

*Supporting information for*

**A New Tri-nuclear Cu-carbonate Cluster Utilizing CO<sub>2</sub> as C1-Building Block-Reactive Intermediates, Probable Mechanism, EPR and Magnetic Studies**

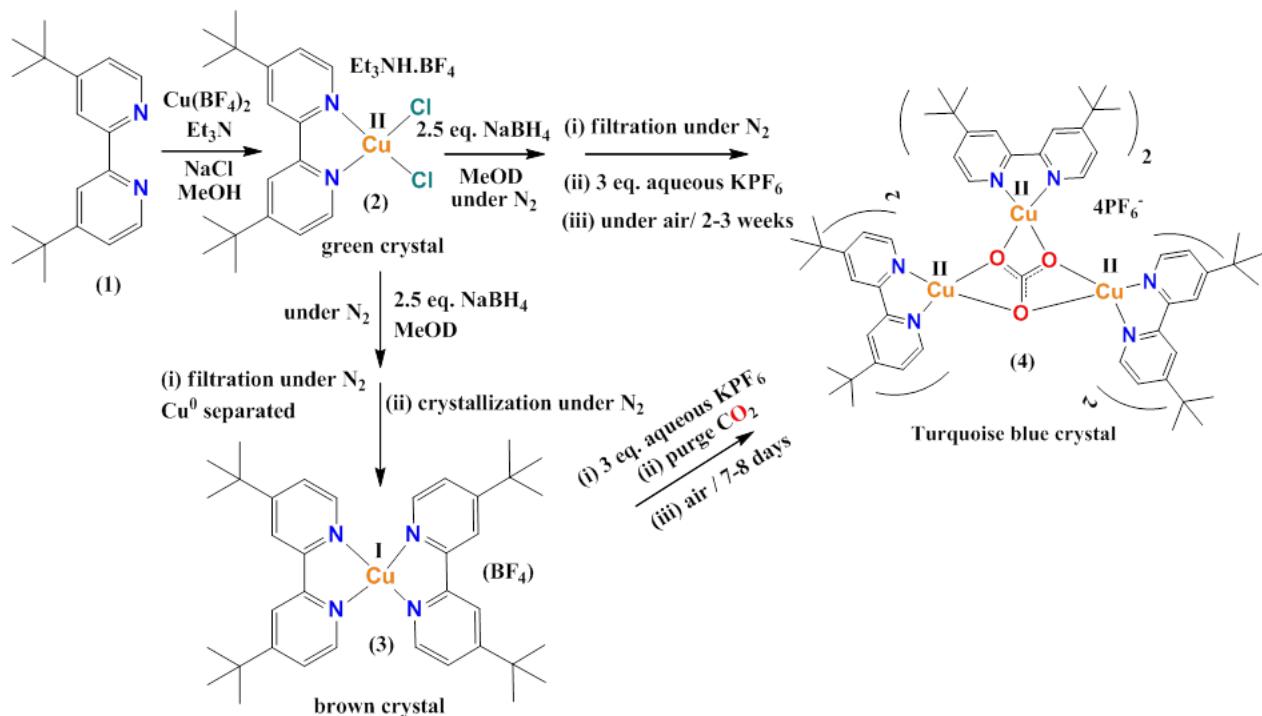
Biswanath Das,\*<sup>†</sup> Mohan Bhadbhade,<sup>‡</sup> Anders Thapper,<sup>‡</sup> Chris D Ling,<sup>§</sup> Stephen B Colbran\*,<sup>†</sup>

<sup>†</sup>School of Chemistry, University of New South Wales, Sydney 2052, Australia

<sup>‡</sup>Mark Wainwright Analytical Centre, University of New South Wales, Sydney 2052, Australia

<sup>§</sup>Department of Chemistry – Ångström Laboratory, Uppsala University, SE-75120, Uppsala, Sweden

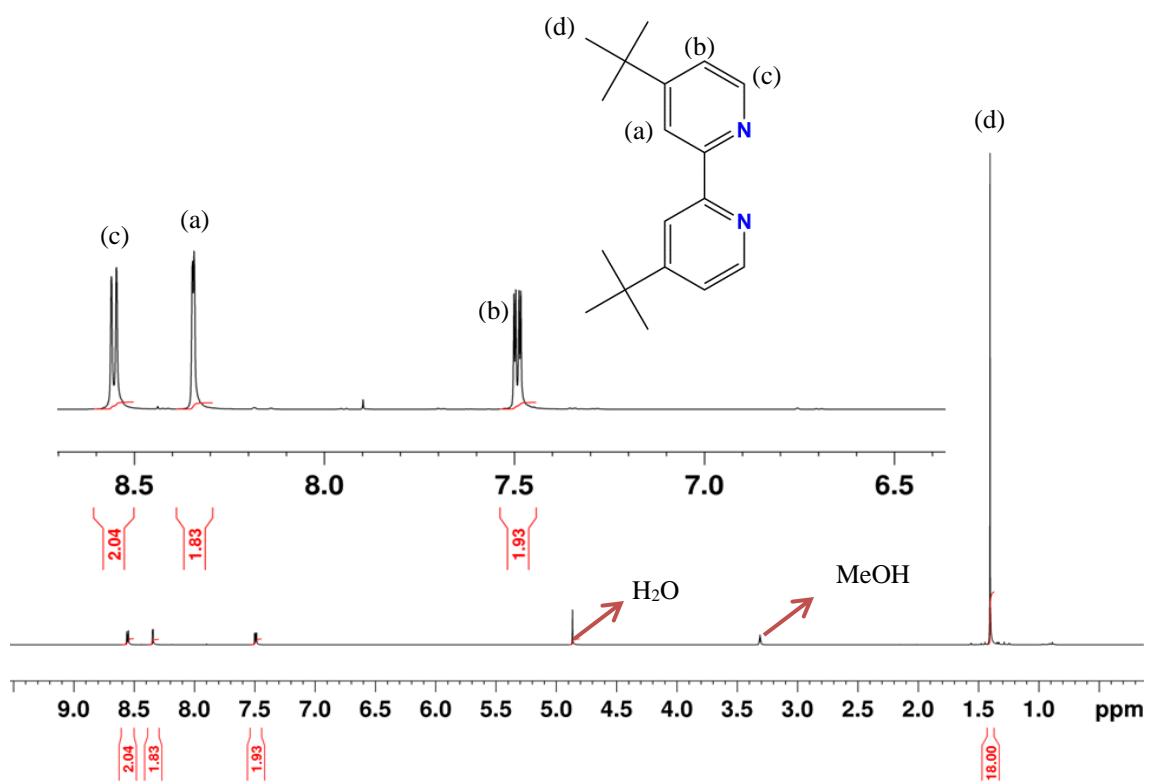
<sup>§</sup>School of Chemistry, The University of Sydney, Sydney 2006, Australia



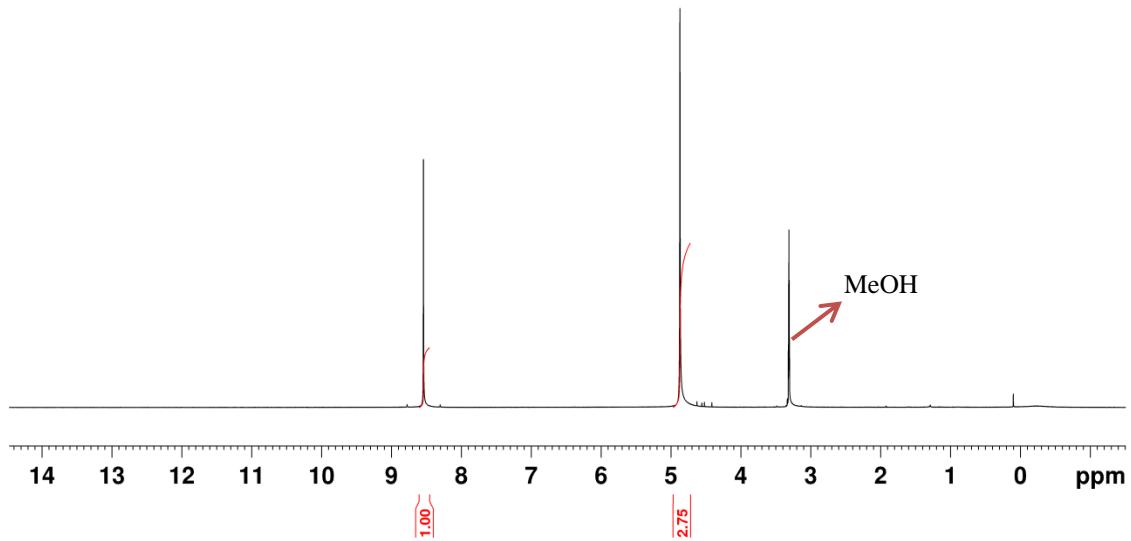
**Scheme S1.** Detailed schematic representation of the reaction pathway.

**Table S1.** Crystal data and refinement details for **2**, **3** and **4**.

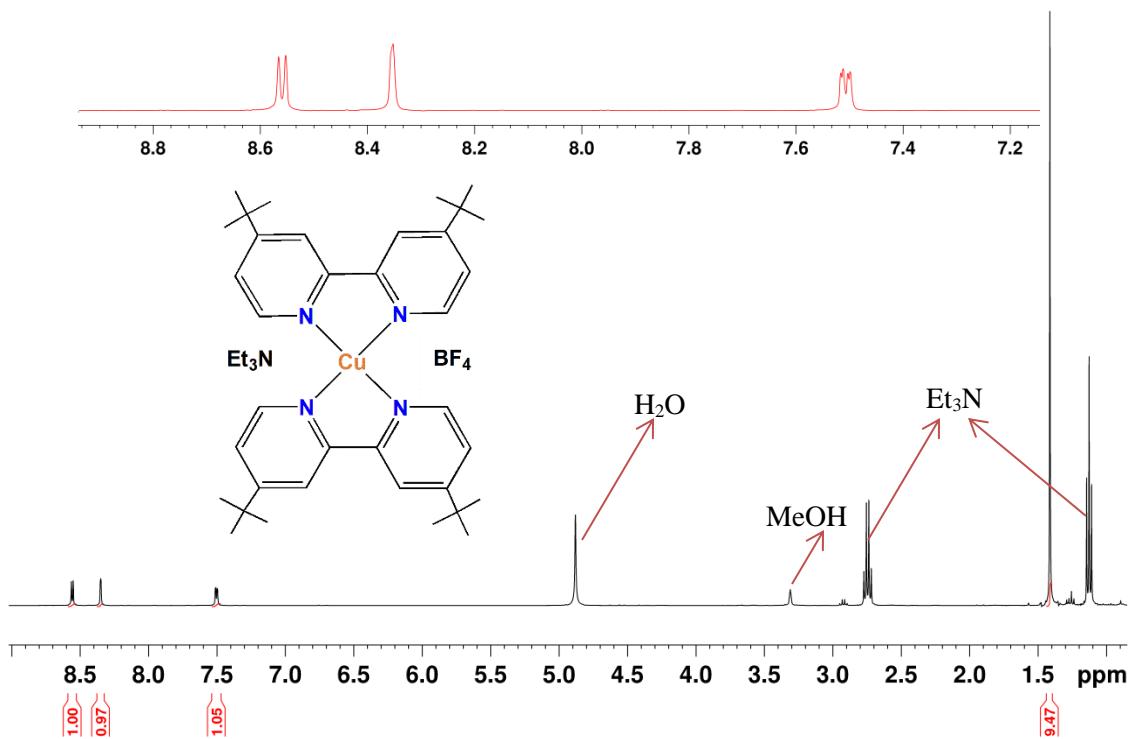
compound	<b>2</b> [CCDC 1880852]	<b>3</b> [CCDC 1880853]	<b>4</b> [CCDC 1880854]
empirical formula	C <sub>24</sub> H <sub>40</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> N <sub>3</sub> B <sub>1</sub> F <sub>4</sub> Cu <sub>1</sub>	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>24</sub> N <sub>2</sub> B <sub>0.5</sub> F <sub>2</sub> Cu <sub>0.5</sub>	C <sub>36.33</sub> H <sub>48</sub> N <sub>4</sub> OF <sub>8</sub> Cu <sub>1</sub> P <sub>1.33</sub>
formula weight	591.84	343.57	813.62
crystal size [mm <sup>3</sup> ]	0.226×0.044×0.022	0.326×0.135×0.045	0.114× 0.107× 0.036
crystal system	triclinic	trigonal	trigonal
space group	<i>P</i> –1	<i>P</i> 3221	<i>R</i> 3
<i>a</i> [Å]	7.4731(5)	11.2232(15)	19.4230(19)
<i>b</i> [Å]	13.2115(10)	11.2232(15)	19.4230(19)
<i>c</i> [Å]	14.9811(11)	27.924(4)	29.434(3)
α [°]	86.824(4)	90.00	90.00
β [°]	81.552(4)	90.00	90.00
γ [°]	81.251(4)	120.00	120.00
<i>V</i> [Å <sup>3</sup> ]	1445.20(18)	3046.0(9)	9616(2)
<i>Z</i>	2	6	9
ρ [g/cm <sup>3</sup> ]	1.360	1.124	1.264
<i>F</i> (000)	618	1086	3807
μ [mm <sup>-1</sup> ]	0.984	0.583	0.627
<i>T</i> <sub>min</sub> / <i>T</i> <sub>max</sub>	0.6772 / 0.7455	0.6189 / 0.7456	0.6255/0.7456
θ-range [°]	2.751- 27.062	2.188- 24.987	2.789- 27.062
<i>hkl</i> -range	±9, ±16, ±19	-13 +12, -13 +13, -32 33	±23, ±23, -29 34
measured refl.	8117	6850	2663
unique refl. [ <i>R</i> <sub>int</sub> ]	30697 [0.0595]	19079 [0.0425]	23382 [0.1113]
observed refl. ( <i>I</i> > 2σ( <i>I</i> ))	4822	3228	3786
data / restraints / param.	6317 / 149 / 433	3579 / 19 / 218	6937/ 330/ 488
goodness-of-fit ( <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup> )	1.035	1.097	1.025
<i>R</i> 1, <i>wR</i> 2 ( <i>I</i> > 2σ( <i>I</i> ))	0.0424, 0.1096	0.0787, 0.2163	0.0812, 0.2111
<i>R</i> 1, <i>wR</i> 2 (all data)	0.0619, 0.1222	0.0857, 0.2253	0.1592, 0.2586
resid. el. dens. [e/Å <sup>3</sup> ]	-0.438/ 0.862	-1.147/ 1.060	-1.068/0.687



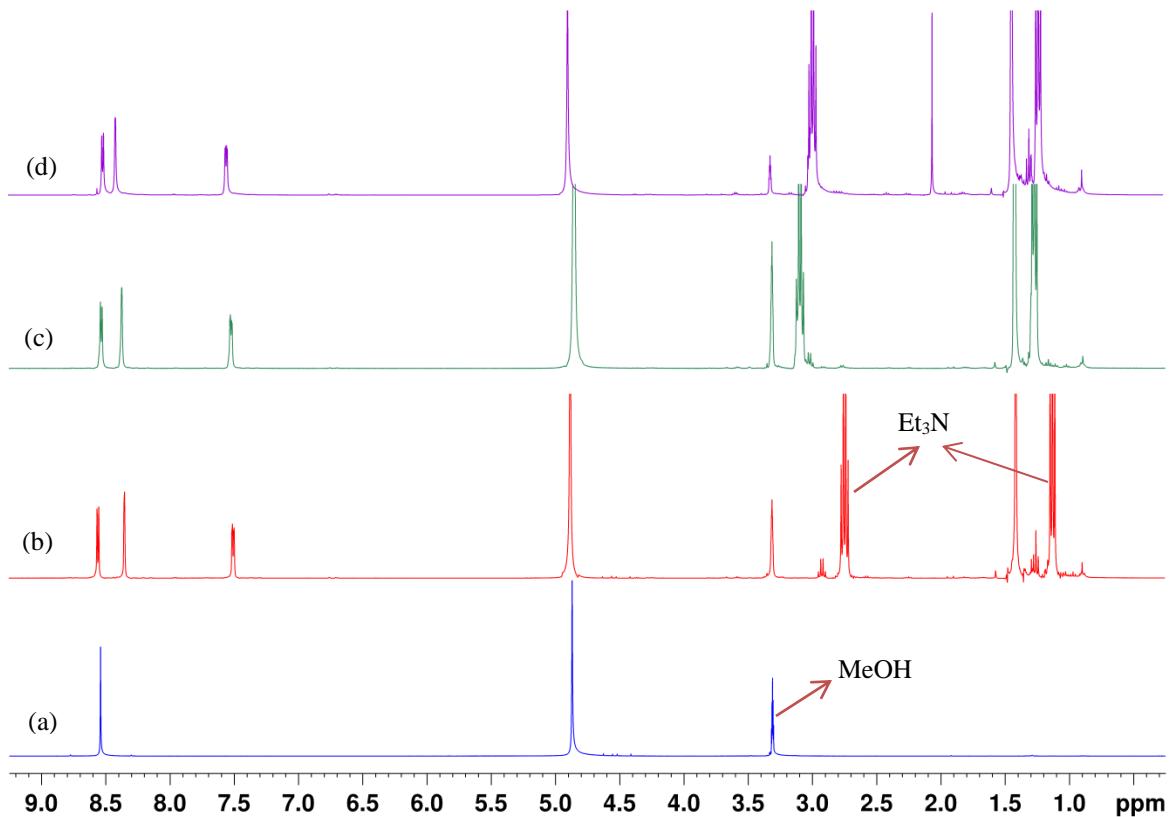
**Figure S1.** 400 MHz NMR spectra of a 0.025M solution of **1** in MeOD. Inset shows magnified spectra of the range 6 ppm to 8.7 ppm.



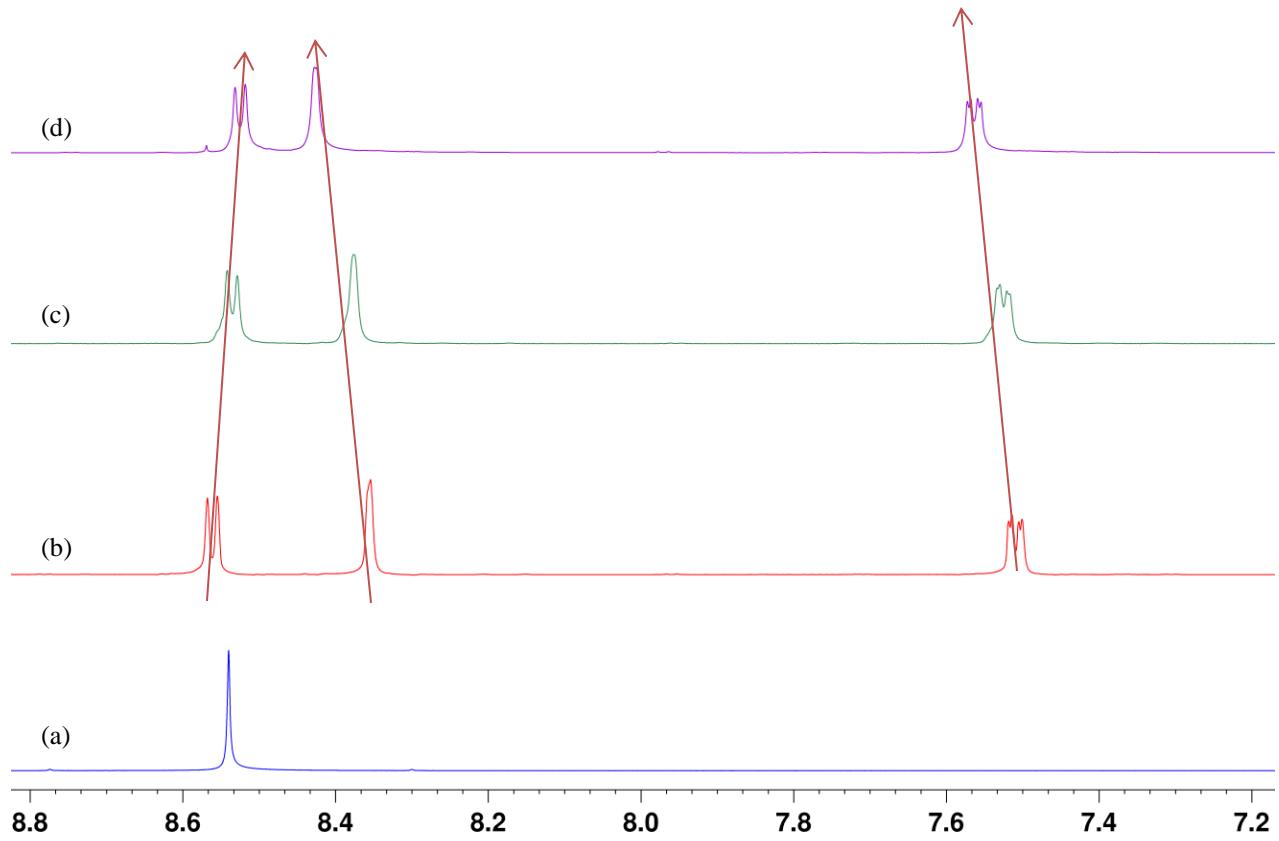
**Figure S2.** 400 MHz NMR spectra of a 0.05M solution of NaBH<sub>4</sub> in MeOD after purging CO<sub>2</sub> for 3 minutes; the formation of Na[H<sub>3</sub>B(OCHO)].<sup>1,2</sup>



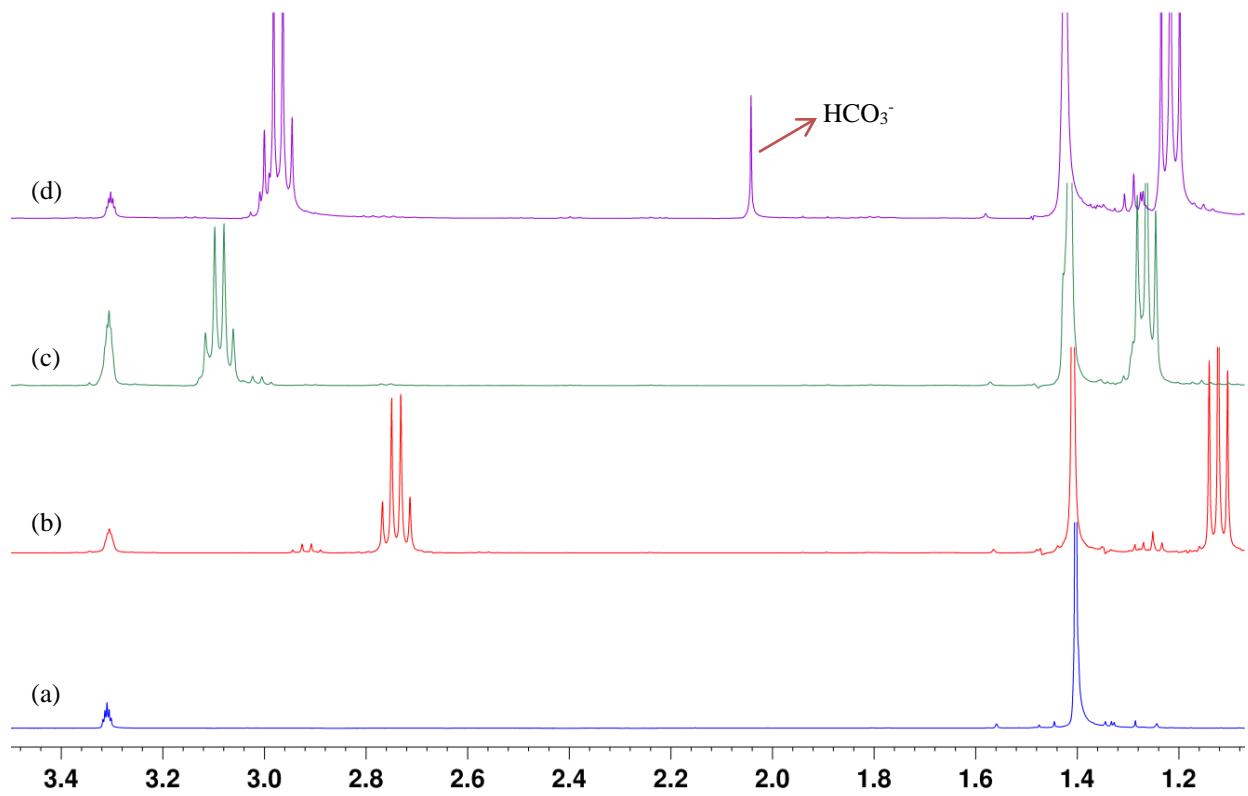
**Figure S3.** 400 MHz NMR spectra of the in-situ generated MeOD solution of **3** + remaining excess of Et<sub>3</sub>N & NaBH<sub>4</sub>. Inset shows magnified spectra of the range 7.2 ppm to 8.9 ppm.



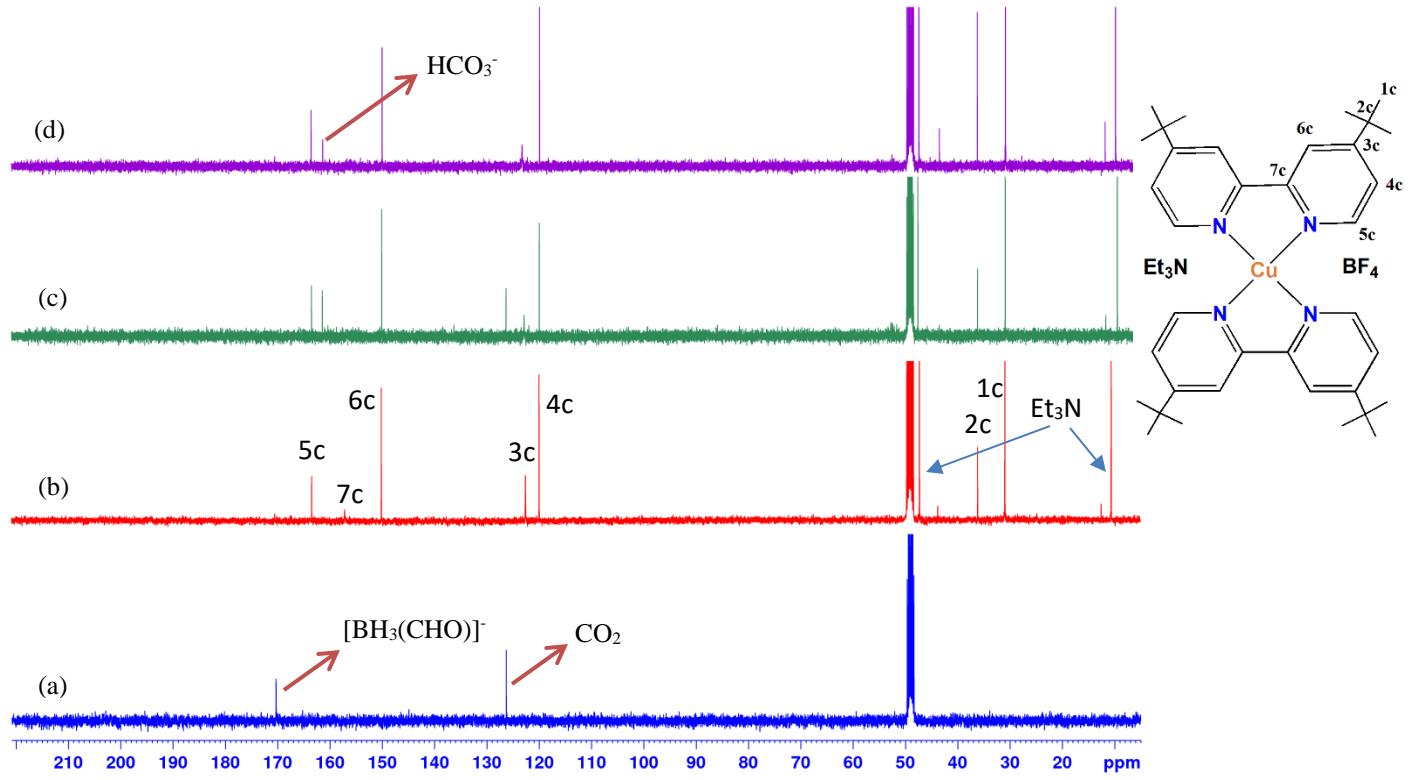
**Figure S4.** 400 MHz NMR spectra of (a) a 0.05M solution of  $\text{NaBH}_4$  in  $\text{MeOD}$  after purging  $\text{CO}_2$  for 3 minutes, (b) in-situ generated  $\text{MeOD}$  solution of **3** + remaining excess of  $\text{Et}_3\text{N}$  &  $\text{NaBH}_4$ , (c) b + 1atm  $\text{CO}_2$  after 24 h and (d) b + 1atm  $\text{CO}_2$  after 48 h. The changes in the chemical shift values of the aromatic hydrogens with time are depicted in figure S5.



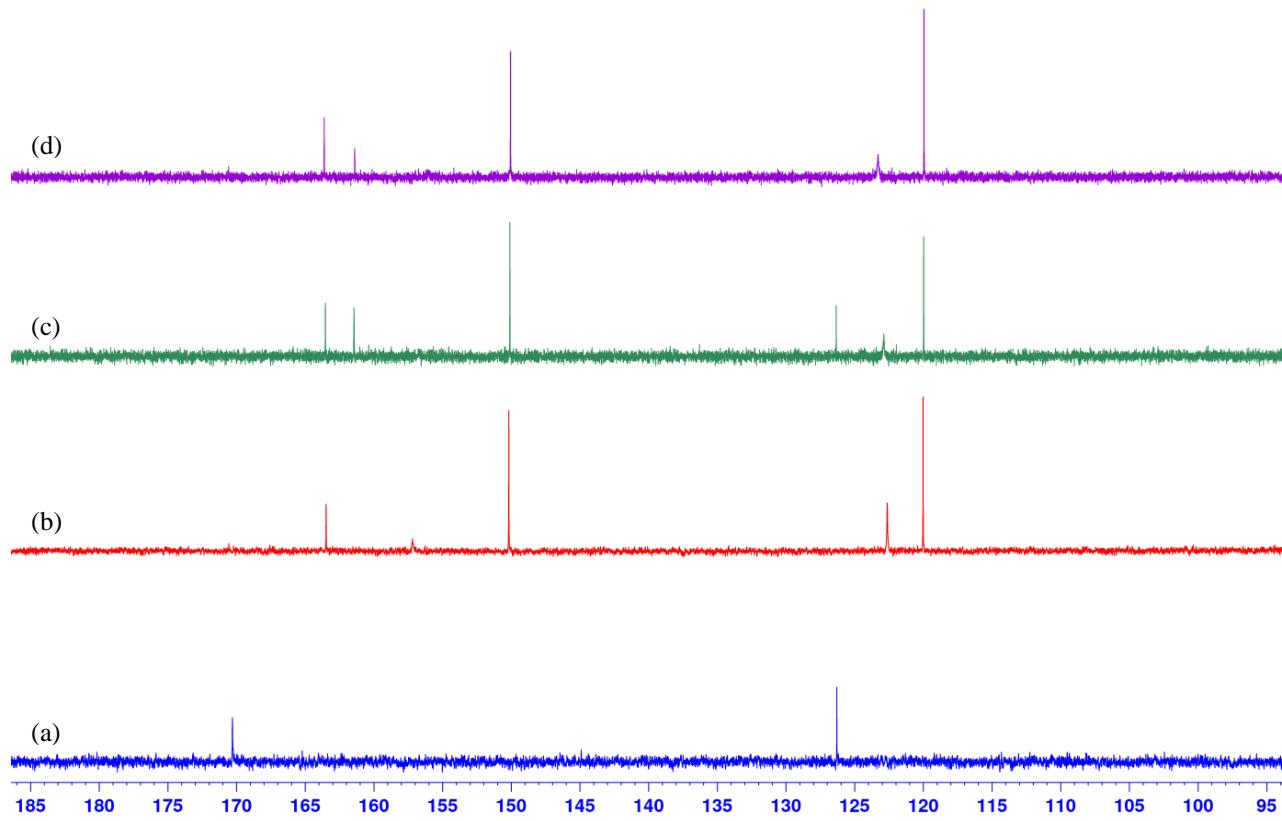
**Figure S5.** Magnified depiction of figure 4s of the range 7.2 ppm to 8.8 ppm, showing change over a period of 48 h.



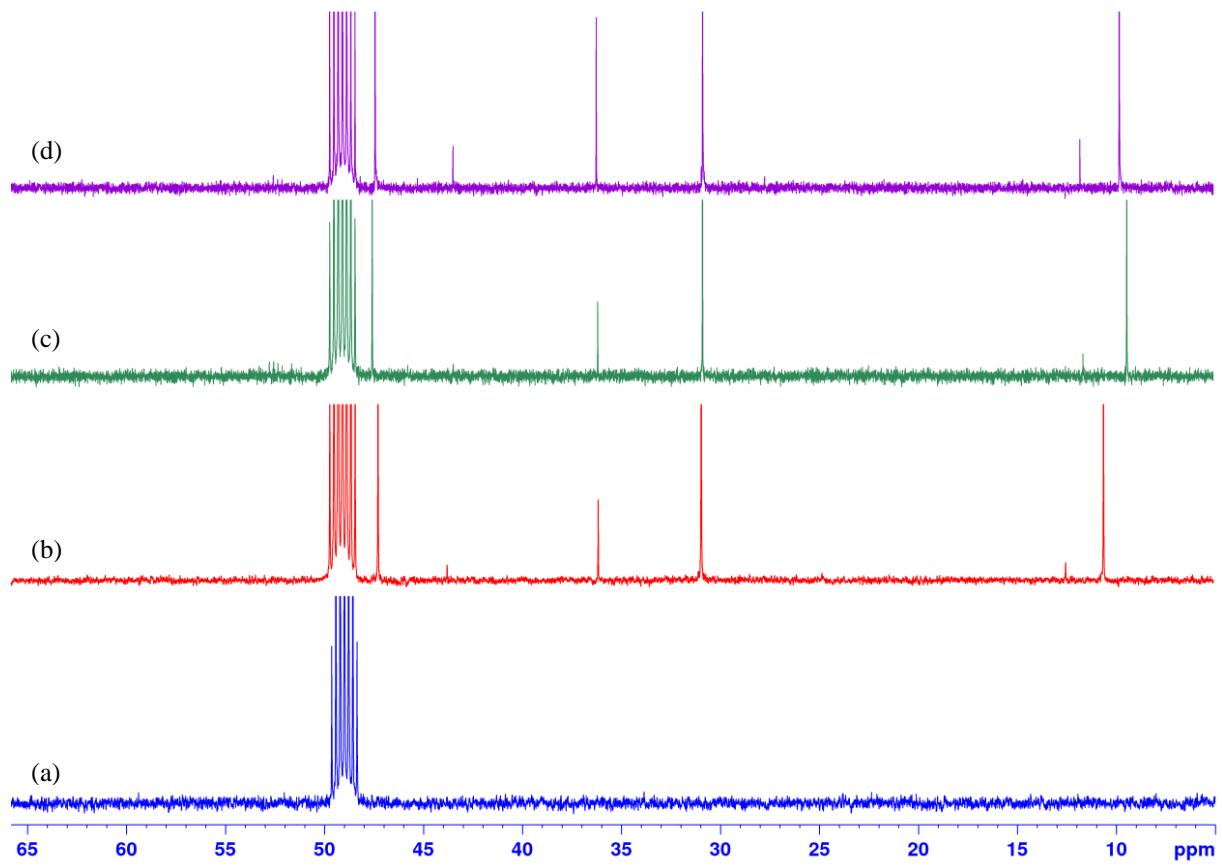
**Figure S6.** Magnified depiction of figure 4s of the range 1.1 ppm to 3.5 ppm, showing change in the structure over a period of 48 h.<sup>3, 4</sup>



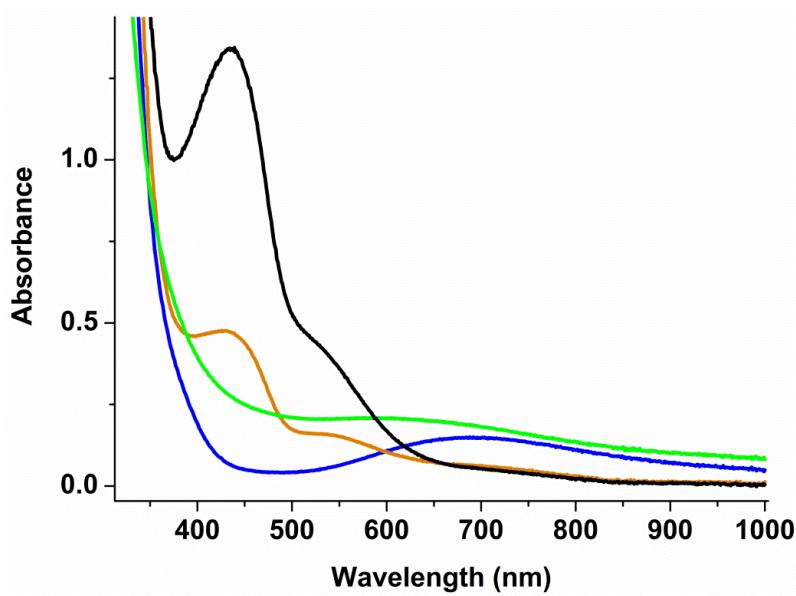
**Figure S7.** 100.6 MHz  $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectra of (a) a 0.05M solution of  $\text{NaBH}_4$  in  $\text{MeOD}$  after purging  $\text{CO}_2$  for 3 minutes, (b) in-situ generated  $\text{MeOD}$  solution of **3** + remaining excess of  $\text{Et}_3\text{N}$  &  $\text{NaBH}_4$ , (c) b + 1atm  $\text{CO}_2$  after 24 h and (d) b + 1atm  $\text{CO}_2$  after 48 h.<sup>1, 2, 5-7</sup>



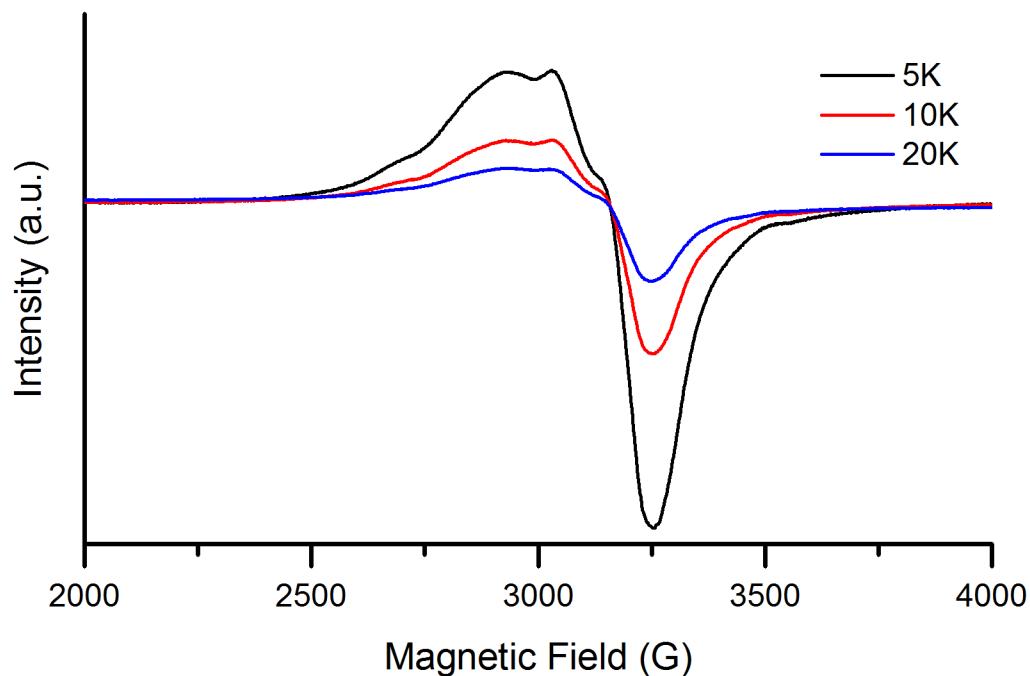
**Figure S8.** Magnified depiction of figure S7 of the range 95 ppm to 185 ppm, showing change in the structure over a period of 48 h.



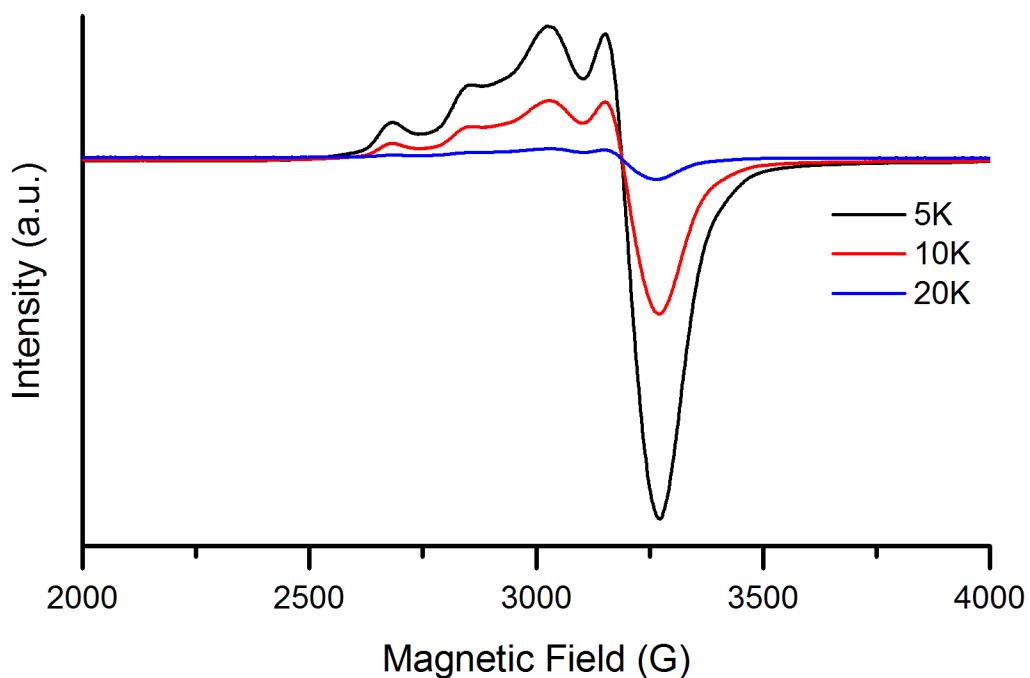
**Figure S9.** Magnified depiction of figure S7 of the range 5 ppm to 65 ppm, showing change in the structure over a period of 48 h.



**Figure S10.** UV-Vis spectrums of 0.5 mM MeOD solution of **2** (blue trace), **3** + air (after 1 minute, black trace), **3**+ air (after 40 minute, brown trace) and **4** (green trace).



**Figure S11.** EPR spectra of **2** (1.3 mM in MeCN) at different temperatures, 5 K (black), 10 K (red) and 20 K (blue). EPR conditions: microwave power: 200  $\mu$ W, microwave frequency 9.287 GHz.



**Figure S12.** EPR spectra of **4** (1 mM in MeCN) at different temperatures, 5 K (black), 10 K (red) and 20 K (blue). EPR conditions: microwave power: 200  $\mu$ W, microwave frequency 9.287 GHz.

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