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#### ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

# Syntheses, characterization and reactivity of dinuclear ruthenium-nickel complexes with hexane-2,5-dione bis(thiosemicarbazonato) ligands

Duo-Wen Fang, Ai-Quan Jia\*, Xian-Ping Dong, Zhifeng Xin, and Qian-Feng Zhang\*

Institute of Molecular Engineering and Applied Chemistry, Anhui University of Technology,
Ma'anshan, Anhui 243002, P. R. China

#### **Abstract**

Treatment of hexane-2,5-dione bis(thiosemicarbazones) ([CH<sub>3</sub>–C{=N-NH–C(=S)-NHR}-CH<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub>, R = H, L¹H<sub>2</sub>; CH<sub>3</sub>, L²H<sub>2</sub>–Me; CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>, L³H<sub>2</sub>–Et; C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, L⁴H<sub>2</sub>–Ph) with nickel(II) acetate hydrate in refluxing ethanol gave a series of Ni<sup>II</sup>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> metalloligands [Ni(L-R)] for the generation of heterobimetallic complexes. The reaction of equal mole each of [Ni(L¹)], [Ni(L²–Me)], [Ni(L³–Et)], or [Ni(L⁴–Ph)] with [RuCl<sub>2</sub>(dmso)<sub>4</sub>] (dmso = dimethyl sulfoxide) at reflux resulted in isolation of neutral dinuclear ruthenium-nickel complexes [RuCl<sub>2</sub>{(Ni(L¹)}(dmso)<sub>2</sub>] (1), [RuCl<sub>2</sub>{(Ni(L²–Me)}(dmso)<sub>2</sub>] (2), [RuCl<sub>2</sub>{(Ni(L³–Et)}(dmso)<sub>2</sub>] (3), and [RuCl<sub>2</sub>{(Ni(L⁴–Ph)}(dmso)<sub>2</sub>] (4). Interaction of [Ni(L-R)] with [CpRu(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CI] (Cp¯ = cyclopentadienyl) at room temperature led to formation of cationic dinuclear organoruthenium-nickel complexes [CpRu{(Ni(L¹)}(PPh<sub>3</sub>)]Cl (5), [CpRu{(Ni-(L²–Me)}(PPh<sub>3</sub>)]Cl (6), [CpRu{(Ni(L³–Et)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)]Cl (7), and [CpRu{(Ni(L⁴–Ph)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)]Cl (8). New bimetallic ruthenium-nickel complexes [RuCl<sub>2</sub>{(Ni(L²–Me)}(dmso)<sub>2</sub>]·CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2·CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), [CpRu-{(Ni(L²–Me)}(PPh<sub>3</sub>)]Cl·EtOH (6·EtOH), and [CpRu{(Ni(L³–Et)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)]Cl (7·H<sub>2</sub>O) have been established by single-crystal X-ray crystallography. Their catalytic activities for the acetalation of benzaldehyde in the presence of molecular H<sub>2</sub> have been also investigated in this paper.

*Keywords:*  $\{Ni(\mu-S)_2Ru\}$ -type complex; Bis(thiosemicarbazones); Metalloligand; X-Ray crystal structure; Catalytic activity

<sup>\*</sup> Corresponding authors. E-mails: jaiquan@ahut.edu.cn (A.-Q. Jia) and zhangqf@ahut.edu.cn (Q.-F. Zhang).

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