

## **Electronic structure alternatives in nitrosylruthenium complexes**

**Goutam Kumar Lahiri\* and Wolfgang Kaim\***

**Electronic Supporting Information**

**Table S1** EPR spectroscopic data<sup>a</sup> of selected nitrosylruthenium complexes; n.o. not observed

Complex	$g_1$	$g_2$	$g_3$	$g_{av}$	$\Delta_g$	$A_1$	$A_2$	$A_3$	Ref.
$[(py)_4(NH_3)Ru(NO)]^{2+ b}$	2.0215	1.9875	1.878	1.963	0.1435	n.o.	3.0	n.o.	18
$[(py)_4(SCN)Ru(NO)]^{+ b}$	2.0225	1.9895	1.877	1.963	0.1455	n.o.	2.9	n.o.	18
$[(py)_4ClRu(NO)]^{+ b}$	2.025	1.990	1.886	1.967	0.139	n.o.	3.1	n.o.	18
$[(py)_4ClRu(NO)]^{+ c}$	2.033	1.989	1.874	1.965	0.159	1.51	3.18	1.07	21
$[(py)_4(OH)Ru(NO)]^{+ b}$	2.0235	1.991	1.886	1.967	0.1375	n.o.	3.2	n.o.	18
$[(bpy)_2(CH_3CN)Ru(NO)]^{2+ b}$	2.028	1.9925	1.882	1.968	0.146	n.o.	3.3	n.o.	18
$[(bpy)_2ClRu(NO)]^{+ b}$	2.029	1.992	1.881	1.968	0.148	n.o.	3.2	n.o.	18
$[(terpy)(bpy)Ru(NO)]^{2+ b}$	2.0175	1.998	1.883	1.967	0.1345	n.o.	3.4	n.o.	18
$[(terpy)(bpz)Ru(NO)]^{2+ b}$	2.0215	1.999	1.886	1.969	0.1355	n.o.	3.4	n.o.	18
$[(NC)(py)_4Ru(\mu-CN)(py)_4Ru(NO)]^{2+ c}$	2.024	1.990	1.865	1.960	0.159	1.55	3.39	0.97	21
$[(cyclam)ClRu(NO)]^{+ d}$	2.035	1.995	1.883	1.971	0.152	1.7	3.21	1.5	46
$[(bpydip)ClRu(NO)]^{+ e}$	2.027	1.991	1.889	1.969	0.138	1.69	3.23	1.48	47
$[(dppe)_2ClRu(NO)]^{+ g}$	2.011	1.976	1.867	1.951	0.144	1.71	1.85 <sup>f</sup>	1.43	46(b)
$[(depe)_2ClRu(NO)]^{+ d}$	2.010	1.984	1.888	1.961	0.122	1.8	3.5	1.9	46(b)
$[(NC)_5Ru(NO)]^{3- h}$	2.004	2.002	1.870	1.959	0.134	n.o.	3.8	n.o.	48
$[(Ph_3P)_2(C_5Me_5)Ru(NO)]^{+ i}$	2.0115	1.983	1.900	1.965	0.111	1.63	2.10 <sup>f</sup>	2.29	49
	1.995	1.995	1.896	1.962	0.099	n.o.	2.85	n.o.	49 <sup>j</sup>

$[(\text{PhMe}_2\text{P})_2(\text{C}_5\text{Me}_5)\text{Ru}(\text{NO})]^+{}^i$	2.000	1.998	1.915	1.970	0.085	1.06	3.38	1.07	49
	1.996	1.996	1.964 <sup>f</sup>	1.985 <sup>f</sup>	0.032 <sup>f</sup>	n.o.	3.25	n.o.	49 <sup>j</sup>
$[(\text{Me}_3\text{P})_2(\text{C}_5\text{Me}_5)\text{Ru}(\text{NO})]^+{}^i$	2.007	2.002	1.918	1.976	0.089	1.15	3.37	1.20	49
	2.001	1.994	1.912	1.969	0.089	0.6	3.3	1.3	49 <sup>j</sup>
$[\text{HCl}(\text{OC})(\text{P}i\text{Pr}_3)_2\text{Ru}(\text{NO})]^k$	2.006	1.993	1.910	1.970	0.096	n.o.	3.45	n.o.	50
$[\text{DCl}(\text{OC})(\text{P}i\text{Pr}_3)_2\text{Ru}(\text{NO})]^k$	2.001	1.994	1.910	1.968	0.091	n.o.	3.45	n.o.	50
$[(\text{bpy})(\text{tpm})\text{Ru}(\text{NO})]^{2+}{}^m$	2.031	1.990	1.886	1.969	0.145	n.v.	3.2	n.v.	13
$[(\text{trpy})(\text{L})\text{Ru}(\text{NO})]^{2+}{}^l$	2.020	1.995	1.884	1.966	0.136	n.o.	3.0	n.o.	7
$[(\text{bpym})(\text{trpy})\text{Ru}(\text{NO})]^{2+}$	2.021	1.995	1.885	1.967	0.136	n.o.	3.4	n.o.	45
$[(\text{TPP})(\text{py})\text{Ru}(\text{NO})]^\bullet$	2.036	1.985	1.880	1.967	0.156	n.o.	3.3	n.o.	8
$[\text{ClRu}(\text{py})_4(\text{CN})\text{Ru}(\text{py})_4(\text{CN})\text{Ru}(\text{py})_4\text{Ru}(\text{NO})]^{3+}$	2.028	1.990	1.862	1.960	0.166	n.o.	3.3	n.o.	2

<sup>a</sup> <sup>14</sup>N hyperfine coupling *A* in mT. <sup>b</sup> In CH<sub>3</sub>CN/0.1 M Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub>, measured at 110 K. <sup>c</sup> In CH<sub>3</sub>CN/0.1 M Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub>, measured at 10 K. <sup>d</sup> In ethylene glycol + 30% H<sub>2</sub>O, measured at 77 K; cyclam = 1,4,8,11-tetraazacyclotetradecane; depe = 1,2-bis(diethylphosphanyl)-ethane. <sup>e</sup> In CH<sub>3</sub>CN, measured at 110 K; bpydip = N,N'-bis(7-methyl-2-pyridylmethylene)-1,3-diiminopropane. <sup>f</sup> Probably erroneous value. <sup>g</sup> In CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, measured at 77 K; dppe = 1,2-bis(diphenylphosphanyl)ethane. <sup>h</sup> In CH<sub>3</sub>CN/0.1 M Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub>, measured at 3.5 K. <sup>i</sup> In CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, measured at 113 K. <sup>j</sup> In acetone, measured at 100 K. <sup>k</sup> In toluene, measured at 77 K. Additional <sup>1</sup>H hyperfine coupling observed at about 3.5 mT. <sup>l</sup> L = 2-phenylimidazo[4,5-*f*]-1,10-phenanthroline. <sup>m</sup> tpm = tris(1-pyrazolyl)methane.

**Table S2** Selected nitrosyl stretching frequencies  $\nu(\text{NO})$  of various complexes

Compound	$\nu_{\text{NO}^+} / \text{cm}^{-1}$	$\nu_{\text{NO}^\bullet} / \text{cm}^{-1}$	$\nu_{\text{NO}^-} / \text{cm}^{-1}$	Ref.
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)(\text{Q}^{\bullet-})(\text{trpy})](\text{PF}_6)_2$	1900	-	-	1
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)(\text{Q}^{2-})(\text{trpy})]^+$	1830 ( $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ )	-	-	
<i>trans</i> - $[\text{ClRu}^{\text{II}}(\text{py})_4(\text{NC})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{py})_4(\text{CN})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{py})_4(\text{NO}^+)](\text{PF}_6)_4$	1919	-	-	2
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{trpy})(\text{bik})(\text{NO}^+)](\text{ClO}_4)_3$	1951	1630	-	3
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{trpy})(\text{bik})(\text{NO}^+)(\text{Thnl})]$	1847	-	-	4
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{trpy})(\text{bik})(\text{NO}^+)(\text{Seln})]$	1847	-	-	
$[(\text{Me}_2\text{bpb})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)(\text{OH})]$	1828	-	-	5
$[(\text{Me}_2\text{bpb})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)(\text{Resf})]$	1841	-	-	
$[(\text{Me}_2\text{bQb})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)(\text{Resf})]$	1847	-	-	
$[(\text{Me}_2\text{bQb})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)(\text{OH})]$	1837	-	-	
$[(\text{Me}_2\text{bQb})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)\text{Cl}]$	1829	-	-	
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{Me}_2\text{bQb})(\text{NO}^+)(\text{OH})]$	1852	-	-	
$[(\text{Me}_2\text{bQb})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)(\text{Resf})]$	1848	-	-	
<i>syn</i> - $\{(\mu\text{-bpym-(4-OH)})[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)(\text{trpy})]_2\}(\text{PF}_6)_5$	1946	-	-	6
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{trpy})(\text{pip})(\text{NO}^+)](\text{ClO}_4)_3$	1948	1634	-	7
$[(\text{TPP}^{\bullet-})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)(\text{H}_2\text{O})]^{2+}$	1902	-	-	8
$[(\text{TPP}^{2-})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)(\text{H}_2\text{O})]\text{BF}_4$	1875	-	-	
$[(\text{TPP}^{2-})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)(\text{Py})]\text{BF}_4$	1903	-	-	
$[(\text{TPP}^{2-})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^\bullet)(\text{Py})]$	-	1584	-	
$[(\text{OEP}^{\bullet-})\text{Ru}^{\text{III}}(\text{NO}^+)(\text{H}_2\text{O})]^{3+}$	1950	-	-	
$[(\text{OEP}^{\bullet-})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)(\text{H}_2\text{O})]^{2+}$	1895	-	-	
$[(\text{OEP}^{2-})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)(\text{H}_2\text{O})]\text{BF}_4$	1877	-	-	
$[(\text{OEP}^{2-})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)(\text{Py})]\text{BF}_4$	1876	-	-	
$[(\text{OEP}^{2-})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^\bullet)(\text{Py})]$	-	1568	-	
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{trpy})(\text{pdt})(\text{NO}^+)](\text{ClO}_4)_3$	1944	1633	-	9
$[(\text{SBPy}_3)\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)](\text{BF}_4)_3$	1920	-	-	10
$[(\text{Py}_3\text{P})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)]\text{BF}_4$	1877	-	-	
$[(\text{PaPy}_3)\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)](\text{BF}_4)_2$	1899	-	-	
$[(\text{Py}_3\text{P})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)\text{Cl}]$	1862	-	-	
$[(\text{Papy}_2\text{Q})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)](\text{BF}_4)_2$	1868	-	-	11
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{Me}_2\text{bpb})(\text{NO}^+)(4\text{-vpy})]\text{BF}_4$	1872	-	-	12
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{bpy})(\text{tpm})\text{NO}^+](\text{ClO}_4)_3$	1959	-	-	13

$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{trpy})(\text{L}^{1-4})(\text{NO}^+)](\text{X})_3$				14
$\text{L}^1 = 2-(2\text{-pyridyl})\text{benzoxazole}$ $\text{L}^2 = 2-(2\text{-pyridyl})\text{benzthiazole}$ $\text{L}^3 = 2-(2\text{-pyridyl})\text{benzimidazole}$ $\text{L}^4 = 1\text{-methyl-}2-(2\text{-pyridyl})\text{-}1H\text{-benzimidazole}$ $\text{X} = \text{ClO}_4^- \text{ for } \text{L}^1, \text{L}^2, \text{L}^4, \text{X} = \text{NO}_3^- \text{ for } \text{L}^3$	$\text{L}^1$ --1957 $\text{L}^2$ --1941 $\text{L}^3$ --1940 $\text{L}^4$ --1932			
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{trpy})(\text{dpk})(\text{NO}^+)](\text{ClO}_4)_3$	1949	1666 (CH <sub>3</sub> CN)		15
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{trpy})(\text{L})(\text{NO}^+)](\text{ClO}_4)_3$ $\text{L} = 2,2'\text{-dipyridylamine}$	1945	1830 (CH <sub>3</sub> CN)		16
$\text{K}_2[\text{Cl}_5\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)]$ $[\text{Cl}_5\text{Ru}^{\text{III}}(\text{NO}^+)]^-$	1843 ( <i>n</i> -PrCN) 1922 ( <i>n</i> -PrCN)			17
$[(\text{trpy})(\text{bpz})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)](\text{PF}_6)_3$ <i>trans</i> - $[(\text{py})_4(\text{SCN})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)](\text{PF}_6)_2$	1957 1902			18
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NH}_3)_5(\text{NO}^+)](\text{PF}_6)_3$	1913			19
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{Papy}_3)(\text{NO}^+)](\text{BF}_4)_2$ <i>trans</i> - $[(\text{NC})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{py})_4(\text{CN})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{py})_4(\text{NO})](\text{PF}_6)_3$ <i>trans</i> - $[(\text{NC})\text{Ru}^{\text{III}}(\text{py})_4(\text{CN})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{py})_4(\text{NO}^+)]^{4+}$	1899 1917 (CH <sub>3</sub> CN) 1952 (CH <sub>3</sub> CN)	1626 (CH <sub>3</sub> CN)		20 21
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{TPP}^{2-})(\text{NO}^+)(\text{ONO})]$	1844			22
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NCS})(\text{NO}^+)(\text{bpy})(\text{py})_2](\text{PF}_6)_2$	1925			23
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{trpy})(\text{L})(\text{NO}^+)] [\text{ClO}_4]_3$ $\text{L} = \text{NC}_5\text{H}_4\text{N}=\text{NC}_6\text{H}_4(\text{R}),$ $\text{R} = \text{H} / m\text{-Me} / m\text{-Cl} / p\text{-Me} / p\text{-Cl}$	1960 1953 1952 1955 1957			24
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)(\text{trpy})\text{Cl}_2](\text{PF}_6)$ $[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{OH})(\text{NO}_2)(\text{NO}^+)(\text{trpy})](\text{PF}_6)$ $[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}\text{Cl}(\text{OCH}_3)(\text{NO}^+)(\text{trpy})](\text{PF}_6)$ $[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}\text{Br}_2(\text{NO}^+)(\text{trpy})](\text{PF}_6)$	1895 1860 1870 1916			25
$[(\text{OEP}^{2-})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)(p\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4\text{F})]$	1759			26
$[(\text{TTP}^{2-})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)(p\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4\text{F})]$	1773			27
$\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{salen})(\text{Cl})(\text{NO}^+)$	1844 (CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> )			28
$\text{K}[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{hedta})(\text{NO}^\bullet)]$ $[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{hedta})(\text{NO})]$ $\text{K}_z[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{hedta})(\text{NO}^-)]$ $[(\text{OEP}^{2-})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)(\text{OH}_2)](\text{BF}_4)$	- 1846 - 1852	1858	1383	29 30
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{FTTP})(\text{NO}^+)(\text{ONO})]$ $[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{TTP}^{2-})(\text{NO}^+)(\text{ONO})]$ $[(\text{OEP}^{2-})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)(\text{Cl})]$ $[(\text{OEP}^{2-})\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)(\text{OH})]$	1847 (C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>12</sub> ) 1841 1827 1804			31 32

$\text{Na}_2[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{CN})_5(\text{NO}^+)]$	1926	-	-	33
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{Cp})(\text{NO}^+)(\text{PPh}_3)_2](\text{PF}_6)_2$	1860	-	-	34
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{trpy})(\text{bpy})(\text{NO}^+)]^{3+}$	1952 ( $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ )	-	-	35
$\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}\text{Cl}_3(\text{NO}^+)(\text{PMePh}_2)$	1876	-	-	36
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NH}_3)_5(\text{NO}^+)]\text{Cl}_3$	1913	-	-	
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}\text{Cl}_3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2(\text{NO}^+)]$	1895	-	-	
$\text{NH}_4[\text{Ru}^{\text{III}}(\text{NO}^+)\text{Cl}_5]$	1900	-	-	37
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{I}}(\text{NO}^+)\text{Cl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_2]$	1868	-	-	
$[(\text{bpy})_2\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)\text{N}_3](\text{PF}_6)_2$	1923 ( $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ )	1611	-	38
$[(\text{bpy})_2\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^\bullet)\text{Cl}]\text{I}$	-			
$[(\text{bpy})_2\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)\text{NO}_2](\text{PF}_6)_2$	1948 ( $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ )			
$[(\text{bpy})_2\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)\text{NH}_3](\text{PF}_6)_3$	1950 ( $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ )			
$[(\text{bpy})_2\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)\text{py}](\text{PF}_6)_3$	1953 ( $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ )			
$[(\text{bpy})_2\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)(\text{CH}_3\text{CN})](\text{PF}_6)_3$	1956			
$[(\text{bpy})_2\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^\bullet)(\text{CH}_3\text{CN})](\text{PF}_6)_2$	-			
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{0}}(\mu\text{-PPh}_2)(\text{NO})(\text{L})]_z$				39
L=PmePh <sub>2</sub>	1625			
L= PPh <sub>3</sub>	1640			
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}\text{Cl}(\text{bpy})_2(\text{NO}^+)](\text{PF}_6)_2$	1931 ( $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CO}$ )	-	-	40
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{0}}(\text{NO}^+)(\text{H}^-)(\text{PPh}_3)_3]$	1640	-	-	41
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{0}}(\text{NO}^+)(\text{diphos})_2]\text{B}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)_4$	1673	-	-	
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{OH})(\text{NO}^+)(\text{NO}^\bullet)(\text{PPh}_3)_2]\text{BF}_4$	1870 (nujol)	1665 (nujol)	-	42
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}\text{Cl}(\text{NO}^+)(\text{NO}^\bullet)(\text{PPh}_3)_2]\text{PF}_6$	1845	1687	-	43
$\text{Na}_2[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)(\text{NO}_2)_4(\text{OH})]$	1893	-	-	44
$[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{NO}^+)(\text{NH}_3)_4(\text{OH})]\text{Cl}_2$	1834	-	-	

Table S2

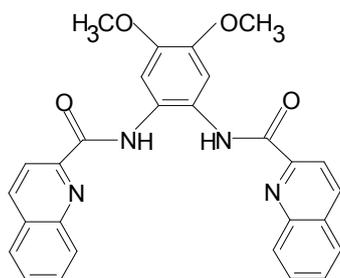
Q = 4,6-di-*tert*-butyl-*N*-phenyl-*o*-iminobenzoquinone

py = pyridine

trpy = 2,2':6',2''-terpyridine

bik = 2,2'-bis(1-methylimidazolyl)ketone

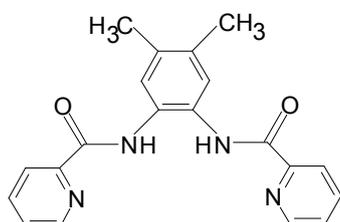
H<sub>2</sub>(OMe)<sub>2</sub>bQb =



Thnl = thionol

Seln = selenophore

H<sub>2</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>bpb =



Resf = Resorufin

bpym = 2,2'-bipyrimidine

pip = 2-Phenylimidazo[4,5-f]1,10-phenanthroline

TPP<sup>2-</sup> = *meso*-tetraphenylporphyrin dianion

OEP<sup>2-</sup> = octaethylporphyrin dianion

pdt = 5,6-diphenyl-3-pyridyl-as-triazine

SBPy<sub>3</sub> = *N,N*-bis(2-pyridylmethyl)amine-*N*-ethyl-2-pyridine-2-alimine

Py<sub>3</sub>PH<sub>2</sub> = *N,N*-bis(2-(2-pyridyl)ethyl)pyridine-2,6-dicarboxamide

PaPy<sub>3</sub>H = *N,N*-bis(2-pyridylmethyl)amine-*N*-ethyl-2-pyridine-2-carboxamide

Papy<sub>2</sub>QH = *N,N*-bis(2-pyridylmethyl)amine-*N*-ethyl-2-quinaldine-2-carboxamide

4-vpy = 4-vinylpyridine

bpy = 2,2'-bipyridine

tpm = tris(1-pyrazolyl)methane

dpk = 2,2'-dipyridyl ketone

bpz = 2,2'-bipyrazine

TTP<sup>2-</sup> = *meso*-tetratolylporphyrinato dianion

Salen = *N,N'*-bis-(salicylidene)ethylenediaminate

hedta<sup>3-</sup> = *N*-(hydroxyethyl)ethylenediaminetriacetate

FTTP<sup>2-</sup> = [tetra(*m*-trifluoromethylphenyl)porphyrin]

Cp = cyclopentadienyl

diphos = 1,2-bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane

## Referentes

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