

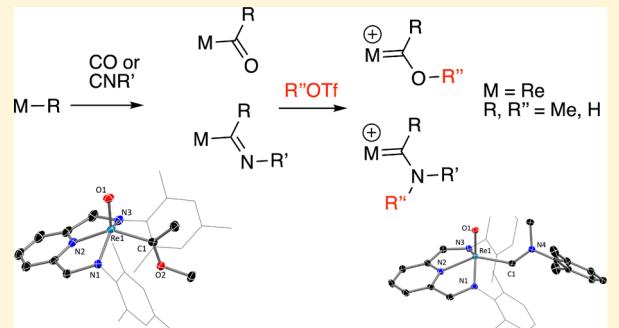
## Synthesis and Reactivity of Re(III) and Re(V) Fischer Carbenes

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### Supporting Information

**ABSTRACT:** Direct insertion of CO and isocyanides, RNC, into Re–R bonds results in high-oxidation-state acyl and iminoacyl complexes that can be treated with an electrophile to generate rare examples of rhenium(III) and oxorhenium(V) Fischer carbenes. Experimental and computational studies suggest that, as expected, the carbene ligands are electrophilic at carbon. Further, an interesting correlation was observed between the  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR chemical shift and the natural charge at the carbene carbon, which suggests that the electrophilicity of the ligand can be tuned, with the substituent attached to the carbene carbon having the most influence.

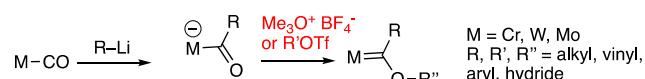


## INTRODUCTION

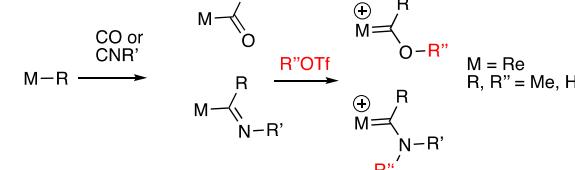
Fischer carbenes are ubiquitous and usually contain transition metals in low oxidation states with  $\pi$ -acceptor ancillary ligands.<sup>1–3</sup> This is primarily because these complexes are usually accessible from low-valent metal carbonyl species that are treated with main-group organometallic reagents to yield acyl metalates, followed by treatment with an electrophilic reagent, as outlined in Scheme 1.<sup>1</sup>

### Scheme 1. Synthetic Route to Fischer Carbene Complexes

#### Previous work



#### This work

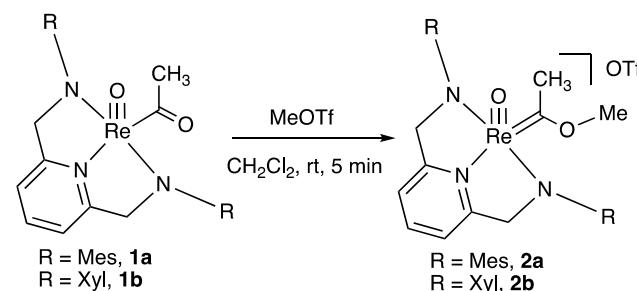


In contrast, Fischer carbene complexes with metals in high or intermediate oxidation states are quite rare, possibly because of the inability of metals to stabilize  $\pi$ -accepting carbonyl ligands.<sup>4–6</sup> Our group has recently described a unique mechanism for the generation of rhenium(V) acyl complexes that does not involve the prior formation of a carbonyl species but instead involves the direct insertion of CO into a Re–R (R = H, alkyl, aryl) bond.<sup>7–10</sup> In this paper we show that this strategy can be utilized to generate rare Re(III) and Re(V) Fischer carbene complexes.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**Synthesis of Re(III) and Re(V) Carbenes.** The reaction of the complexes  $(\text{O})\text{Re}(\text{DAP})(\text{C}(\text{O})\text{CH}_3)$  (DAP = 2,6-bis((aryl amino)methyl)pyridine; aryl = mesityl (**1a**) xylol (**1b**)) with methyl triflate resulted in the formation of the cationic rhenium carbene complexes **2** (Scheme 2).

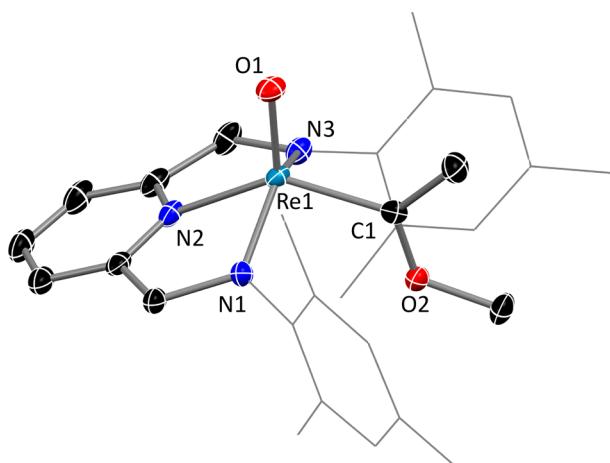
### Scheme 2. Synthesis of Carbene Complexes 2



Slow diffusion of pentane into a concentrated solution of **2a** in dichloromethane led to X-ray-quality crystals that confirmed the addition of the methyl group to the acyl oxygen (Figure 1). The rhenium center is in an almost ideal square-pyramidal environment ( $\tau = 0.06$ )<sup>11</sup> with a  $\text{Re}=\text{C}$  bond distance of 1.980(3) Å. This bond length is shorter than those of two other heteroatom-substituted oxorhenium carbene complexes reported in the literature. For example, the complex  $[\text{Re}(\text{O})\text{Cl}_3[\text{CN}(\text{H})\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{--O}]_2\cdot\text{OPPh}_3]$ <sup>12</sup> is reported to have a  $\text{Re}=\text{C}$  bond length of 2.095(4) Å, while this bond length is reported to be 2.080(5) Å for the complex  $[\text{ReOCl}_2(\text{cbt})(\text{PPh}_3)]$  (cbt = ((benzothiazol-2-ylamino)methylene)).

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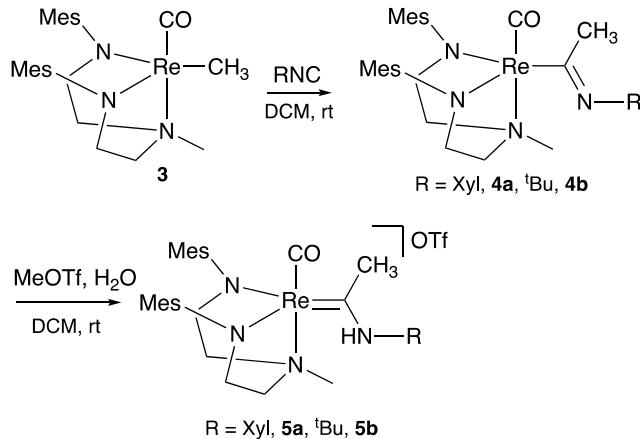


**Figure 1.** X-ray crystal structure of **2a**. Ellipsoids are at the 50% probability level. Hydrogen atoms and triflate counterion are omitted, and the mesityl substituents on the diamido ligand are depicted in wireframe for clarity. Selected bond lengths (Å) and bond angles (deg): Re1–O1, 1.695(2); Re1–N1, 1.957(3); Re1–N2, 2.063(3); Re–N3, 1.961(3); Re1–C1, 1.980(3); O2–C1, 1.302(4); O1–Re1–N3, 110.62(12); O1–Re1–N1, 111.76(12); N3–Re1–N1, 136.31(11); O1–Re1–N2, 115.91(13); N3–Re1–N2, 76.45(12); N1–Re1–N2, 76.09(11); O1–Re1–C1, 103.93(12); N3–Re1–C1, 90.26(12); N1–Re1–C1, 89.59(12); N2–Re1–C1, 140.17(11).

benzamide).<sup>13</sup> In addition, our group has reported that the complex  $[\text{DAAmRe}(\text{O})(\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)\text{OBF}_3)]$  (DAAm = *N,N*-bis(2-arylaminooethyl)methylamine; aryl =  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5$ ) has a rhenium–carbene bond length of 2.0074(18) Å.<sup>14</sup>

In an analogous reaction, treatment of the Re(III) methyl complex  $(\text{CO})\text{Re}(\text{DAAm})(\text{CH}_3)$  (**3**) with alkyl and aryl isocyanide reagents followed by treatment with methyl triflate followed by  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  results in the isolation of the Re(III) carbene complexes **5a,b** (Scheme 3). These reactions proceed by

### Scheme 3. Synthesis of Re(III) Carbene Complexes

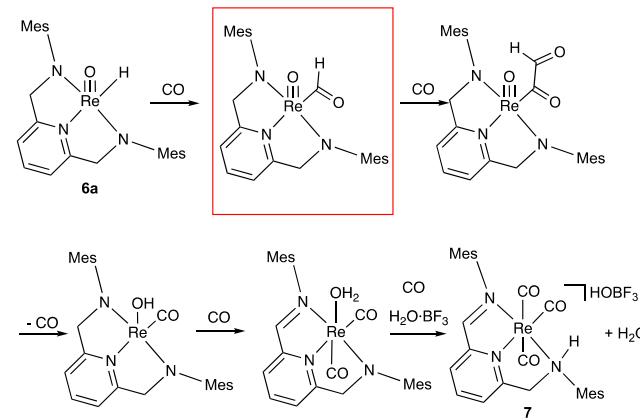


insertion of isocyanide into the  $\text{Re}-\text{CH}_3$  bond to form iminoacyl complexes **4a** ( $\text{R} = \text{Mes}$ ) and **4b** ( $\text{R} = \text{Xyl}$ ). Complexes **4a,b** were not isolated but were identified by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectroscopy (see the Supporting Information). These complexes were then converted quantitatively to complexes **5a,b**.

In previous work from our group we have shown that the oxorhenium hydride  $(\text{O})\text{ReDAP}(\text{H})$  (**6a**) is reduced with CO to produce the Re(1) tricarbonyl **7** (Scheme 4).<sup>7</sup> The proposed

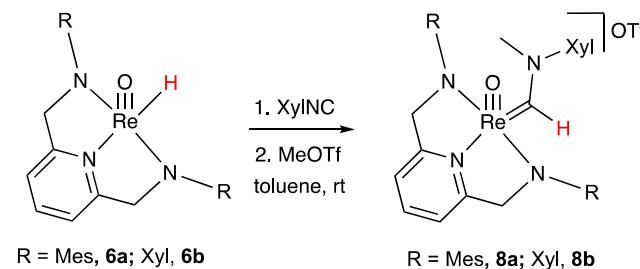
mechanism for this reaction involves insertion of CO into the  $\text{Re}-\text{H}$  bond.

### Scheme 4. Mechanism for the Reductive Carbonylation of Rhenium Hydride **3**



Given that isocyanides are isoelectronic with CO and in many cases exhibit similar reactivity, we explored the insertion of isocyanides into the  $\text{Re}-\text{H}$  bond. Thus, treatment of **6** ( $\text{R} = \text{Mes}$  (**6a**), Xyl (**6b**)) with XylNC, followed by methyl triflate ( $\text{MeOTf}$ ), results in the isolation of the oxorhenium carbene complexes **8a** ( $\text{R} = \text{Mes}$ ) and **8b** ( $\text{R} = \text{Xyl}$ ) (Scheme 5).

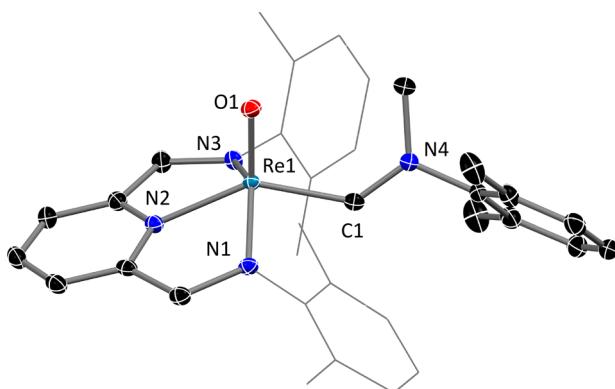
### Scheme 5. Re(V) Carbenes from the Insertion of Isocyanides into Re–H Bonds



Complexes **8** are rare examples of carbenes featuring an oxo ligand and a heterosubstituted carbene ligand. Other examples include the neutral complex  $\text{Tp}'\text{W}(\text{O})(\text{I})(=\text{C}(\text{R})\text{OR}')$  ( $\text{Tp}' = \text{hydridotris(3,5-dimethylpyrazolyl)borate}$ ;  $\text{R} = \text{Me, Ph}$ ;  $\text{R}' = \text{H, SiPh}_2\text{Me}$ ) and the cationic hydroxy carbene complex  $[\text{Tp}'\text{W}(\text{O})(\text{NCMe})(=\text{C}(\text{Me})\text{OH})]^+$ , reported by the Templeton group.<sup>4</sup> In addition,  $[\text{W}(\text{C}(\text{Ph})\text{C}_3\text{H}_3\text{N}_2\text{BHPz}_2)](\text{O})(\text{Br}_2)$  was reported by Mayr and co-workers.<sup>15</sup> Examples of actinide<sup>16</sup> complexes with N-heterocyclic carbenes (NHCs) have also been reported.

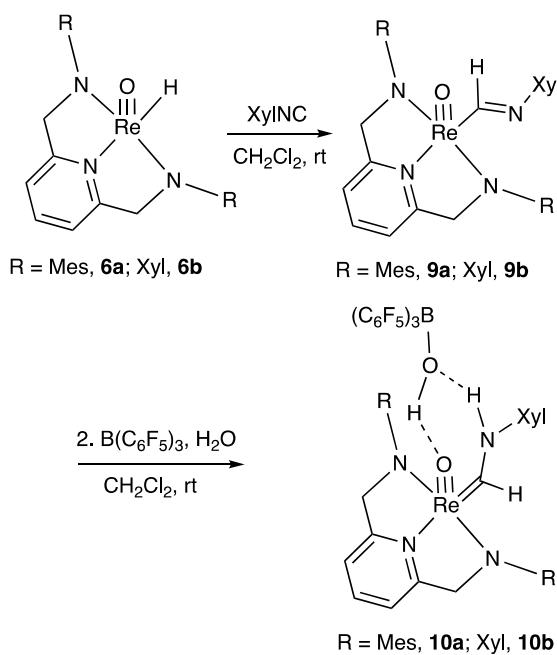
X-ray-quality crystals of **8b** were obtained by the slow diffusion of pentane into a methylene chloride solution of the complex (Figure 2). The rhenium atom is in an almost ideal square-pyramidal environment ( $\tau = 0.09$ )<sup>11</sup> with the  $\text{Re}-\text{C}(\text{carbene})$  bond ( $\text{Re1}-\text{C1}, 2.021(2)$  Å) within range (1.85–2.205 Å) for a rhenium carbene.

Analogously to Scheme 3, the reaction presumably proceeds by insertion of XylNC into a  $\text{Re}-\text{R}$  ( $\text{R} = \text{H}$ ) bond to form an iminoformyl group, which reacts with a Lewis acid ( $\text{MeOTf}$ ) to generate the carbene complex. This type of reactivity is also observed in the reaction of  $\text{B}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_3/\text{H}_2\text{O}$  with **6** (Scheme 6). In the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum for the product **10a**, two doublets at



**Figure 2.** X-ray crystal structure of **8b**. Thermal ellipsoids are at the 50% probability level. Hydrogen atoms and triflate counterion are omitted, and the xylidyl substituents on the diamido ligand are depicted in wireframe for clarity. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (deg): Re1–O1, 1.689(2); Re1–C1, 2.021(2); Re1–N2, 2.058(1); Re1–N3, 1.968(1); Re1–N1, 1.961(2); C1–N4, 1.311(2); Re1–C1–N4, 131.4(1).

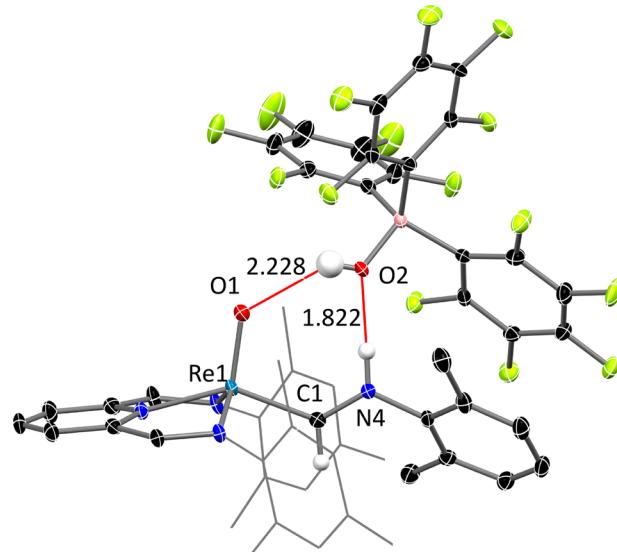
**Scheme 6. Re(V) Carbenes from the Insertion of Isocyanides into Re–H Bonds in the Presence of  $\text{B}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_3/\text{H}_2\text{O}$**



9.7 and 13.5 ppm ( $J = 16.4$  Hz) are observed. The magnitude of the coupling constant is indicative of C–H/N–H coupling.

X-ray-quality crystals were obtained from the diffusion of pentane into a concentrated solution of **10a** in dichloromethane (Figure 3). The X-ray structure shows a cationic oxorhenium complex with a hydroxyborate ( $\text{HOB}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_3$ ) anion. This is consistent with the observations by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectroscopy.

The rhenium atom in **10a** is in a distorted-square-pyramidal environment ( $\tau = 0.16$ )<sup>11</sup> with the oxo ligand in the apical position. The Re–C(carbene) bond length is relatively short. It is similar in length to those in Re acyl complexes previously isolated by the Ison group, where the Re–C(acyl) bond was 2.026–2.028 Å.<sup>17–19</sup> The formation of the hydroxyborate anion  $\text{HOB}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_3$  likely proceeds via the reaction of  $\text{B}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_3$  with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  to form the Brønsted acid  $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot\text{B}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_3$ , which protonates the iminoformyl intermediate **9a** to form the cationic



**Figure 3.** X-ray crystal structure of **10a**. Thermal ellipsoids are at the 50% probability level. Selected hydrogen atoms are shown, and the mesityl substituents on the diamido ligand are depicted in wireframe for clarity. Hydrogen-bonding contacts (Å) are shown in red. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (deg): Re1–O1, 1.6877(17); Re1–C1, 2.029(3); B1–O2, 1.479(3); C1–N4, 1.298(3); Re1–C1–N4, 129.48(19); O1–Re1–C1, 102.82(9).

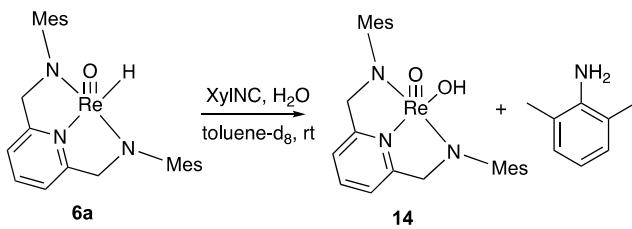
carbene and hydroxyborate anion. Adducts such as  $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot\text{B}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_3$  are well-known and have been shown to be strong Brønsted acids with a  $\text{p}K_a$  value of 8.4 in acetonitrile and a hypothetical aqueous  $\text{p}K_a$  value of less than 0.9.<sup>20</sup>

To test the hypothesis that  $\text{H}_2\text{O}\cdot\text{B}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_3$  is involved as the Brønsted acid, the reaction with rigorously dried solvent and reagents was examined. In contrast to the reaction described in Scheme 6, the solution briefly turned green before turning bright purple. Additionally, the doublet corresponding to the protonated complex **10a** was not observed. Instead, a singlet was observed at approximately 9.22 ppm (tentatively assigned as the iminoformyl intermediate **9a**). Upon titration with water, the singlet decayed and the doublet attributed to **10a** was observed (see the Supporting Information). This experiment suggests that the iminoformyl intermediate **9a** was generated initially, which was subsequently protonated to give the final carbene salt **10a**. Attempts to isolate **9a** were unsuccessful.

To summarize, the strategy of CO and CNR insertion into  $\text{Re}-\text{R}$  ( $\text{R} = \text{CH}_3, \text{H}$ ) bonds was utilized to generate  $\text{Re}(\text{III})$  and  $\text{Re}(\text{V})$  carbenes. The method is quite general and does not require prior formation of stable  $\text{Re}-\text{CO}$  adducts, thus allowing for the accessibility of carbenes with rhenium in medium to high oxidation states. The synthesis of these complexes allowed for an examination of their reactivity.

**Reactivity of  $\text{Re}(\text{III})$  and  $\text{Re}(\text{V})$  Carbenes.** The insertion reaction of the oxorhenium(V) hydride **6a** with isocyanides in the absence of  $\text{B}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_3$  was examined (Scheme 7). Unlike the corresponding reaction in the presence of the Lewis acid, several diastereotopic peaks from the ligand are observed by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectroscopy, which suggests that there are several rhenium species present. After the reaction mixture was allowed to stand for 2 days, a single rhenium species was observed by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectroscopy. This species was not the cationic carbene complex as described previously; instead, complex **14** was isolated as well as the organic product 2,6-dimethylaniline (Scheme 7).

Scheme 7. Insertion of XylINC in the Absence of Lewis Acid



X-ray-quality crystals were obtained by diffusion of pentane into a concentrated dichloromethane solution of **14** (Figure 4).

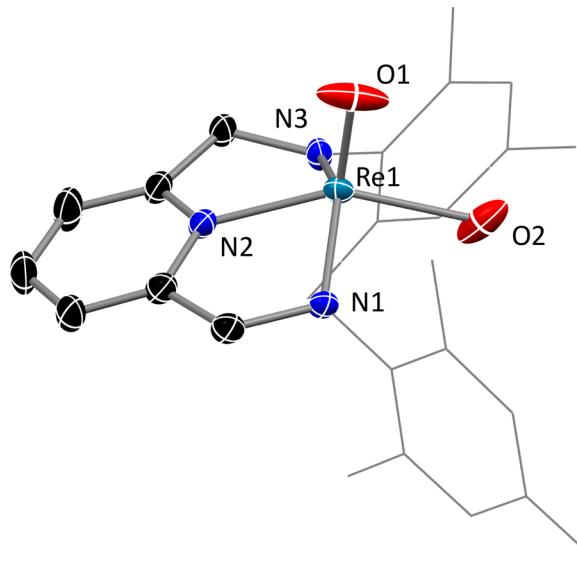
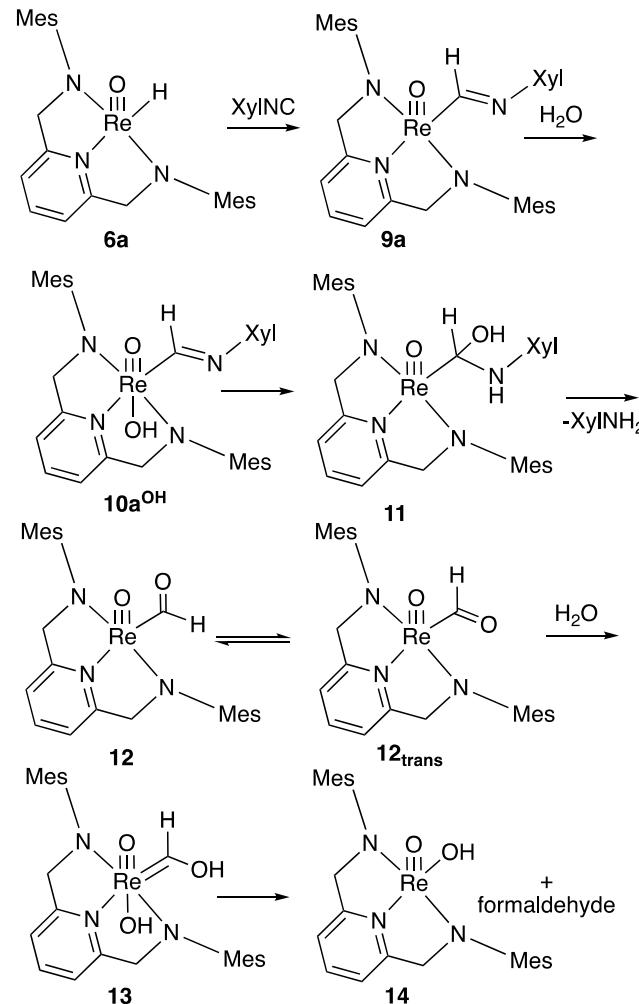


Figure 4. X-ray crystal structure of **14**. Thermal ellipsoids are at the 50% probability level. The aryl rings of the ancillary ligand are shown in wireframe for clarity. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (deg): Re1–O1, 1.681(6); Re1–O2, 2.121(7); Re1–N1, 1.968(5); Re1–N2, 2.057(6); Re1–N3, 1.965(5); O1–Re1–O2, 96.1(4); O1–Re1–N1, 112.0(3); O1–Re1–N2, 115.5(4); O1–Re1–N3, 111.8(3).

In **14**, rhenium is in a distorted-square-pyramidal environment ( $\tau = 0.23$ )<sup>11</sup> with the oxo ligand in the apical position. The Re–oxo bond length is consistent with those in other DAP oxorhenium(V) complexes.<sup>17,18,21,22</sup>

The reactivity described above is consistent with isocyanide insertion into a Re–R (R = alkyl, hydride) bond to form an iminoformyl or an iminoacyl intermediate, followed by protonation with a Brønsted acid to form a Fischer carbene. The addition of water to solutions of MeOTf or B(C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>3</sub> lowers the *pK<sub>a</sub>* in solution by the release of H<sup>+</sup>. The observed reactivity in the absence of a Lewis acid is consistent with the electrophilic reactivity of Fischer carbenes, which are known to react with nucleophiles at the carbene carbon to undergo exchange reactions via tetrahedral intermediates.<sup>23</sup> Given this precedent, a proposed mechanism for the formation of **14** is shown in Scheme 8 where the Fischer carbene **10a**<sup>OH</sup> reacts via the tetrahedral (at carbon) intermediate **11** to produce the carbene **13**. The viability of this mechanism was also supported by a detailed computational study (see the Supporting Information).

**Electronic Structure of Carbene Complexes.** The reactivity described above suggests that the carbene ligands are electrophilic at carbon and thus should be regarded as Fischer type carbenes. However, there is some ambiguity, as the

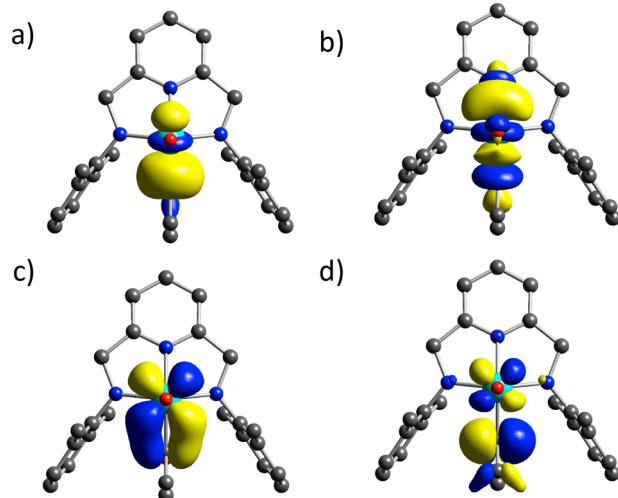
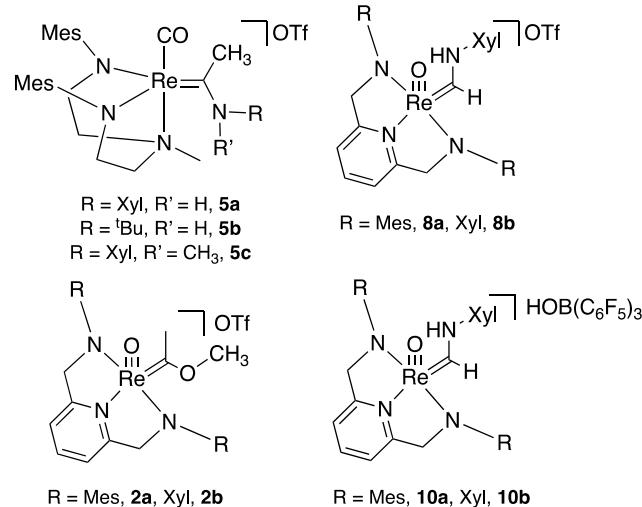
Scheme 8. Proposed Mechanism for the Formation of **14**

ligands may be regarded as CR(OR)<sup>2-</sup> ligands and thus the metal complexes can be viewed as d<sup>0</sup> Re(VII) and d<sup>2</sup> Re(V), respectively. To address this ambiguity, we performed a series of density functional theory (DFT) calculations to examine the bonding of the carbene ligand in these complexes. On the basis of previous benchmarking for oxorhenium complexes,<sup>14,17-19,24</sup> calculations were carried out the DFT (B3PW91+D3)<sup>25-26</sup> level of theory. The complexes calculated in this aspect of the study are depicted in Chart 1.

The bonding in Fischer carbenes is often described as synergistic: i.e., resulting from simultaneous  $\sigma$  donation from the carbene ligand and  $\pi$  back-bonding from the metal to the LUMO of the carbene.<sup>23</sup> Inspection of the natural bonding orbitals (NBOs)<sup>27,28</sup> for **2b**, a typical oxorhenium carbene, shows clearly  $\sigma$ -bonding and  $\pi$ -antibonding combinations between the rhenium atom and the carbene ligand (Figure 5a,b) and the  $\pi$ -bonding and  $\pi$ -antibonding combination between the rhenium d<sub>xy</sub> orbital and the  $\pi^*$  orbital from the carbene ligand (Figure 5c,d).

To further quantify the extent of  $\sigma$  donation and  $\pi$  back-bonding, a fragment orbital analysis was applied using the AOMix 6.0 program.<sup>29,30</sup> As shown in Table 1, for all complexes studied the  $\sigma$  donation from the carbene ligand is more extensive than  $\pi$  back-bonding. This is consistent with the viewpoint that the Fischer carbenes examined here are electrophilic at carbon.

Chart 1. Calculated Carbene Complexes



**Figure 5.** Natural bonding orbitals for **2b** showing (a, b)  $\sigma$ -bonding and  $\sigma$ -antibonding combinations between rhenium and the carbene ligand and (c, d)  $\pi$ -bonding and  $\pi$ -antibonding combinations between the carbene ligand and a  $d_{xy}$  orbital. NBO analysis: (a) orbital 48 (bonding), occupancy 1.88, 33% rhenium, 67% carbon; (b) orbital 125 (antibonding), occupancy 0.21, 67% rhenium, 33% carbon; (c) orbital 30 (lone pair Re), occupancy 1.65, 99% rhenium d orbital; (d) orbital 120 (lone pair vacancy C), occupancy 0.66, 99% carbon p orbital.

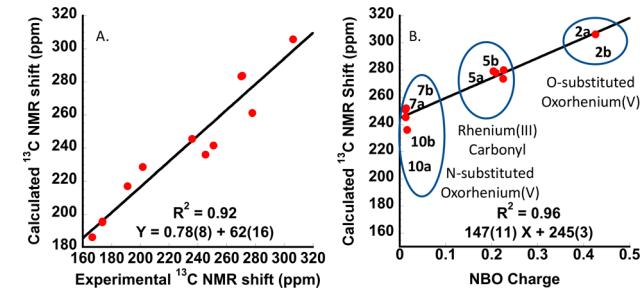
**Table 1. Charge Decomposition Analysis (CDA)<sup>a</sup> of Bonding in Re(III) and Re(V) Carbenes**

entry	complex	$\sigma$ donation	$\pi$ back-bonding	net charge donation
1	<b>5a</b>	0.213	0.107	0.303
2	<b>5b</b>	0.216	0.113	0.290
3	<b>7a</b>	0.247	0.145	0.315
4	<b>7b</b>	0.244	0.140	0.321
5	<b>2a</b>	0.228	0.130	0.255
6	<b>2b</b>	0.230	0.128	0.258
7	<b>10a</b>	0.227	0.138	0.297
8	<b>10b</b>	0.221	0.132	0.298

<sup>a</sup>CDA analysis was performed with the AOMix 6.0 software program. See Computational Methods for details.

To explore the electrophilicity further, we examined the NBO partial charge at the carbene carbon in addition to the calculated

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR shifts as implemented in Gaussian 09.<sup>31</sup> It was observed experimentally that the carbene carbons in complexes **2**, **5**, **8**, and **10** are significantly deshielded and occur from  $\sim$ 240 to 300 ppm in the  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum. Chemical shifts for complexes **2**, **5**, **8**, and **10** were calculated, and as shown in Figure 6a, there is good agreement with the experimental values ( $R^2 = 0.92$ ).



**Figure 6.** (A) Correlation between calculated and experimental  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR shifts. (B) Correlation between the calculated  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR shift and the natural charge. Calculations were performed at the B3PW91-D3/6-311G++(d,p)<sup>34,35</sup> level utilizing the gauge-independent atomic orbital (GIAO) method<sup>36–40</sup> and are referenced to TMS.

As shown in Figure 6b, there is a strong correlation between the calculated  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR shift and the NBO charge. Further, the charge at carbon appears to be most dramatically affected by the substituent on the carbene carbon, with O-substituted ligands observed with higher chemical shifts (more deshielded) and more positive natural charges in comparison to the corresponding complexes with N substituents.<sup>32,33</sup> Also interesting from the data is the influence of formal oxidation state, as the rhenium carbonyl complexes (formally Re(III)) have carbene carbons with chemical shifts and NBO charges intermediate between N-substituted and O-substituted oxorhenium carbenes (formally Re(V)), suggesting that the formal oxidation state has a smaller influence than the substituent on the carbene carbon.

## CONCLUSIONS

Direct insertion of CO and isocyanides (CNR) into Re–R bonds result in high-oxidation-state acyl and iminoacyl complexes that can be treated with an electrophile to generate rare examples of Re(III) and (O)Re(V) Fischer carbenes. This strategy is different from the classic Fischer carbene synthesis, which relies on nucleophilic addition to a carbonyl ligand in a neutral metal complex, followed by the treatment of this anionic acyl metalate with an electrophile. Experimental and computational studies suggest that, as expected, the carbene ligands are electrophilic at carbon. Further, an interesting correlation was observed between the  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR chemical shift and the natural charge at the carbene carbon, which suggests that the electrophilicity of the ligand can be tuned, with the substituent attached to carbene carbon having the most influence.

## EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

**General Considerations.** DAP (DAP = 2,6-bis((arylamino)methyl)pyridine; aryl = xylyl)<sup>41</sup> and  $(\text{SMc}_2)\text{Re}(\text{O})\text{Cl}_3(\text{OPPh}_3)$ ,<sup>42</sup> were prepared as reported in the literature. All reactions were conducted under nitrogen in a glovebox or using standard Schlenk line techniques unless otherwise noted. All other reagents were purchased from commercial sources and used as received.  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$ , and  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectra were obtained on a Varian Mercury 400 MHz, a Varian Mercury 300 MHz, or a Bruker 500 or 700 MHz spectrometer at

room temperature. Chemical shifts are given in parts per million (ppm) and are referenced to the residual protons or carbons of the deuterated solvents, respectively. Elemental analyses were performed by Atlantic Microlabs, Inc. X-ray crystallography was performed at the X-ray Structural Facility of North Carolina State University.

**(O)Re(DAP)Cl (DAP = 2,6-Bis((arylamino)methyl)pyridine; Aryl = Xylyl).** (SM<sub>2</sub>)Re(O)Cl<sub>3</sub>(OPPh<sub>3</sub>) (450 mg, 0.69 mmol) and DAP (DAP = 2,6-Bis((arylamino)methyl)pyridine; aryl = xylyl (450 mg, 1.30 mmol) were dissolved in EtOH. 2,6-Lutidine (0.8 mL, 6.9 mmol) was then added, and the reaction mixture was stirred overnight. The reaction was then vacuum filtered and dried. The complex was obtained as a green solid (256 mg) in 64% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 300 MHz):  $\delta$  8.24 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H, pyr-*para*-H) 7.88 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H, pyr-*meta*-H) 7.14–6.96 (overlapping m, 6H, XyDAP-aryl H) 5.69 (d,  $J$  = 20.5 Hz, 2H, pyr-CH<sub>2</sub>-N) 5.52 (d,  $J$  = 20.5 Hz, 2H, pyr-CH<sub>2</sub>-N) 2.51 (s, 6H, XyDAP-CH<sub>3</sub>) 1.66 (s, 6H, XyDAP-CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 176 MHz):  $\delta$  167.80, 156.79, 143.40, 136.31, 135.11, 127.92, 127.75, 125.21, 125.19, 117.11, 79.38, 18.10, 17.94. Anal. Calcd: C, 47.54; N, 7.23; H, 4.34. Found: C, 47.19; N, 7.16; H, 4.43.

**(O)Re(DAP)CH<sub>3</sub> (DAP = 2,6-Bis((arylamino)methyl)pyridine; Aryl = Xylyl).** (O)Re(DAP)Cl (332.0 mg, 0.512 mmol) was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Methylmagnesium bromide (3.0 M in diethyl ether) (0.34 mL, 1.02 mmol) was added via syringe. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 24 h. The reaction mixture was then removed from the glovebox and quenched dropwise with water. The resulting mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> three times and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was then removed in vacuo. The complex was obtained as a dark purple solid (247 mg) in 86% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\delta$  8.08 (t,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H, pyr-*para*-H), 7.71 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 2H, pyr-*meta*-H), 7.15 (d,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 2H, XyDAP-*meta*-H), 7.08 (d,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 2H, XyDAP-*meta*-H), 6.97 (t,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 1H, XyDAP-*para*-H), 5.67 (d,  $J$  = 20.1 Hz, 2H, pyr-CH<sub>2</sub>-N), 5.47 (d,  $J$  = 20.1 Hz, 2H, pyr-CH<sub>2</sub>-N), 2.44 (s, 6H, XyDAP-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.75 (s, 3H, Re-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.58 (s, 6H, XyDAP-CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\delta$  168.09, 155.72, 140.96, 136.89, 135.06, 127.97, 127.80, 126.86, 124.50, 116.23, 78.73, 18.12, 17.46, 13.72. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>3</sub>ORe·1/4CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: C, 50.38; N, 6.98; H, 6.11. Found: C, 50.71; N, 7.17; H, 5.98.

**[DAAmRe(CO)(C(CH<sub>3</sub>)NHC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)]OTf (DAAm = N<sup>1</sup>-Mesyl-N<sup>2</sup>-(2-(mesitylamino)ethyl)-N<sup>2</sup>-methylethane-1,2-diamine; 5b).** Complex 3 (188 mg, 0.324 mmol) was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. One equivalent of *tert*-butyl isocyanide (36.6  $\mu$ L, 0.324 mmol) was added via a microsyringe. Methyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (36.6  $\mu$ L, 0.324 mmol) was added via a microsyringe to the reaction mixture. The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h, and then water (50  $\mu$ L) was added via syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred overnight. Brine was added to the reaction mixture, and the resulting mixture was extracted three times with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was then removed in vacuo to give the complex as a dark orange powder. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (700 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\delta$  8.71 (s, 1H, Carbene-NH), 6.97 (s, 2H, MesDAAm *meta*-H), 6.90 (s, 2H, MesDAAm *meta*-H), 4.09 (m, 2H, MesDAAm -CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.83 (m, 2H, MesDAAm -CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.34 (m, 2H, MesDAAm -CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.27 (m, 2H, MesDAAm -CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.16 (s, 3H, MesDAAm N-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.53 (s, 3H, Carbene C-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.36 (m, 12H, overlapping MesDAAm-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.06 (s, 3H, MesDAAm-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.60 (s, 9H, Carbene *tert*-butyl), 1.58 (s, 3H, MesDAAm-CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (176 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\delta$  261.31, 198.56, 156.22, 129.97, 129.51, 129.45, 63.62, 58.90, 49.51, 30.05, 24.80, 20.27, 19.49. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>46</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>4</sub>ReS·1/3C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>12</sub>: C, 46.82; N, 6.69; H, 6.01. Found: C, 46.64; N, 6.52; H, 6.24.

**(O)Re(DAP)H (DAP = 2,6-Bis((arylamino)methyl)pyridine; Aryl = Xylyl; 6b).** (O)Re(DAP)Cl (332.0 mg, 0.512 mmol) was dissolved in THF. Tributyltin hydride (0.9 mL, 3.35 mmol) was added via syringe. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 24 h. The reaction mixture was then removed from the glovebox and solvent was removed in vacuo. The residue was then dissolved in minimal dichloromethane and crashed out with excess pentane before being isolated by vacuum filtration. The complex was obtained as a dark red solid in 87% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 300 MHz):  $\delta$  8.09 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H, pyr-*para*-H), 7.71 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H, pyr-*meta*-H), 7.07 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H, XyDAP-*meta*-H), 7.0 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H, XyDAP-*meta*-H), 6.88 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H, XyDAP-*para*-H), 6.06 (s, 1H, Re-H), 5.69 (d,  $J$  = 20.5 Hz, 2H, pyr-CH<sub>2</sub>-N), 5.46 (d,  $J$  = 20.5 Hz, 2H, pyr-CH<sub>2</sub>-N), 2.49 (s, 6H, XyDAP-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.77 (s, 6H, XyDAP-CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 151 MHz):  $\delta$  168.94, 161.48, 141.16, 135.82, 133.36, 127.99, 127.91, 124.43, 116.54, 77.38, 18.33, 17.93. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>3</sub>ORe·1/3CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: C, 48.74; N, 7.31; H, 4.67. Found: C, 48.88; N, 7.26; H, 4.78.

**(XyDAP)Re(O)D (6b-D).** (O)Re(DAP)Cl (320.0 mg, 0.516 mmol) was dissolved in THF. Tributyltin deuteride (0.74 mL, 2.75 mmol) was added via syringe. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 24 h. The reaction mixture was then removed from the glovebox, and solvent was removed in vacuo. The residue was then dissolved in minimal

(d,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 2H, XyDAP-*meta*-H), 6.90 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 2H, XyDAP-*para*-H), 5.97 (d,  $J$  = 20.8 Hz, 2H, pyr-CH<sub>2</sub>-N), 5.61 (d,  $J$  = 20.8 Hz, 2H, pyr-CH<sub>2</sub>-N), 3.24 (s, 3H, O-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.58 (s, 3H, Carbene-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.48 (s, 6H, XyDAP-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.90 (s, 6H, XyDAP-CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 151 MHz):  $\delta$  304.86, 164.90, 154.39, 144.61, 135.15, 133.83, 129.05, 127.79, 127.07, 119.96, 72.45, 61.83, 36.85, 17.89, 17.38. Attempts to purify this compound for elemental analysis resulted in the formation of an oil.

**DAAmRe(CO)CH<sub>3</sub> (DAAm = N<sup>1</sup>-Mesyl-N<sup>2</sup>-(2-(mesitylamino)ethyl)-N<sup>2</sup>-methylethane-1,2-diamine; 3).** DAAmRe(CO)(OAc) (653 mg, 1.04 mmol) was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Five equivalents of MeMgBr (3.0 M in diethyl ether) (1.74 mL, 5.20 mmol) was added via syringe. The reaction mixture was then stirred overnight. The reaction mixture was then removed from the glovebox and quenched dropwise with water. The resulting mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> three times and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was then removed in vacuo. The complex was obtained as a reddish orange solid in 90% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\delta$  6.74 (m, 4H, overlapping MesDAP *meta*-H), 3.56 (m, 2H, MesDAAm -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 3.45–3.37 (m, 2H, MesDAAm -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 3.09–3.02 (m, 2H, MesDAAm -CH<sub>2</sub>-), 2.93–2.86 (m, 5H, overlapping MesDAAm -CH<sub>2</sub>- and N-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.19 (s, 6H Mes-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.11 (s, 6H, Mes-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.90 (s, 6H, Mes-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.37 (s, 3H, Re-CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (176 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\delta$  202.13, 157.66, 133.75, 132.27, 130.16, 128.56, 128.33, 61.03, 58.84, 45.04, 20.34, 18.80, 14.45. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>3</sub>ORe·1/4CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: C, 50.38; N, 6.98; H, 6.11. Found: C, 50.71; N, 7.17; H, 5.98.

**[DAAmRe(CO)(C(CH<sub>3</sub>)NHC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)]OTf (DAAm = N<sup>1</sup>-Mesyl-N<sup>2</sup>-(2-(mesitylamino)ethyl)-N<sup>2</sup>-methylethane-1,2-diamine; 5b).** Complex 3 (188 mg, 0.324 mmol) was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. One equivalent of *tert*-butyl isocyanide (36.6  $\mu$ L, 0.324 mmol) was added via a microsyringe. Methyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (36.6  $\mu$ L, 0.324 mmol) was added via a microsyringe to the reaction mixture. The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h, and then water (50  $\mu$ L) was added via syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred overnight. Brine was added to the reaction mixture, and the resulting mixture was extracted three times with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was then removed in vacuo to give the complex as a dark orange powder. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (700 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\delta$  8.71 (s, 1H, Carbene-NH), 6.97 (s, 2H, MesDAAm *meta*-H), 6.90 (s, 2H, MesDAAm *meta*-H), 4.09 (m, 2H, MesDAAm -CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.83 (m, 2H, MesDAAm -CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.34 (m, 2H, MesDAAm -CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.27 (m, 2H, MesDAAm -CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.16 (s, 3H, MesDAAm N-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.53 (s, 3H, Carbene C-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.36 (m, 12H, overlapping MesDAAm-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.06 (s, 3H, MesDAAm-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.60 (s, 9H, Carbene *tert*-butyl), 1.58 (s, 3H, MesDAAm-CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (176 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\delta$  261.31, 198.56, 156.22, 129.97, 129.51, 129.45, 63.62, 58.90, 49.51, 30.05, 24.80, 20.27, 19.49. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>46</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>4</sub>ReS·1/3C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>12</sub>: C, 46.82; N, 6.69; H, 6.01. Found: C, 46.64; N, 6.52; H, 6.24.

**(O)Re(DAP)H (DAP = 2,6-Bis((arylamino)methyl)pyridine; Aryl = Xylyl; 6b).** (O)Re(DAP)Cl (332.0 mg, 0.512 mmol) was dissolved in THF. Tributyltin hydride (0.9 mL, 3.35 mmol) was added via syringe. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 24 h. The reaction mixture was then removed from the glovebox and solvent was removed in vacuo. The residue was then dissolved in minimal dichloromethane and crashed out with excess pentane before being isolated by vacuum filtration. The complex was obtained as a dark red solid in 87% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 300 MHz):  $\delta$  8.09 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H, pyr-*para*-H), 7.71 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H, pyr-*meta*-H), 7.07 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H, XyDAP-*meta*-H), 7.0 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H, XyDAP-*meta*-H), 6.88 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H, XyDAP-*para*-H), 6.06 (s, 1H, Re-H), 5.69 (d,  $J$  = 20.5 Hz, 2H, pyr-CH<sub>2</sub>-N), 5.46 (d,  $J$  = 20.5 Hz, 2H, pyr-CH<sub>2</sub>-N), 2.49 (s, 6H, XyDAP-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.77 (s, 6H, XyDAP-CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 151 MHz):  $\delta$  168.94, 161.48, 141.16, 135.82, 133.36, 127.99, 127.91, 124.43, 116.54, 77.38, 18.33, 17.93. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>3</sub>ORe·1/3CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: C, 48.74; N, 7.31; H, 4.67. Found: C, 48.88; N, 7.26; H, 4.78.

**(XyDAP)Re(O)D (6b-D).** (O)Re(DAP)Cl (320.0 mg, 0.516 mmol) was dissolved in THF. Tributyltin deuteride (0.74 mL, 2.75 mmol) was added via syringe. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 24 h. The reaction mixture was then removed from the glovebox, and solvent was removed in vacuo. The residue was then dissolved in minimal

dichloromethane and then crashed out with excess pentane before being isolated by vacuum filtration. The complex was obtained as a dark red solid in 81% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 300 MHz):  $\delta$  8.09 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H, pyr-*para* H), 7.71 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H, pyr-*meta* H), 7.07 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H, XyDAP-*meta* H), 7.0 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H, XyDAP-*meta* H), 6.88 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H, XyDAP-*para* H), 5.69 (d,  $J$  = 20.5 Hz, 2H, pyr- $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ), 5.46 (d,  $J$  = 20.5 Hz, 2H, pyr- $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ), 2.49 (s, 6H, XyDAP- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.77 (s, 6H, XyDAP- $\text{CH}_3$ ).

**[(O)Re(DAP)(CHN(CH<sub>3</sub>)(2,6-(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>))]OTf (DAP = 2,6-Bis((aryl amino)methyl)pyridine; Aryl = Mesityl; 8a).** Complex **6a** (155 mg, 0.087 mmol) was dissolved in dichloromethane. 2,6-Dimethylphenyl isocyanide (22.8 mg, 0.174 mmol) was then added, and the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 min. Solvent was then removed in vacuo, and the resulting residue was washed with hexane, which was then removed via cannula filtration. The residue was then dissolved in dichloromethane, methyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (19.7  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.174 mmol) was then added via syringe, and the reaction mixture was stirred for an additional 15 min. The solvent was then removed in vacuo, and the resulting residue was dissolved in minimal dichloromethane and precipitated with excess pentanes to give the complex in 27% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 700 MHz):  $\delta$  10.14 (s, 1H, carbene), 8.52 (t,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H, pyr-*para* H), 8.03 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 2H, pyr-*meta* H), 7.10 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H, Xy-*para* H), 7.03 (s, 2H, MesDAP-*meta* H), 6.95 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H, Xy-*meta* H), 6.90 (s, 2H, pyr-*meta* H), 6.08 (d,  $J$  = 20.8 Hz, 2H, pyr- $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ), 5.49 (d,  $J$  = 20.8 Hz, 2H, pyr- $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ), 3.58 (s, 3H, N-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.61 (s, 6H, MesDAP-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.35 (s, 6H, MesDAP-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.94 (s, 6H, MesDAP-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.28 (s, 6H, Xy-CH<sub>3</sub>).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 176 MHz):  $\delta$  241.89, 164.07, 156.40, 146.78, 145.01, 136.79, 135.45, 134.88, 132.71, 131.39, 130.39, 129.95, 128.94, 128.84, 127.87, 119.70, 75.72, 47.86, 20.43, 18.89, 17.66, 16.01. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>42</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>4</sub>ReS·1/5CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: C, 49.02; N, 6.32; H, 4.82. Found: C, 49.12; N, 6.25; H, 4.96.

**[(DAP)Re(O)(CHNCH<sub>3</sub>(2,6-(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>))]OTf (DAP = 2,6-Bis((aryl amino)methyl)pyridine; Aryl = Xylyl; 8b).** Complex **6a** (250. mg, 0.457 mmol) was dissolved in dichloromethane. 2,6-Dimethylphenyl isocyanide (120. mg, 0.914 mmol) was then added, and the reaction mixture was stirred for 5 min. Solvent was then removed in vacuo, and the resulting residue was washed with hexane, which was then removed via cannula filtration. The residue was then dissolved in dichloromethane, methyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (37.8  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.457 mmol) was added via syringe, and the reaction mixture was stirred for an additional 15 min. Solvent was then removed in vacuo, and the resulting residue was dissolved in minimal dichloromethane and precipitated with excess pentanes to give the complex in 35% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 700 MHz):  $\delta$  10.19 (s, 1H, carbene H), 8.52 (t,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H, pyr-*para* H), 8.01 (d,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz, 2H, pyr-*meta* H), 7.25–7.20 (m, 2H, XyDAP-*meta* H), 7.09 (d,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 2H, XyDAP-*meta* H), 7.08–7.02 (m, 3H, Xy-*para* and XyDAP-*para* H overlapping), 6.91 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H, Xy-*meta* H), 6.10 (d,  $J$  = 20.8 Hz, 2H, pyr- $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ), 5.50 (d,  $J$  = 20.8 Hz, 2H, pyr- $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ), 3.59 (s, 3H, N-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.65 (s, 6H, XyDAP-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.97 (s, 6H, XyDAP-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.25 (s, 6H, Xy-CH<sub>3</sub>).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 176 MHz):  $\delta$  241.60, 164.02, 158.62, 146.68, 144.45, 135.83, 132.63, 131.80, 129.91, 129.52, 128.94, 128.84, 127.29, 119.05, 75.48, 47.91, 17.68, 17.62, 16.08. Anal. Calcd: C, 48.50; N, 6.65; H, 4.55. Found: C, 48.45; N, 6.64; H, 4.61.

**(O)Re(DAP)(CHN(2,6-(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>))HOB(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>3</sub> (DAP = 2,6-Bis((aryl amino)methyl)pyridine; Aryl = Mesityl; 10a).** Complex **6a** (200. mg, 0.348 mmol) and B(C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>3</sub> (371. mg, 0.724 mmol) were dissolved in toluene. 2,6-Dimethylphenyl isocyanide (95.0 mg, 0.724 mmol) was then added, and the reaction mixture was stirred. The reaction mixture was then removed from the glovebox and stirred open to air until the color changed from green to dark purple and a solid precipitated ( $\sim$ 15 min). The solid was then vacuum-filtered and washed with pentane to remove excess isocyanide. The complex was obtained as a light purple solid (237 mg) in 55% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 700 MHz):  $\delta$  13.21 (d,  $J$  = 16.0 Hz, 1H, N-H), 9.84 (d,  $J$  = 16.6 Hz, 1H, Carbene-H), 8.37 (t,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H, pyr-*para*-H), 7.88 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 2H, pyr-*meta*-H), 6.94 (s, 2H, MesDAP-*meta*-H), 6.85 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 1H, Xy-*para*-H), 6.77 (s, 2H, XyDAP-*meta*-H), 6.70 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H, Xy-*meta*-H), 6.03 (d,  $J$  = 20.6 Hz, 2H, pyr- $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ), 5.50 (d,  $J$  =

20.6 Hz, 2H, pyr- $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ), 2.48 (s, 6H, MesDAP-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.23 (s, 6H, MesDAP-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.89 (s, 6H, MesDAP-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.35 (s, 6H, Xy-CH<sub>3</sub>).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 151 MHz):  $\delta$ : 236.48, 164.69, 155.68, 143.45, 140.83, 136.37, 132.50, 130.52, 130.19, 129.21, 127.88, 127.22, 118.41, 75.32, 20.18, 17.55, 17.27, 16.15.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 376 MHz):  $\delta$  -137 (m, 2F, *meta*-F), -163 (m, 1F, *para*-F), -171 (m, 2F, *ortho*-F). Anal. Calcd: C, 50.54; N, 4.53; H, 3.34. Found: C, 50.18; N, 4.51; H, 3.38.

**[(O)Re(DAP)(CHN(2,6-(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>))HOB(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>3</sub>] (DAP = 2,6-Bis((aryl amino)methyl)pyridine; Aryl = Xylyl; 10b).** **6b** (200. mg, 0.348 mmol) and B(C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)<sub>3</sub> (371 mg, 0.724 mmol) were dissolved in toluene. 2,6-Dimethylphenyl isocyanide (95.0 mg, 0.724 mmol) was then added, and the reaction mixture was stirred. The reaction mixture was then removed from the glovebox and stirred open to air until the color changed from green to dark purple and a solid precipitated ( $\sim$ 15 min). The solid was then vacuum-filtered and washed with pentane to remove excess isocyanide. The complex was obtained as a light pink solid in 23% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 300 MHz):  $\delta$  13.49 (d,  $J$  = 16.4 Hz, 1H, NH), 9.89 (d,  $J$  = 16.4 Hz, 1H, Re-CH-N), 8.37 (t,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 1H, pyr-*para* H), 7.87 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2H, pyr-*meta* H), 7.1 (d,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 2H, XyDAP-*meta* H), 6.97–6.87 (m, 4H, overlapping XyDAP-*para* H and xylol-*meta* H), 6.64 (d,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 2H, XyDAP-*meta* H), 6.02 (d,  $J$  = 19.9 Hz, 2H, pyr- $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ), 5.50 (d,  $J$  = 19.9 Hz, 2H, pyr- $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ), 2.50 (s, 6H, XyDAP-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.91 (s, 6H, XyDAP-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.30 (s, 6H, xylol-CH<sub>3</sub>).  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 376 MHz):  $\delta$  -136 (m, 2F, *meta*-F), -162 (m, 1F, *para*-F), -166 (m, 2F, *ortho*-F).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 151 MHz):  $\delta$  253.94, 164.60, 158.02, 136.83, 132.53, 129.66, 128.93, 128.12, 126.75, 118.50, 75.32, 21.12, 17.63, 17.41, 16.23. Anal. Calcd: C, 47.94; N, 4.41; H, 3.05. Found: C, 47.54; N, 4.83; H, 3.23.

**[(O)Re(DAP)(CDNH(2,6-(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>))HOB(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>3</sub>] (DAP = 2,6-Bis((aryl amino)methyl)pyridine; Aryl = Xylyl; 10b-D).** The complex was obtained as a light pink solid in 21% yield.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 300 MHz):  $\delta$  13.49 (s, 1H, NH), 8.37 (t,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 1H, pyr-*para* H), 7.87 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2H, pyr-*meta* H), 7.1 (d,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 2H, XyDAP-*meta* H), 6.97–6.87 (m, 4H, overlapping XyDAP-*para* H and xylol-*meta* H), 6.64 (d,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 2H, XyDAP-*meta* H), 6.02 (d,  $J$  = 19.9 Hz, 2H, pyr- $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ), 5.50 (d,  $J$  = 19.9 Hz, 2H, pyr- $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ), 2.50 (s, 6H, XyDAP-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.91 (s, 6H, XyDAP-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.30 (s, 6H, xylol-CH<sub>3</sub>).

**(O)Re(DAP)OH (DAP = 2,6-Bis((aryl amino)methyl)pyridine; Aryl = Mesityl; 14).** (O)Re(DAP)Cl (aryl = mesityl) (100 mg, 0.164 mmol) was placed in a screw-cap vial and dissolved in CD<sub>3</sub>CN. AgBF<sub>4</sub> (32.1 mg, 0.164 mmol) was then added, and the solution was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. An 11.2  $\mu\text{L}$  portion of 14.8 M NH<sub>4</sub>OH was then added via microsyringe. The resulting mixture was then run through a Celite plug and analyzed by NMR spectroscopy.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 600 MHz):  $\delta$  9.38 (s, 1H, Re-OH), 8.24 (t,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 1H, pyr-*para* H), 7.89 (d,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 2H, pyr-*meta* H), 6.97 (s, 2H, MesDAP-*meta* H), 6.89 (s, 2H, MesDAP-*meta* H), 5.68 (d,  $J$  = 20.7 Hz, 2H, pyr- $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ), 5.51 (d,  $J$  = 20.7 Hz, 2H, pyr- $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ), 2.49 (s, 6H, MesDAP-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.33 (s, 6H, MesDAP-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.64 (s, 6H, MesDAP-CH<sub>3</sub>).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 176 MHz):  $\delta$  167.80, 154.24, 143.35, 135.83, 134.69, 134.48, 128.58, 128.46, 117.10, 79.63, 20.58, 18.01, 17.86. Elemental analysis was not possible with this molecule because of its poor solubility in most solvents that are not halogenated. The compound reacts with halogenated solvents to generate the metal halide species.

**Computational Methods.** Theoretical calculations have been carried out using the Gaussian 09<sup>31</sup> implementation of B3PW91<sup>25,26</sup> density functional theory with the D3 version of Grimme's empirical dispersion correction.<sup>26</sup> All geometry optimizations were carried out in the gas phase using tight convergence criteria ("opt = tight") and pruned ultrafine grids ("Int = ultrafine"). The basis set for rhenium was the small-core (311111,221111,411)  $\rightarrow$  [6s5p3d] Stuttgart–Dresden basis set and relativistic effective core potential (RECP) combination (SDD) with an additional f polarization function.<sup>43–56</sup> The 6-31G(d,p) basis set<sup>57</sup> was used for all other atoms. All structures were fully optimized. Analytical frequency calculations were performed on all structures to ensure either a zeroth-order saddle point (a local

minimum) or a first-order saddle point (transition state: TS) was achieved. The minima associated with each transition state were determined by animation of the imaginary frequency.

Energetics were calculated on the gas-phase optimized structures as described above with the 6-311++G(d,p)<sup>34</sup> basis set for C, H, N, O, and F atoms and the SDD<sup>43–55,58</sup> basis set with an added f polarization function<sup>56</sup> on Re. Reported energies utilized analytical frequencies and the zero-point corrections from the gas-phase optimized geometries and included solvation corrections which were computed using the PCM method, with toluene as the solvent, as implemented in Gaussian 09. Mulliken population analysis (MPA) and charge decomposition analysis (CDA) were performed using AOMix 6.90.<sup>59,60</sup> Natural bond orbital (NBO) analysis was also conducted to obtain NBO atomic charges. This was performed with NBO 6.0.<sup>27,28</sup> Isotropic NMR shielding tensors were calculated using the SCF-GIAO method<sup>36–40</sup> 6-311++G(d,p)<sup>34</sup> basis set for C, H, N, O, and F atoms and the SDD basis set with an added f polarization function on Re. These values were then referenced to the isotropic NMR shielding tensors calculated for TMS (tetramethylsilane) using the 6-311++G(d,p)<sup>34</sup> basis set for C, H, and Si.

## ASSOCIATED CONTENT

### Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge at <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.organomet.9b00600>.

Cartesian coordinates for the optimized geometries (XYZ)

Synthetic procedures, characterization data, and computational procedures (PDF)

### Accession Codes

CCDC 1946750–1946754 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](http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif), or by emailing [data\\_request@ccdc.cam.ac.uk](mailto: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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The manuscript was written through contributions of all authors. All authors have given approval to the final version of the manuscript.

### Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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