Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Dalton Transactions. This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2014

## Ruthenium(II) Complexes of N-Heterocyclic Carbenes Derived from Imidazolium-linked Cyclophanes

Giovanni F. Caramori,\*,<sup>†,</sup>¶ Leone C. Garcia,<sup>†</sup> Diego M. Andrada,<sup>‡</sup> and Gernot Frenking<sup>‡</sup>

Departamento de Química, Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, Campus Universitário Trindade, CP 476, Florianópolis, SC, 88040-900, Brazil., and Philipps-Universität-Marburg, Hans-Meerwein-Strasse, D-35032, Marburg, Germany

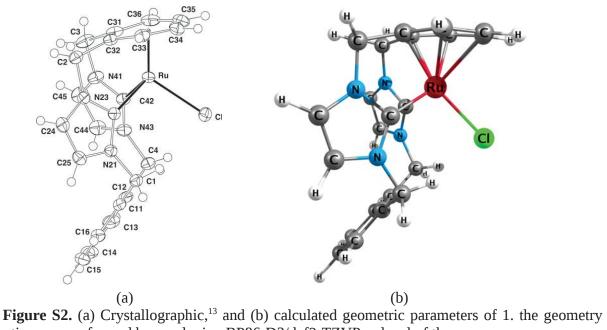
E-mail: giovanni.caramori@ufsc.br

\*e-mail: giovanni.caramori@ufsc.br

## **Supporting Information**



Figure S1. Singlet quintet gaps in kcal/mol for the NHC and PHC-cyclophane ligands 1-9, obtained with BP86/def2-TZVP.

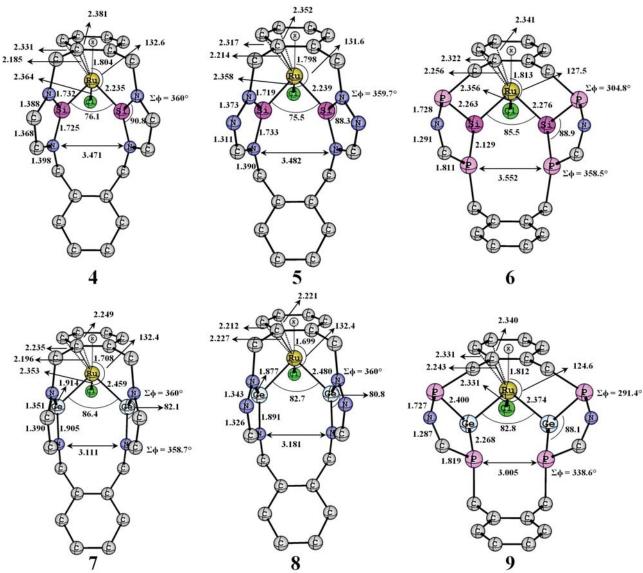


optimization was performed by employing BP86-D3/def2-TZVP as level of theory.

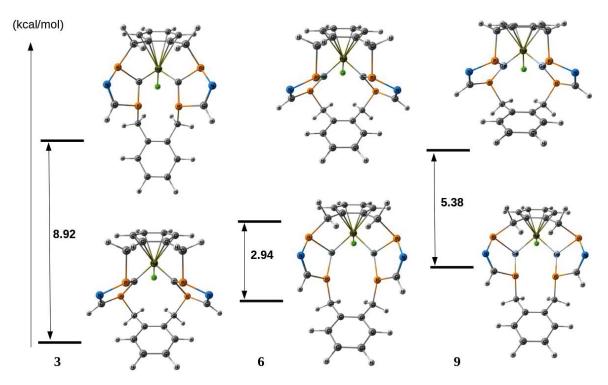
**Table S1.** Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) of **1.** Crystallographic<sup>13</sup> and calculated (BP86-D3/def2-TZVP) values are reported.

| Parameters          | Experimental (x-ray) | Calculated | $ D_i $ |
|---------------------|----------------------|------------|---------|
| Ru-C(31)            | 2.091                | 2.096      | 0.005   |
| Ru-C(32)            | 2.094                | 2.096      | 0.002   |
| Ru-C(33)            | 2.274                | 2.309      | 0.035   |
| Ru-C(34)            | 2.330                | 2.376      | 0.046   |
| Ru-C(35)            | 2.333                | 2.376      | 0.043   |
| Ru-C(36)            | 2.271                | 2.309      | 0.038   |
| Ru-(X) <sup>a</sup> | 1.724                | 1.756      | 0.032   |
| Ru-Cl               | 2.430                | 2.386      | 0.044   |
| Ru-C(22)            | 2.038                | 2.008      | 0.030   |
| Ru-C(42)            | 2.034                | 2.008      | 0.026   |
| (X)-Ru-Cl           | 122.7                | 125.9      | 3.2     |
| (X)-Ru-C(22)        | 122.8                | 120.7      | 2.1     |
| (X)-Ru-C(42)        | 120.9                | 120.7      | 0.2     |
| Cl-Ru-C(22)         | 99.71                | 98.40      | 1.31    |
| Cl-Ru-C(42)         | 99.27                | 98.40      | 0.87    |
| C(22)-Ru-C(42)      | 82.56                | 82.80      | 0.24    |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> X, centroid of ring C(31)-C(36), experimental value obtained from the supporting information of ref. <sup>13</sup>).



**Figure S3.** Optimized structures of complexes 4-9, employing BP86-D3/def2-TZVP as level of theory.



**Figure S4.** Difference of energy between the conformers of **3**, **6**, and **9**.

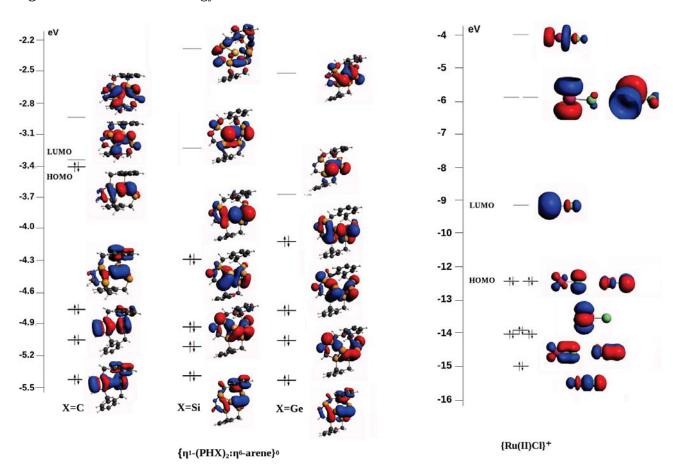
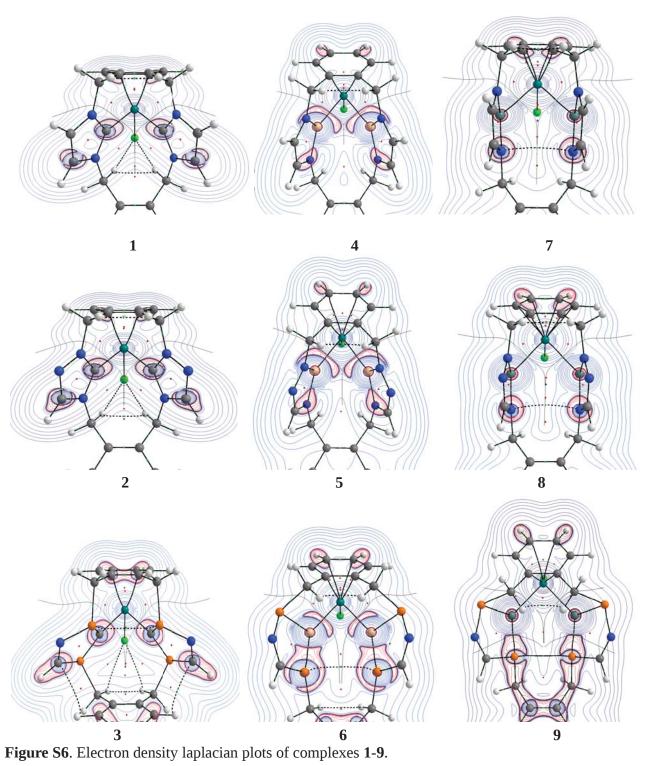


Figure S5. Quantitative diagram of the frontier orbitals for the interacting fragments in 3, 6, and 9.



**Table S2.** Main configurations of the ground state for ligands **1**(big) and **1**(small) at the CASSCF/def2-SVP//BP86-D3/def2-TZVP level of theory.

| 1(big)       |             | <b>1</b> (small) |             |
|--------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|
| CASSCF(8,10) | Coefficient | CASSCF(8,9)      | Coefficient |
| 2222000000   | 0.9240065   | 222200000        | 0.9471475   |
| 2220200000   | -0.1632301  | 222020000        | -0.1002368  |
| 0222000200   | -0.0830546  | 202200020        | -0.0952048  |
| 0222002000   | -0.0805434  | 220202000        | -0.0946385  |
| 2202020000   | -0.0737214  | 022200200        | -0.0835065  |
| 22baab0000   | -0.0666985  | 222002000        | -0.0830747  |
| 22abba0000   | -0.0666985  | 220220000        | -0.0825133  |
| ba2200ab00   | 0.0624262   | 22ab20000        | -0.0730381  |
| ab2200ba00   | 0.0624262   | 22ba20000        | 0.0730381   |
| ba2200ba00   | -0.0616595  | 22ab02000        | 0.0709064   |
| ab2200ab00   | -0.0616595  | 22ba02000        | -0.0709064  |
| 2ab2020000   | 0.0587528   | 202200002        | -0.0624841  |
| 2ba2020000   | -0.0587528  | 22abba000        | -0.0540015  |
| 2a2bba0000   | -0.0566260  | 22baab000        | -0.0540015  |
| 2b2aab0000   | -0.0566260  | 22abab000        | 0.0527733   |
| 2b2aab0000   | -0.0561884  | 22baba000        | 0.0527733   |

 $\begin{table S3. Main configurations of the ground state for ligands 3(big) and 3(small) at the CASSCF/def2-SVP//BP86-D3/def2-TZVP level of theory. } \end{table}$ 

| <b>3</b> (big) |             | 3(small)     |             |
|----------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| CASSCF(20,12)  | Coefficient | CASSCF(12,8) | Coefficient |
| 22222222200    | 0.9612948   | 22222200     | 0.9620603   |
| 22222222020    | -0.1012006  | 22222020     | -0.1022103  |
| 22222222002    | -0.0987634  | 22222002     | -0.1000762  |
| 2222222baab    | 0.0948584   | 2222baab     | -0.0952779  |
| 2222222abba    | 0.0948584   | 2222abba     | -0.0952779  |
| 222222220220   | -0.0894796  | 22220220     | -0.0890284  |
| 2222222abab    | -0.0840487  | 2222baba     | 0.0846448   |
| 2222222baba    | -0.0840487  | 2222abab     | 0.0846448   |
| 22222220202    | -0.0707092  | 22220202     | -0.0709982  |

## References

13. Baker, M. V.; Brown, D. H.; Haque, R. A.; Skelton, B. W.; White, A. H. *Dalton Trans.* **2010**, *39*, 70-72.