**Supporting Information for** 

# Ruthenium(II) dichloride complexes of chiral, tetradentate aminosulfoxide ligands: Stereoisomerism and redox-induced linkage isomerism

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#### **Experimental Details**

**General:** Unless otherwise stated, all reactions were performed under a dry nitrogen atmosphere in oven-dried glassware using standard Schlenk techniques, or in a VAC Omni inert atmosphere glove box. Tetrahydrofuran, toluene and diethyl ether solvents were dried using a VAC solvent purification system, whereas hexanes and dichloromethane were distilled from calcium hydride and stored under nitrogen before use. Acetonitrile was dried by storage over activated 4Å molecular sieves under nitrogen. CDCl<sub>3</sub> for NMR spectroscopy was stored over molecular sieves. NMR spectra were obtained using a JEOL ECS-400 MHz spectrometer at room temperature. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm and referenced via residual solvent resonances to Me<sub>4</sub>Si (<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C). In certain cases <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C data were assigned using DEPT-135, HETCOR and HMBC experiments. IR spectra were collected on a Nicolet 360 FTIR as KBr disks. Elemental analyses were performed by QTI Intertek, Whitehouse, NJ. (S)-(-)-p-tolyl menthyl sulfinate was supplied by Aldrich, Advanced Asymmetrics, Inc. or synthesized following a literature procedure:<sup>1</sup> commercially supplied material was recrystallized from acetone before use. (R)-p-tolyl vinyl sulfoxide,<sup>2</sup> (R,R)-N,N'-dimethyl-1,2-cyclohexanediamine,<sup>3</sup> RuCl<sub>2</sub>(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> were synthesized following literature procedures. RuCl<sub>3</sub>.xH<sub>2</sub>O and [NO]BF<sub>4</sub> were supplied by Strem Chemicals Inc.; all other reagents were supplied by Aldrich.

**Electrochemistry:** Cyclic voltammograms were recorded using a CH Instruments CHI620D electrochemical workstation under nitrogen in a 1-compartment cell using a 3mm diameter glassy-carbon working electrode, a Pt wire auxillary electrode, and a  $Ag^+/Ag$  reference electrode (consisting of a Ag wire in 0.01 M AgNO<sub>3</sub>/0.1M n-Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> in CH<sub>3</sub>CN solution). All electrodes were supplied by BASi. 0.1 M solutions of n-Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> in dry CH<sub>3</sub>CN or CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> were used as the electrolyte and potentials were internally referenced to Cp<sub>2</sub>Fe<sup>+/0</sup> by addition of a small amount of Cp<sub>2</sub>Fe to the cell at the completion of an experiment.

Thermodynamic and kinetic parameters for the ECEC square scheme were calculated from cyclic voltammograms measured scanning initially in the cathodic direction at various scan rates (0.05 - 3 V/s) following literature methods.<sup>4, 5</sup> The working electrode was held at 1.2V (vs Ag<sup>+</sup>/Ag) for 3 mins before commencing each scan in order to equilibrate the solution in the region around the electrode (see Fig. 4 SI).

**UV-vis and CD spectroscopy:** UV-vis and CD spectra were recorded in  $CH_2Cl_2$  in 1cm quartz cuvettes at room T on a Varian Cary 50/100 spectrophotometer and Jasco J-815 CD

spectrophotometer respectively. UV-vis spectra of the oxidized complexes (see Fig 5) were measured using an Ocean Optics USB 4000 spectrometer in  $CH_2Cl_2$  /0.1 M n-Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> in a 0.1 cm pathlength quartz spectroelectrochemical cell (BASi) using a Pt grid working electrode, Pt wire auxiliary electrode and the same reference electrode as described above. Spectra were collected every 20 s for 3 minutes while holding the potential constant at 1.2 V (2-L2) or 1 V.

**DFT Calculations:** Geometries were optimized using density-functional theory with the B97-1 exchange-correlation functional of Hamprecht et al.<sup>6</sup> with the PQS software package.<sup>7</sup> Ruthenium was represented by the Hurley et al. relativistic effective core potential (RECP) basis set modified by the Couty-Hall 5p contraction (5311/5311/1111).<sup>8</sup> Sulfur and chlorine centers used the Wadt-Hay RECP basis set.<sup>9</sup> Nitrogen and oxygen were represented by Dunning's split-valence triple- $\zeta$  basis set.<sup>10</sup> Basis sets for S, Cl, N and O were augmented with a set of polarization and diffuse functions. Hydrocarbon fragments used the double- $\zeta$  basis sets of Dunning<sup>11</sup> with polarization functions on carbon only. Frequency calculations of the optimized structures were used to confirm the reported structures as mimina on the potential energy surface. *Trans* and *cis*- $\alpha$  RuCl<sub>2</sub>(L1') structures are in good agreement with X-ray structures of **1-L2** and **1-L1**, respectively (Table 3). The lowest energy conformation of *cis*- $\beta$  isomer (Fig 1) is stabilized by a  $\pi$ -stacking interaction between the sulfoxide Ph groups.

Time-dependent DFT (TD-DFT) calculations of the lowest ten singlet transitions were determined at the B97-1 optimized geometry using Gaussian 09.<sup>12</sup>

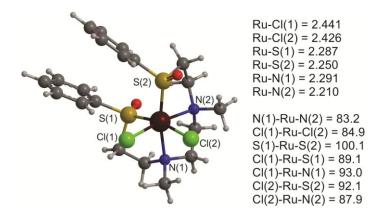


Fig 1. Selected DFT(B97-1) bond distances (Å) and angles (°) for *cis-β*-RuCl<sub>2</sub>(L1').

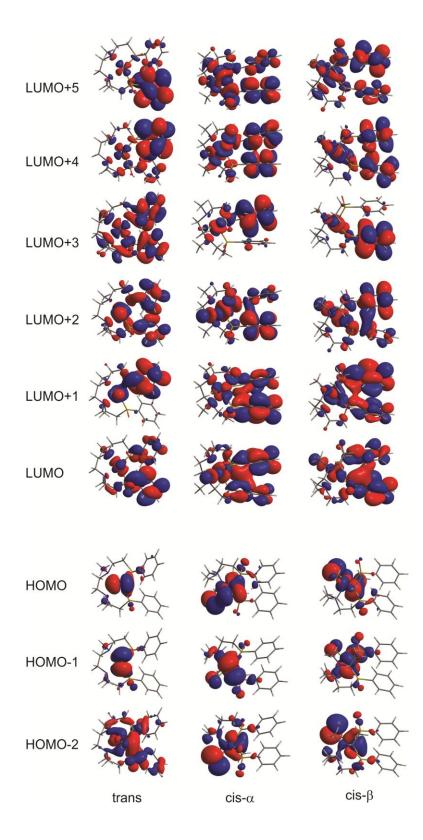


Fig. 2: Isosurfaces of calculated frontier MOs .

#### $(R_s, R_s)$ -N,N'-dimethyl-N,N'-di(2-p-tolylsulfinylethyl)-1,2,-ethanediamine, (L1)

(R)-p-tolyl vinyl sulfoxide (518 mg, 3.12 mmols) and N,N'-dimethylethylenediamine (137 mg, 1.55 mmols) were dissolved in ethanol and refluxed under air for 24 hours. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the product recrystallized from ether/hexanes at -20°C. 567 mg (1.35 mmols, 87 %) of a light tan solid was obtained (mp 62-63°C).

Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>32</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 62.83; H, 7.68; N, 6.67. Found: C, 65.62; H, 7.54; N, 6.54. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.52 (d, J=8, 4H, ArH), 7.31 (d, J=8, 4H, ArH), 2.90 (s, 4H, S-CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.89 (m, 2H, N-CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.57 (m, 2H, N-CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.49 (s, 4H, N-CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.40 (s, 6H, S-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.25 (s, 6H, N-CH<sub>3</sub>)

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 141.6 (q, Ar), 140.9 (q, Ar), 130.1 (Ar), 124.2 (Ar), 55.5 (S-CH<sub>2</sub>), 55.3(N-CH<sub>2</sub>), 50.5(N-CH<sub>2</sub>), 42.5 (N-CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.5 (S-CH<sub>3</sub>)

IR (KBr disk) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3500 (w, broad), 2925 (m), 1595 (w), 1495 (w), 1480 (m), 1445 (m), 1427 (w), 1385 (w), 1170 (m), 1067 (s), 1055 (s), 1025 (m), 945 (m), 930 (m), 870 (w), 810 (m)  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  +203.6 (*c* 1.10, chloroform)

# $(R_c, R_c, R_s, R_s)$ -N,N'-dimethyl-N,N'-di(2-p-tolylsulfinylethyl)-1,2-cyclohexanediamine, (L2)

(R)-p-tolyl vinyl sulfoxide (361 mg, 2.17 mmols) and (*R*,*R*)-N,N'-dimethyl-1,2cyclohexanediamine (154 mg, 1.09 mmols) were dissolved in methanol (15 mL) and the solution refluxed under air for 18 hours. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* to give a colorless solid which was recrystallized from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/hexanes at -20°C. 183 mg (0.385 mmols, 35.6%) of a colorless crystalline solid was obtained in two crops (mp 174-5 °C).

Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>38</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 65.78; H, 8.07; N, 5.90. Found: C, 65.75; H, 7.91; N, 5.93. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.52 (d, J = 8, 4H, ArH), 7.28 (d, J = 8, 4H, ArH), 3.07 (m, 2H), 2.87 (overlapping m, 6H), 2.55 (m, 2H), 2.40 (s, CH<sub>3</sub>, 6H), 2.30 (s, CH<sub>3</sub>, 6H), 1.74 (m, 4H), 1.22 (m, 2H), 1.19 (m, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR(CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  141.8, 141.4, 130.1, 124.2, 65.0, 57.8, 48.3, 36.1, 26.5, 25.9, 21.7 IR (KBr disk) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3050 (w), 2930 (s), 2860 (m), 2795 (w), 1650 (w), 1595 (w), 1490 (m), 1460 (m), 1400 (w), 1375 (w), 1105 (w), 1085 (m), 1045 (s), 1015 (m), 810 (m) [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> +203.2 (*c* 0.71, chloroform) **Preparation and separation of isomers of RuCl<sub>2</sub>(L1):** RuCl<sub>2</sub>(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> (536mg, 0.56 mmol) and L1 (228 mg, 0.56 mmol) were mixed in dry toluene (10 mL) and refluxed under nitrogen for 2 hrs forming a yellow precipitate in a brown solution. The solids were separated by filtration, washed with diethyl ether (5 mL) and dried *in vacuo*, yielding 210 mg, 63 % yield of a yellow powder. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy revealed this solid to be a 0.8:1 mixture of a C<sub>2</sub>- (**1-L1**) and a  $C_1$ -symmetric isomer (**2-L1**). The mixture was heated briefly to 50°C in ethanol (5 mL) and insoluble pink solids filtered off. After removal of solvent *in vacuo*, the pink solid was then crystallized from a concentrated solution in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> layered with hexanes to yield pink crystalline material that was analytically pure **1-L1**. Single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were grown in the same manner. The yellow ethanol supernatant was evaporated to dryness and the residue dissolved in methylene chloride and filtered and again evaporated to dryness to yield a yellow residue. Microcrystalline material that was pure **2-L1** could be isolated from concentrated solutions in methanol at -20°C.

#### $cis-\alpha$ -RuCl<sub>2</sub>(L1), 1-L1 (pink)

Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>32</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>RuCl<sub>2</sub>: C, 44.58; H, 5.45; N, 4.73. Found: C, 44.36; H, 5.41; N, 4.65.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 8.40 (d, 4H, J=8, Ar-H), 7.31 (d, 4H, J=8, Ar-H), 4.41 (m, 2H), 3.41 (m, 6H), 2.99 (s, 6H, N-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.56 (m, 4H), 2.38 (s, 6H, pTol,CH<sub>3</sub>)

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 142.73 (Ar, quat), 136.86 (Ar, quat), 129.38 (Ar), 128.73 (Ar), 63.33, 60.59, 58.32, 52.81, 21.64 (pTol,CH<sub>3</sub>)

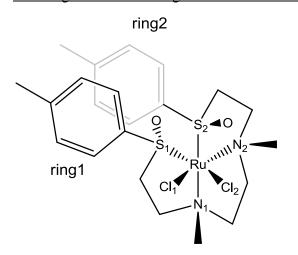
IR (KBr Disk) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3068 (w), 3037(w), 2981(w), 2923 (w), 2870(w), 2831(w), 1495(w), 1477(w), 1440(w), 1398(w), 1186(w), 1103(m), 1082(s), 1060(s), 1043 (m), 1025 (w), 943(w), 929(w), 818(m), 671 (w), 646(w), 638(w), 628(w), 503(m), 474(s), 444(m)

## *cis-β*-RuCl<sub>2</sub>(L1), 2-L1 (yellow)

Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>32</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>RuCl<sub>2</sub>: C, 44.58; H, 5.45; N, 4.73. Found: C, 44.07; H, 5.65; N, 4.06.

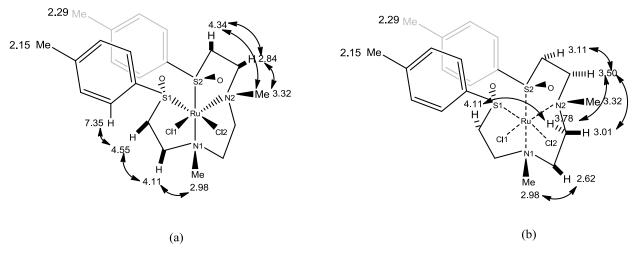
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.77 (d, 2H, J=9, *o*-Ar2), 7.35 (d, 2H, J=8, *o*-Ar1), 6.82 (d, 2H, J=9, *m*-Ar2), 6.68 (d, 2H, J=8, *m*-Ar1), 4.55 (m, S<sub>1</sub>-CHH, 1H), 4.34 (m, S<sub>2</sub>-CHH, 1H), 4.11 (m, S<sub>1</sub>-CHH and N<sub>1</sub>-CHH-CH<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>1</sub>, 2H), 3.78 (m, N<sub>1</sub>-CHH-CHH-N<sub>2</sub>, 2H), 3.50 (m, N<sub>2</sub>-CHH-CH<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>2</sub>, 1H), 3.32 (s, 3H, N<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.11 (m, S<sub>2</sub>-CHH, 1H), 3.01 (m, N<sub>2</sub>-CHH-CH<sub>2</sub>-N<sub>1</sub>,1H), 2.98 (s, 3H, N<sub>1</sub>-

CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.84 (m, N<sub>1</sub>-CH*H*-CH<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>1</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>-CH*H*-CH<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>2</sub>, 2H), 2.62 (m, N<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH*H*-N<sub>1</sub>, 1H), 2.29 (s, 3H, Ar2-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.15 (s, 3H, Ar1-CH<sub>3</sub>) Labeling scheme for assignment of <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR



<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 144.93 (Ar2, S-Cquat), 141.44(Ar2, C-Cquat), 141.26(Ar1, C-Cquat), 139.48(Ar1, S-Cquat), 129.19 (Ar1 *m*-C), 128.87(Ar2 *m*-C), 127.60 (Ar1 *o*-C), 125.06 (Ar2 *o*-C), 69.51 (S<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>), 65.04 (S<sub>1</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>), 64.04 (N<sub>1</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-N<sub>2</sub>), 60.72 (N<sub>1</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-N<sub>2</sub>), 60.67 (N<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>2</sub>), 55.34 (N<sub>1</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>1</sub>), 52.37 (N<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 50.19 (N<sub>1</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.37 (Ar-CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.35 (Ar-CH<sub>3</sub>)

**Solution structure of 2-L1:** After complete assignment of the <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR using a combination of DEPT-135, <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H-COSY, HMQC and HMBC experiments, <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H NOESY data were collected. Key NOE's used to confirm the structure are shown below. In Fig 2(a) NOEs that establish the aryl ring connectivity and the stereochemistry of N1 (*R*) are shown. In Fig 2(b) NOEs that establish the N2 stereochemistry (*S*) and the ligand wrapping around Ru are shown. These data are fully consistent with the lowest energy DFT calculated isomer,  $\Lambda$ -R<sub>N</sub>S<sub>N</sub>SS.



## trans-RuCl<sub>2</sub>(L1), 3-L1

Use of RuCl<sub>2</sub>( $\eta^4$ -1,5cycloctadiene)(MeCN)<sub>2</sub> as the Ru source, THF or CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as solvent, longer reflux times (THF) or room temperature reactions (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) lead to more complex mixtures of isomers, however **1-L1** and **2-L1** were always observed as the dominant species. In certain cases very small amounts (< 3mg) of an orange isomer, **3-L1**, were also isolated: This is assigned to be the *trans*-isomer due to the similarity of its <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum in the aromatic region to that of **1-L2**.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 8.26 (d, 2H, J=9, Ar), 7.80 (d, 2H, J=8, Ar), 7.24 (d, 2H, J=8, ArH), 7.22 (d, 2H, J=8, ArH), 5.05(app q, 1H), 4.53 (m, 2H), 4.29 (m, 2H), 4.10 (m, 1H), 3.72 (m, 1H), 3.47 (m, 2H), 3.22 (s, 3H, N-CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.01 (m, 2H), 2.90 (m, 1H), 2.77 (s, 3H N-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.32 (s, 3H Ar-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.31(s, 3H Ar-CH<sub>3</sub>)

**Preparation and separation of isomers of RuCl<sub>2</sub>(L2):** RuCl<sub>2</sub>(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> (277 mg, 0.289 mmol) and L2 (135 mg, 0.285 mmol) were mixed in dry THF (15 mL) and refluxed under nitrogen for 24 hrs forming a yellow precipitate. The solids were separated by filtration, washed with diethyl ether (5 mL) and dried *in vacuo*, yielding 112mg (61 % yield) of a yellow powder. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy revealed this solid to be a 1:1 mixture of two *C*<sub>1</sub>-symmetric isomers (**1-L2** and **2-L2**). These were separated by addition of a small volume of acetonitrile: **2-L2** rapidly dissolved to form a yellow solution which was quickly separated from the remaining orange microcrystalline material (**1-L2**) by filtration. **1-L2** was recrystallized by layering a concentrated CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution with hexane, to yield single crystals suitable for single crystal X-ray diffraction. The acetonitrile solution containing primarily **2-L2** was evaporated to dryness to give a yellow resiude. Addition of methanol to this residue gave a bright lemon-yellow powdery solid that was pure **2-L2** by <sup>1</sup>H NMR. **2-L2** could also be recrystallized from concentrated chloroform solutions at -20°C to give a very fine yellow powdery solid.

# trans-RuCl<sub>2</sub>(L2), 1-L2 (orange)

Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>38</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>RuCl<sub>2</sub>: C, 48.28; H, 5.93; N, 4.33. Found: C, 48.49; H, 5.99; N, 4.25.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.29 (d, J=8, 2H, ArH), 7.70 (d, J= 8, 2H, Ar-H), 7.24 (d, J=8, 2H, Ar-H), 7.19 (d, J=8, 2H, Ar-H), 4.96 (t of d, J= 11, 4, 1H), 4.62 (q, J=10, 1H), 4.45 (m, 2H), 4.33 (t of d, J=14, 4, 1H), 4.16-4.05 (m, 2H), 3.25 (s, 3H, NCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.23 (m, 1H), 3.08 (d of d, J=12, 3, 1H), 2.82 (m, 1H), 2.69 (s, 3H, N-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.34 (s, 3H, ArCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.31 (s, 3H, ArCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.29 (m, 1H), 2.12 (br d, 1H), 1.91 (br d, 1H), 1.82 (br d, 1H), 1.73 (d of d, 1H), 1.61 (m, 1H), 1.51 (m, 1H), 1.35 (m, 1H)

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 144.98 (quat, Ar), 144.24 (quat, Ar), 142.05 (quat, Ar), 141.12 (quat, Ar), 129.24 (Ar), 129.21 (Ar), 127.07 (Ar), 126.89 (Ar), 76.24, 71.68, 69.61, 64.56, 54.43, 54.33, 52.39, 41.52, 26.73, 26.13, 26.12, 24.45, 21.53, 21.52

IR (KBr Disk) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3057 (w), 3023 (w), 2969 (w), 2932 (s), 2863 (m), 1491 (w), 1448 (m), 1422 (w), 1396 (m), 1094 (s), 1076 (s), 1063 (s), 1025 (w), 973 (w), 915 (w), 885 (w), 877 (w), 808 (m), 754 9w), 708 (w), 648 (m), 631 (m), 537 (m), 512 (m), 495 (m), 482 (m), 440 (m), 415 (m)

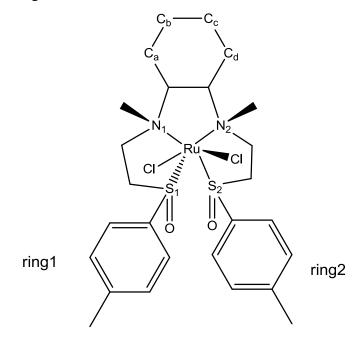
# cis-β-RuCl<sub>2</sub>(L2), 2-L2 (yellow)

Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>38</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>RuCl<sub>2</sub>: C, 48.28; H, 5.93; N, 4.33. Found: C, 47.82; H, 5.93; N, 4.12.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.56 (d, J = 8, 2H, *o*-Ar2), 7.39 (d, J=8, 2H, *o*-Ar1), 6.97 (d, J=8, 2H, *m*-Ar2), 6.80 (d, J=8, 2H, *m*-Ar1), 5.15 (t of d J=13,5, 1H, N<sub>2</sub>-C*H*H), 4.70 (t of d, J=11,4, 1H, N<sub>2</sub>-C*H*), 4.52 (m, 1H, S<sub>1</sub>-C*H*H), 4.12 (t of 6, J = 14,5, 1H, S<sub>2</sub>-C*H*H), 4.00 (d of d, J = 15,5, 1H, S<sub>2</sub>-C*H*H), 3.54 (m, 1H, N<sub>1</sub>-C*H*H), 3.41 (s, 3H, N<sub>1</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.35 (m, 1H, S<sub>1</sub>-CH*H*), 3.24 (m, 1H, N<sub>1</sub>-CH), 3.22 (m, 1H, N<sub>1</sub>-CH*H*), 2.76 (s, 3H, N<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.63(d of d, J = 12, 5, 1H, N<sub>2</sub>-CH*H*), 2.26 (s, 3H, Ar2-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.25 (s, 3H, Ar1-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.19 (m, 1H, C<sub>a</sub>*H*H), 2.05 (m, 1H, C<sub>d</sub>*H*H), 1.92 (m, 1H, C<sub>a</sub>*HH*), 1.78 (m, 1H, C<sub>c</sub>*H*H), 1.41 (m, 1H, C<sub>d</sub>H*H*), 1.29 (m, 1H, C<sub>c</sub>H*H*), 1.17 (m, 1H, C<sub>b</sub>H*H*)

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 144.26 (Ar2 S-Cquat), 141.57(Ar2 C-Cquat), 141.21(Ar1 C-Cquat), 139.92(Ar2 S-Cquat), 129.33 (Ar2 *m*-C), 128.39 (Ar1 *m*-C), 127.35 (Ar1 *o*-C), 125.90 (Ar2 *o*-C), 75.03 (N<sub>1</sub>-CH), 69.49 (N<sub>2</sub>-CH), 68.27 (S<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>), 65.30 (S<sub>1</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>), 60.73 (N<sub>1</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>), 57.91 (N<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>), 47.55 (N<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 46.41 (N<sub>1</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 26.95 (C<sub>a</sub>), 25.44 (C<sub>b</sub>), 25.13 (C<sub>d</sub>), 23.86 (C<sub>c</sub>), 21.30 (Ar2-CH<sub>3</sub>), 21.23 (Ar1-CH<sub>3</sub>)

Labeling scheme for assignment of <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR



IR (KBr Disk) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3057 (w), 3022 (w), 2932 (s), 2862 (m), 1491 (w), 1448 (w), 1396 (m) 1095 (s), 1076 (s), 1063 (s), 848 (m), 808 (m), 648 (w), 634 (w), 537 (m), 514 (m)

**Bulk oxidation of 2-L2**: 2-L2 (16 mg,  $2.5 \times 10^{-5}$  mols) and [NO]<sup>+</sup>[BF<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup> (3 mg, 1 eq) were stirred in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> under nitrogen for 20 mins, during which time the solution turned from yellow to dark orange. Addition of excess hexane (6 mL) dropwise precipitated an orange solid, which was isolated and dried *in vacuo*.

Selected IR data (solid, ATR method) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1091(s), 1063 (vs, BF<sub>4</sub>), 924 (m), 806 (s)

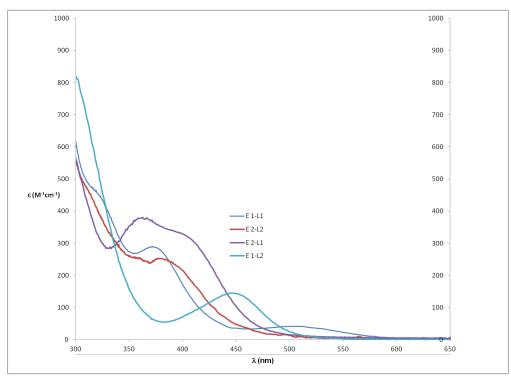


Fig 3a: UV-vis spectra of RuCl<sub>2</sub>(L) complexes

Fig 3b: CD spectra of RuCl<sub>2</sub>(L) complexes

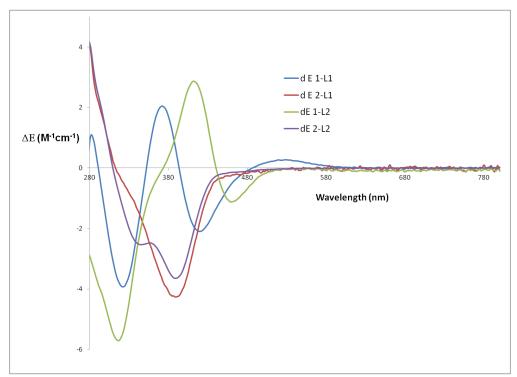


Fig 4: Cyclic voltammograms of **2-L2** at various scan rates with initial cathodic scanning direction after preconditioning the solution at 1.2 V for 180s.

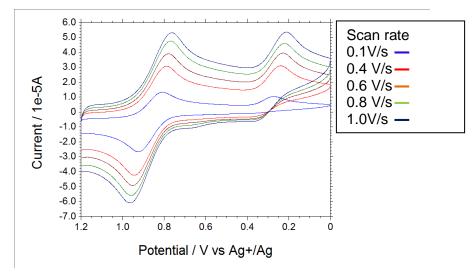
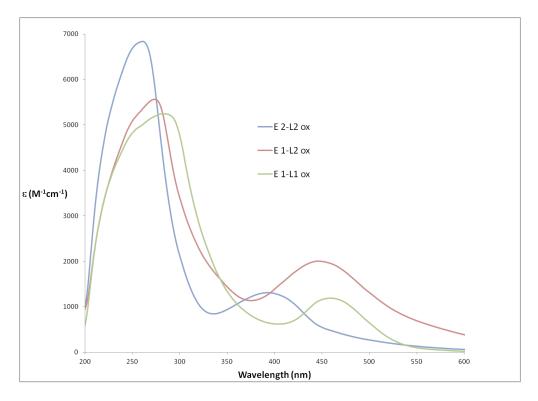


Fig 5: UV-vis of oxidized Ru complexes obtained in a spectroelectrochemical cell after oxidation for 3 mins in  $CH_2Cl_2 / 0.1 M TBA.PF_6$ 



# X-ray Data Collection, Structure Determination and Refinement

Empirical formula	C26 H38 Cl2 N2 O2 Ru S2		
Formula weight	646.67		
Temperature	153(2) K		
Wavelength	0.71073 Å		
Crystal system	Monoclinic		
Space group	C <sub>2</sub>		
Unit cell dimensions	$a = 24.559(2) \text{ Å}$ $\alpha = 90^{\circ}$		
	b = 9.5482(9) Å	$\beta = 102.5570(10)^{\circ}$	
	c = 11.6554(11) Å	$\gamma=90^\circ$	
Volume	2667.7(4) Å <sup>3</sup>		
Z	4		
Density (calculated)	1.610 g/cm <sup>3</sup>		
Absorption coefficient	0.973 mm <sup>-1</sup>		
F(000)	1336		
Crystal size	0.30 x 0.22 x 0.16 mm <sup>3</sup>		
Crystal color, habit	Orange rod		
Theta range for data collection	1.79 to 25.68°		
Index ranges	-29<=h<=28, -11<=k<=11, -13<=l<=14		
Reflections collected	11776		
Independent reflections	4772 [R(int) = 0.0281]		
Completeness to theta = $25.00^{\circ}$	100.0 %		
Absorption correction	Multi-scan		
Max. and min. transmission	0.8599 and 0.7590		
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>		
Data / restraints / parameters	4772 / 1 / 317		
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.016		
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0199, $wR2 = 0.0507$		
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0205, wR2 = 0.0512		
Absolute structure parameter	-0.017(17)		
Extinction coefficient	0.00118(12)		
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.491 and -0.395 e Å <sup>-3</sup>		

# Table 1: Crystal data and structure refinement for 1-L2, trans-RuCl<sub>2</sub>(L2).

Table 2. Crystal data and structure refinement to	or 1-L1, $\operatorname{cis-a-KuCl}_2(L1)$ .		
Empirical formula	C22 H32 Cl2 N2 O2 Ru S2		
Formula weight	592.59		
Temperature	100(2) K		
Wavelength	0.71073 Å		
Crystal system	Orthorhombic		
Space group	P2(1)2(1)2(1)		
Unit cell dimensions	a = 12.7705(6)  Å	$\alpha = 90^{\circ}$	
	b = 12.8827(7) Å	$\beta = 90^{\circ}$	
	c = 14.5232(7) Å	$\gamma=90^\circ$	
Volume	2389.3(2) Å <sup>3</sup>		
Z	4		
Density (calculated)	1.647 g/cm <sup>3</sup>		
Absorption coefficient	1.078 mm <sup>-1</sup>		
F(000)	1216		
Crystal size	0.32 x 0.12 x 0.08 mm <sup>3</sup>		
Crystal color, habit	Orange rod		
Theta range for data collection	2.11 to 25.42°		
Index ranges	-11<=h<=15, -15<=k<=14, -17<=l<=17		
Reflections collected	10552		
Independent reflections	4387 [R(int) = 0.0340]		
Completeness to theta = $25.00^{\circ}$	99.9 %		
Absorption correction	Multi-scan		
Max. and min. transmission	0.9187 and 0.7243		
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on H	72	
Data / restraints / parameters	4387 / 0 / 284		
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.107		
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0357, wR2 = 0.0796		
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0388, wR2 = 0.0811		
Absolute structure parameter	0.00(4)		
Largest diff. peak and hole	1.057 and -0.547 e $\rm \AA^{-3}$		

# Table 2. Crystal data and structure refinement for 1-L1, cis- $\alpha$ -RuCl<sub>2</sub>(L1).

	trans-RuCl <sub>2</sub> (L2),	trans-RuCl <sub>2</sub> (L1')	cis-α-RuCl <sub>2</sub> (L1),	$cis-\alpha$ -RuCl <sub>2</sub> (L1')
	1-L2 (X-ray)	DFT(B97-1)	1-L1 (X-ray)	DFT( <b>B97-1</b> )
Ru(1)-N(1)	2.164(2)	2.215	2.186(4)	2.230
Ru(1)-N(2)	2.175(2)	2.215	2.198(4)	2.231
Ru(1)-S(1)	2.2208(6)	2.250	2.2726(13)	2.303
Ru(1)-S(2)	2.2482(6)	2.269	2.2834(13)	2.304
Ru(1)-Cl(2)	2.3939(5)	2.436	2.4189(12)	2.446
Ru(1)-Cl(1)	2.4502(5)	2.513	2.4328(12)	2.450
S(1)-O(1)	1.4824(17)	1.530	1.486(3)	1.543
S(2)-O(2)	1.4791(18)	1.528	1.494(3)	1.543
N(1)-Ru(1)-N(2)	83.20(8)	83.0	83.36(15)	84.0
N(1)-Ru(1)-S(1)	82.88(6)	82.3	81.92(12)	82.4
N(2)-Ru(1)-S(2)	86.49(6)	87.8	81.86(11)	82.4
S(1)-Ru(1)-S(2)	107.25(3)	106.7	178.69(5)	177.2
Cl(2)-Ru(1)-Cl(1)	178.91(2)	176.1	95.10(4)	92.9
N(2)-Ru(1)-Cl(1)	88.50(5)	87.8	90.60(11)	92.2
N(1)-Ru(1)-Cl(2)	93.58(5)	91.1	92.22(12)	91.8

Table 3: Important bond lengths and angles for 1-L2 and 1-L1 and comparison to DFT calculated values.

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 Gaussian 09, Revision B.1, Frisch, M. J.; Trucks, G. W.; Schlegel, H. B.; Scuseria, G. E.; Robb, M. A.; Cheeseman, J. R.; Scalmani, G.; Barone, V.; Mennucci, B.; Petersson, G. A.; Nakatsuji, H.; Caricato, M.; Li, X.; Hratchian, H. P.; Izmaylov, A. F.; Bloino, J.; Zheng, G.; Sonnenberg, J. L.; Hada, M.; Ehara, M.; Toyota, K.; Fukuda, R.; Hasegawa, J.; Ishida, M.; Nakajima, T.; Honda, Y.; Kitao, O.; Nakai, H.; Vreven, T.; Montgomery, Jr., J. A.; Peralta, J. E.; Ogliaro, F.; Bearpark, M.; Heyd, J. J.; Brothers, E.; Kudin, K. N.; Staroverov, V. N.; Kobayashi, R.; Normand, J.; Raghavachari, K.; Rendell, A.; Burant, J. C.; Iyengar, S. S.; Tomasi, J.; Cossi, M.; Rega, N.; Millam, J. M.; Klene, M.; Knox, J. E.; Cross, J. B.; Bakken, V.; Adamo, C.; Jaramillo, J.; Gomperts, R.; Stratmann, R. E.; Yazyev, O.; Austin, A. J.; Cammi, R.; Pomelli, C.; Ochterski, J. W.; Martin, R. L.; Morokuma, K.; Zakrzewski, V. G.; Voth, G. A.; Salvador, P.; Dannenberg, J. J.; Dapprich, S.; Daniels, A. D.; Farkas, Ö.; Foresman, J. B.; Ortiz, J. V.; Cioslowski, J.; Fox, D. J. Gaussian, Inc., Wallingford CT, 2009.