

## Mechanism of Halide Exchange in Reactions of CpRu(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl with Alkyl Halides

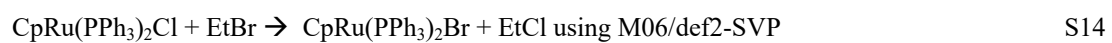
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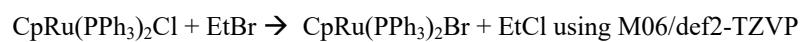
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**Table S3** Calculated Free Energies ( $\Delta G$ , kJ/mol) for Intermediates in the Reaction:



**Table S4** Calculated Free Energies ( $\Delta G$  and  $\Delta H$ , kJ/mol) for Intermediates in the Reaction:



**References**

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## Experimental

All compounds described in this work were handled using Schlenk techniques or a M. I. Braun glove box under purified nitrogen atmospheres.  $\text{RuCl}_3 \cdot x\text{H}_2\text{O}$  was purchased from Pressure Chemical, Inc. Tertiary phosphines, cyclopentadiene, 1-bromobutane, 1-iodopropane, duroquinone, and dihydroanthracene (Fischer Acros Chemical, Inc.) were used as received. Solvents were purified by refluxing over Na/benzophenone (toluene, tetrahydrofuran, benzene, hexane, pentane),  $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$  (dichloromethane) or  $\text{MgSO}_4$  (ethanol) and distilled prior to use. Chloroform- $\text{d}^1$ , toluene- $\text{d}^8$ , and benzene- $\text{d}^6$  (Cambridge Isotope Laboratories) were purified by distillation from  $\text{CaH}_2$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) or Na/benzophenone. Fluorobenzene (Fisher-Acros) was distilled from  $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$ . For synthesis,  $^n\text{butyl bromide}$  and  $^n\text{propyl iodide}$  were used as received. Cyclopentadienylruthenium (II) phosphine compounds  $\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Cl}$  (**1a**),  $^1\text{CpRu}(\text{P}\{p\text{-CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\}_3)_2\text{Cl}$  (**1b**),  $^{2a}\text{CpRu}(\text{P}\{p\text{-CH}_3\text{OC}_6\text{H}_4\}_3)_2\text{Cl}$  (**1c**),  $^{2b}\text{CpRu}(\text{P}\{p\text{-FC}_6\text{H}_4\}_3)_2\text{Cl}$  (**1d**),  $^{2c}$  and  $\text{CpRu}[\text{PPh}_2(p\text{-CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)]_2\text{Cl}$  (**1e**),  $^{2c}$  were prepared by literature procedures. For comparison, samples of  $\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Br}$  (**2a**) and  $\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{I}$  (**3a**) were also prepared by published methods.  $^3$  Melting points were determined in capillary tubes using a Stanford Research Systems Digimelt apparatus. Elemental analyses (C, H) were performed by Columbia Analytical Services, Inc. Tucson, AZ.

NMR spectra were recorded at 400 MHz for  $^1\text{H}$ , 162 MHz for  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  and 376 MHz for  $^{19}\text{F}$  on a Mercury XL300 spectrometer. Proton chemical shifts are reported relative to residual protons in the solvent ( $\text{CD}_2\text{HCl}$  at  $\delta$  7.24 ppm or  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{H}$  at  $\delta$  7.15 ppm relative to TMS at 0.00 ppm). Phosphorus chemical shifts are reported relative to 85%  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  at 0.0 ppm. A HP6890 Series GC (Agilent HO-1 dimethylpolysiloxane column, 25 m x 0.200 mm x 0.4  $\mu\text{m}$ ) coupled with a HP5973 mass selective detector was used for the gc/ms experiments.

### *Synthesis of $\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Br}$ (**2a**)*

50.0 mg  $\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Cl}$  (0.069 mmol) and 48  $\mu\text{L}$   $^n\text{BuBr}$  (0.447 mmol) yielded 52.8 mg  $\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Br}$  (100%) as an orange solid.  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectra are consistent with those reported in the literature.  $^1\text{H}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.34 (br, 12H, aryl), 7.24 (dd,  $J = 6.8, 8.8$  Hz, 6 H, aryl), 7.14 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 12H, aryl), 4.12 s (5H, Cp).  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  37.6 (s)

### *Synthesis of $\text{CpRu}[\text{P}(p\text{-CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)_3]_2\text{Br}$ (**2b**)*

65.0 mg  $\text{CpRu}[\text{P}(p\text{-CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)_3]_2\text{Cl}$  (0.080 mmol) and 60  $\mu\text{L}$   $^n\text{BuBr}$  (0.559 mmol) yielded 47.6 mg  $\text{CpRu}[\text{P}(p\text{-CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)_3]_2\text{Br}$  (73%) as an orange solid. M.p. 137-139°C d.  $^1\text{H}$  (400 Mz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.23 (m, 12H, aryl), 6.91 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 12H, aryl), 4.08 (s, 5H, Cp), 2.30 (s, 18H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ).  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  (162 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  36.8 (s)  
Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{47}\text{H}_{47}\text{P}_2\text{BrRu}$ : C, 66.04%; H, 5.54%. Found: C, 66.02%; H, 5.65%.

### *Synthesis of $\text{CpRu}[\text{P}(p\text{-CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)_3]_2\text{I}$ (**3b**)*

93.0 mg  $\text{CpRu}[\text{P}(p\text{-CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)_3]_2\text{Cl}$  (0.113 mmol) and 115  $\mu\text{L}$   $^n\text{PrI}$  (1.18 mmol) yielded 63.7 mg  $\text{CpRu}[\text{P}(p\text{-CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)_3]_2\text{I}$  (62%) as a red solid. Rec-crystallization from toluene leads to one equivalent of toluene in the

crystalline product. M.p. 132-134°C d.  $^1\text{H}$  (400 Mz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.17 (br s, 12 Hz, 12H, aryl), 6.93 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 12H, aryl), 4.15 (s, 5H, Cp), 2.36 (s, 3H, toluene), 2.32 (s, 18H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ). The aryl resonances for the coordinated toluene are seen at 7.24 and 7.28 are assigned by comparison with the spectrum of toluene in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  (7.31 d, 7.23 d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz). Both of the coordinated toluene aryl resonances are obscured by the  $\text{CHCl}_3$  resonance from the solvent.  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  (162 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  34.6 s

Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{47}\text{H}_{47}\text{P}_2\text{IRu}\cdot\text{C}_7\text{H}_8$ : C, 65.26%; H, 5.58%. Found: C, 64.96%; H, 5.63%.

*Synthesis of  $\text{CpRu}[\text{P}(\text{p-CH}_3\text{OC}_6\text{H}_4)_3]_2\text{Br}$  (**2c**)*

118 mg  $\text{CpRu}[\text{P}(\text{p-CH}_3\text{OC}_6\text{H}_4)_3]_2\text{Cl}$  (0.130 mmol) and 98  $\mu\text{L}$   $^n\text{BuBr}$  (0.913 mmol) yielded 90.9 mg  $\text{CpRu}[\text{P}(\text{CH}_3\text{OC}_6\text{H}_4)_3]_2\text{Br}$  (73%) as an orange solid M.p. 149-152°C d.  $^1\text{H}$  (400 Mz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.28 (m, 12H, aryl), 6.66 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 12H, aryl), 4.11 (s, 5H, Cp), 3.78 (s, 18H,  $\text{CH}_3\text{O}$ ).  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  (162 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  35.59 (s)

Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{47}\text{H}_{47}\text{O}_6\text{P}_2\text{BrRu}$ : C, 59.37%; H, 4.98%. Found: C, 58.99%; H, 5.28%

*Synthesis of  $\text{CpRu}[\text{P}(\text{p-CH}_3\text{OC}_6\text{H}_4)_3]_2\text{I}$  (**3c**)*

80.5 mg  $\text{CpRu}[\text{P}(\text{p-CH}_3\text{OC}_6\text{H}_4)_3]_2\text{Cl}$  (0.089 mmol) and 61  $\mu\text{L}$   $^n\text{PrI}$  (0.625 mmol) yielded 75.7 mg  $\text{CpRu}[\text{P}(\text{p-CH}_3\text{OC}_6\text{H}_4)_3]_2\text{I}$  (85%) as an orange solid M.p. 132-134°C d.  $^1\text{H}$  (400 Mz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.28 (m, 12H, aryl), 6.67 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 12H, aryl), 4.18 (s, 5H, Cp), 3.77 (s, 18H,  $\text{CH}_3\text{O}$ ).  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  (162 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  34.5 (s)

Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{47}\text{H}_{47}\text{O}_6\text{P}_2\text{IRu}$ : C, 56.53%; H, 4.75%. Found: C, 56.43%; H, 4.90%.

*Synthesis of  $\text{CpRu}[\text{P}(\text{p-FC}_6\text{H}_4)_3]_2\text{Br}$  (**2d**)*

110 mg  $\text{CpRu}[\text{P}(\text{p-FC}_6\text{H}_4)_3]_2\text{Cl}$  (0.132 mmol) and 100  $\mu\text{L}$   $^n\text{BuBr}$  (0.934 mmol) yielded 114 mg  $\text{CpRu}[\text{P}(\text{p-FC}_6\text{H}_4)_3]_2\text{Br}$  (98%) as an orange solid. M.p. 154-156 °C d.  $^1\text{H}$  (400 Mz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.30 (t,  $J = 8.8$ , 12 Hz, 12H, aryl), 6.88 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 12H, aryl), 4.14 (s, 5H, Cp).  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  (162 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  36.76 (s)

Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{41}\text{H}_{29}\text{F}_6\text{P}_2\text{BrRu}$ : C, 56.05%; H, 3.33%. Found: C, 56.00%; H, 3.43%.

*Synthesis of  $\text{CpRu}[\text{P}(\text{p-FC}_6\text{H}_4)_3]_2\text{I}$  (**3d**)*

80.0 mg  $\text{CpRu}[\text{P}(\text{p-FC}_6\text{H}_4)_3]_2\text{Cl}$  (0.096 mmol) and 65.0  $\mu\text{L}$   $^n\text{PrI}$  (0.666 mmol) yielded 86.5 mg  $\text{CpRu}[\text{P}(\text{p-FC}_6\text{H}_4)_3]_2\text{I}$  (97%) as an orange solid. M.p. 152-155°C d.  $^1\text{H}$  (400 Mz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.27 (br, 12H, aryl), 6.90 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 12H, aryl), 4.21 (s, 5H, Cp).  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  (162 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  35.7 (s).

Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{41}\text{H}_{29}\text{F}_6\text{P}_2\text{IRu}$ : C, 53.20%; H, 3.16%. Found: C, 52.79%; H, 3.19%.

*Synthesis of  $\text{CpRu}[\text{PPh}_2(\text{p-CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)]_2\text{Br}$  (**2e**)*

65 mg  $\text{CpRu}[\text{PPh}_2(\text{p-CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)]_2\text{Cl}$  (0.80 mmol) and 60  $\mu\text{L}$   $^n\text{BuBr}$  (0.56 mmol) yielded 48 mg  $\text{CpRu}[\text{PPh}_2(\text{p-CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4)]_2\text{Br}$  (73%) as a red-orange solid after recrystallization from toluene/petroleum ether. M.p. 137-140° d. The aryl resonances for the phenyl and p-tolyl groups are not completely resolved from one another. In  $\text{CDCl}_3$   $^1\text{H}$  (400 Mz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.34 (br,  $J = 8\text{H}$ , aryl), 7.22 (d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 8H, aryl), 7.13 (t, 8 H, aryl), 6.94 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 4H,

aryl), 4.20 (s, 5H, Cp), 2.31 (s, 6 H, CH<sub>3</sub>); (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>): 7.63 (br s, 8H), 7.54 (t, 4H), 6.91 (br s, 12 H), 6.72 (d, J=7.8 Hz, 4H, tolyl), 4.20 (s, 5H, Cp), 1.97 s (6H, tolyl CH<sub>3</sub>) <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H}(162 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 36.9 (s); (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>): 37.8 (s).

Anal. Calcd for C<sub>43</sub>H<sub>39</sub>P<sub>2</sub>BrRu: C, 64.65%; H, 4.92%. Found: C, 64.19%; H, 5.20%.

#### *Synthesis of CpRu[PPh<sub>2</sub>(p-CH<sub>3</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)]<sub>2</sub>I (3e)*

65 mg CpRu[PPh<sub>2</sub>(p-CH<sub>3</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)]<sub>2</sub>Cl (0.80 mmol and 54 μL <sup>n</sup>PrI (0.56 mmol) yielded 52 mg CpRu[PPh<sub>2</sub>(p-CH<sub>3</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)]<sub>2</sub>I (72%) as a red solid after recrystallization from toluene/petroleum ether. M.p. 120-122 °C d <sup>1</sup>H (400 Mz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.16-7.29 (m not completely resolved from br s, 12H, aryl), 7.16 (d, J = 7.6 Hz overlapping a likely m at 7.13, 12 H, aryl), 6.96 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 4H, tolyl), 4.17 (s, 5H, Cp), 2.33 (s, 6 H, tolyl CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} (162 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 36.0 (s).

Anal. Calcd for C<sub>43</sub>H<sub>39</sub>P<sub>2</sub>IRu: C, 61.07%; H, 4.65%. Found: C, 60.57%; H, 4.76%.

#### *Identification of volatile products*

1-Bromobutane (20 μL, 0.19 mmol) and 12 mg (0.016 mmol) **1a** were heated at 100 °C in 20 μL fluorobenzene for 5 hours before adding CDCl<sub>3</sub>. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum was compared with spectra of authentic compounds. <sup>1</sup>H (400 Mz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 3.42 (t, CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Br), 3.55 (t, CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Cl).

A solution of 1-bromohexane (12 μL, 8.5 x 10<sup>-2</sup> mmols) and **1a** (34 mg, 4.6 x 10<sup>-2</sup> mmol) in 5 mL fluorobenzene was refluxed for 7 hours. Analysis of the filtered solution by gc/ms confirmed the presence of 1-chlorohexane.

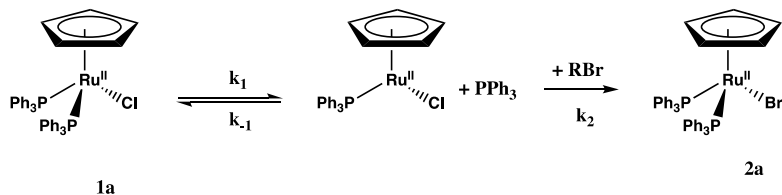
A 1:1 mixture of 1-chlorohexane and 1-iodobutane containing 5 mol% Cp<sup>\*</sup>Ru(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl in refluxing toluene led to a 1:1:1 mixture of 1-ClC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>13</sub>:1-IC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>13</sub>:1-IC<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub> by gc/ms analysis. Whether the more volatile 1-chlorobutane (b.p. 77 °C) was lost during analysis or was not detected is not clear.

A solution of 1-bromobutane (20 μL, 0.18 mmols), styrene (21 μL, 0.18 mmol) and **1a** (11 mg, 1.5 x 10<sup>-2</sup> mmol) in 5 mL fluorobenzene was refluxed for 7 hours. No evidence for products resulting from addition of 1-BrC<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub> to styrene was observed by gc/ms.

#### *Computational Data*

We report the Cartesian coordinates of all the structures optimized using Kohn-Sham density functional theory (M06/def2-SVP) in the xyz format in a separate zip file as part of the supplementary materials.

## Derivation of the rate law



$$\frac{d[2a]}{dt} = k_2[\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{Cl}][\text{BuBr}] \quad (1)$$

From the steady state approximation,  $\frac{d[\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{Cl}]}{dt} = 0$

$$\frac{d[\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{Cl}]}{dt} = k_1[1a] - k_{-1}[\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{Cl}][\text{PPh}_3] - k_2[\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{Cl}][\text{BuBr}] = 0 \quad (2)$$

Solving for  $[\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{Cl}]$ :

$$[\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{Cl}] = \frac{k_1[\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Cl}]}{k_{-1}[\text{PPh}_3] + k_2[\text{BuBr}]} \quad (3)$$

Substituting the  $[\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{Cl}]$  into equation (1):

$$\frac{d[2a]}{dt} = \frac{k_1 k_2 [\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Cl}][\text{BuBr}]}{k_{-1}[\text{PPh}_3] + k_2[\text{BuBr}]} = -\frac{d[1a]}{dt} \quad (4)$$

Where

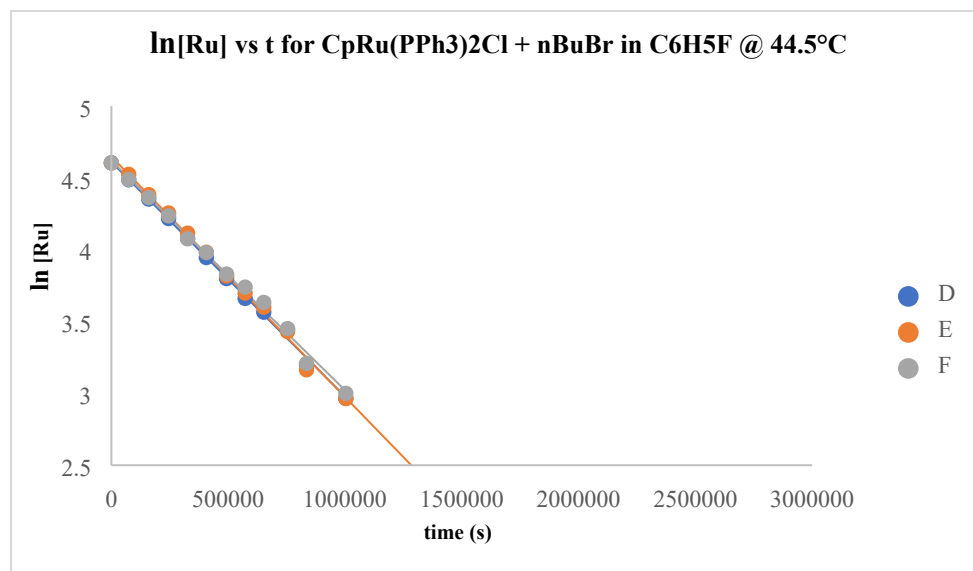
$$k_{\text{obs}} = \frac{k_1 k_2 [\text{BuBr}]}{k_{-1}[\text{PPh}_3] + k_2[\text{BuBr}]} \quad (5)$$

<b>Table S1:</b> Summary of Observed Rate Constants for the Reaction Between CpRu(PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Cl (10.5 mM) and Organic Halides in C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> F/10% C <sub>6</sub> D <sub>6</sub>			
Organic halide	[RX] (mM)	T (°C)	$k_{obs} \times 10^6 \text{ s}^{-1}$
1-BrC <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub>	105	50	1.62±0.05
2-Br-2-MeC <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	110	50	0.56±0.02
1-IC <sub>3</sub> H <sub>7</sub>	72	40	1.0±0.1
CH <sub>3</sub> I	69	40	7.2±0.6

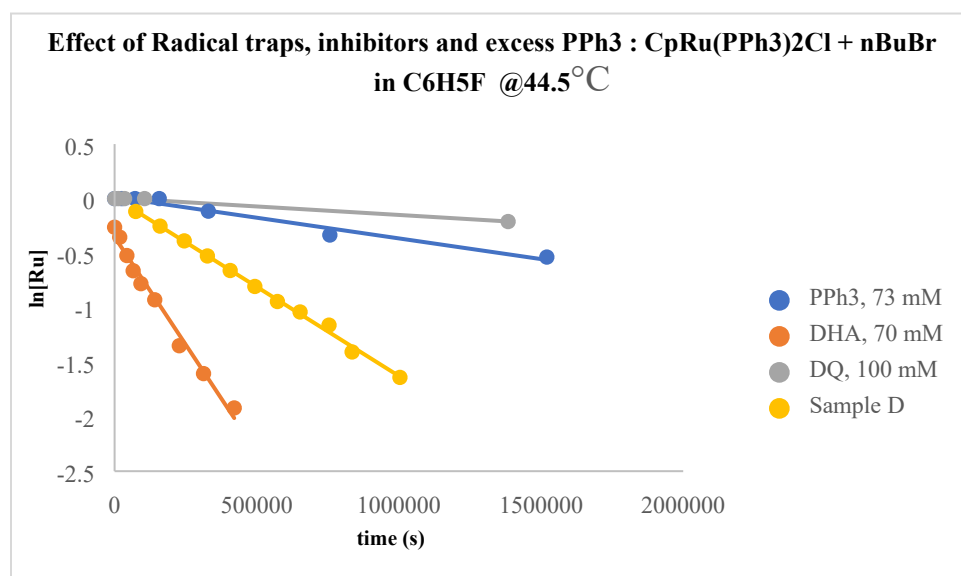
<b>Table S2:</b> Summary of Rate Constants for the Reaction: CpRu(PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Cl ( <b>1a</b> ) + <sup>n</sup> BuBr in C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> F/10% C <sub>6</sub> D <sub>6</sub>									
[ <b>1a</b> ] <sup>a</sup>	[ <sup>n</sup> BuBr]	[DHA]	[DQ]	[PPh <sub>3</sub> ]	T (°C)	<i>k</i> <sub>obs, 1</sub> <sup>b</sup>	<i>k</i> <sub>obs, 2</sub>	<i>k</i> <sub>obs, 3</sub>	<i>k</i> <sub>ave</sub>
10	103	0	0	0	34.7	0.58	0.53	<sup>b</sup>	0.55±0.03
10	103	0	0	0	39.0	1.26	1.30	1.23	1.26±0.04
10	103	0	0	0	44.2	1.60	1.67	1.60	1.62±0.04
10	103	0	0	0	50.7	2.08	2.00	2.40	2.16±0.21
10	103	0	0	0	55.6	3.79	3.58	<sup>b</sup>	3.69±0.14
10	200	0	0	0	44.5	3.04	2.73	3.47	3.09±0.37
10	300	0	0	0	44.5	3.62	4.01	<sup>b</sup>	3.82±0.28
10	400	0	0	0	44.5	5.22	5.52	5.28	5.34±0.16
10	105	70	0	0	44.0	4.98	3.39	3.95	4.08±0.84
10	100	0	73	0	44.0	0.160	0.130	0.156	0.15±0.02
10.5	102	0	0	73	44.0	1.98	2.98	1.20	0.21±0.09

<sup>a</sup> all concentrations in mM. <sup>b</sup> pseudo first order rate constants x 10<sup>6</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> <sup>b</sup> the third sample in these cases leaked leading to decomposition.

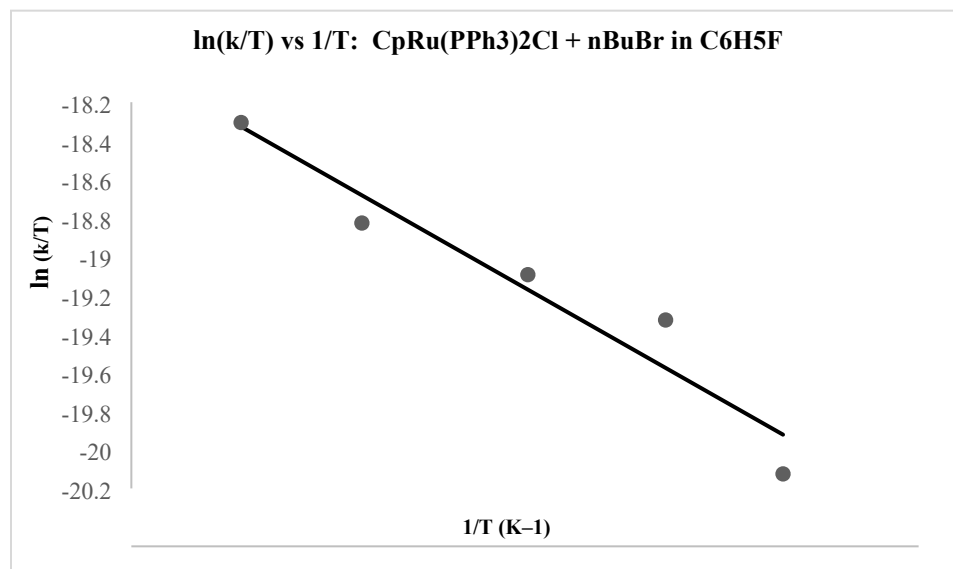




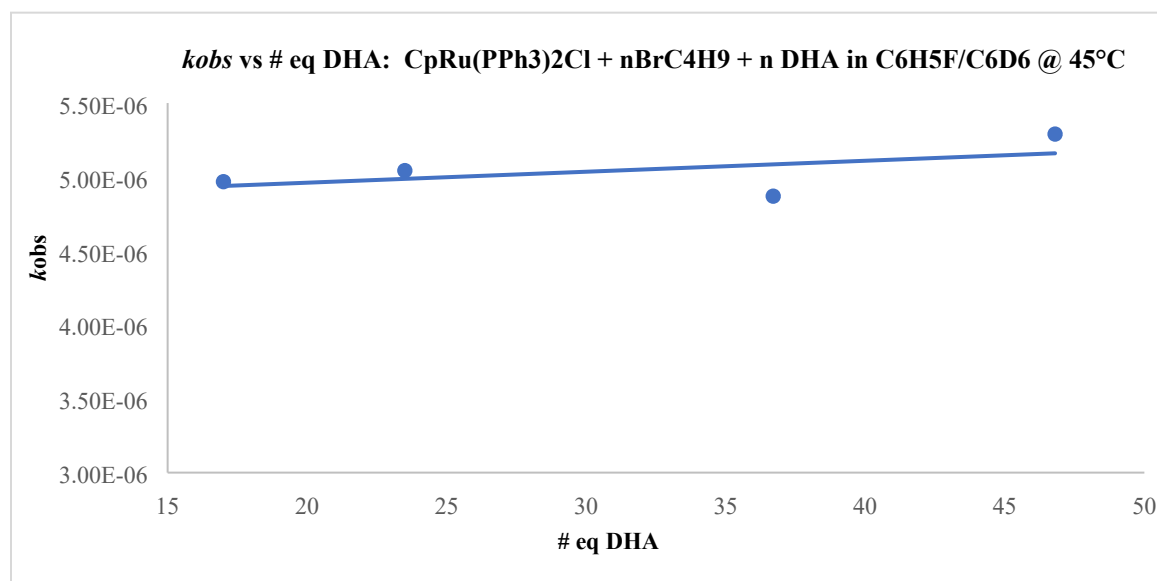
**Figure S1:** Representative plot of  $\ln[1a]$  vs time (s) for the reaction between  $\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Cl}$  and bromobutane at  $44.5^\circ\text{C}$



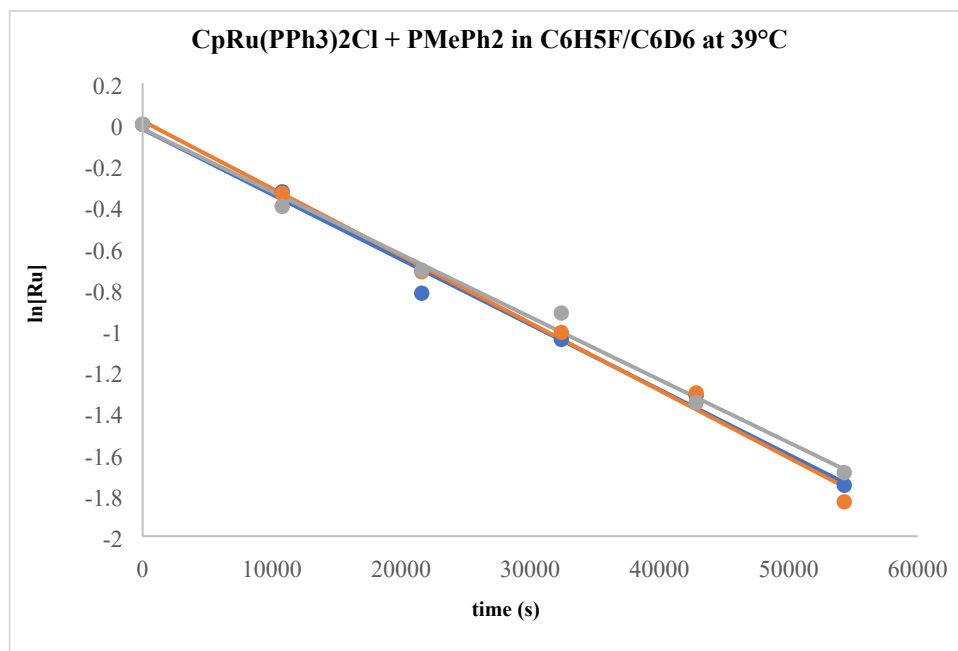
**Figure S2:** Effect of radical traps, initiators and excess  $\text{PPh}_3$  on  $k_{\text{obs}}$  for the reaction between  $\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Cl}$  and bromobutane at  $44.5^\circ\text{C}$  in fluorobenzene/10% benzene- $d_6$



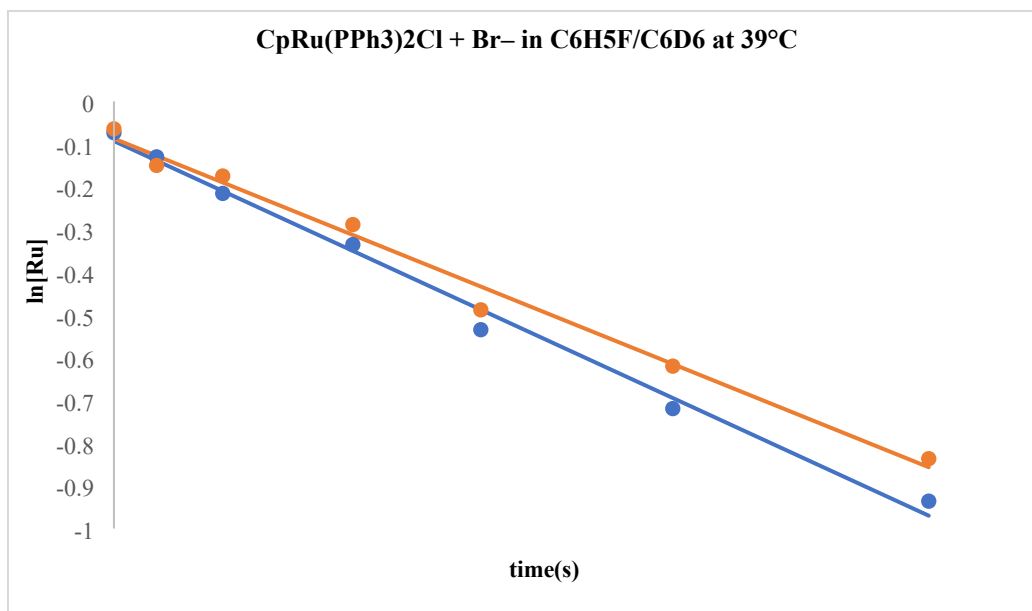
**Figure S3:** Eyring plot  $\ln k_{\text{obs}}/T$  vs  $1/T$  for the reaction between  $\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Cl}$  and bromobutane in fluorobenzene/10% benzene- $\text{d}^6$



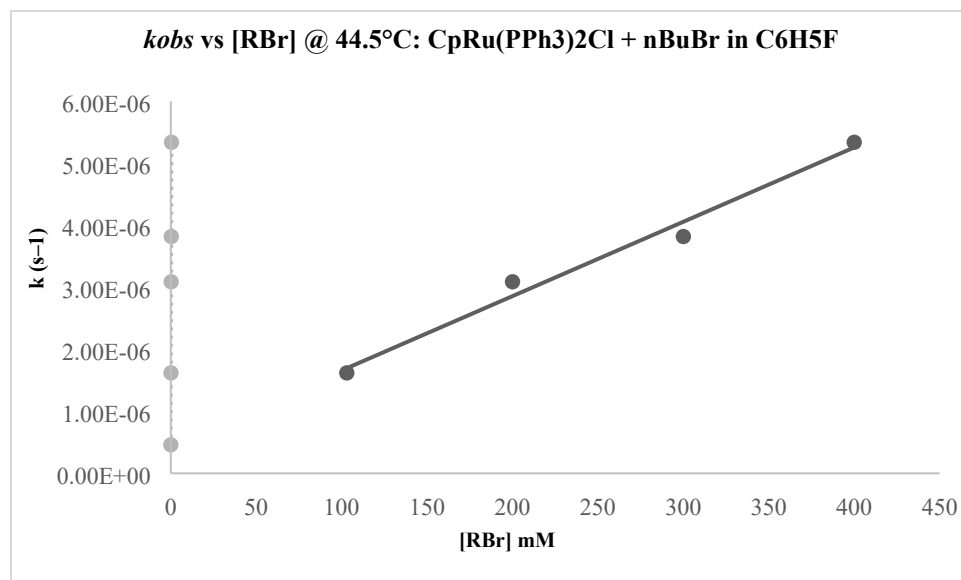
**Figure S4:** Plot of  $k_{obs}$  vs [DHA] for the reaction between  $\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Cl}$  and bromobutane at  $44.5^\circ\text{C}$  in fluorobenzene/10% benzene- $\text{d}^6$ . The values for  $k_{obs}$  in this plot reflect a single measurement at each concentration.



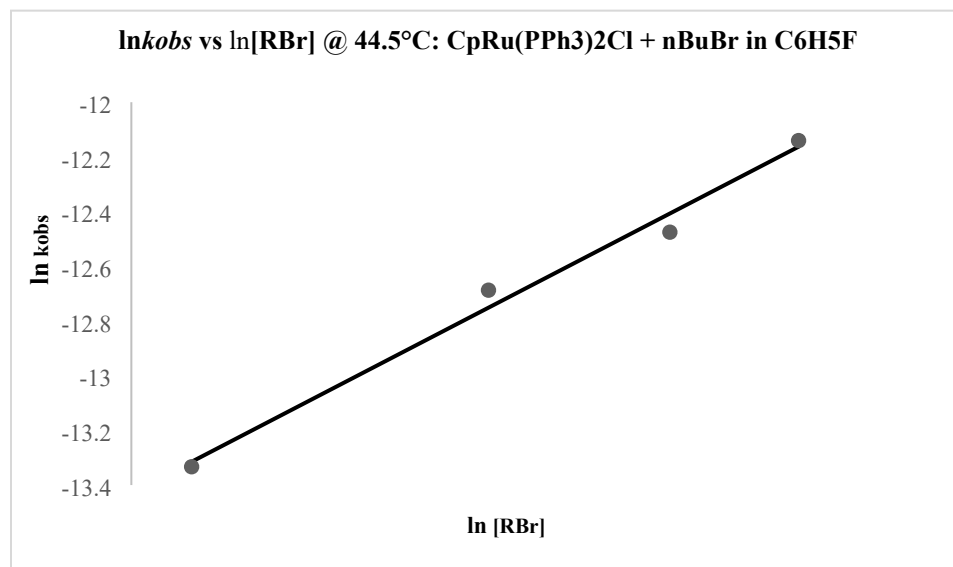
**Figure S5:** Plot of  $\ln[1a]$  vs time (s) for the reaction between  $\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Cl}$  and methyldiphenylphosphine at 40°C in fluorobenzene/10% benzene- $d^6$



**Figure S6:** Plot of  $\ln[1a]$  vs time (s) for the reaction between  $\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Cl}$  and bromide ion at 44.5°C in fluorobenzene/10% benzene- $d^6$



**Figure S7:** Plot of  $k_{\text{obs}}$  vs [nbutylbromide] for the reaction between CpRu(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl and bromobutane at 44.5°C in fluorobenzene/10% benzene-d<sup>6</sup>



**Figure S8:** Plot of ln*k*<sub>obs</sub> vs ln[nbutylbromide] for the reaction between CpRu(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl and bromobutane at 44.5°C in fluorobenzene/10% benzene-d<sup>6</sup>

**Table S3:** Calculate Free Energies ( $\Delta G$ , kJ/mol) for Intermediates in the Reaction:  
 $\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Cl} + \text{EtBr} \rightarrow \text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Br} + \text{EtCl}^{\text{a}}$

Reaction	Gas phase	$\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{F}$ solvated <sup>b</sup>
$\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Cl} + \text{EtBr} \rightarrow$ $\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{Cl}(\text{EtBr}) + \text{PPh}_3$	102.40	99.02
$\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{Cl}(\text{EtBr}) \rightarrow$ $\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{Cl}(\text{Br}) \cdot \cdot \text{Et}$	145.74	138.35
$\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{Cl}(\text{EtBr}) \rightarrow$ $\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{Cl}(\text{Br})(\text{Et})$	33.83	28.79
$\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{Cl}(\text{EtBr}) \rightarrow$ $\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{Br}(\text{EtCl})$	0.36	0.24
$\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{Br}(\text{EtCl}) + \text{PPh}_3 \rightarrow$ $\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Br} + \text{EtCl}$	-99.28	-95.61

<sup>a</sup> M06/def2-SVP <sup>b</sup> Gaussian PCM

**Table S4:** Calculated Energies ( $\Delta G$  kJ/mol,  $\Delta H$  kJ/mol) for Intermediates in the Reaction:  
 $\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Cl} + \text{EtBr} \rightarrow \text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Br} + \text{EtCl}^{\text{a}}$

Reaction	Gas Phase		$\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{F}$ solvated <sup>b</sup>	
	$\Delta G$	$\Delta H$	$\Delta G$	$\Delta H$
$\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Cl} + \text{EtBr} \rightarrow$ $\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{Cl}(\text{EtBr}) + \text{PPh}_3$	76.98	99.38	72.06	94.81
$\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{Cl}(\text{EtBr}) \rightarrow$ $\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{Cl}(\text{Br}) \cdot \cdot \text{Et}$	67.56	126.24	63.65	120.77
$\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{Cl}(\text{EtBr}) \rightarrow$ $\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{Cl}(\text{Br})(\text{Et})$	48.18	39.39	43.32	35.10
$\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{Cl}(\text{EtBr}) \rightarrow$ $\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{Br}(\text{EtCl})$	-3.96	-0.94	-2.73	0.70
$\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{Br}(\text{EtCl}) + \text{PPh}_3$ $\rightarrow \text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Br} + \text{EtCl}$	-78.67	-103.50	-74.09	-100.35

<sup>a</sup> M06/def2-TZVP <sup>b</sup> Gaussian PCM

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