu8–N81	1.912 (5)
Cu3–O42	2.578(4)	Cu8–O81	1.936 (4)
Cu4–N41	1.909 (4)	Cu8–O82	1.952 (4)
Cu4–O41	1.947 (4)	Cu8–O52	1.995 (4)
Cu4–O22	1.961 (4)	Cu8–O53	2.245 (4)
Cu4–O42	1.980 (4)	Cu8–O62	2.688(4)
Cu4–O23	2.278 (4)		
Cu4–O32	2.683(4)		
Cu5–N51	1.915 (5)		

**Table S5.** Selected bond lengths [Å] for complex **2EtOH**

	Bond length
Cu1–O11	1.911 (3)
Cu1–N11	1.921 (3)
Cu1–O12	1.929 (3)
Cu1–O32	1.981 (3)
Cu1–O33	2.361 (3)
Cu1–O22	2.734(3)
Cu2–N21	1.932(3)
Cu2–O21	1.916(3)
Cu2–O22	1.941(3)
Cu2–O42	1.993(3)
Cu2–O43	2.343(3)
Cu2–O12	2.713(3)
Cu3–N31	1.918(3)
Cu3–O31	1.943(3)
Cu3–O32	1.964(3)
Cu3–O22	1.996(3)
Cu3–O23	2.350(3)
Cu3–O42	2.585(3)
Cu4–N41	1.906(3)
Cu4–O41	1.926(3)
Cu4–O12	1.976(3)
Cu4–O42	1.991(3)
Cu4–O13	2.303(3)
Cu4–O32	2.641(3)



**Fig. S7** Fraction of crystal structure of complex (a) **1py\***, (b) **2py** and (c) **3MeOH** showing assembling of complex molecules *via*  $\text{O}_3\text{-H}_3\text{O}\cdots\text{N}2$  and  $\text{O}_3\text{-H}_3\text{O}\cdots\text{O}5$  (in **3MeOH**) intermolecular hydrogen bond (denoted as magenta dashed line) into zig-zag 1D infinite chain along *b* axis (a and b) and *a* axis (c).

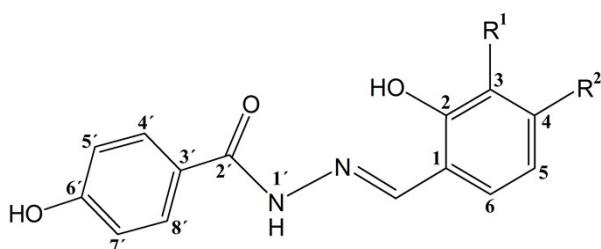


**Fig. S8** (a) Fraction of crystal structure of complex **1 $\beta$**  showing assembling of complex molecules *via* O3–H3O…N2 intermolecular hydrogen bond (denoted as magenta dashed line). (b) Fraction of crystal structure of complex **3** showing assembling of complex molecules *via* O3–H3O…N2 intermolecular hydrogen bond (denoted as magenta dashed line) into 3D network.

## Ligands

**Table S6.**  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  chemical shifts (ppm) of compounds  $\mathbf{H}_2\mathbf{L}^\text{H}$ ,  $\mathbf{H}_2\mathbf{L}^{^3\text{OMe}}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\mathbf{H}_2\mathbf{L}^{^4\text{OMe}}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$

Atom	$\mathbf{H}_2\mathbf{L}^\text{H}$		$\mathbf{H}_2\mathbf{L}^{^3\text{OMe}}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$		$\mathbf{H}_2\mathbf{L}^{^4\text{OMe}}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$	
	$\delta/\text{ppm } (^1\text{H})$	$\delta/\text{ppm } (^{13}\text{C})$	$\delta / \text{ppm } (^1\text{H})$	$\delta / \text{ppm } (^1\text{H})$	$\delta / \text{ppm } (^1\text{H})$	$\delta / \text{ppm } (^{13}\text{C})$
<b>a</b>	8.63	147.72	8.64	8.55	8.55	148.21
<b>1</b>	—	118.66	—	—	—	111.81
<b>2</b>	—	157.45	—	—	—	159.41
<b>3</b>	6.91	119.23	—	6.52	6.52	106.29
<b>4</b>	7.30	131.08	7.12	—	—	161.88
<b>5</b>	6.94	116.37	6.87	6.53	6.53	106.29
<b>6</b>		131.08	7.02	7.39	7.39	131.17
<b>1'</b>	11.94	—	11.92	11.81	11.81	—
<b>2'</b>	—	162.48	—	—	—	162.31
<b>3'</b>	—	123.21	—	—	—	123.33
<b>4', 8'</b>	7.87	129.70	7.87	7.87	7.87	129.61
<b>5', 7'</b>	6.91	115.11	6.92	6.92	6.92	115.09
<b>6'</b>	10.18	160.91		—	—	160.81
<b>OH-2</b>	11.47	—	11.20	11.83	11.83	—
<b>OH-6'</b>	7.51	—	10.19	10.16	10.16	—
<b>OMe</b>			3.83	3.79	3.79	55.21



<b>R<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>R<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>ligand</b>
H	H	$\mathbf{H}_2\mathbf{L}^\text{H}$
OCH <sub>3</sub>	H	$\mathbf{H}_2\mathbf{L}^{^3\text{OMe}}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$
H	OCH <sub>3</sub>	$\mathbf{H}_2\mathbf{L}^{^4\text{OMe}}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$

**Scheme S1** The structural formula of  $\mathbf{H}_2\mathbf{L}$  with the NMR numbering scheme

## Reaction conditions for solution based synthetic methods and yields

**Table S7.** Reaction conditions and yields

	solvent	RT <sup>a</sup>	R <sup>a</sup>	ST <sup>a</sup>	E <sup>a</sup>
<b>1α</b>					
	MeOH	✓ (82%)	✿	✿	✓ (23%)
	EtOH	✓ (70%)	✓ (89%)	✿	✓ (17%)
	ACN	✿	✿	✿	
<b>1β</b>					
	MeOH	✗	✿	✿	✗
	EtOH	✗	✗	✿	✗
	ACN	✿	✿	✿	
<b>1py</b>					
	MeOH	✓ (79%)	✓ (84%)	✿	✓ (35%)
<b>2MeOH</b>					
	MeOH	✓ (35%)	✓ (65 %)	✓ (70%)	✓ (29%)
<b>2EtOH</b>					
	EtOH	✓ (41%)	✓ (47%)	✓ (52%)	✓ (18%)
<b>2py</b>					
	MeOH	✓ (76%)	✓ (81%)	✓ (52%)	✿
<b>3</b>					
	MeOH	✗	✗	✓ (88%)	✗
	EtOH	✗	✓ (88%)	✓ (94%)	
	ACN	✓ (76%)	✓ (88%)	✓ (88%)	
<b>3MeOH</b>					
	MeOH	✓ (79%)	✓ (84%)	✗	✓ (22%)
<b>3EtOH</b>					
	EtOH	✓ (87%)	✗	✗	✿
<b>3py</b>					
	MeOH	✓ (81%)	✓ (90%)	✓ (90%)	✓ (36%)

<sup>a</sup> RT = Room Temperature; R = Reflux; ST = Solvothermal synthesis; E = Electrochemical synthesis;  
 ✓ successful synthetic route; ♦ mixture of products; ✗ compound was not obtainable *via* this method