

Electronic Supplementary Information
for the article

**The Half-sandwich 18- and 16-electron Arene Ruthenium
Iminophosphonamide Complexes**

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1. Complete crystallographic data for the complexes $[(\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{Me}_6)\text{RuCl}\{(p\text{-TolN})_2\text{PPh}_2\}]$ (**3a**), $[(\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{Me}_6)\text{RuCl}\{(p\text{-TolN})_2\text{PEt}_2\}]$ (**3b**), $[(\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{Me}_6)\text{RuCl}\{(\text{MeN})_2\text{PPh}_2\}]$ (**3c**), $[(\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{Me}_6)\text{Ru}\{(p\text{-TolN})_2\text{PPh}_2\}]^+(\text{PF}_6^-)$ (**4a**), $[(\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{Me}_6)\text{Ru}\{(p\text{-TolN})_2\text{PPh}_2\}]^+(\text{BF}_4^-)$ (**4b**) and $[(\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{Me}_6)\text{Ru}\{(\text{MeN})_2\text{PPh}_2\}]^+(\text{BAr}^{\text{F}}_4^-)$ (**4c**) are collected in a separate file all_cifs.cif.

2. The exchange rate constant k_{ex} and the corresponding free energy of activation ΔG^\ddagger at the coalescence temperature T_c were calculated for the complex **3b** in dichloromethane- d_2 according to the [a] A.D. Bain, *Prog. Nucl. Magn. Reson. Spectrosc.*, 2003, **43**, 63-103. b) J. Sandström, "Dynamic NMR Spectroscopy", Academic Press, 1984]:

At the coalescence temperature, the $k_{\text{ex}} = \frac{\pi(\Delta\nu)}{\sqrt{2}}$, $\Delta\nu = 600\text{MHz} \bullet 1.029\text{ppm} = 617\text{Hz}$,

hence the $k_{\text{ex}} = 1370\text{s}^{-1}$ at the $T_c = 238\text{K}$.

The free energy of activation $\Delta G^\ddagger = -RT_c \ln\left(\frac{k_{\text{ex}} \bullet h}{k_B \bullet T_c}\right)$, where k_B and h are the Boltzmann and the Planck constants, correspondingly. At the $T_c = 238\text{K}$, the $\Delta G^\ddagger = 43.5\text{kJ/mol}$.

3. The VT NMR of the complex **3b** in toluene- d_8 at 273 – 353K.

