

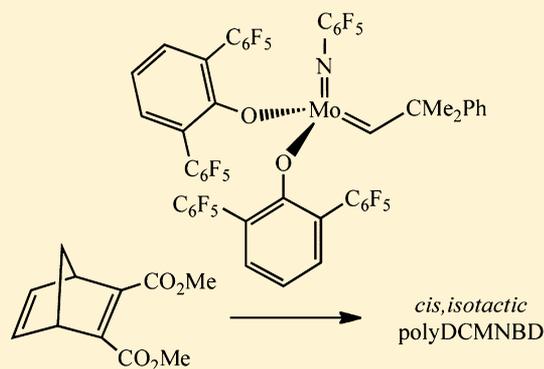
Synthesis and ROMP Chemistry of Decafluoroterphenoxide Molybdenum Imido Alkylidene and Ethylene Complexes

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Supporting Information

ABSTRACT: The bisDFTO alkylidene complexes of molybdenum $\text{Mo}(\text{NR})(\text{CHCMe}_2\text{Ph})(\text{DFTO})_2$ ($\text{R} = 2,6\text{-}i\text{-Pr}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$, $2,6\text{-Me}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$, C_6F_5 , 1-adamantyl; $\text{DFTO} = 2,6\text{-}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3\text{O}$) and monoaryloxo monopyrrolide (MAP) complexes $\text{Mo}(\text{NR})(\text{CHCMe}_2\text{Ph})(\text{Me}_2\text{Pyr})(\text{OAr})$ ($\text{Me}_2\text{Pyr} = 2,5\text{-dimethylpyrrolide}$; $\text{R} = \text{C}_6\text{F}_5$, $\text{OAr} = \text{DFTO}$, $2,6\text{-dimesitylphenoxide}$ (HMTO); $\text{R} = 2,6\text{-Me}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$, $\text{OAr} = \text{DFTO}$) have been prepared in good yields. Addition of dicarbomethoxynorbornadiene (DCMNBD) to bisDFTO complexes yielded polymers that have a *cis, isotactic* structure. Polymerization of DCMNBD by $\text{Mo}(\text{NC}_6\text{F}_5)(\text{CHCMe}_2\text{Ph})(\text{Me}_2\text{Pyr})(\text{HMTO})$ gives a polymer that contains the expected *cis, syndiotactic* structure, but polymerization of DCMNBD by $\text{Mo}(\text{NR})(\text{CHCMe}_2\text{Ph})(\text{Me}_2\text{Pyr})(\text{DFTO})$ ($\text{R} = \text{C}_6\text{F}_5$, $2,6\text{-Me}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) generates a polymer that has a *cis, isotactic* structure, the first observation of a *cis, isotactic* polymer prepared employing a MAP initiator. Norbornene is polymerized to give what is proposed to be highly tactic *cis*-polyNBE. Addition of ethylene to $\text{Mo}(\text{NC}_6\text{F}_5)(\text{CHCMe}_2\text{Ph})(\text{DFTO})_2$ leads to formation of $\text{Mo}(\text{NC}_6\text{F}_5)(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2)(\text{DFTO})_2$, which also behaves as an initiator for polymerization of DCMNBD to *cis, isotactic*-polyDCMNBD and norbornene to *cis* highly tactic polyNBE. $\text{Mo}(\text{NC}_6\text{F}_5)(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2)(\text{DFTO})_2$ reacts with 3-methyl-3-phenylcyclopropene (MPCP) to give $\text{Mo}(\text{NC}_6\text{F}_5)(\text{CHCHCMePh})(\text{DFTO})_2$ in ~50% yield.



INTRODUCTION

Olefin metathesis is of continuing importance to the synthesis of organic molecules and polymers, both as a consequence of its very nature, i.e., the synthesis of C=C bonds catalytically from C=C bonds, and because of the control that can be exercised through the use of well-defined Mo, W, and Ru complexes as catalysts for that reaction.¹ In the interest of exploring variations of Mo and W olefin metathesis complexes that contain an electron-withdrawing imido ligand, we recently devised routes to pentafluorophenylimido alkylidene complexes.² We were especially interested in exploring high-oxidation-state monoaryloxo pyrrolide (MAP) imido alkylidene complexes of Mo and W for Z-selective olefin metathesis reactions.³ In the process we introduced the 2,6-bis-(pentafluorophenyl)phenoxide (decafluoroterphenoxide or DFTO) ligand, a sterically demanding but more electron withdrawing terphenoxide than either HMTO (O-2,6-(2,4,6-Me₃C₆H₃)₂C₆H₃) or HIPTO (O-2,6-(2,4,6-*i*-Pr₃C₆H₃)₂C₆H₃), and one that also is unlikely to be subject to any CH activation within the ligand. We failed to make MAP complexes that contain the DFTO ligand through protonation of bispyrrolide precursors as a consequence of “overprotonation” to yield $\text{M}(\text{NC}_6\text{F}_5)(\text{CHCMe}_2\text{Ph})(\text{DFTO})_2$ complexes. However, $\text{M}(\text{NC}_6\text{F}_5)(\text{CHCMe}_2\text{Ph})(\text{DFTO})_2$ complexes attracted our attention because analogous bisHMTO or bisHIPTO complexes have not been prepared and because $\text{M}(\text{NC}_6\text{F}_5)(\text{CHCMe}_2\text{Ph})(\text{DFTO})_2$ initiates polymerization of 2,3-dicar-

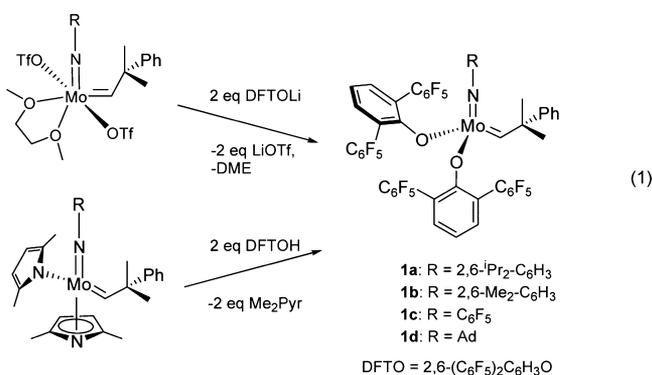
bomethoxynorbornadiene (DCMNBD) to give poly-(DCMNBD) with a structure that is >99% *cis* and *isotactic*, a result that is not known for bisalkoxide or bisaryloxo imido alkylidene complexes.⁴ In this paper we report the synthesis of new MAP complexes that contain the DFTO ligand along with a more thorough exploration of reactions of bisDFTO complexes that are relevant to ROMP reactions. This exploration includes the synthesis and chemistry of the ethylene complex $\text{Mo}(\text{NC}_6\text{F}_5)(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2)(\text{DFTO})_2$ and a study of its behavior as an initiator for ROMP.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Synthesis of BisDFTO Mo Complexes. Treatment of $\text{Mo}(\text{NR})(\text{CHCMe}_2\text{Ph})(\text{OTf})_2(\text{DME})$ complexes with 2 equiv of DFTOLi ($\text{LiO-}2,6\text{-}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$) at -30°C in toluene gave the bisDFTO complexes $\text{Mo}(\text{NR})(\text{CHCMe}_2\text{Ph})(\text{DFTO})_2$ (**1a–d**, $\text{R} = 2,6\text{-}i\text{-Pr}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$, $2,6\text{-Me}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$, C_6F_5 , 1-adamantyl; eq 1). These complexes also can be prepared through addition of 2 equiv of DFTOH to $\text{Mo}(\text{NR})(\text{CHCMe}_2\text{Ph})(\text{Me}_2\text{Pyr})_2$ in diethyl ether at room temperature. We attribute the failure to prepare $\text{Mo}(\text{NR})(\text{CHCMe}_2\text{Ph})(\text{OR})_2$ by either method when OR is HIPTO or HMTO to a higher $\text{p}K_a$ for HIPTOH or HMTOH and therefore slower protonation of pyrrolide ligands or to side reactions that involve deprotonation of the

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alkylidene⁵ when Mo(NR)(CHCMe₂Ph)(OTf)₂(DME) is treated with aryloxy salts.

In ¹⁹F NMR spectra of 1a–d at 20 °C, one *para*, two *meta*, and two *ortho* fluorine DFTO resonances are observed (Figure 1). The presence of two *meta* and two *ortho* resonances is

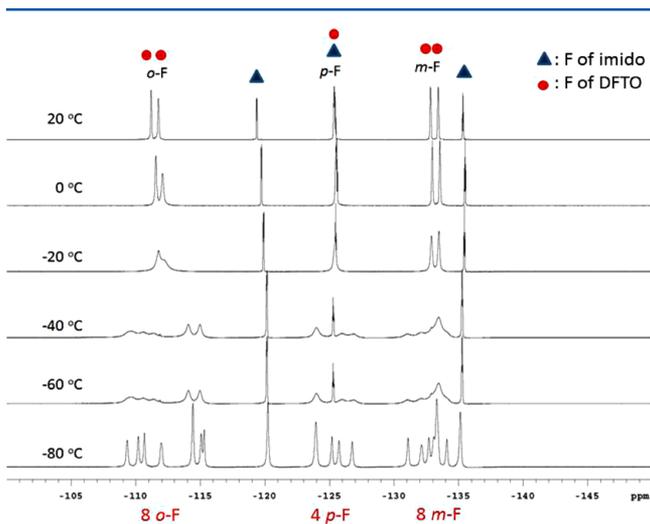
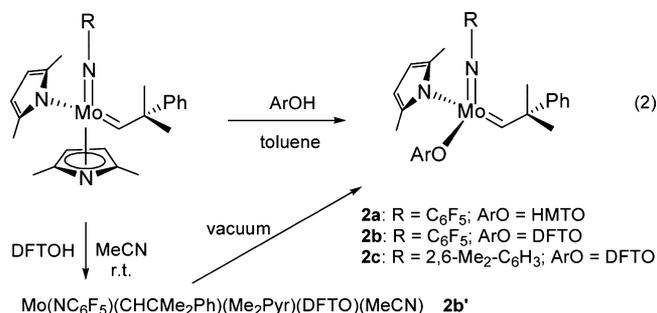


Figure 1. Variable-temperature ¹⁹F NMR spectra of 1c (in toluene-*d*₈).

consistent with hindered rotation of the C₆F₅ ring about the C–C connection between C₆F₅ rings and the central phenyl ring but free rotation about the Mo–O bonds on the NMR time scale. The ¹⁹F NMR spectrum of 1c at –80 °C reveals resonances (some overlapping) for eight DFTO *ortho* fluorines, eight *meta* fluorines, and four *para* fluorines, consistent with no molecular symmetry for 1c on the NMR time scale at that temperature. An X-ray structure² revealed that the two DFTO ligands are oriented approximately perpendicular to each other to give an enantiomeric atropisomer in the solid state. The DFTO ligands in the atropisomer resemble the halves of a baseball cover with the basic C₂ symmetry being reduced to C_s as a consequence of the presence of the imido and alkylidene ligands. We propose that the atropisomeric form leads to the inequivalence of all 20 DFTO fluorines on the NMR time scale. Rotation of the two DFTO ligands past one another and past the imido and alkylidene ligands creates a mirror plane on the NMR time scale at higher temperatures that coincides with the N_{imido}–Mo–C plane.

Synthesis of MAP Complexes. Treatment of Mo(NC₆F₅)(CHCMe₂Ph)(Me₂Pyr)₂ with 1 equiv of 2,6-dimesitylphenol (HMTOH) at 70 °C for 16 h led to formation of the MAP complex Mo(NC₆F₅)(CHCMe₂Ph)(Me₂Pyr)(HMTO)

in 60% yield (eq 2). However, addition of 1 equiv of DFTOH to Mo(NC₆F₅)(CHCMe₂Ph)(Me₂Pyr)₂ at 22 or –30 °C in



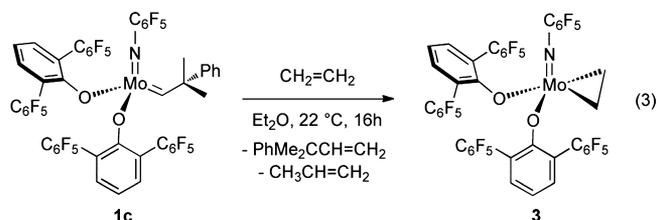
toluene followed by warming the sample to 20 °C produced a mixture of Mo(NC₆F₅)(CHCMe₂Ph)(Me₂Pyr)₂, Mo(NC₆F₅)(CHCMe₂Ph)(Me₂Pyr)(DFTO) (2b), and Mo(NC₆F₅)(CHCMe₂Ph)(DFTO)₂ (1c) (~1:1:1 through integration of alkylidene resonances). In contrast, when reactions between Mo(NC₆F₅)(CHCMe₂Ph)(Me₂Pyr)₂ and DFTOH were carried out in acetonitrile, Mo(NC₆F₅)(CHCMe₂Ph)(Me₂Pyr)(DFTO)(MeCN) (2b') could be isolated as an orange solid in 75% yield. Proton NMR studies suggest that the acetonitrile in 2b' dissociates readily; indeed, it can be removed by dissolving 2b' in toluene and removing the toluene and acetonitrile in vacuo in several cycles. Compound 2b was obtained as a red-orange solid that could be recrystallized from a mixture of diethyl ether and pentane. We propose that in the reaction between Mo(NC₆F₅)(CHCMe₂Ph)(Me₂Pyr)₂ and DFTOH acetonitrile is a good enough ligand to prevent overprotonation, since the oxygen of DFTOH must bind to the metal before the proton can transfer to the pyrrolide ligand. Fortunately, acetonitrile is also a poor enough ligand in this situation to be removed from 2b' in vacuo.

An X-ray study of 2b' revealed it to have a square-pyramidal structure ($\tau = 0.067$; $\tau = 0$ for a perfect square pyramid⁶) with the alkylidene in the apical position and acetonitrile bound *trans* to the dimethylpyrrolide (Figure 2). The Mo(1)–N(1) (1.751(1) Å) and the Mo(1)–C(1) (1.889(1) Å) distances are similar to those found in other square-pyramidal MAP adducts that contain PMe₃ or THF.⁷ The alkylidene is found in the apical position of the square pyramid in all crystallographically characterized MAP adducts so far.

Synthesis of a Molybdenum Ethylene Complex.

Reaction of a new alkylidene complex with ethylene is a relatively routine means of exploring the ease of formation and stability of methylidene and unsubstituted metallacyclobutane complexes.

Exposure of a diethyl ether solution of Mo(NC₆F₅)(CHCMe₂Ph)(DFTO)₂ (1c) to 1 atm of ethylene at room temperature led to a color change from orange to deep purple over a period of 16 h and formation of the ethylene complex Mo(NC₆F₅)(CH₂CH₂)(DFTO)₂ (3; eq 3), in 76% yield. At



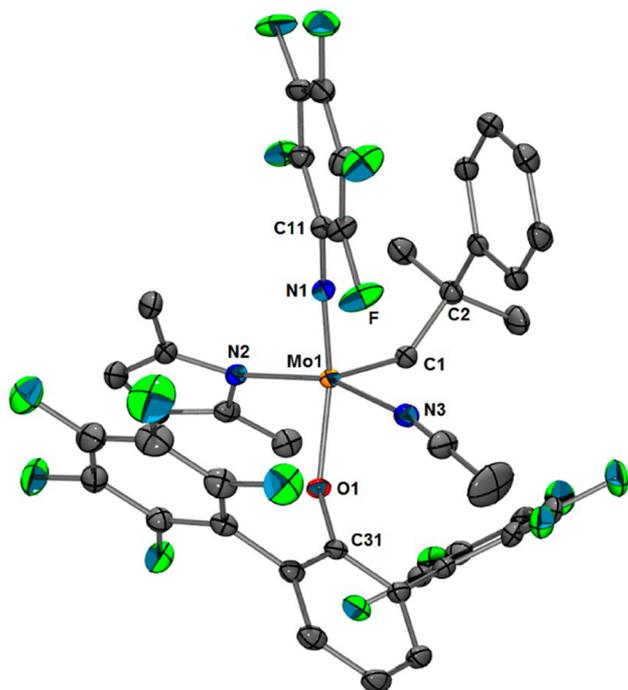


Figure 2. Thermal ellipsoid plot of the structure of **2b'**. Hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity. Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (deg): Mo(1)–N(1) = 1.751(1), Mo(1)–C(1) = 1.889(1), Mo(1)–O(1) = 1.995(1), Mo(1)–N(2) = 2.084(1), Mo(1)–N(3) = 2.190(1), C(11)–N(1) = 1.378(1), O(1)–C(31) = 1.336(1); N(1)–Mo(1)–O(1) = 154.35(4), N(2)–Mo(1)–N(3) = 158.37(4).

room temperature the ^1H NMR spectrum for **3** in $\text{tol-}d_8$ showed two ethylene proton resonances at 1.33 and 2.48 ppm (Figure 3). At -80°C these two resonances split into four

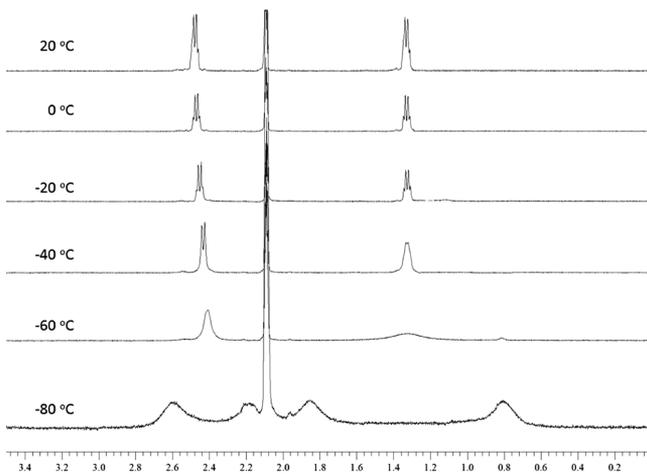


Figure 3. Variable-temperature ^1H NMR spectra of **3** ($\text{tol-}d_8$).

at δ 0.81, 1.85, 2.19, and 2.60 ppm. The ^{19}F NMR spectrum of **3** at -80°C reveals resonances for eight *ortho* fluorines, eight *meta* fluorines, and four *para* fluorines for the two DFTO ligands, as found for **1c** (Figure 1). All data are consistent with **3** having no symmetry at -80°C on the NMR time scale, as found for **1c**.

The structure of **3** as determined through a single-crystal X-ray diffraction study is shown in Figure 4. The Mo1–C2 bond length (2.140(4) Å) is essentially the same as the Mo1–C1

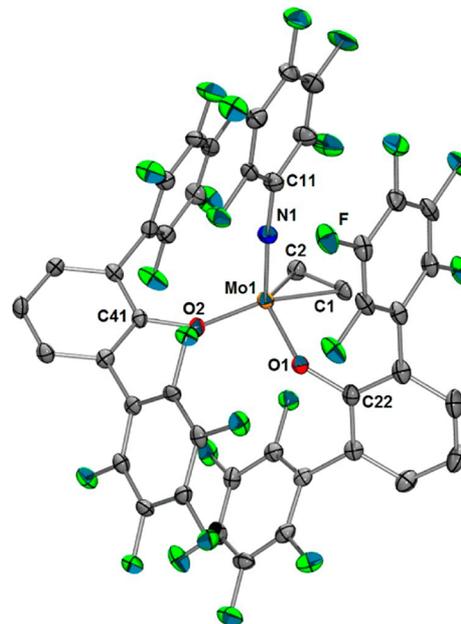


Figure 4. Thermal ellipsoid plot of **3**. Hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity. Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (deg): Mo(1)–N(1) = 1.720(3), Mo(1)–O(2) = 1.935(3), Mo(1)–O(1) = 1.946(3), Mo(1)–C(2) = 2.140(4), Mo(1)–C(1) = 2.153(4), C(1)–C(2) = 1.415(6); N(1)–Mo(1)–O(2) = 121.37(14), N(1)–Mo(1)–O(1) = 114.79(14), O(2)–Mo(1)–O(1) = 108.45(11), C(2)–Mo(1)–C(1) = 38.49(15), C(2)–C(1)–Mo(1) = 70.3(2), C(1)–C(2)–Mo(1) = 71.2(2).

bond (2.153(4) Å). The C1–C2 bond distance is 1.415(6) Å, and the C1–Mo1–C2 angle is $38.49(15)^\circ$. The C1–C2 bond is essentially perpendicular to the Mo1–N1 bond (N1–Mo1–C1 = $97.00(15)^\circ$; N1–Mo1–C2 = $96.00(16)^\circ$). These structural features are similar to those observed for the four other Mo imido ethylene complexes in the literature.⁸

When **1c** was treated with $^{13}\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$ in C_6D_6 and the reaction followed by ^{13}C NMR, **1c** was fully converted into a mixture of a TBP metallacyclobutane complex, $\text{Mo}(\text{NC}_6\text{F}_5)(^{13}\text{CH}_2^{13}\text{CH}_2^{13}\text{CH}_2)(\text{DFTO})_2$ (**4***), and $^{13}\text{CH}_2=\text{CHCMe}_2\text{Ph}$ in 5 min. After 15 min, resonances for $\text{Mo}(\text{NC}_6\text{F}_5)(^{13}\text{CH}_2^{13}\text{CH}_2)(\text{DFTO})_2$ (**3***) and $^{13}\text{CH}_2=^{13}\text{CH}^{13}\text{CH}_3$ could be observed; after 24 h conversion to **3*** and $^{13}\text{CH}_2=^{13}\text{CH}^{13}\text{CH}_3$ was complete. According to proton NMR spectra the amount of propylene was less than 1 equiv, as a consequence of some being lost into the head space. A ^{13}C NMR spectrum of isolated **3*** under ~ 0.5 atm of $^{13}\text{CH}_2^{13}\text{CH}_2$ at room temperature showed that two carbon resonances were present at δ 82.9 and 39.9 ppm (with a second-order coupling pattern), consistent with formation of a small amount of the metallacyclopentane complex $\text{Mo}(\text{NC}_6\text{F}_5)(^{13}\text{CH}_2^{13}\text{CH}_2^{13}\text{CH}_2)(\text{DFTO})_2$ ($\sim 2\%$; Figure 5).⁹ We propose that $\text{Mo}(\text{NC}_6\text{F}_5)(^{13}\text{CH}_2^{13}\text{CH}_2^{13}\text{CH}_2)(\text{DFTO})_2$ rearranges to $\text{Mo}(\text{NC}_6\text{F}_5)(^{13}\text{CH}_2=^{13}\text{CH}^{13}\text{CH}_3)(\text{DFTO})_2$ and that propylene is then displaced (most likely) by ethylene to give $\text{Mo}(\text{NC}_6\text{F}_5)(^{13}\text{CH}_2^{13}\text{CH}_2)(\text{DFTO})_2$ and free propylene. The mechanism of rearrangement is proposed to consist of β hydride elimination in the metallacyclobutane complex to give an intermediate allyl hydride followed by reductive elimination. Formation of an alkyl intermediate through CH activation in either the DFTO or the NC_6F_5 ligand is not possible. However, migration of the β hydride in the metallacyclobutane to the

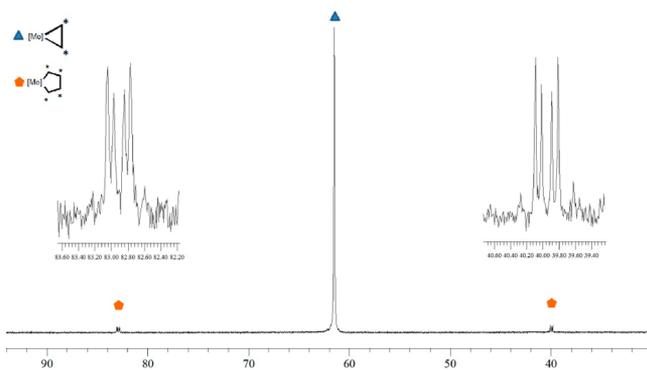


Figure 5. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of $\text{Mo}(\text{NC}_6\text{F}_5)(^{13}\text{CH}_2=^{13}\text{CH}_2)\text{-(DFTO)}_2$ and $^{13}\text{CH}_2=^{13}\text{CH}_2$ in C_6D_6 at room temperature ($[\text{Mo}] = \text{Mo}(\text{NC}_6\text{F}_5)(\text{DFTO})_2$).

imido nitrogen to give an intermediate $\text{Mo}(\text{IV})$ complex, $\text{Mo}(\text{NHC}_6\text{F}_5)(^{13}\text{CH}_2\text{ }^{13}\text{CH}^{13}\text{CH}_2)(\text{DFTO})_2$, cannot be ruled out.

Polymerization of DCMNBD Initiated by 1. We often employ polymerization of 2,3-dicarbomethoxynorbornadiene (DCMNBD) as a means of assessing the potential stereoselectivity of a given initiator. We noted in a communication that DCMNBD was polymerized by initiator **1c** to give *cis, isotactic* polymer.² Addition of 100 equiv of DCMNBD to **1a, b, d** also led to the formation of poly(DCMNBD). As shown in Table 1, only initiators **1b, c** produce a polymer with a highly

Table 1. Poly(DCMNBD) Formed Employing $\text{Mo}(\text{NR})(\text{CHCMe}_2\text{Ph})(\text{DFTO})_2$ Initiators

compd	R	cis (%)	tacticity (%)
1a	2,6- <i>i</i> -Pr ₂ C ₆ H ₃	89	72 <i>iso</i>
1b	2,6-Me ₂ C ₆ H ₃	>98	>98 <i>iso</i>
1c	C ₆ F ₅	>98	>98 <i>iso</i>
1d	adamantyl		atactic

regular >98% *cis*, >98% *isotactic* structure, on the basis of the chemical shift of the methylene carbon (C(7)) at 38.7 ppm in CDCl_3 ;¹⁰ this contrasts with a chemical shift for C(7) of 38.0 ppm in *cis, syndiotactic*-poly(DCMNBD).^{3b} Formation of *cis, isotactic*-poly(DCMNBD) employing an imido alkylidene bisalkoxide initiator is not known.⁴ However, polymerization of DCMNBD initiated by $\text{W}(\text{CH}-t\text{-Bu})(\text{O})(\text{O}-2,6\text{-Ph}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3)_2(\text{PPh}_2\text{Me})$ has been reported to produce >95% *cis*, >95% *isotactic* poly(DCMNBD).¹¹ Initiators that contain chiral biphenolate and binaphtholate ligands produce *cis, isotactic*-poly(DCMNBD) through enantiomeric site control.⁴ Only atactic polymer was formed employing initiator **1d**, either isolated or prepared in situ. The lower efficiency of forming a *cis, isotactic* polymer with initiator **1a** is likely to be a consequence of too much steric hindrance.

GPC analyses of *cis, isotactic*-poly(DCMNBD) made from 50, 100, 200, and 800 equiv of DCMNBD in CHCl_3 at room temperature with initiator **1c** (Table 2) showed that the polydispersity of each sample is relatively low and decreases as the polymer length increases, both of which suggest that the polymerization is relatively well-behaved. (For a neophylidene initiator k_p often is greater than k_i and PDI values therefore are higher than when k_p and k_i are comparable.) The relationship between the number of equivalents of monomer employed and the number average molecular weight of the polymers

Table 2. GPC Studies of Poly(DCMNBD) Prepared with **1c** as the Initiator^a

n	conversion (%)	M_n	PDI
50	>98	7000	1.19
100	>98	13000	1.17
200	>98	24000	1.15
800	>98	88000	1.10

^a M_n in CHCl_3 vs polystyrene; n = equivalents of monomer added.

measured in CHCl_3 versus polystyrene standards is linear with an R^2 value of 0.9999 (Figure S1 in the Supporting Information).

Polymerization of DCMNBD by bisDFTO initiators **1b, c** to yield *cis, isotactic*-poly(DCMNBD) would seem to require that the monomer attack the same side of a $\text{M}=\text{C}$ bond in each step. We tentatively suggest that *cis, isotactic*-poly(DCMNBD) forms through a type of chain end control where one diastereomer is created through interlocking of the terphenoxide ligands in combination with the chirality of the last inserted monomer; reaction of the other diastereomer is not competitive. The failure of **1d** to yield *cis, isotactic*-poly(DCMNBD) suggests that the nature of the imido group is a significant part of the puzzle that is not yet understood.

Polymerization of DCMNBD Initiated by 2a–c. Addition of 100 equiv of DCMNBD to **2a** led to consumption of the monomer and formation of polymer within 30 min. The polymer is >98% *cis, syndiotactic* (Table 3), as is the poly-

Table 3. Poly(DCMNBD) Formed with Initiators $\text{Mo}(\text{NR})(\text{CHCMe}_2\text{Ph})(\text{Me}_2\text{Pyr})(\text{OAr})$ (**2a–c**)

initiator	R	ArO	cis (%)	tacticity (%)
2a	C ₆ F ₅	HMTO	>98	>98 <i>syndio</i>
2b'	C ₆ F ₅	DFTO	92	atactic
2b	C ₆ F ₅	DFTO	95	91 <i>iso</i>
2c	2,6-Me ₂ C ₆ H ₃	DFTO	>98	96 <i>iso</i>

(DCMNBD) produced employing $\text{Mo}(\text{NAd})(\text{CHCMe}_2\text{Ph})(\text{Pyr})(\text{OHIPT})$ ^{3b} as an initiator. The polymer obtained with **2b'** is largely *cis* but relatively atactic, presumably solely as a consequence of the presence of 1 equiv of acetonitrile. To our surprise, treatment of **2b** with 100 equiv of DCMNBD led to the formation of a new polymer that has a 95% *cis* and 91% *isotactic* structure, while poly(DCMNBD) prepared with **2c** as the initiator was found to contain ~98% *cis* and 96% *isotactic* dyads. Formation of *cis, isotactic* polymer with a MAP initiator has never been observed, although formation of *trans, isotactic*-poly[(+)-2,3-dicarbomethoxynorbornene] employing a MAP initiator has been reported recently.³¹ The change in tacticity upon changing from HMTO (in **2a**) to DFTO (in **2b**) is striking, as is the disruption of the tacticity of the poly(DCMNBD) in the presence of 1 equiv of acetonitrile (in **2b'**).

Poly(DCMNBD) made from 50, 100, and 200 equiv of monomer in CHCl_3 with initiator **2b** was analyzed by GPC (Table 4). In comparison to the polymer produced by initiator **1c** (Table 2), the polydispersities of each of the samples are relatively high and increase as the polymer length increases. The relationship between the number of equivalents of monomer employed and the number average molecular weight of the polymers measured in CHCl_3 versus polystyrene standards is also linear, with an R^2 value of 0.99 (Figure S2 in the Supporting Information). The molecular weights of these

Table 4. GPC Studies of Poly(DCMNBD) Samples Using **2b** as an Initiator^a

<i>n</i>	conversion (%)	<i>M_n</i>	PDI	<i>n'</i>	<i>n/n'</i>
50	>99	28000	1.19	242	0.21
100	>99	55000	1.20	490	0.20
200	>99	90000	1.26	817	0.24

^a*M_n* in CHCl₃ vs polystyrene; *n* = equivalents of monomer added; *n'* = the required equivalents of monomer to produce the same *M_n* with initiator **1c**.

polymers are about 5 times what they are when **1c** is employed as the initiator, as can be seen from the data in Table 2; the ratio *n/n'* is ~0.2, where *n'* would be the required number of equivalents to produce an observed *M_n* employing initiator **1c**.

Formation of largely *cis, isotactic*-poly(DCMNBD) by **2b,c** contrasts dramatically with the *cis, syndiotactic*-poly(DCMNBD) formed when **2a** is employed as an initiator. In fact, we can explain formation of *cis, isotactic*-poly(DCMNBD) only if the “rule” concerning approach of the monomer *trans* to a pyrrolide ligand does not hold in this situation or if we invoke a turnstile rotation of a metallacyclobutane intermediate followed by a rotation of the alkylidene ligand, as shown in Scheme 1. We have entertained the possibility that a *propagating species generated from 2b* disproportionates to yield bispyrrolide and bisDFTO complexes and that the *cis, isotactic* structure arises through selective polymerization of DCMNBD by the bisDFTO complex so formed. However, a mixture of **1c** and Mo(NC₆F₅)(CHCMe₂Ph)(Me₂Pyr)₂ (1:1) in C₆D₆ did not give any **2b** at room temperature or upon heating to 50 °C for 16 h. Also, the data in Table 4 would suggest that the amount of disproportionation would have to be ~20%. It should be noted that Mo(NAr)(CHCMe₂Ph)(Me₂Pyr)(OC₆F₅) has been found to yield a mixture of Mo(NAr)(CHCMe₂Ph)(Me₂Pyr)₂ plus Mo(NAr)(CHCMe₂Ph)(OC₆F₅)₂ in solution.¹² We conclude that disproportionation of a *propagating species generated from 2b* cannot be rejected out of hand, but it seems unlikely at this stage.

ROMP Initiated by Mo(NC₆F₅)(CH₂CH₂)(DFTO)₂ (**3**).

When Mo(NC₆F₅)(CH₂CH₂)(DFTO)₂ was treated with 50 equiv of DCMNBD in CDCl₃ in a J. Young tube, a trace amount of polymer was observed after 16 h at room temperature. When the reaction mixture was heated for 4 h at 50 °C, 48% of the monomer was consumed. The reaction was monitored by ¹H NMR, and conversion vs time is shown in Figure 6. All monomer was consumed after 16 h at 50 °C in a Schlenk flask when ethylene was removed in a flow of nitrogen gas. ¹³C NMR analysis of the poly(DCMNBD) showed that the

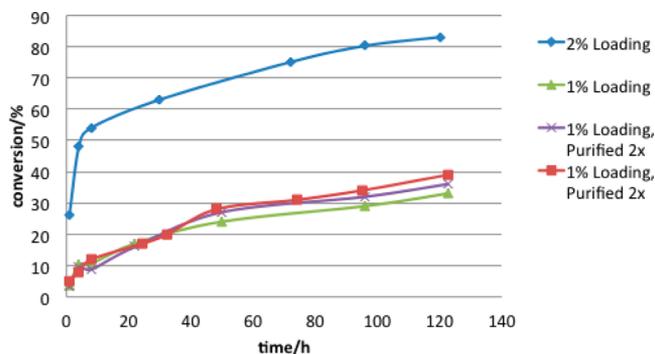


Figure 6. Consumption of DCMNBD in CDCl₃ by **3** at 50 °C. Blue diamonds imply 2% catalyst loading, green triangles imply 1% catalyst loading, and red squares and purple crosses are 1% catalyst loading with **3** that had been exposed to ethylene to remove any alkylidene impurities.

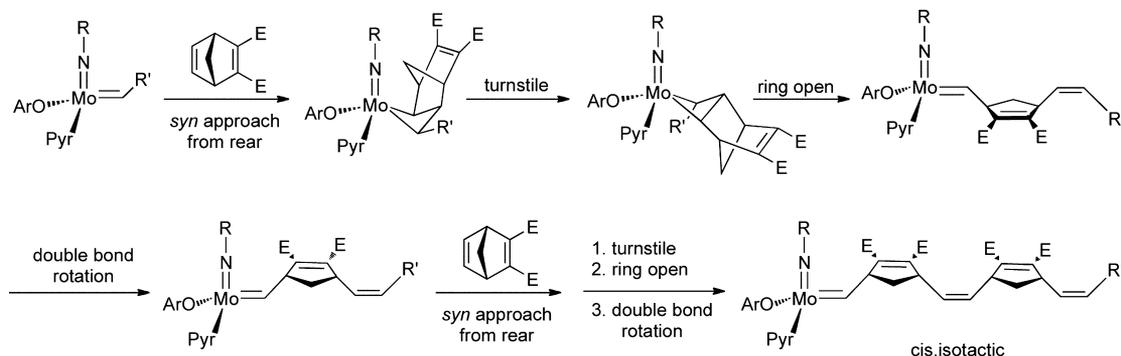
polymer is >99% *cis* and *isotactic*. The same phenomenon was observed when 1% catalyst was employed, even when samples of **3** were exposed multiple times to ethylene and recovered. Therefore, the evidence argues against the possibility that the polymerization can be ascribed to a trace of residual alkylidene complex. Since *cis, isotactic*-poly(DCMNBD) is formed employing Mo(NC₆F₅)(CHCMe₂Ph)(DFTO)₂ as an initiator, it seems highly likely that the initiator for the polymerization is a bisDFTO complex and that the initiator is generated from DCMNBD itself.

Addition of 1 equiv of DCMNBD to Mo(NC₆F₅)(CH₂CH₂)(DFTO)₂ led to formation of a red-orange crystalline product in 57% yield with the apparent composition Mo(NC₆F₅)(CH₂CH₂)(DCMNBD)(DFTO)₂ (**5**).

The ¹H NMR spectrum showed four triplet of doublet resonances (12, 4 Hz) at δ 1.43, 1.77, 2.72, and 3.07 ppm for the ethylene protons, which is indicative of a product with no symmetry. An X-ray diffraction study showed that the DCMNBD has bonded to Mo through the carbonyl groups in the two esters (O1 and O3, Figure 7), rather than forming a “mixed” metallacyclopentane from DCMNBD and ethylene. One ester is *trans* to the ethylene ligand, while the other is *trans* to the imido group. The two DFTO ligands are *trans* to each other. The bond lengths and angles are unsurprising. The Mo1–C1 distance (2.187(1) Å) is slightly shorter than the Mo1–C2 distance (2.195(1) Å), and the C1–C2 distance is 1.416(2) Å.

The synthesis of six-coordinate **5** suggests that the steric limits associated with, or imposed by, two terphenoxide ligands

Scheme 1. A Mechanism That Leads to *cis, isotactic*-Poly(DCMNBD)



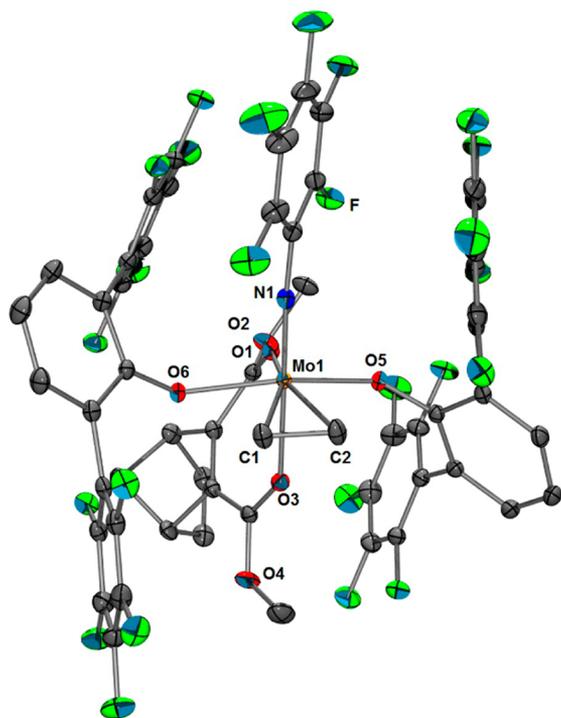


Figure 7. Thermal ellipsoid plot of **5**. Hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity. Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (deg): C(1)–C(2) = 1.416(2), Mo(1)–C(1) = 2.187(1), Mo(1)–C(2) = 2.195(1), Mo(1)–N(1) = 1.7290(9), Mo(1)–O(1) = 2.1983(8), Mo(1)–O(3) = 2.2198(8), Mo(1)–O(5) = 2.0664(7), Mo(1)–O(6) = 2.1041(7); N(1)–Mo(1)–O(3) = 178.92(4), O(5)–Mo(1)–O(6) = 148.94(3), C(1)–Mo(1)–C(2) = 37.70(4).

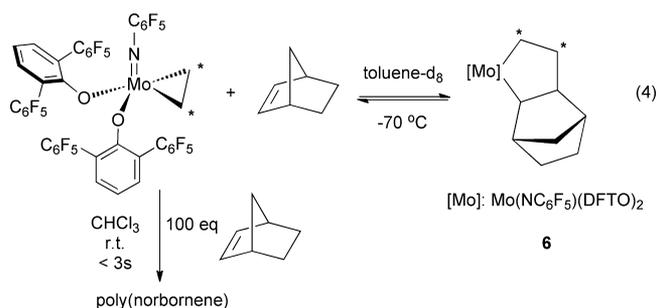
are difficult to predict, although the electron-withdrawing DFTO ligands should encourage adduct formation. It also should be noted that bisaryloxide catalysts have been employed in macrocyclizations that give trisubstituted double bonds,^{3k} which suggests that crowded bisaryloxide catalysts may turn out to have some special properties in metathesis reactions that have been overlooked. In any case, coordination of the esters in DCMNBD to the metal almost certainly impedes formation of an initiator from DCMNBD.

Addition of 100 equiv of DCMNBD to Mo(NC₆F₅)(¹³CH₂¹³CH₂)(DFTO)₂ led to the formation of ~50% yield of polymer in 8 h at 50 °C in CDCl₃. The ¹³C NMR spectra exhibit one ¹³C resonance at δ 116.1 ppm along with others expected for naturally abundant ¹³C in the polymer. A 2D ¹³C–¹H HMBC experiment (Figure S3, Supporting Information) confirmed that the ¹³C resonance at 116.1 ppm is that in a PCH=¹³CH₂ group (P = polymer) at one end of the poly(DCMNBD); the magnitudes of the coupling of the two protons in the ¹³CH₂ group to a third olefinic proton were found to be 17 Hz (*J*_{trans}) and 7 Hz (*J*_{cis}). We propose, in part on the basis of results to be described later, that the PCH=¹³CH₂ group results from a *back reaction* between liberated ¹³CH₂¹³CH₂ and a growing polymer chain, *not* through formation of Mo(NC₆F₅)(¹³CH₂)(DFTO)₂ as the initiator.

Addition of 100 equiv of norbornene to **3** at room temperature led to formation of poly(norbornene) in seconds. The ¹³C NMR spectrum of the polymer in CDCl₃ showed only four sharp resonances (at 134.00, 42.83, 38.72, and 33.34 ppm), characteristic of pure *cis* poly(NBE).¹³ Samples prepared with

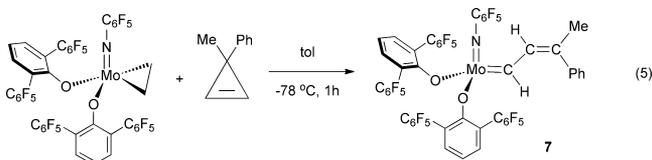
initiators **1c** and **2a** were identical with those prepared with initiator **3**. The widths of the resonances at half height are ~9 Hz at 125 MHz, which are unusually narrow. It seems unlikely, but not impossible, that the samples made with **1c** and **2a** are each highly tactic but have *different* tacticities (expected to be *iso* and *syndio*, respectively), since at least one additional resonance in a 125 MHz ¹³C NMR experiment, most likely near that at 38.72 ppm, should be present if polymers with two different tacticities are formed. In early work on poly(NBE) ¹³C NMR spectra,¹³ Ivin and co-workers decided that fine structure due to tacticity differences, at least in the relatively low frequency ¹³C NMR experiments at that time, could not be detected. However, a second explanation of the result obtained here is that the *cis* highly tactic poly(NBE) samples produced with initiators **1c** and **2a** are *both isotactic*. This possibility would require that the “rule” concerning formation of syndiotactic polymers with HMTO MAP species breaks down for norbornene, just as it did when *cis, isotactic*-poly(DCMNBD) was formed with initiators **2b,c**. Whether the tacticity of poly(NBE) is *iso* or *syndio* cannot be determined through NMR studies, since no chiral element is present in the polymer.⁴ As far as we are aware, this is the first time that pure >98% *cis* and (we propose) highly (>98%) tactic poly(norbornene) has been prepared.

Addition of 1 equiv of norbornene to Mo(NC₆F₅)(¹³CH₂¹³CH₂)(DFTO)₂ at –78 °C in toluene-*d*₈ showed that, after 1 h at –70 °C, 69% of the ethylene complex was converted to the “mixed” metallacyclopentane complex **6** (eq 4). The ¹³CH₂ resonances in the metallacycle were observed as



first-order doublets at δ 84.7 and 46.6 ppm (¹*J*_{CC} = 37 Hz) in the ¹³C NMR spectrum at –70 °C, consistent with one isomer of **6** being formed. When the temperature was raised to –50 °C, the concentration of **6** decreased while the concentrations of **3** and poly(norbornene) increased. After 1 h at –50 °C, all the norbornene had been consumed and the ethylene complex **3** was observed as the only Mo species to contain a ¹³C label: i.e., no PCH=¹³CH₂ group was detected in this experiment. As in reactions between **3** and DCMNBD, ethylene does not appear to be involved in formation of the initiator.

Treatment of **3** with 1 equiv of a mixture of labeled and unlabeled 3-methyl-3-phenylcyclopropene (MPCP; two parts of unlabeled MPCP to one part in which one CH is ¹³C labeled) at –78 °C led to an immediate color change from purple to orange and formation of Mo(NC₆F₅)(CHCH=CMePh)(DFTO)₂ (**7**; eq 5) upon warming the sample to room temperature. Since one-third of the MPCP was monolabeled with ¹³C in an olefinic position, the alkylidene proton resonance consists of a doublet at δ 12.10 ppm (d, ³*J*_{HH} = 9 Hz) along with two ¹³C satellites (¹*J*_{CH} = 130 Hz, ³*J*_{HH} = 9 Hz) in a ratio of 1:4:1 (Figure 8), consistent with **7** being a mixture of [Mo]=¹³CHCH=C(Me)Ph, [Mo]=CH¹³CH=C(Me)-



Ph, and $[\text{Mo}]=\text{CHCH}=\text{C}(\text{Me})\text{Ph}$ in one isomeric form (where $[\text{M}] = \text{Mo}(\text{NC}_6\text{F}_5)(\text{DFTO})_2$). (The isomer shown in eq 5 is arbitrary.) A similar coupling pattern was observed for the β -hydrogen at δ 8.33 ppm ($^1J_{\text{CH}} = 159$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 9$ Hz). The origin of the minor resonances at 12.20, 8.65, and 8.15 ppm (inter alia) has not been identified. In the ^{13}C NMR spectrum, the alkylidene carbon resonance was found at δ 264.5 ppm and the β -carbon resonance was found at δ 136.0 ppm. The vinyl alkylidene **7** rapidly initiates ROMP of MPCP at -78 °C or room temperature to yield atactic poly(MPCP).^{3d} We propose that MPCP replaces ethylene in **3** to give a MPCP complex that then rearranges to form the vinyl alkylidene complex **7**. A single experiment employing **3**, unlabeled ethylene, and trimethoxybenzene as an internal standard showed that $\text{Mo}(\text{NC}_6\text{F}_5)(\text{CHCH}=\text{CMePh})(\text{DFTO})_2$ was formed in 50% yield. We propose that some MPCP is polymerized in the process. Ready conversion of **3** into an alkylidene is analogous to the results of reactions between 3,3-diphenylcyclopropene and complexes that contain Ti(II) and Zr(II),¹⁴ W(IV),¹⁵ and Ru(II).¹⁶

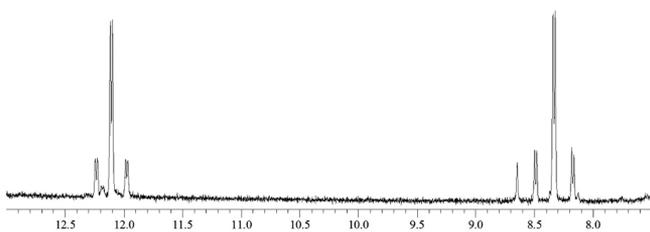


Figure 8. ^1H NMR spectrum of **7** in C_6D_6 .

The ROMP of DCMNBD with **3** to give *cis, isotactic*-poly(DCMNBD), strongly suggests that some $\text{Mo}(\text{NC}_6\text{F}_5)(\text{ODFT})_2(\text{CRR}')$ initiator is formed from DCMNBD. The ROMP of norbornene by **3** also suggests that some initiator forms from norbornene. These results can be added to others in the last several years that employ Mo(IV) or W(IV) initiators for metathesis reactions.¹⁷ Evidence in the literature that stretches over several decades suggests that a norbornylidene complex can form from a norbornene via a 1,2-shift of an olefinic hydrogen.¹⁸ However, to our knowledge no pure norbornylidene complex has ever been prepared. The closest is formation of a mixture of $(\text{SiOx})_3\text{M}(\text{norbornene})$ ($\text{SiOx} = t\text{-Bu}_3\text{SiO}$; $\text{M} = \text{Nb}, \text{Ta}$) and $(\text{SiOx})_3\text{M}(\text{norbornylidene})$ as part of a study of isomerization of $(\text{SiOx})_3\text{M}(\text{alkene})$ complexes to $(\text{SiOx})_3\text{M}(\text{alkylidene})$ complexes via formation of intermediate alkyl complexes through CH activation in a Silox ligand.¹⁹

CONCLUSIONS

This first exploration of DFTO alkylidene complexes suggests that they can behave quite differently from complexes that contain superficially similar terphenoxides such as HMTO. $\text{Mo}(\text{NR})(\text{CHCMe}_2\text{Ph})(\text{DFTO})_2$ complexes have no HMTO or HIPTO analogues and behave in a ROMP reaction as if the metal were chiral. Some observations can be ascribed to the

electron-withdrawing ability of the DFTO ligand in combination with dramatic steric bulk. However, formation of *cis, isotactic*-poly(DCMNBD) from both MAP initiators **2b,c**, as well as apparently identical *cis* and highly tactic poly-(norbornene) samples employing initiators **1c** and **2a**, suggest that the “rule” concerning formation of syndiotactic polymers from MAP initiators requires rethinking and testing. Finally, ROMP polymerization initiated by the ethylene complex **3** appears to proceed via an alkylidene formed from the monomer itself.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

General Considerations. All manipulations were conducted under a nitrogen atmosphere in a glovebox under nitrogen or through Schlenk techniques. All glassware was dried in an oven prior to use. Ether, pentane, toluene, dichloromethane, toluene, and benzene were degassed with dinitrogen and passed through activated alumina columns under nitrogen. All dried and deoxygenated solvents were stored over molecular sieves in a nitrogen- or argon-filled glovebox. NMR spectra were recorded on a 500 MHz spectrometer. Chemical shifts for ^1H spectra were referenced to the residual ^1H resonances of the deuterated solvent (^1H NMR C_6D_6 δ 7.16 ppm, CDCl_3 δ 7.26 ppm, toluene- d_8 7.09, 7.01, 6.97, 2.08 ppm; ^{13}C NMR C_6D_6 δ 128.06 ppm, CDCl_3 δ 77.16 ppm, toluene- d_8 20.43 ppm) and are reported as parts per million relative to tetramethylsilane. Midwest Microlab, Indianapolis, IN, provided elemental analyses. The following abbreviations refer to the multiplicity: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, m = multiplet, br = broad. Other abbreviations include Ar' = 2,6-Me₂C₆H₃, Ad = 1-adamantyl, and Ar = 2,6-i-Pr₂C₆H₃. $\text{Mo}(\text{NC}_6\text{F}_5)(\text{CHCMe}_2\text{Ph})(\text{OTf})_2(\text{DME})$,² $\text{Mo}(\text{NC}_6\text{F}_5)(\text{CHCMe}_2\text{Ph})(\text{Me}_2\text{Pyr})_2$,² $\text{Mo}(\text{NAr}')(\text{CHCMe}_2\text{Ph})(\text{OTf})_2(\text{DME})$,^{3c} $\text{Mo}(\text{NAr}')(\text{CHCMe}_2\text{Ph})(\text{Me}_2\text{Pyr})_2$,² $\text{Mo}(\text{NC}_6\text{F}_5)(\text{CHCMe}_2\text{Ph})(\text{DFTO})_2$,² $\text{Mo}(\text{NAd})(\text{CHCMe}_2\text{Ph})(\text{Me}_2\text{Pyr})_2$,^{7a} and DFTOH ² were prepared as described in the literature. All the other reagents were used as received unless noted otherwise.

Mo(NAr)(CHCMe₂Ph)(DFTO)₂ (1a). $\text{Mo}(\text{NAr})(\text{CHCMe}_2\text{Ph})(\text{Me}_2\text{Pyr})_2$ (100 mg, 0.159 mmol) was dissolved in benzene (5 mL). DFTOH (136 mg, 0.320 mmol) was added at room temperature, and the mixture was heated at 100 °C for 16 h. The solvent was removed to give an orange oily product. The residue was recrystallized from a mixture of diethyl ether and pentane to give a yellow solid (174 mg, 87%): ^1H NMR (500 MHz, C_6D_6 , 20 °C) δ 11.69 (s, 1H, Mo=CH), 6.97 (m, 3H), 6.84 (d, 8 Hz, 5H), 6.76 (d, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8$ Hz, 2H), 6.68 (m, 4H), 1.90 (sept, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7$ Hz, 2H), 1.36 (s, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 6$ Hz), 0.84 (s, 12H); ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, C_6D_6 , 20 °C) δ -137.8 (m, 4F), -139.2 (m, 4F), -154.6 (m, 4F), -161.2 (m, 4F), -161.7 (m, 4F); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (125 MHz, C_6D_6 , 20 °C) δ 288.7 (s, 1C, Mo=C), 164.5, 147.6, 14.7 (d, $^1J_{\text{CF}} = 252$ Hz), 141.4 (d, $^1J_{\text{CF}} = 250$ Hz), 138.3 (d, $^1J_{\text{CF}} = 254$ Hz), 134.8, 133.5, 125.6 (d, 50 Hz), 124.3 (d, 52 Hz), 122.5, 121.2, 118.3, 113.0, 56.8, 29.3, 28.3. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{58}\text{H}_{30}\text{F}_{20}\text{MoNO}_2$: C, 55.65; H, 2.81; N, 1.12. Found: C, 55.39; H, 2.93; N, 1.14.

Mo(NAr')(CHCMe₂Ph)(DFTO)₂ (1b). $\text{Mo}(\text{NAr}')(\text{CHCMe}_2\text{Ph})(\text{OTf})_2(\text{DME})$ (Ar' = 2,6-Me₂C₆H₃; 100 mg, 0.121 mmol) was suspended in toluene (5 mL), and the mixture was cooled to -30 °C. DFTOLi (110.4 mg, 0.255 mmol) was added at -30 °C, and the temperature was allowed to rise to 22 °C. After 1 h, the solvent was removed in vacuo, the dark oily residue was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 , and the solvent was removed again in vacuo. Pentane (2 mL) was added and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The resulting yellow precipitate was filtered off and dried in vacuo; yield 115 mg (79%) of a yellow solid; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, C_6D_6 , 20 °C) δ 11.39 (s, 1H, Mo=CH), 6.91 (d, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7.5$ Hz, 4H), 6.83 (d, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 6.75 (d, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 6.72 (m, 3H), 6.54 (t, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 6.43 (d, $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 1.49 (s, 6H), 1.02 (s, 6H); ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, C_6D_6 , 20 °C) δ -138.9 (d, $^3J_{\text{FF}} = 23$ Hz, 4F), -139.7 (d, $^3J_{\text{FF}} = 23$ Hz, 4F), -154.7 (t, $^3J_{\text{FF}} = 23$ Hz, 4F), -161.7 (m, 4F), -162.0 (m, 4F); $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (125 MHz, C_6D_6 , 20 °C) δ 286.0 (s, 1C, Mo=C), 164.7, 156.3, 147.3, 144.7 (dm, $^1J_{\text{CF}} = 249$ Hz), 141.5 (dm, $^1J_{\text{CF}} =$

252 Hz), 138.3 (dm, $^1J_{CF} = 252$ Hz), 135.9, 125.5, 121.7, 117.8, 112.7 (m), 55.2, 29.5, 17.5. Anal. Calcd for $C_{54}H_{27}F_{20}MoNO_2$: C, 54.15; H, 2.27; N, 1.17. Found: C, 53.83; H, 1.96; N, 0.99.

Mo(NAd)(CHCMe₂Ph)(DFTO)₂ (1d). Mo(NAd)(CHCMe₂Ph)(Me₂Pyr)₂ (100 mg, 0.177 mmol) was suspended in diethyl ether (5 mL). DFTOH (151 mg, 0.354 mmol) was added at room temperature. After 1 h, the solvent was removed to give a yellow oil. Pentane (1 mL) was added, and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The yellow precipitate was filtered off and dried in vacuo to give a yellow solid (190 mg, 88%): 1H NMR (500 MHz, C_6D_6 , 20 °C) δ 11.08 (s, 1H, Mo=CH), 7.02 (m, 6H), 6.92 (t, $^3J_{HH} = 12$ Hz, 1H), 6.77 (t, $^3J_{HH} = 12$ Hz, 2H), 6.58 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 12$ Hz, 2H), 1.57 (s, 2H), 1.14 (s, 6H), 1.08 (s, 6H), 0.97 (s, 6H); ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, C_6D_6 , 20 °C) δ -139.6 (m, 4F), -140.1 (m, 4F), -155.1 (t, $^3J_{FF} = 21$ Hz, 4F), -162.1 (m, 4F), -162.5 (m, 4F); $^{13}C\{^1H\}$ NMR (125 MHz, C_6D_6 , 20 °C) δ 280.0 (s, 1C, Mo=C), 162.967, 149.5, 144.7 (d, $^1J_{CF} = 247$ Hz), 141.4 (d, $^1J_{CF} = 254$ Hz), 138.2 (d, $^1J_{CF} = 247$ Hz), 133.7 (m), 126.5, 121.6, 117.8, 115.0, 112.7, 78.8, 53.1, 50.1, 43.6 (m), 35.1 (m), 31.6, 29.7 (m). Anal. Calcd for $C_{36}H_{33}F_{20}MoNO_2$: C, 54.78; H, 2.71; N, 1.14. Found: C, 54.82; H, 2.61; N, 1.20.

Mo(NC₆F₅)(CHCMe₂Ph)(Me₂Pyr)(HMTO) (2a). Mo(NC₆F₅)(CHCMe₂Ph)(Me₂Pyr)₂ (300 mg, 0.502 mmol) was dissolved in benzene (5 mL). HMTOH (183 mg, 0.557 mmol) was added, and the mixture was heated to 70 °C. After 16 h, the solvent was removed in vacuo to give a dark oily product. The residue was recrystallized from a mixture of pentane and diethyl ether to give an orange solid; yield 259 mg (60%): 1H NMR (500 MHz, C_6D_6 , 20 °C) δ 11.08 (s, 1H, Mo=CH), 7.24 (d, $^3J = 8$ Hz, 2H), 6.94 (m, 3H), 6.88 (m, 2H), 6.79 (s, 2H), 6.73 (s, 2H), 6.69 (m, 1H), 6.07 (s, 2H), 2.05 (d, $J = 10.5$ Hz, 12H), 1.98 (br, 12H), 1.36 (d, $J = 11.3$ Hz, 6H); ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, C_6D_6 , 20 °C) δ -145.7 (t, 2F, $^3J = 23$ Hz, o-Ar), -159.4 (t, 1F, $^3J = 24$ Hz, p-Ar), -165.0 (t, 2F, $^3J = 23$ Hz, m-Ar); $^{13}C\{^1H\}$ NMR (125 MHz, C_6D_6 , 20 °C) δ 295.3 (s, 1C, Mo=C), 157.9, 148.4, 143.0 (d, $^1J_{CF} = 245$ Hz), 139.4 (d, $^1J_{CF} = 260$ Hz), 136.9, 136.8, 136.4, 135.5 (d, $^1J_{CF} = 235$ Hz), 135.2, 134.7, 131.9, 129.8, 129.1, 127.3, 126.0, 123.4, 109.7, 155.5, 34.4, 32.5, 28.6, 22.7, 21.1, 19.9, 16.8, 14.4. Anal. Calcd for $C_{46}H_{45}F_5MoN_2O_2$: C, 66.34; H, 5.45; N, 3.36. Found: C, 66.27; H, 5.49; N, 3.33.

Mo(NC₆F₅)(CHCMe₂Ph)(Me₂Pyr)(DFTO) (2b). Mo(NC₆F₅)(CHCMe₂Ph)(Me₂Pyr)₂ (300 mg, 0.491 mmol) was dissolved in MeCN (10 mL), and DFTOH (209 mg, 0.491 mmol) was added as a solid at room temperature. After 16 h, the solvent was removed in vacuo to give an orange oily product. Diethyl ether (1 mL) was added, and the mixture was stirred for 30 min to give an orange solid of Mo(NC₆F₅)(CHCMe₂Ph)(Me₂Pyr)(DFTO)(MeCN) (356 mg, 75%). The solid was dissolved in toluene, and the solvent was removed in vacuo. This step was repeated 10 times to remove MeCN and give 2b as a red foam (341 mg): 1H NMR (500 MHz, C_6D_6 , 20 °C) δ 11.64 (br, 1H, Mo=CH), 7.13 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 6.99 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 6.88 (t, $^3J_{HH} = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.79 (brt, $^3J_{HH} = 7$ Hz, 2H), 6.60 (brt, $^3J_{HH} = 7$ Hz, 1H), 5.68 (br, 2H), 2.01 (br, 6H), 1.29 (br, 3H), 1.05 (s, 3H); ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, C_6D_6 , 20 °C) δ -140.0 (br, 2F), -140.4 (br, 2F), -148.0 (d, $^3J_{FF} = 20$ Hz, 2F), -154.7 (br, 2F), -156.5 (t, $^3J_{FF} = 20$ Hz, 1F), -162.1 (br, 2F), -162.8 (br, 2F), -163.8 (m, 2F); $^{13}C\{^1H\}$ NMR (125 MHz, C_6D_6 , 20 °C) δ 298.8 (br, Mo=C), 165.3, 147.6, 144.6 (dm, $^1J_{CF} = 246$ Hz), 142.8 (dm, $^1J_{CF} = 241$ Hz), 141.4 (dm, $^1J_{CF} = 246$ Hz), 140.5 (dm, $^1J_{CF} = 246$ Hz), 138.4 (dm, $^1J_{CF} = 249$ Hz), 137.4 (dm, $^1J_{CF} = 251$ Hz), 133.9, 133.6, 131.3 (t, 15 Hz), 126.7, 126.4, 122.1, 117.7, 112.3, 110.2, 55.7, 29.1, 15.7 (br); 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 20 °C) δ 11.59 (br, 1H, Mo=CH), 7.37 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 7$ Hz, 2H), 7.19 (t, $^3J_{HH} = 8$ Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.06 (t, $^3J_{HH} = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 6.93 (t, $^3J_{HH} = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 5.73 (br, 2H), 2.00 (br, 6H), 1.41 (s, 3H), 1.25 (s, 3H); ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, $CDCl_3$, 20 °C) δ -139.4 (br, 2F), -140.1 (br, 2F), -147.2 (d, $^3J_{FF} = 20$ Hz, 2F), -154.4 (br, 2F), -155.8 (t, $^3J_{FF} = 20$ Hz, 1F), -161.9 (br, 2F), -162.5 (br, 2F), -163.3 (m, 2F). The foamlike solid was recrystallized from a mixture of acetonitrile, diethyl ether, and pentane to give analytically pure orange crystals of Mo(NC₆F₅)(CHCMe₂Ph)(Me₂Pyr)(DFTO)(MeCN)(Et₂O)_{0.5}: 1H NMR (500

MHz, C_6D_6 , 20 °C) δ 12.13 (br, 1H, Mo=CH), 7.08 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.01 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 6.83 (t, $^3J_{HH} = 7.5$ Hz, 3H), 6.67 (brt, $^3J_{HH} = 7$ Hz, 1H), 5.83 (br, 2H), 3.25 (q, $^3J_{HH} = 7$ Hz, 2H), 2.06 (br, 6H), 1.30 (s, 3H), 1.19 (s, 3H), 1.12 (t, $^3J_{HH} = 7$ Hz, 3H), 0.62 (br, 3H); ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, C_6D_6 , 20 °C) δ -140.3 (br, 4F), -147.9 (d, $^3J_{FF} = 20$ Hz, 2F), -154.9 (br, 2F), -156.1 (t, $^3J_{FF} = 20$ Hz, 1F), -162.1 (br, 2F), -162.7 (br, 2F), -163.7 (m, 2F). Anal. Calcd for $C_{44}H_{31}F_{15}MoN_3O_{1.5}$: C, 52.50; H, 3.10; N, 4.17. Found: C, 52.82; H, 3.29; N, 4.04.

Mo(NAr')(CHCMe₂Ph)(Me₂Pyr)(DFTO) (2c). Mo(NAr')(CHCMe₂Ph)(Me₂Pyr)₂ (130 mg, 0.242 mmol) was suspended in toluene (5 mL). The suspension was cooled to -30 °C, and DFTOH (103 mg, 0.242 mmol) was added at -30 °C. The mixture was warmed to room temperature. After 1 h, the solvent was removed in vacuo to give a dark red oily product. Pentane (2 mL) was added, the mixture was stirred for 30 min to give a homogeneous reddish solution, and MeCN (3 drops) was added. The brownish precipitate was recrystallized from a mixture of ether and pentane to give 2c as a yellow solid; yield 162 mg (76%): 1H NMR (500 MHz, C_6D_6 , 20 °C) δ 12.08 (s, 1H, Mo=CH), 7.13 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 6.99 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 6.91 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.82 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.61 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.53 (d, $^3J_{HH} = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 5.85 (br, 2H), 1.93 (br, 6H), 1.69 (br, 6H), 1.30 (s, 3H), 1.24 (s, 3H); ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, C_6D_6 , 20 °C) δ -139.8 (dm, $^3J_{FF} = 23$ Hz, 2F), -140.6 (dm, $^3J_{FF} = 23$ Hz, 2F), -153.9 (t, $^3J_{FF} = 23$ Hz, 2F), -161.7 (m, 4F); $^{13}C\{^1H\}$ NMR (125 MHz, C_6D_6 , 20 °C) δ 294.6 (s, 1C, Mo=C), 164.9, 155.8, 147.2, 144.7 (dm, $^1J_{CF} = 242$ Hz), 141.2 (dm, $^1J_{CF} = 252$ Hz), 138.2 (dm, $^1J_{CF} = 247$ Hz), 133.7 (d, $^1J_{CF} = 22$ Hz), 121.8, 117.6, 115.9, 112.5, 109.9 (br), 100.9, 55.2, 30.6, 17.6, 14.2. Crystals of 2c', the MeCN adduct, were obtained from a mixture of diethyl ether and MeCN. Anal. Calcd for $C_{42}H_{32}F_{10}MoN_2O$: C, 58.22; H, 3.89; N, 4.64. Found: C, 58.51; H, 4.19; N, 4.26.

Mo(NC₆F₅)(CH₂CH₂)(DFTO)₂ (3). Mo(NC₆F₅)(CHCMe₂Ph)(DFTO)₂ (138 mg, 0.119 mmol) was dissolved in ether (10 mL). The Schlenk bomb was freeze-pump-thawed three times. Ethylene (1 atm) was added. After the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h, the orange solution turned dark purple. The solvent was removed, and pentane (1 mL) was added. The mixture was stirred to 30 min to give a purple solid, cooled to -30 °C overnight, and filtered. The purple solid was washed with cold pentane and dried in vacuo; yield 105 mg (76%): 1H NMR (500 MHz, $tol-d_6$, 20 °C) δ 6.95 (d, $^3J = 8$ Hz, 4H), 6.78 (t, $^3J = 8$ Hz, 2H), 2.48 (dt, $J = 8$ Hz, $J = 5$ Hz, 2H, CH₂=CH₂), 1.33 (dt, $J = 8$ Hz, $J = 5$ Hz, 2H, CH₂=CH₂); ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, $tol-d_6$, 20 °C) δ -140.7 (d, $^3J_{FF} = 22$ Hz, 8F, o-F), -150.7 (d, $^3J_{FF} = 25$ Hz, 2F, o-F of NC₆F₅), -154.8 (m, 5F), -162.3 (m, 10F); $^{13}C\{^1H\}$ NMR (125 MHz, $tol-d_6$, 20 °C) δ 161.5, 144.4 (dm, $^1J_{CF} = 246$ Hz, 8C, DFTO), 142.9 (dm, $^1J_{CF} = 253$ Hz, 2C, NC₆F₅), 141.2 (dm, $^1J_{CF} = 255$ Hz, 4C, DFTO), 140.5 (dm, $^1J_{CF} = 255$ Hz, 1C, NC₆F₅), 138.2 (dm, $^1J_{CF} = 253$ Hz, 8C, DFTO), 137.3 (dm, $^1J_{CF} = 255$ Hz, 2C, NC₆F₅), 133.8 (m), 122.5 (m), 118.2, 112.3 (td, 9 Hz, 4 Hz), 61.1 (CH₂=CH₂); 1H NMR (500 MHz, $tol-d_6$, -80 °C) δ 7.05 (br, 4H), 6.81 (br, 2H), 2.60 (br, 1H), 2.19 (br, 1H), 1.85 (br, 1H), 0.81 (br, 1H); ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, $tol-d_6$, -80 °C) δ -140.0 (1F), -141.2 (1F), -142.1 (1F), -142.3 (1F), -143.3 (4F), -151.5 (1F), -152.0 (2F), -154.5 (2F), -154.8 (2F), -159.7 (1F), -161.4 (1), -162.4 (5F), -163.5 (2F), -164.2 (1F). Anal. Calcd for $C_{44}H_{10}F_{25}MoNO_2$: C, 45.74; H, 0.87; N, 1.21. Found: C, 45.79; H, 1.06; N, 1.26.

Mo(NC₆F₅)(CH₂CH₂)(DCMNBD)(DFTO)₂ (5). Mo(NC₆F₅)(CH₂=CH₂)(DFTO)₂ (40 mg, 0.0341 mmol) was dissolved in C_6D_6 (0.5 mL). DCMNBD (7.1 mg, 0.0341 mol) was added as a solution in C_6D_6 (0.071 mL, 100 mg/mL). After 16 h, reddish orange crystals were formed (27 mg, 57%): 1H NMR (500 MHz, C_6D_6 , 20 °C) δ 7.16 (d, $J = 8$ Hz, 2H), 7.10 (br, 2H), 6.89 (br, 2H), 6.79 (br, 1H), 6.72 (t, $J = 8$ Hz, 1H), 3.91 (s, 1H), 3.85 (s, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.07 (td, $J = 12$ Hz, $J = 4$ Hz, 1H, CH₂=CH₂), 2.72 (td, $J = 12$ Hz, $J = 4$ Hz, 1H, CH₂=CH₂), 2.39 (s, 3H, OMe), 2.45 (d, 8 Hz, 1H), 1.94 (d, 8 Hz, 1H), 1.77 (td, $J = 12$ Hz, $J = 4$ Hz, 1H, CH₂=CH₂), 1.43 (td, $J = 12$ Hz, $J = 4$ Hz, 1H, CH₂=CH₂); ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, C_6D_6 ,

20 °C) δ -133.3 (br, 1F), -137.3 (br, 1F), -140.9 (s, 2F), -145.3 (br, 1F), -150.5 (s, 1F), -151.5 (s, 1F), -152.0 (s, 1F), 154.6 (s, 1F), -156.2 (s, 1F), -157.0 (m, 2F), -158.9 (br, 2F), -162.3 (bs, 4F), -163.9 (m, 4F). Compound **5** slowly decomposes in the solid state at room temperature and therefore could not be analyzed.

Observation of Mo(NC₆F₅)(¹³CH₂¹³CH₂¹³CH₂)(DFTO)₂ (4***).** Mo(NC₆F₅)(CHCMe₂Ph)(DFTO)₂ (10 mg) was dissolved in C₆D₆ (0.5 mL) in a J. Young NMR tube. The solution was freeze–pump–thawed three times. ¹³CH₂=¹³CH₂ (<1 atm) was added. After 5 min, all of the starting material was consumed and **4*** was formed in addition to Mo(NC₆F₅)(¹³CH₂¹³CH₂¹³CH₂)(DFTO)₂: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, C₆D₆, 20 °C) δ 3.67 (brd, *J*_{CH} = 165 Hz, 2H, α -H), 3.55 (brd, *J*_{CH} = 155 Hz, 2H, α -H), -0.72 (brd, *J*_{CH} = 154 Hz, 1H, β -H), -1.33 (brd, *J*_{CH} = 154 Hz, 1H, β -H); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (125 MHz, C₆D₆, 20 °C) δ 102.5 (C _{α}), -3.1 (C _{β}).

Mo(NC₆F₅)(¹³CH₂¹³CH₂¹³CH₂)(DFTO)₂ (Observation). Mo(NC₆F₅)(¹³CH₂¹³CH₂)(DFTO)₂ (10 mg, 0.00852 mmol) was dissolved in C₆D₆ (0.5 mL) in a J. Young NMR tube. The solution was freeze–pump–thawed three times. ¹³CH₂=¹³CH₂ was added through vacuum transfer. After 2 days, about 1% ¹³C-labelled Mo(NC₆F₅)-(CH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂)(DFTO)₂ was formed: ¹³C{¹H} NMR (125 MHz, C₆D₆, 20 °C) δ 82.9 (m, AA'BB', C _{α}), 39.9 (m, AA'BB', C _{β}).

Mo(NC₆F₅)(¹³CH₂¹³CH₂-norbornene)(DFTO)₂ (Observation). Mo(NC₆F₅)(¹³CH₂¹³CH₂)(DFTO)₂ (10 mg, 0.00852 mmol) was dissolved in toluene-*d*₈ (0.5 mL) in a septum-capped tube and cooled to -78 °C. Norbornene (0.8 mg, 0.00852 mmol) was added as a solution in toluene-*d*₈ (0.5 mL) drop by drop. The NMR tube was inserted into a -70 °C NMR. After 1 h, 69% of the product was formed: ¹³C{¹H} NMR (125 MHz, C₆D₆, 20 °C) δ 84.7 (d, *J*_{CC} = 37 Hz, MoC _{α}), 46.6 ppm (d, *J*_{CC} = 37 Hz, C _{β}).

Mo(NC₆F₅)(CHCMePh)(DFTO)₂ (Observation). Mo(NC₆F₅)-(CH₂CH₂)(DFTO)₂ (10 mg, 0.00853 mmol) was dissolved in toluene (4 mL), and the solution was cooled to -78 °C. MPCP (1.11 mg, 0.00853 mmol) was added dropwise as a solution in toluene (1 mL). The purple color changed to orange immediately. After 1 h, the mixture was warmed to room temperature and the solvent removed to give an oily orange product (12 mg): ¹H NMR (500 MHz, C₆D₆, 20 °C) δ 12.10 (dd, *J*_{CH} = 130 Hz, *J*_{HH} = 9 Hz, MoCH), 8.33 (dd, *J*_{CH} = 159 Hz, *J*_{HH} = 9 Hz, β -H), the other resonances overlap with polymer resonances; ¹³C{¹H} NMR (125 MHz, C₆D₆, 20 °C) δ 264.5 (s, C _{α}), 136.0 (s, C _{β}).

Procedure for ROMP of DCMNBD. The initiator (1 mg) was dissolved in CDCl₃ (0.5 mL). DCMNBD (100 equiv) was added as a solution in CDCl₃ (0.5 mL). After 30 min, benzaldehyde (0.1 mL) was added to the mixture. The reaction mixture became deep green within 5 min and was stirred for 1 h. The entire mixture was added dropwise to 100 mL of vigorously stirred methanol. A fine white solid formed immediately. After 2 h the polymer was filtered off, rinsed with MeOH, and dried in vacuo.

Measurement of Conversion of DCMNBD by **3.** DCMNBD (50 mg, 0.240 mmol) and an internal standard of anthracene were dissolved in CDCl₃ in a J. Young NMR tube. A ¹H NMR spectrum was obtained. A 12.0 mM solution of **3** was prepared, and 0.2 mL (2.4 μ mol) was added to the NMR tube. The tube was inverted to mix, and the tube was then heated to 50 °C. ¹H NMR spectra were obtained over 120 h. Conversion was measured by integration of the olefinic resonance of DCMNBD against the anthracene internal standard.

■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

■ Supporting Information

Figures S1–S3 and text, tables, and CIF files giving crystallographic details and data for **2b'**, **3**, and **5**. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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