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# **Supporting Information**

## Reaction of a polydentate Cysteine-based ligand and its nickel(II) complex with electrophilic and nucleophilic methyl-transfer reagents - From S-methylation to acetyl coenzyme A synthase reactivity

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#### 1. Mass spectra



Figure S1. High-resolution ESI-MS of Me<sub>2</sub>L.



Figure S2. Measured (left) and calculated (right) isotopic pattern for the peak at m/z = 235.1295 in the high-resolution ESI-MS of Me<sub>2</sub>L.



Figure S3. High-resolution ESI-MS of MeLH: m/z = 221 for [MeLH]H<sup>+</sup> and m/z = 235 for [Me<sub>2</sub>L]H<sup>+</sup>.



Figure S4. Measured (left) and calculated (right) isotopic pattern for the peak at m/z = 221.1206 in the high-resolution ESI-MS of MeLH.



Figure S5. High-resolution ESI-MS of Me<sub>2</sub>LNiBr<sub>2</sub> (2): m/z = 373 for [Me<sub>2</sub>LNiBr]<sup>+</sup>.



Figure S6. Measured (left) and calculated (right) isotopic pattern for the peak at m/z = 372.9720 in the high-resolution ESI-MS of Me<sub>2</sub>LNiBr<sub>2</sub> (**2**).



Figure S7. High-resolution ESI-MS of  $[(MeNi)_3I]I_2$  (3).



Figure S8. Measured (left) and calculated (right) isotopic pattern for the peak at m/z = 680.9673 in the high-resolution ESI-MS of [(MeNi)<sub>3</sub>I]I<sub>2</sub> (**3**).



Figure S9. High-resolution ESI-MS of MeL(CO)Me (4).



Figure S10. Measured (left) and calculated (right) isotopic pattern for the peak at m/z = 263.1291 in the high-resolution ESI-MS of MeL(CO)Me (4).



Figure S11. High-resolution ESI-MS of MeL(CO)Et (5).



Figure S12. Measured (left) and calculated (right) isotopic pattern for the peak at m/z = 277.1439 in the high-resolution ESI-MS of MeL(CO)Et (5).

### 2. Liquid ATR-FTIR spectra



Figure S13. Liquid ATR-FTIR spectrum of MeL(CO)Me (4).



Figure S14. Liquid ATR-FTIR spectrum of MeL(CO)Et (5).

## 3. NMR spectra



Figure S15: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, 297 K) spectrum of Me<sub>2</sub>L in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S16. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, 297 K) spectrum of Me<sub>2</sub>L in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S17. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, 297 K) spectrum of MeLH in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S18. APT NMR (100 MHz, 297 K) spectrum of MeLH in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S19. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, 297 K) spectrum of Me<sub>2</sub>LNiBr<sub>2</sub> (2) in CD<sub>3</sub>OH.



Figure S20. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, 297 K) spectrum of MeL(CO)Me (4) in CD<sub>3</sub>CN.



Figure S21. APT NMR (100 MHz, 297 K) spectrum of MeL(CO)Me (4) in CD<sub>3</sub>CN.



Figure S22. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, 297 K) spectrum of MeL(CO)Et (5) in CD<sub>3</sub>CN.



Figure S23. APT NMR (100 MHz, 297 K) spectrum of MeL(CO)Et (5) in CD<sub>3</sub>CN.



#### 4. UV-vis spectrum

Figure S24: UV-vis spectrum of [(MeLNi)<sub>3</sub>I]I<sub>2</sub> (**3**) in MeCN, 0.025 mM.