(s, 9 H), 7.30 (br s, 2 H); MS, m/z 273 (M⁺/2, 100%), 57 (t-Bu⁺, 30%). Anal. Calcd for C₃₈H₅₈O₂: C, 83.46; H, 10.69. Found: C, 83.51; H, 10.79.

A similar coupling of 2,6-dimethylbenzoyl chloride with (Me₃Si)₃SiLi at -78 °C gave no acylsilane but 25% of a yellow solid assigned the structure 2,2',6,6'-tetramethylbenzil, mp 150-151 °C, from hexane, was isolated: IR (CCl₄) 1694 cm⁻¹ (CO); ¹H NMR $(CCl_4-CH_2Cl_2) \delta 2.24 (s, 12 H), 6.9-7.3 (b m, 6 H); m/z 133 (M^+/2),$ 105 (M - CO)⁺. Anal. Calcd for $C_{18}H_{18}O_2$: C, 81.17; H, 6.81. Found: 80.59; H, 6.81.

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Registry No. 1c, 81671-44-5; 1d, 81671-45-6; 1e, 81671-46-7; 1f, 81671-47-8; 1g, 81740-72-9; 1h, 72189-49-2; 3c, 81740-73-0; 3d, 81740-74-1; 3e, 81740-75-2; 3e', 81753-06-2; 3g, 81753-07-3; 3h, 72231-87-9; 4c ($\mathbb{R}^1 = \mathbb{M}e$), 81753-08-4; 4d ($\mathbb{R}^1 = \mathbb{M}e$), 81740-76-3; 4d $(R^1 = H)$, 81740-77-4; 4e $(R^1 = Me)$, 81740-78-5; 4f $(R^1 = Me)$, 81753-09-5; 5d, 81740-79-6; (R*,S*)-6, 81740-80-9; (R*,R*)-6, 81740-81-0; 7, 81740-82-1; 8, 81740-83-2; 11, 25436-32-2; 14, 81740-84-3; 15, 5181-43-1; 16, 19555-07-8; (tris(trimethylsilyl)silyl)lithium, 4110-02-5; benzoyl chloride, 98-88-4; trifluoroacetyl chloride, 354-32-5; perfluorobenzoyl chloride, 2251-50-5; 2,3-dimethylbutadiene, 513-81-5; 4-(1,1-dimethylethyl)benzoyl chloride, 1710-98-1; 3,5-dimethylbenzoyl chloride, 6613-44-1; 2,4,6-tris(1,1-dimethylethyl)benzoyl chloride, 20208-55-3; 2,2',4,4',6,6'-hexakis(1,1-dimethylethyl)benzil, 19873-22-4; 2,6-dimethylbenzoyl chloride, 21900-37-8; 2,2',6,6'-tetramethylbenzil, 1225-22-5.

¹³C and ²⁹Si Chemical Shifts and Coupling Constants Involving Tris(trimethylsilyl)silyl Systems

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¹³C and ²⁹Si NMR data have been compiled for a variety of tris(trimethylsilyl)acylsilanes and related compounds and are compared with data for simple acylsilanes. In addition, data for the isomeric silaethylenes, obtained from the tris(trimethylsilyl)acylsilanes by photolysis, have been obtained. The chemical shifts for sp²-hybridized silicon in these compounds lies in the range of 41-54 ppm. Several one-bond coupling constants and one two-bond coupling constant involving sp²- and sp³-hybridized silicon and carbon have been observed. As expected, the size of coupling constants involving sp^2 -hybridized silicon are significantly larger than those involving sp³-hybridized silicon.

In the course of investigations leading to our recently reported synthesis and isolation of a stable solid silaethylene¹ by photolysis of an isomeric acylsilane, we have synthesized a wide variety of organosilicon compounds containing the tris(trimethylsilyl)silyl [(Me₃Si)₃Si-] group.^{2,3} During the characterization of these species by both ¹³C and ²⁹Si NMR spectroscopy, not only was the chemical shift of sp²-hybridized silicon observed for the first time, but also it was found possible to measure the magnitudes of several coupling constants involving both sp²- and sp³-hybridized silicon and carbon atoms not hitherto observed.

Table I provides data for a series of tris(trimethylsilyl)acylsilanes, [(Me₃Si)₃SiCOR], and a few related compounds, all of which have sp³-hybridized silicon adjacent to a carbonyl group. There are two chemical shifts of particular interest, that of the carbonyl carbon and that of the silicon attached thereto.

It is evident from Table I that silicon adjacent to a carbonyl group has a strong deshielding effect on the ¹³C

carbonyl-carbon chemical shift, since all the acylsilanes described absorb in the range of 230-247 ppm whereas ketones closely related in structures to the simpler acylsilanes have the carbonyl-carbon resonance in the range of 198-209 ppm. The deshielding by silicon of 30-40 ppm relative to carbon analogues (e.g., Me₃CCOPh) is virtually the same for a given carbonyl system whether the group is Me₃Si, Ph₃Si, or (Me₃Si)₃Si: e.g., δ ⁽¹³C) Me₃SiCOPh, 233.7, Ph₃SiCOPh, 230.6, (Me₃Si)₃SiCOPh, 233.8. In addition to the large effect caused by silicon, a smaller effect on the carbonyl-carbon chemical shift is observed which depends on whether the other group attached to the carbonyl group is alkyl or aryl. Thus alkylacylsilanes $(R_3SiCOR', R' = alkyl)$ are more deshielded (244–247 ppm) than their aryl counterparts R_3SiCOR' (R' = aryl) (230-240 ppm). This latter effect is one normally also observed with simple ketones (MeCOMe, 205, MeCOPh, 197 ppm).

The observed strong deshielding of the carbonyl carbon atoms in acylsilanes, also observed previously in acylphosphines,⁷ undoubtedly involves electronegativity effects, at least in part, but also may be another manifestation of the strong interaction of silicon (or the Si–C σ bond) with an attached carbonyl group (either the π system or the lone pair on oxygen), also previously observed in the abnormally low-frequency carbonyl stretching vibrations of acylsilanes $(1607-1645 \text{ cm}^{-1})^7$ compared to structurally related ketones (1675-1712 cm⁻¹) and the long wavelength carbonyl ultraviolet absorptions of acylsilanes (380-424 nm) compared to ketones (280-329 nm). The IR and UV results have

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	δ(Sh ²)	δ(Si ^B)	δ(C ^B)	$J(Si^B-C^B=0)$	$^{2}J(Si^{A}-C^{B}=0)$	¹ J(Si ^A -Si ^B)	J(Si^-Me)
(Me ₃ Si) ₃ SiCOCMe ₃	-11.5	-78.1	244.6		34.3	56.7	45.9
(Me Si) SiCOCEt	-12.0	-79.4	246.7		34.3	55.8	44.9
(Me ₃ Si) ₃ SiCO(1-methyl-1-cyclohexyl)	-11.4	-79.2	246.3		34.8	56.1	45.4
(Me.Si),SiCO[1-bicyclo[2.2.2]octyl]	-11.4	-78.4	245.6		33.8	56.1	45.8
(Me.Si),SiCO(1-adamantyl)	-11.5	-78.8	245.9	63.6°	34.2°	56.2	44.9
(Me,Si),SiCOPh	-11.3	-72.0	233.8		38.5	57.0	46.3
(Me,Si),SiCOC,H,-p-OMe	-11.4	-72.9	230.6		37.0	56.2	45.4
(Me,Si),SiCOC,H,-o-OMe	-11.2	-70.6	240.0		36.7	56.6	45.4
(Me,Si),SiCOCF,	-9.9	-70.2	225.0				
(Me,Si),SiCOC,F	-10.3	-62.9	:				
(Me ₃ Si),SiCOOH	-11.3	-78.9	196.8		37.6	55.7	45.9
(Me,Si),SiCOOSiPh, ^d	-10.9	-76.8	188.4		37.0	58.0	45.8
(Me,Si),SiSiMe, e	-9.8	-135.5				52.5	44.7
Ph _a ŠiCŐMe		-30.4	240.1	$64^{f,g}$			
Me, SiCOMe ^h			248.7	1			
Me_SiCOPh		-7.4	233.7	63			
Et, SiCOPh ^h			235.9				
Ph'sicoPh		-28.3	229.8	$64.0^{f,g}$			
2		-28.3	230.6^{h}				

received diverse interpretations,^{7b} and the NMR results warrant further study and interpretation.

The second chemical shift of interest is that of Si^B, the silicon atom attached directly to the carbonyl group. The ²⁹Si spectra of a number of (Me₃Si^A)₃Si^B-X compounds have been reported previously,³ and it was found that whereas $\delta(Si^A)$ varied over the narrow range of -9.7 to -15.9 ppm as X varied from Me₃Si to MeO, $\delta(Si^B)$ varied widely from +33.4 to -135.5 ppm as X changed from F to Me₃Si.⁸ In our compounds, $\delta(Si^A)$ lies in the range of -10.2 to -12.0ppm for a variety of acylsilanes, an acid, and an ester. However, $\delta(Si^B)$ was somewhat more sensitive to structural changes, alkoylsilanes lying in the range of -78.1 to -79.4ppm while aroylsilanes absorbed between -70.7 and -72.9 ppm. Thus $\delta(Si^B)$ reflects the trends of $\delta(C^B)$. Relative to $(Me_3Si)_4Si$, where $\delta(Si^B) - 135.5$,^{4,8} it is clear that an acyl group has a moderately large deshielding effect on Si^B but almost no effect on Si^A. Since simple benzoylsilanes (R₃SiCOPh) have δ (Si) in the range of -7.4 to -28.8 ppm⁵ as R varies from methyl to phenyl whereas $(Me_3Si)_3SiCOPh$ has $\delta(Si^B)$ -71.2, it is clear that the groups attached to the silicon next to the carbonyl group also play an important role in determining $\delta(Si^B)$ and that trimethylsilyl groups are moderately shielding, as is generally observed.

Using high field Fourier transform spectrometers, it was possible to observe a number of coupling constants, listed in Table I, between adjacent silicon atoms or between adjacent silicon and carbon atoms in (Me₃Si)₃SiCOR. In the ¹³C spectrum of polysilylacylsilanes, a coupling constant to the carbonyl carbon of about 34-38 Hz was readily observed for every compound studied. It was shown that this was not the anticipated one-bond coupling constant to Si^B but was due to two-bond coupling to the three β silicon atoms Si^A. One-bond couplings of sp²-hybridized carbon to adjacent silicon atoms have been previously observed to lie in the range 64-67 Hz as in Me₃SiCH=CH₂ $({}^{1}J = 64 \text{ Hz})$ and Me₃SiPh $({}^{1}J = 66.5 \text{ Hz}).{}^{9}$ There is no reason to believe that the magnitude of this coupling constant should vary markedly if the sp²-hybridized carbon is attached to oxygen in a carbonyl group, instead of carbon in an alkene or aromatic group, and indeed, study of the ¹³C spectra of the simple acylsilanes Me₃SiCOPh, Ph₃SiCOMe, and Ph₃SiCOPh showed in each case coupling constants of 63-64 Hz to the carbonyl carbon, assigned as the one-bond coupling to silicon i.e., ${}^{1}J_{\text{Si-C=0}} = 63-64 \text{ Hz}$ (in no case was a 34 Hz coupling observed). These 64-Hz couplings are very difficult to observe in the ¹³C spectra of the polysilylacylsilanes, the 34-Hz two-bond coupling (to three β -silicon atoms) being much stronger, and neither 34- nor 64-Hz couplings are readily observed from the ²⁹Si spectrum. This is because the intensity of the coupling of Si^B with three Si^A atoms $(3 \times 4.7\%$ isotopic abundance) is much stronger than the intensity of couplings of either Si^{A} or Si^{B} with carbonyl carbon (1 × 1.1% isotopic abundance). However, with use of the compound $(Me_3Si)_3SiCOR'$ (R' = adamantyl) with $Cr(Acac)_3$ as a relaxation agent, a coupling constant of 63.6 Hz was observed in both the ¹³C spectrum (carbonyl-carbon) and the ²⁹Si spectrum (Si^B), while a 34.2-Hz coupling was observed in the ¹³C spectrum (carbonyl carbon) and the ²⁹Si spectrum (Si^A). This unambiguously identifies the source of these two couplings as ${}^{1}J(Si^{B}-C=0) = 63.6$ Hz and ${}^{2}J$ - $(Si^{A}-C=0) = 34.2$ Hz. Thus the magnitude of the ¹J-

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(Si-C) (sp^3-sp^2) coupling in acylsilanes is in accord with previously observed values and with a predictive equation (see below).

The ²⁹Si spectra of all the tris(trimethylsilyl)silyl compounds showed two strong couplings, one of about 56 Hz (55.8–56.6 Hz) seen with the signals of both Si^A and Si^B, thus assigned as ${}^{1}J(\text{Si}^{A}-\text{Si}^{B}) = 56$ Hz (reported for (Me₃Si)₄Si, 52.5 Hz),⁴ and one observed for Si^A of about 45 Hz (44.9–45.9 Hz), assigned as ${}^{1}J(\text{Si}^{A}-CH_{3}) = 45$ Hz (reported for (Me₃Si)₄Si, 44.7 Hz).⁴ Thus these couplings are perfectly normal in magnitude.

Photolysis of tris(trimethylsilyl)acylsilanes 1 yields the isomeric silaethylenes 2 by rearrangement of a trimethylsilyl group from silicon to oxygen.² In many cases



these silaethylenes undergo head-to-head dimerization, yielding crystalline 1,2-disilacyclobutanes 3. This paper will not be concerned with this latter reaction nor with the NMR data for the dimers. In a few cases when R' is a large bulky alkyl group such as CMe_3 , CEt_3 , or



the silaethylenes have unprecedented stability and can be observed in solution at room temperature over a period of a week or more by NMR, IR, or UV spectroscopy, and in two cases, where R' = 1-adamantyl or CEt₃, the silaethylenes have been isolated as stable but highly reactive solids. The crystal structure of the adamantyl compound, determined by X-ray techniques, unambiguously reveals the identity of the compound, indicates that Si^b is planar and hence is sp² hybridized and that the Si^b=C^b bond length is 1.764 Å, much shorter than the normal carbonsilicon single bond of about 1.87–1.91 Å, and thus is consistent with a silaethylene.^{1b} Table II reports the important ¹³C and ²⁹Si NMR data of these silaethylenes.

The data for the silaethylenes has several interesting features. Si^a and Si^{a'} are not magnetically equivalent, even up to 60 °C, indicating that there is no free rotation about the silicon-carbon double bond (hereafter Si=C) and hence that the bond behaves like a real double bond. The chemical shifts of Si^a and Si^{a'} lie in fairly normal positions (see $\delta(Si^A)$, Table I) as does that for Si^c of the trimethylsiloxy group at about 13 ppm (reported for Me₃SiOEt, 13.5 ppm).¹⁰ However, the chemical shifts of Si^b, in the range of 41-54 ppm, are at an extraordinarily low field for silyl-substituted silicon (e.g., see Table I) although this range is consistent with what would be expected for a change of hybridization from sp³ to sp², the latter state not having been observed previously for silicon. Thus for carbon a change in hybridization from sp^3 to sp^2 causes a change in chemical shift of about 80-120 ppm to low field.^{6c} The observed positions (41–54 ppm) for Si^b are about 120 ppm below Si^B in the tris(trimethylsilyl)acylsilanes (\sim -78 ppm) and about 90 ppm below Si' in (Me₃Si)₂Si'Me₂ (²⁹Si NMR δ -48.7⁴) and hence appear consistent with the result expected for a change in hybridization from sp³ to sp².

West has recently reported¹¹ the chemical shift for sp^2 -hybridized silicon in $(Mes)_2Si=Si(Mes)_2$ (Mes = mesityl) as δ 63.6, a position somewhat deshielded relative to the range 41-54 ppm observed with the silaethylenes. West's compound has two aryl groups attached to each silicon, whereas the silaethylenes have two trimethylsilyl groups, known to be strongly shielding in character. Thus, whereas Ph₂SiMe₂ has ²⁹Si NMR δ -4.5,¹² (Me₃Si)₂SiMe₂ has δ -48.7,⁴ an upfield shift of 44 ppm on replacement of two phenyls by two trimethylsilyl groups. Hence, although mesityl and phenyl will not have identical effects on the chemical shift, it is clear that the positions of the sp²-hybridized silicon atoms in the disilene and the silaethylene are in accord with expectations.

In the silaethylenes, the chemical shifts of the sp²-hybridized carbon C^b at about 212 ppm are at considerably lower field than sp²-hybridized carbons in alkenes, which normally lie in the range δ 80–150.^{6c} Hence, just as (Me₃Si)₃Si and R₃Si adjacent to >C=O cause deshielding (see above), so (Me₃Si)₂Si=, adjacent to =C<, apparently also causes deshielding, although it is recognized that other factors may be important, particularly the siloxy group on the carbon which, if resonance contributions of the types shown below are important, can be expected to contribute to deshielding of C^b and shielding of Si^b, consistent with the observations.



The coupling constants given in Table II are also of interest since each is somewhat different in magnitude from the related value found for the acylsilanes and other organosilicon compounds. Of greatest interest are the ${}^{1}J(Si=C)$ (sp²-sp²) coupling constants easily observable in the ¹³C spectra but difficult to observe in the ²⁹Si spectra because of the presence of other more intense couplings between silicon atoms. As expected, the magnitude of these couplings, which involve sp²-hybridized silicon interacting with sp²-hybridized carbon, are significantly larger than the 64 Hz observed when silicon is sp^3 hybridized, and the magnitude observed is in close accord with predictions on the basis of the formula of Kovačevič and Maksić¹³ ${}^{1}J(\text{Si-C}) = (5.554 \times 10^{-2})\alpha^{2}{}_{\text{Si}}\alpha^{2}{}_{\text{C}} + 18.2$ where $\alpha^2_{\rm Si}$ and $\alpha^2_{\rm C}$ are the percentage s character of the orbitals involved in the bonding. Calculations predict ${}^{1}J(Si=C)$ = 79.8 Hz for α^2 = 33.3, in reasonable agreement with the observed value of 83.5-85 Hz.

The magnitude of the coupling between Si^a (or Si^{a'}) and Si^b (i.e., sp³-sp²) of about 72 Hz also reflects the change of hybridization at silicon, since the Si^A-Si^B (sp³-sp³) coupling constants were about 56 Hz. Even the Si^a-Me coupling constants (48 Hz) are slightly larger than the 45 Hz observed for ¹J(Si^A-Me) couplings (where Si^B was sp³ hybridized). This could be a long-range effect caused by the adjacent sp²-hybridized silicon, but it is recognized that other effects possibly including environment and electronegativity may be involved as suggested by the unusually

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Table II. Chemical Shifts^a and Coupling Constants^b for Silaethylenes

-OSi^CMe-

MezSi

	$\sum_{Me_3 Si^{o'}} Si^{b} = c^{b} < R$									
R	$\delta(Si^{a,a'})$	δ(Si ^b)	δ(Si ^c)	δ(C ^b)	¹ J(Si=C)	¹ J(Si ^a -Si ^b)	¹ J(Si ^a —Me)			
CMe3	-12.1 -12.6	41.5	13.4	212.7	83.5	70.8	48.0			
$\mathbf{CEt}_{\mathfrak{s}}$	-12.4 -12.9	54.3	12.7	207.3	83.9	73.2	48.0			
Me	$-12.3 \\ -12.6$	43.5	13.6	212.9	85.0	72.1	47.7			
Č.	$-12.8 \\ -13.4$	41.4	12.9	214.2	84.4	72.0	47.6			

^a δ in ppm relative to external Me₄Si, in C₆D₆. ^b J in Hz.

Table III.Magnitudes of One-Bond Coupling Constants
Involving Silicon and Carbon a

	bond					
hybridizatn	C-C	Me ₃ Si-C	Me ₃ Si-Si			
 $sp^{3}-sp^{3}$ $sp^{3}-sp^{2}$ $sp^{2}-sp^{2}$ $sp^{3}-sp$	34-35 38-44 67-74 55-69	44-50 64-70 83-85 ^b 84	52-64 71-73 ^b unknown unknown			

 a Ranges given for structurally related compounds. b This work.

large Si^c-Me coupling constants in the siloxy groups, observed to lie in the range of 59-61 Hz.

Both the chemical shifts and coupling constants characterize the sp²-hybridization state of silicon as found in the silaethylenes, the data being markedly different from that found in the acylsilanes or other model compounds reported here or in the literature. Known coupling constant data involving C–C, C–Si, and Si–Si bonds are summarized in Table III, and the new data described here show trends consistent with previous observations of the way in which chemical shifts and coupling constants change as hybridization changes from sp^3 to sp^2 . However, until more data on other compounds containing sp^2 -hybridized silicon become available, it appears prudent not to attempt further interpretations of the causes of the observed changes.

For completeness, Table IV reports full ¹³C chemical shift data available for acylsilanes and silaethylenes.

Experimental Section

The syntheses of most of the compounds employed have been reported 2 or are about to be published. $^{\rm 1b,14}$

Table IV. ¹³C Chemical Shifts of Tris(trimethylsilyl)acylsilanes and Related Compounds-Data for R Groups^a

(a) $((C^{A}H_{3})_{3}Si)_{3}SiCOR$

				(a,		3/301/301	CON				
R	$\delta(C^A)$	$\delta(\mathbf{C}^{\mathbf{C}})$	$\delta(C^{D})$	$\delta(C^E)$	$\delta(C^F)$	$\delta(C^G)$		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	$\delta(C^{other})$		<u> </u>
$\frac{C^{C}-(C^{D}H_{3})_{3}}{C^{C}-(C^{D}H_{2}C^{E}H_{3})_{3}}$	2.1 2.1	49.3 59.4	$\begin{array}{r} 25.1\\ 24.4\end{array}$	8.5							
D E G Me	2.0	53.0	33.7	23.0	22.7	26.2					
	2.3	50.4	26.8	26.0	25.5						
	2.1	51.7	37.2	37.0	38.4						
Ph	1.6						144.5,	132.5, 128.4, 1	28.0	197	
C ₆ H ₄ - <i>p</i> -OMe C ₆ H ₄ - <i>o</i> -OMe CF ₃	1.9 1.6 1.1	115.6 ^b					54.9 (N	feO), 155.5, 14	0.7, 130.3, 1	24.8, 120.8, 1	11.3
			(b)	(C [°] H ₃) ₃ (C ^{°'} H ₃)	ssi ssi=		-Si(C ^{° "} H3)3				
R			$\delta(C^{a,a',a''})$)	δ(C ^c)		$\delta(C^d)$	δ(C ^e)	$\delta(\mathbf{C^f})$	$\delta(\mathbf{C}^{\mathbf{g}})$	
C ^c -(C ^d H C ^c -(C ^d H	3)3 2C ^e H3)3	1 1	.8, 2.7, 3 .9, 2.8, 3	.5 .5	$43.1 \\ 52.6$		31.2 27.0	8.5			
-creet gl Me		1	.8, 2.7, 3	.1	46.2		38.6	23.1	22.4	26.6	
		2	.0, 2.7, 3	.6	45.2		42.7	37.3	29.4		

^a δ in ppm, relative to C₆D₆ used as solvent. ^b ${}^{1}J(CF) = 296$ Hz; ${}^{2}J(CF) = 36$ Hz.

The spectra were usually acquired from concentrated solutions in pure C_6D_6 . Where photolyses to silaethylenes were involved, NMR tubes were sealed under an argon atmosphere. ¹³C spectra were acquired on a Varian CFT 20, a Bruker WM-250 instrument, or more usually on the Bruker WH-400 spectrometer operating in the FT mode at a frequency of 100.62 MHz, operated by the Southwestern Ontario NMR Centre located at the University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario. The spectra were run with level decoupling with the decoupler set at low power between acquisitions in order to obtain proton-¹³C NOE. Moderately long delays (~30 s) were allowed between pulses, especially when the carbonylcarbon was being studied. C_6D_6 was used as internal lock and internal chemical shift callibration for ¹³C.

²⁹Si spectra were obtained on the same Bruker WH-400 spectrometer operating at a frequency of 79.495 MHz in the FT mode. The chemical shifts are reported relative to the silicon resonance of Me₄Si, used as an external reference. All of the spectra were obtained by using a gated decoupling sequence in which the protons were broad-band decoupled only during acquisition of the silicon free induction decay. This results in the complete suppression of the nuclear Overhauser enhancement. In the cases where no relaxation agent was added, spectra were accumulated by using approximately a 30° pulse width and ap-

(14) Brook, A. G.; Kallury, R. K. M. R.; Poon, Y. C., Organometallics, preceding paper in this issue.

proximately a 1-min relaxation delay between pulses. In some of the spectra Gaussian multiplication was employed to provide resolution enhancement.

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Crystal and Molecular Structure of Cyclopentadienylerbium Dichloride Tris(tetrahydrofuranate), (C₅H₅)ErCl₂(THF)₃

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The nature of the $(C_5H_5)LnCl_2(THF)_3$ compounds has been investigated by an X-ray structural determination of the Ln = Er complex. The compound crystallizes in the monoclinic space group $P2_1/n$ with four molecules in a unit cell of dimensions a = 7.822 (2) Å, b = 17.096 (4) Å, c = 15.162 (3) Å, and $\beta = 95.80$ (2)°. Least-squares refinement of the 208 variables led to a value for the conventional R index (on F) of 0.029 for 4207 independent reflections having $2\theta_{MoKa} < 58.7^{\circ}$ and $I > 3\sigma(I)$. Although this complex is formally eight coordinate, octahedral is a simple and accurate description of the erbium(III) coordination sphere with the C_5H_5 -Er interaction formally considered to occupy a single polyhedral vertex; the THF ligands have a meridional disposition and the chloride ligands occupy trans sites on this octahedron. The Er-C and Er-Cl bond distances average 2.667 (3) and 2.617 (2) Å, respectively. Two different Er-O bond distances were observed, averaging 2.358 (3) Å c is to the cyclopentadienyl ligand and 2.452 (4) Å trans to the cyclopentadienyl ligand. The major distortion observed in the structure involves a 0.54 Å displacement of the erbium atom out of the equatorial plane toward the cyclopentadienyl ligand. A number of comparisons are made to $(\eta^5$ -CH₃C₅H₄)UCl₃(THF)₂ and other related structures.

While organolanthanide complexes containing cyclooctatetraene, cyclopentadienyl, π -allylic and σ -allyl ligands, among others, have been well established stoichiometrically,³ structural progress has naturally lagged somewhat behind.⁴ For the specific class of trivalent organolanthanides containing the cyclopentadienyl ligand as the only anionic carbon-bound ligand, structures have been reported for $(C_5H_5)_3Sm$, $^5(C_9H_7)_3Sm^6(C_9H_7 = indenyl)$, $[(CH_3C_5H_4)_3Nd]_4$, $^7(C_5H_5)_3Pr(CNC_6H_{11})$, $^8(C_5H_5)_3Gd-(THF)$, $^9[(C_5H_5)_3Yb]_2(C_4H_4N_2)^{10}(C_4H_4N_2 = pyrazine)$, and

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