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### **Preliminary communication**

### METALLATION OF ALIPHATIC CARBON ATOMS

## II\*, SYNTHESES AND CHARACTERIZATION OF THE CYCLOPALLADATED COMPLEXES OF N,N-DIMETHYLNEOPENTYLAMINE

YOSHIO FUCHITA, KATSUMA HIRAKI\* and YASUHIRO MATSUMOTO

Department of Industrial Chemistry, Faculty of Engineering, Nagasaki University, Bunkyo-machi, Nagasaki 852 (Japan)

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#### Summary

N,N-Dimethylneopentylamine reacts with  $Pd(MeCO_2)_2$  to give a novel trinuclear cyclopalladated complex  $[Me_2NCH_2CMe_2CH_2Pd(\mu-MeCO_2)_2Pd(\mu-MeCO_2)_2PdCH_2CMe_2CH_2NMe_2] \cdot 0.5C_6H_6$  (I). The reaction of I with PPh<sub>3</sub> affords both trans- $[Pd(MeCO_2)_2 - (PPh_3)_2]$  (II) and  $[Pd(CH_2CMe_2CH_2NMe_2)(MeCO_2)(PPh_3)]$  (III). The reaction of III with LiCl yields a mononuclear cyclopalladated complex,  $[Pd(CH_2CMe_2CH_2NMe_2)Cl(PPh_3)]$  (IV).

Metallation of an aliphatic carbon atom has been one of the current topics in organometallic chemistry in association with the activation of C—H bonds by transition metals [1]. Recently, we [2] reported the syntheses of the sixmembered cyclopalladated complexes of 2-neopentylpyridine through direct metallation of the aliphatic carbon atom by use of  $Pd(MeCO_2)_2$ . This communication deals with the cyclopalladation of N,N-dimethylneopentylamine by  $Pd(MeCO_2)_2$ , resulting in the formation of a novel trinuclear cyclopalladated complex.

N,N-Dimethylneopentylamine (5.5 mmol) reacted with Pd(MeCO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (4.45 mmol) in benzene (20 ml) at 50–55°C for 1.5 h. After the mixture was filtered to remove the precipitated palladium black, the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure and diluted with hexane to give a novel trinuclear cyclopalladated complex,  $[Me_2NCH_2CMe_2CH_2Pd(\mu-MeCO_2)_2Pd-$ ( $\mu$ -MeCO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>PdCH<sub>2</sub>CMe<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>]  $\cdot$  0.5C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub> \* (I) in 36% yield (Scheme 1).

<sup>\*</sup>Satisfactory elemental analysis and <sup>1</sup>H NMR data were obtained.

Complex I was not isolated from the reaction mixture either in acetic acid at  $70^{\circ}$ C or in methanol at  $60^{\circ}$ C.

When N,N-dimethylneopentylamine was treated with  $Pd(MeCO_2)_2$  in a molar ratio of 2/3 or 1/1 in  $CDCl_3$  at 19°C, it was observed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy that I was formed smoothly. As for the reaction in the molar ratio of 2/1, I was produced in lower yield (about 10% after 4 h), and a large amount of palladium black was formed. In no case was any other cyclopalladated complex, such as a binuclear one, detected.

Complex I reacted with PPh<sub>3</sub> to produce trans-[Pd(MeCO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] (II) in 56% yield, as well as an oily product, Pd(CH<sub>2</sub>CMe<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>)(MeCO<sub>2</sub>)-(PPh<sub>3</sub>)\* (III). The IR spectrum of II coincided quite well with that of the authentic sample [3]. The oily product III was uncrystallizable and was converted into Pd(CH<sub>2</sub>CMe<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub>)Cl(PPh<sub>3</sub>) (IV) in 55% yield (based on I) by reaction with LiCl.

The IR spectrum of I exhibited  $\nu(COO^{-})$  frequencies due to bridging acetato groups at 1610(s), 1570(s), 1405(s), 1380(s), and 1335(s) cm<sup>-1</sup>, which were very similar to those of the trimeric palladium(II) acetate [3]. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of IV in CDCl<sub>3</sub> exhibited two methylene proton signals at  $\delta$  1.34  $(d, {}^{3}J(HP) 4.5 \text{ Hz}; Pd-CH_{2})$  and 2.50 ppm (s, N-CH<sub>2</sub>) and two methyl proton signals at  $\delta$  1.02 (s, CMe<sub>2</sub>) and 2.89 ppm (d, <sup>4</sup>J(HP) 2.5 Hz; NMe<sub>2</sub>). The resonance at  $\delta$  1.34 ppm was assigned to the protons of the palladium-bonded methylene group which was produced by the cyclopalladation of N,N-dimethylneopentylamine. The coupling of the protons of both  $Pd-CH_2$  and  $NMe_2$  with the <sup>31</sup>P nucleus confirmed strongly the presence of a  $CH_2$ .... $NMe_2$ chelate structure. The small coupling constant  ${}^{3}J(HP)$  for Pd-CH<sub>2</sub> suggests that  $PPh_3$  is situated in a *cis* position to the palladated methylene carbon. These facts indicate unambiguously that I contains both the  $Pd(CH_2CMe_2CH_2NMe_2)(MeCO_2)$  and  $Pd(MeCO_2)_2$  moieties. On the basis of these discussions, the elemental analysis, and the molecular weight (745.1 in benzene, calcd. 783.9), complex I was assigned to have trinuclear structure, which involves four acetato bridges and two  $Me_2NCH_2CMe_2CH_2-C^1$ , N chelates. It is noteworthy that N,N-dimethylneopentylamine reacted with  $Pd(MeCO_2)_2$ in hot benzene to afford directly the trinuclear cyclopalladated complex, I. Ukhin et al. [4] reported that  $Pd(MeCO_2)_2$  reacted with 2,6-disubstituted pyrylium salts to afford trinuclear bis $(1-3-\eta-1,3-diacylallyl)$ tripalladium(II) complexes having four  $\mu$ -acetato ligands.

As for the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of I in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 14°C, the acetato-methyl protons appeared as four singlets at  $\delta$  1.78 (2.4H), 1.80 (2.4H), 1.82 (3.6H), and 1.84 ppm (3.6H), indicating that I contains both an  $(a-C^1, b-N)$ - $(k-C^1, l-N)$ -type (ak-type) isomer and an  $(a-C^1, b-N)$ - $(k-N, l-C^1)$ -type (al-type) isomer (Scheme 1) in a ratio of about 2/3. In addition, I exhibited two sets of signals corresponding to the two isomers. At 14°C, one set consisted of six signals at  $\delta$  1.33 (s,  $H_3$  CCCH<sub>3</sub>), 1.36 (s,  $H_3$  CCCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.40 (q,  $\Delta\delta$  0.29 ppm, <sup>2</sup>J(HH) 8 Hz, Pd–CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.45 (q,  $\Delta\delta$  0.29 ppm, <sup>2</sup>J(HH) 9 Hz, N–CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.88

<sup>\*</sup>The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of III was very similar to that of IV, except for the acetato-methyl proton resonance at  $\delta$  1.54 ppm.



SCHEME 1. Reagents: i, PPh<sub>3</sub>; ii, LiCl.

(s,  $H_3$ CNCH<sub>3</sub>), and 3.01 ppm (s,  $H_3$ CNCH<sub>3</sub>) and was temperature-dependent. At 43°C the two C-methyl proton signals united to give one singlet at  $\delta$  1.34 ppm, whereas the two N-methyl proton signals coalesced into one singlet at  $\delta$  2.98 ppm; then, the two quartets changed into broad signals. The other set involved four singlets at  $\delta$  1.27 [C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>], 2.73 (Pd-CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.93 (N-CH<sub>2</sub>), and 3.01 ppm [N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]\* and virtually did not change in the range  $-35-43^{\circ}$ C. The temperature-dependency of the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of I was associated with the inversion of the acetato bridges, as observed for the other binuclear acetato-bridged complexes [5,6]. The inversion corresponding to the former set was actually quenched below 20°C, whereas that corresponding to the latter set was not quenched even at  $-35^{\circ}$ C.

The <sup>13</sup>C-{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR data of I in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 24°C are quite consistent with the presence of the two isomers, showing four carboxylato carbon signals at  $\delta$  181.6, 181.9, 183.4, and 183.5 ppm, two acetato-methyl carbon signals at  $\delta$  22.4 and 23.4 ppm, and two C-methyl carbon signals at  $\delta$  28.3 and 28.6 ppm. In addition, I exhibited four singlets at  $\delta$  35.9 (Pd-CH<sub>2</sub>), 43.8 (CMe<sub>2</sub>), 54.3 [N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>], and 80.3 (NCH<sub>2</sub>).

The stability of I, III, and IV is associated with both the chelate structure of the PdCH<sub>2</sub>CMe<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NMe<sub>2</sub> moiety and the lack of  $\beta$ -hydrogen in the 3-(dimethylamino)-2,2-dimethylpropyl group.

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<sup>\*</sup>The singlet at  $\delta$  3.01 ppm was ascribed to protons of one of two N-methyl groups of the former set and those of two N-methyl groups of the latter set.

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