

Synthesis, characterization and reactivity of PCN pincer nickel complexes

Abdelrazek H. Mousa ^a, Jesper Bendix ^b and Ola F. Wendt ^{a*}

^a *Centre for Analysis and Synthesis, Department of Chemistry, Lund University,
P. O. Box 124, S-221 00 Lund, Sweden.*

^b *Department of Chemistry, University of Copenhagen, Universitetsparken 5, DK-2100
Copenhagen , Denmark.*

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Table S1. Crystallographic data and structure refinement details for complexes **1-3**

	1	2	3
Empirical formula	C ₁₈ H ₃₁ ClNNiP	C ₁₈ H ₃₃ Cl ₃ NNiP	C ₁₈ H ₃₁ BrNNiP
Formula weight	386.57	459.48	431.03
Temperature/K	293(2)	293(2)	293(2)
Crystal system	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	Monoclinic
Space group	P2 ₁ /c	P2 ₁ /n	P2 ₁ /c
a/Å	13.8841(9)	11.4619(2)	14.0308(4)
b/Å	11.7651(5)	14.0718(2)	11.9479(2)
c/Å	11.8029(7)	14.2420(2)	11.8830(3)
α /°	90	90	90
β /°	95.208(5)	102.135(2)	95.187(2)
γ /°	90	90	90
Volume/Å ³	1920.02(19)	2245.76(6)	1983.89(8)
Z	4	4	4
ρ_{calc} /cm ³	1.337	1.359	1.443
μ /mm ⁻¹	1.230	1.293	3.070
F(000)	824.0	968.0	896.0
2 Θ range for data collection/°	5.552 to 58.696	5.79 to 57.206	4.844 to 57.564
Index ranges	-18 ≤ h ≤ 18	-15 ≤ h ≤ 14	-18 ≤ h ≤ 18
	-15 ≤ k ≤ 15	-18 ≤ k ≤ 18	-15 ≤ k ≤ 15
	-16 ≤ l ≤ 16	-18 ≤ l ≤ 18	-15 ≤ l ≤ 15
Reflections collected	19617	25039	22173
Independent reflections	4754 [R _{int} = 0.1034 R _{sigma} = 0.0935]	5321 [R _{int} = 0.0343 R _{sigma} = 0.0302]	4758 [R _{int} = 0.0338 R _{sigma} = 0.0249]
Data/restraints/parameters	4754/0/207	5321/0/225	4758/0/207
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.017	1.038	1.026
Final R indexes [I ≥ 2σ (I)]	R ₁ = 0.0574 wR ₂ = 0.1035	R ₁ = 0.0359 wR ₂ = 0.0759	R ₁ = 0.0288 wR ₂ = 0.0657
Final R indexes [all data]	R ₁ = 0.1037 wR ₂ = 0.1272	R ₁ = 0.0583 wR ₂ = 0.0848	R ₁ = 0.0388 wR ₂ = 0.0697
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³	0.58/-0.56	0.49/-0.31	0.57/-0.38
CCDC	1842121	1842126	1842122

Table S2. Crystallographic data and structure refinement details for complexes **4-6**

	4	5	6
Empirical formula	C ₁₈ H ₃₁ Cl ₂ NNiP	C ₁₈ H ₃₁ Br ₂ NNiP	C ₁₈ H ₃₁ N ₂ NiO ₃ P
Formula weight	422.02	510.94	413.13
Temperature/K	293(2)	293(2)	293(2)
Crystal system	Monoclinic	Orthorhombic	Monoclinic
Space group	P2 ₁ /c	Pbca	P2 ₁ /n
a/Å	16.8982(9)	8.6035(11)	9.2618(11)
b/Å	8.5389(4)	15.379(2)	15.4127(14)
c/Å	14.8122(6)	32.418(4)	14.8841(17)
α /°	90	90	90
β /°	104.453(5)	90	94.817(10)
γ /°	90	90	90
Volume/Å ³	2069.64(17)	4289.5(8)	2117.2(4)
Z	4	8	4
ρ_{calc} /g/cm ³	1.354	1.582	1.296
μ /mm ⁻¹	1.272	4.705	1.009
F(000)	892.0	2072.0	880.0
2 Θ range for data collection/°	6.37 to 57.614	5.98 to 57.632	4.998 to 57.774
Index ranges	-22 ≤ h ≤ 22	-11 ≤ h ≤ 11	-12 ≤ h ≤ 12
	-10 ≤ k ≤ 11	-19 ≤ k ≤ 19	-20 ≤ k ≤ 19
	-19 ≤ l ≤ 19	-42 ≤ l ≤ 40	-19 ≤ l ≤ 19
Reflections collected	23478	24699	23819
Independent reflections	4967 [R _{int} = 0.0532 R _{sigma} = 0.0647]	5116 [R _{int} = 0.0630 R _{sigma} = 0.0634]	5108 [R _{int} = 0.0977 R _{sigma} = 0.0596]
Data/restraints/parameters	4967/0/248	5116/0/216	5108/0/228
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	0.906	1.060	1.037
Final R indexes [I ≥ 2σ (I)]	R ₁ = 0.0425 wR ₂ = 0.0903	R ₁ = 0.0629 wR ₂ = 0.1000	R ₁ = 0.0449 wR ₂ = 0.1018
Final R indexes [all data]	R ₁ = 0.0787 wR ₂ = 0.1087	R ₁ = 0.1255 wR ₂ = 0.1213	R ₁ = 0.0664 wR ₂ = 0.1151
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³	0.35/-0.29	0.90/-1.04	0.33/-0.36
CCDC	1842124	1842118	1842123

Table S3. Crystallographic data and structure refinement details for complexes **10,13-15**

	10	13	14	15
Empirical formula	C ₃₇ H ₆₂ N ₂ Ni ₂ O ₃ P ₂	C ₁₉ H ₃₄ NNiP	C ₂₄ H ₃₆ NNiP	C ₂₇ H ₃₈ NNiP
Formula weight	762.24	366.15	428.22	466.26
Temperature/K	293(2)	293(2)	293(2)	293(2)
Crystal system	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	Triclinic	Monoclinic
Space group	P2 ₁ /c	P2 ₁ /c	P-1	C2/c
a/Å	12.4154(4)	13.8749(3)	7.6857(4)	25.302(3)
b/Å	20.3080(7)	11.8415(3)	9.9501(8)	15.9046(5)
c/Å	19.2503(9)	11.8811(3)	16.4908(13)	20.526(3)
α/°	90	90	84.626(7)	90
β/°	107.527(4)	94.626(2)	77.746(6)	141.46(3)
γ/°	90	90	70.306(7)	90
Volume/Å ³	4628.3(3)	1945.70(8)	1159.95(15)	5147(2)
Z	4	4	2	8
Q _{calc} /cm ³	1.094	1.250	1.226	1.204
μ/mm ⁻¹	0.913	1.077	0.913	0.829
F(000)	1632.0	792.0	460.0	2000.0
2Θ range for data collection/°	6.122 to 58.636	5.83 to 57.648	5.738 to 58.264	5.122 to 57.65
	-17 ≤ h ≤ 16	-18 ≤ h ≤ 18	-10 ≤ h ≤ 10	-34 ≤ h ≤ 33
Index ranges	-27 ≤ k ≤ 27	-16 ≤ k ≤ 14	-13 ≤ k ≤ 13	-21 ≤ k ≤ 20
	-25 ≤ l ≤ 25	-15 ≤ l ≤ 16	-21 ≤ l ≤ 22	-27 ≤ l ≤ 27
Reflections collected	51734	22308	25388	55093
Independent reflections	11437 [R _{int} = 0.0635; R _{sigma} = 0.0731]	4611 [R _{int} = 0.0420; R _{sigma} = 0.0381]	5724 [R _{int} = 0.0780; R _{sigma} = 0.0623]	6339 [R _{int} = 0.1012; R _{sigma} = 0.0552]
Data/restraints/parameters	11437/0/431	4611/0/208	5724/93/283	6339/0/280
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	0.991	1.037	1.117	1.047
Final R indexes [I ≥ 2σ (I)]	R ₁ = 0.0516, wR ₂ = 0.1027	R ₁ = 0.0370, wR ₂ = 0.0728	R ₁ = 0.0820 wR ₂ = 0.2304	R ₁ = 0.0567 wR ₂ = 0.1311
Final R indexes [all data]	R ₁ = 0.1049 wR ₂ = 0.1215	R ₁ = 0.0591 wR ₂ = 0.0807	R ₁ = 0.1090 wR ₂ = 0.2501	R ₁ = 0.0924 wR ₂ = 0.1501
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³	0.33/-0.26	0.29/-0.27	1.22/-0.63	0.69/-0.41
CCDC	1842125	1842120	1842119	1842127

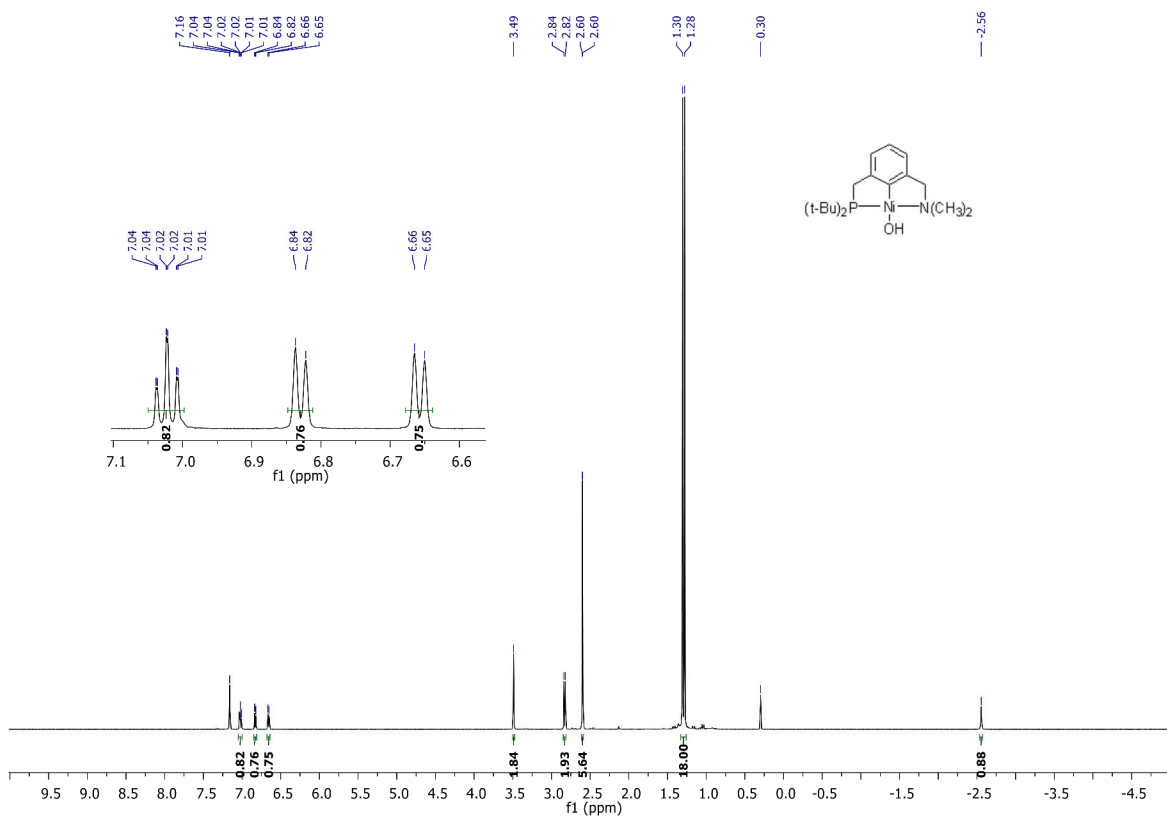


Figure S1. ¹H NMR spectrum (500 MHz, C₆D₆) of (PCN^{Me})Ni-OH(8) including traces of silicon grease.

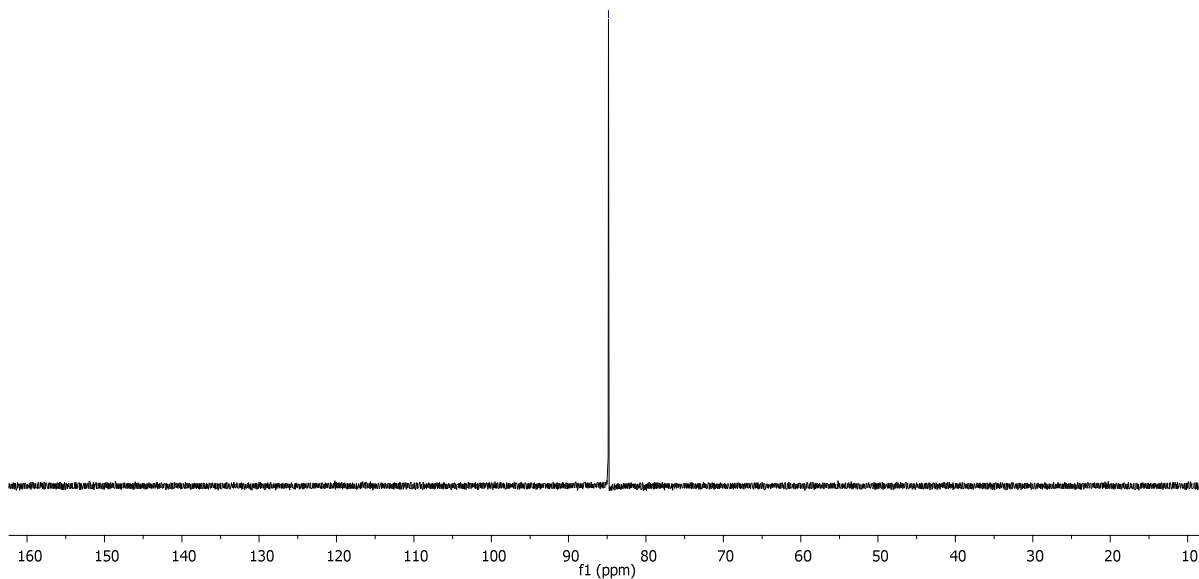


Figure S2. ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum (202 MHz, C₆D₆) of (PCN^{Me})Ni-OH(8).

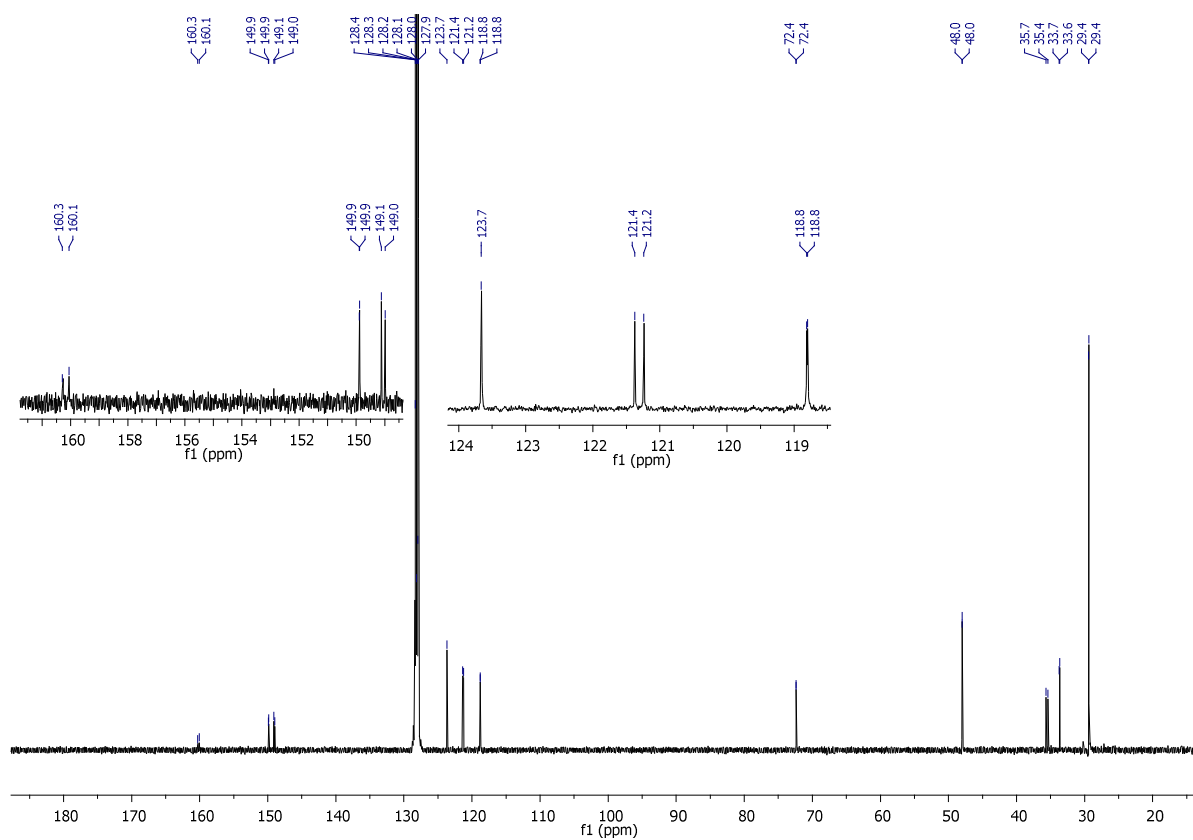


Figure S3. $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum (126 MHz, C_6D_6) of $(\text{PCN}^{\text{Me}})\text{Ni-OH}(\mathbf{8})$.

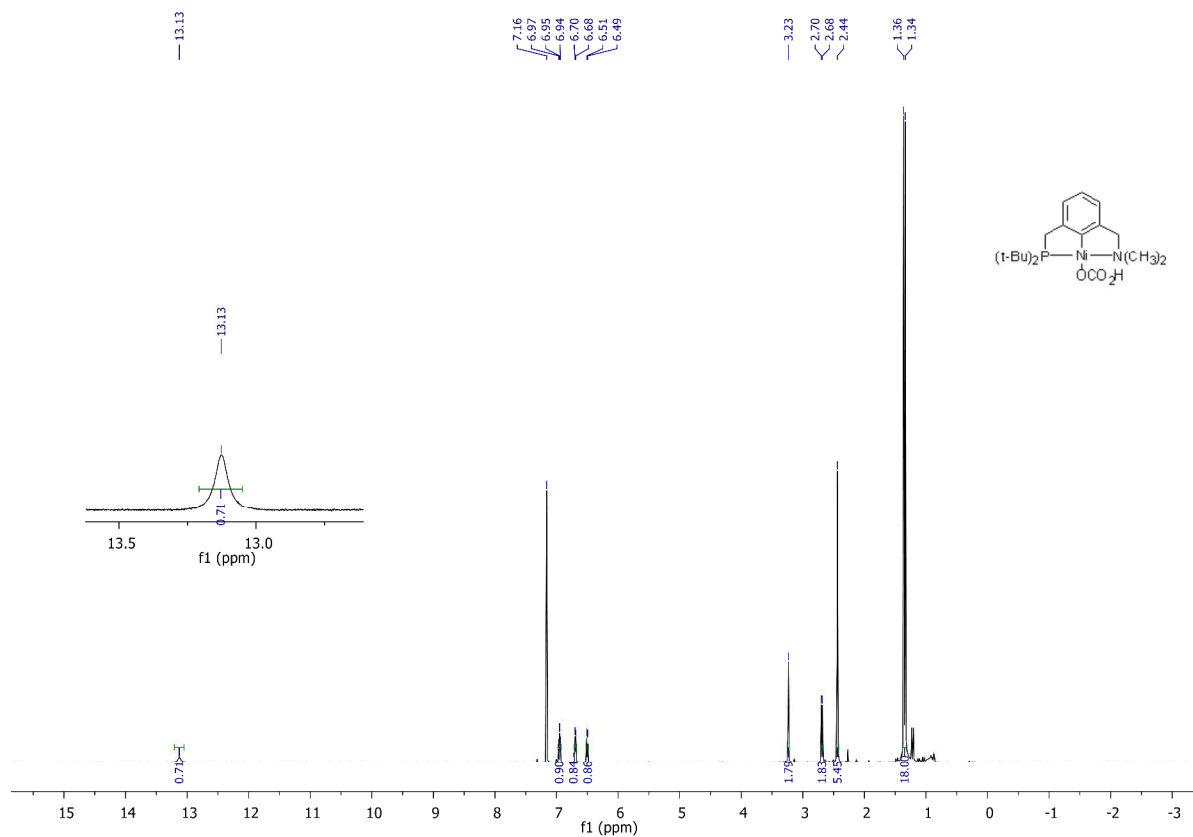
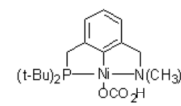
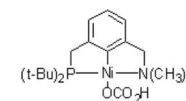
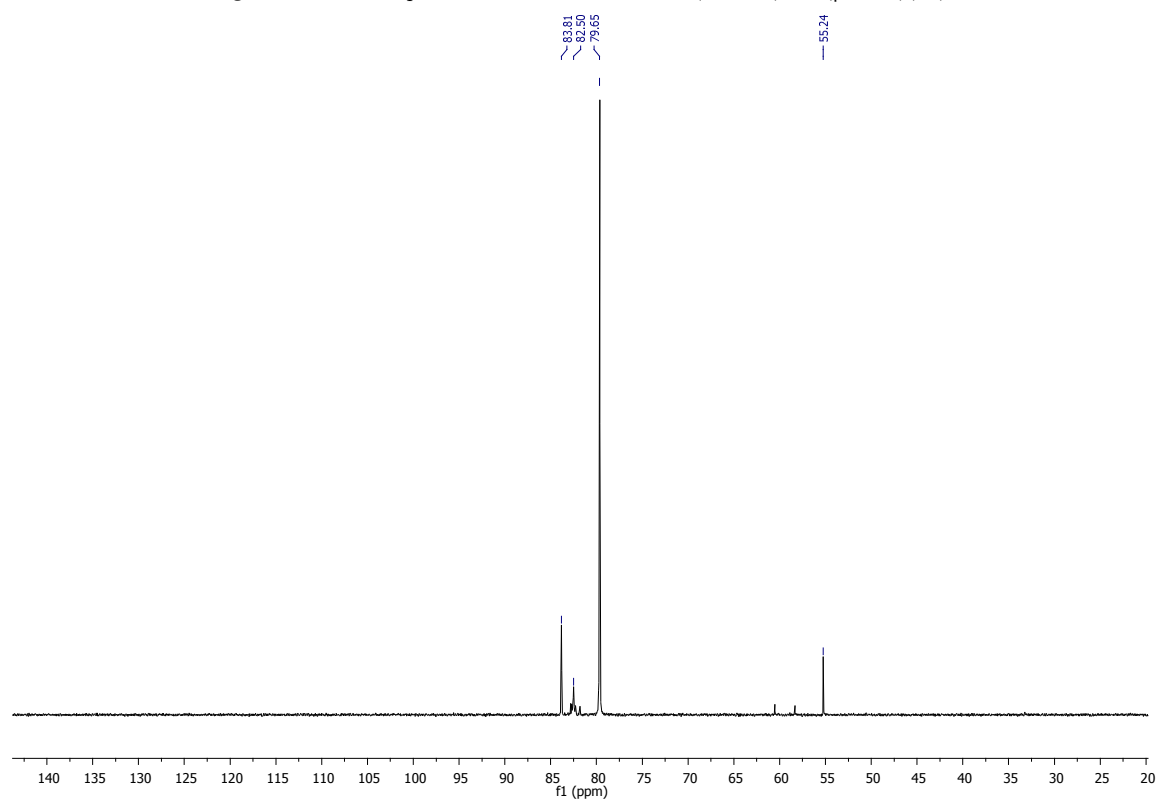
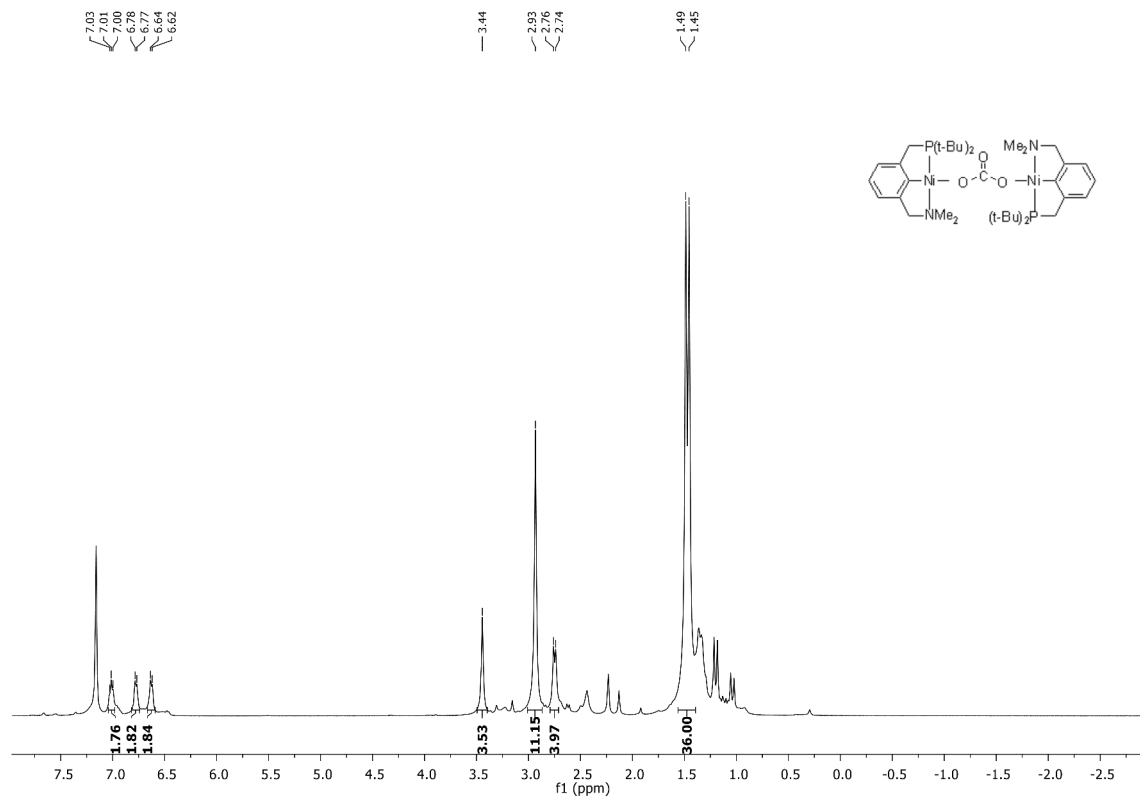


Figure S4. ^1H NMR spectrum (500 MHz, C_6D_6) of $(\text{PCN}^{\text{Me}})\text{Ni-OCO}_2\text{H}(\mathbf{9})$.

[illegible]

S8



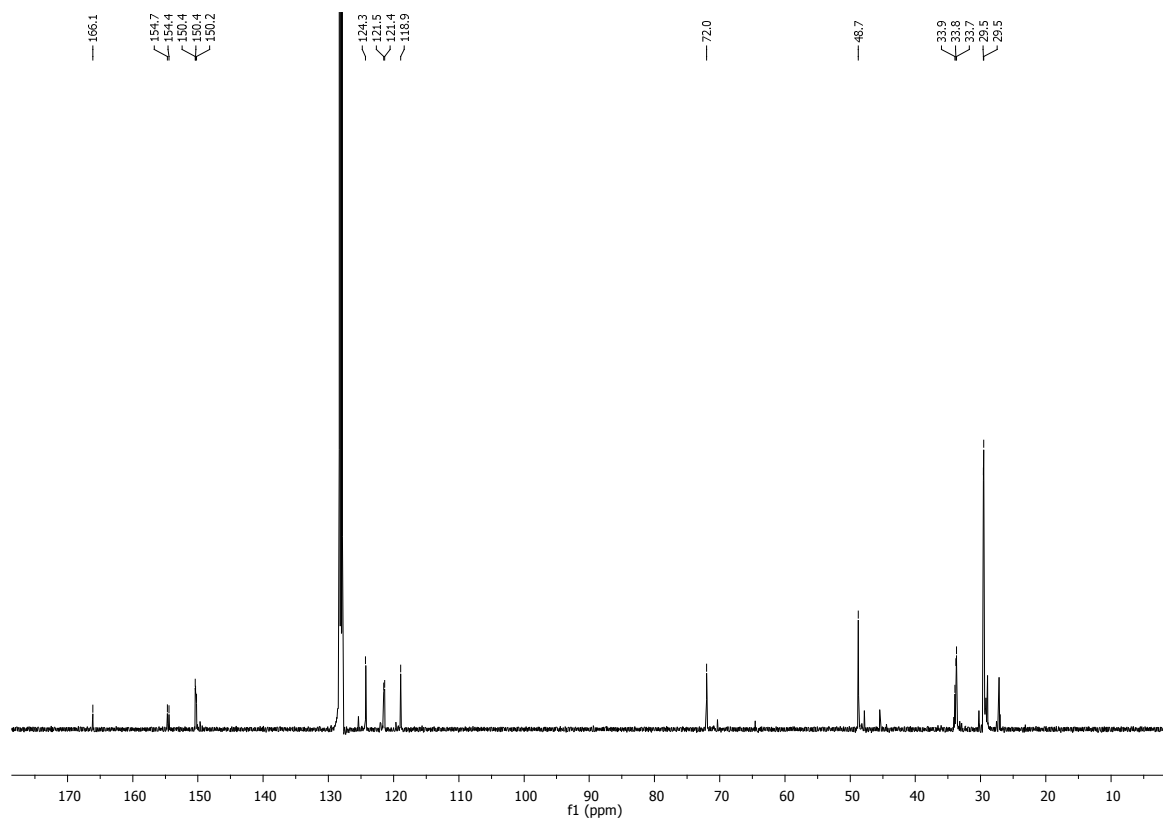


Figure S9. $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum (126 MHz, C_6D_6) of $\{(\text{PCN}^{\text{Me}})\text{Ni}\}_2(\mu\text{-CO}_3)(\mathbf{10})$

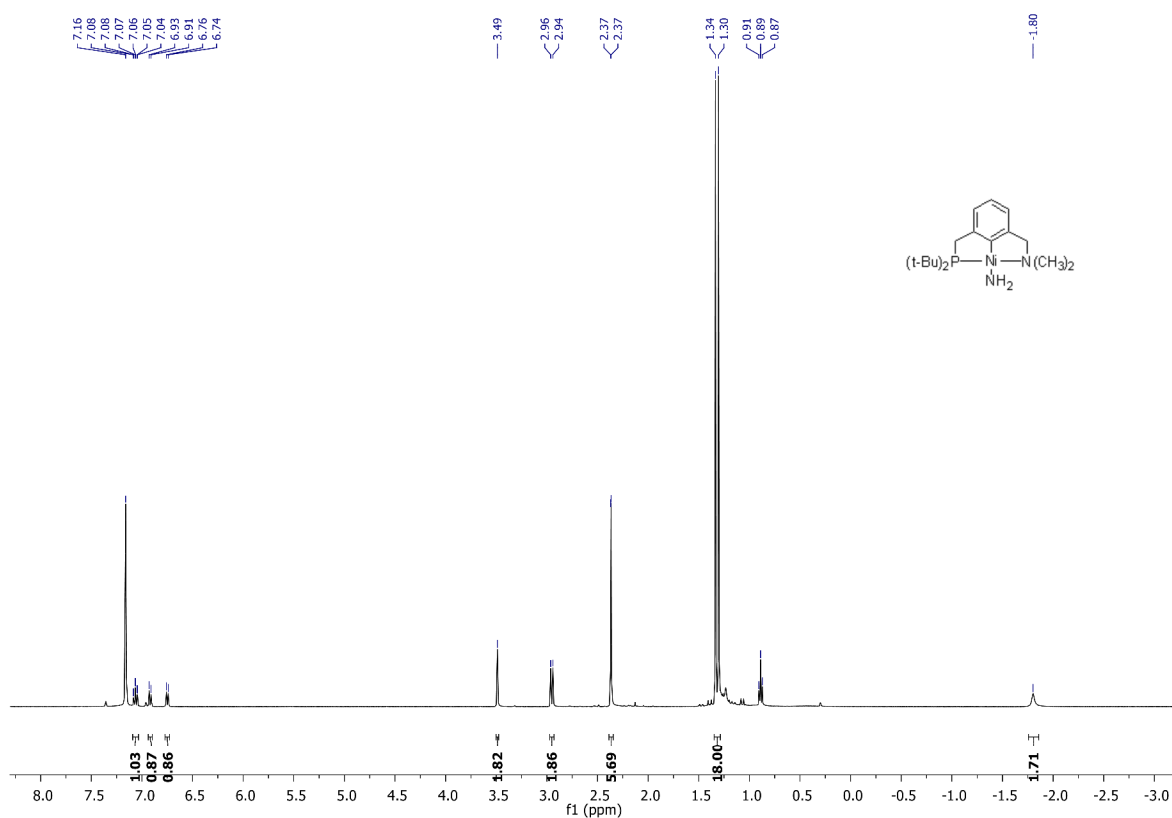


Figure S10. ^1H NMR spectrum (500 MHz, C_6D_6) of $(\text{PCN}^{\text{Me}})\text{Ni-NH}_2(\mathbf{11})$ including traces of hexane and benzene.

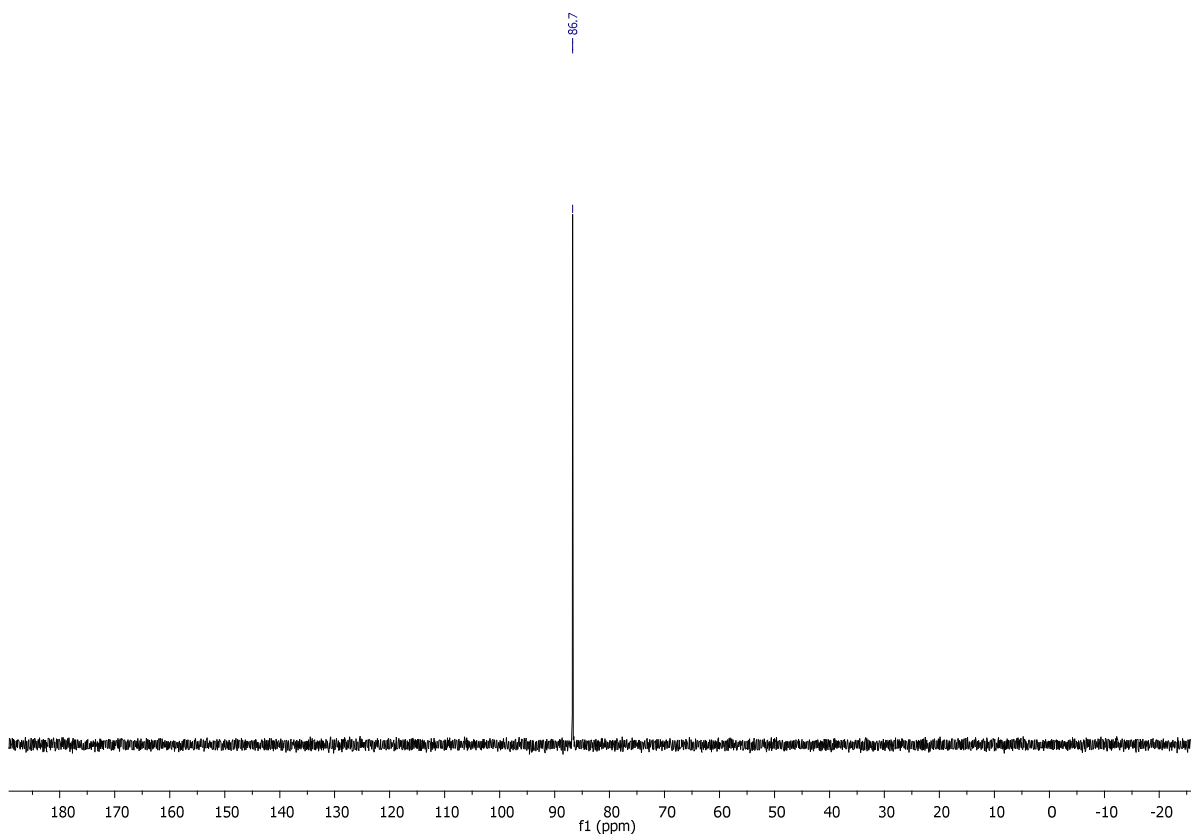


Figure S11. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum (202 MHz, C_6D_6) of $(\text{PCN}^{\text{Me}})\text{Ni-NH}_2(\mathbf{11})$.

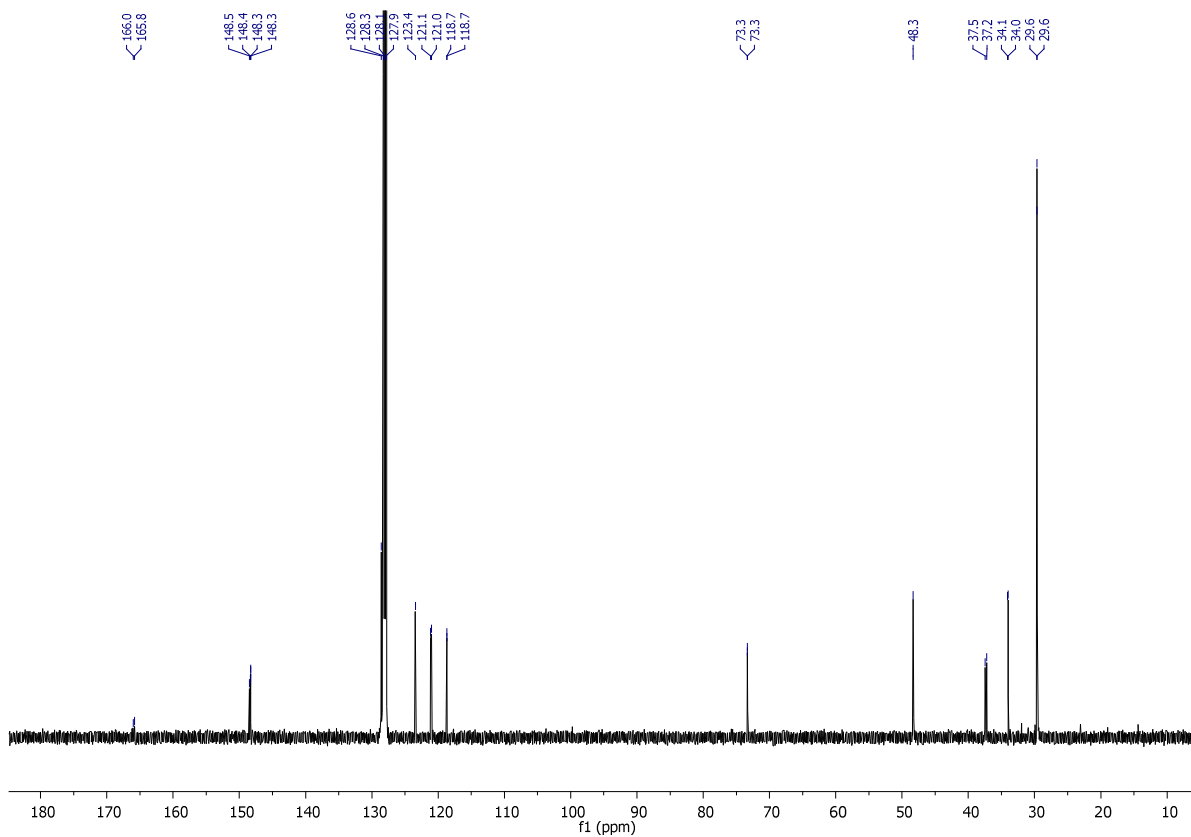


Figure S12. $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum (126 MHz, C_6D_6) of $(\text{PCN}^{\text{Me}})\text{Ni-NH}_2(\mathbf{11})$ including traces of hexane and benzene.

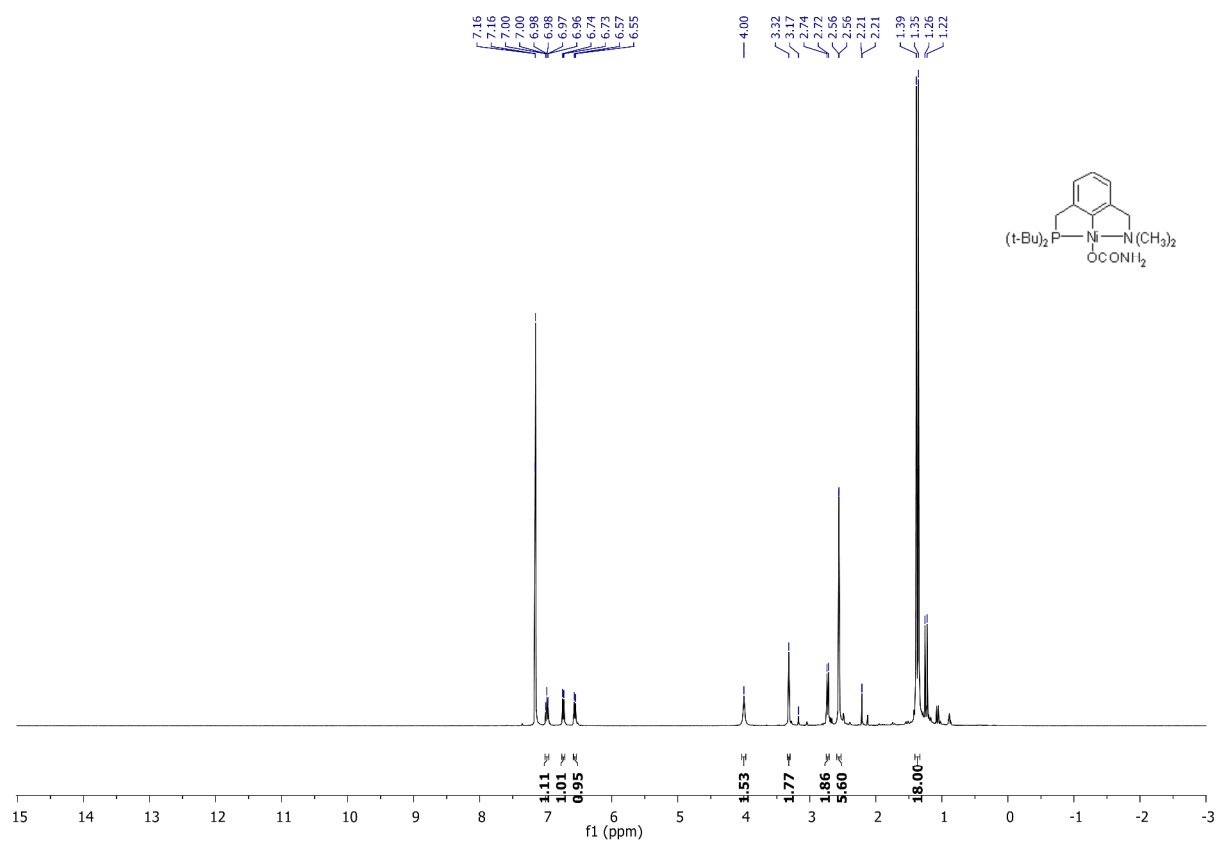


Figure S13. ^1H NMR spectrum (500 MHz, C_6D_6) of $(\text{PCN}^{\text{Me}})\text{Ni}-\text{OCONH}_2(\mathbf{12})$

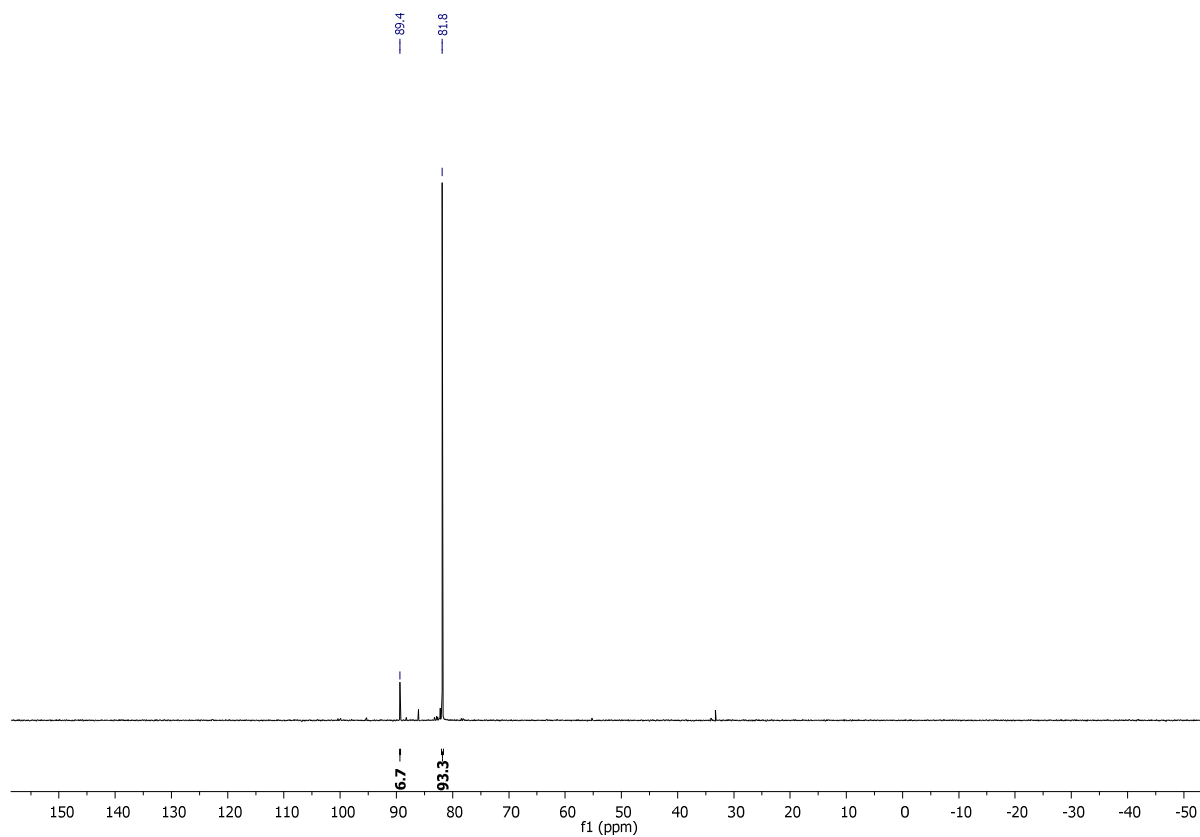


Figure S14. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum (202 MHz, C_6D_6) of $(\text{PCN}^{\text{Me}})\text{Ni}-\text{OCONH}_2(\mathbf{12})$.

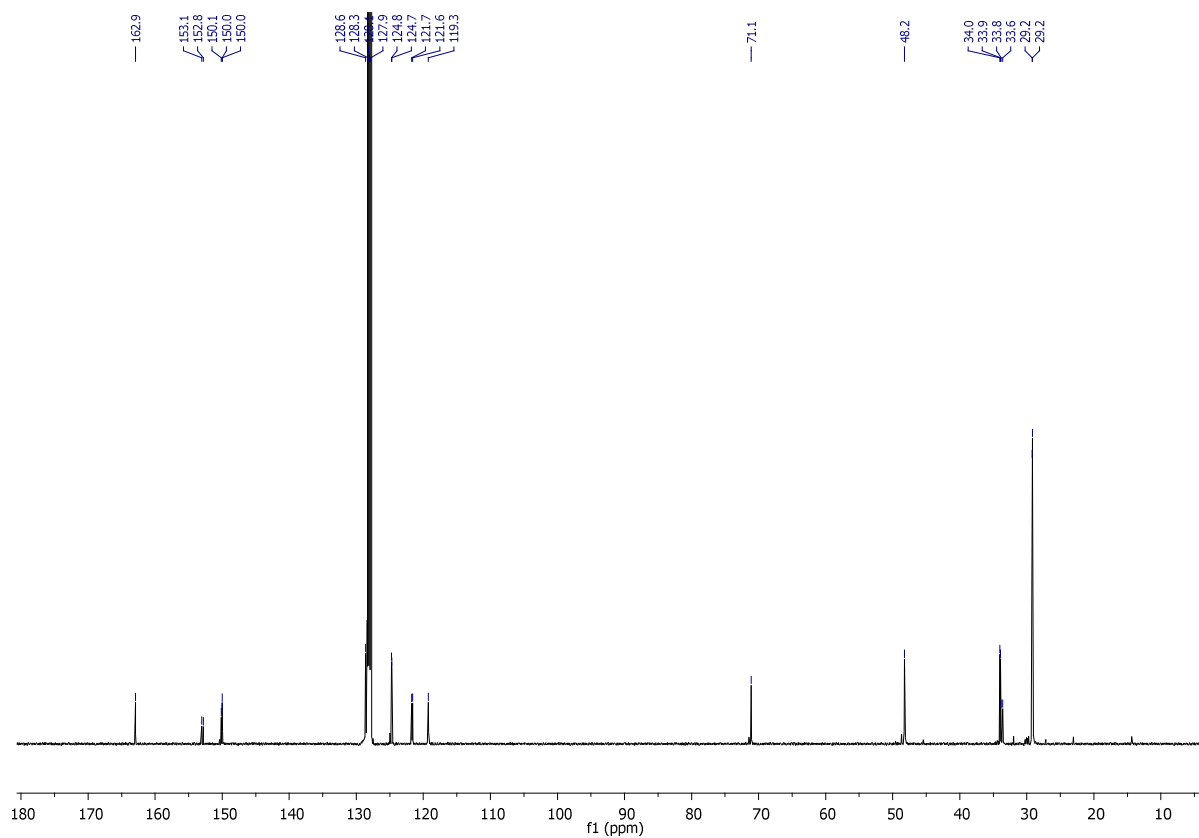


Figure S15. $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum (126 MHz, C_6D_6) of $(\text{PCN}^{\text{Me}})\text{Ni}-\text{OCONH}_2(12)$

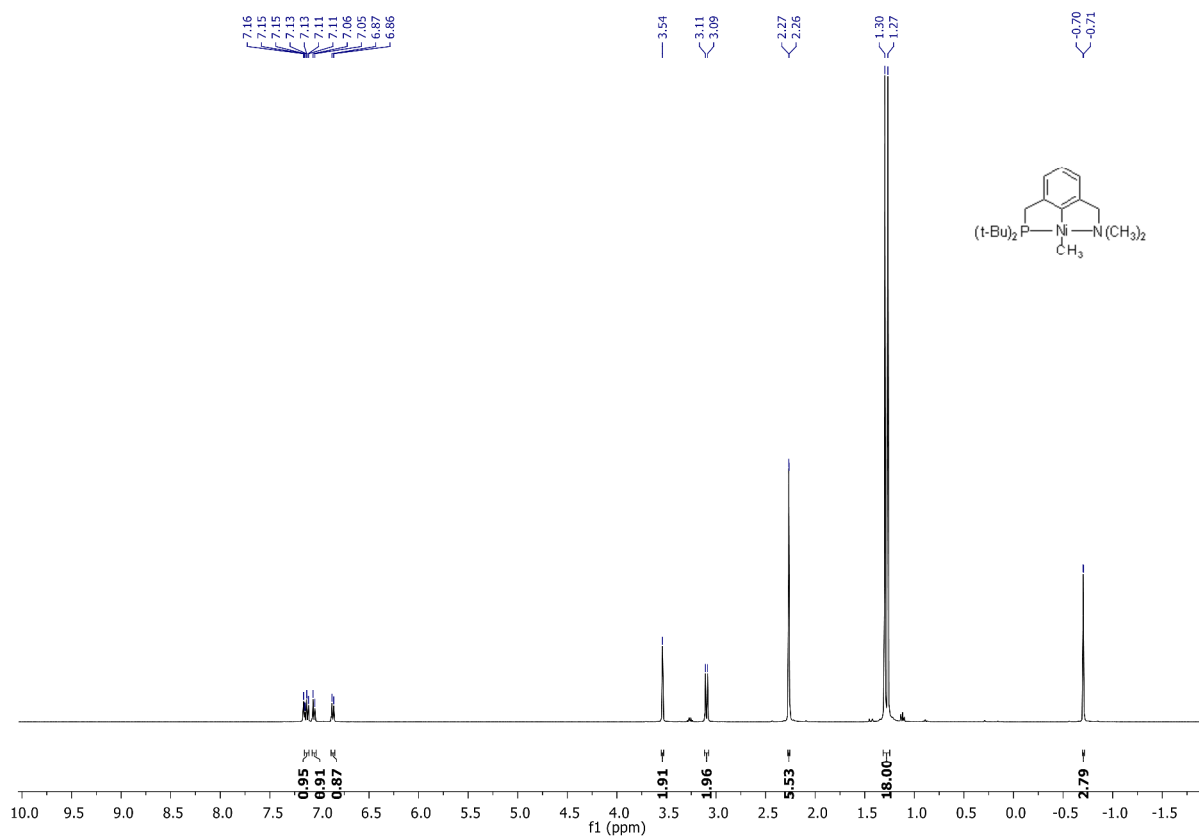


Figure S16. ^1H NMR spectrum (500 MHz, C_6D_6) of $(\text{PCN}^{\text{Me}})\text{Ni}-\text{CH}_3(13)$

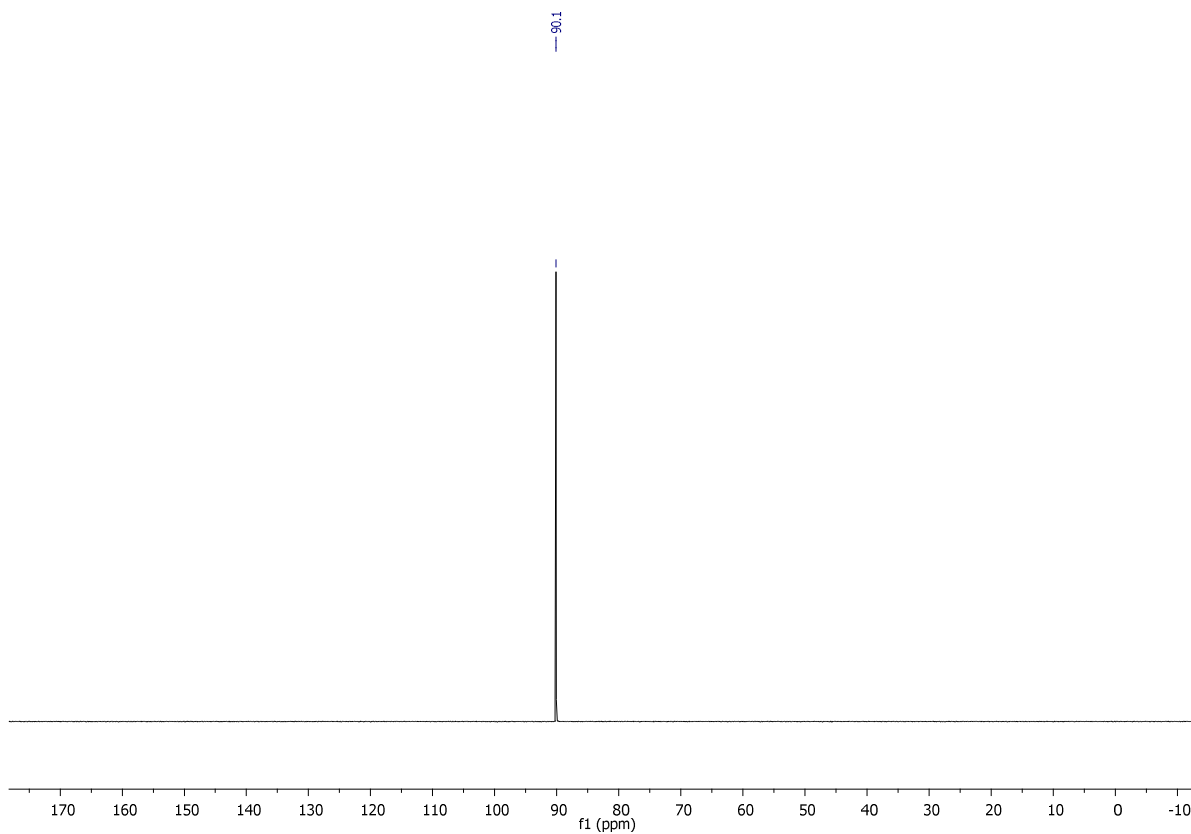


Figure S17. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum (202 MHz, C_6D_6) of $(\text{PCN}^{\text{Me}})\text{Ni-CH}_3(\mathbf{13})$

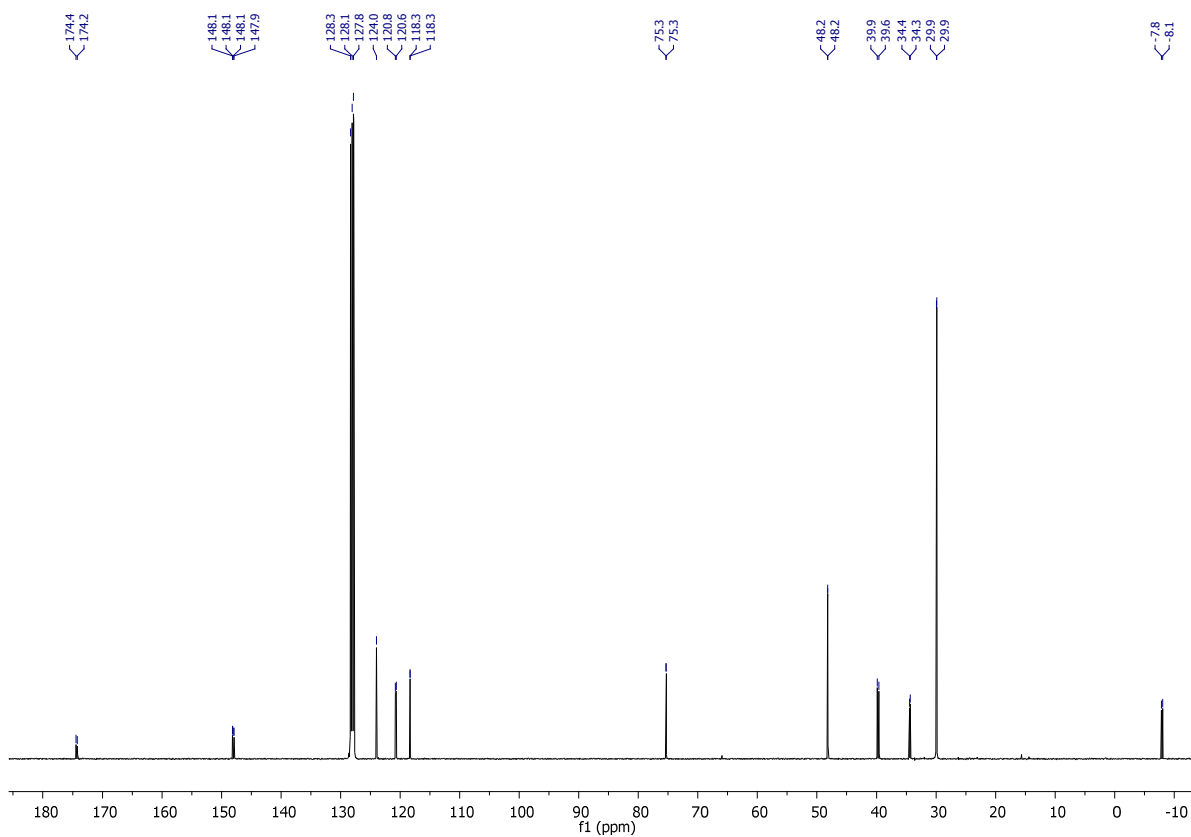
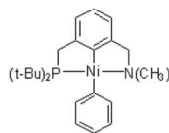


Figure S18. $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum (126 MHz, C_6D_6) of $(\text{PCN}^{\text{Me}})\text{Ni-CH}_3(\mathbf{13})$



88.3



R

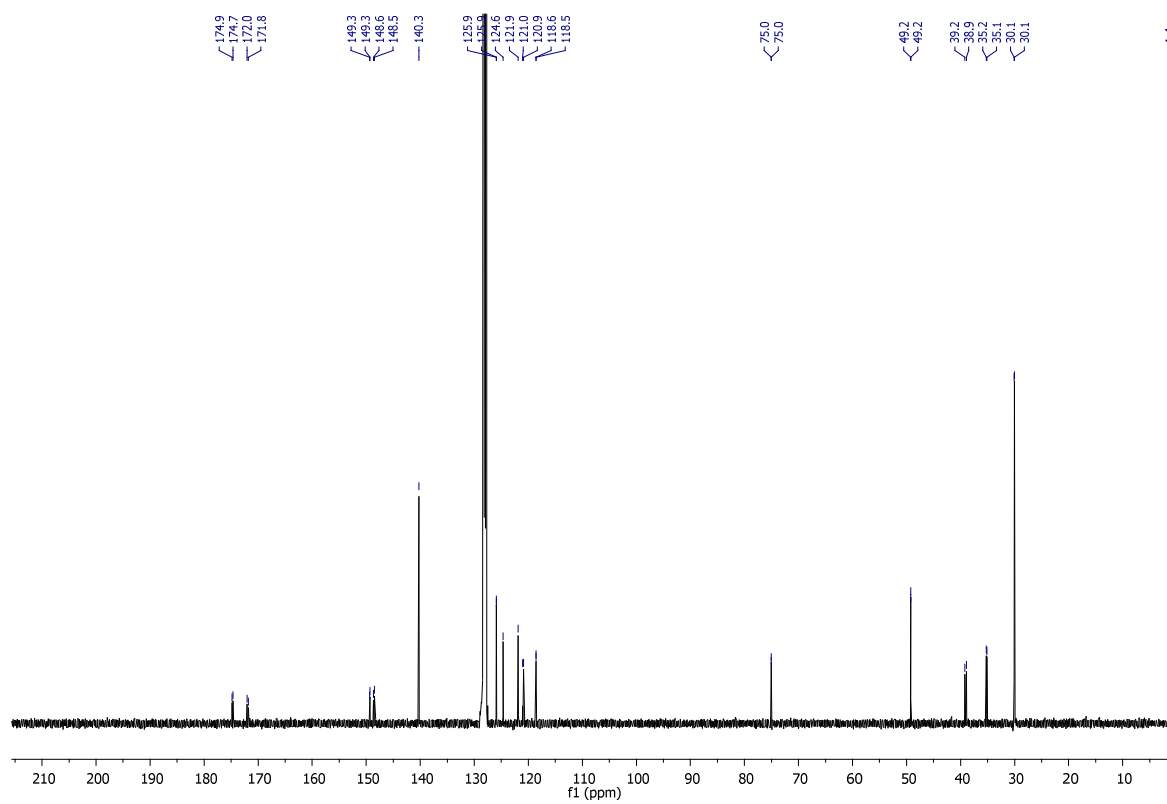


Figure S21. $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum (126 MHz, C_6D_6) of $(\text{PCN}^{\text{Me}})\text{Ni-Ph}(\mathbf{14})$

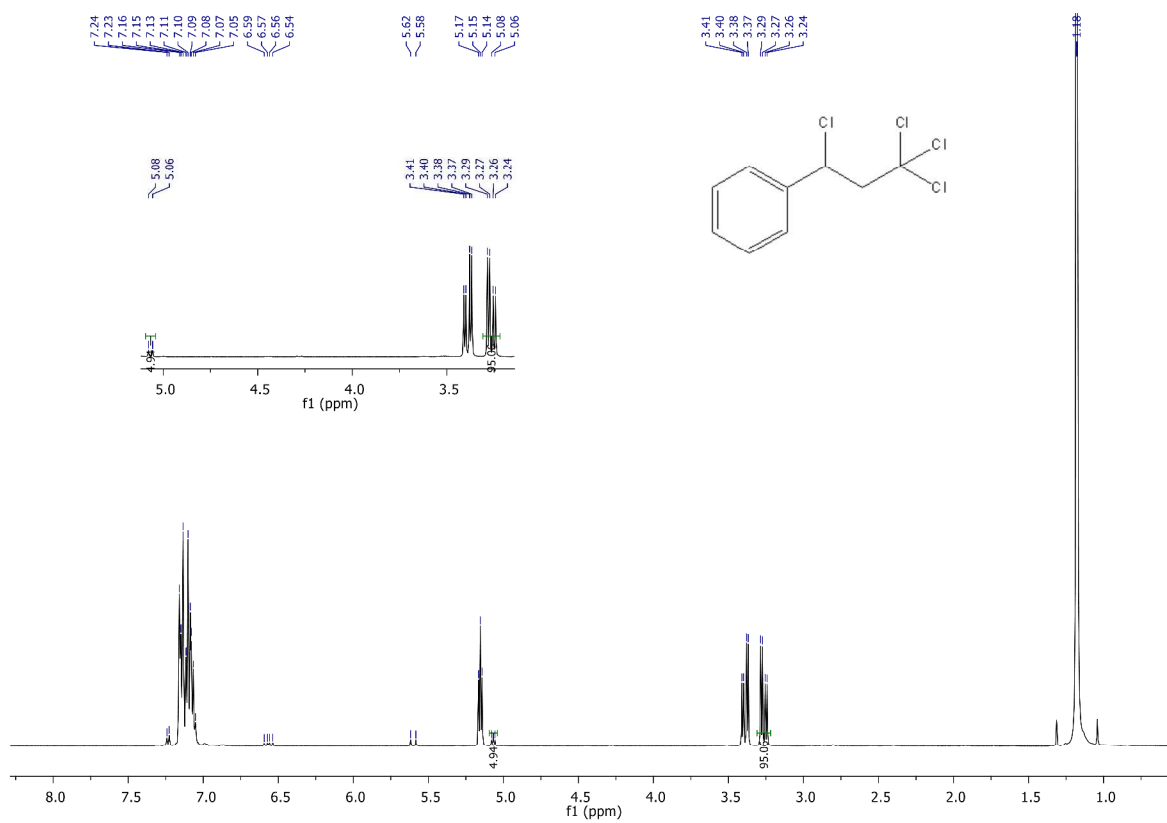


Figure S22. ^1H NMR spectrum (500 MHz, C_6D_6) of in situ Kharasch addition reaction of CCl_4 to styrene after 24h ($\text{PCN}^{\text{Me}}\text{Ni Br}(3)$) as a catalyst.

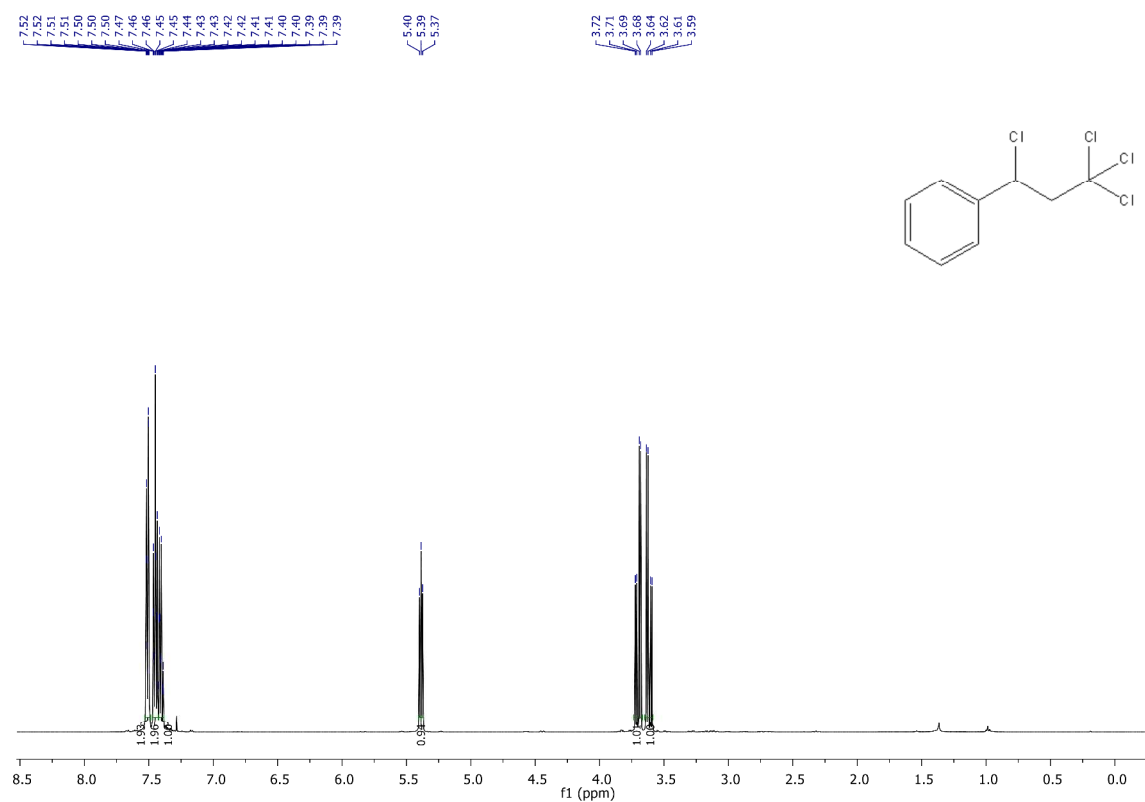


Figure S23. ¹H NMR spectrum (500 MHz, C₆D₆) of (1,3,3,3-Tetrachloropropyl) benzene

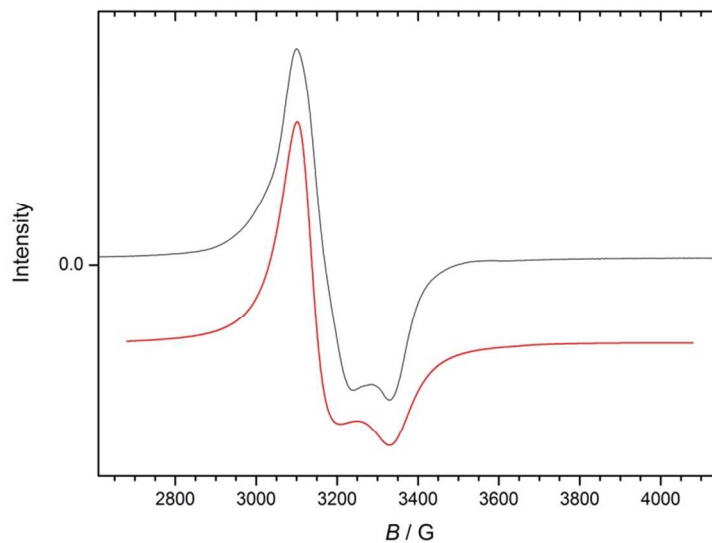


Figure S24. Experimental (black) and simulated (red) X-band EPR spectra of undiluted **5** in the solid state. The spectrum was recorded at $T=11\text{K}$, with $P=0.6325\text{ mW}$; modulation amplitude = 1.0 G, modulation freq. = 100 kHz. Simulation parameters: $g_{zz}=2.065$, $g_{xx} = g_{yy} = 2.206$, lorentzian derivative line shape, FWHH = 65 G.

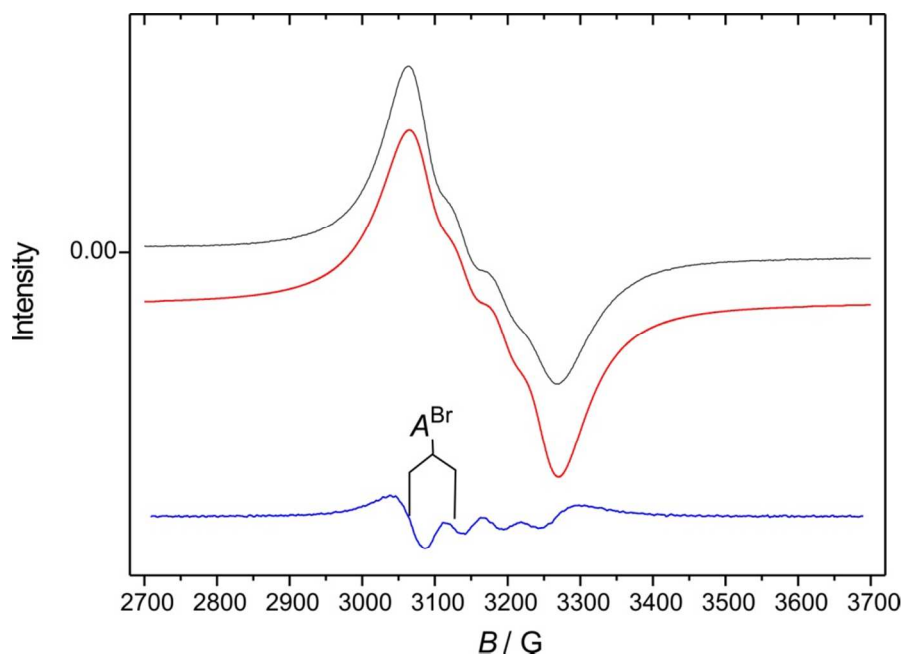


Figure S25. Experimental (black) and simulated (red) X-band EPR spectra of **5** in a CH_2Cl_2 solution at $T=293$ K. The blue curve is the derivative of the experimental spectrum directly visualizing the super-hyperfine splitting from coupling to one bromide ligand. The spectrum was recorded with $P=6.325$ mW; modulation amplitude = 4.0 G, modulation freq. = 100 kHz. Simulation parameters: $g_{\text{iso}}=2.172$, $A_{\text{iso}}^{\text{Br}}=0.0053\text{ cm}^{-1}$, lorentzian derivative line shape, FWHH = 63 G.

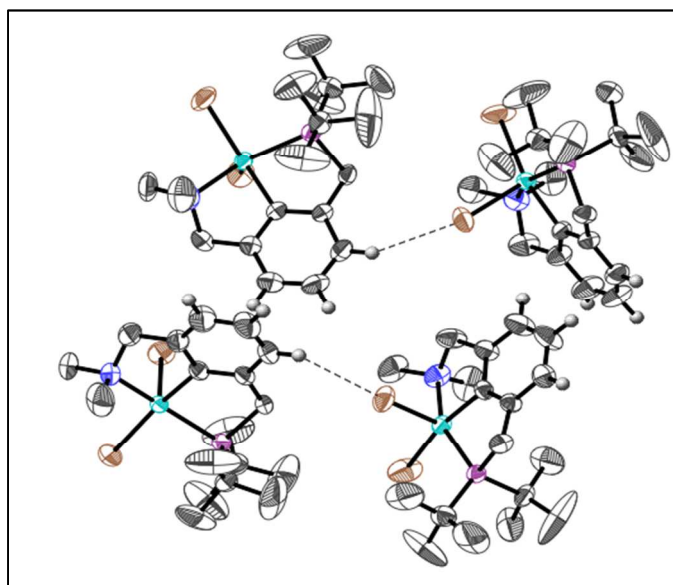


Figure S26. Crystal packing of complex **5** showing a weak non-classical hydrogen bond between the apical bromide ligand and the meta C-H group on an adjacent phenyl ring.