

## Electronic Supporting Information

### Mechanistic studies on the addition of hydrogen to iridaepoxide complexes with subsequent elimination of water.

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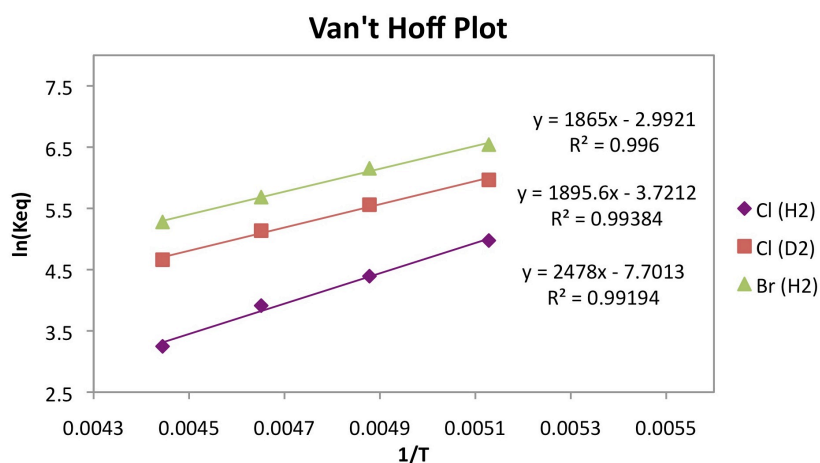
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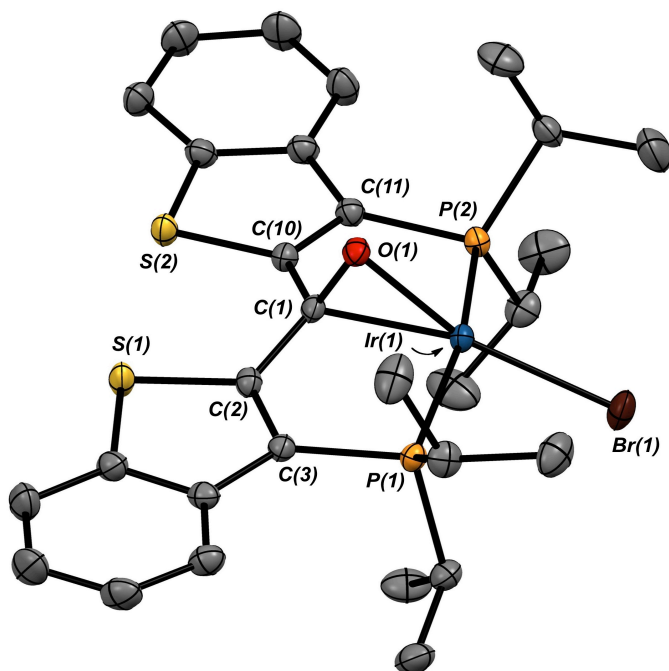
**General Considerations.** Storage and manipulation of all compounds were performed under an argon atmosphere either in a VAC glove box or using a double manifold high vacuum line using standard techniques. Toluene, pentane and hexanes were dried and purified using a Grubbs/Dow solvent purification system and stored in 500 mL thick-walled vessels over sodium/benzophenone ketal. Dichloromethane and dichloromethane- $d_2$  were dried over calcium hydride and vacuum transferred into thick-walled vessels for storage over activated sieves. Toluene- $d_8$  was dried and stored over sodium/benzophenone ketal. All dried solvents were degassed and vacuum distilled prior to use.  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR chemical shifts were referenced to residual solvent protons and naturally abundant  $^{13}\text{C}$  resonances for all deuterated solvents. Chemical shift assignments are based on  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ ,  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ ,  $^{19}\text{F}$ ,  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$ -COSY,  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$ -HSQC and  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$ -HMBC NMR experiments performed on Bruker RDQ-400, Ascend-500 or Avance-600 spectrometers. Deuterium (99.7%) and Ultra High Purity Hydrogen were purchased from Praxair and used as received. Nitrous oxide (99%) and deuterium hydride (96 mol%, 98 atom % D) were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich and used as received. All other reagents were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich and used as received. X-ray crystallographic analyses were performed on either a Nonius KappaCCD diffractometer or a Bruker Smart diffractometer equipped with Apex II detector. Samples were coated in Paratone 8277 oil (Exxon) and mounted on a glass fibre. Full crystallography details can be found in independently uploaded .cif files. All Elemental analyses were obtained by the Instrumentation Facility of the Department of Chemistry, University of Calgary.



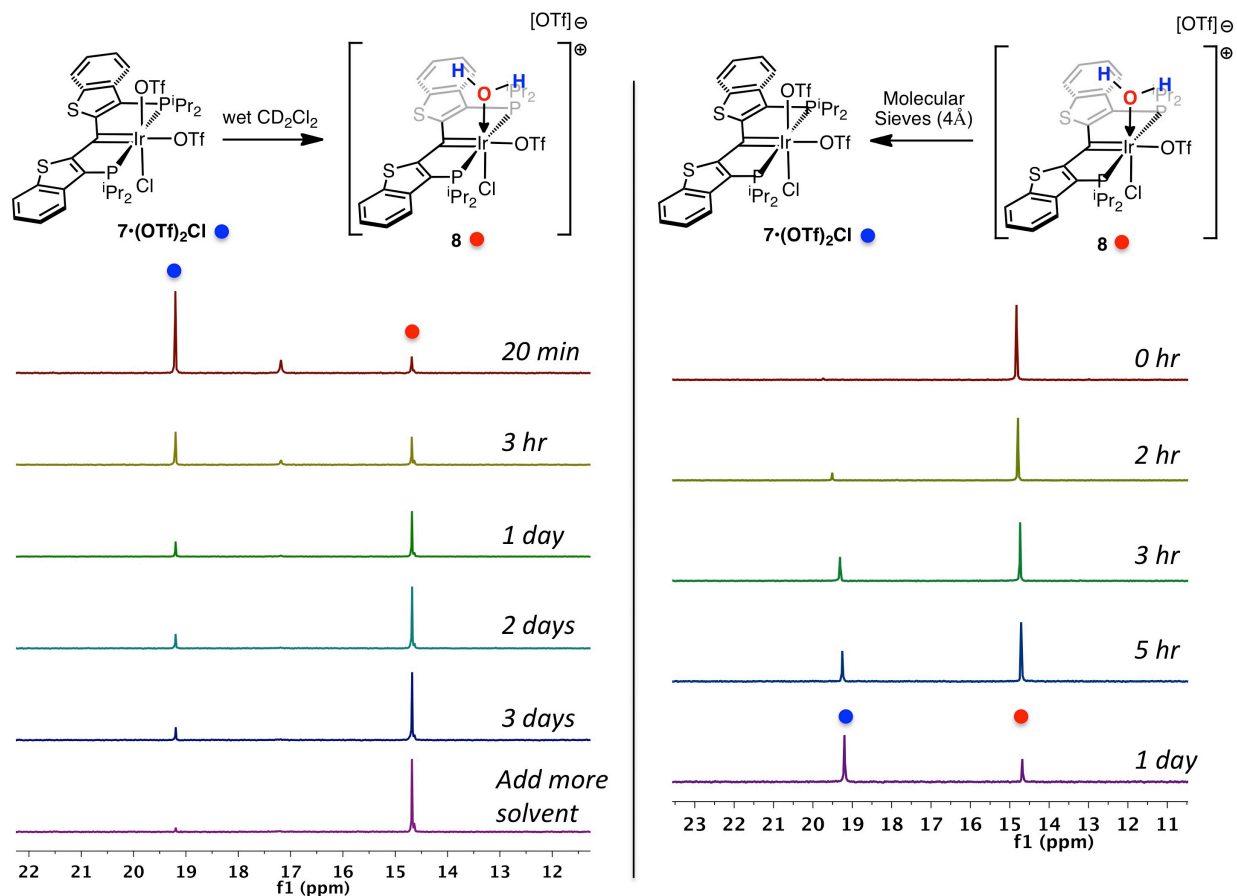
$$K_{eq} = \frac{[2 \cdot X_{cis}]}{[1 \cdot X][H_2]}$$

| T (°C) | [H <sub>2</sub> ] (mM) |
|--------|------------------------|
| -78    | 3.07                   |
| -68    | 3.27                   |
| -58    | 3.47                   |
| -48    | 3.67                   |

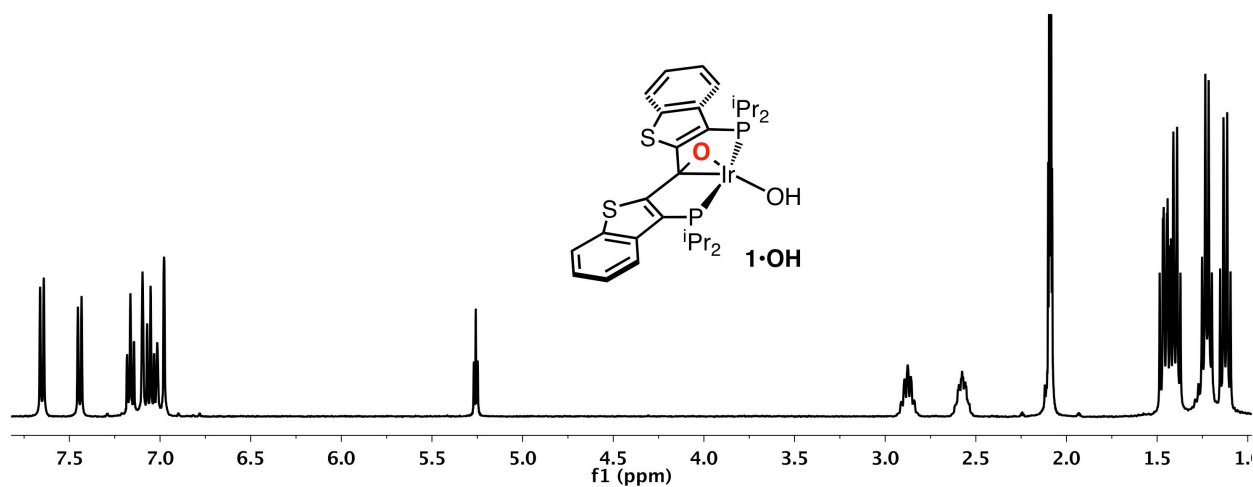
**Figure S1.** *Left:* Van't Hoff plots depicting the equilibrium of **1•Cl** and **2•Cl<sub>cis</sub>** with H<sub>2</sub> (purple diamonds), **1•Cl** and **2•Cl<sub>cis</sub>** with D<sub>2</sub> (red squares) and **1•Br** and **2•Br<sub>cis</sub>** with H<sub>2</sub> (green triangles). *Right:* Equation for the equilibrium constant and concentrations of H<sub>2</sub> (mM) in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at varying temperatures measured by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy.



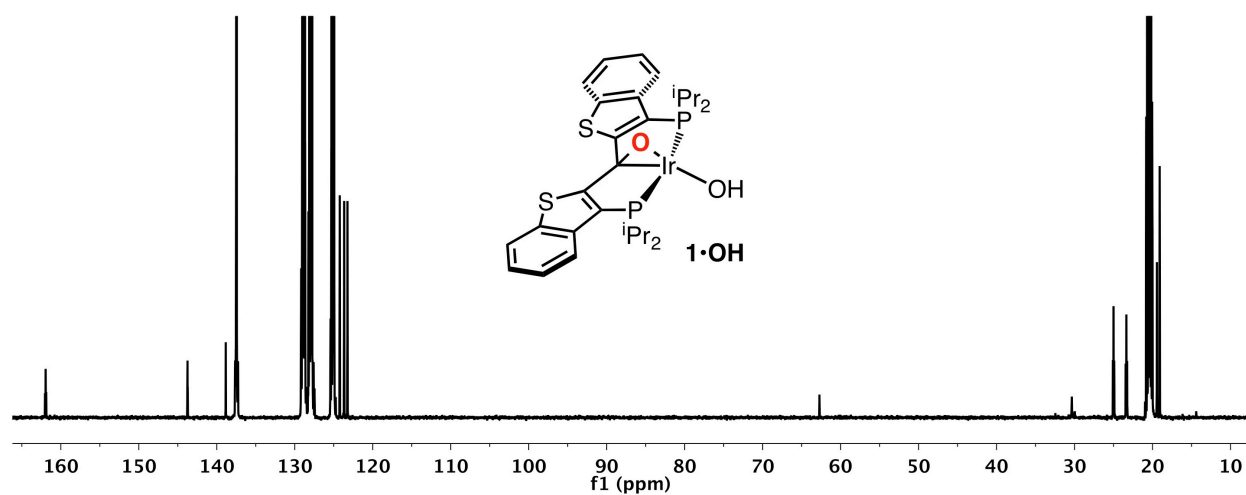
**Figure S2.** Molecular structure of **1•Br**. Hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity. Displacement ellipsoids are shown at the 50% probability level. Selected bond lengths (Å): Ir(1)-P(1), 2.3214(6); Ir(1)-P(2), 2.3234(6); Ir(1)-C(1), 2.4387(3); Ir(1)-O(1), 2.0489(17); Ir(1)-Br(1), 2.4387(3); C(1)-O(1), 1.355(3). Selected bond angles (°): C(1)-Ir(1)-O(1), 38.23(8); C(1)-O(1)-Ir(1), 72.42(12); Ir(1)-C(1)-O(1), 69.36(12); P(1)-Ir(1)-P(2), 162.57(2).



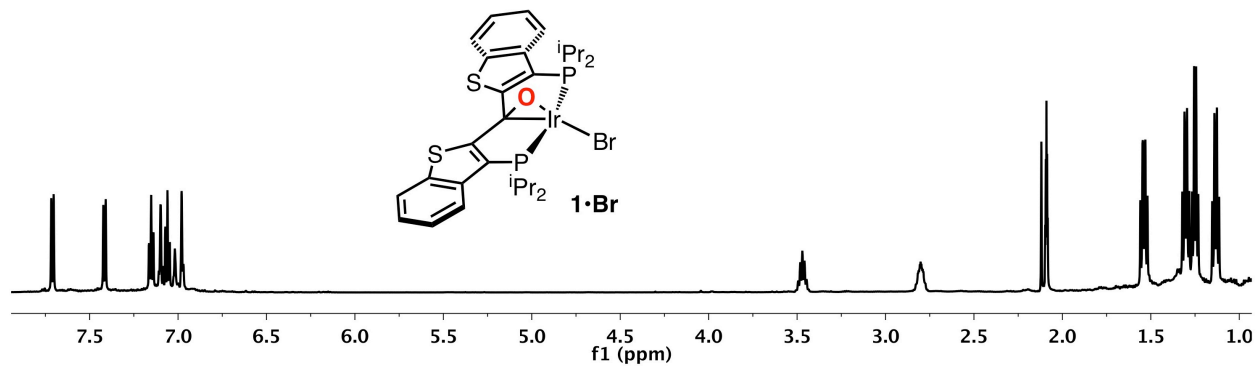
**Figure S3.** *Left:*  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectra ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 203 MHz, 25 °C) of **7**·(OTf) $_2$ Cl dissolved in wet  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  over time. The bottom spectrum was taken after more  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (wet) was added to the sample. *Right:*  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectra ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 203 MHz, 25 °C) over time of a solution of **8** mixed with a few activated molecular sieves (4 Å).



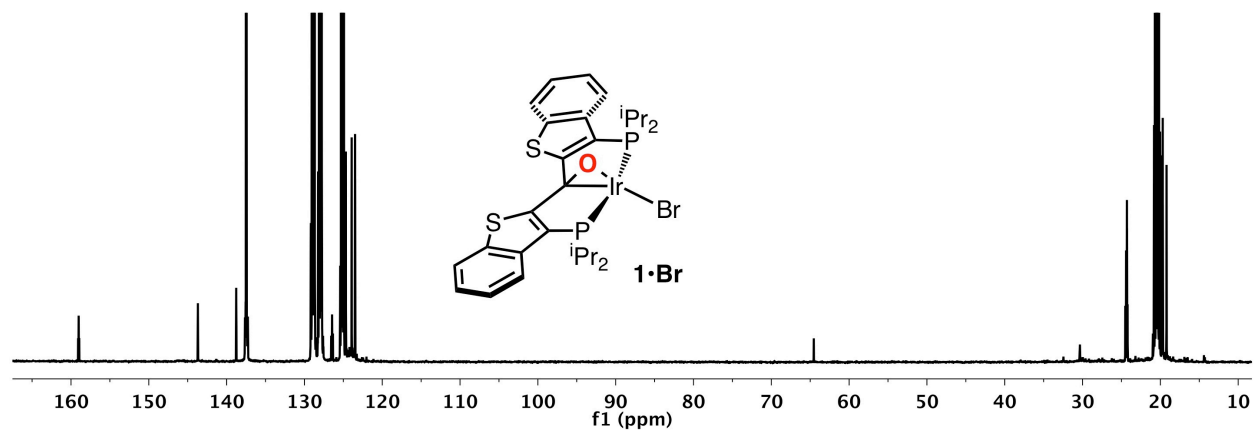
**Figure S4.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **1**·OH in  $\text{toluene-}d_8$ .



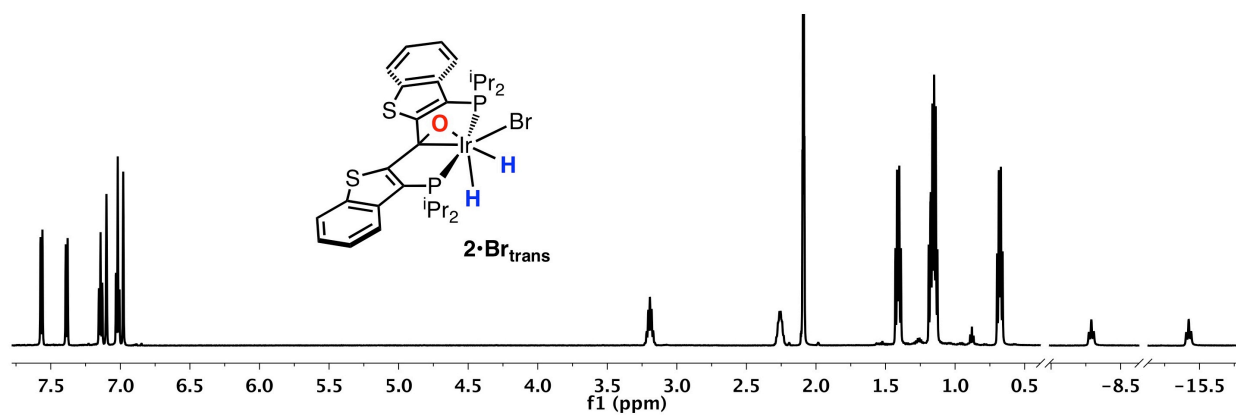
**Figure S5.**  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum of **1•OH** in  $\text{toluene-}d_8$ .



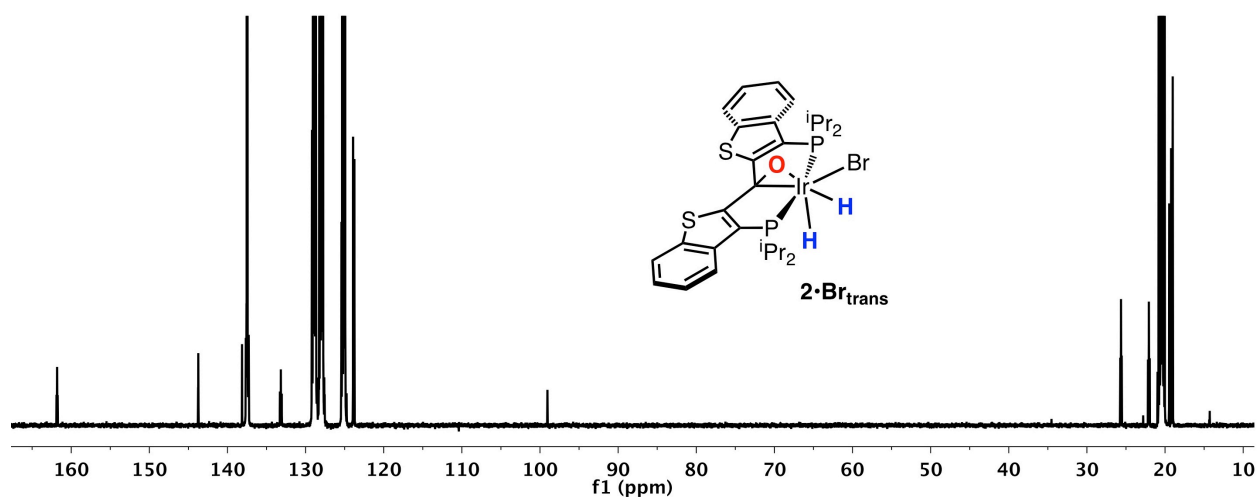
**Figure S6.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **1•Br** in  $\text{toluene-}d_8$ .



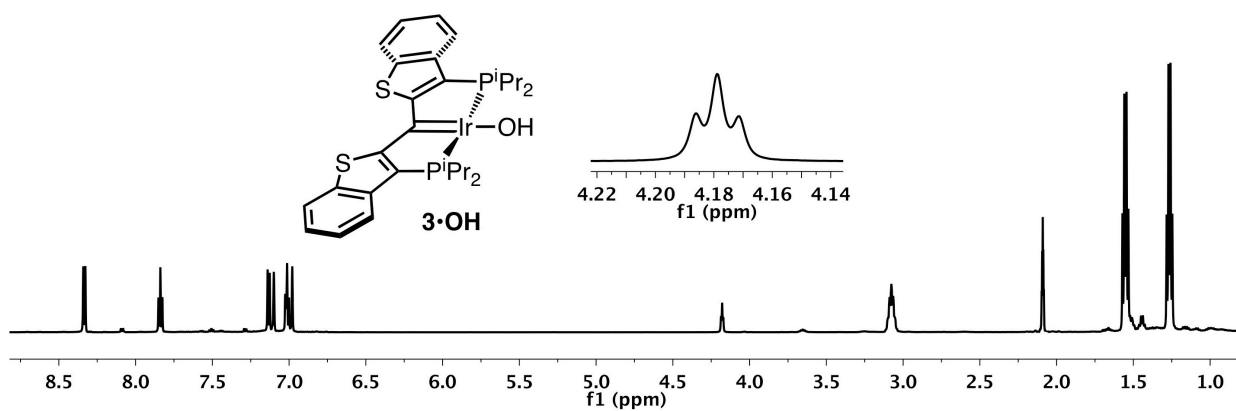
**Figure S7.**  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum of **1•Br** in  $\text{toluene-}d_8$ .



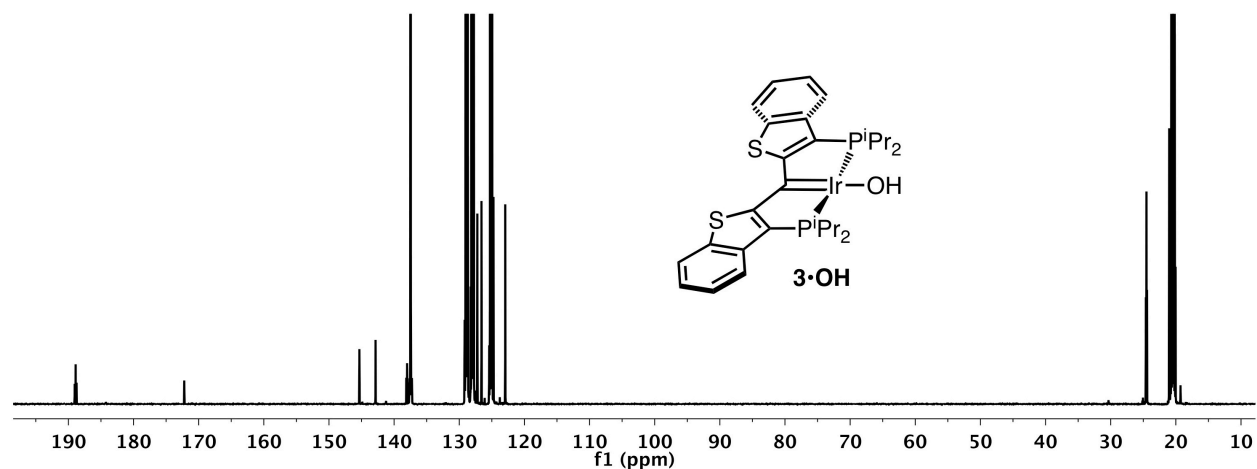
**Figure S8.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of  $2\cdot\text{Br}_{\text{trans}}$  in  $\text{toluene-}d_8$ .



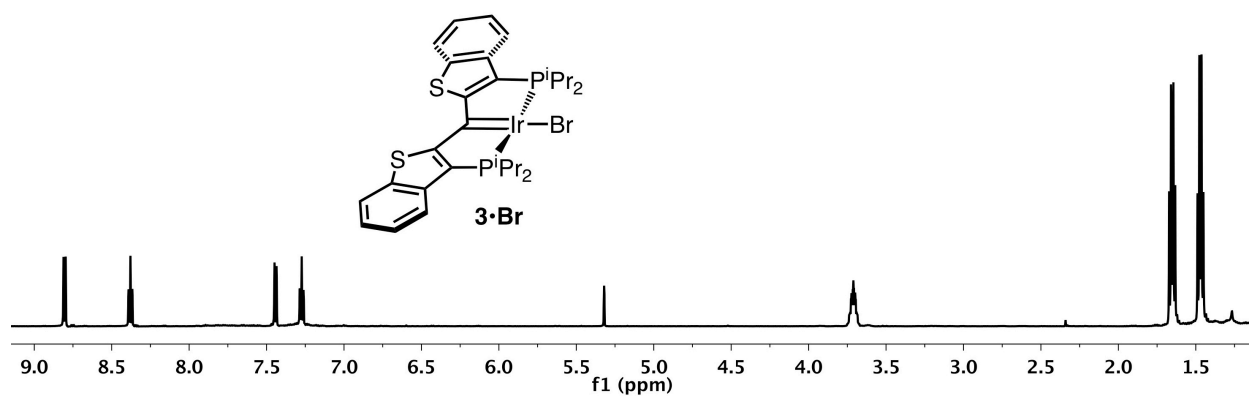
**Figure S9.**  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum of  $2\cdot\text{Br}_{\text{trans}}$  in  $\text{toluene-}d_8$ .



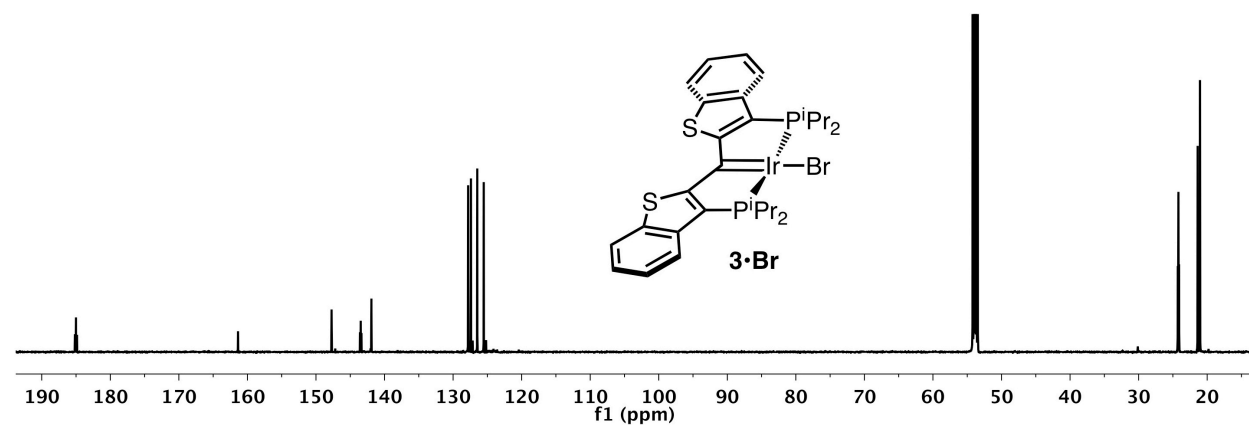
**Figure S10.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of  $3\cdot\text{OH}$  in  $\text{toluene-}d_8$ .



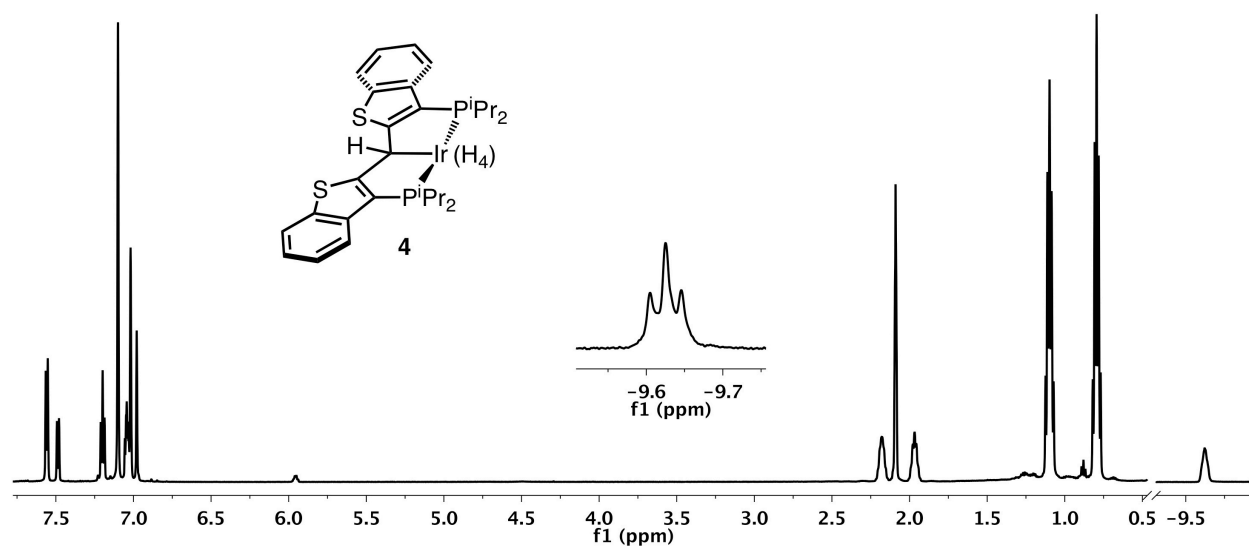
**Figure S11.**  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum of **3-OH** in toluene- $d_8$ .



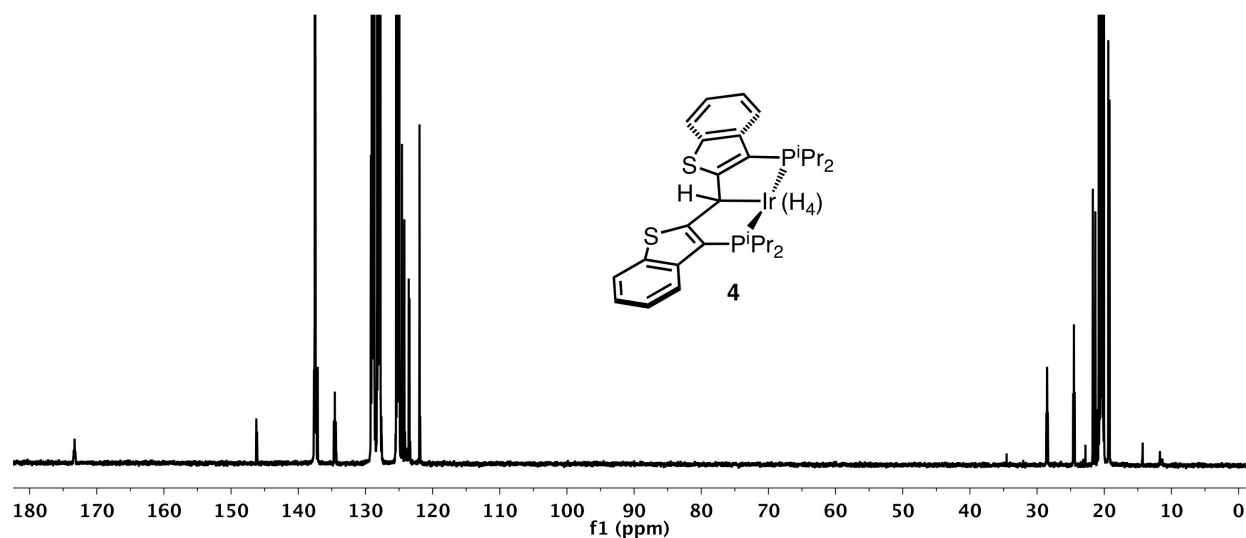
**Figure S12.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **3-Br** in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .



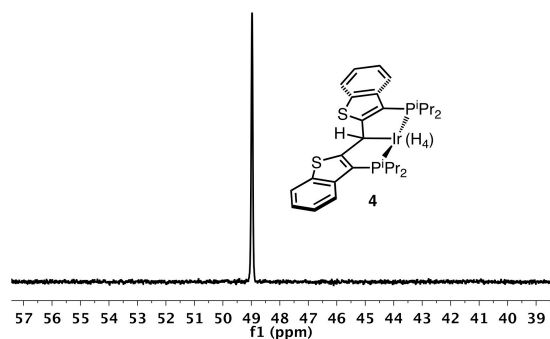
**Figure S13.**  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum of **3-Br** in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .



**Figure S14.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **4** in  $\text{toluene-}d_8$ . The inset shows a triplet at -9.63 ppm before full conversion to **4** and before substantial H/D exchange had occurred.

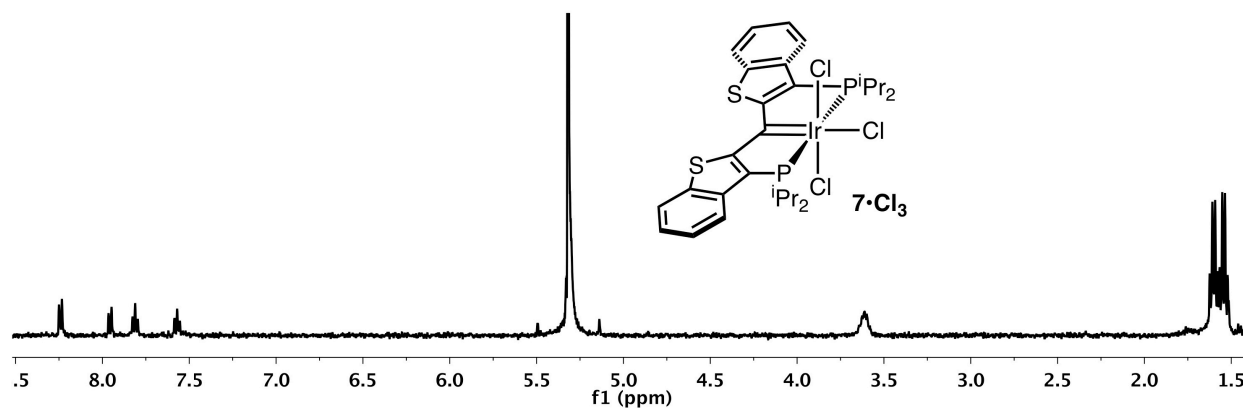


**Figure S15.**  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum of **4** in  $\text{toluene-}d_8$ .

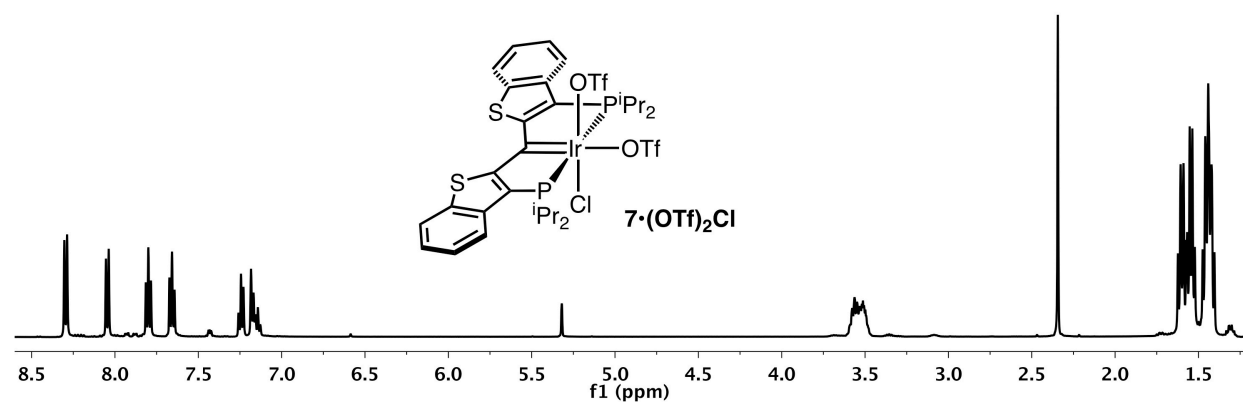


**Figure S16.**  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum of **4** in  $\text{toluene-}d_8$ .

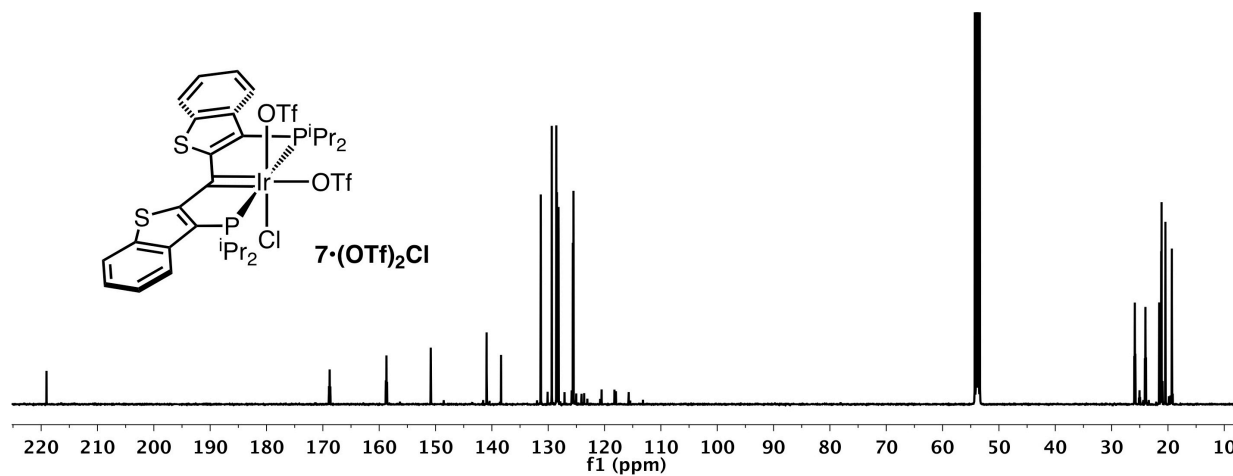




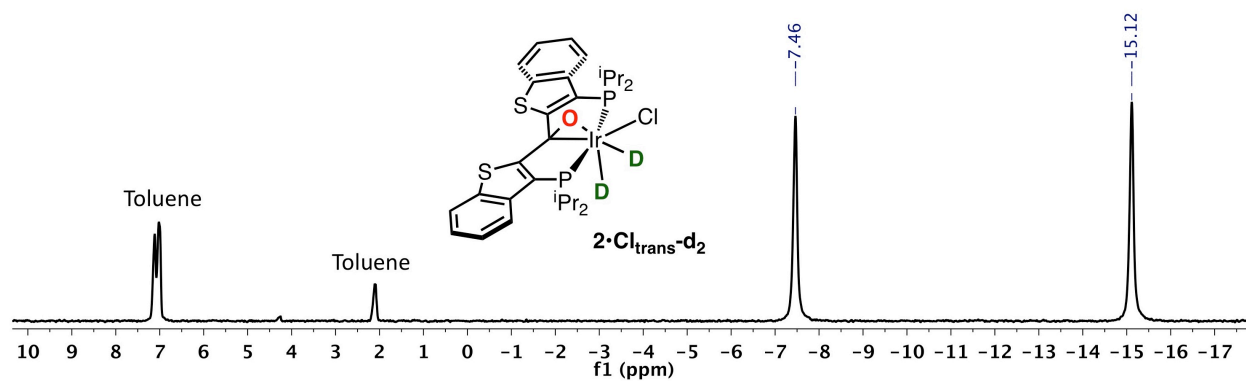
**Figure S17.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of  $7 \cdot \text{Cl}_3$  in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .



**Figure S18.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of  $7 \cdot (\text{OTf})_2\text{Cl}$  in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .



**Figure S19.**  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum of  $7 \cdot (\text{OTf})_2\text{Cl}$  in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .



**Figure S20.**  $^2\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of  $2\cdot\text{Cl}_{\text{trans}}\text{-d}_2$  in toluene.

**Table S1.** Data collection and structure refinement details for **3•OH**, **1•OH**, **1•Br**, **7•Cl<sub>3</sub>**, **7•(OTf)<sub>2</sub>Cl**, and **8**.

|                                       | <b>3•OH</b>  | <b>1•OH</b>  | <b>1•Br</b>   | <b>7•Cl<sub>3</sub></b>  | <b>7•(OTf)<sub>2</sub>Cl</b>   | <b>8</b>   |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|---|--|--|--|
| formula                               | C <sub>29</sub> H <sub>37</sub> IrOP <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub> | 2(C <sub>29</sub> H <sub>36</sub> IrO <sub>2</sub> P <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub> ),<br>C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>8</sub> | C <sub>29</sub> H <sub>36</sub> BrIrOP <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub> ,<br>C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>8</sub> | C <sub>29</sub> H <sub>36</sub> Cl <sub>3</sub> IrP <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub> ,<br>C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>8</sub> | C <sub>31</sub> H <sub>36</sub> ClF <sub>6</sub> IrO <sub>6</sub> P <sub>2</sub> S <sub>4</sub><br>CO <sub>3</sub> SF <sub>3</sub> | C <sub>30</sub> H <sub>38</sub> ClF <sub>3</sub> IrO <sub>4</sub> P <sub>2</sub> S <sub>3</sub> ,<br>CO <sub>3</sub> SF <sub>3</sub> |
| fw                                    | 719.84   | 1561.81  | 890.88  | 901.32   | 1036.43  | 1054.44  |
| crystal system                        | monoclinic   | triclinic  | monoclinic  | monoclinic   | monoclinic   | monoclinic   |
| space group                           | P2 <sub>1</sub> /c   | P-1  | P2 <sub>1</sub> /n  | P2 <sub>1</sub> /c   | C2/c   | C2/c   |
| a, Å                                  | 13.5212(3)   | 12.8155(7)   | 14.5417(3)  | 12.4862(3)   | 29.3975(5)   | 27.4764(5)   |
| b, Å                                  | 15.0131(4)   | 14.1374(8)   | 11.2071(2)  | 13.6671(5)   | 17.9182(3)   | 20.4688(4)   |
| c, Å                                  | 16.0250(2)   | 19.4358(11)  | 22.7055(5)  | 23.6020(6)   | 23.5916(6)   | 18.4422(4)   |
| α, deg                                | 90   | 105.409(2)   | 90  | 90   | 90   | 90   |
| β, deg                                | 116.7160(10)   | 103.594(2)   | 106.9590(10)  | 118.383(2)   | 122.6490(10)   | 112.8740(10)   |
| γ, deg                                | 90   | 93.729(2)  | 90  | 90   | 90   | 90   |
| V, Å <sup>3</sup>                     | 2905.73(11)  | 3269.0(3)  | 3539.41(13)   | 3543.51(19)  | 10463.3(4)   | 9556.4(3)  |
| Z                                     | 4  | 2  | 4   | 4  | 8  | 8  |
| T, K                                  | 173(2)   | 173(2)   | 173(2)  | 173(2)   | 173(2)   | 173(2)   |
| λ, Å                                  | 0.71073  | 1.54178  | 1.54178   | 0.71073  | 1.54178  | 1.54178  |
| ρ <sub>calc</sub> , g/cm <sup>3</sup> | 1.645  | 1.587  | 1.672   | 1.689  | 1.316  | 1.466  |
| F(000)                                | 1432   | 1560   | 1768  | 1800   | 4096   | 4176   |
| μ, mm <sup>-1</sup>                   | 4.869  | 10.236   | 10.789  | 4.229  | 7.944  | 8.724  |
| crystal size, mm <sup>3</sup>         | 0.08×0.06×0.04   | 0.25×0.150×0.110   | 0.20×0.20×0.20  | 0.04×0.04×0.02   | 0.15×0.1×0.1   | 0.18×0.09×0.09   |
| transmission factors                  | 0.6967 – 0.8291  | 0.552 – 0.753  | 0.3974 – 0.5230   | 0.8491 – 0.9202  | 0.3820 – 0.5038  | 0.4746 – 0.7531  |
| θ range, deg                          | 1.966 – 24.999   | 2.444 – 67.493   | 3.235 – 67.490  | 2.379 – 24.998   | 3.045 – 66.500   | 3.308 – 68.419   |
| data/restraints/param                 | 5061/2/320   | 11415/729/730  | 6367/387/397  | 6180/570/425   | 9117/0/468   | 8633/150/525   |
| GoF                                   | 1.044  | 1.031  | 1.073   | 1.132  | 1.018  | 1.037  |
| R <sub>1</sub> (>2σ(I))               | 0.0276   | 0.0356   | 0.0201  | 0.0552   | 0.0497   | 0.0391   |
| wR <sub>2</sub> (all data)            | 0.0682   | 0.0917   | 0.0497  | 0.1511   | 0.1441   | 0.1089   |
| residual density, e/Å <sup>3</sup>    | 1.216 and -0.659   | 2.780 and -1.149   | 0.439 and -0.849  | 1.332 and -0.798   | 2.243 and -0.732   | 0.982 and -0.870   |