

Supporting Information for:

**Alkyl Dehydrogention in a Rh(I) Complex via an Isolated Agostic Intermediate.**

Adrian B. Chaplin, Amalia I. Poblador-Bahamonde, Hazel A. Sparkes, Judith A. K. Howard, Stuart A. Macgregor, and Andrew S. Weller\*

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## Experimental

All manipulations, unless otherwise stated, were performed under an atmosphere of argon, using standard Schlenk and glove-box techniques. Glassware was oven dried at 130°C overnight and flamed under vacuum prior to use. CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, THF, MeCN and pentane were dried using a Grubbs type solvent purification system (MBraun SPS-800) and degassed by successive freeze-pump-thaw cycles.<sup>i</sup> CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>F, 1,2-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>F<sub>2</sub> and 1,3-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>(CH<sub>3</sub>)F were distilled under vacuum from CaH<sub>2</sub> and stored over 3 Å molecular sieves. tert-butylethene was dried over sodium, vacuum distilled and stored over 3 Å molecular sieves. [Rh(BINOR-S)(P*i*Pr<sub>3</sub>)][BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>]<sup>j</sup>, [Rh(P*i*Pr<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl]<sub>2</sub><sup>k</sup> and Na[BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>]<sup>l</sup> were prepared by literature methods. All other chemicals are commercial products and were used as received. NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Unity or a Bruker AVC 500 MHz spectrometer at room temperature, unless otherwise stated. Chemical shifts are quoted in ppm and coupling constants in Hz. ESI-MS were recorded on a Bruker MicroOTOF-Q instrument.<sup>v</sup> Microanalyses were performed by Elemental Microanalysis Ltd.

## Synthesis of new complexes

### [Rh(P*i*Pr<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>][BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>]<sup>\*</sup>

To a solution of [Rh(BINOR-S)(P*i*Pr<sub>3</sub>)][BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>] (0.30 g, 0.23 mmol) in C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>F (15 mL) was added a solution of P*i*Pr<sub>3</sub> in pentane (0.86 mL, 0.56 M, 0.48 mmol). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 minutes, during which time the solution became dark purple, then layered with pentane and held at 5°C to give dark red crystals, which were isolated by decantation and washed with pentane (3 × 5 mL). Yield: 0.24 g. \* Analysis of these crystals by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy and X-ray diffraction indicated the presence of 20% [Rh(P*i*Pr<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(P*i*Pr<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>))][BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>] as a cocrystalline impurity. Crystals could also be grown in a similar manor from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 7.71-7.75 (m, 8H, BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>), 7.57 (br, 4H, BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>), 1.89 (virtual sept, 9H, J = 7, PCH), 1.35-1.41 (m, 54H, PCHMe).

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 500 MHz, 200 K): 7.73 (br, 8H, BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>), 7.56 (br, 4H, BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>), 1.68-1.86 (m, 9H, PCH), 1.20-1.35 (m, 54H, PCHMe).

**<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR** (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 126 MHz): 162.1 (q, *J*<sub>BC</sub> = 50, BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>), 135.3 (s, BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>), 129.2 (qq, *J*<sub>FC</sub> = 32, *J*<sub>BC</sub> = 3, BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>), 125.1 (q, *J*<sub>FC</sub> = 272, BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>), 117.8 (virtual sept, *J* = 4, BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>), 27.0 (dd, *J* = 14, *J* = 7, PCH), 20.7 (s, PCHMe).

**<sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR** (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 202 MHz): δ 47.1 (d, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>RhP</sub> = 173).

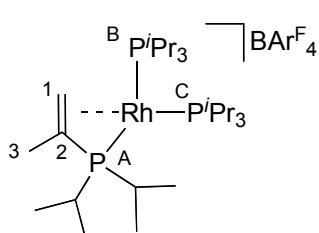
**$^{31}\text{P}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR** ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 202 MHz, 200 K):  $\delta$  41 (br, fwhm = 4000 Hz).

**ESI-MS** ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 100°C, 4.5 kV) positive ion:  $m/z$ , 421.16 [ $\text{M-C}_9\text{H}_{23}\text{P}^+$ ] (58%, calc. 421.17), 581.30 [ $\text{M-H}_2^+$ ] (100%, calc. 583.30).

**Anal.** Calcd for  $\text{C}_{59}\text{H}_{74.60}\text{BF}_{24}\text{P}_3\text{Rh}$  (1446.44 g mol<sup>-1</sup>): C, 48.99; H, 5.20. Found: C, 49.19; H, 5.19.

### [Rh(P*i*Pr<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(P*i*Pr<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>))[BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>]

To a schlenk flask charged with [Rh(P*i*Pr<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>][BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>]<sup>\*</sup> (0.050 g, 0.035 mmol) was added tert-butylethene (0.1 mL, excess) followed by 1,2-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>F<sub>2</sub> (1 mL). The resulting solution was stirred at room temperature for 72 h and then filtered. The filtrate was then concentrated in vacuo and the orange residue washed with pentane (3 × 4 mL) and dried in vacuo. Yield: 0.043 g (86%). Orange crystals suitable for X-Ray diffraction were obtained from a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution layered with pentane at 5°C.



**$^1\text{H}$  NMR** ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  7.76-7.79 (m, 8H, BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>), 7.60 (br, 4H, BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>), 4.18-4.25 (m, 1H, H<sup>1</sup>), 3.19-3.21 (m, 1H, H<sup>1'</sup>), 2.30-2.45 (m, 8H, PC<sub>H</sub>+PC<sub>H'</sub>), 1.83-1.86 (m, 3H, H<sup>3</sup>), 1.19-1.52 (m, 48H, PCHMe+PCHMe').

**$^{13}\text{C}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR** ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 126 MHz): 162.1 (q,  $J_{BC} = 50$ , BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>), 135.2 (s, BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>), 129.3 (qq,  $J_{FC} = 31$ ,  $J_{BC} = 3$ , BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>), 125.0 (q,  $J_{FC} = 272$ , BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>), 117.9 (virtual sept,  $J = 4$ , BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>), 84.8 (C<sup>2</sup>), 67.0 (C<sup>1</sup>), 30.7 (d,  $J = 19$ , PC<sub>H'</sub>), 28.2 (t,  $J = 9$ , PC<sub>H</sub>), 23.6 (br), 22.7 (br), 21.3 (br, PCHMe), 20.9 (s, PCHMe').

**$^{31}\text{P}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR** ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 202 MHz):  $\delta$  55.8 (dt,  $J_{\text{RhP}} = 181$ ,  $J_{PP} = 33$ , 1P, PC), 41.9-42.7 (m, 2P, PA,B).

**$^{31}\text{P}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR** ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 202 MHz, 250 K):  $\delta$  55.8 (ddd,  $J_{\text{RhP}} = 188$ ,  $J_{PPA} = 40$ ,  $J_{PP2} = 27$ , 1P, PC), 44.2 (ddd,  $J_{PPB} = 224$ ,  $J_{\text{RhP}} = 93$ ,  $J_{PPC} = 40$ , 1P, PA), 41.3 (ddd,  $J_{PPA} = 224$ ,  $J_{\text{RhP}} = 159$ ,  $J_{PPC} = 27$ , 1P, PB).

**ESI-MS** ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 100°C, 4.5 kV) positive ion:  $m/z$ , 421.17 [ $\text{M-C}_9\text{H}_{21}\text{P}^+$ ] (21%, calc. 421.17), 581.31 [M]<sup>+</sup> (100%, calc. 583.30).

**Anal.** Calcd for  $\text{C}_{59}\text{H}_{73}\text{BF}_{24}\text{P}_3\text{Rh}$  (1444.83 g mol<sup>-1</sup>): C, 49.05; H, 5.09. Found: C, 49.00; H, 4.86.

### [Rh(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>F)(P*i*Pr<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>][BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>]

A suspension of [Rh(P*i*Pr<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl]<sub>2</sub> (0.20 g, 0.22 mmol) and Na[BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>] (0.39 g, 0.44 mmol) in C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>F (12 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 1 h and then filtered. The filtrate was layered with pentane and held at room temperature to give the product as dark red crystals, which were isolated by decantation and washed with pentane (3 × 8 mL). Yield: 0.410 g (68%).

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR** ( $C_6H_5F$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  8.31 (br, 8H,  $BAr^F_4$ ), 7.62 (br, 4H,  $BAr^F_4$ ), 1.58-1.71 (m, 6H,  $PCH$ ), 0.89-1.09 (m, 32H,  $PCHMe$ ). Signals from  $\gamma^6-C_6H_5F$  not observed.

**<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR** ( $C_6H_5F$ , 126 MHz): 135.7 (s,  $BAr^F_4$ ), 125.4 (q,  $J_{FC} = 276$ ,  $BAr^F_4$ ), 118.0 (br,  $BAr^F_4$ ), 27.7 (t,  $J = 11$ ,  $PCH$ ), 18.5 (s,  $PCHMe$ ). Signals from  $\gamma^6-C_6H_5F$  not observed. Some signals from the anion are obscured by those of the solvent.

**<sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR** ( $C_6H_5F$ , 202 MHz):  $\delta$  55.5 (d,  $J_{RhP} = 210$ ).

**ESI-MS** ( $C_6H_5F$ , 100°C, 4.5 kV) positive ion: *m/z*, 423.18 [ $M-C_6H_5F$ ]<sup>+</sup> (calc. 423.18).

**Anal.** Calcd for  $C_{56}H_{59}BF_{25}P_2Rh$  (1382.7086 g mol<sup>-1</sup>): C, 48.64; H, 4.30. Found: C, 48.47; H, 4.14.

#### **[Rh(P*i*Pr<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>H<sub>2</sub>][BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>]**

A solution of [Rh(P*i*Pr<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>H<sub>2</sub>][BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>], [Rh(P*i*Pr<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>][BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>] and [Rh(P*i*Pr<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(P*i*Pr<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>))][BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>] (0.4:1:1 ratio) in  $C_6H_5F$  was prepared by equilibration of [Rh(P*i*Pr<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>][BAr<sup>F</sup><sub>4</sub>]<sup>\*</sup> (0.010 g, 0.007 mmol) at room temperature over 24 h. A small quantity of H<sub>2</sub> was passed over the solution until the solution remained yellow and <sup>31</sup>P NMR indicated reaction completion. The yellow solution was layered with pentane at room temperature to give the product as yellow crystals. Yield: 0.035 g (36%). Crystals grown in this manner were suitable for X-Ray diffraction (redissolving this material in  $C_6H_5F$  gave similar NMR data). Cooling in 1,3-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>(CH<sub>3</sub>)F did not resolve the hydride signal in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum; it broadened into the baseline at 200K. A broad resonance was also observed by <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR at this temperature. The sample was not stable in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR** ( $C_6H_5F$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  8.32 (br, 8H,  $BAr^F_4$ ), 7.63 (br, 4H,  $BAr^F_4$ ), 2.18 (br, 9H,  $PCH$ ), 1.01 (br, 54H,  $PCHMe$ ), -21.04 (d,  $J_{RhH} = 28$ , 2H, RhH,  $T_1 = 0.38 \pm 0.2$  s)

**<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR** ( $C_6H_5F$ , 126 MHz): 135.8 (s,  $BAr^F_4$ ), 125.5 (q,  $J_{FC} = 276$ ,  $BAr^F_4$ ), 118.0 (virtual sept,  $J = 4$ ,  $BAr^F_4$ ), 27.0 (br,  $PCH$ ), 18.6 (s,  $PCHMe$ ). Some signals from the anion are obscured by those of the solvent.

**<sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR** ( $C_6H_5F$ , 202 MHz):  $\delta$  51.2 (d,  $J_{RhP} = 106$ ).

**ESI-MS** ( $C_6H_5F$ , 100°C, 4.5 kV) positive ion: *m/z*, 423.18 [ $M-C_9H_{23}P$ ]<sup>+</sup> (54%, calc. 423.18),

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425.20 [M-C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>21</sub>P]<sup>+</sup> (100%, calc. 425.20), 583.32 [M-H<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup> (3%, calc. 583.32), 585.34 [M]<sup>+</sup> (1%, calc. 585.34).

## NMR experiments

### 1. Preparation of $[\text{Rh}(\text{PiPr}_3)_3][\text{BArF}_4]$

From  $[\text{Rh}(\text{BINOR-S})(\text{PiPr}_3)][\text{BArF}_4]$ : To a solution of  $[\text{Rh}(\text{BINOR-S})(\text{PiPr}_3)][\text{BArF}_4]$  (10 mg, 0.0076 mmol) in  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{F}$  (0.4 mL) was added a solution of  $\text{PiPr}_3$  in pentane (0.020 mL, 0.74 M, 2.0 equiv.). The resulting solution rapidly became purple and the products were immediately characterised in situ by NMR spectroscopy. Formation of  $[\text{Rh}(\text{PiPr}_3)_3][\text{BArF}_4]$  was quantitative by  $^{31}\text{P}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR spectroscopy (see Figure S-2). An equilibrium mixture containing  $[\text{Rh}(\text{PiPr}_3)_3\text{H}_2][\text{BArF}_4]$ ,  $[\text{Rh}(\text{PiPr}_3)_3][\text{BArF}_4]$  and  $[\text{Rh}(\text{PiPr}_3)_2(\text{PiPr}_2(\text{C}_3\text{H}_5))][\text{BArF}_4]$  (0.3:1:1 ratio) is observed after 24 h at RT.

From  $[\text{Rh}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{F})(\text{PiPr}_3)_2][\text{BArF}_4]$ : To a solution of  $[\text{Rh}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{F})(\text{PiPr}_3)_2][\text{BArF}_4]$  (10 mg, 0.0072 mmol) in  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_6\text{F}$  (0.4 mL) was added a solution of  $\text{PiPr}_3$  in pentane (0.014 mL, 0.56 M, 1.1 equiv.). The resulting solution rapidly became purple and the products were immediately characterised in situ by NMR spectroscopy. Formation of  $[\text{Rh}(\text{PiPr}_3)_3][\text{BArF}_4]$  was quantitative by  $^{31}\text{P}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR spectroscopy. An equilibrium mixture containing  $[\text{Rh}(\text{PiPr}_3)_3\text{H}_2][\text{BArF}_4]$ ,  $[\text{Rh}(\text{PiPr}_3)_3][\text{BArF}_4]$  and  $[\text{Rh}(\text{PiPr}_3)_2(\text{PiPr}_2(\text{C}_3\text{H}_5))][\text{BArF}_4]$  (0.4:1:0.9 ratio) is observed after 24 h at RT.

### 2. Dehydrogenation of $[\text{Rh}(\text{PiPr}_3)_3][\text{BArF}_4]$

Dehydrogenation reactions were carried out using isolated samples of  $[\text{Rh}(\text{PiPr}_3)_3][\text{BArF}_4]^*$ . In a typical experiment, a youngs type NMR tube (ca. 2.5 mL total volume) was charged with  $[\text{Rh}(\text{PiPr}_3)_3][\text{BArF}_4]^*$  (10 mg) and  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{F}$  (0.4 ml) and the reaction monitored in situ by NMR spectroscopy.

- a. An equilibrium mixture containing  $[\text{Rh}(\text{PiPr}_3)_3\text{H}_2][\text{BArF}_4]$ ,  $[\text{Rh}(\text{PiPr}_3)_3][\text{BArF}_4]$  and  $[\text{Rh}(\text{PiPr}_3)_2(\text{PiPr}_2(\text{C}_3\text{H}_5))][\text{BArF}_4]$  (0.4:1:1 ratio) is slowly established over 12 h at ambient temperature ( $t_{1/2} \sim 1.5$  h, see Figure S-2). Trace quantities of  $[\text{Rh}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{F})(\text{PiPr}_3)_2]^+$  and  $\text{PiPr}_3$  can be observed during this equilibration process (< 3 % total by  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR, only when run in  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{F}$ ).
- b. Similar reactivity is observed in 1,2- $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{F}_2$  and 1,3- $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{CH}_3)\text{F}$ .
- c. Addition of excess tert-butylethene (ca. 0.1 mL) to the equilibrium mixture results in the immediate disappearance of  $[\text{Rh}(\text{PiPr}_3)_3\text{H}_2][\text{BArF}_4]$  and gradual disappearance of  $[\text{Rh}(\text{PiPr}_3)_3][\text{BArF}_4]$  to afford only  $[\text{Rh}(\text{PiPr}_3)_2(\text{PiPr}_2(\text{C}_3\text{H}_5))][\text{BArF}_4]$  after ca. 30 h (see Figure S-2).
- d. Addition of 10 equivalents of  $\text{PiPr}_3$  does not halt the dehydrogenation process and a similar equilibrium distribution is found (0.3:1:1).

- e. The equilibrium distribution of  $[\text{Rh}(\text{P}^{\text{i}}\text{Pr}_3)_3\text{H}_2][\text{BArF}_4]$ ,  $[\text{Rh}(\text{P}^{\text{i}}\text{Pr}_3)_3][\text{BArF}_4]$  and  $[\text{Rh}(\text{P}^{\text{i}}\text{Pr}_3)_2(\text{P}^{\text{i}}\text{Pr}_2(\text{C}_3\text{H}_5))][\text{BArF}_4]$  is perturbed by repetitive freeze-pump-thaw cycles (ca. 20 over 2 days) from 0.4:1:1 to 0.3:1:1.2.
- f. Addition of 1 equivalent of 1,8-Bis(dimethylamino)naphthalene did not inhibit dehydrogenation.

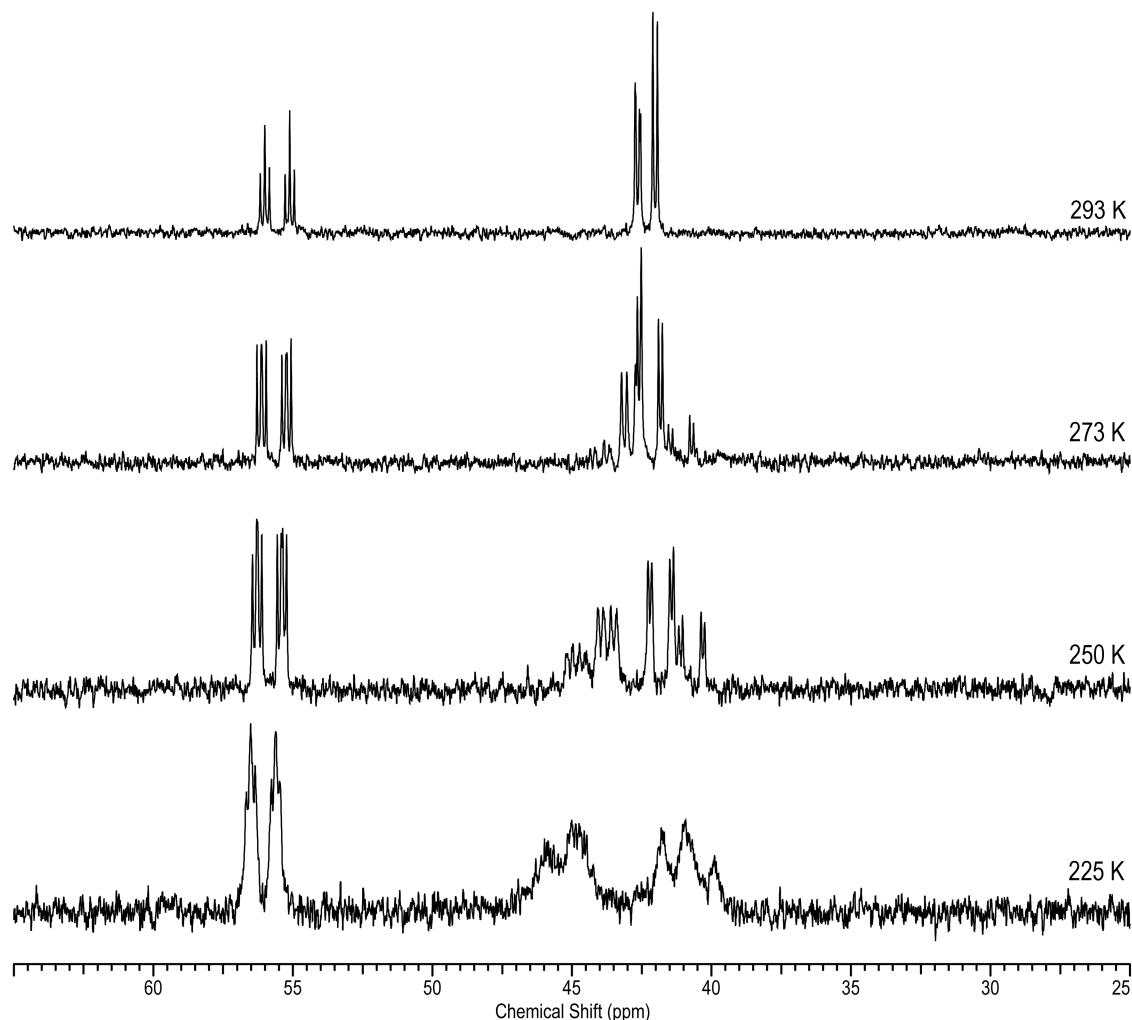
### 3. Hydrogenation of $[\text{Rh}(\text{P}^{\text{i}}\text{Pr}_3)_2(\text{P}^{\text{i}}\text{Pr}_2(\text{C}_3\text{H}_5))][\text{BArF}_4]$

$\text{H}_2$  was passed over a solution of  $[\text{Rh}(\text{P}^{\text{i}}\text{Pr}_3)_2(\text{P}^{\text{i}}\text{Pr}_2(\text{C}_3\text{H}_5))][\text{BArF}_4]$  (0.008 g, 0.006 mmol) in  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{F}$  (0.5 mL) resulting in quantitative conversion to  $[\text{Rh}(\text{P}^{\text{i}}\text{Pr}_3)_3\text{H}_2][\text{BArF}_4]$  by NMR spectroscopy.

### 4. Reaction of $[\text{Rh}(\text{P}^{\text{i}}\text{Pr}_3)_3\text{H}_2][\text{BArF}_4]$ with MeCN

To a solution of  $[\text{Rh}(\text{P}^{\text{i}}\text{Pr}_3)_3\text{H}_2][\text{BArF}_4]$  (0.007 mmol) in 1,3- $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{CH}_3)\text{F}$  prepared in situ similarly to as described above was added MeCN (ca. 0.05 mL). The solution rapidly become colourless and the products were immediately characterised in situ by NMR spectroscopy. Formation of  $[\text{Rh}(\text{P}^{\text{i}}\text{Pr}_3)_2(\text{NCMe})_2\text{H}_2][\text{BArF}_4]$  (and 1 equivalent of  $\text{P}^{\text{i}}\text{Pr}_3$ ) was quantitative by  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectroscopy.<sup>vi</sup>

**Selected NMR spectra**



**Figure S-1:** Variable temperature  $^{31}\text{P}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR spectra of  $[\text{Rh}(\text{PiPr}_3)_2(\text{PiPr}_2(\text{C}_3\text{H}_5))][\text{BArF}_4]$  ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 202 MHz).

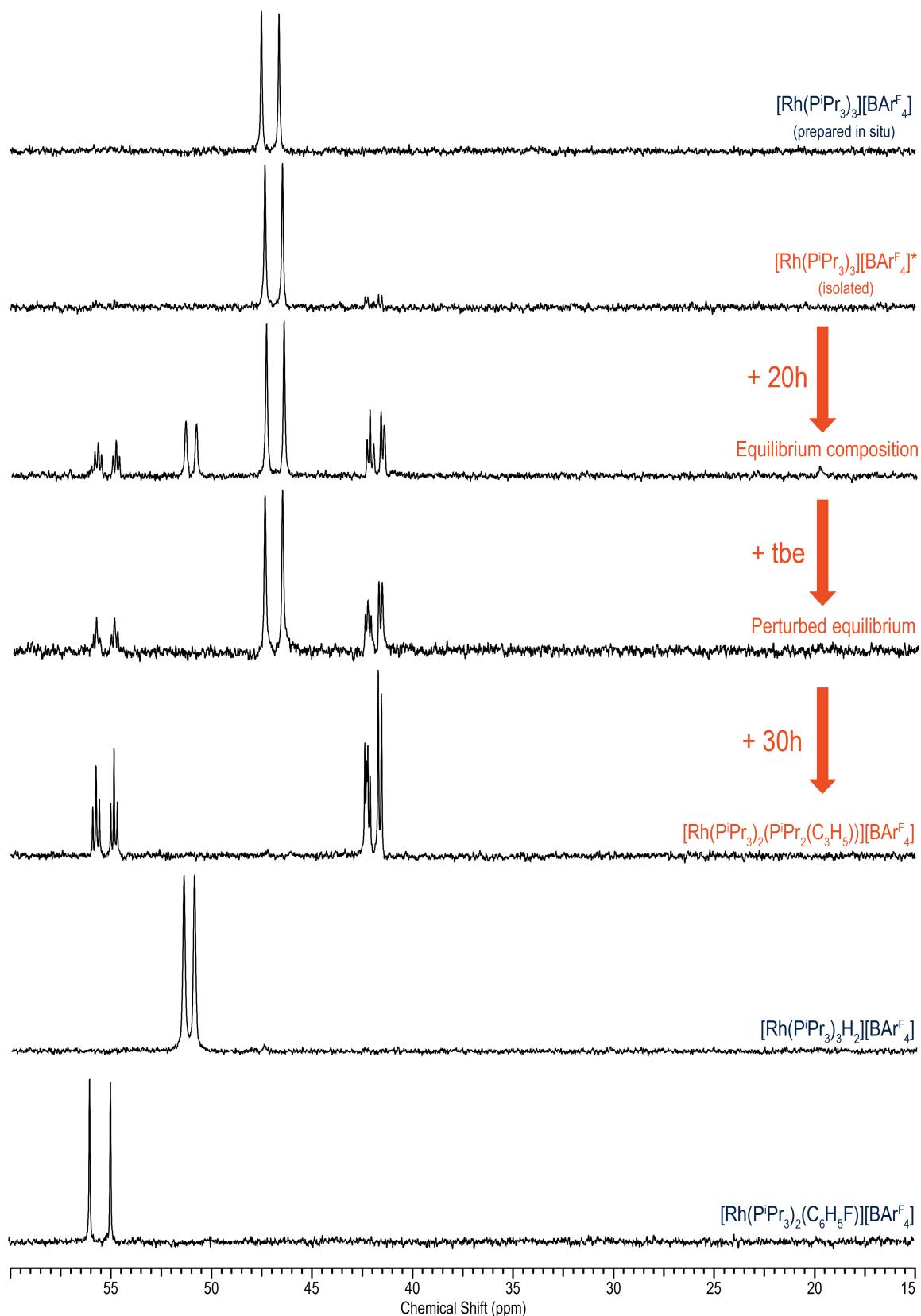


Figure S-2: Selected  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectra ( $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{F}$ , 202 MHz).

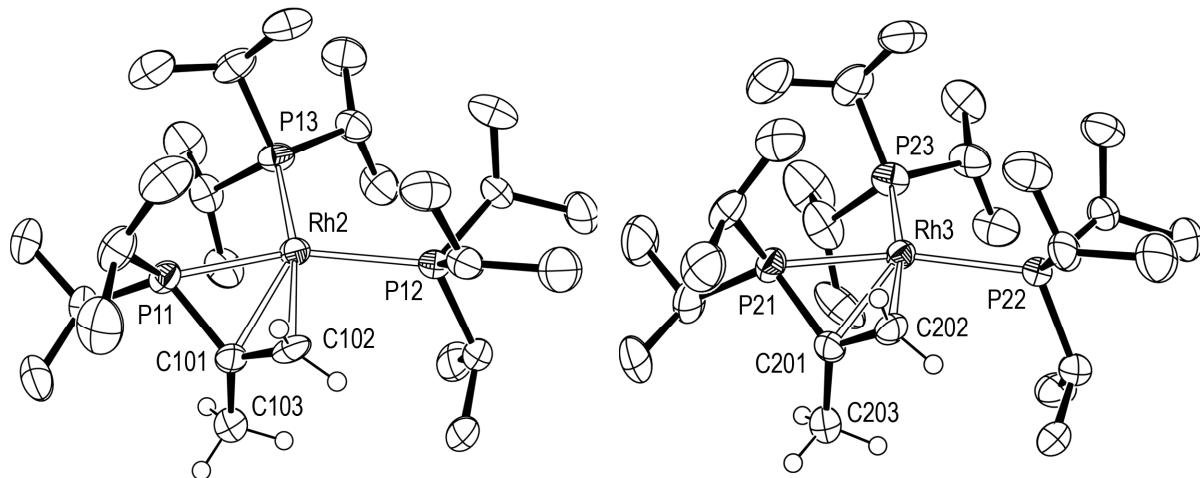
## Crystallography

Relevant details about the structure refinements are given in Table S-1. The structures of **4** and **5** are depicted in Figure S-3 and Figure S-4. Data were collected on a Bruker 1000 CCD diffractometer (**1**) and an Enraf Nonius Kappa CCD (**4**, **5**) diffractometer using graphite monochromated Mo K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$ ) and an Oxford Cryostream low-temperature device.<sup>vii</sup> Structures were solved by direct methods using SHELXS-97 (**1**),<sup>viii</sup> SIR92 (**4**)<sup>ix</sup> and SIR2004 (**5**),<sup>x</sup> and refined by full-matrix least squares on  $F^2$  using SHELXL-97.<sup>viii</sup> The structure of **4** was refined with a twin scale factor of 0.064(15). All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. H1A in **1** was located on the Fourier difference map and its position refined freely. The alkene protons in **4** were located on the Fourier difference map and the 1,2 and 1,3 bond lengths restrained. All other hydrogen atoms were placed in calculated positions using the riding model. The hydride ligands in **5** were not located. CCDC 705127 – 705129 contain the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper (see Table S-1).

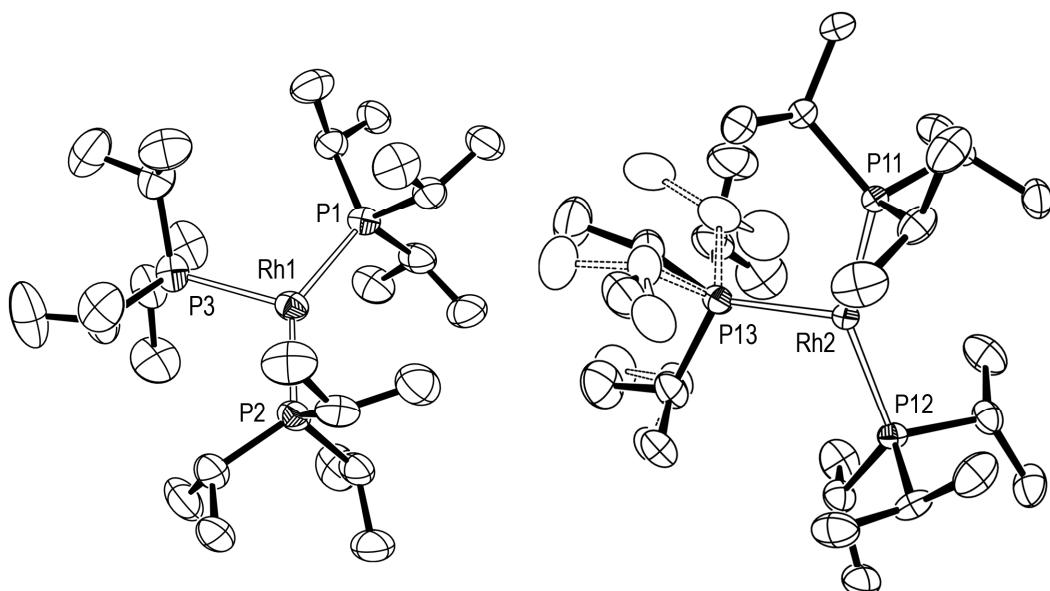
**Table S-1:** Crystallographic data for **1**, **4** and **5**.

	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
CCDC	705127	705128	705129
Formula	C <sub>59</sub> H <sub>74.60</sub> BF <sub>24</sub> P <sub>3</sub> Rh	C <sub>59</sub> H <sub>73</sub> BF <sub>24</sub> P <sub>3</sub> Rh	C <sub>59</sub> H <sub>75</sub> BF <sub>24</sub> P <sub>3</sub> Rh
<i>M</i>	1446.42	1444.80	1446.82
Crystal System	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	Monoclinic
Space group	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> /n	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub>	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> /n
<i>T</i> [K]	120(2)	150(2)	150(2)
<i>a</i> [\mathring{A}]	13.1039(6)	19.3219(2)	19.1792(2)
<i>b</i> [\mathring{A}]	28.6518(12)	17.7292(2)	27.4349(3)
<i>c</i> [\mathring{A}]	17.9634(8)	29.0445(3)	26.6460(3)
$\beta$ [deg]	106.228(1)	96.6182(4)	105.5035(5)
<i>V</i> [\mathring{A} <sup>3</sup> ]	6475.6(5)	9883.2(2)	13510.4(3)
<i>Z</i>	4 ( <i>Z'</i> = 1)	6 ( <i>Z'</i> = 3)	8 ( <i>Z'</i> = 2)
Density [gcm <sup>-3</sup> ]	1.484	1.456	1.423
$\mu$ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.444	0.436	0.426
$\theta$ range [deg]	1.38 $\leq \theta \leq$ 26.37°	5.12 $\leq \theta \leq$ 26.37	5.11 $\leq \theta \leq$ 26.37
Reflns collected	63360	31319	44330
<i>R</i> <sub>int</sub>	0.0395	0.0396	0.0337
No. of data/restr/param	13255 / 500 / 1037	31319 / 442 / 2558	26498 / 480 / 1789
<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> , <i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub> [ <i>I</i> > 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> )]	0.0455, 0.1070	0.0506, 0.0882	0.0591, 0.1480
<i>GOF</i>	1.071	1.043	1.024
Largest diff. pk	0.964, -0.897	0.671, -0.385	2.015, -1.194

and hole [ $\text{e}\text{\AA}^{-3}$ ]



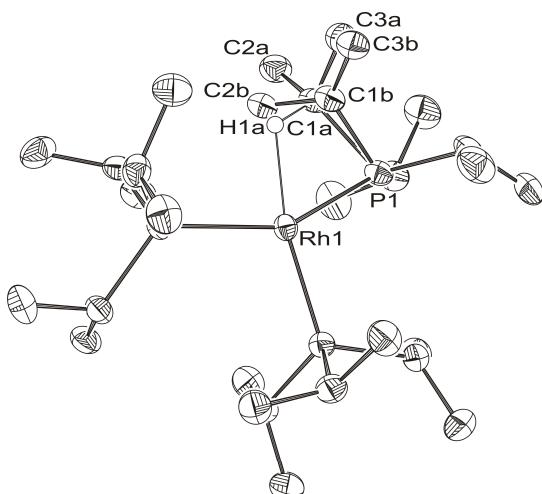
**Figure S-3:** Complex 4; ellipsoids are depicted at the 50% probability level. Independent molecules in the asymmetric unit ( $Z'=3$ , see Figure 2 in the main text for the other independent molecule) - the anions and most H atoms are omitted for clarity. Key bond lengths [ $\text{\AA}$ ] and angles [ $^\circ$ ]: Rh2-P11, 2.303(2); Rh2-P12, 2.397(2); Rh2-P13, 2.344(2); P11-Rh2-P12, 154.56(5); P11-Rh2-P13, 99.12(6); P12-Rh2-P13, 106.07(6); Rh2-C101, 2.193(5); Rh2-C102, 2.242(5); Rh2-P11-C101, 63.5(2); C101-C102, 1.389(7); C101-C103, 1.496(8); Rh3-P21, 2.303(2); Rh3-P22, 2.392(2); Rh3-P23, 2.347(2); P21-Rh3-P22, 154.19(6); P21-Rh3-P23, 99.53(6); P22-Rh3-P23, 105.95(6); Rh3-C201, 2.201(5); Rh3-C202, 2.239(5); Rh3-P21-C201, 63.8(2); C201-C202, 1.405(7); C201-C203, 1.505(8).



**Figure S-4:** Complex 5; ellipsoids are depicted at the 50% probability level. Independent molecules in

the asymmetric unit ( $Z'=2$ ) - the anion and H atoms are omitted for clarity; the minor disordered component in one of the independent molecules is shown with dashed bonds. Key bond lengths [ $\text{\AA}$ ] and angles [ $^\circ$ ]: Rh1-P1, 2.3612(12); Rh1-P2, 2.3564(12); Rh1-P3, 2.4508(14); P1-Rh1-P2, 141.95(5); P1-Rh1-P3, 108.38(4); P2-Rh1-P3, 109.67(4); Rh2-P11, 2.3557(10); Rh2-P12, 2.3444(10); Rh2-P13, 2.4184(12); P12-Rh2-P12, 144.95(4); P11-Rh2-P13, 106.39(4); P12-Rh2-P13, 108.66(4).

Along with **1** some of the dehydrogenation product (**4**) had co-crystallised (20% occupancy; C3b-C1b-C2b), however, the presence of **4** did not distort the orientation or location of the rest of the molecule, see Figure S-5.



**Figure S-5:** Crystal structure of **1** (C1a-C2a-C3a), showing the presence of around 20% of the dehydrogentaiton product **4** (C1b-C2b-C4b) which had co-crystallised with **1**. Ellipsoids are depicted at the 50% probability level. All of the hydrogens, apart from H1a, and the anion are omitted for clarity.

The structure of **5** exhibits a significantly disordered phosphine ligand. This disorder was treated by modelling the appropriate phosphine substituents over two sites and restraining their geometry. In the absence of locating the hydride ligands, we note the lack of any significant agostic interactions (all Rh-C<sub>iPr</sub> distances > 3.36  $\text{\AA}$ ) and acute Rh-P-C<sub>iPr</sub> angles (all > 105°) in this structure as seen in **1** [Rh1-C1a = 2.494(12)  $\text{\AA}$ ; Rh1-P1-C1a = 73.8(4)°]. The presence of relatively large Fourier peaks (6 peaks > 1.0 e $\text{\AA}^{-3}$ ) near the two metal centers in this structure is attributed to Fourier truncation errors.

Rotational disorder of the CF<sub>3</sub> groups on the anions was present in all of the structures. The relevant fluorine atoms, or in some cases the entire CF<sub>3</sub>, were modelled over two or more sites and the

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geometries restrained where necessary.

Graphical representations of the structures were made with ORTEP3<sup>xi</sup> or XP.<sup>viii</sup>

### Computational details

Calculations were carried out using Gaussian 03, Revision C.02<sup>xii</sup> and employed the BP86 functional.<sup>xiii</sup> Rh and P were described using the Stuttgart RECPs and the associated basis sets<sup>xiv</sup> and a polarisation function was added for P ( $\zeta = 0.387$ ).<sup>xv</sup> 6-31G\*\* basis sets were used for C and H atoms.<sup>xvi</sup> All stationary points were characterized via analytical frequency calculations, which furnished the zero-point energy corrections that are included in the figures quoted in the text. IRC calculations showed the local minima to which transition states connected, as reported in the text.<sup>xvii</sup>

## Optimised geometries and energies

**1. Interconversion between 1' isomers and C-H activation processes of 1'.**

**1'γ**

BP86 Energy = -253.551779083  
 Enthalpy 0K= -253.388225  
 Enthalpy 298K= -253.374108  
 Free Energy 298K= -253.430844

Rh 0.45989 -0.06565 -0.02026  
 P 2.22069 -1.58378 0.03292  
 P 1.81275 1.69056 0.07544  
 H 2.38419 -2.38105 1.21324  
 H 2.24387 -2.63311 -0.94285  
 H 3.57444 -1.13735 -0.10832  
 H 3.23295 1.51086 0.00591  
 H 1.66096 2.69956 -0.92999  
 H 1.74290 2.51111 1.24899  
 P -1.50766 1.15093 -0.08766  
 H -1.85671 2.13605 -1.06700  
 H -2.02245 1.79132 1.08721  
 C -2.62444 -0.34693 -0.38583  
 C -1.68222 -1.52534 -0.03001  
 H -0.74217 -1.51620 -0.68200  
 H -2.11419 -2.50823 -0.29222  
 C -3.95079 -0.35623 0.37916  
 H -4.58742 0.49666 0.09316  
 H -4.51180 -1.27960 0.15148  
 H -3.79233 -0.31916 1.47048  
 H -2.81105 -0.35204 -1.47494  
 H -1.43831 -1.55945 1.04815

**TS 1'γ-6'γ**

BP86 Energy = -253.529217650  
 Enthalpy 0K= -253.369854  
 Enthalpy 298K= -253.356167  
 Free Energy 298K= -253.411113  
 Frequency= -727.0274cm-1

Rh -0.38981 0.04791 -0.03374  
 P -1.95934 1.76166 0.02529  
 P -2.01224 -1.66766 0.15386  
 H -2.57791 2.06597 1.28200  
 H -1.54273 3.07956 -0.34295  
 H -3.13883 1.66825 -0.78079  
 H -3.41060 -1.41498 -0.02784  
 H -1.88376 -2.77914 -0.73638  
 H -2.10356 -2.39633 1.38595  
 P 1.53706 -1.25420 -0.16968  
 H 1.87100 -2.15476 -1.23045  
 H 2.02912 -1.98644 0.95977  
 C 2.55484 0.32251 -0.34751  
 C 1.39767 1.30658 -0.03554  
 H 0.25661 0.86191 -1.20297  
 H 1.47128 2.26473 -0.57545  
 C 3.80867 0.46853 0.51779  
 H 4.57299 -0.27861 0.24730  
 H 4.25233 1.46846 0.37167  
 H 3.57740 0.35673 1.59078  
 H 2.81587 0.38235 -1.41992

H 1.30300 1.52382 1.04717

**6'γ**

BP86 Energy = -253.539637421  
 Enthalpy 0K= -253.379559  
 Enthalpy 298K= -253.365483  
 Free Energy 298K= -253.420961

Rh 0.38560 0.03024 -0.04927  
 P 1.77448 1.90697 0.03907  
 P 2.16393 -1.61484 -0.06173  
 H 2.35656 2.37367 -1.18540  
 H 1.21187 3.13630 0.50498  
 H 2.95742 1.87391 0.84326  
 H 3.51957 -1.29541 0.28161  
 H 2.02248 -2.75597 0.79136  
 H 2.44923 -2.32395 -1.27640  
 P -1.52295 -1.29785 0.09158  
 H -1.78223 -2.28952 1.08934  
 H -2.02798 -1.94677 -1.08228  
 C -2.50979 0.27173 0.39205  
 C -1.36919 1.21824 -0.07497  
 H 0.32906 0.08678 1.46869  
 H -1.31609 2.14477 0.51894  
 C -3.87555 0.42351 -0.27892  
 H -4.60067 -0.31577 0.10046  
 H -4.28149 1.42872 -0.07137  
 H -3.80408 0.31053 -1.37402  
 H -2.60733 0.33143 1.49173  
 H -1.48299 1.48568 -1.14671

**1'β**

BP86 Energy = -253.542544812  
 Enthalpy 0K= -253.379373  
 Enthalpy 298K= -253.364985  
 Free Energy 298K= -253.422429

Rh -0.44321 0.00343 0.02078  
 P -1.78484 1.89191 -0.00711  
 P -2.15419 -1.40994 -0.01992  
 H -2.04863 -2.55057 -0.87817  
 H -2.48002 -2.06039 1.21510  
 H -3.46090 -0.95793 -0.39752  
 H -1.27899 3.05916 -0.66587  
 H -3.08582 1.86001 -0.60643  
 H -2.14316 2.48671 1.24672  
 P 1.37567 -1.35665 -0.00533  
 C 2.18824 0.34352 -0.00717  
 H 1.90729 -2.07816 -1.12112  
 H 1.94445 -2.08391 1.08844  
 C 2.94733 0.65739 -1.31027  
 H 2.34323 0.45119 -2.20806  
 H 3.86849 0.05353 -1.36221  
 C 2.98408 0.63853 1.27852  
 H 3.27120 1.70292 1.30730  
 H 2.40809 0.41561 2.19078  
 H 3.90861 0.03782 1.29390  
 H 1.28527 1.07224 0.01077  
 H 3.23792 1.72104 -1.32983

**TS 1'β-6'β**

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BP86 Energy = -253.518736806  
 Enthalpy 0K= -253.360324  
 Enthalpy 298K= -253.345986  
 Free Energy 298K= -253.402730  
 Frequency= -468.3463cm-1

Rh -0.31764 -0.01554 -0.15037  
 P -1.39601 2.01408 -0.01128  
 P -2.28446 -1.31095 0.12419  
 H -2.70290 -2.01918 -1.04599  
 H -2.26736 -2.40356 1.04837  
 H -3.54672 -0.74691 0.50017  
 H -1.98612 2.55173 -1.20033  
 H -2.51382 2.15400 0.87312  
 H -0.64618 3.16177 0.39494  
 P 1.36786 -1.57138 0.02093  
 C 1.91982 0.16906 0.09083  
 H 2.09221 -2.25766 -1.00074  
 H 1.71453 -2.27244 1.21515  
 C 2.89296 0.62765 -0.99919  
 H 2.67207 0.19370 -1.98716  
 H 3.91849 0.33010 -0.71341  
 C 2.17558 0.78653 1.45884  
 H 2.08550 1.88485 1.40609  
 H 1.49404 0.41919 2.24155  
 H 3.21444 0.56017 1.77015  
 H 0.64005 0.94124 -0.94922  
 H 2.88436 1.72677 -1.09660

### 6'β

BP86 Energy = -253.533809141  
 Enthalpy 0K= -253.374490  
 Enthalpy 298K= -253.359879  
 Free Energy 298K= -253.416219

Rh 0.33391 -0.07117 0.00467  
 P 2.56087 -0.96394 0.07505  
 H 0.38388 -0.01232 -1.51283  
 H 3.71608 -0.20068 -0.29812  
 H 3.06269 -1.45537 1.32626  
 H 2.84133 -2.12607 -0.71201  
 P -1.28025 -1.70650 -0.23109  
 H -1.75131 -2.65638 0.72836  
 H -1.75339 -2.19090 -1.48361  
 C -1.83139 0.00074 0.07443  
 C -2.19205 0.32439 1.52345  
 H -1.49828 -0.12437 2.26154  
 H -3.20344 -0.04976 1.77633  
 C -2.65139 0.72034 -0.98411  
 H -3.72850 0.50078 -0.86069  
 H -2.53185 1.81354 -0.88305  
 H -2.36274 0.44344 -2.01065  
 H -2.19834 1.41645 1.68379  
 P 0.80140 2.19984 -0.08461  
 H 1.92773 2.65933 -0.83863  
 H -0.18800 3.09246 -0.60793  
 H 1.07697 2.87861 1.14831

### TS 1'β-1'αn

BP86 Energy = -253.542230280  
 Enthalpy 0K= -253.378857  
 Enthalpy 298K= -253.365205  
 Free Energy 298K= -253.421259

Frequency= -46.2322cm-1

Rh 0.50291 0.05136 -0.02809  
 P 2.04129 1.79810 0.00864  
 P 2.02348 -1.54129 0.03036  
 H 2.45150 2.38275 -1.23403  
 H 1.65803 2.99567 0.69663  
 H 3.33550 1.62457 0.59771  
 H 3.37001 -1.22487 0.40615  
 H 1.79465 -2.65632 0.89894  
 H 2.27505 -2.23346 -1.19982  
 P -1.38787 -1.21123 -0.00713  
 H -1.86676 -1.98784 1.09674  
 H -1.90101 -1.97787 -1.10291  
 C -2.35313 0.41318 0.01059  
 C -3.19730 0.60986 -1.26316  
 H -2.60644 0.47800 -2.18405  
 H -3.62041 1.62825 -1.27436  
 C -3.13182 0.61913 1.32376  
 H -2.49524 0.48952 2.21394  
 H -3.55078 1.63890 1.35111  
 H -3.97087 -0.09357 1.38824  
 H -1.52787 1.19412 -0.01298  
 H -4.03604 -0.10579 -1.28248

### 1'αn

BP86 Energy = -253.547862259  
 Enthalpy 0K= -253.383659  
 Enthalpy 298K= -253.369075  
 Free Energy 298K= -253.428348

Rh -0.69581 -0.18692 -0.20599  
 P -2.79305 -1.19819 -0.04026  
 P -1.42928 1.76333 0.46869  
 H -3.62022 -1.30835 -1.20578  
 H -2.79485 -2.57498 0.36188  
 H -3.77957 -0.71159 0.87644  
 H -2.64046 1.81120 1.23279  
 H -0.58859 2.56694 1.30555  
 H -1.74559 2.72092 -0.55199  
 P 1.46744 0.63604 -0.37391  
 H 1.86055 1.71960 0.48121  
 H 1.79906 1.23661 -1.63526  
 C 2.87116 -0.60382 -0.10191  
 C 4.22696 0.04839 -0.42513  
 H 4.28103 0.41843 -1.46178  
 H 5.02806 -0.70019 -0.29616  
 C 2.79482 -1.16466 1.33050  
 H 1.82085 -1.63482 1.54745  
 H 3.57744 -1.92964 1.46723  
 H 2.96963 -0.37453 2.08100  
 H 2.66700 -1.41274 -0.82955  
 H 4.44301 0.88735 0.25825

### 2. H-transfer: Pathway 1.

#### TS 6'β-7'trans

BP86 Energy = -253.506166272  
 Enthalpy 0K= -253.350564  
 Enthalpy 298K= -253.337000  
 Free Energy 298K= -253.390940  
 Frequency= -482.6061cm-1

Rh 0.25474 -0.06843 0.03527  
 P 0.94491 2.13134 -0.20881

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P	2.36972	-1.09402	-0.00850
H	0.12441	3.01261	-0.98084
H	1.11845	2.94739	0.95514
H	2.19870	2.38051	-0.84951
H	3.49092	-0.35543	-0.50600
H	2.96284	-1.60405	1.18721
H	2.49638	-2.25145	-0.83705
P	-1.43594	-1.61660	-0.37296
H	-1.95578	-2.64418	0.48219
H	-2.04283	-1.87927	-1.63380
C	-1.92163	0.04280	0.20234
C	-1.39476	0.23971	1.53584
H	0.43861	-0.10251	1.66886
H	-1.45993	-0.55990	2.28166
C	-2.81404	1.01249	-0.53110
H	-3.87055	0.82290	-0.26689
H	-2.58518	2.05185	-0.23967
H	-2.71646	0.92507	-1.62437
H	-1.47548	1.24572	1.96713
H	0.41486	0.00942	-1.57985

**7' trans**

BP86 Energy	= -253.510506493		
Enthalpy 0K=	-253.352773		
Enthalpy 298K=	-253.339256		
Free Energy 298K=	-253.393194		
Rh	0.24483	-0.05575	0.11438
P	1.31948	1.97262	-0.08079
P	2.12268	-1.35402	-0.25594
H	0.55934	3.05640	-0.62108
H	1.84095	2.60518	1.09065
H	2.46845	2.05070	-0.92863
H	3.30013	-0.71844	-0.76311
H	2.69406	-2.07828	0.83284
H	2.00086	-2.40361	-1.21671
P	-1.54637	-1.52536	0.10421
H	-2.13483	-2.16811	1.23911
H	-2.12721	-2.19111	-1.01432
C	-1.97853	0.24728	0.02950
C	-1.51373	0.93212	1.18096
H	0.67519	-0.22768	1.68576
H	-1.51378	0.47924	2.17422
C	-2.69387	0.89281	-1.13095
H	-3.77942	0.89612	-0.92067
H	-2.37487	1.94082	-1.25277
H	-2.52842	0.36334	-2.08073
H	-1.55527	2.02899	1.17167
H	0.13717	0.04328	-1.53269

**TS 7' trans-7' cis**

BP86 Energy	= -253.495298096
Enthalpy 0K=	-253.339300
Enthalpy 298K=	-253.326018
Free Energy 298K=	-253.378280
Frequency=	-163.9905cm <sup>-1</sup>

Rh	-0.27297	-0.14487	0.02122
P	-2.42599	-1.02220	-0.02670
P	1.63567	0.13971	1.33442
H	-3.24388	-1.03455	1.14531
H	-2.57649	-2.38551	-0.42725
H	-3.34260	-0.40961	-0.93795
H	2.09350	-0.71488	2.38427

H	2.41587	1.32328	1.49853
C	1.94625	-0.52324	-0.33373
C	1.26909	-1.74652	-0.56986
C	2.74428	0.23232	-1.37078
H	3.80400	-0.07637	-1.31208
H	2.37803	-0.00257	-2.38340
H	2.70831	1.32435	-1.23121
H	1.15983	-2.50929	0.20524
H	1.24199	-2.12284	-1.59866
H	-0.50392	-1.15460	1.25547
H	-0.53376	-0.05764	-1.55385
P	-0.92174	2.10095	-0.20810
H	-2.12041	2.37190	-0.93998
H	-1.20522	2.87404	0.96395
H	-0.06815	3.04126	-0.87143

**7' cis**

BP86 Energy	= -253.525255650
Enthalpy 0K=	-253.367068
Enthalpy 298K=	-253.353302
Free Energy 298K=	-253.407252

Rh	0.36079	-0.16961	0.33784
P	2.55700	-0.54528	-0.22128
P	-1.21389	-1.35043	-1.09611
H	2.82577	-1.59642	-1.15074
H	3.43991	-0.91627	0.83540
H	3.32668	0.50626	-0.81461
H	-1.59425	-2.69831	-0.81100
H	-2.01933	-1.06817	-2.24657
C	-1.94172	-0.29022	0.22370
C	-1.56139	-0.56862	1.54507
C	-2.79622	0.89941	-0.14920
H	-3.85071	0.56782	-0.17870
H	-2.72673	1.69923	0.60658
H	-2.56402	1.31276	-1.14408
H	-1.37056	-1.58255	1.90283
H	-1.80985	0.16503	2.32086
H	0.64313	-1.55878	1.03358
H	0.90390	0.37406	1.70113
P	0.33895	2.14204	-0.37248
H	1.61185	2.79496	-0.41906
H	-0.14445	2.58962	-1.64716
H	-0.34173	3.10519	0.43945

**Alternative trans-cis Isomerisation.**

**TS 7' trans-7' cis (2)**

BP86 Energy	= -253.501466110
Enthalpy 0K=	-253.345239
Enthalpy 298K=	-253.332110
Free Energy 298K=	-253.384172
Frequency=	-128.9859cm <sup>-1</sup>

Rh	0.28439	-0.00823	-0.06169
P	2.14894	-1.40343	0.01580
P	1.02815	2.19194	0.30458
H	2.33675	-2.17637	1.20287
H	2.28116	-2.43977	-0.95913
H	3.45152	-0.82425	-0.09083
H	2.31554	2.37158	0.90058

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H	1.18694	3.07126	-0.81276
H	0.28456	3.06532	1.15975
P	-1.68355	0.26925	-1.25114
H	-2.11087	-0.53527	-2.35413
H	-2.55099	1.40153	-1.28668
C	-1.84008	-0.58791	0.33872
C	-1.05365	-1.78201	0.29931
H	1.03764	0.06107	-1.49663
H	-1.00647	-2.40056	-0.60374
C	-2.66252	-0.10565	1.50725
H	-3.68553	-0.51697	1.42743
H	-2.22684	-0.45880	2.45589
H	-2.74274	0.99183	1.54586
H	-0.90641	-2.32412	1.24125
H	0.47272	0.07090	1.53605

**7'cis (2)**

BP86 Energy	= -253.526697527		
Enthalpy 0K	= -253.368574		
Enthalpy 298K	= -253.354686		
Free Energy 298K	= -253.409042		
Rh	0.36445	0.43390	0.01082
P	2.61663	-0.14923	0.13050
P	-1.35341	1.98207	-0.15466
H	3.05135	-1.34732	0.78829
H	3.31952	-0.30151	-1.10418
H	3.47502	0.78811	0.77736
H	-0.94764	3.34472	-0.05870
H	-2.14059	2.05989	-1.34769
H	-2.40649	1.97998	0.81525
P	-0.46598	-1.47574	-1.25330
H	0.18866	-2.74535	-1.35915
H	-1.61315	-1.70752	-2.07694
C	-1.15261	-1.38061	0.46092
C	-0.23993	-1.40847	1.50492
H	1.02948	1.50833	-0.91073
H	0.71660	-1.93200	1.43546
C	-2.62779	-1.12299	0.66800
H	-3.14739	-2.09754	0.71497
H	-2.81513	-0.60159	1.62111
H	-3.09598	-0.55544	-0.15350
H	-0.58098	-1.17178	2.51915
H	0.72997	1.36927	1.21114

**3. H-transfer: Pathway 2.**

**TS 6'- $\beta$ -6'- $\beta$ (PH<sub>3</sub>)**

BP86 Energy	= -253.515538632
Enthalpy 0K	= -253.356575
Enthalpy 298K	= -253.342667
Free Energy 298K	= -253.397391
Frequency	= -110.9702cm <sup>-1</sup>

Rh	0.44433	0.08328	0.15048
P	2.64242	-0.61430	-0.11534
P	-0.78115	-1.91048	-0.23614
H	2.88977	-1.41308	-1.27655
H	3.27800	-1.43696	0.87005
H	3.67631	0.35920	-0.27982
H	-1.09479	-2.86518	0.77335
H	-1.11047	-2.54657	-1.46920
C	-1.72681	-0.38177	-0.01239
C	-2.35741	-0.18742	1.36630
C	-2.54184	0.14658	-1.18675

H	-3.52152	-0.36536	-1.23094
H	-2.75636	1.22322	-1.06387
H	-2.04244	0.00684	-2.15908
H	-3.32093	-0.73070	1.41949
H	-2.57269	0.87979	1.54576
H	-1.72163	-0.54465	2.19334
H	1.34393	0.80276	1.19496
P	-0.04118	2.29569	-0.14747
H	0.98310	3.28039	0.00813
H	-0.50730	2.65164	-1.45385
H	-1.06286	2.92326	0.63782

**6'- $\beta$ (PH<sub>3</sub>)**

BP86 Energy	= -253.523882887
Enthalpy 0K	= -253.365192
Enthalpy 298K	= -253.351121
Free Energy 298K	= -253.405995

Rh	-0.31501	-0.09520	-0.23221
P	-2.55149	-0.85323	0.07518
P	1.33506	-0.65662	1.49670
H	-2.99157	-1.24174	1.38155
H	-3.00197	-2.00985	-0.63950
H	-3.64714	0.00717	-0.25772
H	1.97595	-1.88154	1.88643
H	2.07404	0.29492	2.26542
C	1.80416	-0.29820	-0.25603
C	1.45032	-1.45047	-1.15189
C	2.85263	0.70233	-0.67392
H	3.86249	0.25317	-0.61992
H	2.68857	1.02805	-1.71609
H	2.85822	1.59291	-0.02496
H	1.78385	-2.44338	-0.79992
H	1.73734	-1.28570	-2.20046
H	0.28216	-1.64547	-1.18442
H	-0.74295	0.42455	-1.64594
P	-0.60097	2.11843	0.14378
H	-1.83706	2.70204	-0.27315
H	-0.55733	2.59367	1.49415
H	0.30913	3.04430	-0.45971

**TS 6'- $\beta$ (PH<sub>3</sub>) - 7'cis**

BP86 Energy	= -253.514092714
Enthalpy 0K	= -253.358174
Enthalpy 298K	= -253.344292
Free Energy 298K	= -253.399388
Frequency	= -654.4997cm <sup>-1</sup>

Rh	-0.31812	-0.15534	-0.27459
P	-2.55334	-0.72602	0.11804
P	1.33360	-0.77976	1.46438
H	-2.85866	-1.44343	1.31776
H	-3.22209	-1.56705	-0.82333
H	-3.54824	0.29972	0.22010
H	1.95676	-2.03578	1.77430
H	2.08288	0.10216	2.30480
C	1.86844	-0.33152	-0.25094
C	1.41307	-1.30409	-1.20769
C	2.80702	0.79830	-0.60216
H	3.85288	0.44438	-0.54456
H	2.62890	1.15105	-1.63231
H	2.71365	1.65434	0.08519
H	1.45566	-2.37387	-0.96253
H	1.57934	-1.08934	-2.27062

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H	-0.20120	-1.56852	-1.06062
H	-0.77109	0.33001	-1.68575
P	-0.52029	2.14675	0.21782
H	-1.79819	2.75267	0.00407
H	-0.26195	2.67501	1.52540
H	0.27608	3.06818	-0.53434

H	0.12595	2.99273	0.87092
H	-0.71151	2.98654	-1.10917

**TS 6'- $\beta$ (PH<sub>2</sub>)-7'-cis (2)**

BP86 Energy = -253.505336805  
Enthalpy 0K= -253.349095  
Enthalpy 298K= -253.335650  
Free Energy 298K= -253.388723  
Frequency= -755.4400cm<sup>-1</sup>

**4. H-transfer: Pathway 3.**

**TS 6'- $\beta$ -6'- $\beta$ (PH<sub>2</sub>)**

BP86 Energy = -253.517388670  
Enthalpy 0K= -253.358536  
Enthalpy 298K= -253.343557  
Free Energy 298K= -253.399577

Rh	0.36966	-0.18850	0.13663
P	2.62872	-0.74601	-0.04592
P	-1.27074	-1.59274	-0.44372
H	2.95933	-2.09516	-0.38435
H	3.52552	-0.58910	1.06202
H	3.41067	-0.07469	-1.04137
H	-1.70483	-2.69460	0.34774
H	-1.48659	-1.96717	-1.80402
C	-1.90417	0.00239	0.02654
C	-2.49941	0.16484	1.41932
C	-2.49285	0.89989	-1.05279
H	-3.57355	0.69377	-1.16925
H	-2.40432	1.96261	-0.76558
H	-2.01482	0.77070	-2.03728
H	-2.06951	-0.52475	2.16319
H	-3.59405	0.00077	1.38994
H	0.55130	-1.41722	1.06685
H	-2.33780	1.19437	1.78391
P	0.71585	2.21212	-0.10024
H	1.92911	2.79115	-0.59403
H	-0.21043	3.02541	-0.82821
H	0.65622	2.90300	1.15204

Rh	0.33942	-0.22994	0.17015
P	2.60148	-0.59272	-0.05135
P	-1.45437	-1.26637	-1.07207
H	3.04328	-1.53821	-1.02979
H	3.32690	-1.08408	1.07759
H	3.44749	0.50840	-0.40178
H	-1.84901	-2.59320	-0.71599
H	-2.46876	-0.93947	-2.03770
C	-1.89755	-0.17267	0.33665
C	-1.40341	-0.45624	1.66368
C	-2.72162	1.06872	0.07266
H	-3.78780	0.82473	0.23840
H	-2.46474	1.88658	0.76747
H	-2.63467	1.43382	-0.96364
H	-1.34581	-1.48800	2.02309
H	-1.70602	0.26220	2.43905
H	0.54110	-1.74753	0.55721
H	0.06687	-0.07982	1.79245
P	0.51243	2.11522	-0.36372
H	1.82801	2.62921	-0.59826
H	-0.11840	2.68586	-1.51814
H	0.09021	3.10606	0.58251

**5. Final Product Formation from 7'-cis.**

**6'- $\beta$ (PH<sub>2</sub>)**

BP86 Energy = -253.520587139  
Enthalpy 0K= -253.360883  
Enthalpy 298K= -253.346347  
Free Energy 298K= -253.402836

Rh	-0.36266	-0.20799	-0.18182
P	-2.62862	-0.81553	-0.09045
P	1.19311	-0.84825	1.27042
H	-2.95775	-1.92742	0.74388
H	-3.26954	-1.26171	-1.29229
H	-3.64191	0.09557	0.35460
H	1.44755	-2.21916	1.56233
H	1.46666	-0.12696	2.47191
C	1.96804	-0.16919	-0.16894
C	2.44171	-1.07569	-1.28941
C	2.64488	1.18659	-0.08911
H	3.73681	1.05102	0.02955
H	2.49476	1.75029	-1.02708
H	2.29704	1.80687	0.75195
H	2.00838	-2.08663	-1.25399
H	3.54475	-1.16842	-1.25684
H	-0.26945	-1.76159	-0.45296
H	2.18908	-0.63174	-2.26994
P	-0.73046	2.16880	0.06994
H	-1.97918	2.63477	0.59554

**TS cis-7'-4'( $\eta^2$ -H<sub>2</sub>)**

BP86 Energy = -253.510224310  
Enthalpy 0K= -253.355258  
Enthalpy 298K= -253.341434  
Free Energy 298K= -253.395763  
Frequency= -720.1921cm<sup>-1</sup>

Rh	0.31843	-0.13486	0.40554
P	2.42477	-0.68104	-0.37765
P	-1.17219	-1.58756	-0.74910
H	2.51382	-1.57155	-1.49137
H	3.30755	-1.34369	0.52903
H	3.30409	0.35296	-0.83488
H	-1.70321	-2.77565	-0.15488
H	-1.76373	-1.63260	-2.05320
C	-1.93814	-0.14126	0.06323
C	-1.70608	-0.04388	1.45333
C	-2.65779	0.91834	-0.73578
H	-3.72708	0.64165	-0.79077
H	-2.60433	1.90198	-0.23967
H	-2.28990	1.00933	-1.77012
H	-1.66441	-0.92815	2.09395
H	-1.96798	0.89253	1.96015
H	0.68297	-1.03583	1.72858
H	0.91003	0.03877	1.91888
P	0.52473	2.11636	-0.35428

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H 1.83967 2.68047 -0.41436  
H 0.07076 2.57894 -1.63636  
H -0.08529 3.14390 0.43646

**4' ( $\eta^2$ -H<sub>2</sub>)**

BP86 Energy = -253.519434587  
Enthalpy 0K= -253.363236  
Enthalpy 298K= -253.348895  
Free Energy 298K= -253.403900

Rh -0.23884 -0.05836 -0.44600  
P -1.49672 -1.72282 0.65939  
P 1.81295 -1.12523 -0.32126  
H -1.06264 -2.20027 1.93962  
H -1.70246 -2.99810 0.04077  
H -2.85943 -1.45437 1.01311  
H 2.80216 -1.24405 -1.35101  
H 2.25970 -2.03174 0.68580  
C 1.72034 0.55676 0.35678  
C 1.36488 1.44513 -0.71349  
C 2.01726 0.94966 1.78120  
H 3.09179 1.18902 1.88484  
H 1.45039 1.85275 2.06238  
H 1.77976 0.14904 2.49918  
H 1.77408 1.31694 -1.72227  
H 1.15396 2.49067 -0.45338  
H -1.15308 -0.58061 -2.00136  
H -0.70145 0.06658 -2.23257  
P -1.67808 1.63990 0.19602  
H -2.88485 1.34562 0.91091  
H -1.15706 2.65694 1.05835  
H -2.23027 2.48081 -0.82328

**TS H2 loss**

BP86 Energy = -253.515529336  
Enthalpy 0K= -253.362103  
Enthalpy 298K= -253.347044  
Free Energy 298K= -253.403268  
Frequency= -230.1714cm-1

Rh -0.23608 -0.06275 -0.30422  
P -1.88856 -1.45777 0.56460  
P 1.62346 -1.41595 -0.15415  
H -1.50231 -2.54161 1.41518  
H -2.71945 -2.19848 -0.33926  
H -2.92603 -0.91383 1.39059  
H 2.47695 -1.87404 -1.21042  
H 2.06829 -2.16692 0.97467  
C 1.89131 0.35786 0.16969  
C 1.53682 1.12661 -0.96970

C 2.34616 0.91639 1.49287  
H 3.45099 0.97015 1.50270  
H 1.96351 1.93979 1.63940  
H 2.03334 0.29519 2.34669  
H 1.69955 0.75983 -1.99026  
H 1.53083 2.21944 -0.87321  
H -0.75037 -0.51331 -2.28776  
H -1.31969 -0.15750 -2.66488  
P -1.39316 1.88395 0.16943  
H -2.57925 1.85887 0.97342  
H -0.68493 2.90966 0.87320  
H -1.88955 2.67791 -0.91572

**4'**

BP86 Energy = -252.339734907  
Enthalpy 0K= -252.198560  
Enthalpy 298K= -252.185004  
Free Energy 298K= -252.239780

Rh -0.23508 -0.05435 -0.16329  
P -1.98952 -1.47459 0.33043  
P 1.61975 -1.42657 -0.23698  
H -1.72092 -2.67189 1.06415  
H -2.67711 -2.05164 -0.78689  
H -3.12973 -1.02142 1.07066  
H 2.29711 -1.88344 -1.41250  
H 2.24961 -2.16925 0.80678  
C 1.95954 0.34939 0.03325  
C 1.45958 1.14686 -1.01537  
C 2.54574 0.87820 1.31694  
H 3.64942 0.85363 1.24848  
H 2.24244 1.92382 1.48753  
H 2.25410 0.27733 2.19329  
H 1.40619 0.79185 -2.05267  
H 1.49029 2.23701 -0.89664  
P -1.48099 1.86979 0.05924  
H -2.77748 1.85251 0.66912  
H -0.91575 2.95628 0.79981  
H -1.81733 2.57474 -1.14247

**H2**

BP86 Energy = -1.17646509080  
Enthalpy 0K= -1.166537  
Enthalpy 298K= -1.163232  
Free Energy 298K= -1.178044

H 0.00000 0.00000 0.37519  
H 0.00000 0.00000 -0.37519

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