

67-1; *neo*-C₅H₁₁Cl, 753-89-9; [(*n*-Bu)₃PCuI]₄, 59245-99-7; CF₃CH₂OH, 75-89-8; CF₃CH₂ONa, 420-87-1.

Supplementary Material Available: C-H bond lengths (Tables XI and XII), H-C-X bond angles (Tables XIII and XIV), positional parameters

for hydrogen atoms (Tables XV and XVI), selected least-squares planes and distances of atoms from those planes (Tables XVII and XVIII), and thermal parameters (Tables XIX and XX) (10 pages); observed and calculated structure factor amplitudes (Tables XXI and XXII) (60 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

Notes

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Platinum(0) Complexes as Catalysts of Metal Carbonyl Substitution Reactions

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Phosphine-substituted metal carbonyls have often been prepared by methods involving thermal or photochemical replacement of a CO ligand, despite several commonly observed problems: low yields, mixtures of mono- to multi-substituted products, and long reaction times.¹ More recently, several new procedures² have been developed to promote CO substitution by other ligands under mild conditions. Among them is Me₃NO,³ which oxidatively decarbonylates metal carbonyls, leading to a coordinatively unsaturated intermediate. Sodium benzophenone ketyl (BPK)^{4,5} has been shown to catalyze CO substitution. Also, several transition-metal complexes induce catalytic CO displacement in metal carbonyls. These include [CpFe(CO)₂]₂,⁶ [CpMo(CO)₃]₂,⁷ CoCl₂,⁸ PdO,⁹ and Fe₂(CO)₆(SMe)₂.¹⁰ In most of these reactions, there is evidence for electron-transfer catalysis (ETC) or it has been suggested that ETC is involved. We report here that the Pt(0) complexes Pt(PPh₃)₄ and Pt(dibenzylideneacetone)₂ (Pt(dba)₂) also catalyze the phosphine substitution of CO in mono-, di-, and trinuclear metal carbonyl complexes. These two catalysts offer a convenient, high-yield route to monosubstituted M_x(CO)_{y-1}L complexes where L is a monodentate phosphine ligand.

Experimental Section

General Reagents and Procedures. All reactions were performed under prepurified N₂. Unless noted otherwise, reagent grade chemicals were used without further purification. Methylene chloride and hexanes were distilled from CaH₂ and stored under N₂ over type 4A molecular sieves. Benzene was distilled from sodium benzophenone under N₂.

The starting compounds, W(CO)₆, Fe(CO)₅, CpMn(CO)₃, Re₂(C-O)₁₀, and Ph₂PCH₂CH₂PPh₂ (dppe) were purchased from Pressure Chemical Co. Other starting compounds, CpFe(CO)₂I,¹¹ Re(CO)₅(C-H₃),¹² Pt(PPh₃)₄,¹³ and Pt(dba)₂,¹⁴ were prepared as reported in the literature. The compound Os₃(CO)₁₂ was prepared from OsO₄ by a modification of a literature procedure¹⁵ that was carried out in a 300-mL stainless steel pressure autoclave (Parr Model No. 4761).

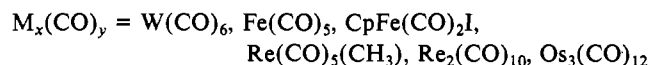
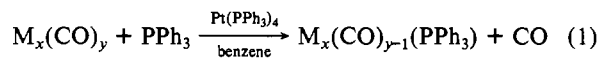
Infrared spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 681 instrument. ¹H NMR spectra were recorded on a Nicolet NT-300 spectrometer. Electron-impact mass spectra were obtained by using a Finnigan 4000 GC-MS.

Reaction of Metal Carbonyls with PPh₃ in the Presence of Pt(PPh₃)₄. A solution of PPh₃ (1-2 equiv), the metal carbonyl compound (1 equiv) (W(CO)₆, Fe(CO)₅, CpFe(CO)₂I, Re(CO)₅(CH₃), CpMn(CO)₃, Re₂(CO)₁₀ or Os₃(CO)₁₂), and Pt(PPh₃)₄ (0.1 equiv) was brought to reflux in 50 mL of benzene under an N₂ atmosphere. The reactions were monitored by changes in the IR spectra (2200-1600 cm⁻¹). At the end of the reaction (as established by the disappearance of the starting material), the solution was cooled to room temperature and the solvent removed under vacuum. The residue dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ was then passed through a silica-gel column (2.5 × 15 cm) with 1:1 CH₂Cl₂/hexanes as the eluant. The PPh₃-substituted products were collected. Recrystallization from CH₂Cl₂/hexanes gave the isolated products (percent yields in Table I), which were identified by their IR and ¹H NMR spectra (Table I). The catalyst, Pt(PPh₃)₄, was recovered. Also shown in Table I are results of control reactions where no Pt(0) catalyst was used.

Reaction of Metal Carbonyls with Ligands in the Presence of Pt(dba)₂. A 50-mL benzene solution containing a donor ligand (PPh₃, PPh₂Me, dppe, P(OMe)₃, or norbornadiene) (usually 1.5 equiv), a metal carbonyl (Fe(CO)₅ or CpFe(CO)₂I) (1 equiv), and Pt(dba)₂ (0.1 equiv) was refluxed in a Schlenk flask. The reaction was monitored by IR spectroscopy (2200-1600 cm⁻¹), and heating was continued until the reaction had gone to completion. The solvent was removed under vacuum; the residue dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ was chromatographed (2.5 × 15 cm) on silica gel with 1:1 CH₂Cl₂/hexanes as the eluent. The products were recrystallized from CH₂Cl₂/hexanes.

Results and Discussion

The substitution of one CO ligand in a variety of metal carbonyl complexes by PPh₃ is catalyzed by Pt(PPh₃)₄ (eq 1) in refluxing



benzene. As summarized in Table I, the products are isolated in 70-98% yields and the Pt(PPh₃)₄ catalyst may be recovered nearly quantitatively. Under the conditions of the reactions, but in the absence of the catalyst, there is essentially no reaction. Only the monophosphine-substituted complexes are obtained even when

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Table I. Experimental Conditions for the Reactions of Metal Carbonyls with PR_3 Ligands in the Presence of $\text{Pt}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ or $\text{Pt}(\text{dba})_2$ Catalysts

metal carbonyl (mmol)	ligand (L)	catalyst	mole ratio ^a	product	Pt(0)-catalyzed reacn		uncatalyzed reacn	
					time	% yield	time	results
$\text{W}(\text{CO})_6$ (2.5)	PPh_3	$\text{Pt}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$	1:1:0.1	$\text{W}(\text{CO})_5(\text{PPh}_3)^c$	4 days	92	4 days	NR ^b
$\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$ (2.5)	PPh_3	$\text{Pt}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$	1:2:0.1	$\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_4(\text{PPh}_3)^d$	5 h	98	19 h	<i>j</i>
	PPh_3	$\text{Pt}(\text{dba})_2$	1:1.5:0.1	$\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_4(\text{PPh}_3)^d$	7 h	81		
	PPhMe_2	$\text{Pt}(\text{dba})_2$	1:2:0.1	$\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_4(\text{PPhMe}_2)$	1.5 h	79	1.5 h	NR
	dppe	$\text{Pt}(\text{dba})_2$	1:1.5:0.1		8 h	NR		
	$\text{P}(\text{OMe})_3$	$\text{Pt}(\text{dba})_2$	1:2:0.1		17 h	NR		
	NBD	$\text{Pt}(\text{dba})_2$	1:2:0.1		17 h	NR		
$\text{CpFe}(\text{CO})_2\text{I}$ (0.50)	PPh_3	$\text{Pt}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$	1:1:0.1	$\text{CpFe}(\text{CO})(\text{PPh}_3)\text{I}^e$	50 min	87	24 h	NR
	PPh_3	$\text{Pt}(\text{dba})_2$	1:1.5:0.1	$\text{CpFe}(\text{CO})(\text{PPh}_3)\text{I}^e$	50 min	85		
	$\text{P}(\text{OMe})_3$	$\text{Pt}(\text{dba})_2$	1:2:0.1	$\text{CpFe}(\text{CO})[\text{P}(\text{OMe})_3]\text{I}^e$	30 min	91	30 min	<i>l</i>
	dppe	$\text{Pt}(\text{dba})_2$	1:1.5:0.1	$\text{CpFe}(\text{dppe})\text{I}^f$	1 h	84	1 h	<i>k</i>
$\text{Re}(\text{CO})_5(\text{CH}_3)$ (10.30)	PPh_3	$\text{Pt}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$	1:1:0.1	$\text{Re}(\text{CO})_4(\text{PPh}_3)(\text{CH}_3)^g$	17 h	86	24 h	NR
$\text{Re}_2(\text{CO})_{10}$ (0.60)	PPh_3	$\text{Pt}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$	1:1:0.1	$\text{Re}_2(\text{CO})_9(\text{PPh}_3)^h$	2 days	72	2 days	NR
$\text{Os}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$ (0.20)	PPh_3	$\text{Pt}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$	1:1:0.1	$\text{Os}_3(\text{CO})_{11}(\text{PPh}_3)^i$	5 min	98	2 h	NR
$\text{CpMn}(\text{CO})_3$ (2.50)	PPh_3	$\text{Pt}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$	1:1:0.1		3 days	NR		

^a Metal carbonyl: PR_3 : catalyst. ^b NR = no reaction. ^c Magee, T. A.; Matthews, C. N.; Wang, T. S.; Wotiz, J. H. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1961**, *83*, 3200. ^d Clifford, A. F.; Mukherjee, A. K. *Inorg. Synth.* **1966**, *8*, 185. ^e (1) Brown, D. A.; Lyons, H. J.; Manning, A. R.; Rowley, J. M. *Inorg. Chim. Acta* **1969**, *3*, 346. (2) Brown, D. A.; Lyons, H. J.; Manning, A. R. *Inorg. Chim. Acta* **1970**, *4*, 428. (3) Haines, R. J.; DuPreez, A. L.; Marais, L. L. *J. Organomet. Chem.* **1971**, *28*, 405. ^f Green, M. L. H.; Whitely, R. N. *J. Chem. Soc. A* **1971**, 1943. ^g McKinney, R. J.; Kaesz, H. D. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1975**, *97*, 3066. ^h Dewitt, D. G.; Fawcett, J. P.; Pöe, A. *J. Chem. Soc., Dalton Trans.* **1976**, 528. ⁱ Bradford, C. W.; van Bronswijk, W.; Clark, R. J. H.; Nyholm, R. S. *J. Chem. Soc. A* **1970**, 2889. ^j Without catalyst, only traces of $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_4\text{L}$ and $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_3\text{L}_2$ along with $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$ are observed. ^k 18% of $\text{CpFe}(\text{CO})_2\text{I}$ was unreacted. ^l 83% of $\text{CpFe}(\text{CO})_2\text{I}$ was unreacted.

2 equiv of PPh_3 is used in the reactions, as for $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$ and $\text{CpFe}(\text{CO})_2\text{I}$. Of the metal carbonyls studied, only $\text{CpMn}(\text{CO})_3$ failed to undergo $\text{Pt}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ -catalyzed substitution. $\text{CpMn}(\text{CO})_3$ is quite inert to thermal substitution in the absence of catalyst,¹⁶ and attempted PdO -catalyzed^{9d} substitution was also unsuccessful.

The reaction between $\text{Re}_2(\text{CO})_{10}$ and PPh_3 in refluxing xylene for 24 h yields $\text{Re}_2(\text{CO})_8(\text{PPh}_3)_2$ and *mer-trans*- $\text{HRe}(\text{CO})_3(\text{PPh}_3)_2$ as the main products.¹⁷ The reaction of $\text{Re}_2(\text{CO})_{10}$ with PMe_2Ph is reported¹⁸ to yield mixtures of $\text{Re}_2(\text{CO})_9(\text{PMe}_2\text{Ph})$ and $\text{Re}_2(\text{CO})_8(\text{PMe}_2\text{Ph})_2$. The $\text{Cp}_2\text{Fe}_2(\text{CO})_4$ -catalyzed^{6d} substitution of $\text{Re}_2(\text{CO})_{10}$ with PPh_3 was also unsuccessful. However, the present method gives $\text{Re}_2(\text{CO})_9(\text{PPh}_3)$ in 72% isolated yield.

The reaction of $\text{Os}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$ with PMe_3 causes extensive cluster fragmentation¹⁹ while the Na-BPK method provides poor yields of di- and trisubstituted products.^{4a} However, the $\text{Pt}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ catalyst affords a high yield (98%) of the monosubstituted product, $\text{Os}_3(\text{CO})_{11}(\text{PPh}_3)$, in only 5 min. The $\text{Pt}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ -catalyzed reaction of $\text{Re}(\text{CO})_5(\text{CH}_3)$ and PPh_3 gives only $\text{Re}(\text{CO})_4(\text{PPh}_3)(\text{CH}_3)$. This product had previously²⁰ been prepared from the reaction of $\text{Re}(\text{CO})_4(\text{PPh}_3)(\text{Br})$ with MeLi .

While the mechanism of reaction 1 has not been studied, it may involve electron-transfer catalysis (ETC) in which $\text{Pt}(\text{PPh}_3)_n$ donates an electron to the metal carbonyl to form a labile 19-electron intermediate that rapidly undergoes substitution by the PPh_3 . Such a mechanism has been proposed for other²¹ catalyzed metal carbonyl substitution reactions. There is good evidence that $\text{Pt}(\text{PPh}_3)_n$ is capable of being such an electron donor in radical mechanisms for oxidative-addition reactions of $\text{Pt}(\text{PR}_3)_n$ with alkyl halides.²²

It has been noted that only monosubstitution occurs in reaction 1. This is reasonable in terms of this mechanism, since the monosubstituted $\text{M}_x(\text{CO})_{y-1}(\text{PPh}_3)$ products are more electron-rich than $\text{M}_x(\text{CO})_y$, and would be poorer acceptors of an electron from the Pt(0) catalyst. Likewise, the catalyzed substitutions of all

of the complexes should depend on the electron-accepting abilities of the complexes. Those that are likely to be the best acceptors will have the lowest electron density as measured by their high $\nu(\text{CO})$ force constants. Thus, $\text{Pt}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ catalyzes CO substitution in the following complexes with relatively high $\nu(\text{CO})$ force constants (given in parentheses): $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$ (17.0 and 16.4 $\text{mdyn}/\text{\AA}$),^{23a} $\text{W}(\text{CO})_6$ (16.56 $\text{mdyn}/\text{\AA}$),^{23a} $\text{CpFe}(\text{CO})_2\text{I}$ (16.45 $\text{mdyn}/\text{\AA}$),^{23b} $\text{Re}(\text{CO})_5(\text{CH}_3)$ (15.97 and 16.87 $\text{mdyn}/\text{\AA}$),^{23a} $\text{Re}_2(\text{CO})_{10}$ (15.92 and 16.57 $\text{mdyn}/\text{\AA}$),^{23c} and $\text{Os}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$ (16.53 and 16.79 $\text{mdyn}/\text{\AA}$).^{23d} All of the complexes that react according to eq 1 have $\nu(\text{CO})$ force constants greater than 16.4 $\text{mdyn}/\text{\AA}$, in contrast to the unreactive $\text{CpMn}(\text{CO})_3$, whose low k_{CO} value (15.6 $\text{mdyn}/\text{\AA}$)^{24a} indicates that it is relatively electron-rich and would be a poor electron acceptor.

While the ETC mechanism is consistent with the behavior of reaction 1, it is possible that a different mechanism is involved. Stoichiometric reactions^{24,25} of $\text{Pt}(\text{PR}_3)_4$ with certain metal carbonyls, $\text{Fe}_2(\text{CO})_9$ and $\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$, even at room temperature yield clusters of the types $\text{Fe}_2\text{Pt}(\text{CO})_9(\text{PR}_3)$ and $\text{RuPt}_2(\text{CO})_5(\text{PR}_3)_3$. Byproducts of these reactions are the phosphine-substituted metal carbonyls $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_4(\text{PR}_3)$, $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_3(\text{PR}_3)_2$, and $\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12-n}(\text{PR}_3)_n$ ($n = 1-3$). The reaction of $\text{Pt}(\text{PPh}_2\text{Me})_4$ with $\text{Os}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$ gives only the substituted derivatives $\text{Os}_3(\text{CO})_{12-n}(\text{PPh}_2\text{Me})_n$ ($n = 1, 2$).²⁵ The mechanisms of none of these reactions are known, but they suggest the possibility that clusters are intermediates in the catalyzed reactions in eq 1.

Instead of using $\text{Pt}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ as the catalyst in reaction 1, it is also possible to use $\text{Pt}(\text{dba})_2$, which under the conditions of the reaction with excess PPh_3 is converted to $\text{Pt}(\text{PPh}_3)_2(\text{dba})$.¹⁴ Thus, the reaction of $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$, PPh_3 , and a catalytic amount of $\text{Pt}(\text{dba})_2$ in refluxing benzene gives (Table I) an 81% yield of $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_4(\text{PPh}_3)$. Similarly, the $\text{Pt}(\text{dba})_2$ -catalyzed reaction of $\text{CpFe}(\text{CO})_2\text{I}$ with PPh_3 gives $\text{CpFe}(\text{CO})(\text{PPh}_3)\text{I}$. The successful use of $\text{Pt}(\text{dba})_2$ as a catalyst for the substitution of CO by PPh_3 suggests that other monodentate phosphines could be used in analogous

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reactions. Indeed, $\text{Pt}(\text{dba})_2$ does catalyze the reaction of $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$ and PPhMe_2 to give $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_4(\text{PPhMe}_2)$ and the reaction of $\text{CpFe}(\text{CO})_2\text{I}$ and $\text{P}(\text{OMe})_3$ to give $\text{CpFe}(\text{CO})[\text{P}(\text{OMe})_3]\text{I}$. The reaction of $\text{CpFe}(\text{CO})_2\text{I}$ and $\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{PPh}_2$ (dppe) to produce $\text{CpFe}(\text{dppe})\text{I}$ in the presence of $\text{Pt}(\text{dba})_2$ is complete within 1 h, and the isolated yield is 84%. Without $\text{Pt}(\text{dba})_2$, the reaction is not complete (18% of $\text{CpFe}(\text{CO})_2\text{I}$ remained unreacted) under the same conditions. There was no observed $\text{Pt}(\text{dba})_2$ catalysis of the reactions of $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$ with dppe , $\text{P}(\text{OMe})_3$, or 2,5-norbornadiene (NBD), which suggests that the method may be limited to monodentate phosphines.

Conclusion

There are several attractive features of the $\text{Pt}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ -catalyzed method of substituting a CO ligand in metal carbonyls by PPh_3 : (a) The reaction cleanly provides monosubstituted products in high yields (70–98%). (b) The catalyst can be recovered almost quantitatively at the end of the experiment. (c) For clusters that tend to fragment under other conditions, the $\text{Pt}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ method yields the intact clusters. (d) k_{CO} values are helpful for predicting metal carbonyl complexes to which the method can be applied. The substitution of one CO in $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$ and $\text{CpFe}(\text{CO})_2\text{I}$ by PPh_3 and/or PMe_2Ph is also catalyzed by $\text{Pt}(\text{dba})_2$, suggesting that $\text{Pt}(\text{dba})_2$ may be used more generally to catalyze monodentate phosphine substitution of metal carbonyls.

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Registry No. dppe , 1663-45-2; NBD, 121-46-0; $\text{W}(\text{CO})_6$, 14040-11-0; $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$, 13463-40-6; $\text{CpFe}(\text{CO})_2\text{I}$, 12078-28-3; $\text{Re}(\text{CO})_5\text{CH}_3$, 14524-92-6; $\text{Re}_2(\text{CO})_{10}$, 14285-68-8; $\text{Os}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$, 15696-40-9; $\text{CpMn}(\text{CO})_3$, 12079-65-1; PPh_3 , 603-35-0; PPhMe_2 , 672-66-2; $\text{P}(\text{OMe})_3$, 121-45-9; $\text{Pt}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$, 14221-02-4; $\text{W}(\text{CO})_5(\text{PPh}_3)$, 15444-65-2; $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_4(\text{PPh}_3)$, 14649-69-5; $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_4(\text{PPhMe}_2)$, 37410-37-0; $\text{CpFe}(\text{CO})(\text{PPh}_3)\text{I}$, 12099-18-2; $\text{CpFe}(\text{dppe})\text{I}$, 55451-49-5; $\text{CpFe}(\text{CO})[\text{P}(\text{OMe})_3]\text{I}$, 31781-71-2; $\text{Re}(\text{CO})_4(\text{PPh}_3)(\text{CH}_3)$, 56474-50-1; $\text{Re}_2(\text{CO})_9(\text{PPh}_3)$, 27770-63-4; $\text{Os}_3(\text{CO})_{11}(\text{PPh}_3)$, 30173-88-4; $\text{Pt}(\text{dba})_2$, 33677-56-4.

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Reappraisal of the Amide Coordination Mode: Solution Properties of Nickel(II) and Copper(II) Complexes of Ligands Involving Simultaneously Enamine and Amide Groups

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Depending on experimental conditions, primary and secondary amide groups are known to bind copper(II) and nickel(II) ions with or without deprotonation.¹ It is generally accepted that, in the former case, coordination occurs through the nitrogen atom while, in the latter case, the carbonyl oxygen is the coordination site. This mode of bonding is largely supported by structural studies,^{2,3} but there remains the possibility that the data obtained for solid samples may not be directly applicable to species in solution and that, in some instances, the intact amide nitrogen could serve as the coordinating site. Furthermore, it may be recognized that before considering the problem of the coordinating site (oxygen vs nitrogen), one has to demonstrate unambiguously

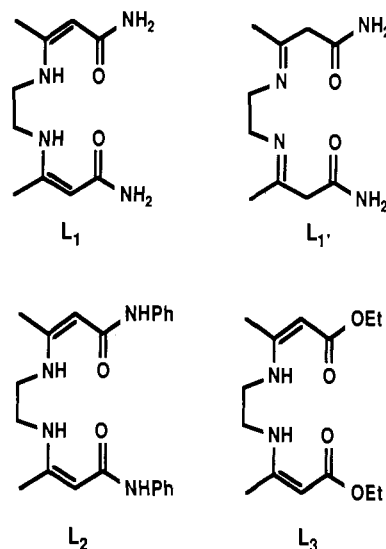


Figure 1. L_1 , L_2 , and L_3 ligands.

whether the amide group is intact or not. This is not a trivial problem in the cases where the ligand bonded to the metal ions contains more than one type of ionizable proton.

This happens for the complex $[\text{Cu}L_1]^{2+}$ (Figure 1), L_1 being the Schiff base resulting from the condensation of 1 mol of 1,2-diaminoethane with 2 mol of acetoacetamide. It has been recently proposed,⁴ on the basis of potentiometric, spectrophotometric, and ESR data, that the behavior of aqueous solutions of this complex may be depicted by an equilibrium involving the $[\text{Cu}L_1]^{2+}$, $[\text{Cu}(L_1\text{-H})]^+$ and $[\text{Cu}(L_1\text{-2H})]$ species ($L_1\text{-H}$ and $L_1\text{-2H}$ representing respectively the mono- and dideprotonated forms of L_1). The point of importance is that, in the three species, the ligand is considered to be a diimino diamide (form L_1' in Figure 1) which contains only one type of ionizable proton, viz., those of the amide groups. However, there is no reason to rule out the possibility for the ligand to be in another tautomeric form that can be described as a dienediamino diamide (form L_1 in Figure 1) with two types of ionizable proton.

In the present paper we intend to reappraise the behavior of the Cu^{2+}/L_1 system in solution through the isolation and characterization of the copper(II) complexes involving the ligand L_1 (or L_1') in different states of deprotonation. This study includes the homologous nickel(II) complexes and also the copper(II) and nickel(II) complexes of two related ligands L_2 and L_3 (Figure 1).

Experimental Section

Ligand Preparation. The L_1 ligand, 3,8-dimethyl-4,7-diazadeca-2,8-diene-1,10-diamide, was synthesized from acetoacetamide and 1,2-diaminoethane as previously described.⁴

L_1' . $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR in DMSO: 15.8 (CH_3), 40.7 (CH_2), 82.8 (CH), 155.0 (CN), 169.5 ppm (CO).

L_2 and L_3 ligands were similarly obtained by respectively using acetoacetanilide and ethylacetoacetate instead of acetoacetamide.

L_2 (*N,N'*-Diphenyl-3,8-dimethyl-4,7-diazadeca-2,8-diene-1,10-diamide). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_4\text{O}_2$: C, 69.8; H, 6.9; N, 14.8. Found: C, 69.4; H, 7.0; N, 14.7. $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR in CDCl_3 : 19.4 (CH_3), 43.9 (CH_2), 85.8 (CH), 139.0 (CN), 119.8 (*o*), 128.8 ppm (*m*), 122.9 (*p*) (phenyl ring), 160.2 (CN), 169.0 ppm (CO).

L_3 (Diethyl 3,8-Dimethyl-4,7-diazadeca-2,8-diene-1,10-dioate). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$: C, 59.1; H, 8.5; N, 9.9. Found: C, 58.8; H, 8.6; N, 9.7. $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR in CDCl_3 : 14.5 (CH_3CH_2), 19.1 (CH_3), 43.7 (CH_2), 58.3 (CH_3CH_2), 83.4 (CH), 161.1 (CN), 170.4 ppm (CO).

Complexes of L_1 . $L_1\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2$. This compound was prepared as described previously.⁴

$(L_1\text{-2H})\text{Cu}$. $L_1\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_3)_2$ (0.5 g) was dissolved in 50 mL of ethanol. NaOH (0.1 g) in 1 mL of water then was added dropwise, inducing the precipitation of gray precipitate with a quantitative yield. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{16}\text{CuN}_2\text{O}_2$: C, 41.7; H, 5.6; Cu, 22.1; N, 19.5. Found: C, 41.1; H, 5.5; Cu, 21.8; N, 19.5.

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