

Supporting Information

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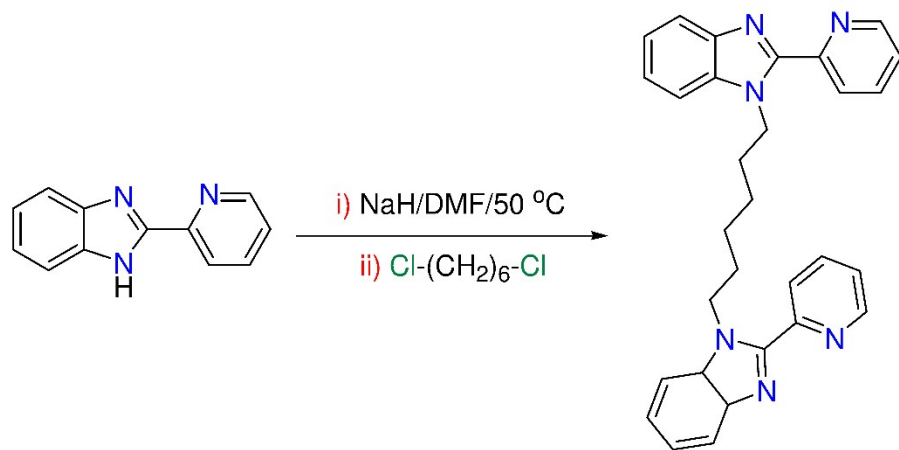
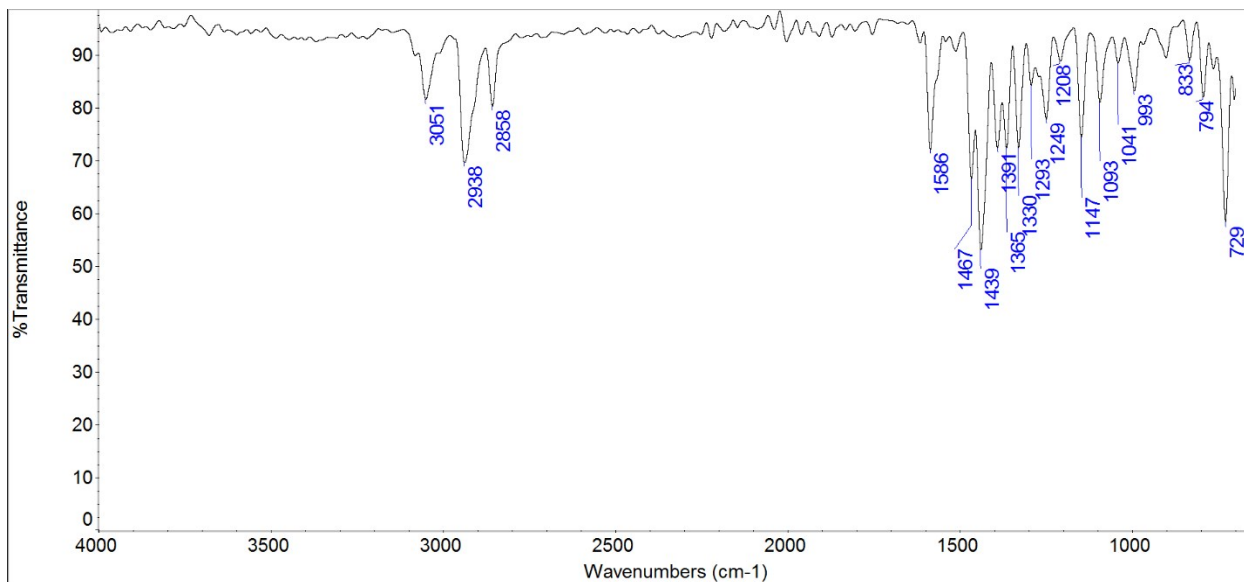
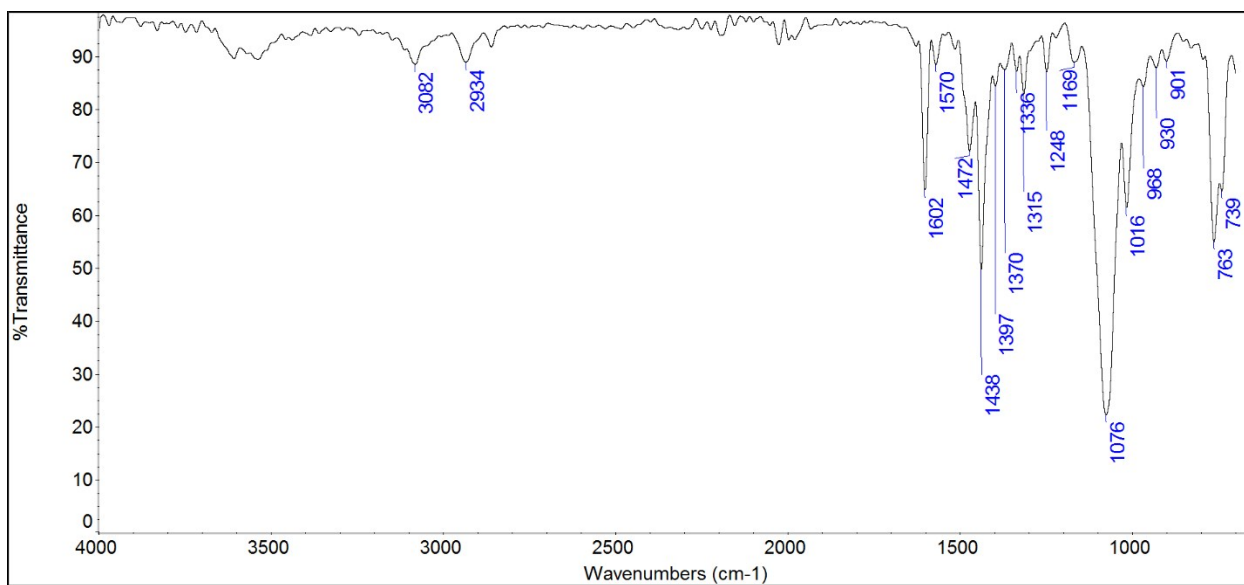


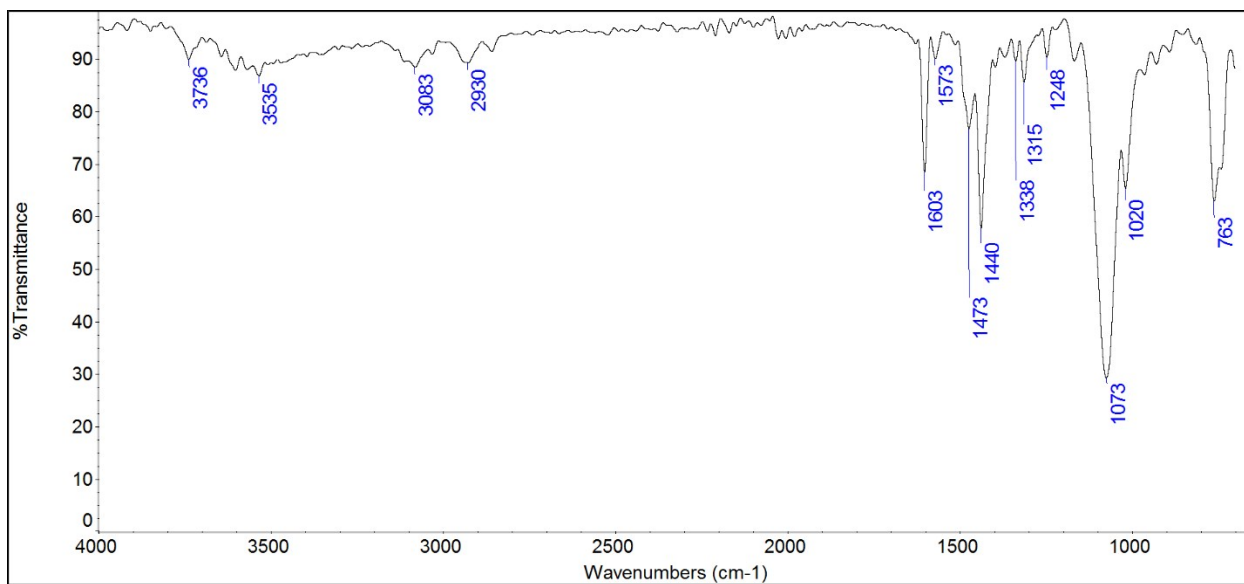
Figure S1 Synthesis of benzimidazole ligand L.^[15]



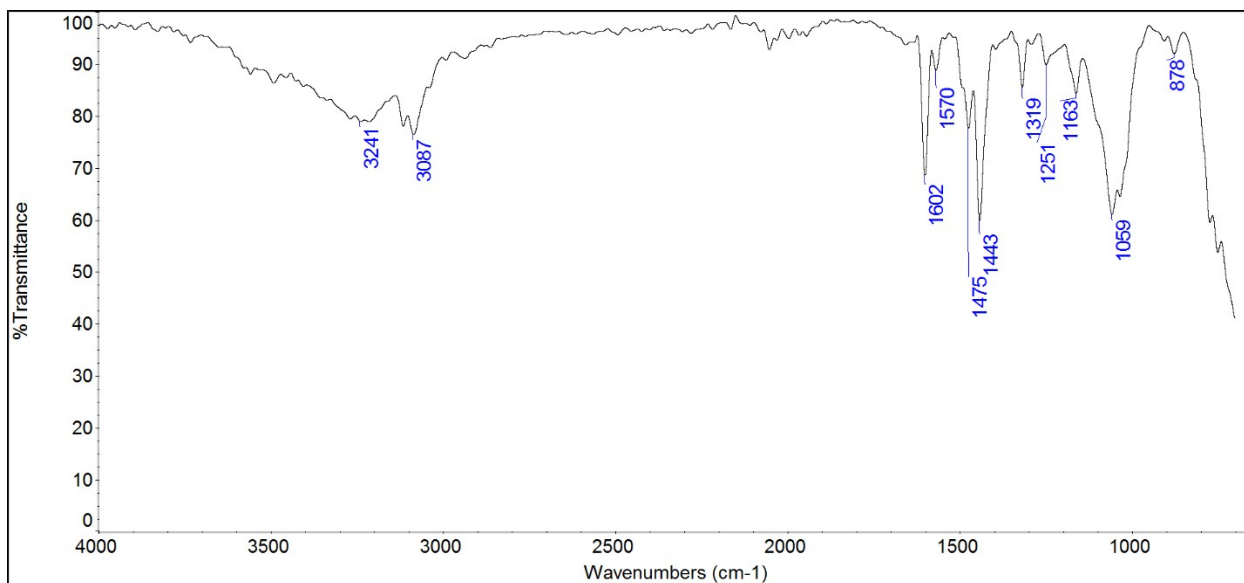
a)



b)



c)



d)

Figure S2 ATR spectra of a) L, b) 1, c) 2 and d) 3.

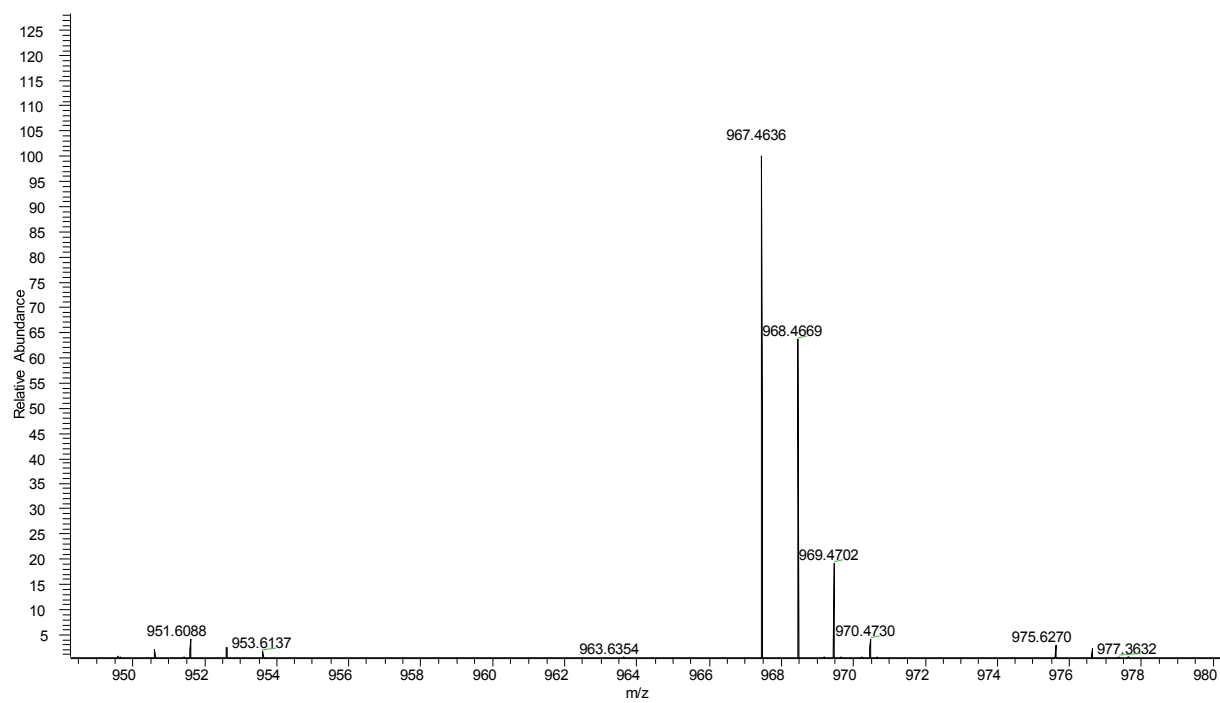


Figure S3 ESI-MS(+) spectrum of **3**.

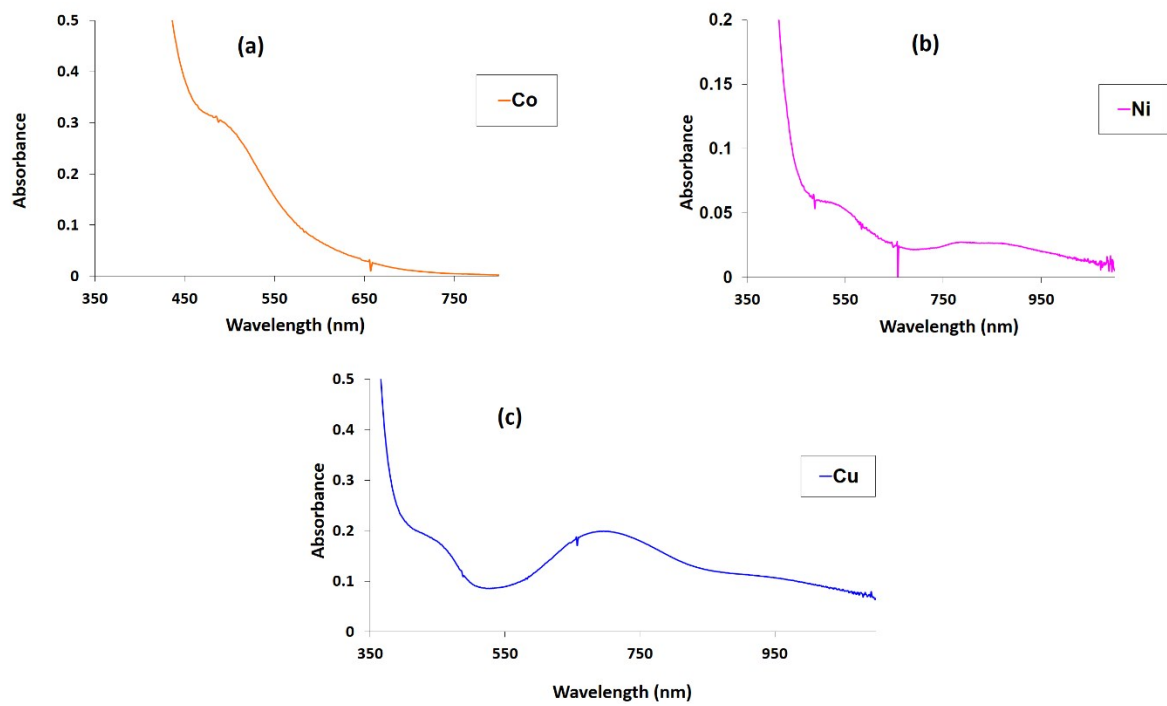


Figure S4 Absorption spectra of complexes (a) **1**, (b) **2** and (c) **3** in DMF.

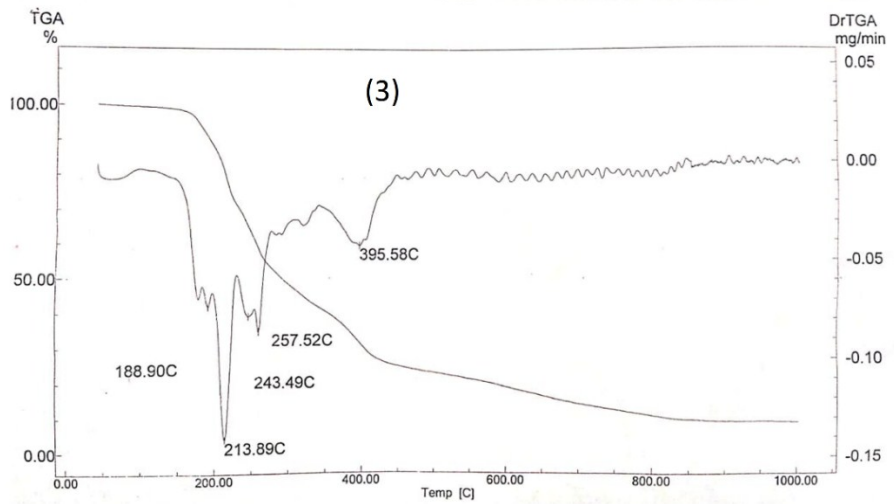
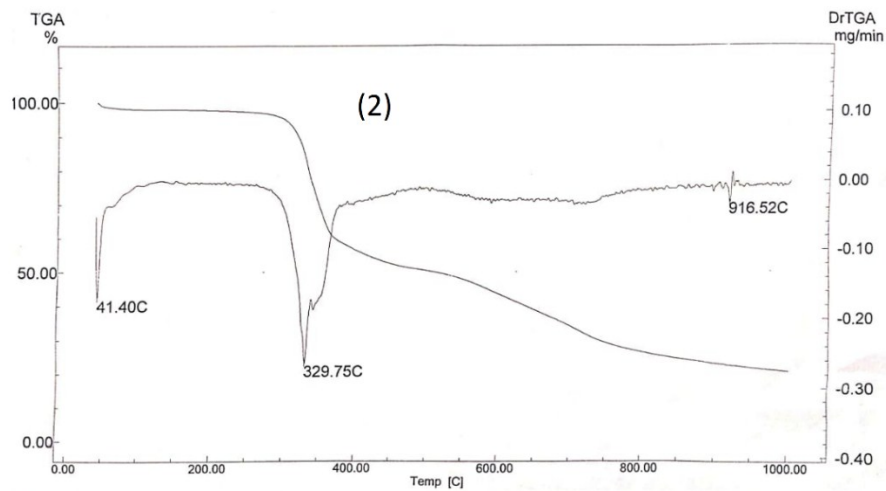
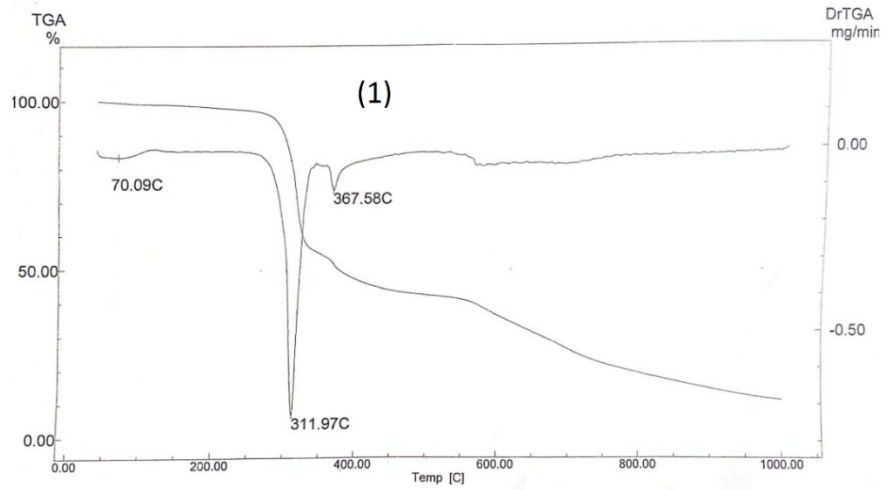


Figure S5 TG and DTG curves of complexes 1–3.

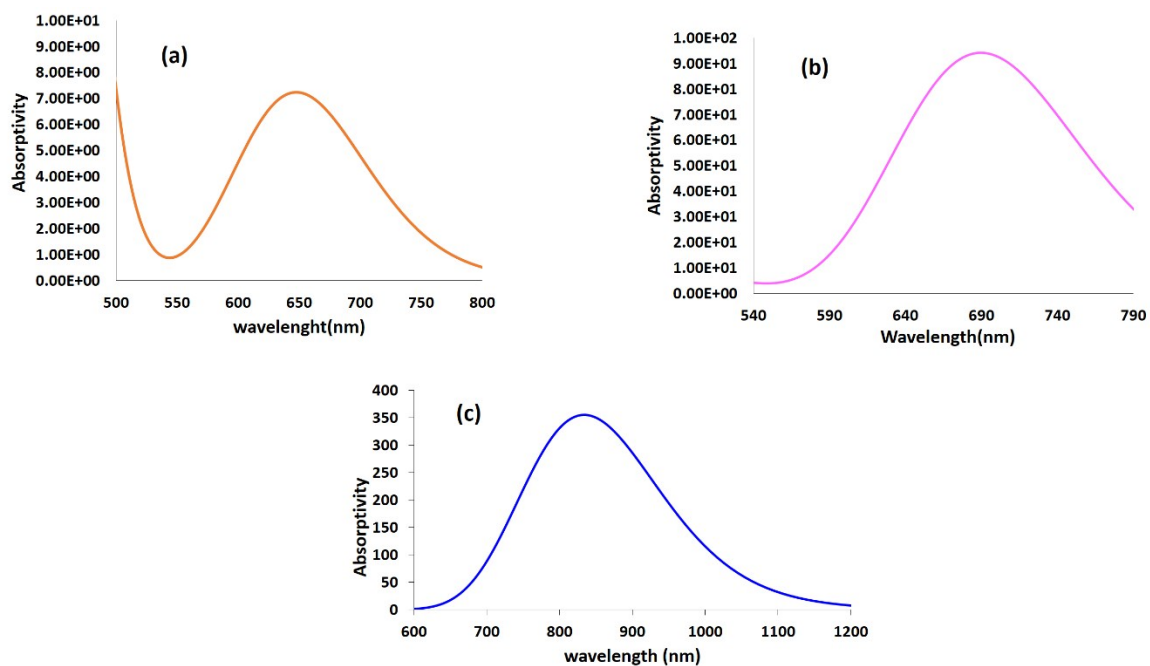


Figure S6 Calculated electronic spectra of the complexes studied here (a) **1**, (b) **2** and (c) **3** CAM-B3LYP/LANL2DZ method.

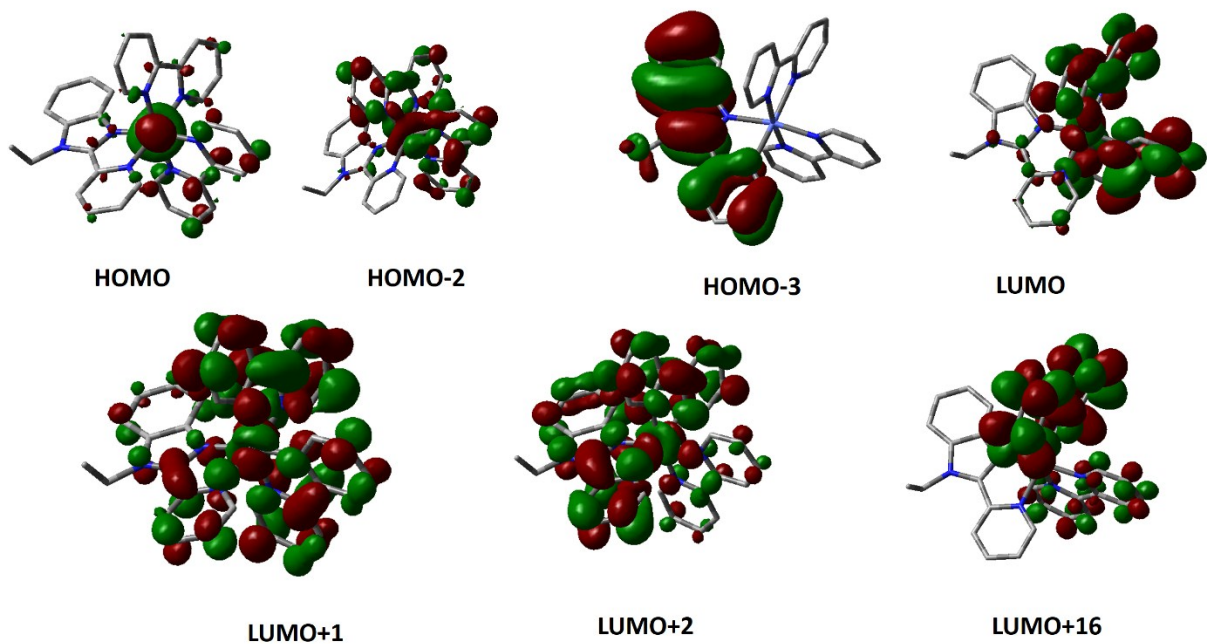


Figure S7 Selected FMO orbitals of mononuclear analogue of **1**.

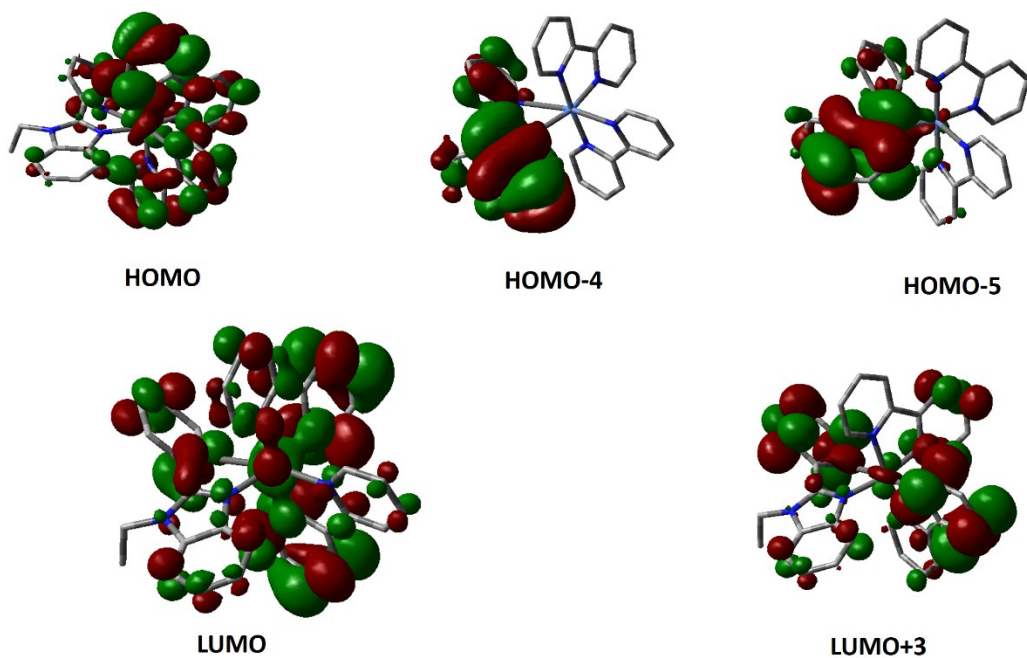


Figure S8 Selected FMO orbitals of mononuclear analogue of **2**.

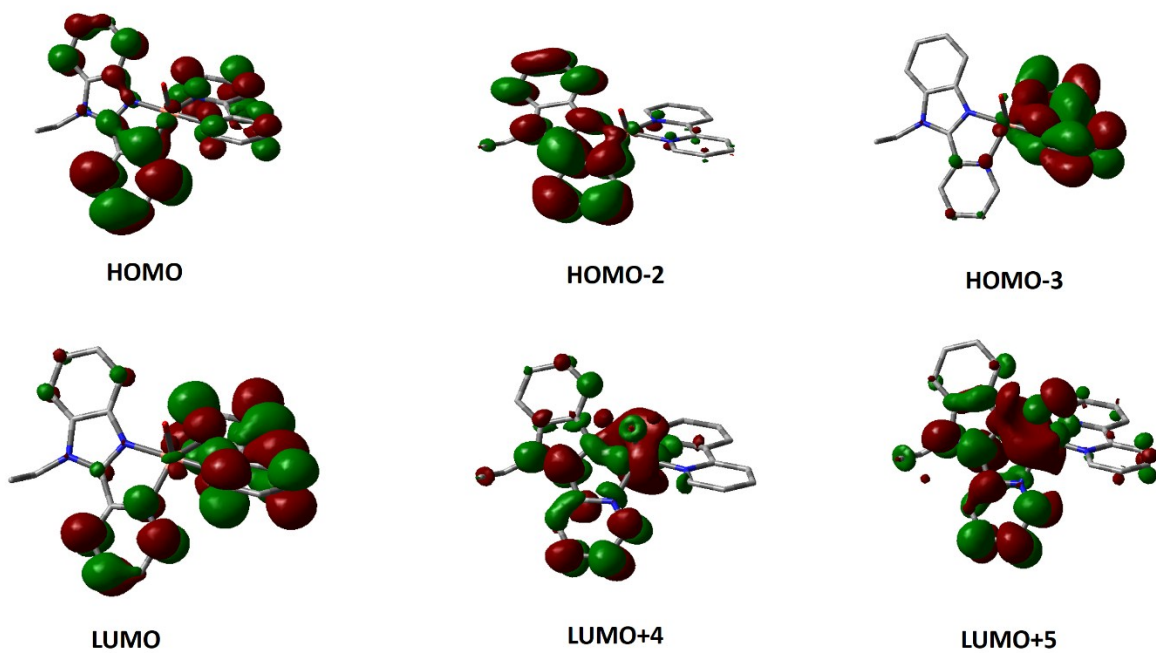


Figure S9 Selected FMO orbitals of mononuclear analogue of **3**

Table S1 Selected bond lengths (Å), and angles (°) for **1–3** obtained at the B3LYP/LANL2DZ theory level.

1		2		3	
Bond length (Å°)	Bond angle (°)	Bond length (Å°)	Bond angle (°)	Bond length (Å°)	Bond angle(°)
Co–N1= 2.277	N2–Co–N67 = 169.85 N1–Co–N69 = 175.99 N68–Co–N70 = 173.19 N68–Co–N67 = 81.99	Ni–N1= 3.165	N68– Ni –N67= 83.23 N1–Ni –N69= 167.55 N2–Co–N67 =159.69 N68–Co–N70=175.82	Cu–N1= 2.132	N1–Cu–N2=79.76 N49–Cu–N50=80.86 N1–Cu–N49=100.57
Co–N2 = 1.998	N2–Co–N70 = 89.27	Ni–N2= 1.951	N2–Ni–N70= 89.63	Cu–N2= 1.973	O52–Cu–N2=88.24
Co–N67 = 1.997	N69–Co–N67 = 87.96	Ni–N67= 1.974	N69–Ni–N67= 90.45	Cu–N49= 2.005	O52–Cu–N1=115.65
Co–N68 = 1.991	N1–Co–N68 = 89.11	Ni–N68= 1.928	N1– Ni –N68= 94.016	Cu–N50=2.079	O52–Cu–N50=118.82
Co–N69 = 2.222	N1–Co–N2 = 77.21	Ni–N69= 2.377	N1– Ni –N2= 68.30	Cu–O= 2.191	O52–Cu–N49=88.53
Co–N70 = 2.005		Co–N70= 1.937			N50–Cu–N2=101.78

1		2		3	
N(1)	-0.155821	N(1)	-0.100372	N(1)	-0.269480
N(2)	-0.281633	N(2)	-0.343720	N(2)	-0.380299
N(67)	-0.220799	N(67)	-0.223615	N(49)	-0.305435
N(68)	-0.223691	N(68)	-0.254231	N(50)	-0.291107
N(69)	-0.172202	N(69)	-0.133946	O(52)	-0.713220
N(70)	-0.234979	N(70)	-0.280498	Cu(II)	0.711931
Co(II)	0.430933	Ni(II)	0.464320		