

for assistance with NMR experiments.

**Supplementary Material Available:** Tables of crystal data, bond distances and angles, final fractional coordinates, and thermal parameters (8 pages); a listing of observed and calculated structure factors (8 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

### Characterization of a Stable ( $\eta^3$ -Indenyl)iron Metalate, ( $\eta^3$ -C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>7</sub>)Fe(CO)<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>. A Role for $\eta^3$ - $\eta^5$ Indenyl Ligand Tautomerization during Alkyl-CO Insertion Reactions

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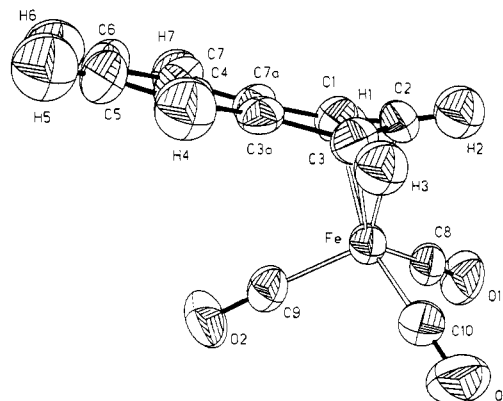
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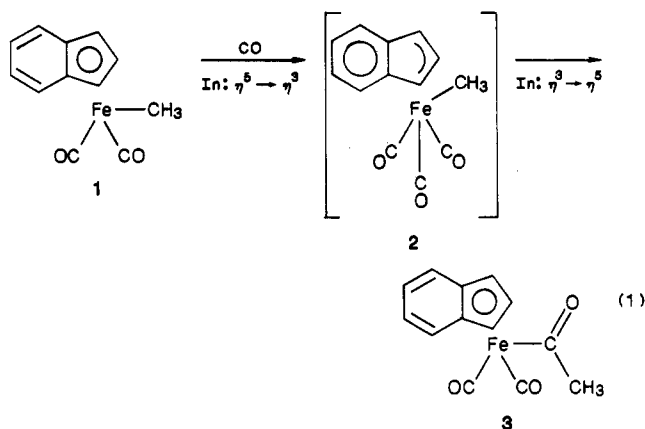
**Summary:** The ( $\eta^5$ -indenyl)iron metalate ( $\eta^5$ -In)Fe(CO)<sub>2</sub>-Na<sup>+</sup> irreversibly associates carbon monoxide in THF solution and affords the stable CO adduct ( $\eta^3$ -In)Fe(CO)<sub>3</sub>-Na<sup>+</sup>, which was isolated (77% yield) as its (Ph<sub>3</sub>P)<sub>2</sub>N<sup>+</sup> salt, 4-PPN<sup>+</sup>. A single-crystal X-ray diffraction study established the  $\eta^3$ -indenyl coordination: the dihedral fold angle, between planes defined by the  $\eta^3$ -carbons and by the In benzenoid ring, is 22°. In solution, IR and <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectral studies demonstrated that the  $\eta^3$ -indenyl structure endures: its <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum, for example, exhibits a 29 ppm downfield shift for the ipso C3a,C7a carbons (vs. those on Na<sup>+</sup>In<sup>-</sup>). Methylating 4-PPN<sup>+</sup> with CH<sub>3</sub>I cleanly affords mixtures of ( $\eta^5$ -In)-(CO)<sub>2</sub>FeCOCH<sub>3</sub> and In(CO)<sub>2</sub>FeCH<sub>3</sub>. The yield of the former increases with CO pressure (to 42% at 5.3 atm). Arguments are presented for intermediacy of ( $\eta^3$ -In)-(CO)<sub>3</sub>FeCH<sub>3</sub> in this reaction and for the  $\eta^3$ -to- $\eta^5$  indenyl ligand tautomerization driving the alkyl-CO migratory insertion.

The  $\eta^5$ -indenyl ligand (In), serving as a replacement for its  $\eta^5$ -cyclopentadienyl (Cp) counterpart, provides a means of promoting associative reactions at the metal center.<sup>1</sup> Reversible slippage of the metal across the five-membered ring<sup>2</sup> thus can form a more reactive  $\eta^3$ -indenyl tautomer that has both benzenoid resonance stabilization and an accessible coordination site.<sup>3</sup> Structural studies on a



**Figure 1.** ORTEP plot of 4. Selected structural parameters: Fe-C1, 2.183 (5) Å; Fe-C2, 1.996 (5) Å; Fe-C3, 2.192 (5) Å; Fe-C3a, 2.885 (6) Å; Fe-C7a, 2.869 (7) Å; C1-C2, 1.416 (7) Å; C2-C3, 1.407 (7) Å; C3-C3a, 1.456 (7) Å; C3a-C7a, 1.397 (6) Å; C1-C7a, 1.469 (7) Å; Fe-C8, 1.742 (5) Å; Fe-C9, 1.779 (5) Å; Fe-C10, 1.752 (6) Å; C8-Fe-C10, 93.3 (2)°; C8-Fe-C9, 108.4 (2)°; C9-Fe-C10, 103.2 (2)°.

number of  $\eta^5$ -In complexes indeed indicate a minor "slip-fold" distortion already favoring a metal shift away from the indenyl central carbon-carbon bond.<sup>2b,4</sup> Three other coordinatively saturated compounds having  $\eta^3$ -In coordination have been structurally characterized.<sup>5,6</sup> In previous studies, we observed that substituting an  $\eta^5$ -In for  $\eta^5$ -Cp on iron alkyl complexes greatly facilitates their carbonylation (eq 1),<sup>7a</sup> which was attributed to the In ligand pro-



moting an associative reaction (e.g., giving 2). We now

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(2) (a) Albright, T. A.; Hofmann, P.; Hoffmann, R.; Lilly, C. P.; Dobosh, P. A. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1983, 105, 3396. (b) Faller, J. W.; Crabtree, R. H.; Habib, A. *Organometallics* 1985, 4, 929.

(3) Corresponding  $\eta^3$ -Cp complexes are plausible intermediates in certain ligand substitution reactions,<sup>15,3a</sup> but such intermediates are expected to be higher energy species compared to their  $\eta^3$ -In analogues.<sup>3b</sup> (a) Rerek, M. E.; Basolo, F. *Organometallics* 1983, 2, 372. Casey, C. P.; O'Connor, J. M.; Haller, K. J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1985, 107, 1241. Yang, G. K.; Bergman, R. G. *Organometallics* 1985, 4, 129 and references cited. (b) Belmont, J. A.; Wrighton, M. S. *Organometallics* 1986, 5, 1421.

(4) (a) Baker, R. T.; Tulip, T. H. *Organometallics* 1986, 5, 839. (b) Allen, S. R.; Baker, P. K.; Barnes, S. G.; Bottrill, M.; Green, M.; Orpen, A. G.; Welch, A. J. *J. Chem. Soc., Dalton Trans.* 1983, 927. (c) Honan, M. B.; Atwood, J. L.; Bernal, I.; Herrmann, W. A. *J. Organomet. Chem.* 1979, 179, 403.

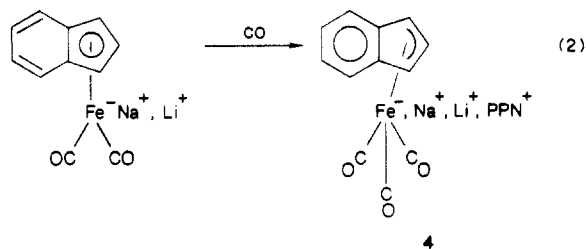
(5) (a) ( $\eta^5$ -In)( $\eta^3$ -In)W(CO)<sub>2</sub>, fold angle = 26°: Nesmeyanov, A. N.; Ustyniyuk, N. A.; Makarova, L. G.; Andrianov, V. G.; Struchkov, Y. T.; Andrae, S.; Ustyniyuk, Y. A.; Mal'yugina, S. G. *J. Organomet. Chem.* 1978, 159, 189. (b) ( $\eta^3$ -In)Ir(PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph)<sub>3</sub>, fold angle = 28°: Merola, J. S.; Kacmarcik, R. T.; Van Engen, D. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1986, 108, 329. (c) ( $\eta^3$ -In)( $\eta^3$ -In)V(CO)<sub>2</sub>, fold angle = 12°: Kowaleski, R. M.; Rheingold, A. L.; Trogler, W. C.; Basolo, F. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1986, 108, 2461.

(6) Existence of several other  $\eta^3$ -In complexes has been inferred from spectroscopic measurements.<sup>15,3b</sup> (a) Kohler, F. M. *Chem. Ber.* 1974, 107, 570. (b) Nakasuji, K.; Yamaguchi, M.; Murata, I.; Tatsumi, K.; Nakamura, A. *Organometallics* 1984, 3, 1257.

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report the synthesis and full characterization of an ( $\eta^3$ -In)Fe complex and the use of its  $\eta^3$ - $\eta^5$  in ligand tautomerization to drive an alkyl-CO migratory insertion.

Treating a THF solution of ( $\eta^5$ -In)Fe(CO)<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>Na<sup>+</sup> 7b with carbon monoxide (1 atm) rapidly produced a lighter yellow-brown solution containing ( $\eta^3$ -In)Fe(CO)<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> (4) (eq 2).



This transformation is complete after a few minutes (as judged by IR spectral monitoring),<sup>8</sup> and metathesis with PPN<sup>+</sup>Cl<sup>-</sup> [PPN<sup>+</sup> = (PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>N<sup>+</sup>] in THF-ether affords stable 4-PPN<sup>+</sup> as brown needles (77% yield).<sup>9</sup> The carbonylation is irreversible: either applying evacuation-N<sub>2</sub> flush cycles over THF solutions of 4-Na<sup>+</sup> or 4-PPN<sup>+</sup> or evacuating solid 4-PPN<sup>+</sup> failed to dislodge CO and regenerate starting ( $\eta^5$ -In)Fe(CO)<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>.

The  $\eta^3$ -In coordination on 4-PPN<sup>+</sup> was confirmed by a single-crystal X-ray diffraction study of its mono THF solvate.<sup>10</sup> An ORTEP plot for the organoiron anion (Figure 1) depicts overall pseudotetrahedral coordination of iron to the nonplanar 1-3- $\eta$ -indenyl system and to three terminal (linear) carbonyls.<sup>11</sup> No intermolecular interactions with either counterion or THF are evident. The extreme slip distortion or  $\eta^3$ -allyl-ene bonding to the In ligand<sup>5</sup> is further defined by values of (a) 0.75 Å for the difference between the averages of the metal-carbon distances to C<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>, and C<sub>3</sub> and those to ring-junction carbons C3a and C7a and (b) 22° between the planes defined by the  $\eta^3$ -carbons and by the In benzenoid ring.<sup>2b,4</sup>

The  $\eta^3$ -In structure of 4-PPN<sup>+</sup> endures in solution. Its IR spectrum, for example, closely resembles that of ( $\eta^3$ -C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)Fe(CO)<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>Na<sup>+</sup>, although IR spectra of 4-Na<sup>+</sup> and 4-Li<sup>+</sup> further indicate the absence of significant ion pairing.<sup>12</sup>

(8) CpFe(CO)<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>Na<sup>+</sup> or CpFe(CO)<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>Li<sup>+</sup> in THF solutions do not react with CO (80 psig). Also, InFe(CO)<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>Na<sup>+</sup> is inert toward PPh<sub>3</sub> or P(OMe)<sub>3</sub>. The high stability of ( $\eta^3$ -In)Fe(CO)<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> (4) presumably derives from charge delocalization over three  $\pi$ -acceptor carbonyls. One other  $\eta^3$ -In complex, ( $\eta^3$ -In)Ir(PMePh<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>,<sup>5b</sup> has been obtained by incorporating another ligand onto its  $\eta^3$ -In precursor.

(9) 4-PPN<sup>+</sup>: IR (THF)  $\nu$ (CO) 1951, 1871, 1852 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>CN)  $\delta$  7.49 (m, 31 H, PPN<sup>+</sup> and In H<sub>2</sub>), 7.6 (H<sub>2</sub>, corresponding maximum observed NOE enhancement in <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} double irradiation), 6.03 and 5.92 (AA'BB', 4 H, In:benzo), 3.54 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 2 H, H1,3); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} (APT) (CD<sub>3</sub>CN)  $\delta$  223.4 (CO), 157.3 (C3a,7a), 120.0 and 113.3 (C4-C7), 91.3 (C2), 55.6 (C1,3). Anal. Calcd for mono THF solvate C<sub>52</sub>H<sub>45</sub>FeNO<sub>4</sub>P<sub>2</sub>: C, 72.13; H, 5.25. Found: C, 72.28; H, 5.26.

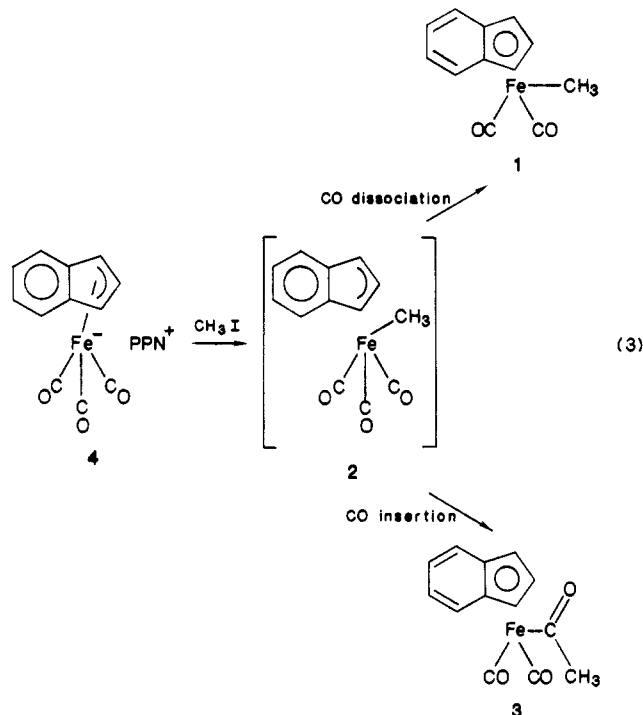
(10) Crystal data for (In)Fe(CO)<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>PPN<sup>+</sup>·OC<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub> (4): as brown plates by slow diffusion of hexane into a THF solution; 0.44 × 0.44 × 0.65 mm, monoclinic P2<sub>1</sub>/c (No. 14): a = 9.714 (1) Å, b = 19.980 (5) Å, c = 23.260 (4) Å;  $\beta$  = 101.78 (1)°; V = 4419 (1) Å<sup>3</sup>; z = 4;  $\rho$ (calcd) = 1.301 g cm<sup>-3</sup>; Nicolet R3m diffractometer;  $\mu$  = 4.55 cm<sup>-1</sup> (Mo K $\alpha$ ): 0 °C;  $2\theta_{max}$  = 45°; N<sub>ref</sub> = 6826, (I > 3 $\sigma$ ) = 4285; R = 0.054, R<sub>w</sub> = 0.056; heavy-atom solution, blocked cascade refinement, all non-hydrogen atoms anisotropic, all hydrogen atoms as idealized, isotropic contributions; SHELXTL (Rev. 5.1) computer programs (Nicolet Corp., Madison, WI).

(11) For a related structure, ( $\eta^3$ -C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>7</sub>)Fe(CO)<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>AsPh<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>: Sepp, E.; Pürzer, A.; Thiele, G.; Behrens, H. Z. Naturforsch., B: Anorg. Chem., Org. Chem. 1978, 33B, 261.

(12) ( $\eta^3$ -C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)Fe(CO)<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>Na<sup>+</sup>:<sup>13</sup> IR (THF)  $\nu$ (CO) 1937, 1854, 1807 cm<sup>-1</sup>. 4-Na<sup>+</sup>: IR (THF)  $\nu$ (CO) 1949, 1871, 1850 cm<sup>-1</sup>. 4-Li<sup>+</sup>: IR (THF)  $\nu$ (CO) (THF) 1950, 1870, 1852 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Ion pairing for 4-Na<sup>+</sup> or 4-Li<sup>+</sup> would engender additional absorptions; those corresponding to an isocarbonyl interaction would shift to lower energies.<sup>14</sup> Thus ( $\eta^3$ -In)Fe(CO)<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>Na<sup>+</sup> [ $\nu$ (CO) 1882, 1816 and 1866, 1779 cm<sup>-1</sup> (THF)] contains a 40:60 mixture of tight ion pairs (Fe-Na) and of species containing ion pairing through the terminal carbonyl (i.e., isocarbonyl interaction), respectively. (These assignments rest on those made for the analogous CpFe(CO)<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>Na<sup>+</sup>.<sup>14b</sup>)

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 4-PPN<sup>+</sup>,<sup>9</sup> exhibiting an upfield shift for the H1,3 doublet and downfield shift for H<sub>2</sub>, is consistent with the presence of an  $\eta^3$ -In complex.<sup>5b</sup> [Corresponding indenyl resonances for ( $\eta^5$ -In)(CO)<sub>2</sub>Fe-alkyl complexes occur at  $\delta$  4.5 and 5.6, respectively.<sup>7b</sup>] An especially sensitive probe for slip-fold distortion of the In ligand, and thus reduced bonding between the iron and ring-junction carbons C3a,C7a, corresponds to the <sup>13</sup>C NMR chemical shifts of these carbons.<sup>4a,5a,6a</sup> Their observed 29 ppm downfield shift on 4-PPN<sup>+</sup> (vs. those on Na<sup>+</sup>In<sup>-</sup> at  $\delta$  128) also indicates localized  $\eta^3$ -In bonding.

Alkylating 4-PPN<sup>+</sup> with methyl iodide affords mixtures of the ( $\eta^5$ -indenyl)iron methyl (1) and acetyl (3)<sup>7b</sup> complexes (eq 3). Yields of the acetyl product 3 increase with



CO pressure: 13% 3, 80% 1 (1 atm of N<sub>2</sub>); 26% 3, 71% 1 (1 atm of CO); 42% 3, 52% 1 (5.3 atm of CO).<sup>15</sup> Attempts at directly observing 2, the presumed intermediate from methylating 4,<sup>16</sup> proved unsuccessful. At -15 °C, the reaction between 4-PPN<sup>+</sup> and CH<sub>3</sub>I in CD<sub>3</sub>CN was sluggish; NMR spectral monitoring nevertheless detected only 4 plus 1 and 3.<sup>17</sup> A plausible interpretation is that al-

(13) Gubin, S. P.; Denisovich, L. I. J. Organomet. Chem. 1968, 15, 471. Nesmeyanov, A. N.; Kritskaya, I. I. J. Organomet. Chem. 1968, 14, 387. Also see IR data for (cycloheptadienyl)Fe(CO)<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, which presumably has an 1-3- $\eta$ -C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>7</sub> ligand: Williams, G. M.; Rudisill, D. E. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1985, 107, 3357.

(14) (a) Darensbourg, M. Y. Prog. Inorg. Chem. 1985, 33, 221. (b) Pannell, K. H.; Jackson, D. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1976, 98, 4443. Nitay, M.; Rosenblum, M. J. Organomet. Chem. 1977, 136, C23.

(15) Yields of 1 and 3 are after column chromatography; no other organometallic products were detected. Reactions of 4-Li<sup>+</sup> and 4-Na<sup>+</sup>, also in THF, with CH<sub>3</sub>I gave identical results. Methyl complex 1 neither carbonylates to 3 under these conditions<sup>7b</sup> nor does it react with 4. The product of the instantaneous reaction between (In)Fe(CO)<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> and 1, a fully characterized binuclear acetyl anion (In)<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>3</sub>Fe<sub>2</sub>(COCH<sub>3</sub>)<sup>-</sup>, was not detected in these studies (Forschner, T. C.; Cutler, A. R., to be submitted for publication).

(16) Assignment of an analogous "slipped-Cp" structure, ( $\eta^3$ -Cp)-(CO)<sub>3</sub>FeCH<sub>3</sub>, to the product originating during photolysis of Cp-(CO)<sub>2</sub>FeCH<sub>3</sub> in a CO matrix<sup>16a</sup> has been disputed.<sup>16b</sup> (a) Fettes, D. J.; Narayanaswamy, R.; Rest, A. J. J. Chem. Soc., Dalton Trans. 1981, 2311. Mahmood, K. A.; Rest, A. J.; Alt, H. G. Ibid. 1985, 1365. (b) Blaha, J. P.; Wrighton, M. S. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1985, 107, 2694.

(17) Reaction between 4-PPN<sup>+</sup> and Ph<sub>3</sub>SnCl in THF solution produces only ( $\eta^5$ -In)(CO)<sub>2</sub>FeSnPh<sub>3</sub> (77% isolated yield), which is a known compound: Faller, J. W.; Johnson, B. V.; Schaeffer, C. D., Jr. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1976, 98, 1395.

kylation of 4 occurs in a rate-limiting step to give 2, which then either rapidly dissociates CO (leaving 1) or migrates methyl to ligated CO (giving 3).<sup>18</sup> Studies by Belmont and Wrighton<sup>3b</sup> have established that  $\eta^3$ - to- $\eta^5$  indenyl tautomerization can drive CO dissociation, and it is likely that the alkyl-CO migratory insertion also benefits from this indenyl transformation.

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**Registry No.** 1, 71498-19-6; 3, 96412-64-5; 4-PPN<sup>+</sup>, 106799-48-8; 4-Na<sup>+</sup>, 106799-49-9; 4-Li<sup>+</sup>, 106799-50-2; 4-PPN<sup>+</sup>-OC<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>, 106820-58-0; ( $\eta^5$ -In)Fe(CO)<sub>2</sub>-Na<sup>+</sup>, 52326-30-4.

**Supplementary Material Available:** ORTEP drawings, a unit cell diagram, and tables of bond distances, bond angles, anisotropic thermal parameters, H-atom coordinates, and fractional coordinates (12 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

(18) Alkyl migration apparently predominates for the ruthenium analogue of 2. Reducing [In(CO)<sub>2</sub>Ru]<sub>2</sub><sup>19</sup> with Na(Hg) in THF solution (and under 1 atm of CO) affords a red-yellow solution containing a metalate that we tentatively formulate as ( $\eta^3$ -In)Ru(CO)<sub>2</sub>-Na<sup>+</sup>: IR  $\nu$ (CO) 1998, 1946 (br) cm<sup>-1</sup>. Attempts at isolating and purifying it thus far have proved unsuccessful. Treating these solutions, nevertheless, with CH<sub>3</sub>I (1 atm N<sub>2</sub>) affords ( $\eta^5$ -In)(CO)<sub>2</sub>RuCOCH<sub>3</sub><sup>20</sup> (79% isolated yield) and only a trace of the corresponding methyl compound.

(19) McArdle, P. *J. Chem. Soc. A* 1970, 2128. Humphries, A. P.; Knox, S. A. R. *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.* 1973, 326. Gansow, O. A.; Burke, A. R.; Vernon, W. D. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1976, 98, 5817.

(20) For (In)(CO)<sub>2</sub>RuCOCH<sub>3</sub> (yellow crystals, decomp pt 124 °C): IR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\nu$ (CO) 2030, 1969, 1646 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.43, 7.13 (AA'BB', 4 H, In:benzo), 5.97 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 2 H, H1,3), 5.53 (t, *J* = 3.0 Hz, H2), 2.44 (s, 3 H, COCH<sub>3</sub>). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>10</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Ru: C, 49.56; H, 3.19. Found: C, 49.48; H, 3.32.

## Observation of a Facile Isomerization of an Early-Transition-Metal $\eta^2$ -Iminoacyl Group via a 1,2-Hydrogen Shift

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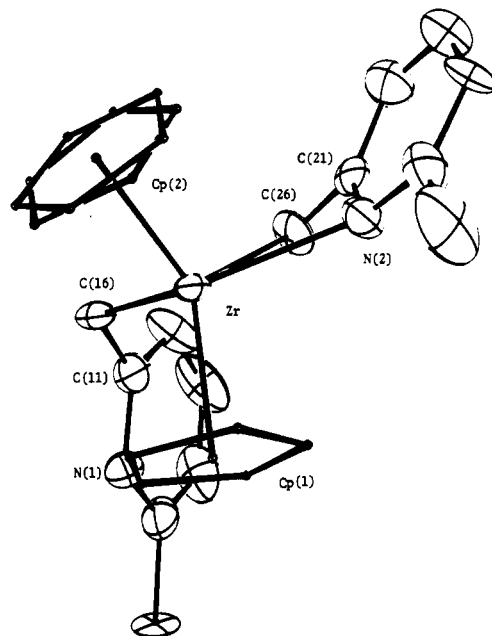
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**Summary:** The insertion of 2,6-dimethylphenyl isocyanide (ArNC) into the metal-carbon bonds of the complexes Cp<sub>2</sub>M(CH<sub>2</sub>-py-6-Me)<sub>2</sub> (M = Zr, Hf; CH<sub>2</sub>-py-6-Me = 2-(6-methylpyridyl)methyl) leads to the vinylamide complexes Cp<sub>2</sub>M(ArNCH=CH-py-6-Me)(CH<sub>2</sub>-py-6-Me) and Cp<sub>2</sub>M-(ArNCH=CH-py-6-Me)<sub>2</sub>. The vinylamide ligand is formed by a facile 1,2-hydrogen shift in intermediate  $\eta^2$ -iminoacyl complexes.

Early-transition-metal,<sup>2</sup> lanthanide,<sup>3</sup> and actinide  $\eta^2$ -acyl

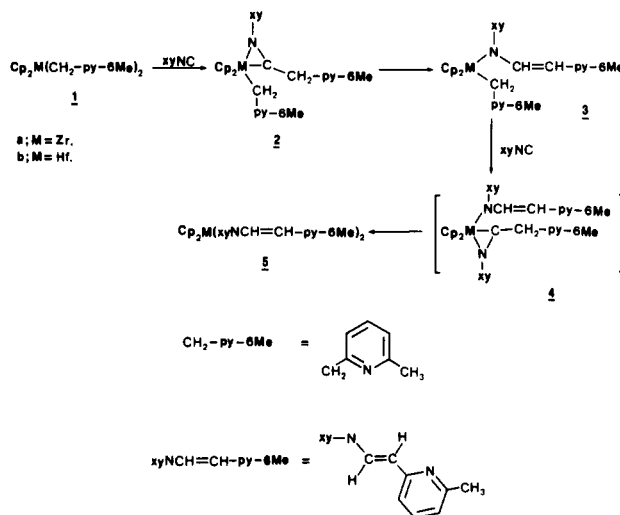
(1) (a) Camille and Henry Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar, 1985-1990. (b) Fellow of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, 1986-1990.

(2) (a) Wolczanski, P. T.; Bercaw, J. E. *Acc. Chem. Res.* 1980, 13, 121. (b) Erker, G. *Acc. Chem. Res.* 1984, 17, 103. (c) Fachinetti, G.; Fochi, G.; Floriani, C. *J. Chem. Soc., Dalton Trans.* 1977, 1946. (d) Fachinetti, G.; Floriani, C.; Stoeckli-Evans, H. *J. Chem. Soc., Dalton Trans.* 1977, 2297. (e) Curtis, M. D.; Shiu, K. B.; Butler, W. M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1986, 108, 1550 and references therein. (f) Waymouth, R. M.; Clauser, K. R.; Grubbs, R. H. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1986, 108, 6385.



**Figure 1.** ORTEP view of Cp<sub>2</sub>Zr(CH<sub>2</sub>-py-6-Me)<sub>2</sub> (1a) with hydrogens omitted. Some selected bond distances (Å) and angles (deg): Zr-N(2) = 2.407 (4), Zr-C(16) = 2.422 (4), Zr-C(26) = 2.406 (5), Zr-CEN(1) = 2.214 (6), Zr-CEN(2) = 2.25 (1), Zr-C(16)-py = 121.5 (3), Zr-C(26)-py = 88.5 (3), CEN(1)-Zr-CEN(2) = 128.1 (3), C(16)-Zr-C(26) = 76.2 (2).

### Scheme I



and  $\eta^2$ -iminoacyl groups have been shown to be important organometallic functionalities. Of particular synthetic interest has been their ability to undergo a range of carbon-carbon bond forming reactions.<sup>5</sup> We wish to report here our initial observations concerning a facile isomerization of a group 4 metal  $\eta^2$ -iminoacyl group into a vinylamide substituent, a reaction that essentially halts any further organometallic chemistry of this ligand.<sup>6</sup>

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