

Ni-SiCl<sub>3</sub> length of 2.286 (4) Å is within the range of reported values for Ni-Si<sup>14</sup> bonds. However, few structural data are available for Ni-SiCl<sub>3</sub> bonds. Interestingly, recent results in our laboratory<sup>15</sup> on the structure of [η<sup>6</sup>-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>-(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>]Ni(SiCl<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> reveal a considerably shorter Ni-Si distance of 2.194 (2) Å. Trigonal-bipyramidal complexes have been the subject of many studies. Several authors, including Osborn,<sup>16</sup> Churchill,<sup>17</sup> Dartiguenave,<sup>11</sup> and co-workers, have noted that strong π-acceptor ligands tend to occupy equatorial sites. Additionally, Rossi and Hoffmann<sup>19</sup> have considered a unified molecular orbital

treatment of five-coordinate complexes in general. They concluded for the d<sup>8</sup> case that good σ-donor ligands will prefer axial sites while good π-acceptors will prefer the equatorial sites. The observed equatorial position of the three CO ligands in the present structure can be attributed to the better π-accepting ability of CO. This is supported by the fact that the Ni-CO bonds are typically short while the Ni-SiCl<sub>3</sub> bonds are ~0.09 Å longer than those in [η<sup>6</sup>-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>]Ni(SiCl<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub><sup>15</sup> (where considerable π-backbonding to SiCl<sub>3</sub> is expected).

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**Registry No.** 2, 93921-98-3.

**Supplementary Material Available:** Listings of anisotropic thermal parameters and structure factor amplitudes (9 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

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(17) Churchill, M. R.; Lin, K. K. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1974, 96, 76.

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## Communications

### A General Route to Novel Dinuclear Iron Carbonyl Complexes Containing Alkanethiolate and Bridging Organic Ligands†

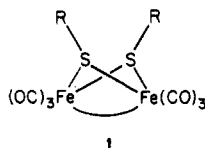
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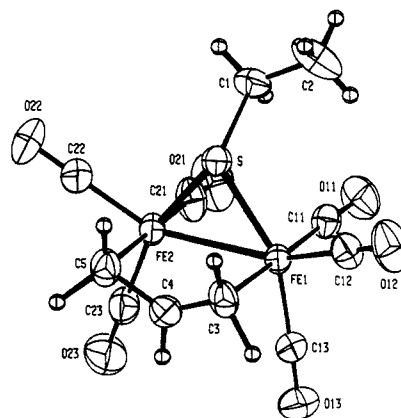
**Summary:** The reaction of Fe<sub>3</sub>(CO)<sub>12</sub> with mercaptans (RSH, R = Et, Me<sub>3</sub>C) in the presence of stoichiometric Et<sub>3</sub>N in THF gives the reactive salt [Et<sub>3</sub>NH<sup>+</sup>][μ-RS(μ-CO)Fe<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>6</sub>]<sup>-</sup>. Reactions of the latter with benzoyl and acetyl chloride, diphenylchlorophosphine, allyl chloride, and propargylic halides have been studied. New bridging ligands (μ-RC=O, μ-Ph<sub>2</sub>P, μ-C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, μ-η<sup>1</sup>,η<sup>2</sup>-allenyl) were introduced between the iron atoms in all of these reactions. X-ray crystal structures of (μ-EtS)(μ-C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)Fe<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>6</sub> and (μ-Me<sub>3</sub>CS)(μ-η<sup>1</sup>,η<sup>2</sup>-CH=CH<sub>2</sub>)Fe<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>6</sub> were determined.

Reactions of organic thiols with iron carbonyls have received much attention, and the first report on this subject was published by Hieber and Spacu in 1939.<sup>1</sup> In general, complexes of type 1 are formed in such reactions.<sup>2</sup>



†Dedicated to Professor G. Wilke on the occasion of his 60th birthday.

(1) Hieber, W.; Spacu, P. Z. *Anorg. Allg. Chem.* 1937, 233, 353.



**Figure 1.** ORTEP diagram of 5 showing the 40% probability thermal ellipsoids and the atom labeling scheme. Hydrogen atoms are drawn as arbitrary spheres with B = 1.0 Å<sup>2</sup>. Bond lengths (in Å) are as follows Fe(1)-Fe(2) = 2.675 (1), Fe(1)-S = 2.235 (2), Fe(1)-C(3) = 2.119 (5), Fe(1)···C(4) = 2.546 (4), Fe(2)-S = 2.251 (2), Fe(2)-C(5) = 2.139 (5), Fe(2)···C(4) = 2.445 (4), S-C(1) = 1.823 (5), C(1)-C(2) = 1.513 (9), C(3)-C(4) = 1.426 (8), C(4)-C(5) = 1.414 (8), Fe-CO(mean) = 1.784, C-O(mean) = 1.137.

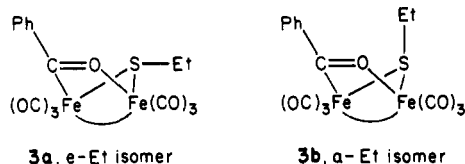
In reactions of bulky thiols with Fe<sub>3</sub>(CO)<sub>12</sub> trinuclear iron products (μ<sub>3</sub>-RS)(μ-H)Fe<sub>3</sub>(CO)<sub>9</sub>(2Fe-Fe), 2, are formed instead.<sup>2b,3</sup> In related work, Takács and Markó carried out reactions of Fe<sub>3</sub>(CO)<sub>12</sub> with sodium alkanethiolates, RSNa, in refluxing THF and obtained solutions containing [Fe<sub>3</sub>(CO)<sub>9</sub>SR]<sup>-</sup> anions which on acidification gave complexes of type 2.<sup>4</sup> We report here a new mode of reaction

(2) (a) For other references see: "Gmelin Handbuch der Anorganischen Chemie", 8th ed.; Gmelin Institut für Anorganische Chemie and Springer-Verlag: Berlin, 1978; Part C1, pp 77-93. (b) Winter, A.; Zsolnai, L.; Huttner, G. *Chem. Ber.* 1982, 115, 1286. (c) Winter, A.; Zsolnai, L.; Huttner, G. *Z. Naturforsch., B: Anorg. Chem., Org. Chem.* 1982, 37B, 1430.

(3) de Beer, J. A.; Haines, R. J. *J. Organomet. Chem.* 1970, 24, 757; *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.* 1970, 288.

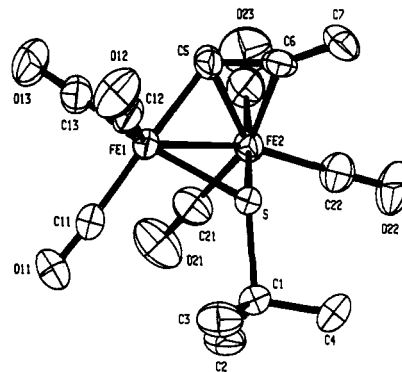
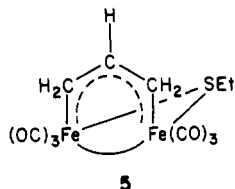
of thiolates with  $\text{Fe}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  which permits the preparation of novel  $\text{Fe}_2(\text{CO})_6$  compounds which contain bridging organic ligands as well as bridging SR groups.

In a typical experiment, 3.38 mmol of ethanethiol and 3.50 mmol of triethylamine were added, with stirring under nitrogen, to a solution of 2.98 mmol of  $\text{Fe}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  in 50 mL of THF. The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 15 min. During this time a color change from green to red-brown was noted. To such a solution was added an excess (7.0 mmol) of benzoyl chloride, and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 23 h. A white solid ( $[\text{Et}_3\text{N}]\text{Cl}$ ) precipitated, and a dark red solution was formed. Filtration and removal of solvent at reduced pressure left a red oil. Filtration chromatography (silicic acid; pentane, then 1:9  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ /pentane) gave 1.10 g (83% yield) of  $(\mu\text{-PhCO})(\mu\text{-EtS})\text{Fe}_2(\text{CO})_6$ , red crystals, mp 81–86 °C, as a 2.3:1 mixture of isomers **3a** and **3b**.<sup>5</sup> A



similar reaction in which acetyl chloride was used in place of benzoyl chloride gave a 52% yield of  $(\mu\text{-CH}_3\text{CO})(\mu\text{-EtS})\text{Fe}_2(\text{CO})_6$ , a dark red oil, a 3.0:1 e-Et/a-Et isomer mixture. Addition of diphenylchlorophosphine to the  $\text{EtSH}/\text{Et}_3\text{N}/\text{Fe}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  reaction mixture gave  $(\mu\text{-EtS})(\mu\text{-Ph}_2\text{P})\text{Fe}_2(\text{CO})_6$ , **4**, as orange solid, mp 111–112 °C, in 80% yield.

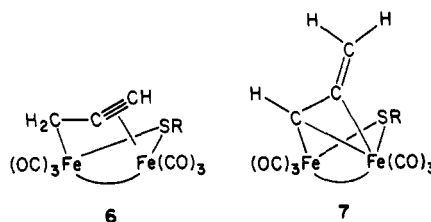
Of greater interest were those reactions of the  $\text{RSH}/\text{Et}_3\text{N}/\text{Fe}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  reagent which introduced wholly organic ligands. The  $\text{EtSH}/\text{Et}_3\text{N}/\text{Fe}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  system reacted readily with allyl chloride. The product, a red crystalline solid, mp 41–42 °C, obtained in 80% yield, had the composition  $\text{C}_3\text{H}_5(\text{EtS})\text{Fe}_2(\text{CO})_6$  by analysis and mass spectroscopy. The NMR spectra indicated the allyl ligand to be symmetrically bridging.<sup>6</sup> The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum showed a triplet ( $J = 154$  Hz) at  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  20.9 for the allylic  $\text{CH}_2$  groups, and the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum showed the  $\text{CH}_2$  proton signals of the allyl ligand as two doublets at  $\delta$  0.47 ( $J = 12.6$  Hz) and 1.97 ( $J = 7.5$  Hz), corresponding to the anti and syn hydrogens. This suggests a structure as shown in **5**,<sup>7</sup> which has been confirmed by an X-ray diffraction



**Figure 2.** ORTEP diagram of **8** showing the 40% probability thermal ellipsoids and the atom labeling scheme. Hydrogen atoms have been omitted. Bond lengths (in Å) are as follows: Fe(1)–Fe(2) = 2.550 (1), Fe(1)–S = 2.250 (2), Fe(1)–C(5) = 1.982 (6), Fe(2)–S = 2.283 (2), Fe(2)–C(5) = 2.091 (6), Fe(2)–C(6) = 2.125 (6), S–C(1) = 1.867 (6), C(1)– $\text{CH}_3$ (mean) = 1.522, C(5)–C(6) = 1.363 (9), C(6)–C(7) = 1.335 (9), Fe–CO(mean) = 1.780, C–O(mean) = 1.144.

study (Figure 1).<sup>10a</sup> The product **5** is a diiron hexacarbonyl complex with both a bridging ethanethiolate ligand and a bridging allyl ligand. The SET ligand is bound slightly asymmetrically across the two iron atoms [Fe(2)–S = 2.251 (2) Å; Fe(1)–S = 2.235 (2) Å] as is the allyl ligand [Fe(1)–C(3) = 2.119 (5) Å; Fe(2)–C(5) = 2.139 (5) Å], although this deviation from symmetry was not great enough to be detected spectroscopically. The plane of the allyl carbon atoms is tilted by 6.53° with respect to the Fe–Fe–S plane, with C(4) being tipped slightly toward the latter plane. The C–C distances of the allyl ligand [C(3)–C(4) = 1.426 (8) Å; C(4)–C(5) = 1.414 (3) Å] lie between the values reported for C–C single and double bonds, indicating that the ligand is best regarded as a delocalized  $\pi$ -allyl ligand.<sup>11</sup>

The reaction of propargyl bromide with the  $\text{EtSH}/\text{Et}_3\text{N}/\text{Fe}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  system gave a red crystalline solid, mp 39–41 °C, in 91% yield. If the propargyl ligand bridged the iron atoms in the same manner as the allyl group, the product would be **6** (R = Et). However, the NMR data<sup>12</sup> could not distinguish between **6** and a structural alternative **7**, which contains a  $\mu$ -allenyl ligand. In order to resolve



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(9) Werner, H.; Kuhn, A.; Tune, D. *J. Chem. Ber.* 1977, **110**, 1763.

(10) (a) Crystal data for compound **5**:  $a = 13.400$  (2) Å,  $b = 6.958$  (1) Å,  $c = 15.970$  (2) Å,  $V = 1489.00$  Å<sup>3</sup>,  $Z = 4$ , space group  $Pn2_1a$ . Data in the range  $3^\circ < 2\theta < 55^\circ$  ( $+$ ,  $+$ ,  $+$ ) were collected by using Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation on an Enraf-Nonius CAD4F-11 diffractometer. Data collection, reduction, and refinement procedures have been detailed elsewhere.<sup>10b</sup> All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. Hydrogen atoms of the ethyl group were placed in calculated positions while those of the bridging allyl group were located in a difference Fourier map. Final  $R_1 = 0.034$  and  $R_2 = 0.037$  for 1469 observed reflections [ $F_o > 4\sigma(F_o)$ ] and 185 variables. (b) Silverman, L. D.; Dewan, J. C.; Giandomenico, C. M.; Lippard, S. *J. Inorg. Chem.* 1980, **19**, 3379.

(11) MacGillavry, C. H.; Rieck, G. D., Ed. "International Tables for X-ray Crystallography"; Kynoch Press: Birmingham, England, 1974; Vol. III, p 276.

(12)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (250 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  1.29 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 3 H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.37 (q,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2 H,  $\text{SCH}_2$ ), 5.30 (d,  $J = 4.9$  Hz, 2 H,  $\text{Fe}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 7.39 (t,  $J = 4.9$  Hz, 1 H, CH).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ):  $\delta$  17.7 (q,  $J = 129$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 34.7 (t,  $J = 142$  Hz,  $\text{SCH}_2$ ), 93.4 (t,  $J = 167$  Hz,  $=\text{CH}_2$ ), 114.8 (d,  $J = 162$  Hz,  $\text{Fe}_2\text{CH}$ ), 176.6 (s,  $\text{C}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 209.6 (s, Fe–CO).

(4) Takács, J.; Markó, L. *J. Organomet. Chem.* 1983, **247**, 223.

(5)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (270 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  1.29 (t,  $J = 7.3$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_3$  of **3b**), 1.50 (t,  $J = 7.3$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_3$  of **3a**), 2.09, 2.29 (m,  $\text{CH}_2$  of **3b**), 2.64 (m,  $\text{CH}_2$  of **3a**), 7.5–7.3 (m, Ph).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  17.8 (q,  $J = 128$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_3$  of **3b**), 18.3 (q,  $J = 127$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_3$  of **3a**), 26.0 (t,  $J = 144$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_2$  of **3b**), 33.0 (t,  $J = 141$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_2$  of **3a**), 126.8, 127.2, 128.3, 128.6 (each d,  $J = 163$  Hz, Ph), 133.4 (d,  $J = 160$  Hz, Ph), 144.5 (s, ipso Ph of **3a**), 144.8 (s, ipso Ph of **3b**), 207.7, 209.5, 209.9, 210.3, 211.3, 212.0 (all s, Fe–CO), 289.0 (s, acyl of **3a**), 291.6 (s, acyl of **3b**). The 70-eV mass spectrum showed inter alia  $m/z$  corresponding to  $\text{M}^+$  and  $\text{M}^+ - n\text{CO}$  ( $n = 1-7$ ).

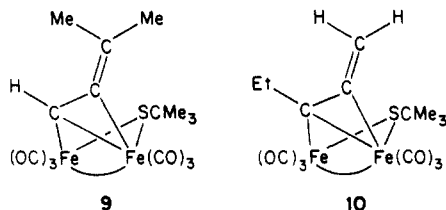
(6)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (250 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  0.47 (d,  $J = 12.6$  Hz, 2 H,  $\text{CHH}$ ), 1.29 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 3 H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.97 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2 H,  $\text{CHH}$ ), 2.47 (q,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2 H,  $\text{SCH}_2$ ), 4.76 (m, 1 H allylic CH).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ):  $\delta_{\text{C}}$  18.1 (q,  $J = 130$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 20.9 (t,  $J = 154$  Hz, allyl  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 32.7 (t,  $J = 141$  Hz,  $\text{SCH}_2$ ), 88.5 (d,  $J = 158$  Hz, allyl, CH), 211.2 (s, Fe–CO).

(7) Kobayashi, Iitaka, and Yamazaki<sup>8</sup> and Werner, Kühn, and Tune<sup>9</sup> have prepared dinuclear palladium complexes which contain bridging allyl ligands of this type. The values of  $J(\text{HH anti}) = 13$  and 12 Hz and  $J(\text{HH syn}) = 6.5$  and 8 Hz, respectively, which they reported are very similar to those found for the allyl ligand of **5**.

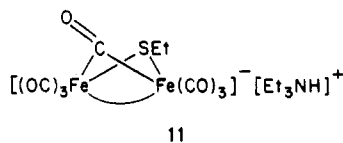
this question, an X-ray diffraction study was undertaken. Suitable crystals of the *tert*-butanethiolate analogue **8**, prepared by reaction of the  $\text{Me}_3\text{CSH}/\text{Fe}_3(\text{CO})_{12}/\text{Et}_3\text{N}$  system with propargyl bromide, were grown at  $-20^\circ\text{C}$  in pentane solution.<sup>13</sup>

The X-ray structure determination of **8** (Figure 2) shows that the propargyl bromide products have the structure **7**.<sup>14</sup> As in **5**, the alkanethiolate ligand bridges the two iron atoms slightly asymmetrically with Fe-S distances of 2.283 (2) and 2.250 (2) Å. However, instead of a three-carbon bridge as in **5**, an  $\eta^1, \eta^2$ -allenyl ligand is present. This compound has the same basic features reported for other  $\eta^1, \eta^2$ -vinyl-bridged  $\text{Fe}_2(\text{CO})_6$  systems.<sup>15,16</sup> The Fe-Fe bond length of 2.550 (1) Å is significantly shorter than the 2.675 (1) Å distance in **5**, but this probably reflects the difference in the bites of the two organic bridges. The C(6)-C(7) distance of 1.335 (9) Å is a standard C-C double bond length, while the C(5)-C(6) bond length of 1.363 (9) Å is slightly elongated as expected for a  $\pi$ -coordinated olefin.

These organic derivatives **5** and **7** most likely are formed in an  $\text{S}_\text{N}2'$  process, with initial attack by the iron nucleophile at C-3 of the allyl or propargyl halide. This was demonstrated by reactions in which  $\text{HC}\equiv\text{CCMe}_2\text{Br}$  and  $\text{EtC}\equiv\text{CCH}_2\text{Cl}$  were added to the  $\text{Me}_3\text{CSH}/\text{Fe}_3(\text{CO})_{12}/\text{Et}_3\text{N}$  system. In the former case the product was **9**;<sup>17</sup> in the latter it was **10**.<sup>18</sup>



In conclusion, it is of interest to consider what the active reagent in the  $\text{EtSH}/\text{Et}_3\text{N}/\text{Fe}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  system is. On the basis of the IR spectra of such solutions which show a band at  $1743\text{ cm}^{-1}$  (in THF) which may be attributed to a  $\mu$ -CO ligand, we suggest that the active reagent is **11** which reacts



with loss of one CO ligand. In support of this idea, we note

(13) **8** was prepared by addition of propargyl bromide to the  $\text{Me}_3\text{CSH}/\text{Et}_3\text{N}/\text{Fe}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$  reaction mixture and has the same structure as **7** by NMR data.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (acetone- $d_6$ , 90 MHz):  $\delta$  1.38 (s, 9 H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 5.39 (d,  $J = 4.4$  Hz,  $=\text{CH}_2$ ), 7.39 (t,  $J = 4.4$  Hz, CH);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 67.9 MHz):  $\delta$  33.0 (q,  $J = 129$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 48.2 (s,  $\text{CMe}_3$ ), 95.5 (t,  $J = 166$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 113.2 (d,  $J = 162$  Hz, CH), 177.7 (s, C=), 210.2 (s, CO).

(14) Crystal data for compound **8**:  $a = 8.455$  (1) Å,  $b = 9.478$  (1) Å,  $c = 10.926$  (2) Å,  $\alpha = 90.95$  (1)°,  $\beta = 97.44$  (1)°,  $\gamma = 101.81$  (1)°,  $V = 848.98$  Å<sup>3</sup>,  $Z = 2$ , space group  $P1$ . Data in the range  $3^\circ < 2\theta < 55^\circ$  ( $+$ ,  $+$ ,  $+$ ) were collected by using Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation.<sup>10a,b</sup> All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. Hydrogen atoms of the *tert*-butyl group were placed in calculated positions. Hydrogen atoms of the allenyl group could not be located in difference Fourier maps and have been ignored. Final  $R_1 = 0.048$  and  $R_2 = 0.055$  for 2058 observed reflections [ $F_o > 4\sigma(F_o)$ ] and 200 variables.

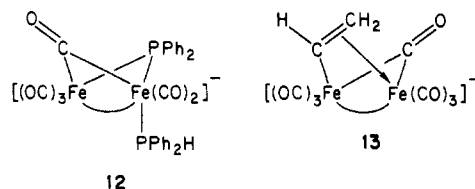
(15) Hoffmann, K.; Weiss, E. *J. Organomet. Chem.* 1977, 128, 225.

(16) Krüger, C.; Taay, Y. H.; Grevels, F. W.; Koerner von Gustorf, E. *Isr. J. Chem.* 1977, 10, 201.

(17)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\delta$  1.34 (s,  $\text{Me}_3\text{C}$ ), 1.96 (s,  $=\text{CMe}_2$ ), 7.36 (s,  $\text{Fe}_2\text{CH}$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ ):  $\delta$  25.7 (q,  $J = 128$  Hz,  $=\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ), 32.7 (q,  $J = 127$  Hz,  $=\text{Me}_3\text{C}$ ), 47.4 (s,  $\text{CMe}_3$ ), 115.4 (s,  $=\text{CMe}_2$ ), 119.6 (d,  $J = 161$  Hz,  $\text{Fe}_2\text{CH}$ ), 171.8 (s,  $\text{C}=\text{CMe}_2$ ), 211.0 (s, CO). As the temperature was lowered when the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum was measured, the  $=\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_2$  singlet broadened until two peaks were observable below  $-23^\circ\text{C}$ . The limiting spectrum was obtained at  $-53^\circ\text{C}$ : two sharp singlets and  $\delta$  1.88 and 1.75.

(18) In the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum  $\delta$ ( $=\text{CH}_2$ ) was observed at 5.20 ppm and in the  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum  $\delta$ ( $=\text{CH}_2$ ) at 94.7 ppm (t,  $J = 163$  Hz).

that the closely related anionic species **12**<sup>19</sup> and **13**<sup>20</sup> showed



bridging CO frequencies at  $1710\text{ cm}^{-1}$  ( $\text{PPN}^+$  counterion, in THF) and  $1735\text{ cm}^{-1}$  ( $\text{Ph}_4\text{P}^+$  counterion, in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ), respectively.

It is obvious that in **11** we have a new type of reactive dinuclear iron carbonyl species whose reactions should lead to many new and interesting  $\text{Fe}_2(\text{CO})_6$  complexes with two different bridges between the iron atoms. Our studies of the chemistry of **11** and of related species are continuing.

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**Registry No.** **3a**, 93530-31-5; **3b**, 93602-99-4; **4**, 93564-55-7; **5**, 93530-32-6; **7**, 93530-33-7; **8**, 93530-34-8; **9**, 93530-35-9; **10**, 93530-36-0; **11**, 93530-38-2; ( $\mu$ - $\text{CH}_3\text{CO}$ )( $\mu$ -EtS) $\text{Fe}_2(\text{CO})_6$  (*e*-Et isomer), 93530-39-3; ( $\mu$ - $\text{CH}_3\text{CO}$ )( $\mu$ -EtS) $\text{Fe}_2(\text{CO})_6$  (*a*-Et isomer), 93603-00-0;  $\text{Fe}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$ , 17685-52-8;  $\text{HC}\equiv\text{CCMe}_2\text{Br}$ , 6214-31-9;  $\text{EtC}\equiv\text{CCH}_2\text{Cl}$ , 22592-15-0; EtSH, 75-08-1;  $\text{Et}_3\text{N}$ , 121-44-8;  $\text{Me}_3\text{CSH}$ , 75-66-1; benzoyl chloride, 98-88-4; diphenylchlorophosphine, 1079-66-9; allyl chloride, 107-05-1; propargyl bromide, 106-96-7; acetyl chloride, 75-36-5.

**Supplementary Material Available:** Tables of final positional and thermal parameters and the final observed and calculated structure factors for **5** and **8** (18 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

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## Germacyclopentanes via Cycloadditions of Free Dimethylgermylene to Styrenes<sup>†</sup>

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**Summary:** Free  $\text{Me}_2\text{Ge}$  gives cycloadditions with 2 mol of  $\alpha$ -substituted styrenes via a regioselective but not stereospecific mechanism. Equal amounts of *syn/anti* 3,4-diphenylgermacyclopentanes are formed in good yield, those arising from  $\alpha$ -substituted styrenes bearing additional substituents in these positions, and no 2,5- or 2,4-substituted rings. The 4,4,5,5- $\text{Ph}_4$  derivative has an extraordinarily strained five-membered ring with a very long  $\text{C}_3$ - $\text{C}_4$  bond (1.626 Å) and  $\alpha_{\text{C-Ge-C}} = 90.3^\circ$ . Styrenes without a  $=\text{CH}_2$  group as well as a number of other olefins do not react rapidly enough. A two-step mechanism involving an 1:1 adduct is suggested.

Free dimethylgermylene generated thermally from 7,7-dimethyl-7-germanobornadiene under mild conditions behaves as singlet heavy carbene analogue, undergoing in solution stereospecific (cheletropic) 1,4 cycloadditions to