

## Electronic Supplementary Information

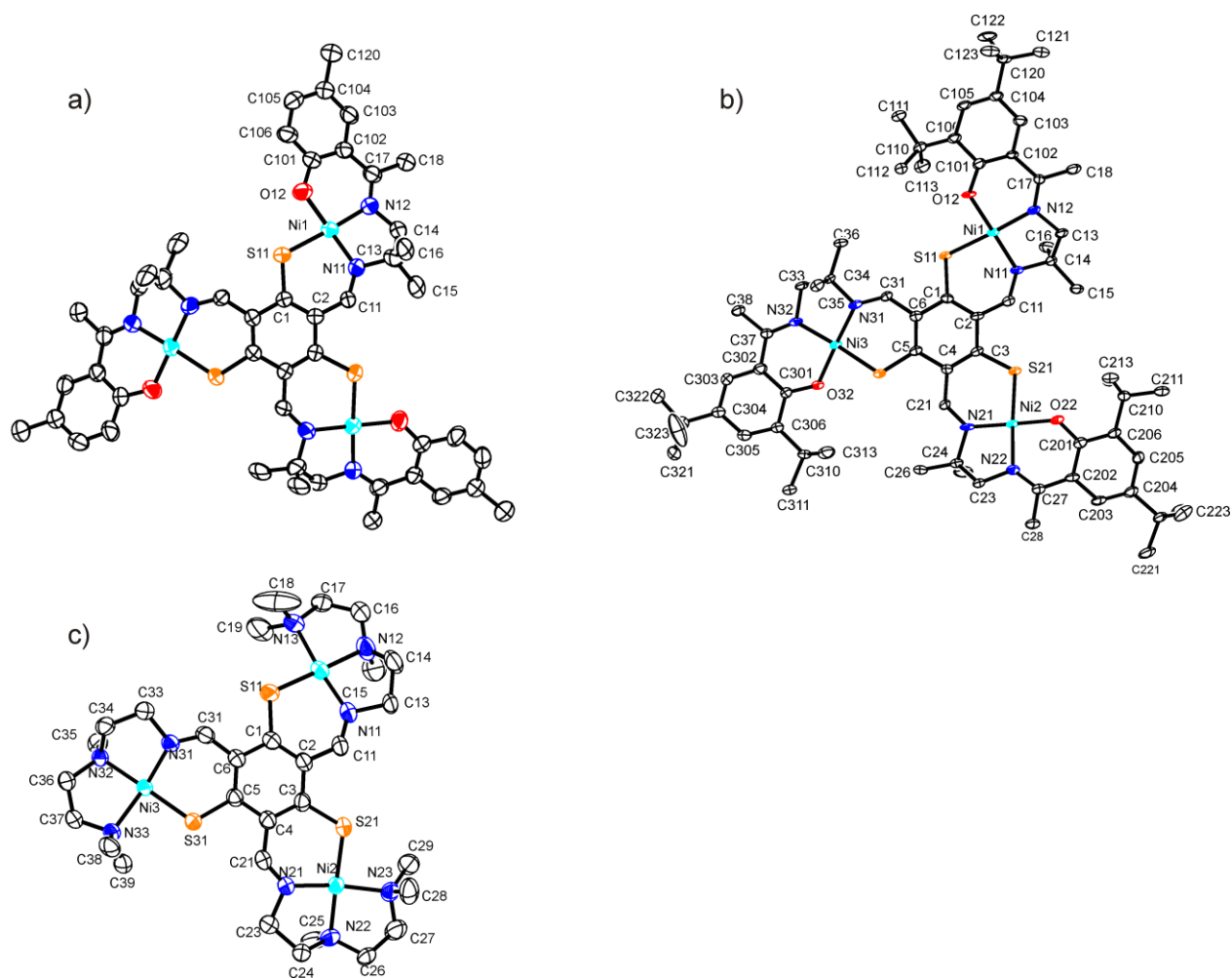
### **A Streamlined Synthesis of Extended Thiophloroglucinol Ligands and their Trinuclear Ni<sup>II</sup><sub>3</sub> Complexes**

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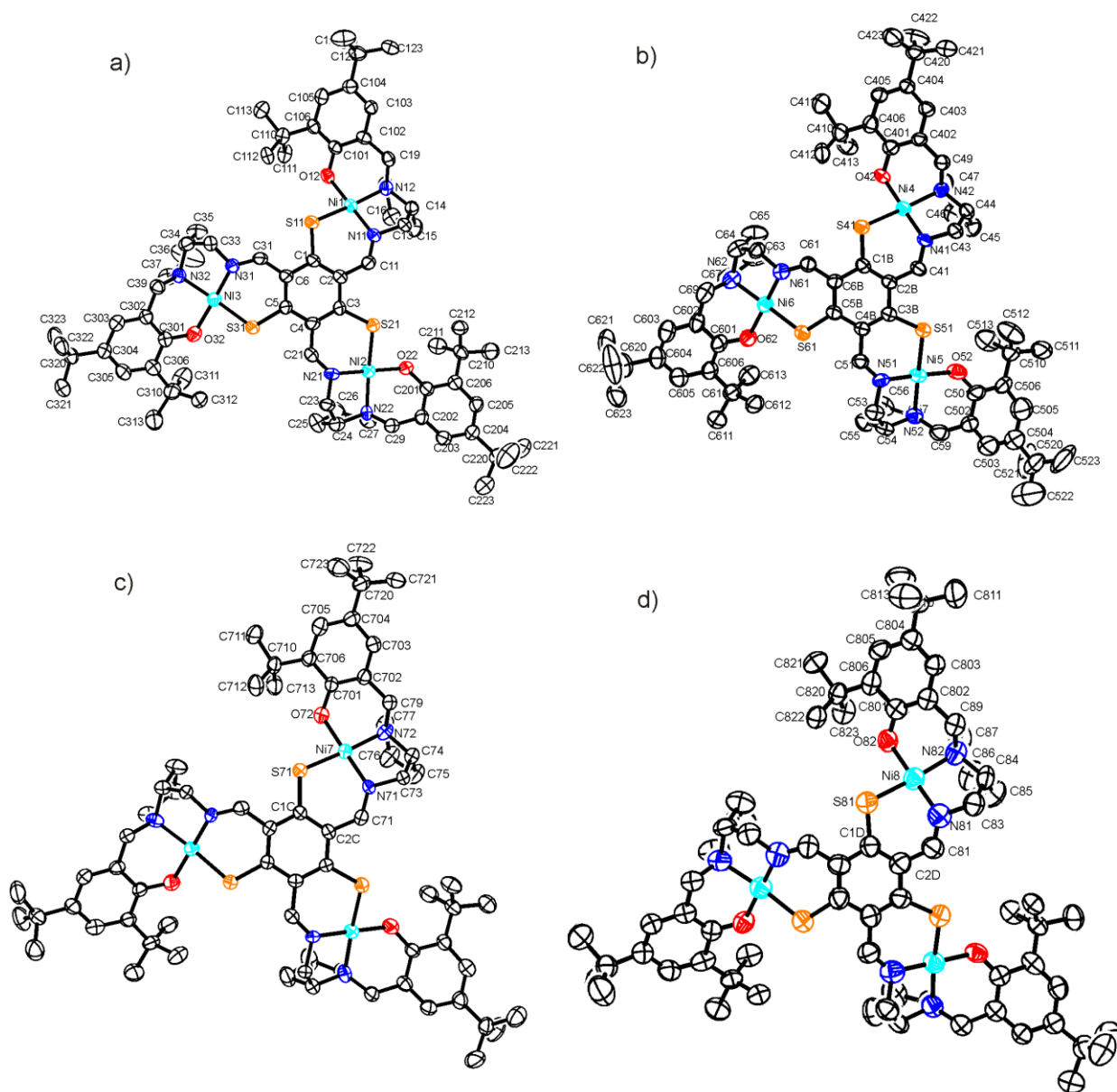
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**Figure S1** Molecular structures of a)  $[(\text{bert}^{\text{Me}})\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}_3]$ , b)  $[(\text{bert}^{\text{t-Bu}_2})\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}_3]$ , c)  $[(\text{bertdien})\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}_3]^{3+}$ .

Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.



**Figure S2** Molecular structures of [(habbi)Ni<sup>II</sup>]<sub>3</sub> a) molecule 1, b) molecule 2, c) molecule 3, and d) molecule 4. Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.



**Figure S3** The structure of  $[(\text{bertdien})\text{Ni}_3]^{3+}$  exhibits the same disorder phenomenon of one ethylene bridge which has already been observed in  $[(\text{felddien})\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}_3]^{3+}$ .<sup>79</sup> The coordinated ethylene diamine units of the chelating arms are not planar but exhibit a *gauche* conformation, which leads to two enantiomeric conformations of the five-membered chelat rings, labeled by  $\lambda$  and  $\delta$  (Figure 3). The two chelate rings around Ni3 in  $[(\text{bertdien})\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}_3]^{3+}$  are in the  $\lambda\delta$  conformation, where the first designation ( $\lambda$ ) refers to the chelate ring involving N31 and N32, while the second designation ( $\delta$ ) refers to the chelate ring involving N32 and N33. The chelate rings around Ni1 and Ni2 show a disorder of  $\lambda\delta$  and  $\delta\lambda$  orientations in the ratio 50:50 around Ni1 and of 70:30 around Ni2. The orientation of the methyl group (C25 for the pendant arm around Ni2) defines the conformation of both chelate rings, *i. e.* C25 pointing downwards forces conformation  $\lambda\delta$  and C25 pointing upwards forces conformation  $\delta\lambda$ .

