

## SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

### **Perchlorate-induced structural diversity in thiosemicarbazonecopper(II) complexes provides insights to understand the reactivity in acid and basic media.**

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## 1. Title compounds of the $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ / HL / $\text{ClO}_4^-$ system

### 1. Figure captions

**Figure S1.1.** H-bonds (dotted red lines) for compounds **1** (a) and **2** (b). Hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity.

**Figure S1.2.** H-bonds (dotted grey lines) for compounds **3** (a) and **4** (b). Hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity.

**Figure S1.3.** H-bonds (dotted grey lines) for **5**. Hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity.

**Figure S1.4.**  $\pi$ – $\pi$  Stacking interactions for compounds **1** (a), **2** (b), **3** (c), **4** (d) and **5** (e).

**Figure S1.5.** Anion– $\pi$  interactions for compounds **1** (a), **3** (b), **4** (c) and **5** (d).

**Figure S1.6.** CH– $\pi$  interaction for compound **4**.

**Figure S1.7.** FTIR ATR spectra of compounds **1** (a), **2** (b) and **3** (c).

**Figure S1.8.** FTIR ATR spectra of compounds **4** (a), and **5** (b).

**Figure S1.9.** IR spectra of HL (green), **1** (blue), and **3** (red). Rectangles highlight relevant bands in the free ligand absent or shifted in the metal complexes (green), and bands due to the perchlorate groups in the Cu(II) compounds, more intense than any of the ligand absorptions (black).

**Figure S1.10.** IR spectra of **5** (green),  $[\text{Cu}(\text{HL})(\text{NCS})](\text{NO}_3)$  (blue), and  $[\{\text{CuL}(\text{NCS})\}_2]$  (red). See details in the manuscript.

**Figure S1.11.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectrum of compound **1** in a dichloromethane / DMSO mixture solution.

**Figure S1.12.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectrum of compound **3** in methanol.

**Figure S1.13.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectrum of the  $[\text{Cu}_2\text{L}_3](\text{ClO}_4) \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$  compound, analogous to complex **4**, in methanol.

**Figure S1.14.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectra of **5** in methanol and the corresponding blank (graphic at the bottom).

**Figure S1.15.** X-band EPR spectra at RT of compounds **1** (a), **3** (b), **5** (c) and the analogous to **4** with formula  $[\text{Cu}_2\text{L}_3](\text{ClO}_4) \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (d). The best fits are depicted in blue dotted lines, *g*-values are given in the main text (Experimental Section).

**Figure S1.16.** Q-band EPR spectra of compound **5** at RT in red; the best fit is represented with a blue dotted line, g-values are given in text (Experimental Section).

**Figure S1.17.** XRD patterns arisen from the crystal structures of compounds **1–5** (in blue) compared with powders aiming to reproduce **4** ( $[Cu_2L_3](ClO_4) \cdot 3H_2O$ , left column) and **2** (right column).

**Figure S1.18.** Comparison between diffractograms of powders aiming to reproduce **4** ( $[Cu_2L_3](ClO_4) \cdot 3H_2O$  analytical formula, in red) and **2** ( $CuL(ClO_4)$  analytical formula, in blue).

## 2. Table captions

**Table S1.1.** Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) of compounds **1** and **2**.

**Table S1.2.** Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) of compounds **3** and **5**.

**Table S1.3.** Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) of compound **4**.

**Table S1.4.** Selected structural parameters (Å, °) and their comparison with thiosemicarbazonecopper(II) entities for tridentate deprotonated (CuL) or neutral ligands (CuHL).

**Table S1.5.** Selected hydrogen bonds (Å, °).

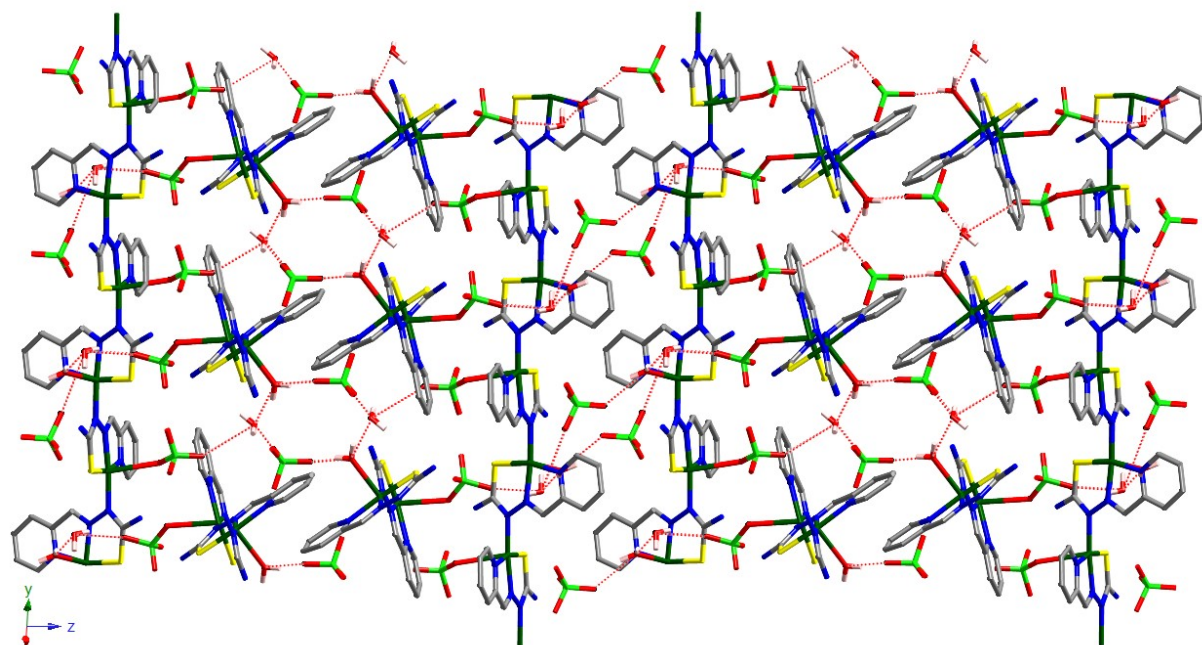
**Table S1.6.**  $\pi$ – $\pi$  Stacking interactions.

**Table S1.7.** Anion– $\pi$  interactions.

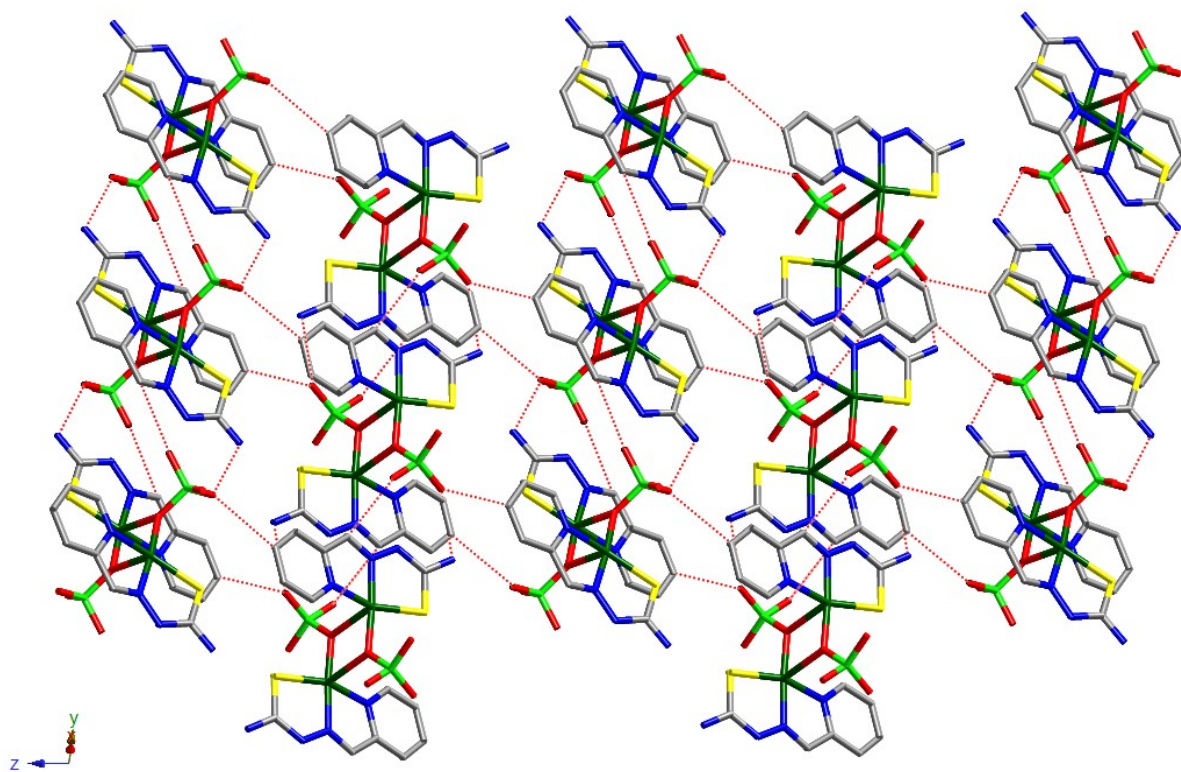
**Table S1.8.** CH– $\pi$  interaction for compound **4**.

**Table S1.9.** Selected IR bands for neutral and anionic thiosemicarbazone derivatives and proposed assignments. Bands of coligands and counterions are excluded.

### 3. Figures

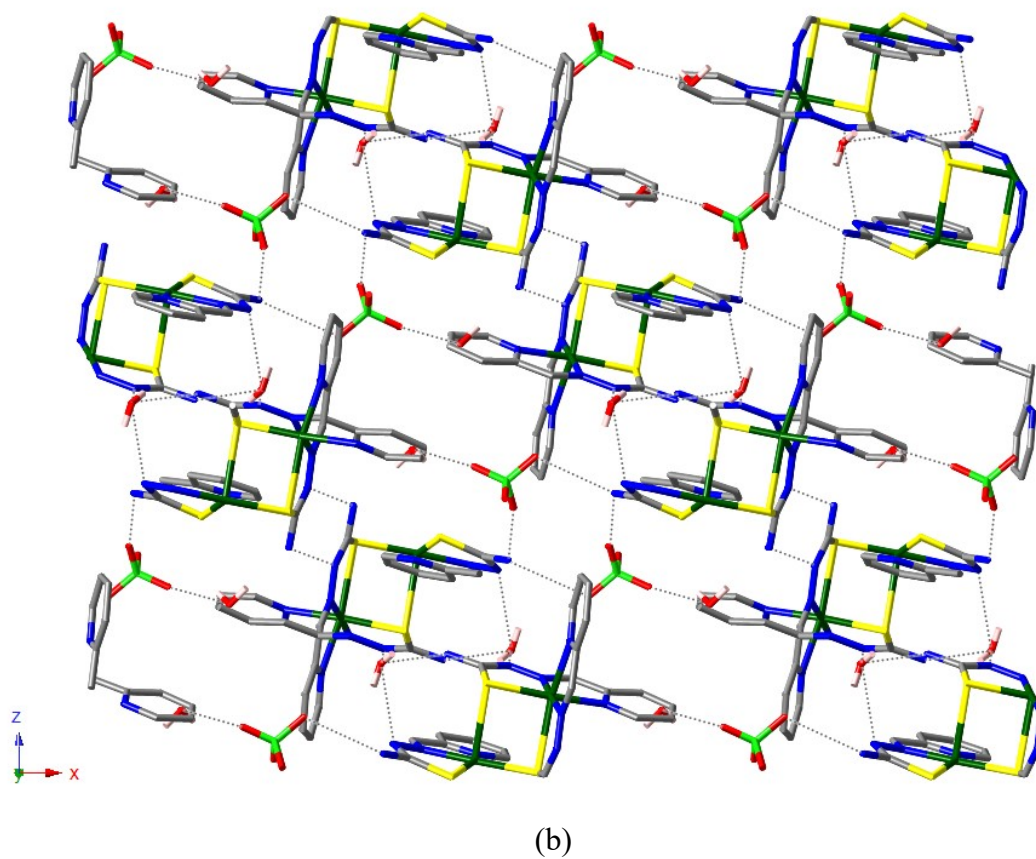
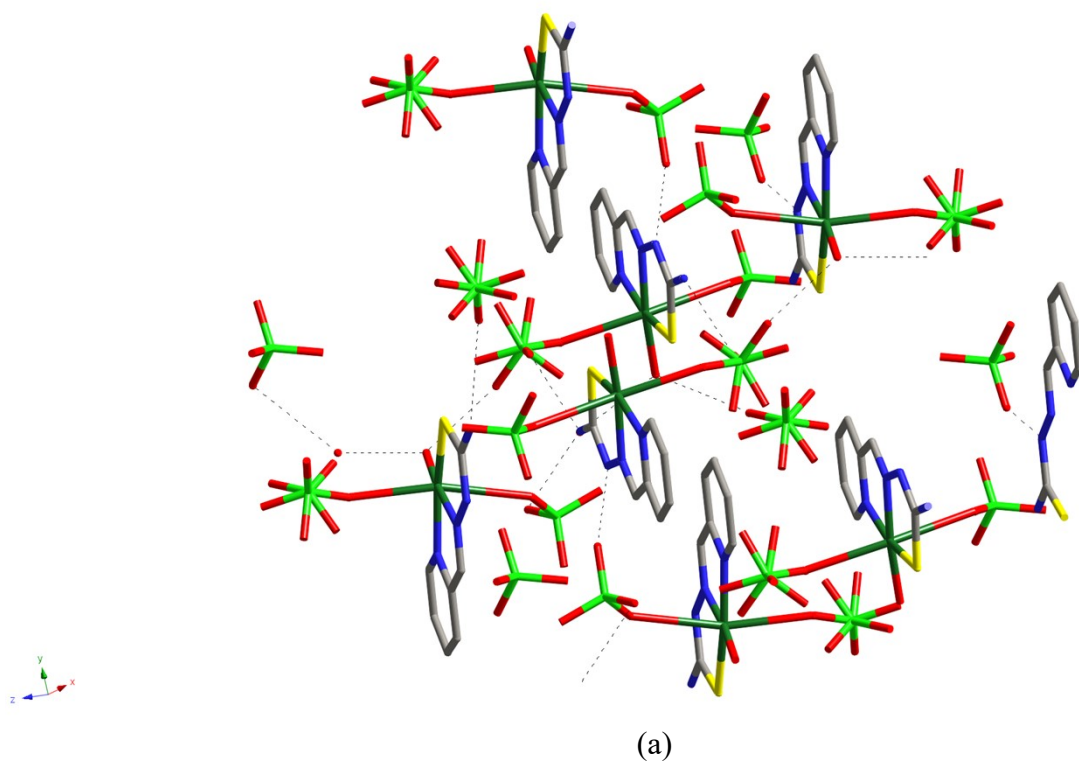


(a)

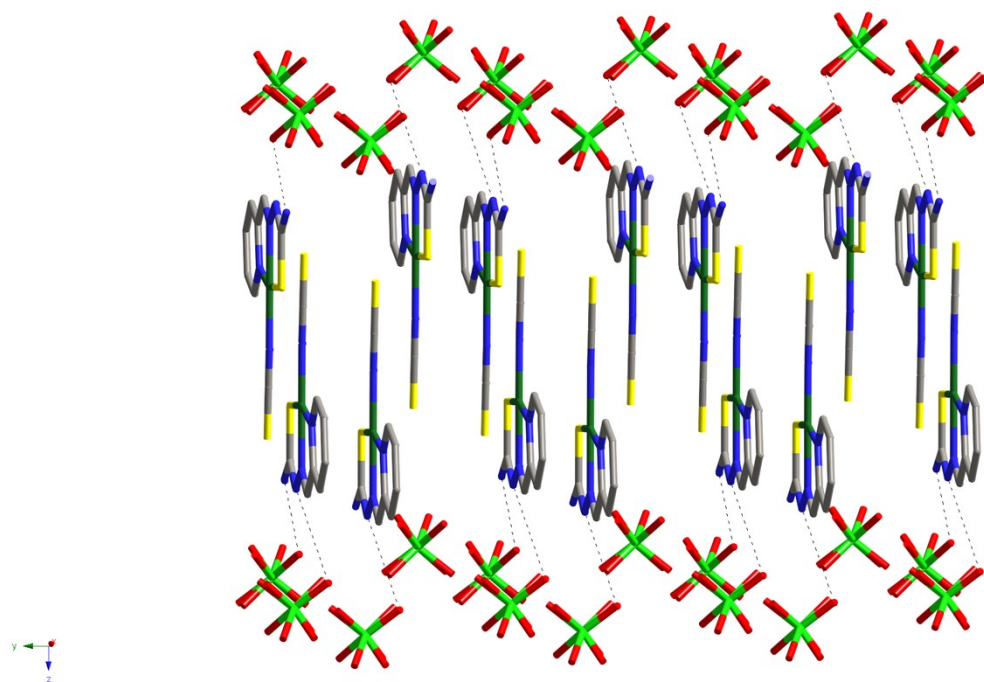


(b)

**Figure S1.1.** H-bonds (dotted red lines) for compounds **1** (a) and **2** (b). Hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity.

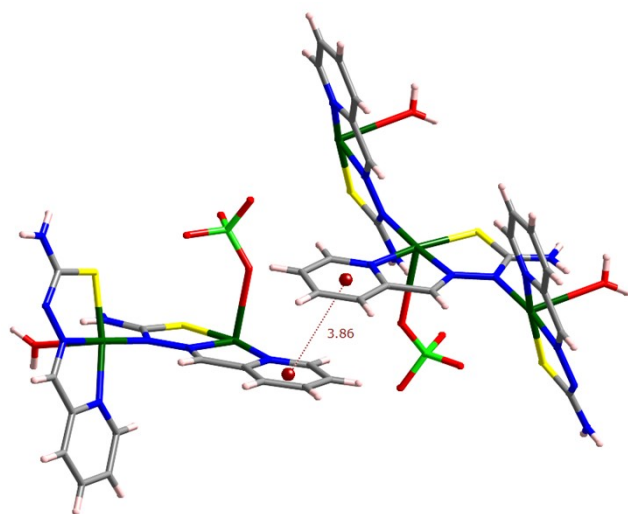


**Figure S1.2.** H-bonds (dotted grey lines) for compounds **3** (a) and **4** (b). Hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity.

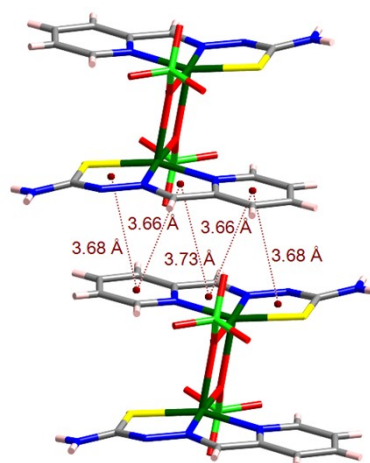


**Figure S1.3.** H-bonds (dotted grey lines) for **5**. Hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity.

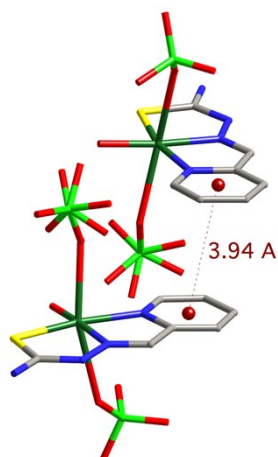




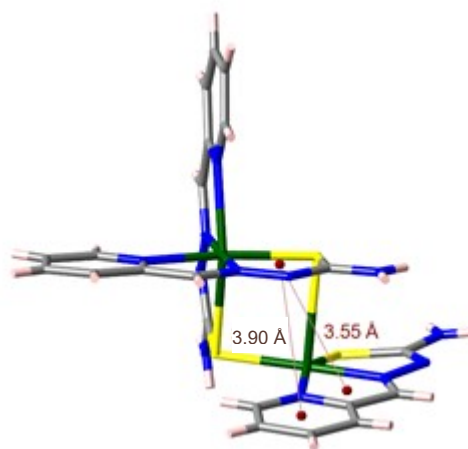
(a)



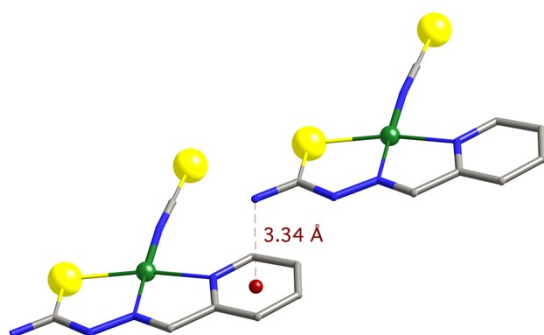
(b)



(c)



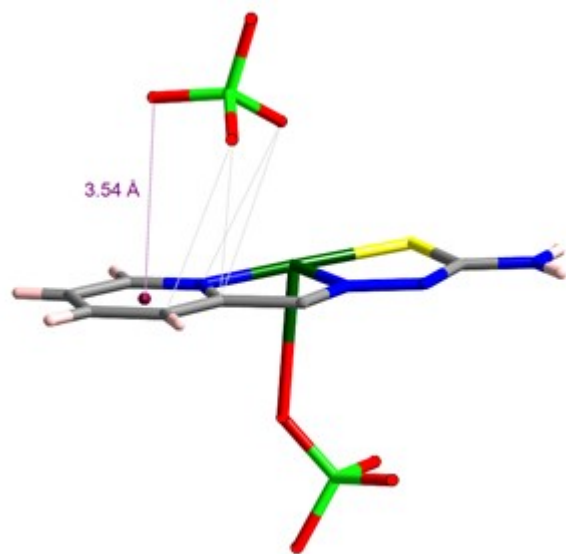
(d)



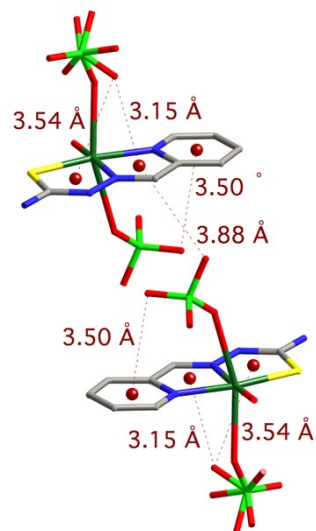
(e)

**Figure S1.4.**  $\pi$ - $\pi$  Stacking interactions for compounds **1** (a), **2** (b), **3** (c), **4** (d) and **5** (e).

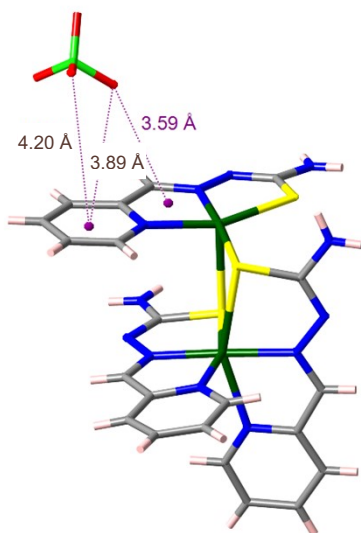




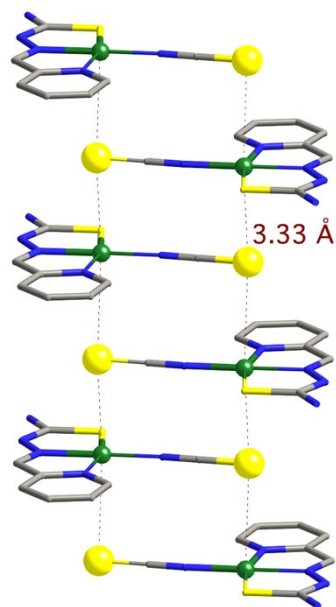
(a)



(b)

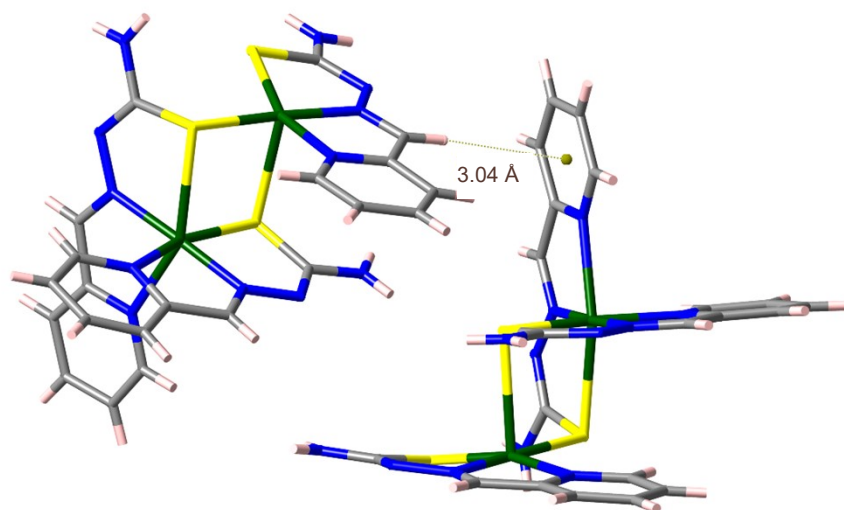


(c)

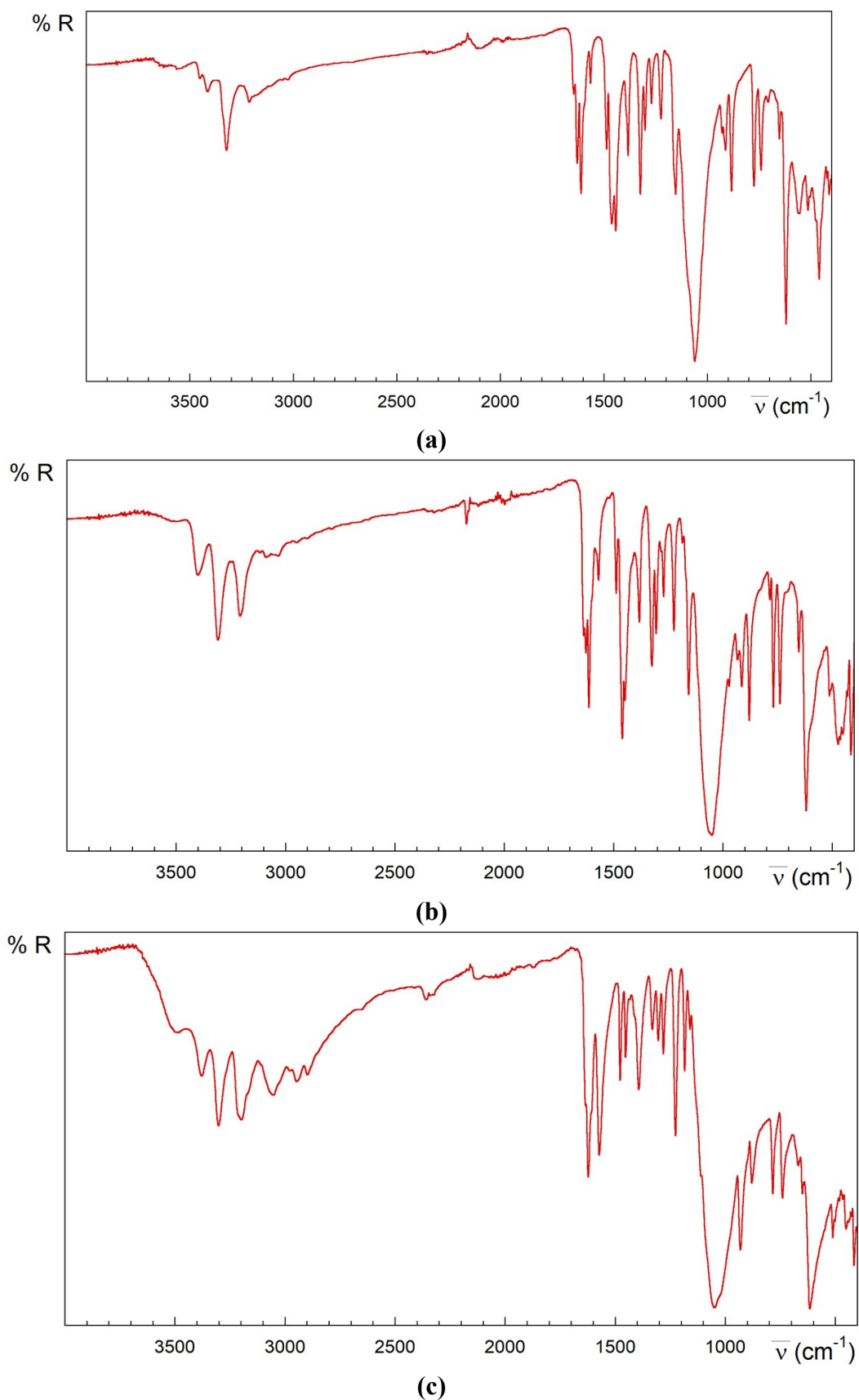


(d)

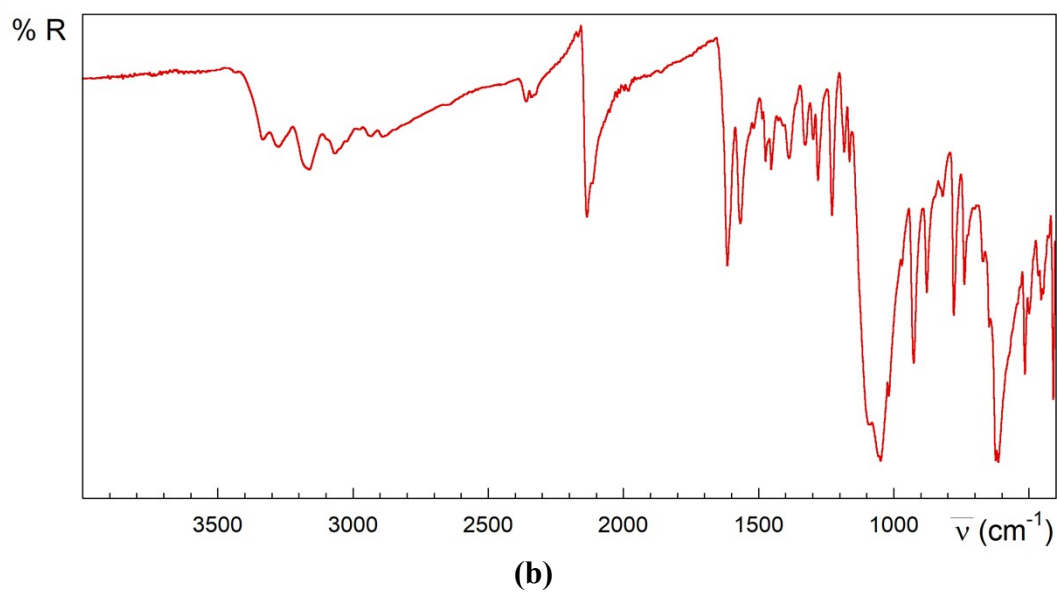
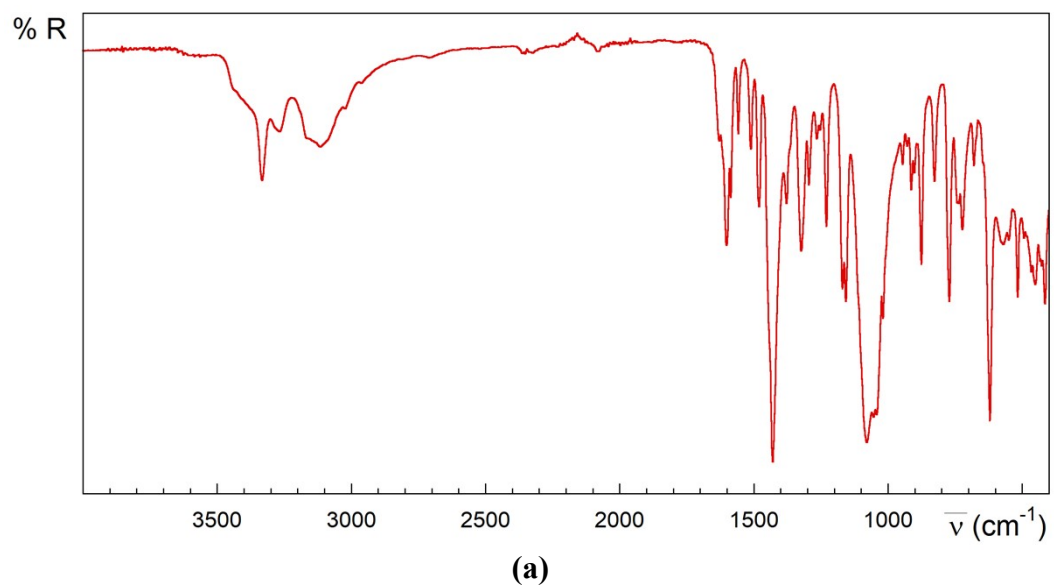
**Figure S1.5.** Anion- $\pi$  interactions for compounds **1** (a), **3** (b), **4** (c) and **5** (d).



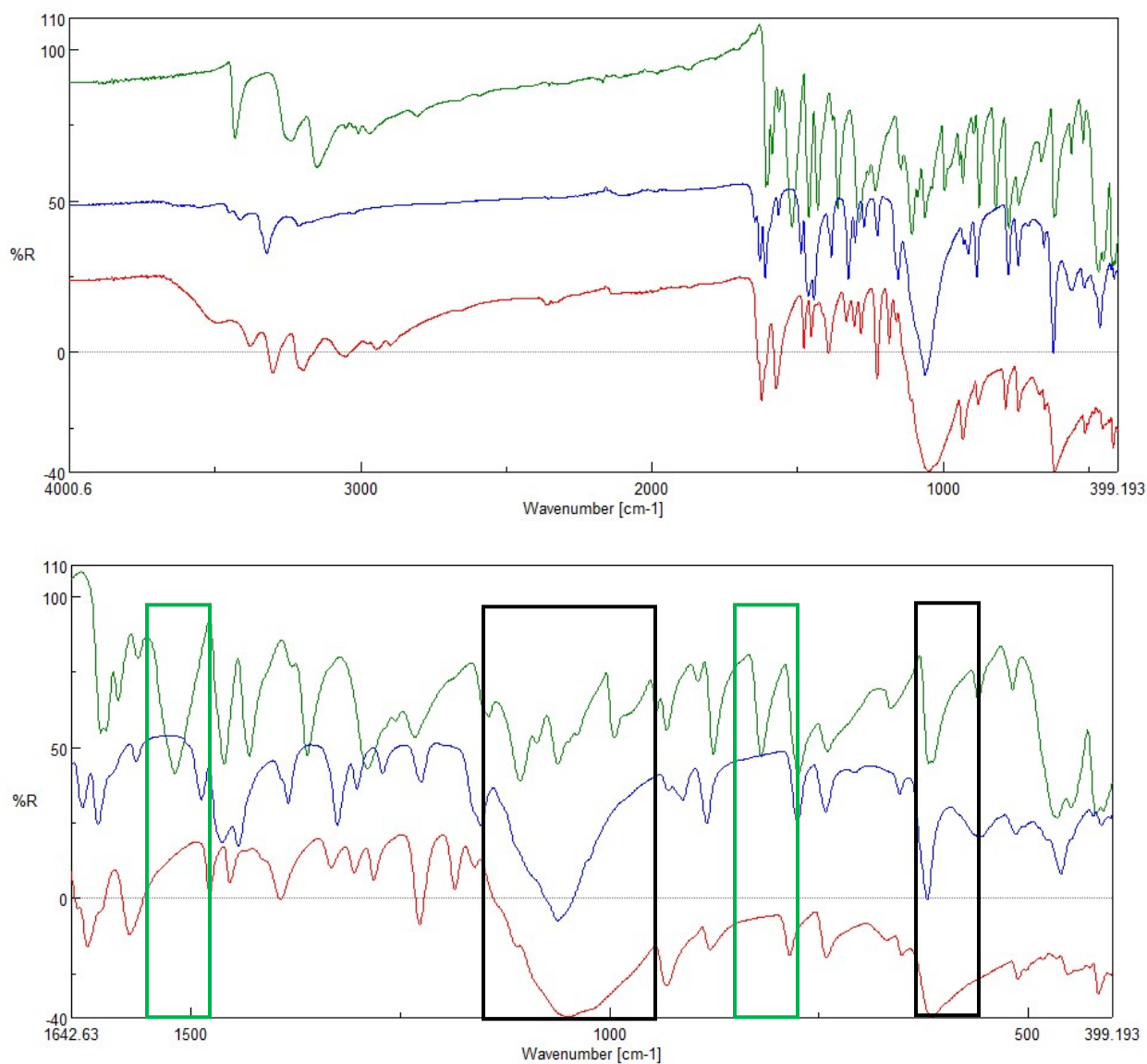
**Figure S1.6.** CH- $\pi$  interaction for compound **4**.



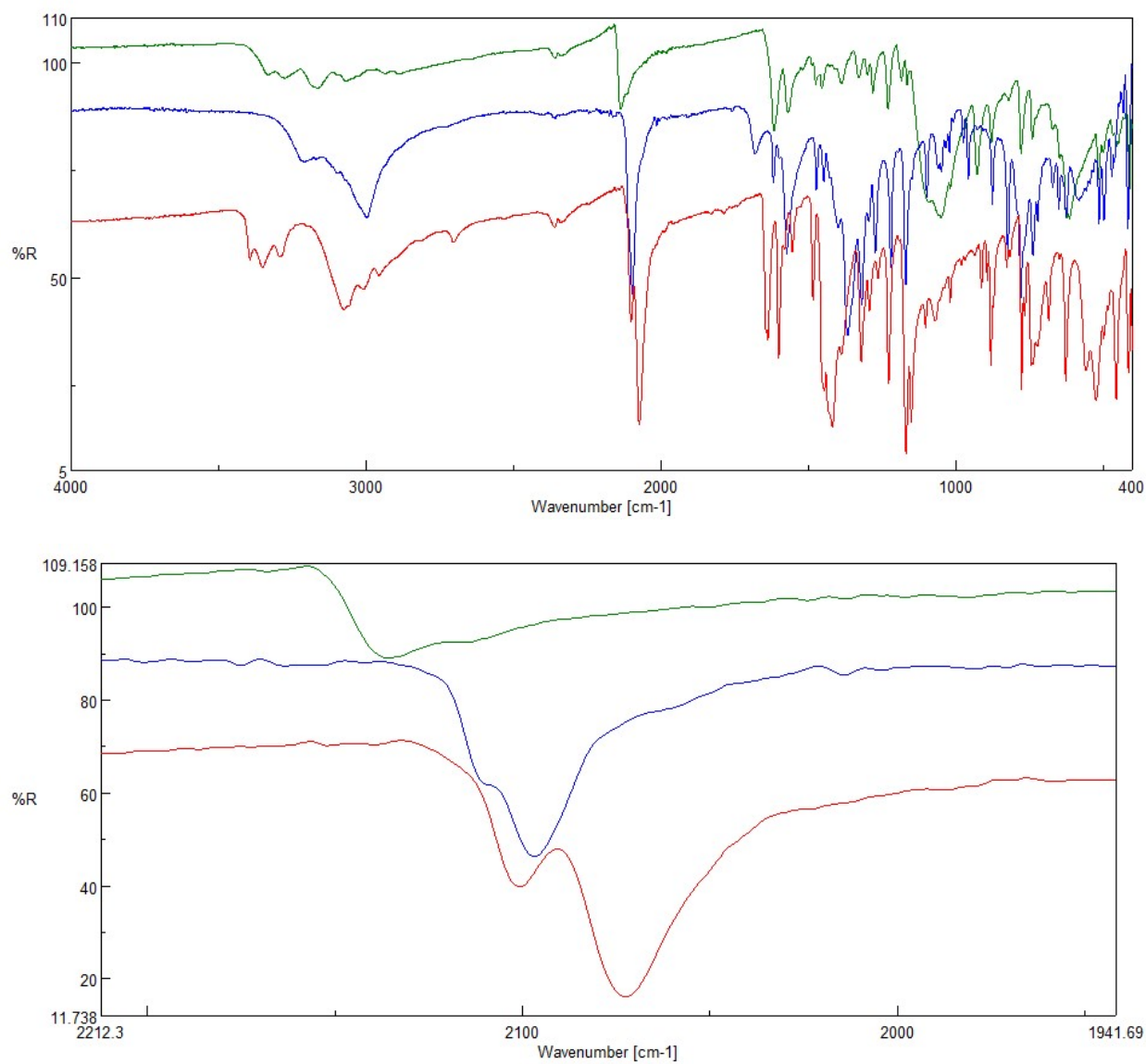
**Figure S1.7.** FTIR ATR spectra of compounds **1** (a), **2** (b) and **3** (c).



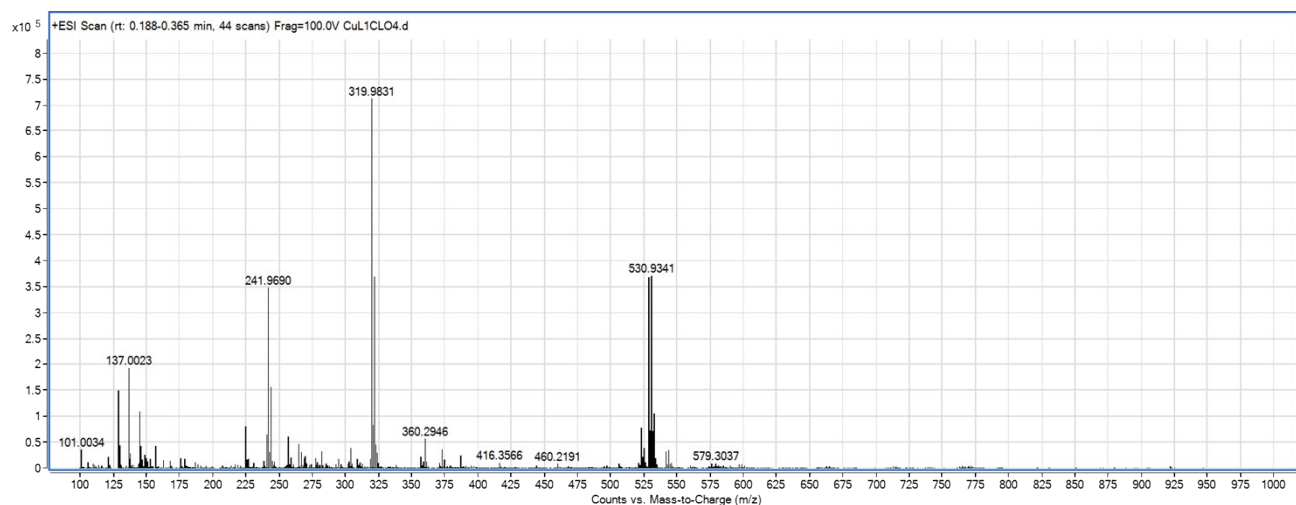
**Figure S1.8.** FTIR ATR spectra of compounds **4** (a), and **5** (b).



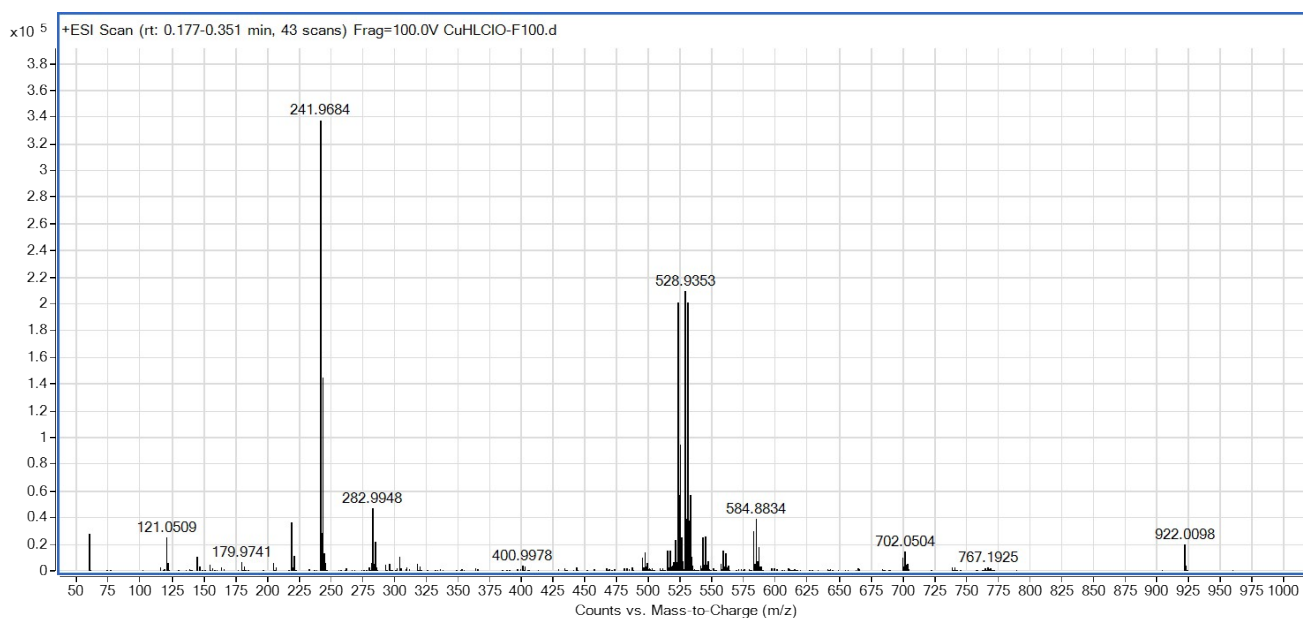
**Figure S1.9.** IR spectra of HL (green), **1** (blue), and **3** (red). Rectangles highlight relevant bands in the free ligand absent or shifted in the metal complexes (green), and bands due to the perchlorate groups in the Cu(II) compounds, more intense than any of the ligand absorptions (black).



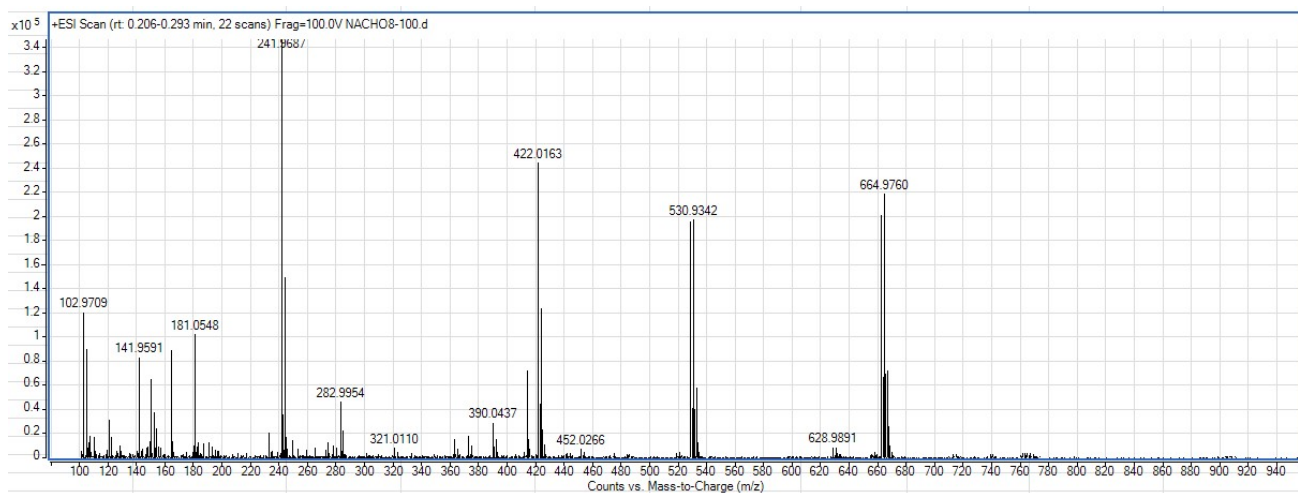
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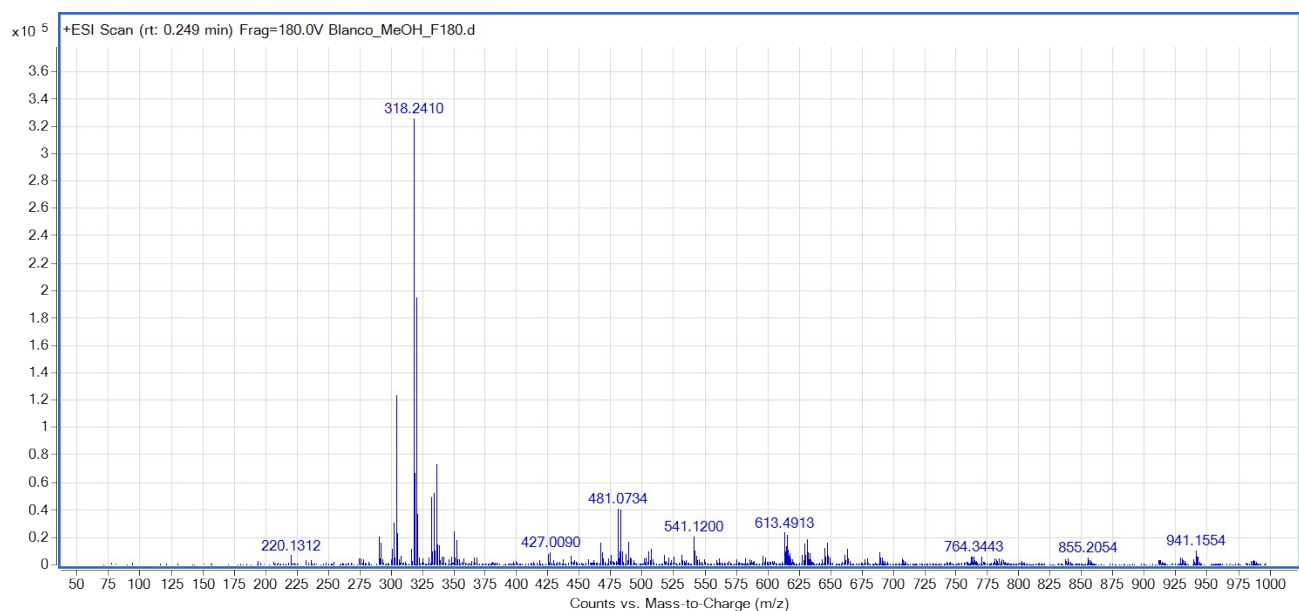
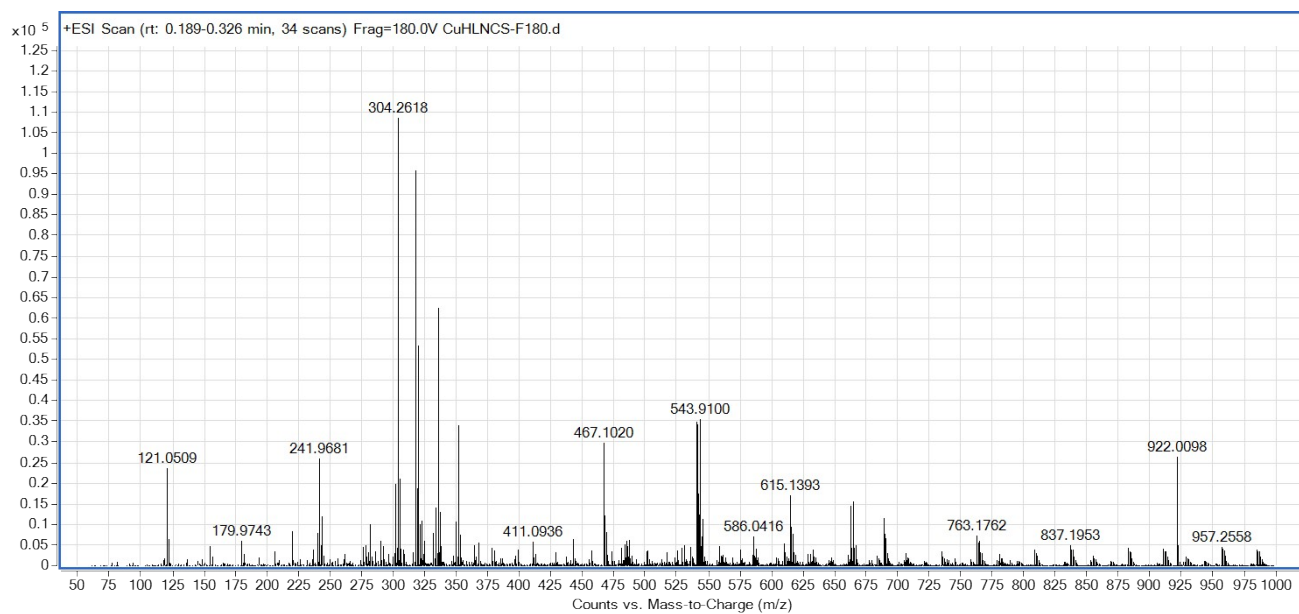


**Figure S1.12.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectrum of compound **3** in methanol.

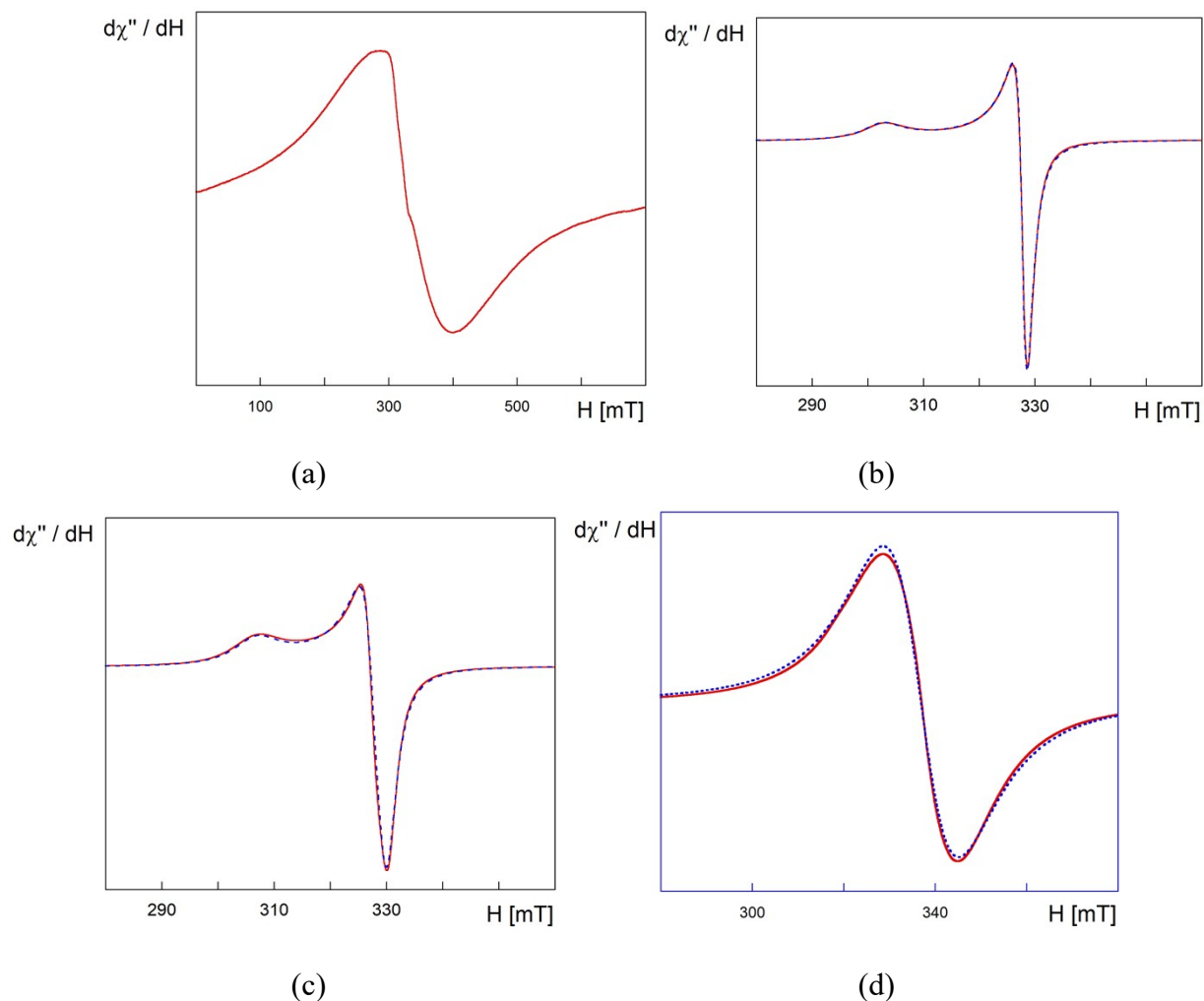


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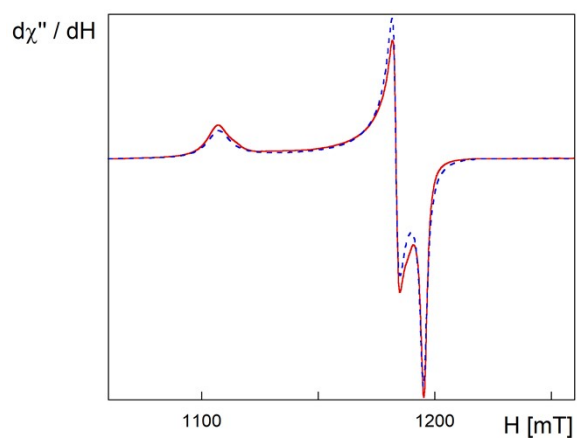




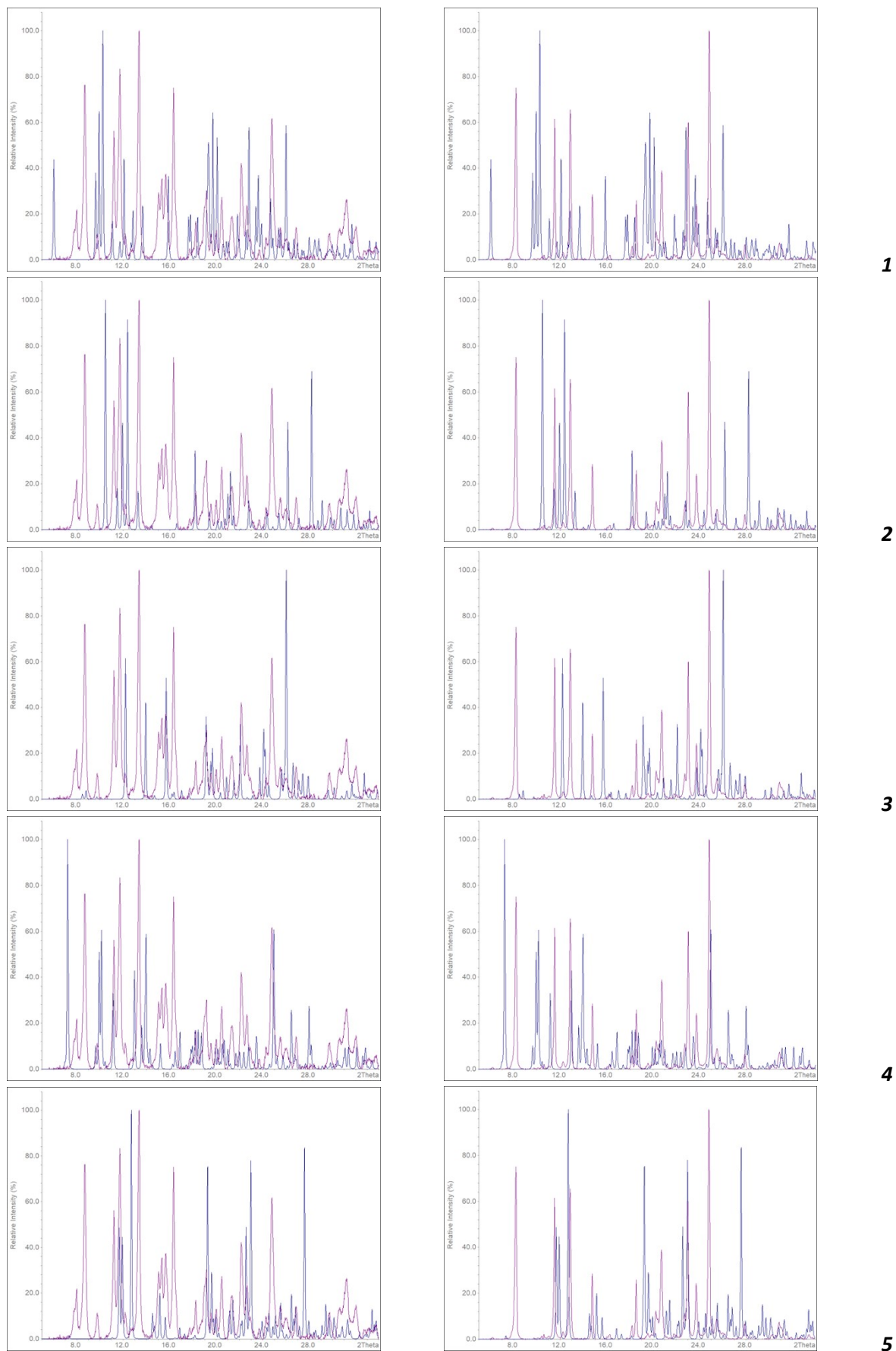
**Figure S1.14.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectra of **5** in methanol and the corresponding blank (graphic at the bottom).



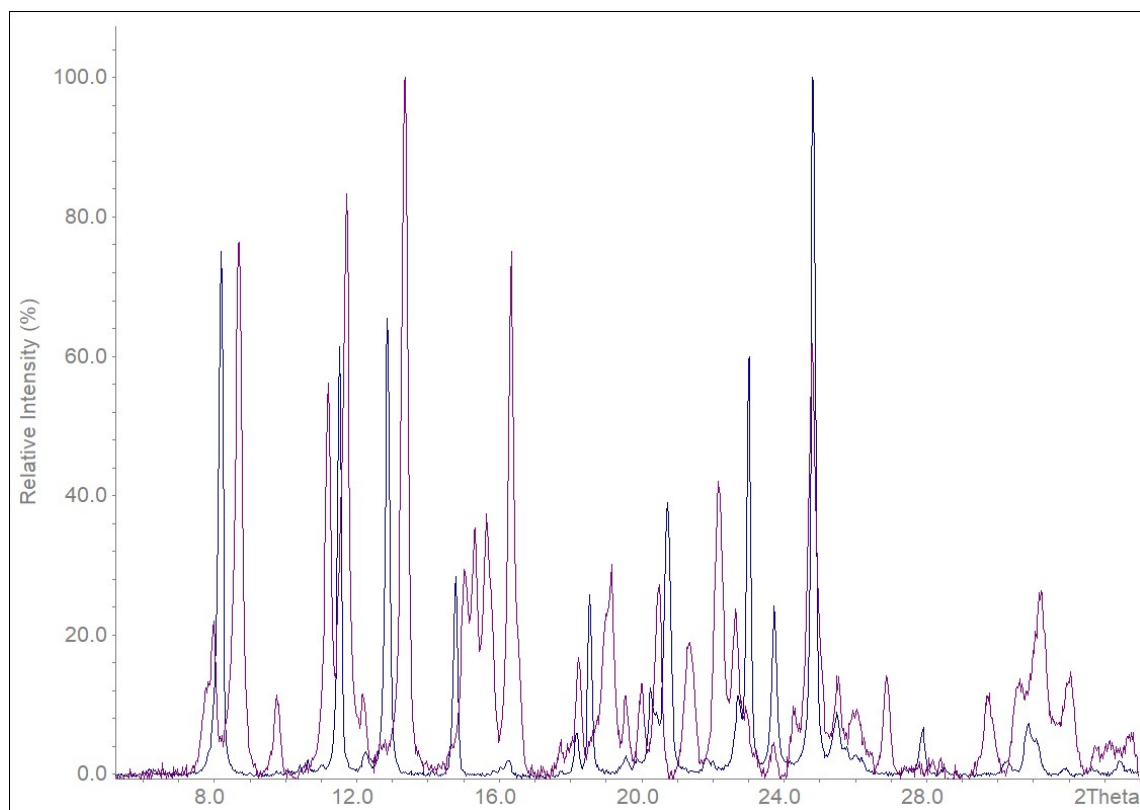
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**Figure S1.18.** Comparison between diffractograms of powders aiming to reproduce **4** ( $[Cu_2L_3](ClO_4) \cdot 3H_2O$  analytical formula, in red) and **2** ( $CuL(ClO_4)$  analytical formula, in blue).

## 4. Tables

**Table S1.1.** Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) of compounds **1** and **2**.

|        |                                    | <b>1</b>                                         |                                                             | <b>2</b>                      |
|--------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
|        |                                    | <b>Entity 1</b><br><b>[CuL(ClO<sub>4</sub>)]</b> | <b>Entity 2</b><br><b>[CuL(H<sub>2</sub>O)]<sup>+</sup></b> | <b>[CuL(ClO<sub>4</sub>)]</b> |
| Cu–N   | Cu–N1                              | 1.995(3)                                         | 2.012(3)                                                    | 2.015(7)                      |
|        | Cu–N2                              | 1.975(3)                                         | 1.972(3)                                                    | 1.954(6)                      |
|        | Cu–N3'                             | 2.004(3)                                         | 2.005(3)                                                    | –                             |
| Cu–S   | Cu–S                               | 2.2339(14)                                       | 2.2428(15)                                                  | 2.283(3)                      |
| Cu–O   | Cu–O <sub>ClO4</sub>               | 2.678(3)                                         | –                                                           | 1.920(5)                      |
|        | Cu–O' <sub>ClO4</sub> <sup>i</sup> | –                                                | –                                                           | 2.324(6)                      |
|        | Cu–O <sub>H2O</sub>                | –                                                | 2.546(3)                                                    | –                             |
| C–N    | C6–N2                              | 1.277(4)                                         | 1.282(5)                                                    | 1.281(10)                     |
|        | C7–N3                              | 1.339(4)                                         | 1.349(5)                                                    | 1.347(10)                     |
|        | C7–N4                              | 1.328(4)                                         | 1.312(5)                                                    | 1.324(10)                     |
| N–N    | N2–N3                              | 1.375(4)                                         | 1.379(4)                                                    | 1.373(9)                      |
| C–S    | C7–S                               | 1.730(3)                                         | 1.726(4)                                                    | 1.707(8)                      |
| N–Cu–O | N2–Cu–O <sub>ClO4</sub>            | –                                                | –                                                           | 175.3(3)                      |
| N–Cu–S | N1–Cu–S                            | 165.70(9)                                        | 165.63(10)                                                  | 160.47(19)                    |
| N–Cu–N | N2–Cu–N3'                          | 174.65(11)                                       | 171.44(12)                                                  | –                             |
| Cu–N–N | Cu–N2–N3                           | 122.61(18)                                       | 123.4(2)                                                    | 119.9(5)                      |
| N–N–C  | N2–N3–C7                           | 111.9(2)                                         | 111.1(3)                                                    | 115.7(6)                      |
| N–C–N  | N3–C7–N4                           | 118.2(3)                                         | 118.0(3)                                                    | 116.4(7)                      |
| S–C–N  | S–C7–N3                            | 124.6(2)                                         | 124.7(3)                                                    | 122.7(5)                      |
|        | S–C7–N4                            | 117.1(3)                                         | 117.3(3)                                                    | 120.9(6)                      |

(i = –x+1/2, –y+1/2, –z).

**Table S1.2.** Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) of compounds **3** and **5**.

|        |                         | <b>3</b><br>[Cu(HL)(OClO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (OH <sub>2</sub> )] | <b>5</b><br>[Cu(HL)(NCS)] <sup>+</sup> |
|--------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Cu–N   | Cu–N1                   | 1.998(6)                                                                 | 2.013(7)                               |
|        | Cu–N2                   | 1.950(4)                                                                 | 1.939(5)                               |
|        | Cu–N5                   | –                                                                        | 1.888(6)                               |
| Cu–S   | Cu–S                    | 2.282(2)                                                                 | 2.290(2)                               |
| Cu–O   | Cu–O <sub>ClO4</sub>    | 2.440(12)                                                                | –                                      |
|        | Cu–O' <sub>ClO4</sub>   | 2.697(5)                                                                 | –                                      |
|        | Cu–O <sub>H2O</sub>     | 1.933(5)                                                                 | –                                      |
| C–N    | C6–N2                   | 1.273(7)                                                                 | 1.270(9)                               |
|        | C7–N3                   | 1.338(7)                                                                 | 1.329(10)                              |
|        | C7–N4                   | 1.314(8)                                                                 | 1.315(10)                              |
| N–N    | N2–N3                   | 1.355(7)                                                                 | 1.347(9)                               |
| C–S    | C7–S                    | 1.694(6)                                                                 | 1.694(7)                               |
| N–Cu–O | N2–Cu–O <sub>ClO4</sub> | 102.7(4)                                                                 | –                                      |
| N–Cu–S | N1–Cu–S                 | 165.29(16)                                                               | 164.3(2)                               |
| N–Cu–N | N2–Cu–N5                | –                                                                        | 178.2(3)                               |
| Cu–N–N | Cu–N2–N3                | 119.9(3)                                                                 | 120.7(4)                               |
| N–N–C  | N2–N3–C7                | 118.1(4)                                                                 | 117.7(6)                               |
| N–C–N  | N3–C7–N4                | 117.7(5)                                                                 | 116.8(6)                               |
| S–C–N  | S–C7–N3                 | 120.7(5)                                                                 | 121.2(6)                               |
|        | S–C7–N4                 | 121.6(4)                                                                 | 122.0(6)                               |

**Table S1.3.** Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) of compound **4**.

|        |            | <b>4</b>       |                |                |
|--------|------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|        |            | <b>Cu1L(1)</b> | <b>Cu2L(2)</b> | <b>Cu2L(3)</b> |
| Cu–N   | Cu–N1      | 2.043(3)       | 2.307(4)       | 2.080(4)       |
|        | Cu–N2      | 1.973(3)       | 2.046(3)       | 1.973(3)       |
| Cu–S   | Cu–S       | 2.2591(14)     | 2.7361(13)     | 2.3269(14)     |
|        | Cu–S(2)    | 2.2848(14)     | –              | –              |
|        | Cu–S(3)    | 2.8329(13)     | –              | –              |
| C–N    | C6–N2      | 1.278(6)       | 1.310(6)       | 1.282(6)       |
|        | C7–N3      | 1.327(6)       | 1.316(6)       | 1.312(6)       |
|        | C7–N4      | 1.340(7)       | 1.356(5)       | 1.324(6)       |
| N–N    | N2–N3      | 1.355(5)       | 1.357(5)       | 1.368(5)       |
| C–S    | C7–S       | 1.736(5)       | 1.755(4)       | 1.755(4)       |
| N–Cu–S | N1–Cu–S    | 159.94(10)     | 153.37(10)     | 162.72(12)     |
|        | N2–Cu–S(2) | 175.05(12)     | –              | –              |
| Cu–N–N | Cu–N2–N3   | 122.4(3)       | 128.9(3)       | 124.7(2)       |
| N–N–C  | N2–N3–C7   | 112.1(4)       | 115.3(4)       | 112.9(3)       |
| N–C–N  | N3–C7–N4   | 117.7(5)       | 114.9(4)       | 118.0(4)       |
| S–C–N  | S–C7–N3    | 124.9(4)       | 129.4(3)       | 124.8(4)       |
|        | S–C7–N4    | 117.3(4)       | 115.6(3)       | 117.1(3)       |



**Table S1.4.** Selected structural parameters (Å, °) and their comparison with thiosemicarbazonecopper(II) entities for tridentate deprotonated (CuL) or neutral ligands (CuHL)<sup>1</sup>.

|                                                                                         | C7–S             | Cu···N3          | N2···C7          | Cu–N2–N3       | N2–N3–C7       | S–C7–N3        | S–C7–N4        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>1:</b> [CuL(ClO <sub>4</sub> )] (1) and [CuL(H <sub>2</sub> O)] <sup>+</sup> (2)     |                  |                  |                  |                |                |                |                |
| (1)                                                                                     | 1.730            | 2.953            | 2.249            | 122.6          | 111.9          | 124.6          | 117.1          |
| (2)                                                                                     | 1.726            | 2.964            | 2.250            | 123.4          | 111.1          | 124.7          | 117.3          |
| <b>2:</b> [{CuL(ClO <sub>4</sub> )} <sub>2</sub> ]                                      |                  |                  |                  |                |                |                |                |
|                                                                                         | 1.707            | 2.894            | 2.302            | 119.9          | 115.7          | 122.7          | 120.9          |
| <b>3:</b> [Cu(HL)(OCLO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (OH <sub>2</sub> )] H <sub>2</sub> O |                  |                  |                  |                |                |                |                |
|                                                                                         | 1.694            | 2.876            | 2.310            | 119.9          | 118.1          | 120.7          | 121.6          |
| <b>4:</b> [CuL] <sup>+</sup> (1) and [CuL <sub>2</sub> ] (2) and (3)                    |                  |                  |                  |                |                |                |                |
| (1)                                                                                     | 1.736            | 2.932            | 2.224            | 122.4          | 112.1          | 124.9          | 117.3          |
| (2)                                                                                     | 1.755            | 3.084            | 2.259            | 128.9          | 115.3          | 129.4          | 115.6          |
| (3)                                                                                     | 1.755            | 2.973            | 2.234            | 124.7          | 112.9          | 124.8          | 117.1          |
| <b>5:</b> [Cu(HL)(NCS)](ClO <sub>4</sub> )                                              |                  |                  |                  |                |                |                |                |
|                                                                                         | 1.694            | 2.870            | 2.290            | 120.7          | 117.7          | 121.2          | 122.0          |
| <b>CuL</b>                                                                              | <b>1.71–1.77</b> | <b>2.88–2.99</b> | <b>2.20–2.28</b> | <b>118–126</b> | <b>110–115</b> | <b>123–128</b> | <b>113–121</b> |
| <b>CuHL</b>                                                                             | <b>1.69–1.72</b> | <b>2.86–2.93</b> | <b>2.31–2.36</b> | <b>115–122</b> | <b>116–121</b> | <b>120–123</b> | <b>120–124</b> |

**Table S1.5.** Selected hydrogen bonds (Å, °).

| Compound | D–H···A                         | d (D–H)   | d (H···A) | d (D···A) | ∠ (DHA)   |
|----------|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>1</b> | N14–H141···O1W                  | 0.860     | 2.09      | 2.911(5)  | 161       |
|          | N24–H242···O22                  | 0.860     | 2.29      | 3.064(6)  | 150       |
|          | O1W–H11W···O2W                  | 0.850     | 2.02      | 2.812(7)  | 155(3)    |
|          | O2W–H22W···O23                  | 0.850     | 2.61      | 3.098(8)  | 118(4)    |
|          | N14–H142···O12 <sup>ii</sup>    | 0.860     | 2.11      | 2.949(5)  | 167       |
|          | O2W–H21W···O11 <sup>ii</sup>    | 0.850     | 2.58(4)   | 3.358(8)  | 154(6)    |
|          | O1W–H12W···O13 <sup>iii</sup>   | 0.850     | 2.08(3)   | 2.879(6)  | 156(2)    |
|          | C26–H26···O14 <sup>iv</sup>     | 0.930     | 2.43      | 3.328(5)  | 161       |
|          | N24–H241···O21 <sup>v</sup>     | 0.860     | 2.33      | 3.071(5)  | 144       |
|          | N24–H241···O24 <sup>v</sup>     | 0.860     | 2.32      | 2.988(5)  | 135       |
| <b>2</b> | N4–H4A···O13 <sup>vi</sup>      | 0.860     | 1.99      | 2.842(9)  | 168       |
|          | C6–H6···O14 <sup>vi</sup>       | 0.930     | 2.60      | 3.240(9)  | 127       |
|          | N4–H4B···O11 <sup>v</sup>       | 0.860     | 2.10      | 2.916(9)  | 159       |
|          | C3–H3···O13 <sup>vii</sup>      | 0.930     | 2.36      | 3.276(11) | 168       |
| <b>3</b> | N3– H3N3···O41 <sup>vii</sup>   | 0.860     | 1.91      | 2.739(9)  | 161       |
|          | O1W– H1O1···O12                 | 0.85(6)   | 2.60(6)   | 2.981(18) | 109(5)    |
|          | O1W– H1O1···O2W <sup>viii</sup> | 0.85(6)   | 1.88(7)   | 2.716(6)  | 172(5)    |
|          | O1W– H2O1···O32 <sup>ix</sup>   | 0.85(5)   | 2.05(5)   | 2.889(13) | 169(7)    |
|          | O2W– H1O2···O21                 | 0.85(2)   | 2.27(3)   | 2.998(7)  | 143(5)    |
|          | O2W– H1O2···O31                 | 0.85(2)   | 2.39(4)   | 3.124(7)  | 145(4)    |
|          | O2W– H1O2···O12 <sup>ix</sup>   | 0.85(2)   | 2.52(4)   | 2.841(7)  | 104(2)    |
|          | N4– H4A···O11 <sup>x</sup>      | 0.860     | 2.27      | 2.910(7)  | 131       |
|          | N4– H4A···O41 <sup>vii</sup>    | 0.860     | 2.47      | 3.163(8)  | 139       |
|          | N4– H4B···O42 <sup>xi</sup>     | 0.860     | 2.12      | 2.968(8)  | 166       |
|          | C2– H2···O22 <sup>xii</sup>     | 0.930     | 2.54      | 3.30(2)   | 139       |
|          | C3– H3···O42 <sup>xii</sup>     | 0.930     | 2.49      | 3.347(10) | 152       |
| <b>4</b> | C11–H11···S12                   | 0.930     | 2.80      | 3.348(4)  | 119       |
|          | C32–H32···O2                    | 0.930     | 2.55      | 3.308(9)  | 139       |
|          | O2W–H1W2···O4                   | 0.849(19) | 2.20(2)   | 2.919(14) | 142.7(18) |
|          | N43–H43B···O1W <sup>xiii</sup>  | 0.860     | 2.07      | 2.919(5)  | 168       |
|          | N41–H41A···O1 <sup>xiii</sup>   | 0.860     | 2.28      | 3.141(10) | 175       |

|          |                               |           |           |           |           |
|----------|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|          | N41–H41B···O3 <sup>xiv</sup>  | 0.860     | 2.18      | 2.877(9)  | 138       |
|          | N42–H42A···N32 <sup>xv</sup>  | 0.860     | 2.38      | 3.163(6)  | 152       |
|          | O1W–H1W1···N33 <sup>vi</sup>  | 0.85(2)   | 2.196(10) | 2.897(4)  | 140(3)    |
|          | O1W–H2W1···N31 <sup>xvi</sup> | 0.844(11) | 2.196(8)  | 2.932(5)  | 145.6(18) |
| <b>5</b> | N3–H3A···O1 <sup>xvii</sup>   | 0.860     | 2.39      | 3.150(11) | 147       |
|          | N3–H3A···O4 <sup>xvii</sup>   | 0.860     | 2.19      | 2.980(17) | 154       |
|          | N3–H3A···O1 <sup>xviii</sup>  | 0.860     | 2.39      | 3.150(11) | 147       |
|          | N3–H3A···O4 <sup>xviii</sup>  | 0.860     | 2.19      | 2.980(17) | 154       |
|          | N4–H4A···S2 <sup>xix</sup>    | 0.860     | 2.61      | 3.432(7)  | 162       |
|          | N4–H4B···O3 <sup>iv</sup>     | 0.860     | 2.26      | 2.902(12) | 132       |
|          | N4–H4B···O3 <sup>xx</sup>     | 0.860     | 2.26      | 2.902(12) | 132       |
|          | C3–H3···O2 <sup>xxi</sup>     | 0.930     | 2.42      | 3.316(19) | 162       |
|          | C3–H3···O2 <sup>xxii</sup>    | 0.930     | 2.42      | 3.316(19) | 162       |

**Table S1.6.**  $\pi$ – $\pi$  Stacking interactions.

| Compound | i | j                  | DC       | ANG       | DZ         | DXY   | DS    | DZ'        | DXY'  | DS'   |
|----------|---|--------------------|----------|-----------|------------|-------|-------|------------|-------|-------|
| 1        | 5 | 5 <sup>xxiii</sup> | 3.858(3) | 11.19(17) | 3.5604(14) | 1.485 | 3.691 | 3.5604(14) | 1.485 | 3.691 |
| 2        | 3 | 2 <sup>xxiv</sup>  | 3.678(5) | 9.6(3)    | 3.290(2)   | 1.645 | 3.637 | 3.436(3)   | 1.313 | –     |
|          | 3 | 1 <sup>xxiv</sup>  | 3.661(6) | 3.2(4)    | 3.425(3)   | 1.292 | 3.897 | 3.402(3)   | 1.352 | 3.672 |
|          | 1 | 1 <sup>xxiv</sup>  | 3.730(5) | 0.0(3)    | 3.382(3)   | 1.571 | 3.959 | 3.383(3)   | 1.571 | 3.959 |
| 3        | 3 | 3 <sup>xxv</sup>   | 3.940(5) | 0.9(3)    | 3.430(3)   | 1.938 | 3.466 | 3.430(3)   | 1.938 | 3.47  |
| 4        | 6 | 7                  | 3.902(2) | 8.28(17)  | 3.1237(12) | 2.339 | 3.647 | 3.4008(18) | 1.913 | –     |
|          | 8 | 7                  | 3.550(2) | 9.32(14)  | 3.0600(12) | 1.799 | 4.980 | 3.0851(14) | 1.755 | –     |
| 5        | 3 | 4 <sup>xxi</sup>   | 3.341    | 0.00      | 3.285      | 0.609 | 3.69  | 3.285      | 0.609 | 3.298 |

- 1: Chelating ring. Considered atoms: Cu, N2, C6, C5 and N1.  
2: Chelating ring. Considered atoms: Cu, N2, N3, C7 and S1.  
3: Pyridine ring. Considered atoms: N1, C1, C2, C3, C4 and C5.  
4: N4 atom of Thioamide fragment: N4, C7, S and N3.  
5: Pyridine ring. Considered atoms: N11, C11, C12, C13, C14 and C15.  
6: Pyridine ring. Considered atoms: N11, C11, C21, C31, C41 and C51.  
7: Chelating ring. Considered atoms: Cu2, N33, N23, C73 and S13.  
8: Chelating ring. Considered atoms: Cu1; N11, C51, C61 and N21.

DC: Distance (Å) between the centroids of the sets i and j.

ANG: Angle (°) between the least-squares planes.

DZ: Distance (Å) between the centroid of j and the least-squares plane of i.

DZ': Distance (Å) between the centroid of i and the least-squares plane of j.

DXY: Distance (Å) between the i and j centroids projected onto the least-squares plane of i.

DXY': Distance (Å) between the i and j centroids projected onto the least-squares plane of j.

DS: Distance (Å) from the centroid of j to the nearest hydrogen atom of i.

DS': Distance (Å) from the centroid of i to the nearest hydrogen atom of j.

**Table S1.7.** Anion– $\pi$  interactions.

| Compound | k                    | l                  | DC   | Dkl                                                                |
|----------|----------------------|--------------------|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b> | O11                  | 2                  | 3.95 | O11...C21: 3.31; O11...C22: 3.34                                   |
|          | O12                  | 3                  | 3.54 | O12...N11: 3.66; O12...C11: 3.71                                   |
| <b>3</b> | O41                  | 1                  | 3.50 | O41...N1: 3.61; O41...C5: 3.66                                     |
|          | O22                  | 6                  | 3.15 | O22...Cu: 3.23; O22...N2: 3.30                                     |
|          | O22                  | 7                  | 3.54 | O22...Cu: 3.23; O22...N2: 3.30                                     |
|          | O31 <sup>xviii</sup> | 6                  | 3.88 | C6...O31 <sup>xviii</sup> : 3.06; C5...O31 <sup>xviii</sup> : 3.46 |
| <b>4</b> | O2                   | 4                  | 3.59 | O2...C61 <sup>xii</sup> : 3.17; O2...C51 <sup>xii</sup> : 3.28     |
|          | O2                   | 5                  | 3.89 | O2...C51 <sup>xii</sup> : 3.28; O2...C41 <sup>xii</sup> : 3.45     |
|          | O4                   | 5                  | 4.20 | O4...C41 <sup>xii</sup> : 4.03; O4...C31 <sup>xii</sup> : 4.19     |
| <b>5</b> | Cu                   | S <sup>xxvi</sup>  | 3.33 | Cu...S <sup>xxvi</sup> : 3.33                                      |
|          | S                    | Cu <sup>xxvi</sup> | 3.33 | S...Cu <sup>xxvi</sup> : 3.33                                      |

1: Pyridine ring. Considered atoms: N1, C1, C2, C3, C4 and C5.

2: Pyridine ring. Considered atoms: N21, C21, C22, C23, C24 and C25.

3: Pyridine ring. Considered atoms: N11, C11, C12, C13, C14 and C15.

4: Chelating ring. Considered atoms: Cu1, N11, C51, C61 and N21.

5: Pyridine ring. Considered atoms: N11, C11, C21, C31, C41 and C51.

6: Chelating ring. Considered atoms: Cu1, N1, C5, C6 and N2.

7: Chelating ring. Considered atoms: Cu1, N2, N3, C7 and S1.

DC: Distance (Å) between the oxygen atom of the perchlorate anion and the centroid of l.

Dkl: Distance (Å) between the oxygen atom of the perchlorate anion and the nearest atoms of l.

**Table S1.8.** CH– $\pi$  interaction for compound **4**.

| Compound | C–H $\cdots$ X                     | d (C–H) | d (H $\cdots$ X) | d (C $\cdots$ X) | $\angle$ (CHX) |
|----------|------------------------------------|---------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| <b>4</b> | C61–H61 $\cdots$ X <sup>xiii</sup> | 0.93    | 3.07             | 3.99             | 174.4          |

X: Centroid of the pyridinic ring. Considered atoms: N11, C11, C21, C31, C41, C51 and C61.

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms: i =  $-x+1/2, -y+1/2, -z$ ; ii =  $x-1/2, y-1/2, z$ ; iii =  $-x+3/2, -y+1/2, -z$ ; iv =  $x-1/2, y+1/2, z$ ; v =  $-x+1/2, y+1/2, -z+1/2$ ; vi =  $x, y+1, z$ ; vii =  $x-1/2, -y+1/2, z-1/2$ ; viii =  $-x+1, -y, -z+1$ ; ix =  $x, -y, z+1/2$ ; x =  $-x, y, -z+1/2$ ; xi =  $-x, -y, -z$ ; xii =  $x+1/2, -y+1/2, z+1/2$ ; xiii =  $-x+1/2, y-1/2, -z+3/2$ ; xiv =  $x-1/2, -y+3/2, z-1/2$ ; xv =  $-x+1, -y+1, -z+1$ ; xvi =  $-x+1/2, y+1/2, -z+3/2$ ; xvii =  $-x+1/2, y+1/2, -z+1$ ; xviii =  $-x+1/2, -y+1/2, -z+1$ ; xix =  $-x, y, -z$ ; xx =  $x-1/2, -y+1/2, z$ ; xxi =  $x+1/2, y+1/2, z$ ; xxii =  $x+1/2, -y+1/2, z$ ; xxiii =  $-x+2, y, -z+1/2$ ; xxiv =  $-x, -y+1, -z$ ; xxv =  $-x+1, y, -z+1/2$ ; xxvi =  $-x+1/2, y+1/2, -z$ .

**Table S1.9.** Selected IR bands for neutral and anionic thiosemicarbazone derivatives and proposed assignments. Bands of coligands and counterions are excluded.

| Assignments                                                                                               | HL                                           | [CuL] <sup>+</sup>                           | [Cu(HL)] <sup>2+</sup>                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| $\nu(\text{NH}_2) + \nu(\text{NH})$                                                                       | 3435(s), 3265(m)                             | 3445–3430(w-m),<br>3370–3315(w-m)            | 3585–3335(w-m)                                |
| $\nu(=\text{CH})$                                                                                         | 3160(m)                                      | 3200–3100(w)                                 | 3165(w)                                       |
| $\nu(\text{C–H})$                                                                                         | 3010(vw), 2973(vw)                           |                                              | 2985–2980(mw)                                 |
| $\nu(\text{C=N})_{\text{az,py}} + \delta(\text{NH}_2)$                                                    | 1610(vs)                                     | 1650–1620(m-s), 1610–<br>1600(s)             | 1665–1620(s-vs),<br>1605(m)                   |
| THIOAMIDE I<br>[ $\delta(\text{N3–H}) + \delta(\text{N4–H})$ ]                                            | 1590(m)                                      | 1585–1555(w-m)                               | 1590–1585(s)                                  |
| [ $\delta(\text{N3–H}) + \nu(\text{C=N})$ ]                                                               | 1525(vs)                                     |                                              |                                               |
| $\text{Ar}(\text{C–C})_{\text{pi}} + \delta(\text{C–H})_{\parallel\text{pi}}$                             | 1460(vs)                                     | 1485–1480(m)                                 | 1480(m)                                       |
| THIOAMIDE II<br>[ $\delta(\text{N–H}) + \nu(\text{C=N})$ ]                                                | 1430(vs)                                     | 1450–1435(m-ms)                              | 1455(w)                                       |
| THIOAMIDE III<br>[ $\delta(\text{N–H}) + \nu(\text{C=N}) +$<br>$\delta(\text{N–C–S}) + \nu(\text{C=S})$ ] | 1365(vs),<br>1233(m),<br>1111(vs),<br>998(m) | 1295(vs),<br>1152(w),<br>1064(m),<br>1170(s) | 1385–1000(w-m),<br>1390–1100(w-m),<br>1230(s) |
| $\nu(\text{N–N})$                                                                                         | 933(m)                                       | 930–910(w-m)                                 | 950–945(w-m)                                  |
| $\delta(=\text{CH})$                                                                                      | 880(s)                                       | 880(m)                                       | 885(w)                                        |
| THIOAMIDE IV<br>[ $\nu(\text{C=S})$ ]                                                                     | 820(s)                                       |                                              |                                               |
| $\gamma(\text{C–C–C/N})_{\perp\text{py}}$                                                                 | 776(s), 740(m)                               | 780–765(w)                                   |                                               |
| $(\text{C5–C6})_{\text{conf}}$                                                                            | 620(m)                                       | 630–620(w)                                   | 650(w)                                        |
| $\delta(\text{C–H})_{\text{ip,py}}$                                                                       | 560(w), 520(w)                               | 590–510(w)                                   | 515–510(mw)                                   |
| $\delta(\text{N3–H})$                                                                                     | 475(vs,b)                                    |                                              | 490(w)                                        |
| $\delta(\text{N4–H})$                                                                                     | 450(m)                                       | 470(w)                                       | 470(w)                                        |
| $\gamma(\text{C–H})_{\text{oop,py}} +$<br>$\gamma(\text{C–C–C/N})_{\parallel\text{py}}$                   | 420(m)                                       | 420–410(w)                                   | 420–415(d)                                    |

(vs = very strong, s = strong, m = medium, w = weak, vw = very weak, b = broad, sh = shoulder, az = azomethinic, py = pyridine ring, ip = vibration in plane, oop = vibration out of plane, conf = relative to the conformation of the thiosemicarbazone ligand around a specific bond).

## 5. Crystal structure of compound 5

The modulated structure of compound **5** [ $\mathbf{q} = -0.615\mathbf{a}^* + 0.345\mathbf{c}^*$  (see Fig. S1.19), superspace group  $C2/m(\alpha 0 \gamma)$ ] was refined using a rigid body approximation (one symmetry independent  $[\text{Cu}(\text{HL})(\text{NCS})]^+$  ion, centered at Cu, together with its corresponding perchlorate counterion, centred at Cl) to describe the modulation with the lowest number of parameters. ADPs were restricted within the TLS rigid-body harmonic model. Such approximation was also used for the average structure to establish the R-factor level ( $R=0.0841$  for 75 refined parameters against  $R=0.0497$  and 139 parameters). The refined modulations are sinusoidal rigid translations and rotations:

$$T^\mu(x_4) = T_c^\mu \cos 2\pi x_4 + T_s^\mu \sin 2\pi x_4$$

$$R^\mu(x_4) = R_c^\mu \cos 2\pi x_4 + R_s^\mu \sin 2\pi x_4$$

for  $\mu = [\text{Cu}(\text{HL})(\text{NCS})]$  and  $\text{ClO}_4$ , respectively and an occupational crenel function for the perchlorate ions (Table S1.10):

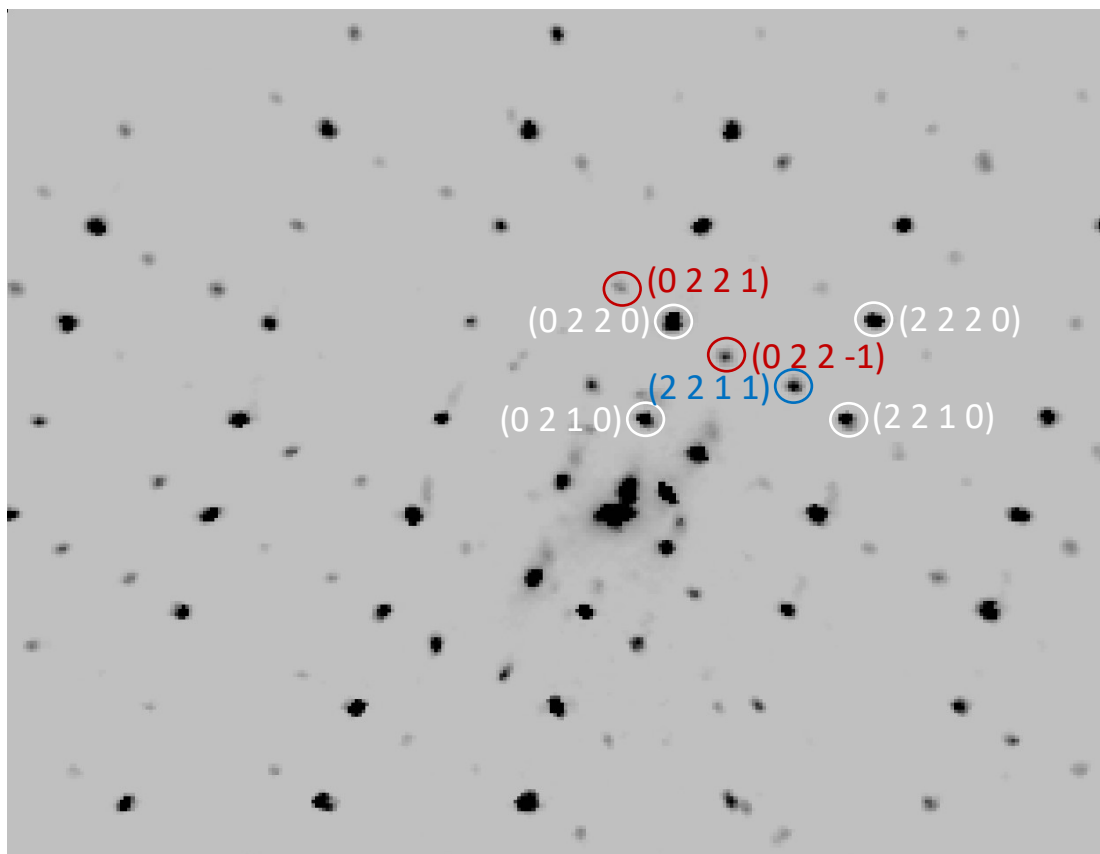
$$o^\mu(x_4) = 1 \text{ for } x_4 \in (x_{4,0} - \Delta/2, x_{4,0} + \Delta/2) \text{ and } 0 \text{ elsewhere.}$$

Final R-factors: 0.112, 0.081 and 0.199 for all (1389) reflections, main (758) and first-order satellites (631). The displacive modulation is mainly described by a translation along **b** for both rigid bodies and rigid rotations around **a**, and (mostly for perchlorates) **c**. The resulting displacements reinforce the C–H $\cdots$ O hydrogen bond network. A 5x1x3 commensurate approximant (notice that  $\mathbf{q} = -0.615\mathbf{a}^* + 0.345\mathbf{c}^* \approx -3/5 \mathbf{a}^* + 1/3 \mathbf{c}^*$  of the modulated structure is shown in Fig. S1.20).

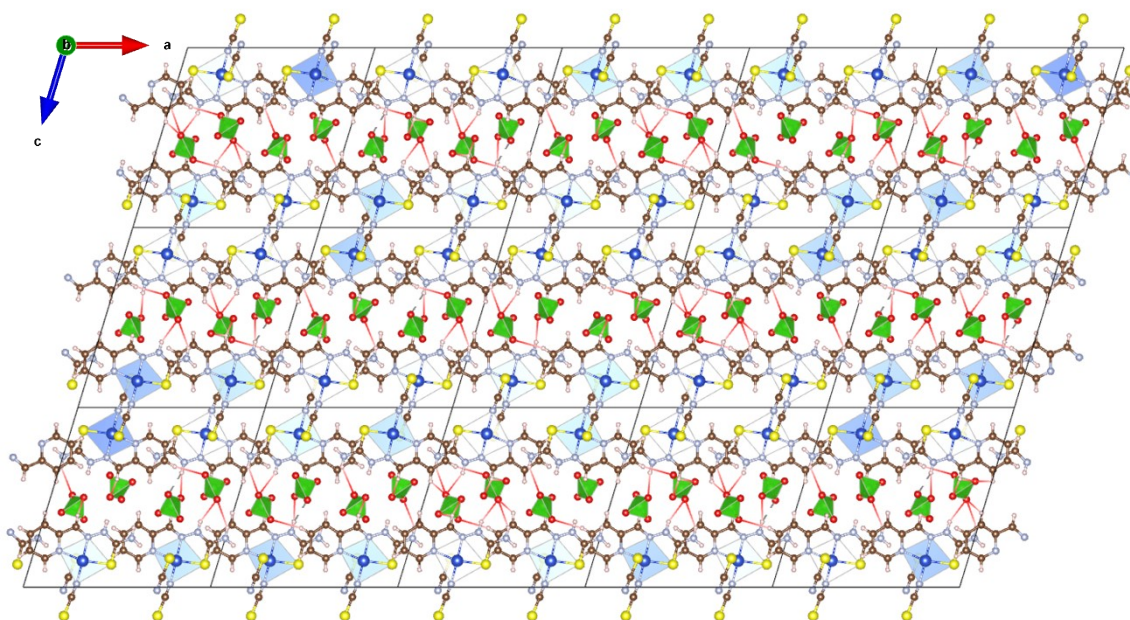
**Table S1.10.** Final values for the occupational and displacive parameters refined for the modulated structure of **5**. First row fractional coordinates. Second row, in bold, translations and rotations in Å and (°), respectively.

| $[\text{Cu}(\text{HL})(\text{NCS})]$ | $T_{y,c}$        | $T_{y,c}$       | $R_{x,c}$        | $R_{x,c}$       | $R_{z,c}$       | $R_{z,c}$       |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                                      | -0.0099(3)       | 0.0368(3)       | 0.00257(6)       | -0.00078(6)     | -0.00200(9)     | -0.00336(9)     |
|                                      | <b>-0.065(2)</b> | <b>0.242(2)</b> | <b>2.20(5)</b>   | <b>-0.67(5)</b> | <b>-1.72(8)</b> | <b>-2.89(8)</b> |
| $\text{ClO}_4$                       | $x_{4,0}$        | $\Delta$        |                  |                 |                 |                 |
|                                      | 0.223(3)         | 0.5             |                  |                 |                 |                 |
|                                      | $T_{x,c}$        | $T_{x,c}$       | $T_{y,c}$        | $T_{y,c}$       | $T_{z,c}$       | $T_{z,c}$       |
|                                      | -0.003(1)        | 0.0015(4)       | -0.039(1)        | -0.011(9)       | 0.0019(9)       | 0.002(3)        |
|                                      | <b>-0.04(1)</b>  | <b>0.022(6)</b> | <b>-0.256(7)</b> | <b>-0.07(6)</b> | <b>0.03(1)</b>  | <b>0.03(5)</b>  |
|                                      | $R_{x,c}$        | $R_{x,c}$       | $R_{y,c}$        | $R_{y,c}$       | $R_{z,c}$       | $R_{z,c}$       |
|                                      | 0.000(1)         | -0.004(5)       | -                | -               | 0.005(1)        | 0.010(4)        |
|                                      | <b>0.0(9)</b>    | <b>-3(4)</b>    |                  |                 | <b>4.3(9)</b>   | <b>9(3)</b>     |





**Figure S1.19.**  $h2l$  reciprocal plane of **5**, showing the presence of satellites. For clarity, some reflections are indexed on a four-dimensional scheme.



**Figure S1.20.** Projection along  $b$  of the  $5 \times 1 \times 3$  ordered commensurate approximant of the modulated structure of **5**, showing the  $\text{C-H}\cdots\text{O}$  H-bond network favoured by the modulation.

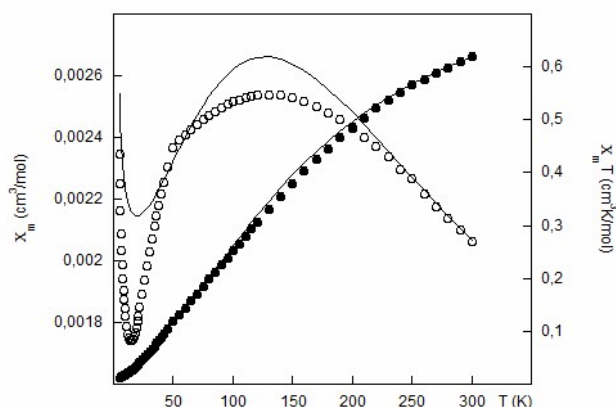
## 6. Magnetic measurements on compound **1**

Given that the ubiquitous compound **1** exhibits 1D structure with the N3 atoms acting as linkers to neighbour Cu(II) ions, we have studied the magnetic properties for comparison with the nitrate analogous.<sup>3</sup> The evolutions of  $\chi_m$  and  $\chi_m T$  with temperature for **1** are depicted in Fig. S1.21. The  $\chi_m$  values increase on decreasing temperature to reach a broad maximum about 130 K (0.0025 cm<sup>3</sup>/mol). Next, the susceptibility falls until a minimum at T = 15 K (0.0017 cm<sup>3</sup>/mol). Below this point, the curve rapidly increases with decreasing temperature. This is the typical behaviour of a strong antiferromagnetic coupling in a compound with impurities, which are the responsible of an increasing susceptibility at very low temperatures. Experimental data have been unsuccessfully adjusted, being the best fit that obtained by the Bonner and Fisher's expression (Eq. (1)) for chains of equally spaced Cu(II) ions derived from the Heisenberg–van Vleck–Dirac Hamiltonian for isotropic magnetic 1D systems with S = 1/2 spins (Eq. (2)).<sup>2,3</sup> The best least-square fitting was achieved for  $J/k = -100$  K (–69.44 cm<sup>–1</sup>) and calculated  $g = 2.19$  with impurities of 0.2%.

$$\chi_m = (1 - \rho) \frac{Ng^2\beta^2}{kT} \frac{0.25 + 0.0074975x + 0.075235x^2}{1 + 0.9931x + 0.172135x^2 + 0.757825x^3} + \frac{\rho Ng^2\beta^2}{4kT} \quad (1)$$

where:

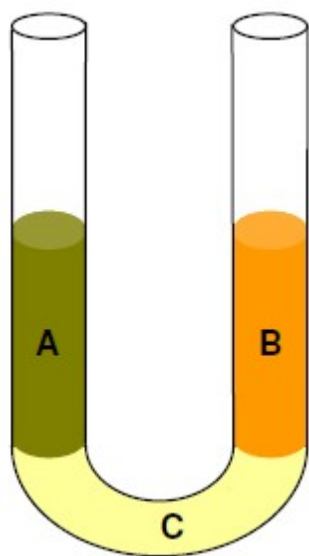
$$x = \frac{|2J|}{kT}, \quad H = -2J \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} S_{Ai} \cdot S_{Ai+1} \quad (2)$$



**Figure S1.21.** Graphics of  $\chi_m$  (○○○), and  $\chi_m T$  (●●●) versus T for compound **1**.

## 7. Crystallization method for compound **4**

Crystals of compound **4** were serendipitously obtained in a crystallization experiment carried out with the aim to obtain AMP-Cu(II)-thiosemicarbazone compounds. The experiment is mentioned in the Experimental section of the main text. Briefly, aqueous solutions of H<sub>2</sub>AMP (adenosine-5'-monophosphate monohydrate) and Cu(ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O were mixed and basified to pH 7.6 (solution A). On the other hand, HL was dissolved in acetone (solution B). Chloroform was placed in a U-tube (solution C, see drawing and photograph given in Figure S1.22). Solution A was carefully added by one of the branches and solution B in the other. Chloroform is immiscible with the aqueous phase and acts as a separator medium that favors slow diffusion. The device was kept for several weeks and finally, crystals of **4** could be isolated from one of the six different layers formed in the branches.



(a)



(b)

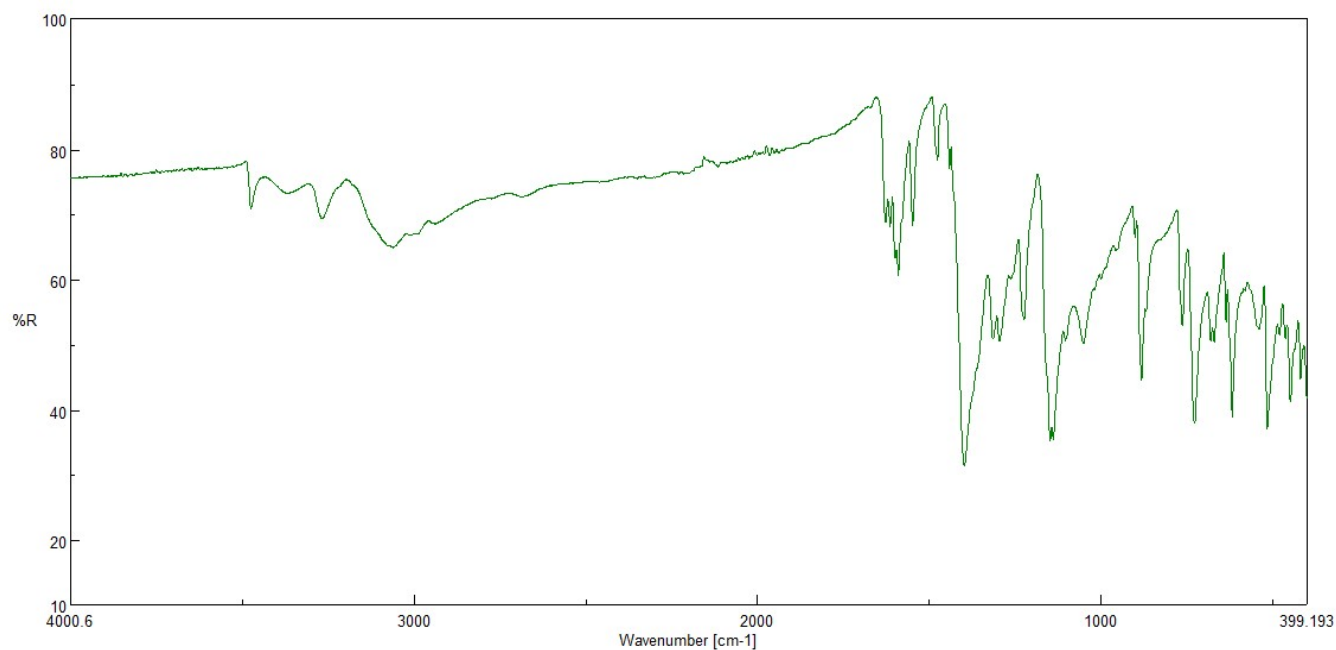
**Figure S1.22.** (a) The picture represents the method used for slow diffusion experiment that yielded crystals of **4**. (b) Photograph of an analogous crystallization experiment.

## 2. Summary about the parallel $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ / HL / $\text{NO}_3^-$ system

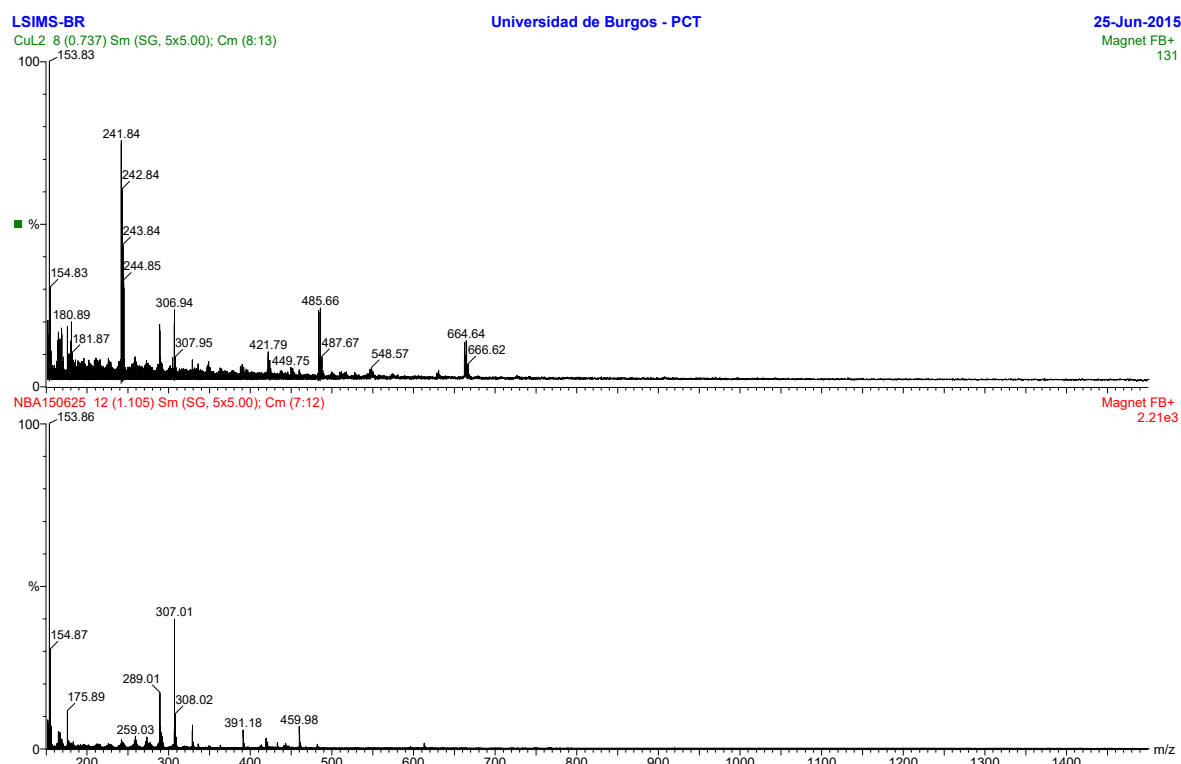
### 1. Synthesis and characterization of the TSC-Cu-nitrato complexes.

The preparation of the  $[\text{CuL}(\text{ONO}_2)]_n$  compound, or  $\text{CuL}(\text{NO}_3)$  in the manuscript, has been described in different ways<sup>4</sup>, notwithstanding the chosen method was that already used by our research group<sup>5</sup>.

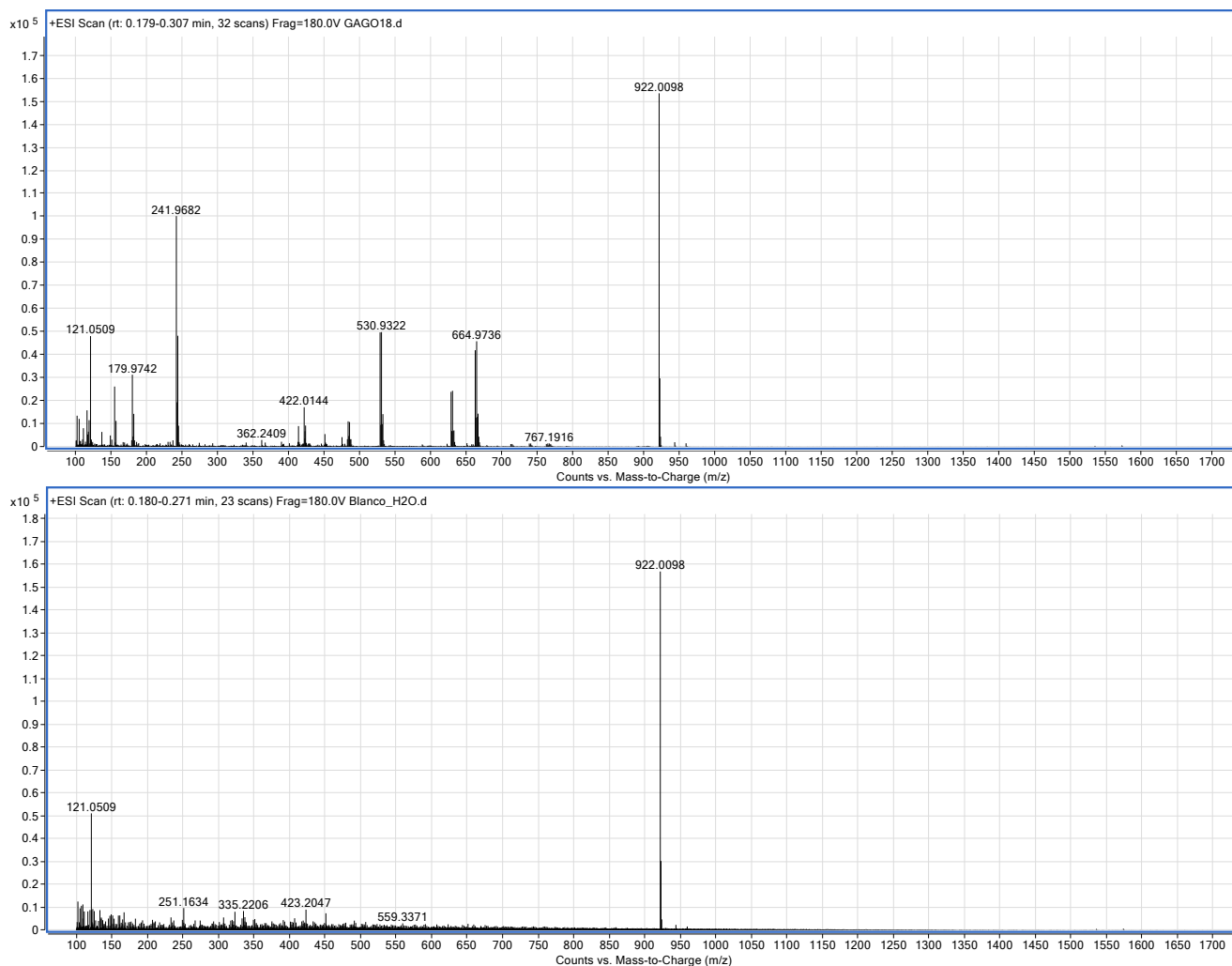
The synthesis of the  $[\text{CuL}_2]$  biscomplex was achieved following a variation of a previously reported preparative method<sup>6</sup>. Briefly, solid HL (4.0 mmol, 0.720 g) was placed in water (20 ml) and dissolved by stirring at moderate temperature while an aqueous NaOH solution was added to reach pH 12.0–13.0. Then, an aqueous solution of  $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (2.0 mmol, 0.482 g) in water (15 ml) was dropwise added. A brown precipitate immediately appeared. The reaction was kept with stirring for 3 h. The dark brown solid was filtered off, washed with water and acetone and dried in vacuum. (0.299 g, 70%). Anal. found: C, 39.44; H, 3.50; N, 26.48; S, 14.76%. Calc. for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{24}\text{CuN}_8\text{S}_2$  (421.01 g/mol): C, 39.85; H, 3.34; N, 26.55; S, 15.19%. FAB<sup>+</sup> mass spectrometry (m/z): 180.89  $[\text{H}_2\text{L}]^+$ , 241.84  $[\text{CuL}]^+$ , 485.66  $[\text{Cu}_2(\text{HL})\text{L}]^+$ , 664.64  $[\text{Cu}_2\text{L}_3]^+$ . ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectrometry (m/z): 154.98  $[\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)(\text{MeOH})]^+$ , 179.97  $[\text{CuNa}(\text{NO}_3)(\text{MeOH})]^+$ , 241.84  $[\text{CuL}]^+$ , 422.01  $[\text{Cu}(\text{HL})\text{L}]^+$ , 528.93  $[\text{Cu}_2\text{L}_2(\text{HCOO})]^+$ , 530.93  $[\text{Cu}_2(\text{HL})_2(\text{HCOO})]^+$ , 628.99  $[\text{Cu}_2\text{L}_2(\text{L}^{\text{CN}})]^+$ , 630.99  $[\text{Cu}_2(\text{HL})_2(\text{L}^{\text{CN}})]^+$ , 662.97  $[\text{Cu}_2\text{L}_3]^+$ , 664.97  $[\text{Cu}_2(\text{HL})_2\text{L}]^+$ . UV absorptions,  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (DMF)/nm 618 ( $\epsilon/\text{dm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$  230, d-d transition), 412 (16860 charge transfer transition), 298 and 340 sh (35680, intraligand). IR bands (ATR-FTIR),  $\square_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3475 m, 3365 w, 3267 m, 3075 m, 3062 m, 3011 m, 2988 m, 2940 w, 2353 w, 1626 m, 1614 m, 1598 m, 1590 m, 1547 m, 1475 w, 1440 h, 1397 vs, 1315 s, 1294 s, 1263 w, 1223 m, 1147 s, 1138 s, 1102 h, 1051 m, 956 w, 900 h, 881 s, 868 m, 762 m, 727 s, 679 m, 670 m, 635 w, 617 s, 540 w, 462 w, 447 s, 435 w, 418 w. X-band EPR signals at RT:  $g_1 = 2.194$ ,  $g_2 = 2.071$  and  $g_3 = 2.055$ .



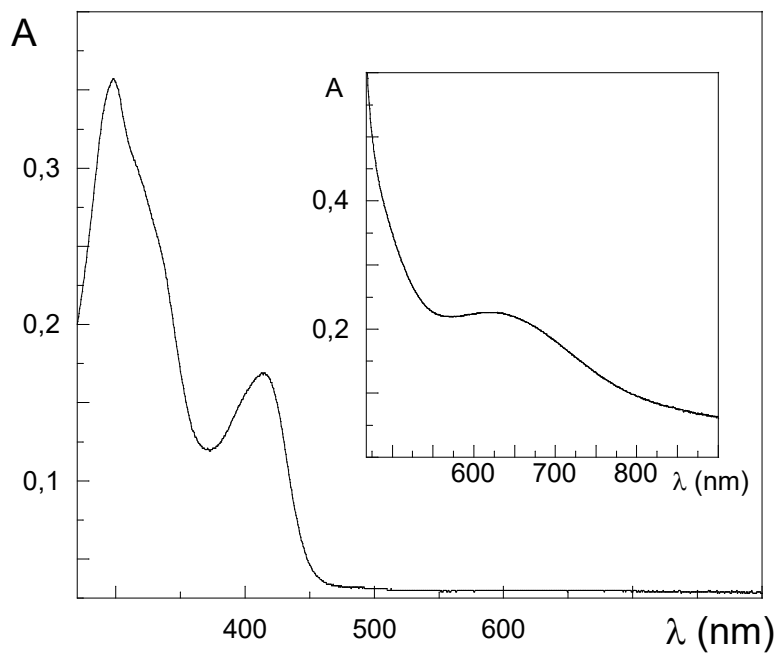
**Figure S2.1.**  $[\text{CuL}_2]$ . FT-IR ATR spectrum



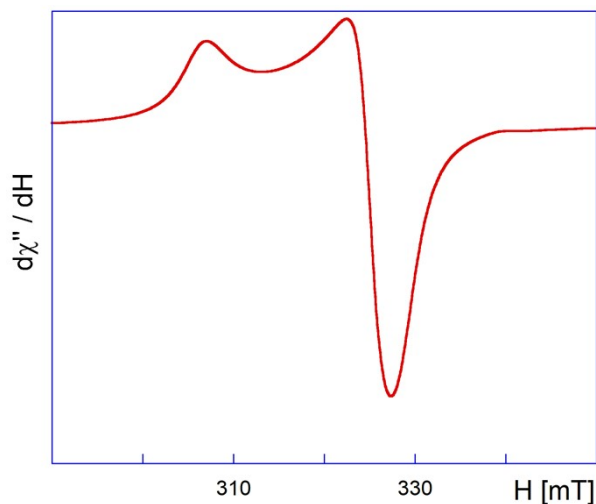
**Figure S2.2.**  $[\text{CuL}_2]$ .  $\text{FAB}^+$  spectrum of the compound (above) and blank (below).



**Figure S2.3.** [CuL<sub>2</sub>]. ESI<sup>+</sup> spectrum of the compound (above) and blank (below).

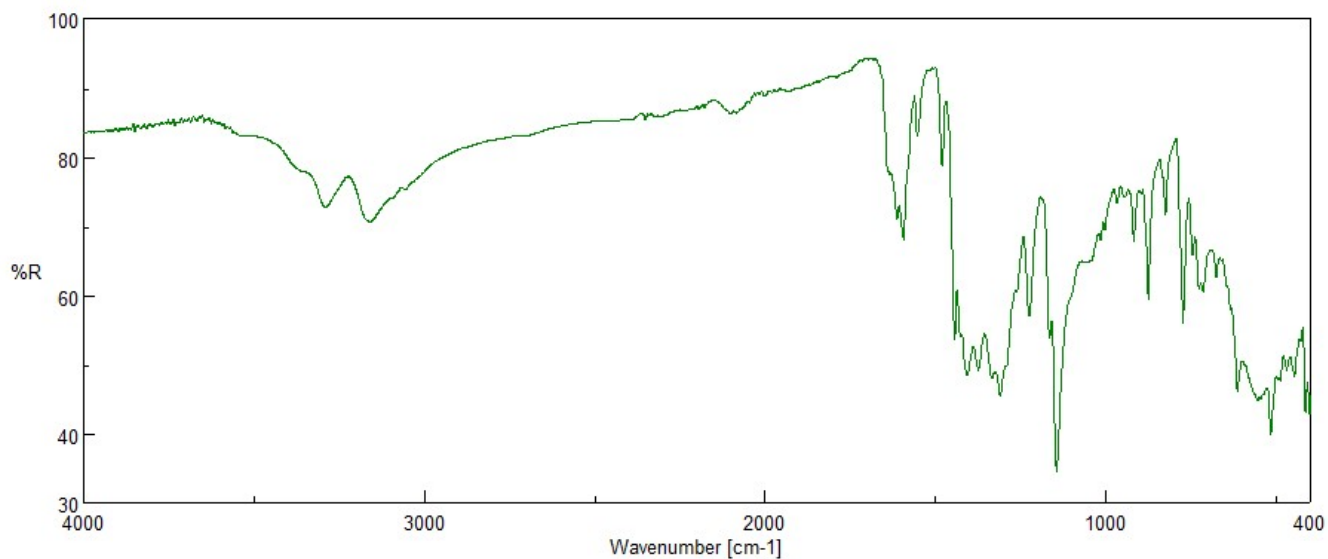


**Figure S2.4.** [CuL<sub>2</sub>]. UV-vis spectrum of [CuL<sub>2</sub>] 10<sup>-5</sup> M and 10<sup>-3</sup> M (inset) in DMF.

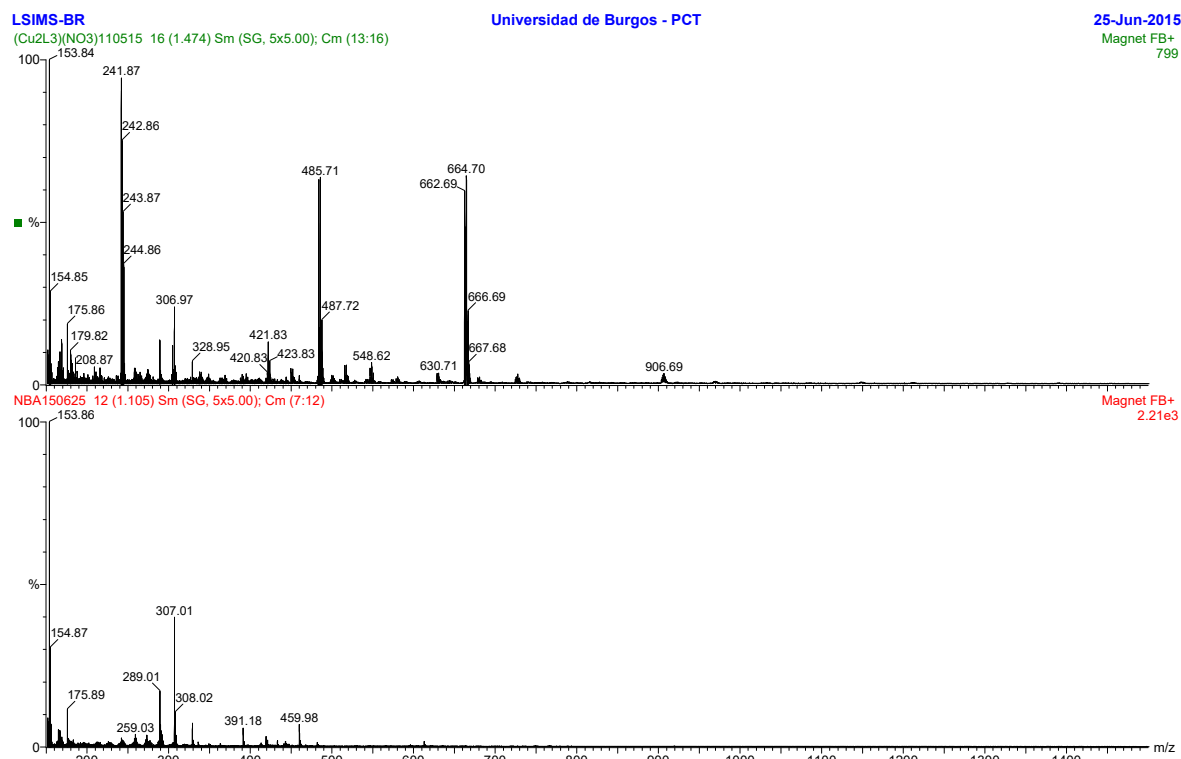


**Figure S2.5.**  $[\text{CuL}_2]$ . X-band EPR spectrum of a powdered sample at RT.

The synthesis of the  $\text{Cu}_2(\text{HL})\text{L}_2(\text{NO}_3)_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$  was performed in the same way described in the main text for the analogous to **4**. Solid HL ligand (3.0 mmol, 0.540 g) was added over a solution of  $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (2.0 mmol, 0.485 g) in water (20 ml) and the mixture was vigorously stirred for 1 h. Then, drops of a NaOH aqueous solution were added to pH 7 and the reaction was kept with stirring for 1 h. A dark brown solid was filtered off, washed with water and acetone, and dried over vacuum. (0.683 g, 83%). Anal. found: C, 30.74; H, 3.22; N, 23.22; S, 12.05%. Calc. for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{26}\text{Cu}_2\text{N}_{14}\text{O}_8\text{S}_2$  (825.81 g/mol): C, 30.54; H, 3.17; N, 23.75; S, 11.65%. FAB<sup>+</sup> mass spectrometry (m/z): 241.84  $[\text{CuL}]^+$ , 485.71  $[\text{Cu}_2(\text{HL})\text{L}]^+$ , 664.70  $[\text{Cu}_2\text{L}_3]^+$ , 906.69  $[\text{Cu}_2(\text{HL})_3(\text{NO}_3)_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_3]^+$ . UV absorptions,  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (DMF)/nm 615 (d-d transition), 411 (charge transfer transition), 297 (intraligand). IR bands (ATR-FTIR),  $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3521 w, 3365 w,sh, 3290 m, 3158 m, 3090 vw, 3056, w,sh, 2100 w,b, 1634 m, 1613 m, 1594 m, 1553 w, 1481 m, 1444 s, 1427 sh, 1408 s, 1374 s, 1335 s, 1310 s, 1291 sh, 1261 sh, 1224 s, 1165 s, 1145 vs, 1104 sh, 1053 m,sh,vb, 1015 vw, 1003 vw, 967 w, 946 w, 918 w, 875 m, 833 w,sh, 825 w, 774 m, 746 m, 727 m, 715 m, 677 w, 646 w,sh, 634 w,sh, 614 s, 555 s,b, 515 s, 469 w, 447 w, 415 m, 401 m. X-band EPR signals at RT:  $g = 2.070$ .

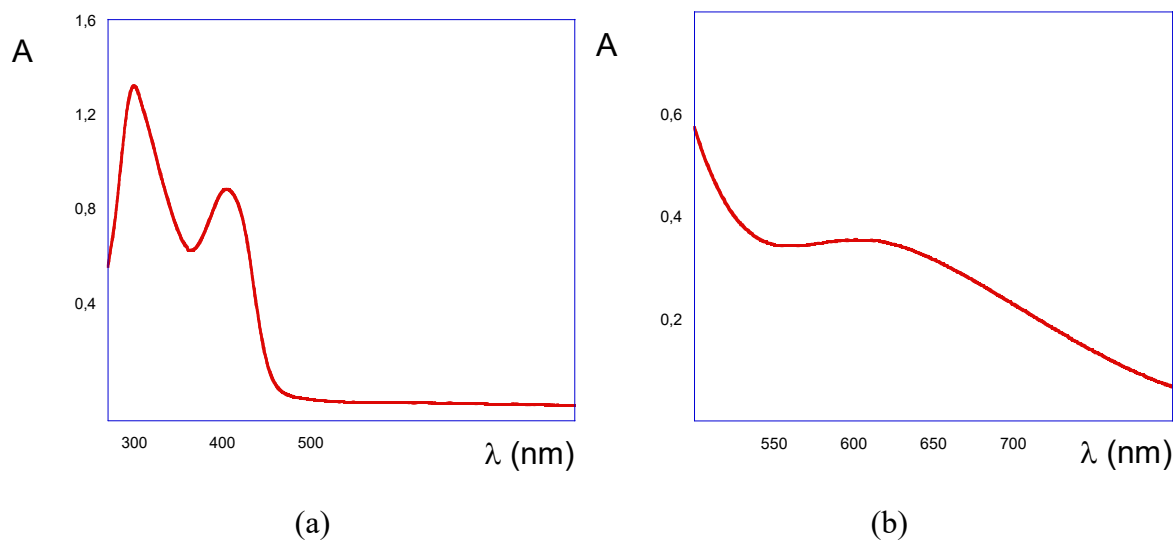


**Figure S2.6.**  $\text{Cu}_2(\text{HL})\text{L}_2(\text{NO}_3)_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$ . FT-IR ATR spectrum

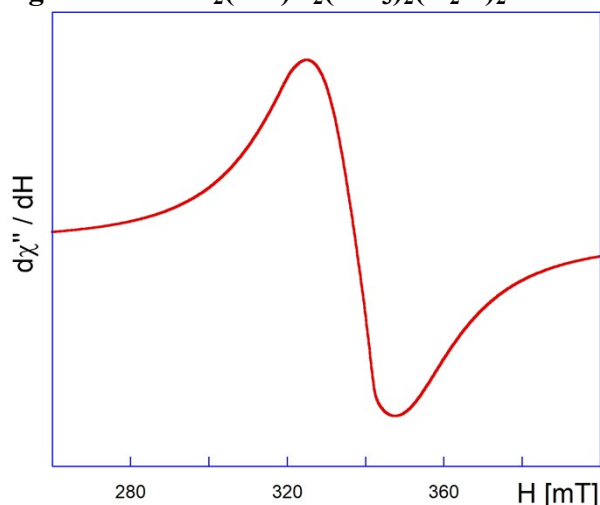


**Figure S2.7.**  $\text{Cu}_2(\text{HL})\text{L}_2(\text{NO}_3)_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$ . FAB<sup>+</sup> spectrum of the compound (above) and blank (below).





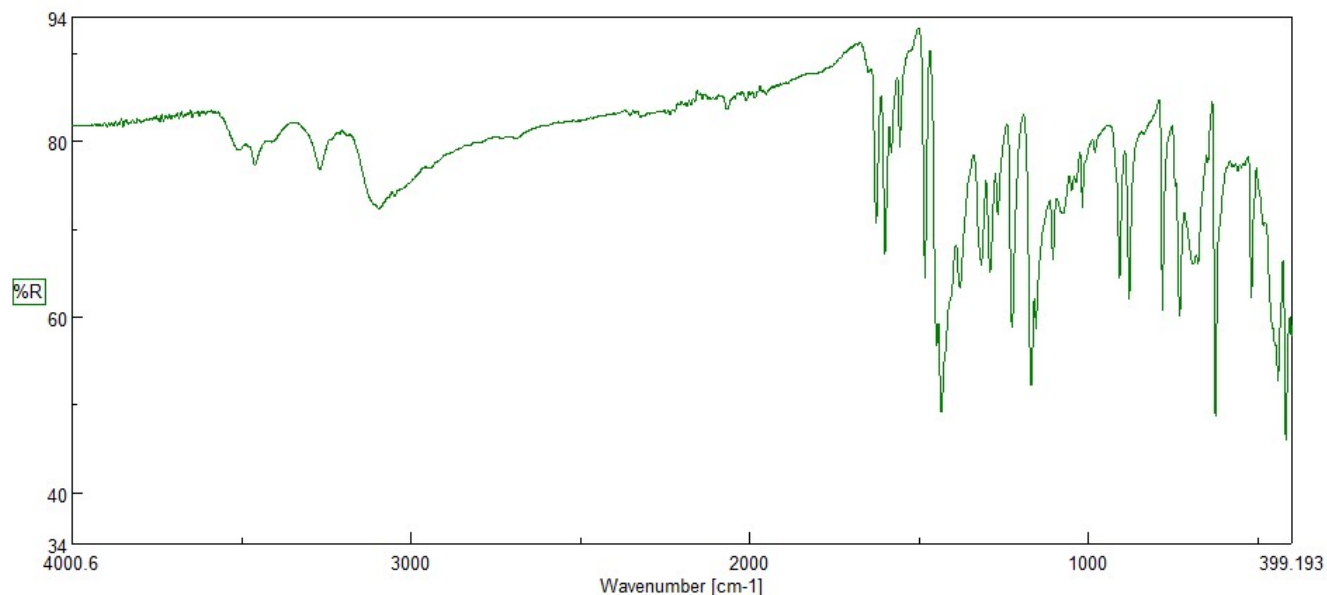
**Figure S2.8.**  $\text{Cu}_2(\text{HL})\text{L}_2(\text{NO}_3)_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$ . UV-vis spectra of  $10^{-5}$  M (a) and  $10^{-3}$  M (b) solutions in DMF.



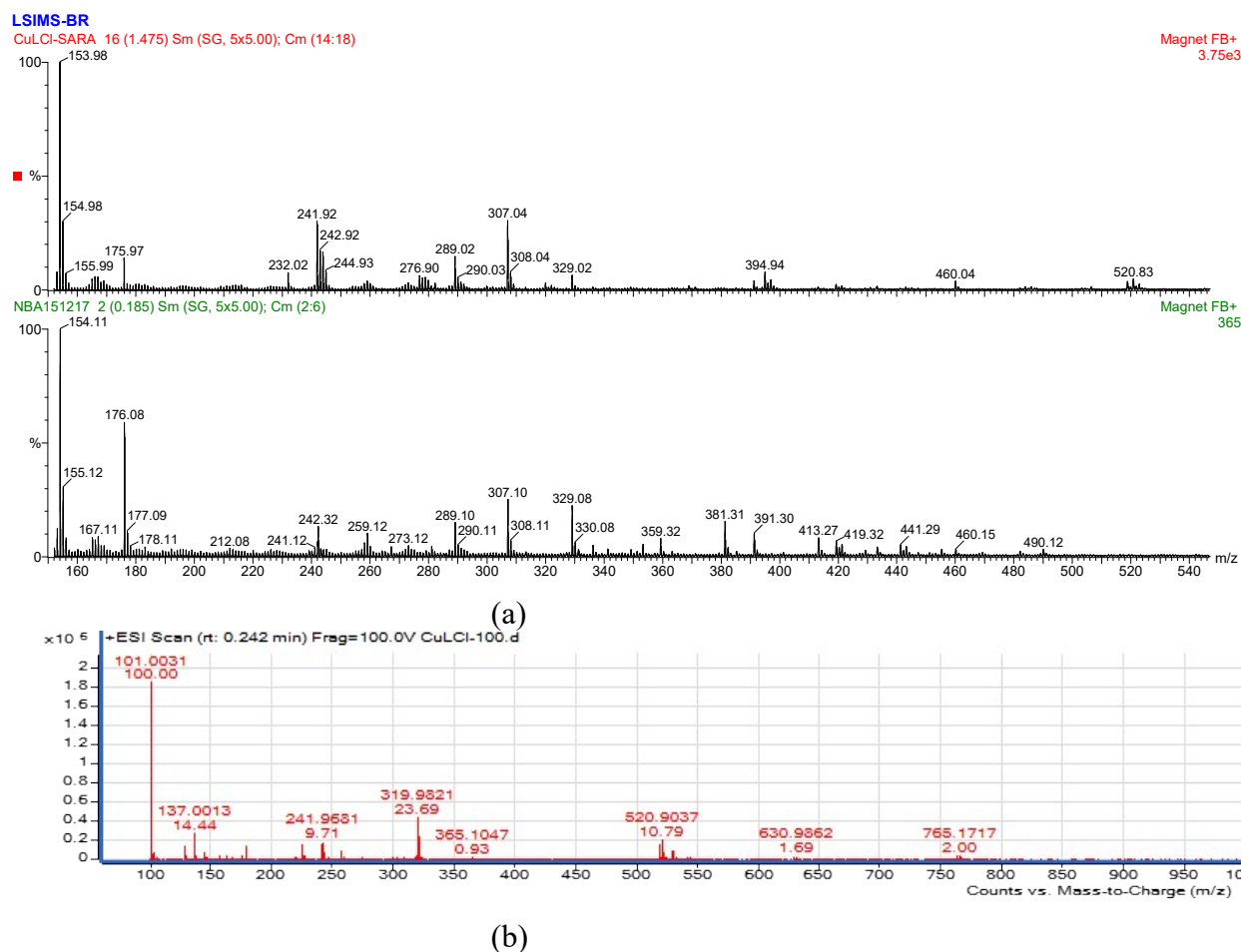
**Figure S2.9.**  $\text{Cu}_2(\text{HL})\text{L}_2(\text{NO}_3)_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$ . X-band EPR spectrum of a powdered sample at RT.

The  $\text{CuLCl}$  complex was prepared only for comparison of the IR spectra. It is, actually, the  $[\{\text{CuLCl}\}_2]$  dimer<sup>7</sup>. The method to attain it is a variation of another previously published for the analogous  $[\{\text{CuL}'\text{Cl}\}_2]$  compound<sup>8</sup>, where  $\text{HL}'$  = pyridine-2-carbaldehyde 4N-methylthiosemicarbazone. Solid HL (1.0 mmol, 0.180 g) was added to an aqueous solution of  $\text{CuCl}_2$  (1.0 mmol, 0.134 g) in water (15 ml) and the reaction proceeded for 1 h. After the adjustment of pH to 4.5 by addition of NaOH, the mixture was kept with stirring for 2 h. The olive-green precipitate was filtered off, washed with water, acetone and ethyl ether and dried to vacuum. (0.245 g, 88%). Anal. found: C, 30.17; H, 2.59; N, 19.83; S, 11.85%. Calc. for  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_7\text{ClCuN}_4\text{S}$  (278.22 g/mol): C, 30.22; H, 2.54; N, 20.14; S, 11.52%. FAB<sup>+</sup> mass spectrometry (m/z): 241.97  $[\text{CuL}]^+$ , 319.98  $[\text{CuL}(\text{DMSO})]^+$ , 485.93  $[\text{Cu}_2(\text{HL})\text{L}]^+$ , 520-90  $[\text{Cu}_2\text{L}_2\text{Cl}]^+$ . IR bands (ATR-FTIR),  $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3512 m, 3463 m, 3414 sh,b,m, 3270 m, 3096 b,m, 3047 vw, 1651 vw, 1627 m, 1601 m, 1582 w, 1557 m, 1483 ms, 1448 s, 1435 vs, 1423 sh,s, 1408 sh,m, 1380 m, 1316 m, 1290 m, 1267 m, 1226 ms, 1170 s, 1155 m, 1104 m, 1077 b,w, 1049 w, 1037 w, 1018 m, 980 vw, 917

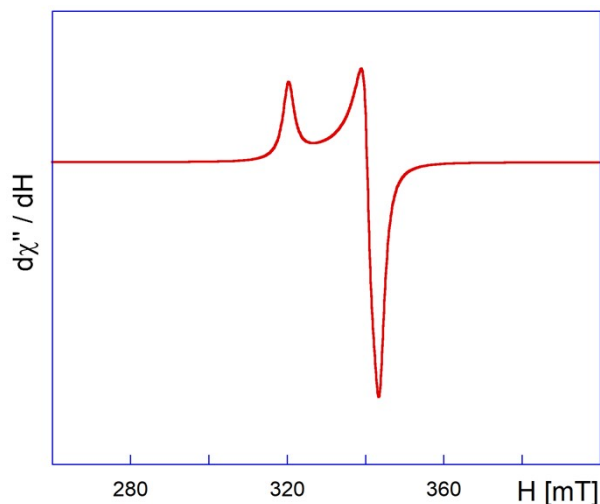
sh,m, 908 s, 878 s, 781 s, 744 w, 731 s, 691 b,m, 677 m, 645 w, 625 vs, 518 w, 485 vw, 440 s, 417 s. X-band EPR signals at RT:  $g_1 = 2.181$ ,  $g_2 = 2.052$  and  $g_3 = 2.033$ .



**Figure S2.10.** CuLCl. FT-IR ATR spectrum



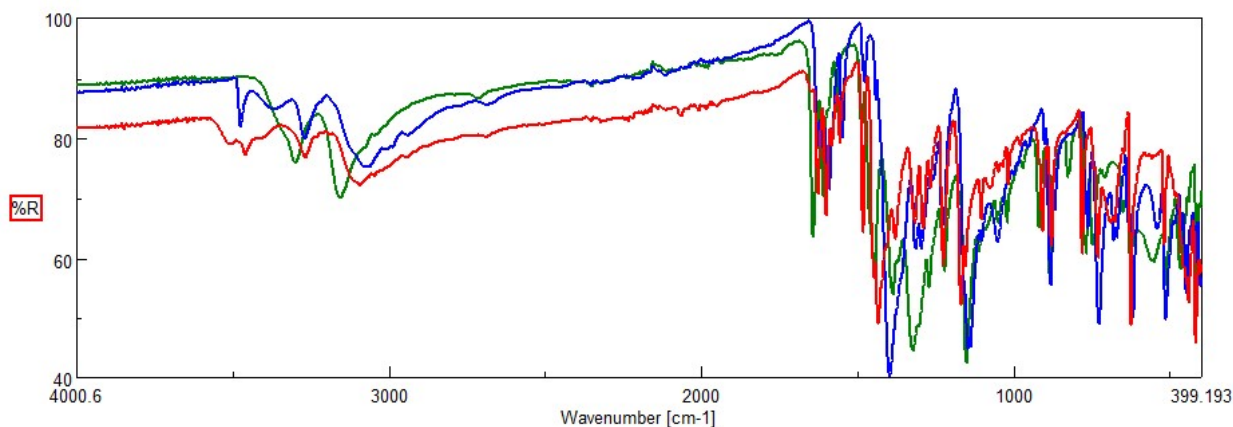
**Figure S2.11.** CuLCl. (a) FAB<sup>+</sup> spectrum of the compound (above) and blank (below). (b) ESI<sup>+</sup> spectrum.



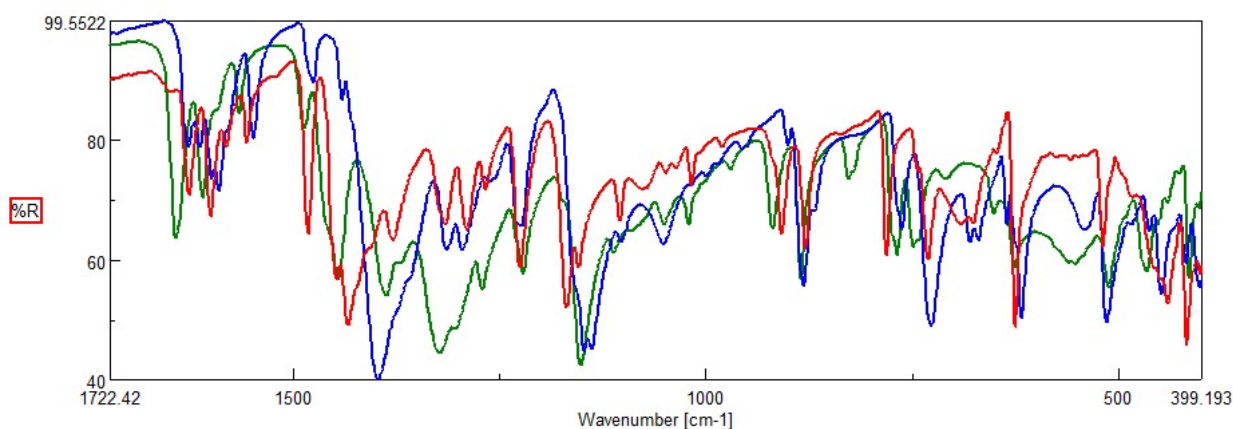
**Figure S2.11. CuLCl.** X-band EPR spectrum of a powdered sample at RT.

## 2. Complementary infrared studies for the assignment of bands.

The comparison between  $[\text{CuL}(\text{NO}_3)]_n$ ,  $[\text{CuL}_2]$  and **CuLCl** given in Fig. S2.12 allows to attribute the very strong band with two minima at  $1387$  and  $1323\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , the strong one at  $1152\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , together with that medium at  $824\text{--}822\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , to the vibration modes of the nitrato group. These bands are obviously absent in the spectra of  $[\text{CuL}_2]$  and **CuLCl**. This comparative insight also leads to ratify the proposed assignments of the band at  $1646\text{ cm}^{-1}$  (compound *I*) and  $1643\text{ cm}^{-1}$  ( $[\text{CuL}(\text{NO}_3)]_n$ ) as due to the imine  $\text{C}=\text{N}$  group involved in the linkage to neighbour Cu(II) ions inside the chain, because of the lack of bands of noticeable intensity in **CuLCl**, a compound without this kind of connectivity.



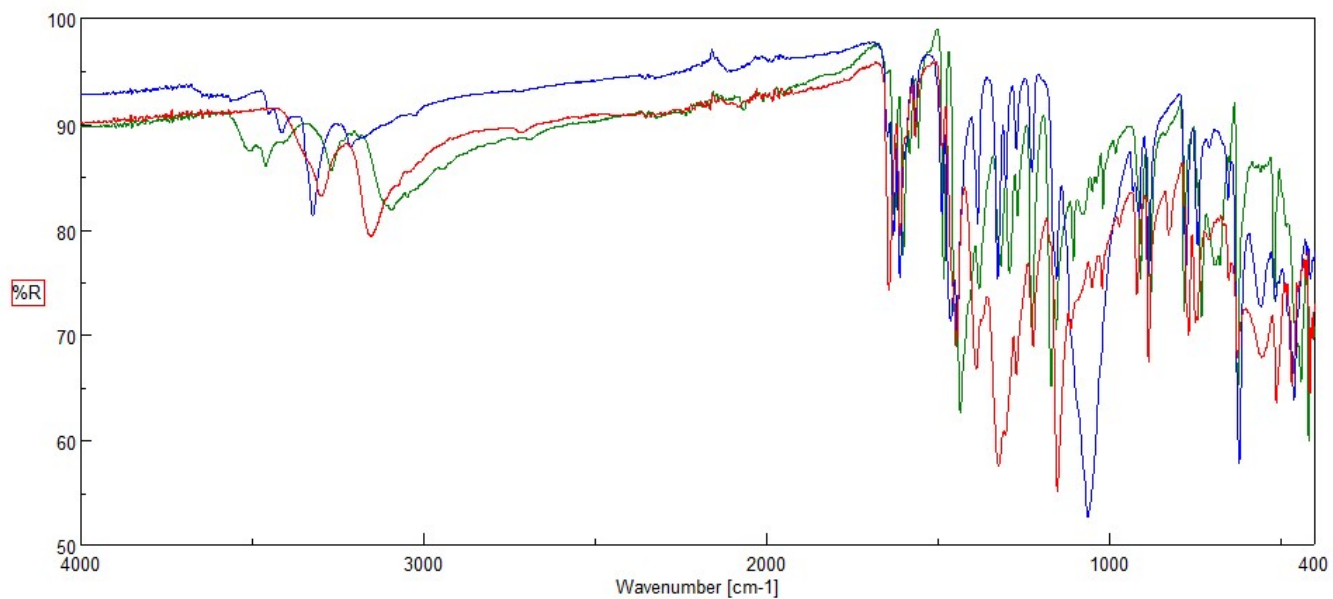
(a)



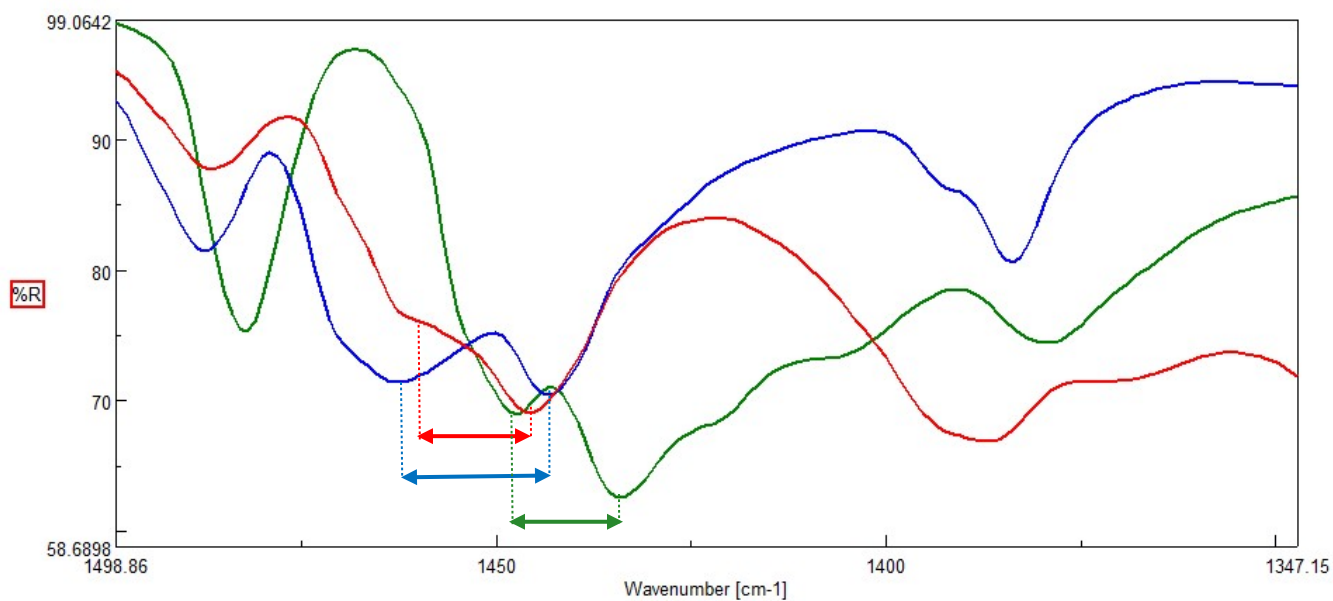
(b)

**Figure S2.12.** (a) IR spectra of  $[\text{CuL}(\text{NO}_3)]_n$  (green),  $[\text{CuL}_2]$  (blue) and  $\text{CuLCl}$  (red). (b) A magnification is given below.

The final comparison between compound *I*,  $[\text{CuL}(\text{NO}_3)]_n$  and  $\text{CuLCl}$  (Fig. S2.13) reveals that the strong bands at 1448 and 1435  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in  $\text{CuLCl}$  shift to higher wavenumbers in compounds with activated hydrazinic nitrogen atom: 1443 and 1463  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for *I*, and 1445 together with the shoulder around 1462  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in the case of  $[\text{CuL}(\text{NO}_3)]_n$ . Clearly, bands at 1062 (very strong and broad) and 620  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (sharp and strong) in *I* correspond to perchlorate groups.



(a)



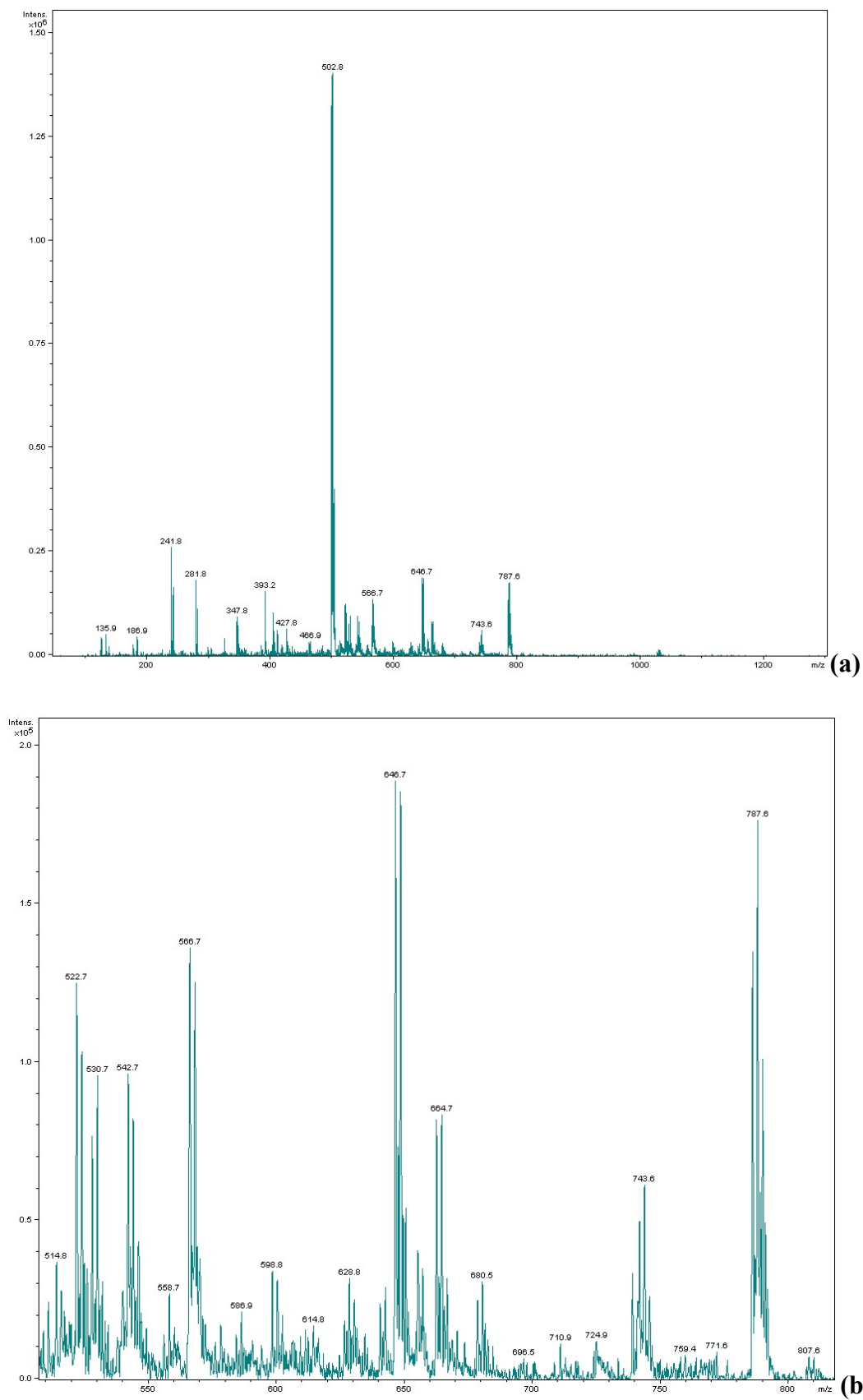
(b)

**Figure S2.13.** (a) IR spectra of compounds **1** (blue),  $[\text{CuL}(\text{NO}_3)]_n$  (red), and  $\text{CuLCl}$  (green). The arrows highlight the bands mentioned in text. (b) A magnification is given below.

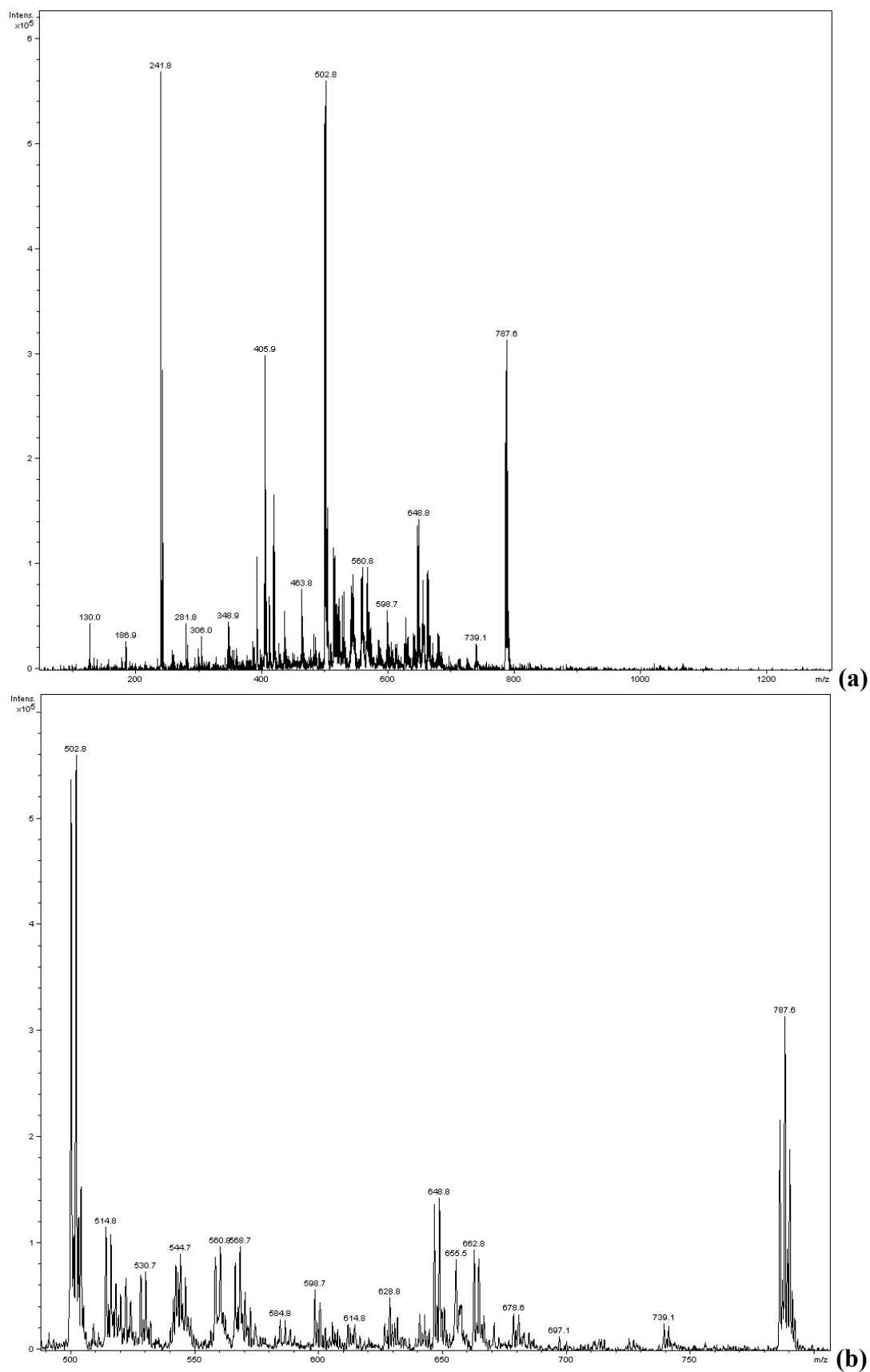
### **3. Studies in aqueous basic media**

#### **1. Mass spectra of solutions at different pH values**

ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectra were measured on aqueous 10<sup>-3</sup> M solutions of CuL(NO<sub>3</sub>) after addition of NaOH 0.1 M to reach pH 7.4, 9.0, 11.0 and 13.0. The obtained suspensions were kept with stirring for different times, 1 h and 24 h. Then, methanol was added to form (1:9) methanol/water mixtures and, finally, 0.1% formic acid was added just before the measurement.

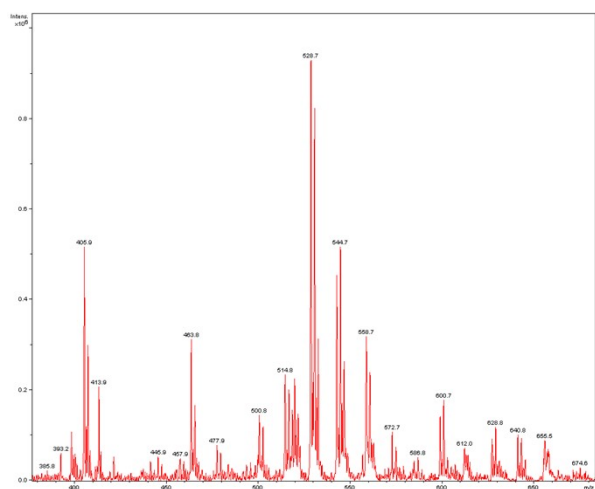


**Figure S3.1.** (a) ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectra of an aqueous  $\text{CuL}(\text{NO}_3)$   $10^{-3}$  M solution at pH 7.4 for 1 h. (b) Magnified region.

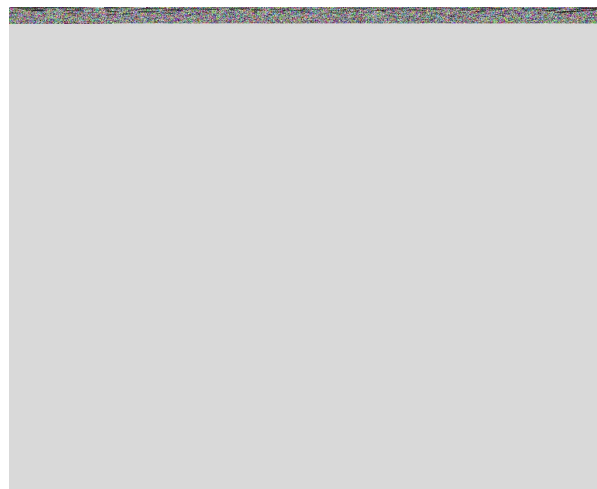


**Figure S3.2.** (a) ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectra of  $\text{CuL}(\text{NO}_3)$   $10^{-3}$  M solution at pH 7.4 for 24 h. (b) Magnified region.

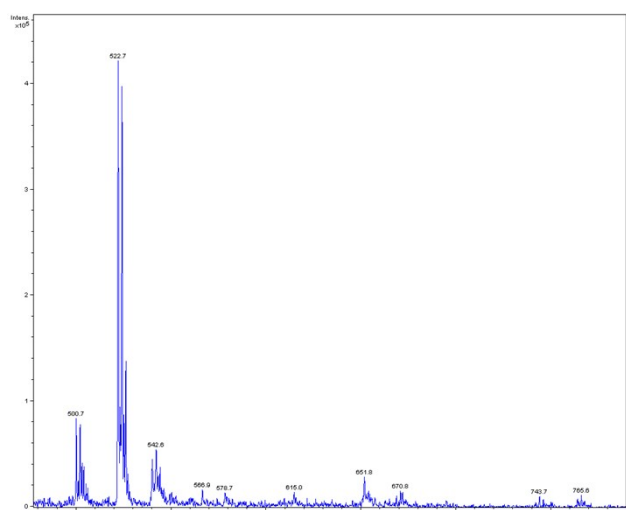




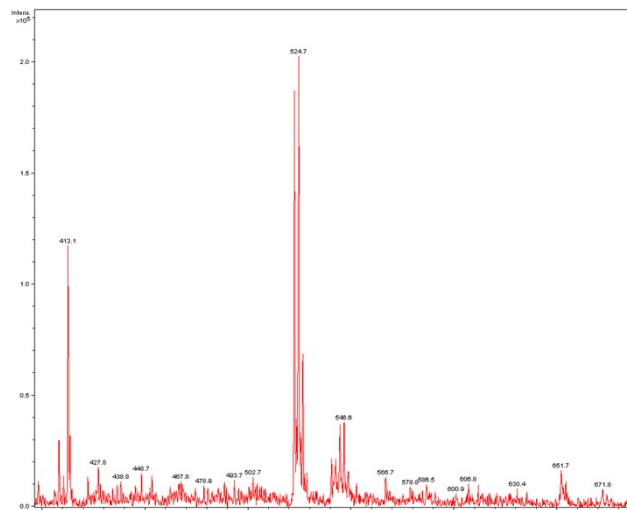
(a)



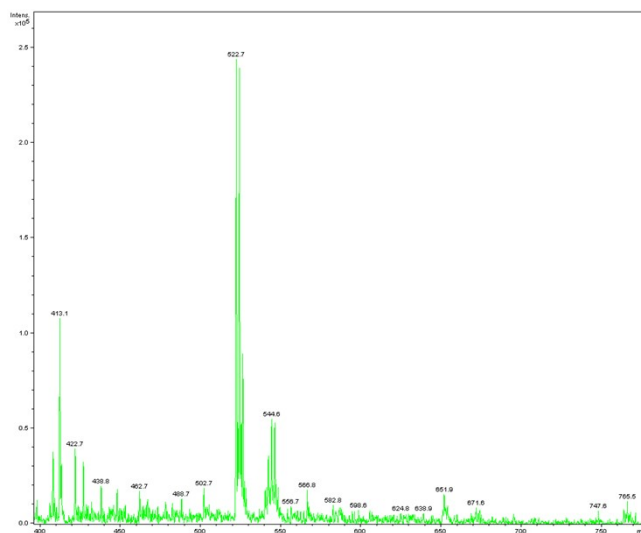
(b)



(c)

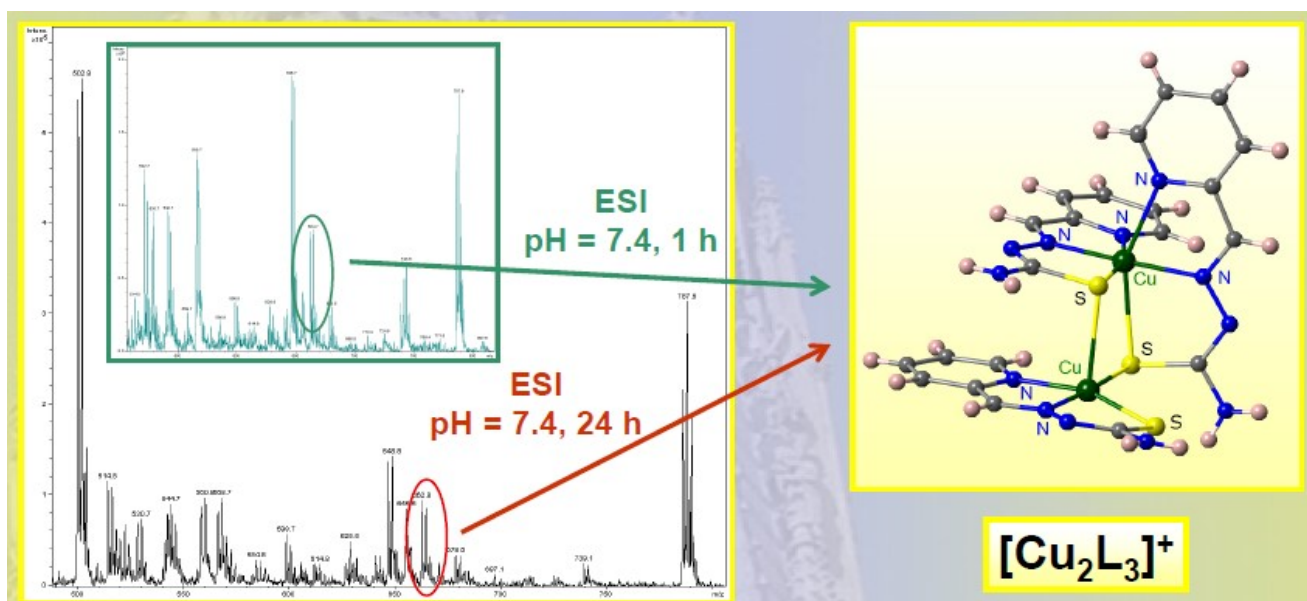


(d)



(e)

**Figure S3.3.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectra of aqueous CuL(NO<sub>3</sub>) 10<sup>-3</sup> M solutions at pH 4.0 (a), 7.4 (b), 9.0 (c), 11.0 (d) and 13.0 (e) for 1 h.



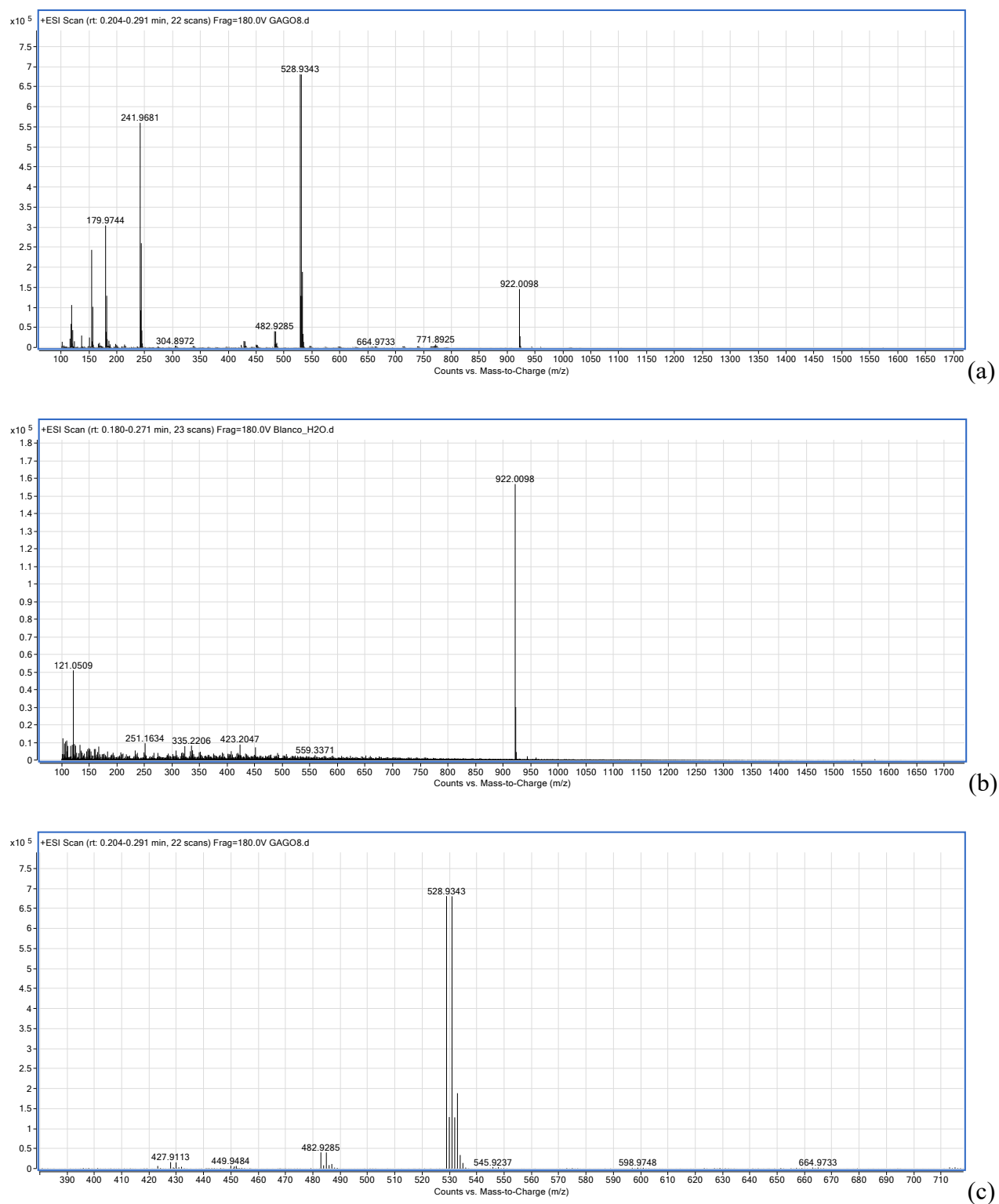
**Figure S3.4.** Peaks at  $m/z$  662.8 and 664.7 in aqueous solution at pH 7.4 attributed to  $[\text{Cu}_2\text{L}_3]^+$  and  $[\text{Cu}_2(\text{HL})_2\text{L}]^+$  species.

## 2. Studies on solid samples obtained at different pH values

In order to check if pH influences on the breakage of the TSC ligand in the  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  / HL /  $\text{NO}_3^-$  system, IR studies were performed on the solid mixtures isolated at different pH values (2.0, 4.0, 7.4 and 9.0).

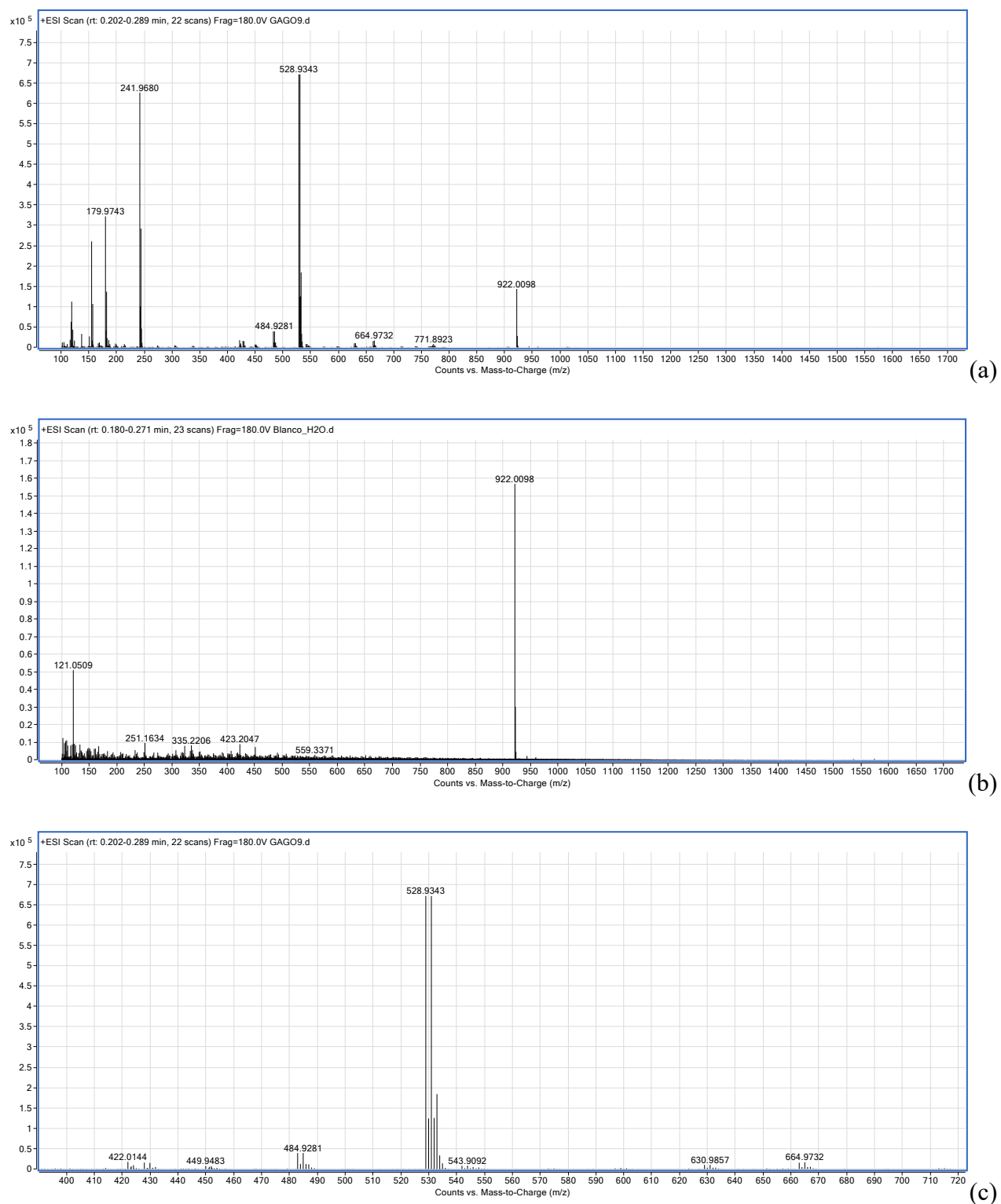
The preparation of these mixtures was as follows. Solid HL (0.216 g, 1.2 mmol) was added over a solution of  $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (0.242 g, 1 mmol) in water (10 mL). The suspension was kept with stirring for 2 h at room temperature. Then, drops of aqueous NaOH solutions (1 M / 0.1 M) were added to reach the required pH value (4.0, 7.4 or 9.0), and the reaction proceeded for 1 h. Finally, dark brown precipitates were filtered off, washed with acetone and ethyl ether and dried over vacuum. In one of the assays no adjustment of pH was carried out, no addition of NaOH was made, and the reaction was kept with stirring for 3 h (pH about 2.0). Once the powdered samples were obtained, ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectra were measured by dissolving a portion of the solids in water, and using a water/methanol (70:30) mixture 0.1 % in formic acid as mobile phase. IR spectra were also recorded and reported in Figure S3.11.

**Sample at pH = 2.0.** 0.148 g. Experimental: C, 26.82; H, 2.36; N, 22.2; S, 10.08%. Calculated for  $[\text{CuL}(\text{NO}_3)] \cdot 1/2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_8\text{CuN}_5\text{O}_{3.5}\text{S}$ , C, 26.80; H, 2.57; N, 22.32; S, 10.22%.



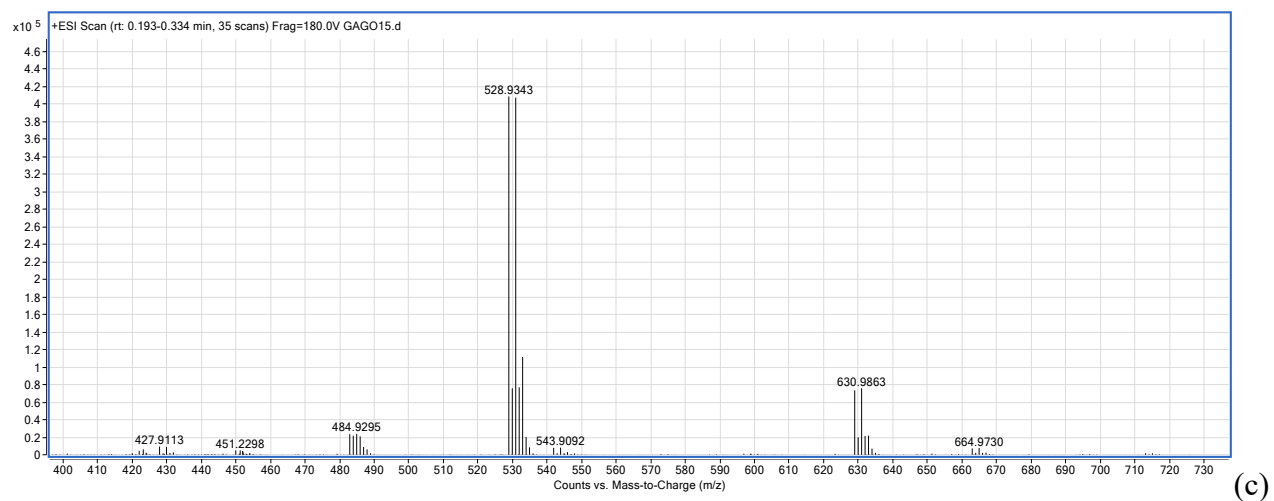
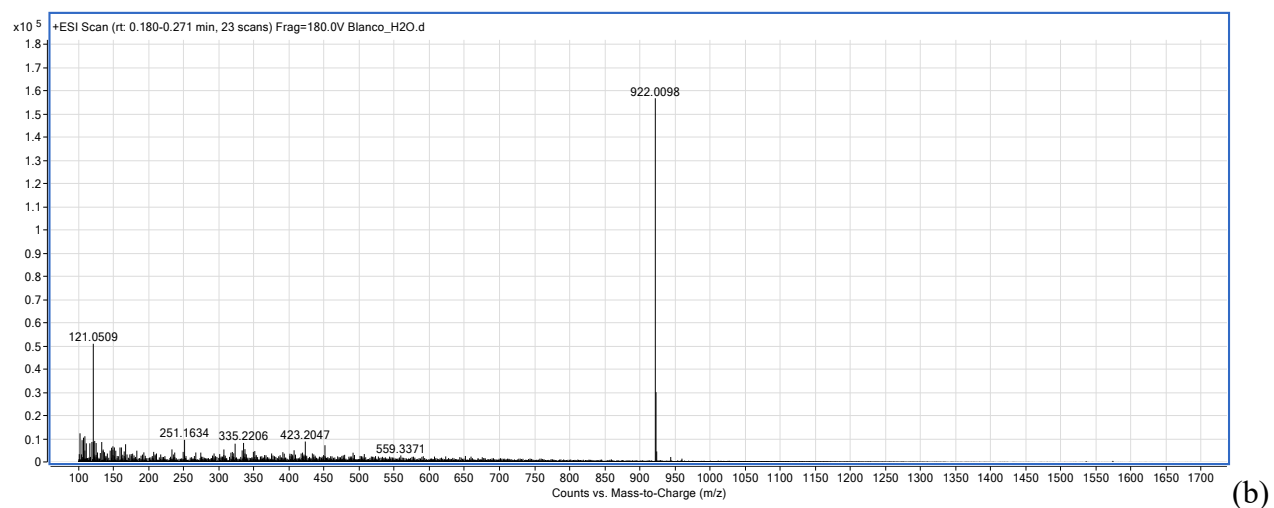
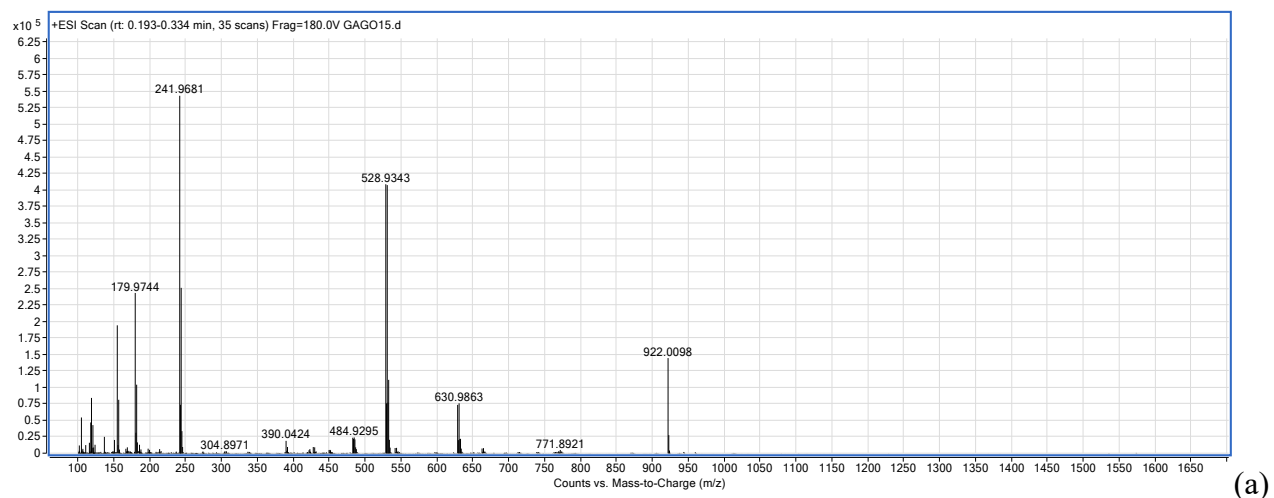
**Figure S3.5.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectra of sample at pH = 2.0 (a), the blank (b) and a magnification (c).

**Sample at pH = 4.0.** 0.267 g. Experimental: C, 27.91; H, 2.32; N, 22.98; S, 10.90%. Calculated for  $[\text{CuL}(\text{NO}_3)]$ ,  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_7\text{CuN}_5\text{O}_3\text{S}$ , C, 27.59; H, 2.32; N, 22.98; S, 10.52%.



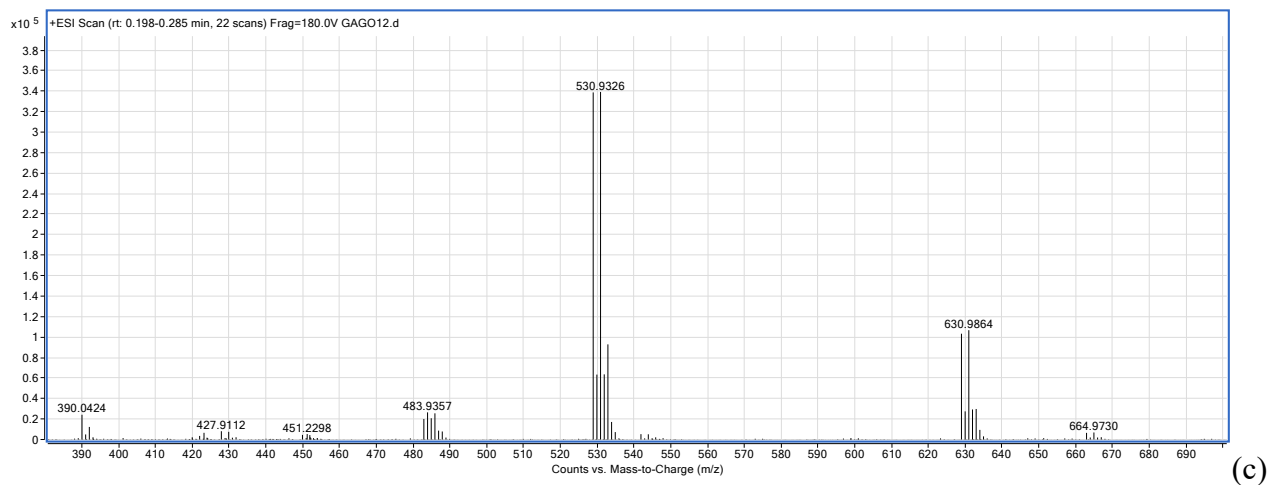
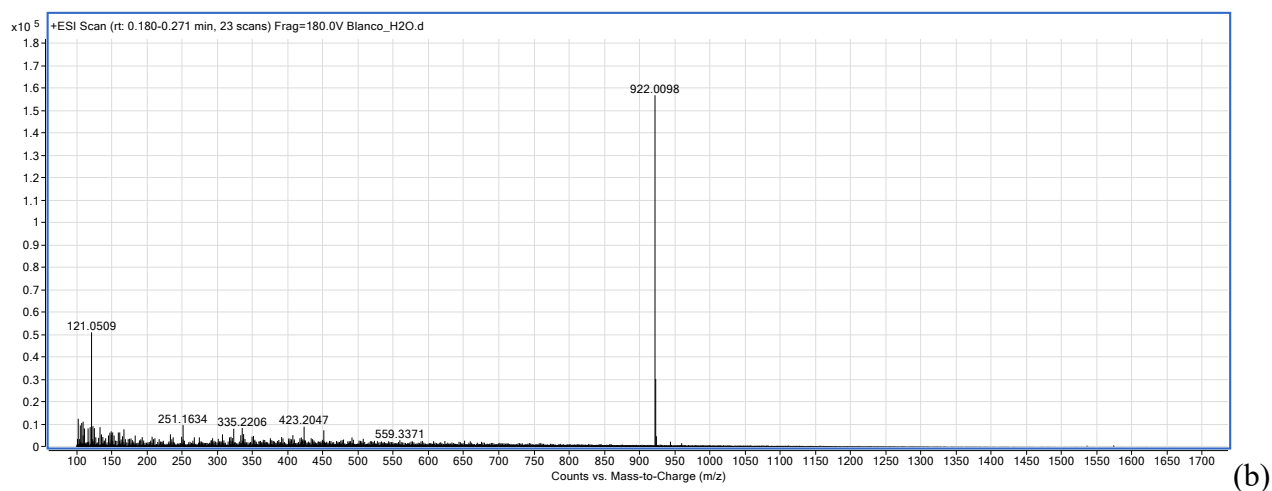
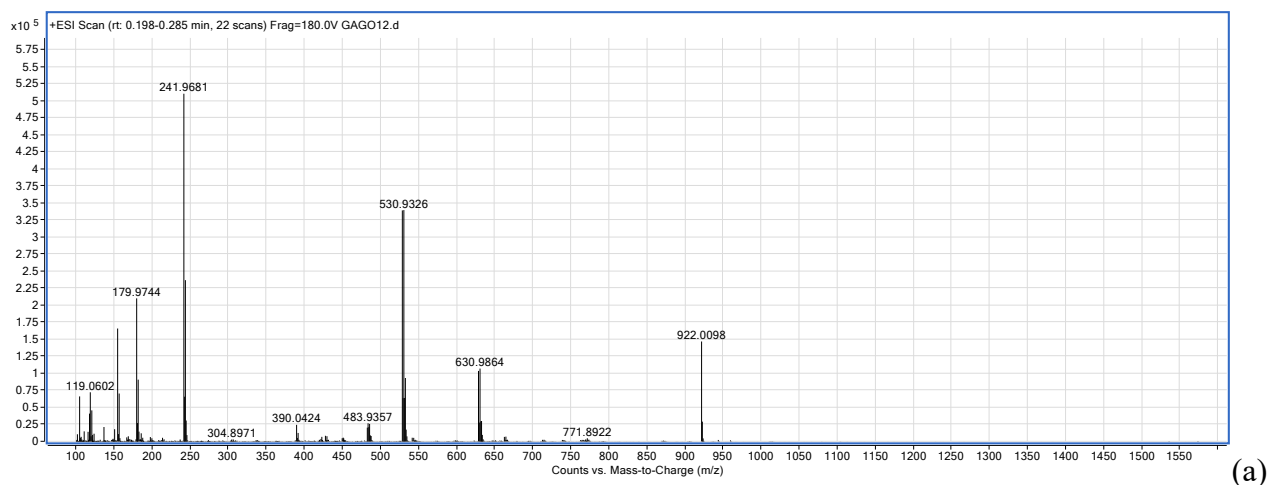
**Figure S3.6.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectra of sample at pH = 4.0 (a), the blank (b) and a magnification (c).

Sample at pH = 7.4. 0.092 g. Experimental: C, 28.68; H, 2.54; N, 22.27; S, 11.45%.



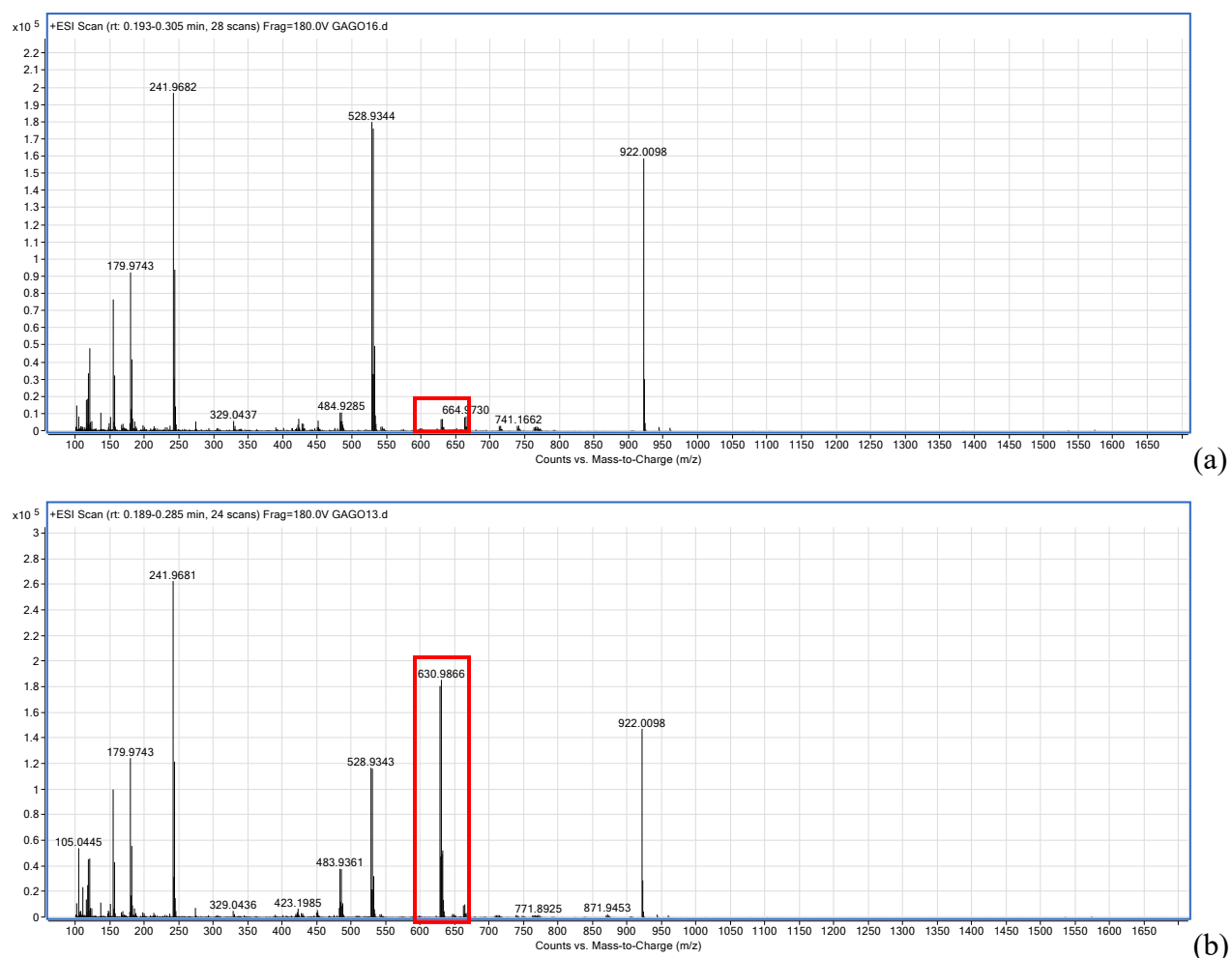
**Figure S3.7.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectra of sample at pH = 7.4 (a), the blank (b) and a magnification (c).

**Sample at pH = 9.0.** 0.182 g. Experimental: C, 28.53; H, 2.68; N, 21.8; S, 11.75%. Close to a nominal  $\text{Cu}_2\text{L}_2(\text{NO}_3)(\text{OH})$  formula. Calculated for  $\text{Cu}_2\text{L}_2(\text{NO}_3)(\text{OH})$ ,  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{15}\text{Cu}_2\text{N}_9\text{O}_4\text{S}_2$ , C, 28.86; H, 2.94; N, 21.64; S, 11.01%.

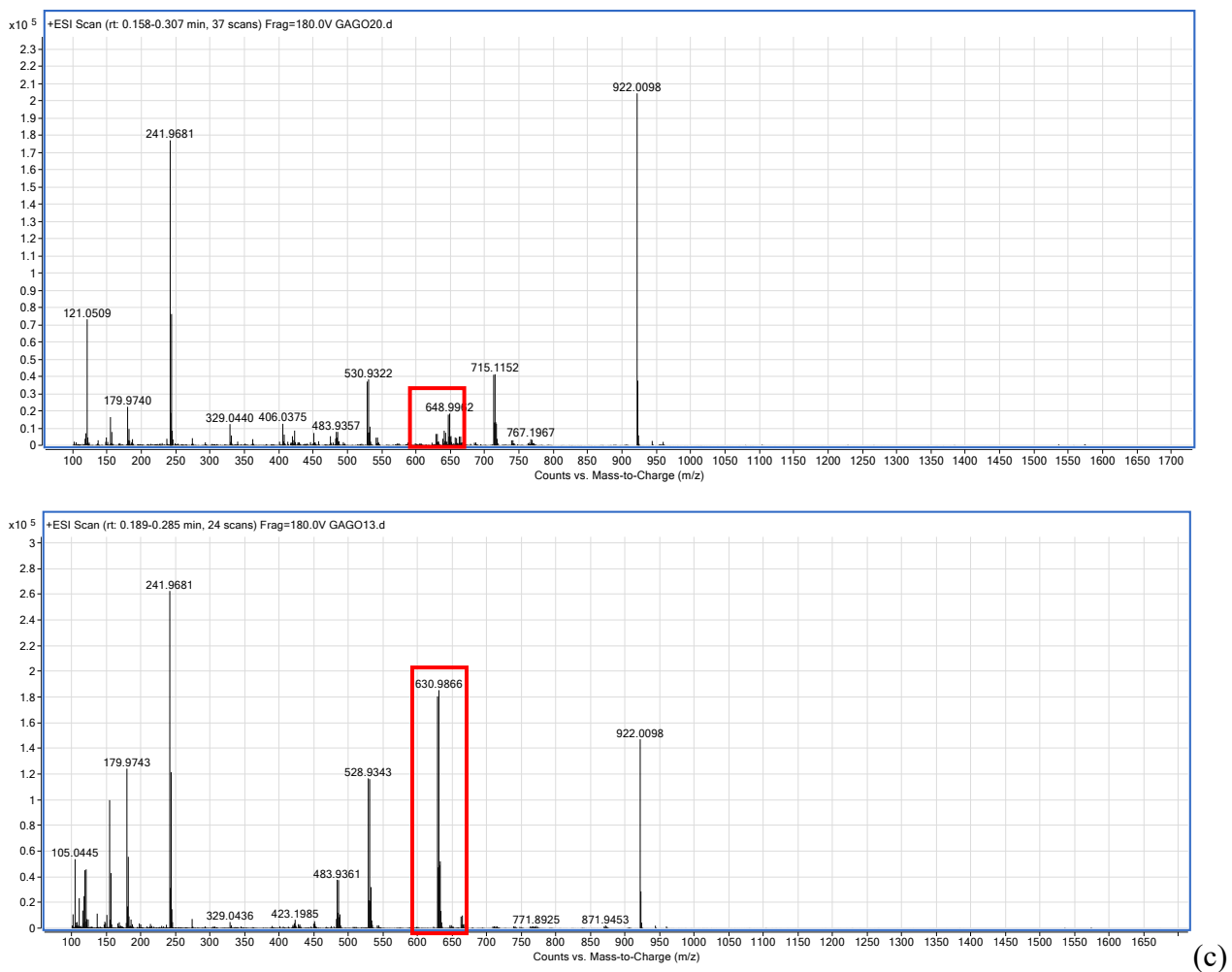


**Figure S3.8.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectra of sample at pH = 9.0 (a), the blank (b) and a magnification (c).

Summary of the main peaks in the mass spectra depicted in Figures 3.5–3.8. ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectrometry (m/z): 154.98 [Cu(NO<sub>3</sub>)(MeOH)]<sup>+</sup>, 179.97 [CuNa(NO<sub>3</sub>)(MeOH)]<sup>+</sup>, 241.84 [CuL]<sup>+</sup>, 422.01 [Cu(HL)L]<sup>+</sup>, 482.92 [Cu<sub>2</sub>L(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, 528.93 [Cu<sub>2</sub>L<sub>2</sub>(HCOO)]<sup>+</sup>, 530.93 [Cu<sub>2</sub>(HL)<sub>2</sub>(HCOO)]<sup>+</sup>, 628.99 [Cu<sub>2</sub>L<sub>2</sub>(L<sup>CN</sup>)]<sup>+</sup>, 630.99 [Cu<sub>2</sub>(HL)<sub>2</sub>(L<sup>CN</sup>)]<sup>+</sup>, 662.97 [Cu<sub>2</sub>L<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, 664.97 [Cu<sub>2</sub>(HL)<sub>2</sub>L]<sup>+</sup>, [Cu<sub>3</sub>L<sub>2</sub>(HCOO)(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>, 771.89. Note that peaks corresponding to the partially desulfurized [Cu<sub>2</sub>L<sub>2</sub>(L<sup>CN</sup>)]<sup>+</sup> derivatives only appear at pH values above 7.4. In fact, the intensity of these peaks increases with pH in the solids isolated from experiments carried out at 80 °C for 3 h (see Figure S3.9). This process depends on time, for the same temperature the longer time the more intense peak of [Cu<sub>2</sub>L<sub>2</sub>(L<sup>CN</sup>)]<sup>+</sup> (Figure S3.10).



**Figure S3.9.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectra of samples obtained after 3 h at 80 °C and pH 7.4 (a) and 9.0 (b).

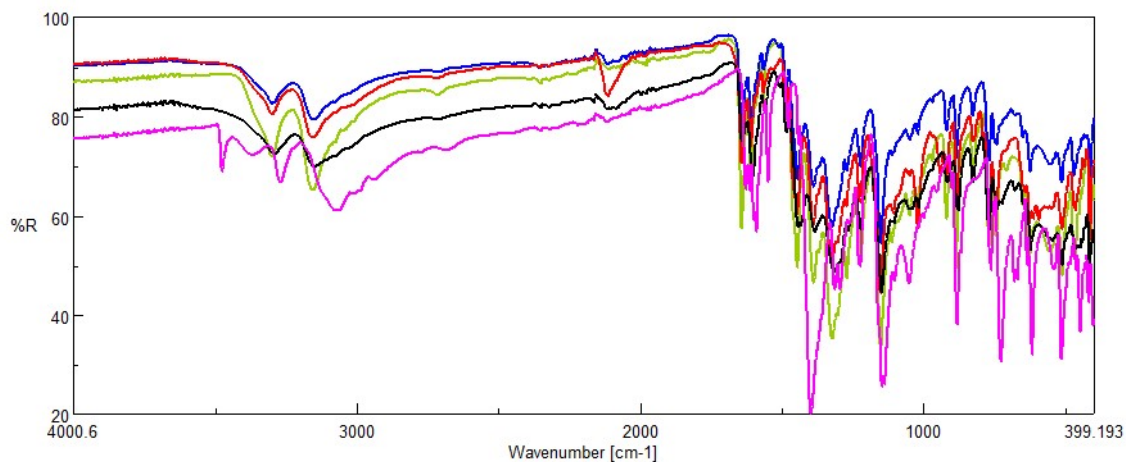


(c)

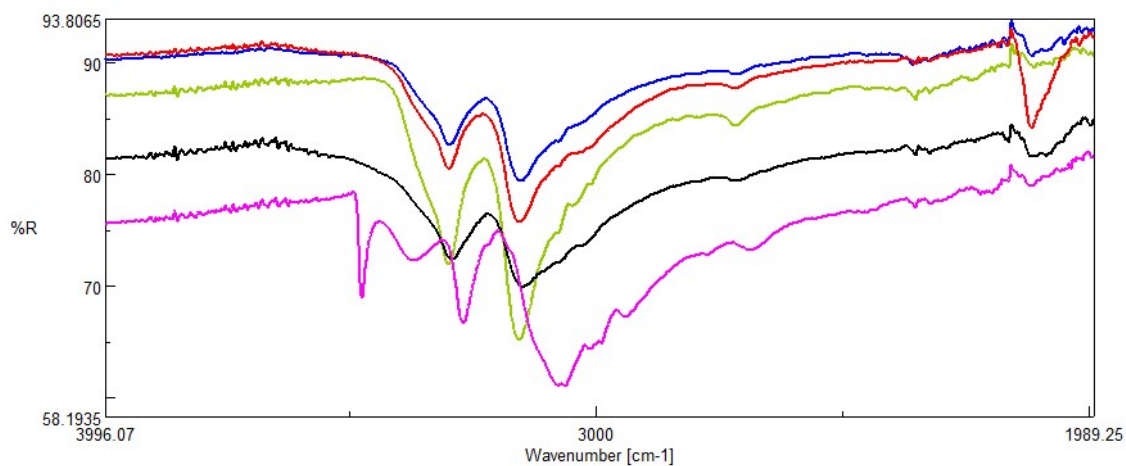
**Figure S3.10.** ESI<sup>+</sup> mass spectra of samples obtained after treatments at pH = 9.0 in reactions maintained at 80 °C for (a) 1 h and (b) 3 h.

Comparative IR studies have been performed on solid mixtures obtained at different pH values. It must be highlighted that the addition of base to solutions of preformed TSC-Cu(II) complexes yield solid mixtures that evidence the appearing of a bands in the 2120–2070 cm<sup>-1</sup> region. Thus, the sample at pH 7.4 shows the most intense band at 2116 cm<sup>-1</sup>. This absorption is also present in the compound at pH 9.0 (resolved as a weak and broad in the 2117–2079 cm<sup>-1</sup> region) and, perhaps, in the spectrum of the complex at pH 4. Note the lack of this band in the spectrum of [CuL<sub>2</sub>] in spite of being attained at pH 13. This feature could be attributed to the different preparative method where the stoichiometry is (1:2) metal/ligand and addition of base is carried out before the formation of the TSC-Cu(II) complex. In the last conditions, no breakage of the ligand was observed.





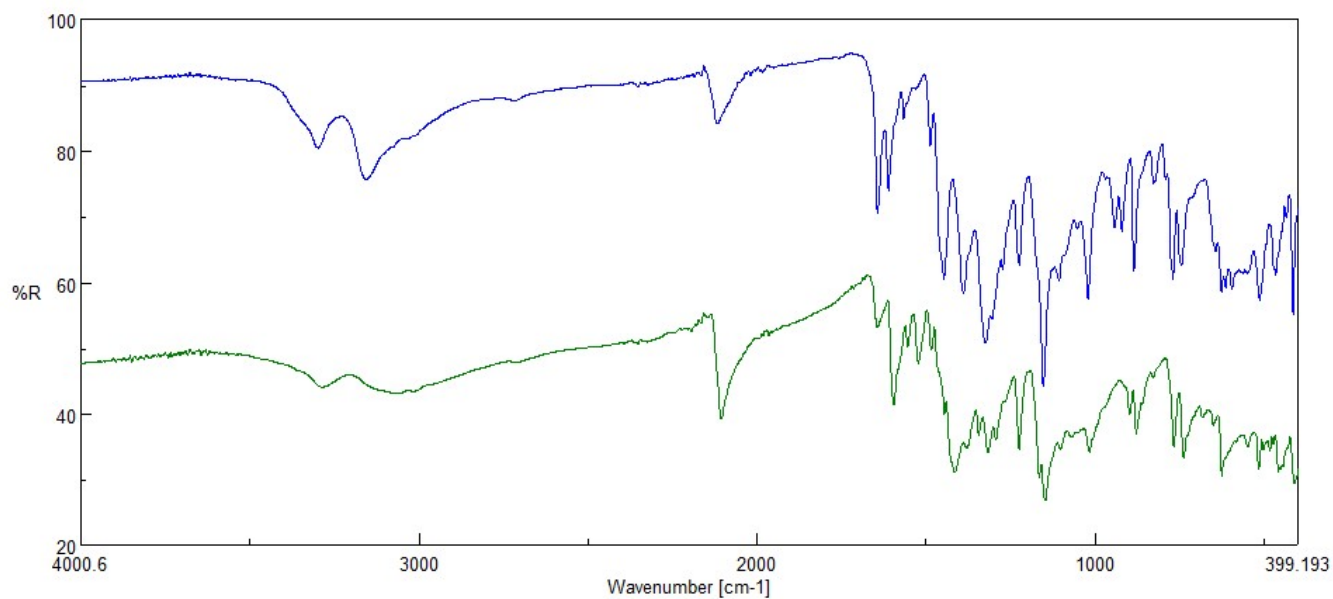
(a)



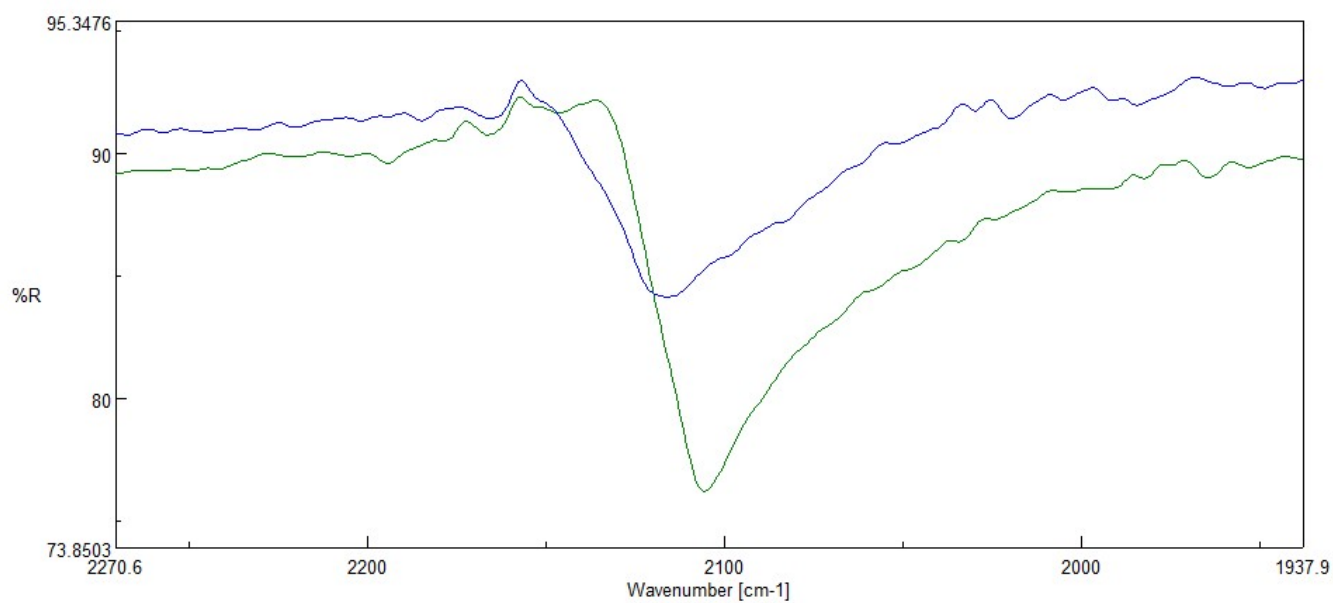
(b)

**Figure S3.11.** (a) Low pH ( $\sim 2$ ) light green, pH 4.0 blue, pH 7.4 red, pH 9.0 black and pH 13.0 ( $[\text{CuL}_2]$  ratio 1:2 Cu-ligand) pink spectrum. (b) A magnification is given below.

The processes related with the transformation of the ligand seem to be quite complex. For instance, the bands in the pseudohalide region ( $2150\text{--}2050\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) are often shifted and it is not clear if the origin is really the same (Figure S3.12). On the other hand, an increase in the duration of the treatment at  $80\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  for the samples at pH 9.0 implies an increment in the intensity of the bands in this region (Figure S3.13).

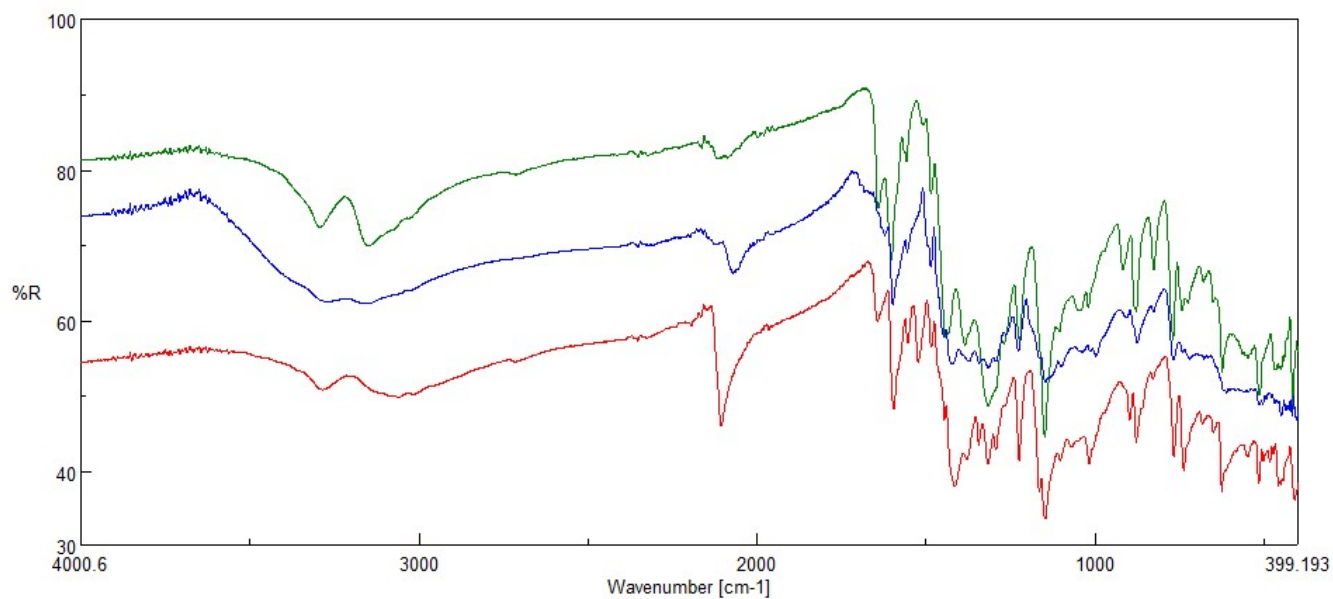


(a)

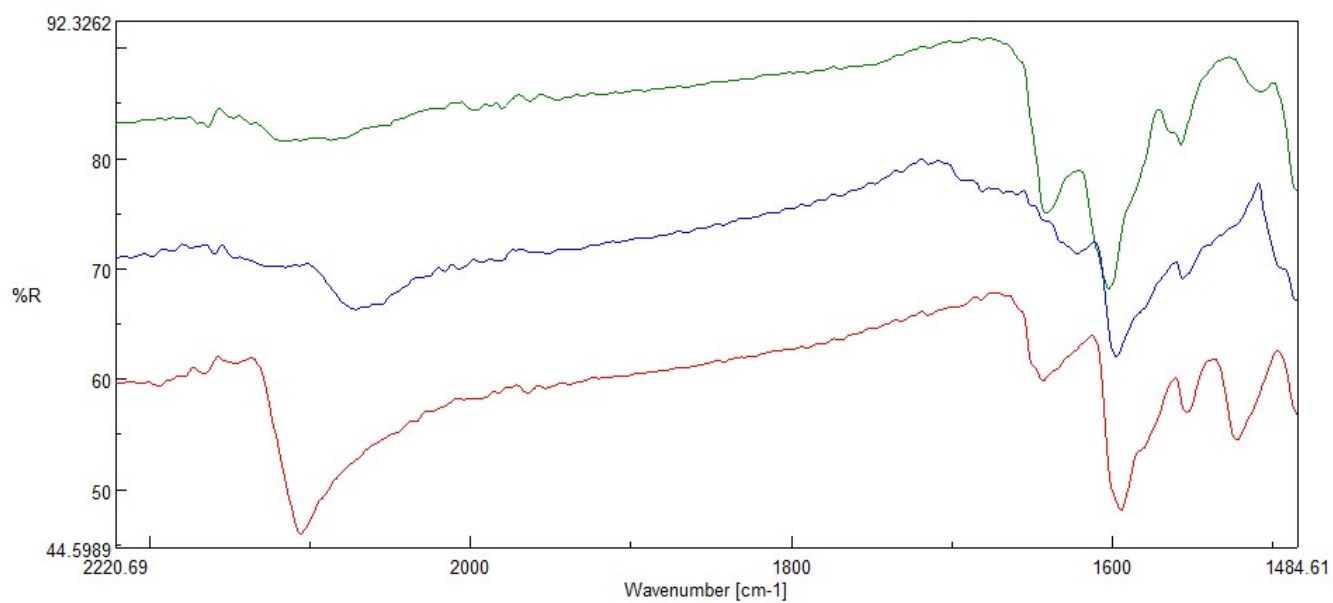


(b)

**Figure S3.12.** (a) Comparison of IR spectra of the sample obtained at RT and pH 7.4 (in blue) and that at 80 °C for 3 h (green). (b) Minima at 2116 (7.4, RT) and 2106 cm<sup>-1</sup> (9.0, 80 °C).



(a)



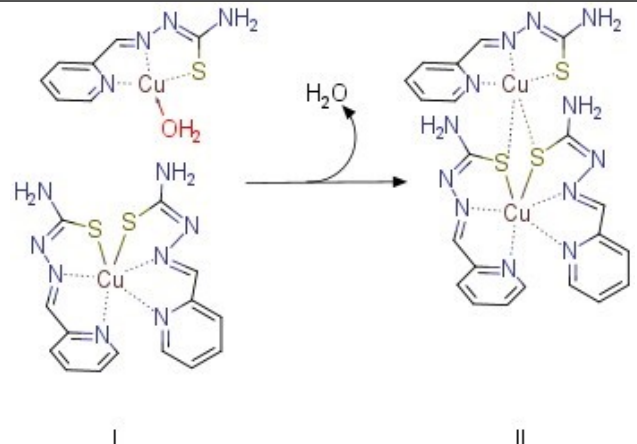
(b)

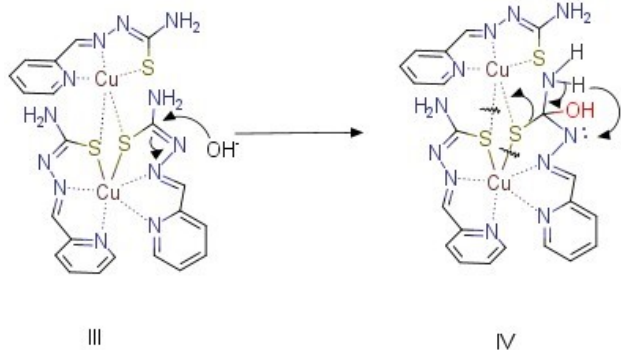
**Figure S3.13.** (a) IR spectra of the samples obtained at pH 9.0 and RT (green), 80 °C for 1 h (blue) and 80 °C for 3 h (red). (b) A magnification is given below.

## 4. Computational studies

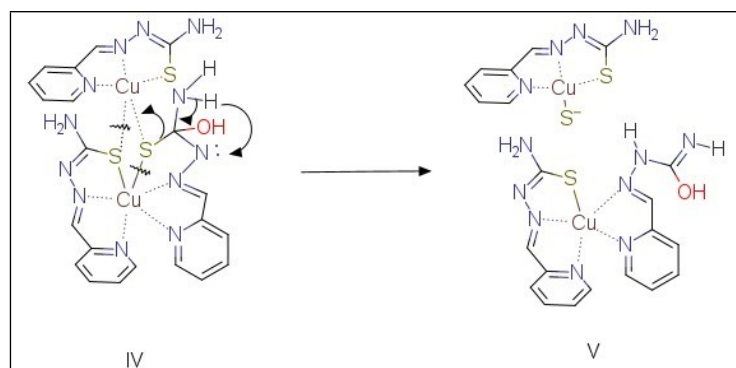
### 1.- Thermochemistry

**Table S4.1.1.** Calculated values of thermochemical parameters.

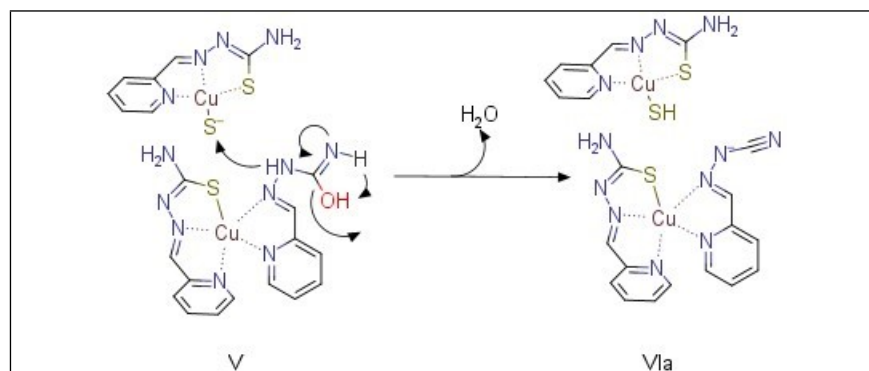
|                                                                                    |             |                |            |              |            |                 |            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------------|------------|--------------|------------|-----------------|------------|
|  |             |                |            |              |            |                 |            |
|                                                                                    | Structure I |                |            | Structure II |            | Thermochemistry |            |
|                                                                                    | Cu_Oh       | Cu_tricoord_aq | Reactants  | Oh+PC        | water      | a.u.            | kcal/mol   |
| E+ZP                                                                               | -           | -1873,49348    | -          | -            | -76,398367 | -               | -          |
| E                                                                                  | 2685,51784  |                | 4559,01132 | 4482,71584   |            | 0,10289         | 64,5644636 |
| Et                                                                                 | -           | -1873,47931    | -4558,9771 | -            | -76,395532 | -               | -          |
|                                                                                    | 2685,49779  |                |            | 4482,68384   |            | 0,10228         | 64,1816827 |
| H                                                                                  | -           | -1873,47837    | -          | -4482,6829   | -76,394588 | -               | -          |
|                                                                                    | 2685,49684  |                | 4558,97521 |              |            | 0,10228         | 64,1816827 |
| G                                                                                  | -2685,566   | -1873,53509    | -          | -            | -76,416024 | -0,0923         | -          |
|                                                                                    |             |                | 4559,10109 | 4482,77737   |            |                 | 57,9191368 |

|                                                                                     |               |            |             |              |                 |             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------|
|  |               |            |             |              |                 |             |
|                                                                                     | Structure III |            |             | Structure IV | Thermochemistry |             |
|                                                                                     | Oh+PC         | OH-        | Reactants   | IV           | a.u.            | kcal/mol    |
| E+ZPE                                                                               | -4482,71584   | -75,718319 | -4558,43416 | -4558,68374  | -0,249581       | -156,614475 |

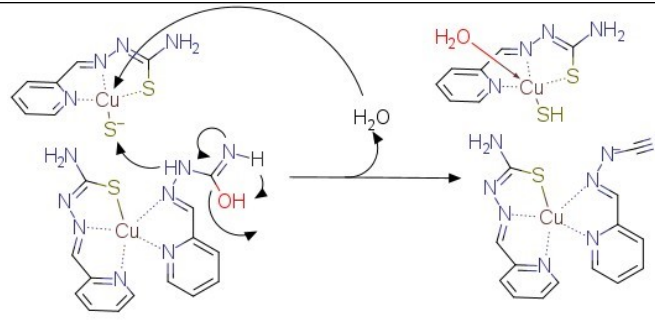
|    |             |            |             |             |           |             |
|----|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| Et | -4482,68384 | -75,715959 | -4558,3998  | -4558,65116 | -0,251361 | -157,731443 |
| H  | -4482,6829  | -75,715015 | -4558,39792 | -4558,65022 | -0,252305 | -158,323812 |
| G  | -4482,77737 | -75,734608 | -4558,51197 | -4558,74487 | -0,232896 | -146,144478 |

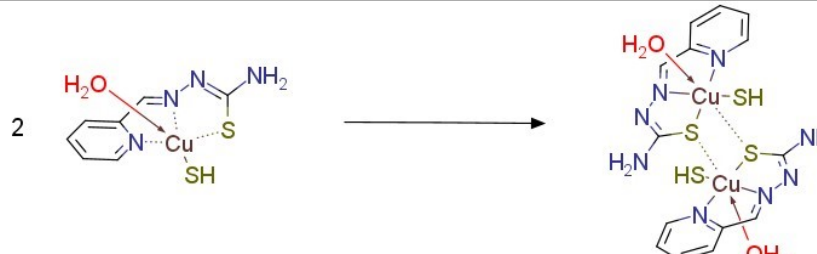


|       | Structure IV | Structure V | Thermochemistry |             |
|-------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|
|       | IV           | V           | a.u.            | kcal/mol    |
| E+ZPE | -4558,68374  | -4558,7079  | -0,024164       | -15,1631422 |
| Et    | -4558,65116  | -4558,67546 | -0,024299       | -15,247856  |
| H     | -4558,65022  | -4558,67452 | -0,024299       | -15,247856  |
| G     | -4558,74487  | -4558,76976 | -0,024886       | -15,6162041 |



|       | Structure V | Structure VIa | Thermochemistry |          |            |
|-------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|----------|------------|
|       | V           | VIa           | water           | a.u.     | kcal/mol   |
| E+ZPE | -4558,7079  | -4482,23291   | -76,398367      | 0,076624 | 48,0822962 |
| Et    | -4558,67546 | -4482,20114   | -76,395532      | 0,078794 | 49,4439921 |
| H     | -4558,67452 | -4482,20019   | -76,394588      | 0,079738 | 50,0363611 |
| G     | -4558,76976 | -4482,29418   | -76,416024      | 0,059552 | 37,3694522 |

|                                                                                  |             |               |                 |             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------|
|  |             |               |                 |             |
|                                                                                  | Structure V | Structure VIb | Thermochemistry |             |
|                                                                                  | V           | VIb           | a.u.            | kcal/mol    |
| E+ZPE                                                                            | -4558,7079  | -4558,72544   | -0,017541       | -11,007146  |
| Et                                                                               | -4558,67546 | -4558,69252   | -0,017056       | -10,7028039 |
| H                                                                                | -4558,67452 | -4558,69158   | -0,017056       | -10,7028039 |
| G                                                                                | -4558,76976 | -4558,78781   | -0,018052       | -11,3278034 |

|                                                                                    |                  |                         |                 |             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
|  |                  |                         |                 |             |
|                                                                                    | Monomer          | Dimer                   | Thermochemistry |             |
|                                                                                    | Cu_NNS_SH_a<br>q | Dímero_Rubén_hidra<br>t | a.u.            | kcal/mol    |
| E+ZPE                                                                              | -2272,59266      | -4545,28729             | -0,10197        | -63,9871547 |
| Et                                                                                 | -2272,57785      | -4545,25799             | -0,102277       | -64,1798002 |
| H                                                                                  | -2272,57691      | -4545,25704             | -0,103221       | -64,7721693 |
| G                                                                                  | -2272,63446      | -4545,34405             | -0,075127       | -47,1429143 |

## 2.- Cartesian coordinates of the structures

**Table S4.2.1.** Cartesian coordinates of  $[\text{CuL}(\text{OH}_2)_n]^+$ .

|    | X        | Y        | Z        |
|----|----------|----------|----------|
| Cu | 0.38231  | 0.83653  | 0.00003  |
| C  | -281.981 | 109.711  | -0.00015 |
| C  | -185.902 | -101.572 | -0.00006 |
| C  | -411.092 | 0.57534  | -0.00005 |
| H  | -264.496 | 216.896  | -0.00021 |
| C  | -312.055 | -161.929 | 0.00014  |
| C  | -425.767 | -0.81315 | 0.00011  |
| H  | -496.830 | 123.854  | -0.00012 |
| H  | -319.994 | -270.123 | 0.00027  |
| H  | -524.549 | -126.270 | 0.00019  |
| C  | -0.64535 | -183.386 | 0.00002  |
| H  | -0.71252 | -292.065 | 0.00037  |
| N  | -172.632 | 0.33158  | -0.00016 |
| N  | 0.49516  | -122.802 | -0.00017 |
| N  | 165.942  | -188.272 | -0.00003 |
| C  | 271.277  | -105.811 | -0.00002 |
| N  | 392.632  | -161.489 | 0.00015  |
| H  | 475.294  | -103.817 | -0.00003 |
| H  | 401.331  | -262.276 | 0.00013  |
| S  | 265.995  | 0.71150  | -0.00015 |
| H  | 174.421  | 314.086  | 0.00127  |
| H  | 0.32699  | 376.492  | -0.00027 |
| O  | 0.80109  | 291.917  | 0.00017  |

**Table S4.2.2.** Cartesian coordinates of [CuL<sub>2</sub>].

|       | X        | Y        | Z        |
|-------|----------|----------|----------|
| Cu_Oh |          |          |          |
| Cu    | -0.60532 | 0.00063  | -0.00019 |
| C     | 151.543  | -203.877 | -0.54373 |
| C     | 138.788  | -0.20649 | -191.861 |
| C     | 265.466  | -250.241 | -117.425 |
| H     | 106.491  | -264.786 | 0.22647  |
| C     | 254.073  | -0.60304 | -261.435 |
| C     | 320.449  | -175.220 | -222.865 |
| H     | 308.739  | -345.137 | -0.87774 |
| H     | 288.524  | -0.00462 | -345.195 |
| H     | 410.294  | -207.949 | -274.193 |
| C     | 0.64477  | 0.95867  | -224.641 |
| H     | 0.85878  | 160.223  | -309.379 |
| N     | 0.90221  | -0.86574 | -0.80801 |
| N     | -0.30798 | 124.976  | -139.798 |
| N     | -110.621 | 231.186  | -164.081 |
| C     | -196.750 | 254.132  | -0.65389 |
| N     | -281.124 | 359.792  | -0.82840 |
| H     | -362.644 | 364.858  | -0.23888 |
| H     | -287.907 | 397.441  | -176.384 |
| S     | -207.959 | 165.857  | 0.86170  |
| C     | 138.735  | 0.20451  | 191.911  |
| C     | 151.871  | 203.621  | 0.54390  |
| C     | 254.076  | 0.59896  | 261.507  |
| C     | 265.864  | 249.786  | 117.467  |
| H     | 106.940  | 264.601  | -0.22643 |
| C     | 320.674  | 174.681  | 222.934  |
| H     | 288.391  | 0.00005  | 345.289  |
| H     | 309.327  | 344.596  | 0.87820  |
| H     | 410.573  | 207.250  | 274.268  |
| C     | 0.64198  | -0.95929 | 224.673  |
| H     | 0.85435  | -160.318 | 309.427  |
| N     | -111.060 | -230.978 | 164.063  |
| C     | -197.208 | -253.812 | 0.65350  |
| N     | -281.744 | -359.324 | 0.82835  |
| H     | -363.229 | -364.339 | 0.23836  |
| H     | -288.597 | -396.938 | 176.387  |
| S     | -208.244 | -165.579 | -0.86233 |
| N     | 0.90332  | 0.86434  | 0.80820  |
| N     | -0.31072 | -124.902 | 139.781  |



**Table S4.2.3.** Cartesian coordinates of Oh+SP (Structure II).

|    | X        | Y        | Z        |
|----|----------|----------|----------|
| Cu | 105.863  | -0.00279 | -0.03746 |
| C  | 275.299  | 0.54837  | 235.248  |
| C  | 296.752  | -147.652 | 129.490  |
| C  | 379.272  | 0.26814  | 321.598  |
| H  | 219.710  | 146.161  | 250.470  |
| C  | 402.895  | -184.574 | 213.804  |
| C  | 447.443  | -0.95623 | 309.460  |
| H  | 404.673  | 0.96976  | 400.206  |
| H  | 447.541  | -282.844 | 202.758  |
| H  | 529.944  | -120.698 | 375.254  |
| C  | 246.527  | -232.220 | 0.27788  |
| H  | 281.982  | -332.902 | 0.08745  |
| N  | 236.953  | -0.23189 | 131.591  |
| N  | 161.244  | -174.124 | -0.53253 |
| N  | 111.454  | -245.953 | -157.121 |
| C  | 0.30200  | -179.078 | -234.784 |
| N  | -0.21907 | -238.706 | -344.367 |
| H  | -0.92846 | -192.345 | -398.660 |
| H  | -0.09371 | -338.401 | -355.139 |
| S  | -0.17391 | -0.06258 | -210.187 |
| C  | 306.131  | 179.507  | -0.67471 |
| C  | 353.887  | -0.20425 | -167.403 |
| C  | 428.294  | 234.247  | -108.269 |
| C  | 476.844  | 0.25254  | -211.419 |
| H  | 322.114  | -118.713 | -198.409 |
| C  | 517.242  | 155.497  | -179.298 |
| H  | 451.014  | 337.626  | -0.84492 |
| H  | 539.020  | -0.38518 | -273.196 |
| H  | 613.269  | 194.285  | -211.510 |
| C  | 210.121  | 252.778  | 0.07294  |
| H  | 220.438  | 357.097  | 0.35186  |
| N  | 0.17404  | 241.565  | 128.081  |
| C  | -0.77837 | 159.835  | 168.426  |
| N  | -171.418 | 208.706  | 252.030  |
| H  | -251.564 | 152.655  | 276.100  |
| H  | -172.582 | 307.959  | 270.961  |
| S  | -0.87004 | -0.13656 | 132.317  |
| N  | 269.510  | 0.48400  | -0.87271 |
| N  | 111.732  | 180.381  | 0.52743  |
| Cu | -204.932 | -0.49775 | -0.59203 |
| C  | -200.264 | 252.003  | -118.496 |
| C  | -374.465 | 164.071  | 0.09442  |

|   |          |          |          |
|---|----------|----------|----------|
| C | -260.269 | 375.640  | -125.552 |
| H | -104.607 | 236.355  | -167.228 |
| C | -442.444 | 287.711  | 0.03790  |
| C | -385.741 | 394.040  | -0.62958 |
| H | -211.095 | 456.554  | -178.272 |
| H | -539.060 | 296.250  | 0.52528  |
| H | -436.532 | 489.780  | -0.68082 |
| C | -427.529 | 0.49939  | 0.74716  |
| H | -523.782 | 0.48847  | 124.908  |
| N | -252.201 | 144.791  | -0.52831 |
| N | -354.902 | -0.60089 | 0.64344  |
| N | -404.543 | -175.666 | 112.496  |
| C | -331.612 | -280.201 | 0.79327  |
| N | -372.430 | -402.721 | 118.703  |
| H | -322.235 | -484.989 | 0.89928  |
| H | -461.649 | -412.081 | 165.002  |
| S | -181.365 | -274.190 | -0.14376 |
|   |          |          |          |

**Table S4.2.4.** Cartesian coordinates of water.

|   | X       | Y        | Z        |
|---|---------|----------|----------|
| O | 0.00000 | 0.00000  | 0.11919  |
| H | 0.00000 | 0.75929  | -0.47675 |
| H | 0.00000 | -0.75929 | -0.47675 |

**Table S4.2.4.** Cartesian coordinates of OH<sup>-</sup>.

|   | X       | Y       | Z        |
|---|---------|---------|----------|
| O | 0.00000 | 0.00000 | 0.10927  |
| H | 0.00000 | 0.00000 | -0.87412 |

**Table S4.2.5.** Cartesian coordinates of Structure IV.

|    |         |          |         |
|----|---------|----------|---------|
| Cu | 103.907 | 0.09098  | 0.00270 |
| C  | 260.121 | 0.90208  | 240.252 |
| C  | 278.263 | -124.312 | 163.556 |
| C  | 358.094 | 0.71020  | 336.315 |
| H  | 207.796 | 184.473  | 238.195 |
| C  | 377.164 | -153.875 | 258.950 |
| C  | 419.603 | -0.54263 | 344.964 |
| H  | 382.950 | 150.693  | 405.444 |
| H  | 417.793 | -254.324 | 263.727 |
| H  | 496.690 | -0.73912 | 418.886 |

|    |          |          |          |
|----|----------|----------|----------|
| C  | 231.385  | -220.470 | 0.70216  |
| H  | 267.758  | -322.469 | 0.65999  |
| N  | 224.108  | 0.00055  | 147.177  |
| N  | 154.875  | -173.652 | -0.26008 |
| N  | 114.017  | -254.069 | -120.025 |
| C  | 0.50043  | -192.738 | -232.583 |
| N  | -0.41620 | -286.060 | -287.101 |
| H  | -0.92238 | -247.116 | -365.810 |
| H  | -104.457 | -325.133 | -217.524 |
| S  | -0.27305 | -0.14668 | -195.636 |
| C  | 310.422  | 179.896  | -0.68801 |
| C  | 362.971  | -0.31744 | -143.557 |
| C  | 436.708  | 228.336  | -110.702 |
| C  | 488.131  | 0.07366  | -185.539 |
| H  | 331.309  | -132.650 | -164.725 |
| C  | 527.363  | 142.071  | -166.942 |
| H  | 458.941  | 333.855  | -0.98148 |
| H  | 553.110  | -0.63080 | -236.150 |
| H  | 625.142  | 176.757  | -198.954 |
| C  | 212.521  | 260.465  | -0.09925 |
| H  | 222.705  | 366.949  | 0.07738  |
| N  | 0.10258  | 263.810  | 100.234  |
| C  | -0.85133 | 189.002  | 148.274  |
| N  | -183.844 | 248.039  | 223.292  |
| H  | -270.825 | 197.033  | 229.168  |
| H  | -193.225 | 347.806  | 208.884  |
| S  | -0.90010 | 0.11203  | 138.143  |
| N  | 274.924  | 0.45649  | -0.75980 |
| N  | 109.075  | 193.207  | 0.38937  |
| Cu | -200.990 | -0.53924 | -0.50494 |
| C  | -214.089 | 239.732  | -141.784 |
| C  | -385.632 | 156.072  | -0.07086 |
| C  | -276.388 | 361.755  | -155.199 |
| H  | -119.145 | 222.533  | -191.177 |
| C  | -456.014 | 278.515  | -0.19160 |
| C  | -401.910 | 381.515  | -0.92219 |
| H  | -229.358 | 440.084  | -213.465 |
| H  | -552.456 | 287.962  | 0.29873  |
| H  | -454.468 | 475.995  | -102.235 |
| C  | -433.382 | 0.46355  | 0.67049  |
| H  | -528.476 | 0.45736  | 119.351  |
| N  | -262.279 | 136.039  | -0.68355 |
| N  | -355.250 | -0.61333 | 0.67472  |
| N  | -401.722 | -173.653 | 127.038  |
| C  | -322.408 | -276.400 | 111.102  |

|   |          |          |          |
|---|----------|----------|----------|
| N | -355.917 | -395.476 | 169.570  |
| H | -312.423 | -478.644 | 132.830  |
| H | -451.464 | -403.831 | 201.534  |
| S | -169.032 | -272.475 | 0.22910  |
| O | 141.248  | -155.347 | -334.408 |
| H | 177.963  | -239.886 | -365.142 |

**Table S4.2.6.** Cartesian coordinates of Structure V.

|    | X        | Y        | Z        |
|----|----------|----------|----------|
| Cu | -0.99296 | -0.07854 | 0.02057  |
| C  | -231.803 | -162.760 | 220.482  |
| C  | -303.455 | 0.51465  | 180.106  |
| C  | -329.895 | -184.308 | 314.695  |
| H  | -157.866 | -240.101 | 206.046  |
| C  | -407.282 | 0.37573  | 275.451  |
| C  | -423.109 | -0.81409 | 341.777  |
| H  | -332.531 | -277.499 | 369.954  |
| H  | -471.881 | 122.661  | 294.498  |
| H  | -502.143 | -0.94956 | 414.923  |
| C  | -278.914 | 168.780  | 109.455  |
| H  | -336.182 | 259.495  | 125.048  |
| N  | -220.038 | -0.51907 | 143.594  |
| N  | -181.628 | 167.573  | 0.17325  |
| N  | -158.399 | 299.283  | -0.24459 |
| C  | -140.448 | 338.914  | -157.089 |
| N  | -110.599 | 460.755  | -179.821 |
| H  | -100.907 | 473.433  | -280.448 |
| S  | 0.22937  | 0.13451  | -186.347 |
| C  | -278.556 | -187.862 | -110.556 |
| C  | -354.728 | 0.24391  | -143.443 |
| C  | -392.974 | -243.652 | -167.844 |
| C  | -472.985 | -0.21821 | -199.972 |
| H  | -333.858 | 129.963  | -144.029 |
| C  | -494.232 | -159.056 | -211.103 |
| H  | -400.408 | -351.302 | -178.826 |
| H  | -545.315 | 0.49034  | -238.650 |
| H  | -585.353 | -198.694 | -254.776 |
| C  | -169.394 | -266.316 | -0.62925 |
| H  | -163.842 | -374.414 | -0.71015 |
| N  | 0.21764  | -272.306 | 0.53135  |
| C  | 109.497  | -199.419 | 120.753  |
| N  | 206.623  | -267.250 | 185.926  |
| H  | 287.200  | -214.574 | 216.338  |
| H  | 221.228  | -363.458 | 158.194  |

|    |          |          |          |
|----|----------|----------|----------|
| S  | 105.764  | -0.25028 | 139.886  |
| N  | -260.445 | -0.54533 | -0.88937 |
| N  | -0.78725 | -199.435 | 0.00490  |
| Cu | 197.724  | 0.61288  | -0.54878 |
| C  | 244.888  | -223.187 | -160.813 |
| C  | 406.627  | -128.699 | -0.21622 |
| C  | 320.676  | -336.459 | -181.126 |
| H  | 148.926  | -211.090 | -209.731 |
| C  | 490.246  | -241.841 | -0.39569 |
| C  | 447.507  | -346.177 | -118.066 |
| H  | 283.288  | -415.491 | -245.199 |
| H  | 587.665  | -242.819 | 0.08453  |
| H  | 510.212  | -433.539 | -133.234 |
| C  | 443.922  | -0.15868 | 0.54005  |
| H  | 539.341  | -0.06395 | 104.885  |
| N  | 280.833  | -119.939 | -0.80352 |
| N  | 355.815  | 0.83355  | 0.57840  |
| N  | 391.848  | 197.226  | 121.742  |
| C  | 301.029  | 291.118  | 112.422  |
| N  | 322.497  | 410.513  | 176.010  |
| H  | 271.425  | 489.924  | 140.432  |
| H  | 417.841  | 427.753  | 205.105  |
| S  | 149.481  | 273.096  | 0.24249  |
| O  | -166.819 | 245.429  | -251.779 |
| H  | -109.806 | 165.460  | -234.373 |
| H  | -104.323 | 355.502  | 0.40308  |

**Table S4.2.7.** Cartesian coordinates of Structure VIa.

|    | X        | Y        | Z        |
|----|----------|----------|----------|
| Cu | -108.399 | 0.07921  | -0.06563 |
| C  | -269.897 | -0.93161 | 221.443  |
| C  | -312.251 | 117.744  | 145.383  |
| C  | -376.339 | -0.88432 | 310.039  |
| H  | -204.811 | -179.052 | 223.453  |
| C  | -421.609 | 131.807  | 231.845  |
| C  | -456.272 | 0.26213  | 314.418  |
| H  | -394.303 | -171.647 | 377.124  |
| H  | -476.416 | 225.383  | 233.068  |
| H  | -540.929 | 0.33429  | 381.959  |
| C  | -270.195 | 220.207  | 0.57756  |
| H  | -316.354 | 318.237  | 0.54437  |
| N  | -240.243 | 0.03067  | 131.653  |
| N  | -173.980 | 191.573  | -0.26853 |
| N  | -139.334 | 298.767  | -0.99805 |

|    |          |          |          |
|----|----------|----------|----------|
| C  | -0.45386 | 296.243  | -191.605 |
| N  | 0.39626  | 329.088  | -267.004 |
| S  | 0.19693  | -0.03009 | -192.286 |
| C  | -302.717 | -169.205 | -0.96183 |
| C  | -346.226 | 0.41015  | -179.492 |
| C  | -422.894 | -218.835 | -151.432 |
| C  | -464.597 | 0.00397  | -236.779 |
| H  | -311.754 | 141.585  | -199.134 |
| C  | -506.462 | -133.667 | -219.645 |
| H  | -446.284 | -324.228 | -140.010 |
| H  | -522.121 | 0.69179  | -297.670 |
| H  | -599.788 | -169.011 | -262.348 |
| C  | -208.433 | -248.341 | -0.29225 |
| H  | -217.108 | -355.493 | -0.14797 |
| N  | -0.16364 | -252.694 | 0.93515  |
| C  | 0.78149  | -181.533 | 148.765  |
| N  | 170.248  | -245.963 | 227.673  |
| H  | 257.679  | -197.209 | 240.732  |
| H  | 178.158  | -345.414 | 210.439  |
| S  | 0.93817  | -0.04725 | 140.414  |
| N  | -267.921 | -0.35152 | -0.99531 |
| N  | -109.283 | -180.577 | 0.25648  |
| Cu | 189.812  | 0.39183  | -0.66109 |
| C  | 216.528  | -261.649 | -120.068 |
| C  | 389.248  | -156.060 | -0.03855 |
| C  | 282.515  | -383.187 | -118.114 |
| H  | 120.367  | -250.017 | -168.790 |
| C  | 463.241  | -277.058 | 0.00411  |
| C  | 409.431  | -390.484 | -0.55903 |
| H  | 237.374  | -469.883 | -164.905 |
| H  | 561.392  | -277.460 | 0.46823  |
| H  | 464.221  | -484.252 | -0.53885 |
| C  | 434.341  | -0.33841 | 0.48095  |
| H  | 531.816  | -0.21195 | 0.93868  |
| N  | 263.917  | -149.785 | -0.61411 |
| N  | 352.756  | 0.72399  | 0.37903  |
| N  | 409.806  | 189.602  | 0.78328  |
| C  | 336.399  | 294.877  | 0.68456  |
| N  | 381.393  | 418.207  | 109.196  |
| H  | 334.029  | 498.781  | 0.71164  |
| H  | 481.966  | 426.363  | 116.882  |
| S  | 161.384  | 284.027  | 0.24172  |
| H  | 169.795  | 317.212  | -108.767 |

**Table S4.2.8.** Cartesian coordinates of Structure VIb.

|    | X        | Y        | Z        |
|----|----------|----------|----------|
| Cu | -123.921 | -0.00856 | -0.01987 |
| C  | -319.404 | -0.04880 | 219.966  |
| C  | -336.869 | 162.315  | 0.64668  |
| C  | -436.198 | 0.34386  | 283.197  |
| H  | -260.137 | -0.83959 | 263.121  |
| C  | -455.351 | 209.492  | 122.414  |
| C  | -508.086 | 143.065  | 232.032  |
| H  | -468.564 | -0.16362 | 373.354  |
| H  | -503.433 | 297.472  | 0.80998  |
| H  | -600.407 | 176.288  | 278.426  |
| C  | -275.057 | 223.689  | -0.47119 |
| H  | -311.814 | 314.686  | -0.93258 |
| N  | -272.136 | 0.49205  | 105.854  |
| N  | -170.655 | 162.232  | -0.97429 |
| N  | -112.431 | 230.867  | -197.804 |
| C  | -0.02242 | 189.918  | -255.526 |
| N  | 0.99714  | 186.604  | -316.188 |
| S  | 0.27324  | -0.71856 | -147.183 |
| C  | -321.252 | -192.916 | -0.42370 |
| C  | -337.413 | -0.30934 | -204.943 |
| C  | -439.225 | -255.065 | -0.88245 |
| C  | -452.504 | -0.86279 | -256.909 |
| H  | -292.438 | 0.52575  | -256.942 |
| C  | -507.658 | -200.261 | -194.460 |
| H  | -472.763 | -346.494 | -0.40292 |
| H  | -497.204 | -0.45263 | -346.750 |
| H  | -598.952 | -245.749 | -231.609 |
| C  | -238.480 | -244.563 | 0.58954  |
| H  | -252.418 | -341.256 | 106.198  |
| N  | -0.44900 | -218.022 | 176.949  |
| C  | 0.46579  | -133.411 | 216.463  |
| N  | 154.267  | -179.494 | 287.910  |
| H  | 234.131  | -117.877 | 289.010  |
| H  | 174.594  | -277.985 | 276.560  |
| S  | 0.43877  | 0.43426  | 188.056  |
| N  | -275.434 | -0.72565 | -0.92457 |
| N  | -139.834 | -165.020 | 0.94796  |
| Cu | 181.222  | 0.20437  | -0.30431 |
| C  | 224.721  | -274.245 | -0.43992 |
| C  | 408.850  | -144.529 | 0.02588  |
| C  | 299.201  | -390.838 | -0.41426 |
| H  | 117.667  | -279.229 | -0.57649 |
| C  | 493.537  | -258.274 | 0.03327  |
| C  | 438.618  | -382.054 | -0.20588 |

|   |         |          |          |
|---|---------|----------|----------|
| H | 250.219 | -486.625 | -0.54585 |
| H | 599.002 | -245.524 | 0.25704  |
| H | 500.554 | -471.290 | -0.20419 |
| C | 448.696 | -0.15352 | 0.36647  |
| H | 548.569 | 0.10368  | 0.69979  |
| N | 276.018 | -150.119 | -0.33692 |
| N | 354.920 | 0.80224  | 0.30962  |
| N | 399.333 | 199.484  | 0.78779  |
| C | 321.973 | 301.579  | 0.66011  |
| N | 349.190 | 420.813  | 129.894  |
| H | 325.623 | 504.693  | 0.78556  |
| H | 440.227 | 422.829  | 174.283  |
| S | 161.779 | 297.538  | -0.18725 |
| H | 207.660 | 264.018  | -142.357 |
| H | 226.603 | 0.70346  | -267.307 |
| H | 372.962 | 0.34774  | -211.520 |
| O | 278.739 | 0.27683  | -193.115 |

**Table S4.2.9.** Cartesian coordinates of Monomer [CuL(OH<sub>2</sub>)(SH)].

|   | X        | Y        | Z        |
|---|----------|----------|----------|
| H | 0.68295  | 330.721  | -0.97509 |
| S | -0.19463 | 277.689  | -0.09623 |
| C | -272.190 | 0.76080  | -0.14695 |
| C | -169.375 | -132.584 | -0.02623 |
| C | -398.263 | 0.20567  | -0.09194 |
| H | -260.424 | 183.372  | -0.24795 |
| C | -295.797 | -196.242 | 0.01447  |
| C | -410.381 | -120.344 | -0.00354 |
| H | -485.612 | 0.84659  | -0.12470 |
| H | -299.270 | -304.697 | 0.05582  |
| H | -508.183 | -167.345 | 0.03401  |
| C | -0.47487 | -203.300 | -0.03700 |
| H | -0.41092 | -311.625 | -0.00634 |
| N | -156.559 | 0.05583  | -0.07669 |
| N | 0.61999  | -129.083 | -0.09065 |
| N | 182.655  | -190.648 | -0.15577 |
| C | 281.202  | -104.808 | -0.09253 |
| N | 410.412  | -149.842 | -0.12513 |
| H | 481.123  | -0.83206 | -0.39421 |
| H | 423.288  | -244.898 | -0.44557 |
| S | 256.312  | 0.68819  | 0.10468  |
| H | 103.654  | 0.79062  | 194.118  |
| H | -0.23844 | -0.06489 | 227.011  |
| O | 0.20176  | 0.43832  | 158.231  |



|    |         |         |          |
|----|---------|---------|----------|
| Cu | 0.33630 | 0.60599 | -0.32624 |
|----|---------|---------|----------|

**Table S4.2.10.** Cartesian coordinates of Dimer [ $\{\text{CuL}(\text{OH}_2)(\text{SH})\}_2$ ].

|    |          |          |          |
|----|----------|----------|----------|
|    |          |          |          |
| Cu | -132.499 | 0.00466  | -0.83251 |
| S  | 0.82847  | -0.55708 | -136.197 |
| N  | -0.43303 | -274.433 | -0.39087 |
| N  | 160.387  | -314.256 | -145.374 |
| H  | 156.430  | -405.790 | -101.885 |
| H  | 252.890  | -273.227 | -145.460 |
| C  | -246.970 | -217.144 | 0.47293  |
| H  | -254.319 | -316.316 | 0.90261  |
| N  | -315.479 | -0.06655 | -0.23928 |
| C  | -475.624 | -136.704 | 109.410  |
| H  | -495.718 | -227.993 | 164.636  |
| C  | -349.232 | -122.032 | 0.46299  |
| C  | 0.61679  | -229.222 | -101.143 |
| C  | -411.239 | 0.89253  | -0.31658 |
| H  | -381.716 | 177.461  | -0.87701 |
| N  | -137.015 | -178.752 | -0.16680 |
| C  | -536.053 | 0.80665  | 0.25474  |
| H  | -606.982 | 161.856  | 0.14238  |
| C  | -568.904 | -0.36706 | 0.99120  |
| H  | -666.104 | -0.46699 | 146.468  |
| S  | -144.859 | 209.403  | -197.455 |
| H  | -201.261 | 138.195  | -297.110 |
| Cu | 132.507  | -0.00453 | 0.83286  |
| S  | -0.82874 | 0.55728  | 136.248  |
| N  | 0.43300  | 274.434  | 0.39109  |
| N  | -160.392 | 314.291  | 145.372  |
| H  | -156.421 | 405.814  | 101.862  |
| H  | -252.899 | 273.271  | 145.450  |
| C  | 246.965  | 217.153  | -0.47259 |
| H  | 254.319  | 316.338  | -0.90194 |
| N  | 315.462  | 0.06642  | 0.23892  |
| C  | 475.605  | 136.718  | -109.423 |
| H  | 495.710  | 228.036  | -164.599 |
| C  | 349.221  | 122.039  | -0.46299 |
| C  | -0.61685 | 229.239  | 101.171  |
| C  | 411.193  | -0.89307 | 0.31521  |
| H  | 381.661  | -177.538 | 0.87523  |
| N  | 137.013  | 178.754  | 0.16709  |
| C  | 535.989  | -0.80725 | -0.25650 |
| H  | 606.892  | -161.950 | -0.14493 |

|   |          |          |          |
|---|----------|----------|----------|
| C | 568.861  | 0.36690  | -0.99219 |
| H | 666.054  | 0.46687  | -146.581 |
| S | 144.878  | -209.402 | 197.499  |
| H | 201.351  | -138.235 | 297.144  |
| H | 198.897  | 124.380  | 325.330  |
| H | 299.692  | 110.628  | 205.451  |
| H | -299.512 | -110.884 | -205.421 |
| H | -198.742 | -124.410 | -325.325 |
| O | 208.257  | 0.96207  | 233.591  |
| O | -208.130 | -0.96207 | -233.598 |

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