พอลิเมอร์ฐานเมทัลโลซาเลนสำหรับรีดักชันของคาร์บอนไดออกไซด์



## จุหาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย

## บทคัดย่อและแฟ้มข้อมูลฉบับเต็มของวิทยานิพนธ์ตั้งแต่ปีการศึกษา 2554 ที่ให้บริการในคลังปัญญาจุฬาฯ (CUIR) เป็นแฟ้มข้อมูลของนิสิตเจ้าของวิทยานิพนธ์ ที่ส่งผ่านทางบัณฑิตวิทยาลัย

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วิทยานิพนธ์นี้เป็นส่วนหนึ่งของการศึกษาตามหลักสูตรปริญญาวิทยาศาสตรมหาบัณฑิต สาขาวิชาปิโตรเคมีและวิทยาศาสตร์พอลิเมอร์ คณะวิทยาศาสตร์ จุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย ปีการศึกษา 2560 ลิขสิทธิ์ของจุฬาลงกรณ์มหาวิทยาลัย

#### METALLOSALEN-BASED POLYMERS FOR REDUCTION OF CARBON DIOXIDE



A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Science Program in Petrochemistry and Polymer Science Faculty of Science Chulalongkorn University Academic Year 2017 Copyright of Chulalongkorn University

Thesis Title	METALLOS	ALEN-	BASED	POLY	'MERS	FOR
	REDUCTION	I OF CAF	RBON DIOX	IDE		
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งานวิจัยนี้แสดงการสังเคราะห์ชุดของคอปเปอร์และนิกเกิลซาเลนที่มีโครงสร้างโมเลกุลแบบ ไม่สมมาตรที่มีหมู่แทนที่เป็นอนุพันธ์ของไทโอฟีน และพิสูจน์เอกลักษณ์โดยเทคนิคนิวเคลียร์แมก เนติกเรโซแนนซ์สเปกโตรสโกปีและแมสสเปกโตรเมตรี ความสามารถในการเป็นตัวเร่งปฏิกิริยาด้วย เคมีไฟฟ้าในระบบเอกพันธุ์ของสารประกอบเป้าหมายสำหรับรีดักชั้นของคาร์บอนไดออกไซด์ถูก ตรวจสอบด้วยเทคนิคไซคลิกโวลแทมเมตรี การศึกษาทางเคมีไฟฟ้าแสดงให้เห็นว่าสารประกอบ เป้าหมายมีความสามารถในการเป็นตัวเร่งปฏิกิริยาสำหรับรีดักชั้นของคาร์บอนไดออกไซด์เนื่องจาก การเพิ่มขึ้นอย่างมีนัยสำคัญของค่ากระแสไฟฟ้าภายใต้ภาวะที่อิ่มตัวด้วยคาร์บอนไดออกไซด์เทียบกับ ภายใต้ภาวะที่อิ่มตัวด้วยไนโตรเจน ผลการศึกษายังแสดงให้เห็นว่าการแทรกตัวของพันธะสามของ คาร์บอน-คาร์บอนระหว่างหมู่ที่มาจากไทโอฟีนและโครงสร้างหลักของซาเลนนำไปสู่ความต้องการ ้ศักย์ไฟฟ้ารีดักชันที่ลดลง ในขณะที่การเพิ่มของวงไทโอฟีนไม่มีอิทธิพลอย่างมีนัยสำคัญในด้านนี้ ้นอกจากนี้ การเติมน้ำร้อยละ 3 เพื่อเป็นแหล่งโปรตอนส่งผลให้เกิดการเพิ่มมากขึ้นของค่า กระแสไฟฟ้าที่ใช้ในการรีดักชันของคาร์บอนไดออกไซด์อีกด้วย ผลการศึกษาจากปฏิกิริยาพอลิเมอร์ไร เซชันทางเคมีไฟฟ้าของสารประกอบเป้าหมายผ่านหมู่ที่มาจากไทโอฟีนให้พอลิเมอร์ฐานเมทัลโลซา เลนที่ต้องการ ในกระบวนการพอลิเมอร์ไรเซชัน แสดงให้เห็นว่าการเพิ่มของวงไทโอฟีนนำไปสู่ความ ต้องการศักย์ไฟฟ้าออกซิเดชันที่ลดลง ในขณะที่อนุพันธ์ที่มีหมู่เชื่อมต่อที่เป็นพันธะสามของคาร์บอน-คาร์บอนต้องการศักย์ไฟฟ้าออกซิเดชันที่มากขึ้น อย่างไรก็ตาม ภาวะในกระบวนการพอลิเมอร์ไรเซชัน ้ยังจำเป็นต้องได้รับการปรับปรุงเพิ่มเติม เพื่อให้ได้รับฟิล์มที่มีประสิทธิภาพมากขึ้นสำหรับรีดักชันของ คาร์บอนไดออกไซด์

สาขาวิชา	ปิโตรเคมีและวิทยาศาสตร์พอลิเมอร์	ลายมือชื่อนิสิต
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# # 5871939123 : MAJOR PETROCHEMISTRY AND POLYMER SCIENCE

KEYWORDS: SALEN / METALLOSALEN / ELECTROCHEMICAL REDUCTION / CARBON DIOXIDE / ELECTROPOLYMERIZATION

CHERAWAT KAEWYAI: METALLOSALEN-BASED POLYMERS FOR REDUCTION OF CARBON DIOXIDE. ADVISOR: ASSOC. PROF. PATCHANITA THAMYONGKIT, Dr.rer.nat., 112 pp.

In this research, a series of novel asymmetric copper- and nickel-salens bearing thiophene-based substituents were successfully synthesized and characterized by nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy and mass spectrometry. Homogeneous electrocatalytic activities of these monomers toward reduction of CO2 were investigated using cyclic voltammetry technique. Electrochemical studies showed these salen monomers are able to serve as catalysts in the electrochemical reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> due to the significantly increase of the current observed under CO<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition, compared with those found under the N<sub>2</sub>-saturated one. Results also revealed that insertion of the carbon-carbon triple-bond between the thiophenebased substituents and the salen core led to the lower required reduction potential, while the additional thiophene rings did not significantly influence in this aspect. Furthermore, addition of 3% of H<sub>2</sub>O as a proton source resulted in even higher current enhancement in the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub>. Electropolymerization of the target monomers through their thiophene-based units gave desirable metallosalen-based polymers in most cases. In the polymerization process, results showed that the introduction of bithiophenyl rings led to the lower required oxidation potential, while the derivatives containing carbon-carbon triple-bond spacers required higher oxidation potential than those having the thiophene-based substituents directly linked to the salen cores. However, further optimization of the polymerization condition is required to obtain more efficient films for the reduction of  $CO_2$ .

Field of Study:	Petrochemistry and	Student's Signature
	Polymer Science	Advisor's Signature
Academic Year:	2017	

V

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of all, I would like to express my deep appreciation to my advisor Assoc. Prof. Dr. Patchanita Thamyongkit for her kind guidance, valuable advice, extensive support and encouragement during my research. Her valuable advice are not only in the research methodologies but also in other methodologies of my life and the successful thesis could not be achieved without her.

Secondly, I would like to thank Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nuanphan Chantarasiri for serving as the chairman, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sirilux Poompradub for serving as examiner, and Asst. Prof. Dr. Vachiraporn Ajavakom for serving as external examiner, and for all of their valuable suggestions in this research

Additionally, I would like to thank Dr. Parichatr Vanalabhpatana for serving an opportunity to access her laboratory and research facility for electrochemical experiments.

Most importantly, special thanks also give to all members in the research and the neighbour group for valuable friendship and helpfulness.

Finally, I would like to express my deep sense of appreciation to my beloved family for their inspiration, understanding, great support and encouragement in every part of my study.

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### LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

°C	: degree Celcius
calcd	: calculated
CDCl <sub>3</sub>	: deuterated chloroform
CO <sub>2</sub>	: carbon dioxide
<sup>13</sup> C-NMR	: carbon nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy
CV	: cyclic voltammetry
DMF	: <i>N,N</i> ′-dimethylformamide
d	: doublet (NMR)
dd	: doublet of doublet (NMR)
ECR	: electrochemical reduction
E <sub>onset</sub>	: onset potential
$E_{\rm peak}$	: peak potential
HR-ESI-MS	: high-resolution electrospray ionization mass spectrometry
g	: gram(s)
h	: hour(s)
<sup>1</sup> H-NMR	: proton nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy
Hz	: hertz
J	: coupling constant
m/z	: mass to charge ratio
MALDI-TOF-MS	: matrix-assisted laser desorption ionization-time of flight-mass
	spectrometry
CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	: dichloromethane
m	: multiplet (NMR)
MHz	: megahertz
min	: minute(s)

mmol	: millimole(s)
mg	: milligram(s)
mL	: milliliter(s)
3	: molar absorptivity
$mV \cdot s^{-1}$	: millivolt(s) per second
N <sub>2</sub>	: nitrogen
NHE	: normal hydrogen electrode
nm	: nanometer(s)
ppm	: parts per million
QRE	: quasi-reference electrode
rt	: room temperature
S	: singlet (NMR)
t	: triplet (NMR)
V	: volt(s)
VS.	: versus
mA	: milliampere(s)
mL	: milliliter(s) อันหาวิทยาลัย
δ	chemical shift
% yield	: percentage yield

# CHAPTER I

In the present scenario, the world has global warming problem because of a concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere that absorbed the sunlight and solar radiation without letting them bounce off the surface's earth. Carbon dioxide  $(CO_2)$ , is a one of greenhouse gases which has been released continuously from human activities,<sup>1</sup> including burning of fuel in industry and household. Subsequent climate change leads to ecological impacts, such as a change the amount of carbon in vegetations, sea-level rise, hotter heat waves, and more frequent natural disaster.<sup>2-5</sup> Because of this, there are several researches trying to find out ways to reduce  $CO_2$  in the atmosphere by conversion of  $CO_2$  to value added products.

The electrocatalytic reduction (ECR) of CO<sub>2</sub> is an attractive way to reduce and convert CO<sub>2</sub> to several fuels and chemicals,<sup>6-9</sup> such as carbon monoxide (CO), alcohol, aldehyde and hydrocarbon.<sup>10-11</sup> CO and/or formate (HCOO<sup>-</sup>) were obtained from twoelectron reduction of  $CO_2$  system, whereas methanol (CH<sub>3</sub>OH) and methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) were obtained from six and eight-electron reduction of CO<sub>2</sub>, respectively.<sup>12-14</sup> Many types of metals, such as copper (Cu), ruthenium (Ru) and molybdenum (Mo), have been studied for the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub> owing to their ability to proceed multi-electron transfer to reduce CO<sub>2</sub>, but one of common drawbacks of this process is large overpotential required for the formation of desired products. Consequently, metal complexes become of interest so as to reduce the overpotential by well-designed ligand and suitable central metal to improve catalytic properties.<sup>15</sup> One of attractive metal complexes for the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub> is metal-salen complexes, also called as metallosalen. In the past few years, the metallosalen was investigated as catalyst for ECR of CO<sub>2</sub> to give many possible products could be obtained including CO,  $CH_4$ , ethylene ( $C_2H_4$ ), ethane (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>), depending on applied potential and central metal of metallosalen.<sup>16</sup> Copper (Cu) and nickel (Ni) were used to form metallosalen electrocatalysts. Cu(0) is well known to facilitate the formation of hydrocarbons,<sup>17-18</sup> while Ni(0) reportedly promotes in  $H_2$  production with slight formation of CO.<sup>19</sup>

In this work, we are interested in synthesizing and investigating monomers and polymers of the metallosalen for the ECR of  $CO_2$ . The target monomers contain thiophene-based substituents on peripheral phenol rings, and a Cu(II) or Ni(II) metal center as shown in **Figure I–1**. Thiophene is known to be easy to electrochemically polymerize to give polythiophene that has conductive property.<sup>20</sup> Polythiophene derivatives had been used in various applications, such as *organic light-emitting diodes* (OLEDs),<sup>21-27</sup> solar cells<sup>28-35</sup> and chemical sensors.<sup>36-40</sup> The metallosalenembedded polythiophenes was previously synthesized by electropolymerization with lower potential, affording conductive polymer.<sup>41-42</sup> Moreover, it was efficiently used for the ECR of  $O_2$  to give H<sub>2</sub>O and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> as products.<sup>43</sup>





Since it was found that unsymmetrical metallosalens served as versatile asymmetric catalysts leading to highly reactive and enantioselective catalytic reactions,<sup>44-48</sup> the target salens for this work are designed to have a cyclohexyl stereocenter in the molecules. The resulting monomers will be subject to electropolymerization. Both monomers and polymers will be investigated for their physical properties and electrochemical properties, and their catalytic abilities for the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub>.

#### 1.1 Objectives of this research

Synthesis and investigation of physical and electrochemical properties, as well as their catalytic abilities towards the ECR of  $CO_2$  of unsymmetrical metallosalen monomers and polymers.

#### 1.2 Scopes of this research

Each target unsymmetrical metallosalen monomers contains thienyl or bithiophenyl *para*-substituents on its phenolic groups and a Cu(II) or Ni(II) metal center as shown in **Figure I–1**. All target monomers will be characterized by spectroscopic techniques, including <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy, and mass spectrometry. The polymerization will be performed by cyclic voltammetry (CV). Both target monomers and polymers will be studied for their possible use as catalysts for the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub>.



## CHAPTER II THEORY AND LITERATURE REVIEWS

#### 2.1 Electrochemical reduction of CO<sub>2</sub>

The ECR of CO<sub>2</sub> is the conversion of CO<sub>2</sub> into the fuel or others value added chemicals.<sup>49-56</sup> Considering thermodynamics of this reaction, the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> by proton-coupled multi-electron processes are normally more favorable than single-electron step process because the latter requires high energy to convert CO<sub>2</sub> to CO<sub>2</sub><sup>---</sup>. Moreover, several thermodynamically stable products are produced in the proton-coupled multi-electron processes,<sup>57</sup> corresponding to equations (1)–(6) from calculation of the standard reduction potential ( $E^{\circ}$ ) in a 1 M aqueous solution of other solutes at pH 7 *vs.* normal hydrogen electrode (NHE) at 25°C under 1 atm gas pressure.<sup>58</sup>

$$CO_{2} + e^{-} \rightarrow CO_{2}^{-} \qquad E^{\circ} = -1.90 \vee (1)$$

$$CO_{2} + 2H^{+} + 2e^{-} \rightarrow HCOOH \qquad E^{\circ} = -0.61 \vee (2)$$

$$CO_{2} + 2H^{+} + 2e^{-} \rightarrow CO + H_{2}O \qquad E^{\circ} = -0.53 \vee (3)$$

$$CO_{2} + 4H^{+} + 4e^{-} \rightarrow HCHO + H_{2}O \qquad E^{\circ} = -0.48 \vee (4)$$

$$CO_{2} + 6H^{+} + 6e^{-} \rightarrow CH_{3}OH + H_{2}O \qquad E^{\circ} = -0.38 \vee (5)$$

$$CO_{2} + 8H^{+} + 8e^{-} \rightarrow CH_{4} + 2H_{2}O \qquad E^{\circ} = -0.24 \vee (6)$$

In kinetic aspect, a major challenge is a formation of nuclei and chemical bonds to convert  $CO_2$  into other carbon-based molecules. Two mechanistic pathways have been proposed: one is the conversion of  $CO_2$  to syngas (CO/H<sub>2</sub>), followed by transformation to liquid fuel, such as gasoline, by Fisher-Tröpsch technologies;<sup>59</sup> and the other is the direct conversion of  $CO_2$  to liquid fuel, such as methanol, by electrocatalytic processes. Efficient electrocatalysis of  $CO_2$  requires fast electron transfer at an electrode surface and acceleration of a chemical conversion.<sup>60</sup> As a result, both electron transfer and chemical kinetics must be optimized, or in other words, the electrocatalysts must exhibit good thermodynamic match between the redox potential for the electron transfer reaction and the chemical reaction that is being catalyzed.<sup>61</sup> Several groups of organometallic compounds were reported to be efficient electrocatalysts for reduction of  $CO_2$  because of their high efficiencies, selectivities and turnover numbers,<sup>6</sup> for example metal complexes of porphyrins,<sup>62-69</sup> phthalocyanines,<sup>70-76</sup> cyclams,<sup>77-83</sup> phosphines,<sup>84-93</sup> bipyridines,<sup>94-101</sup> and salen ligands.<sup>16</sup>

#### 2.2 Cyclic voltammetry (CV)

CV is a one of the most widely used techniques to determine the efficiency of the electrocatalysts for the ECR of  $CO_2^{102}$  due to its non-destructive nature, versatility and informative details that can be relatively guickly extracted. Furthermore, it can be used for a wide range of applications in organic and inorganic chemistry as well as material development.<sup>103-104</sup> In addition, both qualitative and quantitative information about analyte in the electrochemical reaction can be obtained from this technique.<sup>105</sup> The electrochemical cell consists of three electrodes, *i.e.* a working electrode (WE), a counter electrode (CE) (also called as an auxiliary electrode) and a reference electrode (RE), which are immersed in an electrolyte solution<sup>106</sup> as depicted in Figure II-1a. During measurement, oxidation and/or reduction of the analyte occur at the WE surface corresponding to applied potential ( $E_{appl}$ ). CV consists of the linearity of potential scanning with a triangular waveform,<sup>106</sup> sweeping through a potential range and reversing the direction of the sweep in a cyclic wave as depicted in Figure II-1b. The  $E_{appl}$  value is simultaneously measured across the WE and the RE having a large resistance and therefore no passing current. The current is then measured in response to  $E_{appl}$  across the WE and the CE, resulting in a plot between the current response and  $E_{appl}$ , which is called a cyclic voltammogram<sup>105</sup> as shown in **Figure II–1c**. A forward scan produces cathodic peak current  $(I_{pc})$  for reducing the analyte in a range of  $E_{appl}$ with a maximum cathodic current called cathodic peak potential ( $E_{pc}$ ). On the other hand, a reverse scan produces anodic peak current  $(I_{pa})$  for oxidizing the reduced form of the analyte back to the original form with a maximum anodic current as anodic peak potential ( $E_{pa}$ ).



**Figure II–1**: a) Three-electrode cell setup, b) the triangular waveform signal<sup>106</sup> and c) the cyclic voltammograms.<sup>105</sup>

In a study of the electrocatalytic activity for the CO<sub>2</sub> reduction, the cyclic voltammogram of the electrocatalyst under a dry inert atmosphere (Ar or N<sub>2</sub>) should show a reversible or quasi-reversible redox couple. When CO<sub>2</sub> was added in system, the diffusion limited current should increase significantly, while the potential shifts anodically, and the reversibility in the return oxidation wave may lose because of the chemical reaction between CO<sub>2</sub> and the electrocatalyst. For instance, **Figure II–2a** shows a cyclic voltammogram of cobalt(II)-tetraphenylporphyrin (**CoTPP**).<sup>107</sup> When the **CoTPP** solution was saturated with CO<sub>2</sub>, the first reduction for a Co<sup>II</sup>P/Co<sup>I</sup>P step was unaffected but the second reduction for a Co<sup>II</sup>P/Co<sup>0</sup>P step exhibited significant increase in current, compared with that obtained in the Ar-saturated condition. This catalytic reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> took place at a potential about 0.3 V less negative than that required for direct reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> in a similar solution without **CoTPP** (–2.02 *vs.* –2.32 V, *vs.* saturated calomel electrode (SCE)) (**Figure II–2b**). These results indicated that **CoTPP** can lower overpotential and increase the reaction kinetics of the CO<sub>2</sub> reduction.



**Figure II–2**: Cyclic voltammograms of a 0.1 M tetrapropylammonium perchlorate ( $nPr_4NClO_4$ ) solutions having (a) 0.5 mM **CoTPP** and (b) no catalyst under saturation with Ar (dotted line) and with CO<sub>2</sub> (solid line). A scan rate was 100 mV·s<sup>-1</sup> and a current scale was 100  $\mu$ A/division.<sup>107</sup>

#### 2.3 Electropolymerization

Electropolymerization has been studied for a long time because of its several advantages,<sup>108-109</sup> e.g. it is a catalyst-free procedure, it provides direct deposition of a doped polymer onto an electrode surface, control of film thickness is quite easy in situ characterization of the polymerization by electrochemical and/or spectroscopic techniques is possible. Moreover, rate of initiation can be easily controlled by varying electrochemical parameters and it can be carried out under mild condition. A great number of experiments have been performed in organic solvent (non-aqueous) systems with various kinds of supporting electrolytes. The widely used organic solvents include dimethylformamide (DMF), dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO) and acetonitrile (ACN),<sup>110-111</sup> while the examples of the commonly used supporting electrolytes are tetra-butylammonium phosphate (TBAP), tetraethylammonium tetrafluoroborate (Et<sub>4</sub>NBF<sub>4</sub>), tetraethylammonium perchlorate (Et<sub>4</sub>NClO<sub>4</sub>) and tetrabutylammonium perchlorate ( $nBu_4NClO_4$ ). Recently, aqueous systems have been of interest for the electropolymerization due to environmental friendliness and economic advantage.<sup>112-</sup> <sup>115</sup> However, the selection of the solvent systems depends on the solubility of the monomers.

The electropolymerization can be classified according to occurrence of the polymer. If the polymer forms at a cathode, it will be called electroreduction polymerization (ERP). If the polymer forms at an anode, it will be called electrooxidation polymerization (EOP). In general, the EOP of organic materials has received more interest than the ERP because the formation of the polymer often occurs by the oxidation of the aromatic compounds.<sup>116</sup> The examples of compounds that can be polymerized by the EOP include pyrrole,<sup>117-119</sup> thiophene,<sup>120</sup> Indole,<sup>121</sup> furan,<sup>122</sup> benzene and derivatives,<sup>123-125</sup> while the compounds that can be polymerized by ERP include methyl methacrylate,<sup>126</sup> acrylonitrile and methacrylonitrile.<sup>127-128</sup>

#### 2.4 Metallosalen

Salen is an anionic tetradentate ligand and widely used in coordination chemistry and homogeneous catalysis.<sup>47</sup> The name of salen is an abbreviation from salicylaldehyde and ethylenediamine, which are substrates for condensation to give salen ligand.<sup>129</sup> The salen ligand is a yellow micaceous solid that is favorably soluble in polar organic solvents. The structure of the salen ligand generally consists of two phenoxy groups connected by two methyne carbons *via* two imine bridges, which are formed by condensation between carbonyl group at *ortho*-positions of the phenoxy groups of the ethylenediamine<sup>130-131</sup> (**Figure II–3**).



Figure II-3: A general structure of the salen ligand

There are several methods for structural modification of the salen ligands, including the substitution on the phenoxy groups or the ethylene bridge<sup>132-134</sup> and the metalation to give a complex called a metallosalen. Metallosalens were well known as chemical catalyst in various reactions such as enantioselective pinacol coupling<sup>47</sup>, copolymerization,<sup>135-137</sup> enantioselective Nazarov cyclization,<sup>138</sup> asymmetric sulfimidation and sigmatropic rearrangement.<sup>139</sup> Later, the catalytic efficiency of metallosalen was improved by substitution on salen ligand in order to use as a catalyst

for copolymerization between cyclohexene oxide and  $CO_2$ .<sup>140-141</sup> Moreover, the substitution of acetylene derivatives on the metallosalen structure at peripheral phenol rings was investigated for catalytic efficiency in Henry reaction.<sup>142-143</sup>

#### 2.4.1 Synthesis of metallosalen

Synthesis of the metallosalen was reported for the first time in 1933 by Pfeiffer and co-workers.<sup>130</sup> In 1950, Diehl<sup>131</sup> suggested a simple route of synthesis of the salen ligand *via* condensation between salicylaldehyde and ethylenediamine in hot ethanol (Scheme II–1).



Scheme II-1: Synthesis of the salen ligand under a Diehl's condition.

Later, condensation between salicylaldehyde derivatives and 1,2-diamine derivatives in ethanol in the similar manner was reported to give the corresponding salen ligands as precipitates in 50–80% yield (**Scheme II–2**). The metallosalens can be quantitatively prepared via metallation between the salen ligands and various metal salts in appropriate solvents<sup>140-141</sup> (**Scheme II–3**).



Scheme II-2: Synthesis of substituted-salen ligands



Scheme II-3: Metallation of substituted-metallosalens

#### 2.5 Thiophene

Thiophene is a five-membered ring heterocyclic aromatic compound, which can be polymerized to be polythiophene (**Figure II-4**), which exhibits conductive properties.<sup>20</sup> Its conductive properties are caused by delocalization of electrons throughout its conjugated backbone. Furthermore, high environmental stability and well-established structural modification of polythiophene enable great developments of its derivatives for several electronic applications,<sup>144</sup> such as capacitors,<sup>145-151</sup> light-emitting diodes,<sup>152-161</sup> field-effect transistors,<sup>162-167</sup> solar cells<sup>168-175</sup> and electrochromic device.<sup>176-183</sup>



Figure II-4: A structure of polythiophene.

Polythiophenes can be prepared by means of two routes, chemical and electrochemical synthesis.<sup>109</sup> In case of chemical synthetic routes, nickel- and palladium-based cross coupling chemistry are adapted to the efficient synthesis of polythiophene and its derivatives. Two important features of these cross-coupling reactions are selective C-C bond formation and regioselectivity of the catalyst. **Scheme II-4** shows published preparation procedures of polythiophenes using nickel- and palladium-based catalysts. The upper route involves in the formation of two intermediates by reacting a 2,5-dibromothiophene derivative with Rieke zinc (Zn\*) under a Rieke's method.<sup>184</sup> The resulting Zn-complexes were accessed in the cross-coupling reaction using Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, affording a corresponding polythiophene derivative. The lower way starts from synthesis of intermediates through Grignard metathesis, followed by nickel-catalyzed coupling reaction to get the corresponding polymer.<sup>185</sup>



**Scheme II-4**: Syntheses of polythiophene derivatives through Rieke's (upper)<sup>184</sup> and Grignard's (lower) routes.<sup>185</sup>

As regards the electrochemical polymerization, the cyclic voltammograms and the proposed mechanism of the electropolymerization of thiophene are depicted in **Figure II–5**. The electrochemical processes of thiophene starts from the oxidation step generating cation radical species, followed by coupling and aromatization to form its dimer. After that, a sequence of subsequent dimerization steps proceeds to the formation of oligomers and polymers. The cyclic voltammogram shows a current density increased as more polythiophene was formed on the electrode surface.<sup>186</sup>



**Figure II–5**: a) Proposed mechanism of the electropolymerization of thiophene and b) the corresponding cyclic voltammograms.<sup>186</sup>

#### 2.6 Thiophene-substituted metallosalen derivatives

In 1998, Kingsborough and Swager<sup>41</sup> studied electroactivity of the thiophenesubstituted cobalt-salen (**CoS-T**) which was synthesized through the palladium-based cross coupling, followed by the condensation and the cobalt metallation (**Scheme II**– **5**). After that, **CoS-T** was successfully polymerized by oxidative polymerization, while no film growth was observed for the metal-free derivative.



Scheme II-5: Synthesis and oxidative polymerization of CoS-T

Furthermore, EDOT-substituted cobalt-salen (**CoS-EDOT**), where EDOT stands for 3,4-ethylenedioxythiophene (**Figure II–6**), was synthesized and polymerized in the similar manner as **CoS-T**. Compared with the cyclic voltammograms of electropolymerization of **CoS-T**, those of **CoS-EDOT** showed overall decrease in the oxidation potential as depicted in **Figure II–7**, indicating that a more electron-rich EDOT led to easier oxidative polymerization. In addition, an EDOT-substituted cobalt-salen polymer (poly(**CoS-EDOT**)) was investigated for the electrocatalytic activity for oxygen (O<sub>2</sub>) reduction. The result showed that poly(**CoS-EDOT**) was a highly conducting hybrid material capable of O<sub>2</sub> reduction by four-electron reduction process to produce H<sub>2</sub>O and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>.<sup>43</sup>



Figure II-6: A structure of CoS-EDOT



Figure II–7: Cyclic voltammograms of oxidative polymerization of (a) CoS-T and (b) CoS-EDOT<sup>41</sup>

In 2006, asymmetric thiophene-derivatives metallosalens **1**, **2** and **3** (Figure II– **8**) were synthesized and polymerized to investigate effects of their structures on the electroactivity.<sup>187</sup> The [*15,25*]-cyclohexyl bridge was introduced to these molecules to improve the catalytic activities for Nozaki-Hiyama-Kishi reaction and enantioselectivities of the metallosalen,<sup>188</sup> which was found that asymmetric metallosalen gave better those properties than symmetric one.<sup>189-190</sup> Moreover, thienyl rings were used to improve the stability, reversibility of redox couples and conductivity of the resulting polymers.<sup>41-42</sup>



Figure II-8: Structures of 1, 2 and 3

#### CHAPTER III

#### EXPERIMENTS

#### 3.1 Synthesis

#### 3.1.1 Materials and methods

All chemicals were commercially available and used as received unless noted otherwise.

<sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Mercury 400 NMR Spectrometer and a Bruker Avance 400 NMR Spectrometer respectively and obtained in CDCl<sub>3</sub>. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) were reported in parts per million (ppm) relative to the residual CHCl<sub>3</sub> signal (7.26 ppm for <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectroscopy and 77.0 ppm for <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectroscopy.

Mass spectra were obtained using high-resolution electrospray ionization (HR-ESI) and matrix-assisted laser desorption ionization time-of-flight (MALDI-TOF) mass spectrometers using  $\alpha$ -dithranol as a matrix.

#### 3.1.2 2-Hydroxy-5-thiophen-2-yl-benzaldehyde (H-1T-B)



Following a reported procedure<sup>188</sup> with slight modification by using a protected boronic acid derivative instead of thiophenyl-2-boronic acid, a mixture of 5bromosalicyladehyde (0.396 g, 1.97 mmol), 2-(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)-thiophene (0.496 g, 2.36 mmol), [1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene]dichloropalladium(II) complex with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (PdCl<sub>2</sub>(dppf)·CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0.082 g, 0.10 mmol) and sodiumcarbonate (Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, 0.209 g, 1.97 mmol) in dimethoxyethane (DME)/water (3/1, 6 mL,degassed with N<sub>2</sub>) was stirred under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere at 100 °C for 5 h. After cooling toroom temperature, the reaction mixture was poured into deionized water (20 mL). Theaqueous mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3x15 mL), and the combined organic phase was dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the resulting crude was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (diethyl ether (Et<sub>2</sub>O)/hexanes 1/1) to give a yellow powder. After recrystallization in hexanes, compound H-1T-B was obtained as yellow crystals (0.254 g, 63%). m.p. 108–110 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  7.00 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.04–7.11 (m, 1H), 7.20–7.24 (m, 1H), 7.24–7.28 (m, 1H), 7.70–7.76 (m, 2H), 9.90 (s, 1H), 11.00 (s, 1H) (Figure A–1); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  118.3, 120.7, 122.9, 124.7, 126.9, 128.2, 130.6, 134.6, 142.6, 161.0, 196.5 (Figure A–2). These characterization data are consistent with those described in a published report.<sup>188</sup>

## 3.1.3 2-Hydroxy-5-(2,2'-bithiophen-5-yl)-benzaldehyde (H-2T-B)



In a similar manner to the synthesis of H-1T-B, a mixture of 5-bromosalicyladehyde (0.396 g, 1.97 mmol), 5-(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)-2,2'-bithiophene (0.689 g, 2.36 mmol), PdCl<sub>2</sub>(dppf)·CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.082 g, 0.10 mmol) and Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.209 g, 1.97 mmol) in DME/H<sub>2</sub>O (3/1, 6 mL, degassed with N<sub>2</sub>) was stirred under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere at 100 °C for 5 h. After above-mentioned work-up process, the resulting crude was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/hexanes 1/1) to provide dark yellow powder. After recrystallization in hexanes, compound H-**2T-B** was obtained as a dark yellow solid (0.338 g, 60%). m.p. 179–181 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR **δ** 7.02–7.05 (m, 2H), 7.14 (s, 1H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.24–7.26 (m, 1H), 7.73–7.77 (m, 2H), 9.95 (s, 1H), 11.01 (s, 1H) (Figure A-3); <sup>13</sup>C NMR **δ** 118.5, 120.8, 123.6, 123.9, 124.7, 124.8, 126.7, 128.0, 130.4, 134.3, 136.8, 137.2, 141.3, 161.2, 196.5 (Figure A-4); HR-ESI-MS *m*/*z*: [M<sup>+</sup>] calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>10</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>, 286.0122; found, 286.0123 (Figure A-5).





Following a reported procedure,<sup>191</sup> a mixture of 5-iodosalicyladehyde<sup>192</sup> (0.496 g, 2.00 mmol), 2-ethynylthiophene (0.270 g, 2.50 mmol), bis[triphenylphosphine]dichloropalladium(II) (PdCl<sub>2</sub>(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>, 0.070 g, 0.10 mmol), CuI (0.038 g, 0.20 mmol) and PPh<sub>3</sub> (0.052 g, 0.20 ,mmol) in toluene (6 mL, degassed with N<sub>2</sub>) was stirred at room temperature for 15 min. After that, triethylamine (NEt<sub>3</sub>, 3 mL) was added slowly, and then a mixture was stirred under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere at room temperature for 18 h. Then, the reaction mixture was poured into CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (25 mL) and the resulting solution was extracted with a saturated aqueous solution of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (3x15 mL) and a saturated aqueous solution of NaCl (1x15 mL). The combined organic phase was dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting crude was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/hexanes 1/4) to give an off-white powder which was recrystallized in hexanes to yield compound H-**CC-1T-B** as white crystals (0.268 g, 59%). m.p. 103–105 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  6.95–7.05 (m, 2H), 7.23–7.34 (m, 2H), 7.64 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 9.88 (s, 1H), 11.12 (s, 1H) (**Figure A–6**); <sup>13</sup>C NMR δ 82.3, 91.3, 115.0, 118.3, 120.7, 123.1, 127.3, 127.5, 132.1, 136.9, 139.7, 161.6, 196.1 (Figure A-7); HR-ESI-MS *m/z*: [M<sup>+</sup>] calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S, 228.0245; found, 228.0240 (Figure A-8).





In a similar manner to synthesis of H-CC-1T-B, a mixture of 5iodosalicyladehyde<sup>192</sup> (0.496 g, 2.00 mmol), 5-ethynyl-2,2<sup> $\prime$ </sup>-bithiophene<sup>193</sup> (0.476 g, 2.50 mmol), PdCl<sub>2</sub>(PPh<sub>3</sub>) (0.070 g, 0.10 mmol), CuI (0.038 g, 0.20 mmol) and PPh<sub>3</sub> (0.052 g, 0.20 ,mmol) in toluene (6 mL, degassed with N<sub>2</sub>) was stirred at room temperature for 15 min, NEt<sub>3</sub> (3 mL) was added slowly, and then a mixture was stirred continuously under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere at room temperature for 18 h. After above-mentioned work-up process, the resulting crude was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (Ch<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/hexanes 1/2) to give yellow powder which was recrystallized in hexanes to yield compound **H-CC-2T-B** as a light-yellow solid (0.310 g, 50%). m.p. 146–148 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  6.99 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (dd, *J* = 5.2, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.23–7.26 (m, 1H), 7.64 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 9.88 (s, 1H), 11.13 (s, 1H) (**Figure A-9**); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  82.3, 92.3, 115.0, 118.4, 120.7, 121.7, 123.7, 124.4, 125.2, 128.1, 133.0, 136.8, 139.2, 139.7, 161.7 196.1 (**Figure A-10**); HR-ESI-MS *m*/*z*: [M<sup>+</sup>] calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>10</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>, 310.0122; found, 310.0127 (**Figure A-11**).

#### 3.1.6 General procedure for salen ligand formation

Following a reported procedure,<sup>188</sup> to a solution of a salicylaldehyde derivative (1.70 equivalent) in ethanol (15 mL) was treated with (*S*,*S*)-1,2-cyclohexanediamine (1.00 equivalent) at 60 °C for 1.5 h. After the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, the resulting solid was filtered, washed with ethanol, methanol and hexane, and recrystallized in chloroform and hexane to afforded desired products.



## 3.1.6.1 (*S,S*)-*N*,*N*<sup>'</sup>-bis(salicylidene-5-thiophen-2-yl)-cyclohexane-1,2-diamine (H<sub>2</sub>S-1T)

H-1T-B (0.402 g, 1.97 mmol) was reacted with (*S*,*S*)-1,2-cyclohexanediamine (0.116 g, 1.02 mmol) to give the title compound as a yellow crystal (0.312 g, 65%); m.p.

115–117 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $\delta$  1.45–1.53 (m, 2H), 1.68–1.80 (m, 2H), 1.84–2.03 (m, 4H), 3.31– 3.38 (m, 2H), 6.91 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.00–7.04 (m, 2H), 7.10–7.14 (m, 2H), 7.18 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (s, 2H), 7.44–7.52 (m, 2H), 8.30 (s, 2H), 13.38 (s, 2H) (**Figure A–12**); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  24.2, 33.1, 72.8, 117.5, 118.7, 122.2, 123.9, 125.6, 128.0, 128.9, 130.2, 143.8, 160.7, 164.6 (**Figure A–13**); MALDI-TOF-MS m/z: found, 486.586 (100) [M<sup>+</sup>]; calcd avg mass, 486.648 (M<sup>+</sup>; M = C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>) (**Figure A–14**). These characterization data are consistent with those described in a published report.<sup>188</sup>

## 3.1.6.2 (*S*,*S*)-*N*,*N*<sup> $\prime$ </sup>-bis(salicylidene-5-(2,2<sup> $\prime$ </sup>-bithiophen-5-yl)-cyclohexane-1,2diamine (H<sub>2</sub>S-2T)

H-2T-B (0.292 g, 1.02 mmol) was reacted with (*S*,*S*)-1,2-cyclohexanediamine (0.069 g, 0.60 mmol) to give the title compound as a light orange crystal (0.183 g, 55%); m.p. 240–242 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 1.47–1.60 (m, 2H), 1.70–1.81 (m, 2H), 1.86–2.04 (m, 4H), 3.33–3.39 (m, 2H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.98–7.04 (m, *J* = 3.4 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.24–7.29 (m, 2H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 8.30 (s, 2H), 13.40 (s, 2H) (Figure A–15); <sup>13</sup>C NMR δ 24.3, 33.1, 72.8, 117.7, 118.8, 122.8, 123.5, 124.3, 124.6, 125.3, 127.9, 128.6, 129.9, 135.8, 137.6, 142.6, 160.9, 164.7 (Figure A–16); MALDI-TOF-MS *m/z* (%): found, 650.646 (100) [M<sup>+</sup>]; calcd avg mass, 650.888 (M<sup>+</sup>; M =  $C_{36}H_{30}N_2O_2S_4$ ) (Figure A–17); HR-ESI-MS *m/z*: [(M+H)<sup>+</sup>] calcd for  $C_{36}H_{30}N_2O_2S_4$ , 651.1263; found, 651.1261 (Figure A–18).

## 3.1.6.3 (*S,S*)-*N*,*N*<sup>′</sup>-bis(salicylidene-5-(2-(thiophen-2-yl)-ethyn-1-yl)-cyclohexane-1,2-diamine (H<sub>2</sub>S-CC-1T)

H-CC-1T-B (0.233 g, 1.02 mmol) was reacted with (*S*,*S*)-1,2-cyclohexanediamine (0.069 g, 0.60 mmol) to give the title compound as a light-yellow crystal (0.243 g, 52%); m.p. 193–195 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 1.35–1.44 (m, 2H), 1.58–1.69 (m, 2H), 1.78–1.90 (m, 4H), 3.21–3.28 (m, 2H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.89–6.93 (m, 2H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (s, 2H), 7.30–7.34 (m, 2H), 8.14 (s, 2H), 13.49 (s, 2H) (**Figure A–19**); <sup>13</sup>C NMR δ 24.2, 33.0, 72.6, 81.2, 92.5, 113.2, 117.6, 118.6, 123.7, 127.0, 127.2, 131.6, 134.8, 135.5, 161.6, 164.18 (**Figure A–20**); MALDI-TOF-MS *m/z* (%): found, 534.713
(100) [M<sup>+</sup>]; calcd avg mass, 534.692 (M<sup>+</sup>; M =  $C_{32}H_{26}N_2O_2S_2$ ) (Figure A-21); HR-ESI-MS m/z: [(M+H)<sup>+</sup>] calcd for  $C_{32}H_{26}N_2O_2S_2$ , 535.1508; found, 535.1505 (Figure A-22).

### 3.1.6.4 (S,S)-N,N'-bis(salicylidene-5-(2-(2,2'-bithiophen-5-yl)-ethyn-1-yl)cyclohexane-1,2-diamine (H<sub>2</sub>S-CC-2T)

H-CC-2T-B (0.317 g, 1.02 mmol) was reacted with (*S*,*S*)-1,2-cyclohexanediamine (0.069 g, 0.60 mmol) to give the title compound as a dark yellow crystal (0.390 g, 49%); m.p. 129–131 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ 1.45–1.54 (m, 2H), 1.68–1.78 (m, 2H), 1.85–2.01 (m, 4H), 3.32–3.38 (m, 2H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.00–7.03 (m, 2H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.32–7.36 (m, 2H), 7.40 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 8.23 (s, 2H), 13.59 (s, 2H) (Figure A–23); <sup>13</sup>C NMR δ 24.1, 32.9, 72.5, 81.2, 93.5, 113.1, 117.5, 118.5, 122.2, 123.5, 124.1, 124.9, 127.9, 132.3, 134.7, 135.4, 136.8, 138.5, 161.6, 164.0 (Figure A–24); MALDI-TOF-MS *m/z* (%): found, 699.010 (100) [M<sup>+</sup>]; calcd avg mass, 698.932 (M<sup>+</sup>; M = C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>4</sub>) (Figure A–25); HR-ESI-MS *m/z*: [(M+H)<sup>+</sup>] calcd for C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>4</sub>, 699.1263; found, 699.1269 (Figure A–26).

### 3.1.7 General procedure for salen complexation

Following a reported procedure,<sup>188</sup> a solution of salen ligand (0.50 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (30 mL) was reacted with Ni(OAc)<sub>2</sub> or Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.55 mmol, 1.1 mol equivalent) in MeOH (15 mL) at room temperature. After 5 h, the reaction mixture was poured into water (25 mL), and the separated organic phase was extracted with a saturated aqueous solution of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (3x15 mL) and a saturated aqueous solution of NaCl (3x15 mL). The combined extract was dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting crude was filtered and washed with methanol and hexane to afford the desired product.

**CuS-1Th** (0.219 g, 80%), a dark green solid; m.p. > 250 °C. MALDI-TOF-MS m/z (%): found, 547.748 (100) [M<sup>+</sup>]; calcd avg mass, 548.178 (M<sup>+</sup>; M = C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>24</sub>CuN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>) (**Figure A-27**).

NiS-1Th (0.231 g, 85%), a dark yellow solid; m.p. > 250 °C. MALDI-TOF-MS *m/z* (%): found, 542.257 (100) [M<sup>+</sup>]; calcd avg mass, 543.325 (M<sup>+</sup>; M = C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NiO<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>) (Figure A–28).

**CuS-2Th** (0.249 g, 70%), a brown green solid; m.p. > 250 °C. MALDI-TOF-MS m/z (%): found, 711.954 (100) [M<sup>+</sup>]; calcd avg mass, 712.418 (M<sup>+</sup>; M = C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>28</sub>CuN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>4</sub>) (**Figure A-29**).

NIS-2Th (0.255 g, 73%), a brown yellow solid; m.p. > 250 °C. MALDI-TOF-MS *m/z* (%): found, 705.727 (100) [M<sup>+</sup>]; calcd avg mass, 707.565 (M<sup>+</sup>; M = C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NiO<sub>2</sub>S<sub>4</sub>) (Figure A-30).

**CuS-CC-1T** (0.223 g, 75%), a dark green solid; m.p. > 250 °C. MALDI-TOF-MS m/z (%): found, 594.774 (100) [M<sup>+</sup>], 614.858 [(M+Na)<sup>+</sup>], 659.909 [(M+Cu)<sup>+</sup>]; calcd avg mass, 596.222 (M<sup>+</sup>; M = C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>24</sub>CuN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>) (**Figure A-31**); HR-ESI-MS m/z: [(M+H)<sup>+</sup>] calcd for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>24</sub>CuN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>, 596.0648; found, 596.0645 (**Figure A-32**).

NIS-CC-1T (0.236 g, 80%), a dark yellow solid; m.p. > 250 °C. MALDI-TOF-MS m/z (%): found, 590.290 (100) [M<sup>+</sup>]; calcd avg mass, 591.369 (M<sup>+</sup>; M = C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NiO<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>) (Figure A-33); HR-ESI-MS m/z: [(M+H)<sup>+</sup>] calcd for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NiO<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>, 591.0705; found, 591.0712 (Figure A-34).

**CuS-CC-2T** (0.269 g, 71%), a brown green solid; m.p. > 250 °C. MALDI-TOF-MS m/z (%): found, 758.324 (100) [M<sup>+</sup>], 823.316 [(M+Cu)<sup>+</sup>]; calcd avg mass, 760.462 (M<sup>+</sup>; M = C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>28</sub>CuN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>4</sub>) (**Figure A-35**); HR-ESI-MS m/z: [(M+H)<sup>+</sup>] calcd for C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>28</sub>CuN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>4</sub>, 760.0402; found, 760.0407 (**Figure A-36**).

NIS-CC-2T (0.279 g, 74%), a brown yellow solid; m.p. > 250 °C. MALDI-TOF-MS m/z (%): found, 753.408 (100) [M<sup>+</sup>]; calcd avg mass, 755.609 (M<sup>+</sup>; M = C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NiO<sub>2</sub>S<sub>4</sub>) (Figure A– 37); HR-ESI-MS m/z: [(M+H)<sup>+</sup>] calcd for C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NiO<sub>2</sub>S<sub>4</sub>, 755.0460; found, 755.0434 (Figure A–38).

#### 3.2 Electrochemistry

#### 3.2.1 Electropolymerization

The electropolymerization was performed using a Metrohm-Autolab PGSTAT101 potentiostat in a three-electrode cell containing the ITO-coated glass as the WE, Pt plate as the CE and a silver chloride coated on silver wire (Ag/AgCl) as a quasi-reference electrode (QRE). The concentration of monomers at their maximum solubility (0.50–0.10 mM) in dry  $CH_2Cl_2$  containing 0.1 M  $nBu_4NPF_6$  was used. The solution was degassed with N<sub>2</sub> for 15 min prior to the electropolymerization. The polymerization was carried out at cyclic potential between –0.2 V and 1.8 V versus Ag/AgCl QRE at a scan rate of 100 mV·s<sup>-1</sup> with the number of repeated scanning of 10 cycles.

#### 3.3.2 ECR of CO<sub>2</sub>

The ECR of CO<sub>2</sub> was performed using a Metrohm-Autolab PGSTAT101 potentiostat. For a homogeneous condition, the electrochemical reduction was conducted in the three-electrode cell containing a glassy carbon as the WE, Pt plate as the CE and the Ag/AgCl QRE. The concentration of the monomers was 0.50 mM in dry DMF containing 0.1 M  $nBu_4NPF_6$ . The electrochemical behavior of the monomers was studied by purging N<sub>2</sub> to the solution for 15 min prior to the measurements which were proceeded at cyclic potential between 0.0 V and -2.0 V versus Ag/AgCl QRE at a scan rate of 50 mV·s<sup>-1</sup>, for 3 cycles. After that the same solution was purged with CO<sub>2</sub> for 15 min to determine their electrocatalyric activities for the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub> by using the same potential range, scan rate and number of scan. For the heterogeneous ECR of CO<sub>2</sub>, the same cyclic voltammetry setup on that described for the monomers was used, except that the WE in this case was the polymer films on the ITO-coated glass, the electrolyte solution contained no salen monomer and the potential range was between 0.0 V and -1.7 V.

# CHAPTER IV RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This research mainly focuses on synthesis, characterization and investigation of physical properties and electrochemical properties of novel unsymmetrical metallosalen bearing thienyl derivatives substituents, which are shown in **Figure IV-1**. Target compounds **MS-nT** consist the metallosalen bear thienyl or bithiophenyl units directly attached on their phenoxyl rings, while target compounds **MS-CC-nT** have carbon-carbon triple bonds between the metallosalen and their thienyl or bithiophenyl units. These compounds will be used as monomers for the electropolymerization. After that, the target monomers and the resulting polymers will be investigated for their possible use for electrocatalytic reduction of CO<sub>2</sub>. Thus, in this chapter, the content includes synthesis and characterization of the target monomers, the investigation of the electrocatalytic activity of the monomers towards the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub>, and electropolymerization of the monomers and the determination of the potential use of the resulting polymers for the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub>.



M = Cu or Ni

Figure IV-1: Structures of the target compounds

#### 4.1 Synthesis of salen monomers

Synthesis of **MS-nT** started with Suzuki cross-coupling of 5-bromosalicylaldehyde with an excess amount of thiophene-2-boronic acid pinacol ester or 2,2'-bithophene-5-boronic acid pinacol ester in the presence of PdCl<sub>2</sub>(dppf)·CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> in a DME/H<sub>2</sub>O mixture<sup>188</sup> as depicted in **Scheme IV-1**, leading to compound **H-1T-B** vas confirmed by a <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum showing a singlet peak of a hydroxyl proton at 11.00 ppm, a singlet peak of an aldehyde proton at 9.90 ppm, and a group of peaks corresponding to protons on the benzene and thiophene rings at around 7.00–7.76 ppm. These spectral data are consistent with those reported in a literature.<sup>188</sup> In a similar manner, a <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of **H-2T-B** showed a singlet peak of a hydroxyl proton at 11.01 ppm, a singlet peak of an aldehyde proton at 9.95 ppm, and a group of peaks indicating protons on benzene and bithiophene rings at around 7.02–7.77 ppm. Furthermore, a HS-ESI mass spectrometry showed a molecular ion peak of **H-2T-B** at *m/z* 286.0123 [(M+H)<sup>+</sup>], comfirming successful formation of **H-2T-B**.



Scheme IV-1: Synthesis of MS-nT derivatives

After that, H-1T-B and H-2T-B were condensed with an excess amount of (*S*,*S*)-1,2-cyclohexanediamine at 60°C in ethanol to avoid complication due to the coprecipitation of H-1T-B and H-2T-B with the desirable products. The reactions were completed to afford compounds  $H_2S-1T$  and  $H_2S-2T$  in 65% and 55%, respectively. Each of their <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra exhibited a singlet of two protons of the hydroxyl groups at 13.38–13.40 ppm due to deshielding effect from electron withdrawing phenyl rings and imine groups. Their two imine protons gave a singlet peak at 8.30 ppm, while the singlet peaks of the aldehyde protons observed in H-1T-B and H-2T-B disappeared. Besides, protons of their cyclohexane units gave three multiplet peaks at 1.47–3.39 ppm. Additionally, formation of the  $H_2S-1T$  and  $H_2S-2T$  was also confirmed by their spectra from mass spectrometry, which exhibited their molecular ion peaks at m/z486.586 and 650.646, respectively. Furthermore, a HS-ESI mass spectrum showed the molecular ion peaks of  $H_2S-2T$  at m/z 651.1261 [(M+H)<sup>+</sup>].

Finally, metallation of  $H_2S-1T$  with  $Cu(OAc)_2$  or  $Ni(OAc)_2$  was achieved to give **CuS-1T** or **NiS-1T** in 80% or 85% yield, respectively. Likewise,  $H_2S-2T$  was Cu- and Nimetalated, resulting in **CuS-2T** and **NiS-2T** in 70% and 73%, respectively. The formation of **CuS-1T**, **NiS-1T**, **CuS-2T** and **NiS-2T** was confirmed by mass spectra, exhibiting their molecular ion peaks at m/z 547.748, 542.257, 711.954 and 705.727, respectively. However, the melting point of them could not be obtained because a temperature was too high to measure.

The first attempt to synthesize **MS-CC-1T** was made by Sonogashira crosscoupling of 5-bromosalicylaldehyde with an excess amount of 2-(thiophen-2-yl)acetylene in the presence of  $PdCl_2(PPh_3)_2$ , Cul, and  $NEt_3$  in refluxing THF under  $N_2$  for 5 h.<sup>142, 191</sup> However, based on <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrometry, the desired product could not be obtained. The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of a product separated from the reaction mixture showed a group of peaks indicating protons on thiophene rings but two peaks of protons on hydroxyl and aldehyde groups were not found. It is likely that Glaser coupling of 2-(thiophen-2-yl)-acetylene occurred, leading to a diacetylene byproduct as shown in **Scheme IV–2**.<sup>194-195</sup> This way be because of low reactivity of the 5bromosalicylaldehyde.



Scheme IV-2: Formation of the diacetylene byproduct

To enhance productivity of the reaction, 5-iodosalicylaldehyde<sup>192</sup> was therefore used instead of 5-bromosalicylaldehyde because a rate of reaction of an aryl iodide in the Sonogashira coupling was higher than an aryl bromide with a milder condition required.<sup>196</sup> Compounds H-CC-1T-B and H-CC-2T-B were successfully prepared in 59% 50%, respectively, through the Sonogashira cross-coupling of and 5iodosalicylaldehyde with an excess amount of 2-ethynylthiophene and 5-ethynyl-2,2'bithiophene,<sup>193</sup> respectively, in the presence of PdCl<sub>2</sub>(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, Cul, PPh<sub>3</sub> and NEt<sub>3</sub> in toluene at room temperature under N<sub>2</sub> for 18 h as shown in Scheme IV-3. Formation of compounds H-CC-1T-B and H-CC-2T-B was confirmed by their <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra showing singlet peaks of each of their hydroxyl protons at 11.12-11.13 ppm, singlet peaks of the aldehyde protons at 9.88 ppm, and multiplet signals indicating protons on their benzene and thiophene rings at around 6.99-7.73 ppm. Furthermore, HS-ESI mass spectrometry showed molecular ion peaks of H-CC-1T-B and H-CC-2T-B at m/z228.040 and 310.0127 [(M+H)<sup>+</sup>], respectively.



Scheme IV-3: Synthesis of MS-CC-nT derivatives

After that, H-CC-1T-B and H-CC-2T-B were condensed with excess amount of (S,S)-1,2-cyclohexanediamine at 60°C in ethanol to avoid complication due to the coprecipitation of H-CC-1T-B and H-CC-2T-B with the desirable products. The reactions were completed to afford compounds H<sub>2</sub>S-CC-1T and H<sub>2</sub>S-CC-2T in 52% and 49%, respectively. Each of their <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra exhibited a singlet of two protons of the hydroxyl groups at 13.40–13.49 ppm due to deshielding effect from electron withdrawing phenyl rings and imine groups. Their two imine protons gave a singlet peak at 8.14–8.30 ppm, while the singlet peaks of the aldehyde protons observed in H-CC-1T-B and H-CC-2T-B disappeared. Besides, protons of their cyclohexane units gave three multiplet peaks at 1.35–3.38 ppm. Additionally, formation of the H<sub>2</sub>S-CC-1T and H<sub>2</sub>S-CC-2T was also confirmed by their spectra from mass spectrometry, which

exhibited their molecular ion peaks at m/z 534.692 and 699.010, respectively. Furthermore, a HS-ESI mass spectrum showed the molecular ion peaks of H<sub>2</sub>S-CC-1T and H<sub>2</sub>S-CC-2T at m/z 535.1505 and 699.1269 [(M+H)<sup>+</sup>], respectively.

Finally, metallation of  $H_2S$ -CC-1T with Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub> or Ni(OAc)<sub>2</sub> was achieved to give CuS-CC-1T or NiS-CC-1T in 75% or 80% yield, respectively. Likewise,  $H_2S$ -CC-2T was Cu- and Ni-metalated, resulting in CuS-CC-2T and NiS-CC-2T in 71% and 74%, respectively. The formation of CuS-CC-1T, NiS-CC-1T, CuS-CC-2T and NiS-CC-2T was confirmed by mass spectra, exhibiting their molecular ion peaks at m/z 596.0645, 591.0712, 760.0407 and 755.0434 [(M+H)<sup>+</sup>], respectively, and the melting point of them could not be obtained because a temperature was too high to measure.

#### 4.2 Electrochemical investigations

### 4.2.1 Electrochemical reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> of target monomers

The electrochemical reduction (ECR) of CO<sub>2</sub> was performed by cyclic voltammetry using the one-compartment three-electrode electrochemical cell consisting of the glassy carbon as the WE, the Pt plate as the CE and the Ag/AgCl QRE. Cyclic voltammograms were recorded in a DMF solution containing 0.1 M nBu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> as the supporting electrolyte at the potential between 0.0 V and -2.0 V vs. Ag/AgCl QRE with the scan rate of 50 mV  $s^{-1}$ . The concentration of the metallosalen analyte was 0.5 mM, which is approximately the level where most of metallosalens in the series can be dissolved (Table IV-1), and in case where a proton source was needed, 3%  $H_2O$  v/v was added. As for the solubility of the target metallosalen monomers in various solvents, DMF was selected as a solvent for ECR of CO<sub>2</sub> because of the highest solubility of the metallosalens, compared with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>3</sub>CN, and because it can mix well with water. However, due to very low solubility of CuS-2T and NiS-2T, their electrocatalytic activities could not be determined. By comparing the solubility of the MS-nT and MS-CC-nT series, results from Table IV-1 revealed that insertion of a carbon-carbon triple bond between the peripheral thiophene rings and that salen core significantly reduced the solubility of the metallosalens in  $CH_2Cl_2$  and DMF. Moreover, the derivatives having the bithiophenyl units were found to have less solubility than those containing the thienyl units. Additionally, in most of the cases the copper-salen exhibited higher solubilities than their nickel-chelated analogs.

Compound	Solubility / mM			
Compound	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	DMF	
CuS-1T	0.91	0.04	2.74	
NiS-1T	0.50	0.04	1.48	
CuS-2T	0.04	0.01	0.04	
NiS-2T	0.03	0.02	0.06	
CuS-CC-1T	0.45	0.05	2.52	
NiS-CC-1T	0.29	0.05	1.69	
CuS-CC-2T	0.20	0.01	1.33	
NiS-CC-2T	0.10	0.01	0.79	

Table IV-1: Solubilities of the target metallosalen monomers in various solvents

To characterize the electrochemical behavior of the target metallosalens, the electrolyte solution of each compound was purged with N<sub>2</sub> for 15 min prior to the measurement, while it was purged with CO<sub>2</sub> for 15 min to study the electrocatalytic activities for the CO<sub>2</sub> reduction. The cyclic voltammograms of the electrolyte solution under N<sub>2</sub>- and CO<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition with and without 3% H<sub>2</sub>O are summarized in **Figure IV-2**. In comparison between N<sub>2</sub>- and CO<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition, results revealed that current was slightly increased in the CO<sub>2</sub>-saturated one when the reduction potential was raised towards -2.0 V vs. Ag/AgCl QRE, which is attributed to transfer of a single electron proceed through the formation of carbon dioxide radical, and the current was even higher due to H<sub>2</sub>-evolution when H<sub>2</sub>O was added.<sup>197-198</sup> This observation suggested that the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub> in our studies was able to perform in a potential range between 0.0 V and -2.0 V vs. Ag/AgCl QRE.



**Figure IV-2**: Cyclic voltammograms of the 0.1 M  $nBu_4NPF_6$  solution in DMF under the N<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition in the absence of H<sub>2</sub>O (black solid line), under CO<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition in the absence of H<sub>2</sub>O (black dashed line), under N<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition in the absence of H<sub>2</sub>O (red solid line) and under the CO<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition in the presence of H<sub>2</sub>O (red dashed line).

Under the N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere in absence of H<sub>2</sub>O, the cyclic voltammograms of **CuS-1T**, **CuS-CC-1T** and **CuS-CC-2T** showed similarly reversible reduction peaks at -1.42 V, -1.42 V and -1.35 V *vs*. Ag/AgCl QRE, respectively (**Figure IV-3** and **Table IV-2**), corresponding to the published value for unsubstituted copper-salen<sup>199-200</sup> with slight increase of the reduction potential due to the introduction of thiophene groups in our case. In comparison between the cyclic voltammograms of **CuS-1T** and **CuS-CC-1T**, the results indicated that the insertion of the carbon-carbon triple bond between the thienyl units and the salen core did not significantly influence a reduction process of both target molecules. On the other hand, by comparing the reduction process of **CuS-CC-1T** and that of **CuS-CC-2T**, their cyclic voltammograms suggested that the introduction of the additional thiophene ring seemed to decrease the reduction potential.



**Figure IV-3**: Cyclic voltammograms of a 0.1 M  $nBu_4NPF_6$  solution (grey solid line) containing (a) **CuS-1T** (black solid line), **CuS-CC-1T** (red dashed line) and **CuS-CC-2T** (blue dotted line) under the N<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition, (b) the 0.1 M  $nBu_4NPF_6$  solution containing **CuS-1T** under N<sub>2</sub>- (solid line) and CO<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition (dashed line) in the absence (black line) and in the presence of H<sub>2</sub>O (red line), (c) the 0.1 M  $nBu_4NPF_6$  solution containing **CuS-CC-1T** under N<sub>2</sub>- (solid line) and CO<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition (dashed line) in the absence (black line) and in the presence of H<sub>2</sub>O (red line) and (d) the 0.1 M  $nBu_4NPF_6$  solution containing **CuS-CC-1T** under N<sub>2</sub>- (solid line) and CO<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition (dashed line) in the absence (black line) and in the presence of H<sub>2</sub>O (red line) and (d) the 0.1 M  $nBu_4NPF_6$  solution containing **CuS-CC-2T** under N<sub>2</sub>- (solid line) and CO<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition (dashed line) in the absence (black line) and in the presence of H<sub>2</sub>O (red line) and (d) the 0.1 M  $nBu_4NPF_6$  solution containing **CuS-CC-2T** under N<sub>2</sub>- (solid line) and CO<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition (dashed line) in the absence (black line) and in the presence of H<sub>2</sub>O (red line) and (d) the 0.1 M  $nBu_4NPF_6$  solution containing **CuS-CC-2T** under N<sub>2</sub>- (solid line) and CO<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition (dashed line) in the absence (black line) and in the presence of H<sub>2</sub>O (red line). The concentration of each compound was 0.5 mM and the cyclic voltammogrames were collected at the scan rate of 50 mV·s<sup>-1</sup>.

Compound	Condition		E <sub>peak</sub> (E <sub>onset</sub> ) / V	Current at E <sub>peak</sub>
compound			<i>vs.</i> Ag/AgCl	/ mA
CuS-1T	Without 3% H <sub>2</sub> O	N <sub>2</sub>	-1.42 (-1.22)	0.086
		CO <sub>2</sub>	-1.42 (-1.22)	0.102
			N.A. <sup>a</sup> (-1.67)	0.478 <sup>b</sup>
	With	N <sub>2</sub>	-1.41 (-1.23)	0.064
	3% H <sub>2</sub> O	CO <sub>2</sub>	-1.39 (-1.20)	0.095
			-1.88 (-1.60)	0.322
CuS-CC-1T	Without	N <sub>2</sub>	-1.42 (-1.23)	0.051
	3% H <sub>2</sub> O	<b>CO</b>	-1.42 (-1.22)	0.059
	/	CO2	-1.89 (-1.73)	0.100
	With	N <sub>2</sub>	-1.35 (-1.18)	0.056
	3% H <sub>2</sub> O	<u> </u>	-1.33 (-1.15)	0.071
	จุหาล	เกรณมห	-1.81 (-1.55)	0.204
CuS-CC-2T	<b>CHULAL</b> Without	DNG <sub>N2</sub> RN	<b>U</b> –1.35 (–1.15)	0.057
	3% H <sub>2</sub> O	<u> </u>	-1.35 (-1.15)	0.063
		$CO_2$	-1.83 (-1.63)	0.130
	With	N <sub>2</sub>	-1.31 (-1.14)	0.035
	3% H <sub>2</sub> O	CO <sub>2</sub>	-1.29 (-1.12)	0.035
			-1.73 (-1.50)	0.145

Table IV-2: Electrochemical data of CuS-1T, CuS-CC-1T and CuS-CC-2T

 ${}^{a}E_{\text{peak}}$  could not be determined.

 $^{\rm b}{\rm The}$  current value at the potential of –2.0 V was reported.

Under the CO<sub>2</sub> saturation in the absence of H<sub>2</sub>O, the cyclic voltammogram of CuS-1T (Figure IV-3b) showed its first reduction process occurred at the same potential (-1.42 V vs. Ag/AgCl QRE) as that observed in the N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere in the absence of H<sub>2</sub>O with slight increase in current from 0.086 to 0.102 mA. After that potential, current was continuously increased to 0.478 mA when potential reached -2.0 V. This observation indicated that **CuS-1T** could promote in the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub>. Under the N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere in the presence of 3% H<sub>2</sub>O, the first reduction of CuS-1T was observed at -1.41 V vs. Ag/AgCl QRE (Figure IV-3b), indicating that H<sub>2</sub>O did not significantly affect the reduction process of this compound. However, under the CO<sub>2</sub>saturated condition in the presence of 3%  $H_2O$ , the reduction process occurred at – 1.39 V and -1.88 V vs. Ag/AgCl QRE with the current of 0.095 and 0.322 mA, respectively (Figure IV-3b). Since the first reduction peak appears at the similar potential as that observed in the anhydrous CO<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition with slight decrease in current from 0.102 to 0.095 mA, it can be concluded that the first reduction of CuS-1T did not significantly related to the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub>. Nevertheless, the appearance of the second reduction peak with the peak current of 0.322 mA when 3% H<sub>2</sub>O was added, suggested that the second reduction of CuS-1T and  $H_2O$  should involve in the ECR of  $CO_2$ .

In case of **CuS-CC-1T**, the cyclic voltammogram obtained from the anhydrous CO<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition showed that the reduction process of **CuS-CC-1T** occurred at the same peak potential ( $-1.42 \vee vs$ . Ag/AgCl QRE) as that observed in the anhydrous N<sub>2</sub>-saturated one with negligible increase in current from 0.051 to 0.059 mA (black dashed line, **Figure IV-3c**). Furthermore, an additional reduction peak was found at  $-1.89 \vee vs$ . Ag/AgCl QRE with the current of 0.100 mA. This observation indicated that the first reduction process of **CuS-CC-1T** did not significantly related to the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub>, its the second reduction may involve in the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub>. Under the N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere in the presence of 3% H<sub>2</sub>O, the cyclic voltammogram of **CuS-CC-1T** exhibited a reduction peak at  $-1.35 \vee vs$ . Ag/AgCl QRE without significant peak current increase, compared with those observed under the anhydrous N<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition (red solid line, **Figure IV-3c**). This suggested that the addition of H<sub>2</sub>O slightly facilitate the reduction process of the target monomers. Under the CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere in the presence of 3% H<sub>2</sub>O, the cyclic voltammogram of **CuS-CC-1T** exhibited at reduction process of the target monomers. Under the CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere in the presence of 3% H<sub>2</sub>O, the cyclic voltammogram of **CuS-CC-1T** exhibited at -1.33 V and

-1.81 V vs. Ag/AgCl QRE with the current of 0.071 and 0.204 mA, respectively, (red dashed line, **Figure IV-3c**). The very small change in the peak potential and current of the first reduction observed under this condition, compared with those found under the anhydrous  $CO_2$ -saturated one, suggested that the first reduction of **CuS-CC-1T** may not involve in the ECR of  $CO_2$ . On the contrary, the second reduction at the similar potential with significant current increase suggested that the second reduction of **CuS-CC-1T** and H<sub>2</sub>O should involve in the ECR of  $CO_2$ . In comparison between the electrochemical behavior of **CuS-1T** and that of **CuS-CC-1T** in the above-mentioned conditions, it can be concluded that the insertion of the carbon-carbon triple bond between the thienyl units and the salen core brought about significant decrease in the reduction potential of the ECR of  $CO_2$  in the presence of H<sub>2</sub>O with, however, smaller reduction currents both in the absence and presence of H<sub>2</sub>O.

As regards CuS-CC-2T, under the  $CO_2$  saturation in the absence of  $H_2O$  (black dashed line, Figure IV-3d), its reduction process of CuS-CC-2T occurred at the same peak potential (-1.35 V vs. Ag/AgCl QRE) as that observed in the anhydrous N2 atmosphere (black solid line, Figure IV-3d) with negligible increase in the peak current. Moreover, an additional reduction peak was found at -1.83 V vs. Ag/AgCl with the current of 0.130 mA. This observation indicated that the first reduction process of CuS-CC-2T did not significantly related to the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub>, whereas its second reduction was likely to participate the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub>. Under the N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere in the presence of 3%  $H_2O$ , the reduction of CuS-CC-2T was observed at a slightly lower potential -1.31 V vs. Ag/AgCl QRE (red solid line, Figure IV-3d), compared with those found in the anhydrous CO<sub>2</sub>-saturated one, suggesting the negligible effect of the addition of H<sub>2</sub>O on the reduction process of CuS-CC-2T. Under the CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere in presence of 3% H<sub>2</sub>O, two reduction processes of CuS-CC-2T were observed at -1.29 V and -1.73 V vs. Ag/AgCl QRE with the peak currents of 0.035 and 0.145 mA, respectively, (red dashed line, Figure IV-3d). The very small change in the peak potential and current of the first reduction observed in this condition, compared with those found in the anhydrous CO<sub>2</sub>-saturated one, suggested that the first reduction of CuS-CC-2T may not involve in the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub>. Conversely, the appearrance of the second reduction peak with the significant current increase to 0.145 mA suggested that the second reduction of **CuS-CC-2T** and H<sub>2</sub>O should involve in the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub>. In comparison between the electrochemical behavior of **CuS-CC-1T** and that of **CuS-CC-2T** in the above-mentioned conditions, it can be summerized that the addition of thiophene ring in **CuS-CC-2T** led to significant decrease in the reduction potential of the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub> both in the absence and presence of H<sub>2</sub>O. However, the addition of H<sub>2</sub>O did not significantly affected the reduction process under the N<sub>2</sub>-saturated conditon, but it obviously increased the peak current under the CO<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition, indicating the possible role of H<sub>2</sub>O as the proton source for the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub>. To comfirm the role of H<sub>2</sub>O in the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub>, further investigation of the products from the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub> with and without H<sub>2</sub>O by, for example, bulk electrolysis still has to be performed.

Under the anhydrous N<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition, the cyclic voltammograms of NiS-1T, NiS-CC-1T and NiS-CC-2T showed reversible reduction peaks at -1.78 V, -1.72 V and -1.69 V vs. Ag/AgCl QRE, respectively (Figure IV-4a and Table IV-3), corresponding to redox processes of the nickel-salen complexes from Ni(II) to Ni(I)<sup>201-202</sup>. In a similar manner observed for the copper-derivatives, the comparison between the cyclic voltammograms of NiS-1T and those of NiS-CC-1T indicated that the insertion of the carbon-carbon triple bond between the thienyl units and the salen core did not significantly influence a reduction process of both target molecules. Furthermore, the comparison between the electrochemical behavior of NiS-CC-1T and that of NiS-CC-2T suggested that the introduction of the additional thiophene ring seemed to decrease the reduction potential.



**Figure IV-4**: Cyclic voltammograms of a 0.1 M  $nBu_4NPF_6$  solution (grey solid line) containing (a) NiS-1T (black solid line), NiS-CC-1T (red dashed line) and NiS-CC-2T (blue dotted line) under the N<sub>2</sub>saturated condition, (b) the 0.1 M  $nBu_4NPF_6$  solution containing NiS-1T under N<sub>2</sub>- (solid line) and CO<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition (dashed line) in the absence (black line) and in the presence of H<sub>2</sub>O (red line), (c) the 0.1 M  $nBu_4NPF_6$  solution containing NiS-CC-1T under N<sub>2</sub>- (solid line) and CO<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition (dashed line) in the absence (black line) and in the presence of H<sub>2</sub>O (red line) and (d) the 0.1 M  $nBu_4NPF_6$  solution containing NiS-CC-2T under N<sub>2</sub>- (solid line) and CO<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition (dashed line) in the absence (black line) and in the presence of H<sub>2</sub>O (red line) and (d) the 0.1 M  $nBu_4NPF_6$  solution containing NiS-CC-2T under N<sub>2</sub>- (solid line) and CO<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition (dashed line) in the absence (black line) and in the presence of H<sub>2</sub>O (red line). The concentration of each compound was 0.5 mM and the cyclic voltammogrames were collected at the scan rate of 50 mV·s<sup>-1</sup>.

Compound	Condition		E <sub>peak</sub> (E <sub>onset</sub> ) / V	Current at E <sub>peak</sub>
compound			<i>vs.</i> Ag/AgCl	/ mA
NiS-1T	Without 3% H <sub>2</sub> O	N <sub>2</sub>	-1.78 (-1.60)	0.119
		CO <sub>2</sub>	-1.79 (-1.60)	0.146
	With 3% H <sub>2</sub> O	N <sub>2</sub>	-1.75 (-1.55)	0.106
		CO <sub>2</sub>	-1.80 (-1.62)	0.306
NiS-CC-1T	Without 3% H <sub>2</sub> O	N <sub>2</sub>	-1.72 (-1.52)	0.051
		CO <sub>2</sub>	-1.74 (-1.52)	0.111
	With 3% H <sub>2</sub> O	N <sub>2</sub>	-1.69 (-1.49)	0.079
		CO <sub>2</sub>	-1.76 (-1.54)	0.226
NiS-CC-2T	<b>GHULAL</b> Without	INGN <sub>2</sub> RN	-1.69 (-1.51)	0.069
	3% H <sub>2</sub> O	CO <sub>2</sub>	-1.72 (-1.52)	0.099
	With	N <sub>2</sub>	-1.67 (-1.49)	0.069
	3% H <sub>2</sub> O	CO <sub>2</sub>	-1.75 (-1.50)	0.231

Table IV-3: Electrochemical data of NiS-1T, NiS-CC-1T and NiS-CC-2T

Under the anhydrous CO<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition, results in **Figure IV-4b** showed that the reduction process of **NiS-1T** (black dashed line) occurred at the similar potential (-1.79 V *vs.* Ag/AgCl QRE) as that observed under the anhydrous N<sub>2</sub>-saturated one (black solid line, **Figure IV-4b**) with significant current increase from 0.119 to 0.146 mA. This observation indicated that **NiS-1T** might play a role in the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub>. Under the N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere in the presence of 3% H<sub>2</sub>O, the reduction potential of **NiS-1T** was observed a similar potential as that observed under the anhydrous condition (-1.75 V *vs.* Ag/AgCl QRE) with a current of 0.106 mA (red solid line, **Figure IV-4b**). When this analyte solution was saturated with CO<sub>2</sub>, the reduction process was found to occurr at -1.80 V *vs.* Ag/AgCl QRE with the current increase to 0.306 mA (red dashed line, **Figure IV-4b**). The large increase in current from 0.146 to 0.306 mA indicated that H<sub>2</sub>O significantly affected the reduction process of this compound.

The cyclic voltammogram of NiS-CC-1T under the anhydrous CO<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition (black dashed line, Figure IV-4c) showed that the reduction process of NiS-CC-1T occurred at the similar peak potential (-1.74 V vs. Ag/AgCl QRE) as that observed in the anhydrous N<sub>2</sub>-saturated one (black solid line, Figure IV-4c) with the current increase from 0.051 to 0.111 mA. This observation indicated that NiS-CC-1T might participate the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub>. Under the N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere in the presence of 3% H<sub>2</sub>O, the cyclic voltammogram of NiS-CC-1T exhibited a reduction peak at the comparable potential as that observed under the anhydrous condition (-1.69 V vs. Ag/AgCl QRE, red solid line, Figure IV-4c) with a current of 0.079 mA. Under the  $CO_2$  atmosphere in presence of 3%  $H_2O$ , the reduction process of NiS-CC-1T occurred at -1.76 V vs. Ag/AgCl QRE with the current of 0.226 mA (red dashed line, Figure IV-4c). The current increase from 0.111 to 0.226 mA indicated the significant catalytic activity of NiS-CC-1T in the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub>. In comparison between the electrochemical behavior of NiS-1T and that of NiS-CC-1T, the similar effect of the insertion of the carbon-carbon triple bond between the thienyl units and the salen core on the increase in the reduction potential of the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub> as observed for the copper series was also detected.

As regards NiS-CC-2T, under the  $CO_2$  saturation in the absence of  $H_2O$  (black dashed line, Figure IV-4d), its reduction process occurred at the same peak potential (-1.72 V *vs.* Ag/AgCl QRE) as that observed in the anhydrous N<sub>2</sub>-saturated one (black

solid line, Figure IV-4d) with the current increase from 0.069 to 0.099 mA. This observation indicated that NiS-CC-2T might participate the ECR of  $CO_2$ . Under the  $N_2$ atmosphere in the presence of 3% H<sub>2</sub>O (red solid line, Figure IV-4d), the cyclic voltammogram of NiS-CC-2T exhibited a reduction peak at the comparable potential (-1.67 V vs. Ag/AgCl QRE) as that observed under the anhydrous N<sub>2</sub>-condition (black solid line, Figure IV-4d). Under the  $CO_2$  atmosphere in presence of 3% H<sub>2</sub>O (red dashed line, Figure IV-4d), the reduction process of NiS-CC-2T occurred at -1.75 V vs. Ag/AgCl QRE with the current of 0.231 mA. This reduction peak was observed at a similar potential with that observed under the anhydrous CO<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition with current increase from 0.099 to 0.231 mA, indicating the significant catalytic activity of NiS-CC-2T in the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub>. In contrast to the case of the copper-derivatives, the comparison between the electrochemical behavior of NiS-CC-1T and that of NiS-CC-2T indicated that the introduction of the addition thiophene unit did not bring about significant change of the reduction potential of the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub>. In comparison between the copper- and the nickel-salen monomers, the first reduction of the copper-salen monomers, which occurred in a range between -1.29 V and -1.42 V vs. Ag/AgCl QRE, seem not to significantly involve in the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub>, but the electrochemical catalytic activity of these compounds become significant at the potential higher than -1.50 V vs. Ag/AgCl QRE. On the other hand, there was only one reduction peak observed in a range between -1.67 V and -1.80 V vs. Ag/AgCl QRE for the nickel-salen monomers, and these processes also involved in the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub>. Furthermore, the addition of H<sub>2</sub>O significantly affected the reduction process for the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub> in both series. Considering the current increase, the results suggested that the **MS-nT** monomers gave the larger current increase than the MS-CC-nT ones. Moreover, in term of the reduction potential, the results suggested that the MS-CC-nT monomers gave the lower reduction potential than the MS-nT ones. However, the bulk electrolysis should be performed for more realistic comparison. This experiment will be done and its results will be described elsewhere.

#### 4.2.2 Electrochemical polymerization of target monomers

In order to prepare stable films of the target metallosalen for using as heterogeneous electrocatalysts for the ERC of CO<sub>2</sub>, their electropolymerization was performed in this study. Although the target metallosalen could be greatly dissolved in DMF, the potential window in the DMF system is quite narrow for oxidative polymerization. Therefore, the electropolymerization was performed in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> having the wider potential range than DMF. From the solubilities of the target metallosalens reported in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in **Table IV-1**, it can be seen that to perform the electropolymerization of each monomer series, *i.e.* **MS-1T**, **MS-2T**, **MS-CC-1T** and **MS-CC-2T**, the concentration of choice had to be approximately the maximum solubilities of the Ni-chelated derivatives. Therefore, the electropolymerization of 0.50, 0.03, 0.25 and 0.10 mM, respectively. A cyclic voltammogram of the 0.1 M *n*Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> solution in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> is shown in **Figure IV-5**, indicating that a suitable potential range for the oxidative polymerization was between -0.2 V and 1.6 V *vs*. Ag/AgCl QRE.



**Figure IV–5**: Cyclic voltammogram of a 0.1 M  $nBu_4NPF_6$  solution in  $CH_2Cl_2$  measured by using ITOcoated glass and Pt-plate as the WE and CE, respectively, against Ag/AgCl QRE at a scan rate of 100 mV·s<sup>-1</sup>.

According to a previous study,<sup>188</sup> a chromium salen complex containing the thienyl groups was successfully electrochemically polymerized under oxidative polymerization at the applied voltage between -0.20 V and +1.60 V *vs* Ag/AgCl QRE with a scan rate of 100 mV·s<sup>-1</sup>, leading to formation of the polymer film that fully covered on the WE. By using the similar condition, the oxidative polymerization of **CuS-1T** and **NiS-1T** was carried out on the ITO-coated glass at the potential between -0.20 V and +1.30 V *vs* Ag/AgCl QRE. The cyclic voltammograms had significant increase in current from the first to the tenth cycles with small positive shift of  $E_{pa}$ , indicating the progress of the polymerization of the thienyl unit (**Figure IV-6**) with a increased film. As a result, the polymers of **CuS-1T** (**poly-CuS-1T**) and **NiS-1T** (**poly-NiS-1T**) were obtained as a dark green and yellowish green films, respectively, which were stable under the ambient atmosphere.





**Figure IV–6**: Cyclic voltammograms of oxidative polymerization of a 0.1 M  $nBu_4NPF_6$  in  $CH_2Cl_2$  containing (a) 0.50 mM **CuS-1T** to give (b) the resulting **poly-CuS-1T** film on the ITO-coated glass, and (c) 0.50 mM **NiS-1T** to give (d) the resulting **poly-NiS-1T** film on the ITO-coated glass. The oxidative polymerization was performed at a scan rate of 100 mV·s<sup>-1</sup> for up to 10 cycles.

In case of CuS-2T and NiS-2T monomers, the oxidative polymerization was performed at the potential between 0.0 V and +1.50 V vs Ag/AgCl QRE with a scan rate of 100 mV $\cdot$ s<sup>-1</sup>. Upon the increase in the number of scanning cycle up to 10 cycles, the increase in the anodic current at +0.90 V, and +1.49 V, and the cathodic current at +0.80 V and +0.35 V vs Ag/AgCl QRE was observed for CuS-2T (Figure IV-7a), while the anodic current increase was not detected for NiS-2T (Figure IV-7c). However, the resulting film from the polymerization of CuS-2T was found to be very thin (Figure IV-7b), whereas the polymerization of NiS-2T failed to give a visible film, although the number of the scanning cycle was increased up to 50 cycles in both cases. This is attributed to low solubility of both compounds. In comparison between the polymerization of MS-1T and that of MS-2T series, the required potential for the polymerization of MS-2T (approximately +0.90 V vs Ag/AgCl QRE) is slightly lower than that of MS-1T (+1.15 V vs Ag/AgCl QRE). The former value was consistent with the potential reported for the oxidative polymerization of a thienyl-substituted chromiumsalen in a previous study.<sup>203</sup> It can be concluded that the introduction of the additional thiophene ring in MS-2T brought about significant decrease in the required potential for the oxidative polymerization.

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**Figure IV-7**: Cyclic voltammograms of oxidative polymerization of a 0.1 M  $nBu_4NPF_6$  in  $CH_2Cl_2$  containing (a) 0.03 mM **CuS-2T** to give (b) the resulting **poly-CuS-2T** film on the ITO-coated glass, and (c) 0.03 mM **NiS-1T**. The oxidative polymerization was performed at a scan rate of 100 mV·s<sup>-1</sup> for up to 10 cycles.

In a similar manner, the oxidative polymerization of CuS-CC-1T and NiS-CC-1T was carried out at the potential between 0.0 V and +1.50 V and between 0.0 V and +1.60 V vs Ag/AgCl QRE, respectively, with a scan rate of 100 mV $\cdot$ s<sup>-1</sup>. Upon continuous scanning from the first to the tenth cycles, the anodic and cathodic current in both cases was found to decrease as shown in Figure IV-8. This is attributed to the increase of the resistivity of the resulting film, which suppresses the progress of the electrochemical polymerization.<sup>204-207</sup> Consequently, the light browish green and light brown films of polymers of CuS-CC-1T (poly-CuS-CC-1T) and NiS-CC-1T (poly-NiS-CC-1T), respectively, were obtained (Figure IV-8b and Figure IV-8d, respectively) and found to be stable under ambient atmosphere. Compared with the MS-1T series, the MS-CC-1T series required more positive potential for electropolymerization, possible due to the stronger electronic communication between the salen and thiophene units via linear carbon-carbon triple bonds that creates electron-withdrawing effect at the polymerizable  $\alpha$ -position of the thiophene rings or, in other words, causes the peripheral thienyl unit less reactive to the electrochemical oxidative polymerization.<sup>208-</sup> 210



**Figure IV–8**: Cyclic voltammograms of oxidative polymerization of a 0.1 M  $nBu_4NPF_6$  in  $CH_2Cl_2$  containing (a) 0.25 mM **CuS-CC-1T** to give (b) the resulting **poly-CuS-CC-1T** film on the ITO-coated glass, and (c) 0.25 mM **NiS-CC-1T** to give (d) the resulting **poly-NiS-CC-1T** film on the ITO-coated glass. The oxidative polymerization was performed at a scan rate of 100 mV·s<sup>-1</sup> for up to 10 cycles.

In case of CuS-CC-2T and NiS-CC-2T monomers, the oxidative polymerization was performed at the potential between -0.20 V and +1.50 V and between -0.20 V and +1.55 V vs Ag/AgCl QRE, respectively, with a scan rate of 100 mV $\cdot$ s<sup>-1</sup>. The increase in the anodic current at +0.95 V and +1.48 V, and the cathodic current at +0.89 V and +0.36 V vs Ag/AgCl QRE was observed for CuS-CC-2T and the increase in the anodic current at +0.92 V and +1.52 V, and the cathodic current at +0.88 V and +0.35 V vs Ag/AgCl QRE was observed for NiS-CC-2T (Figure IV-9). In both cases, the cyclic voltammograms exhibited significant increase in current from the first to the tenth cycles with slight positive shift of  $E_{pa}$  and negative shift of  $E_{pc}$ . As a result, polymers of CuS-CC-2T (poly-CuS-CC-2T) and NiS-CC-2T (poly-NiS-CC-2T) were obtained as a stable yellowish brown and light yellow films as shown in Figure IV-9b and Figure IV-9d, respectively. In comparison between the polymerization of MS-CC-1T and that of MS-CC-2T series, the result showed that the polymerization of MS-CC-2T required less potential than that of MS-CC-1T, possibly due to higher susceptibility of the bithiophenyl unit to the electrochemical polymerization, compared with that of the thienyl one as described in previous studies.<sup>186, 203, 211</sup> However, the comparison between the polymerization of MS-CC-2T and that of MS-2T series indicated the stronger electronic communication between the salen and bithiophene units that creates electron-withdrawing effect at the polymerizable  $\alpha$ -position on the bithiophene rings in MS-CC-2T led to require more positive potential than MS-2T for the electrochemical oxidative polymerization.



**Figure IV-9**: Cyclic voltammograms of oxidative polymerization of a 0.1 M  $nBu_4NPF_6$  in  $CH_2Cl_2$  containing (a) 0.10 mM **CuS-CC-2T** to give (b) the resulting **poly-CuS-CC-2T** film on the ITO-coated glass, and (c) 0.10 mM **NiS-CC-2T** to give (d) the resulting **poly-NiS-CC-2T** film on the ITO-coated glass. The oxidative polymerization was performed at a scan rate of 100 mV·s<sup>-1</sup> for up to 10 cycles.

#### 4.2.3 Electrochemical reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> of target polymers

The ECR of CO<sub>2</sub> of **poly-CuS-1T**, **poly-CuS-CC-1T**, **poly-CuS-CC-2T**, **poly-NiS-1T**, **poly-NiS-CC-1T** and **poly-NiS-CC-2T** was studied by using the same cyclic voltammetry setup as that described for their monomers in Section 4.2.1, except that the WE in this case was the polymer films on the ITO-coated glass and the electrolyte solution contained no salen monomer. The electrochemical window was determined by the cyclic voltammograms of a 0.1 M  $nBu_4NPF_6$  solution using a clean ITO-coated glass as the WE. The results in Figure IV–10 showed that although the current under the N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere did not significantly change upto –2.0 V vs Ag/AgCl QRE, that under the CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere drastically increased at the potential higher than –1.7 V vs Ag/AgCl QRE. Therefore, the potential range chosen for the heterogeneous ECR of CO<sub>2</sub> was between 0.0 V and –1.7 V vs Ag/AgCl QRE.





When the polymer films on the ITO-coated glasses were used on the WE, it is surprising that the electrochemical features of the films under the N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere were not consistent with those observed for their corresponding monomers (**Figure IV–11**). Moreover, under the CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere, these polymer films gave no significant current enhancement. This observation was confirmed by using the freshly made polymer films under the same conditions and setup. This unexpected result may be explained by high resistance of the films due to possible aggregation of the repeating units in the polymer chains or unfavorable morphology of the polymer films. To investigate the detailed cause of this, further optimization of the polymerization condition and in-



depth film studies have to be performed. Therefore, the ECR of  $CO_2$  of these films was not continued in this work.

Figure IV-11: Cyclic voltammograms of (a) poly-CuS-1T, (b) poly-NiS-1T, (c) poly-CuS-CC-1T, (d) poly-NiS-CC-1T, (e) poly-CuS-CC-2T and (f) poly-NiS-CC-2T under N<sub>2</sub>- (black solid line) and CO<sub>2</sub>- saturated condition (red dashed line). The cyclic voltammograms were recorded in a 0.1 M  $nBu_4NPF_6$  solution in DMF at the scan rate of 50 mV·s<sup>-1</sup>.

## CHAPTER V CONCLUSION

A series of the novel asymmetric copper- and nickel-salens bearing the thienyl and bithiophenyl units attached on their phenoxyl rings directly and via the carboncarbon triple-bond spacer was successfully synthesized. The characterization of the target compounds was carried out by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectroscopy and mass spectrometry. The solubilities of the target compounds were found to vary in a range of 0.03–0.90, 0.01–0.05 and 0.04–2.74 mM in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>CN and DMF, respectively. Their electrocatalytic activities for the homogeneous ECR of CO<sub>2</sub> in DMF were determined by cyclic voltammetry. Under the CO<sub>2</sub>-saturated condition, results revealed that both copper- and nickel-salens should be able to work as catalysts for the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub> by showing the current increase of the reduction peaks compared with those observed under the N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. Moreover, the results showed that the insertion of the carbon-carbon triple bond between the thienyl units and the salen core led to the decrease in the required reduction potential. Furthermore, the introduction of the thienyl rings also encouraged the current increase in reduction process of both in copper- and nickel-salen, while the additional thiophene rings did not play a significant role in this aspect. In addition, the water gave significant contribution in the reduction of  $CO_2$  by increasing the peak current in most cases. The oxidative polymerization of all target monomers, except the ones bearing the bithiophenyl groups directly linked to the salen core that exhibited low solubilities, gave stable thin films of the corresponding polymers. The results indicated that the monomers having the carbon-carbon triple-bond spacer required higher potential for the polymerization, compared to the ones having the thiophene-based groups directly linked to the salen core. Additionally, the monomers containing the bithiophenyl groups required lower potential to proceed the polymerization than those bearing the thienyl rings. Due to unexpected electrochemical behavior of the resulting polymers, the electrocatalytic activities of these polymers for the ECR of CO<sub>2</sub> could not be yet investigated, and will be further described elsewhere. Possible future work is to analyte the products from the homogeneous ECR of  $CO_2$  by the bulk electrolysis for more realistic comparison of the catalytic efficiency of each monomer. Furthermore, the further optimization of the polymerization condition should be performed to obtain the efficient polymeric catalyst for the heterogeneous ECR of  $CO_2$ , as well as the determination of products from this process in a similar manner to the homogeneous one.



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Figure A-5: HR-ESI spectrum of compound H-2T-B



Figure A-6: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of compound H-CC-1T-B







Figure A-8: HR-ESI spectrum of compound H-CC-1T-B











Figure A-11: HR-ESI spectrum of compound H-CC-2T-B











Figure A-14: MALDI-TOF spectrum of compound  $H_2S\text{-}1T$ 














Figure A-18: HR-ESI spectrum of compound H<sub>2</sub>S-2T















Figure A-22: HR-ESI spectrum of compound H<sub>2</sub>S-CC-1T







Figure A-24:  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  spectrum of compound  $\text{H}_2\text{S-CC-2T}$ 







Figure A-26: HR-ESI spectrum of compound H<sub>2</sub>S-CC-2T







Figure A-28: MALDI-TOF spectrum of compound NiS-1T















Figure A-32: HR-ESI spectrum of compound CuS-CC-1T







Figure A-34: HR-ESI spectrum of compound NiS-CC-1T







Figure A-36: HR-ESI spectrum of compound CuS-CC-2T



Figure A-37: MALDI-TOF spectrum of compound NiS-CC-2T



Figure A-38: HR-ESI spectrum of compound NiS-CC-2T

## VITA

Mr. Cherawat Kaewyai was born on Sunday 19th September, 1993, in Bangkok, Thailand. In 2015, he graduated with a Bachelor's degree of Science in Chemistry, from Srinakharinwirot University. Next, he has been studied for a Master's degree of Science in Petrochemical and polymer science, Faculty of Science, Chulalongkorn University in 2015. His poster presentation and proceeding "Synthesis of Thiophene-substituted Metallosalen for Reduction of Carbon Dioxide" have been submitted at The 44th National Graduate Research Conference (NGRC 44) in Ubon Ratchathani University, 19-20th October, 2017, Thailand.

