

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### METAL-METAL COMMUNICATION BETWEEN 1,1'-BIS(DIPHENYLPHOSPHINO)COBALTOCENIUM AND AN ORGANONICKEL MOIETY

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# 1 Experimental

$^1\text{H}$  NMR,  $\{^1\text{H}\}^{11}\text{B}$  NMR,  $\{^1\text{H}\}^{13}\text{C}$  NMR and  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AC 250 spectrometer at 250.1299986 MHz, 26.866 MHz, 62.8954017 MHz, 101.2544800 MHz respectively.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $\{^1\text{H}\}^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were referenced against remanent solvent peak.  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectra were referenced against  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  as external standard. IR spectra were recorded on a Nicolet 6700 FT-IR. UV-vis-NIR absorption spectra were obtained on J&M TIDAS spectrophotometer. Cyclic voltammetry was carried out in a 0.1 M  $n\text{Bu}_4\text{NPF}_6$  solution in acetonitrile using a three-electrode configuration (glassy carbon working, Pt wire counter, and Ag reference electrode) on a Metrohm Autolab potentiostat. The couple  $[\text{Fe}(\text{C}_5\text{H}_5)_2]/[\text{Fe}(\text{C}_5\text{H}_5)_2]^+$  ( $\text{FeCp}_2/\text{FeCp}_2^+$ ) served as internal reference in all experiments. All solvents were degassed by passing through argon prior to use. Spectroelectrochemistry was performed at  $-30\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  using an optically transparent thin-layered electrode (OTTLE) [1] and a liquid nitrogen cryostat previously described. [2] A suitable crystals of  $[\mathbf{1}]_2(\text{Fe}_2\text{OCl}_6)$  [ac465a],  $[\mathbf{1}]\text{PF}_6$  [ac539 sqd],  $[\mathbf{2}](\text{BF}_4)_n(\text{PF}_6)_m$  [ac500/] and  $[\mathbf{2}](\text{BF}_4)_2$  [ac535] were selected and measured on an Apex II, Bruker diffractometer. Using Olex2 [3] the structures were solved with the ShelXS structure solution program using Direct Methods and refined with the least squared refinement. [4]

Density functional theory (DFT) calculations were performed using the molecular structure of  $[\mathbf{1}]^+$ . A computational analysis was performed by means of restricted Kohn-Sham density functional theory (DFT) using TPSS [5] functional in combination with the D3 dispersion correction [6] with the def2-TZVP and Weigend J auxiliary basis set. [7,8] Geometry optimizations were realized with the ORCA program package with TightSCF convergence ( $1.0\text{e-}7$  a.u.). [9] Solvation in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  was modeled using the CPCM solvation model. [10] Open-shell calculations on the structure  $[\mathbf{1}]^0$ ,  $[\mathbf{1}]^{-1}$  ( $S=3$ ) and compared to restricted KS for and  $[\mathbf{1}]^{-1}$  were determined by adding the requisite number of electrons, and calculations were performed by means of (un)restricted Kohn-Sham DFT using the same basis set, functionals, and solvent models as  $[\mathbf{1}]^+$ .

Density functional theory (DFT) calculations were performed using the molecular structure of  $[\mathbf{2}]^{2+}$ . A computational analysis was performed by means of restricted Kohn-Sham density functional theory (DFT) using TPSS [5] functional in combination with the D3 dispersion correction [6] with the def2-TZVP and Weigend J auxiliary basis set. [7,8] Geometry optimizations were realized with the ORCA program package with TightSCF convergence ( $10^{-7}$  a.u.). [9] Solvation in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  was modeled using the CPCM solvation model. [10] Open-shell calculations on the structure  $[\mathbf{1}]^0$ ,  $[\mathbf{1}]^{-1}$  ( $S=3$ ) and compared to restricted KS for and  $[\mathbf{1}]^{-1}$  were determined by adding the requisite number of electrons, and calculations were performed by means of (un)restricted Kohn-Sham DFT using the same basis set, functionals, and solvent models as  $[\mathbf{1}]^+$ .

1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphino)cobaltocenium (dppc)<sup>+</sup>: A solution of chlorodiphenylphosphine (10 mL, 12 g, 54 mmol, 1.1 equiv.) in THF (100 mL) was cooled to -78 C and a solution of sodium cyclopentadienide (4.35 g, 49.4 mmol, 1 equiv.) in THF (40 mL) was added slowly. After the addition the dry-ice/acetone bath was removed, and the solution was allowed react for 30 min at room temperature. The color turned bright yellow. The reaction solution was again cooled to -78 C and <sup>n</sup>BuLi was added (2.5 M in hexanes, 22 mL, 55 mmol, 1.1 equiv.). The reaction mixture was stirred for 15 min and anhydrous CoCl<sub>2</sub> (3.56 g, 27.4 mmol, 0.55 equiv.) was added as a solid against a counterflow of argon. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature overnight. The reaction was quenched with acetic acid (1.6 mL) in water (4 mL) and air was purged through the solution for 3 h to oxidize the product. The resulting suspension was filtered through celite and a solution of NH<sub>4</sub>PF<sub>6</sub> (5.2 g) in water (5 mL) was added. The mixture was diluted with ethanol (80 mL) and the solvent volume was reduced to 50 mL under reduced pressure. Filtration gave a brown solid which was recrystallized from DCM/Et<sub>2</sub>O to give an orange crystalline solid (2.450 g, 3.282 mmol, 13%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>CN): δ = 7.48-7.28 (m, 20H), 5.77 (t, J = 2.0 Hz, 4H), 5.34 ppm (t, J = 2.0 Hz, 4H). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>CN): δ = -22.9 ppm (s), -144.4 ppm (sep).

[Ni(dppc)Cl<sub>2</sub>]Cl•CH<sub>3</sub>CN: [Et<sub>4</sub>N]<sub>2</sub>[NiCl<sub>4</sub>] (100 mg, 0.217 mmol, 1 equiv.) and (dppc)PF<sub>6</sub> (175 mg, 0.234 mmol, 1.1 equiv.) were each dissolved in Acetonitrile (35 mL in total), combined and heated to reflux for 5 min. After cooling to 20 C the formed brown precipitate was filtered off and recrystallized from Acetonitrile giving a brown crystalline solid (149 mg, 0.185 mmol, 85%). Elemental analysis calcd. (%) for C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>31</sub>NCl<sub>6</sub>CoFeNiO<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub>: C 56.63, H 4.092, N 1.83; found C 65.56, H 4.040, N 1.76.

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- [9] F. Neese, "The orca program system," *WIREs Comput Mol Sci*, vol. 2, no. 1, pp. 73-78, 2012.
- [10] Y. Takano and K. N. Houk, "Benchmarking the conductor-like polarizable continuum model (cpcm) for aqueous solvation free energies of neutral and ionic organic molecules," *J. Chem. Theory Comput.*, vol. 1, no. 1, pp. 70-77, 2005.

## 2 Crystallography

Table S1: Selected Bond Lengths [2]<sup>2+</sup>

| Bond / Å         | [2](PF <sub>6</sub> ) <sub>n</sub> (BF <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>m</sub> | [2](BF <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> |
|------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| Ni1-Co1          | 4.165(2)   | 4.106(3)                           |
| Ni1-P1           | 2.174(3)   | 2.1681(4)                          |
| Ni1-P2           | 2.156(3)   | 2.1744(4)                          |
| Ni1-Cp(centroid) | 1.729  | 1.727                              |

Table S2: Crystallographic Information for [1]<sub>2</sub>(Fe<sub>2</sub>OCl<sub>6</sub>)

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Identification code                         | ac465a  |
| Empirical formula                           | C <sub>36</sub> H <sub>28</sub> Cl <sub>3</sub> CoFeNiO <sub>2.5</sub> P <sub>2</sub> |
| Formula weight                              | 842.40  |
| Temperature/K                               | 135.0   |
| Crystal system                              | triclinic   |
| Space group                                 | P-1   |
| a/Å   | 10.1357(5)  |
| b/Å   | 17.5973(8)  |
| c/Å   | 21.6427(11)   |
| α/°   | 68.911(3)   |
| β/°   | 80.097(4)   |
| γ/°   | 74.415(3)   |
| Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>                       | 3457.0(3)   |
| Z   | 4   |
| ρ <sub>calc</sub> /cm <sup>3</sup>          | 1.6184  |
| μ/mm <sup>-1</sup>                          | 10.952  |
| F(000)                                      | 1688.3  |
| Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>                | 0.09 × 0.047 × 0.038  |
| Radiation                                   | Cu Kα (λ = 1.54178)   |
| 2θ range for data collection/°              | 4.4 to 133.3  |
| Index ranges                                | -11 ≤ h ≤ 11, -18 ≤ k ≤ 20, -25 ≤ l ≤ 24  |
| Reflections collected                       | 46677   |
| Independent reflections                     | 11746 [R <sub>int</sub> = 0.1107, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0978]                        |
| Data/restraints/parameters                  | 11746/0/838   |
| Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>           | 1.022   |
| Final R indexes [I ≥ 2σ(I)]                 | R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0509, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.0978                                     |
| Final R indexes [all data]                  | R <sub>1</sub> = 0.1008, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1164                                     |
| Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup> | 0.85/-0.94  |

Table S3: Crystallographic Information for [2](PF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>1.58</sub>(BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>0.42</sub>

No syntax errors found. [CIF dictionary](#)  
Please wait while processing .... [Interpreting this report](#)

**Datablock: ac500**

|                     |  |  |
|---------------------|--|--|
| Bond precision:     | C-C = 0.0168 Å   | Wavelength=0.71073                       |
| Cell:               | a=19.107(2) b=10.7707(12) c=18.508(2)                  |  |
|                     | alpha=90 beta=96.858(5) gamma=90                       |  |
| Temperature:        | 140 K  |  |
|                     | Calculated   | Reported                                 |
| Volume              | 3781.6(7)  | 3781.6(7)                                |
| Space group         | P 21/c   | P 1 21/c 1                               |
| Hall group          | -P 2ybc  | -P 2ybc                                  |
| Moiety formula      | C39 H33 Co Ni P2, 1.582(F6 P), 0.418(B F4) [+ solvent] | C39 H33 Co Ni P2, 1.58(F6 P), 0.42(B F4) |
| Sum formula         | C39 H33 B0.42 Co F11.16 Ni P3.58 [+ solvent]           | C39 H33 B0.42 Co F11.16 Ni P3.58         |
| Mr                  | 946.84   | 946.84                                   |
| Dx, g cm-3          | 1.663  | 1.706                                    |
| Z                   | 4  | 4  |
| Mu (mm-1)           | 1.174  | 1.196                                    |
| F000                | 1913.2   | 1965.8                                   |
| F000'               | 1916.44  |  |
| h, k, lmax          | 23, 13, 23   | 23, 13, 23                               |
| Nref                | 7787   | 7711                                     |
| Tmin, Tmax          | 0.871, 0.912   | 0.653, 0.888                             |
| Tmin'               | 0.595  |  |
| Correction method=  | # Reported T Limits: Tmin=0.653                        |  |
| Tmax=0.888 AbsCorr= | NUMERICAL  |  |
| Data completeness=  | 0.990 Theta(max)= 26.430                               |  |
| R(reflections)=     | 0.1324( 5089)  | wR2(reflections)= 0.3628( 7711)          |
| S =                 | 1.047 Npar= 410  |  |

The following ALERTS were generated. Each ALERT has the format [test-name\\_ALERT\\_alert-type\\_alert-level](#). Click on the hyperlinks for more details of the test.

|                                   |   |              |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------|
| <b>Alert level B</b>              |   |              |
| <a href="#">PLAT084_ALERT_3_B</a> | High wR2 Value (i.e. > 0.25) .....              | 0.36 Report  |
| <a href="#">PLAT097_ALERT_2_B</a> | Large Reported Max. (Positive) Residual Density | 3.09 eA-3    |
| <a href="#">PLAT232_ALERT_2_B</a> | Hirshfeld Test Diff (M-X) Nil --P4              | 16.3 s.u.    |
| <a href="#">PLAT341_ALERT_3_B</a> | Low Bond Precision on C-C Bonds .....           | 0.01678 Ang. |

|                                   |   |              |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------|
| <b>Alert level C</b>              |   |              |
| <a href="#">ABSH01_ALERT_1_C</a>  | The ratio of given/expected absorption coefficient lies outside the range 0.99 <> 1.01                            |              |
|                                   | Calculated value of mu = 1.174  |              |
|                                   | Value of mu given = 1.196   |              |
| <a href="#">DENS01_ALERT_1_C</a>  | The ratio of the submitted crystal density and that calculated from the formula is outside the range 0.99 <> 1.01 |              |
|                                   | Crystal density given = 1.706   |              |
|                                   | Calculated crystal density = 1.663  |              |
| <a href="#">DIFW02_ALERT_2_C</a>  | The minimum difference density is < -0.1*ZMAX+0.75  |              |
|                                   | _refine_diff_density_min given = -2.580   |              |
|                                   | Test value = -2.100   |              |
| <a href="#">DIFW03_ALERT_1_C</a>  | The minimum difference density is < -0.1*ZMAX+0.75  |              |
|                                   | The relevant atom site should be identified.  |              |
| <a href="#">DIFW02_ALERT_1_C</a>  | The maximum difference density is > 0.1*ZMAX+0.75   |              |
|                                   | The relevant atom site should be identified.  |              |
| <a href="#">PLAT046_ALERT_1_C</a> | Reported Z, Mw and D(calc) are Inconsistent ....  | 1.663 Check  |
| <a href="#">PLAT077_ALERT_4_C</a> | Unitcell Contains Non-integer Number of Atoms ..  | Please Check |
| <a href="#">PLAT082_ALERT_2_C</a> | High R1 Value .....   | 0.13 Report  |
| <a href="#">PLAT098_ALERT_2_C</a> | Large Reported Min. (Negative) Residual Density   | -2.58 eA-3   |
| <a href="#">PLAT250_ALERT_2_C</a> | Large U3/U1 Ratio for Average U(i,j) Tensor ....  | 2.6 Note     |
| <a href="#">PLAT250_ALERT_2_C</a> | Large U3/U1 Ratio for Average U(1,j) Tensor ....  | 3.0 Note     |
| <a href="#">PLAT260_ALERT_2_C</a> | Large Average Ueq of Residue Including P1A  | 0.121 Check  |
| <a href="#">PLAT790_ALERT_1_C</a> | Centre of Gravity not Within Unit Cell: Resd. #   | 1 Note       |
|                                   | C39 H33 Co Ni P2  |              |

|                                   |   |              |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------|
| <b>Alert level G</b>              |   |              |
| <a href="#">PLAT002_ALERT_2_G</a> | Number of Distance or Angle Restraints on AtSite  | 51 Note      |
| <a href="#">PLAT003_ALERT_2_G</a> | Number of Uiso or Uij Restrained non-H Atoms ...  | 3 Report     |
| <a href="#">PLAT012_ALERT_1_G</a> | No _shelx_res_checksum Found in CIF .....         | Please Check |
| <a href="#">PLAT014_ALERT_1_G</a> | No _shelx_fab_checksum Found in CIF .....         | Please Check |
| <a href="#">PLAT042_ALERT_1_G</a> | Calc. and Reported Moiety Formula Strings Differ  | Please Check |
| <a href="#">PLAT072_ALERT_2_G</a> | SHELXL First Parameter in WGT Unusually Large     | 0.17 Report  |
| <a href="#">PLAT083_ALERT_2_G</a> | SHELXL Second Parameter in WGT Unusually Large    | 84.37 Why ?  |
| <a href="#">PLAT171_ALERT_4_G</a> | The CIF-Embedded .res File Contains EADP Records  | 12 Report    |
| <a href="#">PLAT172_ALERT_4_G</a> | The CIF-Embedded .res File Contains DFIX Records  | 13 Report    |
| <a href="#">PLAT176_ALERT_4_G</a> | The CIF-Embedded .res File Contains SADI Records  | 61 Report    |
| <a href="#">PLAT196_ALERT_4_G</a> | The CIF-Embedded .res File Contains ISOR Records  | 3 Report     |
| <a href="#">PLAT301_ALERT_3_G</a> | Main Residue Disorder .....                       | 28% Note     |
| <a href="#">PLAT302_ALERT_4_G</a> | Anion/Solvent/Minor-Residue Disorder (Resd 2 )    | 100% Note    |
| And 3 other PLAT302 Alerts        |   |              |
| More ...                          |   |              |
| <a href="#">PLAT304_ALERT_4_G</a> | Non-Integer Number of Atoms in .....              | 4.33 Check   |
| And 3 other PLAT304 Alerts        |   |              |
| More ...                          |   |              |
| <a href="#">PLAT432_ALERT_2_G</a> | Short Inter X...Y Contact F33 ..C9                | 2.96 Ang.    |
|                                   | 1-x, 1/2+y, 1/2-z =                               | 2.655 Check  |
| <a href="#">PLAT432_ALERT_2_G</a> | Short Inter X...Y Contact F45 ..C4                | 2.88 Ang.    |
|                                   | x, 1+y, z =                                       | 1.565 Check  |
| <a href="#">PLAT432_ALERT_2_G</a> | Short Inter X...Y Contact F8A ..C5                | 2.91 Ang.    |
|                                   | x, -1/2-y, 1/2+z =                                | 4.556 Check  |
| <a href="#">PLAT605_ALERT_4_G</a> | Largest Solvent Accessible VOID in the Structure  | 17 A**3      |
| <a href="#">PLAT790_ALERT_4_G</a> | Centre of Gravity not Within Unit Cell: Resd. #   | 2 Note       |
|                                   | F6 P  |              |
| <a href="#">PLAT790_ALERT_4_G</a> | Centre of Gravity not Within Unit Cell: Resd. #   | 4 Note       |
|                                   | F6 P  |              |
| <a href="#">PLAT794_ALERT_5_G</a> | Tentative Bond Valency for Co1 (III) ..           | 3.48 Info    |
| <a href="#">PLAT802_ALERT_4_G</a> | CIF Input Record(s) with more than 80 Characters  | 1 Info       |
| <a href="#">PLAT811_ALERT_5_G</a> | No ADDSYM Analysis: Too Many Excluded Atoms ..... | 1 Info       |
| <a href="#">PLAT860_ALERT_3_G</a> | Number of Least-Squares Restraints .....          | 93 Note      |
| <a href="#">PLAT933_ALERT_2_G</a> | Number of HKL-OMIT Records in Embedded .res File  | 12 Note      |
| <a href="#">PLAT982_ALERT_1_G</a> | The Co-f' = 0.3565 Deviates from IT-value =       | 0.3494 Check |
| And 2 other PLAT982 Alerts        |   |              |
| More ...                          |   |              |
| <a href="#">PLAT983_ALERT_1_G</a> | The Co-f'' = 0.9658 Deviates from IT-Value =      | 0.9721 Check |
| And 2 other PLAT983 Alerts        |   |              |
| More ...                          |   |              |

0 ALERT level A = Most likely a serious problem - resolve or explain  
4 ALERT level B = A potentially serious problem, consider carefully  
13 ALERT level C = Check. Ensure it is not caused by an omission or oversight  
37 ALERT level G = General information/check it is not something unexpected

14 ALERT type 1 CIF construction/syntax error, inconsistent or missing data  
16 ALERT type 2 Indicator that the structure model may be wrong or deficient  
4 ALERT type 3 Indicator that the structure quality may be low  
18 ALERT type 4 Improvement, methodology, query or suggestion  
2 ALERT type 5 Informative message, check

It is advisable to attempt to resolve as many as possible of the alerts in all categories. Often the minor alerts point to easily fixed oversights, errors and omissions in your CIF or refinement strategy, so attention to these fine details can be worthwhile. In order to resolve some of the more serious problems it may be necessary to carry out additional measurements or structure refinements. However, the purpose of your study may justify the reported deviations and the more serious of these should normally be commented upon in the discussion or experimental section of a paper or in the "special\_details" fields of the CIF. checkCIF was carefully designed to identify outliers and unusual parameters, but every test has its limitations and alerts that are not important in a particular case may appear. Conversely, the absence of alerts does not guarantee there are no aspects of the results needing attention. It is up to the individual to critically assess their own results and, if necessary, seek expert

Table S4: Crystallographic Information for [1]PF<sub>6</sub>**ac539\_sqd****Table 1 Crystal data and structure refinement for ac539\_sqd.**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Identification code                         | ac539_sqd  |
| Empirical formula                           | C <sub>37</sub> H <sub>30</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> CoF <sub>6</sub> NiO <sub>2</sub> P <sub>3</sub> |
| Formula weight                              | 902.06   |
| Temperature/K                               | 140.01   |
| Crystal system                              | monoclinic   |
| Space group                                 | C2/c   |
| a/Å   | 15.8614(11)  |
| b/Å   | 12.6538(9)   |
| c/Å   | 40.759(3)  |
| α/°   | 90   |
| β/°   | 93.232(4)  |
| γ/°   | 90   |
| Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>                       | 8167.6(10)   |
| Z   | 8  |
| ρ <sub>calc</sub> /cm <sup>3</sup>          | 1.467  |
| μ/mm <sup>-1</sup>                          | 1.174  |
| F(000)                                      | 3648.0   |
| Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>                | 0.512 × 0.353 × 0.07   |
| Radiation                                   | MoKα (λ = 0.71073)   |
| 2θ range for data collection/°              | 4.004 to 56.746  |
| Index ranges                                | -21 ≤ h ≤ 21, -16 ≤ k ≤ 16, -54 ≤ l ≤ 54   |
| Reflections collected                       | 71525  |
| Independent reflections                     | 10165 [R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0477, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0322]                                   |
| Data/restraints/parameters                  | 10165/0/469  |
| Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>           | 1.122  |
| Final R indexes [I ≥ 2σ(I)]                 | R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0515, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1055  |
| Final R indexes [all data]                  | R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0622, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1095  |
| Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup> | 0.52/-0.42   |



Table S5: Crystallographic Information for [2](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>**ac535****Table 1 Crystal data and structure refinement for ac535.**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Identification code                         | ac535  |
| Empirical formula                           | C <sub>39</sub> H <sub>33</sub> B <sub>2</sub> CoF <sub>8</sub> NiP <sub>2</sub> |
| Formula weight                              | 854.85   |
| Temperature/K                               | 139.99   |
| Crystal system                              | monoclinic   |
| Space group                                 | P2 <sub>1</sub> /c   |
| a/Å   | 17.0540(14)  |
| b/Å   | 10.2096(8)   |
| c/Å   | 20.0648(16)  |
| α/°   | 90   |
| β/°   | 92.827(4)  |
| γ/°   | 90   |
| Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>                       | 3489.3(5)  |
| Z   | 4  |
| ρ <sub>calc</sub> /g/cm <sup>3</sup>        | 1.627  |
| μ/mm <sup>-1</sup>                          | 1.180  |
| F(000)                                      | 1736.0   |
| Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>                | 0.536 × 0.514 × 0.21   |
| Radiation                                   | MoKα (λ = 0.71073)   |
| 2Θ range for data collection/°              | 4.064 to 61.036  |
| Index ranges                                | -24 ≤ h ≤ 24, -8 ≤ k ≤ 14, -28 ≤ l ≤ 28  |
| Reflections collected                       | 56875  |
| Independent reflections                     | 10610 [R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0264, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0249]                   |
| Data/restraints/parameters                  | 10610/86/540   |
| Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>           | 1.047  |
| Final R indexes [I >= 2σ (I)]               | R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0305, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.0652                                |
| Final R indexes [all data]                  | R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0447, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.0724                                |
| Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup> | 0.78/-0.41   |

### 3 Cyclic Voltammetry

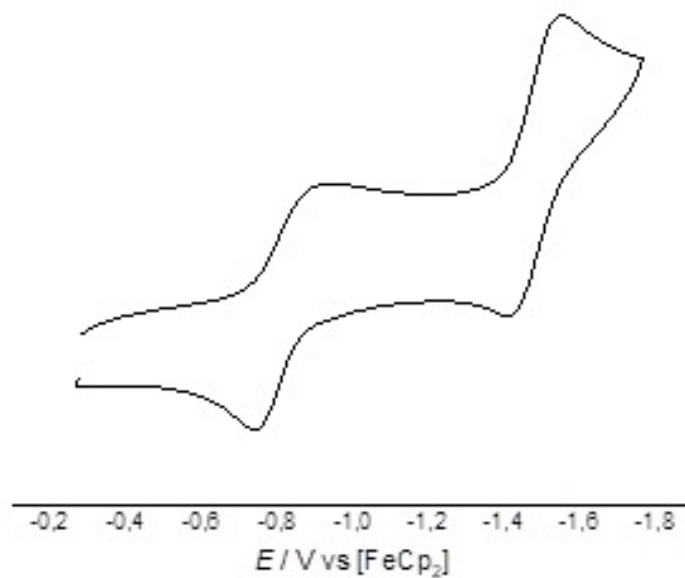


Figure S1: Cyclicvoltammogram of  $[2]^{2+}$  in 0.1 M  $n\text{Bu}_4\text{NPF}_6$  in MeCN

### 4 NMR Spectroscopy

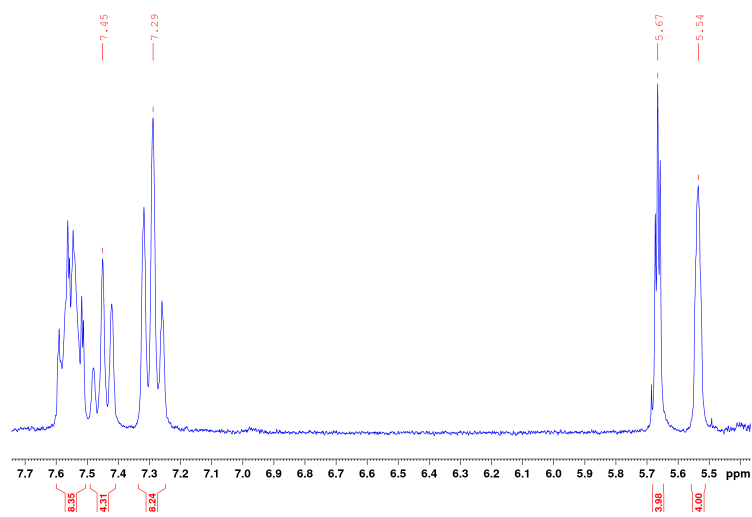


Figure S2:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of  $(\text{dppc})^+$  in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ .

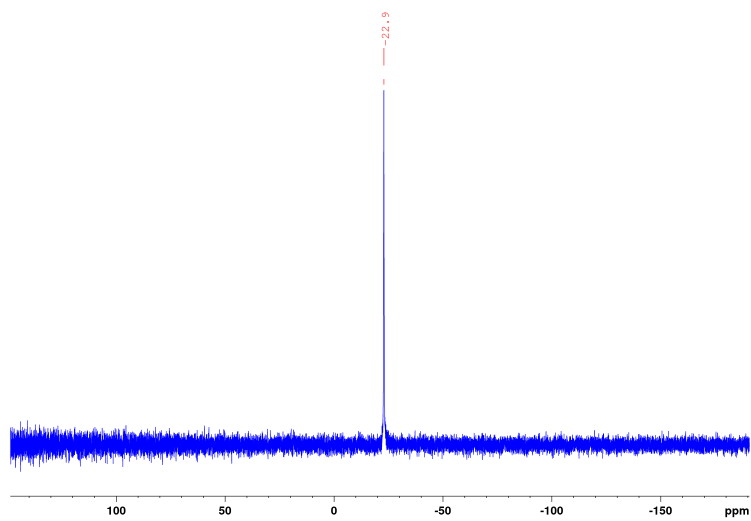


Figure S3:  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR of  $(\text{dppc})\text{BF}_4$  in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ .

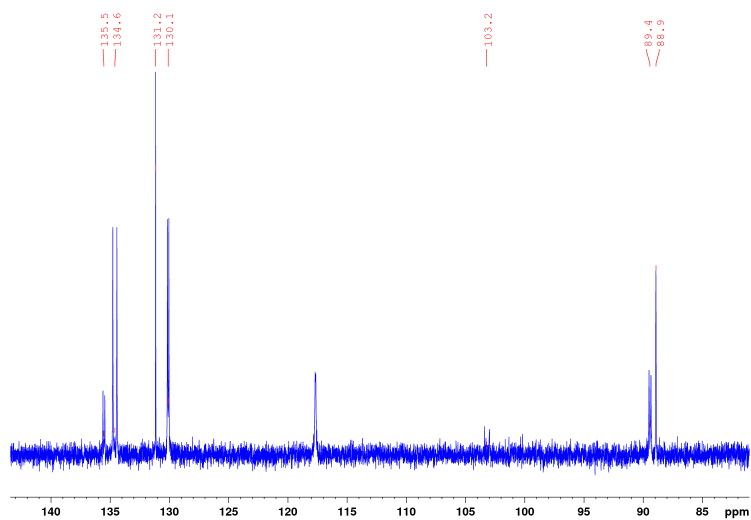


Figure S4:  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of  $(\text{dppc})\text{BF}_4$  in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ .

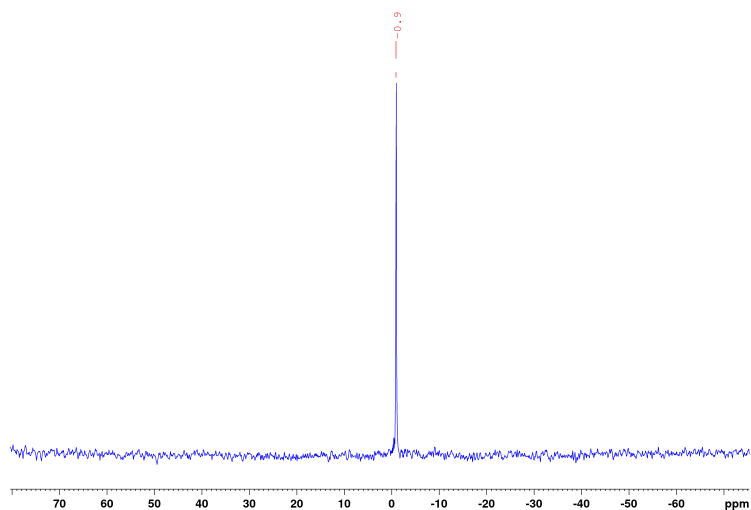


Figure S5:  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR of  $(\text{dppc})\text{BF}_4$  in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ .

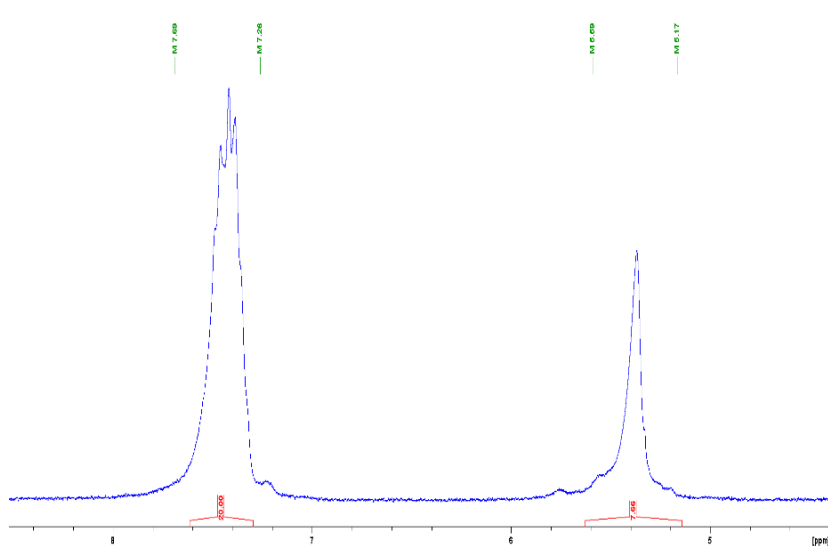


Figure S6:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of  $[\mathbf{1}]_2(\text{Fe}_2\text{OCl}_6)$  in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ .

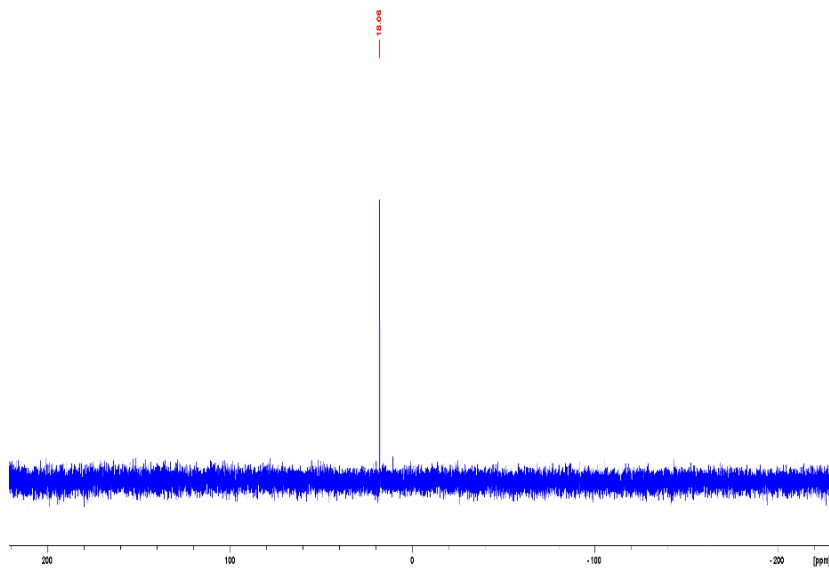


Figure S7:  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR of  $[\mathbf{1}]_2(\text{Fe}_2\text{OCl}_6)$  in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ .

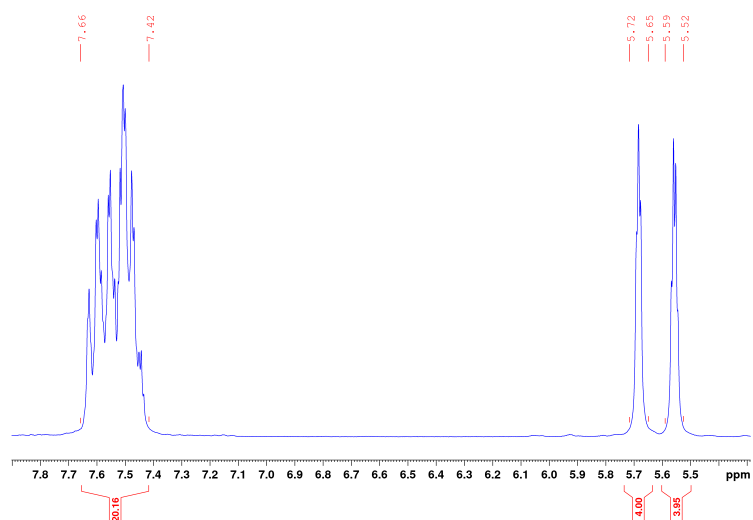


Figure S8:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of  $[\mathbf{1}]\text{PF}_6$  in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ .

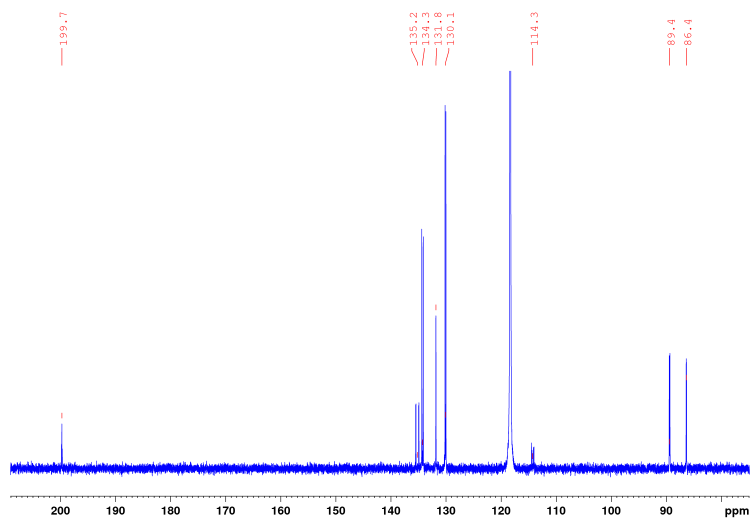


Figure S9:  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of  $[\mathbf{1}]\text{PF}_6$  in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ .

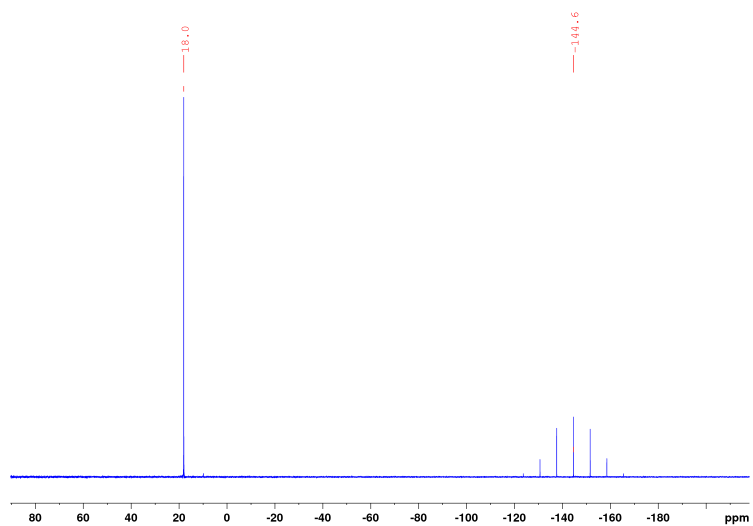


Figure S10:  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR of  $[\mathbf{1}]\text{PF}_6$  in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ .

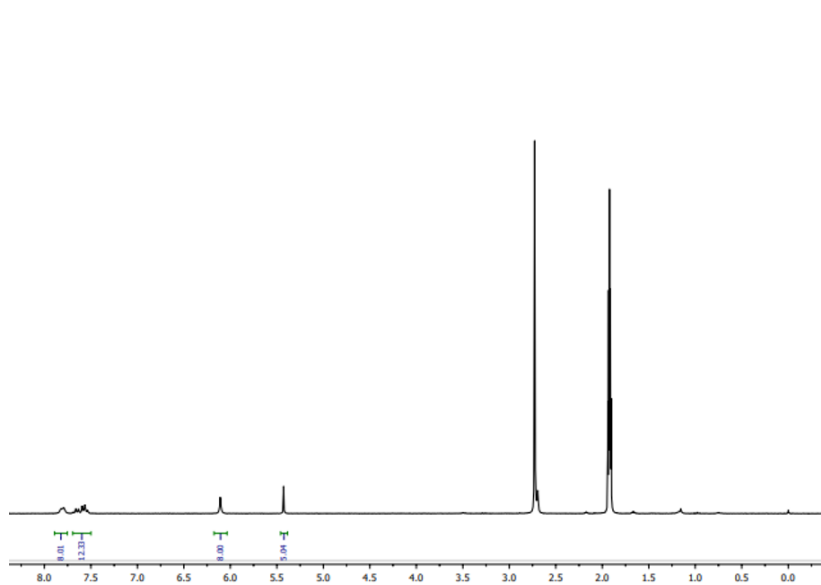


Figure S11:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of  $[\mathbf{2}](\text{PF}_6)_n(\text{BF}_4)_m$  in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

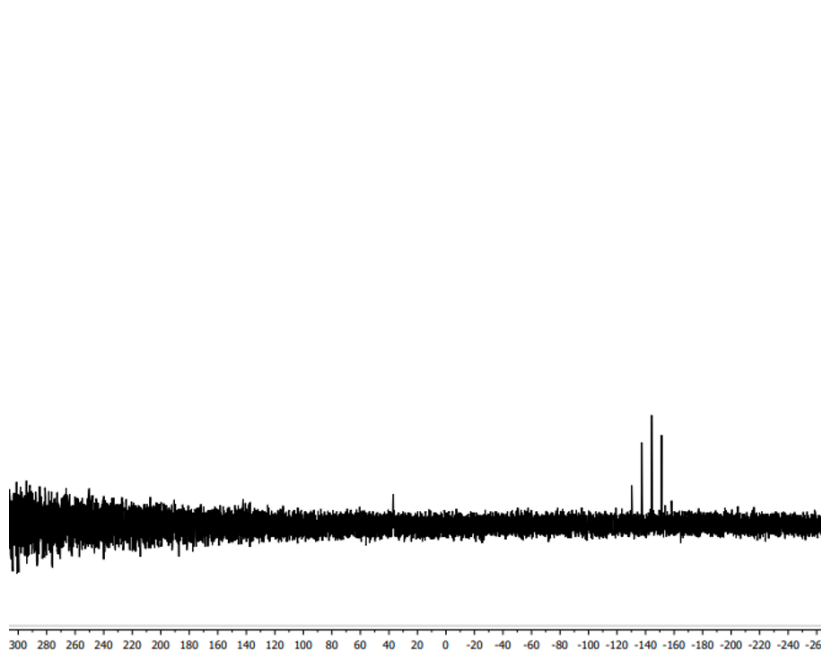


Figure S12:  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR of  $[\mathbf{2}](\text{PF}_6)_n(\text{BF}_4)_m$  in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

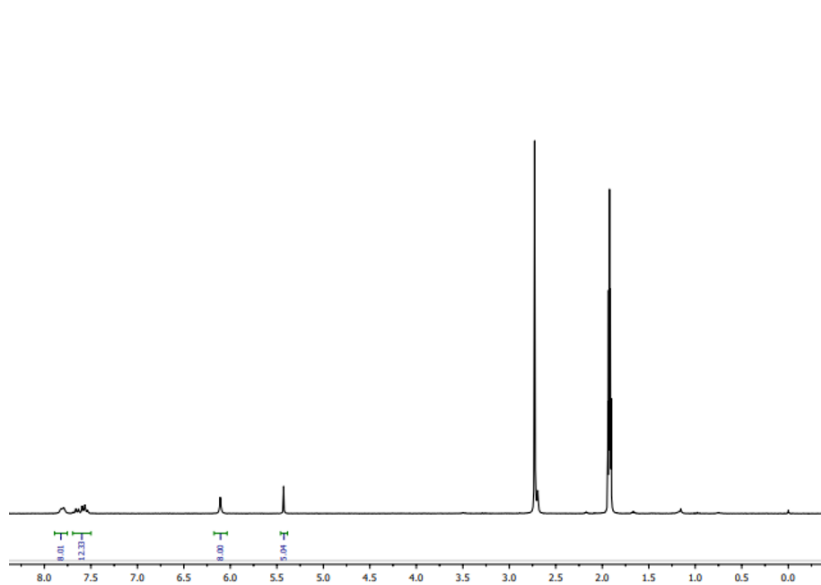


Figure S13:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of  $[\mathbf{2}](\text{PF}_6)_n(\text{BF}_4)_m$  in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

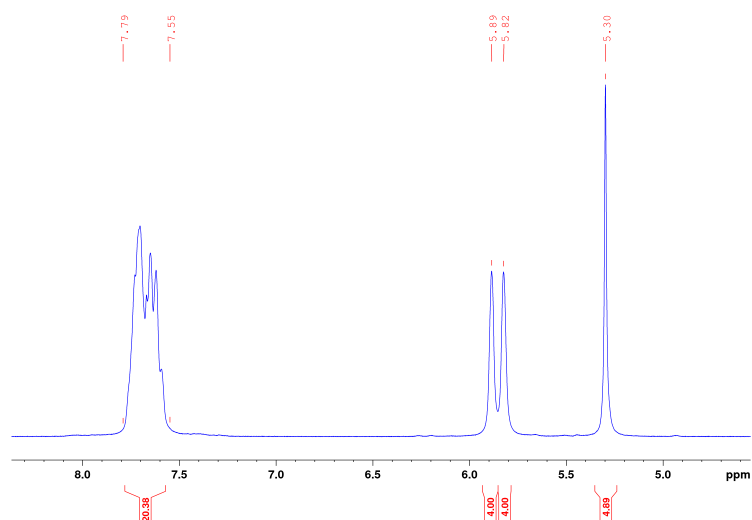


Figure S14:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of  $[\mathbf{2}](\text{BF}_4)_2$  in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



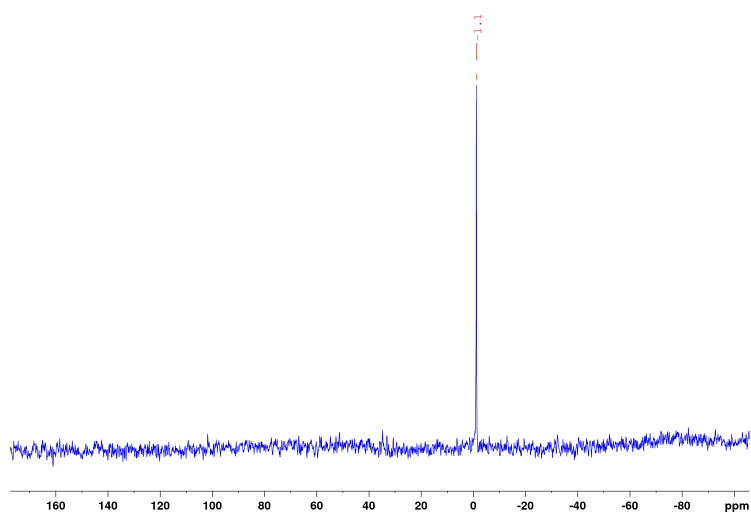


Figure S15:  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR of  $[\mathbf{2}](\text{BF}_4)_2$  in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

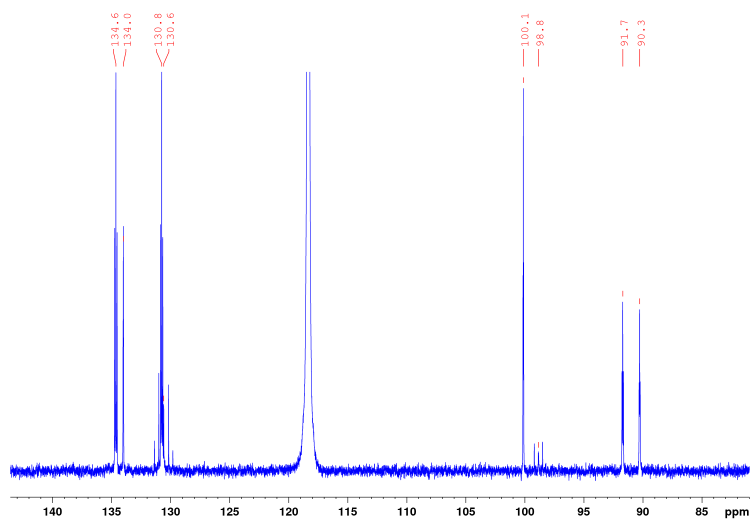


Figure S16:  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of  $[\mathbf{2}](\text{BF}_4)_2$  in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

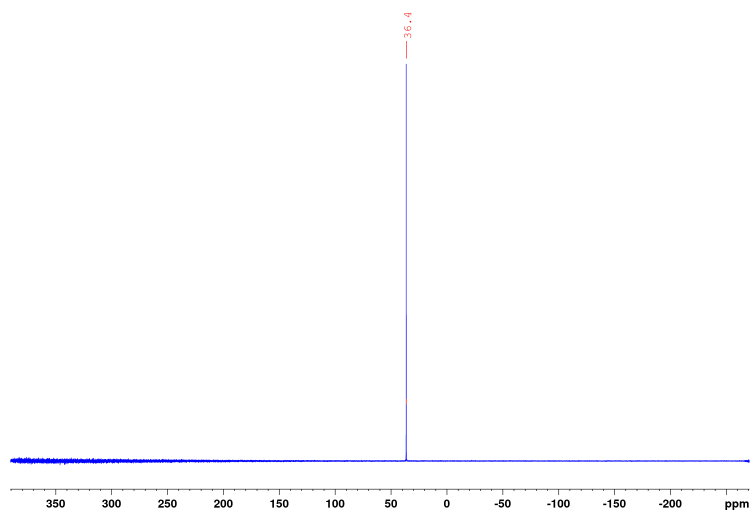


Figure S17:  $^{31}\text{P}$  sNMR of  $[\mathbf{2}](\text{BF}_4)_2$  in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

## 5 Absorption Spectroscopy

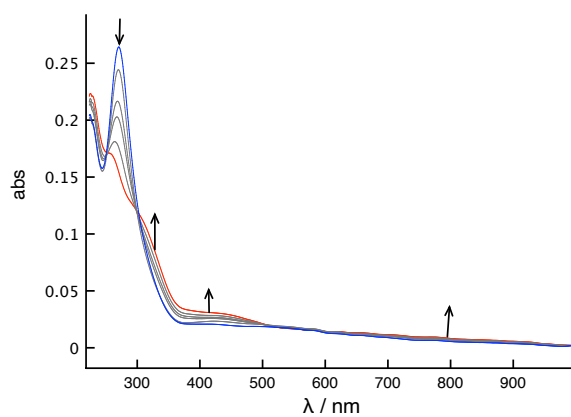


Figure S18: UV-Vis-NIR SEC of cathodic process  $[\mathbf{1}]^{+}/0$  in  $0.1 \text{ M } n\text{Bu}_4\text{NPF}_6$  in MeCN.

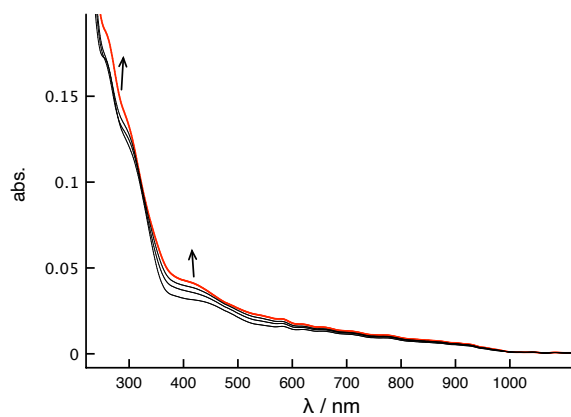


Figure S19: UV-Vis-NIR SEC of cathodic process  $[\mathbf{1}]^{0}/-1$  in  $0.1 \text{ M } n\text{Bu}_4\text{NPF}_6$  in MeCN.

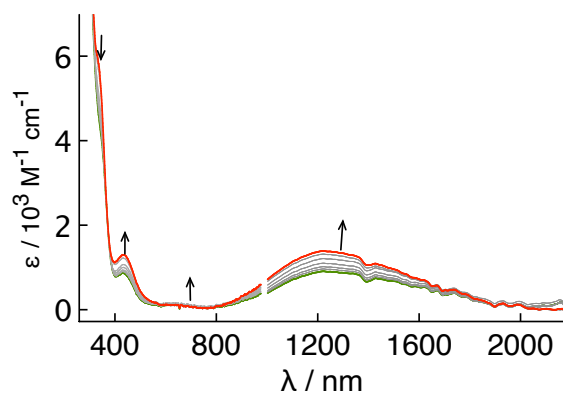


Figure S20: UV-Vis-NIR SEC of cathodic process  $[2]^{+/0}$  in 0.1 M  $n\text{Bu}_4\text{NPF}_6$  in MeCN.

## 6 Electron Paramagnetic Resonance

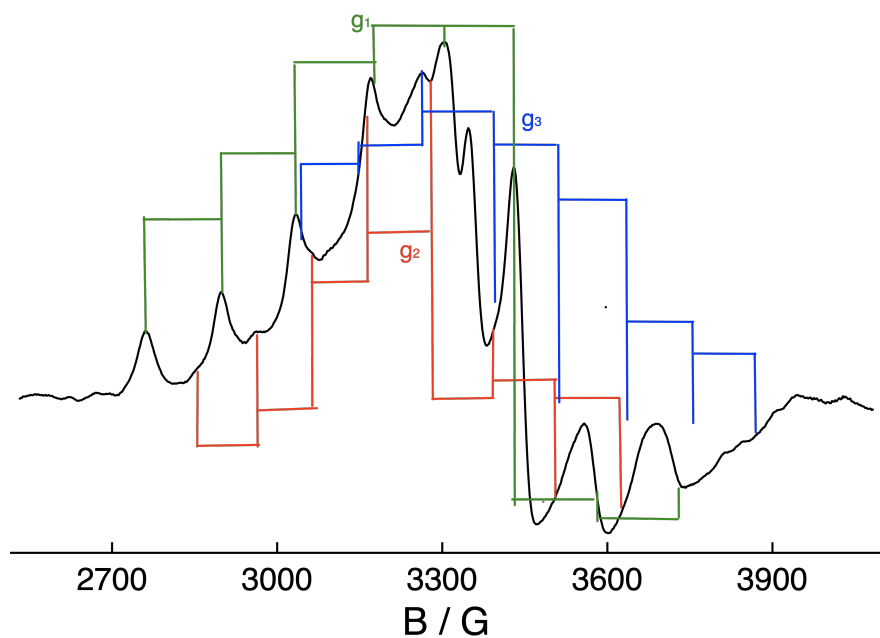


Figure S21: EPR spectrum of  $[2]^+$  in 0.1 M  $n\text{Bu}_4\text{NPF}_6$  in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  at 100K

## 6.1 TD-DFT

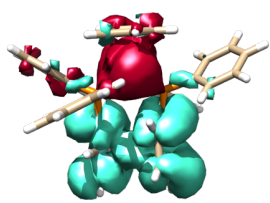
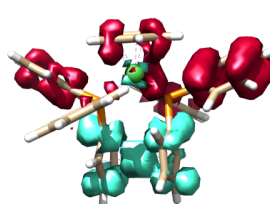
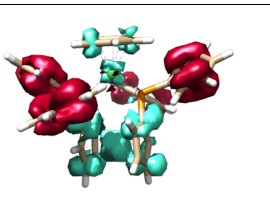
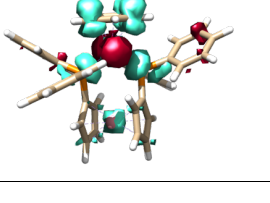
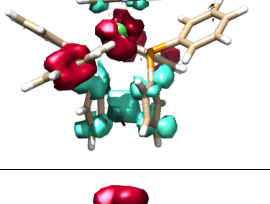
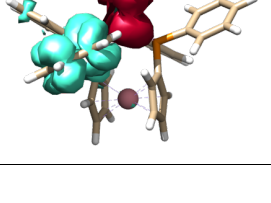
| CpNidppc2+<br>RKS PBE0 RIJCOSX def2-TZVP def2/J D3BJ NormalPrint Grid5 CPCM(acetonitrile)<br>Isosurface = 0.002, green denotes gain of electron density<br>Tranistions below 5% were omitted |   |
|--|---|
|   | STATE 4: E= 0.056117 au 1.527 eV 12316.3 cm <sup>-1</sup><br>173a -> 175a : 0.927641 (c= 0.96314113)<br>173a -> 177a : 0.071125 (c= -0.26669304)  |
|   | STATE 7: E= 0.077377 au 2.106 eV 16982.3 cm <sup>-1</sup><br>171a -> 175a : 0.941013 (c= -0.97005810)   |
|    | STATE 10: E= 0.088209 au 2.400 eV 19359.7 cm <sup>-1</sup><br>170a -> 175a : 0.943741 (c= 0.97146332)   |
|   | STATE 12: E= 0.097158 au 2.644 eV 21323.6 cm <sup>-1</sup><br>173a -> 175a : 0.061441 (c= -0.24787196)<br>173a -> 177a : 0.822517 (c= -0.90692719)  |
|   | STATE 18: E= 0.098942 au 2.692 eV 21715.3 cm <sup>-1</sup><br>163a -> 175a : 0.073032 (c= -0.27024348)<br>165a -> 175a : 0.753275 (c= -0.86791407)<br>166a -> 175a : 0.064593 (c= 0.25415155) |
|   | STATE 26: E= 0.097610 au 2.656 eV 21422.9 cm <sup>-1</sup><br>172a -> 177a : 0.120752 (c= 0.34749334)<br>174a -> 179a : 0.858999 (c= 0.92682191)  |

Figure S22: TDDFT transitions for  $[2]^{2+}$  green denotes gain, red denotes loss.

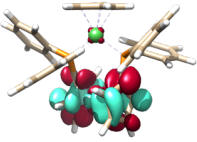
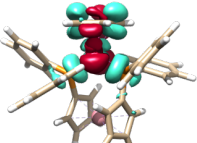
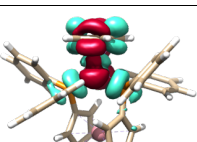
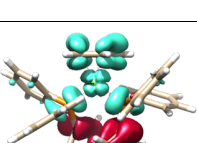
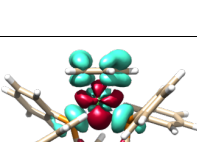
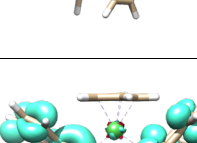
| CpNidppc_+<br>UKS PBE0 RIJCOSX def2-TZVP def2/J D3BJ NormalPrint Grid5 CPCM(acetonitrile)<br>Isosurface = 0.002, green denotes gain of electron density<br>Transitions below 5% were omitted |   |
|--|---|
|   | STATE 1: E= 0.022236 au 0.605 eV 4880.3 cm <sup>**</sup> -1<br>175a -> 177a : 0.909918 (c= -0.95389643)   |
|   | STATE 2: E= 0.030207 au 0.822 eV 6629.7 cm <sup>**</sup> -1<br>155a -> 176a : 0.054197 (c= -0.23280260)<br>174a -> 176a : 0.374785 (c= 0.61219656)<br>154b -> 175b : 0.069590 (c= 0.26379846)<br>174b -> 175b : 0.409706 (c= 0.64008254)      |
|   | STATE 6: E= 0.059170 au 1.610 eV 12986.2 cm <sup>**</sup> -1<br>174a -> 176a : 0.458178 (c= 0.67688813)<br>174b -> 175b : 0.406821 (c= -0.63782530)   |
|    | STATE 9: E= 0.056001 au 1.524 eV 12290.8 cm <sup>**</sup> -1<br>175a -> 176a : 0.952844 (c= 0.97613734)   |
|   | STATE 17: E= 0.104472 au 2.843 eV 22928.8 cm <sup>**</sup> -1<br>155a -> 176a : 0.065952 (c= -0.25681153)<br>156a -> 176a : 0.163132 (c= -0.40389593)<br>157a -> 176a : 0.170243 (c= -0.41260538)<br>155b -> 175b : 0.274344 (c= -0.52377853) |
|   | STATE 23: E= 0.114282 au 3.110 eV 25082.0 cm <sup>**</sup> -1<br>175a -> 180a : 0.876538 (c= 0.93623601)  |

Figure S23: TDDFT transitions for [2]<sup>+</sup> green denotes gain, red denotes loss.

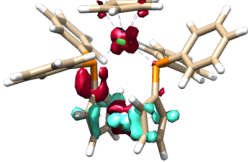
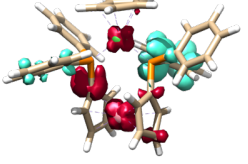
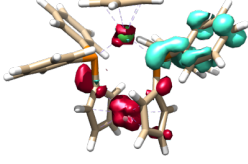
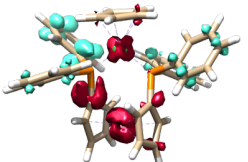
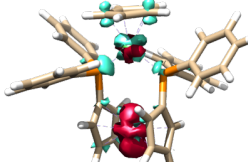
| CpNidppc0<br>RKS PBE0 RIJCOSX def2-TZVP def2/J D3BJ NormalPrint Grid5 CPCM(acetonitrile)<br>Isosurface = 0.002, green denotes gain of electron density<br>Transitions below 5% were omitted |   |
|---|---|
|    | STATE 1: E= 0.021020 au 0.572 eV 4613.4 cm <sup>-1</sup><br>175a -> 177a : 0.180424 (c= -0.42476399)<br>175a -> 179a : 0.079465 (c= -0.28189508)<br>175a -> 180a : 0.336490 (c= 0.58007765)<br>175a -> 181a : 0.213628 (c= 0.46219948)  |
|    | STATE 3: E= 0.054193 au 1.475 eV 11893.9 cm <sup>-1</sup><br>175a -> 176a : 0.106578 (c= 0.32646358)<br>175a -> 177a : 0.342006 (c= 0.58481287)<br>175a -> 178a : 0.443173 (c= 0.66571243)  |
|   | STATE 5: E= 0.064692 au 1.760 eV 14198.3 cm <sup>-1</sup><br>173a -> 176a : 0.024194 (c= 0.15554497)<br>175a -> 176a : 0.444551 (c= -0.66674646)<br>175a -> 177a : 0.039200 (c= 0.19798895)<br>175a -> 178a : 0.143990 (c= 0.37945958)<br>175a -> 179a : 0.147491 (c= 0.38404604)<br>175a -> 180a : 0.010835 (c= 0.10409110)<br>175a -> 182a : 0.038183 (c= 0.19540484)<br>175a -> 183a : 0.021561 (c= -0.14683722) |
|    | STATE 7: E= 0.070649 au 1.922 eV 15505.7 cm <sup>-1</sup><br>175a -> 176a : 0.090239 (c= -0.30039728)<br>175a -> 179a : 0.417752 (c= -0.64633713)<br>175a -> 180a : 0.256787 (c= -0.50674175)   |
|    | STATE 15: E= 0.087834 au 2.390 eV 19277.4 cm <sup>-1</sup><br>170a -> 176a : 0.065388 (c= -0.25571142)<br>173a -> 176a : 0.572129 (c= 0.75639224)<br>175a -> 185a : 0.058675 (c= -0.24222834)   |

Figure S24: TDDFT transitions for [2]<sup>0</sup> green denotes gain, red denotes loss.