

**New Journal of Chemistry**

***Electronic Supplementary Information***

Phase pure  $\text{Ni}_3\text{S}_2$  and NiS from *bis*(N'-ethyl-N-piperazinylcarbodithioato-S,S')-nickel(II) via solvent thermolysis and Aerosol Assisted Chemical Vapour Deposition

Charles Gervas<sup>a</sup>, Sixberth Mlowe<sup>a</sup>, Matthew P. Akerman<sup>b</sup>, Neerish Revaprasadu<sup>a\*</sup>

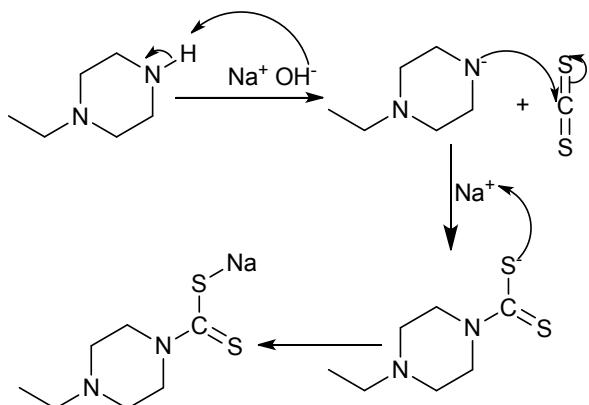
<sup>a</sup>*Chemistry Department, University of Zululand, Private Bag X1001, KwaDlangezwa, 3886, South Africa. Email:*  
[RevaprasaduN@unizulu.ac.za](mailto:RevaprasaduN@unizulu.ac.za)

<sup>b</sup>*School of Chemistry and Physics, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Private Bag X01, Scottsville, Pietermaritzburg, 3209, South Africa.*

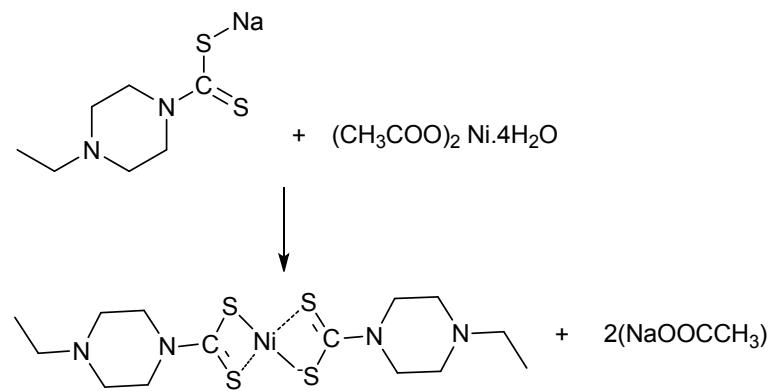
**Table S1:** Crystal data and structure refinement details for  $[\text{Ni}(\text{Etpz-dtc})_2]$ .

Crystal Data	$[\text{Ni}(\text{Etpz-dtc})_2]$ ,
Chemical formula	$\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_4\text{NiS}_4$
Molar mass (g mol <sup>-1</sup> )	437.32
Crystal system, space group	Triclinic, <i>P</i> -1
Temperature (K)	100(2)
<i>a</i> , <i>b</i> , <i>c</i> (Å)	6.5759(4), 8.4895(5), 8.8346(5)
$\alpha$ , $\beta$ , $\gamma$ (°)	84.185(2), 78.947(3), 80.038(3)
<i>V</i> (Å <sup>3</sup> )	475.57(5)
<i>Z</i>	1
Radiation type	Mo Kα
$\mu$ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	1.46

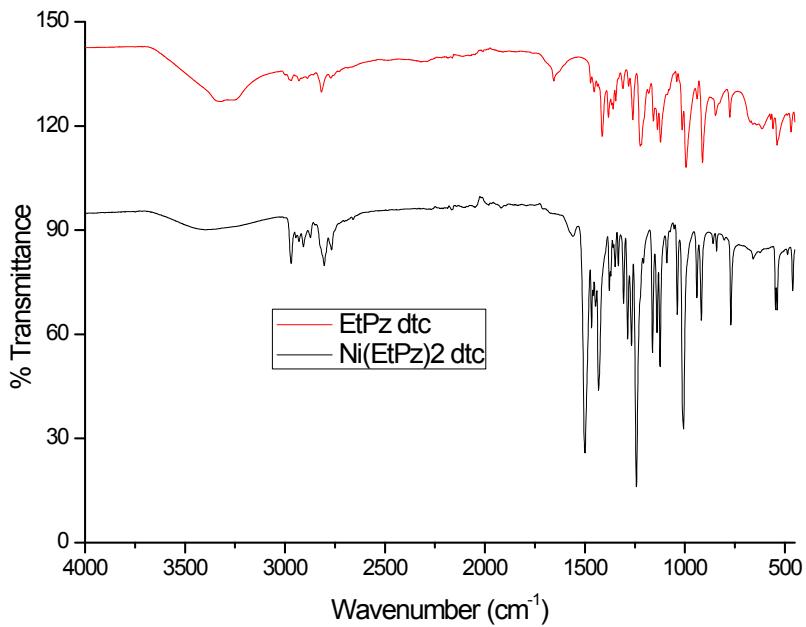
Crystal size (mm)	0.12 × 0.09 × 0.02
<i>Data Collection</i>	
Diffractometer	Bruker APEXII CCD diffractometer
Absorption correction	Multi-scan, SADABS
$T_{\min}$ , $T_{\max}$	0.692, 0.746
No. of measured, independent and observed [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ] reflections	8678, 2259, 2174
$R_{\text{int}}$	0.017
<i>Refinement</i>	
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)]$ , $wR(F^2)$ , $S$	0.018, 0.047, 1.04
No. of reflections	2259
No. of parameters	107
H-atom treatment	H-atom parameters constrained
$\Delta\rho_{\max}$ , $\Delta\rho_{\min}$ ( $e \text{ \AA}^{-3}$ )	0.43, -0.18



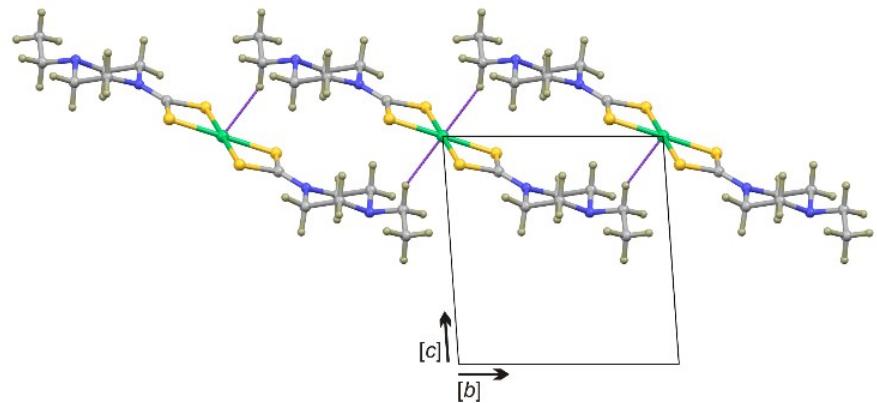
**Scheme S1:** Mechanism for preparation of sodium ethyl piperazine dithiocarbamate ligand



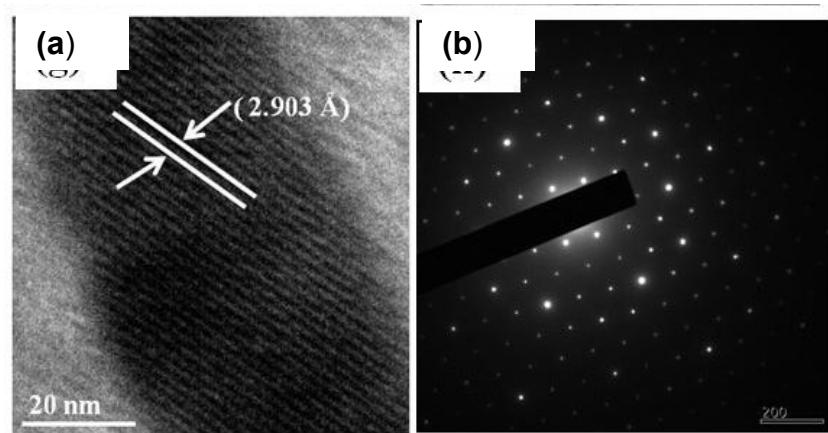
**Scheme S2:** Mechanism for the preparation of *bis*-(N'-ethyl-N-piperazinylcarbodithioato-S,S')-nickel(II) complex



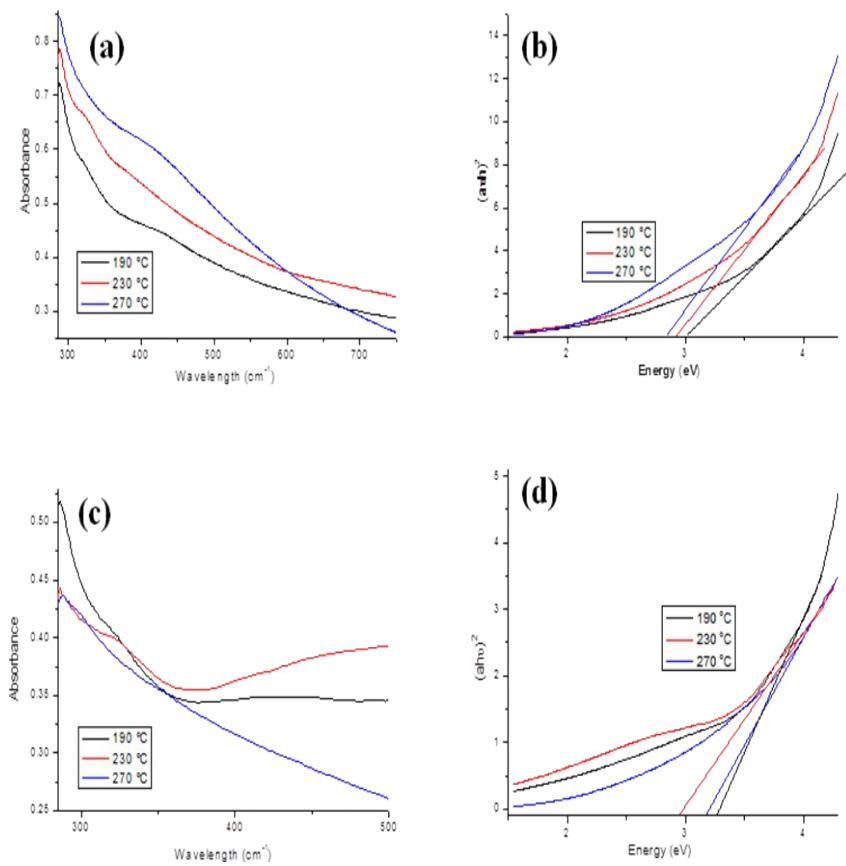
**Figure S1:** – FT-IR analysis of the ligand and nickel complex



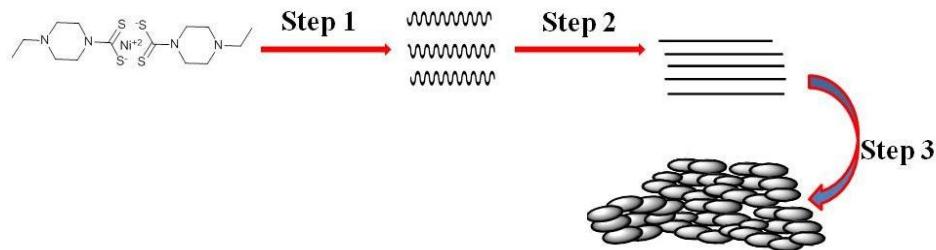
**Figure S2:** One-dimensional chain of  $[\text{Ni}(\text{Etpz-dtc})_2]$



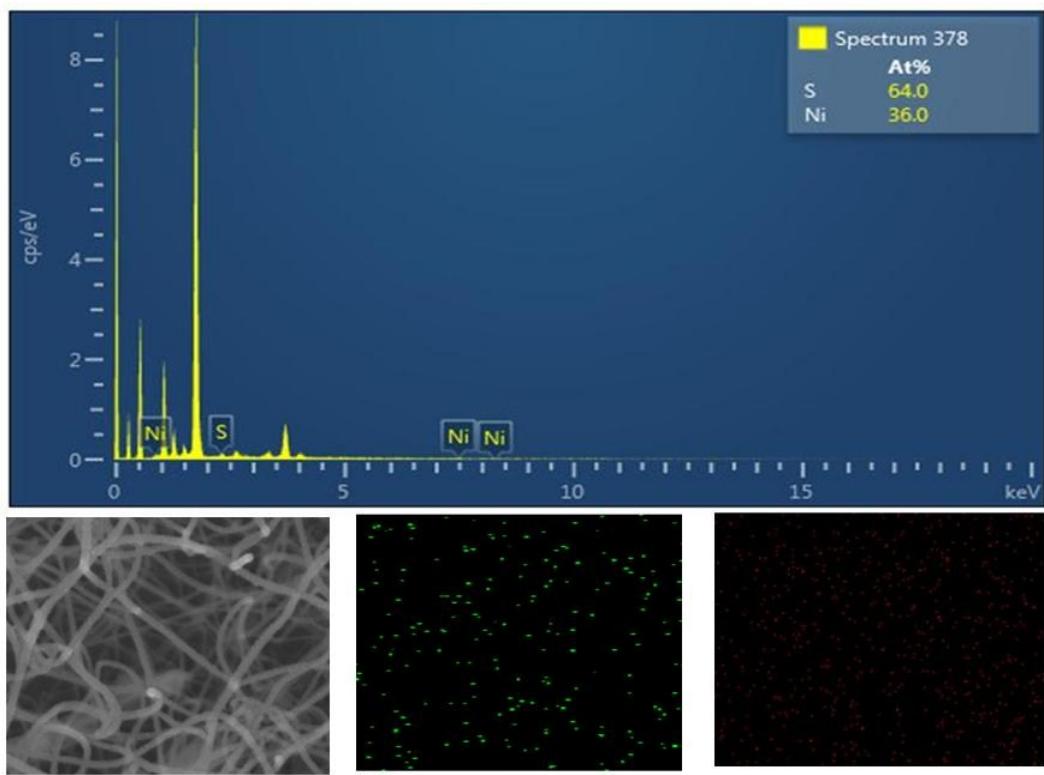
**Figure S3:** (a) HRTEM image for nickel sulfide nanoparticles capped by HDA at 270 °C, (b) SAED pattern for  $\text{Ni}_3\text{S}_2$  at 270 °C



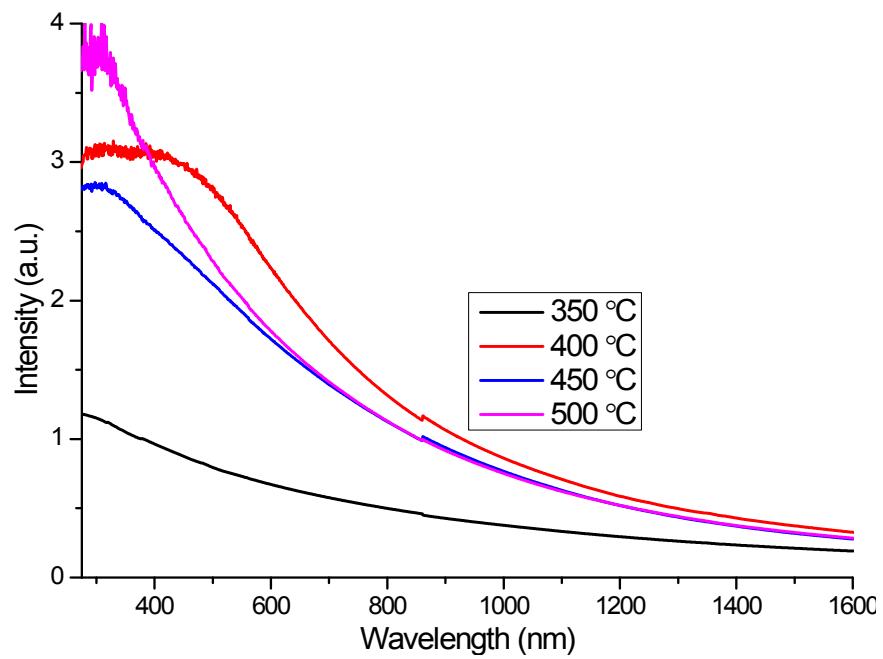
**Fig. S4.** UV-Vis spectra and Tauc plots for (a) and (b) HDA capped  $\text{Ni}_3\text{S}_2$  nanoparticles and (c) and (d) OLA capped  $\text{Ni}_3\text{S}_2$  nanoparticles at different temperatures



**Fig. S5:** Plausible mechanism for temperature dependent morphological evolution of as deposited Ni-S thin films



**Figure S6:** EDX for Ni-S thin films and Elemental mapping



**Figure S7:** UV-Vis absorption spectra for nickel sulfide thin films deposited on a glass substrate at different temperatures