### **Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI) 1** <u>Synthesis of Ru complex (B)</u><sup>7, 66</sup>

### Preparation of H2NCH2CH2NHSO2C8H7

A CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution (15 mL) of 4-vinylbenzensulfonyl chloride (5 mL) was dropped into 5 mL of ethylene diamine dissolved in 10 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, and the mixture was stirred for 3 h. CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (200 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (100 mL), and HCl/ H<sub>2</sub>O (2 M, 200 mL) were added to the solution, and the water layer was washed with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> twice. After filtration, the water layer was neutralized by KOH solution (2 M, pH 9-10) and extracted with 150 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> three times. The organic layers were dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and filtrated, and the solvents were evaporated. <sup>1</sup>H NHR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  in ppm = 2.80 (m, 2H; CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.97 (m, 2H; CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.43 (d, 1H; CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.87 (d, 1H; CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.75 (dd, 2H; CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.52 (d, 2H; C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>), 7.82 (d, 2H; C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  in ppm = 40.92, 45.40 (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 117.33, 126.76, 127.38, 135.36, 138.76, 141.74 (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-CH=CH<sub>2</sub>).

#### Synthesis of Ru precursor [(p-cymene)Ru{H<sub>2</sub>NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NSO<sub>2</sub>C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>7</sub>}Cl]

H<sub>2</sub>NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NHSO<sub>2</sub>C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>7</sub> (226 mg, 1 mmol) dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/CH<sub>3</sub>OH (1/1, 15 mL) and NaOCH<sub>3</sub> (1 mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>OH (0.5 mL) were slowly added to a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution (20 mL) of Ru<sub>2</sub>(*p*-cymene)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub> (306 mg, 0.5 mmol). The mixture was stirred for 3 h under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere, and then the solvent was evaporated. The residue was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/Et<sub>2</sub>O (2/1, 30 mL), and after filtration the solution was reduced to 2 mL under vacuum. *n*-Hexane (15 mL) was added, and the precipitate was dried under vacuum. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 4:1, 298 K): δ in ppm = 1.26 (d, 6H; CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 2.15 (s, 3H; CH<sub>3</sub>, (*p*-cymene)), 2.30 (brd, 4H; NCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.83 (sept, 1H; CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 5.29 (d, 1H; CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.47 (brd, 2H; CH (*p*-cymene)), 5.62 (d, 2H; CH (*p*-cymene)), 5.79 (d, 1H; CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.70 (dd, 1H; CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.40 (d, 2H; C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>), 7.81 (d, 2H; C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 4:1, 298 K): δ in ppm = 18.56, 22.53 (CH<sub>3</sub>, *p*-cymene), 30.76 (CH, *p*-cymene), 47.11, 47.37 (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 81.29 (CH, *p*-cymene), 96.66, 102.46 (C, *p*-cymene), 115.57, 126.08, 127.75, 136.24, 139.88, 142.46 (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-CH=CH<sub>2</sub>).

#### Synthesis of sulfoxides and sulfones

#### General procedure for the synthesis of sulfoxides and sulfones

To a solution of 2 g of organic sulfide in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (20 mL), *m*-CPBA (1 and 2 equivalent for the synthesis of sulfoxide and sulfone, respectively) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (20 mL and 30 mL, respectively) was added slowly at 273 K. After stirring for 3 h at 273 K, an aqueous saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub>

solution (10 mL) was added to quench the reaction mixture. It was stirred for another 1 h at room temperature. The aqueous part was separated and extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (20 mL) two times. The combined organic parts were washed with water (50 mL), brine (20 mL × 2) and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The crude compound was purified by silica gel column chromatography.

**4-Chlorophenyl methyl sulfoxide** Eluent: EtOAc; yield: 73 %; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  in ppm = 2.72 (s, 3H; CH<sub>3</sub>), 7.50 (dd, 2H; C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>), 7.59 (dd, 2H; C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  in ppm = 44.04, 124.96, 129.62, 137.17, 144.26.

**4-Fluorophenyl methyl sulfoxide** Eluent: EtOAc; **y**ield: 76 %; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  in ppm = 2.72 (d, 3H; CH<sub>3</sub>), 7.23 (m, 2H; C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>), 7.66 (m, 2H; C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  in ppm = 44.17, 116.57, 116.80, 125.80, 125.89, 141.16, 141.20, 163.05, 165.55.

**Phenyl** *p***-tolyl sulfoxide** Eluent: hexane/EtOAc (6/4); yield: 86 %; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  in ppm = 2.36 (s, 3H; CH<sub>3</sub>), 7.25 (d, 2H; Ar), 7.44 (m, 3H; Ar), 7.53 (d, 2H; Ar), 7.62 (m, 2H; Ar). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  in ppm = 21.40, 124.69, 124.99, 129.25, 130.02, 130.86, 141.63, 142.49, 145.82.

**Phenyl** *p***-tolyl sulfone** Eluent: hexane/EtOAc (6/4); yield: 82 %; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  in ppm = 2.39 (s, 3H; CH<sub>3</sub>), 7.29 (d, 2H; Ar), 7.51 (m, 3H; Ar), 7.82 (d, 2H; Ar), 7.93 (d, 2H; Ar). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  in ppm = 21.56, 127.50, 127.72, 129.21, 129.91, 132.99, 138.65, 141.99, 144.15.

**Benzyl methyl sulfoxide** Eluent: EtOAc; yield: 84 %; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  in ppm = 2.45 (s, 3H; CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.92 (d, 1H; CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.05 (d, 1H; CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.28-7.40 (m, 5H; C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  in ppm = 37.28, 60.30, 128.44, 128.98, 129.66, 130.02.

Allyl phenyl sulfoxide Eluent: hexane/EtOAc (4/6); yield: 96 %; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  in ppm = 3.55 (m, 2H; CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.20 (d, 1H; CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.33 (d, 1H; CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.65 (m, 1H; CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.48-7.62 (m, 5H; C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta$  in ppm = 60.83, 123.92, 124.36, 125.21, 129.05, 131.13, 142.83.

# Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI) 2 GC analysis

Table SI 1Detail of GC analysis

Column temperature	Comion gos	Compound	Retention
programming	Carrier gas	Compound	time /min
		Methyl phenyl sulfide (MPS)	10.6
		Methyl phenyl sulfoxide (MPSO)	13.5
Holding time: 2 min		Methyl phenyl sulfone (MPSO <sub>2</sub> )	14.2
Pote of heating: 15 K/min	Ца	Dodecane	11.8
Final tamp : $472 V$	Inlet press	EtOAc	3.3
Final holding time: 5 min	100 kPo	IBA	2.7
Injection temp : 523 K	100 KF a	Propanal	2.4
Detector temp : 523 K		1-hexanal	6.4
Delector temp 525 K		<i>n</i> -butanal	3.3
		Benzaldehyde	9.2
Column initial temp.: 323 K		4-Fluorothioanisole	12.1
Holding time: 3 min	TT	4-Fluorophenyl methyl sulfoxide	16.2
Rate of heating: 10 K/min	He	4-Fluorophenyl methyl sulfone	17.0
Final temp.: 503 K	Inlet press.:	IBA	2.7
Final holding time: 3 min	100 kPa	Dodecane	14.2
Injection temp.: 5/3 K		EtOAc	3.3
Detector temp.: 5/3 K			
Column initial temp.: 323 K		4-Chlorothioanisole	14.7
Holding time: 3 min	TT	4-Chlorophenyl methyl sulfoxide	18.1
Rate of heating: 10 K/min	He	4-Chlorophenyl methyl sulfone	18.7
Final temp.: 503 K	Inlet press.:	IBA	2.2
Final holding time: 5 min	130 kPa	Dodecane	13.3
Injection temp.: 523 K		EtOAc	2.9
Detector temp.: 523 K			
Column initial temp.: 323 K		Allyl phenyl sulfide	13.6
Holding time: 3 min		Allyl phenyl sulfoxide	17.5
Rate of heating: 10 K/min	He	Allyl phenyl sulfone	18.2
Final temp.: 503 K	Inlet press.:	IBA	2.1
Final holding time: 5 min	130 kPa	Dodecane	13.2
Injection temp.: 523 K		EtOAc	2.5
Detector temp.: 523 K			

Column initial temp.: 323 K			
Holding time: 3 min		Benzyl methyl sulfide	12.8
Rate of heating: 10 K/min	Не	Benzyl methyl sulfoxide	17.6
Final temp.: 473 K	Inlet press.:	Benzyl methyl sulfone	18.2
Final holding time: 10 min	130 kPa	IBA	1.9
Injection temp.: 523 K		Dodecane	13.2
Detector temp.: 523 K		EtOAc	2.1
Column initial temp.: 323 K			
Holding time: 3 min		Dibutyl sulfide	10.5
Rate of heating: 15 K/min	Не	Dibutyl sulfoxide	14.2
Final temp.: 473 K	Inlet press.:	Dibutyl sulfone	14.8
Final holding time: 5 min	100 kPa	IBA	2.7
Injection temp.: 523 K		Dodecane	11.8
Detector temp.: 523 K		EtOAc	3.3
Column initial temp.: 323 K			
Holding time: 8 min		Tetrahydrothiophene	7.0
Rate of heating: 10 K/min	Не	Tetrahydrothiophene 1-oxide	17.2
Final temp.: 503 K	Inlet press.:	Sulfolane	18.5
Final holding time: 5 min	130 kPa	IBA	2.1
Injection temp.: 523 K		Dodecane	18.2
Detector temp.: 523 K		EtOAc	2.9
Column initial temp.: 323 K			
Holding time: 3 min		Diphenyl sulfide	19.1
Rate of heating: 10 K/min	Не	Diphenyl sulfoxide	22.9
Final temp.: 503 K	Inlet press.:	Diphenyl sulfone	23.6
Final holding time: 5 min	130 kPa	IBA	2.1
Injection temp.: 523 K		Dodecane	13.1
Detector temp.: 523 K		EtOAc	2.5
Column initial temp.: 323 K			
Holding time: 3 min		Phenyl <i>p</i> -tolyl sulfide	16.1
Rate of heating: 15 K/min	Не	Phenyl <i>p</i> -tolyl sulfoxide	18.8
Final temp.: 523 K	Inlet press.:	Phenyl <i>p</i> -tolyl sulfone	19.4
Final holding time: 5 min	130 kPa	IBA	2.1
Injection temp.: 573 K		Dodecane	10.9
Detector temp.: 573 K		EtOAc	2.5



Figure SI 1 Calibration curves of the standard compounds.











## **Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI) 3** <u>Characterization</u>

**Fig. SI 2** (a) <sup>29</sup>Si NMR of (i) *p*-styryltrimethoxysilane (liquid-state NMR in CDCl<sub>3</sub>), (ii) functionalized SiO<sub>2</sub> (Aerosil 300) with *p*-styryltrimethoxysilane (**A**) (solid-state MAS) and (iii) SiO<sub>2</sub> (Aerosil 300) (solid-state MAS). (b) <sup>13</sup>C NMR of (i) *p*-styryltrimethoxysilane (liquid-state NMR in CDCl<sub>3</sub>) and (ii) functionalized SiO<sub>2</sub> (**A**) (solid-state MAS).



Fig. SI 3 XPS spectra of fresh C and D (Ru 1.6 wt%). (a) Ru  $3p_{3/2}$  and (b) Cl 2p.



Fig. SI 4 DR-UV/vis spectra of fresh C and D. Solid line: Ru 0.4 wt%, dotted line: Ru 1.0 wt%, and dashed line: Ru 1.6 wt%.





**Fig. SI 5** Ru K-edge XANES spectra (I), EXAFS oscillations (II), and their EXAFS Fourier transforms (III) of **B**, **C**, **D**, and **D**-rxn measured at 20 K.

Shell	CN	Distance /nm $\Delta E_0 / \text{eV}$ $\sigma^2 / \text{nm}^2$		$\sigma^2/\mathrm{nm}^2$		
<b>B</b> $k = 30-170 \text{ nm}^{-1}$ , $R = 0.115-0.25 \text{ nm}$ , $R_f = 1.0\%$						
Ru-N	2.0	$0.208 \pm 0.002$ $8 \pm 5$ (0.7)		$(0.7 \pm 2.3) \times 10^{-6}$		
Ru-C	6.0	$0.219 \pm 0.002$ $-1 \pm 3$		$(1 \pm 1) \times 10^{-5}$		
Ru-Cl	1.0	$0.242\pm0.003$	$8\pm8$	$(2 \pm 1) \times 10^{-5}$		
<b>B</b> $k = 30-170 \text{ nm}^{-1}$ , $R = 0.115-0.25 \text{ nm}$ , $R_f = 1.0\%$						
Ru-N	$1.9 \pm 1.0$	$0.208\pm0.003$	$8\pm10$	$0.7 \times 10^{-6}$		
Ru-C	$5.9 \pm 2.4$	$0.219\pm0.002$	-1 ± 6	$1 \times 10^{-5}$		
Ru-Cl	$1.0\pm0.2$	$0.242\pm0.003$	$8\pm10$	$2 \times 10^{-5}$		
<b>C 1.6 wt%</b> <i>k</i> =	$= 30-170 \text{ nm}^{-1}, R =$	$0.115-0.25$ nm, $R_{\rm f} = 0.5\%$	-	-		
Ru-N	$2.0 \pm 0.8$	$0.210\pm0.002$	$4 \pm 12$	$0.7 \times 10^{-6}$		
Ru-C	$4.5\pm1.5$	$0.221\pm0.002$	$2\pm9$	$1 \times 10^{-5}$		
Ru-Cl	$0.8\pm0.1$	$0.245\pm0.002$	$10\pm5$	$2 \times 10^{-5}$		
<b>C 0.4 wt%</b> $k = 30-170 \text{ nm}^{-1}$ , $R = 0.115-0.25 \text{ nm}$ , $R_f = 0.6\%$						
Ru-N	$1.9\pm0.7$	$0.210 \pm 0.002$ 5 ± 9		$0.7 \times 10^{-6}$		
Ru-C	$4.8 \pm 1.7$	$0.221 \pm 0.002$ $0 \pm 6$		$1 \times 10^{-5}$		
Ru-Cl	$1.1\pm0.2$	$0.244\pm0.002$	$7\pm 6$	$2 \times 10^{-5}$		
<b>D 1.6 wt%</b> $k = 30-170 \text{ nm}^{-1}$ , $R = 0.13-0.24 \text{ nm}$ , $R_f = 1.1\%$						
Ru-N	$2.7\pm1.2$	$0.206\pm0.002$	$0\pm4$	$(2 \pm 2) \times 10^{-5}$		
Ru-Cl	$1.4 \pm 1.4$	$0.235\pm0.006$	$5\pm9$	$(8 \pm 8) \times 10^{-5}$		
<b>D 0.4 wt%</b> $k = 30-170 \text{ nm}^{-1}$ , $R = 0.13-0.24 \text{ nm}$ , $R_f = 1.2\%$						
Ru-N	$3.0 \pm 1.1$	$0.206\pm0.002$	$2\pm4$	$(2 \pm 2) \times 10^{-5}$		
Ru-Cl	$1.3 \pm 1.2$	$0.236\pm0.005$	$6\pm 8$	$(7 \pm 8) \times 10^{-5}$		
<b>D-rxn 1.6 wt%</b> $k = 30-170 \text{ nm}^{-1}$ , $R = 0.13-0.24 \text{ nm}$ , $R_f = 0.3\%$						
Ru-N	$3.4 \pm 1.1$	$0.208 \pm 0.002$ $2 \pm 3$		$(3 \pm 1) \times 10^{-5}$		
Ru-Cl	$1.3 \pm 1.2$	$0.235\pm0.007$	$6\pm9$	$(10 \pm 7) \times 10^{-5}$		
<b>D-rxn 0.4 wt%</b> $k = 30-170 \text{ nm}^{-1}$ , $R = 0.13-0.24 \text{ nm}$ , $R_f = 0.3\%$						
Ru-N	$3.7\pm0.7$	$0.208\pm0.001$	$2\pm3$	$(3 \pm 1) \times 10^{-5}$		
Ru-Cl	$1.4 \pm 1.2$	$0.238\pm0.007$	$10\pm9$	$(13 \pm 8) \times 10^{-5}$		

**Table SI 2**Curve-fitting results of Ru K-edge EXAFS Fourier transforms of C and D (Ru 0.4wt% and 1.6 wt%)

# Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI) 4 <u>Sulfoxidation</u>

Reactant	No catalyst			Catalyst <b>D</b>		
	Time /min	Conv. % <sup>b</sup>	MPSO Selectivity % <sup>c</sup>	Time /min	Conv. % <sup>b</sup>	MPSO Selectivity % <sup>c</sup>
S_	0	0	-	0	0	-
	1	39	97	1	61	>99
	3	52	>99	3	67	98
	5	57	>99	5	70	98

 Table SI 3
 MPS oxidation with peracetic acid<sup>a</sup>

<sup>*a*</sup> Ru =  $1.5 \times 10^{-6}$  mol, MPS =  $1.5 \times 10^{-4}$  mol, CH<sub>3</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>H =  $1.5 \times 10^{-4}$  mol, dodecane =  $1.5 \times 10^{-4}$  mol, EtOAc 20 ml, 278 K. <sup>*b*</sup> MPS conversion % = (initial MPS – final MPS)/(initial MPS) × 100. <sup>*c*</sup> MPSO selectivity % = produced MPSO/(produced MPSO + produced MPSO<sub>2</sub>) × 100.