

Electronic Supporting information

# Highly Luminescent Copper(I) Halide Complexes Chelated with a Tetradentate Ligand (PNNP): Synthesis, Structure, Photophysical Properties and Theoretical Studies

Ji-Hui Jia,<sup>a,c</sup> Xu-Lin Chen,<sup>\*a,b</sup> Jian-Zhen Liao,<sup>a</sup> Dong Liang,<sup>b</sup> Ming-Xue Yang,<sup>a,c</sup>  
Rongmin Yu,<sup>a</sup> and Can-Zhong Lu<sup>\*a,b</sup>

*<sup>a</sup>Key Laboratory of Design and Assembly of Functional Nanostructures, and Fujian Key Laboratory of Nanomaterials, Fujian Institute of Research on the Structure of Matter, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Fuzhou, Fujian 350002, China*

*<sup>b</sup>Xiamen Institute of Rare-earth Materials, Haixi Institutes, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Xiamen 361021, China*

*<sup>c</sup>University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, 100049, China.*

## 1. Crystal Structure Determination

**Table S1.** Selected crystallographic data of the complexes **1** and **2**.

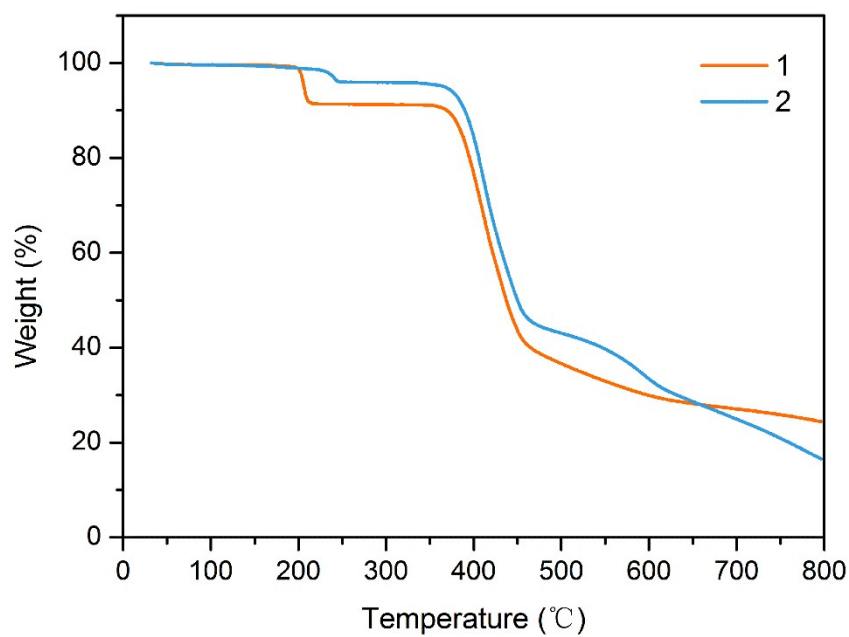
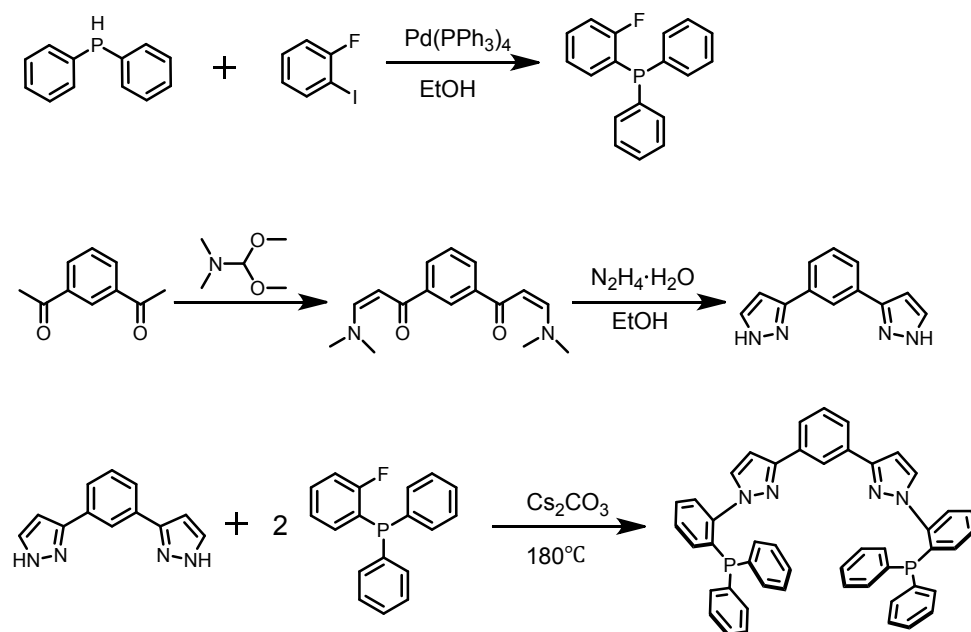
Compound reference	1	2
Chemical formula	C <sub>48</sub> H <sub>36</sub> Br <sub>2</sub> Cu <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> P <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>48</sub> H <sub>36</sub> Cu <sub>2</sub> I <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> P <sub>2</sub>
Formula Mass	1017.65	1111.63
Crystal system	triclinic	triclinic
a/Å	12.0271(5)	12.2493(4)
b/Å	13.1399(8)	13.0962(6)
c/Å	17.0209(8)	17.0110(7)
α/°	109.974(5)	107.746(4)
β/°	92.594(4)	92.742(3)
γ/°	113.357(5)	114.186(4)
Unit cell volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	2269.5(2)	2323.58(16)
Temperature/K	100(2)	100(2)
Space group	P-1	P-1
No. of formula units per unit cell, Z	2	2
No. of reflections measured	15788	16036
No. of independent reflections	8945	9173
R <sub>int</sub>	0.0318	0.0293
Final R <sub>1</sub> values (I > 2σ(I))	0.0375	0.0301
Final wR(F <sup>2</sup> ) values (I > 2σ(I))	0.0952	0.982
Final R <sub>1</sub> values (all data)	0.0490	0.0332
Final wR(F <sup>2</sup> ) values (all data)	0.1014	0.0827
Goodness of fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.044	0.982
CCDC reference numbers	1853178	1853179

<sup>a</sup>R<sub>1</sub> =  $\sum ||F_o| - |F_c|| / \sum |F_o|$ . <sup>b</sup>wR<sub>2</sub> =  $[\sum w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2 / \sum w(F_o^2)]^{1/2}$

**Table S2.** Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) of the complexes **1** and **2**.

Compound		1	2
Distances(Å)	Cu1-X1	2.51	2.63
	Cu1-N1	2.16	2.16
	Cu1-P1	2.21	2.24
	Cu1-X2	2.47	2.66
	Cu1-Cu2	3.04	2.96
Angles(°C)	P1-Cu1-N1	91.95	90.62
	P1-Cu1- X2	120.95	115.39
	P1-Cu1-X1	118.18	117.05
	X1-Cu1-X2	103.71	110.51
	X1-Cu1-N1	103.02	118.21
	X2-Cu1-N1	118.05	103.17

**Scheme 1.** Synthetic route of the ligand.



**Figure S1** TGA-plots for complexes 1 and 2.

## 2. Theoretical Studies

**Table S3** Composition of HOMO, HOMO-1, LUMO, and LUMO+1 of complexes **1-2** in the optimized  $S_0$  structure.

		Cu	X	P	C,N,H
Compound1	HOMO-6	67.073502%	13.016883%	5.415852%	14.493763%
	HOMO-5	64.053482%	22.542768%	0.389114%	13.014636%
	HOMO-4	75.187452%	7.107629%	2.887000%	14.817919%
	HOMO-3	42.513077%	52.606468%	0.387677%	4.492778%
	HOMO-2	52.849406%	27.892934%	7.107275%	12.150385%
	HOMO-1	54.114584%	28.768855%	6.109894%	11.006667%
	HOMO	53.150280%	20.087406%	15.792438%	10.969877%
	LUMO	1.551162%	0.913887%	5.191978%	92.342973%
	LUMO+1	3.725925%	0.425068%	4.323489%	91.525518%
	LUMO+2	8.908469%	0.087289%	5.136377%	85.867865%
	LUMO+3	1.066420%	0.074555%	10.728958%	88.130067%
	LUMO+4	3.663999%	0.029245%	11.961106%	84.345650%
	LUMO+5	1.836927%	0.210368%	5.042766%	92.909939%
LUMO+6	21.056377%	0.076414%	2.576834%	76.290375%	
Compound2	HOMO-6	51.814554%	18.066024%	10.272232%	19.847190%
	HOMO-5	53.021560%	31.014925%	1.483943%	14.479572%
	HOMO-4	66.467396%	14.272471%	3.635088%	15.625045%
	HOMO-3	28.729365%	67.013672%	0.285326%	3.971637%
	HOMO-2	42.180593%	39.134520%	6.907102%	11.777785%
	HOMO-1	46.044242%	40.419744%	4.521937%	9.015899%
	HOMO	45.992967%	28.792098%	15.059474%	10.155461%
	LUMO	4.878275%	0.573204%	4.211374%	90.337147%
	LUMO+1	1.683849%	1.249788%	5.123323%	91.943040%
	LUMO+2	9.161551%	0.112161%	5.719065%	85.007223%
	LUMO+3	1.437793%	0.075148%	11.991131%	86.495928%
	LUMO+4	3.249861%	0.052653%	11.472226%	85.225260%
	LUMO+5	1.910525%	0.319175%	3.830257%	93.940043%
LUMO+6	24.202168%	0.116710%	2.792612%	72.888510%	

**Table S4** Compositions of hole and electron in the S<sub>1</sub> state of **1** and **2** in the optimized S<sub>0</sub> structure.

		Cu	X	P	C,N,H
Compound1	Hole	54.724997%	17.898719%	16.141038%	11.235246%
	electron	2.288220%	1.358306%	5.654734%	90.698740%
	difference	52.44%	16.54%	10.47%	-79.46%
Compound2	Hole	47.832405%	26.569939%	15.368771%	10.228884%
	electron	2.457454%	1.781833%	5.459608%	90.301105%
	difference	45.37%	24.79%	9.91%	-80.07%

**Table S5** Compositions of hole and electron in the T<sub>1</sub> state of **1** and **2** in the optimized S<sub>0</sub> structure.

		Cu	X	P	C,N,H
Compound1	Hole	50.975823%	15.076068%	18.148691%	15.799418%
	electron	2.289848%	1.420924%	7.940988%	88.348240%
	difference	48.685975%	13.655144%	10.207703%	-72.55%
Compound2	Hole	45.437657%	23.047326%	17.434178%	14.080840%
	electron	2.529659%	1.976107%	7.454214%	88.040021%
	difference	42.907998%	21.071219%	9.979934%	-73.96%

**Table S6** Calculated energy levels, oscillator strengths (*f*), and orbital transition analyses for selected lower-lying transitions for complexes **1** and **2**

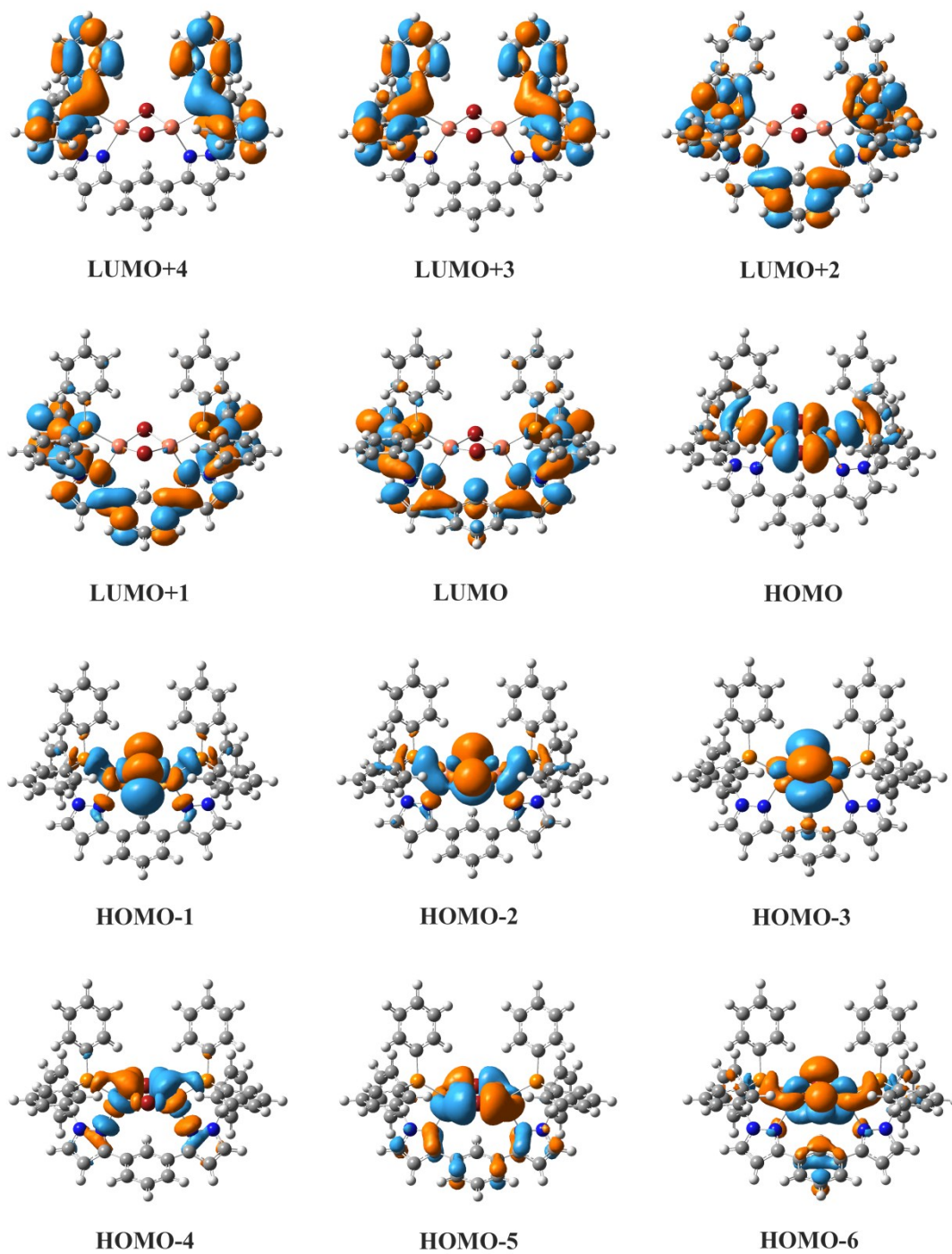
	states	$\lambda_{\text{cal}}$ (nm)	<i>f</i>	assignments	MLCT	XLCT	ILCT
<b>1</b>	S <sub>1</sub>	413.03	0.0026	HOMO→LUMO (89%)	52.44%	16.54%	10.47%
	S <sub>2</sub>	410.60	0.0119	HOMO→LUMO+1 (87%)			
	S <sub>3</sub>	381.86	0.0016	HOMO-1→LUMO (83%)			
	T <sub>1</sub>	429.20	0.0	HOMO→LUMO (74%) HOMO-1→LUMO+1 (11%)	48.69%	13.66%	10.21%
<b>2</b>	S <sub>1</sub>	415.49	0.0022	HOMO→LUMO+1 (93%)	45.37%	24.79%	9.91%
	S <sub>2</sub>	413.83	0.0106	HOMO→LUMO (94%)			
	S <sub>3</sub>	384.52	0.003	HOMO-1→LUMO (92%)			
	T <sub>1</sub>	428.65	0.0	HOMO→LUMO+1 (80%)	42.91%	21.07%	9.98%

**Table S7** Compositions of hole and electron in the S<sub>1</sub> state of **1** and **2** in the optimized S<sub>1</sub> structure.

		Cu	X	P	C,N,H
Compound1	Hole	49.348000%	11.506052%	18.511014%	20.634934%
	electron	2.245564%	0.670512%	3.543305%	93.540619%
	difference	47.10%	10.84%	14.97%	-72.91%
Compound2	Hole	45.286435%	17.160418%	17.986002%	19.567145%
	electron	2.419814%	0.859895%	3.413330%	93.306961%
	difference	42.87%	16.30%	14.57%	-73.74%

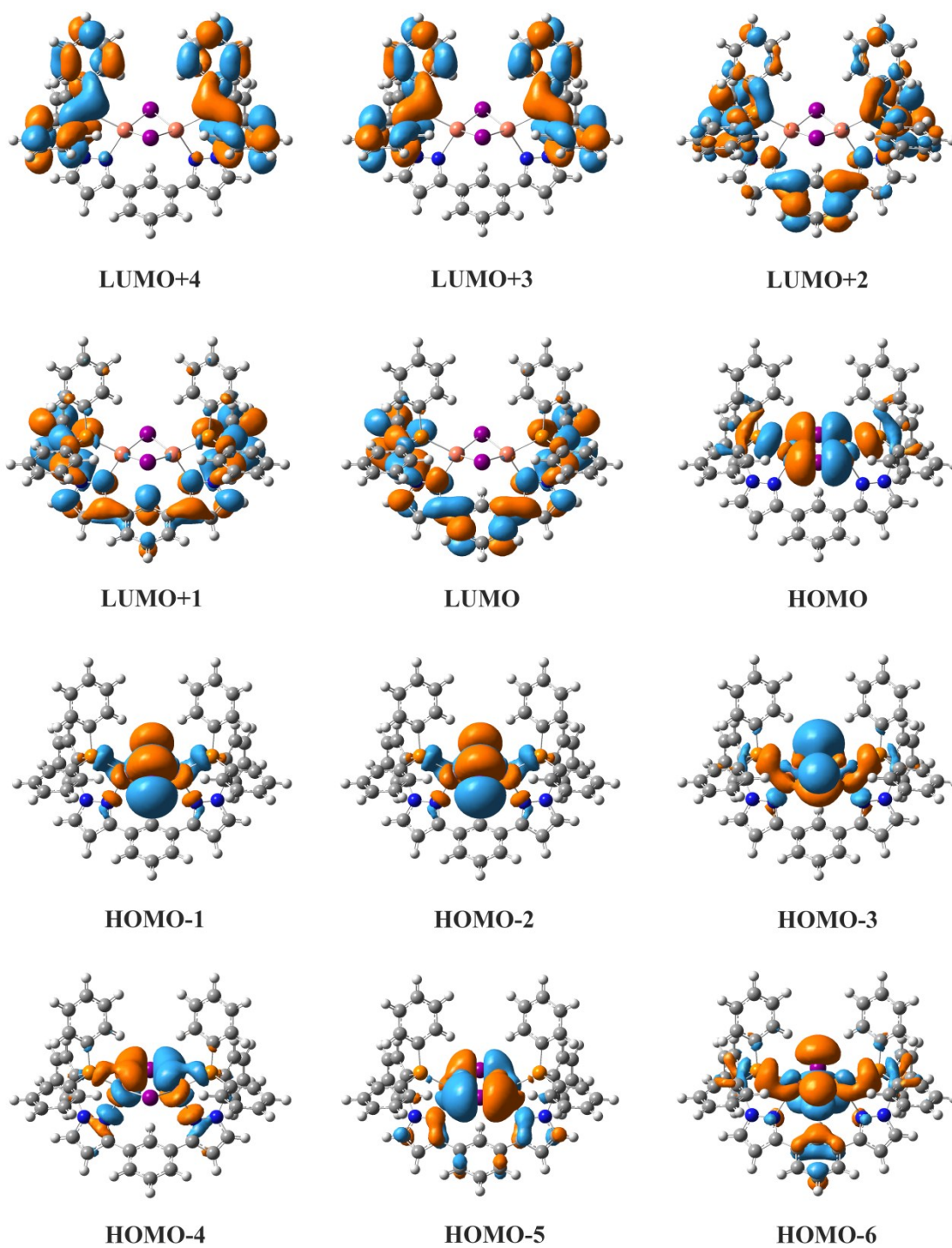
**Table S8** Compositions of hole and electron in the T<sub>1</sub> state of **1** and **2** in the optimized T<sub>1</sub> structure.

		Cu	X	P	C,N,H
Compound1	Hole	45.449827%	10.329748%	20.336456%	23.883969%
	electron	2.359396%	0.857278%	7.200250%	89.583076%
	difference	43.09%	9.47%	13.14%	-65.70%
Compound2	Hole	41.249002%	14.291310%	20.526102%	23.933586%
	electron	2.438149%	1.093314%	7.465256%	89.003280%
	difference	38.81%	13.20%	13.06%	-65.07%

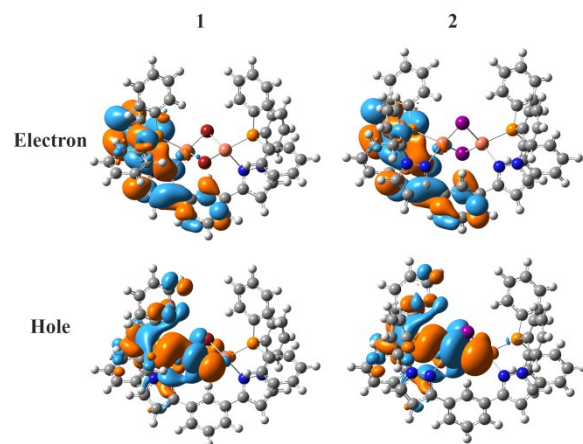


**Figure S2** Frontier orbitals from HOMO-6 to LUMO+4 of complex **1** in the optimized  $S_0$  structure

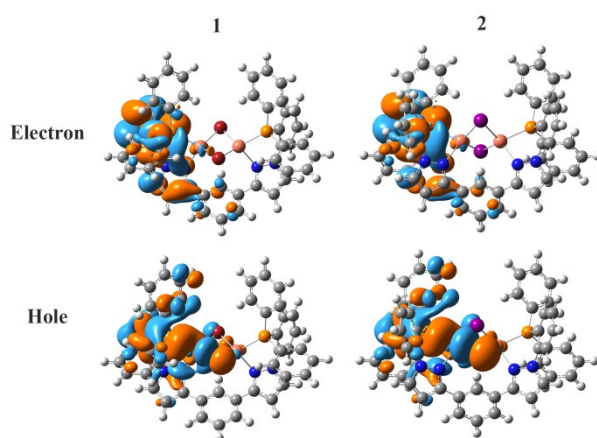




**Figure S3** Frontier orbitals from HOMO-6 to LUMO+4 of complex 2 in the optimized  $S_0$  structure.



**Figure S4** Natural transition orbital pairs of the  $S_1$  state for complexes **1** and **2** in the optimized  $S_1$  structure.



**Figure S5** Natural transition orbital pairs of the  $T_1$  state for complexes **1** and **2** in the optimized  $T_1$  structure.

In order to evaluate the temperature-dependent relative contributions of TADF and phosphorescence in the overall emission, we estimated the ratio of the individual emission intensity originating from  $S_1$  and  $T_1$ , i.e.,  $I(S_1)$  and  $I(T_1)$ , to the total emission intensity  $I_{tot}$ , in dependence of temperature. The emission intensity is proportional to the population of the individual state  $N$  and to the corresponding radiative rate constant  $k_r$ , so we can obtain:

$$I(S_1) = \alpha N(S_1)k_r(S_1) = \alpha N(S_1)\phi_{PL}(S_1)\tau(S_1)^{-1} \quad (S1)$$

$$I(T_1) = \alpha N(T_1)k_r(T_1) = \alpha N(T_1)\phi_{PL}(T_1)\tau(T_1)^{-1} \quad (S2)$$

Herein,  $\alpha$  is the proportionality constant that is same in both the equations. Assuming that the populations of both states follow a Boltzmann distribution (fast equilibration), the relative intensities can be expressed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{I(T_1)}{I_{tot}} &= \frac{I(T_1)}{I(S_1) + I(T_1)} = \left[ 1 + \frac{I(S_1)}{I(T_1)} \right]^{-1} = \left[ 1 + \frac{\alpha N(S_1)\phi_{PL}(S_1)\tau(S_1)^{-1}}{\alpha N(T_1)\phi_{PL}(T_1)\tau(S_1)^{-1}} \right]^{-1} \\ &= \left[ 1 + \frac{N(S_1)\phi_{PL}(S_1)\tau(T_1)}{N(T_1)\phi_{PL}(T_1)\tau(S_1)} \right]^{-1} = \left[ 1 + \frac{\phi_{PL}(S_1)\tau(T_1)g(S_1)}{\phi_{PL}(T_1)\tau(S_1)g(T_1)} \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta E_{ST}}{K_B T}\right) \right]^{-1} \quad (S3) \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{I(S_1)}{I_{tot}} = 1 - \frac{I(T_1)}{I_{tot}} = 1 - \left[ 1 + \frac{\phi_{PL}(S_1)\tau(T_1)g(S_1)}{\phi_{PL}(T_1)\tau(S_1)g(T_1)} \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta E_{ST}}{K_B T}\right) \right]^{-1} \quad (S4)$$

where  $g(S_1) = 1$  and  $g(T_1) = 3$  are the degeneracy factors for the singlet and the triplet states, respectively. The splitting of the  $T_1$  state, that is, the zero-field splitting (ZFS), is distinct in organo-transition-metal compounds due to the high metal participation and large spin-orbit coupling. So, we take into account the degeneracy factors for the singlet and the triplet states ( $g(S_1) = 1$  and  $g(T_1) = 3$ ) in evaluating the populations of the two states (Boltzmann distribution).

The plots shown in Figure 6c and Figure 6d can be obtained using eq S3 and eq S4, in which the parameters have been determined by eq 2 (see Figure 6a and Figure 6b). As a result, the relative contributions of TADF and phosphorescence are depicted visually in Figure 6c and Figure 6d.

## NMR Experiments

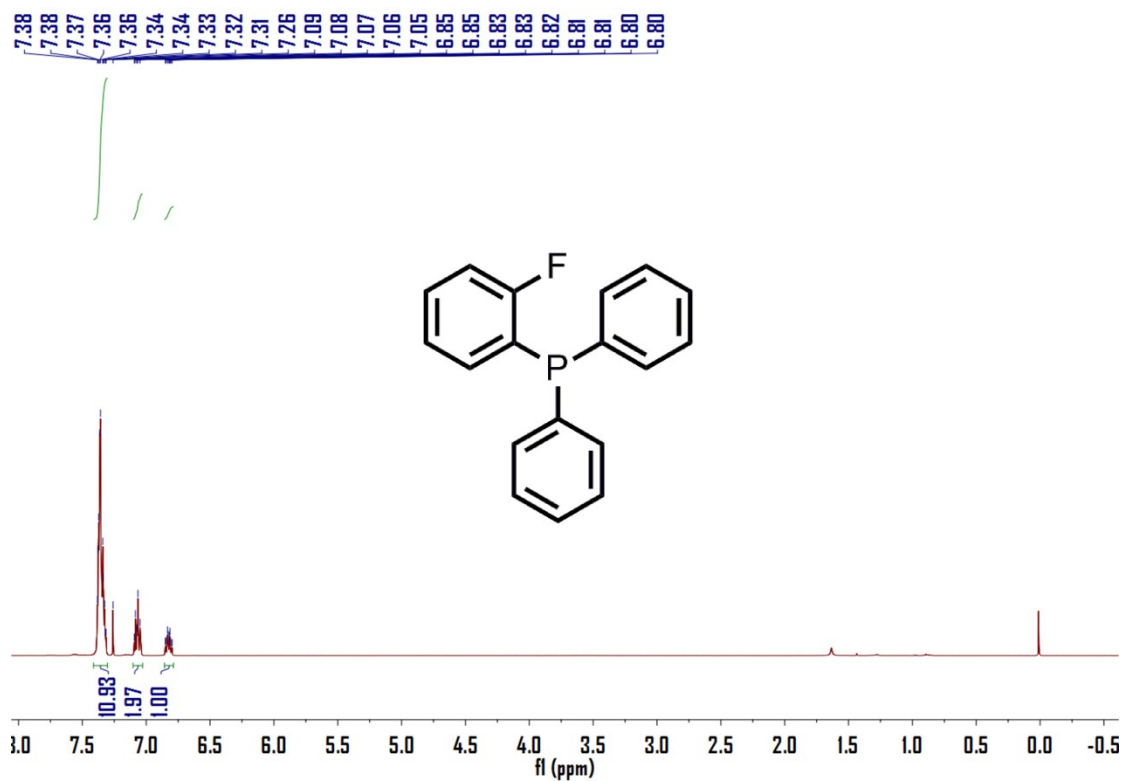


Figure S6 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of (2-fluorophenyl)diphenylphosphine in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

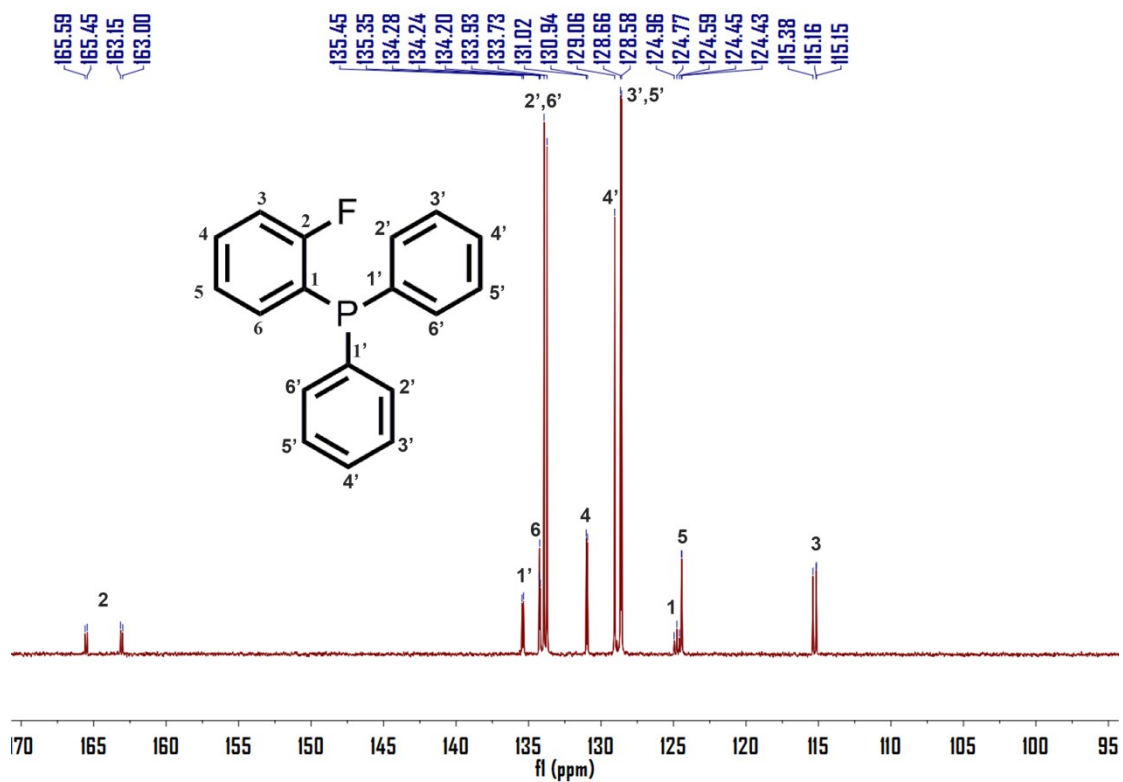


Figure S7 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of (2-fluorophenyl)diphenylphosphine in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

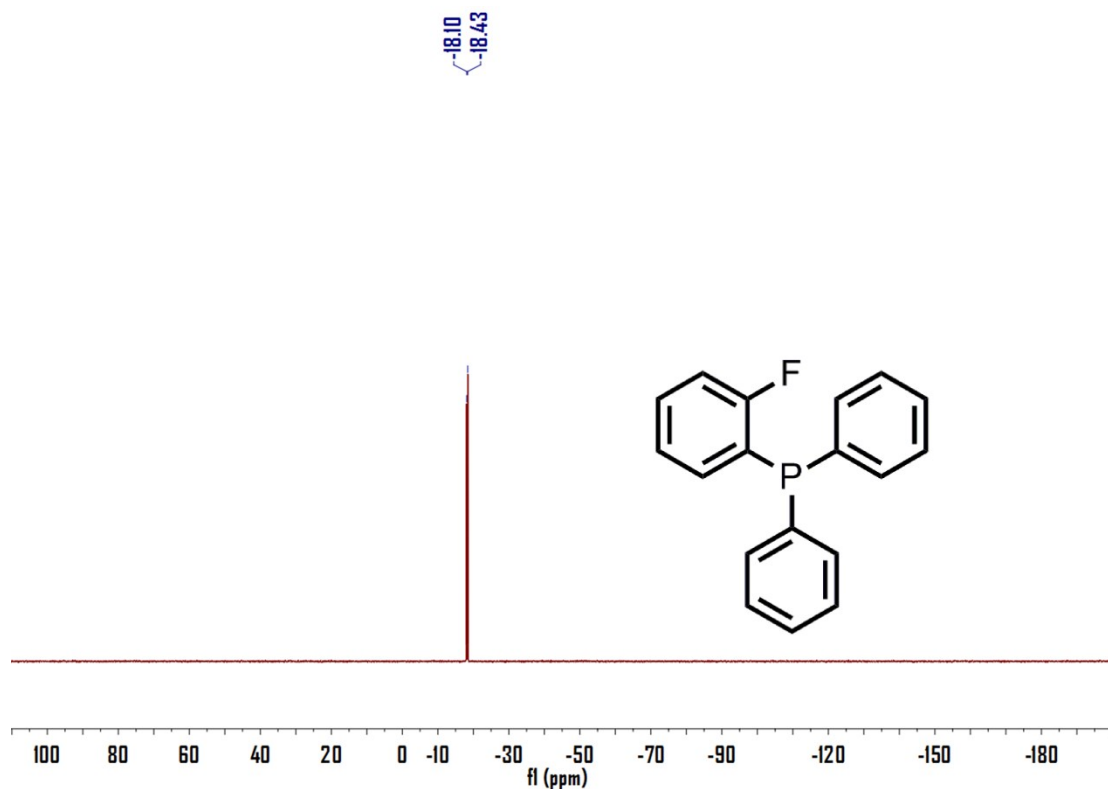


Figure S8  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectrum of (2-fluorophenyl)diphenylphosphine in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

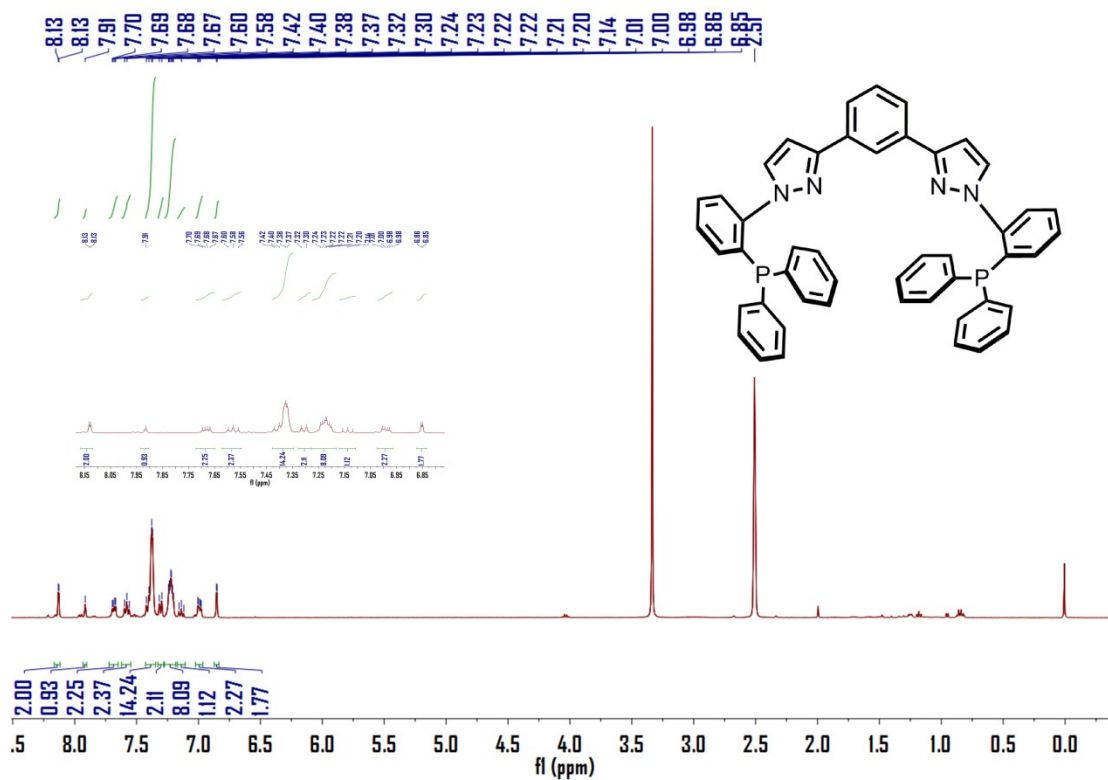


Figure S9  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of PNNP in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ .

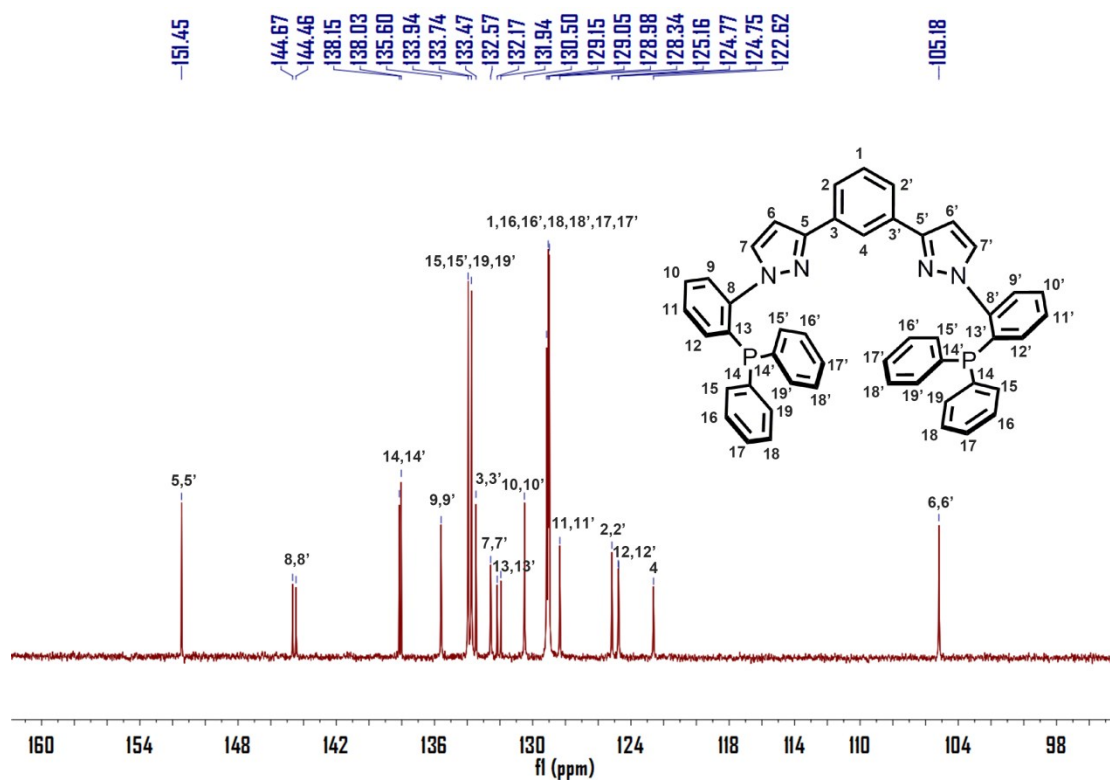


Figure S10  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of PNNP in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ .

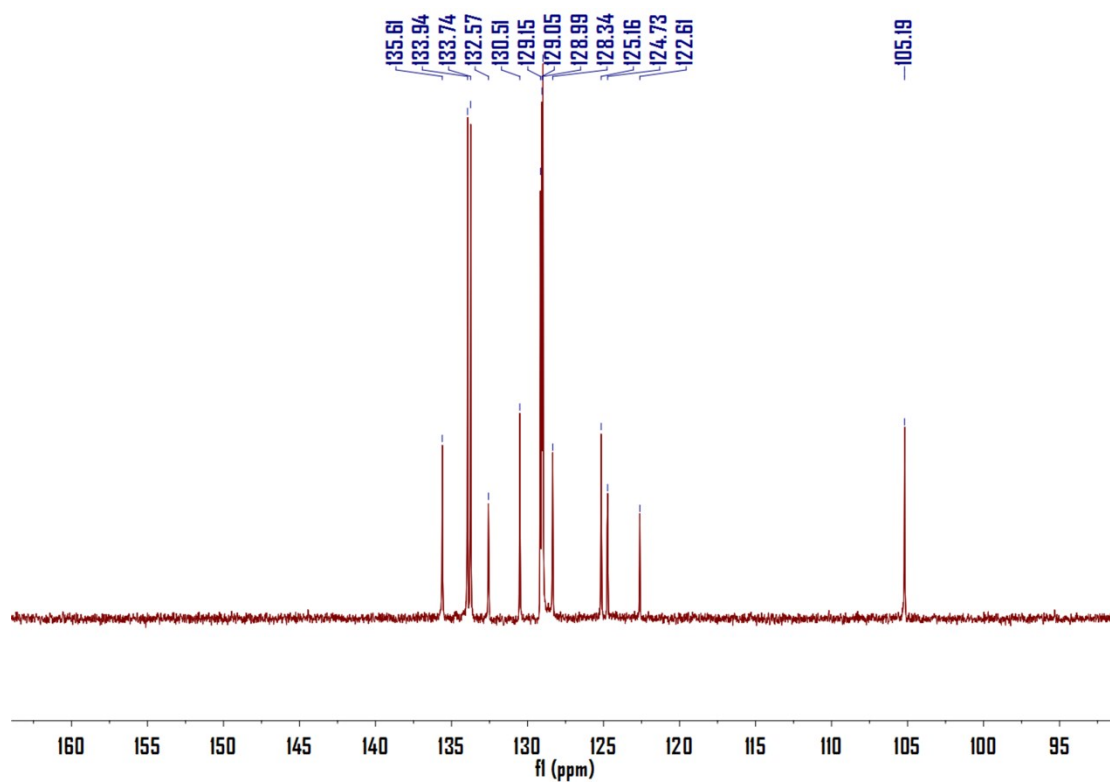
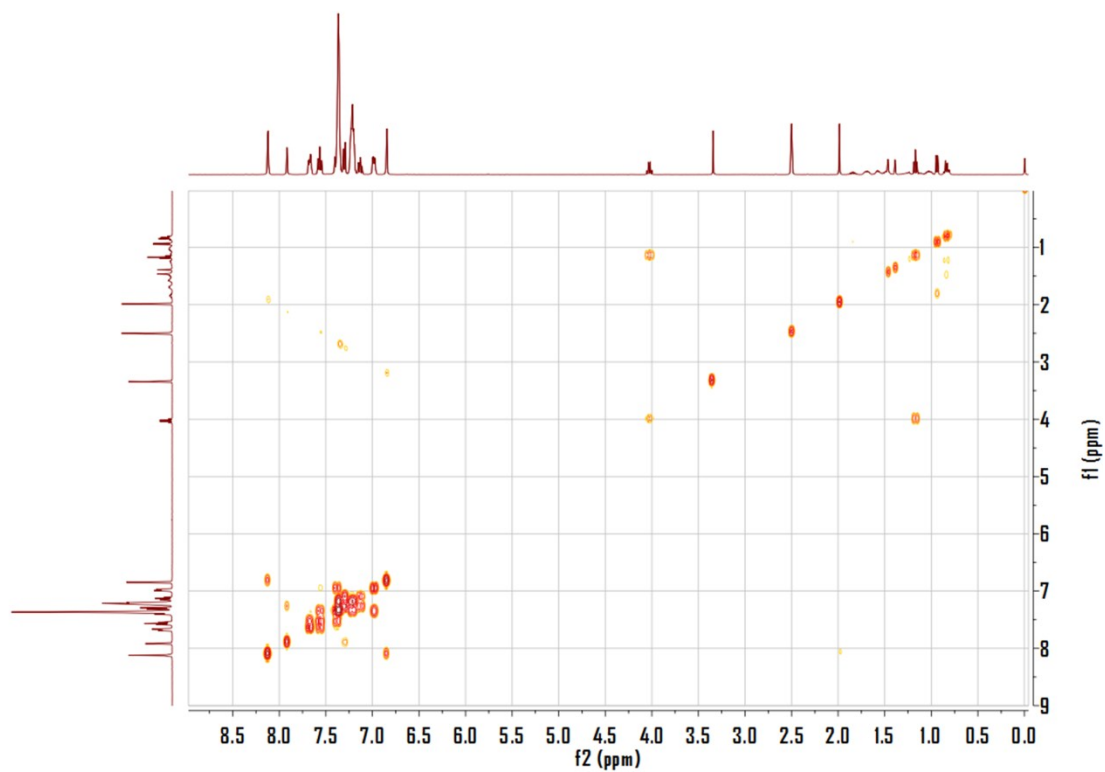
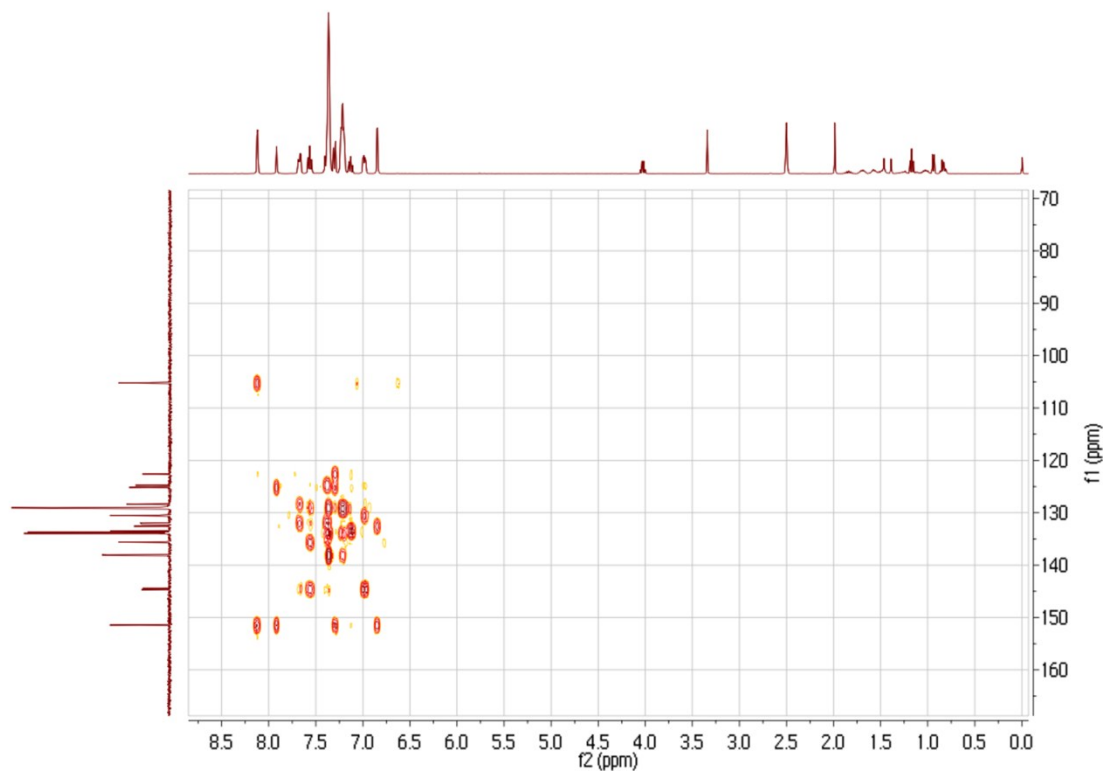


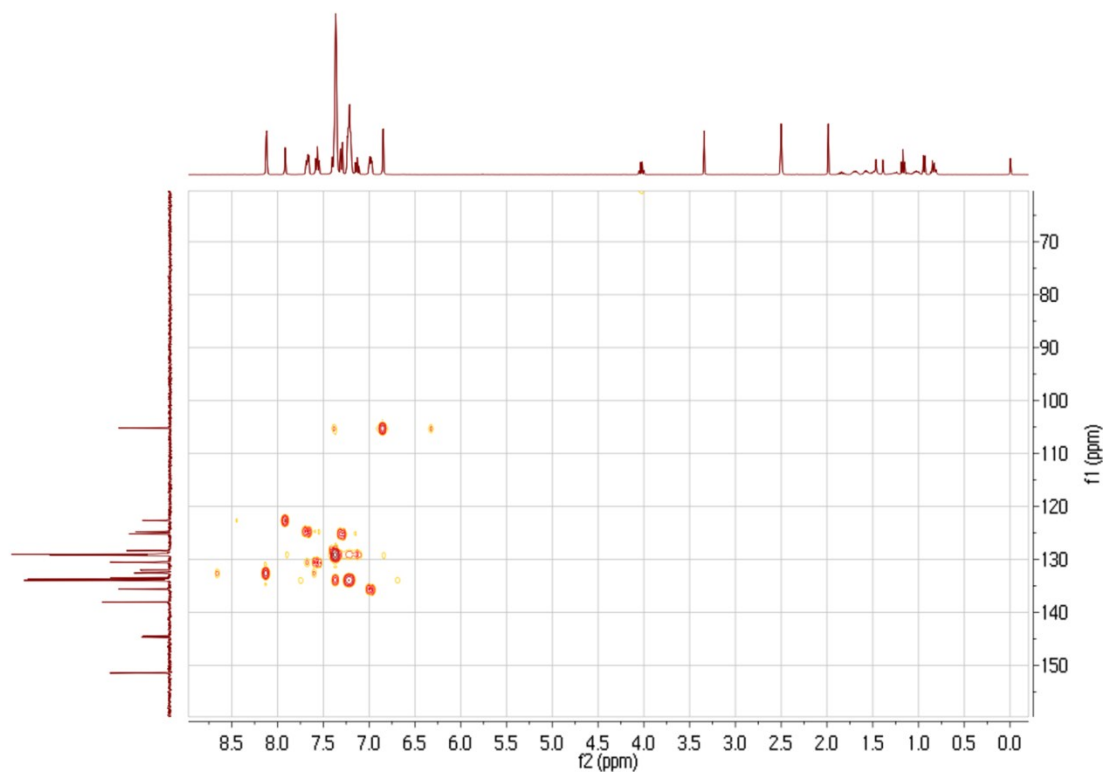
Figure S11 DEPT( $135^\circ$ ) NMR spectrum of PNNP in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ .



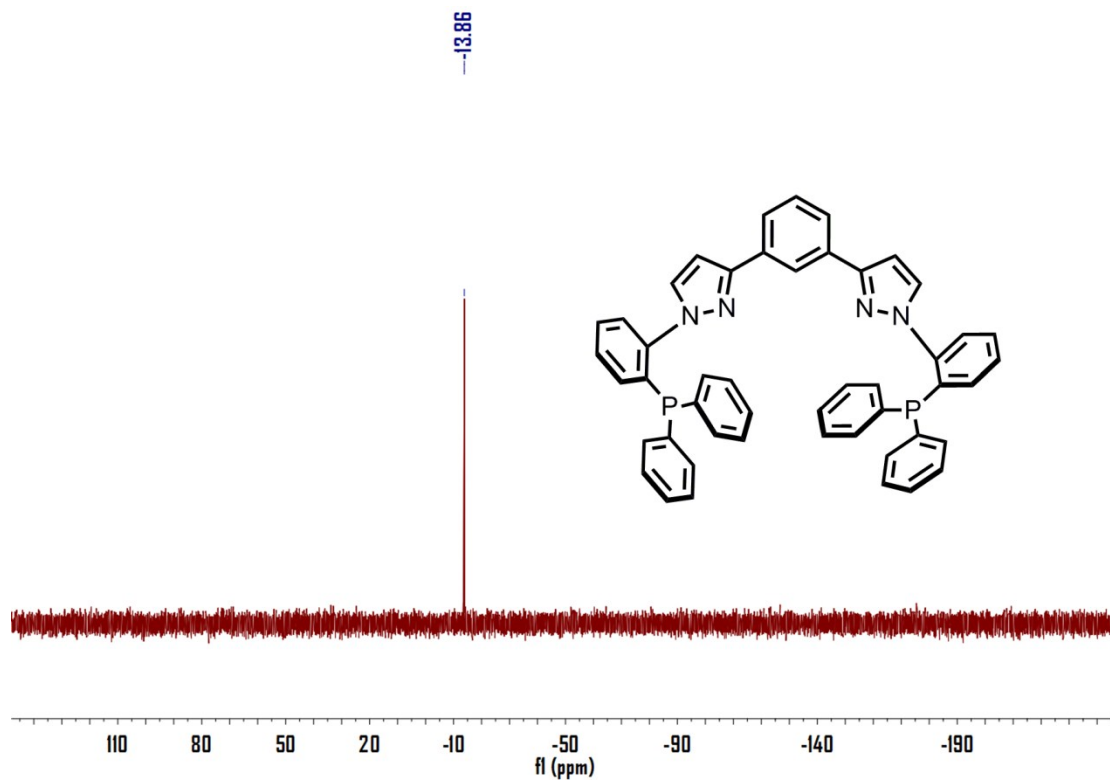
**Figure S12**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY NMR spectrum of PNNP in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ .



**Figure S13**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  HMBC NMR spectrum of PNNP in  $\text{DMSO-D}_6$ .



**Figure S14**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  HMQC NMR spectrum of PNNP in  $\text{DMSO-D}_6$



**Figure S15**  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectrum of PNNP in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ .



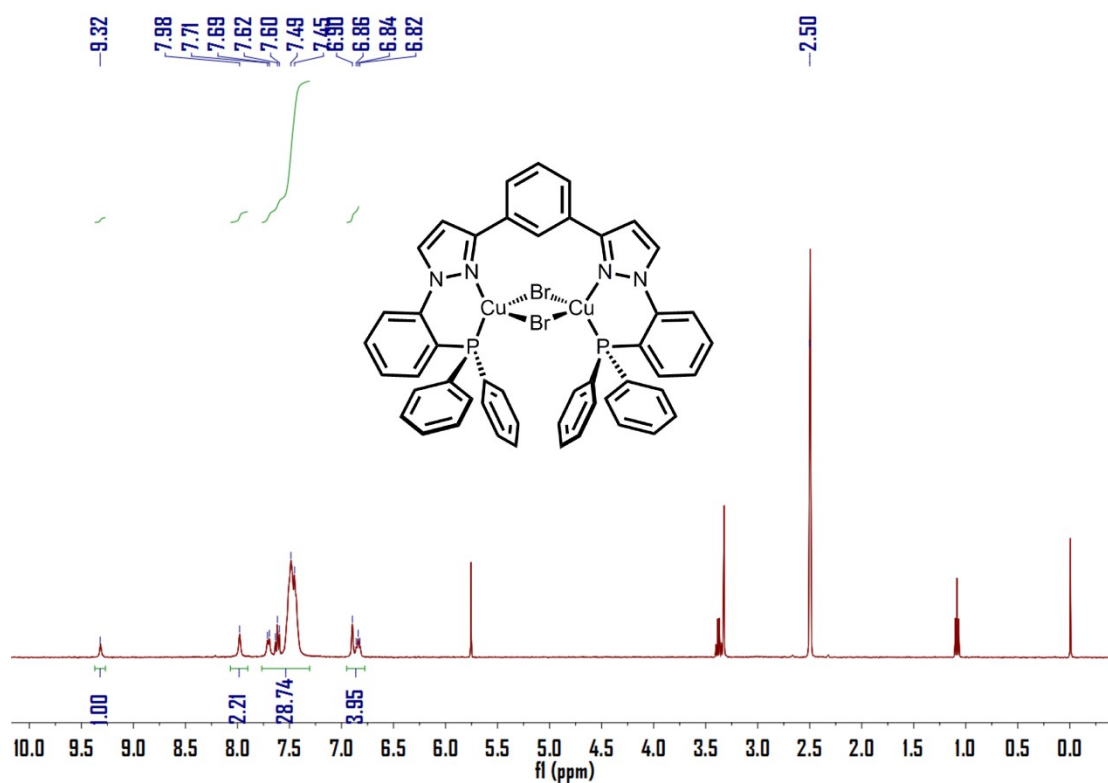


Figure S16  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of complex 1 in DMSO- $d_6$ .

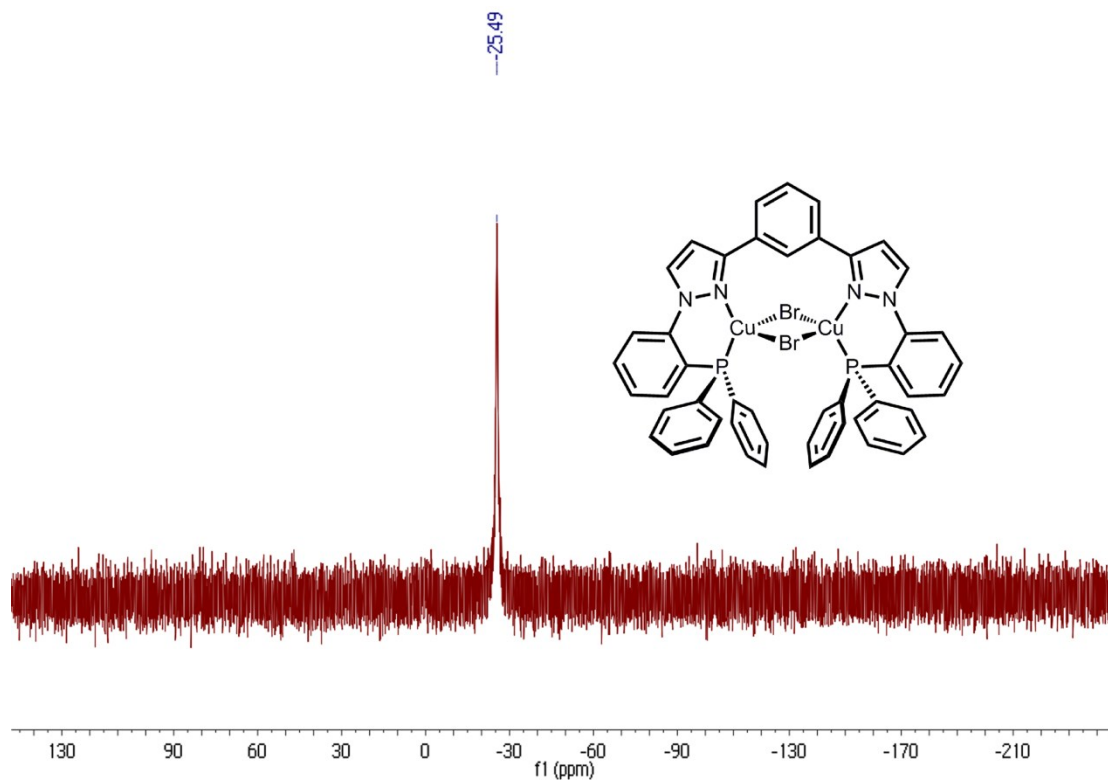
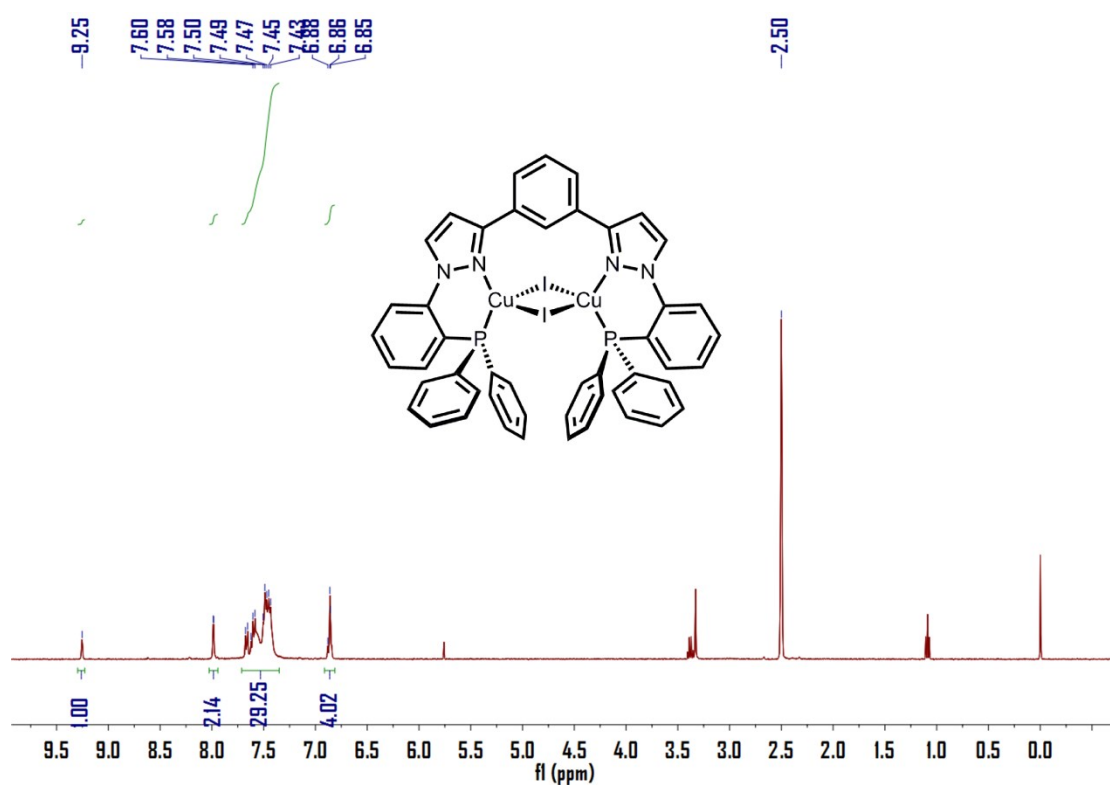
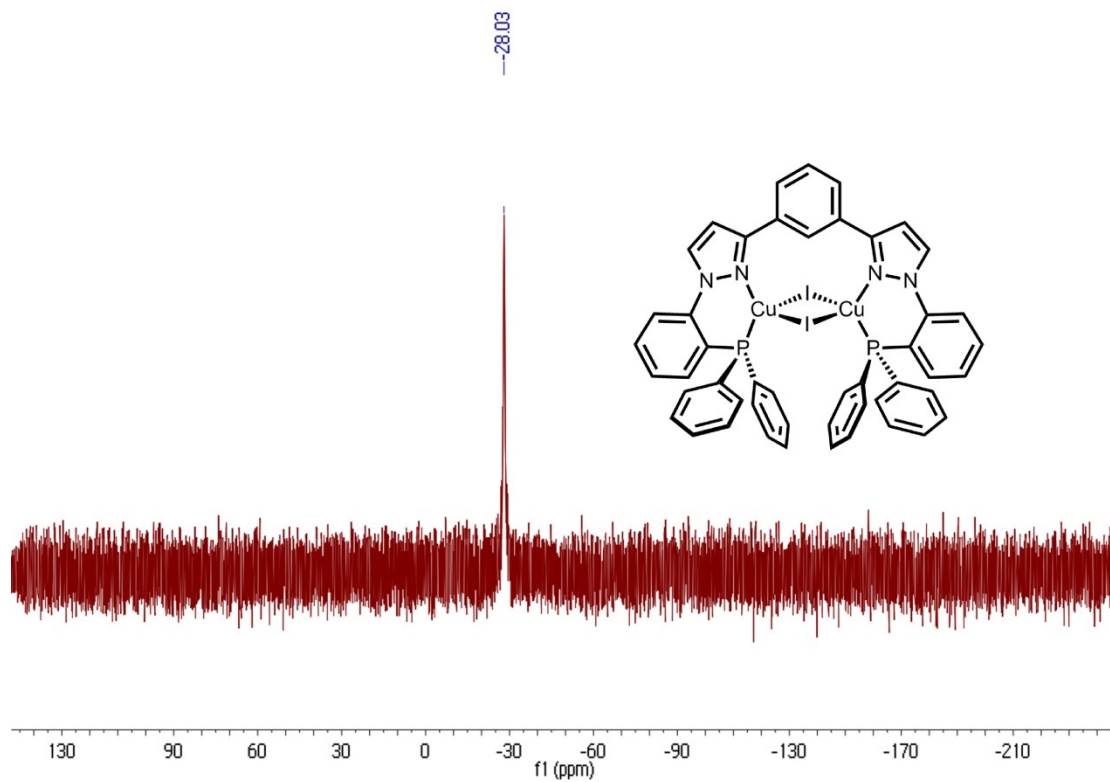


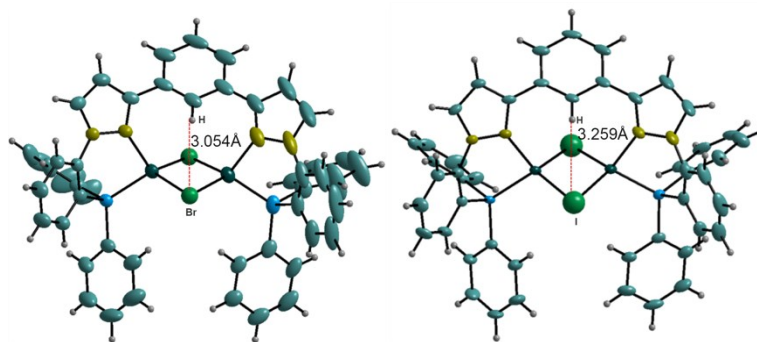
Figure S17  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectrum of complex 1 in DMSO- $d_6$ .



**Figure S18** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex **2** in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>.



**Figure S19** <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectrum of complex **2** in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>.



**Figure S20** The intramolecular hydrogen bonds of complexes **1** and **2**.