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# **Electronic Supplementary Information**

# Enhancement of 4-electron O<sub>2</sub> reduction by a Cu(II)-pyridylamine complex *via* protonation of a pendant pyridine in the second coordination sphere in water

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1) Experimental Section	•••••• page 2 – 7
General	2
Synthesis	2–7

2) Fig. S1 – S7 and Table S1 – S3	page 8 – 19
Table S1 (X-ray Crystallographic data)	8
Fig. S1 (ESI-TOF-MS)	9
Fig. S2 (ORTEP drawing of <b>CuNNN-py</b> )	10
Fig. S3 (UV-vis)	11
Fig. S4 (ESR)	12
Fig. S5 (DFT-optimized structure of CuNNN-py)	13
Fig. S6 (CV)	14
Fig. S7 (Iodometric titration)	15
Fig. S8 (UV-vis spectral changes)	16
Table S2,3 (Cartesian coordinates)	17–20

# **Experimental Section**

**General.** NMR measurements were performed on JEOL EX270 and EX400, and Bruker AVANCE400 spectrometers. UV-vis absorption spectra were measured on a Shimadzu UV-3600 and UV-2450 spectrometers at room temperature. ESI-TOF-MS spectra were obtained on a JEOL JMS-T100CS mass spectrometer. A BAS ALS-710D electrochemical analyzer was used for electrochemical measurements. THF was distilled over Na/benzophenone under Ar before use. Chemicals were used as received unless otherwise noted. *N*,*N*-Bis(2-pyridylmethyl)amine and *N*-methyl-*N*,*N*-bis(2-pyridylmethyl)amine are abbreviated as bpa and Mebpa, respectively.

# Synthesis.



**5-Bromo-2-pyridinecarboxaldehyde (1).** This compound was synthesized according to the literature procedure.<sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.84 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (dd, *J* = 7.0, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 8.84 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 10.03 (s, 1H).

**5-Bromo-2-[1,3]dioxolan-2-yl-pyridine (2).** A solution of **1** (922.6 mg, 4.96 mmol), ethylene glycol (560  $\mu$ L, 9.90 mmol), and *p*-toluenesulfonic acid (1.70 g, 9.87 mmol) in benzene (18 mL) were heated to reflux to accumulate water in a Dean-Stark apparatus. The solution was neutralized with saturated NaOH aq. The aqueous layer was extracted with dichloromethane for several times, and the organic layers were combined and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.

The solvent was removed under reduced pressure to give orange oil, which was dried *in vacuo*. Purification was made by column chromatography on alumina using ethyl acetate/hexane (7:3, v/v) as an eluent to afford orange oil (0.804 g, 3.50 mmol, 71% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  4.10 (m, 4H), 5.80 (s, 1H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.66 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H).

**Pyrid-3-yl-2'-([1,3]dioxolan-2-yl)-pyrid-3-yl-methanone (3).** Under Ar, the solution of **2** (359.3 mg, 1.56 mmol) in anhydrous THF (6 mL) was added at -78 °C into *n*-butyl lithium (1.6 M, 1.38 mL, 1.58 mmol), which was diluted with anhydrous THF (5 mL). The solution was kept at -78 °C with stirring for 30 min, and then the solution of methyl nicotinate in anhydrous THF (10 mL) was added slowly at -78 °C with stirring for 10 min. After stirring for 30 min at -78 °C, the solution was allowed to warm slowly to -20 °C over 3 h. After further warming to room temperature and then stirring for 2 days, the solution was quenched with addition of the mixture of water : methanol : conc. HCl = 5 : 5 : 1 v/v/v, and was further added NaOH aq to adjust pH to be 11. The mixture was extracted with dichloromethane several times, and the organic layer was combined and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The brown oil obtained was chromatographed on silica-gel using ethyl acetate/methanol (7:3, v/v) as the eluent. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure to give orange oil, which was dried *in vacuo*. (218.3 mg, 0.853 mmol, 55% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  4.14 (m, 4H), 5.92 (s, 1H), 7.46 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 8.98 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 2.1, Hz, 1H).

**3-Pyridylmethyl-[1,3]dioxolan-2-yl-pyridine (4).** To the solution of **3** (390.0 mg, 1.52 mmol) in ethylene glycol (10 mL) was added potassium hydroxide (199.8 mg, 3.56 mmol) and the mixture was stirred for 1 h. Then, hydrazine hydrate (176.8 mg, 3.51 mmol) was added and the mixture was heated to 185 °C. After heating at the temperature for 105 min, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with water, and extracted with dichrolomethane for several times. The organic layer was combined and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The filtrate was evaporated to dryness and dried *in vacuo* to give yellow oil (321.1 mg, 1.33 mmol, 88% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  3.97 (s, 2H), 4.01 (m, 4H), 5.92 (s, 1H), 7.19 (t, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (m, 3H), 8.45 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 8.48 (d, *J* = 2.7 Hz, 2H). **3-Pyridylmethyl-2-pyridinecarboxaldehyde (5).** Compound **4** (321.1 mg, 1.33 mmol) dried under vacuum was dissolved in chloroform (60 mL) and trifluoroacetic acid (36 mL) was added to the solution. After refluxing the solution for 2 h, conc. H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>(360  $\mu$ L, 6.7  $\mu$ mol) was added to the solution and the mixture was refluxed for 5 h. The solution was cooled to

room temperature and NaOH aq was added to adjust the solution pH to be 11. The mixture was extracted with dichloromethane several times, and the organic layers were combined and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The volatiles of the filtrate were evaporated to dryness and dried *in vacuo* to give yellow oil (188.0 mg, 0.949 mmol, 71% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  4.06 (s, 1H), 7.16–7.25 (m, 1H), 7.43 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.42-8.50 (m, 2H), 8.64 (s, 1H), 10.0 (s, 1H).

**3-Pyridylmethyl-bpa (6).** Compound **5** (155 mg, 0.58 mmol) in absolute ethanol (10 mL) was added to a solution of 2-picolylamine (61.51 mg, 0.57 mmol) in absolute ethanol (10 mL). After stirring at room temperature for 4 h, the solution was cooled to 0 °C and sodium borohydride (7.08 mg, 0.19 mmol) was added to the solution in small portions. After stirring the reaction mixture for 12 h at room temperature, the reaction was quenched by adding HCl aq and then NaOH aq was added to adjust the solution pH to be 11. The mixture was extracted with dichloromethane for several times, and the organic layers were combined and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The volatiles of the filtrate were evaporated to dryness and dried *in vacuo* to give brown oil (142.7 mg, 0.492 mmol, 85% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  3.94 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 4H), 3.96 (s, 1H), 7.11-7.30 (m, 4H), 7.32–7.43 (m, 2H), 7.61 (td, *J* = 6.1, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.42 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.45-8.48 (m, 2H), 8.53 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 1H).

**3-Pyridylmethyl-Mebpa** (7). Formic acid (98%, 260  $\mu$ L) and formaldehyde (37%, 380  $\mu$ L) were mixed, and then compound **6** (142.7 mg, 0.492 mmol) was added to the mixture. The mixture was refluxed for 12 h, cooled to room temperature, and NaOH aq was added. The solution was extracted with dichloromethane, and the organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and the volatiles of the filtrate were evaporated. The brown oil obtained was dried *in vacuo* (70.9 mg, 0.23 mmol, 47% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  2.28 (s, 3H), 3.72 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz, 4H), 3.93 (s, 1H), 7.11 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (t, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.47 (m, 4H), 7.61 (td, *J* = 7.7, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.40 (s, 1H), 8.42–8.48 (m, 2H), 8.51 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 1H).

[Cu(NNN)](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>. The solution of bpa (84.6 mg, 0.40 mmol) in methanol (5 mL) was added to the solution of Cu(BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (137.8 mg, 0.40 mmol) in methanol (20 mL) under Ar. The mixture was stirred for 18 h at 50 °C under Ar and the solvent was removed under vacuum to obtain blue solid. Recrystallization was performed from methanol/ethyl acetate to give blue crystals (93.5 mg, 0.21 mmol, 53% yield). Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>15</sub>B<sub>2</sub>CuF<sub>8</sub>N<sub>3</sub>: C 35.96, H 3.85, N 8.68, found: C 35.98, H 3.74, N 8.97. UV-Vis (H<sub>2</sub>O at pH 4.5):  $\lambda_{max}$  [nm] ( $\varepsilon$  [M<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>]) = 660 (44).

[Cu(NNN-Py)](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>. The solution of 7 (84.2 mg, 0.28 mmol) in methanol (5 mL) was added

to a solution of Cu(BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (96.0 mg, 0.28 mmol) in methanol (20 mL) under Ar. The mixture was stirred for 18 h at 50 °C under Ar and the solvent was removed under vacuum. After addition of a small amount of methanol, the mixture was separated into a blue solution and pale blue solid. Recrystallization of the blue solution was performed from methanol/ethyl acetate to give blue crystals (46.0 mg, 0.09 mmol, 32% yield). Anal. Calcd. for  $C_{19}H_{20}B_2CuF_8N_4$ : C 48.02, H 4.63, N 11.59, found: C 47.77, H 4.52, N 11.43. UV-Vis (H<sub>2</sub>O at pH 4.8):  $\lambda_{max}$  [nm] ( $\varepsilon$  [M<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>]) = 662 (115).

# X-ray crystallography on CuNNN-Py.

A purple single crystal of **CuNNN-py** was grown by vapor diffusion of ethyl acetate into an acetone solution of **CuNNN-py**. All measurements were performed at 120 K on a Bruker APEXII Ultra diffractometer. The structure was solved by a direct method (SIR-97) and expanded with differential Fourier technique. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically and the refinement was carried out with full matrix least squares on *F*. All calculations were performed using the Yadokari-XG crystallographic software package.<sup>2</sup> Crystallographic details are available in the cif format as ESI<sup>†</sup>.

# **ESR** measurements.

ESR spectra were taken on a Bruker X-band spectrometer (EMXPlus9.5/2.7) under non-saturating microwave power conditions (2.0 - 4.0 mW) at 298 K. The magnitude of the modulation was chosen to optimize the resolution and the signal to noise ratio (S/N) of the observed spectrum (modulation amplitude, 10 - 20 G; modulation frequency, 100 kHz).

#### **Electrochemical measurements.**

Cyclic voltammetry (CV) of **CuNNN-Py** and **CuNNN** was carried out in  $H_2O$  containing 0.1 M KNO<sub>3</sub> as an electrolyte at 298 K under Ar or O<sub>2</sub> with use of a grassy carbon as a working electrode, a platinum wire as a counter electrode, and Ag/AgNO<sub>3</sub> as a reference electrode. The pH should be adjusted with HClO<sub>4</sub> aq and NaOH aq to pH 4.2 or pH 6.7. A BAS ALS-710D electrochemical analyzer was used for the electrochemical measurements. Then, apparent number of electrons used for O<sub>2</sub> reduction catalyzed by the Cu complexes was investigated with use of rotating ring-disk electrode (RRDE), which was consist of a glassy carbon as a working electrode and a platinum as a ring electrode.

#### Dimerization constant of CuNNN-py in D<sub>2</sub>O.

The UV-Vis spectra of **CuNNN-py** were measured under various concentrations in  $D_2O$ , pH of which was set to be 4.2 and 6.6 (Fig S3). The *d*-*d* absorption band of **CuNNN-py** was sensitive to the concentrations at pH 6.6, whereas that was independent of the concentrations at pH 4.2. The absorption maxima was plotted against the concentrations and analysed with eqns (S1)-(S4) to obtain the equilibrium constant of the dimerization (*K*).

$$M_1 + 2M_2 = M_0$$
 (S1)

$$\lambda = \frac{M_1}{M_0}\lambda_1 + \frac{2M_2}{M_0}\lambda_2 \tag{S2}$$

$$K = \frac{M_2}{M_1^2} \tag{S3}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2}{4KM_0} \left(1 + \sqrt{1 + 8KM_0}\right) + \lambda_2 \tag{S4}$$

Here,  $M_0$ ,  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are the total concentrations of Cu(II) complexes with **NNN-py** as defined in eqn (S1), a monomer and a dimer formed in the solution, respectively.  $\lambda$ ,  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  are the absorption maximum of the *d*-*d* transition at the concentration, that of the monomer, and the dimer, respectively.  $\lambda_1$  (685 nm) and  $\lambda_2$  (535 nm) were also obtained from the fitting analysis.

# Detection of hydrogen peroxide (H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>).

The amount of  $H_2O_2$  generated by bulk electrolysis for 70 s with use of static potential at -0.8 V vs SCE in aqueous solution including **CuNNN-py** (0.4 mM) or **CuNNN** (0.4 mM), whose pH was set at pH 4 or pH 6, was estimated by iodometry. The procedure of the iodometry was indicated below: the reaction mixture after electrolysis was treated with an excess amount of NaI (1.0 M) and the amount of  $I_3^-$  formed with oxidation of  $I^-$  ion with  $H_2O_2$  was determined by the absorbance at  $\lambda_{max} = 350$  nm obtained from the UV-vis spectra. For the calculation,  $\varepsilon = 31000 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$  was used as the absorption coefficient of  $I_3^-$  ion.<sup>3,4</sup>

# Determination of stoichiometry in O<sub>2</sub> reduction.

Methyl viologen radical cation (MV<sup>++</sup>) was produced as a one-electron reductant through the reaction between methyl viologen (MV<sup>2+</sup>) and sodium dithionite under Ar atmosphere in aqueous solution at pH 4.2, which was adjusted by using HClO<sub>4</sub>. UV-vis spectral change of MV<sup>++</sup> (0.20 mM) was observed at 298 K upon addition of 100  $\mu$ L of air-saturated aqueous

solution at pH 4.2 containing **CuNNN-pyH**<sup>+</sup> (0.20 mM) and O<sub>2</sub> (0.26 mM) into 1.9 mL of MV<sup>++</sup> solution (final concentration: **CuNNN-pyH**<sup>+</sup> (0.01 mM) and O<sub>2</sub> (0.013 mM)). The stoichiometry of the O<sub>2</sub> reduction was determined from the consumed amount of MV<sup>++</sup> using O<sub>2</sub> reduction under O<sub>2</sub>-limiting conditions (4[O<sub>2</sub>] < [MV<sup>++</sup>]; [O<sub>2</sub>] = 0.013 mM, [MV<sup>++</sup>] = 0.2 mM).

# **Computational method.**

The structures of **CuNNN-py** complexes were optimized by using the B3LYP functional without solvent effects.<sup>5</sup> The LanL2DZ basis set was used for all atoms. The program used was Gaussian 09.<sup>6</sup>

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	$[Cu(BF_4)_2(NNN-py)]_2$	
formula	$C_{19}H_{20}B_2CuF_8N_4$	
formula wt	541.55	
cryst syst	monoclinic	
space group	P21/c	
a (Å)	14.516(7)	
b (Å)	9.366(4)	
<i>c</i> (Å)	15.706(7)	
$\alpha$ (deg)	90	
$\beta$ (deg)	97.731(7)	
γ(deg)	90	
$V(\text{\AA}^3)$	2115.9(17)	
Ζ	4	
<i>R</i> 1(%)	5.08	
GOF	0.886	

 Table S1. X-ray Crystallographic Data for [Cu(BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(NNN-py)]<sub>2</sub> ((CuNNN-py)<sub>2</sub>)



**Fig. S1** ESI-TOF-MS of (a)  $[Cu(F)NNN-py]^+$  and (b)  $[Cu(F)NNN]^+$  in acetonitrile: Black trace, experimentally observed; pink trace, simulated.



**Fig. S2** An ORETP presentation of the crystal structure of  $[Cu(BF_4)(NNN-py)]_2$  ((**CuNNN-py**)<sub>2</sub>) with 50% probability thermal ellipsoids. All hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°): Cu-N1 2.034(5), Cu-N2 2.003(5), Cu-N3 1.992(5), Cu-N4 2.001(5), Cu-F1 2.407(4), Cu-F5 2.522(5); N1-Cu-N2 83.0(2), N1-Cu-N3 82.6(2), N2-Cu-N3 165.6(2), N1-Cu-N4 177.0(2).



**Fig. S3** UV-vis spectra observed in (a) aqueous solution (pH 6.6) containing (**CuNNN-py**)<sub>2</sub> (1.02 - 14.7 mM) and (b) aqueous solution (pH 4.2) containing (**CuNNN-py**)<sub>2</sub> (0.86 - 11.4 mM) at 298 K. (c) Plots of the wavelength at absorption maximum *vs.* [M<sub>0</sub>], which is defined as in eqn S1 in the experimental section in the ESI.



**Fig. S4** ESR spectra of (**CuNNN-py**)<sub>2</sub> (1.2 mM) in aqueous solution at (a) pH 4.2 and (b) pH 6.7 at 298 K. In light of the association constant (79  $M^{-1}$ ), at the concentration, (**CuNNN-py**)<sub>2</sub> should dissociate to afford monomeric species at pH 6.7. ESR spectra of **CuNNN** (3.7 mM) in aqueous solution at (c) pH 4.2 and (d) pH 6.7 at 298 K. (e) ESR spectrum of (**CuNNN-py**)<sub>2</sub> mixed with Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> in a solid state at 298 K. The asterisks denote impurities in the ESR tubes.



**Fig. S5** A DFT-optimized structure of **CuNNN-py**. (a) Ball and stick and (b) space-filling representation.



**Fig. S6** Cyclic voltammograms of **CuNNN-py** (a) pH 4.2 and (b) pH 6.7 under Ar, and (e) pH 4.2, (f) pH 6.7 under  $O_2$ . **CuNNN** (c) pH 4.2, (d) pH 6.7 under Ar, and (g) pH 4.2, (h) pH 6.7 under  $O_2$ .



**Fig. S7** (a) Absorption spectra observed in  $H_2O_2$  quantification by iodometry in the aqueous solution at pH 4.2 (solid line) and pH 6.7 (dotted line) after bulk electrolysis of **CuNNN-py** (pink) and **CuNNN** (blue) at -0.8 V vs. SCE for 70 sec under  $O_2$ . The gray line denotes UV-vis spectrum of **CuNNN** at pH 6.7 before bulk electrolysis. (b) A calibration curve based on absorbance at 350 nm for iodometry.



**Fig. S8** (a) UV-vis spectral change of methyl viologen radical cation (MV<sup>+</sup>, 0.2 mM) as a one-electron reductant upon addition of pH 4.2 aqueous solution containing **CuNNN-pyH<sup>+</sup>** (0.01 mM) and O<sub>2</sub> (0.013 mM) at 298 K. (b) Time profiles at 732 nm upon addition of pH 4.2 aqueous solution containing O<sub>2</sub> (0.013 mM) with and without **CuNNN-pyH<sup>+</sup>**.

**Comments.** The  $\varepsilon$  value at 732 nm of MV<sup>\*+</sup> was estimated to be 2600 M<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup> compared to that at 600 nm of MV<sup>\*+</sup> according to the literature (K. Tsukahara and R. G. Wilkins, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1985, **107**, 2632). The O<sub>2</sub> concentration in air-saturated aqueous solution has been reported to be 0.26 mM (C. E. D. Chidsey, and co-authors, *J. Phys. Chem. A* 2007, **111**, 12641). Thus, the spectral change at 732 nm ( $\Delta$ Abs = 0.10) in the presence of **CuNNN-pyH<sup>+</sup>** indicated that 0.038 mM of MV<sup>\*+</sup> was consumed ( $n_{cat} = 2.92 \text{ e}^-$ ): The consumed amount of MV<sup>\*+</sup> (0.038 mM) was more than that required amount of MV<sup>\*+</sup> (0.026 mM) for 2e<sup>-</sup>-reduction of O<sub>2</sub>. In other words, the stoichiometry of the O<sub>2</sub> reduction could be determined from the consumed amount of MV<sup>\*+</sup> using O<sub>2</sub> reduction under O<sub>2</sub>-limiting conditions (4[O<sub>2</sub>] < [MV<sup>\*+</sup>]; [O<sub>2</sub>] = 0.013 mM, [MV<sup>\*+</sup>] = 0.2 mM).

Atom	Coordinates (Angstroms)		
	X	Y	Z
С	-1.895036	0.938197	-0.633013
С	5.241582	-1.868704	0.476339
С	4.160533	-2.766257	0.384115
С	2.875274	-2.256465	0.149063
С	1.810271	1.591255	1.905392
С	-2.947313	1.734517	-0.134337
С	-2.610017	3.050711	0.24239
С	-1.267754	3.490415	0.182468
С	-0.265335	2.582874	-0.180245
С	1.227395	2.851257	-0.153598
С	3.330108	1.428057	-0.057909
С	3.699098	-0.037499	0.106553
С	5.004794	-0.485537	0.34452
н	6.24644	-2.235772	0.661801
н	4.304434	-3.834945	0.499856
Н	2.00472	-2.899519	0.0966
Н	0.762856	1.666551	2.209029
н	2.222805	0.65618	2.29012
Н	-2.073502	-0.061074	-1.001411
Н	-3.375236	3.724866	0.618855
Н	-1.009451	4.503155	0.474948
Н	1.594664	3.025629	-1.172424
Н	1.466854	3.737335	0.446581
Н	4.02	2.068927	0.50668
Н	3.39768	1.71811	-1.114172
Н	5.819349	0.226588	0.433493
Ν	-0.597287	1.314566	-0.576947
Ν	1.909833	1.62357	0.399259

 Table S2. Cartesian coordinates of the optimized structure of CuNNN-py.

Ν	2.658097	-0.921658	-0.000232
Cu	0.895672	-0.037841	-0.390897
0	-0.296989	-1.765975	-0.171359
Н	2.366379	2.4333	2.339343
С	-4.330552	1.113457	0.104
Н	-4.799263	1.625774	0.95548
Н	-4.987445	1.296943	-0.75704
С	-4.236097	-0.39636	0.352729
С	-3.129586	-0.921852	1.05038
С	-5.130067	-1.329348	-0.211754
Н	-2.448719	-0.266536	1.585751
С	-4.854814	-2.708128	-0.103827
Н	-6.015238	-0.993442	-0.746408
С	-3.635704	-3.120081	0.465639
Н	-5.540425	-3.446363	-0.506267
Н	-3.338113	-4.163882	0.472543
Ν	-2.767026	-2.229931	1.023316
Н	-0.31116	-2.333446	-0.966431
Н	-1.036627	-2.044145	0.472465
0	1.026624	-0.497697	-2.564227
Н	1.752312	-0.986556	-3.000715
Н	0.459121	-0.059811	-3.229184

Atom	Coordinates (Angstroms)		
	Х	Y	Z
С	1.712588	1.10231	0.600107
С	-5.255209	-2.1049	-0.168991
С	-4.123123	-2.94064	-0.107495
С	-2.854994	-2.351727	0.004634
С	-2.15099	1.582474	-1.932211
С	2.732394	1.920802	0.084608
С	2.33862	3.196017	-0.379051
С	0.981423	3.583769	-0.346827
С	0.013502	2.657801	0.074666
С	-1.496658	2.875319	0.072638
С	-3.52188	1.323511	0.118794
С	-3.796554	-0.174803	0.004734
С	-5.088583	-0.706821	-0.116759
Н	-6.24898	-2.532585	-0.2615
Н	-4.217628	-4.02034	-0.148529
Н	-1.943779	-2.940604	0.054032
Н	-1.12622	1.69365	-2.297915
Н	-2.539337	0.622757	-2.281711
Н	1.910374	0.124682	1.015177
Н	3.077636	3.884788	-0.781653
Н	0.68468	4.568943	-0.692029
Н	-1.834227	3.063285	1.099317
Н	-1.766715	3.749646	-0.533603
Н	-4.308319	1.892564	-0.396576
Н	-3.538107	1.611499	1.177363
Н	-5.947531	-0.045061	-0.17132
Ν	0.403903	1.42989	0.521303
Ν	-2.162277	1.62609	-0.430708

Table S3. Cartesian coordinates of the optimized structure of  $Cu^{II}(OOH)(NNN-pyH^+)$ .

Ν	-2.706382	-1.001531	0.063439
С	-0.995936	-0.016098	0.312249
0	0.462591	-1.112969	-0.491055
н	-2.768714	2.390243	-2.350849
С	4.175875	1.419149	-0.016041
н	4.64578	1.884996	-0.893971
Н	4.752602	1.772986	0.849839
С	4.334547	-0.102161	-0.107836
С	3.344405	-0.910645	-0.688053
С	5.468937	-0.762688	0.419696
Н	2.425513	-0.53904	-1.119624
С	5.568734	-2.169634	0.387398
Н	6.272578	-0.185451	0.870214
С	4.507388	-2.923609	-0.120735
Н	6.440358	-2.676869	0.784401
Н	4.486084	-4.006765	-0.116866
Ν	3.428546	-2.268638	-0.63398
0	-1.366444	-0.021891	2.546456
Н	-1.876994	-0.711992	3.014023
Н	-0.80577	0.476117	3.1728
0	0.458456	-2.586394	-0.782745
Н	0.013064	-2.647248	-1.663583
н	2.569916	-2.775155	-0.903959