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# Temperature and Solvent Dependent Binding of Dihydrogen in Iridium Pincer Complexes

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#### Abstract

Mixtures of deuterium labeled complexes (p-XPOCOP)IrH $_{2-x}D_x$  (1-6- $d_{0-2}$ ) {POCOP = [ $C_6H_2$ -1,3-[OP(tBu) $_2$ ] $_2$ ; X = MeO (1), Me (2), H (3), F (4),  $C_6F_5$  (5), and Ar $^F$  = 3,5-(CF $_3$ ) $_2$ -C $_6H_3$  (6)} have been generated by reaction of (p-XPOCOP)IrH $_2$  complexes with HD gas in benzene followed by removal of the solvent under high vacuum. Spectroscopic analysis employing  $^1H$  and  $^2D$  NMR reveals significant temperature and solvent dependent isotopic shifts and HD coupling constants. Complexes 1-6- $d_1$  in toluene and pentane between 296 K and 213 K exhibit coupling constants  $J_{HD}$  of 3.8–9.0 Hz, suggesting the presence of an elongated  $H_2$  ligand, which is confirmed by  $T_1$ (min) measurements of complexes 1, 1 and 10 in toluene-11 in contrast, complex 11 exhibits 11 in CH $_2$ 1 core CDCl $_2$ 1 F while isotopic shifts up to 11 in contrast, complex 12 exhibits 13 K in CDCl $_2$ 5. The large and temperature dependent isotope effects are attributed to non-statistical occupation of two different hydride environments. The experimental observations are interpreted in terms of a two component model involving rapid equilibration of solvated Ir(III) dihydride and Ir(I) dihydrogen structures.

## Introduction

The study of dihydrogen interactions with transition metals has been an active field of research in recent years. Understanding the activation of  $H_2$  at a metal center may provide insights useful in hydrogenation and dehydrogenation catalysis. Until 1984 the binding of  $H_2$  to transition metals was regarded to exclusively proceed via oxidative addition to form transition metal dior polyhydrides. The pioneering work of Kubas  $et\,al$ . showed that in certain cases  $H_2$  is capable of coordinating to a metal without the rupture of the H-H bond. Subsequently, a large number of dihydrogen complexes have been described, with the vast majority having a  $d^6$  metal configuration.

The commonly accepted model for the interaction of  $H_2$  with a metal moiety invokes electron donation from the bonding HH  $\sigma$  orbital into a metal orbital, and some degree of  $\pi$ -backdonation from a filled metal orbital into the non-bonding HH  $\sigma^*$  orbital. If the degree of  $\pi$ -backdonation from the metal is too high, oxidative addition to metal dihydride complex occurs, denoted by  $L_nMH_2$ .

Early examples of transition metal  $H_2$  complexes, including those reported by Kubas, exhibited short H-H distances  $r_{\rm HH}$ , usually between 0.8 Å and 1.0 Å, compared to 0.74 Å in free  $H_2$ . Subsequently, a small number of so-called *elongated* hydrogen complexes have been reported. <sup>4</sup> Based on neutron diffraction data, these complexes exhibit 1.1 Å <  $r_{\rm HH}$  < 1.5 Å. In cases where neutron diffraction is not feasible, structural information can be extracted by measurement of minimum relaxation times  $T_1({\rm min})$ . <sup>5</sup> A correlation between  $J_{\rm HD}$  in deuterium labeled compounds and  $r_{\rm HH}$  derived from neutron diffraction has been developed, which allows

 $r_{\rm HH}$  to be readily derived from measurement of  $J_{\rm HD}$ . In contrast to the  $r_{\rm HH}$  obtained from neutron diffraction, interpretation of  $T_{\rm 1}({\rm min})$  and  $J_{\rm HD}$  data in terms of  $r_{\rm HH}$  may be more complicated. These parameters may reflect a weighted average or dynamic  $r_{\rm HH}$  in solution obtained by fast equilibration, for example of a metal dihydride  $MH_2$  with a metal dihydrogen  $M(H_2)$  geometry. Early examples of this phenomena are provided by the work of Morris and coworkers, who found temperature and solvent dependent relaxation times and  $J_{\rm HD}$  in complexes such as trans- $[Os(H_2)Cl(dppe)_2]^{+7}$  and trans- $[Os(H_2)(H)(dppe)_2]^{+8}$ . Such observations were initially explained in terms of equilibria between energetically distinct minima, but this hypothesis was ultimately rejected in favor of a single minimum/soft potential model based on computational studies.

A further complication arises from the fact that  $r_{\rm HH}$  obtained by  $T_1({\rm min})$  relaxation times in an equilibrium situation is dominated by the short  $r_{\rm HH}$  species due to the  $T_1({\rm min}) \propto (r_{\rm HH})^6$  dependence. In contrast, the observed  $J_{\rm HD}$  is the average of different  $J_{\rm HD}$ 's weighted with the relative concentration of the respective species. Additionally, the analysis of  $T_1({\rm min})$  data is complicated by the fact that the  $H_2$  ligand may rotate much faster than, much slower than, or at a rate similar to the Larmor frequency. This situation has been summarized by Caulton and Gusev. <sup>5b</sup>

We recently reported that (p-XPOCOP)IrH<sub>2</sub> complexes  $[p\text{-XPOCOP} = 5\text{-X}\text{-}C_6\text{H}_2\text{-}1,3\text{-}[OP(t\text{Bu})_2]_2 \{X = \text{MeO}(1), \text{Me}(2), \text{H}(3), \text{F}(4), \text{C}_6\text{F}_5(5), \text{Ar}^F [= 3,5\text{-bis}(\text{trifluoromethyl})\text{phenyl}]$  (6)} exhibit very high activity for the transfer dehydrogenation of (cyclo)alkanes. <sup>10</sup>

$$(tBu)_2P$$
 $Ir_{thing}H$ 
 $P(tBu)_2$ 

 $X = OMe(1); Me(2); H(3); F(4); C_6F_5(5);$ 

3,5 bis(CF<sub>3</sub>)phenyl (6)

The related PCP complex  $\{C_6H_3-2,6-[CH_2P(tBu)_2]_2\}IrH_2$  has been calculated to have a distorted trigonal bipyramidal structure (below).  $^{11},^{12}$  In contrast, a rhodium PCP complex has been reported by Jensen, Goldman and coworkers to be a dihydrogen complex based on HD coupling.  $^{13}$  Similarly, a cationic platinum PCP complex has been reported by Bullock and coworkers to be a dihydrogen complex.  $^{14}$ 

$$(Bu)_2P \longrightarrow P(Bu)_2 \qquad (Bu)_2P \longrightarrow P(Bu)_2P \longrightarrow P(Bu)_2P$$

Since complexes **1–6** and related species are useful dehydrogenation catalysts, it is important to determine the structure of these molecules *in solution*, under catalytically relevant conditions. We anticiptated that complexes **1–6** might present a range of structures between the limits of dihydrogen and dihydride complexes. Here we report our NMR studies of partially deuterated derivatives of **1–6** and the structural complexity that is indicated by these observations. The experimental observations are interpreted in terms of solvent and temperature dependent equilibrium between a four coordinate Ir(I) dihydrogen species and a an Ir(III) dihydride which incorporates solvent coordination. This situation differs from previously reported cases of dihydrogen/dihydride equilibria in that the dihydrogen form is four coordinate and has a d<sup>8</sup> configuration, while the dihydride form incorporates a solvent molecule.

#### Results

#### Synthesis and deuterium labeling

Complexes **1–6** were prepared as previously described. Deuterium incorporation was achieved by stirring benzene solutions under an atmosphere of HD gas.

#### **Observations in Pentane**

Partial deuterium labeling of the hydridic sites of **1–6** reveals substituent dependent  $J_{\rm HD} = 6.5$  Hz (**1**- $d_1$ ), 7.7 Hz (**2**- $d_1$ ), 8.0 Hz (**3**- $d_1$ ), 9.0 Hz (**5**- $d_1$ ) 9.0 Hz (**6**- $d_1$ ) in pentane at 296 K. Interestingly, the observed coupling constants, chemical shifts, and istotope effects on the chemical shifts all exhibit a significant temperature dependence. (see Table 1)

### **Observations in Freon or Methylene Chloride**

When a mixture of  ${\bf 6}$ - $d_{0-2}$  was dissolved in CDCl $_2$ F rather than pentane and examined by  $^1$ H NMR spectroscopy at 233 K, no  $J_{\rm HD}$  is detectable in the resonance due to  ${\bf 6}$ - $d_1$ . Careful comparison of the  $^1$ H chemical shift differences between  ${\bf 6}$  and  ${\bf 6}$ - $d_1$  reveals that  $\Delta \delta = -1.841$  ppm ( $\Delta \delta = \delta \, {\rm Ir} H_2 - \delta {\rm Ir} H D$ ). In the deuterium NMR spectrum, the respective  $\Delta \delta = \delta \, {\rm Ir} D_2 - \delta \, {\rm Ir} H D$  was found to be ca. +1.90 ppm. Thus the Ir(H D) resonance appears at -17.865 ppm in the  $^1$ H NMR spectrum, while the Ir(H D) resonates at ca. -21.86 ppm in the  $^2 D$  NMR spectrum. A much smaller intrinsic isotopic shift,  $\delta \, ({\rm Ir} H_2) - \delta \, ({\rm Ir} D_2)$  of ca. +0.21 ppm is observed (Figure 1).

Lowering the observation temperature to 133 K increases  $\Delta\delta$  to a remarkable -4.053 ppm due to an upfield shift of  $\delta(IrH_2)$  to -21.428 ppm and only moderate downfield shifting of  $\delta$  (IrHD) to -17.375 ppm. Similar, but smaller isotopic shift effects have been observed in 4:1 mixtures of CDCl<sub>2</sub>F:toluene- $d_8$ , or in neat CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.

#### **Observations in Toluene**

Complexes 1, 3, 4 and 6 were also studied by <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>1</sup>H{<sup>31</sup>P} NMR spectroscopy in toluene, with results similar to those in pentane. (see Table 3)

#### **Relaxation Time Measurements**

 $T_1$  relaxation times for the hydridic resonances of complexes **1**, **3** and **6** were measured in toluene- $d_8$  as a function of temperature at 400 MHz using standard inversion recovery methodology. The maximum rate of relaxation ( $T_{1(\min)}$ ) is 107 ms for **1** and 103 ms for **3**, both at 233 K. A  $T_{1(\min)}$  value of 100 ms is found for **6** at 243 K.

#### **Discussion**

#### **Observations in Pentane and Toluene**

The measurement of  $J_{\rm HD}$  in partially deuterated derivatives has proven to be the most straightforward method for determining the structure of dihydogen and dihydride complexes. For complexes **1–6**, the situation is complicated by temperature dependence of this crucial parameter in some solvents, which we believe reflects a rapid equilibration of two distinct structures. In pentane at ambient temperature,  $J_{\rm HD} = 6.5$  (**1-** $d_1$ ), 7.7 (**2-** $d_1$ ), 8.0 (**3-** $d_1$ ), 7.7 Hz (**4-** $d_1$ ), **9.0** Hz (**5-** $d_1$ ) 9.0 Hz (**6-** $d_1$ ), which based on the most recent correlation, <sup>6e</sup> suggests  $r_{\rm HH} = 1.54$  Å for **1**, decreasing to 1.43 Å for **5** and **6**. These values are within the range of  $r_{\rm HH}$  previously suggested for elongated H<sub>2</sub> complexes. <sup>4</sup> The observed correlation of  $J_{\rm HD}$  with substituents X on the POCOP ligand backbone is in accordance with the ability of the (p-XPOCOP)Ir fragment to donate electron density into the  $\sigma^*$ -orbital of the bound H<sub>2</sub>-ligand and thus facilitate oxidative addition. In comparison, the calculated  $r_{\rm HH}$  of the dihydride PCP Ir complex noted above is 1.660 Å, <sup>11</sup> which is also consistent with a more  $\pi$ -donating {C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>-2,6-[CH<sub>2</sub>(tBu)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub>}Ir ligand when compared to the (p-XPOCOP)Ir ligands of complexes **1–6**. It is important to note that this calculation does not take into account the possible effect of solvation.

At lower observation temperatures in pentane, there is a significant temperature dependence of  $J_{\rm HD}$  for complexes **1–5**, with a diminishing of the coupling at lower temperatures. For purposes of comparison to relaxation time data (*vide infra*), it is instructive to consider data collected at 213 K. At this temperature, the coupling constants are  $J_{\rm HD} = 5.0$  (**1**- $d_1$ ), 7.0 (**2**- $d_1$ ), 7.2 (**3**- $d_1$ ), 6.9 Hz (**4**- $d_1$ ) 8.1 Hz (**5**- $d_1$ ) and 9.0 Hz (**6**- $d_1$ ). These couplings correspond to  $r_{\rm HH} = 1.63$  Å (**1**), 1.52 Å (**2**), 1.51 Å (**3**), 1.53 Å (**4**), 1.47 Å (**5**) and 1.43 Å (**6**).

In toluene solvent, similar trends are observed, with slightly lower coupling constants and the same trend of larger couplings (and shorter values of  $r_{\rm HH}$ ) for the less electron donating X groups. Thus complex **1**- $d_1$  in toluene exhibits  $J_{\rm HD} = 3.8$  Hz at 233 K, while  $J_{\rm HD} = 6.0$  Hz for **3**- $d_1$  and  $J_{\rm HD} = 6.7$  Hz for **6**- $d_1$ . This corresponds to  $r_{\rm HH} = 1.70$  Å (**1**), 1.57 Å (**3**) and 1.53 Å (**6**).

Additional structural information can be obtained for these complexes by study of the relaxation time  $T_1$  as a function of temperature. If the maximum rate of dipole-dipole relaxation (corresponding to the minimum  $T_1$ ) can be determined, then  $r_{\rm HH}$  can in principle be estimated using the methodology developed by Halpern and coworkers. Thus, the  $T_1$ (min) value of 107 ms for complex 1 (233 K, 400 MHz) corresponds to  $r_{\rm HH}$  = 1.48 Å. Similar analysis for 3 gives  $r_{\rm HH}$  = 1.47 Å and  $r_{\rm HH}$  = 1.46 Å for 6. This analysis assumes the so-called slow rotation regime for the dihdyrogen ligand. The assumption of rapid rotation leads to unreasonably short values of  $r_{\rm HH}$ . These values for  $r_{\rm HH}$  are slightly shorter than the corresponding values derived from HD coupling data for these complexes at very similar temperatures in toluene. Since the relaxation rate will be averaged over all contributing structures and the relaxation rate is proportional to  $(r_{\rm HH})^{-6}$ , structures with shorter HH distances will contribute disproportionately to the average value.

Based on these observations, we postulate that complexes 1-6 may possess two quite different structures in a rapid solvent dependent equilibrium. We suggest that an Ir(I) elongated dihydrogen complex coexists with an Ir(III) dihydride, which achieves a six coordinate structure by a weak interaction with solvent.(equation 1) The equilibrium constant varies with the nature of X, with the dihydride form predominant except for the very electron deficient complex 6, which exhibits essentially no temperature dependence of the HD coupling constant in pentane. In toluene, the Ir(III) complexes solvate more strongly, leading to diminished values of  $J_{HD}$ .

$$\kappa_{\text{BU}_2P} = \kappa_{\text{sol}} + \kappa_{\text{eq}} = \kappa_{\text{(fBu)}_2P} + \kappa_{\text{eq}} = \kappa_{\text{(fBu)}_2P} + \kappa_{\text{eq}} = \kappa_{\text{eq}} + \kappa_{\text{eq}} + \kappa_{\text{eq}} + \kappa_{\text{eq}} = \kappa_{\text{eq}} + \kappa_{\text{eq}} + \kappa_{\text{eq}} + \kappa_{\text{eq}} = \kappa_{\text{eq}} + \kappa_{\text{eq}} +$$

**(1).** 

#### Observations in chlorinated solvents

In contrast to hydrocarbon solvents, in methylene chloride and Freon solvents, partially deuterated samples of complex  $\bf 6$  exhibit no measurable HD coupling over a wide range of observation temperatures. In these solvents, unusually large and temperature dependent isotope effects on the hydride chemical shifts are observed. For example, at 213 K in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, the chemical shift of the hydridic resonance in  $\bf 6$  is observed at -18.987 ppm, while the resonance due to  $\bf 6$ - $d_1$  is found at -17.456 ppm (Table 2). The isotope effect  $\Delta \delta$  is -1.53 ppm or -1530 ppb. This is an unusually large value for this isotope effect, which is typically on the order of 100 ppb or less in dihydrogen and dihydride complexes. In Freon solvents and at lower temperatures, the isotope effect is even larger, with a truly extraordinary value of 4.05 ppm in CDFCl<sub>2</sub> at 133 K.(Table 2)

Unusually large and temperature dependent isotope effects in metal dihydrides have been previously interpreted in terms of isotopic perturbation of equilibrium effects. <sup>15</sup> This situation requires a molecule with two hydride environments exchanging rapidly on the NMR timescale. An additional requirement is that there must be non-statistical occupation of the two sites by deuterium.

In the iridium complexes studied here, the lack of HD coupling suggests that in chlorinated solvents, the structure is predominantly the solvated Ir(III) dihydride. This structure has two quite different hydride environments: trans to the aryl carbon or trans to solvent.(equation 2)

$$(\mathbb{B} \mathsf{u})_2 \mathbb{P} \xrightarrow{\mathsf{sol}} \mathbb{P}(\mathbb{B} \mathsf{u})_2 = \mathbb{P}(\mathbb{B} \mathsf{u})$$

**(2)**.

Although the dynamic process interchanging these two hydride environments cannot be frozen out, an estimate of the chemical shift of the two hydride sites can be made by comparison to related complexes. In the scheme below, the chemical shift of the hydride ligands in several closely related complexes are depicted. A general observation is that the chemical shift of hydride ligands trans to solvent are found at very high field, ca. -42 ppm, while hydride ligands trans to C or H are found at ca. -10 ppm. Thus we anticipate a very large chemical shift difference between a hydride trans to the aryl carbon versus trans to the weakly bound solvent of about 32 ppm.

Although quantitative analysis remains elusive, qualitative conclusions can be reached based on the data of Tables 2 and 3 and spectra such as those depicted in Figure 1. The observed isotopic perturbation effects could arise from perturbation of the equilibria depicted in equation

1 above *or* equation 2. In the latter case, the chemical shift perturbations result from non statistical occupation by D of chemically inequivalent hydride sites in a single dihydride complex. The other possibility, represented by equation 1, is that two *different* molecules are involved, and that D concentrates preferentially in one of them. As pointed out by Hartwig and De Gala, in a two site system, these possibilities can be distinguished by careful comparison of the chemical shifts of the HH, HD and DD isotopomers. <sup>16</sup> The data for complexes **1–6**, typified by that shown in Figure 1 for complex **6**, establishes that the equilibrium depicted in equation 2 is relevant here, and that the isotopic perturbation effects arise primarily from non-statistical occupancy of two different sites within a single structure.

Qualitatively, the observation that the HD species generally resonate downfield of the HH complexes is consistent with non-statistical concentration of D in the site *trans* to solvent, giving  $K_{eq} > 1$  for the equilibrium of equation 2. If we make certain assumptions regarding the limiting chemical shifts of the two hydride sites, we can estimate a value for  $K_{eq}$ . Assuming as noted above that H *trans* to solvent has a chemical shift of -42 ppm ( $\delta_x$ ) and that H *trans* to carbon has a chemical shift of -10 ppm( $\delta_y$ ), we anticipate an average chemical shift of -26 ppm for the dihydride complex. This is close to the actual observed chemical shift in Freon at low temperature. The chemical shift  $\delta_{HH}$  is strongly temperature dependent, shifting to higher field as the temperature is lowered, probably due to a shifting of equilibrium 1 to the right. At the lowest observation temperature,  $\delta_{HH}$  appears to be asymptotically approaching a value of ca. -22 ppm, so the estimated values for the limiting chemical shifts seem reasonable.

The equilibrium depicted in equation 2 is described by equation 3:15

$$\Delta \delta = \delta_{\text{HD}} - \delta_{\text{HH}} = \frac{(\delta x - \delta y)(1 - K)}{2(K+1)} \tag{3}$$

Using the data for complex 6 in Table 3, assuming that  $\delta_x - \delta_y = -32$  ppm,  $K_{eq}$  at 253 K is calculated to be 1.19. There is thus a slight preference for D to occupy the site *trans* to solvent. The large  $\Delta\delta$  of 1.3 ppm can be attributed to the unusually large chemical shift difference between the two hydride environments. As the temperature is lowered, the values of  $K_{eq}$  increase, reaching 1.68 at 133 K.

With respect to the temperature dependent  $J_{HD}$ 's of complexes **1–6**, several other examples of similar observations have been reported. While  $[Ru(HD)(C_5Me_5)(dppm)]^+$  exhibits an increasing  $J_{HD}$  with decreasing temperature,  $^{17}$  trans- $[Os(HD)(H)(dppe)_2]^{+9}$  trans- $[Os(HD)(Cl)(dppe)_2]^{+8}$  and  $[Ir(HD)(C_5Me_5)(dmpm)]^{2+6}$ e show decreasing  $J_{HD}$  values with decreasing temperature. Calculations on a truncated model complex for  $[Ru(\eta_2-H_2)(C_5Me_5)(dppm)]^+$  led to a model featuring population of excited vibrational states in a highly anharmonic potential to account for the temperature dependent couplings.  $^{18}$  An even more anharmonic potential for the H-H elongation within the  $\eta^2$ -H<sub>2</sub> ligand was also calculated for the truncated analogue of trans- $[Os(H_2)(Cl)(dppe)_2]^+$  which exhibits increasing  $J_{HD}$ 's with increasing temperature.

Our observations suggest that in the case of Ir complexes 1–6, the observed temperature dependent couplings are the result of shifts in an equilibrium between two structures, best described as a solvated dihydride of Ir(III) and a dihydrogen complex of Ir(I). In this respect, the situation closely resembles that reported for  $[Ir(H_2)(C_5Me_5)(dmpm)]^{2+}$ . This complex is believed to have two minima on the potential energy surface corresponding to a dihydride and a dihydrogen form. <sup>6e</sup>

# **Summary**

(p-XPOCOP)IrH<sub>2</sub> complexes (1–6) exhibit a highly solvent and temperature dependent geometry in solution on the basis of a series of NMR spectroscopic deuterium labeling studies. (p-Ar<sup>F</sup>POCOP)IrHD (6- $d_1$ ) is an Ir(III) hydride in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> or CDCl<sub>2</sub>F solvent with  $J_{HD} = 0$ , and exhibits very large isotopic shift differences caused by an IPE. In contrast, relaxation time and HD coupling data suggest that the same complex in pentane or toluene is best described by an equilibrium between an elongated dihydrogen complex of Ir(I) and an Ir(III) dihydride complex. The pronounced temperature dependence of  $J_{HD}$  of complexes  $\bf{1}$  in pentane and toluene, especially that of complex  $\bf{1}$  in toluene- $d_8$  in combination with the respective  $T_1$ (min) confirm that complexes  $\bf{1}$ - $\bf{6}$  exist in a rapidly established equilibrium between two distinct structures.

# **Experimental Section**

#### General

All manipulations were carried out using standard Schlenk techniques or in an Argon filled drybox. Argon was purified by passage through columns of BASF R3-11 (Chemalog) and  $4\text{\AA}$  molecular sieves. Benzene- $d_6$  and toluene- $d_8$  were dried over sodium.  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  was dried over  $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$ . CDFCl<sub>2</sub> was prepared by the procedure of Siegel and Anet  $^{19}$  and stored over  $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$ . NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker DRX 400 and AMX 300 instruments. Complexes 1–6 were prepared as previously reported.  $^{10}$ a

#### Procedure for the generation of deuterium labeled complexes 1-6-d<sub>0-2</sub>

10 mmol of the respective complex 1–6- $h_2$  was loaded into a thick walled J. Young tube in the glovebox. Benzene (0.6 mL) was added, the tube was removed from the glovebox and cooled to -78 °C. The tube was evacuated under high vacuum (-78 °C,  $10^{-3}$  mbar), backfilled with HD gas(prepared by reaction of NaH in THF with D<sub>2</sub>O) and allowed to react for 30 min at 23 °C, while isotopic mixtures of 1–6- $d_{0-2}$  and their respective tetrahydrides were formed. After careful sublimation of the frozen benzene at 0 °C for 2.5 h under high vacuum ( $10^{-3}$  mbar) the sample was cooled to -78 °C and the desired solvent was vacuum transferred into the J. Young tube to leave isotopic mixtures of 1–6- $d_0$ ,  $-d_1$ , and  $-d_2$  in > 95 % yield by NMR. Labeled samples of compounds 1–6 at 23 °C, even in the solid state, slowly transfer their "hydridic" deuterium label into the *tert*-butyl groups. Therefore samples have to be prepared immediately prior to the NMR studies.

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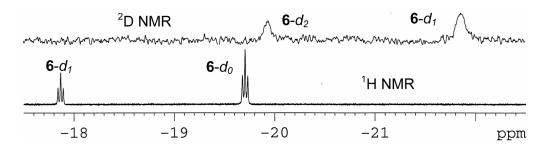
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**Figure 1.** Partial NMR spectra (hydride region) of  $\mathbf{6}$ - $d_{0-2}$  in CDCl<sub>2</sub>F at 233 K. Top: 61 MHz <sup>2</sup>D. Bottom: 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H.

ca. -41 ppm 
$$^{\text{H}}$$
 Cl ca. -43 ppm  $^{\text{H}}$  Ar  $^{\text{R}_2P}$   $^{\text{R$ 

 $X = MeO, Me, H, F, C_6F_5, (Ar^F) [=3,5-(CF_3)_2-C_6H_3]; R = tBu; Ar = 3,5-xylyl, C_6H_5, tolyl$ 

#### Scheme 1.

Examples of hydride chemical shifts in related POCOP complexes.

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Temperature Dependent Isotopic Shifts  $\Delta \delta$  and  $J_{HD}$  Coupling Constants for Isotopically Labeled Complexes (p-XPOCOP)IrHD (1–6 $d_1$ ) in Pentane- $h_{12}$  Solution.

8.0 $-0.018$ 7.7 $-0.251$ 7.5 $+0.075$ 7.3 $-0.196$ h			
+0.075 $7.3$		7.7	
4	+0.007	7,4	
٥		q	q $q$
7.2 +0.165 6.9 -0.132	+0.092 7.	7.0	+0.156 7.0

b not determined

NIH-PA Author Manuscript **Table 2** Temperature Dependent Isotopic Shifts  $\Delta \delta$  of Complex  $\mathbf{6}\text{-}d_{0,1}$  in Halogenated Solvents. NIH-PA Author Manuscript

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		$\mathrm{CD}_2\mathrm{Cl}_2$			$CDCl_2F:Tol-d_8$ (4:1)			$\mathrm{CDCl}_2\mathrm{F}$	
T (K)	$\delta({\rm IrH_2})$	ð(IrHD)	φ	$\delta({ m lr}{ m H}_2)$	δ(IrHD)	φ	$\delta({ m IrH}_2)$	$\delta(\text{IrHD})$	φ
273				-18.084	-17.148	-0.936			
253				-18.676	-17.458	-1.218	-18.921	-17.548	-1.373
233				-19.242	-17.682	-1.560	-19.706	-17.865	-1.841
213	-18.987	-17.456	-1.531	-19.788	-17.829	-1.959	-20.105	-17.908	-2.197
193	-19.517	-17.589	-1.928	-20.319	-17.880	-2.439	-20.643	-17.915	-2.728
173				-20.789	-17.821	-2.968	-21.025	-17.806	-3.219
153				-21.143	-17.640	-3.504	-21.331	-17.542	-3.789
133							-21.428	-17.375	-4.053

**Table 3** Chemical Shifts, Isotopic Shifts and  $J_{\mathrm{HD}}$  of Complexes  $\mathbf{1,3,4,6-}d_{1,0}$  in Toluene- $d_8$ .

	$J_{ m HD}$				8.0	7.6	6.9	6.7	q		
_ [4,	Að [ppm]				-0.348	-0.346	-0.346	-0.346	-0.352	-0.360	-0.372
$6-d_{1,0}$ $X = A_1$	8 (IrHD) [ppm]				-15.684	-15.821	-15.958	-16.066	-16.153	-16.295	-16.337
	$\delta({ m IrH}_2)$ [ppm]				-16.032	-16.167	-16.304	-16.412	-16.504	-16.655	-16.709
	$J_{ m HD}$				7.0	c	c	c			
	Λδ [ppm]				-0.092	-0.055	а	а	0.062	0.104	0.123
$\begin{array}{c} 4-d_{1,0} \\ \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{F} \end{array}$	ð (IrHD) [ppm]				-17.038	-17.166	a	a	-17.419	-17.493	-17.528
	$\delta({\bf IrH_2})$ [ppm]				-17.130	-17.221	-17.272	-17.320	-17.357	-17.389	-17.405
	$J_{ m HD}$ [Hz]	С	c	С	7.9	7.3	6.5	0.9	q		
	Δδ [ppm]	-0.253	-0.245	-0.233	-0.218	-0.198	-0.178	-0.150	-0.128		
$3-d_{1,0}$ $X = H$	δ (IrHD) [ppm]	-16.517	-16.597	-16.690	-16.775	-16.871	-16.964	-17.059	-17.145		
	$\delta(IrH_2)$ [ppm]	-16.770	-16.842	-16.923	-16.993	-17.069	-17.142	-17.209	-17.273		
C	$J_{\mathrm{HD}}$ [Hz]				6.9	6.2	5.0	3.8	q		
	$\Delta\delta$ [ppm]				a	0.028	0.065	0.106	0.144		
$1-d_{1,0}$ $X = MeO$	ô (IrHD) [ppm]				a	-17.663	-17.758	-17.849	-17.932		
	$\delta({ m IrH}_2)$ [ppm]				-17.578	-17.635	-17.693	-17.743	-17.787		
	(K)	353	333	313	296	273	253	233	213	193	183

 $^{\it a}$  Not resolvable due to overlap of the Ir(HD) and Ir(H2) resonances.

bNot resolved.

<sup>c</sup>Not determined.