

H/D exchange in *N*-heterocycles catalysed by an NHC-supported ruthenium complex

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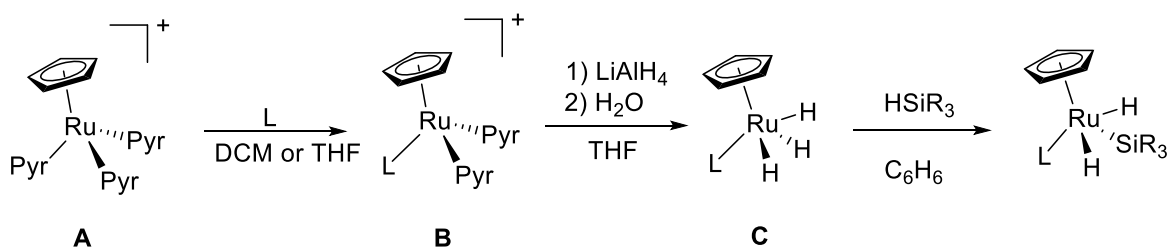
1 General Information

All manipulations were performed using conventional glove box or nitrogen-line Schlenk techniques. Solvents were pre-dried by using Grubbs-type purification columns and stored in ampoules equipped with a Teflon valve. Deuterated solvents were dried over sodium, potassium or CaH_2 as appropriate, distilled under reduced pressure and stored in ampoules with a Teflon valve. NMR samples were prepared in New Era tubes equipped with J. Young-type Teflon valves. NMR spectra were obtained with Bruker DPX-400 and Bruker DPX-600 instruments (^1H : 400 and 600 MHz; ^{13}C : 100.6 and 151 MHz) spectrometers at 298 K. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra were referenced internally to residual protiosolvent (^1H) or solvent (^{13}C) resonances and are reported relative to tetramethylsilane ($\delta=0$ ppm). Chemical shifts are quoted in δ [ppm] and coupling constants in Hertz. IR spectra were recorded by using a PerkinElmer 1600 FTIR spectrometer as Nujol mulls between NaCl windows. All chemicals were purchased from Sigma–Aldrich and Alfa Aesar were used without further purification. C_6D_6 was purchased from Cambridge Isotope Laboratories and were dried over K/Na alloy before use. Complexes $\text{Cp}(\text{IPr})\text{RuH}_3$ (**1**), $\text{Cp}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{RuH}_3$ (**2**), $\text{Cp}(\text{PiPr}_3)\text{RuH}_3$ (**3**), $\text{Cp}(\text{IPr})\text{RuH}_2(\text{SiH}_2\text{Ph})$ (**4**), $\text{Cp}(\text{IPr})\text{RuH}_2(\text{SiHMePh})$ (**5**) $\text{Cp}(\text{IPr})\text{RuH}_2(\text{SiMeCl}_2)$ (**6**) were synthesized by literature procedures.¹⁻³

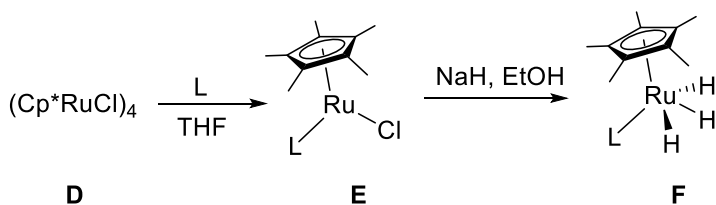
2 Experimental Details

2.1 Catalyst synthesis, general scheme.

For Cp based catalysts L = IPr, IMes, PiPr₃, PPh₃



For Cp* based catalysts L = IPr, IMes



Scheme S1. Preparation of polyhydride half-sandwich ruthenium complexes.

$\text{Cp}^*(\text{IPr})\text{RuH}_3$ (**7**), $\text{Cp}(\text{IMes})\text{RuH}_3$ (**8**), $\text{Cp}^*(\text{IMes})\text{RuH}_3$ (**9**) were prepared by applying procedures developed for **1-3**.^{1,2,3}

2.1.1 General procedure for Cp systems (1, 2, 3, 8):

1) To a solution of [CpRu(pyr)₃][PF₆] (**A**) (0.5 mmol) in 20 mL of dichloromethane was added NHC carbene (0.5 mmol) (NHC = IPr, IMes, IPr). After stirring at room temperature for 8h, the resulting solution was dried to yield [Cp(NHC)Ru(pyr)₂][PF₆] (**B**) as a brownish-yellow, air sensitive solid. This compound was used for the next steps without any further purification.

2) To a solution of [Cp(NHC)Ru(pyr)₂][PF₆] (**B**, 0.36 mmol) in 20 mL of isopropanol was added 1.2 equivalent of KOtBu (0.43 mmol). After stirring at room temperature for 3 h, the resulting solution was dried, extracted by hexane, and then re-crystallized from a mixture of toluene/hexane (1:3) to give the target Cp(NHC)RuH₃ (**C**).

2.1.2 General procedure for Cp* systems (7, 9):

1) To a solution of [Cp*RuCl]₄ (**D**) (0.5 mmol) in 20 mL THF was added 0.5 mmol of NHC (NHC = IPr, IMes). After stirring at room temperature for 24 h, the resulting purple solution was dried to yield the corresponding unsaturated 16e Cp*(NHC)RuCl (**E**) as a brownish-yellow, air sensitive solid. This new compound was used in the next step without any further purification.

2) To a solution of Cp*(NHC)RuCl (**E**) (0.4 mmol) in 20 mL of ethanol was added 1.2 equivalent of NaH (0.48 mmol). After stirring at room temperature for 12 h, the resulting solution was dried, the residue was extracted by hexane, and then re-crystallized from a mixture of toluene/hexane (1:3) to give the corresponding Cp*(NHC)RuH₃ (**F**).

2.2 Catalyst characterization:

Cp*(IPr)RuH₃ (7)

To a solution of 0.26 g (0.40 mmol) of Cp*(IPr)RuCl in 20 mL in ethanol was added 1.2 equivalent of NaH (0.012g, 0.48 mmol). After stirring at room temperature for 12h, the resulting solution was dried, extracted by hexane, and then re-crystallized at room temperature from 8 mL mixture of toluene/hexane (3:1) by slow evaporation to yield 0.15 g (60%) of Cp*(IPr)RuH₃. IR (Nujol): $\nu(\text{Ru-H}) = 2030 \text{ cm}^{-1}$. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, C₆D₆): δ -9.53 (s, 3H, RuH₃), 1.07 (d $J(\text{H-H})=6.7 \text{ Hz}$, 12 H, CH₃ of ^{*i*}Pr), 1.52 (d, $J(\text{H-H})=6.7 \text{ Hz}$, 12 H, CH₃ of ^{*i*}Pr), 1.8 (s, 15 H, CH₃ of Cp*) 2.93 (sep, $J(\text{H-H})=6.7 \text{ Hz}$, 4H, CH of ^{*i*}Pr), 6.44 (s, 2 H, NCH), 7.21-7.31 (m, 6H, C₆H₃). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, C₆D₆): 12.6 (s, CH₃ of Cp*), δ 28.5 (s, CH₃), 28.8 (s, CH(CH₃)₂), 93.4 (s, C ring of Cp*), 122.6 (s, NCH), 124.2 (*m*-C, C₆H₃), 129.2 (*p*-C, C₆H₃), 140.3 (s, *o*-C₆H₃), 146.7 (s, *N*-C₆H₃), 197.13 (Ru-CN₂).

Anal. Cal. for $C_{37}H_{55}RuN_2$ (628.92): C, 70.66; H, 8.81; N, 4.45. Found: C, 70.27, H, 8.71; N, 4.06.

Cp(IMes)RuH₃ (8)

To 0.230 g (0.30 mmol) of $[Cp(IMes)Ru(pyr)_2][PF_6]$ in 20 mL in isopropanol solution was added 0.040 g (0.36 mmol) of KO^tBu . After stirring at room temperature for 3h, the solution was dried, extracted by hexane, and then re-crystallized at room temperature from a 5 mL mixture of toluene/hexane (2 : 3 v/v) by slow evaporation to give $Cp(IMes)RuH_3$ as a hexane solvate. Yield: 0.146 g (87%). IR (Nujol): $\nu(Ru-H) = 2016\text{ cm}^{-1}$. 1H NMR (600 MHz, C_6D_6): δ -9.92 (s, 3H, *RuH*), 2.12 (s, 12H, 2 ortho CH_3 of mesityl), 2.13 (s, 6H, 1 para CH_3 of mesityl), 4.57 (s, 5H, Cp), 6.12 (s, 2H, NCH), 6.8 (s, 4H, C_6H_2). ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, C_6D_6): δ 18.44 (s, *o*- CH_3 of mesityl), 20.89 (*p*- CH_3 of mesityl), 81.0 (*C* ring of Cp), 120.2 (NCH), 129.2 (s, *m*- C_6H_2), 136.25 (s, *p*- C_6H_2), 137.9 (s, *o*- C_6H_2), 139.2 (s, *N*- C_6H_2); 193.4 (Ru-CN₂).

Anal. Cal. for $Cp(IMes)RuH_3 \cdot \text{hexane}$, $C_{32}H_{46}RuN_2$ (559.8): C, 68.66; H, 8.28; N, 5.00. Found: C, 68.60, H, 8.55; N, 4.99.

Cp(IMes)RuH₃* (9)

Preparation and characterization of **9** have been reported: A. L. Jones, G. S. McGrady, P. Sirsch, J. W. Steed, *Chem. Commun.* **2005**, 5994.

IR (Nujol): $\nu(Ru-H) = 2023\text{ cm}^{-1}$. 1H NMR (600 MHz, C_6D_6): δ -9.39 (s, 3H, *RuH*), 1.84 (s, 15H, CH_3 of Cp*), 2.13 (s, 12H, 2 ortho CH_3 of mesityl), 2.19 (s, 6H, 1 para CH_3 of mesityl), 6.12 (s, 2H, NCH), 6.88 (s, 4H, C_6H_2). ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, C_6D_6): δ 12.5 (s, CH_3 of Cp*), 18.9 (s, *o*- CH_3 of mesityl), 20.9 (*p*- CH_3 of mesityl), 78.9 (*C* ring of Cp*), 120.5 (NCH), 129.2 (s, *m*- C_6H_2), 135.9 (s, *p*- C_6H_2), 194.3 (Ru-CN₂).

Cp(IMes)₂RuH (10)

To a solution of $Cp(IMes)RuH_3$ (0.018 g, 0.04 mmol) in 5 mL in benzene was added 3 equivalents of IMes (0.034 mg, 0.12 mmol). After stirring at 50°C for 24h, the resulting solution was dried. The residue was extracted by ether, filtered through a Celite column, and then re-crystallized from a mixture of diethyl ether and hexane (4:1, v/v) to give the corresponding $Cp(IMes)_2RuH$.

IR (Nujol): $\nu(Ru-H) = 2012\text{ cm}^{-1}$. 1H NMR (600 MHz, C_6D_6) δ -11.93 (s, 1H, *RuH*), 2.11 (s, 12H, 1 ortho CH_3 of mesityl), 2.15 (s, 12H, 1 ortho CH_3 of mesityl), 2.25 (s, 12H, 1 para CH_3 of mesityl), 4.29 (s, 5H, Cp), 6.21 (s, 4H, NCH), 6.76 (s, 4H, *m*- C_6H_2), 6.86 (s, 4H, *m*- C_6H_2). ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, C_6D_6): δ 14.1 (s, *o*- CH_3 of mesityl), 18.9 and 18.3 (s, *o*- CH_3 of mesityl), 20.9 and 22.8 (*p*- CH_3 of mesityl), 31.8 (*p*- CH_3 of mesityl), 82.4 (*C* ring of Cp), 123.1 (NCH), 129.3 (NCH), 129.4 (NCH), 136.7 (s, *m*- C_6H_2), 137.2 (s, *m*- C_6H_2), 138.4 (s, *p*- C_6H_2), 139.2 (s, *p*- C_6H_2), 159.5 (s, *N*- C_6H_2); 186.2.6 (Ru-CN₂). 203.6 (Ru-CN₂).

2.3 Catalytic H/D exchange reaction:

Stock solutions of **1**, **2**, **3**, **7**, **8**, **9** and **10** were prepared in C₆D₆ before use. Substrates were added to NMR tubes in a glove box. The degree of deuteration was monitored by ¹H-NMR.

3 Selected NMR Spectra

3.1 NMR spectra of new tris(hydride) ruthenium complexes

Cp(IMes)RuH₃

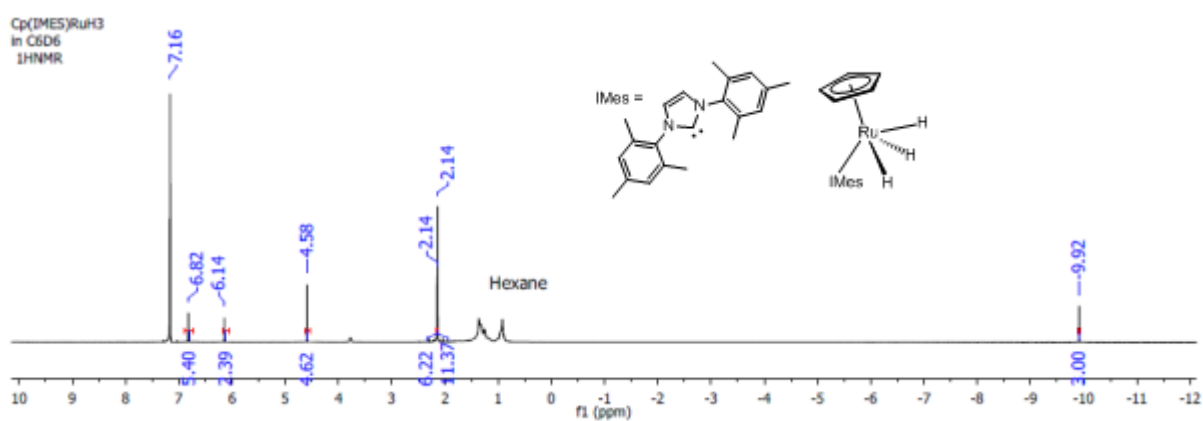


Figure S1. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, C₆D₆) of Cp(IMes)RuH₃.

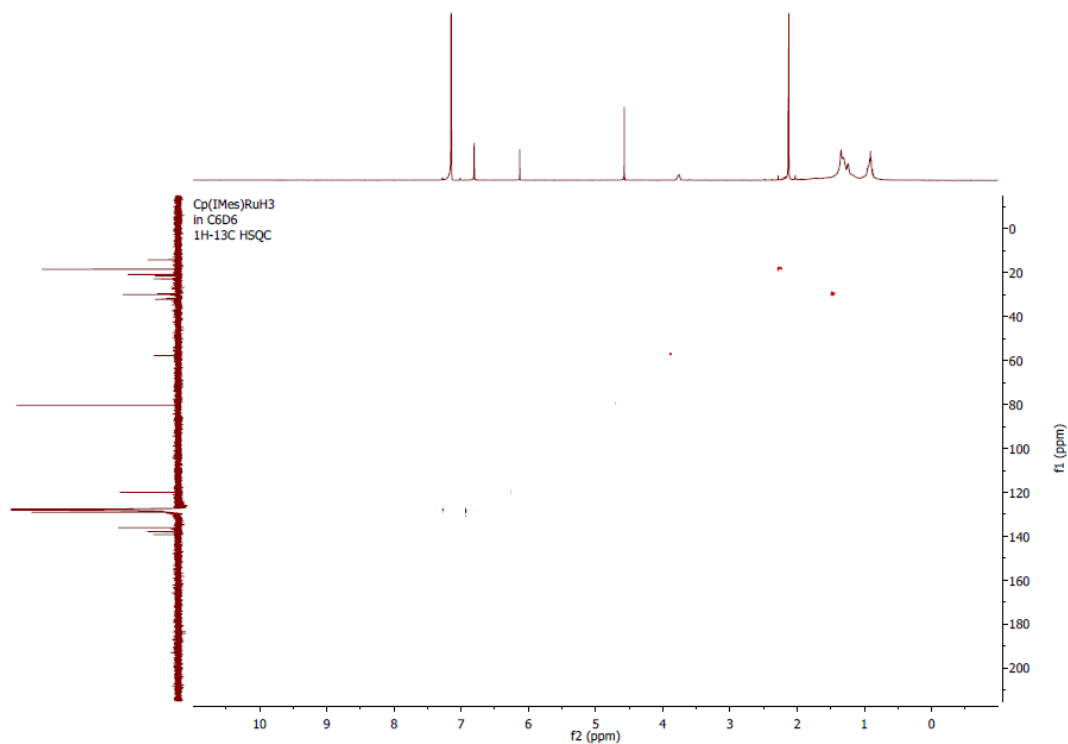


Figure S2. ¹H-¹³C HSQC NMR (600 MHz, C₆D₆) of Cp(IMes)RuH₃.

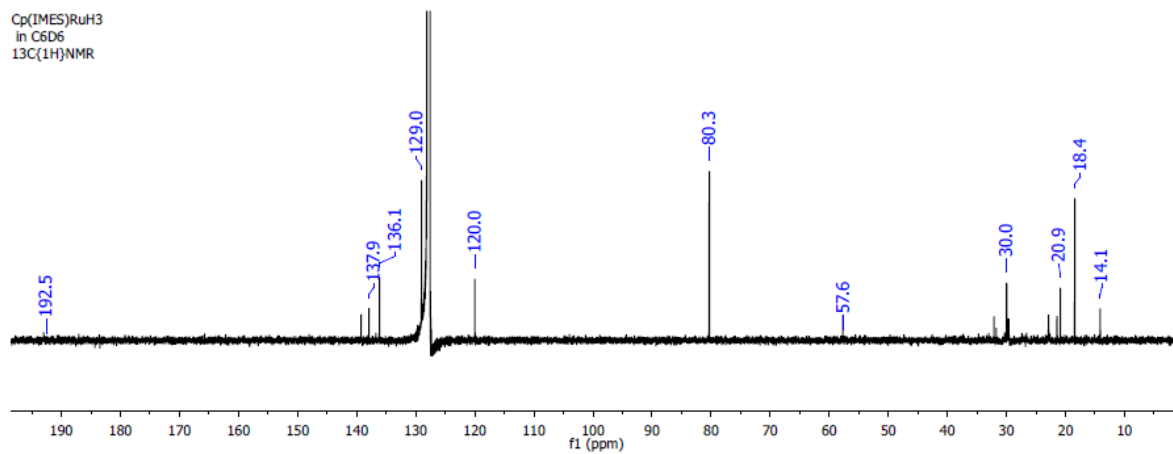


Figure S3. ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum (151 MHz, C₆D₆) of Cp(IMes)RuH₃.

$Cp^*(IPr)RuH_3$

1H NMR spectra of $Cp^*(IPr)RuH_3$ in C_6D_6

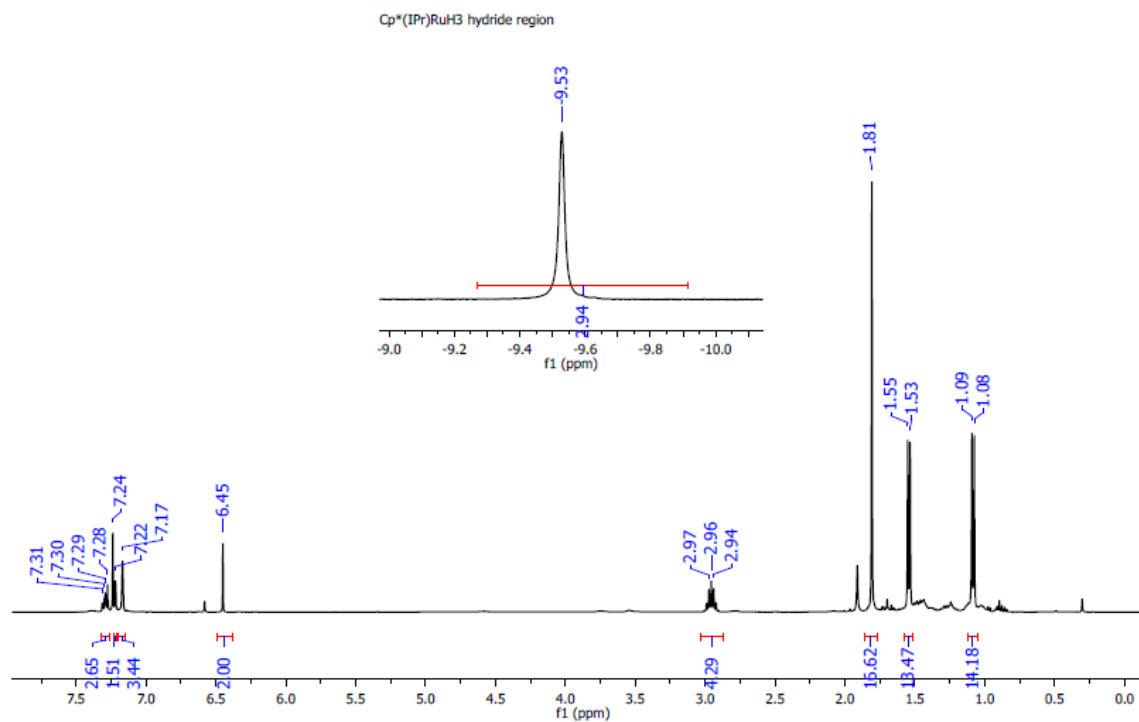


Figure S4. 1H NMR (600 MHz, C_6D_6) of $Cp^*(IPr)RuH_3$.

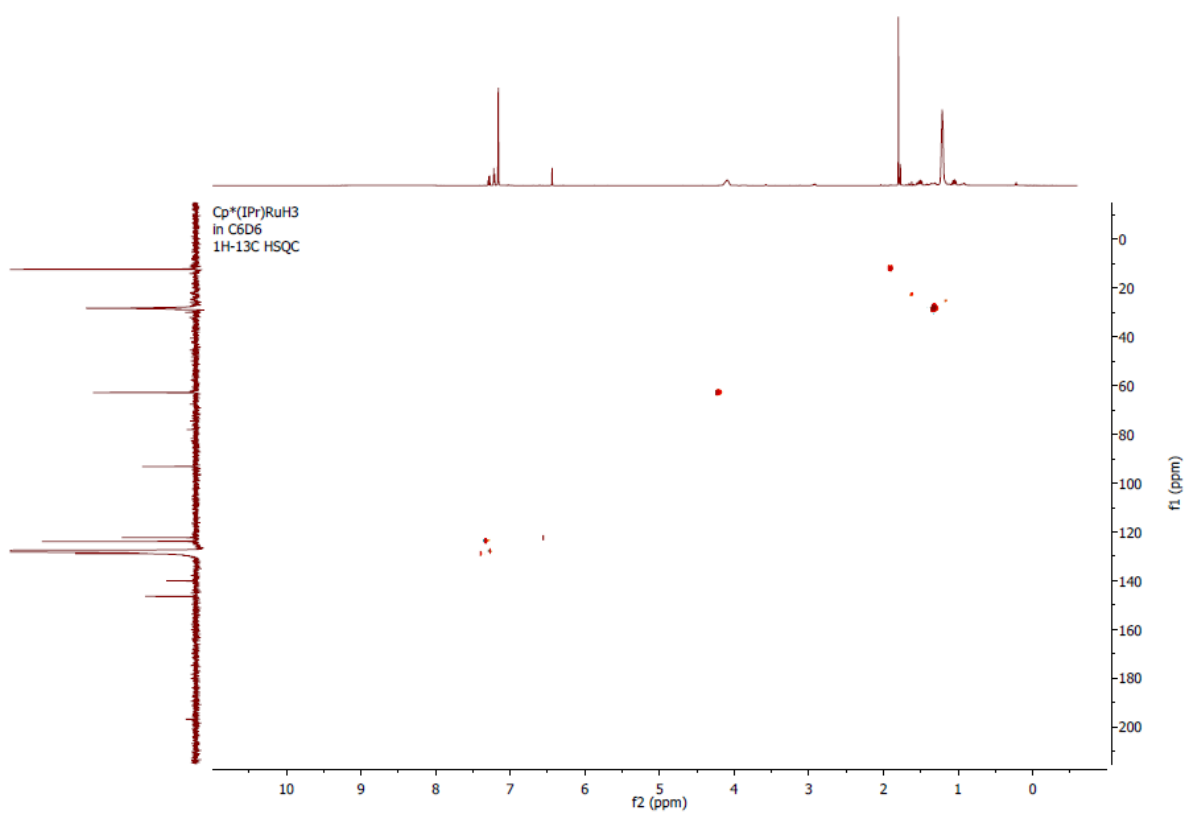


Figure S5. 1H - ^{13}C HSQC NMR (600 MHz, C_6D_6) of $Cp^*(IPr)RuH_3$.

S

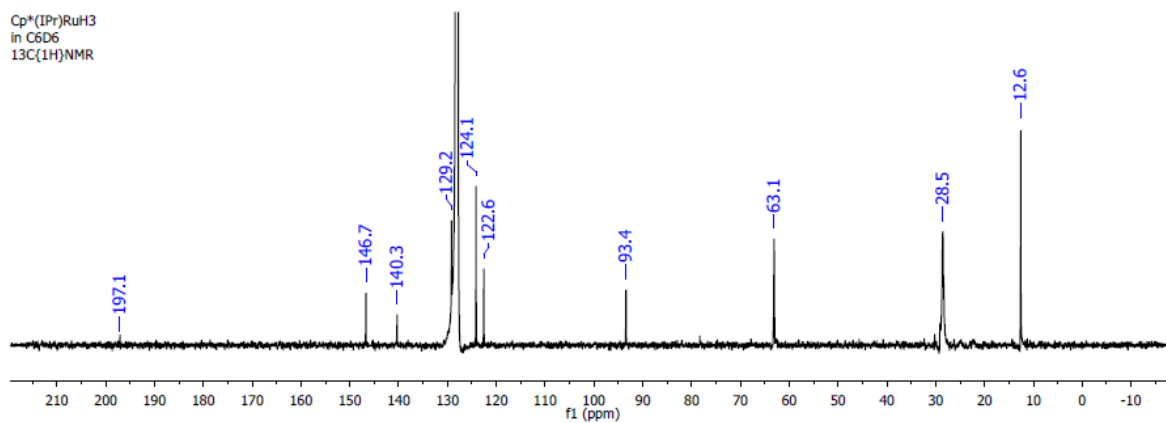


Figure S6. ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum (151 MHz, C₆D₆) of Cp*(IPr)RuH₃.

$Cp(IMes)_2RuH$

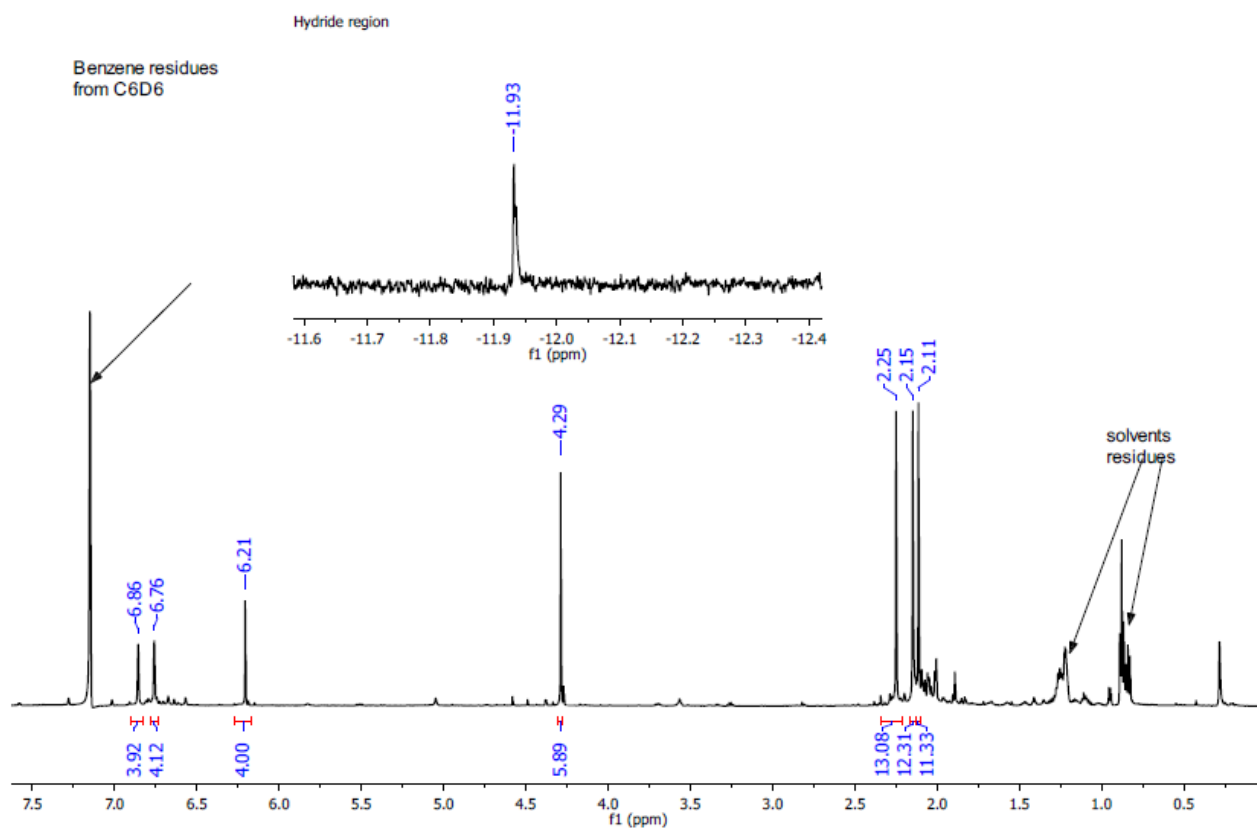


Figure S8. 1H NMR (600 MHz, C_6D_6) of $Cp(IMes)_2RuH$.

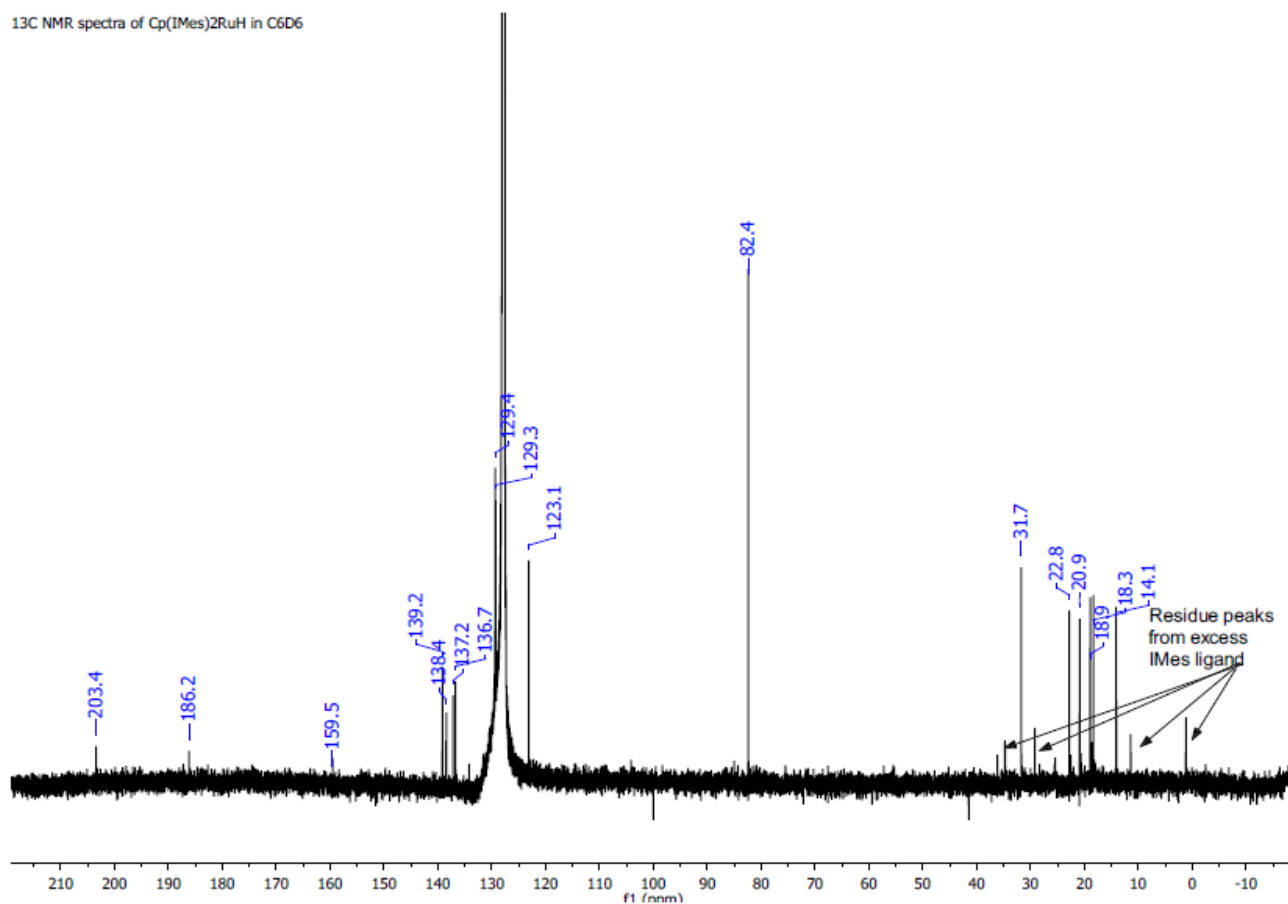


Figure S9. $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum (151 MHz, C_6D_6) of $\text{Cp}(\text{IMes})_2\text{RuH}$.

Overlap of ^1H NMR spectra of $\text{Cp}(\text{IMes})\text{RuH}_3$ (red) and $\text{Cp}(\text{IMes})_2\text{RuH}$ (green)

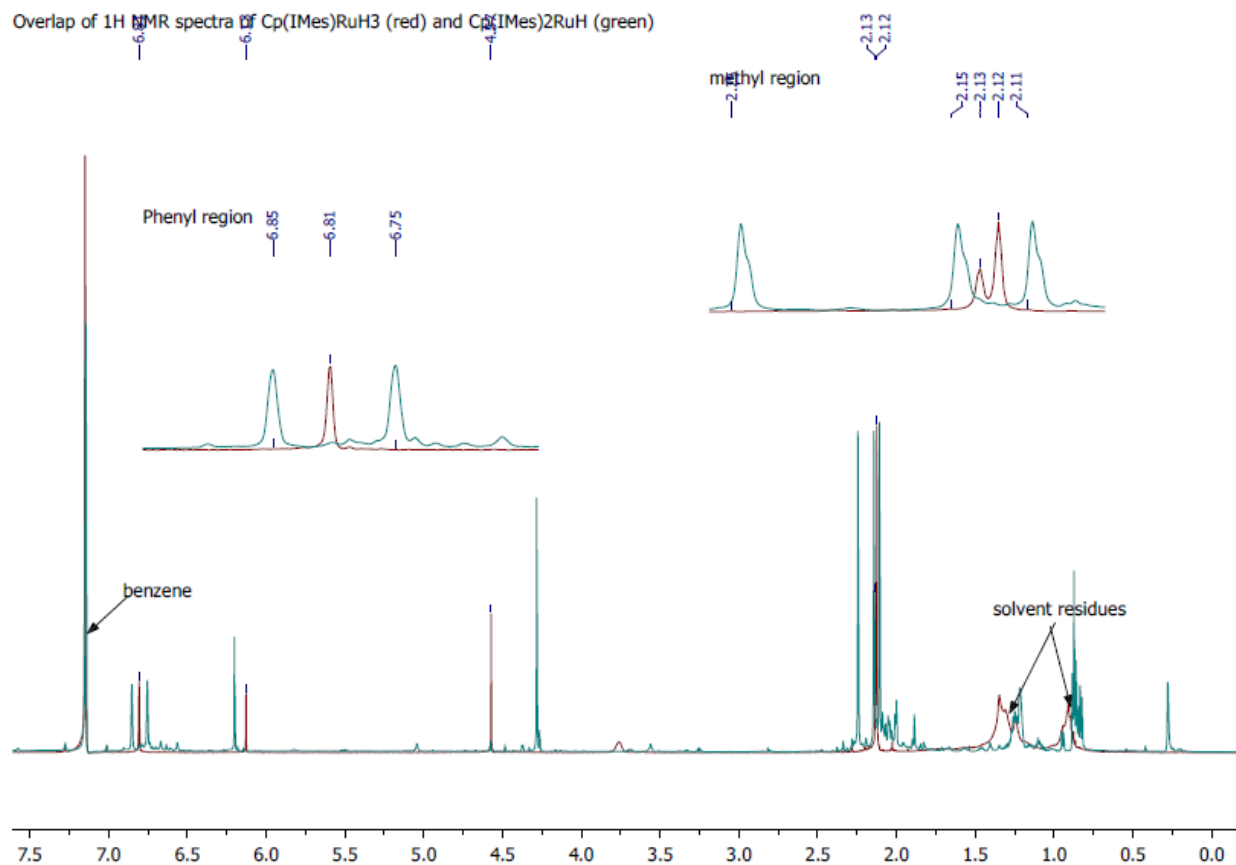
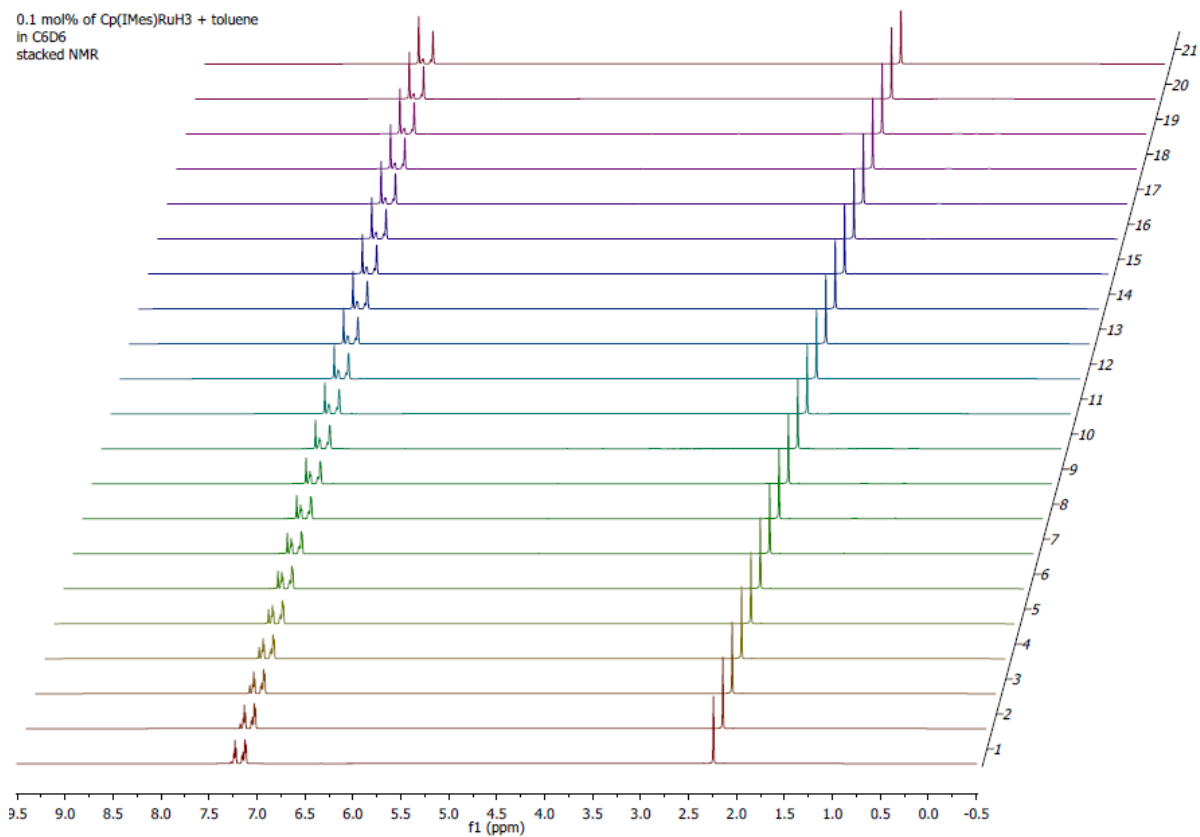


Figure S10. The overlap of ^1H NMR spectra of $\text{Cp}(\text{IMes})\text{RuH}_3$ (red) and $\text{Cp}(\text{IMes})_2\text{RuH}$ (green).

3.2 Selected stacked NMR spectra to analyse the degree of deuteration in H/D exchange reactions.

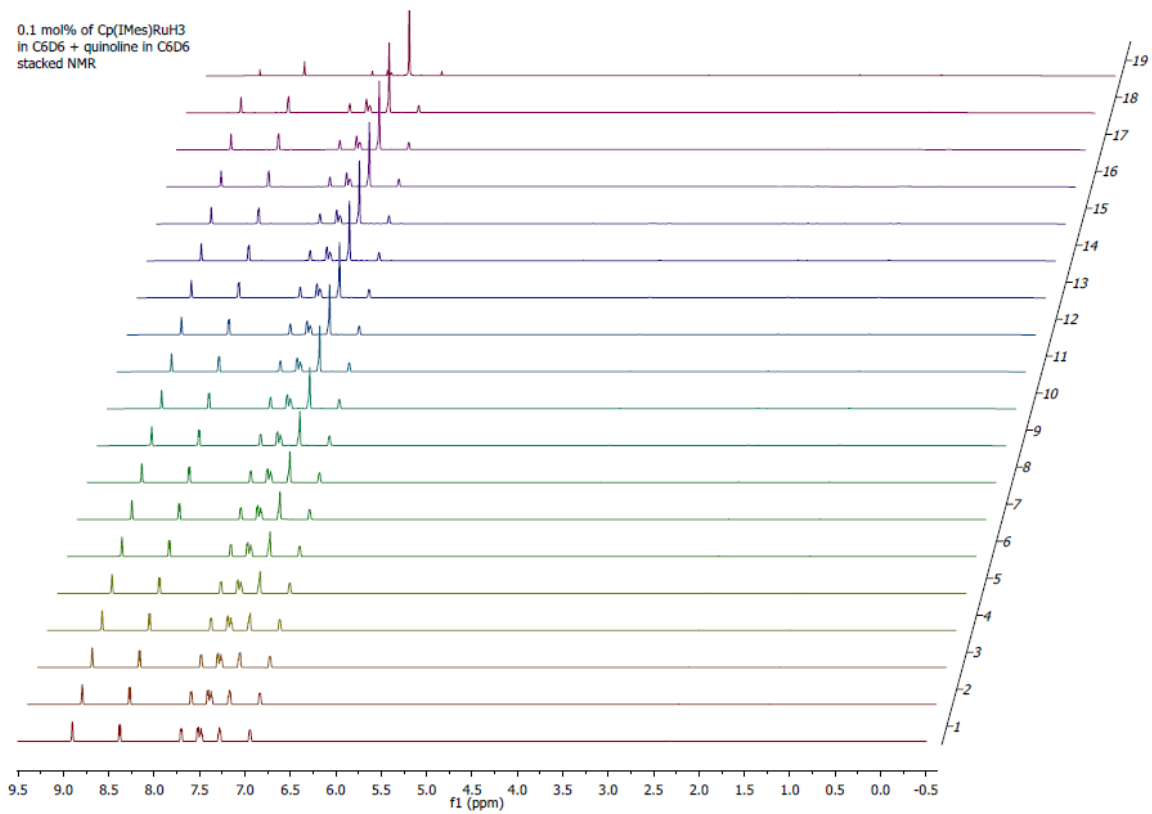
3.2.1 Spectra showing the progress of H/D exchange:

Toluene



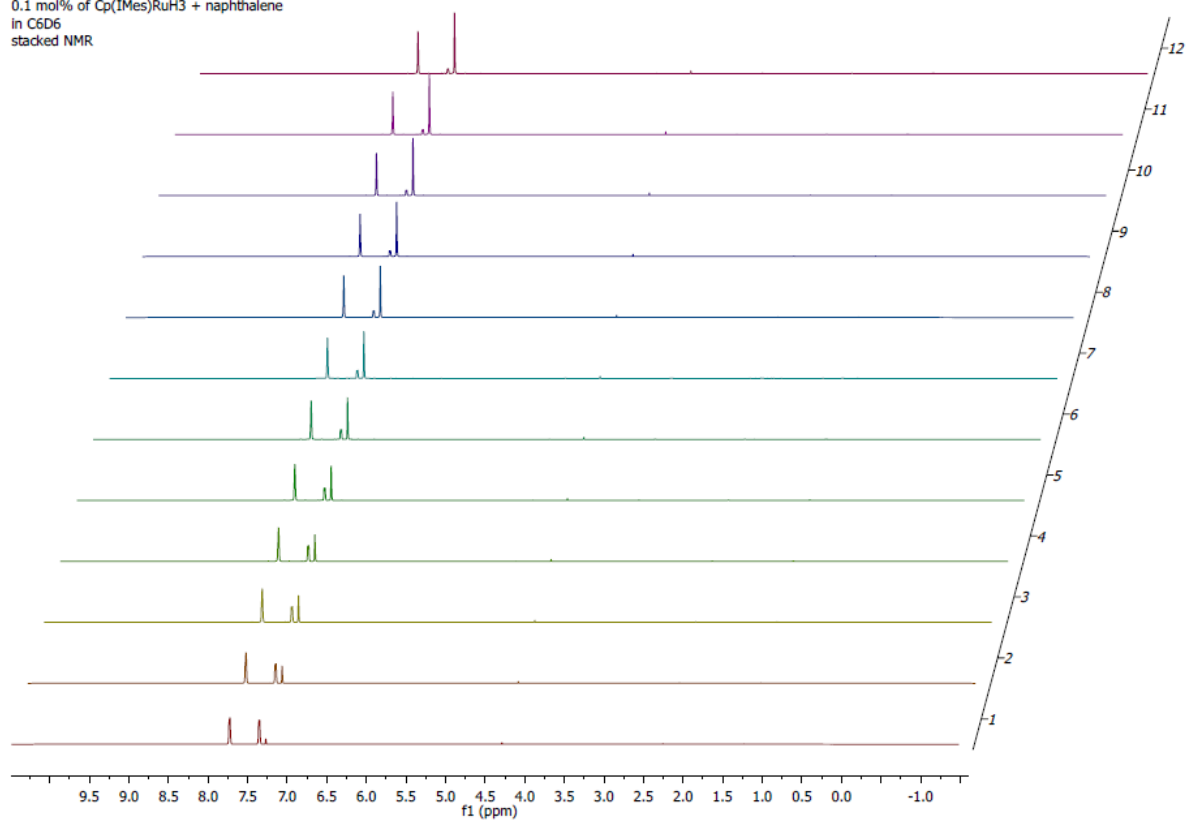
Quinoline

0.1 mol% of Cp(1Mes)RuH3
in C6D6 + quinoline in C6D6
stacked NMR



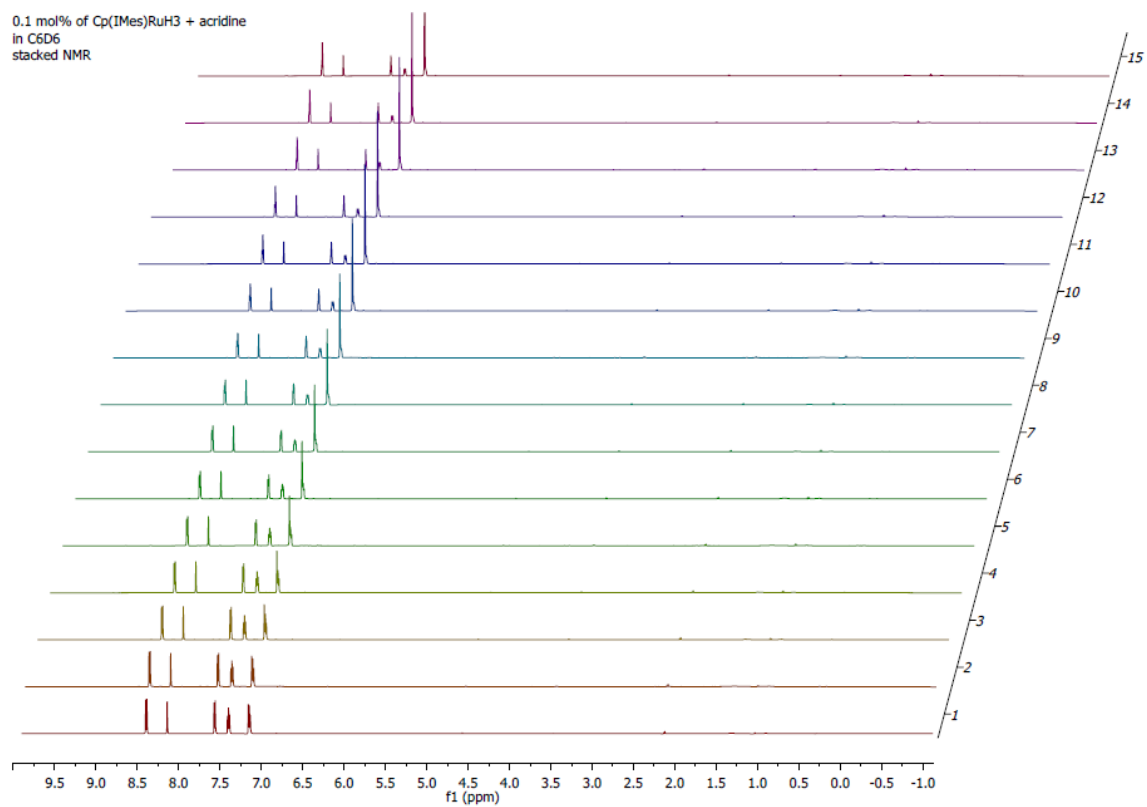
Naphthalene

0.1 mol% of Cp(IMes)RuH3 + naphthalene
in C6D6
stacked NMR



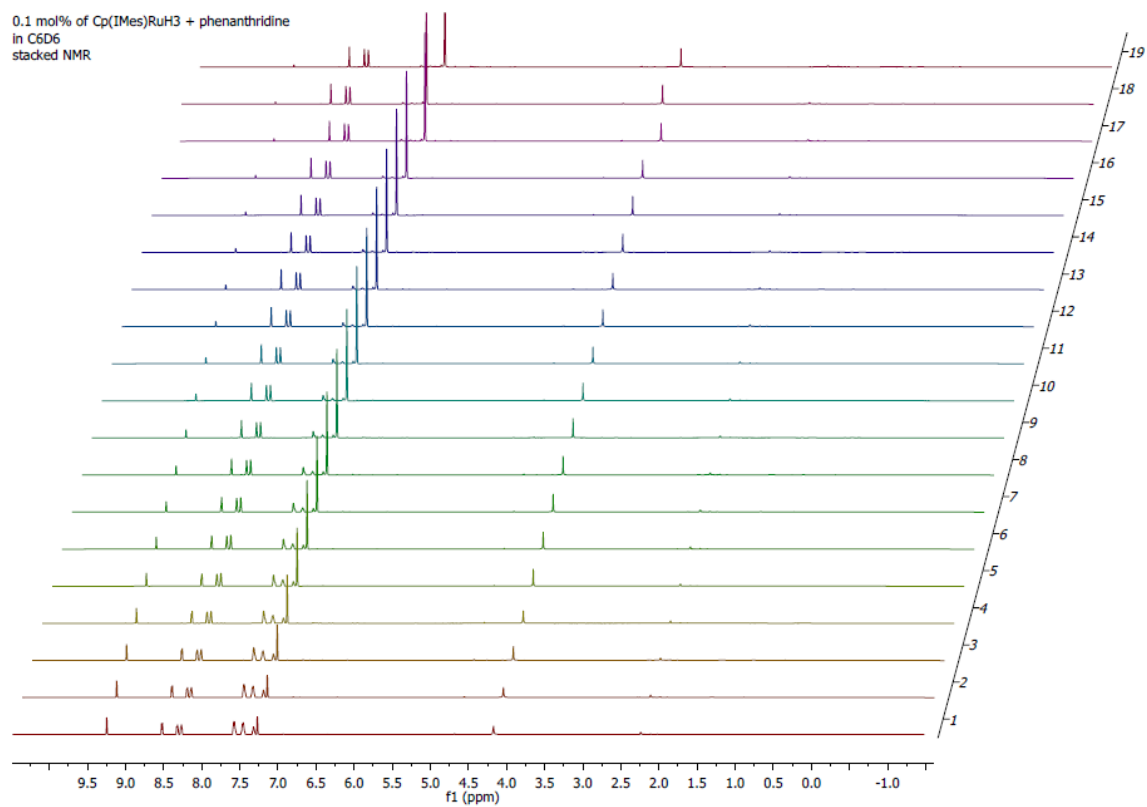
Acridine

0.1 mol% of Cp*(IMes)RuH₃ + acridine
in C₆D₆
stacked NMR



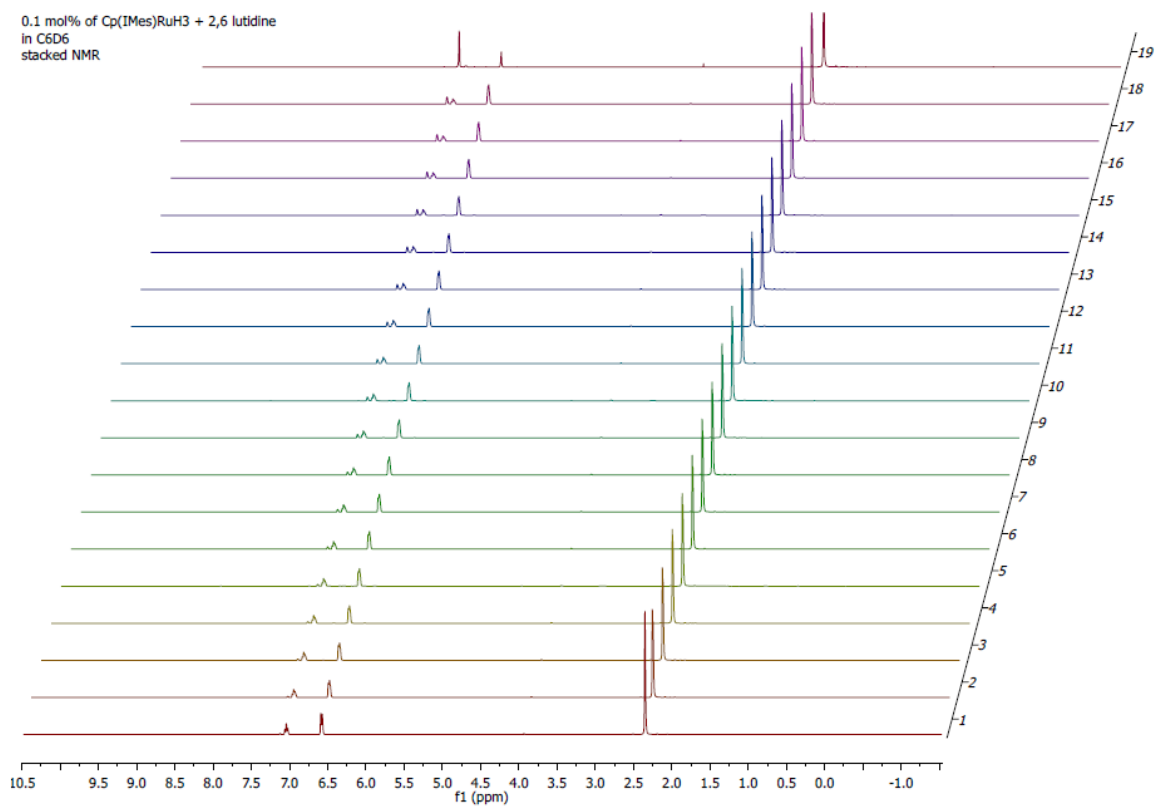
Phenanthridine

0.1 mol% of Cp*(IMes)RuH₃ + phenanthridine
in C₆D₆
stacked NMR



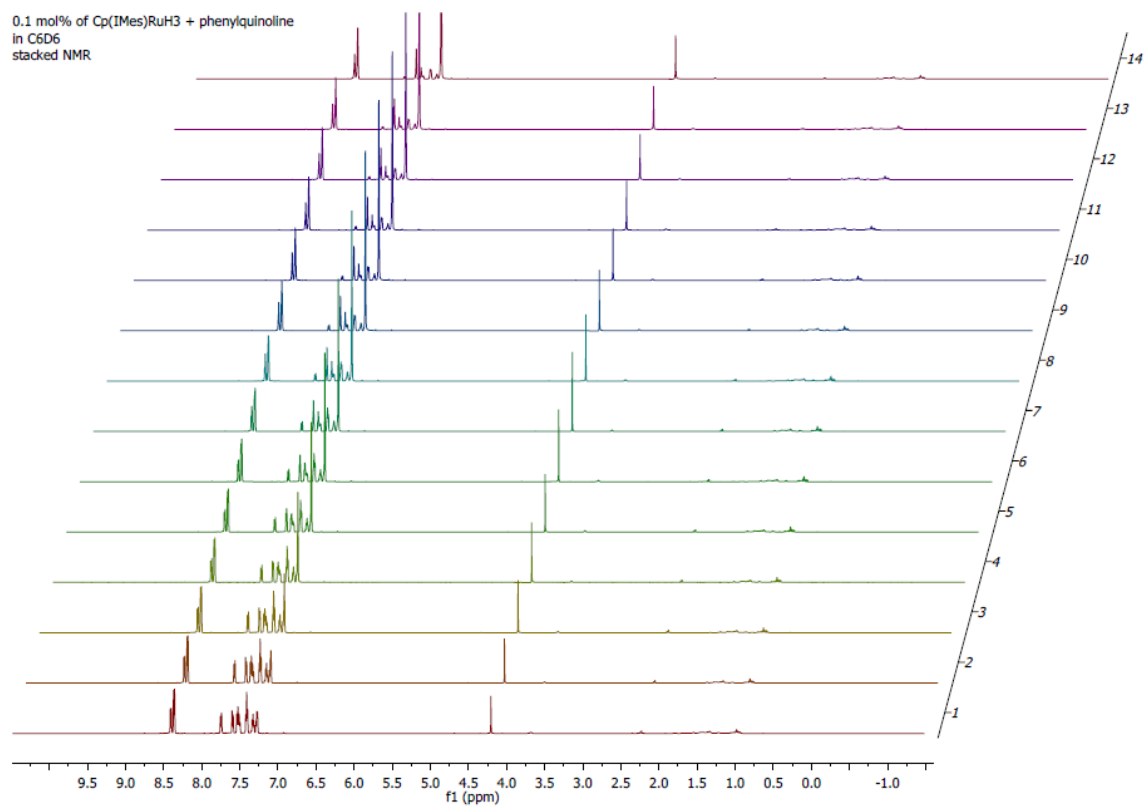
2,6 lutidine

0.1 mol% of Cp*(Mes)RuH₃ + 2,6 lutidine
in C₆D₆
stacked NMR



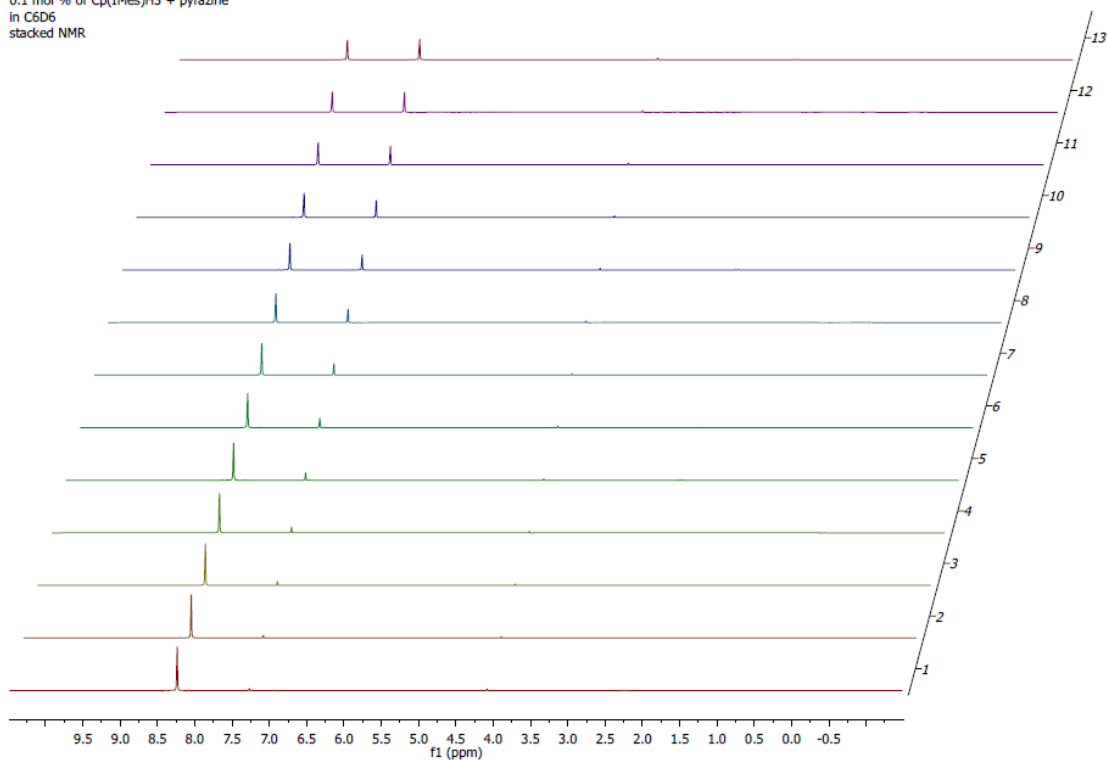
Phenyl quinoline

0.1 mol% of Cp*(IMes)RuH3 + phenylquinoline
in C6D6
stacked NMR



Pyrazine

0.1 mol % of Cp(IMes)H3 + pyrazine
in C6D6
stacked NMR



the NMR
progress of the
catalytic H/D
exchange
reaction using
Cp(IMes)2RuH
as catalyst (0.1
mol%) and
pyridine as
substrate in
C6D6 with
ferrocene insert

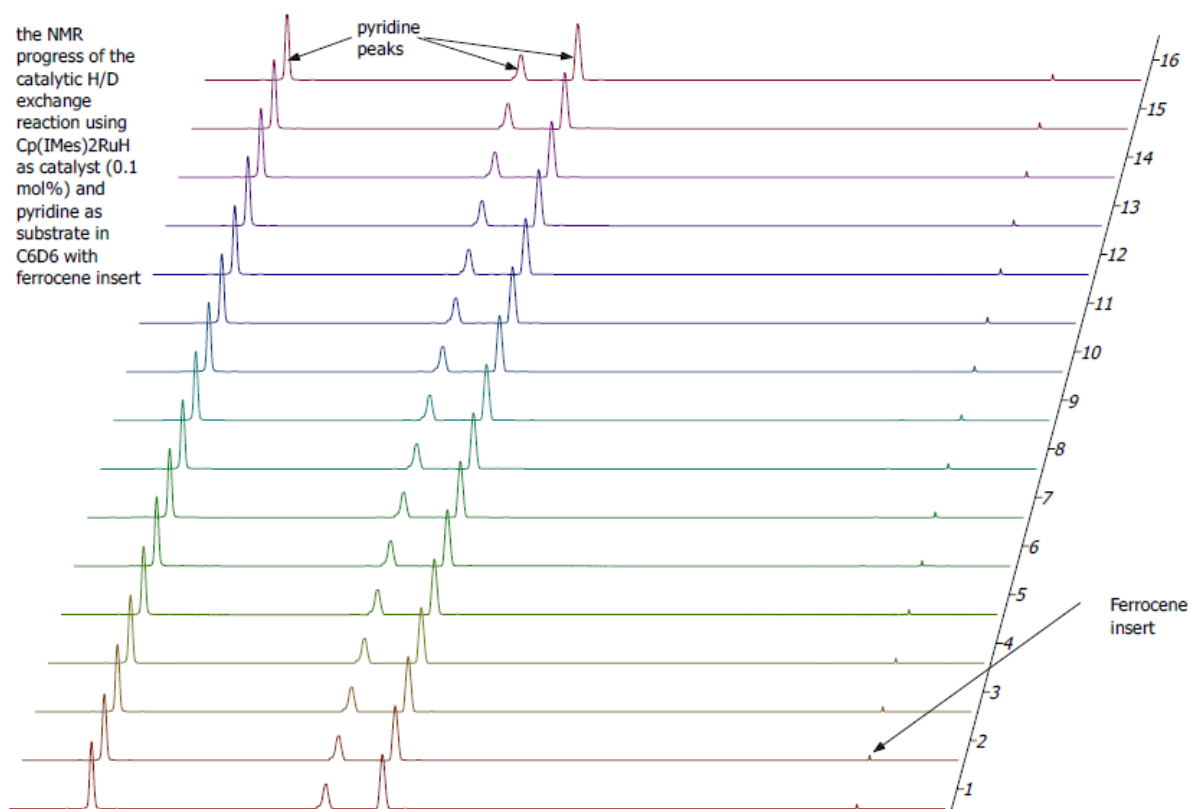


Figure S11. The NMR progress of catalytic H/D exchange reaction using Cp(IMes)₂RuH as catalyst and pyridine as substrate in C₆D₆ with ferrocene insert.

0.1% of Cp(IMes)₂RuH in C₆D₆,
with added pyridine 5m at Rt,
with ferrocene insert

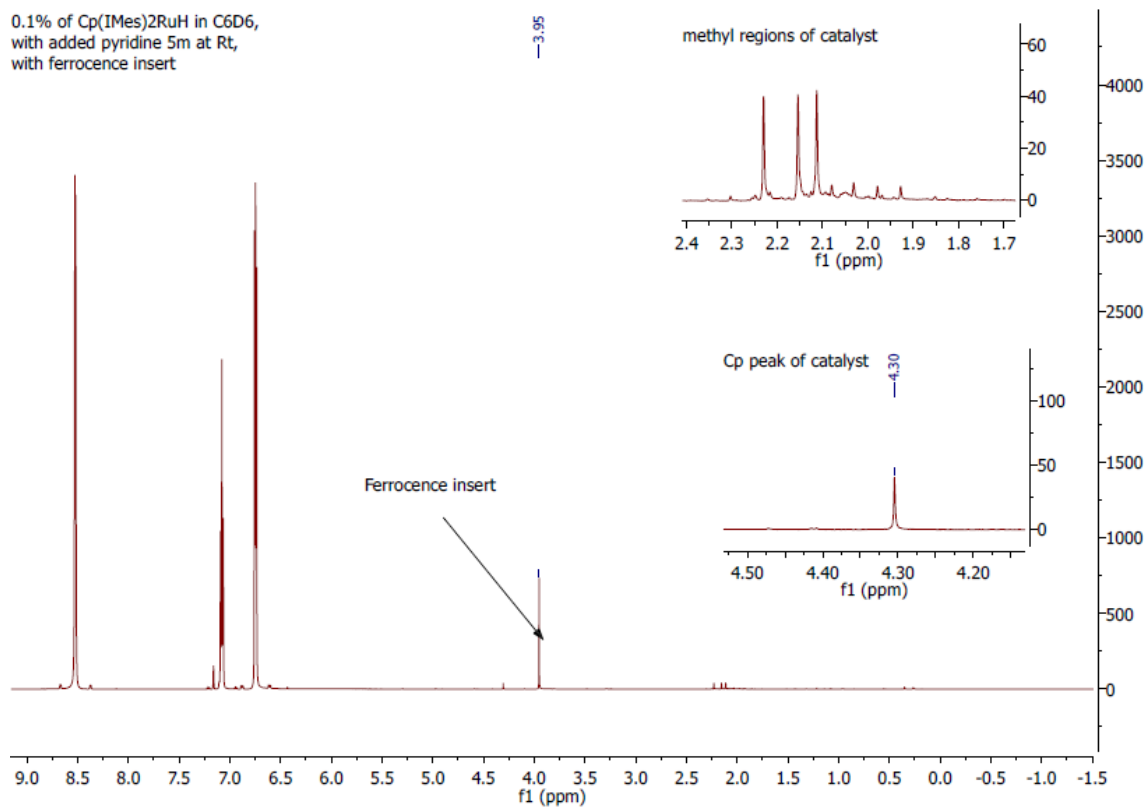


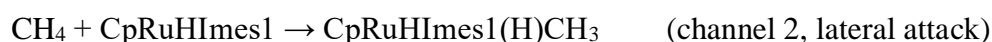
Figure S12. The catalytic reaction with 0.1 mol % of Cp(IMes)₂RuH in C₆D₆, with added pyridine, with ferrocene insert.

4 DFT calculation

All calculations were performed with Gaussian 03.¹¹

C-H activation in methane, ethane, benzene, and pyridine was studied.

1) For methane, two paths, with the lateral and central attacks, were revealed (Table S1 and Figure S13). It is interesting, that the topology of the PES for the C-H activation step in the both the lateral and central attacks is quite complex and involves bifurcation points and the corresponding reaction paths branching as well as non-branching paths.



Indeed, in the case of methane activation without bifurcation, the IRC curve connects the transition state directly with the reactants' valley. In the opposite case, from the TS for C-H bond cleavage (Figure S13) the IRC calculations converge to another stationary point (Figure S13) with the relative energies about of 4.5 kcal/mol relative to the isolated Cp(L)RuH and CH₄. In each case, the obtained in the IRC and verified next by conventional TS localization stationary point was assigned to be a saddle point characterized by a soft imaginary vibrational mode about of 21i cm⁻¹ with synchronous Cp ring rotation and CH₄ and Ru-H motion (Figure 3b).

Table S1. Energies of transition states relative to isolated reactants (CpRuHImes1 and CH₄)

without branching		with branching, kcal/mol	
1a	2a	1b	2b
14.82	18.32	15.9	15.5
–	–	4.47	4.54

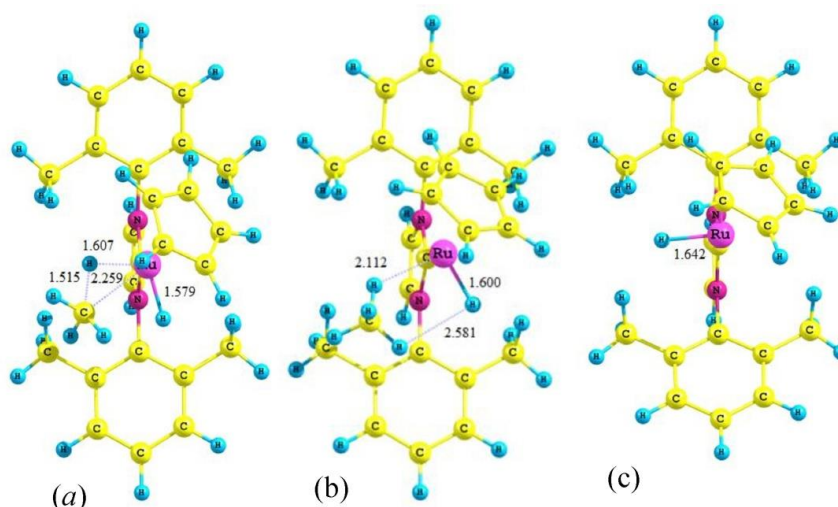


Figure S13. The transition state structure for the central attack with the branching in the reaction path (a), transition state in the branching in the reaction path (b), and the given comparison parental catalytic molecule (c). Bond lengths are given in Å.

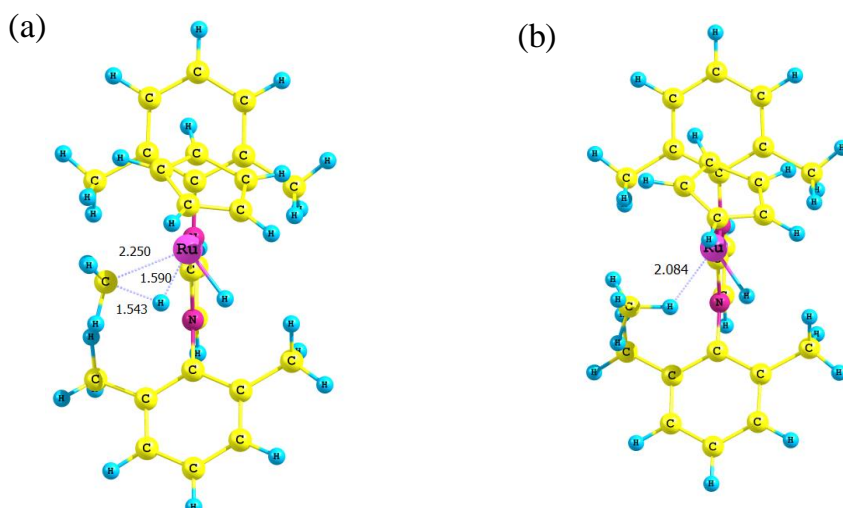


Figure S14. The transition state structure for the lateral attack with the branching in the reaction path (a) and transition state in the branching in the reaction path (b). Bond lengths are given in Å.

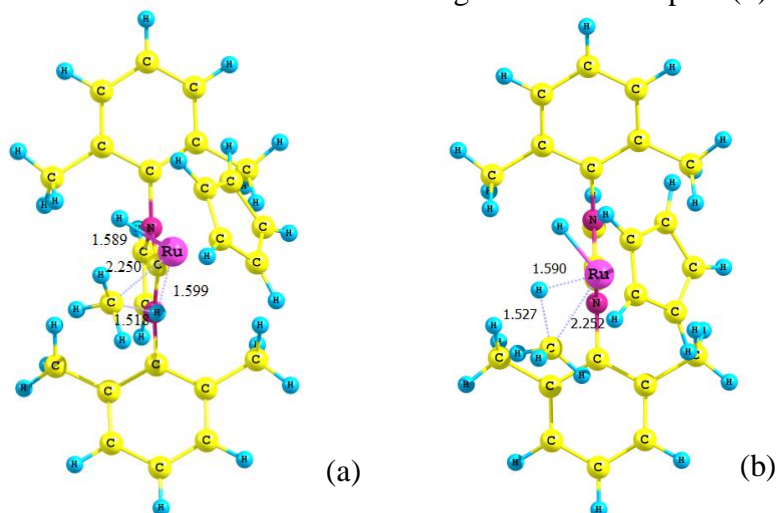


Figure S15. The transition state structure for the central (a) and lateral (b) attacks without branching in the reaction path. Bond lengths are given in Å.

For the paths 1a and 2a, i.e., without branching, the activation energies are 14.82 and 18.32 kcal/mol above isolated reactants, respectively. The activation energies of the corresponding channels 1b and 2b are 15.9 (15.8) and 15.5 (15.5) kcal/mol, respectively, where the data obtained at the B3LYP/A level are indicated in parentheses to be compared easily with those ones calculated at the

B3LYP/B theory level. Influence of expansion and augmentation of the basic sets for C/H/N was found to be negligible if the 6-311++G(d,p) and 6-31G(d,p) basis sets are considered.

The concept of the bifurcation points was introduced in [4-7]. More details related to the practical aspects were considered in [8-10].

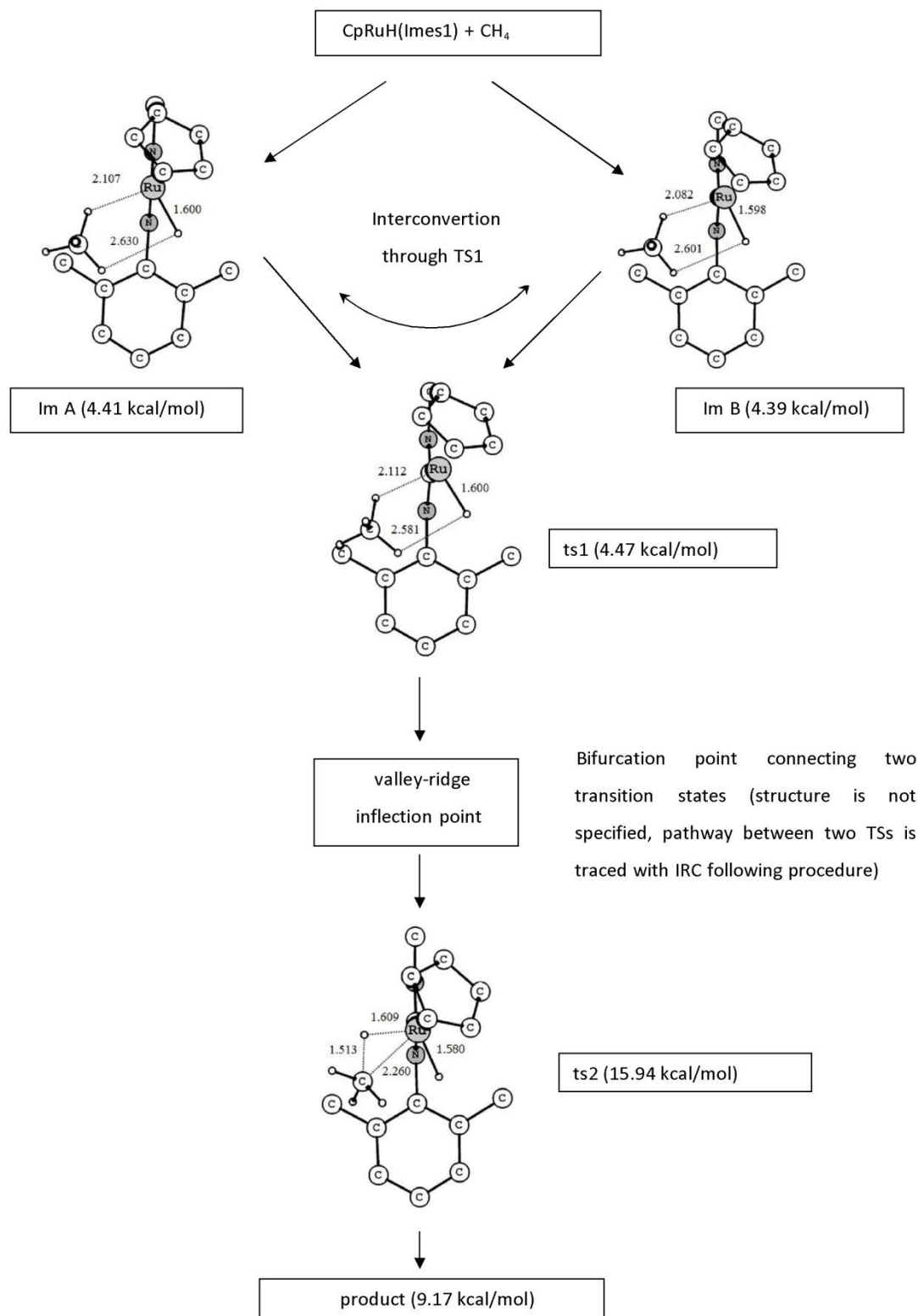


Figure S16. Central attack of CH₄ to Cp(L)(H)Ru occurring through the branching point.

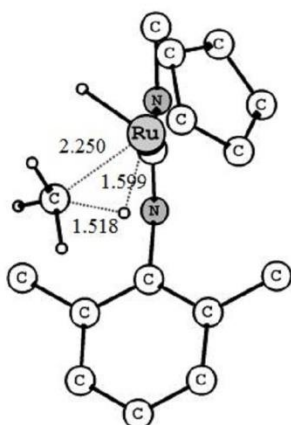
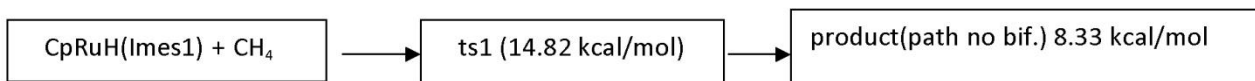
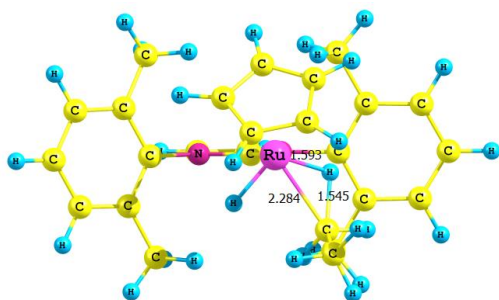
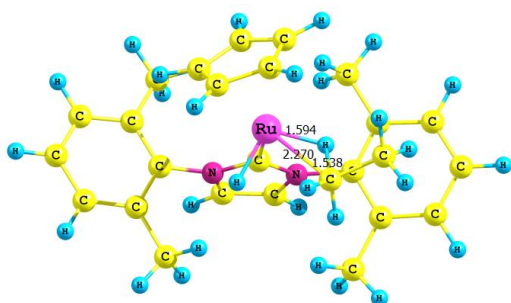


Figure S17. Central attack of CH₄ to Cp(L)(H)Ru occurring without reaction path branching.

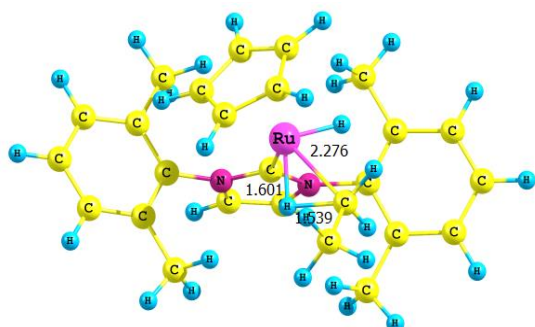
2) For ethane also two paths, of lateral and central attacks, were revealed where addition occurs in a single step or two steps with an intermediate (Figure S18 and Table S2), as well as conformational isomers for different orientation of CH₃-group in the ethane.



path 1 – 1-TS1_{C2H6}

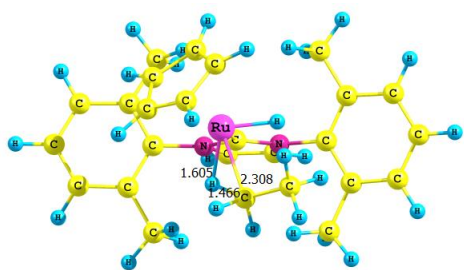


path 1 – 1-TS2_{C2H6}

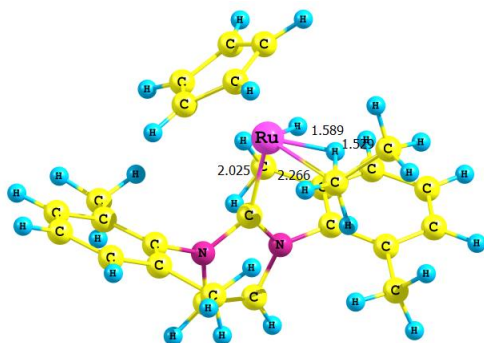


path 1 – 1-TS3_{C2H6}

path 1 – 1-TS4_{C2H6}



path 2 – 2-TS1_{C2H6}



path 2 – 2-TS2_{C2H6}

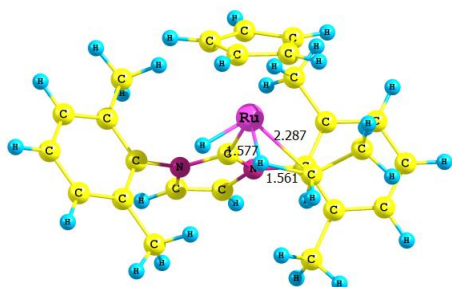
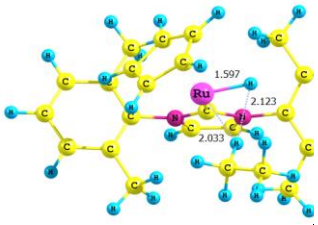


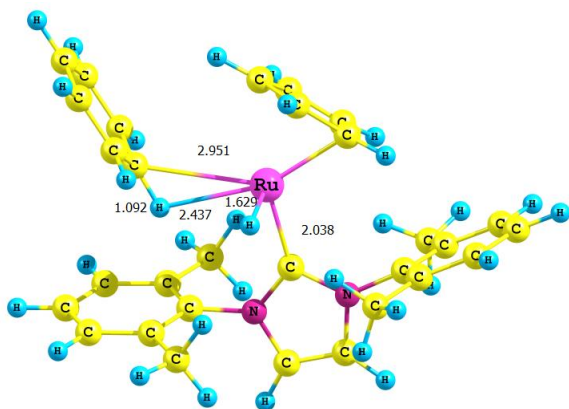
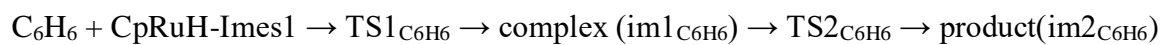
Figure S18. Transition states and ethane oxidative addition. Bond lengths are given in Å.

Table S2. Total (E_{tot}) and relative (E_{rel}(isolated reactants)) energies for transition states and complexes in the ethane addition reaction.

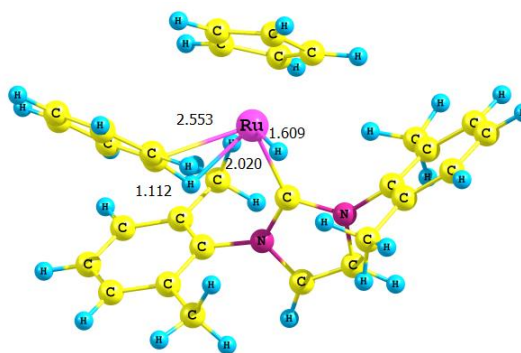
<i>path 1</i> – <i>central attack</i> <i>stationary point</i>	E _{tot} , a.u. (E _{rel} (isolated reactants), kcal/mol)	<i>path 1</i> – <i>central attack</i> <i>stationary point</i>	E _{tot} , a.u. (E _{rel} (isolated reactants), kcal/mol)
1-TS1 _{C2H6}	-1213.406271 (17.78)	1-TS2 _{C2H6}	-1213.408962 (16.09)
1-TS3 _{C2H6}	-1213.407474	1-TS4 _{C2H6}	-1213.403527

complex, no bifurcation	(17.03)	complex, no bifurcation	(19.50)
<i>path 2 – lateral attack</i>		<i>path 2 – lateral attack</i>	
2-TS1 _{C2H6}	-1213.407569 (16.97)	2-TS2 _{C2H6}	-1213.397542 (23.26)
complex, no bifurcation 	-1213.427658 (4.36)		

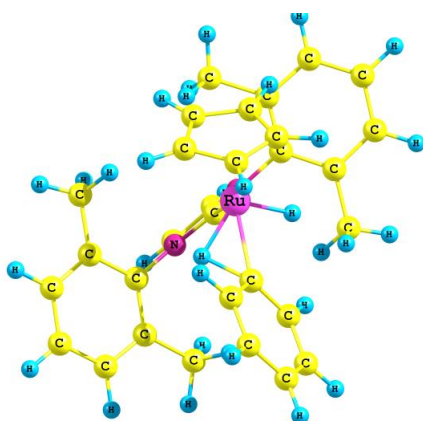
3) For benzene, only the central attack was shown at the B3LYP/B theory level (Table S3 and Figure S17). The reaction is two-step, with two saddle points and one intermediate



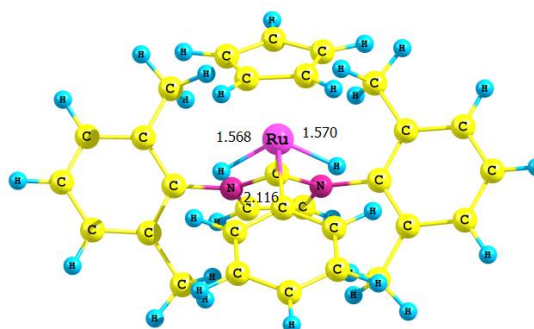
TS1_{C₆H₆}



im1_{C₆H₆}



TS2_{C₆H₆}



im2_{C₆H₆}

Figure S19 Transition states and intermediates for oxidative addition of benzene. Bond lengths are given in Å.

Table S3. Total (Etot) and relative (Erel(isolated reactants)) energies for transition states and complexes in the benzene addition reaction.

Stationary point	Etot, a.u. (Erel(isolated reactants), kcal/mol)
im2	-1365.844433 (6.05)
TS2	-1365.837315 (10.51)
im1	-1365.848369 (3.58)
TS1	-1365.846854 (4.53)

4) C-H activation in pyridine proceeds in two stages involving formation of intermediates shown in Chart S1. The energy profiles are shown in Figure S20.

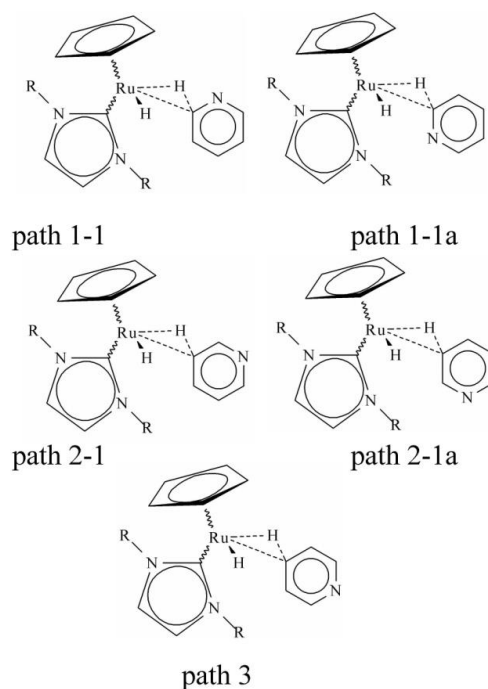
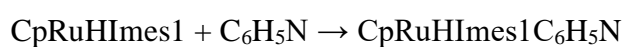


Chart S1. Transition states for various reaction channels of the oxidative addition of pyridine to CpRuH(Imes1).

Table S4. Stepwise reaction paths and corresponding activation energies calculated at the B3LYP/B theory level. Step 1 is activated generation of corresponding pre-reactive complex, step 2 is a catalytic oxidative addition.

Reaction pathways	Activation energy, kcal/mol	
	step 1	step 2
path 1-1	5.26 (+1.54)	1.35
path 1-1a	3.72	4.08 (+2.73)
path 2-1	3.91 (+0.19)	5.60 (+4.25)
path 2-1a	4.24 (+0.52)	5.02 (+3.67)
path 3	4.33 (+0.61)	4.00 (+2.65)

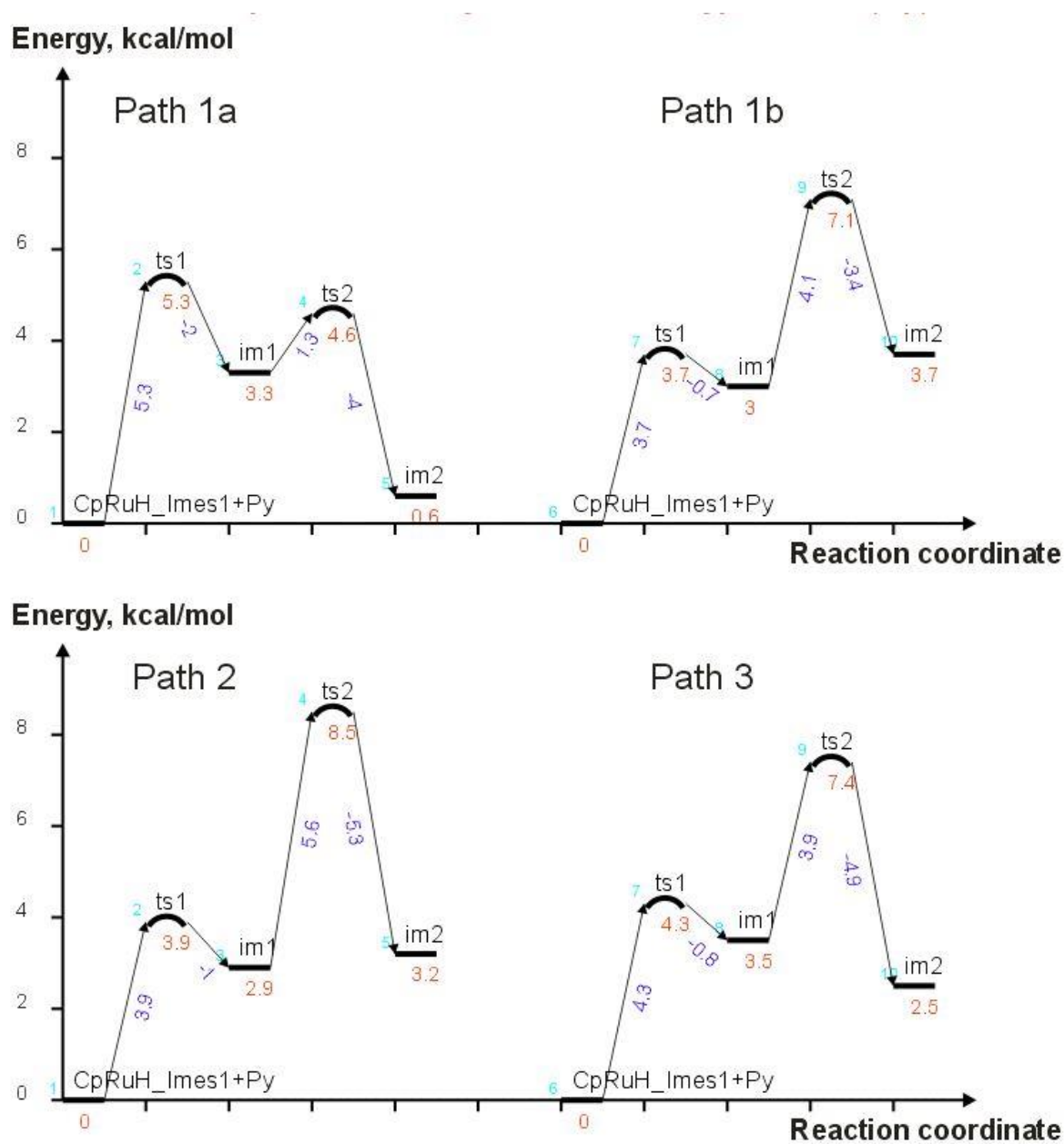


Figure S20. Relative energy profile for pyridine addition reaction catalyzed by Cp(L)RuH for the channels 1a, 1b, 2, and 3.

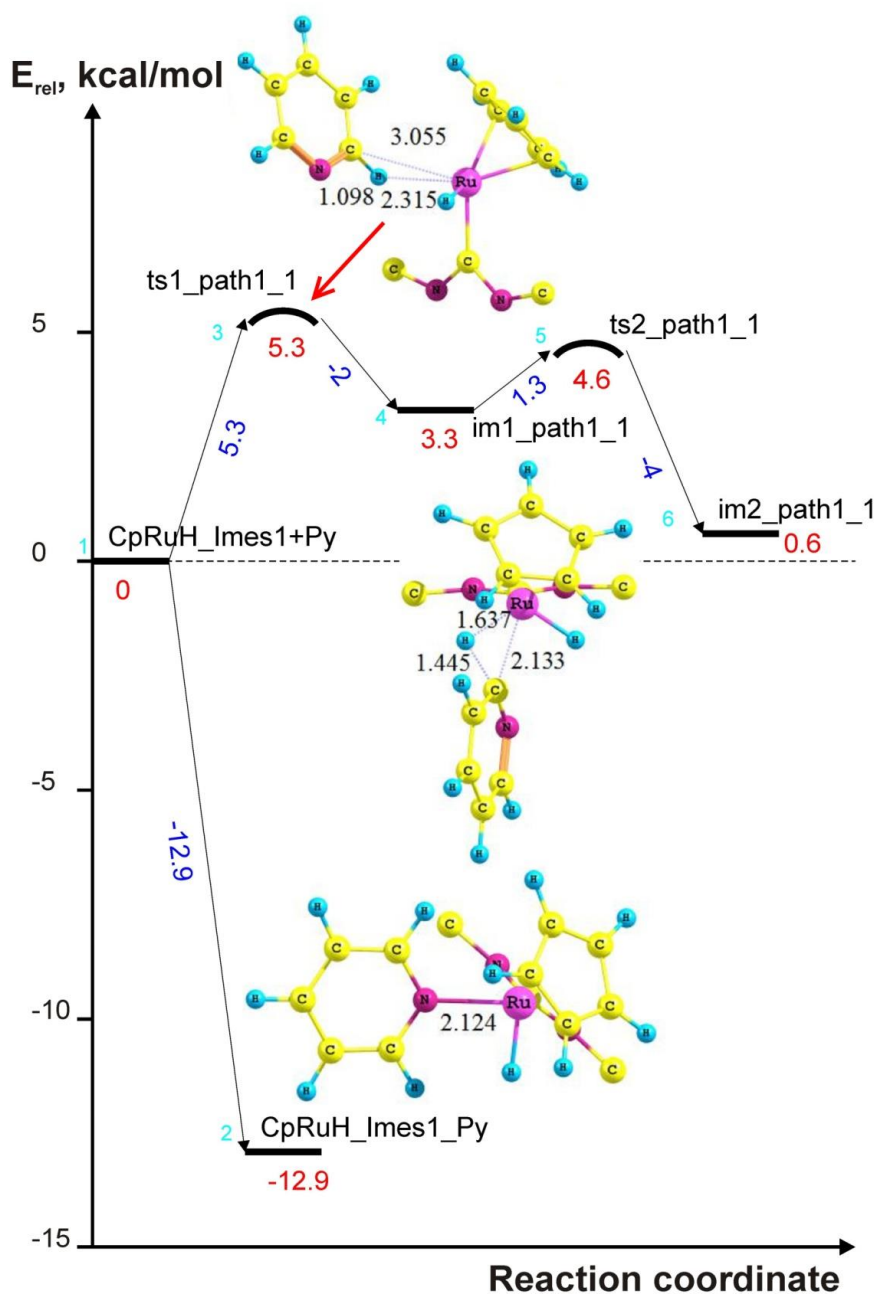


Figure S21. Relative energy profile for pyridine addition reaction catalyzed by Cp(L)RuH for the major and catalyst inhibition channels. The bond lengths are given in Å.

The inhibition of catalysis by added carbene was studied. We considered an associative pathway. Addition of the model carbene L to the intermediate **11** generates the bis(carbene) complex Cp(L)₂RuH (**12**). Formation of **12** is an exothermic process ($\Delta_r E = -3.70$ kcal/mol, $\Delta_r G(50^\circ\text{C}) = 18.00$ kcal/mol).

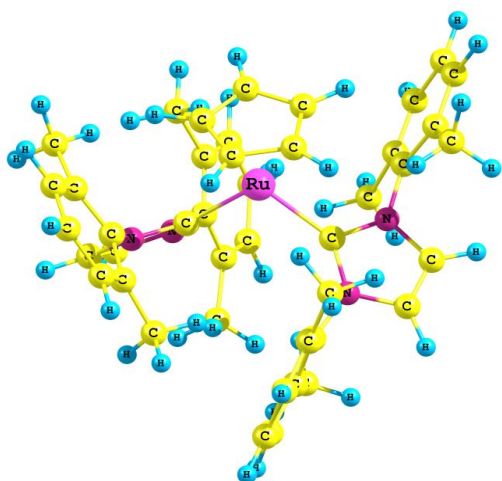


Figure S22. Bis(carbene) complex Cp(IMes)₂RuH (**15**).

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