

# Amineboranes for Hydrogen Storage

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Denise Mery  
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**UNC**

Maurice Brookhart  
Inigo Göttker-Schnetmann

**Barcelona**

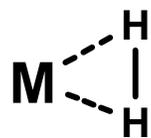
Augusti Lledos, Jose Lluch

**PNNL**

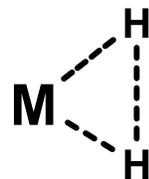
Tom Autrey, John Linehan

**Crystallography:**

Antonio DiPasquale, Arnie Rheingold (UCSD)  
Tom Koetzle, Paula Piccoli, Art Schultz (Argonne)



dihydrogen



elongated  
dihydrogen

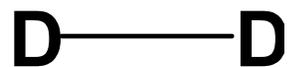


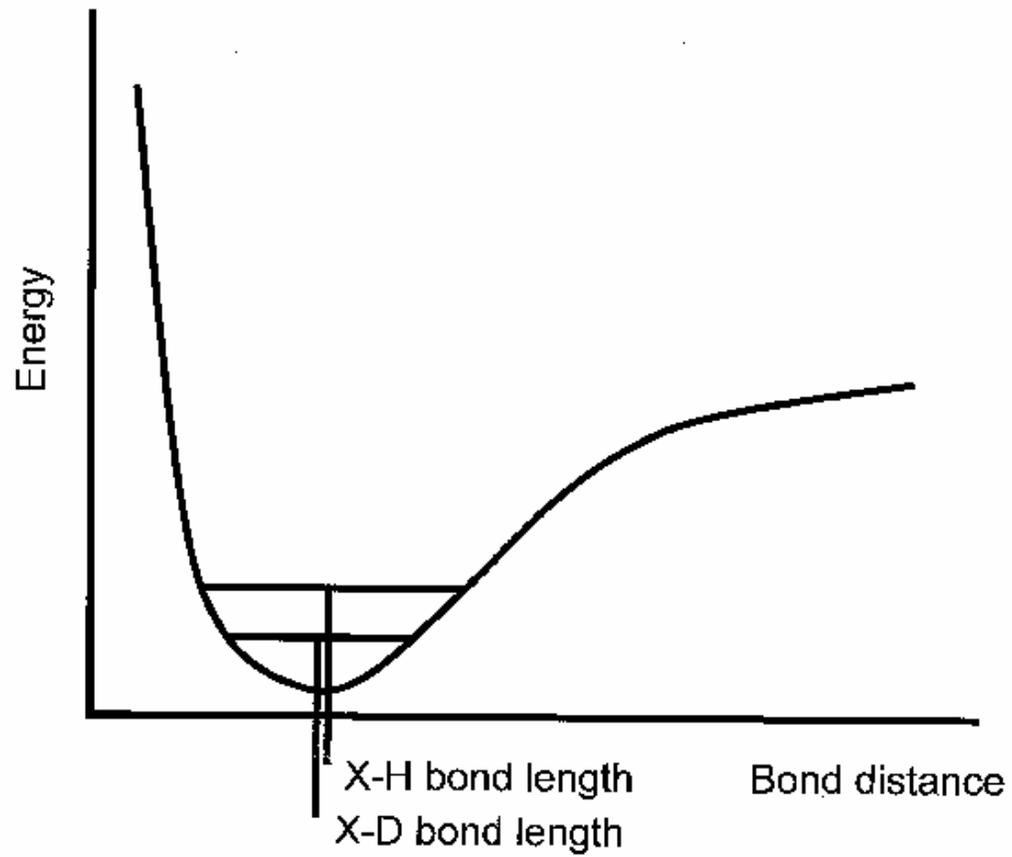
dihydride

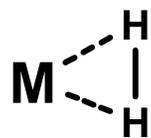
# What do we mean by Structure?

- A set of bond distances and bond angles
- Generally, a static concept
- For stable molecules, structure is usually independent of temperature

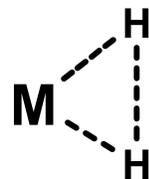
# Does structure depend upon mass?







dihydrogen



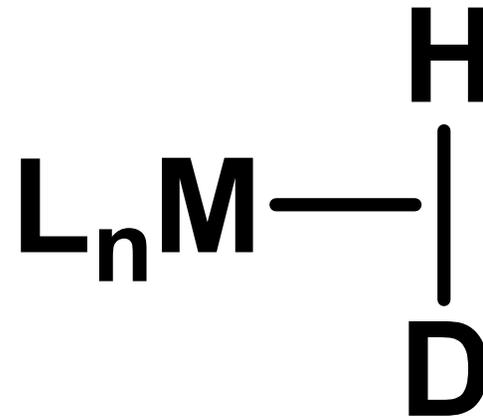
elongated  
dihydrogen

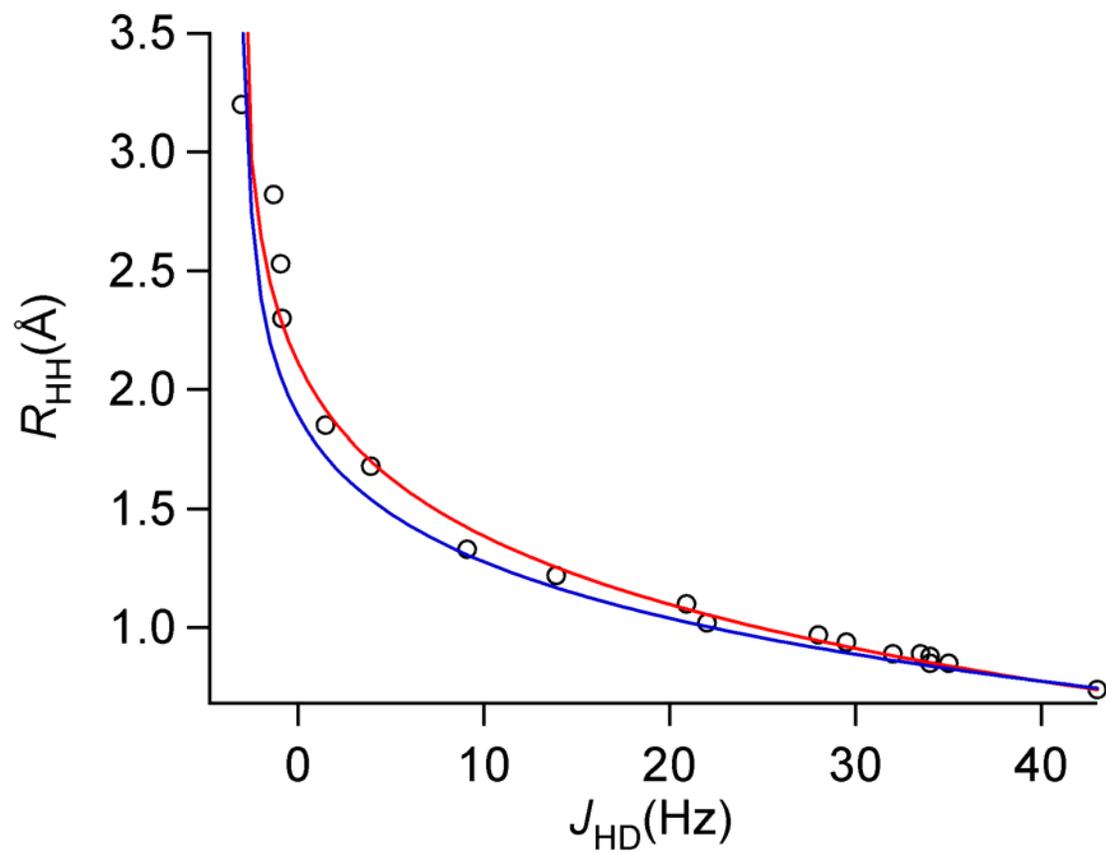


dihydride

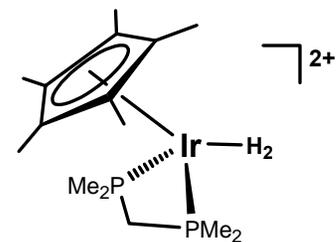
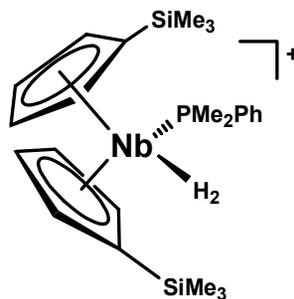
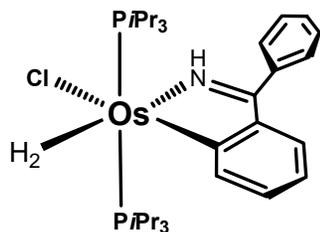
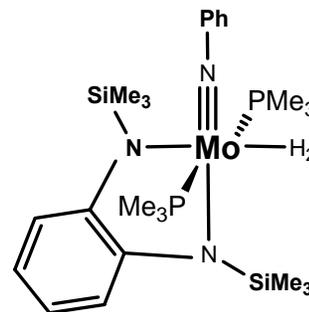
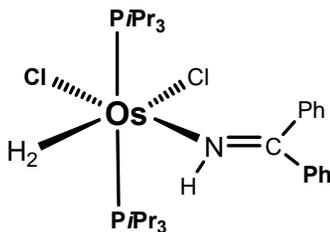
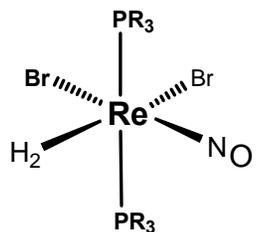
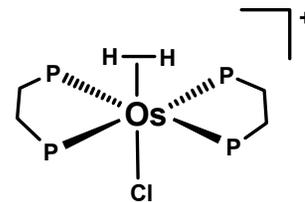
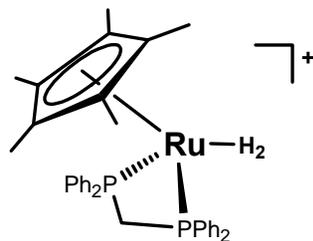
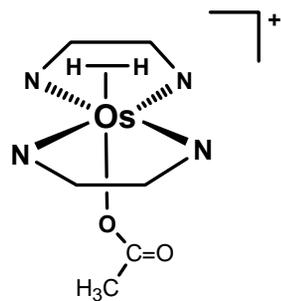
# Characterization of H<sub>2</sub> Complexes by <sup>1</sup>H NMR

- “Hydride” resonances at high field
- Deuterium: nuclear spin  $I = 1$
- → observation of a 1:1:1 triplet in the <sup>1</sup>H spectrum
- $25 \text{ Hz} < J_{\text{HD}} < 35 \text{ Hz}$   
(HD gas:  $J_{\text{HD}} = 43 \text{ Hz}$ )
- $d\text{H-H} = 1.44 - 0.0168 J_{\text{HD}}$

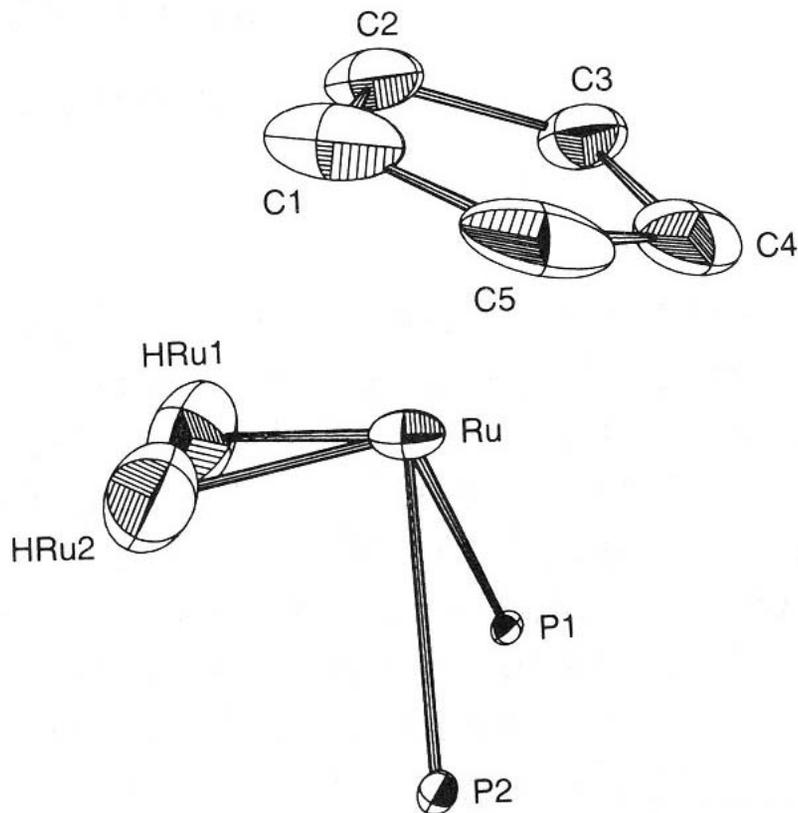




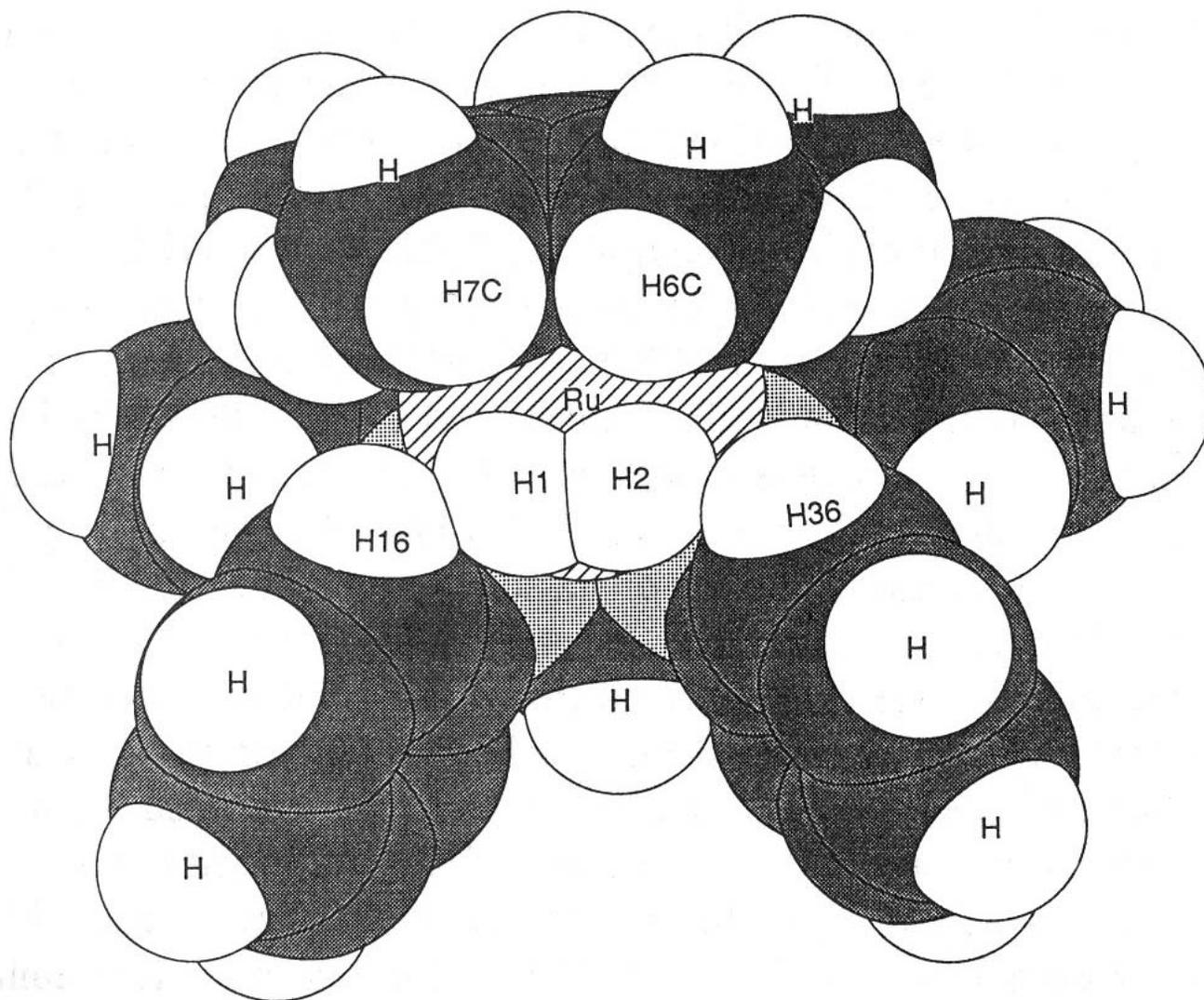
**D. M. Heinekey, V. Pons *et. al.* *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2004, 126, 8813.**



*Chem. Soc. Rev.* **2004**, *33*, 175-182

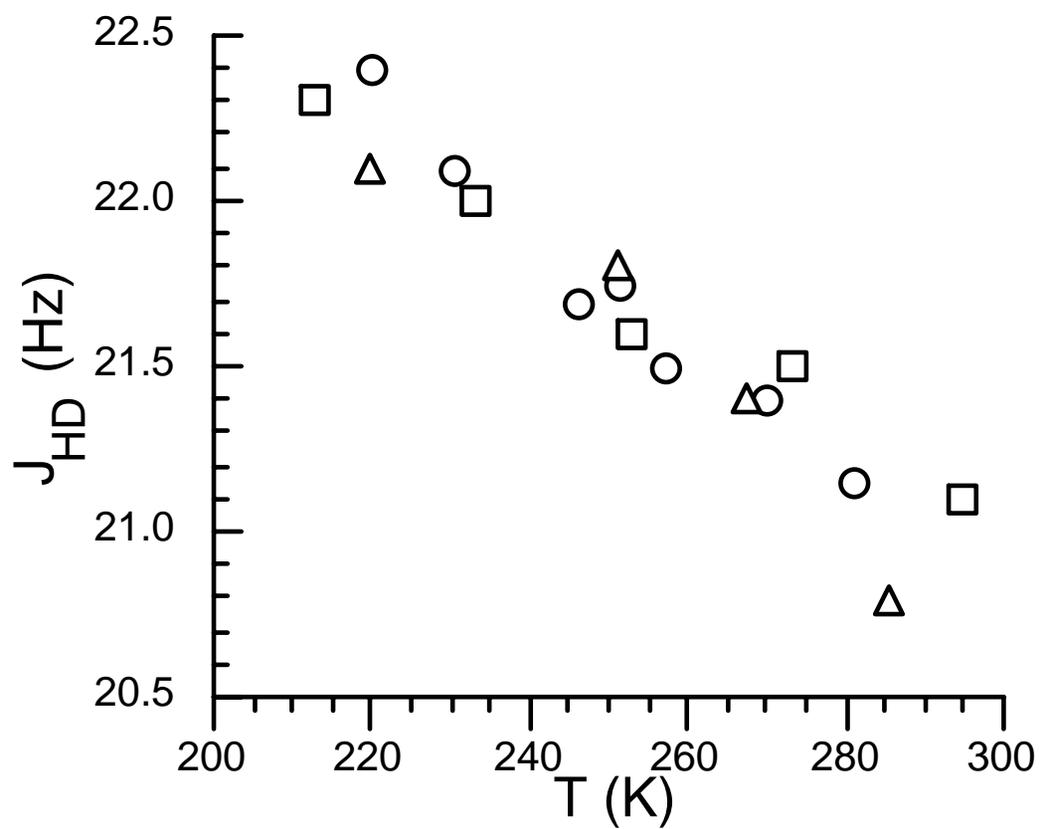


**W. T. Klooster, T. F. Koetzle, G. Jia, T. P. Fong, R. H. Morris  
and A. Albinati, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1994, 116, 7677.**

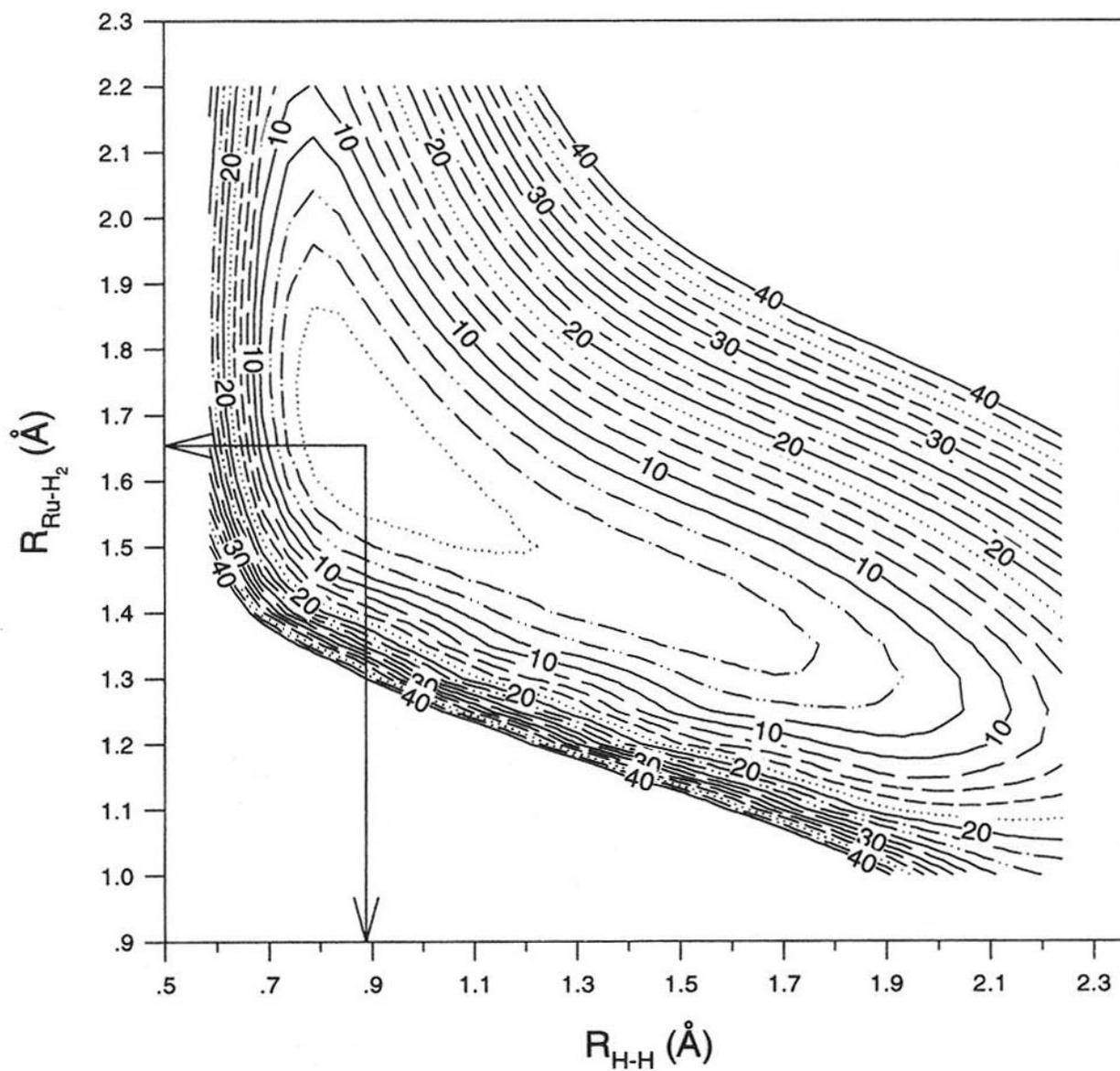


**Table 3.** Coupling Constants  $^1J(\text{H,D})$  of  $[\text{Ru}(\text{H}\cdots\text{D})(\text{C}_5\text{Me}_5)(\text{dppm})]\text{BF}_4$  in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  as Determined by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR Spectroscopy at 400 MHz

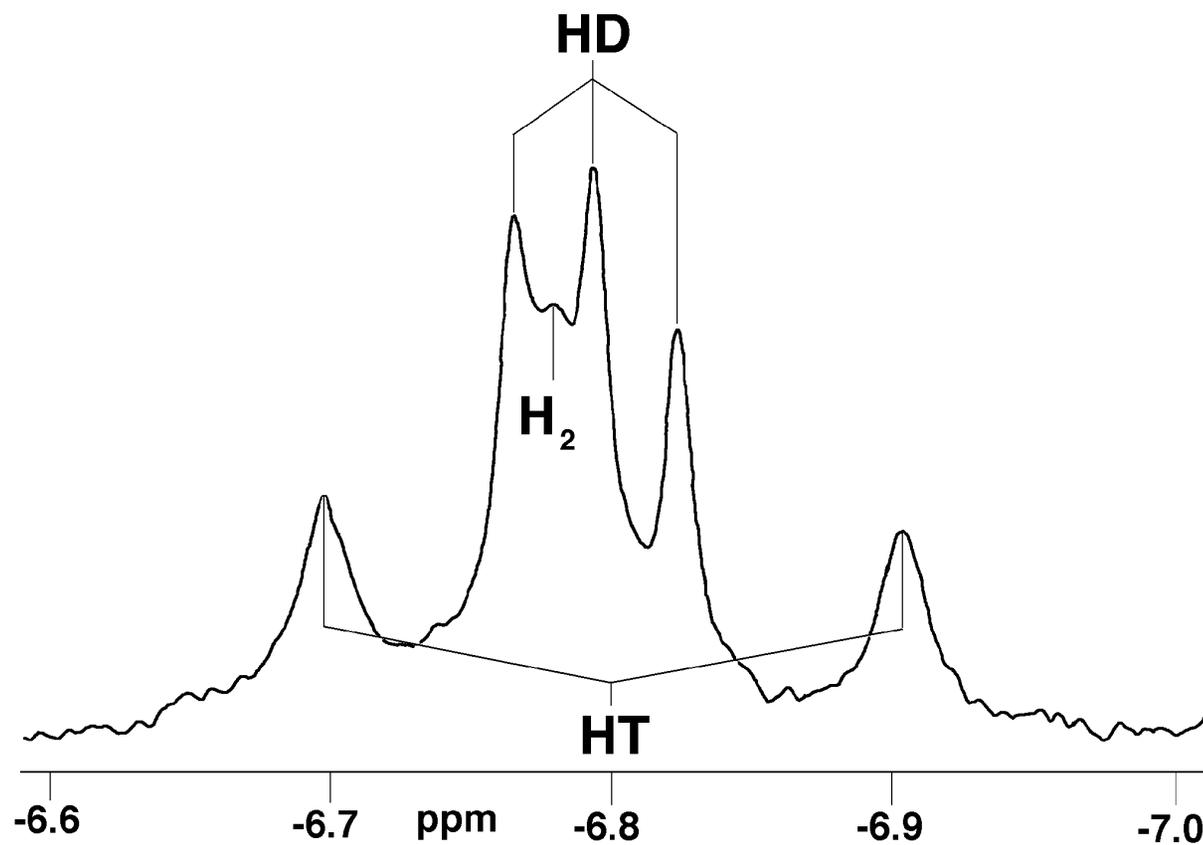
temp, K	$^1J(\text{H,D}), \text{Hz}$
295	$21.1 \pm 0.2$
273	$21.5 \pm 0.1$
253	$21.6 \pm 0.2$
233	$22.0 \pm 0.1$
213	$22.3 \pm 0.2$



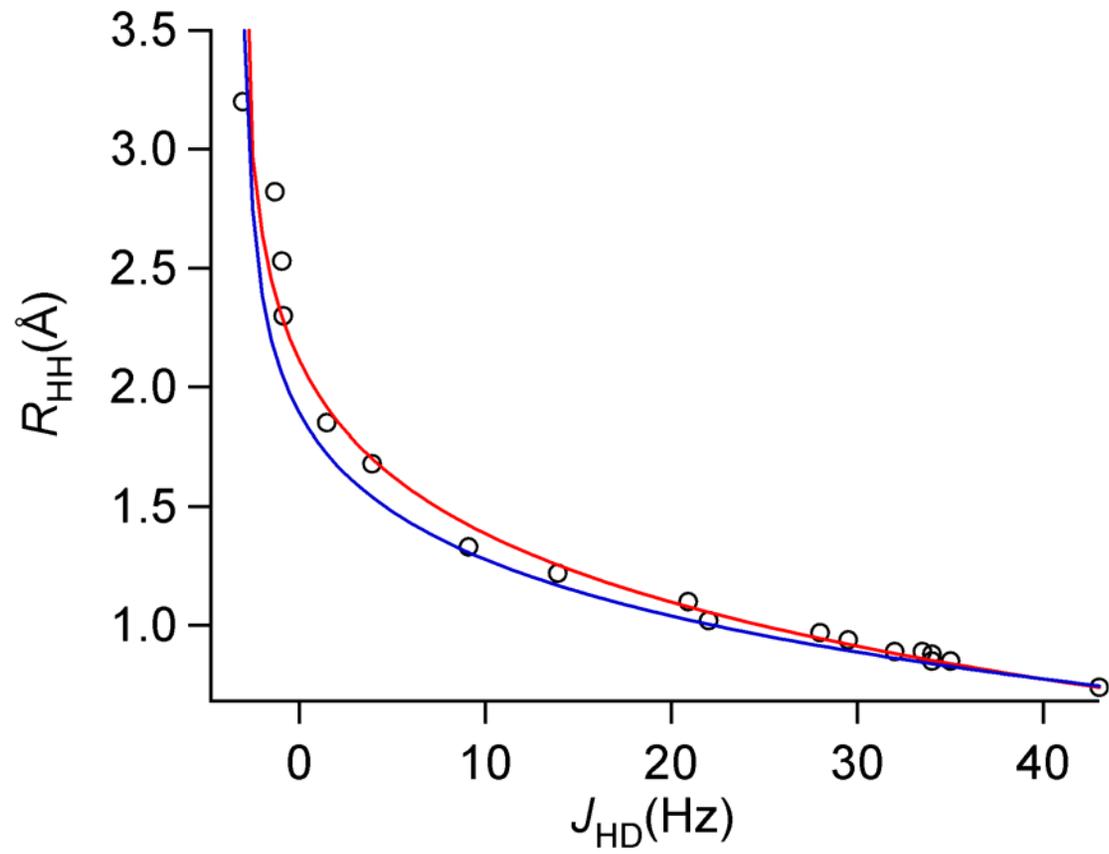
**J. K. Law, H. Mellows and D. M. Heinekey**  
***J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2001, 123, 2085**

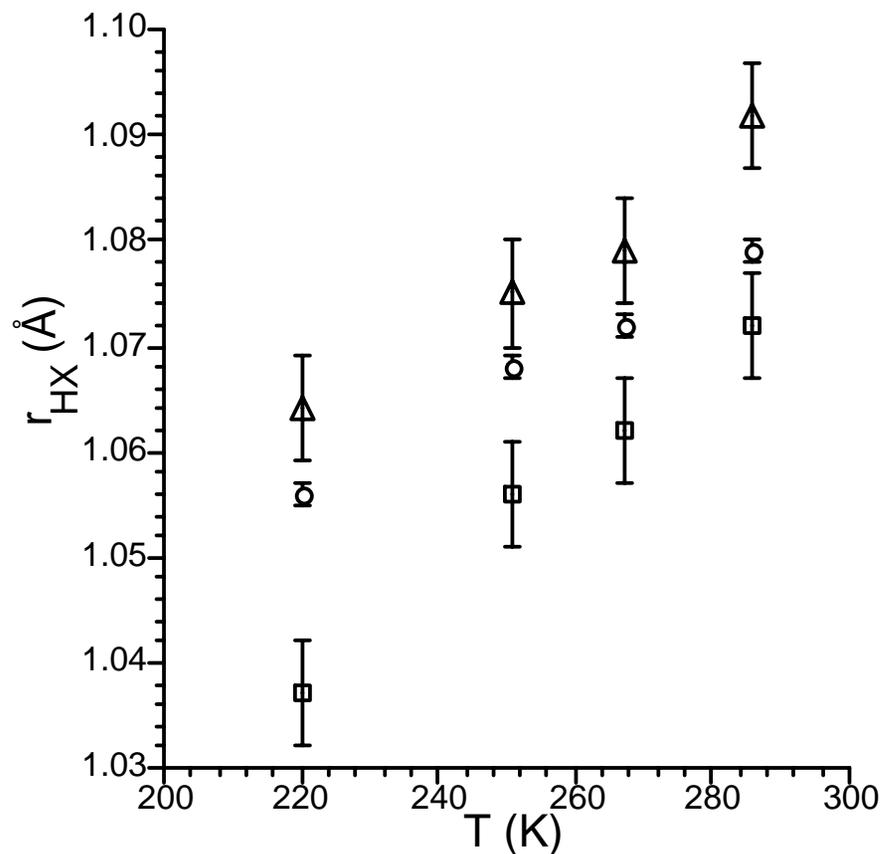


Lledos et. al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1997**, 119, 9840



**$^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (hydride region) of a sample partially labeled with D and T**

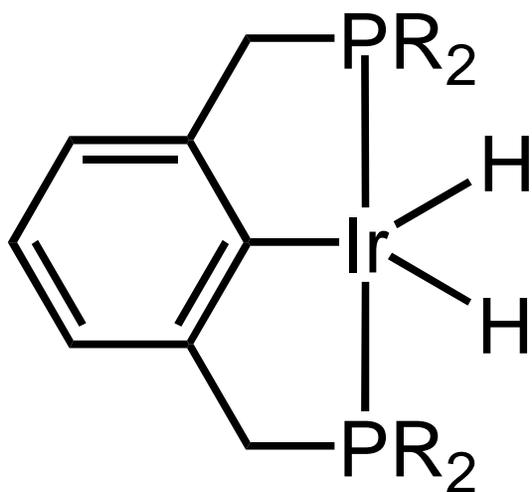




**HX distances derived from  $J_{HD}$ ,  $J_{HT}$  and  $J_{DT}$**

**Law, J. K.; Mellows, H.; Heinekey, D. M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2002, 124, 1024**

(pincer)Ir(H)<sub>2</sub> complexes are active alkane dehydrogenation catalysts.\*



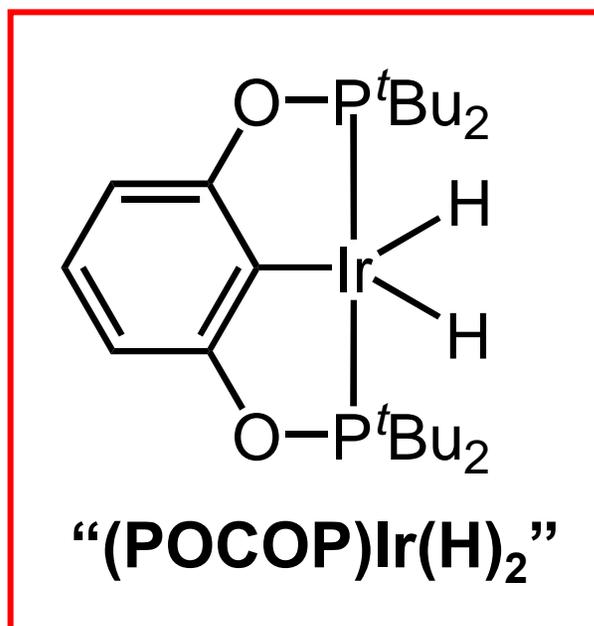
Structure?

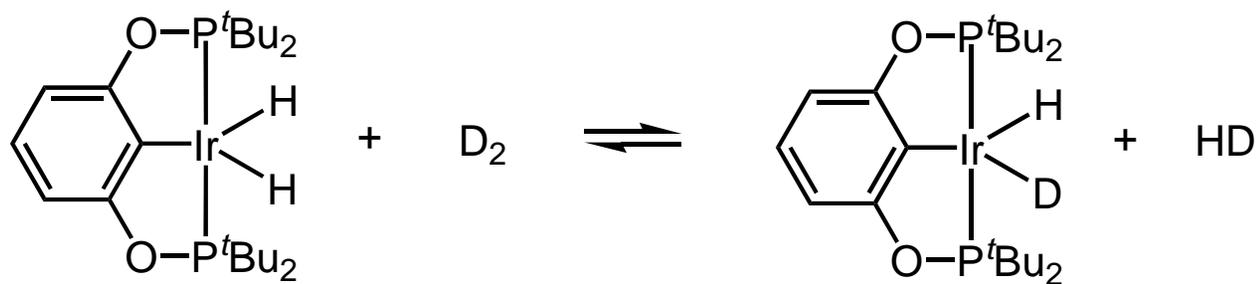
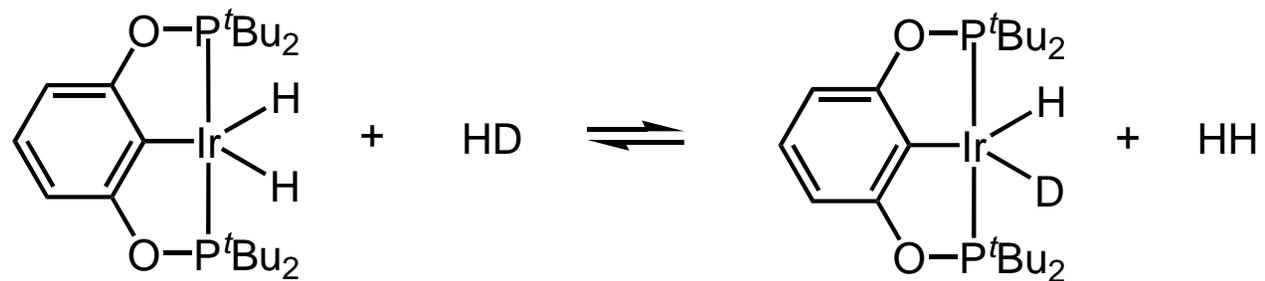
In Silico:  $d_{\text{H-H}} = 1.66 \text{ \AA}$

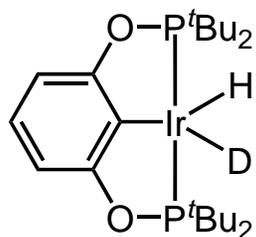
Niu and Hall, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*  
**1999**, 121, 3992.

\*e.g. Jensen et al. *Chem. Comm.* **1999**, 2443; Goldman et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2002**, 124, 11404;  
Brookhart et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2004**, 126, 1804; Jensen et al. *Inorg. Chim. Acta.* **2004**, 357, 2953

Most active catalyst for alkane dehydrogenation:

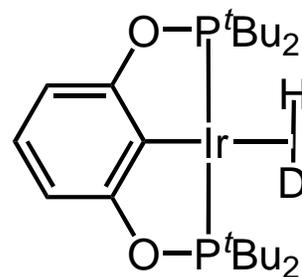
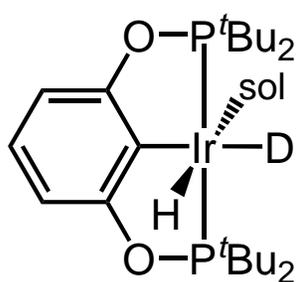






$J_{\text{HD}} = 7.5 \text{ Hz (pentane); T dependent}$

$J_{\text{HD}} = \text{zero ! (CH}_2\text{Cl}_2)$



# President's Hydrogen Fuel Initiative

The Hydrogen Fuel Initiative aims to reverse America's growing dependence on foreign oil by developing the technology needed for commercially viable hydrogen-powered fuel cells.

"With a new national commitment, our scientists and engineers will overcome obstacles to taking these cars from laboratory to showroom so that the first car driven by a child born today could be powered by hydrogen, and pollution-free.."

— President Bush, State of the Union Address, January 28, 2003



**One obstacle is hydrogen storage  
...what is needed?**

Appropriate thermodynamics, High storage capacity (High gravimetric and volumetric densities), Fast kinetics, Long lifetime, Effective heat transfer, High mechanical strength and durability, Safe

# Ammonia Borane as a H<sub>2</sub> Storage Material

## DOE Storage Targets

	2010	2015
Target wt% usable H <sub>2</sub>	6.0	9.0
Vol. density (kgH <sub>2</sub> .m <sup>-3</sup> )	45	80

## Storage Potential of Ammonia Borane

H <sub>2</sub> Released	1	2	3
Wt% H <sub>2</sub>	6.5	13.0	19.6
Vol. density	48	96	145
Product	[H <sub>2</sub> NBH <sub>2</sub> ] <sub>n</sub>	[HNBH] <sub>n</sub>	[NB] <sub>n</sub>

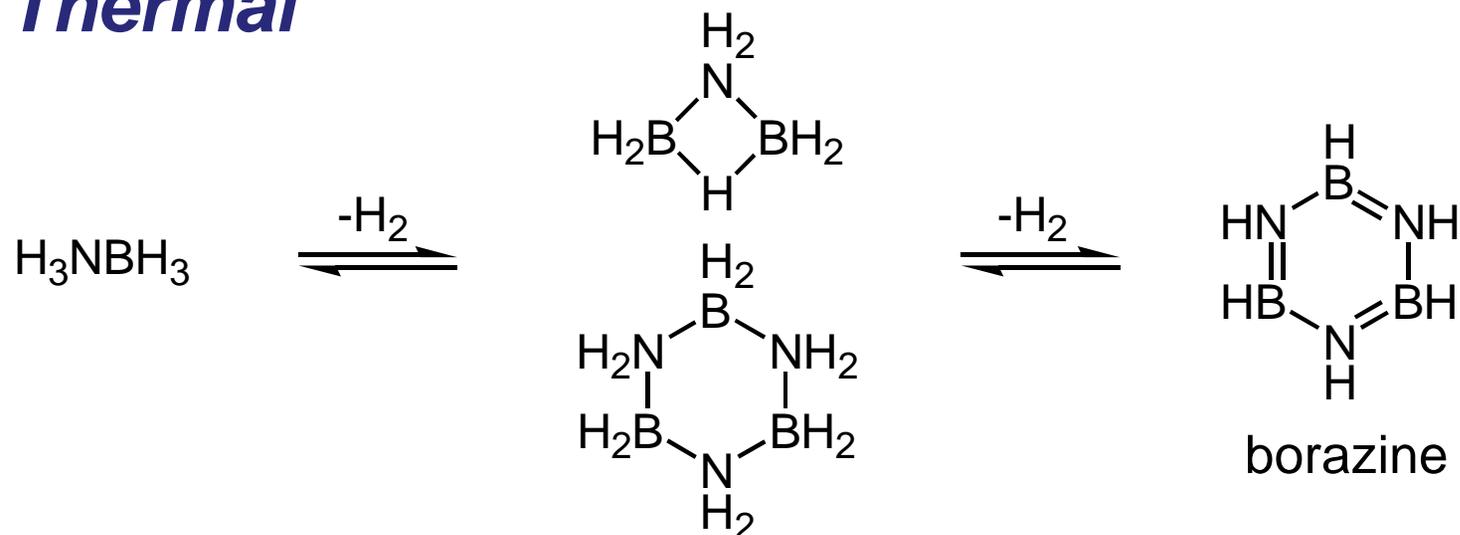
## Appropriate Thermodynamics

- Gas phase calculations predict ammonia borane dehydrogenation is near thermoneutral.\*
- Important for reversibility.

\*Dixon, D. A.; Gutowski, M. J. *Phys. Chem. A* **2005**, 109, 5129.

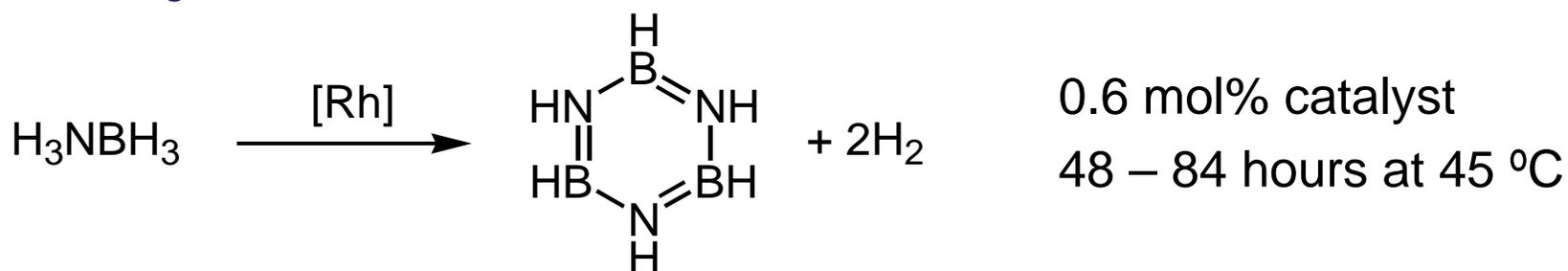
# Dehydrogenation of Ammonia Borane

## Thermal



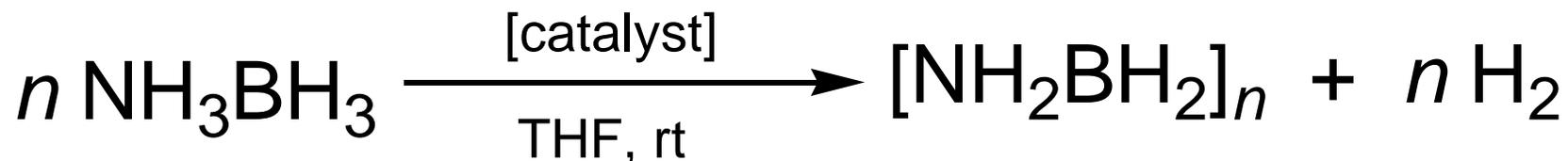
Wang, J. S.; Geanangel, R. A. *Inorg. Chim. Acta* **1988**, 148, 185.

## Catalyzed

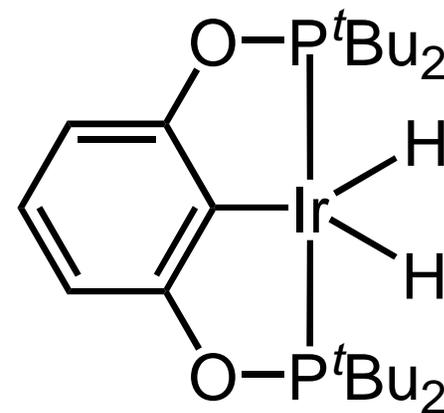


Jaska, C. A.; Manners, I. J. *Am. Chem. Soc.* **2004**, 126, 9776.

## A Better Catalyst Choice?



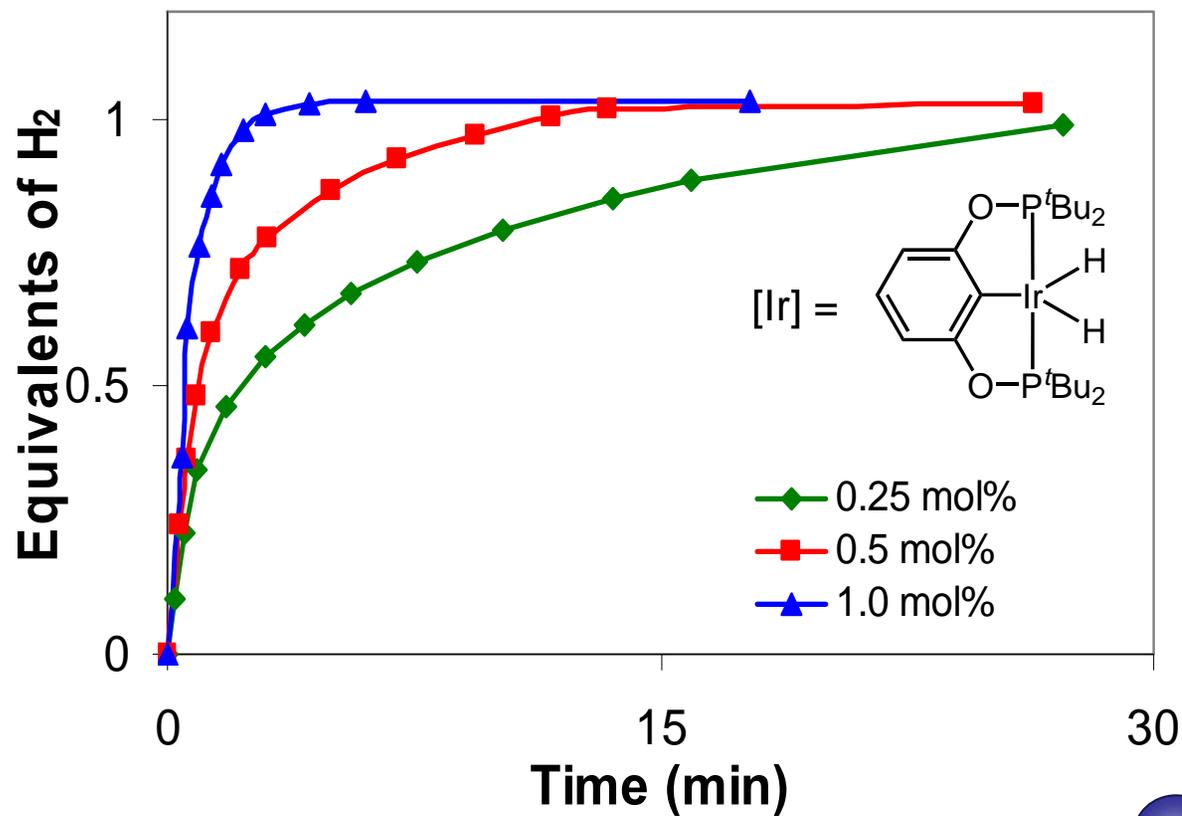
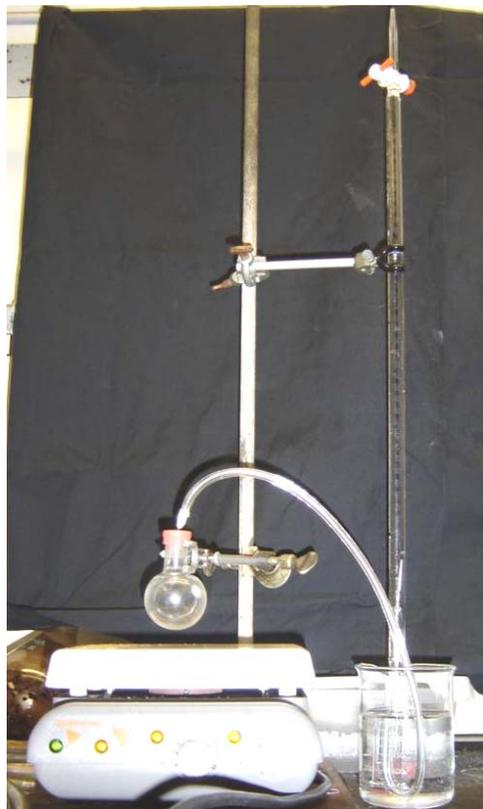
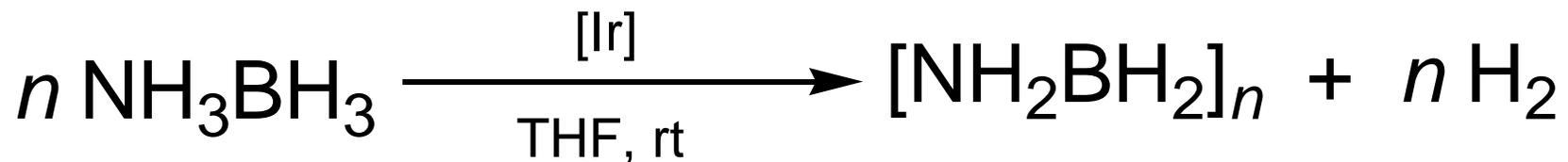
- Amineboranes are isoelectronic with alkanes.
- (pincer)Ir(H)<sub>2</sub> complexes are active alkane dehydrogenation catalysts.\*



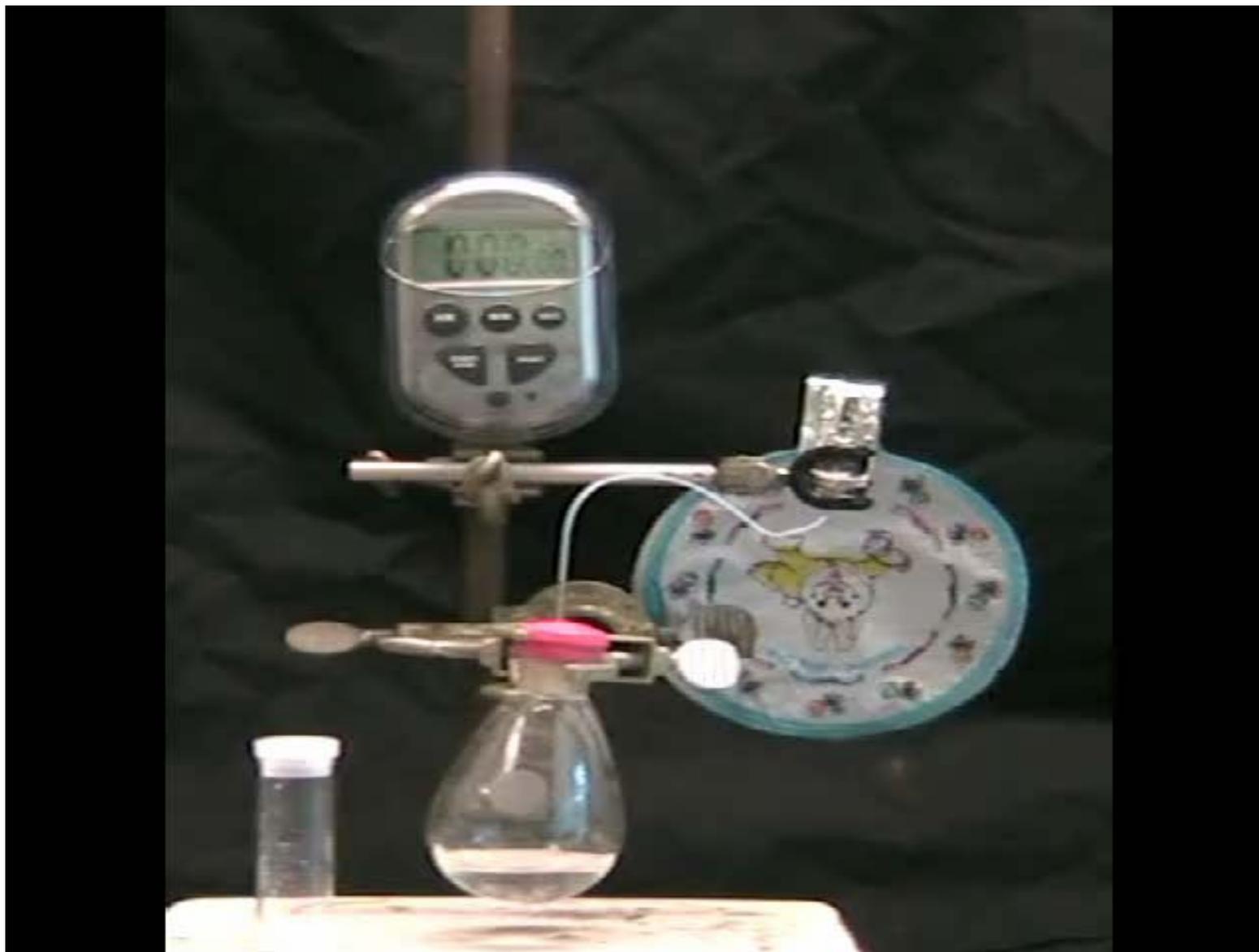
“(POCOP)Ir(H)<sub>2</sub>”

\*e.g. Jensen et al. *Chem. Comm.* **1999**, 2443; Goldman et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2002**, 124, 11404; Brookhart et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2004**, 126, 1804; Jensen et al. *Inorg. Chim. Acta.* **2004**, 357, 2953

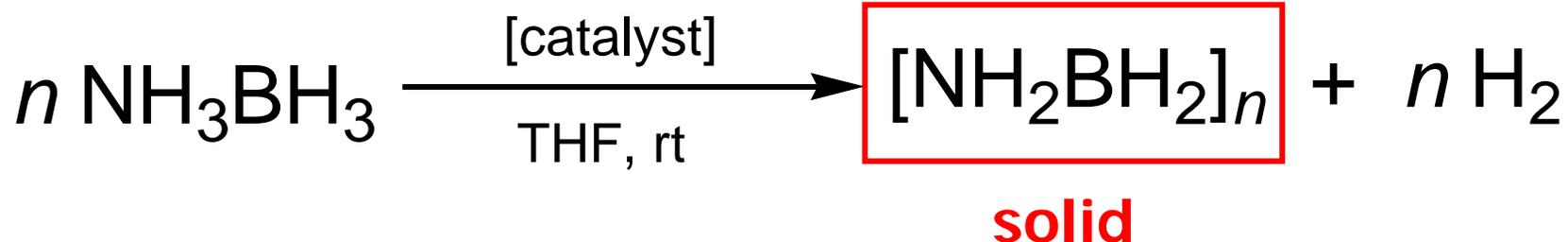
# Quantification of Hydrogen



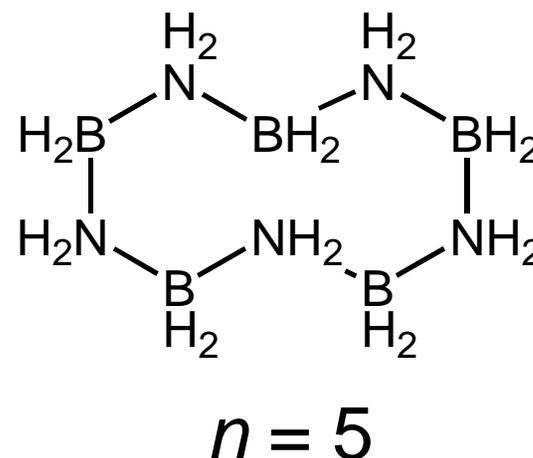
# Demonstration of H<sub>2</sub> Release



# Characterization of Solid Product



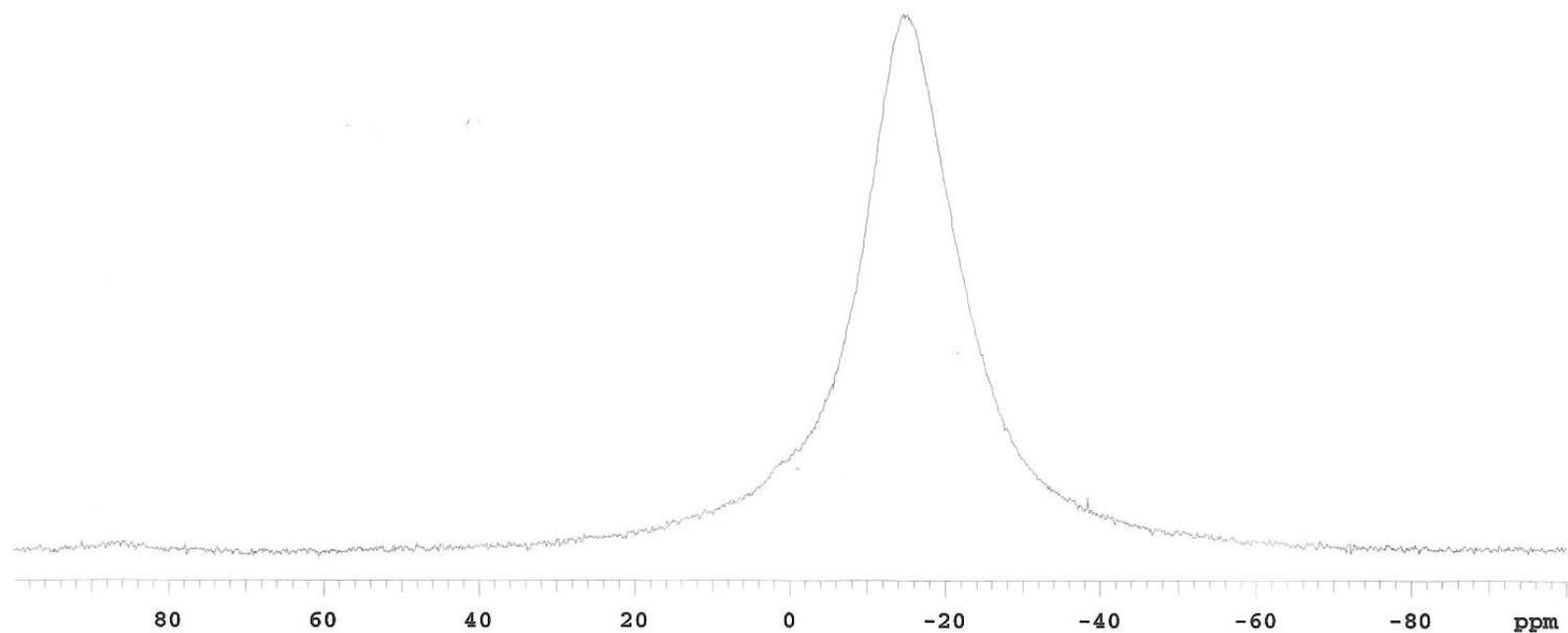
- Solid state  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR.
- Infrared spectroscopy.
- Powder X-ray diffraction.
- Non-volatile product should not poison fuel cell.



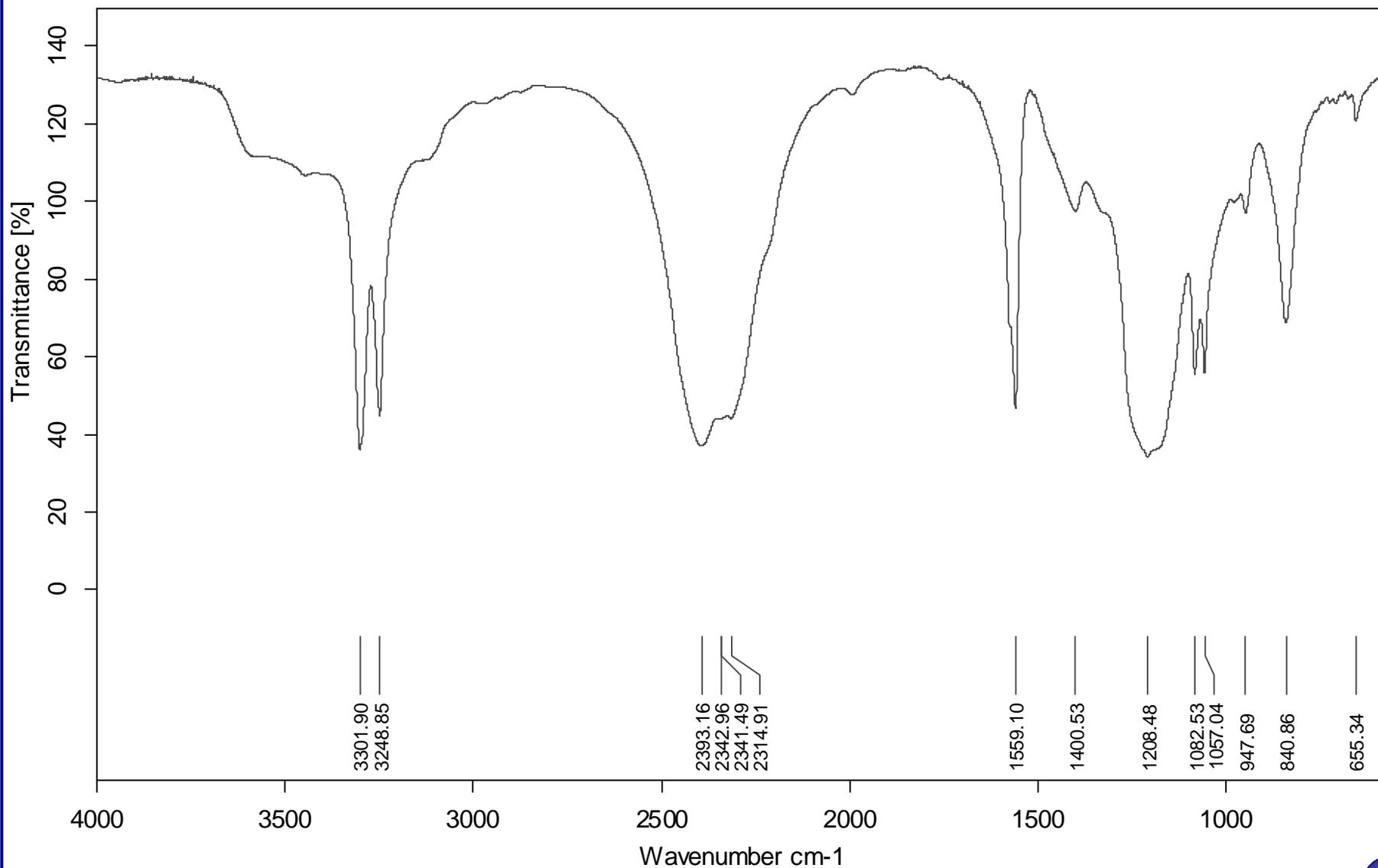
# Solid State $^{11}\text{B}$ NMR of $[\text{BH}_2\text{NH}_2]_5$

solid from  
 $\text{H}_2(\text{POCDP}) + \text{H}_3\text{NBH}_3 \xrightarrow{\text{THF}}$   
MCD-111-114

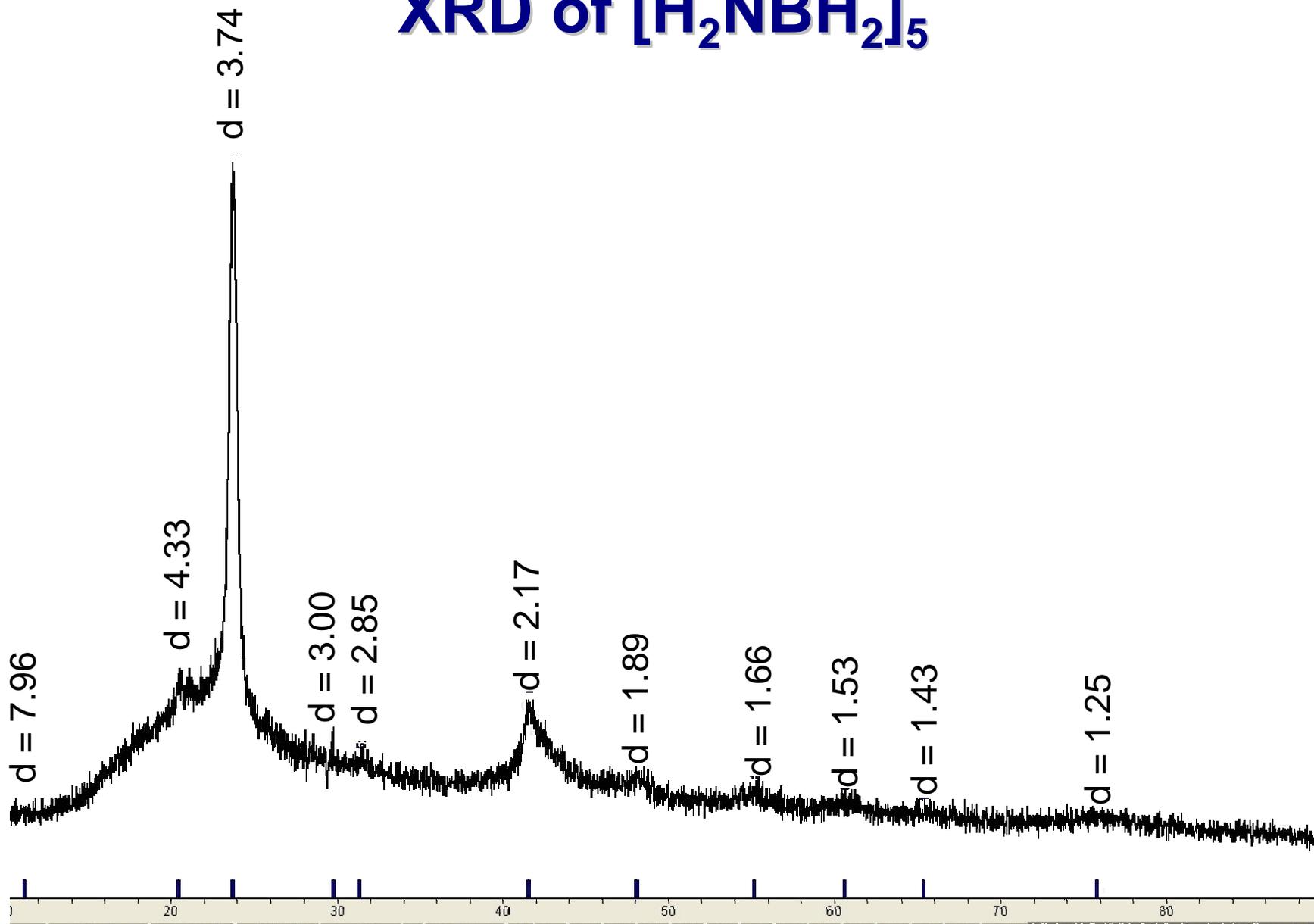
B11.03



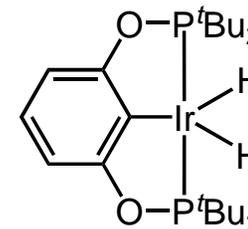
# IR of $[\text{BH}_2\text{NH}_2]_5$



# XRD of $[\text{H}_2\text{NBH}_2]_5$



# Comparison with Previous Best Catalyst

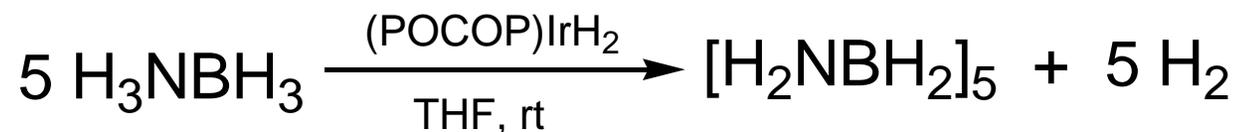


Catalyst Loading	0.6 mol%	0.5 mol%
Temperature (°C)	45	<b>25</b>
H <sub>2</sub> evolved (equiv.)	2	1
Products	Borazine	[H <sub>2</sub> NBH <sub>2</sub> ] <sub>n</sub>
Time	48 – 84 hr	<b>&lt; 15 min</b>

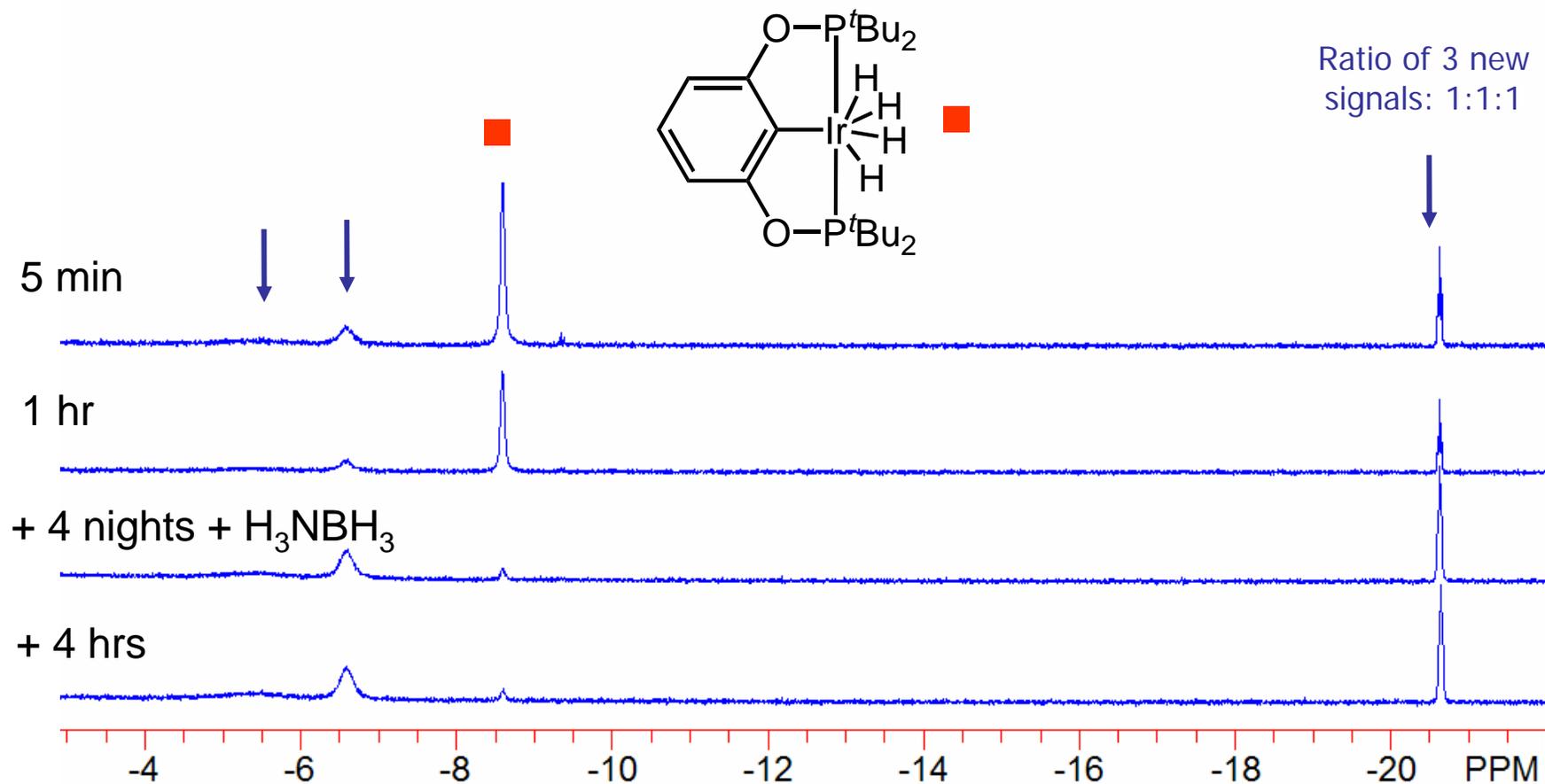
***At least 200 fold increase in reaction rate over previous best.***

\*Manners *et al.* *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2003**, 125, 9424.

# Formation of Catalytically Dormant Species

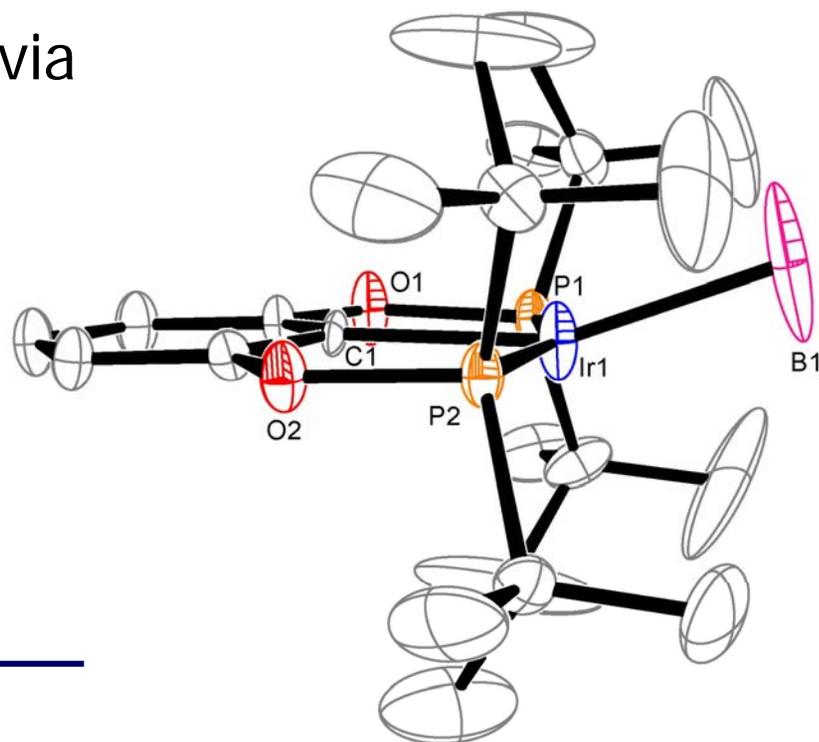
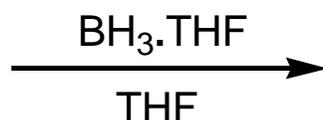
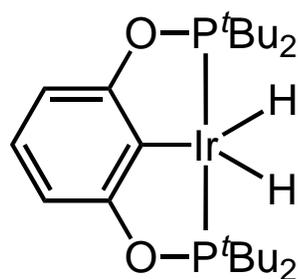


$^1\text{H}$  NMR: Hydride region



# Identification of Dormant Species

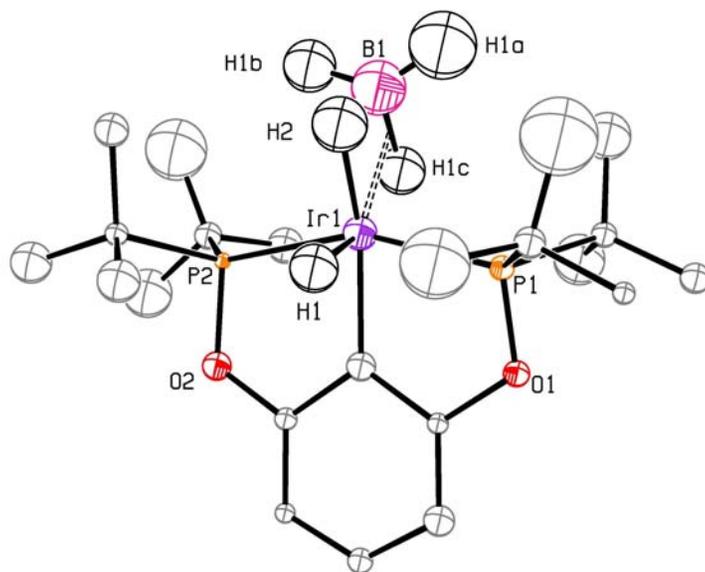
Same compound is formed via



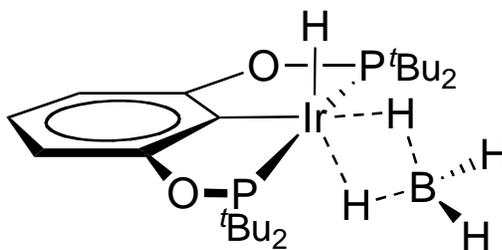
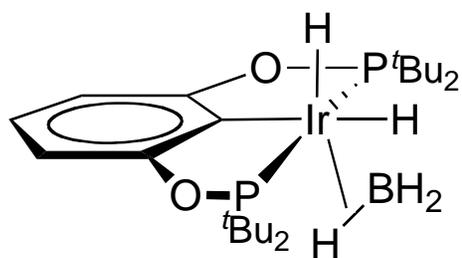
Bond Length (Å)

Ir(1)-B(1)	2.185(9)
Ir(1)-P(1)	2.3137(14)
Ir(1)-P(2)	2.3122(14)
Ir(1)-C(1)	2.032(4)

# Neutron Structure



(POCOP)Ir(BH<sub>3</sub>)(H)<sub>2</sub> or (POCOP)Ir(BH<sub>4</sub>)(H)



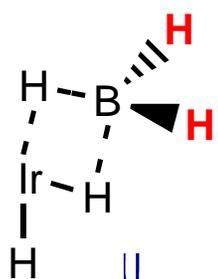
Bond Lengths (Å)

Ir1-B1	2.37(3)
Ir1-P1	2.29(2)
Ir1-P2	2.31(2)
Ir1-C1	1.99(2)
Ir1-H1	1.61(4)
Ir1-H2	1.74(4)
Ir1-ctr	2.02(1)
B1-H1a	1.18(8)
B1-H1b	1.22(5)
B1-H1c	1.45(5)
B1-H2	1.74

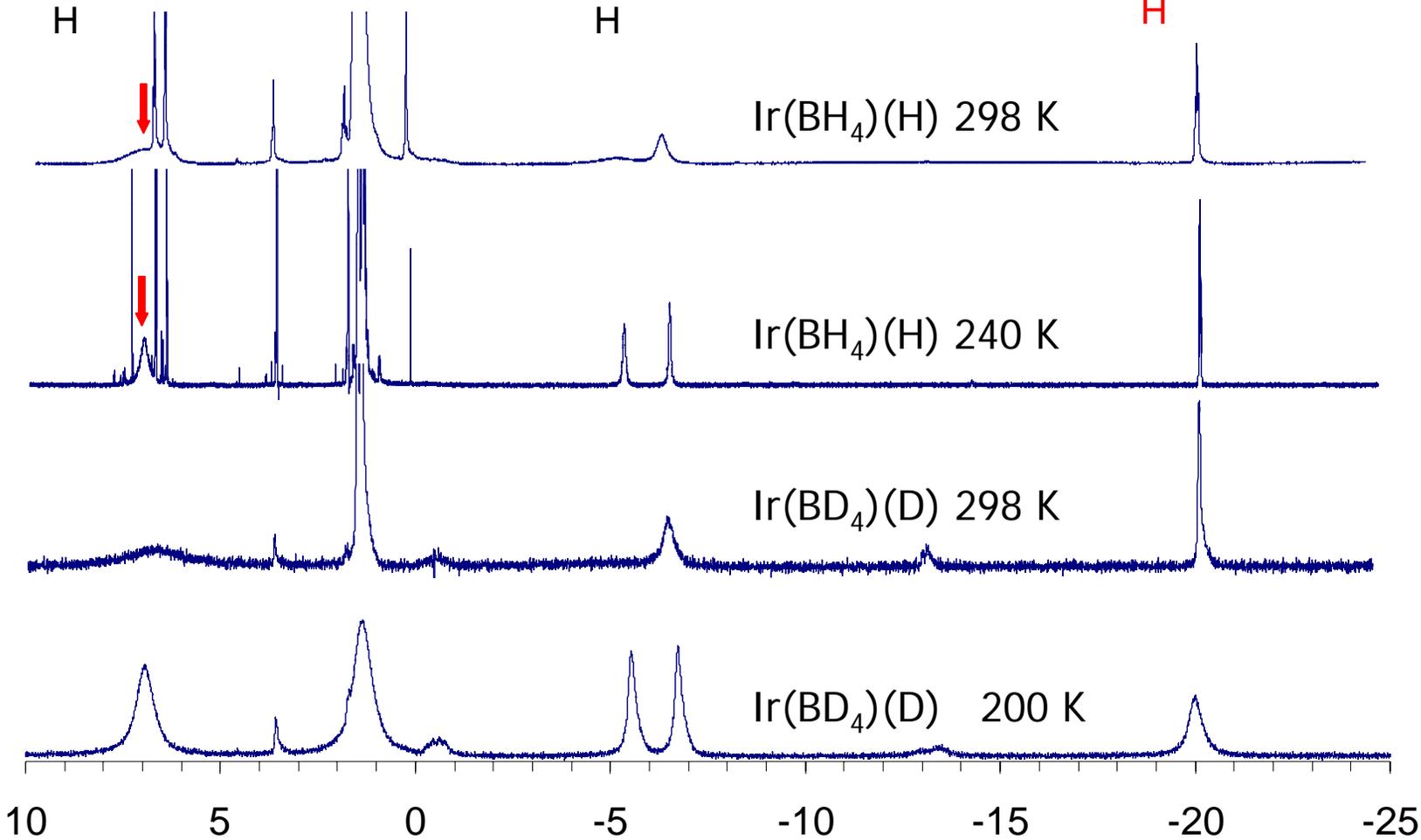
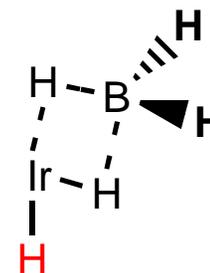
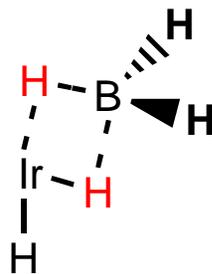
\*ctr is the center of the B1 – H1C bond

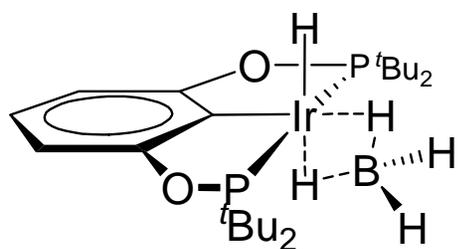
IR: B-H stretches at 2466(s), 2441(s), 2285(s) and 2219 cm<sup>-1</sup>(m) and Ir-H at 1930 cm<sup>-1</sup>(m)

# NMR of Ir(BD<sub>4</sub>)D Analogue

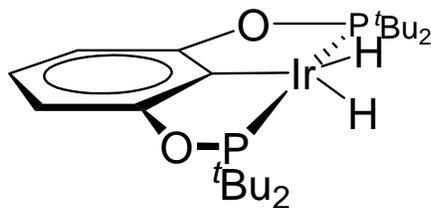
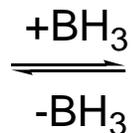


tBu

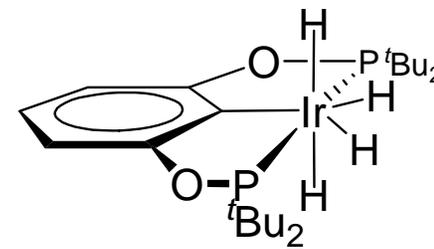
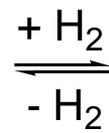




**DORMANT**



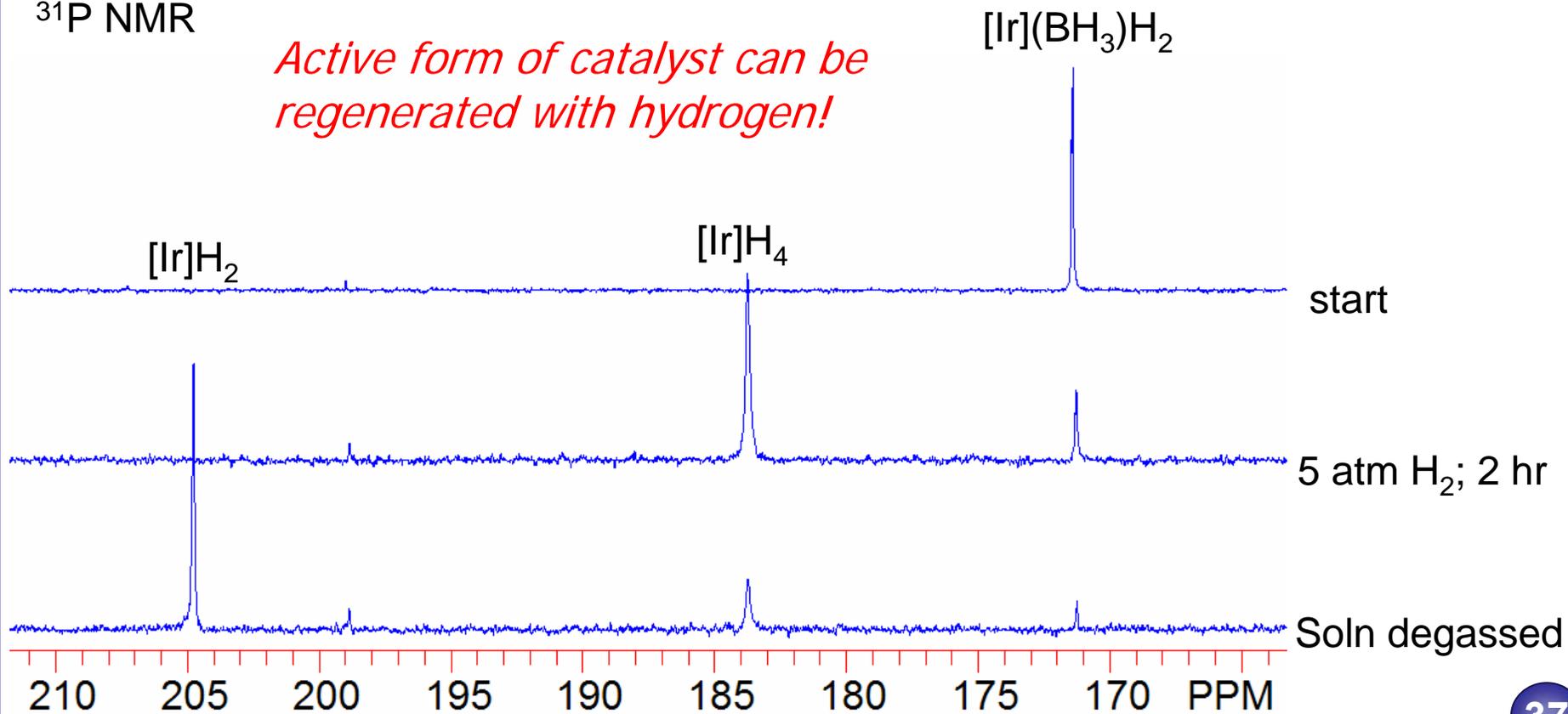
**ACTIVE**



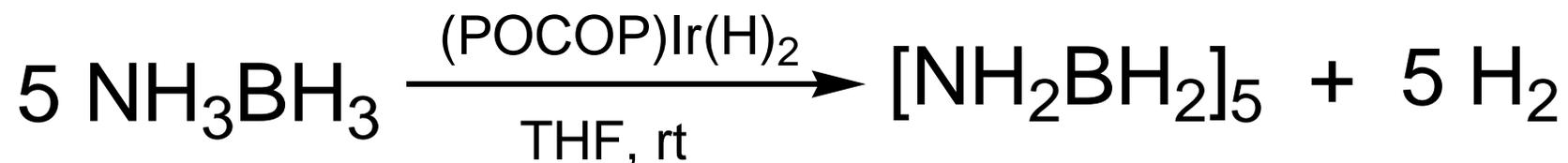
**ACTIVE**

<sup>31</sup>P NMR

*Active form of catalyst can be regenerated with hydrogen!*



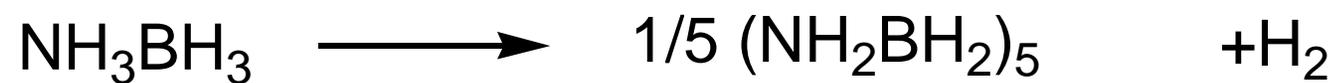
# Dehydrogenation of Ammonia Borane



- ✓ Efficient catalyst discovered.
- ✓ Reaction proceeds under mild conditions.
- ✓ Non-volatile  $[\text{NH}_2\text{BH}_2]_5$  formed.
- ✓ Regeneration of active catalyst using hydrogen.

- Reversibility?

New (last week) solution  
calorimetry data from PNNL:



$$\Delta H = -28 \text{ kJ/mol}$$

# **Acknowledgements**

**DOE Center of Excellence For Chemical Hydrogen Storage**