regard wholly ionic formulations, like  $3Li^{+}N^{3-}$  for  $Li<sub>3</sub>N$ , to be exaggerated.

**Acknowledgment.** This work was supported at Erlangen by the Fonds der Chemischen Industrie and at Pittsburgh by the National Science Foundation (Grant CHE-79-01061) and was facilitated by a NATO Grant as well as an Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship (to **K.D.S.)** and a special von Humboldt Award (to J.A.P.). Earlier calculations related to this work were carried out by E. **D.** Jemmis. We also thank J. Liebman for comments.

**Registry No. NH<sub>3</sub>, 7664-41-7; NH<sub>2</sub>Li, 7782-89-0; NHLi<sub>2</sub>,** 12135-01-2; NLi<sub>3</sub>, 26134-62-3; NH<sub>2</sub>, 17655-31-1; NHLi<sup>-</sup>, 75491-75-7; NLi<sub>2</sub>, 83560-66-1; NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>, 14798-03-9; NH<sub>3</sub>Li<sup>+</sup>, 52472-72-7; NH<sub>2</sub>Li<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>, 83560-67-2; NHLi<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>, 83560-68-3; NLi<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>, 83560-69-4; Li<sup>+</sup>, 17341-24-1.

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# **Cyclopentadienyl Bonding in Bis( cyclopentadienyl)neptunium( IV) Compounds from 237Np Mossbauer Spectra'**

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*Received September 29, 1981* 

<sup>237</sup>Np Mössbauer spectra were measured for a series of Np(IV) compounds of the general compositions NpX<sub>4</sub>, NpX<sub>2</sub>Y<sub>2</sub>, and NpX<sub>2</sub>YY' [X = acac, bis(1-pyrazolyl)borate, tris(1-pyrazolyl)borate; Y, Y' = Cl, Cp, MeCp]. Comparison of the isomer shifts of the Mossbauer spectra showed no evidence for covalent bonding between the Cp ligand and Np(1V) in the Cp<sub>2</sub>Np<sup>IV</sup> and CpNp<sup>IV</sup> moieties. It is proposed that ligand repulsion in NpX<sub>2</sub>Cp<sub>2</sub> and NpX<sub>2</sub>(MeCp)<sub>2</sub> compounds lengthens the Np(IV)-Cp and Np(1V)-(MeCp) bonds and thus prevents any appreciable Np(1V)-ligand orbital overlap. Mossbauer magnetic splitting and quadrupole splitting parameters are greater for [tris( 1 **-pyrazolyl)borato]neptunium(IV)** compounds than for **[bis( 1-pyrazolyl)borato]neptunium(IV)** compounds, a result attributed to the stronger field from the tridentate coordination of the **tris(** 1-pyrazoly1)borate ligand.

#### **Introduction**

Previous work has used the isomer shift of the  $237Np$ Mössbauer effect to investigate covalent effects in the bonding of  $Np(IV)$  organometallic compounds.<sup>2,3</sup> The isomer shift ( $\delta$ ) of Np(IV) in NpCl<sub>4</sub> is -0.35 cm/s;  $\delta$  for NpCl<sub>3</sub> is 3.54  $cm/s$ . Covalency in Np(IV)-ligand bonding changes the isomer shift of a  $Np(IV)$  compound toward the 3+ valence shift. For example, the isomer shift of bis(cyclooctatetraenyl)neptunium(IV),<sup>4</sup> the Np(IV) analogue of uranocene,<sup>5</sup> is 1.94 cm/s, which is interpreted to indicate that the cyclooctatetraenyl ligands have contributed electron density to the Np(1V) ion equivalent to one-half that of a 5f valence electron.

The covalent contribution  $\pi$ -cyclopentadienyl (Cp) ligands have been of particular interest in previous work<sup>2,3</sup> because of recent interest in the chemistry of uranium(1V) cyclopentadienyl and uranium(1V) pentamethylcyclopentadienyl  $(Me, Cp)$  compounds.<sup>6-11</sup> Compounds of Np(IV) and U (IV) are normally isostructural and have essentially identical chemical properties except for the tendency of  $Np(IV)$  compounds to reduce to  $Np(III)$  compounds. Previous work<sup>2,3</sup> has shown that the Cp or MeCp ligands in the  $Cp_3Np^{IV}$  moiety

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contribute covalently to the bonding of  $Cp_3NpZ$  ( $Z = Cl$ ,  $BH<sub>4</sub>$ , R, OR, Ar).  $\delta$  for Cp<sub>3</sub>NpCl is 1.4 cm/s;  $\delta$  for (MeCp)<sub>3</sub>NpBH<sub>4</sub> is 1.45 cm/s. R, OR, and Ar are  $\sigma$ -bonding ligands; their effect on the  $Np(V)$  isomer shift is the opposite of that of the Cp ligand. **6** for Cp,NpBu is 0.27 cm/s, and *6* for Cp,NpO $i$ -Pr is 0.86 cm/s, to be compared with the 1.4 cm/s for  $Cp_3NpCl.<sup>2a</sup>$ 

Rather than the increased positive  $\delta$  expected, compared to that of NpCp<sub>3</sub>Cl,  $\delta$  for NpCp<sub>4</sub> is 0.72 cm/s.<sup>12</sup> This is explained by the crystal structures of the  $U(IV)$  analogues- $UCp<sub>4</sub>$  and  $UCp<sub>3</sub>Cl$ —which show that the U-C(ring) bond lengths in  $UCp<sub>4</sub>$  are 0.07 Å longer than the U-C(ring) bond lengths in  $UCp_3Cl$ <sup>13-15</sup> The longer bond length decreases the overlap of Cp and Np(1V) orbitals and is reflected in a smaller isomer shift in NpCp<sub>4</sub> than in Cp<sub>3</sub>NpCl.<sup>2a</sup>

The object of this work was to use the <sup>237</sup>Np Mössbauer effect to investigate the bonding properties of a  $Cp_2Np^{IV}$ moiety. The success of a variety of syntheses with the bis- (pentamethylcyclopentadienyl)uranium(IV) [(Me<sub>5</sub>Cp)<sub>2</sub>U<sup>IV</sup>] moiety $9,10$  leads to the assumption that the ligand contributes substantial electron density to the U(IV) ion in  $(Me, Cp)$ , U<sup>IV</sup> compounds and also the expectation that  $(Me_5Cp)_2Np^{IV}$ ,  $\text{Cp}_2\text{Np}^{\text{IV}}$ , and  $(\text{MeCp})_2\text{Np}^{\text{IV}}$  moieties might show a covalent contribution to their bonding.

A report of the preparation of  $UCp_2Cl_2^{16}$  was later found to have mistaken a mixture of UCp<sub>3</sub>Cl and UCpCl<sub>3</sub>L<sub>2</sub> (L = solvent) for the desired compound.<sup>17,18</sup> Attempts to synthesize  $NpCp_2Cl_2$  also yielded a mixture of  $NpCp_3Cl$  and  $NpCpCl<sub>3</sub>·2THF.<sup>19</sup>$  However, the  $Cp<sub>2</sub>U<sup>IV</sup>$  moiety can be

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stabilized by first attaching two bulky ligands to the  $U(IV)$ ion and then attaching two Cp ligands, as in the sequence<sup>20</sup>

$$
UCl_4 \xrightarrow{\text{2Na(acac)}} [U(acac)Cl_2] \xrightarrow{\text{2TICp}} U(acac)_2 Cp_2
$$
  
acc = CH\_3COCHCOCH\_3

The poly(1-pyrazolyl)borate ligands<sup>20,21</sup> are also bulky enough the perfect preactive is a similar reaction sequence. For this work, compounds of the  $Cp_2Np^{IV}$  and  $(MeCp)_2Np^{IV}$  moieties with the acac, bis( 1 -pyrazolyl)borate, and tris( 1 -pyrazolyl)borate ligands were synthesized for Mössbauer study and related compounds synthesized for comparison purposes. It should be noted that Takats and co-workers<sup>7,8</sup> have also synthesized  $Cp_2U^{IV}$  compounds by the reaction of  $U(NR_2)_4$  with HCp. This approach was not attempted, and attempts to synthesize  $(Me_5Cp)_2NpCl_2$  yielded mainly Np(III) compounds.

## **Experimental Section**

**Materials.** THF and ethyl ether were purified by distillation from LiAIH, in an argon atmosphere. Toluene and petroleum ether (bp  $20-40$  °C) were dried by passage through a column of 3A molecular sieve, stirred overnight with CaH<sub>2</sub>, and filtered before use. Sodium acetylacetonate (Na(acac)) was prepared from freshly distilled Hacac and sodium metal. NpCl<sub>4</sub> was prepared as described previously.<sup>22</sup> Potassium tris(1-pyrazolyl)borate  $(KHB(pz)_3)$  and potassium bis-(1-pyrazolyl)borate  $(KH_2B(pz)_2)$  were prepared by the procedures of Trofimenko.<sup>23</sup> Thallous cyclopentadienide (TICp) was prepared by the method of Meister,<sup>24</sup> and sublimed and stored under vacuum before use. Thallous methylcyclopentadienide (TlMeCp) was prepared, purified, and stored in the same way, except that TlMeCp was prepared in an argon atmosphere. NpCpCl<sub>3</sub>.2THF and Np(MeCp)Cl<sub>3</sub>.2THF were prepared by the procedure of Bagnall and Edwards.<sup>25</sup> Thallous pentamethylcyclopentadienide was prepared by the procedure of Tulip and Manzer.26

**Methods.** All compounds were prepared in a glovebox in a purified argon atmosphere. Analyses<sup>2a</sup> were obtained by previously described methods. <sup>237</sup>Np Mössbauer spectra<sup>3</sup> were measured with a constant-acceleration spectrometer at 4.2 K and a 400-channel analyzer in the multiscaler mode. The spectra displayed include lines drawn to guide the viewer's eye. The only Mossbauer parameter required for the purpose of this study is the isomer shift, which is easily obtained from the spectra without detailed spectral analysis. Computer fitting of the data was therefore deemed unnecessary.

Errors quoted for the Mossbauer data (Table 11) were determined either by the deviation between duplicate spectra or, in cases where a misinterpretation of the spectra was possible, by including a large enough error limit to include either interpretation. the deviation between duplicate spectra or, in car<br>pretation of the spectra was possible, by includir<br>ror limit to include either interpretation.<br>sis. The preparation of the compounds followed<br>dures reported by Bagnall an

**Synthesis.** The preparation of the compounds followed generally the procedures reported by Bagnall and co-workers: $19-21$ 

THF M = Na, K, Li; L = acac, H2B(pz),, HB(~z)~ THF NpCpCIy2THF + ML - NpCpLC12.xTHF + MCI

$$
M = Na, K, Li; L = acac, H2B(pz)2, HB(pz)3
$$
  
CpCl<sub>3</sub>•2THF + ML  $\xrightarrow{\text{THE}}$  NpCpLCl<sub>2</sub>•xTHF + M<sub>1</sub>  
NpL<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> + TlCp  $\xrightarrow{\text{THE}}$  NpL<sub>2</sub>CpCl·xTHF + TlCl  
NpL<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> + 2TlCp  $\xrightarrow{\text{THE}}$  NpL<sub>2</sub>Cp<sub>2</sub>•xTHF + 2TlCl  
+ 4KI  $\xrightarrow{+}$  NnL + 4KCl  $L = H2B(pz)2$ , HB

$$
NpL_2Cl_2 + 2TICp \xrightarrow{THF} NpL_2Cp_2 \cdot xTHF + 2TICl
$$

 $NpL_2Cl_2$  + 21ICp  $\longrightarrow NpL_2Cp_2 \times I HF + 21IC1$ <br> $NpCl_4 + 4KL \rightarrow NpL_4 + 4KC1$   $L = H_2B(pz)_2$ ,  $HB(pz)_3$ 

**All** reactions were carried out at room temperature by mixing stoichiometric amounts of the reactants in THF solution. The solutions were stirred for 3-16 h; the alkali metal chloride was filtered, and the filtrate was vacuum evaporated to dryness. The product from

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Table I. Analytical Results

1 abie 1. Analytical Results						
		$%$ Np	% C1			
compd	found	calcd	found	calcd	color	
$Np(acac)$ , $Cl$ , $THF$	40.0	41.00	12.44	12.28	green	
$Np(acac)$ , $CpCl$ THF	40.1	39.01	5.66	5.84	orange	
Np(acac) <sub>2</sub> (MeCp)Cl- $1/2$ THF	41.4	40.71	6.81	6.08	orange	
$Np(acac)$ , $MeCp$ ),	40.0	39.96	0.62		tan	
$Np(acac)$ <sub>2</sub> $Cp$ <sub>2</sub> $\cdot$ 2THF	31.5	32.37	0.40		tan	
$Np(HB(pz),) {}_{2}Cl_{2} \cdot 3THF$	24.6	25.0	7.50	7.49	orange	
Np(HB(pz),), (MeCp), 4THF	21.3	21.4			brown	
$Np(HB(pz)_{3})_{2}Cp_{2}$ . 5THF	20.7	20.55			red-brown	
$Np(HB(pz),)_4$ 2THF	19.3	19.22			vellow-green	
$Np(HB(pz)_{3})CpCl_{2}$ . THF	37.9	36.01	11.8	10.81	red	
Np(HB(pz),)(MeCp)Cl, 27.8 3THF		29.2	9.1	8.73	tan	
Np(HB(pz),)Cp <sub>1</sub> Cl	40.0	38.50	6.75	5.76	brown	
Np(H, B(pz),), C1, 3THF	34.0	33.01	12.97	9.89	gold	
$Np(H, B(pz),), Cp, \cdot$ 3THF	27.7	28.24			orange	
$Np(H_2B(pz)_2)_2(MeCp)_2$ . THF	33.0	32.96			brown	
$Np(H_2B(pz)_2)_4$ . THF	26.1	26.42			yellow-green	
$Np(MesCs)2Cl2·2THF$	33.3	32.4	9.3	9.70	brown	

filtrate evaporation was occasionally an oil, but in all cases it was washed with petroleum ether and redried under vacuum for 2-7 h at room temperature. This procedure did not yield solvent-free products. One to five molecules of THF were normally associated with the final product. No attempts were made to drive off the excess THF by heating under vacuum to avoid possible decomposition of the compounds. The analytical data for the compounds studied are shown in Table I.

The neptunium( **IV)** poly( 1 -pyrazolyl)borate compounds were glittering, crystalline-appearing solids as recovered by evaporation of the solvent. When the vacuum-dried solids were stored, these compounds usually coalesced into a solid mass within  $\sim$  1 day.

A single successful preparation of  $Np(Me_5C_5)_2Cl_2.2THF$  was achieved by the reaction between  $NpCl_4$  and  $TIME_5C_5$  in  $THF$  solution. Attempts to prepare  $Np(Me_5C_5)_2Cl_2$  by the reaction between  $NpCl_4$ and LiMe<sub>s</sub>C<sub>5</sub> in THF, ethyl ether, and toluene solutions were unsuccessful.

## **237Np Mossbauer Spectra**

General Theory.<sup>3</sup> The isomer shift in <sup>237</sup>Np Mössbauer spectra is determined by the s-electron density at the Np nucleus. Differences in the isomer shift between Np compounds arise from the shielding of the 6s orbitals, principally by the inner 5f orbitals.

The isomer shifts among the different Np valences each occur in a specific velocity region, decreasing from 3.5 cm/s for  $Np^{3+}$  in rather nonlinear manner to -6.8 cm/s for  $Np(VII)$ . In  $Np(IV)$  organometallic compounds, if the ligand can overlap the  $Np(IV)$  5f orbitals, some electron density will be contributed to the 5f orbital. This increased electron density increases the shielding of the 6s orbital and results in a positive isomer shift relative to a  $Np(IV)$  compound with less covalent character in its bonding. The Introduction describes illustrative examples.

**Interpretation of Spectra.** The interpretation of hyperfine effects in <sup>237</sup>Np Mössbauer spectra is described by Pillinger and Stone.27 Briefly, there are three parameters obtainable from Mössbauer spectra-the isomer shift, the magnetic splitting constant, and the quadrupole splitting constant. **A**  simple single-line spectrum is obtained when there is no magnetic or quadrupole splitting; the isomer shift is the minimum of the absorption resonance. Figure 6 is an example

**<sup>(19)</sup>** Karraker, **D.** *G.,* unpublished data.

**<sup>(27)</sup>** Pillinger, W. L.; Stone, J. **A.** *Mossbauer EfJ Merhodol.* **1968,** *4,* **217.** 



**Figure 1.** Mössbauer spectrum of  $Np(Me_5C_5)_2Cl_2$ -2THF.

of a simple, single-line spectrum.

Magnetically split spectra theoretically have 16 lines, but in practice usually only 10 lines can be resolved. The splitting is symmetric, so the average of two symmetrically split lines determines the isomer shift. Two strong lines that occur near the outer range of velocities are normally used for determining the isomer shift. The magnetic splitting constant is obtained from separation of these lines. Since these lines are unaffected by quadrupole splitting, isomer shifts may also be extracted from their velocities when both magnetic and quadrupole splittings occur. Figure 2 is a particularly splendid example of magnetic splitting with an additional small quadrupole splitting.

Quadrupole splitting arises from the quadrupole moment of the nonspherical <sup>237</sup>Np nucleus. Interaction of this quadrupole moment with the electric field of the ligands surrounding the 237Np nucleus can split each resonance into a maximum of *5* lines. The isomer shift is determined by the position of the center line. A symmetric, 5-line pattern is observed when the <sup>237</sup>Np nucleus is on a 3-fold or higher symmetry axis. An asymmetry in the external electric field can reduce the pattern to *5* unequally split lines or even 3 lines. In any case, the center line is not shifted, and its position determines the isomer shift for the compound. Examples of a quadrupole splitting produced by an asymmetric field are the patterns shown in Figure 4. The combination of a small quadrupole splitting with magnetic splitting can change the order and intensities of the resonance lines and was responsible for a previously published<sup>3</sup> incorrect analysis of the spectrum shown in Figure 6.

<sup>237</sup>Np Mössbauer spectra are often modified by intermediate relaxation (time-dependent) effects. The electronic field on the <sup>237</sup>Np nucleus fluctuates at a frequency  $\omega_e$ , producing a time-dependent charge density. The isomer shift has a frequency  $\omega_{\text{IS}} = \Delta E_{\text{IS}} / \hbar$  corresponding to the difference in the isomer shift energy between two charge states. In the limit of fast electronic relaxation  $(\omega_e \gt \gt \omega_{\text{IS}})$ , only the isomer shift-or electron density-is observed, and the spectrum is a single line. For  $\omega_e \ll \omega_{\text{IS}}$ , a magnetically split spectrum is observed. For the intermediate relaxation case,  $\omega_e \approx \omega_{IS}$ , and a poorly resolved spectrum is observed. Occasionally, the spectrum is so poorly resolved as to be uninterpretable, as in Figure 1. The poor resolution in Figure 5 is also due to intermediate relaxation effects.

### **Results and Discussion**

The isomer shifts (relative to  $\delta(NpAl_2) = 0$ ), magnetic coupling constants, and quadrupole coupling constants from the <sup>237</sup>Np Mössbauer spectra are summarized in Table II. The spectra of  $Np(acac)_{2}CpCl$ ,  $Np(HB(pz)_{3})Cp_{2}Cl$ , and  $Np (Me<sub>5</sub>C<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>·2THF$  (Figure 1) were so badly distorted by intermediate relaxation effects or so lacking in definition that no Mossbauer parameters could be obtained. Spectra of

**Table 11.** Mossbauer Parameters

$\text{compd}^a$	isomer shift $(\delta)$ , cm/s <sup>b</sup>	magnetic splitting const, $g_0\mu_{\rm N}H_{\rm eff}$ cm/sec	quadrupole coupling const, $^{1}/_{4}$ egQ, cm/s
$Np(acac)$ , $Cl2$	$-0.42 \pm 0.07$ 8.49 $\pm$ 0.05		$-0.42 \pm 0.1$
$Np(acac)$ , $MeCp)Cl$	$-0.52 \pm 0.2$	$6.3 \pm 0.6$	
$Np(acac)$ , $MeCp$ ),	$-0.53 \pm 0.14$		$1.24 \pm 0.1$
$Np(acac)$ <sup>c</sup>	$-0.67$	$6.41 \pm 0.02$	$0.06 \pm 0.06$
Np(HB(pz),),Cl,	$-0.60 \pm 0.07$	$8.93 \pm 0.29$	
$Np(HB(pz)_{3})_{2}(MeCp)_{2}$	$-0.60 \pm 0.07$		
Np(HB(pz),), Cp,	$-0.46 \pm 0.07$		
Np(HB(pz),)	$-0.46 \pm 0.07$		$1.27 \pm 0.15$
Np(HB(pz),)CpCl <sub>2</sub>	$-0.27 \pm 0.15$	$8.80 \pm 2.5$	
Np(HB(pz),)(MeCp)Cl,	$-0.06 \pm 0.3$		
Np(H, B(pz),), CL	$-0.60 \pm 0.07$ 5.78 $\pm$ 0.05		
Np(H, B(pz), Cp,	$-0.02 \pm 0.4$		
$Np(H, B(pz), \Omega(MeCp)),$	$-0.46 \pm 0.2$		
$Np(H_2B(pz),)$	$-0.60 \pm 0.07$		$1.05 \pm 0.15$

 $a_{\text{ASociated THF omitted}} = 0.60 \pm 0.07$  1.0<br>  $a_{\text{ASociated THF omitted}} = 0.60 \pm 0.07$  1.0 Claussen, C. A.; Stone, J. A., unpublished data.



**Figure 2.** Mössbauer spectrum of  $Np(acac)_{2}Cl_{2}$ . THF.

 $Np(acac)_{2}(MeCp)Cl$ ,  $Np(HB(pz)_{3})CpCl_{2}$ ,  $Np(HB(pz)_{3})$ - $(MeCp)Cl<sub>2</sub>, Np(H<sub>2</sub>B(pz)<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CP<sub>2</sub>$ , and  $Np(H<sub>2</sub>B(pz)<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(MeCp)<sub>2</sub>$ were also distorted by relaxation effects but could be interpreted within generous limits of error.

Intermediate relaxation effects are common for Cp compounds of Np(1V) organometallic compounds, and the substitution of MeCp for Cp in a particular compound is occasionally successful in improving its Mössbauer spectrum.<sup>12,13</sup> The MeCp ligand probably increases the distance between  $Np(IV)$  ions in the compound and thus decreases the weak interactions (spin-spin, spin-lattice) that are considered primarly responsible for the relaxation effects.

<sup>237</sup>Np Mössbauer spectra of representative compounds are shown:  $Np (acac)_2 Cl_2$ THF in Figure 2,  $Np (HB(pz)_3)_2 Cl_2$ . 3THF and  $Np(H_2B(pz)_2)_2Cl_2$ -3THF in Figure 3, Np(HB- $(pz)_3$ <sub>4</sub>.2THF and Np(H<sub>2</sub>B(pz)<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>. THF in Figure 4, Np(HB- $(pz)_3$ )CpCl<sub>2</sub>·THF in Figure 5, and Np(HB(pz)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(MeCp)<sub>2</sub>· 4THF and **Np(H,B(pz),),(MeCp),.THF** in Figure **6.** The spectra in Figures 2, 3, and *5* are magnetically split spectra; Figure 4 shows quadrupole-split spectra, and Figure **6** shows simple single-line spectra. The interpretation of these spectra is described above.

The spectrum of  $Np(acac)$ <sub>2</sub> $Cl<sub>2</sub>$  has been reinterpreted from that previously reported. Two interpretations are possible: (1)  $\delta = -1.47 \text{ cm/s}, g_0 \mu_\text{N} H_{\text{eff}} = 7.92 \text{ cm/s}, \text{ and } eqQ/4 = 0.97 \text{ or}$ (2)  $\delta = -0.42$  cm/s,  $g_0 \mu_\text{N} H_{\text{eff}} = 8.49$  cm/s, and eqQ/4 = -0.42  $cm/s$ . In a previous publication,<sup>3</sup> the first interpretation was erroneously chosen. Comparison with the isomer shifts of other compounds in Table I1 leaves no doubt that the second interpretation is the correct choice.

Comparison of the isomer shifts in Table I1 shows no significant difference in isomer shifts among the <sup>237</sup>Np Mössbauer spectra of any of the compounds investigated, and the isomer shifts do not differ significantly from the isomer shift of NpC14,  $\delta$  = -0.35 cm/s. From the evidence of the <sup>237</sup>Np Mössbauer spectra, none of the ligands involved in the bonding of the



**Figure 3.** Mössbauer spectra of Np(HB(pz)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-3THF (top) and  $Np(H_2B(pz)_2)$ <sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.3THF (bottom).



Figure 4. Mössbauer spectra of Np(HB(pz)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>.2THF (top) and  $Np(H_2B(pz)_2)_4$ . THF (bottom).



Figure 5. <sup>237</sup>Np Mössbauer spectrum of Np(HB(pz)<sub>3</sub>)CpCl<sub>2</sub>·THF.

compounds here measured contributes any appreciable electron density to the 5f orbitals of the  $Np(IV)$  ion. This is in contrast to the striking covalent effects shown by the isomer shifts of  $Np(C_8H_8)_2$  ( $\delta = +1.94$  cm/s)<sup>4</sup> and NpCp<sub>3</sub>Cl ( $\delta = +1.4$  $cm/s$ ).<sup>12</sup>

The Cp and MeCp ligands are ligands that can donate electron density to the  $Np(IV)$  ion. Their failure to make any



Figure 6. Mössbauer spectra of  $Np(HB(pz)_3)_2(MeCp)_2$ .4THF (top) and  $Np(H_2B(pz)_2)(MeCp)_2$ . THF (bottom).

significant contribution is probably because the  $Np$ -Cp bond distance in the compounds studied is too long to allow an appreciable overlap between the ligand and the 5f orbitals of the Np(1V) ion. **Bis(cyclopentadienyl)actinide(IV)** compounds are not stable<sup>16-19</sup> unless access to the actinide(IV) coordination sphere is restricted by other ligands, so there must be substantial repulsion between the bonding ligands. This repulsion would be expected to lengthen the metal ion-Cp bonds and, thus, decrease any covalent contribution to the bonding.

**A** resonance line necessary for the analysis of the Mossbauer spectrum of  $Np(Me_5C_5)_2Cl_2$  (Figure 1) is missing; thus, this spectrum cannot be interpreted. This is a distinct disappointment, because the chemical behavior of its uranium analogue indicates that there is a strong covalent contribution to the bonding of  $U(Me_5C_5)_2X_2$  compounds.<sup>9,10</sup> This covalent contribution can be partly withdrawn to stabilize the bonding to  $U(IV)$  of  $\sigma$ -bonding ligands, as was previously found for  $NpCp_3X$  compounds.<sup>2a</sup> These same consideratios also apply to the  $Me<sub>5</sub>C<sub>5</sub>$  compounds of other strongly electropositive ions such as  $Zr(IV).^{28}$ 

The Mössbauer spectra of analogous bis- and tris(1pyrazoly1)borate compounds show differences in magnetic splitting (Figure **3)** and quadrupole splitting (Figure **4).** The possible cause of these differences is in the field on the Np(1V) ion from the two ligands. The bis(1-pyrazolyl)borate ligand acts as a bidentate ligand, and the tris(1-pyrazolyl)borate acts as a tridentate ligand. The larger magnetic splitting for Np(HB(pz)<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-3THF (Figure 3) and the larger quadrupole splitting for  $Np(HB(pz),_{2})$ . 2THF would be expected for the more strongly coordinating HB(pz), ligand. The field from the tridentate  $HB(pz)$ , ligand shows both stronger magnetic and electric effects on the <sup>237</sup>Np Mössbauer spectra than the field from the bidentate  $H_2B(pz)_2$  ligand.

**Registry No.**  $Np(acac)_{2}Cl_{2}$ , 80844-40-2;  $Np(acac)_{2}(MeCp)Cl$ , 83947-35-7;  $Np(acac)_{2}(Me\tilde{C}p)_{2}$ , 80844-41-3;  $Np(acac)_{4}$ , 26679-42-5;  $Np(HB(pz)_3)_2Cl_2$ , 83947-36-8;  $Np(HB(pz)_3)_2(MeCp)_2$ , 83947-37-9;  $(HB(pz)<sub>3</sub>)$ CpCl<sub>2</sub>, 83947-39-1; Np(HB(pz)<sub>3</sub>)(MeCp)Cl<sub>2</sub>, 83947-40-4;  $Np(H_2B(pz)_2)(MeCp)_2$ , 83966-20-5;  $Np(H_2B(pz)_2)_4$ , 83966-21-6;  $Np(HB(pz)_{3})_{2}Cp_{2}$ , 83947-38-0;  $Np(HB(pz)_{3})_{4}$ , 84041-59-8; Np- $Np(H_2B(pz)_2)_2Cl_2$ , 83947-41-5;  $Np(H_2B(pz)_2)_2Cp_2$ , 83947-42-6; NpC14, 15597-84-9; NpCpCl,, 83947-43-7; TlCp, 34822-90-7.

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**<sup>(28)</sup> Walozanski, P. T.; Bercaw, J. E.** *Acc Chem. Res.* **1980,** *13,* 121