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Cleavage of $F-C(sp^2)$ bonds by MHR(CO)(P^tBu_2Me)₂ (M = Os and Ru; R = H, CH₃ or Aryl): Product dependence on M and R

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In celebration of the coming of age of Malcolm Harold Chisholm.

Abstract

Both MH(Ph)(CO)L₂ (L = P^{*I*}Bu₂Me; M = Ru and Os) react with vinyl fluoride to form M–F bonds; however, Ru eliminates benzene, while Os eliminates ethylene. In contrast, Ru(H)₂(CO)L₂ and Os(H)₂(CO)(1-butene)L₂ both react with vinyl fluoride to give ethylene and MHF(CO)L₂. Ethylene production from *both* dihydrides is attributed to β-F migration to M from an MCH₂CH₂F transient, while the unique behavior of RuH(Ph)(CO)L₂ (giving the C–F oxidative addition product Ru(η¹-vinyl)F(CO)L₂) is attributed to the difficulty of achieving Ru^{IV}, and the ability of the strongly π-acidic vinyl fluoride to rapidly trigger reductive elimination of benzene. The products of reaction of RuH(Ar)(CO)L₂ with vinyl fluoride are redirected more towards ethylene formation when Ar carries fluorine substituents. The reaction products of OsH(R)(CO)L₂ with vinyl fluoride revert to R-H elimination when R is methyl. Finally, the more π-acidic H₂C=CF₂ triggers very rapid CH₄ elimination from OsH(CH₃)(CO)L₂; cleavage of the second C–F bond yields the vinylidene OsF₂(CCH₂)(CO)L₂. All selectivity is rationalized via the fate of the adduct MH(R)(C₂H_{4-n}F_n)-(CO)L₂.

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1. Introduction

C–F bond cleavage is a goal for accomplishing catalytic transformation of perfluoroalkanes (and arenes) and Freons to valuable or environmentally benign materials [1–5]. This is also a topic of interest in organic synthesis [6–19]. The early transition elements have a strong tendency to cleave $F-C(sp^2)$ bonds [20–25]. A fundamental problem in C–F activation by soluble transition metal complexes is selective cleavage of the C–F in preference to the C–H bond in partially fluorinated alkanes and arenes since the C–F bond is normally stronger than the C–H

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bond [26]. That is, kinetic selectivity is required [27–32]. In at least one case, C–F bond cleavage is thermodynamically favored, but kinetically disfavored [33]. However, rarely has there been a report of different selectivity for reaction of a metal complex with vinyl fluoride versus aryl fluoride. Such an example is documented here.

2. Results

2.1. MH(Ph) Reactivity with $H_2C=CHF$

(a) M = Os. The molecule OsH(Ph)(CO)L₂ (L = P^tBu₂Me) (1), is reported to be "triggered" by reaction with fluoroarenes (C₆H_{6-n}F_n, with n = 1, 2, 5) at 25 °C to eliminate C₆H₆ and oxidatively add an arene C-H

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bond, to yield $OsH(Ar^{F})(CO)L_{2}$ [34]. The reactions are thus selective against C-F bond scission; indeed, C₆F₆ does not react. In contrast, 1 is now reported to react with vinyl fluoride to ultimately produce a C-F bondcleaved product. Reaction of OsH(Ph)(CO)L₂ with excess vinyl fluoride at -90 °C in toluene (Scheme 1) gives a π -adduct (2), OsH(Ph)(CO)L₂(C₂H₃F). The ¹H NMR spectrum of 2 shows a hydride peak at -3.7 ppm as an apparent triplet. The coordinated vinyl protons appear at 2.7, 2.9 and 7.6 ppm and the ¹⁹F NMR signal of the bound vinyl fluoride (-171 ppm) is shifted significantly upfield, compared to that of free vinyl fluoride (-113 ppm) [35]. The ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum of this adduct at -50 °C is an AB quartet and the relatively small $J'_{PP} = 162$ Hz is indicative of two phosphines bent significantly away from a ~180° P-Os-P angle, consistent with strong back donation to this olefin [35]. At 25 °C, 2 reacts further (complete in 4 h) to release ethylene and form 3, OsPh(F)(CO)L₂. The ¹⁹F NMR spectrum shows a triplet (${}^{2}J_{PF} = 28$ Hz) at a chemical shift (-202.1 ppm) consistent with F bonded to osmium (not carbon), and ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H{}$ NMR shows a doublet with the same splitting. The ^tBu groups are diastereotopically inequivalent and they, as well as the PCH₃ groups, are virtual triplets consistent with structure 3. The v_{CO} value (1874 cm^{-1}) is low enough to be consistent with a push/ pull $F \rightarrow CO\pi^*$ donation when these ligands are mutually *trans*. There are four (one of intensity 2) distinct phenyl proton NMR signals, suggesting slow rotation of the Ph around the Os–C(*ipso*) bond [36].

(b) M = Ru. RuH(Ph)(CO)L₂ also cleaves the C–F bond of vinyl fluoride but it gives a different product. Combination of RuH(Ph)(CO)L₂ with 1 atm CH₂ = CHF in benzene¹ gives quantitative formation of Ru(CH=CH₂)F(CO)L₂ (4), after 12 h at room temperature (Scheme 1). The ¹⁹F NMR spectrum of **4** shows a broad triplet (${}^{3}J_{PF} = 22 \text{ Hz}$) and the ${}^{31}P\{{}^{1}H\}$ NMR spectrum shows a doublet with the same J_{PF} value. The ${}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum of **4** features an α -vinyl proton at 8.3 ppm (ddd, $J_{HH} = 14.7 \text{ Hz}$, $J_{HH} = 7.5$, $J_{FH} = 6.9 \text{ Hz}$) with the β -protons at higher field (5.4 and 5.1 ppm). The low v(CO) value (1894 cm⁻¹) is consistent with CO *trans* to F. For comparison, **4** can also be synthesized from RuHF(CO)L₂ and C₂H₂. Combination of RuHF(CO)L₂ and 1 atm C₂H₂ in benzene gives Ru(C₂H₃)F(CO)L₂ quantitatively in 30 min at room temperature.

(c) Mechanism. We interpret these results without invoking a wholly different mechanism for the reaction of the Ru and Os species MH(Ph)(CO)L₂ with vinyl fluoride. The idea that an oxidant, including even an electron deficient olefin like (NC)₂C=C(CN)₂, can trigger reductive elimination is termed oxidatively induced reductive elimination [37-41]. We suggest that the absence of *detectable* vinyl fluoride adduct for M = Ru is of quantitative (i.e., a few kcal/mol) rather than qualitative significance. Indeed, it serves as a reminder that Os is a more potent π base than Ru, since back-bonding is an important component of binding of the fluorinated olefin. This difference in π -basicity can also be used to interpret the distinct selectivities shown by Ru and Os. In brief (Scheme 2), osmium is more tolerant to high oxidation states, so the C-F oxidation product, containing Os^{IV} , can be achieved. This seven-coordinate species will be sufficiently persistent and nonrigid, to permit isomerization of H to a site cis to the vinyl group; reductive elimination of ethylene follows. For M = Ru, η^2 binding of π -acidic H₂C=CHF triggers rapid reductive elimination of H with C_6H_5 as the lowest energy process. in order to avoid the high (versus Os) energy of Ru^{IV}; the prompt character of these two events prohibits establishing any inherent (i.e., thermodynamic) preference for phenyl versus vinyl remaining on ruthenium. That is, selectivity is truly kinetically controlled for Ru

¹ No detectable amount of adduct is formed from RuH(Ph)(CO)L₂ under 1 atm vinyl fluoride in d_{14} -methylcyclohexane at -70° by ¹H and ³¹P NMR spectroscopy.



Scheme 2.

but probably not so for Os. Based on our earlier evidence that M–F bond formation is thermodynamically favored for the reactions of the various five-coordinate species studied here [33], the metal dependent products in Scheme 1 probably involve very small differences in reaction enthalpy (i.e., they differ by vinyl versus phenyl on the metal (Eq. (1)) but share the production of a M–F bond). The different products are thus best explained by being under kinetic control via the distinct accessibility of redox changes at a 4d versus a 5d metal.



In order to test for possible phosphine dissociation at or prior to the rate determining step in the reaction of MH(Ph)(CO)L₂ with vinyl fluoride, a rate comparison was made in the absence and presence of 2–5 equivalents of free phosphine (P'Bu₂Me). For either M = Ru or Os, the half-lives for product appearance were observed to be comparable with and without added L, eliminating phosphine dissociation as a mechanistic component.

Based on the mechanism previously deduced for reaction of OsHCl(CO)(P^{*i*}Pr₃)₂ with RCCH [42], a direct attack of the M–H bond on the olefin must also be considered here (Eq. (2)). Here, no prior η^2 -olefin adduct is on the reaction path and the first M/C interaction is concurrent with C/H bond formation.



Since this is a path to M–F and ethylene, it might explain the results when M = Os, but not for Ru. Because it is not clear *why* this mechanism would have higher

 ΔG^{\ddagger} for Ru, we discount it. In contrast, the known redox differences of Ru and Os naturally account for the observed selectivity difference via Scheme 2.

 $M(H)_2$ reactivity with $H_2C=CHF$. A mechanism which incorporates the adduct MHR(H₂C=CHF)-(CO)L₂ also naturally explains the high rate and *similar* products, for M = Ru and Os, when R = H, as will now be described. The feature common to the reactions in Scheme 1 is that the hydride ligand cannot react immediately with a vinyl fluoride ligand *trans* to itself, and thus metal-dependent selectivity develops from within the adduct. To create the contrasting situation of hydride *cis* to the olefin, excess vinyl fluoride was reacted with Ru(H)₂-(CO)L₂ [36]: immediately at -80 °C ethylene and RuHF-(CO)L₂ are formed. We propose the reaction proceeds by insertion of vinyl fluoride into the *cis* Ru–H bond, followed by β -F migration (Scheme 3).

To compare this dihydride reactivity of Ru to that for Os, $Os(H)_2(1$ -butene)(CO)L₂ [43,44] (as a source of the currently unknown $Os(H)_2(CO)L_2$) was prepared from $Os(H)_2(H_2)(CO)L_2$ and 1-butene. This molecule reacts with excess (19 equivalents) vinyl fluoride within 30 min at 25 °C in C₆D₆ to give ethylene and OsHF(CO)L₂; since this product molecule shows dynamic NMR effects from binding olefin, identification is simplified by first removing all volatiles, then redissolving in benzene.

Thus, and in contrast to $MH(Ph)(CO)L_2$, unsaturated Ru and Os show analogous reactivity when a hydride is *adjacent* to the empty coordination site.

2.2. Influence of R group identity in $MH(R)(CO)L_2$

The essential feature of species A is that C_2H_3 and H are *not* mutually *cis* because H, Ph, C_2H_3 , and F are coplanar. Therefore, the different results seen for Ru and Os were argued to occur because the unstable Ru(IV) intermediate analogous to A would not allow time for rearrangement, followed by elimination of the most thermodynamically favorable products, MF(Ar)(CO)L₂ and olefin. The furthest extension of this mechanism, where a Ru(IV) intermediate never exists, is represented in Scheme 4.



In order to understand what role M–R bond strength plays in these reactions, we synthesized $RuH(2-C_6H_4F)$ - $(CO)L_2$ and $RuH(C_6F_5)(CO)L_2$ by reacting RuH(Ph) $(CO)L_2$ with monofluorobenzene and pentafluorobenzene, respectively. We expect that these species will have greater thermal stability against arene elimination with increasing number of fluorines on the aryl ring since $OsH(2,6-C_6F_2H_3)(CO)L_2$ persists unchanged after 30 h at 70 °C in d_{12} -cyclohexane, but OsH(C₆H₅)(CO)L₂ decomposes to free benzene, phosphine and unidentified osmium products under the same conditions. Previous DFT-calculations on $OsH(C_6H_5)(CO)(PH_3)_2$ showed that π donation was partially responsible for restricted rotation about the M-C(ipso) bond. The calculated and observed thermodynamic preference for metal-aryl complexes with fluorine ortho to the metal suggest that fluorines on the aryl ring increase the amount of π donation from a fluoroaryl ring to a metal.

(a) $Ru-Ar^F$. When $RuH(2-C_6H_4F)(CO)L_2$ was reacted with one equivalent of vinyl fluoride for 20 h at 50 °C, the products, $Ru(C_2H_3)F(CO)L_2$ and C_6H_5F , are analogous to those in Eq. (2), i.e., aryl/H reductive elimination. Reaction of the less oxidizable $RuH(C_6F_5)-(CO)L_2$ with less than one equivalent C_2H_3F for 7 days at 85 °C yields $Ru(C_2H_3)F(CO)L_2$, C_6F_5H , $Ru(C_6F_5)F-(CO)L_2$, and C_2H_4 . These last two products therefore indeed indicate that reactions of *both* types in Scheme 2 compete for this more stable ruthenium hydrido-fluoroaryl reagent, consistent with Ru-C bond strength influencing the decay mode of the intermediate.

(b) $Os-CH_3$. Continuing this hypothesis, an osmium species with a *weaker* Os-C bond than Os-C₆H₅ should change reaction selectivity. To that end, OsH(CH₃)-(CO)L₂ (5), was synthesized by reaction of OsHCl-(CO)L₂ with one equivalent of MeLi. Centrifugation of the solution most efficiently removed the LiCl co-product. The NMR signatures of **5** are consistent with other fivecoordinate osmium complexes where hydride is in the apical position. The hydride chemical shift is far upfield (-33.2 ppm). The methyl ¹H NMR signal (integrated to intensity 3) is a triplet at 0.46 ppm. The *t*-butyl signals are diastereotopic virtual triplets and the ³¹P NMR spectrum shows one sharp singlet. In benzene at 22 °C, **5** undergoes slow conversion to OsH(Ph)(CO)L₂. Species **5** thus has a weaker Os–C bond than OsH(Ph)(CO)L₂.

Compound **5** is completely consumed by excess vinyl fluoride at $-75 \,^{\circ}$ C in d_8 -toluene; *two* new species were observed by ¹⁹F NMR. The ³¹P NMR spectrum of *one* of these showed an AB pattern ($J_{PP} = 161 \,\text{Hz}$). ¹H NMR gave two defining signals, a hydride signal at $-6.3 \,\text{ppm}$ (d of d) and signal intensity 3 at $-1.1 \,\text{ppm}$ (assigned to Os–CH₃). These spectroscopic features are consistent with assignment of (Eq. (3)) the most abundant primary product as the simple adduct OsH(CH₃)-(CO)L₂(C₂H₃F).

$$OsH(CH_3)(CO)L_2 + H_2C=CHF$$

$$\implies OsH(CH_3)(CO)L_2(C_2H_3F)$$

$$\xrightarrow{\text{RT}} OsF(CH_3)(CO)L_2 + H_2C=CH_2$$
(3)

Warming the mixture to -15 °C increased the rate of olefin exchange sufficiently to cause the ¹⁹F NMR signals at -169 ppm for bound olefin to broaden nearly into the baseline. Significant conversion of this olefin adduct to the final product did not occur until room temperature, but this is faster than the corresponding reaction of OsH(Ph)(CO)L₂. A ¹⁹F NMR triplet (-198 ppm, $J_{FP} = 27$ Hz), a ³¹P{¹H} NMR doublet (26.0 ppm, $J_{PF} = 27$ Hz), the loss of the hydride signal, and the production of ethylene are all consistent with assignment of the new compound as OsF(CH₃)(CO)L₂. This represents reactivity analogous to that of OsH(Ph)(CO)L₂ with vinyl fluoride.

The amount and spectral features of the *second* low temperature product change very little upon warming the sample from -45 to 20 °C. Over those temperatures,



Scheme 4.

the ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum showed an AM pattern $(\Delta \delta = 32 \text{ ppm})$ with a J_{PP} of 148 Hz. One of the phosphorus nuclei showed coupling to fluorine ($J_{PF} = 15 \text{ Hz}$) whose magnitude is consistent with F on Os. This fluorine is detected at -195 ppm as a doublet of multiplets. AM patterns with large $\Delta \delta$ are typical for metallated alkyl ligands on phosphines; we propose structure **6**. The presence of this second product where the osmium complex has lost methane, HR, shows the competitive occurrence of a second mechanism, that used by Ru in Scheme 2, prior to activation of a C–F bond. This species declines in intensity as the temperature is raised and ultimately disappears from both ³¹P and ¹⁹F NMR spectra.



Detection of this species is especially important because it has the stoichiometry of $Os(CO)L_2$ minus one H and plus one F. It is thus a plausible product of a sec-



ond fate for $OsH(Me)(CO)L_2$, following olefin-induced reductive elimination of methane. The primary product would then be zerovalent, unsaturated 7 (Scheme 5), in which oxidative addition of a *t*-Bu C–H bond would permit hydrogen migration to vinyl fluoride, then fluorine migration to Os, with liberation of ethylene.

The detection of a second competitive reaction channel for OsHMe(CO)L₂ in reacting with vinyl fluoride thus links the ruthenium chemistry (RuH(Ph)(CO)L₂) to that of osmium; the more facile elimination of H with an sp³ carbon (versus sp² in OsH(Ph)(CO)L₂) makes this oxidatively induced reductive elimination now detectable (but not dominant) for OsHMe(CO)L₂.

2.3. A more oxidizing olefin

(a) $Os-CH_3$. The gem-diffuoro olefin H₂C=CF₂ provides an additional test of mechanism. An insertion mechanism for reaction of $H_2C=CF_2$ with 5 would yield vinyl fluoride (Scheme 6). If, on the other hand, this more π -acidic diffuoro olefin promptly triggers methane elimination, then the first C-F oxidative addition to Os(0) could be followed by a second F migration (Scheme 7). Reaction of OsH(CH₃)(CO)L₂ with gemdifluoroethylene at 0 °C with subsequent slow warming to room temperature, then removal of excess olefin, gave 75% yield of product 8 with 100% conversion of 5. The ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum of **8** is a doublet of doublets $(J_{PF} = 41, 25 \text{ Hz})$. ¹⁹F NMR revealed an AB pattern due to inequivalent F on Os. The lower field doublet $(J_{\rm FF} = 143 \text{ Hz})$ also showed triplet coupling to phosphorus ($J_{\rm FP} = 25$ Hz), while the lines of the higher field doublet were each triplets of triplets, due to two phosphorus $(J_{\rm PF} = 41 \text{ Hz})$ and two protons $(J_{\rm FH} = 7 \text{ Hz})$. ¹H NMR showed the absence of a hydride chemical shift as well as the appearance of a new signal at 2.0 ppm (vinylidene CH₂), which was a doublet of triplets $(J_{\rm HF} = 7 \text{ Hz},$



Scheme 7.



Scheme 8.

 $J_{\text{HP}} = 3 \text{ Hz}$). ¹³C{¹H} NMR showed the β -carbon signal at 94 ppm as a doublet ($J_{\text{CF}} = 16 \text{ Hz}$).

An osmium difluoride product is consistent with an intermediate with fluorine located α to the metal because such species exhibit α -fluoro migration. The "prompt" elimination of H–CH₃ in Scheme 7 contrasts to the reaction of OsH(Ph)(CO)L₂ with vinyl fluoride, and may be attributed to the more oxidizing (cf. π -acid) character of H₂C=CF₂ (versus H₂C=CHF).

(b) Os-Ph. To test the influence of $Os-C(sp^3)$ versus $C(sp^2)$ on reactivity, the reaction of $OsH(Ph)(CO)L_2$ with excess $H_2C=CF_2$ was studied. This yielded primarily $Os(Ph)F(CO)L_2$ on the same time scale as vinyl fluoride; only a trace amount of $OsF_2(CO)(CCH_2)L_2$ forms. This result further illustrates how the energetics of HR elimination from the proposed M(IV) intermediate affects the outcome of the reaction (Scheme 8). When HR elimination is the fastest process from the adduct, then metal difluoride **B** would result. However, if rearrangement (to hydride *cis* to olefin) and elimination of the vinyl species are faster, five-coordinate $OsRF(CO)L_2$ (**C**), forms. Clearly, the latter is favored for osmium: the Os-Ph bond persists through reaction with both $H_2C=CHF$ and $H_2C=CF_2$.

3. Conclusion

We have demonstrated here several C–F bond cleavage reactions of vinyl fluoride by five-coordinate hydrides MHR(CO)L₂ (R = Ph, CH₃, H; M = Os, Ru). The reaction products are highly dependent on the identity of the metal when R = Ph. For Os, Os–H/C–F "exchange" is the dominant pathway, while for Ru and R = Ph, the reaction features reductive elimination of C₆H₆, followed by C–F bond cleavage of vinyl fluoride. The facility for H-Ph formation and the relative stability of (II versus IV) oxidation states are the two factors influencing the metal-dependence. It is also remarkable that benzene loss from RuH(Ph)(CO)L₂ is followed by oxidative addition of the C–H bond of partially fluorinated arene [33], but of the C–F bond of vinyl fluoride. It is noteworthy that both metals show kinetic selectivity (C–H cleavage) when reacting with fluorinated arenes to give MH(Ar^F)(CO)L₂ but thermodynamic selectivity (M–F bond formation) when reacting with fluorinated olefins.

In a sense, this reaction of $\text{RuH}(\text{Ph})(\text{CO})L_2$ as a "Ru⁰(CO)L₂ equivalent" is analogous to that of elemental magnesium, to generate a Grignard reagent by C–F oxidative addition [45]. In contrast, in *both* dihydride cases reported here, the net reaction is M–H/C–F exchange, but apparently by a β -F migration mechanism.

This work began by raising the question of the curious selectivity for C–H over C–F scission in reaction of OsH(Ph)(CO)L₂ with partially fluorinated arenes. However, vinyl fluoride substrate shows quite the opposite selectivity, and what was discovered here is contrasting *metal* selectivity: Ru versus Os. The question of reversion to "normal" selectivity for C–F scission with fluoro olefins (cf. fluoroarenes) probably relates to the greater ease of binding olefins (versus arenes) to metals, together with the very different ability of metal to attack F–C(H)CH₂ versus F–C(CH)₂ (i.e., arene) moieties.

4. Experimental

4.1. General procedures

All manipulations were performed using standard Schlenk techniques or in an argon filled glovebox unless otherwise noted. Solvents were distilled from Na, Na/ benzophenone, CaH₂, or 4 Å molecular sieves, degassed prior to use, and stored in air-tight vessels. OsHCl $(CO)(P^{t}Bu_{2}Me)_{2}$ [46], $OsH(Ph)(CO)(P^{t}Bu_{2}Me)_{2}$ [34], $\operatorname{RuHF}(\operatorname{CO})(\operatorname{P}^{t}\operatorname{Bu}_{2}\operatorname{Me})_{2}$ [47], $\operatorname{Ru}(\operatorname{H})_{2}(\operatorname{CO})(\operatorname{P}^{t}\operatorname{Bu}_{2}\operatorname{Me})_{2}$ [36] and $RuH(Ph)(CO)(P^{t}Bu_{2}Me)_{2}$ [36] were prepared according to published procedures. All other reagents were purchased from commercial vendors and used as received after drying/degassing when necessary. ¹H NMR chemical shifts are reported in ppm relative to protio impurities in the deuterated solvents; ³¹P (always proton-decoupled) and ¹⁹F spectra are referenced to external standards of 85% H₃PO₄ and CFCl₃, respectively (both at 0 ppm). NMR spectra were recorded with a Varian Gemini 2000 (300 MHz⁻¹H; 121 MHz⁻³¹P; 75 MHz ¹³C, 282 MHz ¹⁹F), a Varian Unity Inova instrument (400 MHz ¹H; 162 MHz ³¹P; 101 MHz ¹³C, 376 MHz ¹⁹F), or a Varian Unity Inova instrument (500 MHz¹H, 126 MHz¹³C). Infrared spectra were recorded on a Nicolet 510P FT-IR spectrometer.

4.2. $Os(Ph)F(CO)(P^tBu_2Me)_2$

An NMR tube containing $OsH(Ph)(CO)(P^{t}Bu_{2}Me)_{2}$ $(16.5 \text{ mg}, 2.68 \times 10^{-5} \text{ mol})$ in 500 µL d_8 -toluene had 200 Torr $(7.7 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol})$ of vinyl fluoride condensed into it. At low temperature the η^2 -adduct formed: diagnostic ¹H NMR (C_7D_8 , -90 °C) -3.7, (t, 1H, OsH, $J_{\rm PH} = 29$ Hz); 2.7, (d, 1H, CCH, $J_{\rm HF} = 20.4$ Hz); 2.9 (d, 1H, CCH, $J_{\rm HF} = 22$ Hz); 7.54, (d, 1H, CCH, $J_{\rm FH} = 72.0$ Hz). ³¹P NMR (C₇D₈, -90 °C) -2.5, (AB, $J_{\rm PP} = 162$ Hz). ¹⁹F(C₇D₈, -90 °C) -171.3 (dt, 1F, CCF, $J_{\rm FH} = 73$ Hz, $J_{\rm FH} = 20$ Hz). Conversion to the final product did not occur until 10 °C and was complete within 4 h at room temperature. The ¹H NMR detection of ethylene confirmed product identity. ¹H NMR (C_7D_8 , 20 °C) 1.00, (vt, 18H, OsPCC H_3 , $J_{PH} = 5.8$ Hz); 1.04, (vt, 18H, PCCH₃, $J_{PH} = 5.8$ Hz); 1.29, (broad s, 6H, PCH₃); 6.39, (t, 1H, Ar-H, $J_{PH} = 6.0$ Hz); 6.5, (t, 2H, Ar-H, $J_{HH} = 6$ Hz); 7.32, (d, Ar-H, $J_{HH} = 6$ Hz); 7.64, (d, Ar-*H*, $J_{HH} = 6.0$ Hz). ³¹P NMR (C₇D₈, 20 °C) 26.5, (d, 2P, $J_{PF} = 28$ Hz). ¹⁹F(C₇D₈, 20 °C) -202.1 (t, 1F, CCF, $J_{\rm FP} = 28$ Hz) $v(\rm CO) = 1874$ cm⁻¹.

4.3. Reaction of $OsH(Ph)(CO)(P^tBu_2Me)_2 + C_2H_3F$ in the presence of P^tBu_2Me

When $OsH(Ph)(CO)(P'Bu_2Me)_2$ (10.5 mg, 1.70×10^{-5} mol) was dissolved in 500 µL C₆D₆ and reacted with two equivalents P'Bu₂Me and C₂H₃F (600 Torr, 5.2 equivalents) the reaction reached completion in 4 h. A similar time scale was observed in the absence of free phosphine.

4.4. $Ru(C_2H_3)F(CO)(P^tBu_2Me)_2$

 $RuHF(CO)L_2$ (150 mg, 0.32 mmol) was dissolved in diethyl ether (3 mL). The solution was degassed and

the headspace was charged with acetylene gas (1 atm). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min before the volatiles were removed under vacuum. The residue was dissolved in pentane, filtered through a Celite pad and concentrated to ca. 2 mL. After cooling the solution at -40 °C for one day, dark orange crystals were obtained. Yield: 120 mg (76%). ¹H NMR (C_6D_6 , 20 °C, 300 MHz): 1.20 (vt, N = 12.5, 18H, PC(CH₃)₃), 1.25 (vt, 18H, N = 12 Hz, PC(CH₃)₃), 1.21 (vt, 6H, N = 5.9, PCH₃), 5.10 (dt, $J_{HH} = 14.5$, $J_{\rm PH} = 2.0$ Hz, 1H β -H(vinyl)), 5.45 (dt, $J_{\rm HH} = 6.4$ Hz, $J_{\text{PH}} = 2.4 \text{ Hz}, 1 \text{H}, \beta$ -vinyl), 8.30 (doublet of apparent triplets, 1H, $J_{HH} = 14.5 \text{ Hz}$, $J_{HH} = 7.5 \text{ Hz}$, $J_{HF} =$ 6.9 Hz, α -H of vinyl). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (toluene- d_8 , 75 MHz, 20 °C): 3.16 (vt, N = 15 Hz, PCH₃), 29.7, 29.8 (s, PC(CH₃)₃), 35.4, 35.5 (s, PC(CH₃)₃), 117.5 (s, =CH₂), 156.3 (t, J = 20.3 Hz, Ru–CH). ³¹P{¹H} NMR: 41.2 (d, $J_{PF} = 22$ Hz). ¹⁹F NMR: -214 (t, $J_{\rm PF} = 22$ Hz). IR (C₆D₆): 1894 (v(CO)).

4.5. Reaction of $RuH(Ph)(CO)L_2$ with vinyl fluoride

 $RuH(Ph)(CO)(P'Bu_2Me)_2$ (10 mg, 0.019 mmol) was dissolved in C_6D_6 (0.5 mL) and degassed by three freeze-pump-thaw cycles. To the tube, C_2H_3F (1 atm) was charged. The mixture was agitated for 12 h. NMR spectroscopies reveal clean formation of $Ru(C_2H_3)(F)$ (CO)L₂ by comparison to data in the preceding experiment.

4.6. Reaction of $RuH(Ph)(CO)(P^tBu_2Me)_2$ with vinyl fluoride in the presence of added phosphine ligand

In an NMR tube, $\text{RuH}(\text{Ph})(\text{CO})\text{L}_2$ (10 mg, 0.019 mmol) and P'Bu₂Me (15 mg, 5 eq.) were dissolved in cyclohexane- d_{12} . The solution was degassed and the headspace of the tube was charged with 1 atm vinyl fluoride. After 12 h at room temperature, RuH(Ph)-(CO)L₂ was completely consumed and $\text{Ru}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_3)\text{F}$ -(CO)L₂ was formed as revealed by its ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum.

4.7. $Os(H)_2(\eta^2 - 1 - butene)(CO)(P^t Bu_2 Me)_2$

Reaction of $OsH_2(H_2)(CO)(P'Bu_2Me)_2$ (5.6 mg, 1.04×10^{-5} mol) with 1-butene (100 Torr, 6.95×10^{-5} mol) in C₆D₆ at room temperature gives the title compound within 5 min. The room temperature NMR signals are broadened by dynamic equilibrium. ¹H NMR (C₆D₆, 293 K) -11.2 (t, OsH, 1H, $J_{PH} = 23$ Hz); -8.66 (t, OsH, 1H, $J_{PH} = 33.5$ Hz); 0.86 (t, CH₂CH₃, 3H, $J_{HH} = 4$ Hz); 1.26 (vt, PCCH₃, 18H, $J_{PH} = 6.3$ Hz); 1.28 (vt, PCCH₃, 18H, $J_{PH} = 6.3$ Hz); 1.62 (m, CH_2CH_3); 2.2 (br s, vinyl CH, 1H); 2.6 (br s, vinyl CH, 1H); 3.2 (br s, vinyl CH, 1H). ³¹P NMR (C₆D₆, 293 K) 29.6, 29.9 (AB, $J_{PP} = 148$ Hz). 4.8. Reaction of $OsH_2(\eta^2-1-butene)(CO)(P^tBu_2Me)_2$ with C_2H_3F

To $OsH_2(\eta^2-1$ -butene)(CO)(P'Bu₂Me)₂ (1.83×10^{-5} mol) was added C_2H_3F (150 Torr, 19 equivalents); OsHF(η^2 - C_2H_3F)(CO)(P'Bu₂Me)₂ was formed within 30 min. The signals for this species were broad due to exchange of olefin. The species was identified by ¹H NMR (C_6D_6 , 293 K); 2.8, (br s, C_2H_3F); -3.1 (br s, Os*H*) and ³¹P NMR (C_6D_6 , 293 K): 24.5 (br s). Evacuation of the excess olefin left OsHF(CO)(P'Bu₂Me)₂. ¹H NMR (C_6D_6 , 293 K) -32.2 (td, OsH, 1H, $J_{PH} = 13$ Hz, $J_{HF} = 8.7$ Hz); 1.20 (vt, PCCH₃, 18H, $J_{PH} = 6.9$ Hz); 1.22 (vt, PCCH₃, 18H, $J_{PH} = 6.9$ Hz). ³¹P NMR (C_6D_6 , 293 K) 44.78 (d, $J_{PF} = 26$ Hz). ¹⁹F NMR (C_6D_6 , 293 K): -184.6 (t, $J_{FP} = 26$ Hz).

4.9. Reaction of $Ru(H)_2(CO)(P^tBu_2Me)_2$ with vinyl fluoride

Ru(H)₂(CO)(P^{*t*}Bu₂Me)₂ (10 mg) in toluene-*d*₈ (0.5 mL) in an NMR tube was freeze-pump-thaw degassed, and the headspace of the NMR tube was charged with vinyl fluoride (1 atm) at -80 °C. The tube was transferred to a precooled NMR probe for observation. At -80 °C, no Ru(H)₂(CO)L₂ but only RuHF (CO)L₂ was detected by its ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum (52.5 ppm, doublet $J_{PF} = 20$ Hz). The volatiles of the reaction mixture were vacuum transferred to another NMR tube where the ¹H NMR spectrum revealed ethylene (5.34, singlet).

4.10. $RuH(2-C_6FH_4)(CO)(P^tBu_2Me)_2$

 $RuH(Ph)(CO)(P^{t}Bu_{2}Me)_{2}$ (200 mg, 0.38 mmol), cyclohexane (10 mL), and fluorobenzene (1 mL) were stirred together for 18 h. After removal of the volatiles, the residue was extracted with pentane. The pentane solution was filtered through a Celite pad, concentrated to ca. 3 mL, and cooled to -78 °C for 2 h to give yellow crystals after 12 h. The crystals were filtered, washed with pentane and dried in vacuo to yield 125 mg (70%) of the title compound. Newly prepared product contains two rotamers about the Ru-Aryl bond, with 10:6 ratio based on NMR integration of the PCH₃ peaks. Spectroscopic data for the major isomer: ¹H NMR $(C_6D_6,$ 20 °C) -28.7 (td, $J_{\rm PH} = 19.2$, $J_{\rm FH} = 7.6$ Hz, 1H, RuH); 0.70 (vt, 5.5 Hz, 6H, PCH₃); 1.13 (vt, 13 Hz, 18H, PCCH₃); 1.20 (vt, 12.7 Hz, 18H, PCCH₃); 6.9, 7.1, 7.6 (m, 4H, ArH). ³¹P NMR (C_6D_6 , 20 °C) 57.0 (s). ¹⁹F (C₆D₆, 20 °C) -96.7(s). Minor isomer: ¹H NMR: -27.2 (td, $J_{PH} = 20$ Hz, $J_{HF} =$ 5.2 Hz, 1H, Ru-H), 0.66 (vt, 5.5 Hz, PCH₃), 1.09 (vt, 12 Hz, 18H, PC(CH₃)₃), 1.19 (vt, 13 Hz, 18H, PC(CH₃)₃), 6.87, 7.03, 7.55 (4H, Ar). ³¹P{¹H} NMR: 57.1 (s). ¹⁹F NMR: -84.5 (s).

4.11. Reaction of $RuH(2-C_6FH_4)(CO)(P^tBu_2Me)_2$ with vinyl fluoride

RuH(2-C₆FH₄)(CO)(P'Bu₂Me)₂ (10 mg, 1.8×10^{-5} mol) was dissolved in C₆D₆ (0.5 mL) and degassed by three freeze–pump–thaw cycles. To the NMR tube, 400 Torr vinyl fluoride was charged. The resulting mixture was heated at 50 °C for 20 h to give Ru(C₂H₃)F(CO) (P'Bu₂Me)₂ and fluorobenzene.

4.12. $RuH(C_6F_5)(CO)(P^tBu_2Me)_2$

The same procedure as $RuH(2-C_6FH_4)(CO)-(P'Bu_2Me)_2$ was followed except C_6F_5H was used instead of C_6H_5F . Alternatively, it can be prepared from reaction of $RuHF(CO)(P'Bu_2Me)_2$ with $Me_3SiC_6F_5$ in the presence of a catalytic amount of CsF.

4.13. Reaction of $RuH(C_6F_5)(CO)(P^tBu_2Me)_2$ with vinyl fluoride

In an NMR tube, $RuH(C_6F_5)(CO)(P^tBu_2Me)_2$ (10 mg, 0.016 mmol) was dissolved in C_6D_6 (0.5 mL) and degassed by three freeze-pump-thaw cycles. To the tube, vinyl fluoride (400 mm Hg) was added. The mixture was heated at 85 °C for three days to give (based on ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$) NMR integration) conversion to $RuF(C_6F_5)(CO)(P^tBu_2Me)_2$ (85%) and $Ru(C_2H_3)(F)$ $(CO)(P^{t}Bu_{2}Me)_{2}$ (15%). Addition of CsF to the NMR tube was necessary to resolve all couplings. Spectroscopic data for $RuF(C_6F_5)(CO)(P^tBu_2Me)_2$: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, C₆D₆, 20 °C) 0.92 (vt, 13 Hz, 18H, PCH₃,); 0.99 (vt, 6.5 Hz,18H, PCCH₃,); 1.22 (broad, 6H, PCCH₃). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (C₆D₆, 20 °C): 42.7 (d, 2P, $J_{\rm PF} = 24.6 \text{Hz}$). ¹⁹F NMR (376.3 MHz): -111.5 (dd, $J_{\rm FRuF} = 53.3$ Hz, $J_{\rm FF} = 28.8$ Hz, 1F, o-ArF); -113.7 $(d, J_{FF} = 26.5 \text{ Hz}, 1F, o\text{-ArF},); -162.3 (dt, J_{FF} = 53 \text{ Hz},$ $J_{\rm PF} = 25$ Hz, Ru–F), -164.4 (dd, $J_{\rm FF} = J_{\rm FF} = 21$ Hz, para-F), -164.9 (dddd, $J_{FF} = 26.2$, 21, 5, 5 Hz, meta-F); -167.4 (dddd, $J_{FF} = 28$, 23, 5, 5 Hz, meta-F). The volatiles of the reaction mixture were vacuum transferred to another NMR tube and ¹H and ¹⁹F NMR spectra showed C_2H_4 and C_6F_5H .

4.14. $OsH(CH_3)(CO)(P^tBu_2Me)_2$

A solution containing $40.5 \text{ mg} (7.04 \times 10^{-5} \text{ mol})$ OsHCl(CO)(P'Bu₂Me)₂ in 3 mL of pentane was prepared in a centrifuge tube. Dropwise addition of 49.0 µL $(7.11 \times 10^{-5} \text{ mol})$ MeLi solution caused a gradual darkening of the solution concurrent with the appearance of a white suspension. The solution was centrifuged and the supernate was pipetted to a Schlenk flask. The solvent was then removed to leave an orange-red solid. ¹H NMR (C₆D₁₂, 20 °C) -33.3, (t, 1H, OsH, J_{PH} = 15.1 Hz); 0.46 (t, 3H, OsCH₃, J_{PH} = 7.2 Hz); 1.18 (vt, 18H, PCCH₃, $J_{\rm PH} = 6.0$ Hz); 1.21 (vt, 18H, PCC H_3 , $J_{\rm PH} = 6.0$ Hz); 1.49 (t, 6H, PC H_3 , $J_{\rm PH} = 2.8$ Hz). ³¹P NMR (C₆D₁₂, 20 °C) 36.5, IR(C₆D₆): 1864($\nu_{\rm CO}$).

4.15. $Os(CH_3)F(CO)(P^tBu_2Me)_2$

The reaction was run in a sealed NMR tube containing 9.2 mg OsH(CH₃)(CO)(P^tBu₂Me)₂ (1.658 \times 10⁻⁵ mol) with 100 Torr vinyl fluoride $(6.786 \times 10^{-5} \text{ mol})$ in d_8 toluene. At $-75 \,^{\circ}$ C, the adduct OsH(Me)(η^2 -C₂H₃F) $(CO)(P^{t}Bu_{2}Me)_{2}$ was formed. Its diagnostic spectral features were: ¹H NMR (C_7D_8 , -75 °C) -6.3 (1H, OsH); -1.1 (3H, OsCH₃); 2.9 (d, 1H, C=CH, $J_{PH} = 22.0$ Hz); 3.2 (m, 1H, C=CH); 6.3 (1H, C=CH). ³¹P NMR (C₇D₈, -75 °C): 15.2, 12.7 (AB, 2P, $J_{PP} = 161 \text{Hz}$). ¹⁹F(C₇D₈, -75 °C) $-170.0 \text{ (dt, 1F, CCF, } J_{\text{FH}} = 73 \text{Hz}, J_{\text{FH}} =$ 20 Hz). Conversion to the final product (the title compound) occurred at 20 °C; its spectroscopic features were: ¹H NMR (C₇D₈, 20 °C) –1.1 (3H, OsCH₃); 1.28 (vt, 18H, OsPCC H_3 , $J_{PH} = 6Hz$; 1.30 (vt, 18H, PCC H_3 , $J_{\rm PH} = 6{\rm Hz}$; 1.86 (6H, PCH₃). ³¹P NMR (C₇D₈, 20 °C) 26.0, (d, 2P, $J_{PF} = 27$ Hz). ¹⁹F (C₇D₈, 20 °C) -198.0 (t, 1F, OsF, $J_{\rm FP} = 27$ Hz).

4.16. $OsF_2(CCH_2)(CO)(P^tBu_2Me)_2$

When 8.5 mg $(1.53 \times 10^{-5} \text{ mol})$ of OsHMe(CO)-(P'Bu₂Me)₂ was warmed slowly with 25 equivalents (3.83×10^{-4}) of *gem*-diffuoroethylene, OsF₂(CCH₂)-(CO)(P'Bu₂Me)₂ formed in 60% yield. Following vacuum removal of excess C₂H₂F₂, and other volatiles, the diagnostic spectroscopic signals of the major product were: ¹H NMR (C₆D₆, 20 °C) 1.31 (vt, 36H, PCCH₃, $J_{PH} = 7.0$ Hz); 1.44 (vt, 6H, OsPCH₃, $J_{PH} = 4.1$ Hz); 2.01 (dt, 2H, CCH₂, $J_{FH} = 7$ Hz, $J_{PH} = 3$ Hz). ¹³C NMR (C₆D₆, 20 °C) 3.6 (t, 2C, PCH₃, $J_{CP} = 5$ Hz); 29.7 (s, 6C, PCCH₃): 29.5 (s, 6C, PCCH₃); 36.2 (t, 2C, PCCH₃, $J_{PC} = 10.4$); 36.4 (t, 2C, PCCH₃, $J_{PC} = 10.4$); 94.8 (d, 1C, OsCC, $J_{CF} = 16$). ³¹P NMR (C₆D₆, 20 °C) 34.65 (dd, 2P, $J_{PF} = 41.9$ Hz, $J_{PF} = 25.1$ Hz). ¹⁹F (C₆D₆, 20 °C) -277.45 (dt, 1F, OsF, $J_{FF} = 143$, $J_{FP} = 25$ Hz); -278.6 (dtt, 1F, OsF, $J_{FF} = 143$, $J_{FP} = 41$, $J_{HF} = 7$ Hz).

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