observed from water photolysis using  $(Chl a \cdot 2H_2O)_n$  films on microscope slides in the absence of Pt, although the quantum efficiency of water photolysis in this case is nearly two orders of magnitude lower than that corresponding to the results shown in Figure 3c. In contrast, for comparable line intensities at masses 2 ( $H_2^+$ ), 3 ( $HD^+$ ), and 4 ( $D_2^+$ ) obtained in the Pt-H<sub>2</sub>O experiments, the intensity of lines at masses 34  $(^{16}O^{18}O^+)$  and 36  $(^{18}O_2^+)$  are significantly weaker than those observed in the photolysis and electrolysis runs (compare Figures 3b and 3c). The weak mass 34 (<sup>16</sup>O<sup>18</sup>O<sup>+</sup>) line observed in Figures 3a and 3b is greater than that expected from the 0.2% natural abundance of <sup>18</sup>O, however, and may be a result of isotopic redistribution of  $^{18}$ O in the water and O<sub>2</sub> present as contamination from the atmosphere. The possibility that this line may have resulted from water decomposition appears rather unlikely from thermodynamic considerations.<sup>10,11</sup>

We rule out  $H_2O_2$  as a product in the Pt- $H_2O$  reaction by mass spectrometric determinations and by the colorimetric triiodide method.<sup>12</sup> Among possible explanations for the experimental effects described above is the thermodynamically characterized reaction13

$$2H_2O + Pt \rightarrow Pt(OH)_2 + H_2 \Delta G^{\circ} = 49.7 \text{ kcal/mol}$$
(2)

in which Pt is oxidized in the reduction of the water. Reaction 2 is uphill in free energy, having an equilibrium constant  $K \sim$  $10^{-27}$  at 150 °C. The observation of H<sub>2</sub> may be rationalized in spite of this unfavorable equilibrium constant on account of the fact that  $Pt(OH)_2$  is extremely insoluble in water, so that reaction 2 is expected to occur entirely at the  $Pt-H_2O$  interface. The displacement of H<sub>2</sub> from the relatively hot ( $\geq 150$  °C) reaction zone to the cooler ( $\sim 40$  °C) gaseous space above the water would thus shift the equilibrium of reaction 2 to the right. This interpretation appears to be consistent with the observed temperature dependence of the H<sub>2</sub> evolution rate (see inset, Figure 1). From tables of  $H_2$  solubility<sup>14</sup> we estimate that the enthalpy of H<sub>2</sub> solvation in water at the boiling point of water is  $3.62 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$ . This value is in fair agreement with the activation energy 3.48 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup> obtained from the Arrhenius plot in Figure 1.

In conclusion we have described the generation of molecular hydrogen in the thermochemical decomposition of water by Pt. In addition we have also established the red-light photochemical origin of the Pt/Chl a water splitting reaction based on the mass spectrometric data in Figure 3.

Acknowledgment. The method of gaseous sample transfer in the GC analysis was suggested by Dr. R. H. Wentorf, Jr.

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Preparation procedures for the Pt-ChI a sample have been previously described in ref 4

- (10) Patents issued to French workers (Chem. Abstr., 86, 157711f, 191950t (1977)) described the thermochemical cleavage of water in the temperature range 100-1200 °C using a finely divided Pt group metal, preferably Pd, as catalyst. The  $H_2$  and  $O_2$  were reportedly generated in a chamber, the walls of which were selectively permeable to H2. According to the present observations it would appear that Pt, being consumed in the Pt-H2O reaction, would not be a suitable catalyst for reaction under conditions specified by these French workers.
- (11) The effect of heat on Pt immersed in water was examined by comparing the rate of the catalytic decomposition of H2O2 by a Pt black sample heated in water for 20 h at 180 °C with that by an identically prepared Pt black sample stored in water at room temperature for 20 h. Both electrodes were maintained under an Ar atmosphere during the heat treatments. The rate of  $H_2O_2$  decomposition catalyzed by each sample was subsequently determined by the colorimetric triiodide method.<sup>12</sup> The unheated Pt sample decomposed  $H_2O_2$  at a rate  $7.24 \times 10^{-4}$  mol cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>, approximately twice that,  $4.20 \times 10^{-4}$  mol cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>, using the heat treated platinum. The results indicate that the number of Pt active sites was decreased as a result of heating the platinum in water. Details of these results will be published elsewhere.
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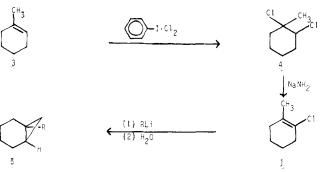
L. Galloway, D. R. Fruge, G. M. Haley A. B. Coddington, F. K. Fong\* Department of Chemistry, Purdue University West Lafayette, Indiana 47907 Received September 5, 1978

# **Reactions of 1-Chloro-2-alkylcyclohexenes** with Organolithium Reagents. The Intermediacy of Cyclopropenes

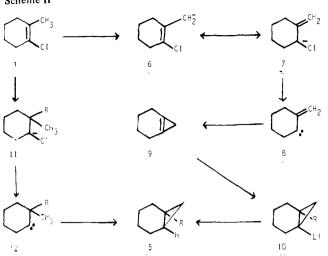
#### Sir:

In 1967, it was reported that a mixture of 1-chloro-2methylcyclohexene (1) and 1-chloro-6-methylcyclohexene (2) reacted with phenyllithium to yield 1-phenyl-3-methylcyclohexene, 1-phenyl-6-methylcyclohexene, and unreacted  $1.^{1.2}$ In view of our recent findings on the reactions of vinyl halides with organolithium reagents,<sup>3</sup> the reported poor reactivity of 1 with phenyllithium seemed surprising. Thus, we set out to synthesize pure 1 and to investigate its behavior in the presence of organolithium reagents. We now report that 1 reacts with a variety of organolithium reagents to yield substituted bicyclo[4.1.0] heptanes. Mechanistic studies suggest the intermediacy of the highly strained cyclopropene, bicyclo[4.1.0]heptene- $\Delta^{1,6}$ .

Pure 1 was prepared in 41% overall yield from 1-methylcyclohexene  $(3)^4$  via the dichloride, 4, which resulted from the reaction of 3 with iodobenzene dichloride (Scheme 1). Dehydrochlorination of 4 with sodium amide in liquid ammonia gave



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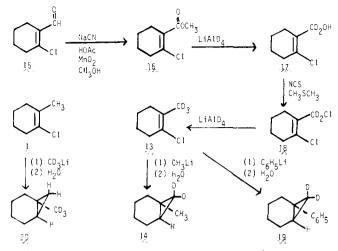
1.<sup>5</sup> In an unprecedented reaction, 1 (1-2 g) reacted with excess organolithium reagent (5 equiv) to produce 5. Yields range from good to excellent ( $R = C_6H_5$ , 90%;  $R = CH_3CH_2CH_2CH_2$ , 52%;<sup>6</sup>  $R = CH_3$ , 47%). In each case, the structure of the product was based on spectral data and on comparison of the product with an authentic sample of the substituted bicyclo[4.1.0]heptane<sup>7</sup> prepared by an alternate route.<sup>8</sup>

Mechanistically, it appeared that the rather unprecedented organolithium reactions described above might be rationalized by either of two pathways (Scheme II). Both mechanisms involve a unique combination of reactions. However, each of the individual steps would appear to have some analogy in the literature. In one mechanism, the organolithium reagent would initially act as a base to pull off the allylic hydrogen which would generate the allylic anion, 6. This anion could be considered in terms of the resonance structure 7, which would vield **8** by  $\alpha$  elimination.<sup>9</sup> Allyl carbone to cyclopropene conversion would give 9.9 The addition of organolithium reagents to cyclopropenes is well established.<sup>10</sup> In this manner, 9 could be converted into 10, and subsequently into 5. The alternate mechanistic rationale would involve the initial addition of the organolithium reagent to 1 to produce 11;  $\alpha$  elimination of chloride ion from 11 would produce the neopentyl-type carbene 12. Selective insertion into the methyl group would then produce 5. Such insertions have ample precedent.<sup>11</sup> Differentiating between these two mechanisms was of interest. The significant rate acceleration which occurred on the addition of tetramethylethylenediamine (TMEDA) indicated that the ratedetermining step might be an acid-base reaction, but this was certainly not a definitive piece of evidence for the cyclopropene mechanism  $(1 \rightarrow 9 \rightarrow 5)$ .

Careful examination of the two mechanisms indicated that a distinction might be made through the use of deuterium labeled starting materials. The unlabeled starting material 1 should react with trideuteriomethyllithium to yield 5 where R is trideuteriomethyl if 9 were involved as an intermediate. Similarly, 1-chloro-2-trideuteriomethylcyclohexene (13) should react with unlabeled methyllithium to produce 14. In contrast, according to the alternate mechanism, the addition of trideuteriomethyllithium to 1 and of methyllithium to 13 should produce 12 via 11. The same carbene (or carbenoid), 12, should be generated from both sets of starting materials. Thus, the same products should be generated from both sets of starting materials if the reaction path involved 11 and 12.

The synthesis of 13 could not be achieved by a route similar to that used for 1 (Scheme 111).<sup>12</sup> However, it could be prepared by a sequence of reactions which involved (a) the oxidation<sup>13</sup> of  $15^{14}$  to 16 (46%); (b) the reduction of 16 to 17 (97%); (c) the

Scheme III



replacement of the hydroxyl group by chloride<sup>15</sup> (72%); and (d) lithium aluminum deuteride reduction of **18** to **13** (75%). Mass spectral analysis of **13** showed 97%  $d_3$ ; the <sup>1</sup>H NMR indicated the complete absence of any signal due to the unlabeled methyl group.

Treatment of 13 with methyllithium gave 14 which was shown to have chromatographic behavior identical with that of 1-methylbicyclo[4.1.0]heptane. <sup>1</sup>H NMR showed 14 to be devoid of any signal in the  $\delta$  0.5–0.0 region where 5 has strong signals. However, mass spectral analysis showed  $30\% d_{3}$ , 66%  $d_{2}$ , and 4%  $d_{1}$ . In a similar manner, treatment of 13 with phenyllithium gave 19, which lacked the geminal cyclopropyl protons, but analyzed for 44%  $d_3$ , 53%  $d_2$ , and 3%  $d_1$  by mass spectroscopy. The presence of substantial amounts of  $d_3$  material in both 14 and 19 could be interpreted to mean that both of the mechanisms discussed above were involved. However, this explanation would require that the portion of the reaction which occurred via 11 and 12 must have involved exclusive insertion<sup>16</sup> of the carbene into the deuterated methyl group for some obscure reason. Obviously, this could be tested by the addition of trideuteriomethyllithium to 1. When this experiment was carried out, 20 was obtained which showed no <sup>1</sup>H NMR signal due to the methyl group in the 1 position, but did show a strong <sup>1</sup>H NMR signal due to the cyclopropyl methylene group. Mass spectral analysis of 20 showed 97%  $d_{3}$ . Clearly, no anomalous selectivity for insertion into a C-D bond existed.

The presence of some  $d_3$  material in the product from the reaction of organolithiums can be rationalized in terms of the cyclopropene  $(1 \rightarrow 9 \rightarrow 5)$  mechanism. Addition of an organolithium reagent to 9- $d_2$  would generate 10- $d_2$ . This might be expected to be a stronger base than either methyllithium or phenyllithium. If this were the case,  $10-d_2$  could remove a deuteron from 13 to generate  $6-d_2$  and  $14-d_3$ . This would be consistent with our observations.

Mechanistically, the results presented above are consistent with the intermediacy of bicyclo[4.1.0]heptene- $\Delta^{1.6}$ . Although 1,2-bridged cyclopropenes have been described<sup>17</sup> and postulated<sup>18</sup> as highly reactive intermediates, those previously reported have originated from quite different precursors. In our case, the starting materials are readily available and the yields of cyclopropane derivatives are quite reasonable. The reaction is not restricted to **1** and its deuterated version. For instance, 1-chloro-2-ethylcyclohexene reacted slowly with *n*-butyllithium to give 34% 1-*n*-butyl-7-*endo*-methylbicyclo[4.1.0]heptane. It would appear that this should constitute a general procedure for the synthesis of fused-ring cyclopropyl derivatives.

We are continuing to explore the synthetic utility of this reaction.

# Communications to the Editor

Acknowledgment. We are indebted to the National Science Foundation for a grant which supported this investigation.

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- (19) National Science Foundation Fellow, 1976-1979.
- (20) Address to which correspondence concerning the study should be sent.

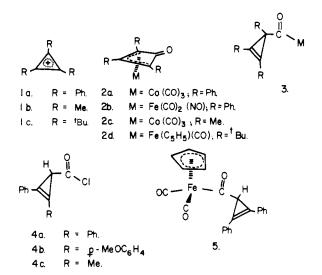
#### Paul G. Gassman,\* Joseph J. Valcho, Gary S. Proehl<sup>19</sup>

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# Interactions of Small Organic Rings with Transition Metals. Formation of $\eta^3$ -Cyclobutenonyl Complexes by the Ring Expansion of 2-Cyclopropene-1-carbonyl Metal Species

Sir:

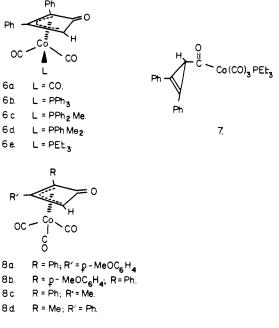
Reactions of cyclopropenium cations with transition metal complexes have been only moderately successful in the preparation of  $\eta^3$ -cyclopropenyl metal complexes.<sup>1</sup> Typical alternative reaction pathways have been shown to afford complexes derived from direct insertion of the metal into the threemembered ring,<sup>2</sup> or, in a more unusual reaction, the formation of four-membered-ring cyclobutenonyl complexes by a ring expansion with incorporation of carbon monoxide.<sup>3</sup> Thus, cations **1a-c** have been shown to afford the complexes **2a-d** on reaction with the appropriate metal carbonyl anion.<sup>3</sup> It has been suggested that the mechanism of this ring-expansion reaction involves attack on coordinated CO to afford an in-



termediate, coordinatively unsaturated, cyclopropenyl carbonyl metal species of general structure 3, which then undergoes ring expansion.<sup>3d,4</sup> We here present direct evidence for such a mechanism and describe unusual spectroscopic and chemical properties of the cyclobutenonyl ligand.

Reaction of equimolar amounts of the 2-cyclopropene-1carbonyl chloride  $4a^5$  and Fe  $(\eta^5-C_5H_5)(CO)_2$ -Na<sup>+6</sup> in tetrahydrofuran (THF) afforded, after dry column chromatography, the coordinatively saturated 2-cyclopropenyl-1-carbonyl-iron complex 5, in which the cyclopropene ring remains intact.<sup>7</sup> Complex 5 can be recovered unchanged from refluxing hexane; ultraviolet irradiation of 5 in hexane led to decomposition, affording  $[Fe(\eta^5-C_5H_5)(CO)_2]_2$  as the only metalcontaining product. No ring expansion to form a product analogous to 2d<sup>3d</sup> was observed.

In contrast, reaction of 4a with  $Co(CO)_3L^-Na^+$  (L = CO, PPh<sub>3</sub>, PPh<sub>2</sub>Me, PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph, PEt<sub>3</sub>) in THF afforded the cyclobutenonyl complexes 6a-e in excellent yields.8 Complexes 6b-e



could also be prepared in essentially quantitative yield by reaction of **6a** with equimolar amounts of the appropriate tertiary phosphine (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, 25 °C). Infrared monitoring of the reaction of  $Co(CO)_3(PEt_3)^-Na^+$  with 4a exhibited transient absorbances at 2075 (m), 2041 (s), 2017 (s), and 1651 (m)  $cm^{-1}$ , characteristic9 of an acyl species 7. These bands were rapidly