## **Overcoming Universal Restrictions on Metal Selectivity By Protein Design**

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## **Supplementary Method**

Mathematical calculation of metal-free and metal-bound (AB)<sub>2</sub> in competitive conditions with Cu<sup>II</sup>. Fractions of metal-free and metal-bound (AB)<sub>2</sub> species were calculated using  $K_d$  values of 1Cu<sup>II</sup>-(AB)<sub>2</sub>, 2Ni<sup>II</sup>-(AB)<sub>2</sub>, and 2Co<sup>II</sup>-(AB)<sub>2</sub> as a function of metal concentration. All mathematical models of the (AB)<sub>2</sub> fractions were derived from equations for equilibrium dissociation constants. Fractions of individual (AB)<sub>2</sub> species are represented as

$$F_{2M^{II}} = \frac{[2M^{II} - (AB)_2]}{[(AB)_2]_{tot}} , F_{M^{II}} = \frac{[M^{II} - (AB)_2]}{[(AB)_2]_{tot}} , F_{Cu^{II}} = \frac{[Cu^{II} - (AB)_2]}{[(AB)_2]_{tot}} - (1)$$

where  $[(AB)_2]_{tot}$  indicates the total amount of metal-free and metal-bound  $(AB)_2$  species and  $M^{II}$  indicates Co<sup>II</sup> or Ni<sup>II</sup>. Using the definition of  $K_d$ ,  $[(AB)_2]_{tot}$  can be expressed as follows:

$$[(AB)_{2}]_{tot} = [(AB)_{2}] + [Cu^{II} - (AB)_{2}] + [M^{II} - (AB)_{2}] + [2M^{II} - (AB)_{2}] - (2)$$
$$= [(AB)_{2}] + \frac{[(AB)_{2}][Cu^{II}]}{K_{d,Cu^{II}}} + \frac{[(AB)_{2}][M^{II}]}{K_{d1,M^{II}}} + \frac{[(AB)_{2}][M^{II}]^{2}}{K_{d1,M^{II}}K_{d2,M^{II}}} - (3)$$
$$[2M^{II} - (AB)_{2}] = \frac{[(AB)_{2}][M^{II}]^{2}}{K_{d1,M^{II}}K_{d2,M^{II}}} - (4)$$

Incorporating (3) and (4) into (1) yields:

$$: F_{2M^{II}} = \frac{[2M^{II} - AB_2]}{[(AB)_2]_{tot}} = \frac{\frac{[M^{II}]^2}{K_{d1,M^{II}}K_{d2,M^{II}}}}{1 + \frac{[Cu^{II}]}{K_{d,Cu^{II}}} + \frac{[M^{II}]}{K_{d1,M^{II}}} + \frac{[M^{II}]^2}{K_{d1,M^{II}}}} - (5)$$

Fractions of [(AB)<sub>2</sub>], [M<sup>II</sup>-(AB)<sub>2</sub>], and [Cu<sup>II</sup>-(AB)<sub>2</sub>] are derived in the same manner.

$$\begin{bmatrix} M^{II} - (AB)_{2} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{[(AB)_{2}][M^{II}]}{K_{d1,M}^{II}} - (6)$$
  

$$\therefore F_{M^{II}} = \frac{[M^{II} - (AB)_{2}]}{[(AB)_{2}]_{tot}} = \frac{\frac{[M^{II}]}{1 + \frac{[Cu^{II}]}{K_{d,Cu}^{II}} + \frac{[M^{II}]}{K_{d1,M}^{II}} + \frac{[M^{II}]^{2}}{K_{d1,M}^{II}K_{d2,M}^{II}}} - (7)$$
  

$$\begin{bmatrix} Cu^{II} - (AB)_{2} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{[(AB)_{2}][Cu^{II}]}{K_{d,Cu}^{II}} - (8)$$
  

$$\therefore F_{Cu^{II}} = \frac{[Cu^{II} - (AB)_{2}]}{[(AB)_{2}]_{tot}} = \frac{\frac{[Cu^{II}]}{1 + \frac{[Cu^{II}]}{K_{d,Cu}^{II}} + \frac{[M^{II}]^{2}}{K_{d1,M}^{II} + \frac{[M^{II}]^{2}}{K_{d1,M}^{II} - K_{d1,M}^{II}}} - (8)$$
  

$$\therefore F_{(AB)_{2}} = 1 - F_{2M^{II}} - F_{M^{II}} - F_{Cu^{II}} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{[Cu^{II}]}{K_{d,Cu}^{II}} + \frac{[M^{II}]}{K_{d1,M}^{II} + \frac{[M^{II}]^{2}}{K_{d1,M}^{II} + \frac{[M^{II}]^{2}}{K_{d1,M}^{II} + \frac{K_{d1,M}^{II}}{K_{d1,M}^{II} + \frac{$$

 $M^{II}$  is the concentration of Co<sup>II</sup> or Ni<sup>II</sup>. The concentrations of  $M^{II}$  and Cu<sup>II</sup> were considered as buffered species to calculate the fractions of metal-free and metal-bound (AB)<sub>2</sub> species. Since the fractions of  $[M^{II}-(AB)_2]$  were negligible in actual calculations using  $K_d$  values, they were not included in Fig. 2a. Additionally, because there was no experimental evidence for the formation of heterometallic species (e.g. Cu<sup>II</sup>+M<sup>II</sup>-(AB)<sub>2</sub>) in ESI-MS (Extended Data Fig. 3d), the fractions of the heterometallic (AB)<sub>2</sub> complexes were excluded in the equilibrium.



Supplementary Figure 1 | Uncropped gel images of Figures 4b (brown) and 4c (cyan).



**Supplementary Figure 2** | Uncropped gel images of Extended Data Figures 7a (brown) and 7b (cyan).

Structure <sup>a</sup>	Ме	tal	Beamline	Precipitant
2Co <sup>II</sup> -(AB) <sub>2</sub>	CoCl <sub>2</sub>	4 mM	UCSD⁵	PEG1500 25%, NaCl 140 mM, pH 6.6 MES 100 mM
2Ni <sup>II</sup> -(AB) <sub>2</sub>	NiCl <sub>2</sub>	4 mM	ALS 5.0.2.	PEG1500 25%, pH 8 EPPS 100 mM
1Cu <sup>II</sup> -(AB) <sub>2</sub>	CuCl <sub>2</sub>	4 mM	UCSD⁵	PEG1500 25%, CaCl <sub>2</sub> 200 mM, pH 6 MES 100 mM
Co <sup>II</sup> //Cu <sup>II</sup> -(AB) <sub>2</sub>	CoCl <sub>2</sub> //CuCl <sub>2</sub>	4 mM//4mM	SSRL 9-2	PEG1500 25%, NH₄Ac 160 mM, pH 8.4 EPPS 100 mM
Cu <sup>II</sup> //Co <sup>II</sup> -(AB) <sub>2</sub>	$CuCl_2//CoCl_2$	4 mM//4mM	SSRL 9-2	PEG1500 25%, NaCl 200 mM, pH 8 EPPS 100 mM
Ni <sup>II</sup> //Cu <sup>II</sup> -(AB) <sub>2</sub>	NiCl <sub>2</sub> //CuCl <sub>2</sub>	4 mM//4mM	SSRL 9-2	PEG1500 22%, NH₄Ac 160 mM, pH 8 EPPS 100 mM
Cu <sup>II</sup> //Ni <sup>II</sup> -(AB) <sub>2</sub>	CuCl <sub>2</sub> //NiCl <sub>2</sub>	4 mM//4mM	SSRL 9-2	PEG1500 25%, NH₄Ac 200 mM, pH 8.4 EPPS 100 mM
1Co <sup>II_H100A</sup> (AB) <sub>2</sub>	CoCl <sub>2</sub>	4 mM	SSRL 9-2	PEG1500 25%, MgCl <sub>2</sub> 200 mM, EPPS 100 mM, pH 8
1Ni <sup>II_H100A</sup> (AB) <sub>2</sub>	NiCl <sub>2</sub>	4 mM	SSRL 9-2	PEG1500 25%, MgCl <sub>2</sub> 200 mM, MOPS 100 mM, pH 7

## Supplementary Table 1 | Crystallization conditions for reported PDB structures.

<sup>a</sup>Dimer concentration was 2 mM. <sup>b</sup>Diffraction data was collected on a Bruker APEX II CCD detector equipped with Cu  $K_{\alpha}$  source in UCSD X-ray crystallography facility.

Species	Theoretical m/z	Observed m/z
(AB) <sub>2</sub>	2275.09	2275.09
1Co <sup>II</sup> -(AB) <sub>2</sub>	2280.27	2280.27
2Co <sup>II</sup> -(AB) <sub>2</sub>	2285.45	2285.45
1Ni <sup>II</sup> -(AB) <sub>2</sub>	2280.25	2280.27
2Ni <sup>II</sup> -(AB) <sub>2</sub>	2285.40	2285.40
1Cu <sup>II</sup> -(AB) <sub>2</sub>	2280.70	2280.63
2Cu <sup>II</sup> -(AB) <sub>2</sub>	2286.29	2286.26

**Supplementary Table 2** | Theoretical and observed m/z values of (AB)<sub>2</sub> complexes observed in non-competitive conditions.

**Supplementary Table 3** | Experimental m/z values of (AB)<sub>2</sub> complexes observed in the competitive conditions with Cu<sup>II</sup>.

Species	<i>m/z</i> (Co <sup>ii</sup> //Cu <sup>ii</sup> )	<i>m/z</i> (Cu <sup>#</sup> //Co <sup>#</sup> )	<i>m/z</i> (Ni <sup>#</sup> //Cu <sup>#</sup> )	<i>m/z</i> (Cu <sup>#</sup> //Ni <sup>#</sup> )
1M <sup>II</sup> -(AB) <sub>2</sub>	2280.50	2280.45	-	-
2M <sup>II</sup> -(AB) <sub>2</sub>	2285.54	2285.54	2285.45	2285.45
3M <sup>II</sup> -(AB) <sub>2</sub> <sup>a</sup>	-	-	2290.98	2290.98

<sup>a</sup>2Ni<sup>II</sup>+1Cu<sup>II</sup>-(AB)<sub>2</sub> (Theo *m*/*z* 2290.99)

Species	Theoretical m/z	Observed m/z
H100A(AB) <sub>2</sub>	2263.05	2263.05
1Co <sup>II</sup> - <sup>H100A</sup> (AB) <sub>2</sub>	2268.22	2268.22
1Ni <sup>II</sup> - <sup>H100A</sup> (AB) <sub>2</sub>	2268.19	2268.22
1Cu <sup>II</sup> - <sup>H100A</sup> (AB) <sub>2</sub>	2268.64	2268.63
2Cu <sup>II</sup> - <sup>H100A</sup> (AB) <sub>2</sub>	2274.24	2274.25
3Cu <sup>II</sup> - <sup>H100A</sup> (AB) <sub>2</sub>	2279.83	2279.88

**Supplementary Table 4** | Theoretical and experimental m/z values of  $^{H100A}(AB)_2$  complexes observed in non-competitive conditions.

**Supplementary Table 5** | Experimental m/z values of  $^{H100A}(AB)_2$  complexes observed in the competitive conditions with Cu<sup>II</sup>.

Species	<i>m</i> /z (Co <sup>ii</sup> //Cu <sup>ii</sup> )	<i>m/z</i> (Cu <sup>#</sup> //Co <sup>#</sup> )	<i>m/z</i> (Ni <sup>n</sup> //Cu <sup>n</sup> )	<i>m/z</i> (Cu <sup>n</sup> //Ni <sup>n</sup> )
1M <sup>II_H100A</sup> (AB) <sub>2</sub>	2268.58	2268.58	2268.37	2268.37
2M <sup>II</sup> - <sup>H100A</sup> (AB) <sub>2</sub>	2274.02	2274.22	2273.90	2273.90
3M <sup>II</sup> - <sup>H100A</sup> (AB) <sub>2</sub> <sup>a</sup>	2279.60	2279.60	2279.44	2279.44