phosphine  $(22 \mu \text{mol})$  in H<sub>2</sub>O  $(3 \text{ mL})$  in a Schlenk tube was stirred under argon for 1 h. The tube was attached to the vacuum line, and hydrogen was admitted. The tube **was** then agitated at room temperature under a positive pressure of hydrogen for **2** h. The hydrogen was then removed, the tube sealed under argon, and the 31P NMR spectrum recorded.

Tetrasulfonated **BDPP** Rhodium(1) Adduct **of** *(Z)-a-*Acetamidocinnamic Acid, 12. The aqua complex **10** was prepared as above from 4d  $(78 \text{ mg}, 20 \mu \text{mol})$  in  $H_2O$   $(3 \text{ mL})$ . This solution was carefully transferred under argon into an NMR tube containing  $(Z)$ - $\alpha$ -acetamidocinnamic acid  $(30 \text{ mg}, 30 \mu \text{mol})$  in water **(0.5** mL). The tube was sealed under argon and the 31P NMR spectrum recorded.

Hydrogenation.  $[Rh(COD)Cl]_2$  and an appropriate amount of the sulfonated phosphine were mixed together in water **(5** or **10** mL) for **2** h. This solution was added to the unsaturated substrate dissolved in the organic solvent (ethyl acetate, methylene chloride, or benzene). The two-phase liquid mixtures were transferred to hydrogenation apparatus and shaken until absorption of the theoretical amount of hydrogen when working under atmospheric pressure or for **12** h when working under hydrogen pressure. The organic phase was separated, and in the case of recycling, a solution of the unsaturated substrate was again injected into the apparatus. After reaction, the organic solvent was evaporated, the reaction products were analyzed by 'H NMR, and the ee was determined by polarimetry using the following rotations for the optically pure compounds:  $N$ -acetyl- $(S)$ phenylalanine,  $[\alpha]^{20}$ <sub>D</sub> = +46.0° (c = 1, EtOH);<sup>56</sup> N-acetyl-(S)phenylalanine methyl ester,  $[\alpha]^{20}$   $\bar{D} = 101.3^{\circ}$   $(c = 1, \text{CHCl}_3)$ <sup>57</sup>  $N$ -benzoyl-(S)-phenylalanine,  $[\alpha]^{20}$ <sub>D</sub> = -40.3° ( $c = 1$ , MeOH);<sup>53</sup>  $N$ -acetyl-3-(4-acetoxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-(S)-alanine,  $[\alpha]_{D}^{\infty} = 40.7^{\circ}$ 

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(c = 1, MeOH);<sup>58</sup> (S)-methylsuccinic acid dimethyl ester,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{\text{20}}$  = 6.75° (c = 6, EtOH);<sup>59</sup> N-acetyl-(S)-phenyl-1-propylamine,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{\text{20}}$  $= 6.75$ °  $(c = 6$ , EtOH);<sup>59</sup> N-acetyl-(S)-phenyl-1-propylamine,  $[\alpha]^{\mathfrak{D}}$ <br> $= -137.8$ °  $(c = 2.4$ , MeOH);<sup>60</sup> (R)-1-phenylethyl-N-benzylamine,  $[\alpha]^{20}$ <sub>D</sub> = +56.2° (c = 1.07, EtOH);<sup>61</sup> (S)-1-phenylethanol,  $[\alpha]^{20}$ <sub>D</sub>  $= -52.5^{\circ}$  (c = 2.27, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>).<sup>62</sup>

Registry **No. 1,72689-88-4;** 2a, **117897-88-8;** 2b, **117957-31-0;**  2c, **117957-32-1;** 2d, **102806-81-5;** 3, **77876-39-2;** 4a, **117897-89-9;**  6a, **117897-92-4; 6b, 117897-93-5; 6c, 117897-94-6;** bd, **102806-82-6;**  6d(oxide), **118013-34-6; 7, 67884-32-6;** 8a, **117897-95-7; 8b,**  117897-96-8; **8c**, 117897-97-9; **8d**, 117897-87-7; **8d**(oxide), 4b, **117897-90-2;** 4c, **117897-91-3;** 4d, **117957-30-9; 5,64896-28-2; 117897-98-0;** [lO(P-P = 2d)]+, **117939-75-0;** [lO(P-P = 4d)]+, **117939-79-4; [11(P-P** = **4d)]BF4,117939-81-8;** [12(P-P = 4d)]+, **117939-82-9;** 13a, **55065-02-6;** 13b, **60676-51-9; 13c, 26348-47-0;**  13d, **55739-56-5;** (R)-14a, **10172-89-1;** (S)-14a, **2018-61-3;** (R)-14b, **21156-62-7;** (S)-14b, **3618-96-0; (R)-14~, 37002-52-1;** (S)-14~, **2566-22-5;** (R)-14d, **33043-31-1;** (S)-14d, **31269-52-0; 15,617-52-7;**  16, 97305-96-9; 17, 98-86-2; 18, 14428-98-9;  $[\text{Rh}(C_2H_4)_2\text{Cl}]_2$ , **12122-73-5;** [Rh(COD)Cl]z, **12092-47-6;** [Rh(COD)z]PF,, **62793-**  31-1;  $[Rh(NBD)_2]BF_4$ , **36620-11-8;**  $[Rh(C_2H_4)_2(2d)]^+, 117939-73-8;$ [Rh(COD)(2d)]+, **117939-74-9;** [Rh(COD) (2d)l (PF,), **118015-57-9;**  [Rh(COD)(4d)]+, **117939-76-1;** [Rh(NBD)(4d)]BF,, **117939-78-3;**  [Rh(COD)(3d)]<sup>+</sup>, 117939-83-0; (R)-CH<sub>3</sub>CH(CO<sub>2</sub>Me)CH<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>, **22644-27-5; (S)-CH3CH(CO2Me)CH2COzMe, 63163-08-6;** *(R)-*  PhCH(NHCCO)CH3)CHzCH3, **57680-92-9;** (S)-PhCH- (NHCOCH,)CH2CH,, **20306-86-9;** (S)-PhCH(OH)CH,, **1445-91-6;**  (R)-PhCH(CH,)NHCH,Ph, **38235-77-7.** 

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# *Communications*

## **Synthesis and Characterization of Binuclear Zirconocenophane Hydrides. The Molecular**  Structure of  $\left[\text{Sime}_2(\text{C}_5\text{H}_4)_2\right](\eta^5-\text{C}_5\text{H}_5)$ ZrCl $(\mu-\text{H})\right]_2$

#### **Karuna P. Reddy and Jeffrey L. Petersen"**

*Department of Chemistry, West Virginia University Morgantown, West Virginia 26506-6045* 

#### *Received August 18, 1988*

*Summary:* The reactions of  $\left[\text{SiMe}_{2}(C_{5}H_{4})_{2}\right]\left[\left(C_{5}H_{5}\right)ZrCl_{2}\right]_{2}$ and  $[SiMe<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>][(C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)ZrCl]<sub>2</sub>(\mu$ -O) with stoichiometric amounts of LiAl(O-t-Bu)<sub>3</sub>H and LiAlH<sub>4</sub>, respectively, in THF afford convenient routes for the preparation of the corresponding binuclear zirconocenophane hydrides  $[\text{Sime}_2(\text{C}_5\text{H}_4)_2]$   $[(\text{C}_5\text{H}_5)ZrCl(\mu-\text{H})]_2$  (1) and  $[\text{Sime}_2-(\text{C}_5\text{H}_4)_2]$   $[(\text{C}_5\text{H}_5)ZrH(\mu-\text{H})]_2$  (2). The molecular structure of **2** has been established by X-ray diffraction. Preliminary results obtained from reactivity studies of 1 with  $C_2H_4$  and <sup>13</sup>CO are described.

The bridged bis(cyclopentadienyl) ligand  $[X(C_5R_4)_2]^2$ - $[X = (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>$   $(n = 1-3)$ , SiMe<sub>2</sub>; R = H, Me] has been employed as both a chelating<sup>1</sup> and a bridging<sup>2</sup> ligand in organometallic chemistry. An effort has been undertaken in our laboratories to prepare binuclear zirconocenophane

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hydride complexes in which two electron-deficient d<sup>0</sup> Zr-(IV) centers are held in close proximity by a  $[X(C_5H_4)_2]^2$ ligand. Wailes, Weigold, and co-workers<sup>3</sup> originally prepared the organozirconium hydride complexes  $(C_5H_5)_2ZrHL$ <sub>x</sub> (L = Cl, H) by the reaction of zirconocene dichloride with LiAl(O-t-Bu)<sub>3</sub>H and by the treatment of  $[(C_5H_5)_2ZrCl]_2O$  with an equimolar amount of LiAlH<sub>4</sub>, respectively. Although the reactivity displayed by these and related zirconocene hydrides has been examined extensively,<sup>4</sup> the inherent insolubility of  $[(C_5H_5)_2ZrHL]$ , has hindered efforts to determine their molecular structures. Our X-ray diffraction analyses of  $[(C_5H_4R)_2ZrH(\mu-H)]_2$  (R  $=$  Me,<sup>5a</sup> CMe<sub>3</sub><sup>5b</sup>) have confirmed unequivocally the presence of bridging and terminal hydrides in these related binuclear zirconium complexes. Herein, we present the synthesis and characterization of two new binuclear zirconocenophane hydride complexes,  $[SiMe<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]$ - $[(C_5H_5)ZrCl(\mu-H)]_2$  (1) and  $[SiMe_2(C_5H_4)_2][(C_5H_5)ZrH(\mu-H)]$ H)I2 **(2).** The molecular structure of **1** and preliminary results of its reactivity with  $C_2H_4$  and CO are described.

The addition of two equivalents of  $LiAl(O-t-Bu)_{3}H$  to a THF solution of  $\left[\text{SiMe}_2(\text{C}_5\text{H}_4)_2\right] \left[\left(\text{C}_5\text{H}_5\right) \text{ZrCl}_2\right]_2^6$  affords **1,** whereas the reaction of 1 equiv of LiA1H4 with  $[SiMe_2(C_5H_4)_2][(C_5H_5)ZrCl]_2(\mu$ -O)<sup>6</sup> provides a convenient route to **2.** Both of these zirconocenophane hydride complexes are sparingly soluble in benzene and have been characterized by elemental analysis, hydrolysis, and infrared and 'H NMR measurements.\* The Zr-H stretching frequencies of  $1390 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  for 1 and  $1310$  and  $1535 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  for **2** are comparable to those reported for  $[(C_5H_5)_2ZrHL]_{x}$ .<sup>3</sup> The hydride resonance in the 'H NMR spectrum of 1 is a singlet at  $\delta$  -0.06, whereas the two hydride resonances of 2 appear as two apparent triplets at  $\delta$  3.61 and -3.89, consistent with the presence of two bridging and two terminal hydride ligands.<sup>5</sup>

Direct structural information about the molecular configuration of 1 has been provided by an X-ray diffraction analysis. $\frac{9}{10}$  The solid-state structure, as shown in Figure



**Figure 1.** A perspective view of the molecular configuration of  $\left[\text{SiMe}_2(\text{C}_5\text{H}_4)\text{2}\right]\left[(\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5)\text{ZrCl}(\mu\text{-H})\right]_2$  with the atom-labeling scheme for the non-hydrogen atoms. The thermal ellipsoids were scaled to enclose 50% probability. For clarity the radii of the spheres for the hydrogen atoms were reduced arbitrarily. Pertinent interatomic distances (Å) and angles (deg) within the  $[ZrCl(\mu-H)]_2$  core:  $Zr1$ -Cl1, 2.526 (1);  $Zr2$ -Cl2, 2.521 (1);  $Zr1$ -H1, 1.75 **(4);** Zrl-H2, 2.05 **(4);** Zr2-H1, 2.08 **(4);** Zr2-H2, 1.84 **(4);**  Zrl-Zr2, 3.4502 *(5);* Hl-Zrl-H2, 53 (1); Hl-Zrl-Cll, 127 (1); H2-Zrl-Cll, 77 (1); Hl-Zr2-H2, 52 (1); H2-Zr2-Cl2, 128 (1); Hl-Zr2-Cl2, 78 (1); Zrl-H1-Zr2; 128 (2); Zrl-H2-Zr2, 125 (2).

1, illustrates that **1** exists as a discrete binuclear zirconium complex with two hydride ligands bridging the two Zr centers. The Zr...Zr separation of 3.4502 (5)  $\AA$  is only 0.01 Å shorter than that found in  $[(C_5H_4R)_2ZrH(\mu-H)]_2$ <sup>5</sup> The central  $\text{Zr}_2\text{Cl}_2(\mu\text{-H})_2$  moiety deviates significantly from planarity with a Cl1-Zr1--Zr2-Cl2 torsional angle of 36.9  $(1)$ °. Presumably, this feature is a consequence of the bridging  $[\text{SiMe}_2(\text{C}_5\text{H}_4)_2]^2$ - ligand, which prevents a mutually planar alignment of the three frontier orbitals<sup>10</sup> available for each of the two canted "zirconocene-like" centers. The relatively long Zr-C1 bonds of 2.523 **A** (av) reflect the reduction of  $\pi$ -donation from the Cl  $p_{\tau}$  orbitals to the Zr atoms. Although the X-ray determined hydride positions are inherently inaccurate, they offer qualitative insight into the nature of the zirconium-hydride interactions. The Zr-H bonds arising from the interaction of each H Is orbital with an inner Zr hybrid orbital are significantly longer than the Zr-H bonds which utilize one of the remaining outer Zr hybrid orbitals. The nonplanarity of the  $\text{Zr}_2\text{Cl}_2(\mu\text{-H})_2$  core leads to a less favorable orbital overlap for the internal Zr-H bonds, thereby producing asymmetric three-center, two-electron Zr-H-Zr bonding interactions in **1.** 

Reactivity studies of 1 have led to several interesting preliminary observations. The reaction of 1 equiv of ethylene with **1,** for example, proceeds slowly at 85 "C with

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<sup>(8) (</sup>a)  $\left[ \text{SIM}_{\mathcal{P}_2}(C_5H_4)_2 \right] \left[ (C_5H_5)ZrCl(\mu-H) \right]_2$ : <sup>1</sup>H NMR ( $C_6H_6-d_6$ )  $\delta$  6.49, 6.9, 5.61, 5.26 ( $C_6H_4$ , m), 5.92 ( $C_8H_6$ , s), 0.37 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>, s), -0.06 (Zr-H-Zr, 06), 3); IR (KBr disk)  $v_{Z_2,H}$  1390 c Zr2SiCZ2Hz8: C, **52.53;** H, **5.61.** Found: C, **51.31;** H, **6.04.** 

<sup>(9)</sup> Crystal data for  $\{Sime_2(C_5H_4)_2\}[(C_5H_5)ZrCl(\mu-H)]_2$ : space group  $P_21/c$ ,  $a = 13.282$  (4) Å,  $b = 9.642$  (2) Å,  $c = 17.896$  (5) Å,  $\beta = 100.21$  (2)<sup>6</sup>,  $V = 2256$  (1) Å<sup>3</sup>,  $Z = 4$ ,  $d_{\text{add}} = 1.684$  g/cm<sup>3</sup>. All 2968 un Control automation system within a detector range of  $5^{\circ} < 2\theta < 45^{\circ}$  with Zr-filtered Mo  $K_{\alpha}$  radiation, were used in the structure determination. Data collection, reduction, and refinement procedures have been de-scribed previously.5a Full-matrix least-squares refinement (based on *F:)*  with anisotropic temperature factors for the 27 nonhydrogen atoms and<br>isotropic temperature factors for the 26 hydrogen atoms converged with<br>final discrepancy indices of  $R(F_o) = 0.035$ ,  $R(F_o^2) = 0.043$ , and  $R_w(F_o^2) = 0.069$ 

**<sup>(10)</sup>** Lauher, J. W.; Hoffmann, R. *J. Am. Chem.* Soc. **1976,98, 1729.** 

the evolution of ethane<sup>11</sup> and the formation of  $[SiMe<sub>2</sub> (C_5H_4)_2$   $[(C_5H_5)Zr(\mu\text{-}Cl)]_2$  (3).<sup>12</sup> Alternatively, thermolysis of 1 in toluene at 130 "C quantitatively eliminates 1 equiv of  $H<sub>2</sub>$  within 12 h, producing only this diamagnetic binuclear Zr(II1) species 3.13 The reaction of **1** with 13C0 at **85** "C proceeds with the reductive coupling of two molecules of I3CO resulting in the formation of a cis enediolate bridge.<sup>15</sup> The 16-line ABXY splitting pattern<sup>16</sup> observed for this  $C_2$  fragment in the gated-nondecoupled <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum, however, indicates an unsymmetrical mode of coordination which might correspond to one of the oxygen

atoms being bound to both Zr atoms, such as  $Zr\dot{O}C(H)$ -

 $\overline{=}$ C(H)OZr. Current efforts are aimed at further evaluating the use of mechanically linked, binuclear zirconocene hydride complexes for the sequential hydrogenation or reductive coupling of these and related substrates.

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Supplementary Material Available: Summary of crystal data and data collection parameters and tables of positional and thermal parameters, interatomic distances and bond angles for hydrogen atoms, and least-squares planes of  $\left[\text{SiMe}_{2}(\text{C}_{5}\text{H}_{4})_{2}\right]$ - $[(C_5H_5)ZrCl(\mu-H)]_2$  (10 pages); a listing of observed and calculated structure factors (11 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

(12)  $\text{[SiMe}_2(\text{C}_5\text{H}_4)_2\text{]}((\text{C}_5\text{H}_5)\text{Zr}(\mu\text{-C}))_2$ : 'H NMR (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>-d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  5.43 (proximal CH, t<sub>r</sub> J<sub>H-H</sub> = 2.56 Hz), 5.20 (distal CH<sub>1</sub> t<sub>r</sub> J<sub>H-H</sub> = 2.56 Hz), 5.20 (C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, s), 0.09 (SiCH<sub>3</sub>, s); gated nondecoupled <sup>13</sup>C NMR (mult, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>C-H</sub> in<br>Hz)  $\delta$  114.2 (bridgehead C, s), 112.4 (proximal CH, dq, 164.8), 104.2 (distal<br>Hz)  $\delta$  114.2 (bridgehead C, s), 112.4 (proximal CH, dq, 47.00; H, 4.51.

(13) A structurally similar binuclear fulvalene  $\operatorname{Zr}(III)$  species,  $(\eta^5:\eta^5)$ 

 $C_{10}H_8$ ][( $C_5H_6$ )Zr( $\mu$ -Cl)]<sub>2</sub>, has been prepared by the comproportionation<br>of  $(C_5H_6)_{2}ZrCl_2$  and  $(C_5H_5)_{2}Zr(PMe_3)_{2}$ .<sup>14</sup><br>(14) Gambarotta, S.; Chiang, M. Y. *Organometallics* 1987, 6, 897.<br>(15) (a) Manrique R. S.; Bercaw, J. E. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1979, 101, 218. (c) Erker, G.;<br>Kropp, K.; Krüger, C.; Chiang, A. P. Chem. Ber. 1982, 115, 2447. (16) The two <sup>13</sup>C resonances appear at  $\delta_A$  136.9 and  $\delta_B$  130.8 with <sup>1</sup>J<sub>C-C</sub> = 8

**Hz and <sup>2</sup>J<sub>C-H</sub> = 20.4 Hz** for carbon A,  $^1$ J<sub>C-H</sub> = 185 Hz and <sup>2</sup>J<sub>C-H</sub> = 25.0 Hz for carbon B, and <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H-H</sub> = 1.3 Hz.

### **A New Catalyst for the Efficient and Selective @-Hydrosilylation of Acrylonitrile. Effect of Ultrasound**

#### **Amirthini B. Rajkumar and Philip Boudjouk"**

*Department of Chemistry, North Dakota State University Fargo, North Dakota 58105* 

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*Summary:* The hydrosilylation of acrylonitrile to give exclusively the  $\beta$ -adduct was effected in yields of 70-100% under mild conditions using a new two-component catalyst system consisting of tetramethylethylenediamine and cuprous oxide. Ultrasonic waves significantly increase the rate of hydrosilylation over room-temperature stirring.

Table **I.** Hydrosilylation **of** Acrylonitrile Catalyzed by **Cu20** and **Tetramethylethylenediamine** 

SiMe <sub>2</sub> - nolysis	Table I. Hydrosilylation of Acrylonitrile Catalyzed by $Cu2O$ and Tetramethylethylenediamine				
l equiv	expt	silane	conditns <sup>a</sup>	product	yield, <sup>b</sup> %
c binu-	1	HSiCl。	10 min, reflux	Cl <sub>3</sub> SiCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CN	$95 - 100$
<sup>3</sup> CO at	$\mathbf 2$	HSiCl.	2 h, ))	Cl <sub>3</sub> SiCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CN	80
) mole-	3	HSiCl,	4 h, stir	Cl <sub>3</sub> SiCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CN	30
diolate	4	HSiMeCl <sub>2</sub>	45 min, reflux	MeCl <sub>2</sub> SiCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CN	$98 - 100$
served	5	HSiMeCl <sub>2</sub>	$6 h,$ ()))	MeCl,SiCH,CH,CN	60
' NMR	6	HSiMeCl <sub>2</sub>	$18h$ , stir	MeCl,SiCH,CH,CN	11
10de of	$\overline{7}$	HSiMe <sub>2</sub> Cl	24 h. reflux	no reaction	
	8	HSiMe <sub>2</sub> Cl	$10 h,$ ()))	no reaction	
oxygen	9	HSiMe <sub>2</sub> Cl	10 <sub>h. </sub> stir	no reaction	
$OC(H)$ -	10	HSiPhCl。	30 min, reflux	PhCl <sub>2</sub> SiCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CN	$98 - 100$
	11	HSiPhCl <sub>2</sub>	4 h, ))	PhCl <sub>2</sub> SiCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CN	$70 - 75$
evalu-	12	HSiPhCl <sub>2</sub>	$21 h, \sin$	PhCl <sub>2</sub> SiCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CN	32
nocene	13	$HSiPh_2Cl$	24 h, reflux	$Ph_2CISICH_2CH_2CN$	$5 - 10$
tion or	14	$HSiPh_2Cl$	12 h, 12 h	no reaction	
$\circ$	15	$H\mathrm{SiPh}_2\mathrm{Cl}$	18 h, stir	no reaction	

<sup> $a$ </sup> All reactions, except runs 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, and were run at 30  $\rm{^{\circ}C}$ by using a 0.04:0.06:0.0069:0.019 mol ratio of acrylonitrile/silane/  $Cu<sub>2</sub>O/TMEDA$ , while reactions 1, 4, 7, 10, and 13 were run with 0.04:0.05:0.0069:0.019 mol ratios. All reactions were run in the absence of solvent. <sup>b</sup> Yields are based on product isolated by distillation.

While there is an abundance of catalysts that are useful in promoting the addition of the Si-H bond across alkenes and alkynes, $<sup>1</sup>$  relatively few agents efficiently catalyze the</sup> hydrosilylation of acrylonitrile. In particular, catalysts that lead to exclusively  $\beta$ -addition to the double bond in acrylonitrile are rare and generally give low yields. These include tertiary amines,<sup>2</sup> platinum on carbon,<sup>3</sup> Raney nickel,<sup>4</sup> amides,<sup>5</sup> and phosphines.<sup>6</sup>

The two most effective catalysts are a three-component system  $(CuCl/n-Bu_3N/N,N,N',N'+tetramethylethylene$ diamine (TMEDA)) developed by Bluestein which requires temperatures of 50-126  $\degree$ C for 40 h to give 75% yields of  $\beta$ -adduct<sup>7</sup> (7.5:1:1.2 mol ratio of reactants/CuCl/amines) and a binary system of a copper compound  $(Cu<sub>2</sub>O, CuCl,$ or  $Cu(acac)_2$  and an isocyanide developed by Svoboda et al.,<sup>8</sup> which requires heating to 120  $\,^{\circ}$ C for 2 h to give 70-75% yields of  $\beta$ -adduct (9:0.1:0.3 mol ratio of reactants/ Cu catalysts/ isocyanide).

In this communication we report a new two-component catalyst consisting of cuprous oxide and TMEDA that promotes exclusively  $\beta$ -hydrosilylation of acrylonitrile in high yields under mild conditions. We also observed that ultrasound, which is often used to promote heterogeneous reactions,<sup>9</sup> is very effective in accelerating this reaction.

$$
CH2=CH-CN + R3SiH \xrightarrow[Cu2O, THEDA]{} N3Si-CH2-CH2CN
$$

$$
R_3 = Cl_3, Cl_2Me, Cl_2Ph, ClPh_2
$$

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<sup>(11)</sup> Ethane was identified by GC/MS measurements  $(m/e 30)$  and by its characteristic proton resonance at  $\delta$  0.79 in C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>-d<sub>6</sub>.