#### **Supporting Information**

## Quantitative Catalyst-Substrate Association Relationships between Metathesis Molybdenum or Ruthenium Carbene Complexes and Their Substrates

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#### 1) All time-dependent quenching traces and their conditions



*Figure S1.* All time-dependent fluorescence quenching traces for the **Mo-1** catalyst are shown in the left pannel. Red, blue and green curves represent the cases with alkene, alkyne and allene substrates repectively. Experimental conditions for each trace are listed in the table.



*Figure S2.* All time-dependent fluorescence quenching traces for the **Mo-2** catalyst are shown in the left pannel. Red, blue and green curves represent the cases with alkene, alkyne and allene substrates repectively. Experimental conditions for each trace are listed in the table.



*Figure S3.* All time-dependent fluorescence quenching traces for the **Ru-1** catalyst are shown in the left pannel. Red, blue, green and magenta curves represent the cases with alkene, alkyne, allene substrates, and a mixture of alkene and alkyne, repectively. Experimental conditions for each trace are listed in the table.



*Figure S4.* All time-dependent fluorescence quenching traces by **Ru-2** catalyst are shown in the left pannel. Red, blue, green and magenta curves represent the cases with alkene, alkyne, allene substrates and a mixture of them, repectively. Experimental conditions for each trace are listed in the table.



*Figure S5.* All time-dependent fluorescence quenching traces by **Ru-3** catalyst are shown in the left pannel. Red, blue, green and magenta curves represent the cases with alkene, alkyne, allene substrates and a mixture of them, repectively. Experimental conditions for each trace are listed in the table.



*Figure S6.* All time-dependent fluorescence quenching trasces by **Ru-4** catalyst are shown in the left pannel. Red, blue, green and magenta curves represent the cases with alkene, alkyne, allene substrates and a mixture of them repectively. Experimental conditions for each trace are listed in the table.

## 2) Substrate absorbance change during fluorescence quenching



**Figure S7.** No significant absorbance change of the substrate during the fluorescence quenching. This guarantees that most of the changes in the fluorescence spectrum come from the fluorescence quenching effect rather than some reaction of the dye part itself. (A) Time-dependent absorbance change of the dye-alkene conjugate during the fluorescence quenching. (B) Absorbance change as a function of time and comparison with the fluorescence change.

## 3) Time-dependent fluorescence quenching of the substrates by Ru-1 in *n*-hexane



*Figure S8.* Time-dependent fluorescence quenching of dye-conjugated substrates (alkene 5, alkyne 6 and allene 7) by **Ru-1** in *n*-hexane. Quenching signal from alkene and alkyne are magnified by 3 times to obtain a clear view. It also shows a clear preference pattern that is the same as that in the  $CH_2Cl_2$  solvent (main text Figure 2A).

#### 4) Global fitting analysis of FRET data

In the following pages, we describe how we quantitatively analyzed FRET data.

#### **Control subtraction**

In order to obtain PL intensity change purely from the fruorecence quenching caused by the substratecatalyst association reaction, the raw PL data were subtracted by the data from a control experiment. An example is displayed in Figure S9:



*Figure S9.* The green squares are from a control experiment with the control dye-ane substrate **8** and correspond to the fluorescence quenching due to non-specific binding, not from the specific substrate-catalyst association reaction. The black squares are raw data with the dye-alkene substrate **5**. The red squares are obtained by substracting the control data (green) from the raw data (black), and account for fluorescence quenching only from the association reaction.

## **Reaction scheme**

We assumed the substrate-catalyst association and dissociation steps in Grubbs' Ru catalyzed enyne metathesis have the following reaction schemes.

$$5 + \operatorname{Ru-1} \xrightarrow{k_1} 1:\operatorname{Ru-1}$$

$$6 + \operatorname{Ru-1} \xrightarrow{k_2} 2:\operatorname{Ru-1}$$

$$7 + \operatorname{Ru-1} \xrightarrow{k_3} 3:\operatorname{Ru-1}$$

**5**, **6** and **7** represent dye-alkene, dye-alkyne, dye-allene substrates respectively. **5:Ru-1**, **6:Ru-1** and **7:Ru-1** represent associated complexes formed by the substrate-catalyst association in the metathesis reactions. Same reaction schemes were used for **Mo-1**, **Mo-2**, **Ru-2**, **Ru-3** and **Ru-4**.

## **Fitting parameters**

The fitting parameters are defined as follows:

Parameter	Definition
<i>k</i> 5	Binding rate constant between 5 and Ru-1
<i>k</i> <sub>-1, 5</sub>	Dissociation rate constant of <b>5:Ru-1</b>
<i>k</i> <sub>6</sub>	Binding rate constant between 6 and Ru-1
k-1, 6	Dissociation rate constant of 6:Ru-1
<i>k</i> 7	Binding rate constant between 7 and Ru-1
<i>k</i> -1, 7	Dissociation rate constant of 7:Ru-1
А	PL intensity of <b>5</b> , <b>6</b> or <b>7</b> per unit mole.
В	PL intensity of <b>5:Ru-1</b> , <b>6:Ru-1</b> or <b>7:Ru-1</b> per unit mole.
С	Background PL intensity.

## **Rate equations**

We set up the rate equations as follows:

$$\frac{d[5]}{dt} = -k_{5}[5][\mathbf{Ru-1}] + k_{-1,5}[5:\mathbf{Ru-1}]$$
$$\frac{d[6]}{dt} = -k_{6}[6][\mathbf{Ru-1}] + k_{-1,6}[6:\mathbf{Ru-1}]$$

$$\frac{d[7]}{dt} = -k\tau[7][\mathbf{Ru-1}] + k_{-1},\tau[7:\mathbf{Ru-1}]$$

Although these equations have an analytical solution, numerical approximation has been employed for convenience.  $\Delta t$  is 0.01 minute.

$$\frac{\Delta[5]}{\Delta t} = -k \, s[5][\mathbf{Ru-1}] + k_{-1, s}[5:\mathbf{Ru-1}]$$
$$\frac{\Delta[6]}{\Delta t} = -k \, 6[6][\mathbf{Ru-1}] + k_{-1, 6}[6:\mathbf{Ru-1}]$$
$$\frac{\Delta[7]}{\Delta t} = -k \, 7[7][\mathbf{Ru-1}] + k_{-1, 7}[7:\mathbf{Ru-1}]$$

Concentrations of each species at a certain time,  $t + \Delta t$ , are,

$$[\mathbf{5}]_{t+\Delta t} = [\mathbf{5}]_{t} + (-k_{5}[\mathbf{5}]_{t}[\mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t} + k_{-1}, \mathbf{5}[\mathbf{5}:\mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t})\Delta t$$

$$[\mathbf{6}]_{t+\Delta t} = [\mathbf{6}]_{t} + (-k_{6}[\mathbf{6}]_{t}[\mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t} + k_{-1}, \mathbf{6}[\mathbf{6}:\mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t})\Delta t$$

$$[\mathbf{7}]_{t+\Delta t} = [\mathbf{7}]_{t} + (-k_{7}[\mathbf{7}]_{t}[\mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t} + k_{-1}, \mathbf{7}[\mathbf{7}:\mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t})\Delta t$$

$$[\mathbf{5}:\mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t+\Delta t} = [\mathbf{5}:\mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t} + (k_{5}[\mathbf{5}]_{t}[\mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t} - k_{-1}, \mathbf{5}[\mathbf{5}:\mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t})\Delta t$$

$$[\mathbf{6}:\mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t+\Delta t} = [\mathbf{6}:\mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t} + (k_{6}[\mathbf{6}]_{t}[\mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t} - k_{-1}, \mathbf{6}[\mathbf{6}:\mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t})\Delta t$$

$$[\mathbf{7}:\mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t+\Delta t} = [\mathbf{7}:\mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t} + (k_{7}[\mathbf{7}]_{t}[\mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t} - k_{-1}, \mathbf{7}[\mathbf{7}:\mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t})\Delta t$$

$$[\mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t+\Delta t} = [\mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t+\Delta t} + (-k \, \mathbf{5}[\mathbf{5}]_{t} [\mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t+K-1, \mathbf{5}} [\mathbf{5} : \mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t}) \Delta t + (-k \, \mathbf{6}[\mathbf{6}]_{t} [\mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t+K-1, \mathbf{6}} [\mathbf{6} : \mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t}) \Delta t + (-k \, \mathbf{7}[\mathbf{7}]_{t} [\mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t+K-1, \mathbf{7}} [\mathbf{7} : \mathbf{Ru-1}]_{t}) \Delta t$$

**Theoretical curves** 

Theoretical fluorescence intensity,  $I_{theory}$  has been calculated by the following expressions:

$$I_{theory, 5} = A[5] + B[5: \mathbf{Ru-1}] + C$$
$$I_{theory, 6} = A[6] + B[6: \mathbf{Ru-1}] + C$$
$$I_{theory, 7} = A[7] + B[7: \mathbf{Ru-1}] + C$$

The values of A, B and C of **5** are assumed to be the same as those of **6** and **7** because **5**, **6** and **7** have the same dye and other conditions such as amount of solvent or sample cell are exactly same.

#### A and C values

In order to reduce the number of parameters to be optimized together, the values of A and C were determined experimentally. If we measure fluorescence intensity at t=0, [5:G-I] should be zero and above equations are reduced to:

*Itheory*, **5**, 
$$t = 0 = A[5]t = 0 + C$$

By plotting  $[5]_t=0$  vs. fluorescence intensity, A and C have been determined to be 9.32 and 1.19 respectively as shown in Figure S11.



*Figure S10*. A plot of fluorescence intensity at t=0 versus  $[5]_{t=0}$ . Black squares are experimental points and the red line is a linear fit.

## **Definition of \chi^2**

The definition of the  $\chi^2$  is as follows:

$$\chi^{2} = \sum_{i=\text{curve } \#} \chi_{i}^{2}$$
$$\chi_{i}^{2} = \sum_{j} (I_{exp}(t_{j}, i) - I_{theory}(t_{j}, i))^{2}$$

#### Least-squares fit

The least-squares fit of the model against the experimental data was done using the minimization package MINUIT written at CERN.<sup>6</sup> The quantity minimized is  $\chi^2$ . The errors of the fitted parameters have been calculated by MINUIT and they represent one standard deviation. In total 7 parameters (6 rate constants and B value) have been optimized with 6 to 9 experimental curves. Since each experimental curve contains many data points, the data-to-parameter ration is sufficiently high enough.

## **Gibbs free energy change**

The Gibbs free energy change was obtained using the following standard equations.

$$\Delta G = -RT \ln K$$
$$K = k / k_{-1}$$

#### 5) References

1. CERN, Minuit; Function Minimization and Error Analysis, http://wwwasdoc.web.cern.ch/wwwasdoc/minuit/minmain.html.

# 6) <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of 1-4 and 7



*Figure S11.* <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of alkene 1.



*Figure S12.* <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of alkene 1.



*Figure S13.* <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of alkyne **2**.



*Figure S14.* <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of alkyne 2.



*Figure S15*. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of allene **3**.



*Figure S16*. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of allene **3**.



*Figure S17*. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of control **4**.



*Figure S18*. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of control **4**.



*Figure S19*. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of allene 7.



*Figure S20*. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of allene 7.