

Organometallic electron reservoirs. 33. Redox systems involving stable 17-electron iron(III)-methyl complexes

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Organometallics, 1987, 6 (12), 2605-2607 • DOI: 10.1021/om00155a027 • Publication Date (Web): 01 May 2002

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Acknowledgment. We thank the EEC for the grant (No. ST2*/00081) which has enabled us to collaborate. We are also grateful for financial support from SERC, The Paul Fund of the Royal Society, the donors of the Petroleum Research Fund, administered by the American Chemical Society, and Perkin-Elmer Ltd., NIHE, Dublin, and the Department of Education of the Republic of Ire-

land. We thank Dr. M. Ford, J. G. Gamble, Dr. M. A. Healy, P. M. Hodges, Professor J. J. Turner, and J. M. Whalley for their help and advice.

Registry No. 1, 110638-28-3; CpMn(CO)₃, 12079-65-1; CpMn(CO)₂, 38548-46-8; CO, 630-08-0; N₂, 7727-37-9; P(OMe)₃, 121-45-9; PPh₃, 603-35-0; *n*-heptane, 142-82-5; cyclohexane, 110-82-7.

Communications

Redox Systems Involving Stable 17-Electron Iron(III)-Methyl Complexes¹

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Received April 22, 1987

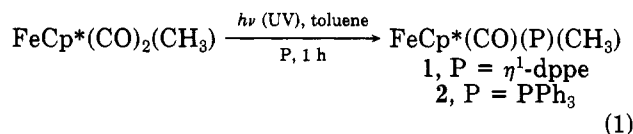
Summary: The electron-rich, thermally stable σ -methyl complexes [Fe^{II}Cp*(CO)(P)(CH₃)] (P = η^1 -dppe, **1**) and [Fe^{II}Cp*P₂(CH₃)] (P = P(OMe)₃, **5**, or P₂ = η^2 -dppe, **6**) have been synthesized and oxidized to stable 17-electron iron(III)-methyl isostructural cations by using ferricinium or trityl salts; the latter do not undergo hydrogen atom abstraction, migratory CO insertion, ligand exchange, and Fe-CH₃ cleavage under ambient conditions.

Although compounds with an element-methyl bond were first found 150 years ago,³ the finding of stable transition-metal-alkyl complexes was considerably delayed, essentially until the relatively recent recognition by Wilkinson of the kinetic basis for instability.^{4,5} However, direct homolytic scission of the alkyl-metal bond is an important decomposition pathway in the absence of a closed valence shell.⁶ Thus, the isolation of stable 17-

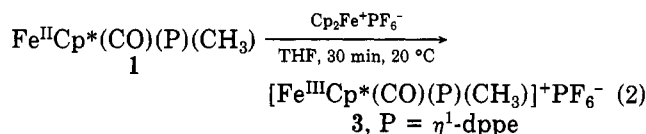
electron complexes with a σ -alkyl ligand requires bulky alkyls (or aryls)⁷ and such examples with a methyl ligand are scarce.^{7d}

We report here the first results of our strategy aimed at the stabilization of the metal-methyl bond in 17-electron complexes by using sterically protecting ancillary ligands.

The complexes [Fe^{II}Cp*(CO)(P)(CH₃)] (**1**, P = η^1 -dppe, and **2**, P = PPh₃) were synthesized by using the classical route shown in eq 1⁸ (Cp* = η^5 -C₅Me₅ throughout the text).



The new complex **1**⁹ shows two signals in the ³¹P NMR spectrum, at +76.4 ppm for the coordinated phosphine and at -13.2 ppm for the free phosphine (vs 85% H₃PO₄). It shows a reversible one-electron wave at E_g = -0.3 V vs SCE in its cyclic voltammogram (DMF, Bu₄N⁺ClO₄⁻, Pt, 20 °C). It is oxidized by a stoichiometric amount of ferricinium hexafluorophosphate in THF; after recrystallization from acetone/ether, a 90% yield of the orange Fe^{III} complex **3** is obtained (eq 2).



Complex **3** shows ν_{CO} at 1950 cm⁻¹ (Nujol) in the infrared spectrum, new Mössbauer parameters characteristic of Fe^{III} (IS = 0.55 mms⁻¹ vs Fe, QS = 0.62 mm s⁻¹, 77 K), and satisfactory elemental analyses.¹⁰ On the other hand,

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(1) Organometallic Electron Reservoirs. 33. For part 32, see: Lacoste, M.; Astruc, D.; *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.* 1987, 667.

(2) This work was first started by D.C. in the Laboratoire de Chimie des Organométalliques, Université de Rennes. D. C. found that oxidation of Fe^{II}(η^5 -C₅Me₅)(CO)(η^1 -dppe)(CH₃) gives the stable Fe^{III} cation: 3rd cycle thesis, Rennes, 1982. The first example of electron transfer pathway in the reaction of Ph₃C⁺ found in our Rennes' group concerns hydride abstraction from exosubstituted cyclohexadiene Fe(0) complexes: Mandon, D. Doctorate Thesis, Rennes, 1985. Mandon, D.; Toupet, L.; Astruc, D. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1986, 108, 1320. For literature precedents, see the work by Cooper.¹⁶

(3) As₂Me₄ was found by Bunsen in 1837; see: Sidwick N. V. *The Chemical Elements and their Compounds*; Oxford University Press: London, New York, 1962.

(4) Wilkinson, G. *Pure Appl. Chem.* 1959, 71, 627; *Science (Washington, DC)* 1974, 185, 109. For reviews, see ref 5.

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(6) Kochi, J. K. *Organometallic Mechanisms and Catalysis*; Academic: New York, 1978; Chapter 13, pp 341-371.

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(8) For the preparation of FeCp*(CO)₂(CH₃), see: Catheline, D.; Astruc, D. *Organometallics* 1984, 3, 1094.

(9) Complex **1**: a 0.79-g (3-mmol) sample of [Fe(C₅Me₅)(CO)₂CH₃] was irradiated in 150 mL of toluene by using a high-pressure Hanover mercury lamp in the presence of 1.23 g of 1,2-bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane for 1 h at 30 °C. After the solvent was removed in vacuo, the solid residue was extracted with 3 × 30 mL of pentane; air-stable red crystals of **1** were obtained upon cooling this solution down to -80 °C (1.23 g, 65% yield): ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, δ vs TMS) 7.53 (m, 20 H, Ph), 3.60 (m, 4 H, CH₂), 1.40 (s, 15 H, C₅Me₅), -0.60 (d, 3 H, CH₃, ³J_{PH} = 20 Hz); ¹³C (C₆D₆, δ vs TMS) 188.3 (CO), 134.0, 133.9, 133.7, 133.4, 133.2, 132.7 (coordinated PPh₂), 128.7, 128.6, 127.7, 126.7, 126.30 (noncoordinated PPh₂), 85.5 (C₅Me₅), 29.7 (CH₂), 10.5 (C₅Me₅), -14.9 (CH₃); infrared (Nujol) 1900 cm⁻¹ (ν_{CO} , large). Complex **2** is obtained by using the same procedure.

indicating the Fe^{III} piano-stool, cationic structure. They do not react with CO or other two-electron donors at 25 °C in CH₂Cl₂. Complexes 5 and 6 react with HBF₄·Et₂O under 1 atm of CO at -70 °C to give [FeCp*P₂(CO)]⁺BF₄⁻ (and presumably methane) as a consequence of protonation of the metal center. Since the reaction shown in eq 4 does not work with larger ligands such as PBU₃ and P(OPh)₃, one may conclude that adequate control of the steric bulk provides a route to both stable series of Fe^{II}-CH₃ and Fe^{III}-CH₃ complexes.

Acknowledgment. We are most grateful to Professor François Varret (Mössbauer spectroscopy, University of Le Mans) for his continuous help and interest, to the NSF for a post-doctoral grant to J.M., and to UNESCO for a PNUD grant to J.-M.M.

Registry No. 1, 111004-92-3; 2, 111004-93-4; 3, 111004-94-5; 4, 94585-62-3; 5, 111004-95-6; 6, 111004-96-7; 7, 111004-97-8; 8, 111004-98-9; FeCp*(CO)₂(CH₃), 52409-66-2; Fe(acac)₂, 14024-17-0; Cp*H, 4045-44-7.

An Unusual Ring-Opening Reaction of (Tetrafluorobenzobicyclo[2.2.2]octatriene)tricarbonyliron

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Received June 9, 1987

Summary: Reaction of the title compound I with aryllithium reagents in ether at low temperature and subsequent alkylation of the acylmetalates formed with Et₃OBF₄ leads to an unusual ring-opening reaction of the bicyclic diene ligand to generate novel chelated diallyldicarbonyliron complexes II-VII. Complex V belongs to the monoclinic space group C_{2h}⁶-C2/c with *a* = 16.870 (4) Å, *b* = 13.707 (4) Å, *c* = 19.361 (4) Å, β = 107.92 (2)°, *V* = 4259 (1) Å³, and *D*_{calcd} = 1.51 g/cm³ for *Z* = 8. Least-squares refinement based on 2481 observed reflections led to a final *R* of 0.0409 and *R*_w of 0.0391.

Recently, we found that several cyclic polyene ligands such as cyclohexadiene,¹ cycloheptatriene,² and cyclooctatetraene³ in (cyclopolyene)tricarbonyliron complexes can be activated by the iron. A series of interesting isomerized olefin-metal carbene complexes were obtained by the reaction of the corresponding olefin-ligating metal carbonyl compounds with an aryllithium and subsequent alkylation with Et₃OBF₄. As an extension of our research in this field we have studied such reactions of a bicyclopolyene ligand, tetrafluorobenzobicyclo[2.2.2]octatriene. Herein we report an unusual ring-opening reaction of

tetrafluorobenzobicyclo[2.2.2]octatriene tricarbonyliron (I)⁴ with nucleophiles at low temperature, followed by alkylation with Et₃OBF₄, which led to the breaking of the tetrafluorobenzobicyclo[2.2.2]octatriene ring and the formation of novel chelated diallyldicarbonyliron complexes.

Reaction of I with about 20% excess of an aryllithium in ether at -60 °C and subsequent alkylation of the acylmetalates formed with Et₃OBF₄ in aqueous solution at 0 °C leads to the isolation of orange-red chelated diallyldicarbonyliron complexes II-VII.⁵ Elemental analyses and spectroscopic data⁶ are consistent with their compositions and assigned structures. A possible reaction mechanism is proposed in Scheme I. The alkylation of acylmetalate intermediates a initially gives unstable olefin-coordinated alkoxycarbene complexes b⁷ that are transformed into metallacyclobutane intermediates c prior to the formation of the transition state d. The latter gives new carbene-alkene complexes e upon opening of the ring. Subsequent hydrogen migration leads to the isomerized carbene complexes II-VII.

Complexes II-VII were readily soluble in polar solvents and moderately soluble in nonpolar solvents such as pentane and petroleum ether. Several day's exposure of II-VII in the solid state to air at room temperature showed little evidence of oxidative decomposition, whereas the acylmetalate intermediates (a) were highly sensitive to air and temperature. These new complexes were characterized by

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(5) Experimental Procedure. To a solution of 0.20 g (0.55 mmol) of I in 30 mL of ether was added dropwise 0.65 mmol of the appropriate aryllithium, ArLi (Ar = C₆H₆, *o*-, *m*-, or *p*-CH₃C₆H₄, *p*-CH₃O₂C₆H₄, *p*-ClC₆H₄), in 20 mL of ether at -65 °C. After being stirred at -60 to -40 °C for 3-4 h, the resulting orange solution was concentrated to dryness under vacuum at -40 °C. The residue was dissolved in 25 mL of N₂-saturated water at 0 °C to give an orange-red solution, to which was added immediately Et₃OBF₄ in portions with vigorous stirring until the aqueous solution became acidic. The aqueous solution was extracted with petroleum ether (30-60 °C), and the combined extracts were concentrated under vacuum at -20 °C. Column chromatography of the residue on alumina at -20 °C followed (petroleum ether and then petroleum ether/ether (10/1)). The crude product was recrystallized from petroleum ether at -80 °C to give orange to red crystals of II-VII, respectively.

(6) II: yield 75%; mp 96-97 °C dec. Anal. Calcd for C₂₃H₁₆O₃F₄Fe: C, 58.50; H, 3.42. Found: C, 58.95; H, 3.90. IR (ν_{CO}, hexane): 1992 (vs), 1943 (vs) cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (δ, CDCl₃): 7.30 (m, 5 H), 4.90 (t, 1 H), 4.65 (t, 1 H), 3.84 (m, 1 H), 3.52 (m, 1 H), 3.40 (m, 2 H), 1.64 (m, 1 H), 1.24 (t, 3 H), 0.86 (m, 1 H). MS: *m/e* (relative intensity) 472 (M⁺, 10.7), 444 ((M - CO)⁺, 7.7), 416 ((M - 2CO)⁺, 100). III: yield 78%; mp 122 °C dec. Anal. Calcd for C₂₄H₁₈O₃F₄Fe: C, 59.28; H, 3.73. Found: C, 59.52; H, 3.54. IR (ν_{CO}, hexane): 1985 (vs), 1938 (vs) cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (δ, acetone-*d*₆): 7.24 (m, 4 H), 5.20 (br, 1 H), 4.84 (br, 1 H), 3.86 (br, 2 H), 3.50 (m, 2 H), 2.60 (s, 3 H), 1.62 (m, 1 H), 1.24 (m, 3 H), 0.90 (m, 1 H). MS: *m/e* (relative intensity) 486 (M⁺, 2.3), 458 ((M - CO)⁺, 3.7), 430 ((M - 2CO)⁺, 24.7). IV: yield 57%; mp 114-116 °C dec. Anal. Calcd for C₂₄H₁₈O₃F₄Fe: C, 59.28; H, 3.73. Found: C, 59.51; H, 3.92. IR (ν_{CO}, hexane): 1990 (vs), 1943 (vs) cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (δ, acetone-*d*₆): 7.20 (m, 4 H), 4.90 (m, 1 H), 4.64 (m, 1 H), 3.84 (m, 1 H), 3.52 (m, 1 H), 3.40 (m, 2 H), 2.36 (s, 3 H), 1.60 (m, 1 H), 1.24 (m, 3 H), 0.88 (m, 1 H). MS: *m/e* (relative intensity) 486 (M⁺, 2.3), 458 ((M - CO)⁺, 3.3), 430 ((M - 2CO)⁺, 7.1). V: yield 62%; mp 116-118 °C dec. Anal. Calcd for C₂₄H₁₈O₃F₄Fe: C, 59.28; H, 3.73. Found: C, 58.98; H, 3.66. IR (ν_{CO}, hexane): 1989 (vs), 1935 (vs) cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (δ, acetone-*d*₆): 7.38 (d, 2 H), 7.10 (d, 2 H), 5.10 (t, 1 H), 4.82 (t, 1 H), 3.82 (m, 2 H), 3.50 (q, 2 H), 2.28 (s, 3 H), 1.82 (m, 1 H), 1.24 (t, 3 H), 0.92 (m, 1 H). MS: *m/e* (relative intensity) 486 (M⁺, 27.0), 458 ((M - CO)⁺, 22.8), 430 ((M - 2CO)⁺, 100). VI: yield 29%; mp 124-126 °C dec. Anal. Calcd for C₂₄H₁₈O₃F₄Fe: C, 57.38; H, 3.61. Found: C, 57.35; H, 3.42. IR (ν_{CO}, hexane): 1982 (vs), 1931 (vs) cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (δ, acetone-*d*₆): 7.42 (d, 2 H), 6.88 (d, 2 H), 5.08 (t, 1 H), 4.83 (t, 1 H), 3.74 (m, 2 H), 3.66 (s, 3 H), 3.42 (q, 2 H), 1.76 (m, 1 H), 1.18 (t, 3 H), 0.92 (m, 1 H). MS: *m/e* (relative intensity) 502 (M⁺, 2.8), 474 ((M - CO)⁺, 1.8), 446 ((M - 2CO)⁺, 30.6). VII: yield 23%; mp 127-129 °C dec. Anal. Calcd for C₂₃H₁₅O₃ClF₄Fe: C, 54.51; H, 2.98. Found: C, 54.35; H, 2.62. IR (ν_{CO}, hexane): 1993 (vs), 1945 (vs) cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (δ, acetone-*d*₆): 7.30 (dd, 4 H), 5.10 (t, 1 H), 4.82 (t, 1 H), 3.88 (m, 2 H), 3.50 (q, 2 H), 1.84 (m, 1 H), 1.18 (t, 3 H), 0.92 (m, 1 H). MS: *m/e* (relative intensity) 506 (M⁺, 4.1), 478 ((M - CO)⁺, 5.8), 450 ((M - 2CO)⁺, 21.5).

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