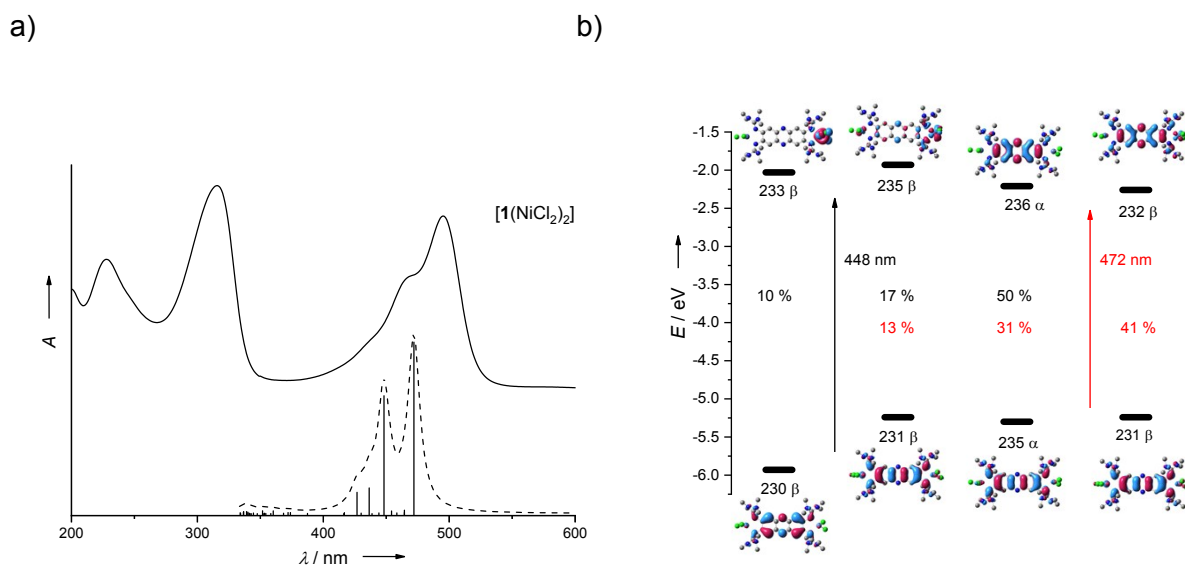


## Supporting Information

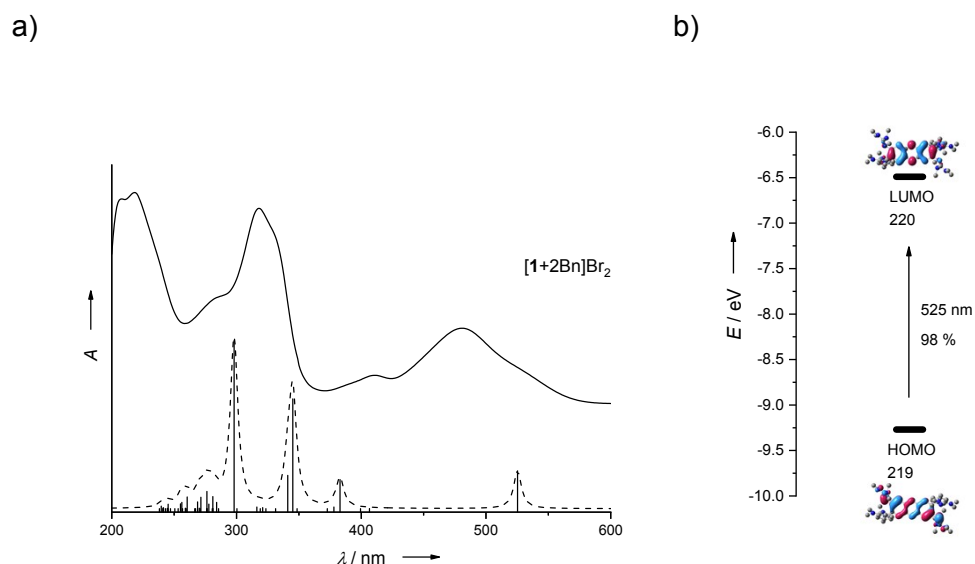
### Di- and Tetranuclear Transition Metal Complexes of a Tetrakisguanidino-Substituted Phenazine Dye by Stepwise Coordination

Roxana Lorenz, Elisabeth Kaifer, Hubert Wadepohl, Hans-Jörg Himmel\*

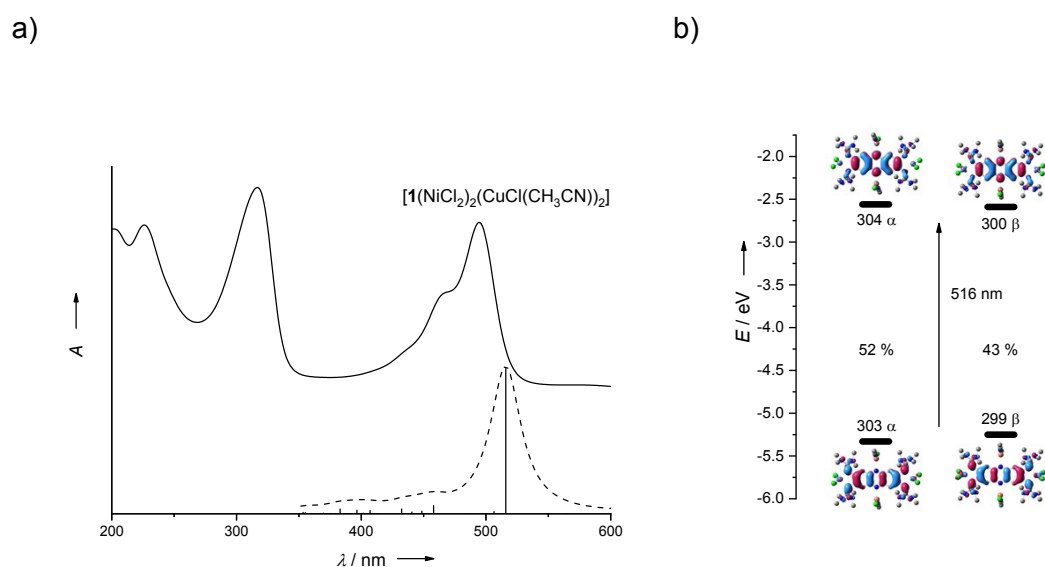
#### Comparison between the results from TD-DFT calculations and the measured UV/Vis spectra as well as assignment of the lowest-energy electronic transitions



**Figure S1** a) Comparison between the experimentally obtained electronic absorption spectrum for  $[1(\text{NiCl}_2)_2]$  dissolved in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  solution (—) and a simulation (---) based on a TD-DFT calculation at the B3LYP-D3/def2-TZVP level; b) Isodensity surfaces of the orbitals contributing to the two most intense bands at 448 (black) and 472 nm (red).



**Figure S2** a) Comparison between the UV/Vis spectrum for  $[1+2Bn]Br_2$  in  $CH_3CN$  solution (—) and a simulation (---) based on TD-DFT calculations at the B3LYP-D3/def2-TZVP level; b) Isodensity surfaces of the orbitals contributing to the band at 525 nm.



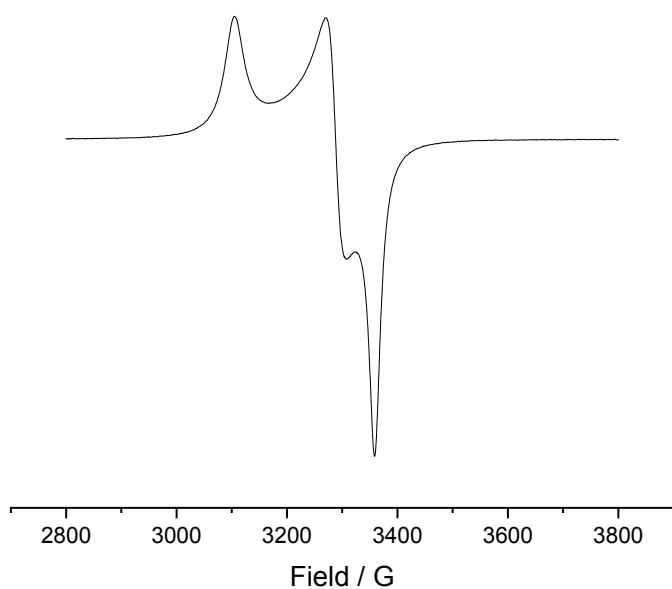
**Figure S3** a) Comparison between the UV/Vis spectrum of  $[1(NiCl_2)_2(CuCl(CH_3CN))_2]$  in  $CH_3CN$  solution (—) and a simulation (---) based on a TD-DFT calculations on the B3LYP-D3/def2-TZVP level. b) Isodensity surfaces of the orbitals contributing to the band at 516 nm.



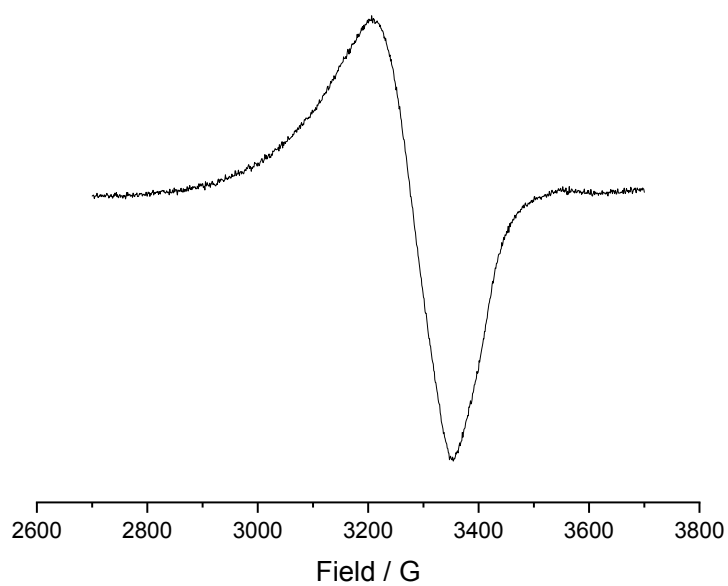
Photos of solutions of **1**,  $[1(CuCl_2)_2]$ ,  $[1(NiCl_2)_2]$  and  $[1+2Bn]Br_2$  (from left to right) in  $CH_3CN$ .

## Analytical data for all compounds

### EPR spectra for $[1(\text{CuCl}_2)_2]$

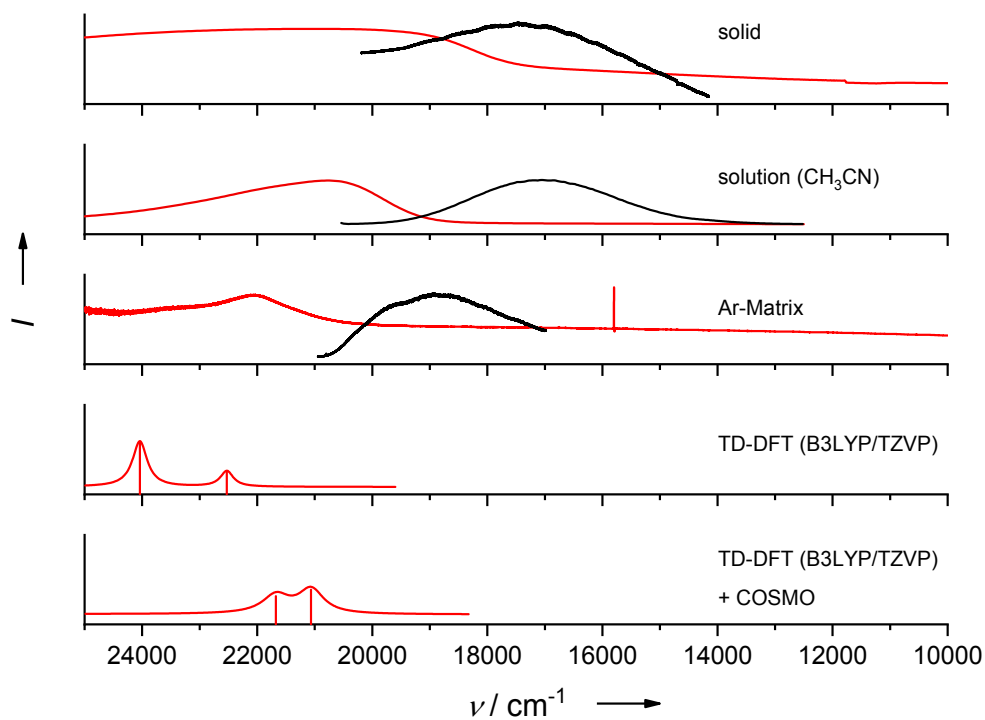


**Figure S4** EPR-spectrum (RT, solid):  $g_1 = 2.216$ ,  $g_2 = 2.096$ ,  $g_3 = 2.057$  ( $\nu = 9.638289$  GHz).



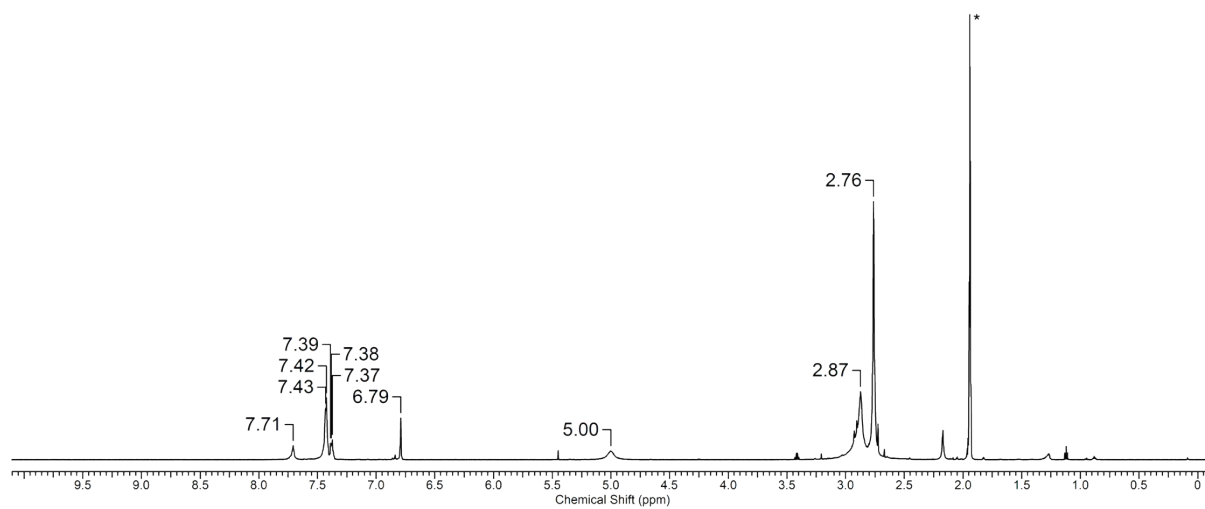
**Figure S5** EPR-spectrum (RT,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  solution):  $g = 2.120$  ( $\nu = 9.63795$  GHz).

## Absorption and emission spectra for **1**

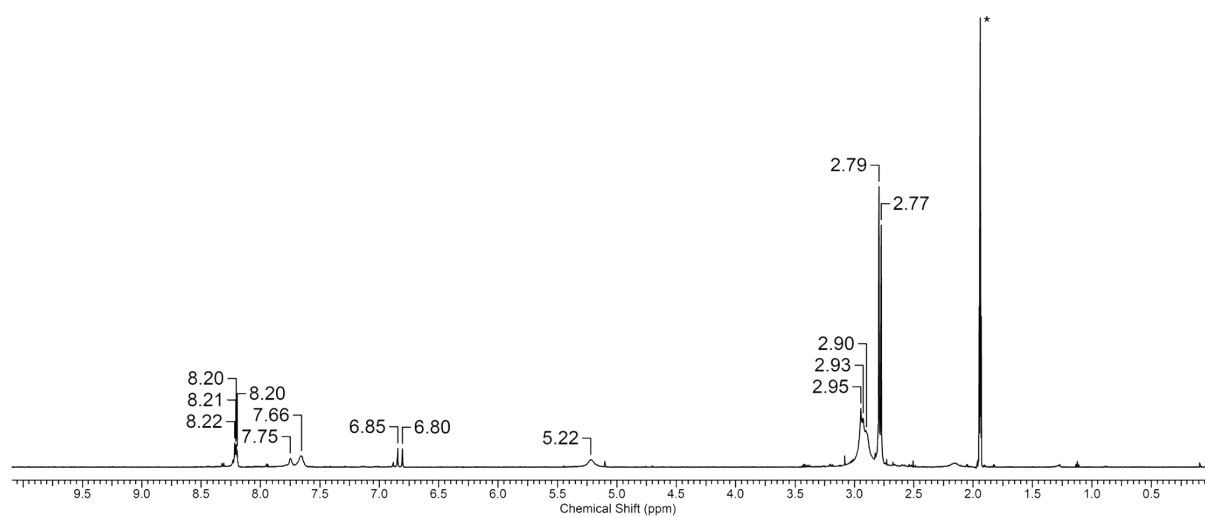


**Figure S6** Electronic absorption (red) and emission (black) spectra for **1** in the solid material, in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  solution, in an Ar matrix (4 K) as well as calculated (B3LYP/TZVP) absorption spectra without and with simulation of the solvent effect by COSMO ( $\epsilon_r = 37.5$ ).

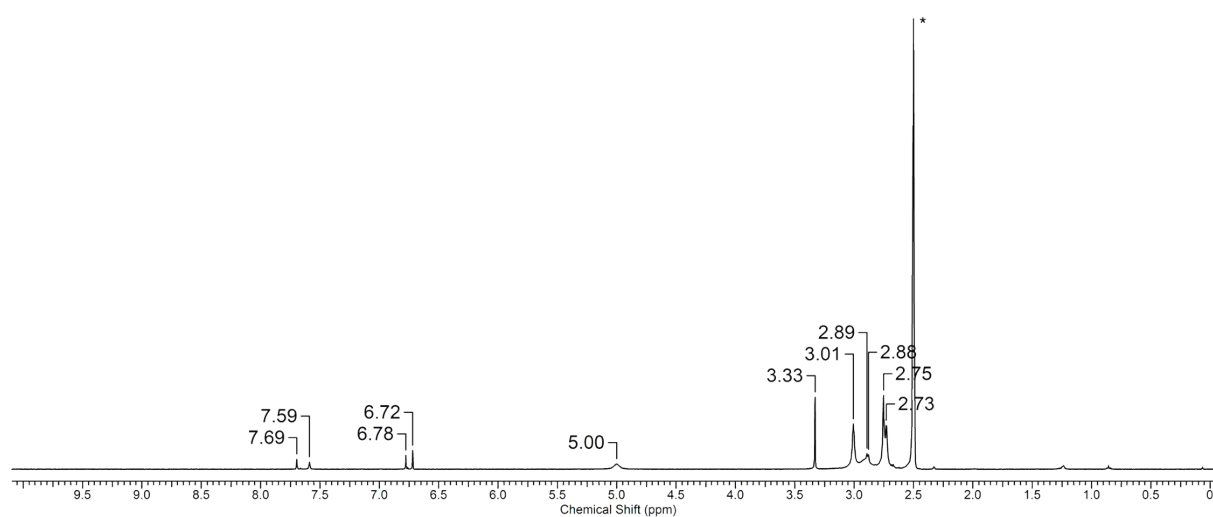
## Analytical data for [1+2R]Br<sub>2</sub>



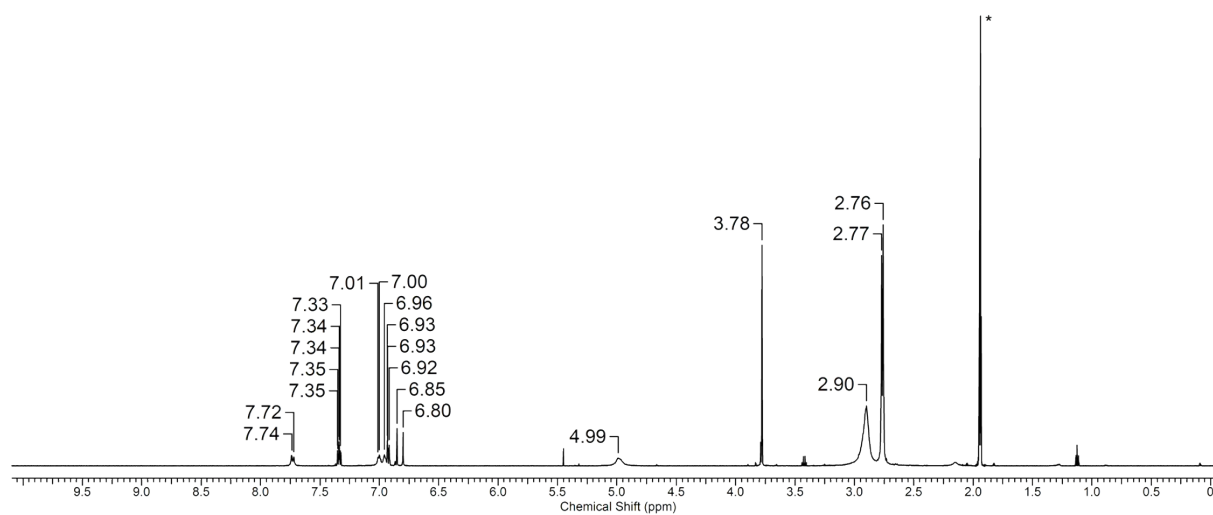
**Figure S7** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (600 MHz) of [1+2Bn]Br<sub>2</sub> dissolved in CD<sub>3</sub>CN.



**Figure S8** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (600 MHz) of [1+2(p-NO<sub>2</sub>Bn)]Br<sub>2</sub> dissolved in CD<sub>3</sub>CN.

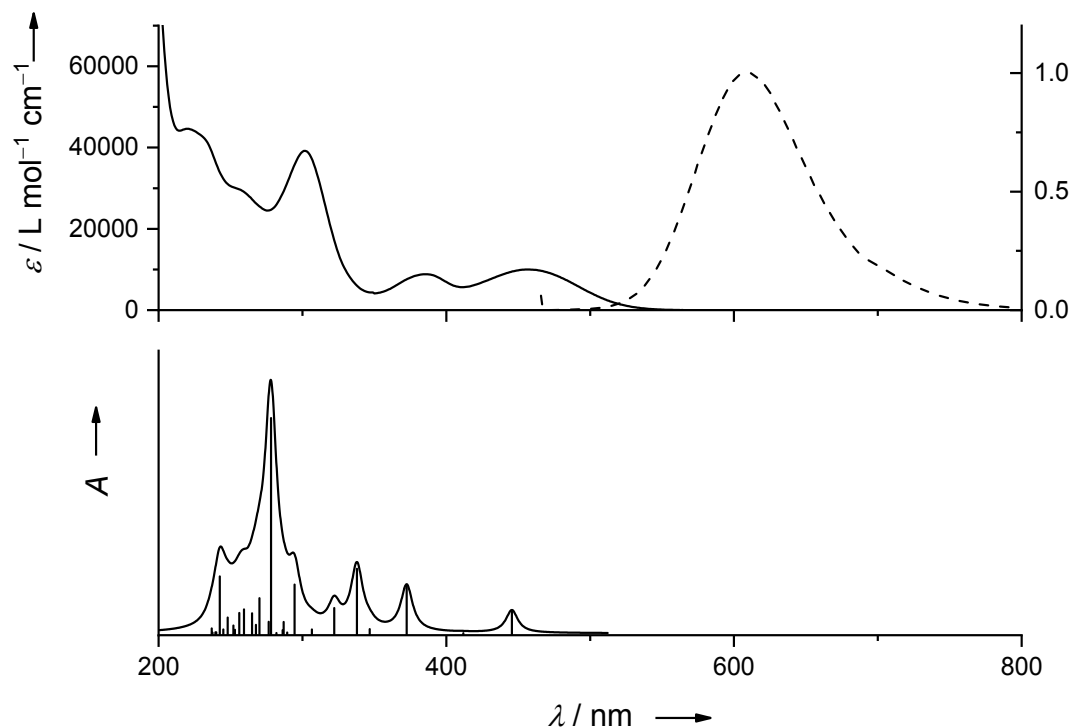


**Figure S9**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz) of  $[1+2(\text{F}_5\text{Bn})]\text{Br}_2$  dissolved in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ .

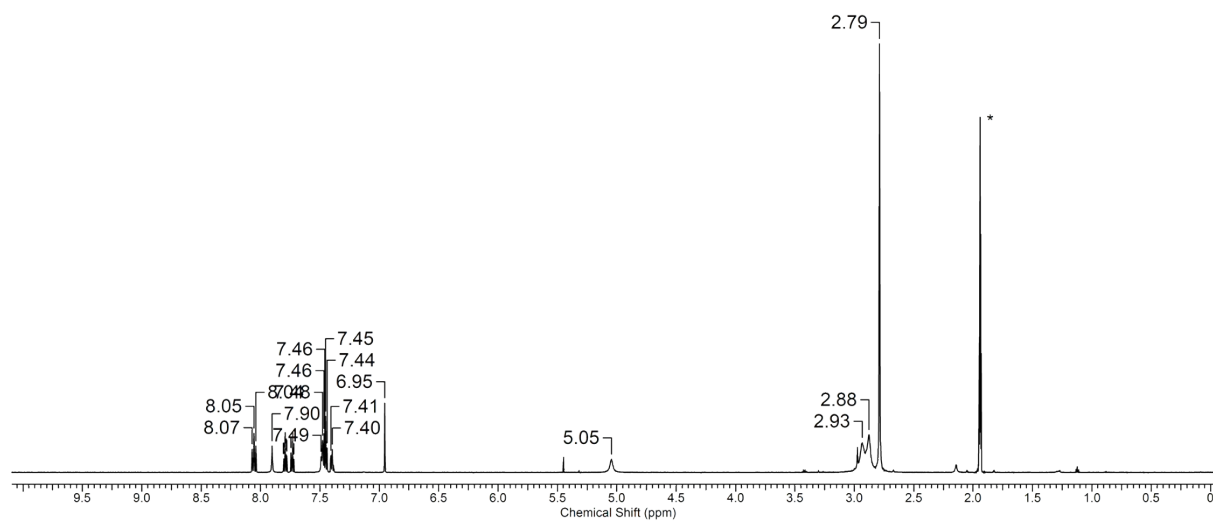


**Figure S10**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz) of  $[1+2(\text{m-MeOBn})]\text{Br}_2$  dissolved in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ .

## Analytical data for [2+Bn]Br

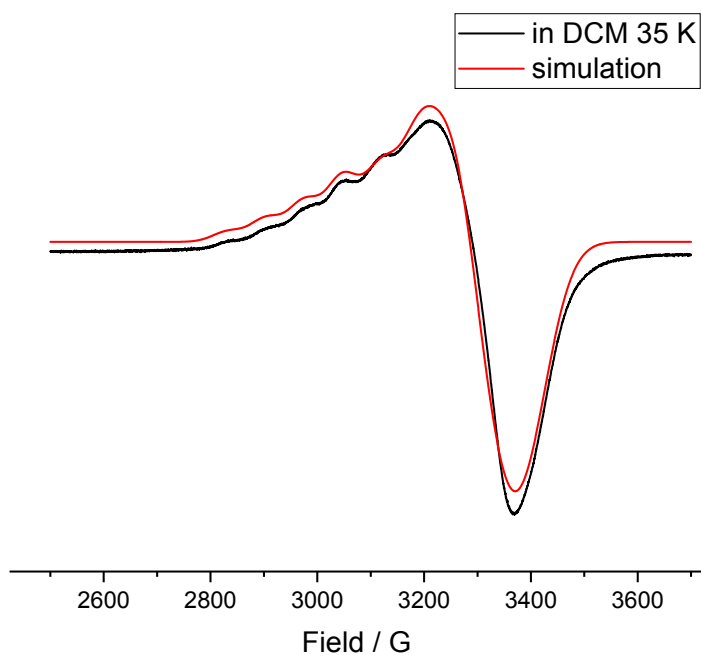


**Figure S11** Electronic absorption and emission spectra (normalized) of [2+Bn]Br in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  and a simulation based on TD-DFT calculations at the B3LYP/TZVP level.



**Figure S12**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (600 MHz) of [2+Bn]Br dissolved in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ .

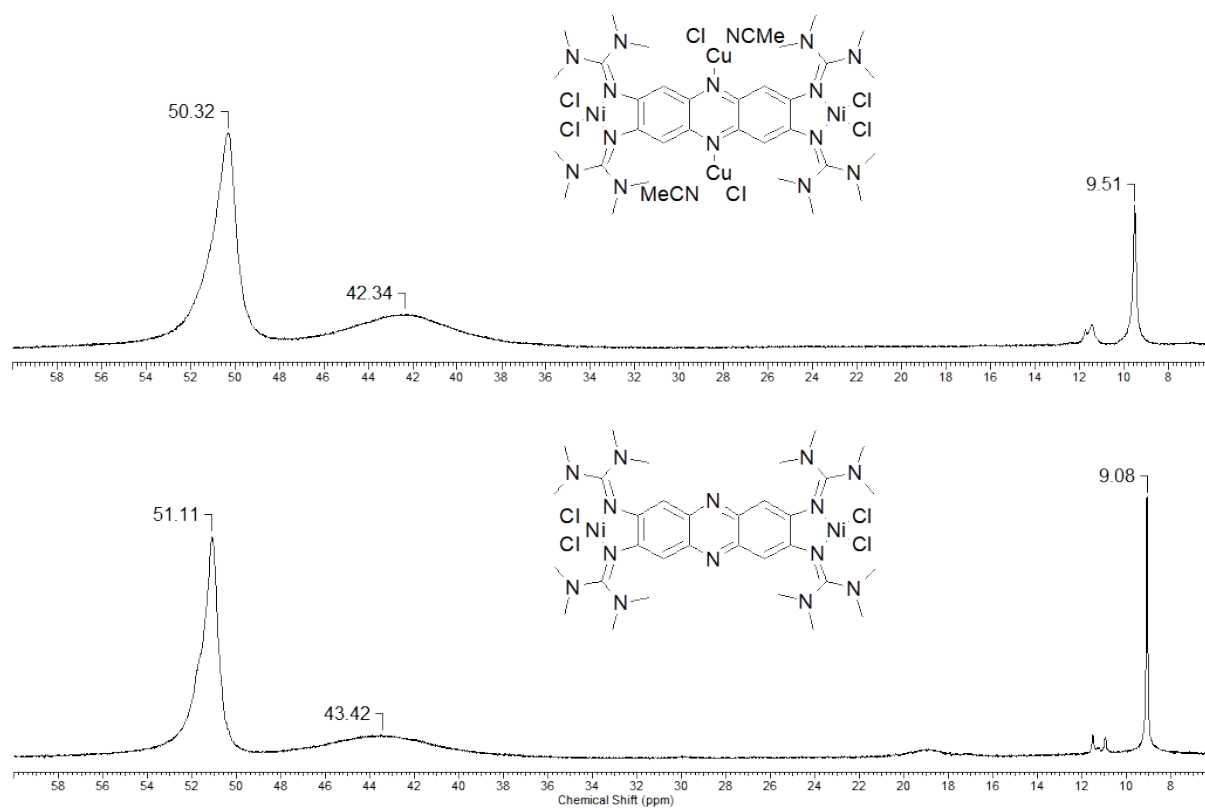
## EPR spectrum for $[1(\text{CuCl}_2)_2(\text{CuCl})_2]$



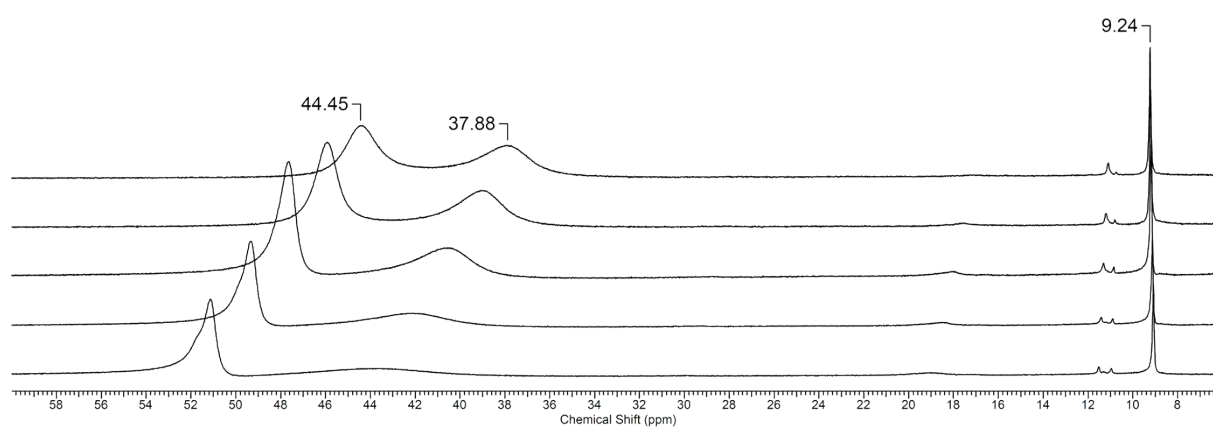
**Figure S13** EPR spectrum of  $[1(\text{CuCl}_2)_2(\text{CuCl})_2]$  in a frozen  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  solution at 35 K. The fit was obtained with the following parameters:  $g_{\parallel} = 2.258$ ,  $g_{\perp} = 2.072$ ,  $A_{\parallel} = 75$  G,  $A_{\perp} = 25$  G.



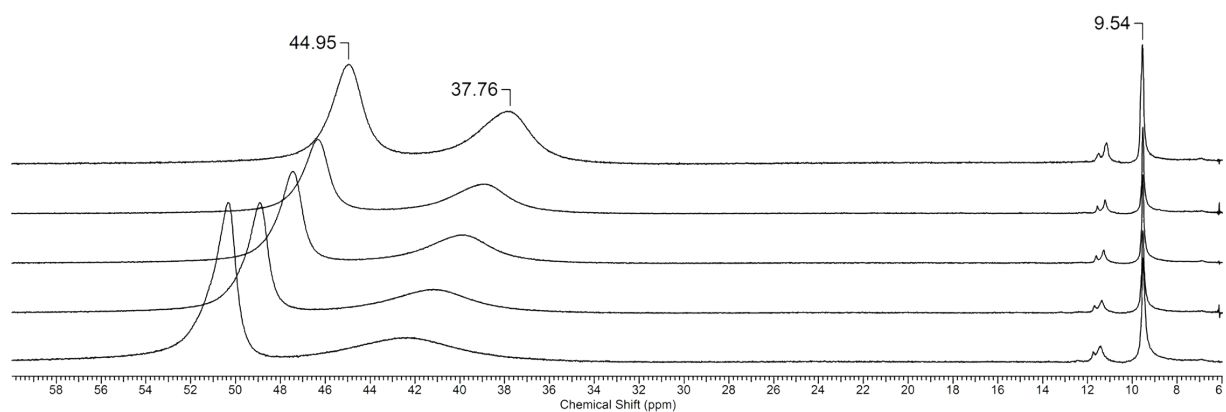
## Analytical data for $[1(\text{NiCl}_2)_2(\text{CuCl}(\text{CH}_3\text{CN}))_2]$



**Figure S14**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (200 MHz) of  $[1(\text{NiCl}_2)_2]$  (bottom) and  $[1(\text{NiCl}_2)_2(\text{CuCl}(\text{CH}_3\text{CN}))_2]$  (top) dissolved in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ .

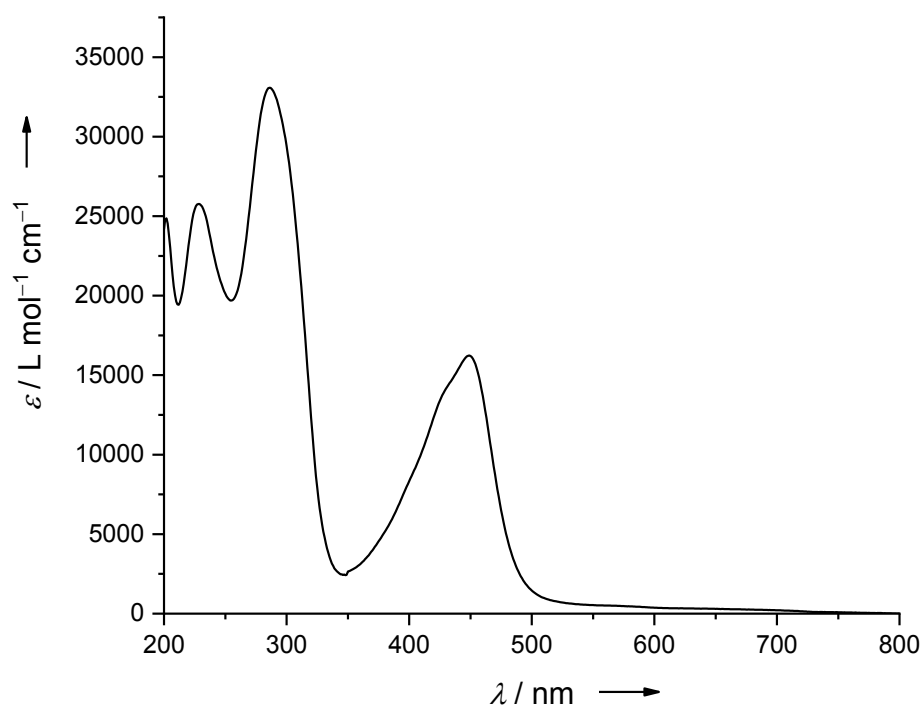


**Figure S15** Variable temperature  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra from 300 to 340 K (from bottom to top) of  $[1(\text{NiCl}_2)_2]$  dissolved in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ .

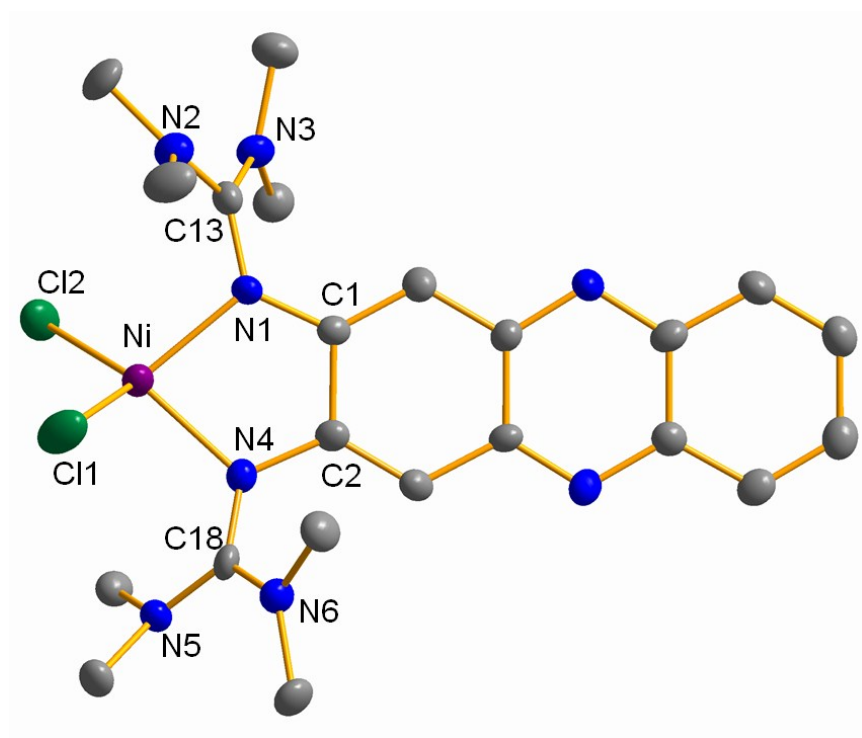


**Figure S16** Variable temperature  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra from 300 to 340 K (from bottom to top) of  $[\mathbf{1}(\text{NiCl}_2)_2(\text{CuCl}(\text{CH}_3\text{CN}))_2]$  dissolved in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ .

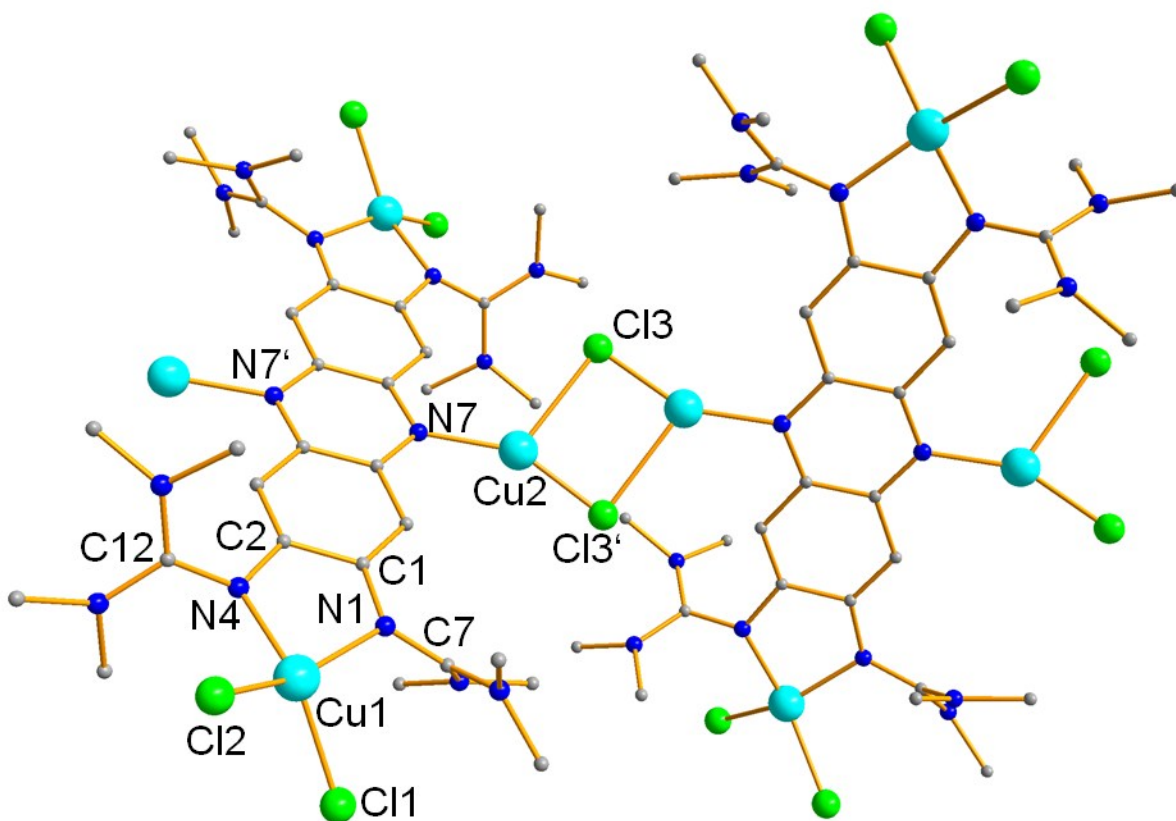
## Analytical data for [2(NiCl<sub>2</sub>)]



**Figure S17** UV/Vis spectrum of [2(NiCl<sub>2</sub>)] dissolved in CH<sub>3</sub>CN.



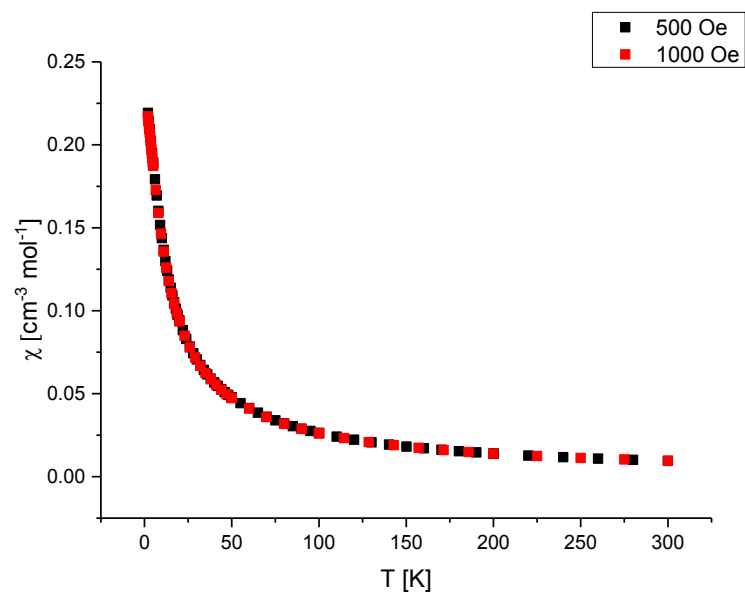
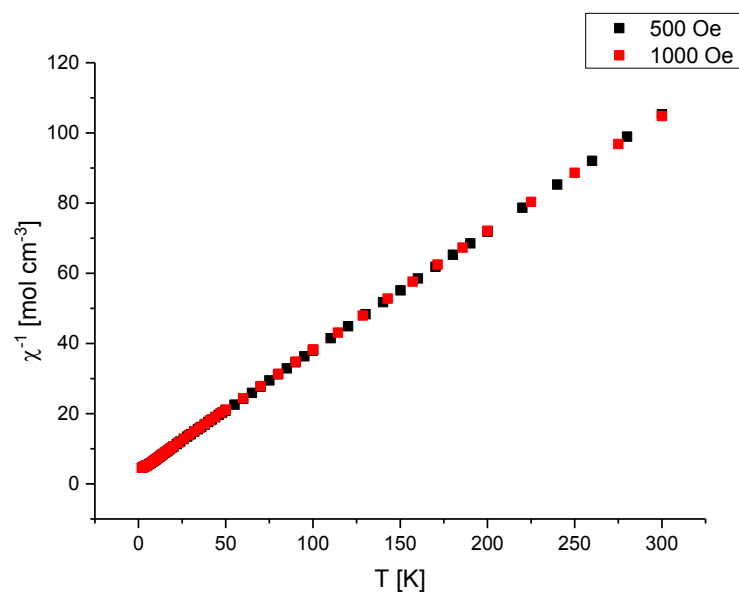
**Figure S18** Structure of the complex [2(NiCl<sub>2</sub>)]. Vibrational ellipsoids drawn at the 50% probability level. Hydrogen atoms omitted for clarity. Selected structural parameters (bond distances in Å, angles in °): Ni-Cl1 2.2302(18), Ni-Cl2 2.2294(17), Ni-N1 1.991(4), Ni-N4 1.986(4), N1-C1 1.369(7), N1-C13 1.338(7), N4-C2 1.397(7), N4-C18 1.334(7), (Cl1-Ni-Cl2, N1-Ni-N4) 68.86.

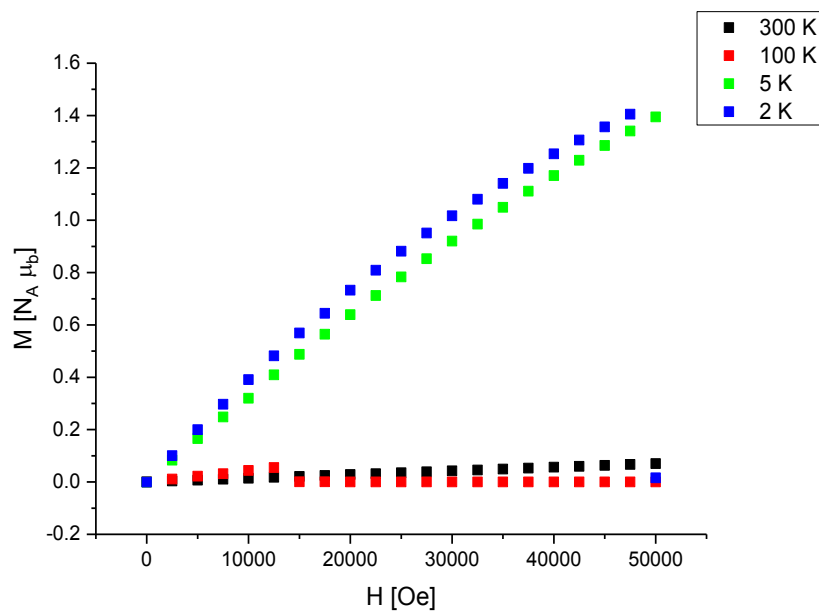
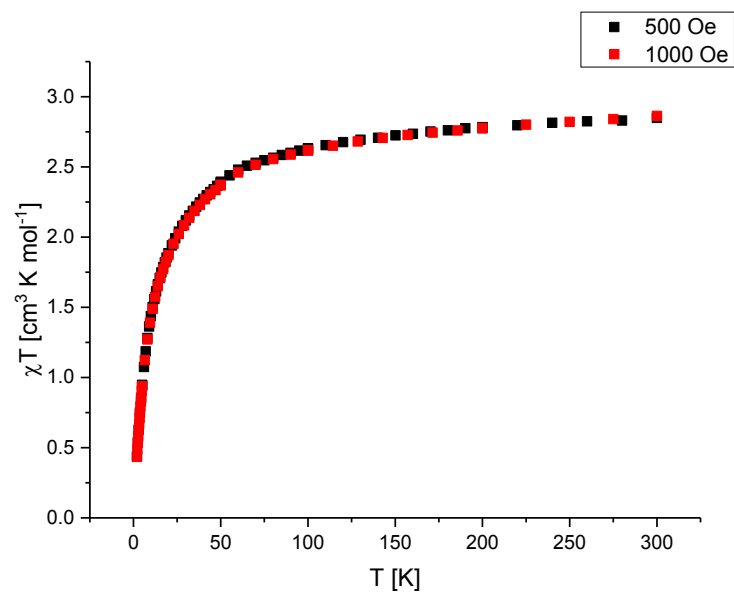


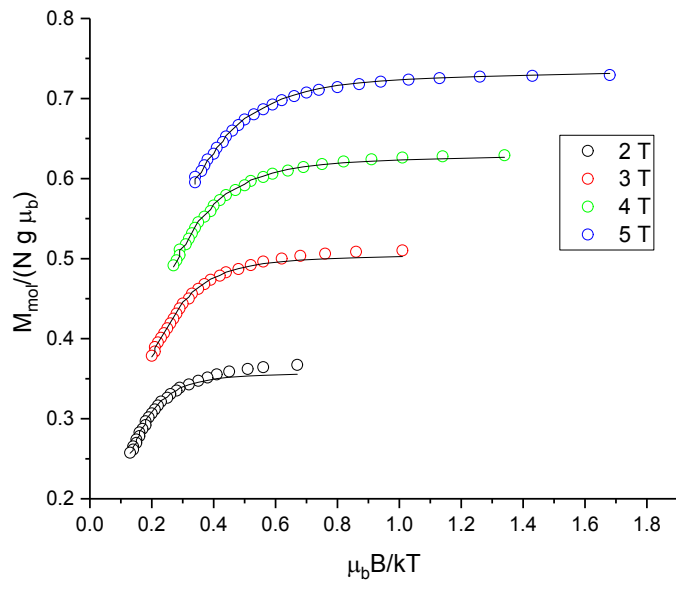
**Figure S19** Section of the mixed-valent coordination polymer  $[1(\text{CuCl}_2)_2(\text{CuCl})_2]_n$ . A ball-and-stick representation is shown. Hydrogen atoms omitted for clarity. Selected structural parameters (bond distances in Å, angles in °): Cu1-N1 1.987(4), Cu1-N4 1.964(4), Cu1-Cl1 2.2420(14), Cu1-Cl2 2.2265(15), Cu2-N7 1.981(5), Cu2-Cl3 2.102(3), Cu2-Cl3' 2.669(3), N1-C1 1.388(6), N1-C7 1.342(6), N4-C2 1.368(7), N4-C12 1.329(7), N1-Cu1-N4 82.21(17), Cl1-Cu1-Cl2 99.45(6), N7-Cu2-Cl3 152.69(16), N7-Cu2-Cl3' 118.33(15), Cl3-Cu-Cl3' 88.88(9). Please note that the crystals were of bad quality. Therefore, the structural parameters are afflicted with a large error.

Crystal data:  $\text{C}_{33.8}\text{H}_{55.6}\text{Cl}_{8.6}\text{Cu}_3\text{N}_{14}$ :  $M_r = 1153.61$ ,  $0.50 \times 0.20 \times 0.10 \text{ mm}^3$ , monoclinic, space group  $C2/c$ ,  $a = 21.862(4)$ ,  $b = 24.311(5)$ ,  $c = 14.152(3) \text{ Å}$ ,  $\beta = 117.18(3)^\circ$ ,  $V = 6691(3) \text{ Å}^3$ ,  $Z = 4$ ,  $d_{\text{calc}} = 1.145 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$ , Mo- $K_\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ Å}$ ),  $T = 100 \text{ K}$ ,  $\theta_{\text{range}} 4.2$  to  $60.00^\circ$ . Reflections measd. 55915, indep. 9742,  $R_{\text{int}} = 0.1217$ . Final R indices [ $I > 2s(I)$ ]:  $R_1 = 0.0842$ ,  $wR_2 = 0.2351$ .

## SQUID data for $[1(\text{NiCl}_2)_2]$







Fit parameters:  $J = 1.534$ ;  $g_1 = g_2 = 2.07$ ;  $D_1 = D_2 = 11.917$ ;  $E/D_1 = E/D_2 = 2.091$