the other hand, the angular systems are best described by invoking varying (and diminishing) degrees of bond alternation. Thus, 5 contains an internal "cyclohexatriene",7b maximizing the "aromaticity" of the flanking two benzene rings. Bond localization is increasingly attenuated along the series 5, 6, 7, as more and more (4n + 2) circuits contribute to the π -structure. Support for this notion is found in the steadily increasing coupling constants between the hydrogens of the internal rings, e.g., 5, J(H5-H6)= 6.53 Hz; 6, J(H5-H6) = 6.68 Hz; 7, J(H5-H6) = 6.80 Hz,J(H7-H8) = 7.00 Hz.

We are actively seeking corroborative evidence for these hypotheses by the continuing investigation of the structural and chemical properties of these unusual molecules.

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1,2-Asymmetric Induction in the Sn-H Bond Insertion **Reaction of Aliphatic Fischer Carbene Complex**

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We report herein a case of a novel intermolecular carbene insertion reaction, wherein stereochemical information is effectively transmitted from an adjacent stereogenic center to the reacting carbene carbon (eq 1a). Examples of such 1,2-asymmetric inductions have not been reported previously, perhaps due to the propensity of aliphatic carbenes to undergo 1,2-hydrogen migration (eq 1b) faster than intermolecular insertion.¹

$$H \xrightarrow{R_1}_{H^2} H \xrightarrow{R_2}_{H^2} H \xrightarrow{R_3}_{H^2} H \xrightarrow{R_1}_{H^2} H \xrightarrow{$$

. .

Aliphatic Fischer carbene complexes readily undergo 1,2-hydrogen migration upon heating with a base.² We have found, however, that intermolecular insertion into an Sn-H σ -bond³ can effectively compete with the intramolecular reaction and that it proceeds with considerable diastereoselectivity for a carbene complex bearing an α -stereogenic center (eq 2). The following example illustrates the experimental procedure, which is very simple. A mixture of carbene complex 1d (single isomer; 0.147 g, 0.33 mmol), Bu₃SnH (0.26 mL, 0.98 mmol), and pyridine (0.16 mL, 2.0 mmol) was heated in 5 mL of hexane for 8 h at 60 °C. Removal of the yellow precipitate of chromium(0)/pyridine complexes³ by filtration followed by silica gel chromatography (hexane) gave 145 mg of the α -alkoxytin compound 2d (81%) as a 93:7 diastereomeric mixture. The reaction gave only a trace amount of an olefin due to 1,2-hydrogen migration.⁴



Inspection of the data in Table I reveals several notable features of the reaction. First, the reaction proceeds with a synthetically useful level (4:1-13:1) of asymmetric induction. Comparison of 1a and 1c (entries 1 and 5) with authentic samples (eq 3) indicated that the stereochemistry of these compounds is different from that obtained by Cram addition of Bu₃SnLi to the structurally comparable aldehyde and that the Sn-H insertion and the SnLi addition showed virtually the same level of diastereoselectivity.⁵

$$\begin{array}{c}
H \\
O \\
H \\
(2) MeOTf \\
a: 25:75, c: 12.5:87.5
\end{array}
\xrightarrow{MeO}_{H} R (3)$$

Upon combination with the stereoselective Michael addition/trapping sequence,⁶ the insertion reaction stereoselectively creates the four chiral centers in 4 in two steps from 3 (eq 4). The reaction conditions are mild enough not to affect ketone and stannyl groups or to cause epimerization at the carbon adjacent to a ketone group (entries 5 and 6). It is well-known that the conversion of the Sn-C bond in an (α -alkoxyalkyl)stannane to a C-C bond can be carried out with retention of stereochemistry via an (α -alkoxyalkyl)lithium.⁷



Notably, the diastereoselectivity was little influenced either by the added basic ligand or by the nature of the group 14 metal. Thus, the selectivities of the reaction of 1b with Bu₃SnH in the presence of pyridine, DABCO, DMAP, Ph₃P, (PhO)₃P, and (MeO)₃P fell in a small range, 79, 76, 75, 71, 74, and 74% ds, respectively (40-80%), and the reaction rate remained qualitatively unchanged. In addition, neither the selectivity nor the rate of the reaction changed much for Bu₃SnH and Ph₃SnH (entries 1 and 3), in spite of the apparent difference in their steric demand.⁸ The reaction of Bu₃SnD (99% deuterium) with the complex 1a resulted in complete deuterium incorporation to the carbene center (entry 2),⁹ proceeding with selectivity identical with that of the Bu₃SnH reaction. Among other group 14 metals, Ph₃GeH, which was much less reactive (6% yield), also showed a 7:3 selectivity, and PhMe₂SiH gave a complex mixture of products.

While at this time there is insufficient data to discuss the details of the reaction mechanism, Scheme I illustrates some factors relevant to the origin of the diastereoselectivity. In an insertion reaction of a carbene-type reactive intermediate, the stereocontrol is a complex issue, since two new σ -bonds are formed on the forming chiral center in a single reaction. The likely conformation of the 1-phenylethyl complex 1a is based on the steric bulk of the Cr(CO), moiety as supported by MMX calculations.¹⁰ The

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⁽⁵⁾ Further correlation⁷ of 2a to the known diastereomers of 2-phenyl-3pentanol (EtMgBr + 2-phenylpropanal) confirmed the stereochemistry of 2a

<sup>pentanoi (ElMgBr + 2-phenylpropanal) contrimed the stereochemistry of 24 as indicated in eq 3 (see supplementary material).
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⁽⁸⁾ These are consistent with the assumptions made for Scheme I.

⁽⁹⁾ There was very small deuterium isotope effect $(k_{\rm H}/k_{\rm D}$ = ca. 1.1, competition with 10 equiv each of the hydride and deuteride).

Table I.	Stereoselective	Sn-H Insertion	Reaction ^a
TWANK T'	DIGIGODOGOGIGOLIAC	Ou II Insertion	Reaction

	entry	1	diastereo ratio ^b	% yield	major product
-	1	1a	77:23	69	MeO H Bu₃Sn → Ph Me
	2	1a	77:23	66	Bu ₃ Sn He
	3	1a	74:26	73	MeO Ph₃Sn ↔ Ph Me
	4	1b	79:21	82	Bu ₃ Sn He
	5	1c	88:12	43	MeO Ph Bu ₃ Sn A SnBu ₃ Me
	6	1d	93:7	81	Bu ₃ Sn 4 Me

"The reaction was carried out with 1.5-3 equiv of a tin hydride and 2-5 equiv of pyridine in hexane at 60 °C for 5-10 h. Tin hydride reagents: Bu₃SnH in entries 1 and 4-6; Bu₃SnD in entry 2; Ph₃SnH in entry 3. ^bThe ratios were determined by ¹H NMR analysis (e.g., of MeO signals).

Scheme I



crucial feature is that the bulky Cr(CO)₅ group severely restricts the conformation of the 1-phenylethyl-side chain and allows only a hydrogen atom to be located (approximately) in the plane defined by O-C(carbene)-C(α). The selectivity of the reaction can thus be rationalized on the basis of the following three assumptions: (1) the approach of the tin hydride reagent takes place from the less hindered bottom side; (2) the reagent approaches with hydride projecting toward the carbene;^{3b,8} and (3) the Cr-carbene bond is cleaved with retention of configuration to form a tin-carbon bond as indicated by the arrow.

Despite the accumulated knowledge on face-selective trigonal-to-tetrahedral transformations,¹¹ there is little information on digonal-to-tetrahedral conversions. The present results shed the first light on the potential utility of the latter type of transformation, which will be the subject of future studies in our laboratory.

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Supplementary Material Available: Listings of physical data for the insertion products (4 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

Synthesis and Characterization of $\mu_2 - \eta^2$ - and $\mu_2 - \eta^3 - CO_2$ **Complexes of Iron and Rhenium**

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There is current interest in finding ways to activate CO₂ and to use it as a building block for organic synthesis.¹ The possibility for thermal activation of CO₂ was outlined by Floriani,² who suggested that bifunctional systems, having a highly basic metal to bind carbon and an acidic one to bind one or both oxygens, might be effective in sequestering CO_2 and in activating it. Floriani characterized a cobalt metallocarboxylate anion with a potassium counterion.² Since then, several μ_2 - η^2 - and μ_2 - η^3 - CO_2 -bridged complexes have been reported³ and a few other μ_2 - η^3 complexes have been structurally characterized. We report here the synthesis of three $\mu_2 - \eta^2 - CO_2$ complexes, the structural characterization of one, and the conversion of all to the corresponding $\mu_2 - \eta^3 - CO_2$ complexes.

We reported the characterization of 1, CpFe(CO)(PPh₃)- $CO_2^{-K^+}$ ($Cp = \eta^5 \cdot C_5H_5$), previously.^{3i,r} Reactions of 1 with a series of rhenium cations^{4,5} having a weakly coordinated BF₄ anion yield $\mu_2 - \eta^2 - CO_2$ complexes as shown below:

CpFe(CO)(PPh ₃)CO ₂ ⁻ K ⁺	+	$Re(CO)_4(L)(F-BF_3)$	<u>-KBF4</u>	CpFe(CO)(PPh3)
1		2a-c		$\dot{C} = 0$ 0 Be(CO).(L)
a, L=PPh ₃ b, L=P(OPh).				Sa-c
c, L=CO				

Compound 3a is the most stable and has been fully characterized;^{6,7}

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