Structure and bonding in the hydrothermally synthesized copper(I) complex Cu4(?2-CI)4(BIPY)2

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The title compound corresponds to a molecular product of the hydrothermal reaction of CuCl2, Zn, and BIPY (BIPY=2,2?-bipyridine) in the presence of phosphoric acid. The structure of the neutral complex Cu 4(?2-Cl)4(BIPY)2 determined by means of X-ray diffraction consists of molecular units constructed around a Cu4 parallelogram, with diagonally opposed tetrahedral and linear copper centers. DFT calculations provide a rationalization of the bonding in this molecule. © 2003 Elsevier Science B.V. All rights reserved.