**Electronic Supplementary Information** 

# Direct transformation of 2-acetylpyridine oxime esters into $\alpha$ -oxygenated imines in an Ir(III) complex

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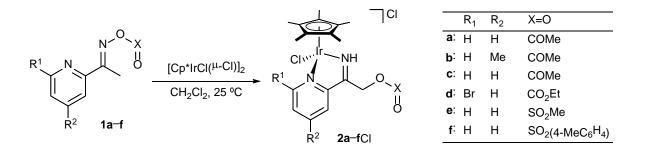
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#### **General considerations**

All experimental manipulations for air and water sensitive reagents were carried out in dried glass vessels under an argon or a nitrogen atmosphere by standard Schlenk techniques. Dichloromethane was distilled over P<sub>4</sub>O<sub>10</sub>; methanol was distilled over Mg. They were degassed and stored under an argon atmosphere. The other solvents (anhydrous grade) were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich and purged with argon before use. <sup>1</sup>H (500 MHz) and <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (126 MHz) NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL ECA-500 spectrometer. Chemical shifts are reported in δ, referenced to residual <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C signals of deuterated solvents as internal standards. IR spectra were recorded on a JASCO FT/IR-4200 spectrometer using KBr pellets. Elemental analyses were performed on a Perkin Elmer 2400 series II CHN analyzer.

#### **Transformation of 1 into 2**



#### **General procedure**

A mixture of  $[Cp*IrCl(\mu-Cl)]_2$  and oxime ester **1** in dichloromethane was stirred at 25 °C for an appropriate reaction time (3–6 h). After the completion of the reaction, the mixture was filtered through a Celite pad, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. The crude product was purified by recrystallization from dichloromethane–hexane or dichloromethane–methanol–diethyl ether to give **2**Cl.

**Synthesis of 2aCl**: This compound was obtained from  $[Cp*IrCl(\mu-Cl)]_2$  (31.9 mg, 0.040 mmol) and oxime acetate **1a** (14.4 mg, 0.081 mmol) according to *general procedure*. The reaction time was 3 h. The product was purified by recrystallization from dichloromethane–hexane. Dark red crystals (38.2 mg, 83% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  15.7 (br s, 1H), 8.78 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (m, 2H), 7.73 (m, 1H), 5.88 (d, *J* = 14 Hz, 1H), 5.61 (d, *J* = 14 Hz, 1H), 2.13 (s, 3H), 1.89 (s, 15H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  174.4, 170.3, 155.5, 151.8, 140.1, 129.7, 127.7, 90.8, 61.9, 21.0, 9.49; IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1750 (v<sub>C=0</sub>), 1598 (v<sub>C=N</sub>), 1235 (v<sub>C-0</sub>); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>25</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>IrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 39.58; H, 4.37; N, 4.86. Found: C, 39.33; H, 4.45; N, 4.72.

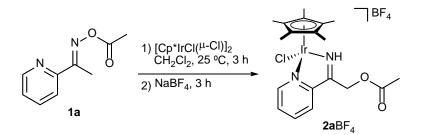
**Synthesis of 2bCl**: This compound was obtained from  $[Cp*IrCl(\mu-Cl)]_2$  (59.6 mg, 0.075 mmol) and oxime acetate **1b** (39.4 mg, 0.205 mmol) according to *general procedure*. The reaction time was 3 h. The product was purified by recrystallization from dichloromethane–methanol–diethyl ether. Dark red crystals (43.6 mg, 49% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  15.2 (br s, 1H), 8.63 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (s, 1H), 7.57 (dd, *J* = 6.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 5.88 (d, *J* = 14 Hz, 1H), 5.61 (d, *J* = 14 Hz, 1H), 2.63 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H), 1.90 (s, 15H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  174.4, 170.1, 154.9, 152.7, 150.8, 130.3, 128.2, 90.3, 61.5, 21.7, 21.0, 9.53; IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1749 (v<sub>C=0</sub>), 1622 (v<sub>C=N</sub>), 1225 (v<sub>C=0</sub>); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>27</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>IrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 40.68; H, 4.61; N, 4.74. Found: C, 40.44; H, 4.59; N, 4.61.

**Synthesis of 2dCl**: This compound was obtained from  $[Cp*IrCl(\mu-Cl)]_2$  (15.8 mg, 0.020 mmol) and oxime carbonate **1d** (9.6 mg, 0.046 mmol) according to *general procedure*. The reaction time was 3 h. The product was purified by recrystallization from dichloromethane–methanol–diethyl ether. Orange crystals (15.6 mg, 65% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  15.5 (br s, 1H), 8.78 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (td, *J* = 7.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (ddd, *J* = 7.3, 5.9, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.15 (d, *J* = 14 Hz, 1H), 5.54 (d, *J* = 14 Hz, 1H), 4.23 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.91 (s, 15H), 1.30 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  173.6, 155.1, 153.9, 151.6, 140.0, 129.8, 127.7, 90.6, 65.3, 64.9, 14.3, 9.53; IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1755 (v<sub>C=0</sub>), 1600 (v<sub>C=N</sub>), 1260 (v<sub>C-0</sub>); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>27</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>IrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>: C, 39.60; H, 4.49; N, 4.62. Found: C, 39.23; H, 4.24; N, 4.53.

**Synthesis of 2eCl**: This compound was obtained from  $[Cp*IrCl(\mu-Cl)]_2$  (31.4 mg, 0.039 mmol) and oxime sulfonate **1e** (18.2 mg, 0.085 mmol) according to *general procedure*. The reaction time was 6 h. The product was purified by recrystallization from dichloromethane–methanol–diethyl ether. Orange crystals (40.5 mg, 84% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  14.4 (br s, 1H), 8.79 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 8.25 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 8.13 (td, *J* = 7.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (ddd, *J* = 7.3, 5.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.28 (d, *J* = 13 Hz, 1H), 5.10 (d, *J* = 13 Hz, 1H), 2.84 (s, 3H), 1.87 (s, 15H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  174.8, 154.6, 151.6, 140.0, 129.7, 128.2, 90.6, 39.9, 39.6, 9.28; IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1599 (v<sub>C=N</sub>), 1187 (v<sub>S=O</sub>); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>25</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>IrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S: C, 35.29; H, 4.11; N, 4.57 Found: C, 35.33; H, 4.01; N, 4.53.

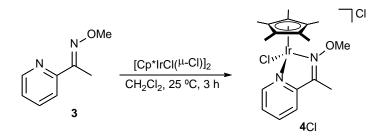
**Synthesis of 2fCl**: This compound was obtained from  $[Cp*IrCl(\mu-Cl)]_2$  (62.9 mg, 0.079 mmol) and oxime sulfonate **1f** (60.8 mg, 0.209 mmol) according to *general procedure*. The reaction time was 6 h. The product was purified by precipitation from dichloromethane–methanol–diethyl ether. Red oil (52.4 mg, 48% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  14.3 (br s, 1H), 8.78 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 8.23 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (t, *J* = 7.3, 1H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.77 (m, 1H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.27 (d, *J* = 13 Hz, 1H), 5.10 (d, *J* = 13 Hz, 1H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.83 (s, 15H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  175.2, 154.3, 151.8, 142.5, 140.1, 140.1, 130.0, 128.9, 128.4, 126.3, 90.6, 39.8, 21.5, 9.27; IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1600 (v<sub>C=N</sub>), 1184 (v<sub>S=O</sub>); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>29</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>IrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S: C, 41.86; H, 4.24; N, 4.07. Found: C, 41.47; H, 4.25; N, 4.14.

#### Synthesis of 2aBF4

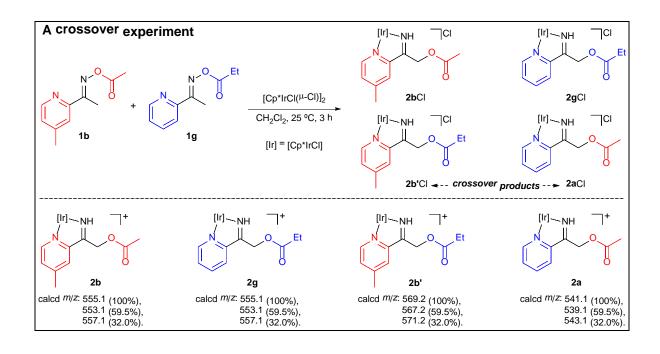


A mixture of  $[Cp*IrCl(\mu-Cl)]_2$  (31.9 mg, 0.040 mmol) and oxime acetate **1a** (15.1 mg, 0.085 mmol) in dichloromethane (7 mL) was stirred at 25 °C for 3 h. NaBF<sub>4</sub> (11.0 mg, 0.100 mmol) was added to the resulting mixture and stirred for additional 3 h. Then, the mixture was filtered through a Celite pad, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. The crude product was purified by recrystallization from dichloromethane–methanol–diethyl ether to give **2a**BF<sub>4</sub> as orange crystals (31.0 mg, 62% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  11.6 (br s, 1H), 8.82 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 8.10 (br d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (ddd, *J* = 7.3, 5.8, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 5.53 (d, *J* = 16 Hz, 1H), 5.44 (d, *J* = 17 Hz, 1H), 2.25 (s, 3H), 1.82 (s, 15H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  176.0, 170.1, 154.0, 152.2, 140.5, 130.8, 127.9, 90.8, 62.9, 20.8, 9.13; IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1751 (v<sub>C=0</sub>), 1600 (v<sub>C=N</sub>), 1234 (v<sub>C-O</sub>), 1084 (v<sub>B-F</sub>); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>25</sub>BClF<sub>4</sub>IrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 36.35; H, 4.01; N, 4.46. Found: C, 36.46; H, 3.86; N, 4.44.

#### Synthesis of 4Cl



A mixture of  $[Cp*IrCl(\mu-Cl)]_2$  (47.8 mg, 0.060 mmol) and oxime ether **3** (18.9 mg, 0.126 mmol) in dichloromethane was stirred at 25 °C for 3 h. After the completion of the reaction, the mixture was concentrated in vacuo. The crude product was purified by recrystallization from dichloromethane–methanol–diethyl ether to give **4**Cl as orange crystals (48.8 mg, 74% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.84 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 8.62 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.27 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 2.98 (s, 3H), 1.80 (s, 15H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.6, 153.2, 151.8, 141.0, 130.5, 129.2, 90.8, 63.3, 14.5, 9.14; IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1610 (v<sub>C=N</sub>); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>25</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>IrN<sub>2</sub>O: C, 39.41; H, 4.59; N, 5.11. Found: C, 39.31; H, 4.68; N, 4.83.



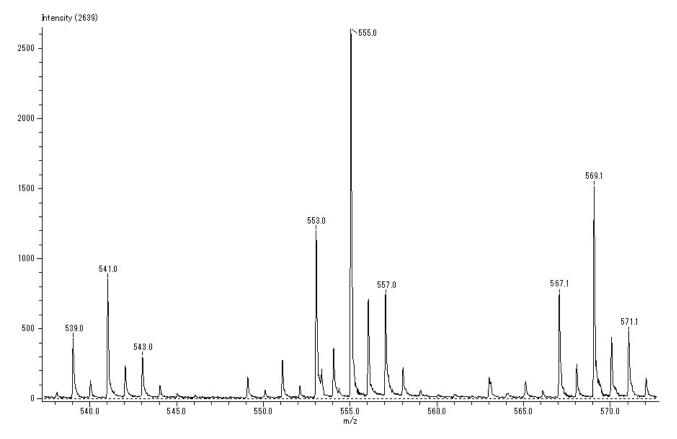


Fig. S1. ESI-MS spectrum (positive ion mode) for the reaction mixture in Scheme 3 (A crossover experiment).

### X-ray diffraction studies

Diffraction data were collected on a Rigaku VariMax Saturn CCD diffractometer with graphite monochromated Mo-Ka radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71075$  Å) at -180 °C. Intensity data were corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects and for an empirical absorption.<sup>S1</sup> All calculations were performed using the *CrystalStructure*<sup>S2</sup> crystallographic software package except for refinements, which was performed using SHELXL-97.<sup>S3</sup> The structures were solved by direct methods (SIR-97 for **2a**BF4<sup>S4</sup> and SIR-2011 for **4**Cl<sup>S5</sup>) and expanded using Fourier techniques. Non-hydrogen atoms were refined on  $F^2$  anisotropically by full-matrix least-squares techniques. Hydrogen atoms were placed at the calculated positions with fixed isotropic parameters. Details of the X-ray diffraction study are summarized in Table S1.

	<b>2a</b> BF <sub>4</sub>	4Cl·CH <sub>3</sub> OH
CCDC	1555548	1555549
empirical formula	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>25</sub> BClF <sub>4</sub> IrN <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>29</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> IrN <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>
formula weight	627.90	580.58
dimension of crystals	0.23×0.08×0.07	0.186×0.171×0.089
crystal system	orthorhombic	monoclinic
space group	P2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> (#19)	P2 <sub>1</sub> /c (#14)
<i>a</i> [Å]	7.5430(10)	11.7603(11)
<i>b</i> [Å]	12.7445(17)	12.1239(12)
<i>c</i> [Å]	22.732(3)	15.2286(15)
α[°]	90.0000	90.0000
$\beta$ [°]	90.0000	91.3973(15)
γ[°]	90.0000	90.0000
V [Å <sup>3</sup> ]	2185.2(6)	2170.7(4)
Ζ	4	4
$ ho_{ m calcd} \ [ m g \  m cm^{-3}]$	1.908	1.776
<i>F</i> (000)	1216	1136
$\mu$ [cm <sup>-1</sup> ]	63.005	64.289
trans. factors range	0.444-0.643	0.362-0.564
index ranges	$-9 \le h \le 9$	$-15 \le h \le 13$
	$-16 \le k \le 12$	$-15 \le k \le 15$
	$-29 \le l \le 29$	$-19 \le l \le 19$
no. rflns measured	17827	17299
no. unique rflns	8521	8138
Rint	0.0385	0.0330
no. rflns $(I > 2\sigma(I))$	5000	4889
no. params refined	271	347
$R1 (I > 2\sigma(I))^{a}$	0.0269	0.0253
R (All cata)	0.0315	0.0296
wR2 (All cata) <sup>b</sup>	0.0545	0.0622
GOF <sup>c</sup>	0.994	1.098
max diff peak/hole [e Å <sup>-3</sup> ]	1.70/-2.09	0.76/-2.15

Table S1. X-ray crystallographic data for 2aBF4 and 4Cl.

<sup>a</sup>  $RI = \Sigma ||F_o| - |F_c|| / \Sigma |F_o|$ . <sup>b</sup>  $wR2 = [\Sigma \{w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2\} / \Sigma w(F_o^2)^2]^{1/2}, w = 1 / [\sigma^2 F_o^2 + (aP)^2 + bP]$ (*a* and *b* are constants suggested by the refinement program;  $P = [max(F_o^2, 0) + 2F_c^2] / 3$ ). <sup>c</sup>GOF  $= [\Sigma w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2 / (N_{obs} - N_{params})]^{1/2}$ .

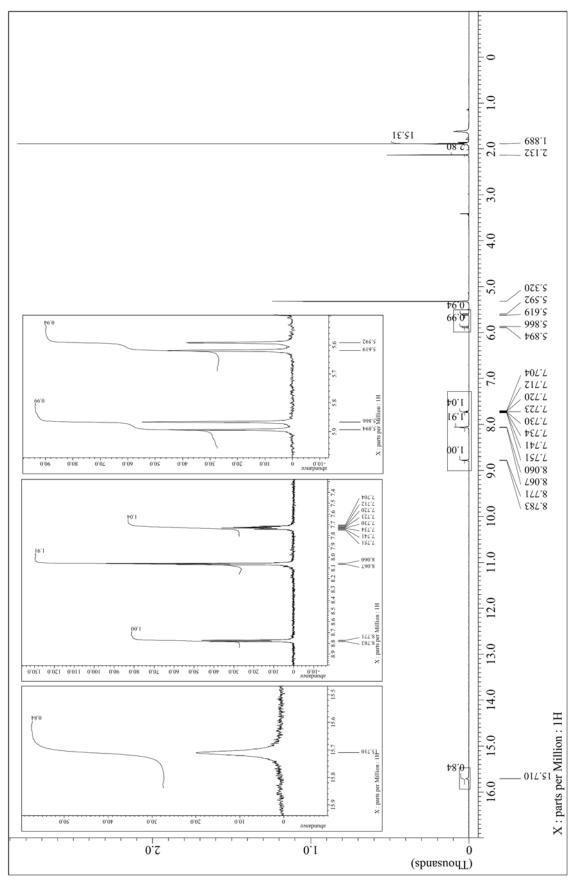


Fig. S2. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) spectrum of 2aCl.

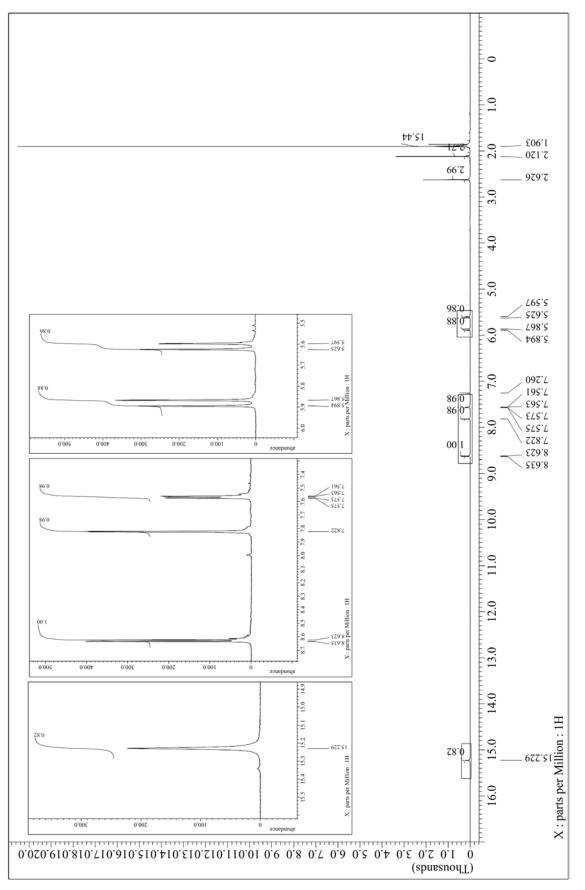
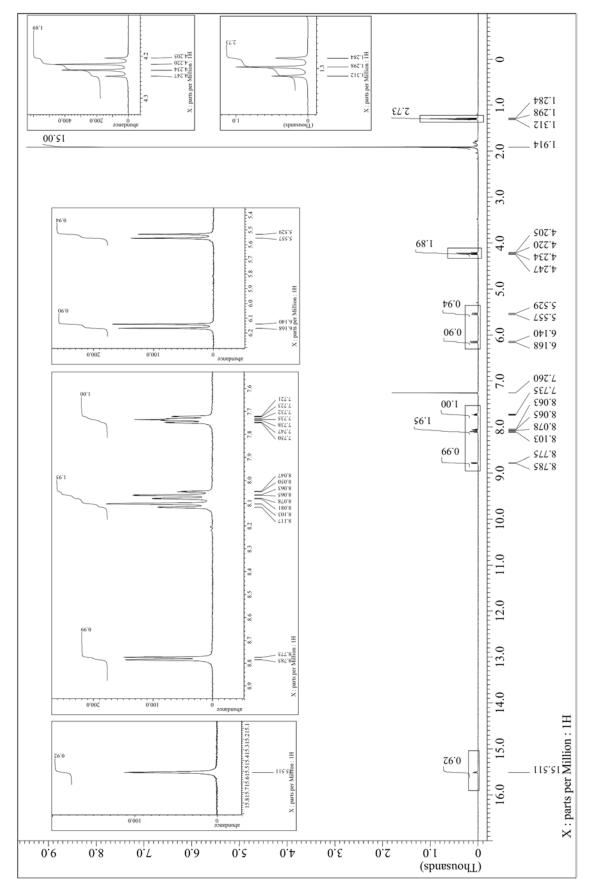


Fig. S3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 2bCl.





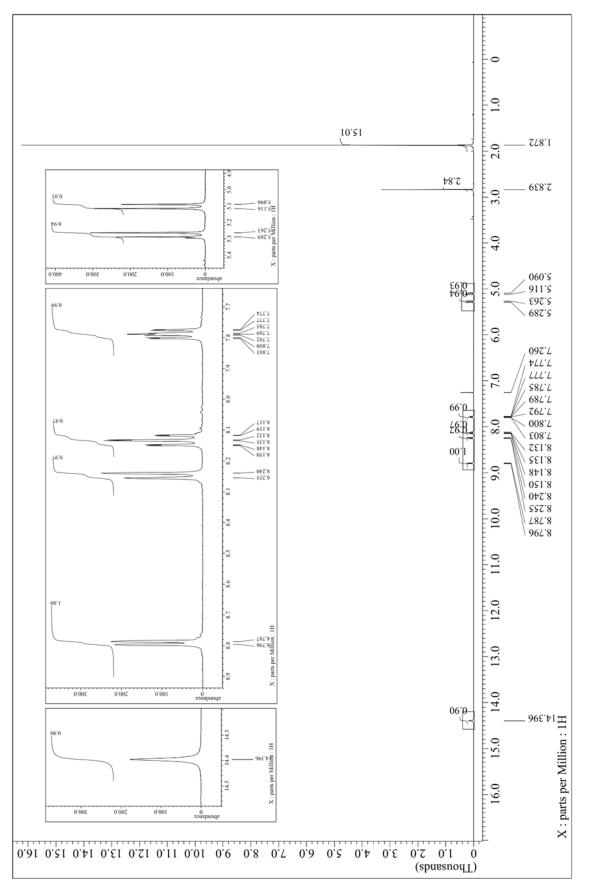


Fig. S5. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 2eCl.

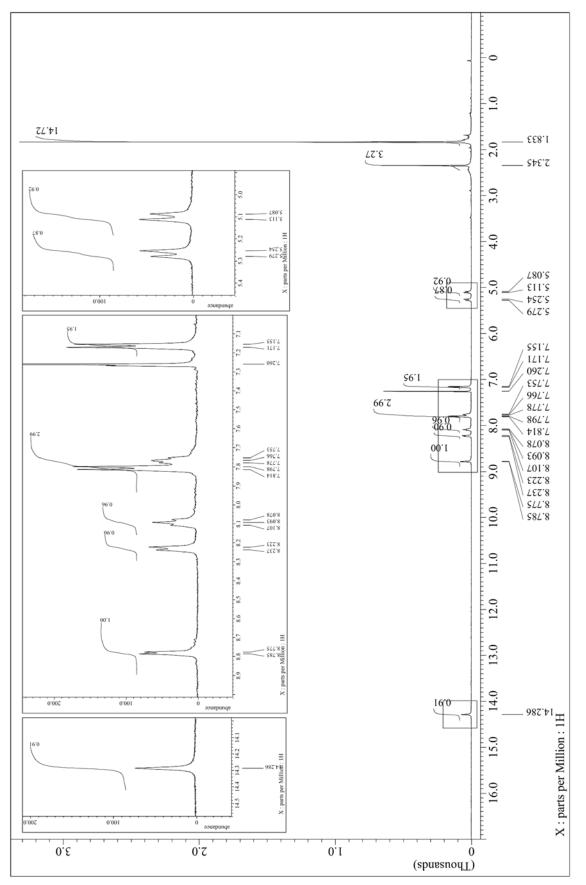
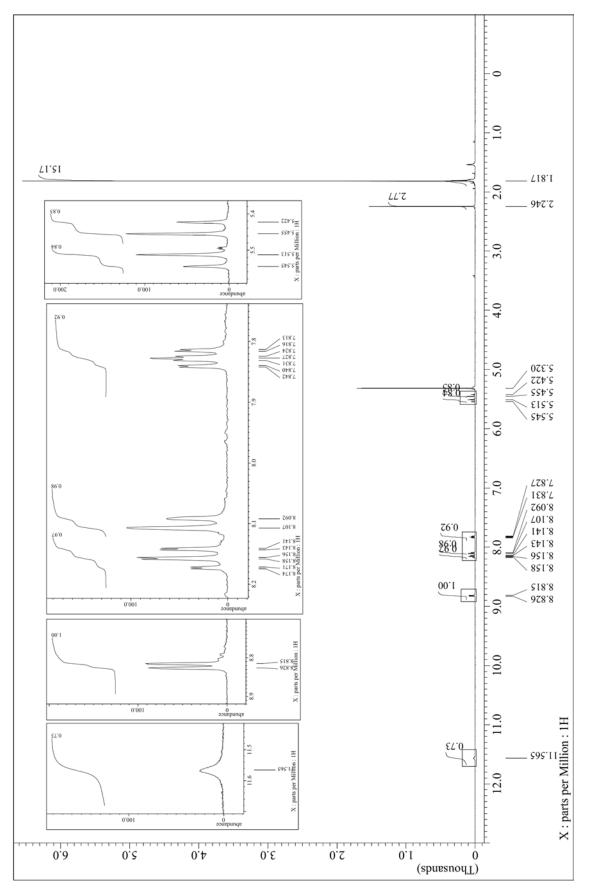
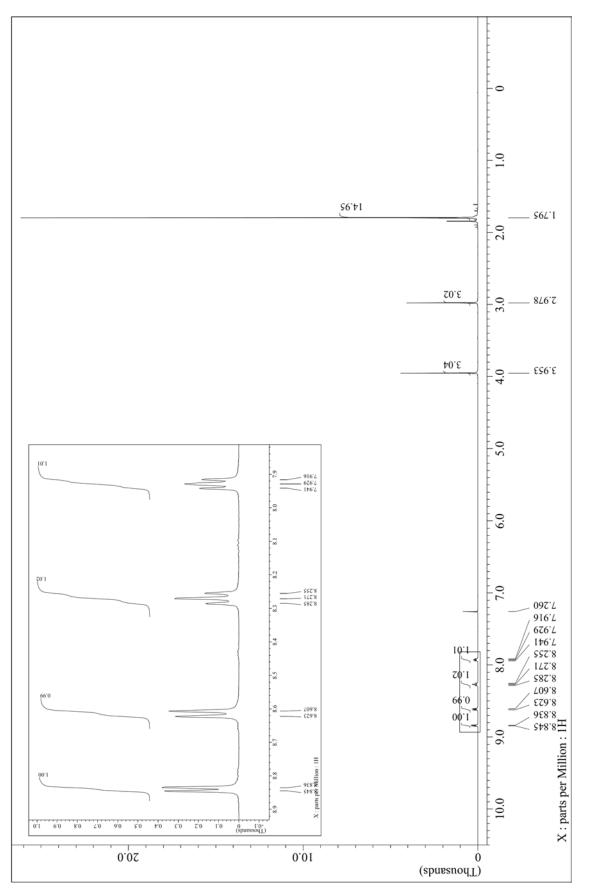


Fig. S6. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 2fCl.









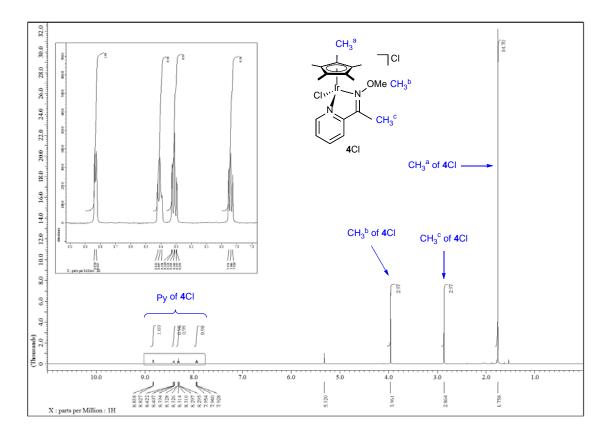


Fig. S9. Full <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-D<sub>2</sub>O) spectrum of 4Cl.

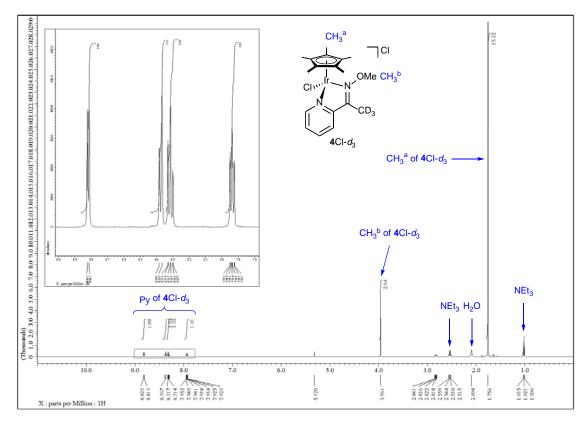


Fig. S10. Full <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-D<sub>2</sub>O-NEt<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 4Cl-d<sub>3</sub>.

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