

## Supporting Information

# A highly stable all-in-one photocatalyst for aryl etherification: The Ni<sup>II</sup> embedded covalent organic framework

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## **Table of Contents**

1. General information
  - 1.1 Reagents
  - 1.2 Characterization.
2. Structure of sp<sup>2</sup>c-COF<sub>bp</sub>
3. Characterizations of COFs
4. Characterization of etherification production
5. Computational details
6. Theoretically optimized structures
7. References
8. Copies of <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra

## 1. General information

### 1.1 Reagents:

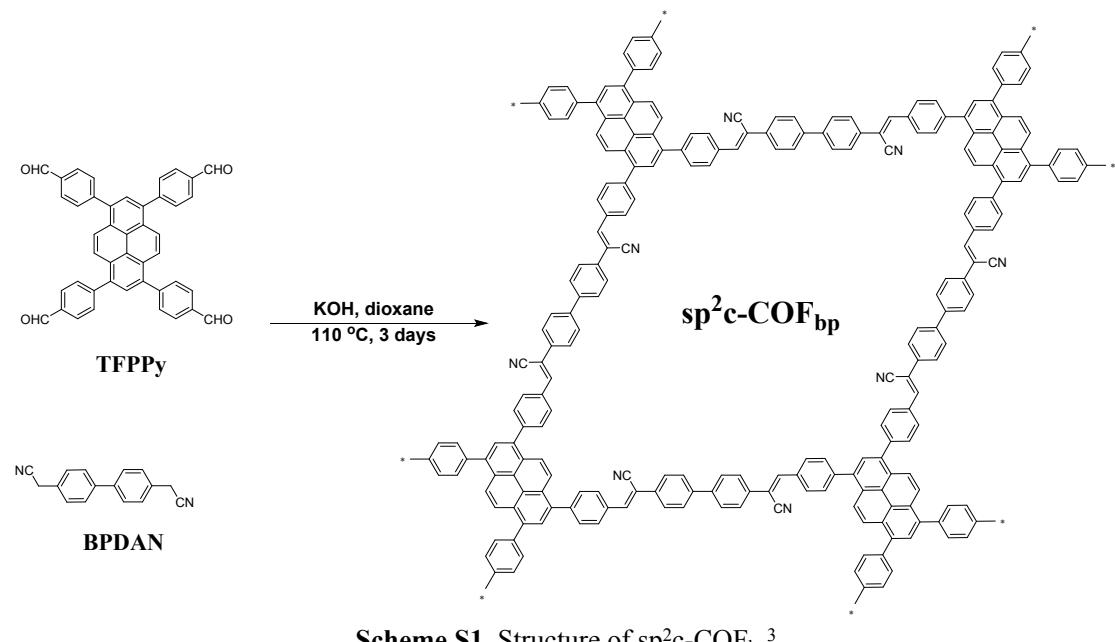
Unless otherwise noted, all the chemicals and reagents were purchased in analytical purity from commercial suppliers and used directly without further purification. 1,3,6,8-tetrakis(4-formylphenyl)pyrene (**TFPPy**),<sup>1</sup> and 2,2'-(2,2'-bipyridine]-5,5'-diyl)diacetonitrile (**BPYDAN**)<sup>2</sup> were prepared according to reported procedure. The reported sp<sup>2</sup>c-COF<sub>bp</sub> was synthesized as reported.<sup>3</sup>

### 1.2 Characterization.

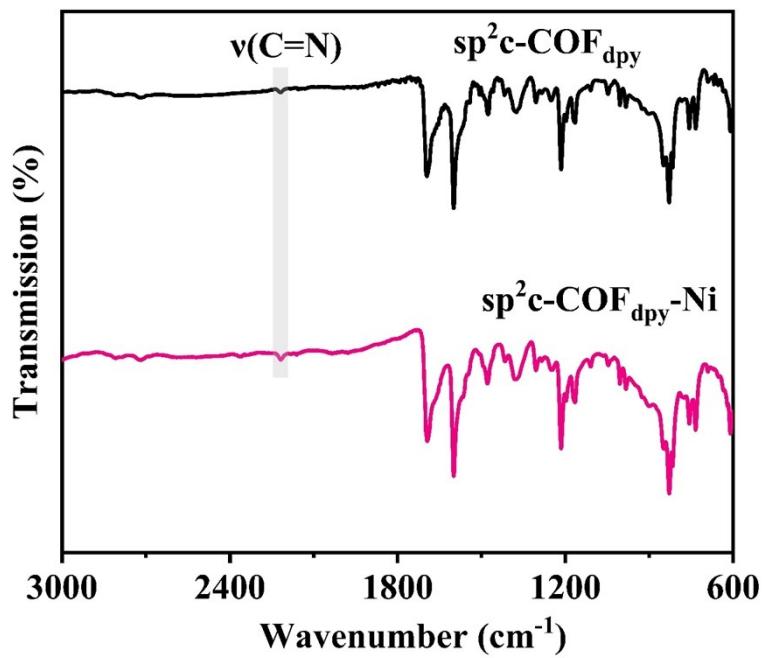
<sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR and <sup>19</sup>F NMR were recorded on Bruker Advance 600 MHz, 150 MHz and 376 MHz spectrometer at 298 K, respectively, and chemical shift ( $\delta$ ) was reported in ppm relative to the residual solvent peaks. Peaks are reported as: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet or unresolved, with coupling constants in Hz. Preparative thin-layer chromatography (PTLC) was performed on pre-coated TLC-sheets. The reaction process was analyzed with decane as internal standard by gas chromatography (GC, Agilent 7890B). The final products were determined via High Resolution Mass Spectrometry (HRMS, Shimadzu, LCMS-8050). The diffractometer (D8 advance, Bruker, Germany) with Cu K $\alpha$  radiation was used to record the powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD). The content of Ni was analyzed by inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectrometry (ICP-OES, 7800, Agilent Technologies, USA), where the sample was first digested by H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>/HNO<sub>3</sub> (0.8 mL/0.2 mL) solvent at 60 °C. The Fourier transform-infrared (FT-IR) were recorded on Nicolet 6700 spectrometer (Thermo Scientific, USA). Solid state <sup>13</sup>C cross polarization magic angle spinning (<sup>13</sup>C-CP/MAS) NMR spectra were measured by Bruker Avance III HD 400 spectrometer. X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) measurements were performed on a Thermo ESCALAB 250 spectrometer with non-monochromatic Al K $\alpha$  x-rays as the excitation source and C 1s (284.8 eV) as the reference line. Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) was obtained on JEM-2100F and JEM-ARM200F. Scanning electron microscope (SEM) was performed on SU8010. N<sub>2</sub> adsorption and desorption isotherms were measured at 77 K using a Micromeritics ASAP 2020 system. UV-Vis diffused reflectance spectra (DRS) were measured on a Shimadzu UV-3100 spectrometer.

The X-ray absorption fine structure spectra were performed at 1W1B station in Beijing Synchrotron Radiation Facility (BSRF). The obtained XAFS data was processed in Athena (version 0.9.25) for background, pre-edge line and post-edge line calibrations. Then Fourier transformed fitting was carried out in Artemis (version 0.9.25). The  $k^3$  weighting, k-range of 3 - 12 Å<sup>-1</sup> and R range of 1 - ~3 Å were used for the fitting. The model of Ni-foil, NiPc and NiO were used to calculate the simulated scattering paths. The four parameters, coordination number, bond length, Debye-Waller factor and  $E_0$  shift (CN, R,  $\sigma^2$ ,  $\Delta E_0$ ) were fitted without anyone was fixed, constrained, or correlated.

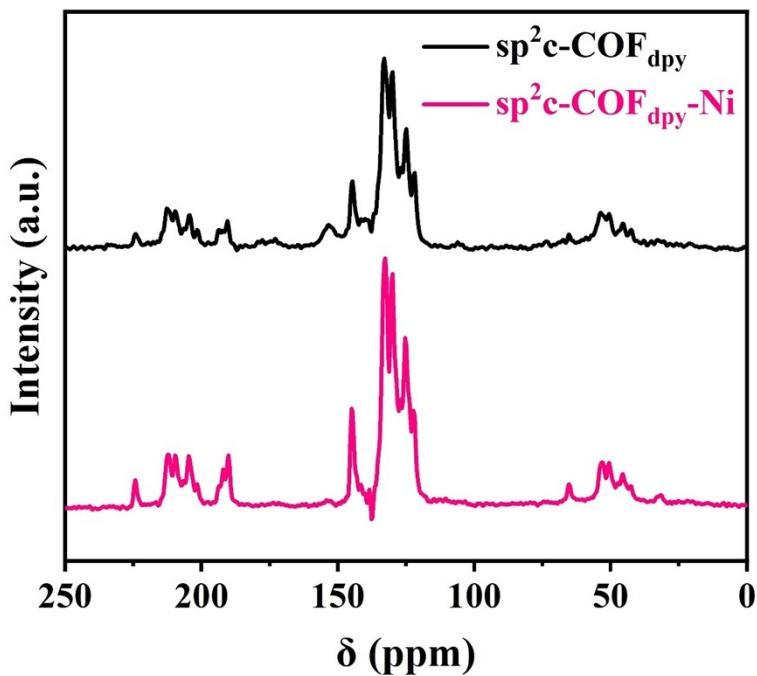
## 2. Structure of sp<sup>2</sup>c-COF<sub>bp</sub>



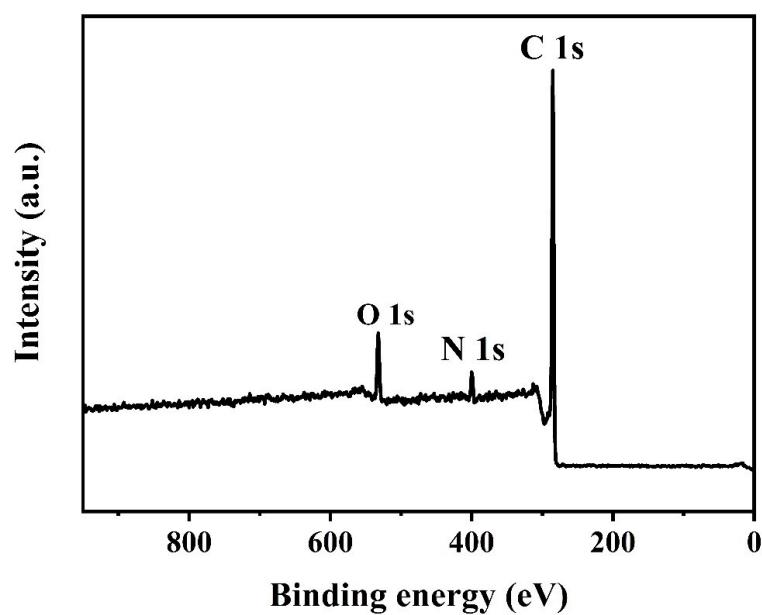
### 3. Characterizations of $\text{sp}^2\text{c-COF}$



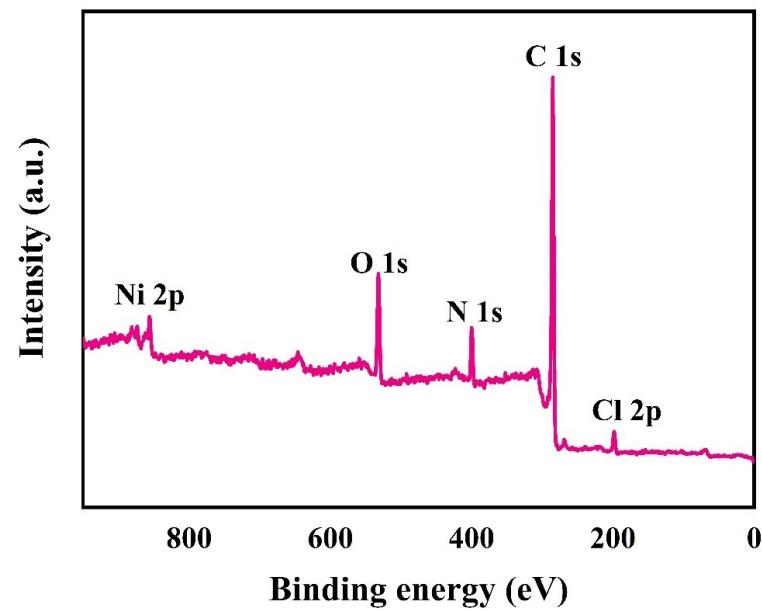
**Figure S1.** FT-IR spectroscopy of  $\text{sp}^2\text{c-COF}_{\text{dpy}}$  and  $\text{sp}^2\text{c-COF}_{\text{dpy}}\text{-Ni}$ .



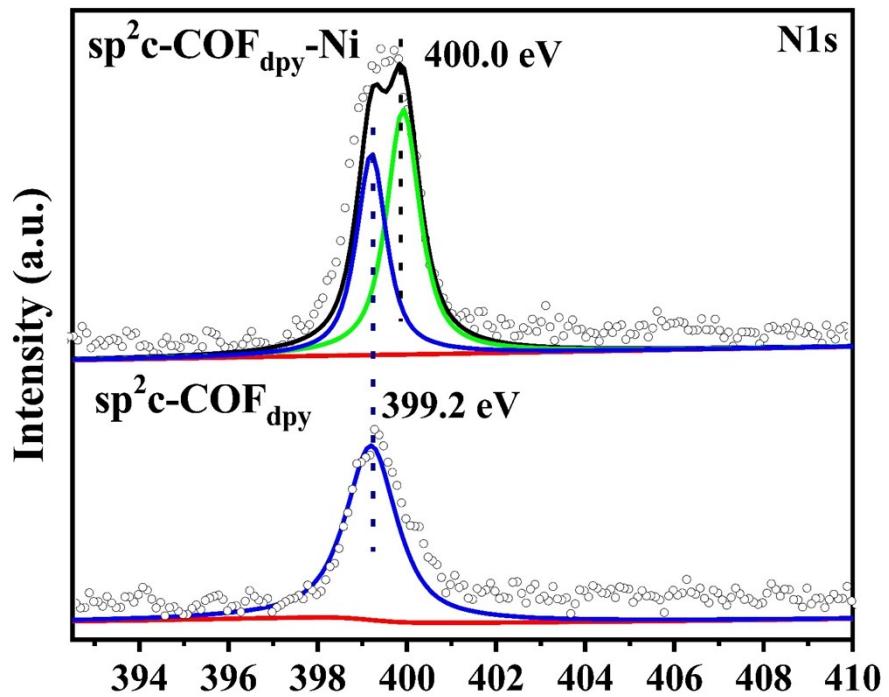
**Figure S2.** Solid-state <sup>13</sup>C CP/MAS NMR spectra of  $\text{sp}^2\text{c-COF}_{\text{dpy}}$  and  $\text{sp}^2\text{c-COF}_{\text{dpy}}\text{-Ni}$ .



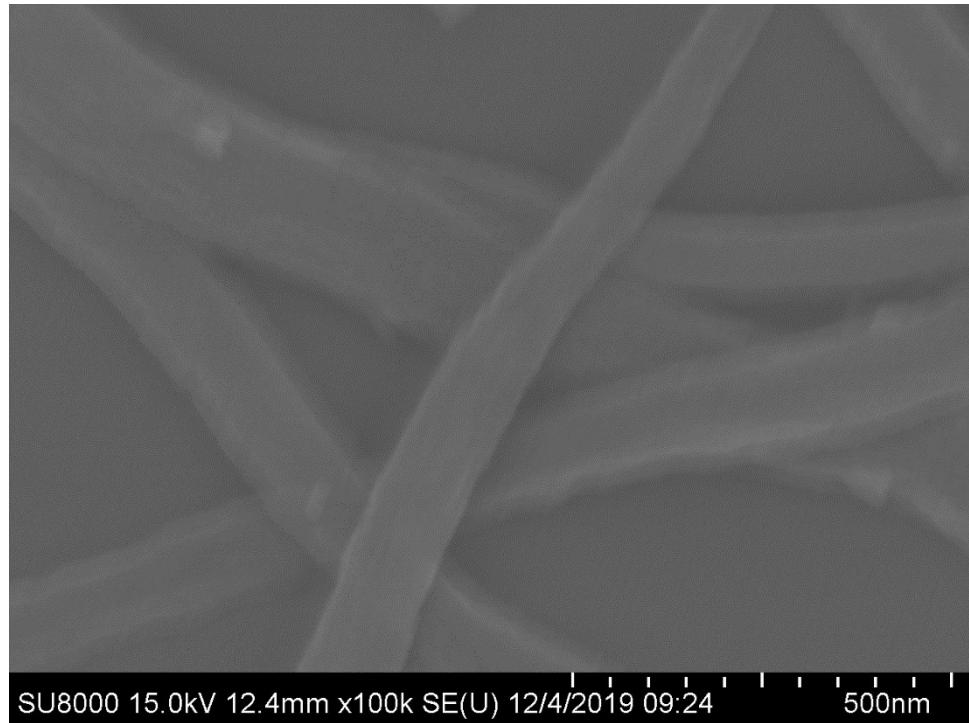
**Figure S3.** XPS survey spectra of  $\text{sp}^2\text{c-COF}_{\text{dpy}}$ .



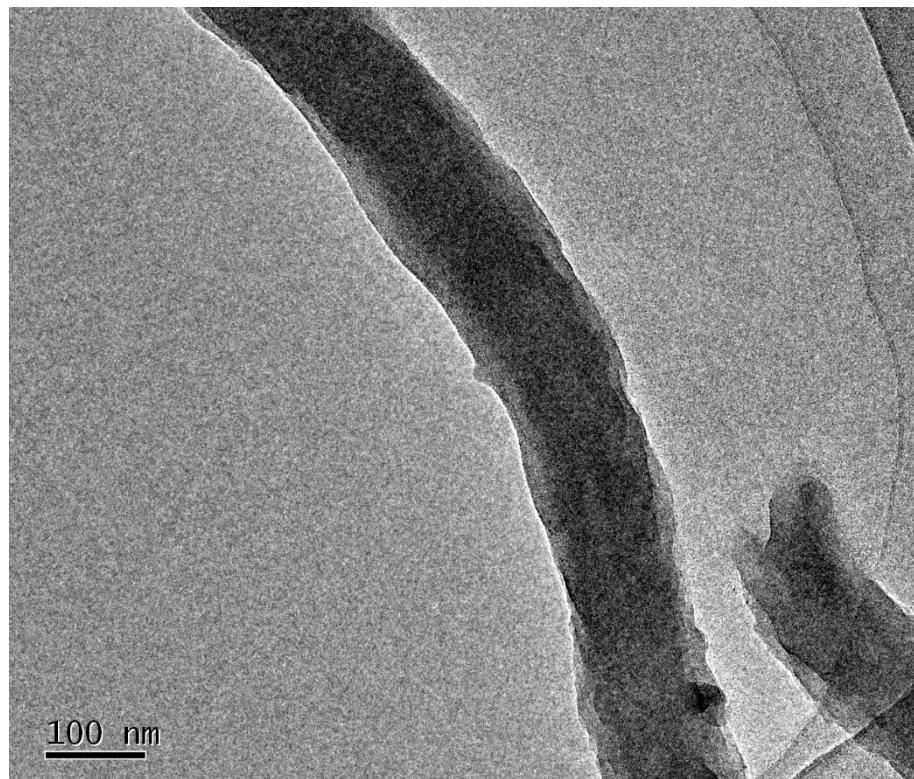
**Figure S4.** XPS survey spectra of  $\text{sp}^2\text{c-COF}_{\text{dpy}}\text{-Ni}$ .



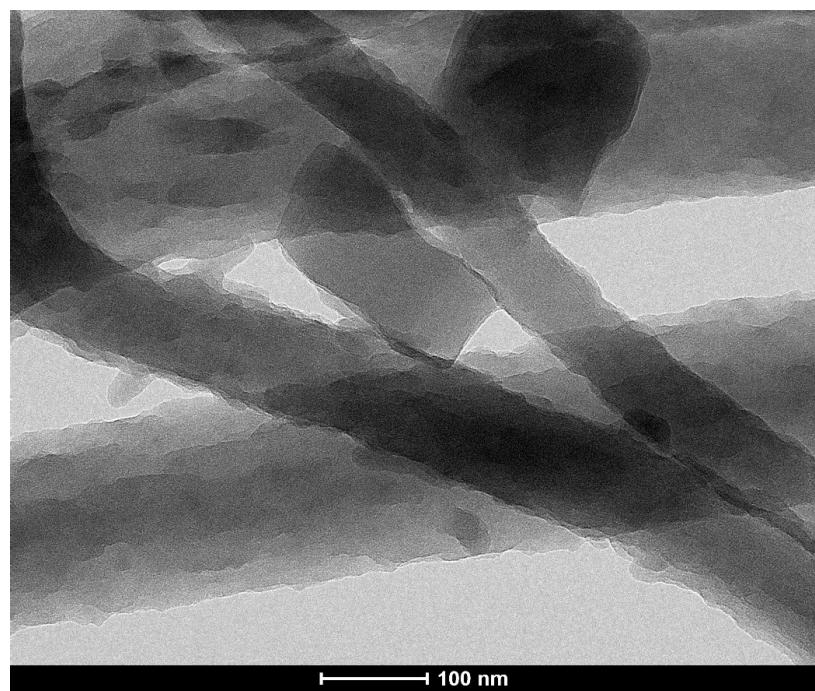
**Figure S5.** High-resolution N 1s XPS spectra of  $\text{sp}^2\text{c-COF}_{\text{dpy}}$  and  $\text{sp}^2\text{c-COF}_{\text{dpy}}\text{-Ni}$ .



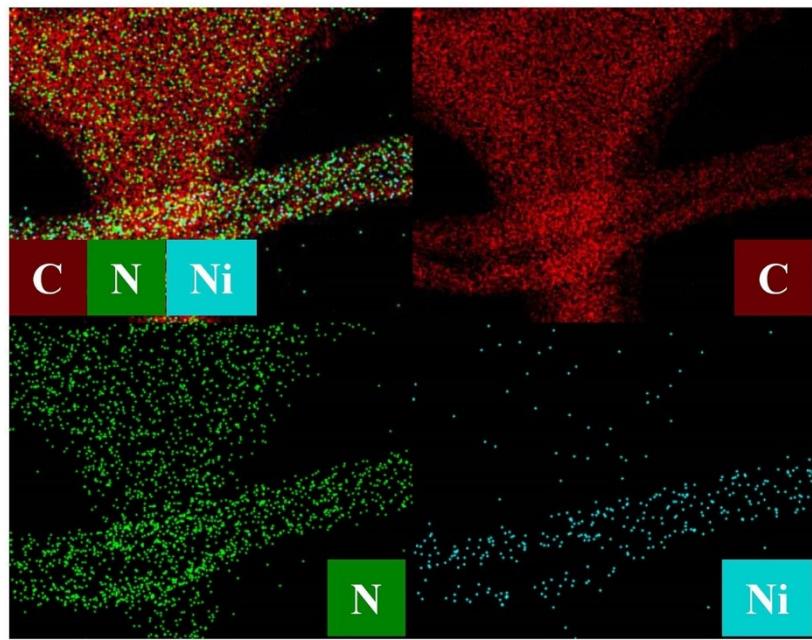
**Figure S6.** SEM image of  $\text{sp}^2\text{c-COF}_{\text{dpy}}$ .



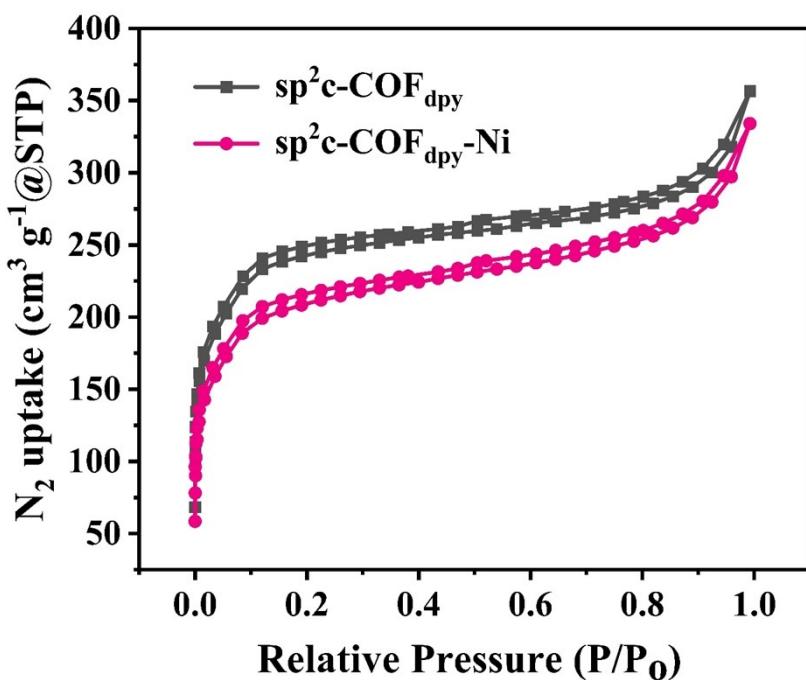
**Figure S7.** TEM image of  $\text{sp}^2\text{c-COF}_{\text{dpy}}\text{-Ni}$ .



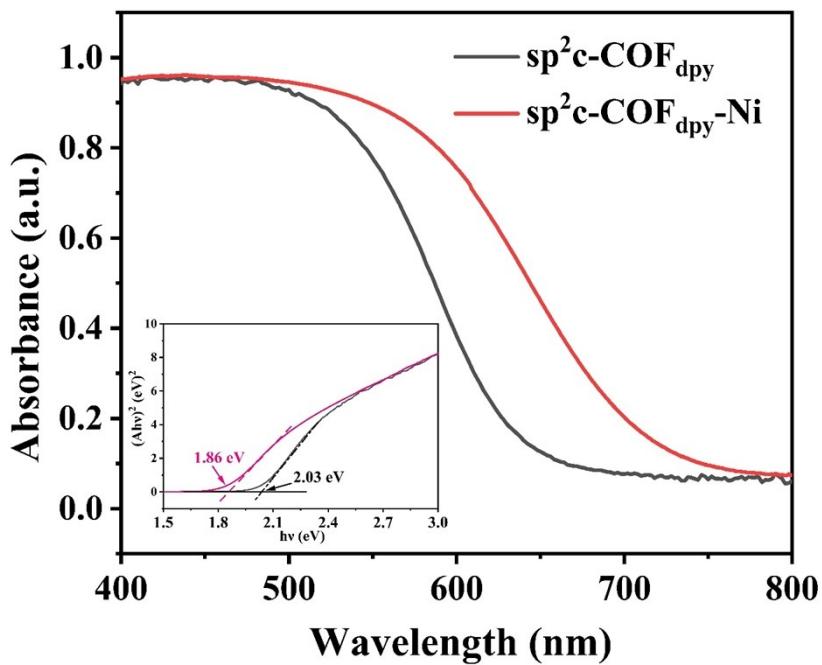
**Figure S8.** TEM image of  $\text{sp}^2\text{c-COF}_{\text{dpy}}\text{-Ni}$ .



**Figure S9.** EDX elemental mapping images of  $\text{sp}^2\text{c-COF}_{\text{dpy}}\text{-Ni}$ .

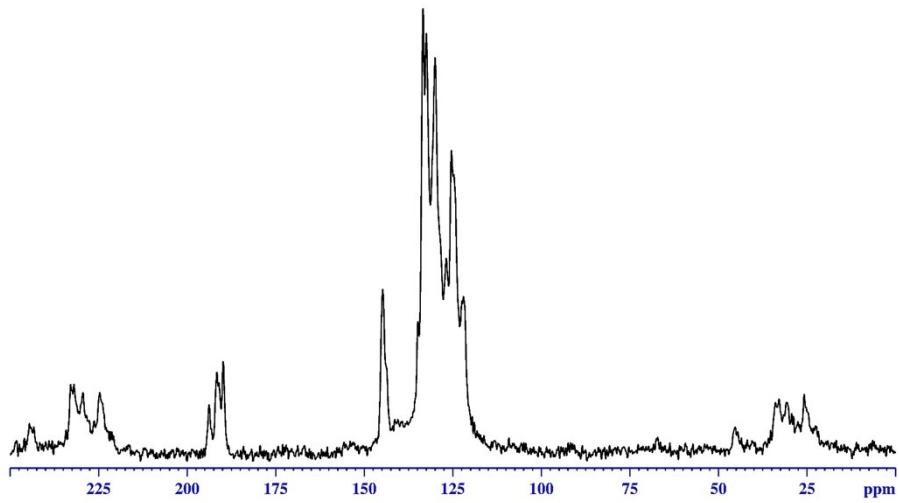


**Figure S10.**  $\text{N}_2$  adsorption–desorption isotherm of  $\text{sp}^2\text{c-COF}_{\text{dpy}}$  and  $\text{sp}^2\text{c-COF}_{\text{dpy}}\text{-Ni}$ .



**Figure S11.** Solid-state UV/Vis DRS spectra of  $\text{sp}^2\text{c-COF}_{\text{dpy}}$  and  $\text{sp}^2\text{c-COF}_{\text{dpy}}\text{-Ni}$ .

Inset shows the corresponding bandgap.



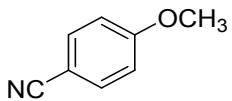
**Figure S12.** Solid-state <sup>13</sup>C CP/MAS NMR spectra of  $\text{sp}^2\text{c-COF}_{\text{dpy}}\text{-Ni}^{\text{II}}\text{ArBr}$ .

**Table1 S1.** EXAFS fitting parameters at the Ni K-edge various samples ( $S_0^2=0.80$ )

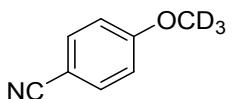
Sample	Path	C.N.	R (Å)	$\sigma^2 \times 10^3$ (Å <sup>2</sup> )	ΔE (eV)	R factor
Ni foil	Ni-Ni	12*	2.48±0.01	5.9±0.2	6.5±0.4	0.001
sp <sup>2</sup> c-COFdpy-Ni	Ni-O	6.8±0.6	2.06±0.01	8.2±1.0	-2.6±0.9	0.002

<sup>a</sup>*N*: coordination numbers; <sup>b</sup>*R*: bond distance; <sup>c</sup> $\sigma^2$ : Debye-Waller factors; <sup>d</sup>  $\Delta E_0$ : the inner potential correction. *R* factor: goodness of fit. \* the experimental EXAFS fit of metal foil by fixing CN as the known crystallographic value.

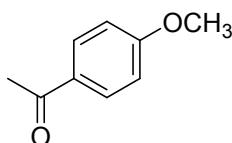
#### 4. Characterization of etherification production



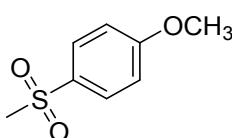
**4-Methoxybenzonitrile (2):** white solid, 67 mg, 99% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.59 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.95 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 162.8, 134.0, 119.2, 114.7, 103.9, 55.5. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{NO} [(\text{M}+\text{H})^+]$  134.0600, found 134.0590. Melting points: 61.1 °C.



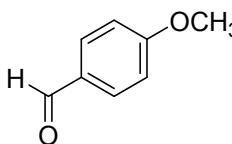
**Deuterated 4-methoxybenzonitrile (2a):** white solid, 67 mg, 99% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.57 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 2H), 6.93 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 162.8, 134.0, 119.2, 114.7, 103.8, 54.7 (m). HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_5\text{D}_3\text{NO} [(\text{M}+\text{H})^+]$  137.0789, found 137.0795. Melting points: 61.5 °C.



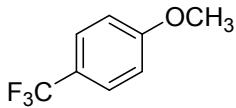
**4-Acetanisole (3):** colorless oil, 74 mg, 98% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.93 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.92 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 2.55 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 196.8, 163.3, 130.5, 130.3, 113.6, 55.4, 26.3. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_2 [(\text{M}+\text{H})^+]$  151.0754, found 151.0758.



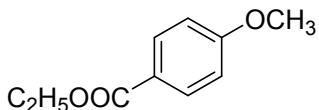
**4-Methylsulfonylanisole (4):** white solid, 92 mg, 98% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.87 (d,  $J = 8.9$  Hz, 2H), 7.02 (d,  $J = 8.9$  Hz, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.03 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 163.6, 132.1, 129.5, 114.5, 55.7, 44.8. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_3\text{S} [(\text{M}+\text{H})^+]$  187.0423, found 187.0402. Melting points: 119-120 °C.



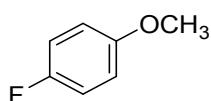
**4-Methoxybenzaldehyde (5):** colorless oil, 66 mg, 97% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 9.88 (s, 1H), 7.84 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.00 (d,  $J = 8.9$  Hz, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 190.9, 164.5, 132.0, 129.8, 114.3, 55.6. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_9\text{O}_2$  [(M+H) $^+$ ] 137.0597, found 137.0537.



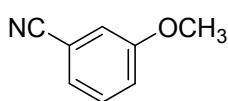
**4-(Trifluoromethyl)anisole (6):** colorless oil, 86 mg, 98% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.55 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 2H), 6.96 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 162.0, 126.9 (q,  $J = 8.7$  Hz), 124.5 (q,  $J = 270.9$  Hz), 122.8 (q,  $J = 32.7$  Hz), 113.9, 55.4;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 Hz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) -61.49. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{F}_3\text{O}$  [(M+H) $^+$ ] 177.0522, found 177.0529. Data was consistent with that reported in the literature.<sup>4</sup>



**Ethyl p-anisate (7):** colorless oil, 88 mg, 98% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.99 (d,  $J = 8.9$  Hz, 2H), 6.90 (d,  $J = 8.9$  Hz, 2H), 4.33 (q,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 1.37 (q,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 166.3, 163.2, 131.5, 122.9, 113.5, 60.6, 55.3, 14.3. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_3$  [(M+H) $^+$ ] 181.0859, found 181.0865.

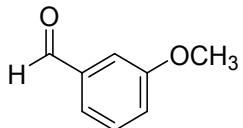


**4-Fluoroanisole (8):** colorless oil, 62 mg, 99% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.01–6.95 (m, 2H), 6.86–6.81 (m, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 157.2 (d,  $J = 237.8$  Hz), 155.7 (d,  $J = 1.9$  Hz), 115.7 (d,  $J = 23.1$  Hz), 114.7 (d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz), 55.7.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 Hz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) -124.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_8\text{FO}$  [(M+H) $^+$ ] 127.0554, found 127.0560.

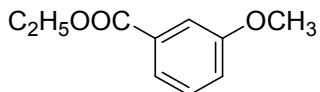


**3-Methoxybenzonitrile (9):** white solid, 64 mg, 96% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.39–7.33 (m, 1H), 7.24–7.21 (m, 1H), 7.15–7.10 (m, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H);

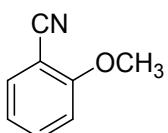
<sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 159.6, 130.3, 124.4, 119.2, 118.7, 116.8, 113.1, 55.5. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>8</sub>NO [(M+H)<sup>+</sup>] 134.0600, found 134.0608. Melting points: 163.5 °C.



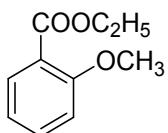
**3-Methoxybenzaldehyde (10):** white solid, 67 mg, 98% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 9.98 (s, 1H), 7.47-7.43 (m, 2H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (dt, *J* = 7.1, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 192.1, 160.1, 137.8, 130.0, 123.5, 121.5, 112.0, 55.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>9</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [(M+H)<sup>+</sup>] 137.0597, found 137.0604. Melting points: 186.3 °C.



**Ethyl m-anisate (11):** colorless oil, 87 mg, 97% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 7.63 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (dd, *J* = 6.2, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 4.37 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 1.39 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 166.4, 159.5, 131.8, 129.3, 121.9, 119.2, 113.9, 61.0, 55.4, 14.3. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>13</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [(M+H)<sup>+</sup>] 181.0859, found 181.0864.

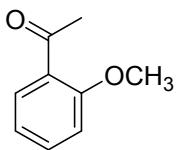


**2-Methoxybenzonitrile (12):** colorless oil, 62 mg, 93% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 7.57-7.49 (m, 2H), 7.03-6.95 (m, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 161.2, 134.3, 133.7, 120.7, 116.4, 111.2, 101.7, 55.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>8</sub>NO [(M+H)<sup>+</sup>] 134.0600, found 134.0609.

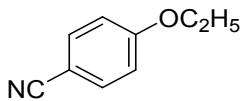


**Ethyl o-anisate (13):** colorless oil, 54 mg, 99% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 7.78 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (dt, *J* = 7.8, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.00-6.95 (m, 2H), 4.35 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 1.37 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz,

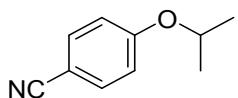
$\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 166.2, 159.1, 133.3, 131.4, 120.4, 120.1, 112.0, 60.7, 55.9, 14.3. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_3$   $[(\text{M}+\text{H})^+]$  181.0859, found 181.0866.



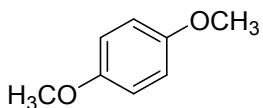
**2-Acetanisole (14):** colorless oil, 65 mg, 87% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.72 (dd,  $J = 7.7, 1.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.47-7.43 (m, 1H), 7.00-6.95 (m, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 2.60 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 199.8, 158.9, 133.6, 130.3, 128.2, 120.5, 111.5, 55.4, 31.8. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_2$   $[(\text{M}+\text{H})^+]$  151.0754, found 151.0761.



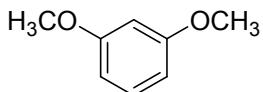
**4-Ethoxybenzonitrile (15):** white solid, 71 mg, 97% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.55 (d,  $J = 8.9$  Hz, 2H), 6.91 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 4.06 (q,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 2H), 1.42 (t,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 162.2, 133.9, 119.2, 115.1, 103.6, 63.8, 14.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{10}\text{NO}$   $[(\text{M}+\text{H})^+]$  148.0757, found 148.0765. Melting points: 60.8 °C.



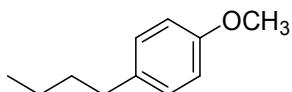
**4-isopropoxybenzonitrile (16):** white solid, 78 mg, 97% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.56 (d,  $J = 8.9$  Hz, 2H), 6.90 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 4.60 (hept,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 1H), 1.35 (d,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 161.3, 134.0, 119.3, 116.0, 103.3, 70.4, 21.8. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{12}\text{NO}$   $[(\text{M}+\text{H})^+]$  162.0913, found 162.0919. Melting points: 51.9 °C.



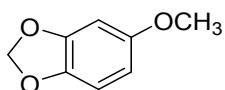
**1,4-Dimethoxybenzene (17):** colorless oil, 68 mg, 98% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 6.85 (s, 4H), 3.77 (s, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 133.7, 114.6, 55.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_2$   $[(\text{M}+\text{H})^+]$  139.0754, found 139.0761.



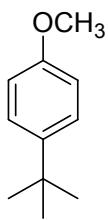
**1,3-Dimethoxybenzene (18):** colorless oil, 68 mg, 98% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.19 (t,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.52 (dd,  $J = 8.2, 2.4$  Hz, 2H), 6.47 (t,  $J = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 160.8, 129.9, 106.1, 100.4, 55.2. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_2$  [(M+H) $^+$ ] 139.0754, found 139.0760.



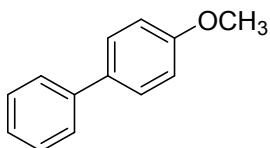
**4-Butylanisol (19):** colorless oil, 70 mg, 85% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.11 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 2H), 6.84 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.57 (t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H), 1.65-1.54 (m, 2H), 1.41-1.32 (m, 2H), 0.94 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 157.6, 134.0, 129.2, 113.6, 55.2, 34.7, 33.9, 22.3, 13.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}$  [(M+H) $^+$ ] 165.1274, found 165.1283.



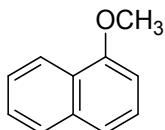
**5-Methoxy-1,3-benzodioxole (20):** colorless oil, 75 mg, 99% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 6.71 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.49 (d,  $J = 2.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.31 (dd,  $J = 8.5, 2.5$  Hz, 1H), 5.91 (s, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 155.2, 148.3, 141.6, 107.9, 104.7, 101.1, 97.5, 56.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_9\text{O}_3$  [(M+H) $^+$ ] 153.0546, found 153.0550.



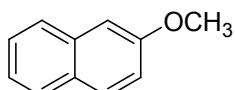
**p-tert-Butylanisole (21):** colorless oil, 80 mg, 98% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.33 (d,  $J = 8.9$  Hz, 2H), 6.87 (d,  $J = 8.9$  Hz, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 1.32 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 157.3, 143.3, 126.2, 113.3, 55.2, 34.0, 31.5. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}$  [(M+H) $^+$ ] 165.1274, found 165.1282.



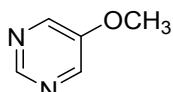
**4-Methoxybiphenyl (22):** white solid, 89 mg, 97% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.63-7.54 (m, 4H), 7.46 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.37-7.32 (m, 1H), 7.02 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 159.1, 140.8, 133.7, 128.7, 128.1, 126.7, 126.6, 114.1, 55.2. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{13}\text{O}$  [(M+H) $^+$ ] 185.0961, found 185.0958. Melting points: 88.7 °C.



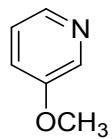
**1-Methoxynaphthalene (23):** colorless oil, 51 mg, 64% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.27 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.37 (m, 4H), 6.83 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.02 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 155.4, 134.4, 127.4, 126.4, 125.9, 125.6, 125.1, 121.9, 120.2, 103.7, 55.5. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{11}\text{O}$  [(M+H) $^+$ ] 159.0804, found 159.0814.



**2-Methoxynaphthalene (24):** white solid, 77 mg, 98% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.80 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.77 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.51-7.45 (m, 1H), 7.41-7.35 (m, 1H), 7.19 (dd,  $J = 8.8, 2.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d,  $J = 2.5$  Hz, 1H), 3.95 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 157.6, 134.5, 129.3, 128.9, 127.6, 126.7, 126.3, 123.5, 118.7, 105.7, 55.2. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{11}\text{O}$  [(M+H) $^+$ ] 159.0804, found 159.0812. Melting points: 72.5 °C.



**5-Methoxypyrimidine (25):** white solid, 53 mg, 96% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.85 (s, 1H), 8.41 (s, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 153.5, 151.5, 143.1, 55.8. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $\text{C}_5\text{H}_7\text{N}_2\text{O}$  [(M+H) $^+$ ] 111.0553, found 111.0559. Melting points: 46.7 °C.



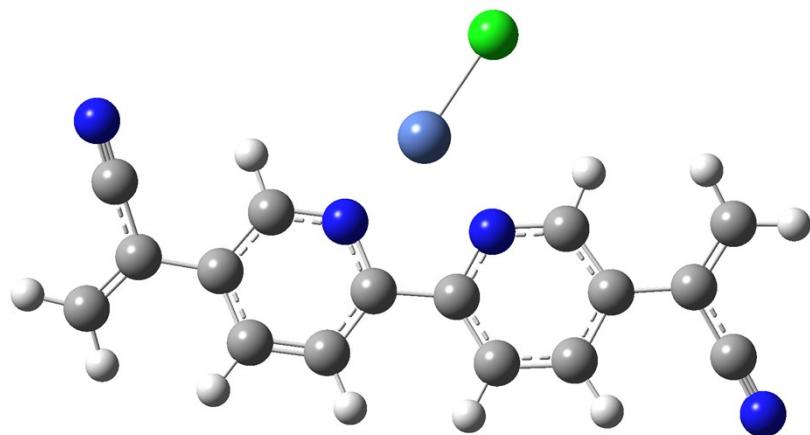
**3-Methoxypyridine (26):** colorless oil, 30 mg, 55% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.30 (s, 1H), 8.20 (d,  $J$  = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.14 (m, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (150 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 155.6, 142.0, 137.5, 123.7, 120.3, 55.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_8\text{NO} [(\text{M}+\text{H})^+]$  110.0600, found 110.0608.

## 5. Computational Details

Density functional theory (DFT) calculations were performed for the theoretical investigation of  $\text{sp}^2\text{c-COF}_{\text{dpy}}\text{-Ni}$  catalyzed methoxylation reaction. The DFT method employed in this work is M062x with well documented performance on transition metal and reaction barrier height.<sup>5</sup> The polymer was truncated to one unit, as shown in Figure 3. Geometries were determined with 6-31G(d) basis set while energies were determined by single point calculations with 6-311+G(d,p) basis set upon optimized structures. All calculations were performed using the Gaussian09 package.<sup>6</sup> Local minima and transition state structures were obtained by geometry optimization. Especially, the transition states were located employing the TS keyword in Gaussian09, which means optimization to a transition state using the Berny algorithm. Frequency analysis was used to verify the nature of stationary points. Reactant, product and intermediates have zero negative frequency while transition states have only one negative frequency.

## 6. Theoretically optimized structures

Figure. S13 sp<sup>2</sup>c-COF<sub>dpy</sub>-Ni -Cl model

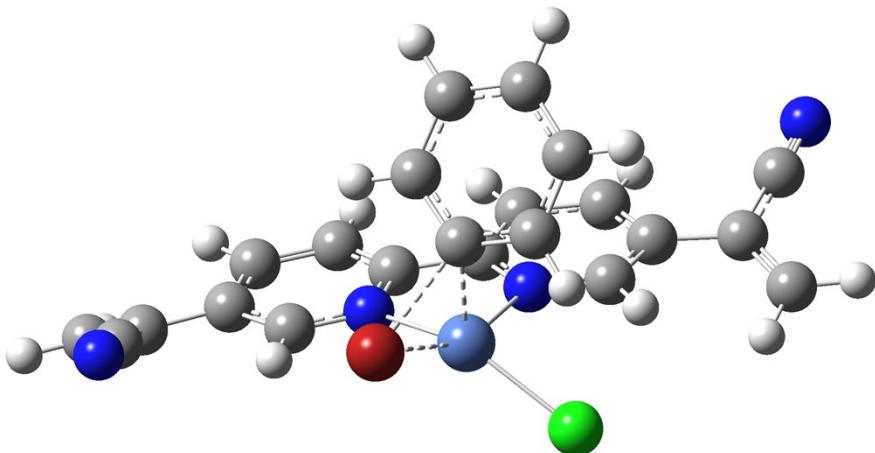


Corresponding Coordinates:

C	5.72232800	-1.50118000	-0.12438800
C	4.86732800	-0.36370800	0.12347300
C	5.42832000	0.82672000	0.37544400
C	2.48609800	0.41764900	-0.00734500
C	0.67980300	-1.03389200	0.06504900
C	1.52507600	-2.13771800	0.14959400
C	3.41011100	-0.62920000	0.09503700
C	2.89906200	-1.92726800	0.16207700
C	-5.04212300	-0.98606900	-0.09445900
C	-5.84132800	-1.97797800	-0.50768600
C	-1.50888000	-2.30995200	0.09904700
C	-2.89413100	-2.29011800	0.06879800
C	-0.80562500	-1.10651800	0.04176800
C	-3.56488700	-1.06998400	-0.02765700
C	-2.78296700	0.08846800	-0.06148400
N	1.17769900	0.20728100	-0.01351200
N	6.37181300	-2.43891800	-0.31667700
N	-1.45145200	0.07352800	-0.03334300
H	2.77671800	1.46221600	-0.10098100
H	1.13660000	-3.14754000	0.20547700
H	3.57691400	-2.77385800	0.22404400
H	4.83116600	1.70398000	0.59936200
H	-3.44963800	-3.21991900	0.14142900
H	-3.24849200	1.06923000	-0.11646600
H	-5.43617800	-2.92346400	-0.85204200
H	-0.98515000	-3.25486100	0.17891800
Ni	-0.21689800	1.75375700	-0.10443100

Cl	0.79755200	3.72785300	-0.17032500
H	-6.91785900	-1.85610200	-0.52635500
H	6.50579300	0.94287200	0.37065000
C	-5.63561700	0.27023800	0.29953200
N	-6.08813400	1.28694100	0.61421200

**Figure S14 Transition state TS1, R=H**

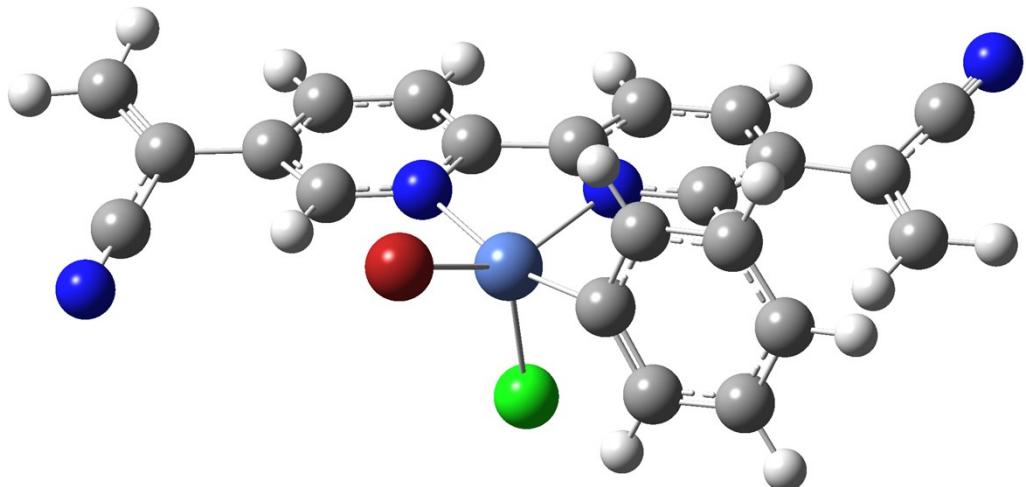


Corresponding Coordinates:

C	6.00934400	1.75416100	0.19652500
C	5.06053700	0.93365200	-0.51860700
C	5.50756600	-0.03062100	-1.33477600
C	2.63714600	0.32290800	-0.60862000
C	0.94012600	1.79353100	-0.04192500
C	1.86332800	2.77411200	0.31403000
C	3.63139100	1.25985600	-0.30895200
C	3.21910200	2.49892400	0.18218700
C	-4.76642500	2.22348100	-0.05565100
C	-5.47732100	3.34552200	-0.22668000
C	-1.13691400	3.18170600	0.37986100
C	-2.51985100	3.27368700	0.37751500
C	-0.53396700	1.97894600	0.01128800
C	-3.28715600	2.17120200	-0.00164100
C	-2.60304700	0.99748500	-0.33404300
N	1.34608700	0.59420900	-0.48043400
N	6.73305400	2.44439200	0.77798100
N	-1.27481600	0.91058400	-0.33065100
H	2.85608800	-0.67807000	-0.97172900
H	1.54483100	3.74055100	0.68534800
H	3.95722700	3.24883200	0.45345500
H	4.82693400	-0.63926500	-1.92197500

H	-3.00043700	4.19648900	0.68801000
H	-3.13628900	0.08872700	-0.60541000
H	-4.99195300	4.30590100	-0.36444400
H	-0.54034700	4.03718700	0.67164400
Ni	-0.13723300	-0.87712400	-0.84956500
Cl	1.16062400	-1.98443600	-2.42123700
H	-6.56035000	3.32151900	-0.25093100
H	6.56981500	-0.21845700	-1.44036800
C	-5.46424100	0.96519700	0.06729500
N	-6.00737400	-0.05101300	0.16514100
C	1.72029800	-2.80615800	2.19612700
C	1.40187200	-2.02535800	3.30620700
C	0.30670800	-1.16379900	3.26243300
C	-0.46828900	-1.06896500	2.10818100
C	-0.09852200	-1.82336800	0.99898200
C	0.95730400	-2.72961000	1.03093100
H	2.56399000	-3.48885000	2.23364800
H	1.99568900	-2.10051100	4.21148900
H	0.04310300	-0.57091100	4.13337900
H	-1.34048300	-0.42362400	2.07449800
H	1.19166800	-3.32584900	0.15474000
Br	-1.96686100	-2.49842700	-0.33516500

**Figure S15 Intermediate state Int1, R=H**

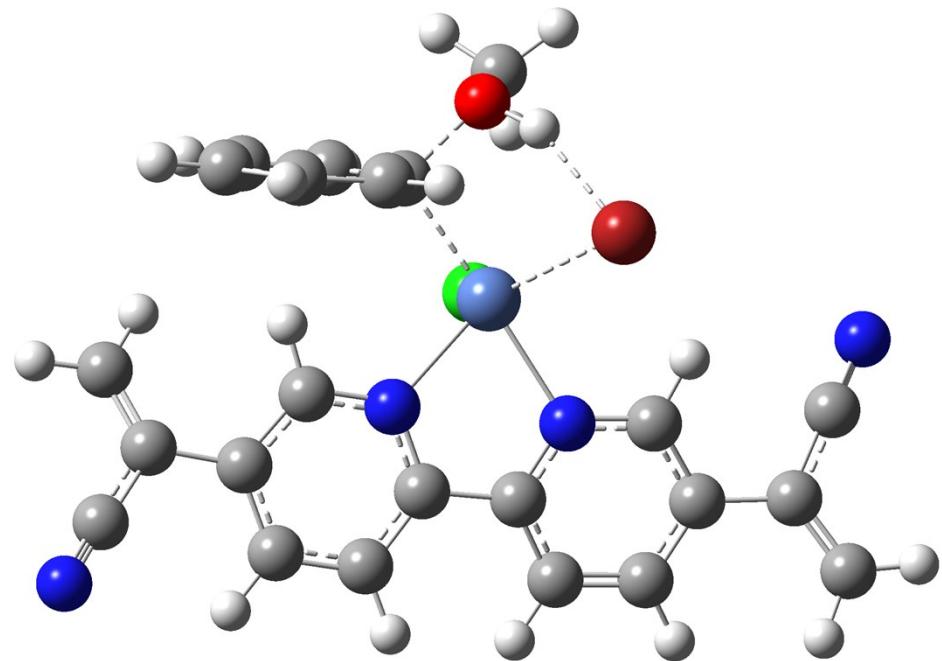


Corresponding Coordinates:

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C	-2.33001000	0.75832300	-0.13847600

C	-0.37988500	2.00690700	-0.16096200
C	-1.10901500	3.19318600	-0.13604600
C	-3.13672800	1.89750000	-0.08175400
C	-2.49610000	3.13608800	-0.10094500
C	5.31086300	1.42162800	-0.16557800
C	6.20205400	2.29390800	-0.65368100
C	1.91597900	3.08521800	-0.20632600
C	3.29303100	2.92534800	-0.19030400
C	1.10469500	1.95283200	-0.16148700
C	3.84686100	1.64507700	-0.14598000
C	2.96104800	0.56394100	-0.09042500
N	-1.00573300	0.81756400	-0.17866300
N	-5.93320300	3.92109400	-0.63211400
N	1.64231200	0.72536200	-0.10380300
H	-2.76036400	-0.23814000	-0.16372500
H	-0.61061200	4.15469600	-0.12853000
H	-3.08030100	4.05167300	-0.07797800
H	-4.73545500	-0.22714000	0.69480800
H	3.93494100	3.80052200	-0.19225900
H	3.31324800	-0.46502300	-0.04018800
H	5.88959500	3.23392500	-1.09592400
H	1.48899900	4.07982800	-0.24164200
Ni	0.25600500	-0.83919800	0.18661500
Cl	0.12831800	-0.42259600	2.46515500
H	7.26318300	2.07546600	-0.63536100
H	-6.34733100	0.65188200	0.41861500
C	5.78840400	0.16310400	0.35743000
N	6.16755200	-0.84776000	0.77147000
C	-3.28462900	-3.02698600	0.99622400
C	-3.88626800	-3.08864100	-0.26082500
C	-3.15742400	-2.77268900	-1.40664900
C	-1.82021400	-2.37926500	-1.29993300
C	-1.27945000	-2.27350400	-0.02766700
C	-1.95043200	-2.62699700	1.13017300
H	-3.84931400	-3.29131200	1.88563800
H	-4.92046300	-3.40747700	-0.34952300
H	-3.61646300	-2.84953200	-2.38780400
H	-1.23253600	-2.15299900	-2.18383600
H	-1.47679500	-2.54044600	2.10194400
Br	1.51917400	-2.68984400	-0.78552300

**Figure S16 Transition state TS2, R=H**



Corresponding Coordinates:

C	-5.47287300	2.99958800	-0.51702000
C	-4.71826800	1.88613500	0.00827000
C	-5.36869600	0.83496100	0.52343800
C	-2.41606200	0.89307900	-0.04659200
C	-0.49489000	2.18058100	-0.02430700
C	-1.24645700	3.35352900	-0.05210900
C	-3.24436500	2.02112800	-0.03155500
C	-2.63033800	3.27197300	-0.06181000
C	5.20574400	1.82449400	0.06570100
C	6.08078700	2.80826400	-0.17959700
C	1.74642300	3.33545900	0.22535800
C	3.12762800	3.23098100	0.25836400
C	0.98931500	2.18319800	0.00958600
C	3.73413300	1.98877700	0.06458500
C	2.89547100	0.88633200	-0.12591300
N	-1.08945200	0.97381400	-0.04473900
N	-6.04346100	3.91686900	-0.93094500
N	1.57162800	0.99151600	-0.15485900
H	-2.83340100	-0.10836800	-0.08331000
H	-0.76270300	4.32197300	-0.07918700
H	-3.23402300	4.17477800	-0.09017700
H	-4.82566400	0.00507500	0.96299900
H	3.72898200	4.11086100	0.46479200
H	3.29568900	-0.11567500	-0.26426800

H	5.74905000	3.81143300	-0.42487700
H	1.27364600	4.29426700	0.39921700
Ni	0.23238400	-0.72198000	0.06355000
Cl	0.62013000	-0.60867300	2.36537400
H	7.14827200	2.62407100	-0.15573300
H	-6.45195100	0.79329400	0.52034500
C	5.71551500	0.49921800	0.33231100
N	6.12019000	-0.56377200	0.54070200
C	-3.44155800	-2.32591400	1.14132500
C	-4.03883800	-2.34561700	-0.12751300
C	-3.22209800	-2.37935700	-1.26274100
C	-1.84111300	-2.43815700	-1.14755300
C	-1.23014500	-2.38852300	0.13949000
C	-2.06538200	-2.35786300	1.29239300
H	-4.06347100	-2.28386200	2.03240300
H	-5.11923700	-2.34603900	-0.22876900
H	-3.66779300	-2.38546900	-2.25336900
H	-1.21332000	-2.51562800	-2.03099800
H	-1.61441800	-2.30020000	2.27789100
Br	1.70290600	-2.00969000	-1.64814700
C	0.42069700	-3.96228500	1.51402500
H	0.81652100	-3.07300700	2.00936400
H	-0.38989900	-4.40937800	2.08717700
H	1.19829500	-4.70045400	1.31762500
O	-0.13791900	-3.61113000	0.22264200
H	0.59794500	-3.33545200	-0.40781400

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## 8. Copies of $^1\text{H}$ NMR, $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR, $^{19}\text{F}$ NMR spectra

