

a singlet assigned to cyclopentadienyl protons at 4.96 ppm in addition to Ph multiplets.

The X-ray diffraction study of a single crystal of **2a**·CH₂Cl₂⁷ shows that a molecule of the cluster bears two η-C₅Me₅ and two diphenyldithiolene ligands on the four iron atoms, and its Fe₄S₄ core is highly distorted (Figure 1): Three Fe-Fe distances (Fe(1)-Fe(3), Fe(3)-Fe(4), and Fe(4)-Fe(2)) are much shorter (2.711 (1)-2.789 (1) Å) than the other three (3.255 (1)-3.400 (1) Å). The shorter Fe-Fe distances are somewhat longer than Fe-Fe single bond distances found in [(η-C₅H₅)₄Fe₄S₄]⁴ and [Fe₄(NO)₄S₄]⁸ (average 2.65 Å), but shorter than those with a bond order of ³/₄ in [(η-C₅H₅)₄Fe₄S₄]²⁺ (2.83 Å).⁹ The longer Fe-Fe distances correspond to the absence of interiron bonds. This localization of Fe-Fe bonds renders the top four-membered ring of Fe₂S₂ and the bottom one twisted with respect to each other by ca. 18°. Interestingly, the top and bottom four-membered rings of Fe₂S₂ are nearly planar¹⁰ in contrast to those of other iron-chalcogen cubane clusters.^{4,8,9,11-13}

The core structure of **2a** with three Fe-Fe single bonds is consistent with the metal fragment orbital model,^{3,14} which predicts that the total bond order becomes 3 for this type of cubane cluster with 18 metal electrons: 12 electrons occupy the six metal-metal bonding orbitals, and the remaining six electrons occupy the low-lying metal-metal antibonding orbitals. There are two other iron-sulfur cubane clusters known to have 18 metal electrons and a total M-M bond order of 3, i.e., [(η-C₅H₅)₄Fe₄S₄]²⁺⁹ and [Fe₄(S₂C₂(CF₃)₂)₄S₄]²⁻,¹¹ but, unlike **2a**, these clusters have four equivalent Fe-Fe bonds with a bond order of ³/₄ probably due to the higher symmetry of the cluster molecule.

Each of the cyclic voltammograms of **2a** and **2b** in a 0.1 M (n-Bu)₄NBF₄/CH₂Cl₂ solution exhibits five reversible redox waves, indicating the existence of five discrete species [Cp*_n(Ph₂C₂S₂)₂Fe₄S₄]ⁿ for which n = -2, -1, 0, +1, and +2. The formal potentials for the redox waves of Cp*_n(Ph₂C₂S₂)₂Fe₄S₄ (E_{1/2}) are -1.13, -0.55, +0.20, and +0.64 (Cp* = η-C₅Me₅) and -0.92, -0.40, +0.41, and +0.84 (Cp* = η-C₅H₅) V vs SCE, respectively. The E_{1/2}'s of **2a** are about 200 mV more negative than those of **2b** and are probably due to the electron-donating effect of 10 methyl groups on the Cp rings of **2a**.

Bulk electrolysis of **2a** was performed at +0.20 V vs SCE on a platinum working electrode in a 1:1 mixture of CH₂Cl₂ and CH₃CN in the presence of 0.1 M NH₄PF₆ as supporting electrolyte. Nearly 1 equiv of charge required for the one-electron oxidation of **2a** was passed, and the salt of the monocationic cluster [(η-C₅Me₅)₂(Ph₂C₂S₂)₂Fe₄S₄](PF₆) (**3**)¹⁵ was obtained as dark purple crystals in 92% yield. The same product was obtained in high yield by the oxidation with ferricinium hexafluorophosphate. The ¹H NMR spectrum of **3** exhibits typical paramagnetic shifts and line broadening.

(7) Single crystals of **2a**·CH₂Cl₂ were grown by layering ether on the CH₂Cl₂ solution of **2a** at room temperature: space group P2₁/a, a = 20.679 (3) Å, b = 20.130 (3) Å, c = 12.742 (2) Å, β = 104.97 (2)°, V = 5124 (1) Å³, Z = 4, d_{meas} = 1.54 g cm⁻³. Diffraction data were collected at 21 °C by the ω-2θ scan technique (3° < 2θ < 60°) using a Rigaku AFC-6A diffractometer with graphite-monochromated Mo Kα radiation. The structure was solved by direct methods (MULTAN) and refined via block-diagonal least-squares methods using anisotropic thermal parameters for non-hydrogen atoms of the cluster molecule and isotropic thermal parameters for hydrogen atoms and for atoms of CH₂Cl₂. Molecules of CH₂Cl₂ were disordered. For 9193 unique reflections with |F_o| > 3σ(F_o), final R = 0.069 (R_w = 0.102).

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(10) The maximum deviation is 0.11 Å (S(3)) from the least-squares plane for Fe(1)-S(3)-Fe(2)-S(4) and 0.05 Å (Fe(4)) from the least-squares plane for Fe(3)-S(1)-Fe(4)-S(2).

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(15) For **3**: Anal. Calcd for C₄₈H₅₀F₆Fe₄PS₈·CH₂Cl₂: C, 44.03; H, 3.92. Found: C, 43.77; H, 3.83.

We have little information so far on the mechanism for the formation of **2**. However, in the early stage of the reaction of **1a**, S₈, and PhC≡CPh, TLC analysis showed a strong spot of [(η-C₅Me₅)₂Fe₂S₄] (**4**), which is known to be formed in high yield by the reaction of **1a** and S₈ under milder conditions (toluene reflux).¹⁶ Furthermore, we observed that the reaction of **4** with PhC≡CPh in a refluxing xylene solution provided **2a**. These results are consistent with a mechanism involving **4** as one of the intermediates.

Supplementary Material Available: Tables of atomic positional and thermal parameters and bond distances and angles for **2a** (17 pages); listing of observed and calculated structure factors for **2a** (43 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

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Direct Conversion of Vinylic Organocopper Compounds to Allylic Zinc and Copper Organometallics

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Nucleophilic allylic organometallics have proven to be very efficient reagents for the formation of new carbon-carbon bonds with a variety of organic electrophiles.¹ Unfortunately, the most reactive allylic reagents (metal = Li, K, Mg, Zn) are often difficult to prepare due to their high reactivity and to side reactions during their preparation such as Wurtz coupling. Alternative syntheses such as oxidative additions or metalations of allylic halides using activated metals,² transmetalations,³ homologation of vinyl organometallics,⁴ and hydrometalation of dienes⁵ have been successfully developed.

We report herein a new method allowing a very efficient direct conversion of alkenylcopper⁶ compounds **1** to allylic zinc and copper reagents **2** mediated by (iodomethyl)zinc iodide⁷ (**3**) (Scheme 1). Thus the addition of ICH₂ZnI (**3**) (1.7 equiv) to an alkenylcopper **1** in THF at -30 °C leads to a fast methylene homologation reaction.⁸ The resulting highly reactive allylic

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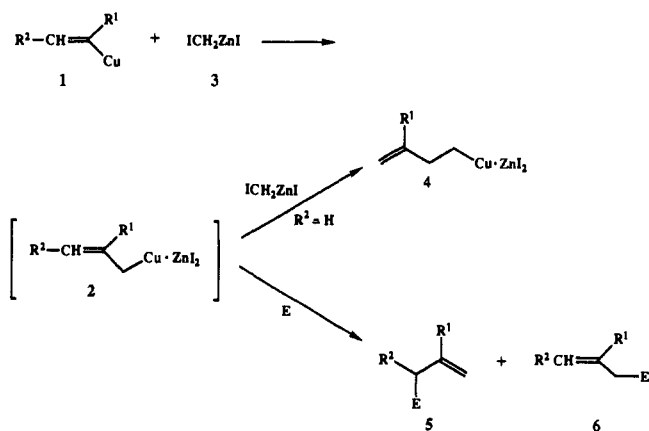
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Table I. Preparation of Allylic Organometallics of Type 2 by the Insertion of (Iodomethyl)zinc Iodide (3) to the Alkenylcopper Compounds 1a-f and Their In Situ Trapping by Electrophiles Leading to Products of Type 5 and 6

entry	alkenylcopper of type 1	electrophile	product(s)	yield, ^d %
1	 1a ^{a,b}	C ₅ H ₁₁ CHO	 5a: R ¹ = C ₅ H ₁₁ , R ² = H 5b: R ¹ , R ² = (CH ₂) ₅ -	86
2	1a	cyclohexanone		91
3	1a	PhCH=NCH ₂ Ph	 5c	76 ^e
4	1a	HCO ₂ Et ^f	 5d	94
5	 1b ^b	PhCHO	 5e	93
6	 1c ^b	PhCHO	 5f	96
7	 1d ^b	cyclopentanone	 5g	71
8	 1e ^b	PhCHO	 5h: R ¹ = Ph 5i: R ¹ = C(Et) ₂ (CH ₂) ₂ CN	90
10	 1f	NC(CH ₂) ₂ C(Et) ₂ CHO ^b C ₅ H ₁₁ CHO	 5j ^f 94:6 6j ^f	75 79

^a The copper reagent has been prepared in three steps from 2,3-dibromopropene; (i) *c*-HexCu(CN)ZnI, THF, 0 °C, 5 min; 80%; (ii) Mg, THF, 35 °C, 1 h; >90%; (iii) CuI·2LiI, THF, -25 °C, 10 min. ^b See the Supplementary Material for a detailed preparation. ^c A (1:1) ratio of 2a and ethyl formate has been used. ^d Isolated yields of analytically pure products. ^e An excess of ICH₂ZnI has been used. ^f Mixture of stereoisomers.

Scheme I

organometallic 2, in the absence of any electrophile, readily inserts a further methylene unit, leading to a homoallylic copper reagent of type 4.⁹ However, if the allylic reagent 2 is generated in the presence of an electrophile (0.6–0.7 equiv), such as an aldehyde, ketone, ethyl formate, or imine, then its trapping by the electrophile

was found to be faster than further methylene homologation to 4, and excellent yields (71–96%) of allylated products of type 5 and 6 could be obtained¹⁰ (Table I). The addition to an imine leads to an intermediate homoallylic amine, which is converted to the cyclopropane derivative 5c in the presence of an excess of ICH₂ZnI (entry 3), and the addition to ethyl formate affords under our reaction conditions the formylated secondary alcohol 5d (entry 4). The exact nature of the allylic intermediate 2 is not known, but it should be considered as being a mixed zinc–copper cluster.¹¹ Of special interest is the use of this method for the preparation of new *functionalized* allylic reagents containing an acetal, allylic silane,¹² or allylic amine (entries 6–9 of Table I). The allylic

(10) Typical procedure: A solution of vinylic Grignard reagent (6 mmol, 11.0 mL) in THF was slowly added to a solution of copper iodide (6 mmol, 1.15 g) and lithium iodide (10 mmol, 1.33 g) in 25 mL of THF at -50 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to -25 °C, leading to an orange suspension, and was cooled back to -50 °C. A solution of an aldehyde, ketone, imine, or ethyl formate (3.5–4 mmol) in 2 mL of THF was added, and the reaction mixture was warmed to -30 °C. A solution of (iodomethyl)zinc iodide⁷ (10 mmol), freshly prepared from diiodomethane (10 mmol, 2.72 g) and zinc foil (11 mmol, 0.72 g) in 5 mL of THF, was added at -50 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to -20 °C and stirred for 15 min at this temperature. After this time, the reaction was completed as indicated by GLC analysis, and the reaction mixture was worked up as usual, affording after flash chromatography the pure compounds 5 in 71–96% yield.

(11) No reaction has been observed between the allylic reagents 2 and benzyl bromide or butyl iodide (-30 to -20 °C, 0.5 h) and benzonitrile, suggesting that 2 is neither an allylic organocopper (compare with refs 3f,g,i) nor an allylic zinc reagent, but may rather have the structure of a mixed zinc–copper cluster. Also the reaction of 2a with 3-methyl-2-cyclohexanone in the presence of Me₃SiCl afforded only the 1,2-adduct.

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copper-zinc reagents **2** also display an interesting chemoselectivity, and the reaction of **2e** with 4-ethyl-4-formylhexanenitrile gives as the sole product the cyano amino alcohol **5i** (entry 9). Substituted reagents like **2f** react regioselectively with aldehydes, giving mostly the "branched" allylated product **5** (branched/linear: 94/6; entry 10).

In conclusion the methylene homologation of vinylic copper compounds by (iodomethyl)zinc iodide allows the preparation of various new allylic zinc and copper reagents which were found to react efficiently with several classes of electrophiles. The extension of this methodology is currently underway in our laboratories.

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Registry No. **5a**, 127998-28-1; **5b**, 127998-29-2; **5c**, 127998-30-5; **5d**, 127998-31-6; **5e**, 125315-69-7; **5f**, 127998-32-7; **5g**, 127998-33-8; **5h**, 127998-34-9; **5i**, 127998-35-0; **5j** (isomer 1), 127998-36-1; **5j** (isomer 2), 127998-38-3; (*E*)-**6j**, 127998-37-2; (*Z*)-**6j**, 127998-39-4; H₂C=C(Br)-CH₂-C₆H₁₁, 53608-85-8; PhSi(Me)₂CH₂C(Br)=CH₂, 122244-66-0; H₂C=C(Br)CH₂N(Et)₂, 13249-59-7; C₅H₁₁CHO, 66-25-1; PhCH=NCH₂Ph, 780-25-6; HCO₂Et, 109-94-4; PhCHO, 100-52-7; NC-(CH₂)₂C(Et)₂CHO, 2938-69-4; PhC(Br)=CH₂, 98-81-7; C₆H₁₃CH=CHBr, 1119-88-6; H₂C=C(Br)CH₂Br, 513-31-5; iodocyclohexane, 626-62-0; 2-(2-bromoethyl)-1,3-dioxane, 33884-43-4; phenyldimethylchlorosilane, 768-33-2; diiodomethane, 75-11-6; cyclohexanone, 108-94-1; cyclopentanone, 120-92-3; 2-(4-bromo-4-pentenyl)-1,3-dioxane, 127998-40-7.

Supplementary Material Available: Typical procedure and spectral data for new compounds (6 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

Protonation of Alkylidyne(carbaborane)tungsten Complexes: Framework Rearrangement of an Icosahedral Cage at an Unprecedentedly Low Temperature

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Alkylidyne-metal complexes¹ and carbametallaboranes² have played important roles in the development of organometallic and metal cluster chemistry, respectively. These two areas of research have converged as a result of the discovery of the salts [X][*closo*-1,2-Me₂-3-(≡CR)-3,3-(CO)₂-3,1,2-WC₂B₉H₉] (**1**, X = PPh₄, NEt₄, or N(PPh₃)₂; R = alkyl or aryl) in which a metal atom is ligated by an alkylidyne group while simultaneously functioning as a vertex of an icosahedral cluster.³ The reagents **1** display novel chemistry due to the presence of the reactive CR fragment on the periphery of the *closo* cage. Herein we report protonation studies resulting in migration and hydroboration of the alkylidyne group. This process is accompanied by a framework rearrangement, which occurs at an unprecedentedly low temperature for an icosahedral carbametallaborane structure. Hawthorne and

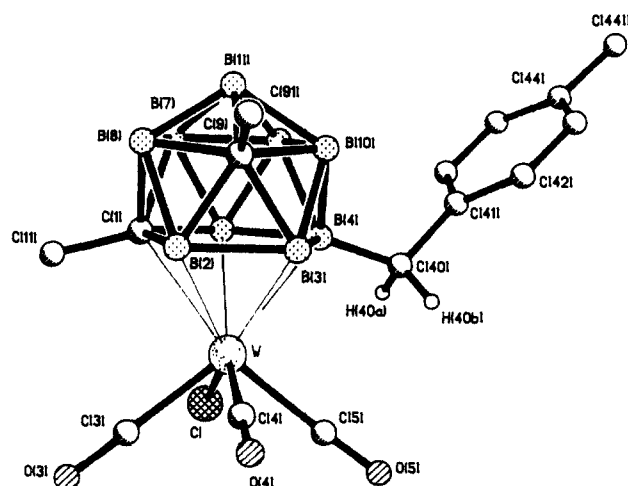
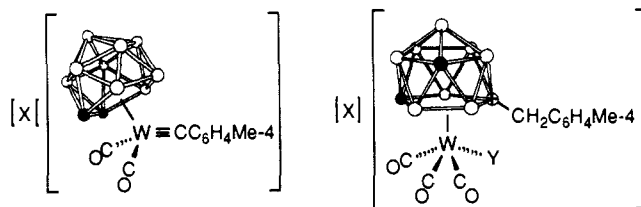
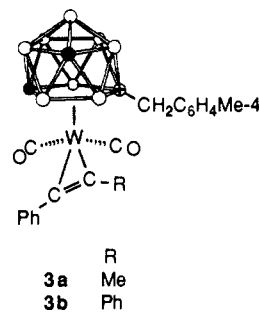


Figure 1. Structure of the anion [*closo*-1,8-Me₂-11-(CH₂C₆H₄Me-4)-2-Cl-2,2,2-(CO)₃-2,1,8-WC₂B₉H₈]⁻ of **2b** showing the crystallographic numbering scheme. Selected distances (Å): W-Cl, 2.549 (2); W-C(1), 2.395 (7); W-B(2), 2.310 (7); W-B(3), 2.320 (7); W-B(4), 2.439 (6); W-B(5), 2.391 (7); B(4)-C(40), 1.62 (1); C(1)-B(2), 1.70 (1); C(1)-B(5), 1.72 (1); C(1)-B(7), 1.73 (1); C(1)-B(8), 1.73 (1); C(9)-B(2), 1.70 (1); C(9)-B(3), 1.72 (1); C(9)-B(8), 1.69 (1); C(9)-B(10), 1.70 (1); C(9)-B(11), 1.72 (1).

co-workers⁴ have previously observed similar polytopal rearrangements of carbametallaborane cages. Thus treatment of [*exo-nido*-4,9-[(Ph₃P)₂Rh]-4,9-μ-(H)₂-7-Me-8-Ph-7,8-C₂B₉H₈] with excess PEt₃ affords [*closo*-1-Me-2,2-(PEt₃)₂-2-H-8-Ph-2,1,8-RhC₂B₉H₈]. However, this process, itself uncommonly facile, requires heating the reagents in tetrahydrofuran.^{4b}



X	Y
1a PPh ₄	2a I
1b NEt ₄	2b Cl
1c N(PPh ₃) ₂	



● CMe ○ BH ⊕ B

A CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL) solution of **1a** (X = PPh₄, R = C₆H₄Me-4)^{3a} (1.00 g, 1.19 mmol) was stirred rapidly at -78 °C and treated dropwise with 1 equiv of HI (57% aqueous solution). Successive IR measurements progressively indicated the course of the reaction, which was complete within 10 min.⁵ Warming to ambient temperature and removal of solvent in vacuo to ca. 3 mL, followed

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