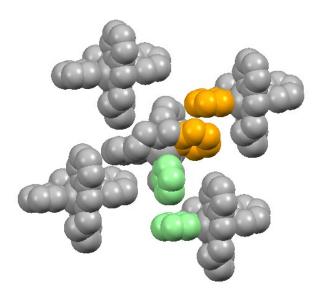
## **Supporting Information**

## Controlling oxidation of bis-tridentate cobalt(II) complexes having bis(2-pyridylalkyl)amines: Ligand vs. metal oxidation

S. Anjana,\*a S. Donring,b P. Sanjib,c B. Varghesed and Narasimha N. Murthya

## **Table of Contents**

1.	Packing diagram of 2 ("tpy embrace") (Fig. S1)	2				
2.	FT-IR of Co(II) amine complex, 1 (Fig. S2)	2				
3.	FT-IR of Co(II) imine complex, 2 (Fig. S3)	3				
4.	UV-Vis of Co(II)-amine complex 1 (Fig. S4)	3				
5.	UV-Vis of Co(II)-imine complex 2 (Fig. S5)					
6.	ESI-MS of Co(II) amine complex 1 (Fig. S6)					
7.	ESI-MS of Co(II) imine complex 2 (Fig. S7)	5				
8.	Representation of the isomeric forms of 1 at 238 K (Scheme S1)	5				
9.	<sup>1</sup> H NMR spectra of imine complex <b>2</b> at 298 and 238 K (Fig. S8)	6				
10.	<sup>1</sup> H- <sup>1</sup> H COSY of <b>2</b> (0 to 80 ppm) (Fig. S9)	6				
11.	Assignment of signals in the <sup>1</sup> H NMR spectrum of <b>2</b> (Table S1 and S2)	7				
12.	Curie plots of 2 (Fig. S10)	8				
13.	CV of 1 and 2 (Fig. S11)	8				
14.	<sup>1</sup> H NMR spectral changes of <b>1</b> on exposure to O <sub>2</sub> (Fig. S12)	9				
15.	UV-Vis spectra of <b>2</b> in CH <sub>3</sub> CN in presence of acid (Fig. S13)	9				
16.	UV-Vis spectra of Co(III) complex 4 (Fig. S14)	10				
17.	<sup>1</sup> H NMR spectrum of Co(III) Complex 4 in D <sub>2</sub> O (Fig. S15)	10				
18.	ESI-MS of Co(III) complex 4 (Fig. S16)	11				



**Figure S1**. Part of a sheet of  $[Co(pepmi)_2]^{2+}$  cations in **2** showing "tpy embrace". H- atoms and counter anions are omitted for clarity

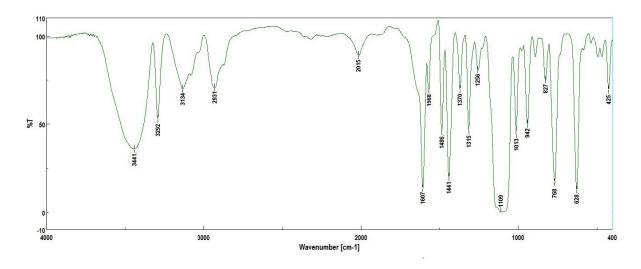
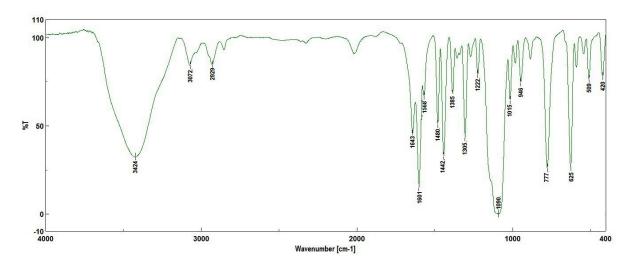


Figure S2. FT-IR of Co(II) amine complex 1 (characteristic -NH stretch is seen at 3292 cm<sup>-1</sup>)



**Figure S3.** FT-IR of Co(II) imine complex **2** (-NH stretch is absent and characteristic –C=N stretch is seen at 1643 cm<sup>-1</sup>)

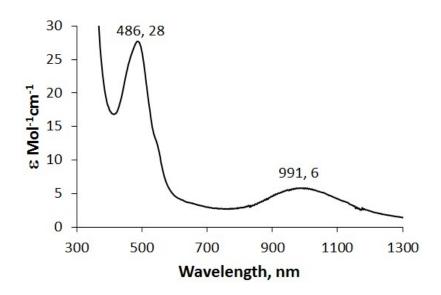


Figure S4. UV-Vis of of Co(II) amine complex 1 in CH<sub>3</sub>CN

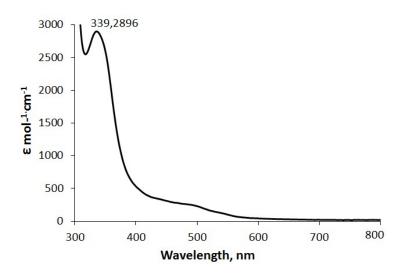


Figure S5. UV-Vis of Co(II) imine complex 2 in CH<sub>3</sub>CN

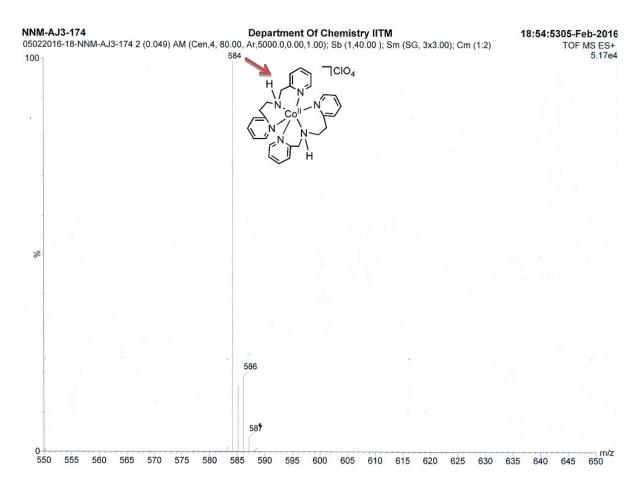


Figure S6. ESI-MS of Co(II) amine complex 1

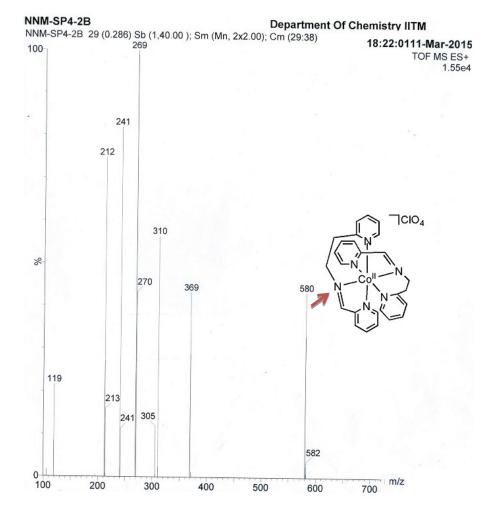


Figure S7. ESI-MS of Co(II) imine complex 2

Scheme S1. Representation of the isomeric forms of 1 expected to exist at 238 K

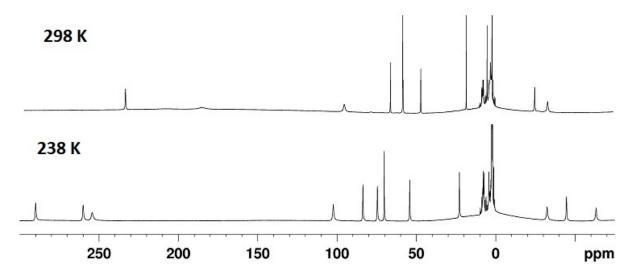


Figure S8. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of Co(II) imine complex 2 in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 298 and 238 K

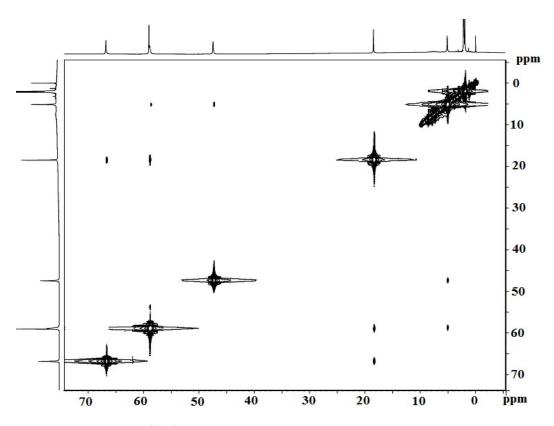


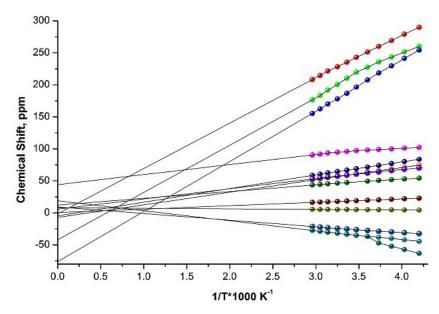
Figure S9. <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY of 2 (0 to 80 ppm) in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 298 K

Signal Position,	T1(ms)	Fwh (Hz)	T2(ms)	R <sub>Co-H</sub> (Å) (X-ray)	R <sub>Co-H</sub> (Å) (Soln)	Assignment
ppm				(A-ray)		
235.33	6.26	150.55	2.11	$3.14_{av}$	3.66	o-Py
96.02	2.94	452.05	0.70	3.69 <sub>av</sub>	3.23	-CH <sub>2</sub>
66.66	31.81	40.31	7.90	5.17	4.80	m-py
58.86	39.07	25.89	12.30	5.08	4.97	m-py
47.34	46.82	41.05	7.76	5.06	5.12	m-py
18.40	98.28*	23.30	13.66	5.79*	-	р-ру
5.16	89.39	30.80	10.33	5.84	5.70	р-ру
-25.17	2.89	135.32	2.35	3.75 <sub>av</sub>	3.22	-CH <sub>2</sub>
-33.37	13.70	272.22	1.16	3.80	4.17	=CH

**Table S1.** Assignment of resonances in the paramagnetic <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **2** in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 298 K.  $T2 = 1/\pi$ (Fwh), Fwh is full width at half-height. Calculated  $R_{\text{Co-H}} = R_{\text{ref}} (T1/T_{\text{ref}})^{1/6}$ , where  $R_{\text{ref}}$  and  $T_{\text{ref}}$  are reference (\*) values

Peak Position at -35°C	Assignment
289.87	o-Py
260.06	o-Py
254.36	-CH <sub>2</sub>
102.39	-CH <sub>2</sub>
83.73	m-py
74.59	m-py
70.29	m-py
54.20	m-py
22.90	р-ру
4.31	p-py
-32.39	=CH
-44.58	-CH <sub>2</sub>
-63.29	-CH <sub>2</sub>

**Table S2.** Assignment of resonances in the paramagnetic <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **2** in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 238 K



**Figure S10.** Curie plots showing the temperature dependence of <sup>1</sup>H NMR resonances of **2** in the range 238 -338K

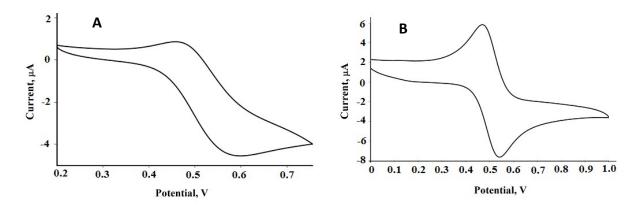
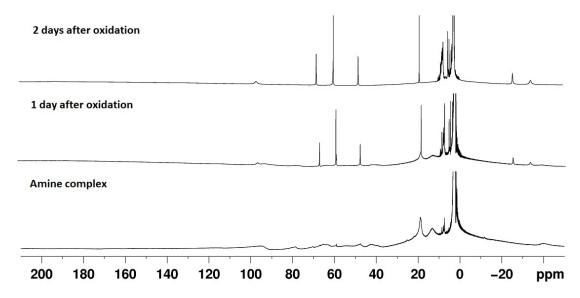
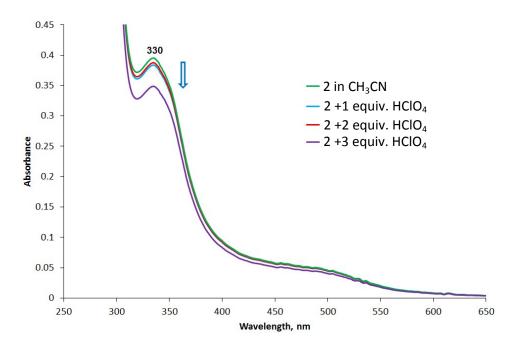


Figure S11. CV of Co(II) amine complex, 1 (A) and imine complex, 2 (B) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN



**Figure S12**. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of Co(II) amine complex **1** in CD<sub>3</sub>CN after 24 and 48h of O<sub>2</sub> passage



**Figure S13**. UV-Vis spectra of Co(II) imine complex **2** in CH<sub>3</sub>CN in presence of acid, showing its decomposition

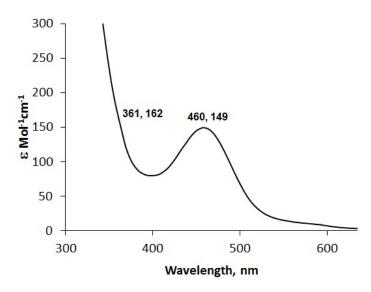


Figure S14. UV-Vis spectra of Co(III) complex 4

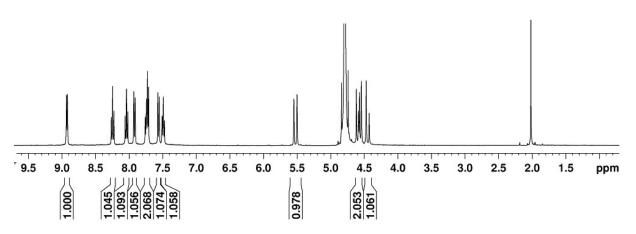


Figure S15. <sup>1</sup>H NMR of Co(III) Complex 4 in D<sub>2</sub>O

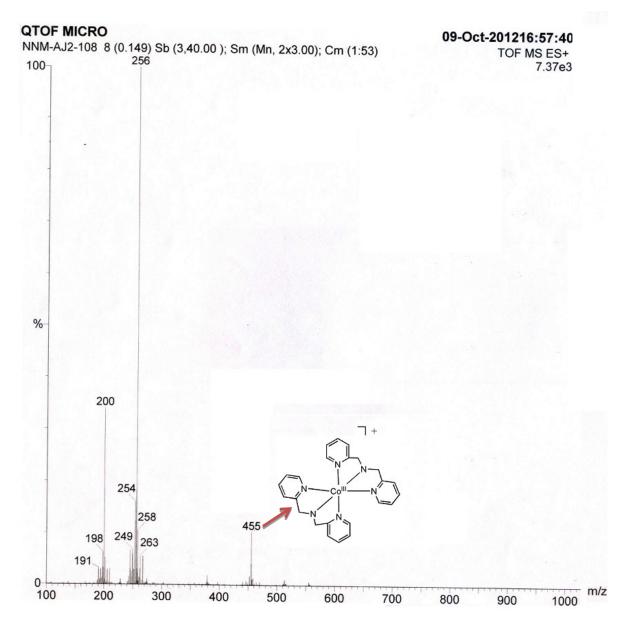


Figure S16. ESI-MS of Co(III) complex 4