(Me)CH-MLn and $R_fCH_2CH_2$ -MLn (L = CO and R_fCH = CH₂). A possible mechanism that can accommodate the unique results is depicted in Scheme I.

As trifluoromethyl and pentafluorophenyl groups (abbreviated as R_f) are strongly electron-withdrawing substituents, a negative charge on the α -carbon stabilizes α -(R_f)ethylmetal species, intermediate [A], while a positive charge on the α -carbon destabilizes intermediate [A]. Thus, if the MLn moiety induces a negative charge on the α -carbon, the branched intermediate [A] should be stabilized, and then the formation of isoaldehyde should be predominant: as a matter of course, if the MLn moiety induces a positive charge on the α -carbon, the unbranched intermediate [B] should be preferable, which leads to the formation of naldehyde. It is strongly suggested that the relative stability of the branched alkylmetal intermediate [A] increases in order $R_f(Me)CH-CoLn < R_f(Me)CH-PtLn < R_f(Me)CH-RuLn <$ R_f(Me)CH-RhLn, i.e., the cobalt species may cause a fairly large positive charge on the α -carbon whereas the rhodium species may generate relatively large negative charge on the α -carbon, and the platinum and ruthenium species can be placed between cobalt and rhodium, in the present systems. However, a detailed understanding of the mechanisms of the present reactions should await further investigation.

Registry No. TFP, 677-21-4; PFS, 653-34-9; Co₂(CO)₈, 10210-68-1; PtCl₂(DIOP), 65582-87-8; Ru₃(CO)₁₂, 15243-33-1; Rh₆(CO)₁₆, 28407-51-4; Rh, 7440-16-6; HRh(CO)(PPh₃)₃, 17185-29-4; RhCl(dppb), 81725-30-6; RhCl(PPh₃)₃, 14694-95-2; RhCl(CO)(PPh₃)₂, 13938-94-8; RhCl₃·3H₂O, 13876-89-6.

Solvent-Dependent Reactions of Carbon Dioxide with a Platinum(II) Dihydride. Reversible Formation of a Platinum(II) Formatohydride and a Cationic Platinum(II) Dimer, [Pt₂H₃(PEt₃)₄][HCO₂]

Ralph S. Paonessa and William C. Trogler*

Department of Chemistry, Northwestern University Evanston, Illinois 60201

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Reactions of carbon dioxide with transition-metal compounds are relevant to CO₂ activation and catalysis of the water-gas shift reaction.1 The properties of formate ion as a ligand have also attracted attention, 1-4 and metal-catalyzed decomposition of formate ion to yield CO2 and metal hydride (reaction 1) has been

$$M^+ + HCO_2^- \rightleftharpoons M-O_2CH \rightleftharpoons M-H + CO_2 \qquad (1)$$

suggested as a key step in several systems that homogeneously catalyze the water-gas shift reaction.^{3,5} We describe herein the unusual solvent dependence of the reactions of carbon dioxide with a sterically unhindered platinum(II) dihydride, a system that catalyzes the transformation of formic acid to carbon dioxide and hydrogen, and a mechanism for catalysis.

A toluene solution of predominantly trans-dihydrobis(triethylphosphine)platinum(II)⁶ (1) under one atmosphere of carbon dioxide consists of an equilibrium mixture of 1 and trans-(formato)hydrobis(triethylphosphine)platinum(II) (2) (reaction 2).

$$PtH_2L_2 + CO_2 \stackrel{K}{\rightleftharpoons} trans-PtH(O_2CH)L_2$$
 (2)

A signal for 2 appears in the ${}^{31}P\{{}^{1}H\}$ NMR spectrum at δ 23.8 (s, ${}^{1}J_{Pt-P} = 2843 \text{ Hz}$). Examination of the ${}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum of this solution reveals a signal for formate hydrogen [H_a: δ 9.36 (d, br. ${}^4J_{H_a-H_b} = 4$ Hz. ${}^3J_{P_t-H_a} = 47$ Hz.)] and a signal for hydride [H_b: $\delta - 21.26$ (td. ${}^2J_{P-H_b} = 16$ Hz. ${}^4J_{H_b-H_a} = 4$ Hz. ${}^1J_{P_t-H_b} = 1176$ Hz.)]. The presence of 195 Pt satellites for the formate hydrogen signal establishes that formate ion binds to platinum.⁷ From the integrated intensities of the ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectra, the equilibrium constant is approximately 2 atm-1 at 25 °C.

In polar solvents such as acetone or acetonitrile, 1 reacts rapidly with 1 atm of CO₂ at 25 °C to form a cationic platinum dimer, $[Pt_2H_3L_4]^+$ (3, L = PEt₃), and free formate ion. Addition of LiBF₄ yields a precipitate of LiHCO2. Metathesis of 3a with NaBPh4 produces [Pt₂H₃L₄][BPh₄] (3b), isolable as a yellow, crystalline, air-stable solid.8 Analysis of the ¹H, ³¹P, and ¹⁹⁵Pt NMR spectra of solutions of 3a and 3b reveals that the cation contains two inequivalent platinum centers, each bound to a pair of mutually equivalent triethylphosphine ligands. The metal centers are bridged by a pair of equivalent hydride ligands, and a third hydride ligand binds to one platinum, which is 5-coordinate. These facts are consistent with the structure (3), and an analogous structure has been proposed for the cation $[Pt_2H_3(PPh_3)_4]^{+10}$

$$\begin{cases} \begin{bmatrix} L & L \\ L & L \end{bmatrix} & L \\ 3a & = [Pt_2H_3L_4][HCO_2] \\ 3b & = [Pt_2H_3L_4][BPh_4] \\ L & = PEt_3 \end{cases}$$

Solvent strongly influences the reactions of carbon dioxide with 1. Formation of 3a in polar solvents may occur because these media stabilize charge-separated species; this solvent influence is primarily of thermodynamic origin. Support for this view comes from the observation that 3a reverts to neutral monomers when extracted into toluene. Coordinating solvents could also exert a kinetic effect by displacing formate ion11 from 2 to yield the solvated (S = solvent) cation $PtH(S)L_2^+$ (4), which could then react with 1 to form 3.

That 3a forms reversibly from 1 and CO_2 is indicated by the following experiments. Bubbling hydrogen through a solution of 3a (at 25 °C) sweeps CO₂ from the system and regenerates 1.

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⁽⁷⁾ The complex trans-PtH(O₂CH)[P(c-Hx)₃]₂ has been shown by X-ray diffraction to be a monodentate O-bonded formato complex (ref 5). The close correspondence of the ¹H NMR parameters of this complex and those of 2 suggest an analogous structure for 2.

⁽⁸⁾ Anal.: % found (% calcd) C, 48.90 (48.65); H, 7.01 (7.06); P, 10.48

⁽⁸⁾ Anal.: % found (% calcd) C, 48.90 (48.65); H, 7.01 (7.06); P, 10.48 (10.45); Pt, 32.68 (32.92); B (by difference), 0.91 (0.93). (9) [HPt^A(P^AEt_3)_2(\mu-H)_2Pt^B(P^BEt_3)_2][BPh_4] (acetone- d_6 , 30 °C): $^{31}P_1^{11}H_2^{11}$ NMR δ P^A 20.8 (t, $^{1}J(Pt^{2}P^{A}) = 2741$, $^{2}J(Pt^{B}P^{A}) = 23$ Hz), δ P^B 24.2 (t, $^{1}J(Pt^{B}P^{B}) = 2540$, $^{2}J(Pt^{A}P^{B}) = 23$, $^{3}J(P^{A}P^{B}) = 2.9$ Hz); $^{195}Pt_1^{11}H_1^{11}$ NMR δ Pt^A $^{-708}$, $Pt^{B} = 358$ ($^{1}J(Pt^{A}Pt^{B}) = 866$ Hz); ^{1}H NMR $^{1erm}\delta = 4.91$ (m, $^{1}J(Pt^{A}H) = 1316$, $^{2}J(Pt^{B}H) = 191$ Hz), $^{1}H^{10}$ S $^{-3}$.55 (m, $^{1}J(Pt^{A}H) = 361$, $^{1}J(Pt^{A}H) = 362$ Hz)

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Scheme I. Proposed Equilibria in the Catalysis of $HCO_2H \rightarrow H_2 + CO_2$ (L = PEt_3 ; S = HCO_2H , $(CH_3)_2CO$, or CH_3OH)

In solution under 1 atm of ethylene, 3a quantitatively converts to $Pt(C_2H_4)L_2$ after 24 h (reaction 3). We have shown⁶ that

$$\begin{array}{c} [\text{Pt}_2\text{H}_3\text{L}_4]^+ + [\text{HCO}_2^-] \xrightarrow[\text{CH}_3\text{CN}]{\text{CH}_3\text{CN}}} \text{PtH}_2\text{L}_2 + \\ 3 \\ \textit{trans-PtH}(\text{O}_2\text{CH})\text{L}_2 \xrightarrow[\text{-CO}_2]{\text{C2H}_4}} 2\text{Pt}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_4)\text{L}_2 + 2\text{H}_2 + \text{CO}_2 \end{array} (3)$$

ethylene reacts rapidly with 1 to yield $Pt(C_2H_4)L_2$ and H_2 . This apparently drives reaction 3. It is important to note that under identical conditions, 3b, in the absence of HCO_2^- , did not react with ethylene. Solutions of 3a placed under 1 atm of $^{13}CO_2$ also rapidly incorporate ^{13}C into the formate counterion. Dimer 3a therefore appears to react via the small equilibrium concentrations of PtH_2L_2 and $PtH(O_2CH)L_2$.

of PtH_2L_2 and $PtH(O_2CH)L_2$. The complex trans- $PtH(O_2CH)[P(i-Pr)_3]_2$ catalyzes the decomposition of formic acid to hydrogen and carbon dioxide, 3a a reaction relevant to water-gas shift catalysis.^{3,4} The complex PtCl₂[$P(n-C_4H_9)_3$]₂ has been reported¹² to slowly catalyze formic acid decomposition at high temperatures. Solutions of 3b show no such catalytic activity after 14 h at 20 °C.13 However, when sodium formate was added ([HCO₂-]:[3] = 200), immediate sustained catalysis occurs at a turnover rate of 3.3 ± 0.5 (mol HCO₂H/mol 3) per hour at 20 °C. This rate decreases as the pressure of CO₂ and H₂ above the solution increases, but when these gases are removed, the original catalytic rate returns. Several hundred turnovers were observed with no significant change in activity. A mechanism based on the equilibria described above is diagrammed in Scheme I. Catalytically active platinum species are proposed to be the monomers 1 and 2 present in equilibrium with dimer 3a. Formate ion promotes catalysis by its reaction with 3 to produce small steady state quantities of 1 and 2. We independently established that 1 reacts rapidly with formic acid to evolve hydrogen and produce formate ion. 14 Because 2 and 4 should also be in equilibrium in coordinating solvents, excess formate ion should further promote the catalysis by driving this equilibrium toward 2. Loss of carbon dioxide from 2 completes the cycle. The catalytic cycle can in fact be entered by adding an excess of sodium formate to 4 (as [trans-PtH- $((CH_3)_2CO)L_2][BF_4]$). Note that the proposed catalytic species 1 and 2 were not detectable by ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectroscopy of these solutions, and their concentrations relative to 3 must be quite small. This implies that the turnover rate per molecule of 1 or 2 must be much greater than the turnover rate calculated on the basis of added platinum.¹⁵ The dimerization reaction thus traps and inactivates the catalytic species.¹⁶

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Registry No. 1, 62945-61-3; **2**, 81768-78-7; **3a**, 81800-04-6; **3b**, 81800-05-7; CO₂, 124-38-9; HCO₂H, 64-18-6.

[2 + 2] Cycloaddition Reactions of Homoazulene. A New Synthesis of the Homoheptalene Ring System

Lawrence T. Scott* and Mark A. Kirms

Department of Chemistry, University of Nevada Reno, Nevada 89557 Received February 16, 1982

Recent studies on homoazulene (1)1 have significantly advanced



the modern view of π -torsional effects on cyclic conjugation.² This unusual hydrocarbon and its derivatives have also provided the first clear data on the effects of nonalternant transannular interactions in cyclic π systems; several parallels between the spectroscopic properties of 1 and those of azulene (2) have been noted.³ By the synthesis developed in our laboratory, ^{2e.f.} homoazulene has now become available in sufficient quantity to permit much more extensive physical and chemical investigation of its unique properties, and we have recently reported on the novel thermal behavior of 1.⁴ Herein we describe the first intermolecular chemical reactions of homoazulene, one of which leads to a crystalline [4n]annulene derivative.

At room temperature, homoazulene reacts instantaneously with tetracyanoethylene (TCNE). By conducting the reaction at -45 °C in tetrahydrofuran (0.03 M in each component) for 45 min, we obtained a 1:1 adduct in quantitative yield. Spectroscopic analysis (see Table I) permits assignment of structure 3 to this adduct; the stereoisomer of 3 with an exo tertiary hydrogen is geometrically infeasible.

Although symmetry forbidden as a concerted reaction, [2 + 2] cycloaddition of TCNE to alkenes frequently occurs via zwitterionic intermediates.⁵ In the present case, formation of an aromatic homotropylium ion⁶ very likely facilitates the electrophilic attack and accounts for the site of initial C-C bond formation (4). The observed periselectivity corresponds to that reported by Hafner et al. in the stepwise [2 + 2] cycloaddition of dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate (DMAD) to azulene,⁷ and the exo stereoselectivity conforms with that observed in the electro-

⁽¹²⁾ Coffey, R. S. Chem. Commun. 1967, 923-924.

⁽¹³⁾ $[3b]_0 = 0.0063$ M, $[HCO_2H]_0 = 9.8$ M, methanol solvent. (14) In this reaction, a mixture of 3 and 4 rapidly forms. We believe 1 reacts with formic acid to give 4, either by direct protonation and loss of H_2 or by oxidative addition of HCO_2H and reductive elimination of H_2 , with intermediate formation of 2. (This accords with observations of the reactivity

of 1: ref 6.) Complex 4 (or 2) can then react with unreacted 1 to give 3. (15) On the basis of our limits of detection by ³¹P[¹H} NMR spectroscopy of 1%, the turnover rate based on 1 or 2 would be at least 2 orders of magnitude greater than the turnover rate based on 3 or 4.

⁽¹⁶⁾ If these monomeric species were anchored to a rigid support to prevent dimerization, a dramatic increase in catalytic activity should be observed. This possibility is being investigated.

⁽¹⁾ Homoazulene = bicyclo[5.3.1]undeca-1,3,5,7,9-pentaene; homoheptalene = bicyclo[5.5.1]trideca-1,3,5,7,9,11-hexaene.

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