

Site of Attack in the Gas-Phase Reactions of Negative Ions with (η^5 -Cyclopentadienyl)dicarbonylcobalt(I)

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The gas-phase reactions of negative ions (NH_2^- , HO^- , RO^- , O^- , and HC_2^-) with $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$ have been studied with Fourier transform ion cyclotron resonance (FT-ICR) mass spectrometry. The main reactions are proton transfer and nucleophilic attack leading to elimination of one or two CO molecules from the collision complex. The gas-phase acidity, $\Delta H^\circ_{\text{acid}}$, of $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$ is placed at $1559 \pm 10 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ on the basis of the occurrence/nonoccurrence of proton transfer in the reactions with the RO^- ions. Nucleophilic attack of the NH_2^- , HO^- , RO^- , and HC_2^- ions on $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$ is discussed as proceeding by (i) reaction at a CO ligand with subsequent elimination of the other CO ligand and migration of the HO or RO group to the metal center followed to some extent by the expulsion of a CO molecule and/or by (ii) a η^5 to η^3 change in the bonding of the C_5H_5 ligand prior to bond formation between the nucleophile and the cobalt atom and the subsequent elimination of one or two CO molecules. Competing attack on the Cp ligand and a CO ligand occurs only in the reaction with the O^- radical anion and results in abundant $\text{CoC}_5\text{H}_5\text{O}^-$ ions. Attack of the oxygen radical anion on the Cp ligand is proposed to yield mainly a $(\eta^4\text{-C}_5\text{H}_4\text{O})\text{Co}(\text{H})^-$ ion, whereas initial attack of O^- on a CO ligand is suggested to result in a metallacyclopentadiene species with a CO ligand and a hydrogen atom bonded to the cobalt atom and/or in a $(\eta^4\text{-cyclobutadiene})\text{Co}(\text{H})(\text{CO})^-$ ion.

Introduction

Nucleophilic addition reactions are applied extensively in organotransition-metal chemistry, and coordination to a transition-metal atom is known to activate unsaturated species, such as carbon monoxide, ethene, and benzene toward nucleophilic attack.¹ The attack of a nucleophile on a ligand represents a key step in important industrial processes such as the Wacker reaction, which involves attack of water on an ethene molecule coordinated to palladium(II), and the water gas shift (WGS) reaction, which under alkaline conditions is considered to involve attack of a hydroxide ion on a CO ligand in, for example, $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$.¹ Apart from the properties of the ligand itself, the susceptibility toward nucleophilic attack is ascribed usually to (i) the coordinative saturation of the metal center, (ii) the presence of a formal positive charge on the metal center, and (iii) the presence of a ligand, which can accommodate an increase in charge of the substrate. In this respect, the cyclopentadienyl ligand, which is one of the most widely utilized ligands in organometallic chemistry, is reported to be reactive toward nucleophiles only in instances where the organometallic species carries a positive charge, e.g., $(\text{Cp})_2\text{Co}^+$ and $\text{CpFe}(\text{CO})_3^+$.^{1,2}

The present insight into the mechanisms of the reactions between nucleophiles and transition-metal compounds is based almost entirely on results obtained from condensed-phase studies, and one may raise the question of whether the ability of various ligands to undergo nucleophilic attack is a reflection of a molecular property of the metal species. In principle, the relative ease of attack of a charged nucleophile on different ligands in an organometallic compound can be probed by studying the processes in the gas phase,³⁻⁵ thus avoiding the influence of

solvent molecules and counterions inevitably present in the condensed phase. A number of studies have documented that typical reactions of transition-metal species such as ligand substitution/addition reactions,^{4,5,6-11} oxidations by O_2 ,^{4,9,12,13} and oxidative addition/reductive elimination processes^{4,14-27} can occur in gas-phase systems. Notwithstanding the formal resemblance between processes occurring in the two phases, the removal of the solvent causes dramatic changes in the energetics and rates of the reactions.^{28,29} In the gas phase, ion/molecule re-

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actions occurring under thermal or near-thermal conditions are bound to be exothermic or thermoneutral and are known to proceed often with overall rate constants approaching the rate constant for collision between the particles.^{28,29} The latter rate constant is determined largely by the attractive ion/dipole and ion/induced-dipole interactions, which lead initially to a decrease in potential energy. The total energy of the system will be conserved in the absence of stabilizing collisions with third bodies and/or emission of photons, and as a result, the energy gained upon approach will be present largely as excess internal (rotational and vibrational) energy. The encounter complex, which is often referred to as a loosely bound ion/molecule complex, may either dissociate to reactants or undergo a chemical reaction depending on the internal energy content, the height of the local potential energy barrier toward the chemical reaction, and the geometry of the transition state for the reaction. The products of the chemical reaction can arise by dissociation of the loose ion/molecule complex formed by crossing the barrier, or a series of discrete chemical events may follow the initial step and precede separation of the components. Within the limits of this simplified picture of gas-phase ion/molecule reactions, the competition between nucleophilic attack on different ligands of an organometallic compound may be determined largely by the properties of the transition states of the reactions. This requires, of course, that the steps which may follow the initial attack of the nucleophile are facile and essentially irreversible. In addition, the observation of separated products formed as a consequence of competing nucleophilic attack on different ligands demands that the various overall reactions are thermochemically feasible.

Previous studies of the gas-phase reactions of negative ions with transition-metal compounds have been concerned mainly with carbonyl compounds, e.g., $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$.^{5,30-33} The mechanistic picture emerging from these studies involves initial attack of the nucleophile on a CO ligand followed by loss of a CO molecule and migration of the nucleophile to the metal center succeeded to some extent by expulsion of a second CO molecule. Nucleophilic attack on an organic ligand is described only for the gas-phase reactions of H^- with $(\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{H}_6)\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_3$, which results in a $\text{HCr}(\text{CO})_3^-$ ion after migration of a hydrogen atom to the metal center and elimination of C_6H_6 .^{5,16} With $(\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{H}_6)\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_3$ or $\text{CpMn}(\text{CO})_3$, alkoxide ions and carbanions are reported to react in a flowing afterglow (FA)^{34,35} instrument by proton transfer and formation of stable adducts. The often predominant formation of stable adducts in FA instruments is caused by the occurrence of stabilizing collisions with the carrier gas present in the flow tube at a relatively high pressure (~ 70 Pa He).^{34,35} In the present study, Fourier transform ion cyclotron resonance (FT-ICR) mass spectrometry^{36,37} is used to investigate the reactions of negative ions with $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$ at very low pressures ($< 10^{-4}$ Pa), thus avoiding prevalent adduct formation. The study was un-

dertaken in order to elucidate the mechanism of the gas-phase reactions of negative ions with a typical organometallic compound containing a Cp ligand and in order to examine whether the relative inertness of the Cp ligand toward nucleophiles noted for reactions occurring in the condensed phase is maintained in the gas phase. The $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$ compound was chosen as the substrate in part because of its volatility and in part because a previous report indicated that F^- and methoxide ions react with $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$ under ICR conditions mainly by the loss of one or two CO molecules from the collision complex.⁶

Experimental Section

The experiments were performed with an FT-ICR instrument designed and constructed at the University of Amsterdam.^{38,39} In a typical experiment, the primary negative ions were formed by a pulsed electron beam (duration 100 ms) and trapped in a magnetic field of 1.23 T by applying a small negative voltage (~ -1 V) to the trapping plates of the cubic inch FT-ICR cell. The O^- ion was formed by dissociative electron capture by N_2O (electron energy ~ 1.2 eV), while the $^{18}\text{O}^-$ ion was generated from a nitrous oxide sample containing 70% N_2^{18}O and 30% N_2O . The O^- ions formed by electron impact on the sample and in the subsequent reactions of the $^{18}\text{O}^-$ ions with the N_2O molecules^{40,41} were ejected from the FT-ICR cell. The NH_2^- and $\text{HO}^-/\text{H}^{18}\text{O}^-/\text{DO}^-$ ions were formed by dissociative electron capture by NH_3 (5 eV) and $\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{H}_2^{18}\text{O}/\text{D}_2\text{O}$ (6 eV), respectively. The other anions were formed by proton transfer from the appropriate neutral precursors to the O^- ion. The ions of interest were isolated by removing all other ions from the cell by a series of radio frequency (rf) pulses, which were adjusted in such a way that unwanted translational excitation of the selected ions was minimized. The reactions with a given substrate were studied as a function of time by varying the delay between the selection of the reactant ion and the start of the excitation pulse, which increases the radius of the cyclotron motion of the ions prior to their detection.³⁶ Impact of low kinetic energy electrons on $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$ results in molecular negative ions and abundant $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})^-$ ions. The formation of primary negative ions from $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$ during the period that the nucleophiles were allowed to react with the organometallic substrate was prevented by ejecting the low kinetic energy electrons from the FT-ICR cell as described elsewhere.⁴²

The total pressure was normally around 6×10^{-6} Pa, and the ratio between the partial pressures of $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$, N_2O , and the substrate or the conjugate acid of the nucleophile of interest was typically 1:1:1. The pressures were measured on an uncalibrated ionization gauge placed in a side arm of the main pumping line. The inlet lines and the main vacuum vessel were at room temperature, while the temperature of the trapping plate opposite the filament side varied from 330 to 340 K in a typical experiment.

Materials. Most of the chemicals including the $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$ compound were commercially available and used without further purification. The labeled alcohols and carboxylic acids were either commercially available or prepared by standard methods and purified prior to use.

Results

Reactions of Negative Ions with $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$. The main reactions of negative ions with $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$ are proton transfer and nucleophilic attack, which is followed by elimination of one or two CO molecules from the collision complex (eqs 1-3, where $\text{A}^- = \text{NH}_2^-$, HO^- , RO^- , and HC_2^- , and Table I). In addition to these processes, CO_2 is ex-

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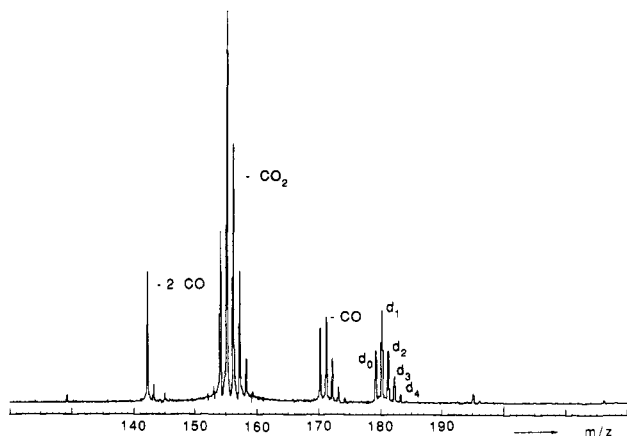
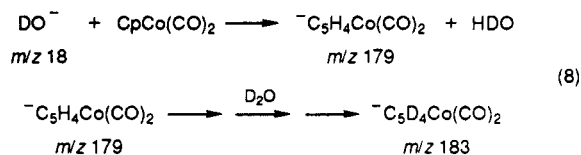


Figure 2. Spectrum obtained of the $\text{DO}^-/\text{D}_2\text{O}/\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$ system after a reaction time of 700 ms: $p(\text{D}_2\text{O}) \approx 3 \times 10^{-5}$ Pa and $p(\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2) \approx 2 \times 10^{-5}$ Pa. The $[\text{M} - \text{H}]^-$ ions (m/z 179–183) are seen to be capable of exchanging up to four hydrogen atoms for deuterium atoms. The distribution of the d_0 – d_4 ions is (percent) 23 (d_0):40 (d_1):23 (d_2):10 (d_3):4 (d_4). The ions with m/z 170–174 are formed by loss of CO from the collision complexes. The ions with m/z 154–159 are formed by CO_2 loss. The ions with m/z 142 and 143 are formed by loss of two CO molecules. See also the text.

The $[\text{M} - \text{H}]^-$ ions undergo sequential exchange of hydrogen atoms for deuterium atoms in the presence of D_2O (eq 8; see also Figure 2).⁴⁵ The ions formed by loss of CO

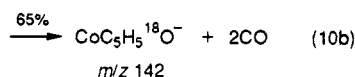
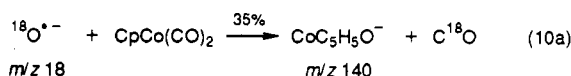
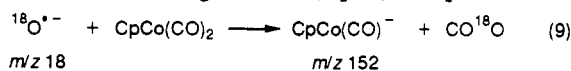


and CO_2 during the reaction of the conjugate base of $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$ with water (see eqs 5 and 6) incorporate deuterium atoms as illustrated in Figure 2. However, experiments in which the product ions of reactions 5 and 6 were isolated (see Experimental Section) and subsequently allowed to react with D_2O revealed that these ions themselves do not undergo exchange with D_2O . This suggests that the reactions leading to the loss of CO or CO_2 from the collision complex are preceded by the hydrogen–deuterium exchange between the conjugate base of the organometallic compound and D_2O (see also Discussion).⁴⁶

The exchange of the $[\text{M} - \text{H}]^-$ ions with D_2O and the reactions of the $[\text{M} - \text{H}]^-$ ions with water (eqs 5 and 6) or alcohols (eq 7) imply that deprotonation of $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$ does not result in a change in the bonding between the Cp ligand and the cobalt atom. The occurrence/nonoccurrence of proton transfer in the reactions of the alkoxide ions with $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$ (Table I) can be used, therefore, to derive the gas-phase acidity of the Cp ligand in the organometallic compound if it is assumed that the observation of near-thermoneutral proton transfer is not hampered by the competing reaction leading to the loss of one or two CO molecules from the collision complex. Based on this assumption, the gas-phase acidity, $\Delta H^\circ_{\text{acid}}$, of the $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$ can be placed between the values for $n\text{-C}_4\text{H}_9\text{OH}$ and $\text{FCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ (see Table I), that is, 1559 ± 10 kJ mol⁻¹. The $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$ compound appears to have a gas-phase acidity similar to $\text{CpMn}(\text{CO})_3$ (1556 ± 20 kJ

mol⁻¹),⁵ and both species are only slightly more acidic than the free $\text{C}_5\text{H}_5^\cdot$ radical (1577 ± 12 kJ mol⁻¹),⁴⁷ indicating that coordination to a metal center does not lead to a dramatic increase in the acidity of $\text{C}_5\text{H}_5^\cdot$ in contrast to the enhancement in acidity of 100–120 kJ mol⁻¹ going from benzene to $(\eta^6\text{-C}_6\text{H}_6)\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_3$.^{5,16}

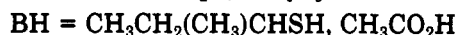
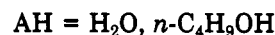
Reactions of the Oxygen Radical Anion. The reaction of the O^\cdot ion with $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$ proceeds in part as indicated in eqs 1–3 and in part by loss of CO_2 from the collision complex (Table I). Experiments with $^{18}\text{O}^\cdot$ reveal that the ions formed by loss of carbon dioxide do not incorporate the oxygen-18 atom (eq 9) whereas the ions formed by the loss of two carbon monoxide molecules retain the label to a large extent (eq 10). Equilibration



of the three oxygen atoms in the collision complex would result in a ratio of 2:1 for the abundances of the $\text{CoC}_5\text{H}_5\text{O}^-$ and $\text{CoC}_5\text{H}_5\text{O}^{18}$ ions and would also lead to a ratio between CO_2 and CO^{18}O loss of 1:2. The obtained ratio for the $\text{CoC}_5\text{H}_5\text{O}^-$ and $\text{CoC}_5\text{H}_5\text{O}^{18}$ ion abundances and the absence of incorporation of the ^{18}O atom in the ions formed by carbon dioxide loss thus reveal that the oxygen atoms do not become equivalent prior to product ion formation (vide infra).

Reactions and Structures of the $\text{CoC}_5\text{H}_5\text{A}^-$ Ions. The present approach to determine the site of nucleophilic attack on $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$ in the gas phase is based largely on a characterization of the structure of the product ions. With the FT-ICR method it is possible, in principle, to establish ion structures by examination of the chemical reactivity of the ions and by performing collision-induced dissociation or photodissociation experiments. In this study, the $\text{CoC}_5\text{H}_5\text{A}^-$ ions formed by the loss of two CO molecules from the collision complex (eq 3) have been allowed to react with selected substrates in order to obtain structural information.

The $\text{CoC}_5\text{H}_5\text{A}^-$ ions formed by attack of the hydroxide ion on $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$ react with 2-butanethiol and acetic acid exclusively and completely by elimination of a water molecule from the collision complex (eq 11). Similarly,



the $\text{CoC}_5\text{H}_5\text{A}^-$ ions formed as a result of attack by the $n\text{-C}_4\text{H}_9\text{O}^-$ ion on $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$ react with 2-butanethiol and acetic acid to expel a n -butanol molecule from the collision complex. On the basis of the occurrence of these reactions, the $\text{CoC}_5\text{H}_5\text{A}^-$ ions formed by nucleophilic attack of the HO^- and RO^- ions on $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$ are assigned a CpCoA^- structure as implied in eqs 3 and 11.

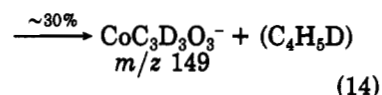
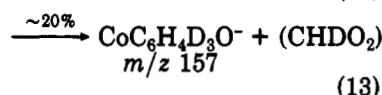
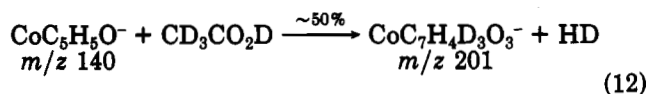
The bimolecular chemistry of the $\text{CoC}_5\text{H}_5\text{O}^-$ ions formed by attack of O^\cdot on $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$ is completely different and much more complex than the chemistry of the $\text{CpCo}(\text{OH})^-$ or $\text{CpCo}(\text{OR})^-$ ions. With acetic acid as the substrate, the $\text{CoC}_5\text{H}_5\text{O}^-$ ions react by proton transfer and elimination of H_2 , (C_4H_6) , and (H_2CO_2) from the collision complex.

(45) Hydrogen–deuterium exchange reactions of negative ions in the gas phase are discussed in ref 28 and: Grabowski, J. J.; DePuy, C. H.; van Doren, J. M.; Bierbaum, V. M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1985, 107, 7384.

(46) Similar observations have been reported for the reactions of the $[\text{M} - \text{H}]^-$ ions from 2-, 3-, and 4-fluoroanisole with water or aliphatic alcohols; see: Ingemann, S.; Nibbering, N. M. M. *J. Org. Chem.* 1983, 48, 183.

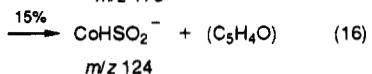
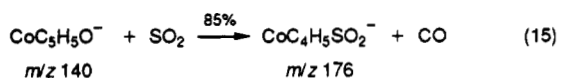
(47) McDonald, R. N.; Chowdhury, A. K.; Setser, D. W. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1980, 102, 6461.

Similar reactions occur with formic acid as the substrate, and experiments with deuterium-labeled acetic acid reveal that the neutral products incorporate one deuterium atom as indicated in eqs 12–14, where the percentages refer to a reaction time of 300 ms.



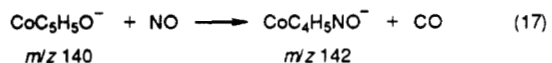
Although the detection and characterization of the neutral products of gas-phase ion/molecule reactions has been accomplished, such experiments require unique instruments.^{48,49} With the instrument applied in the present study, analysis of the neutral products is not achievable, thus precluding any conclusion as to whether (C₄H₅) represents the loss of one neutral species or, for example, the loss of C₄H₄ + H₂. Nevertheless, the occurrence of reaction 14 indicates that an extensive rearrangement involving the carbon and hydrogen atoms of the original Cp ligand may accompany the attack O⁻ on CpCo(CO)₂.

Some insight into the structure(s) of the CoC₅H₅O⁻ ions is obtained from the reactions of these ions with SO₂, NO, and aliphatic alcohols. With SO₂, the CoC₅H₅O⁻ ions react predominantly by the loss of a CO molecule from the collision complex (eq 15). In addition to CO loss, the

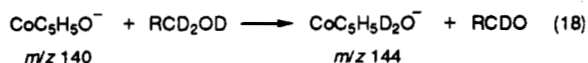


reaction with SO₂ results in an ion with m/z 124. The elemental composition of this product ion is assigned as CoHSO₂ instead of CoC₅H₅ on the basis of an accurate mass measurement⁵⁰ indicating that (C₅H₄O) is expelled (eq 16) either as one neutral species or, for example, as CO + C₄H₄.

The CoC₅H₅O⁻ ions react also with NO to expel a CO molecule from the collision complex, but the loss of (C₅H₄O) is not observed with this substrate.



The CoC₅H₅O⁻ ions react with aliphatic alcohols (ROH, R = CH₃, C₂H₅, CH₃CH₂CH₂, (CH₃)₂CH) in part by oxidation of the substrate to an aldehyde or a ketone and in part by loss of a hydrogen molecule from the collision complex. Deuterium labeling reveals that the hydrogen atoms added to the reactant ion in the former process originate from the OH function and the α position of the alcohol (Table II and eq 18). The results for the deu-



terium-labeled alcohols in Table II show that the eliminated hydrogen molecule consists of one hydrogen atom

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(49) Jones, M. E.; Ellison, G. B. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1989, 111, 1645.

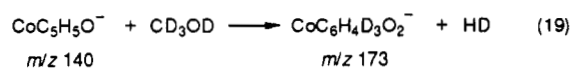
(50) The exact mass of the CoHSO₂⁻ ions is 123.903 83 Da; the exact mass of the CoC₅H₅⁻ ion is 123.976 83 Da. The mass of the product ion is measured to be 123.901 ± 0.002 Da (four measurements). See ref 38.

Table II. Results of the Reactions of the CoC₅H₅O⁻ Ions with Deuterium-Labeled Alcohols^a

substrate	added to the reactant ion	lost from the collision complex
CD ₃ OH	H + D	H ₂
CD ₃ OD	2D	HD
CH ₃ CH ₂ OD	H + D	HD
CD ₃ CD ₂ OH	H + D	H ₂
CH ₃ CH ₂ CD ₂ OH	H + D	H ₂
(CD ₃) ₂ CDOD	2D	HD

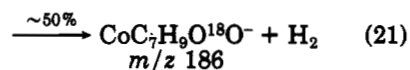
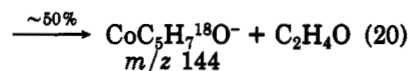
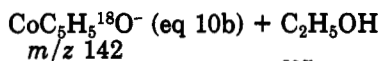
^aThe two reactions occur to an equal extent in all instances.

from the hydroxylic position of the alcohol and one hydrogen atom from the CoC₅H₅O⁻ ions (eq 19).

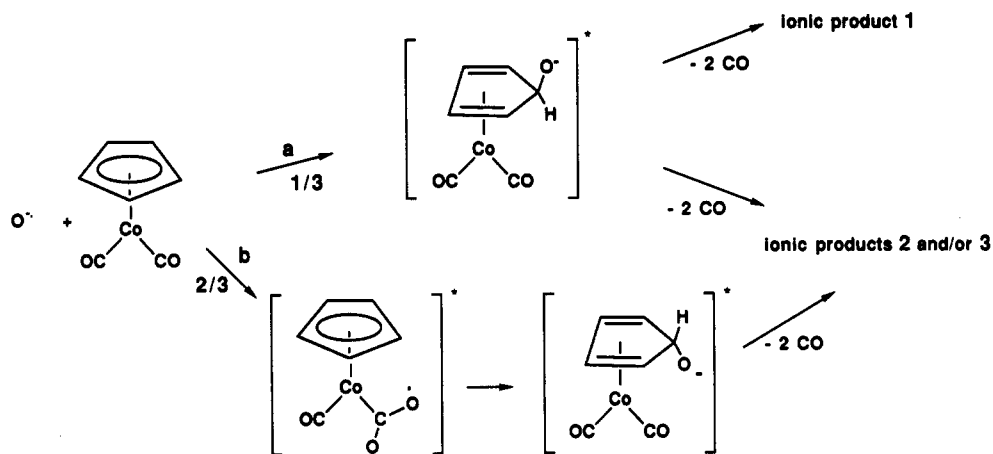


The determination of the structure(s) of the CoC₅H₅O⁻ ions by examination of their bimolecular chemistry is complicated to some extent by the occurrence of a reaction between these ions and the CpCo(CO)₂ molecules present in the FT-ICR cell. This reaction yields stable adducts in addition to ions formed by loss of one or two CO molecules from the collision complex and is relatively slow, with conversion into products being complete at a reaction time of ~5 s. The reaction with the parent organometallic compound was unable to compete with the reaction of the CoC₅H₅O⁻ ions with SO₂ or formic acid, and only traces of the ions from the former reaction were observed in the experiments with these substrates. By contrast, significant amounts of the product ions of the reaction between CoC₅H₅O⁻ and CpCo(CO)₂ were formed when NO or an aliphatic alcohol was present in the cell.

In the experiments with the aliphatic alcohols, only a minor part of the CoC₅H₅O⁻ ions (~20%) were reactive toward these substrates. The occurrence of the reaction with the parent organometallic compounds precludes an accurate determination of the amount of CoC₅H₅O⁻ ions capable of reacting with the alcohols. The formation of CoC₅H₅O⁻ ions with a different reactivity is supported by experiments in which the reactions with ethanol and CpCo(CO)₂ were allowed to proceed for 1–1.5 s before the remaining CoC₅H₅O⁻ ions were isolated (see Experimental Section). No product ions were formed in the subsequent reactions of the remaining CoC₅H₅O⁻ ions with ethanol, and merely the product ions from the reactions with the parent compound were detected. Such results may mean that some of the CoC₅H₅O⁻ ions formed by attack of O⁻ on CpCo(CO)₂ contain excess internal/translational energy, which enables them to react with the aliphatic alcohols. However, only the CoC₅H₅¹⁸O⁻ ions generated in the reactions of the ¹⁸O⁻ ion with CpCo(CO)₂ (eq 10b) react with ethanol as shown in eqs 20 and 21, whereas the CoC₅H₅O⁻

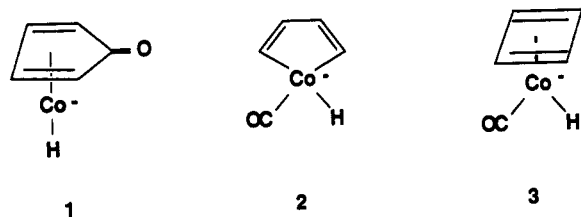


ions formed through the route in eq 10a show no reactivity toward this substrate. Furthermore, both ions formed as indicated in eqs 10a and 10b react with acetic acid by elimination of (C₄H₆) (eq 14) and by proton transfer, whereas H₂ loss (eq 12) is observed solely for the CoC₅H₅¹⁸O⁻ ions. In conclusion, the results indicate that attack of O⁻ on the cobalt compound leads to isomeric CoC₅H₅O⁻

Scheme II. Proposed Reaction Mechanisms for Attack of the O^- on the Cp Ligand (Path a) or on a CO Ligand (Path b) of $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$ in the Gas Phase

structure.²⁴ The formation of such an ion is hard to reconcile with the observed ion/molecule chemistry of the $\text{CoC}_5\text{H}_5\text{O}^-$ ions, which indicates that the Cp ligand is not retained as a structural entity upon attack of the O^- ion. In conclusion, the experiments with the $^{18}\text{O}^-$ ion indicate that 70% of the product ions from loss of two carbon monoxide molecules from the collision complex arise by attack on a CO ligand, whereas the remaining 30% are generated by initial attack on the Cp ligand.

The present results do not allow for detailed considerations of the precise structure(s) of the $\text{CoC}_5\text{H}_5\text{O}^-$ ions. Agreement between the described observations can be obtained, however, by postulating the formation of species such as 1-3. The generation of these ions by competing



attack of O^- on the Cp and CO ligands is rationalized in Scheme II. Initial attack on the Cp ligand is likely to occur on the exo side of the ring as indicated in path a. Loss of two CO molecules and migration of the hydrogen atom now at the endo side with respect to the cobalt atom leads to the 15-electron $(\eta^4\text{-C}_5\text{H}_4\text{O})\text{Co}(\text{H})^-$ ion (1). Attack of the O^- ion on a CO ligand could be expected to be followed by a shift of an oxygen atom to the metal center with formation of a CpCoO^- ion²⁴ after the expulsion of two CO molecules in analogy with the reactions of the HO^- and RO^- (see Scheme I). The lack of evidence for the generation of a CpCoO^- ion, however, suggests that migration of an oxygen atom to the Cp ligand occurs after the initial attack on a CO ligand (path b in Scheme II). Cleavage of the ring concomitant with the expulsion of two CO molecules then leads to the proposed metallacyclopentadiene⁵⁵ species (2) and/or the $(\eta^4\text{-cyclobutadiene})\text{-Co}(\text{H})(\text{CO})^-$ ion (3).

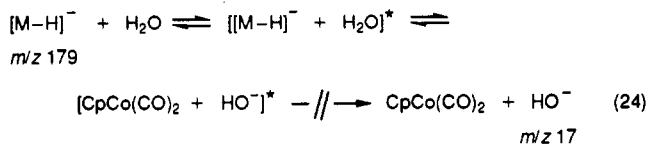
The generation of a unique ion structure by attack on the Cp ligand is in agreement with the observation that only the ions retaining the label in the reaction with the $^{18}\text{O}^-$ ion react with ethanol (eqs 20 and 21), and the generation of ion 1 is supported by the loss of $(\text{C}_5\text{H}_4\text{O})$ in the reaction with SO_2 (eq 16). The formation of ion 1 in which

one of the hydrogen atoms of the original Cp ligand has become structurally different from the others may be held responsible also for the exclusive occurrence of HD loss in the reactions with fully deuterated alcohols (eq 19 and Table II). The observation that only ~15% of the $\text{CoC}_5\text{H}_5\text{O}^-$ ions react with SO_2 to expel $(\text{C}_5\text{H}_4\text{O})$ (eq 16) whereas the oxygen-18 experiments indicate that ~30% of all the $\text{CoC}_5\text{H}_5\text{O}^-$ ions are formed by attack on the Cp ligand implies that species other than 1 can be formed by path a in Scheme II. These other species could well be 2 and 3, which are thought to be formed mainly by initial attack on a CO ligand (path b). The generation of ions like 2 or 3 is supported by the loss of CO from the collision complex in the reaction with SO_2 (eq 15) and NO (eq 17) and also by the elimination of (C_4H_2) in the reactions with acetic acid (eq 14) or formic acid.

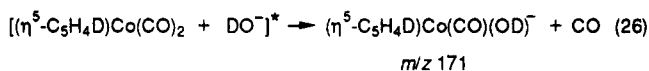
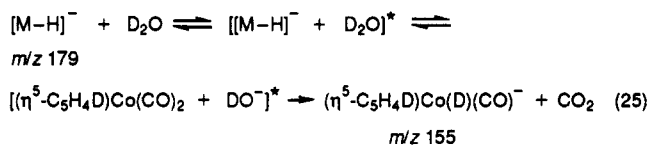
Competing Reactions and Energetic Considerations. Exothermic to near-thermoneutral proton transfer in gas-phase ion/molecule systems occurs often with a rate essentially equal to the rate of collision between the particles.²⁸ Nucleophilic substitutions such as $\text{S}_{\text{N}}2$ reactions in organic gas-phase systems are known to be associated with local energy barriers, which can cause the rate of these reactions to be much lower than the collision rates even if the overall processes are strongly exothermic.^{28,29} In organic systems where proton transfer is exothermic, it is often observed, therefore, that this process kinetically suppresses the occurrence of thermochemically favorable substitutions reactions. Relatively little is known about the potential energy surfaces describing nucleophilic attack on organometallic compounds. In the present system, proton transfer from $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$ to the most basic anions (NH_2^- , HO^-) is by far the dominant channel and only ~20% of the total amount of product ions arises from nucleophilic attack in these instances (see Table I and eqs 1-4). The relative importance of proton transfer in comparison with nucleophilic attack leading to the expulsion of one or two CO molecules decreases as expected with decreasing PA of the reactant ion. A decrease in the PA of the reactant ions results also in a reduction in the rate of the overall process (Table I; see also Results). These observations suggest that nucleophilic attack on a CO ligand and/or the metal center is associated with a local potential energy barrier decreasing the rate of the overall process if proton transfer is not the dominant pathway.

Some insight into the energy surface describing the attack of negative ions on $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$ can be obtained from the reactions of the $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$ ions with water or alcohols. In the reaction of the HO^- ion with $\text{CpCo}(\text{CO})_2$, a

[CpCo(CO)₂ + HO⁻]* complex is formed directly, whereas the reactions of the [M - H]⁻ ion with water lead initially to a [[M - H]⁻ + H₂O]* complex. The formation of the [[M - H]⁻ + H₂O]* complex is associated with a gain in energy, which is sufficiently large to allow for conversion into a [CpCo(CO)₂ + HO⁻]* complex (eq 24). Proton



transfer between the [M - H]⁻ ion and water to give free HO⁻ ions is not observed, since this process is endothermic by the difference in gas-phase acidities of the organometallic compound and water (~76 kJ mol⁻¹; see Results). The difference in acidities of CpCo(CO)₂ and H₂O causes the intermediate [CpCo(CO)₂ + HO⁻]* complex to be formed with lower internal energy in the reactions of the [M - H]⁻ ions with water than in the direct reaction of HO⁻ with the substrate. The [CpCo(CO)₂ + HO⁻]* complex in eq 24 may react to regenerate free [M - H]⁻ ions, or nucleophilic attack on a CO ligand and/or the metal atom can take place as illustrated in eqs 25 and 26 for the re-



action with D₂O. The observation of hydrogen-deuterium exchange between the [M - H]⁻ ions and D₂O (see Results and Figure 2) indicates that formation of the conjugate base of the organometallic compound is competing with nucleophilic attack. The exchange between the [M - H]⁻ ions and D₂O results in a distribution of *m/z* 179–183 ions (indicated with d₀–d₄ in Figure 2). The d₀–d₄ ions all react with D₂O to expel CO or CO₂ from the collision complex, thus leading to the observed extensive incorporation of deuterium atoms in the product ions of nucleophilic attack.⁴⁶

In the reactions of the [M - H]⁻ ions with the water or alcohol molecules hardly any loss of two CO molecules is occurring, whereas significant amounts of CpCo(OH)⁻ or CpCo(OR)⁻ ions are formed by direct attack of HO⁻ and RO⁻, respectively, on CpCo(CO)₂ (Table I). This is evident from the near-constant relative abundance of the CpCo(OC₂H₅)⁻ ion with time in the C₂H₅O⁻/C₂H₅OH/CpCo(CO)₂ system (Figure 1) and is revealed also in the generation of only minor amounts of (η⁵-C₅H₄D)Co(OD)⁻ (*m/z*

143) ions compared to the CpCo(OD)⁻ (*m/z* 142) ions in the DO⁻/D₂O/CpCo(CO)₂ system (Figure 2). The lower internal energy of the intermediate complexes in the reactions of the [M - H]⁻ ions with H₂O or ROH than in the direct reactions of the HO⁻ or RO⁻ with CpCo(CO)₂ results clearly in CpCo(CO)OH⁻ or CpCo(CO)OR⁻ ions with an internal energy below the threshold for elimination of a CO molecule. This, in turn, substantiates the implicitly assumed consecutive loss of two CO molecules in the reactions of the negative ions with the cobalt compound (Scheme I).

Conclusions

Nucleophilic attack on CpCo(CO)₂ by NH₂⁻, HO⁻, RO⁻, and HC₂⁻ occurs initially on a CO ligand and/or the cobalt atom and is likely to proceed by mechanisms comparable to those advanced for condensed-phase reactions. The elimination of CO₂ from the collision complexes in the gas-phase HO⁻/H₂O/CpCo(CO)₂ system resembles formally one of the central steps in the Fe(CO)₅-catalyzed water gas shift reaction.¹ Expulsion of CO₂ appears a favorable pathway in the HO⁻/H₂O/CpCo(CO)₂ system in contrast to the gas-phase reaction of HO⁻ with Fe(CO)₅, which is reported to yield only Fe(CO)₃(OH)⁻ ions after the elimination of two CO molecules from the collision complex.⁵

Competing attack on the Cp ligand and one of the CO ligands occurs only in the reactions of the O⁻ radical anion with the CpCo(CO)₂ compound and results in isomeric CoC₅H₅O⁻ ions. The bimolecular chemistry of these product ions suggests that attack of the oxygen radical anion on the Cp ligand yields mainly a (η⁴-C₅H₄O)Co(H)⁻ ion, whereas initial attack on a CO ligand is accompanied by a rearrangement involving cleavage of the carbon skeleton of the Cp ligand, possibly with the formation of a metallacyclopentadiene⁵⁵ species and/or a (η⁴-cyclobutadiene)Co(CO)(H)⁻ ion.

Acknowledgment. We thank Prof. Dr. A. Oskam and Dr. D. J. Stufkens from the Laboratory of Inorganic Chemistry at the University of Amsterdam for stimulating discussions. The Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (SON/NWO) is acknowledged for financial support.

Registry No. CpCo(CO)₂, 12078-25-0; NH₂⁻, 17655-31-1; HO⁻, 14280-30-9; O⁻, 14337-01-0; CH₃O⁻, 3315-60-4; C₂H₅O⁻, 16331-64-9; *n*-C₃H₇O⁻, 26232-83-7; (CH₃)₂CHO⁻, 15520-32-8; *n*-C₄H₉O⁻, 26232-84-8; (C₂H₅)₂CHO⁻, 117951-42-5; FCH₂CH₂O⁻, 74279-90-6; HC₂⁻, 29075-95-4; CH₃S⁻, 17302-63-5; CH₃CO₂⁻, 71-50-1; CoC₅H₅O⁻, 111189-21-0; CD₃OH, 1849-29-2; CD₃OD, 811-98-3; CH₃CH₂OD, 925-93-9; CD₃CD₂OH, 1859-08-1; CH₃CH₂CD₂OH, 40422-04-6; (CD₃)₂CDOD, 22739-76-0.

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