## Single-crystal X-ray diffraction study, NMR and electrochemical analysis of a copper(I) 5,11,17,23-Tetra-*tert*-butyl-25,26,27,28-tetrakis-[(6-methyl-2,2'-bipyridyl-6-yl)methoxy]calix[4]arene complex : an original $M_4L_2$ "hand-to-hand" system †

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## ESI file - supplementary materials

## X-Ray diffraction analysis :

A single crystal of complex **2** of  $100 \times 100 \times 50 \ \mu m$  (parallelepipedic shape) was glued on the tip of a quartz fiber and mounted on a goniometric head.

The relevant information of data collection and structure refinements are summarized in **Table 1** of manuscript. The last refinements conclude to the formula  $C_{184}Cu_4N_{16}O_8H_{192}(PF_6)_4$  with Z=2. Because of lack of intensities (*need of 2161 free parameters (240 atoms in P-1) for 4262 intensities*), all non-H atoms were only refined isotropically (*namely 960 free parameters*) by the full matrix least squares method on F<sup>2</sup> using SHELXL-97 and the H atoms were included at the calculated positions and constrained to ride on their parent atoms. On the basis of the single-crystal X-ray diffraction data, the complex **2** compound  $C_{184}Cu_4N_{16}O_8H_{192}(PF_6)_4$  crystallizes in the triclinic space group P-1 (No.2) with refined cell parameters at 293(2)K a = 19.225(2) Å, b = 22.569(3) Å, c = 27.113(3) Å,  $\alpha$ = 109.52(1)°,  $\beta$  = 101.63(1)°,  $\gamma$  = 97.800(3)° and V = 10595(2) Å<sup>3</sup> and we note the presence of two molecules per unit cell.



1H NMR complex 2; CD3CN

2



**Figure ESI 2:** Large CV of complex **2** (c =  $2.65 \times 10^{-4}$  M with M<sub>2</sub>L hypothesis), at scan rates: 100 mV·s<sup>-1</sup>, in Ar-purged MeCN with 0.1 M Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> as supporting electrolyte at rt.



**Figure ESI 3 :** Large CV of complex **5** (c =  $2.65 \times 10^{-4}$  M with M<sub>2</sub>L hypothesis), at scan rates: 100 mV·s<sup>-1</sup>, in Ar-purged MeCN with 0.1 M Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> as supporting electrolyte at rt.

**Table ESI 1:** Calculated intensity of the peak current  $x10^6$  in ampere. n: number of electrons in the redox process.

3.8 mg of <b>2</b> in 8.0mL	n = 1	n = 2	n = 3	n = 4
C mol/cm <sup>3</sup> if M <sub>2</sub> L=	1.32	3.72	6.86	10.56
c=2.65 10 <sup>-7</sup> mol.cm <sup>-3</sup>				
C mol/cm <sup>3</sup> if M <sub>4</sub> L <sub>2</sub> =	0.66	1.86	3.43	5.28
c=1.32 10 <sup>-7</sup> mol.cm <sup>-3</sup>				