

Cooperative B-H bond activation: Dual sites borane activation by redox active $\kappa^2\text{-N,S}$ -chelated complexes

Mohammad Zafar,^{†a} Asif Ahmad,^{†a} Suvam Saha,^a Rongala Ramalakshmi,^a Thierry Roisnel^b and Sundargopal Ghosh*^a

^a*Department of Chemistry, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai 600036, India. Tel: +91 44- 22574230; Fax: +91 44-22574202; E-mail: sghosh@iitm.ac.in*

^b*Université de Rennes, CNRS, Institut des Sciences Chimiques de Rennes, UMR 6226, F-35000 Rennes, France*

[†] *These authors contributed equally to this work*

Table of Contents

I Experimental Details

I.1 Synthesis and Characterizations

I.2 Spectroscopic Details

- Figure S1 Mass spectral isotopic distribution for the fragment of *mer-2a*.
Figure S2 Mass spectral isotopic distribution for the fragment of *mer-2b*.
Figure S3 Mass spectral isotopic distribution for the fragment of *fac-3a*.
Figure S4 Mass spectral isotopic distribution for the fragment of *fac-3b*.
Figure S5 Mass spectral isotopic distribution for the fragment of *fac-3c*.
Figure S6 Combined mass spectral isotopic distribution for the fragment of *trans-4* and *cis-4*.
Figure S7 EPR spectrum of *mer-2b*.
Figure S8 Cyclic voltammetry of *trans-mer-1a*, *mer-2a*, *fac-3a*, *trans-mer-1b*, *mer-2b* and *fac-3b*.
Figure S9 Comparison of UV-Vis/NIR spectra of *mer-2a-b* and *trans-mer-1a-b* in dichloromethane.
Figure S10 Combined ^1H and $^1\text{H}\{^{11}\text{B}\}$ NMR spectrum of *trans-mer-1b*.
Figure S11 ^1H NMR spectrum of *fac-3a*.
Figure S12 Combined ^1H and $^1\text{H}\{^{11}\text{B}\}$ NMR spectrum of *fac-3a*.
Figure S13 $^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of *fac-3a*.
Figure S14 $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of *fac-3a*.
Figure S15 $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of *fac-3a*.
Figure S16 ^1H NMR spectrum of *fac-3b*.
Figure S17 Combined ^1H and $^1\text{H}\{^{11}\text{B}\}$ NMR spectrum of *fac-3b*.
Figure S18 $^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of *fac-3b*.
Figure S19 $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of *fac-3b*.
Figure S20 $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of *fac-3b*.
Figure S21 ^1H NMR spectrum of *fac-3c*.
Figure S22 Combined ^1H and $^1\text{H}\{^{11}\text{B}\}$ NMR spectrum of *fac-3c*.
Figure S23 $^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of *fac-3c*.
Figure S24 $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of *fac-3c*.
Figure S25 $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of *fac-3c*.
Figure S26 Combined ^1H NMR spectrum of *trans-4* and *cis-4*.
Figure S27 Combined $^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of *trans-4* and *cis-4*.
Figure S28 Combined $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of *trans-4* and *cis-4*.
Figure S29 $\pi-\pi$ stacking of mercaptobenzothiazolyl rings in *mer-2a*.
Figure S30 UV-Vis absorption spectra of *trans-mer-1a-b*, *mer-2a-b* and *fac-3a-b* in dichloromethane.
Figure S31 Cyclic voltammetry (CV) curve of complex *mer-2a* at different scan rates.
Figure S32 Plot of cathodic and anodic peak current vs square root of scan rate for the first redox reversible wave couple of complex *mer-2a*.
Figure S33 Plot of cathodic and anodic peak current vs square root of scan rate for the third quasi-reversible wave couple of complex *mer-2a*.
Figure S34 CV of mercaptobenzothiazole.
Figure S35 CV of dihydrobis(2-mercaptobenzothiazolyl) borate.

I.3 X-ray Analysis Details

II. Computational Details

- Table S1 Selected geometrical parameters and Wiberg bond indices (WBI) of *mer-2a-b*, *fac-3a-b*, *trans-4* and *cis-4*.
Table S2 Calculated natural charges (q), natural valence population (Pop) and HOMO – LUMO gaps of *mer-2a-b*, *fac-3a-b*, *trans-4* and *cis-4*.

Table S3	Experimentally observed and calculated ^{11}B chemical shifts of <i>fac-3a-b</i> , <i>trans-4</i> and <i>cis-4</i> .
Table S4	Topological parameters at selected bond critical points (BCPs) in <i>mer-2a-b</i> , <i>fac-3a-b</i> , <i>trans-4</i> and <i>cis-4</i> .
Table S5	Electronic transition configurations for <i>mer-2a-b</i> by TD-DFT calculations.
Figure S36	Calculated UV-Vis absorption spectra of <i>mer-2a</i> at CAM-B3LYP/LANL2DZ/6-31G(d,p) level.
Figure S37	Calculated UV-Vis absorption spectra of <i>mer-2b</i> at CAM-B3LYP/LANL2DZ/6-31G(d,p) level.
Figure S38	Natural bond orbital interaction between B-S bond (a,b) and B-H-Ru (c,d) in <i>fac-3b</i> (isovalue ± 0.04 [e/bohr $^{31/2}$]); (e) Contour-line map of the Laplacian of the electron density in the Ru-H-B plane of <i>fac-3b</i> .
Figure S39	HOMO of oxidised form of <i>mer-2a</i> (a) and HOMO of oxidised form of <i>mer-2a</i> (b).
Figure S40	Optimized geometry of <i>mer-2a</i> .
Figure S41	Optimized geometry of <i>mer-2b</i> .
Figure S42	Optimized geometry of <i>fac-3a</i> .
Figure S43	Optimized geometry of <i>fac-3b</i> .
Figure S44	Optimized geometry of <i>trans-4</i> .
Figure S45	Optimized geometry of <i>cis-4</i> .

III References

I Experimental Details

General procedure and instrumentations

All manipulations were conducted by using standard Schlenk line and glove box techniques under an atmosphere of dry argon. Solvents such as toluene, hexane and THF were distilled through Na/benzo-phenoneketyl and dichloromethane was dried over calcium hydride prior to use under argon. Chloroform-d was degassed by three freeze-thaw cycles, dried over calcium hydride for 12 h, and stored over 4 Å molecular sieves in a Young's ampoule under argon. Compounds $[(\kappa^2-N,S-(C_7H_4NS_2)R_3PRu\{\kappa^3-H,S,S'-H_2B-(C_7H_4NS_2)_2\}]$ ($R = Cy, Ph$),¹ mesityl borane,² were synthesized according to the literature procedures.¹⁻² and other chemicals such as BH_3SMe_2 , BH_3 .THF, HBPin, catecholborane, 9-Borabicyclo[3.3.1]nonane solution (9-BBN) were obtained commercially (Sigma Aldrich) and used as received. The external reference for the ^{11}B NMR spectroscopy, $[Bu_4N][B_3H_8]$ was synthesized according to the literature method.³ The 1H , $^{11}B\{^1H\}$, $^{13}C\{^1H\}$, and $^{31}P\{^1H\}$ NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker 400 and 500 MHz instruments. The residual solvent protons were used as reference (δ , ppm, benzene- d_6 , 7.16, $CDCl_3$, 7.26, Toluene- d_8 , 7.09 ppm), while a sealed tube containing $[Bu_4N][B_3H_8]$ in benzene- d_6 (δ_B , ppm, -30.07) was used as an external reference for $^{11}B\{^1H\}$ NMR spectra. 1H decoupled $^{11}B\{^1H\}$ spectra of all compounds were processed with a backward linear prediction algorithm to remove the broad $^{11}B\{^1H\}$ background signal of the NMR tube.⁴ The preparative TLC was performed with Merck 105554 TLC silica gel 60 F254 and thickness of layer 250 µm on aluminum sheets with 20x20 cm size. Mass spectra were carried out using Qtof Micro YA263 HRMS instrument and Bruker MicroTOF-II mass spectrometer in ESI ionization mode. UV-vis absorption spectra were gained from Jasco V-650 spectrometer. Infrared spectra were obtained on a Jasco FT/IR-1400 spectrometer.

I.1 Synthesis and Characterizations

Syntheses of *mer*-2a** and **2b**:** In a flame-dried NMR tube *trans-mer*- $[(\kappa^2-N,S-(C_7H_4NS_2)Cy_3PRu\{\kappa^3-H,S,S'-H_2B-(C_7H_4NS_2)_2\}]$, **1a** (30 mg, 34 µmol) in 1.5 mL choloroform-*d* solvent and the solution kept in open air at room temperature. After 2 days standing at room temperature dark green solution was formed. The volatile components were removed under vacuum and remaining residue was extracted into CH_2Cl_2 /hexane and passed through celite. After removal of the solvent, the residue was subjected to chromatographic work-up by using TLC plates. Elution with a *n*-hexane/ CH_2Cl_2 (70:30 v/v) yielded green solid *mer*-**2a** (18 mg, 62%).

Under similar reactions conditions, reaction of *trans-mer*- $[(\kappa^2-N,S-(C_7H_4NS_2)-PPPh_3PRu\{\kappa^3-H,S,S'-H_2B-(C_7H_4NS_2)_2\}]$, **1b** (30 mg, 33 µmol) yielded green solid *mer*-**2b** (16mg, 55%).

mer-**2a**: MS (ESI $^+$): m/z calculated for $[C_{39}H_{45}N_3PRuS_6 + H]^+$: 881.0797, found 881.0789.

mer-**2b**: MS (ESI $^+$): m/z calculated for $[C_{39}H_{27}N_3PRuS_5 + H]^+$: 862.9388, found 862.9324.

Syntheses of *fac*-3a** and **3b**:** In a flame-dried Schlenk tube, *mer*- $[(\kappa^2-N,S-(C_7H_4NS_2)_2Cy_3PRu\{\kappa^1-S-(C_7H_4NS_2)\}]$, **2a** (30 mg, 34 µmol) in 5 mL dry toluene was treated with excess BH_3 .THF at room temperature. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir at room temprerature for 1h. The volatile components were removed under vacuum and the remaining residue was extracted into CH_2Cl_2 /hexane and passed through Celite. After removal of the solvent, the residue was subjected to chromatographic work-up by using TLC plates. Elution with a *n*-hexane/ CH_2Cl_2 (80:20 v/v) mixture yielded yellow solid *fac*-**3a** (10 mg, 38%).

Under similar reactions conditions, reaction of *mer*- $[(\kappa^2-N,S-(C_7H_4NS_2)_2-PPPh_3PRu\{\kappa^1-S-(C_7H_4NS_2)\}]$, **2b** (30 mg, 34 µmol) with excess BH_3 .THF yielded yellow solid *fac*-**3b** (11 mg, 42%).

fac-**3a**: MS (ESI $^+$): m/z calculated for $[C_{32}H_{45}B_2N_2PRuS_5]^+$: 772.1167, found 772.1165; $^{11}B\{^1H\}$ NMR (160 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 22 °C): δ -11.5 ppm (br, B); 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 22 °C): δ 7.87 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2H, $Ar_{(mbz)}$), 7.44 (t, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 4H, $Ar_{(mbz)}$), 7.37 (dd, $J = 10.4, 8.0$ Hz, 6H, Ar), 7.33 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2H, $Ar_{(mbz)}$), 7.29 (t, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 8H, Ar), 7.26 (d, $J = 2.7$ Hz, 1H, Ar), 2.97 (d, 2H, $B-H_t$), 1.85-1.64 (m, 33H), -14.34 ppm (br, 2H, Ru-H-B); $^{13}C\{^1H\}$ NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 22 °C): δ 26.7- 36.7 (Cy), 116.0-133.6 (Ph), 144.6 (C-N), 193.7 (C=S) ppm; $^{31}P\{^1H\}$ NMR (202 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 22 °C): δ 71.0 ppm; IR (CH_2Cl_2): $\tilde{\nu} = 2443$ (B-H_t), 1961 cm⁻¹ (B-H_b).

fac-**3b**: MS (ESI $^+$): m/z calculated for $[C_{32}H_{27}B_2N_2PRuS_5 + Na]^+$: 776.9660, found 776.9636; $^{11}B\{^1H\}$ NMR (160 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 22 °C): δ -10.1 ppm (br, B); 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 22 °C): δ 7.87 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H, $Ar_{(mbz)}$), 7.43 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H, $Ar_{(mbz)}$), 7.26 (d, $J = 2.9$ Hz, 3H, $Ar_{(mbz)}$), 3.01 (d, 2H, $B-H_t$), -13.24 ppm (br, 1H, Ru-H-B); $^{13}C\{^1H\}$ NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 22 °C): δ 116.0-137.4 (Ph) 144.4 (C-N) 194.0 (C=S) ppm; $^{31}P\{^1H\}$ NMR (202 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 22 °C): δ 60.9 ppm; IR (CH_2Cl_2): $\tilde{\nu} = 2403$ (B-H_t), 1991 cm⁻¹ (B-H_b).

Syntheses of *fac*-3c**:** In a flame-dried Schlenk tube, *cis-fac*- $[(\kappa^2-N,S-(C_5H_4NS)Ph_3PRu\{\kappa^3-H,S,S'-H_2B-(C_5H_4NS_2)_2\}]$, *cis-fac*-**1a** (50 mg, 70 µmol) in 10 mL dry toluene was treated with excess BH_3 .THF at room temperature. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir at room temprerature for 2h. The volatile components were removed under vacuum and the remaining residue was extracted into CH_2Cl_2 /hexane and passed through Celite. After removal of the solvent, the residue was subjected to chromatographic work-up by using TLC plates. Elution with a *n*-hexane/ CH_2Cl_2 (75:25 v/v) mixture yielded yellow solid *fac*-**3c** (18 mg, 39%).

fac-3c: MS (ESI⁺): *m/z* calculated for [C₂₈H₂₇B₂N₂PRuS₃]⁺: 642.0321, found 642.0321; ¹¹B{¹H} NMR (160 MHz, CDCl₃, 22 °C): δ -3.8 ppm (br, B); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 22 °C): δ 8.03 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 2H Ar_(mp)), 7.46 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H Ar_(mp)), 7.42 – 7.20 (m, 15H Ph), 7.09 (s, 2H, Ar_(mp)), 6.67 (s, 2H Ar_(mp)), 2.80 (d, J_{H-H} = 13.1 Hz, 2H, B-H_t), -12.27 ppm (m, 2H, Ru-H-B); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃, 22 °C): δ 114.4-128.0 (Ar_(mp)), 129.3-133.4 (Ph), 137.6-138.1 (C-S), 145.1 (C-N), 179.7 (C=S) ppm; ³¹P{¹H} NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃, 22 °C): δ 60.8 ppm; IR (CH₂Cl₂): ν = 2443 (B-H_t), 1961 cm⁻¹ (B-H_b).

Syntheses of *trans*-4 and *cis*-4: In the glovebox, mesitylborane (11 mg, 87 µmol) was added to a solution of [(κ²-N,S-(C₇H₄NS₂)₂PPh₃Ru{κ¹-S-(C₇H₄NS₂)²}], **2b** (30 mg, 34 µmol) in dry toluene (5mL). The reaction mixture was allowed to stir at 90 °C temperature for 12 h. The volatile components were removed under vacuum and red colour was washed with 4 × 5 mL of hexane to give inseparable yellow solid mixture of *trans* and *cis* isomers of compound **4** (16 mg, 45%). We report the combined spectroscopic data for *trans*-4 and *cis*-4.

Combined spectroscopic data for *trans*-4 and *cis*-4: MS (ESI⁺): *m/z* calculated for [C₃₂H₃₄B₂N₂RuS₄]⁺: 698.0849, found 698.0799; ¹¹B{¹H} NMR (160 MHz, Toluene-*d*₈, 22 °C): δ 39.4 ppm (br, B) for *trans*-4 and 31.2 ppm (br, B) for *cis*-4; ¹H{¹¹B} NMR (500 MHz, Benzene-*d*₆, 22 °C): δ -11.42 (br, 4H, Ru-H-B) for *trans*-4 and -10.41 (br, 2H, Ru-H-B), -10.01 (br, 2H, Ru-H-B) for *cis*-4, 2.47 (s, 6H, CH₃(Mes)), 2.31 (s, 3H, CH₃(Mes)) mesityl proton for *trans*-4 and 2.35 (s, 3H, CH₃(Mes)), 2.31 (s, 3H, CH₃(Mes)), 2.27 (s, 3H, CH₃(Mes)) mesityl proton for *cis*-4, [7.69-6.53 ppm (all the mesityl and mercaptobenzothaizolyl aromatic proton) for *trans*-4 and *cis*-4]; ¹³C{¹H} NMR (125 MHz, Toluene-*d*₈, 22 °C): δ 22.7 (CH₃^{ortho}, Mes), 20.4 (CH₃^{para}, Mes) for *trans*-4 and 22.5 (CH₃^{ortho}, Mes), 22.3 (CH₃^{ortho}, Mes), 20.2 (CH₃^{para}, Mes) for *cis*-4, [140.8-114.7 ppm (all the mesityl and mercaptobenzothaizolyl aromatic carbon for *trans*-4 and *cis*-4] 143.4-144.3 (C-N), 193.6-195.8 (C=S) *trans*-4 and *cis*-4; IR (CH₂Cl₂): ν = 1945 cm⁻¹ (B-H_b) for *trans*-4 and 1941 cm⁻¹ (B-H_b) for *cis*-4.

I.2 Spectroscopic Details

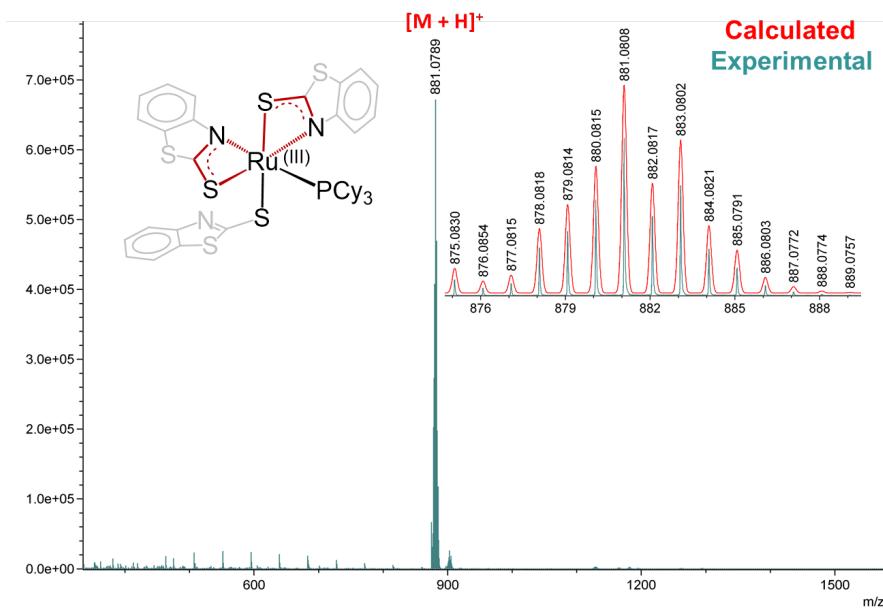


Figure S1. Calculated (red) and experimental (green) mass spectral isotopic distribution for the fragment of *mer*-2a.

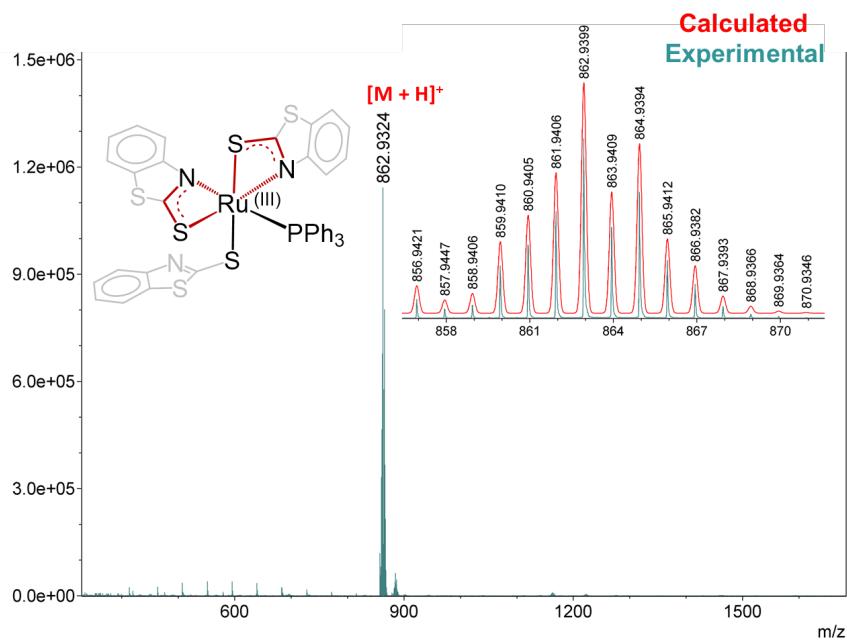


Figure S2. Calculated (red) and experimental (green) mass spectral isotopic distribution for the fragment of *mer*-2b.

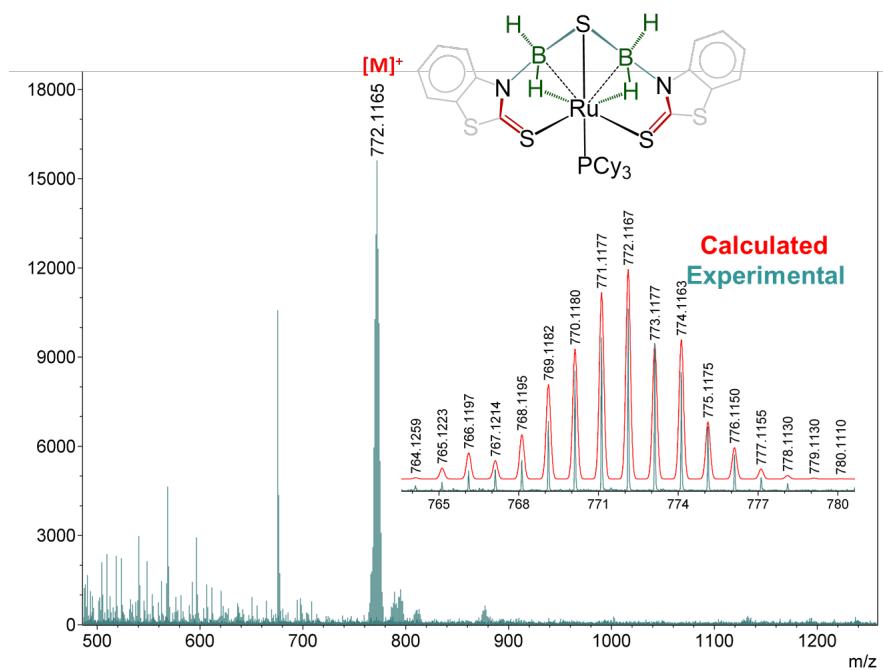


Figure S3. Calculated (red) and experimental (green) mass spectral isotopic distribution for the fragment of *fac*-3a.

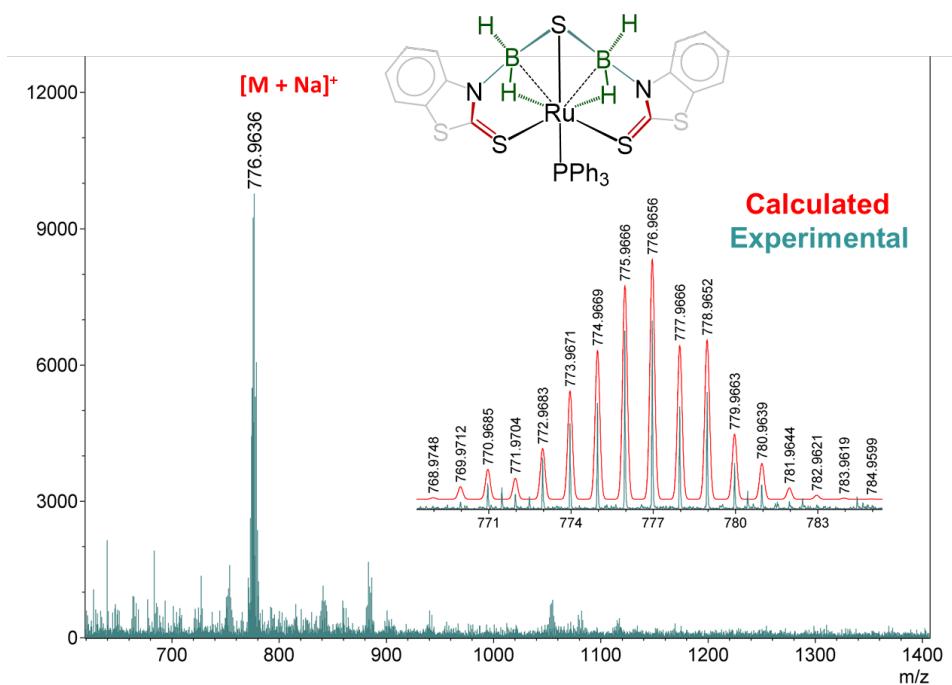


Figure S4. Calculated (red) and experimental (green) mass spectral isotopic distribution for the fragment of *fac*-3b.

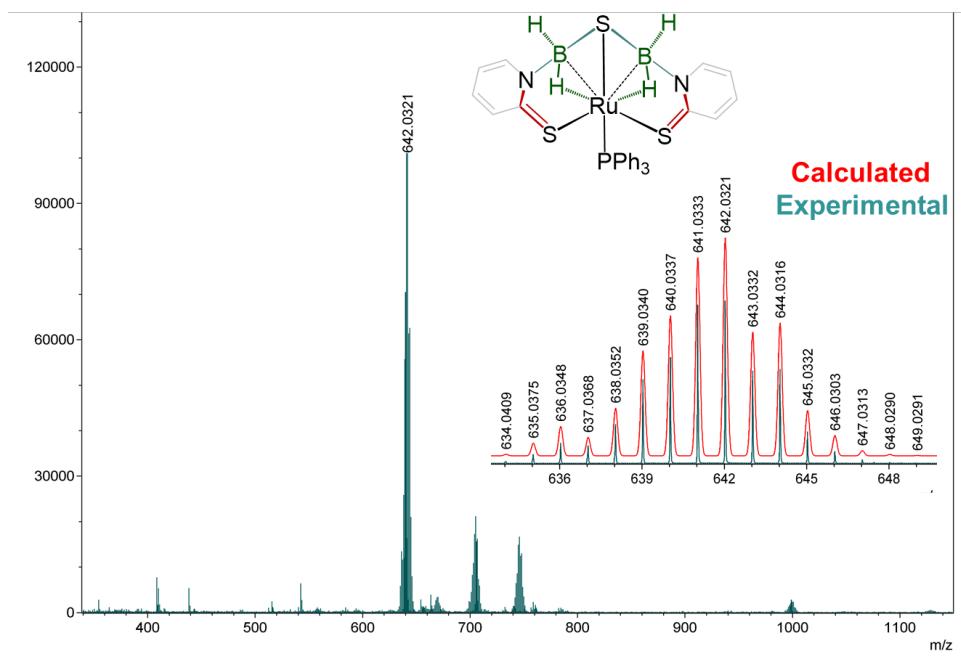


Figure S5. Calculated (red) and experimental (green) mass spectral isotopic distribution for the fragment of *fac*-3c.

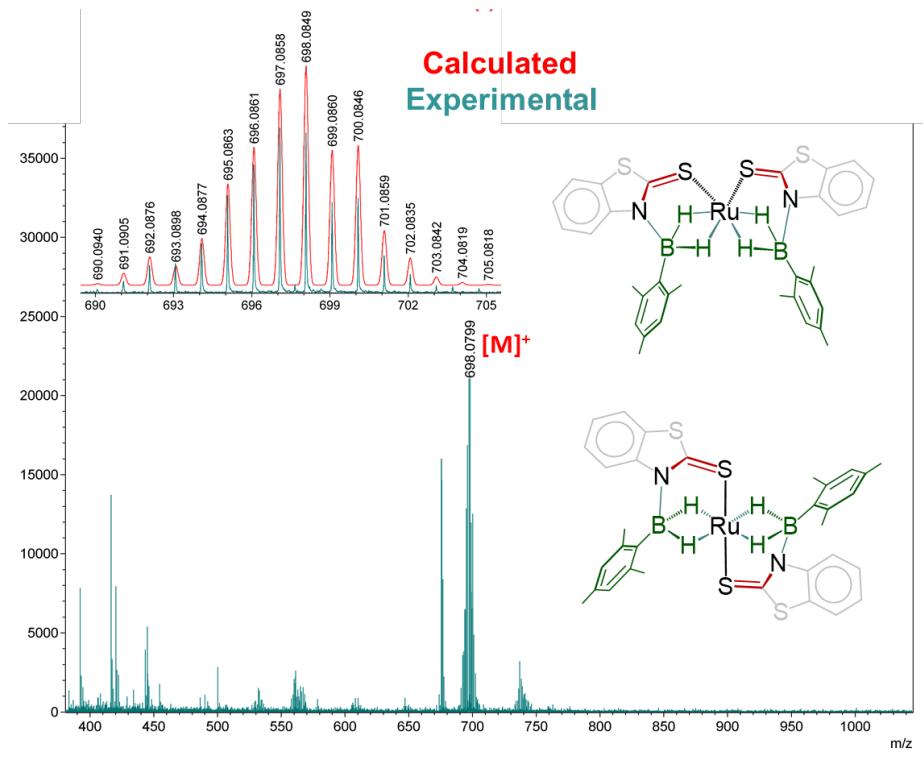


Figure S6. Combined calculated (red) and experimental (green) mass spectral isotopic distribution for the fragment of *trans*-4 and *cis*-4.

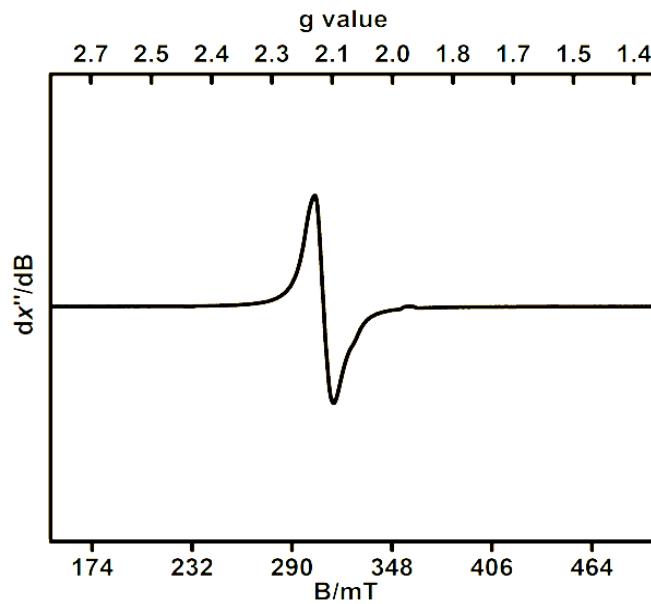


Figure S7. EPR spectrum of *mer*-2b.

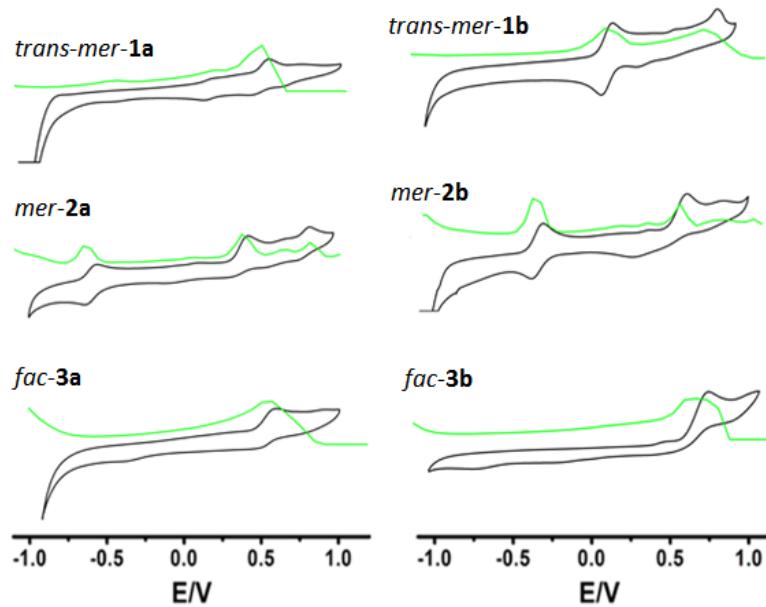


Figure S8. Cyclic voltammetry of *trans-mer*-1a, *mer*-2a and *fac*-3a (left), *trans-mer*-1b, *mer*-2b and *fac*-3b (right) collected at 100 mv/s as well as their differential pulse voltammetry (green). All CV data were collected in CH₃CN with 0.1 M (nBu₄N)PF₆ using a glassy carbon working electrode, Pt wire counter electrode, and Ag/AgCl-reference electrode.

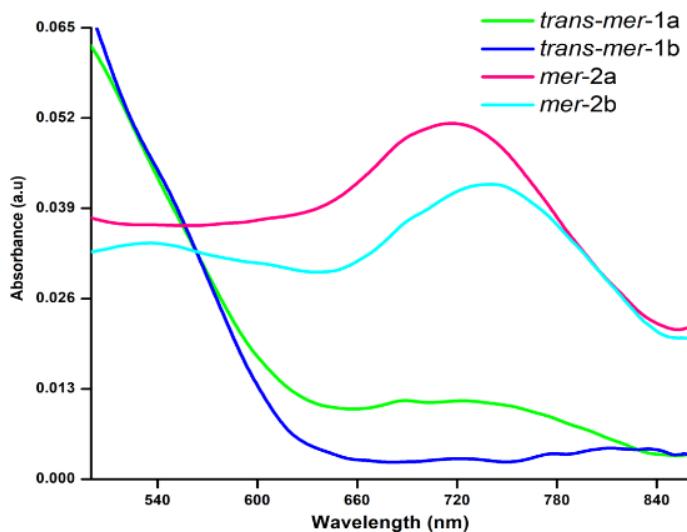


Figure S9. Comparison of UV-Vis/NIR spectra of *mer-2a-b* and *trans-mer-1a-b* in dichloromethane.

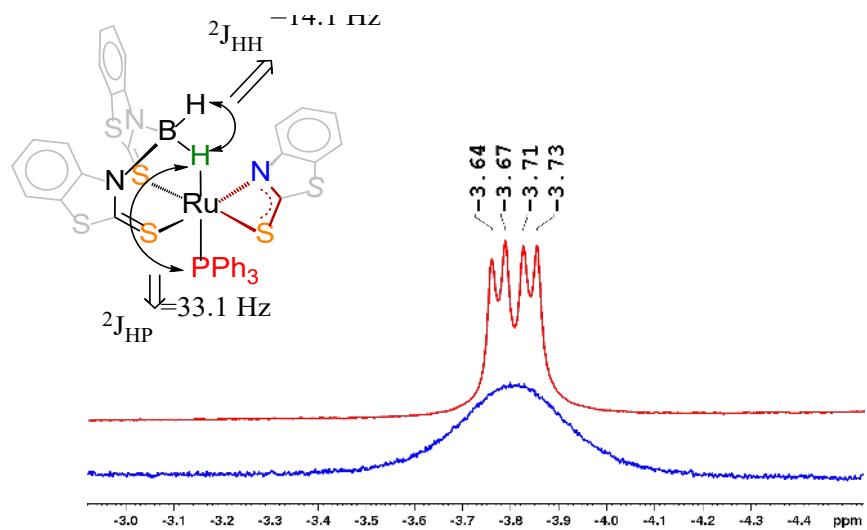


Figure S10. Combined ^1H NMR and $^1\text{H}\{^{11}\text{B}\}$ NMR spectra of complex *trans-mer-1b* in CDCl_3 (500 MHz).

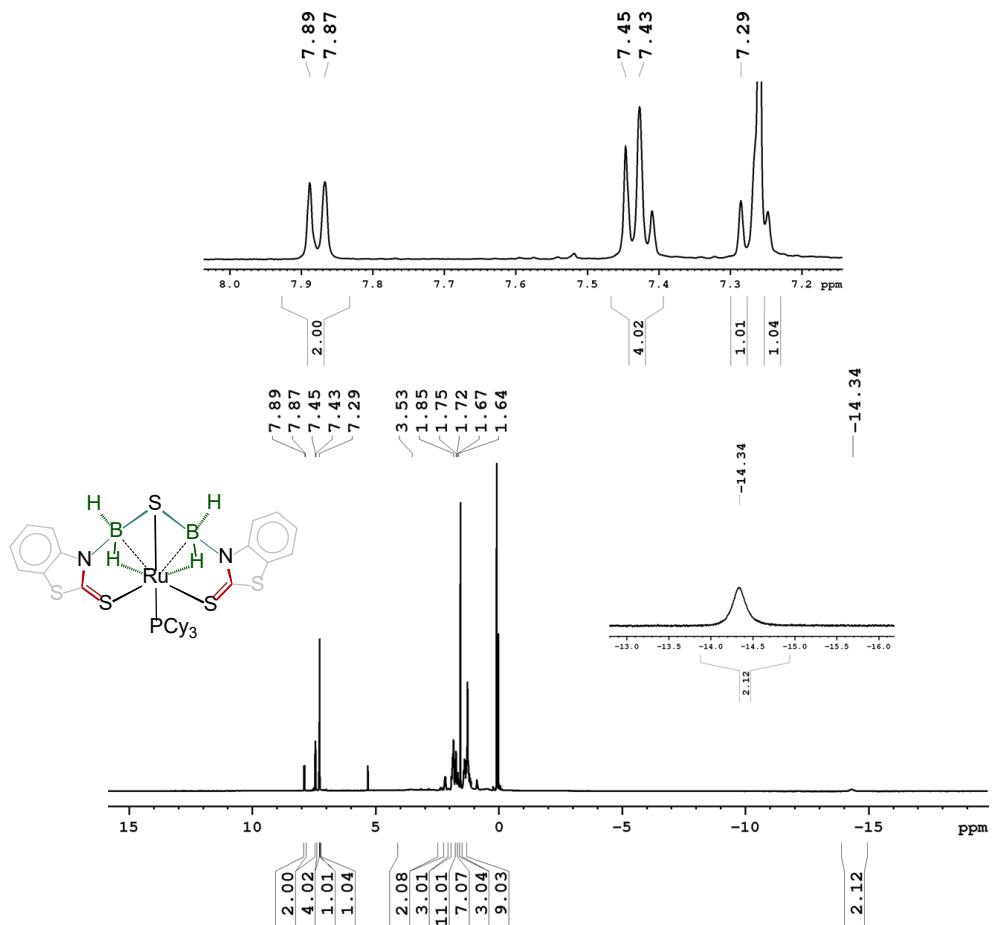


Figure S11. ^1H NMR spectrum of the complex **fac-3a** in CDCl_3 (500 MHz).

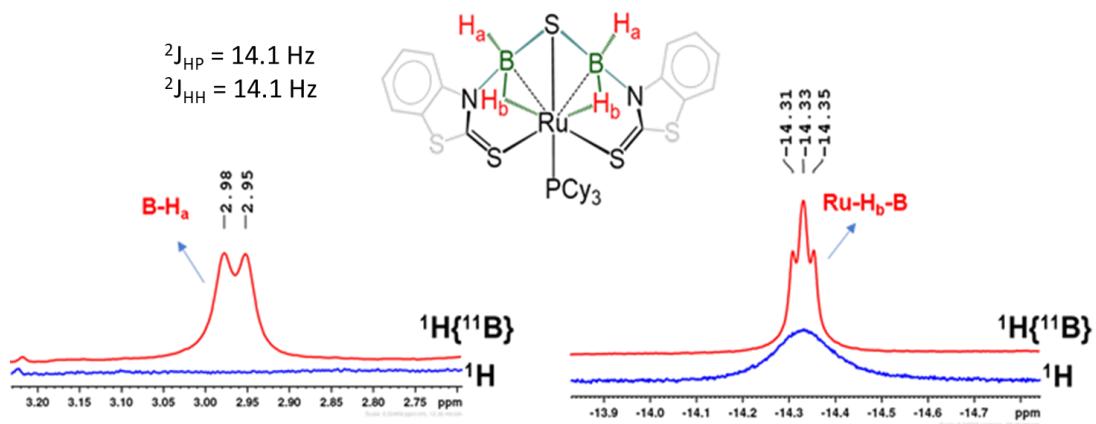


Figure S12. Combined ^1H NMR and $^1\text{H}\{^{11}\text{B}\}$ NMR spectra of complex **fac-3a** in CDCl_3 (500 MHz).

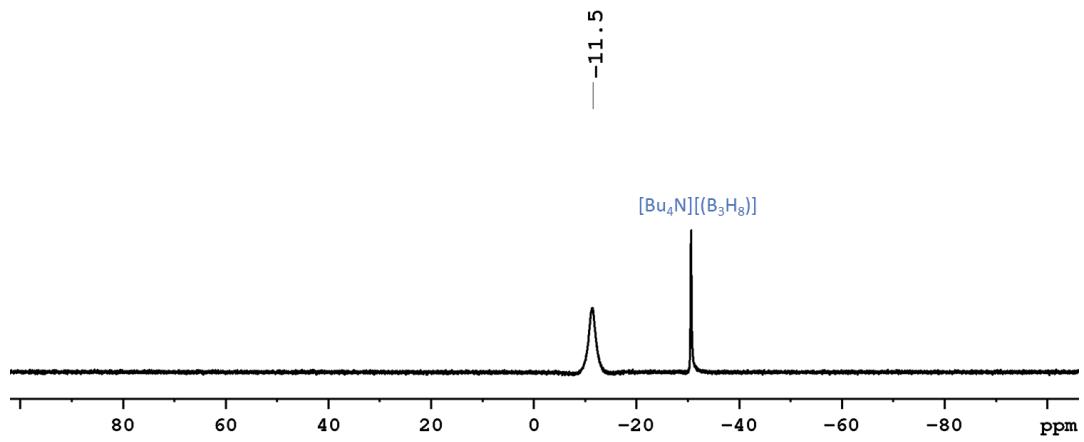


Figure S13. $^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of the complex *fac*-3a in CDCl_3 (160 MHz).

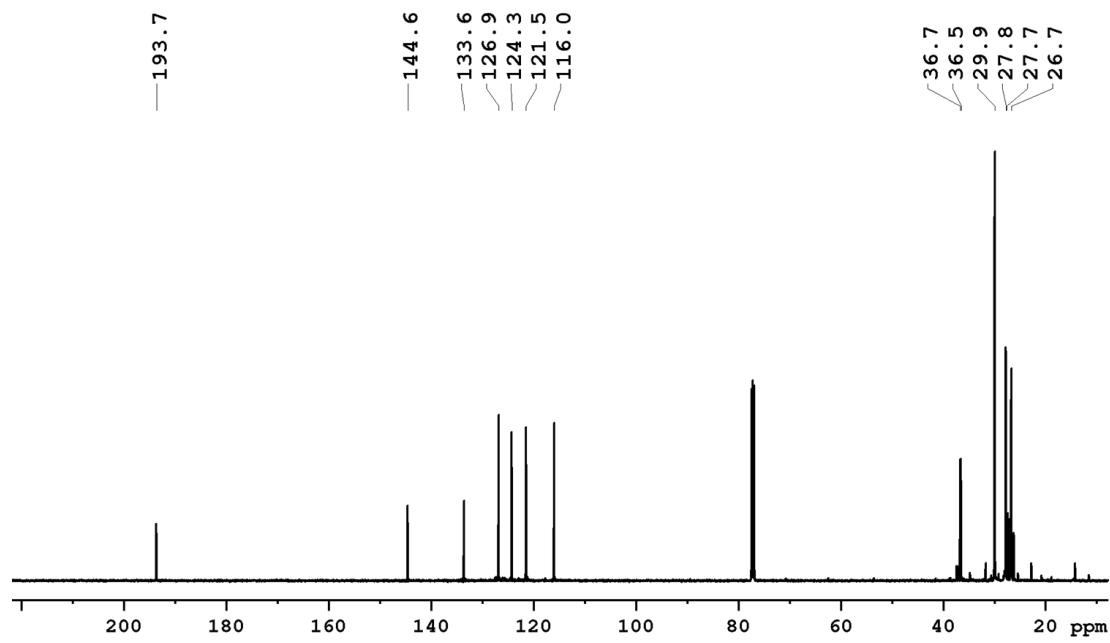


Figure S14. $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of the complex *fac*-3a in CDCl_3 (125 MHz). (=solvent and grease impurities).

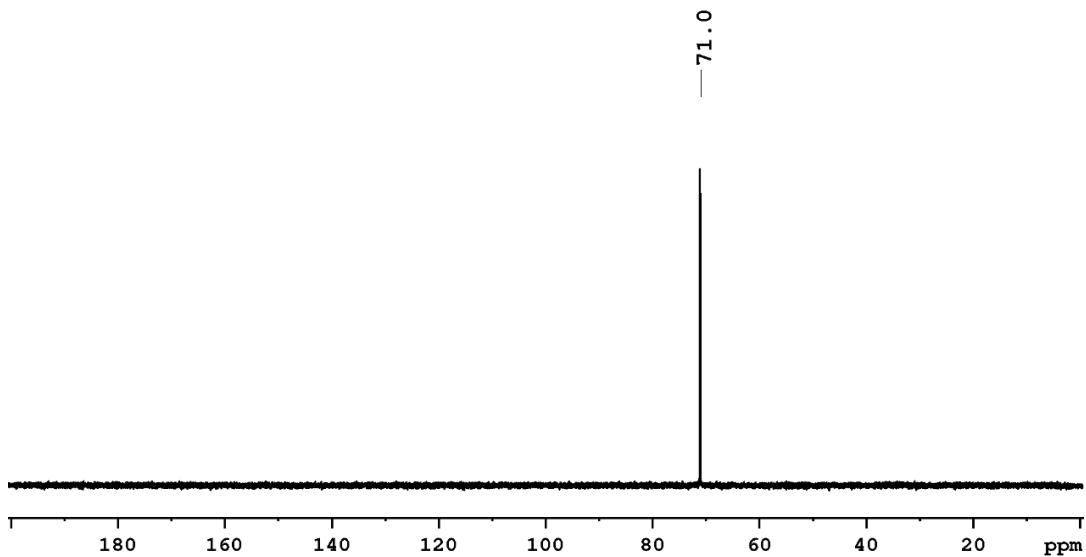


Figure S15. $^{31}\text{P}\{\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of the complex *fac*-3a in CDCl_3 (202 MHz).

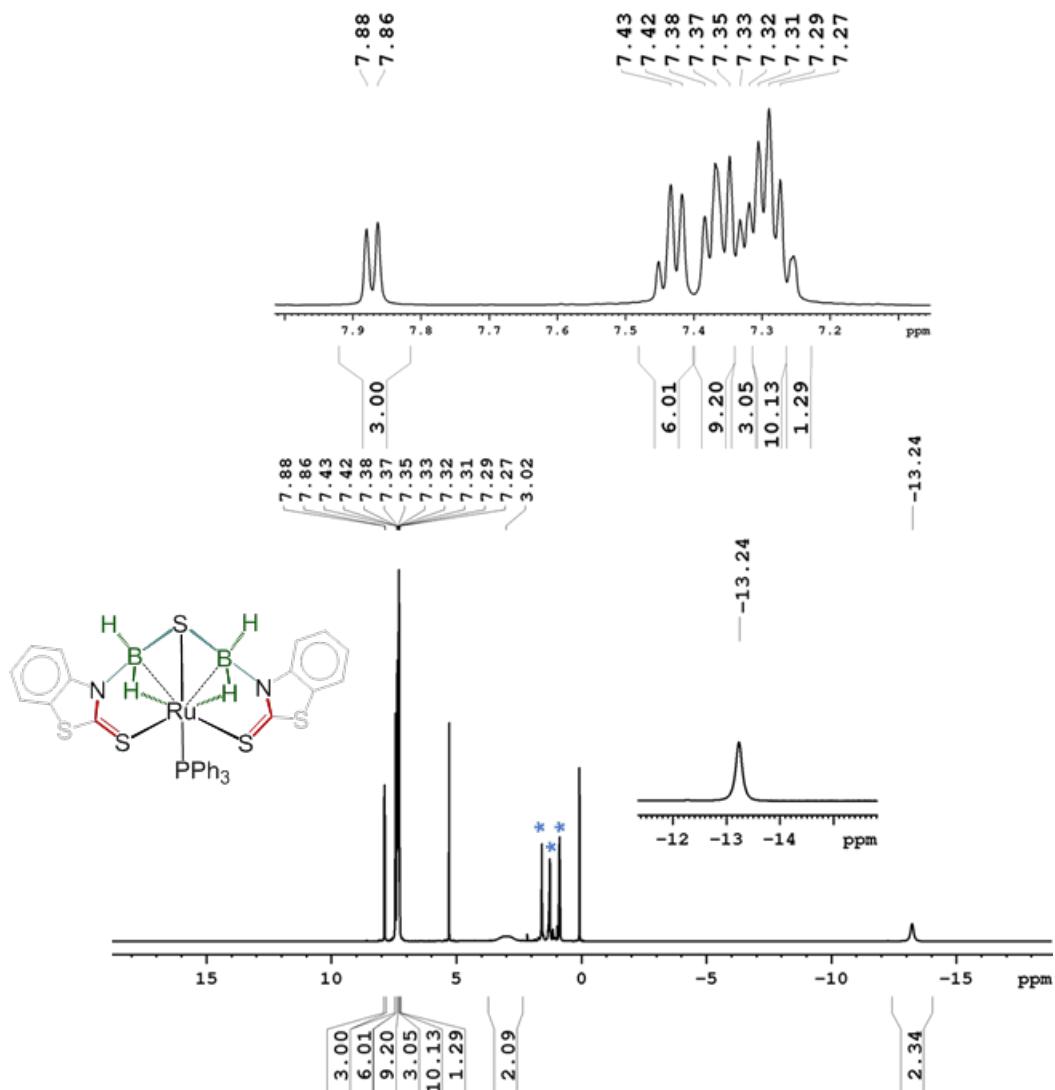


Figure S16. ^1H NMR spectrum of the complex *fac*-3b in CDCl_3 (500 MHz) (-.=solvent and grease impurities).

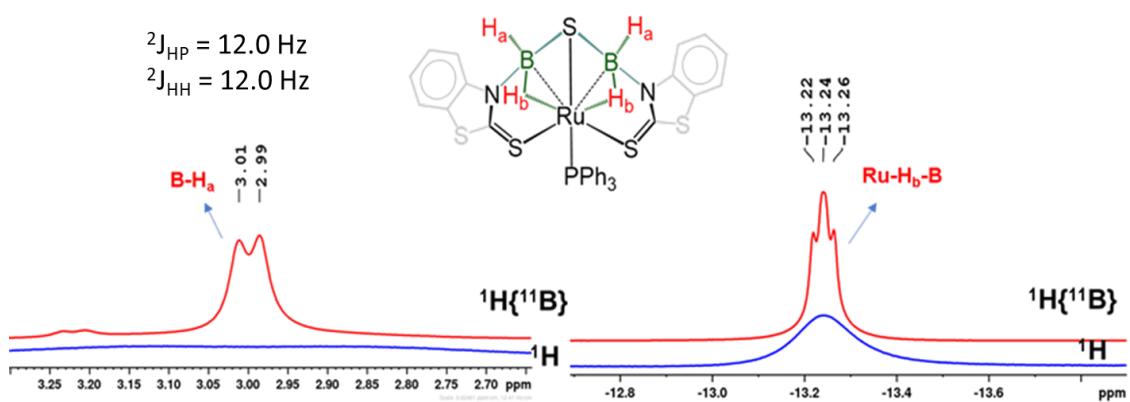


Figure S17. Combined ^1H NMR and $^1\text{H}\{^{11}\text{B}\}$ NMR spectra of complex *fac*-3b in CDCl_3 (500 MHz).

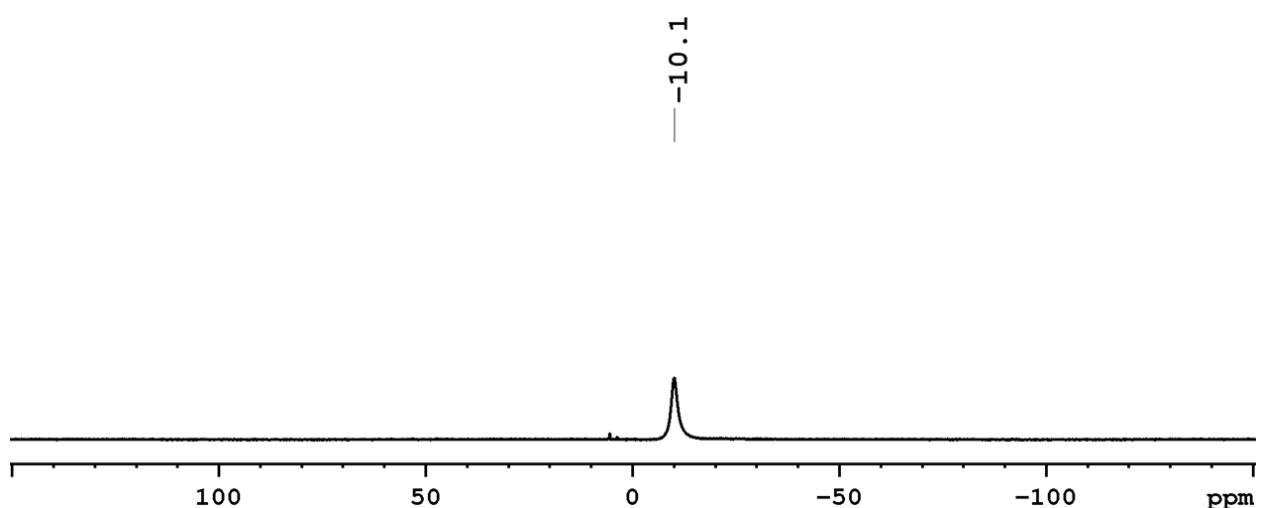


Figure S18. $^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of the complex *fac*-3b in CDCl_3 (160 MHz).

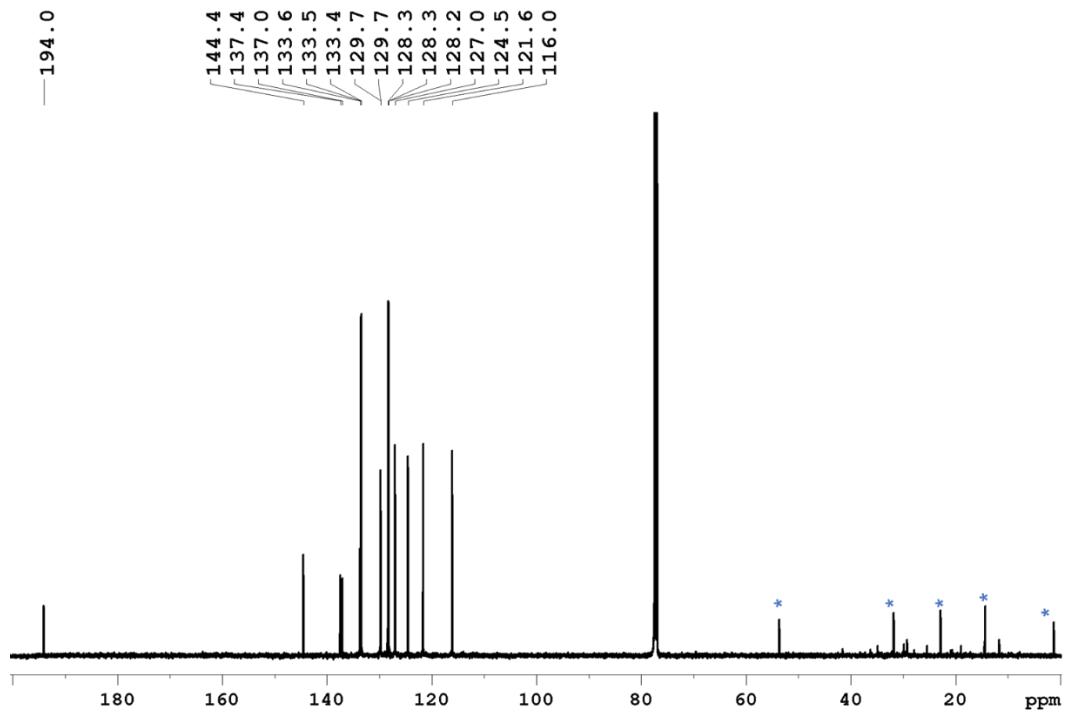


Figure S19. $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of the complex *fac*-**3b** in CDCl_3 (125 MHz). (=solvent and grease impurities).

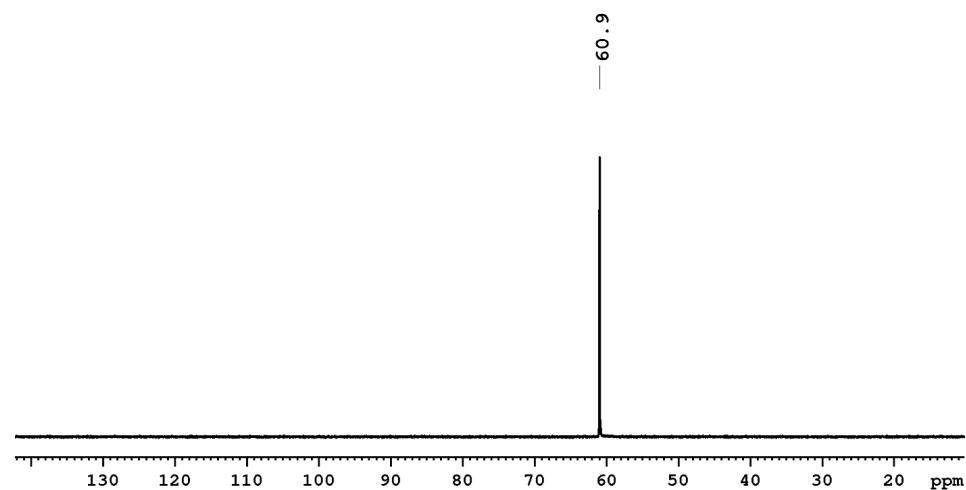


Figure S20. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of the complex *fac*-**3b** in CDCl_3 (202 MHz).

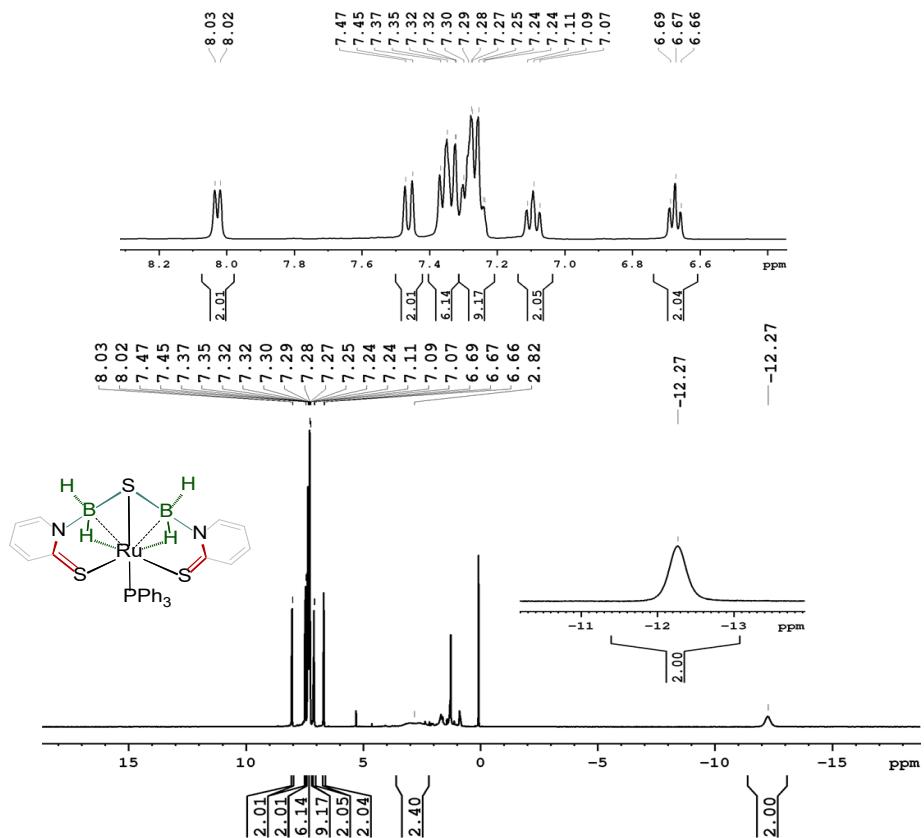


Figure S21. ^1H NMR spectrum of the complex *fac*-3c in CDCl_3 (400 MHz).

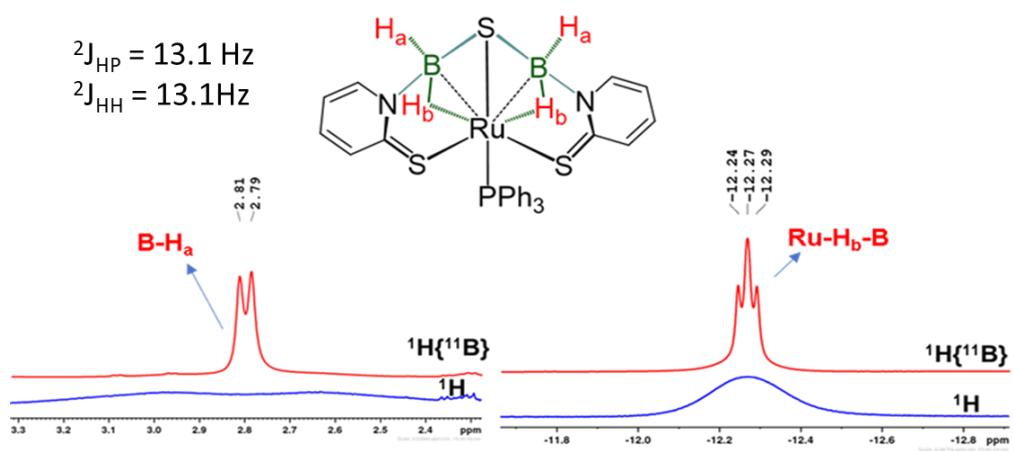


Figure S22. Combined ^1H NMR and $^1\text{H}\{^{11}\text{B}\}$ NMR spectra of complex *fac*-**3c** in CDCl_3 (500 MHz).

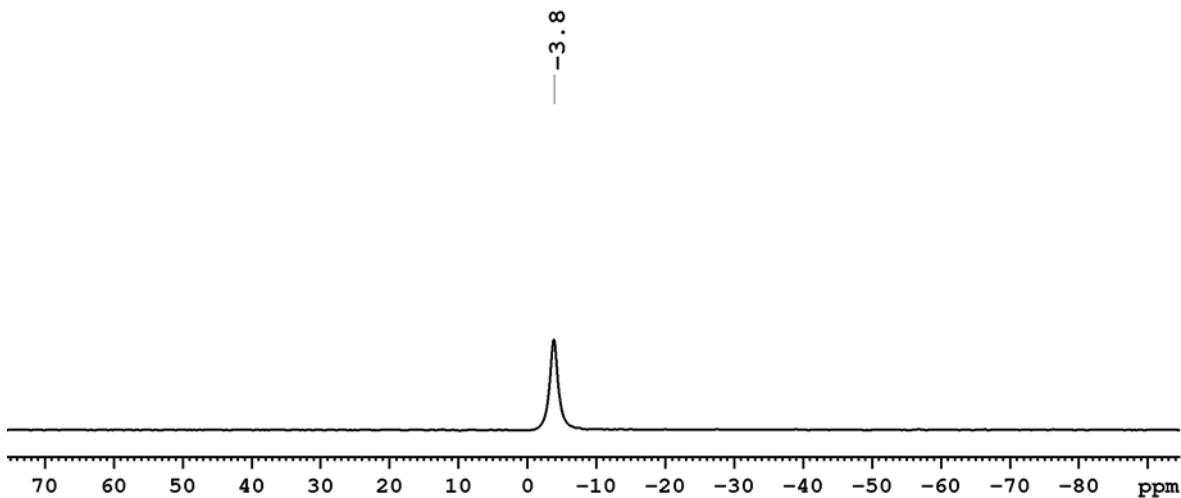


Figure S23. $^{11}\text{B}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of the complex *fac*-**3c** in CDCl_3 (160 MHz).

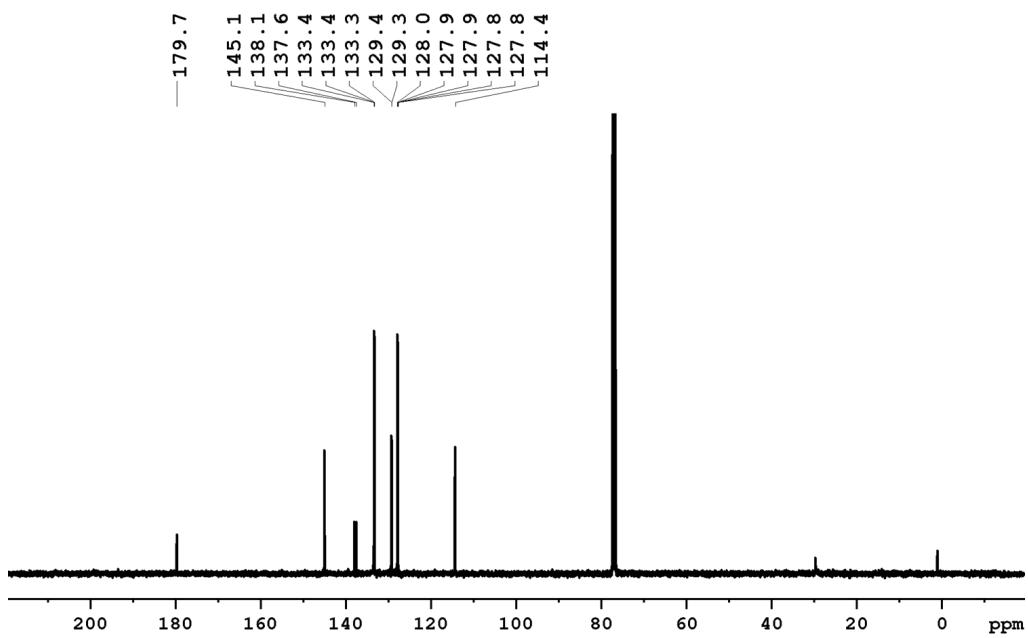


Figure S24. $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of the complex *fac*-**3c** in CDCl_3 (125 MHz). (*=solvent and grease impurities).

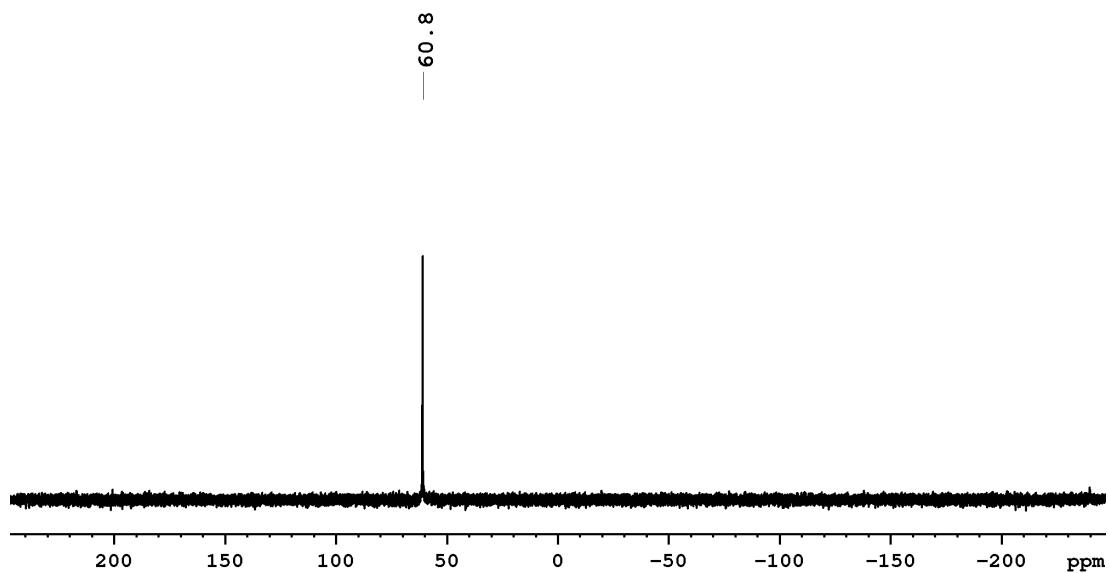


Figure S25. $^{31}\text{P}\{\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of the complex *fac*-3c in CDCl_3 (202 MHz).

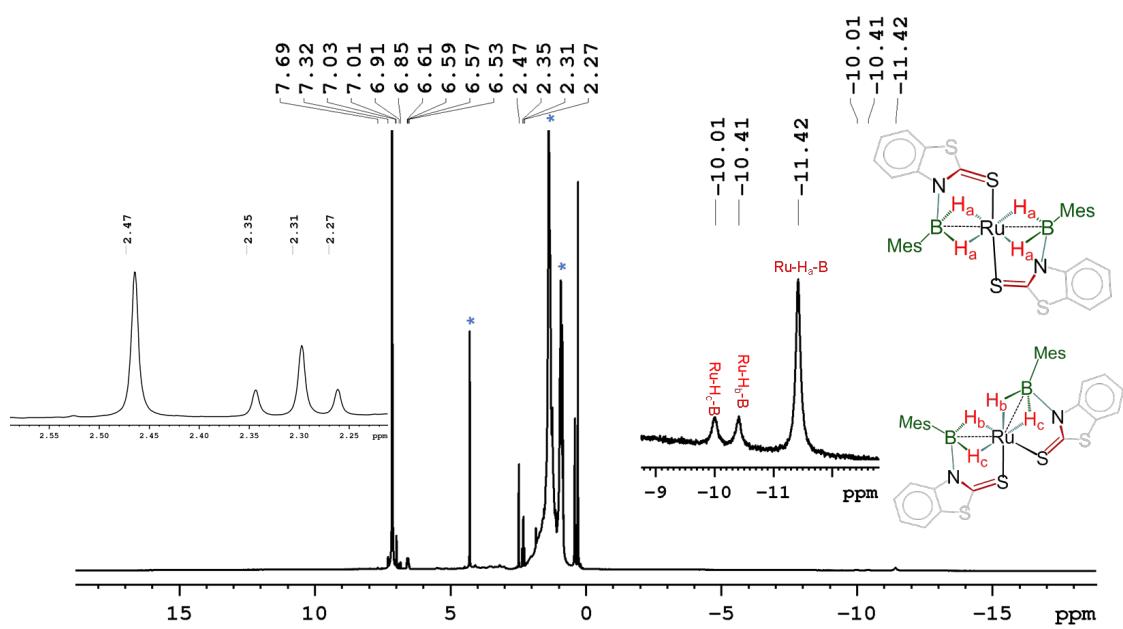


Figure S26. Combined ^1H NMR spectrum of the complex *trans*-4 and *cis*-4 in $\text{Benzene-}d_6$ (500 MHz) (=solvent and grease impurities).

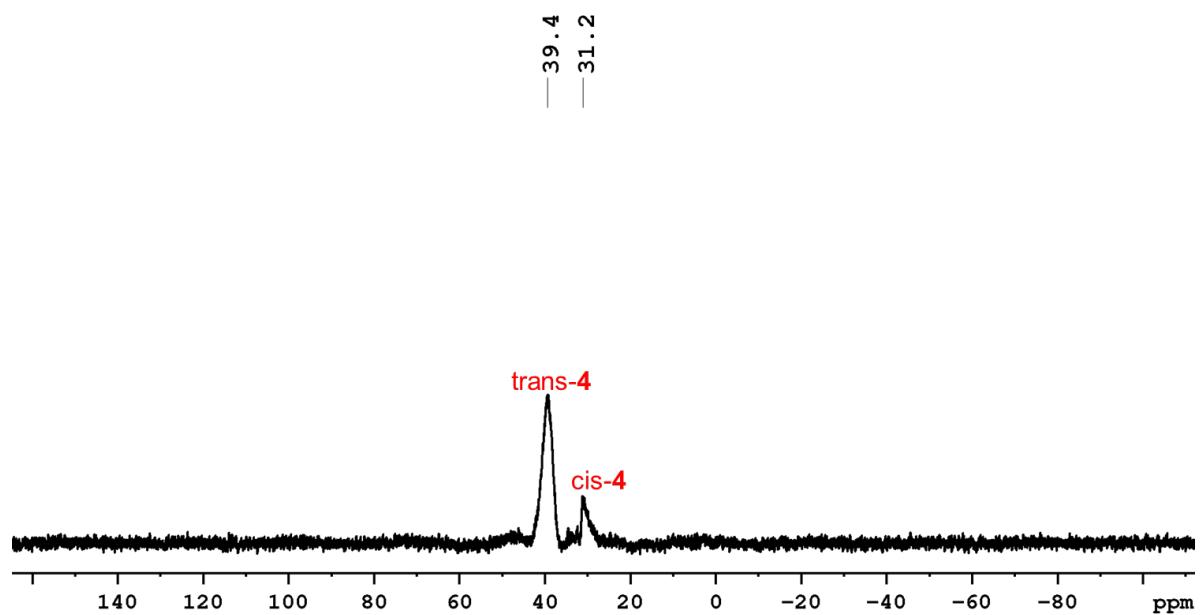


Figure S27. Combined $^{11}\text{B}\{\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of the complex *trans*-4 and *cis*-4 in Toluene- d_8 (160 MHz).

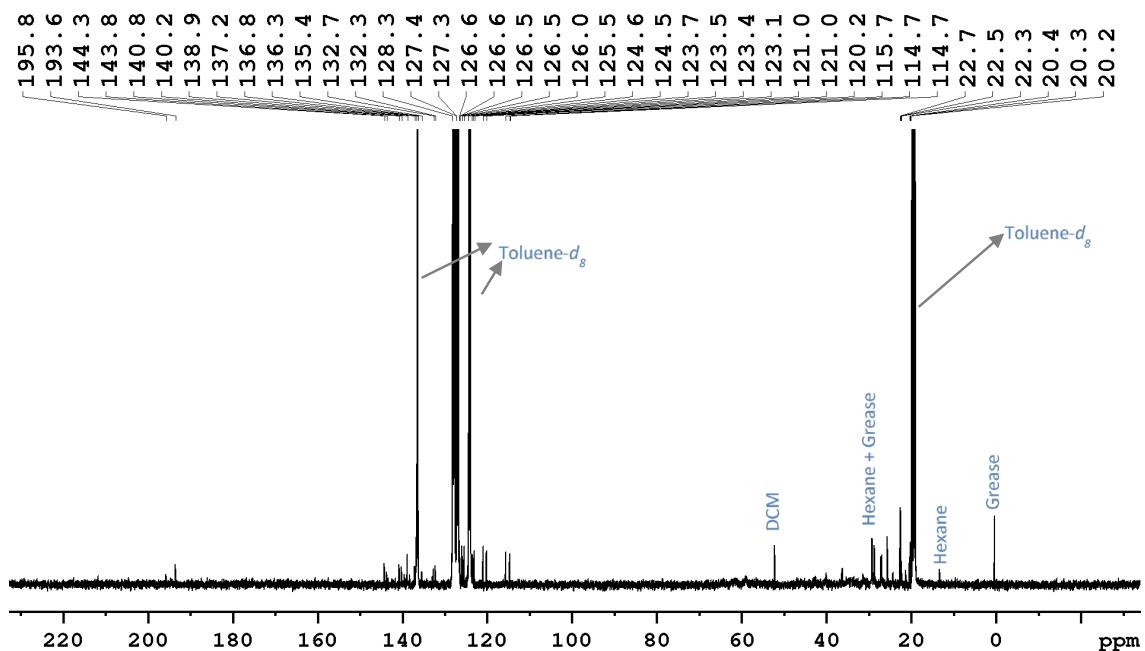


Figure S28. Combined $^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of *trans*-4 and *cis*-4 in Toluene- d_8 (125 MHz).

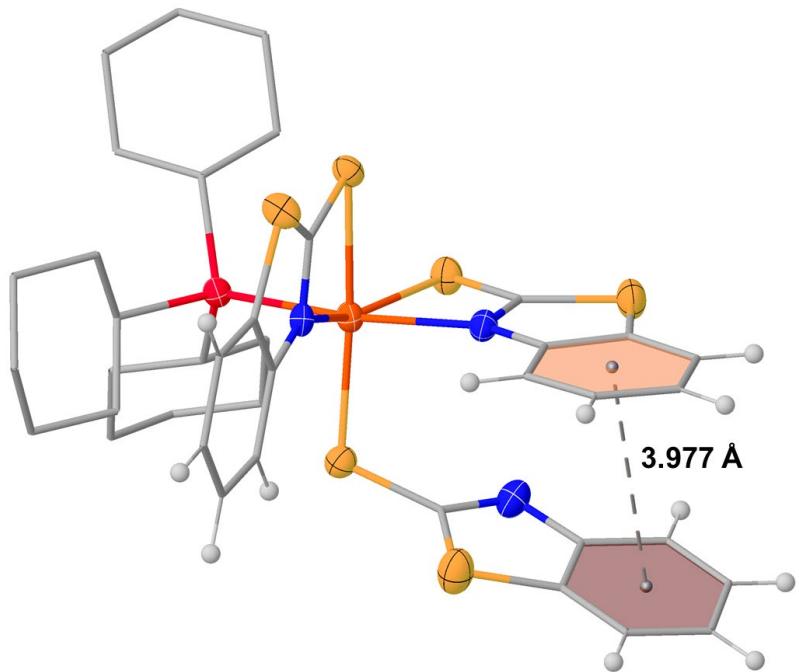


Figure S29. π - π stacking of mercaptobenzothiazoyl rings in *mer*-2a.

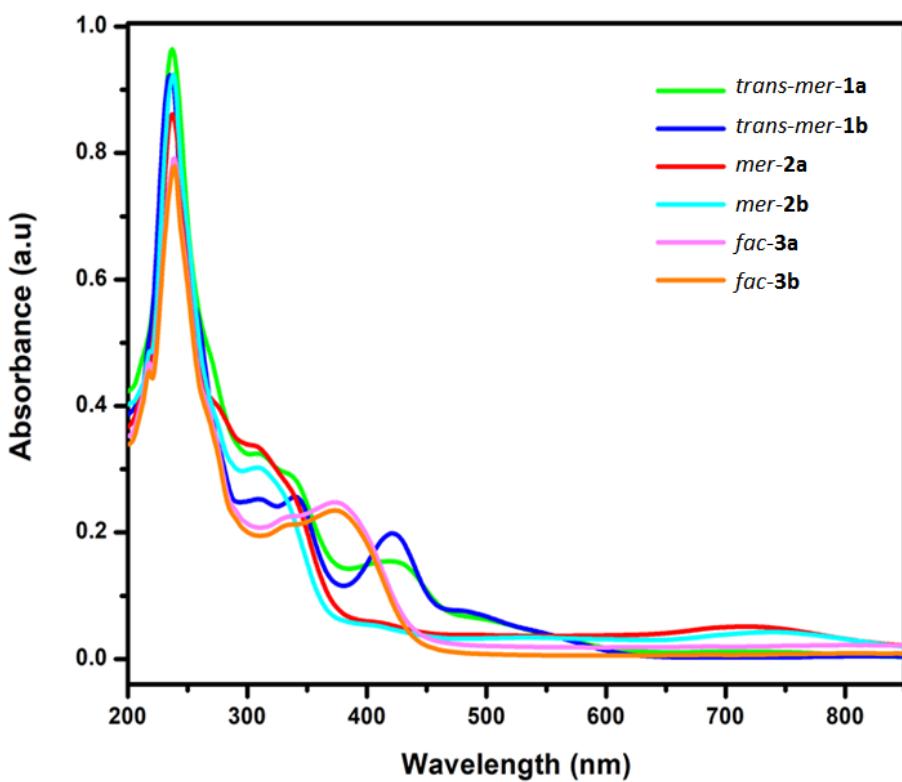


Figure S30. UV-Vis absorption spectra of *trans*-*mer*-1a-b, *mer*-2a-b and *fac*-3a-b in dichloromethane.

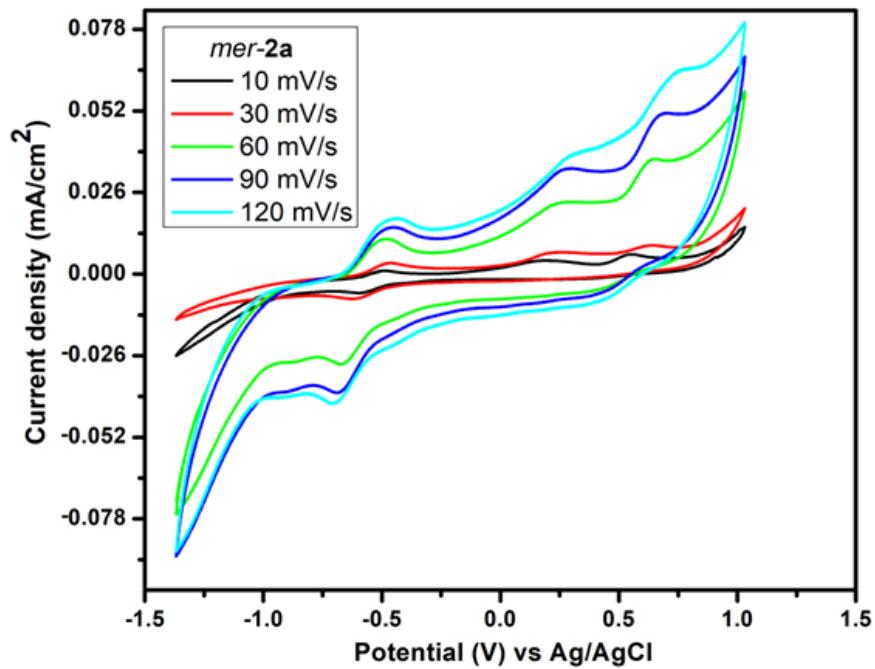


Figure S31. Cyclic voltammetry (CV) curves of complex *mer*-2a at different scan rates.

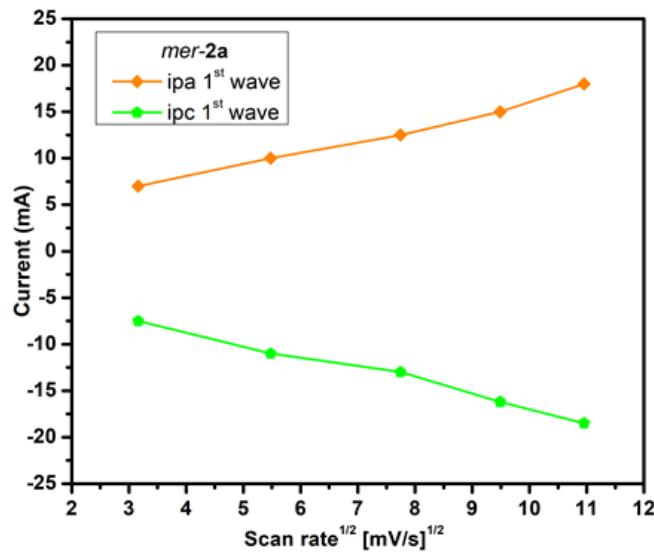


Figure S32 Plot of cathodic and anodic peak current vs square root of scan rate for the first redox reversible wave couple of complex *mer*-2a.

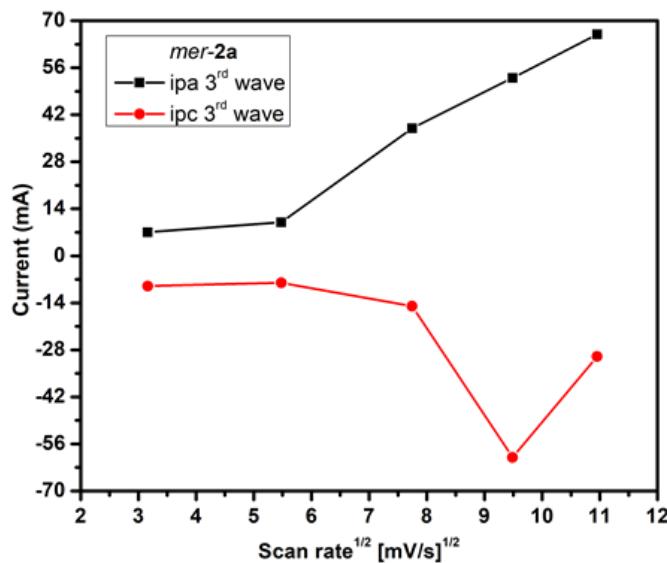


Figure S33. Plot of cathodic and anodic peak current vs square root of scan rate for the third quasi-reversible wave couple of complex *mer-2a*.

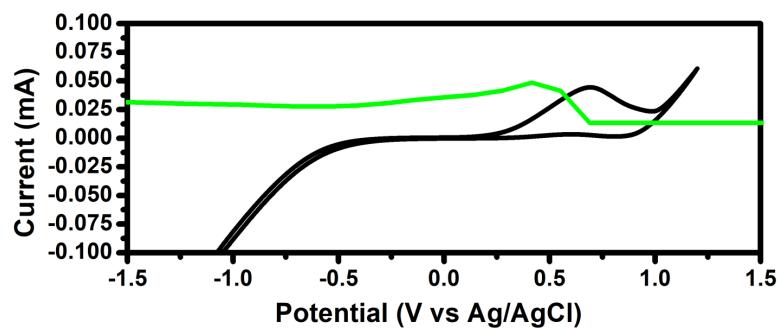


Figure S34. CV of 2-mercaptobenzothiazole.

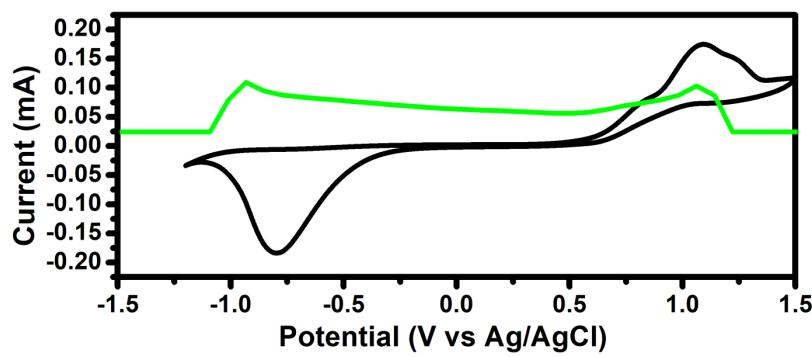


Figure S35. CV of dihydrobis(2-mercaptobenzothiazolyl) borate.

I.3 X-ray analysis details

Suitable X-ray quality crystals of *mer*-**2a**, *fac*-**3a** and *trans*-**4** were grown by slow diffusion of a hexane-CH₂Cl₂ solution at -5 °C. Crystal data of *mer*-**2a** and *fac*-**3a** were obtained using a Bruker AXS Kappa APEXII CCD diffractometer with graphite monochromated Mo-Kα ($\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$) radiation at 296 K and 150 K respectively. The crystal data of *trans*-**4** was collected and integrated using a CMOS D₈ VENTURE Bruker-AXS diffractometer with graphite monochromated Mo-Kα ($\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$) radiation at 297 K. All the structures were solved using SIR97⁵ and refined with SHELXL-2018, SHELXL-2014, and SHELXL-2017⁶. Using Olex2⁷ all the molecular structures were drawn. The non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic displacement parameters. All hydrogens could be located in the difference Fourier map. However, the hydrogen atoms bonded to carbons and borons were fixed at chemically meaningful positions and were allowed to ride with the parent atom during the refinement. Crystallographic data have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Center as supplementary publication no CCDC-1875697 (*mer*-**2a**), CCDC-1984218 (*fac*-**3a**), CCDC-2126931 (*fac*-**3c**), CCDC-2040802 (*trans*-**4**). These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.

Crystal data for mer-**2a**: C₃₉H₄₄N₃PRuS₆, M_r = 963.16, monoclinic, space group C1 2/c1, a = 43.162(6) Å, b = 11.6075(14) Å, c = 17.077(2) Å, $\alpha = 90^\circ$, $\beta = 94.107(5)^\circ$, $\gamma = 90^\circ$, V = 8533.5(19) Å³, Z = 8, pcalcd = 1.4993 g/cm³, $\mu = 0.857 \text{ mm}^{-1}$, F(000) = 3960.0, R₁ = 0.0685, wR₂ = 0.1845, 7512 independent reflections [$2\theta \leq 50.000^\circ$] and 478 parameters.

Crystal data for fac-**3a**: C₃₂H₄₅B₂N₂PRuS₅, M_r = 771.66, monoclinic, space group P21/c, a = 17.2497(13) Å, b = 15.0068(10) Å, c = 19.7663(14) Å, $\alpha = 90^\circ$, $\beta = 115.089(2)^\circ$, $\gamma = 90^\circ$, V = 4634.0(6) Å³, Z = 4, pcalcd = 1.106 g/cm³, $\mu = 0.618 \text{ mm}^{-1}$, F(000) = 1600.0, R₁ = 0.0356, wR₂ = 0.0872, 10624 independent reflections [$2\theta \leq 50.486^\circ$] and 443 parameters.

Crystal data for fac-**3c**: C₂₈H₂₇B₂N₂PRuS₃, M_r = 642.03, monoclinic, space group P21/n, a = 9.9824(3) Å, b = 23.4742(9) Å, c = 13.6413(6) Å, $\alpha = 90^\circ$, $\beta = 94.6068(17)^\circ$, $\gamma = 90^\circ$, V = 3186.2(2) Å³, Z = 4, pcalcd = 1.514 g/cm³, $\mu = 0.930 \text{ mm}^{-1}$, F(000) = 1472, R₁ = 0.0338, wR₂ = 0.0740, 5602 independent reflections [$2\theta \leq 50.000^\circ$] and 377 parameters.

Crystal data for trans-**4**: C₃₂H₃₆BCl₂N₂RuS₄, M_r = 782.47, triclinic, space group P-1, a = 8.1421(16) Å, b = 9.0380(16) Å, c = 11.991(2) Å, $\alpha = 91.746(5)^\circ$, $\beta = 95.358(6)^\circ$, $\gamma = 91.618(5)^\circ$, V = 877.7(3) Å³, Z = 1, pcalcd = 1.480 g/cm³, $\mu = 0.863 \text{ mm}^{-1}$, F(000) = 400, R₁ = 0.0486, wR₂ = 0.1206, 3426 independent reflections [$2\theta \leq 50.48^\circ$] and 217 parameters.

II Computational Details

II.1 Computational details: Density functional theory (DFT) calculations employing B3PW91⁸ functional were performed with the Gaussian 09⁹ program. Full geometry optimizations were conducted in gaseous state (no solvent effect) without any symmetry constraints using a LANL2DZ¹⁰ basis set on ruthenium and phosphorous atoms and 6-31G(d,p)¹¹ basis set on remaining atoms (C, H, B, N, S). The optimized geometries were characterized as true minima by conducting frequency calculations. We have computed ¹¹B NMR chemical shifts using gauge-including atomic orbitals (GIAOs)¹² method at the same basis set by B3LYP. The ¹¹B NMR chemical shifts were calculated relative to B₂H₆ and converted to the usual [BF₃OEt₂] scale by using experimental δ (¹¹B) value of B₂H₆ ($\delta = 16.6 \text{ ppm}$).¹³ Natural bonding analyses were carried out with the natural bond orbital (NBO) 6.0 version of program.^[14] Wiberg bond indices (WBI)¹⁵ were obtained from natural bond orbital analysis. The electron density and Laplacian electronic distribution plots were generated using Multiwfn package.¹⁶ All the optimized structures and orbital plots were generated by using Chemcraft.¹⁷

II.2 Computational data

Table S1. Selected geometrical parameters and Wiberg bond indices (WBI) of *mer-2a-b*, *fac-3a-b*, *trans-4* and *cis-4*.

<i>mer-2a</i>				<i>mer-2b</i>			
	Expt.	Cal.	WBI		Expt.	Cal.	WBI
Ru1-P1	2.347(2)	2.494	0.516	Ru1-P1	-	2.449	0.498
Ru1-S1	2.278(2)	2.301	0.771	Ru1-S1	-	2.295	0.784
Ru1-S3	2.491(2)	2.535	0.402	Ru1-S3	-	2.540	0.402
Ru1-S6	2.342(2)	2.406	0.634	Ru1-S6	-	2.401	0.631
Ru1-N1	2.138(6)	2.167	0.314	Ru1-N1	-	2.160	0.320
Ru1-N2	2.164(6)	2.123	0.340	Ru1-N2	-	2.112	0.349
C1-S1	1.740(9)	1.745	1.134	C1-S1	-	1.743	1.142
C8-S6	1.711(8)	1.718	1.220	C8-S6	-	1.722	1.217
<i>fac-3a</i>				<i>fac-3b</i>			
	Expt.	Cal.	WBI		Expt.	Cal.	WBI
Ru1-B1	2.293(3)	2.308	0.218	Ru1-B1	-	2.304	0.218
Ru1-B2	2.276(2)	2.293	0.228	Ru1-B2	-	2.306	0.217
Ru1-H1B	1.69(3)	1.703	0.241	Ru1-H1B	-	1.706	0.240
Ru1-H2B	1.69(3)	1.698	0.245	Ru1-H2B	-	1.702	0.241
B1-H1B	1.29(3)	1.363	0.578	B1-H1B	-	1.360	0.581
B2-H2B	1.37(3)	1.370	0.571	B2-H2B	-	1.363	0.578
B1-S5	1.914(3)	1.925	0.984	B1-S5	-	1.929	0.976
Ru1-P1	2.3071(6)	2.416	0.503	Ru1-P1	-	2.393	0.488
Ru1-S5	2.4184(6)	2.436	0.369	Ru1-S5	-	2.427	0.383
<i>trans-4</i>				<i>cis-4</i>			
	Expt.	Cal.	WBI		Expt.	Cal.	WBI
Ru1-B1	2.172	2.173	0.369	Ru1-B1	-	2.149	0.368
Ru1-H1	1.60(4)	1.727	0.248	Ru1-H1	-	1.723	0.245
Ru1-H2	1.62(4)	1.727	0.248	Ru1-H2	-	1.743	0.214
B1-H1	1.35(4)	1.357	0.597	B1-H1	-	1.371	0.590
B1-H2	1.33(4)	1.357	0.597	B1-H2	-	1.360	0.624
Ru-S1	2.3221(10)	2.365	0.465	Ru-S1	-	2.365	0.512
B1-C1	1.580(5)	1.589	0.895	B1-C1	-	1.589	0.892

Table S2. Calculated natural charges (q), natural valence population (Pop) and HOMO – LUMO gaps of *mer-2a-b*, *fac-3a-b*, *trans-4* and *cis-4*.

Compound	q _{Ru1}	q _{N1}	q _{S3}	q _{S1}	q _{S6}	Pop(Ru _{val})	Pop(N _{val})	Pop(S _{val})	ΔE _{H-L} (eV)
<i>mer-2a</i>	0.171	-0.516	-0.027	0.047	0.064	7.788	5.487	5.994	2.053
<i>mer-b</i>	0.136	-0.511	-0.034	0.086	0.066	7.822	5.481	6.002	1.995
Compound	q _{Ru}	q _B	q _S	q _P	Pop(Ru _{val})	Pop(B _{val})	Pop(S _{val})	Pop(P _{val})	ΔE _{H-L} (eV)
<i>fac-3a</i>	-0.429	0.029	0.070	1.131	8.408	2.945	5.893	3.849	3.870
<i>fac-3b</i>	-0.432	0.028	0.075	1.156	8.410	2.945	5.889	3.823	3.952
<i>trans-4</i>	-0.340	0.338	0.138	-	8.317	2.631	5.824	-	3.143
<i>cis-4</i>	-0.330	0.333	0.149	-	8.313	2.637	5.813	-	3.625

Table S3. Experimentally observed and calculated ¹¹B chemical shifts of *fac-3a-b*, *trans-4* and *cis-4*.

Molecule	¹¹ B NMR		
		Exp.	Cal.
<i>fac-3a</i>	B	-10.1	-10.1
<i>fac-3b</i>	B	-11.5	-10.8
<i>trans-4</i>	B	37.4	33.5
<i>cis-4</i>	B	30.3	30.2

Table S4. Topological parameters at selected bond critical points (BCPs) in *mer*-**2a-b**, *fac*-**3a-b**, *trans*-**4** and *cis*-**4**.

Molecule	BCP	ρ	H	$\nabla^2\rho$	<i>ELF</i>	ε
<i>mer</i> - 2a	Ru1-P1	0.064	-0.014	0.169	0.213	0.464
	Ru1-S1	0.198	-0.167	-0.463	0.934	0.069
	Ru1-N1	0.053	-0.003	0.400	0.042	1.328
	Ru1-S6	0.075	-0.020	0.163	0.281	0.345
<i>mer</i> - 2b	Ru1-P1	0.067	-0.014	0.200	0.193	1.721
	Ru1-S1	0.086	-0.019	0.272	0.234	0.351
	Ru1-N1	0.025	-0.002	0.141	0.026	3.414
	Ru1-S6	0.074	-0.019	0.172	0.266	0.399
<i>fac</i> - 3a	Ru1-P1	0.074	-0.020	0.185	0.241	0.142
	Ru1-S1	0.074	-0.019	0.205	0.219	0.539
	Ru1-S3	0.074	-0.020	0.192	0.233	0.591
	Ru1-S5	0.046	-0.007	0.220	0.069	4.716
	S5-B1	0.114	-0.106	-0.194	0.647	0.050
	S5-B2	0.124	-0.118	-0.230	0.685	0.141
	Ru1-H1B	0.068	-0.011	0.645	0.034	1.704
	B1-H1B	0.055	-0.027	0.362	0.037	0.031
<i>fac</i> - 3b	Ru1-P1	0.076	-0.019	0.224	0.212	0.045
	Ru1-S1	0.075	-0.019	0.204	0.225	0.476
	Ru1-S3	0.075	-0.019	0.204	0.226	0.455
	S5-B1	0.116	-0.109	-0.171	0.591	0.162
	S5-B2	0.116	-0.108	-0.167	0.583	0.163
	Ru1-H1B	0.053	-0.009	0.304	0.619	2.123
	B1-H1B	0.143	-0.146	-0.269	0.670	0.189
<i>trans</i> - 4	Ru1-S1	0.288	-0.300	-0.102	0.985	0.022
	Ru1-H1	0.081	-0.025	0.482	0.082	0.131
	Ru1-H2	0.081	-0.025	0.482	0.082	0.131
	B1-H1	0.151	-0.160	-0.319	0.698	0.049
	B1-H2	0.151	-0.160	-0.319	0.698	0.049
<i>cis</i> - 4	Ru1-S1	0.085	-0.023	0.189	0.306	0.182
	Ru1-S2	0.085	-0.023	0.188	0.306	0.182
	Ru1-H2	0.063	-0.015	0.301	0.090	0.488
	B1-H1	0.145	-0.153	-0.324	0.720	0.204
	B2-H2	0.147	-0.154	-0.329	0.726	0.199

Electron density, ρ , Total energy density, H , Laplacian of the electron density, $\nabla^2\rho$, Electron localization function, *ELF*, Ellipticity, ε in a.u.

Table S5. Electronic transition configurations for *mer-2a-b* by TD-DFT calculations.

Compounds	Excited state	Major transition configurations
<i>mer-2a</i>	1	HOMO-6(B)->LUMO(B) (18%), HOMO-5(B)->LUMO(B) (12%), HOMO-3(B)->LUMO(B) (10%)
	2	HOMO-8(B)->LUMO(B) (21%), HOMO-5(B)->LUMO(B) (25%), HOMO-3(B)->LUMO(B) (35%)
	3	HOMO(B)->LUMO(B) (88%)
	4	HOMO-2(B)->LUMO(B) (50%), HOMO-1(B)->LUMO(B) (24%)
	5	HOMO-7(A)->LUMO(A) (11%), HOMO-1(A)->LUMO(A) (11%), HOMO-6(B)->LUMO+1(B) (10%)
	6	HOMO-5(B)->LUMO+1(B) (12%), HOMO-3(B)->LUMO+1(B) (12%)
	7	HOMO(A)->LUMO(A) (49%), HOMO-25(A)->LUMO(A) (4%)
	8	HOMO-7(B)->LUMO(B) (13%), HOMO-5(B)->LUMO(B) (10%), HOMO-3(B)->LUMO(B) (16%)
	9	HOMO-7(B)->LUMO(B) (20%), HOMO-6(B)->LUMO(B) (51%)
	10	HOMO-7(A)->LUMO+2(A) (11%), HOMO-1(A)->LUMO+2(A) (10%), HOMO-1(B)->LUMO+4(B) (12%)
<i>mer-2b</i>	1	HOMO-2(B)->LUMO(B) (14%), HOMO-1(B)->LUMO(B) (28%)
	2	HOMO-11(B)->LUMO(B) (21%), HOMO-9(B)->LUMO(B) (13%), HOMO-5(B)->LUMO(B) (23%)
	3	HOMO(B)->LUMO(B) (89%)
	4	HOMO-2(B)->LUMO(B) (42%), HOMO-1(B)->LUMO(B) (31%)
	5	HOMO-1(A)->LUMO(A) (11%), HOMO-1(B)->LUMO+1(B) (16%)
	6	HOMO-4(B)->LUMO(B) (16%), HOMO-1(B)->LUMO(B) (20%)
	7	HOMO(A)->LUMO(A) (56%), HOMO-25(A)->LUMO(A) (4%)
	8	HOMO-8(B)->LUMO(B) (22%), HOMO-6(B)->LUMO(B) (37%), HOMO-2(B)->LUMO(B) (13%)
	9	HOMO-5(B)->LUMO+1(B) (11%)
	10	HOMO-19(A)->LUMO+1(A) (2%)

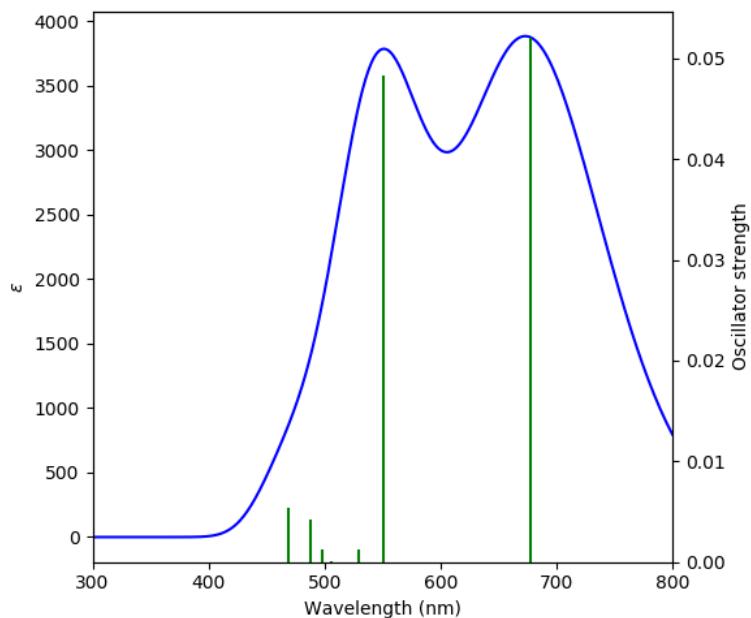


Figure S36. Calculated UV-Vis absorption spectra of *mer-2a* at CAM-B3LYP/LANL2DZ/6-31G(d,p) level.

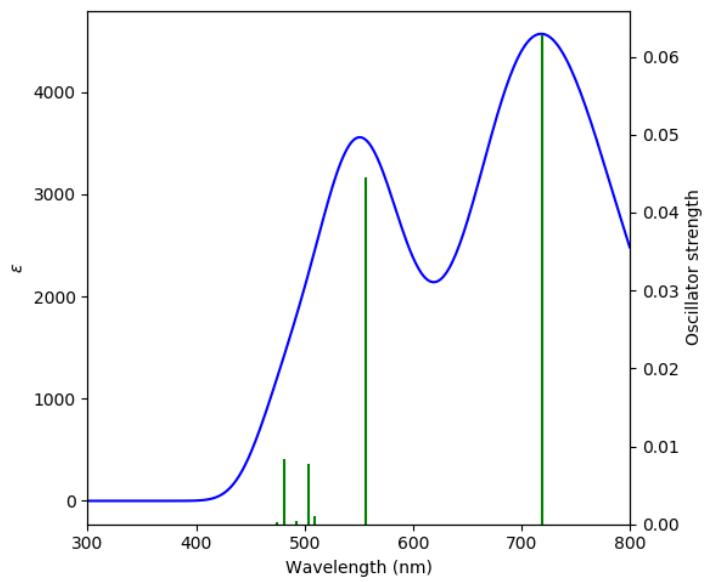


Figure S37. Calculated UV-Vis absorption spectra of *mer*-**2b** at CAM-B3LYP/LANL2DZ/6-31G(d,p) level.

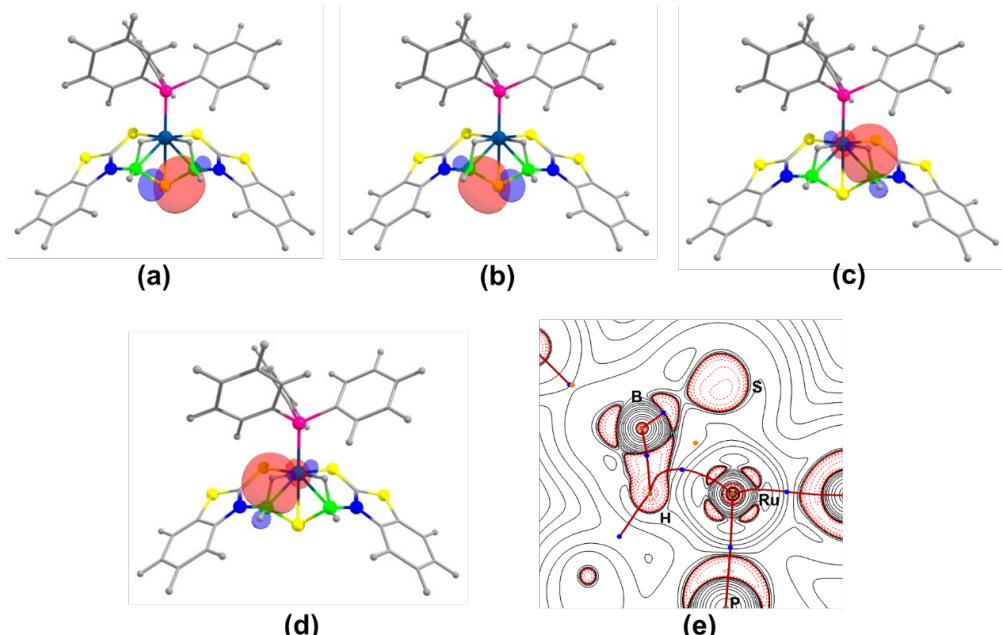


Figure S38. Natural bond orbital interaction between B-S bond (a,b) and B-H-Ru (c,d) in *fac*-**3b** (isovalue ± 0.04 [e/bohr 3] $^{1/2}$); (e) Contour-line map of the Laplacian of the electron density in the Ru-H-B plane of *fac*-**3a**.

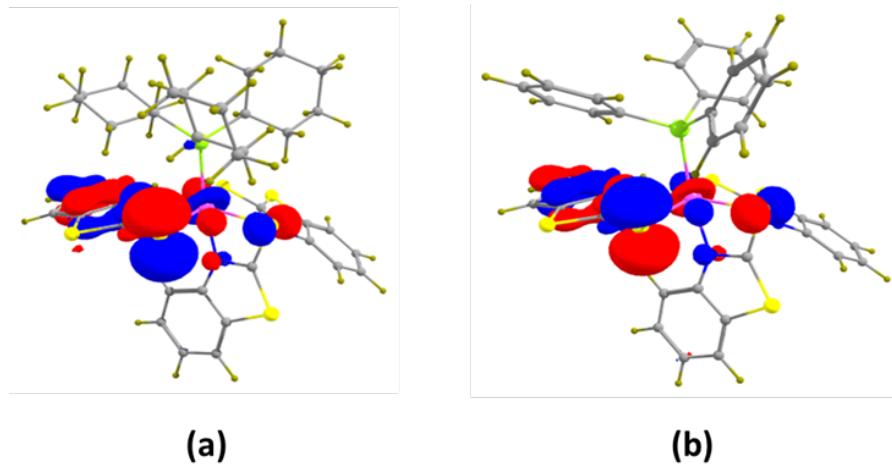


Figure S39. (a) HOMO of oxidised form of *mer-2a* and (b) HOMO of oxidised form of *mer-2a*.

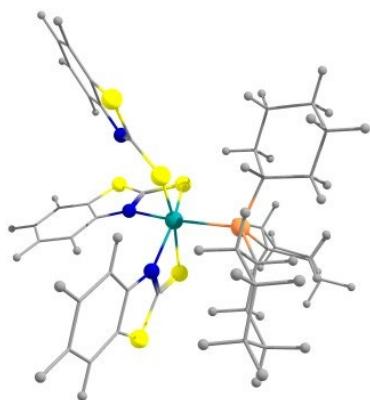


Figure S40. Optimized geometry of *mer-2a*.

Cartesian coordinates for the calculated structure of *mer-2a* (in Å).

C	-2.46501900	-1.23244600	-1.34277100	C	-3.93173500	3.72554300	0.86062000
C	-4.48878600	-1.84261700	-0.69836500	H	-4.01675900	4.62254200	0.25435500
C	-5.55474300	-2.08881000	0.17848600	C	-4.90338000	3.45531000	1.83421800
H	-5.42542300	-1.88686900	1.23680900	H	-5.73069600	4.14428500	1.97614900
C	-6.74598900	-2.58529600	-0.33034300	C	-4.82530000	2.31088000	2.62257500
H	-7.57708600	-2.77976300	0.34153300	H	-5.58015000	2.10028800	3.37376800
C	-6.89366100	-2.84114800	-1.70268500	C	-3.75377300	1.44393600	2.42034100
H	-7.83578700	-3.22977500	-2.07877900	C	1.03990500	2.64949700	0.93008000
C	-5.84989300	-2.60537000	-2.59129100	C	0.44535600	3.01182200	-1.21934300
H	-5.96775500	-2.80558100	-3.65174100	C	-0.07114700	2.76445800	-2.49708500
C	-4.65093400	-2.10654400	-2.08141900	H	-0.43748400	1.77331600	-2.74338300
C	-1.97725300	-0.23646800	2.23936300	C	-0.11356000	3.80840800	-3.41434300
C	-2.76805100	1.71360600	1.44390200	H	-0.51463600	3.62586400	-4.40698000
C	-2.86162700	2.86442400	0.65562200	C	0.34582400	5.08892700	-3.07943300
H	-2.11020800	3.06165600	-0.10069900	H	0.30340600	5.88772600	-3.81377800

C	0.84933900	5.35332800	-1.80852200	H	5.82453200	-0.19527100	2.70046800
H	1.19572100	6.34736000	-1.54311600	C	4.87906400	-1.46289900	1.22917300
C	0.89034700	4.31208700	-0.88383800	H	5.32293100	-0.92086100	0.38793400
C	2.02245300	-2.64716700	-0.80830800	H	4.88089800	-2.52489700	0.95716500
H	1.41942400	-2.38223800	-1.68839200	C	3.36042800	-0.03629400	-1.32104700
C	1.16529800	-3.59755600	0.03527600	H	4.22545900	-0.70163100	-1.44884700
H	0.24931200	-3.09506600	0.35707700	C	2.65654900	0.08489700	-2.67723600
H	1.71203400	-3.89022200	0.94113600	H	2.30630400	-0.89272300	-3.02642000
C	0.80677900	-4.85704300	-0.76221000	H	1.76677200	0.71474500	-2.56409500
H	0.21803000	-5.53403600	-0.13202800	C	3.58967100	0.69889700	-3.72802700
H	0.15847800	-4.57324400	-1.60276000	H	4.42317000	0.00714400	-3.91812600
C	2.05035100	-5.56864300	-1.29644900	H	3.05288700	0.80656700	-4.67815100
H	1.76509400	-6.43571600	-1.90422100	C	4.14658200	2.04856800	-3.27253100
H	2.63712800	-5.95871400	-0.45211700	H	3.32420400	2.77313900	-3.20159500
C	2.92102000	-4.61110400	-2.11078600	H	4.84834900	2.44190500	-4.01796400
H	2.37928600	-4.30699000	-3.01756400	C	4.83031600	1.92813100	-1.90962300
H	3.83607400	-5.11362000	-2.44744500	H	5.72253300	1.29203500	-2.00404500
C	3.28855500	-3.36055500	-1.30060100	H	5.18256800	2.90920200	-1.56925300
H	3.90183300	-3.66781200	-0.44422500	C	3.88862900	1.32717300	-0.85924600
H	3.90979000	-2.69988600	-1.91461000	H	3.04498600	2.00590400	-0.69963200
C	3.44282800	-0.99934000	1.50542800	H	4.41092400	1.24323300	0.09973100
H	3.47326000	0.05953200	1.79740000	N	0.57209100	2.10585700	-0.18138000
C	2.85267400	-1.76788800	2.69244100	N	-1.78923900	0.74518600	1.38391400
H	1.83179400	-1.43225900	2.89645400	N	-3.25520900	-1.35475300	-0.32262800
H	2.79647900	-2.83735100	2.45098000	P	2.26356500	-0.90864600	-0.01240500
C	3.72180500	-1.58289500	3.94175200	S	-0.80151300	-0.70666400	-1.39664700
H	3.29679700	-2.15584600	4.77436300	S	-3.17418300	-1.71240900	-2.91448100
H	3.69235100	-0.52639700	4.24254700	S	1.14631200	1.63251200	2.29858400
C	5.17146600	-1.99988900	3.68964100	S	1.43046100	4.35560800	0.78384900
H	5.78549700	-1.80888100	4.57795000	S	-3.39689100	-0.06342400	3.24506100
H	5.21165500	-3.08407000	3.51038900	S	-0.76637700	-1.45408700	2.16513600
C	5.75097800	-1.26915900	2.47742900	Ru	0.07033200	0.13238700	0.56090500
H	6.77129100	-1.61524700	2.27156400				

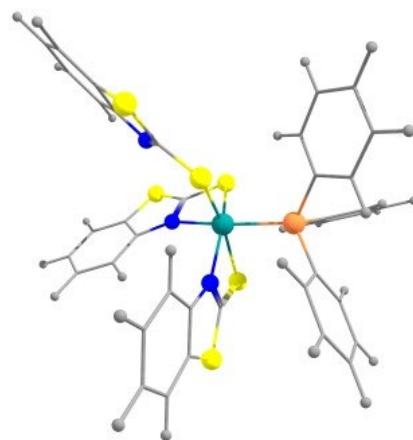


Figure S41. Optimized geometry of *mer*-2b.

Cartesian coordinates for the calculated structure of *mer-2b* (in Å).

C	2.47270800	-1.20418000	1.31051200	S	-1.30819200	1.58771900	-2.19931200
C	4.54184800	-1.65332400	0.67771800	S	-1.85976500	4.12431900	-0.45113000
C	5.62574000	-1.82920800	-0.19458600	S	3.33259700	0.03729100	-3.23906500
H	5.47956200	-1.66723200	-1.25755700	S	0.75334200	-1.48750400	-2.20349400
C	6.85521400	-2.20677500	0.32471300	Ru	-0.13679000	0.03046800	-0.56902600
H	7.70040500	-2.34603500	-0.34327200	C	-3.59246000	0.13561600	0.57644300
C	7.02403200	-2.41233100	1.70332000	C	-3.43618000	0.65495100	1.86667400
H	7.99638200	-2.70706300	2.08766800	C	-4.67892400	0.54173700	-0.20174100
C	5.96360200	-2.24487200	2.58749100	C	-4.37023300	1.55153100	2.37989900
H	6.09824900	-2.40565900	3.65263100	H	-2.58400500	0.36196500	2.47319400
C	4.72569800	-1.86590100	2.06724100	C	-5.60863600	1.44520200	0.31300700
C	1.92074900	-0.22186100	-2.24184900	H	-4.79780200	0.15694400	-1.20921500
C	2.62187800	1.74557700	-1.40203800	C	-5.45982500	1.94680200	1.60393600
C	2.65709000	2.88384900	-0.59135900	H	-4.23933400	1.94698100	3.38303100
H	1.89224000	3.03039700	0.16344200	H	-6.44966800	1.75628800	-0.30042800
C	3.68605500	3.79804000	-0.77598800	H	-6.18660400	2.64878200	2.00335100
H	3.72700900	4.68685400	-0.15333400	C	-3.15773300	-1.83425600	-1.57194400
C	4.67200100	3.59233200	-1.75130100	C	-2.73637500	-1.59566700	-2.88072800
H	5.46604500	4.32237600	-1.87702000	C	-4.24514300	-2.68722000	-1.34398300
C	4.65008800	2.46171400	-2.56281600	C	-3.39727300	-2.19949200	-3.95138600
H	5.41544400	2.30274800	-3.31606100	H	-1.88588700	-0.95021800	-3.06477200
C	3.62007800	1.54155700	-2.38128700	C	-4.90545300	-3.28414200	-2.41437000
C	-1.30225600	2.48760800	-0.74636800	H	-4.57247800	-2.89299900	-0.32903500
C	-0.76609500	2.70028000	1.43684000	C	-4.48242000	-3.04071600	-3.72140600
C	-0.26217700	2.37663600	2.70176700	H	-3.05582700	-2.00998000	-4.96501800
H	0.18079800	1.40026400	2.86651600	H	-5.74765300	-3.94425700	-2.22591300
C	-0.33684200	3.32693300	3.71368200	H	-4.99541700	-3.51057600	-4.55613900
H	0.05471500	3.08551100	4.69762400	C	-2.27643500	-2.47347700	1.10259400
C	-0.90292100	4.58808300	3.48578300	C	-1.29463000	-3.45410200	0.92272000
H	-0.94895500	5.31404100	4.29215700	C	-3.22804600	-2.62873900	2.11298300
C	-1.40401300	4.92543200	2.23137800	C	-1.26784100	-4.57644200	1.74593700
H	-1.83890300	5.90362000	2.05056400	H	-0.54526000	-3.33451900	0.14555200
C	-1.32970300	3.97777200	1.21319100	C	-3.19336300	-3.75217700	2.94067800
N	-0.78085800	1.89449000	0.31256300	H	-3.99739500	-1.87710900	2.25923300
N	1.69039300	0.73153400	-1.36526800	C	-2.21509800	-4.72634900	2.75879700
N	3.27135000	-1.28531500	0.29160100	H	-0.49959000	-5.33035100	1.59962600
P	-2.29538100	-1.03028400	-0.10360100	H	-3.93550100	-3.86217500	3.72675700
S	0.76892400	-0.83745500	1.35337300	H	-2.18854300	-5.59971100	3.40461900
S	3.22065800	-1.58016200	2.89248800				

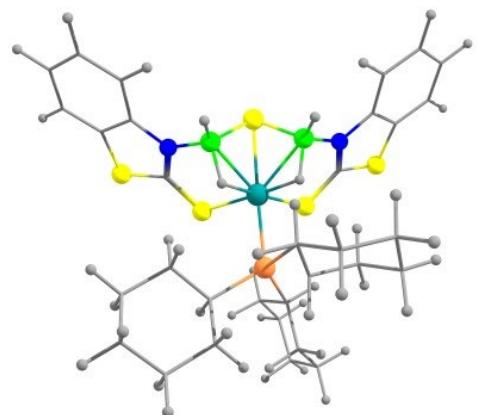


Figure S42. Optimized geometry of *fac*-3a.

Cartesian coordinates for the calculated structure of *fac*-3a (in Å).

Ru	0.00038000	-0.38059300	-0.27334900	C	3.66957300	-2.98314700	0.27822000
S	-1.77483000	-0.12654300	-1.88174600	C	-0.94938200	2.44942200	1.76524100
S	-4.52432200	-1.35235900	-1.92354300	H	-0.76224300	3.51593300	1.95052500
S	1.77706600	-0.31800700	-1.89501200	C	-2.44894200	2.26155300	1.50152200
S	4.35138700	-1.88343900	-1.97013000	H	-2.63802900	1.21503500	1.22881600
P	0.10109600	1.98036400	0.23337800	H	-2.77124600	2.86777600	0.64773300
N	-2.82128700	-1.80640200	-0.03516800	C	-3.28251700	2.63034800	2.73440100
N	2.63622600	-2.10233600	-0.05050700	H	-3.17816700	3.70708100	2.93231200
C	-2.95118200	-1.11978600	-1.18707600	H	-4.34483300	2.45436300	2.52644700
C	-4.99948100	-2.42663700	-0.62517000	C	-2.84165300	1.84659800	3.97129400
C	-6.20637300	-3.09996100	-0.45746300	H	-3.42613800	2.15469200	4.84663400
H	-7.00915700	-2.99080400	-1.17984400	H	-3.04814400	0.77848200	3.81545200
C	-6.35365800	-3.91892300	0.65859900	C	-1.34690500	2.03607500	4.23304900
H	-7.28589800	-4.45458100	0.80993400	H	-1.02899800	1.43579700	5.09402700
C	-5.30981100	-4.06062500	1.57972200	H	-1.15460100	3.08629700	4.49696400
H	-5.43884600	-4.70953900	2.44079700	C	-0.51196900	1.65804200	3.00475900
C	-4.10305100	-3.38915300	1.41289200	H	-0.62291900	0.58615400	2.79963000
H	-3.29171700	-3.50451900	2.12169700	H	0.55111600	1.82246900	3.21357500
C	-3.95030100	-2.55722800	0.30095900	C	-0.62605900	3.08929800	-1.15881900
H	-1.68224000	-2.05154900	1.93376300	H	-1.63287900	2.66767700	-1.28287100
H	-1.17779800	-0.46706100	0.95334100	C	-0.76243400	4.58376000	-0.84483700
H	1.15121400	-0.57677600	0.96067400	H	-1.28555600	4.74591900	0.10462600
H	1.49035600	-2.21038500	1.92759200	H	0.23539500	5.03034700	-0.74132700
C	2.83132800	-1.44990500	-1.21349400	C	-1.50335400	5.30929000	-1.97601300
C	4.71127400	-2.99419700	-0.66518900	H	-2.52919900	4.92013600	-2.04198200
C	5.82784400	-3.81066700	-0.50704900	H	-1.58869400	6.37701100	-1.73934700
H	6.62571100	-3.81009300	-1.24297900	C	-0.79755900	5.11283600	-3.31877600
C	5.89101900	-4.62904300	0.61740800	H	-1.36296700	5.60040200	-4.12201900
H	6.75191900	-5.27479300	0.76153600	H	0.18432600	5.60690700	-3.28471400
C	4.85341000	-4.62911300	1.55619800	C	-0.60574600	3.62716200	-3.62772100
H	4.91537500	-5.27901900	2.42395400	H	-0.04454900	3.49888900	-4.56088900
C	3.73672300	-3.81496900	1.39866700	H	-1.58642400	3.15783500	-3.78648500
H	2.92986100	-3.82082500	2.12171900	C	0.11300900	2.89466700	-2.48829300

H	1.13968400	3.27831200	-2.40389900	H	4.04589400	3.33283100	3.09290300
H	0.19664500	1.83070700	-2.72918800	H	5.27409400	4.05044400	2.05707400
C	1.83993300	2.74635900	0.57506000	C	3.23890500	4.61193300	1.55580700
H	2.16929500	3.05176400	-0.42844100	H	3.53002700	4.97279400	0.55890200
C	2.85661800	1.72468300	1.09716200	H	3.21560700	5.49167200	2.21069800
H	2.87298300	0.85066300	0.44276000	C	1.83852700	3.99000100	1.47706900
H	2.54693800	1.36947300	2.08962700	H	1.52484000	3.70666200	2.49032700
C	4.25836700	2.33808600	1.18984300	H	1.12204700	4.73847400	1.12713300
H	4.96080100	1.59503100	1.58617500	S	-0.13513800	-2.80700700	-0.10188600
H	4.60687400	2.58504700	0.17672200	B	1.33918800	-1.92108600	0.77234600
C	4.27365900	3.60123200	2.05124200	B	-1.50578400	-1.77922800	0.77727400

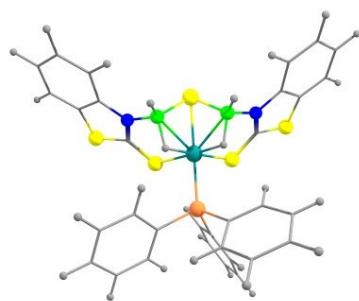


Figure S43. Optimized geometry of *fac*-3b.

Cartesian coordinates for the calculated structure of *fac*-3b (in Å).

Ru	-0.00751700	-0.30484400	-0.20101300	H	1.57137900	-2.05656500	2.01702100
S	-1.80206500	-0.11335400	-1.78946300	C	2.89032400	-1.21880500	-1.10992200
S	-4.47755800	-1.49198100	-1.82865500	C	4.85956200	-2.63610000	-0.53818900
S	1.76848900	-0.17170100	-1.81507600	C	6.02639800	-3.37548600	-0.36490500
S	4.44829400	-1.54244500	-1.84208600	H	6.83506700	-3.31539900	-1.08646000
P	0.02706900	2.04556900	0.24808800	C	6.12583800	-4.19547600	0.75570900
N	-2.75221900	-1.85035100	0.06036600	H	7.02615500	-4.78212900	0.91122200
N	2.71922500	-1.89108600	0.04510200	C	5.07460500	-4.27311200	1.67597400
C	-2.91859900	-1.17417600	-1.09349000	H	5.16571000	-4.92367100	2.54065400
C	-4.89558800	-2.58480900	-0.52604700	C	3.90792200	-3.53551000	1.50367800
C	-6.06601600	-3.31903900	-0.35483400	H	3.09093300	-3.60134800	2.21228600
H	-6.87363200	-3.25461300	-1.07719900	C	3.80377900	-2.70224900	0.38715200
C	-6.17034800	-4.13958000	0.76492500	S	-0.02613400	-2.72492200	-0.01063100
H	-7.07351800	-4.72222700	0.91896600	B	1.41143800	-1.78130100	0.85975300
C	-5.12060300	-4.22263800	1.68646000	B	-1.44101600	-1.75456900	0.87328700
H	-5.21595700	-4.87299300	2.55082100	C	-1.08964900	2.56534000	1.66701400
C	-3.95023600	-3.49049400	1.51605600	C	-2.40105700	2.07771200	1.68677800
H	-3.13457200	-3.55956100	2.22582600	C	-0.66113300	3.42655800	2.67954700
C	-3.84098500	-2.65710600	0.40013600	C	-3.27190000	2.44770700	2.70830600
H	-1.59959900	-2.03267900	2.02950800	H	-2.73571200	1.40607100	0.90075100
H	-1.16620400	-0.43296800	1.04572800	C	-1.53330100	3.78761100	3.70785100
H	1.15720400	-0.45319400	1.03148100	H	0.35315200	3.81354600	2.67082300

C	-2.83796400	3.30040500	3.72392300	H	4.28636200	2.00759900	2.82871100
H	-4.28860000	2.06450300	2.71410000	H	5.16049500	4.12164900	1.85309100
H	-1.18841900	4.45150300	4.49598700	C	-0.51855600	3.20286300	-1.13169400
H	-3.51543700	3.58197100	4.52542300	C	-1.28835200	4.34126000	-0.87553700
C	1.69926300	2.74596300	0.74412600	C	-0.12644900	2.92107500	-2.44411000
C	2.18981400	3.93744400	0.20432500	C	-1.66238100	5.18489200	-1.92130700
C	2.46477300	2.05556800	1.68963500	H	-1.60093900	4.56843700	0.13899600
C	3.43422200	4.42796800	0.60143500	C	-0.49666000	3.76823200	-3.48634000
H	1.60392900	4.48171800	-0.52943900	H	0.46910300	2.03807100	-2.65417600
C	3.70169400	2.55235900	2.09253700	C	-1.26737200	4.90068600	-3.22708700
H	2.09259200	1.12577800	2.11017000	H	-2.26535600	6.06447800	-1.71244000
C	4.19126500	3.73862000	1.54563400	H	-0.18796000	3.53665300	-4.50181300
H	3.80958700	5.35142400	0.16888200	H	-1.56249700	5.55730400	-4.04098500

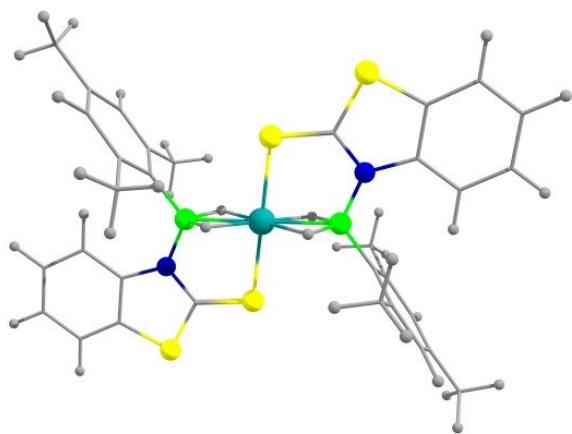


Figure S44. Optimized geometry of *trans*-4.

Cartesian coordinates for the calculated structure of *trans*-4 (in Å).

Ru	-0.00000300	-0.00000100	-	H	-2.02642800	1.48359600	-2.73431400
0.00001700				C	-5.47262000	5.02266900	-0.00041900
B	-2.17141400	0.08603500	0.00001300	H	-6.54278400	4.77986800	-0.00015800
C	-3.08783000	1.38529200	-0.00007100	H	-5.27939100	5.63535300	-0.88610400
C	-3.48103900	1.99472900	-1.21457800	H	-5.27904300	5.63572500	0.88493100
C	-4.23980700	3.16810700	-1.19502700	C	-4.20484900	-1.65190900	0.00018000
H	-4.53282600	3.62108100	-2.14082900	C	-5.30909800	-0.79345400	0.00034800
C	-4.63044300	3.77415300	-0.00031500	H	-5.16976100	0.27873900	0.00039500
C	-4.23934600	3.16863900	1.19452100	C	-6.58757400	-1.34286900	0.00045800
H	-4.53200600	3.62204700	2.14022700	H	-7.44314700	-0.67419400	0.00058800
C	-3.48057600	1.99527100	1.21431800	C	-6.78999000	-2.72582700	0.00041100
C	-3.10309900	1.40232000	2.55014600	H	-7.79797200	-3.12934100	0.00050000
H	-3.61910000	1.91573600	3.36638800	C	-5.70117000	-3.59103400	0.00026400
H	-2.02538800	1.48482500	2.73373300	H	-5.84074700	-4.66750300	0.00024100
H	-3.35873500	0.33875900	2.61451600	C	-4.42182500	-3.04196600	0.00015500
C	-3.10406800	1.40116600	-2.55027600	C	-2.02384900	-2.39654800	-0.00000700
H	-3.62038300	1.91419900	-3.36656300	S	-0.34330600	-2.34017600	-0.00007300
H	-3.35972100	0.33757500	-2.61405400	S	-2.90146400	-3.90615300	0.00001100

N	-2.83766300	-1.30874500	0.00005400	H	6.54281800	-4.77983400	-0.00037300
H	-1.34543500	0.10925800	-1.07724400	H	5.27917600	-5.63568700	0.88486500
H	-1.34544300	0.10924500	1.07721900	H	5.27934200	-5.63534900	-0.88617000
B	2.17140800	-0.08603800	0.00002600	C	4.20484300	1.65190500	0.00024800
C	3.08782400	-1.38529600	-0.00006300	C	5.30909300	0.79345000	0.00047700
C	3.48051100	-1.99533800	1.21430600	H	5.16975700	-0.27874300	0.00057000
C	4.23930900	-3.16869500	1.19448400	C	6.58756800	1.34286500	0.00058500
H	4.53192700	-3.62214200	2.14018400	H	7.44314200	0.67419000	0.00076000
C	4.63046500	-3.77413900	-0.00036000	C	6.78998500	2.72582300	0.00048000
C	4.23987200	-3.16803300	-1.19506400	H	7.79796700	3.12933800	0.00056400
H	4.53293900	-3.62096400	-2.14087200	C	5.70116500	3.59103000	0.00028000
C	3.48110300	-1.99466300	-1.21459000	H	5.84074100	4.66750000	0.00021500
C	3.10421000	-1.40100500	-2.55026600	C	4.42182000	3.04196200	0.00017300
H	3.62048800	-1.91404800	-3.36656700	C	2.02384400	2.39654500	0.00002000
H	2.02656600	-1.48330900	-2.73433100	S	0.34330100	2.34017300	-0.00007100
H	3.35997700	-0.33743600	-2.61397900	S	2.90145900	3.90614900	-0.00002200
C	3.10295500	-1.40248400	2.55015700	N	2.83765800	1.30874100	0.00011700
H	3.61888300	-1.91598600	3.36639400	H	1.34540300	-0.10930000	1.07723900
H	3.35861800	-0.33893600	2.61464200	H	1.34546200	-0.10920900	-1.07722300
H	2.02523000	-1.48497500	2.73365700				
C	5.47265600	-5.02264600	-0.00051600				

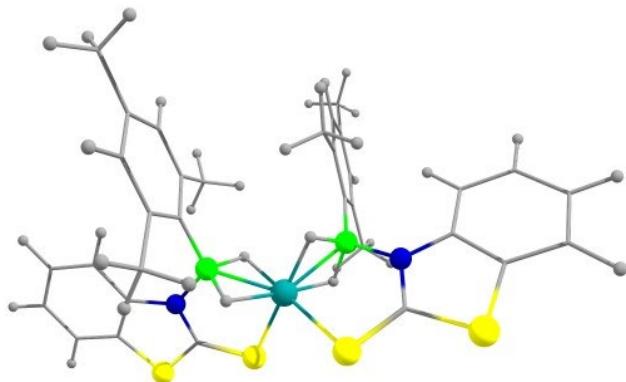


Figure S45. Optimized geometry of *cis*-4.

Cartesian coordinates for the calculated structure of *cis*-4 (in Å).

Ru	-0.00008400	-1.22653400	-0.00039500	S	-1.30233500	-2.82095400	-1.14772600
C	-4.44839400	-0.59716200	-0.44272600	B	-1.88427600	-0.22629100	0.26370800
C	-5.23394300	-1.52320400	-1.15354700	H	-1.32818400	-1.16325500	1.09636400
C	-6.60583700	-1.35442100	-1.32039000	H	-0.99915800	-0.00739300	-0.74594800
C	-7.20422400	-0.23090300	-0.76037900	C	4.44825800	-0.59757500	0.44303100
C	-6.43469200	0.69545100	-0.05051500	C	5.23349500	-1.52371100	1.15407700
C	-5.06372200	0.52753500	0.11661000	C	6.60536000	-1.35506000	1.32132800
N	-3.08701200	-0.95509200	-0.39549900	C	7.20402800	-0.23159800	0.76150800
C	-2.82952100	-2.11927800	-1.03726900	C	6.43479600	0.69485100	0.05143100
S	-4.24950400	-2.84012400	-1.75077800	C	5.06385800	0.52707200	-0.11609700

N	3.08683400	-0.95536500	0.39541300	H	-2.54998300	1.85505200	-1.62482500
C	2.82906300	-2.11953300	1.03707900	H	-2.00691900	3.51880300	-1.38698900
S	4.24876200	-2.84054800	1.75098400	H	-0.84624900	2.18927700	-1.31444300
S	1.30177800	-2.82109500	1.14709100	C	-2.74094300	4.78647500	3.33220400
B	1.88435900	-0.22645800	-0.26420700	H	-3.20481400	5.56898500	2.72371300
H	0.99893500	-0.00750900	0.74524800	H	-3.36672500	4.62700300	4.21555200
H	1.32853200	-1.16311900	-1.09696900	H	-1.77737800	5.17698600	3.68281300
H	-7.18984600	-2.08333500	-1.87338700	C	2.15486400	1.11144700	-1.07954800
H	-8.27269100	-0.07671800	-0.87645500	C	2.41357100	1.07684800	-2.47009100
H	-6.91083600	1.56916600	0.38418700	C	2.10849000	2.37183300	-0.43694400
H	-4.48200700	1.25177400	0.67005600	C	2.60954900	2.26800700	-3.17515300
H	7.18913300	-2.08404500	1.87448300	C	2.31187200	3.54123600	-1.17517700
H	8.27247700	-0.07752500	0.87789500	C	2.55726300	3.51367600	-2.54896400
H	6.91115800	1.56852600	-0.38311400	H	2.81595600	2.21966900	-4.24314400
H	4.48237200	1.25138500	-0.66969300	H	2.28242900	4.50002600	-0.65980500
C	-2.15443500	1.11149200	1.07935700	C	1.86651800	2.48805500	1.04842000
C	-2.41302500	1.07672400	2.46993100	H	2.54962800	1.85404200	1.62476100
C	-2.10805400	2.37196500	0.43692200	H	2.00784000	3.51825500	1.38725900
C	-2.60888000	2.26779900	3.17515700	H	0.84620900	2.18959800	1.31410700
C	-2.31132500	3.54128400	1.17533300	C	2.50428700	-0.22719800	-3.22526900
C	-2.55660100	3.51355500	2.54912900	H	3.19582800	-0.93050000	-2.74829500
H	-2.81515900	2.21934700	4.24316700	H	1.53040100	-0.72682700	-3.28315700
H	-2.28187000	4.50013200	0.66006800	H	2.85467700	-0.06282200	-4.24819000
C	-2.50381300	-0.22741700	3.22493200	C	2.74171800	4.78670100	-3.33184700
H	-3.19606000	-0.93027300	2.74830600	H	3.20517200	5.56922900	-2.72306700
H	-1.53014400	-0.72754600	3.28203200	H	3.36792600	4.62742500	-4.21493200
H	-2.85339700	-0.06307400	4.24813300	H	1.77824500	5.17707500	-3.68286600
C	-1.86627800	2.48841100	-1.04845900				

III References

- 1 M. Zafar, R. Ramalakshmi, K. Pathak, A. Ahmad, T. Roisnel, S. Ghosh, *Chem. Eur. J.*, 2019, **25**, 13537-13546.
- 2 K. Smith, A. Pelter, Z. Jin, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl.*, 1994, **33**, 851-853.
- 3 G. E. Ryschlewitsch, K. C. Nainan, S. R. Miller, L. J. Todd, W. J. Dewkett, M. Grace, H. Beall, M. F. Hawthorne, R. Leyden, *Inorg. Synth.*, 2007, **15**, 111-118.
- 4 (a) J. J. Led, H. Gesmar, *Chem. Rev.*, 1991, **91**, 1413–1426; (b) L. Yang, R. Simionescua, A. Lough, H. Yan, *Dyes and Pigments*, 2011, **91**, 264-267.
- 5 (a) G. M. Sheldrick, *Acta Cryst.*, 2015, **A71**, 3–8. (b) G. M. Sheldrick, SHELXS97 and SHELXL97, University of Gottingen: Germany, 1997.
- 6 G. M. Sheldrick, *Acta Cryst.*, 2015, **C71**, 3–8.
- 7 O. V. Dolomanov, L. J. Bourhis, R. J. Gildea, J. A. K. Howard, H. Puschmann, *J. Appl. Crystallogr.*, 2009, **42**, 339-341.
- 8 A. D. Becke, A. D. *J. Chem. Phys.*, 1993, **98**, 5648-5652. (b) Perdew, J. P.; Wang, Y. *Physical Review B*, 1992, **45**, 13244-13249.
- 9 Gaussian 09, Revision C.01, M. J. Frisch, G. W. Trucks, H. B. Schlegel, G. E. Scuseria, M. A. Robb, J. R. Cheeseman, G. Scalmani, V. Barone, B. Mennucci, G. A. Petersson, H. Nakatsuji, M. Caricato, X. Li, H. P. Hratchian, A. F. Izmaylov, J. Bloino, G. Zheng, J. L. Sonnenberg, M. Hada, M. Ehara, K. Toyota, R. Fukuda, J. Hasegawa, M. Ishida, T. Nakajima, Y. Honda, O. Kitao, H. Nakai, T. Vreven, J. A. Montgomery, Jr., J. E. Peralta, F. Ogliaro, M. Bearpark, J. J. Heyd, E. Brothers, K. N. Kudin, V. N. Staroverov, T. Keith, R. Kobayashi, J. Normand, K. Raghavachari, A. Rendell, J. C. Burant, S. S. Iyengar, J. Tomasi, M. Cossi, N. Rega, J. M. Millam, M. Klene, J. E. Knox, J. B. Cross, V. Bakken, C. Adamo, J. Jaramillo, R. Gomperts, R. E. Stratmann, O. Yazyev, A. J. Austin, R. Cammi, C. Pomelli, J. W. Ochterski, R. L. Martin, K. Morokuma, V. G. Zakrzewski, G. A. Voth, P. Salvador, J. J. Dannenberg, S. Dapprich, A. D. Daniels, O. Farkas, J. B. Foresman, J. V. Ortiz, J. Cioslowski, D. J. Fox, Gaussian, Inc., Wallingford CT, 2010.
- 10 (a) D. Andrae, U. Häußermann, M. Dolg, H. Stoll, H. Preuß, *Theor. Chim. Acta*, 1990, **77**, 123-141. (b) A. Bergner, M. Dolg, W. chle, H. Stoll, Preuß; Heinz Werner Mol. Phys., 1993, **80**, 1431-1441.
- 11 P. C. Hariharan, J. A. Pople, *Theor. Chim. Acta* 1973, **28**, 213-222.
- 12 (a) F. J. London, *J. Phys. Radium* 1937, **8**, 397-409, (b) R. Ditchfield, *Mol. Phys.* 1974, **27**, 789-807, (c) K. Wolinski, J. F. Hinton, P. Pulay, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 1990, **112**, 8251-8260.
- 13 T. P. Onak, H. L. Landesman, R. E. Williams, I. Shapiro, *J. Phys. Chem.*, 1959, **63**, 1533-1535.
- 14 NBO Program 6.0, E. D. Glendening, J. K. A. E. Badenhoop, Reed, J. E. Carpenter, J. A. Bohmann, C. M. Morales, C. R. Landis, F. Weinhold, Theoretical Chemistry Institute, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, 2013.
- 15 K. Wiberg, *Tetrahedron*, 1968, **24**, 1083-1096.
- 16 T. Lu, F. Chen, Multiwfn: A multifunctional wavefunction analyzer. *J. Comput. Chem.* 2012, **33**, 580-592.
- 17 Chemcraft - graphical software for visualization of quantum chemistry computations <https://www.chemcraftprog.com>.