

Synthesis and Characterization of OsH₂Cl[κN,κO-(ON=CR₂)](PⁱPr₃)₂ (CR₂ = C(CH₂)₄CH₂, R = CH₃): Influence of the L₂ Ligand on the Nature of the H₂ Unit in OsH₂ClL₂(PⁱPr₃)₂ (L₂ = ON=CR₂, NH=C(Ph)C₆H₄) Complexes

Ricardo Castarlenas,[†] Miguel A. Esteruelas,^{*,†} Enrique Gutiérrez-Puebla,[‡] Yves Jean,[§] Agustí Lledós,^{*,||} Marta Martín,[†] and Jaume Tomàs^{||}

Departamento de Química Inorgánica-Instituto de Ciencia de Materiales de Aragón, Universidad de Zaragoza-CSIC, 50009 Zaragoza, Spain, Instituto de Ciencia de Materiales de Madrid, CSIC, Campus de Cantoblanco, 28049 Madrid, Spain, Laboratoire de Chimie Théorique (ESA Q8077), Bâtiment 490, Université de Paris Sud, 91405 Orsay Cedex, France, and Departament de Química, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, 08193 Bellaterra, Barcelona, Spain

Received June 1, 1999

The dihydride–dichloro complex OsH₂Cl₂(PⁱPr₃)₂ (**1**) reacts with cyclohexanone oxime and acetone oxime in the presence of Et₃N to give the dihydride derivatives OsH₂Cl{κN,κO-[ON=C(CH₂)₄CH₂]}(PⁱPr₃)₂ (**2**) and OsH₂Cl{κN,κO-[ON=C(CH₃)₂]}(PⁱPr₃)₂ (**3**), respectively. The structure of **2** has been determined by X-ray diffraction. The geometry around the osmium atom can be described as a distorted pentagonal bipyramid, with the triisopropylphosphine ligands occupying two relative *trans* positions. The remaining perpendicular plane is formed by the hydride ligands, the chlorine, and the oximate group, which acts with a bite angle of 36.6(1)°. In solution the hydride ligands of **2** and **3** undergo an intramolecular thermally activated site exchange process. The activation parameters of this process are Δ*H*[‡] = 11.9(±0.7) kcal mol⁻¹ and Δ*S*[‡] = -0.5(±1.4) cal mol⁻¹ K⁻¹ for **2** and Δ*H*[‡] = 11.7(±0.8) kcal mol⁻¹ and Δ*S*[‡] = -0.8(±2.0) cal mol⁻¹ K⁻¹ for **3**. To understand why complexes **2** and **3** are dihydride derivatives, while the previously reported complex OsCl{NH=C(Ph)C₆H₄}(η²-H₂)(PⁱPr₃)₂ is an elongated dihydrogen compound, a quantitative theoretical analysis of the interaction between the H₂ moiety and the OsClL₂(PH₃)₂ (L₂ = ON=CH₂, NH=CHCH=CH) complex fragments, along the oxidative addition pathway, is also reported.

Introduction

Elongated dihydrogen complexes¹ are often seen as arrested structures at intermediate stages on the reaction path for the dihydrogen oxidative addition.² How-

ever, theoretical calculations^{3–6} have suggested an alternative description for this class of compounds. Instead of as an intermediate species along the reaction path, they may be better described as complexes containing two hydrogen atoms moving freely in a large region of the coordination sphere of the metal. High-level *ab initio* calculations on the elongated dihydrogen complexes [OsX(η²-H₂)(NH₃)₄]⁺ (X = CH₃CO₂, Cl),³ [Ru(η⁵-C₅H₅)(η²-H₂)(H₂PCH₂CH₂PH₂)]⁺,⁴ *trans*-[OsCl(η²-H₂)(H₂PCH₂CH₂PH₂)₂]⁺,⁵ and OsCl₂(η²-H₂)(NH=CH₂)-(PH₃)₂⁶ have shown that there is a very flat energy profile for the stretch of the coordinated H–H bond: it costs less than 2 kcal mol⁻¹ to stretch an H–H bond from 1.0 to 1.6 Å.

[†] Universidad de Zaragoza-CSIC.

[‡] Instituto de Ciencia de Materiales de Madrid.

[§] Université de Paris Sud.

^{||} Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona.

(1) (a) Chinn, M. S.; Heinekey, D. M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1990**, *112*, 5166. (b) Brammer, L.; Howard, J. A. K.; Johnson, O.; Koetzle, T. F.; Spencer, J. L.; Stringer, A. M. *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.* **1991**, 241. (c) Collman, J. P.; Wagenknecht, P. S.; Hembre, R. T.; Lewis, N. S. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1990**, *112*, 1294. (d) Albinati, A.; Bakhmutov, V. I.; Caulton, K. G.; Clot, E.; Eckert, J.; Eisenstein, O.; Gusev, D. G.; Grushin, V. V.; Hauger, B. E.; Klooster, W. T.; Koetzle, T. F.; McMullan, R. K.; O'Loughlin, T. J.; Péliissier, M.; Ricci, J. S.; Sigalas, M. P.; Vymenits, A. B. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1993**, *115*, 7300. (e) Hasegawa, T.; Li, Z.; Parkin, S.; Hope, H.; McMullan, R. K.; Koetzle, T. F.; Taube, H. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1994**, *116*, 4352. (f) Klooster, W. T.; Koetzle, T. F.; Jia, G.; Fong, T. P.; Morris, R. H.; Albinati, A. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1994**, *116*, 7677. (g) Maltby, P. A.; Schlaf, M.; Steinbeck, M.; Tough, A. J.; Morris, R. H.; Klooster, W. T.; Koetzle, T. F.; Srivastava, R. C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1996**, *118*, 5396. (h) Gross, L. C.; Young, D. M.; Schultz, A. J.; Girolami, G. S. *J. Chem. Soc., Dalton Trans.* **1997**, 3081.

(2) (a) Jessop, P. G.; Morris, R. H. *Coord. Chem. Rev.* **1992**, *121*, 155. (b) Heinekey, D. M.; Oldham, W. J., Jr. *Chem. Rev.* **1993**, *93*, 913.

(3) Craw, J. S.; Bacsay, G. B.; Hush, N. S. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1994**, *116*, 5937.

(4) Gelabert, R.; Moreno, M.; Lluch, J. M.; Lledós, A. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1997**, *119*, 9840.

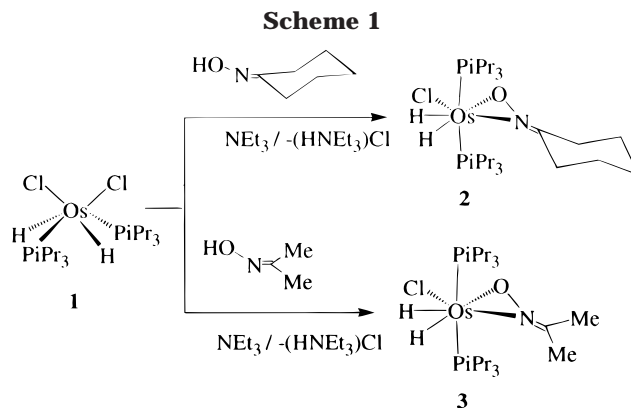
(5) Gelabert, R.; Moreno, M.; Lluch, J. M.; Lledós, A. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1998**, *120*, 8168.

(6) Barea, G.; Esteruelas, M. A.; Lledós, A.; López, A. M.; Tolosa, J. I. *Inorg. Chem.* **1998**, *37*, 5033.

It can be expected that this particular behavior of the H₂ moiety could be modified by subtle electronic and geometrical changes in the transition-metal fragment. Experimental^{7a,b} and theoretical^{7b,c} studies have shown that the dihydrogen or dihydride character of the H₂ unit is very dependent on the nature of the ligand disposed *trans* to the two hydrogen atoms. Indeed, for this type of system, the strength of the metal–hydrogen interaction and the behavior of the hydrogen atoms in solution is strongly dependent on the ligand disposed *cis* with regard to the H₂ unit, as is illustrated by the OsH₂X- $\{NH=C(Ph)C_6H_4\}(P^iPr_3)_2$ (X = H, Cl, Br, I) complexes.⁸ In solution, the hydride ligands of the trihydride derivative undergo two thermally activated exchange processes, which occur at different rates. The faster one involves the hydride located *trans* to the phenyl group. The replacement of this hydride by chloride, bromide, and iodide produces significant disruptions in the interaction between the other two hydrogens and the osmium atom. Thus, in the halogenated compounds

OsX $\{NH=C(Ph)C_6H_4\}(\eta^2-H_2)(P^iPr_3)_2$ (X = Cl, Br, I), the H₂ unit forms elongated dihydrogen ligands, which in solution show restricted rotational motions. The dihydride or elongated dihydrogen nature of the H₂ unit of these systems depends not only on the ligand located in the *cis* position but also on other factors, as revealed by the chemistry of the unsaturated six-coordinate osmium(IV) dihydride OsH₂Cl₂(PⁱPr₃)₂ in the presence of nucleophilic reagents. Substitution of a chloride anion in this complex by [EtOCS₂][−] and [CH₃COS][−] produces saturated six-coordinate compounds, where a dihydride–elongated dihydrogen transformation has occurred.⁹ Similarly, the addition of 2,2'-biimidazole (H₂bim) leads to the saturated cationic elongated dihydrogen [OsCl(η²-H₂)(H₂bim)(PⁱPr₃)₂]⁺Cl[−], which by deprotonation of the H₂bim ligand with NaBH₄ yields the neutral species Os(Hbim)Cl(η²-H₂)(PⁱPr₃)₂. Addition of pyrazole to OsH₂Cl₂(PⁱPr₃)₂ affords the *trans*-dichloro species OsCl₂(η²-H₂)(Hpz)(PⁱPr₃)₂, which is transformed into its *cis*-dichloro isomer by stirring in hexane at 60 °C.¹⁰

The above-mentioned dihydride–elongated dihydrogen transformations involve the electronic saturation of the osmium atom along with a rearrangement of its coordination polyhedron, which changes from square antiprism with two missing vertexes in the starting compound¹¹ to octahedron in the elongated dihydrogen derivatives.^{9,10} However, it does not appear that there exists a direct relationship between the electronic saturation of the metallic center and the change in the coordination polyhedron. As a matter of fact, the substitution of the chloride anions of OsH₂Cl₂(PⁱPr₃)₂ by



acetate affords the saturated seven-coordinate osmium(IV)–dihydride complexes OsH₂Cl(κ²-O₂CCH₃)(PⁱPr₃)₂ and OsH₂{κ¹-OC(O)CH₃}(κ²-O₂CCH₃)(PⁱPr₃)₂, which in the solid state have structures similar to that of the starting material that can be also described as square antiprisms but with only one missing vertex.¹²

In this paper, we report the synthesis and characterization of the saturated compounds OsH₂Cl{κ²N,κ²O-(ON=CR₂)}(PⁱPr₃)₂ (CR₂ = C(CH₂)₄CH₂, R = CH₃). Despite having a structure similar to that of the previously mentioned elongated dihydrogen complex OsCl{NH=C(Ph)C₆H₄}(η²-H₂)(PⁱPr₃)₂,⁸ these complexes turn out to be dihydride derivatives. To understand the different natures of both types of complexes, we present also a quantitative theoretical analysis of the interaction between dihydrogen and OsClL₂(PH₃)₂ (L₂ = ON=CH₂, NH=CHCH=CH) complex fragments along the oxidative addition pathway.

Results and Discussion

1. Synthesis and Characterization of OsH₂Cl{κ²N,κ²O-(ON=CR₂)}(PⁱPr₃)₂. Treatment at room temperature of OsH₂Cl₂(PⁱPr₃)₂ (**1**) with the stoichiometric amount of cyclohexanone oxime or, alternatively, acetone oxime, in the presence of 5 equiv of Et₃N, gives the complexes OsH₂Cl{κ²N,κ²O-[ON=C(CH₂)₄CH₂]}(PⁱPr₃)₂ (**2**) and OsH₂Cl{κ²N,κ²O-[ON=C(CH₃)₂]}(PⁱPr₃)₂ (**3**), respectively, which were isolated as yellow (**2**) and orange (**3**) solids in 82% (**2**) and 86% (**3**) yields, according to Scheme 1.

Complexes **2** and **3** were characterized by MS, elemental analysis, and IR and ¹H, ³¹P{¹H}, and ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectroscopy. Complex **2** was further characterized by an X-ray crystallographic study. A view of the molecular geometry of this compound is shown in Figure 1. Selected bond distances and angles are listed in Table 1.

The hydrogen atoms H(1) and H(2) were located in the difference Fourier maps and refined as isotropic atoms together with the rest of the non-hydrogen atoms of the structure, giving Os–H(1) and Os–H(2) distances of 1.68(5) and 1.57(5) Å, respectively, and a H(1)–H(2) separation of 1.77(7) Å. These values suggest that the H₂ unit gives rise to two hydride ligands. In agreement with this, the IR spectra of **2** and **3** show two absorptions

(7) (a) Li, Z.-W.; Taube, H. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1991**, *113*, 8946. (b) Bautistas, M. T.; Cappellani, E. P.; Drouin, S. D.; Morris, R. H.; Schweitzer, C. T.; Sella, A.; Zubkowski, J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1991**, *113*, 4876. (c) Craw, J. S.; Baeskey, G. B.; Hush, N. S. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1994**, *116*, 5937. (d) Dapprich, S.; Frenking, G. *Organometallics* **1996**, *15*, 4547.

(8) Barea, G.; Esteruelas, M. A.; Lledós, A.; López, A. M.; Oñate, E.; Tolosa, J. I. *Organometallics* **1998**, *17*, 4065.

(9) Esteruelas, M. A.; Oro, L. A.; Ruiz, N. *Inorg. Chem.* **1993**, *32*, 3793.

(10) Esteruelas, M. A.; Lahoz, F. J.; Oro, L. A.; Oñate, E.; Ruiz, N. *Inorg. Chem.* **1994**, *33*, 787.

(11) Aracama, M.; Esteruelas, M. A.; Lahoz, F. J.; López, J. A.; Meyer, U.; Oro, L. A.; Werner, H. *Inorg. Chem.* **1991**, *30*, 288.

(12) Crochet, P.; Esteruelas, M. A.; López, A. M.; Martínez, M.-P.; Oliván, M.; Oñate, E.; Ruiz, N. *Organometallics* **1998**, *17*, 4500.

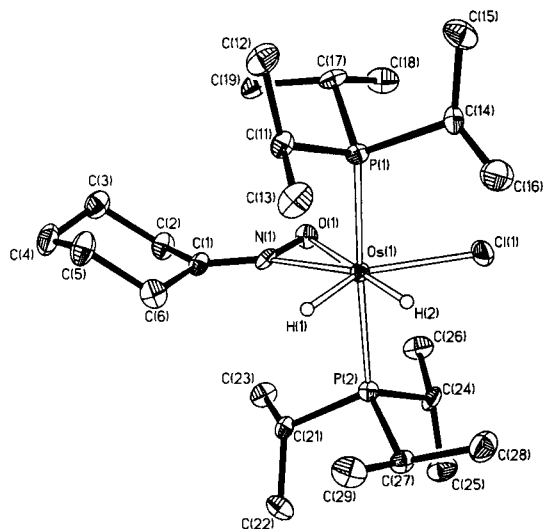


Figure 1. Molecular diagram for $\text{OsH}_2\text{Cl}\{\kappa N, \kappa O\text{-}[\text{ON}=\text{C}(\text{CH}_2)_4\text{CH}_2]\}(\text{P}^i\text{Pr}_3)_2$ (**2**). Thermal ellipsoids are shown at 50% probability.

Table 1. Selected Bond Lengths (Å) and Angles (deg) of $\text{OsH}_2\text{Cl}\{\kappa N, \kappa O\text{-}[\text{ON}=\text{C}(\text{CH}_2)_4\text{CH}_2]\}(\text{P}^i\text{Pr}_3)_2$ (2**) and B3LYP Optimized Parameters of $\text{OsH}_2\text{Cl}\{\kappa N, \kappa O\text{-}[\text{O}=\text{NCH}_2]\}(\text{PH}_3)_2$ (**4**)**

	2	4	2	4
Os–Cl	2.3922(12)	2.438	P(2)–Os–O	93.04(8)
Os–P(1)	2.3798(11)	2.349	P(1)–Os–N	93.51(10)
Os–P(2)	2.3767(12)	2.349	P(1)–Os–H(1)	90(2)
Os–O	2.250(4)	2.321	P(1)–Os–H(2)	87.1(14)
Os–N	1.978(4)	2.014	P(2)–Os–N	92.55(11)
Os–H(1)	1.68(5)	1.610	P(2)–Os–H(1)	84.6(14)
Os–H(2)	1.57(5)	1.610	P(2)–Os–H(2)	85(1)
O–N	1.353(4)	1.296	O–N–C(1)	124.3(4)
N–C(1)	1.281(6)	1.291	O–Os–N	36.61(12)
Cl–Os–P(1)	90.16(4)	88.4	O–Os–H(1)	118.2(2)
Cl–Os–P(2)	89.39(4)	88.4	O–Os–H(2)	175(2)
Cl–Os–O	100.69(8)	101.7	H(1)–Os–H(2)	66(2)
Cl–Os–N	137.30(10)	135.6	Os–N–C(1)	152.9(3)
Cl–Os–H(1)	141(2)	142.6	Os–N–O	60.7(2)
Cl–Os–H(2)	75.3(14)	79.7	Os–N–O	82.7(2)
P(1)–Os–P(2)	171.53(4)	175.7	N–Os–H(1)	82(2)
P(1)–Os–O	95.35(8)	91.8	N–Os–H(2)	147.4(14)

at 2220 and 2157 cm^{-1} (**2**) and 2189 and 2165 cm^{-1} (**3**) corresponding to the $\nu(\text{Os}–\text{H})$ vibrations, while absorptions in the typical region of dihydrogen ligands (3100–2400 cm^{-1})^{2a} are not observed.

In general, the M–H distances obtained from X-ray diffraction data are imprecise.¹³ However, ab initio calculations have been shown to provide useful accurate data for the hydrogen positions in both classical polyhydride¹⁴ and dihydrogen complexes.¹⁵ Therefore, to corroborate the dihydride nature of the H_2 unit of these compounds, a B3LYP geometry optimization was per-

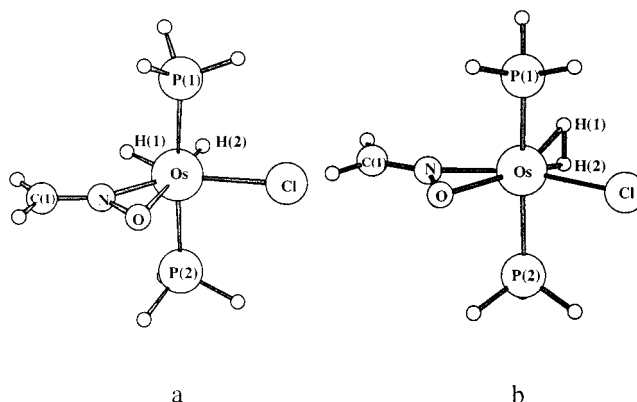


Figure 2. B3LYP optimized structures of the minimum **4** (a) and the transition state **4-TS** (b).

formed on the $\text{OsH}_2\text{Cl}\{\kappa N, \kappa O\text{-}[\text{ON}=\text{C}(\text{CH}_2)_4\text{CH}_2]\}(\text{PH}_3)_2$ (**4**) model system. The structure obtained in this way is shown in Figure 2a, and the main geometrical parameters are collected in Table 1.

The theoretical results agree well with those obtained from the X-ray diffraction experiment. The Os–H (1.610 Å) distances and the H(1)–H(2) separation (1.680 Å) are statistically identical with those experimentally obtained and corroborate the dihydride nature of the H_2 unit in these compounds.

Assuming that the H_2 and the $\text{ON}=\text{CR}_2$ units both occupy two sites in the coordination sphere of the metal, the geometry around the osmium atom of **2** can be rationalized as a very distorted pentagonal bipyramid with the two phosphorus atoms of the triisopropylphosphine ligands occupying axial positions (P(1)–Os–P(2) = 171.53(4)°) and the hydrides, the chlorine, and the oximate group located in the equatorial plane. The distortion of the coordination polyhedron is mainly due to the oximate group, which acts with a bite angle of 36.61(12)°. Similar values have been found in related compounds.¹⁶ If the oximate group is considered as a monodentate ligand, the structure of the complex can be described as a slightly distorted octahedron.

In agreement with the structure shown in Figure 1, the $^3\text{1P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of **2** contains a singlet at 12.3 ppm. In the $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum, the most noticeable resonance is a singlet at 139.4 ppm, corresponding to the C=N carbon atom of the oximate ligand.

(15) (a) Dapprich, S.; Frenking, G. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl.* **1995**, *24*, 354. (b) Bakhmutov, V. I.; Bertrán, J.; Esteruelas, M. A.; Lledós, A.; Maseras, F.; Modrego, J.; Oro, L. A.; Sola, E. *Chem. Eur. J.* **1996**, *2*, 1815. (c) Maseras, F.; Lledós, A.; Costas, M.; Poblet, J. M. *Organometallics* **1996**, *15*, 2947. (d) Gelabert, R.; Moreno, M.; Lluch, J. M.; Lledós, A. *Organometallics* **1997**, *16*, 3805. (e) Albéniz, M. J.; Esteruelas, M. A.; Lledós, A.; Maseras, F.; Oñate, E.; Oro, L. A.; Sola, E.; Zeier, B. *J. Chem. Soc., Dalton Trans.* **1997**, 181.

(16) (a) Dickman, M. H.; Doedens, R. J. *Inorg. Chem.* **1982**, *21*, 682. (b) Porter, L. C.; Doedens, R. *J. Acta Crystallogr., Sect. C* **1985**, *41*, 838. (c) Jaitner, P.; Huber, W.; Gieren, A.; Betz, H. *J. Organomet. Chem.* **1986**, *311*, 379. (d) Pizzotti, M.; Porta, F.; Cenini, S.; Demartin, F.; Masciocchi, N. *J. Organomet. Chem.* **1987**, *330*, 265. (e) Stella, S.; Floriani, C.; Chiesi-Villa, A.; Guastini, C. *J. Chem. Soc., Dalton Trans.* **1988**, 545. (f) Sharp, P. R.; Hoard, D. W.; Barnes, C. L. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1990**, *112*, 2024. (g) Hoard, D. W.; Sharp, P. R. *Inorg. Chem.* **1993**, *32*, 612. (h) Ang, H. G.; Kwik, W. L.; Ong, K. K. *J. Fluorine Chem.* **1993**, *60*, 43. (i) Vogel, S.; Huttner, G.; Zsolnai, L.; Emmerich, C. *Z. Naturforsch., B* **1993**, *48*, 353. (j) Werner, H.; Daniel, T.; Knaup, W.; Nürnberg, O. *J. Organomet. Chem.* **1993**, *462*, 309. (k) Skoog, S. J.; Campbell, J. P.; Gladfelter, W. L. *Organometallics* **1994**, *13*, 4137. (l) Kukushkin, V. Y.; Tudela, D.; Pombeiro, A. J. L. *Coord. Chem. Rev.* **1996**, *156*, 333. (m) Skoog, S. J.; Gladfelter, W. L. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1997**, *119*, 11049.

(13) Zhao, D.; Bau, R. *Inorg. Chim. Acta* **1998**, *269*, 162.

(14) (a) Lin, Z.; Hall, M. B. *Inorg. Chem.* **1991**, *30*, 2569. (b) Lin, Z.; Hall, M. B. *Coord. Chem. Rev.* **1994**, *135*, 845. (c) Esteruelas, M. A.; Jean, Y.; Lledós, A.; Oro, L. A.; Ruiz, N.; Volatron, F. *Inorg. Chem.* **1994**, *33*, 3609. (d) Buil, M. L.; Espinet, P.; Esteruelas, M. A.; Lahoz, F. J.; Lledós, A.; Martínez-Illarduya, J. M.; Maseras, F.; Modrego, J.; Oñate, E.; Oro, L. A.; Sola, E.; Valero, C. *Inorg. Chem.* **1996**, *35*, 1250. (e) Camanyes, S.; Maseras, F.; Moreno, M.; Lledós, A.; Lluch, J. M.; Bertrán, J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1996**, *118*, 4617. (f) Demachy, I.; Esteruelas, M. A.; Jean, Y.; Lledós, A.; Maseras, F.; Oro, L. A.; Valero, C.; Volatron, F. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1996**, *118*, 8388. (g) Castillo, A.; Barea, G.; Esteruelas, M. A.; Lahoz, F. J.; Lledós, A.; Maseras, F.; Modrego, J.; Oñate, E.; Oro, L. A.; Ruiz, N.; Sola, E. *Inorg. Chem.* **1999**, *38*, 1814. (h) Buil, M. L.; Esteruelas, M. A.; Modrego, J.; Oñate, E. *New J. Chem* **1999**, *23*, 403.

The ³¹P{¹H} and ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectra are temperature-invariant. However, the ¹H NMR spectrum is temperature-dependent. At 373 K in toluene-*d*₈ as solvent, the spectrum shows in the hydride region a broad resonance centered at -7.83 ppm. Between 263 and 293 K decoalescence occurs, and between 233 and 233 K, two signals centered at -3.22 and -12.44 ppm are observed.

The NMR spectroscopic data of **3** agree well with those of **2**. The ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum shows a singlet at 12.4 ppm, and the ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum contains a singlet at 133.9 ppm corresponding to the C=N carbon atom of the oximate group. As for **2**, these spectra are temperature-invariant, while the ¹H NMR spectrum is temperature-dependent. The variation of the hydride resonances with the temperature is similar to the case of **2**. At 373 K in toluene-*d*₈ as solvent, the spectrum shows at -7.70 ppm a broad resonance. Between 313 and 273 K, decoalescence occurs, and between 273 and 233 K, two signals centered at -3.24 and -12.60 ppm are observed.

To estimate the hydrogen-hydrogen separation between the hydride ligands of **2** and **3** in solution, the *T*₁ values of the hydride resonances were determined over the temperature range 253–193 K. The same *T*₁(min) value was found for both compounds and for each resonance (100 (±3) ms), and it occurs at the same temperature (213 K). The total relaxation rate for H_{*n*} (*R*_{*n*} = 1/*T*₁(min)(H_{*n*})) is the addition of the relaxation rate due to the dipole-dipole interaction (*R*_{H-H}) and that due to all other relaxation contributors (*R*^{*}). Since the latter one has been estimated as 5.2 s⁻¹,¹⁷ we can determine that the relaxation rate due to the hydride-hydride interaction is 4.8 s⁻¹. Using the standard equation,¹⁸ this value leads to a separation between the hydride ligands of **2** and **3** of 1.7 Å, which agrees well with those determined by X-ray diffraction (1.77(7) Å) and theoretical methods (1.680 Å).

The behavior of the ¹H NMR spectra of **2** and **3** with changes in the temperature indicates that the hydride ligands of these compounds undergo a thermally activated site exchange process. Line-shape analysis of the ¹H{³¹P} NMR spectra (Figure 3 shows those of **2**) allows the calculation of the rate constants for the processes at each temperature (Table 2). The activation parameters obtained from the corresponding Eyring analysis are Δ*H*[‡] = 11.9(±0.7) kcal mol⁻¹ and Δ*S*[‡] = -0.5(±1.4) cal mol⁻¹ K⁻¹ for **2** and Δ*H*[‡] = 11.7(±0.8) kcal mol⁻¹ and Δ*S*[‡] = -0.8(±2.0) cal mol⁻¹ K⁻¹ for **3**. The values for the entropy activation, close to zero, are in agreement with an intramolecular process, while the values for the enthalpy of activation lie in the range reported for thermal exchange processes in trihydride and hydride-dihydrogen derivatives.²⁰

(17) Castillo, A.; Esteruelas, M. A.; Oñate, E.; Ruiz, N. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1997**, *119*, 9691.

(18) At 300 MHz, *R*_{H-H} = 129.18/*r*⁶.¹⁹

(19) (a) Hamilton, D. G.; Crabtree, R. H. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1988**, *110*, 4126. (b) Bautista, M. T.; Earl, K. A.; Maltby, P. A.; Morris, R. H.; Schweitzer, C. T.; Sella, A. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1988**, *110*, 7031. (c) Desrosiers, P. J.; Cai, L.; Lin, Z.; Richards, R.; Halpern, J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1991**, *113*, 4173. (d) Gusev, D. G.; Kuhlman, R.; Sini, G.; Eisenstein, O.; Caulton, K. G. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1994**, *116*, 2685.

(20) (a) Earl, K. A.; Jia, G.; Maltby, P. A.; Morris, R. H. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1991**, *113*, 3027. (b) Jia, G.; Drouin, S. D.; Jessop, P. G.; Lough, A. J.; Morris, R. H. *Organometallics* **1993**, *12*, 906. (c) Esteruelas, M. A.; Lahoz, F. J.; López, A. M.; Oñate, E.; Oro, L. A.; Ruiz, N.; Sola, E.; Tolosa, J. I. *Inorg. Chem.* **1996**, *35*, 7811.

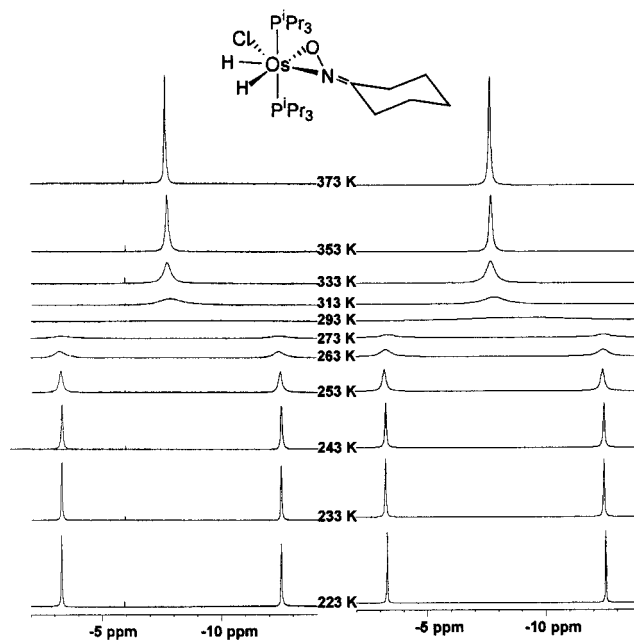


Figure 3. Experimental (left) and calculated (right) variable-temperature 300 MHz ¹H{³¹P} NMR spectra in the high-field region of OsH₂Cl{κ*N*,κ*O*-[ON=C(CH₂)₄CH₂]}-(P^{*i*}Pr₃)₂ (**2**) in toluene-*d*₈.

Table 2. Rate Constants of Dihydride Exchange of **2** and **3**

<i>T</i> (K)	rate (s ⁻¹)		<i>T</i> (K)	rate (s ⁻¹)	
	2	3		2	3
373	4.53 × 10 ⁵	4.88 × 10 ⁵	263	4.95 × 10 ²	3.87 × 10 ²
353	2.95 × 10 ⁵	2.27 × 10 ⁵	253	1.46 × 10 ²	2.02 × 10 ²
333	9.40 × 10 ⁴	1.67 × 10 ⁵	243	47.3	1.17 × 10 ²
313	3.51 × 10 ⁴	3.75 × 10 ⁴	233	36.0	43.8
293	5.85 × 10 ³	9.93 × 10 ³	223	9.37	
273	6.20 × 10 ²	1.96 × 10 ³			

To clarify the mechanism of the hydride site exchange in **2** and **3**, we have calculated the transition state assuming a structure in which the H₂ unit is rotated by 90° with respect to its position in the minimum. The B3LYP optimized structure found in this way (**4**-TS) is shown in Figure 2b. This transition state has a η²-H₂ nature, as is proved by the H(1)-H(2) distance and H(1)-Os-H(2) angle (0.932 Å and 32.0°, respectively). The decrease of the distance between the two exchanging hydrides is concomitant with the increase of the Os-H distances (1.690 Å). Thus, the transition state can be described as a d⁶ six-coordinate Os(II) species containing a dihydrogen *trans* to the oxygen atom of the oximate ligand. Furthermore, a dramatic shortening of the Os-O distance occurs in the rotated structure (2.321 Å in **4** vs 2.170 Å in **4**-TS).

The mechanism of the hydride site exchange can be described as a pairwise exchange through a η²-H₂ structure and involves only minor motion of the other ligands. Such a mechanism has already been shown to be operative in trihydride complexes.^{6-13,14e-g} The calculated activation barrier for the hydride exchange process in **4** is 19.1 kcal mol⁻¹, a value higher than that obtained by NMR spectroscopy in **2** and **3**. This discrepancy may be due to the replacement of the bulky P^{*i*}Pr₃ and ON=CR₂ (CR₂ = C(CH₂)₄CH₂, R = CH₃) ligands by PH₃ and ON=CH₂.

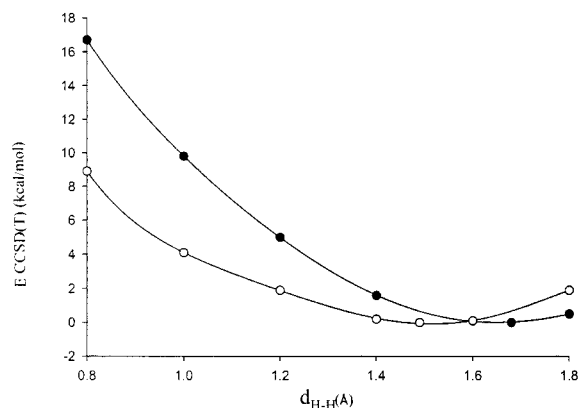


Figure 4. CCSD(T)//B3LYP potential energy curves for the H–H stretching in **4** (●) and **5** (○).

2. Analysis of the Os–H₂ Interaction. In complexes **2** and **3** the H₂ unit gives rise to two hydride ligands,

whereas in the related OsCl{NH=C(Ph)C₆H₄}(η^2 -H₂)-(PⁱPr₃)₂ it forms an elongated dihydrogen ligand.⁸ Therefore, a fine balance between the different coordination modes of the H₂ moiety can be obtained just operating upon the choice of the ancillary ligands of the system.

For comparative purposes, geometry optimization of OsCl(NH=CHCH=CH)(η^2 -H₂)(PH₃)₂ (**5**), taken as a model of the OsCl{NH=C(Ph)C₆H₄}(η^2 -H₂)(PⁱPr₃)₂ complex, was performed at the same level of theory as that used for **4**. The optimized H(1)–H(2) distance in **5** (1.494 Å) agrees with the previously calculated H–H distance in OsCl(NH=CHC₆H₄)(η^2 -H₂)(PH₃)₂ (1.483 Å),⁸ suggesting that complex **5** should be included within the rather diffuse family of elongated dihydrogen complexes.

The different natures of complexes **4** and **5** were studied by computing the energy profiles associated with the H–H bond breaking. In both complexes the H–H distance was varied from 0.8 to 1.8 Å by steps of 0.2 Å, and all the other geometrical parameters were optimized at the B3LYP level for each fixed H–H distance. Single-point energy-only calculations were performed at the CCSD(T) level on all the optimized structures. The CCSD(T)//B3LYP potential energy curves are shown in Figure 4.

In both cases there is only one minimum, and the dihydrogen form is not available. However, as expected, the minimum of **4** is slightly shifted to the dihydride region (long H–H distances). More remarkable is the fact that the shape of the two curves is clearly different. The flatness of the curve associated with the elongated dihydrogen complex **5** in the 1.2–1.8 Å region suggests that, with the inclusion of zero-point energy, the two hydrogen atoms are delocalized to a certain extent. Such a phenomenon is usual for this kind of complex,^{3–6} and to give an accurate theoretical prediction of the actual H–H distance which could be obtained via neutron diffraction is not so easy. As shown previously, electronic structure calculations are not sufficient to reproduce the experimental values; nuclear wave function calculations are required.^{4,5} Things are much easier for complex **4**, which is unambiguously a classical dihydride without H–H interaction. From these results, it is clear that the

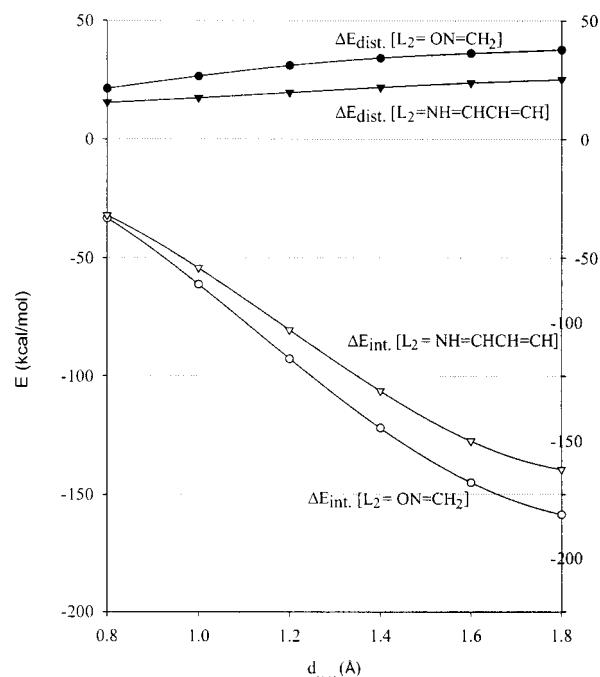


Figure 5. Energy decomposition as a function of the H–H distance for the OsH₂Cl{ κ -N, κ -O-(ON=CH₂)}(PH₃)₂ (**4**) and OsCl(NH=CHCH=CH)(η^2 -H₂)(PH₃)₂ (**5**) model complexes.

H₂ moiety interacts in different ways with the metal in complexes **4** and **5**. To clarify this point, a previously successfully used energy decomposition scheme^{6,21} can be applied to this case. In this scheme the OsClH₂L₂-(PH₃)₂ complexes are ideally thought to be built from two separate fragments (the H₂ molecule and the OsClL₂(PH₃)₂ metallic units). In this way, the interaction energy between the two fragments can be decomposed at each hydrogen–hydrogen distance into three terms. Two of them, which are unfavorable, represent the energy required to distort both fragments from their isolated equilibrium geometries to the geometry they have at each point of the curve ($\Delta E_{\text{stretch}}(\text{H}_2)$ and $\Delta E_{\text{def}}(\text{OsClL}_2(\text{PH}_3)_2)$). The third term is the energy gain arising from the interaction between the two distorted fragments to restore the whole complex (ΔE_{int}). At each point, the variation in the total energy (ΔE_{tot}) can be obtained according to eq 1. The results of this analysis

$$\Delta E_{\text{tot}} = \Delta E_{\text{stretch}}(\text{H}_2) + \Delta E_{\text{def}}(\text{OsClL}_2(\text{PH}_3)_2) + \Delta E_{\text{int}} \quad (1)$$

at the B3LYP level of theory are shown in Figure 5. Because we want to establish the differences between **4** and **5**, the $\Delta E_{\text{stretch}}(\text{H}_2)$ term has been omitted in this figure.

The distortion term ($\Delta E_{\text{def}}(\text{OsClL}_2(\text{PH}_3)_2)$) increases along the dihydrogen addition path for both complexes, since it is obviously more difficult to accommodate an elongated H₂ moiety than a dihydrogen molecule in the coordination sphere of the metal. The distortion term is larger for **4** than for **5**, because the isolated OsClL₂-(PH₃)₂ optimized fragment is further from the geometry it has in the final structure, in the case of the ON=CH₂ ligand. However, this is not the reason for the different

(21) Tomás, J.; Lledós, A.; Jean, Y. *Organometallics* **1998**, *17*, 4932.

Table 3. Energetical Parameters Related to H–H Coordination for OsClH₂L₂(PH₃)₂ Complexes^a

	L ₂	
	ON=CH ₂	NH=CHCH=CH
D _e (M–H ₂)	14.3	19.5
ΔE _{S/T}	26.7	34.9
D _e (M–H)	81.5	83.6

^a All the energies (in kcal/mol) have been calculated at the CCSD(T) level of theory on B3LYP optimized structures.

natures of the H₂ unit in **4** and **5**. In fact, since the slope of ΔE_{def}(OsClL₂(PH₃)₂) is slightly larger for **4** than for **5**, one should expect a dihydride form more destabilized for **4** than for **5**, and this is not observed. Thus, the understanding of the results comes from the interaction term. This term reveals that the interaction of the H₂ moiety with the complex fragment is stronger in complex **4** than in complex **5**. Furthermore, with the H–H lengthening, this difference increases, compensating the unfavorable trend found for complex **4** in the distortion term. From the curves it can also be stated that in the short H–H distances region the interaction term is too weak to allow the possibility of a dihydrogen minimum in this particular system.

3. Ability of OsClL₂(PⁱPr₃)₂ (L₂ = ON=CR₂, NH=C(Ph)C₆H₄) Complex Fragments To Break the H–H Bond. In a previous work we have shown that the nature of the product of dihydrogen addition to M(CO)_n(PH₃)_{5–n} (M = Cr, Mo, W; n = 0, 3, 5) can be related to the energetics of the M–H₂ and M–H bonds and to the singlet–triplet separation (ΔE_{S/T}) in the ML₅ complex fragment. Dihydride structures are favored by a small singlet/triplet separation and by large M–H bonding energies (D_e(M–H)). We will now use this analysis to compare the complexes **4** and **5**.

The ΔE_{S/T}, D_e(M–H₂), and D_e(M–H) terms were calculated at the CCSD(T)//B3LYP level for both complexes. With regard to the ΔE_{S/T} term it should be noted that the excitation involves the orbitals required for the further formation of the M–H bonds. The M–H₂ bond energies were calculated as the energy difference between the OsClL₂(PH₃)₂ fragments optimized in their lowest singlet state plus a dihydrogen molecule, and the η²-H₂ complexes optimized with the H–H distance hold fixed to 0.8 Å. Finally, the D_e(M–H) values were calculated as the energy difference between the OsClL₂(PH₃)₂ fragments optimized in their triplet state plus two hydrogen atoms and a structure which was the actual dihydride minimum for complex **4**, while for complex **5**, a hypothetical structure with the H–H distance fixed at 1.8 Å was taken as the dihydride. The results are collected in Table 3.

The computed values of D_e(Os–H₂) are in the range of the binding energies of dihydrogen ligands in stable dihydrogen complexes (15–20 kcal mol⁻¹).²¹ Thus, this magnitude by itself cannot explain why a dihydrogen structure is not found in these systems. The potential energy curves depicted in Figures 4 and 5 give a better insight into this fact: there is no energetic barrier in the H–H stretching process, so that the H–H bond breaking is not arrested at this stage. It must be stressed that the dihydrogen binding energy is higher in **5** than in **4**, indicating that at the initial stage of the oxidative addition, the Os–H₂ bond is stronger in the former. This factor works in favor of a shorter H–H

equilibrium distance in complex **5**, as it was actually found in our geometry optimizations.

Experimental values of Os–H binding energies between 63 and 73 kcal mol⁻¹ have been recently reported in a series of [CpOsHL]⁺ compounds.^{22a} The computed values of D_e(Os–H) in **4** and **5** are 10 kcal mol⁻¹ higher and similar to those determined in [OsH(η²-H₂)L₂]⁺ (L = depe, 76 kcal mol⁻¹; L = dppe, 80 kcal mol⁻¹; L = dtfpe, 81 kcal mol⁻¹).^{22b} They can be placed among the strongest reported values for M–H bonds.^{22c} However, this term cannot account for the different behavior of **4** and **5**: the D_e(Os–H) values are very similar in both complexes. As we have found in our previous work on Kubas-like complexes,²¹ the M–H binding energy depends mainly on the metal atom and remains almost unaffected by changes in the ligand (the slight difference should even favor the dihydride form in complex **5**). It is thus clear that the different behavior toward the H₂ coordination of the OsCl₂L₂(PH₃)₂ complex fragments is related to the ΔE_{S/T} term. All other things being equal, the smaller singlet–triplet energy promotion gives rise to the easier formation of the dihydride form. The singlet/triplet gap is lower for L₂ = ON=CH₂ than for L₂ = NH=CHCH=CH (26.7 vs 34.9 kcal mol⁻¹), making the dihydride formation easier in the former. This difference in the ΔE_{S/T} can be understood by taking into account the structural differences between the two types of complex fragments. NH=CHCH=CH is a bidentate ligand with a bite angle of 75°. It occupies two sites in the coordination sphere of the metal, and the corresponding complex fragment can be described as a d⁶ ML₅ distorted-square-pyramidal system. The N–Os–Cl and C–Os–Cl angles (117 and 167°, respectively) agree with this description. On the other hand, the ON=CR₂ ligands have a bite angle of about 37°, making the OsCl(ON=CR₂)(PR₃)₂ fragment better described as a square-planar d⁶ ML₄ system, with N–Os–Cl and O–Os–Cl angles of about 157 and 166°, respectively. Since the HOMO/LUMO gap is lower in a square-planar d⁶ ML₄ fragment than in a square-pyramidal d⁶ ML₅ fragment, the observed trend found for the singlet–triplet energy separation can be easily rationalized on orbital grounds.

Concluding Remarks

We have previously shown that the H₂ moiety of the complex OsCl{NH=C(Ph)C₆H₄}(η²-H₂)(PⁱPr₃)₂ forms an elongated dihydrogen ligand. This study reveals that a fine balance between different coordination modes of the H₂ moiety in OsClH₂L₂(PⁱPr₃)₂ systems can be obtained just operating upon the choice of the L₂ ancillary ligands. Thus, we now show that in the presence of Et₃N the dihydride–dichloro complex OsH₂Cl₂(PⁱPr₃)₂ reacts with oximes to give the related compounds OsH₂Cl{κN,κO-(ON=CR₂)}(PⁱPr₃)₂, where, in contrast to OsCl{NH=C(Ph)C₆H₄}(η²-H₂)(PⁱPr₃)₂, the H₂ moiety gives rise to two hydride ligands.

Theoretical calculations suggest that the interaction of the H₂ moiety with the OsCl{κN,κO-(ON=CR₂)}-

(22) (a) Cappellani, E. P.; Drouin, S. D.; Jia, G.; Maltby, P. A.; Morris, R. H.; Schweitzer, C. T. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1994**, *116*, 3375. (b) Wang, D.; Angelici, R. J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1996**, *118*, 935. (c) Martinho Simões, J. A.; Beauchamp, J. L. *Chem. Rev.* **1990**, *90*, 629 and references therein.

(PⁱPr₃)₂ complex fragments is stronger than that with OsCl{NH=C(Ph)C₆H₄}(PⁱPr₃)₂. Moreover, in agreement with the experimental results, the interaction of the H₂ moiety with the model system OsCl{κN,κO-(ON=CH₂)}-(PH₃)₂ leads to a dihydride minimum structure with a complete breaking of the H–H bond, while the interaction of the H₂ moiety with the model system OsCl-(NH=CHCH=CH)(PH₃)₂ makes the H–H bond breaking/forming process to occur almost without energy barrier.

The different behavior of OsCl{κN,κO-(ON=CR₂)}-(PⁱPr₃)₂ and OsCl{NH=C(Ph)C₆H₄}(PⁱPr₃)₂ complex fragments toward the H₂ coordination is related to their different singlet–triplet separation. The oximate groups give rise to complex fragments with a singlet–triplet energy promotion smaller than that of the NH=C(Ph)-C₆H₄ ligand, and since the excitation involves the orbitals required for the formation of the M–H bonds, the oximate groups favor the formation of the dihydride form.

Experimental Section

All reactions were carried out with rigorous exclusion of air using Schlenk-tube techniques. Solvents were dried by the usual procedures and distilled under argon prior to use. The starting material OsH₂Cl₂(PⁱPr₃)₂ (**1**) was prepared by the published method.¹¹

In the NMR spectra, chemical shifts are expressed in ppm downfield from Me₄Si (¹H and ¹³C) and 85% H₃PO₄ (³¹P). Coupling constants, *J*, are given in hertz.

Kinetic Analysis. Complete line-shape analyses of the ¹H{³¹P} NMR spectra of **2** and **3** were achieved using the program gNMR v3.6 for Macintosh (Cherwell Scientific Publishing Limited). The transverse relaxation time *T*₂ used was common for the two signals for all temperatures recorded and was obtained from the line width of the exchange-averaged resonance above the fast-exchange limit. The activation parameters Δ*H*[‡] and Δ*S*[‡] were calculated by a least-squares fit of ln(*k*/*T*) vs 1/*T* (Eyring equation). Error analysis assumed a 2% error in the rate constant and 1 K in the temperature. Errors were computed by published methods.²³

Preparation of OsH₂Cl{κN,κO-[ON=C(CH₂)₄CH₂]}-(PⁱPr₃)₂ (2**).** A brown solution of **1** (200 mg, 0.34 mmol) in 15 mL of toluene was treated with cyclohexanone oxime (40 mg, 0.35 mmol) and 0.25 mL (1.8 mmol) of triethylamine. After it was stirred for 20 min at room temperature, the orange suspension was filtered through Kieselguhr and was concentrated to dryness. Addition of methanol yielded a yellow precipitate that was washed (3 × 2 mL) with methanol and dried in vacuo. Yield: 185 mg (82%). Anal. Calcd. for C₂₄H₅₄NOCloOsP₂: C, 43.65; H, 8.24; N, 2.12. Found: C, 43.27; H, 8.32; N, 2.05. IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): ν(Os–H) 2220 (m), 2157 (s); ν(C=N) 1637 (m). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, toluene-*d*₆, 253 K): δ 2.66 (m, 2H, CH₂C=N); 2.26 (m, 6H, PCH); 2.00 (m, 2H, CH₂C=N); 1.24 (m, 6H, CH₂); 1.30 and 1.16 (both dvt, 36H, *J*_{H–H} = 6.6 Hz, *N* = 13.2 Hz, PCHCH₃); –3.22 (br, 1H, OsH); –12.44 (br, 1H, OsH). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75.4 MHz, C₆D₆, 293 K): δ 139.4 (s, C=N); 32.1 and 30.5 (both s, CH₂C=N); 27.7, 26.0 and 25.4 (all s, CH₂); 25.0 (vt, *N* = 24 Hz, PCH); 19.8 and 18.1 (both s, PCHCH₃). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (121.4 MHz, C₆D₆, 293 K): δ 12.3 (s). MS (FAB⁺): *m/z* 659 (M⁺) and 623 (M⁺ – Cl).

(23) Morse, P. M.; Spencer, M. D.; Wilson, S. R.; Girolami, G. S. *Organometallics* **1994**, *13*, 1646 and references therein.

Table 4. Crystal Data and Data Collection and Refinement for

OsH ₂ Cl{κN,κO-[ON=C(CH ₂) ₄ CH ₂]}(P ⁱ Pr ₃) ₂	
formula	C ₂₄ H ₅₄ ClNOOsP ₂
mol wt	660.27
color, habit	orange
space group	monoclinic, <i>P2</i> ₁ / <i>c</i>
<i>a</i> , Å	14.8951(9)
<i>b</i> , Å	9.5382(6)
<i>c</i> , Å	20.8395(12)
β, deg	104.369(1)
<i>V</i> , Å ³	2868.1(3)
<i>Z</i>	4
<i>D</i> (calcd), g cm ⁻³	1.529
μ, mm ⁻¹	4.666
scan type	ω scans at different φ values
θ range, deg	2 ≤ θ ≤ 28.4
temp, K	153.0(2)
no. of data collected	10 239
no. of unique data	5463 (<i>R</i> _{int} = 0.0343)
no. of params refined	379
<i>R</i> 1 ^a (<i>F</i> ² > 2σ(<i>F</i> ²))	0.0325
w <i>R</i> 2 ^b (all data)	0.0759
<i>S</i> ^c (all data)	1.056

^a *R*1(*F*) = Σ||*F*_o – |*F*_c||/Σ|*F*_o|. ^b w*R*2(*F*²) = [Σ[w(*F*_o² – *F*_c²)²]/Σ[w(*F*_o²)²]^{1/2}; *w*⁻¹ = [σ²(*F*_o²) + (0.0341*P*)² + 1.9443*P*], where *P* = [max(*F*_o², 0) + 2*F*_c²]/3. ^c *S* = [Σ[w(*F*_o² – *F*_c²)²]/(n – p)]^{1/2}, where *n* is the number of reflections and *p* the number of refined parameters.

Preparation of OsClH₂{κN,κO-[ON=C(CH₂)₄]}(PⁱPr₃)₂ (3**).** This complex was prepared as described for **2**, by starting from **1** (200 mg, 0.34 mmol) with 25 mg (0.34 mmol) of acetone oxime and 0.25 mL (1.8 mmol) of triethylamine. An orange microcrystalline solid was obtained. Yield: 182 mg (86%). Anal. Calcd for C₂₁H₅₀NOCloOsP₂: C, 40.66; H, 8.12; N, 2.25. Found: C, 40.43; H, 7.82; N, 2.14. IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): ν(Os–H) 2189 (m), 2165 (s); ν(C=N) 1642 (m). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, toluene-*d*₆, 243 K): δ 2.20 (m, 6H, PCH); 1.95 and 1.47 (both s, 6H, CH₂C=N); 1.26 and 1.12 (both dvt, 36H, *J*_{H–H} = 6.3 Hz, *N* = 12.9 Hz, PCHCH₃); –3.24 (br, 1H, OsH); –12.6 (br, 1H, OsH). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75.4 MHz, C₆D₆, 293 K): δ 133.9 (s, C=N); 24.7 (vt, *N* = 23.7 Hz, PCH); 21.2 and 19.2 (both s, CH₂C=N); 19.7 and 18.6 (both s, PCHCH₃). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (121.4 MHz, C₆D₆, 293 K): δ 12.4 (s). MS (FAB⁺): *m/z* = 586 (M⁺).

X-ray Structure Analysis of OsH₂Cl{κN,κO-[ON=C(CH₂)₄CH₂]}(PⁱPr₃)₂ (2**).** Crystals suitable for the X-ray diffraction study were obtained by cooling at 258 K a saturated solution of **2** in diethyl ether. A summary of crystal data and refinement parameters is reported in Table 4. The orange, prismatic crystal, of approximate dimensions 0.08 × 0.06 × 0.01 mm, was glued on a glass fiber and mounted on a Siemens-CCD diffractometer (sealed tube 2.4 kW, λ = 0.710 73 Å). A total of 10 239 data were collected via runs of 0.3° ω scans at different φ values, over a θ range of 2.5–28.4°. All data were corrected for absorption using the SADABS program.²⁴ The structure was solved by direct methods²⁵ and conventional Fourier techniques and refined by full-matrix least squares on *F*² (SHELXL97).²⁵ Anisotropic parameters were used in the last cycles of refinement for all non-hydrogen atoms. Hydrogen atoms were included in observed positions and refined freely or refined riding on their respective carbon atoms. Atomic scattering factors, corrected for anomalous dispersion, were implemented by the program. The refinement converge to *R*1 = 0.0325 (*F*² > 2σ(*F*²)) and w*R*2 = 0.0759 (all data), with weighting parameters *x* = 0.0341 and *y* = 1.9443.

(24) SADABS program: Sheldrick, G. *SADABS User Guide*; Institut für Anorganische Chemie der Universität: Göttingen, Germany, 1995.

(25) Sheldrick, G. SHELXL-97: Program for Crystal Structure Refinement; Institut für Anorganische Chemie der Universität, Göttingen, Germany, 1997.

Computational Details. Calculations were performed with the GAUSSIAN94 series of programs.²⁶ Geometry optimizations were carried out using the density functional theory (DFT)²⁷ with the B3LYP functional.²⁸ An effective core potential operator was used to represent the innermost electrons of the osmium atom.²⁹ The basis set for the metal was that associated with the pseudopotential,²⁹ with a standard valence double- ζ LANL2DZ contraction.²⁶ The basis set for the hydrogen atoms directly attached to the metal was double- ζ supplemented with a polarization p shell.^{30a,b} A 6-31G(d) basis was used for Cl, P, N, and O atoms, as well as for the C coordinated to the metal in complex **5**.^{30c} The rest of the atoms were described using a 6-31G basis set.^{30a}

(26) Frisch, M. J.; Trucks, G. W.; Schlegel, H. B.; Gill, P. M. W.; Johnson, B. G.; Robb, M. A.; Cheeseman, J. R.; Keith, T. A.; Petersson, G. A.; Montgomery, J. A.; Raghavachari, K.; Al-Laham, M. A.; Zakrzewski, V. G.; Ortiz, J. V.; Foresman, J. B.; Cioslowski, J.; Stefanov, B. B.; Nanayakkara, A.; Challacombe, M.; Peng, C. Y.; Ayala, P. Y.; Chen, W.; Wong, M. W.; Andres, J. L.; Replogle, E. S.; Gomperts, R.; Martin, R. L.; Fox, D. J.; Binkley, J. S.; Defrees, D. J.; Baker, J.; Stewart, J. P.; Head-Gordon, M.; Gonzalez, C.; Pople, J. A. *Gaussian 94*; Gaussian Inc., Pittsburgh, PA, 1995.

(27) Parr, R. G.; Yang, W. *Density-Functional Theory of Atoms and Molecules*; Oxford University Press: Oxford, U.K., 1989.

(28) (a) Lee, C.; Yang, W.; Parr, R. G. *Phys. Rev. B* **1988**, *37*, 785. (b) Becke, A. D. *J. Chem. Phys.* **1993**, *98*, 5648. (c) Stephens, P. J.; Devlin, F. J.; Chabalowski, C. F.; Frisch, M. J. *J. Phys. Chem.* **1994**, *98*, 11623.

(29) Hay, P. J.; Wadt, W. R. *J. Chem. Phys.* **1985**, *82*, 299.

(30) (a) Hehre, W. J.; Ditchfield, R.; Pople, J. A. *J. Chem. Phys.* **1972**, *56*, 2257. (b) Hariharan, P. C.; Pople, J. A. *Theor. Chim. Acta* **1973**, *28*, 213. (c) Francl, M. M.; Pietro, W. J.; Hehre, W. J.; Binkley, J. S.; Gordon, M. S.; DeFrees, D. J.; Pople, J. A. *J. Chem. Phys.* **1982**, *77*, 3654.

To obtain accurate estimations for the oxidative addition energy profiles, the geometries were optimized at the B3LYP level and energies recalculated using coupled-cluster theory with single, double, and a noniterative estimation of triple excitations (CCSD(T)//B3LYP).³¹ The metal–dihydrogen and metal–hydride dissociation energies and the singlet/triplet energy differences in the fragments were also calculated at the CCSD(T)//B3LYP level.

Acknowledgment. Financial support from the DGES of Spain (Projects PB95-0639-C02-01 and PB95-0806) is acknowledged. R.C. thanks the Ministerio de Educación y Ciencia for a grant. J.T. acknowledges also the “Direcció General de Recerca de la Generalitat de Catalunya” for a grant. The use of computational facilities of the Centre de Supercomputació i Comunicacions de Catalunya is gratefully appreciated as well.

Supporting Information Available: Tables of atomic coordinates, anisotropic and isotropic thermal parameters, experimental details of the X-ray study, and bond distances and angles. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

OM9904192

(31) (a) Bartlett, R. J. *J. Phys. Chem.* **1989**, *93*, 1697. (b) Bartlett, R. J.; Watts, J. D.; Kucharski, S. A.; Noga, J. *Chem. Phys. Lett.* **1990**, *165*, 513.