Synthesis of rhenium–platinum complexes bearing carbaborane ligands and their unusual dynamic behavior †

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Treatment of $Cs[3,3,3-(CO)_3-closo-3,1,2-ReC_2B_9H_{11}]$ with [Pt(NCMe)_{Ph_2P(CH_2)_2Ph_2}][BF_4], yielded $[3,3,3-(CO)_3-3,8-(Pt{Ph_2P(CH_2)_2PPh_2})-8-(\mu-H)-closo-3,1,2-ReC_2B_9H_{10}][BF_4]$ **2b** as the sole product. The cation of salt **2b** is a bimetallic species with a Re–Pt bond bridged by a *nido*-7,8- $C_2B_9H_{11}$ ligand pentahapto coordinated to the rhenium and with the β -B–H bond in the ligating CCBBB ring of the carbaborane cage forming a 3-centre 2-electron B-H-Pt bond. Deprotonation of 2b with strong bases gives an isomeric mixture of the complexes [3,3,3- $(CO)_{3}-3,n-(Pt\{Ph_{2}P(CH_{2})_{2}PPh_{2}\})-closo-3,1,2-ReC_{2}B_{9}H_{10}]$ **3a** (n = 4), **3b** (n = 8). The isomers are readily separated and the proportion of 3a to 3b formed is solvent- as well as base-dependent. In THF solutions of 2b afford a 1:3:1 equilibrium mixture of **2b**, **3a**, and **3b**. Refluxing THF solutions of **1** with $[Pt(H)(THF)(PEt_3)_2][BF_4]$ for several days yields a separable mixture of the isomers $[3,3,3-(CO)_3-3,n-{Pt(PEt_3)_2}-closo-3,1,2-ReC_2B_9H_{10}]$ 4a (n = 4), 4b (n = 8). The same reactants, when stirred together in CH₂Cl₂ at ambient temperatures, give 4a and [3,3,3-(CO)₃-3,8-{Pt(H)(PEt₃)}-8-(µ-H)-closo-3,1,2-ReC₂B₉H₁₀] 5. Complex 4a, not 5, is the precursor to 4b, the interconversion occurring at elevated temperatures in solution by an intramolecular exchange of B–Pt σ bonds between α -B and β -B vertices in the coordinating CCBBB face of the cage. Treatment of 1 with [Pt(Me)(THF)- $(PMe_2Ph)_2$][BF₄] at room temperature initially gives [3,3,3-(CO)₃-3,4-{Pt(PMe_2Ph)_2}-closo-3,1,2-ReC_2B_9H_{10}] 6a. However, **6a** isomerizes in CH_2Cl_2 solutions at ambient temperatures to give a 1:1 mixture of **6a** and $[3,3,3-(CO)_$ $3,8-\{Pt(PMe_2Ph)_2\}-closo-3,1,2-ReC_2B_9H_{10}\}$ **6b**. The NMR data (¹H, ¹³C, ¹¹B and ³¹P) for the new complexes are discussed.

In recent years many bimetal compounds containing rhenium and platinum have been reported¹ including the first species incorporating carbaborane ligands.² In the metallacarbaborane complexes, prepared using [N(PPh₃)₂]₂[2,2,2-(CO)₃-closo-2,1-ReCB₁₀H₁₁] as the precursor, the Re-Pt bonds are bridged by nido-7-CB₁₀H₁₁ fragments. The cage system is pentahapto coordinated to the rhenium to give a closo-2,1-ReCB₁₀H₁₁ framework and a platinum-phosphine fragment is exopolyhedrally attached by a Re-Pt bond and an agostic B-H-Pt bridge. We have recently carried out studies with the more familiar *nido*-7,8-C₂B₉H₁₁ group, employing the complex salt $Cs[3,3,3-(CO)_3-closo-3,1,2-ReC_2B_9H_{11}]$ 1³ in reactions with mid- to late-transition metal fragments, including iron, ruthenium, rhodium, copper and silver.⁴ The Group 1B metal reagents gave species having Re-Cu and Re-Ag bonds in their solid state structures, while the remainder gave a novel class of exo-closo complexes with no direct Re-M bonds. We have now further developed this work, describing herein the syntheses from 1 of rhenium-platinum complexes and demonstrating the fragility of the Re-Pt bonds formed in some of the products. This lability leads to a remarkable intramolecular exchange of *exo*-B–Pt σ bonds between boron vertices in the coordinating face of the cage ligand.

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Results and discussion

The salt $[Pt(NCMe)_{2}{Ph_{2}P(CH_{2})_{2}PPh_{2}}][BF_{4}]_{2}$, formed *in situ* by treating $[PtCl_{2}{Ph_{2}P(CH_{2})_{2}PPh_{2}}]$ with 2 mol equivalents of Ag[BF₄] in MeCN, was treated with salt 1. Reaction occurred to afford in high yield a complex of composition $[(CO)_{3}-{Pt(PEt_{3})_{2}}-closo-ReC_{2}B_{9}H_{10}]$ 2. As discussed below, detailed examination of the NMR spectra and a single crystal X-ray crystallographic study revealed that this product was $[3,3,3-(CO)_{3}-3,8-(Pt{Ph_{2}P(CH_{2})_{2}PPh_{2}})-8-(\mu-H)-closo-3,1,2-ReC_{2}B_{9}-H_{10}][BF_{4}]$ 2b and contained a bridging carbaborane ligand. There was no evidence for formation of an isomer $[3,3,3-(CO)_{3}-3,4-(Pt{Ph_{2}P(CH_{2})_{2}PPh_{2}})-4-(\mu-H)-closo-3,1,2-ReC_{2}B_{9}H_{10}]-[BF_{4}]$ 2a.



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[†] The compounds described in this paper have rhenium atoms incorporated into *closo*-1,2-dicarba-3-rhenadodecaborane structures and most have *exo*-PtL₂ groups. For complexes with 3,4-PtL₂ fragments, it should be noted that such species are racemic and the 3,7-PtL₂ notation is equally valid. The former is used in the formulae according to IUPAC convention.

Electronic supplementary information (ESI) available: fully coupled and selectively decoupled ¹H NMR spectra of complex **5**. See http:// www.rsc.org/suppdata/dt/b0/b002043p/

Table 1 Analytical and physical data

	Vald		Analysis (%) ^c	
Compound ^{<i>a</i>}	(%)	$\tilde{v}_{\max}(CO)^{b}(cm^{-1})$	С	Н
2b [3,3,3-(CO) ₃ -3,8-(Pt{Ph ₂ P(CH ₂) ₂ PPh ₂ })-8-(µ-H)- <i>closo</i> -3,1,2-ReC ₂ B ₉ H ₁₀][BF ₄]	86	2053vs, 1993s, 1968s	34.4 (35.1)	3.3 (3.3)
$3a[3,3,3-(CO)_3-3,4-(Pt{Ph_2P(CH_2)_2PPh_2})-close-3,1,2-ReC_2B_0H_{10}]$	50	2022vs, 1952s, 1933s	36.9 (37.4)	3.5 (3.4)
3b $[3,3,3-(CO)_3-3,8-(Pt{Ph_2P(CH_2)_2PPh_2})-closo-3,1,2-ReC_2B_0H_{10}]$	25	2024vs, 1955s, 1929s	37.4 (37.4)	3.5 (3.4)
4a $[3,3,3-(CO)_3-3,4-{Pt(PEt_3)_3}-closo-3,1,2-ReC_2B_0H_{10}]$	21 ^d	2020vs, 1949s, 1921s	24.8 (24.5)	4.8 (4.8)
4b $[3,3,3-(CO)_3-3,8-\{Pt(PEt_3)_2\}-closo-3,1,2-ReC_2B_0H_{10}]$	14	2018vs, 1945s, 1927s	24.5 (24.5)	4.8 (4.8)
$5[3,3,3-(CO)_3-3,8-{Pt(H)(PEt_3)}-8-(\mu-H)-closo-3,1,2-ReC_2B_0H_{10}]$	42	2034vs, 1962s, 1950s	18.7 (18.4)	3.8 (3.8)
$6 [3,3,3-(CO)_3-3,n-\{Pt(PMe_2Ph)_2\}-closo-3,1,2-ReC_2B_9H_{10}] (n = 4 \text{ or } 8)^e$	12	2021vs, 1950s, 1920s	28.0 (28.5)	$3.6(3.5)^{f}$

^{*a*} All compounds are yellow. ^{*b*} Measured in CH₂Cl₂; medium-intensity broad bands observed at *ca*. 2550 cm⁻¹ in the spectra of all the compounds are due to B–H absorptions. ^{*c*} Calculated values are given in parentheses. ^{*d*} Yield reported for preparation in CH₂Cl₂ at 25 °C. Yield when prepared in refluxing THF is 7%. ^{*c*} Compounds **6a** and **6b** cannot be isolated separately (see text). Therefore the overall yield, IR spectrum and microanalytical data for the 1:1 mixture are reported. ^{*f*} Contains 1.0 mol equivalent CH₂Cl₂, confirmed by NMR.

 Table 2
 Hydrogen-1 and carbon-13 NMR data^a

Compound	¹ H ^{<i>b</i>}	¹³ C ^{<i>c</i>}
2b	7.48–7.81 (m, 20 H, Ph), 3.63 [br s, 2 H, cage CH, J (PtH) = 38], 2.98 [ddt, 2 H, CH ₂ , J (PH) = 32, 7, J (HH) = 7], 2.61 [ddt, 2 H, CH ₂ , J (PH) = 29, 8, J (HH) = 8], -4.86 [br m, 1 H, B–H–Pt, I (PtH) \approx 550]	190.0 (CO × 1), 186.6 [CO × 2, J (PtC) = 47], 134.6–124.9 (Ph), 38.1 (cage CH), 31.1 [dd, CH ₂ , J (PC) = 44, 8, J (PtC) = 74], 23.6 [dd, CH ₂ , J (PC) = 40, 6, J (PtC) = 59]
3a	7.72–7.37 (m, 20 H, Ph), 3.79, 3.36 (br s × 2, 2 H, cage CH), 2.35–2.11 (br m, 4 H, $CH_2 \times 2$)	192.7, 192.6, 192.5 (CO × 3), 133.9–128.8 (Ph), 44.4, 36.2 (cage CH × 2), 31.3 [dd, CH ₂ , <i>J</i> (PC) = 19, 19], 26.9 [dd, CH ₂ , <i>J</i> (PC) = 9, 24]
3b	7.75–7.37 (m, 20 H, Ph), 3.37 (br s, 2 H, cage CH), 2.34–2.11	192.1 (br, CO), 134.2–128.6 (Ph), 34.4 (cage CH), 31.0 [dd,
4a ^d	(br m, 4 H, CH ₂ × 2) 3.87, 3.28 (br s × 2, 2 H, cage CH), 1.92 (br m, 12 H, CH ₂), 1.01 [dt, 9 H, Me, J (PH) = 8, J (HH) = 7], 0.89 [dt, 9 H, Me, I(PH) = 11 I (HH) = 7]	CH ₂ , $J(PC) = 20$, 38], 27.1 [dd, CH ₂ , $J(PC) = 8$, 31] 196.9, 192.7, 191.7 (CO × 3), 44.5, 34.2 (cage CH × 2), 17.4 [d, CH ₂ , $J(PC) = 32$], 17.3 [d, CH ₂ , $J(PC) = 20$], 8.4, 8.2 (Me × 2)
4b ^e	3.31 (br s, 2 H, cage CH), 1.90, 1.72 (br m × 2, 12 H, CH2), 0.98 [dt, 9 H, Me, $J(PH) = 7$, $J(HH) = 6$], 0.84 [dt, 9 H, Me, $J(PH) = 6$]	(Mc \times 2) 197.2 (CO), 191.0 (CO \times 2), 33.3 (cage CH), 17.6–17.1 (br m, CH ₂ \times 2), 8.3, 7.9 (Me \times 2)
5	3.42 (br s, 2 H, cage CH), 1.97 [dq, 6 H, CH ₂ , $J(PH) = 11$, J(HH) = 7, $J(PtH) = 50$], 1.09 [dt, 9 H, Me, $J(PH) = 19$, $J(HH) = 7$], -4.84 [dq, 1 H, B–H––Pt, $J(HH) = 15$, $J(BH) = 60$, $J(PtH) \approx 4651$ – 11 03 [br s 1 H, PtH, $J(PtH) = 1090$]	194.2 (CO), 186.6 (CO × 2), 35.4 (cage CH), 22.5 [d, CH ₂ , <i>J</i> (PC) = 39, <i>J</i> (PtC) = 70], 9.3 [d, Me, <i>J</i> (PC) = 2, <i>J</i> (PtC) = 39]
6a ^f	7.43–6.95 (m, 20 H, Ph), 4.05, 3.36 (br s \times 2, 2 H, cage CH), 1.74 [dd, 6 H, PMe, $J(PH) = 8$, 3], 1.65 [dd, 6 H, PMe,	197.5, 197.1, 193.4 (CO × 3), 131.5–128.5 (Ph), 45.9 [cage CH, J (PtC) = 45], 41.4 (cage CH), 18.7, 16.9 [d × 2, PMe,
6b ^{<i>f</i>}	J(PH) = 12, 11] 7.43–7.21 (m, 20 H, Ph), 3.41 (br s, 2 H, cage CH), 1.77–1.55 (br m, 12 H, PMe)	J(PC) = 39, 25] 192.2 (CO), 191.8 (CO × 2), 131.0–128.9 (Ph), 34.5 (cage CH), 17.8 [dd, PMe, $J(PC) = 40, 4]$, 16.7 [d, PMe, $J(PC) = 24$]
" Chemical shi	fts (δ) in ppm, coupling constants (J) in Hz, measurements at root	m temperature in CD ₂ Cl ₂ , unless otherwise stated. Often ¹⁹⁵ Pt

^{*a*} Chemical shifts (δ) in ppm, coupling constants (*J*) in Hz, measurements at room temperature in CD₂Cl₂, unless otherwise stated. Often ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites could not be observed due to poor compound solubility. They are noted where unambiguously assignable. ^{*b*} Resonances for terminal BH protons occur as broad unresolved signals in the range δ *ca.* –2 to 3. Resonances for cage CH and B–H—Pt protons are described as broad, corresponding to approximate $v_{1/2}$ values of 10 and 300 Hz, respectively. ^{*c*} Hydrogen-1 decoupled, chemical shifts are positive to high frequency of SiMe₄. ^{*d*} Measured at –90 °C. ^{*f*} Measured at –80 °C.

Complex 2b constitutes a rare example of a cationic metallacarbaborane without a charge-compensating group bound to the polyhedral carbaborane framework. Much earlier we reported the syntheses of the bimetallic cationic complexes [1,2-Me2-3,3-(CO)2-3-(L)-3,4-(µ-H)2-3,4-{Pt(PEt3)2}-8-(CH2C6H4-Me-4)-closo-3,1,2-WC₂B₉H₇][BF₄] (L = CO, CNBu^t or PMe₃) in which a carbaborane ligand spans a W-Pt bond by virtue of a B-H-Pt bridge.⁵ Other groups have synthesized a handful of monometallic cationic metallacarbaboranes with and without charge-compensating groups bound to a carbaborane vertex.⁶ The IR spectrum of $\mathbf{2b}$ (Table 1) displays $v_{max}(CO)$ bands at 2053, 1993 and 1968 cm⁻¹, indicative of adduct formation between the monoanion of 1 [v_{max} (CO) 2005 and 1905 cm⁻¹]^{3,4} and the dicationic fragment $[Pt{Ph_2P(CH_2)_2PPh_2}]^{2+}$. The ¹H NMR spectrum (Table 2) revealed the presence of a 3-centre 2-electron B-H-Pt agostic bond by displaying a broad resonance at δ –4.86, the signal showing no resolvable ¹¹B–¹H coupling but clearly straddled by broad ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites $[J(PtH) \approx 550]$ Hz]. The presence of the Pt-chelating Ph₂P(CH₂)₂PPh₂ ligand is confirmed in this and the ¹³C-{¹H} NMR spectrum with peaks for the phenyl groups as well as the CH₂CH₂ moiety. The

molecule is bisected by a mirror plane of symmetry, reflected in the observation of one signal both in the ¹H NMR spectrum for the cage CH groups [δ 3.63, J(PtH) = 38 Hz] and also in the ¹³C-{¹H} NMR spectrum (δ 38.1). The molecular C_s symmetry is supported by the 1:1:3:2:2 pattern seen in the ${}^{11}B-\{{}^{1}H\}$ NMR spectrum (Table 3). The peak at δ 22.2 is split in the ¹¹B NMR spectrum into a doublet with ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites [J(HB) = 52, J(PtB) = 140 Hz] as is typical for a B-H-Pt moiety.^{5,7} The cispositional rigidity of the Ph₂P(CH₂)₂PPh₂ ligand about the platinum is revealed in the ³¹P-{¹H} NMR spectrum by the appearance of two signals (δ 62.3 and 55.9) with ¹⁹⁵Pt satellite couplings of similar magnitude to each other [J(PtP) = 2955]and 3393 Hz, respectively]. The broadness of the latter resonance implies that the phosphorus nucleus from which it derives lies transoid with respect to the boron atom of the B-H-Pt group. All the NMR data strongly support the structure depicted, where a β -B atom in the CCBBB face coordinating the rhenium is participating in the agostic B-H-Pt group. To confirm the structure of the cation, especially the presence of the Re-Pt bond, single crystals of 2b were grown and an X-ray diffraction study was carried out. The

Compound	¹¹ B ^b	³¹ P ^c
2b	22.2 [1 B, B–H—Pt, J (HB) = 52, J (PtB) = 140], -0.5 (1 B), -1.2 (1 B BE) -7.7 (3 B) -13.1 (2 B) -15.5 (2 B)	62.3 [<i>J</i> (PtP) = 2955], 55.9 [br, <i>J</i> (PtP) = 3393]
3a	(15, 114), (11, 10, 10), (12, 11, 10, 10, 10), (12, 10), (13, 10	64.8 [br, <i>J</i> (PtP) = 2060], 48.0 [d, <i>J</i> (PP) = 6, <i>J</i> (PtP) = 4709]
3b	49.6 [1 B, B–Pt, $J(PtB) \approx 440$], -4.1 (1 B), -8.2 (2 B), -10.7 (2 B), -16.3 (2 B), -23.3 (1 B)	65.4 [br, <i>J</i> (PtP) = 2050], 49.0 [d, <i>J</i> (PP) = 17, <i>J</i> (PtP) = 5158]
4a	34.5 [d, 1 B, B–Pt, $J(PB) = 76$, $J(PtB) \approx 580$], 1.1 (1 B), -1.3 (1 B) -29 (1 B) -69 (1 B) -163 (2 B) -198 (2 B)	d 22.6 [<i>J</i> (PtP) = 4652], 22.3 [br, <i>J</i> (PtP) = 2093]
4b	$(2B)_{1} = (12B)_{1} = (12B)$	$^{e}25.4$ [br, $J(PtP) = 2141$], 24.3 [$J(PtP) = 5060$]
5	(2 B), $(1 B)$, $(2 B)$, $(1 B)$, $(2 B)$, $(1 B)$, $(1 B)$, $(2 B)$, $(1 B)$, $(2 B)$, $(2 B)$, $(1 B)$, $(2 B)$, $(2 B)$, $(1 B)$, $(2 B)$, $(2 B)$, $(1 B)$, $(2 B)$, $(2 B)$, $(1 B)$, $(2 B)$, $(2 B)$, $(1 B)$, $(2 B)$, $($	39.1 [<i>J</i> (PtP) = 3798]
6a	(1 B), -2.8 (1 B), -6.7 (1 B), -16.1 (2 B), -19.3 (1 B), -2.0 (1 B), -2.0 (1 B), -6.7 (1 B), -16.1 (2 B), -19.3 (1 B), -20.0	f 8.00 [br, J(PtP) = 2148], -7.4 [J(PtP) = 4724]
6b	(1 B) 47.3 [d, 1 B, B–Pt, $J(PB) = 76$, $J(PtB) \approx 485$], -3.6 (1 B), -7.9 (2 B), -10.3 (2 B), -16.4 (2 B), -23.3 (1 B)	f11.1 [br, $J(PtP) = 2193$], $-5.4 [J(PtP) = 5121$]

^{*a*} Chemical shifts (δ) in ppm, coupling constants (*J*) in Hz, measurements at room temperature in CD₂Cl₂, unless otherwise stated. ^{*b*} Hydrogen-1 decoupled, chemical shifts are positive to high frequency of BF₃·OEt₂ (external). The B–H—Pt and B–Pt assignments were made from fully coupled ¹¹B spectra. ^{*c*} Hydrogen-1 decoupled, chemical shifts are positive to high frequency of 85% H₃PO₄ (external). Peaks denoted as broad have $v_{1/2} = 200-250$ Hz. ^{*d*} Measured at -73 °C. ^{*e*} Measured at -90 °C.

Pt-P(1) Re-C(4) Re-B(5) P(1)-C(6) C(5)-O(5)	2.252(4) 1.56(3) 2.33(2) 1.83(2) 1.11(2)	Pt-P(2) Re-C(3) Re-C(2) P(2)-C(7) C(6)-C(7)	2.268(4) 1.92(3) 2.335(13) 1.832(14) 1.50(2)	Pt-B(4) Re-C(5) Re-B(3) C(3)-O(3)	2.34(2) 1.96(2) 2.34(2) 1.16(3)	Pt-Re Re-B(4) Re-C(1) C(4)-O(4)	2.8126(10) 2.29(2) 2.35(2) 1.41(3)
P(1)-Pt-P(2) P(1)-Pt-Re C(4)-Re-C(3) C(4)-Re-Pt B(4)-Re-Pt	84.6(2) 166.95(11) 106.7(10) 77.7(7) 53.4(4)	B(3)-Re-Pt O(4)-C(4)-Re P(1)-Pt-B(4) P(2)-Pt-Re C(4)-Re-C(5)	77.4(4) 176(2) 115.2(6) 108.42(12) 81.3(9)	$\begin{array}{l} C(3)-Re-Pt\\ B(5)-Re-Pt\\ C(1)-Re-Pt\\ O(5)-C(5)-Re\\ P(2)-Pt-B(4) \end{array}$	74.8(5) 86.7(4) 123.3(5) 176(2) 159.8(5)	B(4)-Pt-Re C(3)-Re-C(5) C(5)-Re-Pt C(2)-Re-Pt O(3)-C(3)-Re	51.9(5) 82.8(7) 143.1(5) 118.1(4) 179(2)



Fig. 1 Structure of the cation of $[3,3,3-(CO)_3-3,8-(Pt{Ph_2P(CH_2)_2-PPh_2})-8-(\mu-H)-closo-3,1,2-ReC_2B_9H_{10}][BF_4]$ **2b**, showing the crystallographic labeling scheme. Thermal ellipsoids are shown at the 40% probability level. Only the agostic hydrogen atom is shown for clarity.

cation is shown in Fig. 1 and salient bond lengths and angles are given in Table 4.

The Re–Pt bond [2.8126(10) Å] is slightly longer than that found in the neutral complex $[2,2,2-(CO)_3-2,7-{Pt(PPh_3)_2}-7-(\mu-H)-closo-2,1-ReCB_{10}H_{10}]$ [2.7931(4) Å],² suggesting that the molecular charge has little influence on this connectivity. The presence of the β -B–H—Pt linkage is substantiated [B(4)–Pt 2.34(2) Å] with the agostic hydrogen atom located. The corresponding distance observed in $[2,2,2-(CO)_3-2,7-{Pt(PPh_3)_2}-7-(\mu-H)-closo-2,1-ReCB_{10}H_{10}]$ is 2.355(3) Å. The distortion of the Re(CO)₃ unit from a tripodal piano stool arrangement found in the anion of **1** is perceptible with C(3)–Re–C(4) 106.7(10), C(3)–Re–C(5) 82.8(7) and C(4)–Re–C(5) 81.3(9)°, *i.e.* the first exceeds the last two by more than 20°. Comparison should be made with the complexes $[3,3,3-(CO)_3-3,8-\{M(PPh_3)\}-8-(\mu-H)$ $closo-3,1,2-ReC_2B_9H_{10}]$ (M = Cu or Ag) where the OC–Re–CO angles bisected by the ReMP plane are no greater than 10° more obtuse than the remaining two OC–Re–CO angles of each of those complexes.⁴ In both the copper and silver complexes only one phenyl group of the M(PPh_3) unit is disposed towards the Re(CO)₃ group. The likely cause of this enhanced perturbation in **2b** is the steric pressure from both the lower phenyl groups of the Ph₂P(CH₂)₂PPh₂ ligand (Fig. 1) which are forced to flank the Re–Pt bond, driving the C(3)O(3) and C(4)O(4) ligands further apart and therefore closer to the C(5)O(5) group.

When complex **2b** is dissolved in MeCN it immediately affords $[Pt(NCMe)_2{Ph_2P(CH_2)_2PPh_2}][3,3,3-(CO)_3-closo-3,1,$ $2-ReC_2B_9H_{11}][BF_4], hence the importance of removing all$ traces of MeCN when isolating**2b**, usually by washing withcopious quantities of Et₂O. The behaviour of complex**2b**inTHF (tetrahydrofuran), however, is at variance with its simpledissociation in MeCN. This phenomenon will be analysed laterpending discussion of the results of treating**2b**with variousstrong bases.

Solutions of complex **2b** in CH_2Cl_2 or THF were treated with various strong bases under the conditions listed in Table 5. It should be noted that the sterically encumbered reagents Proton Sponge [1,8-bis(dimethylamino)naphthalene] and DBU (1,8-di-azabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene) instigated complete dissociation of the platinum fragment from the anion [3,3,3-(CO)₃-closo-3,1,2-ReC₂B₉H₁₁]⁻, as did solutions of Na[BH₄] (entries 1–3).

Table 5 Reaction of the salt 2b with base under varying conditions

Entry	Base	Solvent	<i>T</i> /°C	Ratio 3a : 3b ^a
1	Proton Sponge	CH,Cl,	-80	dissoc.
2	DBU	CH ₂ Cl ₂	-80	dissoc.
3	Na[BH₄]	CH ₂ Cl ₂	-80	dissoc.
4	K-Selectride	CH ₂ Cl ₂	-80	2:1
5	K-Selectride	THF	-80	1:1
6	LiPh	THF	-80	2:3
7	LiBu ^t	THF	-80	1:3
8	LiBu ^t	THF	25	1:4
a dissoc	denotes complete di	issociation of	the platinur	n fragment from

the rhenacarborane fragment.

Clearly the bridged Re–Pt system of **2b** is sensitive to even mildly nucleophilic species. However, careful treatment with K-Selectride K[BHBu^s₃] in CH₂Cl₂ at -80 °C (Table 5, entry 4) gave a mixture of two isomeric complexes [3,3,3-(CO)₃-3,*n*-(Pt{Ph₂P(CH₂)₂PPh₂})-*closo*-3,1,2-ReC₂B₉H₁₀] **3a** (*n* = 4), **3b** (*n* = 8) which were separable by column chromatography. The



species 3a and 3b shared almost identical IR spectra (Table 1). Microanalyses confirmed that these were isomers of the same basic molecular formula, although complex 3b was decidedly more soluble than **3a** in CH_2Cl_2 solutions. The ¹H and ¹³C-{¹H} NMR spectra displayed all the expected signals for the cage, CO and Ph₂P(CH₂)₂PPh₂ ligands for **3a** and **3b** with the exception of the CO signals for 3b which appear as a single broad unresolved peak. The ¹¹B-{¹H} NMR spectra are particularly informative with singlet resonances at δ 37.7 (3a) and 49.6 (3b), lying isolated in the low field region away from the remaining peaks. Additionally, these signals, which both bear broad ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites $[J(PtB) \approx 485 (3a) \text{ and } 440 \text{ Hz} (3b)]$, remain as singlets in the fully coupled ¹¹B NMR spectrum. This is indicative of the presence of exopolyhedral B–Pt σ bonds in both 3a and 3b.^{7a–c,8} The ¹¹B-{¹H} NMR spectrum of **3a** reveals a 1:1:1:1:1:2:2pattern of peaks synonymous with the absence of any formal molecular symmetry. The corresponding pattern for 3b is 1:1:2:2:2:1 suggesting the presence of a molecular plane of symmetry through the Re, Pt, the apical B and both P atoms. This information enabled **3a** to be assigned as the α isomer, where an α -B atom in the CCBBB ring participates in σ bonding to the platinum, and likewise **3b** as the β isomer. The ³¹P-{¹H} NMR spectra of **3a** and **3b** display interesting features. Signals at δ 64.8 (3a) and 65.4 (3b) are broad ($v_{1/2} \approx 220$ and 250 Hz, respectively) most likely due to the transoid location of these P atoms with respect to the σ -bonded quadrupolar boron atoms.^{2,5,7,8} Their ¹⁹⁵Pt-³¹P coupling constants [*J*(PtP) = 2060 (3a) and 2050 Hz (3b)] are diminished by ca. 1300 Hz in comparison with the corresponding signal for 2b [δ 55.9, J(PtP) = 3393 Hz]. Furthermore, the P nuclei *transoid* to the Re–Pt bonds resonate at δ 48.0 (3a) and 49.0 (3b) with J(PtP)values which are ca. 1750 and 2200 Hz, respectively, greater than that in complex **2b** [δ 62.3, J(PtP) = 2955 Hz] (Table 3). The implication is that upon deprotonation of the agostic B-H-Pt bridge with formation of a B-Pt bond the B-transoid phosphorus atom of the phosphine arm becomes more weakly bound, while the Re-transoid P atom (cisoid to B) becomes more strongly bonded. This inference is based on the premise that ¹⁹⁵Pt-³¹P one-bond coupling constants are sensitive to the



Fig. 2 Structure of $[3,3,3-(CO)_3-3,4-(Pt{Ph_2P(CH_2)_2PPh_2})-closo-3,1,2-ReC_2B_9H_{10}]$ 3a, showing the crystallographic labeling scheme. Thermal ellipsoids are shown at the 40% probability level. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

Pt–P bond distances.⁹ To test this notion, single crystals of **3a** were grown for the purpose of carrying out an X-ray diffraction study. Selected bond lengths and angles are given in Table 6 and the structure is shown in Fig. 2.

The Re(CO)₃ unit is less distorted from a pseudosymmetrical piano stool arrangement [C(3)-Re-C(4) 93.5(7), C(3)–Re–C(5) 84.5(8), C(4)–Re–C(5) 85.7(7)°] than in complex **2b**, most likely because the $Pt{Ph_2P(CH_2)_2PPh_2}$ fragment has been lifted away from the Re(CO)₃ moiety upon completion of the conversion from the B–H– \rightarrow Pt system to the B–Pt σ bond. This process involves an effective contraction of the B-Pt distance from 2.34(2) Å [Pt-B(4) in 2b] to 2.061(18) Å [Pt-B(3) in 3a]. The disparity between Pt-P bond lengths in 3a is evident with the Pt-P(1) bond [2.202(4) Å] transoid to the Re atom shorter than that in 2b [2.252(4) Å] and the Pt-P(2) bond [2.314(4) Å] transoid to the α -B atom longer than in **2b** [2.268(4)]A]. While neither structure is of exemplary quality, making it necessary to treat the data with a little caution, the comparisons would seem to support the NMR evidence discussed above. Thus the σ -bonded carbaborane cage might be considered to exert a considerably stronger trans influence on a Pt-P bond than a B-H \rightarrow moiety, which would be expected when it is recalled that σ effects are most significant when evaluating *trans* influences.⁹ The shorter Pt-P(1) bond in complex 3a as compared with that in 2b may be accounted for by the decrease in positive charge on the platinum, leading to increased π back donation to both phosphine ligands. This effect is more than offset for the Pt-P(2) bond in **3a** by the *trans* influence exerted by the B–Pt σ bond. It should be noted that similar features for the ¹⁹⁵Pt-³¹P NMR coupling constants and the Pt-PEt₃ bond lengths were reported for the complex [1,2-Me₂-3-(µ-H)-3,3-(CO)₂-3-(PMe₃)-3,4-{Pt(PEt₃)₂}-8-(CH₂C₆H₄Me-4)-closo-3,1,2-WC₂B₉H₇], which has a B-Pt bond *trans* to one phosphine and cis to another, though these properties were not previously discussed.5

One curious aspect of the reaction of complex **2b** with K-Selectride in CH_2Cl_2 at -80 °C is how the majority of the product formed could be the α isomer **3a** (by a ratio of 2:1 over **3b**) when the starting material exists solely as the β isomer. The product distribution would seem to rule out a simple acid–base exchange where the Selectride anion abstracts a proton from the B–H—Pt group. It is more likely that the Selectride delivers a hydride anion to the platinum center, where most of the cationic charge of **2b** logically resides (Scheme 1). This might be accompanied by the displacement of one of the phosphine ligand P atoms, giving a neutral intermediate A_{β} with a terminal hydride. Support for such a structure will be presented later when compound **5** is discussed. It is at this point that isomeriz-

2.061(18) Pt-P(1)2.202(4)2.7583(9)Pt-B(3)Pt-P(2)2.314(4)Pt-Re 1.93(2) 2.28(2) 1.89(2) Re-C(5)Re-C(3)1.95(2) Re-B(3)Re-C(4)2.296(14) 2.39(2) Re-C(1)Re-C(2)2.307(14)Re-B(5)2.373(14) Re-B(4)C(3)-O(3) 1.15(2)C(4) - O(4)1.18(2) C(5) - O(5)1.18(2) B(3) - Pt - P(1)97.0(4) B(5)-Re-Pt 119.3(4) C(5)-Re-Pt 147.9(6) P(2)-Pt-Re 122.29(10) B(3)-Pt-Re 54.2(4) O(4)-C(4)-Re176(2) C(1)-Re-Pt 117.8(3) C(5)-Re-C(3)84.5(8) 78.2(4) 67.2(5) C(4)-Re-C(5)85.7(7)B(3)-Pt-P(2) 173.4(4)C(3)-Re-Pt B(4)-Re-Pt 150.75(11) 79.4(3) C(4)-Re-Pt 81.6(5) P(1)–Pt–ReO(5)-C(5)-Re177(2)C(2)-Re-Pt B(3)-Re-Pt 47.1(4)C(4)-Re-C(3) 93.5(7) P(1)-Pt-P(2) 86.9(2) O(3)-C(3)-Re 174.6(14) Ph₂F н

 $\textbf{Table 6} \quad \text{Selected internuclear distances (Å) and angles (°) for [3,3,3-(CO)_3-3,4-(Pt\{Ph_2P(CH_2)_2PPh_2\})-closo-3,1,2-ReC_2B_9H_{10}] \textbf{3a} = 0$



Scheme 1 Possible pathways in the formation of complexes 3a and 3b by addition of K-Selectride to 2b in CH₂Cl₂ at low temperature.

ation to A_{α} can occur, since there clearly is no such rearrangement in the starting material 2b. This would involve a transformation from the β -B–H–Pt to the α -B–H–Pt system, which has previously been reported for several related mole-cules having B–H– \longrightarrow M groups,^{2,10} and it is here that A_a would be favoured over A_{β} by a ratio of 2:1. A dual pathway may then swing into operation with both molecules A_{α} and A_{β} undergoing oxidative addition reactions of their B-H-Pt groups to give B-Pt-H systems. The platinum(IV) centers so generated in the intermediates \mathbf{B}_{a}^{anti} (or \mathbf{B}_{a}^{syn}) and \mathbf{B}_{B} can be stabilized by recoordination of the pendant phosphine arm in a trans position with respect to the newly generated hydride ligand. The isomers \mathbf{B}_{a}^{anti} and \mathbf{B}_{a}^{syn} arise from the fact that there would be two enantiomeric forms of A_a and the second hydride in B_a could lie *anti* or syn to the cage carbon atoms. Now the hydrogen atoms of the PtH₂ group are suitably located in a *cisoid* fashion to undergo reductive elimination processes to give the observed products 3a and 3b. Such oxidative addition-reductive elimination processes involving exopolyhedral platinum fragments on metallacarbaborane cages are well documented.5,7a-c,8

Both **3a** and **3b** can be protonated with HBF₄·OEt₂ to regenerate complex **2b** quantitatively. Reverse $\alpha \longrightarrow \beta$ isomerization must therefore occur in the conversion of **3a** into **2b**. In an attempt to make a closer examination of the protonation of **3a**, a sample was dissolved in CD₂Cl₂ in an NMR tube and cooled to -80 °C in the spectrometer probe, then removed briefly to treat it with 1 mol equivalent of HBF₄·OEt₂. A ¹H NMR spectrum run at -80 °C within a few seconds of reintroducing the sample displayed a weak apparent triplet at δ -16.4 [*J*(PH) = 7 and 7 Hz]. A further weaker broad resonance was observed at δ -19.2 and the ratio of these signals was 3:1 respectively. The peaks were too weak to be able to observe ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites. When the sample is warmed these signals are seen to broaden and disappear as conversion into **2b** is completed. We attribute these signals to the cationic species C_a (Scheme 2) where the Pt atoms



Scheme 2 Protonation of complex 3a to reform salt 2b.

bear terminal hydride ligands *cisoid* to both the phosphorus nuclei. These structures can be appreciated by considering that the platinum d_{z^2} orbital in **3a** is the most conceivable site for attack by H⁺. Rehybridization of the platinum center upon increase in formal oxidation number (Pt^{II} \longrightarrow Pt^{IV}) could be accompanied by coordination and stabilization by Et₂O,

The behavior of salt **2b** in THF was alluded to above and revealed to be unlike that in MeCN where complete dissociation occurred. In fact in d_8 -THF the complex is present in its cationic form at a level of only *ca.* 20%. The remainder was identified as a mixture of the complexes **3a** and **3b** in a ratio of 1:3. Thus THF itself is capable of acting as a deprotonating agent setting up an equilibrium mixture of **2b**, **3a** and **3b**. To support this a ¹H NMR spectrum of a d_8 -THF sample showed a broad peak at δ 10.88 which corresponds with that for solutions of protonated THF molecules, $[C_4H_8OH]^+$, as shown by treating a sample of d_8 -THF with a small amount of HBF₄·OEt₂. The mechanism of the THF deprotonation is most likely similar to that described in Scheme 1, except that cationic intermediates are involved where THF is bound to the Pt atoms (Scheme 3). The first of these to form could be **D**_β, akin to **A**_β

3:1

Ъ́н

RH

Ph₂

Dα

h2

3a

3a

 E_{α}^{anti} (or E_{α}^{syn})

O BH

■ B

• CH

Scheme 3 THF as a base in the formation of complexes 3a and 3b from 2b.

3b

3b

(and to complex 5 discussed presently). An exchange might then occur between D_{β} and D_{α} , though under these conditions the former β isomer is favored, accounting for the higher percentage of 3b in the mixture. The intermediates E as shown bear resemblance to B (Scheme 1) and also to C (Scheme 2), noting that the THF molecules in E would be situated *trans* to the cage boron atom. The D_{α}/D_{β} equilibrium would go some way to explaining why most of the deprotonations with strong bases in THF (Table 5, entries 5–8) result in a product distribution favouring 3b over 3a. Most of the base (R⁻) merely abstracts H⁺ from the protonated THF molecule, though some will still react with the small amount of 2b present in THF solution. Hence the outcome of the reactions in Table 5 (entries 5–8) is dictated as much by the solvent used as the strong base added. Reactions between complex 1 and other platinum-phosphine combinations $[Pt(NCMe)_2(PR_3)_2][BF_4]_2$ $[PR_3 = PEt_3, (PR_3)_2 = (C_6H_{11})_2P(CH_2)_2P(C_6H_{11})_2]$ proved too difficult to work up to give pure products. To circumvent this the salt 1 was treated with $[Pt(H)(THF)(PEt_3)_2][BF_4]$, readily generated *in situ* from $[PtCl(H)(PEt_3)_2]$ and $Ag[BF_4]$ in THF. This procedure has the advantage of pre-equipping the platinum fragment with a hydrogen atom, so that the product might be expected to be both neutral and lead to the elimination of molecular hydrogen. When the reaction was carried out in refluxing THF for 4 d (Scheme 4) two neutral products were indeed isolated after



Scheme 4 Reactions of salt 1 with $[Pt(H)(THF)(PEt_3)_2][BF_4]$ under differing conditions.

chromatographic purification, $[3,3,3-(CO)_3-3,n-{Pt(PEt_3)_2}$ $closo-3,1,2-ReC_2B_9H_{10}]$ **4a** (n = 4), **4b** (n = 8), in a ratio of 1:2, respectively. The yields (Table 1) of both were poor and it should be noted that the synthesis of **4a** and **4b** was accompanied by the formation of significant amounts of the cation $[Pt(H)(PEt_3)_3]^+$. This was identified from the ¹H and ³¹P-{¹H} NMR spectra of the reaction mixture but not isolated.

The IR spectra (Table 1) of both complexes 4a and 4b are very similar to those of 3a and 3b, respectively, immediately suggesting analogous structures. The ¹¹B-{¹H} NMR spectrum (Table 3) of 4a contains a diagnostic doublet resonance with broad ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites at δ 34.5 $[J(PB) = 76, J(PtB) \approx 580 \text{ Hz}]$ to be compared with the corresponding signal in the same spectrum of **3a** [δ 37.7, J(PtB) \approx 485 Hz]. The signal for **4a** remains unchanged in a fully coupled ¹¹B NMR spectrum, confirming the presence of a B-Pt linkage. Likewise the ¹¹B-{¹H} NMR spectrum of **4b** displays a peak at δ 45.6 [*J*(PtB) \approx 490 Hz] to be compared with that of **3b** [δ 49.6, $J(PtB) \approx 440$ Hz]. The ¹H and $^{13}\text{C-}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectra were also supportive of the proposed structures, though it was necessary to carry out data accumulations at low temperatures ($-73 \degree C$ for **4a** and $-90 \degree C$ for **4b**). The ¹³C-{¹H} NMR spectra showed three CO resonances for 4a $[\delta 196.9, 192.7, 191.7 (1:1:1)]$ reflecting the lack of symmetry in the molecule, and two for **4b** [δ 197.2, 191.0 (1:2)] as a result of the molecular $C_{\rm s}$ symmetry, a plane encompassing the Re, Pt, apical B and P atoms. The peaks in the ${}^{31}P-{}^{1}H$ NMR spectra of 4a and 4b measured at room temperature were perceptibly broader than their counterparts in the spectra of 3a and 3b. Running the spectral measurements at -70 and -80 °C, respectively, led to more discernible signals (Table 3) which were now similar to those of 3a and 3b at room temperature, especially in terms of the wide disparity between the ¹⁹⁵Pt-³¹P coupling constants of the two phosphorus nuclei in any one species. Apparently the onset of some dynamic process is being observed at room temperature (see below).

THF

2b

Repeating the reaction of 1 with $[Pt(H)(THF)(PEt_3)_2][BF_4]$ but in CH₂Cl₂ at ambient temperatures yielded complex 4a and a second compound which was easily separated by chromatographic purification and fractional crystallization. This second species was identified as [3,3,3-(CO)₃-3,8-{Pt(H)(PEt₃)}-8- $(\mu$ -H)-closo-3,1,2-ReC₂B₉H₁₀] 5 and the ratio of 4a:5 was found to be 1:2. There was no evidence of the formation of 4b under these conditions. Compound 5 was easily identified from physical and spectroscopic data (Tables 1-3). The ¹H NMR spectrum displays two notable high field resonances. The first at δ -4.84 shows the distinctive characteristics of a B-H-Pt system with J(BH) = 60 Hz and satellites due to the ¹⁹⁵Pt nucleus $[J(PtH) \approx 465$ Hz].^{5,7} An additional doublet splitting [J(HH) = 15 Hz] results from a *trans* coupling across the platinum with a terminal hydride, which gives rise to the second high field resonance at δ –11.03. The latter signal is quite broad with irresolute ³¹P-¹H or ¹H-¹H couplings, but with a large ¹⁹⁵Pt-¹H coupling for the satellites [J(PtH) = 1090 Hz], strongly indicating the terminal nature of this hydride ligand.^{7a,11} This is reminiscent of the complex [1,2-Me₂-3-(µ-CC₆H₃Me₂-2,6)-3,3- $(CO)_2-3,8-\{Pt(PEt_3)\}-8-(\mu-H)-closo-3,1,2-WC_2B_9H_8\}$ which has a terminal platinum hydride [δ -10.22, J(PtH) = 1165 Hz] and a *trans* B–H– \rightarrow Pt proton (δ –4.7), though the ¹H NMR spectrum from which these resonances were taken lacks the fine detail observed for that of complex $\mathbf{5}.^{7a}$ The employment of the $\beta\text{-B}$ atom (CCBBB) in the B-H-Pt agostic system is evident from the ¹H, ¹³C-{¹H} and ¹¹B-{¹H} NMR spectra (Tables 2 and 3). The first of these shows a single resonance for the cage CH protons (δ 3.42), implying the presence of a mirror plane bisecting the molecule which would not be associated with the use of a boron atom α to the cage carbons in the CCBBB ring. This is supported by the signal count in the ¹¹B-{¹H} NMR spectrum and their integrals (1:1:2:2:2:1). The peak at δ 18.1 in this spectrum is in the region expected for B-H-Pt groups with a diagnostic ${}^{1}\text{H}-{}^{11}\text{B}$ coupling $[J(\text{HB}) = 60 \text{ Hz}].{}^{5,7}$ The presence of only one PEt₃ ligand on the platinum was realized in the ³¹P-{¹H} NMR spectrum (Table 3) with a single sharp resonance at δ 39.1 [J(PtP) = 3798 Hz] and particularly in the ¹H NMR spectrum where peak integrals were particularly informative. The 15 Hz coupling between the agostic and terminal hydrogen nuclei was verified by a ¹H NMR measurement with selective decoupling of the broad hydride resonance at δ -11.03 (Supporting Information). With the exception of the satellites, the doublet of quartets at δ -4.84 was reduced to

a simple ¹¹B-coupled quartet, as expected. Thus the loss of a PEt₃ ligand is confirmed in the formation of complex 5, the structure of which would seem to support the postulated intermediates A in Scheme 1, and perhaps even D in Scheme 3. Phosphine dissociation would also be consistent with the observed formation of the $[Pt(H)(PEt_3)_3]^+$ cation. Since the product ratio of 4a:5 (1:2) matches that of 4a:4b (1:2) it might have been expected that 5 was in fact the logical precursor to 4b, noting that in their exopolyhedral interactions with the platinum atom both involve β -B vertices. It was further thought that addition of 1 mol equivalent of PEt₃ to 5 would afford 4b. However, this did not occur (Scheme 4). An NMR examination of the reaction mixture revealed a ca. 50% decomposition of 5 to [Pt(H)(PEt₃)₃][3,3,3-(CO)₃-closo-3,1,2-ReC₂B₉- H_{11}]. The question then arises as to how 4b forms and perhaps, therefore, a shadow of doubt is thrown on the intermediacy of A (Scheme 1) in the synthesis of the compounds 3. It was previously mentioned that 4a and 4b may be undergoing some dynamic process at room temperature (see above). NMR spectra were measured on a sample of 4a in d₈-toluene at 90 °C, as it was suspected that spectral measurements at an elevated temperature would reveal something about this dynamic process. To our great surprise the formation of 4b was clearly observed to occur until a ratio of 4a to 4b of 1:2 was reached, this taking ca. 3 h at this temperature. A similar result was obtained when

starting with a sample of **4b**. It is therefore merely a coincidence that the CH_2Cl_2 reaction at room temperature between **1** and $[Pt(H)(THF)(PEt_3)_2][BF_4]$ (Scheme 4) produces **4a** and **5** in a ratio of 1:2. The formation of **4b** can solely be accounted for by the isomerization of **4a** at a temperature as low as that of refluxing THF (65 °C).

We have synthesized many dimetallic carbaborane complexes where one of the metals is exopolyhedrally σ bonded to a boron atom in the CCBBB ring of a 1,2-R₂-*closo*-3,1,2-MC₂B₉H₈ (R = H or Me) cage.¹² Hitherto there has been no precedent in this chemistry for σ -bonded *exo*-metal fragments isomerizing in such a manner as to transfer from α -B to β -B vertices, or *vice versa*. There was not even any evidence of such exchange occurring between complexes **3a** and **3b** in this study.

To account for the broadness of the peaks in the NMR spectra of complexes **4a** and **4b** at ambient temperatures a dynamic process involving heterolytic Re–Pt bond cleavage may be taking place. This would be feasible because the local Re(CO)₃ moiety is perfectly stable in *exo-closo* complexes such as $[3,3,3-(CO)_3-8-(\mu-H)-8-\{M(CO)_2(\eta-C_5H_5)\}-closo-3,1,2-ReC_2B_9H_{10}]$ (M = Fe or Ru) and $[3,3,3-(CO)_3-8,9,12-(\mu-H)_3-8,9,12-\{RuCl-(PPh_3)_2\}-closo-3,1,2-ReC_2B_9H_8]^4$ as it is in the parent anion of **1**. The cationic platinum center of the pendant *exo*-[Pt(PEt_3)_2]⁺ group could readily be stabilized by the adjacent β -B–H bond (starting from **4a**) or one of the two available α -B–H bonds (starting from **4b**) to give zwitterionic intermediates F_{α} or F_{β} , respectively (Scheme 5). Interconversion processes involving



Scheme 5 Possible mechanism for the interconversion between isomers 4a and 4b.

metal–metal bond fission/formation and which give such *exocloso* species with no M–M connectivity have been documented for solutions of the complexes $[3,3,3-(CO)_3-8,9-(\mu-H)_2-8,9-{Rh(PPh_3)_2}-closo-3,1,2-ReC_2B_9H_9]$ and $[3,3,3-(CO)_3-3,8-{M(PPh_3)_2}-8-(\mu-H)-closo-3,1,2-ReC_2B_9H_{10}]$ (M = Cu or Ag).⁴ At elevated temperatures (in refluxing THF or above) a full oxidative addition of the α - or β -B–H bond might occur to give a platinum(IV) center. In the resulting intermediate **G** this more electrophilic Pt atom could be stabilized by a B–H bond from the non-metal-coordinating B₅ belt. Once again this can satisfactorily be rationalized because these B₅ belt boron vertices are occasionally found to participate in agostic bonding to *exo*-metals.^{4,13} Intermediate **G** may then transform into either of the

intermediates **F**, which can then undergo reformation to **4a** or **4b**. The ground-state structures for **4a** and **4b** at the low temperatures of the NMR measurements are unlikely to be in the form of **F**, as the NMR spectra are most similar to those of their **3a** and **3b** congeners. Additionally, there is no actual direct spectral evidence for the intermediates **F** or for **G**.

Doubts were raised above as to the viability of the postulated intermediates A and D in Schemes 1 and 3, since the complex 5 did not proceed to give 4b as had been expected. An alternative system was therefore scrutinized: the reaction of 1 with the salt [Pt(Me)(THF)(PMe₂Ph)₂][BF₄], generated in situ by treating [PtCl(Me)(PMe₂Ph)₂] with 1 mol equivalent of Ag[BF₄] in THF. The reaction was evidently much more rapid than that between 1 and [Pt(H)(THF)(PEt₃)₂][BF₄] as a single product, $[3,3,3-(CO)_3-3,4-{Pt(PMe_2Ph)_2}-closo-3,1,2-ReC_2B_9H_{10}]$ 6a. was isolated after 1 h reaction time at room temperature. Compound 6a was characterized from spectroscopic data (Tables 2 and 3) and found to be manifestly similar to 4a. Most notable was the doublet resonance in the ¹¹B-{¹H} NMR spectrum at δ 35.9 [J(PB) = 65, J(PtB) \approx 530 Hz] to be compared with that in 4a [δ 34.5, J(PB) = 76, $J(PtB) \approx 580$ Hz]. The room temperature ³¹P-{¹H} NMR spectrum for **6a** was also similar to that for 4a, implying the existence of an analogous dynamic process and it was necessary to measure this and the $^1\dot{H}$ and $^{13}\dot{C}\text{-}\{^1H\}$ NMR spectra at -80 °C to observe distinguishable signals.



The reaction that produced complex 6a was monitored by IR and NMR spectroscopy and after about 30 min reaction time the IR and NMR data clearly indicated the presence of a species, designated H (Scheme 6), akin to complex 5. The IR spectrum of H showed peaks at 2034, 1964 and 1949 $\rm cm^{-1}$ which are almost identical with those of 5 (2034, 1962, 1950 cm⁻¹). The ¹H NMR spectrum of H displayed a diagnostic quartet at δ -5.07 [J(BH) = 81 Hz] with a ¹⁹⁵Pt satellite set [J(PtH) = 209 Hz], in addition to a peak at δ 0.88, where Pt^{II}Me groups typically resonate.¹⁴ Also detected in the mixture were signals due to free PMe₂Ph and the cation $[Pt(Me)(PMe_2Ph)_3]^+$, verified by independent synthesis of this species. This would support the idea of phosphine ligand dissociation from one platinum center to be scavenged by another. As the reaction proceeded beyond 30 min, IR and NMR peaks due to H diminished and those for 6a grew accordingly. Thus H, which must possess an α-B-H-Pt unit, is likely to be an intermediate on the path to 6a, and the existence of A and D in Schemes 1 and 3 is placed on a firmer footing.

Continued stirring of solutions of complex 6a in CH_2Cl_2 for 24 h accompanied by analysis by NMR spectroscopy revealed



Scheme 6 Formation of complex 6a and the facile interconversion with its isomer 6b.

the establishment of an equilibrium with a second isomer. This was identified as [3,3,3-(CO)₃-3,8-{Pt(PMe₂Ph)₂}-closo-3,1,2- $ReC_2B_9H_{10}$] **6b** from new signals that appeared in the NMR spectra of the mixture. The final equilibrium ratio of 6a to 6b at 25 °C was found to be 1:1 and furthermore 6b could not be isolated free of 6a. However, because all relevant signals for 6a were identified from near pure solutions of this complex, those for **6b** in the mixture were easily abstracted from the spectra of the mixture. The ¹¹B-{¹H} NMR spectrum of **6b** displayed a doublet peak at δ 47.3 with the customary broad ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites $[J(PB) = 76, J(PtB) \approx 485 \text{ Hz}]$. These data are very close to those observed for **4b** [δ 45.6, J(PtB) \approx 490 Hz]. The ¹H and ¹³C- ${^{1}H}$ NMR spectra measured at -80 °C both reflected the presence of an apparent mirror plane bisecting the molecule through the Re, Pt, apical B and both P atoms with one signal in the ¹H NMR spectrum at δ 3.41 for the cage CH protons and also in the ¹³C-{¹H} NMR spectrum at δ 34.5 for the cage CH carbon nuclei. In the latter spectrum the CO nuclei give rise to two signals at δ 192.2 and 191.8 (1:2) as expected with the molecular C_s symmetry. Clearly **6b** is an analog of **3b** and **4b**. The room temperature ³¹P-{¹H} NMR spectrum of the 6a/6b mixture comprised poorly resolved peaks which became sharper at -80 °C. The same dynamic equilibrium that produced 4b from 4a must be occurring for the complexes 6, except that for the latter it is an ambient temperature phenomenon, a feature entirely without precedent in this sphere of metallacarbaborane chemistry. The reason for the difference in the facility of isomeric interconversion, or lack thereof, for the compounds 3, 4 and 6 is at the present time unknown.

Conclusion

As we expand our crop of new metallacarbaboranes incorporating 1,2-R₂-*closo*-3,1,2-MC₂B₉H₉ (R = H or Me) and *closo*-2,1-MCB₁₀H₁₁ cages, it is apparent to us that our understanding of their subsequent reactivity patterns is still limited. In particular, the activation of B–H vertices in the CCBBB coordinating face of the carbaborane remains currently unpredictable. This effect is clearly dependent on the physical conditions under which it is made to occur (as in the syntheses of complexes 3, 4 and 5), as well as the intrinsic structure of the metallacarbaboranes (*cf.* complexes 4 and 6).

Experimental

General

All experiments were conducted under an atmosphere of dry

nitrogen using Schlenk tube techniques. Solvents were freshly distilled under nitrogen from appropriate drying agents before use. Light petroleum refers to that fraction of boiling point 40–60 °C. Chromatography columns (*ca.* 20 cm long and 2 cm in diameter) were packed with silica gel (Acros, 60–200 mesh). Celite pads used for filtration were *ca.* 3 cm long and 2 cm in diameter. The NMR measurements were recorded at the following frequencies: ¹H at 360.13, ¹³C at 90.56, ¹¹B at 115.55, and ³¹P at 145.78 MHz. The reagents 1,⁴ [PtCl(H)(PEt₃)₂],¹⁵ and [PtCl(Me)(PMe₂Ph)₂]^{8a} were made as previously described. The platinaphosphine complex [PtCl₂{Ph₂P(CH₂)₂PPh₂}] was synthesized by adding Ph₂P(CH₂)₂PPh₂ to CH₂Cl₂ solutions of [PtCl₂(NCPh)₂].¹⁶ K-Selectride, Proton Sponge, DBU, Na[BH₄] and Ag[BF₄] were purchased from Aldrich.

Preparations

[3,3,3-(CO)₃-3,8-(Pt{Ph₂P(CH₂)₂PPh₂})-8-(µ-H)-closo-3,1,2- $\operatorname{ReC}_{2}B_{9}H_{10}[BF_{4}]$. To the compounds $[\operatorname{PtCl}_{2}\{\operatorname{Ph}_{2}P(\operatorname{CH}_{2})_{2}\operatorname{PPh}_{2}\}]$ (0.40 g, 0.60 mmol) and Ag[BF₄] (0.24 g, 1.23 mmol) was added MeCN (20 cm³). A precipitate appeared almost instantaneously, though stirring was maintained for ca. 2 h. The suspension was filtered through a Celite pad to remove AgCl using MeCN as solvent. The volume of the filtrate was then reduced to ca. 5 cm³ and a solution of 1 (0.32 g, 0.60 mmol) in MeCN (10 cm³) added and stirred for 5 min. Solvent was then removed in vacuo and CH₂Cl₂ (20 cm³) added to the residue. The suspension, now containing undissolved CsBF4, was once again filtered through Celite and solvent then removed in vacuo. Crystallization from CH2Cl2-Et2O (20 cm3, 1:4), followed by washing with Et₂O (4×20 cm³) and drying *in vacuo*, yielded [3,3,3-(CO)₃-3,8-(Pt{Ph₂P(CH₂)₂PPh₂})-8-(µ-H)-*closo*-3,1,2- $ReC_2B_9H_{10}][BF_4]$ **2b** (0.55 g).

[3,3,3-(CO)₃-3,*n*-(Pt{Ph₂P(CH₂)₂PPh₂})-*closo*-3,1,2-ReC₂B₉- H_{10}] (*n* = 4 or 8). Various alkali metal bases can be used in this reaction in addition to varying the solvent between CH2Cl2 and THF (see text). The use of one particular base (K-Selectride) and solvent (CH₂Cl₂) is documented here. Complex 2b (0.10 g, 0.09 mmol) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (10 cm³) and cooled to -80 °C. A solution of K-Selectride (1 M in THF, 13 µl, 0.09 mmol) was added and stirring maintained while warming to room temperature. After ca. 1 h at room temperature, solvent was removed in vacuo and CH₂Cl₂-light petroleum (5 cm³, 1:1) added to the residue. This was chromatographed at -30 °C, eluting initially with the same solvent mixture to yield a yellow fraction. Removal of solvent in vacuo followed by crystallization from CH₂Cl₂-light petroleum (10 cm³, 1:4) gave yellow microcrystals of [3,3,3-(CO)₃-3,8-(Pt{Ph₂P(CH₂)₂PPh₂})-closo-3,1,2-ReC₂B₉H₁₀] **3b** (0.02 g). A second yellow fraction was eluted from the column using a 3:2 mixture of CH₂Cl₂-light petroleum. Removal of solvent in vacuo and crystallization from CH₂Cl₂-light petroleum (10 cm³, 2:3) produced yellow microcrystals of [3,3,3-(CO)₃-3,4-(Pt{Ph₂P(CH₂)₂PPh₂})-closo- $3,1,2-\text{ReC}_2B_9H_{10}$] **3a** (0.04 g).

[3,3,3-(CO)₃-3,*n*-{Pt(PEt₃)₂}-*closo*-3,1,2-ReC₂B₉H₁₀] (n = 4 or 8). To the compounds [PtCl(H)(PEt₃)₂] (0.17 g, 0.36 mmol) and Ag[BF₄] (0.08 g, 0.41 mmol) was added THF (15 cm³) and the mixture stirred for 2 h. The suspension was filtered through Celite onto a solution of 1 (0.20 g, 0.37 mmol) in THF (5 cm³). This was then refluxed for 4 d. Solvent was removed *in vacuo* and CH₂Cl₂ (10 cm³) added. The mixture was filtered through Celite followed by removal of solvent *in vacuo*. The residue was taken up in CH₂Cl₂–light petroleum (5 cm³, 2:3). Chromatographic separation at -30 °C, eluting with CH₂Cl₂–light petroleum (2:3), afforded two yellow fractions. Removal of solvent from either followed by crystallization from CH₂Cl₂–light petroleum (10 cm³; 1:4) gave yellow microcrystals of [3,3,3-(CO)₃-3,8-{Pt(PEt₃)₂}-*closo*-3,1,2-ReC₂B₉H₁₀] **4b** (0.04 g)

and $[3,3,3-(CO)_3-3,4-\{Pt(PEt_3)_2\}-closo-3,1,2-ReC_2B_9H_{10}]$ 4a (0.02 g) in order of elution.

Reaction of compound 1 with [Pt(H)(THF)(PEt₃)₂][BF₄] at room temperature. The procedure was similar to that described above for the compounds 4 ([PtCl(H)(PEt₃)₂] (0.09 g, 0.19 mmol), Ag[BF₄] (0.04 g, 0.21 mmol), 1 (0.10 g, 0.19 mmol)), except that the reaction was carried out in CH₂Cl₂ (20 cm³) at 25 °C for 24 h. Column chromatography at -30 °C gave a single yellow fraction upon elution with CH₂Cl₂–light petroleum (2:3). This was composed of a mixture of compounds 4a and 5. The former was considerably more soluble than 5 and was readily washed away upon crystallization from CH₂Cl₂– light petroleum (8 cm³, 1:1) giving yellow microcrystals of [3,3,3-(CO)₃-3,8-{Pt(H)(PEt₃)}-8-(µ-H)-*closo*-3,1,2-ReC₂B₉H₁₀] 5 (0.05 g). The compound 4a (0.03 g) was isolated from the washings and crystallized from CH₂Cl₂–light petroleum (10 cm³, 1:4).

 $\label{eq:sphere:sphe$

Crystallography

Crystals of complex 2b were grown by evaporation from a CH₂Cl₂ solution, while those of 3a were grown by diffusion of light petroleum into CH₂Cl₂ solutions. Both complexes cocrystallized with a molecule of CH₂Cl₂ in the asymmetric unit. A crystal of 2b was mounted on a glass fiber and data were collected on a Siemens SMART CCD area-detector three-circle diffractometer. A full sphere of data were set to collect, but unfortunately the crystal decomposed before the data collection could be completed and the raw data were corrected accordingly. However there was still a substantial redundancy in data allowing for empirical absorption corrections (SADABS¹⁷) to be applied using multiple measurements of equivalent reflections. The data frames were integrated using SAINT.¹⁷ For 3a diffracted intensities were collected on an Enraf-Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer. No crystal decay was detected during the data collection. The data were corrected for Lorentz, polarization and X-ray absorption effects, the latter by a semi-empirical method based on azimuthal scans of ψ data of several Euclerian angles (χ) near 90°.

Both structures were solved by conventional direct methods and refined by full-matrix least squares on all F^2 data using Siemens SHELXTL version 5.03 or SHELXTL 93 and SHELXTL 97.¹⁷ For **3a** the non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic thermal parameters. For 2b all nonhydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically (with restrictions placed to generate sensible ellipsoids) with the exception of cage boron atoms B(3) and B(5) and the phenyl carbon atom C(106) which were refined with isotropic thermal parameters. All four phenyl rings in this structure were constrained to be planar. Cage carbon atoms were identified from the magnitudes of their anisotropic thermal parameters and from a comparison of the bond lengths to adjacent boron atoms. The agostic B-H-Pt hydrogen atom H(4) in complex 2b was located $(U_{iso} = 1.5 U_{iso}[B(4)])$, but its position not refined. All other hydrogen atoms were included in calculated positions and allowed to ride on the parent boron or carbon atoms with isotropic thermal parameters ($U_{iso} = 1.2U_{iso}$ of the parent atom except for the B–H hydrogen atoms in **2b** where $U_{iso} = 1.5 U_{iso}$.

	2b	3a
Chemical formula M T/K Colour, habit Crystal size/mm Crystal system Space group a/Å b/Å c/Å a/° $\beta/°$ $\gamma/°$ $U/Å^3$ Z μ (Mo-K a)/mm ⁻¹ No. reflections collected No. independent reflections B(int)	2b $C_{31}H_{35}B_{10}F_4O_3P_2PtRe\cdot CH_2Cl_2$ 1167.85 292(2) Yellow prism $0.55 \times 0.35 \times 0.30$ Triclinic $P\overline{1}$ 12.122(3) 13.084(2) 15.155(3) 110.42(2) 106.75(2) 92.59(2) 2128.5(8) 2 6.374 8730 6816 0.061	$\begin{array}{c} \textbf{3a} \\ \hline C_{31}H_{34}B_9O_3P_2PtRe\cdot CH_2Cl_2 \\ 1080.03 \\ 293(2) \\ Orange-yellow parallelopiped \\ 0.24 \times 0.22 \times 0.18 \\ Triclinic \\ P\bar{1} \\ 11.302(2) \\ 13.0493(12) \\ 15.508(4) \\ 66.198(14) \\ 80.29(2) \\ 66.735(10) \\ 1922.4(5) \\ 2 \\ 7.035 \\ 5329 \\ 5019 \\ 0.037 \end{array}$
R(int) Final residuals $wR2$, $^a R1^b$ Weighting factors a , b^a Largest difference peak, hole/e Å ⁻³	0.061 0.146, 0.065 0.0432, 0.0 2.047, -1.781	0.037 0.126, 0.053 0.0517, 0.5597 1.936, -1.296

^{*a*} Structure was refined on F_o^2 using all data: $wR2 = [\Sigma[w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2]/\Sigma w(F_o^2)^2]^{1/2}$ where $w^{-1} = [\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (aP)^2 + bP]$ and $P = [\max(F_o^2, 0) + 2F_c^2]/3$. ^{*b*} The value is given for comparison with refinements based on F_o with a typical threshold of $F_o > 4\sigma(F_o)$ and $R1 = \Sigma ||F_o| - |F_c||/\Sigma |F_o|$ and $w^{-1} = [\sigma^2(F_o) + gF_o^2]$.

Large residual peaks due to absorption effects were located close to the metal centers in both structures. All calculations were carried out on Silicon Graphics Iris, Indigo or Indy or Dell computers and the experimental data are summarized in Table 7.

CCDC reference number 186/1953.

See http://www.rsc.org/suppdata/dt/b0/b002043p/ for crystallographic files in .cif format.

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