

## Supporting Information

*For*

### In situ generation of sulfoxide with predetermined chirality via structural template with a chiral-at-metal of ruthenium complex

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#### EXPERIMENTAL

**Materials.** 3-chloroperbenzoic acid (*m*-CPBA) and (*S*)-(-)-1,1'-binaphtol (*S*-binol) were bought from Aladdin and used without purification. Other reagent grade chemicals obtained from commercial sources were used as received. CD<sub>3</sub>CN-*d*<sub>3</sub> was used in NMR experiments. [Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>]·2H<sub>2</sub>O<sup>1</sup>, 2-(isopropylthio)benzoic acid (OS-*i*Pr)<sup>2</sup>, Δ-[Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub>(py)<sub>2</sub>][O,O'-dibenzoyl-D-tartrate]·12H<sub>2</sub>O<sup>3</sup> and Λ-[Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub>(py)<sub>2</sub>][O,O'-dibenzoyl-L-tartrate]·12H<sub>2</sub>O<sup>3</sup> were synthesized according to methods described in the literatures.

(1) Sprintschnik, G.; Sprintschnik, H. W.; Kirsch, P. P.; Whitten, D. G. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1977**, *99*, 4947.

(2) H. V. Huynh, C. H. Yeo and Y. X. Chew, *Organometallics*, 2010, **29**, 1479-1486.

(3) X. Hua and A. Zelewsky, *Inorg. Chem.*, 1995, *34*, 5791–5797.

#### Physical Measurements.

Elemental (C, H, N and S) analyses were performed on an Elementar Vario EL analyzer. Electrospray ionization mass spectra (ESI-MS) were obtained on a Thermo LCQ DECA XP mass spectrometer. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were obtained on a Varian Mercury-Plus 300 spectrometer. JASCO J-810 CD spectropolarimeter (1 sec response, 3.41 nm bandwidth, scanning speed of 200 nm/min, accumulation of 3 scans). HPLC analyses were carried out on a Shimadzu LC 20 with UV detector SPD-20A (Daicel Chiralpak AY-H column, 250 mm × 4.6 mm, Hexane/(EtOH: MeOH)/TFA=85/(3:1)15/0.3, flow rate: 1 mL/min, column temperature 35°C, 254 nm).

#### Synthesis of complexes

Δ-[Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub> (OS-*i*Pr)] PF<sub>6</sub> (**Δ-1**): Δ-[Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub>(py)<sub>2</sub>][O,O'-dibenzoyl-D-tartrate]·12H<sub>2</sub>O (560 mg, 0.5 mmol), OS-*i*Pr (118 mg, 0.6 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (34.5 mg, 0.25 mmol) and ethylene glycol (4 mL) were added into a 10 mL of three neck flask. The mixture was magnetically stirred and heated at 120 °C for 4 h under argon protection. Then, 15 mL saturated aqueous KPF<sub>6</sub> solution was added into the cooled reaction mixture. The aqueous phase was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3×15 mL), and the organic extracts were combined and subjected to silica gel chromatography with acetonitrile and later CH<sub>3</sub>CN: H<sub>2</sub>O: KNO<sub>3</sub>(sat) = 50 : 6 : 2 as eluents. The product eluent was concentrated and the resulting material was dissolved in minimal amounts of ethanol/water, then an excess of

solid KPF<sub>6</sub> was added to the above solution. The orange precipitate was collected, and washed with water twice, then dried under high vacuum to afford **Δ-1**. Yield: 306 mg (81%). The absolute configuration of **Δ-1** was determined by X-ray crystallography, and ee value is 98% obtained by <sup>1</sup>H NMR using S-Binol as a chiral shift reagent. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>27</sub>F<sub>6</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>PRuS: C 47.81, H 3.61, N 7.43, S 4.25. Found: C 47.56, H 3.77, N 7.53, S 4.04. ESI-MS: *m/z* = 608 [*M*-PF<sub>6</sub>]<sup>+</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300.1 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN): δ 9.46 (d, 1H), 8.65 (d, 1H), 8.54 (d, 1H), 8.36 (d, 1H), 8.25 (m, 3H), 8.06 (d, 1H), 7.86 (m, 4H), 7.73 (d, 1H), 7.63 (d, 1H), 7.41 (m, 2H), 7.24 (m, 3H), 7.12 (t, 1H), 2.84 (m, 1H), 0.78 (d, 3H), 0.51 (d, 3H). CD (Δε / M<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>, MeCN): 282nm (-42), 297nm (+106).

Λ-[Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub>(OS-iPr)] PF<sub>6</sub> (**Λ-1**): The synthesis and isolation of the title complex were similar to those for **Δ-1**, with Λ-[Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub>(py)<sub>2</sub>][O,O'-dibenzoyl-L-tartrate]·12H<sub>2</sub>O in place of Δ-[Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub>(py)<sub>2</sub>][O,O'-dibenzoyl-D-tartrate]·12H<sub>2</sub>O. Yield: 306 mg (81%). The Λ-configuration was determined by CD spectroscopy, and the ee value is 98% obtained by <sup>1</sup>H NMR using S-Binol as a chiral shift reagent. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>27</sub>F<sub>6</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>PRuS: C 47.81, H 3.61, N 7.43, S 4.25. Found: C 47.65, H 3.80, N 7.32, S 3.94. ESI-MS: *m/z* = 608 [*M*-PF<sub>6</sub>]<sup>+</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300.1 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN): δ 9.46 (d, 1H), 8.66 (d, 1H), 8.54 (d, 1H), 8.36 (d, 1H), 8.27 (m, 3H), 8.06 (d, 1H), 7.87 (m, 4H), 7.73 (d, 1H), 7.63 (d, 1H), 7.41 (m, 2H), 7.24 (m, 3H), 7.12 (t, 1H), 2.85 (m, 1H), 0.78 (d, 3H), 0.51 (d, 3H). CD (Δε / M<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>, MeCN): 281(+40), 297 (-101).

Δ-[Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub>{(R)-OSO-iPr}]PF<sub>6</sub> (**Δ-2**): Δ-1 (75 mg, 0.1 mmol) and m-CPBA (26 mg, 0.15 mmol) were dissolved in 50 mL of methanol. The reaction was stirred in the dark for 5 h at room temperature. The solvent was removed under reduce pressure, yielding a yellow-orange solid. Using Et<sub>2</sub>O (3×20 mL) ultrasonic extract the solid for 10 min, the resulting solid was filtered, washed with Et<sub>2</sub>O and air-dried. Yield: 73 mg (96%). The absolute configuration of **Δ-2** was determined by X-ray crystallography, and the ee value is 98% obtained by <sup>1</sup>H NMR using S-Binol as a chiral shift reagent. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>27</sub>F<sub>6</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>3</sub>PRuS: C 46.82, H 3.54, N 7.28, S 4.17. Found: C 46.51, H 3.68, N 7.46, S 4.01. ESI-MS: *m/z* = 624 [*M*-2PF<sub>6</sub>]<sup>+</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300.1 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN) δ 9.22 (d 1H), 8.99 (d 1H), 8.60 (d 1H), 8.33 (m 3H), 8.28 (d 1H), 8.05 (t 2H), 7.93 (m 4H), 7.74 (dd 2H), 7.53 (t 1H), 7.37 (t 1H), 7.27 (m 3H), 3.14 (m 1H), 0.68 (d 3H), 0.58 (d 3H). CD (Δε / M<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>, MeCN): 276nm (-13), 292nm (+52).

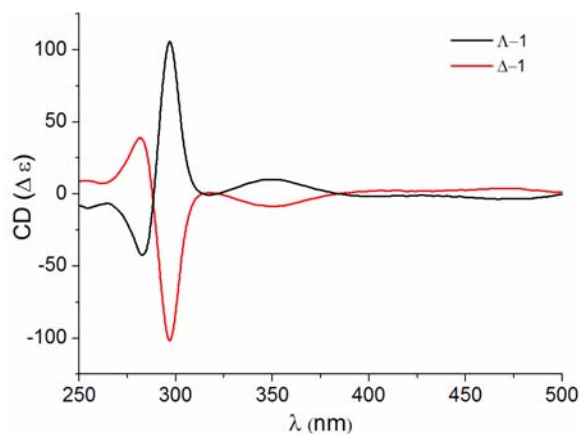
Λ-[Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub>{(S)-OSO-iPr}] PF<sub>6</sub> (**Λ-2**): The synthesis and isolation of the title complex were similar to those for **Δ-2**, with Λ-1 (75 mg, 0.1 mmol) in place of Δ-1. Yield: 73 mg (96%). The absolute configuration of Λ-2 was determined by X-ray crystallography, and the ee value is 98% obtained by <sup>1</sup>H NMR using S-Binol as a chiral shift reagent. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>27</sub>F<sub>6</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>3</sub>PRuS: C 46.82, H 3.54, N 7.28, S 4.17. Found: C 46.62, H 3.65, N 7.41, S 3.97. ESI-MS: *m/z* = 624 [*M*-2PF<sub>6</sub>]<sup>+</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300.1 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN) δ 9.22 (d 1H), 8.98 (d 1H), 8.60 (d 1H), 8.35 (m 3H), 8.28 (d 1H), 8.05 (t 2H), 7.91 (m 4H), 7.74 (dd 2H), 7.53 (t 1H), 7.37 (t 1H), 7.25 (m 3H), 3.15 (m 1H), 0.68 (d 3H), 0.58 (d 3H). CD (Δε / M<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>, MeCN): 277 nm (+21), 293 nm (-51).

**One-step method:** Δ-[Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub>(py)<sub>2</sub>][O,O'-dibenzoyl-D-tartrate]·12H<sub>2</sub>O / Λ-[Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub>(py)<sub>2</sub>][O,O'-dibenzoyl-L-tartrate]·12H<sub>2</sub>O (112 mg, 0.1 mmol), OS-iPr (23.6 mg, 0.12 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (6.9 mg, 0.05 mmol) and ethylene glycol (0.8 mL) were added into a 10 mL of three neck flask. The mixture was magnetically stirred and heated at 120 °C for 4h under argon

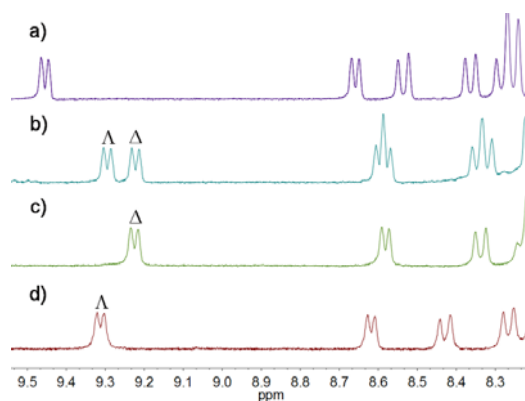
protection. After cooling, methanol (50 mL) and *m*-CPBA (35 mg, 0.20 mmol) were added to the reaction mixture. The result solution was stirred in the dark at room temperature for 4 h. The methanol solvent was removed under reduced pressure, then the solution was washed with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3×15 mL). After that, 5 mL saturated aqueous KPF<sub>6</sub> was added and the aqueous phase was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3×20 mL). The organic extracts were combined and subjected to silica gel chromatography with acetonitrile and later CH<sub>3</sub>CN: H<sub>2</sub>O: KNO<sub>3</sub>(sat) = 50 : 6 : 2 as eluents. The product eluent was concentrated, the resulting material was dissolved in minimal amounts of ethanol/water. An excess of solid KPF<sub>6</sub> was added to the above solution, the orange precipitate was collected, washed with water twice, and dried under high vacuum to afford **Δ-2/Λ-2**. Yield: *ca.* 83%.

**(R)-OSO-ipr:** **Λ-2** (77 mg, 0.1 mmol) and trifluoroacetic acid (76μL, 1 mmol) and CH<sub>3</sub>CN (3 mL) were added into a 10 mL of three neck flask. The mixture was magnetically stirred and heated at 80 °C for 2 h under argon protection. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and concentrated to give an orange solid. Then, H<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) was added to, the aqueous phase was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3×15 mL). The Et<sub>2</sub>O solutions were combined and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, then, filtered. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and dried under high vacuum to give a light yellow powder. Yield: 90%. The e.e. value of 88.2% was determined by chiral HPLC analysis. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S: C 56.58, H 5.70, S 15.11. Found: C 56.11, H 6.09, S 14.89. ESI-MS: *m/z* =211 [*M*-H]<sup>-</sup>. <sup>1</sup>HNMR (300.1 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.18 (*m* 2H), 7.81 (*t* 1H), 7.59 (*t* 1H), 3.27(*m* 2H), 1.54 (*d* 1H), 0.98 (*t* 1H). CD (Δε / M<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>, MeCN): 296nm (+108).

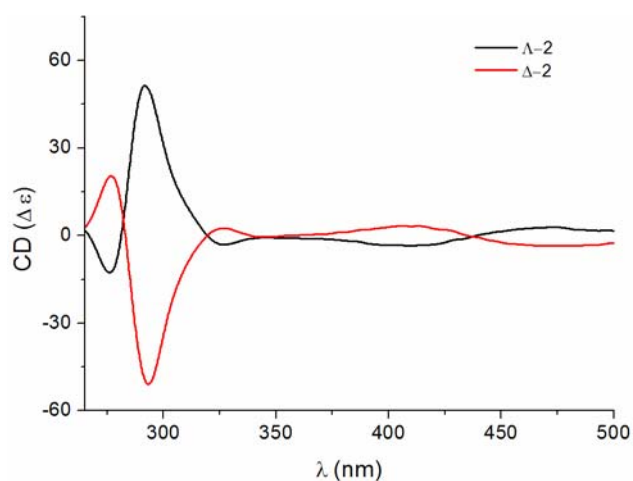
**(S)-OSO-ipr:** The synthesis and isolation of this complex were similar to those for (*R*)-OSO-ipr, with **Δ-2** in place of **Λ-2**. Yield: *ca.* 90%. The e.e. value of 91.6% was determined by chiral HPLC analysis. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S: C 56.58, H 5.70, S 15.11. Found: C 56.23, H 5.95, S 14.87. ESI-MS: *m/z* =211 [*M*-H]<sup>-</sup>. <sup>1</sup>HNMR (300.1 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.18 (*m* 2H), 7.81 (*t* 1H), 7.59 (*t* 1H), 3.27(*m* 2H), 1.54 (*d* 1H), 0.98 (*t* 1H). CD (Δε / M<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>, MeCN): 296 nm (-110).



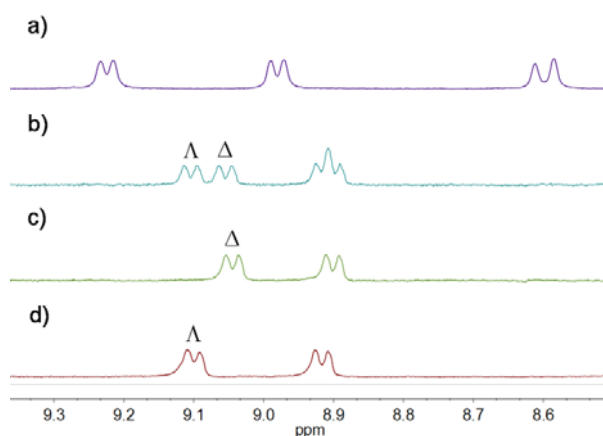
**Fig. S1.** CD spectra of **Λ-1** and **Δ-1** in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (40 μM).



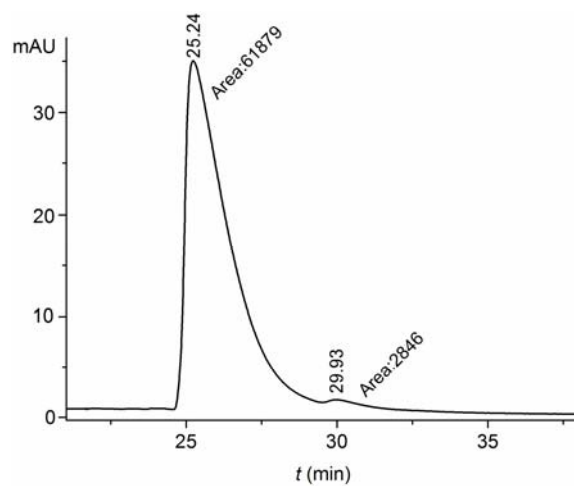
**Fig. S2.** The aromatic region  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ : a) in the absence of S-binol for **rac-1**; b) in the presence of 40 eq S-binol for **rac-1**; c) in the presence of 40 eq S-binol for  **$\Delta$ -1**; d) in the presence of 40 eq S-binol for  **$\Lambda$ -1**.



**Fig. S3.** CD spectra of  **$\Lambda$ -2** and  **$\Delta$ -2** in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (40  $\mu\text{M}$ )..



**Figure S4.** Excerpts of the aromatic region of the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ): a) in the absence of S-binol for **rac-2**, b) in the presence of 40 eq S-binol for **rac-2**, c) in the presence of 40 eq S-binol for  **$\Delta$ -2**, d) in the presence of 40 eq S-binol for  **$\Lambda$ -2**.



**Figure S5.** HPLC traces of  $\Lambda$ -[Ru(bpy)<sub>3</sub>](PF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (conditions: see, Z. Lin, M. A. Celik, C. Fu, K. Harms, G. Franking, E. Meggers, *Eur. Chem. J.* 2011, **17**, 1260.)