

Supplementary Material

A Cu₁₂ Metallacycle Assembled from Four C₃-Symmetric Spin Frustrated Triangular Units

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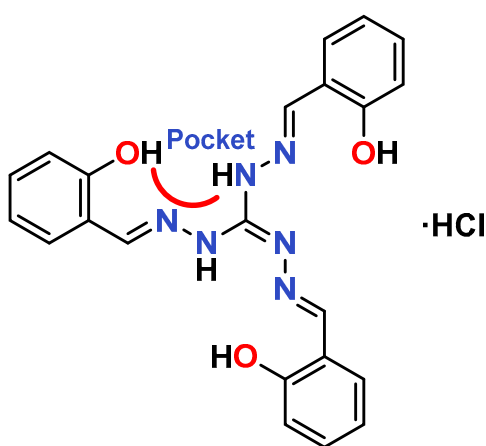
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S1. Crystallographic data & structure of ligand H₅L·HClTable S1. Crystal data and structure refinement parameters for Cu₁₂.

Compound	Cu ₁₂
Empirical formula	C ₁₆₈ H ₁₄₀ Cu ₁₂ N ₅₂ O ₁₂
Formula weight	3841.79
Temperature [K]	120.0
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group (number)	$P\bar{1}$ (2)
<i>a</i> [Å]	15.683(3)
<i>b</i> [Å]	16.188(3)
<i>c</i> [Å]	19.864(3)
α [°]	102.157(5)
β [°]	92.572(6)
γ [°]	117.967(5)
Volume [Å ³]	4293.4(13)
<i>Z</i>	1
ρ_{calc} [gcm ^{−3}]	1.486
μ [mm ^{−1}]	1.528
<i>F</i> (000)	1956
Radiation	MoK α (λ = 0.71073 Å)
Reflections collected	54021
Independent reflections	14660; R_{int} = 0.1212, R_{sigma} = 0.1126
Data / Restraints / Parameters	14660/238/1075
Goodness-of-fit on F^2	1.042
Final <i>R</i> indexes [$I \geq 2\sigma(I)$]	R_1 = 0.1299, wR_2 = 0.3834
Final <i>R</i> indexes [all data]	R_1 = 0.1685, wR_2 = 0.4134
CCDC number	2248078

Scheme S1. Structure of the ligand [H₆L]Cl with three coordination pockets.

S2. Molecular structures

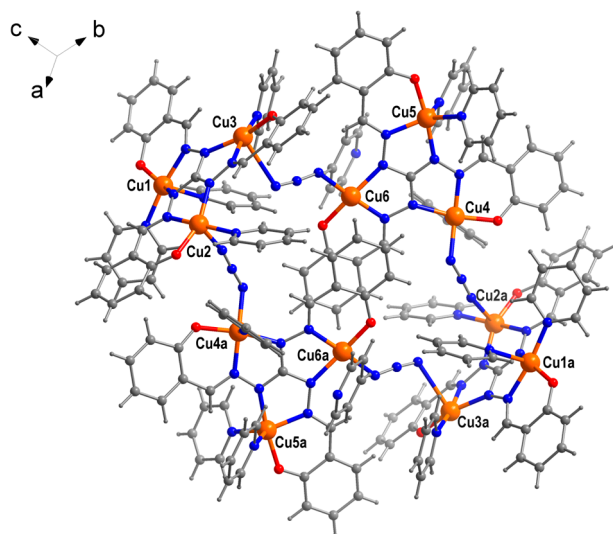


Figure S1. The molecular structure of **Cu₁₂**, hydrogen atoms and two free pyridine molecules have been omitted for clarity. Color code: orange, Fe; red, O; blue, N; grey, C and light grey, H.

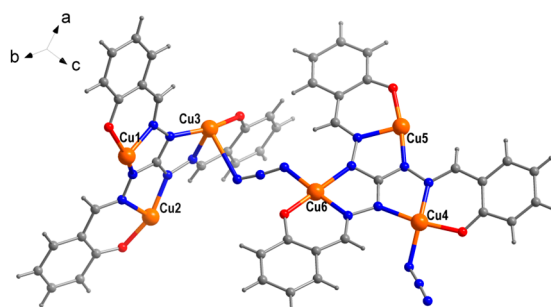


Figure S2. The asymmetric unit of **Cu₁₂** in giving direction, the coordinated and free pyridine molecules have been omitted for clarity. Color code: orange, Fe; red, O; blue, N; grey, C and light grey, H.

S3. Structural details of Cu₁₂

Table S2. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) for Cu₁₂.

Cu1-O2	1.918(10)	Cu3-O3	1.915(10)	Cu5-O5	1.887(12)
Cu1-N5	1.994(12)	Cu3-N2	1.978(12)	Cu5-N11	1.946(14)
Cu1-N6	1.976(12)	Cu3-N4	1.946(13)	Cu5-N15	1.982(13)
Cu1-N7	1.993(13)	Cu3-N12	2.003(14)	Cu5-N25	2.240(12)
Cu1-N14	2.342(14)	Cu4-O4	1.935(11)	Cu5-N26	2.097(9)
Cu2-O1	1.918(11)	Cu4-N9	2.245(14)	Cu6-N13	1.937(13)
Cu2-N1	1.931(11)	Cu4-N16	1.987(13)	Cu6-O6	1.914(12)
Cu2-N3	1.989(12)	Cu4-N17	1.930(15)	Cu6-N18	2.015(14)
Cu2-N8	1.996(12)	Cu4-N20	2.016(15)	Cu6-N23	1.977(16)
O2-Cu1-N6	92.7(5)	O3-Cu3-N4	93.2(5)	O5-Cu5-N15	93.9(5)
O2-Cu1-N7	151.9(5)	O3-Cu3-N12	89.9(5)	O5-Cu5-N25	90.0(6)
O2-Cu1-N14	96.7(5)	N2-Cu3-N12	99.4(5)	O5-Cu5-N26	91.0(5)
N5-Cu1-N14	88.3(5)	N4-Cu3-N2	79.9(5)	N11-Cu5-N15	79.7(5)
N6-Cu1-N5	171.7(5)	N4-Cu3-N12	171.0(5)	N11-Cu5-N25	91.0(6)
N6-Cu1-N7	79.2(5)	O4-Cu4-N9	91.2(5)	N11-Cu5-N26	94.5(5)
N6-Cu1-N14	86.4(5)	O4-Cu4-N16	169.0(5)	N15-Cu5-N25	113.1(6)
N7-Cu1-N5	96.6(5)	O4-Cu4-N20	90.6(5)	N15-Cu5-N26	132.2(6)
N7-Cu1-N14	109.4(5)	N16-Cu4-N9	94.8(5)	N26-Cu5-N25	114.5(5)
O1-Cu2-N1	92.4(5)	N16-Cu4-N20	97.7(6)	N13-Cu6-N18	80.5(5)
O1-Cu2-N3	156.4(5)	N17-Cu4-O4	90.8(5)	N13-Cu6-N23	175.9(7)
O1-Cu2-N8	93.2(5)	N17-Cu4-N9	103.5(6)	O6-Cu6-N13	93.1(6)
N1-Cu2-N3	79.9(5)	N17-Cu4-N16	78.9(6)	O6-Cu6-N18	166.6(6)
N1-Cu2-N8	170.5(5)	N17-Cu4-N20	158.1(6)	O6-Cu6-N23	90.4(6)
N3-Cu2-N8	97.8(5)	N20-Cu4-N9	98.3(6)	N23-Cu6-N18	96.4(6)
O3-Cu3-N2	162.7(5)	O5-Cu5-N11	173.4(5)		

S4. Coordination geometry

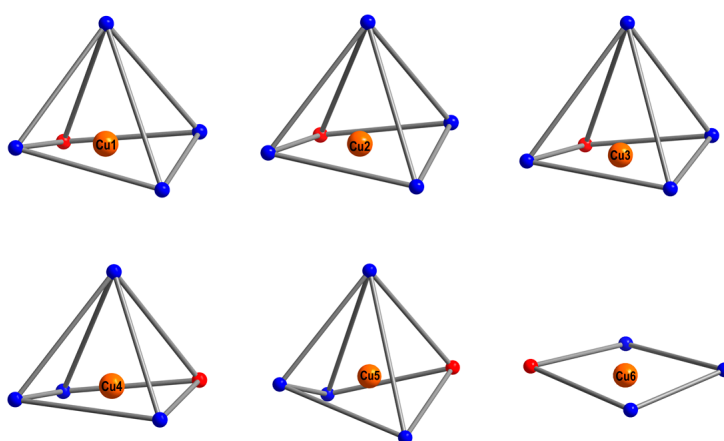
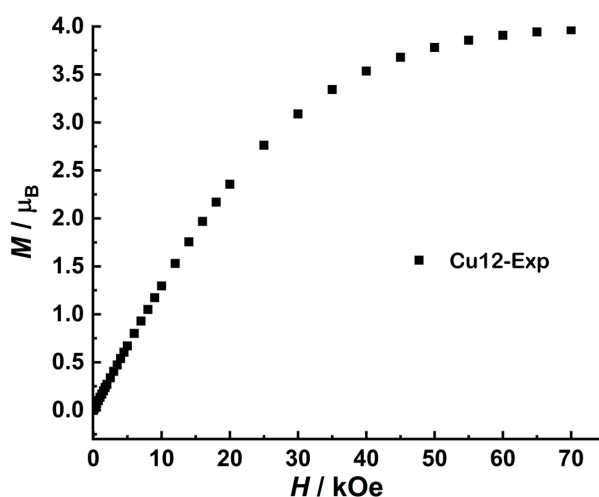


Figure S3. Representation of copper environment geometries for Cu₁₂.

Table S3. Calculated geometries of Cu₁₂ by SHAPE 2.1 software¹.

Cu center	Pentagon (D_{5h})	Vacant octahedron (C_{4v})	Trigonal bipyramid (D_{3h})	Spherical square pyramid (C_{4v})	Johnson trigonal bipyramid J12 (D_{3h})
Cu1	31.543	3.143	2.252	2.491	5.457
Cu2	32.501	3.180	2.599	2.411	6.305
Cu3	33.698	3.355	3.575	2.365	7.466
Cu4	31.406	1.853	3.751	1.092	6.894
Cu5	34.450	5.718	0.865	3.647	5.267
Cu center	Square (D_{4h})	Tetrahedron (T_d)	Seesaw (C_{2v})		
Cu6	0.727	27.843	14.856		

S5. Magnetic susceptibility measurement

**Figure S4.** Magnetization curve for Cu₁₂ at 2 K.

S6. Theoretical calculations

Table S4. Principal magnetic coupling constants (J in cm⁻¹) for Cu₁₂ calculated at the DFT level with the B3LYP, B3LYP* and PBE0 functionals. The atom labels correspond to those used in Figure 1.

	B3LYPPBE0B3LYP*		
Cu1-Cu2 J_{intra}	-330	-275	-403
Cu1-Cu3 J_{intra}	-305	-256	-371
Cu2-Cu3 J_{intra}	-337	-282	-412
Cu4-Cu5 J_{intra}	-236	-200	-286
Cu4-Cu6 J_{intra}	-389	-320	-485
Cu5-Cu6 J_{intra}	-205	-170	-250
Cu2-Cu4a J_{azido}	+3	+3	+3
Cu3-Cu6 J_{azido}	+7	+6	+8

Table S5. Calculated energy gap ΔE_{ES1-GS} (cm^{-1}) between the first excited state (ES1) and the ground state (GS), and the electronic g-factors for the ground state of the different metal centers in **Cu12**.

	ΔE_{ES1-GS}	g_x	g_y	g_z
Cu1	11895	2.07	2.10	2.39
Cu2	13195	2.07	2.09	2.37
Cu3	13738	2.08	2.08	2.37
Cu4	12202	2.06	2.10	2.39
Cu5	11981	2.36	2.21	2.01
Cu6	13914	2.07	2.08	2.38
Cu7	11895	2.06	2.11	2.39
Cu8	13195	2.06	2.10	2.37
Cu9	13737	2.07	2.09	2.37
Cu10	13910	2.07	2.08	2.37
Cu11	11982	2.36	2.21	2.01
Cu12	12202	2.07	2.10	2.39

Table S6. Relative energy (in cm^{-1}) of the 20 lowest states of the spin Hamiltonian used in this work.

States	B3LYP	$J_{\text{azido}} (J_{\text{intra}} = -250 \text{ cm}^{-1})$			
		0 cm^{-1}	-2 cm^{-1}	-5 cm^{-1}	-15 cm^{-1}
1	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
2	0.7806	0.0004	0.4353	0.6063	1.4873
3	0.7923	0.0004	0.9632	2.3698	6.8771
4	0.7970	0.0008	0.9645	2.3713	6.8826
5	1.5166	0.0014	0.9658	2.3730	6.8852
6	1.5182	0.0018	1.0798	2.5398	7.4928
7	1.5212	0.0020	1.0805	2.5408	7.4977
8	2.2897	0.0021	1.0815	2.5443	7.5062
9	2.2924	0.0031	1.1809	2.6920	7.6633
10	2.2969	0.0044	1.1930	2.6933	7.6700
11	2.3083	0.0045	1.1933	2.6973	7.6778
12	2.3086	0.0051	1.1960	2.9665	8.9167
13	2.4105	0.0054	1.3782	3.3076	9.8370
14	2.4136	0.0060	1.3786	3.3719	9.9414
15	2.4151	0.0065	1.3809	3.3722	10.0169
16	2.4246	0.0093	1.3864	3.3762	10.0194
17	29.2526	0.1801	1.4773	3.4374	10.0225
18	29.2541	0.1801	1.4789	3.4877	10.2403
19	29.2543	0.1802	1.4818	3.4910	10.2514
20	29.2585	0.1803	1.5506	3.4923	10.2579

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1. D. Casanova, M. Lluell, P. Alemany and S. Alvarez, Chem. Eur. J., 2005, 11, 1479-1494.