

Synthesis, Structure and Reactivity of Iridium Hydrido Fluorido Complexes

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The oxidative addition of HF at *trans*-[Ir(Ar^F)(η²-C₂H₄)-(PiPr₃)₂] (**1a**: Ar^F = 4-C₅NF₄; **1b**: Ar^F = 2-C₆H₃F₂) affords the fluorido complexes *trans*-[Ir(Ar^F)(F)(H)(PiPr₃)₂] (**2a**: Ar^F = 4-C₅NF₄; **2b**: Ar^F = 2-C₆H₃F₂). The hydrido fluorido complex **2a** is also accessible by means of the reaction of the hydroxido complex *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(H)(OH)(PiPr₃)₂] (**3a**) with Et₃N·3HF. Both compounds **2a** and **2b** react with CO to give

the carbonyl complexes *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(F)(H)(CO)(PiPr₃)₂] (**4a**: Ar^F = 4-C₅NF₄; **4b**: Ar^F = 2-C₆H₃F₂). In the presence of traces of water, a slow reaction of **2a** with CO₂ yields the hydrogencarbonato complex *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(H)(κ²-(O,O)-O₂COH)(PiPr₃)₂] (**5a**). Upon using **2a** or **2b** as fluorinating agent, Ph₃SiH could be converted into Ph₃SiF and CH₃C(O)Cl into CH₃C(O)F.

Introduction

The interest in transition-metal-mediated fluorido complexes has increased rapidly in the last two decades because of their remarkable reactivity^[1] and their role as possible intermediates in C–F bond activation reactions^[2] or transition-metal-mediated fluorination reactions.^[3] Various transition-metal-mediated fluorination reactions can be accomplished by nucleophilic or electrophilic fluorination of a transition-metal-bound substrate.^[3,4] C–F bond-forming reactions with the participation of transition-metal fluorides are also known.^[3,5] The formation of fluoroaromatics by reductive elimination as C–F bond-forming step from transition-metal aryl fluorides has been a challenge for a long time, but considerable progress has been made in the last decade.^[3,6] Recently, Watson and Buchwald et al. developed a palladium catalyst that allows the catalytic fluorination of aryl halides and triflates when using CsF or AgF as fluorinating agent.^[7] In this case, the reductive elimination of aryl fluorides is achieved by a decreased electron density at the metal centre as a consequence of a sterically demanding phosphane ligand, which blocks the fourth coordination site at the palladium aryl fluorido intermediate.

Transition-metal fluorido complexes can, for instance, be prepared by oxidative addition of a C–F bond.^[2b–2e,2g,8] Other reactions include the oxidation of a transition-metal complex with XeF₂^[9] or with elemental fluorine^[10] as well as conversions that involve HF or its derivatives.^[11] How-

ever, the most common procedures represent halide exchange reactions when using metal fluorides such as KF, CsF, TiF, AgF or other nucleophilic fluoride sources.^[5,7,12]

Herein we report the synthesis of the Ir^{III}–fluorido–hydrido complexes *trans*-[Ir(Ar^F)(F)(H)(PiPr₃)₂] (**2a**: Ar^F = 4-C₅NF₄; **2b**: Ar^F = 2-C₆H₃F₂) by oxidative addition of HF when using Et₃N·3HF as the HF source. Studies on their reactivity towards CO, Ph₃SiH and CH₃C(O)Cl are also described.

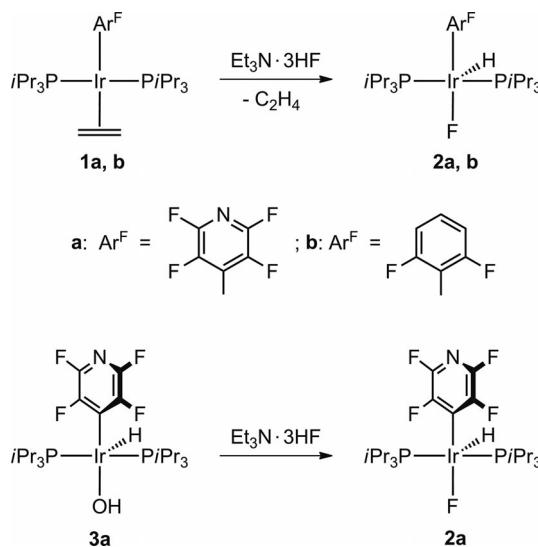
Results and Discussion

Treatment of the Ir^I ethylene complexes *trans*-[Ir(Ar^F)-(η²-C₂H₄)(PiPr₃)₂] (**1a**: Ar^F = 4-C₅NF₄; **1b**: Ar^F = 2-C₆H₃F₂)^[13] with Et₃N·3HF in THF at room temperature led to the formation of fluorido hydrido complexes *trans*-[Ir(Ar^F)(F)(H)(PiPr₃)₂] (**2a**: Ar^F = 4-C₅NF₄; Ar^F = **2b**: 2-C₆H₃F₂) (Scheme 1). Compound **2a** can also be synthesized by a reaction of the hydrido hydroxido complex *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(H)(OH)(PiPr₃)₂] (**3a**) with Et₃N·3HF (Scheme 1).^[14] Mechanistically, this conversion might proceed by an oxidative addition of HF at a reactive 14-electron species, which can be formed by reductive elimination of water from **3a**. It was shown before that **3a** is susceptible to the reductive elimination of water.^[14,15] However, a protonation of the hydroxido ligand to give water and **2a** is also conceivable.

The ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum of **2a** displays a doublet of doublets at δ = 39.5 ppm ($^2J_{F,P}$ = 16.3 Hz, $^4J_{F,P}$ = 9.4 Hz) for the phosphane ligands in a *trans* configuration. Four multiplets in a 1:1:1:1 ratio can be found in the ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR spectrum for the fluorine atoms of the tetrafluoropyridyl ligand. This indicates a hindered rotation about the Ir–C bond.^[13,16] A broad singlet at δ = -267.4 ppm verifies the presence of the fluorido ligand.^[9h,12a,17] The signal remains broad at low temperature (223 K). The hydrido li-

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Scheme 1. Synthesis of the Ir^{III} fluorido hydrido complexes **2a** and **2b**.

gand gives rise to a multiplet at $\delta = -40.28$ ppm in the ^1H NMR spectrum, which simplifies to a triplet ($^2J_{\text{H},\text{P}} = 12.0$ Hz) upon ^{19}F decoupling and to a doublet of doublets upon ^{31}P decoupling ($^2J_{\text{H},\text{F}} = 12.1$ Hz, $^4J_{\text{H},\text{F}} = 2.8$ Hz). The IR spectrum of **2a** shows an absorption band at $\tilde{\nu} = 455\text{ cm}^{-1}$, which could possibly be assigned to the Ir–F stretching vibration.^[18] A DFT frequency-mode analysis shows frequencies at 445 cm^{-1} for a coupled H–Ir–F vibration and at 2482 cm^{-1} (very weak) for the Ir–H stretching vibration. An absorption band for the Ir–H vibration was not found in the IR spectrum of **2a**. Comparable spectroscopic data were found for the difluorophenyl fluorido complex *trans*-[Ir(2-C₆H₃F₂)(F)(H)(PiPr₃)₂] (**2b**).

The molecular structures of **2a** and **2b** were determined by X-ray diffraction analyses at 100 K (Figures 1 and 2). Suitable crystals of **2a** were grown from an *n*-pentane solution at 243 K; crystals of **2b** were obtained by slow evaporation of the solvent from an *n*-hexane solution. Selected bond lengths and angles are summarized in Table 1. Both

molecules **2a** and **2b** show an approximately square-planar arrangement of the metal-bound fluorine atom, the metal-bound carbon atom of the aryl unit and the phosphane ligands, which are in a mutually *trans* configuration. The hydrido ligand was located for neither **2a** nor **2b** but is expected to occupy an apical coordination site, which results in an overall square-pyramidal structure. DFT calculations for **2a** and **2b** verify the suggested square-pyramidal structures and the apical position of the metal-bound hydrogen atoms (see the Supporting Information; Figures 3 and 4). The Ir–F bond lengths [**2a** 2.039(2) Å, **2b** 2.0508(17) Å] are comparable to those in other Ir^{III} fluorido complexes, as, for example, in [Ir{η⁵-C₅(CH₃)₄(CH₂CH₃)}(F)(Ph)(PM₃)] [2.069(4) Å], [Ir(Cp*)(F)(R^F)(PM₃)] [2.070(2) Å for R^F = CF₂CF₃; 2.055(3) Å for R^F = CF₂CF₂CF₃; 2.074(3) Å for R^F = CF(CF₃)₂] and [Ir(F)(H)₂(PtBu₂Ph)₂]

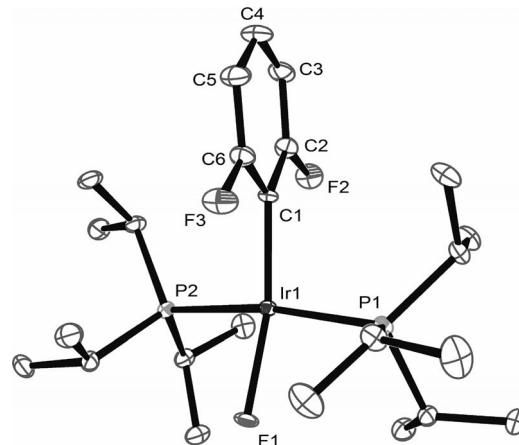


Figure 2. An ORTEP diagram of **2b**. Ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% level; hydrogen atoms at the aromatic ring and at the iPr groups are omitted for clarity.

Table 1. Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles [°] in *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(F)(H)(PiPr₃)₂] (**2a**) and *trans*-[Ir(2-C₆H₃F₂)(F)(H)(PiPr₃)₂] (**2b**) with estimated standard deviations in parentheses.

Compound 2a	Compound 2b	Compound 2a	Compound 2b
Ir1–P1	2.3425(9)	Ir1–P1	2.3292(7)
Ir1–P2	2.3518(10)	Ir1–P2	2.3255(7)
Ir1–F1	2.039(2)	Ir1–F1	2.0508(17)
Ir1–C19	1.998(3)	Ir1–C1	2.018(3)
C19–C20	1.388(5)	C1–C2	1.392(4)
C20–C21	1.397(7)	C2–C3	1.387(4)
C21–N1	1.324(10)	C3–C4	1.381(5)
C22–N1	1.293(10)	C4–C5	1.389(5)
C22–C23	1.364(6)	C5–C6	1.387(4)
C19–C23	1.401(5)	C1–C6	1.395(4)
C20–F2	1.347(6)	C20–F2	1.371(3)
C21–F3	1.334(7)	C21–F3	1.377(3)
C22–F4	1.341(7)		
C23–F5	1.359(6)		
P1–Ir1–P2	169.85(3)	P1–Ir1–P2	170.24(3)
P1–Ir1–C19	93.30(11)	P1–Ir1–C1	95.85(8)
P2–Ir1–C19	96.81(11)	P2–Ir1–C1	92.90(8)
P1–Ir1–F1	85.99(8)	P1–Ir1–F1	86.52(5)
P2–Ir1–F1	83.87(8)	P2–Ir1–F1	86.44(5)
C19–Ir1–F1	172.39(13)	C1–Ir1–F1	162.44(10)

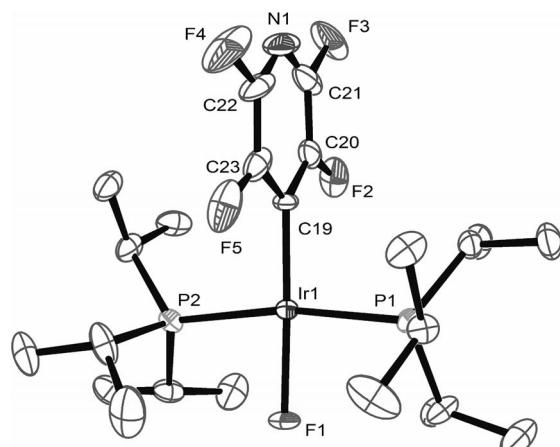


Figure 1. An ORTEP diagram of **2a**. Ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% level; hydrogen atoms at the iPr groups are omitted for clarity.

[2.045(9) Å].^[5a,12a,12c] The calculation of the structural index parameter τ , introduced by Addison and Reedijk et al., furnishes a value of $\tau = 0.04$ for **2a** and $\tau = 0.13$ for **2b**.^[19] Whereas τ is close to zero for square-pyramidal structures, τ is equal to unity for trigonal-bipyramidal systems.

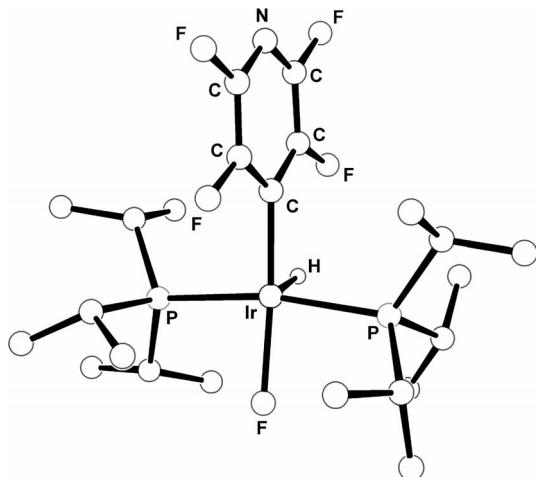


Figure 3. DFT-optimized structure for **2a**. The hydrogen atoms at the *iPr* groups are omitted for clarity.

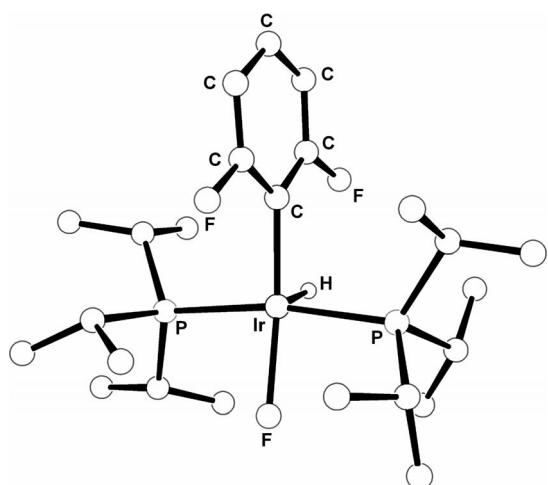
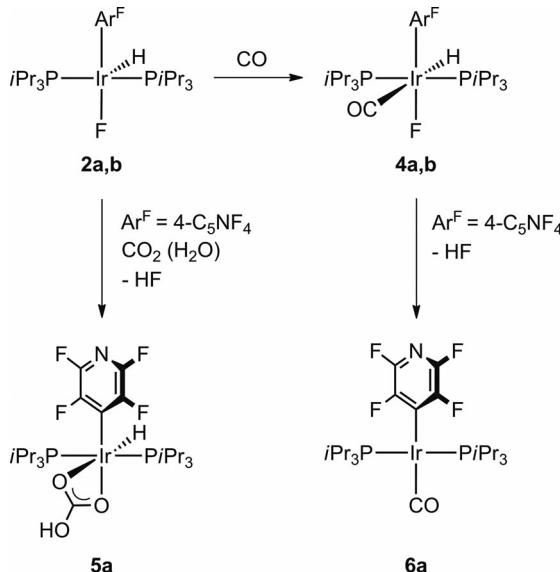


Figure 4. DFT-optimized structure for **2b**. The hydrogen atoms at the aromatic ring and at the *iPr* groups are omitted for clarity.

Treatment of **2a** or **2b** with CO afforded the formation of the carbonyl complexes *trans*-[Ir(Ar^{F})(F)(H)(CO)(PiPr_3)₂] (**4a**: $\text{Ar}^{\text{F}} = 4\text{-C}_5\text{NF}_4$; **4b**: $\text{Ar}^{\text{F}} = 2\text{-C}_6\text{H}_3\text{F}_2$) (Scheme 2). In solution, **4a** decomposes slowly at room temperature to form the Ir^{l} carbonyl complex *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(CO)(PiPr_3)₂] (**6a**), which was characterized before.^[13] An insertion of the carbonyl ligand into the Ir–F bond to give a fluoroacyl species^[9a,9b] was not observed. We also have no indication for the reductive elimination of 2,3,5,6-tetrafluoropyridine or even pentafluoropyridine.^[6,7,20]



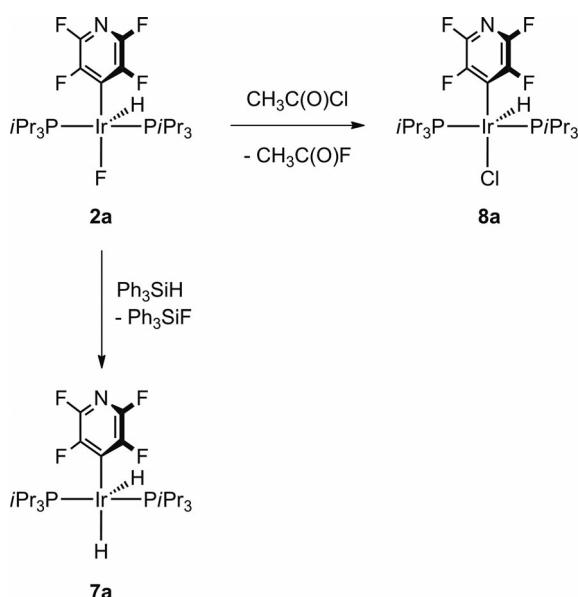
Scheme 2. Reactivity of **2a** and **2b** towards CO and $\text{CO}_2/\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

The $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of **4a** displays a doublet at $\delta = 21.4$ ppm with a coupling constant of ${}^2J_{\text{F},\text{P}} = 22.0$ Hz, which indicates a *cis* configuration of the phosphane groups and the fluorido ligand. Four multiplets in the $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum indicate a hindered rotation of the tetrafluoropyridyl ligand about the Ir–C bond.^[13,16] A broad singlet can be found at $\delta = -444.3$ ppm for the metal-bound fluorine atom.^[5a,9h,17] The ^1H NMR spectrum of **4a** shows a multiplet for the hydrido ligand at $\delta = -5.90$ ppm. The multiplet simplifies to a triplet (${}^2J_{\text{H},\text{P}} = 15.2$ Hz) upon ^{19}F decoupling and to a doublet of doublets (${}^2J_{\text{H},\text{F}} = 14.8$ Hz, ${}^4J_{\text{H},\text{F}} = 9.6$ Hz) upon ^{31}P decoupling. The *trans* configuration of the hydrido and the carbonyl ligand was verified by determination of the ${}^2J_{\text{H},\text{C}}$ coupling constant of 53.0 Hz in the isotopomer *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(F)(H)(¹³CO)(PiPr_3)₂] (**4a'**), which is characteristic of a *trans* arrangement.^[21] The IR spectrum of **4a** exhibits an absorption band at 2170 cm^{-1} for the Ir–H vibration, and one at 2010 cm^{-1} for the C≡O vibration of the carbonyl ligand.^[13,14] Comparable spectroscopic data have been found for *trans*-[Ir(2-C₆H₃F₂)(F)(H)(CO)(PiPr_3)₂] (**4b**) and *trans*-[Ir(2-C₆H₃F₂)(F)(H)(¹³CO)(PiPr_3)₂] (**4b'**).

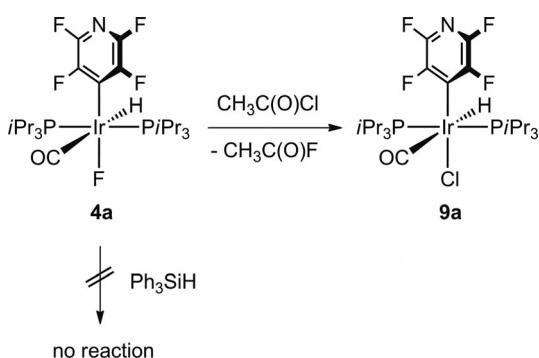
Treatment of a solution of **2a** with CO₂ showed initially no reactivity of **2a** towards CO₂. However, after several days the formation of *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(H)($\kappa^2\text{-}(O,\text{O})\text{-O}_2\text{COH}$)(PiPr_3)₂] (**5a**) could be detected by NMR spectroscopy (Scheme 2).^[14] We presume that in the presence of adventitious water the hydrido hydroxido complex *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(H)(OH)(PiPr_3)₂] was generated, which reacts rapidly with CO₂ to give **5a**, which was reported previously.^[14]

Tertiary silanes can be considered to be good reagents for the replacement of a fluorido by a hydrido ligand.^[22] Indeed, treatment of **2a** or **2b** with an excess amount of Ph₃SiH afforded the formation of Ph₃SiF and the corresponding dihydrido complexes *trans*-[Ir(Ar^{F})(H)₂(PiPr_3)₂] (**7a**: $\text{Ar}^{\text{F}} = 4\text{-C}_5\text{NF}_4$; **7b**: $\text{Ar}^{\text{F}} = 2\text{-C}_6\text{H}_3\text{F}_2$) (Scheme 3),

which were described and characterized before.^[13] In addition to the signals of **7a** or **7b**, the ¹⁹F NMR spectra of the reaction mixtures showed a singlet at $\delta = -169.2$ ppm with ²⁹Si satellites ($^1J_{F,Si} = 282.5$ Hz) for Ph₃SiF.^[23] The presence of Ph₃SiF was also confirmed by an ¹H,²⁹Si HMBC NMR spectrum, which shows a doublet at δ (²⁹Si) = -3.5 ppm ($^1J_{F,Si} = 284$ Hz).^[23] Note that complex **4a** does not react with Ph₃SiH (Scheme 4).



Scheme 3. Reactivity of **2a** towards Ph₃SiH and CH₃C(O)Cl.



Scheme 4. Reactivity of **4a** towards CH₃(O)Cl.

Upon treatment of **2a** with acetyl chloride, a quantitative conversion occurs at room temperature within a few minutes. Acetyl fluoride and the hydrido chlorido complex *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(Cl)(H)(PiPr₃)₂] (**8a**) were detected by NMR spectroscopy (Scheme 3). The ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum shows a singlet at $\delta = 33.5$ ppm for the phosphane ligands, which are in a mutual *trans* configuration. Four signals in the ¹⁹F NMR spectrum can be assigned to the fluorine atoms of the tetrafluoropyridyl ligand in **8a**. A quartet at $\delta = 48.6$ ppm ($^3J_{H,F} = 7.2$ Hz) indicates the presence of acetyl fluoride.^[24] In the ¹H NMR spectrum, a doublet of triplets at $\delta = -41.15$ ppm ($^2J_{H,P} = 12.4$ Hz, $^4J_{H,F} = 5.7$ Hz) can be found for the hydrido ligand.

A reaction of the fluorido hydrido carbonyl complex *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(F)(H)(CO)(PiPr₃)₂] (**4a**) with acetyl chloride gave also acetyl fluoride and *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(Cl)(H)(CO)(PiPr₃)₂] (**9a**) (Scheme 4). A singlet at $\delta = 13.1$ ppm in the ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum of **9a** could be assigned to the phosphanes in a mutual *trans* position. Again four multiplets in the ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR spectrum indicate a restricted rotation of the tetrafluoropyridyl ligand about the Ir-C bond.^[13,16] The ¹H NMR spectrum of **9a** shows a multiplet at $\delta = -7.99$ ppm, which simplifies to a triplet upon ¹⁹F decoupling ($^2J_{H,P} = 16.2$ Hz) and to a doublet upon ³¹P decoupling ($^4J_{H,F} = 15.3$ Hz). For the isotopomer *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(Cl)(H)(¹³CO)(PiPr₃)₂] (**9a'**) a carbon-hydrogen coupling of 54.4 Hz indicates a *trans* arrangement of the hydrido and the carbonyl ligand. The IR spectrum of **9a** displays two absorption bands at $\tilde{\nu} = 2276$ cm⁻¹ for the Ir-H moiety and at $\tilde{\nu} = 2015$ cm⁻¹ for the C≡O vibration.

Conclusion

In this paper, we have reported the synthesis of the fluorido hydrido complexes *trans*-[Ir(Ar^F)(F)(H)(PiPr₃)₂] (**2a**: Ar^F = 4-C₅NF₄; **2b**: Ar^F = 2-C₅H₃F₂) by oxidative addition of HF at *trans*-[Ir(Ar^F)(η²-C₂H₄)(PiPr₃)₂] (**1a**: Ar^F = 4-C₅NF₄; **1b**: Ar^F = 2-C₆H₃F₂) species. Reactivity studies reveal that *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(F)(H)(PiPr₃)₂] (**2a**) and its derivative *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(F)(H)(CO)(PiPr₃)₂] (**4a**) act as a source of fluoride to convert acetyl chloride into acetyl fluoride. However, we did not observe the formation of C-H or C-F bonds by reductive elimination, whereas an HF elimination occurs from *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(F)(H)(CO)(PiPr₃)₂] (**4a**) to yield *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(CO)(PiPr₃)₂] (**6a**).

Experimental Section

General: All experiments were performed with a Schlenk line under an atmosphere of argon or in an argon-filled glovebox with oxygen levels below 10 ppm. All solvents were dried by stirring with Na/K and then distilled under an atmosphere of argon. ¹³CO was commercially available from Sigma Aldrich. Compounds *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(η²-C₂H₄)(PiPr₃)₂] (**1a**) and *trans*-[Ir(2-C₆H₃F₂)(η²-C₂H₄)(PiPr₃)₂] (**1b**) were prepared according to the literature.^[13] The NMR spectra were recorded with a Bruker DPX 300 NMR spectrometer at 298 K. The ¹H NMR spectroscopic chemical shifts were referenced to residual C₆D₅H at $\delta = 7.16$ ppm or [D₇]THF at $\delta = 1.72$ ppm. The ¹⁹F NMR spectra were referenced to external C₆F₆ at $\delta = -162.9$ ppm and the ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectra were referenced externally to H₃PO₄ at $\delta = 0.0$ ppm. Microanalyses were performed with a HEKATECH Euro EA elemental analyzer. Infrared spectra were recorded with a Bruker Vertex 70 spectrometer equipped with an ATR unit (diamond).

***trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(F)(H)(PiPr₃)₂] (**2a**):** A solution of *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(η²-C₂H₄)(PiPr₃)₂] (**1a**) (238 mg, 0.345 mmol) in THF (21 mL) was treated with Et₃N·3HF (23 μL, 0.141 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture turned from dark red to orange. After stirring for 16 h, all the volatile compounds were removed under vacuum and the residue was then extracted with *n*-pentane (10 mL). The volatile compounds were evaporated under vacuum

from the extract and a yellow powder remained; yield 161 mg (68%). $C_{23}H_{43}F_5IrNP_2$ (682.75): calcd. C 40.46, H 6.35, N 2.05; found C 40.89, H 6.36, N 2.10. IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 455 cm⁻¹ (Ir–F). ¹H NMR (300.1 MHz, C_6D_6): δ = 2.17 (dsept, $^3J_{H,H}$ = 7.1, $^2J_{H,P}$ = 7.1 Hz, 6 H, CH), 1.01 (dd, $^3J_{H,H}$ = 7.1, $^3J_{H,P}$ = 7.1 Hz, 18 H, CH_3), 0.98 (dd, $^3J_{H,H}$ = 7.1, $^3J_{H,P}$ = 7.1 Hz, 18 H, CH_3), -40.28 ppm (tdd, $^2J_{H,P}$ = 12.0, $^2J_{H,F}$ = 12.1, $^4J_{H,F}$ = 2.8 Hz, 1 H, IrH); the coupling constants were obtained from ¹H{¹⁹F} and ¹H{³¹P} NMR spectra. ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR (282.4 MHz, C_6D_6): δ = -98.8 (m, 1 F), -102.3 (m, 1 F), -123.8 (m, 1 F), -126.4 (m, 1 F), -267.4 ppm (br. s, 1 F). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (121.5 MHz, C_6D_6): δ = 39.5 ppm (dd, $^2J_{F,P}$ = 16.3, $^4J_{F,P}$ = 9.4 Hz).

trans-[Ir(2-C₆H₃F₂)(F)(H)(PiPr₃)₂] (2b): Et₃N·3HF (150 μ L, 0.920 mmol) was added to a solution of *trans*-[Ir(2-C₆H₃F₂)(η²-C₂H₄)(PiPr₃)₂] (**1b**) (300 mg, 0.459 mmol) in THF (20 mL). The solution turned from dark red to orange while being stirred at room temperature. After 16 h, all the volatile compounds were removed under vacuum and the residue was washed with *n*-pentane (10 mL) to yield 226 mg of an oily orange residue. The residue was then dissolved in THF (15 mL), and the solution was treated with CsF (798 mg, 5.253 mmol) at 323 K for 2 h to remove residual HF. After filtration, the volatile compounds were removed under vacuum from the filtrate. An orange oil remained; yield 221 mg (74%). ¹H NMR (300.1 MHz, C_6D_6): δ = 6.76–6.49 (br. m, 3 H, 2-C₆H₃F₂), 2.35 (dsept, $^3J_{H,H}$ = 7.1, $^2J_{H,P}$ = 7.1 Hz, 6 H, CH), 1.15 (dd, $^3J_{H,H}$ = 7.1, $^3J_{H,P}$ = 7.1 Hz, 36 H, CH_3), -40.08 ppm (m, 1 H, IrH); the $^3J_{H,H}$ coupling constant was determined by a ³¹P decoupling experiment. ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR (282.4 MHz, C_6D_6): δ = -88.3 (m, 1 F), -91.3 (m, 1 F), -267.0 ppm (br. s, 1 F). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (121.5 MHz, C_6D_6): δ = 37.7 ppm (dd, $^2J_{F,P}$ = 17.2, $^4J_{F,P}$ = 4.3 Hz).

trans-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(F)(H)(CO)(PiPr₃)₂] (4a): A solution of *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(F)(H)(PiPr₃)₂] (**2a**) (21 mg, 0.031 mmol) in C_6D_6 (0.6 mL) was treated with CO gas at room temperature. The solution turned pale yellow within seconds. The NMR and IR spectra revealed a quantitative conversion into *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(F)(H)(CO)(PiPr₃)₂] (**4a**). After storage at room temperature for several days, the formation of *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(CO)(PiPr₃)₂] (**6a**) was detected in the reaction mixture. Analytical data for *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(F)(H)(CO)(PiPr₃)₂] (**4a**): IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 2170 (Ir–H), 2010 cm⁻¹ (C≡O). ¹H NMR (300.1 MHz, C_6D_6): δ = 2.10 (dsept, $^3J_{H,H}$ = 7.1, $^2J_{H,P}$ = 7.1 Hz, 6 H, CH), 1.03 (dd, $^3J_{H,H}$ = 7.1, $^3J_{H,P}$ = 7.1 Hz, 18 H, CH_3), 0.98 (dd, $^3J_{H,H}$ = 7.1, $^3J_{H,P}$ = 7.1 Hz, 18 H, CH_3), -5.90 ppm (tdd, $^2J_{H,P}$ = 15.2, $^2J_{H,F}$ = 9.6, $^4J_{H,F}$ = 14.8 Hz, 1 H, IrH); the coupling constants were obtained from the ¹H{³¹P} and ¹H{¹⁹F} NMR spectra. ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR (282.4 MHz, C_6D_6): δ = -98.5 (m, 1 F), -98.9 (m, 1 F), -109.4 (m, 1 F), -113.5 (m, 1 F), -444.3 ppm (br. s, 1 F). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (121.5 MHz, C_6D_6): δ = 21.4 ppm (d, $^2J_{F,P}$ = 22.0 Hz). The isotopomer *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(F)(H)(¹³CO)(PiPr₃)₂] (**4a'**) can be prepared analogously upon treatment of **2a** with ¹³CO. Analytical data for **4a'**: ¹H NMR (300.1 MHz, C_6D_6): δ = 2.10 (dsept, $^3J_{H,H}$ = 7.1, $^2J_{H,P}$ = 7.1 Hz, 6 H, CH), 1.03 (dd, $^3J_{H,H}$ = 7.1, $^3J_{H,P}$ = 7.1 Hz, 18 H, CH_3), 0.98 (dd, $^3J_{H,H}$ = 7.1, $^3J_{H,P}$ = 7.1 Hz, 18 H, CH_3), -5.90 ppm (tddd, $^2J_{H,C}$ = 53.0, $^2J_{H,P}$ = 15.2, $^2J_{H,F}$ = 9.6, $^4J_{H,F}$ = 14.8 Hz, 1 H, IrH); the coupling constants were obtained from the ¹H{³¹P} and ¹H{¹⁹F} NMR spectra. ³¹P{¹H} NMR (121.5 MHz, C_6D_6): δ = 21.4 ppm (dd, $^2J_{F,P}$ = 22.0, $^2J_{C,P}$ = 6.2 Hz). Complex **6a** was identified by comparison of the NMR spectroscopic data with the literature data.^[13]

trans-[Ir(2-C₆H₃F₂)(F)(H)(CO)(PiPr₃)₂] (4b): A slow stream of CO was bubbled through a solution of *trans*-[Ir(2-C₆H₃F₂)(F)(H)(PiPr₃)₂] (**2b**) (175 mg, 0.271 mmol) in THF (5 mL) at room

temperature. The solution turned from yellow to pale yellow within seconds. All volatile compounds were removed under vacuum to yield a yellow residue; yield 170 mg (93%). IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 2209 (Ir–H), 2003 cm⁻¹ (C≡O). ¹H NMR (300.1 MHz, C_6D_6): δ = 6.76–6.49 (br. m, 3 H, 2-C₆H₃F₂), 2.28 (dsept, $^3J_{H,H}$ = 7.1, $^2J_{H,P}$ = 7.1 Hz, 6 H, CH), 1.19 (dd, $^3J_{H,H}$ = 7.1, $^3J_{H,P}$ = 7.1 Hz, 18 H, CH_3), 1.10 (dd, $^3J_{H,H}$ = 7.1, $^3J_{H,P}$ = 7.1 Hz, 18 H, CH_3), -5.51 (tdd, $^2J_{H,P}$ = 15.7, $^2J_{H,F}$ = 9.3, $^4J_{H,F}$ = 14.0, 1 H, IrH); the coupling constants were obtained from the ¹H{³¹P} and ¹H{¹⁹F} NMR spectra. ¹⁹F NMR (282.4 MHz, C_6D_6): δ = -73.4 (m, 1 F), -76.8 (m, 1 F), -441.0 (br. s, 1 F). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (121.5 MHz, C_6D_6): δ = 20.0 (d, $^2J_{F,P}$ = 19.5 Hz). Treatment with ¹³CO forms the isotopomer *trans*-[Ir(2-C₆H₃F₂)(F)(H)(¹³CO)(PiPr₃)₂] (**4b'**). ³¹P{¹H} NMR for **4b'** (121.5 MHz, C_6D_6): δ = 20.7 ppm (dd, $^2J_{F,P}$ = 19.3, $^2J_{C,P}$ = 6.0 Hz).

Treatment of *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(F)(H)(PiPr₃)₂] (2a) with Ph₃SiH: Compound **2a** (6 mg, 0.009 mmol) was dissolved in C_6D_6 (0.7 mL). Then Ph₃SiH (15 mg, 0.058 mmol) was added to the solution, which turned from yellow to orange within minutes. *cis-trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(H)₂(PiPr₃)₂] (**7a**) and Ph₃SiF could be detected by NMR spectroscopy. Complex **7a** was identified by comparison of the NMR spectroscopic data with the literature data.^[13] Analytical data for Ph₃SiF: ¹⁹F NMR (282.4 MHz, C_6D_6): δ = -169.2 ppm (s, with ²⁹Si satellites, $^1J_{F,Si}$ = 282.5 Hz). ¹H, ²⁹Si HMBC (79.5 MHz, C_6D_6): δ (29^{Si}, 1 H) = -3.5/7.7 ppm (d, $^1J_{F,Si}$ = 284 Hz); **2b** reacts with Ph₃SiH in a similar manner to form Ph₃SiF and **7b**.

Treatment of *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(F)(H)(PiPr₃)₂] (2a) with CH₃C(O)Cl: CH₃C(O)Cl (6 μ L, 0.084 mmol) was added to a solution of **2a** (53 mg, 0.078 mmol) in THF (12 mL). NMR spectra of the mixture revealed the presence of *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(Cl)(H)(PiPr₃)₂] (**8a**) and CH₃C(O)F only. Compound **8a** was isolated by evaporation of the volatile compounds from the reaction mixture. Analytical data for **8a**: $C_{23}H_{43}ClF_4IrNP_2$ (699.21): calcd. C 39.51, H 6.20, N 2.00; found C 39.17, H 6.29, N 1.49. ¹H NMR (300.1 MHz, C_6D_6): δ = 2.34 (dsept, $^3J_{H,H}$ = 7.1, $^2J_{H,P}$ = 7.1 Hz, 6 H, CH), 0.98 (dd, $^3J_{H,H}$ = 7.1, $^3J_{H,P}$ = 7.1 Hz, 36 H, CH_3), -41.15 ppm (dt, $^2J_{H,P}$ = 12.4, $^4J_{H,F}$ = 5.7 Hz, 1 H, IrH). ¹⁹F NMR (282.4 MHz, C_6D_6): δ = -99.5 (m, 1 F), -101.3 (m, 1 F), -121.6 (m, 1 F), -127.6 ppm (m, 1 F). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (121.5 MHz, C_6D_6): δ = 33.5 ppm (s). Analytical data for CH₃C(O)F: ¹⁹F NMR (282.4 MHz, C_6D_6): δ = 48.6 ppm (q, $^3J_{H,F}$ = 7.2 Hz).

Treatment of *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(F)(H)(CO)(PiPr₃)₂] (4a) with CH₃C(O)Cl: A solution of **4a** (18 mg, 0.025 mmol) in C_6D_6 (0.7 mL) was treated with CH₃C(O)Cl (2 μ L, 0.028 mmol). The quantitative formation of *trans*-[Ir(4-C₅NF₄)(Cl)(H)(PiPr₃)₂] (**9a**) and CH₃C(O)F was detected by NMR spectroscopy. Evaporation of the volatile compounds afforded complex **9a** as a pale yellow powder. Analytical data for **9a**: $C_{24}H_{43}ClF_4IrNOP_2$ (727.22): calcd. C 39.64, H 5.96, N 1.93; found C 39.68, H 6.48, N 1.93. IR (ATR): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 2276 (Ir–H), 2015 cm⁻¹ (C≡O). ¹H NMR (300.1 MHz, C_6D_6): δ = 2.16 (dsept, $^3J_{H,H}$ = 7.1, $^2J_{H,P}$ = 7.1 Hz, 6 H, CH), 1.06 (dd, $^3J_{H,H}$ = 7.1, $^3J_{H,P}$ = 7.1 Hz, 18 H, CH_3), 0.95 (dd, $^3J_{H,H}$ = 7.1, $^3J_{H,P}$ = 7.1 Hz, 18 H, CH_3), -7.99 ppm (dt, $^2J_{H,P}$ = 16.2, $^4J_{H,F}$ = 15.3 Hz, 1 H, IrH). ¹⁹F NMR (282.4 MHz, C_6D_6): δ = -97.4 (m, 1 F), -97.8 (m, 1 F), -105.4 (m, 1 F), -110.0 ppm (m, 1 F). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (121.5 MHz, C_6D_6): δ = 13.1 ppm (s).

Structure Determination: Yellow crystals of **2a** were obtained by slow evaporation of the solvent from an *n*-pentane solution at 243 K. Suitable crystals of **2b** were grown from an *n*-hexane solution at room temperature. The diffraction data were collected with a STOE IPDS 2 Θ diffractometer at 100 K. Crystallographic data are depicted in Table 2. The structures were solved with direct methods

(SHELXTL PLUS or SIR97) and refined with the full-matrix least-squares method on F^2 (SHELXL-97).^[25] Hydrogen atoms were placed at calculated positions and refined using a riding model. The hydrogen atoms bound at iridium were not located.

Table 2. Crystallographic data.

	2a	2b
Crystal dimensions [mm ³]	0.07 × 0.06 × 0.05	0.32 × 0.30 × 0.08
Crystal colour	orange	yellow
Empirical formula	C ₂₃ H ₄₃ F ₅ IrNP ₂	C ₂₄ H ₄₆ F ₃ IrP ₂
M_r	682.75	645.78
Crystal system	monoclinic	triclinic
Space group	P2 ₁ /n	P\bar{1}
a [\AA]	9.2726(2)	8.3249(3)
b [\AA]	24.0899(4)	10.2917(3)
c [\AA]	11.8937(3)	16.4867(5)
α [°]	—	79.991(2)
β [°]	90.025(2)	83.239(3)
γ [°]	—	71.438(2)
V [\AA ³]	2656.77(10)	1315.73(7)
Z	4	2
$D_{\text{calcd.}}$ [mg m ⁻³]	1.707	1.630
$\mu(\text{Mo}-K_\alpha)$ [mm ⁻¹]	5.193	5.226
θ range [°]	2.35 to 30.49	2.11 to 29.18
Reflns. collected	15607	24890
Indep. reflns.	8092	7075
R_{int}	0.0289	0.1067
Completeness	99.7	99.5
Absorption correction	numerical	numerical
GoF on F^2	0.992	1.126
R_1 , wR ₂ (all data)	0.0418, 0.0785	0.0247, 0.0670
R_1 , wR ₂ [$I_0 > 2\sigma(I_0)$]	0.0316, 0.0758	0.0225, 0.0664
Max diff. peak/hole [e Å ⁻³]	1.363 / -2.404	1.204 / -3.237

CCDC-841984 (for **2a**) and -841983 (for **2b**) contain the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.

Supporting Information (see footnote on the first page of this article): Computational details for **2a** and **2b** for this article is available.

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