

# Synthesis and X-ray structures of hydridotris(1-pyrazolyl)borate carbonyl complexes of ruthenium

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## Abstract

A series of new hydridotris(1-pyrazolyl)borate (Tp) carbonyl complexes of ruthenium were synthesized. Treatment of [TpRu(CO)<sub>2</sub>X] (X = Br, I) with Me<sub>3</sub>NO in MeCN afforded [TpRu(CO)(NCMe)X] (X = Br (**1**), I (**2**)). The reactions of **1** and **2** with either neutral isocyanides or anionic dialkyldithiocarbamates to produce [TpRu(CO)(CNR)X] (X = Br, R = PhCH<sub>2</sub> (**3**); X = Br, R = <sup>t</sup>Bu (**4**); X = I, R = PhCH<sub>2</sub> (**5**); X = I, R = <sup>t</sup>Bu (**6**)) and [TpRu(CO)(η<sup>2</sup>-S<sub>2</sub>CNR<sub>2</sub>)] (R = Me (**7**), Et (**8**)), respectively. Compounds **1** and **2** react with RSH–Et<sub>3</sub>N in THF or 1,2-dimethoxyethane at reflux to give mono- and dithiolato diruthenium products, (*cis*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-X)(μ-SR)] (X = I, R = <sup>i</sup>Pr (**11**); X = Br, R = <sup>t</sup>Bu (**13**); X = I, R = <sup>t</sup>Bu (**14**)), (*trans*, *anti*-1)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-S<sup>i</sup>Pr)<sub>2</sub>] (**9**), (*cis*, *syn*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-S<sup>i</sup>Pr)<sub>2</sub>] (**10**), (*trans*, *anti*-1)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-S<sup>t</sup>Bu)<sub>2</sub>] (**12**), and (*cis*, *anti*-2)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-S<sup>i</sup>Pr)(μ-S<sup>t</sup>Bu)] (**15**). Compound **11** reacts with Me<sub>3</sub>NO to form stereo- and chemospecifically the first diruthenium sulfenate, (*cis*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-I)(μ-S(O)<sup>i</sup>Pr)] (**16**) with the S=O bond at the *endo* position with respect to carbonyls. Structures **8**, **9**, **10**, **12**, **14**, **15**, and **16** are described. © 2002 Elsevier Science B.V. All rights reserved.

**Keywords:** Ruthenium; Hydridotris(1-pyrazolyl)borate; Thiolates; Isocyanides; Dialkyl dithiocarbamates; Carbonyl

## 1. Introduction

Since the discovery of the pyrazolylborate ligands by Trofimenko in 1966 [1], an extensive transition-metal chemistry that utilizes these ligands has emerged [2]. Due to the apparent similarity in coordination and electronic structure to the cyclopentadienyl (Cp) ligand, much chemistry developed with the hydridotris(L-pyrazolyl)borate (Tp) ligand has involved compounds whose Cp analogues were well established. Despite these similarities, there were for many years few and scattered reports of mixed-ligand complexes of ruthenium containing a Tp ligand, a carbonyl ligand, and other ligands [3], in contrast with numerous corresponding CpRu(CO) complexes [4]. The obvious reason is the lack of TpRu(CO) starting compounds. Previous attempts, as well as our own attempts (*vide infra*) to

synthesize the mixed-ligand Ru compounds using [TpRu(CO)<sub>2</sub>X] (X = Br, I) [3a,3d] were frustrated by low or no conversion. However, we wish to report here that [TpRu(CO)(MeCN)X] (X = Br (**1**), I (**2**)) can be obtained readily and serve as a better starting material, leading to a series of new TpRu(CO) products.

## 2. Results and discussion

### 2.1. Preparation of [TpRu(CO)(MeCN)X] (X = Br (**1**), I (**2**))

The Tp ligand, with its steric bulk (cone angle 180°) and unique electronic properties [5], is known to bias formation of the octahedral six-coordinate complexes of transition-metal atoms. It is hence not unexpected that no genuine seven-coordinate TpRu compounds were described in the literature [3,6]. This propensity of the ligand apparently accounts for the observed poor

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reactivity of  $[\text{TpRu}(\text{CO})_2\text{X}]$  ( $\text{X} = \text{Br}, \text{I}$ ) toward various nucleophiles even under forced conditions. Thus, it usually allows only a partial conversion (ca. 30–50%), shown in the sequentially measured solution IR spectra, from  $[\text{TpRu}(\text{CO})_2\text{X}]$  into other derivatives, even when the reaction mixture of  $[\text{TpRu}(\text{CO})_2\text{X}]$  and nucleophiles in MeCN was heated at 82 °C for 3 days. Unfortunately, there were for many years no reports in the literature concerning any other  $\{\text{TpRu}(\text{CO})\}$  complexes as good starting material [3]. We have now found that employment of  $[\text{TpRu}(\text{CO})(\text{MeCN})\text{X}]$  ( $\text{X} = \text{Br}$  (**1**), **I** (**2**)), prepared in a high yield from decarbonylation of  $[\text{TpRu}(\text{CO})_2\text{X}]$  with  $\text{Me}_3\text{NO}$  in MeCN, as the starting compounds can allow a complete conversion into the derived products. Apparently compounds **1** and **2** are the lightly stabilized complexes [7], and can serve as a good starting material leading to other substituted compounds.

## 2.2. Formation of monomeric $\text{TpRu}(\text{CO})$ complexes

No apparent reaction between  $[\text{TpRu}(\text{CO})_2\text{X}]$  and neutral alkyl isocyanides in MeCN was observed, monitored by sequential solution IR spectra, even under reflux for a week. However, treatment of **1** and **2** with a slight excess of RNC under reflux for 12 h gave the expected complexes  $[\text{TpRu}(\text{CO})(\text{CNR})\text{X}]$  ( $\text{X} = \text{Br}$ ,  $\text{R} = \text{PhCH}_2$  (**3**),  $\text{tBu}$  (**4**);  $\text{X} = \text{I}$ ,  $\text{R} = \text{PhCH}_2$  (**5**),  $\text{tBu}$  (**6**)) in 60–70% yield. Likewise, reaction between **2** and anionic dialkyldithiocarbamate produced as expected  $[\text{TpRu}(\text{CO})(\eta^2\text{-S}_2\text{CNR}_2)]$  ( $\text{R}' = \text{Me}$  (**7**),  $\text{Et}$  (**8**)) in a satisfactory yield within a reasonable period of time.

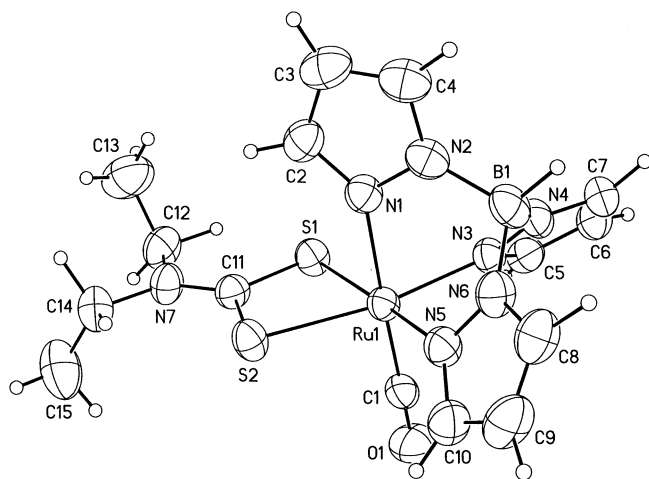


Fig. 1. ORTEP drawing of  $[\text{TpRu}(\text{CO})(\eta^2\text{-S}_2\text{CNEt}_2)]$  (**8**). Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level. Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) are as follows:  $\text{Ru}(1)\text{--C}(1)$ , 1.834(3);  $\text{Ru}(1)\text{--N}(1)$ , 2.158(2);  $\text{Ru}(1)\text{--N}(3)$ , 2.101(2);  $\text{Ru}(1)\text{--N}(5)$ , 2.113(2);  $\text{Ru}(1)\text{--S}(1)$ , 2.3811(7);  $\text{Ru}(1)\text{--S}(2)$ , 2.4013(7);  $\text{S}(1)\text{--C}(11)$ , 1.725(3);  $\text{S}(2)\text{--C}(11)$ , 1.724(3);  $\text{C}(11)\text{--N}(7)$ , 1.329(3);  $\text{C}(1)\text{--O}(1)$ , 1.146(3);  $\text{S}(1)\text{--Ru}(1)\text{--S}(2)$ , 72.93(2);  $\text{Ru}(1)\text{--C}(1)\text{--O}(1)$ , 178.7(2);  $\text{S}(1)\text{--C}(11)\text{--S}(2)$ , 123.9(2).

The monomeric feature of **8** was also confirmed by its crystal structure (Fig. 1). The C–N distance of the coordinated diethyldithiocarbamate,  $d(\text{C}(11)\text{--N}(7)) = 1.329(3)$  Å, is within the typical range of 1.31–1.36 Å [8] for containing a partial double-bond character, and the distance is found compatible with the C–N stretching frequency of  $1501\text{ cm}^{-1}$  measured in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .

## 2.3. Formation of dimeric $\text{TpRu}(\text{CO})$ complexes

Prior to studying the reactions between  $[\text{TpRu}(\text{CO})(\text{MeCN})\text{X}]$  and thiolates, it was expected to obtain dimeric  $\{\text{Tp}_2\text{Ru}_2\}$  products with exclusively *trans*-disposed Tp ligands, based on the steric bulk of this ligand. However, to our surprise, seven different products were obtained with five *cis* and two *trans* compounds, containing one and two thiolato bridges: (*cis*)- $[\text{Tp}_2\text{Ru}_2(\text{CO})(\mu\text{-X})(\mu\text{-SR})]$  ( $\text{X} = \text{I}$ ,  $\text{R} = \text{tPr}$  (**11**);  $\text{X} = \text{Br}$ ,  $\text{R} = \text{tBu}$  (**13**);  $\text{X} = \text{I}$ ,  $\text{R} = \text{tBu}$  (**14**)), (*trans, anti-1*)- $[\text{Tp}_2\text{Ru}_2(\text{CO})_2(\mu\text{-S}^i\text{Pr})_2]$  (**9**), (*cis, syn*)- $[\text{Tp}_2\text{Ru}_2(\text{CO})_2(\mu\text{-S}^i\text{Pr})_2]$  (**10**), (*trans, anti-1*)- $[\text{Tp}_2\text{Ru}_2(\text{CO})_2(\mu\text{-S}^i\text{Bu})_2]$  (**12**), and (*cis, anti-2*)- $[\text{Tp}_2\text{Ru}_2(\text{CO})_2(\mu\text{-S}^i\text{Pr})(\mu\text{-S}^i\text{Bu})]$  (**15**). For the compounds containing two thiolato bridges, except the common *syn* orientation [9], there are two types of *anti* orientations: *anti-1* for the geometry containing one thiolato R group above plane  $\text{Ru}_2\text{S}_2$  and the other group below, and *anti-2* for the geometry with one thiolato R group below plane  $\text{Ru}_2\text{S}_2$  and the other group coplanar with  $\text{Ru}_2\text{S}_2$  (Chart 1).  $[\text{Tp}_2\text{Ru}_2(\text{CO})_2(\mu\text{-Br})(\mu\text{-S}^i\text{Pr})]$  was not isolated in the reaction between **1** and  $\text{tPrSH}\text{--Et}_3\text{N}$ . Clearly with the exception of the steric effect of the Tp ligand, the formation of different products is also dependent on the effect of the halo ligand, X, of  $[\text{TpRu}(\text{CO})(\text{MeCN})\text{X}]$  and that of the thiolato R group. Using a thiol reagent with a bulkier tBu group, or using **2** with a larger iodo ligand, mono-thiolato products  $[\text{Tp}_2\text{Ru}_2(\text{CO})_2(\mu\text{-X})(\mu\text{-SR})]$  ( $\text{X} = \text{I}$ ,  $\text{R} = \text{tPr}$  (**11**);  $\text{X} = \text{Br}$ ,  $\text{R} = \text{tBu}$  (**13**);  $\text{X} = \text{I}$ ,  $\text{R} = \text{tBu}$  (**14**)) were then observed. The geometries of these mono-thiolato complexes are similar to each other: each displays two carbonyl stretching bands in the IR spectrum, and one set of six doublets in an intensity ratio of 1:1:1:1:1:1 for hydrogen nuclei at the 3- and 5-positions of the pyrazolyl rings of the Tp ligand and a set of three triplets in an intensity ratio of 1:1:1 for those at the 4-positions in the  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectrum. The crystal structure of **14** was determined, and two Tp ligands were found to adopt the *cis* positions (Fig. 2). Sum in the metallacycle  $\text{Ru}(1)/\text{S}(1)/\text{Ru}(2)/\text{I}$  is  $345.50^\circ$ , deviated largely from the theoretical value of  $360^\circ$  required for planar four-membered ring. It indicates that the four atoms,  $\text{Ru}_2\text{SX}$  ( $\text{X} = \text{I}$ , in **14**), are not coplanar. Apparently,  $[\text{TpRu}(\text{CO})(\text{MeCN})\text{X}]$  reacted with  $\text{RSH}\text{--Et}_3\text{N}$  to form an intermediate  $[\text{TpRu}(\text{CO})(\text{SR})]$  first, and either dimerization of this intermediate or a subsequent reaction between  $[\text{TpRu}$

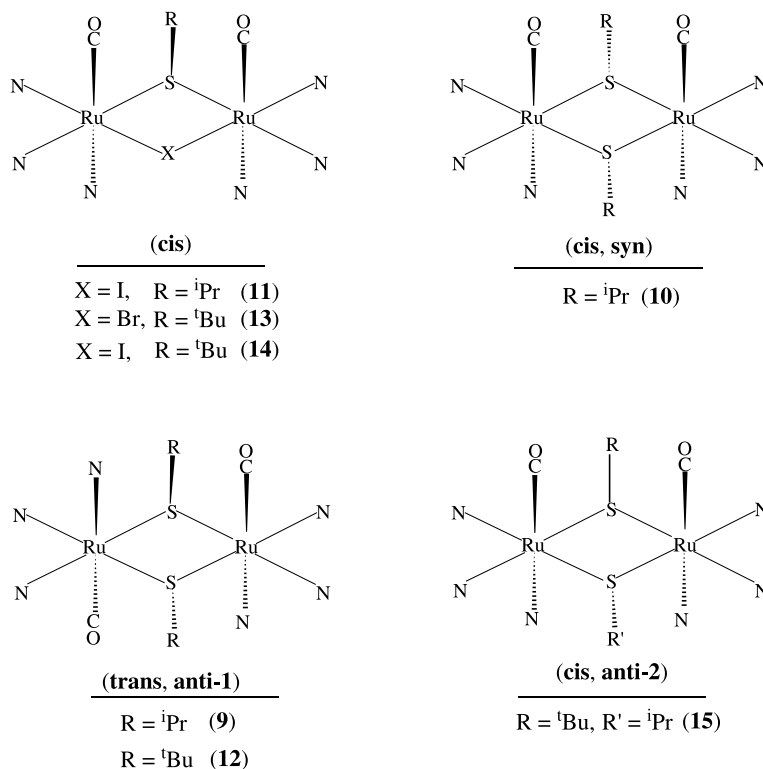


Chart 1.

(CO)(SR)] and [TpRu(CO)(MeCN)X] then took place to form [Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-SR)<sub>2</sub>] and [Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-X)(μ-SR)] (Scheme 1).

The reaction of **1** or **2** with <sup>i</sup>PrSH–Et<sub>3</sub>N was heated in either THF or 1,2-dimethoxyethane under reflux, giving several products. Two typical reactions as shown in the Section 3 produced (*trans, anti-1*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-S<sup>i</sup>Pr)<sub>2</sub>] (**9**), (*cis, syn*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-S<sup>i</sup>Pr)<sub>2</sub>] (**10**), and (*cis*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-I)(μ-S<sup>i</sup>Pr)] (**11**). The crystal structures of **9** (Fig. 3) and **10** (Fig. 4) were also determined by X-ray diffraction methods to confirm the (*trans, anti-1*) and (*cis, syn-1*) geometries assigned for **9** and **10**, respectively. Sum in the metallacycle Ru(1)/S(1A)/Ru(1A)/S(1) is 360° in **9**, indicating that unlike Ru<sub>2</sub>SX in **14** (Fig. 2), the four atoms, Ru<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> in **9** (Fig. 3) are coplanar, with one thiolato R group above this plane and the other below, probably due to the fact that this structure contains a crystallographically imposed inversion center. Although, structure **10** has a crystallographically imposed mirror plane containing two sulfur atoms, S(1) and S(2), and two carbon atoms, C(11) and C(13), the four Ru<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> atoms (i.e. Ru(1), Ru(1A), S(1), and S(2)), in **10** are not coplanar with sum in the metallacycle Ru(1)/S(2)/Ru(1A)/S(1) of 356.94°.

Except the mono-thiolato complexes, (*cis*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-Br)(μ-S<sup>t</sup>Bu)] (**13**) and (*cis*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-I)(μ-S<sup>t</sup>Bu)] (**14**), (*trans, anti-1*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-S<sup>t</sup>Bu)<sub>2</sub>] (**12**) was separated successfully from the reactions of **1**

or **2** with <sup>t</sup>BuSH–Et<sub>3</sub>N. Compound **12** shows similar features in both IR and <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra to compound **9**. Like **9**, compound **12** also adopts a (*trans, anti-1*) geometry as confirmed by X-ray diffraction methods.

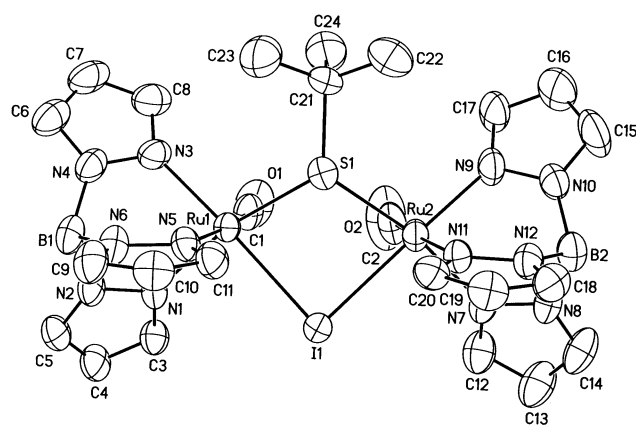


Fig. 2. ORTEP drawing of (*cis*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-I)(μ-S<sup>t</sup>Bu)] (**14**). Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) are as follows: Ru(1)–C(1), 1.844(8); Ru(1)–N(1), 2.102(6); Ru(1)–N(3), 2.099(6); Ru(1)–N(5), 2.148(6); Ru(1)–S(1), 2.423(2); Ru(1)–I(1), 2.7288(7); C(1)–O(1), 1.115(10); Ru(2)–C(2), 1.825(9); Ru(2)–N(7), 2.089(6); Ru(2)–N(9), 2.100(7); Ru(2)–N(11), 2.173(6); Ru(2)–S(1), 2.452(2); Ru(2)–I(1), 2.7338(7); C(2)–O(2), 1.152(12); S(1)–C(21), 1.828(8); S(1)–Ru(1)–I(1), 76.07(5); Ru(1)–I(1)–Ru(2), 89.60(2); I(1)–Ru(2)–S(1), 75.53(5); Ru(2)–S(1)–Ru(1), 104.30(8); Ru(1)–C(1)–O(1), 173.2(8); Ru(2)–C(2)–O(2), 171.4(9).



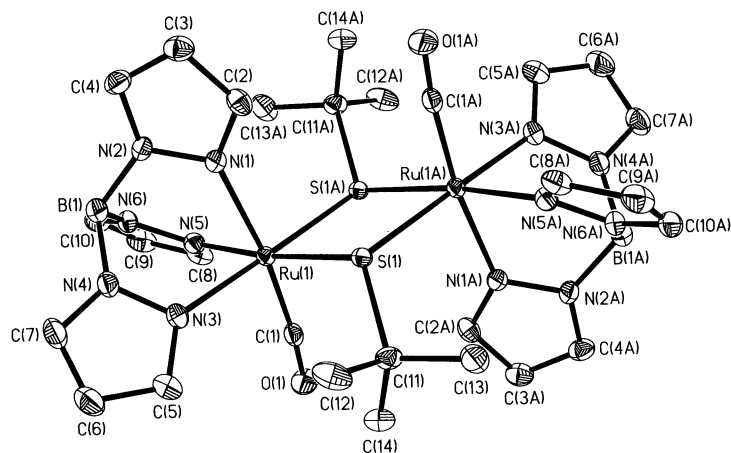


Fig. 5. ORTEP drawing of (*trans, anti*-1)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-S<sup>i</sup>Bu)<sub>2</sub>] (**12A**). Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) are as follows: Ru(1)–C(1), 1.829(3); Ru(1)–N(1), 2.167(3); Ru(1)–N(3), 2.139(3); Ru(1)–N(5), 2.107(3); Ru(1)–S(1), 2.4527(8); S(1)–C(11), 1.895(3); C(1)–O(1), 1.162(4); S(1)–Ru(1)–S(1A), 78.87(3); Ru(1)–S(1)–Ru(1A), 101.13(3); Ru(1)–C(1)–O(1), 173.3(3).

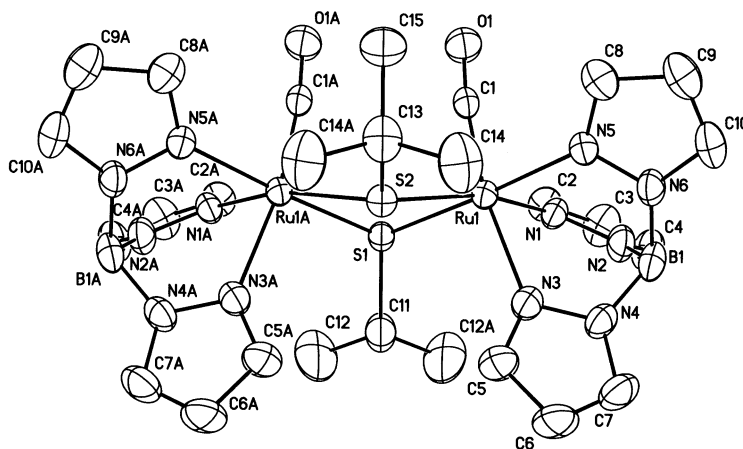


Fig. 6. ORTEP drawing of (*cis, anti*-2)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-S<sup>i</sup>Pr)(μ-S<sup>i</sup>Bu)] (**15**). Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) are as follows: Ru(1)–C(1), 1.817(5); Ru(1)–N(1), 2.103(4); Ru(1)–N(3), 2.186(4); Ru(1)–N(5), 2.126(4); Ru(1)–S(1), 2.4222 (11); Ru(1)–S(2), 2.4040(11); S(1)–C(11), 1.832(9); S(2)–C(13), 1.828(7); C(1)–O(1), 1.150(5); S(1)–Ru(1)–S(2), 75.40(5); Ru(1)–S(1)–Ru(1A), 99.60(6); Ru(1)–S(2)–Ru(1A), 100.63(6); Ru(1)–C(1)–O(1), 172.1(4).

*trans* geometry such as **9** or **12**. However, the strain can be relieved more or less in a *cis* geometry such as **10**, **14**, or **15** by twisting two line segments toward the carbonyl side. This twisting also shifts four atoms of Ru<sub>2</sub>SX in **14** or Ru<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> in **10** and **15** away from coplanarity (Scheme 2). The strain relieving is probably effective, and there are five-versus-two *cis* reaction products favorably formed from **1** and **2** Chart 1. By comparison of the structure models for **15** and a hypothetical one, **15'**, with <sup>i</sup>Pr and <sup>i</sup>Bu positions interchanged, there is non-bonding repulsive interaction between the lone pair electrons of the S atom of <sup>i</sup>PrS and a methyl group of <sup>i</sup>BuS.

#### 2.4. Reaction of (*cis*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-I)(μ-S<sup>i</sup>Pr)] (**11**) with Me<sub>3</sub>NO

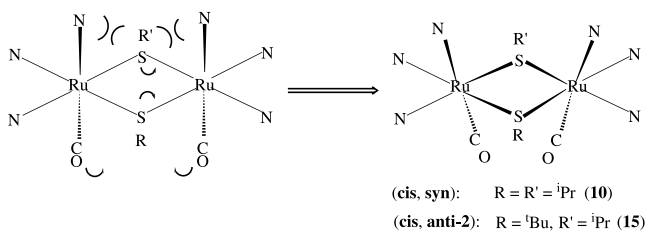
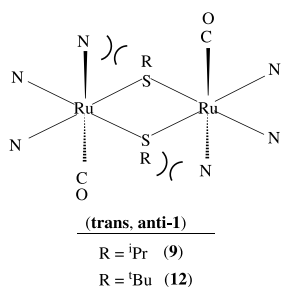
Following a recent focus of research on the forma-

tion of a transition-metal sulfenate (MS(=O)R) [10], oxygenation of (*cis*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-I)(μ-S<sup>i</sup>Pr)] (**11**) with trimethylamine oxide was also carried out. Two new carbonyl stretching bands at 1979s and 1945m cm<sup>-1</sup> and one strong band at 943 cm<sup>-1</sup>, assigned to ν(S=O), appeared almost immediately as shown in an IR spectrum measured in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The ruthenium sulfenate, (*cis*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-I)(μ-S(O)<sup>i</sup>Pr)] (**16**) was obtained as the only product, which is the first diruthenium sulfenate, to the best of our knowledge [11]. The asymmetric unit of the single crystal used contains two molecules, **16A** and **16B**, for **16**. Both structures are similar to each other, and only structure **16A** is shown in Fig. 7. The molecular structure confirms that the mono-oxygenation process is probably stereo- and chemospecific to give the product with an S=O bond at an *endo* rather than *exo* position with respect to carbonyls (Scheme 3). The S–O distances of

1.509(6) Å in **16A** and 1.534(6) Å in **16B** are similar to that of 1.548(8) Å in a nickel sulfenate complex [10a].

### 3. Experimental

All solvents were dried and purified by standard methods and were freshly distilled under N<sub>2</sub> immediately before use. All reactions and manipulations were carried out in standard Schlenk ware, connected to a switchable double manifold providing vacuum and N<sub>2</sub>.



Scheme 2.

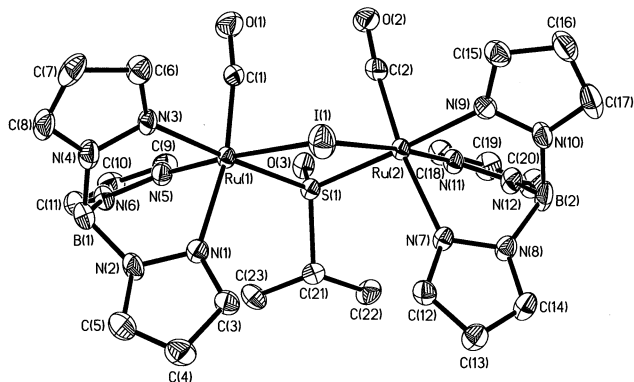


Fig. 7. ORTEP drawing of *cis*-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-I)(μ-S(O)<sup>i</sup>Pr)] (**16A**). Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) are as follows: Ru(1)–C(1), 1.840(10); Ru(1)–N(1), 2.171(8); Ru(1)–N(3), 2.129(8); Ru(1)–N(5), 2.066(8); Ru(1)–S(1), 2.347(2); Ru(1)–I(1), 2.7054(12); S(1)–C(21), 1.828(10); C(1)–O(1), 1.137(12); Ru(2)–C(2), 1.840(10); Ru(2)–N(7), 2.163(8); Ru(2)–N(9), 2.142(8); Ru(2)–N(11), 2.085(8); Ru(2)–S(1), 2.344(2); Ru(2)–I(1), 2.7082(11); S(2)–C(44), 1.817(10); C(2)–O(2), 1.139(12); S(1)–O(3), 1.509(6); O(3)–S(1)–C(21), 104.1(4); S(1)–Ru(1)–I(1), 82.35(6); Ru(1)–S(1)–Ru(2), 104.18(9); S(1)–Ru(2)–I(1), 82.33(6); Ru(2)–I(1)–Ru(1), 86.26(3); Ru(1)–C(1)–O(1), 170.0(9); Ru(2)–C(2)–O(2), 174.8(9).

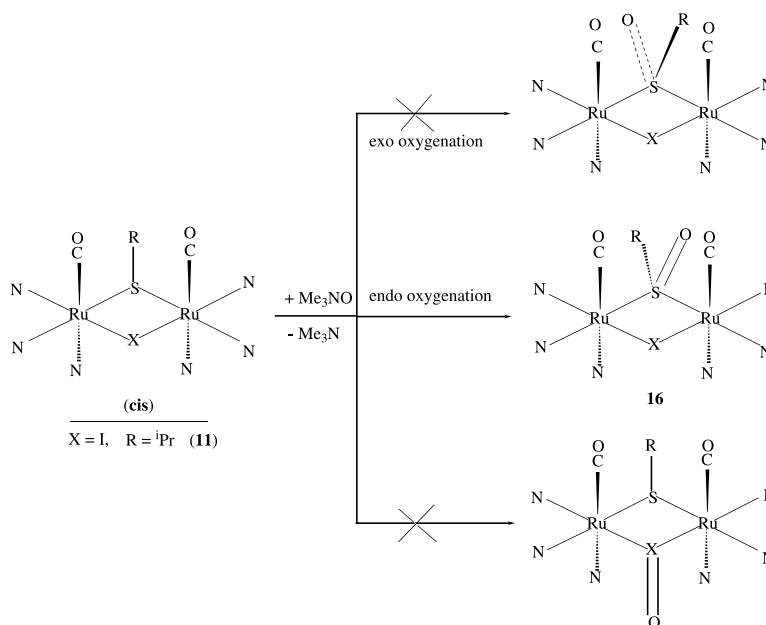
The compound [TpRu(CO)<sub>2</sub>X] (X = Br, I) was prepared by the literature method [3d]. Reagents were used as supplied by Aldrich, Fluka, or Strem. <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>31</sup>P-NMR spectra were measured on a Bruker AMC-400 (<sup>1</sup>H, 400 MHz; <sup>31</sup>P, 162 MHz) NMR spectrometer. <sup>1</sup>H chemical shifts (δ in ppm, *J* in Hz) are defined as positive downfield relative to internal Me<sub>4</sub>Si (TMS) or the deuterated solvent, while <sup>31</sup>P chemical shifts are referred to external 85% H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>. The IR spectra were recorded on a BioRad FTS 175 instrument. The following abbreviations were used: s, strong (IR); m, medium; w, weak; s, singlet (NMR); d, doublet; br, broad; m, multiplet. Microanalyses were carried out by the staff of the Microanalytical Service of the Department of Chemistry, National Cheng Kung University.

#### 3.1. Synthesis of [TpRu(CO)(NCMe)X] (X = Br (1), I (2))

A solution of complex [TpRu(CO)<sub>2</sub>X] (1.90 mmol) in MeCN (45 ml) was added dropwise with the Me<sub>3</sub>NO solution, prepared from 0.245 g of Me<sub>3</sub>NO·2H<sub>2</sub>O (2.21 mmol) in 30 ml of MeCN. The solution was stirred at room temperature (r.t.) for 10 min, and the solvent was removed under vacuum. Recrystallization from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>–MeOH gave pure product. [TpRu(CO)(NCMe)Br] (**1**): yellow; yield 87%. Anal. Calc. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>13</sub>BBRN<sub>7</sub>ORu: C, 31.13; H, 2.83; N, 21.17. Found: C, 31.09; H, 2.87; N, 21.13%. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 2.33 (s, 3H), 6.15 (t, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.2), 6.22 (t, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.1), 6.33 (t, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0), 7.53 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0), 7.61 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.4), 7.69 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.4), 7.73 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.4), 7.80 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0), 8.16 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0). IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): ν<sub>B-H</sub>, 2495w; ν<sub>CO</sub>, 1981s cm<sup>-1</sup>. [TpRu(CO)(NCMe)I] (**2**): yellow; yield 84%. Anal. Calc. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>13</sub>BIN<sub>7</sub>ORu: C, 28.26; H, 2.57; N, 19.22. Found: C, 28.03; H, 2.54; N, 18.95%. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 2.40 (s, 3H), 6.13 (t, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.8), 6.23 (t, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.8), 6.32 (t, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.8), 7.54 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.4), 7.60 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.4), 7.67 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.4), 7.70 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.4), 7.89 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.4), 8.28 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.4). IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): ν<sub>B-H</sub>, 2495w; ν<sub>CO</sub>, 1979s cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### 3.2. Synthesis of [TpRu(CO)(CNR)Br] (R = PhCH<sub>2</sub> (3), <sup>t</sup>Bu (4)) and [TpRu(CO)(CNR)I] (R = PhCH<sub>2</sub> (5), <sup>t</sup>Bu (6))

These yellow compounds were prepared by using a similar procedure described below for the synthesis of compound **6**. *tert*-Butylisocyanide (0.093 g, 1.10 mmol) was added to a stirred solution of **2** (0.510 g, 1.00 mmol) in 30 ml of THF. The solution was then heated under reflux for 12 h. The volatiles were stripped off under vacuum. Recrystallization from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>–MeOH gave 0.362 g of **6**. Yield 66%. [TpRu(CO)(CNCH<sub>2</sub>Ph)-



Scheme 3.

Br] (**3**): Anal. Calc. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>BBBrN<sub>7</sub>ORu: C, 40.10; H, 3.18; N, 18.19. Found: C, 39.70; H, 3.22; N, 17.88%. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): δ 5.07 (s, 2H), 6.20 (t, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.3), 6.27 (m, 2H), 7.33 (m, 6H), 7.71 (m, 3H), 7.95 (m, 2H). IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): ν<sub>B-H</sub>, 2493; ν<sub>CN</sub>, 2184; ν<sub>CO</sub>, 1995s cm<sup>-1</sup>. [TpRu(CO)(CN<sup>i</sup>Bu)Br] (**4**): Anal. Calc. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>19</sub>BBBrN<sub>7</sub>ORu: C, 35.67; H, 3.79; N, 19.41. Found: C, 35.58; H, 3.85; N, 19.28%. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.53 (s, 9H), 6.21 (br, 1H), 6.26 (br, 1H), 6.30 (br, 1H), 7.48 (br, 1H), 7.70 (m, 3H), 7.92 (br, 1H), 7.98 (br, 1H). IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): ν, 2495; ν<sub>CN</sub>, 2172s; ν<sub>CO</sub>, 1991s cm<sup>-1</sup>. [TpRu(CO)(CNCH<sub>2</sub>Ph)I] (**5**): Anal. Calc. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>BIN<sub>7</sub>ORu: C, 36.88; H, 2.92; N, 16.73. Found: C, 36.81; H, 2.95; N, 16.67%. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 5.33 (s, 2H), 6.27 (t, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.2), 6.30 (m, 2H), 7.37 (m, 3H), 7.55 (m, 2H), 7.76 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 1.8), 7.85 (br, 3H), 7.89 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.4), 8.04 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 1.8), 8.07 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 1.8). IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): ν<sub>B-H</sub>, 2492w; ν<sub>CN</sub>, 2182s; ν<sub>CO</sub>, 1993s cm<sup>-1</sup>. [TpRu(CO)(CN<sup>i</sup>Bu)I] (**6**): Anal. Calc. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>19</sub>BIN<sub>7</sub>ORu: C, 32.63; H, 3.47; N, 17.76. Found: C, 32.26; H, 3.45; N, 17.57%. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 1.55 (s, 2H), 6.28 (t, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.2), 6.29 (t, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.2), 6.31 (t, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.2), 7.76 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 1.6), 7.84 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.4), 7.85 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.4), 7.88 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0), 8.02 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 1.6), 8.12 (d, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0). IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): ν<sub>B-H</sub>, 2493w; ν<sub>CN</sub>, 2168s; ν<sub>CO</sub>, 1989s cm<sup>-1</sup>.

### 3.3. Preparation of [TpRu(CO)(η<sup>2</sup>-S<sub>2</sub>CNR<sub>2</sub>)] (R' = Me (**7**), Et (**8**))

Compound **7** and **8** were prepared similarly by using the procedure described below for the synthesis of the

yellow-green compound **7**. Na<sup>+</sup>S<sub>2</sub>CNMe<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> (0.082 g, 0.573 mmol) was added to a stirred solution of **2** (0.240 g, 0.481 mmol) in 30 ml of MeOH. The solution was then heated under reflux for 14 h. The volatiles were stripped off under vacuum. Recrystallization from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-MeOH gave 0.171 g. Yield 79%. [TpRu(CO)(η<sup>2</sup>-S<sub>2</sub>CNMe<sub>2</sub>)] (**7**): yellow-green. Anal. Calc. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>16</sub>BN<sub>7</sub>ORuS<sub>2</sub>: C, 33.77; H, 3.48; N, 21.20. Found: C, 33.69; H, 3.45; N, 21.04%. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 3.36 (s, 6H), 6.25 (t, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.2), 6.29 (t, 1H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.1), 7.63 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.1), 7.88 (m, 4H). IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): ν<sub>B-H</sub>, 2487w; ν<sub>CO</sub>, 1949s; ν<sub>CN</sub>, 1501s cm<sup>-1</sup>. [TpRu(CO)(η<sup>2</sup>-S<sub>2</sub>CNEt<sub>2</sub>)] (**8**): pale green, yield 79%. Anal. Calc. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>20</sub>BN<sub>7</sub>ORuS<sub>2</sub>: C, 36.74; H, 4.11; N, 19.99. Found: C, 36.63; H, 4.03; N, 19.88%. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ 1.33 (t, 6H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 7.2), 3.84 (m, 4H), 6.25 (t, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.1), 6.31 (t, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.1), 7.62 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0), 7.88 (m, 4H). IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): ν<sub>B-H</sub>, 2489w; ν<sub>CO</sub>, 1947s; ν<sub>CN</sub>, 1501s cm<sup>-1</sup>.

### 3.4. Reaction of [TpRu(CO)(NCMe)Br] (**1**) with <sup>i</sup>PrSH and Et<sub>3</sub>N

Compound **1** (0.293 g, 0.63 mmol), <sup>i</sup>PrSH (ca. 0.5 ml, 5.22 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>N (ca. 0.5 ml, 3.59 mmol) and 1,2-dimethoxyethane (20 ml) were heated under reflux for 20 h. The solvent and volatiles were then removed under vacuum, and the residue was taken up in a minimum amount of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The products were separated by thin-layer chromatography using CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>14</sub> mixed solvents to give 2.6 mg of (*trans*, *anti*-1)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-S<sup>i</sup>Pr)<sub>2</sub>] (**9**) (0.5%) and 109 mg of (*cis*, *syn*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-S<sup>i</sup>Pr)<sub>2</sub>] (**10**) (20.7%). (*trans*,

*anti-1*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-S<sup>i</sup>Pr)<sub>2</sub>] (**9**): yellow. Anal. Calc. for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>34</sub>B<sub>2</sub>N<sub>12</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: C, 37.42; H, 4.11; N, 20.14. Found: C, 37.24; H, 3.93; N, 20.02%. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.51 (d, 12H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 6.8), 4.20 (m, 2H), 6.17 (t, 2H), 6.18 (t, 2H), 6.29 (t, 2H), 7.59 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0), 7.60 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0), 7.66 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0), 7.67 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0), 7.73 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0), 7.79 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0). IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): ν<sub>B-H</sub>, 2491w; ν<sub>CO</sub>, 1962s cm<sup>-1</sup>. (*cis*, *syn*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-S<sup>i</sup>Pr)<sub>2</sub>] (**10**): orange–yellow. Anal. Calc. for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>34</sub>B<sub>2</sub>N<sub>12</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: C, 37.42; H, 4.11; N, 20.14. Found: C, 37.14; H, 4.08; N, 20.07%. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 0.50 (d, 12H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 6.8), 2.70 (m, 2H), 6.18 (t, 4H), 6.45 (t, 2H), 7.61 (d, 4H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.4), 7.82 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0), 7.88 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.4), 8.92 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0). IR: ν<sub>B-H</sub>, 2487w; ν<sub>CO</sub>, 1981sh, 1968s cm<sup>-1</sup> in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and ν<sub>B-H</sub>, 2477w; ν<sub>CO</sub>, 1989m, 1979s cm<sup>-1</sup> in C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>14</sub>.

### 3.5. Reaction of [TpRu(CO)(NCMe)I] (**2**) with <sup>i</sup>PrSH and Et<sub>3</sub>N

Compound **2** (0.301 g, 0.59 mmol), <sup>i</sup>PrSH (ca. 0.5 ml, 5.22 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>N (ca. 0.5 ml, 3.59 mmol) and 1,2-dimethoxyethane (20 ml) were heated under reflux for 2 h. The solvent and volatiles were then removed under vacuum, and the residue was taken up in a minimum amount of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The products were separated by thin-layer chromatography using CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>–C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>14</sub> mixed solvents to give 9.3 mg of (*trans*, *anti-1*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-S<sup>i</sup>Pr)<sub>2</sub>] (**9**) (1.9%), 53.4 mg of (*cis*, *syn*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-S<sup>i</sup>Pr)<sub>2</sub>] (**10**) (10.8%), and 3.2 mg of (*cis*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-I)(μ-S<sup>i</sup>Pr)] (**11**) (0.7%). (*cis*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-I)(μ-S<sup>i</sup>Pr)] (**11**): yellow–brown. Anal. Calc. for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>27</sub>B<sub>2</sub>IN<sub>12</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>S: C, 31.17; H, 3.07; N, 18.96. Found: C, 31.02; H, 3.07; N, 18.87%. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 0.89 (d, 6H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 6.4), 2.88 (m, 1H), 6.17 (t, 2H), 6.21 (t, 2H), 6.44 (t, 2H), 7.58 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.4), 7.67 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.4), 7.74 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0), 7.80 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.4), 7.94 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0), 8.86 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0). IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): ν<sub>B-H</sub>, 2489w; ν<sub>CO</sub>, 1981s, 1949m cm<sup>-1</sup>.

### 3.6. Reaction of [TpRu(CO)(NCMe)Br] (**1**) with <sup>t</sup>BuSH and Et<sub>3</sub>N

Compound **1** (0.232 g, 0.50 mmol), <sup>t</sup>BuSH (ca. 0.5 ml, 4.40 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>N (ca. 0.5 ml, 3.59 mmol) and 1,2-dimethoxyethane (30 ml) were heated under reflux for 44 h. The solvent and volatiles were then removed under vacuum, and the residue was taken up in a minimum amount of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The products were separated by thin-layer chromatography using CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>–C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>14</sub> mixed solvents to give 0.3 mg of (*trans*, *anti-1*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-S<sup>t</sup>Bu)<sub>2</sub>] (**12**) (0.07%) and 11.1 mg of (*cis*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-Br)(μ-S<sup>t</sup>Bu)<sub>2</sub>] (**13**) (2.6%).

(*trans*, *anti-1*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-S<sup>t</sup>Bu)<sub>2</sub>] (**12**): yellow. Anal. Calc. for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>38</sub>B<sub>2</sub>N<sub>12</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: C, 38.99; H, 4.44; N, 19.49. Found: C, 38.84; H, 4.43; N, 19.37%. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.74 (s, 18H), 6.18 (m, 4H), 6.30 (t, 2H), 7.59 (m, 4H), 7.66 (m, 4H), 7.73 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.4), 7.84 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0). IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): ν<sub>B-H</sub>, 2489w; ν<sub>CO</sub>, 1964s cm<sup>-1</sup>. (*cis*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-Br)(μ-S<sup>t</sup>Bu)<sub>2</sub>] (**13**): orange–yellow. Anal. Calc. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>29</sub>B<sub>2</sub>BrN<sub>12</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>S: C, 33.78; H, 3.43; N, 19.70. Found: C, 33.67; H, 3.43; N, 19.62%. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.02 (s, 9H), 6.16 (t, 2H), 6.18 (t, 2H), 6.50 (t, 2H), 7.57 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.4), 7.76 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.4), 7.77 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0), 7.83 (d, 4H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0), 7.92 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0), 9.07 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0). IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): ν<sub>B-H</sub>, 2489w; ν<sub>CO</sub>, 1976s, 1935m cm<sup>-1</sup>.

### 3.7. Reaction of [TpRu(CO)(NCMe)I] (**2**) with <sup>t</sup>BuSH and Et<sub>3</sub>N

Compound **2** (0.311 g, 0.61 mmol), <sup>t</sup>BuSH (ca. 0.5 ml, 4.40 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>N (ca. 0.5 ml, 3.59 mmol) and 1,2-dimethoxyethane (20 ml) were heated under reflux for 16 h. The solvent and volatiles were then removed under vacuum, and the residue was taken up in a minimum amount of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The products were separated by thin-layer chromatography using CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>–C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>14</sub> mixed solvents to give 1.0 mg of (*trans*, *anti-1*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-S<sup>t</sup>Bu)<sub>2</sub>] (**12**) (0.19%) and 48.7 mg of (*cis*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-I)(μ-S<sup>t</sup>Bu)<sub>2</sub>] (**14**) (8.9%). (*cis*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-I)(μ-S<sup>t</sup>Bu)<sub>2</sub>] (**14**): yellow–brown. Anal. Calc. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>29</sub>B<sub>2</sub>IN<sub>12</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>S: C, 32.02; H, 3.25; N, 18.67. Found: C, 31.98; H, 3.23; N, 18.62%. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 0.88 (s, 9H), 6.13 (t, 2H), 6.20 (t, 2H), 6.50 (t, 2H), 7.55 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.4), 7.66 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.4), 7.81 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0), 7.82 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.4), 7.99 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0), 9.10 (d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H,H</sub> = 2.0). IR (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>14</sub>): ν<sub>B-H</sub>, 2481w; ν<sub>CO</sub>, 1985s, 1966s cm<sup>-1</sup>.

### 3.8. Reaction of [TpRu(CO)(NCMe)Br] (**1**) with <sup>i</sup>PrSH, <sup>t</sup>BuSH and Et<sub>3</sub>N

Compound **1** (0.262 g, 0.57 mmol), <sup>i</sup>PrSH (ca. 0.1 ml, 1.04 mmol), <sup>t</sup>BuSH (ca. 0.5 ml, 4.40 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>N (ca. 0.5 ml, 3.59 mmol) and 1,2-dimethoxyethane (15 ml) were heated under reflux for 25 h. The solvent and volatiles were then removed under vacuum, and the residue was taken up in a minimum amount of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The products were separated by thin-layer chromatography using CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>–C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>14</sub> mixed solvents to give 8.1 mg of (*trans*, *anti-1*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-S<sup>i</sup>Pr)<sub>2</sub>] (**9**) (1.7%), 42.9 mg of (*cis*, *syn*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-S<sup>i</sup>Pr)<sub>2</sub>] (**10**) (9%), 4.1 mg of (*trans*, *anti-1*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-S<sup>t</sup>Bu)<sub>2</sub>] (**12**) (0.8%), and 4.6 mg of (*cis*, *anti-2*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-S<sup>i</sup>Pr)(μ-S<sup>t</sup>Bu)] (**15**) (0.5%). (*cis*, *anti-2*)-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(μ-S<sup>i</sup>Pr)(μ-S<sup>t</sup>Bu)] (**15**): orange–yellow. Anal. Calc.



Table 1  
Crystal data

Compound	8	9-2CH <sub>3</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	10 <sup>3</sup> /2CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	12	14	15 <sup>3</sup> /2CH <sub>3</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	16 <sup>1</sup> /2CH <sub>3</sub> OH
Empirical formula	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>10</sub> BN <sub>7</sub> O <sub>7</sub> RuS <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>28</sub> H <sub>34</sub> B <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>4</sub> N <sub>12</sub> <sup>-</sup> O <sub>2</sub> Ru <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>27</sub> H <sub>36.3</sub> B <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>3</sub> N <sub>12</sub> <sup>-</sup> O <sub>2</sub> Ru <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>28</sub> H <sub>36</sub> B <sub>2</sub> N <sub>12</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Ru <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>24</sub> H <sub>27</sub> B <sub>2</sub> IN <sub>12</sub> O <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> Ru <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>28.5</sub> H <sub>39</sub> B <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>3</sub> N <sub>12</sub> O <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup> Ru <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>23.5</sub> H <sub>27</sub> B <sub>2</sub> IN <sub>12</sub> O <sub>3.5</sub> <sup>-</sup> Ru <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub>
Formula weight	480.30	1000.35	955.41	860.57	898.30	975.95	916.29
Temperature (K)	295(2)	295(2)	293(2)	150(1)	295(2)	295(2)	295(2)
Space group	Monoclinic, P2 <sub>1</sub> /c	Triclinic, P $\bar{1}$	Orthorhombic, Pnmm	Triclinic, P $\bar{1}$	Monoclinic, P2 <sub>1</sub> /c	Orthorhombic, Pnmm	Triclinic, P $\bar{1}$
<i>a</i> (Å)	12.1281(7)	9.2217(1)	13.0914(1)	10.0740(1)	16.163(2)	13.272(2)	9.6095(2)
<i>b</i> (Å)	10.6930(6)	9.4158(1)	16.2025(3)	11.4607(1)	12.329(1)	16.472(2)	15.8769(3)
<i>c</i> (Å)	15.8813(9)	11.9236(2)	18.3263(3)	17.4487(1)	17.812(2)	18.287(2)	22.9781(3)
$\alpha$ (°)	90	83.599(1)	90	80.775(1)	90	90	83.983(1)
$\beta$ (°)	104.096(1)	86.249(1)	90	78.960(1)	98.909(2)	90	80.285(1)
$\gamma$ (°)	90	80.852(1)	90	64.986(1)	90	90	75.537(1)
<i>V</i> (Å <sup>3</sup> )	1997.6(2)	1014.58(2)	3887.3(1)	1784.66(3)	3506.6(6)	3997.8(7)	3338.7(1)
<i>Z</i>	4	1	4	2	4	4	4
<i>D</i> <sub>calc</sub> (g cm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.597	1.637	1.633	1.601	1.702	1.621	1.823
$\mu$ (Mo-K $\alpha$ ) (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	1.013	1.154	1.134	1.009	1.1842	1.105	1.940
<i>F</i> (000)	952	500	1918	868	1752	1964	1788
Crystal size (mm)	0.30 × 0.10 × 0.05	0.40 × 0.40 × 0.20	0.30 × 0.30 × 0.30	0.22 × 0.20 × 0.16	0.40 × 0.12 × 0.10	0.21 × 0.16 × 0.16	
Unit cell determination 2 $\theta$ range (°)	3–57	3–55	3–56	2–55	3–57	3–57	
( <i>h</i> , <i>k</i> , <i>l</i> ) range	±15, ±13, ±21	±12, ±12, ±15	±16, ±21, ±22	±13, ±15, ±22	±21, ±15, ±22	±17, ±21, ±24	±12, ±19, ±28
No. of measured reflections	11 722	10 634	21 802	15 934	20 364	24 819	38 693
Observed reflections ( <i>N</i> <sub>o</sub> )	4453 (>2 $\sigma$ )	4576 (>2 $\sigma$ )	4465 (>2 $\sigma$ )	7918 (>2 $\sigma$ )	7755 (>2 $\sigma$ )	5058 (>2 $\sigma$ )	13 345 (>2 $\sigma$ )
<i>R</i> <sup>a</sup> , <i>R</i> <sub>w</sub> <sup>a</sup>	0.0292, 0.0650	0.0349, 0.0985	0.0525, 0.1258	0.0343, 0.0795	0.056, 0.1708	0.0502, 0.1192	0.0679, 0.1800
Refinement program	SHELXTL-PLUS	NRCVAX	SHELXTL-PLUS	NRCVAX	SHELXTL-PLUS	SHELXTL-PLUS	NRCVAX
No. of refined parameters ( <i>N</i> <sub>p</sub> )	244	235	243	462	398	249	814
Weighting scheme	$[\sigma^2(F_o)]^{-1}$	$[\sigma^2(F_o)]^{-1}$	$[\sigma^2(F_o)]^{-1}$	$[\sigma^2(F_o)]^{-1}$ + 0.0007 <i>F</i> <sub>o</sub> <sup>2</sup> ] <sup>-1</sup>	$[\sigma^2(F_o)]^{-1}$ + 0.0009 <i>F</i> <sub>o</sub> <sup>2</sup> ] <sup>-1</sup>	$[\sigma^2(F_o)]^{-1}$	$[\sigma^2(F_o)]^{-1}$ + 0.00016 <i>F</i> <sub>o</sub> <sup>2</sup> ] <sup>-1</sup>
Goodness-of-fit <sup>a</sup>	0.944	1.045	1.121	1.034	1.068	1.018	1.056
( $\Delta\rho$ ) <sub>max</sub> (e Å <sup>-3</sup> )	0.381	1.278	1.610	1.652	3.828	0.976	1.762
( $\Delta\rho$ ) <sub>min</sub> (e Å <sup>-3</sup> )	-0.319	-0.818	-1.394	-0.811	-0.940	-0.977	-4.200

<sup>a</sup>  $R = [\sum |F_o| - |F_c|] / \sum |F_o|$ ;  $R_w = [\sum w(|F_o| - |F_c|)^2 / \sum w|F_o|]^2$ ; GOF =  $[\sum w|F_o| - |F_c|] / N_o - N_p$ ]<sup>1/2</sup>.

for  $C_{27}H_{36}B_2N_{12}O_2Ru_2S_2$ : C, 38.22; H, 4.28; N, 19.81. Found: C, 38.06; H, 4.29; N, 19.77%.  $^1H$ -NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  1.80 (s, 9H), 1.37 (d, 6H,  $^3J_{H,H} = 6.8$ ), 3.99 (m, 1H), 6.27 (t, 2H), 6.31 (t, 2H), 6.37 (t, 2H), 7.68 (d, 2H,  $^3J_{H,H} = 2.0$ ), 7.69 (d, 2H,  $^3J_{H,H} = 2.0$ ), 7.73 (d, 4H,  $^3J_{H,H} = 2.4$ ), 7.75 (d, 2H,  $^3J_{H,H} = 2.4$ ), 8.55 (d, 2H,  $^3J_{H,H} = 2.0$ ). IR ( $C_6H_{14}$ ):  $\nu_{B-H}$ , 2481w;  $\nu_{CO}$ , 1987s, 1979s  $cm^{-1}$ .

### 3.9. Reaction of *(cis)*-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>( $\mu$ -I)( $\mu$ -S<sup>*i*</sup>Pr)] (**11**) with Me<sub>3</sub>NO

A solution of complex **11** (8.9 mg, 0.010 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (10 ml) was added with Me<sub>3</sub>NO·2H<sub>2</sub>O (51 mg, 0.46 mmol). The solution was stirred at r.t. for 1 h, and the solvent was removed under vacuum. Recrystallization from  $CH_2Cl_2$ –MeOH gave 6.1 mg of pure product **16**. Yield 68%. Anal. Calc. for  $C_{23}H_{27}B_2IN_{12}O_3Ru_2S$ : C, 30.62; H, 3.02; N, 18.63. Found: C, 30.59; H, 3.17; N, 18.54%.  $^1H$ -NMR ( $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  0.89 (d, 6H,  $^3J_{H,H} = 6.8$ ), 2.87 (m, 1H), 6.16 (t, 2H), 6.20 (t, 2H), 6.43 (t, 2H), 7.57 (d, 2H,  $^3J_{H,H} = 2.0$ ), 7.63 (d, 2H,  $^3J_{H,H} = 2.0$ ), 7.71 (d, dH,  $^3J_{H,H} = 2.0$ ), 7.79 (d, 2H,  $^3J_{H,H} = 2.0$ ), 7.92 (d, 2H,  $^3J_{H,H} = 2.0$ ), 8.84 (d, 2H,  $^3J_{H,H} = 2.0$ ). IR ( $CH_2Cl_2$ ):  $\nu_{B-H}$ , 2491w;  $\nu_{CO}$ , 1979s, 1945m;  $\nu_{SO}$ , 943s  $cm^{-1}$ .

### 3.10. Single-crystal X-ray diffraction studies

Suitable single crystals of **8**, **9**, **10**, **12**, **14**, **15**, and **16** were grown from  $CH_2Cl_2$ –MeOH or  $CH_2Cl_2$ – $C_6H_{14}$  at r.t. and chosen for single crystal structure determinations. All the X-ray diffraction data were measured in frames with increasing  $\omega$  (width of 0.3° per frame) and with the scan speed at 20.00 s/frame on a Siemens SMART-CCD instrument, equipped with a normal focus and 3 kW sealed-tube X-ray source. Empirical absorption corrections were carried out using SHELXTP-PC program for **8**, **10**, **14**, and **15**, and SADABS program for **9**, **12** and **16**. These three structures were solved by the heavy-atom method and refined by a full-matrix least-squares procedure using NRCVAX [12]. Structures **8**, **10**, **14**, and **15** were solved by direct methods and refined by a full-matrix least-squares procedure using SHELXTP-PLUS [13]. Neutral atom scattering factors for non-hydrogen atoms and the values for  $\Delta f'$  and  $\Delta f''$  described in each software [12,13] were used. The other essential details of single-crystal data measurement and refinement are listed in Table 1. In structure **10**, atom C(13) was found to contain 0.5 occupancy and both S(2)–C(13) and C(13)–C(14) bond lengths were fixed with 1.808 and 1.525 Å, respectively, to allow a satisfactory refinement. Likewise, the C(17)–Cl(3) bond length for one  $CH_2Cl_2$  contained in structure **15** was also fixed with 1.89 Å. Several residual electron peaks with more than 1 e Å<sup>-3</sup> were found with one peak close to atom Cl(2) in structure **9**, one close to atom S(2) in structure

**10**, one close to atom Ru(1) in structure **12**, one close to atom S(1) in structure **14**, and one close to atom I(1) in structure **16**. The one close to S(1) in **14** has the largest value of 3.828 e Å<sup>-3</sup> while there is a hole with the largest  $(\Delta\rho)_{min}$  value of -4.200 e Å<sup>-3</sup> close to I(1) in structure **16**. Apparently both positions of the S(1) atom in **14** and the I(1) atom in **16** are slightly disordered.

## 4. Conclusions

In this work, we have demonstrated that [TpRu(CO)(MeCN)X] (X = Br (**1**), I (**2**)), prepared readily from [TpRu(CO)<sub>2</sub>X], can serve as a good starting material leading to a variety of substituted products, including [TpRu(CO)(CNR)X] (X = Br, R = PhCH<sub>2</sub> (**3**); X = Br, R = <sup>*t*</sup>Bu (**4**); X = I, R = PhCH<sub>2</sub> (**5**), X = I, R = <sup>*t*</sup>Bu (**6**)), [TpRu(CO)( $\eta^2$ -S<sub>2</sub>CNR<sub>2</sub>)] (R = Me (**7**), Et (**8**)), *(cis)*-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>( $\mu$ -X)( $\mu$ -SR)] (X = I, R = <sup>*i*</sup>Pr (**11**); X = Br, R = <sup>*t*</sup>Bu (**13**); X = I, R = <sup>*t*</sup>Bu (**14**)), *(trans, anti-1)*-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>( $\mu$ -S<sup>*i*</sup>Pr)<sub>2</sub>] (**9**), *(cis, syn)*-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>( $\mu$ -S<sup>*i*</sup>Pr)<sub>2</sub>] (**10**), *(trans, anti-1)*-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>( $\mu$ -S<sup>*i*</sup>Bu)<sub>2</sub>] (**12**) and *(cis, anti-2)*-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>( $\mu$ -S<sup>*i*</sup>Pr)( $\mu$ -S<sup>*i*</sup>Bu)] (**15**). Compound **11** reacts with Me<sub>3</sub>NO to form stereo- and chemospecifically the first diruthenium sulfenate, *(cis)*-[Tp<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>( $\mu$ -I)( $\mu$ -S(O)<sup>*i*</sup>Pr)] (**16**) with the S=O bond at the *endo* position with respect to carbonyls.

## 5. Supplementary material

Crystallographic data for the structural analysis has been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, CCDC no. 173316, 173454, 173315, 173455, 173317, 173456, and 138612 for structures **8**, **9**, **10**, **12**, **14**, **15**, and **16**. Copies of this information may be obtained free of charge from The Director, CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK (Fax: +44-1223-336033; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk or www:<http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk>).

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