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Synthesis and reactivity towards tetrafluoroboric acid of a new family of heterobimetallic polyhydride complexes $[(CO)(PPh_3)_2HRe(\mu-H)_3RhL_2]$ $(L = PPh_3, 1,2,5$ -triphenylphosphole, or P(OMe)₃)

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Abstract

The reaction of K[ReH₆(PPh₃)₂] with [RhCl(CO)L₂] [L = PPh₃, 1,2,5-triphenylphosphole (TPP), or P(OMe)₃] leads to the new electronically unsaturated heterobimetallic polyhydride complexes [(CO)(PPh₃)₂HRe(μ -H)₃RhL₂] in moderate-to-good yields. The structures of these complexes have been established on the basis of spectroscopic data, especially ¹H and ³¹P NMR. The bridging hydride ligands are fluxional but there is either a slow or nonexistent exchange between terminal and bridging hydrides. For L = PPh₃ or TPP, protonation with tetrafluoroboric acid affords quantitatively the cationic complexes [(CO)(PPh₃)₂HRe(μ -H)₃RhHL₂]⁺, isolated as the BF₄⁻ or the BPh₄⁻ salts.

1. Introduction

Bimetallic polyhydride complexes have recently attracted interest because the presence of terminal and bridging hydride ligands should favour reactivity [1]. Except for the expected conventional reactivity of hydride ligands towards unsaturated organic molecules, polyhydrides usually generate unsaturated complexes as they often quite easily eliminate molecular hydrogen under photolysis [2] or protonation [3].

For these reasons we have tried to build new heterobimetallic polyhydride complexes retaining as the building block the complex $[\text{ReH}_7(\text{PPh}_3)_2]$ which can be easily deprotonated to $[\text{ReH}_6(\text{PPh}_3)_2]^-$ [1b]. In a search for a bimetallic complex containing rhenium and a metal able easily to activate hydrogen, we have recently observed that $[\text{ReH}_6(\text{PPh}_3)_2]^-$ reacts with $[\text{RuHCl(CO)(PPh}_3)_3]$ leading to the new unsaturated complex $[(\text{CO})(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{HRe}(\mu\text{-H})_3\text{RuH}(\text{PPh}_3)_2]$ in good yield [4,5].

In order to extend this family of bimetallic complexes, we have studied the reaction of $[ReH_6(PPh_3)_2]^$ with some halidocarbonyl complexes $[RhCl(CO)L_2]$ with L = PPh₃, 1,2,5-triphenylphosphole (TPP), or $P(OMe)_3$. The reactivity of the resulting new heterobimetallic complexes towards tetrafluoroboric acid has also been examined.

2. Results and discussion

2.1. Synthesis of new heterobimetallic rhenium-rhodium polyhydride complexes

 $K[ReH_6(PPh_3)_2]$ reacts at room temperature in THF solution with $[RhCl(CO)L_2]$ to give new heterobimetallic complexes

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{K} [\mathrm{ReH}_{6} (\mathrm{PPh}_{3})_{2}] + [\mathrm{RhCl} (\mathrm{CO}) \mathrm{L}_{2}] \longrightarrow \\ & [\mathrm{ReRhH}_{4} (\mathrm{CO}) (\mathrm{PPh}_{3})_{2} \mathrm{L}_{2}] + \mathrm{H}_{2} + \mathrm{KCl} \end{aligned}$$

with $L = PPh_3$ (1), 1,2,5-triphenylphosphole (2), $P(OMe)_3$ (3).

The yield is good for 1 and 2 (63%) but somewhat low for 3 (36%). Moreover, the last complex is quite unstable and has been characterized only by spectroscopic data.

These complexes have 30 valence electrons and are isoelectronic with the previously reported [(CO)-(PPh₃)₂HRe(μ -H)₃RuH(PPh₃)₂] [4,5].

As we have not been able to obtain good crystals for X-ray structure determination, the structures of these complexes have been inferred from spectroscopic data and especially from ¹H NMR spectroscopy with selec-

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tive phosphorus decoupling. These data are collected in Table 1.

In the IR spectra, the position of the carbonyl absorption is quite similar for all three complexes and is characterized by a significant shift towards lower wave numbers as compared to the starting complexes. This is consistent with a migration of the CO molecule from rhodium to rhenium, a phenomenon already observed in the synthesis of $[(CO)(PPh_3)_2HRe(\mu-H)_3Ru-H(PPh_3)_2]$. It is also consistent with the weak influence of the electronic properties of ligands bound to rhodium on the position of the IR absorption of the carbonyl group.

The NMR data for the three complexes are very similar, suggesting similar structures.

In the ¹H NMR spectra at room temperature, two signals are observed in the hydride region: a broad signal $(H^1 + H^2 + H^4)$ and a triplet (H^3) in the intensity ratio of 3/1. The triplet is due to coupling with the two phosphorus atoms bound to rhenium and, as in the Re-Ru complex, is characteristic of a terminal hydride on rhenium.

In the ³¹P{¹H}NMR spectra at room temperature, two broad doublets of doublets are observed for the ligands P¹ and P² bound to rhodium and one doublet due to a small coupling with rhodium is apparent for phosphines P³ and P⁴ bound to rhenium. This weak coupling confirms the dinuclear nature of the complexes.

On lowering the temperature to 193 K we observe in the ¹H NMR spectra of each complex the splitting of the broad resonance into two resonances, in the ratio 2/1. The resonance of intensity 1 (H⁴) appears at higher field and is a doublet of doublets due to coupling with rhodium and with one phosphorus bound to rhodium. The resonance of intensity $2(H^1 + H^2)$ is an apparent doublet due to coupling with rhodium. These data are consistent with three exchanging bridging hydrides. It should be pointed out that the chemical shift of the resonance of intensity 2 is around 0 ppm for complexes 1 and 2. This shift is quite unusual for hydrides bridging these metals, although it has recently been reported that for the $[\text{Re}_2(\mu-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Cl)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_2-H)(\mu-Ph_$ $PCH_2CH_2PPh_2)Cl_2(CO)_2$ the hydride resonance is at 12.75 ppm [6].

The resonance of the hydride (H^3) bound to rhenium is only slightly affected by lowering the temperature and, as in the Re-Ru complex already mentioned [7], there is at the most a slow exchange between this hydride and the three bridging hydrides H^1 , H^2 and H^4 .

Lowering the temperature to 193 K does not affect the ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$ NMR spectra of complexes 1, 2 and 3 greatly, except for sharpening of the resonances of P^{1} and P^{2} bound to rhodium.

From all these spectroscopic data, we propose the structure shown in Fig. 1 for these dinuclear complexes. In this structure the geometry around rhodium

Complex	IR ^a ν (CO) (cm ⁻¹)	¹ H ^{b,c} NMR δ (ppm); J (Hz)	³¹ P{ ¹ H} ^b NMR δ (ppm); J (Hz)	T (K)
1	1847	$H^3 - 3.94$ (t); $J(P-H) = 44.0$	P^{1} 55.8 (d) $J(P^{1}-Rh) = 154.0; J(P^{1}-P^{2}) = 37.6$	296
		$H^1 + H^2 + H^4 - 4.10$ (b)	P^2 44.7 (dd) $J(P^2-Rh) = 190.8; J(P^2-P^1) = 37.6$ $P^3 + P^4$ 42.7(d); $J(Rh-P) = 7.1$	
		$H^{1} + H^{2} - 0.72 (d); J(Rh-H) = 20.0$ $H^{3} - 4.02 (t); J(H^{3}-P^{3}) = J(H^{3}-P^{4}) = 44.7$ $H^{4} - 10.54(dd); J(H^{4}-Rh) = 26.0; J(P-H) = 62.0$		193
2	1850	$H^{1} + H^{2} + H^{4} - 3.10$ (b); $J(Rh-H) = 27.0$	P^1 52.5 (dd) $J(P^1-Rh) = 146.0; J(P^1-P^2) = 39.5$	300
	an an tha an tao an Isan an tao an	$H^3 - 4.53$ (t); $J(P-H) = 49.1$	P^2 46.3 (dd) $J(P^2-Rh) = 193.0; J(P^2-P^1) = 39.5$ $P^3 + P^4$ 40.6 (d); $J(Rh-P) = 6.6$	
		$ \begin{array}{l} H^{1} + H^{2} \ 0.11 \ (dd); \ J(Rh-H) = 25.7; \ J(P-H) = 25.0 \\ H^{3} - 4.75 \ (t); \ J(H^{3}-P^{3}) = J(H^{3}-P^{4}) = 48.5 \\ H^{4} - 9.78 \ (dd); \ J(H^{4}-Rh) = 27.5; \ J(P-H) = 64.7 \end{array} $		183
3	1850	$H^1 + H^2 - 2.78$ (d); $J(Rh-H) = 20.0$	P^1 145.6 (dd) $J(P^1-Rh) = 226.7; J(P^1-P^2) = 70.0$	193
		$H^3 - 4.14$ (t); $J(H^3 - P^3) = J(H^3 - P^4) = 45.1$	P^2 142.8 (dd) $J(P^2-Rh) = 275.0; J(P^2-P^1) = 70.0$	
		$H^4 - 10.20 \text{ (dd)}; J(H^4 - Rh) = 20.0; J(P - H) = 80.6$	$P^3 + P^4 43.3$ (d); $J(Rh-P) = 6.0$	

TABLE 1. Spectroscopic data for the complexes $[(CO)(PPh_3)_2HRe(\mu-H)_3RhL_2]$ [1, L = PPh₃; 2, L = TPP; 3, L = P(OMe)_3]

^a in CH₂Cl₂; ^b in CD₂Cl₂; ^c hydride region.



Fig. 1. Proposed structure for the complexes 1 ($L = PPh_3$), 2 (L = TPP) and 3 ($L = P(OMe)_3$).

is a distorted trigonal bipyramid, and around rhenium a capped octahedron. This arrangement is consistent with the magnetic equivalence of the two phosphorusatoms bound to rhenium and of two of the bridging hydrides. The third bridging hydride is *trans* to one phosphorus bound to rhodium, consistent with the observation of a P-H coupling constant. The fluxionality of this molecule can be accounted for by a rotation of the three bridging hydride ligands relative to the fixed ReH(CO)(PPh₃)₂ and RhL₂ moieties.

2.2. Reaction of the heterobimetallic polyhydrides 1 and 2 with tetrafluoroboric acid

We have already reported that protonation of $[(CO)(PPh_3)_2HRe(\mu-H)_3RuH(PPh_3)_2]$ forms a cationic complex containing molecular hydrogen $[(CO)(PPh_3)_2-HRe(\mu-H)_3Ru(H_2)(PPh_3)_2]^+$ [4]. Although we were aware that rhodium does not markedly stabilize the molecular hydrogen ligand [8], we have also carried out the reaction of 1 and 2 with tetrafluoroboric acid.

Two new complex salts 4 (L = PPh₃) and 5 (L = TPP) (the latter after BPh₄⁻ for BF₄⁻ exchange) have been obtained from this reaction, which can be reversed by adding a slight excess of triethylamine. Spectroscopic data for these complexes are presented in Table 2.

TABLE 2. Spectroscopic data for the complexes $[(CO)(PPh_3)_2HRe(\mu-H)_3RhHL_2][BF_4]$ (4, L = PPh_3; 5; TPP)

Complex	$\frac{\text{IR }^{a} \nu(\text{CO})}{(\text{cm}^{-1})}$	¹ H ^{b,c} NMR δ (ppm); J (Hz)	³¹ P{ ¹ H} ^b NMR δ (ppm); <i>J</i> (Hz)	T (K)
4	1888	$H^{1} - 0.57(b)$ $H^{2} - 3.93(t); J(P-H) = 49.0$ $H^{3} - 4.40(b)$ $H^{4} - 6.60(b)$ $H^{5} - 16.10(4t); J(Pb, H) = 17.5; J(P, H) = 22.2$		294
		$H^{2} - 10.10(dt)$, $J(HI-H) = 17.3$, $J(F-H) = 22.3$ $H^{1} - 0.66(b)$; $J(H^{1}-Rh) = 24.1$ $H^{2} - 4.09(t)$; $J(H^{2}-P^{3}) = J(H^{2}-P^{4}) = 47.0$	P^1 48.8(dddd) $J(P^1-P^2) = 20.3; J(P^1-P^3) = 16.7; J(P^1-P^4) = 4.8;$ $J(P^1-Rh) = 106.6$	193
		$H^3 - 4.30(dd); J(H^3 - Rh) = 29.0; J(H^3 - P) = 76.0$	P^2 42.9(ddt) $J(P^2-P^1) = 20.3; J(P^2-P^3) ≈ J(P^2-P^4) < 5;$ $J(P^2-Rh) = 105.5$	
		$H^4 - 6.45(dd); J(H^4-Rh) = 30.5; J(H^4-P) = 103.0$	$P^3 39.4(m)$ $J(P^3-P^1) = 18.0; J(P^3-P^2) \approx J(P^3-P^4) \approx 4.8;$ $J(P^3-Rh) = 22.0$	
		$H^5 - 15.76$ (b); $J(H^5 - Rh) = 14.4$	P^4 38.6(m) $J(P^4-P^1) \approx J(P^4-P^2) \approx J(P^4-P^3) < 5;$ $J(P^4-Rh) = 18.7$	
5	1882	H ¹ 0.65(b) H ² - 3.98(t); $J(P-H) = 51.5$ H ³ - 4.20(b) H ⁴ - 6.80(bd); $J(P-H) = 111.0$ H ⁵ - 17.73(dt): $J(P-H) = 14.0$: $J(P-H) = 23.4$		294
		H ¹ 0.55(b); $J(H^1-Rh) = 23.4$; $J(H^1-P^3) = 20.0$ H ² - 4.08(t); $J(H^2-P^3) = J(H^2-P^4) = 50.6$	P^{1} 52.7(ddd) $J(P^{1}-P^{2}) = 22.0; J(P^{1}-P^{3}) = 16.6;$ $J(P^{1}-P^{4}) = 5.6; J(P^{1}-Rh) = 100.5$	193
		$H^{3} - 4.16(dd); J(H^{3}-Rh) = 38.7; J(H^{3}-P) = 63.0$	P^{2} 46.5(dd) $J(P^{2}-P^{1}) = 22.0; J(P^{2}-Rh) = 83.9$	
		$H^{4} - 6.83(dd); J(H^{4}-Rh) = 31.7; J = 98.0;$ $J(H^{4}-P^{1}) \text{ or } J(H^{4}-P^{2})$ $H^{5} - 17.72(dt); J(H^{5}-Rh) = 15.0;$ $J(H^{5}-P^{1}) = J(H^{5}-P^{2}) = 23.0$	P ³ 38.1(ddt) $J(P^3-P^1) \approx J(P^3-Rh) \approx 15; J(P^3-P^4) = 5.6$ P ⁴ 29.1(dt) $J(P^4-P^1) \approx 7.7; J(P^4-P^3) = 5.6;$ $J(P^4 = P^1) \approx 15.2$	

^a in CH₂Cl₂; ^b in CD₂Cl₂; ^c hydride region.



Fig. 2. Proposed structure for the complexes 4 ($L = PPh_3$) and 5 (L = TPP).

Protonation induces a shift of the ν (CO) absorption towards higher frequencies consistent with cationic structure.

The NMR data for these complexes are very similar, suggesting similar structures. At room temperature we observe five signals of the same intensity in the hydride region of the ¹H NMR spectra: one triplet characteristic of a terminal hydride (H^2) on rhenium, a doublet of triplets characteristic of a terminal hydride (H^5) on rhodium and three broad resonances for H^1 , H^3 , and H^4 .

On lowering the temperature to 193 K, these three broad hydride resonances change to a doublet (H^1) due to coupling with rhodium, and two doublets of doublets $(H^3 \text{ and } H^4)$ due to coupling with rhodium and with one phosphorus bound to rhodium. The values of J(P-H) are consistent with a *trans* position of the two ligands [1c], the hydrides bridging the two metals. The two resonances of the terminal hydrides $(H^2 \text{ and } H^5)$ are slightly affected by lowering the temperature, a broadening of the resonance of the terminal hydride on rhodium being observed for complex 4.

At 193 K, we also observe four multiplets in the ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H{}NMR$ spectra, the phosphorus atoms bound to rhenium, P^{3} and P^{4} , showing a small coupling with rhodium.

From these observations we conclude that protonation of 1 and 2 has induced the formation of a Rh-H terminal bond and not the expected molecular hydrogen ligand. Moreover, in these cationic complexes, the exchange of the bridging hydride is noticeably slowed down as three separate broad signals are observed at room temperature.

Accordingly we propose the structure shown in Fig. 2 for these two complexes, the geometry around rhodium being a distorted octahedron.

3. Conclusion

The reaction of $K[ReH_6(PPh_3)_2]$ towards some halidocarbonyl complexes $[RhCl(CO)L_2]$ has led to a new family of electronically unsaturated heterobimetallic polyhydride complexes $[(CO)(PPh_3)_2HRe(\mu-H_3RhL_2)]$ isoelectronic with the recently synthesized $[(CO)-(PPh_3)_2HRe(\mu-H)_3RuH(PPh_3)_2]$. The action of tetrafluoroboric acid on these complexes leads to the formation of $[(CO)(PPh_3)_2HRe(\mu-H)_3RhHL_2][BF_4]$ which do not contain a molecular hydrogen ligand, which is not very surprising considering the small number of known dihydrogen rhodium complexes.

4. Experimental section

All reactions were performed under dinitrogen using standard Schlenk techniques. IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 225 spectrometer. NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker AC 80 (³¹P), AC 200 (¹H) and WM 250 (¹H, ³¹P) instruments. Variable temperature and selective decoupling experiments were carried out on a WM 250 machine. Elemental analyses (C and H) were performed in our laboratory and by the Service Central de Microanalyse du CNRS for the other elements. TPP [9], $[ReH_7(PPh_3)_2]$ [10], $[RhCl(CO)L_2]$ [L = PPh₃ or P(OMe)₃] [11], and $[RhCl(CO)(TPP)_2]$ [12] were prepared according to published procedures.

4.1. Synthesis of $[(CO)(PPh_3)_2HRe(\mu-H)_3RhL_2]$ (L = PPh_3 , TPP, or $P(OMe)_3$)

 $[\text{ReH}_7(\text{PPh}_3)_2]$ (0.3 g, 0.42 mmol) was dissolved in THF (30 ml) and stirred with an excess of KH. After 1 h the solution was filtered to remove the unreacted KH. To the filtrate was added a stoichiometric amount of $[\text{RhCl}(\text{CO})L_2]$ and the mixture was stirred for 1 h. The solution turned brown and was evaporated to dryness under vacuum. The residue was dissolved in toluene and the solution was filtered through Celite to remove KCl. The complexes were isolated by crystallization from toluene/hexane.

 $[(CO)(PPh_3)_2HRe(\mu-H)_3Rh(PPh_3)_2]$ (1); brown powder (63% yield). Anal. Calcd. for C₇₃H₆₄OP₄ReRh: C, 63.99; H, 4.71; P, 9.04; Re, 13.59; Rh, 7.51. Found: C, 62.85; H, 4.89; P, 8.76; Re, 12.17; Rh, 7.54%.

[(CO)(PPh₃)₂HRe(μ -H)₃Rh(TPP)₂] (2); green powder (62% yield). Anal. Calcd. for C₈₁H₆₈OP₄ReRh: C, 66.16; H, 4.66; P, 8.43; Re, 12.66; Rh, 6.99. Found: C, 65.77; H, 4.97; P, 8.32; Re, 11.79; Rh, 7.05%.

[(CO)(PPh₃)₂HRe(μ -H)₃Rh{P(OMe)₃}₂] (3), brown powder (36% yield). This compound was not stable enough to obtain a reliable analysis.

4.2. Synthesis of $[(CO)(PPh_3)_2HRe(\mu-H)_3RhHL_2]$ -[BF₄] (L = PPh₃ or TPP)

To a solution of 1 or 2 (0.1 g) in dichloromethane (10 ml) was added one equivalent of $HBF_4 \cdot OEt_2$. The solution immediately turned red, and after 10 min at room temperature it was evaporated to dryness under

vacuum. Recrystallization from dichloromethane/diethyl ether gave complexes 4 and 5.

 $[(CO)(PPh_3)_2HRe(\mu-H)_3RhH(PPh_3)_2][BF_4]$ (4); orange powder (90% yield). Anal. Calcd. for $C_{73}H_{65}BF_4OP_4ReRh$: C, 60.13; H, 4.49; F, 5.21; P, 8.50; Re, 12.77; Rh, 7.06. Found: C, 60.02; H, 4.63; F, 5.14; P, 8.21; Re, 11.97; Rh, 7.33%.

 $[(CO)(PPh_3)_2HRe(\mu-H)_3RhH(TPP)_2][BPh_4]$ (5); orange powder (90% yield) after exchange of the anion with NaBPh_4 in acetone solution. Anal. Calcd. for $C_{105}H_{89}BOP_4ReRh: C, 70.43$; H, 5.01; P, 6.92; Re, 10.40; Rh, 5.75. Found: C, 68.83; H, 5.18; P, 6.78; Re, 9.73; Rh, 5.28%.

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