

Supporting Information

**Novel Cu(II) Complexes as DNA-destabilizing Agents
and Their DNA Nuclease Activity**

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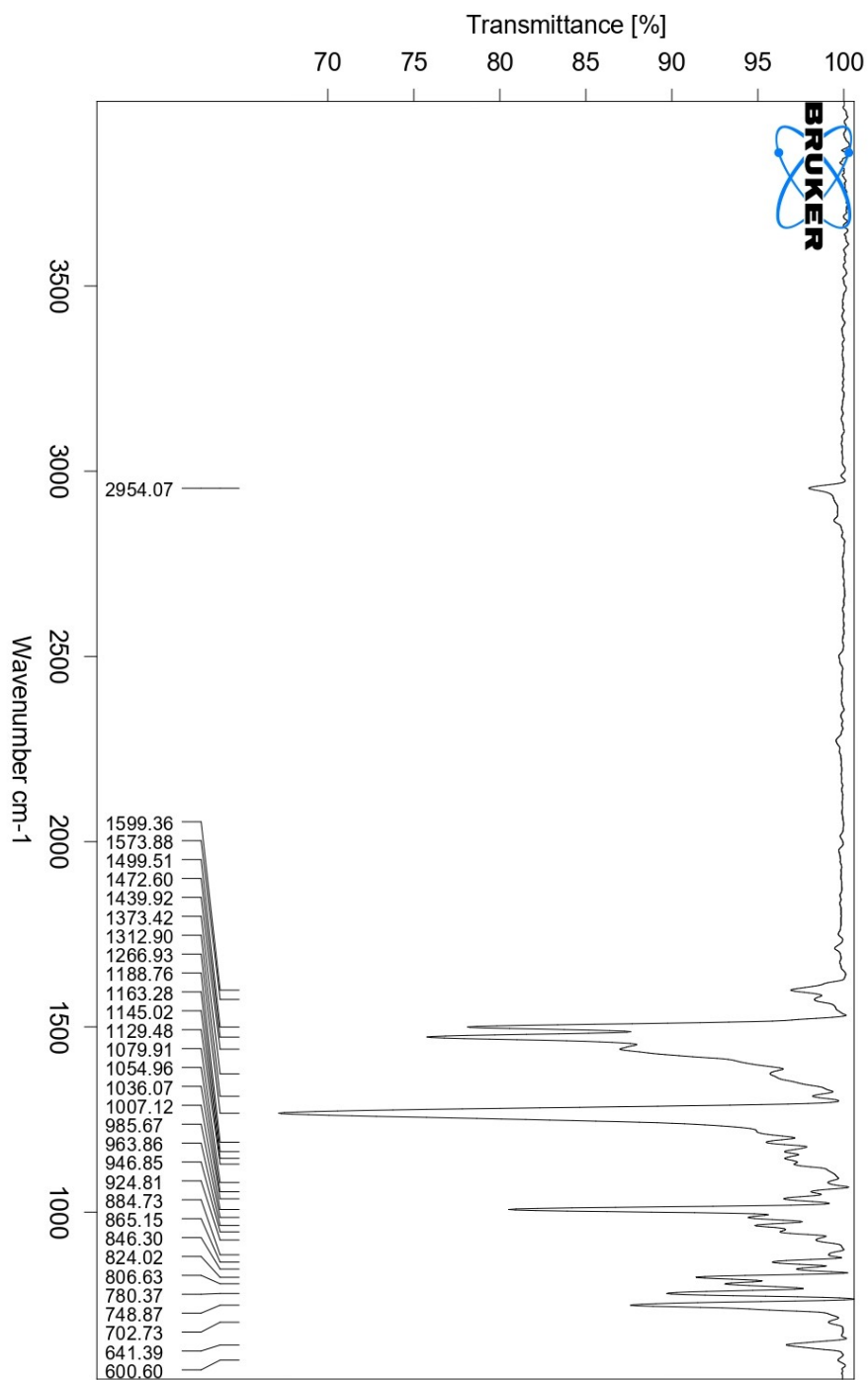
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^b Department of Chemistry and Green-Nano Materials Research Center, Kyungpook National University, 80 Daehakro, Bukgu, Daegu 41566, Republic of Korea

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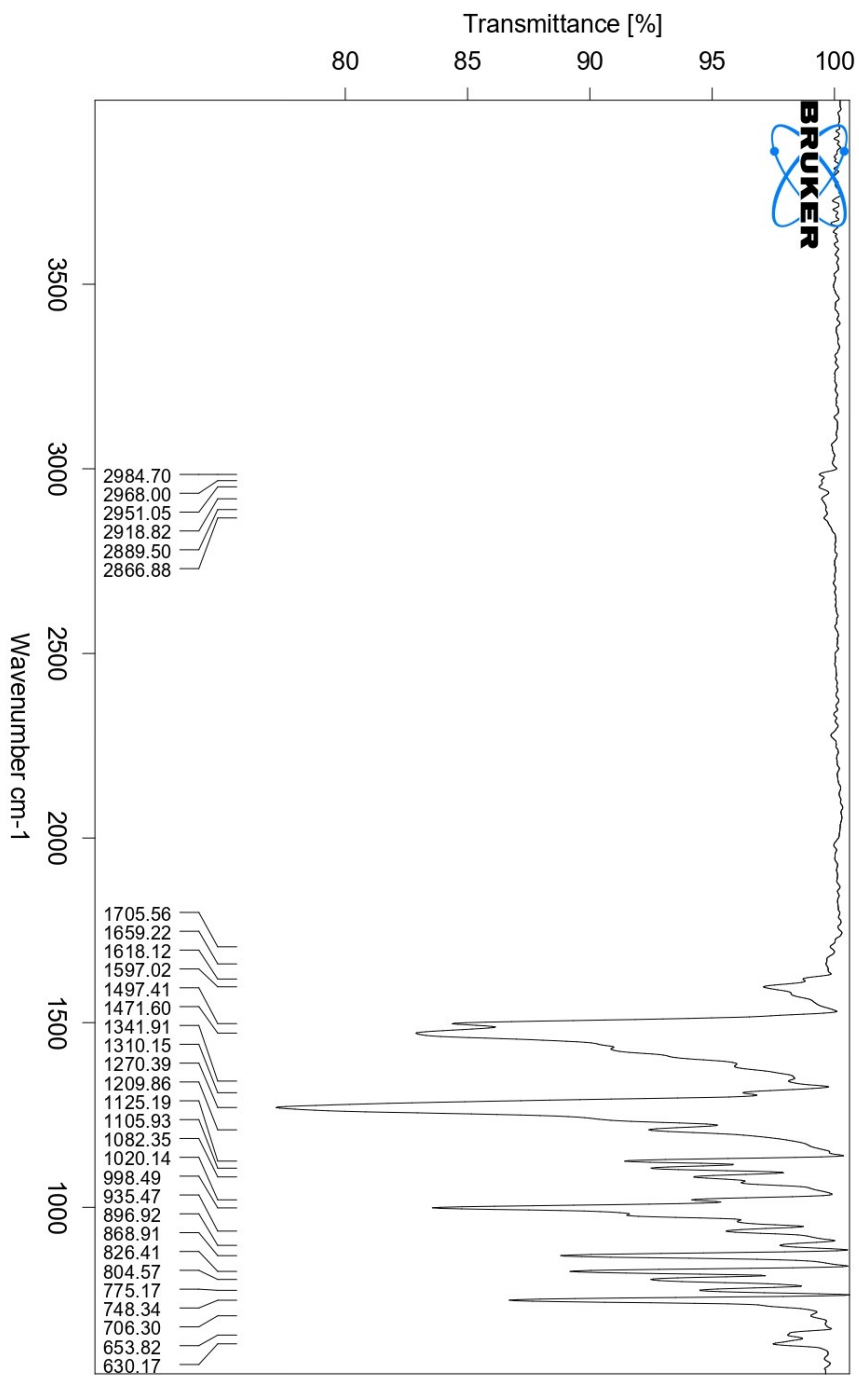
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FIGURE S1.



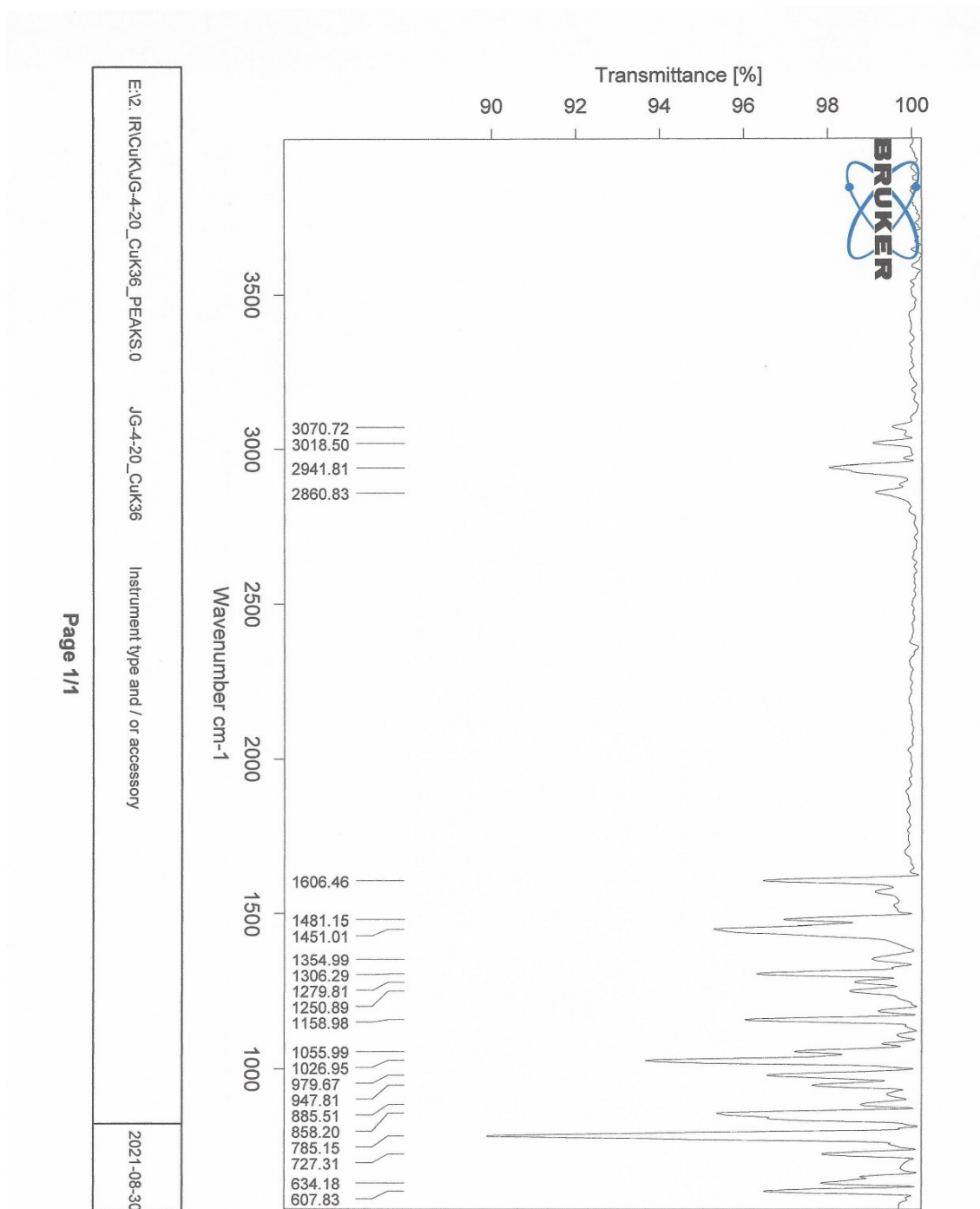
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Figure S2. F



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Figure S3. FTIR spectra of $[L_C Cu(\mu-Cl)Cl]_2 (Cu_4)$.



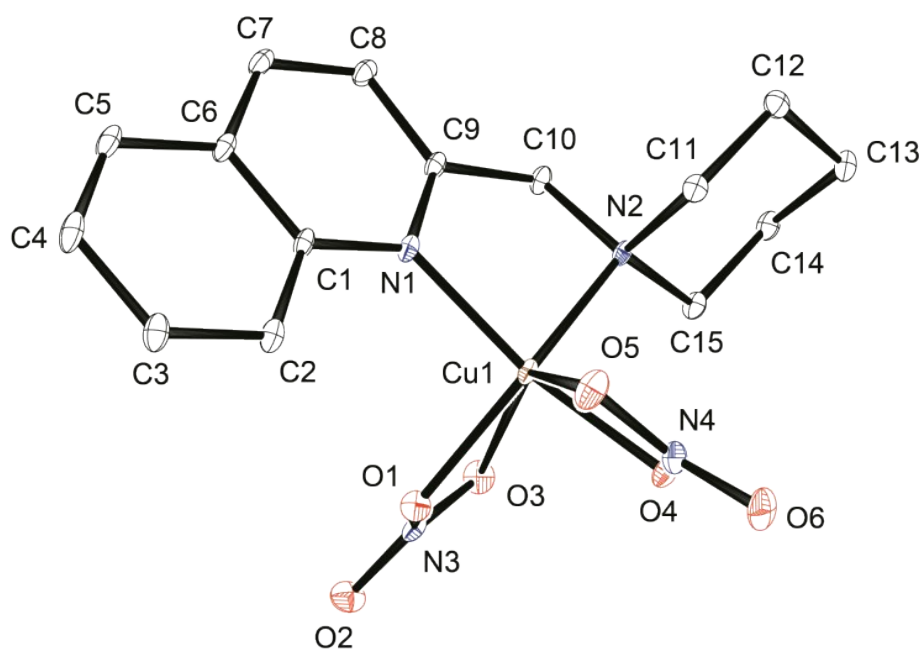


Figure S4. ORTEP drawing of $[\text{L}_A\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2]$ (**Cu1**) with thermal ellipsoids at 30% probability. All hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

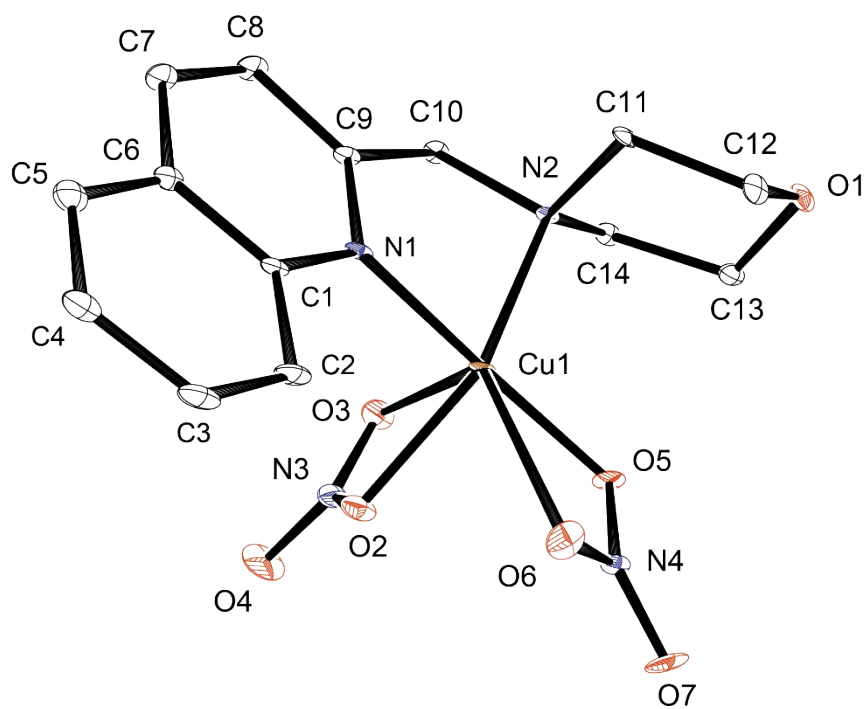


Figure S5. ORTEP drawing of [L_BCu(NO₃)₂] (Cu₂) with thermal ellipsoids at 50% probability. All hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

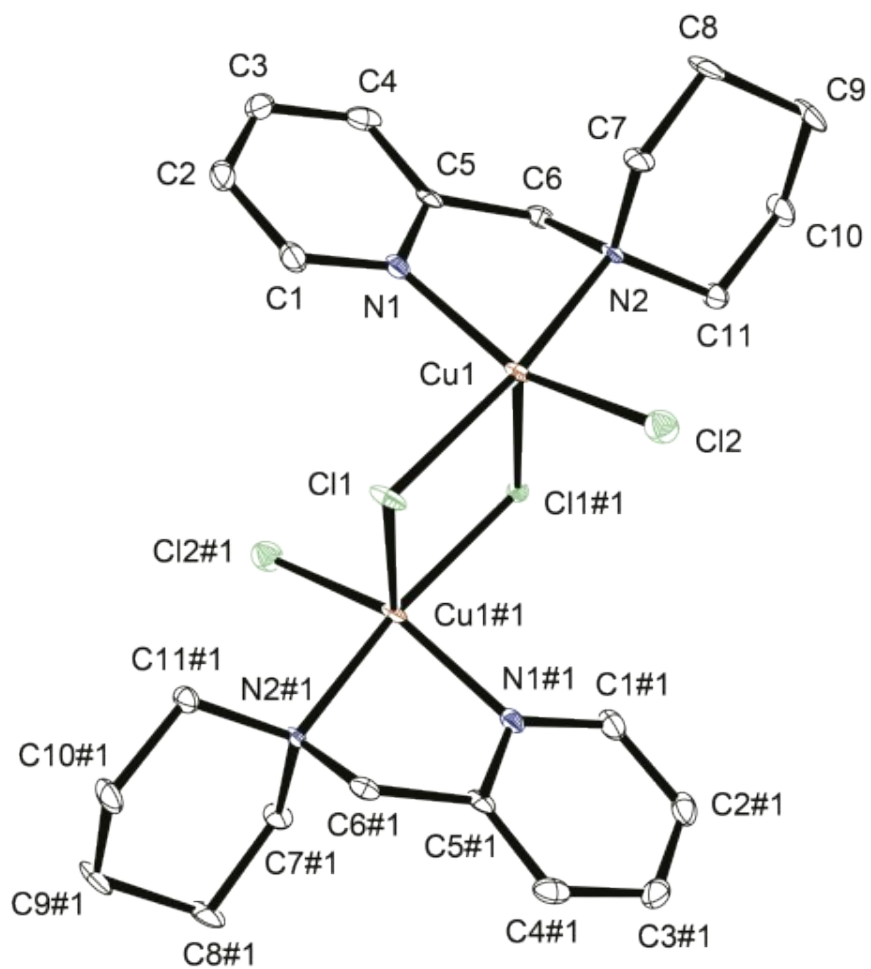


Figure S6. ORTEP drawing of $[L_cCu(\mu-Cl)Cl]_2$ (**Cu4**) with thermal ellipsoids at 50% probability. All hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

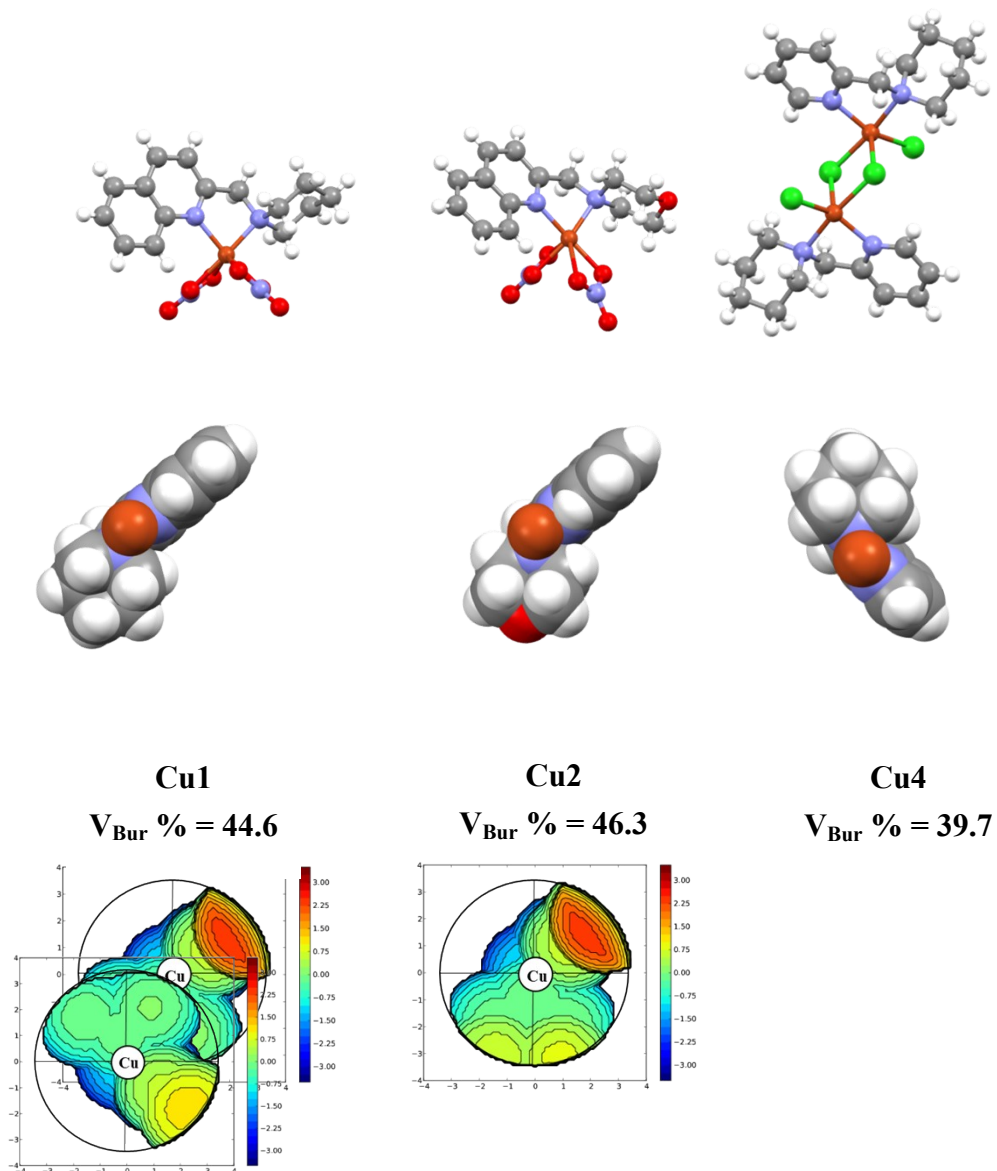
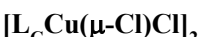
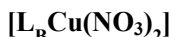
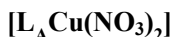


Figure S7. Ball and stick models, space-filling models, and topographic steric maps of complexes

Figure S8. Elemental analysis of the synthesized complexes.

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Group No : 1	Element %			
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Sulphur%	0			
EagerSmart Summarize Results				
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Method Filename : EA-D_20221006.mth				
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Component Name	Average			
Nitrogen	13.83641434			
Carbon	40.77180099			
Hydrogen	3.879175782			
Sulphur	0			
Eager 300 Summarize Results				
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Method Name : NCHS				
Method Filename : EA-A_20220128.mth				
Group No : 1	Element %			
Sample Name	Nitrogen%	Carbon%	Hydrogen%	Sulphur%
JG-5-27	8.92653656	42.37840271	5.389563084	0
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2 Sample(s) in Group No : 1				
Component Name	Average			
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Carbon%	42.43454552			
Hydrogen%	5.388689518			
Sulphur%	0			



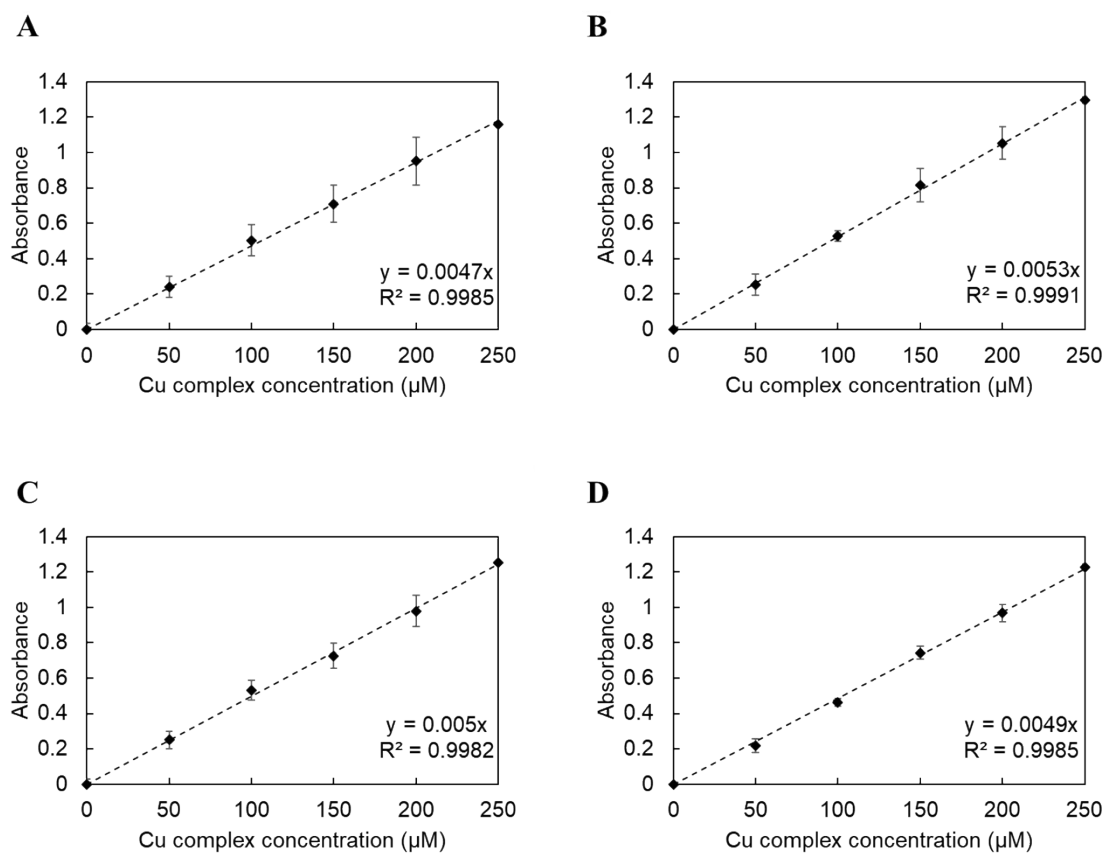


Figure S9. Determination of the extinction coefficient for Cu complexes: Cu1(A), Cu2(B), Cu3(C), and Cu4(D).

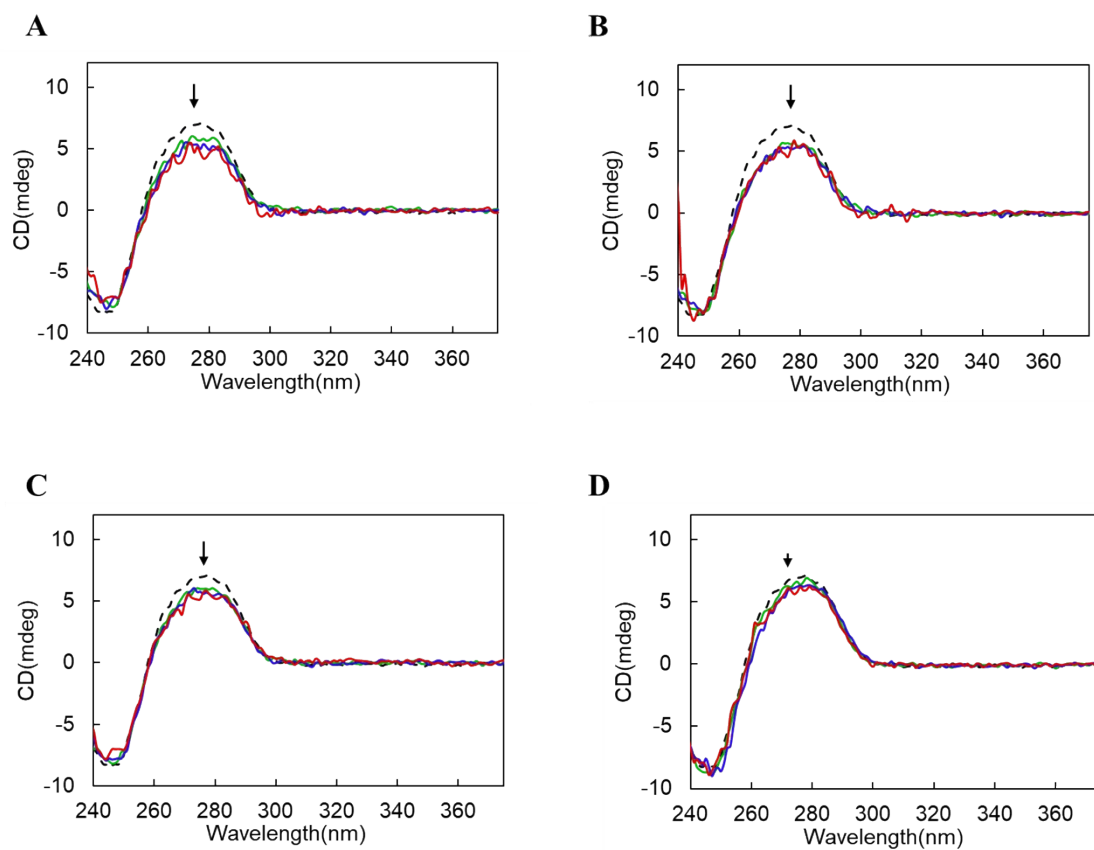


Figure S10. CD spectra of CT-DNA in the absence and presence of the various Cu complexes under high salt conditions: Cu1 (A), Cu2 (B), Cu3 (C), and Cu4 (D), respectively. [CT-DNA] = 100 μ M and [Cu complex] = 0 (black dashed line), 50 (green line), 100 (blue line), and 150 μ M (red line). All samples contain 5 mM cacodylate buffer (pH 7.0) and 100 mM NaCl.

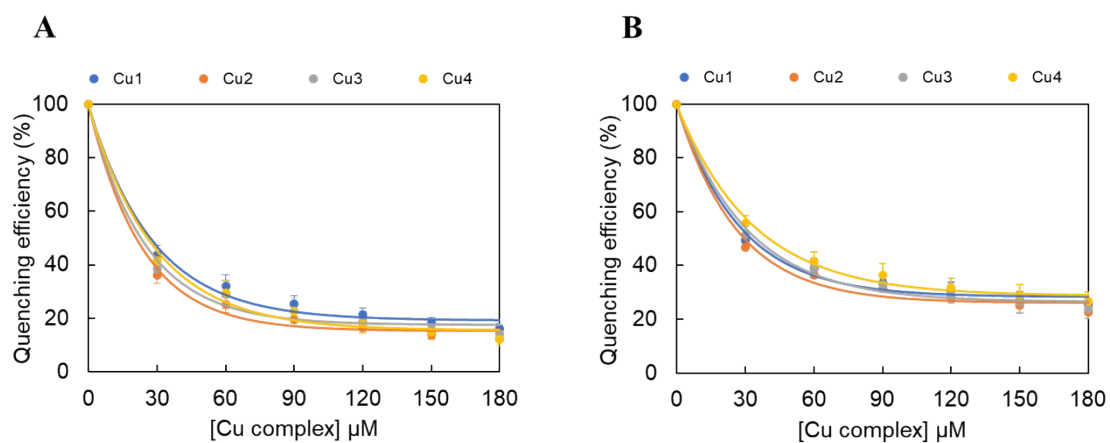


Figure S11. Comparative analysis for fluorescence quenching of limited bound the various DNA binder, EtBr (A) and Hoechst 33258 (B), at ratio = 0.1, by the addition of Cu1 (blue dot), Cu2 (orange dot), Cu3 (gray dot), and Cu4 (yellow dot). All data show the average value with an error bar after the experiment in duplicate. All samples contain 5 mM cacodylate buffer (pH 7.0) and 10 mM NaCl.

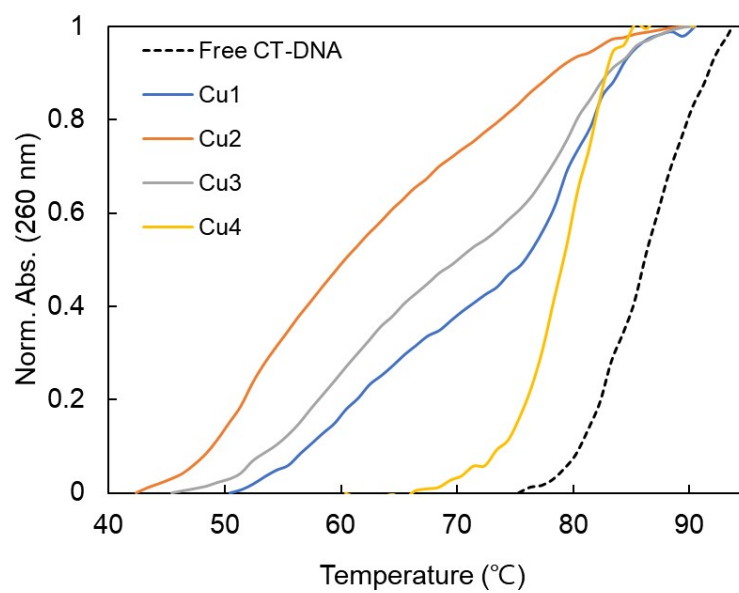


Figure S12. Thermal denaturation curves of CT-DNA in the absence and presence of Cu complexes, Cu1(blue line), Cu2(orange line), Cu3(gray line) and Cu4 (yellow line). [CT-DNA] = 50 μ M and [Cu complex] = 100 μ M. All samples contain 5 mM cacodylate buffer (pH 7.0) and 100 mM NaCl.

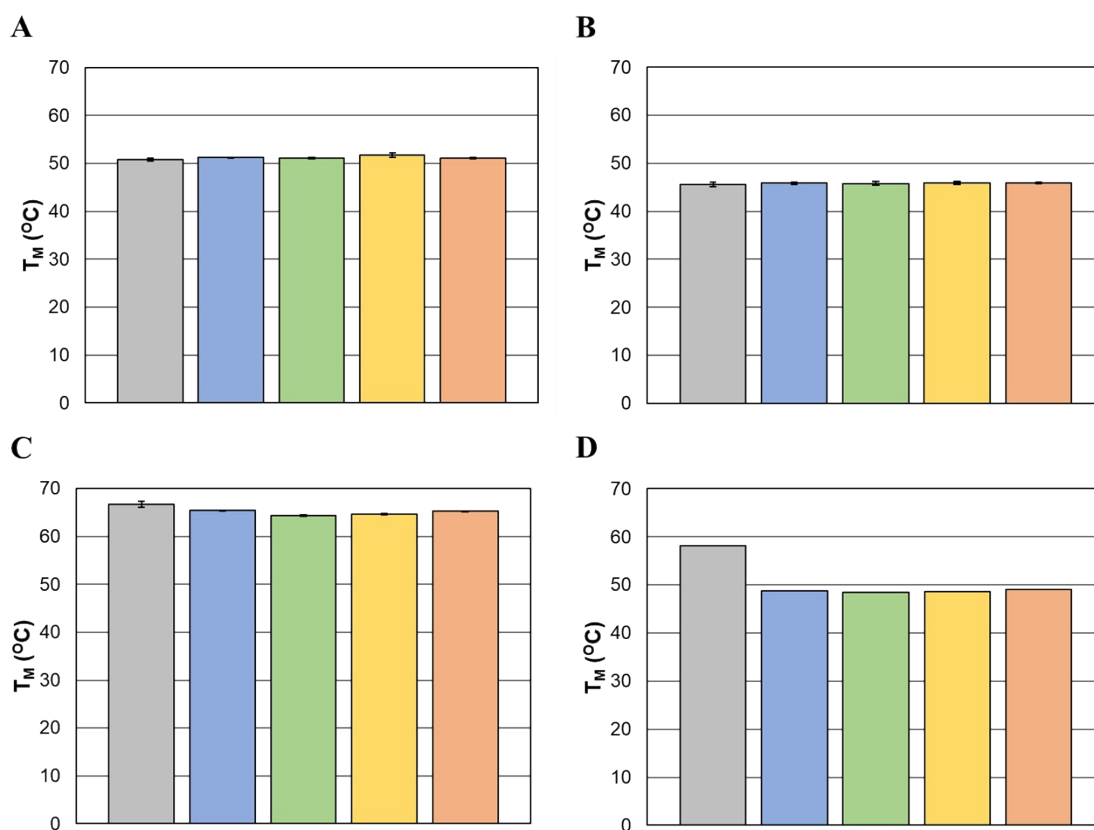


Figure S13. Histogram of melting temperature of homogenous and alternative A-T and G-C oligomers in the absence (gray) and presence of various Cu complexes, Cu1 (blue), Cu2 (green), Cu3 (yellow), and Cu4 (orange). 24mer of alternative A-T (A), 20mer of homogenous A-T (B), 15mer of alternative G-C (C), 15mer of homogenous G-C (D), were used. The ratio of [Cu complex] / [Oligomer] was 10.

Table S1. Crystal data and structure refinement for Cu(II) complexes.

	$[\text{L}_A\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2]$	$[\text{L}_B\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2]$	$[\text{L}_C\text{Cu}(\mu\text{-Cl})\text{Cl}]_2$
Empirical formula	$\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{18}\text{CuN}_4\text{O}_6$	$\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{16}\text{CuN}_4\text{O}_7$	$\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{32}\text{Cl}_4\text{Cu}_2\text{N}_4$
Formula weight	413.87	415.85	621.39
Temperature (K)	100(2)	100(2)	150(2)
Wavelength (Å)	0.610	0.610	0.630
Crystal system	Monoclinic	Triclinic	Monoclinic
Space group	$P2_1/n$	$P-1$	$P2_1/c$
Unit cell dimensions			
a (Å)	9.968(2)	7.1870(1)	10.682(2)
b (Å)	7.9070(2)	8.2690(2)	7.1300(1)
c (Å)	21.463(4)	14.574(3)	16.493(3)
α (°)	90	74.02(3)	90
β (°)	101.99(3)	89.47(3)	100.03(3)
γ (°)	99	69.01(3)	90
Volume (Å ³), Z	1654.7(6), 4	773.6(3), 2	1236.9(4), 2
Density (calculated) (Mg/m ³)	1.661	1.785	1.668
Absorption coefficient (mm ⁻¹)	0.901	0.967	1.553
F(000)			
Crystal size (mm ³)	852	426	636
Theta range for data collection	$0.080 \times 0.075 \times 0.050$	$0.200 \times 0.080 \times 0.070$	$0.075 \times 0.035 \times 0.015$
Index ranges	1.665 to 33.665°	2.333 to 33.652°	1.716 to 25.999°

Reflections collected	$-16 \leq h \leq 16,$	$-12 \leq h \leq 12,$	$-14 \leq h \leq 14,$
Independent reflections	$-12 \leq k \leq 12,$	$-13 \leq k \leq 13,$	$-9 \leq k \leq 9,$
Completeness to theta	$-35 \leq l \leq 35$	$-22 \leq l \leq 23$	$-22 \leq l \leq 22$
Absorption correction	27826	11409	12134
Refinement method	8692 [R(int) = 0.0625]	7198 [R(int) = 0.0272]	3481 [R(int) = 0.0996]
Data / restraints / parameters	99.4 % (21.469°)	95.1 % (21.469°)	100.0 % (22.210°)
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	Empirical	Empirical	Empirical
Final R indices [I > 2sigma(I)]	Full-matrix least-squares on F ²	Full-matrix least-squares on F ²	Full-matrix least-squares on F ²
R indices (all data)	8692 / 0 / 307	7198 / 0 / 235	3481 / 0 / 145
Largest diff. peak and hole (e.Å ⁻³)	1.150	1.050	0.967
	R ₁ = 0.0476	R ₁ = 0.0396	R ₁ = 0.0415
	wR ₂ = 0.1382	wR ₂ = 0.1178	wR ₂ = 0.0975
	R ₁ = 0.0586	R ₁ = 0.0417	R ₁ = 0.0576
	wR ₂ = 0.1433	wR ₂ = 0.1191	wR ₂ = 0.1016
	1.042 and -1.847	0.977 and -1.236	1.012 and -1.030

Table S2. Relative amounts (%) of Forms (I), (II), and (III) in the presence of various concentrations (30 and 50 μM) of Cu(II) complexes with ascorbate

	Concentration (μM)	Form I (%)	Form II (%)	Form III (%)
sc DNA		83.5 ± 3.7	16.5 ± 3.7	0
Cu1	30	70.9 ± 9.0	29.1 ± 9.0	0
	50	10.3 ± 9.0	56.4 ± 48.9	33.3 ± 57.7
Cu2	30	10.8 ± 9.3	55.9 ± 48.4	33.3 ± 57.7
	50	0	0	100
Cu3	30	25.9 ± 22.8	40.7 ± 35.5	33.3 ± 57.7
	50	0	24.9 ± 43.2	75.1 ± 43.2
Cu4	30	0	0	100
	50	0	0	100

Table S3. Effect of various ROS scavengers on *scDNA* cleavage^a

Scavengers	Form I (%)	Form II (%)	Form III (%)
sc DNA + Cu1	21.9±26.6	78.1±26.6	0
Tiron	51.1±3.4	48.9±3.4	0
Cu1 Sodium azide	40.6±13.2	59.4±13.2	0
Catalase	59.6±1.5	40.4±1.5	0
DMSO	51.4±11.3	48.6±11.3	0
sc DNA + Cu2	0	0	100
Tiron	2.2±1.0	91.6±11.4	6.2±10.7
Cu2 Sodium azide	0	86.1±12.0	13.9±12.0
Catalase	33.8±7.5	59.2±10.9	7.0±3.9
DMSO	0	0	100
sc DNA + Cu3	0	73.9±6.3	26.1±6.3
Tiron	17.5±14.4	82.5±14.4	0
Cu3 Sodium azide	0	83.4±3.8	16.6±3.8
Catalase	41.6±2.9	52.2±3.4	6.2±2.0
DMSO	0	81.0±7.4	19.0±7.4
sc DNA + Cu4	0	0	100
Tiron	0	89.2±10.3	10.8±10.3
Cu4 Sodium azide	0	92.3±7.1	7.7±7.1
Catalase	7.0±6.6	88.8±8.6	4.2±3.8
DMSO	0	0	100

^aData were obtained from Figure 6 for the Cu(II) complex. [*scDNA*] = 100 μM, [ascorbate] = 100 μM, and [Cu(II) complex] = 50 μM