

*Supporting information:*

**Synthesis, Structure and Redox Properties of a *trans*-Diaqua Ru Complex That Reaches Seven Coordination at High Oxidation States**

Roc Matheu,<sup>a,b</sup> Jordi Benet-Buchholz,<sup>a</sup> Xavier Sala<sup>\*,c</sup> and Antoni Llobet<sup>\*a,c</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Institute of Chemical Research of Catalonia (ICIQ), Avinguda Països Catalans 16, 43007 Tarragona, Spain.

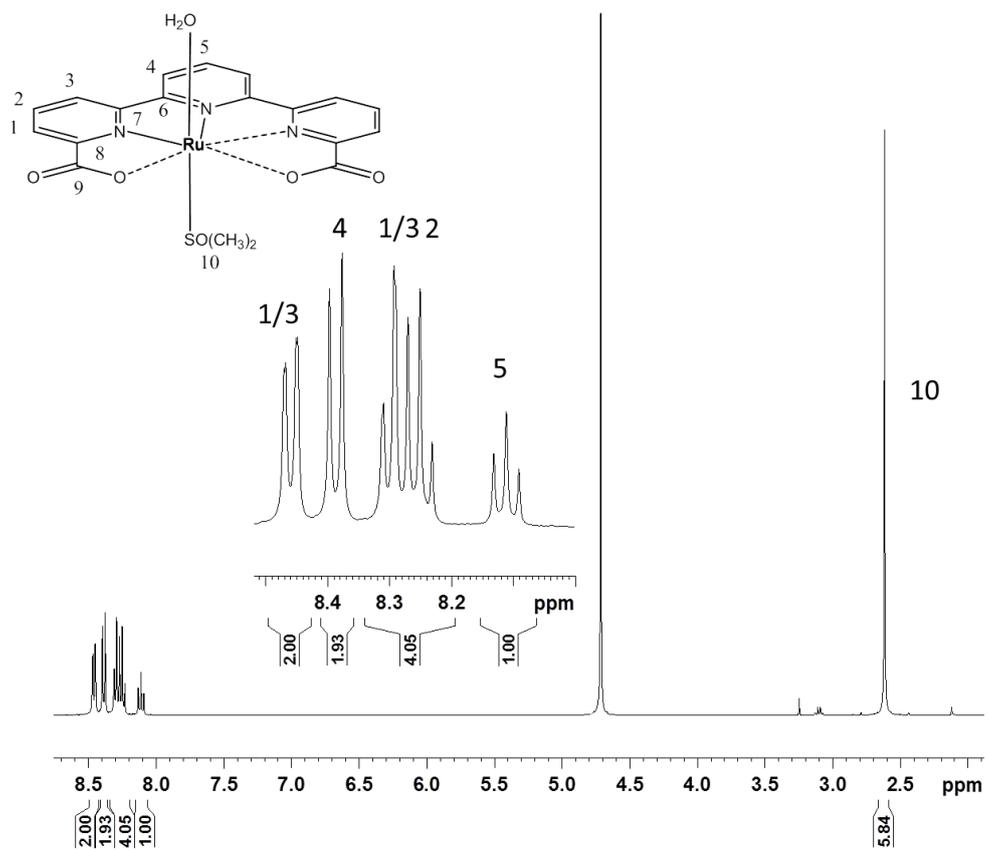
<sup>b</sup> Departament de Química Física i Inorgànica, Universitat Rovira i Virgili, Marcel·lí Domingo s/n, 43007 Tarragona, Spain.

<sup>c</sup> Departament de Química, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Cerdanyola del Vallès, 08193 Barcelona, Spain.

**Corresponding authors:** xavier.sala@uab.cat; allobet@iciq.cat

## Outline

Characterization data for complexes <b>4<sup>II</sup></b> and <b>3<sup>III</sup>(OH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup></b>	<b>S3</b>
Structural data	<b>S10</b>
Electrochemical data	<b>S11</b>
Pourbaix diagrams of related complexes	<b>S12</b>
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**Figure S1:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of **4<sup>II</sup>** in D<sub>2</sub>O (0.1 M CF<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>D).

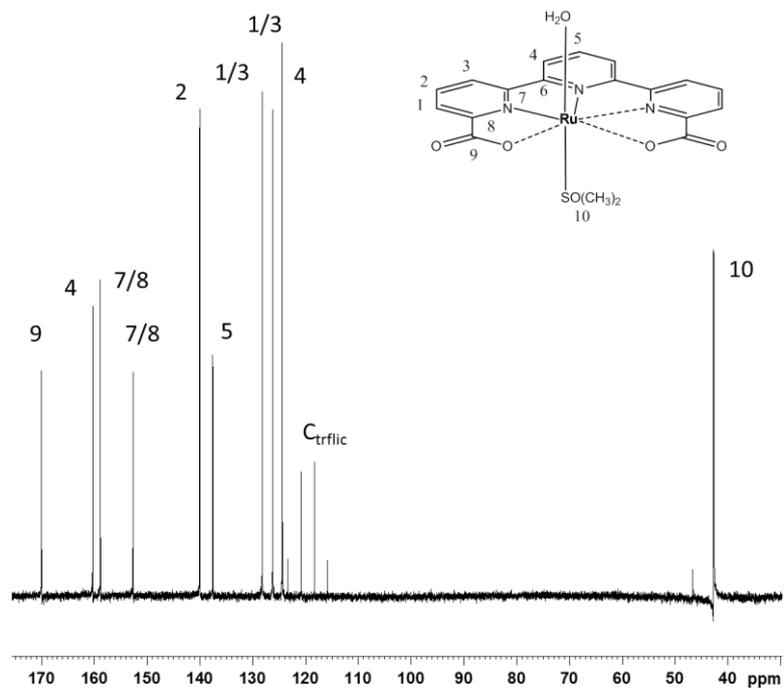


Figure S2:  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of  $4^{\text{II}}$  in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  (0.1 M  $\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_3\text{D}$ ).

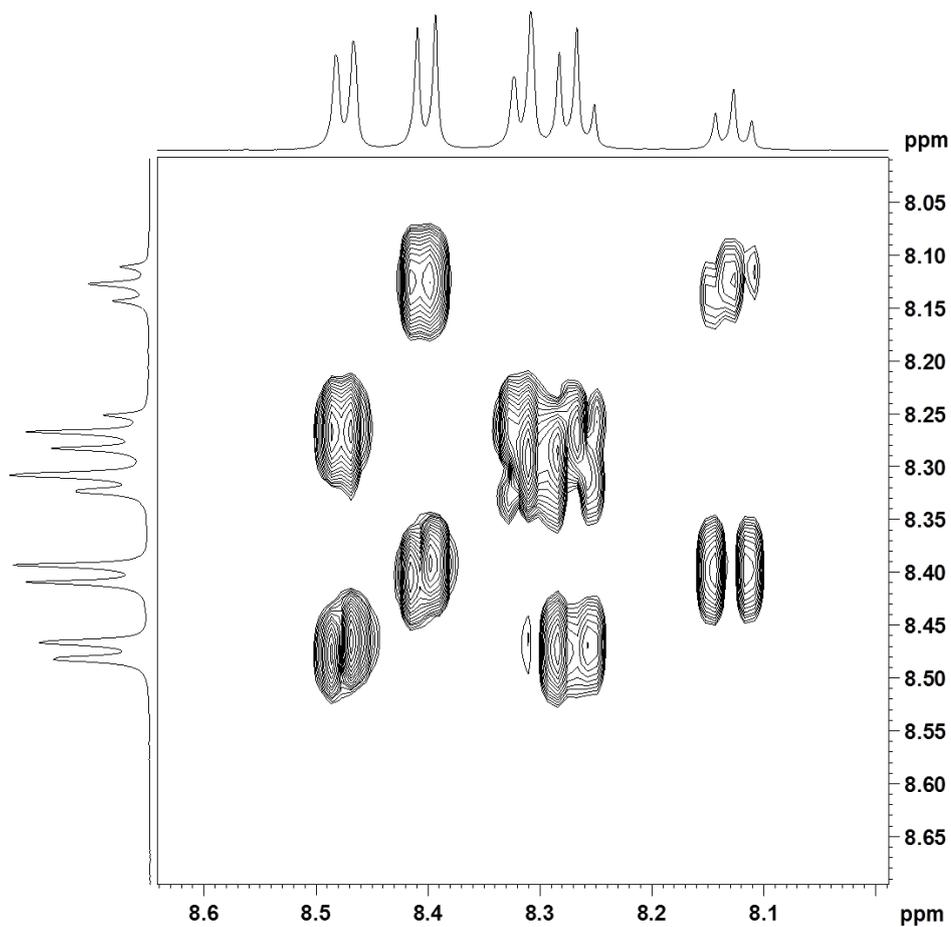
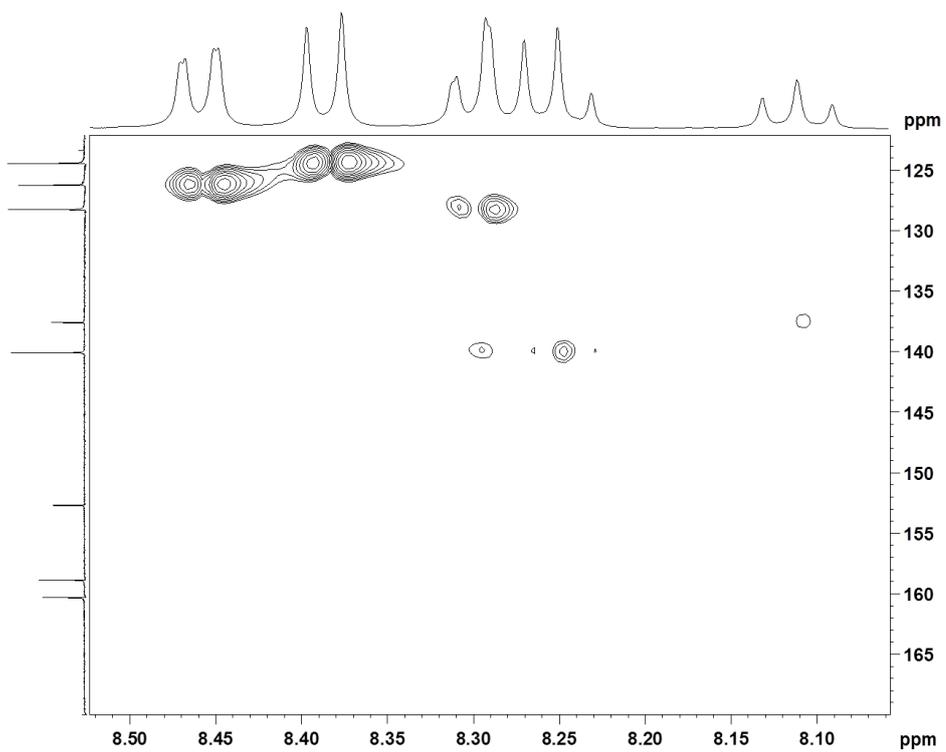
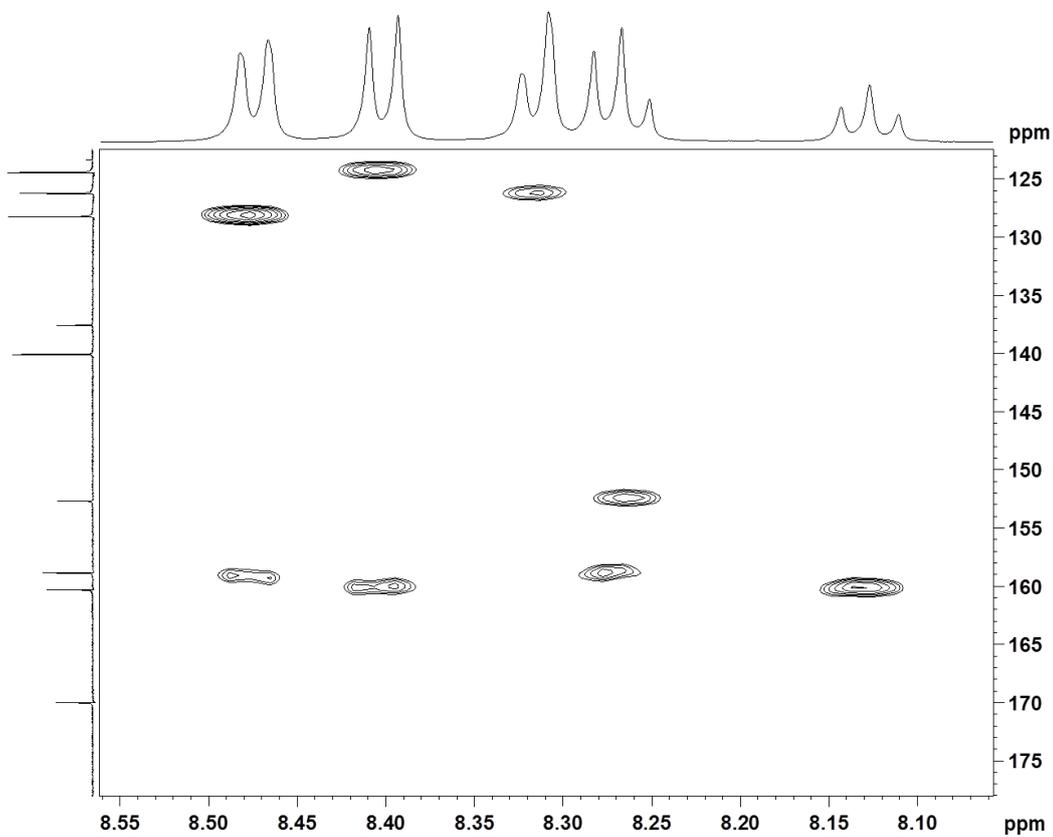


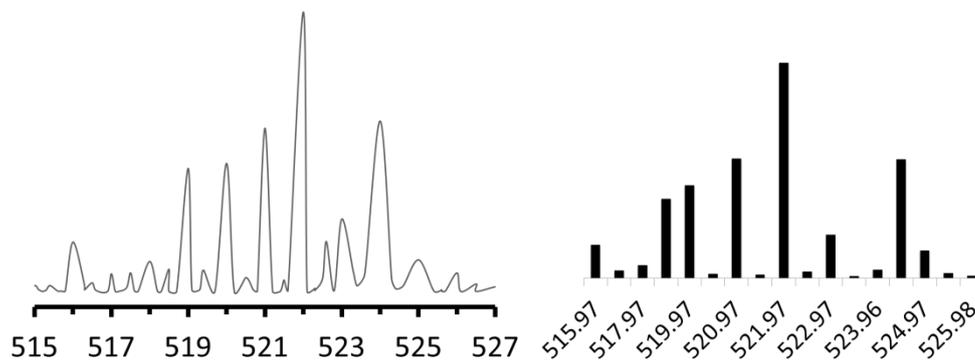
Figure S3:  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY spectrum of  $4^{\text{II}}$  in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  (0.1 M  $\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_3\text{D}$ ).



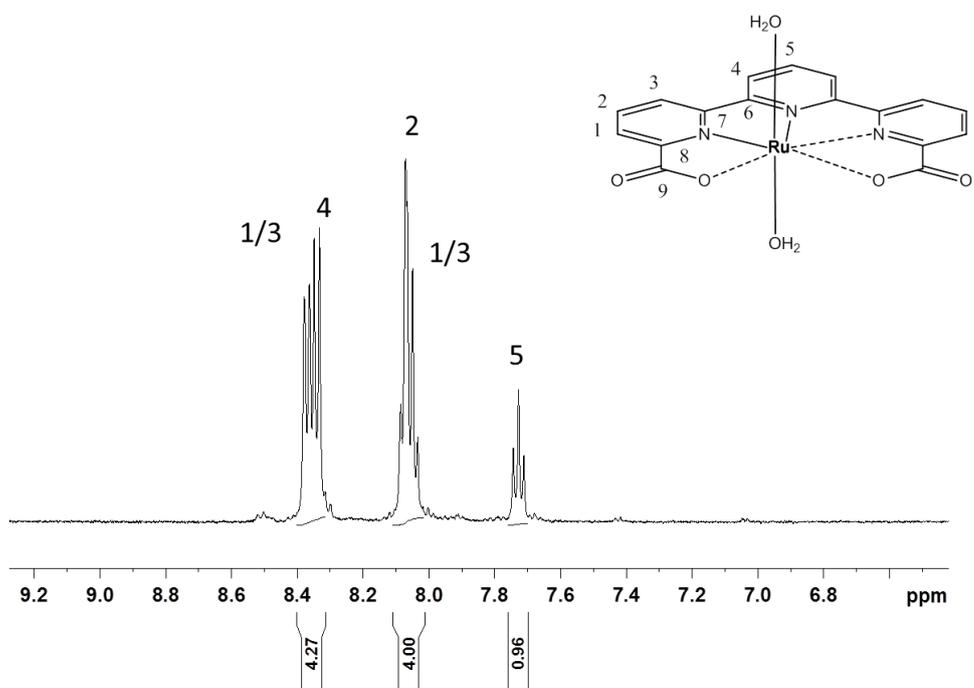
**Figure S4:**  $^{13}\text{C}$ - $^1\text{H}$  HSQC spectrum of **4<sup>II</sup>** in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  (0.1 M  $\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_3\text{D}$ ).



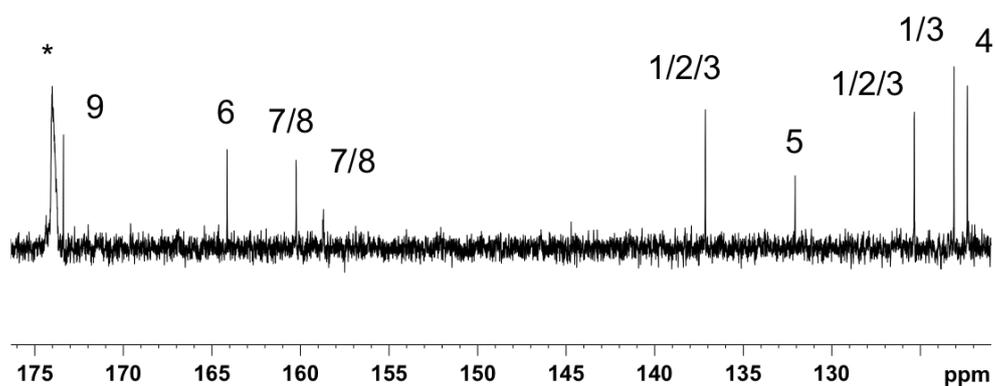
**Figure S5:**  $^{13}\text{C}$ - $^1\text{H}$  HMBC spectrum of **4<sup>II</sup>** in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  (0.1 M  $\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_3\text{D}$ ).



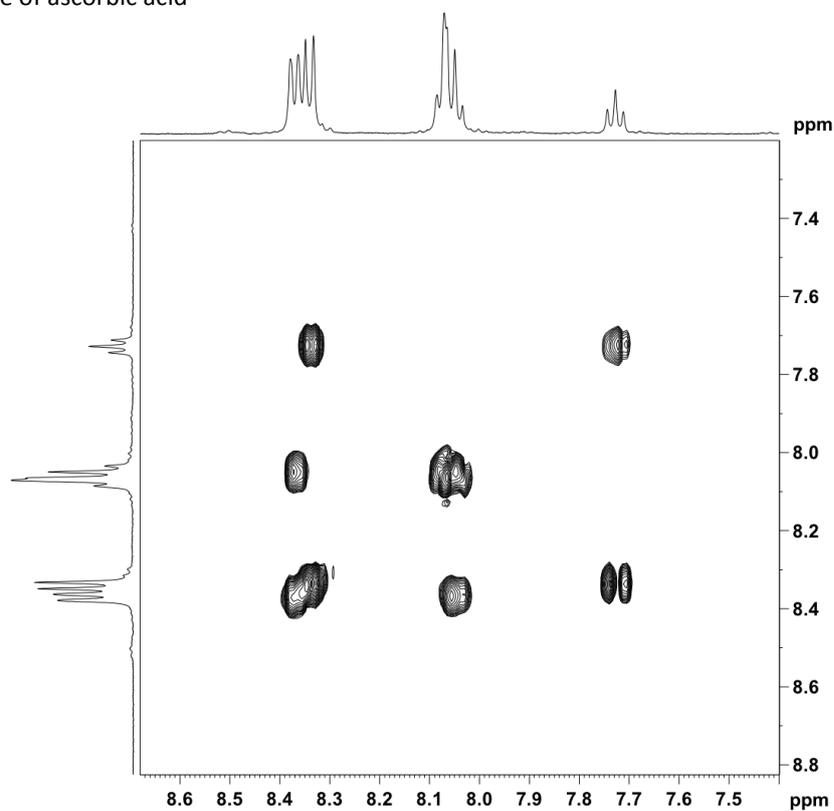
**Figure S6:** Measured HR-MS of  $[4^{II}\text{-H}_2\text{O}+\text{Na}^+]$  (left) and simulated spectra for  $[4^{II}\text{-H}_2\text{O}+\text{Na}^+]$  (right)



**Figure S7:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of  $3^{II}(\text{OH}_2)_2$  in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  with ascorbic acid as reducing agent.



**Figure S8:**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of  $3''(\text{OH})_2$  in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  with ascorbic acid as reducing agent. Asterisk indicates a  $^{13}\text{C}$  resonance of ascorbic acid



**Figure S9:**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY spectrum of  $3''(\text{OH})_2$  in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  with ascorbic acid as reducing agent.

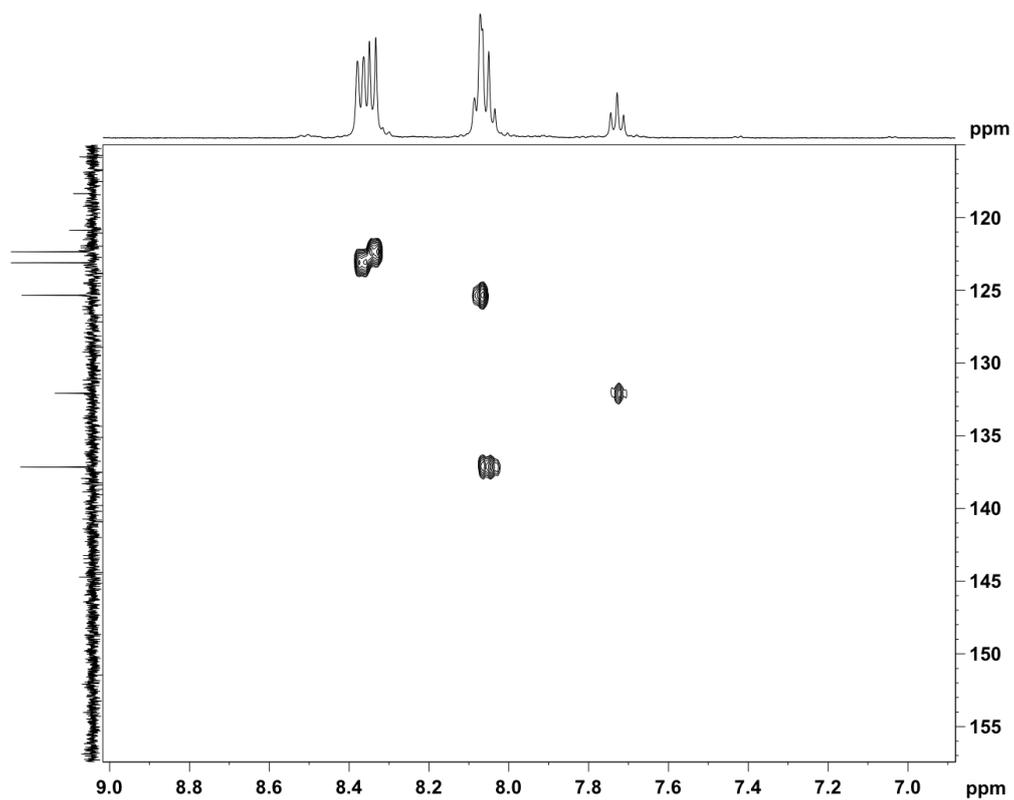


Figure S10:  $^{13}\text{C}$ - $^1\text{H}$  HSQC spectrum of  $3^{\text{II}}(\text{OH})_2$  in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  with ascorbic acid as reducing agent.

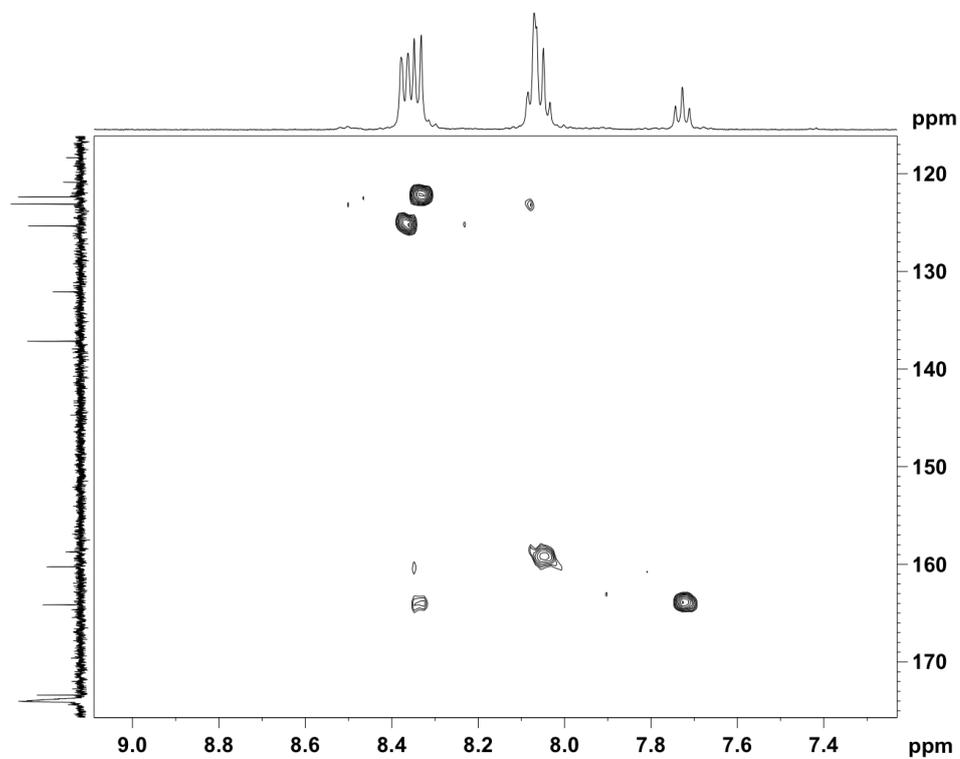
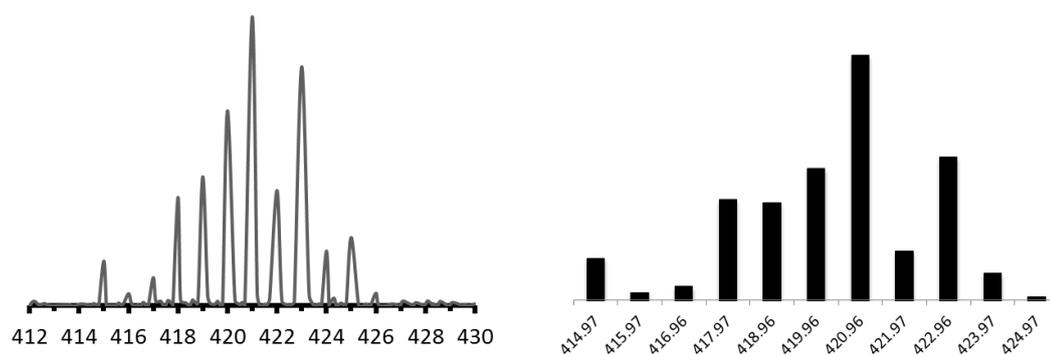


Figure S11:  $^{13}\text{C}$ - $^1\text{H}$  HMBC spectrum of  $3^{\text{II}}(\text{OH})_2$  in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  with ascorbic acid as reducing agent.



**Figure S12:** Measured HR-MS of  $[3^{III}(\text{OH}_2)_2 \cdot 2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}]^+$  (left) and simulated HR-MS of  $[3^{III}(\text{OH}_2)_2 \cdot 2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}]^+$  (right)

**Table S1:** Metric parameters of  $3^{III}(\text{OH}_2)_2^+$ ,  $4^II$ ,  $5^II$ ,  $6^II$  and  $7^{II,+}$  in Å.

		$3^{III}(\text{OH}_2)_2^+$	$4^II$	$5^II$	$6^II$	$7^{II,+}$
<b>Equatorial coordination</b>	Ru-OH <sub>2</sub>	---		---	---	2.2
	Ru-N1	2.0	2.0	2.2	2.0	2.1
	Ru-N2	2.0	1.9	2.0	1.9	1.9
	Ru-N3	2.1	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.1
	Ru-O1	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.2	3.5
	Ru-O2	2.4	3.1	3.3	---	3.7
<b>Axial coordination</b>	Ru-N4	---	---	2.1	2.1	---
	Ru-N5	---	---	---	2.1	---
	Ru- O3H <sub>2</sub>	2.1	2.1	---	---	2.1
	Ru- O4H <sub>2</sub>	2.1	---	---	---	---
	Ru-S1	---	2.2	2.2	---	2.2
<b>Ox. State</b>		III	II	II	II	II
<b>Reference</b>		This work	This work	1	2	This work

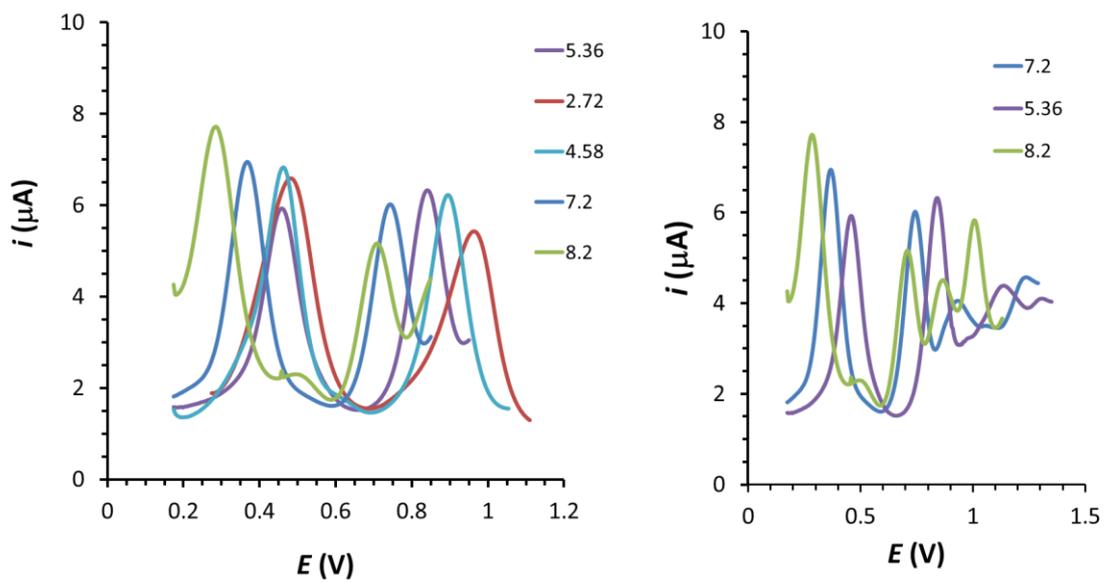
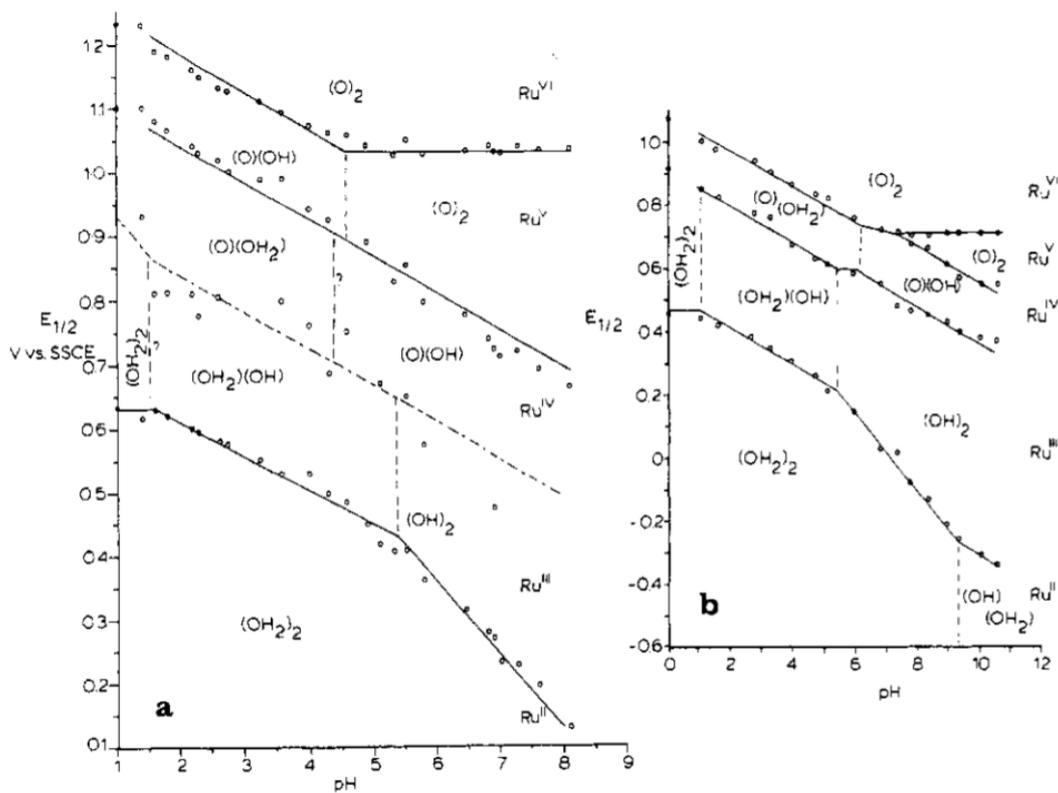
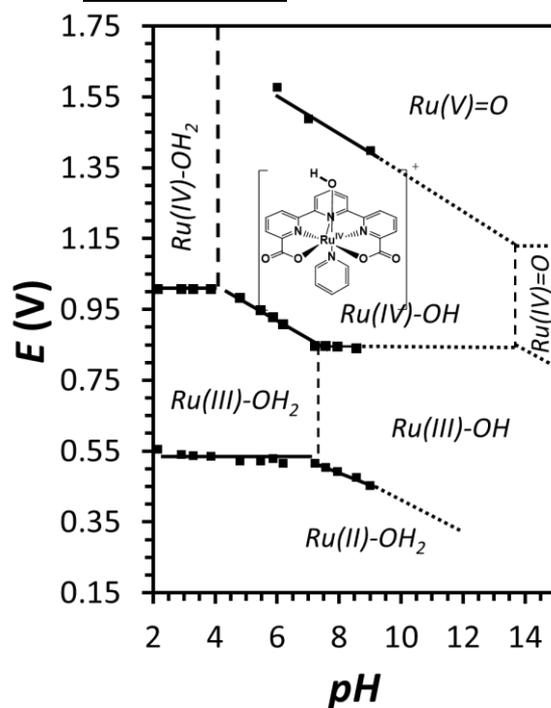


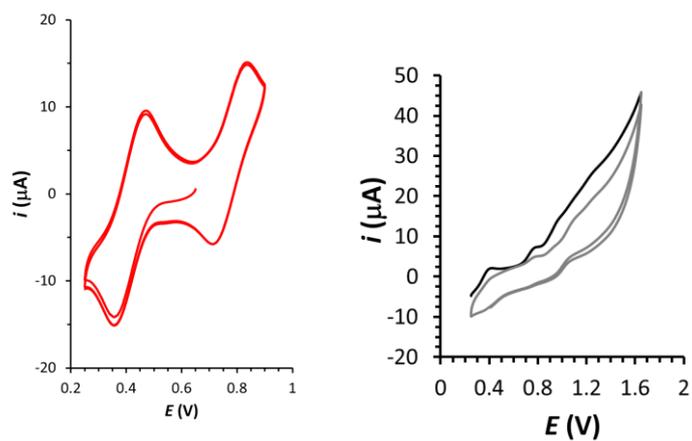
Figure S13: DPVs of  $3^{\text{III}}(\text{OH}_2)_2^+$  at pH from 2.72 to 8.20.



**Figure S14.** Pourbaix diagram for complexes for complex  $12^{\text{II}}(\text{OH}_2)_2^{2+}$  (a) and  $11^{\text{II}}(\text{OH}_2)_2^{2+}$  (b). Reprinted from reference 3. Potential vs SSCE.



**Figure S15.** Pourbaix diagram for complexes for complex  $2^{\text{III}}(\text{OH})^+$ . Reprinted from reference 1.



**Figure S16:** Left, two consecutive CVs of  $3^{\text{III}}(\text{OH}_2)_2^+$  at pH = 7.0 cycled from 0.25 V to 0.9 V (red line). Right, two consecutive CVs of  $3^{\text{III}}(\text{OH}_2)_2^+$  cycled between 0.25 and 1.65 V (black line first segment and grey the rest).

## References

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- <sup>1</sup> Matheu, R.; Ertem, M. Z.; Gimbert-Suriñach, C.; Benet-Buchholz, J.; Sala, X.; Llobet, A. Hydrogen Bonding Rescues Overpotential in Seven-Coordinated Ru Water Oxidation Catalysts. *ACS Catal.* **2017**, *7*, 6525-6532.
- <sup>2</sup> Matheu, R.; Ertem, M. Z.; Benet-Buchholz, J.; Coronado, E.; Batista, V. S.; Sala, X.; Llobet, A. Intramolecular Proton Transfer Boosts Water Oxidation Catalyzed by a Ru Complex. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2015**, *137*, 10786-10795.
- <sup>3</sup> Dobson, J. C.; Meyer, T. J. Redox properties and ligand loss chemistry in aqua/hydroxo/oxo complexes derived from cis- and trans-[(bpy)<sub>2</sub>Ru<sup>II</sup>(OH)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>2+</sup>. *Inorg. Chem.* **1988**, *27*, 3283-3291.