

**Figure 2.** Space-filling models of the calculated equatorial conformations of **1**. Atom balls are drawn with 33% of the atomic radius. All conformations are viewed along the normal to the mean cyclohexane plane. The carbon skeleton is overlaid on the space-filling models for clarity.

groups (B), and syn-periplanar (C) and anti-periplanar (D) arrangements of the two CHCHMe<sub>2</sub> methine hydrogens. The minimized conformations had *S*<sub>6</sub>, *D*<sub>3</sub>, *D*<sub>3d</sub>, and *S*<sub>6</sub> symmetries and were calculated to lie 13.9, 17.1, 51.2, and 58.1 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup> above the axial conformation. The calculations indicate that the all-axial conformation of *S*<sub>6</sub> symmetry indeed corresponds to the minimum energy conformation. In general, there is excellent agreement between calculated and experimental structural parameters of **1** (Table I). The calculated energy difference between the gear meshed (A) and gear clashed (B) equatorial conformations of **1** (3.2 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>) is appreciably lower than for hexaisopropylbenzene (31.9 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>).<sup>12</sup>

What is the reason for the relative destabilization of the equatorial conformation? It seems likely that the unavoidable torsional and/or steric strain present at any equatorial disposition of the isopropyl group is responsible of the equatorial → axial stability reversal. Even in the low-energy equatorial conformation A, one of the methyls of each isopropyl group is nearly eclipsed ( $\phi = 20.2^\circ$ ) with the axial cyclohexane methine proton. Work is under way to see whether the axial = equatorial conformational reversal could be present in other cyclohexane systems.

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**Supplementary Material Available:** Crystallographic data for **1** and tables of final positional parameters, bond lengths, bond angles, and thermal parameters (3 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

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## Generation and Trapping of the Diphenylhydrazido(2-) Complex Cp<sub>2</sub>Zr(N<sub>2</sub>Ph<sub>2</sub>). Insertion of Internal Alkynes into a Metal-Nitrogen Bond, Leading to 2,3-Diazametallacyclopentenes

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Despite the large number of early-metal complexes containing metal-nitrogen or metal-oxygen bonds, insertion of olefins or alkynes into these bonds is rare.<sup>1,2</sup> In fact, this process is not well documented for transition-metal amide complexes in general. Insertion of nonpolar carbon-carbon bonds into early-metal nitrogen bonds represents an especially challenging problem because of their high (81-95 kcal/mol)<sup>3</sup> bond energy.

We have been seeking to prepare strained systems containing nitrogen bonded to zirconium, in the hope that they will exhibit enhanced Zr-N reactivity toward simple organic compounds and lead to reactions that involve the formation of new carbon-nitrogen bonds (the few known complexes with strained Zr-O and Zr-N bonds also contain Zr-C bonds, and insertion occurs into the latter preferentially<sup>4</sup>). We now report our first observation of M-N bond insertion, in the generation of the ( $\eta^2$ -1,2-diphenylhydrazido(2-))zirconocene complex Cp<sub>2</sub>Zr(N<sub>2</sub>Ph<sub>2</sub>) (**2**). This species has not been isolated, but can be trapped by coordination with various dative ligands. Significantly, the complex undergoes insertion of alkynes into one of the Zr-N bonds, leading to the formation of diazametallacyclopentenes.

The chemistry we have observed is summarized in Scheme I. The ( $\eta^2$ -hydrazido)methylzirconium complex **1** was prepared in 83% yield by treatment of Cp<sub>2</sub>Zr(Me)(Cl)<sup>5</sup> with the monopotassium salt of 1,2-diphenylhydrazine in toluene. Our first evidence for the generation of **2** was obtained by thermolysis of this material in THF at 65 °C for 2.5 days, which provides Cp<sub>2</sub>Zr(N<sub>2</sub>Ph<sub>2</sub>)(THF) (**3**) in 80% yield. Complex **3** can be prepared independently (60-80% yield) by addition of 1-lithio-1,2-diphenylhydrazine to [Cp<sub>2</sub>Zr(H)(Cl)]<sub>n</sub> in THF, but it is obtained most efficiently (90-95% yield) by the addition of Cp<sub>2</sub>ZrCl<sub>2</sub> in THF to a slurry of the 1,2-dithio-1,2-diphenylhydrazide<sup>6a</sup> in ether at room temperature.<sup>6b</sup>

The coordinatively unsaturated intermediate **2** is most conveniently generated by dissociation of THF from adduct **3**. Thus, treatment of **3** with pyridine or trimethylphosphine led to complexes **4** and **5** in 72% and 83% isolated yields, respectively. Crystals of the pyridine complex **4** suitable for an X-ray diffraction study were grown from a 50/50 mixture of toluene and hexane

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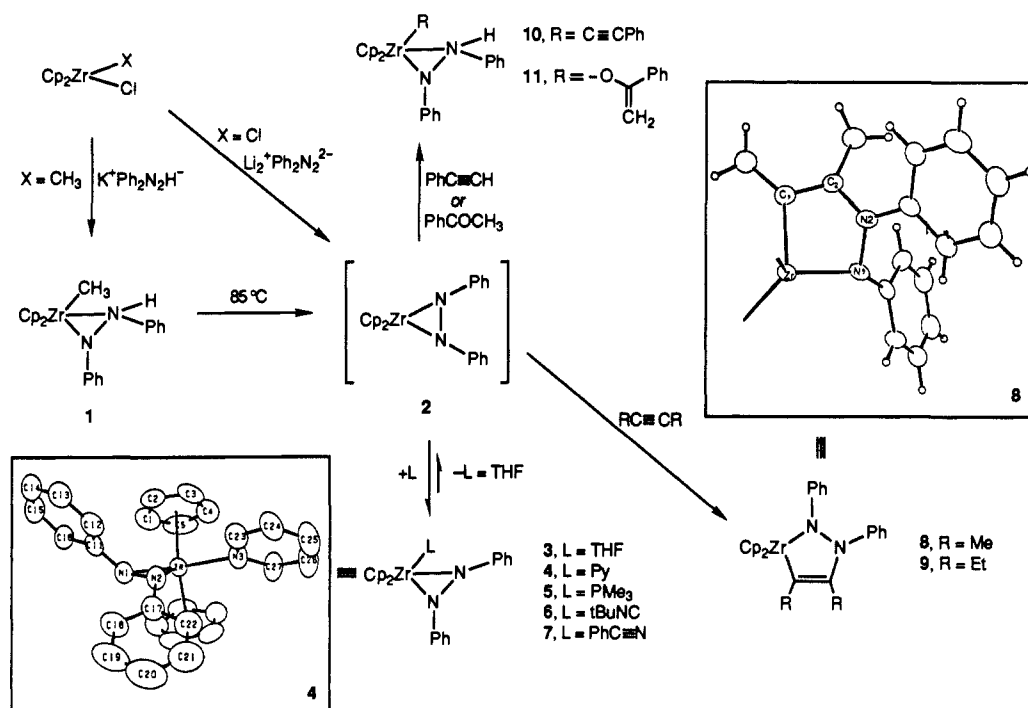
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Scheme I



at room temperature; an ORTEP drawing of **4** is shown in Scheme I.<sup>7</sup> The structure consists of discrete molecules with no abnormally close intermolecular contacts. The N–N bond length of 1.434 (4) Å falls in the range of other known N–N single bonds. Interestingly, the C<sub>ipso</sub>–N–N–C<sub>ipso</sub> torsional angle is 91.32 (0.46)° and the nitrogens have a clearly pyramidal geometry. The zirconium–nitrogen bond lengths are 2.161 (3) Å, 2.105 (4) Å, and 2.431 (4) Å for Zr–N1, Zr–N2, and Zr–N3. The structure of **3** can be compared to the unligated titanium analogue Cp<sub>2</sub>Ti(N<sub>2</sub>Ph<sub>2</sub>),<sup>8,9</sup> where the N–N bond distance is significantly shorter (1.334 Å).

Nitriles have been observed to insert into group IV metal–nitrogen bonds to give amidino complexes.<sup>10</sup> In the case of **2**, however, neither nitriles nor isocyanides undergo insertion into the M–N bonds. Thus, addition of 2.0 equiv of *tert*-butyl isocyanide or benzonitrile to **2** in toluene leads to rapid formation of the complexes Cp<sub>2</sub>Zr(N<sub>2</sub>Ph<sub>2</sub>)(L) (**6**; L = CN-*t*-Bu; **7**, L = NCPh) in 78% and 69% yields, respectively. The IR spectra of these complexes exhibit absorptions at 2200 and 2256 cm<sup>-1</sup>, consistent with their assignment as coordination complexes rather than insertion products.<sup>10,11</sup>

In contrast to early-metal amides,<sup>1</sup> internal alkynes react with THF complex **3** to give clean Zr–N insertion reactions. Thus, heating **3** at 45–65 °C for 2 days in toluene in the presence of 4 equiv of 2-butyne or 3-hexyne leads to 2,3-diazametallacyclopentenes **8** (78% yield) and **9** (91% yield). Compounds **8** and **9** are fluxional on the NMR time scale, due possibly to ring inversion of the metallacycle.<sup>12</sup>

Crystals of **8** were grown from a toluene/hexane solution at room temperature, and data were collected at –108 °C; an ORTEP drawing of the molecule is shown in Scheme I.<sup>13</sup> As suggested by the NMR observations, the 2,3-diazametallacyclopentene does exist in an envelope conformation, with a clearly localized (1.333 (7) Å) C–C double bond and a N1–N2 distance of 1.431 (6) Å. The nitrogen atom N1 has a pyramidal geometry while N2 is almost planar.

Group 4 metal amide complexes react with weakly acidic protons to liberate amine.<sup>14</sup> We have observed analogous reactivity with the hydrazido(2–) ligand. Phenylacetylene and acetophenone react with **3** to give new products **10** and **11**, both of which exhibit NH stretches in the IR spectrum at 3205 and 3220 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. Complex **10** was isolated in 64% yield and is formulated as the η<sup>2</sup>-hydrazido(1–) acetylide complex. However, no absorption attributable to a CC triple bond was observed.<sup>14,15</sup> An X-ray structural study of **10** was undertaken, and preliminary results confirm the proposed connectivity. Complex **11**, isolated in 67% yield, is the O-bound η<sup>2</sup>-hydrazido(1–) enolate which shows a strong absorption at 1591 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the IR.<sup>16</sup>

In summary, the zirconium η<sup>2</sup>-hydrazido(2–) complexes Cp<sub>2</sub>Zr(N<sub>2</sub>Ph<sub>2</sub>)(L) readily undergo M–N insertion of internal

(7) The X-ray diffraction study was carried out at the University of California, Berkeley, X-ray diffraction center (CHEXRAY). Crystal data for the pyridine adduct **4**: *Pbca*, *V* = 4561.9 (18) Å, Mo Kα (λ = 0.71073 Å) μ = 4.9 cm<sup>-1</sup>, *d*<sub>calc</sub> = 1.41 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, *a* = 14.420 (2) Å, *b* = 16.126 (2) Å, *c* = 19.618 (2) Å, *T* = 25 °C, *Z* = 8; the final residuals for 280 variables refined against the 1643 data for which *F*<sup>2</sup> > 3σ(*F*<sup>2</sup>) were *R* = 2.78%, *wR* = 3.04%, and *GOF* = 1.236. The *R* value for all 2978 data was 19.1%. Details of the structure determination are provided as supplementary material.

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alkynes, unlike related unstrained amidometal complexes.<sup>17</sup> Further exploration of the reactions of these hydrazido complexes and their possible application to organic synthesis is under way.

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**Supplementary Material Available:** Spectroscopic and analytical data for complexes **1** and **3-11** and details of the structure determination for complexes **4** and **8**, including experimental description, ORTEP drawings showing full atomic numbering and packing in the crystal, and tables of crystal and data collection parameters, general temperature factor expressions ( $B'$ 's), positional parameters and their estimated standard deviations, and intramolecular distances and angles (44 pages); tables of observed and calculated structure factors for **4** and **8** (35 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

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### Intramolecular $\alpha$ -Amidoyl to Aryl 1,5-Hydrogen Atom Transfer Reactions. Heteroannulation and $\alpha$ -Nitrogen Functionalization by Radical Translocation

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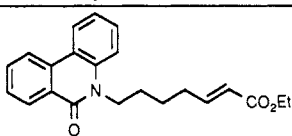
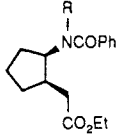
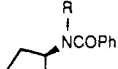
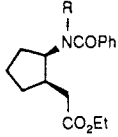
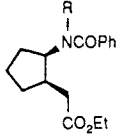
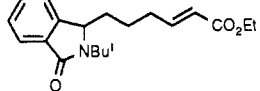
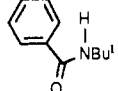
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When the generation of oxygen-centered radicals at remote sites is followed by intramolecular hydrogen atom transfer, a powerful method to functionalize organic molecules results.<sup>2</sup> This strategy has recently been extended to the tin hydride method by generating carbon-centered radicals at remote sites (such as protecting groups) and translocating these radicals by 1,5-hydrogen atom transfer prior to cyclization.<sup>3</sup> In essence, this approach permits the indirect use of a C-H bond as a radical precursor in the tin hydride method. We now report that  $\alpha$ -benzamidoyl radicals<sup>4</sup> generated

Table I. Tin Hydride Reduction of **6a-f**

R	anti/syn ratio	products from tin hydride reductn	
Ph ( <b>6a</b> )	10/90		<b>7a</b> , 36%
C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>11</sub> ( <b>6b</b> )	33/67		<b>7b</b> , 27%
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub> ( <b>6c</b> )	50/50		<b>7c</b> , 43%
CH <sub>2</sub> Ph ( <b>6d</b> )	50/50		<b>7d</b> , 38%
(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> CH=CHCO <sub>2</sub> Et ( <b>6e</b> ) <sup>a</sup>			<b>7e</b> , 82%
Bu <sup>t</sup> ( <b>6f</b> )	>98/2		<b>8</b> , 38%
			<b>9</b> , 41%

<sup>a</sup> Rotamers **6-anti** and **6-syn** are identical in this symmetrically substituted amide.

from *o*-halobenzamides by a 1,5-hydrogen atom transfer undergo a variety of new radical addition and cyclization reactions. Our results indicate that the rotamer population of the starting *o*-halobenzamide often dictates the outcome of these reactions.

In 1968, a classic series of isotopic substitution experiments by Cohen et al.<sup>5a</sup> showed that 1,5-hydrogen transfer reactions of radicals **2** and **3**<sup>5b</sup> ( $R^1 = R^2 = H/D$ ) were faster than rotation of amide C-N bonds (Scheme I). Modern knowledge of lifetimes of aryl radicals and rates of amide bond rotation supports the broader conclusion that the geometry of a typical amide C-N bond will be fixed during the entire lifetime of any aryl radical. Amide rotamers **1a** and **1b** interconvert in solution with typical lifetimes of  $10^{-1}$ - $10^{-2}$  s.<sup>6</sup> However, the maximum solution lifetime of radicals **2** and **3** probably cannot exceed  $10^{-5}$  s,<sup>7</sup> precluding interconversion by C-N bond rotation. Assuming that rotamers **1a** and **1b** are equally reactive toward  $Bu_3Sn^{\cdot}$ , the relative amounts of **2** and **3** that are formed by halogen atom abstraction should be determined by the equilibrium concentrations of the starting

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