

## Electronic Supporting Information

### Experimental and theoretical magnetostructural study on discrete heterometallic cyanide-bridged dinuclear $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}\text{Mn}^{\text{II}}$ and tetranuclear $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}_2\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}_2$ complexes bearing a tripodal pyrazolyl borate and tetradeятate phenolate-based ligands

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#Both the authors have equal contribution.

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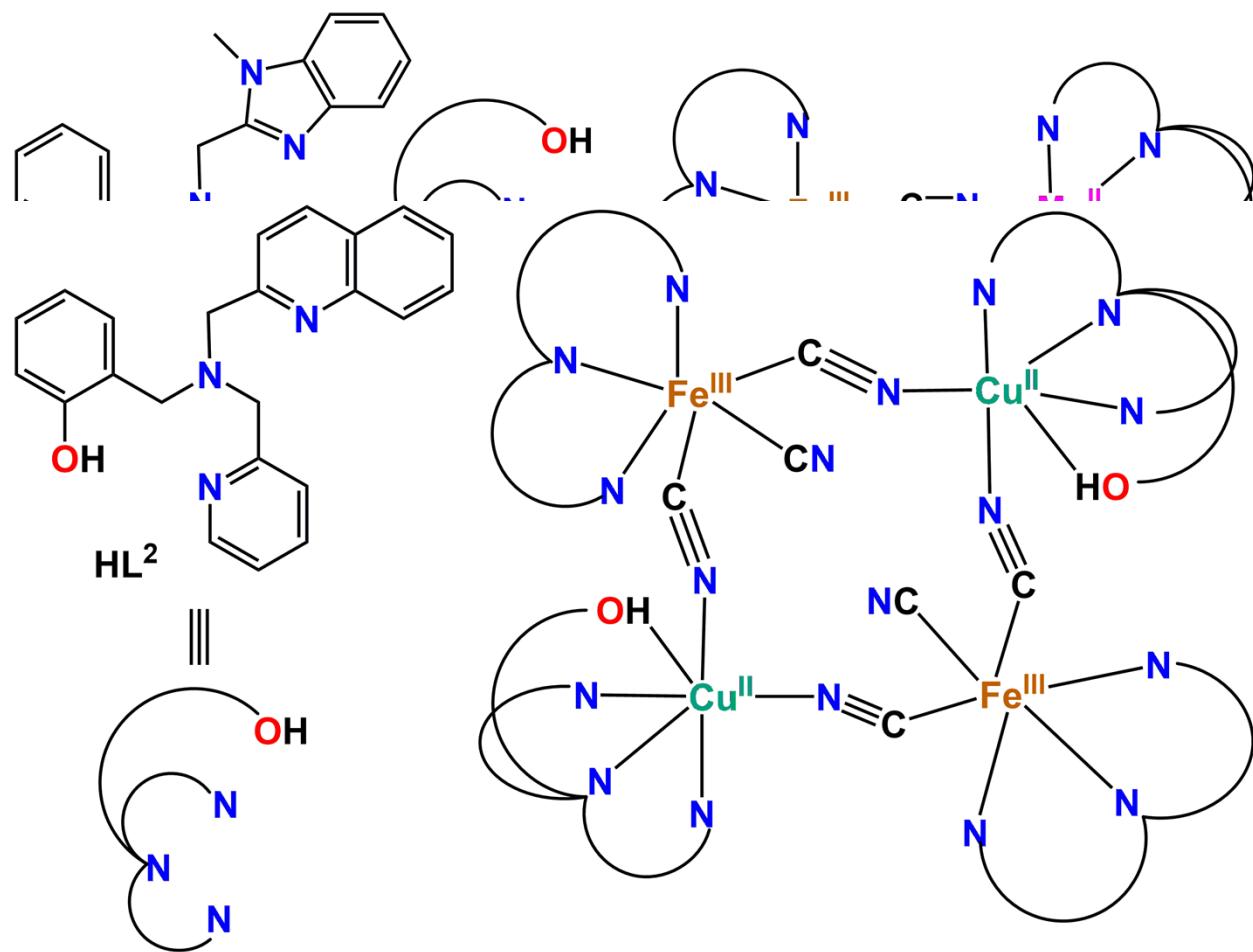


Figure S1. Schematic representation of metal coordination environment in the cluster  $[Fe^{III}(Tp)(CN)_2(\mu-CN)Mn^{II}Cl(HL^1)] \cdot 3DMF$  (1), along with the ligand employed in this study.

Figure S2. Schematic representation of metal coordination environment in the cluster  $\{[Fe^{III}(Tp)(CN)(\mu_2-NC)_2Cu^{II}(HL^2)](ClO_4)\}_2 \cdot 6DMF$  (2), along with the ligand employed in this study.

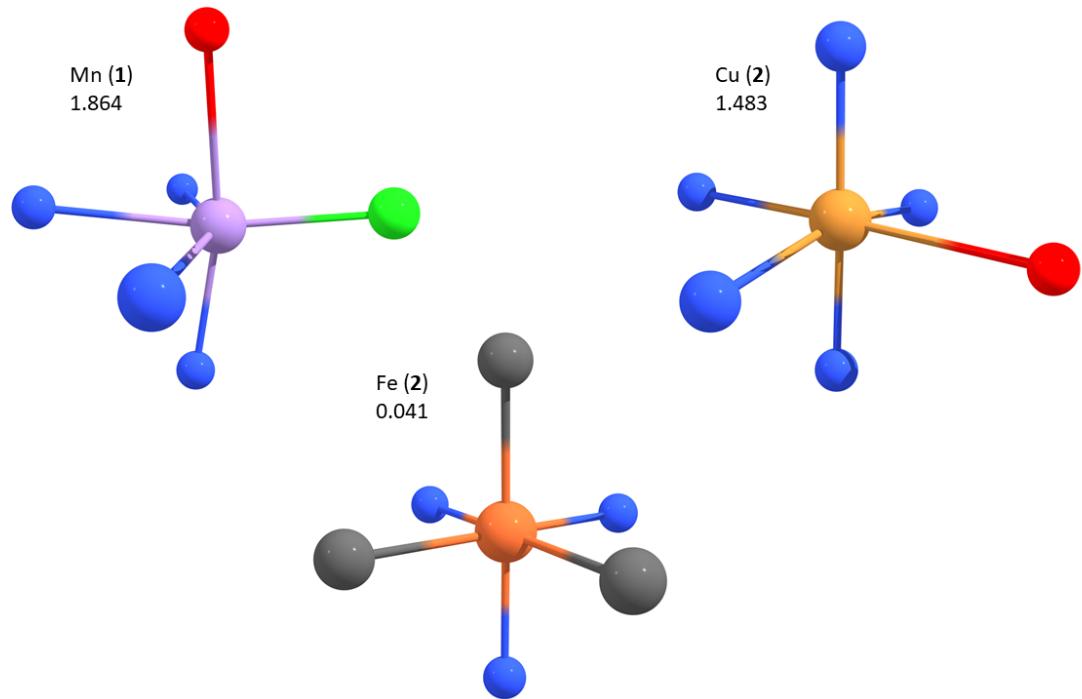


Figure S3. CShM values for the octahedral coordination around the metal center appearing in complexes **1** and **2**. Only iron present in complex **2** is shown as example.

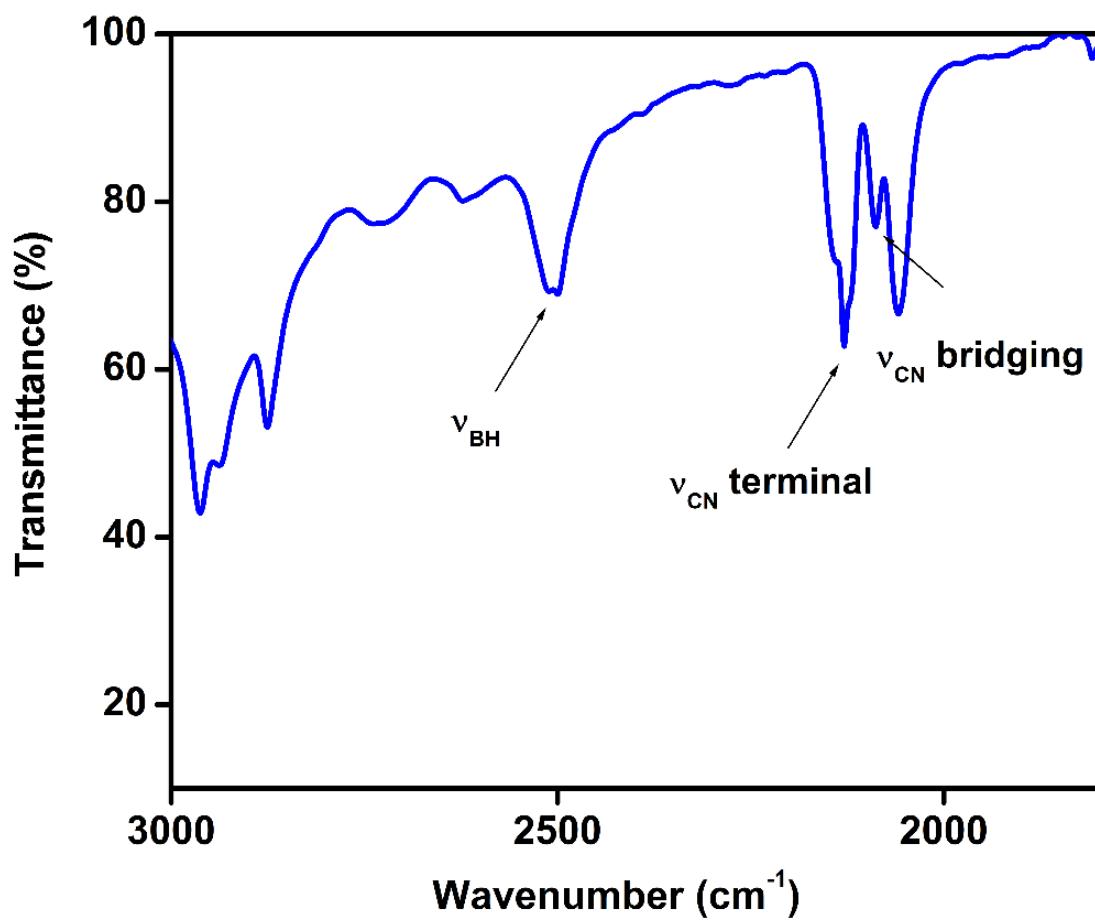


Figure S4. Selected portion of IR spectra (in KBr) of **1**.

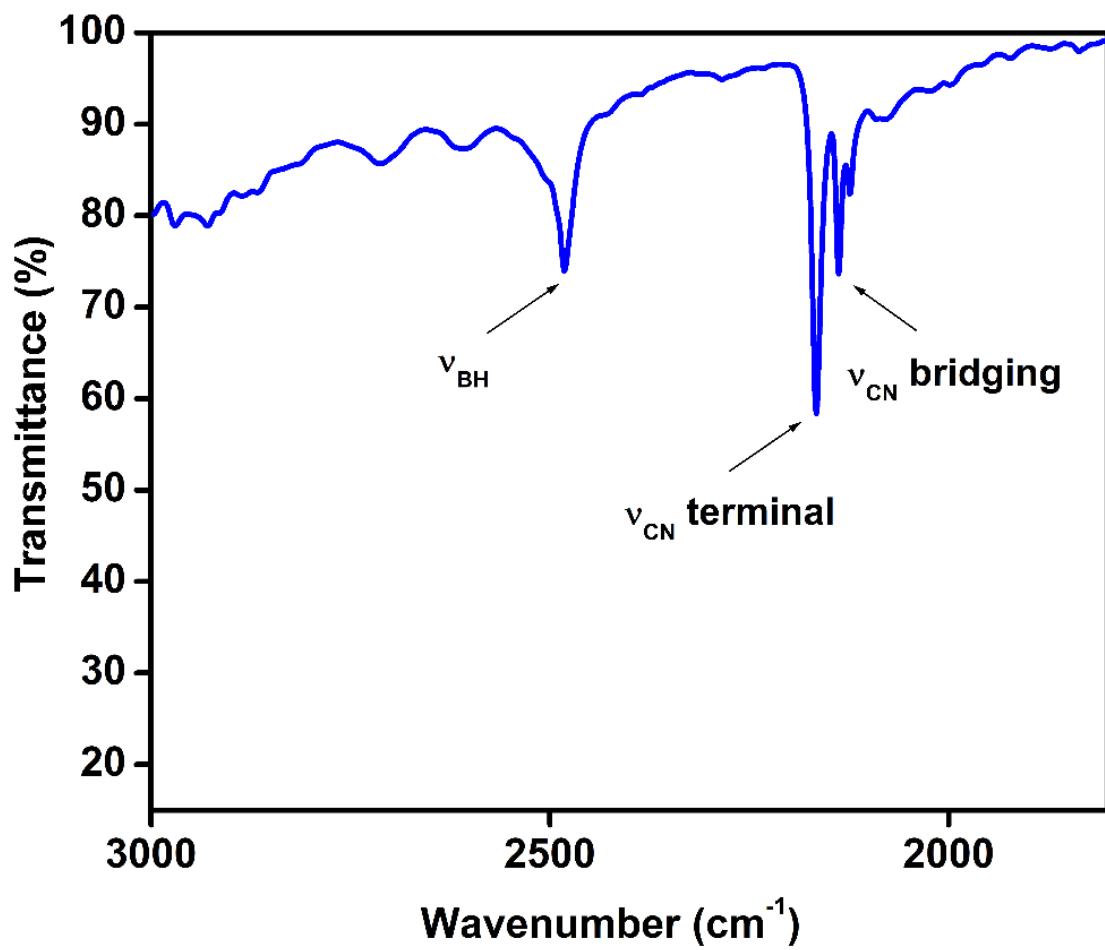


Figure S5. Selected portion of IR spectra (in KBr) of **2**.

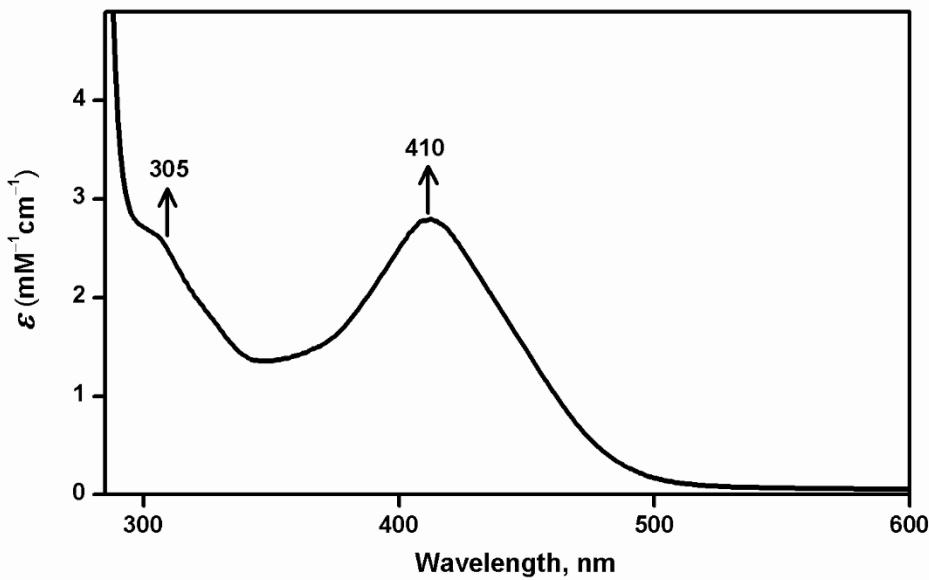


Figure S6. Electronic spectra in DMF of **1**.

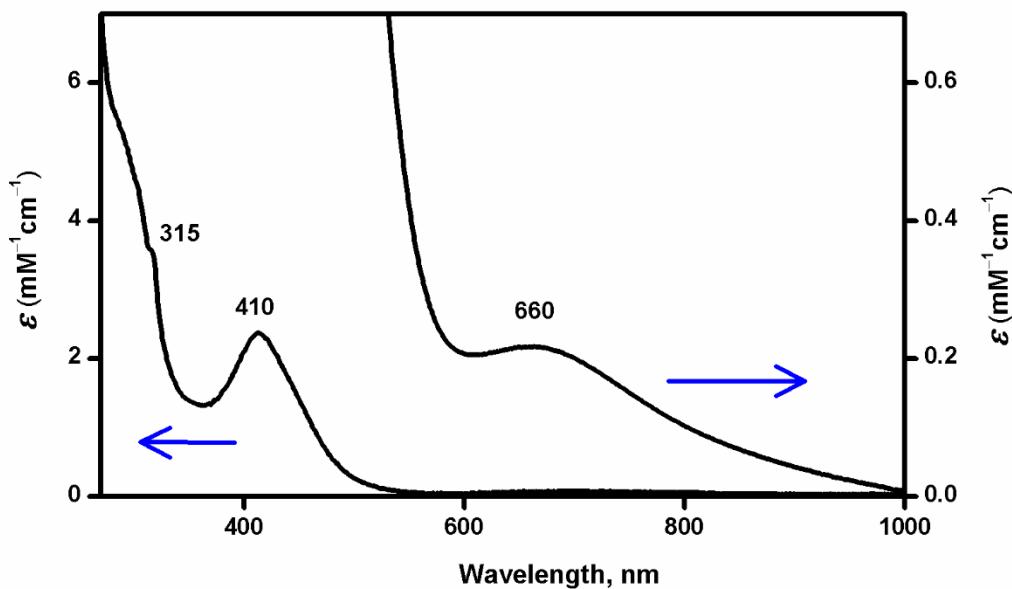


Figure S7. Electronic spectra in DMF of **2**.

### Crystallographic data

Table S1. Selected bond angles [°] of  $[\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}(\text{Tp})(\text{CN})_2(\mu\text{-CN})\text{Mn}^{\text{II}}\text{Cl}(\text{HL}^1)] \cdot 3\text{DMF}$  (**1**) and  $\{\text{[Fe}^{\text{III}}(\text{Tp})(\text{CN})(\mu_2\text{-NC})_2\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}(\text{HL}^2)\}(\text{ClO}_4)\}_2 \cdot 6\text{DMF}$  (**2**).

$[\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}(\text{Tp})(\text{CN})_2(\mu\text{-CN})\text{Mn}^{\text{II}}\text{Cl}(\text{HL}^1)] \cdot 3\text{DMF}$  (**1**)

C(1)–Fe(1)–C(2)	86.85(17)	C(1)–Fe(1)–C(3)	87.25(17)
C(2)–Fe(1)–C(3)	87.87(18)	C(1)–Fe(1)–N(8)	93.18(16)
C(1)–Fe(1)–N(10)	93.27(16)	C(1)–Fe(1)–N(12)	177.28(17)
C(2)–Fe(1)–N(8)	92.60(17)	C(2)–Fe(1)–N(10)	179.8(2)
C(2)–Fe(1)–N(12)	91.90(16)	C(3)–Fe(1)–N(8)	179.38(16)
C(3)–Fe(1)–N(10)	91.96(16)	C(3)–Fe(1)–N(12)	90.29(16)
N(8)–Fe(1)–N(10)	87.56(15)	N(8)–Fe(1)–N(12)	89.29(14)
N(10)–Fe(1)–N(12)	87.98(14)	Fe(1)–C(1)–N(1)	178.6(4)
Fe(1)–C(2)–N(2)	178.5(4)	Fe(1)–C(3)–N(3)	179.0(4)
N(1)–Mn(1)–O(1)	167.23(12)	N(1)–Mn(1)–N(4)	86.45(12)
N(1)–Mn(1)–N(6)	88.22(12)	N(1)–Mn(1)–N(7)	91.36(13)
N(1)–Mn(1)–Cl(1)	101.39(10)	N(4)–Mn(1)–O(1)	95.07(12)
N(4)–Mn(1)–N(6)	74.21(13)	N(4)–Mn(1)–N(7)	148.13(14)
N(4)–Mn(1)–Cl(1)	104.43(11)	N(6)–Mn(1)–O(1)	80.04(11)
N(6)–Mn(1)–N(7)	73.95(13)	N(6)–Mn(1)–Cl(1)	170.24(9)
N(7)–Mn(1)–O(1)	80.64(12)	N(7)–Mn(1)–Cl(1)	107.16(10)
Cl(1)–Mn(1)–O(1)	90.53(8)	C(1)–N(1)–Mn(1)	163.9(3)

{[Fe <sup>III</sup> (Tp)(CN)(μ <sub>2</sub> -NC) <sub>2</sub> Cu <sup>II</sup> (HL <sup>2</sup> )](ClO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> •6DMF}			
C(1)–Fe(1)–C(2)	88.33(15)	C(1)–Fe(1)–C(3)	90.80(15)
C(2)–Fe(1)–C(3)	89.40(15)	C(1)–Fe(1)–N(4)	90.69(13)
C(1)–Fe(1)–N(6)	89.34(14)	C(1)–Fe(1)–N(9)	177.92(14)

C(2)–Fe(1)–N(4)	178.98(14)	C(2)–Fe(1)–N(6)	91.74(14)
C(2)–Fe(1)–N(9)	92.56(14)	C(3)–Fe(1)–N(4)	90.34(13)
C(3)–Fe(1)–N(6)	178.86(14)	C(3)–Fe(1)–N(9)	91.09(14)
N(4)–Fe(1)–N(6)	88.52(12)	N(4)–Fe(1)–N(9)	88.43(12)
N(6)–Fe(1)–N(9)	88.75(13)	Fe(1)–C(1)–N(1)	171.1(3)
Fe(1)–C(3)–N(2)	176.3(3)	Fe(1)–C(2)–N(3)	177.9(3)
N(1)–Cu(1)–O(1)	93.99(11)	N(1)–Cu(1)–N(10)	95.05(12)
N(1)–Cu(1)–N(11)	176.18(13)	N(1)–Cu(1)–N(12)	101.36(13)
N(10)–Cu(1)–O(1)	87.84(11)	N(10)–Cu(1)–N(11)	82.70(12)
N(10)–Cu(1)–N(12)	163.60(12)	N(11)–Cu(1)–O(1)	89.01(11)
N(11)–Cu(1)–N(12)	80.91(12)	N(12)–Cu(1)–O(1)	91.24(11)
C(1)–N(1)–Cu(1)	161.2(3)		

### Magnetic study

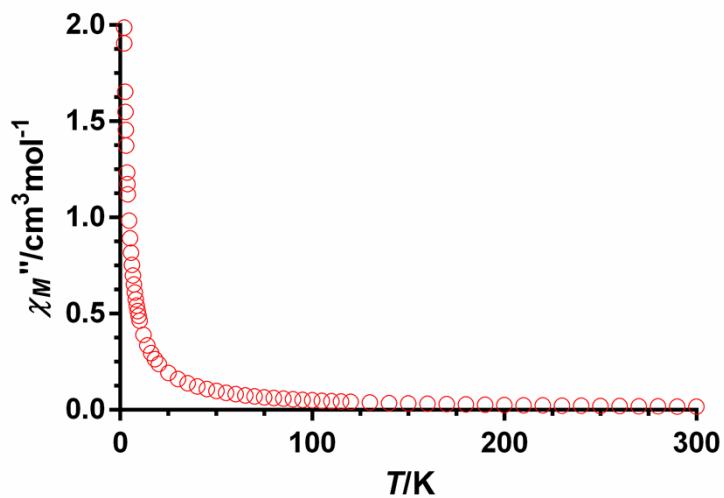


Figure S8. Temperature dependence of the  $\chi_M$  for **1**.

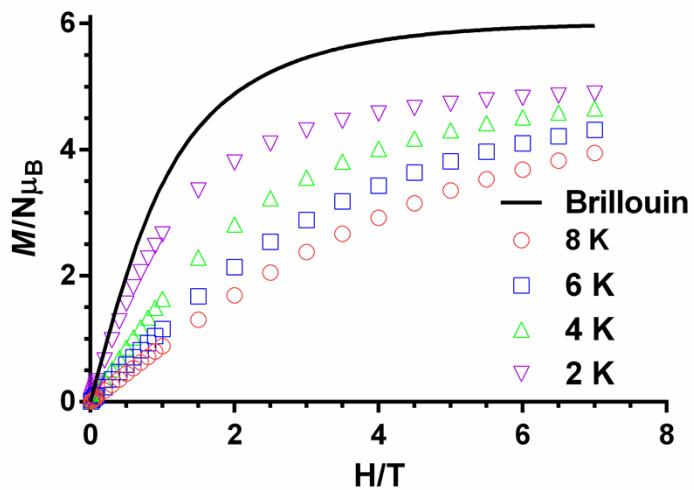


Figure S9. Field dependence of the magnetization for **1** at different temperatures (2–8 K). The solid black line represent the Brillouin function curve for non-interacting Mn ( $S = 5/2$ ) and Fe ( $S = 1/2$ ) ions with  $g = 2.0$ .

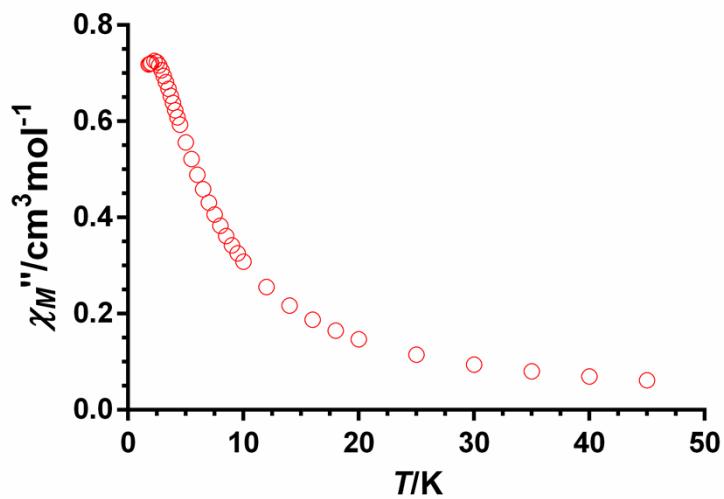


Figure S10. Temperature dependence of the  $\chi_M$  for **2**.

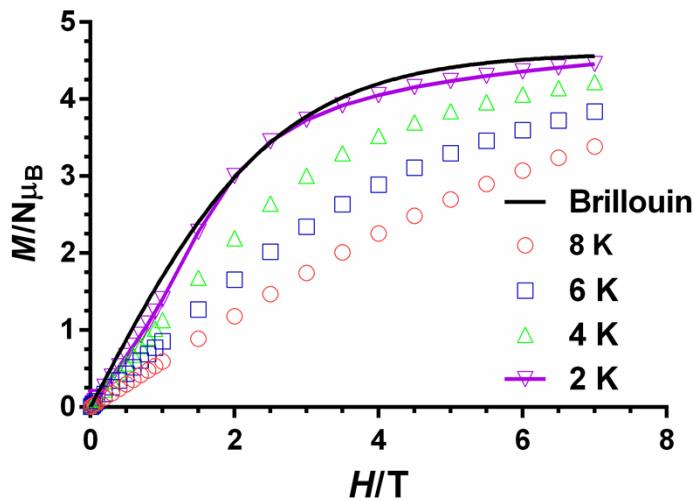


Figure S11. Field dependence of the magnetization for **1** at different temperatures (2–8 K). The solid black line represent the Brillouin function curve for four non-interacting  $S = 1/2$  ions with  $g = 2.3$ . The solid violet line is only a guide for the eyes to highlights its sigmoidal shape.

Table S2. Bond Valence Calculation of **1**

	R	R0	(R0-R)/B	$S_{ij} = \exp\{(R0-R)/B\}$
Fe1–C1	1.920(4)	1.689	-0.624	0.54
Fe1–C2	1.921(5)	1.689	-0.627	0.53
Fe1–C3	1.922(5)	1.689	-0.629	0.53
Fe1–N8	1.960(4)	1.70	-0.703	0.49
Fe1–N10	1.966(3)	1.70	-0.719	0.48
Fe1–N12	1.985(3)	1.70	-0.770	0.46
			$V$	3.03
Mn1–O1	2.386(3)	1.790	-1.611	0.20
Mn1–N1	2.236(3)	1.84	-1.070	0.34
Mn1–N4	2.200(4)	1.84	-0.973	0.38
Mn1–N6	2.369(4)	1.84	-1.430	0.24
Mn1–N7	2.231(4)	1.84	-1.057	0.35
Mn1–Cl1	2.3642(13)	2.133	-0.625	0.53
			$V$	2.04

### Crystallographic data

Table S3. Data Collection and Structure Refinement Parameters for  $[\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}(\text{Tp})(\text{CN})_2(\mu\text{-CN})\text{Mn}^{\text{II}}\text{Cl}(\text{HL}^1)] \cdot 3\text{DMF}$  (**1**) and  $\{[\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}(\text{Tp})(\text{CN})(\mu_2\text{-NC})_2\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}(\text{HL}^2)](\text{ClO}_4)\}_2 \cdot 6\text{DMF}$  (**2**).

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Empirical formula	$\text{BC}_{43}\text{ClFeH}_{53}\text{MnN}_{16}\text{O}_4$	$\text{B}_2\text{C}_{88}\text{Cl}_2\text{Cu}_2\text{Fe}_2\text{H}_{104}\text{N}_{30}\text{O}_{16}$
Formula weight	1015.06	2169.31
Temperature/K	100	100
Crystal system	triclinic	triclinic
Space group	P-1	P-1
<i>a</i> /Å	9.3138(6)	12.1562(14)
<i>b</i> /Å	16.1466(11)	14.2336(16)
<i>c</i> /Å	16.5173(10)	15.5600(18)
$\alpha$ /deg	104.669(2)	95.765(4)
$\beta$ /deg	93.059(2)	105.730(4)
$\gamma$ /deg	101.198(2)	108.664(3)
Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	2343.5(3)	2402.9(5)
<i>Z</i>	2	1
$\rho_{\text{calc}}$ g/cm <sup>3</sup>	1.439	1.499
$\mu/\text{mm}^{-1}$	0.697	0.870
F(000)	1056.0	1124.0
Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>	$0.1 \times 0.06 \times 0.05$	$0.2 \times 0.1 \times 0.05$
Radiation	MoK $\alpha$ ( $\lambda = 0.71073$ )	MoK $\alpha$ ( $\lambda = 0.71073$ )
2 $\Theta$ range for data collection/°	5.266 to 56.476	5.42 to 56.834
Index ranges	$-12 \leq h \leq 12, -21 \leq k \leq 21, -21 \leq l \leq 21$	$-16 \leq h \leq 16, -19 \leq k \leq 19, -20 \leq l \leq 20$
Reflections collected	33873	52360
Independent reflections	11551 [R <sub>int</sub> = 0.1684, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.1857]	12004 [R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0667, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0584]

Data/restraints/parameters	11551/3/568	12004/0/557
Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$	1.002	1.096
Final R indexes [ $I \geq 2\sigma$ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0748$ , $wR_2 = 0.1563$	$R_1 = 0.0637$ , $wR_2 = 0.1319$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.1448$ , $wR_2 = 0.1925$	$R_1 = 0.0834$ , $wR_2 = 0.1409$
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup>	0.66/-0.88	0.50/-0.64

<sup>a</sup> $R_1 = \Sigma(|F_o| - |F_c|)/\Sigma|F_o|$ . <sup>b</sup> $wR_2 = \{\Sigma[w(|F_o|^2 - |F_c|^2)^2]/\Sigma[w(|F_o|^2)^2]\}^{1/2}$

## DFT study

Table S4. Energies (B3LYP/TZVP) of the calculated monomers.

Complex	Species	Charge <sup>a</sup>	Multiplicity	Energy/Hartree
<b>1</b>	Fe(III)	-1	2	-2244.9317820
			6	-2244.8218776
	Fe(II)	-2	1	-2244.8894625
			5	-2244.7653156
	Mn(II) <sup>b</sup>	0	6	-3098.6016142
			2	-3098.5057645
	Mn(III) <sup>b</sup>	+1	5	-3098.3682159
			3	-3098.3228478
<b>2</b>	Fe(III)	-1	2	-2244.9317820

			6	-2244.8218776
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<sup>a</sup> Charge of the whole monomer considered. <sup>b</sup> An additional DMF molecule interacting with the monomer by hydrogen bonding has also been included in the calculation.

It could be drawn that the most stable pair for complex **1** is that of Fe(III-LS)-Mn(II-HS), and that Fe(III-LS) is the most stable configuration for iron in complex **2**.

### *Spin densities*

As appear in Figure S12, the singly occupied molecular orbital (SOMO), or magnetic orbital, in the iron(III) center of complex **1** is the  $d_{xy}$ , represented by the spin density map presented on the left of the figure, which is orthogonal to the magnetic orbitals of manganese(II) ion, represented by the spin density contour presented on the right. This is the basis of the ferromagnetism calculated for this compound. It could be pointed out that Mn(II) ion mainly delocalizes through a  $\sigma$  direct exchange mechanism, whereas the Fe(III) center exhibits a polarization mechanism, with alternating positive and negative spin density values. This could be related with the noteworthy back bonding process on the iron(III), which has a spin density greater than one electron, see Table S3, whereas manganese(II) has a spin density lower than five electrons. The spin density plot of complex **1**, Figure S12, nicely illustrates all these aspects, whereas Table S3 provides selected spin density values for this complex.

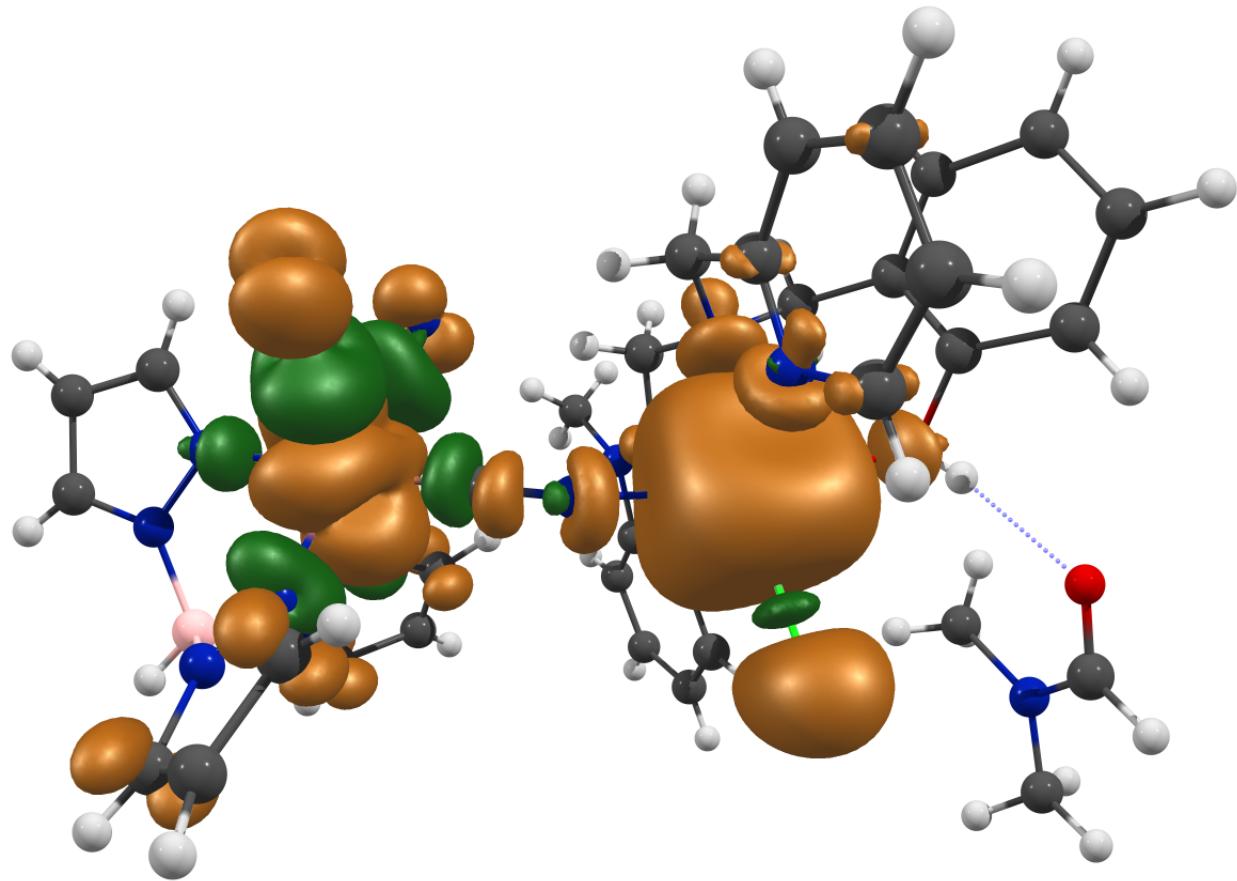


Figure S12. Calculated LC- $\omega$ PBE/TZVP spin density for the broken-symmetry septuplet state (parallel, ++, spin configuration) of **1**. Orange and green surfaces indicate positive and negative spin densities, respectively (cut-off at  $0.001 \text{ e} \cdot \text{Bohr}^{-3}$ ).

Table S5. LC- $\omega$ PBE and B3LYP/TZVP spin density values (in electrons) on selected atoms for complex **1**.

<b>Complex 1</b>	<b>LC-<math>\omega</math>PBE</b>	<b>B3LYP</b>
Mn	+4.9087	+4.8261
Cl	+0.0429	+0.0716
N <sub>imi</sub> <sup>a</sup>	-0.0094	-0.0010
N <sub>ami</sub> <sup>a</sup>	+0.0026	+0.0077

N <sub>pyr</sub> <sup>a</sup>	-0.0135	-0.0031
N <sub>cya</sub> <sup>a</sup>	-0.0620	-0.0023
O(H)	-0.0020	-0.0006
Fe	+1.1267	+1.0901
N <sub>pyra</sub> <sup>b</sup>	-0.0295 (mean)	-0.0208 (mean)
C <sub>cya</sub> <sup>c</sup>	-0.0731 (mean)	-0.0637 (mean)
C <sub>cyab</sub> <sup>d</sup>	-0.0137	-0.0123

<sup>a</sup>Respectively for coordinated nitrogens of imidazole, amine, pyrimidine and cyanide bridge ligands. <sup>b</sup>Mean values of the three nitrogen atoms of pyrazole ligands. <sup>c</sup>Mean values of the two carbon atoms of single cyanide ligands. <sup>d</sup>Carbon atom of the cyanide bridge ligand.

The spin density plot of complex **2** is shown in Figure S13. Note that the spin density of the copper atom is in the  $d_{x^2-y^2}$  orbital, which is orthogonal to the mixed  $d_{yz}/d_{zx}$  orbitals in Fe,<sup>17</sup> and that copper ion highly delocalizes through a  $\sigma$  direct exchange leading to a spin density much lower than one electron, whereas iron ion receives an excess of electron density thanks to the back bonding process. As an example, the LC- $\omega$ PBE spin density on copper atoms is +0.6243, whereas for iron atoms is +1.1332 electrons.

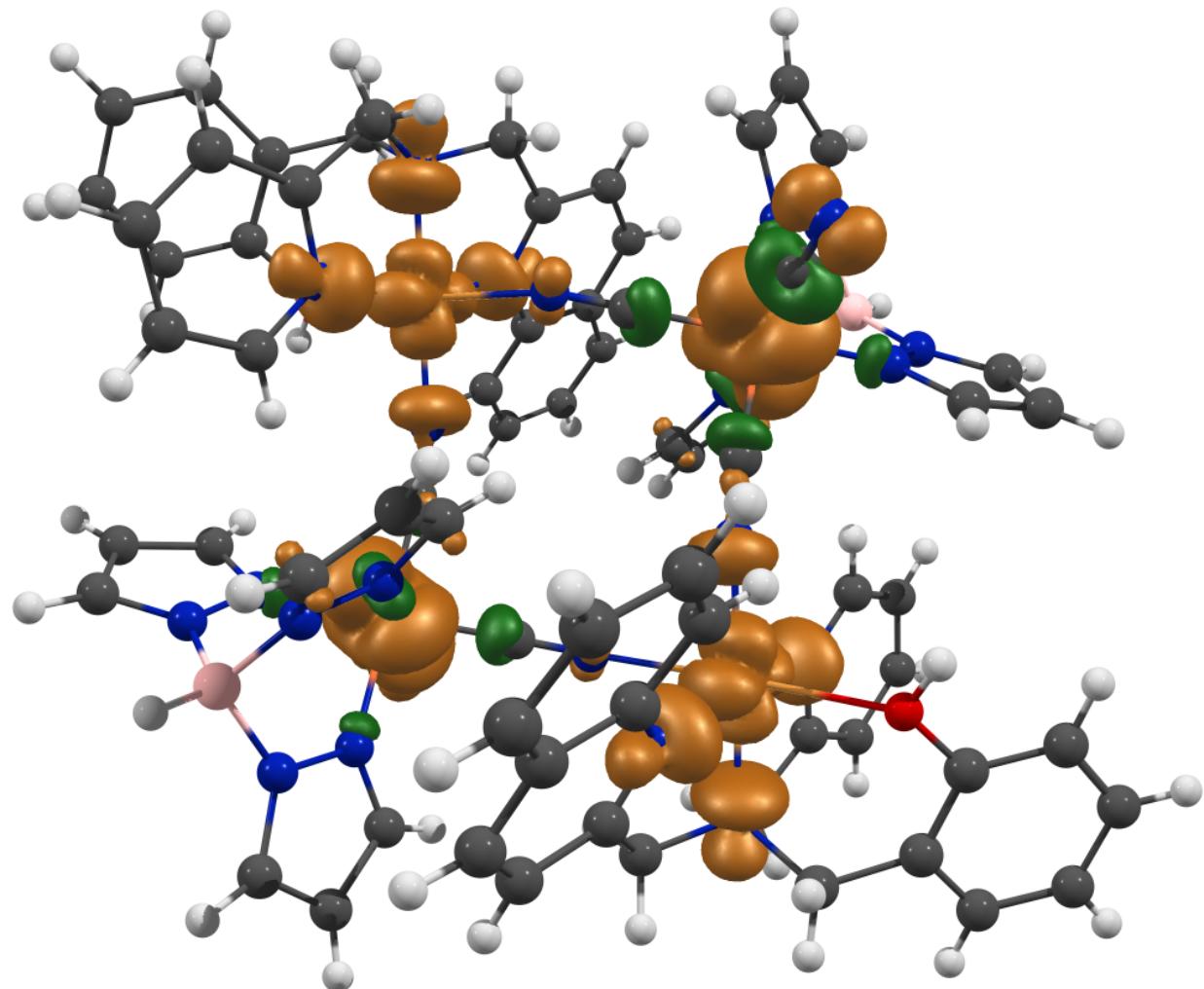


Figure S13. Calculated LC- $\omega$ PBE/TZVP spin density for the broken-symmetry quintuplet state (parallel, + + + +, spin configuration) of **2**. Orange and green surfaces indicate positive and negative spin densities, respectively (cut-off at  $0.001 \text{ e} \cdot \text{Bohr}^{-3}$ ).