

Supporting Information:

**Synthesis and Characterization of Ruthenium Bis(β -diketonato)
Pyridine-Imidazole Complexes for Hydrogen Atom Transfer**

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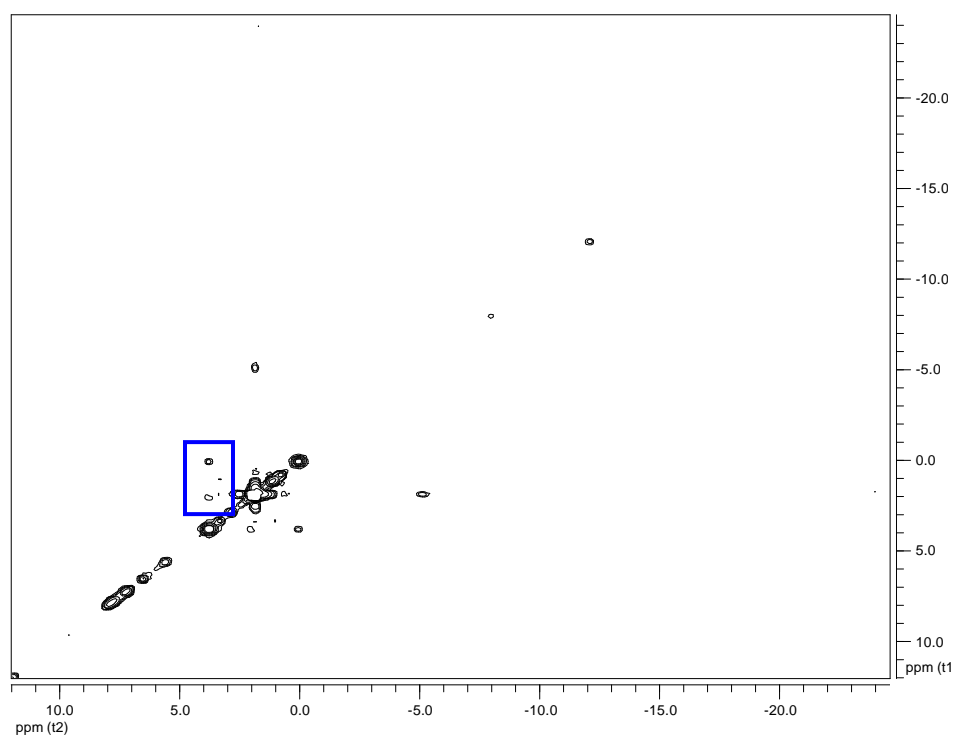


Figure S1. ^1H 2D COSY NMR spectrum of $[\text{Ru}^{\text{III}}(\text{acac})_2(\text{py-imH})]\text{OTf}$ (**2**) in CD_3CN . The two cross peaks (δ 3.91 couples to δ 0.07 and 2.14) are highlighted in the rectangular box.

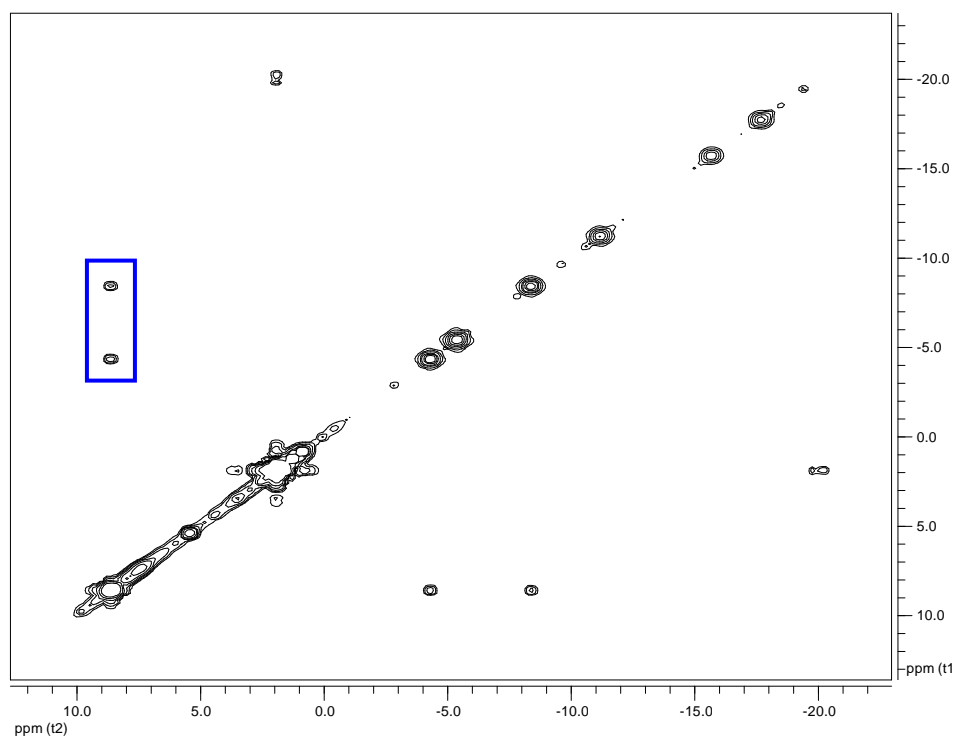


Figure S2. ^1H 2D COSY NMR spectrum of $\text{Ru}^{\text{III}}(\text{acac})_2(\text{py-im})$ (**3**) in CD_3CN . The two cross peaks (δ 8.75 couples to δ -8.56 and -4.46) are highlighted in the rectangular box.

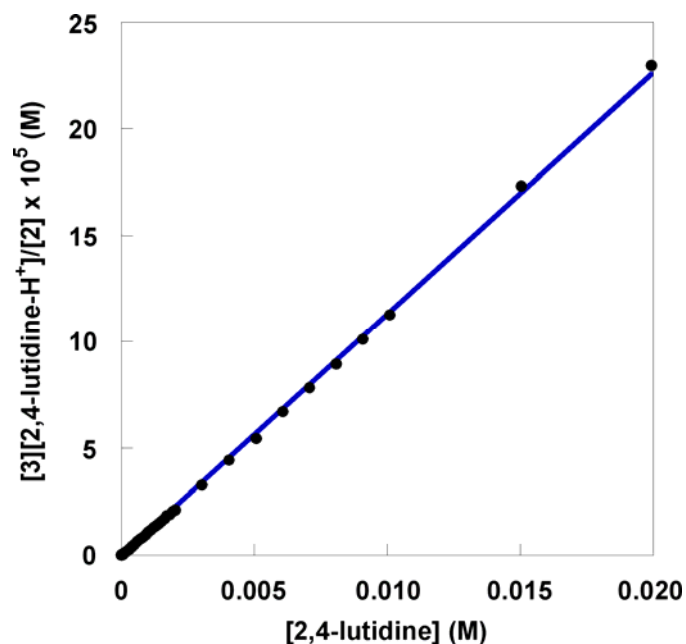


Figure S3. Plot of $[\mathbf{3}][2,4\text{-lutidine-H}^+]/[\mathbf{2}]$ vs. $[2,4\text{-lutidine}]$ for the equilibrium titration: $[\text{Ru}^{\text{III}}(\text{acac})_2(\text{py-imH})]\text{OTf}$ (**2**) + 2,4-lutidine \rightleftharpoons $\text{Ru}^{\text{III}}(\text{acac})_2(\text{py-im})$ (**3**) + (2,4-lutidine-H)OTf in MeCN. The slope of the linear plot ($R^2 = 0.999$) is the equilibrium constant $K_{\text{eq}} = 0.011 \pm 0.001$.

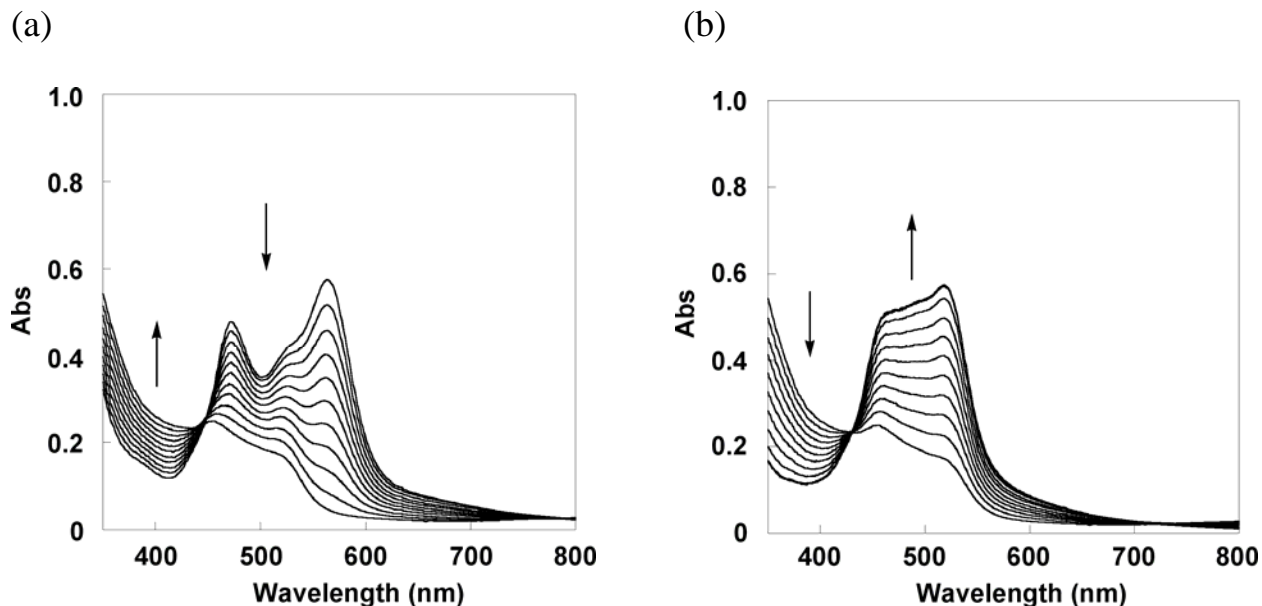


Figure S4. UV-vis titration plots of (a) [DBU-H][Ru^{II}(hfac)₂(py-im)] (**5**) (0.053 mM) + 1 equiv of [N(tol)₃]PF₆ in MeCN to generate Ru^{III}(hfac)₂(py-im) (**6**) and (b) further titration of **6** + 1 equiv of TEMPO-H to produce Ru^{II}(hfac)₂(py-imH) (**4**).

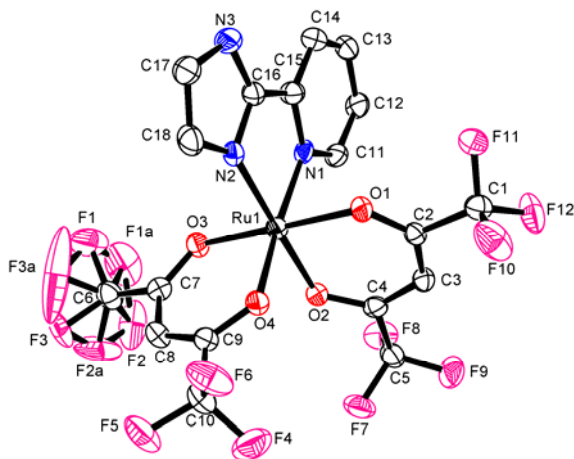


Figure S5. ORTEP drawing of [Ru^{II}(hfac)₂(py-im)]⁻ (**5**) showing both the major 80% (F1, F2, and F3) and minor 20% (F1A, F2A, and F3A) occupancies of the disordered CF₃ group.