34496-58-7; $p$-dinitrobenzene radical anion, 34505-33-4; $o$-dinitrobenzene radical anion, $34505-38-9$; p-nitrobenzaldehyde radical anion, 34512-33-9; $m$-nitrobenzaldehyde radical anion, 40951-85-7; 1-chloro-4-nitrobenzene radical anion, 34473-09-1; 5-nitro- $m$-xylene radical anion, 39933-64-7; 3-nitro-o-xylene radical anion, 83-41-0; 4-cyano- $N$-benzyl-
pyridinium radical, 113249-25-5; 4-cyano- $N$-methylpyridinium radical, 64365-84-0; 4-carbethoxy- $N$-benzylpyridinium radical, 76036-35-6; 4-carbethoxy- $N$-methylpyridinium radical, 75302-27-1; 4 -amido- $N$ benzylpyridinium radical, 113249-26-6; 4-a mido- $N$-methylpyridinium radical, 113249-24-4.

# Insertion of Two CO Moieties into an Alkene Double Bond To Form a $\mathrm{RCH}=\mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O})=\mathrm{CHR}^{2-}$ Unit via Organosamarium Activation ${ }^{1}$ 

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#### Abstract

RCH}=\mathrm{CHR}\left(\mathrm{R}=2\right.\)-pyridyl) reacts with $\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Sm}(\mathrm{THF})_{2}$ to form a red complex, which reacts with CO at 80 psi in toluene to form $\left[\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Sm}\right]_{2}\left[\mu-\eta^{4}-\mathrm{RCH}=\mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O})=\mathrm{CHR}\right]$ (1) in $90 \%$ yield. 1 cocrystallizes with 2 molecules of toluene in space group $C 2 / m$ with $a=15.818$ (2) $\AA, b=14.060(2) \AA, c=15.353$ (2) $\AA, \beta=111.480$ (12) ${ }^{\circ}$, and $Z=$ 2 for $D_{\text {calcd }}=1.32 \mathrm{~g} \mathrm{~cm}^{-3}$. Least-squares refinement on the basis of 2526 observed reflections led to a final $R$ value of 0.045 . The two $\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right){ }_{2} \mathrm{Sm}$ units are bridged by a tetradentate bisenolate ligand, $\mathrm{RCH}=\mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O})=\mathrm{CHR}^{2-}$, such that each Sm is coordinated to one oxygen and the nitrogen atom of the pyridyl group closest to that oxygen. The $\mathrm{Sm}-\mathrm{O}, \mathrm{Sm}-\mathrm{N}$, and average Sm-C (ring) distances are 2.191 (6), 2.473 (7), and 2.71 (1) $\AA$, respectively.


The divalent organosamarium complex $\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Sm}(\mathrm{THF})_{2}{ }^{2}$ has proven to have a remarkable reductive chemistry with unsaturated substrates such as $\mathrm{C} \equiv \mathrm{O},{ }^{3,4} \mathrm{RC} \equiv \mathrm{CR},{ }^{4-7}$ and $\mathrm{RN}=$ NR. ${ }^{8,9}$ This powerful $\mathrm{Sm}(\mathrm{II})$ reagent can induce facile multi-ple-bond cleavage and reorganization to provide unusual transformations of multiply bonded species. Three examples are shown in eq $1-3$. If $\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}$ double bonds could also be transformed in $4\left(\mathrm{C}_{3} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Sm}(\mathrm{THF})_{2}+6 \mathrm{CO} \rightarrow$
$\left[\left(\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Sm}\right]_{2}\left[\mu-\eta^{3}-\mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{CC}=\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}\right](\mathrm{THF})\right]_{2}+6 \mathrm{THF}(1)^{3}$
$2\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Sm}(\mathrm{THF})_{2}+\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{C} \equiv \mathrm{CC}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5}+2 \mathrm{CO}-$

$(2)^{4}$
$2\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Sm}(\mathrm{THF})_{2}+\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{~N}=\mathrm{NC}_{8} \mathrm{H}_{5}+2 \mathrm{CO} \longrightarrow$


[^0]Table I. Crystal Data and Summary of Data Collection and Structure Refinement for
$\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Sm}\left[\mu-\eta^{4}-\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{4} \mathrm{~N}\right) \mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O})=\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{4} \mathrm{~N}\right)\right] \mathrm{Sm}-$ $\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)_{2} \cdot 2 \mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{8}$

| formula | $\mathrm{Sm}_{2} \mathrm{C}_{68} \mathrm{H}_{86} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{2}$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| mol wt | 1264.15 |
| space gp | $C 2 / m$ |
| $a, \AA$ | $15.818(2)$ |
| $b, \AA$ | $14.060(2)$ |
| $c, \AA$ | $15.353(2)$ |
| $\beta, \mathrm{deg}$ | $111.480(12)$ |
| $V, \AA^{3}$ | 3177 |
| $Z$ | 2 |
| $D_{\text {calcd }} \mathrm{g} / \mathrm{cm}^{3}$ | 1.32 |
| temp, ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ | 24 |
| $\lambda(\mathrm{Mo} \mathrm{K} \alpha), \AA$ | $0.71073 ;$ graphite monochromator |
| $\mu$, cm | 18.8 |
| min-max transmissn coeff | $0.339-0.449$ |
| type of scan | $\theta-2 \theta$ |
| scan width, deg | -1.2 in $2 \theta$ from $\mathrm{K} \alpha_{1}$ to +1.2 from $\mathrm{K} \alpha_{2}$ |
| scan speed, deg/min | 3 |
| bkgd counting | evaluated from a 96 -step peak profile |
| data collecn range, deg | $3-50$ |
| total no. of unique data | 2955 |
| no. of unique data with $I \geq$ | 2526 |
| $\quad 3 \sigma(I)$ |  |
| no. of parameters | 187 |
| $R(F)$ | 0.045 |
| $R_{w}(F)$ | 0.059 |
| GOF | 1.84 |
| max $\Delta / \sigma$ in final cycle | 0.39 |

unusual ways by $\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Sm}(\mathrm{THF})_{2}$, then this organosamarium(II) approach to multiple-bond functionalization would apply to an even wider range of substrates. We report here the samarium-mediated functionalization of a $\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}$ bond in which complete cleavage of the double-bond and double CO insertion is observed.

## Experimental Section

The complexes described below are extremely air- and moisture-sensitive. Therefore, both the syntheses and subsequent manipulations of these compounds were conducted under nitrogen with rigorous exclusion of air and water by Schlenk, vacuum-line, and glovebox techniques. The preparation of $\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Sm}(\mathrm{THF})_{2}$ and the methods for drying solvents
and taking physical measurements have been described previously. ${ }^{2}$ 1,2-Di-2-pyridylethene (Aldrich) was degassed at room temperature. CO (Liquid Carbonic, $99.99 \%$ ) was used as received.
$\left[\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Sm}\right]_{2}\left[\mu-\eta^{4}-\left(\mathrm{NC}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{4}\right) \mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{C}(\mathbf{O})=\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{NC}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{4}\right)\right] . \quad 1,2-$ Di-2-pyridylethene, $\left(\mathrm{NC}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{4}\right) \mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{NC}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{4}\right)(40 \mathrm{mg}, 0.221 \mathrm{mmol})$, in 4 mL of toluene was slowly added to $\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Sm}(\mathrm{THF})_{2}(250 \mathrm{mg}$, 0.442 mmol ) in 10 mL of toluene to form a red solution. The solution was placed in a 3-oz Fisher-Porter aerosol reaction vessel and pressurized with CO to 80 psi . After 24 h , the resulting yellow-orange solution was depressurized, concentrated to about half-volume, and cooled to $-34^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Yellow-orange crystals of $1(180 \mathrm{mg}, 65 \%)$ were obtained. The ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum of the bulk reaction mixture indicated that 1 was the major product ( $90 \%$ yield). Analytical, NMR, and IR data were obtained on samples of crystals that were crushed to a powder and dried under vacuum. Anal. Calcd for $\left[\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Sm}\right]_{2}\left(\mathrm{C}_{14} \mathrm{H}_{10} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{2}\right)$ : $\mathrm{Sm}, 27.8$. Found: Sm, 27.0. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{D}_{8} \mathrm{O}\right)$ : $\delta 5.48(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 5.09(\mathrm{t}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 4.97(\mathrm{~d}$, $1 \mathrm{H}), 1.52\left(\mathrm{~s}, 30 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{D}_{8} \mathrm{O}\right): \delta 201.1(\mathrm{~s}), 140.0$ $(\mathrm{s}), 121.3\left(\mathrm{~d}, J_{\mathrm{CH}}=164 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 119.4\left(\mathrm{~s}, C_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right), 112.2\left(\mathrm{~d}, J_{\mathrm{CH}}=166 \mathrm{~Hz}\right)$, $103.2\left(\mathrm{~d}, J_{\mathrm{CH}}=153 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 18.7\left(\mathrm{q}, J_{\mathrm{CH}}=125 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)$. IR (KBr): $2960-2850 \mathrm{~s}, 2730 \mathrm{w}, 1600 \mathrm{~m}, 1570 \mathrm{~m}, 1475 \mathrm{~s}, 1455 \mathrm{~s}, 1430 \mathrm{~s}, 1380 \mathrm{~s}$, $1205 \mathrm{w}, 1155 \mathrm{~m}, 1115 \mathrm{~m}, 1020 \mathrm{w}, 995 \mathrm{~m}, 865 \mathrm{~m}, 800 \mathrm{~m}, 755 \mathrm{w}, 740 \mathrm{~m}$, $730 \mathrm{~m} \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$.

X-ray Data Collection, Structure Solution, and Refinement for $\left[\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Sm}\right]_{2}\left[\mu-\eta^{4}-\left(\mathrm{NC}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{4}\right) \mathrm{CH}=\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{O}) \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{O})=\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{NC}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{4}\right)\right] \cdot 2 \mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{8}$. General data collection and reduction procedures have been described previously. ${ }^{10.11}$ A single crystal measuring $0.40 \mathrm{~mm} \times 0.50 \mathrm{~mm} \times 0.60$ mm was sealed under nitrogen in a glass capillary and mounted on a Nicolet R3m/V diffractometer. Lattice parameters were determined from 25 computer-centered reflections. Data were collected by the $\theta-2 \theta$ scan technique in bisecting geometry. The $p$ factor in the expression ${ }^{12}$ for the standard deviation of the observed intensities was given a value of 0.05 . Crystal and data collection parameters are given in Table I. During the data collection, the intensities of three standard reflections measured every 100 reflections exhibited only random fluctuations within $\pm 3 \%$. An empirical absorption correction was applied. Only one systematic absence ( $h k l, h+k$ odd) established the space group as $C 2$ or $C 2 / m$. Solution and refinement of the structure showed $C 2 / m$ to be the correct choice. Refinement was also tried in space group $C 2$ but was not successful. ${ }^{13}$

MITHRIL ${ }^{14}$ and difference Fourier techniques were used to locate all non-hydrogen atoms. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic temperature factors by full-matrix least-squares methods. Only the hydrogen atoms of the $\left(\mathrm{NC}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{4}\right) \mathrm{CHC}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{NC}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{4}\right)^{2-}$ unit were included with their idealized positions ( $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}=0.95 \AA$ ). Atomic scattering factors were taken from ref 15 . A final difference map contained no recognizable features; its largest peak was of height 0.92 e $\AA^{-3}$. Fractional coordinates are given in the supplementary material.

## Results and Discussion

Given the success observed in $\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Sm}(\mathrm{THF})_{2}$-based transformations of the diphenyl-substituted substrates, $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{C} \equiv$ $\mathrm{CC}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5}{ }^{4}$ and $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{~N}=\mathrm{NC}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5}{ }^{9}$ (eq 2 and 3), the diphenyl-substituted alkene $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{CHC}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5}$ seemed to be a logical substrate with which to investigate $\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}$ bond reactivity. Although $\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Sm}(\mathrm{THF})_{2}$ reacts with trans- $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{CHC}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5}{ }^{16}$ in the presence of CO , definitive characterization of the organometallic products by X-ray crystallography has not yet been obtained. A nitrogen-substituted analogue of stilbene, namely 1,2-di-2-pyridylethene, $\left(\mathrm{NC}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{4}\right) \mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{NC}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{4}\right)$, was chosen as an alternative substrate since the extra coordination possible via the nitrogen atoms could lead to a more readily definable, crystalline product.

Synthesis. Addition of a toluene solution of 1,2-di-2-pyridylethene to $\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Sm}(\mathrm{THF})_{2}$ in toluene forms a red solution, which reacts with CO at 80 psi. After 24 h , the solution had the

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(16) $\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Sm}(\mathrm{THF})_{2}$ isomerizes cis-stilbene to the trans isomer. ${ }^{6}$


Figure 1. ORTEP plot of $\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Sm}\left[\mu-\eta^{4}-\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{4} \mathrm{~N}\right) \mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O})=\right.$ $\left.\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{4} \mathrm{~N}\right)\right] \mathrm{Sm}\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)_{2}$. Thermal ellipsoids are shown at $30 \%$ probability for clarity. Atoms without superscript labels are related to atoms with superscript 2 by a $C_{2}$ axis and to atoms with superscript 4 by a mirror plane. Superscript 3 atoms are related to superscript 2 atoms by a mirror plane.

Table II. Interatomic Distances ( $\AA$ ) and Angles (deg) for 1

| $\mathrm{Sm}(1)-\mathrm{O}(1)$ | $2.191(6)$ | $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{Sm}(1)-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | $76.5(2)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{Sm}(1)-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | $2.473(7)$ | $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{Sm}(1)$ | $138.3(6)$ |
| $\mathrm{Sm}(1)-\mathrm{C}(10)$ | $2.678(8)$ | $\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | $118.0(8)$ |
| $\mathrm{Sm}(1)-\mathrm{C}(11)$ | $2.699(8)$ | $\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{Sm}(1)$ | $128.8(6)$ |
| $\mathrm{Sm}(1)-\mathrm{C}(14)$ | $2.726(8)$ | $\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{Sm}(1)$ | $113.2(6)$ |
| $\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{C}(12)$ | $2.728(8)$ | $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | $125.0(8)$ |
| $\mathrm{Sm}(1)-\mathrm{C}(13)$ | $2.735(8)$ | $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)$ | $115.7(10)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)$ | $1.299(10)$ | $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)$ | $119.3(10)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(3)$ | $1.343(11)$ | $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(3)$ | $129.1(7)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | $1.351(12)$ | $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(4)$ | $118.2(8)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | $1.355(12)$ | $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | $122.3(8)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)$ | $1.488(17)$ | $\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | $119.5(8)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(3)$ | $1.436(12)$ | $\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(3)$ | $120.7(10)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(4)$ | $1.429(13)$ | $\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{C}(4)$ | $119.8(9)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(5)$ | $1.361(16)$ | $\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | $118.3(10)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{C}(6)$ | $1.337(17)$ | $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{C}(6)$ | $124.9(10)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | $1.352(14)$ | $\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{C}(14)$ | $107.4(8)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{C}(11)$ | $1.367(15)$ | $\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{C}(16)$ | $126.0(16)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{C}(14)$ | $1.418(14)$ | $\mathrm{C}(14)-\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{C}(16)$ | $126.6(16)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{C}(16)$ | $1.555(14)$ | $\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(10)$ | $109.4(9)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(12)$ | $1.295(14)$ | $\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(15)$ | $124.3(17)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(15)$ | $1.541(15)$ | $\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(15)$ | $125.6(17)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{C}(13)$ | $1.349(13)$ | $\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{C}(13)$ | $110.1(8)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{C}(17)$ | $1.545(15)$ | $\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{C}(17)$ | $123.8(14)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{C}(14)$ | $1.385(16)$ | $\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{C}(17)$ | $126.0(14)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{C}(18)$ | $1.535(14)$ | $\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{C}(14)$ | $109.0(8)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(14)-\mathrm{C}(19)$ | $1.530(14)$ | $\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{C}(18)$ | $128.1(14)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(20)-\mathrm{C}(21)$ | $1.34(2)$ | $\mathrm{C}(14)-\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{C}(18)$ | $122.7(14)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(20)-\mathrm{C}(24)$ | $1.37(3)$ | $\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{C}(14)-\mathrm{C}(10)$ | $104.2(8)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(21)-\mathrm{C}(22)$ | $1.36(3)$ | $\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{C}(14)-\mathrm{C}(19)$ | $127.3(15)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(22)-\mathrm{C}(23)$ | $1.33(2)$ | $\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{C}(14)-\mathrm{C}(19)$ | $128.4(15)$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{C}(21)-\mathrm{C}(20)-\mathrm{C}(21)$ | $123(2)$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{C}(21)-\mathrm{C}(20)-\mathrm{C}(24)$ | $119(1)$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{C}(20)-\mathrm{C}(21)-\mathrm{C}(32)$ | $115(2)$ |
|  | $\mathrm{C}(23)-\mathrm{C}(22)-\mathrm{C}(21)$ | $128(2)$ |  |
|  | $\mathrm{C}(22)-\mathrm{C}(23)-\mathrm{C}(22)$ | $111(3)$ |  |
|  |  |  |  |

yellow-orange color characteristic of a $\mathrm{Sm}^{3+}$ organometallic complex, ${ }^{6}$ and ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectroscopy showed a single primary product had been formed. Crystals suitable for X-ray crystallography were obtained, and the product of the reaction was identified as $\left[\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Sm}\right]_{2}\left[\mu-\eta^{4}-\left(\mathrm{NC}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{4}\right) \mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O})=\right.$ $\left.\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{NC}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{4}\right)\right]$ (1).

Structure. The structure of $\mathbf{1}$ is shown in Figure 1, and bond distances and angles are given in Table II. The molecule has crystallographic $C_{2 h}$ symmetry, with the mirror plane containing $\mathrm{O}(1), \mathrm{C}(1), \mathrm{C}(2), \mathrm{Sm}(1)$, and the pyridyl rings. The $\mathrm{C}_{2}$ axis bisects the $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}\left(1^{2}\right)$ bond.

The $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}\left(1^{2}\right)$ distance of 1.488 (17) $\AA$ is in the range commonly observed for $\mathrm{sp}^{2}-\mathrm{sp}^{2}$ single bonds. The $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ and $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(3)$ distances of 1.355 (12) and 1.436 (12) $\AA$, respectively, fall between the normal ranges for $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}$ single and double bonds ${ }^{17}$ and suggest that some delocalization of the multiple bond is
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occurring. The $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{O}, \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{N}, \mathrm{Sm}-\mathrm{O}$, and $\mathrm{Sm}-\mathrm{N}$ distances are also consistent with a delocalized picture. The $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{O}(1)$ and C -(3)-N(1) distances of 1.299 (10) and 1.343 (11) $\AA$, respectively, are intermediate between single and double bonds. ${ }^{18}$ The Sm$\mathrm{O}(1)$ distance of 2.191 (6) $\AA$ and the Sm-N(1) distance of 2.473 (7) $\AA$ are between the values typical for trivalent Ln -OR and $\mathrm{Ln}-\mathrm{NR}_{2}$ bonds and $\mathrm{R}_{2} \mathrm{O} \rightarrow \mathrm{Ln}$ and $\mathrm{R}_{3} \mathrm{~N} \rightarrow \mathrm{Ln}$ donor bonds. ${ }^{3,8,19}$ Hence, the new planar ligand may be formally viewed as a $\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{4} \mathrm{~N}\right) \mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{C}(\mathrm{O})=\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{4} \mathrm{~N}\right)^{2-}$ dianion with considerable delocalization.

The average $\mathrm{Sm}-\mathrm{C}$ (ring) distance, 2.71 (1) $\AA$, is on the low end of the range typical for trivalent $\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Sm}(\mathrm{X})(\mathrm{Y})$ complexes, ${ }^{20}$ and the (ring centroid)-Sm-(ring centroid) angle, $140.8^{\circ}$, is at the high end of the normal range. ${ }^{2}$ The pentamethylcyclopentadienyl rings are in the unusual eclipsed conformation. In the past, the presence of eclipsed $\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}$ rings in organolanthanide complexes has been attributed to steric crowding in other parts of the molecule. ${ }^{21}$ However, several examples of structures with eclipsed rings have been reported recently in which the steric crowding is not so obvious. ${ }^{9,22,23}$ Complex 1 is another example of this latter trend.

Reaction. The structure of $\mathbf{1}$ shows that two molecules of carbon monoxide have been inserted into the carbon-carbon double bond of 1,2 -di-2-pyridylethene as shown in eq 4 . To our knowledge,


the formal insertion of two molecules of CO into a carbon-carbon double bond is unprecedented in organic and organometallic

[^1]chemistry. The net transformation (eq 5) of a $\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}$ double bond into a bisenolate may indicate a new avenue of alkene derivatization in organic synthesis.


The reaction is formally similar to the double insertion of two CO molecules into the $\mathrm{N}=\mathrm{N}$ bond of azobenzene (eq 3). ${ }^{9}$ It is interesting to note that $\mathbf{1}$ and the product of reaction 3 have the same formula; i.e., they differ only in the position of the nitrogen atoms. They also crystallize in equivalent space groups. Detailed mechanistic studies will be necessary to determine whether the transformations in reactions 3 and 4 actually proceed by a similar pathway. It is likely, however, that in both cases the strong reduction potential of $\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Sm}(\mathrm{THF})_{2}$ is important in activating the unsaturated substrate and the oxophilicity of samarium ${ }^{24}$ is important in the CO activation. Superficially, it appears that the pyridyl substituents have been useful in leading to a fully definable product. The importance of the nitrogen atoms in guiding the reaction remains to be determined.

## Conclusion

The use of Sm (II) in organic chemistry is rapidly growing. ${ }^{25-31}$ This study demonstrates that the facile conversion of an alkene to a bisenolate is another transformation that is possible via $\mathrm{Sm}(\mathrm{II})$. These results also show that the appropriate substitution of nitrogen for carbon can facilitate characterization of these organosamarium reactions.

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Registry No. 1, 113303-24-5; $\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Sm}(\mathrm{THF})_{2}, 79372-14-8$; $(\mathrm{N}-$ $\left.\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{4}\right) \mathrm{CH}=\mathrm{CH}\left(\mathrm{NC}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{4}\right), 1437-15-6$.

Supplementary Material Available: Table of positional parameters and thermal parameters (1 page); table of observed and calculated structure factor amplitudes (12 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.
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