

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

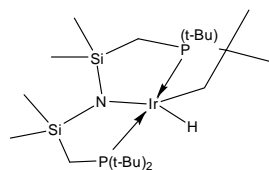
Surprising Isomer Preference on Ir^{III}, Favoring Facile H-C(sp³) Bond Cleavage

Nikolai P. Tsvetkov, Matthew F. Laird, Hongjun Fan, Maren Pink, and Kenneth G. Caulton*

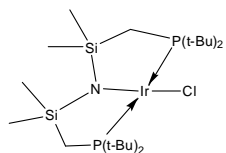
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Experimental

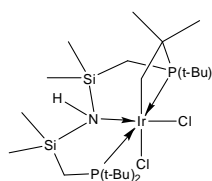
General Considerations. All manipulations were performed using standard Schlenk techniques or in an argon filled glovebox unless otherwise noted. CH₂Cl₂, Pentane and THF were purified using an Innovative Technologies solvent purification system Pure Solv 400-6-MD. Deuterated THF and benzene were also dried under Ph₂CO/Na, vacuum transferred and stored in the glovebox under argon. CD₂Cl₂ was dried with P₂O₅. NMR chemical shifts are reported in ppm relative to protio impurities in the deuterio solvents. Coupling constants are given in Hz. ³¹P NMR spectra are referenced to external standards of H₃PO₄. All NMR spectra were recorded at 25°C with a Varian Unity INOVA instrument (400 MHz ¹H; 162 MHz ³¹P). “PNP” is N(SiMe₂CH₂P^tBu₂)₂. Mass spectra were recorded with a MAT-95XP by Thermo Electron Corp. (Waltham, MA).



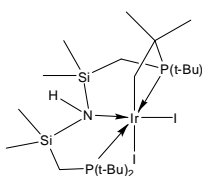
Synthesis of (PNP*)IrH. 200 mg of [(COE)₂IrCl]₂ (0.223 mmol) was added with vigorous stirring to a solution of 266 mg of (PNP)MgCl(dioxane) (0.446 mmol) in 20 mL of THF. After 2 h all volatiles were removed from the red solution. The residue was dissolved in 10 mL of pentane. The precipitate (MgCl₂) was filtered and the solution was concentrated, then dried in vacuum at room temperature overnight to remove all cyclooctene. Product was collected and used without further purification. Yield: 94%. Samples prepared by this procedure contains less than 5% of (PNP)IrH₂. It is also possible to use (PNP)Li(crown)^{ref} instead of (PNP)MgCl(dioxane); the main advantages are better accessibility and very low solubility of Li complex in pentane. ¹H NMR (C₆D₁₂): -21.37 (d.d., 1 H, *J* = 11.0, 15.6); 0.03, 0.12, 0.21, 0.30 (all s, 3 H each, SiCH₃); 1.19 (d, 18 H, *J* = 12.4, P Bu^t₂, accidental degeneracy); 1.31 (d, 9 H, *J* = 13.7, P Bu^t); 1.70-1.80 (m, 1 H, CH₂); other protons in two CH₃ and CH₂ were not located due to overlap with other signals. ³¹P{¹H} NMR (C₆D₁₂): 15.3 (d, *J* = 360); 60.1 (d, *J* = 360). MS CI (THF) Exp: 641.2756 [M]⁺ Calc. 641.2737 (C₂₂H₅₂N₁Ir₁P₂Si₂).



Synthesis of (PNP)IrCl. 100 mg of (PNP*)IrH (0.156 mmol) was dissolved in 20 mL of pentane. 75 mg of C_2Cl_6 (0.320 mmol) was added to the solution at 22°C. The mixture was stirred for one hour and the color changed from red to green-yellow. The reaction mixture was then filtered, concentrated to 10 mL and the product crystallized after 12 h at $-40^\circ C$. Green crystals were collected and washed with minimum amount of cold pentane to give 83 mg (79%) after drying in vacuum. 1H NMR (C_6D_{12} , 25°C): 1.3 (br.s, 12 H, SiMe), 2.9 (br.s, 36 H, Bu^t), 4.5 (br.s, 4 H, CH_2). **MS CI** (THF) Exp: 676.2419 $[M]^+$ Calc. 676.2431 $C_{22}H_{52}ClIrNP_2Si_2$. This reaction also succeeds, but less cleanly, with N-chlorosuccinimide or $PhICl_2$, with reductive elimination of H with CH_2 , to give (PNP)IrCl. All spectra (1H , absence of ^{31}P and EPR, see below) indicate that (PNP)IrCl is a planar d^7 Ir^{II} monomer.

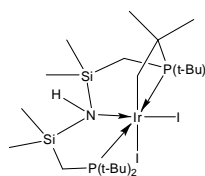


Synthesis of (PN(H)P*)Ir(Cl)₂. 21 mg of (PNP)IrCl (0.0314 mmol) was dissolved in 0.5 mL of CH_2Cl_2 and 4.2 mg of N-chlorosuccinimide (0.0314 mmol) were added. NMR observation showed full conversion into the product in 12h. The product was isolated by vacuum removal of solvent, the residue was extracted into pentane to remove succinimide, filtered and the pentane soluble were dried in vacuum. Yield: 19 mg(88%) 1H NMR (CD_2Cl_2): 0.44 (s, 3 H, $SiCH_3$), 0.50 (s, 9 H, $SiCH_3$, accidental degeneracy), 1.12 (d, 3 H, $J = 13.9$, CH_3C), 1.27, 1.38 and 1.47 (three d, 9 H each, $J = 12.2, 13.7$, and 12.4 , three Bu^t), 1.70 (d, 3 H, $J = 14.3$, CH_3C), 2.97 (d, 1 H, $J = 8.7$, H in $Ir-CH_2$), 3.52 (m, 1 H, H in $Ir-CH_2$), 4.47 (br.s, 1 H, NH); two $Si-CH_2$ groups were not resolved due to overlapping with other signals. $^{31}P\{^1H\}$ NMR (CD_2Cl_2): -47.0 (d, $J = 410$), 8.6 (d, $J = 410$).

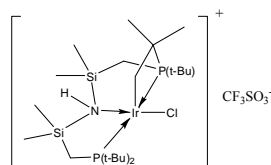


Synthesis of (PN(H)P*)Ir(I)₂. 20 mg of (PNP*)IrH (0.0312 mmol) was dissolved in 0.5 mL of benzene and 7.9 mg of I_2 (0.0312 mmol) were added. A precipitate forms and was isolated by filtration after 15 min, washed with pentane and dried to yield 23 mg (83%) of product. 1H NMR (CD_2Cl_2 , 25°C): 0.48 (s, 3 H, $SiCH_3$), 0.55 (s, 6 H, $SiCH_3$, accidental degeneracy), 0.60 (s, 3 H, $SiCH_3$), 1.13 (d, 3

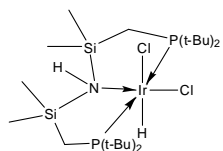
H, $J = 13.8$, CH₃C), 1.35 (br, 9 H, Bu^t), 1.50 and 1.62 (both d, 9 H each, $J = 13.6$ and 12.4, two Bu^t), 1.85 (d, 3 H, $J = 14.1$, CH₃C), 3.16 (d, 1 H, $J = 7.5$, H in Ir-CH₂), 3.93 (m, 1 H, H in Ir-CH₂), 4.40 (br.s, 1 H, NH); two Si-CH₂ groups were not resolved due to overlapping with other signals. **³¹P{¹H} NMR** (CD₂Cl₂, 25°C): -5.3 (d, $J = 398$), -60.2 (d, $J = 398$). **MS CI** (THF) Exp: 768.1793 [M-I]⁺ Calc: 768.1787 C₂₂H₅₂IIrNP₂Si₂. The reaction proceeds equally well in THF, but the product remains soluble and is isolated pure by vacuum removal of all volatiles.



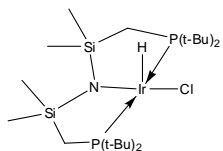
Synthesis of (PN(H)P*)Ir(I)₂. 20 mg of (PNP*)IrH (0.0312 mmol) was dissolved in 0.5 mL of THF and 7.9 mg of I₂ (0.0312 mmol) were added. All volatiles were removed in vacuum after 15 min, residue was washed with pentane and dried to yield 23 mg (83%) of product. **¹H NMR** (CD₂Cl₂): 0.48 (s, 3 H, SiCH₃), 0.55 (s, 6 H, SiCH₃, accidental degeneracy), 0.60 (s, 3 H, SiCH₃), 1.13 (d, 3 H, $J = 13.8$, CH₃C), 1.35 (br, 9 H, Bu^t), 1.50 and 1.62 (both d, 9 H each, $J = 13.6$ and 12.4, two Bu^t), 1.85 (d, 3 H, $J = 14.1$, CH₃C), 3.16 (d, 1 H, $J = 7.5$, H in Ir-CH₂), 3.93 (m, 1 H, H in Ir-CH₂), 4.40 (br.s, 1 H, NH); two Si-CH₂ groups were not resolved due to overlapping with other signals. **³¹P{¹H} NMR** (CD₂Cl₂): -5.3 (d, $J = 398$), -60.2 (d, $J = 398$). **MS CI** (THF) Exp. 768.1793 [M-I]⁺ Calc. 768.1787 C₂₂H₅₂IIrNP₂Si₂.



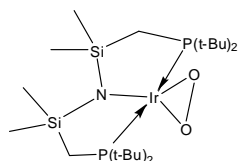
(PN(H)P*)IrCl(OTf). 20 mg of (PNP)IrCl (0.029 mmol) and 9.7 mg of [Cp₂Fe]OTf (0.029 mmol) was dissolved in 0.5 mL of CH₂Cl₂. The green reaction mixture turned to orange in 12h at +40°C. Red crystals formed in 12 h from CH₂Cl₂ layered with pentane. Yield: 21 mg (86%). **¹H NMR** (CD₂Cl₂, 25°C): 0.41, 0.58, 0.68, 0.72 (all s, 3 H each, SiCH₃), 1.26 (d, 3 H, $J = 14.4$, CH₃C), 1.29 (d, 9 H, $J = 13.6$, Bu^t), 1.38 and 1.39 (both d, 9 H each, $J = 13.5$ and 14.5, two Bu^t), 1.69 (d, 3 H, $J = 14.1$, CH₃C), 3.54 (br.s, 1 H, NH), 3.88 (d, 1 H, $J = 6.2$, H in Ir-CH₂), 4.25 (d.d.d, 1 H, $J = 3.7, 6.2, 17.1$, H in Ir-CH₂); two Si-CH₂ groups were not resolved due to overlapping with other signals. **³¹P{¹H} NMR** (CD₂Cl₂, 25°C): -19.8 (d, $J = 362$), 24.4 (d, $J = 362$). **¹⁹F{¹H} NMR** (CD₂Cl₂, 25°C): -79.0 (s).



Synthesis of (PN(H)P)IrH(Cl)₂. 16.5 mg (0.025 mmol) of (PNP*)IrH were dissolved in 0.5 mL of Et₂O and 0.026 mL (0.0527 mmol) of a 2M solution of HCl in Et₂O were vacuum transferred at liquid nitrogen temperature. The reaction mixture was then allowed to melt in a Dewar filled with acetone at -40°C. Color of the solution changed from red to yellow after the tube was vigorously shaken. ³¹P NMR showed complete conversion into the product. Red crystals (15 mg, 87%) formed in 12 h from CD₂Cl₂/pentane. ¹H NMR (CD₂Cl₂, 25°C): -25.22 (t, 1 H, J = 12.9), 0.35, 0.43 (both s, 6 H each, SiMe), 1.10, 1.25 (both m, 2 H each, CH₂), 1.40, 1.48 (both t, 18 H each, J = 6.6, Bu^t), 3.32 (br.s, 1 H, NH). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CD₂Cl₂, 25°C): 17.6.



Synthesis of (PNP)Ir(H)(Cl). 10 mg (0.014 mmol) of (PN(H)P)Ir(H)(Cl)₂ were dissolved in 2 mL of THF and were reacted with 1.6 mg LiNⁱPr₂ (0.014 mmol). The color of the solution changed immediately from yellow to purple. After 1h all volatiles were removed in vacuum, the residue was extracted with pentane, filtered and dried in vacuum. Yield: 8mg (84%). ¹H NMR (C₆D₆, 25°C): -47.0 (t, 1 H, J = 11.7, Ir-H), 0.25, 0.32 (both s, 6 H each, SiMe), 0.77, 0.89 (m, 2 H each, all CH₂), 1.27, 1.40 (both t, 18 H each, J = 6.6, Bu^t). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (C₆D₆, 25°C): 42.4.



Synthesis of (PNP)Ir(O₂). 18.6 mg of (PNP*)IrH (0.0312 mmol) was dissolved in 0.5 mL of pentane and was degassed through 3 freeze-pump-thaw cycles using liquid N₂. 1 atm. of O₂ (~4 equiv.) was added to the evacuated head space of the frozen solution. The reaction vessel was allowed to warm and the red reaction mixture turned to green-yellow in time of mixing. Pentane was removed in vacuum to give 19 mg (97%) of green powder. NMR observation showed full conversion into the product. ¹H NMR (C₆D₆, 25°C): 0.24 (s, 12 H, SiCH₃), 0.66 (t, 4 H, J = 4.4, CH₂), 1.32 (t, 36 H, J = 6.5, ^tBu). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (C₆D₆, 25°C): 27.9 (s). **MS CI** (THF) Exp: 673.2632 [M]⁺ Calc. 673.2641 (C₂₂H₅₂IrNO₂P₂Si₂).

Structure determination of (PN(H)P*)IrI₂. An orange crystal (approximate dimensions 0.15 × 0.15 × 0.12 mm³) was placed onto the tip of a 0.1 mm diameter glass capillary and mounted on a Bruker APEX II Kappa Duo diffractometer equipped with an APEX II detector at 150(2) K.

Data collection

The data collection was carried out using Mo K α radiation (graphite monochromator) with a frame time of 15 seconds and a detector distance of 5.0 cm. A collection strategy was calculated and complete data to a resolution of 0.71 Å with a redundancy of 6 were collected (five major sections of frames with 0.50° ω and ϕ scans). Data to a resolution of 0.71 Å were considered in the reduction. Final cell constants were calculated from the xyz centroids of 9963 strong reflections from the actual data collection after integration (SAINT).¹ The intensity data were corrected for absorption (SADABS).²

Structure solution and refinement

The space group P2₁/c was determined based on intensity statistics and systematic absences. The structure was solved using SIR-2004³ and refined with SHELXL-97.⁴ A direct-methods solution was calculated, which provided most non-hydrogen atoms from the E-map. Full-matrix least squares / difference Fourier cycles were performed, which located the remaining non-hydrogen atoms. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic displacement parameters. The hydrogen atoms were placed in ideal positions and refined as riding atoms with relative isotropic displacement parameters. The final full matrix least squares refinement converged to R1 = 0.0363 and wR2 = 0.0805 (F², all data). The remaining electron density is rather large and located near the iodine atoms. The structure was found as proposed with two independent molecules per asymmetric unit.

1 SAINT, Bruker Analytical X-Ray Systems, Madison, WI, current version.

2 An empirical correction for absorption anisotropy.

R. Blessing, *Acta Cryst.* A51, 33 - 38 (1995).

3 Sir2004, A Program for Automatic Solution and Refinement of Crystal Structures.

M. C. Burla, R. Caliandro, M. Carnalli, B. Carrozzini, G. L. Cascarano, L. De Caro, C. Giacovazzo, G. Polidori, R. Sagna. Vers. 1.0 (2004).

4 SHELXTL-Plus, Bruker Analytical X-Ray Systems, Madison, WI, current version.

Structure determination of [(PN(H)P*)IrCl]OTf. A red crystal (approximate dimensions $0.15 \times 0.13 \times 0.10$ mm³) was placed onto the tip of a 0.1 mm diameter glass capillary and mounted on a Bruker APEX II Kappa Duo diffractometer equipped with an APEX II detector at 150(2) K.

Data collection

The data collection was carried out using Mo K α radiation (graphite monochromator) with a frame time of 10 seconds and a detector distance of 5.0 cm. A collection strategy was calculated and complete data to a resolution of 0.77 Å with a redundancy of 4 were collected. Three major sections of frames were collected with 0.50° ω and ϕ scans. Data to a resolution of 0.82 Å were considered in the reduction. Final cell constants were calculated from the xyz centroids of 9506 strong reflections from the actual data collection after integration (SAINT).¹ The intensity data were corrected for absorption (SADABS).²

Structure solution and refinement

The space group P2₁/n was determined based on intensity statistics and systematic absences. The structure was solved using SIR-2004³ and refined with SHELXL-97.⁴ A direct-methods solution was calculated, which provided most non-hydrogen atoms from the E-map. Full-matrix least squares / difference Fourier cycles were performed, which located the remaining non-hydrogen atoms. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic displacement parameters. The hydrogen atoms were placed in ideal positions and refined as riding atoms with relative isotropic displacement parameters with the exception of H1n, which is involved in hydrogen bonding and was refined for all parameters. The final full matrix least squares refinement converged to R1 = 0.0316 and wR2 = 0.0815 (F², all data). The remaining electron density is located near Ir.

1 SAINT, Bruker Analytical X-Ray Systems, Madison, WI, current version.

2 An empirical correction for absorption anisotropy.

R. Blessing, *Acta Cryst.* A51, 33 - 38 (1995).

3 Sir2004, A Program for Automatic Solution and Refinement of Crystal Structures.

M. C. Burla, R. Caliendo, M. Carnalli, B. Carrozzini, G. L. Cascarano, L. De Caro, C. Giacovazzo, G. Polidori, R. Sagna. Vers. 1.0 (2004).

4 A short history of *SHELX*.

G. M. Sheldrick, *Acta Cryst.* A64, 112 - 122 (2008).

Computational Details

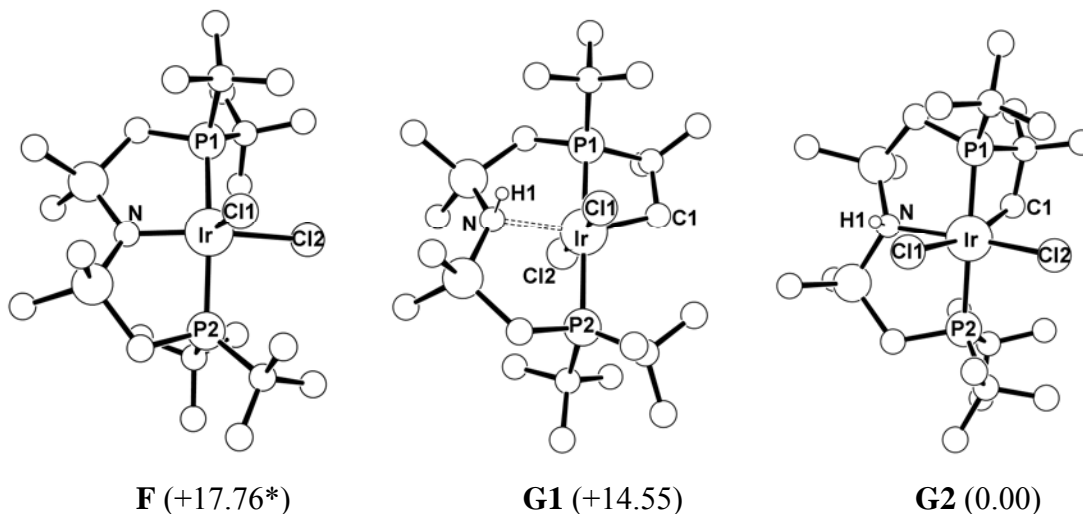
All calculations were carried out using Density Functional Theory as implemented in the Jaguar 6.0 suite¹ of ab initio quantum chemistry programs. Geometry optimizations were performed with the PBE² functional and the 6-31G** basis set with no symmetry restrictions. Transition metals were represented using the Los Alamos LACVP basis^{3, 4}. The energies of the optimized structures were reevaluated by additional single-point calculations on each optimized geometry using Dunning's correlation-consistent triple- ζ basis set⁵ cc-pVTZ(-f) that includes a double set of polarization functions. For all transition metals, we used a modified version of LACVP, designated as LACV3P, in which the exponents were decontracted to match the effective core potential with the triple- ζ quality basis.

The models used in this study consist of ~80 atoms, which represent the non-truncated substrates that were also used in the experimental work. Although a smaller model may also be able to reproduce the most important features of the studied reaction qualitatively, we chose to employ the large scale model faithfully to construct a realistic model chemistry.

References

1. Jaguar, version 6.0, *Schrödinger, L.L.C, New York, NY, 2005.*
2. Perdew, J. P.; Burke, K.; Ernzerhof, M. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 1996, *77*, 3865; *Phys. Rev. Lett* (Erratum) 1997, *78*, 1386.
3. Hay, P. J.; Wadt, W. R., *J. Chem. Phys.* **1985**, *82*, 270.
4. Wadt, W. R.; Hay, P. J., *J. Chem. Phys.* **1985**, *82*, 284.
5. Dunning, T. H., *J. Chem. Phys.* **1989**, *90*, 1007.

S1. Optimized structure of isomers of (PNP)IrCl₂ (**F**, **G1** and **G2**).

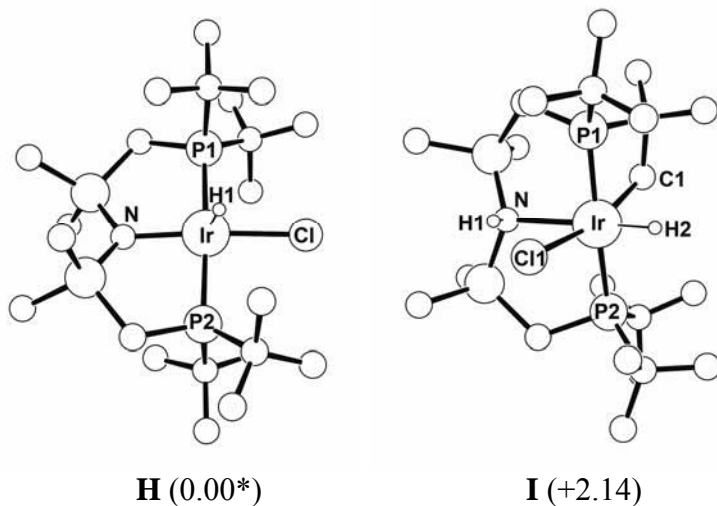


* Numbers in parenthesis are relative electronic energies in kcal/mol.

Select bond length (in Å) and bond angle (in °).

	F		G1		G2
Ir-P1	2.425	Ir-P1	2.297	Ir-P1	2.323
Ir-P2	2.407	Ir-P2	2.458	Ir-P2	2.422
Ir-N	2.014	Ir-N	2.367	Ir-N	2.237
Ir-Cl1	2.372	Ir-Cl1	2.436	Ir-Cl1	2.573
Ir-Cl2	2.484	Ir-Cl2	2.430	Ir-Cl2	2.411
P1-Ir-P2	165.0	Ir-C1	2.116	Ir-C1	2.135
N-Ir-Cl2	166.4	N-H1	1.034	N-H1	1.055
N-Ir-Cl1	109.5	P1-Ir-P2	178.1	P1-Ir-P2	171.8
Cl1-Ir-Cl2	83.8	N-Ir-C1	158.6	N-Ir-C12	171.4
		Cl1-Ir-Cl2	175.5	C1-Ir-Cl1	163.5

S1. Optimized structure of isomers of (PNP)IrHCl (**H** and **I**).



* Numbers in parenthesis are relative electronic energies in kcal/mol.

Select bond length (in Å) and bond angle (in °):

H		I	
Ir-P1	2.372	Ir-P1	2.301
Ir-P2	2.364	Ir-P2	2.365
Ir-N	2.073	Ir-N	2.400
Ir-Cl1	2.476	Ir-Cl1	2.595
Ir-H1	1.545	Ir-C1	2.127
P1-Ir-P2	174.9	Ir-H2	1.579
N-Ir-H1	107.9	N-H1	1.047
N-Ir-Cl	79.1	P1-Ir-P2	170.6
H1-Ir-Cl	172.9	C1-Ir-Cl1	163.6
		N-Ir-H2	171.6

S5. Optimized structures.

F				H			
Ir	15.355572485	2.407055236	18.589144414	H	18.048212545	-2.194047898	18.439204486
P	16.454177725	0.385855909	19.224254000	H	18.215601136	-1.888836193	20.193189698
P	13.949163108	4.141170552	17.939164750	H	19.768084095	0.205832356	17.399038301
Si	15.631019323	1.755145155	21.979647669	H	18.457324444	1.415977790	17.335112188
Si	12.893153182	3.163514093	20.746227904	H	18.180057359	-0.251731254	16.751152785
N	14.688772081	2.802667618	20.806774603	H	14.181649113	-2.720611779	18.528141920
C	17.127554510	2.779637877	22.483412693	H	14.617626774	-2.077361139	20.121803774
H	16.821334138	3.637023501	23.106872621	H	15.867895588	-2.801663423	19.079687126
H	17.670842947	3.169269805	21.607957689	H	14.729433735	-1.534823484	16.402440458
H	17.827805682	2.174001199	23.083301395	H	16.431163809	-1.786064856	16.836424120
C	14.628068977	1.271615507	23.508011402	H	15.862714567	-0.159007478	16.381912649
H	14.215327927	2.156813811	24.020184120	H	13.120743605	-0.339841921	17.874368589
H	15.290180539	0.761615169	24.229387531	H	14.087328042	1.093995486	17.977323252
H	13.797123334	0.582219725	23.289180071	H	13.597388764	0.178522247	19.517996096
C	16.110220312	0.156628704	21.049820947	H	14.609402689	7.465767108	19.620709622
H	16.962938810	-0.332307465	21.552506375	H	15.362210222	5.883963869	19.927074158
H	15.265453009	-0.545611258	21.154508667	H	13.587260869	6.118085261	20.145972543
C	15.223934418	-0.819837498	18.393199937	H	15.726431164	7.511308950	17.516644766
C	18.282160216	-0.058595683	18.953937111	H	15.320212176	6.455414358	16.156773452
C	12.490107572	4.423422032	22.096891373	H	16.376774493	5.854420131	17.473964561
H	13.172808926	5.287120674	22.119680363	H	14.226434271	3.695012477	14.039574460
H	12.542264326	3.934751979	23.084623458	H	15.070751246	4.930130555	14.987241061
H	11.463521274	4.810498535	21.979161768	H	13.285582866	4.973224811	14.837293480
C	11.828250883	1.634625661	21.061776193	H	16.245193318	3.201387548	16.171756445
H	11.835743660	0.889993398	20.251896326	H	13.018399799	1.827107407	15.039511555
H	10.784510447	1.982654542	21.161471544	H	11.916645304	3.048465316	15.719430977
H	12.085187047	1.128463249	22.005219722	H	12.598854432	1.781676033	16.763427817
C	12.433530421	3.831245645	18.975401989	H	15.400605999	1.643752813	15.922020878
H	11.845264848	3.038090656	18.480809771	Cl	17.205974229	3.817290002	18.846447128
H	11.775396485	4.715076880	19.041945715	H	15.158932276	3.721242338	20.864992296
C	14.246708059	6.029116249	18.037799323	G1			
C	13.005331570	6.769579141	17.496872584	Ir	15.196006387	2.378568316	18.509968144
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H	12.800973823	6.523058344	16.443024150	Si	15.338904638	1.674248912	21.905495792
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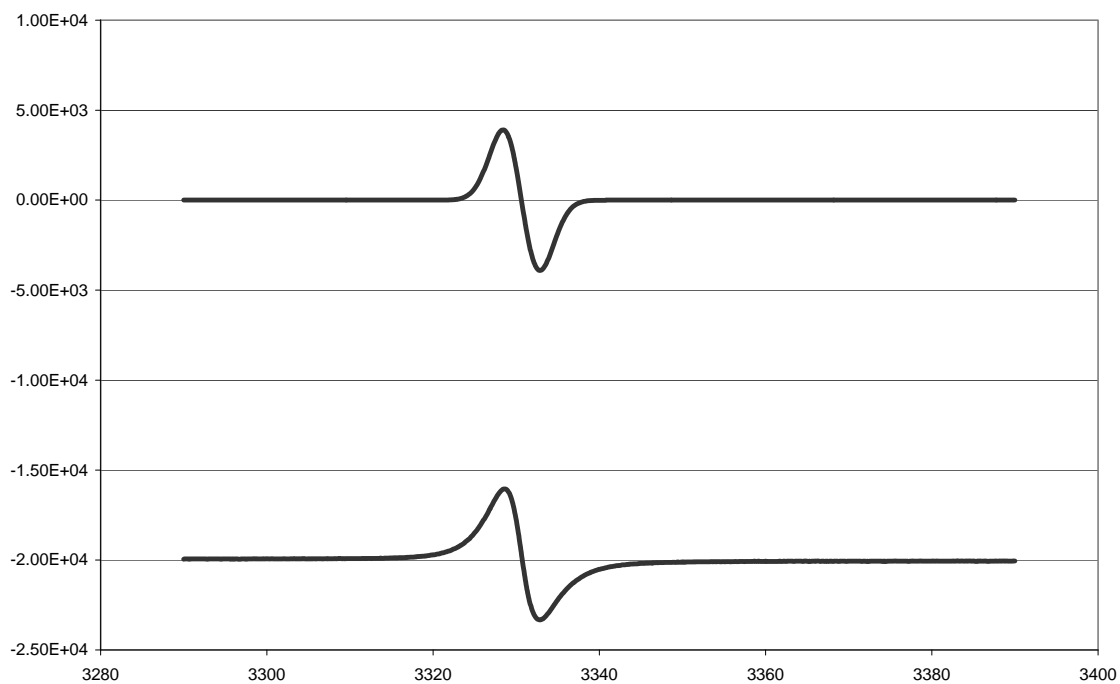
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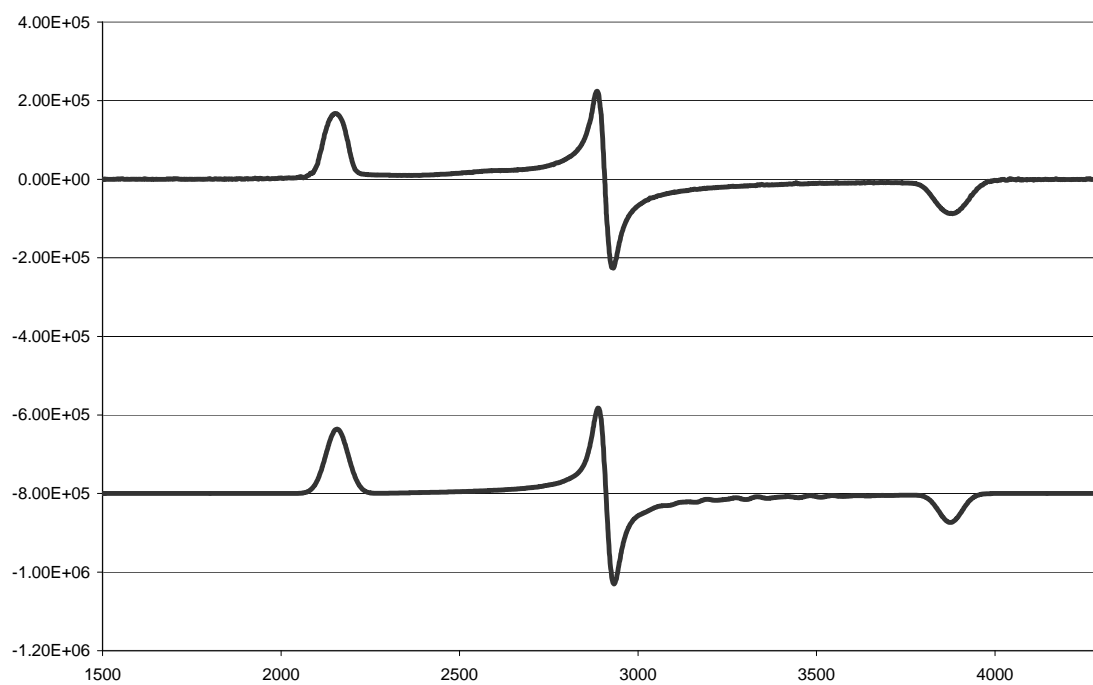
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H	14.892559713	3.713973354	15.367741165	C	12.947655113	2.830682283	15.911505686
H	13.470693946	4.791368762	15.118484797	C	14.548583655	4.591753376	15.113946948
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C	18.576062223	-0.046625160	17.232758919				
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EPR of (PNP)IrCl, 22°C (sim at bottom)



EPR of (PNP)IrCl at -90 °C in CH₂Cl₂ (sim at bottom)



All EPR at 9.3466 GHz: 22° C $g = 2.005$; -90° C $g = 1.742, 2.32, 3.13$ all in CH₂Cl₂.

All spectra shown below were made at 25°C. NMR spectra were recorded with a Varian Unity INOVA instrument (400 MHz ^1H ; 162 MHz ^{31}P). Solvents are either C_6D_6 (impurity at 7.15 ppm) or CD_2Cl_2 (5.32 ppm).

