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**Supporting information for article:**

**Crystal structures of zinc(II) complexes with  $\beta$ -hydroxypyridine-carboxylate ligands: examples for structure-directing effects used in inorganic crystal engineering**

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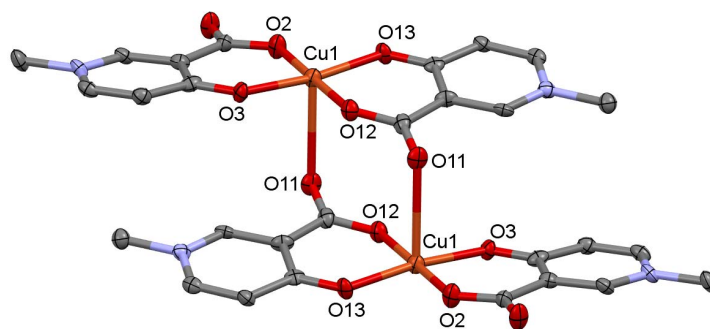
**Table S1** Selected Interatomic Distances (Å) and Dihedral angles (deg) for the ligands A1 – A3 and B1 in crystals (1)-(4)

	Crystal 1	Crystal 2	Crystal 3	Crystal 4
Distances (Å)				
O1-C7	1.255(3)	1.244(3)	1.232(2)	1.248(2)
O2-C7	1.256(3)	1.270(3)	1.288(2)	1.268(2)
O3-C4/C3	1.268(3)	1.278(3)	1.283(2)	1.302(2)
N1-C2	1.366(3)	1.375(3)	1.364(2)	1.335(2)
C2-C3	1.344(4)	1.363(4)	1.363(2)	1.415(2)
C3-C4	1.428(3)	1.420(3)	1.444(2)	1.425(2)
C4-C5	1.450(3)	1.437(3)	1.434(2)	1.395(2)
C5-C6	1.363(3)	1.366(3)	1.382(2)	1.378(2)
C6-N1	1.346(3)	1.349(3)	1.340(2)	1.351(2)
N1-C8	1.468(3)	1.475(3)	1.477(2)	1.482(2)
O11-C17	-	1.233(3)	-	1.247(2)
O12-C17	-	1.278(3)	-	1.262(2)
O13-C14/C13	-	1.272(3)	-	1.303(3)
N11-C12	-	1.374(3)	-	1.341(2)
C12-C13	-	1.363(4)	-	1.419(2)
C14-C15	-	1.438(3)	-	1.395(2)
C15-C16	-	1.364(3)	-	1.375(2)
C16-N11	-	1.345(3)	-	1.352(2)
N11-C18	-	1.473(3)	-	1.484(2)
Dihedral angles (deg)				
P(Zn1-O2-O3) – P(pyr1) <sup>a</sup>	23.5	1.9	28.3	13.6
P(Zn1-O12-O13) – P(pyr2) <sup>b</sup>	-	22.9	-	22.7
P(pyr1)-P(pyr2) <sup>c</sup>	0.0	60.7	41.3	76.1

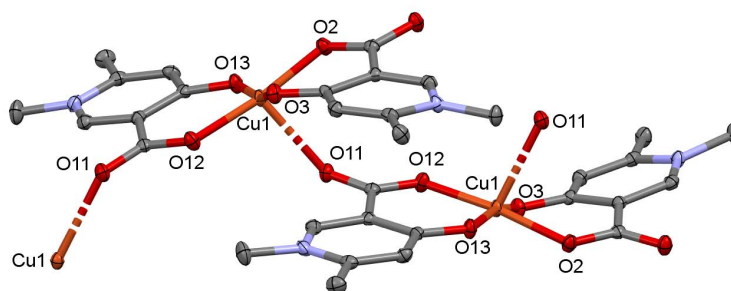
<sup>a</sup>Dihedral angle between the planes generated by Zn1-O2-O3 atoms and pyridine ring N1-C2-C3-C4-C5-C6. <sup>b</sup>Dihedral angle between the planes generated by Zn1-O12-O13 atoms and pyridine ring N11-C12-C13-C14-C15-C16. <sup>c</sup> Dihedral angles between the planes generated by the two pyridine rings

**Table S2** Selected Interatomic Distances (Å) and Angles (deg) for the analogous copper(II) complexes of ligands **A1**, **A2** and **B1**

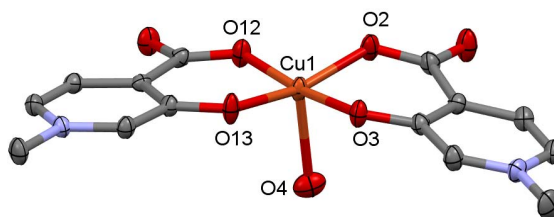
	[Cu <sub>2</sub> ( <b>A1</b> ) <sub>4</sub> ].4H <sub>2</sub> O	[Cu( <b>A2</b> ) <sub>2</sub> ] <sub>n</sub> .3H <sub>2</sub> O	[Cu( <b>B1</b> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)].3H <sub>2</sub> O
<b>Cu1-O2</b>	1.931(3)	1.937(2)	1.957(1)
<b>Cu1-O3</b>	1.924(3)	1.949(2)	1.935(1)
<b>Cu1-O1</b>	1.937(3)	1.919(2)	1.926(1)
<b>Cu1-O13</b>	1.921(3)	1.921(2)	1.916(1)
<b>Cu1-O<sub>ax</sub></b>	2.614(3)	2.388(2)	2.234(2)
<b>O2-Cu1-O3</b>	93.1(1)	90.83(9)	90.36(6)
<b>O13-Cu1-O12</b>	92.7(1)	93.61(9)	94.23(6)
<b>O3-Cu1-O13</b>	172.3(1)	165.0(1)	86.24(6)
<b>O12-Cu1-O2</b>	178.6(1)	172.9(1)	87.22(6)
<b>O3-Cu1-O12</b>	88.2(1)	86.55(9)	172.57(6)
<b>O2-Cu1-O13</b>	86.1(1)	87.21(9)	164.38(7)



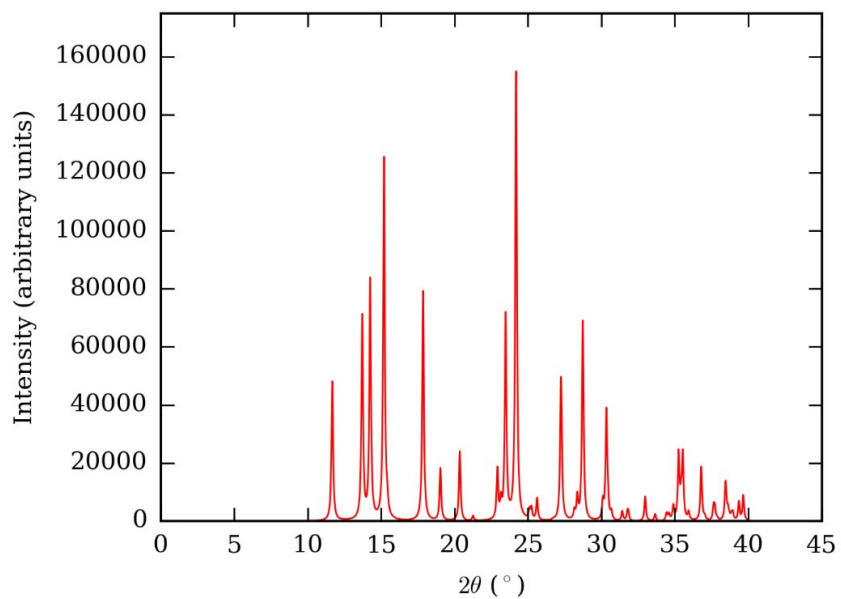
**Figure S1** ORTEP view of crystal [Cu<sub>2</sub>(A1)<sub>4</sub>].4H<sub>2</sub>O (Ref. code NOHVEO) thermal displacement ellipsoids drawn at 50% probability level. Hydrogen atoms and waters of crystallization are omitted for clarity.



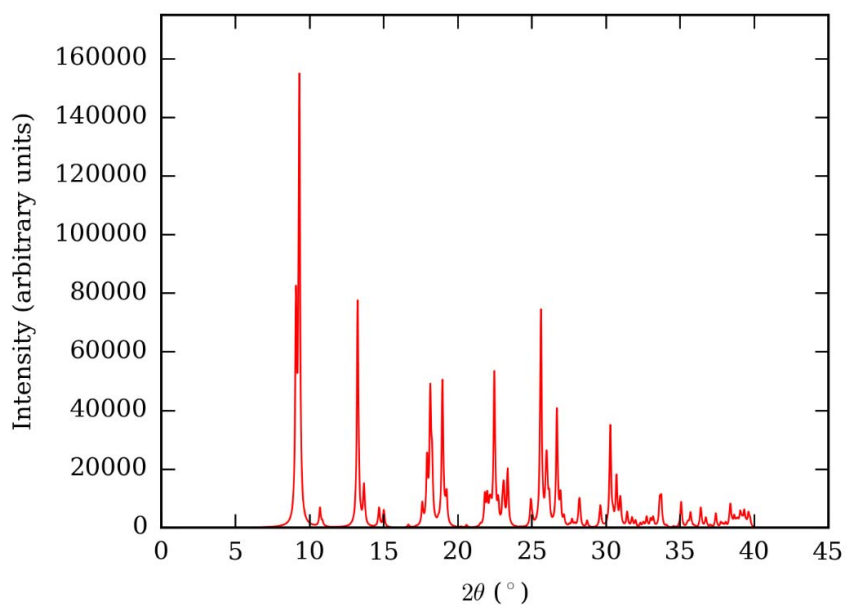
ORTEP view of crystal [Cu(A2)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>n</sub>.3H<sub>2</sub>O (Ref. code NOHVIS) coordination polymer with thermal displacement ellipsoids drawn at the 50% probability level. Hydrogen atoms and lattice water molecules are omitted for clarity.



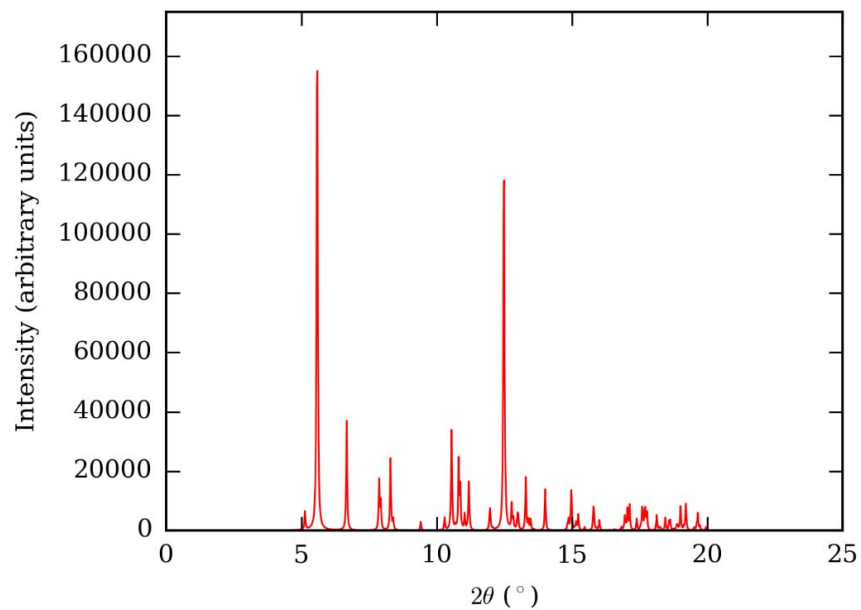
ORTEP view of crystal [Cu(B1)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)].3H<sub>2</sub>O (Ref. code NOHVAK) with thermal displacement ellipsoids drawn at the 50% probability level. Hydrogen atoms and waters of crystallisation are omitted for clarity.



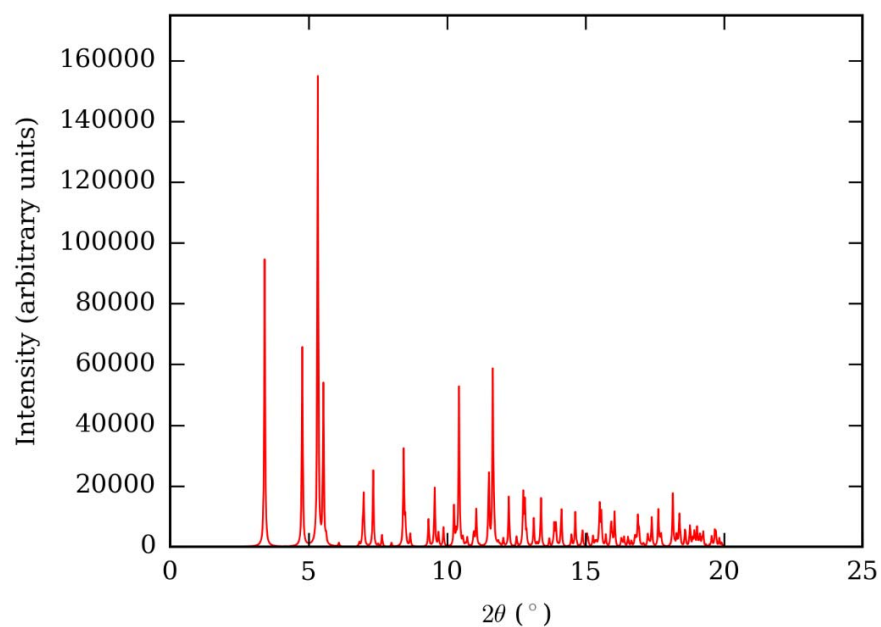
**Figure S2** Powder profile of crystal 1 simulated by PLATON (wavelength = 1.54187 Å).



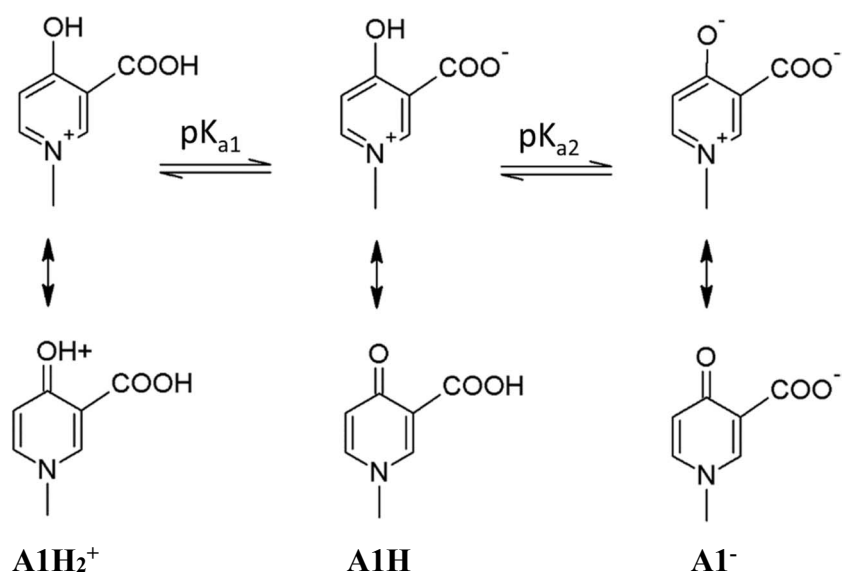
**Figure S3** Powder profile of crystal 2 simulated by PLATON (wavelength = 1.54187 Å)



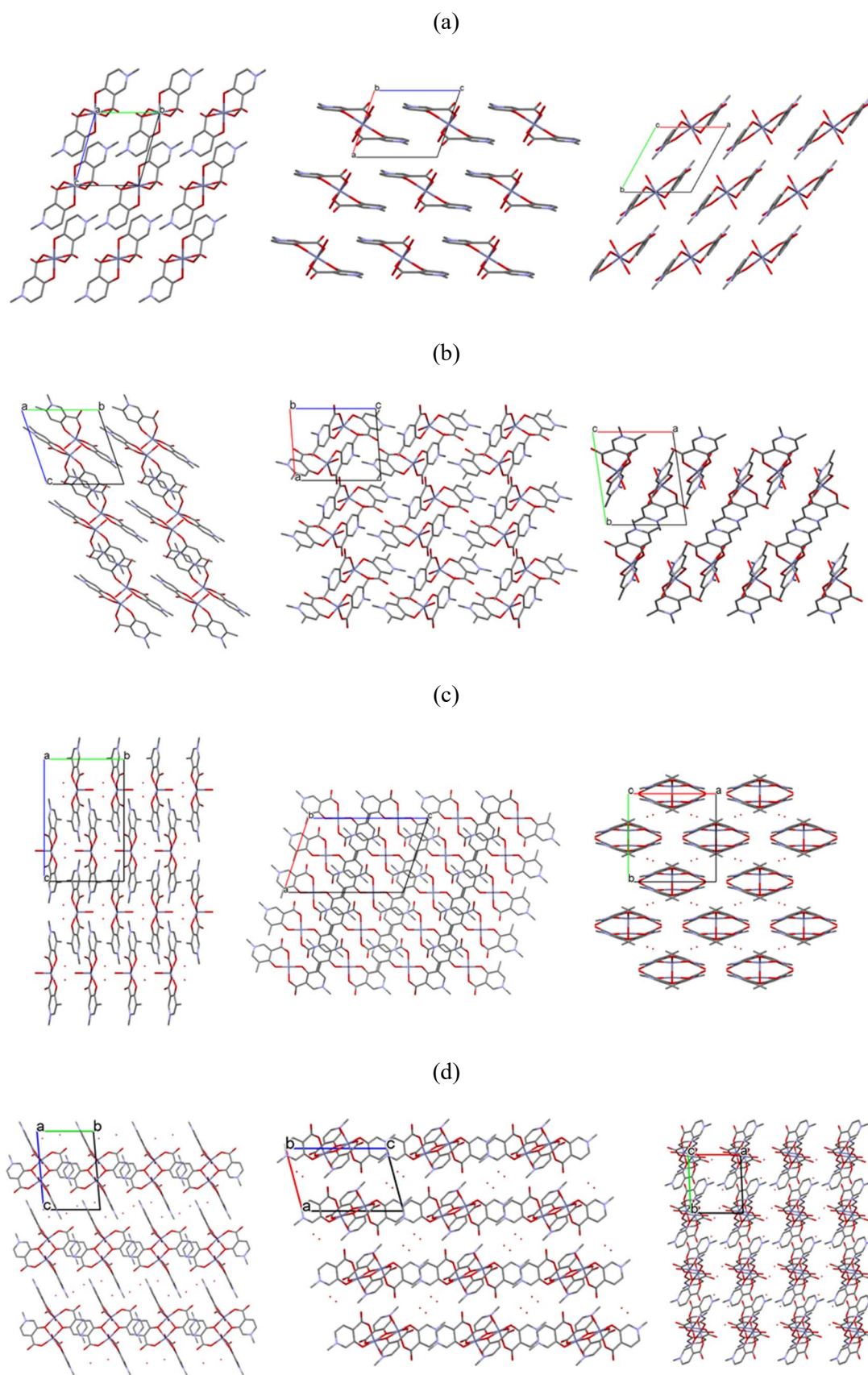
**Figure S4** Powder profile of crystal 3 simulated by PLATON (wavelength = 1.54187 Å)



**Figure S5** Powder profile of crystal 4 simulated by PLATON (wavelength = 1.54187 Å)



**Figure S6** Deprotonation steps for ligand A1 indicating possible enol-oxo tautomer forms

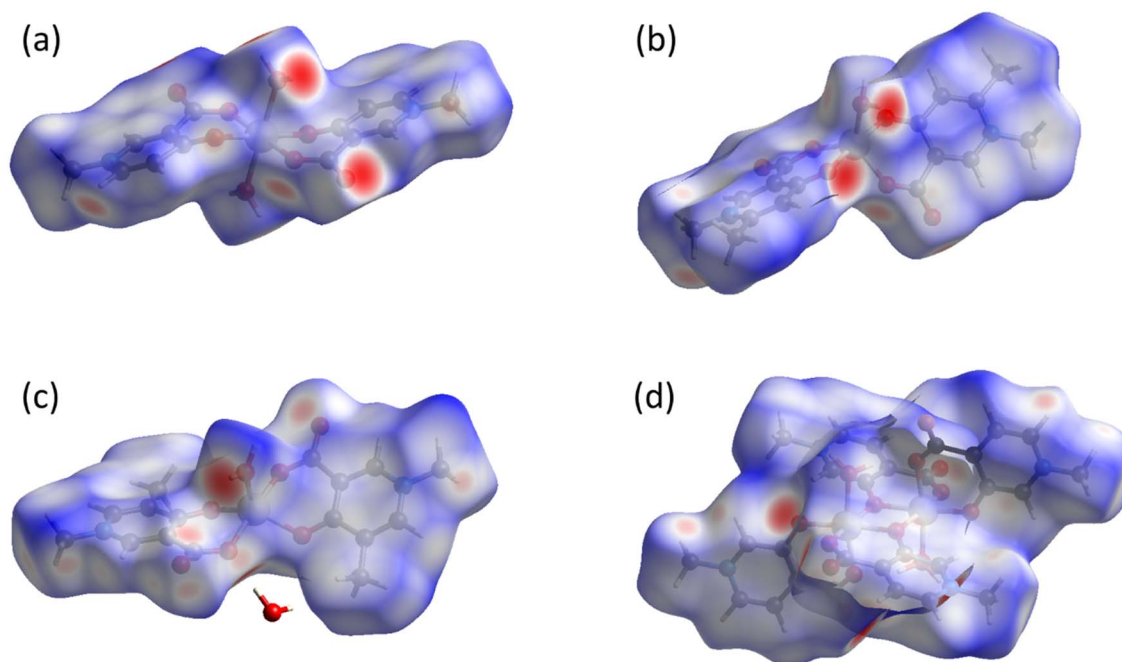


**Figure S7** Crystal packing viewed from the crystallographic directions 'a', 'b' and 'c' in (a) crystal 1, (b) crystal 2, (c) crystal 3 and (d) crystal 4

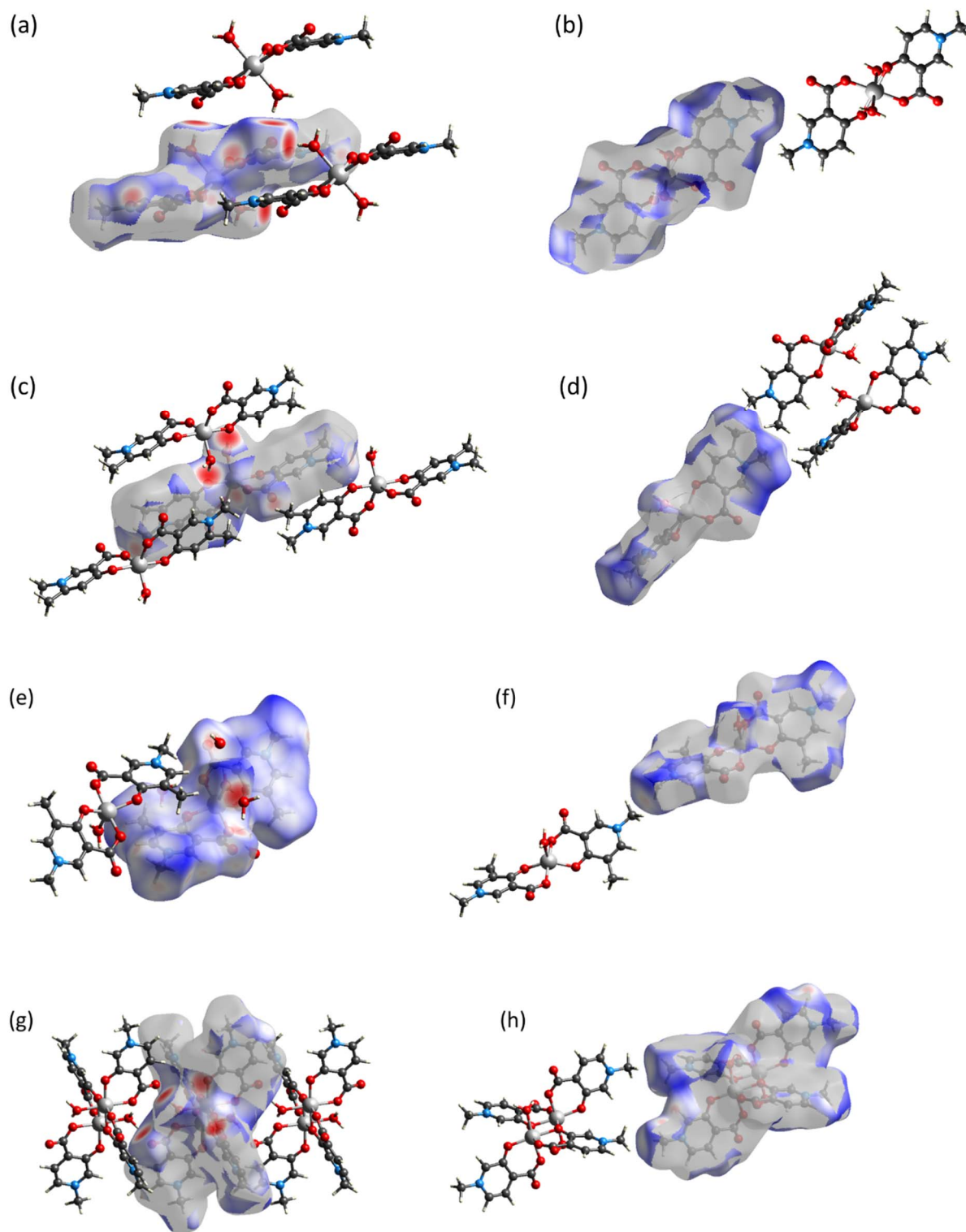




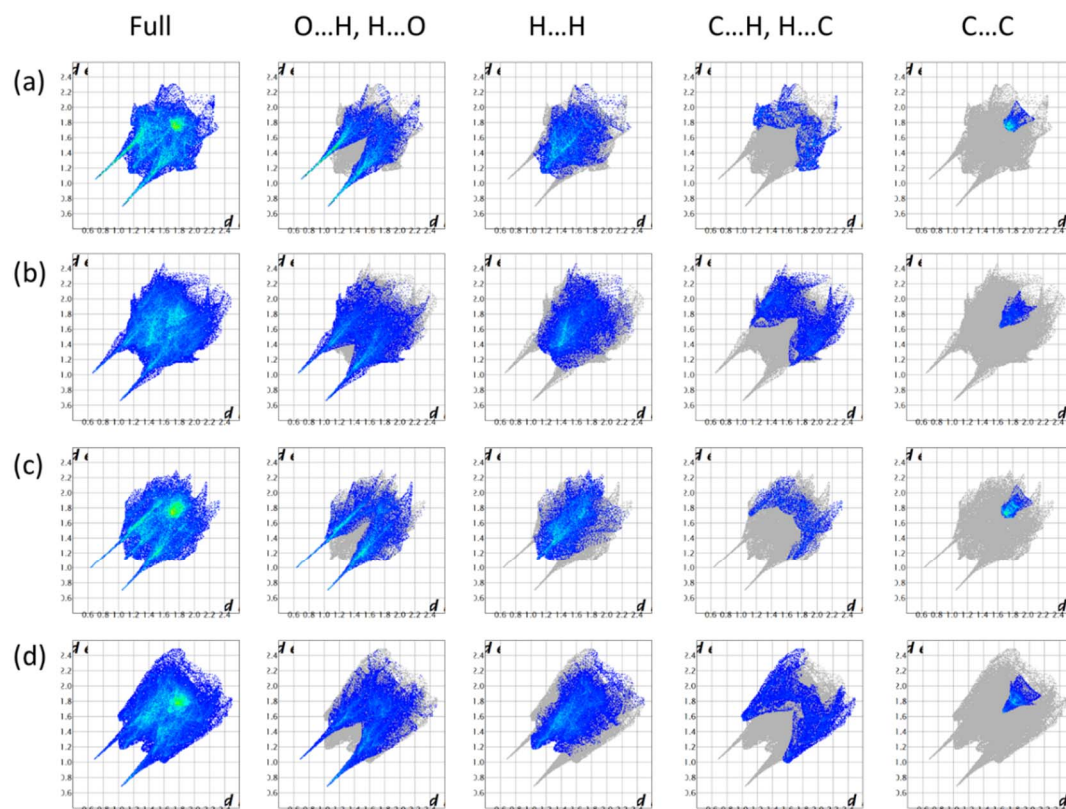
**Figure S8** Overlay of the two trigonal bi-pyramidal Zn complexes **2** (orange) and **3** (red).



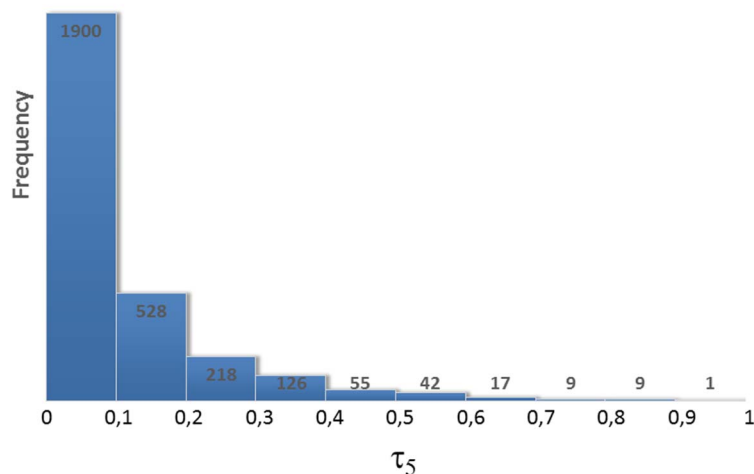
**Figure S9** Hirshfeld surface, showing the close contact points in red, calculated for the zinc(II) complexes in (a) crystal 1, (b) crystal 2, (c) crystal 3 and (d) crystal 4



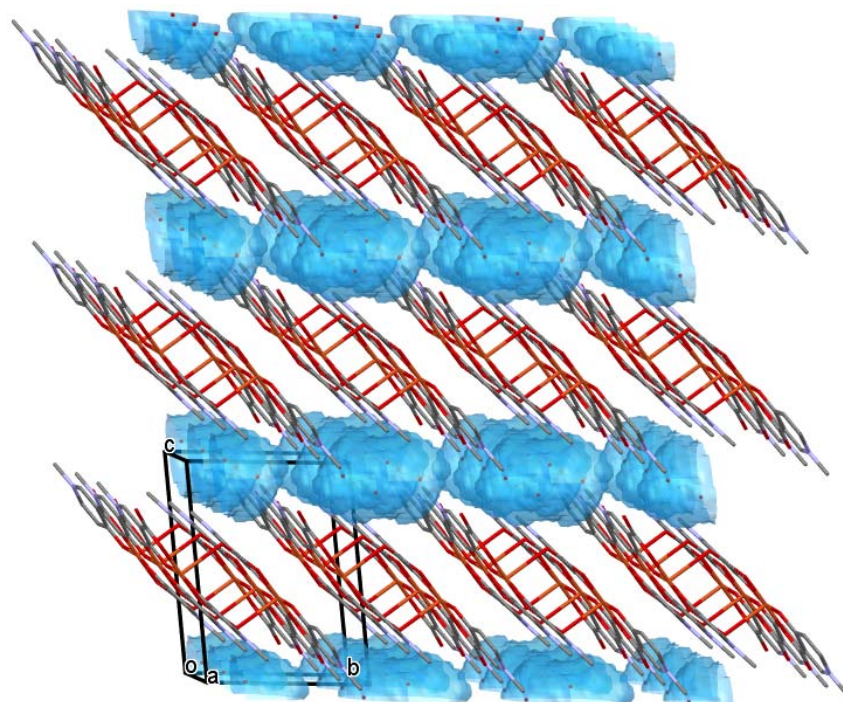
**Figure S10** Hirshfeld surface, showing the close contact points in red, between O...H atoms (a,c,e,g) and H...H atoms (b,d,f,g), for the zinc(II) complexes in crystal 1 (a and b), crystal 2 (c and d), crystal 3 (e and f) and crystal 4 (g and h). The molecular surface coloured in gray does not take part in the corresponding interactions.



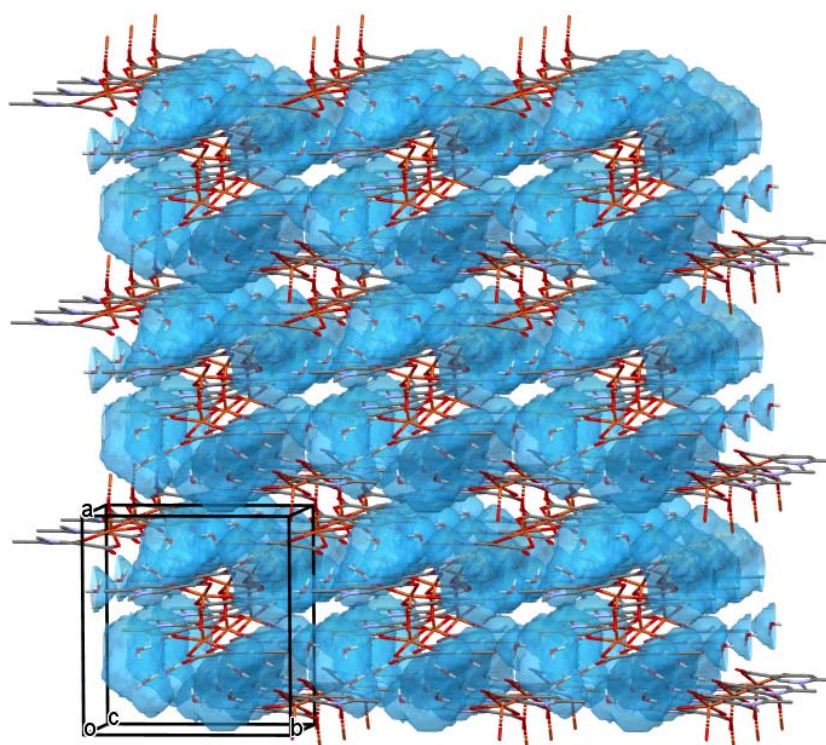
**Figure S11** Two dimensional fingerprint plots showing all the interactions (Full), and highlighting the O...H,H...O, H...H, C...H,H...C and C...C contacts, in (a) crystal 1, (b) crystal 2, (c) crystal 3 and (d) crystal 4



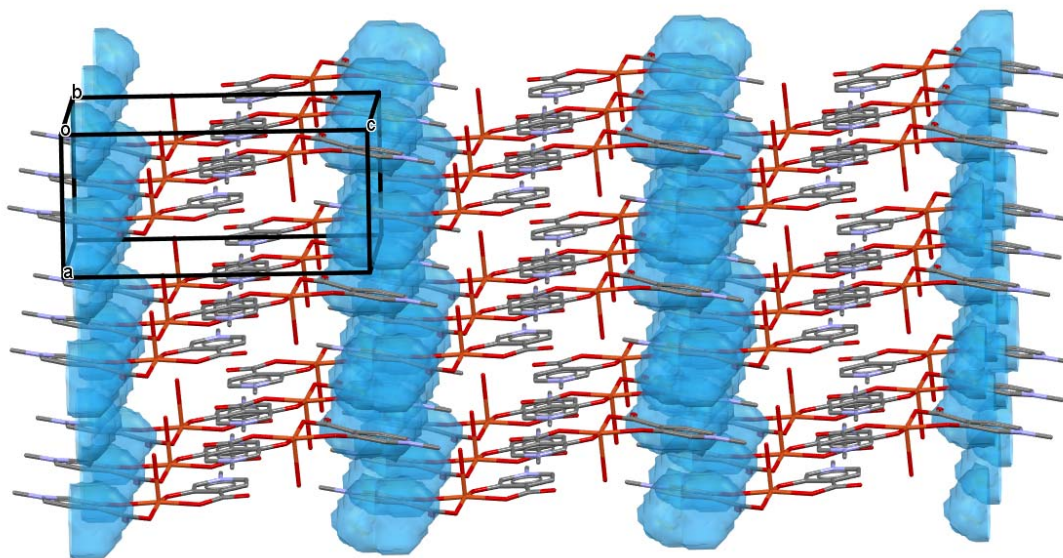
**Figure S12** Histogram showing the  $\tau_5$  values for 50-coordinated copper complexes deposited in the CSD. The histogram shows the  $\tau_5$  values calculated for 2905 structures obtained in 2457 entries for 50-coordinated Cu(II) complexes, after filtering out the identical structures. For 40-coordination 1659 and for 60-coordination 2184 entries have been found in the CSD.



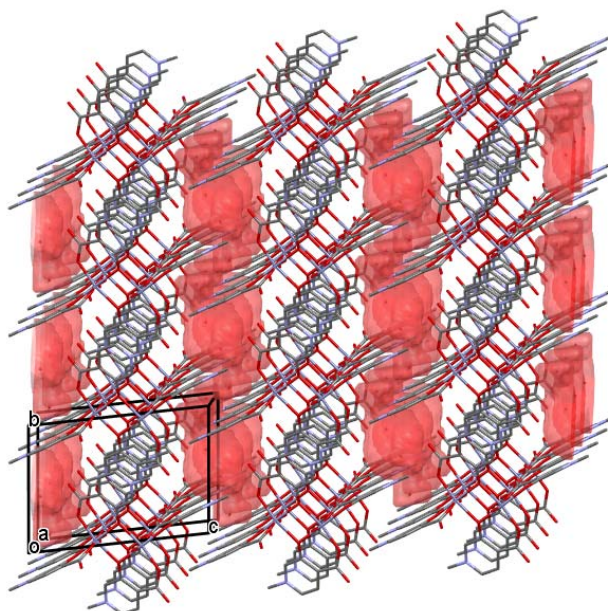
**Figure S13** Packing arrangements of crystal  $[\text{Cu}_2(\text{A1})_4]\cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (Ref. code NOHVEO) showing voids of  $84.4 \text{ \AA}^3$  (11.5% of unit cell) where water of crystallization is placed (calculated by Mercury, Hydrate Analyser)



**Figure S14** Packing arrangement in crystal  $[\text{Cu}(\text{A2})_2]_n\cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (Ref. code NOHVIS) with channels created by the water molecules. The volume of the voids is  $204.7 \text{ \AA}^3$  which is 11.4% of the unit cell volume (calculated by Mercury, Hydrate Analyser).



**Figure S15** Packing arrangement of crystal  $[\text{Cu}(\text{B1})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})] \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (Ref. code NOHVAK) showing voids of  $48,9 \text{ \AA}^3$  (5.6% of the unit cell) where water of crystallization is placed (calculated by Mercury, Hydrate Analyser).



**Figure S16** Packing arrangement in crystal  $[\text{Zn}_2(\text{B1})_4(\text{H}_2\text{O})] \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (**4**) showing voids of  $58,4 \text{ \AA}^3$  (7.2% of the unit cell) where water of crystallization is placed (calculated by Mercury).