

Electronic Supporting Information
for

Mono- and dinuclear ruthenium(II)
1,6,7,12-tetraazaperylene complexes

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Crystallographic information

[2](PF₆)₂·0.5CH₃CN·0.5toluene

The complex [2](PF₆)₂·0.5CH₃CN·0.5toluene crystallises with one half of a molecule toluene (disordered around the inversion center). The disorder models gave unsatisfactory results. Therefore, the data were corrected for disordered solvent using the SQUEEZE option in PLATON¹.

[3](PF₆)₂·2toluene

The solvent molecules toluene in [3](PF₆)₂·2toluene were refined over two position, with occupancy ratios of 80:20 and 70:30 and a set of geometrical restraints/constraints. (The methyl aryl distances were restrained to standard values by DFIX-instructions and the aromatic rings were constrained to a regular hexagon [d = 1.39 Å] by AFIX 66 - instructions.)

Table S 1 Selected Bond Lengths (Å) and Angles (deg) for [2](PF₆)₂·0.5CH₃CN·0.5toluene, [3](PF₆)₂·2toluene and [4](PF₆)₂·3acetone·0.5H₂O as well as the ruthenium and tape distances of the according dimer.

| Compound | [2](PF ₆) ₂ ·0.5CH ₃ CN·0.5toluene | [3](PF ₆) ₂ ·2toluene | [4](PF ₆) ₂ ·3acetone·0.5H ₂ O |
|--------------------------|--|--|--|
| Ru-N(1) | 2.057(2) | 2.047(2) | 2.065(3) |
| Ru-N(4) | 2.062(3) | 2.056(3) | 2.053(3) |
| Ru-N(5) | 2.048(3) | 2.062(3) | 2.054(3) |
| Ru-N(6) | 2.060(2) | 2.069(2) | 2.057(3) |
| Ru-N(7) | 2.073(3) | 2.063(3) | 2.061(3) |
| Ru-N(8) | 2.056(3) | 2.061(3) | 2.065(3) |
| N(1)-Ru-N(4) | 79.10(10) | 79.15(10) | 79.19(13) |
| N(5)-Ru-N(6) | 78.52(10) | 78.57(10) | 78.37(11) |
| N(7)-Ru-N(8) | 78.42(10) | 77.98(10) | 78.27(12) |
| Ru···Ru | 10.83 | 10.37 | 10.50 |
| tape···tape ^a | 3.40(8) | 3.38(7) | 3.37(3) |

^a Distances are between the calculated plains (MERCURY) of the tape moieties using the non-hydrogen atoms only.

¹A. L. Spek (2008) PLATON, A Multipurpose Crystallographic Tool, Utrecht University, Utrecht, The Netherlands.

UV-Vis absorption

Table S 2 Full absorption Data^a of the synthesized mono- and dinuclear ruthenium(II)-complexes.

| compound | λ [nm] (ϵ [$10^{-4} M^{-1} cm^{-1}$]) |
|--|--|
| [Ru(bpy) ₂ b pym] ²⁺ | 286 (55.9±0.7), 427 (11.2±0.1) |
| [Ru(dmbpy) ₂ b pym] ²⁺ | 258 (27.6±2.2), 284 (50.7±3.9), 424 (10.6±0.8) |
| [Ru(tmbpy) ₂ b pym] ²⁺ | 206 (62.6±0.1), 267 (42.6±0.1), 288 (61.1±0.1), 418 (14.0±0.2) |
| [Ru(dtbbpy) ₂ b pym] ²⁺ | 249 (27.6±1.0), 258 (28.3±1.1), 286 (52.7±2.2), 421 (10.8±0.3) |
| [Ru(dtbbpy) ₂ tpphz] ²⁺ | 247 (51.6±0.4), 283 (92.7±0.2), 363 (18.5±0.3), 382 (26.8±0.4), 440 (16.2±0.1) |
| [Ru(bpy) ₂ dbneil] ²⁺ | 257 (53.2±1.0), 285 (79.0±2.1), 329 (45.7±0.8), 418 (23.4±0.3), 440 (25.6±0.1), 491 (6.1±0.2), 593 (19.3±0.1) |
| [Ru(dmbpy) ₂ dbneil] ²⁺ | 233 (61.6±0.3), 259 (58.0±0.2), 284 (84.0±0.1), 328 (46.1±0.2), 381 (24.7±0.3), 423 (25.3±0.2), 444 (25.5±0.2), 608 (21.1±0.2) |
| [Ru(tmbpy) ₂ dbneil] ²⁺ | 290 (79.4±0.4), 392 (25.1±0.2), 422 (23.9±0.2), 446 (21.3±0.3), 618 (18.4±0.2) |
| [Ru(dtbbpy) ₂ dbneil] ²⁺ | 259 (55.7±1.5), 285 (82.1±2.0), 328 (45.1±1.2), 392 (24.3±0.7), 423 (25.6±0.7), 441 (24.5±0.7), 610 (20.0±0.5) |
| [Ru(bpy) ₂ tape] ²⁺ | 245 (60.8±3.4), 284 (61.8±3.5), 396 (18.7±0.7), 421 (19.4±0.8), 609 (14.0±0.5) |
| [Ru(phen) ₂ tape] ²⁺ | 262 (78.3±1.3), 389 (20.5±0.5), 420 (19.2±0.4), 441 (15.0±0.2), 606 (12.7±0.2) |
| [Ru(dmbpy) ₂ tape] ²⁺ | 283 (55.3±0.6), 399 (17.4±0.4), 421 (17.0±0.4), 625 (12.5±0.3) |
| [Ru(tmbpy) ₂ tape] ²⁺ | 247 (50.0±1.5), 287 (60.2±1.8), 399 (18.4±0.5), 418 (17.0±0.4), 640 (12.4±0.4) |
| [Ru(dtbbpy) ₂ tape] ²⁺ | 284 (60.2±3.0), 399 (18.5±0.7), 422 (18.0±1.0), 626 (13.2±0.1) |
| {[Ru(bpy) ₂] ₂ (μ-b pym)} ⁴⁺ | 244 (43.1±0.1), 281 (89.1±0.1), 413 (25.2±0.1), 594 (6.2±0.1) |
| {[Ru(dmbpy) ₂] ₂ (μ-b pym)} ⁴⁺ | 280 (96.2±1.5), 416 (29.9±0.5), 612 (7.9±0.1) |
| {[Ru(tmbpy) ₂] ₂ (μ-b pym)} ⁴⁺ | 285 (99.0±2.9), 412 (28.9±1.4), 619 (7.2±0.1) |
| {[Ru(dtbbpy) ₂] ₂ (μ-b pym)} ⁴⁺ | 255 (49.2±1.1), 281 (101.0±1.6), 415 (31.9±0.6), 617 (7.6±0.3) |
| {[Ru(dtbbpy) ₂] ₂ (μ-tpphz)} ⁴⁺ | 247 (66.1±1.8), 283 (183.2±5.3), 352 (31.8±1.1), 371 (38.7±1.2), 446 (41.2±1.0) |
| {[Ru(bpy) ₂] ₂ (μ-dbneil)} ⁴⁺ | 245 (68.6±3.0), 286 (128.7±4.5), 420 (44.6±2.0), 699 (31.9±1.4) |
| {[Ru(dmbpy) ₂] ₂ (μ-dbneil)} ⁴⁺ | 249 (68.5±2.1), 285 (130.9±2.9), 422 (44.9±1.5), 716 (35.3±1.1) |
| {[Ru(tmbpy) ₂] ₂ (μ-dbneil)} ⁴⁺ | 255 (74.1±1.9), 290 (134.6±2.5), 421 (40.4±1.2), 729 (33.5±0.9) |
| {[Ru(dtbbpy) ₂] ₂ (μ-dbneil)} ⁴⁺ | 249 (68.7±0.6), 286 (131.2±1.8), 423 (44.5±0.8), 721 (33.3±0.7) |
| {[Ru(bpy) ₂] ₂ (μ-tape)} ⁴⁺ | 252 (65.9±0.5), 284 (102.8±0.5), 398 (29.1±0.2), 746 (28.8±0.5) |
| {[Ru(phen) ₂] ₂ (μ-tape)} ⁴⁺ | 262 (135.0±3.8), 223 (106.8±3.0), 393 (32.9±0.7), 744 (23.7±0.4) |
| {[Ru(dmbpy) ₂] ₂ (μ-tape)} ⁴⁺ | 254 (63.7±0.8), 282 (100.5±1.7), 402 (30.6±0.4), 772 (30.1±0.5) |
| {[Ru(tmbpy) ₂] ₂ (μ-tape)} ⁴⁺ | 255 (69.6±2.3), 287 (100.3±3.4), 406 (32.1±1.1), 789 (28.6±0.9) |
| {[Ru(dtbbpy) ₂] ₂ (μ-tape)} ⁴⁺ | 253 (68.8±2.2), 284 (112.1±3.8), 403 (35.4±0.9), 774 (32.6±0.1). |

^a Absorption spectra in acetonitrile at 21.5±0.5 °C. Complexes as PF₆⁻ salts.

Electrochemistry

Table S 3 Potentials for the redox Processes^a of the synthesized mono- and dinuclear ruthenium(II)-complexes.

| compound | $E_{1/2}^{ox}$ (ΔE_p) | $E_{1/2}^{red}$ (ΔE_p) |
|--|---------------------------------|---|
| [Ru(bpy) ₂ b pym] ²⁺ | +1.36 (81) | -1.01 (73), -1.45 (70), -1.69 (73), -2.06 (irr.) |
| [Ru(dmbpy) ₂ b pym] ²⁺ | +1.31 (81) | -1.04 (61), -1.54 (66), -1.73 (81), -2.08 (irr.) |
| [Ru(tmbpy) ₂ b pym] ²⁺ | +1.24 (81) | -1.07 (75), -1.69 (65), -1.98 (irr.) |
| [Ru(dtbbpy) ₂ b pym] ²⁺ | +1.31 (71) | -1.03 (73), -1.54 (63), -1.78 (61), -2.10 (irr.) |
| [Ru(dtbbpy) ₂ tpphz] ²⁺ | +1.22 (71) | -1.00 (112), -1.47 (68), -1.68 (irr.), -1.85 (irr.), -2.13 (irr.) |
| [Ru(bpy) ₂ dbneil] ²⁺ | +1.45 (65) | -0.40 (55), -0.55 (51), -0.93 (71), -1.55 (irr.), -1.70 (irr.), -2.14 (irr.) |
| [Ru(dmbpy) ₂ dbneil] ²⁺ | +1.36 (65) | -0.47 (56), -0.58 (51), -0.97 (65), -1.65 (irr.), -1.78 (irr.) |
| [Ru(tmbpy) ₂ dbneil] ²⁺ | +1.36 (91) | -0.52 (50), -0.59 (49), -1.02 (65) |
| [Ru(dtbbpy) ₂ dbneil] ²⁺ | +1.37 (96) | -0.43 (59), -0.54 (56), -0.93 (56), -1.66 (irr.), -1.94 (irr.) |
| [Ru(bpy) ₂ tape] ²⁺ | +1.39 (66) | -0.34 (68), -0.97 (67), -1.58 (76) |
| [Ru(phen) ₂ tape] ²⁺ | +1.40 (59) | -0.34 (83), -0.92 (68), -1.54 (88), -1.86 (irr.), -2.08 (irr.) |
| [Ru(dmbpy) ₂ tape] ²⁺ | +1.30 (71) | -0.36 (71), -0.94 (71), -1.66 (81), -1.94 (irr.) |
| [Ru(tmbpy) ₂ tape] ²⁺ | +1.25 (69) | -0.39 (71), -0.95 (83), -1.84 (irr.) |
| [Ru(dtbbpy) ₂ tape] ²⁺ | +1.31 (76) | -0.36 (68), -0.93 (65), -1.67 (61), -1.93 (59) |
| [{Ru(bpy) ₂ } ₂ (μ -b pym)] ⁴⁺ | +1.57 (69), +1.79 (66) | -0.38 (69), -1.06 (66), -1.53 (irr.), -1.79 (irr.), -1.94 (irr.) |
| [{Ru(dmbpy) ₂ } ₂ (μ -b pym)] ⁴⁺ | +1.46 (75), +1.66 (65) | -0.44 (71), -1.12 (75), -1.65 (irr.), -1.88 (irr.), -1.99 (irr.) |
| [{Ru(tmbpy) ₂ } ₂ (μ -b pym)] ⁴⁺ | +1.39 (75), +1.60 (65) | -0.49 (71), -1.16 (76), -1.81 (irr.), -2.06 (irr.), -2.17 (irr.) |
| [{Ru(dtbbpy) ₂ } ₂ (μ -b pym)] ⁴⁺ | +1.46 (106), +1.68 (71) | -0.42 (71), -1.09 (71), -1.69 (101), -1.89 (irr.), -2.00 (irr.) |
| [{Ru(dtbbpy) ₂ } ₂ (μ -tpphz)] ⁴⁺ | +1.24 (72) | -0.67 (73), -1.26 (68) |
| [{Ru(bpy) ₂ } ₂ (μ -dbneil)] ⁴⁺ | +1.49 (60), +1.65 (56) | -0.16 (65) -0.56 (71), -1.17 (irr.), -1.44 (irr.), -1.67 (irr.), -1.76 (irr.) |
| [{Ru(dmbpy) ₂ } ₂ (μ -dbneil)] ⁴⁺ | +1.39 (60), +1.57 (59) | -0.21 (71), -0.61 (71), -1.34 (71), -1.60 (irr.), -1.72 (irr.), -1.83 (irr.) |
| [{Ru(tmbpy) ₂ } ₂ (μ -dbneil)] ⁴⁺ | +1.33 (71), +1.52 (76) | -0.24 (71), -0.64 (65), -1.38 (71), -1.69 (65), -1.96 (irr.) |
| [{Ru(dtbbpy) ₂ } ₂ (μ -dbneil)] ⁴⁺ | +1.37 (100), +1.52 (71) | -0.19 (65), -0.60 (65), -1.35 (71), -1.60 (55), -1.75 (irr.), -1.85 (irr.) |
| [{Ru(bpy) ₂ } ₂ (μ -tape)] ⁴⁺ | +1.48 (64), +1.64 (63) | +0.03 (64), -0.50 (63), -1.48 (irr.), -1.83 (irr.) |
| [{Ru(phen) ₂ } ₂ (μ -tape)] ⁴⁺ | +1.44 (68), +1.65 (66) | -0.00 (68), -0.53 (76), -1.37 (irr.), -1.86 (irr.) |
| [{Ru(dmbpy) ₂ } ₂ (μ -tape)] ⁴⁺ | +1.34 (71), +1.55 (71) | -0.02 (75), -0.55 (75), -1.60 (91), -1.88 (irr.) |
| [{Ru(tmbpy) ₂ } ₂ (μ -tape)] ⁴⁺ | +1.29 (59), +1.49 (56) | -0.05 (66), -0.59 (68), -1.81 (irr.), -2.09 (irr.) |
| [{Ru(dtbbpy) ₂ } ₂ (μ -tape)] ⁴⁺ | +1.31 (95), +1.55 (86) | -0.01 (71), -0.53 (81), -1.60 (85), -1.92 (irr.) |

^a The potentials are given in V vs SCE in CH₃CN (internal standard Fc/Fc⁺), ΔE_p in mV and the supporting electrolyte is 0.1 M ${}^n\text{Bu}_4\text{PF}_6$ at room temperature. Complexes as PF₆⁻ salts. Potentials of irreversible processes were determined by square wave voltammetry.

Stacking interaction in solution

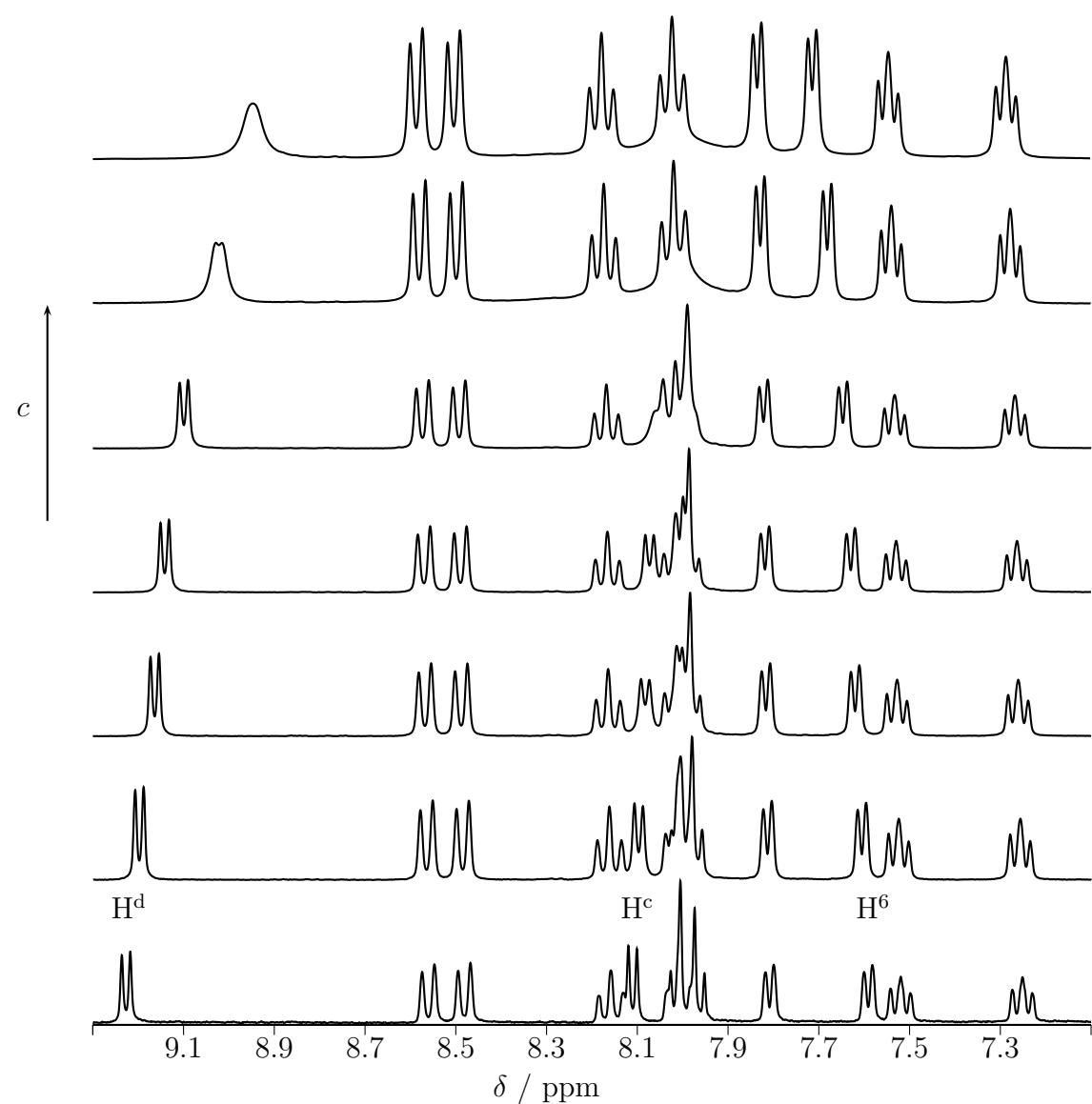


Fig. S 1 ¹H NMR spectra of [Ru(bpy)₂tpe](PF₆)₂ in CD₃CN at various concentrations, from top to bottom: 19.8, 14.5, 10.0, 7.4, 6.0, 4.0 and 2.0 mM.