

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

# Synthesis, characterization and magnetic properties of halogenated tetranuclear cubane-like nickel(II) complexes

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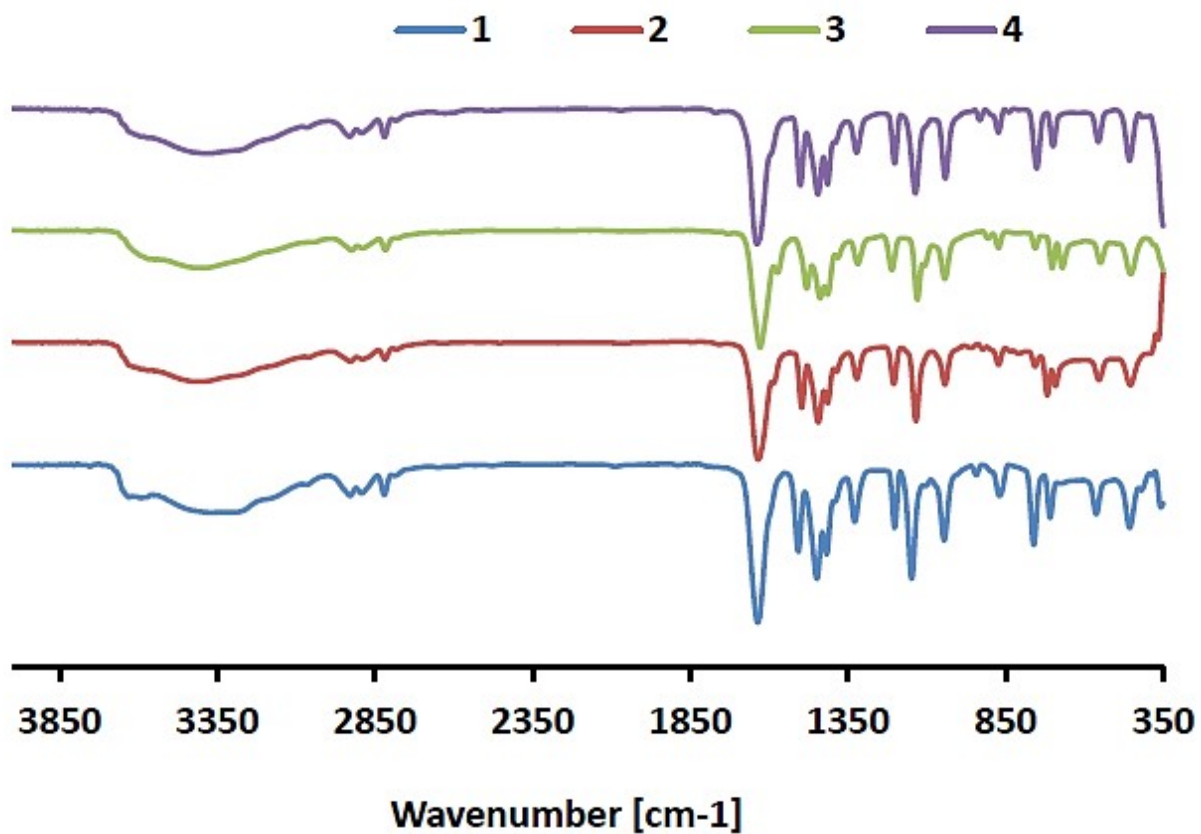
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**Figure S1.** FT-IR spectra of **1**, **2**, **3** and **4** complexes.

**Table S1.** Crystal data and structure refinement for **4**.

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Empirical formula	C <sub>36</sub> H <sub>40</sub> Br <sub>4</sub> Cl <sub>4</sub> Ni <sub>4</sub> O <sub>16</sub>
Formula weight	1424.96
Temperature (K)	302(2)
Wavelength (Å)	0.71073
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	P2 <sub>1</sub> /c
Unit cell dimensions (Å, °)	a = 17.1504(12) b = 18.4070(14) c = 15.3957(12) β = 90.952(3)
Volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )	4859.6(6)
Z	4
Calculated density (Mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	1.948
Absorption coefficient (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	5.099
F(000)	2816
Theta range for data collection (°)	2.848 to 24.999
Index ranges	-20 ≤ h ≤ 20 -21 ≤ k ≤ 21 -18 ≤ l ≤ 18
Reflections collected	93557
Independent reflections	8553 [R <sub>(int)</sub> = 0.1217]
Data Completeness (%)	99.9
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	8553 / 10 / 598
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.093
Final R indices [I > 2σ (I)]	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0628 wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1064
R indices (all data)	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.1160 wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1339
Largest diff. peak and hole (e.Å <sup>-3</sup> )	0.810 and -0.956
CCDC number	2311186

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**Table S2.** Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) for **4**.

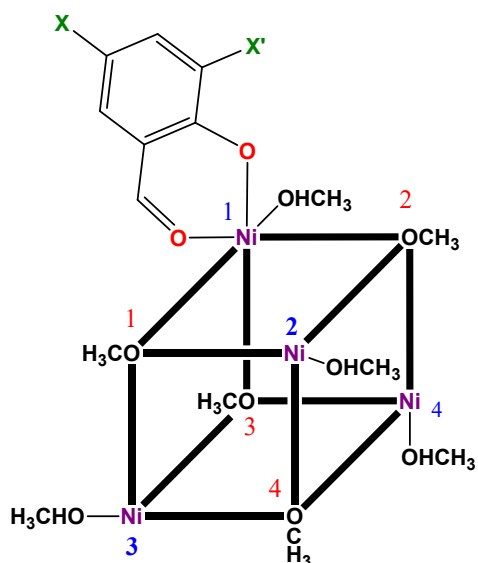
Ni(1)-O(1)	1.991(5)	O(10)-Ni(1)-O(9)	83.4(2)
Ni(1)-O(10)	2.030(5)	O(10)-Ni(1)-O(11)	82.2(2)
Ni(1)-O(2)	2.041(6)	O(9)-Ni(1)-O(11)	82.7(2)
Ni(1)-O(9)	2.049(5)	O(11)-Ni(2)-O(12)	83.7(2)
Ni(1)-O(11)	2.059(5)	O(11)-Ni(2)-O(10)	82.3(2)
Ni(1)-O(13)	2.113(6)	O(12)-Ni(2)-O(10)	82.9(2)
Ni(2)-O(3)	2.013(6)	O(9)-Ni(3)-O(11)	83.3(2)
Ni(2)-O(11)	2.031(5)	O(9)-Ni(3)-O(12)	81.1(2)
Ni(2)-O(12)	2.037(5)	O(11)-Ni(3)-O(12)	82.15(19)
Ni(2)-O(4)	2.043(6)	O(10)-Ni(4)-O(12)	83.3(2)
Ni(2)-O(10)	2.052(5)	O(12)-Ni(4)-O(9)	81.5(2)
Ni(2)-O(15)	2.153(6)	O(10)-Ni(4)-O(9)	83.3(2)
Ni(3)-O(5)	1.998(6)	Ni(3)-O(9)-Ni(1)	97.0(2)
Ni(3)-O(9)	2.029(5)	Ni(3)-O(9)-Ni(4)	99.0(2)
Ni(3)-O(6)	2.033(6)	Ni(4)-O(9)-Ni(1)	95.5(2)
Ni(3)-O(11)	2.057(5)	Ni(1)-O(10)-Ni(4)	96.5(2)
Ni(3)-O(12)	2.073(5)	Ni(1)-O(10)-Ni(2)	97.6(2)
Ni(3)-O(14)	2.127(6)	Ni(4)-O(10)-Ni(2)	96.2(2)
Ni(4)-O(7)	2.026(6)	Ni(2)-O(11)-Ni(3)	96.9(2)
Ni(4)-O(8)	2.033(6)	Ni(2)-O(11)-Ni(1)	97.4(2)
Ni(4)-O(10)	2.035(5)	Ni(3)-O(11)-Ni(1)	95.8(2)
Ni(4)-O(12)	2.037(5)	Ni(2)-O(12)-Ni(4)	96.6(2)
Ni(4)-O(9)	2.048(5)	Ni(2)-O(12)-Ni(3)	96.2(2)
Ni(4)-O(16)	2.087(7)	Ni(4)-O(12)-Ni(3)	97.9(2)
Ni(1)-Ni(2)	3.0724(16)		
Ni(1)-Ni(3)	3.0531(15)		
Ni(1)-Ni(4)	3.0332(15)		
Ni(2)-Ni(3)	3.0588(15)		
Ni(2)-Ni(4)	3.0407(15)		
Ni(3)-Ni(4)	3.1001(15)		

**Table S3.** Non-classical hydrogen bonds and other intermolecular interactions with distances shorter than the sum of van der Waals radii for **4**

D—H...A	D—H	H...A	D...A	D—H...A	Symmetry codes
C36—H36A...Cl2	0.96	2.69	3.543(13)	149	2-x, 1/2+y, 1/2-z
C17—H17...Br1	0.93	3.07	3.458(9)	107	2-x, 1-y, -z
C21—H21...H29B—C29	0.93, 0.96	2.30	3.585(13)	157, 110	1-x, -y, 1-z
C21—H21...H29A—C29	0.93, 0.96	2.51	3.585(13)	125, 96	1-x, -y, 1-z
C26—H26...H34A—C34	0.93, 0.96	2.59	3.645(13)	129, 94	1-x, -y, 1-z
C26—H26...H34B—C34	0.93, 0.96	2.51	3.645(13)	165, 99	1-x, -y, 1-z

**Table S4.** Comparison of experimental and theoretical structures for compound **4**.

	DFT	Experimental
Ni1-Ni2	3.110	3.072
Ni1-Ni3	3.039	3.053
Ni1-Ni4	3.041	3.033
Ni2-Ni3	3.042	3.059
Ni2-Ni4	3.039	3.041
Ni3-Ni4	3.108	3.100
Ni1-O9	2.061	2.049
Ni1-O10	2.048	2.030
Ni1-O11	2.053	2.058
Ni2-O10	2.053	2.052
Ni2-O11	2.049	2.031
Ni2-O12	2.059	2.037
Ni3-O9	2.047	2.029
Ni3-O11	2.059	2.058
Ni3-O12	2.054	2.073
Ni4-O9	2.056	2.048
Ni4-O10	2.058	2.034
Ni4-O12	2.047	2.038
Ni1-O10-Ni2	98.6	97.65
Ni1-O11-Ni2	98.6	97.41
Ni1-O9-Ni3	95.4	96.95
Ni1-O11-Ni3	95.3	95.76
Ni1-O9-Ni4	95.3	95.52
Ni1-O10-Ni4	95.6	96.53
Ni2-O11-Ni3	95.5	96.87
Ni2-O12-Ni3	95.4	96.16
Ni2-O10-Ni4	95.3	96.18
Ni2-O12-Ni4	95.5	96.51
Ni3-O9-Ni4	98.5	98.97
Ni3-O12-Ni4	98.5	97.87
Ni1-Ni2-Ni3-Ni4	69.3	69.56
O9-O10-O11-O12	67.7	68.96



**Figure S2.** Atom labeling for tables in Supporting Information

**Table S5.** Calculated magnetic coupling constants  $J$  for compounds **1-3**.

Compound 1		
	Distance (Å)	$J$ calc.(cm <sup>-1</sup> )
Ni1-Ni2	3.115	$J_1 = 6.58$
Ni1-Ni3	3.041	$J_2 = 13.08$
Ni1-Ni4	3.041	$J_3 = 13.46$
Ni2-Ni3	3.041	$J_4 = 13.47$
Ni2-Ni4	3.041	$J_5 = 13.15$
Ni3-Ni4	3.115	$J_6 = 6.73$
Compound 2		
	Distance (Å)	$J$ calc.(cm <sup>-1</sup> )
Ni1-Ni2	3.114	$J_1 = 6.87$
Ni1-Ni3	3.041	$J_2 = 12.92$
Ni1-Ni4	3.041	$J_3 = 13.28$
Ni2-Ni3	3.041	$J_4 = 13.18$
Ni2-Ni4	3.041	$J_5 = 12.95$
Ni3-Ni4	3.114	$J_6 = 6.88$
Compound 3		
	Distance (Å)	$J$ calc.(cm <sup>-1</sup> )
Ni1-Ni2	3.116	$J_1 = 7.74$
Ni1-Ni3	3.040	$J_2 = 13.10$
Ni1-Ni4	3.040	$J_3 = -6439.48$
Ni2-Ni3	3.040	$J_4 = 13.46$
Ni2-Ni4	3.040	$J_5 = 13.20$
Ni3-Ni4	3.116	$J_6 = 7.54$

**Table S6.** Calculated magnetic coupling constants  $J$  for compound **4** considering both optimized and experimental structures.

Compound <b>4</b>				
DFT Calculated			Experimental Values	
	Distance (Å)	$J$ DFT.(cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Distance (Å)	$J$ calc.(cm <sup>-1</sup> )
Ni1-Ni2	3.110	$J_1 = 7.45$	3.072	$J_1 = 12.06$
Ni1-Ni3	3.039	$J_2 = 12.88$	3.053	$J_2 = 12.56$
Ni1-Ni4	3.041	$J_3 = 12.95$	3.033	$J_3 = 14.01$
Ni2-Ni3	3.042	$J_4 = 12.86$	3.059	$J_4 = 12.30$
Ni2-Ni4	3.039	$J_5 = 12.99$	3.041	$J_5 = 13.58$
Ni3-Ni4	3.108	$J_6 = 7.74$	3.100	$J_6 = 8.53$

**Table S7.** Mulliken spin densities computed for the high spin configuration of the [Ni<sub>2</sub>] dimer model of compound **1**. See Figure S1 for labeling of atoms.

Atom Label <sup>a</sup>	Spin Density	Atom Label <sup>a</sup>	Spin Density
$J_1$			
Ni(1)	1.725	Ni(2)	1.725
O <sub>CH3O</sub> -(1)	0.105	O <sub>CH3O</sub> -(2)	0.105
O <sub>CH3O</sub> -(3)	0.052	O <sub>CH3O</sub> -(4)	0.052
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (1)	0.032	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (2)	0.032
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (1)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (1)	0.037
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (2)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (2)	0.037
$J_2$			
Ni(1)	1.724	Ni(3)	1.724
O <sub>CH3O</sub> -(1)	0.106	O <sub>CH3O</sub> -(2)	0.052
O <sub>CH3O</sub> -(3)	0.103	O <sub>CH3O</sub> -(4)	0.054
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (1)	0.032	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (3)	0.032
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (1)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (1)	0.037
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (3)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (3)	0.037
$J_3$			
Ni(1)	1.724	Ni(4)	1.724
O <sub>CH3O</sub> -(1)	0.054	O <sub>CH3O</sub> -(2)	0.103
O <sub>CH3O</sub> -(3)	0.106	O <sub>CH3O</sub> -(4)	0.052
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (1)	0.032	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (4)	0.032
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (1)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (1)	0.037
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (4)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (4)	0.037
$J_4$			
Ni(2)	1.724	Ni(3)	1.724
O <sub>CH3O</sub> -(1)	0.103	O <sub>CH3O</sub> -(2)	0.054
O <sub>CH3O</sub> -(3)	0.052	O <sub>CH3O</sub> -(4)	0.106
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (2)	0.032	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (3)	0.032
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (2)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (2)	0.037
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (3)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (3)	0.037
$J_5$			
Ni(2)	1.724	Ni(4)	1.724
O <sub>CH3O</sub> -(1)	0.052	O <sub>CH3O</sub> -(2)	0.106
O <sub>CH3O</sub> -(3)	0.054	O <sub>CH3O</sub> -(4)	0.103

O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (2)	0.032	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (4)	0.032
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (2)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (2)	0.037
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (4)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (4)	0.037
$J_6$			
Ni(3)	1.725	Ni(4)	1.725
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (1)	0.052	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (2)	0.052
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (3)	0.105	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (4)	0.105
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (3)	0.032	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (4)	0.032
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (3)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (3)	0.037
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (4)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (4)	0.037

<sup>a</sup>O<sub>CH3O-</sub>(X) methoxy(X), O<sub>CH3OH</sub>(X) methanol bonded to Ni(X), O<sub>aldehyde</sub>(X) aldehyde oxygen bonded to Ni(X), O<sub>phenoxy</sub>(X) phenoxy oxygen bonded to Ni(X).

**Table S8.** Mulliken spin densities computed for the high spin configuration of the [Ni<sub>2</sub>] dimer models of compound **2**. See Figure S1 for labeling of atoms.

Atom Label <sup>a</sup>	Spin Density	Atom Label <sup>a</sup>	Spin Density
$J_1$			
Ni(1)	1.724	Ni(2)	1.724
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (1)	0.106	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (2)	0.106
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (3)	0.052	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (4)	0.052
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (1)	0.032	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (2)	0.032
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (1)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (1)	0.036
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (2)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (2)	0.036
$J_2$			
Ni(1)	1.724	Ni(3)	1.724
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (1)	0.106	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (2)	0.052
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (3)	0.104	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (4)	0.055
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (1)	0.032	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (3)	0.032
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (1)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (1)	0.036
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (3)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (3)	0.036
$J_3$			
Ni(1)	1.724	Ni(4)	1.724
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (1)	0.055	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (2)	0.104
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (3)	0.106	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (4)	0.052
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (1)	0.032	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (4)	0.032
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (1)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (1)	0.036
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (4)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (4)	0.036
$J_4$			
Ni(2)	1.724	Ni(3)	1.724
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (1)	0.104	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (2)	0.055
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (3)	0.052	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (4)	0.106
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (2)	0.032	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (3)	0.032
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (2)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (2)	0.036
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (3)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (3)	0.036
$J_5$			
Ni(2)	1.724	Ni(4)	1.724
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (1)	0.052	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (2)	0.106
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (3)	0.055	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (4)	0.104



O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (2)	0.032	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (4)	0.032
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (2)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (2)	0.036
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (4)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (4)	0.036
$J_6$			
Ni(3)	1.724	Ni(4)	1.724
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (1)	0.052	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (2)	0.052
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (3)	0.106	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (4)	0.106
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (3)	0.032	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (4)	0.032
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (3)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (3)	0.036
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (4)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (4)	0.036

<sup>a</sup>O<sub>CH3O-</sub>(X) methoxy(X), O<sub>CH3OH</sub>(X) methanol bonded to Ni(X), O<sub>aldehyde</sub>(X) aldehyde oxygen bonded to Ni(X), O<sub>phenoxy</sub>(X) phenoxy oxygen bonded to Ni(X).

**Table S9.** Mulliken spin densities computed for the high spin configuration of the [Ni<sub>2</sub>] dimer models of compound **3**. See Figure S1 for labeling of atoms.

Atom Label <sup>a</sup>	Spin Density	Atom Label <sup>a</sup>	Spin Density
$J_1$			
Ni(1)	1.724	Ni(2)	1.724
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (1)	0.106	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (2)	0.106
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (3)	0.052	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (4)	0.052
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (1)	0.031	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (2)	0.031
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (1)	0.035	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (1)	0.035
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (2)	0.035	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (2)	0.035
$J_2$			
Ni(1)	1.723	Ni(3)	1.723
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (1)	0.106	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (2)	0.053
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (3)	0.104	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (4)	0.055
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (1)	0.032	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (3)	0.032
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (1)	0.035	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (1)	0.036
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (3)	0.035	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (3)	0.036
$J_3$			
Ni(1)	1.742	Ni(4)	-0.012
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (1)	0.060	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (2)	0.037
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (3)	0.010	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (4)	0.063
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (1)	0.034	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (4)	-0.025
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (1)	0.276	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (1)	0.315
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (4)	-0.009	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (4)	0.043
$J_4$			
Ni(2)	1.723	Ni(3)	1.723
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (1)	0.104	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (2)	0.055
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (3)	0.052	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (4)	0.106
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (2)	0.032	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (3)	0.032
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (2)	0.035	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (2)	0.036
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (3)	0.035	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (3)	0.036
$J_5$			
Ni(2)	1.723	Ni(4)	1.723
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (1)	0.052	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (2)	0.106
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (3)	0.055	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (4)	0.104

O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (2)	0.032	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (4)	0.032
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (2)	0.035	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (2)	0.036
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (4)	0.035	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (4)	0.036
$J_6$			
Ni(3)	1.724	Ni(4)	1.724
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (1)	0.052	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (2)	0.052
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (3)	0.106	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (4)	0.106
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (3)	0.031	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (4)	0.031
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (3)	0.035	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (3)	0.035
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (4)	0.035	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (4)	0.035

<sup>a</sup>O<sub>CH3O-</sub>(X) methoxy(X), O<sub>CH3OH</sub>(X) methanol bonded to Ni(X), O<sub>aldehyde</sub>(X) aldehyde oxygen bonded to Ni(X), O<sub>phenoxy</sub>(X) phenoxy oxygen bonded to Ni(X).

**Table S10.** Mulliken spin densities computed for the high spin configuration of the optimized structure of [Ni<sub>2</sub>] dimer models of compound **4**. See Figure S1 for labeling of atoms.

Atom Label <sup>a</sup>	Spin Density	Atom Label <sup>a</sup>	Spin Density
$J_1$			
Ni(1)	1.724	Ni(2)	1.724
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (1)	0.106	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (2)	0.106
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (3)	0.052	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (4)	0.052
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (1)	0.032	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (2)	0.032
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (1)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (1)	0.036
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (2)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (2)	0.036
$J_2$			
Ni(1)	1.723	Ni(3)	1.723
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (1)	0.106	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (2)	0.052
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (3)	0.103	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (4)	0.055
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (1)	0.032	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (3)	0.032
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (1)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (1)	0.036
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (3)	0.035	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (3)	0.036
$J_3$			
Ni(1)	1.723	Ni(4)	1.723
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (1)	0.055	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (2)	0.104
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (3)	0.106	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (4)	0.052
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (1)	0.032	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (4)	0.032
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (1)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (1)	0.036
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (4)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (4)	0.037
$J_4$			
Ni(2)	1.724	Ni(3)	1.723
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (1)	0.103	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (2)	0.055
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (3)	0.052	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (4)	0.106
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (2)	0.032	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (3)	0.032
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (2)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (2)	0.034
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (3)	0.035	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (3)	0.036
$J_5$			
Ni(2)	1.723	Ni(4)	1.724
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (1)	0.052	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (2)	0.106
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (3)	0.054	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (4)	0.103

O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (2)	0.032	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (4)	0.032
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (2)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (2)	0.036
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (4)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (4)	0.037
$J_6$			
Ni(3)	1.723	Ni(4)	1.724
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (1)	0.052	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (2)	0.052
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (3)	0.106	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (4)	0.106
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (3)	0.032	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (4)	0.032
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (3)	0.035	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (3)	0.036
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (4)	0.034	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (4)	0.036

<sup>a</sup>O<sub>CH3O-</sub>(X) methoxy(X), O<sub>CH3OH</sub>(X) methanol bonded to Ni(X), O<sub>aldehyde</sub>(X) aldehyde oxygen bonded to Ni(X), O<sub>phenoxy</sub>(X) phenoxy oxygen bonded to Ni(X).

**Table S11.** Mulliken spin densities computed for the high spin configuration of the experimental structure of [Ni<sub>2</sub>] dimer models of compound **4**. See Figure S1 for labeling of atoms.

Atom Label <sup>a</sup>	Spin Density	Atom Label <sup>a</sup>	Spin Density
$J_1$			
Ni(1)	1.722	Ni(2)	1.720
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (1)	0.114	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (2)	0.113
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (3)	0.055	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (4)	0.056
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (1)	0.021	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (2)	0.019
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (1)	0.038	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (1)	0.039
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (2)	0.038	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (2)	0.037
$J_2$			
Ni(1)	1.723	Ni(3)	1.726
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (1)	0.110	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (2)	0.054
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (3)	0.110	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (4)	0.056
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (1)	0.021	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (3)	0.022
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (1)	0.037	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (1)	0.039
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (3)	0.036	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (3)	0.040
$J_3$			
Ni(1)	1.722	Ni(4)	1.722
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (1)	0.059	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (2)	0.109
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (3)	0.113	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (4)	0.054
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (1)	0.021	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (4)	0.023
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (1)	0.038	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (1)	0.039
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (4)	0.036	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (4)	0.040
$J_4$			
Ni(2)	1.721	Ni(3)	1.725
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (1)	0.108	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (2)	0.060
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (3)	0.056	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (4)	0.111
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (2)	0.019	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (3)	0.022
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (2)	0.038	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (2)	0.037
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (3)	0.036	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (3)	0.040
$J_5$			
Ni(2)	1.720	Ni(4)	1.722
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (1)	0.056	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (2)	0.114
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (3)	0.060	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (4)	0.109

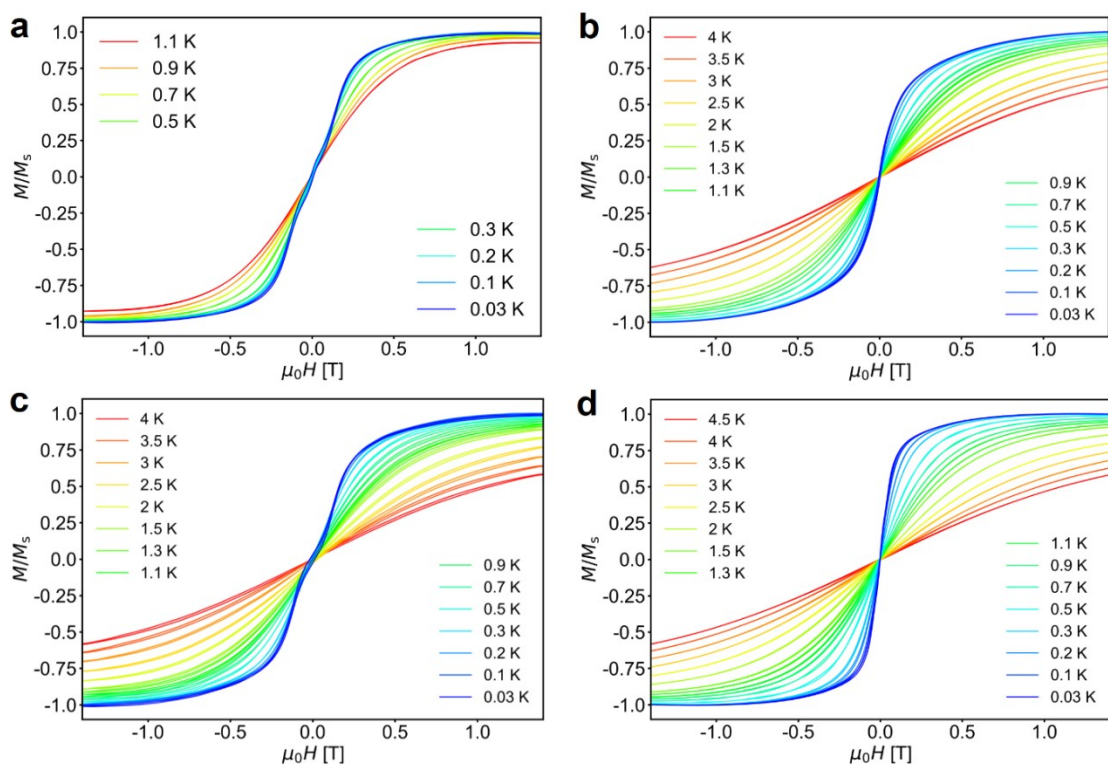
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (2)	0.019	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (4)	0.023
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (2)	0.037	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (2)	0.037
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (4)	0.037	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (4)	0.040
$J_6$			
Ni(3)	1.726	Ni(4)	1.723
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (1)	0.053	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (2)	0.055
O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (3)	0.115	O <sub>CH3O-</sub> (4)	0.109
O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (3)	0.022	O <sub>CH3OH</sub> (4)	0.023
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (3)	0.037	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (3)	0.040
O <sub>aldehyde</sub> (4)	0.037	O <sub>phenoxy</sub> (4)	0.040

<sup>a</sup>O<sub>CH3O-</sub>(X) methoxy(X), O<sub>CH3OH</sub>(X) methanol bonded to Ni(X), O<sub>aldehyde</sub>(X) aldehyde oxygen bonded to Ni(X), O<sub>phenoxy</sub>(X) phenoxy oxygen bonded to Ni(X).

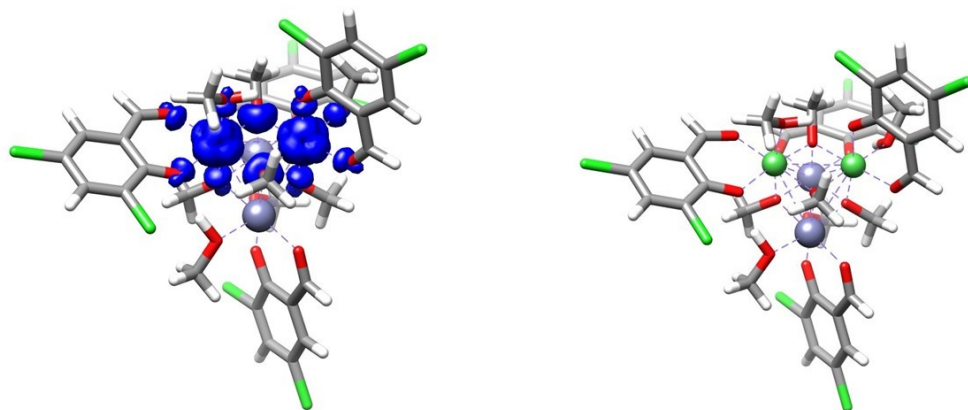
**Table S12.** Orbital contributions (%) to the spin densities

Orbital contributions to the spin densities, $J_1$					
	1	2	3	4opt.	4exp.
Ni(1)dz2	21.28	21.31	21.31	12.97	14.48
Ni(1)dx2-y2	3.42	3.73	4.07	18.25	19.01
Ni(1)dxy	18.10	17.80	17.46	0.27	0.22
Ni(2)dz2	21.28	21.31	21.31	14.98	14.29
Ni(2)dx2-y2	3.42	3.73	4.07	18.52	18.54
Ni(2)dxy	18.09	17.80	17.46	1.31	1.21
Orbital contributions to the spin densities, $J_2$					
	1	2	3	4opt.	4exp.
Ni(1)dz2	21.30	21.33	21.33	12.98	14.50
Ni(1)dx2-y2	3.42	3.72	4.06	18.27	19.04
Ni(1)dxy	18.07	17.78	17.44	0.27	0.22
Ni(3)dz2	21.30	21.33	21.33	15.30	15.77
Ni(3)dx2-y2	3.44	3.74	4.09	19.16	18.73
Ni(3)dxy	18.05	17.76	17.41	0.25	0.63
Orbital contributions to the spin densities, $J_3$					
	1	2	3	4opt.	4exp.
Ni(1)dz2	21.30	21.33	21.02	12.97	14.48
Ni(1)dx2-y2	3.44	3.74	4.90	18.24	19.00
Ni(1)dxy	18.05	17.76	17.32	0.27	0.22
Ni(4)dz2	21.30	21.33	-6.74	12.68	13.25
Ni(4)dx2-y2	3.42	3.72	1.25	17.35	18.09
Ni(4)dxy	18.07	17.78	5.36	1.24	0.44
Orbital contributions to the spin densities, $J_4$					
	1	2	3	4opt.	4exp.
Ni(2)dz2	21.30	21.33	21.33	14.95	14.25
Ni(2)dx2-y2	3.43	3.74	4.09	18.54	18.58
Ni(2)dxy	18.06	17.76	17.42	1.30	1.19

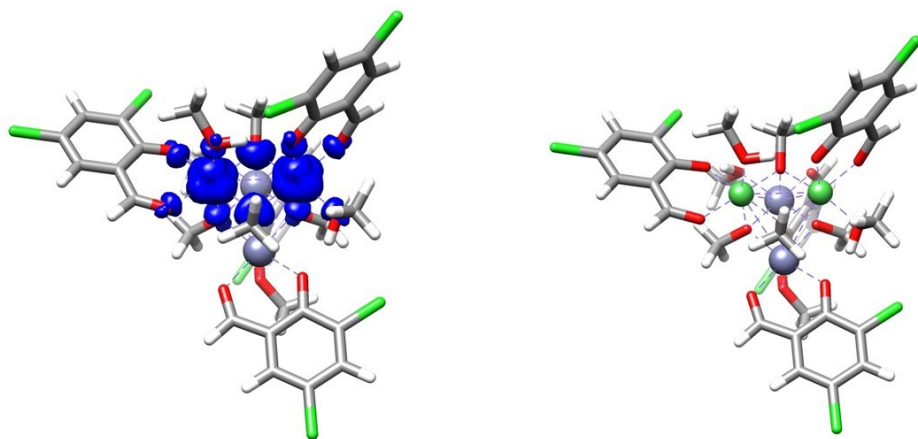
Ni(3)dz2	21.306	21.33	21.33	15.32	15.77
Ni(3)dx2-y2	3.41	3.72	4.07	19.15	18.72
Ni(3)dxy	18.08	17.78	17.43	0.25	0.64
Orbital contributions to the spin densities, $J_5$					
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4opt.</b>	<b>4exp.</b>
Ni(2)dz2	21.30	21.33	21.33	14.93	15.82
Ni(2)dx2-y2	3.42	3.72	4.06	18.53	18.74
Ni(2)dxy	18.07	17.78	17.44	1.31	0.63
Ni(4)dz2	21.30	21.33	21.33	12.67	13.22
Ni(4)dx2-y2	3.44	3.74	4.09	17.37	18.10
Ni(4)dxy	18.05	17.75	17.41	1.26	0.46
Orbital contributions to the spin densities, $J_6$					
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4opt.</b>	<b>4exp.</b>
Ni(3)dz2	21.28	21.31	21.31	15.34	15.82
Ni(3)dx2-y2	3.42	3.73	4.08	19.16	18.74
Ni(3)dxy	18.10	17.80	17.46	0.24	0.63
Ni(4)dz2	21.28	21.31	21.31	12.66	13.22
Ni(4)dx2-y2	3.42	3.73	4.07	17.35	18.10
Ni(4)dxy	18.10	17.80	17.46	1.26	0.46



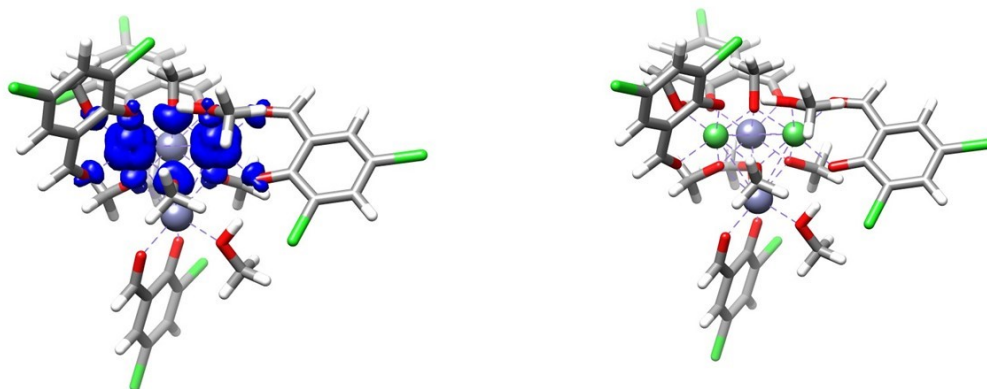
**Figure S3.**  $M(H)$  loops for a micron-sized single crystal of complexes (a) 1; (b) 2; (c) 3 and (d) 4, measured by  $\mu$ -SQUID at a field sweep rate = 8 mT/s and different bath temperatures.



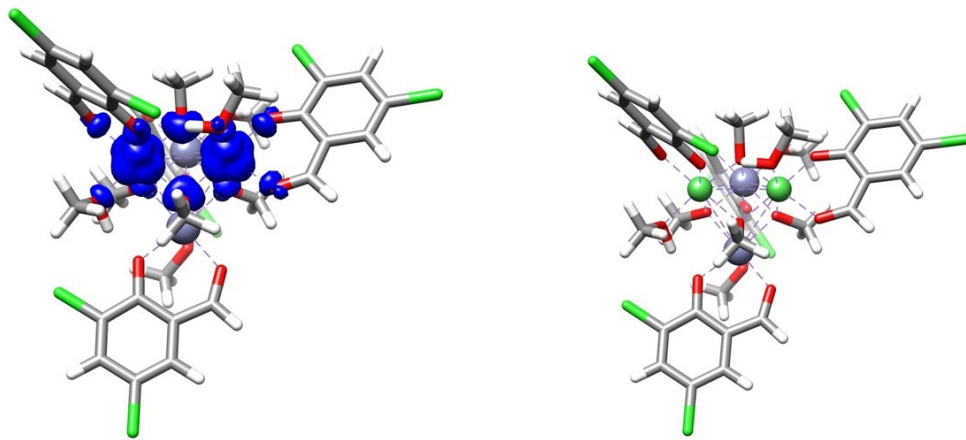
**Figure S4.** Graphical representation of the spin density (contour 0.004 e Å<sup>-3</sup>) at the ground-state (high-spin) configuration (left) and theoretical model used (right) of compound **1**, J<sub>2</sub>.



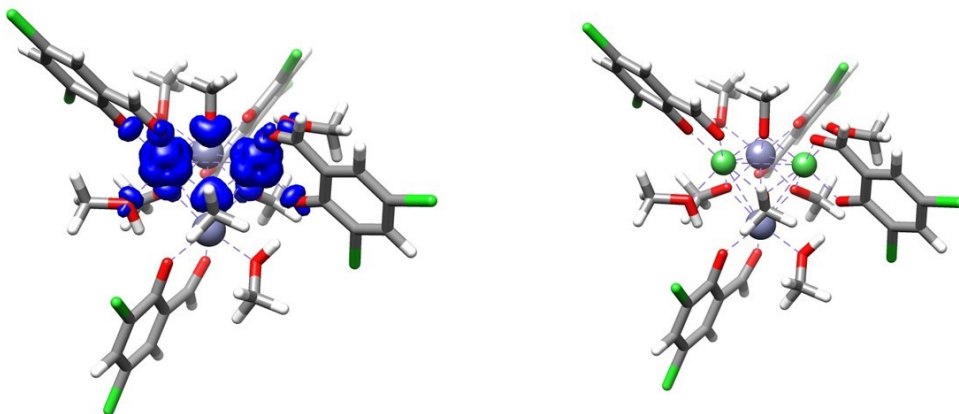
**Figure S5.** Graphical representation of the spin density (contour 0.004 e Å<sup>-3</sup>) at the ground-state (high-spin) configuration (left) and theoretical model used (right) of compound **1**, J<sub>3</sub>.



**Figure S6.** Graphical representation of the spin density (contour 0.004 e Å<sup>-3</sup>) at the ground-state (high-spin) configuration (left) and theoretical model used (right) of compound **1**,  $J_4$ .



**Figure S7.** Graphical representation of the spin density (contour 0.004 e Å<sup>-3</sup>) at the ground-state (high-spin) configuration (left) and theoretical model used (right) of compound **1**,  $J_5$ .



**Figure S8.** Graphical representation of the spin density (contour 0.004 e Å<sup>-3</sup>) at the ground-state (high-spin) configuration (left) and theoretical model used (right) of compound **1**,  $J_6$ .