Organolanthanide-Centered Hydroamination/Cyclization of Aminoolefins. **Expedient Oxidative Access to Catalytic Cycles**

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Summary: The readily accessible (Me₅C₅)₂Sm and (Me₅C₅)₂Sm(THF)₂ catalyze the hydroamination/cyclization of a variety of aminoolefins. Mechanistic observations suggest that the active catalysts are trivalent organosamarium complexes.

We recently reported¹ that the marked facility with which olefin insertion occurs at Cp'_2Ln-X centers (Cp' = η^5 -Me₅C₅; Ln = lanthanide)^{2,3} can be coupled to the proto nolytic reactivity of Ln–C σ bonds 24 to effect the efficient catalytic hydroamination/cyclization of a variety of aminoolefins (Scheme I). The precatalysts employed were $Cp'_{2}LnR$ and $(Cp'_{2}LnH)_{2}$ compounds, which are accessible only via nontrivial, multistep syntheses.^{2,3} In the course of recent organosamarium thermochemical studies.^{5a,b} we learned that binuclear, oxidative allylic C-H activation and coupled follow up processes^{5c} (e.g., eq 1-3 can be highly

$$2Cp'_{2}Sm + \wedge - Cp'_{2}Sm - + \frac{1}{2}(Cp'_{2}Sm-H)_{2}$$
 (1)

∆H_{celod} ≈ --6 kcal / mol of Sm

$${}^{1}/_{2}(Cp'_{2}Sm-H)_{2} + \swarrow Cp'_{2}Sm H$$
(2)

$$\Delta H_{calcd} \approx -29 \text{ kcal / mol of } Sm$$
(2)

$$Cp'_{2}Sm H + \swarrow Cp'_{2}Sm + (3)$$

$$\Delta H_{calcd} \approx -10 \text{ kcal / mol of } Sm$$

overall ∆H_{calcd} ≈ --39 kcal / mol of Sm

exothermic and rapid.^{5d} These results combined with the observation that the η^3 -allyl complex 1 is also a precatalyst for hydroamination $(eq 4)^{5,6}$ raise the intriguing question

(6) Nolan, S. P.; Marks, T. J. Unpublished results.

of whether $Cp'_{2}Sm$ (2)⁷ or its even more easily prepared (in one step from $SmI_2 + KCp'$) precursor, $Cp'_2Sm(THF)_2$ (3),⁸ might serve as convenient precatalysts for hydroamination/cyclization. We report that this is indeed the case and relate initial mechanistic observations concerning the reaction pathway.

Anaerobic reaction of 2 or 3 with a variety of dry, degassed aminoolefins (typically in 20-100-fold molar excess) proceeds to completion at 60 °C in hydrocarbon solvents to afford the cyclization products shown in Table I.⁹ Reactions are conveniently monitored by ¹H NMR spectroscopy and products identified by comparison with literature spectral data¹⁰ and/or those of authentic samples. Products of all reactions in Table I were shown to be >95% pure by ¹H NMR and GC/MS studies. The scope of the cyclization process includes pyrrolidine, N-methylpyrrolidine, piperidine, and indoline products. That rates of Cp'₂Sm- and Cp'₂Sm(THF)₂-catalyzed reactions are indistinguishable is consistent with the lability of THF coordination⁷ and the observation that competitive inhibition of catalysis occurs only at very high THF concentrations.1

Preliminary observations suggest that the present catalytic chemistry involves initial oxidation of 2/3 to trivalent Cp'Sm- species (cf. eq 1-3), which then function as do other Cp'₂LnR catalysts.¹ Thus, in situ ¹H NMR spectroscopy reveals the diminution of characteristic divalent $Cp'_2Sm(base)_n$ signatures (broad Cp' signals at $\delta \approx$

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⁽⁹⁾ Preparative-scale reactions have been performed with 1-amino-4-(9) Preparative-scale reactions have been performed with 1-amino-4-pentene and 2,2-dimethyl-1-amino-4-pentene by using 0.5-1.0 mL of the aminoolefin in pentane at 60 °C. Typical reaction conditions are as follows: Under an Ar atmosphere, 20 mg of Cp'₂Sm(THF)₂ (0.035 mmol) was stirred in 2 mL of pentane with 0.40 g of 1-amino-4-pentene (4.7 mmol, 134-fold excess). Upon addition of amine, the reaction solution gradually changed from the characteristic purple of the divalent complex to dark orange-red. The mixture was next heated in a tube sealed with a Teflon needle valve at 60 °C until the solution became yellow-orange, indicating completion of the reaction (48 h). Volatiles were then vacuum-transferred, and residual pentane was removed from the distillate by rotary evaporation at 0 °C to give an 85% isolated yield (0.34 g) of 2-methylpyrrolidine.^{10a} An alternative to vacuum transfer is to filter the reaction solution through a short column of Florisil under an inert at-mosphere (to remove the catalyst) and to then work up as above. In both workup procedures, the product was >95% pure by ¹H NMR and GC/ MS.

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Table I. Organosamarium-Catalyzed Hydroamination^a



^aCatalyst: Cp'₂Sm(THF)₂. ^bApproximate turnover frequency at 60 °C.

2.0-4.0)^{11,12} and the concurrent growth of trivalent features (sharper Cp' resonances at $\delta \approx 1.0-1.5$)^{5b,13} as turnover begins. Concomitant color changes are also in accord with these observations.⁹ That the major oxidative pathway is probably allylic C-H attack is suggested by rapid stoi-



chiometric reaction of 2 with 1-(dimethylamino)-4-pentene to yield an η^3 -allyl species (4, eq 5).¹⁴ In contrast, reaction



¹/₂(Cp'₂Sm-H)₂ (5a)

∆H_{calcd} ~ --6 kcal / mot of olefin



∆H_{calcd} ≈ -39 kcal / mol of olefin

of 2 with saturated primary amines yields only divalent base adducts (eq 6)^{11,12} and no NMR evidence for (yel-

$$Cp'_{2}Sm + xH_{2}N^{n}Pr \rightleftharpoons Cp'_{2}Sm(H_{2}N^{n}Pr)_{x}$$
(6)

low-orange) trivalent Cp'₂SmNHR(H₂NR) complexes (accessible independently via $Cp'_2SmCH(TMS)_2$ + H₂NR).^{5b,15-17} Further support for the catalytic agency

⁽¹¹⁾ Typical Cp' ¹H NMR data (400 MHz, 25 °C, toluene-d₈, in excess

⁽¹¹⁾ Typical Cp' ¹H NMR data (400 MHz, 25 °C, toluene- d_8 , in excess amine) for nitrogen base adducts: Cp'_2Sm(H_2NⁿPr)_x, δ 3.7 ($\Delta\nu_{1/2} = 5$ Hz); Cp'_2Sm(HNEt_2)_x, δ 4.0 ($\Delta\nu_{1/2} = 5$ Hz); Cp'_2Sm[H_2N(4-pentenyl)]_x, δ 3.9 ($\Delta\nu_{1/2} = 11$ Hz); Cp'_Sm[H_2N(2,2-dimethyl-4-pentenyl)]_x, δ 3.9 ($\Delta\nu_{1/2} = 11$ Hz); Cp'_Sm[H2N(2,2-dimethyl-4-pentenyl)]_x, δ 3.9 ($\Delta\nu_{1/2} = 11$ Hz); Cp'_Sm[H2N(2,2-dimethyl-4-pentenyl)]_x, δ 3.9 ($\Delta\nu_{1/2} = 11$ Hz); Cp'_Sm[H2N(2,2-dimethyl-4-pentenyl)]_x, δ 3.9 ($\Delta\nu_{1/2} = 11$ Hz); Cp'_Sm[THF)₂, δ 2.1 ($\Delta\nu_{1/2} = 8$ Hz). (12) For additional examples of Cp'_2Ln^{II} amine complexes see: (a) Tilley, T. D.; Andersen, R. A.; Spencer, B.; Zalkin, A. Inorg. Chem. 1982, 21, 2647-2649. (b) Wayda, A. L.; Dye, J. L.; Rogers, R. D. Organometallics 1984, 3, 1605-1610. (13) (a) Cp' ¹H NMR data (400 MHz, 25 °C, toluene- d_8) in excess amine: Cp'_2Sm-N(H)(4-pentenyl)]H_2N(4-pentenyl)]_z, δ 1.5 ($\Delta\nu_{1/2} = 1$ Hz); Cp'_2Sm-N(H)(2,2-dimethyl-4-pentenyl)][H_2N(2,2-dimethyl-4-pentenyl)]_z, δ 1.5 ($\Delta\nu_{1/2} = 1$ Hz). (b) Doublets at δ 1.3-1.4 are also noted and are suggestive of the magnetically nonequivalent Cp' signals of a Cp'_2Sm(η^3 -allyl) species:^{2b,61,36} δ (Cp') 1.1, 1.3 ($\Delta\nu_{1/2} = 1$ Hz). (c) For 1, δ (Cp') 1.01, 1.20 ($\Delta\nu_{1/2} = 5$ Hz).

⁽¹⁴⁾ In a preparative reaction, 0.50 g (1.2 mmol) of Cp'₂Sm was stirred in 20 mL of toluene with 0.21 g (1.8 mmol) of 1-(dimethylamino)-4pentene for 24 h. The toluene was then removed under vacuum and 20 mL pentane added. Subsequent filtration, slow cooling to -78 °C, demL pentane added. Subsequent filtration, slow cooling to -78 °C, decantation of the pentane, and drying in vacuo afforded an isolated yield of ca. 0.49 g (76.9%) of a red oily solid. ¹H NMR (benzene-d₆, 25 °C, tentative assignments); δ 7.20 (br s, 1 H, CH₂CHCHCH₂CH₂NMe₂), 5.30 (br s, 1 H, CH₂CHCHCH₂CH₂NMe₂), 10.27 (br s, 1 H, CHHCHCHCH₂CH₂NMe₂), -2.41 (br s, 2 H, CH₂CHCHCH₂CH₂NMe₂), 2.68 (s, NMe₂, 6 H), 1.42 (s, 15 H, Me₈C₅, $\Delta \nu_{1/2} = 5$ Hz), 1.31 (s, 15 H, Me₆C₅, $\Delta \nu_{1/2} = 5$ Hz). Anal. Calcd for C₂₇H₄₄NSm: Sm, 28.1; mol wt, 534. Found: Sm, 28.3; mol wt, 534 (direct-injection MS). MS).

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of Sm(III) species is provided by the observation that the relative rates of the present reactions are consistent with general Cp'_2LnR ionic radius-rate correlations (La > Sm > $Lu)^1$ and that the present reactions are zero-order in substrate (Scheme I, k_{ii} [substrate] $\gg k_i$) as for other Cp'2LnR catalysts.¹ The unimportance of divalent species in the catalytic cycle is also argued by the observation that Cp'₂Eu¹⁸ is catalytically inactive under the present conditions. From thermochemical data^{5a} we estimate that ΔH is approximately 22 kcal/mol of propylene more endothermic for the europium analogue of eq 1 and that bi-

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nuclear reductive-elimination reactions (eq 7) are invari-

$$Cp'_{2}EuR + Cp'_{2}EuR' \rightarrow 2Cp'_{2}Eu + RR'$$
(7)

$$\Delta H_{\text{calcd}} \approx -8 \text{ to } -12 \text{ kcal/mol of Eu}$$

ably exothermic (in contrast to the case for samarium). Scheme II illustrates a representative, minimum catalytic cycle that accounts for the above observations.¹⁹

In summary, these results offer an expedient access to organolanthanide-catalyzed hydroamination/cyclization chemistry. They also underscore the diversity that the varying redox characteristics of 4f ions can introduce in lanthanide-centered catalytic chemistry.

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Ring-Opening Reactions of Strained-Ring Thioethers in Metal Cluster Complexes. Photoinduced Transformation of Thietane to 2-Propenethiolate in a Triosmium Cluster Complex

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Summary: Os₃(CO)₁₁[S(CH₂)₃] undergoes photoassisted ring opening, CH activation, and decarbonylation to yield $Os_3(CO)_{10}[\mu$ -SCH₂C(H)=CH₂](μ -H) (2). 2 engages in a phosphine-assisted insertion reaction between the allyl group and the hydride ligand to yield Os₃(CO)₁₀- $(PMe_2Ph)[\mu-S(CH_2)_3]$ (3), which contains a novel thiametallacyclic ring. 3 is decarbonylated at 97 °C to yield the PMe₂Ph derivative of 2.

The ring-opening reaction is believed to be an integral step in the desulfurization of cyclic thioethers, the principal sulfur-containing contaminants of fossil fuels.¹ Metal complexes² have been shown to promote this process, and it is also known to occur readily on molybdenum surfaces.³ Due to their intrinsic strain, small-ring thioethers, such as thiiranes⁴ and thietanes,⁵ exhibit a greater tendency to



Figure 1. ORTEP diagram of $Os_3(CO)_{11}[S(CH_2)_3]$ (1) showing 50% probability thermal ellipsoids. Selected intramolecular distances (Å) are as follows: Os(1)-Os(2) = 2.850 (1), Os(1)-Os(3) = 2.887 (1), Os(2)-Os(3) = 2.887 (1), Os(2)-Os(3) = 2.887 (1), Os(1)-S(1) = 2.375 (5), S(1)-C(1)= 1.85 (2), S(1)-C(3) = 1.83 (2).

undergo ring opening and desulfurization. Thiiranes usually undergo complete desulfurization upon reaction with metal complexes.⁴ The chemistry of thietane, S(C- H_2)₃, in metal complexes has been studied very little.⁶ On metal surfaces, thietane is readily desulfurized.⁵ In this report, the preliminary results of our study of the coordination and transformation of thietane by a triosmium cluster is described.

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^{(17) (}a) The oxidation of Cp'₂Sm to Cp'₂SmNHR + $1/_2$ H₂ is estimated from existing data^{5b,17b} to be slightly exothermic ($\Delta H_{calcd} \approx -7$ kcal/mol of Sm) but may well be endergonic. To date, we have observed neither

^{(19) (}a) We are unable to detect internal olefins or their cyclization products in low substrate/catalyst ratio experiments, suggesting that proton transfer in step i (Scheme II) is to the substituted allyl carbon atom or that internal olefins are subsequently isomerized. (b) Reaction of Sm alkyls (subsequent to step iii, Scheme II) with olefin could also yield η^{3} -allyls^{2b,5b,13b} and the corresponding heterocyclic product (an alternative to step iv). The η^3 -allyl would presumably then reenter the cycle at step i.

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