

## ARENE–RUTHENIUM COMPLEXES CONTAINING NITROGEN DONOR LIGANDS

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### Summary

The complexes  $[(\text{arene})\text{RuCl}_2]_2$  (arene =  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_6$  or  $p\text{-MeC}_6\text{H}_4\text{CHMe}_2$ ) react with hydrazine hydrate or 1,1-dimethylhydrazine in tetrahydrofuran or methanol to give  $[(\text{arene})\text{Ru}(\text{N}_2\text{H}_4)_3]^{2+}$  or  $[(\text{arene})\text{Ru}(\text{NH}_2\text{NMe}_2)_3]^{2+}$  and with ethylenediamine (= en) to give  $[(\text{arene})\text{RuCl}(\text{en})]^+$ . Pyridine displaces only the hydrazine ligands from  $[(\text{arene})\text{Ru}(\text{N}_2\text{H}_4)_3]^{2+}$  while the relatively more  $\pi$ -accepting  $\text{PMe}_2\text{Ph}$  replaces both these and the arene ligand.

### Introduction

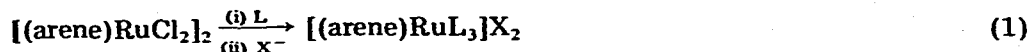
The dimers  $[(\text{arene})\text{RuCl}_2]_2$  (I) (arene =  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_6$ ,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{Me}$ ,  $p\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4\text{Me}_2$ , 1,3,5- $\text{Me}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$ ,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{OMe}$  or  $p\text{-MeC}_6\text{H}_4\text{CHMe}_2$ ) have been shown to undergo bridge cleavage upon treatment with a ligand L (L =  $\text{PR}_3$ ,  $\text{P}(\text{OR})_3$ ,  $\text{AsR}_3$ , pyridine; R = alkyl or aryl) to give the monomers  $[(\text{arene})\text{RuCl}_2\text{L}]$  [1,2]. I (arene =  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_6$ ) reacts with  $\text{AgBF}_4$  in methyl cyanide to give  $[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_6)\text{Ru}(\text{MeCN})_3](\text{BF}_4)_2$  [2], with  $\text{NaS}_2\text{PR}_2$  to give  $[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_6)\text{Ru}(\text{S}_2\text{PR}_2)_2]$  (R = Me, Ph, OMe or OEt) [3], containing one mono- and one bi-dentate sulphur ligand, and with  $\text{NH}_2\text{CHRCO}_2\text{K}$  (R = H or Me) to give  $[(\text{arene})\text{RuCl}(\text{NH}_2\text{CHRCO}_2)]$  [4]. Here we describe some further reactions of the complexes I (arene =  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_6$  or  $p\text{-MeC}_6\text{H}_4\text{CHMe}_2$ ).

### Results and discussion

During our studies of the chemistry of arene–ruthenium complexes, we have found that I reacts with hydrazine hydrate or 1,1-dimethylhydrazine in tetrahydrofuran or methanol to give the complexes  $[(\text{arene})\text{RuL}_3]^{2+}$  which were isolated as tetraphenylborate or hexafluorophosphate salts by the addition of

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NaBPh<sub>4</sub> or NH<sub>4</sub>PF<sub>6</sub> as appropriate (eq. 1).



(I) (II-VII)

(II) arene = C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, L = N<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, X = BPh<sub>4</sub>

(III) arene = *p*-MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>CHMe<sub>2</sub>, L = N<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, X = BPh<sub>4</sub>

(IV) arene = C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, L = NH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>, X = BPh<sub>4</sub>

(V) arene = *p*-MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>CHMe<sub>2</sub>, L = NH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>, X = BPh<sub>4</sub>

(VI) arene = C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, L = NH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>, X = PF<sub>6</sub>

(VII) arene = *p*-MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>CHMe<sub>2</sub>, L = NH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>, X = PF<sub>6</sub>

These reactions are undoubtedly aided by the polar nature of the reaction medium, which facilitates the loss of chloride, and contrasts with the previously reported bridge cleavage reactions with phosphines, phosphites or pyridine. These were carried out in benzene, the neat phosphine or in pyridine and gave complexes of the type [(arene)RuCl<sub>2</sub>L] [2].

The complexes II-VII are moderately air stable in the solid state but decompose quite rapidly in solution, even under an inert atmosphere (although more slowly in the latter case), thus necessitating fairly rapid recrystallisations. They behave as 2/1 electrolytes in acetonitrile solution (Table 1); the conductivity

TABLE 1  
ANALYTICAL AND PHYSICAL DATA FOR THE ARENE-RUTHENIUM COMPLEXES

Complex	Colour	Yield (%)	Decomposition point (°C)	Conductivity <sup>a</sup> (ohm <sup>-1</sup> cm <sup>2</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup> )	Analyses (found (calcd.) (%))			
					C	H	N	Cl
II - 2MeCN	Yellow	63	125	247	69.5 (69.9)	6.5 (6.5)	10.8 (11.3)	
III - N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Yellow	79	126	240	69.5 (69.5)	7.1 (7.1)	10.8 (11.2)	
IV	Brown	69	132	236	72.6 (72.2)	6.8 (7.1)	8.4 (8.4)	
V - Me <sub>2</sub> CO	Yellow	77	109	253	72.0 (72.3)	7.6 (7.6)	7.5 (7.5)	
VI	Buff	62	157	336	22.3 (22.2)	4.5 (4.7)	12.9 (12.9)	
VII	Yellow	37	114	320	26.8 (27.2)	5.2 (5.4)	10.9 (11.9)	
VIII - 2Me <sub>2</sub> CO	Yellow	55	167	257	76.9 (76.9)	5.9 (6.3)	3.6 (3.6)	
IX	Yellow	60	154	230	78.5 (78.9)	6.4 (6.3)	4.1 (3.8)	
X	Yellow	60	108	231	79.0 (79.1)	6.5 (6.6)	3.7 (3.6)	
XI	Yellow	53	216	104	64.5 (64.7)	5.9 (5.7)	4.5 (4.7)	6.4 (6.0)
XII	Yellow	75	180	102	66.3 (66.5)	6.5 (6.5)	4.4 (4.3)	6.2 (5.5)

<sup>a</sup> In ca. 10<sup>-3</sup> M MeCN solution; quoted ranges for 1/1 electrolytes: 120-160 and for 2/1 electrolytes: 220-300 ohm<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>2</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup> [5].

values for complexes VI and VII are slightly higher than the quoted range (220–300  $\text{ohm}^{-1} \text{cm}^2 \text{mol}^{-1}$ ) but other examples are known [5].

The dimethylhydrazine complexes IV–VII show a moderately strong band in their infrared spectra at about  $3200 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  attributable to  $\nu(\text{NH})$  while the hydrazine complexes II and III show several bands in the region  $3150\text{--}3350 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; all the complexes show a  $\delta(\text{NH})$  absorption at about  $1600 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (Table 2). The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (Table 2) of complexes II–VII all show resonances for the aromatic protons of the coordinated arenes characteristically shifted upfield

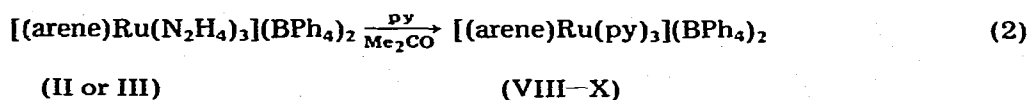
TABLE 2  
IR AND  $^1\text{H}$  NMR DATA FOR THE ARENE–RUTHENIUM COMPLEXES

Complex	IR ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) <sup>a</sup>		$^1\text{H}$ NMR <sup>b</sup>	
	$\nu(\text{NH})$	$\delta(\text{NH})$	Arene	Other ligands
II - 2MeCN <sup>c</sup>	3325, 3255	1605 s(br)	5.57, s	3.31 and 5.73, (br) $\text{N}_2\text{H}_4$
III - $\text{N}_2\text{H}_4$	3195 (br)	1600 s(br)	5.37 and 5.61, d(6), ArH	3.42 and 5.78, (br) $\text{N}_2\text{H}_4$
	3335, 3305(br)			
IV	3250, 3215	1615 ms(br)	2.75, sp(6.6), ArCH	6.64, (br) $\text{NH}_2\text{NMe}_2$
	3160(br)		2.05, s, Me	
V - $\text{Me}_2\text{CO}$ <sup>d</sup>	3165 ms(br)	1605 w(br)	1.18, d(6.6), $\text{CHMe}_2$	2.44, s, $\text{NH}_2\text{NMe}_2$
			5.52 and 5.78, d(6), ArH	6.39, (br) $\text{NH}_2\text{NMe}_2$
VI	3215 ms	1618 ms	2.94, sp(6.6), ArCH	2.43, s, $\text{NH}_2\text{NMe}_2$
			2.05, s, Me	
VII	3246 ms	1618(br)	1.19, d(6.6), $\text{CHMe}_2$	6.71 (br) $\text{NH}_2\text{NMe}_2$
			5.77 and 5.95, d(6), ArH	2.49, s, $\text{NH}_2\text{NMe}_2$
VIII - $2\text{Me}_2\text{CO}$ <sup>e, f</sup>			2.23, s, Me	6.54 (br) $\text{NH}_2\text{NMe}_2$
			1.25, d(6.6), $\text{CHMe}_2$	2.52, s, $\text{NH}_2\text{NMe}_2$
IX <sup>f</sup>			6.00, s	
			5.74 and 5.96, d(6), ArH	
X <sup>f</sup>			$\sim 2.8$ $\delta$ , ArCH	2.39, s, $\text{MeC}_5\text{H}_4\text{N}$
			1.52, s, Me	
XI	3305, 3280 3238(br), 3108 w	1580 s(br)	0.98, d(6.6), $\text{CHMe}_2$	2.10, (br) $(\text{CH}_2\text{NH}_2)_2$
			5.65 and 5.87, d(6), ArH	2.26–2.48, m, $(\text{CH}_2\text{NH}_2)_2$
XII	3300, 3288 3230, 3207 3125	1583 s(br)	$\sim 2.8$ $\delta$ , ArCH	2.20–2.44, m, $(\text{CH}_2\text{NH}_2)_2$
			1.51, s, Me	
			0.97, d(6.6), $\text{CHMe}_2$	

<sup>a</sup> In nujol mulls, medium intensity bands unless otherwise stated; (br) broad, s strong, ms moderately strong, w weak. <sup>b</sup> In  $\text{C}^2\text{H}_3\text{CN}$  solution relative to TMS; reported as: position ( $\delta$ , ppm) multiplicity (coupling constant [Hz]), assignment. Complexes containing acetone showed  $\delta(\text{Me})$  at 2.04 s; those containing acetonitrile showed  $\delta(\text{Me})$  at 1.87 s; those containing  $\text{BPh}_4$  showed  $\delta(\text{Ph})$  at ca. 6.8–7.5, s singlet, d doublet, sp septet, m multiplet, (br) broad. <sup>c</sup>  $\nu(\text{CN})$  at 2295 w and 2260  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . <sup>d</sup>  $\nu(\text{CO})$  at 1695 s  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . <sup>e</sup>  $\nu(\text{CO})$  at 1705 s  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . <sup>f</sup>  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum showed resonances for the aromatic pyridine protons between  $\delta$  6.8 and 8.4. <sup>g</sup> Poorly resolved resonance due to low solubility of complex.

from those for the free arenes. The complexes IV–VII show a broad resonance at  $\delta$  ca. 6.5 ppm, which disappears on addition of  $^2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and is thus assigned to the NH protons of the dimethylhydrazine ligands. The low field position of this resonance (cf.  $\delta$  2.8 ppm for  $\text{NH}_2\text{NMe}_2$  in  $\text{C}^2\text{H}_3\text{CN}$ ) suggests a considerable deshielding of the NH protons indicating bonding to the metal via the  $\text{NH}_2$  nitrogen atom, a situation also favoured sterically. The complexes II and III both show two broad resonances for the NH protons of the hydrazines, one at  $\delta$  ca. 5.5 ppm, which by comparison with the dimethylhydrazine complexes is assigned to the protons on the nitrogen atom bound to the metal, and the other at  $\delta$  ca. 3.5 ppm. These two resonances are of approximately equal intensity for complex II, but for complex III the resonances at  $\delta$  ca. 5.5 and ca. 3.5 ppm correspond to approximately 6 and 10 protons respectively, the higher intensity of the high field resonance being due to a molecule of hydrazine of crystallisation.

The complexes II and III react with pyridines to give  $[(\text{arene})\text{Ru}(\text{py})_3](\text{BPh}_4)_2$  as shown in eq. 2.



(VIII) arene =  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_6$ , py =  $\text{C}_5\text{H}_5\text{N}$

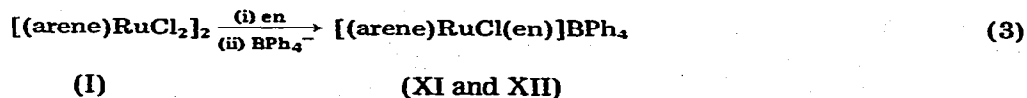
(IX) arene =  $p\text{-MeC}_6\text{H}_4\text{CHMe}_2$ , py =  $\text{C}_5\text{H}_5\text{N}$

(X) arene =  $p\text{-MeC}_6\text{H}_4\text{CHMe}_2$ , py =  $4\text{-MeC}_5\text{H}_4\text{N}$

The complexes VIII–X are yellow, air-stable crystalline solids which behave as 2/1 electrolytes in acetonitrile solution (Table 1).

Reaction of complexes II–VII with dimethylphenylphosphine gives products which do not contain coordinated arene and the exact nature of these compounds is still under investigation. This is in contrast to the reactions involving the relatively donor nitrogen ligands above and is a consequence of the greater  $\pi$ -acceptor properties of the  $\text{PMe}_2\text{Ph}$  ligand which upon coordination labilises the arene ligand by successfully competing for metal electron density. Similarly, refluxing I (arene =  $1,3,5\text{-Me}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$  or  $p\text{-MeC}_6\text{H}_4\text{CHMe}_2$ ) in pyridine leads to  $[(\text{arene})\text{RuCl}_2(\text{py})]$  whereas treatment of I with an excess of  $\text{PMe}_2\text{Ph}$  leads to  $[\text{Ru}_2\text{Cl}_3(\text{PMe}_2\text{Ph})_6]\text{Cl}$  [2]. Also, reaction of  $[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_6)\text{RuCl}_3\text{Ru}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_6)]\text{PF}_6$  with pyridine in boiling ethanol leads to a mixture of  $[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_6)\text{RuCl}(\text{py})_2]\text{PF}_6$  and  $[\text{RuCl}_2(\text{py})_4]$  while reaction with  $\text{PMe}_2\text{Ph}$  gives only  $[\text{Ru}_2\text{Cl}_3(\text{PMe}_2\text{Ph})_6]\text{Cl}$  [6].

Treatment of complexes I (arene =  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_6$  or  $p\text{-MeC}_6\text{H}_4\text{CHMe}_2$ ) with one equivalent of ethylenediamine (= en) in methanol followed by addition of  $\text{NaBPh}_4$  gives the yellow, air-stable crystalline complexes  $[(\text{arene})\text{RuCl}(\text{en})]\text{BPh}_4$  (eq. 3) which are 1/1 electrolytes in acetonitrile solution (Table 1).



(XI) arene =  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_6$

(XII) arene =  $p\text{-MeC}_6\text{H}_4\text{CHMe}_2$

The use of an excess of ethylenediamine in reaction 3 gives, in addition to the above products, small yields of the known [7] cation  $[\text{Ru}(\text{en})_3]^{2+}$ ; the mother liquor on standing slowly deposits yellow crystals of the salt  $[\text{Ru}(\text{en})_3] \cdot (\text{BPh}_4)_2 \cdot 2\text{MeOH}$ .

The complexes XI and XII show several bands in the region 3100–3310  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  of their infrared spectra attributable to  $\nu(\text{NH})$  and a strong, broad band at ca. 1580  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for  $\delta(\text{NH})$  which also includes a component due to the  $\text{BPh}_4$  anion (Table 2). The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of complex XI (Table 2) shows a broad resonance at  $\delta$  2.10 ppm which disappears on addition of  $^2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and is assigned to the NH protons of the (en) ligand, but a similar resonance was not detected for complex XII. The reasons for this are not at present clear.

## Experimental

All manipulations were performed under dinitrogen using standard Schlenk techniques.

NMR spectra were run on a Perkin–Elmer R12A spectrometer and IR spectra on a Perkin–Elmer 257 grating spectrometer. Conductivity measurements were performed using a Philips PW9504/00 conductivity meter and a PW9510 conductivity cell. Melting points were determined on a Kofler hot-stage and analyses were performed by the Service de Microanalyse, C.N.R.S., Gif-sur-Yvette.  $\text{RuCl}_3 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$  was a generous loan from the Compagnie des Métaux Précieux.

### $[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_6)\text{Ru}(\text{N}_2\text{H}_4)_3](\text{BPh}_4)_2 \cdot 2\text{MeCN}$ (II)

To a suspension of  $[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_6)\text{RuCl}_2]_2$  [2] (0.2 g) in methanol (10  $\text{cm}^3$ ) was added hydrazine hydrate (0.5  $\text{cm}^3$ ) and the mixture stirred for 30 min. The resulting red solution was filtered and  $\text{NaBPh}_4$  (0.8 g) added to precipitate a pale-yellow solid which was isolated by filtration, washed with water (2  $\times$  10  $\text{cm}^3$ ) and recrystallised from  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  to give yellow crystals (0.5 g, 65%).

### $[(p\text{-MeC}_6\text{H}_4\text{CHMe}_2)\text{Ru}(\text{N}_2\text{H}_4)_3](\text{BPh}_4)_2 \cdot \text{N}_2\text{H}_4$ (III)

To a suspension of  $[(p\text{-MeC}_6\text{H}_4\text{CHMe}_2)\text{RuCl}_2]_2$  [2] (0.25 g) in tetrahydrofuran (10  $\text{cm}^3$ ) was added hydrazine hydrate (0.5  $\text{cm}^3$ ) and the mixture stirred vigorously for 30 min during which time an orange oil separated. Addition of  $\text{NaBPh}_4$  (0.8 g) resulted in dissolution of the oil to give a yellow solution. This was taken to dryness in vacuo and  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (10  $\text{cm}^3$ ) was added. The resulting yellow solid was filtered, washed with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (5  $\text{cm}^3$ ), and water (2  $\times$  10  $\text{cm}^3$ ) and recrystallised from  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  to give yellow crystals (0.65 g, 79%).

### $[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_6)\text{Ru}(\text{NH}_2\text{NMe}_2)_3](\text{X})_2$ (IV, X = $\text{BPh}_4$ ; VI, X = $\text{PF}_6$ )

To a suspension of  $[(\text{arene})\text{RuCl}_2]_2$  (0.2 g) in methanol (10  $\text{cm}^3$ ) was added  $\text{NH}_2\text{NMe}_2$  (0.5  $\text{cm}^3$ ) and the mixture stirred for 30 min. The products were isolated by the addition of  $\text{NaBPh}_4$  (0.8 g) or  $\text{NH}_4\text{PF}_6$  (0.8 g) as appropriate. Yields, IV 69%; VI 62%.

### $[(p\text{-MeC}_6\text{H}_4\text{CHMe}_2)\text{Ru}(\text{NH}_2\text{NMe}_2)_3](\text{BPh}_4)_2 \cdot \text{Me}_2\text{CO}$ (V)

To a suspension of  $[(p\text{-MeC}_6\text{H}_4\text{CHMe}_2)\text{RuCl}_2]_2$  (0.25 g) in tetrahydrofuran (10  $\text{cm}^3$ ) was added  $\text{NH}_2\text{NMe}_2$  (0.5  $\text{cm}^3$ ) and the mixture stirred for 1 h.  $\text{NaBPh}_4$

(0.8 g) was added to the resulting orange solution and the mixture stirred for a further 30 min. This was then taken to dryness in vacuo and water (10 cm<sup>3</sup>) added. The resulting yellow solid was filtered, washed with water (2 × 10 cm<sup>3</sup>) and rapidly recrystallised from Me<sub>2</sub>CO/Et<sub>2</sub>O to give yellow crystals (0.7 g, 77%).

*[(p-MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>CHMe<sub>2</sub>)Ru(NH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>](PF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (VII)*

To a suspension of [(*p*-MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>CHMe<sub>2</sub>)RuCl<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub> (0.25 g) in methanol (15 cm<sup>3</sup>) was added NH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub> (1.0 cm<sup>3</sup>) and the mixture stirred for 30 min. NH<sub>4</sub>PF<sub>6</sub> (1.0 g) was added to the resulting yellow solution and the mixture stirred for a further 30 min. The solution was reduced to ca. half-volume in vacuo and water added dropwise with stirring until the solution was faintly cloudy. On standing at -40°C for about 2 weeks, yellow crystals were deposited (0.24 g, 37%) which were filtered, washed with a little chilled water and dried in vacuo.

*[(Arene)Ru(py)<sub>3</sub>](BPh<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (VIII-X)*

To a solution of [(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)Ru(N<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>](BPh<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> · 2MeCN (0.2 g) in acetone (10 cm<sup>3</sup>) was added pyridine (0.5 cm<sup>3</sup>) and the solution stirred for 3 h. Reduction in volume of the solution in vacuo led to the deposition of yellow crystals of [(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)Ru(C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>N)<sub>3</sub>](BPh<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> · 2Me<sub>2</sub>CO (VIII, 0.13 g, 55%).

The complex [(*p*-MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>CHMe<sub>2</sub>)Ru(C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>N)<sub>3</sub>](BPh<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (IX) was similarly prepared from [(*p*-MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>CHMe<sub>2</sub>)Ru(N<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>](BPh<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> · N<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> except that Et<sub>2</sub>O (10 cm<sup>3</sup>) was added after solvent volume reduction to precipitate the crude solid, which was recrystallised from CH<sub>3</sub>CN/Et<sub>2</sub>O to give yellow crystals in 60% yield.

The complex [(*p*-MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>CHMe<sub>2</sub>)Ru(4-MeC<sub>5</sub>H<sub>4</sub>N)<sub>3</sub>](BPh<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (X) was similarly prepared except that the reaction mixture was first taken to dryness. MeCN (5 cm<sup>3</sup>), Et<sub>2</sub>O (5 cm<sup>3</sup>) and EtOH (5 cm<sup>3</sup>) were added and slow solvent removal in vacuo gave the complex as a yellow microcrystalline solid in 60% yield.

*[(Arene)RuCl(en)]BPh<sub>4</sub> (XI and XII)*

To a suspension of [(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)RuCl<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub> (0.2 g) in methanol (10 cm<sup>3</sup>) was added ethylenediamine (0.05 cm<sup>3</sup>; one equiv.) and the mixture stirred for 1 h. The mixture was filtered and NaBPh<sub>4</sub> (0.3 g) added to the resulting yellow-green solution to give [(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)RuCl(en)]BPh<sub>4</sub> (XI) as a yellow microcrystalline solid (0.25 g, 53%) which was filtered, washed with chilled water (5 cm<sup>3</sup>) and chilled methanol (5 cm<sup>3</sup>) and dried in vacuo.

The complex [(*p*-MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>CHMe<sub>2</sub>)RuCl(en)]BPh<sub>4</sub> (XII) was similarly prepared from [(*p*-MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>CHMe<sub>2</sub>)RuCl<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub> as yellow crystals in 75% yield.

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