Cis Addition of Hydrogen Chloride to an **Amphiphilic Carbene Complex**

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Cp(CO)₂Re=CHCH₂CH₂CMe₃ (1) displays very unusual amphiphilic reactivity at the carbene carbon atom.¹ The carbene carbon atom of 1 was attacked by the nucleophile PMe₃ to give the zwitterionic complex Cp(CO)₂ReCH(PMe₃)CH₂CH₂CMe₃ (2), but was also protonated by HCl to give the chloroalkylrhenium complex cis-Cp(CO)₂ClReCH₂CH₂CH₂CMe₃ (3). While the addition of phosphines and other nucleophiles to the carbene carbon of **1** is similar to reactions of other d⁶ carbone complexes, the protonation of the carbone carbon of $\mathbf{1}$ is highly unusual.^{2,3} The addition of HCl to $Cp(CO)_2Re=CDCH_2CH_2CMe_3$ (1-d) at -53 °C occurred stereospecifically to give a single diastereomer of cis-Cp(CO)₂ClReCHDCH₂CH₂CMe₃ (3-d). Upon warming the reaction above -13 °C, isomerization occurred to give a 1:1 mixture of the two possible diastereomers of 3-d without loss of deuterium label.

The stereochemistry of the HCl addition was undetermined, since we had not established the absolute stereochemistry of the product and, more importantly, we did not know whether the reactive conformation of **3-d** was the syn or anti rotamer. Rotation about the Re=C bond is expected to be fast,⁴ and the ¹H NMR at -90 °C shows only a single, possibly averaged, set of resonances for 1. To determine the stereochemistry of the addition of HCl to amphiphilic carbene complexes, we synthesized a rotationally restricted analog of 1, in which a tether between the cyclopentadienyl ring and the carbene carbon precludes rotation about the Re=C bond. Here, we report X-ray crystallographic data showing that HCl adds across the Re=C bond with cis stereochemistry.

We recently reported the synthesis of tethered methoxy- and ethoxycarbene complexes $(CO)_2Re=C(OCH_3)CH_2CH_2(\eta^5 C_5H_4$) (4)⁵ and (CO)₂Re=C(OCH₂CH₃)CH₂CH₂(η^5 -C₅H₄) (5).^{6,7} Our initial plan for the synthesis of a tethered analog of 1 involved addition of a methyl nucleophile to either 4 or 5, with subsequent loss of alkoxide. While related additions of nucleophiles to carbene complexes in this manner are well-known,⁸ we were unable to obtain the desired tethered dialkyl carbene complex by addition of a methyl nucleophile to 4 or 5 due to

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(2) Previously, the only other carbene complex shown to have amphiphilic reactivity was Roper's (CO)2(Ph3P)2Ru=CF2. Clark, G. R.; Hoskins, S. V.; Jones, T. C.; Roper, W. R. J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. 1983, 719.

(3) Other late transition metal carbene complexes have been shown to undergo protonation at the carbone carbon atom, but these complexes do not react with nucleophiles at the carbone carbon atom. (a) Klein, D. P.; Bergman, R. G. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1989, 111, 3079. (b) Hill, A. F.; Roper, W. R.; Waters, J. M.; Wright, A. H. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1983**, 105, 5939. (c) Clark, G. R.; Roper, W. R.; Wright, A. H. J. Organomet. Chem. **1984**, 273, C17

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(6) Casey, C. P.; Czerwinski, C. J.; Fusie, K. A.; Hayashi, R. K. J. Am. *Chem. Soc.* **1997**, *119*, 3971. (7) The ethoxycarbene complex **5** was used in these studies, since **9** was

readily separable by thin-layer chromatography from its ethoxycarbene precursor 8 but not from the related methoxycarbene complex.

competing deprotonation of acidic α -protons of the alkoxycarbene complexes.9

To prevent deprotonation by the attacking nucleophile, the α -protons of **5** were replaced with methyl groups (Scheme 1). Reaction of 5 with *n*-BuLi in THF gave an ethoxycarbene anion that was immediately alkylated with CH₃I to give the monomethylated complex (CO)₂Re=C(OCH₂CH₃)CH(CH₃)CH₂(η^{5} - C_5H_4) (7) as a yellow solid in 78% yield.¹⁰ The dimethylated complex (CO)₂Re=C(OCH₂CH₃)C(CH₃)₂CH₂(η^{5} -C₅H₄) (8)¹⁰ was obtained as a bright yellow solid in 75% yield by reaction of 7 with *n*-BuLi in THF followed by alkylation with CH₃I.





Neither ethoxycarbene complex 5 nor dimethylated ethoxycarbene complex 8 reacted with HCl. The alkoxy substituents greatly stabilize carbene complexes by electron donation to the carbene carbon and are probably responsible for the failure of 5 and 8 to react with HCl. While 8 did not react with PMe₃, it did react with the much more nucleophilic CH₃Li. When a slight excess of CH₃Li (1.3 equiv) was added to a THF solution of 8 at -78 °C and the solution was warmed to 25 °C, a color change from bright yellow to dark red occurred over 3 h. After quenching the reaction with ethanol, the desired tethered methylcarbene complex $(CO)_2Re=C(CH_3)C(CH_3)_2CH_2(\eta^5 C_5H_4$) (9) was isolated by thin-layer chromatography as an orange solid in 28% yield.¹⁰ Key features in the ¹H NMR spectrum of **9** include a singlet at δ 2.05 assigned to the methyl group on the carbon atom and a singlet at δ 1.16 assigned to the α -methyl groups. A characteristic highfrequency ¹³C NMR resonance at δ 328.1 provided evidence for the presence of a carbene carbon atom.¹¹

The dialkyl carbene complex 9 was much more reactive than the alkoxycarbene complex 8. When excess PMe_3 was added to a solution of 9 in CH_2Cl_2 at -78 °C, an immediate reaction occurred to give the PMe₃ adduct (CO)₂ReC(CH₃)P(CH₃)₃- $C(CH_3)_2CH_2(\eta^5-C_5H_4)$ (10), which was isolated as a white solid

(10) See the Supporting Information for experimental details and full characterization.

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⁽⁹⁾ For example, reaction of 4 with CH₃Li followed by quenching with CF₃COOD gave 84% yield of (CO)₂Re=C(OCH₃)CHDCH₂(η^5 -C₅H₄) (4d) with no recovery of undeuterated 4 and no observation of a methylcarbene complex. Reaction of 4 with (CH₃)₂CuLi derived from CuI gave the unexpected product trans-(CO)₂IReC(CH₃)₂CH₂CH₂(η⁵-C₅H₄) (6),¹⁰ possibly through rapid reaction of the undetected methyl carbone complex (CO)₂Re=C(CH₃)CH₂CH₂(η ⁵-C₅H₄) with (CH₃)₂CuLi, followed by quenching with iodine cation or radical.

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in 50% yield (Scheme 2).¹⁰ The addition of PMe₃ breaks the symmetry of the dialkyl carbene complex, and the ¹³C NMR spectrum of **10** exhibits two diastereotopic CO resonances at δ 211.4 and 209.9 along with five resonances for the inequivalent cyclopentadienyl carbons. Phosphine addition to the carbene carbon atom of **10** is supported by the observation of a ¹³C NMR doublet ($J_{PC} = 11.8$ Hz) at δ 13.3 assigned to the alkyl carbon bound to rhenium and of a ¹H NMR doublet ($J_{PH} = 23.9$ Hz) at δ 2.02 assigned to the adjacent methyl group. Two IR bands of equal intensity at 1863 and 1786 cm⁻¹ are consistent with an anionic Re(I) dicarbonyl center.

The reaction of 9 with HCl was examined at low temperature by ¹H NMR spectroscopy. A slight excess of anhydrous HCl was condensed into an NMR tube containing a frozen sample of 9 in CD₂Cl₂ at 77 K. The tube was placed in a precooled NMR probe at -80 °C, and quantitative formation of a single new compound, the HCl adduct cis-(CO)₂ClReCH(CH₃)C(CH₃)₂- $CH_2(\eta^5-C_5H_4)$ (11),¹⁰ was observed. The ¹H NMR spectrum showed four cyclopentadienyl multiplets at δ 5.87, 5.75, 5.42, and 5.08, a quartet at δ 3.92 for the proton that had added to the carbon atom, and a doublet at δ 1.60 for the methyl group bound to the original carbon carbon atom. In the ^{13}C NMR spectrum of 11, two carbonyl resonances were observed at δ 207.9 and 202.5. The IR spectrum showed bands at 2027 and 1928 cm⁻¹ in a 1.2:1.0 intensity ratio consistent with a cis-(CO)₂Re(III) species.¹² Evaporation of the solvent led to the isolation of 11 as a yellow solid in quantitative yield.

When the reaction was slowly warmed to 25 °C, the ¹H NMR spectrum remained unchanged, indicating that **11** was the kinetic HCl addition product. Even after the reaction stood at room temperature for several days, the spectrum of **11** remained unchanged and no isomerization was seen.

Slow evaporation of a saturated CH₂Cl₂/pentane solution of **11** gave single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction.¹³ The crystal structure of **11** shows that the Cl and the H on C3 are on the same side of the Re–C3 bond (Figure 1). This establishes the *cis* stereochemistry of the addition of HCl across the Re=C bond of **9**. *Cis* addition is consistent with concerted addition of HCl across the Re=C bond. While protonation at Re,¹⁴ followed by hydride migration to carbon, cannot be rigorously excluded, it seems unlikely that such a process would lead to stereospecific addition.



Figure 1. Structure of *cis*-(CO)₂ClReCH(CH₃)C(CH₃)₂CH₂(η^{5} -C₅H₄) (11). Bond lengths (Å): Re(1)-C(3), 2.329(12); Re(1)-Cl(1), 2.489-(3). Bond angles (deg): C(3)-Re(1)-Cl(1), 77.5 (4); C(3)-Re(1)-C(2), 79.9(6); C(3)-Re(1)-C(1), 139.6(5); C(1)-Re(1)-C(2), 79.3(2); Cp(cent)-Re(1)-C(3), 103.6°; Cp(cent)-C(6)-C(5), 174.2°.

The related HBr addition product *cis*-(CO)₂BrReCH(CH₃)-C(CH₃)₂CH₂(η^5 -C₅H₄) (12)¹⁰ was obtained in quantitative yield from addition of anhydrous HBr to a CD₂Cl₂ solution of **9**. The proton that had added to the carbene carbon atom appeared at higher frequency for 12 (δ 4.25) than that for HCl adduct 11 (δ 3.92). When HCl adduct 11 was treated with excess HBr at -80 °C, no formation of 12 was observed, and the spectrum of 11 remained unchanged even upon warming to 25 °C. Similarly, when HBr adduct 12 was treated with excess HCl at -80 °C, no formation of 11 was observed, and the spectrum of 12 remained unchanged upon warming to 25 °C. These results indicate that halide dissociation does not readily occur from either 11 or 12. The acyclic HCl adduct 3 also failed to interconvert with its related HBr adduct.¹⁵

The tethered HCl and HBr addition products 11 and 12 are remarkably less reactive than their acyclic analogs. While the stereospecifically formed acyclic adduct 3-d isomerized to a 1:1 mixture of the two possible diastereomers of 3-d at -13 °C,¹ no evidence for isomerization of the tethered adduct 11 was seen even after long time periods at 25°C. While acyclic adduct 3 lost HCl at 17 °C to form alkene complex Cp(CO)₂Re- $(H_2C=CHCH_2CMe_3)$,¹ the tethered adducts 11 and 12 were stable at 25 °C. While the acyclic HCl adduct 3 added a second equivalent of HCl at low temperature to generate the chainextended hydroxycarbene complex cis-Cp(CO)Cl₂Re=C(OH)-CH₂CH₂CH₂CMe₃,¹⁵ no evidence for addition of HCl or HBr to tethered adducts 11 or 12 to produce related hydroxycarbene complexes was seen.¹⁶ The precise way in which the tether destabilizes the transition states for rearrangement of adducts 11 and 12 is not understood.

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Supporting Information Available: Synthesis and characterization of compounds 6-12 and X-ray crystallographic data for 11 (12 pages). See any current masthead page for ordering and Internet access instructions.

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 $^{(13)\,} See$ Supporting Information for full details of X-ray structure determination.

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⁽¹⁶⁾ Previous studies show that the longer tether length required for formation of a chain-extended hydroxycarbene complex is easily achieved.⁶ Perhaps, the restricted geometry of the tethered complexes is not optimal for intramolecular hydrogen bonding between the hydroxyl group and Cl.