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## Supporting Information

*for*

**Electrochemically and Photochemically Active Palladium(II) Heterotopic Metallacalix[3]arenes**  
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## Experimental

### Methods

Electrochemistry: Cyclic voltammograms were carried out using a CH instrument Model 700B Series Electrochemical Analyzer/Workstation and a three-electrode configuration; Au or Pt working electrode, Pt counter electrode, Ag/AgCl reference. **2b**: A 1.2 mM solution of **2b** in acetonitrile, 120 mM of LiClO<sub>4</sub> at room temperature. **3b**: A 1:1 water-methanol mixture containing 1 mM **3b**, 100 mM LiClO<sub>4</sub> at room temperature. Titration experiment: a 1:1 water-methanol mixture containing 4 mM **3b**, 100 mM LiClO<sub>4</sub> was titrated with Ur. Kass was determined by non-linear regression. The uncertainty in Kass was estimated by a boot strap method. [Ref: W. H. Press, S. A. Teukolsky, W. T. Vetterling and B. P. Flannery, Numerical Recipes in Fortran, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2nd edn., 1992]

Electronic structure calculations: all calculations were performed using Spartan software (Spartan SGI version 5.1.1 Wavefunction, 18401 Von Karman, Suite 370, Irvine, CA 92612, USA) running on a SGI workstation. Geometry optimization were carried out with a DFT method at the B3LYP/3-21G(\*) level.

### Synthesis

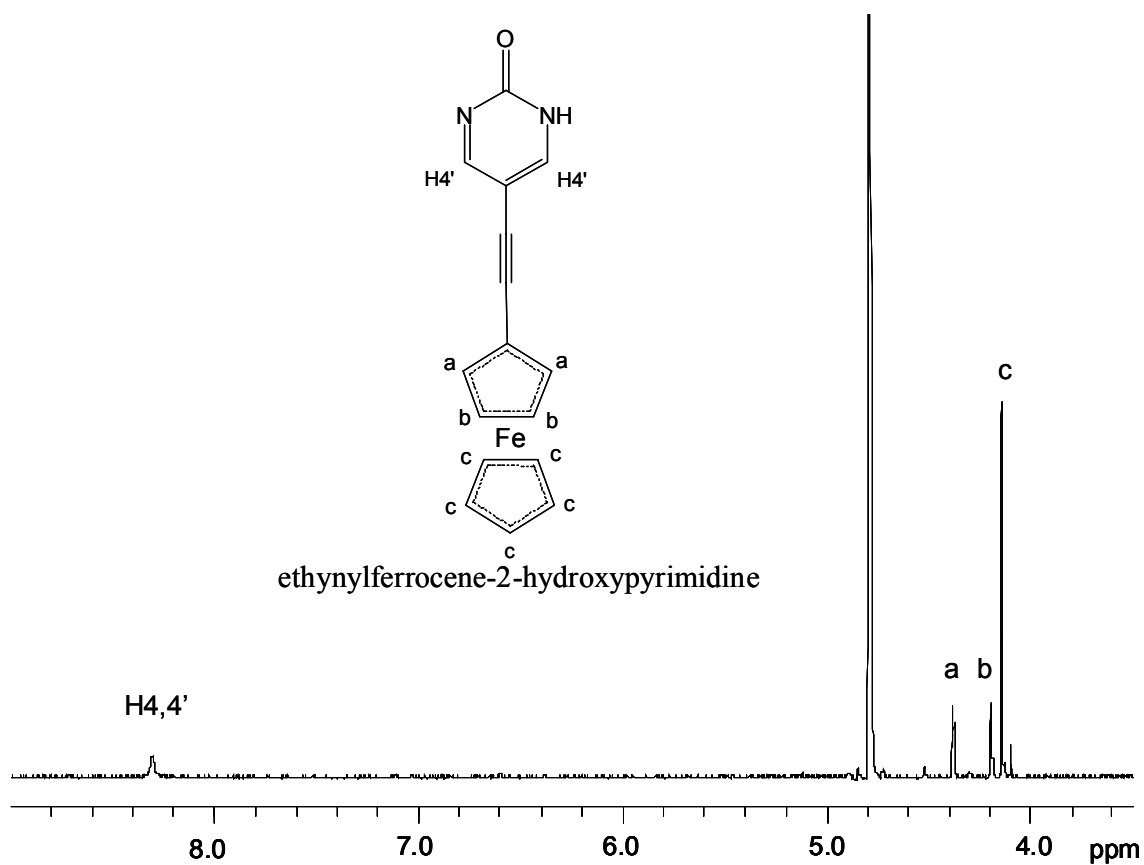
5-Ethynylferrocene-2-hydroxypyrimidine (**2b**): 5-iodo-2-hydroxypyrimidine<sup>Error! Bookmark not defined.</sup> (0.222 g, 1 mmol) was dissolved in dry and deoxygenated piperidine. Ethynylferrocene (0.218 g, 1 mmol), CuI (0.028 g, 0.15 mmol) and bis(triphenylphosphine)dichloropalladium(II) (0.07 g, 0.1 mmol) were added sequentially under a N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 5h. Disodium EDTA (5% v/w) (5 mL) was added to the resulting suspension before evaporation to dryness. The crude product was redissolved in chloroform (100 mL) and washed twice with disodium EDTA (5% v/w) and once with water before being dried over sodium sulfate. After filtration and concentration by rotary evaporation the reaction mixture was loaded onto a silica gel column packed in chloroform and eluted by using chloroform-methanol (95:5). Fractions containing the product were combined and solvent removed to yield the title compound as a dark orange powder (0.130 g, 44%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD-d<sub>4</sub>, 25 °C): δ(ppm) = 4.14 (s, 5H; Fc), 4.20 (m, 2H; Fc), 4.38 (m, 2H; Fc), 8.30 (s, 2H; H<sub>4,4'</sub>, efpymo). ESI-MS: m/z (positive mode) 304.03. (calcd for 5-ethynylferrocene-2-hydroxypyrimidine, 304.03).

†5-{5'-(Dimethylamino)-1-naphthalenesulfonamide-N-(2'-propynyl-1'-yl)}-2-hydroxypyrimidine (**2c**): 5-iodo-2-hydroxypyrimidine<sup>Error! Bookmark not defined.</sup> (2 mmol, 0.446 g) and 5-(dimethylamino)-N-(2-propynyl)-1-naphthalenesulfonamide<sup>Error! Bookmark not defined.</sup> (0.576

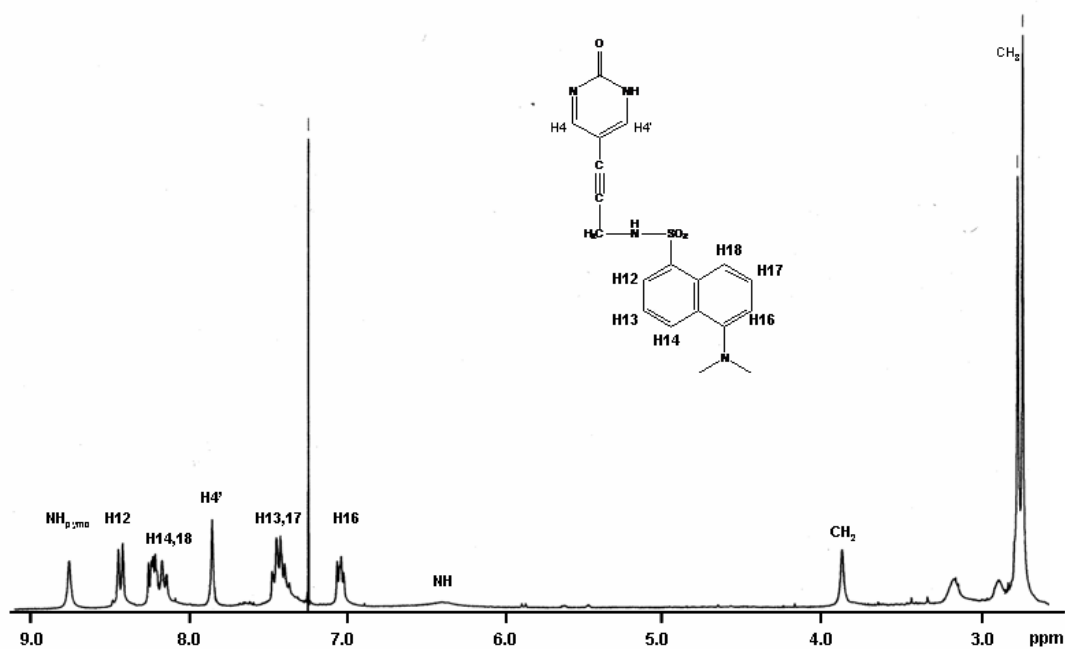
g, 2 mmol were reacted in a similar way to **2b**. The product was obtained as a dark orange powder (0.270 g, 35%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C):  $\delta(\text{ppm}) = 2.83$  (s, 6H; dansyl), 3.98 (d, 2H;  $\text{CH}_2$  propargyl), 5.23 (broad, 1H; NH propargyl) 7.16 (d, 1H; dansyl), 7.56 (d, 2H; dansyl), 7.71 (s, 2H; pymo), 8.23 (d, 1H; dansyl), 8.31 (d, 1H; dansyl), 8.50 (d, 1H; dansyl), 8.64 (broad, 1H; pymo). ESI-MS:  $m/z$  (positive mode) 405.09  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ . Electronic spectra: absorption 413 nm; emission: 547 nm.

† Preparation of  $[\text{Pd}_3(\text{en})_3(4,7\text{-phen})_2(5\text{-ethynylferrocenepyrimidin-2-olate})](\text{NO}_3)_5$  (**3b**) and  $[\text{Pd}_3(\text{en})_3(4,7\text{-phen})_2(5\text{-}\{5'\text{-(dimethylamino)-1-naphthalenesulfonamide-N-(2'-propynyl-1'-yl)}\}\text{pyrimidin-2-olate})](\text{NO}_3)_5$  (**3c**): 1 mL of a MeOD solution of 5-ethynylferrocene-2-hydroxypyrimidine (0.005 mmol, 1.5 mg) was mixed with a  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  solution of  $[\text{Pd}_3(\text{en})_3(4,7\text{-phen})_3](\text{NO}_3)_6$  (0.005 mmol, 7.1 mg in 1 mL). The solution was heated for 4h at 50 °C. **3b**:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, MeOD- $d_4$  /  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ , 25 °C):  $\delta(\text{ppm}) = 2.93\text{-}3.07$  (m, 24H; en), 4.00 (s, 5H; Fc), 4.08 (m, 2H; Fc), 4.18 (m, 2H; Fc), 7.87 (dd,  $J_{1,2} = 3.2$  Hz,  $J_{2,3} = 5$  Hz; 4H;  $\text{H}_{2,2'}\text{phen}$ ) 8.13 (s, 2H;  $\text{H}_{4,4'}$  efpymo), 9.27 (d, 2H;  $\text{H}_1$  phen), 9.28 (d, 2H;  $\text{H}_{1'}$  phen), 9.53 (d, 2H;  $\text{H}_3$  phen), 9.78 (d, 2H;  $\text{H}_{3'}$  phen), 10.47 (d,  $J_{5,5'} = 9.7$  Hz, 2H;  $\text{H}_5$  phen), 10.59 (d, 2H;  $\text{H}_{5'}$  phen). ESI-MS:  $m/z$  1472.013 (calcd. for **3b**-H: 1472.011).

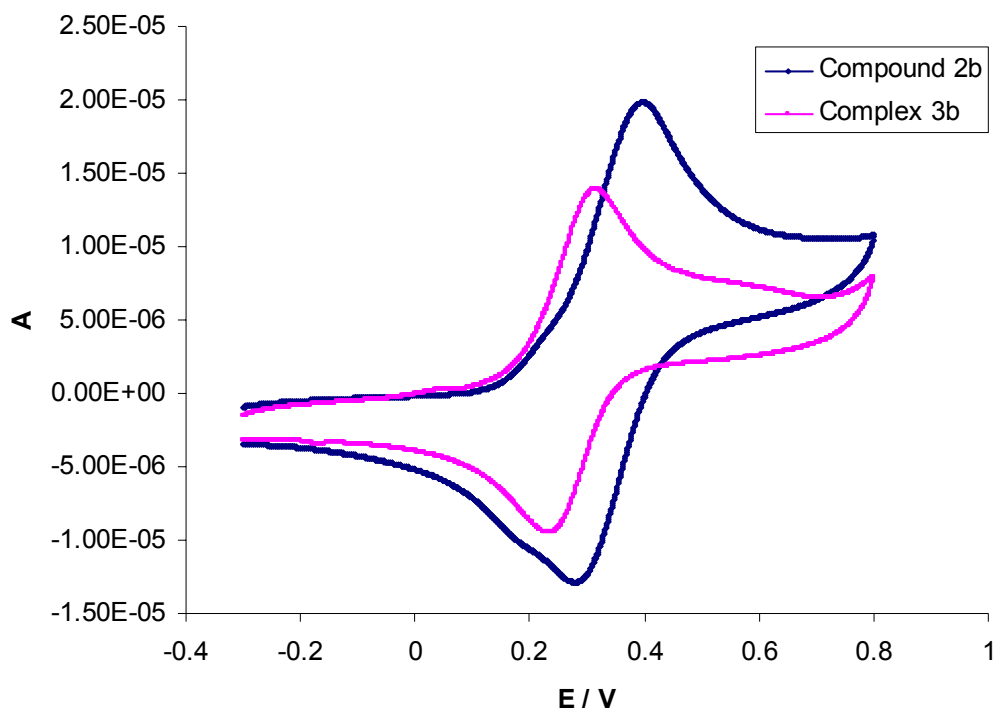
**3c**:  $\delta(\text{ppm}) = 2.5$  (s, dansyl), 2.75-3.01 (m, en), 6.94 (s, dansyl), 7.01 (m, dansyl), 7.12 (s, dansyl), 7.59 (s, dansyl), 7.55 (m,  $\text{H}_{2,2'}\text{phen}$ ), 8.27 (s, dansyl), 8.53 (s, dansyl), 8.91 (m,  $\text{H}_{1,1'}\text{phen}$ ), 9.41 (d,  $J_{2,3'} = 5.1$  Hz,  $\text{H}_3\text{phen}$ ), 9.48 (d,  $\text{H}_{3'}\text{phen}$ ), 10.17 (d,  $J_{5,5'} = 9.3$  Hz;  $\text{H}_5\text{phen}$ ), 10.24 (d,  $\text{H}_{5'}\text{phen}$ ). Electronic spectra: absorption 394 nm; emission: 535 nm.



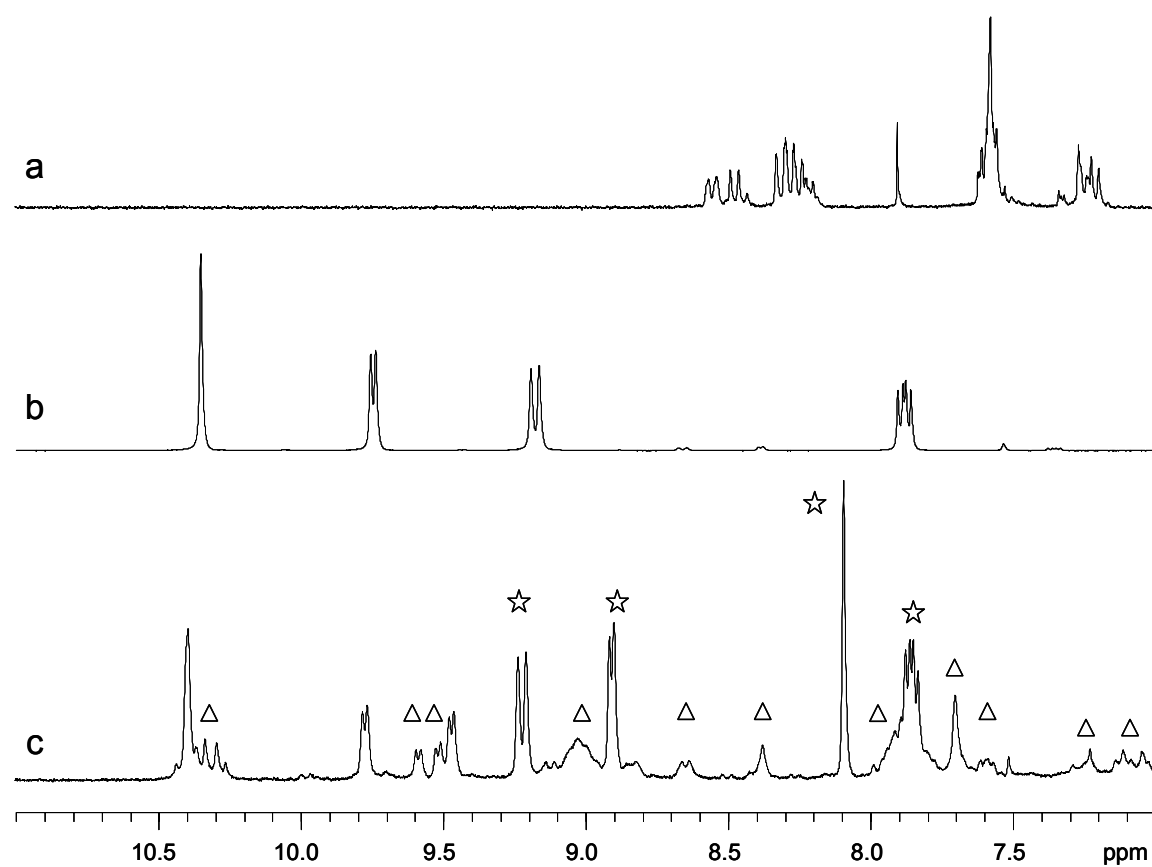
**Figure S1.** - <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (in MeOD-d<sub>4</sub>) of 5-ethynylferrocene-2-hydroxypyrimidine (2b).



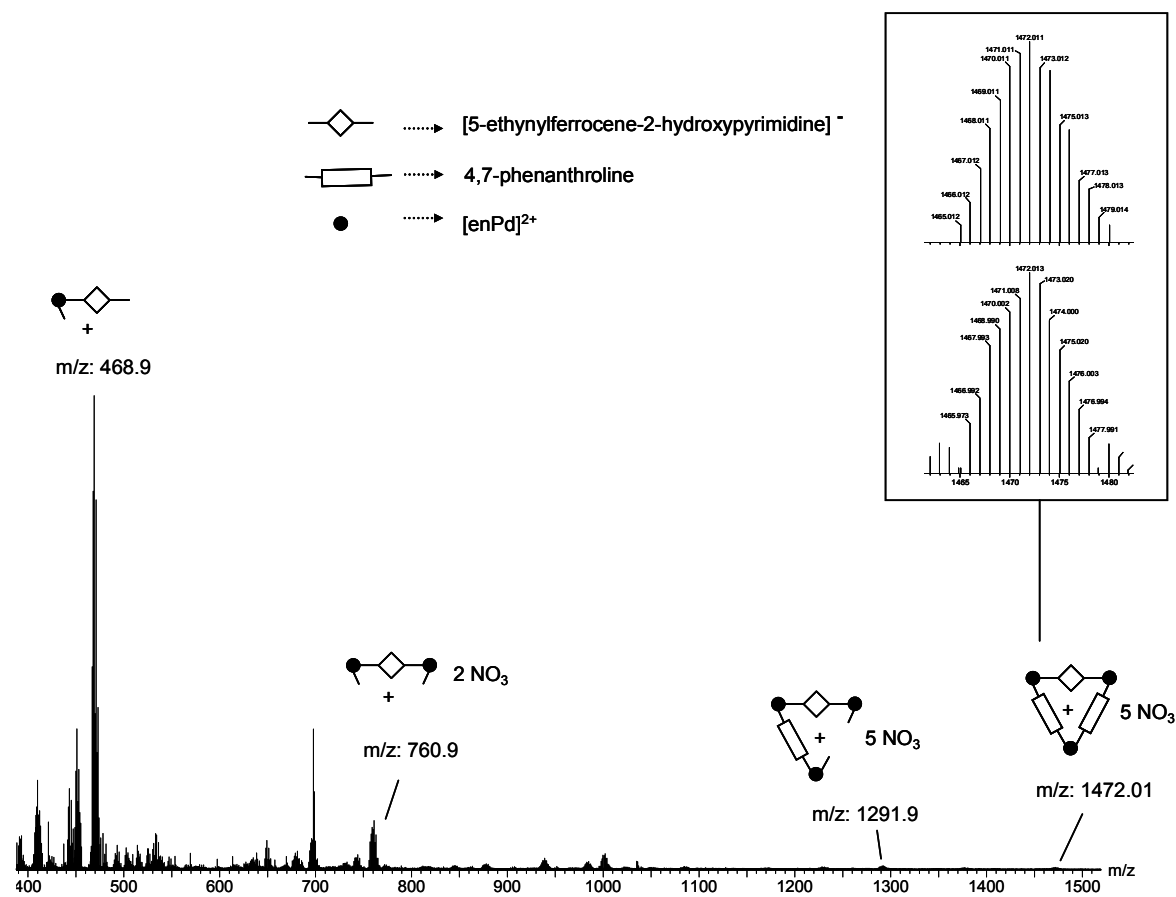
**Figure S2.-**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of 5-{5'-(dimethylamino)-N(2'-propynyl-1'-yl)-1-naphthalenesulfonamide}-2-hydroxypyrimidine (**2c**).



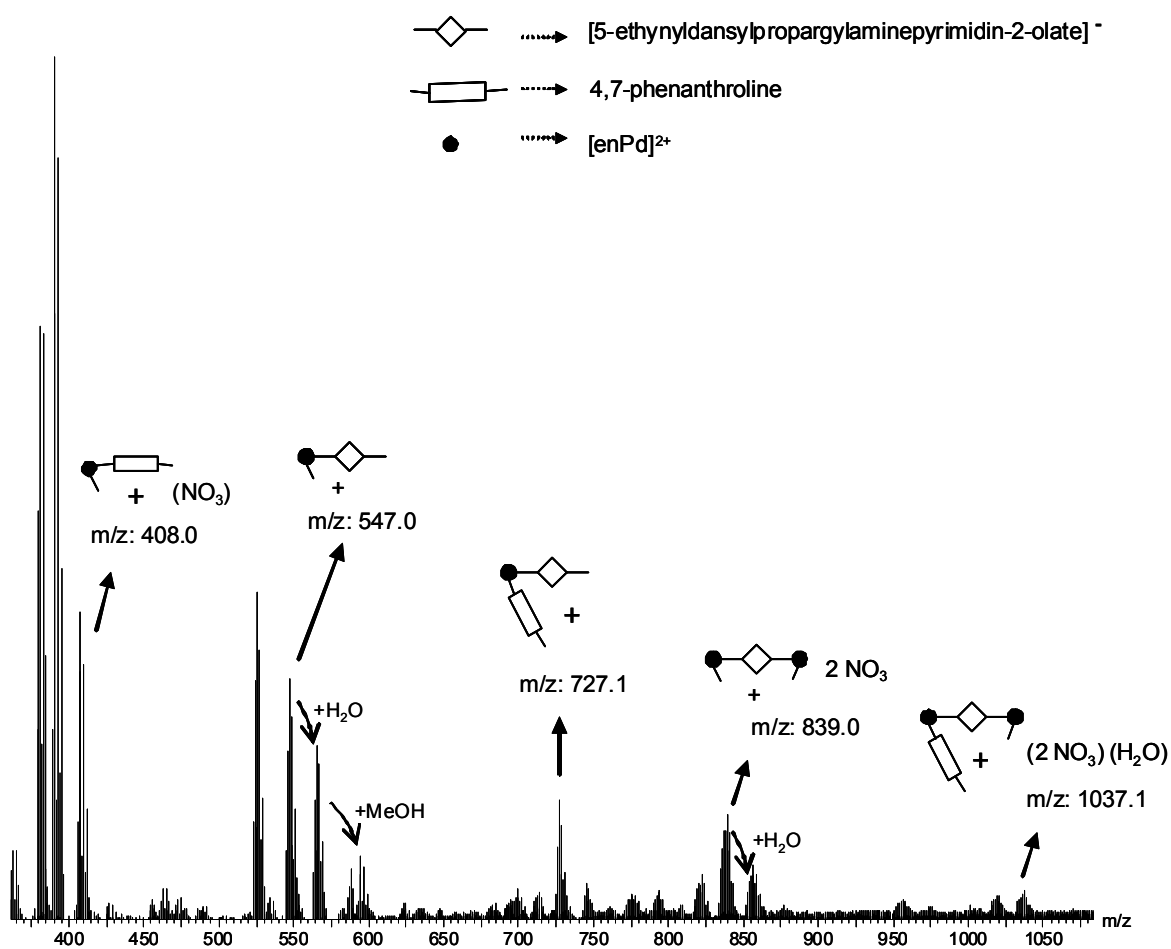
**Figure S3.-** Cyclic voltammogram of (a) free **2b** and (b) complex **3b**. Conditions: 4mM sample, 100 mM  $\text{LiClO}_4$  in water/methanol solution, room temperature, working electrode of Pt.



**Figure S4.** Aromatic region of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (MeOD:D<sub>2</sub>O, 293 K, 400 MHz). a= 5-ethynyldansylpropargylamine-2-hydroxypyrimidine (**2c**); b= homotopic  $[\text{Pd}_3(\text{en})_3(4,7\text{-phen})_3]^{6+}$  (**1**); c= 1:1 reaction mixture of **1** and **2c** after 4 h at 60 °C.  $[\text{Pd}_3(\text{en})_3(4,7\text{-phen})_2(5\text{-}\{5'\text{-(dimethylamino)-1-naphthalenesulfonamide-N-(2'-propynyl-1'-yl)}\}\text{pyrimidin-2-olate})](\text{NO}_3)_5$  (**3c**) (triangles), free phenanthroline (stars).

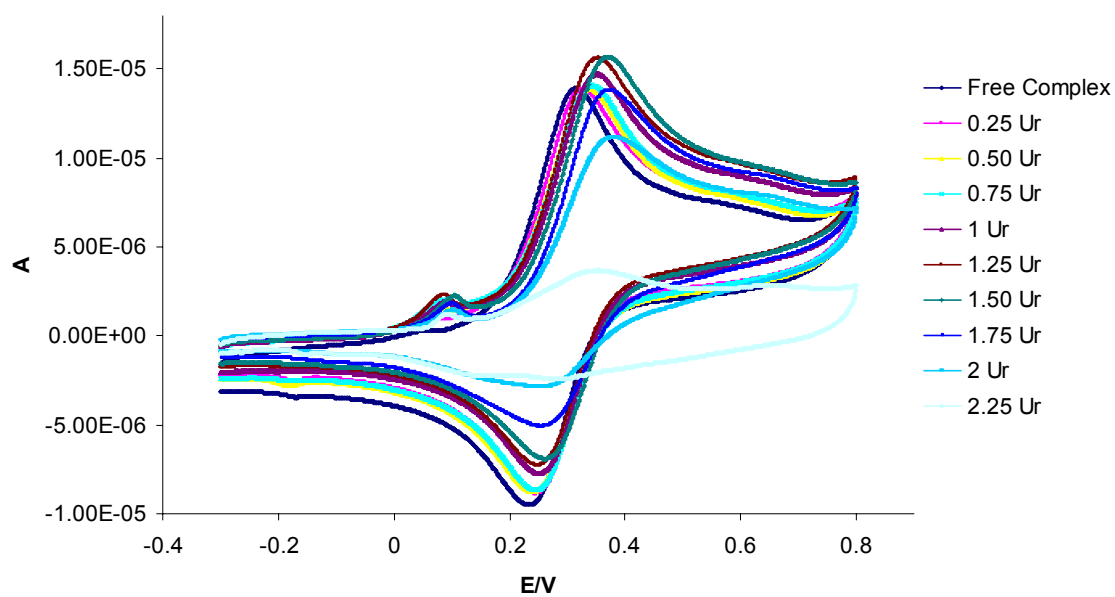


**Figure S5.** ESI-MS of  $[\text{Pd}_3(\text{en})_3(4,7\text{-phen})_2(5\text{-ethynylferrocenepyrimidin-2-olate})](\text{NO}_3)_5$  (**3b**) in a methanol solution. The insert shows the measured (bottom) and simulated (top) isotopic pattern at  $m/z$  1472.01

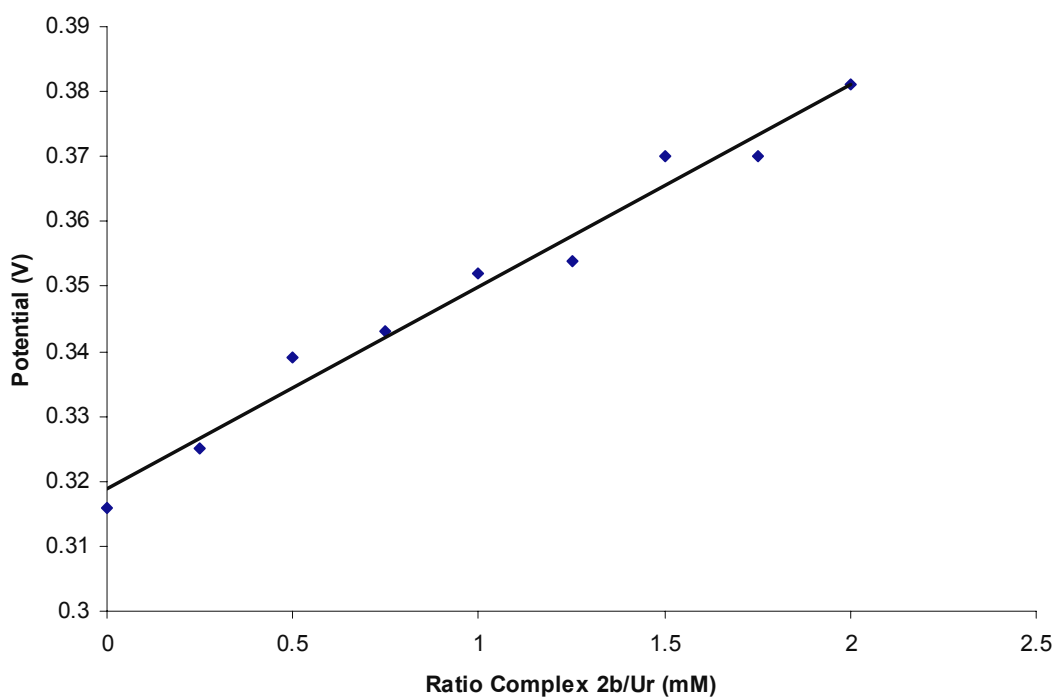


**Figure S6.** ESI-MS of [Pd<sub>3</sub>(en)<sub>3</sub>(4,7-phen)<sub>2</sub>(5-{5'-(dimethylamino)-1-naphthalenesulfonamide-N-(2'-propynyl-1'-yl)}pyrimidin-2-olate)](NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>5</sub> (**3c**) in methanol solution.

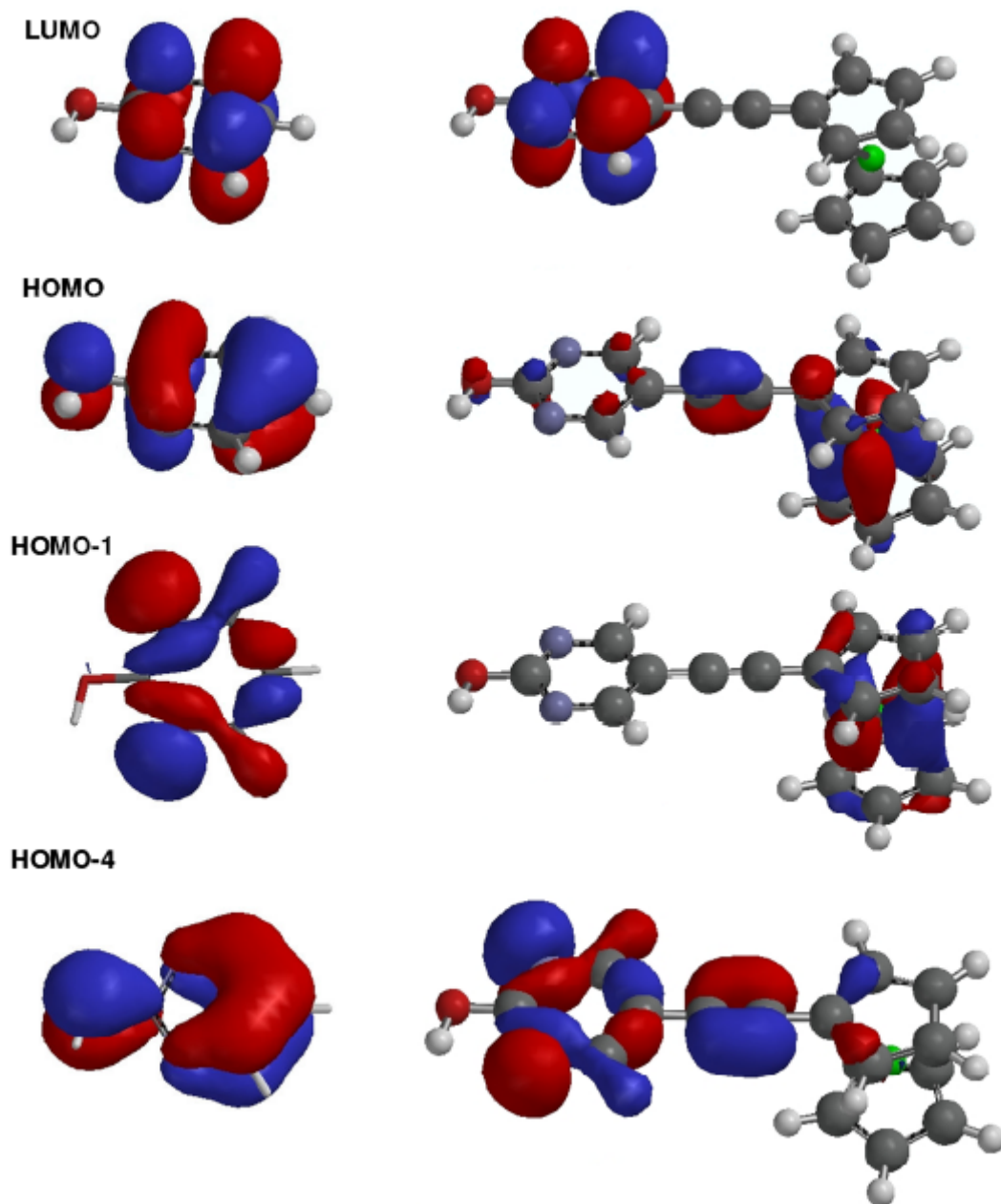




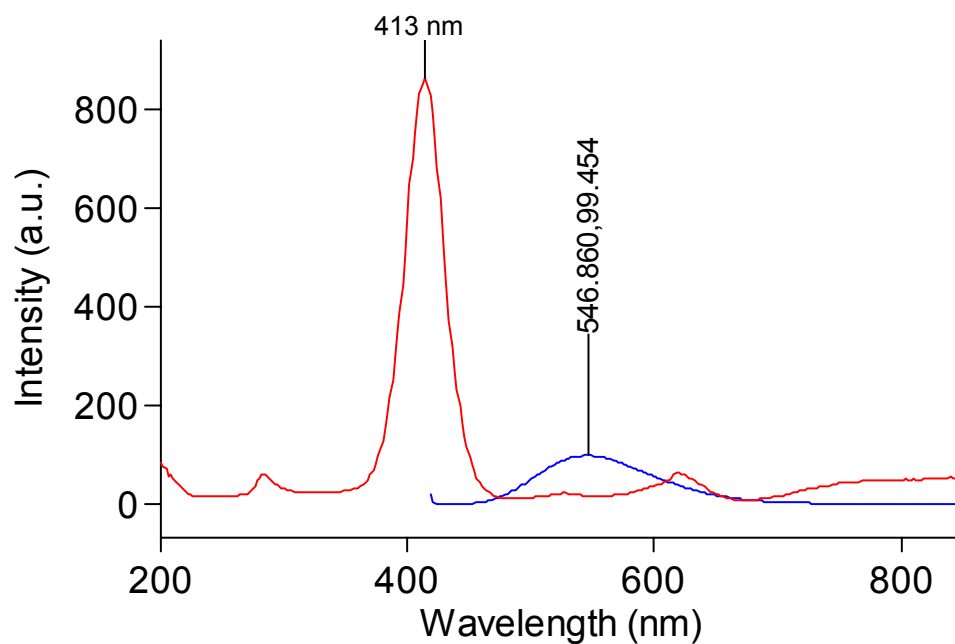
**Figure S7.-** Cyclic voltammograms for the titration of  $[\text{Pd}_3(\text{en})_3(4,7\text{-phen})_2(5\text{-ethynylferrocenepirimidin-2-olate})](\text{NO}_3)_5$  (**3b**) (4mM) with Ur.



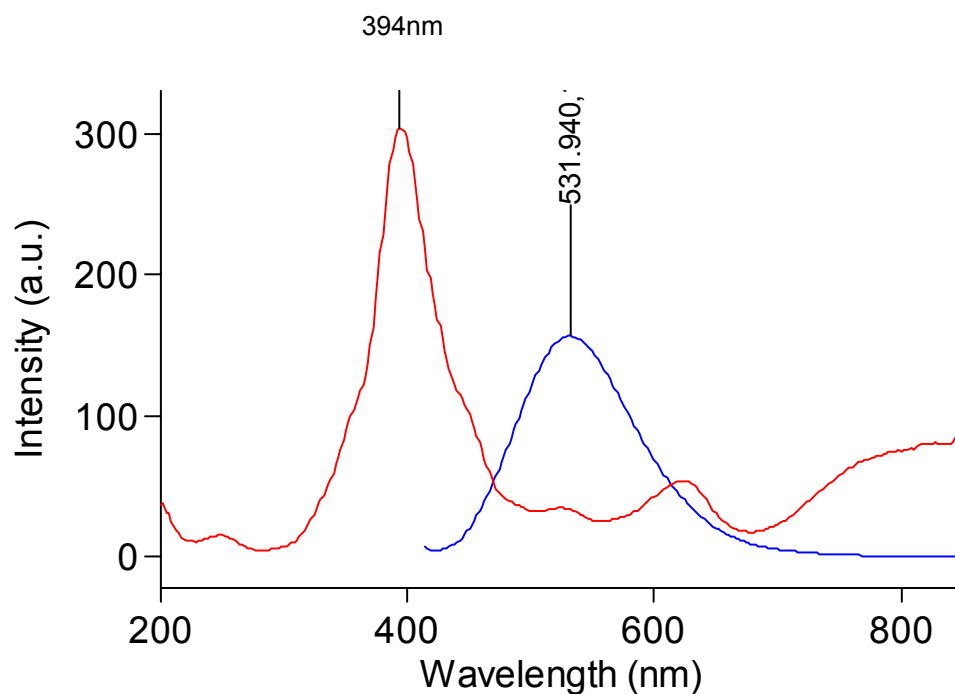
**Figure S8.-** Plot Potential vs Ratio **3b**/Ur



**Figure S9.** Selected molecular orbitals for the 2-hydroxypyrimidine (**2a**) and 5-ethynylferrocene-2-hydroxypyrimidine derivative (**2b**)



**Figure S10.** Absorption (red) and emission (blue) spectra for 5-{5'-(dimethylamino)-1-naphthalenesulfonamide-N-(2'-propynyl-1'-yl)}-2-hydroxypyrimidine (**2c**).



**Figure S11.** Absorption (red) and emission (blue) spectra for  $[\text{Pd}_3(\text{en})_3(4,7\text{-phen})_2(5\text{-}\{5'\text{-}(\text{dimethylamino})\text{-}1\text{-naphthalenesulfonamide-N-(2'-propynyl-1'-yl)}\}\text{pyrimidin-2-olate})](\text{NO}_3)_5$  (**3c**).