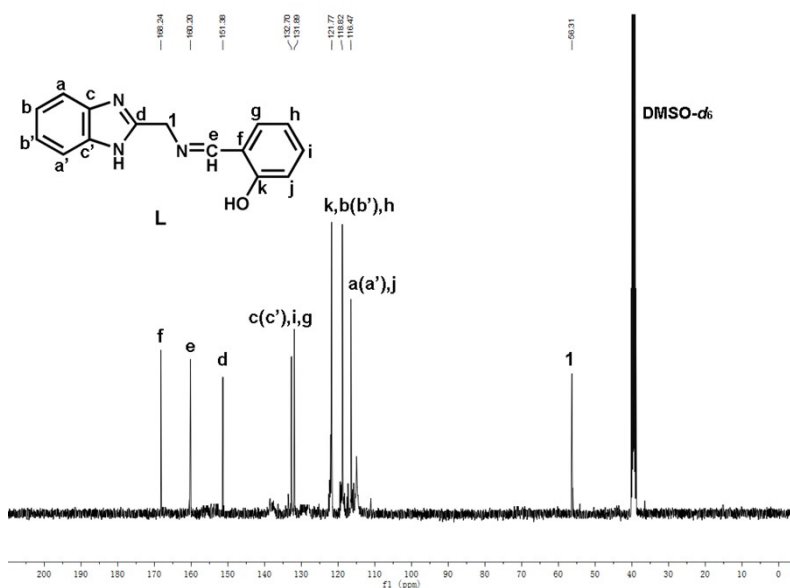
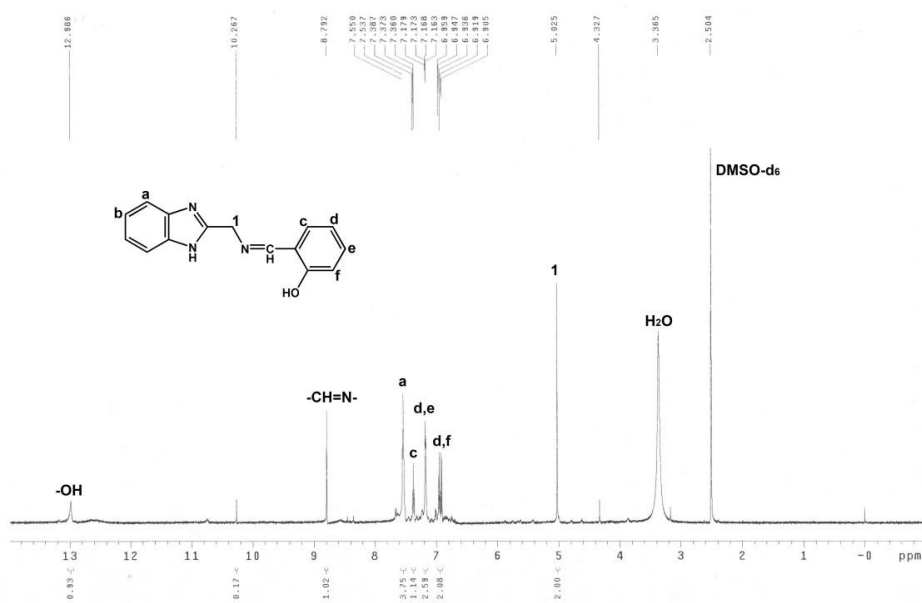


## Supplementary Material

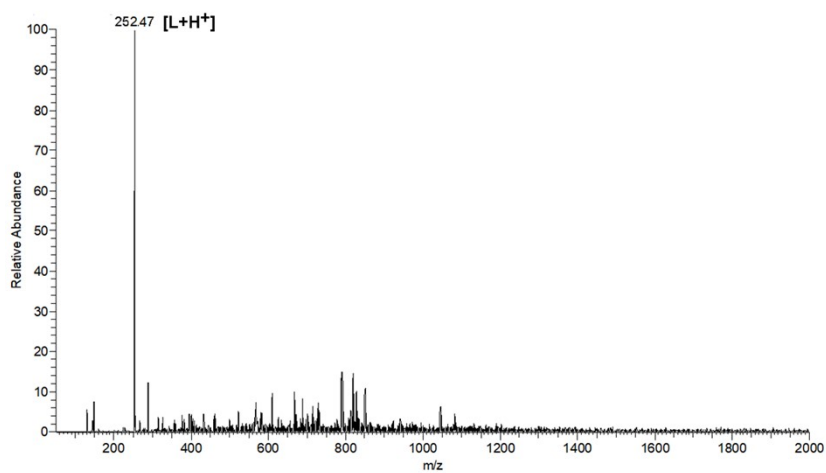
### DNA binding, DNA cleavage, cellular uptake, cytotoxicity, and apoptosis-inducing ability of a binuclear schiff base copper(II) complex

Dandan Zhao, Yixuan Wu, Wenxin Huang, Silin Gong, Zhanfen Chen\*

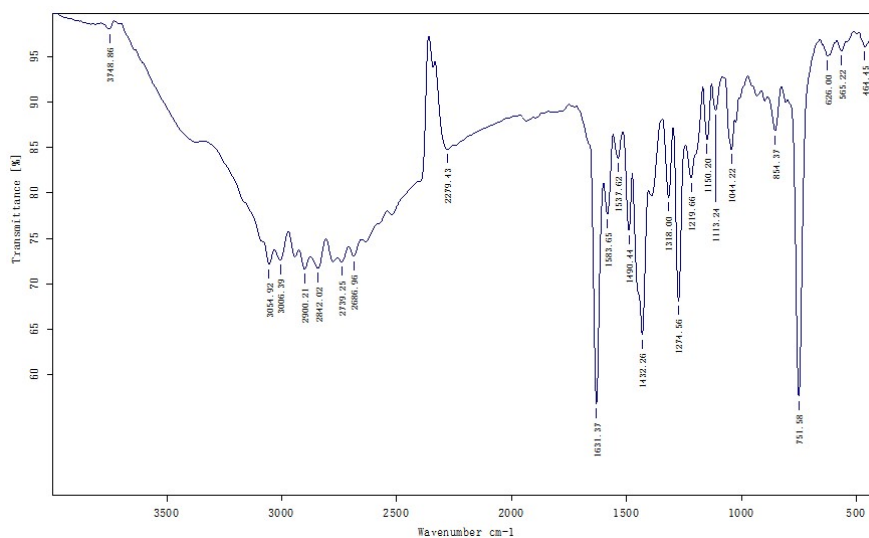


**Figure S2.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectroscopy of the ligand *N*-(2-hydroxybenzylidene)-

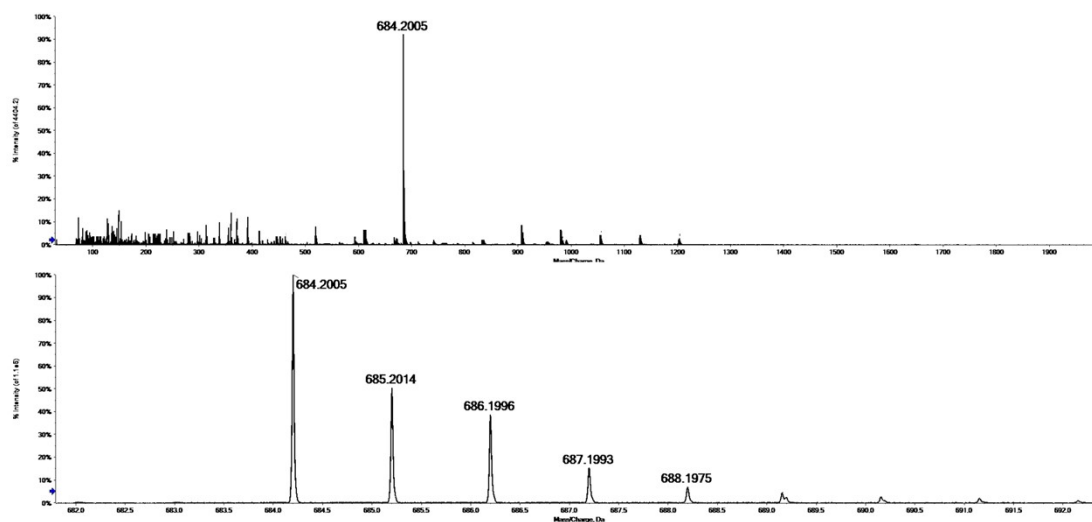
benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-amine (**L**) (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>).



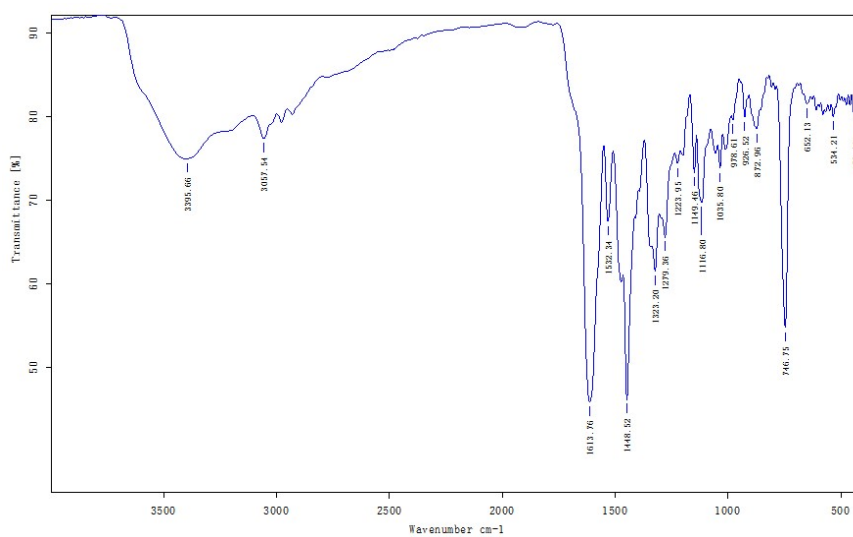
**Figure S3.** ESI mass spectrometry of the ligand *N*-(2-hydroxybenzylidene)-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-amine (**L**) in methanol.



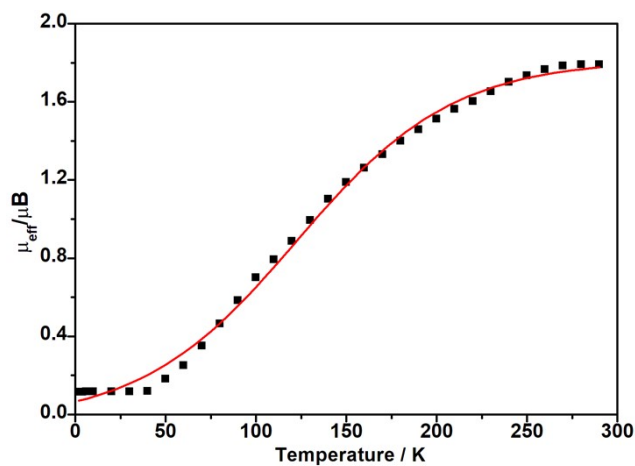
**Figure S4.** IR spectrum of *N*-(2-hydroxybenzylidene)-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-amine (**L**).



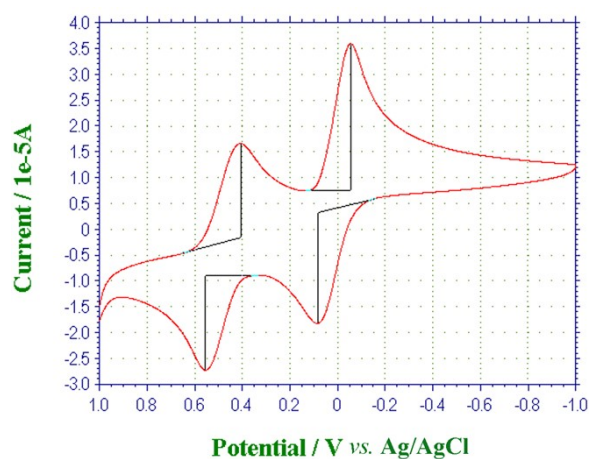
**Figure S5.** High resolution electrospray ionization-mass spectrum (HRMS, ESI) of **1** in methanol solution. The signal at  $m/z$  684.20 should be assigned to  $[M - Cl + Na - H]^+$  ( $M = [Cu_2(L-H)_2]Cl_2$ ).



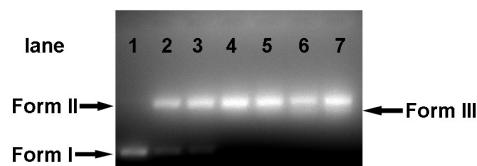
**Figure S6.** IR spectrum of  $[Cu_2(L-H)_2]Cl_2$  (**1**).



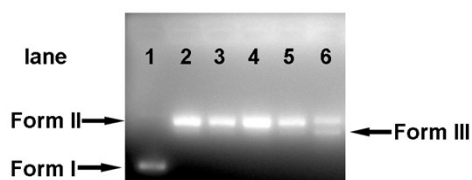
**Figure S7.** Plot of magnetic moment ( $\mu_{\text{eff}}$ ) versus temperature (T) for **1** in the solid state with (■) representing the experimental data and the line represent the theoretic simulation.



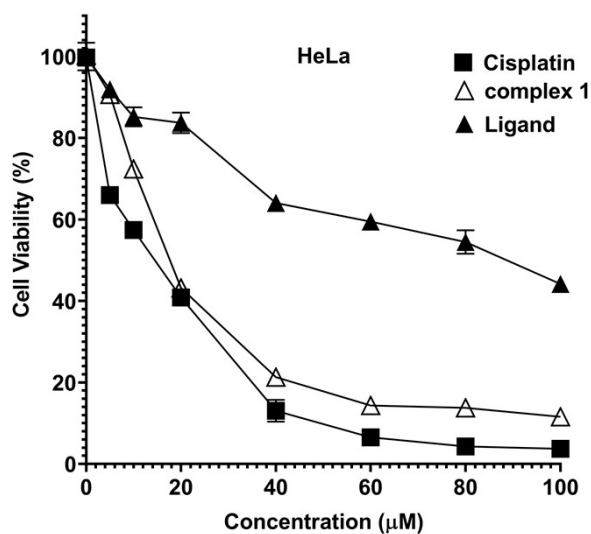
**Figure S8.** Cyclic voltammogram of complex **1** ( $2.5 \times 10^{-3}$  M) in DMF containing 0.1 M TBAP as a supporting electrolyte at room temperature in a potential range of  $-1.0$  to  $1.0$  V vs. Ag/AgCl at  $100$  mV/s scan rate.

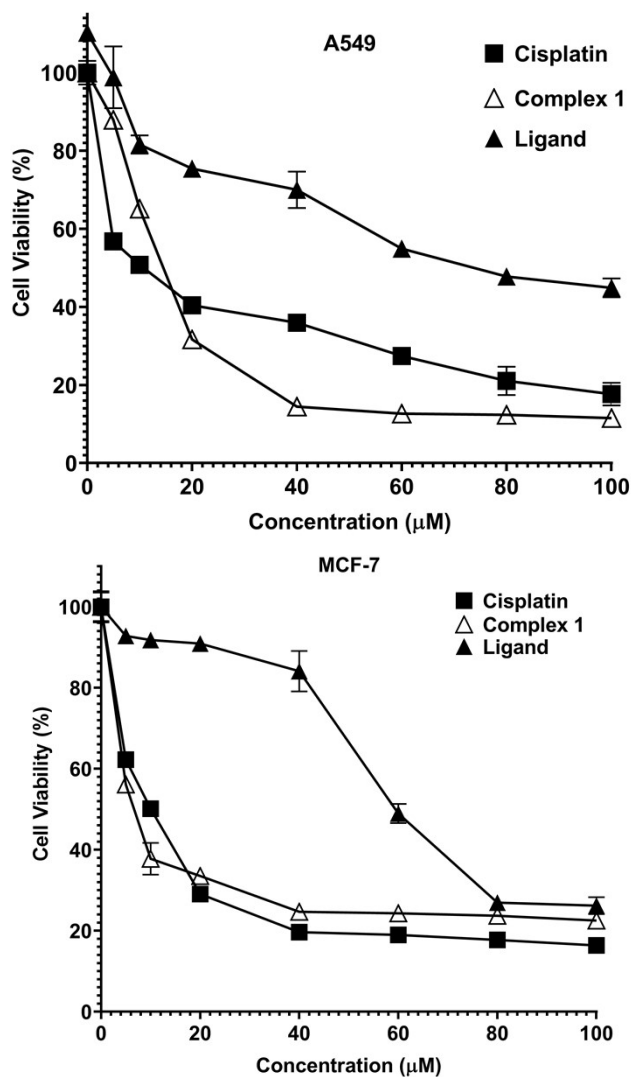


**Figure S9.** Time-dependent agarose gel electrophoresis patterns for the cleavage of pBR322 plasmid DNA ( $0.02 \mu\text{g}/\mu\text{L}$ ) by complex ( $60 \mu\text{M}$ ) over a period for 30 min in the presence of Vc ( $1 \text{ mM}$ ) in buffer ( $50 \text{ mM Tris-HCl}/50 \text{ mM NaCl}$ , pH 7.40) at  $37^\circ\text{C}$ . Lane 1, DNA control; Lane 2~7, DNA + complex + Vc. Incubation times of lanes 2~7 equal 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, and 30 min, respectively.



**Figure S10.** Agarose gel electrophoresis patterns for the cleavage of pBR322 plasmid DNA ( $0.02 \mu\text{g}/\mu\text{L}$ ) by complex ( $60 \mu\text{M}$ ) in the presence of various additives in buffer ( $50 \text{ mM Tris-HCl}/50 \text{ mM NaCl}$ , pH 7.40) at  $37^\circ\text{C}$  after 30 min of incubation. Lane 1, DNA control; Lane 2, DNA +  $1 \text{ mM Vc}$  + complex; Lane 3, DNA +  $1 \text{ mM Vc}$  + complex +  $1 \text{ M DMSO}$ ; Lane 4, DNA +  $1 \text{ mM Vc}$  + complex +  $10 \text{ mM KI}$ ; Lane 5, DNA +  $1 \text{ mM Vc}$  + complex +  $10 \text{ mM NaN}_3$ ; Lane 6, DNA +  $1 \text{ mM Vc}$  + complex +  $1 \text{ M tert-Butanol}$ .





**Figure S11.** Plot of cell viability *versus* concentration ( $\mu\text{M}$ ) for cisplatin, complex 1, and L against Hela, A549, and MCF-7.