

Anticancer potential of copper(I) complexes based on isopropyl ester derivatives of bis(pyrazol-1-yl)acetate ligands

Maura Pellei,^a Carlo Santini,^{a*} Miriam Caviglia,^a Jo' Del Gobbo,^a Chiara Battocchio,^b Carlo Meneghini,^b Simone Amatori,^b Chiara Donati,^c Eleonora Zampieri,^c Valentina Gandin^{c*} Cristina Marzano,^c

^aSchool of Science and Technology, Chemistry Division, University of Camerino, via Madonna delle Carceri (ChIP), 62032 Camerino, Italy

^bDepartment of Science, Roma Tre University, Via della Vasca Navale 79, 00146 Roma, Italy

^cDepartment of Pharmaceutical and Pharmacological Sciences, University of Padova, via Marzolo 5, 35131 Padova, Italy

*Correspondence: carlo.santini@unicam.it; valentina.gandin@unipd.it;

Supplementary material

Table of Contents:

- Figure S1.** FT-IR spectrum of $\text{HC}(\text{pz})_2\text{COO}^{\text{iPr}}$ ($\text{L}^{\text{O}^{\text{iPr}}}$).
- Figure S2.** ^1H -NMR spectrum of $\text{HC}(\text{pz})_2\text{COO}^{\text{iPr}}$ ($\text{L}^{\text{O}^{\text{iPr}}}$) in CD_3CN .
- Figure S3.** $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ -NMR spectrum of $\text{HC}(\text{pz})_2\text{COO}^{\text{iPr}}$ ($\text{L}^{\text{O}^{\text{iPr}}}$) in CD_3CN .
- Figure S4.** FT-IR spectrum of $\text{HC}(3,5\text{-Me}_2\text{pz})_2\text{CH}(\text{COO}^{\text{iPr}})$ ($\text{L}^{2\text{O}^{\text{iPr}}}$).
- Figure S5.** ^1H -NMR spectrum of $\text{HC}(3,5\text{-Me}_2\text{pz})_2\text{CH}(\text{COO}^{\text{iPr}})$ ($\text{L}^{2\text{O}^{\text{iPr}}}$) in CDCl_3 .
- Figure S6.** $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ -NMR spectrum of $\text{HC}(3,5\text{-Me}_2\text{pz})_2\text{CH}(\text{COO}^{\text{iPr}})$ ($\text{L}^{2\text{O}^{\text{iPr}}}$) in CDCl_3 .
- Figure S7.** FT-IR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{O}^{\text{iPr}}})(\text{PPh}_3)]\text{PF}_6$ (**1**).
- Figure S8.** ^1H -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{O}^{\text{iPr}}})(\text{PPh}_3)]\text{PF}_6$ (**1**) in CD_3CN .
- Figure S9.** ^1H -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{O}^{\text{iPr}}})(\text{PPh}_3)]\text{PF}_6$ (**1**) in CDCl_3 .
- Figure S10.** $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{O}^{\text{iPr}}})(\text{PPh}_3)]\text{PF}_6$ (**1**) in CD_3CN .
- Figure S11.** $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{O}^{\text{iPr}}})(\text{PPh}_3)]\text{PF}_6$ (**1**) in CD_3CN at 293K.
- Figure S12.** $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{O}^{\text{iPr}}})(\text{PPh}_3)]\text{PF}_6$ (**1**) in CD_3CN at 243K.
- Figure S13.** ESI-MS(+) spectrum in CH_3CN of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{O}^{\text{iPr}}})(\text{PPh}_3)]\text{PF}_6$ (**1**).
- Figure S14.** FT-IR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{O}^{\text{iPr}}})(\text{PTA})]\text{PF}_6$ (**2**).
- Figure S15.** ^1H -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{O}^{\text{iPr}}})(\text{PTA})]\text{PF}_6$ (**2**) in CD_3CN .
- Figure S16.** ^1H -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{O}^{\text{iPr}}})(\text{PTA})]\text{PF}_6$ (**2**) in CD_3OD .
- Figure S17.** $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{O}^{\text{iPr}}})(\text{PTA})]\text{PF}_6$ (**2**) in CD_3CN .
- Figure S18.** $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{O}^{\text{iPr}}})(\text{PTA})]\text{PF}_6$ (**2**) in CD_3CN at 293K.
- Figure S19.** $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{O}^{\text{iPr}}})(\text{PTA})]\text{PF}_6$ (**2**) in CD_3CN at 243K.

Figure S20. ESI-MS(+) spectrum in CH₃CN of [Cu(L^{OiPr})(PTA)]PF₆ (**2**).

Figure S21. FT-IR spectrum of [Cu(L^{2OiPr})(PPh₃)]PF₆ (**3**).

Figure S22. ¹H-NMR spectrum of [Cu(L^{2OiPr})(PPh₃)]PF₆ (**3**) in CD₃CN.

Figure S23. ¹H-NMR spectrum of [Cu(L^{2OiPr})(PPh₃)]PF₆ (**3**) in CDCl₃.

Figure S24. ¹³C{¹H}-NMR spectrum of [Cu(L^{2OiPr})(PPh₃)]PF₆ (**3**) in CD₃CN.

Figure S25. ³¹P{¹H}-NMR spectrum of [Cu(L^{2OiPr})(PPh₃)]PF₆ (**3**) in CD₃CN at 293K.

Figure S26. ³¹P{¹H}-NMR spectrum of [Cu(L^{2OiPr})(PPh₃)]PF₆ (**3**) in CD₃CN at 243K.

Figure S27. ESI-MS(+) spectrum of [Cu(L^{2OiPr})(PPh₃)]PF₆ (**3**).

Figure S28. FT-IR spectrum of [Cu(L^{2OiPr})(PTA)]PF₆ (**4**).

Figure S29. ¹H-NMR spectrum of [Cu(L^{2OiPr})(PTA)]PF₆ (**4**) in DMSO-d₆.

Figure S30. ¹H-NMR spectrum of [Cu(L^{2OiPr})(PTA)]PF₆ (**4**) in CD₃CN.

Figure S31. ¹³C{¹H}-NMR spectrum of [Cu(L^{2OiPr})(PTA)]PF₆ (**4**) in CD₃CN.

Figure S32. ³¹P{¹H}-NMR spectrum of [Cu(L^{2OiPr})(PTA)]PF₆ (**4**) in CD₃CN at 293K.

Figure S33. ³¹P{¹H}-NMR spectrum of [Cu(L^{2OiPr})(PTA)]PF₆ (**4**) in CD₃CN at 243K.

Figure S34. ESI-MS(+) spectrum in CH₃CN of [Cu(L^{2OiPr})(PTA)]PF₆ (**4**).

Figure S35. Stability studies by ¹H-NMR.

Table S1. XPS data (BE, FWHM, experimental and theoretical atomic ratios and proposed assignments) collected on complex (**3**).

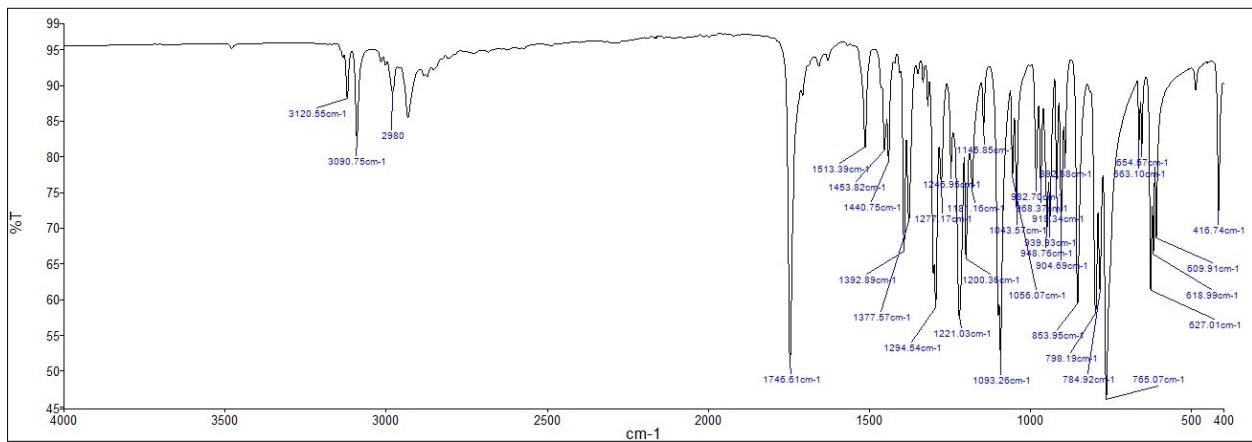


Figure S1. FT-IR spectrum of $\text{HC}(\text{pz})_2\text{COO}^+\text{Pr} (\text{L}^+\text{O}^+\text{Pr}^-)$.

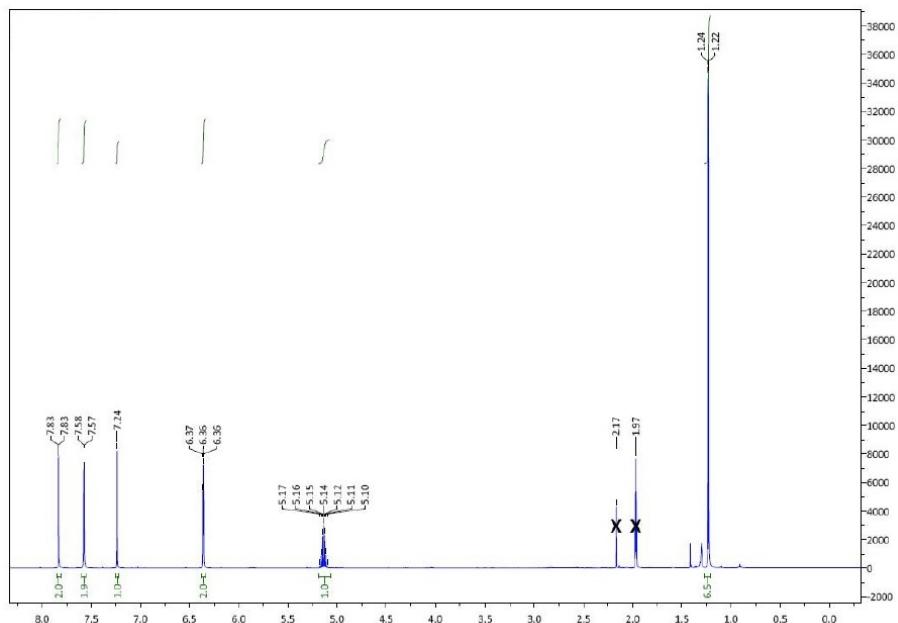


Figure S2. ^1H -NMR spectrum of $\text{HC}(\text{pz})_2\text{COO}^+\text{Pr} (\text{L}^+\text{O}^+\text{Pr}^-)$ in CD_3CN .

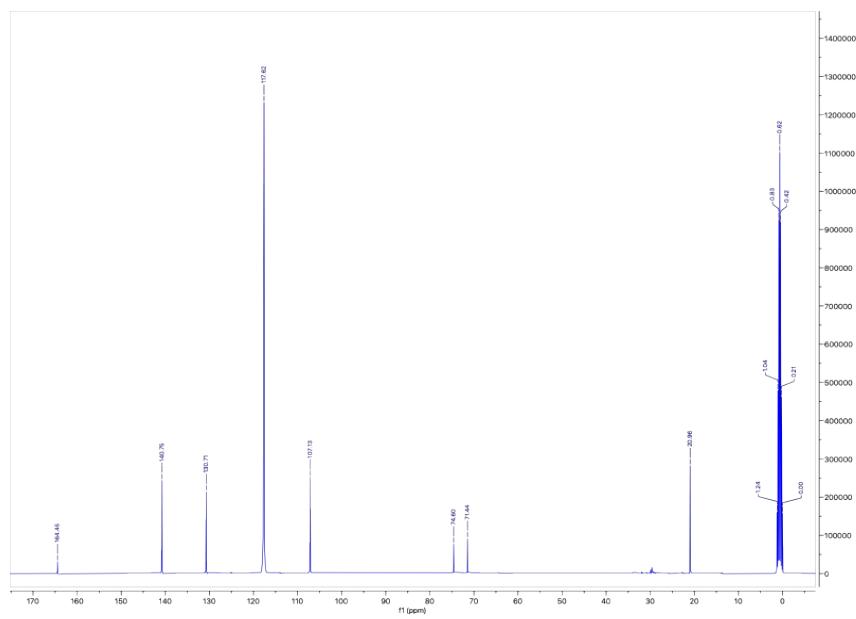


Figure S3. $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ -NMR spectrum of $\text{HC}(\text{pz})_2\text{COO}^{\text{iPr}}$ (L^{Oipr}) in CD_3CN .

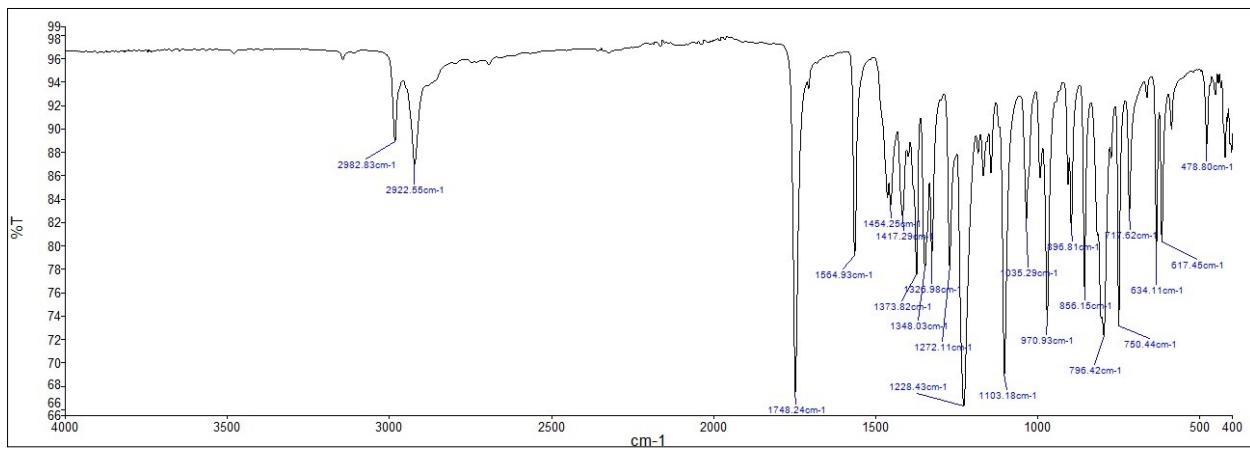


Figure S4. FT-IR spectrum of $\text{HC}(3,5\text{-Me}_2\text{pz})_2\text{CH}(\text{COO}^{\text{iPr}})$ ($\text{L}^{20\text{ipr}}$).

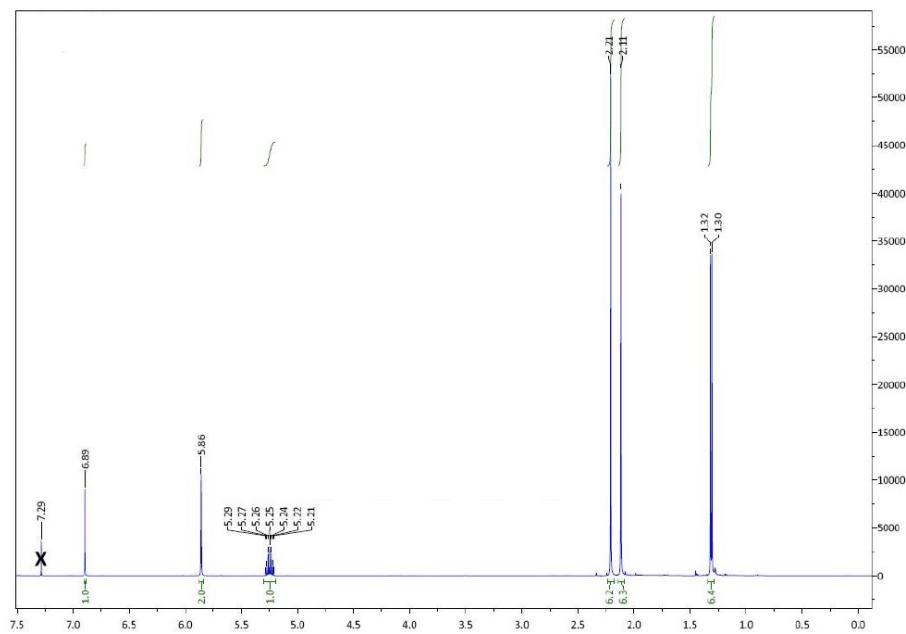


Figure S5. ^1H -NMR spectrum of $\text{HC}(3,5\text{-Me}_2\text{pz})_2\text{CH}(\text{COO}^{\text{i}}\text{Pr})$ ($\text{L}^2\text{O}^{\text{i}}\text{Pr}$) in CDCl_3 .

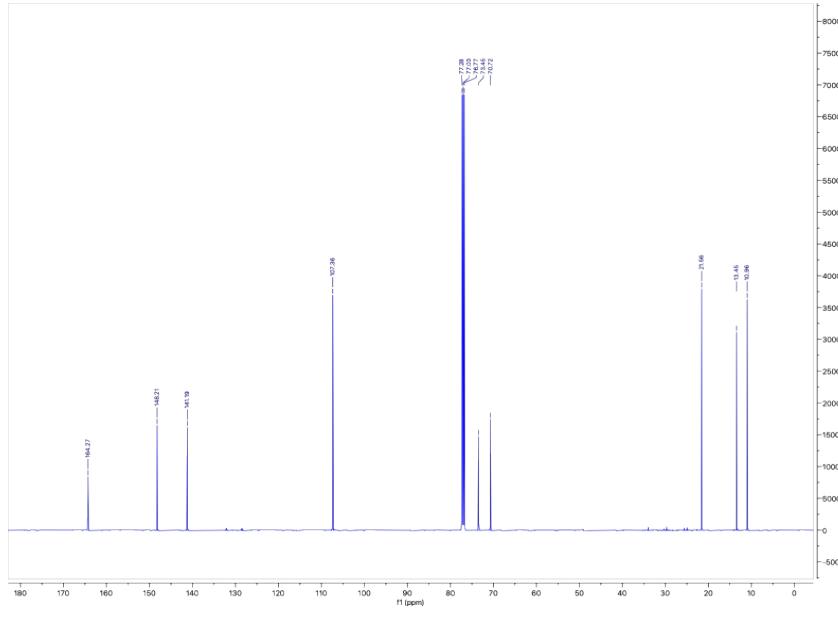


Figure S6. $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$ -NMR spectrum of $\text{HC}(3,5\text{-Me}_2\text{pz})_2\text{CH}(\text{COO}^{\text{i}}\text{Pr})$ ($\text{L}^2\text{O}^{\text{i}}\text{Pr}$) in CDCl_3 .

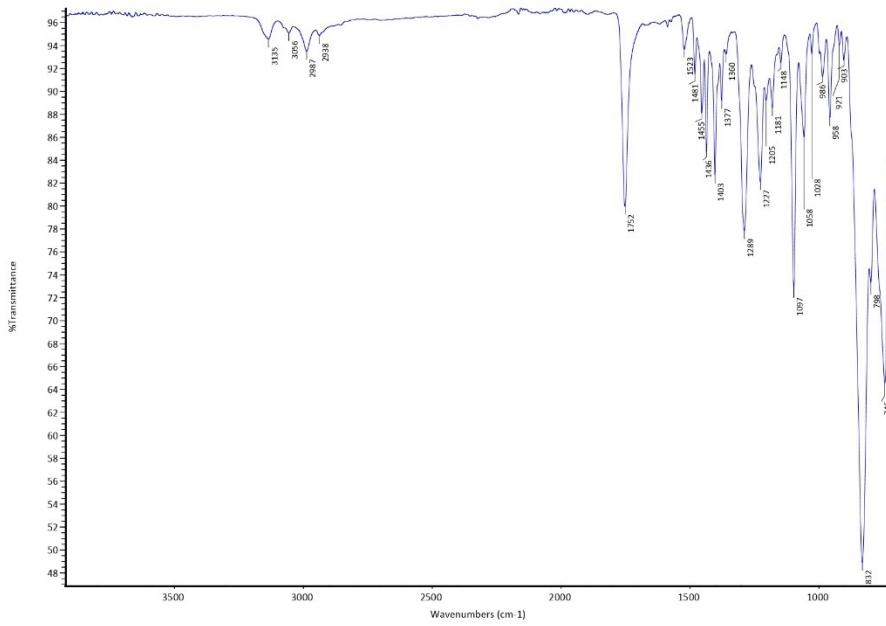


Figure S7. FT-IR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{OIPr}})(\text{PPh}_3)]\text{PF}_6$ (**1**).

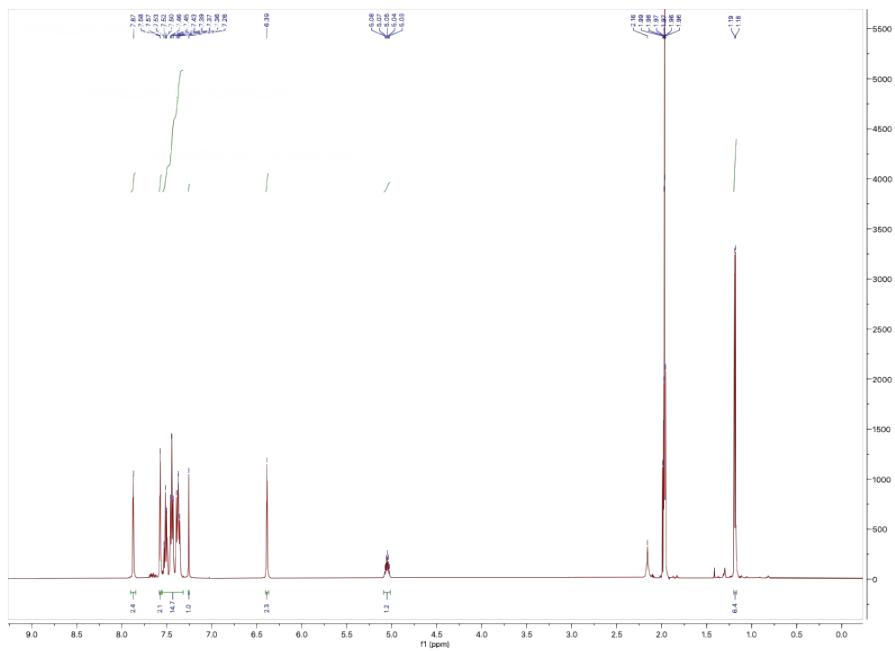


Figure S8. ¹H-NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{OIPr}})(\text{PPh}_3)]\text{PF}_6$ (**1**) in CD₃CN.

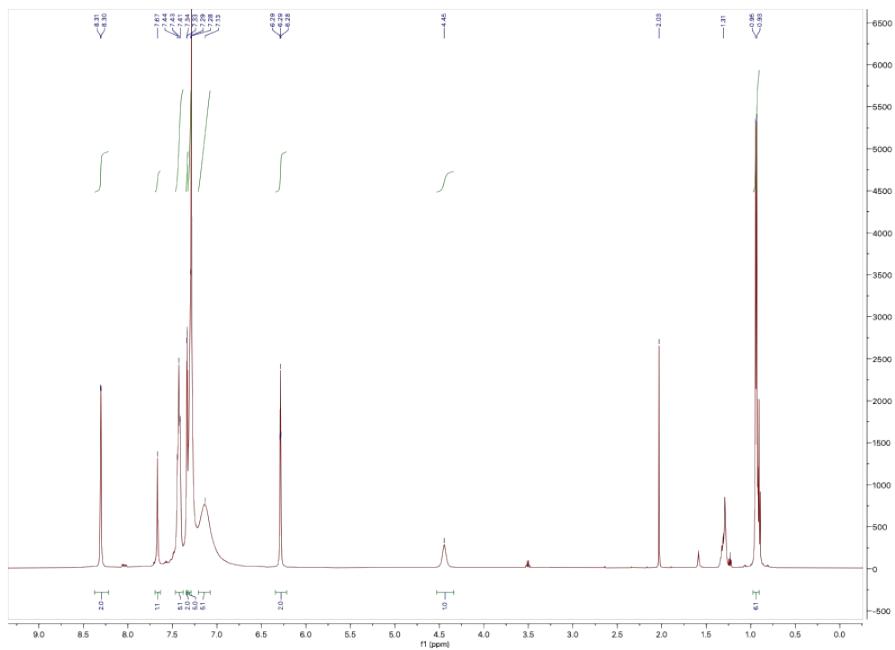


Figure S9. ^1H -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{O}i\text{Pr}})(\text{PPh}_3)]\text{PF}_6$ (**1**) in CDCl_3 .

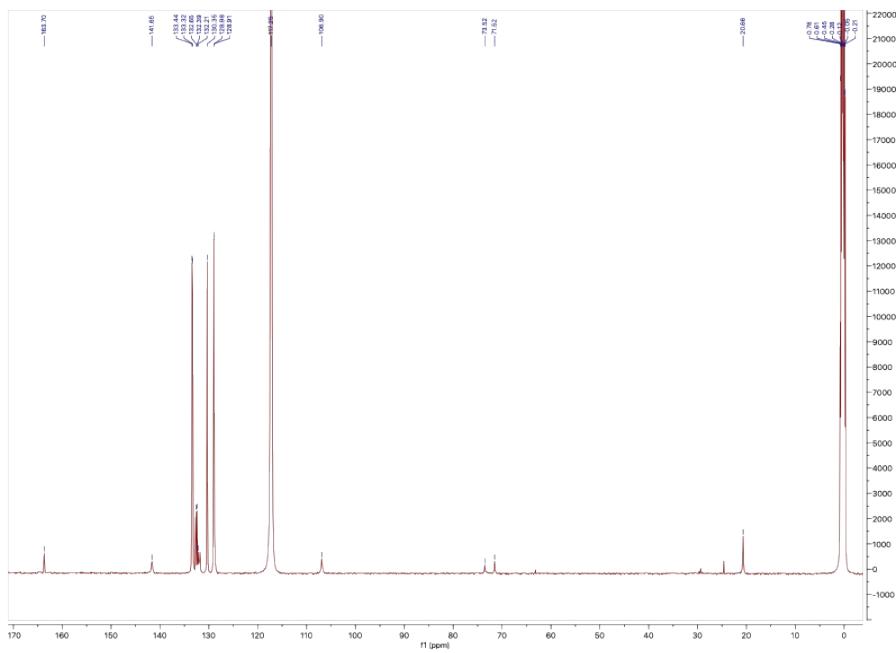


Figure S10. $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{O}i\text{Pr}})(\text{PPh}_3)]\text{PF}_6$ (**1**) in CD_3CN .

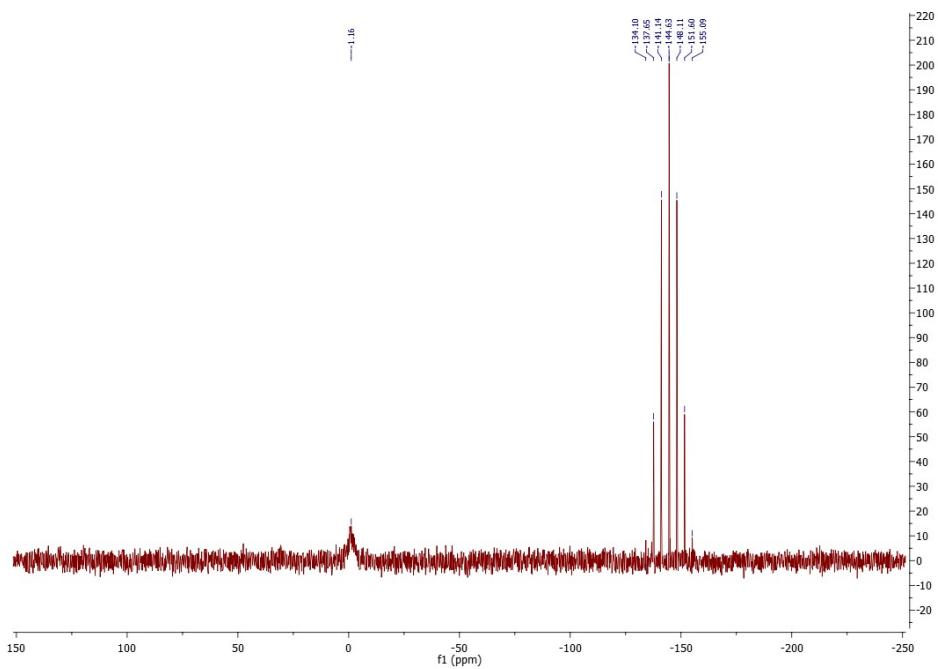


Figure S11. $^{31}\text{P}\{\text{H}\}$ -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{O}i\text{Pr}})(\text{PPh}_3)]\text{PF}_6$ (**1**) in CD_3CN at 293K.

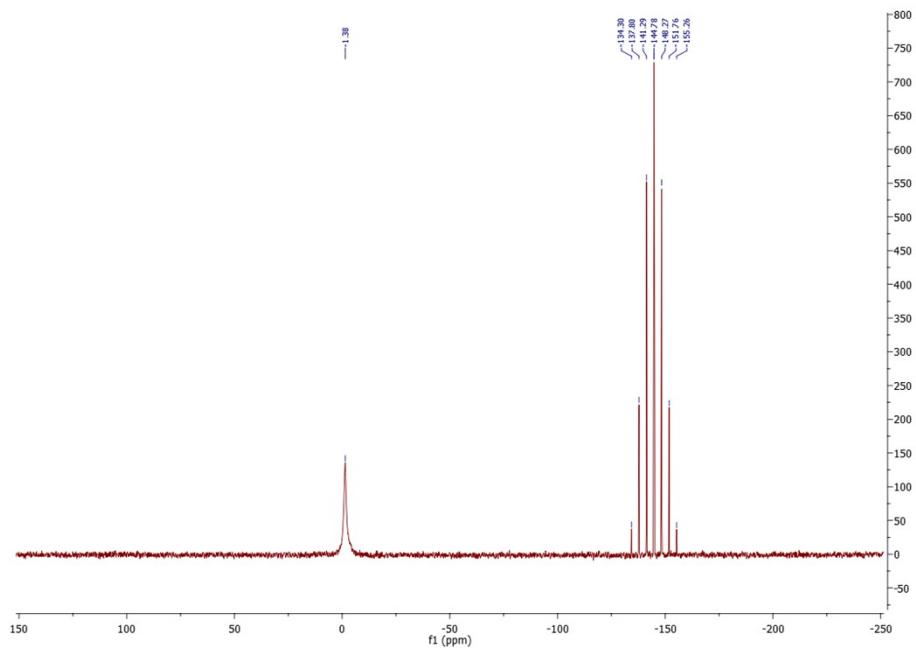


Figure S12. $^{31}\text{P}\{\text{H}\}$ -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{O}i\text{Pr}})(\text{PPh}_3)]\text{PF}_6$ (**1**) in CD_3CN at 243K.

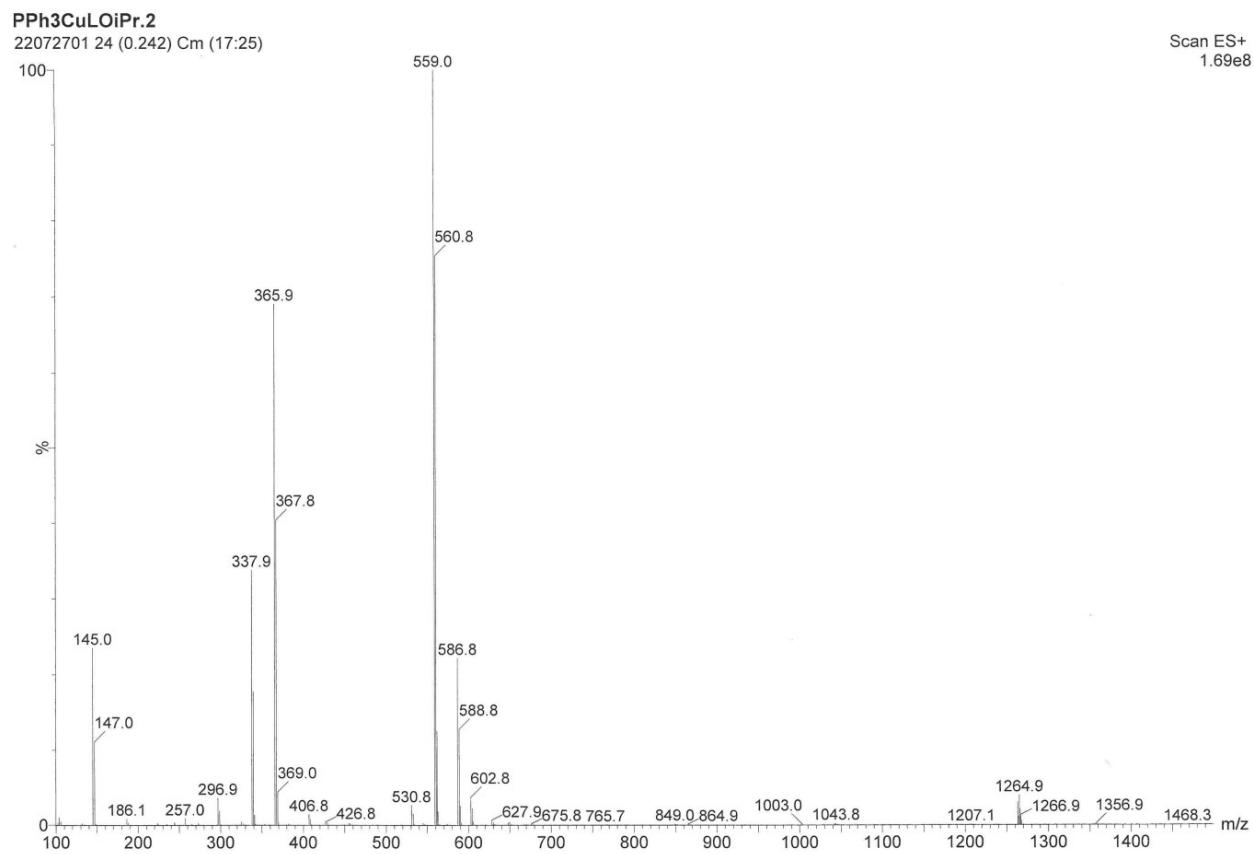


Figure S13. ESI-MS(+) spectrum in CH₃CN of [Cu(L^{OiPr})(PPh₃)]PF₆ (**1**).

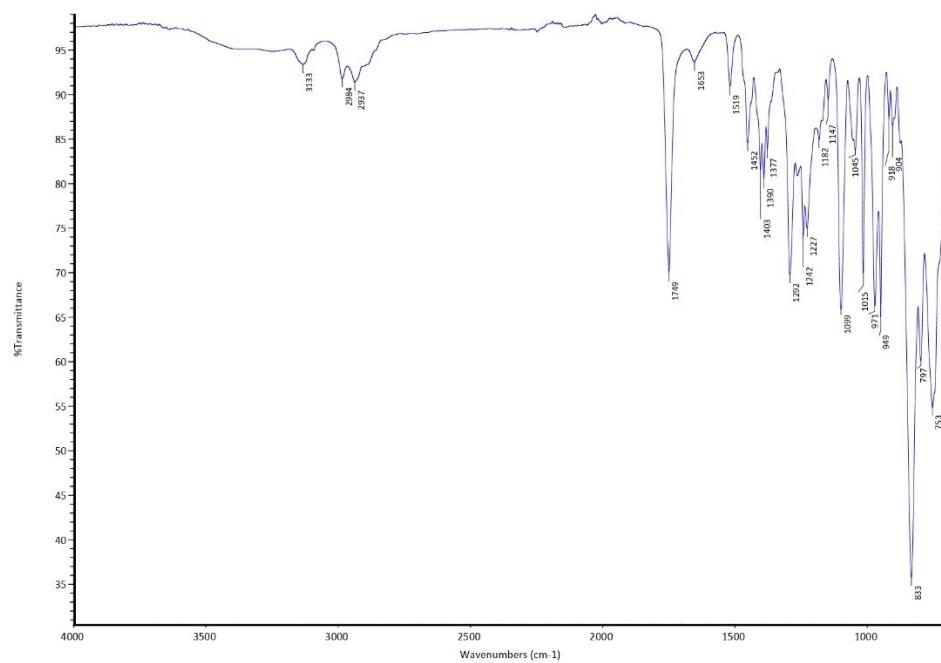


Figure S14. FT-IR spectrum of [Cu(L^{OiPr})(PTA)]PF₆ (**2**).

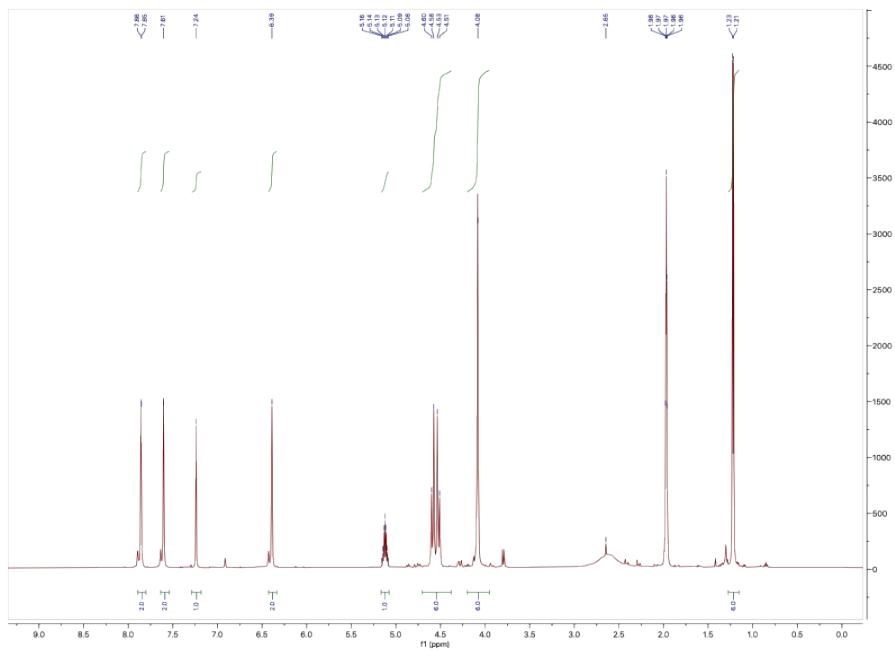


Figure S15. ^1H -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{O}i\text{Pr}})(\text{PTA})]\text{PF}_6$ (**2**) in CD_3CN .

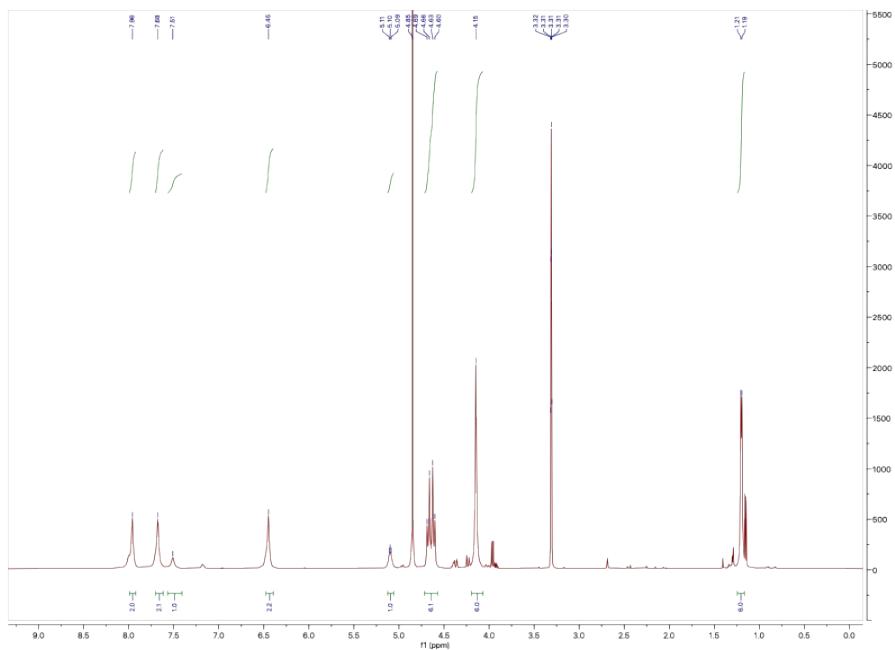


Figure S16. ^1H -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{O}i\text{Pr}})(\text{PTA})]\text{PF}_6$ (**2**) in CD_3OD .

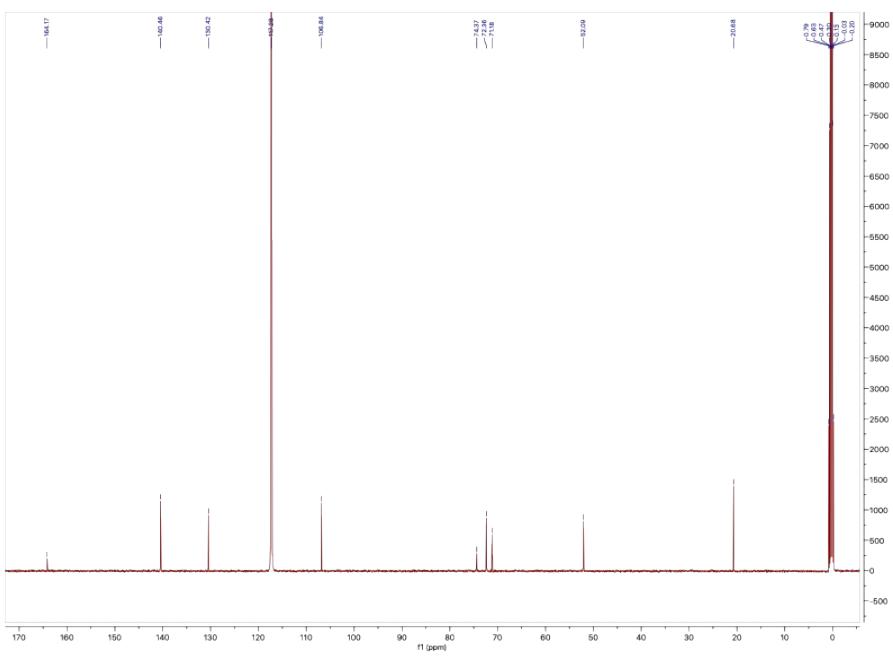


Figure S17. $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$ -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{O}i\text{Pr}})(\text{PTA})]\text{PF}_6$ (**2**) in CD_3CN .

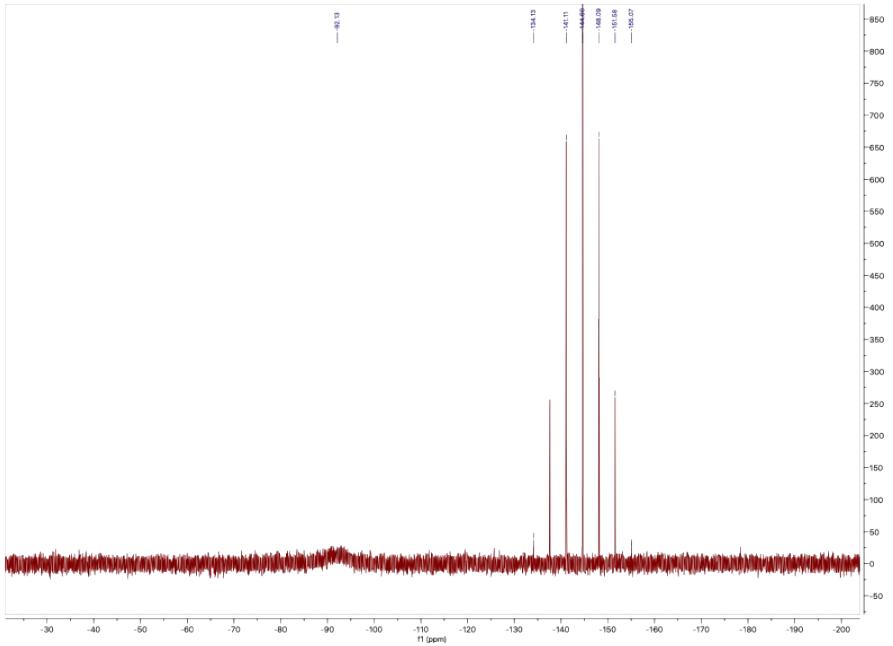


Figure S18. $^{31}\text{P}\{\text{H}\}$ -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{O}i\text{Pr}})(\text{PTA})]\text{PF}_6$ (**2**) in CD_3CN at 293K.

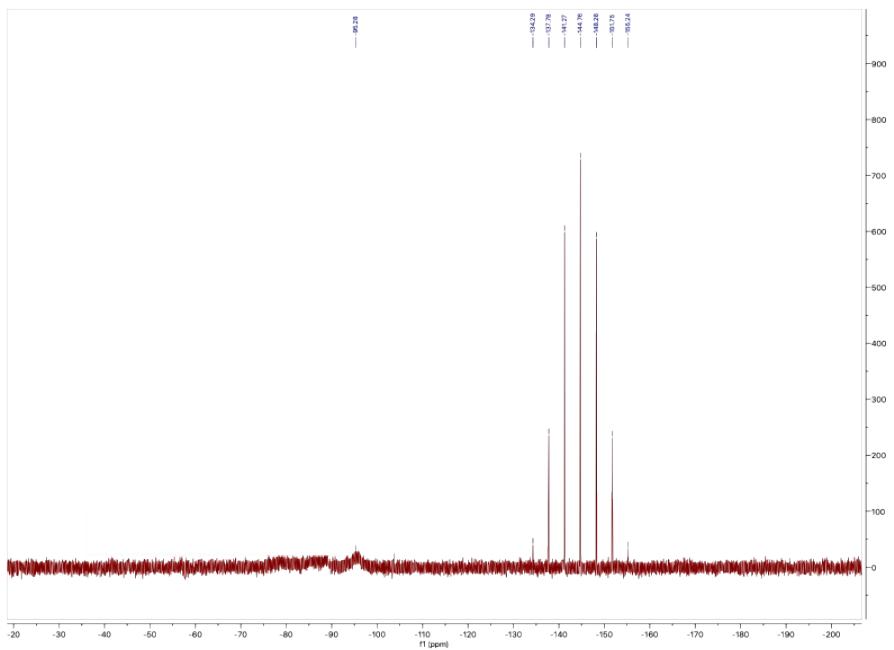


Figure S19. $^{31}\text{P}\{\text{H}\}$ -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{OIPr}})(\text{PTA})]\text{PF}_6$ (**2**) in CD_3CN at 243K.

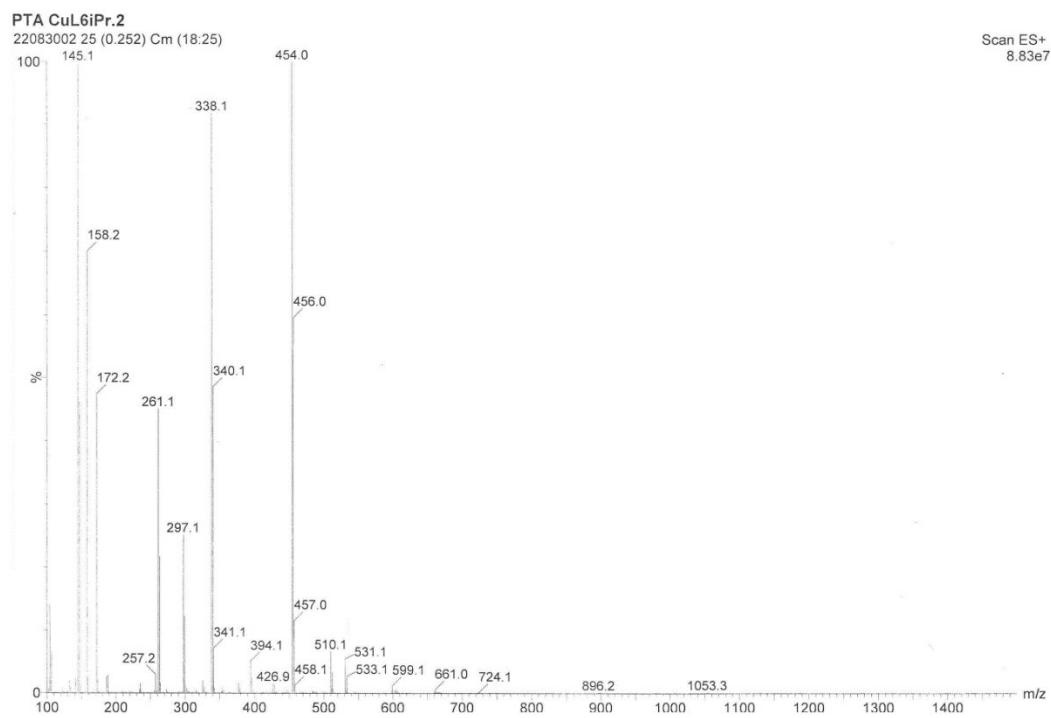


Figure S20. ESI-MS(+) spectrum in CH_3CN of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{OIPr}})(\text{PTA})]\text{PF}_6$ (**2**).

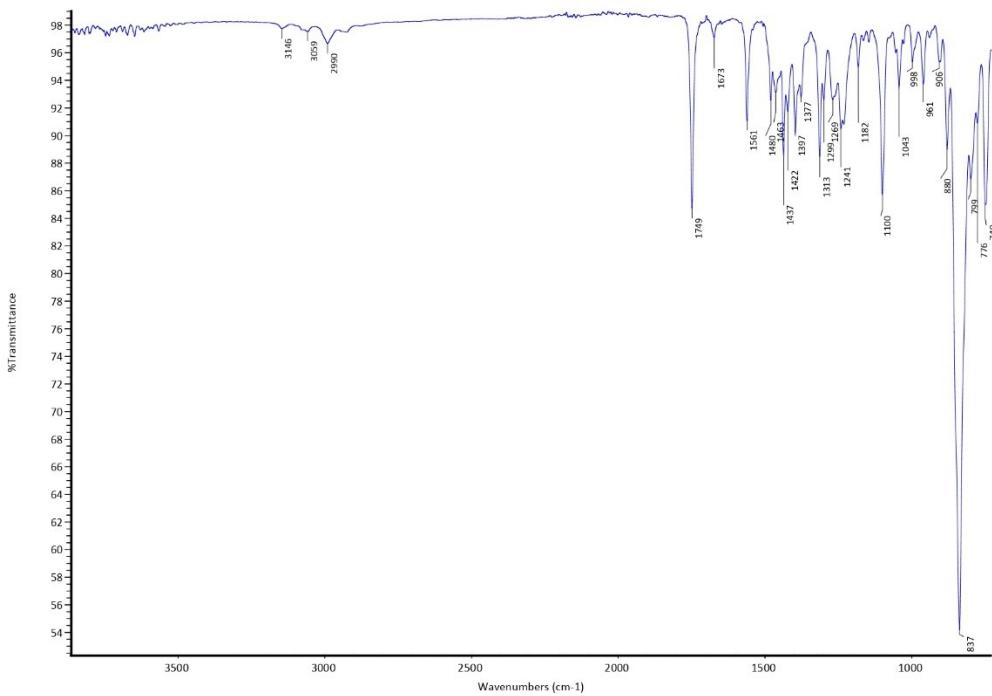


Figure S21. FT-IR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{2O}^{\text{i}}\text{Pr}})(\text{PPh}_3)]\text{PF}_6$ (**3**).

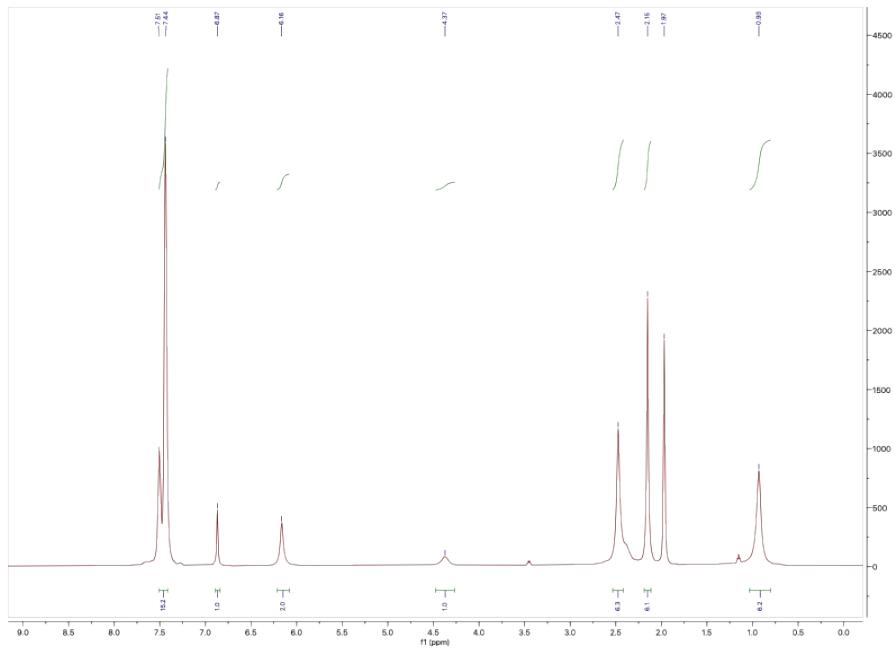


Figure S22. ^1H -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{2O}^{\text{i}}\text{Pr}})(\text{PPh}_3)]\text{PF}_6$ (**3**) in CD_3CN .

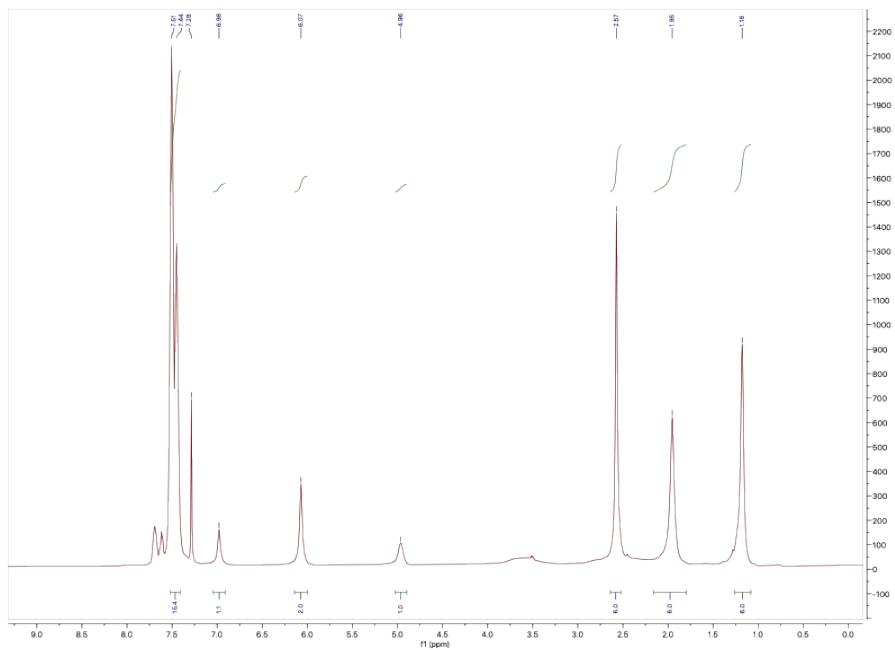


Figure S23. ^1H -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{20\text{iPr}})(\text{PPh}_3)]\text{PF}_6$ (**3**) in CDCl_3 .

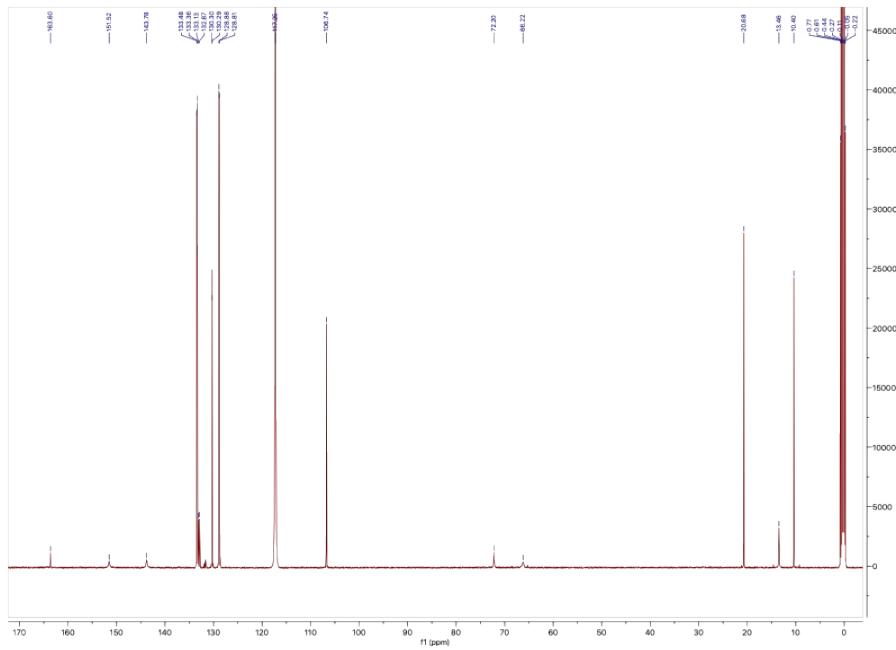


Figure S24. $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{20\text{iPr}})(\text{PPh}_3)]\text{PF}_6$ (**3**) in CD_3CN .

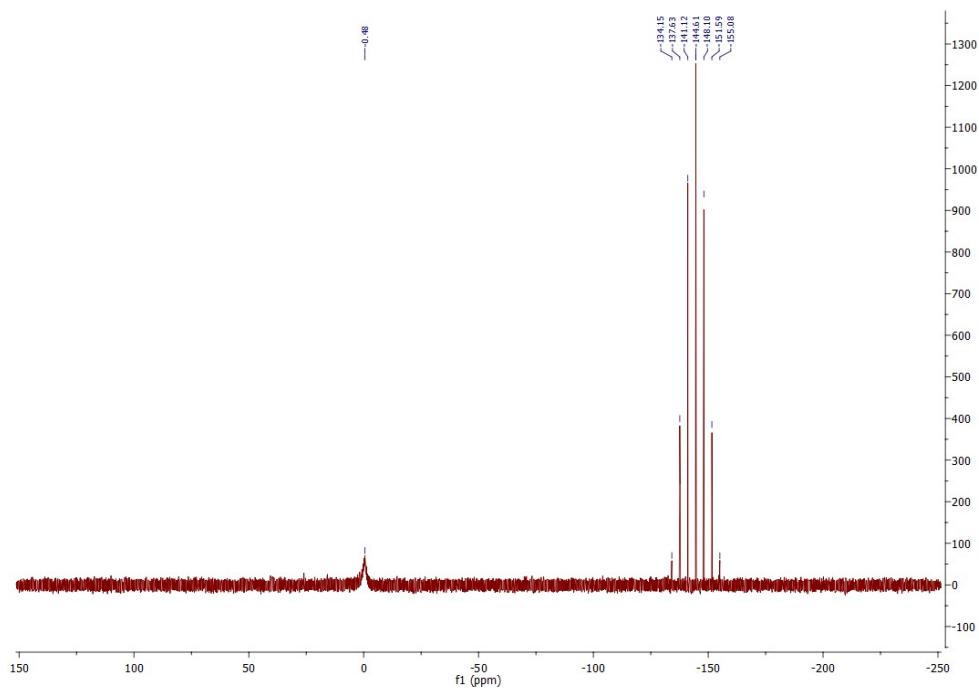


Figure S25. $^{31}\text{P}\{\text{H}\}$ -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^2\text{OiPr})(\text{PPh}_3)]\text{PF}_6$ (**3**) in CD_3CN at 293K.

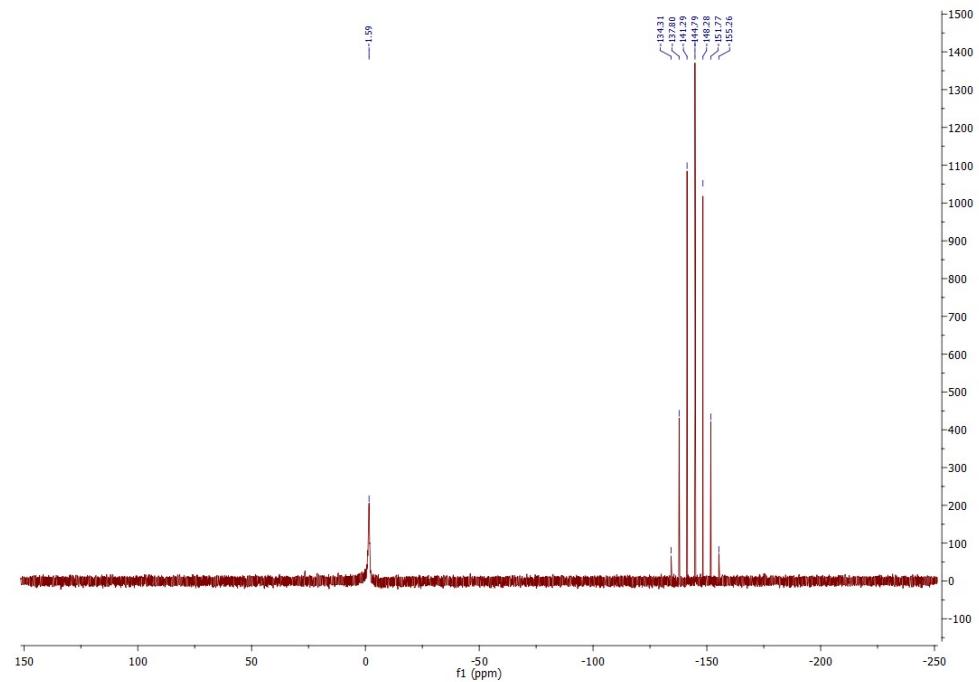


Figure S26. $^{31}\text{P}\{\text{H}\}$ -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^2\text{OiPr})(\text{PPh}_3)]\text{PF}_6$ (**3**) in CD_3CN at 243K.

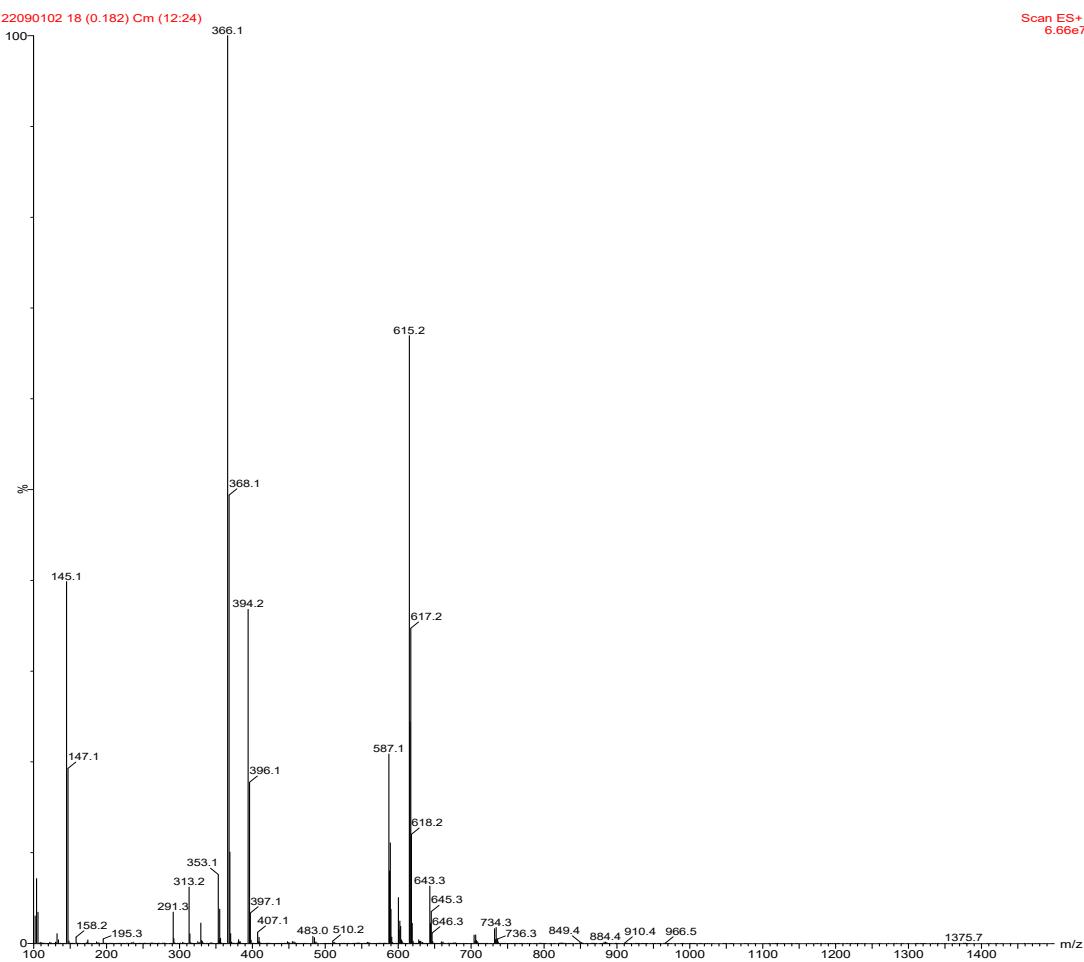


Figure S27. ESI-MS(+) spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{2O}i\text{Pr}})(\text{PPh}_3)]\text{PF}_6$ (**3**).

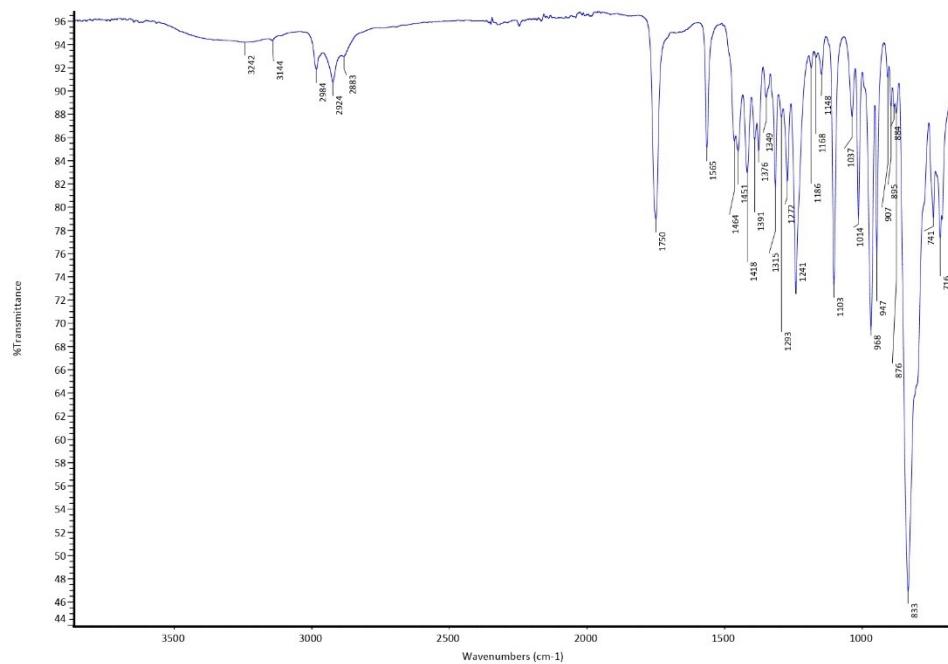


Figure S28. FT-IR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{2O}i\text{Pr}})(\text{PTA})]\text{PF}_6$ (**4**).

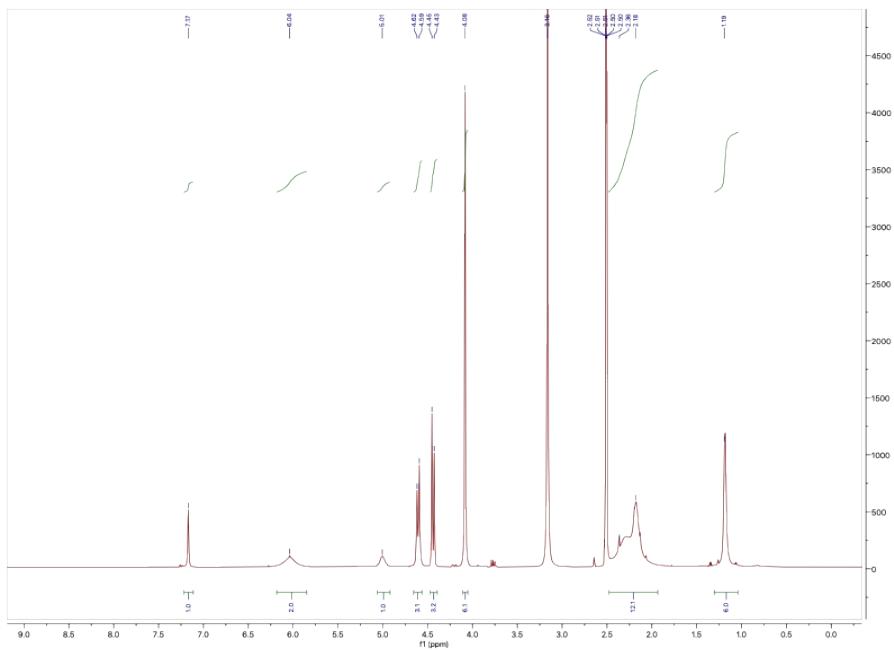


Figure S29. ¹H-NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{2O}i\text{Pr}})(\text{PTA})]\text{PF}_6$ (**4**) in DMSO-d_6 .

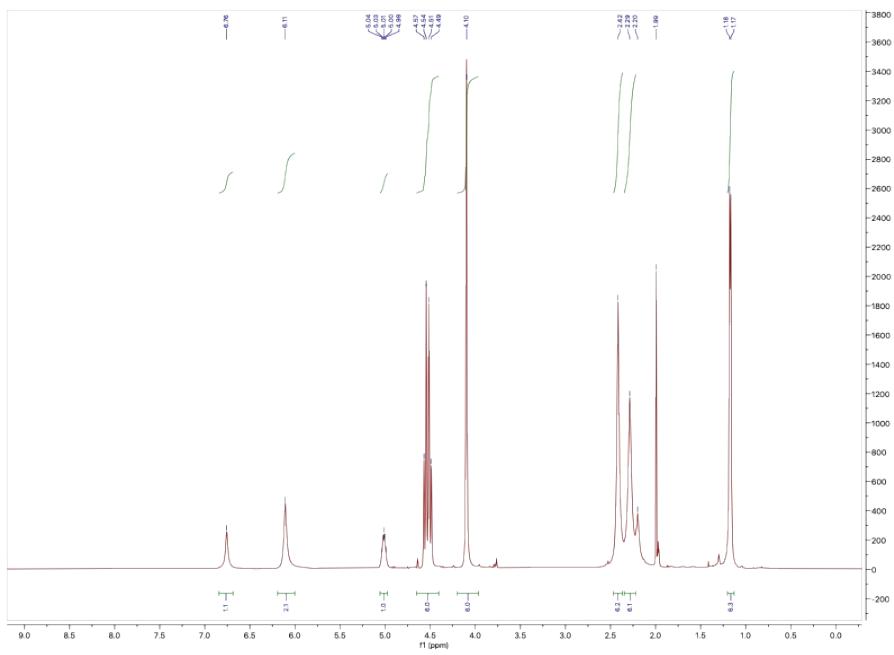


Figure S30. ¹H-NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{2O}i\text{Pr}})(\text{PTA})]\text{PF}_6$ (**4**) in CD_3CN .

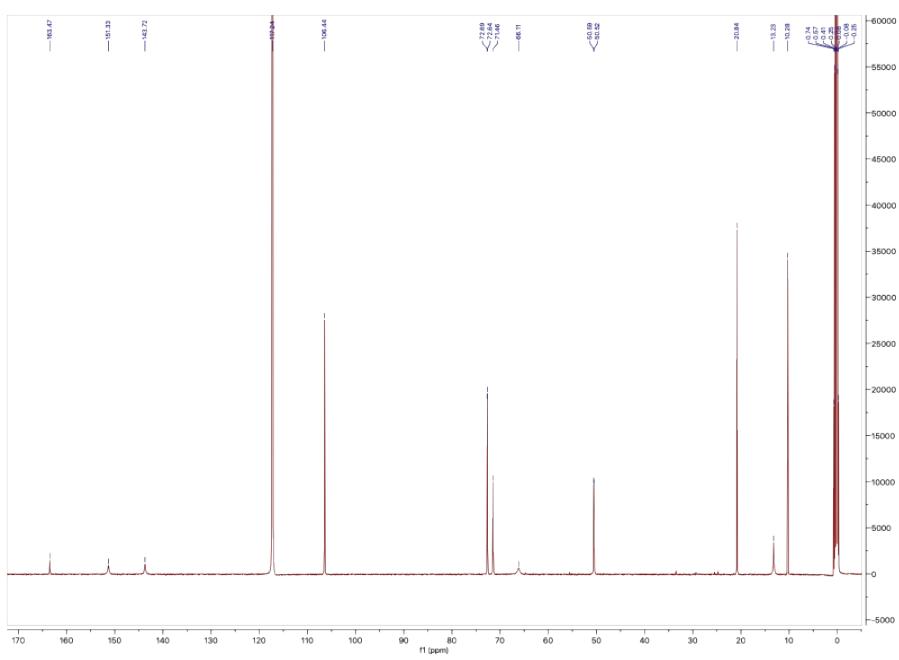


Figure S31. $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{2O}i\text{Pr}})(\text{PTA})]\text{PF}_6$ (**4**) in CD_3CN .

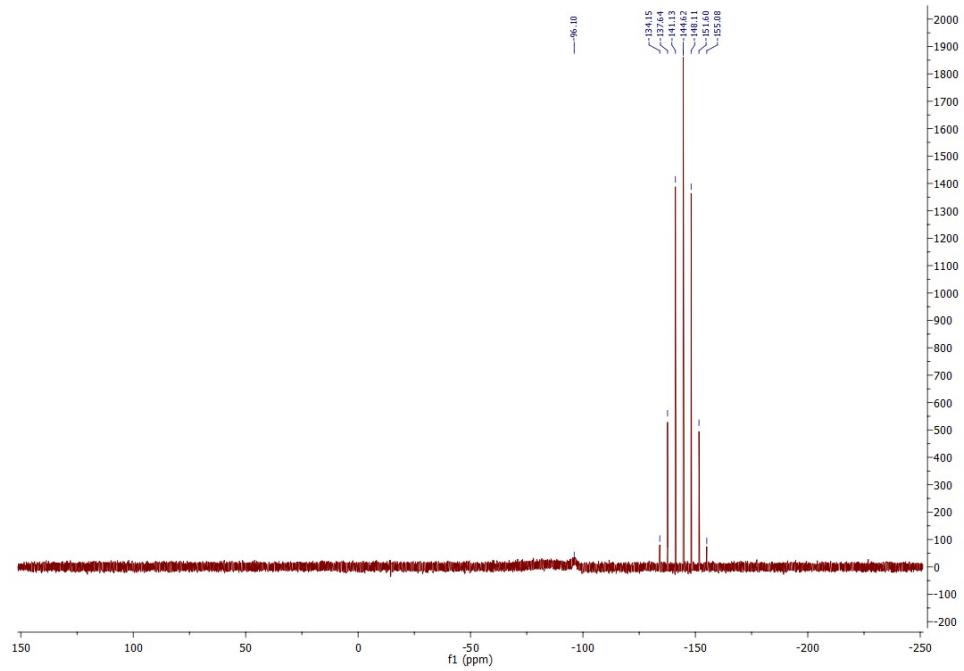


Figure S32. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^{\text{2O}i\text{Pr}})(\text{PTA})]\text{PF}_6$ (**4**) in CD_3CN at 293K.

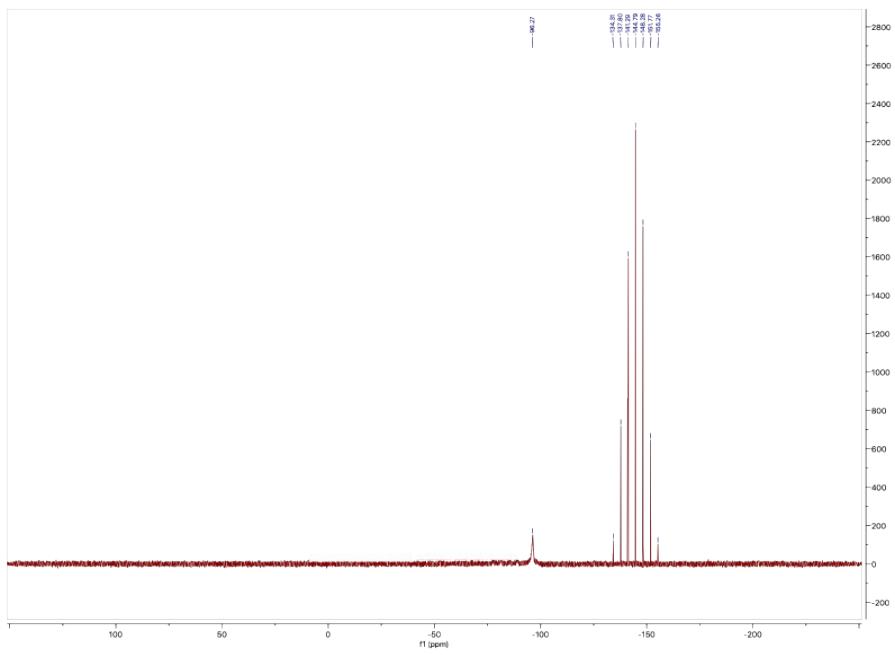


Figure S33. $^{31}\text{P}\{\text{H}\}$ -NMR spectrum of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^2\text{O}i\text{Pr})(\text{PTA})]\text{PF}_6$ (**4**) in CD_3CN at 243K.

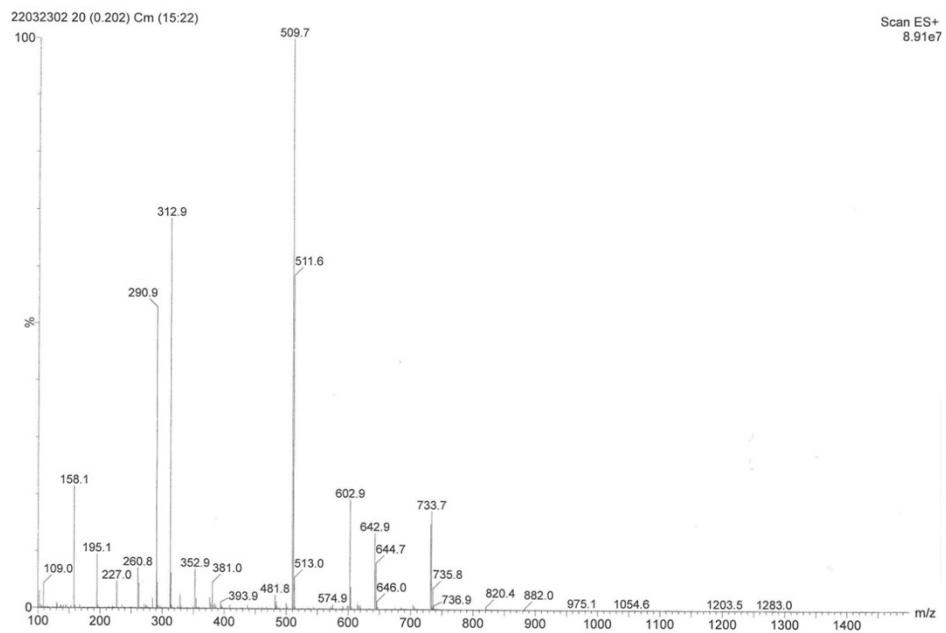


Figure S34. ESI-MS(+) spectrum in CH_3CN of $[\text{Cu}(\text{L}^2\text{O}i\text{Pr})(\text{PTA})]\text{PF}_6$ (**4**).

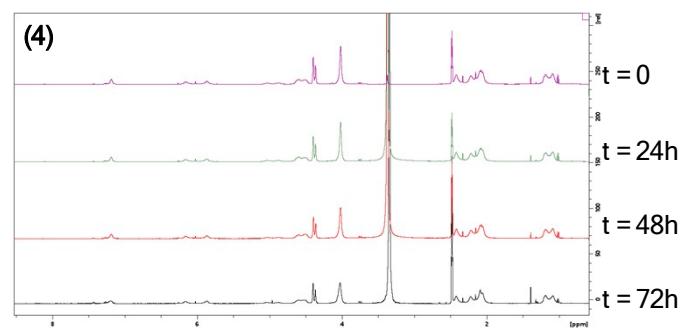
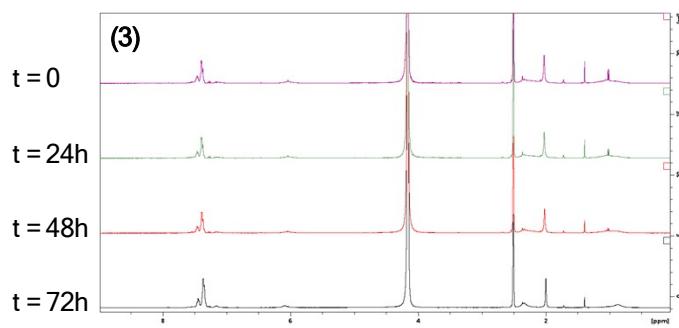
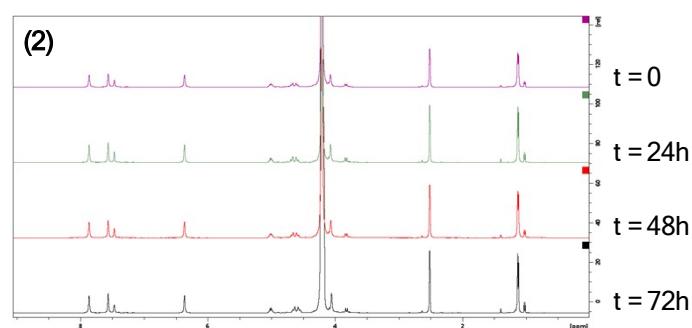
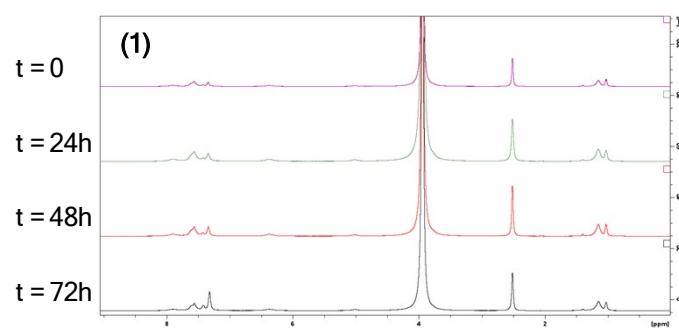


Figure S35. Stability Studies. The stability of the new complexes **1-4** in 0.5% DMSO/saline solution was also evaluated by using ^1H -NMR.

Table S1. XPS data (BE, FWHM, experimental and theoretical atomic ratios and proposed assignments) collected on complex (**3**).

Sample	Signal	BE (eV)	FWHM (eV)	atomic ratios (exp.)	atomic ratios (theor.)	Assignment
(3)	C1s	284.70	1.6	11.3	26	C-C + C-P (C1)
		286.0	1.6	4.3	5	C-N (C2)
		287.6	1.6	1.2	1	C-O (C3) + imp.
		288.6	1.6	1	1	COOR (C4) + imp
	N1s	400.7	2.6	N/Cu_tot = 4.4	N/Cu_tot = 4	N-C amine-like
	P2p _{3/2}	132.2	3.8			P-C P Ph ₃ (P1)
		136.4	4.6			P-F PF ₆ (P2)
	F1s	685.9	2.2			F-P PF ₆
	Cu2p _{3/2}	932.8	2.5	1	1	Cu(I) complex
		935.3	2.5	0.1	0	Cu(II) Cu(OH) ₂
	O1s	531.6	1.80	1.7	1	O=C (+ impurities)
		532.5	1.80	1	1	O-C
		534.1	1.80			physisorbed H ₂ O