

The similarity between the value for E_A obtained for complex 1a and the theoretical value calculated [9] for the acyclic cation 2 is noteworthy. Apparently the interaction [10] of the C-6 methylene group, in the cyclic ligands, with the metal—ligand bonding, has little effect on the rotation of the $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_3$ group. Indeed, the observed [9] barrier for the acyclic complex is actually higher than those observed for the cyclohexadienyl complexes.

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