

Carbon and Oxygen Coordinated Carbon Monoxide.

Preparation and Structure of $[(h^5-C_5H_5)Fe(CO)_2]_2 \cdot 2Al(C_2H_5)_3$ N.E. Kim,¹ N.J. Nelson, and D.F. Shriver

Received August 11, 1972

The interaction of $[(h^5-C_5H_5)Fe(CO)_2]_2$ with $[Al(C_2H_5)_3]_2$ in hydrocarbon solution produces a 1:1 adduct which may be isolated as air-sensitive red crystals. Adduct formation is accompanied by a 112 cm^{-1} reduction in the asymmetric stretching frequency of the bridging carbonyls. Infrared, molecular weight and nmr data indicate that the adduct is partially dissociated in hydrocarbon solution. By means of x-ray single crystal diffraction the compound was found to crystallize in space group C2/c with four molecules in a unit cell of dimensions $a = 14.45(2)$, $b = 14.12(2)$, $c = 14.70(3)$ Å, and $\beta = 100^\circ 50(15)'$. The structure was refined to a conventional R factor of 12% over 815 reflections collected on film. The structure involves a cis- $[(h^5-C_5H_5)Fe(CO)_2]_2$ moiety coordinated to two triethylaluminum acceptors through the oxygen of each bridging carbonyl. The Al-O bond distance is 1.98 Å.

Introduction

Since the x-ray diffraction structure determination of $Fe_2(CO)_9$ by Powell and Ewens in 1939² it has been recognized that metal carbonyls may contain metal-

carbon bridging CO groups, $\begin{matrix} M \\ \diagdown \\ CO \\ \diagup \\ M \end{matrix}$. The possibility

of bridging through both carbon and oxygen has been discussed by various authors,^{3,5} but the first definitive report of this phenomenon appeared only recently in a preliminary communication of the present work.⁶ This research on the basicity of the bridging carbonyl group was prompted by analogy⁴ with ketones which are well known Lewis bases.

Experimental Section

Preparations. Schlenk, syringe, dry-box and vacu-

- (1) Formerly N.E. Kime.
- (2) H.M. Powell and R.V.G. Ewens, *J. Chem. Soc.*, 286 (1939).
- (3) N.V. Sidgwick and R.W. Bailey, *Proc. Roy. Soc., A* 144, 521 (1934); R.V.G. Ewens and M.W. Lister, *Trans. Faraday Soc.*, 35, 681 (1939).
- (4) C.C. Barraclough, J. Lewis, and R.S. Nyholm, *J. Chem. Soc.*, 2582 (1961); G. Dobson and R.K. Scheline, *Inorg. Chem.*, 2, 1313 (1963).
- (5) G.W. Parshall, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, 86, 361 (1964); K.F. Purcell, *ibid.*, 91, 3487 (1969).
- (6) N.J. Nelson, N.E. Kime, and D.F. Shriver, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, 91, 5173 (1969).

um-line techniques⁷ were used to exclude air in the preparation and handling of $[(h^5-C_5H_5)Fe(CO)_2]_2 \cdot 2Al(C_2H_5)_3$. In a typical preparation, 2.5 g (7.06 mmole) of pure $[(h^5-C_5H_5)Fe(CO)_2]_2$ ⁸ was degassed in a Schlenk tube, and 100 ml of thoroughly dry and oxygen-free toluene was added under nitrogen. To this suspension 2.1 ml of $Al(C_2H_5)_3$ (15 mmole) was added followed by stirring overnight. Removal of solvent under vacuum left a thick liquid to which 300 ml of dried and degassed heptane was added. After stirring for 30 minutes, the fine bright red crystals which formed were collected under nitrogen, washed with three 50 ml portions of dried and degassed hexane, and dried by brief exposure to vacuum. *Anal.* Calcd. for $C_{26}H_{40}Al_2Fe_2O_4$: C, 28.22; Fe, 19.2 Found: C, 28.64; Fe, 20.5. Ethane was determined by hydrolysis⁹ and iron was determined potentiometrically with cerium(IV) sulfate.¹⁰ The molecular weight in benzene solution varied with concentration: 428 for 1.72 mg sample/g benzene, 475 for 4.17 mg sample/g benzene and 505 for 5.67 mg sample/g benzene; (Calcd. 582). The density of the crystal determined on the vacuum line by He displacement is 1.31 g cm^{-3} . In the presence of excess triethylaluminum infrared absorptions are found at 2042s, 2004s and 1682s cm^{-1} for freshly prepared heptane solutions at -3° . In the absence of excess triethylaluminum, a more complex spectrum is observed, indicating significant dissociation. The nmr spectrum which also is somewhat concentration dependent is τ 5.62 (singlet) 8.43 (triplet) and 9.51 (quartet) with relative intensities 9.6: 18: 13.1; in reasonable agreement with the expected ratios of 10: 18: 12 for C_2H_5 , CH_3 and CH_2 respectively.

Crystallography. A crystal of the adduct in a quartz capillary was examined by Weissenberg and procession x-ray photographs, and found to have monoclinic symmetry with $a = 14.45(2)$, $b = 14.12(2)$, $c = 14.70(3)$ Å, and $\beta = 100^\circ 50(15)'$. Systematic absences of hkl, $h + k \neq 2n$ and h0l, $l \neq 2n$, is consistent with space group C2/c or Cc. The presence of a large number of Harker peaks for the $2x, 0, 1/2 + 2z$ plane in the three-dimensional Patterson function indicate the centrosymmetric space group C2/c. From the

- (7) D.F. Shriver, « The Manipulation of Air-Sensitive Compounds », McGraw Hill Book Company, New York, N.Y., 1969.
- (8) T.S. Piper, F.A. Cotton, and G. Wilkinson, *J. Inorg. Nucl. Chem.*, 1, 165 (1955).
- (9) Ref. 7, page 81.
- (10) D.A. Skoog and D.M. West, « Fundamentals of Analytical Chemistry », Holt, Rinhart, and Winston, New York, N.Y., 1963, page 451.

Table I. Final Atomic and Thermal Parameters.

Atom ^a	X	Y	Z	10 ⁴ β ₁₁ or B	10 ⁴ β ₂₂	10 ⁴ β ₃₃	10 ⁴ β ₁₂	10 ⁴ β ₁₃	10 ₁ β ₂₃
Fe	0.0167(2)	0.1699(2)	-0.1637(2)	50(2)	49(2)	45(2)	2(3)	5(1)	0(2)
Al	0.2913(6)	0.1213(6)	-0.3069(7)	73(7)	114(8)	98(8)	30(6)	28(6)	6(6)
C ₁	0.0916(19)	0.1999(19)	-0.0343(19)	7.2(8)					
C ₂	-0.0069(19)	0.2106(19)	-0.0343(18)	6.3(7)					
C ₃	-0.0373(19)	0.2842(18)	-0.0985(19)	6.1(7)					
C ₄	0.0455(18)	0.3134(19)	-0.1315(17)	5.9(7)					
C ₅	0.1201(20)	0.2585(20)	-0.0899(21)	7.5(8)					
C _b	0.0976(16)	0.1534(15)	-0.2492(15)	4.3(5)					
O _b	0.1798(11)	0.1413(10)	-0.2493(10)	5.6(4)					
C _i	0.0202(17)	0.0526(17)	-0.1370(15)	4.4(6)					
O _i	0.0203(12)	-0.0304(13)	-0.1235(11)	7.1(5)					
C ₁₁	0.3680(20)	0.0368(19)	-0.2184(21)	7.6(8)					
C ₁₂	0.4231(27)	0.0799(25)	-0.1314(27)	11.9(12)					
C ₂₁	0.3233(25)	0.2476(24)	-0.3323(27)	11.3(11)					
C ₂₂	0.3299(22)	0.3138(26)	-0.2582(24)	10.5(10)					
C ₃₁	0.2223(28)	0.0407(27)	-0.4170(29)	12.4(12)					
C ₃₂	0.2661(36)	0.0183(35)	-0.4793(36)	16.5(16)					

^aX, Y and Z are the fractional coordinates. The form of the thermal ellipsoid is $\exp[-(\beta_{11}h^2 + \beta_{22}k^2 + \beta_{33}l^2 + 2\beta_{12}hk + 2\beta_{13}hl + 2\beta_{23}kl)]$. Standard deviations of the least significant figures are reported in parentheses. C₁₁, C₂₁ and C₃₁ are the three methylene carbons attached to Al. C₁₂, C₂₂ and C₃₂ are the methyl carbons associated with the respective methylene carbons, and C_i through C₅ are carbons of the cyclopentadienyl group. The molecule possesses 2 symmetry.

Table II. Bond Lengths and Angles ^a.

Atoms ^a	Length Å	Atoms ^a	Angle, deg
Fe-Fe	2.491(8)	Fe-C _i -O _i	176(2)
Fe-C ₁	2.05(3)	Fe-C _b -O _b	139(2)
		Fe-Fe'-C _i	102.5(8)
Fe-C ₂	2.08(3)	C _b -O _b -Al	155(2)
Fe-C ₃	2.10(3)	O _b -Al-C ₁₁	102(1)
Fe-C ₄	2.10(3)	O _b -Al-C ₂₁	101(1)
Fe-C ₅	2.09(3)	O _b -Al-C ₃₁	96(1)
Fe-C _b	1.88(2)		
Fe-C _i	1.70(2)	Fe-C _b -Fe': Fe-C _b '-Fe' ^b	167(1)
C ₁ -O _b	1.20(2)		
C ₁ -O _i	1.19(2)		
Al-O _b	1.98(2)		
C ₁ -C ₂	1.43(3)		
C ₂ -C ₃	1.42(3)		
C ₃ -C ₄	1.43(3)		
C ₄ -C ₅	1.28(3)		
Al-C ₁₁	1.95(3)		
C ₁₁ -C ₁₂	1.50(4)		
Al-C ₂₁	1.90(3)		
C ₂₁ -C ₂₂	1.42(4)		
Al-C ₃₁	2.07(4)		
C ₃₁ -C ₃₂	1.25(5)		

^aSee Figure 1 and footnotes to Table I for numbering scheme. ^bDihedral angle between the Fe-C_b-Fe' and Fe-C_b'-Fe' planes.

observed density of 1.31 g cm⁻³, Z equals 4 (ρ_{calc} = 1.31 g cm⁻³).

Data Collection and Reduction. A crystal of approximately cubic habit, 0.1 × 0.1 × 0.08 mm³, was mounted along its [110] axis in a quartz capillary. Six layers of equi-inclination Weissenberg photographs were taken at room temperature using Zr filtered MoK_α radiation. Intensities of the reflections were estimated visually and were corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects but not absorption since the linear absorption coefficient for MoK_α is 11 cm⁻¹. The data were interscaled by comparison of common reflections to yield structure amplitudes for 815 reflections.

Iron and aluminum positions were found in the Pat-

erson map and were used as trial coordinates for two cycles of least-squares refinement. A difference Fourier map then gave the positions of all remaining nonhydrogen atoms. These were included in further least-squares refinement using isotopic temperature factors.

Throughout the analysis, the atomic scattering factors used for Al, C and O were those tabulated by Ibers,¹¹ and the scattering factors for Fe were those of Cromer and Waber.¹² Cromer's values were used for the anomalous dispersion terms¹³ Δf' and Δf". The function minimized in the least squares refinement was $\Sigma w(|F_o| - |F_c|)^2$. Anisotropic thermal parameters for Fe and Al were employed and hydrogen atoms were introduced as fixed contributions, with methyl hydrogens included in a ring to approximate a free rotor. Scattering factors for hydrogen were those of Stewart, *et al.*¹⁴ The final agreement factors for all reflections having $F > 2\sigma$ are $R_1 = \Sigma(|F_o| - |F_c|)/\Sigma|F_o| = 0.12$, and $R_2 = (\Sigma w(|F_o| - |F_c|)^2/\Sigma F_o^2)^{1/2} = 0.12$, where |F_o| and |F_c| are observed and calculated structure amplitudes respectively, and $w = 256/F_o^2$ for $I > 16$ and $w = I^2/F_o^2$ for $I \leq 16$ with I being the raw intensity. Final atomic and thermal parameters are given in Table I, bond lengths and bond angles are given in Table II, and observed and calculated structure factors appear in Table III.

For most of the carbon atoms in the ethyl groups rather high thermal parameters are found. One methyl carbon in particular, C₃₂, has a very high temperature factor and at least one additional peak due to this carbon can be found in the difference Fourier. As with many compounds containing ethyl groups, disorder is indicated. From a consideration of the number of data points and parameters, it was inadvisable to explore the nature of this disorder. Bond lengths associated with ethyl group 3 are to be disregarded.

(11) J.A. Ibers in « International Tables of X-ray Crystallography », vol. 3, The Kynoch Press, Birmingham, England, Table 3.3.1 A.

(12) D.T. Cromer and J.A. Waber, *Acta Cryst.*, 18, 104 (1965).

(13) D.T. Cromer, *ibid.*, 17, 781 (1964).

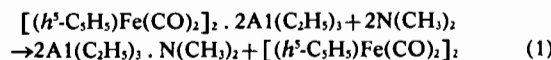
(14) R.F. Stewart, E.R. Davidson, and W.T. Simpson, *J. Chem. Phys.*, 42, 3175 (1965).

Table III. Observed and Calculated Structure Factors for [(h5C5H5)Fe(CO)2]2 · 2Al(C2H5)3.

Table with 30 columns and multiple rows of numerical data representing structure factors. The columns are organized in groups of six, corresponding to h, k, and l coordinates for two different sets of axes.

Results and Discussion

Composition. As outlined in the Experimental Section, Fe and C2H5 analyses as well as nmr results indicate a 1:2 adduct, [(h5-C5H5)Fe(CO)2]2 · 2Al(C2H5)3, this composition is confirmed by results of a tensimetric titration with trimethyl amine which show that two moles of trimethyl amine are consumed per mole of adduct in accord with the following displacement reaction (eq. 1)



Furthermore, quantitative regeneration of the parent iron complex is observed when this reaction is monitored in heptane solution by infrared absorption in the CO stretch region. Similarly the compound [(h5-C5H5)Fe(CO)2]2 · 2Al(CH3)3 was synthesized on the vacuum line (1.98 trimethylaluminum per iron dimer determined by weight gain and 18.4% CH3 by hydrolysis; calc. 18.1%).15 During formation of the trimethylaluminum adduct, the reaction tube was constantly monitored for non-condensable gases such as CO, with negative results. Despite the high reactivity of these adducts and the associated difficulty of analysis, their composition is established beyond reasonable doubt. The indication of dissociation from spectral measurements and removal of triethylaluminum from the adduct by trimethylamine demonstrate weak nature of the bridging carbonyl triethylaluminum interaction.

(15) This adduct readily loses trimethylaluminum under vacuum and because of this complication it was not chosen for the structural work.

Structure. The most important result of the determination is coordination of triethylaluminum to the oxygens of the bridging carbonyls (Figure 1). The Al-O distance 1.98(2) Å is close to the value 2.02(2) Å observed for the donor-acceptor bond in the bis-trimethylaluminum-dioxane adduct,15 but is significantly longer than the Al-O distance of 1.89 Å in [Al-

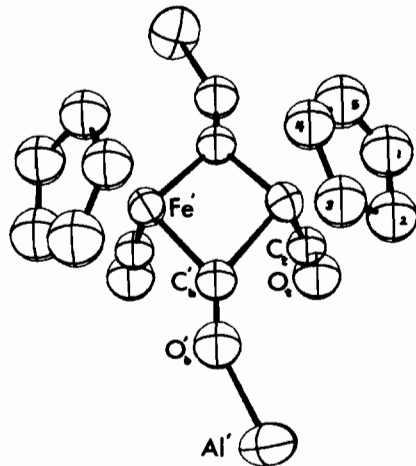
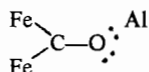


Figure 1. The structure of [(h5C5H5)Fe(CO)2]2 · 2Al(C2H5)3. Ethyl groups and hydrogen atoms have been omitted from the figure to improve clarity. Fe and Al were refined anisotropically while C and O were refined with isotropic thermal parameters. Primed atoms are related to unprimed atoms by a two-fold axis. The Fe-Fe bond, which is required by simple valence considerations, has been omitted for clarity.

(16) J.L. Atwood and G.D. Stucky, J. Amer. Chem. Soc., 89, 5362 (1967).

$(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{3+}$,¹⁷ and 1.82 Å in $\text{AlCl}_3 \cdot \text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{COCl}$.¹⁸ The Al-O-C bond is bent (155°) in a fashion similar to that found $\text{AlCl}_3 \cdot \text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{COCl}$. The Al-C bond distances with range between 1.89(3) and 2.07(4) Å are comparable to the average value of 1.97 Å the adduct $\text{Al}(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{C}_4\text{H}_8\text{O}_2$.¹⁶ Thus, the structural features are consistent with relatively weak donor-acceptor interaction between the oxygen end of carbon monoxide and triethylaluminum. Within the calculated standard deviations, the Fe, C_b, O_b and Al atoms lie in a plane.¹⁹ Whether the position of the aluminum atom is primarily determined by bonding or packing forces is unknown, however, it is consistent with that expected for disposition of the lone pairs:



Recently the structure of *cis*[(*h*⁵-C₅H₅)Fe(CO)₂]₂ has been determined²⁰ and that of the *trans* isomer has been redetermined with high accuracy.²¹ Little difference was found between the molecular dimensions of the forms. The present results are less accurate than those of the parent isomers because our data set, which is more limited, was collected on film rather than on a diffractometer and because of disorder of the ethyl groups in our compounds. The Fe-Fe bond distance (Table II) is 0.04 Å shorter in the adduct which is significantly greater than the combined standard deviation for the two structures (0.008 Å).²²

(17) Y. Okaya, M.S. Ahmed, R. Pepinsky, and V. Vand, *Z. Krist.*, 109, 367 (1957).

(18) S.R. Rasmussen and N.C. Broch, *Acta Chem. Scand.*, 20, 1351 (1966).

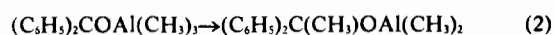
(19) Distances and standard deviations, (), from the least squares plane as defined by W.C. Hamilton (*Acta Cryst.*, 14, 185 (1961)) are Fe 0.000(3), C_b -0.001(2), O_b 0.003(1), and Al -0.001(10) Å.

(20) R.F. Bryan, P.T. Greene, M.J. Newlands, and David S. Field, *J. Chem. Soc., A*, 3068 (1970).

(21) R.F. Bryan and P.T. Greene, *ibid.*, 3064 (1970).

Another small, but apparently significant difference is an increase in the dihedral angle between the two Fe₂C_b planes from 164° in the parent to 167(1)° in the adduct. All other differences between the parent and the adduct fall close to or within the standard deviations and therefore cannot be considered significant. As with the inferences from chemical information and the Al-O bond length, the small perturbation of the [(*h*-C₅H₅)Fe(CO)₂]₂ moiety indicates weak donor-acceptor interaction in the adduct.

Stability. The [(*h*⁵-C₅H₅)Fe(CO)₂]₂ · 2AlEt₃ adduct although susceptible to easy removal of triethylaluminum is stable in the solid state for at least several months. This stability contrast with the behaviour of organic carbonyls in the presence of aluminum alkyls. For example, the benzophenone-trimethylaluminum complex undergoes an irreversible first order addition across the CO bond (eq. 2) with a half life of 48 minutes at 25°C.^{23,24}



Acknowledgement. This research was supported by the NSF, and the Advanced Research Projects Agency through the Northwestern University Materials Research Center. We thank Professor J.A. Ibers for the use of his program library and many helpful discussions. D.F. Shriver thanks Drs. B. Frenz and W. Bonds for aid with some of the crystallographic programs.

(22) No difference in the Fe-Fe distance for the adduct is obtained when a riding model for thermal motion is assumed.

(23) E.C. Ashby, J. Lacimic, and H.M. Neumann, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, 90, 5179 (1968).

(24) Since completion of this manuscript on Al-OC distance of 1.83 Å has been reported for $\text{Al}[\text{W}(\text{CO})_5\text{C}_3\text{H}_5]_3(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{O})_2$; R.B. Peterson, J.J. Stezowski, C. Wan, J. Burlitch and R.E. Hughes, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, 93, 3532 (1971).