

# C-C bond cleavage in acetonitrile by copper(II)-bipyridine complexes and *in situ* formation of cyano-bridged mixed-valent copper complexes

Feng Xu, Tao Tao, Kun Zhang, Xiao-Xu Wang, Wei Huang,\* Xiao-Zeng  
You

*State Key Laboratory of Coordination Chemistry, Nanjing National Laboratory of  
Microstructures, School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Nanjing  
University, Nanjing 210093, P. R. China*

## Electronic Supporting Information

**Table ESI1.** Selected bond lengths (Å) and bond angles (°) for copper complexes  
1-12.

Complex 1			
Cu1-N1	2.014(8)	Cu2-N7	2.064(8)
Cu1-N2	1.998(8)	Cu2-C16	1.894(8)
Cu1-N3	1.980(8)	Cu2-C29	1.892(9)
Cu1-N5	1.981(7)	N5-C16	1.152(11)
Cu1-N9	2.081(7)	N8-C28	1.158(16)
Cu2-N6	2.090(8)		
Cu1-N5-C16	174.7(8)	Cu2-C16-N5	167.5(8)
Cu1-N9-C29 <sup>a</sup>	172.3(7)	Cu2-C29-N9 <sup>b</sup>	174.6(8)
Complex 2			
Cu1-N1	2.007(7)	Cu2-N7	2.074(7)
Cu1-N2	2.016(6)	Cu2-C16	1.862(8)
Cu1-N3	1.985(6)	Cu2-C27 <sup>c</sup>	1.883(8)
Cu1-N5	1.991(6)	N5-C16	1.171(10)
Cu1-N8	2.046(7)	N9-C28	1.110(17)
Cu2-N6	2.049(7)		
Cu1-N5-C16	175.3(6)	Cu2-C16-N5	167.9(7)
Cu1-N8-C27	173.1(5)	Cu2 <sup>d</sup> -C27-N8	174.8(6)

<b>Complex 3</b>			
Cu1–N1	2.010(4)	Cu2–N7	2.090(5)
Cu1–N2	2.144(4)	Cu2–N8	1.999(4)
Cu1–N3	2.093(5)	Cu2–N9	2.103(5)
Cu1–N4	2.006(5)	Cu2–C42	1.966(6)
Cu1–C21	1.955(7)	N5–C21	1.137(10)
Cu2–N6	1.993(4)	N10–C42	1.136(9)
Cu1–C21–N5	174.5(7)	Cu2–C42–N10	175.4(6)
<b>Complex 4</b>			
Cu1–N1	2.045(3)	Cu2–N6	1.999(4)
Cu1–N2	1.979(4)	Cu2–N7	2.142(3)
Cu1–N3	1.976(3)	Cu2–N8	2.033(3)
Cu1–N4	2.115(3)	Cu2–N9	1.982(3)
Cu1–C21	1.993(4)	N5–C21	1.138(5)
Cu2–N5	1.984(4)		
Cu1–C21–N5	175.8(3)	Cu2–N5–C21	177.6(4)
<b>Complex 5</b>			
Cu1–N1	1.978(5)	Cu2–N6	2.123(5)
Cu1–N2	2.103(4)	Cu2–N7	2.065(5)
Cu1–N3	2.076(5)	Cu2–N8	1.979(5)
Cu1–N4	1.971(5)	Cu2–C41	1.982(5)
Cu1–N9	1.983(5)	N9–C41	1.153(7)
Cu2–N5	1.976(5)		
Cu1–N9–C41	176.0(4)	Cu2–C41–N9	179.3(4)
<b>Complex 6</b>			
Cu1–N1	2.085(4)	Cu1–N4	2.020(5)
Cu1–N2	2.012(5)	Cu1–C25	1.955(6)
Cu1–N3	2.135(5)	N5–C25	1.134(8)
Cu1–C25–N5	176.0(6)		
<b>Complex 7</b>			
Cu1–N1	2.091(3)	Cu1–N4	1.995(3)
Cu1–N2	1.998(3)	Cu1–C25	1.972(4)
Cu1–N3	2.105(3)	N5–C25	1.145(6)
Cu1–C25–N5	176.7(4)		
<b>Complex 8</b>			
Cu1–N1	2.054(5)	Cu1–N4	1.985(5)
Cu1–N2	1.988(5)	Cu1–N5	1.975(6)
Cu1–N3	2.102(7)	Cu1–C25	1.975(6)
<b>Complex 9</b>			
Cu1–N1	2.053(4)	Cu2–N6	2.089(5)
Cu1–N2	1.984(4)	Cu2–N7	2.084(7)
Cu1–N3	2.174(4)	Cu2–C25	1.922(5)
Cu1–N4	1.978(5)	N5–C25	1.150(7)
Cu1–N5	1.954(5)		

Cu1–N5–C25	174.0(5)	Cu2–C25–N5	172.7(5)
<b>Complex 10</b>			
Cu1–N1	1.985(2)	Cu1–N4	1.984(2)
Cu1–N2	2.097(2)	Cu1–N5	2.011(2)
Cu1–N3	2.109(3)		
N1–Cu1–N2	79.82(10)	N2–Cu1–N4	95.00(10)
N1–Cu1–N3	95.07(10)	N2–Cu1–N5	133.97(9)
N1–Cu1–N4	172.36(9)	N3–Cu1–N4	79.65(10)
N1–Cu1–N5	94.30(9)	N3–Cu1–N5	131.50(10)
N2–Cu1–N3	94.53(9)	N4–Cu1–N5	93.35(9)
<b>Complex 11</b>			
Cu1–N1	2.054(3)	Cu1–N1 <sup>h</sup>	2.054(3)
Cu1–N2	2.055(3)	Cu1–N2 <sup>h</sup>	2.055(3)
<b>Complex 12</b>			
Cu1–N1	2.047(5)	Cu1–N3	2.050(5)
Cu1–N2	2.018(4)	Cu1–N4	2.017(4)

Symmetry operator: <sup>a</sup> = 1/2-x, -1/2+y, -1/2+z; <sup>b</sup> = 1/2-x, 1/2+y, 1/2+z; <sup>c</sup> = 1/2-x, 1/2+y, -1/2+z; <sup>d</sup> = 1/2-x, -1/2+y, 1/2+z; <sup>e</sup> = 1-y, -1+x-y, 1/3+z; <sup>f</sup> = 1-y, x-y, 1/3+z; <sup>g</sup> = 1-y, 1+x-y, 1/3+z; <sup>h</sup> = 2-x, y, 1/2-z.

**Table ESI2.** Intermolecular hydrogen bonding interactions (Å, °) in copper complexes **1-4** and **7-12**.

D–H⋯A	D–H	H–A	D⋯A	∠DHA	Sym. trans
<b>1</b>					
O1–H1A⋯N5	0.85	2.61	3.458(12)	180.0	1+x, y, z
O1–H1B⋯F1	0.85	2.24	3.043(13)	158.0	2-x, 1/2+y, 3/2-z
C1–H1⋯F4	0.93	2.31	3.199(9)	160.0	1-x, 1/2+y, 3/2-z
C8–H8⋯F5	0.93	2.31	3.105(10)	143.0	1+x, y, z
C12–H12⋯F6	0.93	2.45	3.281(10)	148.0	1-x, 1/2+y, 3/2-z
C23–H23⋯F7	0.93	2.45	3.132(11)	130.0	1+x, 3/2-y, -1/2+z
C25–H25⋯F4	0.93	2.52	3.438(9)	169.0	2-x, 1/2+y, 3/2-z
C39–H39⋯F8	0.93	2.46	3.274(12)	146.0	x, 3/2-y, -1/2+z
<b>2</b>					
O1–H1A⋯F11	0.85	2.01	2.831(18)	161.0	1-x, y, 1/2-z
C1–H1⋯F7	0.93	2.45	3.153(6)	133.0	x, -1+y, z
C4–H4⋯F4	0.93	2.54	3.334(8)	143.0	x, -y, -1/2+z
C9–H9⋯F3	0.93	2.54	3.306(8)	140.0	-x, y, 1/2-z
C11–H11⋯F13	0.93	2.30	3.163(17)	155.0	1-x, y, 1/2-z
C14–H14⋯F12	0.93	2.55	3.464(12)	169.0	1-x, -y, 1-z
C17–H17⋯F12	0.93	2.40	3.321(14)	173.0	1-x, -y, 1-z
C19–H19⋯F9	0.93	2.43	3.354(6)	173.0	x, -1+y, z

C23–H23…F2	0.93	2.24	3.153(9)	169.0	-x, y, 1/2-z
C25–H25…F3	0.93	2.49	3.362(7)	155.0	x, 1-y, -1/2+z
<b>3</b>					
N4–H4A…N8	0.86	2.37	3.088(13)	141.0	1/2-x, -1/2+y, 1/2+z
N4–H4B…O6	0.86	2.29	3.116(12)	160.0	-x, 1-y, -1/2+z
<b>4</b>					
N4–H4A…F3	0.86	2.23	3.058(10)	161.0	-1/2+x, 1/2-y, z
N4–H4B…N9	0.86	2.39	3.104(12)	141.0	1/2-x, -1/2+y, -1/2+z
<b>7</b>					
N8–H8A…N7	0.86	2.33	3.056(6)	142.0	x, 1/2-y, -1/2+z
N8–H8B…F4'	0.86	2.54	3.353(11)	158.0	1+x, y, z
C23–H23…F1'	0.93	2.33	3.229(9)	164.0	1-x, -y, 1-z
C30–H30…N6	0.93	2.48	2.804(5)	101.0	2-x, -y, 1-z
<b>8</b>					
C13–H13…O4	0.93	2.40	2.92(2)	115.0	1-x, 1-y, 1-z
<b>9</b>					
O10–H10D…O7	0.85	2.45	3.24(4)	155.0	1/2+x, y, 3/2-z
O12–H12A…O11'	0.86	2.43	3.22(8)	154.0	1-x, -y, -z
C16–H16A…O6	0.96	2.40	3.326(15)	162.0	1/2+x, y, 3/2-z
<b>10</b>					
N6–H6B…O5	0.86	2.56	3.289(6)	143.0	-x, -1/2+y, 1/2-z
C4–H4…O2	0.93	2.44	3.311(5)	155.0	1-x, -1/2+y, 1/2-z
C13–H13…O7	0.93	2.56	3.307(6)	138.0	-x, -3/2+y, 1/2-z
C21–H21…O5	0.93	2.53	3.314(7)	142.0	-x, -1/2+y, 1/2-z
<b>11</b>					
C9–H9…F4	0.93	2.48	3.250(5)	140.0	2-x, 1-y, 1-z
<b>12</b>					
C2–H2…O3	0.93	2.57	3.483(13)	169.0	1-x, 1-y, -z
C23–H23…O3'	0.93	2.52	3.405(13)	160.0	2-x, 1-y, -z
C28–H28…O4	0.93	2.53	3.457(14)	178.0	x, 1+y, z