## Polycarboxylate-directed semi-rigid pyridyl-amide-based various Ni<sup>II</sup> complexes: electrochemical properties and enhancements of photocatalytic activities by calcination

Xiu-Li Wang\*, Ying Xiong, Guo-Cheng Liu, Hong-Yan Lin and Xiang Wang

Department of Chemistry, Bohai University, Liaoning Province Silicon Materials Engineering Technology Research Centre, Jinzhou 121000, P. R. China

1 C <sub>26</sub> H <sub>28</sub> N <sub>4</sub> NiO <sub>10</sub> S				
Ni(1)-O(2W)	2.0	593(16)	Ni(1)-O(2W)#1	2.0593(16)
Ni(1)-O(1W)	2.0	737(15)	Ni(1)-O(1W)#1	2.0736(15)
Ni(1)–N(1)	2.12	278(18)	Ni(1)–N(1)#1	2.1277(18)
O(2W)-Ni(1)-O(2W	)#1	180.0	O(1W)#1-Ni(1)-N(1)#1	91.24(7)
O(2W)-Ni(1)-O(1W	)#1	86.07(6)	O(1W)-Ni(1)-N(1)#1	88.76(7)
O(2W)#1-Ni(1)-O(1	W)#1	93.93(6)	O(2W)-Ni(1)-N(1)	96.47(7)
O(2W)-Ni(1)-O(1W	)	93.93(6)	O(2W)#1-Ni(1)-N(1)	83.53(7)
O(2W)#1-Ni(1)-O(1	W)	86.07(6)	O(1W)#1-Ni(1)-N(1)	88.76(7)
O(1W)#1-Ni(1)-O(1	W)	179.999(1)	O(1W)-Ni(1)-N(1)	91.24(7)
O(2W)-Ni(1)-N(1)#	1	83.53(7)	N(1)#1-Ni(1)-N(1)	180.0
O(2W)#1-Ni(1)-N(1	)#1	96.47(7)		
O(2W)-Ni(1)-O(2W	)#1	180.0	O(1W)#1-Ni(1)-N(1)#1	91.24(7)
O(2W)-Ni(1)-O(1W	)#1	86.07(6)	O(1W)-Ni(1)-N(1)#1	88.76(7)
O(2W)#1-Ni(1)-O(1	W)#1	93.93(6)	O(2W)-Ni(1)-N(1)	96.47(7)
Symmetry code for 1	: #1 -x, -	-y + 1, -z + 1		
2 C <sub>56</sub> H <sub>62</sub> N <sub>8</sub> Ni <sub>2</sub> O <sub>21</sub>				
Ni(1)-O(7)#1		2.049(2)	Ni(2)–O(5)	2.040(2)
Ni(1)–O(1)		2.051(2)	Ni(2)–O(3)	2.046(2)
Ni(1)-O(2W)		2.072(2)	Ni(2)-O(3W)	2.065(2)
Ni(1)-O(1W)		2.086(2)	Ni(2)-O(4W)	2.111(2)
Ni(1)–N(5)		2.114(3)	Ni(2)–N(7)	2.110(3)
Ni(1)–N(1)		2.120(3)	Ni(2)-N(4)#2	2.129(3)
O(7)#1-Ni(1)-O(1)		178.71(9)	O(5)-Ni(2)-O(3)	177.47(9)
O(7)#1-Ni(1)-O(2W	)	88.10(9)	O(5)-Ni(2)-O(3W)	92.80(9)
O(1)-Ni(1)-O(2W)		91.52(9)	O(3)-Ni(2)-O(3W)	88.84(9)
O(7)#1-Ni(1)-O(1W	)	91.55(10)	O(5)-Ni(2)-N(7)	92.94(10)
O(1)-Ni(1)-O(1W)		88.89(10)	O(3)-Ni(2)-N(7)	89.04(9)
O(2W)-Ni(1)-O(1W	)	177.04(10)	O(3W)-Ni(2)-N(7)	88.14(11)
O(7)#1-Ni(1)-N(5)		89.73(10)	O(5)-Ni(2)-O(4W)	85.55(9)
O(1)-Ni(1)-N(5)		89.08(10)	O(3)–Ni(2)–O(4W)	92.91(9)

Table S1 Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) for 1-4.

O(2W)-Ni(1)-N(5)	95.98(10)	O(3W)-Ni(2)-O(4W)	176.65(9)
O(1W)-Ni(1)-N(5)	86.95(11)	N(7)-Ni(2)-O(4W)	89.03(10)
O(7)#1-Ni(1)-N(1)	91.49(10)	O(5)-Ni(2)-N(4)#2	87.19(10)
O(1)-Ni(1)-N(1)	89.71(10)	O(3)-Ni(2)-N(4)#2	90.79(10)
O(2W)-Ni(1)-N(1)	87.03(10)	O(3W)-Ni(2)-N(4)#2	93.16(11)
O(1W)-Ni(1)-N(1)	90.04(11)	N(7)-Ni(2)-N(4)#2	178.69(10)
N(5)–Ni(1)–N(1)	176.79(11)	O(4W)-Ni(2)-N(4)#2	89.68(10)
Symmetry code for 2: #1 <i>x</i>	+1, y, z + 1, #2 - x -	-1, -y + 2, -z - 1.	
3 C <sub>58</sub> H <sub>58</sub> N <sub>8</sub> Ni <sub>2</sub> O <sub>17</sub>			
Ni(1)-O(1)	2.0234(17)	Ni(2)-O(5)#1	2.0237(18)
Ni(1)-O(1W)	2.0598(19)	Ni(2)-O(2W)	2.054(2)
Ni(1)–N(2)	2.116(2)	Ni(2)–N(4)	2.118(2)
Ni(1)–N(1)	2.120(2)	Ni(2)–N(3)	2.129(2)
Ni(1)-O(11)	2.1436(18)	Ni(2)–O(3)	2.1351(19)
Ni(1)-O(12)	2.1444(17)	Ni(2)–O(4)	2.1438(17)
O(1)-Ni(1)-O(1W)	97.86(8)	O(5)#1-Ni(2)-O(2W)	97.20(8)
O(1)-Ni(1)-N(2)	88.29(8)	O(5)#1-Ni(2)-N(4)	89.29(8)
O(1W)-Ni(1)-N(2)	92.09(9)	O(2W)-Ni(2)-N(4)	92.45(9)
O(1)-Ni(1)-N(1)	93.33(8)	O(5)#1-Ni(2)-N(3)	93.34(8)
O(1W)-Ni(1)-N(1)	87.55(8)	O(2W)-Ni(2)-N(3)	87.68(9)
N(2)–Ni(1)–N(1)	178.38(8)	N(4)-Ni(2)-N(3)	177.33(8)
O(1)-Ni(1)-O(11)	98.59(7)	O(5)#1-Ni(2)-O(3)	98.37(8)
O(1W)-Ni(1)-O(11)	163.54(7)	O(2W)-Ni(2)-O(3)	164.42(7)
N(2)–Ni(1)–O(11)	88.75(8)	N(4)-Ni(2)-O(3)	87.39(9)
N(1)–Ni(1)–O(11)	91.15(8)	N(3)–Ni(2)–O(3)	91.77(8)
O(1)-Ni(1)-O(12)	159.70(8)	O(5)#1-Ni(2)-O(4)	159.62(8)
O(1W)–Ni(1)–O(12)	102.14(7)	O(2W)-Ni(2)-O(4)	102.91(7)
N(2)–Ni(1)–O(12)	87.56(8)	N(4)-Ni(2)-O(4)	86.64(8)
N(1)-Ni(1)-O(12)	90.97(8)	N(3)-Ni(2)-O(4)	90.73(8)
O(11)–Ni(1)–O(12)	61.46(7)	O(3)–Ni(2)–O(4)	61.52(7)
O(1)-Ni(1)-C(48)	129.27(8)	O(5)#1-Ni(2)-C(9)	129.03(8)
O(1W)-Ni(1)-C(48)	132.80(8)	O(2W)-Ni(2)-C(9)	133.67(8)
N(2)–Ni(1)–C(48)	87.59(8)	N(4)-Ni(2)-C(9)	86.10(8)
N(1)-Ni(1)-C(48)	91.50(8)	N(3)–Ni(2)–C(9)	91.88(8)
O(11)–Ni(1)–C(48)	30.79(7)	O(3)–Ni(2)–C(9)	30.76(7)
O(12)–Ni(1)–C(48)	30.67(7)	O(4)-Ni(2)-C(9)	30.76(7)
Symmetry code for 3: $\#1 x$	-1, y, z - 1		
4 C <sub>78</sub> H <sub>76</sub> N <sub>12</sub> Ni <sub>3</sub> O <sub>26</sub>			
Ni(1)-O(1)#1	2.0334(17)	Ni(2)-O(3)#2	2.0232(17)
Ni(1)-O(1)	2.0334(17)	Ni(2)–O(2W)	2.038(2)
Ni(1)-O(1W)#1	2.0992(18)	Ni(2)–N(6)	2.106(2)
Ni(1)–O(1W)	2.0993(18)	Ni(2)–N(3)	2.107(2)
Ni(1)–N(1)	2.133(2)	Ni(2)–O(6)	2.1196(17)
O(1)#1-Ni(1)-O(1)	180.0	O(3)#2-Ni(2)-O(2W)	89.30(8)

O(1)#1-Ni(1)-O(1W)#1	90.37(7)	O(3)#2-Ni(2)-N(6)	109.54(8)
O(1)-Ni(1)-O(1W)#1	89.63(7)	O(2W)-Ni(2)-N(6)	90.94(9)
O(1)#1-Ni(1)-O(1W)	89.63(7)	O(3)#2-Ni(2)-N(3)	93.03(8)
O(1)-Ni(1)-O(1W)	90.37(7)	O(2W)-Ni(2)-N(3)	174.26(9)
O(1W)#1-Ni(1)-O(1W)	180.0	N(6)–Ni(2)–N(3)	93.22(9)
O(1)#1-Ni(1)-N(1)	92.69(8)	O(3)#2-Ni(2)-O(6)	156.32(7)
O(1)–Ni(1)–N(1)	87.31(8)	O(2W)-Ni(2)-O(6)	84.13(8)
O(1W)#1-Ni(1)-N(1)	92.19(8)	N(6)-Ni(2)-O(6)	93.34(8)
O(1W)–Ni(1)–N(1)	87.81(8)	N(3)-Ni(2)-O(6)	91.67(8)
O(1)#1-Ni(1)-N(1)#1	87.31(8)	O(3)#2-Ni(2)-O(5)	97.28(7)
O(1)-Ni(1)-N(1)#1	92.69(8)	O(2W)-Ni(2)-O(5)	86.99(8)
O(1W)#1-Ni(1)-N(1)#1	87.81(8)	N(6)–Ni(2)–O(5)	153.08(8)
O(1W)-Ni(1)-N(1)#1	92.19(8)	N(3)–Ni(2)–O(5)	87.51(8)
N(1)-Ni(1)-N(1)#1	179.999(1)	O(6)–Ni(2)–O(5)	59.74(7)
Symmetry code for 4: $\#1 - x$	, -y + 2, -z + 1, #2	x + 1, y, z, #3 x - 1, y, z.	

Table S2 The contents of different elements in Ni@NC 1 and Ni@NC 4				
	Ni@NC 1	Ni@NC 4		
Ni%	54.41	63.84		
С%	38.33	30.86		
N %	2.06	0.86		
O%	2.02	3.77		
H%	0.52	0.67		
<b>S</b> %	2.66	0		



**(a)** 



Fig. S1. The IR spectra of complexes 1-4.



Fig. S2 3D supramolecular framework of complex 1.



Fig. S3 3D supramolecular framework of 2.



Fig. S4 3D supramolecular framework of **3**.



Fig. S5. (a) The coordination modes of the *trans*- and *cis*-4-bmbpd ligand in **4**. (b) The 1D chain in 4. (c) The simplified 3D (2,3,4,4)-connected framework of **4**.



<sup>(</sup>c)



Fig. S6. The PXRD patterns of complexes 1–4.



Fig. S7. The TG curves of complexes 1–4.





Fig. S8. The cyclic voltammograms of 1–CPE, 3–CPE and 4–CPE at different scan rates.



Fig. S9. The chemical structure of CAP.



Fig. S10. The PXRD patterns of Ni@NC1-4.



Fig. S11. Absorption spectra of the MB solution at the presence of NiO under UV irradiation.