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Anion-induced contraction of helical receptors.

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Synthesis of *N,N'*-dimethyl-*N,N'*-hexamethylenedi(3-hydroxyiminomethyl-2-hydroxy-5-*tert*-butylbenzylamine) (L)

Hydroxylamine hydrochloride (117 mg, 1.68 mmol) and potassium hydroxide (94 mg, 1.68 mmol) were dissolved separately in hot ethanol (~20 mL) and the two solutions were cooled and combined to give a white precipitate (KCl) which was removed by filtration. *N,N'*-dimethyl-*N,N'*-hexamethylenedi(3-formyl-2-hydroxy-5-*tert*-butylbenzylamine) (400 mg, 0.762 mmol), prepared as described previously,⁶ was added to the filtrate. The solution was refluxed overnight and set aside to cool. The precipitated product was collected and washed with cold ethanol (2 x 10 mL) to yield **L** (361 mg, 85%).

¹H NMR δ_{H} (500 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO): 8.28 (2H, s, CH=N), 7.46 (2H, s, Ar-*H*), 7.14 (2H, s, Ar-*H*), 3.65 (4H, s, Ar-CH₂-N), 2.40 (4H, t, N-CH₂-CH₂), 2.19 (6H, s, N-CH₃), 1.48 (4H, m, N-CH₂-CH₂), 1.26 (4H, m, N-CH₂-CH₂-CH₂) 1.23 (18H, s, C(CH₃)₃); ¹³C NMR δ_{H} (400 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO) 153.6, 145.8, 140.8, 127.1, 122.8, 121.5, 117.7, 59.2, 56.1, 41.0, 33.7, 31.3, 26.4, 26.2; *m/z* (ESI) 555.72 M⁺; Anal. Calc. for C₃₂H₅₀N₄O₄·0.5H₂O C 68.17, H 9.12, N 9.94, found: C 68.32, H 8.77, N 9.69 %; ν_{max} (KBr)/cm⁻¹ 1637s (C=N).

Tab. S1: Bond lengths and angles of the H-bonds in [Cu₂(L-2H)₂] \cdot C₂H₄Cl₂

| D-H | A | D-H [Å] | H-A [Å] | D-A [Å] | D-H-A[°] |
|-----------|-------------------|---------|---------|-----------|----------|
| O21-H21 | O12 | 0.82 | 2.21 | 2.818(8) | 131 |
| O21-H21 | N622 | 0.82 | 2.13 | 2.770(9) | 134 |
| O22-H22 | O11 | 0.82 | 2.06 | 2.692(10) | 133 |
| O22-H22 | N621 | 0.82 | 2.21 | 2.866(11) | 138 |
| O23-H23 | O14 | 0.82 | 2.12 | 2.725(9) | 131 |
| O23-H23 | N624 | 0.82 | 2.21 | 2.899(9) | 141 |
| O24-H24 | O13 | 0.82 | 2.16 | 2.777(8) | 132 |
| O24-H24 | N623 | 0.82 | 2.18 | 2.801(10) | 132 |
| C613-H18A | O11 ⁱ | 0.97 | 2.42 | 3.230(10) | 141 |
| C612-H51A | O14 ⁱⁱ | 0.97 | 2.48 | 3.222(10) | 133 |

Symmetry codes: i = -1/2+x,3/2-y,z; ii = 1/2+x,3/2-y,z

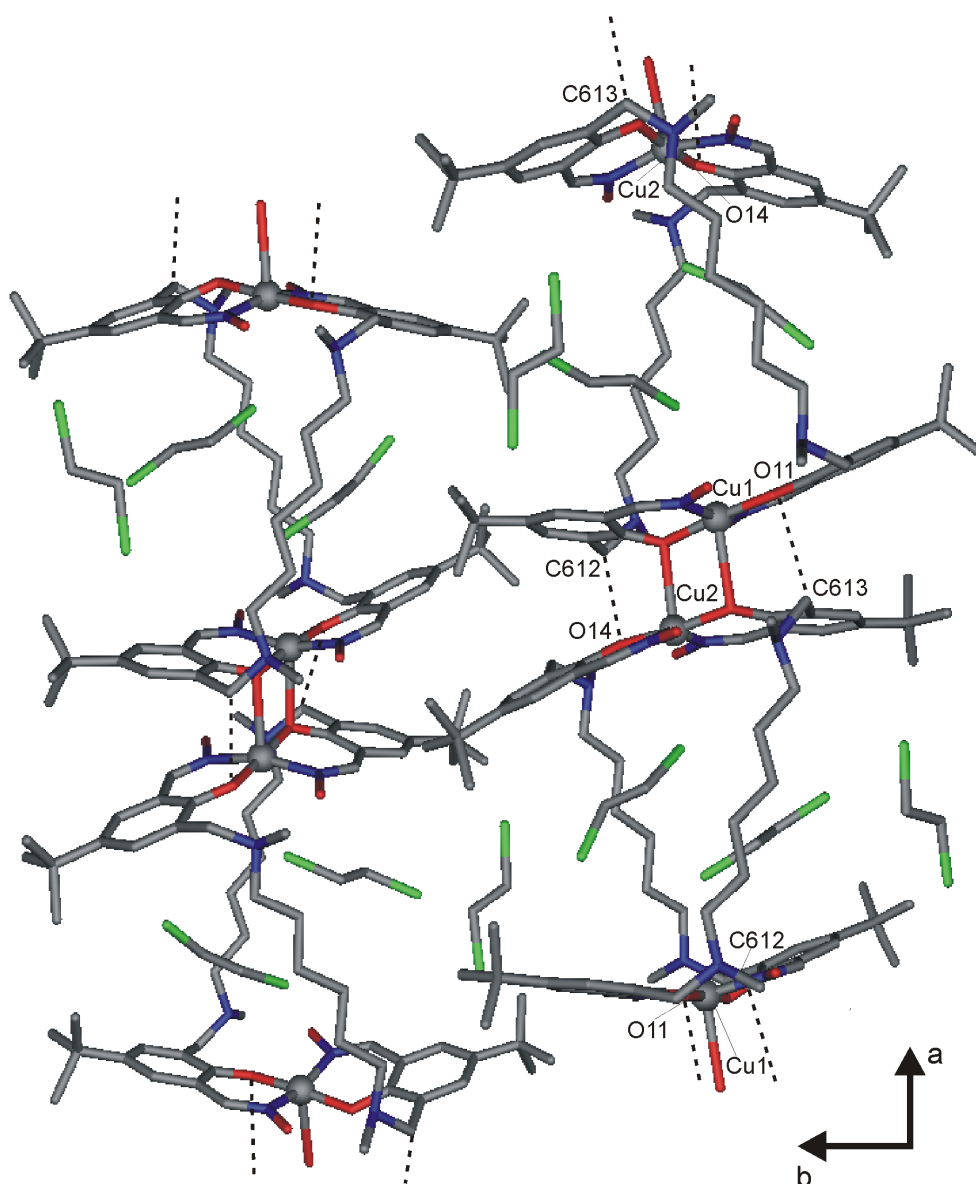


Fig S1: Cut-out of the crystal packing of $[\text{Cu}_2(\text{L}-2\text{H})_2]$ showing intermolecular interactions indicated as dotted lines and the incorporated 1,2-dichloroethane solvent molecules (major occupied species). Hydrogen atoms have been removed for clarity. Viewed along the crystallographic *c*-axis.

Tab. S2: Bond lengths and angles of weak interactions in $[\text{BF}_4\text{Cu}_2\text{L}_2](\text{BF}_4)_3$

| D-H | A | D-H [Å] | H-A [Å] | D-A [Å] | D-H-A[°] |
|------------|-----|---------|---------|-----------|----------|
| O23- H23A | O1C | 0.82 | 2.12 | 2.704(13) | 128 |
| O23A- H23B | O1B | 0.82 | 2.06 | 2.688(13) | 133 |
| O23B- H23C | O1A | 0.82 | 2.04 | 2.657(12) | 132 |
| O23C-H23D | O1 | 0.82 | 2.12 | 2.750(13) | 133 |
| N3-H3B | O1 | 0.91 | 2.28 | 2.920(14) | 1.27 |
| N3A-H3AB | O1A | 0.91 | 2.33 | 2.957(15) | 1.26 |
| N3B-H3BB | O1B | 0.91 | 2.33 | 2.982(17) | 1.28 |
| N3C-H3CB | O1C | 0.91 | 2.53 | 3.115(17) | 1.22 |
| N3-H3B | F22 | 0.91 | 2.57 | 3.283(22) | 135 |
| N3A-H3AB | F22 | 0.91 | 2.62 | 3.348(22) | 138 |
| N3B-H3BB | F21 | 0.91 | 2.25 | 3.117(18) | 159 |
| N3C-H3CB | F24 | 0.91 | 2.53 | 3.112(25) | 122 |

| | | | | | |
|-----------|-----|------|------|---------|-----|
| C64-H64A | F22 | 0.97 | 2.45 | 3.36(2) | 155 |
| C64A-H64D | F22 | 0.97 | 2.39 | 3.30(2) | 155 |

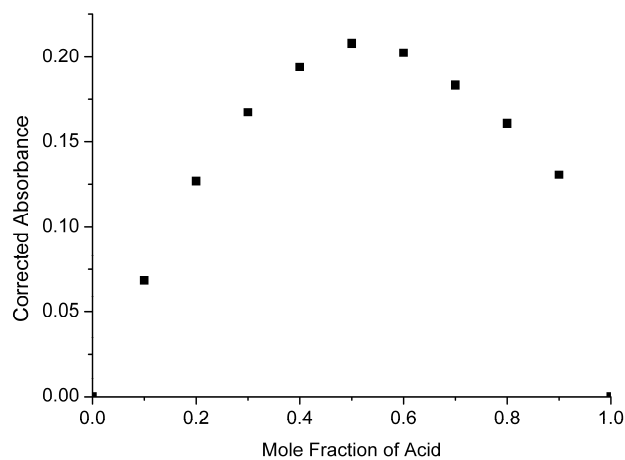


Fig. S2: Jobs plot of $[\text{Cu}_2(\text{L-2H})_2]$ and HBF_4 at $4.6 \times 10^{-5} \text{ mol}\cdot\text{L}^{-1}$ in isopropanol / 1,2-dichloroethane, observed wave lengths 355 nm.