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## Ni(II) complexes of unsymmetrical phenyl and phenethyl dithiocarbamates and triphenylphosphine

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Unsymmetrical Ni(II) complexes of phenyl- and phenethylthiocarbamate and PPh<sub>3</sub> of composition [NiX(HPhdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)], [NiX(HPhetdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)], [Ni(HPhdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]ClO<sub>4</sub> and [Ni(HPhdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]PF<sub>6</sub> {X = Cl, Br, I, NCS; HPhdtc = phenylthiocarbamate, HPhetdtc = phenethylthiocarbamate, PPh<sub>3</sub> = triphenylphosphine} have been synthesized. The complexes have been characterized by elemental and thermal analysis, IR and electronic spectroscopy, magnetochemical and conductivity measurements. Single-crystal X-ray analysis of [NiBr(HPhdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)]·CHCl<sub>3</sub> confirmed a distorted square planar coordination for the NiS<sub>2</sub>PBr chromophore. For selected samples, the catalytic effects of graphite oxidation were studied.

**Keywords:** Nickel(II)-dithiocarbamate; Triphenylphosphine; X-ray structure; Graphite oxidation

### 1. Introduction

Some unsymmetrical Ni(II) dithiocarbamates with PPh<sub>3</sub> ligands have recently been described [1–5]. These are compounds with the NiS<sub>2</sub>PX chromophore of composition [Ni(NO)(HRdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)] (R = methyl, ethyl, butyl, phenyl, *p*-chlorphenyl, *p*-methoxyphenyl, dtc = S<sub>2</sub>CN); [NiX(HRdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)] (X = Cl, Br, I, NCS, R = methyl, ethyl, butyl, phenyl, *p*-chlorphenyl, *p*-methoxyphenyl, 2-hydroxyethyl, 2,3-dimethyl-1-phenyl-3-pyrazolin-5-on-4-yl). Complexes with the NiS<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub> chromophore of the [Ni(HRdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]ClO<sub>4</sub> {R = methyl, carboxymethyl, 2-(2-indolyl)-1-carboxyethyl} [3, 6] have also been reported, but no X-ray structure is available. For Ni(II) phenyl- and phenethylthiocarbamates, only [NiBr(HPhetdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)] has been reported [2].

In this article, the syntheses of new complexes of composition [NiX(HRdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)] and [Ni(HPhdtc)<sub>2</sub>]Y are described. Attention is drawn to the influence of donor atoms,

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R group and Y anion on structure. In some cases, we used thermal analysis to study the catalytic influence of complexes on graphite oxidation. Graphite is frequently used as an ideal carbon model. It is known that results obtained for graphite oxidation in the presence of inorganic compounds can also be used for another coal material (metallurgical coke). An understanding of the oxidative pyrolysis mechanism of these species with inorganic admixtures is important for many industrial applications (metal production, metallurgical waste, especially for coal oxidation).

## 2. Experimental

### 2.1. Materials

Graphite was supplied by Fluka and phenethylamine and triphenylphosphine by Sigma Aldrich. Remaining reagents were obtained from Lachema, all of p.a. purity.

### 2.2. Syntheses

**2.2.1. [NiX(HRdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)] (X = Cl, Br, I, NCS; R = Ph, Phet).** Solutions of [Ni(HRdtc)<sub>2</sub>] [7] and [NiX<sub>2</sub>(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] [8] (1 mmol) in 20 cm<sup>3</sup> of chloroform at room temperature were filtered through active carbon. After addition of diethylether (6 cm<sup>3</sup>), crystals of [NiBr(HPhdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)] · CHCl<sub>3</sub> (**II**) suitable for X-ray analysis were obtained. In the case of Ni(NCS)(HPhdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>) (**IV**), the powder obtained was separated by filtration and washed with *n*-hexane; for [NiCl(HPhdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)] (**I**) and [NiI(HPhdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)] (**III**), evaporation of solvent and addition of *n*-hexane was necessary. [NiCl(HPhetdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)], [NiBr(HPhetdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)], [NiI(HPhetdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)] and [Ni(NCS)(HPhetdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)], (**V–VIII**), respectively were obtained from viscous solutions by addition of *n*-hexane. All solids were washed with *n*-hexane and dried at 40°C under an infrared lamp. Yields: 76% (**I**), 80% (**II**), 73% (**III**), 83% (**IV**), 72% (**V**), 77% (**VI**), 88% (**VII**), 77% (**VIII**).

**2.2.2. [Ni(HPhdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]Y (Y = ClO<sub>4</sub>, PF<sub>6</sub>).** A suspension of finely powdered [Ni(HPhdtc)<sub>2</sub>] (1 mmol), PPh<sub>3</sub> (2 mmol) and NiCl<sub>2</sub> · 6H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mmol) in 20 cm<sup>3</sup> of methanol was stirred under reflux for 1 h. Finely powdered LiClO<sub>4</sub> · 3H<sub>2</sub>O or K[PF<sub>6</sub>] (1 mmol) was then added and the mixture was stirred for a further hour. A small amount of active carbon was added and the solution filtered and slowly evaporated to near dryness. Products were obtained by dissolution of the residue in CHCl<sub>3</sub> and precipitation by addition of *n*-hexane. Solids were filtered off, washed with *n*-hexane and dried under an infrared lamp at 40°C. Yields: 77% ([Ni(HPhdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]ClO<sub>4</sub>, **IX**), 72% ([Ni(HPhdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]PF<sub>6</sub>, **X**).

### 2.3. Physical measurements

The nickel content was determined by chelatometric titration using murexid as indicator [9]. Chlorine, bromine and iodine were determined by the Schöniger

Table 1. Crystal data and structure refinement details for [NiBr(HPhdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)]·CHCl<sub>3</sub>.

Empirical formula	C <sub>26</sub> H <sub>22</sub> BrCl <sub>3</sub> NNiPS <sub>2</sub>
Formula weight	688.51
Temperature (K)	100(2)
Wavelength (Å)	0.71073
Crystal size (mm <sup>3</sup> )	0.4 × 0.2 × 0.2
Crystal system, space group	Monoclinic, <i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> / <i>c</i>
Unit cell dimensions (Å, °)	<i>a</i> = 13.697(3), <i>b</i> = 22.216(4), <i>c</i> = 9.672(2), β = 109.45(3)
<i>V</i> (Å <sup>3</sup> )	2775.2(10)
<i>Z</i> , calculated density (Mg m <sup>-3</sup> )	4, 1.648
Absorption coefficient (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	2.654
Extinction coefficient	0.0007(8)
<i>F</i> (000)	1384
θ range for data collection (°)	3.27–32.10
Index ranges	−20 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 19, −32 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 32, −9 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 14
Reflections collected/unique	29738/8864 [ <i>R</i> (int) = 0.0932]
Completeness to 2θ = 32.1°	89.2%
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>
Data/restraints/parameters	8864/0/317
Goodness-of-fit on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>	1.099
Final <i>R</i> indices [ <i>I</i> > 2σ( <i>I</i> )]	<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> = 0.0906, <i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub> = 0.2447
<i>R</i> indices (all data)	<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> = 0.1259, <i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub> = 0.2727
Largest diff. peak and hole (e Å <sup>-3</sup> )	2.339 and −2.181

method [10]. CHNS analyses were performed on a Fisons EA 1108 instrument. Satisfactory analyses for all complexes described above were obtained. Room temperature magnetic susceptibilities were measured by the Faraday method using Co[Hg(NCS)<sub>4</sub>] as calibrant on a laboratory-designed instrument based on a Sartorius 4434 MP-8 microbalance. Conductivities were measured with an LF 330 meter (WTW GmbH) at 25°C. Diffuse reflectance electronic spectra (40,000–11,000 cm<sup>-1</sup>) were measured on a Specord M 40 spectrophotometer and IR spectra (4,000–400 cm<sup>-1</sup>) were recorded on a Specord M 80 instrument using nujol mulls. Thermal analysis was performed on a Seiko 6200 TG/DTA instrument with a heating rate of 5°C min<sup>-1</sup>, sample weights of 8.90 to 11.7 mg and a temperature range of 20–1000°C.

Catalytic graphite oxidation was followed on a Netzsch STA 449C device with an α-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> crucible without standard, with a heating rate of 10°C min<sup>-1</sup>, a sample weight of 5.0 mg and in a dynamic atmosphere (air, 100 cm<sup>3</sup> min<sup>-1</sup>). Samples were prepared by mixing graphite (0.6 g, diameter of particles less than 0.1 mm, ash residue max. 0.2%, mass drying loss max. 0.2%) and an acetone solution (2 cm<sup>3</sup>) of the appropriate complex (**IV**, **V**, **IX**); [Ni] = 2.5 · 10<sup>-3</sup> mol dm<sup>-3</sup> and pure acetone – (sample **0**; see below). All samples were homogenized by stirring and dried at room temperature for 24 h. Kinetic parameters were calculated by a direct non-linear regression method [11].

#### 2.4. Crystal structure

X-ray data collection for [NiBr(HPhdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)]·CHCl<sub>3</sub> (**II**) was performed on an Oxford Diffraction Xcalibur<sup>TM</sup>2 four-circle κ-axis diffractometer equipped with a Sapphire2 CCD detector and a Cryojet cooler system, using Mo-Kα radiation at 100 K. The CrysAlis program package (V1.171.7, Oxford Diffraction) was used for

Table 2. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) for [NiBr(HPhdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)]·CHCl<sub>3</sub>.

Ni(1)–P(1)	2.1961(17)	P(1)–Ni(1)–S(2)	96.05(7)
Ni(1)–S(1)	2.2128(16)	P(1)–Ni(1)–Br(1)	94.00(5)
Ni(1)–S(2)	2.1814(16)	S(1)–Ni(1)–S(2)	78.38(6)
Ni(1)–Br(1)	2.3323(10)	S(1)–Ni(1)–Br(1)	92.20(5)
S(1)–C(1)	1.694(6)	N(1)–C(1)–S(1)	129.9(5)
S(2)–C(1)	1.730(7)	N(1)–C(1)–S(2)	121.8(5)
C(1)–N(1)	1.329(8)	C(1)–S(1)–Ni(1)	86.2(2)
N(1)–C(2)	1.436(8)	C(1)–S(2)–Ni(1)	86.4(2)
P(1)–C(11)	1.822(6)	S(1)–C(1)–S(2)	108.3(3)
P(1)–C(21)	1.826(7)	N(1)–C(1)–S(1)	130.1(5)
P(1)–C(31)	1.823(6)	N(1)–C(1)–S(2)	121.6(5)
		C(1)–N(1)–C(2)	125.8(6)

Table 3. Possible hydrogen bonds for [NiBr(HPhdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)]·CHCl<sub>3</sub>.

Donor–H	Donor···Acceptor	H···Acceptor	Donor–H···Acceptor
C3–H3 0.960(0.058) 1.080	C3···S1 3.180(0.054)	H3···S1 2.636(0.011) 2.585	C3–H3···S1 116.25(0.57) 113.87 <sup>a</sup>
C36–H36 0.960(0.163) 1.080	C36···Br1 3.620(0.185)	H36···Br1 2.949(0.016) 2.877	C36–H36···Br1 127.98(1.14) 126.09 <sup>a</sup>
C3–H3 0.960(0.058) 1.080	C3···S2 3.279(0.114)	H3···S2 2.421(0.032) 2.319	C3–H3···S2 148.66(0.26) 147.12 <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Values normalized following G.A. Jeffrey and L. Lewis. *Carbohydr. Res.*, **60**, 179 (1978); R. Taylor, O. Kennard. *Acta Cryst.*, **B39**, 133 (1983).

data reduction. The structure was solved by direct methods using SHELXS-97 [12]; XABS22 absorption and extinction corrections were applied. The structure was refined anisotropically for all non-hydrogen atoms by full-matrix least-squares procedures using SHELXL-97 [13]; hydrogen atoms were refined isotropically. Additional calculations were performed using the PARST program [14]. X-ray data are given in tables 1–3.

### 3. Results and discussion

Characteristic physical data for the complexes are given in table 4. All complexes are diamagnetic. [NiX(HRdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)] species are non-electrolytes and [Ni(HPhdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]Y species are 1:1 electrolytes in nitromethane solution [15]. This is in agreement with the assumption of a square planar arrangement of the coordination spheres. The ionic nature of ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>−</sup> and PF<sub>6</sub><sup>−</sup> was supported by IR spectra of [Ni(HPhdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]Y complexes. For Y = ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>−</sup> ν<sub>3</sub> and ν<sub>4</sub> were observed at 1082<sup>−1</sup> and at 626 cm<sup>−1</sup>, respectively [16]; for Y = PF<sub>6</sub><sup>−</sup> a band at 836 cm<sup>−1</sup> was found [17]. For [Ni(NCS)(HRdtc)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)] complexes, coordination of NCS to the nickel via nitrogen atom was indicated. Vibrations ν(C≡N) at 2102 to 2112 cm<sup>−1</sup> and ν(C–S) at 824 to 832 cm<sup>−1</sup> were recorded [18]. IR spectra of all complexes exhibit typical ν(C–S) vibrations at 972 to 994 cm<sup>−1</sup>, ν(C–N) vibrations at 1510 to 1524 cm<sup>−1</sup> and ν(N–H) vibrations at 3100 to 3188 cm<sup>−1</sup> [2, 19]. Square planar coordination of the nickel is also

Table 4. Characteristic data for the complexes.

	Colour	$\lambda_M^a$ [ $\text{Scm}^2\text{mol}^{-1}$ ]	IR [ $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ]			Abs max. $\times 10^3 \text{cm}^{-1}$	$B^b$	$E_n$ [ $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ]	$E_x$	
			$\nu(\text{N-H})$	$\nu(\text{C-N})$	$\nu(\text{C-S})$					
<b>I</b>	Deep brown	2.6	3121w	1521m	988s	20.1; 29.9; 38.9	94	129.2	171.5	
<b>II</b>	Deep brown	4.9	3116m	1516m	980m	20.0; 28.1	45.2	122.5	181.9	
<b>III</b>	Dark	1.3	3112w	1520m	990m	18.3; 23.0; 30.0	46.3	59.8	150.2	
<b>IV</b>	Light red	2.4	3100m	1524m	972s	$\nu(\text{C}\equiv\text{N})$ : 2102s; $\nu(\text{C-S})$ : 824s	20.6; 29.2	109.8	107.8	160.4
<b>V</b>	Deep red	2.7	3118m	1516s	992m		19.2; 30.6	117.6	77.9	172.4
<b>VI</b>	Deep brown	3.6	3146w	1520s	994m		19.2; 30.4	113.9	77.0	175.6
<b>VII</b>	Deep brown	5.0	3188w	1520s	994m		18.1; 30.0	50.1	126.6	165.0
<b>VIII</b>	Violet	2.4	3126m	1520s	983s	$\nu(\text{C}\equiv\text{N})$ : 2112s; $\nu(\text{C-S})$ : 832s	19.8; 29.0; 35.2	134.9		159.0
<b>IX</b>	Light brown	77	3110m	1520m	980m	$\nu_3(\text{ClO}_4^-)$ : 1082s; $\nu_4(\text{ClO}_4^-)$ : 626m	18.0			
<b>X</b>	Yellow	72	3142m	1510w	986s	$\nu(\text{PF}_6^-)$ : 836m	18.3; 30.1	76.7	104.4	

<sup>a</sup>In nitromethane solution,  $[\text{Ni}^{2+}] = 10^{-3} \text{mol dm}^{-3}$ ; <sup>b</sup> $B$  = start of thermal decomposition;  $E_x$  = peak of exotherm;  $E_n$  = peak of endotherm.



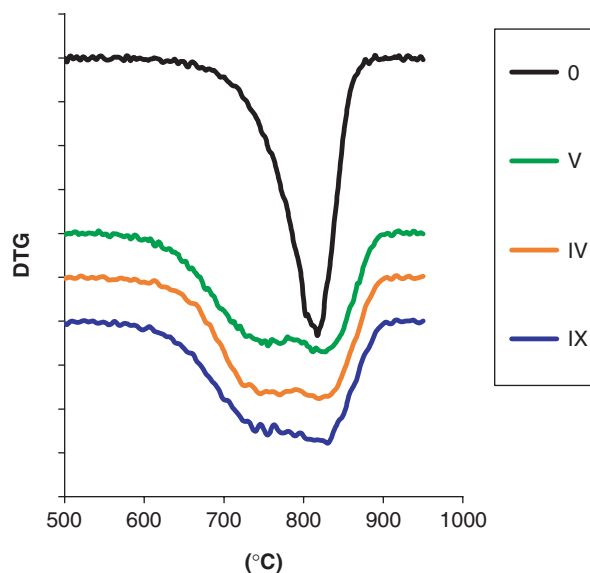


Figure 2. DTG curves of graphite samples containing complexes IV, V and IX. Trace 0 is for pure graphite.

Table 5. Characteristic temperatures ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) and kinetic parameters of graphite oxidation of selected samples.<sup>a</sup>

Sample	$T_p$	$T_m$	$T_k$	$T_k - T_p$
0	763	818	844	81
V	677	811	867	190
IV	682	819	867	185
IX	675	830	869	194

	Step	$n$	$A$ ( $\text{s}^{-1}$ )	$E$ ( $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$ )	$w$ (%)
0		0.8	$2.99 \cdot 10^{10}$	259	
V	I	1.4	$1.01 \cdot 10^8$	211	43.9
	II	0.9	$1.79 \cdot 10^8$	221	56.1
IV	I	1.5	$5.04 \cdot 10^8$	230	50.3
	II	1.0	$9.22 \cdot 10^9$	260	49.7
IX	I	1.5	$1.39 \cdot 10^7$	200	49.2
	II	0.9	$3.70 \cdot 10^8$	228	50.8

<sup>a</sup> $T_p$ =start of oxidation,  $T_m$ =oxidation speed maximum,  $T_k$ =end of oxidation,  $n$ =reaction order,  $A$ =frequency factor,  $E$ =activation energy,  $w$ =mass of sample oxidized.

that the presence of small amounts (0.01%) of the Ni(II) complexes exerts a significant influence on graphite oxidation. Complexes IV, V and IX cause a significant decrease (80–90 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) in the temperature at which oxidation commences, in comparison to pure graphite (curve 0 in figure 2). Oxidation proceeds in two continual steps. In the first, the maximum rate of reaction speed is at about 750 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ . In the second, the maximum rate in the presence of complex corresponds to that of pure graphite (see  $T_m$  values), but  $T_k$  values are a little higher than for pure graphite and the oxidation process is characterized by a larger temperature interval ( $T_k - T_p$ ). Kinetic parameters (table 5) were calculated for one-step oxidation (sample 0, pure graphite) and two-step oxidation (samples with complexes IV, V, IX). The results show that the mechanism of oxidation



in the second step is probably similar for all samples ( $n = 0.8\text{--}1.0$ ), whereas the reaction order of the first step is significantly higher ( $n = 1.4\text{--}1.5$ ) in the presence of complex. In addition, the activation energies of the first step are lower than for the second step. It is concluded that the presence (even of a trace amount) of complex exhibits a remarkable catalytic influence on graphite oxidation.

### Supplementary data

Crystallographic data are deposited at the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, No. CCDC 282964. Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge on application to CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK; Fax +441223/336033; Email: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk or <http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk>.

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