

# Electronic Supporting Information

## Reactions of $\text{Tp}(\text{NH}=\text{CPh}_2)(\text{PPh}_3)\text{Ru}-\text{Cl}$ with $\text{HC}\equiv\text{CPh}$ in the presence of $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ : Insertion/Hydration Products

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**General Procedure.** All manipulations were performed under nitrogen using vacuum-line, drybox, and standard Schlenk techniques.  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  and  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  were distilled from  $\text{CaH}_2$  and diethyl ether and THF from Na/ketyl. All other solvents and reagents were of reagents grade and were used without further purification. NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker AC-200 and AM-300WB FT-NMR spectrometers at room temperature (unless stated otherwise) and are reported in unit  $\delta$  with residual protons in the solvent as an internal standard ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$  7.24;  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ,  $\delta$  1.93;  $\text{C}_2\text{D}_6\text{CO}$ ,  $\delta$  2.04). FAB mass spectra were recorded on a JEOL SX-102A spectrometer. Elemental analyses and X-ray diffraction studies were carried out at the Regional Center of Analytical Instrument at National Taiwan University.

**Preparation of  $\text{Tp}(\text{PPh}_3)(\text{NH}=\text{CPh}_2)\text{Ru}-\text{Cl}$  (1).** To a solution of  $\text{Tp}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Ru}-\text{Cl}$  (3.95 g, 4.50 mmol) in 100 mL toluene was added an excess of benzophenone imine (7.9 mL, 45.0 mmol) were added. The mixture was heated using a warm water bath for 30 min. A deep yellow color developed during this time. The reaction mixture was stirred for a further 2 h at room temperature. Then it was concentrated to approximately half of the volume and cooled to 0 °C. The yellow precipitate was filtered off, washed with ethanol and ether and dried was dried under vacuum to give the compound **1** (3.34 g, 95% yield). Spectroscopic data for **1** are as follows:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  12.45 (s, 1H, HN), 8.13 (d, 1H,  $J_{\text{H-H}} = 2.0$  Hz, Tp), 6.73-7.70 (Ph, Tp), 6.45 (d, 1H,  $J_{\text{H-H}} = 2.0$  Hz, Tp), 6.11 (t, 1H,  $J_{\text{H-H}} = 2.0$  Hz, Tp), 5.95 (d, 1H,  $J_{\text{H-H}} = 2.0$  Hz, Tp), 5.78 (t, 1H,  $J_{\text{H-H}} = 2.0$  Hz, Tp), 5.67 (t,  $J_{\text{H-H}} = 2.0$  Hz, 1H, Tp).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 179.9 (s,  $\text{HN}=\text{C}(\text{Ph})_2$ ), 105.2-148.4 (m, Ph,  $\text{PPh}_3$ , Tp).  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  51.3. MS ( $m/z$ , Ru102): 793.2

(M<sup>+</sup>), 758.1 (M<sup>+</sup> - Cl), 612.2 (M<sup>+</sup> - HN=C(Ph)<sub>2</sub>). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>36</sub>BClN<sub>7</sub>PRu: C, 60.58; H, 4.58; N, 12.36. Found: C, 60.43; H, 4.61; N, 12.42.

### Reaction of complex **1** with HC≡CPh in the presence of H<sub>2</sub>O.

**Condition 1:** To a distilled ethanol (20 mL) solution of **1** (0.1 g, 0.126 mmol) and H<sub>2</sub>O (3 μL, 0.17 mmol) was added phenylacetylene (0.14 mL, 1.3 mmol) at -10 °C. The reaction mixture turned green in 2 h and starting material disappeared as indicated by <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectrum. Then the resulting green solution was dried *in vacuo*. The residue was extracted with hexane and the residual solid was further washed with diethyl ether to give the complex {Tp(PPh<sub>3</sub>)(NH=CPh<sub>2</sub>)Ru(=C=CHPh)}Cl (**2**) (0.88 g, 78% yield). The hexane extract was concentrated and was then eluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> on a silica gel packed column to give Tp(PPh<sub>3</sub>)(NH=CPh<sub>2</sub>)Ru(-C≡C-Ph)(=C=CHPh) (**3**) (0.006 g, 6% yield).

In a similar manner as above, solution of **1** (0.10 g, 0.126 mmol) and H<sub>2</sub>O (3 μL, 0.17 mmol) was added trimethylsilylacetylene (0.18 mL, 1.3 mmol) at -10 °C, the reaction was performed to afford complex Tp(PPh<sub>3</sub>)(NH=CPh<sub>2</sub>)Ru(-C≡C-H)(=C=CH<sub>2</sub>) (**3\***) (0.013 g, 16% yield).

**Condition 2:** To a Schlenk flask charged with **1** (0.10 g, 0.126 mmol) were added H<sub>2</sub>O (3 μL, 0.17 mmol), and distilled ethanol (20 mL). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 5 h then the solvent was dried *in vacuo*. The residue was chromatographed on a silica gel column using CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as an eluent to give **3** (0.016 g, 16%) and Tp(PPh<sub>3</sub>)(NH=CPh<sub>2</sub>)Ru(-C(CH<sub>2</sub>Ph)=CHC(O)Ph) (**4**) as a yellow solid (0.052 g, 52%).

### Reaction of complex **2** with HC≡CPh in the presence of H<sub>2</sub>O.

Acetone (20 mL) was added to a round-bottomed flask charged with complex **2** (0.10 g, 0.11 mmol) and H<sub>2</sub>O (3 μL, 0.17 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3 h. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to 5 mL. To the solution was added 20 mL of *n*-hexane, whereupon a yellow compound was precipitated. The precipitate was filtered, washed with 10 mL of *n*-hexane and dried under vacuum to yield Tp(PPh<sub>3</sub>)(NH=CPh<sub>2</sub>)Ru(-C(CH<sub>2</sub>Ph)=CHC(O)Ph) (**4**) (0.006 g, 7 % yield) and Tp(PPh<sub>3</sub>)(NH=CPh<sub>2</sub>)Ru(-C(Ph)=CHC(O)CH<sub>2</sub>Ph) (**5**) (0.072 g, 82 % yield).

Spectroscopic data for **2**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 11.58 (s, 1H, NH), 7.89 (br, 1H, Tp), 7.62 (br, 2H, Tp), 7.42-6.94 (m, PPh<sub>3</sub>, Ph), 6.78 (br, 1H, Tp), 6.66 (br, 1H, Tp), 5.73 (br, 2H, Tp), 5.60 (br, 1H, Tp), 5.47 (br, 1H, Tp), 5.18 (d, *J*<sub>P-H</sub> = 3.7 Hz, 1H, CH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 372.3 (t, *J*<sub>P-C</sub> = 16.5 Hz, Cα), 176.4 (s, HN=C(Ph)<sub>2</sub>), 146.2 - 106.8 (m, Ph, Tp, PPh<sub>3</sub>, Cβ). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 37.5. MS (FAB) *m/z*: 860.2 (M<sup>+</sup> - Cl), 679.2 (M<sup>+</sup> - Cl, HN=C(Ph)<sub>2</sub>), 577.1 (M<sup>+</sup> - Cl, HN=C(Ph)<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>PhH). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>48</sub>H<sub>42</sub>N<sub>7</sub>BClN<sub>7</sub>PRu (895.2): C, 64.40; H, 4.73; N, 10.95. Found: C, 64.37; H, 4.70; N, 10.89.

Spectroscopic data for **3**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.85 (d, *J*<sub>H-H</sub> = 2.2 Hz, 1H, Tp), 7.81 (d, *J*<sub>H-H</sub> = 2.2 Hz, 1H, Tp), 7.69 (d, *J*<sub>H-H</sub> = 2.2 Hz, 1H, Tp), 7.40 - 7.07 (m, Ph), 6.86 (1H, Tp), 6.78 (1H, Tp), 6.76 (1H, Tp), 6.02 (t, *J*<sub>H-H</sub> = 2.2 Hz, 1H, Tp), 5.98 (t, *J*<sub>H-H</sub> = 2.2 Hz, 1H, Tp), 5.85 (t, *J*<sub>H-H</sub> = 2.2 Hz, 1H, Tp), 4.85 (br, 1H, CH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 375.3 (d, *J*<sub>P-C</sub> = 16.3 Hz, Ru=C), 136.3 (d, *J*<sub>P-C</sub> = 12.3 Hz, Ru-C≡), 146.9 - 105.6 (m, Ph, PPh<sub>3</sub>, Tp).

$^{31}\text{P}$  NMR (acetone):  $\delta$  49.1. MS (FAB)  $m/z$ : 780.2 ( $\text{M}^+ + 1$ ), 678.1 ( $\text{M}^+ + 1 - \text{C}_2\text{HPh}$ ), 577.1 ( $\text{M}^+ + 1 - \text{C}_2\text{HPh}$ ,  $\text{C}_2\text{Ph}$ ). Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{43}\text{H}_{36}\text{N}_6\text{BPRu}$  (780.2): C, 66.24; H, 4.65; N, 10.78. Found: C, 66.21; H, 4.59; N, 10.58.

Spectroscopic data for **3\***:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.91 (1H, Tp), 7.84 (1H, Tp), 7.61 (1H, Tp), 7.51-7.18 (m, Ph), 6.97 (1H, Tp), 6.88 (1H, Tp), 6.71 (1H, Tp), 6.01 (1H, Tp), 5.92 (1H, Tp), 5.76 (1H, Tp), 4.82 (br, 2H, CH), 1.54 (d,  $J_{\text{H-H}} = 3.2$  Hz, 1H,  $\equiv\text{CH}$ ).  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR (acetone):  $\delta$  49.4. MS (FAB)  $m/z$ : 628.2 ( $\text{M}^+ + 1$ ), 602.2 ( $\text{M}^+ + 1 - \text{C}_2\text{H}_2$ ), 577.1 ( $\text{M}^+ + 1 - \text{C}_2\text{H}_2$ ,  $\text{C}_2\text{H}$ ). Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_6\text{BPRu}$  (628.2): C, 59.34; H, 4.50; N, 13.39. Found: C, 59.23; H, 4.46; N, 13.29.

Spectroscopic data for **4**:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.68 (d,  $J_{\text{H-H}} = 2.1$  Hz, 1H, Tp), 7.54 (s, 1H,  $=\text{CH}$ ), 7.35 (d,  $J_{\text{H-H}} = 2.1$  Hz, 2H, Tp), 7.24-6.91 (m,  $\text{PPh}_3$ ), 6.64 (d,  $J_{\text{H-H}} = 2.1$  Hz, 2H, Tp), 5.71 (t,  $J_{\text{H-H}} = 2.1$  Hz, 2H, Tp), 5.36 (t,  $J_{\text{H-H}} = 2.1$  Hz, 1H, Tp), 5.11 (d,  $J_{\text{H-H}} = 2.1$  Hz, 1H, Tp), 4.64 (d,  $J_{\text{H-H}} = 17.3$  Hz,  $\text{CHHPh}$ ), 4.52 (d,  $J_{\text{H-H}} = 17.3$  Hz,  $\text{CHHPh}$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  198.4 ( $\text{C}=\text{O}$ ), 171.3 (d,  $J_{\text{P-C}} = 14.1$  Hz,  $\text{Ru-C}=\text{C}$ ), 148.3-122.7 (m, Ph,  $\text{PPh}_3$ , Tp,  $\text{C}_\beta$ ), 54.9 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$ ).  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  59.1. MS (FAB)  $m/z$ : 798.2 ( $\text{M}^+$ ), 577.1 ( $\text{M}^+ - \text{CCH}_2\text{PhCHCPhCO}$ ). Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{45}\text{H}_{40}\text{BN}_9\text{P}_2\text{Ru}$  (798.2): C, 64.75; H, 4.80; N, 10.54. Found: C, 64.57; H, 4.74; N, 10.45.

Spectroscopic data for **5**:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.03 (br, 1H, Tp), 7.96 (br, 1H, Tp), 7.83 (br, 1H, Tp), 7.65 (br, 1H, Tp), 7.43 - 7.10 (m, Ph), 7.04 (s, 1H, CH), 6.71 (s, 1H, CH), 6.53 (br, 1H, Tp), 6.24 (br, 1H, Tp), 6.03 (br, 1H, Tp), 5.83 (br, 1H, Tp), 5.40 (br, 1H,

Tp), 3.35 (d,  $J_{\text{H-H}} = 16.8$  Hz, 1H, *CHHP*h), 3.18 (d,  $J_{\text{H-H}} = 16.8$  Hz, 1H, *CHHP*h).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  202.4 ( $\text{C}=\text{O}$ ), 166.3 (d,  $J_{\text{P-C}} = 14.0$  Hz, Ru-C=), 148.3-122.7 (m, Ph,  $\text{PPh}_3$ ,  $\text{Tp}$ ,  $\text{C}_\beta$ ), 51.3 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$ ).  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): d 51.4. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{45}\text{H}_{40}\text{BN}_9\text{P}_2\text{Ru}$  (798.2): C, 64.75; H, 4.80; N, 10.54. Found: C, 64.57; H, 4.74; N, 10.45.