Formic Acid Dehydrogenation by $[Ru(\eta^6-benzene)(L)Cl]$ catalysts: L = 2-methylquinolin-8-olate and quinolin-8-olate

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Supporting Information

Material and methods

Materials. All the chemicals used in this work were of reagent grade. The benzeneruthenium(II) chloride dimer was purchased from TCI chemicals; 8-Hydroxy-2-methyl quinoline and 8-hydroxy quinolone were purchased from Alfa Aesar and used without further purifications. The solvents like acetone, diethyl, petroleum, dichloromethane, methanol, and ethanol were purchased from Merck and dried before use. In all the experiments, Milli-Q- purified distilled water was used.

Optical Spectra. All the UV-Visible spectroscopic experiments and analyses were performed with an Agilent Cary 8454 photodiode array UV-Visible spectrophotometer.

NMR Spectroscopy and Mass Spectrometry. At room temperature, ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker Ultrashield spectrometer. High-resolution ESI mass spectrometry was recorded with Waters UPLC TQD and Bruker micrOTOF-Q II instruments.

X-ray crystallographic analysis. All the suitable single crystals of [Ru(η^6 -benzene) (L)Cl] were mounted on a Rigaku SuperNova G8910B EosS2 single-crystal X-ray diffractometer using Mo K α radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073$ Å). The crystal data were collected at 293(2) K. Using Olex2, the structure was solved with the olex2.solve structure solution program using Charge Flipping.

Gas chromatography analysis. The gas chromatography of the gas evolved during dehydrogenation reactions was recorded on the MICHRO-9100 gas chromatograph on Netel (India) Limited.



Figure S1. UV-Visible spectra of complex 1.



Figure S2. UV-Visible spectra of complex 2.



Figure S3. ¹H NMR of complex **1** in DMSO-d₆



Figure S4. ¹³C NMR of complex **1** in DMSO-d₆



Figure S5. ¹H NMR Spectra of the Complex 2 in DMSO-d₆



Figure S6. ¹³C NMR Spectra of Complex **2** in DMSO-*d*₆.







Figure S8. Mass Spectra of the Complex 2.



Figure S9. (a) Gas evolution by complex **1** with a variation of acid concentration in the presence of 1.0 mM of complex and 15 mmol of HCOONa at 70 °C in water. **(b)** Rate of gas evolution *vs.* acid in water.



Figure S10. (a) Rate of gas evolution by complex **1** *vs.* HCOONa in water. **(b)** Rate of gas evolution by complex **1** *vs.* temperature in water.



Figure S11. (a) Gas evolution by complex **1** with a variety of complex concentrations in the presence of 10 mmol of acid and 15 mmol of the HCOONa at 70 °C in water. **(b)** Rate of gas evolution *vs.* complex in water.



Figure S12. (a) Gas evolution by complex **2** with a variety of HCOONa concentrations in the presence of 10 mmol of acid and 1.0 mM of the complex at 70 °C in water. **(b)** Rate of gas evolution *vs.* HCOONa in water.



Figure S13. (a) Gas evolution by complex 2 with the temperature variation in the presence of 1.0 mM of complex, 15 mmol of the HCOONa, and 10 mmol of acid in water.(b) Rate of gas evolution *vs.* temperature in water.



| Result Table | | | | | | | |
|--------------|---|-----------|----------|-------|-------|--|--|
| | Reten. Time Area Height Area Height [min] [mV.s] [mV] [%] [%] | | | | | | |
| 1 | 0.211 | 29.362 | 2.271 | 0.2 | 0.1 | | |
| 2 | 0.681 | 6144.158 | 1036.200 | 35.8 | 60.8 | | |
| 3 | 2.143 | 8927.545 | 642.069 | 52.0 | 37.7 | | |
| 4 | 6.901 | 86.601 | 0.495 | 0.5 | 0.0 | | |
| 5 | 20.493 | 1990.351 | 23.591 | 11.6 | 1.4 | | |
| | Total | 17178.018 | 1704.626 | 100.0 | 100.0 | | |

Figure S14. Gas chromatography TCD file for the dehydrogenation using 1.0 mM complex **1 in the presence of** 10 mmol of formic acid and 15 mmol of sodium formate at 90 °C.



Figure S15. Gas chromatography FID file for the dehydrogenation using 1.0 mM complex **1** in the presence of 10 mmol of formic acid and 15 mmol of sodium formate at 90 °C.



| | Result Table | | | | | |
|---|----------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|--|
| | Reten. Time [min] | Area [mV.s] | Height [mV] | Area [%] | Height [%] | |
| 1 | 0.217 | 8.874 | 0.903 | 0.1 | 0.1 | |
| 2 | 0.604 | 3042.580 | 431.812 | 29.8 | 51.1 | |
| 3 | 2.207 | 6415.499 | 402.663 | 62.8 | 47.7 | |
| 4 | 22.124 | 742.375 | 9.021 | 7.3 | 1.1 | |
| | Total | 10209.329 | 844.399 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Figure S16. Gas chromatography TCD file for the dehydrogenation using 1.0 mM complex2 in the presence of 10 mmol of formic acid and 15 mmol of sodium formate at 90 °C.



Figure S17. Gas chromatography FID file for the dehydrogenation using 1.0 mM complex2 in the presence of 10 mmol of formic acid and 15 mmol of sodium formate at 90 °C.



Figure S18. (a) Arrhenius plot for complex 1. (b) Eyring plot for complex 1.



Figure S19. (a) Arrhenius plot for complex 2. (b) Eyring plot for complex 2.



Figure S20. Catalytic cycles for complex **1** with the iteration of 25 mmol of HCOONa in the presence of 1.0 mM complex and 20 mmol acid in deionized water at 70 °C



Figure S21. Catalytic cycles for complex **2** with the iteration of 25 mmol of HCOONa in the presence of 1.0 mM complex and 20 mmol acid in deionized water at 70 °C.



Figure S22. ESI-mass spectra of complex **1** with the addition of HCOOH and HCOONa; Calcd. for [Ru(η^6 -benzene)(2M8hq)OOCH]+ HCOONa] + H⁺ (m/z 452.005), Found (m/z = 451.9497).



Figure S23. ESI-mass spectra of complex **2** with the addition of HCOOH and HCOONa for Calcd. for $[Ru(\eta^6-benzene)(8hq)OOCH] + Na^+ (m/z 391.9841)$, Found (m/z = 391.9792).



Figure S24. ¹H NMR of complex **1 in the presence of** HCOOH and HCOONa after heating at 90 °C.



Figure S25. ¹H NMR of complex **2** in the presence of HCOOH and HCOONa after heating at 90 °C.



Figure S26. The presentation of the setup used for the dehydrogenation of formic acid.

Table S1. Crystal data and structure refinement for 1.

| Identification code | 2112742 |
|---|---|
| Empirical formula | C ₁₆ H ₁₄ NOClRu |
| Formula weight | 745.63 |
| Temperature/K | 293.2 |
| Crystal system | triclinic |
| Space group | P-1 |
| a/Å | 7.5620(7) |
| b/Å | 9.2366(8) |
| c/Å | 9.7047(8) |
| α/° | 91.151(7) |
| β/° | 91.017(7) |
| γ/° | 98.196(7) |
| Volume/Å ³ | 670.64(10) |
| Z | 1 |
| $\rho_{calc}g/cm^3$ | 1.8461 |
| µ/mm ⁻¹ | 1.361 |
| F(000) | 369.9 |
| Radiation | Μο Κα (λ = 0.71073) |
| 2Θ range for data collection/ ^c | 4.2 to 50 |
| Index ranges | $\textbf{-10} \leq h \leq 10, \textbf{-12} \leq k \leq 12, \textbf{-12} \leq l \leq 13$ |
| Reflections collected | 10363 |
| Independent reflections | 2331 [R_{int} = 0.0671, R_{sigma} = 0.0690] |
| Data/restraints/parameters | 2331/0/182 |
| Goodness-of-fit on F ² | 0.989 |
| Final R indexes [I>= 2σ (I)] | $R_1 = 0.0331$, $wR_2 = 0.0661$ |
| Final R indexes [all data] | $R_1 = 0.0404$, $wR_2 = 0.0680$ |

Table S2. Selected Bond Lengths for 1.

| | | 0 |
|------|------|-----------|
| Atom | Atom | Length/Å |
| Ru1 | N1 | 2.142(3) |
| Ru1 | 01 | 2.051(2) |
| Ru1 | C16 | 2.214(3) |
| Ru1 | C11 | 2.182(3) |
| Ru1 | C12 | 2.174(3) |
| Ru1 | C13 | 2.169(3) |
| Ru1 | C14 | 2.197(3) |
| Ru1 | C15 | 2.175(3) |
| Ru1 | Cl1 | 2.4180(9) |
| | | |

| Table S3. Se | elected Bond | Angles f | or 1. |
|--------------|--------------|----------|-------|
|--------------|--------------|----------|-------|

| Atom | Atom | Atom | Angle/° |
|------|------|------|------------|
| 01 | Ru1 | N1 | 79.54(10) |
| C16 | Ru1 | N1 | 113.60(13) |
| C16 | Ru1 | 01 | 165.34(12) |
| C11 | Ru1 | N1 | 146.99(13) |
| C11 | Ru1 | 01 | 131.80(13) |
| C11 | Ru1 | C16 | 37.35(14) |
| C12 | Ru1 | N1 | 172.15(11) |
| C12 | Ru1 | 01 | 98.39(12) |
| C12 | Ru1 | C16 | 67.70(14) |
| C12 | Ru1 | C11 | 37.59(13) |
| C13 | Ru1 | N1 | 133.98(12) |
| C13 | Ru1 | 01 | 85.92(12) |
| C13 | Ru1 | C16 | 80.17(14) |
| C13 | Ru1 | C11 | 68.17(14) |
| C13 | Ru1 | C12 | 38.17(13) |
| C14 | Ru1 | N1 | 104.78(12) |
| C14 | Ru1 | 01 | 103.45(12) |
| C14 | Ru1 | C16 | 67.82(13) |
| C14 | Ru1 | C11 | 80.33(13) |
| C14 | Ru1 | C12 | 68.20(14) |
| C14 | Ru1 | C13 | 37.40(14) |
| C15 | Ru1 | N1 | 96.20(12) |
| C15 | Ru1 | 01 | 138.99(12) |
| C15 | Ru1 | C16 | 37.39(12) |
| C15 | Ru1 | C11 | 67.59(13) |
| C15 | Ru1 | C12 | 80.34(14) |
| C15 | Ru1 | C13 | 67.78(14) |
| C15 | Ru1 | C14 | 37.75(13) |
| Cl1 | Ru1 | N1 | 83.42(7) |
| Cl1 | Ru1 | 01 | 87.21(7) |
| Cl1 | Ru1 | C16 | 100.34(9) |
| Cl1 | Ru1 | C11 | 87.65(9) |
| Cl1 | Ru1 | C12 | 104.10(10) |
| Cl1 | Ru1 | C13 | 139.47(11) |
| Cl1 | Ru1 | C14 | 167.46(9) |
| Cl1 | Ru1 | C15 | 133.19(10) |

Table S4. Crystal data and structure refinement for 2.

| Identification code | 2112741 |
|---|--|
| Empirical formula | C ₁₅ H ₁₄ ClNORu |
| Formula weight | 358.78 |
| Temperature/K | 293.15 |
| Crystal system | monoclinic |
| Space group | P2 ₁ /c |
| a/Å | 7.3837(9) |
| b/Å | 15.434(2) |
| c/Å | 12.6134(18) |
| α/° | 90 |
| β/° | 117.249(10) |
| γ/° | 90 |
| Volume/Å ³ | 1277.9(3) |
| Z | 4 |
| $\rho_{calc}g/cm^3$ | 1.8648 |
| μ/mm ⁻¹ | 1.424 |
| F(000) | 712.0 |
| Crystal size/mm ³ | $0.26 \times 0.23 \times 0.21$ |
| Radiation | Μο Κα (λ = 0.71073) |
| 2Θ range for data collection/ ^c | 94.048 to 50 |
| Index ranges | $-9 \leq h \leq 9, -20 \leq k \leq 18, -17 \leq l \leq 10$ |
| Reflections collected | 5778 |
| Independent reflections | 2257 [R_{int} = 0.0349, R_{sigma} = 0.0563] |
| Data/restraints/parameters | 2257/0/172 |
| Goodness-of-fit on F ² | 1.016 |
| Final R indexes [I>= 2σ (I)] | $R_1 = 0.0378$, $wR_2 = 0.0665$ |
| Final R indexes [all data] | $R_1 = 0.0544$, $wR_2 = 0.0723$ |
| Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å $^{-3}$ | 0.75/-0.63 |
| | |

Table S5. Selected Bond Lengths for 2.

| Atom | Atom | Length/Å |
|------|------|------------|
| Ru1 | Cl1 | 2.4281(11) |
| Ru1 | 01 | 2.048(3) |
| Ru1 | N1 | 2.097(4) |
| Ru1 | C13 | 2.168(5) |
| Ru1 | C15 | 2.140(6) |
| Ru1 | C12 | 2.183(5) |
| Ru1 | C11 | 2.175(5) |
| Ru1 | C10 | 2.155(6) |
| Ru1 | C14 | 2.175(5) |

| Atom | Atom | Atom | Angle |
|------|------|------|------------|
| 01 | Ru1 | Cl1 | 87.08(9) |
| N1 | Ru1 | Cl1 | 85.00(10) |
| N1 | Ru1 | 01 | 78.61(13) |
| C13 | Ru1 | Cl1 | 90.17(16) |
| C13 | Ru1 | 01 | 153.3(2) |
| C13 | Ru1 | N1 | 127.6(2) |
| C15 | Ru1 | Cl1 | 150.1(3) |
| C15 | Ru1 | 01 | 122.0(3) |
| C15 | Ru1 | N1 | 93.8(2) |
| C15 | Ru1 | C13 | 67.0(3) |
| C12 | Ru1 | Cl1 | 94.10(15) |
| C12 | Ru1 | 01 | 117.0(2) |
| C12 | Ru1 | N1 | 164.3(2) |
| C12 | Ru1 | C13 | 36.7(2) |
| C12 | Ru1 | C15 | 79.2(2) |
| C11 | Ru1 | Cl1 | 121.79(19) |
| C11 | Ru1 | 01 | 92.29(18) |
| C11 | Ru1 | N1 | 151.5(2) |
| C11 | Ru1 | C13 | 66.9(2) |
| C11 | Ru1 | C15 | 68.0(3) |
| C11 | Ru1 | C12 | 36.9(2) |
| C10 | Ru1 | Cl1 | 159.4(2) |
| C10 | Ru1 | 01 | 94.6(2) |
| C10 | Ru1 | N1 | 115.4(2) |
| C10 | Ru1 | C13 | 79.2(2) |
| C10 | Ru1 | C15 | 37.7(3) |
| C10 | Ru1 | C12 | 66.9(2) |
| C10 | Ru1 | C11 | 37.7(3) |
| C14 | Ru1 | Cl1 | 113.1(2) |
| C14 | Ru1 | 01 | 159.6(3) |
| C14 | Ru1 | N1 | 99.3(2) |
| C14 | Ru1 | C13 | 36.8(2) |
| C14 | Ru1 | C15 | 37.6(3) |
| C14 | Ru1 | C12 | 66.6(3) |
| C14 | Ru1 | C11 | 79.9(2) |
| C14 | Ru1 | C10 | 67.8(3) |

Table S6. Selected Bond Angles for 2.Atom Atom AtomAngle/°

| Temperature / | 1 | k | ln k | k k |
|---------------|----------------|--------|--------|------------------|
| [K] | \overline{T} | | | $lm \frac{T}{T}$ |
| 298 | 0.00336 | -3.699 | -9.408 | 298 |
| 313 | 0.00319 | -3.240 | -8.987 | 313 |
| 328 | 0.00305 | -2.852 | -8.650 | 328 |
| 343 | 0.00292 | -2.064 | -7.904 | 343 |

Table S7. The calculation for the Arrhenius plot and Eyring plot for 1.

Table S8. The calculation for the Arrhenius plot and Eyring plot for 2.

| Temperature / [K] | $\frac{1}{T}$ | k | ln k | $ln \frac{k}{T}$ |
|----------------------|---------------|---------|---------|------------------|
| 298 | 313 | 0.00319 | -3.461 | -9.2379 |
| 313 | 328 | 0.00304 | -2.9132 | -8.9380 |
| 328 | 343 | 0.00291 | -2.2990 | -8.8724 |
| 343 | 358 | 0.00279 | -2.0768 | -8.7384 |