# Addition of $\mathrm{CHSiMe}_{3}$ to the $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{S}$ Bond of 1,2,5,3-cobaltadithiazole. Formation and reactions of stereoisomeric cobaltathiirane complexes 

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Received 28 September 1994; in revised form 14 December 1994


#### Abstract

In the reaction between ( $\eta^{5}$-cyclopentadienyl) (1-phenylmethanimine- $N, 1$-dithiolato) cobalt(III), ([ $\left.\mathrm{Cp} \overline{\mathrm{CoSNC}(\mathrm{Ph}) \mathrm{S}}\right], \mathbf{1}$ ) and trimethylsilyldiazomethane, trimethylsilylmethylene adds between Co and S adjacent to N . Two geometrical isomers of cobaltathiirane complexes are formed: in the major addition product 2a, the trimethylsilyl group is located at the anti-position with respect to the cobaltadithiazole ring and in the minor product $\mathbf{2 b}$, at the syn-position. These two stereoisomers are in equilibrium. Equilibrium is attained in 10 h at $80^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, when the reaction is started either from $\mathbf{2 a}$ or from $\mathbf{2 b}$. From the temperature dependence of the equilibrium, $\Delta G$ value of the isomerization of the stereoisomers is estimated to be $34 \mathrm{~kJ} \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$. These isomeric trimethylsilylmethylene adducts react with HCl to give a common product, chloro( $\eta^{5}$-cyclopentadieny) [ $N$-(trimethylsilylmethylthio)- $\kappa S$-1-phenylmethanimine-1-thiolato- $\kappa S$ ]cobalt(III) (4). By treatment with tetrabutylammonium fluoride, 4 undergoes a ring reforming reaction to give a methylene adduct, ( $\eta^{5}$-cyclopentadienyl)[ $N$-(methylene- $\kappa C$ )-thio- $\kappa S$ ]-1-phenylmethanimine-1-thiolato- $\kappa S$ ]cobalt(III).


Keywords: Cobalt; Thiirane; Cobaltadithiazole; Isomerization; Addition-elimination; Alkylidene

## 1. Introduction

A metalladithiolene ring is a unique metallacycle of conjugated five-membered ring with six $\pi$-electrons. Among metalladithiolene complexes, the complexes of the type $\left[\mathrm{M}(1,2 \text {-ethenedithiolato })_{n}\right.$ ] having only dithiolato as the ligand have been extensively studied and their interesting properties have been revealed[1].

Since the first synthesis of ( $\eta^{5}$-cyclopentadienyl) $[1,2-$ bis(trifluoromethyl)-1,2-ethenedithiolatolcobalt(III) by King [2], the new field of the chemistry of metalladithiolene complexes having ligands other than dithiolato has been developed. We have studied the chemistry (synthesis, physical properties and reactivities) of metalladithiolene complexes having both cyclopentadienyl and 1,2 -ethenedithiolato as ligands ( $\left(\eta^{5}\right.$-cyclopentadienyl) (1,2-ethenedithiolato)metal(III) $($ metal $=\mathrm{Co}$ and $\mathbf{R h}$ )) and reported their unique properties different

[^0]from those of $\left[\mathrm{M}(1,2 \text {-ethenedithiolato })_{n}\right]$-type metalladithiolenes [3]. Whereas the [ $\mathrm{M}(1,2 \text {-ethenedithiolato })_{n}$ ]type metalladithiolenes undergo addition reactions mainly at sulfur atoms [4-9], the $[\mathrm{M}(\mathrm{Cp})(1,2$-ethene-dithiolato)]-type metalladithiolenes undergo addition reactions at the metal and sulfur. Diazo compounds react very easily with $\left[\mathrm{Co}(\mathrm{Cp})\left(\mathrm{S}_{2} \mathrm{C}_{2} \mathrm{XY}\right)\right]$-type cobaltadithiolenes and their selenium analogs to give alkylidene adducts in which the alkylidene groups bridge between Co and chalcogen without breaking the cobalt-chalcogen bonds [10,11]. Some azides undergo a similar reaction [12]. The alkylidene adducts of the cobaltadithiolenes react further with a phosphite resulting in the coordination of the phosphorus to the metal and opening of the three-membered ring [13]. Dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate adds between the rhodium and sulfur of rhodiadithiolene [14]. Quadricyclane adds between cobalt and sulfur of the cobaltadithiolene ring accompanying the skeletal rearrangement of the hydrocarbon [15]. A remarkable feature of these adducts is the elimination of the added moieties by UV irradiation [2b, 10, 13, 16].

We have recently synthesized a new family of metallacycle, cobaltadithiazole, which consists of one cobalt atom, two coordinated sulfur atoms, one unsaturated carbon and one unsaturated nitrogen atom [17].

The comparison of the physical and chemical properties of metalladithiolene and metalladithiazole is important in order to clarify the features of the new metallacycle. In a comparative study of the metalladithiazole and metalladithiolene rings, we have reported the different behavior of cobaltadithiolene and cobaltadithiazole in the reaction with dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate [18].

In the previous paper, we reported the addilion of a trimethylsilylmethylene group between the Co and S of the cobaltadithiolene ring and the ring opening and reforming reactions of the trimethylsilylmethylene adducts [19]. We describe here the reaction of a cobaltadithiazoles with trimethylsilyldiazomethane.

## 2. Results and discussion

### 2.1. Reaction with trimethylsilyldiazomethane

Similarly to the cobaltadithiolene ring [19], the cobaltadithiazole ring in ( $\eta^{5}$-cyclopentadienyl) (1-phenyl-methanimine- $N, 1$-dithiolato)cobalt(III) ([CpCoSNC(Ph)$\overline{\mathrm{S}}$ ], 1) undergocs addition of a methylene group between Co and $S$ in the reaction with diazo compounds. The reaction of $\mathbf{1}$ with trimethylsilyldiazomethane gave two trimethylsilylmethylene adducts. The reaction in a dichloromethane solution at $40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 6 h gave the two adducts $2 \mathbf{a}$ and $\mathbf{2 b}$ in 52 and $5 \%$ yields, respectively.

The structures of these two adducts were determined by X-ray crystal analysis. The ortep [20] drawings of 2a and 2b are shown in Fig. 1.

The X -ray structures show that these two adducts are a pair of geometrical isomers. In each complex, a trimethylsilyl group bridges between Co and S and a cobaltathiirane ring is formed. In both cases, the sulfur atom adjacent to N is bridged. In the major product, 2a, the trimethylsilyl group is located at the anti-position with respect to the cobaltadithiazole ring, whereas in the minor product, $\mathbf{2 b}$, the trimethylsilyl group is located at the syn-position with respect to the cobaltadithiazole ring.

In a crystal of $\mathbf{2 b}$, there are two crystallographically independent molecules ( $\mathbf{2 b}-\mathbf{A}$ and $\mathbf{2 b - B}$ ) in which the corresponding bond lengths and bond angles agree well, within experimental error.

Selected bond lengths, bond angles, dihedral angles and torsion angles of the trimethylsilylmethylene adducts $\mathbf{2 a}, \mathbf{2 b}-\mathbf{A}$ and $\mathbf{2 b}-\mathbf{B}$ are given in Table 1, in which the corresponding values are listed in the same row.

The cobaltadithiazole ring of each trimethylsilylmethylene adduct is almost planar. The three-membered


Fig. 1. ORTEP drawings of trimethylsilylmethylene adducts $\mathbf{2 a}$ and $\mathbf{2 b}$.
cobaltathiirane ring is nearly perpendicular to the cobaltadithiazole ring. The bond distances between Co and the bridged S of $\mathbf{2 a}, \mathbf{2 b} \mathbf{- A}$ and $\mathbf{2 b - B}$ are 2.159(2), $2.157(2)$ and $2.159(2) \AA$, respectively. These distances are longer than the $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{S}$ bond of the free cobaltadithiazole ( $2.107(1) \AA$ in ( $\eta^{5}$-pentamethylcyclopentadienyl)-(1-phenylmethanimine- $N, 1$-dithiolato)cobalt(III)). These values indicate the bond between Co and S is weakened


Table 1
Selected geometrical data of trimethylsilylmethylene adducts $\mathbf{2 a}$ and 2b

|  | 2a | 2 b |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | A | B |
| Bond lengths ( $\mathrm{A}^{\circ}$ ) |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{S}(1)$ | 2.210 (2) | $2.198(2)$ | $2.195(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{S}(2)$ | $2.159(2)$ | $2.157(2)$ | $2.159(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{C}(13)$ | $1.994(6)$ | $2.007(6)$ | $1.990(5)$ |
| S(2)-C(13) | $1.750(7)$ | $1.753(6)$ | $1.738(5)$ |
| S(2)-N(1) | $1.689(6)$ | $1.694(4)$ | $1.680(4)$ |
| S(1)-C(1) | 1.717(7) | $1.714(5)$ | $1.722(5)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | $1.310(10)$ | $1.312(6)$ | $1.309(6)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{Si}(1)$ | $1.869(6)$ | 1.850(6) | $1.875(5)$ |
| $\mathrm{Si}(1)-\mathrm{C}(14)$ | 1.852(8) | 1.840(7) | $1.833(6)$ |
| $\mathrm{Si}(1)-\mathrm{C}(15)$ | 1.85(1) | 1.841(7) | 1.857(7) |
| $\mathrm{Si}(1)-\mathrm{C}(16)$ | 1.861(10) | $1.872(8)$ | 1.861(7) |
| $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{C}(8)$ | 2.081(8) | $2.049(8)$ | 2.062(6) |
| $\mathrm{C}(1) \mathrm{C}(2)$ | 1.491(8) | $1.483(7)$ | 1.481(6) |
| Bond angles $\left(^{\circ}\right.$ ) |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{S}(2)$ | 88.07(7) | 88.35(6) | 88.14(6) |
| Co-S(2)-C(13) | $60.3(2)$ | 60.7(2) | 60.3(2) |
| $\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{C}(13)$ | 92.2(2) | 96.3(2) | 95.5(2) |
| $\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{C}(13)$ | 49.6(2) | 49.6(2) | 49.3(2) |
| $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{S}(2)$ | 70.1(2) | 69.7(2) | 70.4(2) |
| Co-S(1)-C(1) | 102.1(3) | 102.4(2) | 102.6(2) |
| $\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}(1)$ | 115.5(5) | $115.6(4)$ | 116.4(4) |
| $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{S}(1)$ | 125.4(5) | 125.2(4) | 124.3(4) |
| $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{N}$ | 108.5(2) | 108.3(2) | 108.4(2) |
| $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{S}(2)$ | 70.1(2) | 69.7(2) | 70.4(2) |
| $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{Si}(1)$ | 128.2(3) | 127.2(3) | 128.0(3) |
| $\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{H}(13)$ | 111.8 | 100.7 | 110.0 |
| $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{Si}(1)$ | 128.2(3) | 127.2(3) | 128.0.3) |
| $\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{Si}(1)$ | 118.8(4) | 132.7(3) | 132.9(3) |
| $\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{Si}(1)-\mathrm{C}(14)$ | 106.8(3) | 116.5(3) | 117.9(3) |
| $\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{Si}(1)-\mathrm{C}(15)$ | 109.0(4) | 106.6(3) | 103.5(3) |
| $\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{Si}(1)-\mathrm{C}(16)$ | $111.8(4)$ | 105.2(3) | 106.1(3) |
| S(1)-C(1)-C(2) | $117.8(6)$ | 118.4(4) | 118.5(4) |
| $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | 116.7(6) | 116.4(5) | 117.2(4) |
| Dihedral angles ( ${ }^{\circ}$ ) |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{S}(1)-\operatorname{CoS}(2)$ | 94.5(2) | 99.7(2) | 98.9(2) |
| $-\operatorname{CoS}(2) \mathrm{C}(13)$ |  |  |  |
| S(1) $\operatorname{CoS}(2)$ | 108.9(9) | 108.9(9) | 107.7(6) |
| - Cp ring |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{S}(1) \mathrm{CoS}(2)-\mathrm{Ph}$ | 149.0(9) | 157.7(6) | 151.8(6) |
| $\operatorname{CoS}(2) \mathrm{C}(13)$ | 125.6(9) | 127.8(9) | 128.5(6) |
| -Cp ring |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{CoS}(2) \mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{Ph}$ | 85.64(9) | 101.4(6) | 94.6(6) |
| Cpring- Ph | 54.9(9) | 52.5(9) | 54.0 (6) |
| Torsion angles ( ${ }^{\circ}$ ) |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{N}$ | -1.1(7) | 3.8(5) | 1.4(5) |
| $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}(1)$ | -7.2(6) | -2.2(4) | -3.4(4) |
| $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{N}$ | -101.9(2) | $-100.3(2)$ | 100.6(2) |
| $\begin{gathered} C o-S(1)-C(1) \\ -C(2) \end{gathered}$ | -179.8(5) | - 173.4(4) | -176.5(4) |
| $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{Si}$ | $-123.5(4)$ | 122.4(5) | 124.2(4) |
| $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{S}(2) \\ -\mathrm{C}(13) \end{gathered}$ | -94.5(2) | -99.7(2) | -98.9(2) |
| $\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{N}$ | 5.2(2) | 3.4(2) | 3.3(2) |
| $\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{C}(13)$ | 85.6(2) | 82.4(1) | 82.8(1) |
| -S(2) |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{Si}$ | $-162.9(4)$ | -46.5(3) | -46.9(3) |
| $\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{Si}$ | $111.5(5)$ | -128.9(4) | -129.7(4) |

Table 1 (continued)

|  | 2a | 2b |  |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | ---: |
|  |  | $99.7(3)$ | $103.2(3)$ |
| $\mathbf{N}-\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{C}(13)$ | $5.7(9)$ | $-102.2(3)$ | $1.3(6)$ |
| $\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{S}(2)$ | $-2.7(3)$ | $-3.6(2)$ | $-2.6(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{S}(1)$ |  |  | $\mathbf{B}$ |
| $-\mathrm{C}(1)$ | $-175.7(5)$ | $176.0(4)$ | $179.3(4)$ |
| $\mathbf{S}(2)-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ |  |  |  |

by the bridging by the trimethylsilylmethylene group, presumably due to the decrease in the double bond character of the $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{S}$ bond, i.e. the loss of aromaticity of the ring caused by the bridging.

The dihedral angle between the cobaltathiirane ring and the $\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{S}(2)$ plane of $2 \mathrm{a}\left(94.5(2)^{\circ}\right)$ is smaller than those of 2b-A and 2b-B (99.7(2) and 98.9 (2) ${ }^{\circ}$, respectively). The bond angle of $\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{C}(13)=$ $92.2(2)^{\circ}$ in 2 a is also smaller than those of 96.3(2) and $95.5(2)^{\circ}$ in $\mathbf{2 b - A}$ and $\mathbf{2 b - B}$, respectively. These values indicate that the anti-form 2a in which a bulky trimethylsilyl group is directed away from the cobaltadithiolene ring is less sterically hindered than the syn-form $\mathbf{2 b}$.

### 2.2. Equilibrium of the two isomers of the trimethylsilylmethylene adduct

The stereoisomers $\mathbf{2 a}$ and $\mathbf{2 b}$ are equilibrated at moderate temperatures. When we heat pure $\mathbf{2 a}$ or $\mathbf{2 b}$ in benzene at $80^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, we oblain a mixture of 2 a and $\mathbf{2 b}$ in the ratio $\approx 2: 1$. As shown in Fig. 2, the equilibrium is attained in 10 h .

The equilibrium is temperature dependent. The plot of $\ln K$ versus $1 / T$ (Fig. 3) gives $\Delta G$ (difference in


Fig. 2. Isomerization of $\mathbf{2 a}$ and $\mathbf{2 h}$ at $80^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, ( $\square$ ) Start from $\mathbf{2 a}$; ( $\square$ ), start from $2 \mathbf{b}$. Initial concentration, $2.7 \times 10^{-2} \mathrm{~mol} \mathrm{dm}^{-3}$ in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{5}$.


Table 2
Yield and composition of the trimethylsilylmethylene adduct

| Reaction conditions |  |  | Yield of adducts: <br> Sum of 2a and 2b | Ratio of <br> isomers <br> $(\mathbf{2 a}: \mathbf{2 b})$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | Temperature <br> $\left({ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$ | Reaction time <br> $(\mathrm{h})$ |  |  |
| $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ | 40 | 6 | 57 | $92: 8$ |
| $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{6}$ | 40 | 80 | 24 | 58 |
|  | 80 | 6 | 60 | $89: 11$ |
|  | 80 | 24 | 55 | $80: 20$ |
|  |  | 56 | $76: 24$ |  |
|  |  |  | $66: 33$ |  |

Amount of $1,15 \mu \mathrm{~mol}$; amount of trimethylsilyldiazomethane, 60 $\mu \mathrm{mol}$.
six-membered ring or via the partial dissociation of either the $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{C}$ or $\mathrm{S}-\mathrm{C}$ bond (Scheme 1), but we have no evidence for the mechanism.

The equilibrium explains the variation of the product yields depending on the reaction time. The reaction of 1 and trimethylsilyldiazomethane in dichloromethane at $40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 6 h gives a mixture of $\mathbf{2 a}$ and 2 b in the ratio 92:8 (Table 2). However, after a reaction time of 20 min at the low conversion of the reactants, only 2a was detected. In the reaction in benzene solution at $80^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, the isomer ratio changes with the reaction time: with increasing reaction time, the yield of $\mathbf{2 b}$ increases. This fact can be explained by the isomerization of the adducts.

### 2.3. Mechanism for the formation of trimethylsilylmethylene adduct

The results described in the preceding sections indicate that in the initial stage the more stable 2a is preferentially formed and then $\mathbf{2 a}$ isomerizes to $\mathbf{2 b}$.


Scheme 1. Proposed mechanisms for isomerization.


Scheme 2. Mechanism for the formation of the trimethylsilylmethylene adduct.

For the addition of methylene to cobaltadithiolenes by diazo compounds, we proposed a mcchanism in which the nucleophilic C atom of the diazo compounds attacks the positively charged cobalt atom of the dithiolene complex and then the nucleophilic attack of sulfur on the carbon atom occurs with elimination of $\mathrm{N}_{2}$ [10].

A similar mechanism can be applied to the formation of the alkylidene adduct of the cobaltadithiazole. The first step is the attack of C of the diazo compound on Co. The sulfur atom adjacent to N is more negatively charged than the other sulfur atom, because the lone-pair electrons at the latter S are attracted by N through conjugation.

The preferable conformation of the intermediate would be 3a, which is less sterically hindered than $\mathbf{3 b}$. The intermediate 3a results in the formation of $\mathbf{2 a}$ (Scheme 2).

### 2.4. Cleavage of cobaltathirane ring with hydrogen chloride and ring reforming in the reaction with tetrabutylammonium fluoride

Similarly to the trimethylsilylmethylene adducts of the cobaltadithiolene complexes [10], the trimethylsilylmethylene adducts $2 \mathbf{a}$ and $\mathbf{2 b}$ react with HCl in dichloromethane at room temperature to give the same product, chloro( $\eta^{5}$-cyclopentadienyl)[ $N$-(trimethyl-silylmethylthio- $\kappa S$ )-1-phenylmethanimine- 1 -thiolato$\kappa S]$ cobalt(III) (4). Its structure was determined on the basis of the comparison of its spectral data with those of a similar adduct from cobaltadithiolene complex, the X-ray structure of which has been determined [19].

The three-component adduct 4 , consisting of cobaltadithiazole, trimethylsilyImethylene and HCl , reacts with tetrabutylammonium fluoride to afford the methylenebridged complex 2c with the elimination of tetrabutylammonium chloride and trimethylsilyl fluoride.

The treatment of 2a with tetrabutylammonium fluoride affords 2 c with the replacement of trimethylsilyl group by hydrogen.

The ring opening by hydrogen chloride and the ring reforming by tetrabutylammonium fluoride also occur in a cobaltadithiolene complex [19].

## 3. Experimental details

### 3.1. Materials

( $\eta^{5}$-Pentamethylcyclopentadienyl)(1-phenylmethani-mine-N,1-dithiolato)cobalt(III) was prepared by the method described in a previous paper [17].

### 3.2. Reaction of 1 with $\mathrm{N}_{2} \mathrm{CHSiMe}_{3}$

A dichloromethane solution ( $150 \mathrm{~cm}^{3}$ ) of $1(44 \mathrm{mg}$, 0.15 mmol ) and trimethylsilyldiazomethane ( 0.6 mmol , $0.3 \mathrm{~cm}^{3}$ of $2.0 \mathrm{~mol} \mathrm{dm}{ }^{-3}$ in hexane solution) was refluxed for 2 h . After evaporation of the solvent, the reaction mixture was submitted to silica gcl column chromatography using Wako gel C200 as the stationary phase and dichloromethane as the eluent.

Trimethylsilylmethylene adduct (2a): black crystals, m.p. $103^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$; $\mathrm{UV}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}\right), 258(\varepsilon, 25700)$ and 515 nm (1380); IR (KBr), 3093, 2955, 1727, 1454, 1415, 1245, $953,871,838,813,774,759$ and $690 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$; ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right), \delta=0.19\left(9 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{Me}_{3}\right), 1.48(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{SCH})$, $5.09\left(5 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{5}\right), 7.28(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{Ph})$ and $7.88(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}$, $J=7.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ph}) ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right), \delta=0.3\left(\mathrm{Me}_{3}\right)$, $33.1\left(\mathrm{SCH}, J_{\mathrm{CH}}=143 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 82.6\left(C_{5} \mathrm{H}_{5}\right), 127.7(\mathrm{Ph})$, 127.8 (Ph), 130.4 (Ph), 136.8 (Ph), 198.2 (SCN); MS ( 70 eV ), $m / z$ (relative intensity, \%) $377\left(\mathrm{M}^{+}, 53\right.$ ), 274 $\left(\mathrm{M}^{+}-\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{CN}, 31\right), 168(\mathrm{CpCoSC}, 36)$ and $73\left(\mathrm{SiMe}_{3}\right.$, 100). Found: C, 49.56; H, 4.91; N, $4.47 \%$. Calculated for $\mathrm{C}_{16} \mathrm{H}_{20} \mathrm{NS}_{2} \mathrm{SiCo}: \mathrm{C}, 50.91 ; \mathrm{H}, 5.34 ; \mathrm{N}, 4.15 \%$.


2c

Table 3
Crystallographic data for 2a and 2b

|  | 2a | 2b |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Formula | $\mathrm{C}_{16} \mathrm{H}_{20} \mathrm{CoS}_{2} \mathrm{NSi}$ | $\mathrm{C}_{16} \mathrm{H}_{20} \mathrm{CoS}_{2} \mathrm{NSi}$ |
| Crystal color | Black | Black |
| Crystal size (mm) | $0.26 \times 0.18 \times 0.18$ | $0.22 \times 0.20 \times 0.18$ |
| Formula weight | 377.48 | 377.48 |
| Crystal system | Orthorhombic | Monoclinic |
| Space group | Pna2 ${ }_{1}$ | $P 2_{1} / \mathrm{c}$ |
| $a(\mathrm{~A})$ | 12.278(3) | 11.448(3) |
| $b(\AA)$ | 13.731(3) | 27.961(2) |
| $c(\AA)$ | 10.483(6) | 12.290(3) |
| $\beta{ }^{( }{ }^{\circ}$ |  | 114.68(2) |
| $V\left(\AA^{3}\right)$ | 1767(1) | 3574(1) |
| $Z$ | 4 | 8 |
| $d\left(\mathrm{~g} \mathrm{~cm}^{-3}\right)$ | 1.42 | 1.42 |
| $\mu\left(\mathrm{cm}^{-1}\right)$ | 104.0 | 102.8 |
| $\lambda(\mathrm{Cu} \mathrm{K} \alpha)(\mathrm{A})$ | 1.54178 | 1.54178 |
| $T\left({ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$ | 25 | 25 |
| Number of unique reflections | 1542 | 5453 |
| Number of observed reflections | 1128 | 3030 |
| Trans. factors (max.; min.) | 1.00; 0.75 | 1.00; 0.66 |
| $R$ | 0.033 | 0.037 |
| $\begin{aligned} & R_{w} \\ & a(I>3 \sigma(I)) \end{aligned}$ | 0.042 | 0.041 |

Trimethylsilylmethylene adduct (2b): black crystals, m.p. $101^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$; UV $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}\right), 263(\varepsilon 25000)$ and 526 nm (1750); IR (KBr), 3084, 2955, 1742, 1454, 1415, 1403, 1248, 1227, 959, 892, 831, 762 and $690 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right), \delta=0.045\left(9 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{Me}_{3}\right), 2.34(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}$, $\mathrm{SCH}), 5.00\left(5 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{C}_{5} H_{5}\right), 7.29(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{Ph})$ and 7.90 $(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ph}) ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right), \delta=0.9$ $\left(\mathrm{Me}_{3}\right), 23.8\left(\mathrm{SCH}, J_{\mathrm{CH}}=138 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 82.9\left(C_{5} \mathrm{H}_{5}\right), 127.8$ ( Ph ), 127.9 (Ph), 130.4 (Ph), 136.9 ( Ph ), 202.2 (SCN); MS ( 70 eV ), $m / z$ (relative intensity, \%), $377\left(\mathrm{M}^{+}, 32\right.$ ), $274\left(\mathrm{M}^{+}-\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{CN}, 28\right), 168(\mathrm{CpCoSC}, 33)$ and 73 $\left(\mathrm{SiMe}_{3}, 100\right)$.

## 3.3. $X$-ray structural analysis

The crystallographic data for $\mathbf{2 a}$ and $\mathbf{2 b}$ are summarized in Table 3. Intensities were collected on a Rigaku AFC-7R diffractomer with graphite monochromatized $\mathrm{Cu} \mathrm{K} \alpha$ radiation using an $\omega-2 \theta$ scan technique up to $2 \theta=120^{\circ}$.

An empirical absorption correction based on azimuthal scans of several reflections was applied [21].

The structures were solved by a direct method using the program shelxs-86 [22] and refined by a full-matrix least-squares technique.

The hydrogen atoms were located on a difference electron density map and fixed at their positions.

All the calculations were carried out using the program package texan [23].

### 3.4. Thermal equilibrium

In a sample tube for NMR measurement was placed a toluene- $d_{8}$ solution of $\mathbf{2 a}$ or $\mathbf{2 b}\left(2.7 \times 10^{-2} \mathrm{~mol}\right.$ $\left.\mathrm{dm}^{-3}\right)$. The solution was heated at $40,60,70$ and $80^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and the composition ([2a]/[2b]) was determined by the signals of Cp in the ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum. Tetramethyl thiophenetetracarboxylate was used as an internal standard.

### 3.5. Reaction of $2 a$ and $2 b$ with HCl

A suspension between a dichloromethane solution ( $30 \mathrm{~cm}^{3}$ ) of trimethylsilylmethylene adduct $\mathbf{2 a}$ or $\mathbf{2 b}$ $(3.8 \mathrm{mg})$ and hydrochloric acid ( $0.1 \mathrm{~cm}^{3}$ ) was reacted under stirring for 1 h at room temperature. After the reaction, the dichloromethane layer was washed with aqueous sodium hydrogencarbonate. The reaction mixture was submitted to silica gel column chromatography using Wako gel C300 as the stationary phase and ethyl acctate as eluent.

Chloro( $\eta^{5}$-cyclopentadienyl)(trimethylsilylmethyl$\kappa C$-1-phenylmethanimine- $\mathrm{N}, 1$-dithiolato- $\kappa S$ cobalt(III) (4): black crystals, m.p. $149^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (decomp.); UV $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}\right), 238(\varepsilon 19300), 329$ (9300) and 578 nm (900); IR (KBr), 3063, 2943, 2942, 1497, 1485, 1415, 1247, 946, 841, 829, 753 and $691 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$; ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right), \delta=0.31\left(9 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{Me}_{3}\right), 2.16(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J=14$ $\mathrm{Hz}, \mathrm{SCH}), 3.02(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J=14 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{SCH}), 5.39(5 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}$, $\mathrm{C}_{5} H_{5}$ ), $7.34(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{Ph}), 8.07(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J=7.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ph})$; ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right), \delta=-0.4\left(\mathrm{Me}_{3}\right), 29.5\left(\mathrm{SCH}, J_{\mathrm{CH}}\right.$ $=263 \mathrm{~Hz}), \quad 87.0\left(C_{5} \mathrm{H}_{5}\right), \quad 127.8(\mathrm{Ph}), \quad 128.7(\mathrm{Ph})$, $130.6(\mathrm{Ph}), 135.2(\mathrm{Ph}), 186.5(\mathrm{SCN})$; MS $(70 \mathrm{eV}), \mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}$ (relative intensity\%), $378\left(\mathrm{M}^{+}-\mathrm{Cl}, 48\right), 275\left(\mathrm{M}^{+}-\right.$ $\left.\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{CN}, 11\right)$ and $103\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{CN}, 100\right)$. Found: C, 46.46 ; H, 5.02; N, 3.95\%. Calculated for $\mathrm{C}_{16} \mathrm{H}_{21} \mathrm{NS}_{2} \mathrm{SiCoCl}: \mathrm{C}, 46.43$; H, 5.11; N, $3.38 \%$.

Methylene adduct (2c): black crystals, m.p. 106$107^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$; UV $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}\right), 255(\varepsilon 27300)$ and 499 nm (1880); ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right), \delta=1.58(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J=4 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $\mathrm{SC} H), 3.35(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J=4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{SCH}), 5.08(5 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}$, $\left.\mathrm{C}_{5} H_{5}\right), 7.29(3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{Ph}), 7.89(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d}, J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Ph})$; ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right), \delta=28.0,83.4,127.9,128.3,130.4$, 136.7, 198.8; MS ( 70 eV ), $m / z$ (relative intensity, \%), $305\left(\mathrm{M}^{+}, 100\right), 168\left(\mathrm{M}^{+}-\mathrm{CpCoSC}, 88\right)$ and 156 ( $\mathrm{CpCoS}, 78$ ).

### 3.6. Reaction of $\mathbf{4}$ with tetrabutylammonium fluoride

A THF solution ( $50 \mathrm{~cm}^{3}$ ) of $4(2 \mathrm{mg}, 5 \mu \mathrm{~mol})$ and $\left(\mathrm{Bu}_{4} \mathrm{~N}\right) \mathrm{F}(70 \mu \mathrm{~mol})$ was kept at room temperature for 1 h. After removal of the solvent, the products were separated by column chromatography using a Wako gel C300 column and dichloromethane as eluent. The formation of 2c was confirmed by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR and MS.

## Acknowledgements

This study was partly defrayed by Grants-in-Aid on Priority-Area-Research, 'Molecular Magnetism'’ No. 06218228, "Reactive Organometallics" No. 06227260 and '"Photoreaction Dynamics"' No. 06239256, from the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, Japan.

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