

Ruthenium-catalysed Cyclocarbonylation of 1,1'-Bis(silylethynyl)ferrocene Involving the 1,2-Migration of a Silyl Group

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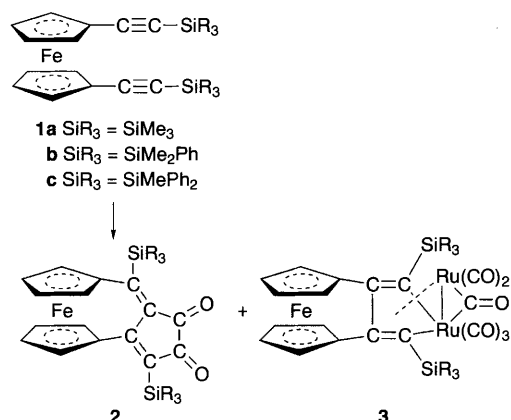
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The treatment of 1,1'-bis(trimethylsilylethynyl)ferrocene with a catalytic amount (5 mol%) of $[\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}]$ under 10 kg cm^{-2} of CO at 150 °C causes a novel cyclocarbonylation involving 1,2-silyl migration of a silylethynyl group generating a transition-metal vinylidene intermediate, to give a cyclopent-3-en-1,2-dione derivative.

Despite the extensive studies on cyclocarbonylation of diynes using a stoichiometric amount of transition-metal complexes, their applications to catalytic reactions are still limited.¹ We report herein a new type of catalytic cyclocarbonylation of diynes, where a rare example of 1,2-silyl migration of a silylethynyl group giving a transition-metal vinylidene intermediate is operative.²

We are currently interested in the stoichiometric as well as catalytic reactions of 1,1'-dialkynylferrocene derivatives because of their unique reactivity originated from the parallel diyne structures and their potential applications in materials science.³ In a previous study, we showed the formation of di- and tri-nuclear ruthenacycles including a [2]ferrocenophane skeleton, in the reaction of 1,1'-dialkynylferrocene with $[\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}]$.⁴ Under CO pressure this system was found to be extended to a catalytic cyclocarbonylation providing a [3]ferrocenophane bearing a cyclopent-3-ene-1,2-dione structure (Scheme 1).



Scheme 1 Reagents and conditions: $[\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}]$ (5 mol%), CO 10 kg cm^{-2} , toluene, 150 °C, 24 h

Treatment of 1,1'-bis(trimethylsilylethynyl)ferrocene **1a**⁵ with a catalytic amount of $[\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}]$ (5 mol%) under CO pressure (10 kg cm^{-2}) in toluene at 150 °C for 24 h gave the cyclocarbonylation product **2a** in 36% yield together with a trace amount of a dinuclear ruthenacycle complex **3a**. In this reaction 48% of **1a** was recovered unreacted. The products were isolated by column chromatography (SiO_2 , benzene) and characterized by elemental analysis, IR and NMR spectroscopy, and EI mass spectrometry.‡ The mass spectrum of **2a** exhibited a molecular ion peak (m/z 434) that is consistent with the

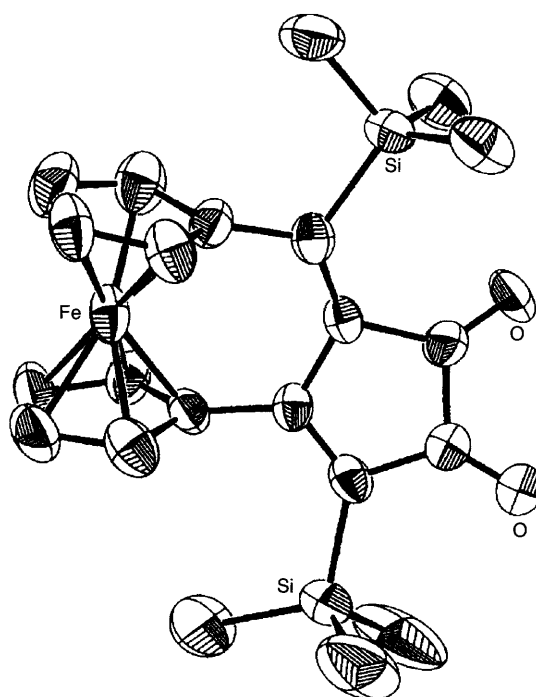


Fig. 1 Molecular structure of **2a**

Table 1 The ruthenium-catalysed cyclocarbonylation of 1,1'-bis(silylethynyl)ferrocene **1a**

Run	SiR_3	Ru complex (mol %)	Solvent	$P_{\text{CO}}^b/\text{kg cm}^{-2}$	$T/^\circ\text{C}$	t/h	Yield ^c (%)		Recov. of 1c (%)
							2	3	
1	SiMe_3	$[\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}]$ (5)	toluene	10	150	24	36	trace	48
2		$[\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}]$ (10)		10	150	24	38	15	43
3		$[\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}]$ (30)		10	150	24	43	16	16
4		$[\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}]$ (5)		5	150	12	17	0	79
5			THF	5	150	24	18	0	65
6			MeCN	5	170	24	0	0	96
7		$\text{RuCl}_3 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (30)	toluene	10	150	24	0	0	77
8		$[\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3]$ (5)		10	150	12	0	0	0
9		$[\text{Ru}(\text{cod})(\text{cot})]$ (5)		10	150	12	12	0	83
10	SiMe_2Ph	$[\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}]$ (5)		5	160	12	16	0	69
11	SiMePh_2			5	160	12	0	0	100

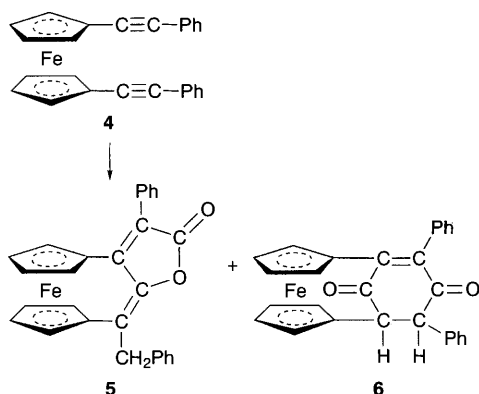
^a Reaction conditions: [runs 1–9] **1a** (200 mg, 0.528 mmol), solvent (30 ml); [run 10] **1b** (137 mg, 0.273 mmol), toluene (15 ml); [run 11] **1c** (140 mg, 0.223 mmol), toluene (15 ml). ^b Initial pressure at room temperature. ^c Isolated by column chromatography on silica gel.

structure derived from **1a** and two molecules of carbon monoxide. In the IR spectrum, two ν_{CO} absorptions were observed at 1730 and 1690 cm^{-1} , showing the presence of two carbonyl groups in **2a**. The presence of two carbonyl groups were also supported by the appearance of two singlets at δ 193.0 and 191.9 in the ^{13}C NMR spectrum.

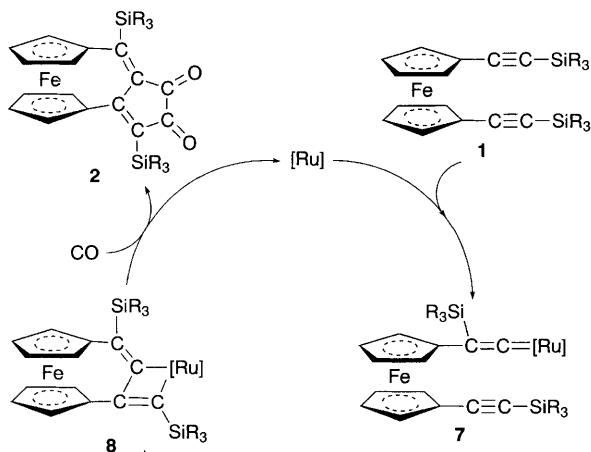
As seen from the X-ray crystal structure of **2a** (Fig. 1),[§] the compound has a bicyclic structure comprised of [3]ferrocenophane and cyclopent-3-ene-1,2-dione rings.⁶ The most striking feature of the reaction suggested by the structure is the involvement of 1,2-migration of one of the two trimethylsilyl groups originally bonded to the β -acetylenic carbons of **1a**.

Table 1 lists the results obtained under various reaction conditions. Increasing the amount of catalyst gave rise to improvement in the conversion of **1a** and the yield of **2a**, though the amount of **3a** also increased (runs 1–3). Toluene was among the most suitable solvents examined; the reaction proceeded more slowly in THF (run 5) than toluene (run 4), and did not proceed in MeCN (run 6). The complex $[\text{Ru}(\text{cod})(\text{cot})]$ (cod = cycloocta-1,5-diene, cot = cyclooctatriene) also showed catalytic activity (run 9), whereas $\text{RuCl}_3 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$ and $[\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3]$ are inactive (runs 7 and 8).

The catalytic formation of **2** was significantly affected by the nature of the silyl group bound to the β -acetylenic carbons of **1**. Thus, compound **1b** bearing SiMe_2Ph groups also gave the cyclocarbonylation product **2b** (run 10), while **1c** having SiMePh_2 groups did not react under similar reaction conditions (run 11). It was further noted that the presence of silyl



Scheme 2 Reagents and conditions: $[\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}]$ (10 mol%), CO 30 kg cm^{-2} , benzene, 100 $^\circ\text{C}$, 24 h



Scheme 3

substituents is of particular importance to obtain the cyclocarbonylation products **2** and 1,1'-diethynylferrocene was too unstable to be handled. Treatment of 1,1'-bis(phenylethynyl)ferrocene with 30 mol% of $[\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}]$ under CO pressure did not provide any product corresponding to **2** even though small amounts of lactone **5** (4%) and cyclohexenedione **6** (3%) were formed (Scheme 2).

Scheme 3 illustrates the most probable catalytic cycle responsible for the formation of **2**. In the first stage, interaction of **1** with a ruthenium species causes the 1,2-migration of a silyl group to produce the vinylidene intermediate **7**. Such a process has recently been documented in stoichiometric systems by Sakurai and Werner and their coworkers.² Subsequently, [2 + 2] cycloaddition between the $\text{Ru}=\text{C}$ bond of the vinylidene moiety and the remaining $\text{C}=\text{C}$ bond leads to the formation of ruthenacyclobutene **8**. Successive insertion of two CO molecules into each of the $\text{Ru}-\text{C}$ bonds in **8** followed by reductive elimination provides the cyclocarbonylation product **2** with concomitant formation of the catalytically active ruthenium(0) species.

The present study exhibits the first catalytic cycle involving a 1,2-silyl migration of silylacetylenes. Further studies focusing on the extension of the scope of present reaction are underway.

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Footnotes

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‡ Spectroscopic data for **2a**: ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): δ 4.31–4.30 (m, 2 H, C_5H_4), 4.26–4.25 (m, 2 H, C_5H_4), 4.19–4.18 (m, 2 H, C_5H_4), 3.98–3.97 (m, 2 H, C_5H_4), 0.15 (s, 9 H, CH_3), 0.10 (s, 9 H, CH_3); ^{13}C { ^1H } NMR (CDCl_3): δ 193.0, 191.9 (s, CO), 172.0, 154.6, 146.9, 146.6 (s, C=), 94.3, 79.8, 70.7, 70.1, 69.5 (s, C_5H_4), -0.5 , -0.7 (s, CH_3). Satisfactory elemental analysis was obtained.

§ Crystal data for **2a**: $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{26}\text{FeO}_2\text{Si}_2$, orthorhombic, space group $Pna2_1$, $a = 11.980(3)$, $b = 9.935(2)$, $c = 18.826(3)$ Å, $U = 2218(1)$ Å³, $Z = 4$, $D_c = 1.301$ g cm^{-3} , $\mu(\text{Mo}-\text{K}\alpha) = 7.97$ cm^{-1} . Data were measured on a Rigaku AFC5R diffractometer in the range of $6 < 2\theta < 55.1^\circ$ with ω - 2θ scan technique. The structure was solved by Patterson method and refined by full-matrix least-squares method to $R(R_w) = 0.054$ (0.032) for 243 parameters against 1537 reflections with $I > 1.5\sigma(I)$ out of 2927 unique reflections corrected for absorption using Ψ -scan technique. Atomic coordinates, bond lengths and angles, and thermal parameters have been deposited at the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre. See Information for Authors, Issue No.1.

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