



SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL TO
**Effect of principal and secondary ligands on electronic
structures and spectra of a series of ruthenium(II) complexes**

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TABLE S-I. Calculated frequencies (cm⁻¹) of complexes RuCO(AsPh₃)L¹ (**A**), RuCO(PPh₃)L¹ (**B**), RuCO(Py)L¹ (**C**), RuCO(AsPh₃)L² (**D**), RuCO(PPh₃)L² (**E**), RuCO(Py)L² (**F**), RuCO(AsPh₃)L³ (**G**), RuCO(PPh₃)L³ (**H**), RuCO(Py)L³ (**I**), RuCO(AsPh₃)L⁴ (**J**), RuCO(PPh₃)L⁴ (**K**) and RuCO(Py)L⁴ (**L**), together with the experimental values in parentheses¹

Complex	$\nu_{\text{C=N}}$	$\nu_{\text{Ph-C-O}}$	$\nu_{\text{C-S}}$	ν_{Py}
A	1599 (1602)	1338 (1306)	737 (737)	–
B	1599 (1603)	1339 (1290)	738 (746)	–
C	1598 (1602)	1339 (1302)	748 (746)	1040 (1030)
D	1599 (1619)	1292 (1282)	729 (741)	–
E	1600 (1609)	1374 (1329)	782 (745)	–
F	1599 (1600)	1381 (1305)	730 (738)	1040 (1027)
G	1599 (1601)	1346 (1310)	743 (737)	–
H	1600 (1602)	1346 (1320)	738 (743)	–
I	1599 (1600)	1346 (1315)	739 (744)	1040 (1025)
J	1599 (1615)	1377 (1357)	760 (737)	–
K	1600 (1614)	1313 (1310)	761 (744)	–
L	1598 (1614)	1313 (1298)	759 (744)	1041 (1032)

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TABLE S-II. Calculated bond lengths and angles for RuCO(AsPh₃)L¹ (**A**), RuCO(PPh₃)L¹ (**B**) and RuCO(Py)L¹ (**C**) at the B3LYP, PBE1PBE and M06 levels with the 6-31G(d)-LANL2DZ basis set

RuCO(AsPh ₃)L ¹			RuCO(PPh ₃)L ¹			RuCO(Py)L ¹		
Bond lengths, Å								
Ru-As	2.49 (2.44) ^a [2.45] ^b		Ru-P	2.39 (2.34) ^a [2.34] ^b {2.41} ^c		Ru-N	2.17 (2.13) ^a [2.15] ^b	
Ru-C	1.90 (1.89) ^a [1.89] ^b		Ru-C	1.90 (1.89) ^a [1.89] ^b {1.87} ^c		Ru-C	1.91 (1.89) ^a [1.90] ^b	
Ru-N ₂	2.05 (2.03) ^a [2.06] ^b		Ru-N ₂	2.06 (2.03) ^a [2.06] ^b {2.11} ^c		Ru-N ₂	2.05 (2.03) ^a [2.05] ^b	
Ru-O ₁	2.11 (2.09) ^a [2.11] ^b		Ru-O ₁	2.11 (2.09) ^a [2.12] ^b {2.10} ^c		Ru-O ₁	2.10 (2.07) ^a [2.09] ^b	
Ru-S	2.51 (2.46) ^a [2.48] ^b		Ru-S	2.51 (2.46) ^a [2.49] ^b {2.36} ^c		Ru-S	2.53 (2.48) ^a [2.50] ^b	
Bond angles, °								
As-Ru-C	91.65 (91.86) ^a [91.16] ^b		P-Ru-C	92.41 (92.32) ^a [91.77] ^b {87.50} ^c		N-Ru-C	93.06 (93.33) ^a [94.45] ^b	
As-Ru-N ₂	98.36 (97.27) ^a [96.13] ^b		P-Ru-N ₂	98.52 (97.77) ^a [96.90] ^b {94.70} ^c		N-Ru-N ₂	95.56 (95.11) ^a [93.41] ^b	
C-Ru-N ₂	169.16 (169.70) ^a [171.49] ^b		C-Ru-N ₂	168.31 (168.90) ^a [170.29] ^b {173.31} ^c		C-Ru-N ₂	170.63 (170.54) ^a [171.37] ^b	
O ₁ -Ru-S	154.42 (154.43) ^a [153.28] ^b		O ₁ -Ru-S	153.91 (154.01) ^a [152.92] ^b {168.27} ^c		O ₁ -Ru-S	155.56 (155.93) ^a [154.63] ^b	

^aCalculated at the PBE1PBE level; ^bcalculated at the M06 level; ^cfrom ref. 2

TABLE S-III. Molecular orbital compositions in the ground state for RuCO(AsPh₃)L¹ (**A**) at the B3LYP/6-31G(d)-LanL2DZ level in dichloromethane

MO	Energy eV	Contribution										Assign
		Ru	Ph ₁	Ph ₍₂₊₃₊₄₎	Fu	CO	C ₁	O ₁	C ₂	As	a(C+S+N)	
L+2	-1.36	41	0	0	0	1	1	4	0	3	C(2)+S(19)+N(7)	p(S _a)+d(Ru)
L+1	-1.58	2	36	0	0	2	27	4	0	0	C(2)+S(5)+N(18)	π*(Ph ₁)+p(C ₁ +N _a)
L	-2.10	2	0	0	33	0	0	0	26	0	C(8)+S(7)+N(17)	π*(Fu)+p(C ₂ +N _a)
H	-5.14	17	12	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	C(25)+S(15)+N(8)	π(Ph ₁)+p(C _a +S _a)+d(Ru)
H-1	-5.42	9	33	0	0	0	0	17	0	2	C(6)+S(5)+N(11)	π(Ph ₁)+p(N _a +O ₁)
H-2	-6.15	22	12	0	15	3	2	8	1	0	C(3)+S(19)+N(12)	π(Ph ₁ +Fu)+p(S _a +N _a)+d(Ru)
H-3	-6.34	36	11	0	12	6	0	12	0	0	C(1)+S(6)+N(3)	π(Ph ₁ +Fu)+p(O ₁)+d(Ru)

TABLE S-IV. Molecular orbital compositions in the ground state for RuCO(PPh₃)L¹ (**B**) at the B3LYP/6-31G(d)-LanL2DZ level in dichloromethane

MO	Energy eV	Contribution										Assign
		Ru	Ph ₁	Ph ₍₂₊₃₊₄₎	Fu	CO	C ₁	O ₁	C ₂	P	a(C+S+N)	
L+2	-1.39	37	0	9	0	2	1	4	0	5	C(1)+S(17)+N(8)	p(S _a)+d(Ru)
L+1	-1.55	2	35	0	0	2	27	3	0	0	C(2)+S(5)+N(18)	π*(Ph ₁)+p(C ₁ +N _a)
L	-2.07	2	0	0	33	0	0	0	26	0	C(8)+S(7)+N(17)	π*(Fu)+p(C ₂ +N _a)
H	-5.14	15	8	0	0	0	0	5	0	1	C(27)+S(16)+N(8)	p(C _a +S _a)+d(Ru)
H-1	-5.39	10	37	0	0	0	0	18	0	2	C(5)+S(4)+N(11)	π(Ph ₁)+p(O ₁ +N _a)+d(Ru)
H-2	-6.12	22	12	0	13	2	2	8	1	0	C(3)+S(19)+N(11)	π(Ph ₁ +Fu)+p(S _a +N _a)+d(Ru)
H-3	-6.34	34	11	0	14	6	0	11	0	0	C(1)+S(5)+N(4)	π(Ph ₁ +Fu)+p(O ₁)+d(Ru)

TABLE S-V. Molecular orbital compositions in the ground state for RuCO(Py)L¹ (**C**) at the B3LYP/6-31G(d)-LanL2DZ level in dichloromethane

MO	Energy eV	Contribution								Assign	
		Ru	Ph	Fu	CO	C ₁	O ₁	C ₂	Py		a(C+S+N)
L+2	-1.31	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	84	C(0)+S(3)+N(0)	π*(Py)
L+1	-1.58	2	34	0	1	27	4	0	2	C(2)+S(5)+N(18)	π*(Ph)+p(C ₁ +N _a)
L	-2.07	1	0	37	0	0	0	27	0	C(7)+S(7)+N(18)	π*(Fu)+p(C ₂ +N _a)
H	-5.09	22	16	0	0	0	9	0	0	C(20)+S(12)+N(6)	π(Ph)+p(C _a +S _a)+d(Ru)
H-1	-5.50	12	28	0	0	0	12	0	0	C(11)+S(8)+N(11)	π(Ph)+p(O ₁ +C _a +N _a)+d(Ru)
H-2	-6.10	27	13	16	3	3	5	1	0	C(2)+S(14)+N(11)	π(Ph+Fu)+p(S _a +N _a)+d(Ru)
H-3	-6.26	42	16	5	6	0	12	0	0	C(0)+S(9)+N(2)	π(Ph)+p(O ₁)+d(Ru)

TABLE S-VI. Molecular orbital compositions in the ground state for RuCO(AsPh₃)L² (**D**) at the B3LYP/6-31G(d)-LanL2DZ level in dichloromethane

MO	Energy eV	Contribution											Assign
		Ru	Ph ₁	Ph ₍₂₊₃₊₄₎	Fu	CO	C ₁	O ₁	C ₂	CH ₃	As	a(C+S+N)	
L+2	-1.25	34	6	0	0	3	5	4	0	0	3	C(2)+S(14)+N(9)	p(S _a)+d(Ru)
L+1	-1.47	6	28	0	0	1	22	3	0	0	1	C(1)+S(10)+N(16)	$\pi^*(\text{Ph}_1)+p(\text{C}_1+\text{S}_a+\text{N}_a)$
L	-2.07	2	0	0	33	0	0	0	26	0	0	C(8)+S(7)+N(17)	$\pi^*(\text{Fu})+p(\text{C}_2+\text{N}_a)$
H	-5.09	17	11	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	C(24)+S(15)+N(7)	$\pi(\text{Ph}_1)+p(\text{C}_a+\text{S}_a)+d(\text{Ru})$
H-1	-5.33	10	34	0	0	0	0	18	0	0	2	C(6)+S(5)+N(10)	$\pi(\text{Ph}_1)+p(\text{N}_a+\text{O}_1)+d(\text{Ru})$
H-2	-6.09	21	9	0	11	3	2	10	1	0	0	C(3)+S(20)+N(11)	$\pi(\text{Fu})+p(\text{S}_a+\text{N}_a+\text{O}_1)+d(\text{Ru})$
H-3	-6.28	34	14	0	13	6	1	10	0	0	0	C(2)+S(5)+N(5)	$\pi(\text{Ph}_1+\text{Fu})+p(\text{O}_1)+d(\text{Ru})$

TABLE S-VII. Molecular orbital compositions in the ground state for RuCO(PPh₃)L² (**E**) at the B3LYP/6-31G(d)-LanL2DZ level in dichloromethane

MO	Energy, eV	Contribution											Assign
		Ru	Ph ₁	Ph ₍₂₊₃₊₄₎	Fu	CO	C ₁	O ₁	C ₂	CH ₃	P	a(C+S+N)	
L+2	-1.28	30	7	5	0	4	6	4	0	0	4	C(2)+S(12)+N(10)	p(S _a +N _a)+d(Ru)
L+1	-1.44	7	28	0	0	0	21	3	0	0	2	C(1)+S(10)+N(16)	$\pi^*(\text{Ph}_1)+p(\text{C}_1+\text{S}_a+\text{N}_a)$
L	-2.04	2	0	0	34	0	0	0	26	0	0	C(8)+S(7)+N(17)	$\pi^*(\text{Fu})+p(\text{C}_2+\text{N}_a)$
H	-5.09	15	8	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	1	C(26)+S(17)+N(8)	p(C _a +S _a)+d(Ru)
H-1	-5.33	11	37	0	0	0	0	19	0	0	2	C(4)+S(4)+N(11)	$\pi(\text{Ph}_1)+p(\text{O}_1+\text{N}_a)+d(\text{Ru})$
H-2	-6.07	22	9	0	10	3	2	11	1	0	0	C(3)+S(20)+N(11)	$\pi(\text{Fu})+p(\text{S}_a+\text{N}_a+\text{O}_1)+d(\text{Ru})$
H-3	-6.28	32	14	0	16	6	1	9	0	0	0	C(2)+S(5)+N(5)	$\pi(\text{Ph}_1+\text{Fu})+d(\text{Ru})$

TABLE S-VIII. Molecular orbital compositions in the ground state for RuCO(Py)L² (F) at the B3LYP/6-31G(d)-LanL2DZ level in dichloromethane

MO	Energy, eV	Contribution										Assign
		Ru	Ph	Fu	CO	C ₁	O ₁	C ₂	CH ₃	Py	a(C+S+N)	
L+2	-1.28	3	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	81	C(0)+S(4)+N(0)	$\pi^*(\text{Py})$
L+1	-1.47	3	31	0	1	23	3	0	0	7	C(2)+S(8)+N(17)	$\pi^*(\text{Ph})+\text{p}(\text{C}_1+\text{N}_a)$
L	-2.04	1	0	37	0	0	0	27	0	0	C(7)+S(7)+N(18)	$\pi^*(\text{Fu})+\text{p}(\text{C}_2+\text{N}_a)$
H	-5.03	23	16	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	C(19)+S(12)+N(6)	$\pi(\text{Ph})+\text{p}(\text{C}_a+\text{S}_a+\text{O}_1)+\text{d}(\text{Ru})$
H-1	-5.44	12	27	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	C(12)+S(8)+N(10)	$\pi(\text{Ph})+\text{p}(\text{O}_1+\text{C}_a+\text{N}_a)+\text{d}(\text{Ru})$
H-2	-6.04	26	9	16	3	3	7	1	0	0	C(2)+S(16)+N(12)	$\pi(\text{Fu})+\text{p}(\text{S}_a+\text{N}_a)+\text{d}(\text{Ru})$
H-3	-6.18	40	17	6	6	0	11	0	0	0	C(0)+S(7)+N(2)	$\pi(\text{Ph})+\text{p}(\text{O}_1)+\text{d}(\text{Ru})$

TABLE S-IX. Molecular orbital compositions in the ground state for RuCO(AsPh₃)L³ (G) at the B3LYP/6-31G(d)-LanL2DZ level in dichloromethane

MO	Energy eV	Contribution											Assign
		Ru	Ph ₁	Ph ₍₂₊₃₊₄₎	Fu	CO	C ₁	O ₁	C ₂	OCH ₃	As	a(C+S+N)	
L+2	-1.36	40	0	0	0	2	2	4	0	0	3	C(2)+S(17)+N(8)	$\text{p}(\text{S}_a)+\text{d}(\text{Ru})$
L+1	-1.50	3	30	0	0	2	27	4	0	0	0	C(2)+S(6)+N(18)	$\pi^*(\text{Ph}_1)+\text{p}(\text{C}_1+\text{N}_a)$
L	-2.07	2	0	0	33	0	0	0	26	0	0	C(8)+S(7)+N(17)	$\pi^*(\text{Fu})+\text{p}(\text{C}_2+\text{N}_a)$
H	-5.03	15	35	0	0	0	0	15	0	5	0	C(11)+S(6)+N(3)	$\pi(\text{Ph}_1)+\text{p}(\text{C}_a+\text{O}_1)+\text{d}(\text{Ru})$
H-1	-5.25	5	15	0	0	0	0	6	0	3	3	C(20)+S(13)+N(12)	$\pi(\text{Ph}_1)+\text{p}(\text{C}_a+\text{N}_a+\text{S}_a)$
H-2	-6.07	12	33	0	11	1	2	1	1	5	0	C(2)+S(9)+N(15)	$\pi(\text{Ph}_1+\text{Fu})+\text{p}(\text{N}_a)+\text{d}(\text{Ru})$
H-3	-6.20	42	10	0	0	5	0	15	0	3	0	C(0)+S(14)+N(0)	$\pi(\text{Ph}_1)+\text{p}(\text{O}_1+\text{S}_a)+\text{d}(\text{Ru})$

TABLE S-X. Molecular orbital compositions in the ground state for RuCO(PPh₃)L³ (**H**) at the B3LYP/6-31G(d)-LanL2DZ level in dichloromethane

MO	Energy eV	Contribution											Assign
		Ru	Ph ₁	Ph ₍₂₊₃₊₄₎	Fu	CO	C ₁	O ₁	C ₂	OCH ₃	P	a(C+S+N)	
L+2	-1.36	36	0	5	0	2	3	4	0	0	4	C(1)+S(16)+N(8)	p(S _a)+d(Ru)
L+1	-1.50	4	30	0	0	1	26	4	0	0	1	C(2)+S(6)+N(18)	π*(Ph ₁)+p(C ₁ +N _a)
L	-2.04	2	0	0	33	0	0	0	26	0	0	C(8)+S(7)+N(17)	π*(Fu)+p(C ₂ +N _a)
H	-5.03	14	33	0	0	0	0	14	0	5	0	C(12)+S(7)+N(3)	π(Ph ₁)+p(O ₁ +C _a)+d(Ru)
H-1	-5.22	5	16	0	0	0	0	6	0	3	2	C(19)+S(13)+N(12)	π(Ph ₁)+p(C _a +S _a +N _a)
H-2	-6.04	12	32	0	11	1	2	2	1	5	0	C(2)+S(10)+N(15)	π(Ph ₁ +Fu)+p(S _a +N _a)+d(Ru)
H-3	-6.18	42	12	0	0	5	0	14	0	4	0	C(0)+S(13)+N(0)	π(Ph ₁)+p(O ₁ +S _a)+d(Ru)

TABLE S-XI. Molecular orbital compositions in the ground state for RuCO(Py)L³ (**I**) at the B3LYP/6-31G(d)-LanL2DZ level in dichloromethane

MO	Energy eV	Contribution										Assign
		Ru	Ph	Fu	CO	C ₁	O ₁	C ₂	OCH ₃	Py	a(C+S+N)	
L+2	-1.28	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	83	C(0)+S(3)+N(0)	π*(Py)
L+1	-1.52	3	30	0	1	27	5	0	0	4	C(2)+S(6)+N(18)	π*(Ph)+p(C ₁ +N _a)
L	-2.04	1	0	37	0	0	0	27	0	0	C(7)+S(7)+N(18)	π*(Fu)+p(C ₂ +N _a)
H	-4.98	19	29	0	0	0	13	0	4	0	C(13)+S(7)+N(3)	π(Ph)+p(C _a +O ₁)+d(Ru)
H-1	-5.36	7	21	0	0	0	6	0	4	0	C(19)+S(12)+N(10)	π(Ph)+p(C _a +S _a +N _a)
H-2	-5.99	25	27	13	4	2	0	1	5	0	C(0)+S(5)+N(11)	π(Ph+Fu)+p(N _a)+d(Ru)
H-3	-6.15	45	6	0	5	0	15	0	1	0	C(0)+S(17)+N(1)	p(O ₁ +S _a)+d(Ru)

TABLE S-XII. Molecular orbital compositions in the ground state for RuCO(AsPh₃)L⁴ (**J**) at the B3LYP/6-31G(d)-LanL2DZ level in dichloromethane

MO	Energy eV	Contribution										Assign
		Ru	Naph	Ph ₍₂₊₃₊₄₎	Fu	CO	C ₁	O ₁	C ₂	As	a(C+S+N)	
L+2	-1.39	40	0	3	0	1	0	4	0	3	C(1)+S(20)+N(7)	p(S _a)+d(Ru)
L+1	-1.88	0	50	0	0	1	21	0	0	0	C(2)+S(3)+N(16)	π*(Naph)+p(C ₁ +N _a)
L	-2.10	2	0	0	33	0	0	0	26	0	C(7)+S(7)+N(17)	π*(Fu)+p(C ₂ +N _a)
H	-5.06	15	50	0	0	0	0	18	0	0	C(6)+S(4)+N(0)	π(Naph)+p(O ₁)+d(Ru)
H-1	-5.28	5	12	0	0	0	0	4	0	3	C(25)+S(15)+N(10)	π(Naph)+p(C _a +S _a +N _a)+d(Ru)
H-2	-6.01	15	48	0	6	1	0	2	0	0	C(1)+S(5)+N(14)	π(Naph)+p(N _a)+d(Ru)
H-3	-6.18	36	6	0	2	5	0	17	0	0	C(0)+S(17)+N(2)	p(O ₁ +S _a)+d(Ru)

TABLE S-XIII. Molecular orbital compositions in the ground state for RuCO(PPh₃)L⁴ (**K**) at the B3LYP/6-31G(d)-LanL2DZ level in dichloromethane

MO	Energy, eV	Contribution										Assign
		Ru	Naph	Ph ₍₂₊₃₊₄₎	Fu	CO	C ₁	O ₁	C ₂	P	a(C+S+N)	
L+2	-1.42	36	0	10	0	1	0	3	1	5	C(1)+S(20)+N(7)	p(S _a)+d(Ru)
L+1	-1.88	0	50	0	0	1	21	0	0	0	C(2)+S(2)+N(16)	π*(Naph)+p(C ₁ +N _a)
L	-2.07	2	0	0	33	0	0	0	26	0	C(8)+S(7)+N(17)	π*(Fu)+p(C ₂ +N _a)
H	-5.06	15	49	0	0	0	0	17	0	0	C(7)+S(4)+N(0)	π(Naph)+p(O ₁)+d(Ru)
H-1	-5.25	5	13	0	0	0	0	4	0	2	C(25)+S(15)+N(10)	π(Naph)+p(C _a +S _a +N _a)
H-2	-6.01	14	48	0	5	1	0	1	0	0	C(1)+S(5)+N(14)	π(Naph)+p(N _a)+d(Ru)
H-3	-6.18	36	6	0	2	4	0	17	0	0	C(0)+S(17)+N(2)	p(O ₁ +S _a)+d(Ru)

TABLE S-XIV. Molecular orbital compositions in the ground state for RuCO(Py)L⁴ (L) at the B3LYP/6-31G(d)-LanL2DZ level in dichloromethane

MO	Energy eV	Contribution									Assign
		Ru	Naph	Fu	CO	C ₁	O ₁	C ₂	Py	a(C+S+N)	
L+2	-1.31	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	88	C(0)+S(2)+N(0)	$\pi^*(\text{Py})$
L+1	-1.90	1	49	0	1	21	0	0	0	C(2)+S(3)+N(16)	$\pi^*(\text{Naph})+\text{p}(\text{C}_1+\text{N}_a)$
L	-2.07	1	0	36	0	0	0	27	0	C(7)+S(7)+N(18)	$\pi^*(\text{Fu})+\text{p}(\text{C}_2+\text{N}_a)$
H	-5.01	20	43	0	0	0	16	0	0	C(8)+S(5)+N(0)	$\pi(\text{Naph})+\text{p}(\text{O}_1)+\text{d}(\text{Ru})$
H-1	-5.36	6	21	0	0	0	4	0	0	C(24)+S(14)+N(8)	$\pi(\text{Naph})+\text{p}(\text{C}_a+\text{S}_a)$
H-2	-5.96	28	33	9	5	1	0	1	0	C(0)+S(4)+N(12)	$\pi(\text{Naph})+\text{p}(\text{N}_a)+\text{d}(\text{Ru})$
H-3	-6.15	38	8	1	5	0	16	0	0	C(0)+S(18)+N(2)	$\text{p}(\text{O}_1+\text{S}_a)+\text{d}(\text{Ru})$

TABLE S-XV. Presentation of the H-L energy gaps (ΔE / eV) for complexes RuCO(AsPh₃)L¹ (A), RuCO(PPh₃)L¹ (B) and RuCO(Py)L¹ (C) at various levels: a – calculated at the B3LYP/6-31G(d)-LANL2DZ level, b – calculated at the PBE1PBE/6-31G(d)-LANL2DZ level, c – calculated at the M06/6-31G(d)-LANL2DZ level and d – calculated at the B3LYP/def2-SVP level

Level	RuCO(AsPh ₃)L ¹	RuCO(PPh ₃)L ¹	RuCO(Py)L ¹
a	3.04	3.07	3.02
b	3.23	3.24	3.21
c	3.23	3.24	3.20
d	2.66	2.67	2.65

TABLE S-XVI. Presentation of the lowest-lying absorption wavelengths (λ_{max} / nm) for complexes RuCO(AsPh₃)L¹ (**A**), RuCO(PPh₃)L¹ (**B**), and RuCO(Py)L¹ (**C**) at various levels: a – calculated at the TD-CAM-B3LYP/def2-SVP//B3LYP/6-31G(d)-LANL2DZ level, b – calculated at the TD-CAM-B3LYP/def2-SVP//PBE1PBE/6-31G(d)-LANL2DZ level, c – calculated at the TD-CAM-B3LYP/def2-SVP//M06/6-31G(d)-LANL2DZ level and d – calculated at the TD-CAM-B3LYP/def2-SVP//B3LYP/def2-SVP level

Level	RuCO(AsPh ₃)L ¹	RuCO(PPh ₃)L ¹	RuCO(Py)L ¹
a	485	483	477
b	469	468	466
c	472	467	464
d	486	487	480

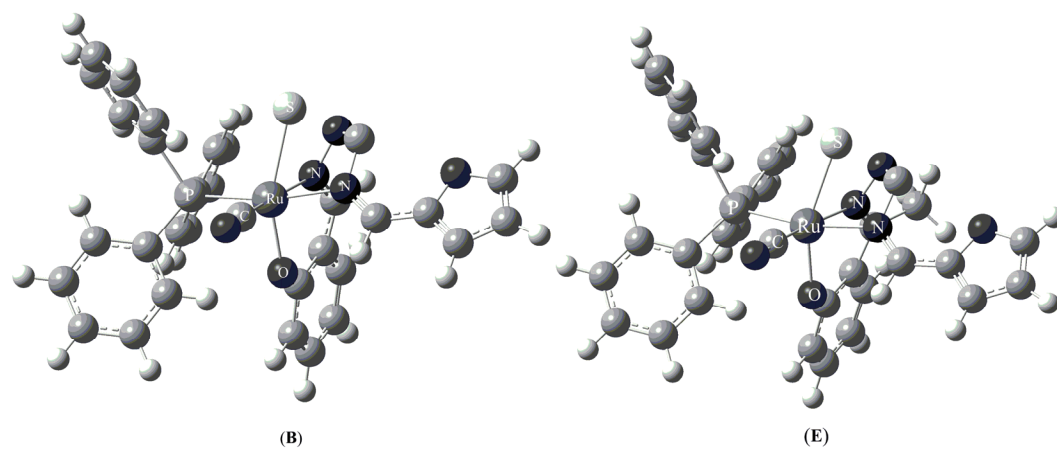
TABLE S-XVII. Calculated absorptions of complexes RuCO(AsPh₃)L¹ (**A**), RuCO(PPh₃)L¹ (**B**) and RuCO(Py)L¹ (**C**) in dichloromethane medium at the TD-CAM-B3LYP level

Complex	States	λ / nm	Oscillator strength	Main configuration	Assignments
A	S ₁	485	0.0015	H→L (56 %)	Ph ₁ /C _a /S _a /N ₂ /Ru→Fu/C ₂ /S _a IL/MLCT
	S ₄	364	0.0328	H→L+1 (45 %)	Ph ₁ /C _a /S _a /N ₂ /Ru→Ph ₁ /C ₁ /N ₂ IL/MLCT
	S ₁₅	280	0.6838	H-4→L (37 %)	Ph ₁ /Fu/C _a /N ₁ /Ru→Fu/C ₂ /S _a IL/MLCT
	S ₄₁	222	0.1503	H→L+6 (17 %)	Ph ₁ /C _a /S _a /N ₂ /Ru→Ph ₂ /Ph ₄ IL/LLCT

TABLE S-XVII. Continued

Complex	States	λ / nm	Oscillator strength	Main configuration	Assignments
B	S ₁	483	0.0029	H→L (77 %)	Ph ₁ /S _a /C _a /Ru→Fu/C ₂ /N ₁ /S _a IL/MLCT
	S ₄	363	0.0328	H→L+1 (45 %)	Ph ₁ /S _a /C _a /Ru→Ph ₁ /C ₁ /N ₂ IL/MLCT
	S ₉	314	0.2307	H-2→L (32 %)	Ph ₁ /Fu/O ₁ /S _a /C _a /N ₁ /Ru→Fu/C ₂ /N ₁ /S _a LL/MLCT
	S ₁₅	280	0.7178	H-4→L (39 %)	Ph ₁ /Fu/C _a /N ₁ /N ₂ /Ru→Fu/C ₂ /N ₁ /S _a LL/MLCT
	S ₄₂	222	0.1945	H-5→L+1 (10 %)	Ph ₁ /Ph ₂ /Ph ₄ /Fu/S _a /Ru→Ph ₁ /C ₁ /N ₂ LL/MLCT
C	S ₁	477	0.0031	H→L (50 %)	Ph/C _a /S _a /Ru→Fu/C ₂ /S _a /N _a IL/MLCT
	S ₃	382	0.0319	H→L+1 (73 %)	Ph/C _a /S _a /Ru→Ph/C ₁ /N ₂ IL/MLCT
	S ₉	315	0.2612	H-2→L (28 %)	Ph/Fu/C _a /S _a /Ru→Fu/C ₂ /S _a /N _a MLCT
	S ₁₆	280	0.2852	H-4→L (41 %)	Ph/Fu/C _a /S _a /Ru→Fu/C ₂ /S _a /N _a IL/MLCT
	S ₃₃	235	0.0674	H-3→L+6 (10 %)	S _a /O ₁ /Ru→CO/C _a /Ru IL/MLCT/MC
	S ₄₁	221	0.3749	H-6→L+1 (15 %)	Ph/S _a /N _a /Ru→Ph/C ₁ /N ₂ IL/MLCT





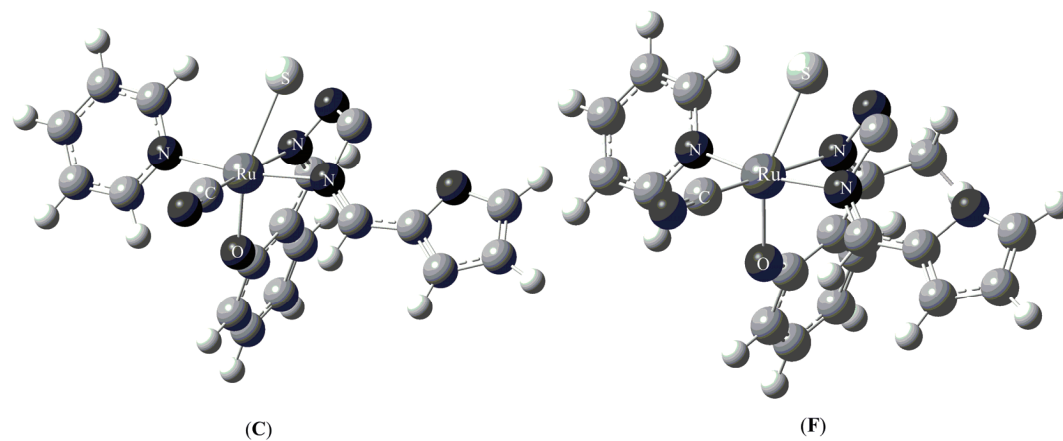
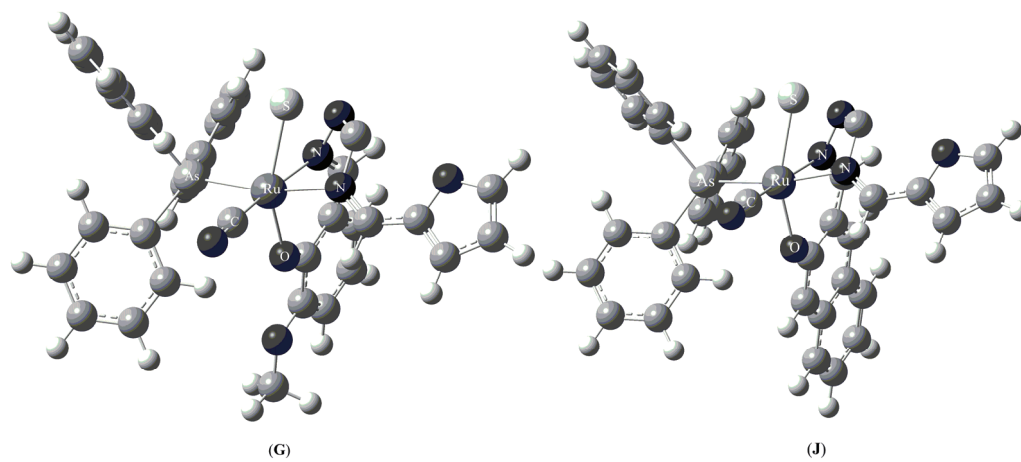
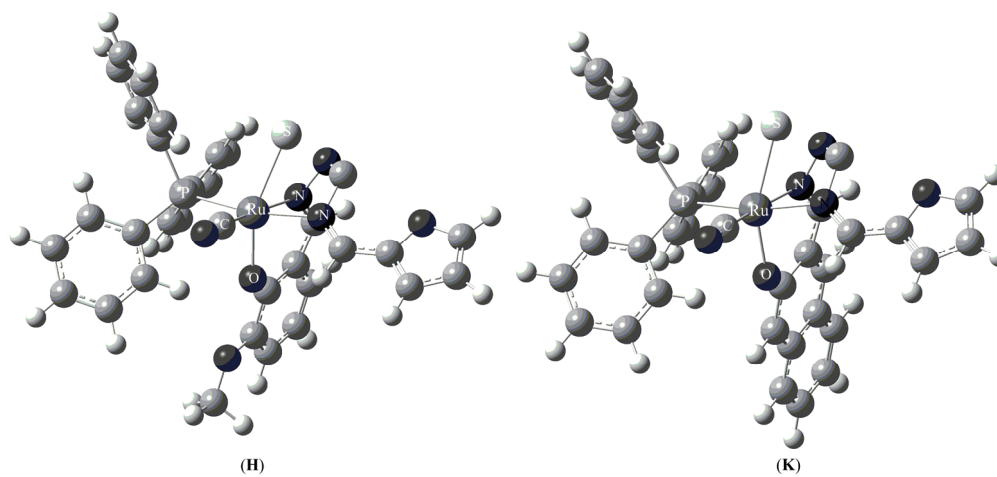


Fig. S-1. The optimized geometric structures of complexes $\text{RuCO}(\text{AsPh}_3)\text{L}^1$ (A), $\text{RuCO}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{L}^1$ (B), $\text{RuCO}(\text{Py})\text{L}^1$ (C), $\text{RuCO}(\text{AsPh}_3)\text{L}^2$ (D), $\text{RuCO}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{L}^2$ (E) and $\text{RuCO}(\text{Py})\text{L}^2$ (F).





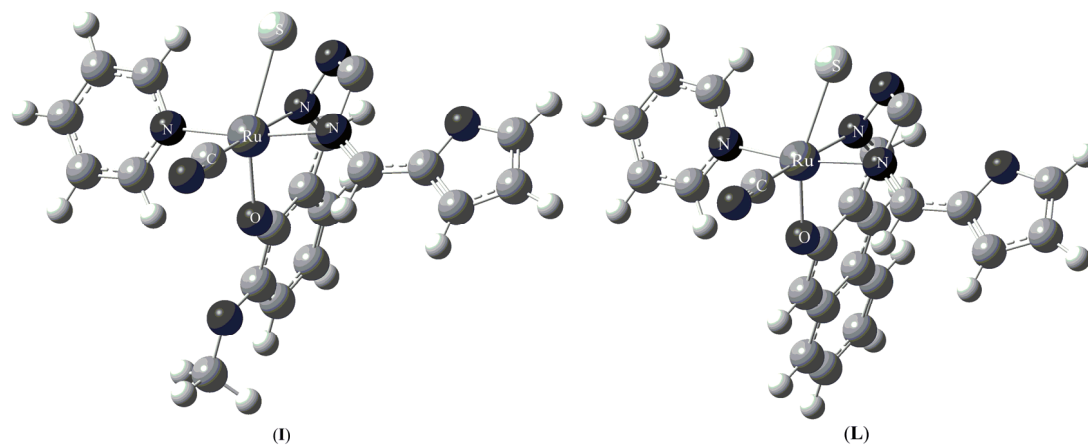
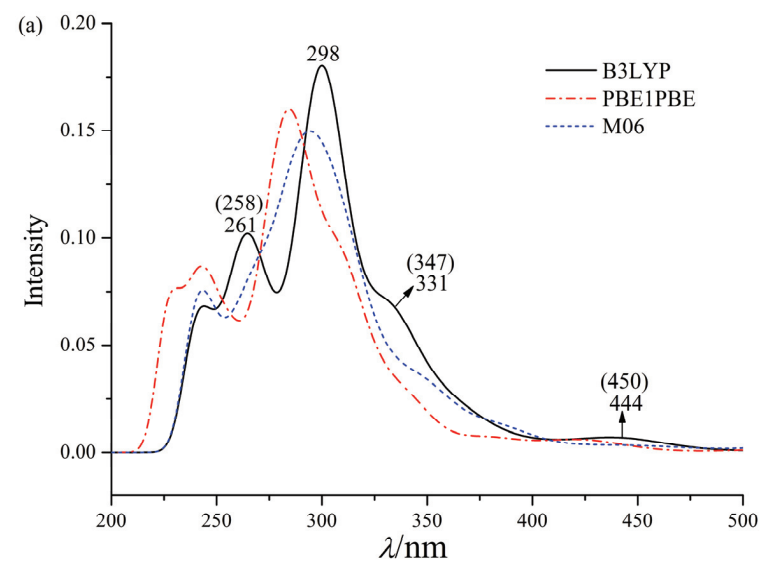
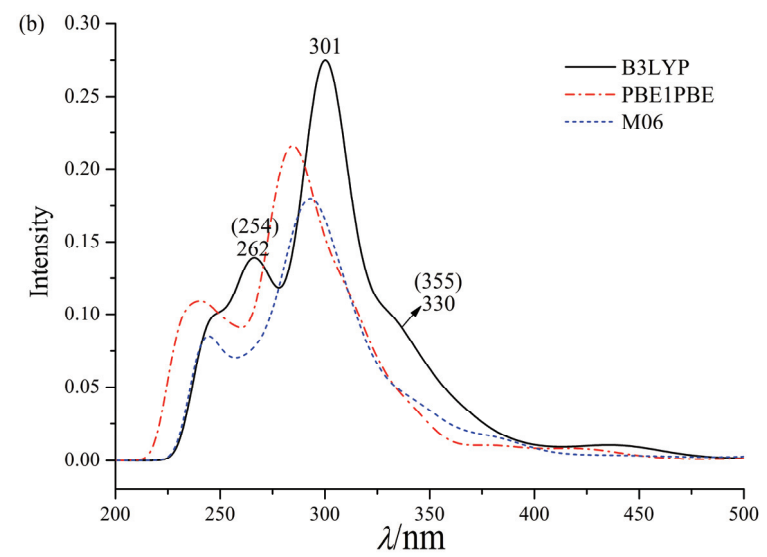


Fig. S-2. The optimized geometric structures of complexes $\text{RuCO}(\text{AsPh}_3)\text{L}^3$ (**G**), $\text{RuCO}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{L}^3$ (**H**), $\text{RuCO}(\text{Py})\text{L}^3$ (**I**), $\text{RuCO}(\text{AsPh}_3)\text{L}^4$ (**J**), $\text{RuCO}(\text{PPh}_3)\text{L}^4$ (**K**) and $\text{RuCO}(\text{Py})\text{L}^4$ (**L**).





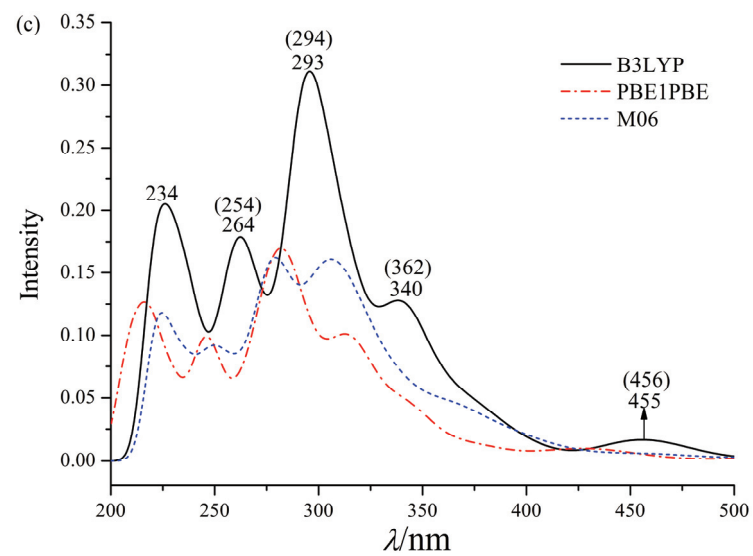


Fig. S-3. Simulated absorption spectra in dichloromethane for complexes (a) RuCO(AsPh₃)L¹ (A), (b) RuCO(PPh₃)L¹ (B), and (c) RuCO(Py)L¹ (C) at three TD-DFT-PCM/LANL2DZ levels together with the experimental values in parentheses.

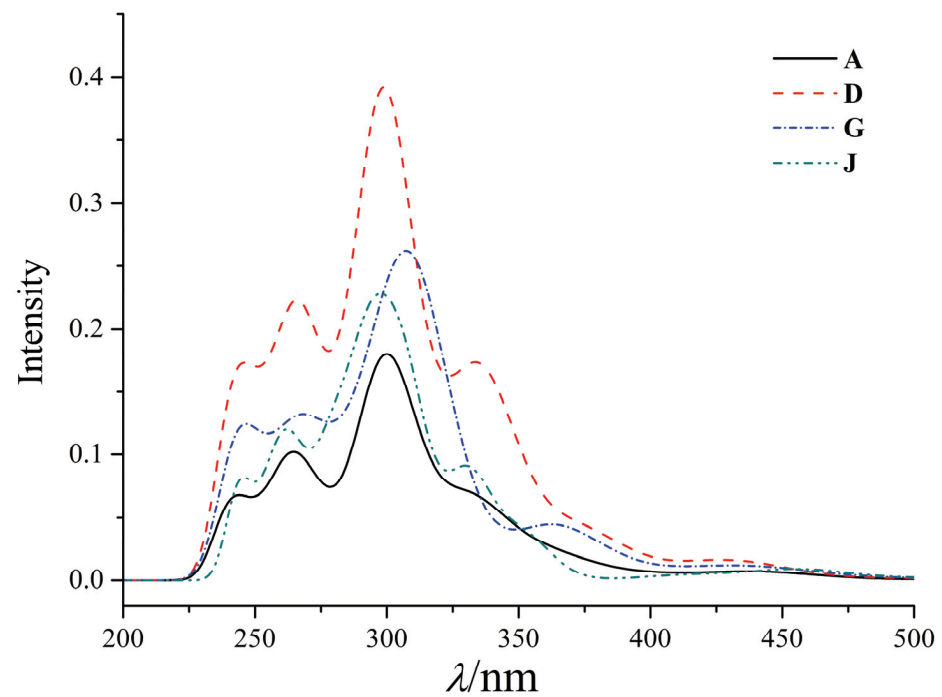


Fig. S-4. Simulated absorption spectra in dichloromethane of complexes $\text{RuCO}(\text{AsPh}_3)\text{L}^1$ (A), $\text{RuCO}(\text{AsPh}_3)\text{L}^2$ (D), $\text{RuCO}(\text{AsPh}_3)\text{L}^3$ (G) and $\text{RuCO}(\text{AsPh}_3)\text{L}^4$ (J) from TD-B3LYP(PCM) calculations.

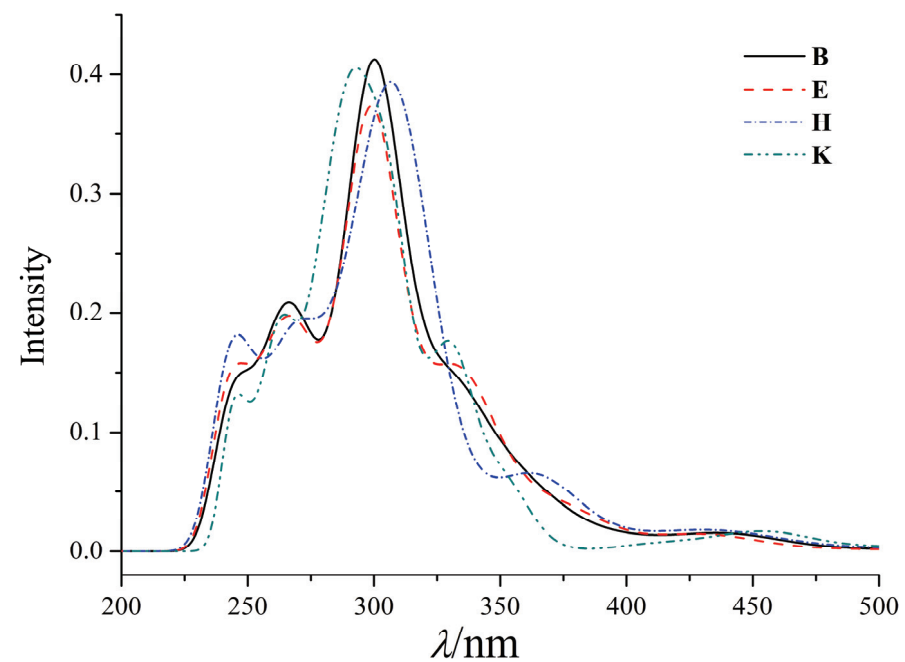


Fig. S-5. Simulated absorption spectra in dichloromethane of complexes RuCO(PPh₃)L¹ (**B**), RuCO(PPh₃)L² (**E**), RuCO(PPh₃)L³ (**H**) and RuCO(PPh₃)L⁴ (**K**) from TD-B3LYP(PCM) calculations.

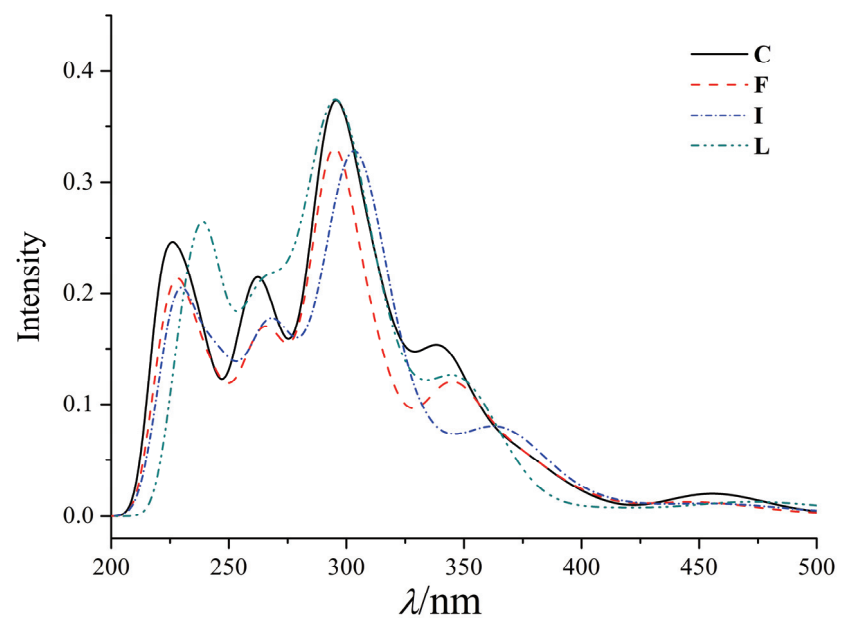
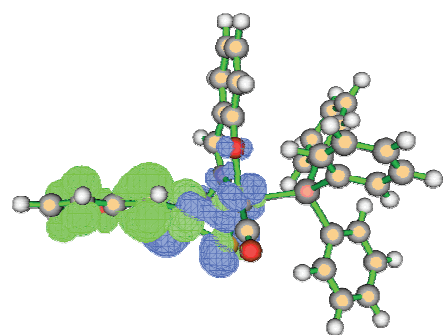
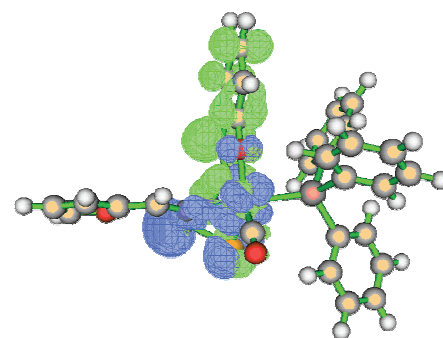
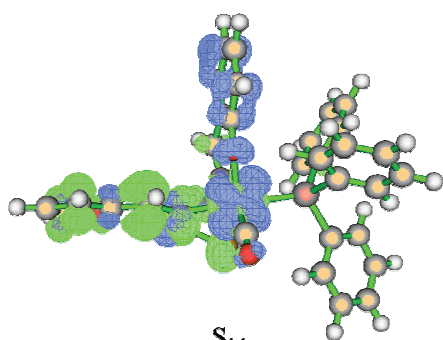
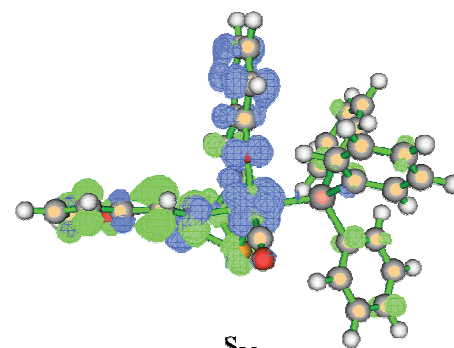


Fig. S-6. Simulated absorption spectra in dichloromethane of complexes RuCO(Py)L^1 (C), RuCO(Py)L^2 (F), RuCO(Py)L^3 (I), and RuCO(Py)L^4 (L) from TD-B3LYP(PCM) calculations.

S₁S₄S₁₄S₂₅

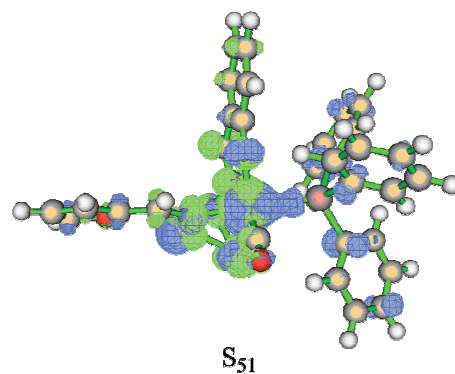


Fig. S-7. The distributions of electrons–holes for the excited states of complex A.

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