

## Anion Exchange in $[\text{Ni}(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_4\text{R})(\text{Cl})(\text{NHC})]$ . Counterion Effect on the Structure and Catalytic Activity

W. Buchowicz,<sup>1</sup> Ł. Banach, J. Conder, P. A. Guńka, D. Kubicki, and P. Buchalski  
Warsaw University of Technology, Faculty of Chemistry, Noakowskiego 3, 00-664 Warsaw, Poland

### Supporting Information

#### VT <sup>1</sup>H measurements of complex **3c**

In order to estimate the thermodynamic parameters of complex **3c** a series of variable-temperature <sup>1</sup>H NMR experiments was performed in the temperature range from -55 to 100 °C (Table S1). The function  $\delta=f(1/T)$  used to fit the experimental data has the following form:

$$\delta = \delta_{\text{ls}} + \frac{C}{T[1 + e^{(\Delta H^\circ - T\Delta S^\circ)/RT}]}$$

where  $\delta$  is the observed chemical shift,  $\delta_{\text{ls}}$  is the chemical shift fitted for diamagnetic species,  $\Delta H^\circ$  and  $\Delta S^\circ$  are the enthalpy and entropy, respectively, of the transition between low-spin and high-spin states,  $T$  is the absolute temperature in Kelvin, and  $C$  is a constant related to the molar susceptibility of the high-spin species. The experimental data and the fitting curve are shown in Figure S1.

Final set of parameters with asymptotic standard errors is as follows:

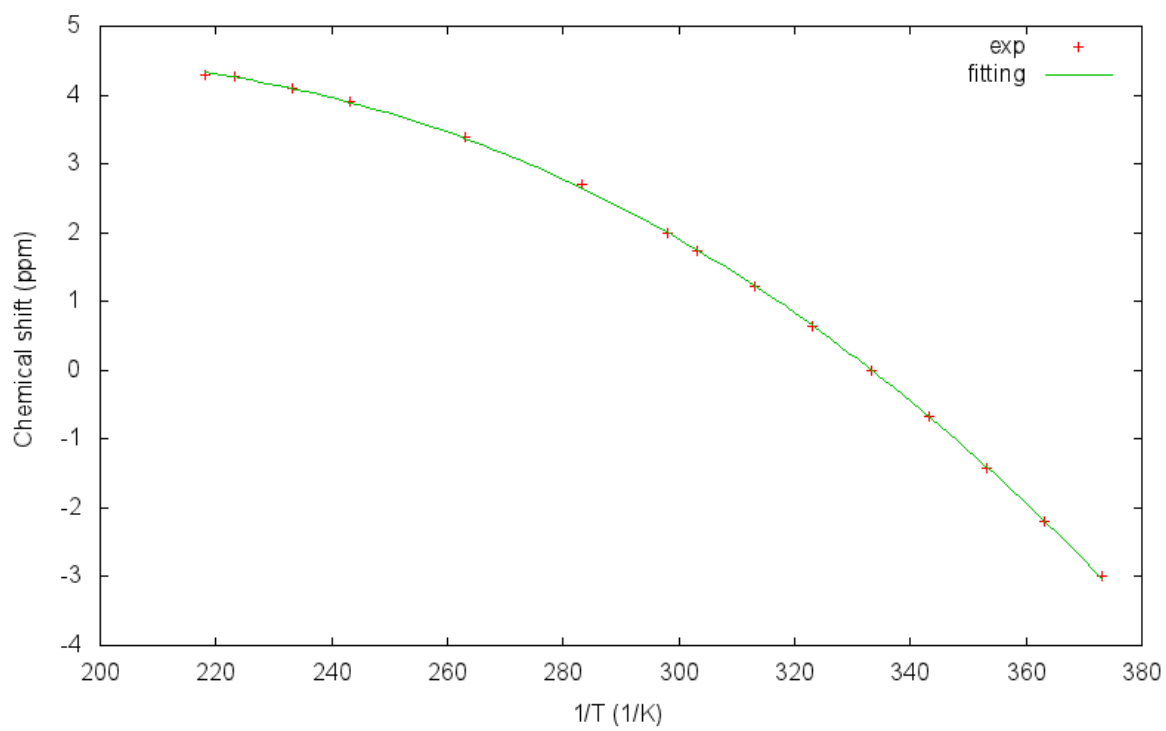
RMSD of residuals: 0.0226991

$\delta_{\text{ls}}$	$= 4.72 \pm 0.038$	(0.81 %)
$C$	$= 48000 \pm 30600$	(63.51 %)
$\Delta H^\circ$	$= 15151 \pm 430$	(2.82 %)
$\Delta S^\circ$	$= 16.7 \pm 3.9$	(23.14 %)

**Table S1.** Set of parameters used for fitting chemical shifts in **3c**

$t$ [°C]	$T$ [K]	$1/T$ [1/K]	Chemical shift of Cp [ppm]
-55	218.15	0.00458	4.30
-50	223.15	0.00448	4.26
-40	233.15	0.00429	4.10
-30	243.15	0.00411	3.90
-10	263.15	0.00380	3.39
10	283.15	0.00353	2.70
25	298.15	0.00335	2.00
30	303.15	0.00330	1.74
40	313.15	0.00319	1.22
50	323.15	0.00309	0.64
60	333.15	0.00300	0.00
70	343.15	0.00291	-0.68
80	353.15	0.00283	-1.42
90	363.15	0.00275	-2.20
100	373.15	0.00268	-3.00

<sup>1</sup> Corresponding autor:

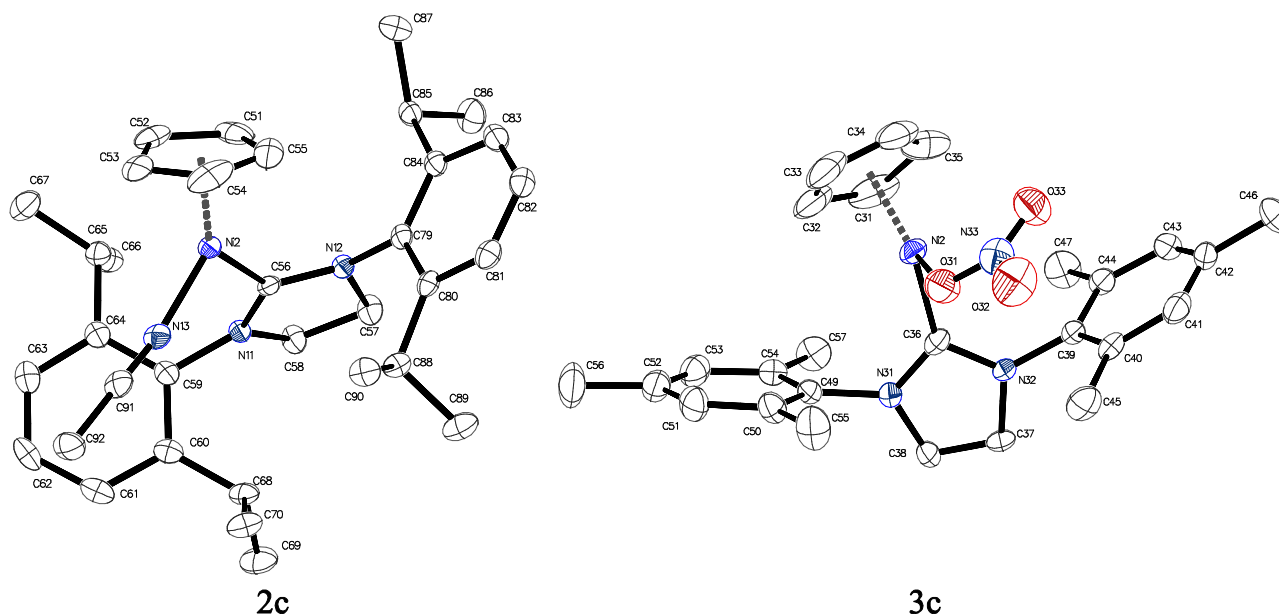


**Figure S1.** Experimental data and fitted curve for **3c**.

**Table S2.** Angles around nickel atoms and their sum in complexes **2c**, **3a**, **2j** and **3c**

angle / °	<b>2c</b>	<b>3a</b>	<b>2j</b>	<b>3c</b>
X(N3,O1)–Ni1–C6	102.23(8)	91.75(6)	94.61(7)	93.72(19)
C6–Ni1–Cg	132.57(6)	133.15(5)	132.50(5)	133.60(14)
Cg–Ni1–X(N3,O1) <sup>a</sup>	125.13(6)	135.03(4)	132.85(6)	131.95(15)
$\Sigma$	359.93(12)	359.93(9)	359.96(10)	359.3(3)
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N13–Ni2–C56	102.83(8)		O31–Ni2–C36	94.2(2)
C56–Ni2–Cg	131.09(6)		C36–Ni2–Cg	133.81(19)
Cg–Ni1–N13	126.05(6)		Cg–Ni1–O31	131.31(15)
$\Sigma$	359.97(12)			359.3(3)

<sup>a</sup> N3 denotes the nitrogen atom of the coordinated acetonitrile for **2c** and **2j**; O1 denotes the oxygen atom of the trifluoroacetate or nitrate anions for complexes **3a** and **3c**, respectively. (See Figure 2 for the atom numbering scheme).

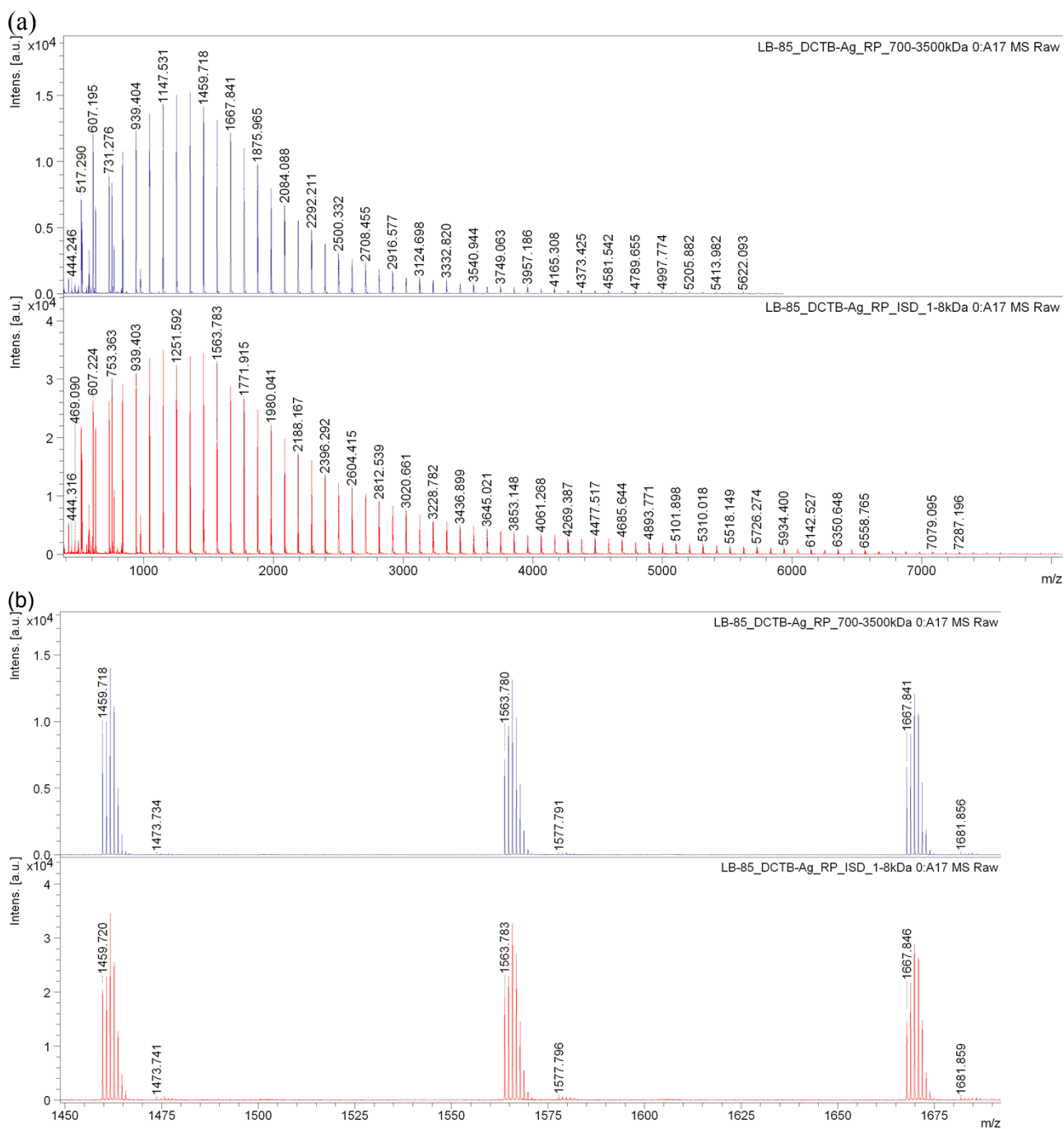


**Figure S3.** The molecular structure of complexes **2c** and **3c** (second molecules from the asymmetric unit). Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at 50% probability level.

**Table S3.** Selected bond lengths involving nickel in complexes **2c** and **3c** (the second molecules from the asymmetric unit)

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<i>d</i> /Å	<b>2c</b>	<i>d</i> /Å	<b>3c</b>
Ni2–C51	2.023(2)	Ni2–C31	2.033(8)
Ni2–C52	2.135(2)	Ni2–C32	2.150(7)
Ni2–C53	2.125(2)	Ni2–C33	2.178(7)
Ni2–C54	2.149(3)	Ni2–C34	2.136(7)
Ni2–C55	2.123(3)	Ni2–C35	2.133(7)
Ni2–C56	1.907(2)	Ni2–C36	1.893(6)
Ni2–N13	1.8719(18)	Ni2–O31	1.905(4)



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**Figure S3.** MALDI-TOF MS of polystyrene obtained with complex **2f** (DCTB matrix with added CF<sub>3</sub>COOAg): (a) full spectrum; (b) expanded.