Supporting Information

Electrocatalytic Water Oxidation by a Ni(II) Salophen-type Complex

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Fig. S1: Intermolecular C–H \cdots O interactions in the crystal structure of complex 1



Fig. S2: The FT-IR spectrum of NiL (1)



Fig. S3: The ¹H NMR spectrum of NiL (1)

Thermogravimetric analysis

The TGA plot of Ni(II) complex **1** shows that the complex is stable up to 400 °C with a DTG_{max} =410 °C. Decomposition for **1** involves four steps (see Fig. S3). The weight loss in the first stage is probably related to the omission of some small molecules such as CO₂ and N₂ molecules from the main body of the complex with a mass lose of 16.42% (calc. 17.09%). The second weight loss occurs in the range of 450-520 °C, which can be assigned to the release of – CH₃ group of complex **1** with a mass lose of 5.27% (Calc. 4.86 %). The third weight loss take places in the 520-590 °C which corresponds to the decomposition of some parts of aromatic ring containing chloro substitute with a mass lose of 13.29% (Calc. 14.29 %). Finally, the highest weight loss occurs in the range of 590-800 °C which corresponds to the decomposition of the residue aromatic groups and the formation of metal oxide lattice.



Temperature °C

Fig. S4: The thermogravimetric plot of NiL (1)



Fig. S5: CV for a fresh CPE (black), CPE-complex 1 (blue) and CPE-complex 1 after performing amperometry of 5 hours (pink) in the buffer solution (0.5 M) in the range of -0.6 to 1.6 V. *vs* Ag/AgCl at pH=11 (a), pH=7 (b) and in the range of 0-0.6 at pH=3 (c)



Fig. S6: EDX spectra of the surface of CPE modified with complex 1 after amperometry for 5h at pH=11 (a) and pH=7 (b)



Fig. S7: The XRD pattern of the surface of bare CPE (a) and CPE-complex 1 after 5h amperometry at pH=11(b)

| D–H…A | d(D–H) | d(H···A) | <dha< th=""><th>$d(D \cdots A)$</th></dha<> | $d(D \cdots A)$ |
|---------------------------|--------|----------|--|-----------------|
| C4-H4AO24 ⁱ | 0.930 | 2.585 | 163.28 | 3.487(18) |
| $C4-H4AO1^{i}$ | 0.930 | 2.666 | 141.43 | 3.443(17) |
| C25-H25CCl1 ⁱⁱ | 0.960 | 2.740 | 111.14 | 3.207(17) |

Table S1: Information of intermolecular hydrogen bond interactions in the crystal structure of complex 1

Symmetry code: ^{*i*}/1-*x*, 1/2+*y*, 1/2-*z*; ^{*ii*}/2-*x*, 1/2+*y*+2, 3/2-*z*;