

Olefin Insertion Reactivity of a (Phosphine-arenesulfonate)Palladium(II) Fluoride Complex

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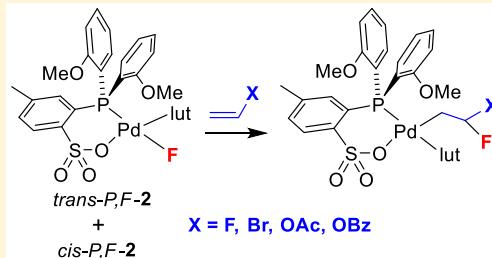
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Supporting Information

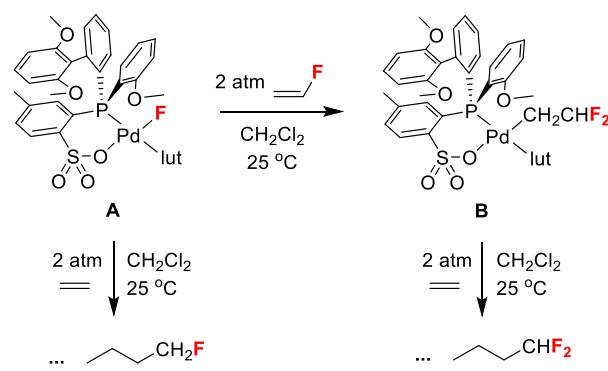
ABSTRACT: The synthesis of the phosphine-arenesulfonate Pd(II) fluoride complex (PO-OMe)PdF(lut) (**2**, $\text{PO-OMe} = \text{P}(2\text{-OMe-Ph})_2(2\text{-SO}_3\text{-5-Me-Ph})$, lut = 2,6-lutidine) and its reactions with electron-deficient olefins are described. The reaction of (PO-OMe)PdBr(lut) (**1**) with AgF affords **2** as an 82:18 mixture of *cis*-*P*,*F* and *trans*-*P*,*F* isomers. **2** isomerizes to a 1:2 *cis*-*P*,*F*:*trans*-*P*,*F* equilibrium mixture in CD_2Cl_2 solution at room temperature in ca. 3 days. **2** reacts with vinyl fluoride (VF) to afford (PO-OMe)Pd(CH_2CHF_2)(lut) (**3**), which exists as the *cis*-*P*,*C* isomer. **2** reacts with vinyl bromide (VBr) to yield **1** and VF by initial fluoropalladation to form (PO-OMe)Pd(CH_2CHBrF)(lut) (**4**, not observed) followed by β -Br elimination. **2** reacts with vinyl acetate to yield (PO-OMe)Pd{ $\text{CH}_2\text{CHF(OAc)}$ }(lut) (**5**), which reacts further to form the C-bound enolate complex (PO-OMe)Pd{ $\text{CH}_2\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{H}$ }(lut) (**6**) and acetyl fluoride. **2** reacts with vinyl benzoate in an analogous fashion. DFT analysis of the reaction of the model complexes *cis*-*P*,*F*- and *trans*-*P*,*F*-(PH_2O)PdF(py) (**C1** and **C2**, $\text{PH}_2\text{O}^- = o\text{-PH}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_3^-$) with VF supports a mechanism involving substitution of lutidine by VF followed by migratory insertion into the Pd–F bond. An alternative mechanism comprising substitution of fluoride by VF to generate (PO-OMe)Pd(VF)(lut)⁺ and F^- , followed by exo attack of F^- on the bound VF was found to be energetically prohibitive. DFT analysis of the reaction of the model complexes *cis*-*P*,*F*- and *trans*-*P*,*F*-(PH_2O)PdF(VBr) (**C10** and **C13**) supports an insertion/ β -Br elimination mechanism.



INTRODUCTION

The insertion of olefins and alkynes into metal–fluoride bonds generates new M–C and C–F bonds and therefore is of interest for the synthesis of fluorinated organic compounds and polymers.¹ Alkali metal fluorides, AgF and HgF_2 , undergo fluorometalation reactions with highly fluorinated olefins and alkynes to afford fluorinated alkyl and alkenyl species that have been exploited in synthesis, but analogous reactions of unactivated substrates are rare.^{2,3} (SIPr) AuF reacts with internal alkynes to yield *trans* addition products via nucleophilic attack of F^- on an intermediate Au alkyne complex.⁴ Insertions of styrenes and alkynes into Pd–F bonds were proposed as key steps in the Pd-catalyzed amino-fluorination and fluoroesterification of styrenes and fluorination/cyclization of enynes.⁵ Wada and Jordan recently reported that the discrete Pd–F complex ($\text{PO}^{\text{Bp,OMe}}$)PdF(lut) (**A**, $\text{PO}^{\text{Bp,OMe}} = \text{P}(2\text{-OMe-Ph})_2\{2',6'-(\text{OMe})_2\text{-2-biphenyl}\}(2\text{-SO}_3\text{-5-Me-Ph})$, lut = 2,6-lutidine) undergoes 1,2 insertion of vinyl fluoride (VF) at room temperature to generate ($\text{PO}^{\text{Bp,OMe}}$)Pd(CH_2CHF_2)(lut) (**B**, Scheme 1).⁶ Complexes **A** and **B** undergo repetitive ethylene insertions at room temperature to produce polyethylenes with $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{F}$ and $-\text{CH}_2\text{CHF}_2$ chain end units, respectively. These reactions play an important role in the copolymerization of ethylene and VF

Scheme 1. Reaction of ($\text{PO}^{\text{Bp,OMe}}$)PdF(lut) with Vinyl Fluoride and Ethylene



catalyzed by ($\text{PO}^{\text{Bp,OMe}}$)PdMe(lut) and other (phosphine-arenesulfonate)PdRL complexes, as they reactivate the Pd–F species that are generated by β -F elimination of PdCH_3CHRF species.⁷ In contrast, in other attempted ethylene/vinyl-halide

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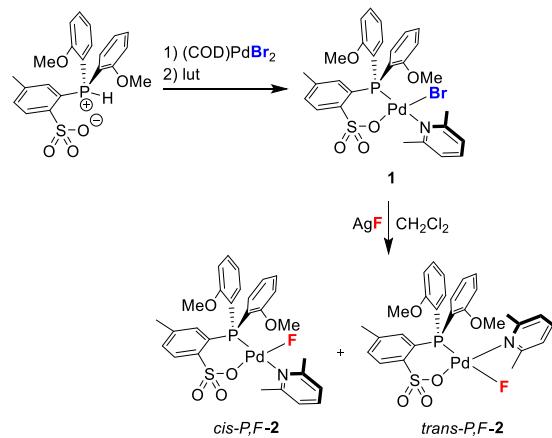
copolymerizations, β -halide elimination produces inactive L_nMX species and thus is a catalyst deactivation process.^{8,9}

The objective of this paper is to expand the range of known (PO)Pd fluoride complexes and to probe the generality of their reactions with olefins. We report the synthesis of a new Pd–F complex, (PO-OMe)PdF(lut) (2), which contains the prototypical phosphine-arenesulfonate ligand $\text{P}(2\text{-OMe-Ph})_2(2\text{-SO}_3\text{-5-Me-Ph})$ (PO-OMe). Insertion reactions of 2 with VF, vinyl bromide (VBr), vinyl acetate (VOAc), and vinyl benzoate (VOBz), and a DFT computational analysis of the VF and VBr reactions are discussed.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Synthesis and Characterization of (PO-OMe)PdF(lut). The target compound (PO-OMe)PdF(lut) (2) was synthesized by the reaction of the corresponding bromide complex (PO-OMe)PdBr(lut) (1) with AgF (Scheme 2), following the

Scheme 2. Synthesis of (PO-OMe)PdF(lut)



approach used to prepare **A** and other Pd–F complexes.¹⁰ The reaction of the zwitterionic pro-ligand $\text{HP}^+(2\text{-OMe-Ph})_2(2\text{-SO}_3^-\text{-5-Me-Ph})$ with (COD)PdBr₂ followed by addition of lutidine yielded **1** and lutidinium bromide, the latter of which was removed by a water wash. **1** was isolated as orange crystals in 77% yield by recrystallization from CH_2Cl_2 /pentane and characterized by X-ray diffraction (Figure 1). Complex **1** adopts a *cis*-P,Br structure with metrical parameters similar to those for (PO-^{Bp}OMe)PdBr(lut).⁶ The reaction of **1** with AgF in CH_2Cl_2 afforded **2** as an 82:18 mixture of *cis*-P,F and *trans*-P,F isomers (95%, Scheme 2).

Complex **2** isomerizes to a 1:2 *cis*-P,F:*trans*-P,F equilibrium mixture in CD_2Cl_2 solution at room temperature in ca. 3 d. **2** also isomerizes slowly (months) in the solid state. Previous studies have shown that an external ligand is necessary for the *cis*/*trans* isomerization of (PO-OMe)PdCl₂{P(*o*-tolyl)₃} and that *trans*-P,C-(PO-OMe)PdMeL complexes (L = lut or *para*-substituted lutidines) isomerize to the thermodynamically favored *cis*-P,C isomer by both lutidine-catalyzed and unimolecular pathways.¹¹ On the basis of these precedents, both ligand-catalyzed and unimolecular pathways are possible for the *cis*/*trans* isomerization of **2**. The isomerization behavior of **2** stands in contrast to the behavior of **A**, for which only the *cis*-P,F isomer was observed.⁶ *trans*-P,F-(PO-^{Bp}OMe)PdF(lut) is likely disfavored by steric crowding between the PO-^{Bp}OMe and lutidine ligands.

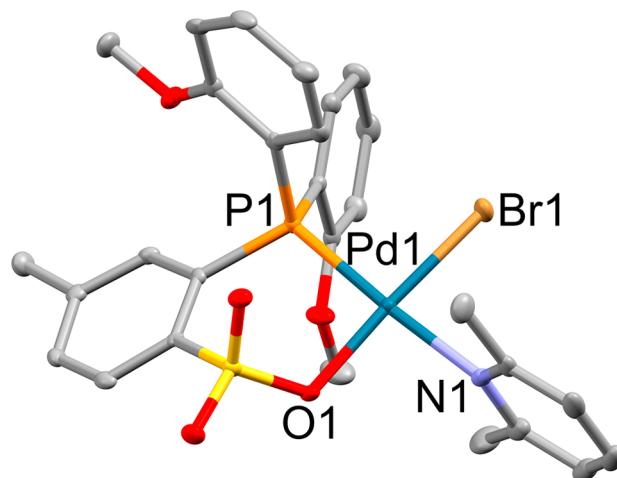


Figure 1. Molecular structure of **1**· CH_2Cl_2 . Hydrogen atoms and the CH_2Cl_2 solvent molecule are omitted for clarity. Key bond lengths (Å) and angles (deg): Pd1–Br1 2.3903(4), Pd1–N1 2.113(3), Pd1–O1 2.069(2), Pd1–P1 2.2483(9), Br1–Pd1–N1 88.26(7), N1–Pd1–O1 87.84(9), Br1–Pd1–P1 88.40(2), O1–Pd1–P1 95.51(6).

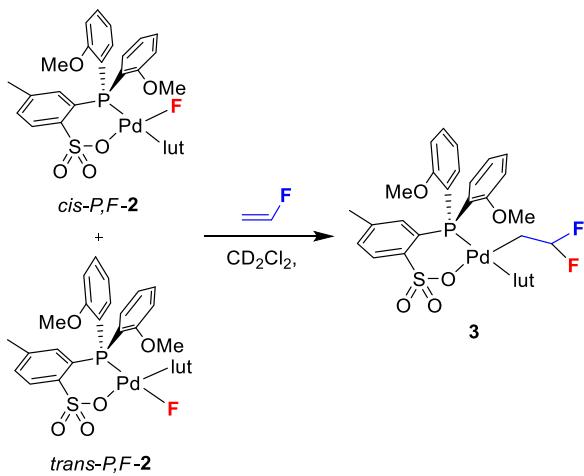
The room temperature $^{31}\text{P}\{\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of **2** in the presence of added CsF (vide infra), contains two doublets at δ 3.0 ($^2J_{\text{PF}} = 210$ Hz) and δ −4.7 ($^2J_{\text{PF}} = 16$ Hz), which are assigned to the *trans*-P,F and *cis*-P,F isomers, respectively. The room temperature ^{19}F NMR spectrum contains a doublet at δ −267 ($^2J_{\text{PF}} = 210$) and a broad singlet at δ −436, which sharpens into a doublet ($^2J_{\text{PF}} = 16$) at −15 °C, which are assigned to the *trans*-P,F and *cis*-P,F isomers, respectively. These data are consistent with data for other Pd(II) fluoride complexes bearing phosphine ligands *trans* to fluoride (^{19}F δ −200 to −300; $^2J_{\text{PF},\text{trans}} > 150$ Hz) and *cis* to fluoride (^{19}F δ < −300; $^2J_{\text{PF},\text{cis}} = 6$ –18 Hz).^{1–8,12} The addition of excess $[\text{NBu}_4]\text{Br}$ to *cis*:*trans*-P,F-2 (32:68 ratio) gives **1** quantitatively, which confirms that these species are isomers.

The addition of CsF was required to observe all of the ^{31}P and ^{19}F NMR couplings for *cis*-P,F- and *trans*-P,F-2. In the absence of CsF in dry CD_2Cl_2 , the P–F coupling is observed for the ^{31}P resonance of *cis*-P,F-2, but not for the ^{31}P resonance of *trans*-P,F-2 or the ^{19}F resonances of either isomer. The collapse of the P–F coupling is ascribed to hydrogen bonding with adventitious water or HF. CsF sequesters adventitious water through hydrogen bonding.^{10j,13} Intermolecular fluoride exchange is unlikely because P–F coupling would not be observed for the ^{31}P resonance of *cis*-P,F-2 in this case.

Reaction of 2 with Vinyl Fluoride. Compound **2** (39:61 *cis*-P,F:*trans*-P,F mixture) reacts quantitatively with VF in CD_2Cl_2 solution to yield the insertion product (PO-OMe)Pd(CH₂CHF₂)(lut) (**3**, Scheme 3). The ^1H and ^{19}F NMR spectra of **3** contain characteristic signals for the PdCH₂CHF₂ unit (^1H NMR δ 4.84 (tt, $^2J_{\text{FH}} = 57$, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 5$, PdCH₂CHF₂), δ 1.06 (tdd (apparent tt), $^3J_{\text{FH}} = 22$, $^3J_{\text{PH}} = 6$, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 5$, PdCH₂CHF₂); ^{19}F NMR δ −98.3 (d, $^2J_{\text{FH}} = 57$)) that are similar to those observed for the analogous complex **A**.⁶ Complex **3** exists as the *cis*-P,C isomer, as established by a room temperature NOESY correlation between the PdCH₂CHF₂ hydrogens and the hydrogens *ortho* to P on the 2-OMe-Ph rings (H^6) and the small J_{PC} value (<5 Hz) for the PdCH₂CHF₂ carbon.

^1H NMR monitoring of the reaction of **2** (39:61 *cis*-P,F:*trans*-P,F mixture) and VF shows that *cis*-P,F-2 reacts faster

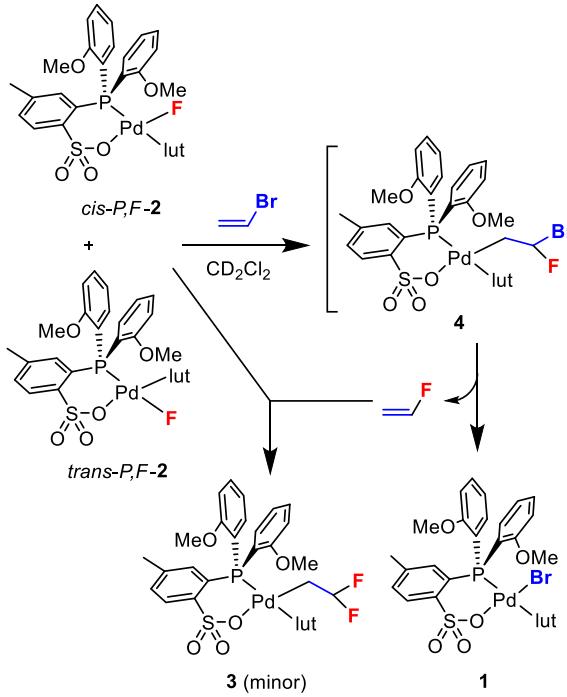
Scheme 3. Reaction of 2 and VF to Produce 3



than *trans*-*P,F*-2. At room temperature after 20 h, *cis*-*P,F*-2 was completely consumed and a 49:51 mixture of 3 and *trans*-*P,F*-2 was present. After 44 h, a 61:39 mixture of 3 and *trans*-*P,F*-2 was present. Heating the sample tube at 40 °C for an additional 22 h gave 3 in >95% yield.

Reaction of 2 with Vinyl Bromide. Complex 2 (1:1 *cis*-*P,F*:*trans*-*P,F* mixture) reacts with VBr in CD₂Cl₂ solution to give 1 and VF (Scheme 4). This reaction likely proceeds by

Scheme 4. Reaction of 2 with VBr



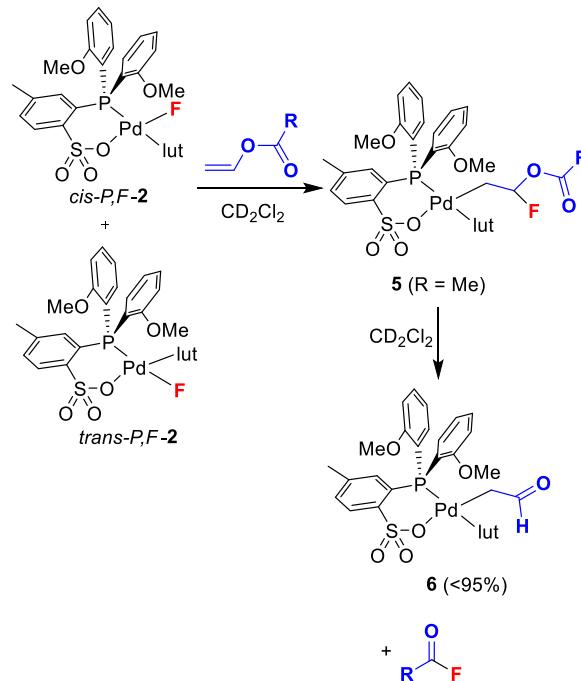
initial fluoropalladation to form (PO-OMe)Pd(CH₂CHBrF)- (lut) (4) followed by β -Br elimination. Intermediate 4 is not observed, indicating that β -Br elimination is faster than the initial fluoropalladation step. After 13 h at 50 °C, the reaction mixture contained 1 (73% by ³¹P NMR), 3 (11%), and *cis*-*P,F*-2 (7%). The presence of 3, which is formed by the reaction of 2 with the VF that is released by β -Br elimination, indicates that VF and VBr react with 2 at comparable rates. Assuming that *cis*-*P,F*-2 reacts faster with VBr than does *trans*-*P,F*-2, as is

the case for VF and VOAc (vide infra), the *cis*-*P,F*-2 that is present at the end of the reaction likely forms by β -F elimination of 3 or 4.

Reaction of 2 with Vinyl Acetate and Vinyl Benzoate.

Compound 2 (70:30 *cis*-*P,F*:*trans*-*P,F* mixture) reacts with VOAc in CD₂Cl₂ solution at 50 °C in a sealed tube to yield the insertion product (PO-OMe)Pd{CH₂CHF(OAc)}(lut) (5, Scheme 5). Under these conditions, 5 reacts further to form

Scheme 5. Reaction of 2 and VOAc and VOBz (R = Me or Ph)



the C-bound enolate complex (PO-OMe)Pd{CH₂C(=O)H}(lut) (6, >95% by ³¹P NMR) and acetyl fluoride (1 equiv vs 6; ¹⁹F NMR δ 50.5; ¹H NMR δ 2.2 (d, $^3J_{FH}$ = 7 Hz)) without observable intermediates.¹⁴ NMR monitoring experiments show that *cis*-*P,F*-2 reacts faster than *trans*-*P,F*-2. After 2.2 h at 50 °C, 100% of *cis*-*P,F*-2 and 67% of *trans*-*P,F*-2 had reacted resulting in an overall 78% conversion to 5. After 10 h, 5 and the remaining *trans*-*P,F*-2 had reacted resulting in >95% conversion to 6.

The ¹H NMR spectra of 5 are similar to those of VF insertion product 3. The signals for the PO-OMe and lut ligands of the two complexes are nearly identical, and the resonances for the PdCH₂CHF(OAc) ligand of 5 (δ 5.36 (dt, $^2J_{FH}$ = 58, $^3J_{HH}$ = 5.5, 1H, PdCH₂CHF(OAc)) and 1.06 (m, 2H, PdCH₂CHF(OAc)) are similar to those for the PdCH₂CHF₂ ligand in 3. The multiplicities and coupling constants are consistent with the presence of one fluorine atom in 5. The ¹H NMR spectrum of 6 contains a signal at δ 8.54 (t, $^3J_{HH}$ = 5 Hz) for the aldehydic hydrogen and a signal at δ 1.84 (dd, $^3J_{PH}$ = 5, $^3J_{HH}$ = 5) for the PdCH₂C(=O)H hydrogens.

The analogous reaction of 2 (42:58 *cis*-*P,F*:*trans*-*P,F* mixture) and vinyl benzoate (VOBz) in CD₂Cl₂ (60 °C, sealed tube) produced 6 in high yield along with PhC(=O)F (1 equiv vs 6; ¹⁹F NMR δ 17.4).

Crystals of 6·1.5(CH₂Cl₂) were obtained by layering pentane over the CD₂Cl₂ solution at the end of the reaction of 2 with VOAc and cooling the mixture at -40 °C. The

molecular structure and selected metrical data are shown in Figure 2. The C—C (1.468(9) Å) and C=O (1.216(8) Å)

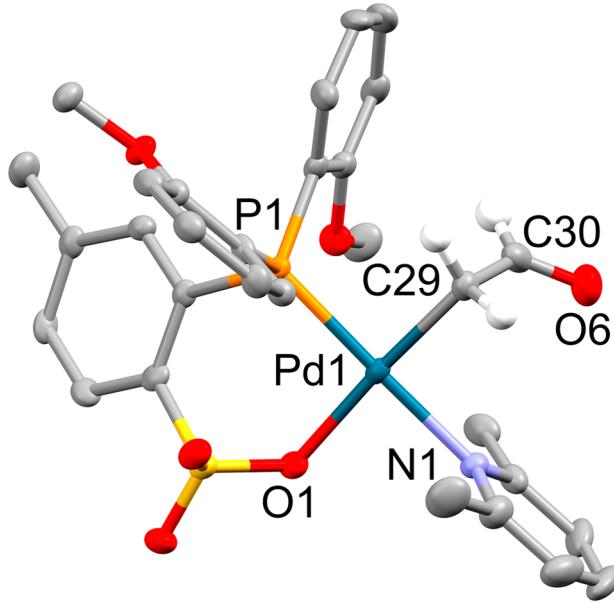


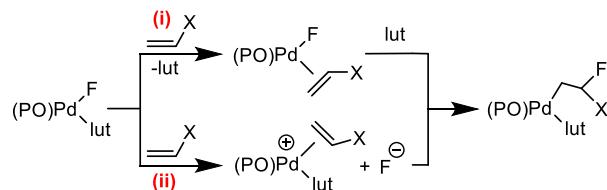
Figure 2. Molecular structure of **6**·1.5(CH₂Cl₂). Hydrogen atoms on the CH₂(C=O)H ligand were calculated using displacement parameters set to 1.2 times the isotropic equivalent of the displacement parameters of the bonded atoms. All other hydrogen atoms and the CH₂Cl₂ molecules are omitted for clarity. Bond lengths (Å) and angles (deg): Pd1—C29 2.065(6), Pd1—N1 2.121(5), Pd1—O1 2.114(4), Pd1—P1 2.2391(16), C29—C30 1.468(9), O6—C30 1.216(8), C29—Pd1—N1 90.1(2), N1—Pd1—O1 86.45(17), C29—Pd1—P1 88.96(18), O1—Pd1—P1 94.56(12).

bond distances in **6** are similar to those in aldehydes (1.51 and 1.19 Å),¹⁵ and other C-bound enolate complexes, such as (Tp^{*})Ir(CO){CH₂C(=O)H}₂ (Tp^{*} = HB(C₃N₂HMe₂)₃; 1.429(8) and 1.206(7) Å),¹⁶ and (tpy)Au{OAc^F}{CH₂C(=O)H} (tpy = 2-(*p*-tolyl)pyridine, OAc^F = OC(=O)CF₃; 1.468(3) and 1.212(3) Å).^{17,18}

The conversion of **5** to **6** may proceed by direct elimination of acetyl fluoride from **5**. Several similar reactions have been reported previously. Nova and Tilset reported that (tpy)Au(OAc^F){CH₂CH(OAc^F)₂}, which was generated in situ by two different routes, reacts to form the C-bound enolate complex (tpy)Au(OAc^F){CH₂C(=O)H} and trifluoroacetic anhydride, and proposed a direct elimination mechanism for this process.¹⁷ Similar acid-catalyzed eliminations have been used to interconvert 1,1-diacetates and the corresponding aldehydes and acetic anhydride.¹⁹

DFT Analysis of the Reaction of Model (PO)PdF(py) Complexes with VF and VBr. Two principal mechanisms are possible for the fluoropalladation of olefins by (PO-OMe)PdF(lut) (**2**): (i) substitution of lutidine by olefin followed by migratory insertion into the Pd—F bond, and (ii) substitution of fluoride by olefin to generate a (PO-OMe)Pd(olefin)(lut)⁺ species and free (solvated) F[−], followed by exo attack of F[−] on the olefin (Scheme 6).²⁰ These processes have been investigated by density functional theory (DFT) using the simple model complexes *cis*-P,F-(PH₂O)-PdF(py) (**C1**) and *trans*-P,F-(PH₂O)-PdF(py) (**C2**), which contain the parent phosphine-arenesulfonate ligand *o*-PH₂C₆H₄SO₃[−] (PH₂O[−]). This model ligand system was

Scheme 6. Possible Mechanisms for Fluoropalladation of CH₂=CHX by (PO-OMe)PdF(lut) (2**)**



selected to minimize the influence of steric effects arising from the phosphine substituents.^{21–23}

Figure 3 shows the computed potential energy surface for the migratory insertion of VF into the Pd—F bond of model complexes **C1** and **C2**. The highest barriers on this surface are those for isomerization of **C1** and **C2** and isomerization of **C3** to **C7** (not shown; see Supporting Information). Fluoropalladation proceeds by associative substitution of py by VF to generate *cis*-P,F and *trans*-P,F-(PH₂O)PdF(VF) (**C7**, **C3**) followed by insertion and trapping by py to afford *cis*-P,F and *trans*-P,F-(PH₂O)Pd(CH₂CHF₂)(py) (**C9**, **C5**). Consistent with the expected kinetic and thermodynamic *trans* effects arising from the presence of the strong phosphine and the weak sulfonate donors, the barrier for displacement of py by VF from **C1** is lower than that for **C2**, and the Pd—C distances in **C7** (where VF is *trans* to P; 2.302 and 2.396 Å) are longer than those in **C3** (where VF is *trans* to O; 2.196 and 2.170 Å). The conversions of **C1** and **C2** to **C7** and **C3** are endergonic by ca. 12–13 kcal/mol. Migratory insertion of **C7** to produce the β -F datively chelated, *trans*-P,C species **C8** has a modest barrier (19.0 kcal/mol) and is endergonic by 16 kcal/mol, while insertion of **C3** to produce *cis*-P,C species **C4** has a lower barrier (11.4 kcal/mol) and is nearly isoenergetic. Similar results were observed for analogous insertions of (PO)PdR(CH₂=CH₂) complexes.^{21b} **C9**, the initial product from fluoropalladation of **C1**, is computed to undergo facile isomerization to **C5** ($\Delta E^\ddagger = 24$ kcal/mol). These results are consistent with the experimental observations that the isomerization of *cis*-P,F- and *trans*-P,F-**2** is slow and *cis*-P,C-**4** is the sole product in the reaction of **2** with VF. These results show that the migratory insertion mechanism is a reasonable pathway for the reaction of **2** with VF.

Computational analysis of the exo attack mechanism (mechanism ii in Scheme 6) is challenging because the Coulombic attraction dominates the intermolecular forces during the gas phase geometry optimization steps. However, polarizable continuum models (PCMs) have been used successfully to model the influence of solvent on reactions and to model the attack of anions on olefins and alkynes coordinated to transition metals.^{17,24–27} Using this approach, the displacement of fluoride from **C1** and **C2** is predicted to be highly energetically unfavorable ($\Delta E > 46$ kcal/mol), ruling out this mechanism as a viable process (Figure 4).

The computed potential energy profiles for the insertion of the model VBr adducts *cis*-P,F- and *trans*-P,F-(PH₂O)PdF(VBr) (**C17**, **C13**) are shown in Figure 5. Consistent with the results for VF insertion, the insertion of the *cis*-P,F isomer **C17** to produce the β -F datively chelated, *trans*-P,C species **C18** has a barrier of 20.6 kcal/mol and is endergonic, while the corresponding reaction of the *trans*-P,F isomer **C13** to produce *cis*-P,C isomer **C14** has a low barrier (12.9 kcal/mol) and is nearly isoenergetic. **C14** undergoes fast isomerization to the β -Br-chelated isomer **C15** followed by β -Br elimination to

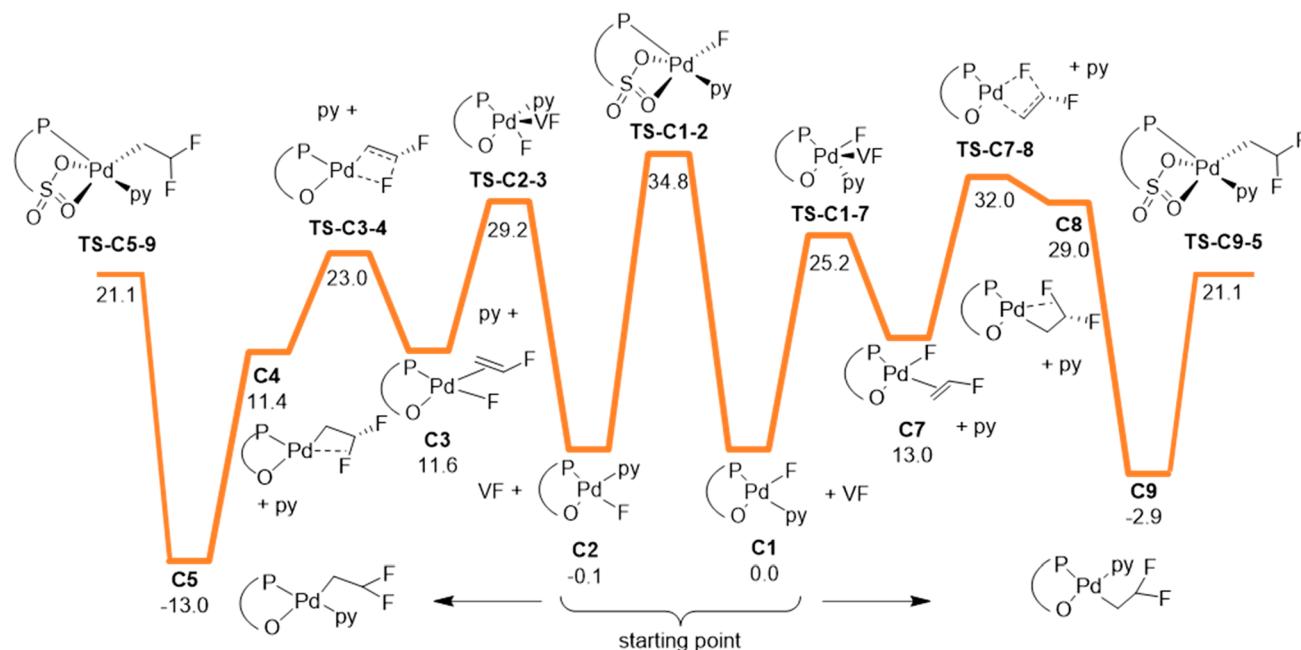


Figure 3. Computed potential energy surface for the reaction of model compounds *cis*-*P,F*-(PH_2O)PdF(py) (**C1**) and *trans*-*P,F*-(PH_2O)PdF(py) (**C2**) with VF. Potential energies are calculated in CH_2Cl_2 and reported in kcal/mol.

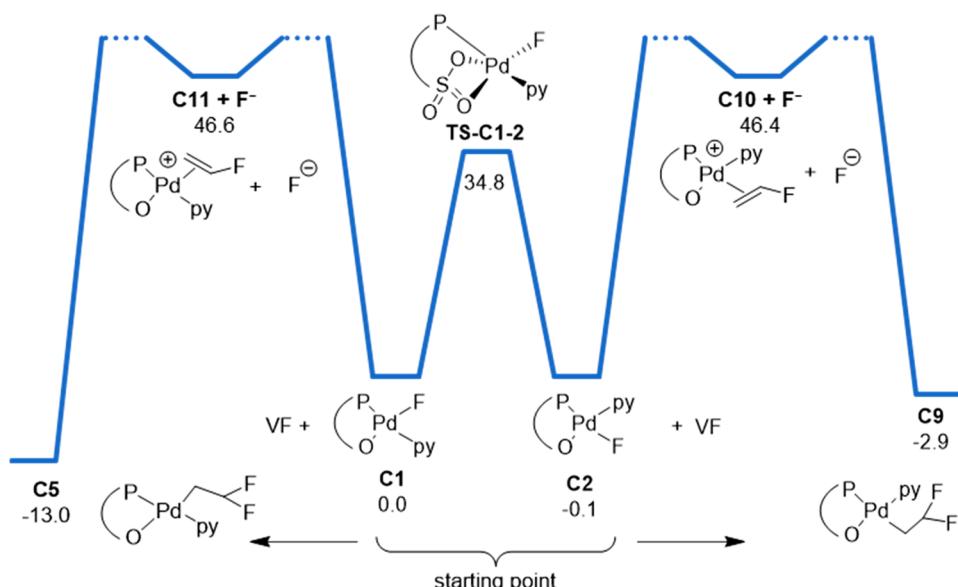


Figure 4. Potential energy surface for the reaction of *cis*-*P,F*-(PH_2O)PdF(py) (**C1**) and *trans*-*P,F*-(PH_2O)PdF(py) (**C2**) with VF via an exo attack mechanism. Potential energies are calculated in CH_2Cl_2 and reported in kcal/mol. Transition state energies are estimated at 5 kcal/mol greater than the energies of the intermediate species **C11** and **C10** and fluoride.

produce Pd–Br complex **C16**. Attempted location/optimization of the β -Br-chelated intermediate and β -Br elimination transition state for the *trans*-*P,C* isomer **C18** resulted in Pd bromide product **C12**, implying that the barrier to β -Br elimination is quite low. These results suggest that a migratory insertion/ β -Br elimination mechanism is a reasonable pathway for the observed formation of **1** from the reactions of **2** with VBr. Also, these results are consistent with DFT calculations for $[\text{L}_2\text{PdCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{Br}]^+$ ($\text{L}_2 = \text{H}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{PH}_2$), which predict that β -Br elimination is exothermic and proceeds with a small barrier of 1.9 kcal/mol.²⁸ In contrast, β -F elimination of $[\text{L}_2\text{PdCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{F}]^+$ is endothermic due to the strong C–F

bond and relatively weak Pd–F bond in the β -F elimination product and has a higher barrier of 14.0 kcal/mol.

CONCLUSION

The (phosphine-arenesulfonate)Pd(II) fluoride complex (PO-OMe)PdF(lut) (**2**) exists as a mixture of *cis*-*P,F* and *trans*-*P,F* isomers that interconvert slowly in solution and in the solid state. Compound **2** reacts with electron-deficient olefins to afford net 1,2-insertion products. The vinyl fluoride insertion product **3** is stable, while the vinyl bromide insertion product **4**, which was not observed, undergoes rapid β -Br elimination to afford (PO-OMe)PdBr(lut) (**1**) and vinyl fluoride. The vinyl acetate insertion product **5** undergoes elimination of

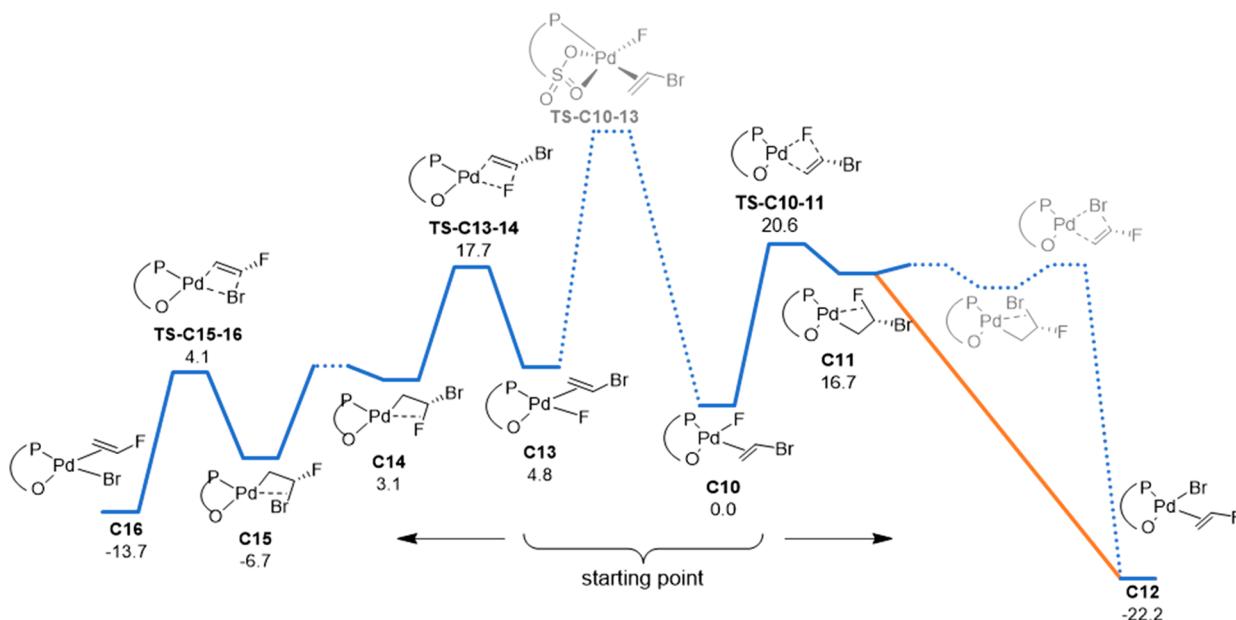


Figure 5. Potential energy surface for the insertion and β -Br elimination mechanism for the reaction of *cis*- PdF and *trans*- PdF -(PH_2O) $PdF(VBr)$ (**C17** and **C13**). Paths with dotted lines are estimates based on previous calculations. Attempted location/optimization of the β -Br-chelated intermediate and β -Br elimination transition state for the *trans*- PdC isomer **C18** resulted in Pd bromide product **C12**, implying that the barrier to β -Br elimination is quite low. Dotted lines show an estimate of the energetics of the reaction path that were not located.

acetyl fluoride to afford C-bound Pd -enolate complex **6**. DFT analysis of the reaction of the model complexes *cis*- PdF - and *trans*- PdF -(PH_2O) $PdF(py)$ (**C1** and **C2**, $PH_2O^- = o$ - $PH_2C_6H_4SO_3^-$) with VF supports a mechanism involving substitution of lutidine by VF followed by migratory insertion into the Pd -F bond. DFT analysis of the reaction of the model complexes *cis*- PdF - and *trans*- PdF -(PH_2O) $PdF(VBr)$ (**C17**, **C13**) supports an insertion/ β -Br elimination mechanism. Taken together with the previous observation of ethylene and VF insertion of $(PO^{Bp,OMe})Pd(CH_2CHF_2)(lut)$ (**B**),⁶ these results suggest that olefin insertion is a general reactivity mode for $(PO)Pd$ fluoride complexes. The high insertion reactivity of $(PO)PdF$ species reflects the nucleophilic character of the Pd -F ligand.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

General Procedures. All experiments were performed using drybox or Schlenk techniques under a nitrogen atmosphere unless noted otherwise. Nitrogen was purified by passage through Q-5 oxygen scavenger and activated molecular sieves. CH_2Cl_2 , Et_2O , and THF were dried by passage through activated alumina. Pentane was purified by passage through BASF R3-11 oxygen scavenger and activated alumina. CD_2Cl_2 and $CDCl_3$ were dried over and distilled from P_2O_5 or used as received from an ampule. 7BuLi solution (1.6 or 2.5 M in hexanes), 2-bromoanisole, $(COD)PdBr_2$, 2,6-lutidine (99+%), CsF , vinyl bromide (VBr , 1 M, THF), vinyl acetate ($VOAc$), and $[NBu_4]Br$ were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. $[NBu_4]Br$ was recrystallized from hot toluene and $VOAc$ was distilled from $CaCl_2$ before being stored in a glovebox. Other materials were used without further purification. Vinyl fluoride was purchased from Synquest Laboratories and used as received. $HP^+(2-OMe-Ph)_2(2-SO_3^-5-Me-Ph)PdBr$ was prepared by the literature procedure.²⁹

The fluoride ligands in Pd -F complexes are highly basic and nucleophilic and a locus for H bonding.^{13b} In solution, Pd -F complexes can generate free fluoride (¹⁹F NMR δ -129)³⁰ and can be hydrolyzed by trace water to form HF, which can react with borosilicate glass to generate fluorosilicate species (¹⁹F NMR δ -153).³¹ To avoid these problems, polypropylene (PP) containers

and funnels and Teflon filtration flasks and NMR tube liners were used for the synthesis, storage, analysis, and reactions of **2**.

NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker Avance II+ 500 or DRX400 spectrometers at ambient temperature unless otherwise indicated. ¹H and ¹³C chemical shifts are reported relative to $SiMe_4$ and internally referenced to residual ¹H and ¹³C solvent resonances. ³¹P chemical shifts are externally referenced to 85% H_3PO_4 (δ 0.0). ¹⁹F chemical shifts are externally referenced to $BF_3(OEt_2)$ (δ -153 for ¹⁹F).

Electrospray mass spectra (ESI-MS) were recorded using an Agilent 6224 TOF-MS (high resolution) instrument. The observed isotope patterns closely matched calculated isotope patterns. The listed *m/z* value corresponds to the most intense peak in the isotope pattern.

Synthesis of Complexes. $\{P(2-OMe-Ph)_2(2-SO_3^-5-Me-Ph)\}PdBr$ -(2,6-lutidine) (**1**, $(PO-OMe)PdBr(lut)$). A solution of $HP^+(2-OMe-Ph)_2(2-SO_3^-5-Me-Ph)$ (2.41 g, 5.80 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (60 mL) was added dropwise to a solution of $(COD)PdBr_2$ (2.16 g, 5.80 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (30 mL). The solution was stirred for 1.5 h at room temperature. Lutidine (1.34 mL, 11.6 mmol) was added dropwise and the mixture was stirred for 30 min at room temperature. Pentane (600 mL) was added and an orange precipitate formed. The orange powder was collected by filtration, washed with pentane, and recrystallized from CH_2Cl_2/Et_2O (100 mL/300 mL) at -40 °C to afford orange crystals, which were identified as $(PO-OMe)PdBr(lut) \cdot CH_2Cl_2$ (**1**· CH_2Cl_2) by X-ray crystallography. The crystals were collected by filtration and dried under a vacuum to afford **1**. Yield 3.62 g (86.2% based on $(COD)PdBr_2$). X-ray quality orange crystals identified as **1**· CH_2Cl_2 were also grown from a concentrated CH_2Cl_2 solution of **1** at room temperature. The atom numbering scheme used in the NMR assignments of **1** is shown in Figure 6. ¹H NMR (CD_2Cl_2) δ 8.03 (br s, 2H, H^6), 7.83 (dd, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, $^4J_{PH} = 5$, 1H, H^9), 7.62 (t, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, 1H, H^{15}), 7.60 (t, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, 2H, H^4), 7.32 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, 1H, H^{10}), 7.16 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, 2H, H^{14}), 7.12 (d, $^3J_{PH} = 14$, 1H, H^{12}), 7.11 (t, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, 2H, H^5), 6.79 (dd, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, $^4J_{PH} = 5$, 2H, H^3), 3.67 (s, 6H, H^{18}), 3.31 (s, 6H, H^{16}), 2.29 (s, 3H, H^{17}). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CD_2Cl_2) δ 160.6 (C^2), 159.4 (C^{13}), 143.9 (d, $^2J_{PC} = 13$, C^8), 139.6 (C^{11}), 139.3 (C^{15}), 138.8 (br, C^6), 135.4 (C^{12}), 134.4 (C^4), 131.7 (C^{10}), 127.2 (d, $^2J_{PC} = 9$, C^9), 126.6 (d, $^1J_{PC} = 53$, C^7), 123.4 (C^{14}), 120.7 (d, $^3J_{PC} = 12$, C^5), 115.0 (d, $^1J_{PC} = 64$, C^1), 111.8 (C^3), 55.5 (C^{18}), 26.0 (C^{16}), 21.4 (C^{17}). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CD_2Cl_2) δ 4.6 (s). HRMS (ESI mode; *m/z*

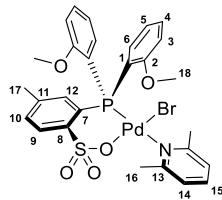
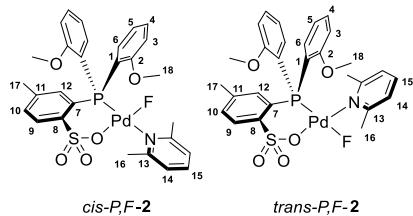


Figure 6. Atom numbering scheme for 1.

z) calcd for $[C_{28}H_{30}BrNO_5PPdS]^{+}$ ($[M + H]^+$) 709.9792, found 709.9788.

$\{P(2\text{-OMe-}Ph)_2(2\text{-SO}_3\text{-5-Me-}Ph)\}PdF(2,6\text{-lutidine})$ (**2**, (PO-OMe)-PdF(lut)). In a dark glovebox, AgF (0.208 g, 1.64 mmol) was added to an orange solution of **1** (0.397 g, 0.548 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (15 mL) in a foil-wrapped PP vial. An excess of AgF was used because AgF is only sparingly soluble in CH_2Cl_2 . The mixture was stirred for 20 h at room temperature. The dark brown slurry was gravity filtered through filter paper into a Teflon filtration flask to remove the brown-black AgX powder. The volatiles were removed under a vacuum and the resulting tan solid was transferred to a PP vial and stored at -40°C . Yield: 0.338 g, 95.3%. The crude material was enriched in *cis*-*P*,*F*-**2** (82:18 *cis*:*trans*-*P*,*F*), but a 44:56 *cis*:*trans*-*P*,*F* mixture formed over 1 month while the solid was stored at -40°C . The atom numbering scheme used in the NMR assignments of **2** is shown in Figure 7. NMR data

Figure 7. Atom numbering scheme for *cis*-*P*,*F* and *trans*-*P*,*F*-**2**.

for *cis*-*P*,*F*-**2**: ^1H NMR (CD_2Cl_2) δ 7.81 (dd, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, $^4J_{PH} = 5$, 1H, H^9), 7.75 (br s, 2H, H^6), 7.65 (t, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, 2H, H^4), 7.63 (t, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, 1H, H^{15}), 7.37 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, 1H, H^{10}), 7.16 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, 2H, H^{14}), 7.11 (d, $^3J_{PH} = 6.5$, 1H, H^{12}), 7.06 (t, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, 2H, H^5), 7.03 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, 2H, H^3), 3.71 (s, 6H, H^{18}), 3.45 (s, 6H, H^{16}), 2.32 (s, 3H, H^{17}). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CD_2Cl_2) δ 161.0 (C^2), 159.6 (C^{13}), 143.5 (br s, C^8), 140.1 (C^{11}), 139.4 (C^{15}), 137.5 (C^6), 136.3 (C^{12}), 134.6 (C^4), 132.0 (C^{10}), 127.3 (C^9), 126.7 (d, $^1J_{PC} = 52$, C^7), 123.2 (C^{14}), 121.4 (d, $^3J_{PC} = 11$, C^5), 114.7 (d, $^1J_{PC} = 56$, C^1), 111.8 (C^3), 55.8 (C^{18}), 24.0 (C^{16}), 21.4 (C^{17}). $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CD_2Cl_2) δ -4.7 (d, $^2J_{PF} = 16$). $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CD_2Cl_2 , -15°C) δ -436 (d, $^2J_{PF} = 16$). NMR data for *trans*-*P*,*F*-**2**: ^1H NMR (CD_2Cl_2) δ 7.96 (dd, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, $J_{PH} = 5$, 1H, H^9), 7.75 (br s, 2H, H^6), 7.52 (t, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, 2H, H^4), 7.46 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, 1H, H^{10}), 7.36 (t, $^3J_{HH} = 7$, 1H, H^{15}), 7.11 (d, $^3J_{PH} = 6.5$, 1H, H^{12}), 7.10 (t, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, 2H, H^5), 6.81 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 7$, 2H, H^{14}), 6.74 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, 2H, H^3), 3.43 (s, 6H, H^{18}), 3.06 (s, 6H, H^{16}), 2.24 (s, 3H, H^{17}). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CD_2Cl_2) δ 161.2 (C^{13}), 160.4 (C^2), 145.6 (d, $^2J_{PC} = 14$, C^8), 140.4 (C^{11}), 139.5 (C^{15}), 137.5 (C^6), 135.4 (C^4), 133.9 (C^{12}), 133.5 (C^{10}), 128.0 (C^9), 128.0 (d, $^1J_{PC} = 52$, C^7), 122.9 (C^{14}), 121.8 (d, $^3J_{PC} = 7$, C^5), 114.7 (d, $^1J_{PC} = 56$, C^1), 111.8 (C^3), 55.4 (C^{18}), 27.1 (C^{16}), 21.3 (C^{17}). $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CD_2Cl_2) δ 3.0 (d, $^2J_{PF} = 210$). $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CD_2Cl_2) δ -267 (d, $^2J_{PF} = 210$). HRMS (ESI mode; m/z) calcd for $[C_{28}H_{29}NO_5PPdS]^{+}$ ($[M - F]^+$) 628.0544, found 628.0560.

$\{P(2\text{-OMe-}Ph)_2(2\text{-SO}_3\text{-5-Me-}Ph)\}Pd(CH_2CF_2H)(2,6\text{-lutidine})$ (**3**, (PO-OMe)Pd CH_2CF_2H (lut)). A Teflon NMR tube liner was charged with **2** (10 mg, 0.015 mmol, 39:61 *cis*-*P*,*F*:*trans*-*P*,*F*) and CD_2Cl_2 (0.3 mL). The liner was sealed in a J-Young tube. Vinyl fluoride (20 mL gas bulb, 129 mm Hg of VF, 1.5 equiv) was condensed into the tube. The tube was warmed to room temperature and monitored by NMR. After 20 h, *cis*-*P*,*F*-**2** was completely consumed and a 54:46 mixture of *trans*-*P*,*F*-**2** and **3** was present. The tube was heated at 40°C for 22.5 h, during which time the remaining *trans*-*P*,*F*-**2** was converted to **3**.

The atom numbering scheme for **3** is shown in Figure 8. Figure S9 shows NMR monitoring of this reaction. The NMR spectra used to

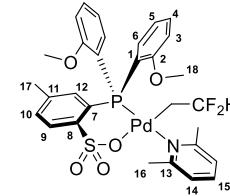


Figure 8. Atom numbering scheme for 3.

make assignments for **3** are those from the end of this reaction mixture (>90% pure, Figure S11). Iterative line fitting using gNMR 5.0 was done on the resonance at 1.06 ppm to determine coupling constants. ^1H NMR (CD_2Cl_2) δ 7.87 (dd, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, $^4J_{PH} = 5$, 1H, H^9), 7.74 (br s, 2H, H^6), 7.66 (t, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, 1H, H^{15}), 7.60 (t, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, 2H, H^4), 7.30 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, 1H, H^{10}), 7.19 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, 2H, H^{14}), 7.17 (d, $^3J_{PH} = 13$, 1H, H^{12}), 7.11 (t, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, 2H, H^5), 7.01 (dd, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, $^4J_{PH} = 5$, 2H, H^3), 4.84 (tt, $^2J_{FH} = 57$, $^3J_{HH} = 5$, 1H, $PdCH_2CF_2$), 3.66 (s, 6H, H^{18}), 3.25 (s, 6H, H^{16}), 2.28 (s, 3H, H^{17}), 1.06 (ttd (apparent tt), $^3J_{FH} = 22$, $^3J_{PH} = 6$, $^3J_{HH} = 5$, 2H, $PdCH_2CF_2$). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CD_2Cl_2) δ 160.8 (C^2), 159.5 (C^{13}), 145.2 (d, $^2J_{PC} = 15$, C^8), 139.2 (C^{11}), 139.1 (C^{15}), 138.0 (C^6), 135.4 (C^{12}), 134.2 (C^4), 131.3 (C^{10}), 127.7 (C^9), 126.7 (d, $^1J_{PC} = 52$, C^7), 123.2 (C^{14}), 121.1 (d, $^3J_{PC} = 11$, C^5), 120.1 (t, $^1J_{CF} = 237$, $PdCH_2CF_2$), 114.7 (d, $^1J_{PC} = 56$, C^1), 111.6 (C^3), 55.4 (C^{18}), 26.0 (C^{16}), 21.4 (C^{17}), 12.7 (t, $^2J_{CF} = 14$, $PdCH_2CF_2$). $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CD_2Cl_2) δ 15.8 (s). ^{19}F NMR (CD_2Cl_2) δ -98.3 (d, $^2J_{FH} = 57$). HRMS (ESI mode; m/z) calcd for $[C_{53}H_{56}F_4NO_{10}P_2Pd_2S_2]^{+}$ ($[2M - \text{lutidine} + H]^+$) 1282.0845, found 1282.0818.

$\{P(2\text{-OMe-}Ph)_2(2\text{-SO}_3\text{-5-Me-}Ph)\}Pd\{CH_2CF(OAc)H\}(2,6\text{-lutidine})$ (**5**, (PO-OMe)Pd $\{CH_2CF(OAc)H\}$ (lut)). A Teflon NMR tube liner was charged with **2** (21 mg, 0.033 mmol, 70:30 *cis*-*P*,*F*:*trans*-*P*,*F*) and CD_2Cl_2 (0.25 mL). $VOAc$ (46 μL , 0.49 mmol) was added via microsyringe and the Teflon liner was sealed in an NMR tube. The tube was heated at 50°C for 2.3 h, during which time 78% **2** was converted to **5** (by ^{31}P NMR). NMR assignments for **5** were made by 1- and 2-D NMR analyses of this mixture. The numbering scheme for **5** is shown in Figure 9. ^1H NMR (CD_2Cl_2) δ 7.86 (dd, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, $^4J_{PH} =$

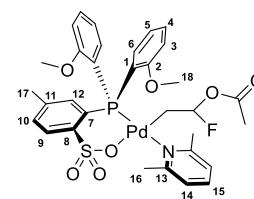


Figure 9. Atom numbering scheme for 5.

= 5, 1H, H^9), 7.73 (br s, 2H, H^6), 7.65 (t, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, 1H, H^{15}), 7.57 (t, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, 2H, H^4), 7.30 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, 1H, H^{10}), 7.17 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, 2H, H^{14}), 7.16 (d, $^3J_{PH} = 12$, 1H, H^{12}), 7.09 (t, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, 2H, H^5), 7.00 (dd, $^3J_{HH} = 8$, $^4J_{PH} = 5$, 2H, H^3), 5.36 (dt, $^2J_{FH} = 58$, $^3J_{HH} = 5$, 1H, $PdCH_2CHF(OAc)$), 3.66 (s, 3H, H^{18}), 3.65 (s, 3H, H^{18}), 3.17 (s, 3H, H^{16}), 3.16 (s, 3H, H^{16}), 2.26 (s, 3H, H^{17}), 2.26 (s, 3H, $PdCH_2CHF(OC(O)CH_3)$), 1.06 (m, 2H, $PdCH_2CHF(OAc)$). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CD_2Cl_2) δ 168.8 ($PdCH_2CHF(OC(O)CH_3)$), 160.9 (C^2), 159.4 (C^{13}), 145.8 (C^8), 139.0 (C^{11}), 138.9 (C^{15}), 138.2 (C^6), 135.4 (C^{12}), 134.1 (C^4), 131.3 (C^{10}), 127.7 (C^9), 126.8 (d, $^1J_{PC} = 51$, C^7), 123.2 (C^{14}), 121.0 (d, $^3J_{PC} = 10$, C^5), 114.8 (d, $^1J_{PC} = 54$, C^1), 111.7 (C^3), 105.6 (d, $^1J_{FC} = 220$, $PdCH_2CHF(OAc)$), 55.4 (C^{18}), 30.1 ($PdCH_2CHF(OC(O)CH_3)$), 26.1 (C^{16}), 21.3 (C^{17}), 12.4 (d, $^2J_{FC} = 17$, $PdCH_2CHF(OAc)$). $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CD_2Cl_2) δ 16.7 (s). ^{19}F NMR (CD_2Cl_2) δ -108 (s).

$\{P(2\text{-OMe-}Ph)_2(2\text{-SO}_3\text{-5-Me-}Ph)\}Pd\{CH_2C(=O)H\}(2,6\text{-lutidine})$ (**6**, (PO-OMe)Pd $\{CH_2C(=O)H\}$ (lut)). A Teflon NMR tube liner was

charged with *cis*-*P,F:trans-P,F*-2 (21 mg, 0.033 mmol, 66:34 *cis*-*P,F:trans-P,F*) and CD_2Cl_2 (0.25 mL). VOAc (46 μL , 0.49 mmol) was added via microsyringe and the Teflon liner was sealed in an NMR tube. The tube was heated at 60 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 12 h. NMR analysis revealed that **6** had formed in >95% yield (by ^{31}P NMR) along with acetyl fluoride (1 equiv vs **6**; ^{19}F NMR δ 50.5; ^1H NMR δ 2.2 (d, $^3J_{\text{FH}} = 7$ Hz)). VF (<5% vs **6** by ^{19}F NMR and trace in ^1H NMR), and **6** (<5% by ^{31}P NMR) were also observed. X-ray quality crystals of **6**-1.5(CH_2Cl_2) were isolated (72% yield) by layering pentane onto this reaction mixture and cooling the tube to -40 $^{\circ}\text{C}$. The numbering

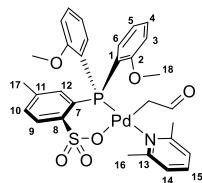


Figure 10. Atom numbering scheme for **6**.

scheme for **6** is shown in Figure 10. ^1H NMR (CD_2Cl_2) δ 8.54 (t, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 5$, 1H, $\text{PdCH}_2\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{H}$), 7.86 (dd, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8$, $^4J_{\text{PH}} = 5$, 1H, H⁹), 7.71 (br s, 2H, H⁶), 7.66 (t, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8$, 1H, H¹⁵), 7.57 (t, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8$, 2H, H⁴), 7.29 (d, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8$, 1H, H¹⁰), 7.18 (d, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8$, 2H, H¹⁴), 7.12 (d, $^3J_{\text{PH}} = 9$, 1H, H¹²), 7.10 (t, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8$, 2H, H⁵), 7.01 (dd, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8$, $^4J_{\text{PH}} = 5$, 2H, H³), 3.69 (s, 6H, H¹⁸), 3.14 (s, 6H, H¹⁶), 2.28 (s, 3H, H¹⁷), 1.84 (t, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 5$, $^3J_{\text{PH}} = 5$, 2H, $\text{PdCH}_2\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{H}$). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CD_2Cl_2) δ 208.8 ($\text{PdCH}_2\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{H}$), 160.9 (C²), 159.4 (C¹³), 145.8 (C⁸), 139.1 (C¹¹), 137.8 (C¹⁵, C⁶), 135.1 (C¹²), 134.2 (C⁴), 131.5 (C¹⁰), 128.2 (C⁹), 127.8 (d, $^1J_{\text{PC}} = 50$, C⁷), 123.4 (C¹⁴), 121.1 (d, $J_{\text{PC}} = 10$, C⁵), 114.8 (d, $^1J_{\text{PC}} = 52$, C¹), 111.7 (C³), 55.5 (C¹⁸), 25.8 (C¹⁶), 25.1 (C¹⁷), 21.4 ($\text{PdCH}_2\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{H}$). $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CD_2Cl_2) δ 13.1 (s). HRMS (ESI mode; m/z) calcd for $[\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{33}\text{NO}_6\text{PPdS}]^+$ ($[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$) 672.0807, found 672.0814.

ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge on the ACS Publications website at DOI: [10.1021/acs.organomet.9b00545](https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.organomet.9b00545).

Additional experimental procedures, NMR data for compounds, computational details ([PDF](#))

All computed molecule Cartesian coordinates in a format for convenient visualization ([XYZ](#))

Accession Codes

CCDC 1944302 and 1944306 contain the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif, or by emailing data_request@ccdc.cam.ac.uk, or by contacting The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK; fax: +44 1223 336033.

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Author Contributions

Rebecca Black conducted the experimental work, Stefan Kilyanek carried out the DFT computations, Erik Reinhart

performed HRMS experiments, and Richard Jordan directed the project.

Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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CH₂), and the barrier to insertion for *cis*-*P,R*-(PH₂O)PdR(CH₂=CH₂) (34 kcal/mol) is higher than that for *trans*-*P,R*-(PH₂O)PdR(CH₂=CH₂) (13 kcal/mol). The preferred pathway for the reaction of *cis*-*P,R*-(PH₂O)PdR(CH₂=CH₂) is isomerization to the *trans*-*P,R* isomer followed by insertion. Displacement of py from (PH₂O)PdMe(py) by ethylene is modestly endergonic (*cis*-*P,Me* isomer: $\Delta G = +7$ kcal/mol; *trans*-*P,Me* isomer: $\Delta G = +2$). These results are in line with previous results for analogous model and real (PO)PdR catalysts. (b) Noda, S.; Nakamura, A.; Kochi, T.; Chung, L. W.; Morokuma, K.; Nozaki, K. Mechanistic Studies on the Formation of Linear Polyethylene Chain Catalyzed by Palladium Phosphine-Sulfonate Complexes: Experiment and Theoretical Studies. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2009, 131, 14088–14100. (c) Nakano, R.; Chung, L. W.; Watanabe, Y.; Okuno, Y.; Okumura, Y.; Ito, S.; Morokuma, K.; Nozaki, K. Elucidating the Key Role of Phosphine-Sulfonate Ligands in Palladium-Catalyzed Ethylene Polymerization: Effect of Ligand Structure on the Molecular Weight and Linearity of Polyethylene. *ACS Catal.* 2016, 6, 6101–6113. (d) Black, R. E.; Jordan, R. F. Synthesis and Reactivity of Palladium(II) Alkyl Complexes That Contain Phosphine-Cyclopentanesulfonate Ligands. *Organometallics* 2017, 36, 3415–3428.

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