

## Supporting Information

### Coordination-driven assembly of a supramolecular square and oxidation to a tetra-ligand radical species

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## 1.0 Materials and Methods

All chemicals used were of the highest grade available and were further purified whenever necessary. Pd(en)(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> was synthesized according to a previous report.<sup>1</sup> The syntheses of the aldehyde precursors, 5-bromo-3-(*tert*-butyl)-2-hydroxybenzaldehyde (**1-Ald<sup>Br</sup>**)<sup>2</sup> and 3-(*tert*-butyl)-2-hydroxy-5-(pyridin-4-yl)benzaldehyde (**2-Ald<sup>pPy</sup>**)<sup>3</sup> and (R,R)-(-)-1,2-cyclohexanediamino-N,N'-bis(3-*tert*-butyl-5-(4-pyridyl)salicylidene) (**H<sub>2</sub>Sal<sup>pPy</sup>**)<sup>4</sup> have been previously reported. The tris(2,4-dibromophenyl)aminium hexafluoroantimonate radical chemical oxidant, [N(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>•+</sup>[SbF<sub>6</sub>]<sup>-</sup> ( $E_{1/2} = 1.14$  V, MeCN)<sup>5</sup> was synthesized according to published protocols.<sup>6</sup> Electronic spectra were obtained on a Cary 5000 spectrophotometer with a custom-designed immersion fiber-optic probe with a path-length of 10 mm (Hellma, Inc.). Cyclic voltammetry (CV) was performed using a PAR-263A potentiometer, equipped with an Ag wire pseudo-reference electrode, a glassy carbon working electrode and a Pt counter electrode with "Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> (0.1 M) solutions in CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> under an inert atmosphere. Decamethylferrocene was used as an internal standard.<sup>7</sup> <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AV-400 or Bruker AVANCE II 600 MHz instruments and DOSY NMR was performed on Bruker AVANCE II 600 MHz instrument. Mass spectra were obtained on an Agilent 6210 (for **1**) and an IonSpec (Agilent), 9.4 T hybride ESI q-Q-q in CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> (10<sup>-3</sup> M) (for **2**). Elemental analyses (C, H, N) were performed by Mr. Paul Mulyk at Simon Fraser University on a Carlo Erba EA 1110 CHN elemental analyzer. Infrared (IR) measurements were collected on a Thermo Nicolet Nexus 670 FT-IR spectrometer equipped with a Pike MIRacle attenuated total reflection (ATR) sampling accessory. All EPR spectra were collected using a Bruker EMXplus spectrometer operating with a premiumX X-band (~9.5 GHz) microwave bridge. Low temperature measurements (100 K and 253 K) of frozen solutions used a Bruker nitrogen temperature-control system and a continuous flow cryostat. Samples for X-band measurements were placed in 4 mm outer-diameter sample tubes with sample volumes of ~200 μL. Samples were prepared in capillaries with EPR tubes filled with toluene as an insulator for measurement at 253 K. STEM experiments were run on a FEI Tecnai Osiris S/TEM.

## 2.0 Synthesis

### 2.1 Synthesis of 1

A solution of Ni(OAc)<sub>2</sub>•4H<sub>2</sub>O (0.25 g, 1.0 mmol) in MeOH (20 mL) was added to a solution of H<sub>2</sub>Sal<sup>PPY</sup> (0.59 g, 1.0 mmol) in MeOH (20 mL), followed by triethylamine (0.28 mL, 2.0 mmol). The solution was then refluxed for 4 hours. Upon cooling of the reaction mixture, an olive-green precipitate was collected *via* vacuum filtration. The precipitate was washed with cold methanol. Crystals suitable for X-ray crystallography analysis were isolated via slow evaporation of a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution. Yield: (0.566 g, 88%). Elemental analysis (%) calcd for **1** (C<sub>38</sub>H<sub>42</sub>N<sub>4</sub>NiO<sub>2</sub>): C, 70.71; H, 6.56; N, 8.68. Found: C, 70.41; H, 6.70; N, 8.78. ESI-MS *m/z*: 645.27 ([M+H]<sup>+</sup>, 100%). IR (ATR): 1591.95 cm<sup>-1</sup> (s,  $\nu_{as}$  (C=N) and  $\nu_{as}$  (C=C)), 816.71 cm<sup>-1</sup> (s,  $w$  (CH)). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.57 (s, 4H), 7.65-7.35 (m, 10H), 3.10 (br s, 2H), 2.56-2.46 (br m, 2H), 2.02-1.92 (br m, 2H), 1.47 (s, 18H), 1.40-1.31 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  165.36, 158.16, 149.96, 141.90, 129.76, 129.01, 123.31, 120.87, 120.28, 70.08, 35.85, 29.55, 29.25, 28.88, 24.38.

### 2.2 Synthesis of 2

A solution of **1** (14 mg, 21.7  $\mu$ mol) in THF (2.5 mL) was added to a solution of Pd(en)(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (6.3 mg, 21.7  $\mu$ mol) in H<sub>2</sub>O (7.5 mL). NH<sub>4</sub>PF<sub>6</sub> (70.7 mg, 0.434 mmol) was added to the orange solution after 2 hours of stirring at room temperature. The resultant mixture was further stirred at room temperature overnight. A red precipitate was then collected *via* vacuum filtration to afford **2**. Note **2** is used as the designation for [2]<sup>8+</sup>(PF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>8</sub> in the manuscript. Yield: (22.8 mg, 96%). Elemental analysis (%) calcd for **2** (C<sub>160</sub>H<sub>200</sub>F<sub>48</sub>N<sub>24</sub>Ni<sub>4</sub>O<sub>8</sub>P<sub>8</sub>Pd<sub>4</sub>): C, 43.60; H, 4.57; N, 7.63. Found: C, 43.60; H, 4.58; N, 7.24. ESI-MS *m/z*: 736.6 ([M-5PF<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup>]<sup>5+</sup>), 957.2 ([M-4PF<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup>]<sup>4+</sup>), 1323.9 ([M-3PF<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup>]<sup>3+</sup>). IR (ATR): 1592.91 cm<sup>-1</sup> (w br,  $\nu_{as}$  (C=N) and  $\nu_{as}$  (C=C)), 840.81-837.92 cm<sup>-1</sup> (s br,  $\nu_{as}$  (FP) from PF<sub>6</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  8.60 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 4H), 7.82-7.60 (m, 10H), 4.26 (br s, 2H), 3.25-3.05 (m, 6H), 2.62-2.47 (m, 2H), 1.97-1.85 (m, 2H), 1.55-1.30 (m, 20H). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (162 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  -144.56 (hept, *J* = 708.2 Hz, PF<sub>6</sub>).

### 3.0 X-Ray Analysis

Single crystal X-ray crystallographic analysis of A was performed on a Bruker SMART ApexII Duo CCD diffractometer with a TRIUMPH graphite-monochromated Cu K $\alpha$  ( $\lambda = 1.54184 \text{ \AA}$ ) Incoatec microsource. Sample A was mounted on a MiTeGen dual-thickness MicroMounts using Paratone oil. Data was collected at 299 K in a series of  $\phi$  and  $\omega$  scans with 1.00° image widths and 15 and 30 second exposures. Additional crystallographic information can be found in Tables S1 in the Supporting Information and in cif format at CCDC deposition #1903336.

All single-crystal diffraction data were processed and initial solutions found with the Bruker ApexII software suite. Subsequent refinements were performed in SHELXL.<sup>1</sup> Hydrogen atoms for the molecule excluding the cyclohexyl backbone were added geometrically and refined using a riding model. The cyclohexyl ring was modeled as disordered, with hydrogens placed using the difference map and refined without constraint.

**Table S1.** Selected Crystallographic Data for **1**.

	<b>1</b>
Formula	$\text{C}_{38}\text{H}_{42}\text{N}_4\text{NiO}_2$
Formula weight	645.47
Crystal dimensions (mm)	0.050, 0.193, 0.267
Crystal system	Triclinic
Space group	P-1
$a$ (Å)	11.0566(3)
$b$ (Å)	12.9924(3)
$c$ (Å)	13.9528(3)
$\alpha$ (°)	102.6010(10)
$\beta$ (°)	107.7680(10)
$\gamma$ (°)	112.9790(10)
$V$ [Å <sup>3</sup> ]	1622.02(7)
$Z$	2
$T$ (K)	299(2)
$\rho_{calcd}$ (g cm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.322
$\mu$ (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	1.172
$2\theta_{\max}$ (deg.)	66.707
Total reflections	5556
Observed reflections [ $I_0 \geq 2\sigma(I_0)$ ]	5107
wR <sub>2</sub>	0.1966
R <sub>1</sub>	0.0740
GOF	1.250
Largest difference peak/hole (e-/ Å <sup>3</sup> )	0.726/-0.400

#### 4.0 Scanning Transmission Electron Microscopy (STEM)

The 400 mesh Copper grid with Ultrathin Lacey Carbon film support was suspended onto a droplet of the solution containing **2** (100  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN. The grid was then placed onto a filter paper to absorb the excess of the remaining solution. Images were taken on a STEM 1 – FEI Tecnai Osiris operating at 200 kV and 225,000  $\times$  magnification. The average particle diameter was measured using ImageJ software. At least 40 measurements were obtained per image (**Figure S3a**). Elemental mapping experiment on **2** (**Figure S3b**) confirmed the presence of both Ni (red) and Pd (green) in the sample, further supporting a self-assembly composition.

## 5.0 Calculation of the Diffusion Rate for **2** using the Randles-Sevcik Equation

The diffusion coefficient for **2** was estimated from cyclic voltammetry measurements at different scan rates:

$$i_{pa} = 2.69 \times 10^5 n^{\frac{3}{2}} A C_0 D_0^{\frac{1}{2}} v^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad (1)$$

where  $i_{pa}$  – anodic peak current (in amperes),  $n$  – number of electrons passed per molecule oxidized,  $A$  – area of the electrode (in  $\text{cm}^2$ ),  $C_0$  – bulk concentration of the analyte (in moles/ $\text{cm}^3$ ),  $D_0$  – diffusion coefficient of the analyte (in  $\text{cm}^2/\text{s}$ ),  $v$  – potential scan rate (in  $\text{V}/\text{s}$ ).

Plotting the change in current at the anode as a function of the square root of scan rate, provided a linear regression:

$$j_{pa} = f(v^{\frac{1}{2}}) \quad (2)$$

where

$$j_{pa} = \frac{i_{pa}}{A} \quad (3)$$

From the slope of the linear regression,  $D$  was calculated to be **2.22 × 10<sup>-10</sup> m<sup>2</sup>/s** for  $n = 4$ .

$$\text{slope} = 2.69 \times 10^5 n^{\frac{3}{2}} C_0 D_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad (4)$$

From the <sup>1</sup>H DOSY experiment,  $D$  was determined to be **2.45 × 10<sup>-10</sup> m<sup>2</sup>/s**.

The ratio of the experimentally determined  $D_{\text{NMR}}$  and  $D_{\text{CV}}$  for **2** is 1.10, which agrees with published approximation (Eq. 5) that accounts for different solvent system used in the NMR experiment (deuterated solvent) vs. electrochemistry experiment (solvent with supporting electrolyte).<sup>8</sup>

$$1.04 \times D_{\text{NMR}} = D_{\text{CV}}$$

(5)

## 6.0 Hydrodynamic Radius Calculation using the Stokes-Einstein Equation

The hydrodynamic radius,  $R_h$ , of **2** can be approximated using Stokes-Einstein equation (Eq. 6)<sup>9</sup> to be  $1.48 \times 10^{-9}$  m or 14.8 Å. The diffusion rate ( $D = 2.45 \times 10^{-10}$  m<sup>2</sup>/s) determined through <sup>1</sup>H DOSY experiment in CD<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> at 298 K was used for the calculation.

$$R_h = \frac{kT}{6\pi\eta D} \quad (6)$$

where  $R_h$  – hydrodynamic radius (in m),  $k$  – Boltzman constant (in J K<sup>-1</sup>),  $T$  – temperature (in K),  $\eta$  – viscosity of the solvent (in Pa s),  $D$  – diffusion rate of the analyte (in m<sup>2</sup>/s).

However, the calculated hydrodynamic radius ( $R_h = 14.8$  Å) is likely inaccurate due to the non-spherical structure of **2**.<sup>10</sup> Hence the value does not correlate with the MMFF calculated size of **2**. Furthermore, the large pore size of **2**, likely contributes to a calculated hydrodynamic radius that is smaller than expected based on the MMFF calculation.<sup>11</sup>

## 7.0 UV-Vis-NIR Spectroscopy: Oxidation Protocol and Titration

Samples of **1**<sup>+</sup> (0.25 mM) and [**2**]<sup>4•+</sup> (0.125 mM) in CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> were prepared at 253 K under nitrogen atmosphere in the immersion fiber-optic probe through the addition of a saturated solution of [N(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>•+</sup>[SbF<sub>6</sub>]<sup>-</sup> in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in 20 µL additions.

## 8.0 Electron Paramagnetic Resonance (EPR) Spectroscopy: Sample Preparation

Samples for EPR spectroscopy were prepared by taking an aliquot out of the immersion fiber-optic probe after 1 and 4 equivalents of [N(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>•+</sup>[SbF<sub>6</sub>]<sup>-</sup> were added to CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> solutions

of **1** and **2**, respectively, under inert atmosphere and transferred into each EPR tube. EPR tubes containing the  $[1]^+$  and  $[2]^{4\bullet+}$  solutions were frozen at 77 K and stored until measurement at 100 K. Samples of  $[2]^{4\bullet+}$  and  $[N(C_6H_3Br_2)_3]^\bullet+[SbF_6]^-$  for EPR measurements at 253 K were prepared by placing each sample into a capillary, which was placed directly into an empty EPR tube.

## 9.0 Calculations

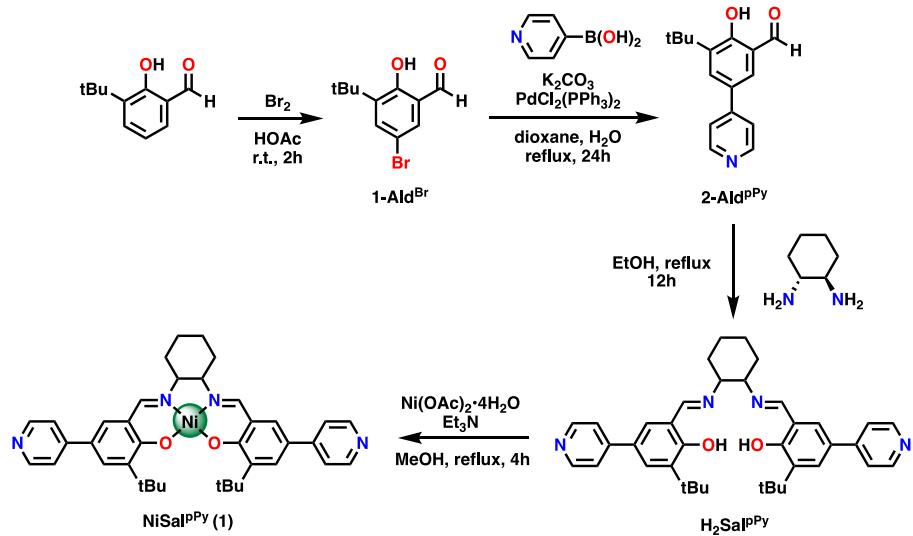
### 9.1 DFT and TD-DFT Calculations

Geometry optimization calculations for the  $[fragment]^+$  (a  $5^+$  cation) were completed using the Gaussian 16 program (Revision B.01),<sup>12</sup> the B3LYP<sup>13</sup> functional, the 6-31G(d) basis set (C, H, N, O, Ni), LanL2DZ<sup>14</sup> (Pd), with a polarized continuum model (PCM) for CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (dielectric  $\epsilon = 8.94$ ).<sup>15</sup> Frequency calculations at the same level of theory confirmed that the optimized structure was located at a minimum on the potential energy surface. Single-point calculations and the intensities of 10 lowest energy transitions using TD-DFT<sup>16</sup> calculations were performed using the B3LYP functional, the TZVP<sup>17</sup> basis set (C, H, N, O, Ni), LanL2DZ (Pd), with a PCM for CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.

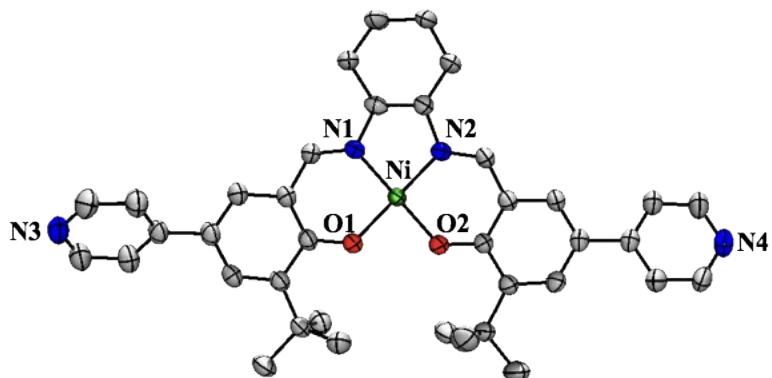
### 9.2 Molecular Mechanics Force Field (MMFF) Calculations

Merck Molecular Force Field (MMFF)<sup>18</sup> calculations were performed on **2** using *Spartan'18 Parallel Suite* from Wavefunction Inc. to obtain a potential ground state geometry and approximate size of the positively charged macrocycle (**Figure S2**). Counterions were omitted in the calculation. Calculations at a higher level of theory were not successful due to the size and charge of **2**. The diameter of **2** was also estimated *via* Stokes-Einstein equation utilizing DOSY NMR data, to be 29.6 Å (*vide supra, Section 6*).

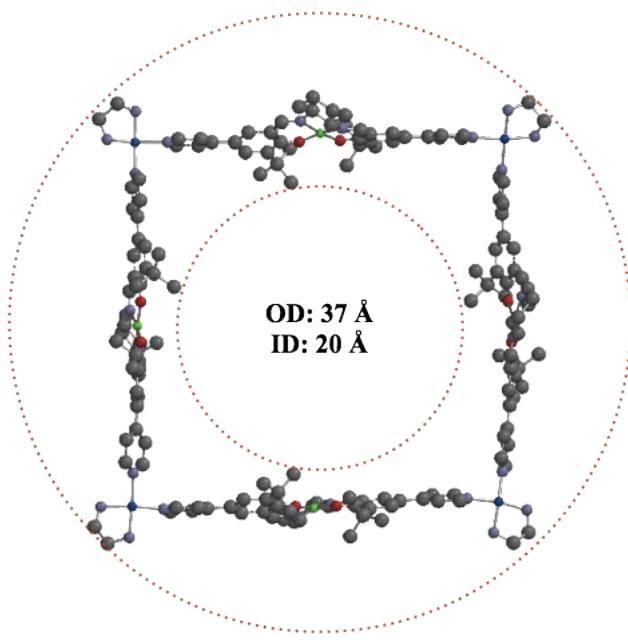
## 10.0 Schemes and Figures



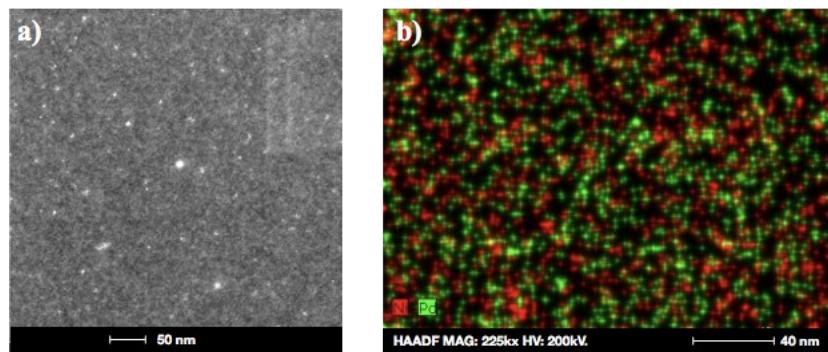
**Scheme S1.** Synthetic pathway to **1**



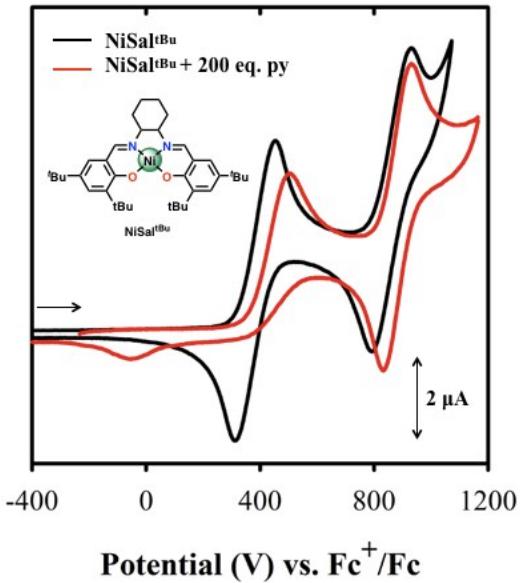
**Figure S1.** Crystal structure of **1**, hydrogen atoms excluded. Coordination sphere distances [Å] and angles [deg]: Ni-O(1): 1.842(4), Ni-O(2): 1.848(2), Ni-N(1): 1.845(3), Ni-N(2): 1.847(5); angles: O(1)-Ni-O(2): 85.2(1), O(1)-Ni-N(1): 94.3(2), O(1)-Ni-N(2): 177.6(2), O(2)-Ni-N(1): 178.1(2), O(2)-Ni-N(2): 94.5(2), N(1)-Ni-N(2): 86.0(2).



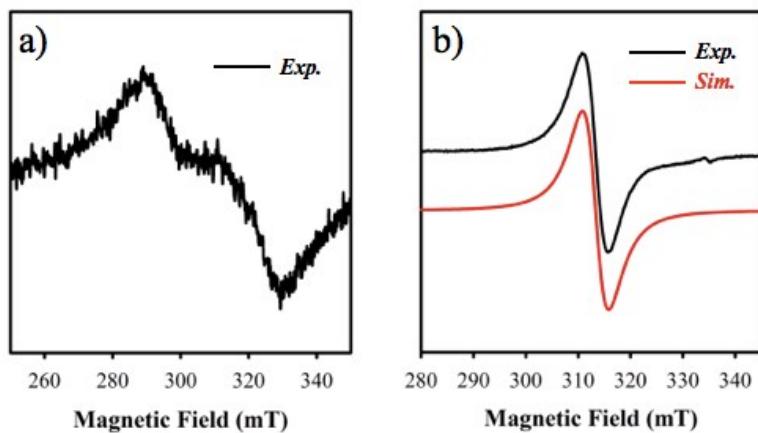
**Figure S2.** MMFF calculation of **2** (Outer diameter = 37 Å, Inner diameter = 20 Å).



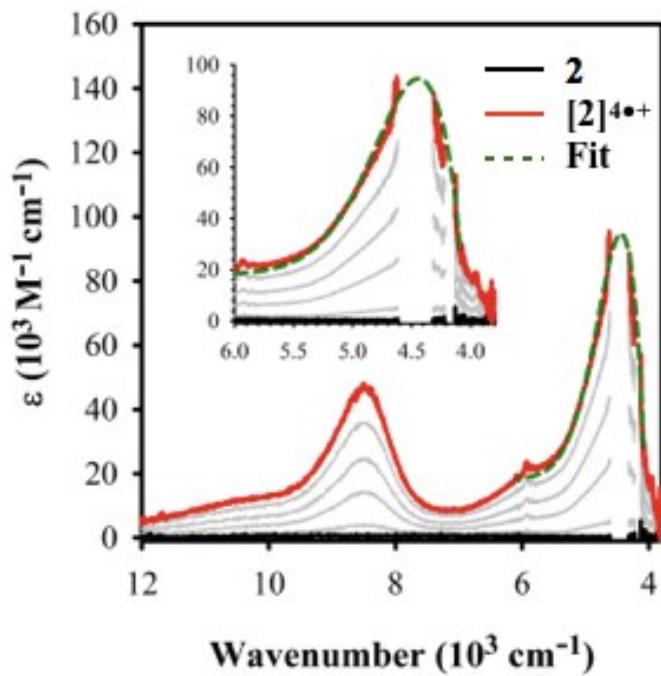
**Figure S3.** a) STEM image of **2**. b) STEM-Energy-dispersive X-ray (EDX) spectrum image of Ni (red) and Pd (green), Conditions: 100 μM, magnification: 225,000 × .



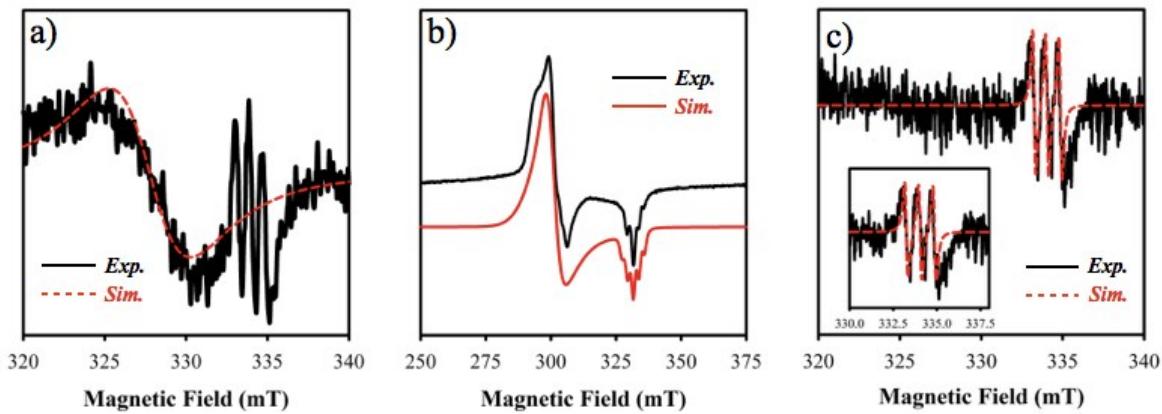
**Figure S4.** Cyclic voltammetry of **NiSal<sup>tBu</sup>** (black) and **NiSal<sup>tBu</sup> + 200 eq. of pyridine** (red). This experiment shows the change to an irreversible process for the first redox process in the presence of pyridine, due to axial pyridine binding to Ni. Conditions: 1.0 mM, with 0.1 M  $\text{NBu}_4\text{ClO}_4$  in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  at 233 K.



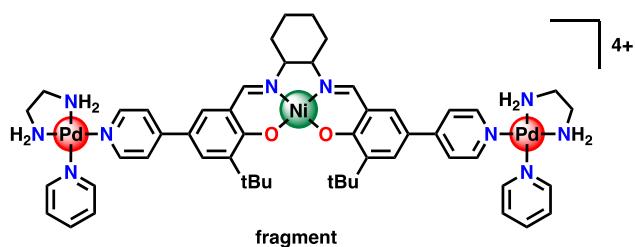
**Figure S5.** a) EPR of  $[1]^+$  (0.25 mM) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{NO}_2$  at 100 K (estimated  $g_{\text{avg}} = 2.19$ ); Low temperature measurements in  $\text{CH}_3\text{NO}_2$  resulted in a broadened low intensity spectrum likely due to aggregation. b) EPR of  $[1]^+$  (0.5 mM) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  at 100 K ( $g = 2.141$ ); The oxidation of **1** in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  also results in the formation of Ni(III) species and an isotropic signal likely associated with aggregation upon intermolecular coordination of *para*-pyridyl groups. Conditions: frequency = 9.39 GHz, power = 2.0 mW, modulation frequency = 100 kHz, modulation amplitude = 0.6 mT.



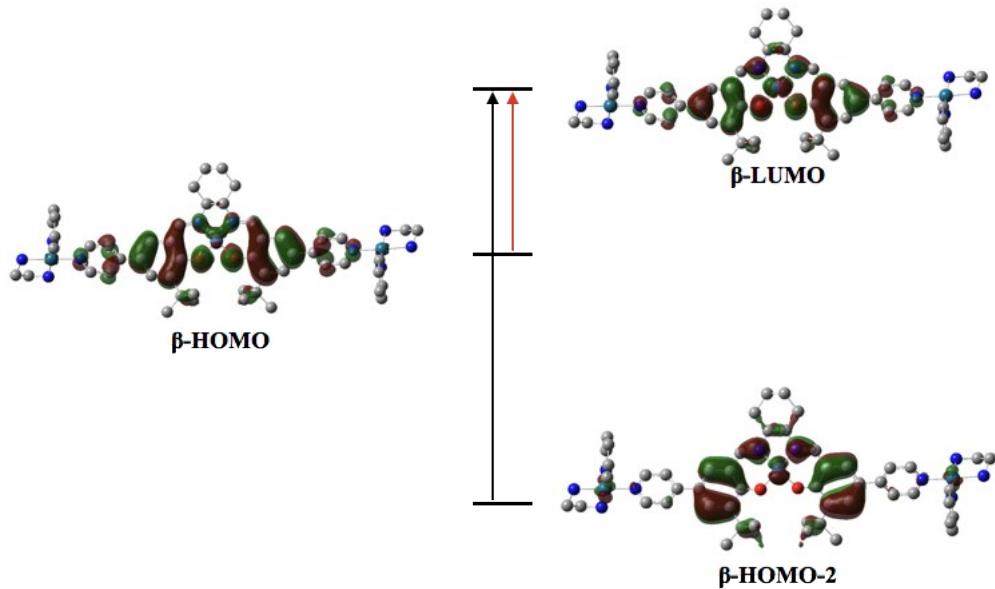
**Figure S6.** Electronic spectra of the chemical oxidation of **2** (0.125 mM, black) to  $[2]^{4\bullet+}$  (red), Gaussian fit of low energy NIR band (green); Solvent peaks were removed for clarity (between  $4130-4220 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $4320-4615 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ). Conditions: in  $\text{CH}_3\text{NO}_2$ , at 253 K, titrated with 8 mM  $[\text{N}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{Br}_2)_3]^\bullet+[\text{SbF}_6]^-$  as oxidant.



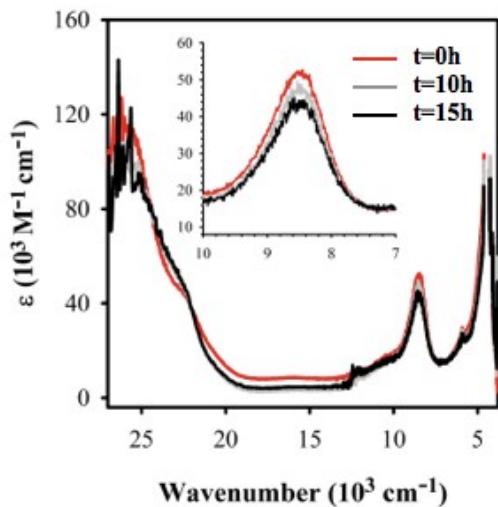
**Figure S7.** a) EPR of  $[2]^{4+}$  (0.5 mM) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{NO}_2$  at 253 K ( $g_{\text{avg}} = 2.046$ ). The spectrum confirms ligand radical formation upon oxidation of **2**. The low intensity of the signal is due to measurement in a capillary (polar solvent) combined with slow decay of  $[2]^{4+}$  in solution. An additional signal (three-line pattern), observed in the spectrum, matches the free oxidant  $[\text{N}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_3\text{Br}_2)_3]^{•+}[\text{SbF}_6]^-$  present in solution at  $g_{\text{avg}} = 2.008$ . b) EPR of  $[2]^{4+}$  (0.125 mM) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{NO}_2$  at 100 K ( $g_1 = 2.258$ ,  $g_2 = 2.234$ ,  $g_3 = 2.024$ ,  $g_{\text{avg}} = 2.172$ ,  $A_3 = 61$  MHz); Low temperature measurements resulted in a rhombic  $S = \frac{1}{2}$  Ni(III)-phenolate complex. This spectrum of  $[2]^{4+}$  (characterized as Ni(III)) does not match that of  $[1]^+$  in **Figure S5a** (or **Figure S5b**), which is consistent with no disassembly of the macrocycle upon freezing. c) EPR of  $[\text{N}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_3\text{Br}_2)_3]^{•+}[\text{SbF}_6]^-$  (0.5 mM) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{NO}_2$  at 253 K ( $g_{\text{avg}} = 2.008$ ,  $A_3 = 23$  MHz). Conditions for a) and c): frequency = 9.39 GHz, power = 2.0 mW, modulation frequency = 100 kHz, modulation amplitude = 1.0 mT. Conditions for b): frequency = 9.39 GHz, power = 2.0 mW, modulation frequency = 100 kHz, modulation amplitude = 0.6 mT.



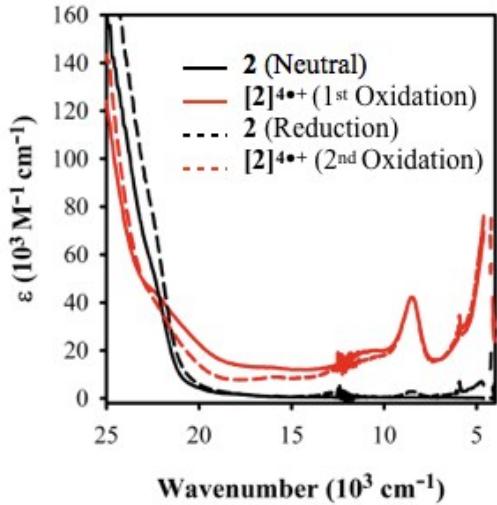
**Figure S8.** Structure of the **fragment** employed for DFT and TD-DFT calculations.



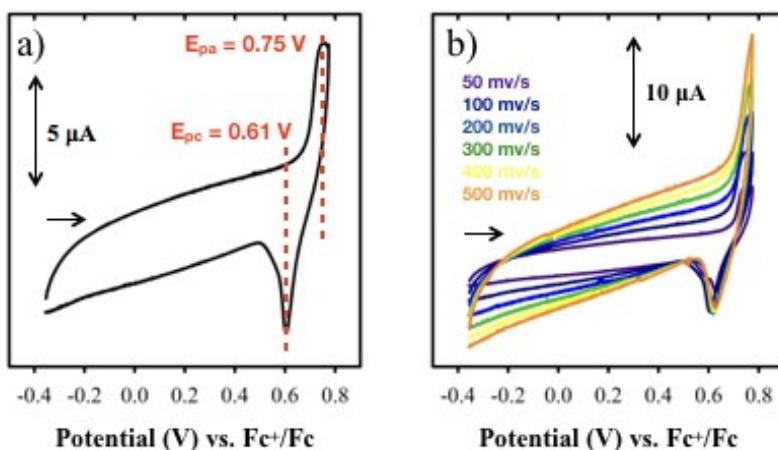
**Figure S9.** TD-DFT predicted low energy transitions for  $[2]^{4\bullet+}$ . Calculated NIR transitions at  $5240\text{ cm}^{-1}$  (red arrow;  $\beta$ -HOMO  $\rightarrow$   $\beta$ -LUMO (major contribution); oscillator strength,  $f=0.2318$ ) and  $9650\text{ cm}^{-1}$  (black arrow;  $\beta$ -HOMO-2  $\rightarrow$   $\beta$ -LUMO (major contribution); oscillator strength,  $f=0.1247$ ).



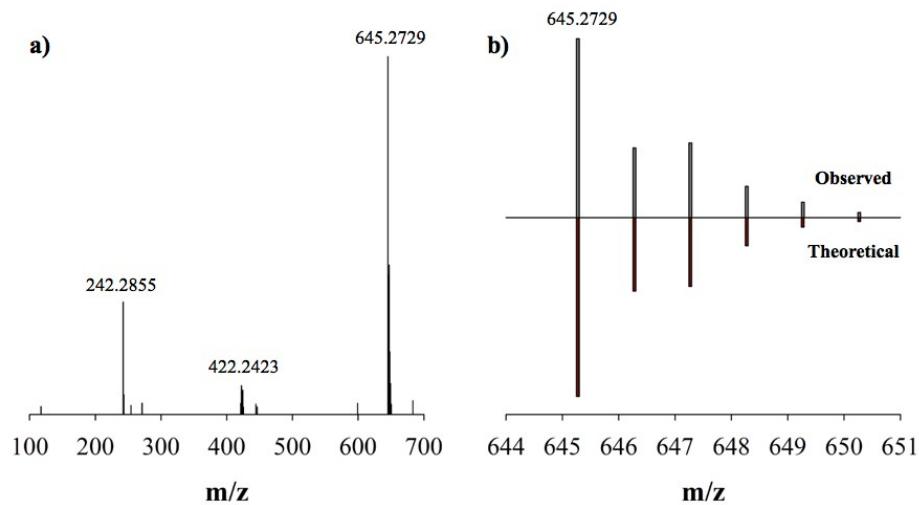
**Figure S10.** Electronic spectra of the decay of  $[2]^{4\bullet+}$  (at  $t=0\text{ hr}$ ,  $10\text{ hr}$  and  $15\text{ hr}$ ). Conditions: in  $\text{CH}_3\text{NO}_2$ , at  $253\text{ K}$ , titrated with  $8\text{ mM } [\text{N}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{Br}_2)_3]^{4\bullet+}[\text{SbF}_6]^-$  as oxidant.



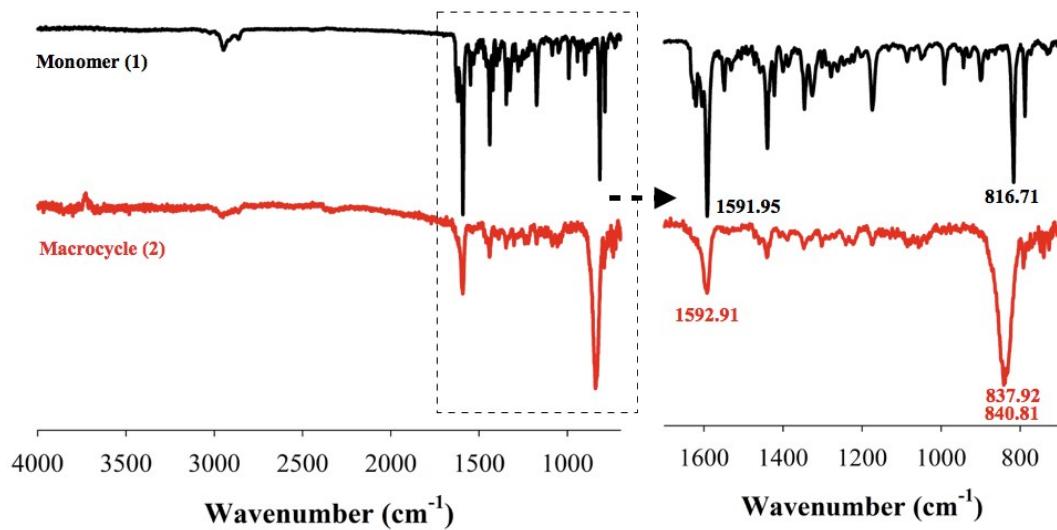
**Figure S11.** Electronic spectra of the regeneration of  $[2]^{4\bullet+}$ : chemical oxidation of **2** (0.125 mM, black solid line) to  $[2]^{4\bullet+}$  (red solid line), chemical reduction of  $[2]^{4\bullet+}$  back to **2** (black dash line), second chemical oxidation of **2** to  $[2]^{4\bullet+}$  (red dash line). Conditions: in  $\text{CH}_3\text{NO}_2$ , at 253 K, titrated with 12 mM  $[\text{N}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{Br}_2)_3]^{\bullet+}[\text{SbF}_6]^-$  as an oxidant and 18 mM  $\text{Fe}(\text{C}_5(\text{CH}_3)_5)_2$  as a reductant.



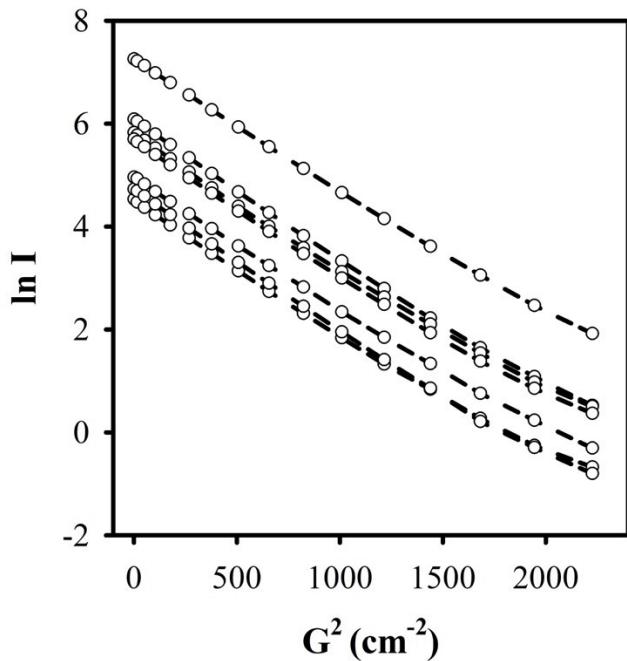
**Figure S12.** Cyclic voltammetry of **1** (0.50 mM, 100 mV/s) – scan direction reversed after reaching first redox process; b) Potential scan rate dependence of **1** (0.50 mM) 50–500 mV/s; Conditions: 0.1 M  $\text{NBu}_4\text{PF}_6$  in  $\text{CH}_3\text{NO}_2$  at 295 K.



**Figure S13.** a) Mass spectrometry of **1**. b) Isotopic pattern distribution of  $m/z = 645$  peak for **1**.



**Figure S14.** Infrared spectra of **1** and **2**.



**Figure S15.** Diffusion profile of **2**. Plot of the peak decay (natural log of the intensity of each peak,  $\ln I$ ) as a function of gradient strength ( $G^2$ ) of  $^1\text{H}$  DOSY NMR of **2** in  $\text{CD}_3\text{NO}_2$ . Linear correlation of each peak supports the presence of a unique supramolecular species in the solution with an average diffusion rate ( $D$ ) of  $2.45 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ .

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## 12.0 Computational Data

### 12.1 Optimized Coordinates (Å) for [fragment]<sup>•+</sup>

N	-9.68662325	-0.48835413	-0.15043466
C	-8.97343927	-1.41468404	0.52204476
C	-9.02464643	0.44305068	-0.86710896
C	-7.58732794	-1.43969639	0.49747043
H	-9.53527290	-2.14502026	1.09212622
C	-7.64085449	0.47300517	-0.93975688
H	-9.63088702	1.16851270	-1.39689110
C	-6.87355160	-0.48158913	-0.24630787
H	-7.07775946	-2.19617864	1.08240699
H	-7.17396410	1.22901412	-1.56018099
C	-5.39673734	-0.47386742	-0.29430768
C	-4.68828856	0.70292837	-0.49778206
C	-4.65719988	-1.67375914	-0.11651841
C	-3.28428524	0.69465534	-0.52628189
H	-5.20183920	1.65356315	-0.59962917
C	-3.27471826	-1.75430731	-0.13290842
H	-5.21801871	-2.58870889	0.01778249
C	-2.61159987	1.94207758	-0.70918036
C	-2.54623980	-0.52553532	-0.35571532
C	-2.55095522	-3.09565172	0.07785002
N	-1.32481605	2.11408450	-0.71727677
H	-3.24568438	2.81431203	-0.85145664
O	-1.24569227	-0.53377607	-0.40105947
C	-1.71049968	-3.43903269	-1.17600906
C	-3.53804315	-4.25899696	0.30502733
C	-1.65161274	-3.00314311	1.33628841
Ni	-0.02954765	0.82095722	-0.50448692
C	-0.72207869	3.45488904	-0.92227098
H	-0.96180155	-2.67431047	-1.38352402
H	-1.19301060	-4.39285871	-1.02250803
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H	-4.19333269	-4.42225185	-0.55828680
H	-2.96673108	-5.18013265	0.45934685
H	-0.91168660	-2.20572904	1.25195317
H	-2.25950916	-2.81972775	2.23007270
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H	-0.32011217	3.45480495	-1.94495454
C	2.57916479	-0.34010741	-0.64226632
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C	1.29178739	4.76073810	-0.08429016
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H	-2.10922294	4.63247435	0.24549741
H	-2.43036236	4.66589416	-1.49695625
C	3.40337263	-1.49970092	-0.90206200
C	3.22143184	0.91565193	-0.36887234
H	3.02672424	3.01098205	0.04186894
C	0.37598124	5.98597478	0.09516434
H	2.08437059	4.78625208	0.67124678
H	1.77011434	4.79161192	-1.07202207
H	-0.43862274	6.05086482	-1.90972516
H	-1.46058709	6.82314959	-0.70319450
C	4.77561399	-1.33108122	-0.81692029
C	2.78819395	-2.86799482	-1.24474062
C	4.62059560	1.01406357	-0.29898535
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H	5.40455350	-2.19813067	-0.96803039
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C	3.86556753	-3.93507871	-1.52800297
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C	6.89039722	-0.01921338	-0.40978187
H	1.13510823	-2.67290899	0.19039008
H	1.49286245	-4.33816322	-0.29452123
H	2.56682118	-3.49940059	0.83914592
H	1.10603602	-2.02643362	-2.39365019
H	2.52971746	-2.42836181	-3.37489090
H	1.48088663	-3.71839125	-2.76228300
H	4.50799466	-3.66281709	-2.37372339
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C	7.73815283	-0.88158441	-1.12952773
C	8.89929831	0.97753367	0.50530314
H	6.93994102	1.61288424	1.03113345
C	9.11489327	-0.78343585	-0.99133915
H	7.34066784	-1.62102606	-1.81445415
H	9.39460541	1.69926813	1.14349923
N	9.69091303	0.13099324	-0.18411777

H	9.78197888	-1.44407519	-1.53335966
Pd	-11.76416562	-0.47661163	-0.05901230
N	-11.98163148	-1.74056492	-1.71235558
H	-11.33528143	-1.50543118	-2.46739705
N	-13.85841088	-0.51914898	-0.08480013
H	-14.18370884	0.38420640	-0.43749322
C	-14.31503036	-1.62701225	-0.98331280
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H	-13.63032866	-2.51926881	-2.83833096
H	-13.49436646	-0.75064337	-2.78040774
H	-11.74596827	-2.69238039	-1.42161268
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Pd	11.75666553	0.22587973	0.02557732
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H	14.18379017	0.48892037	1.07171731
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H	11.66507781	2.46288399	-1.28305599
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H	14.08940654	2.46531572	-0.12127589
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C	11.56263635	-0.57383652	2.90232451
C	11.75379512	-2.39592724	1.46135874
C	11.52092506	-1.40999681	4.01234665
H	11.50521040	0.50364148	3.00158340
C	11.71711631	-3.28884128	2.52606995
H	11.84344171	-2.73580778	0.43660605
C	11.59918127	-2.79011979	3.82373415
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H	11.78154004	-4.35339619	2.33136525
H	11.56972944	-3.46472669	4.67318175
C	-11.67994309	2.12979510	1.39676222
C	-11.61437475	0.29438831	2.83127853
C	-11.61070411	3.01506007	2.46613386
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C	-11.54354749	1.12205545	3.94614136
H	-11.62493458	-0.78526015	2.92323730
C	-11.54106930	2.50510135	3.76304142
H	-11.61379821	4.08225231	2.27540024
H	-11.49301773	0.68114432	4.93519124

H	-11.48776279	3.17348339	4.61626254
N	11.67749083	-1.06306357	1.65109661
N	-11.68311037	0.79356836	1.58094366

## 12.2 TD-DFT Excitation Energies and Oscillator Strength for [fragment]<sup>•+</sup>

**Excited State 1: 2.019-A 0.6495 eV 1908.81 nm f=0.2318 <S\*\*2>=0.769**

249B -> 263B	-0.15379
250B -> 263B	-0.21368
260B -> 263B	0.24549
262B -> 263B	0.92332

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(TD-HF/TD-DFT) = -4482.63623683

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle RhoCI density.

Excited State 2: 2.020-A 0.8958 eV 1384.11 nm f=0.0000 <S\*\*2>=0.770

247B -> 263B	-0.11541
253B -> 263B	0.52405
256B -> 263B	0.74580
257B -> 263B	-0.33777

Excited State 3: 3.165-A 1.0936 eV 1133.70 nm f=0.0516 <S\*\*2>=2.254

251A -> 264A	0.11306
254A -> 264A	0.49485
257A -> 264A	0.24416
249B -> 263B	-0.19376
250B -> 263B	-0.20469
253B -> 266B	-0.40988
253B -> 267B	0.13257
256B -> 266B	-0.39266
256B -> 267B	0.13546
257B -> 266B	0.24886
260B -> 263B	0.32895
262B -> 263B	-0.22081
254A <- 264A	0.13487
253B <- 266B	-0.12281
256B <- 266B	-0.10645

**Excited State 4: 2.456-A 1.1966 eV 1036.15 nm f=0.1247 <S\*\*2>=1.258**

254A -> 264A	-0.39276
257A -> 264A	-0.14340
249B -> 263B	-0.30552
250B -> 263B	-0.33782
253B -> 266B	0.14966
256B -> 266B	0.16980
260B -> 263B	0.61477
261B -> 263B	-0.16647

262B -> 263B -0.29005

Excited State 5: 2.050-A 1.2485 eV 993.05 nm f=0.0189 <S\*\*2>=0.801

253B -> 263B	-0.13416
256B -> 263B	0.13428
257B -> 263B	0.31528
260B -> 263B	0.14446
261B -> 263B	0.87038

Excited State 6: 3.417-A 1.3642 eV 908.84 nm f=0.0008 <S\*\*2>=2.669

237A -> 264A	-0.10936
246A -> 264A	0.54671
258A -> 264A	0.27756
262A -> 264A	0.18878
249B -> 266B	-0.34089
249B -> 267B	0.11716
250B -> 266B	-0.41894
250B -> 267B	0.14192
256B -> 263B	-0.10261
260B -> 266B	0.32098
261B -> 263B	0.16145
262B -> 266B	0.19243
246A <- 264A	0.12220

Excited State 7: 2.899-A 1.5141 eV 818.85 nm f=0.0001 <S\*\*2>=1.851

224A -> 264A	-0.15968
226A -> 264A	0.13444
231A -> 264A	0.13076
234A -> 264A	0.24059
236A -> 264A	0.10529
238A -> 264A	-0.11644
240A -> 264A	0.11203
245A -> 264A	-0.16599
251A -> 264A	0.18755
254A -> 264A	-0.12737
257A -> 264A	0.15796
259A -> 264A	0.19053
263A -> 264A	0.46919
241B -> 266B	-0.16090
247B -> 266B	0.14323
253B -> 266B	-0.11955
257B -> 266B	-0.28800
261B -> 266B	-0.45573
261B -> 267B	0.15034

Excited State 8: 2.086-A 1.5338 eV 808.35 nm f=0.0060 <S\*\*2>=0.838

246A -> 264A	0.17813
233B -> 263B	-0.22094
253B -> 263B	-0.38631
256B -> 263B	0.55821
257B -> 263B	0.52350
261B -> 263B	-0.34281

Excited State 9: 2.029-A 1.9318 eV 641.81 nm f=0.0013 <S\*\*2>=0.779

233B -> 263B	0.11673
241B -> 263B	0.17848
247B -> 263B	-0.23257
253B -> 263B	0.59031
256B -> 263B	-0.15042
257B -> 263B	0.67011
261B -> 263B	-0.15344

Excited State 10: 2.032-A 1.9692 eV 629.62 nm f=0.0017 <S\*\*2>=0.782

254A -> 264A	0.10653
249B -> 263B	0.42389
250B -> 263B	0.59139
260B -> 263B	0.63020