

## Supplementary Material

**Table S1** Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) of **4** and **5**.<sup>a)</sup>

| <i>Bond distances</i> |           |                      |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|
|                       | <b>4'</b> |                      | <b>5</b>  |
| Co1–O3                | 2.053(7)  | Ni1–O6               | 2.009(2)  |
| Co1–O8                | 2.088(7)  | Ni1–O1               | 2.064(2)  |
| Co1–O6                | 2.106(7)  | Ni1–O3               | 2.058(2)  |
| Co1–N1                | 2.183(8)  | Ni1–N2               | 2.139(2)  |
| Co1–N2                | 2.238(9)  | Ni1–N1               | 2.186(2)  |
| Co1–O9                | 2.142(7)  | Ni1–O9               | 2.101(2)  |
| C12–O3                | 1.263(12) | C6–O1                | 1.257(3)  |
| C12–O4                | 1.268(12) | C6–O2                | 1.266(3)  |
| Fe1–D1 <sup>b)</sup>  | 1.672(5)  | Fe1–D1 <sup>b)</sup> | 1.651(1)  |
| Fe1–D2 <sup>b)</sup>  | 1.647(5)  | Fe1–D2 <sup>b)</sup> | 1.648(1)  |
| Co2–O4                | 2.073(7)  | Ni2–O5               | 2.089(2)  |
| Co2–O7                | 2.042(7)  | Ni2–O2               | 2.000(2)  |
| Co2–O2                | 2.110(7)  | Ni2–O7               | 2.079(2)  |
| Co2–N3                | 2.199(8)  | Ni2–N4               | 2.142(2)  |
| Co2–N4                | 2.259(9)  | Ni2–N3               | 2.160(2)  |
| Co2–O9                | 2.132(6)  | Ni2–O9               | 2.107(2)  |
| C6–O1                 | 1.254(11) | C12–O4               | 1.264(3)  |
| C6–O2                 | 1.292(12) | C12–O3               | 1.263(3)  |
| Fe2–D3 <sup>b)</sup>  | 1.650(4)  | Fe2–D3 <sup>b)</sup> | 1.646(1)  |
| Fe2–D4 <sup>b)</sup>  | 1.651(4)  | Fe2–D4 <sup>b)</sup> | 1.648(1)  |
| <i>Bond angles</i>    |           |                      |           |
| O1–C6–O2              | 123.5(9)  | O3–C12–O4            | 125.1(2)  |
| O3–C12–O4             | 125.9(9)  | O1–C6–O2             | 126.5(2)  |
| O6–Co1–O3             | 176.2(3)  | O6–Ni1–O3            | 177.25(6) |
| O6–Co1–O8             | 84.8(3)   | O3–Ni1–O1            | 84.42(6)  |
| O3–Co1–O8             | 95.9(3)   | O6–Ni1–O1            | 96.44(6)  |
| O6–Co1–O9             | 87.5(3)   | O3–Ni1–O9            | 89.65(7)  |
| O3–Co1–O9             | 88.7(3)   | O6–Ni1–O9            | 87.68(7)  |
| O8–Co1–O9             | 92.4(3)   | O1–Ni1–O9            | 93.35(6)  |
| O6–Co1–N2             | 91.9(3)   | O3–Ni1–N1            | 89.66(7)  |
| O3–Co1–N2             | 87.9(3)   | O6–Ni1–N1            | 89.84(7)  |
| O8–Co1–N2             | 172.2(3)  | O1–Ni1–N1            | 170.16(6) |
| O9–Co1–N2             | 94.5(3)   | O9–Ni1–N1            | 94.48(7)  |
| O6–Co1–N1             | 92.1(3)   | O3–Ni1–N2            | 90.82(7)  |
| O3–Co1–N1             | 91.6(3)   | O6–Ni1–N2            | 91.83(7)  |
| O8–Co1–N1             | 89.8(3)   | O1–Ni1–N2            | 87.55(6)  |
| O9–Co1–N1             | 177.7(3)  | O9–Ni1–N2            | 179.02(7) |
| N2–Co1–N1             | 83.3(3)   | N2–Ni1–N1            | 84.68(7)  |
| O5–C18–O6             | 124.0(9)  | O7–C24–O8            | 125.0(2)  |
| O7–C24–O8             | 125.5(9)  | O5–C18–O6            | 126.6(2)  |
| O2–Co2–O7             | 176.0(6)  | O2–Ni2–O7            | 177.96(6) |
| O2–Co2–O4             | 85.1(3)   | O7–Ni2–O5            | 83.24(6)  |
| O7–Co2–O4             | 98.2(3)   | O2–Ni2–O5            | 96.07(6)  |
| O2–Co2–O9             | 86.2(3)   | O7–Ni2–O9            | 90.53(7)  |
| O7–Co2–O9             | 91.4(3)   | O2–Ni2–O9            | 87.57(7)  |
| O4–Co2–O9             | 92.9(3)   | O5–Ni2–O9            | 92.64(6)  |
| O2–Co2–N3             | 90.4(3)   | O7–Ni2–N4            | 90.82(7)  |
| O2–Co2–N4             | 88.1(3)   | O7–Ni2–N3            | 89.25(7)  |
| O4–Co2–N4             | 169.5(3)  | O5–Ni2–N3            | 169.91(7) |
| O9–Co2–N4             | 94.6(3)   | O9–Ni2–N3            | 94.17(7)  |
| O4–Co2–N3             | 89.0(3)   | O5–Ni2–N4            | 89.06(7)  |
| O7–Co2–N3             | 91.8(3)   | O2–Ni2–N4            | 91.10(7)  |

Electronic Supplementary Information for Dalton Transactions  
This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2009

|            |          |            |           |
|------------|----------|------------|-----------|
| O7–Co2–N4  | 88.9(3)  | O2–Ni2–N3  | 91.65(7)  |
| O9–Co2–N3  | 175.9(3) | O9–Ni2–N4  | 177.95(8) |
| N3–Co2–N4  | 83.1(3)  | N4–Ni2–N3  | 84.30(8)  |
| Co1–O9–Co2 | 113.4(3) | Ni1–O9–Ni2 | 113.58(8) |

---

a) Standard uncertainties are given in the last significant figure(s) in parenthesis.

b) D1 = centroid of C1 – C5, D2 = centroid of C7 – C11, D3 = centroid of C13 – C17, D4 = centroid of C19 – C23.

**Table S2** Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) of intramolecular O–H...O hydrogen bonds of **4** and **5**.<sup>a)</sup>

| Complex  | D–H...A <sup>b)</sup> | D...A    | D–H...A |
|----------|-----------------------|----------|---------|
| <b>4</b> | O9–H9A...O5           | 2.528(9) | 151     |
|          | O9–H9B...O1           | 2.600(9) | 156     |
| <b>5</b> | O9–H1O...O4           | 2.579(2) | 160(3)  |
|          | O9–H2O...O8           | 2.575(2) | 166(3)  |

a) Standard uncertainties are given in the last significant figure(s) in parenthesis.

b) D = donor atom; A = acceptor atom.

**Table S3** Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) of 7. <sup>a)</sup>

| <i>Bond distances</i> |           |                      |            |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------------------|------------|
| Cu1–O1                | 1.991(2)  | Cu1–O4               | 2.420(1)   |
| Cu1–O2                | 2.516(2)  | Cu1–O3               | 1.973(2)   |
| Cu1–N1                | 2.031(2)  | Cu1–N2               | 2.018 (2)  |
| Fe1–D1 <sup>b)</sup>  | 1.655(1)  | Fe2–D2 <sup>b)</sup> | 1.643(1)   |
| C6–O1                 | 1.275(3)  | C12–O3               | 1.278(3)   |
| C6–O2                 | 1.254(3)  | C12–O4               | 1.255(3)   |
| <i>Bond angles</i>    |           |                      |            |
| O1–C6–O2              | 122.5(2)  | O3–C12–O4            | 122.15(18) |
| O3–Cu1–O1             | 90.81(6)  | O3–Cu1–N2            | 162.68(7)  |
| O1–Cu1–N2             | 94.19(8)  | O3–Cu1–N1            | 92.48(6)   |
| O1–Cu1–N1             | 164.81(7) | N2–Cu1–N1            | 87.02(8)   |
| O3–Cu1–O4             | 59.60(6)  | O1–Cu1–O4            | 93.55(5)   |
| N2–Cu1–O4             | 103.48(7) | N1–Cu1–O4            | 100.90(6)  |
| N1–Cu1–O2             | 107.32(6) | O3–Cu1–O2            | 96.54(5)   |
| N2–Cu1–O2             | 100.14(6) | O4–Cu1–O2            | 143.86(5)  |
| O1–Cu1–O2             | 57.54(6)  |                      |            |

a) Standard uncertainties are given in the last significant figure(s) in parenthesis.

b) D1 = centroid of C1 – C5, D2 = centroid of C7 – C11.

**Table S4** Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) of **9**.<sup>a)</sup>

| <i>Bond distances</i> |           |           |          |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Cu1–O1                | 1.983(5)  | Cu1–N1    | 2.060(6) |
| Cu1–N2                | 2.049(5)  | Cu1–N3    | 2.048(6) |
| Cu1–O5                | 2.195(5)  | C11–O1    | 1.243(8) |
| C11–O2                | 1.249(9)  | C12–O3    | 1.243(9) |
| C12–O4                | 1.250(9)  | Fe1–D1    | 1.657(3) |
| Fe1–D2                | 1.655(3)  |           |          |
| <i>Bond angles</i>    |           |           |          |
| O1–C11–O2             | 126.1(7)  | O3–C12–O4 | 125.3(6) |
| O1–Cu1–N3             | 90.5(2)   | O1–Cu1–N2 | 167.0(2) |
| N3–Cu1–N2             | 84.7(2)   | O1–Cu1–N1 | 91.4(2)  |
| N3–Cu1–N1             | 150.5(2)  | N2–Cu1–N1 | 87.0(2)  |
| O1–Cu1–O5             | 96.41(19) | N3–Cu1–O5 | 109.0(2) |
| N2–Cu1–O5             | 96.6(2)   | N1–Cu1–O5 | 100.0(2) |

a) Standard uncertainties are given in the last significant figure(s) in parenthesis.

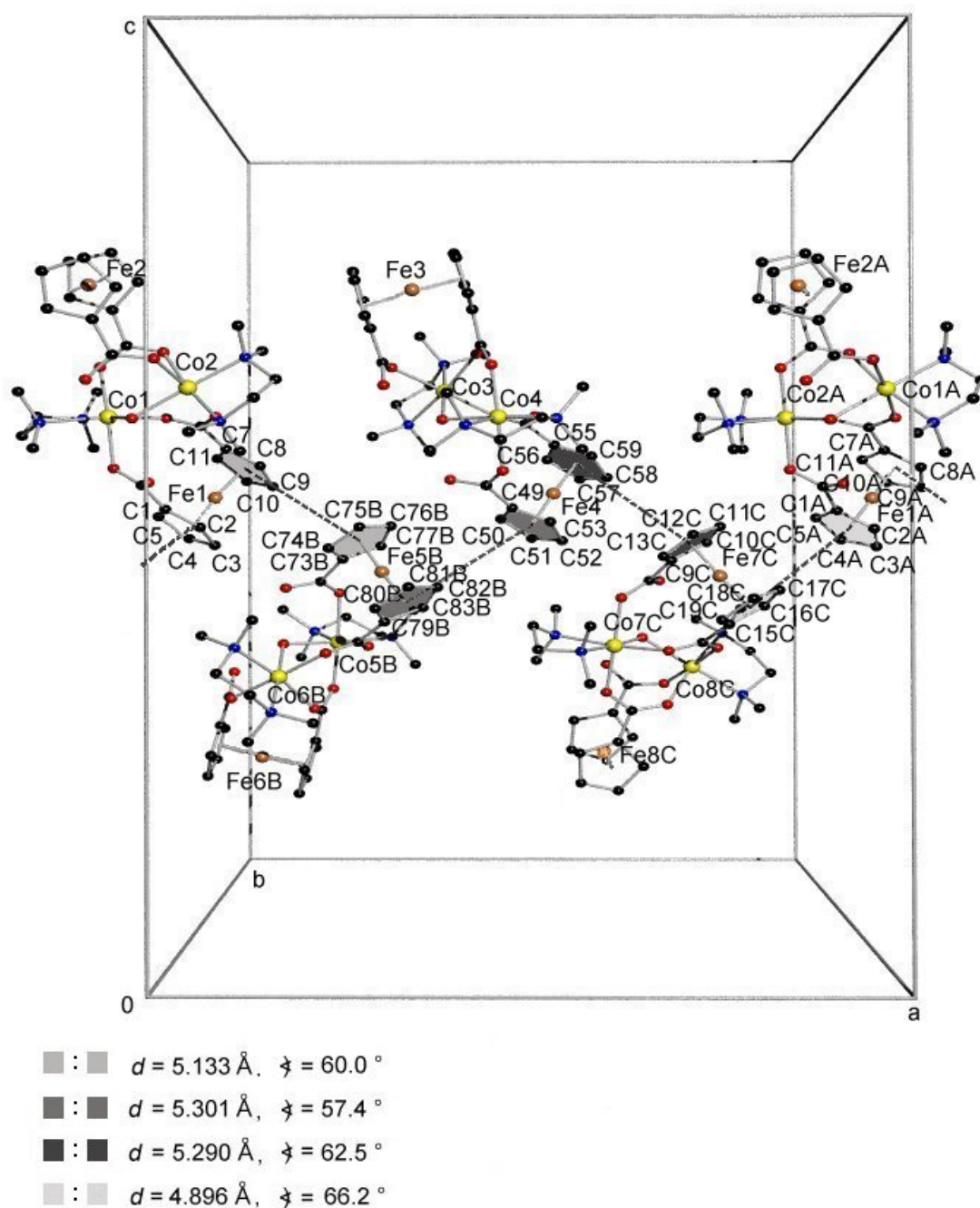
b) D1 = centroid of C1 – C5, D2 = centroid of C6 – C10.

**Table S5** Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) of intermolecular O–H...O hydrogen bonds of **7** and **9**.<sup>a)</sup>

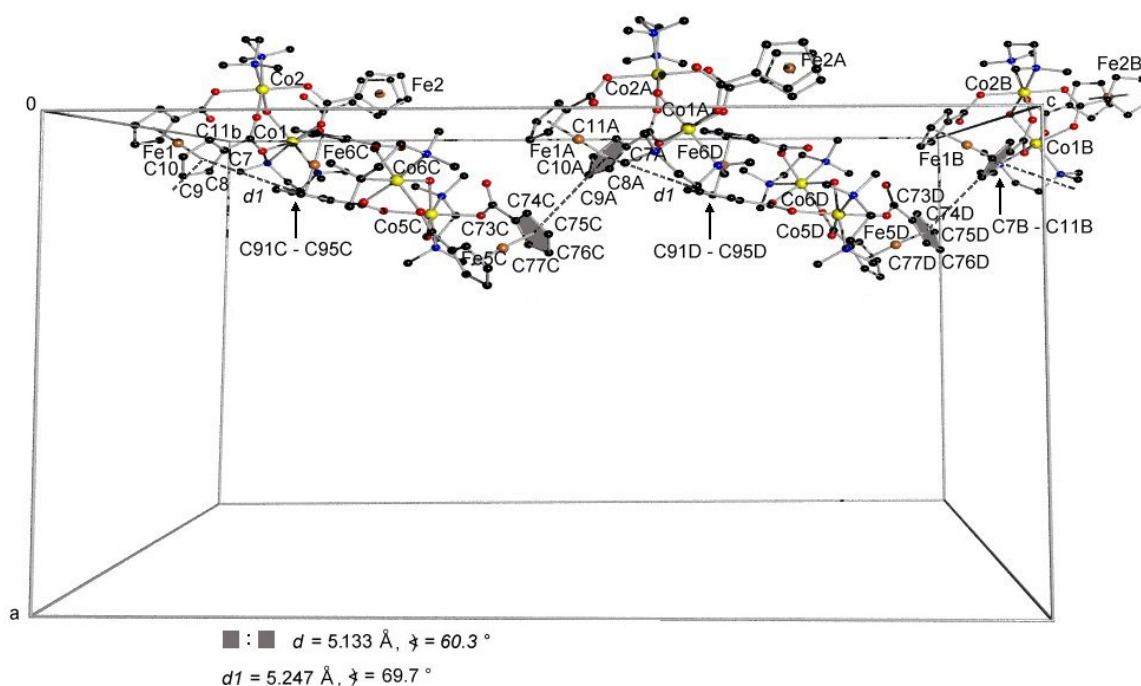
| Complex  | D–H...A <sup>b)</sup> | D...A    | D–H...A |
|----------|-----------------------|----------|---------|
| <b>7</b> | O5–H1O...O2           | 2.829(2) | 173(3)  |
|          | O5–H2O...O4A          | 2.822(3) | 167(3)  |
| <b>9</b> | O5–H1O...O3A          | 2.649(7) | 142(6)  |
|          | O6–H6...O4            | 2.759(8) | 159(4)  |

a) Standard uncertainties are given in the last significant figure(s) in parenthesis.

b) D = donor atom; A = acceptor atom.

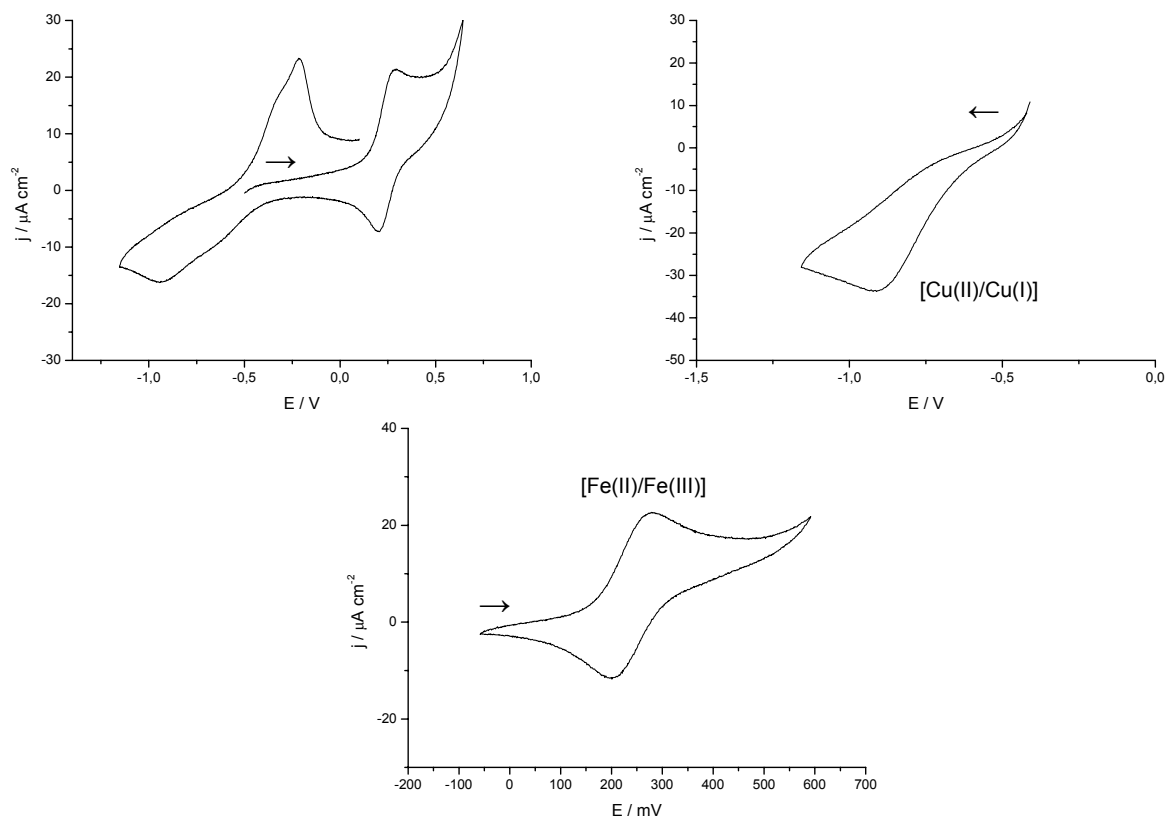


**Fig. S1** Graphical representation of the  $\pi$ - $\pi$ -interactions between discrete molecules of **4** along the crystallographic *a* axis. All hydrogen atoms and the  $\text{CHCl}_3$  molecules are omitted for clarity. The distance *d* refers to center-to-center distances and angles refer to the interplanar angles of interacting  $\text{C}_5\text{H}_4$  units. Label 'A' refers to a symmetry generated molecule of **4**', label 'B' refers to a symmetry generated molecule of **4**'', label 'C' refers to a symmetry generated molecule of **4**''''.

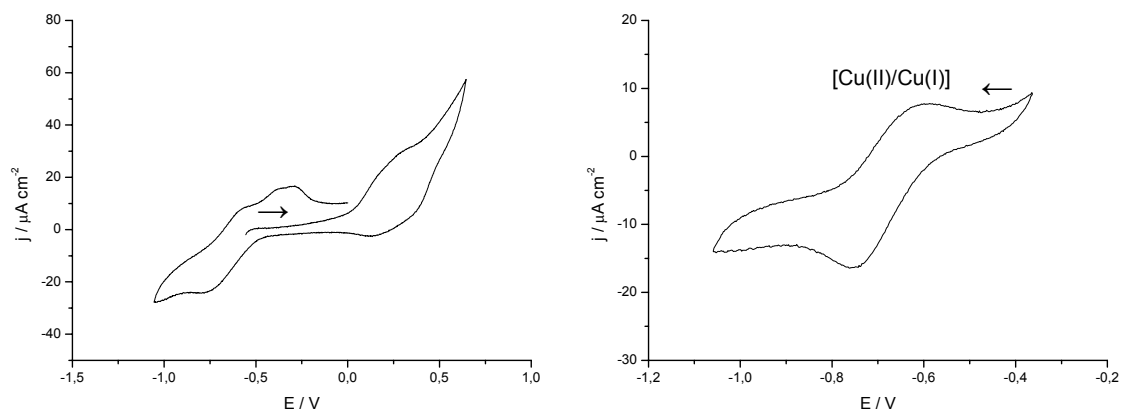


**Fig. S2** Graphical representation of the  $\pi$ - $\pi$ -interactions between discrete molecules of **4** along the crystallographic  $c$  axis. All hydrogen atoms and the  $\text{CHCl}_3$  molecules are omitted for clarity. The distance  $d$  refers to center-to-center distances and angles refer to the inter-planar angles of interacting  $\text{C}_5\text{H}_4$  units. Label 'A' and 'B' refer to a first and second symmetry generated molecule of **4'**, respectively, whereas label 'C' and 'D' refer to a first and second symmetry generated molecule of **4'''**, respectively.





**Fig. S3** Cyclic voltammogram of **7** (complete: top left; [Cu(II)/Cu(I)]: top right; [Fe(II)/Fe(III)]: bottom) ( $1 \cdot 10^{-3}$  M solution in methanol at 25 °C with  $[\text{tBu}_4\text{N}]\text{PF}_6$  (0.1 M) as supporting electrolyte, scan rate =  $0.10 \text{ V s}^{-1}$ ). All potentials are referenced to the  $[\text{FcH}/\text{FcH}^+]$  redox couple ( $\text{FcH} = (\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5)_2\text{Fe}$ ) with  $E_0 = 0.00 \text{ V}$ ).<sup>26</sup>



**Fig. S4** Cyclic voltammogram of **9** (complete: left; [Cu(II)/Cu(I)] reduction: right) ( $1 \cdot 10^{-3}$  M solution in methanol at 25 °C with  $[n\text{-Bu}_4\text{N}]\text{PF}_6$  (0.1 M) as supporting electrolyte, scan rate =  $0.10 \text{ V s}^{-1}$ ). All potentials are referenced to the  $[\text{FcH}/\text{FcH}^+]$  redox couple ( $\text{FcH} = (\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5)_2\text{Fe}$ ) with  $E_0 = 0.00 \text{ V}$ ).<sup>26</sup>