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## Supplementary Information

### **Nickel(II)-Flavonolate Complexes of Tetradentate 4N Donor Ligands as Enzyme-Substrate Models of Quercetin-2,4-Dioxygenase: Role of Ligand Steric and Electronic Properties on Dioxygenolysis**

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## 2. Supplementary Tables



Figure S2

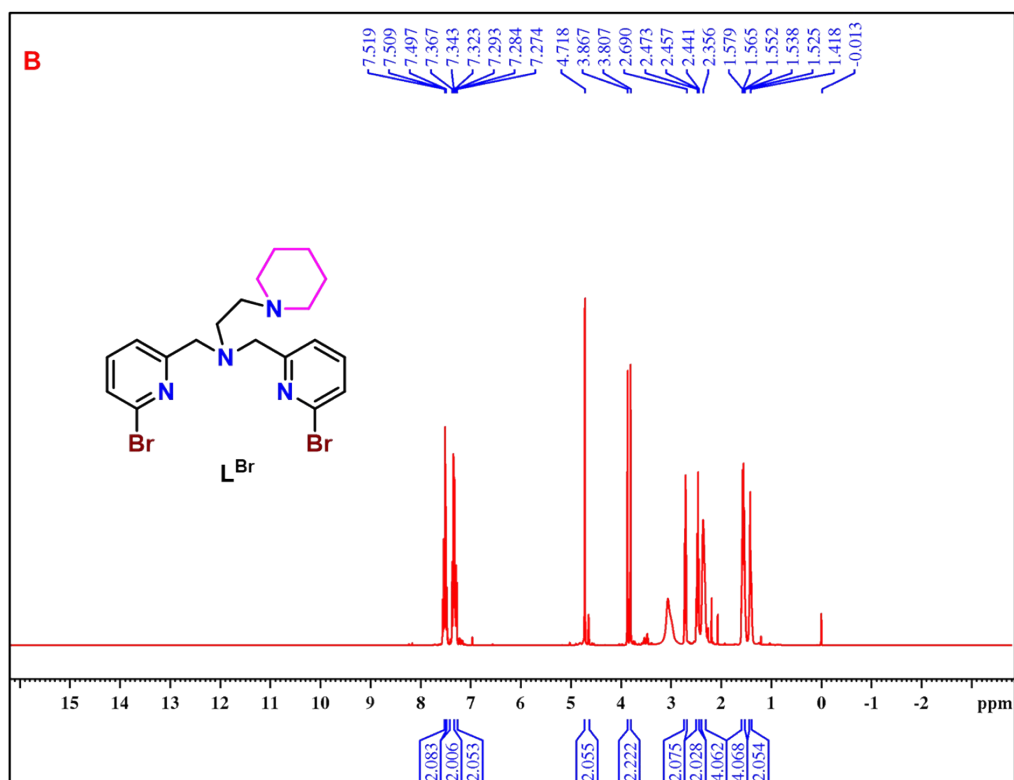
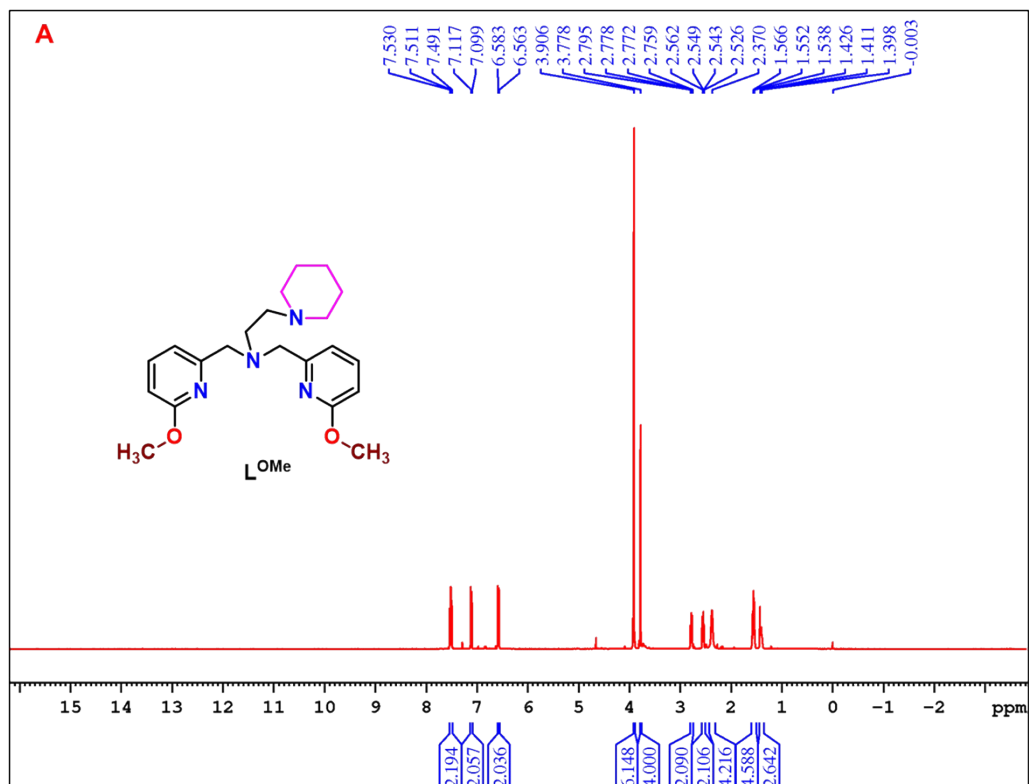


Fig. S2  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of ligands (A)  $\text{L}^{\text{OMe}}$  and (B)  $\text{L}^{\text{Br}}$  in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at 298 K.

Figure S3

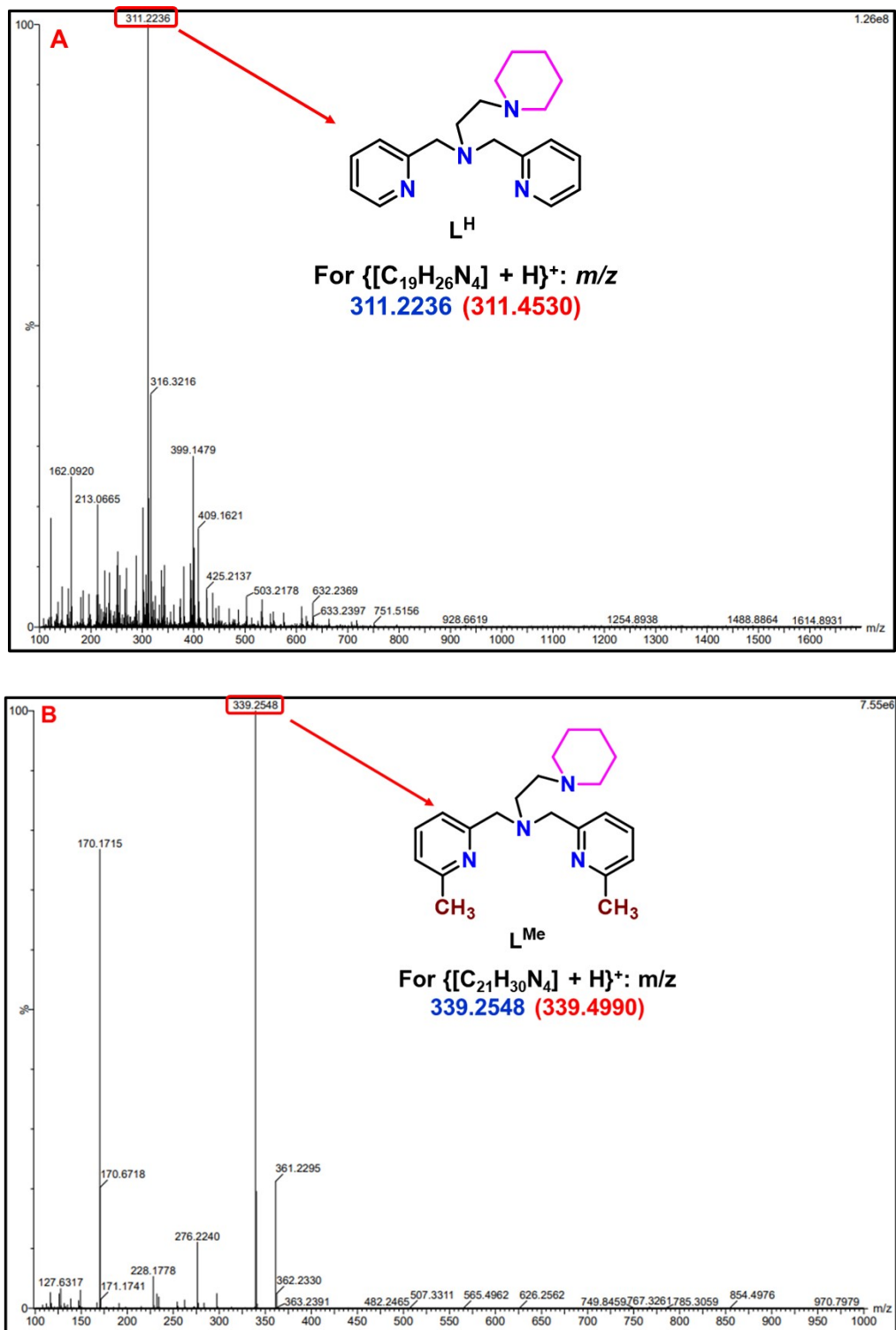


Fig. S3 ESI-MS spectral profiles of complexes (A)  $\text{L}^{\text{H}}$  and (B)  $\text{L}^{\text{Me}}$  recorded in  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ .

Figure S4

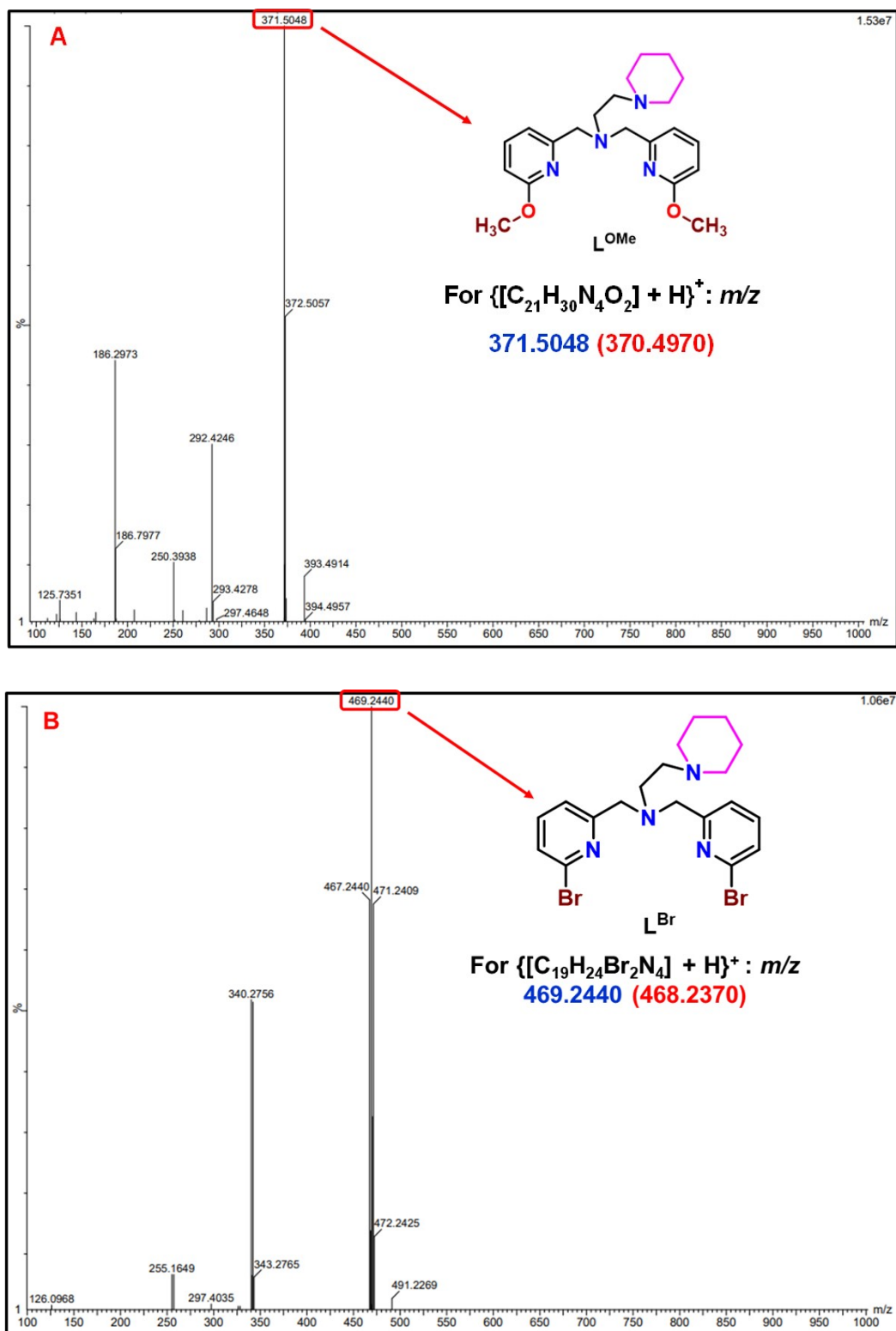


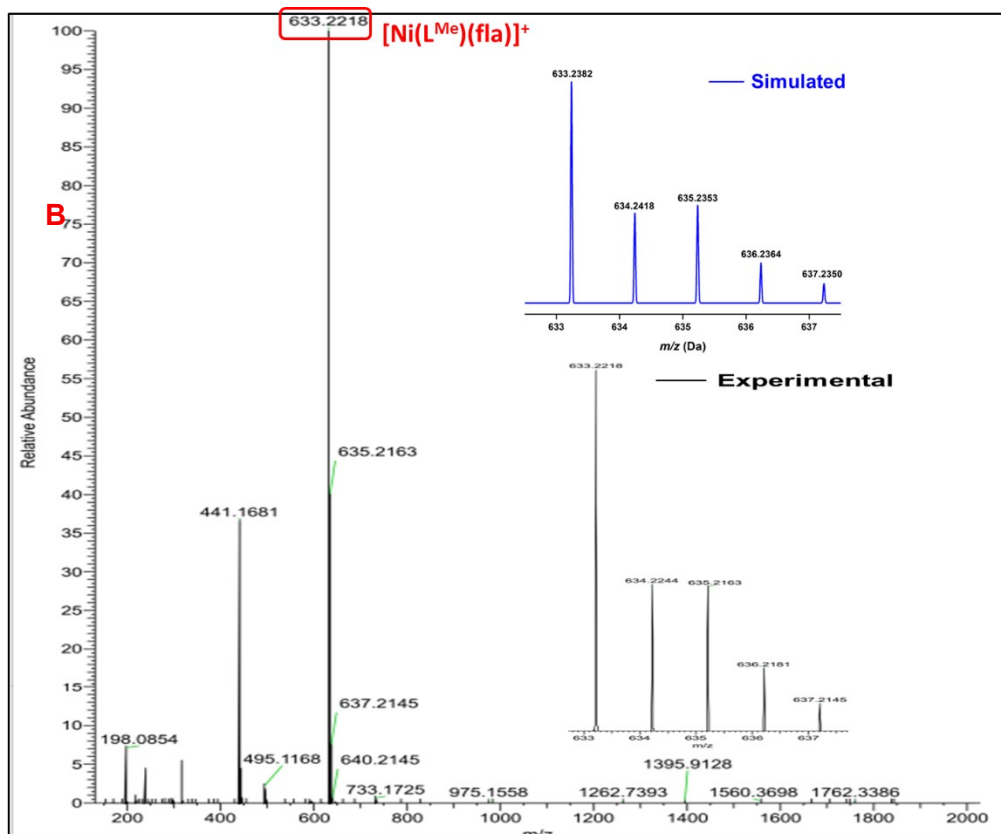
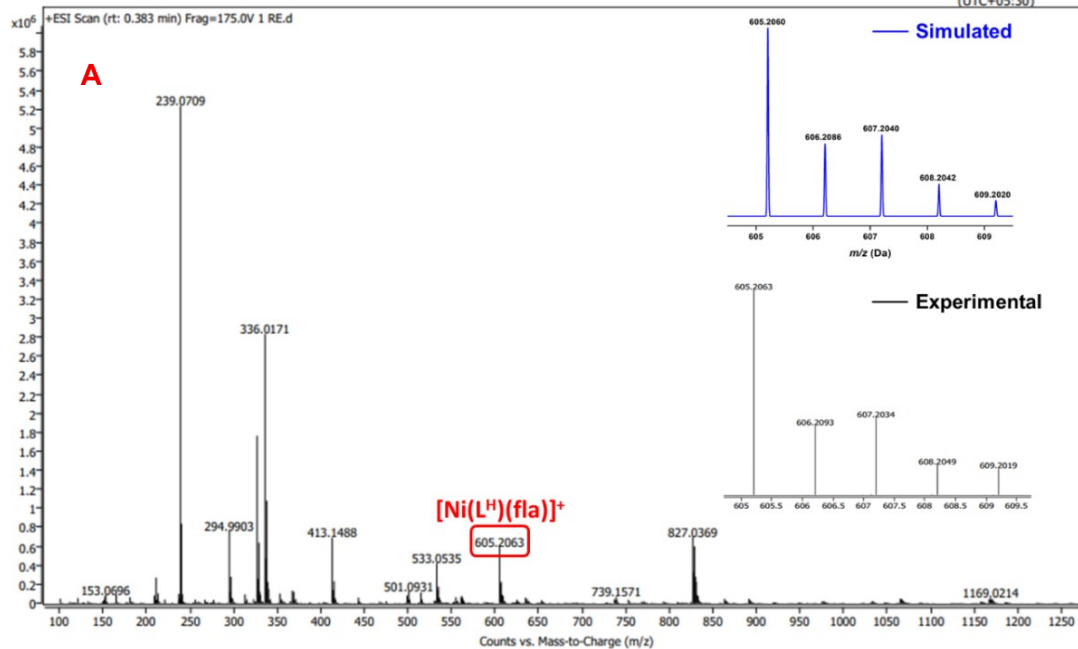
Fig. S4 ESI-MS spectral profiles of complexes (A) L<sup>OMe</sup> and (B) L<sup>Br</sup> recorded in CH<sub>3</sub>OH.

Figure S5

Spectrum Plot Report

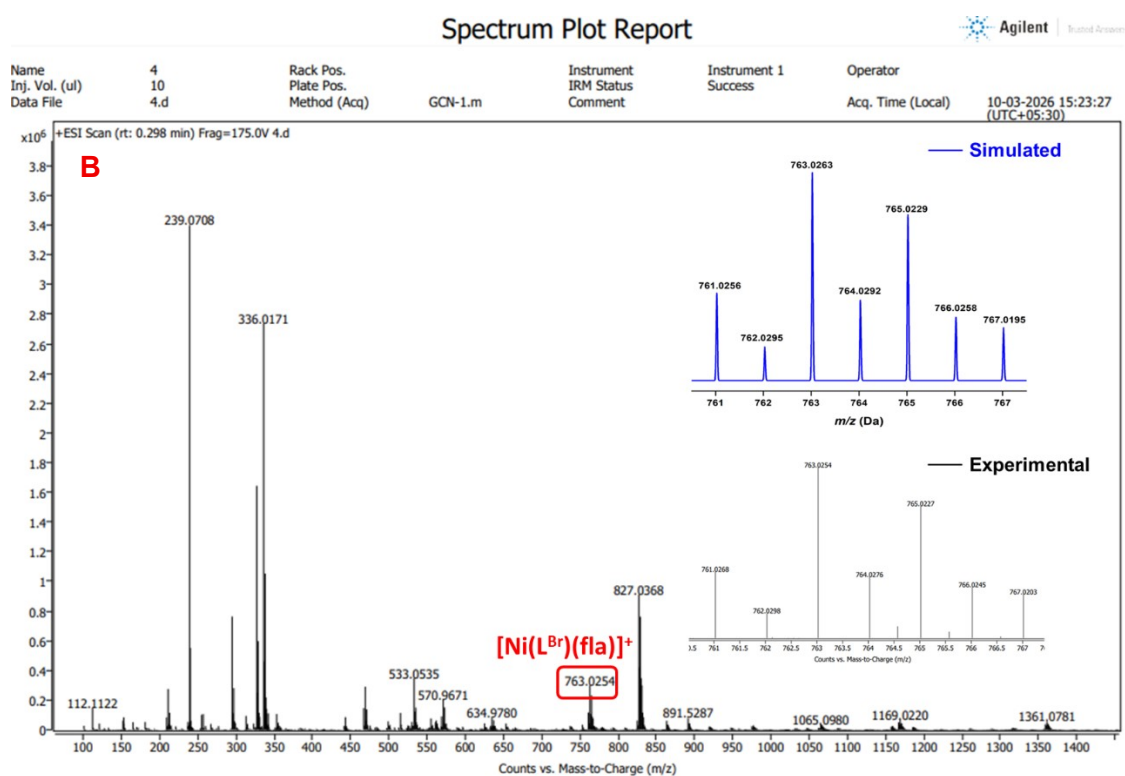
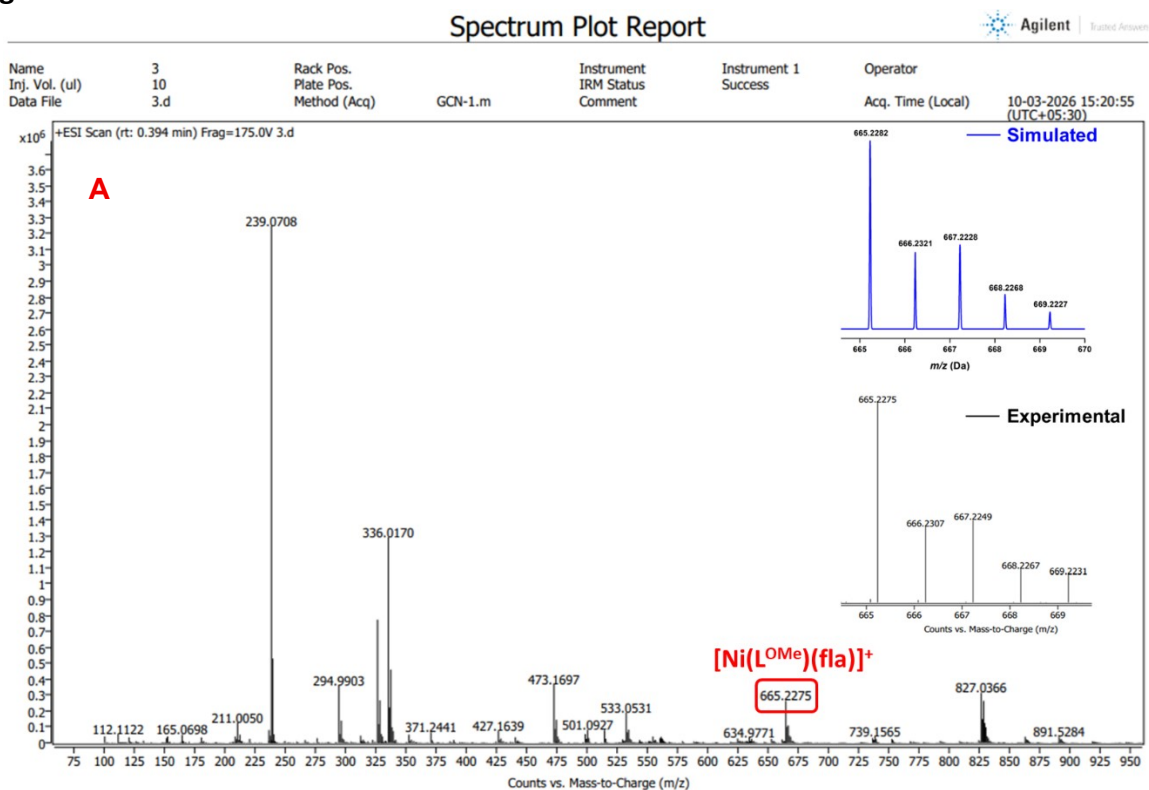


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Data File	1 RE.d	Method (Acq)	GCN-1.m	Comment		Acq. Time (Local)
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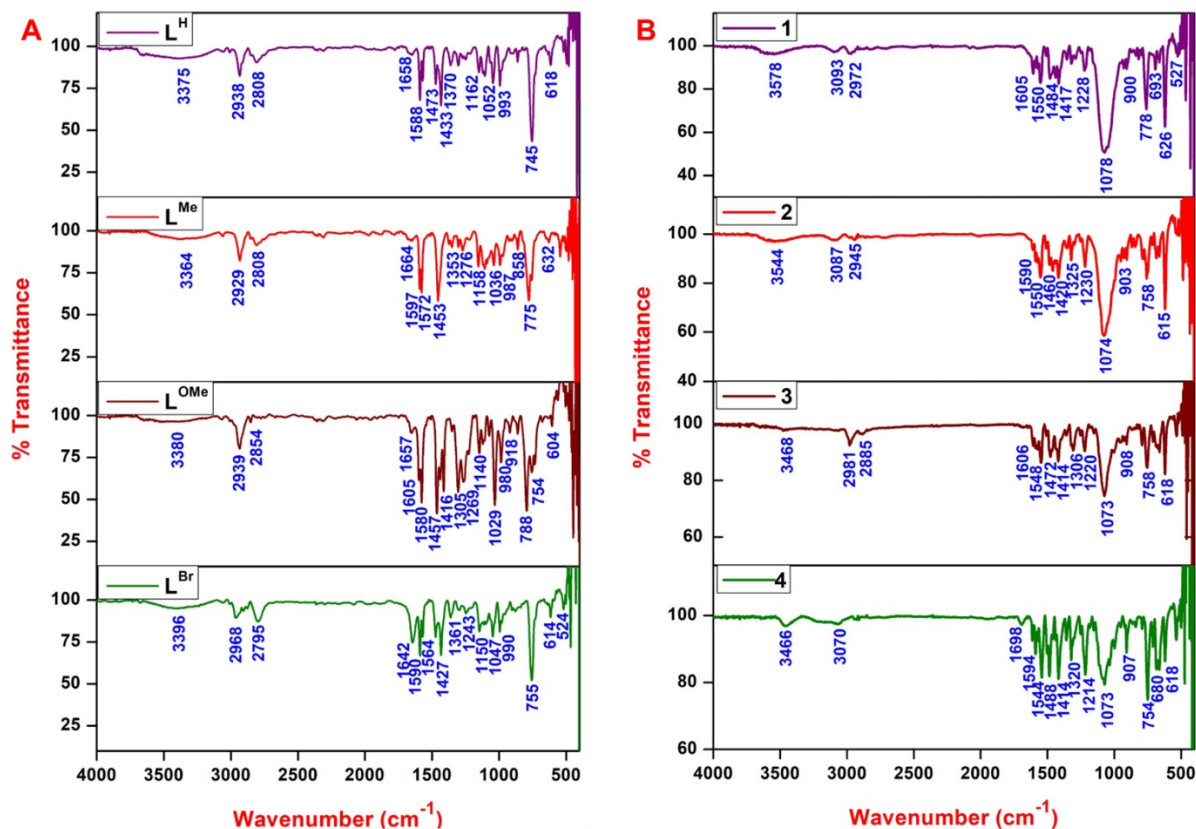
**Fig. S5** ESI-MS profiles of E-S model adducts (A)  $[\text{Ni}(\text{L}^{\text{H}})(\text{fla})]\text{ClO}_4$  **1** and (B)  $[\text{Ni}(\text{L}^{\text{Me}})(\text{fla})]\text{ClO}_4$  **2** recorded in  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ . Inset shows the simulated and experimental isotopic distribution pattern of complexes.

**Figure S6**



**Fig. S6** ESI-MS profile of E-S model adducts (A)  $[\text{Ni}(\text{L}^{\text{OMe}})(\text{fla})]\text{ClO}_4$  **3** and (B)  $[\text{Ni}(\text{L}^{\text{Br}})(\text{fla})]\text{ClO}_4$  **4** recorded in  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ . Inset shows the simulated and experimental isotopic distribution pattern of complexes.

**Figure S7**



**Fig. S7** ATR-FTIR spectra of ligands  $\text{L}^{\text{H}}\text{--}\text{L}^{\text{Br}}$  (A) and nickel(II)-flavonolate adducts **1**–**4** (B).

Figure S8

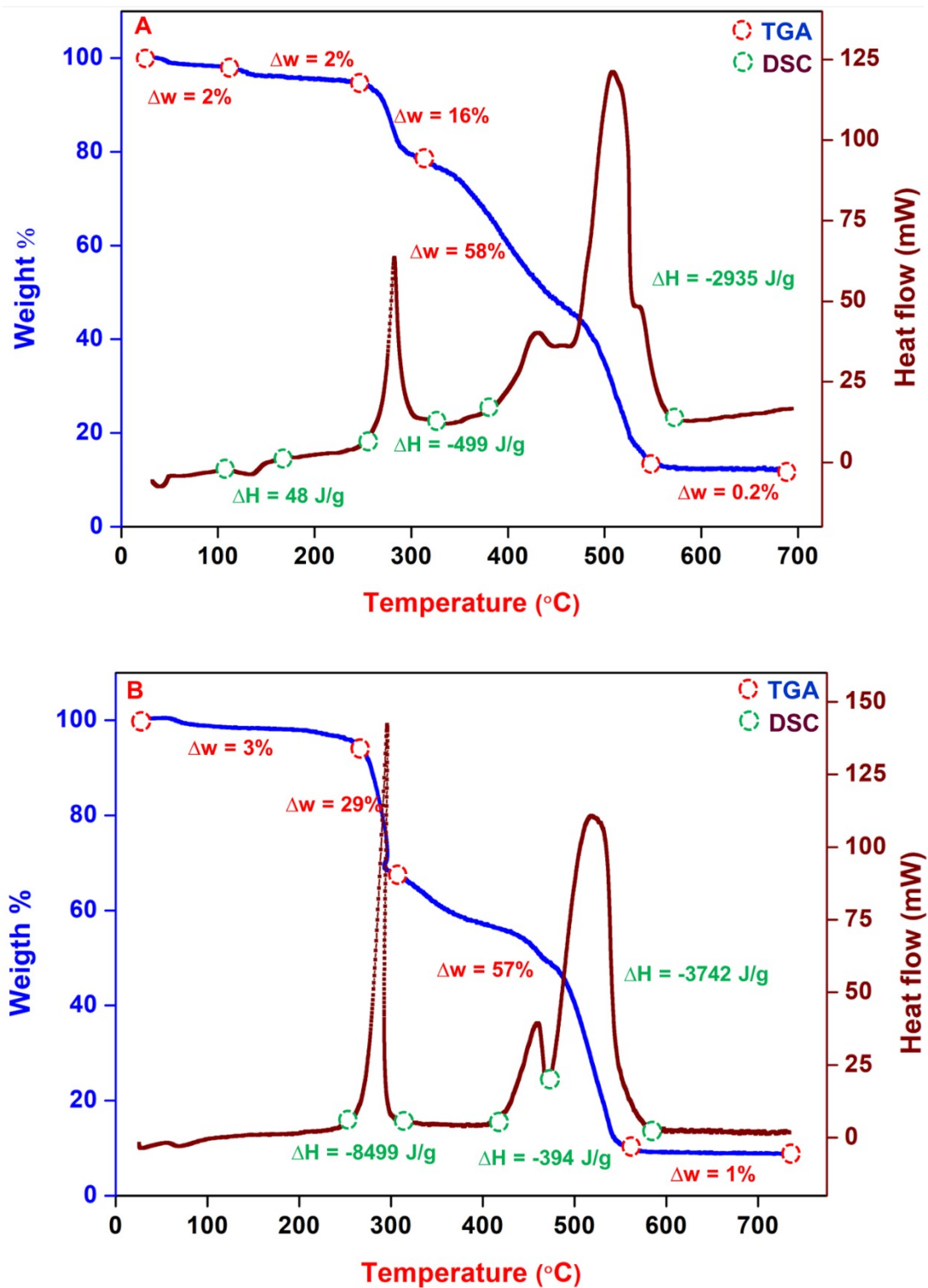
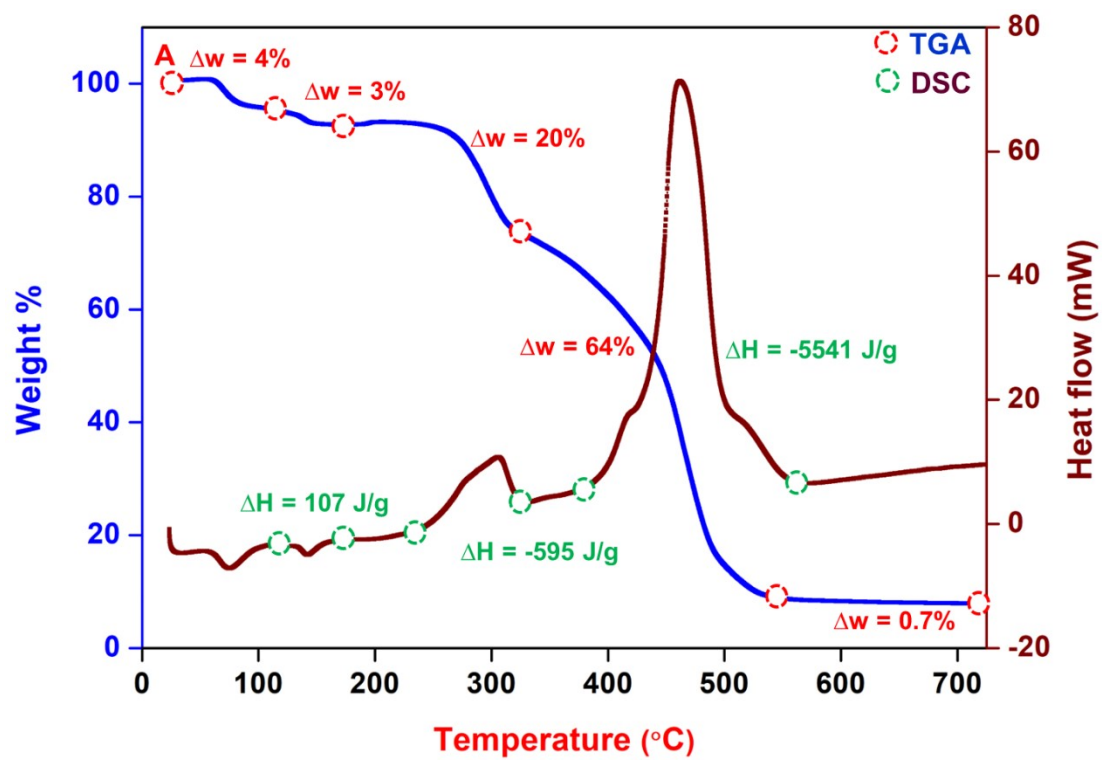


Fig. S8 TG-DSC profiles of (A) 1 and (B) 2.

Figure S9



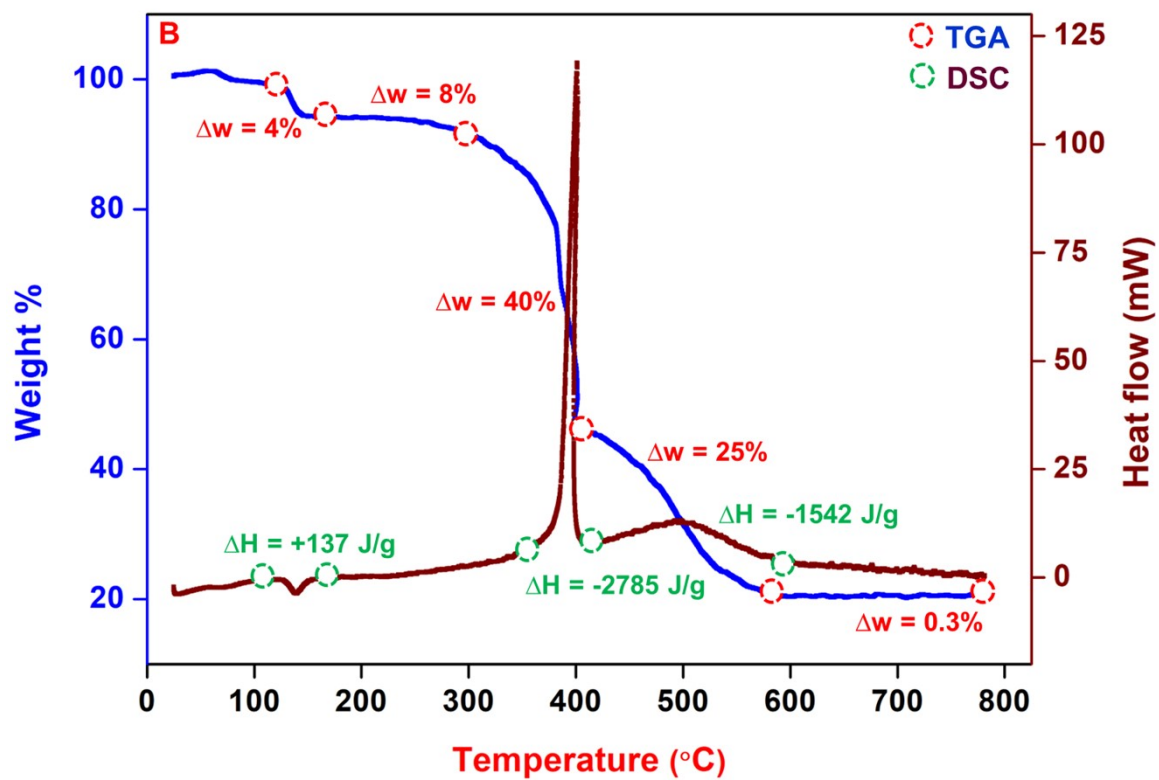
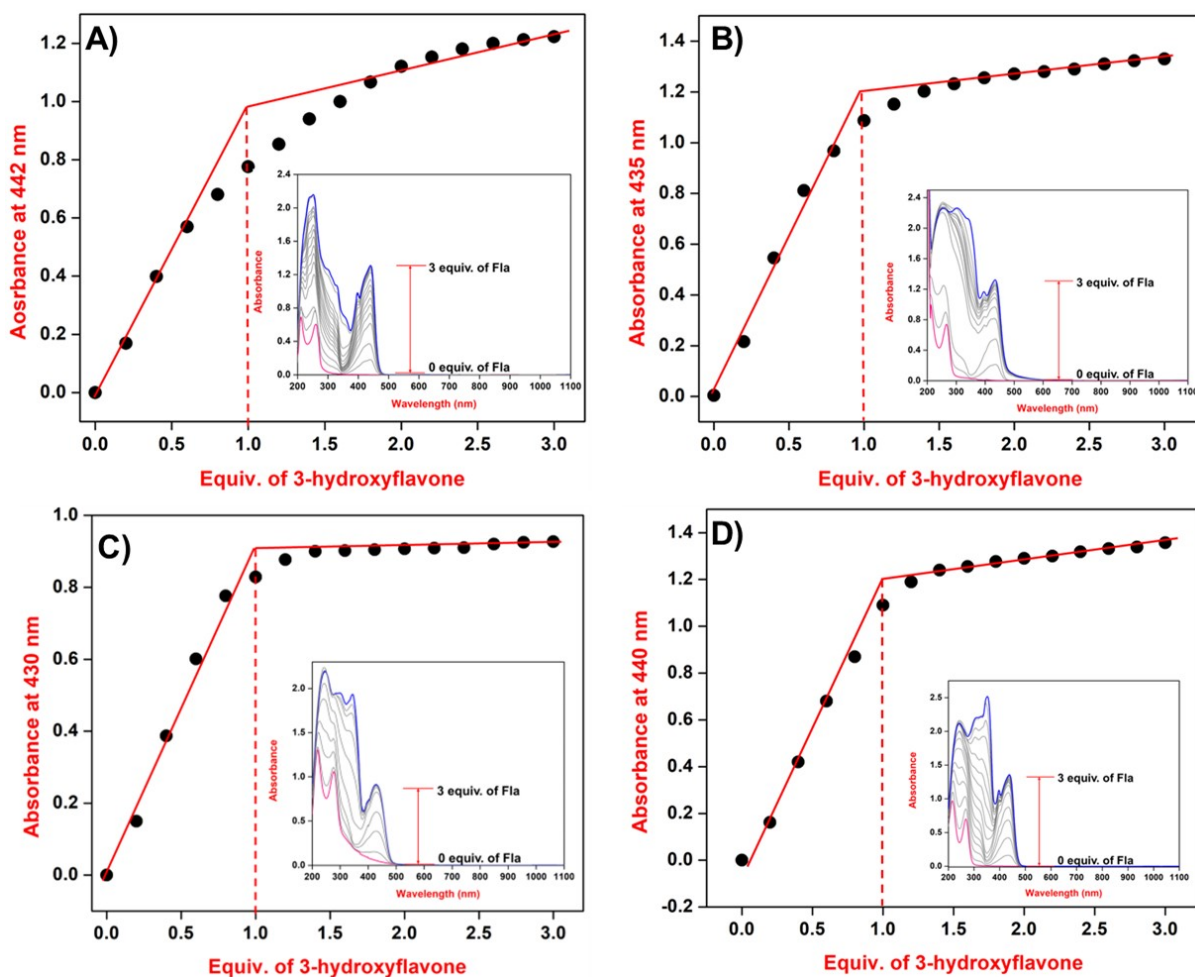


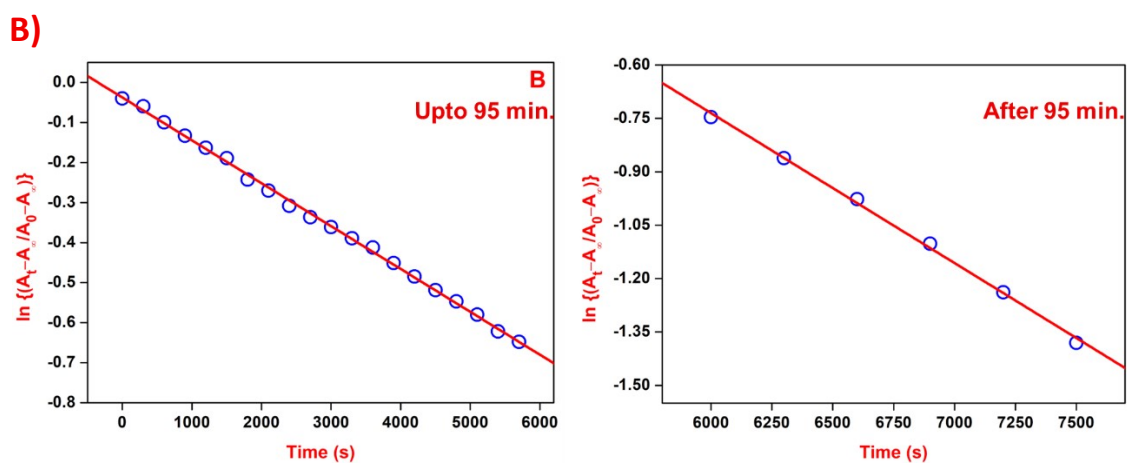
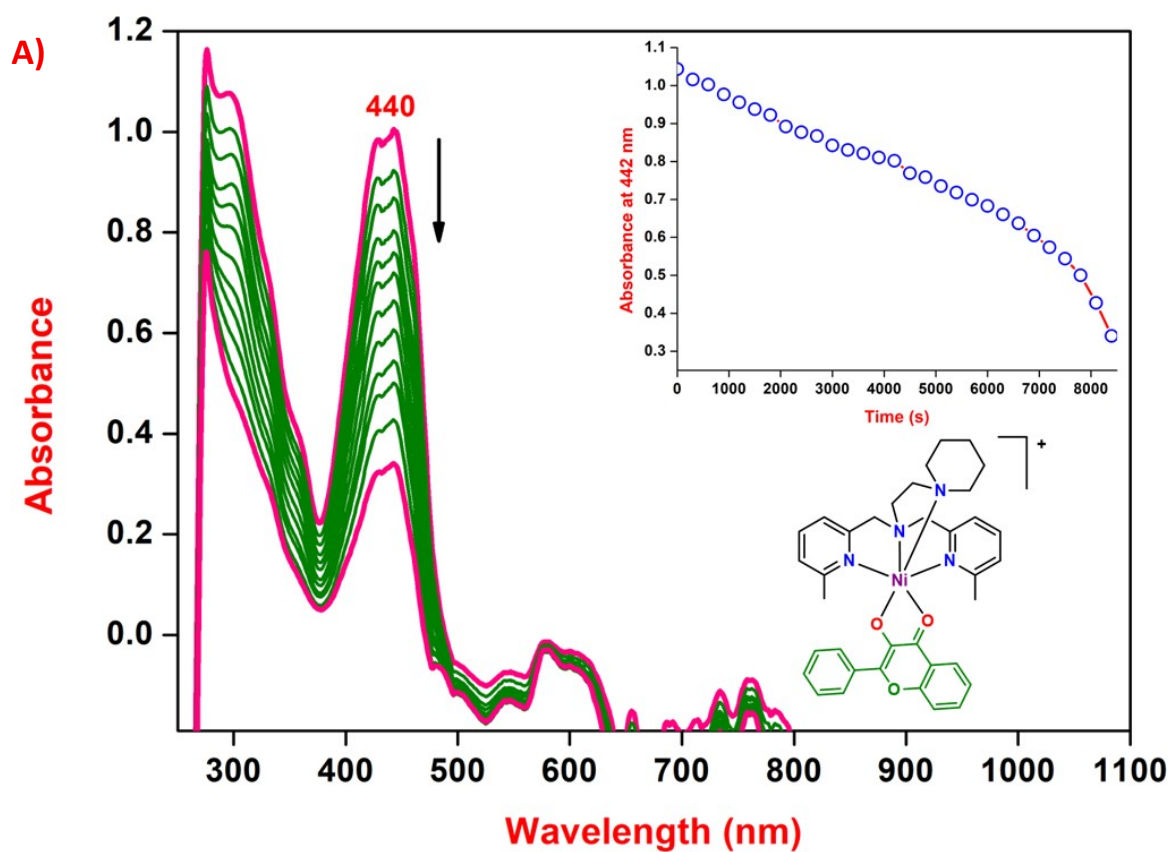
Fig. S9 TG-DSC profiles of (A) 3 and (B) 4.

Figure S10



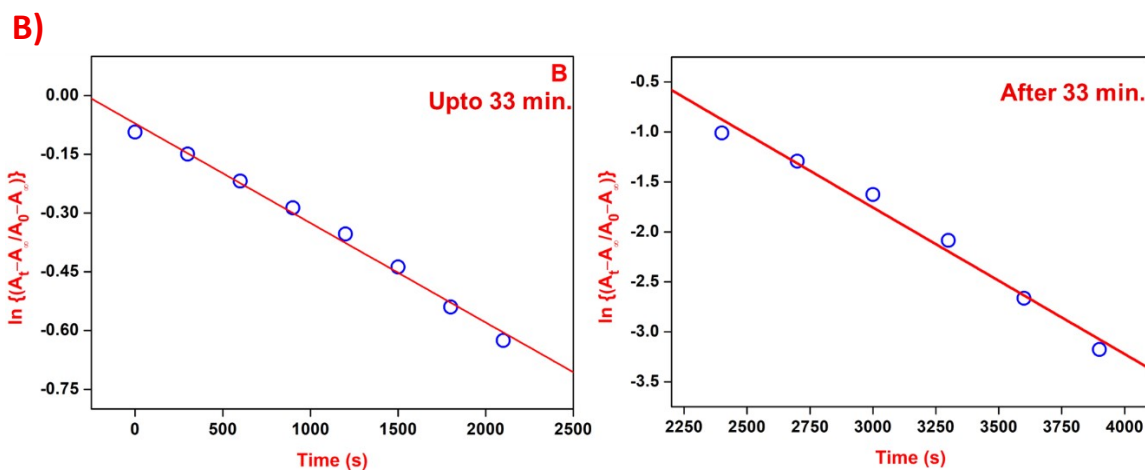
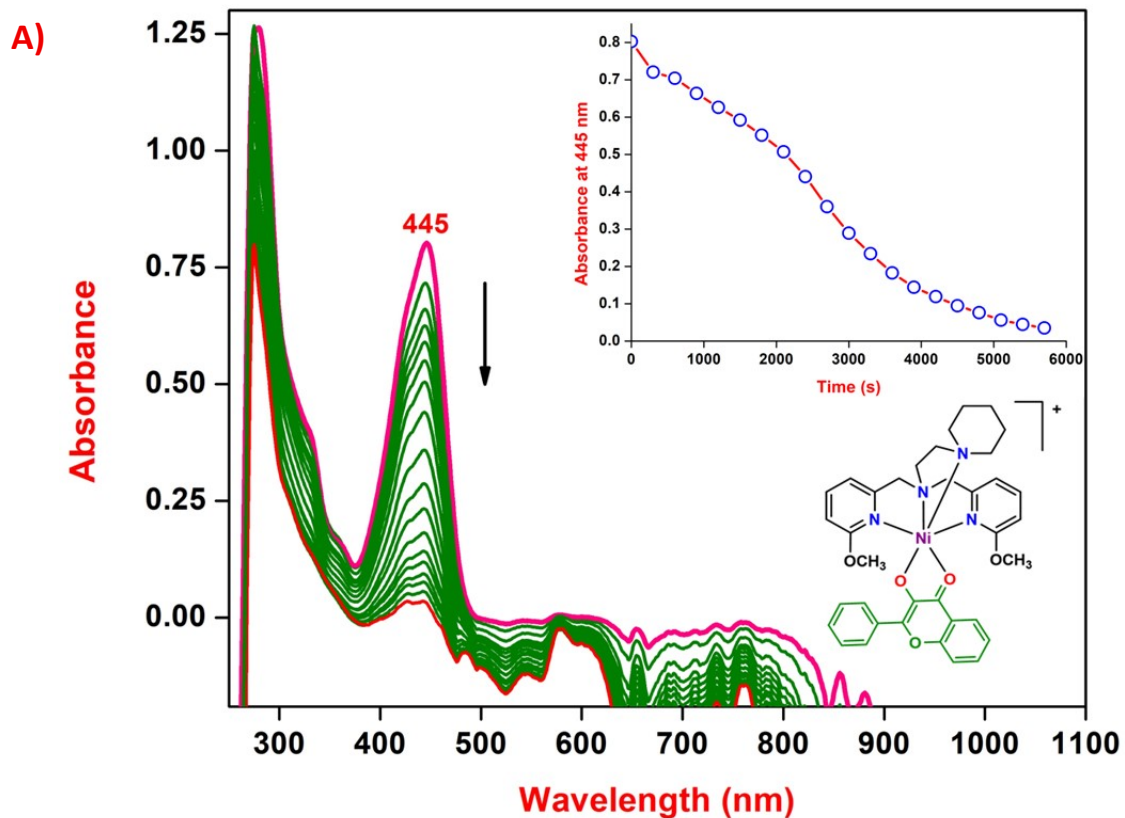
**Fig. S10** Spectrophotometric titration curves for the formation of Ni(II)-flavonolate adducts  $[\text{Ni}(\text{II})(\text{L}^{\text{H}}\text{-L}^{\text{Br}}(\text{fla}))](\text{ClO}_4)_2$  **1–4** upon addition of methanolic solution of flavonolate to the *in situ* generated (A) **1**, (B) **2**, (C) **3** and (D) **4** at 25 °C under  $\text{N}_2$  atmosphere. Inset shows the growth of  $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$  transition band ( $\sim 420\text{--}430$  nm) due to coordinated flavonolate.

**Figure S11**



**Fig. S11** (A) Electronic absorption spectral changes of **2** monitored at 442 nm in DMF under O<sub>2</sub> atmosphere at 70 °C. Inset shows the time trace of the reaction. (B) Plot of time vs  $\ln\{(A_t - A_\infty)/(A_0 - A_\infty)\}$ .

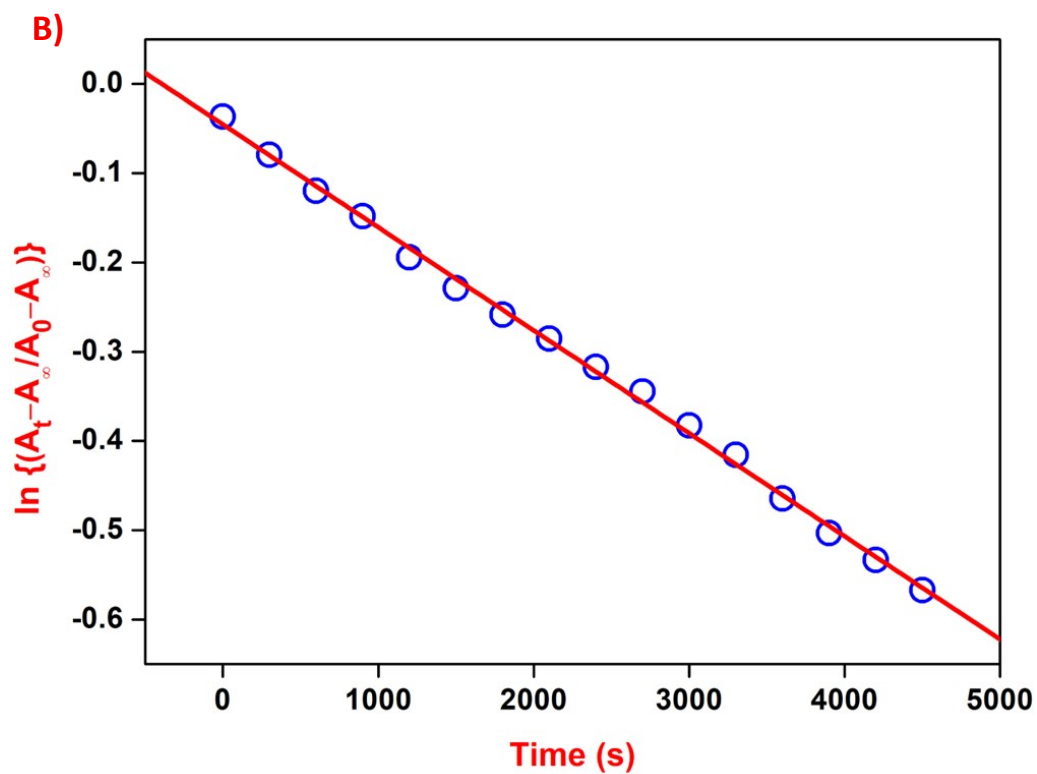
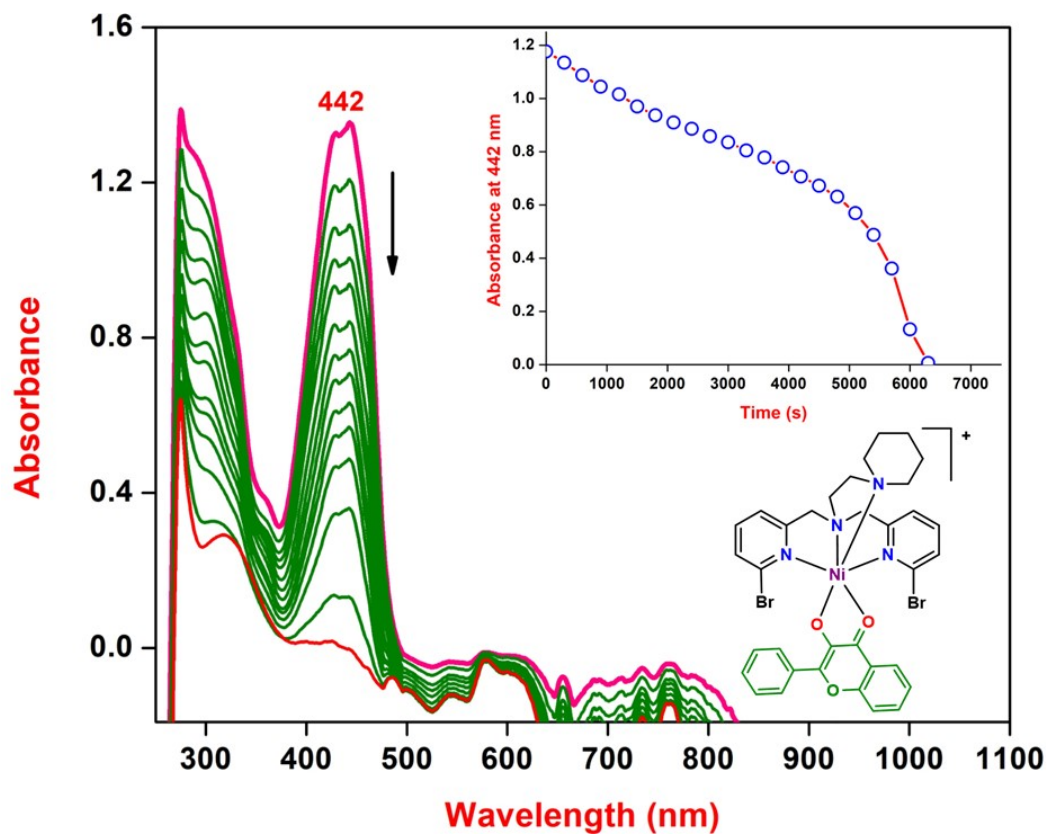
**Figure S12**



**Fig. S12** (A) Electronic absorption spectral changes of **3** monitored at 442 nm in DMF under O<sub>2</sub> atmosphere at 70 °C. Inset shows the time trace of the reaction. (B) Plot of time vs  $\ln \left\{ \frac{(A_t - A_0)}{(A_t - A_\infty)} \right\}$ .

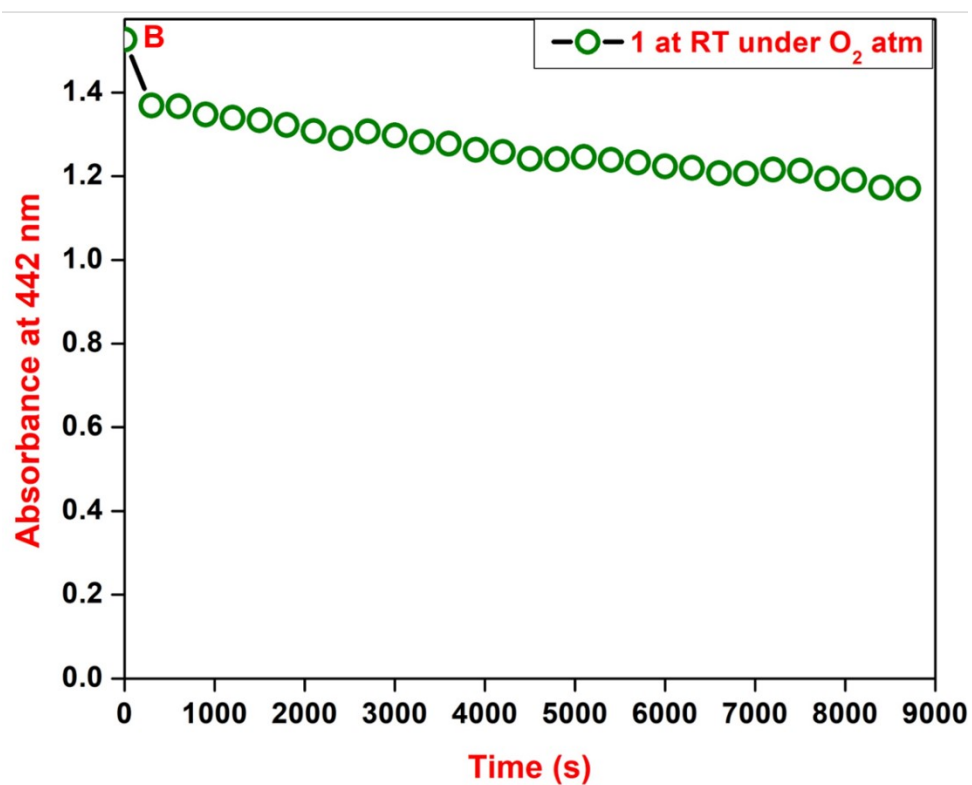
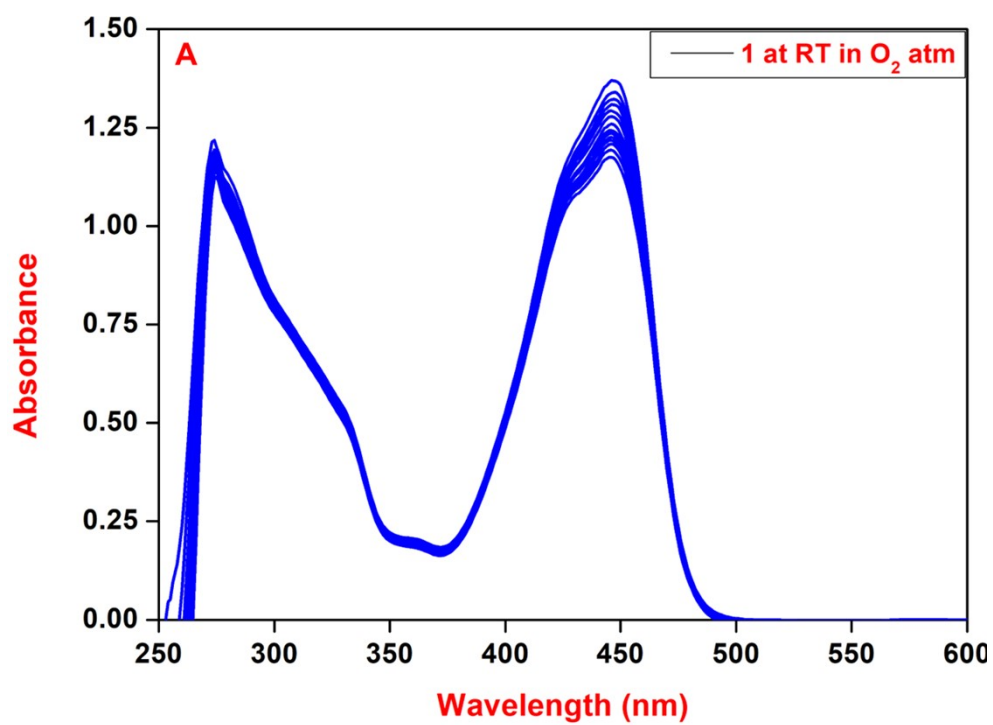
**Figure S13**

**A)**



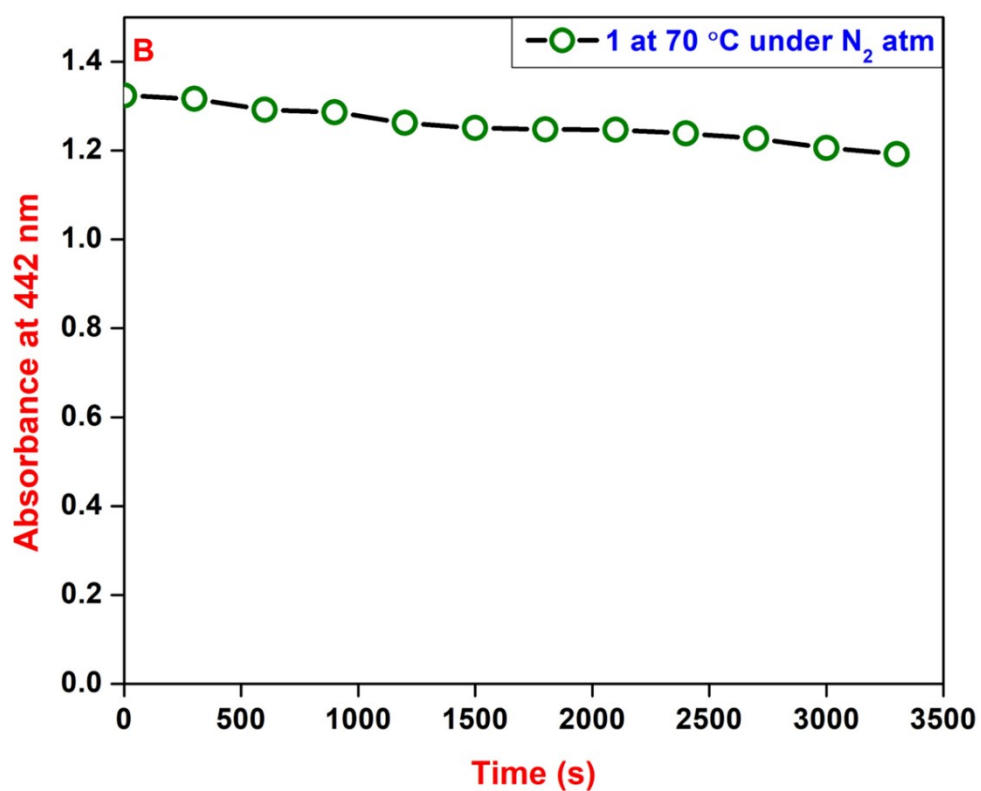
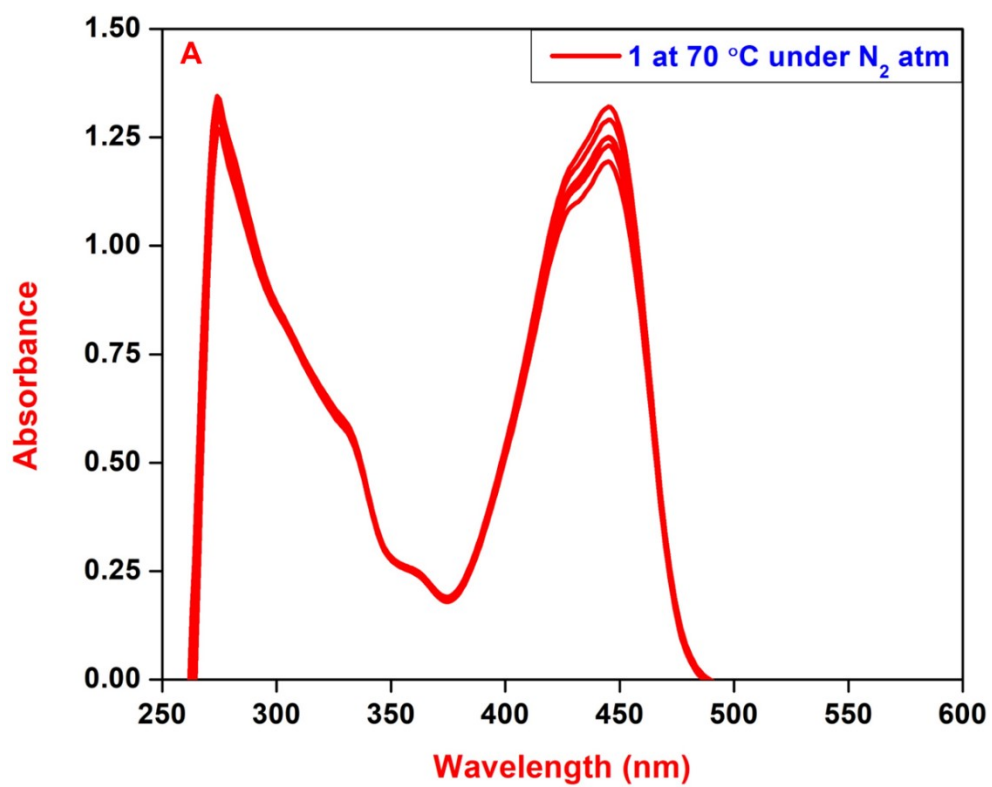
**Fig. S13** (A) Electronic absorption spectral changes of **4** monitored at 442 nm in DMF under O<sub>2</sub> atmosphere at 70 °C. Inset shows the time trace of the reaction. (B) Plot of time vs  $\ln \left\{ \frac{A_t - A_\infty}{A_0 - A_\infty} \right\}$ .

**Figure S14**



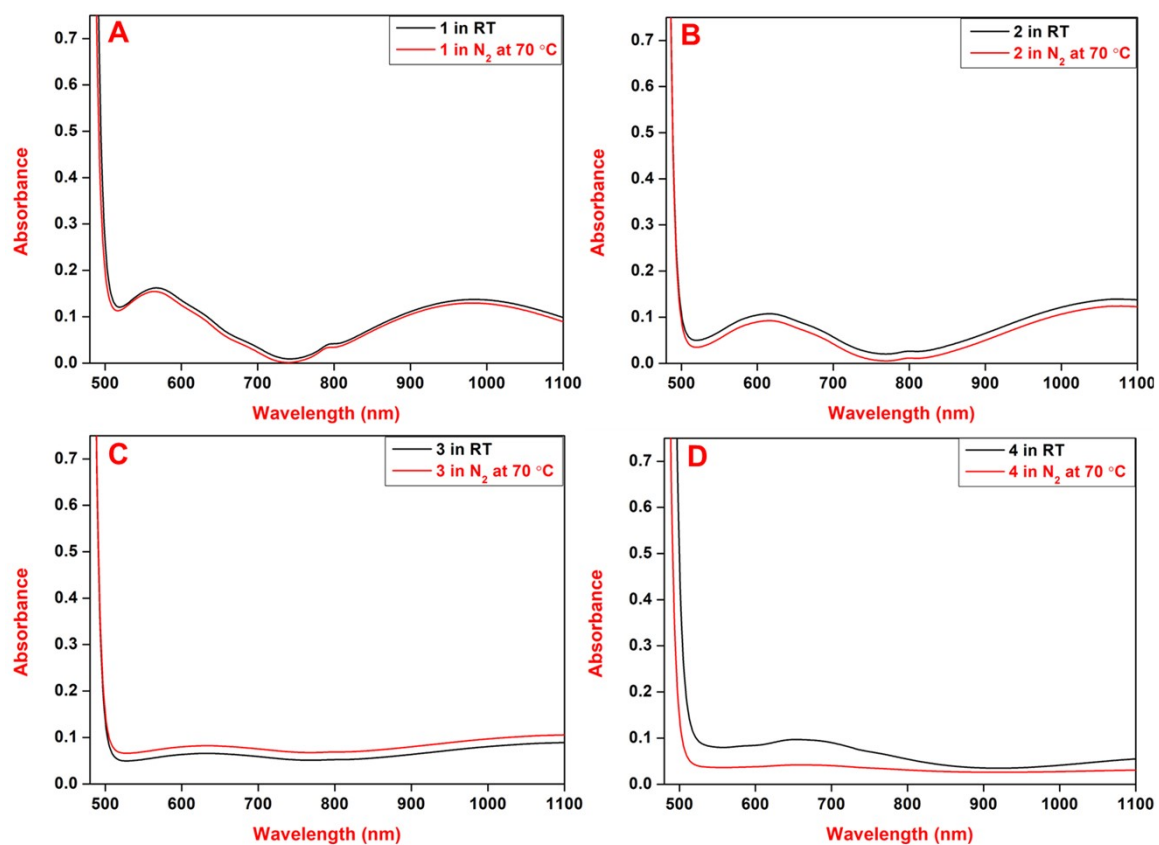
**Fig. S14.** (A) Electronic absorption spectral changes of **1** tracked at 442 nm in DMF at 25 °C in the presence of O<sub>2</sub>. (B) Time trace of the reaction.

Figure S15

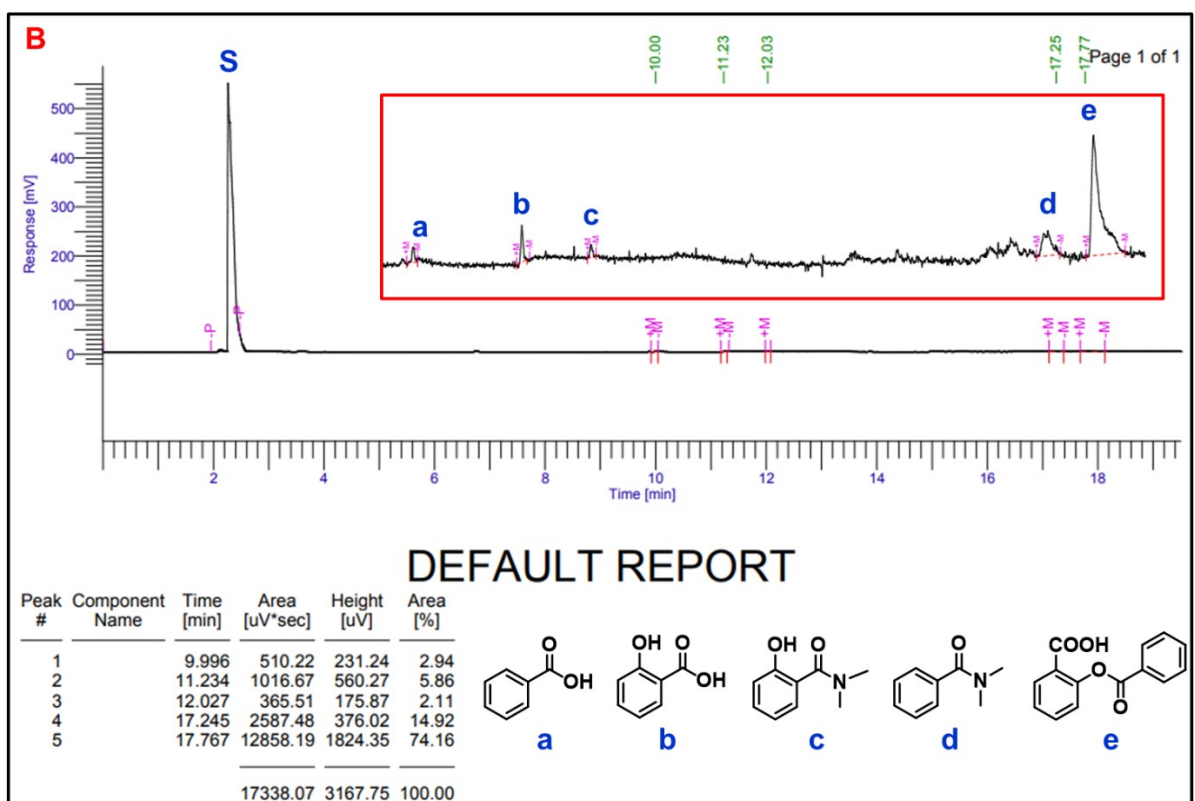
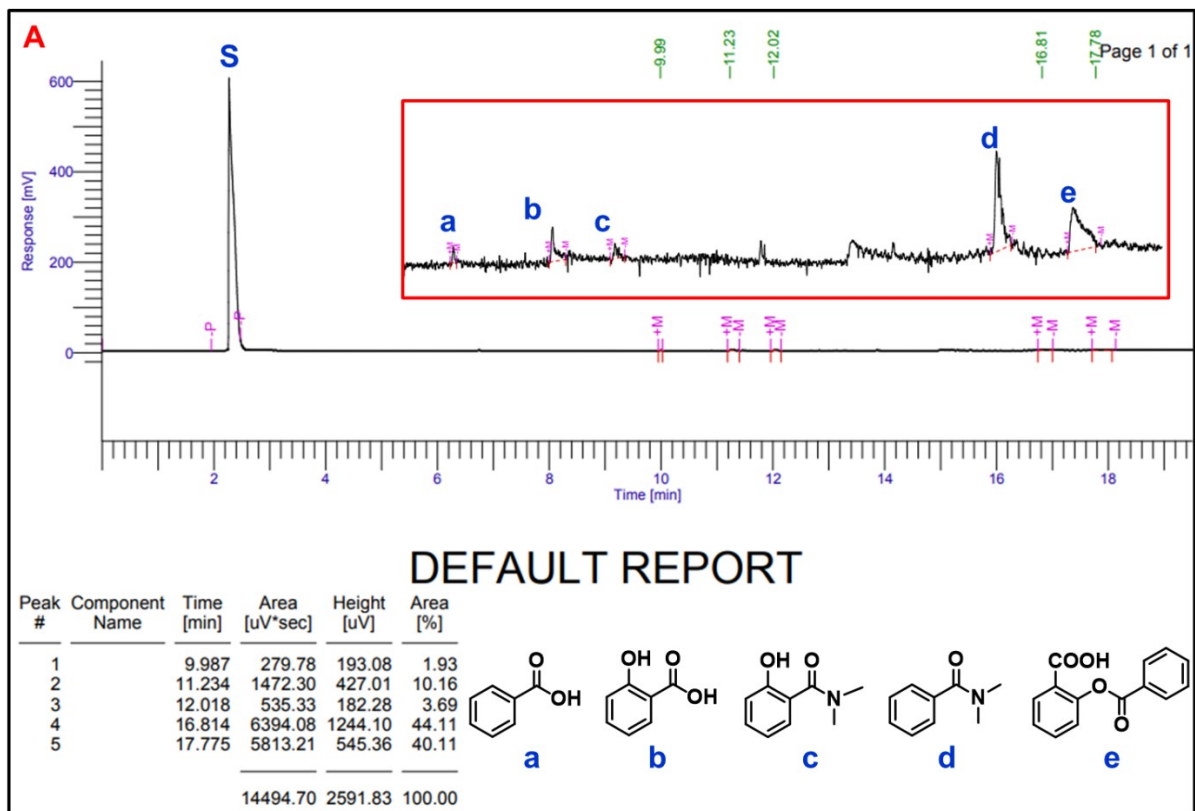


**Fig. S15** (A) Electronic absorption spectral changes of [Ni(L<sup>H</sup>)fla](ClO<sub>4</sub>) **1** followed at 442 nm in DMF under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere at 70 °C. (B) Time trace of the reaction.

Figure S16

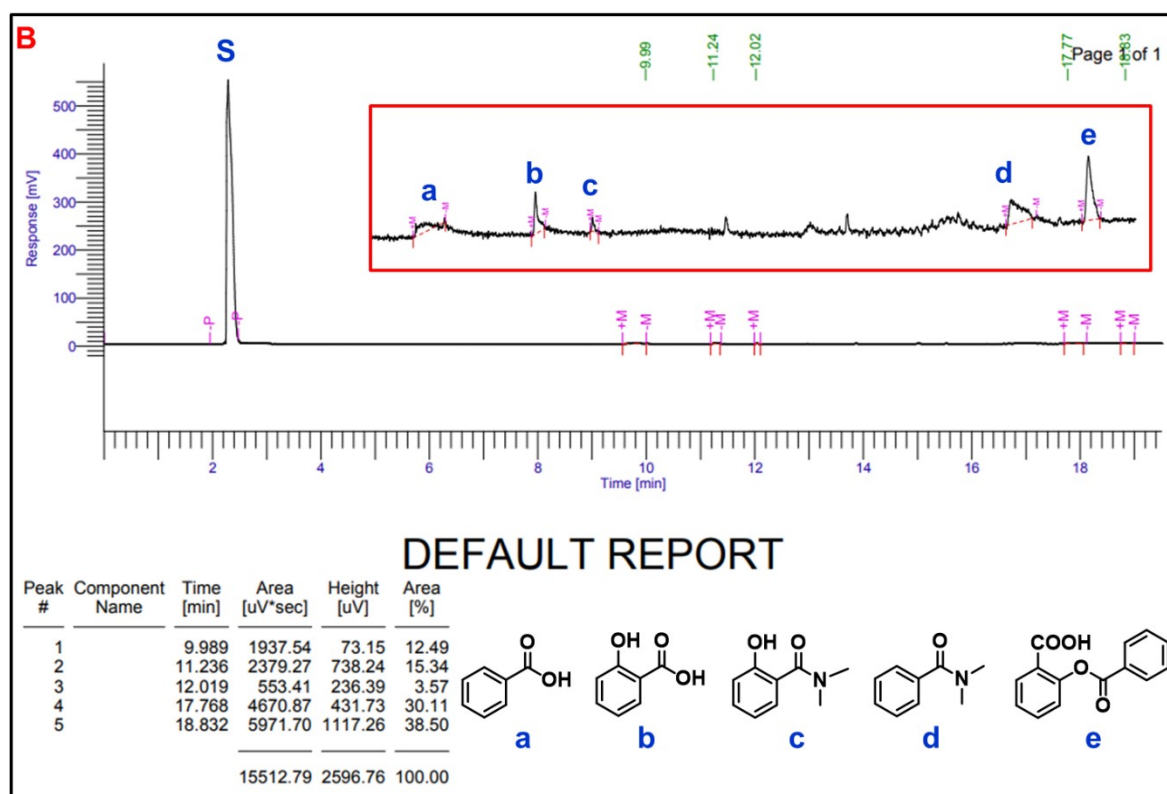
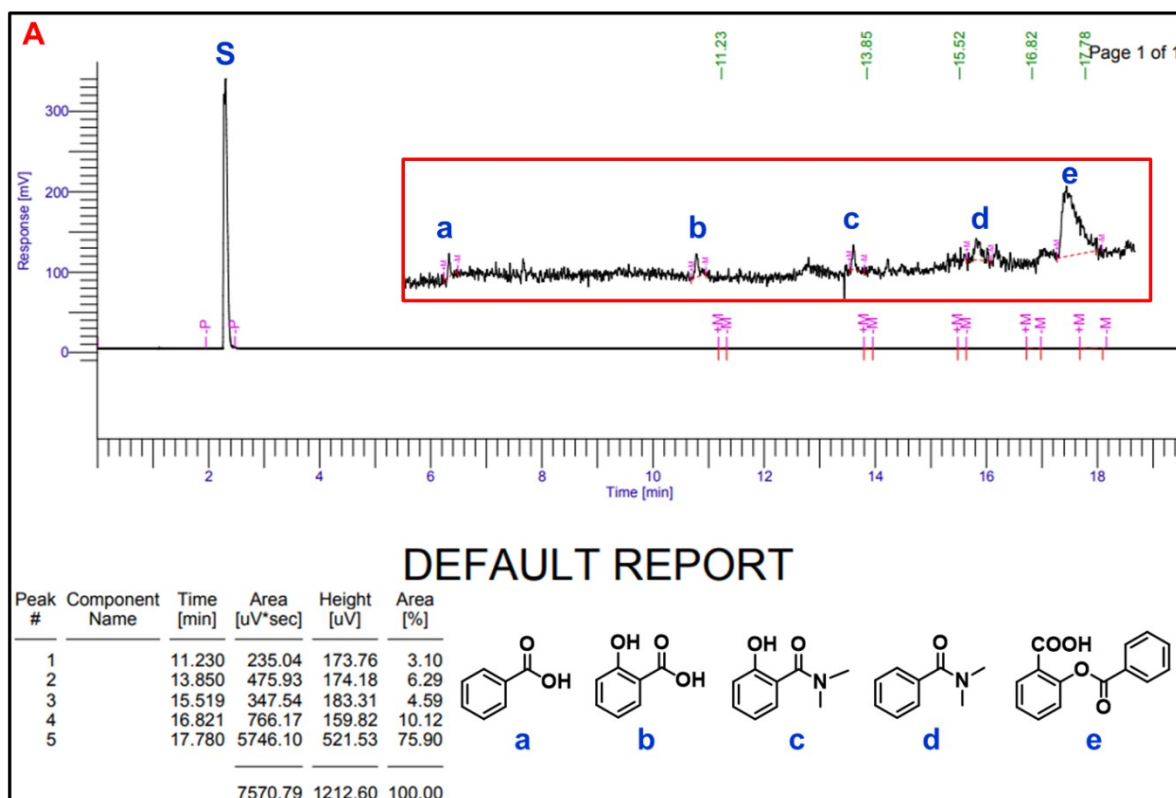


**Fig. S16** (A) Electronic absorption spectral measurements of  $[\text{Ni}(\text{L}^{\text{H}}-\text{L}^{\text{Br}})\text{fla}]^+$  **1-4** tracked at 25 °C (**black**) and 70 °C under  $\text{N}_2$  atm (**red**).



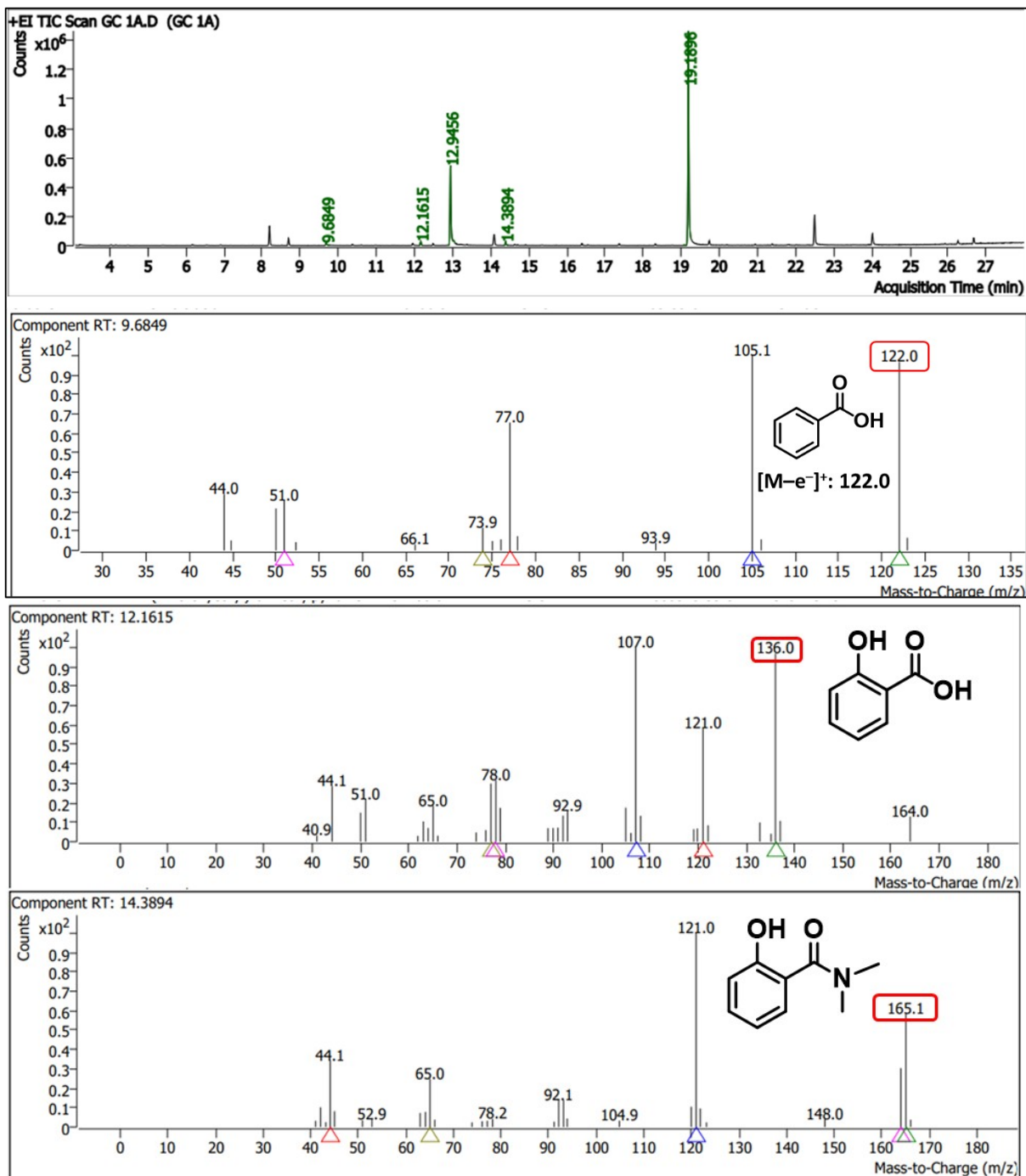
**Fig. S17** Gas chromatogram of the product solution of  $[\text{Ni}(\text{L}^{\text{H}})(\text{fla})]\text{ClO}_4$  **1** (A) and  $[\text{Ni}(\text{L}^{\text{Me}})(\text{fla})]\text{ClO}_4$  **2** (B) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ .

**Figure S18**



**Fig. S18** Gas chromatogram of the product solution of  $[\text{Ni}(\text{L}^{\text{Me}})(\text{fla})]\text{ClO}_4$  **3** (A) and  $[\text{Ni}(\text{L}^{\text{Br}})(\text{fla})]\text{ClO}_4$  **4** (B) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ .

**Figure S19**

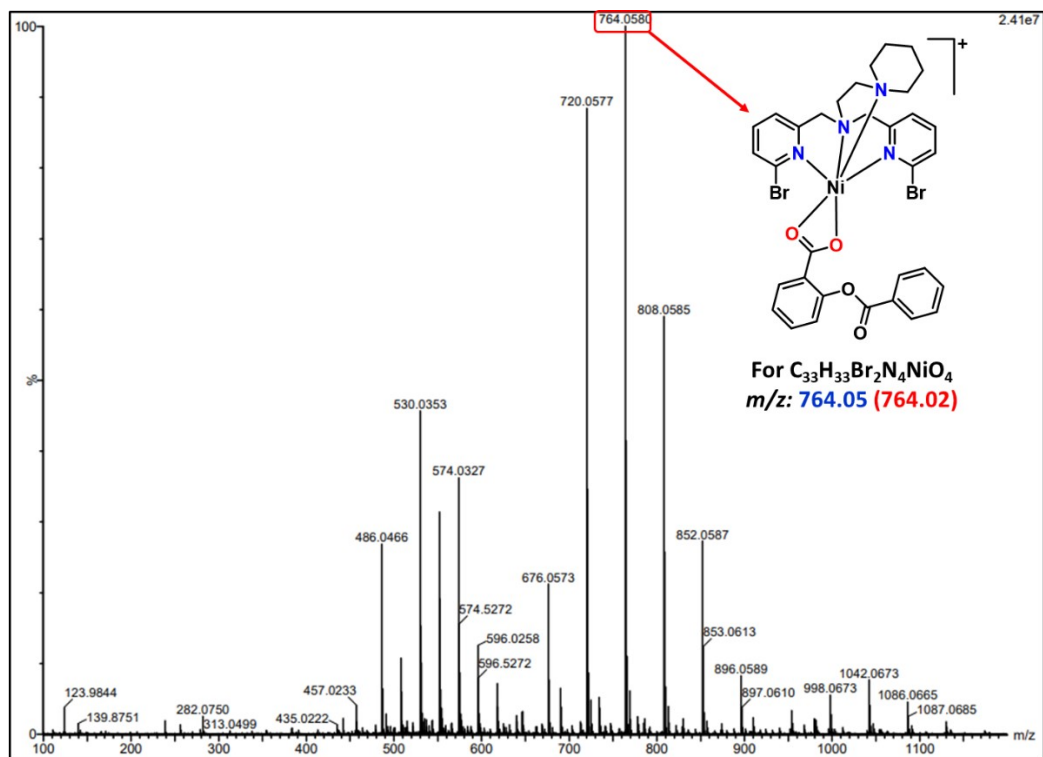


**Fig. S19** GC-MS profile of the product solution of  $[\text{Ni}(\text{L}^{\text{Br}})(\text{fla})]\text{ClO}_4$  **4** in  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ .

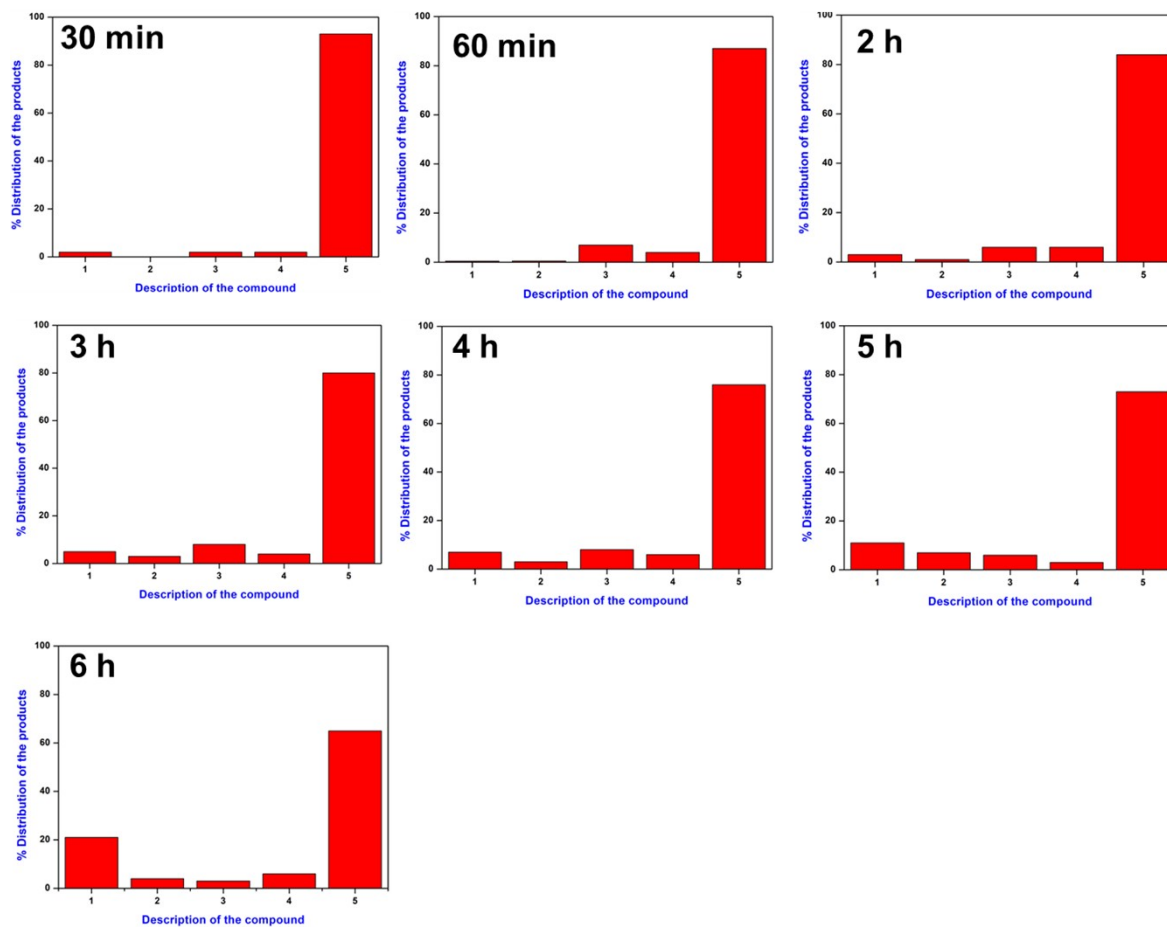
**Figure S19a**



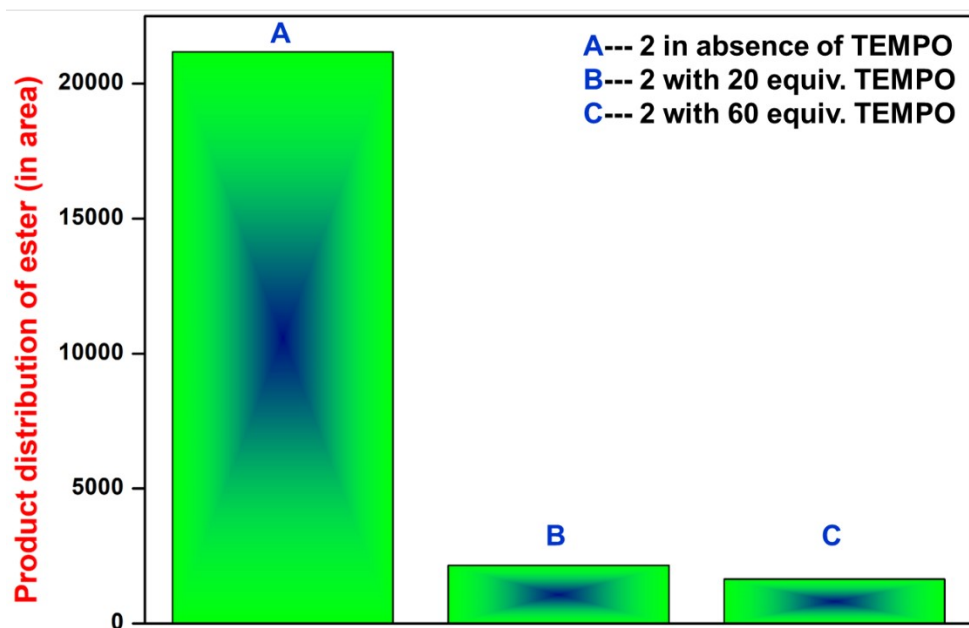
**Fig. S19a** GC-MS profile of the product solution of  $[\text{Ni}(\text{L}^{\text{Br}})(\text{fla})]\text{ClO}_4 \mathbf{4}$  in  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ .



**Fig. S20** ESI-MS profile of kinetic product solution of  $[Ni(L^{Br})(fla)]ClO_4$  **4** recorded in  $CH_3OH$ .



**Fig. S21** Time-dependent product analysis of  $[\text{Ni}(\text{L}^{\text{OMe}})(\text{fla})]\text{ClO}_4$  **3** recorded in  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  at various time intervals (30 min to 6 h).



**Fig. S22** Time-dependent product analysis of  $[\text{Ni}(\text{L}^{\text{OMe}})(\text{fla})]\text{ClO}_4$  **3** in the absence and presence of different equiv. of TEMPO recorded in  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ .

**Table S1.** ATR-FTIR spectral data of ligands ( $L^H-L^{Br}$ ) and their corresponding nickel(II)-flavonolate adducts **1-4**.

Functional group	IR Stretching frequency (cm <sup>-1</sup> )							
	$L^H$	<b>1</b>	$L^{Me}$	<b>2</b>	$L^{OMe}$	<b>3</b>	$L^{Br}$	<b>4</b>
$\nu(C=O)$	-	1550	-	1550	-	1548	-	1544
$\nu(C-H)$	2938	3093	2929	3087	2939	2981	2968	3070
$\nu(C=N)$	1588	1572	1597	1587	1580	1570	1590	1570
$\nu(C-N)$	1370	1228	1353	1230	1305	1220	1361	1214
$\nu(O-H)$	3375	3578	3364	3544	3380	3468	3396	3466