

Supporting Information

E–H (E = N and P) Bond Activation of PhEH₂ by a Trinuclear Yttrium Methylidene Complex: Theoretical Insights into Mechanism and Multimetal Cooperation Behavior

Gen Luo,^{†,‡} Yi Luo,^{*,†} Zhaomin Hou,^{*,†,‡}

[†]*State Key Laboratory of Fine Chemicals, School of Chemical Engineering, Dalian University of Technology, Dalian 116024, People's Republic of China*

[‡]*RIKEN Center for Sustainable Resource Science and Organometallic Chemistry Laboratory, RIKEN, 2-1 Hirosawa, Wako, Saitama 351-0198, Japan*

*To whom correspondence should be addressed.

E-mail for Y.L.: luoyi@dlut.edu.cn;

E-mail for Z.H.: houzm@riken.jp.

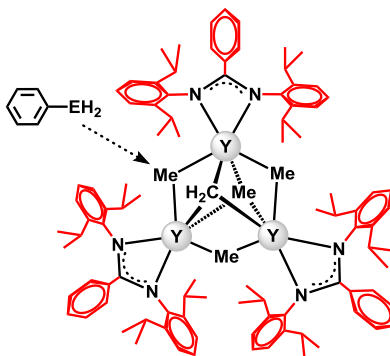


Figure S1. The Division of the ONIOM Layers. The part shown in black represents the inner layer and the one in red was included in outer layer.

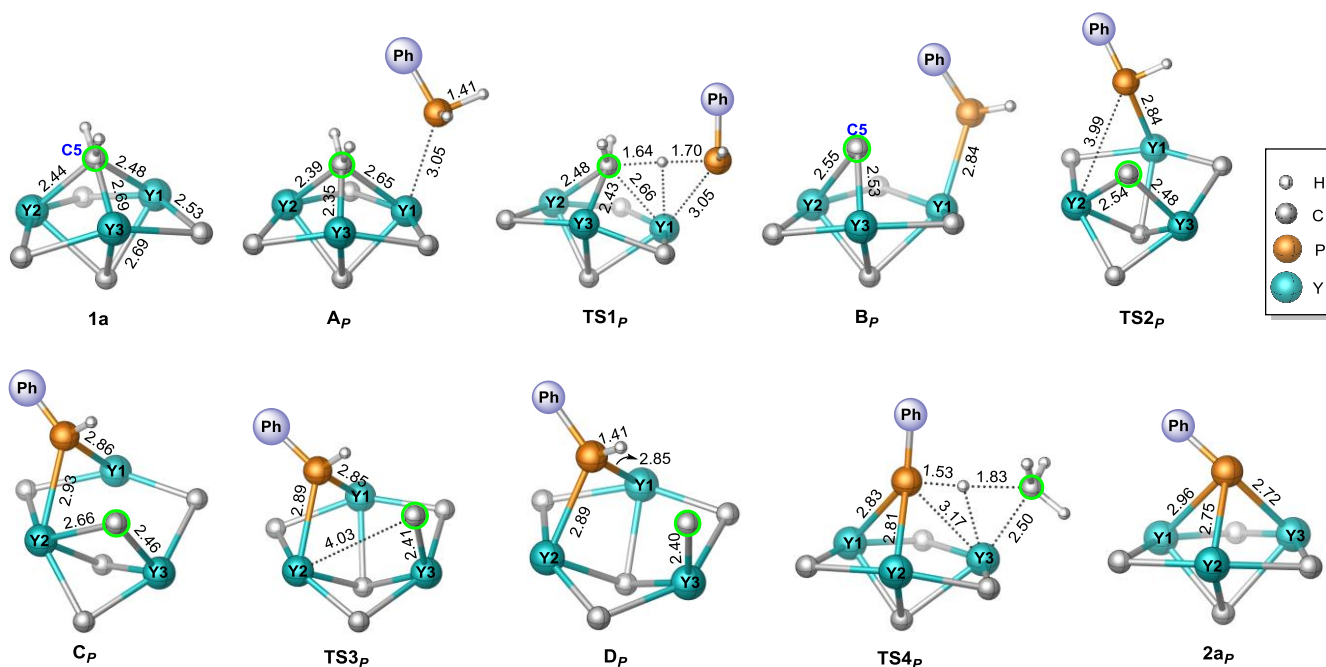


Figure S2. Structures (distances in Å) of optimized stationary points involved the reaction of **1a** with PhPH_2 . The $\text{PhC}[\text{NC}_6\text{H}_4(i\text{Pr-2,6})_2]_2$ ligands and part of the H atoms are omitted for clarity.

Table S1. Selected Wiberg Bond Indexes (WBIs) for the Stationary Points Involved in the Reaction of 1a with PhNH₂^a

bond ^b	1a	A _N	TS1 _N	B _N	TS2 _N	C _N	TS3 _N	D _N	TS4 _N	2a _N
Y1–Y2	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.16	0.19	0.23	0.22	0.22	0.21	0.21
Y1–Y3	0.24	0.23	0.20	0.17	0.17	0.13	0.14	0.15	0.20	0.21
Y2–Y3	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.23	0.30	0.29	0.21	0.16	0.18	0.21
Y1–C1	0.27	0.26	0.25	0.20	0.24	0.24	0.29	0.28	0.29	0.30
Y2–C1	0.26	0.28	0.30	0.33	0.29	0.30	0.26	0.27	0.23	0.26
Y3–C1	0.28	0.27	0.26	0.28	0.29	0.29	0.26	0.24	0.27	0.22
Y1–C2	0.39	0.36	0.36	0.32	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.35	0.39	0.40
Y2–C2	0.35	0.37	0.38	0.42	0.34	0.34	0.32	0.33	0.31	0.33
Y1–C3	0.36	0.36	0.34	0.32	0.31	0.30	0.37	0.38	0.34	0.37
Y3–C3	0.39	0.37	0.39	0.42	0.39	0.40	0.33	0.34	0.40	0.33
Y2–C4	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.36	0.35	0.36	0.37	0.34	0.37
Y3–C4	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.35	0.37	0.38	0.34	0.34	0.38	0.31
Y1–C5	0.43	0.34	0.19	0.10	-	-	-	-	-	-
Y2–C5	0.45	0.47	0.43	0.36	0.37	0.35	0.13	-	-	-
Y3–C5	0.63	0.64	0.50	0.35	0.35	0.38	0.45	0.47	0.37	-
N–H1	0.82 ^c	0.73	0.41	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
N–H2	0.82 ^c	0.79	0.79	0.80	0.79	0.77	0.74	0.71	0.45	-
Y1–N	-	0.21	0.24	0.46	0.40	0.36	0.34	0.31	0.27	0.34
Y2–N	-	-	-	-	0.13	0.22	0.22	0.24	0.31	0.37
Y3–N	-	-	-	-	0.13	0.05	0.06	0.08	0.20	0.38
Y1–H1	-	-	0.04	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Y3–H2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.06	-
C5–H1	-	-	0.33	0.83	0.87	0.88	0.91	0.92	0.90	0.94 ^d
C5–H2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.29	0.94 ^d

^aThe values less than 0.03 were ignored. ^bAtom labeling is defined in Figure 1. ^cThe value is obtained from the isolated PhNH₂. ^dData for the released methane molecule.

Table S2. Selected Wiberg Bond Indexes (WBIs) for the Stationary Points Involved in the Reaction of 1a with PhPH₂^a

bond ^b	1a	A _P	TS1 _P	B _P	TS2 _P	C _P	TS3 _P	D _P	TS4 _P	2a _P
Y1–Y2	0.19	0.20	0.19	0.17	0.19	0.24	0.21	0.20	0.19	0.23
Y1–Y3	0.24	0.22	0.21	0.17	0.15	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.18	0.24
Y2–Y3	0.24	0.25	0.23	0.22	0.24	0.23	0.16	0.15	0.18	0.20
Y1–C1	0.27	0.28	0.27	0.25	0.24	0.28	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.29
Y2–C1	0.26	0.28	0.29	0.30	0.28	0.26	0.25	0.26	0.26	0.28
Y3–C1	0.28	0.25	0.27	0.26	0.29	0.30	0.26	0.23	0.26	0.23
Y1–C3	0.36	0.37	0.37	0.39	0.36	0.38	0.39	0.40	0.40	0.34
Y3–C3	0.39	0.37	0.38	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.32	0.31	0.34	0.39
Y1–C2	0.39	0.40	0.36	0.34	0.33	0.34	0.31	0.31	0.37	0.34
Y2–C2	0.35	0.34	0.38	0.42	0.37	0.37	0.34	0.34	0.33	0.41
Y2–C4	0.38	0.38	0.39	0.39	0.32	0.37	0.38	0.39	0.38	0.39
Y3–C4	0.36	0.35	0.36	0.33	0.37	0.36	0.32	0.31	0.35	0.34
Y1–C5	0.43	0.34	0.30	0.14	0.05	0.07	0.05	-	-	-
Y2–C5	0.45	0.53	0.42	0.35	0.35	0.34	0.07	-	-	-
Y3–C5	0.63	0.59	0.45	0.32	0.36	0.37	0.45	0.46	0.44	-
P–H1	0.98 ^c	0.96	0.59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
P–H2	0.98 ^c	0.93	0.94	0.95	0.95	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.69	-
Y1–P	-	0.48	0.44	0.84	0.75	0.60	0.59	0.59	0.56	0.48
Y2–P	-	-	-	-	0.16	0.56	0.53	0.52	0.54	0.73
Y3–P	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.06	0.08	0.29	0.72
Y1–H1	-	-	0.11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Y3–H2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.09	-
C5–H1	-	-	0.26	0.83	0.86	0.88	0.91	0.91	0.91	0.94 ^d
C5–H2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.16	0.94 ^d

^aThe values less than 0.03 were ignored. ^bAtom labeling is defined in Figure 3. ^cThe value is obtained from the isolated PhPH₂. ^dData for the released methane molecule.

Table S3. Gas-phase thermal correction to enthalpy ($\Delta\Delta H_{\text{gas}}$, a.u.) and to Gibbs free energy ($\Delta\Delta G_{\text{gas}}$, a.u.), single-point energy in solution (E_{sp} , a.u.), relative enthalpy in solution (ΔH_{sol} , kcal/mol), relative free energy in solution (ΔG_{sol} , kcal/mol)

	$\Delta\Delta H$	$\Delta\Delta G$	E_{sp}	ΔH_{sol}	ΔG_{sol}
CH₄	0.048819	0.027681	-40.51079	/	/
PhNH₂	0.122511	0.086478	-287.5776	/	/
1a	2.487101	2.20821	-4256.923	0.0	0.0
A_N	2.613175	2.32395	-4544.532	-16.9	-0.8
TS1_N	2.607781	2.319106	-4544.514	-9.3	7.2
B_N	2.612521	2.321152	-4544.554	-31.2	-16.4
TS2_N	2.613532	2.329675	-4544.555	-31.5	-12.0
C_N	2.614686	2.328677	-4544.561	-34.3	-16.1
TS3_N	2.612915	2.328657	-4544.558	-33.8	-14.6
D_N	2.613986	2.328294	-4544.564	-36.7	-18.3
TS4_N	2.609765	2.323626	-4544.555	-33.4	-15.3
2a_N	2.563752	2.280291	-4504.092	-62.1	-55.7
NH₃	0.037873	0.014978	-56.55117	/	/
1a	2.487101	2.20821	-4256.923	0.0	0.0
A'_N	2.528803	2.249165	-4313.511	-20.4	-6.5
TS1'_N	2.522095	2.243215	-4313.48	-5.1	9.3
B'_N	2.527429	2.245379	-4313.513	-22.8	-10.4
D'_N	2.527305	2.245704	-4313.525	-30.4	-17.7
TS4'_N	2.52328	2.243935	-4313.511	-23.7	-9.6
2a'_N	2.477279	2.200461	-4273.046	-51.0	-48.6
PhPH₂	0.114678	0.075685	-574.1449	/	/
1a	2.487101	2.20821	-4256.923	0.0	0.0
A_P	2.606054	2.314242	-4831.094	-13.5	2.8
TS1_P	2.602396	2.315705	-4831.075	-4.0	15.6
B_P	2.607815	2.317517	-4831.118	-27.1	-9.8
TS2_P	2.607303	2.317456	-4831.11	-22.5	-4.9
C_P	2.609401	2.321679	-4831.124	-30.1	-11.1
TS3_P	2.607778	2.31912	-4831.112	-23.6	-5.3
D_P	2.608351	2.316587	-4831.112	-23.2	-6.8
TS4_P	2.60636	2.3159	-4831.099	-16.3	0.9
2a_P	2.562371	2.278121	-4790.649	-51.3	-43.5

PH₃	0.028111	0.003226	-343.1205	/	/
1a	2.487101	2.20821	-4256.923	0.0	0.0
A'_P	2.51934	2.238397	-4600.06	-7.4	7.0
TS1'_P	2.515218	2.23866	-4600.042	1.4	18.5
B'_P	2.520841	2.238436	-4600.077	-17.3	-3.9
D'_P	2.521256	2.239377	-4600.078	-17.7	-4.0
TS4'_P	2.519024	2.240142	-4600.069	-13.1	2.6
2a'_P	2.474356	2.192104	-4559.594	-33.1	-32.9
