## **Supplementary Information**

# Cyclopentadienyl Nickel (II) N,C-Chelating Benzothiazolyl NHC Complexes: Synthesis, Characterization and Application in Catalytic C-C Bond Formation Reactions

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I. <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectra of ligands **2a-2c** 







b











# II. <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectra of complexes **3a-3c**



3b









#### III. Results for catalytic C-C bond formation reactions

X		OMe + ArN	IgBr THF/Tolu Conditio	uene Dns	Ar	⊦ Ar-Ar
	5a				5a'	5a''
Entry X	v	X Ar	Temperature	Time	Yield of <b>5a'</b> <sup>b</sup>	Yield of <b>5a</b> " <sup><i>b,c</i></sup>
	А			(h)	(%)	(%)
1	Br	Ph	r.t	1	40	50
2	Cl	Ph	100 °C	1	32	13
3	Br	<i>p</i> -Tolyl	r.t	1	22	44
4	Cl	<i>p</i> -Tolyl	100 °C	4	42	22
5	F	<i>p</i> -Tolyl	100 °C	4	19	13
<sup><i>a</i></sup> Reaction conditions: ArMgBr (0.6 mmol, 1.0 M in THF) was added dropwise within 30 min to the mixture of <b>3a</b> (0.005 mmol, 1 mol%) and 4-bromoanisole (0.5 mmol) in toluene (1 mL) and stirred at r.t. for 1 h. <sup><i>b</i></sup> Isolated yield. <sup><i>c</i></sup> Based on the amount of ArMgBr.						

Table S1. Kumada-Tamo-Corriu reactions catalysed by 3a<sup>a</sup>

Table S2. Oxidative homo-coupling of aryl Grignard reagent catalysed by  $3a^a$ 

	ΔrM	aBr 3a (1 or 3 mol%) / THF	Ar-Ar	
		CICH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CI		
<b>.</b>		Catalyst	Yield <sup>b</sup> of Ar-Ar	
Entry	Ar lo	loading/Temperature/Time	(%)	
1	<i>p</i> -Tolyl	1 mol% / r.t / 1h	49	
2	<i>p</i> -Tolyl	1 mol% / r.t / 4h	73	
3	<i>p</i> -Tolyl	1 mol% / reflux / 1h	64	
4	<i>p</i> -Tolyl	3 mol% / r.t / 1h	81	
5	2-Mesityl	3 mol% / r.t / 1h	45	

<sup>*a*</sup>Reaction conditions: ArMgBr (0.5 mmol, 1.0 M in THF) was added to the mixture of **3a** (1 or 3 mol%) and 1,2-dichloroethane (0.62 mmol) in THF (2 mL). <sup>*b*</sup>Isolated yield.

#### IV. <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C NMR data and spectra of the bibenzyl products









*1,2-Di*(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)ethane<sup>[3]</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 7.57 (d, J = 8.2 Hz 4H), 7.28 (d, J = 8.2 Hz 4H), 3.03 (s, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125.77 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 145.01, 128.76, 128.47, 125.37 (q, J = 3.6 Hz), 123.19, 37.21.





*1,2-Di*(*4-cyanophenyl*)*ethane*<sup>[4]</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 7.56 (d, J = 8.4 Hz 4H), 7.22 (d, J = 8.4 Hz 4H), 2.99 (s, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 146.04, 132.27, 129.22, 118.79, 110.27, 37.16.







*1,2-Di(2-bromophenyl)ethane*<sup>[1]</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz 2H), 7.26-7.19 (m, 4H), 7.11-7.07 (m, 2H), 3.06 (s, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125.77 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 140.53, 132.77, 130.60, 127.80, 127.42, 124.46, 36.41.





*1,2-Di(2-methylphenyl)ethane*<sup>[1]</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) = 7.19 (s, 8H), 2.90 (s, 4H), 2.36 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) = 140.14, 135.88, 130.17, 128.83, 126.08, 126.02, 34.11, 19.25.





*1,2-Di*(4-methylphenyl)ethane<sup>[1]</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) = 7.10 (s, 8H), 2.87 (s, 4H), 2.33 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125.77 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) = 138.86, 135.28, 128.99, 128.28, 37.62, 21.00.







Dimethyl 4,4'-(ethane-1,2'-diyl)dibenzoate<sup>[6]</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 7.94 (d, J = 8.0 Hz 4H), 7.19 (d, J = 8.0 Hz 2H), 3.90 (s, 6H), 2.99 (s, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 167.05, 146.48, 129.73, 128.51, 128.11, 51.99, 37.39.



# V. Crystal data and structure refinement parameters of complexes **3a-3c**

Complex	3a	3b	3c
Chemical formula	$\mathrm{C_{16}H_{14}F_6N_3NiPS}$	$C_{18}H_{16}F_6N_3NiPS$	$C_{22}H_{18}F_6N_3NiPS$
Formula weight	484.04 g/mol	510.08 g/mol	560.13 g/mol
Temperature	100(2) K	100(2) K 0.100 x 0.120 x 0.600	100(2) K 0.200 x 0.260 x 0.460
Crystal size	0.090 x 0.130 x 0.210 mm	mm	mm
Crystal system	orthorhombic	monoclinic	orthorhombic
Space group	P n m a	P 1 21/c 1	Pbcn
a/Å	14.8278(7)	7.3234(13)	10.8112(12)
b/Å	6.9438(4)	18.776(3)	13.5233(15)
c/Å	17.7673(9)	13.938(2)	30.106(3)
α/°	90	90	90
β/°	90	90.253(4)	90
γ/°	90	90	90
$V/Å^3$	1829.34(16)	1916.5(6)	4401.6(9)
Ζ	4	4	8
Density (calculated)	$1.758 \text{ g/cm}^3$	$1.768 \text{ g/cm}^3$	$1.691 \text{ g/cm}^3$
Reflections collected	17118	13566	54601
Independent reflections	2451	4434	5091
R <sub>int</sub>	0.0406	0.0443	0.0596
Parameters	158	271	307
GOF on F <sup>2</sup>	1.048	1.033	1.085
$R_1[I > 2\sigma(I)]$	0.0284	0.0397	0.0459
wR <sub>2</sub> (all data)	0.0645	0.0985	0.1104

 Table S3. Crystal data and structure refinement for complexes 3a-3c

VI. References

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