

**Supplementary information**

**Enhanced Activity of Trinuclear Zn(II) Complex towards Phosphate Ester Bond Cleavage  
by Introducing Three Metal Cooperativity**

*Pooja Joshi,<sup>c</sup> Navid Hussain,<sup>a</sup> Shah Raj Ali,<sup>c</sup> Rishu<sup>\*, b</sup> and Vimal K. Bhardwaj<sup>\*, a</sup>*

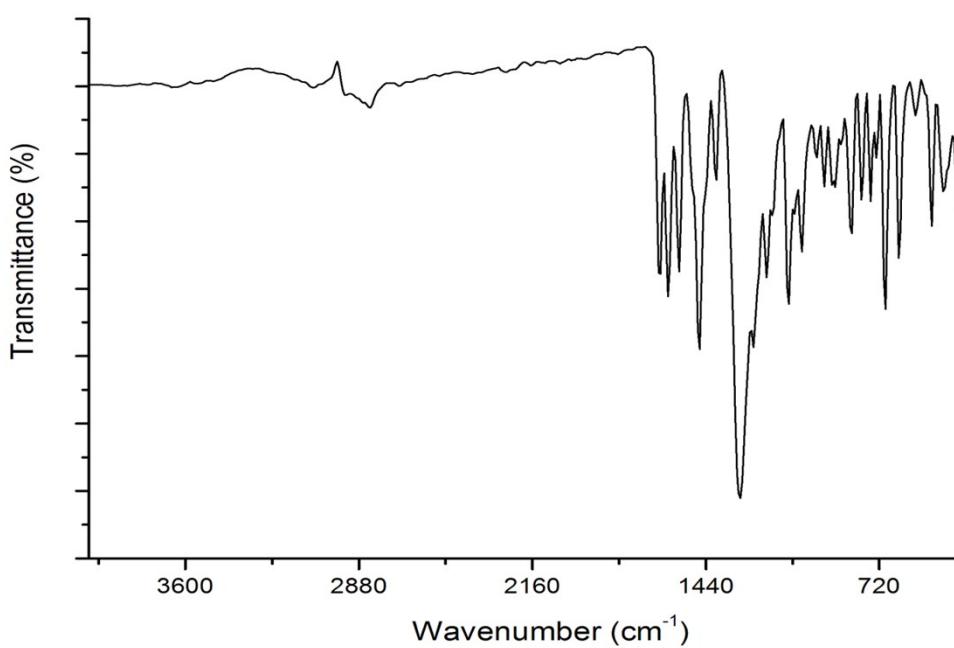
<sup>a</sup>Department of Chemistry, Indian Institute of Technology Ropar, Rupnagar, Punjab 140001, India.

<sup>b</sup>MCM DAV College for Women, Sector 36A, Chandigarh-160036, India

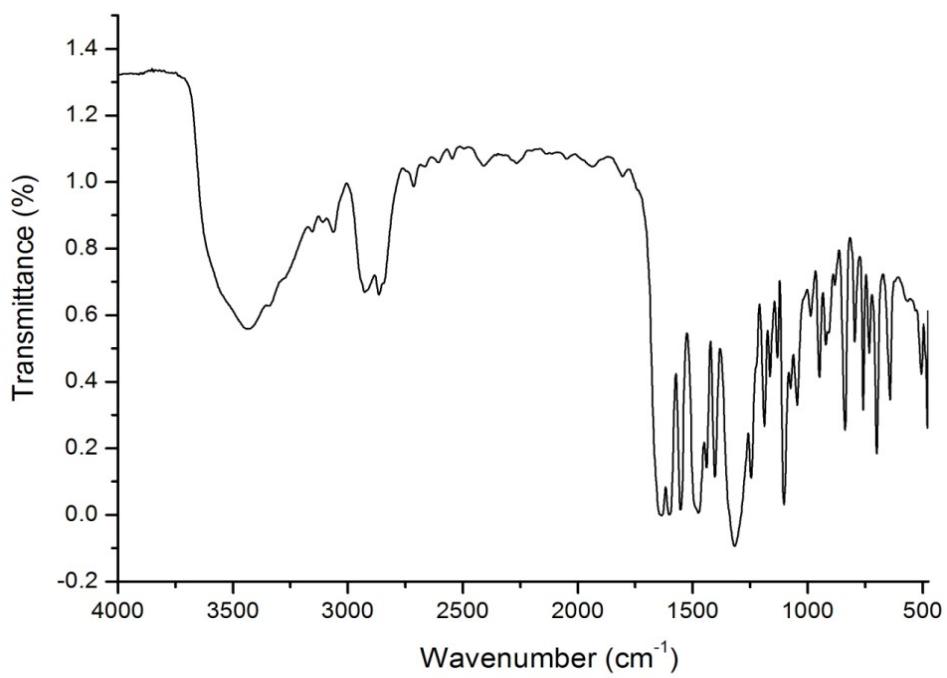
<sup>c</sup>Department of Chemistry, D.S.B. Campus, Kumaun University, Nainital, Uttarakhand 263002, India

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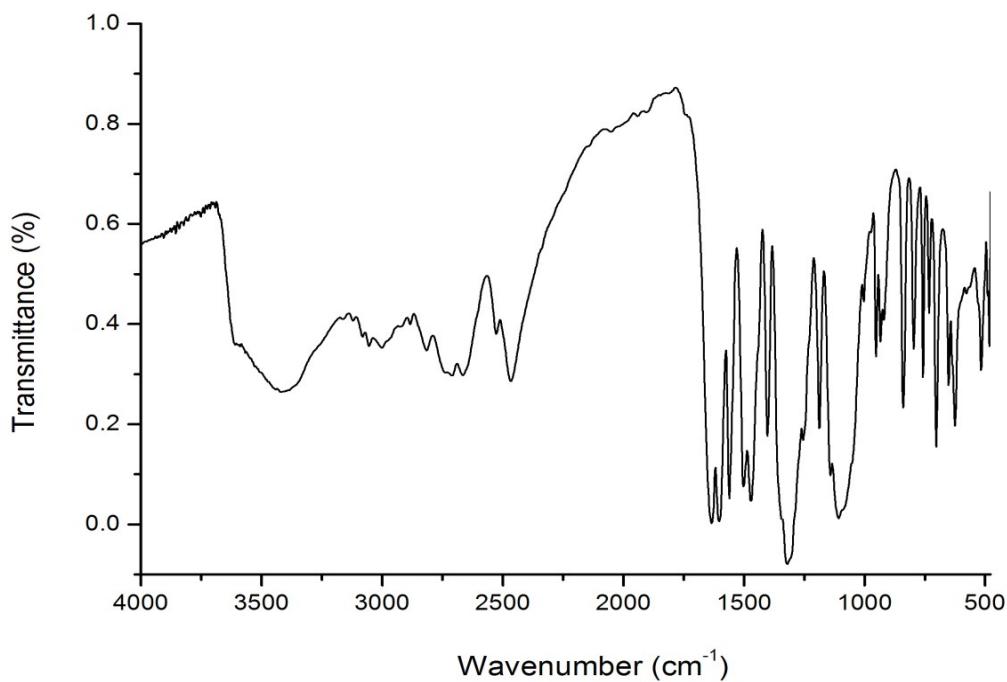
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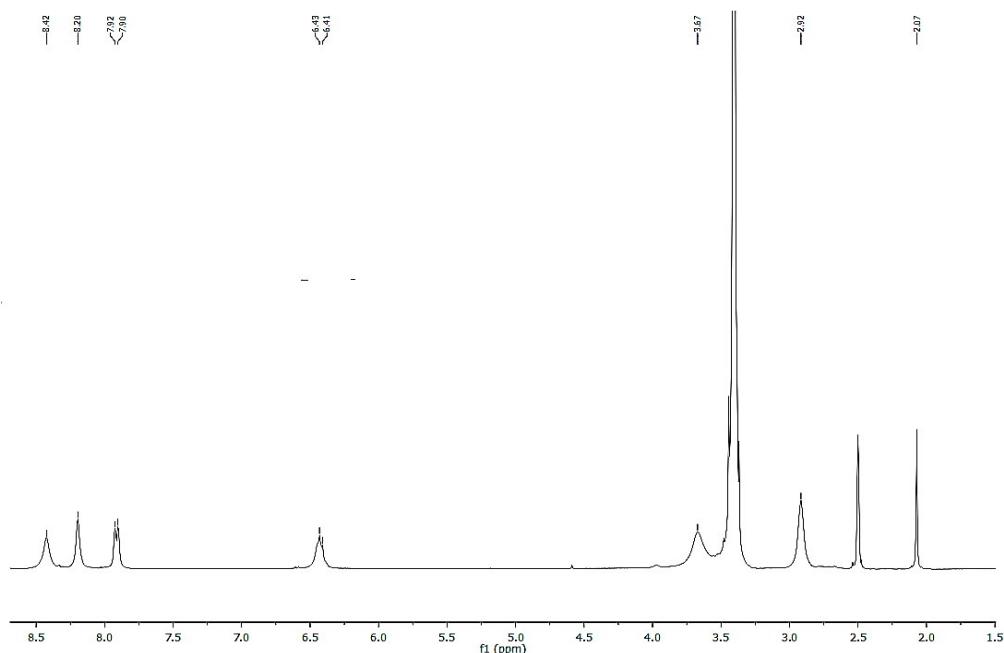
**Figure S1.** I.R. spectrum of complex 1



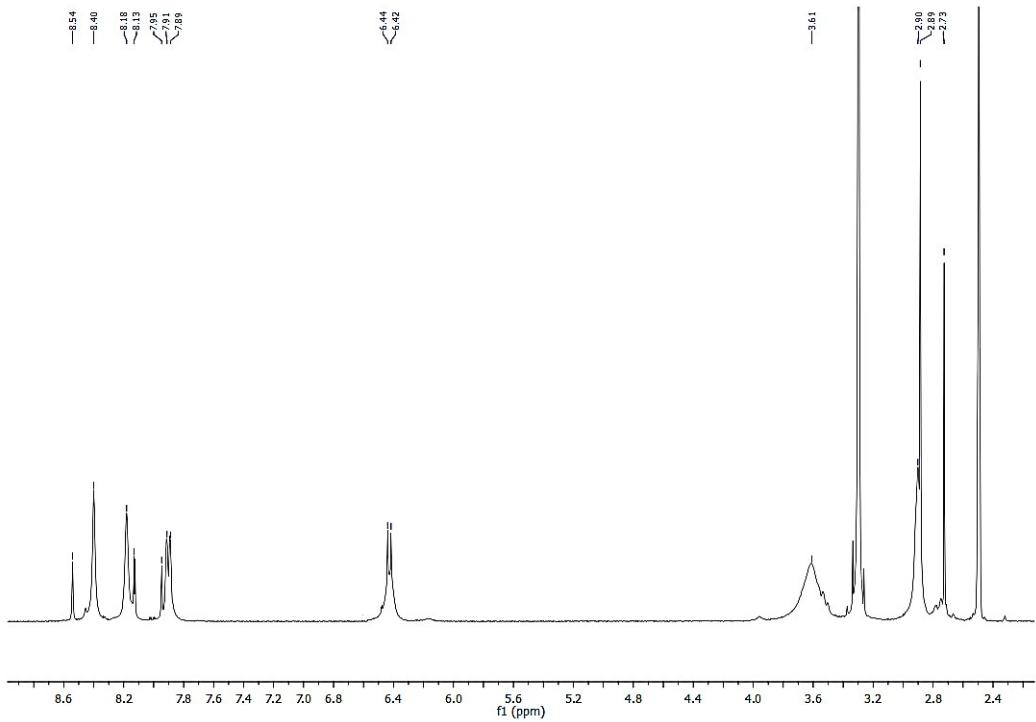
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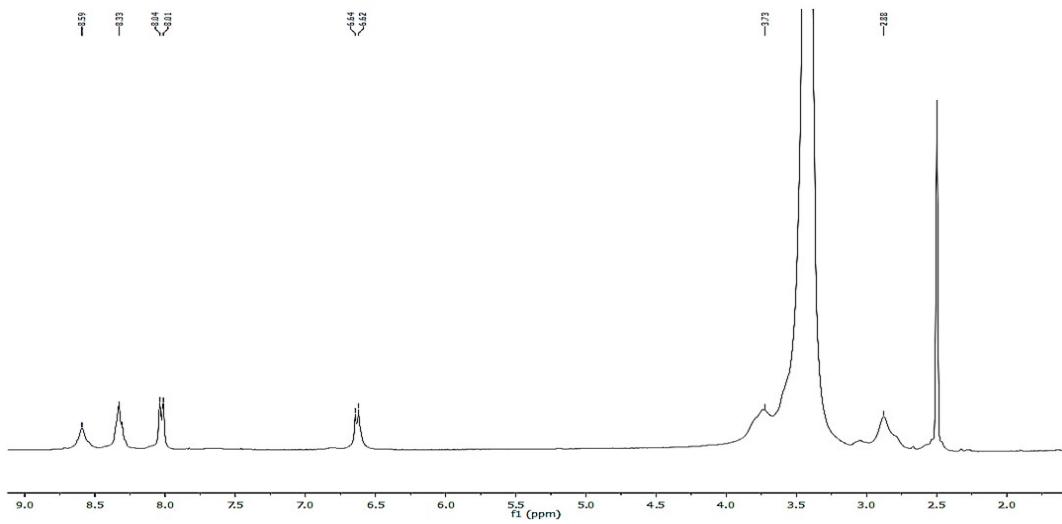
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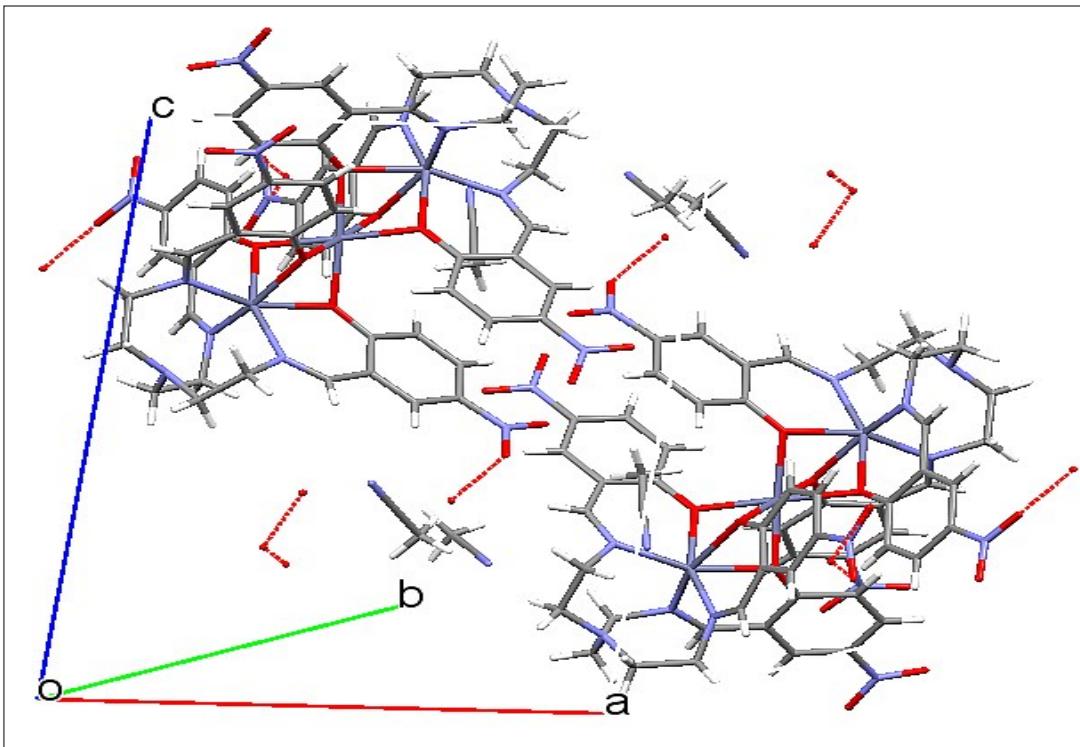
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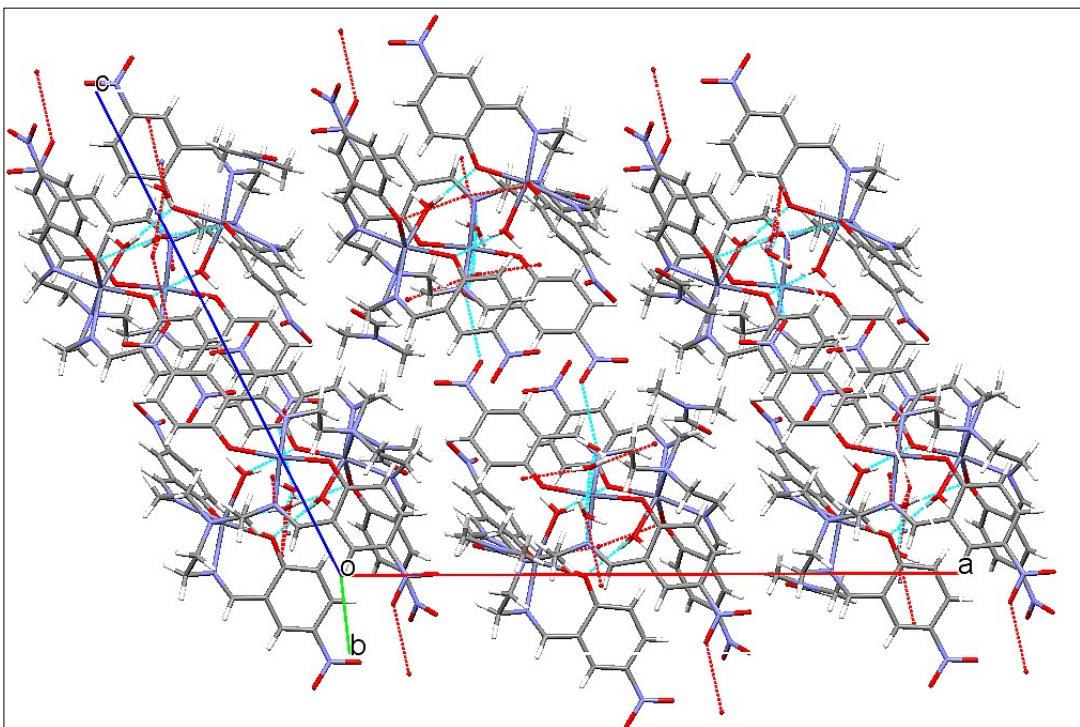
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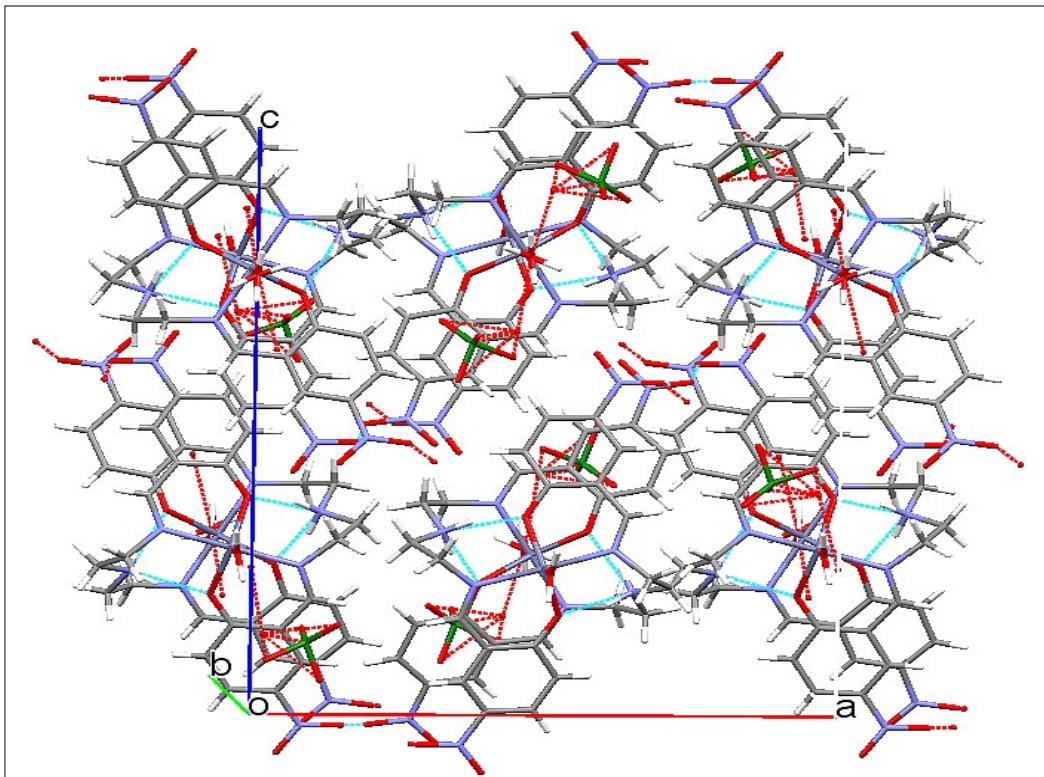
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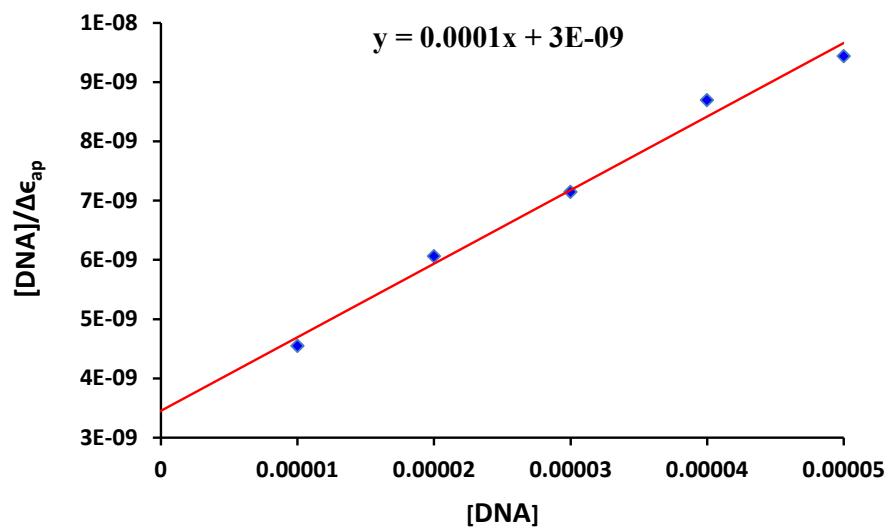
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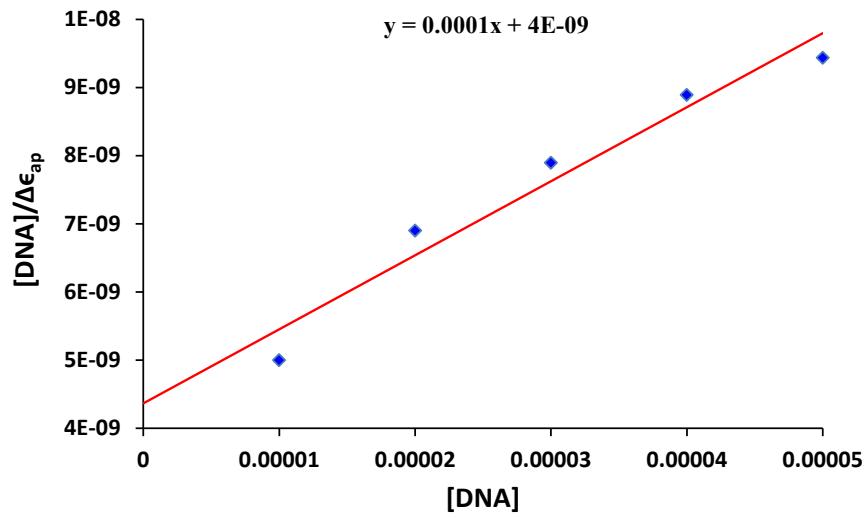
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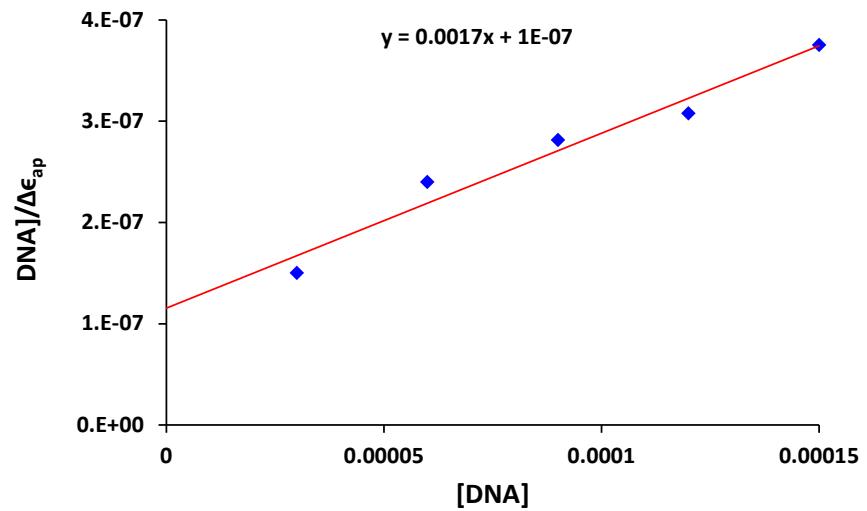
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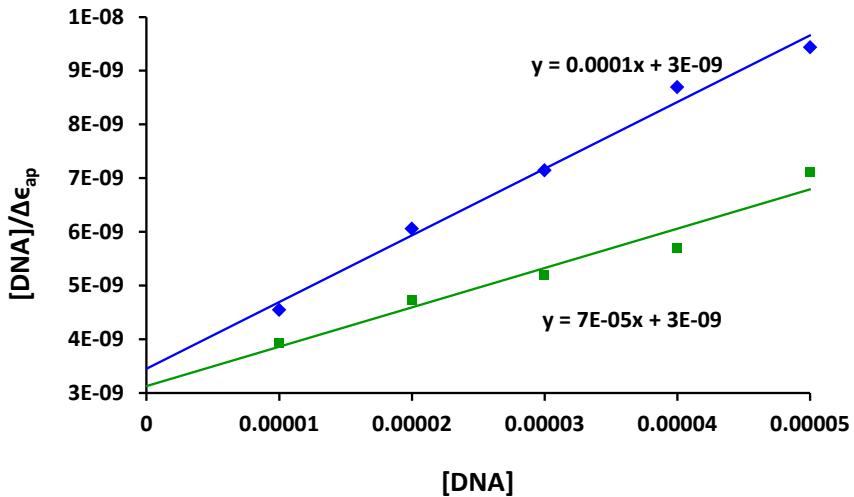
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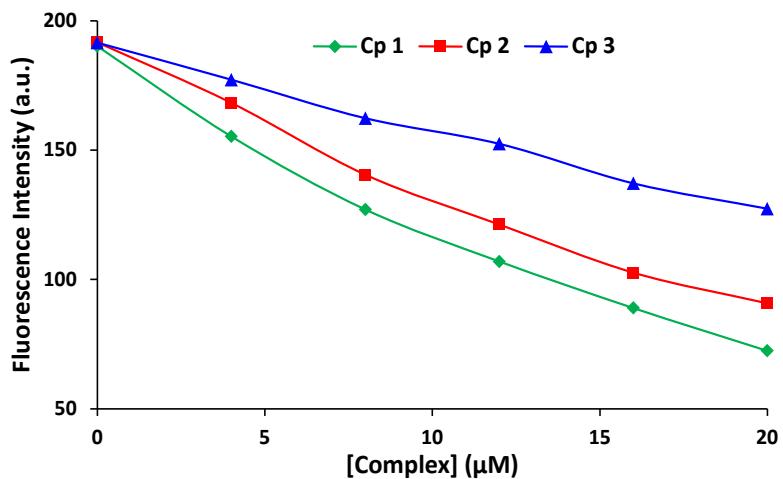
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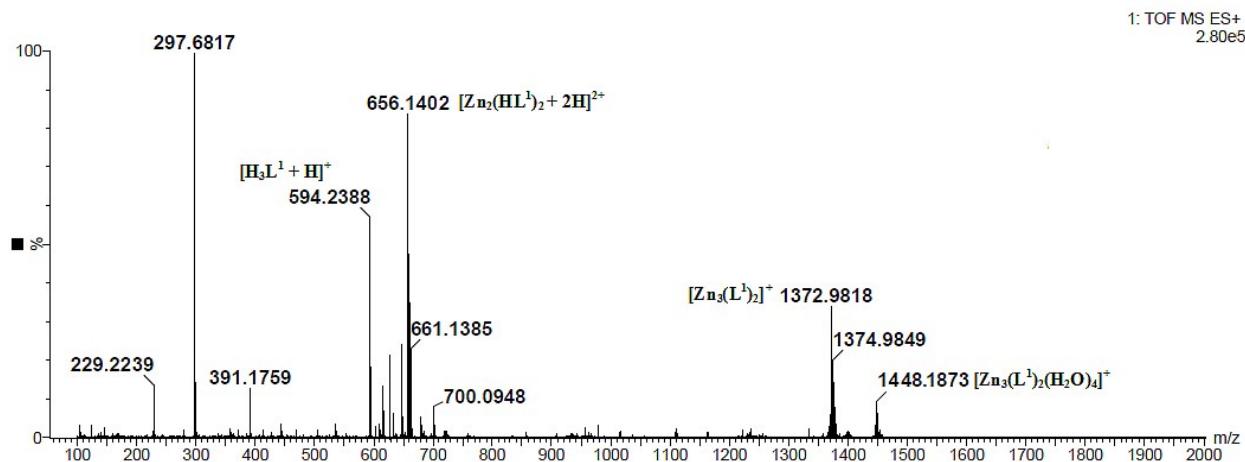
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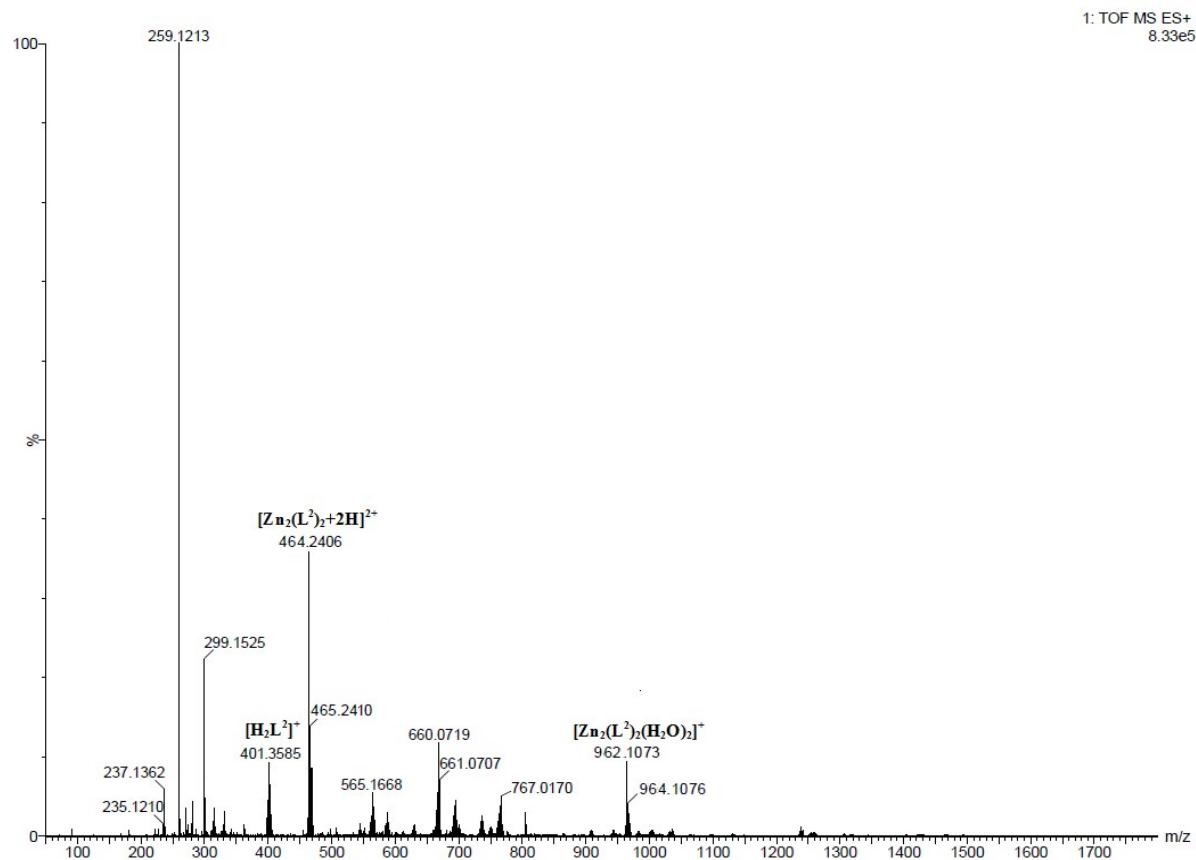
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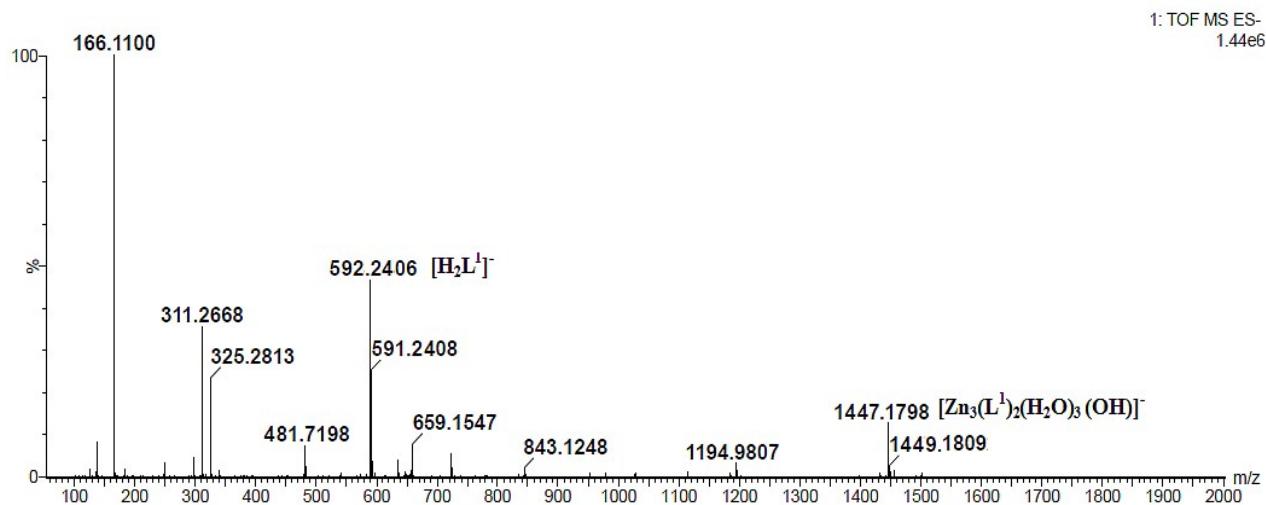
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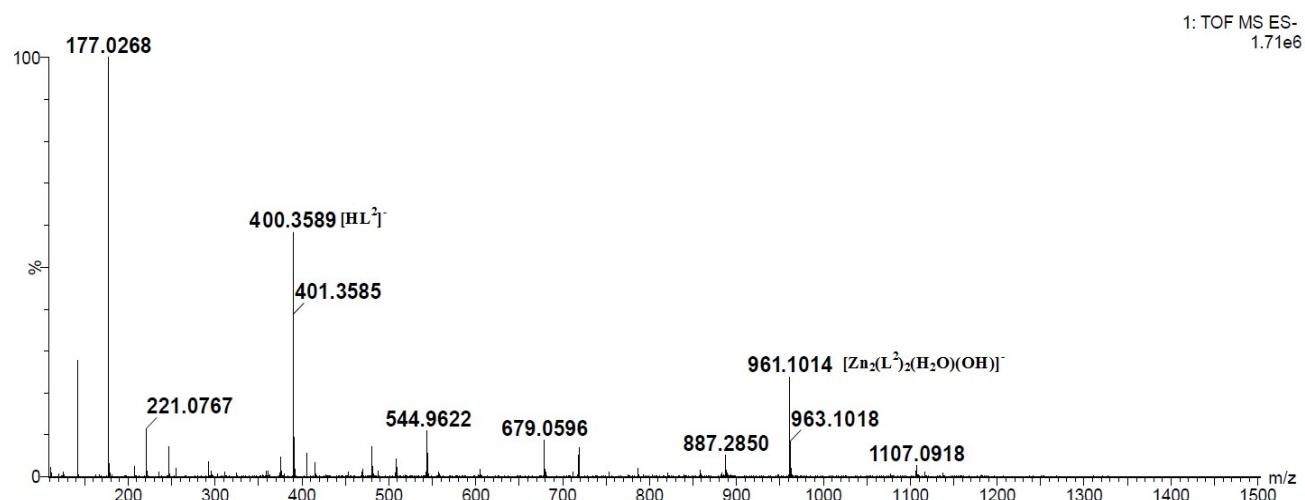
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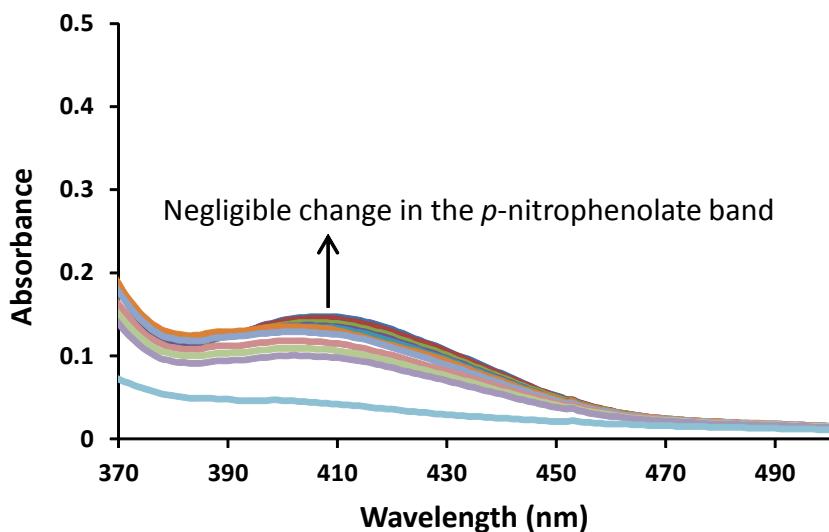
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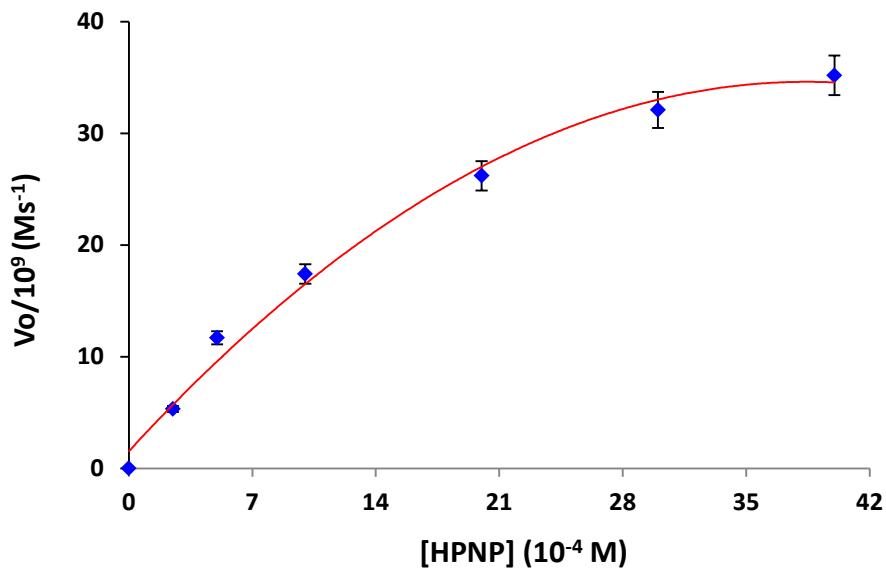
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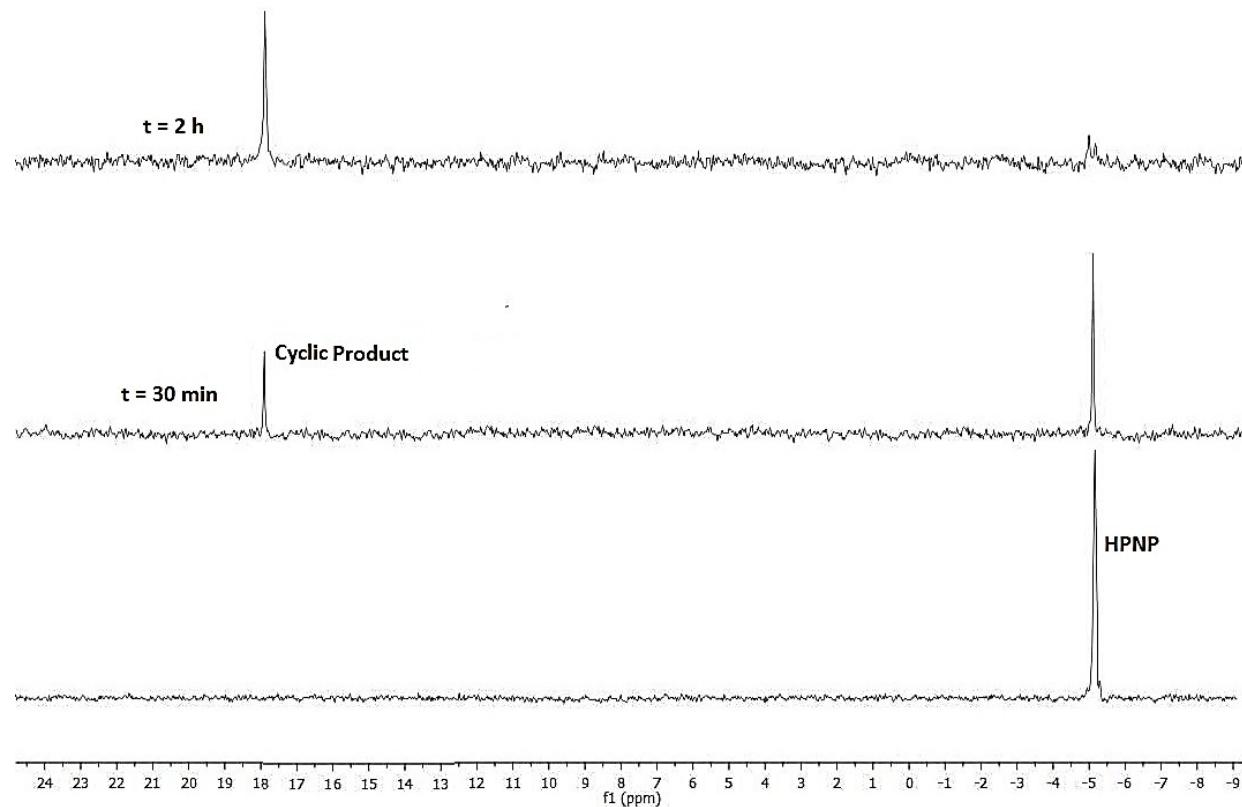
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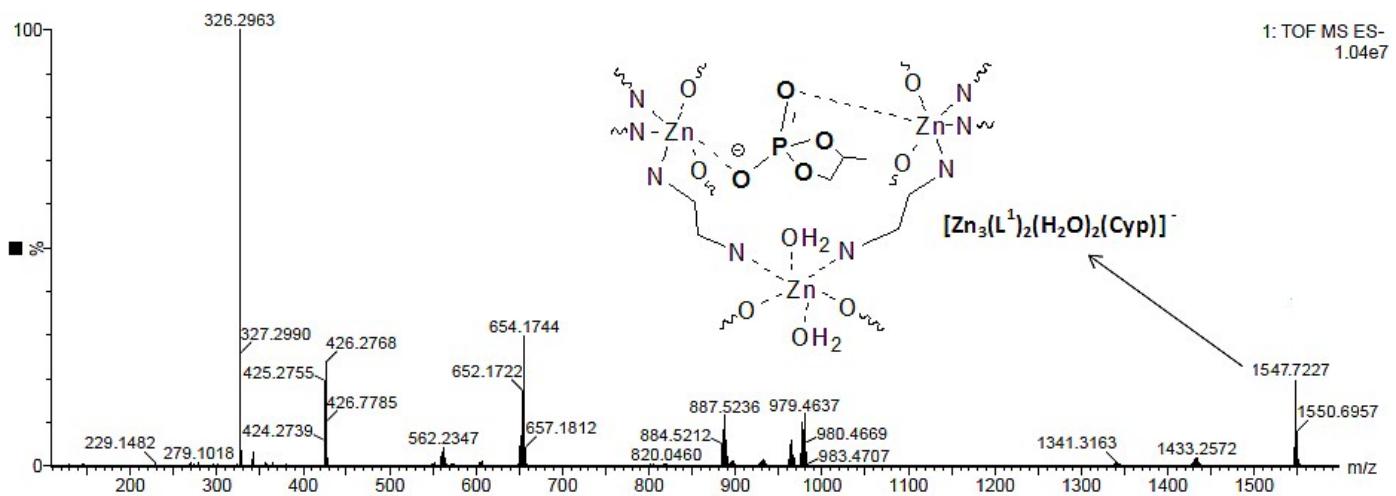
**Figure S15.** Control experiment for the transesterification of HPNP (0.5 mM) in the absence and presence of  $\text{Zn}(\text{OAc})_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (50  $\mu\text{M}$ ) (substrate: metal salt = 10:1) in 30% DMF recorded at an interval of 5 minutes at 30°C.



**Figure S16.** Dependence of rate of reaction on substrate concentration (0-4mM) for complex 3 (50  $\mu\text{M}$ ) at 25°C in 30% DMF (pH 8.5).



**Figure S17.**  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR of HPNP on addition of 0.1 mM solution of complex **2** in  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$  (pH 8.5 in the presence of 0.1 M CHES buffer).



**Fig. S18.** Negative mode ESI-MS spectrum of **2** and HPNP (1:10) at pH 8.50 in 30 % DMF solution

**Table S1(a).** Selected bond lengths and angles ( $\text{\AA}$ ,  $^\circ$ ) for  $[\text{Zn}_3(\text{L}^1)_2] \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O} \cdot 4\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (**1**)

Bond length( $\text{\AA}$ )					
Zn(1)-O(1)	2.1558(14)	Zn(1)-N(2)	2.0937(17)	Zn(2)-O(1)	2.0922(12)
Zn(1)-O(2)	2.1899(13)	Zn(1)-N(4)	2.1088(17)	Zn(2)-O(2)	2.0964(14)
Zn(1)-O(3)	2.1863(14)	Zn(1)-N(6)	2.0890(16)	Zn(2)-O(3)	2.0994(13)
Zn(3)-O(4)	2.2039(14)	Zn(3)-N(9)	2.1197(15)	Zn(2)-O(4)	2.1100(11)
Zn(3)-O(5)	2.1613(13)	Zn(3)-N(11)	2.0961(17)	Zn(2)-O(5)	2.0670(14)
Zn(3)-O(6)	2.1921(13)	Zn(3)-N(13)	2.1128(16)	Zn(2)-O(6)	2.1210(12)

Bond angle ( $^\circ$ )					
O(1)-Zn(1)-O(2)	74.66(5)	O(4)-Zn(2)-O(6)	76.94(5)	O(4)-Zn(3)-O(5)	74.95(5)
O(1)-Zn(1)-O(3)	75.77(5)	O(5)-Zn(2)-O(6)	77.83(5)	O(4)-Zn(3)-O(6)	73.56(5)
O(1)-Zn(1)-N(2)	86.16(6)	O(1)-Zn(2)-O(2)	77.98(5)	O(4)-Zn(3)-N(9)	83.35(5)
O(1)-Zn(1)-N(4)	157.46(5)	O(1)-Zn(2)-O(3)	79.01(5)	O(4)-Zn(3)-N(11)	158.63(5)
O(1)-Zn(1)-N(6)	92.47(6)	O(1)-Zn(2)-O(4)	101.23(5)	O(4)-Zn(3)-N(13)	90.67(6)
O(2)-Zn(1)-O(3)	73.53(5)	O(1)-Zn(2)-O(5)	101.10(5)	O(5)-Zn(3)-O(6)	74.36(5)
O(2)-Zn(1)-N(2)	92.53(6)	O(1)-Zn(2)-O(6)	178.00(5)	O(5)-Zn(3)-N(9)	93.33(5)
O(2)-Zn(1)-N(4)	83.75(5)	O(2)-Zn(2)-O(3)	77.25(5)	O(5)-Zn(3)-N(11)	85.48(5)
O(2)-Zn(1)-N(6)	157.68(6)	O(2)-Zn(2)-O(4)	99.34(5)	O(5)-Zn(3)-N(13)	157.63(6)
O(3)-Zn(1)-N(2)	159.46(6)	O(2)-Zn(2)-O(5)	177.91(5)	O(6)-Zn(3)-N(9)	155.91(5)
O(3)-Zn(1)-N(4)	92.14(6)	O(2)-Zn(2)-O(6)	103.04(5)	O(6)-Zn(3)-N(11)	93.17(6)
O(3)-Zn(1)-N(6)	85.79(6)	O(3)-Zn(2)-O(4)	176.48(6)	O(6)-Zn(3)-N(13)	85.27(5)
N(2)-Zn(1)-N(4)	101.42(7)	O(3)-Zn(2)-O(5)	104.46(5)	N(9)-Zn(3)-N(11)	106.66(6)
N(2)-Zn(1)-N(6)	104.94(6)	O(3)-Zn(2)-O(6)	102.86(5)	N(9)-Zn(3)-N(13)	102.07(6)
N(4)-Zn(1)-N(6)	105.75(6)	O(4)-Zn(2)-O(5)	78.97(5)	N(11)-Zn(3)-N(13)	105.14(6)

**Table S1(b).** Hydrogen bonding parameters ( $\text{\AA}$ ,  $^\circ$ ) of (**1**)

D-H $\cdots$ A	H $\cdots$ A	D $\cdots$ A	D-H $\cdots$ A
C19--H19B...O13 <sup>(i)</sup>	2.4700	3.250(3)	138.00
C25--H25...O12 <sup>(ii)</sup>	2.5400	3.342(3)	144.00
C29--H29A...N15 <sup>(iii)</sup>	2.6000	3.412(4)	141.00
C39--H39...O7 <sup>(iv)</sup>	2.5100	3.431(3)	170.00
C46--H46A...O9 <sup>(v)</sup>	2.5500	3.322(3)	136.00
C57--H57A...O11 <sup>(vii)</sup>	2.5700	3.333(4)	137.00

Symmetry codes: (i) 1-x,-y,1-z; (ii) 1-x,1-y,1-z;(iii) 1-x,1-y,1-z;(iv) 1+x,y,z;(v) x,1+y,z;(vi)1-x,1-y,1-z.

**Table S2(a).** Selected bond lengths and angles ( $\text{\AA}$ ,  $^\circ$ ) for  $[\text{Zn}_3(\text{L}^1)_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4] \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O} \cdot 2\text{DMF}$  (**2**).

Bond Length( $\text{\AA}$ )					
Zn(1)-O(4)	2.231(4)	Zn(1)-O(1)	2.0264(17)	Zn(1)-N(2)	2.136(3)
Zn(2)-O(5)	2.1362(16)	Zn(2)-O(3)	2.0796(15)	Zn(2)-O(2)	2.0435(16)
Zn(2)-N(6)	2.0826(18)	Zn(2)-N(1)	2.3400(19)	Zn(2)-N(4)	2.1349(18)

Bond Angle( $\theta$ )					
O(4)-Zn(1)-O(4)	76.23(16)	O(1)- Zn(1)-O(4)	91.28(11)	O(1)-Zn(1)-O(4)	92.90(12)
O(1)-Zn(1)-O(1)	174.7(2)	O(1)-Zn(1)-N(2)	89.51(10)	O(1)-Zn(1)- N(2)	87.67(9)
N(2)-Zn(1)-O(4)	160.11(17)	N(2)-Zn(1)- O(4)	83.99(8)	N(2)-Zn(1)- N(2)	115.8(2)
O(5)-Zn(2)-N(1)	86.49(7)	O(3)-Zn(2)- O(5)	84.13(6)	O(3)-Zn(2)- N(6)	85.02(7)
O(3)-Zn(2)-N(1)	86.49(7)	O(3)-Zn(2)- N(1)	108.16(7)	O(3)-Zn(2)- N(4)	170.40(7)
O(2)-Zn(2)-O(5)	96.88(7)	O(2)-Zn(2)- O(3)	88.26(7)	O(2)-Zn(2)- N(6)	104.72(7)
O(2)-Zn(2)-N(1)	163.52(7)	O(2)-Zn(2)- N(4)	86.83(7)	N(6)-Zn(2)- O(5)	155.46(7)
N(6)-Zn(2)-N(1)	76.11(7)	N(6)-Zn(2)- N(4)	104.21(7)	N(4)-Zn(2)- O(5)	88.27(7)
N(4)-Zn(2)- N(1)	77.12(7)				

**Table S3(a).** Selected bond lengths and angles ( $\text{\AA}$ ,  $^{\circ}$ ) for  $[\text{Zn}_2(\text{L}^2)_2\cdot(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2\cdot 2\text{H}^+]\cdot 2\text{ClO}_4^-$  (**3**).

Bond Length( $\text{\AA}$ )					
Zn(1)-O(2)	1.997(2)	Zn(1)-O(3)	2.040(4)	Zn(1)-N(1)	2.110(2)
Zn(2)-O(1)	1.976(2)	Zn(2)-O(4)	2.023(5)	Zn(2)-N(3)	2.116(3)

Bond Angle( $\theta$ )					
O(2)-Zn(1)-O(2)	132.84(13)	O(2)-Zn(1)-O(3)	113.58(7)	O(2)-Zn(1)-N(1)	87.49(9)
O(2)-Zn(1)-N(1)	90.18(9)	O(3)-Zn(1)-N(1)	92.91(7)	N(1)-Zn(1)-N(1)	174.17(14)
O(1)-Zn(2)-O(1)	134.43(14)	O(1)-Zn(2)-O(4)	112.79(7)	O(1)-Zn(2)-N(3)	91.79(9)
O(1)-Zn(2)-N(3)	87.41(9)	O(4)-Zn(2)-N(3)	91.03(7)	N(3)-Zn(2)-N(3)	177.94(15)

**Table S3(b).** Hydrogen bonding parameters ( $\text{\AA}$ ,  $^{\circ}$ ) of (**3**)

D-H $\cdots$ A	D $\cdots$ A	H $\cdots$ A	D-H $\cdots$ A
N2 -- H2A .. O2 <sup>i</sup>	1.8300	2.707(3)	163.00
N2 -- H2B .. O1 <sup>i</sup>	1.8600	2.734(3)	162.00
C2 -- H2 .. O8 <sup>ii</sup>	2.4900	3.383(4)	161.00
C10 -- H10A .. O8 <sup>iii</sup>	2.4700	3.293(5)	142.00
C11 -- H11B .. O7 <sup>iv</sup>	2.4300	3.309(5)	150.00

**Equivalent positions:** (i)1-x,y,1/2-z (ii)1/2-x,1/2-y,1/2+z (iii)1/2+x,1/2-y,-z (iv)1-x,1-y,-z

**Table S4.** Phosphotase like activities from reported complexes

Complex	Substrate	Conditions	$K_{cat}$ (s <sup>-1</sup> )	Reference
[Ni <sub>2</sub> L(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub> ]4H <sub>2</sub> O·2ClO <sub>4</sub>	4-NPP	acetonitrile–water (2.5% (v/v), 25 ° C)	3.5 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	S1
[Cu <sup>II</sup> <sub>2</sub> (L <sup>1</sup> )(μO <sub>2</sub> CMe) <sub>2</sub> ][NO <sub>3</sub> ]	HPNP	MeOH–H <sub>2</sub> O (33%, v/v)	14.50 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	S2
[Zn <sub>2</sub> (L <sub>2</sub> )-(μ-O <sub>2</sub> CMe) <sub>2</sub> (MeCN) <sub>2</sub> ][PF <sub>6</sub> ]	HPNP	MeOH-H <sub>2</sub> O (33%, v/v), 30 ° C	3.44 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	S3
[Cu <sub>3</sub> (L_2pyald)(μ-OAc)](ClO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	2,4-BDNPP	CH <sub>3</sub> CN/H <sub>2</sub> O; (50% v/v)	9.76 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	S4
[Cu <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> pat <sup>1</sup> )- (μ-OH)(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> ]	BDNPP	H <sub>2</sub> O : MeCN : MeOH = 50 : 45 : 5, 25 ° C	3.95 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	S5
Zn <sub>2</sub> (bpmp)(μ-OH)(ClO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	HPNP	DMSO-H <sub>2</sub> O (30%, v/v), 25 ° C	6.4 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	S6
[Ni <sub>2</sub> (μ-LClO)(μ2-OAc) <sub>2</sub> ](PF <sub>6</sub> )·3H <sub>2</sub> O	BDNPP	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	2.80 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	S7
[Zn <sub>3</sub> (L <sup>1</sup> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub> ]·H <sub>2</sub> O·2DMF (2)	HPNP	DMF-H <sub>2</sub> O (30%, v/v)	9.6 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	Present work

## References

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