Electronic Supplementary Information

for

Hydrogen Atom Abstraction Reactions Independent of C-H Bond Dissociation Energies of Organic Substrates: Significance of Oxidant-Substrate Adduct Formation

Tomoya Ishizuka, a Shingo Ohzu, a Hiroaki Kotani, a Yoshihito Shiota, b Kazunari Yoshizawa, b

and Takahiko Kajima* a

a Department of Chemistry, Graduate School of Pure and Applied Sciences, University of Tsukuba, 1-1-1 Tennoudai, Tsukuba, Ibaraki 305-8571, Japan

b Institute for Materials Chemistry and Engineering, Kyushu University

744 Motooka, Nishi-Ku, Fukuoka 819-0395 (Japan)
**Computational method**

Gibbs energy calculations for the hydrogen-bonded adducts between 1 and hfp in the triplet state (Fig. 4) were carried out by using unrestricted density functional theory (UDFT) implemented in Gaussian 09.¹ For geometry optimizations the B3LYP method²,³ combined with the D3 dispersion correction⁴ and the solvent effect (PCM)⁵ were used. The stability of optimized geometries was confirmed with vibrational analyses, and no imaginary frequency was found. Thermal free energy corrections were taken into account in calculating the total energies. For the Ru atom, the SDD basis set⁶ with and for the H, C, N, and O atoms, the 6-31+G* basis set⁷,⁸ were used.


Fig. S1  $^1$H NMR spectra of oxidized products of 2-propanol as a substrate in the presence of 1 as the oxidant in D$_2$O. The arrow indicates the signal of the product. $\times$: DSS as an internal reference.
Fig. S2  (a) Spectral changes of every 2 min during oxidation of nPrOH in the presence of 1 (0.5 mM) in B.-R. buffer (pH 1.8, sample concentration: 0.15 M) at 298 K and (b) the time courses of the absorbance changes monitored at 500 nm (red) and 620 nm (blue).
Fig. S3  Pseudo-first-order kinetic analysis for oxidation reactions with complexes 1 (a), 2 (b), and 3 (c) as oxidants (0.5 mM) in B.-R. buffer (pH 1.8) at 298 K. The substrates were CH$_3$OH (filled circle, blue line), CD$_3$OH (filled square, red line), and CH$_3$OD (filled diamond, green line).
Fig. S4  van’t Hoff plots for the pre-equilibrium processes of 1 (a), 2 (c), and 3 (e), and Eyring plots for the oxidation reactions of 1 (b), 2 (d), and 3 (f) in B.-R. buffer (pH 1.8). The substrates were CH$_3$OH (filled circle, blue line), CD$_3$OH (filled square, red line), and CH$_3$OD (filled diamond, green line).
**Fig. S5** Pseudo first-order kinetic analysis for oxidation of 2-propanol with complexes 1 (a), 2 (b), and 3 (c) as oxidants (0.5 mM) in B.-R. buffer (pH 1.8) at 305 K (red), 297 K (purple), 289 K (green), and 281 K (blue).
Fig. S6  van’t Hoff plots for the pre-equilibrium processes of 1 (a), 2 (c), and 3 (e), and Eyring plots for the oxidation reactions using 1 (b), 2 (d), and 3 (f) in B.-R. buffer (pH 1.8). The substrate was 2-propanol.
**Fig. S7** A titration curve of the chemical shift change (black-filled circles) for the $^{19}$F signal of 1,1,1,3,3,3- hexafluoro-propan-2-ol (hfp) against the concentration of 1 (filled circle) and 2 (filled square) in D$_2$O (0.66 mM) acidified with HClO$_4$ to be pD 1.8. The red dotted line is the fitting curve based on eq S2. The blue-filled triangles display the changes of the chemical shifts for the $^{19}$F signal of hfp upon addition of [Ru$^{III}$(bpy)$_3$](PF$_6$)$_2$ in the absence of the Ru$^{III}$-OH$_2$ complexes as the starting material of 1 and 2.
**Fig. S8** A plot of $\ln(k_H/k_D)$ ($k_H$: the reaction rate of oxidation of CH$_3$OH, $k_D$: the reaction rate of oxidation of CD$_3$OH) with 1 (filled circle, blue line), 2 (filled square, green line), and 3 (filled triangle, red line) against the inverse of temperature. The slopes of each the plot are 1470 for 1, 1740 for 2 and 630 for 3, respectively.
**Fig. S9** ESI-MS spectrum of a $\mu$-oxo Ru$^{III}$-dimer complex generated by dissolving 2 into neutral water and stirring for 1 h at room temperature (below, black) and the computer simulation (above, red).
**Fig. S10** Pseudo-first-order kinetic analysis for oxidation reactions with I as the oxidant (0.5 mM) in B.-R. buffer (pH 1.8) at 298 K. The substrates were CH₃OH (a), 1-propanol (b), 2-propanol (c), 4-methylbenzyl alcohol (d), and sodium 4-ethylbenzenesulfonic acid (e). The equilibrium constants ($K$) of the adduct formation and the rate constant ($k$) of the oxidation are noted on each the graph.