# **Electronic Supplementary Information**

## **Structure and Reactivity of a Seven-coordinate**

# **Ruthenium Acylperoxo Complex**

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**Materials.** All organic substrates were purchased either from Aldrich, Aladdin or TCI Chemicals and were purified before use according to the literature.<sup>[1]</sup> All solvents, such as acetone, acetonitrile, dichloromethane and n-hexane, were in HPLC grade and further purified by following literature methods before use.<sup>[1]</sup> HmCPBA (*m*-chloroperbenzoic acid) was purified before use according to the literature.<sup>[1]</sup> D<sub>2</sub>O (Aldrich, 99 atom % D), H<sub>2</sub><sup>18</sup>O (Aldrich, 97 atom % <sup>18</sup>O) and (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Ce(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>6</sub> (Aldrich, Ce(IV)) were used as received. Deuterated substrates, such as xanthene-*d*<sub>2</sub> and 9,10-dihydroanthracene-*d*<sub>4</sub> (DHA-*d*<sub>4</sub>) were synthesized according to the literature.<sup>[2]</sup> [Ru<sup>III</sup>(bdpm)(pic)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup> (**Ru<sup>III</sup>**, H<sub>2</sub>bdpm = [2,2'-bipyridine]-6,6'-diylbis(diphenylmethanol); pic = 4-picoline) was prepared according to reported procedures.<sup>[3]</sup> Other chemicals were used as purchased.

**Instrumentation.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were obtained from a Bruker JNM-ECZ600R/S1 Superconducting Fourier Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectrometer. The chemical shifts ( $\delta$ , ppm) were reported with reference to tetramethylsilane (TMS). Electrospray ionization mass spectrometry (ESI/MS) was carried out on a SCIEX TRIPLE QUAD 3500 mass spectrometer. The analyte solution was continuously infused with a syringe pump at a constant flow rate of 10 µLmin<sup>-1</sup> into the pneumatically assisted electrospray probe with nitrogen as the nebulizing gas. Kinetics experiments were carried out by using an Agilent 8453 diode-array spectrophotometer. The temperature of the solutions was maintained with an IKEA HRC 2 temperature controller connected to a circulating bath. Gas chromatographic (GC) analyses were performed on a Shimadzu GC2010 Pro FID gas chromatograph equipped with a HP-5 (30 m × 0.25 mm i.d.) capillary column. GC/MS measurements were carried out on a Thermo Scientific Trace 1300 GC interfaced to a ISQ 7000 MS equipped with a TG-5SILMS (30 m × 0.25 mm i.d.). IR spectra were recorded as KBr pellets on a PerkinElmer Spectrum100 FT-IR spectrophotometer at 4 cm<sup>-1</sup> resolution. Cyclic voltammetry was performed on a CH Instruments Electrochemical Workstation CHI660E. A glassy carbon working electrode, an Ag/AgCl reference electrode, and a Pt wire counter electrode were used. MBRAUN UNILab Pro glovebox was used in the synthesis of unstable compounds.

**Kinetics.** All reactions were run in 1.0 cm UV cuvette at 0 °C to 15 °C under argon and followed by monitoring UV-Vis spectral changes of the reaction solutions under pseudo-first-order conditions. Pseudo-first-order rate constants,  $k_{obs}$ , were obtained by nonlinear least-square fits of  $A_t$  vs t according to the equation  $A_t = A_{\infty} + (A_0 - A_{\infty}) \exp(-k_{obs}t)$ , where  $A_0$  and  $A_{\infty}$  are the initial and final absorbance at 472 nm, respectively. Reactions were run at least in triplicate, and the data reported are the average of the reactions.  $[Ru^{IV}(bdpm)(pic)_2(mCPBA)]^+$  (**Ru^{IV}-mCPBA**) was generated in situ by adding 1.5 equiv. of HmCPBA to **Ru^{III**} (3 mM) in acetone. Then substrates were added when the UV absorbance at 472 nm reached a minimum value.

**Oxidation of Substrates.** Typically, H*m*CPBA (1 mM) was added to a solution of  $\mathbf{Ru^{III}}$  (1 mM) in acetone at 20 °C under argon. After one minute the substrate is added to the above reaction. After stirring for 2 h, bromobenzene (5 mM) was then added as an internal standard, and the mixture was analyzed by GC and GC/MS. Products were identified by comparing with authentic samples. Product yields were determined by comparing peak areas of the reaction solutions with that of bromobenzene as an internal standard. Reactions were run at least in triplicate, and the data reported are the average of the reactions. Yields were calculated based concentration of ruthenium. The ruthenium products formed in the reaction of  $\mathbf{Ru^{IV}}$ -*m*CPBA with substrates were analyzed by ESI/MS. In those the reactions,  $\mathbf{Ru^{III}}$  species were produced as a major product.

<sup>18</sup>O labelling experiment. For oxidation by  $\mathbf{Ru^{IV}}$ -*m*CPBA, 40 µL of H<sub>2</sub><sup>18</sup>O was added to an acetone solution of  $\mathbf{Ru^{IV}}$ -*m*CPBA (1 mM), which was prepared by directly dissolving isolated  $\mathbf{Ru^{IV}}$ -*m*CPBA solid in 0.5 mL acetone. Substrates were added after 30 s. The sample was diluted before MS analysis. For oxidation by  $(NH_4)_2[Ce(NO_3)_6]$  [Ce(IV)], 40 µL of H<sub>2</sub><sup>18</sup>O was added to a solution (acetone/H<sub>2</sub>O, v:v 10:1, 0.5 mL) of  $\mathbf{Ru^{III}}$  (1.5 mM)/Ce(IV) (2 equiv.). Substrates were added after 30 s.

**X-ray Structure Determination.** Crystals of **Ru<sup>IV</sup>-mCPBA**[PF<sub>6</sub>] (CCDC No.: 2291470) were obtained by standing a mixture of n-hexane and acetone solution of **Ru<sup>III</sup>/HmCPBA**(3 equiv.) at -30 °C for 1 day. Crystal data and experimental details are listed in Table S1. Selected bond angles and bond lengths are given in Table S2. Crystals of suitable size coated with paratone-N and mounted on a nylon cryoloop were used for X-ray diffraction analysis. Xray diffraction data were collected using  $\omega$ -scan mode at 105 K on a Rigaku Oxford Diffraction XtaLAB PRO 007HF (Cu) diffractometer equipped with Dectris PILATUS 200K detector and Oxford Cryostream 800 cooling system using Cu-K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 1.54178$  Å). A data collection strategy to ensure maximum completeness and redundancy was determined using CrysAlisPro.<sup>[4]</sup> Data processing was done using CrysAlisPro and a multi-scan absorption correction applied using the SCALE3 ABSPACK scaling algorithm.<sup>[5]</sup> The structure was solved via intrinsic phasing methods using SHELXT<sup>[6]</sup> and refined using SHELXL<sup>[7]</sup> in the Olex2<sup>[8]</sup> graphical user interface. The final structural refinement included anisotropic temperature factors on all non-hydrogen atoms. All hydrogen atoms were attached via the riding model at calculated positions and these are participated in the calculation of final R-indices. The automatic "solvent masking procedure" present in OLEX2 was used to mask the solvent molecules present in these structures.<sup>[8-10]</sup> A solvent mask was applied in Olex2 to two regions of highly disordered residual electron density presumed to be 1 and 0.75 interstitial acetone molecules.

#### Synthesis.

[Ru<sup>IV</sup>(bdpm)(pic)<sub>2</sub>(*m*CPBA)](PF<sub>6</sub>) (**Ru<sup>IV</sup>-***m***CPBA**[PF<sub>6</sub>]): In a glovebox, 3 equiv. of H*m*CPBA (1.9 mg, 0.011 mmol) was dissolved into 0.5 mL acetone then added to a solution of [Ru<sup>III</sup>(bdpm)(pic)<sub>2</sub>](PF<sub>6</sub>) (3.5 mg, 0.0037 mmol) in 1 mL acetone at -30 °C. The color of the solution changed from brown to red after shaking for 30 s. The resulting solution was mixed with 10 mL cold n-hexane to form a cloudy mixture and allowed to stand at -30 °C for 1 day to afford red brown crystals which were suitable for X-ray diffraction analysis. Yield: 2.7 mg (66%).<sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, Acetone-*D*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  9.15 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 8.55 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 8.00 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 4H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (t, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 4H), 7.05 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 8H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 8H), 6.72 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 4H), 2.30 (s, 6H). ESI/MS in acetone: *m*/*z* = 977 (M<sup>+</sup>) (please refer to Figure S2).

 $[Ru^{IV}(bdpm)(pic)_2(mCPBA)](ClO_4)$  ( $Ru^{IV}$ -mCPBA $[ClO_4]$ ): The method is similar to that of  $Ru^{IV}$ -mCPBA $[PF_6]$  but using  $[Ru^{II}(bdpm)(pic)_2](ClO_4)$  as starting material.  $[Ru^{III}(bdpm)(pic)_2](ClO_4)$  was prepared by adding a saturated solution of NaClO<sub>4</sub> to a MeCN solution of  $[Ru^{III}(bdpm)(pic)_2](PF_6)$  (20 mg, 5 mL). The product was collected as precipitation and dried under vacuum.

 Table S1.
 Crystal data and structure refinement details for  $Ru^{IV}$ -mCPBA[PF<sub>6</sub>]·0.5C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>6</sub>O (CCDC No.: 2291470).

 Empirical formula
 Cs6 sH<sub>47</sub>ClF<sub>6</sub>N<sub>4</sub>Os sPRu

Empirical formula	C56.5H47CIF6IN4O5.5PKU	
Formula weight	1151.47	
Crystal system	triclinic	
Space group	P -1	
a/Å	13.75640(1)	
b/Å	17.46850(1)	
c/Å	25.0576(2)	
α/deg	86.190(1)	
$\beta/\text{deg}$	81.914(1)	
γ/deg	67.772(1)	
Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	5517.96(8)	
Ζ	4	
Dcalc /gcm <sup>-3</sup>	1.386	
$\mu$ (Mo-K $\alpha$ )/mm <sup>-1</sup>	3.630	
<i>F</i> (000)	2352.0	
Temperature/K	105(8)	
$\lambda$ /Å	1.54184	
$\theta \min, \max/\deg$	3.748 / 79.497	
Total, unique data	23561, 21874	
R1(obsd/all) <sup>[a]</sup>	0.0670 / 0.0699	
wR2(obsd/all) <sup>[b]</sup>	0.1888 / 0.1859	
Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$	1.026	
[a] $\mathbf{R} = \sum   F_0  -  F_C   / \sum  F_0 $ . [b] $\mathbf{Rw} = [\sum \omega( F_0  -  F_C ) 2 / \sum \omega F_0]^{1/2}$ .		

Ru1–O1	2.004(3)	O1–Ru1–N3 84.6(1)
Ru1–O2	2.034(3)	O1-Ru1-N4 92.9(1)
Ru1–O3	2.072(2)	O2-Ru1-O3 68.5(1)
Ru1–N1	2.104(3)	O2-Ru1-N1 137.3(1)
Ru1–N2	2.098(3)	O2-Ru1-N2 71.1(1)
Ru1–N3	2.143(3)	O2-Ru1-N3 104.5(1)
Ru1–N4	2.090(3)	O2-Ru1-N4 77.1(1)
O1–C24	1.408(5)	O3-Ru1-N1 151.8(1)
O2–C11	1.413(4)	O3-Ru1-N2 135.0(1)
O3–O4	1.437(4)	O1-Ru1-N3 88.4(1)
O4–C49	1.346(5)	O3-Ru1-N4 90.2(1)
O5–O49	1.203(6)	N1-Ru1-N2 73.0(1)
		N1-Ru1-N3 93.4(1)
O1–Ru1–O2	2 145.3(1)	N1-Ru1-N4 86.7(1)
O1–Ru1–O3	3 78.6(1)	N2-Ru1-N3 83.2(1)
O1–Ru1–N1	73.6(1)	N2-Ru1-N4 99.4(1)
O1–Ru1–N2	2 143.6(1)	N3-Ru1-N4 177.3(1)

**Table S2**Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) for  $\mathbf{Ru}^{IV}$ -mCPBA[PF\_6]·0.5C\_3H\_6O.

Entry	Substrate	Products (yield)
1	xanthene (20 mM)	xanthone (16%)
2	DHA (20 mM)	anthracene (15%) anthraquinone (7%) anthrone (13%)
3	fluorene (50 mM)	9-fluorenone (13%)
4	cumene (200 mM)	2-Phenyl-2-propanol (6%) acetophenone (9%)
5	ethylbenzene (200 mM)	1-phenylethanol (2%) acetophenone (3%)
6	toluene (500 mM)	benzaldehyde (2%) benzyl alcohol (1%)
7	cyclooctane (500 mM)	cyclooctanol (3%) cyclooctanone (1%)
8	cyclohexane (500 mM)	cyclohexanol (2%) cyclohexanone (1%)
9	thioanisole (20 mM)	methyl phenyl sulfoxide (33%) methyl phenyl sulfone (1%)
10	cyclohexene (50mM)	2-cyclohexen-1-ol (40%) cyclohexene oxide (1%)
11	styrene (50mM)	benzaldehyde (9%) styrene oxide (1%)
12	<i>cis</i> -1,2-dimethylcyclohexane (500 mM)	<i>cis</i> -1,2-dimethylcyclohexanol (3%) <i>trans</i> -1,2-dimethylcyclohexanol (1%)
13	xanthene (20 mM) (with 10 equiv. of Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> )	xanthone (15%)
14	xanthene (20 mM) (with 10 equiv. of PPh <sub>3</sub> )	xanthone (17%)
15	fluorene (50 mM) (with 10 equiv. of Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> )	9-fluorenone (19%)
16	ethylbenzene (200 mM) (with 10 equiv. of Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> )	1-phenylethanol (2%) acetophenone (4%)
17	cyclohexane (500 mM) (with 10 equiv. of Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> )	cyclohexanol (2%) cyclohexanone (3%)

Table S3 Yields of products in the oxidation of various substrates by  $Ru^{III}$  and HmCPBA.<sup>*a*</sup>

(with 10 equiv. of Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>) cyclohexanone (3%) <sup>*a*</sup>  $\overline{\mathbf{Ru^{III}}(1 \text{ mM}) + \text{H}m\text{CPBA}(1 \text{ mM})}$  in acetone under argon at 20 °C; yield was calculated based on  $\mathbf{Ru^{III}}$ .

Hydrocarbons	C–H BDEs / kcal mol <sup>–1 a</sup>	$k_2 / M^{-1} s^{-1}$	$k^{2}$ / $M^{-1} s^{-1 b}$
Xanthene	75.2	$(8.87 \pm 0.45) \times 10^{-2}$	$(4.44 \pm 0.23) \times 10^{-2}$
		$(2.27 \pm 0.17) \times 10^{-2 c}$	
DHA	78.0	$(8.44 \pm 0.12) \times 10^{-2}$	$(2.11 \pm 0.030) \times 10^{-2}$
		$(2.18 \pm 0.048) \times 10^{-2 d}$	
Fluorene	82.2	$(1.17\pm0.18) imes10^{-2}$	$(5.85 \pm 0.90) \times 10^{-3}$
Cumene	84.5	$(2.59\pm 0.15)\times 10^{-3}$	$(2.59 \pm 0.15) \times 10^{-3}$
Ethylbenzene	85.4	$(1.40\pm 0.14)\times 10^{-3}$	$(7.00 \pm 0.70) \times 10^{-4}$
Toluene	89.7	$(5.70\pm0.57) imes10^{-4}$	$(1.90 \pm 0.19) \times 10^{-4}$
Cyclooctane	95.7	$(1.56 \pm 0.085) \times 10^{-3}$	$(9.75\pm0.053)\times10^{-5}$
Cyclohexane	99.5	$(3.99\pm0.22) imes10^{-4}$	$(3.33 \pm 0.18) \times 10^{-5}$

Table S4 Rate constants for the reaction between Ru<sup>IV</sup>-mCPBA and hydrocarbons in acetone at 10 °C under Ar.

<sup>*a*</sup> Data are from ref. 1. <sup>*b*</sup>  $k_2$  = second-order rate constant per active hydrogen. <sup>*c*</sup>Xanthene- $d_2$  was used. <sup>*d*</sup> DHA- $d_4$  were used.

[1] (a) Parker, V. D. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1992, 114, 7458-7462. (b) Bordwell, F. G.; Cheng, J. P.; Ji, G. Z.; Satish, A. V.; Zhang, X. J. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1991, 113, 9790-9795. (c) CRC Handbook of Chemistry and Physics, 82<sup>nd</sup> ed.; Lide, D. R. Ed.; CRC Press: Boca Raton, 2001. (d) Luo, Y. R. Handbook of Bond Dissociation Energies in Organic Compounds, CRC Press: Boca Raton, 2003.

Entry	Substrate _	Products (yield %)		
		chlorobenzene	m-chlorobenzoic acid	
1 <i><sup>a</sup></i>	xanthene	4	91	
$2^b$	xanthene	3	85	
3 <sup><i>a</i></sup>	DHA	7	80	
$4^b$	DHA	2	89	

**Table S5** Yields of by-products in the oxidation of various substrates.

<sup>*a*</sup>  $\mathbf{Ru^{III}}$  (1 mM) + H*m*CPBA (1 mM) in acetone under argon at 20.0 °C; yield was calculated based on  $\mathbf{Ru^{III}}$ .

<sup>b</sup> HmCPBA (1 mM) in acetone under argon at 20.0 °C; yield was calculated based on HmCPBA.



Figure S1 UV-Vis spectral titrations which was carried out using various amount of H*m*CPBA and  $\mathbf{Ru}^{III}$  (3.00 × 10<sup>-4</sup> M) in acetone at 0 °C under Ar. Spectra are picked where the absorbance at 472 nm reaches the minimum.



Figure S2 a) ESI/MS of the in situ generated Ru<sup>IV</sup>-mCPBA (1 mM) in acetone; b) expanded (black line) and calculated (red bar) isotopic patterns of Ru<sup>IV</sup>-mCPBA.



Figure S3 <sup>1</sup>H NMR of isolated  $Ru^{IV}$ -mCPBA in acetone- $d_6$  at -20 °C.



**Figure S4** IR spectra of  $\mathbf{Ru}^{III}$  and the isolated solid  $\mathbf{Ru}^{IV}$ -mCPBA. a) samples prepared using  $PF_6^-$  salt; b) samples prepared using  $ClO_4^-$  salt. The O–O bond stretching usually occurs in the range of 780-880 cm<sup>-1</sup>. No obvious peaks belong to O–O bond stretching can be observed in this region.



Figure S5 ESI/MS of the isolated solid state Ru<sup>IV</sup>-mCPBA at 20 °C after 30 min. The sample was prepared by dissolving solid sample in acetone.



**Figure S6** a) ESI/MS of **Ru<sup>IV</sup>-mCPBA** (1 mM, in acetone) in the presence of  $H_2^{18}O(40 \ \mu L)$ ; b) and c) are expanded (black line) and calculated (red bar) isotopic patterns of Ru species. No <sup>18</sup>O-labelled peaks were found.



Figure S7 ESI/MS of the reaction of in situ generated Ru<sup>IV</sup>-mCPBA (1 mM) and DHA (20 mM) in acetone after

2h.



Figure S8 Eyring plot for the reaction of the in situ generated  $\mathbf{Ru}^{IV}$ -mCPBA and DHA in acetone. Slope =  $-(7370.8 \pm 739.1)$ , y-intersept =  $(17.8 \pm 2.6)$ ,  $\Delta H^{\ddagger} = 14.7 \pm 1.4$  kcal mol<sup>-1</sup> and  $\Delta S^{\ddagger} = -11.9 \pm 5.1$  cal mol<sup>-1</sup> K<sup>-1</sup>.





Figure S9 Plot of  $k_{obs}$  against [substrates] at 10 °C. a) xanthene: slope =  $(8.87 \pm 0.45) \times 10^{-2}$ , y-intercept =  $(2.36 \pm 0.085) \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $r^2 = 0.992$ ; b) DHA: slope =  $(8.44 \pm 0.12) \times 10^{-2}$ , y-intercept =  $(1.45 \pm 0.030) \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $r^2 = 0.999$ ; c) fluorene: slope =  $(1.17 \pm 0.18) \times 10^{-2}$ , y-intercept =  $(9.58 \pm 0.34) \times 10^{-4}$ ,  $r^2 = 0.931$ ; d) cumene: slope =  $(2.59 \pm 0.15) \times 10^{-3}$ , y-intercept =  $(6.70 \pm 0.21) \times 10^{-4}$ ,  $r^2 = 0.990$ ; e) ethylbenzene: slope =  $(1.40 \pm 0.14) \times 10^{-3}$ , y-intercept =  $(1.16 \pm 0.060) \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $r^2 = 0.969$ ; f) toluene: slope =  $(5.70 \pm 0.57) \times 10^{-4}$ , y-intercept =  $(8.59 \pm 0.33) \times 10^{-4}$ ,  $r^2 = 0.970$ ; g) cyclooctane: slope =  $(1.56 \pm 0.085) \times 10^{-3}$ , y-intercept =  $(1.03 \pm 0.12) \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $r^2 = 0.991$ ; h) cyclohexane: slope =  $(3.89 \pm 0.15) \times 10^{-4}$ , y-intercept =  $(8.05 \pm 0.086) \times 10^{-4}$ ,  $r^2 = 0.992$ .



Figure S10 Plot of  $k_{obs}$  against xanthene at 10 °C: slope = (0.089 ± 0.005), r<sup>2</sup> = 0.992; xanthene- $d_2$ : slope = (0.023 ± 0.002), r<sup>2</sup> = 0.984; KIE = (3.9 ± 0.6).



Figure S11 a) UV-Vis spectral changes of reaction between the in situ generated  $\mathbf{Ru}^{IV}$ -mCPBA (3.00 × 10<sup>-4</sup> M) and PPh<sub>3</sub> (0.05 M) in acetone at -10 °C under Ar. Inset shows the corresponding absorbance-time trace at 472 nm. b) Plot of  $k_{obs}$  against the concentrations of PPh<sub>3</sub>. [slope = (2.39 ± 0.24) × 10<sup>-2</sup>, y-intercept = (6.05 ± 0.16) × 10<sup>-3</sup>, r<sup>2</sup> = 0.970.]



Figure S12 a) UV-Vis spectral changes of reaction between the in situ generated Ru<sup>IV</sup>-mCPBA ( $3.00 \times 10^{-4}$  M) and thioanisole (0.02 M) in acetone at 0 °C under Ar. Inset shows the corresponding absorbance-time trace at 472 nm. b) Plot of  $k_{obs}$  against the concentrations of thioanisole. [slope = ( $2.57 \pm 0.38$ ) × 10<sup>-3</sup>, y-intercept = ( $8.33 \pm 0.51$ ) × 10<sup>-4</sup>, r<sup>2</sup> = 0.940.]



Figure S13 Hammett plot for the reaction of the in situ generated Ru<sup>IV</sup>-mCPBA ( $3.00 \times 10^{-4}$  M) and different parasubstituted thioanisoles in acetone at 0 °C under Ar. [slope = - ( $2.56 \pm 0.47$ ), y-intercept = - ( $2.87 \pm 0.084$ ), r<sup>2</sup>=0.876.]



Figure S14 ESI/MS of reaction solution of  $Ru^{IV}$ -*m*CPBA (1 mM) and PPh<sub>3</sub> (50 mM) in the presence of H<sub>2</sub><sup>18</sup>O (40  $\mu$ L) in acetone. Red bar is calculated isotopic pattern.



Figure S15 ESI/MS of reaction solution of  $Ru^{IV}$ -mCPBA (1 mM) and thioanisole (20 mM) in the presence of  $H_2^{18}O$  (40  $\mu$ L) in acetone. Red bar is calculated isotopic pattern.



Figure S16 a) UV-Vis spectral changes of reaction between the in situ generated Ru<sup>IV</sup>-mCPBA ( $3.00 \times 10^{-4}$  M) and cyclohexene (0.2 M) in acetone at 0 °C under Ar. Inset shows the corresponding absorbance-time trace at 472 nm. b) Plot of  $k_{obs}$  against the concentrations of cyclohexene. [slope = ( $1.94 \pm 0.06$ ) ×  $10^{-3}$ , y-intercept = ( $9.32 \pm 0.65$ ) ×  $10^{-4}$ , r<sup>2</sup> = 0.998]



Figure S17 a) UV-Vis spectral changes of reaction between the in situ generated  $\mathbf{Ru}^{IV}$ -mCPBA (1.00 × 10<sup>-3</sup> M) and styrene (0.1 M) in acetone at 10 °C under Ar. Inset shows the corresponding absorbance-time trace at 472 nm. b) Plot of  $k_{obs}$  against the concentrations of styrene. [slope = (2.56 ± 0.24) × 10<sup>-2</sup>, y-intercept = (1.02 ± 0.22) × 10<sup>-3</sup>, r<sup>2</sup> = 0.975.]



Figure S18 ESI/MS of the in situ generated Ru<sup>IV</sup>-mCPBA (1 mM) and cyclohexene (20 mM) in acetone after 2h.



Figure S19 ESI/MS of the isolated Ru<sup>IV</sup>-mCPBA in MeCN.



Figure S20 ESI/MS of reaction solution of  $\mathbf{Ru^{III}}$  (1.5 mM) + Ce(IV) (3.0 mM) in the presence of H<sub>2</sub><sup>18</sup>O (40 µL) in acetone/H<sub>2</sub>O (v:v 10:1). Calculated isotopic pattern (red bar) indicates that the species at m/z = 822 is 45% <sup>18</sup>O-enriched.



**Figure S21** ESI/MS of reaction solution of  $\mathbf{Ru^{III}}$  (1.5 mM) + Ce(IV) (3.0 mM) + PPh<sub>3</sub> (50 mM) in the presence of H<sub>2</sub><sup>18</sup>O (40 µL) in acetone. Calculated isotopic pattern (red bar) indicates **PPh<sub>3</sub>O** is 35% <sup>18</sup>O-enriched.



Figure S22 ESI/MS of reaction solution of  $\mathbf{Ru^{III}}$  (1.5 mM) + Ce(IV) (3.0 mM) + thioanisloe (50 mM) in the presence of H<sub>2</sub><sup>18</sup>O (40 µL) in acetone. Calculated isotopic pattern (red bar) indicates methyl phenyl sulfoxide is 46% <sup>18</sup>O-enriched.



**Figure S23** ESI/MS of reaction solution of **Ru**<sup>III</sup> (1.5 mM) + Ce(IV) (3 mM) + xanthene (20 mM) in the presence of  $H_2^{18}O(40 \ \mu\text{L})$  in MeCN. Calculated isotopic pattern (red bar) indicates xanthene is 65% <sup>18</sup>O-enriched.



Figure S24 ESI/MS of reaction solution of  $Ru^{IV}$ -mCPBA (1 mM) and xanthene (20 mM) in the presence of H<sub>2</sub><sup>18</sup>O (40  $\mu$ L) in acetone. Red bar is calculated isotopic pattern.



Figure S25 ESI/MS of the isolated solid Ru<sup>IV</sup>-mCPBA in acetone.



Figure S26 ESI/MS of the isolated solid Ru<sup>IV</sup>-mCPBA (ClO<sub>4</sub>) in acetone.



Figure S27 The corresponding absorbance-time trace of  $Ru^{IV}$ -*m*CPBA (3.00 × 10<sup>-4</sup> M) in acetone and D-acetone at 472 nm at 0 °C under Ar.



Figure S28 CVs of in situ generated  $\mathbf{Ru}^{IV}$ -mCPBA and  $\mathbf{Ru}^{III}$  (1 mM) in acetone (0.1 M <sup>n</sup>Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub>) at 0 °C under argon. Scan rate = 100 mV s<sup>-1</sup>.

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