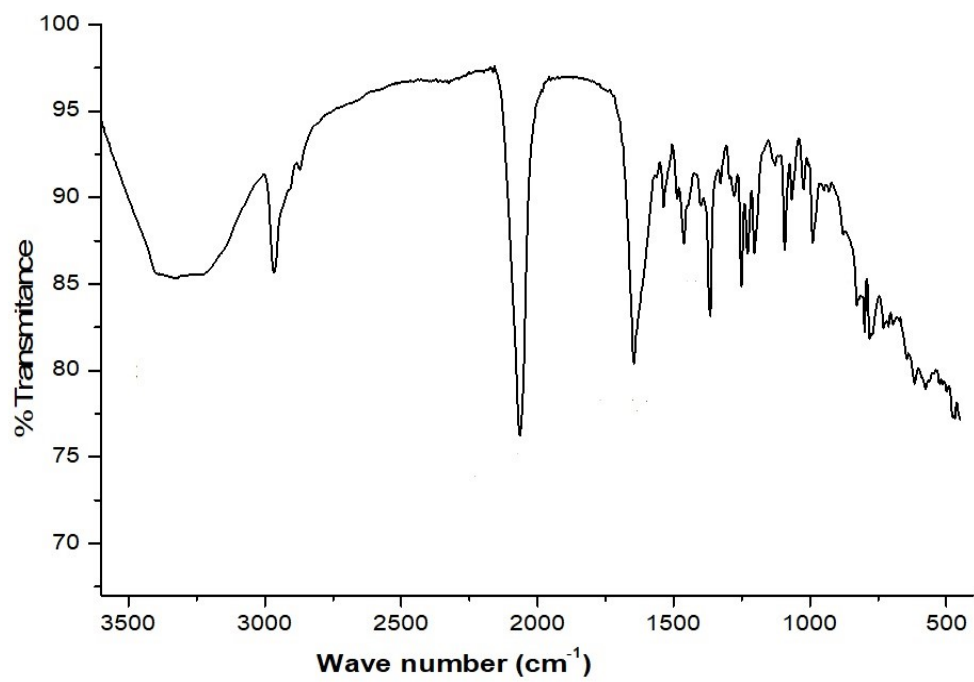


## Electronic Supplementary Information

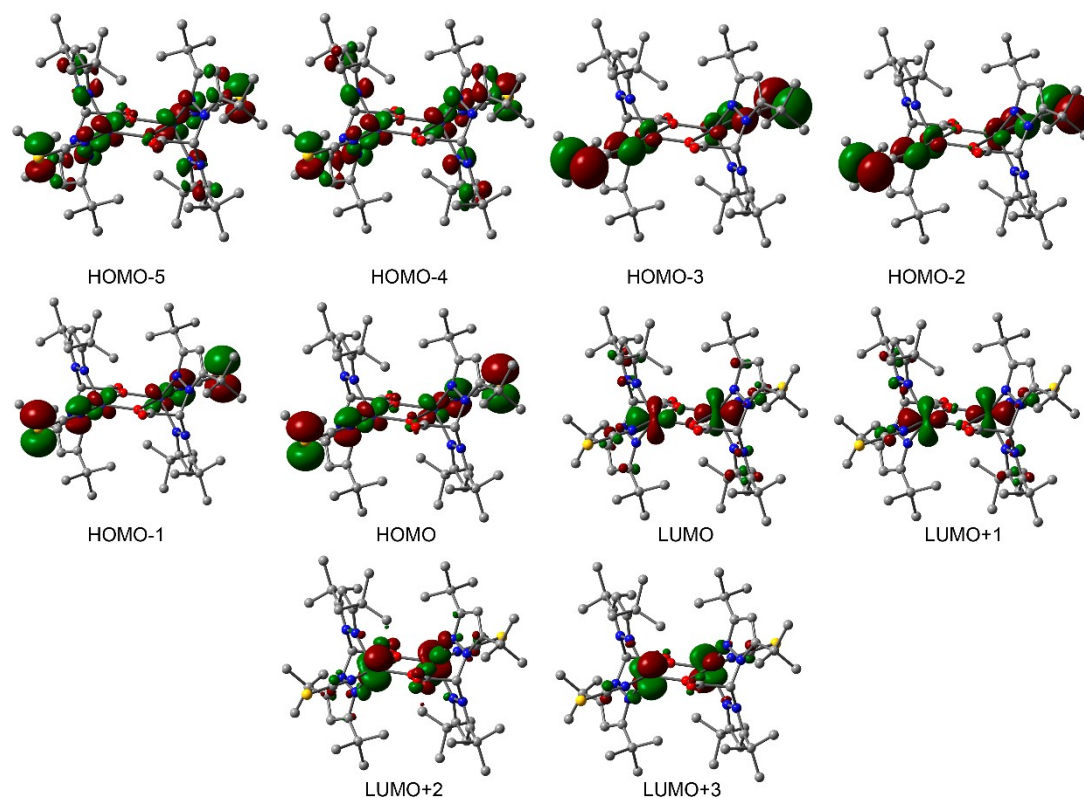
### **Magnetism and DFT Interrogation of A Doubly Carboxylato Bridged Co(II) Derivative Anchored with A ‘Scorpionate’ Precursor: Potential Electrocatalyst for Heterogeneous H<sub>2</sub> Evolution**

Kuheli Das,<sup>a,g</sup> Belete B. Beyene,<sup>\*b,g</sup> Chiara Maserra,<sup>c</sup> Eugenio Garribba,<sup>d</sup> M.S. El

Fallah,<sup>e</sup> Antonio Frontera,<sup>f</sup> Chen-Hsiung Hung,<sup>\*g</sup> Amitabha Datta,<sup>\*g,h</sup>



**Figure S1.** The IR spectra of complex 1.



**Figure S2.** Plots of frontier molecular orbitals. Isovalue 0.04 a.u.

TD-DFT calculations were computed in MeOH at the B3LYP/6-31+G\* level of theory using Gaussian-16. The 40 first excited states were considered for the calculations. The results are listed below, and the plots of relevant molecular orbitals are represented in **Figure S1**. In bold the relevant states commented in the main text.

**Table S1.** Excitation energies and oscillator strengths:

Excited State 1:	7.004-A	0.5648 eV	2195.17 nm	f=0.0000	$\langle S^{*2} \rangle = 12.012$
Excited State 2:	7.004-A	0.5656 eV	2191.95 nm	f=0.0001	$\langle S^{*2} \rangle = 12.012$
Excited State 3:	7.004-A	1.0073 eV	1230.89 nm	f=0.0000	$\langle S^{*2} \rangle = 12.013$
Excited State 4:	7.004-A	1.0126 eV	1224.39 nm	f=0.0001	$\langle S^{*2} \rangle = 12.013$
Excited State 5:	7.003-A	1.1632 eV	1065.89 nm	f=0.0000	$\langle S^{*2} \rangle = 12.012$
Excited State 6:	7.003-A	1.1645 eV	1064.66 nm	f=0.0001	$\langle S^{*2} \rangle = 12.012$
Excited State 7:	7.005-A	1.5699 eV	789.74 nm	f=0.0000	$\langle S^{*2} \rangle = 12.016$
Excited State 8:	7.005-A	1.5703 eV	789.55 nm	f=0.0001	$\langle S^{*2} \rangle = 12.016$
Excited State 9:	7.004-A	1.8356 eV	675.44 nm	f=0.0000	$\langle S^{*2} \rangle = 12.014$
Excited State 10:	7.004-A	1.8451 eV	671.96 nm	f=0.0002	$\langle S^{*2} \rangle = 12.014$
Excited State 11:	7.004-A	2.1177 eV	585.46 nm	f=0.0000	$\langle S^{*2} \rangle = 12.015$

**Excited State 12: 7.004-A 2.1409 eV 579.11 nm f=0.0033 <S\*\*2>=12.014**  
 Excited State 13: 7.054-A 3.6703 eV 337.81 nm f=0.0000 <S\*\*2>=12.188  
 Excited State 14: 7.053-A 3.6709 eV 337.75 nm f=0.0001 <S\*\*2>=12.186  
 Excited State 15: 7.074-A 3.7033 eV 334.80 nm f=0.0754 <S\*\*2>=12.259  
 Excited State 16: 7.073-A 3.7044 eV 334.70 nm f=0.0001 <S\*\*2>=12.256  
 Excited State 17: 7.047-A 3.7197 eV 333.32 nm f=0.0010 <S\*\*2>=12.164  
 Excited State 18: 7.045-A 3.7248 eV 332.86 nm f=0.0000 <S\*\*2>=12.160  
 Excited State 19: 7.050-A 3.8985 eV 318.03 nm f=0.0023 <S\*\*2>=12.177  
 Excited State 20: 7.047-A 3.8993 eV 317.97 nm f=0.0000 <S\*\*2>=12.166  
 Excited State 21: 7.448-A 3.9902 eV 310.72 nm f=0.0043 <S\*\*2>=13.617 Excited  
 State 22: 7.452-A 3.9923 eV 310.56 nm f=0.0000 <S\*\*2>=13.634  
 Excited State 23: 7.485-A 4.0340 eV 307.35 nm f=0.0036 <S\*\*2>=13.755  
 Excited State 24: 7.493-A 4.0346 eV 307.30 nm f=0.0000 <S\*\*2>=13.788  
 Excited State 25: 7.062-A 4.1696 eV 297.36 nm f=0.0000 <S\*\*2>=12.217  
 Excited State 26: 7.059-A 4.1706 eV 297.28 nm f=0.0023 <S\*\*2>=12.206  
 Excited State 27: 7.088-A 4.1784 eV 296.73 nm f=0.0000 <S\*\*2>=12.311  
**Excited State 28: 7.091-A 4.1866 eV 296.14 nm f=0.0344 <S\*\*2>=12.320**  
**Excited State 29: 7.065-A 4.2360 eV 292.69 nm f=0.0269 <S\*\*2>=12.229**  
 Excited State 30: 7.113-A 4.2384 eV 292.53 nm f=0.0000 <S\*\*2>=12.398  
 Excited State 31: 7.140-A 4.2470 eV 291.94 nm f=0.0000 <S\*\*2>=12.495  
 Excited State 32: 7.207-A 4.2671 eV 290.56 nm f=0.0052 <S\*\*2>=12.735  
 Excited State 33: 7.097-A 4.3371 eV 285.87 nm f=0.0030 <S\*\*2>=12.344  
 Excited State 34: 7.063-A 4.3472 eV 285.20 nm f=0.0000 <S\*\*2>=12.220  
 Excited State 35: 7.267-A 4.3697 eV 283.74 nm f=0.0000 <S\*\*2>=12.952  
 Excited State 36: 7.156-A 4.3904 eV 282.40 nm f=0.0000 <S\*\*2>=12.551  
 Excited State 37: 7.146-A 4.3905 eV 282.39 nm f=0.0000 <S\*\*2>=12.515  
 Excited State 38: 7.226-A 4.3926 eV 282.26 nm f=0.0007 <S\*\*2>=12.803  
 Excited State 39: 7.053-A 4.4525 eV 278.46 nm f=0.0001 <S\*\*2>=12.186  
 Excited State 40: 7.066-A 4.4527 eV 278.45 nm f=0.0174 <S\*\*2>=12.231

**Table S2.** Crystallographic data of **1**.

Empirical formula	C <sub>50</sub> H <sub>78</sub> O <sub>4</sub> N <sub>10</sub> S <sub>2</sub> Co <sub>2</sub>
Formula weight	1065.20
Temperature	293(2)
Wavelength (Å)	0.71073
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> / <i>c</i>
<i>a</i> , Å	10.562(4)
<i>b</i> , Å	14.568(6)
<i>c</i> , Å	17.808(7)
$\beta$ , deg	98.219(8)
Volume, Å <sup>3</sup>	2711.9(19)
<i>Z</i>	2
D <sub>calc</sub> (mg m <sup>-3</sup> )	1.304
$\mu$ (Mo K $\alpha$ ) (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.740
F(000)	1132
Total reflections	28323
Unique reflections ( <i>R</i> <sub>int</sub> )	4622 ( <i>R</i> <sub>int</sub> = 0.1010)
Observed reflections [ <i>F</i> <sub>o</sub> > 4 $\sigma$ ( <i>F</i> <sub>o</sub> )]	3192
<i>R</i> indices [ <i>F</i> <sub>o</sub> > 4 $\sigma$ ( <i>F</i> <sub>o</sub> )] <sup>b</sup> <i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> , <i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub>	0.0431, 0.0889
Goodness-of-fit on <i>F</i> <sup>2a</sup>	1.004
Largest diff. Peak and hole, e.Å <sup>-3</sup>	0.262, -0.281

<sup>a</sup>Goodness-of-fit  $S = [\sum w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2 / (n-p)]^{1/2}$ , where *n* is the number of reflections and *p* the number of parameters. <sup>b</sup> $R_1 = \sum \|F_o\| - \|F_c\| / \sum \|F_o\|$ ,  $wR_2 = [\sum [w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2] / \sum [w(F_o^2)^2]]^{1/2}$