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Supporting information for:

## Efficient alkane hydroxylation catalysis of Nickel(II) complexes with oxazoline donor containing tripodal tetradentate ligands

Ikumi Terao, Sena Horii, Jun Nakazawa, Masaya Okamura, Shiro Hikichi\*

Department of Material and Life Chemistry

Faculty of Engineering

Kanagawa University

3-27-1 Rokkakubashi, Kanagawa-ku, Yokohama 221-8686 (Japan)

Fax: +81-45-413-9770

\*E-mail: hikichi@kanagawa-u.ac.jp

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Complex	Substrate ·	Products / µmol							
		A	K	L	Cy-Cl	Ph-Cl	· TON	A/( <b>A</b> +L)	NIE <sup>2</sup>
1	$C_{6}H_{12}$	1526.7	218.6	12.8	111.7	1056.7	995	6.6	2.67
1	C <sub>6</sub> D <sub>12</sub>	571.5	69.2	36.0	63.2	430.8	423	5.4	2.07
7	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>12</sub>	1197.8	110.5	59.5	119.3	771.1	829	7.0	2 74
7	C <sub>6</sub> D <sub>12</sub>	320.3	93.9	16.7	199.3	280.1	370	2.9	3.74

<sup>1</sup>TON =  $(\mathbf{A} + 2 \times \mathbf{K} + 2 \times \mathbf{L} + \mathbf{Cy} - \mathbf{Cl})$  / Ni <sup>2</sup>KIE =  $\mathbf{A}$  from C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>12</sub> /  $\mathbf{A}$  from C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>12</sub>



complex	1	$2 \cdot 2 CH_2 Cl_2$	3	
Formula	C44H53BN4NiO5	C44H54BCl4N5NiO6	C <sub>49</sub> H <sub>56</sub> BClN <sub>4</sub> NiO <sub>6</sub>	
Formula Weight	787.42	960.24	901.93	
Space Group	<i>P</i> – <i>1</i> (No. 2)	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> / <i>n</i> (No. 14)	<i>Fdd2</i> (No. 43)	
Crystal System	triclinic	monoclinic	orthorhombic	
<i>a</i> / Å	11.790(6)	14.544(5)	63.3792(17)	
<i>b</i> / Å	13.799(6)	11.405(4)	58.8576(15)	
<i>c</i> / Å	15.362(7)	28.205(10)	9.7929(2)	
lpha / °	64.129(15)	90	90	
eta / °	83.65(2)	102.024(4)	90	
γ / Å	81.82(2)	90	90	
V / Å3	2222.6(18)	4576(3)	36530.9(15)	
Ζ	2	4	32	
<i>F</i> (000)	836	2008	15232	
$D(\text{calced}) / \text{g} \cdot \text{cm}^{-1}$	1.177	1.394	1.312	
Temp.//K	293(2)	113(2)	113(2)	
$\mu(Mo_{K\alpha}) / cm^{-1}$	4.82	7.10	5.37	
$2 heta_{ m max}$ / °	54.898	54.968	54.962	
Measured reflections	9293	10430	20846	
Observed reflections	((1)	7617	10007	
$(I > 2\sigma(I))$	0015	/01/	19997	
Parameters	496	565	1145	
$\mathbf{R}  (I > 2\sigma(\mathbf{I}) / \operatorname{all}^{(a)})$	0.0437 / 0.0618	0.0661 / 0.0807	0.0370 / 0.0394	
wR	0.1589	0.1974	0.0770	
Goodness of fit S <sup>(b)</sup>	0.725	1.040	1.152	

**Table S3**. Crystallographic data for 1 - 5.

(a)  $R = \Sigma ||F_0| - |F_c|| / \Sigma |F_0|$ .  $R_w = \{\Sigma [w(F_0^2 - F_c^2)^2] / \Sigma [w(F_0^2)^2]\}^{1/2}$ . (b)  $S = \{\Sigma [w(F_0^2 - F_c^2)^2] / (n - p)\}^{1/2}$ , where *n* is the number of reflections and *p* is the total number of parameters refined.

complex	4	5		
Formula	C <sub>42</sub> H <sub>50</sub> B <sub>1</sub> ClN <sub>4</sub> NiO <sub>3</sub>	C48H62BCIN4NiO3		
Formula Weight	763.83	847.98		
Space Group	$P2_1/c$ (No. 14)	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> (No. 4)		
Crystal System	monoclinic	monoclinic		
<i>a</i> / Å	14.905(7)	12.0793(6)		
<i>b</i> / Å	24.920(12)	13.4525(5)		
<i>c</i> / Å	10.988(5)	15.1350(6)		
$\alpha$ / °	90	90		
eta / °	102.752(4)	111.020(2)		
γ / Å	90	90		
V / Å <sup>3</sup>	3981(3)	2295.73(17)		
Ζ	4	2		
<i>F</i> (000)	1616	904		
$D(\text{calced}) / \text{g} \cdot \text{cm}^{-1}$	1.275	1.227		
Temp.//K	113(2)	133(2)		
$\mu(Mo_{K\alpha}) / cm^{-1}$	5.97	5.25		
$2 heta_{ m max}$ / °	54.606	54.962		
Measured reflections	8761	9223		
Observed reflections	(000	7510		
$(I > 2\sigma(I))$	6909	/510		
Parameters	476	532		
$R(I > 2\sigma(I) / all^{(a)})$	0.0667 / 0.0788	0.0214 / 0.0246		
wR	0.1957	0.0438		
Goodness of fit S <sup>(b)</sup>	1.077	0.892		

Table S3. (continued)

(a)  $R = \Sigma ||F_0| - |F_c|| / \Sigma |F_0|$ .  $R_w = \{\Sigma [w(F_0^2 - F_c^2)^2] / \Sigma [w(F_0^2)^2]\}^{1/2}$ . (b)  $S = \{\Sigma [w(F_0^2 - F_c^2)^2] / (n - p)\}^{1/2}$ , where *n* is the number of reflections and *p* is the total number of parameters refined.



Fig. S1 UV-vis spectra of  $CH_2Cl_2$  solutions of 1 (a), 2 (b), 3 (c), 4 (d), 5 (e) and 6 (f).



Fig. S1 (continued)



Fig. S1 (continued)



Fig. S2 ESI-MS spectra of MeCN solutions of **1** (a), **2** (b), **3** (c), **4** (d), **5** (e) and **6** (f).





200

50

0

330.04010-

/337.09294

338.09884

339.09540

400

447.12744

485.21100

600 *m / z*  1000

800



Fig. S2 (continued)



Fig. S3 IR spectra of KBr pellet of **1** (a), **2** (b), **3** (c), **4** (d), **5** (e) and **6** (f)



Fig. S3 (continued)



Fig. S3 (continued)



Fig. S4 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of KBr pellet of **1** (a), **2** (b), **4** (c), **5** (d) and **6** (e)



Fig. S4 (continued)



Fig. S4 (continued)



Fig. S4 (continued)



Fig. S4 (continued)



Fig. S5 Time course of total TON of the acetate complexes 1 and 7 on cyclohexane oxidation



Fig. S6 Differential pulse voltammograms of the acetate complexes 1 and 7 in MeCN with 0.1 M  $^{n}Bu_{4}NPF_{6}$ 



Fig. S7 Time course of total TON of the  $TOA^{Me2}$  complexes 1 - 4 on cyclohexane oxidation



Fig. S8 Time course of total TON of the Tp\* and To<sup>M</sup> complexes 8 - 10 on cyclohexane oxidation



Fig. S9 Time course of total TON of the chlorido complexes 4-6 on cyclohexane oxidation



Fig. S10 Decay of the acylperoxido species in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (a) or  $CD_2Cl_2$  (b) at 25°C.