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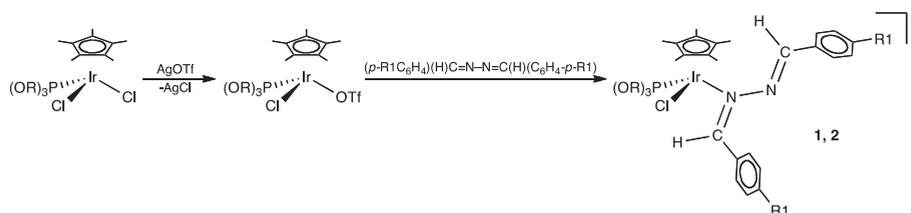
Reactions of Azines with Half-sandwich Iridium Complexes. C–H Activation to Metalated Derivatives

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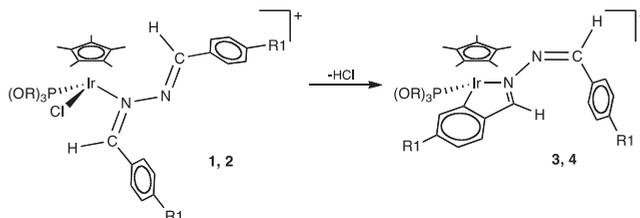
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Azine derivatives $[\text{IrCl}(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{Me}_5)\{\kappa^1\text{-[N=C(H)(C}_6\text{H}_4\text{-}p\text{-R1)]N=C(H)-(C}_6\text{H}_4\text{-}p\text{-R1)}\}\{\text{P(OR)}_3\}]\text{BPh}_4$ (**1**, **2**) were prepared by reacting chloro compounds $\text{IrCl}_2(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{Me}_5)[\text{P(OR)}_3]$ first with AgOTf and then with the appropriate azine.



$\text{P(OR)}_3 = \text{P(OMe)}_3$ (**1**), P(OEt)_3 (**2**); $\text{R1} = \text{H}, \text{CH}_3, \text{CH}_3\text{O}$.

Complexes **1**, **2** undergo intramolecular C–H activation, affording metalated compounds $[\text{Ir}(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{Me}_5)\{\kappa^2\text{-(C}_6\text{H}_3\text{-}p\text{-R1)(H)C=N-N=C(H)(C}_6\text{H}_4\text{-}p\text{-R1)}\}\{\text{P(OR)}_3\}]\text{-BPh}_4$ (**3**, **4**).



Acetone azine $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{C=N-N=C(CH}_3)_2$ also gives the chelate complex $[\text{Ir}(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{Me}_5)\{\kappa^2\text{-CH}_2(\text{CH}_3)\text{C=N-N=C(CH}_3)_2\}\{\text{P(OR)}_3\}]\text{BPh}_4$ (**5**) in the reaction with $\text{IrCl}(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{Me}_5)(\kappa^1\text{-OTf})[\text{P(OR)}_3]$.

The complexes were characterised spectroscopically (IR, NMR) and by X-ray crystal structure determination of $[\text{Ir}(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{Me}_5)\{\kappa^2\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{H})\text{C=N-N=C(H)(C}_6\text{H}_5)\}\{\text{P(OEt)}_3\}]\text{BPh}_4$.