

Convenient synthesis of the ruthenium complexes CpRu(diene)X (X = Cl, Br, I) by naphthalene substitution in [CpRu(C₁₀H₈)]⁺

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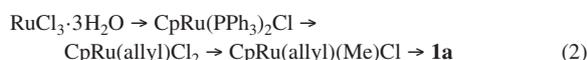
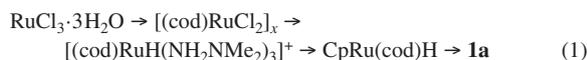
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The replacement of naphthalene ligand in the ruthenium complex [CpRu(C₁₀H₈)]⁺ by halide anions in the presence of 1,5-cyclooctadiene (cod) or norbornadiene (nbd) gives important synthetic precursors CpRu(cod)X and CpRu(nbd)X (X = Cl, Br, I) in 60–90% yield; the structure of CpRu(nbd)Br was determined by X-ray diffraction.

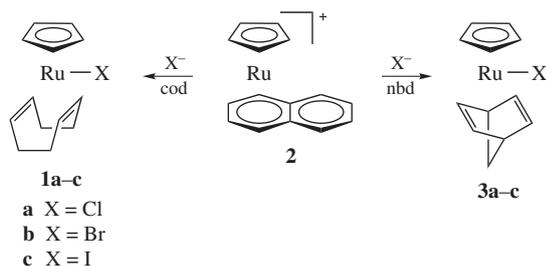
Cyclopentadienyl ruthenium complexes (C₅R₅)Ru(diene)X attract a considerable attention due to their wide application in organometallic synthesis and catalysis.¹ For example, compound CpRu(cod)Cl **1a** was recently used for the preparation of ruthenium bioconjugates with neuropeptide enkephalin² and as a catalyst of Alder–ene reaction in total synthesis of natural products.³

Pentamethylsubstituted compounds Cp*Ru(diene)X are easily accessible *via* reactions of universal precursor [Cp*RuCl]₄ with dienes.⁴ Unfortunately, the unsubstituted congeners CpRu(diene)X are much less available. In particular, the chloride **1a** was synthesized by the complicated four-step procedures (1)⁵ or (2).⁶



One of the effective methods for the synthesis of organometallic compounds is replacement of the naphthalene ligand. It was successfully employed for the preparation of chromium,⁷ manganese,⁸ iron,⁹ cobalt,¹⁰ ruthenium,¹¹ rhodium,¹² and iridium¹³ complexes. Recently, Kündig and Monnier reported a simple synthesis of the ruthenium naphthalene complex [CpRu(C₁₀H₈)]⁺ **2**.¹⁴ Hintermann *et al.*¹⁵ have further reported that **2** reacts with 2-electron ligands giving half-sandwich cations [CpRuL₃]⁺. We have shown that **2** also reacts with arenes giving [CpRu(arene)]⁺ complexes.¹⁶ This method can be applied for labeling of aromatic amino acids and small peptides under near-physiological conditions.¹⁷ The reaction of **2** with cyclopentadienes affords substituted ruthenocenes.¹⁸ Herein we report the convenient synthesis of CpRu(cod)X and CpRu(nbd)X complexes *via* naphthalene substitution in **2**.

The reaction of **2** (as BF₄⁻ or PF₆⁻ salt) with [Bu₄N]Cl and 1,5-cyclooctadiene in CH₂Cl₂ gives complex **1a** in *ca.* 90% yield (Scheme 1).[‡] The bromide and iodide congeners **1b,c** were



Scheme 1

prepared in a similar way. Analogous reaction of **2** with [Bu₄N]X and norbornadiene yields complexes CpRu(nbd)X **3a–c**.[§] For a large-scale synthesis of the chlorides **1a** and **3a** it is more economical to use dry LiCl in THF as a chloride source.

Compounds **1a–c** and **3a–c** were characterized by ¹H NMR spectroscopy, as well as by elemental analysis for the previously

[†] Complex [2][PF₆] is commercially available from Aldrich (product no. 685054).

[‡] A solution of [2][BF₄] (19 mg, 0.05 mmol),¹⁴ 1,5-cyclooctadiene (0.03 ml, 0.25 mmol, 5-fold excess), and [Bu₄N]X (0.05 mmol) in 5 ml of CH₂Cl₂ was stirred under argon overnight. The flask was opened to air and the solvent was removed *in vacuo*. The residue was extracted with Et₂O (5×10 ml) and the extract was evaporated. The resulting solid was washed with hexane and dried *in vacuo* to give pure products. Compounds **1a–c** are stable in air in the solid state but decompose in solution within 1 day.

1a: yellow, 14 mg (90%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ: 2.05 (m, 6H, CH₂), 2.60 (m, 2H, CH₂), 4.39 (m, 2H, CH), 4.95 (s, 5H, Cp), 5.29 (m, 2H, CH); *cf.* ref. 5.

1b: yellow-orange, 16 mg (92%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ: 2.08 (m, 6H, CH₂), 2.67 (m, 2H, CH₂), 4.46 (m, 2H, CH), 4.98 (s, 5H, Cp), 5.18 (m, 2H, CH); *cf.* ref. 5.

1c: orange-brown, 14 mg (70%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ: 2.12 (m, 6H, CH₂), 2.77 (m, 2H, CH₂), 4.49 (m, 2H, CH), 4.98 (m, 2H, CH), 5.06 (s, 5H, Cp); *cf.* ref. 5.

Alternatively, the suspension of [2][BF₄] (152 mg, 0.4 mmol), dry LiCl (350 mg, 8 mmol), and 1,5-cyclooctadiene (0.25 ml, 2 mmol, 5-fold excess) in 5 ml of THF was stirred under argon overnight. The flask was opened to air and the solvent was removed *in vacuo*. The residue was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3×10 ml) and the extract was evaporated. The resulting solid was washed with hexane and dried to give pure **1a** (107 mg, 86% yield).

[§] A solution of [2][BF₄] (38 mg, 0.1 mmol), norbornadiene (0.1 ml, 1.0 mmol, 10-fold excess), and [Bu₄N]X (0.1 mmol) in 5 ml of CH₂Cl₂ was stirred under argon atmosphere overnight. The flask was opened to air and the solvent was evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂–light petroleum (1:1) mixture, eluted through Al₂O₃ column (10 cm) and evaporated. The resulting solid was washed with hexane and dried to give pure products. Compounds **3a,b** are air-stable both in solid and solution at least for several days. The iodide **3c** is less stable and notably decomposes in solution within 1 day.

3a: yellow, 23 mg (78%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ: 1.31 (m, 2H, CH₂), 3.62 (m, 1H, CH_{bridge}), 3.72 (m, 1H, CH_{bridge}), 4.50 (m, 2H, CH), 4.74 (m, 2H, CH), 4.92 (s, 5H, Cp); *cf.* ref. 5.

3b: yellow-orange, 30 mg (88%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ: 1.24 (m, 2H, CH₂), 3.61 (m, 1H, CH_{bridge}), 3.66 (m, 1H, CH_{bridge}), 4.55 (m, 1H, CH), 4.63 (m, 1H, CH), 4.95 (s, 5H, Cp); *cf.* ref. 6.

3c: orange-brown, 22 mg (58%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ: 1.15 (m, 2H, CH₂), 3.54 (m, 1H, CH_{bridge}), 3.57 (m, 1H, CH_{bridge}), 4.42 (m, 2H, CH), 4.57 (m, 2H, CH), 5.02 (s, 5H, Cp). Found (%): C, 37.21; H, 3.18. Calc. for C₁₂H₁₃IRu (%): C, 37.42; H, 3.40.

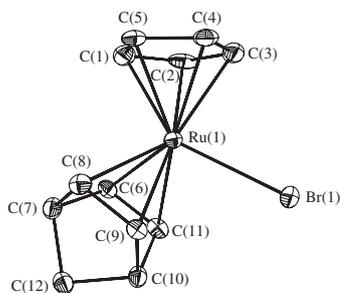


Figure 1 The molecular structure of **3b** with ellipsoids at 50% probability level. All hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Selected interatomic distances (Å): Ru(1)–C(1) 2.180(5), Ru(1)–C(2) 2.233(5), Ru(1)–C(3) 2.235(5), Ru(1)–C(4) 2.239(5), Ru(1)–C(5) 2.224(5), Ru(1)–C(6) 2.204(5), Ru(1)–C(8) 2.208(5), Ru(1)–C(9) 2.224(5), Ru(1)–C(11) 2.215(4), Ru(1)–Br(1) 2.5927(15).

unknown complex **3c**. Interestingly, ^1H NMR signal of Cp ligand in **1** and **3** shifts upfield in the sequence $\text{Cl} > \text{Br} > \text{I}$, while the signals of the diene ligands shift downfield in the same sequence.

The structure of bromide **3b** was established by X-ray diffraction (Figure 1).[†] The Ru–Cp distance in **3b** (1.865 Å) is longer than that in $\text{CpRu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Br}$ (1.848 Å),¹⁹ but shorter than in $\text{CpRu}(\text{CO})_2\text{Br}$ (1.877 Å).²⁰ This indicates that the norbornadiene ligand is stronger donor than CO but weaker than PPh_3 .²¹ The double bonds of the norbornadiene moiety in **3b** (av. 1.396 Å) are significantly elongated as compared to the free ligand (av. 1.337 Å)²² due to coordination with the metal atom.

In summary, we have developed the convenient method for the preparation of $\text{CpRu}(\text{diene})\text{X}$ complexes which hopefully will promote their wider application.

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Online Supplementary Materials

Supplementary data associated with this article can be found in the online version at doi:10.1016/j.mencom.2011.03.007.

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[†] For details of X-ray diffraction data collection ($R = 0.0322$, $P = 421c$, $Z = 8$), see Online Supplementary Materials.

CCDC 800299 contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif. For details, see 'Notice to Authors', *Mendeleev Commun.*, Issue 1, 2011.

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