# Hybrid material by anchoring of ruthenium (II) imine complex to SiO<sub>2</sub>: preparation, characterization and DFT studies

G. Eliad Benitez-Medina,<sup>\*a†</sup> Raúl Flores,<sup>b†</sup> Luis Vargas,<sup>a</sup> Fernando Cuenú,<sup>c</sup> P. Sharma,<sup>d</sup> Miguel Castro<sup>\*b</sup> and Alfonso Ramírez<sup>\*a</sup>

- a. Grupo de Investigación Catálisis, Universidad del Cauca, Calle 5 No. 4-70, Popayán, Colombia
- Departamento de Física y Química Teórica, DEPg, Facultad de Química, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, C.P. 04510, Ciudad de México, México.
- c. Grupo Química de Compuestos Organometálicos y Catálisis, Universidad del Quindío, Armenia, Colombia
- Instituto de Química, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Ciudad Universitaria, Circuito
   Exterior, Coyoacán 04510, Ciudad de México, México.

# gerelid@hotmail.com

aramirez@unicauca.edu.co miguel.castro.m@gmail.com

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# 1. Spectra Data

# 1.1 FT-IR Spectra

FT-IR spectra were recorded on a **Nicolet IR-200** with 32 scans and a resolution of 16 cm<sup>-1</sup>s<sup>-1</sup>, and the deconvolution process was recorded in the Fityk 0.9.8. Software (A curve fitting and data analysis program).



Aminopropyltriethoxysilane functionalized Degussa silica (1a).



Figure S2. (a) FT-IR spectra of the (black line) AMPTSi/Degussa, (red line) activated AMPTSi/Degussa with 2-Pyridinecarboxaldehyde, 2-PyCH-AMPTSi/Degussa. (b) FT-IR spectra of the (1) material 2a and (2) material 2b.



**Figure S3.** FT-IR Spectra of the solids **RuCl<sub>2</sub>**(P(OPh)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-(**2-PyCH**)-**AMPTSi/Degussa** (**3b**) and **RuCl<sub>2</sub>(P(OPh)<sub>3</sub>)2-(<b>2-PyCH**)-**AMPTSi/MCM**-**41** (**3c**), in the region 4000-500 cm<sup>-1</sup>.



Figure S4. FT-IR Spectra of the solids RuCl<sub>2</sub>(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-(2-PyCH)-AMPTSi/Degussa (3a) and RuCl<sub>2</sub>(PPh<sub>3</sub>)2-(2-PyCH)-AMPTSi/MCM-41 (3d).





**Figure S5.** FT-IR Spectra of the (a) 2-PyCHO and (b) 3-AMPTSi and (c) FT-IR spectrum of the reaction product 2-pyCH-AMPTSi.





**Figure S6.** (a) Deconvolution in the FT-IR spectrum of the 2-PyCHO (b) Deconvolution in the FT-IR spectrum of the 2-PyCH-AMPTSi.



Figure S7. FT-IR spectrum of the [RuCl<sub>2</sub>(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(2pyCH-AMPTSi)] 3e



**Figure S8.** Deconvolution between 1550 and 1780 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the FT-IR spectrum of the **3e**.

# **1.2 Raman Spectroscopy**

The RAMAN spectra were obtained using a **Raman Perkin Elmer NIR FT-Raman SpectRUm GX** spectrophotometer, and the deconvolution process was recorded in the Fityk 0.9.8. Software (A curve fitting and data analysis program).

A small amount of sample (a few milligrams) was deposited on a glass slide. The analyzes were carried out according to the operating conditions determined (Table S1)

|                      | Laser<br>(nm) | Filter | Hole<br>(µm) | red<br>(g/mm) | Objective | Scan<br>range<br>(cm-<br>1) | Exposition<br>time (s) | Number of acquisitions | Mode of<br>acquisition | Spike<br>filter        |
|----------------------|---------------|--------|--------------|---------------|-----------|-----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 3a<br>3b<br>3c<br>3d | 514,5         | D1     | 200          | 600           | X100      | 50-<br>2000                 | 200                    | 5                      | Multiple<br>windows    | Multi<br>(auto<br>add) |

 Table S1. Operating conditions on RAMAN spectroscopy.

 Table S2. Frequencies of observed bands in 3a-3d solids.

| Sample |      | Frequencies of observed bands (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|--------|------|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 3a     | 60,0 | 76,1  | 101,3 |       |       | 346,8 | 460,5 | 480,8 | 533,9 |       |
| 3b     | 58,4 | 77,3  | 110,5 |       | 211,5 | 351,7 | 450,6 | 480,5 | 555,4 |       |
| Зc     | 58,1 | 77,7  | 112,9 | 145,6 | 205,6 | 349,8 | 434,5 | 489,4 |       | 621,0 |
| 3d     | 60,3 | 78,7  | 105,7 | 155,9 | 192,2 | 344,2 | 439,5 | 491,6 |       | 624,0 |

| За | 658,8 | 695,0 |       | 803,5 | 929,8 | 957,3 | 1003,2 | 1031,6 | 1052,4 | 1105,1 |
|----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 3b | 660,7 | 700,3 |       | 810,6 |       | 943,5 | 990,5  | 1034,8 | 1060,5 | 1093,9 |
| 3c | 661,5 | 691,4 | 719,6 | 802,6 |       | 947,4 |        | 1036,4 | 1059,5 | 1108,6 |

|   | 3d | 661,5  | 694,4  | 722,7  | 806,4  |        | 953,9  | 1003,9 | 1036,8 | 1060,7 | 1103,2 |
|---|----|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| - |    |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| ſ | За | 1124,7 | 1160,5 | 1187,9 | 1243,3 | 1298,6 | 1343,4 | 1388,2 | 1450,7 | 1472,8 | 1548,6 |
|   | 3b |        | 1166,4 |        | 1249,5 | 1293,8 | 1320,7 |        | 1446,7 | 1471,4 | 1553,7 |
|   | 3c |        | 1161,7 |        | 1254,4 | 1296,9 | 1337,5 | 1392,2 | 1454,1 | 1474,5 | 1551,7 |
|   | 3d |        | 1164,9 |        | 1253,0 | 1299,8 | 1332,7 | 1398,1 | 1457,4 | 1474,6 | 1555,4 |

| 3a | 1607,0 | 1648,5 |        |
|----|--------|--------|--------|
| 3b | 1606,7 |        | 1795,9 |
| 3c | 1606,3 |        |        |
| 3d | 1604,8 | 1651,9 |        |
|    |        |        |        |

The Raman spectra of the four samples present many common bands. Raman spectra of samples **3c** and **3d** are very similar, only two additional bands appear on the spectrum of the **3c** sample, at 1003,9cm<sup>-1</sup> and 1651,9cm<sup>-1</sup>. The bands at 1470cm<sup>-1</sup>, 1550cm<sup>-1</sup> and 1600cm<sup>-1</sup> correspond to the vibrations of the C=C bonds of the complex.<sup>[1-2]</sup> the band at 1030cm<sup>-1</sup> can be attributed to the deformation of the group =C-H in the plane and the band at 1100cm<sup>-1</sup> to the vibration of the P-Ph bond. The band at 800cm<sup>-1</sup> can correspond to the deformation in the pyridine ring.<sup>[1]</sup>



Figure S9. RAMAN spectra of the solids 3a-3d; (a) 3a (black line) and 3d (red line), (b) 3b (black line) and 3c (red line).



Figure S10. RAMAN spectra deconvolution plot of the solids 3a-3d; (a) 3a, (b) 3d, (c) 3b and (d) 3c.

(1) G. Socrates, Infrared and Raman characteristic group frequencies, *Wiley*, London, 2008

(2) T. E. Chavez-Gil, D.L.A. de Faria, H. E. Toma, Vibrational Spectroscopy, 16 (1998) 89-92

# **1.3 XPS spectroscopy**

XPS analyses were performed using VG S-Probe XPS spectrometer monochromatic, with a monochromatic aluminum AlK $\alpha$ (1486.6 eV) anode X-ray source, 45° takeoff angle (q=45°), the voltage and power of the source was 10KV and 200 W respectively



Figure S11. XPS Spectra of the 3a-3d solids



**Figure S12.** XPS Spectra of the **3a-3d** solids in the region corresponding to the Binding Energies (BE) **C1s**, **Ru**  $3d_{5/2}$  y **Ru**  $3d_{3/2}$ .



Figure S13. Deconvolution in the XPS Spectrum of the 3b solid in the region corresponding to the Binding Energies (BE)  $Ru 3d_{3/2}$ ,  $Ru 3d_{6/2}$  and C 1s.



Figure S14. XPS Spectra of the **3a-3d** solids in the region corresponding to the Binding Energies (BE) Ru  $3p_{3/2}$  and Ru  $3p_{1/2}$ .





Figure S15. XPS Spectra **3a-3d** solids in the region corresponding to the Binding Energies (BE) **Cl 2p** and **O 1s**.



Figure S16. XPS Spectra 3a-3d solids in the region corresponding to the Binding Energy (BE) N 1s.







# **1.4 Atomic Absorption Analysis**

Ruthenium is determined by Atomic Absorption to perform the assay; it is necessary to mineralize the sample.

The sample is weighed and then dissolved in 5 ml of hydrochloric acid, 3 ml of nitric acid and 2 ml of hydrofluoric acid. Mineralization takes place for 1 hour at 1000W. Add 12 ml of boric acid to complex the excess hydrofluoric acid. Complexation takes place for 1 / 2H at 1000W.

## Atomic Absorption Assay:

## 1) Ruthenium:

The wavelength used is 349.89 nm. The linearity range of standard solutions is 10 mg / L. Three standard solutions are prepared from certified solutions: 2 mg / L, 4 mg / L and 8 mg / L.



| Results | : |
|---------|---|
|         |   |

| Sample | % mass |
|--------|--------|
|        | Ru     |
| 3a     | 0,35   |
| 3b     | 0,18   |
| 3c     | 0,16   |
| 3d     | 0,18   |

# 1.5 Diffuse Reflectance Spectroscopy-UV-Vis

DRS-UV-VIS spectra were recorded on a **UV-Vis-NIR spectrophotometer (Varian-Cary 500)**, and the deconvolution process was recorded in the Fityk 0.9.8. Software (A curve fitting and data analysis program).



Figure S18. UV-VIS DRS spectra and spectrum deconvolution plot (in the visible region) of 3a solid.



Figure S19. UV-VIS DRS spectra and spectrum deconvolution plot (in the visible region) of 3b solid.



Figure S20. UV-VIS DRS spectra and spectrum deconvolution plot (in the visible region) of 3c solid.



Figure S21. UV-VIS DRS spectra and spectrum deconvolution plot (in the visible region) of 3d solid.

# 2. Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA)

Thermogravimetric analyzes (TGA) were performed using **SDT Q600** instrument.



Figure S22. Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) plot of 3a solid.



Figure S23. TGA plot of 3b solid.



Figure S24. TGA plot of 3c solid.



Figure S25. TGA plot of 3d solid.

## 3. Braunuer-Emmett-Teller (BET) and Barret-Joyner-Helenda (BHJ) analyses

Braunuer-Emmett-Teller (BET) and Barret-Joyner-Halenda (BHJ) analyses were obtained on TRISTAR 3000 instrument.

## 3.1 BET and BHJ analysis of 3a solid

| Analysis Adsorptive: N2                  | Analysis Bath Temp.: -195.800 °C                           |
|--|--|
| Warm Free Space: 17.6015 cm <sup>3</sup> | Measured Cold Free Space: 53.5640 cm <sup>3</sup> Measured |
| Equilibration Interval: 10 s             | Low Pressure Dose: None                                    |
| Automatic Degas: No                      |  |

Sample Density: 1.000 g/cm<sup>3</sup>

Sample Mass: 0.0405 g



Figure S26. Isotherm Linear Plot of 3a solid.

#### **BET Surface Area Report**

BET Surface Area: 63.0959 ± 0.2984 m<sup>2</sup>/g Slope: 0.068352 ± 0.000325 g/cm<sup>3</sup> STP Y-Intercept: 0.000641 ± 0.000033 g/cm<sup>3</sup> STP C: 107.593620 Qm: 14.4942 cm<sup>3</sup>/g STP Correlation Coefficient: 0.9998197 Molecular Cross-Sectional Area: 0.1620 nm<sup>2</sup>

#### t-Plot Report

Micropore Volume: 0.003295 cm<sup>3</sup>/g STP

Micropore Area: 9.2572 m<sup>2</sup>/g

External Surface Area: 53.8387 m<sup>2</sup>/g

Slope: 3.480652 ± 0.113263 cm<sup>3</sup>/g·Å STP

Y-Intercept: 2.130409 ± 0.469669 cm<sup>3</sup>/g STP

Correlation Coefficient: 0.995791

Surface Area Correction Factor: 1.000

Density Conversion Factor: 0.0015468

Total Surface Area (BET): 63.0959 m<sup>2</sup>/g

Thickness Range: 3.5000 Å to 5.0000 Å

Thickness Equation: Harkins and Jura

 $t = [13.99 / (0.034 - log(p/p^{\circ}))]^{0.5}$ 



Figure S27. t-Plot Harkins and Jura of 3a solid.



Figure S28. BHJ Adsorption dV/dD pore volume of 3a solid.

#### **BJH Adsorption Pore Distribution Report**

t = [ 13.99 / ( 0.034 - log(p/p°) ) ] ^ 0.5 Diameter Range: 17.000 Å to 500.000 Å Adsorbate Property Factor: 9.53000 Å Density Conversion Factor: 0.0015468 Fraction of Pores Open at Both Ends: 0.00



Figure S29. BHJ Desorption dV/dD pore volume of 3a solid.

#### **BJH Desorption Pore Distribution Report**

t = [ 13.99 / ( 0.034 - log(p/p°) ) ] ^ 0.5 Diameter Range: 17.000 Å to 500.000 Å Adsorbate Property Factor: 9.53000 Å Density Conversion Factor: 0.0015468 Fraction of Pores Open at Both Ends: 0.00

#### Summary Report

#### Surface Area

Single point surface area at p/p° = 0.231268014: 60.6967 m²/g BET Surface Area: 63.0959 m²/g t-Plot External Surface Area: 53.8387 m²/g BJH Adsorption cumulative surface area of pores between 17.000 Å and 500.000 Å diameter: 33.1219 m²/g BJH Desorption cumulative surface area of pores between 17.000 Å and 500.000 Å diameter: 53.7528 m²/g

#### Pore Volume

Single point adsorption total pore volume of pores less than 491.280 Å diameter at p/p° = 0.959281185: 0.224808 cm³/g t-Plot micropore volume: 0.003295 cm³/g BJH Adsorption cumulative volume of pores between 17.000 Å and 500.000 Å diameter: 0.198884 cm³/g BJH Desorption cumulative volume of pores between 17.000 Å and 500.000 Å diameter: 0.275397 cm³/g

#### **Pore Size**

BJH Adsorption average pore diameter (4V/A): 240.185 Å BJH Desorption average pore diameter (4V/A): 204.936 Å

# 3.2 BET and BHJ analysis of 3b solid.



Figure S30. Isotherm Linear Plot of 3b solid.



Figure S31. t-Plot Harkins and Jura of 3b solid.



BJH Adsorption dV/dD Pore Volume

Figure S32. BHJ Adsorption dV/dD pore volume of 3b solid.



Figure S33. BHJ Desorption dV/dD pore volume of 3b solid.

#### **Summary Report**

#### Surface Area

Single point surface area at p/p° = 0.230905280: 43.5458 m²/g BET Surface Area: 45.3262 m²/g t-Plot External Surface Area: 45.8536 m²/g BJH Adsorption cumulative surface area of pores between 17.000 Å and 500.000 Å diameter: 30.8024 m²/g BJH Desorption cumulative surface area of pores between 17.000 Å and 500.000 Å diameter: 49.4596 m²/g

#### Pore Volume

Single point adsorption total pore volume of pores less than 429.434 Å diameter at p/p° = 0.953180038: 0.154586 cm³/g t-Plot micropore volume: -0.000920 cm³/g BJH Adsorption cumulative volume of pores between 17.000 Å and 500.000 Å diameter: 0.221967 cm³/g BJH Desorption cumulative volume of pores between 17.000 Å and 500.000 Å diameter: 0.266242 cm<sup>3</sup>/g **Pore Size** BJH Adsorption average pore diameter (4V/A): 288.246 Å BJH Desorption average pore diameter (4V/A): 215.320 Å

3.3 BET and BHJ analysis of 3c solid.



Figure S34. Isotherm Linear Plot of 3c solid.



BJH Adsorption dV/dD Pore Volume

Figure S35. BHJ Adsorption dV/dD pore volume of 3c solid.



Figure S36. BHJ Desorption dV/dD pore volume of 3c solid.

#### **Summary Report**

#### **Surface Area**

Single point surface area at p/p° = 0.231157389: 32.1323 m²/g BET Surface Area: 33.6192 m²/g t-Plot External Surface Area: 18.1143 m²/g BJH Adsorption cumulative surface area of pores between 17.000 Å and 500.000 Å diameter: 10.5393 m²/g BJH Desorption cumulative surface area of pores between 17.000 Å and 500.000 Å diameter: 22.4320 m²/g

#### Pore Volume

Single point adsorption total pore volume of pores less than 451.773 Å diameter at p/p° = 0.955581826: 0.077982 cm<sup>3</sup>/g t-Plot micropore volume: 0.006456 cm<sup>3</sup>/g BJH Adsorption cumulative volume of pores between 17.000 Å and 500.000 Å diameter: 0.061311 cm<sup>3</sup>/g BJH Desorption cumulative volume of pores between 17.000 Å and 500.000 Å diameter: 0.106199 cm<sup>3</sup>/g

#### **Pore Size**

BJH Adsorption average pore diameter (4V/A): 232.696 Å BJH Desorption average pore diameter (4V/A): 189.371 Å

# 3.4 BET and BHJ analysis of 3d solid.



Figure S37. Isotherm Linear Plot of 3d solid.



# BJH Adsorption dV/dD Pore Volume

Figure S38. BHJ Adsorption dV/dD pore volume of 3d solid.





Figure S39. BHJ Desorption dV/dD pore volume of 3d solid.

#### **Summary Report**

#### Surface Area

Single point surface area at p/p° = 0.230832883: 45.2770 m²/g BET Surface Area: 47.0552 m²/g t-Plot External Surface Area: 44.3412 m²/g BJH Adsorption cumulative surface area of pores between 17.000 Å and 500.000 Å diameter: 23.6260 m²/g BJH Desorption cumulative surface area of pores between 17.000 Å and 500.000 Å diameter: 29.2332 m²/g **Pore Volume** Single point adsorption total pore volume of pores less than 435.863 Å diameter at p/p° = 0.953897217: 0.104101 cm³/g t-Plot micropore volume: 0.000563 cm³/g BJH Adsorption cumulative volume of pores between 17.000 Å and 500.000 Å diameter: 0.082779 cm³/g BJH Desorption cumulative volume of pores between 17.000 Å and 500.000 Å diameter: 0.138529 cm<sup>3</sup>/g

## Pore Size

BJH Adsorption average pore diameter (4V/A): 140.149 Å

BJH Desorption average pore diameter (4V/A): 189.550 Å

4. Theoretical Data

The ORCA 4.0.1.2 version electronic structure package were used for the geometry optimization, IR spectra and TD-DFT calculations. The functional PBE with resolution of identity approximation (RI), including dispersion correction with Grimme approach (D3) and considering relativistic effects with ZORA were used in all calculations along with the ZORA-Def2-TZVP basis set and SARC/J auxiliary basis set for RI approach.

## **4.1 Optimized structures**

4.1.1 XYZ coordinates



Figure S40. Propylamine optimized geometry.

| C | -2.55415210 | -0.89153278 | -2.84487185 |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Н | -2.59416884 | -0.67761229 | -3.93484718 |
| Н | -2.22872986 | -1.94109193 | -2.74566706 |
| Ν | -1.59789178 | -0.05615767 | -2.10638193 |
| Н | -0.65787805 | -0.17085240 | -2.49070840 |
| Н | -1.83735069 | 0.93102840  | -2.22976322 |
| С | -3.95908940 | -0.74905305 | -2.26508100 |
| Н | -4.27158622 | 0.30800508  | -2.33940547 |
| Н | -3.91805881 | -0.98331797 | -1.18929485 |
| С | -4.98386170 | -1.63718763 | -2.96914009 |
| Н | -5.98725593 | -1.51264048 | -2.53799956 |
| Н | -5.05084127 | -1.40037985 | -4.04230506 |
| Н | -4.71413624 | -2.70102590 | -2.88158958 |



Figure S41. py-CH=N-methyl optimized geometry.

| Ν | -1.75310002 | -0.14781258 | -2.10110872 |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| С | 0.69105493  | 2.21943279  | 0.32232688  |
| С | 1.50523634  | 3.22252519  | -0.22004949 |
| С | 1.48130989  | 3.41517020  | -1.59949357 |
| С | 0.65068976  | 2.60240743  | -2.36865398 |
| С | -0.13002886 | 1.62202345  | -1.73358170 |
| Ν | -0.10955173 | 1.43250296  | -0.39831861 |
| Н | 2.09765238  | 4.18384703  | -2.06923515 |
| Н | 0.68665679  | 2.04251495  | 1.40321732  |
| Н | 2.13730572  | 3.83095262  | 0.42855677  |
| Н | 0.60089455  | 2.71912609  | -3.45353826 |
| С | -1.00421885 | 0.77051460  | -2.56815310 |
| С | -2.55517723 | -0.90217813 | -3.03529768 |
| Н | -2.43348929 | -0.59529503 | -4.09445187 |
| Н | -2.30512813 | -1.97099516 | -2.94053284 |
| Н | -3.61626267 | -0.80779213 | -2.75411825 |
| Н | -0.96226263 | 0.99184491  | -3.65732780 |



Figure S42. py-CH=N-propyl optimized geometry.

| N | -1.72859461 | -0.17355145 | -2.06988012 |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| С | 0.70467099  | 2.23869282  | 0.32195460  |
| С | 1.50337403  | 3.24758350  | -0.23255556 |
| С | 1.46873686  | 3.42998285  | -1.61318838 |
| С | 0.64327962  | 2.60178526  | -2.37132848 |
| С | -0.12195153 | 1.61681903  | -1.72454374 |
| Ν | -0.09086921 | 1.43707165  | -0.38804510 |
| Н | 2.07294580  | 4.20259147  | -2.09217303 |
| Н | 0.70920623  | 2.06943550  | 1.40408752  |
| Н | 2.13213504  | 3.86810024  | 0.40776958  |
| Н | 0.58544052  | 2.70984681  | -3.45671660 |
| С | -0.99182965 | 0.74953652  | -2.54732468 |
| С | -2.54212457 | -0.93648008 | -2.99241154 |
| Н | -2.37983692 | -0.64027749 | -4.05267542 |
| Н | -2.24443249 | -1.99632804 | -2.89625242 |
| Н | -0.95798716 | 0.96211423  | -3.63845822 |
| С | -4.02917595 | -0.81702493 | -2.63886495 |
| Н | -4.15740212 | -1.08691694 | -1.57920374 |
| Н | -4.32919805 | 0.23989088  | -2.72910438 |
| С | -4.90852615 | -1.69350180 | -3.52877191 |
| Н | -4.64195039 | -2.75697904 | -3.42907769 |
| Н | -5.97029034 | -1.59009889 | -3.26395381 |
| Н | -4.80262561 | -1.42330449 | -4.59078797 |



Figure S43. RuCl<sub>2</sub>(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(2-Py-CH)=N-CH<sub>3</sub> optimized geometry.

| Ru | -1.41220000 | -0.46460000 | 0.14090000  |
|----|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Cl | -0.50020000 | 1.05140000  | 1.84150000  |
| Cl | -2.23540000 | -2.15250000 | 1.74140000  |
| Ν  | -2.04570000 | -1.48610000 | -1.48260000 |
| С  | -0.19520000 | 1.97830000  | -1.26290000 |
| С  | 0.14510000  | 2.74900000  | -2.36690000 |
| С  | -0.17600000 | 2.30260000  | -3.65360000 |
| С  | -0.83370000 | 1.08730000  | -3.78630000 |
| С  | -1.15380000 | 0.34680000  | -2.63920000 |

| N | -0.83410000 | 0.79370000  | -1.37690000 |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Н | 0.08300000  | 2.89450000  | -4.53220000 |
| Н | 0.0300000   | 2.28150000  | -0.23980000 |
| Н | 0.65990000  | 3.69610000  | -2.20870000 |
| Н | -1.10860000 | 0.69130000  | -4.76500000 |
| С | -1.82220000 | -0.91720000 | -2.64710000 |
| С | -2.71810000 | -2.79080000 | -1.51690000 |
| Н | -2.09020000 | -3.51710000 | -2.05370000 |
| Н | -2.87520000 | -3.13950000 | -0.49250000 |
| Н | -3.68810000 | -2.69780000 | -2.02680000 |
| Н | -2.13080000 | -1.39460000 | -3.58180000 |
| Р | -3.45670000 | 0.75590000  | 0.44130000  |
| Р | 0.75240000  | -1.49210000 | 0.21240000  |
| С | 3.52270000  | -2.64450000 | 3.02110000  |
| С | 2.84470000  | -2.49930000 | 4.23530000  |
| С | 1.52860000  | -2.03690000 | 4.24240000  |
| С | 0.88410000  | -1.71120000 | 3.04610000  |
| С | 1.56010000  | -1.85230000 | 1.82980000  |
| С | 2.88230000  | -2.32800000 | 1.82460000  |
| Н | 4.55140000  | -3.00960000 | 3.00450000  |
| Н | 3.34410000  | -2.75010000 | 5.17330000  |
| Н | 0.99180000  | -1.92380000 | 5.18610000  |
| Н | -0.14200000 | -1.35170000 | 3.05150000  |
| Н | 3.41610000  | -2.45160000 | 0.88020000  |
| С | 1.98180000  | -0.41870000 | -0.62690000 |
| С | 2.07120000  | -0.38170000 | -2.02880000 |
| С | 2.92030000  | 0.52470000  | -2.66310000 |
| С | 3.67980000  | 1.42200000  | -1.90840000 |
| С | 3.57310000  | 1.41440000  | -0.51640000 |
| С | 2.72970000  | 0.50320000  | 0.12240000  |
| Н | 1.46550000  | -1.05900000 | -2.63300000 |
| Н | 2.97840000  | 0.53640000  | -3.75310000 |
| Н | 4.34420000  | 2.13150000  | -2.40510000 |
| Н | 4.14890000  | 2.12300000  | 0.08190000  |

| Н | 2.64020000  | 0.51360000  | 1.20880000  |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| С | 1.98350000  | -3.51430000 | -1.44270000 |
| С | 2.07720000  | -4.82030000 | -1.93080000 |
| С | 1.13770000  | -5.78190000 | -1.55560000 |
| С | 0.10650000  | -5.43240000 | -0.67990000 |
| С | 0.00330000  | -4.12800000 | -0.19720000 |
| С | 0.93690000  | -3.15090000 | -0.58210000 |
| Н | 2.74160000  | -2.78460000 | -1.72770000 |
| Н | 2.89640000  | -5.08600000 | -2.60200000 |
| Н | 1.21560000  | -6.80260000 | -1.93490000 |
| Н | -0.62410000 | -6.18060000 | -0.36550000 |
| Н | -0.79460000 | -3.85870000 | 0.5000000   |
| С | -5.12830000 | 1.71510000  | 4.66850000  |
| С | -3.99560000 | 0.91030000  | 4.54500000  |
| С | -3.46620000 | 0.61790000  | 3.28510000  |
| С | -4.07660000 | 1.13220000  | 2.13670000  |
| С | -5.22250000 | 1.93550000  | 2.26350000  |
| С | -5.74250000 | 2.22930000  | 3.52240000  |
| Н | -5.53640000 | 1.94170000  | 5.65550000  |
| Н | -3.51190000 | 0.50330000  | 5.43480000  |
| Н | -2.58300000 | -0.00870000 | 3.18930000  |
| Н | -5.71240000 | 2.33510000  | 1.37350000  |
| Н | -6.63140000 | 2.85720000  | 3.60800000  |
| С | -3.45950000 | 2.61180000  | -1.69700000 |
| С | -3.31620000 | 2.42400000  | -0.31180000 |
| С | -2.89570000 | 3.50660000  | 0.47690000  |
| С | -2.65880000 | 4.75420000  | -0.10350000 |
| С | -2.83480000 | 4.93920000  | -1.47600000 |
| С | -3.23010000 | 3.86150000  | -2.27200000 |
| Н | -3.74260000 | 1.77400000  | -2.33590000 |
| Н | -2.74180000 | 3.36590000  | 1.54700000  |
| Н | -2.33370000 | 5.58540000  | 0.52500000  |
| Н | -2.65470000 | 5.91700000  | -1.92660000 |
| Н | -3.34970000 | 3.98860000  | -3.34960000 |

| С | -5.94690000 | 0.74040000  | -1.02290000 |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| С | -4.99250000 | 0.02570000  | -0.28330000 |
| С | -5.24500000 | -1.32030000 | 0.03030000  |
| С | -6.41640000 | -1.93950000 | -0.40520000 |
| С | -7.35130000 | -1.22880000 | -1.16230000 |
| С | -7.11470000 | 0.11310000  | -1.46470000 |
| Н | -5.79230000 | 1.79560000  | -1.24910000 |
| Н | -4.52200000 | -1.87110000 | 0.63780000  |
| Н | -6.59940000 | -2.98450000 | -0.14700000 |
| Н | -8.26630000 | -1.71560000 | -1.50540000 |
| Н | -7.84560000 | 0.68270000  | -2.04210000 |



Figure S44.  $RuCl_2(P(OPh)_3)_2(2-Py-CH)=N-CH_3$  optimized geometry.

-1.26560000 -0.28360000 -0.13140000

| Cl | -0.60480000 | -0.30610000 | 2.21800000  |
|----|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Cl | -2.68280000 | -2.24850000 | 0.09360000  |
| N  | -1.61790000 | -0.08920000 | -2.12840000 |
| С  | 0.60070000  | 2.13860000  | 0.25240000  |
| С  | 1.39740000  | 3.18640000  | -0.19440000 |
| С  | 1.49420000  | 3.44870000  | -1.56430000 |
| С  | 0.76710000  | 2.65880000  | -2.44670000 |
| С  | -0.02960000 | 1.62540000  | -1.94370000 |
| N  | -0.09150000 | 1.35430000  | -0.59800000 |
| Н  | 2.12200000  | 4.26000000  | -1.93410000 |
| Н  | 0.50870000  | 1.87000000  | 1.30580000  |
| Н  | 1.95190000  | 3.77510000  | 0.53550000  |
| Н  | 0.78740000  | 2.83870000  | -3.52190000 |
| С  | -0.89580000 | 0.80270000  | -2.74590000 |
| С  | -2.57110000 | -0.88790000 | -2.88190000 |
| Н  | -2.58260000 | -0.59940000 | -3.94440000 |
| Н  | -2.31200000 | -1.94930000 | -2.76860000 |
| Н  | -3.56690000 | -0.76500000 | -2.43560000 |
| Н  | -0.98030000 | 0.96070000  | -3.82520000 |
| Р  | -3.10560000 | 0.96120000  | 0.52660000  |
| Р  | 0.47160000  | -1.77030000 | -0.56500000 |
| С  | 0.60960000  | -6.50570000 | 1.29910000  |
| С  | 0.31130000  | -6.11930000 | 2.60800000  |
| С  | -0.00500000 | -4.78570000 | 2.87860000  |
| С  | -0.02860000 | -3.83240000 | 1.85910000  |
| С  | 0.27840000  | -4.23930000 | 0.56230000  |
| С  | 0.59640000  | -5.56550000 | 0.26790000  |
| Н  | 0.85530000  | -7.54510000 | 1.07420000  |
| Н  | 0.32270000  | -6.85550000 | 3.41320000  |
| Н  | -0.24640000 | -4.47390000 | 3.89650000  |
| Н  | -0.29390000 | -2.79390000 | 2.06910000  |
| Н  | 0.82500000  | -5.84200000 | -0.76220000 |
| С  | 2.65780000  | -0.58980000 | 0.48920000  |
| С  | 2.81290000  | -0.12780000 | 1.79670000  |

| С | 3.66640000  | 0.94890000  | 2.03780000  |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| С | 4.35440000  | 1.55930000  | 0.98460000  |
| С | 4.18700000  | 1.08560000  | -0.31820000 |
| С | 3.34030000  | 0.00500000  | -0.57490000 |
| Н | 2.24390000  | -0.60410000 | 2.59380000  |
| Н | 3.79120000  | 1.31360000  | 3.05890000  |
| Н | 5.02230000  | 2.40000000  | 1.18010000  |
| Н | 4.72130000  | 1.55450000  | -1.14640000 |
| Н | 3.21810000  | -0.38210000 | -1.58640000 |
| С | 1.60480000  | -2.29230000 | -4.28420000 |
| С | 2.43080000  | -3.01750000 | -5.14180000 |
| С | 3.40910000  | -3.86950000 | -4.62280000 |
| С | 3.55420000  | -3.98710000 | -3.23940000 |
| С | 2.73680000  | -3.26520000 | -2.36610000 |
| С | 1.76060000  | -2.41930000 | -2.90130000 |
| Н | 0.82990000  | -1.62630000 | -4.66690000 |
| Н | 2.30480000  | -2.91790000 | -6.22130000 |
| Н | 4.05410000  | -4.43900000 | -5.29330000 |
| Н | 4.31530000  | -4.64960000 | -2.82340000 |
| Н | 2.85740000  | -3.36080000 | -1.28900000 |
| С | -5.77850000 | -1.16750000 | 4.68490000  |
| С | -6.01920000 | 0.20240000  | 4.54680000  |
| С | -5.25400000 | 0.96350000  | 3.66420000  |
| С | -4.24870000 | 0.33960000  | 2.92380000  |
| С | -3.97670000 | -1.01890000 | 3.06070000  |
| С | -4.75930000 | -1.76780000 | 3.94290000  |
| Н | -6.38240000 | -1.76340000 | 5.37130000  |
| Н | -6.81290000 | 0.68340000  | 5.12110000  |
| Н | -5.43660000 | 2.02890000  | 3.52200000  |
| Н | -3.18320000 | -1.48180000 | 2.47540000  |
| Н | -4.55970000 | -2.83610000 | 4.04590000  |
| С | -6.55170000 | -0.39230000 | 0.56160000  |
| С | -5.78460000 | 0.71510000  | 0.20170000  |
| С | -6.31030000 | 2.00670000  | 0.21860000  |

| С | -7.63510000 | 2.18580000  | 0.62570000  |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| С | -8.41600000 | 1.09040000  | 0.99950000  |
| С | -7.87250000 | -0.19730000 | 0.96230000  |
| Н | -6.08700000 | -1.37900000 | 0.54920000  |
| Н | -5.68890000 | 2.85500000  | -0.06720000 |
| Н | -8.05550000 | 3.19280000  | 0.65070000  |
| Н | -9.44800000 | 1.23940000  | 1.32070000  |
| Н | -8.47500000 | -1.05670000 | 1.26030000  |
| С | -3.40530000 | 2.80370000  | -2.12320000 |
| С | -2.82720000 | 3.23130000  | -0.92140000 |
| С | -2.04040000 | 4.38790000  | -0.88820000 |
| С | -1.81620000 | 5.10550000  | -2.06110000 |
| С | -2.36950000 | 4.67620000  | -3.27140000 |
| С | -3.16410000 | 3.52870000  | -3.29270000 |
| Н | -4.03900000 | 1.91820000  | -2.13980000 |
| Н | -1.60900000 | 4.70020000  | 0.06320000  |
| Н | -1.19710000 | 6.00390000  | -2.02920000 |
| Н | -2.19280000 | 5.24040000  | -4.18820000 |
| Н | -3.61540000 | 3.19230000  | -4.22830000 |
| 0 | -3.05450000 | 2.60740000  | 0.28920000  |
| 0 | -3.51430000 | 1.17590000  | 2.07660000  |
| 0 | -4.47260000 | 0.46460000  | -0.21920000 |
| 0 | 1.87940000  | -1.72640000 | 0.28290000  |
| 0 | 0.26560000  | -3.37330000 | -0.53000000 |
| 0 | 0.90940000  | -1.62730000 | -2.13650000 |

# 4.2 IR Spectra

IR spectra were calculated at the RI-PBE-D3/Def2-TZVP ZORA level of theory.



Figure S45. IR spectra of propylamine



Figure S46. IR spectra of py-CH=N-methyl



Figure S47. IR spectra of py-CH=N-propyl



Figure S48. IR spectra of RuCl<sub>2</sub>(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(2-Py-CH)=N-CH<sub>3</sub>



Figure S49. IR spectra of RuCl<sub>2</sub>(P(OPh)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(2-Py-CH)=N-CH<sub>3</sub>

## 4.3 TD-DFT UV-Vis Spectra

UV-Vis spectra were calculated with TD-DFT approximation at the RI-PBE-D3/ZORA-Def2-TZVP level of theory.



Figure S50. TD-DFT UV-Vis spectra of RuCl<sub>2</sub>(P(Ph)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(2-Py-CH)=N-CH<sub>3</sub>



Figure S51. TD-DFT UV-Vis spectra of RuCl<sub>2</sub>(P(OPh)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(2-Py-CH)=N-CH<sub>3</sub>

# 4.3.1 Natural Transition Orbital

(2-Py-CH)=N-

|                           | UV-Vis band     | State | NTO                 | NTO population (n) |
|---------------------------|-----------------|-------|---------------------|--------------------|
|                           | wavelength (nm) |       |                     |                    |
| $RuCl_2(P(Ph)_3)_2(2)$    | 579.2           | 5     | HntoS5→LntoS5       | 0.57199910         |
| -Py-CH)=N-CH <sub>3</sub> |                 |       |                     |                    |
|                           |                 |       | HntoS5-1→LntoS5+1   | 0.34298016         |
|                           | 573.1           | 6     | HntoS6→LntoS6       | 0.68830986         |
|                           |                 |       | HntoS6-1→LntoS6+1   | 0.26043363         |
|                           |                 |       |                     |                    |
|                           | 509.8           | 11    | HntoS11→LntoS11     | 0.80031604         |
|                           |                 |       | HntoS11-1→LntoS11+1 | 0.19684552         |
|                           |                 |       |                     |                    |
|                           | 477.9           | 15    | HntoS15→LntoS15     | 0.98349073         |
|                           |                 |       |                     |                    |
|                           | 450.1           | 19    | HntoS19→LntoS19     | 0.59384688         |
|                           |                 |       | HntoS19-1→LntoS19+1 | 0.22284036         |
|                           |                 |       | HntoS19-2→LntoS19+2 | 0.14324326         |
|                           |                 |       |                     |                    |
|                           |                 |       |                     |                    |
| $RuCl_2(P(OPh)_3)2$       | 585.1           | 4     | HntoS4→LntoS4       | 0.92224665         |

**Table S3.**  $RuCl_2(P(L)_3)_2(2-Py-CH)=N-CH_3$ , L=OPh and Ph, UV-Vis spectra Natural Transition Orbitals.

| 554.4 | 5 | HntoS5→LntoS5     | 0.99570180 |
|-------|---|-------------------|------------|
| 532.6 | 6 | HntoS6→LntoS6     | 0.97077458 |
| 488.7 | 9 | HntoS9→LntoS9     | 0.55428915 |
|       |   | HntoS9-1→LntoS9+1 | 0.29394483 |
|       |   | HntoS9-2→LntoS9+2 | 0.15016497 |
|       |   |                   |            |

4.3.2 RuCl<sub>2</sub>(P(Ph)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(2-Py-CH)=N-CH<sub>3</sub> Natural Transition Orbitals Contour Plots





Figure S52. NTO State 5,  $\lambda$  = 579.2 nm





LntoS6+1

Figure S53. NTO State 6,  $\lambda$  = 573.1 nm



Figure S54. NTO State 11,  $\lambda$  = 509.8



Figure S55. NTO State 15,  $\lambda$  = 477.9 nm



Figure S56. NTO State 19,  $\lambda$  = 450.1 nm



4.4.2 RuCl<sub>2</sub>(P(OPh)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(2-Py-CH)=N-CH<sub>3</sub> Natural Transition Orbitals Contour Plots

Figure S57. NTO State 4, λ = 585.1 nm



LntoS5

HntoS5 Figure S58. NTO State 5, λ = 554.4 nm



Figure S59. NTO State 6,  $\lambda$  = 532.6 nm



Figure S60. NTO State 9,  $\lambda$  = 488.7 nm