

CC-Coupling Reactions of Group 6 Allenylidenes with Ynamines: Formation of New Cyclobutenylidene and Pentatrienylidene Complexes

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Received December 16, 1997

The reaction of the diarylallenylidene complexes $[(\text{CO})_5\text{M}=\text{C}=\text{C}=\text{C}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{R}-p)_2]$ ($\text{M} = \text{Cr}$ (**1**), W (**2**); $\text{R} = \text{H}$ (**a**), Me (**b**), OMe (**c**), NMe_2 (**d**)) with the ynamines $\text{MeC}\equiv\text{CNEt}_2$ and $\text{PhC}\equiv\text{CNEt}_2$ affords two products: alkenylallenylidene (**3**, **5**) and cyclobutenylidene complexes (**4**, **6**). The alkenylallenylidene complexes $[(\text{CO})_5\text{M}=\text{C}=\text{C}=\text{C}(\text{NEt}_2)\text{C}(\text{R}')=\text{C}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{R}-p)_2]$ ($\text{R}' = \text{Me}$, $\text{M} = \text{Cr}$ (**3**), W (**5**), $\text{R} = \text{H}$ (**a**), Me (**b**), OMe (**c**), NMe_2 (**d**); $\text{R}' = \text{Ph}$, $\text{M} = \text{Cr}$ (**3**), $\text{R} = \text{OMe}$ (**e**), NMe_2 (**f**)) are formed *via* cycloaddition of the $\text{C}\equiv\text{C}$ bond of the ynamine to the $\text{C}^2=\text{C}^3$ bond of **1** and **2**, respectively, and subsequent cycloreversion. The cyclobutenylidene complexes $[(\text{CO})_5\text{M}=\text{C}-\text{C}(\text{R}')=\text{C}(\text{NEt}_2)-\text{C}=\text{C}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{R}-p)_2]$ ($\text{R}' = \text{Me}$, $\text{M} = \text{Cr}$ (**4**), W (**6**), $\text{R} = \text{H}$ (**a**), Me (**b**), OMe (**c**), NMe_2 (**d**); $\text{R}' = \text{Ph}$, $\text{M} = \text{Cr}$ (**4**), $\text{R} = \text{OMe}$ (**e**), NMe_2 (**f**)) are formed by cycloaddition of the ynamines to the $\text{C}^1=\text{C}^2$ bond of **1** and **2**. The compounds **3**, **4a–c**, **5**, and **6a–c** are stable at room temperature. In contrast, **4d–f** and **6d** decompose on contact with air, light, or silica. Complex **3d** was characterized by an X-ray structural analysis. The product ratios **3/4** and **5/6** strongly depend on the solvent and the substitution pattern of both the allenylidene complexes **1** and **2** and the ynamine. In general, decreasing polarity of the solvent increasingly favors formation of cyclobutenylidene complexes. The solvent dependence indicates that the transition state for the formation of **4** and **6** is significantly less polar than that for the formation of **3** and **5**. The ratios **3/4** and **5/6** increase in the series **a** < **b** < **c** < **d**. Kinetic measurements of the reaction of **1c,d** with the ynamines $\text{MeC}\equiv\text{CNEt}_2$ and $\text{PhC}\equiv\text{CNEt}_2$ reveal that the complex pairs **3,4** and **5,6** are formed in parallel pathways with an associative rate-determining step for each. The reactions follow second-order kinetics, first-order in the concentrations of the allenylidene complexes **1,2** and of the ynamines. The activation enthalpies ΔH^\ddagger are small, and the activation entropies ΔS^\ddagger are strongly negative. ΔS^\ddagger is more negative for the formation of the alkenylallenylidene complexes than for the formation of the cyclobutenylidene complexes.

Introduction

Terminal allenylidene complexes of the general type $[\text{L}_n\text{M}=\text{C}=\text{C}=\text{CR}_2]$ have been known since 1976.¹ Like other systems with an unsaturated carbon chain σ -coordinated to a transition metal, these cumulenylidenes are expected to possess interesting new chemical and physicochemical properties. Significant second-harmonic generation efficiencies of allenylidene complexes have been reported recently.² Surprisingly, the chemical reactivity of metal allenylidenes has only been sparingly investigated during the past two decades.³ However, there is ample evidence for the highly electrophilic character of the metal-bound C^1 atom and the

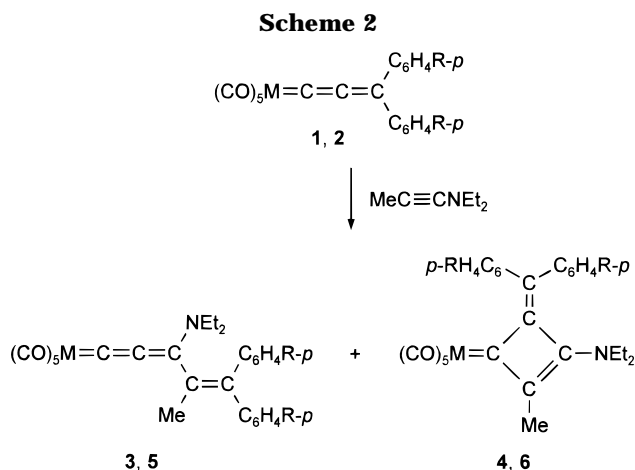
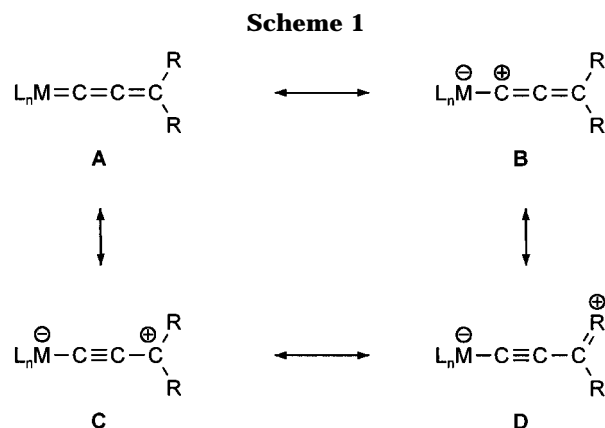
terminal C^3 atom of allenylidene complexes (structures **B** and **C**, Scheme 1). Thus, simple heteroatom nucleophiles such as alcohols, thiols, phosphines, and amines either add exclusively to C^1 or C^3 or they attack both of these centers.^{3,4} As a consequence, heteroatom substrates with two nucleophilic centers such as hydrazines⁵ or hydroxylamines⁶ can be added to group 6 allenylidenes to give heterocyclic carbene complexes.

Mostly in the past few years, the reactivity of allenylidene complexes toward carbon nucleophiles has also been investigated.^{3,4l–m,w–x,7} Such CC-coupling reactions are especially valuable with respect to the synthetic application of metal allenylidenes. Usually, carbanions attack cationic allenylidene complexes at the terminal C^3 atom to give neutral alkynyl complexes.^{4l–m,w–x} Similarly, Me_3C^- adds to the C^3 atom of $[\text{Cp}'(\text{CO})_2\text{Mn}=\text{C}=\text{C}=\text{CPh}_2]$. Subsequent alkylation affords a neutral vinylidene complex.⁸ Only an intramolecular version for direct carbanion attack at the metal-bound C^1 atom of an allenylidene complex has been known until now.^{4x} However, neutral carbon nucleophiles such as isonitrile⁹ or diazomethane^{7b} exclusively insert into the $\text{M}=\text{C}^1$ bond of allenylidene complexes via attack at the metal-bound C^1 atom.

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M = Cr (1, 3, 4), W (2, 5, 6)
R = H (a), Me (b), OMe (c), NMe₂ (d)

Results and Discussion

Reaction of Diarylallenylidene Complexes with MeC≡CNEt₂. The diarylallenylidene complexes [(CO)₅M=C=C=C(C₆H₄R-*p*)₂] (M = Cr (1), W (2); R = H (a), Me (b), OMe (c), NMe₂ (d)) are accessible in high yield by reaction of [(CO)₅M(THF)] with the dianion of propargyl alcohols [C≡CC(Aryl)₂O]²⁻ and subsequent deoxygenation with phosgene.¹⁰ As a solid, **1d** and **2d** are stable in air at room temperature while **1a–c** and **2a–c** are rather thermolabile. The stability decreases in the series **c** (R = OMe) > **b** (R = Me) > **a** (R = H). Therefore, the deep blue complexes **1a–c** and **2a–c** were generated in CH₂Cl₂ in situ and the solutions immediately used for the subsequent reaction at –20 °C with the highly nucleophilic ynamine MeC≡CNEt₂ (Scheme 2). On addition of a slight excess of the ynamine, the color of the solutions instantaneously changed to brownish-red. Similarly, the addition of MeC≡CNEt₂ to the blue allenylidene complexes **1d** and **2d** in CH₂Cl₂ at room temperature gave red-brown reaction mixtures within a few seconds (Scheme 2).

IR spectroscopy indicated that two reaction products (**3,4** and **5,6**) were formed in each case. It was not possible to separate the complex pairs **3,4** and **5,6** by chromatography. However, since **4d** and **6d** decomposed on contact with silica, chromatographic workup afforded pure fractions of dark red **3d** and **5d** from the reaction of **1d** and **2d** with MeC≡CNEt₂. Red **3a–c** and yellow **4a–c** as well as red **5a–c** and yellow-orange **6a–c** were obtained separately by fractional crystallization. In general, the red complexes **3** and **5** are significantly more soluble in pentane or pentane/CH₂-Cl₂ mixtures than the yellow compounds **4** and **6**. Thus, **4d** and **6d** could also be obtained in pure form. Stirring a suspension of **1d** or **2d** in pentane with an excess of MeC≡CNEt₂ for 3 days resulted in the formation of a brownish-yellow precipitate of **4d** or **6d**. Purification of the precipitate was performed by extraction with pentane. The total yields (**3** + **4** and **5** + **6**) range from 46% to 87%. All complexes **3** and **5** as well as **4a–c** and **6a–c** are stable at room temperature. In contrast,

Studies on coupling reactions of transition metal allenylidenes with CC multiple bond systems are very scarce. [Cl(PⁱPr₃)₂Rh=C=C=CPh₂] reacts with BrMgCH=CH₂ or PhC≡CH to give π-allylic rhodium complexes.^{7a,c} Up to now, a cycloaddition-type reaction of allenylidene complexes has been observed only once. Recently, we showed that alkynyl complexes [L_nMC≡CR] exclusively undergo a regioselective (2 + 2) cycloaddition to the C¹=C² bond of diarylallenylidene complexes [(CO)₅M=C=C=C(C₆H₄R-*p*)₂] providing 1,3-dimetalated cyclobutenylidene complexes in high yield.^{7d} We now report our results on the reaction of the ynamines MeC≡CNEt₂ and PhC≡CNEt₂ with diaryl-substituted group 6 allenylidenes.

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4d and **6d** decompose in solution and even in the solid state when exposed to air or light for several hours.

The cyclobutenylidene complexes **4** and **6** show a ν (CO) band pattern, as expected for octahedral pentacarbonyl transition metal complexes. As already discussed for other 3-aminocyclobutenylidene complexes,¹¹ the E and A₁(trans) ν (CO) absorptions of **4** and **6** are at lower energy than those of simple amino-substituted carbene complexes, indicating an enhanced electron transfer from the cyclic carbene ligand to the metal. Surprisingly and in contrast to **1**, **2**,¹⁰ **4**, and **6**, complexes **3** and **5** show no distinct A₁(cis) ν (CO) absorption in the region between 2040 and 2100 cm⁻¹. The E and A₁(trans) ν (CO) absorptions of **3** and **5** are shifted to higher energy by $\Delta\tilde{\nu} \approx 10\text{--}15\text{ cm}^{-1}$ when compared to **4** and **6**. This indicates that the electron transfer from the cumulenylidene ligand to the metal is less pronounced than that of the cyclobutenylidene ligand to the metal. As expected,¹² the amino(alkenyl)allenylidene complexes **3** and **5** exhibit a characteristic ν (CCC) absorption at 1990 cm⁻¹. The strong mesomeric interaction of the (CO)₅M moiety with the C³ amino substituent in **3** and **5** leads to a high-energy shift of the ν (CCC) band when compared to the diaryl-substituted allenylidene complexes **1** and **2**.¹⁰ This reflects the enhanced importance of dipolar alkenyl structures for **3** and **5**, as discussed earlier for diaminoallenylidene complexes (structure **C** and **D**, Scheme 1).^{12d} The slight shift to higher energy in the series **a** < **b** < **c** < **d** is consistent with the Hammett σ_p coefficients of the *para*-aryl substituents of **3** and **5**.

At room temperature, the ¹H NMR spectra of **3** and **5** as well as those of **4** and **6** exhibit two sets of signals for the NEt₂ substituent. This indicates a significant double-bond character of the C³–N bond in complexes **3–6** due to mesomeric interaction of the nitrogen atom with the metal center. Moreover, in **3** and **5**, the methylene protons of the NEt₂ substituent are diastereotopic. Thus, four cleanly separated multiplets with the relative intensity of one proton each are observed for all derivatives of **3** and **5**. As a consequence, atropisomerism¹³ for **3** and **5** by steric repulsion has to be assumed due to a hindered rotation of the C(R)=C(Aryl)₂ moiety around the C³–C⁴ bond.

The ¹³C NMR resonance of the metal-bound C¹ atom (δ 268 (**4**), 248 (**6**)) in the cyclobutenylidene complexes **4** and **6** is comparable to that of aminocarbene complexes. The corresponding signal of dicarbon-substituted carbene complexes with a (CO)₅M fragment is usually observed at considerably lower field.^{14,15} The resonance of the allenylidene C¹ carbon atom in the alkenylallenylidene complexes **3** and **5** is at rather high field (δ 220 (**3**), 200 (**5**)). In contrast to **4** and **6**, the ¹³C

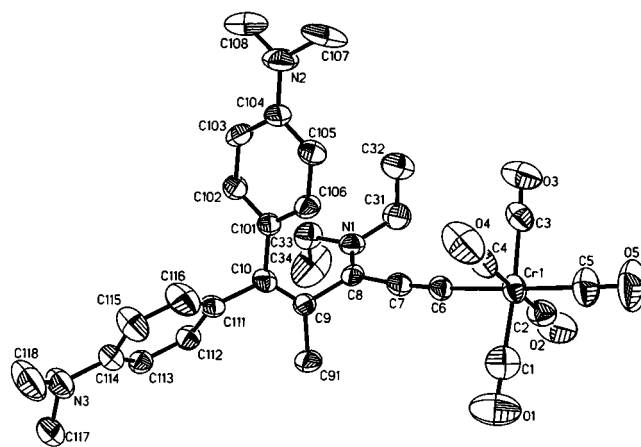


Figure 1. ORTEP plot of complex **3d** (ellipsoids drawn at 50% level, hydrogens omitted).

Table 1. Selected Bond Distances and Angles for **3d**

Bond Distances (Å)			
Cr1–C6	2.019(5)	C6–C7	1.221(7)
C7–C8	1.392(7)	C8–N1	1.318(8)
N1–C31	1.480(7)	N1–C33	1.481(7)
C8–C9	1.492(7)	C9–C10	1.339(7)
C10–C101	1.502(7)	C10–C111	1.485(6)
C9–C91	1.510(7)		
Bond Angles (deg)			
Cr1–C6–C7	175.5(5)	C6–C7–C8	173.8(5)
C7–C8–N1	119.7(4)	C8–N1–C31	121.0(4)
C8–N1–C33	123.6(4)	C31–N1–C33	115.4(4)
C7–C8–C9	120.0(5)	C8–C9–C10	120.2(4)
N1–C8–C9	120.2(4)	C9–C10–C101	120.6(4)
C9–C10–C111	123.9(4)	C101–C10–C111	115.5(4)
C8–C9–C91	113.5(4)	C91–C9–C10	126.0(4)

resonance of the metal-bound C¹ atom in **3** and **5** is directly affected by the *para*-aryl substituent. To a lesser extent, this is also true for the resonance of the C² atom. In the series **a** (H) > **b** (Me) > **c** (OMe) > **d** (NMe₂), the C¹ and C² signals shift to higher field, indicating an enhanced electron density in the cumulenylidene ligand with increasing donor capacity of the *para*-substituent. The positions of the signals correlate well with the Hammett σ_p coefficients.

The structure of the new alkenylallenylidene complex **3d** was also established by X-ray structural analysis. In the crystal (Figure 1, Table 1), the CrC₃ fragment of **3d** is nearly linear with a short C6–C7 (1.221(7) Å) and a long C7–C8 (1.392(7) Å) bond similar to other amino-substituted allenylidene complexes.^{1a,4i,12d,16} Together with the short C8–N1 bond (1.318(8) Å) and the trigonal-planar coordination of the allenylidene amino substituent (sum of angles at N1 360°), these observations indicate a strong mesomeric interaction of the NEt₂ group with the metal center in **3d**. In contrast, there is no electronic interaction between the alkenyl moiety and the (CO)₅Cr fragment in the solid state. The alkenyl plane of **3d** adopts an upright conformation with respect to the allenylidene plane (torsion angle N1–C8–C9–C10 74.9(6)°), and the C8–C9 (1.492(7) Å) and C9–C10 (1.339(7) Å) bonds are comparable to other conjugated C(sp²)–C(sp²) single (1.455 Å) and double

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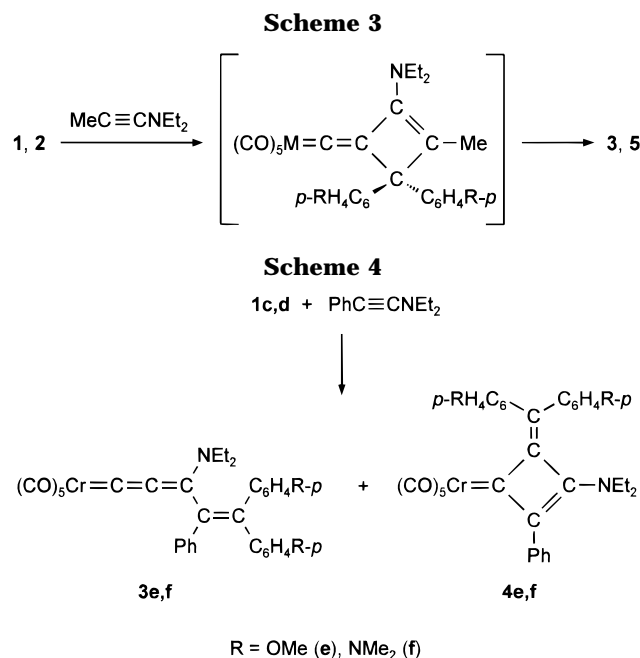
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(1.330 Å) bonds.¹⁷ In addition, the aryl substituents and the alkenyl plane of **3d** are not coplanar (angle between the C101–C10–C111 plane and the aryl rings 59.3° and 42.3°). Unfortunately, due to the poor quality of crystals of **4b**, **4d**, and **6a**, a detailed discussion of the structure of these new cyclobutenylidene complexes is not feasible.

Very likely, the alkenylallenylidene complexes **3** and **5** and the cyclobutenylidene complexes **4** and **6** are formed independently in the reaction of the diaryl-allenylidene complexes **1** and **2** with the ynamine MeC≡CNEt₂. The regioselective formal (2 + 2) cycloaddition of MeC≡CNEt₂ to the C¹=C² bond of **1** and **2** affords **4** and **6** (Scheme 2). The formation of the “insertion products” **3** and **5** presumably proceeds via addition of MeC≡CNEt₂ to the C²=C³ bond of **1** and **2** and a subsequently fast cycloreversion (Scheme 3). However, neither NMR nor IR signals corresponding to any intermediates were observed during the reaction of **1** and **2** with MeC≡CNEt₂.

The product ratios **3/5** and **4/6** are strongly influenced by the *para*-aryl substituents of the reacting allenylidene complexes **1** and **2**. With the increasing donor capacity of the *para*-substituent, the relative yield of the insertion products **3** and **5** increases: **3/4** = 1.6 (**a**), 3.2 (**b**), 7.1 (**c**), 12.4 (**d**); **5/6** = 1.8 (**a**), 3.4 (**b**), 7.2 (**c**), 15.0 (**d**). From these trends, it follows that either only one of the two competing reactions (insertion or cycloaddition) is affected by electronic factors or both of them are affected in a different way.

Kinetic Investigations. To elucidate the difference between the two reaction mechanisms, kinetic investigations were performed of the reactions of **1c** and **1d** with MeC≡CNEt₂ (DEAP) (Scheme 2) and with PhC≡CNEt₂ (APA) (Scheme 4) using stopped-flow techniques and pseudo-first-order conditions. Similarly to the reaction of **1,2** with MeC≡CNEt₂, treatment of **1c,d** with PhC≡CNEt₂ also results in the formation of two reaction products (**3e,f** and **4e,f**, respectively) (Scheme 4).

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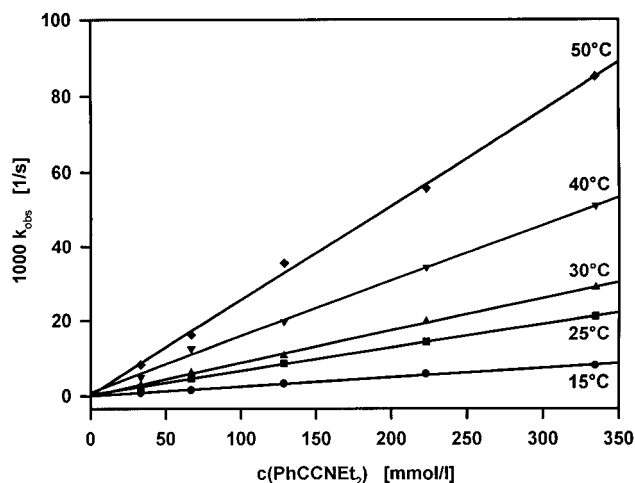


Figure 2. Plot of k_{obs} vs ynamine concentration for the reaction of **1d** with PhC≡CNEt₂ (APA) in 1,1,2-trichloroethane/*n*-heptane (1:4) at 25 °C.

Table 2. Second-Order Rate Constants (L/mol·s) for the Insertion (k_2^{ins}) and Cycloaddition (k_2^{ca}) Reactions of **1c,d with MeC≡CNEt₂ (DEAP) and PhC≡CNEt₂ (APA)^a**

complex	ynamine	solvent	k_2^{ins}	k_2^{ca}	$k_2^{\text{ins}}/k_2^{\text{ca}}$
1c	DEAP	TCE	64(1)	43(1)	1.49
1c	DEAP	TCE/H	10.3(5)	35(1)	0.29
1c	APA	TCE	8.7(4)	2.5(2)	3.48
1c	APA	TCE/H	1.7(2)	4.0(2)	0.42
1d	DEAP	TCE	0.57(6)	0.11(1)	5.18
1d	DEAP	TCE/H	0.34(3)	0.55(5)	0.62
1d	APA	TCE	0.013(1)	0.013(1)	1.00
1d	APA	TCE/H	0.014(1)	0.047(3)	0.30

^a At 25 °C in 1,1,2-trichloroethane (TCE) and 1,1,2-trichloroethane/*n*-heptane (1:4) (TCE/H).

With ynamines in large excess, all reactions are uniform. The product ratios **3/5** remain constant throughout the reaction, as indicated by time-resolved UV–vis spectroscopy in CH₂Cl₂ solution. Three isosbestic points are observed for the reaction of **1c** with MeC≡CNEt₂ (at λ = 354, 440, and 520 nm) and PhC≡CNEt₂ (at λ = 356, 438, and 524 nm) and one for the reaction of **1d** with MeC≡CNEt₂ (at λ = 504 nm) and PhC≡CNEt₂ (at λ = 508 nm). Extinction–extinction graphs show a good linear correlation. There is no indication for the formation of any intermediate. Obviously, the alkenylallenylidene complexes **3** as well as the cyclobutenylidene complexes **4** are formed by parallel pathways.

The reactions of **1** with DEAP and APA follow a second-order rate law, first-order in the concentrations of **1** and the ynamine: $-d[\mathbf{1}]/dt = k_2[\mathbf{1}][\text{ynamine}]$.

Representative plots of k_{obs} ($k_{\text{obs}} = k_2[\text{ynamine}]$) vs ynamine concentration are shown in Figure 2.

Since **3** and **4** are formed by parallel pathways, the product ratio **[3]/[4]** reflects the ratio of the rate constants for the formation of **3** (k_2^{ins}) and **4** (k_2^{ca}). From k_2 ($k_2 = k_2^{\text{ins}} + k_2^{\text{ca}}$) and **[3]/[4]** = $k_2^{\text{ins}}/k_2^{\text{ca}}$, the constants k_2^{ins} and k_2^{ca} can be calculated. The values of the constants at 25 °C are summarized in Table 2 (for the data at 15, 30, 40, and 50 °C, see Supporting Information).

The overall reaction rate increases (a) with increasing nucleophilicity of the ynamine (by a factor between 8 and 26) and (b) with decreasing π -donor capacity of the

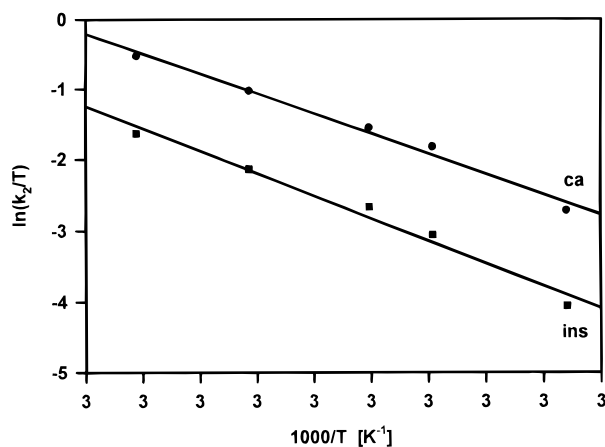


Figure 3. Plot of $\ln(k_2/T)$ vs $1/T$ for the reaction of **1d** with $\text{PhC}\equiv\text{N}(\text{Et})_2$ (APA) in 1,1,2-trichloroethane/*n*-heptane (1:4).

Table 3. Activation Enthalpies ΔH^\ddagger (kJ/mol), and Entropies ΔS^\ddagger (J/mol·K) for the Insertion and Cycloaddition Reactions of **1c,d with $\text{MeC}\equiv\text{N}(\text{Et})_2$ (DEAP) and $\text{PhC}\equiv\text{N}(\text{Et})_2$ (APA)^a**

complex	ynamine	solvent	insertion		cycloaddition	
			ΔH^\ddagger	ΔS^\ddagger	ΔH^\ddagger	ΔS^\ddagger
1c	DEAP	TCE	21(1)	-140(4)	30(1)	-113(5)
1c	DEAP	TCE/H	23(2)	-147(15)	28(1)	-121(6)
1c	APA	TCE/H	26(3)	-152(32)	38(1)	-107(9)
1d	DEAP	TCE	39(1)	-118(5)	60(3)	-61(5)
1d	DEAP	TCE/H	39(1)	-122(5)	46(1)	-93(5)
1d	APA	TCE	34(3)	-147(5)	37(5)	-136(13)
1d	APA	TCE/H	51(7)	-91(10)	48(5)	-91(9)

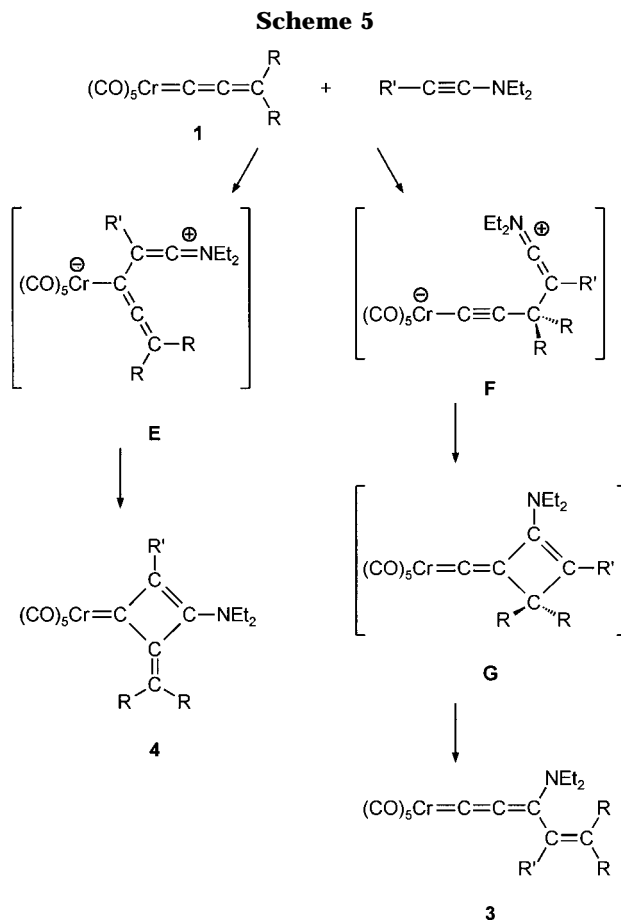
^a In 1,1,2-trichloroethane (TCE) and 1,1,2-trichloroethane/*n*-heptane (1:4) (TCE/H).

para-substituent in **1** (**1c** → **1d**). The polarity of the solvent influences the overall reaction rates k_2 only slightly, although those of **1c** and **1d** are influenced differently. When the solvent mixture 1,1,2-trichloroethane/*n*-heptane (1:4) is replaced by the more polar 1,1,2-trichloroethane, k_2 for the reaction of **1c** increases and that of **1d** decreases.

However, the individual rate constants k_2^{ins} and k_2^{ca} are strongly affected by a change of the solvent polarity. In 1,1,2-trichloroethane/*n*-heptane (1:4), cycloaddition dominates ($k_2^{\text{ins}}/k_2^{\text{ca}} \approx 0.3\text{--}0.6$) and complexes **4** are the major products. In 1,1,2-trichloroethane, the insertion is favored ($k_2^{\text{ins}}/k_2^{\text{ca}} \approx 1\text{--}5$) and complexes **3** are the main products. Opposing effects are also observed when the nucleophilicity of the ynamine and the π -donor capacity of the *para*-aryl substituent change. Substitution of DEAP for APA in the reaction with **1c,d** results in a decrease of $k_2^{\text{ins}}/k_2^{\text{ca}}$ for **1c** and an increase for **1d**. When **1c** is replaced by **1d**, $k_2^{\text{ins}}/k_2^{\text{ca}}$ increases for the reaction with DEAP and decreases for the reaction with APA. Both effects are more pronounced in polar 1,1,2-trichloroethane than in the solvent mixture 1,1,2-trichloroethane/*n*-heptane (Table 2).

The activation parameters calculated from plots of $\ln(k_2/T)$ vs $1/T$ (a representative plot is shown in Figure 3) are summarized in Table 3.

The activation enthalpies ΔH^\ddagger are small, and the activation entropies ΔS^\ddagger are strongly negative. These data are in the range usually observed for related reactions. For the insertion reaction of the $\text{C}\equiv\text{C}$ bond of DEAP into the $\text{M}=\text{C}$ bond of the $(\text{CO})_5\text{M}$ carbene

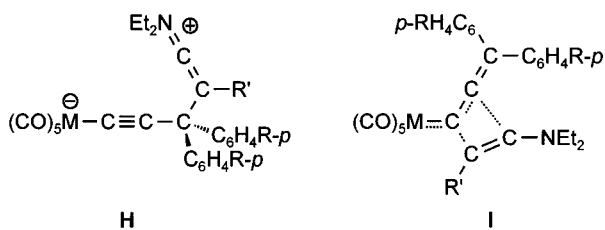


complexes $[(\text{CO})_5\text{M}=\text{C}(\text{OMe})\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{R}-p]$ ($\text{M} = \text{Cr}, \text{W}$; $\text{R} = \text{OMe}, \text{Me}, \text{H}, \text{Br}, \text{CF}_3$), ΔS^\ddagger was reported to lie between -129 and -145 kJ/mol.¹⁸ With the exception of the reaction of **1d** with APA in 1,1,2-trichloroethane/*n*-heptane, ΔS^\ddagger of the insertion reaction is more negative than that of the cycloaddition reaction. As expected from the rate constants, all ΔS^\ddagger values for the reactions of **1c** are more negative than those of **1d**.

For the initiating reaction steps, essentially two different pathways have to be taken into account. Competing nucleophilic attacks of the ynamine via the C-substituted end of the $\text{C}\equiv\text{C}$ bond occur at the most electrophilic allenylidene centers, as shown in Scheme 1. Thus, addition at C^1 (Scheme 5, pathway a) and C^3 of the allenylidene fragment (pathway b) gives **E** and **F**, respectively. A regioselective ring closure involving the allenylidene C^2 atom gives the (2 + 2) cycloadducts **4** and **G**. A subsequent ring closure of **E** involving the metal (i.e., cycloaddition of the $\text{C}\equiv\text{C}$ bond across the $\text{M}=\text{C}$ bond) and cycloreversion would yield amino-(butatrienyl)carbene complexes. Products of this type which correspond to a formal insertion of the $\text{C}\equiv\text{C}$ bond into the $\text{M}=\text{C}$ bond have not been observed.

Alternatively, **4** and **G** are also obtained by an electrophilic attack of the ynamine at the allenylidene C^2 atom and subsequent ring closures involving C^1 or C^3 . However, since the reaction rate considerably drops (by a factor between 47 and 430) when the π -donor capacity of the *para*-substituent in **1** increases (**1c** → **1d**), this alternative pathway is unlikely.

Scheme 6



From the solvent dependence of the product ratio, it follows that the transition state for the cycloaddition to the $C^2=C^3$ bond of **1** (formation of the insertion product **3** via **G**) is more polar than for the cycloaddition to the $C^1=C^2$ bond of **1** (formation of **4**). Therefore, a dipolar transition state like **H** (Scheme 6) in the rate-determining step of the insertion pathway (formation of **3**) and a rather weakly polar transition state like **I** (Scheme 6) in that of the $C^1=C^2$ -cycloaddition pathway (formation of **4**) is proposed. This proposal is also supported by the other kinetic data and their dependence on the change of the allenylidene and the ynamine substituents.

Concluding Remarks

The reaction of diaryl-substituted group 6 allenylidene complexes $[(CO)_5M=C=C(Aryl)_2]$ with ynamines, $RC\equiv NEt_2$, affords two product complexes in each case, alkenylallenylidene complexes and cyclobutenylidene complexes. These results demonstrate the ambident character of the allenylidene ligand. The alkenylallenylidene complexes which are formally the products of an insertion of the $C\equiv C$ bond into the $C^2=C^3$ bond of **1,2** are very likely formed via nucleophilic attack of the ynamine at the terminal allenylidene carbon atom C^3 of the allenylidene ligand and a subsequent cyclization–cycloreversion sequence. As a competing reaction, the regioselective cycloaddition of the ynamine to the $C^1=C^2$ allenylidene bond by attack at the metal-bound C^1 atom leads to cyclobutenylidene complexes. The rate ratio for the insertion and the cycloaddition depends on the polarity of the solvent, the substitution pattern of the diarylallenylidene complexes, and the nucleophilicity of the ynamine. Decreasing polarity of the solvent favors formation of the cycloadduct. Thus, it is possible to influence the product distribution by choice of the solvent and to predetermine the desired reaction product.

Experimental Section

All operations were performed under an inert atmosphere (nitrogen or argon) using standard Schlenk techniques. Solvents were dried by distillation from CaH_2 (CH_2Cl_2 , Cl_2HC-CH_2Cl) and sodium/benzophenone ketyl (pentane, heptane, Et_2O , THF). The reported yields refer to analytically pure substances. Instrumentation: 1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded with a Bruker AC250 spectrometer in $CDCl_3$ at 293 K unless otherwise stated. Chemical shifts are relative to TMS. Assignment of the ^{13}C NMR signals is based on HMBC experiments with **4b** and **5c** (Bruker DRX600). Numbering schemes: $[(CO)_5M=C^1=C^2=C^3(NEt_2)C^4(R)=C^5(Aryl)_2]$ (**3, 5**) and $[(CO)_5M=C^1C^2(R)=C^3(NEt_2)C^4=C^5(Aryl)_2]$ (**4, 6**). Other analyses: IR, Biorad FTS 60; UV–vis, Hewlett-Packard 8452A diode array spectrophotometer; MS, Finnigan MAT 312;

elemental analyses, Heraeus CHN-O-RAPID. The silica used for column chromatography (silica for flash chromatography, J. T. Baker) was dried in vacuo for 8 h before usage. The compounds **1c**, **1d**, and **2d**¹⁰ and $MeC\equiv NEt_2$ and $PhC\equiv NEt_2$ ¹⁹ were prepared by literature methods.

Reaction of 1a–c and 2a–c with $MeC\equiv NEt_2$. The allenylidene complexes **1a–c** and **2a–c** were generated in situ according to a literature method¹⁰ starting from 5.00 mmol (1.10 g) of $[Cr(CO)_6]$ or 5.00 mmol (1.76 g) of $[W(CO)_6]$. At -20 °C, to these deep blue (**1a,b** and **2a,b**) or deep green (**1c** and **2c**) solutions in CH_2Cl_2 was added a solution of 6.03 mmol (0.67 g) of $MeC\equiv NEt_2$ in 5 mL of CH_2Cl_2 . The color of the solutions instantaneously turned to brown-red. After the mixtures were warmed to room temperature, they were chromatographed at -20 °C on silica with pentane/ CH_2Cl_2 / Et_2O (7:2:1). A dark red band was eluted. The solvent was evaporated in vacuo, and the residue containing the complex pair **3,4** or **5,6** was extracted twice with 100 mL of pentane. The remaining brown-yellow powder (complex **4** or **6**) and the dark red residue obtained from the pentane extract (complex **3** or **5**) were recrystallized (solvent see below).

Pentacarbonyl[3-(diethylamino)-4-methyl-5,5-diphenyl-1,2,4-pentatrienylidene]chromium (3a): 0.96 g (39% based on $[Cr(CO)_6]$) of red crystals from pentane/ CH_2Cl_2 (20:1), mp 72 °C. Anal. Calcd for $C_{27}H_{23}CrNO_5$ (493.5): C, 65.71; H, 4.70; N 2.84. Found: C, 65.50; H, 4.77; N, 2.96. IR (Et_2O): $\nu(CO)$ 1939 vs, 1921 $m\ cm^{-1}$; $\nu(CCC)$ 1986 $m\ cm^{-1}$. 1H NMR: δ 0.97 (t, $^3J_{H,H} = 7.1$ Hz, 3 H, CH_2CH_3), 1.10 (t, $^3J_{H,H} = 7.2$ Hz, 3 H, CH_2CH_3), 2.15 (s, 3 H, $=CCH_3$), 3.05, 3.32, 3.81, 4.28 (4 \times m, 4 \times 1 H, CH_2CH_3) 7.16–7.40 (m, 10 H, aromatic). $^{13}C\{^1H\}$ NMR: δ 11.1, 13.3 (CH_2CH_3), 20.5 ($=CCH_3$), 45.6, 47.9 (CH_2-CH_3), 121.3 (C^2), 129.4 (C^4), 128.1, 128.4, 129.5, 129.6, 139.9, 140.2 (aromatic), 143.4 (C^5), 155.5 (C^3), 217.8 (*cis*-CO), 223.9 (*trans*-CO), 224.3 (C^1). UV–vis (CH_2Cl_2): λ_{max} (log ϵ) 466 nm (4.294).

Pentacarbonyl[3-(diethylamino)-4-(diphenylmethylene)-2-methyl-2-cyclobutenylidene]chromium (4a): 0.59 g (24% based on $[Cr(CO)_6]$) of yellow needles from pentane/ CH_2Cl_2 (4:1), mp 151 °C (dec). Anal. Calcd for $C_{27}H_{23}CrNO_5$ (493.5): C, 65.71; H, 4.70; N, 2.84. Found: C, 65.62; H, 4.86; N, 2.78. IR (Et_2O): $\nu(CO)$ 2046 m, 1967 w, 1927 s sh, 1922 vs, 1909 m sh cm^{-1} . 1H NMR: δ 0.72 (t, $^3J_{H,H} = 7.1$ Hz, 3 H, CH_2CH_3), 1.29 (t, $^3J_{H,H} = 7.2$ Hz, 3 H, CH_2CH_3), 2.57 (s, 3 H, $=CCH_3$), 2.65 (q, $^3J_{H,H} = 7.2$ Hz, 2 H, CH_2CH_3), 3.47 (q, $^3J_{H,H} = 7.2$ Hz, 2 H, CH_2CH_3), 7.08–7.36 (m, 10 H, aromatic). $^{13}C\{^1H\}$ NMR: δ 12.5, 13.9 (CH_2CH_3), 16.0 ($=CCH_3$), 43.3, 45.9 (CH_2CH_3), 123.8 (C^5), 127.8, 127.9, 128.3, 128.5, 129.6, 132.0, 139.8, 143.6 (aromatic), 149.2 (C^4), 162.7 (C^2), 163.2 (C^3), 218.3 (*cis*-CO), 225.4 (*trans*-CO), 268.0 (C^1). FAB MS (NBOH) m/z : 493 (16, $[M^+]$), 409 (100, $[M^+ - 3CO]$), 353 (78, $[M^+ - 5CO]$).

Pentacarbonyl[3-(diethylamino)-4-methyl-5,5-bis(*p*-tolyl)-1,2,4-pentatrienylidene]chromium (3b): 0.91 g (35% based on $[Cr(CO)_6]$) of red needles from pentane/ CH_2Cl_2 (40:1), mp 110 °C. Anal. Calcd for $C_{29}H_{27}CrNO_5$ (521.5): C, 66.79; H, 5.22; N, 2.69. Found: C, 66.72; H, 5.42; N, 2.59. IR (Et_2O): $\nu(CO)$ 1938 vs, 1919 $m\ cm^{-1}$; $\nu(CCC)$ 1988 $m\ cm^{-1}$. 1H NMR: δ 1.02 (t, $^3J_{H,H} = 7.2$ Hz, 3 H, CH_2CH_3); 1.10 (t, $^3J_{H,H} = 7.2$ Hz, 3 H, CH_2CH_3), 2.14 (s, 3 H, $=CCH_3$), 2.30, 2.36 (2 \times s, 2 \times 3 H, $C_6H_4CH_3$), 3.06, 3.37, 3.78, 4.25 (4 \times m, 4 \times 1 H, CH_2CH_3), 7.02–7.23 (m, 8 H, aromatic). $^{13}C\{^1H\}$ NMR: δ 11.1, 13.2 (CH_2CH_3), 20.6 ($=CCH_3$), 21.1, 21.2 ($C_6H_4CH_3$), 45.6, 48.0 (CH_2CH_3), 120.6 (C^2), 128.3 (C^4), 128.9, 129.5, 129.6, 137.1, 137.4, 138.0, 138.3 (aromatic), 143.6 (C^5), 156.1 (C^3), 217.8 (*cis*-CO), 221.5 (C^1), 223.9 (*trans*-CO). UV–vis (CH_2Cl_2): λ_{max} (log ϵ) 462 nm (4.435).

Pentacarbonyl[4-(bis(*p*-tolyl)methylene)-3-(diethylamino)-2-methyl-2-cyclobutenylidene]chromium (4b): 0.29 g (11% based on $[Cr(CO)_6]$) of yellow needles from pentane/ CH_2-

(19) Brandsma, L. *Preparative Acetylenic Chemistry*; Elsevier: Amsterdam, Netherlands, 1988.

Cl₂ (4:1), mp 135 °C (dec). Anal. Calcd for C₂₉H₂₇CrNO₅ (521.5): C, 66.79; H, 5.22; N, 2.69. Found: C, 66.68; H, 5.40; N, 2.58. IR (Et₂O): $\nu(\text{CO})$ 2046 m, 1922 vs, 1908 m cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: δ 0.74 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 3 H, CH₂CH₃), 1.29 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 3 H, CH₂CH₃), 2.33, 2.37 (2 × s, 2 × 3 H, C₆H₄CH₃), 2.55 (s, 3 H, =CCH₃), 2.66 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 2 H, CH₂CH₃), 3.46 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 2 H, CH₂CH₃), 6.95–7.26 (m, 8 H, aromatic). ¹³C{¹H} NMR: δ 12.5, 13.9 (CH₂CH₃), 15.9 (=CCH₃), 21.2, 21.3 (C₆H₄CH₃), 43.4, 45.9 (CH₂CH₃), 123.9 (C⁵), 128.9, 129.1, 129.4, 131.8, 136.9, 137.5, 140.8 (aromatic), 148.4 (C⁴), 162.0 (C²), 163.8 (C³), 218.3 (*cis*-CO), 225.6 (*trans*-CO), 267.2 (C¹).

Pentacarbonyl[3-(diethylamino)-5,5-bis(*p*-methoxyphenyl)-4-methyl-1,2,4-pentatrienylidene]chromium (3c): 1.57 g (57% based on [Cr(CO)₆]) of red crystals from pentane/Et₂O (15:1), mp 119 °C. Anal. Calcd for C₂₉H₂₇CrNO₇ (553.5): C, 62.92; H, 4.92; N, 2.53. Found: C, 62.89; H, 5.00; N, 2.69. IR (Et₂O): $\nu(\text{CO})$ 1937 vs, 1920 m cm⁻¹; $\nu(\text{CCC})$ 1988 m cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (273 K): δ 1.04 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 7.1 Hz, 3 H, CH₂CH₃), 1.11 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 3 H, CH₂CH₃), 2.18 (s, 3 H, =CCH₃), 3.00, 3.34 (2 × m_c, 2 × 1 H, CH₂CH₃), 3.80, 3.84 (2 × s, 2 × 3 H, OCH₃), 3.78, 4.32 (2 × m_c, 2 × 1 H, CH₂CH₃), 6.79–6.91, 7.08–7.23 (2 × m, 2 × 4 H, aromatic). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (273 K): δ 11.2, 13.3 (CH₂CH₃), 20.9 (=CCH₃), 45.5, 48.1 (CH₂CH₃), 55.2 (OCH₃), 120.1 (C²), 127.3 (C⁴), 113.3, 113.4, 131.1, 131.3, 132.3, 132.8, 159.2, 159.4 (aromatic), 143.0 (C⁵), 156.1 (C³), 217.7 (*cis*-CO), 219.2 (C¹), 223.8 (*trans*-CO). UV–vis (CH₂Cl₂): λ_{max} (log ϵ) 464 nm (4.285).

Pentacarbonyl[4-(bis(*p*-methoxyphenyl)methylene)-3-(diethylamino)-2-methyl-2-cyclobutenylidene]chromium (4c): 0.22 g (8% based on [Cr(CO)₆]) of yellow needles from pentane/Et₂O (10:1), mp 126 °C. Anal. Calcd for C₂₉H₂₇CrNO₇ (553.5): C, 62.92; H, 4.92; N, 2.53. Found: C, 62.63; H, 4.95; N, 2.82. IR (Et₂O): $\nu(\text{CO})$ 2046 m, 1967 vw, 1921 vs, 1909 m cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (273 K): δ 0.78 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 7.1 Hz, 3 H, CH₂CH₃), 1.31 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 3 H, CH₂CH₃), 2.55 (s, 3 H, =CCH₃), 2.71 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 2 H, CH₂CH₃), 3.48 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 2 H, CH₂CH₃), 3.82, 3.86 (2 × s, 2 × 3 H, OCH₃), 6.81–7.04, 7.25–7.29 (2 × m, 6 and 2 H, aromatic). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (273 K): δ 12.7, 14.0 (CH₂CH₃), 16.1 (=CCH₃), 43.3, 45.7 (CH₂CH₃), 55.3 (OCH₃), 123.4 (C⁵), 113.5, 113.7, 130.8, 132.3, 133.2, 136.2, 159.0 (aromatic), 147.7 (C⁴), 161.4 (C²), 164.7 (C³), 218.3 (*cis*-CO), 225.6 (*trans*-CO), 268.1 (C¹).

Pentacarbonyl[3-(diethylamino)-4-methyl-5,5-diphenyl-1,2,4-pentatrienylidene]tungsten (5a): 1.06 g (34% based on [W(CO)₆]) of red needles from pentane/CH₂Cl₂ (10:1), mp 84 °C. Anal. Calcd for C₂₇H₂₃NO₅W (625.3): C, 51.86; H, 3.71; N, 2.24. Found: C, 51.87; H, 3.81; N, 2.25. IR (Et₂O): $\nu(\text{CO})$ 1934 vs, 1914 m cm⁻¹; $\nu(\text{CCC})$ 1988 m cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: δ 0.98 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 7.1 Hz, 3 H, CH₂CH₃), 1.12 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 3 H, CH₂CH₃), 2.14 (s, 3 H, =CCH₃), 3.05, 3.33, 3.81, 4.23 (4 × m_c, 4 × 1 H, CH₂CH₃), 7.15–7.41 (m, 10 H, aromatic). ¹³C{¹H} NMR: δ 11.0, 13.1 (CH₂CH₃), 20.2 (=CCH₃), 45.9, 48.1 (CH₂CH₃), 119.0 (C²), 129.2 (C⁴), 128.2, 128.3, 128.4, 129.4, 129.6, 139.7, 140.0 (aromatic), 143.6 (C⁵), 157.4 (C³), 197.2 (*cis*-CO), ¹J_{W,C} = 125 Hz), 200.4 (C¹); 203.7 (*trans*-CO). UV–vis (CH₂Cl₂): λ_{max} (log ϵ) 456 nm (4.380). EI MS (70 eV) *m/z*: 625 (6, [M⁺]), 470 (33, [M⁺ – 3CO – CH₃]), 296 (39, [(CO)₄W⁺]), 268 (100, [(CO)₃W⁺]).

Pentacarbonyl[3-(diethylamino)-4-(diphenylmethylene)-2-methyl-2-cyclobutenylidene]tungsten (6a): 0.59 g (19% based on [W(CO)₆]) of yellow needles from pentane/CH₂Cl₂ (4:1), mp 150 °C (dec). Anal. Calcd for C₂₇H₂₃NO₅W (625.3): C, 51.86; H, 3.71; N, 2.24. Found: C, 51.94; H, 3.73; N, 2.28. IR (Et₂O): $\nu(\text{CO})$ 2055 w, 1965 vw, 1919 vs, 1907 m sh cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: δ 0.74 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 3 H, CH₂CH₃), 1.32 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 3 H, CH₂CH₃), 2.50 (s, 3 H, =CCH₃), 2.65 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 2 H, CH₂CH₃), 3.49 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 2 H, CH₂CH₃), 7.09–7.35 (m, 10 H, aromatic). ¹³C{¹H} NMR: δ 12.5, 13.9 (CH₂CH₃), 17.3 (=CCH₃), 43.6, 46.1 (CH₂CH₃), 124.6 (C⁵), 127.9, 128.2, 128.6, 129.7, 132.3, 139.3, 143.5

(aromatic), 148.7 (C⁴), 162.9 (C²), 167.0 (C³), 198.6 (*cis*-CO), ¹J_{W,C} = 126 Hz), 205.2 (*trans*-CO), 247.8 (C¹). EI MS (70 eV) *m/z*: 625 (13, [M⁺]), 541 (100, [M⁺ – 3CO]), 513 (28, [M⁺ – 4CO]).

Pentacarbonyl[3-(diethylamino)-4-methyl-5,5-bis(*p*-tolyl)-1,2,4-pentatrienylidene]tungsten (5b): 1.21 g (37% based on [W(CO)₆]) of red needles from pentane/CH₂Cl₂ (50:1), mp 130 °C. Anal. Calcd for C₂₉H₂₇NO₅W (653.4): C, 53.31; H, 4.17; N, 2.14. Found: C, 53.40; H, 4.20; N, 2.25. IR (Et₂O): $\nu(\text{CO})$ 1933 vs, 1914 m cm⁻¹; $\nu(\text{CCC})$ 1990 m cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: δ 1.02 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 3 H, CH₂CH₃), 1.11 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 3 H, CH₂CH₃), 2.14 (s, 3 H, =CCH₃), 2.31, 2.37 (2 × s, 2 × 3 H, C₆H₄CH₃), 3.01, 3.35, 3.79, 4.24 (4 × m_c, 4 × 1 H, CH₂CH₃), 7.03–7.19 (m, 8 H, aromatic). ¹³C{¹H} NMR: δ 11.1, 13.1 (CH₂CH₃), 20.4 (=CCH₃), 21.2, 21.3 (C₆H₄CH₃), 45.8, 48.2 (CH₂CH₃), 118.8 (C²), 128.3 (C⁴), 129.0, 129.5, 129.6, 137.1, 137.4, 138.1, 138.4 (aromatic), 143.8 (C⁵), 157.9 (C³), 197.2 (*cis*-CO), ¹J_{W,C} = 125 Hz), 199.5 (C¹), 203.7 (*trans*-CO). UV–vis (CH₂Cl₂): λ_{max} (log ϵ) 454 nm (4.373).

Pentacarbonyl[4-(bis(*p*-tolyl)methylene)-3-(diethylamino)-2-methyl-2-cyclobutenylidene]tungsten (6b): 0.36 g (11% based on [W(CO)₆]) of yellow crystals from pentane/CH₂Cl₂ (4:1), mp 135 °C (dec). Anal. Calcd for C₂₉H₂₇NO₅W (653.4): C, 53.31; H, 4.17; N, 2.14. Found: C, 53.25; H, 4.21; N, 2.17. IR (Et₂O): $\nu(\text{CO})$ 2055 w, 1964 vw, 1919 vs, 1906 m sh cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: δ 0.76 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 3 H, CH₂CH₃), 1.31 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 3 H, CH₂CH₃), 2.34, 2.37 (2 × s, 2 × 3 H, C₆H₄CH₃), 2.48 (s, 3 H, =CCH₃), 2.68 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 2 H, CH₂CH₃), 3.48 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 2 H, CH₂CH₃), 6.96–7.24 (m, 8 H, aromatic). ¹³C{¹H} NMR: δ 12.6, 14.0 (CH₂CH₃), 17.4 (=CCH₃), 21.2, 21.3 (C₆H₄CH₃), 43.6, 46.1 (CH₂CH₃), 124.7 (C⁵), 128.9, 129.2, 129.7, 132.2, 136.3, 137.7, 137.8, 140.8 (aromatic), 147.9 (C⁴), 162.2 (C²), 167.4 (C³), 198.6 (*cis*-CO), ¹J_{W,C} = 126 Hz), 205.5 (*trans*-CO), 248.5 (C¹).

Pentacarbonyl[3-(diethylamino)-5,5-bis(*p*-methoxyphenyl)-4-methyl-1,2,4-pentatrienylidene]tungsten (5c): 1.74 g (51% based on [W(CO)₆]) of red needles from pentane/CH₂Cl₂ (10:1), mp 141 °C. Anal. Calcd for C₂₉H₂₇NO₇W (685.4): C, 50.82; H, 3.97; N, 2.04. Found: C, 50.81; H, 4.14; N, 2.08. IR (Et₂O): $\nu(\text{CO})$ 1933 vs, 1912 m cm⁻¹; $\nu(\text{CCC})$ 1990 m cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: δ 1.06 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 3 H, CH₂CH₃), 1.11 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 7.3 Hz, 3 H, CH₂CH₃), 2.16 (s, 3 H, =CCH₃), 3.01, 3.39 (2 × m_c, 2 × 1 H, CH₂CH₃), 3.79, 3.83 (2 × s, 2 × 3 H, OCH₃), 3.78, 4.26 (2 × m_c, 2 × 1 H, CH₂CH₃), 6.80–6.91, 7.08–7.22 (2 × m, 2 × 4 H, aromatic). ¹³C{¹H} NMR: δ 11.3, 13.1 (CH₂CH₃), 20.6 (=CCH₃), 45.8, 48.3 (CH₂CH₃), 55.3 (OCH₃), 118.5 (C²), ²J_{W,C} = 25 Hz), 127.4 (C⁴), 113.6, 131.0, 131.2, 132.3, 132.8, 159.4, 159.7 (aromatic), 143.4 (C⁵), 158.1 (C³), 197.2 (*cis*-CO), ¹J_{W,C} = 125 Hz), 197.8 (C¹), ¹J_{W,C} not found), 203.6 (*trans*-CO), ¹J_{W,C} = 130 Hz). UV–vis (CH₂Cl₂): λ_{max} (log ϵ) 454 nm (4.386).

Pentacarbonyl[4-(bis(*p*-methoxyphenyl)methylene)-3-(diethylamino)-2-methyl-2-cyclobutenylidene]tungsten (6c): 0.24 g (7% based on [W(CO)₆]) of yellow crystals from pentane/CH₂Cl₂ (4:1), mp 145 °C (dec). Anal. Calcd for C₂₉H₂₇NO₇W (685.4): C, 50.82; H, 3.97; N, 2.04. Found: C, 50.71; H, 4.03; N, 2.00. IR (Et₂O): $\nu(\text{CO})$ 2054 m, 1963 vw, 1921 vs sh, 1917 vs, 1905 m sh cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR: δ 0.81 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 7.1 Hz, 3 H, CH₂CH₃), 1.32 (t, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 3 H, CH₂CH₃), 2.47 (s, 3 H, =CCH₃), 2.72 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 2 H, CH₂CH₃), 3.49 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 2 H, CH₂CH₃), 3.81, 3.84 (2 × s, 2 × 3 H, OCH₃), 6.81–6.90, 7.00–7.04, 7.24–7.27 (3 × m, 4 and 2 × 2 H, aromatic). ¹³C{¹H} NMR: δ 12.7, 14.0 (CH₂CH₃), 17.3 (=CCH₃), 43.6, 46.0 (CH₂CH₃), 55.3 (OCH₃), 124.1 (C⁵), 113.6, 113.8, 130.9, 131.8, 133.5, 136.2, 159.3, 159.6 (aromatic), 147.2 (C⁴), 161.8 (C²), 168.1 (C³), 198.7 (*cis*-CO), ¹J_{W,C} = 126 Hz), 205.5 (*trans*-CO), ¹J_{W,C} = 125 Hz), 248.4 (C¹), ¹J_{W,C} = 88 Hz).

Reaction of 1d and 2d with MeC≡CNET₂ in CH₂Cl₂. At room temperature, to a blue solution of 0.32 mmol of **1d** (0.15 g) or **2d** (0.19 g) in 20 mL of CH₂Cl₂ was added a solution of 0.99 mmol (0.11 g) of MeC≡CNET₂ in 5 mL of CH₂Cl₂. Within a few seconds the reaction mixture turned brown-red. After

removal of the solvent, the brown residue was chromatographed on silica at $-20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. Elution with Et_2O afforded a dark red solution containing **3d** or **5d**.

Pentacarbonyl[3-(diethylamino)-5,5-bis(*p*-dimethylamino)phenyl]-4-methyl-1,2,4-pentatrienylidene]chromium (3d**):** 0.16 g (87% based on **1d**) of red crystals from pentane/ Et_2O (2:1), mp $150\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{33}\text{CrN}_3\text{O}_5$ (579.6): C, 64.24; H, 5.74; N, 7.25. Found: C, 64.21; H, 5.80; N, 7.31. IR (Et_2O): $\nu(\text{CO})$ 1936 vs, 1915 cm^{-1} ; $\nu(\text{CCC})$ 1990 cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR: δ 1.06 (t, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.1\text{ Hz}$, 3 H, CH_2CH_3), 1.08 (t, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.1\text{ Hz}$, 3 H, CH_2CH_3), 2.20 (s, 3 H, $=\text{CCH}_3$), 2.94, 2.99 (2 \times s, 2 \times 6 H, NCH_3), 2.95, 3.38, 3.75, 4.29 (4 \times m, 4 \times 1 H, CH_2CH_3), 6.55–6.68, 7.00–7.14 (2 \times m, 2 \times 4 H, aromatic). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (273 K): δ 11.6, 13.3 (CH_2CH_3), 21.5 ($=\text{CCH}_3$), 40.3 (NCH_3), 45.5, 48.3 (CH_2CH_3), 119.4 (C^2), 124.4 (C^1), 111.1, 111.2, 128.1, 128.5, 131.1, 131.3, 149.8, 150.0 (aromatic), 145.1 (C^5), 157.5 (C^3), 214.1 (C^1), 217.8 (*cis*-CO), 223.8 (*trans*-CO). UV-vis (CH_2Cl_2): λ_{max} (log ϵ) 466 nm (4.355). FAB MS (NBOH) m/z : 580 (14, $[\text{MH}^+]$), 495 (17, $[\text{M}^+ - 3\text{CO}]$), 467 (27, $[\text{M}^+ - 4\text{CO}]$), 439 (100, $[\text{M}^+ - 5\text{CO}]$).

Pentacarbonyl[3-(diethylamino)-5,5-bis(*p*-dimethylamino)phenyl]-4-methyl-1,2,4-pentatrienylidene]tungsten (5d**):** 0.12 g (53% based on **2d**) of dark red crystals from pentane/ Et_2O (2:1), mp $166\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ (dec). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{33}\text{N}_3\text{O}_5\text{W}$ (711.4): C, 52.33; H, 4.68; N, 5.91. Found: C, 52.46; H, 4.72; N, 5.89. IR (Et_2O): $\nu(\text{CO})$ 1931 vs, 1909 cm^{-1} ; $\nu(\text{CCC})$ 1992 cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR: δ 1.07 (t, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.2\text{ Hz}$, 3 H, CH_2CH_3), 1.09 (t, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.1\text{ Hz}$, 3 H, CH_2CH_3), 2.19 (s, 3 H, $=\text{CCH}_3$), 2.94, 2.99 (2 \times s, 2 \times 6 H, NCH_3), 2.93, 3.41, 3.76, 4.26 (4 \times m, 4 \times 1 H, CH_2CH_3), 6.56–6.69, 7.00–7.13 (2 \times m, 2 \times 4 H, aromatic). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR: δ 11.6, 13.1 (CH_2CH_3), 21.2 ($=\text{CCH}_3$), 40.2 (NCH_3), 45.8, 48.5 (CH_2CH_3), 117.8 (C^2), 124.5 (C^4), 111.3, 111.4, 128.2, 128.6, 131.1, 131.3, 150.1, 150.4 (aromatic), 145.7 (C^5), 159.5 (C^3), 193.1 (C^1), 197.4 (*cis*-CO, $^1J_{\text{W,C}} = 125\text{ Hz}$), 203.7 (*trans*-CO). UV-vis (CH_2Cl_2): λ_{max} (log ϵ) 456 nm (4.398).

Reaction of 1d and 2d with $\text{MeC}\equiv\text{CNET}_2$ in Pentane. At room temperature, 2.55 mmol (0.28 g) of $\text{MeC}\equiv\text{CNET}_2$ was added to a suspension of 0.86 mmol of **1d** (0.40 g) or **2d** (0.51 g) in 100 mL of pentane and stirred for 72 h in the dark. The resulting brownish precipitate was filtered off, extracted 4 times with 100 mL of pentane/ CH_2Cl_2 (9:1) each in order to remove a small amount of byproduct (**3d** or **5d**), and finally recrystallized.

Pentacarbonyl[4-(bis(*p*-dimethylamino)phenyl)methylene]-3-(diethylamino)-2-methyl-2-cyclobutenylidene]chromium (4d**):** 0.38 g (76% based on **1d**) of a brown-yellow powder from pentane/ CH_2Cl_2 (1:5), mp $194\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{33}\text{CrN}_3\text{O}_5$ (579.6): C, 64.24; H, 5.75; N, 7.25. Found: C, 64.22; H, 5.74; N, 7.22. IR (Et_2O): $\nu(\text{CO})$ 2046 w, 1966 vw, 1922 vs, 1904 cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR: δ 0.81 (t, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.3\text{ Hz}$, 3 H, CH_2CH_3), 1.30 (t, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.2\text{ Hz}$, 3 H, CH_2CH_3), 2.53 (s, 3 H, $=\text{CCH}_3$), 2.75 (q, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.2\text{ Hz}$, 2 H, CH_2CH_3), 2.95, 2.98 (2 \times s, 2 \times 6 H, NCH_3), 3.46 (q, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.2\text{ Hz}$, 2 H, CH_2CH_3), 6.60–7.30 (m, 8 H, aromatic). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CDCl_3): δ 12.9, 14.1 (CH_2CH_3), 16.0 ($=\text{CCH}_3$), 40.4, 40.6 (NCH_3), 43.5, 45.7 (CH_2CH_3), 125.2 (C^5), 111.8, 112.2, 128.4, 130.6, 132.2, 133.0, 149.9, 150.5 (aromatic), 146.3 (C^4), 160.0 (C^2), 166.0 (C^3), 218.6 (*cis*-CO), 226.0 (*trans*-CO), 268.8 (C^1).

Pentacarbonyl[4-(bis(*p*-dimethylamino)phenyl)methylene]-3-(diethylamino)-2-methyl-2-cyclobutenylidene]tungsten (6d**):** 0.26 g (42% based on **2d**) of a brown-yellow powder from pentane/ CH_2Cl_2 (1:5), mp $211\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ (dec). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{33}\text{N}_3\text{O}_5\text{W}\cdot\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ (711.4 + 84.9): C, 48.26; H, 4.43; N, 5.28. Found: C, 48.54; H, 4.66; N, 5.31. IR (Et_2O): $\nu(\text{CO})$ 2052 w, 1963 vw, 1915 vs, 1899 cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR: δ 0.83 (t, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.2\text{ Hz}$, 3 H, CH_2CH_3), 1.31 (t, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.2\text{ Hz}$, 3 H, CH_2CH_3), 2.45 (s, 3 H, $=\text{CCH}_3$), 2.74 (q, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.2\text{ Hz}$, 2 H, CH_2CH_3), 2.96, 2.98 (2 \times s, 2 \times 6 H, NCH_3), 3.48 (q, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.2\text{ Hz}$, 2 H, CH_2CH_3), 6.60–6.72, 6.95–6.98, 7.18–7.22 (3 \times m, 4 and 2 \times 2 H, aromatic). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CD_2Cl_2): δ

13.1, 14.3 (CH_2CH_3), 17.6 ($=\text{CCH}_3$), 40.6, 40.8 (NCH_3), 44.3, 46.5 (CH_2CH_3), 126.2 (C^5), 112.3, 112.5, 128.3, 131.0, 132.2, 133.7, 150.7, 151.0 (aromatic), 146.0 (C^4), 161.2 (C^2), 170.2 (C^3), 199.5 (*cis*-CO, $^1J_{\text{W,C}} = 126\text{ Hz}$), 206.2 (*trans*-CO, $^1J_{\text{W,C}} = 124\text{ Hz}$), 247.1 (C^1).

Reaction of 1c and 1d with $\text{PhC}\equiv\text{CNET}_2$. In addition to the kinetic investigations, complexes **3e,f** and **4e,f** were also synthesized on a preparative scale.

Pentacarbonyl[3-(diethylamino)-5,5-bis(*p*-methoxyphenyl)-4-phenyl-1,2,4-pentatrienylidene]chromium (3e**):** $\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{29}\text{CrNO}_7$ (615.6). IR (Et_2O): $\nu(\text{CO})$ 1939 vs, 1918 cm^{-1} ; $\nu(\text{CCC})$ 1987 cm^{-1} . UV-vis (CH_2Cl_2): λ_{max} (log ϵ) 480 nm (4.048).

Pentacarbonyl[4-(bis(*p*-methoxyphenyl)methylene)-3-(diethylamino)-2-phenyl-2-cyclobutenylidene]chromium (4e**):** At room temperature, 1.50 mmol (0.26 g) of $\text{PhC}\equiv\text{CNET}_2$ was added to a suspension of 0.50 mmol (0.22 g) of **1c** in 100 mL of pentane and stirred for 24 h. The resulting brownish-orange precipitate was filtered off, extracted 4 times with 100 mL of pentane/ CH_2Cl_2 (9:1) each in order to remove a small amount of byproduct (**3e**), and finally recrystallized: 0.13 g (42% based on **1c**) of a yellow powder from pentane/ CH_2Cl_2 (1:3), mp $134\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{29}\text{CrNO}_7\cdot\frac{1}{4}\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ (615.6 + 21.2): C, 64.60; H, 4.67; N, 2.20. Found: C, 64.37; H, 5.02; N, 1.97. IR (Et_2O): $\nu(\text{CO})$ 2046 w, 1967 vw, 1926 vs, 1908 cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR: δ 0.82 (t, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.2\text{ Hz}$, 3 H, CH_2CH_3), 0.96 (t, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.2\text{ Hz}$, 3 H, CH_2CH_3), 2.69 (q, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.2\text{ Hz}$, 2 H, CH_2CH_3), 3.12 (q, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.2\text{ Hz}$, 2 H, CH_2CH_3), 3.82, 3.85 (2 \times s, 2 \times 3 H, OCH_3), 6.84–6.92, 7.07–7.11, 7.31–7.54 (3 \times m, 4 and 2 and 7 H, aromatic). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR: δ 12.7, 12.8 (CH_2CH_3), 43.3, 45.4 (CH_2CH_3), 55.4 (OCH_3), 126.6 (C^5), 113.7, 113.9, 128.3, 128.5, 129.7, 131.1, 132.2, 133.5, 134.8, 136.4, 159.5, 159.8 (aromatic), 148.5 (C^4), 165.0 (C^2), 166.1 (C^3), 218.2 (*cis*-CO), 225.6 (*trans*-CO), 276.3 (C^1).

Pentacarbonyl[3-(diethylamino)-5,5-bis(*p*-dimethylamino)phenyl]-4-phenyl-1,2,4-pentatrienylidene]chromium (3f**):** At room temperature, a solution of 1.50 mmol (0.26 g) of $\text{PhC}\equiv\text{CNET}_2$ in 5 mL of CH_2Cl_2 was added to a blue solution of 0.32 mmol (0.15 g) of **1d** in 20 mL of CH_2Cl_2 . Within a few seconds, the reaction mixture turned brown-red. After removal of the solvent, the brown residue was chromatographed on silica at $-20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. Elution with CH_2Cl_2 /pentane (1:3) afforded a dark red solution containing **3f**: 0.13 g (63% based on **1d**) of red crystals from pentane/ Et_2O (4:1), mp $156\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{35}\text{CrN}_3\text{O}_5$ (641.7): C, 67.38; H, 5.50; N, 6.55. Found: C, 66.98; H, 5.63; N, 6.61. IR (Et_2O): $\nu(\text{CO})$ 1936 vs, 1912 cm^{-1} ; $\nu(\text{CCC})$ 1987 cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR: δ 0.72 (t, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.1\text{ Hz}$, 3 H, CH_2CH_3), 1.23 (t, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.1\text{ Hz}$, 3 H, CH_2CH_3), 2.91, 2.96 (2 \times s, 2 \times 6 H, NCH_3), 3.28, 3.46, 3.97, 4.19 (4 \times m, 4 \times 1 H, CH_2CH_3), 6.42–6.45, 6.59–6.63, 6.88–6.92, 7.01–7.05, 7.14–7.24 (5 \times m, 4 \times 2 and 5 H, aromatic). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR: δ 11.4, 11.8 (CH_2CH_3), 40.1, 40.2 (NCH_3), 46.0, 47.0 (CH_2CH_3), 122.9 (C^2), 128.0 (C^4), 111.0, 111.4, 127.1, 128.5, 128.8, 129.8, 130.2, 131.3, 132.9, 139.6, 149.9, 151.0 (aromatic), 148.6 (C^5), 155.7 (C^3), 217.9 (*cis*-CO), 220.6 (C^1), 224.6 (*trans*-CO). UV-vis (CH_2Cl_2): λ_{max} (log ϵ) 482 nm (4.241).

Pentacarbonyl[4-(bis(*p*-dimethylamino)phenyl)methylene]-3-(diethylamino)-2-phenyl-2-cyclobutenylidene]chromium (4f**):** At room temperature, 3.30 mmol (0.57 g) of $\text{PhC}\equiv\text{CNET}_2$ was added to a suspension of 1.10 mmol (0.52 g) of **1d** in 100 mL of pentane and stirred for 72 h in the dark. The resulting brownish precipitate was filtered off, extracted 4 times with 100 mL of pentane/ CH_2Cl_2 (9:1) each in order to remove a small amount of byproduct (**3f**), and finally recrystallized: 0.47 g (68% based on **1d**) of a brown-yellow powder from pentane/ CH_2Cl_2 (1:4), mp $120\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ (dec). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{35}\text{CrN}_3\text{O}_5\cdot\frac{1}{4}\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ (641.7 + 21.2): C, 65.68; H, 5.40; N, 6.34. Found: C, 65.46; H, 5.66; N, 6.45. IR (Et_2O): $\nu(\text{CO})$ 2045 w, 1968 vw, 1924 vs, 1904 cm^{-1} . ^1H NMR: δ 0.84 (t, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.2\text{ Hz}$, 3 H, CH_2CH_3), 0.97 (t, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 7.2\text{ Hz}$,

3 H, CH₂CH₃), 2.72 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 2 H, CH₂CH₃), 2.97, 3.00 (2 × s, 2 × 6 H, NCH₃), 3.11 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 7.2 Hz, 2 H, CH₂-CH₃), 6.62–6.74, 7.01–7.05, 7.26–7.29, 7.37–7.54 (4 × m, 4 and 2 × 2 and 5 H, aromatic). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CD₂Cl₂): δ 13.0, 13.1 (CH₂CH₃), 40.5, 40.7 (NCH₃), 43.9, 45.9 (CH₂CH₃), 128.6 (C⁵), 112.2, 112.3, 128.5, 130.4, 131.2, 132.2, 133.7, 135.9, 150.8, 151.0 (aromatic), 147.0 (C⁴), 164.1 (C²), 168.8 (C³), 218.9 (*cis*-CO), 226.3 (*trans*-CO), 274.5 (C¹).

X-ray Structural Analysis of 3d. C₃₁H₃₃CrN₃O₅, M_r = 579.6, monoclinic, space group P2₁/n, a = 13.552(7) Å, b = 12.206(6) Å, c = 18.902(11) Å, β = 95.47(4)°, V = 3113(3) Å³, Z = 4, d_c = 1.237 g cm⁻³, F(000) = 1216, μ = 0.396 mm⁻¹, R (R_w) = 0.072 (0.060) for 3343 observed reflections [F > 3.0σ(F)], largest difference peak/hole +0.43/−0.36 e Å⁻³. A single crystal was grown from pentane/Et₂O (2:1) and mounted in a glass capillary. All crystal data were collected on a Siemens R3m/V diffractometer at −20 °C (Wyckoff scan, 4° < 2θ < 52°) with a graphite monochromator (Mo Kα, λ = 0.710 73 Å). The structure was solved with Patterson methods and refined by full-matrix least-squares techniques (Siemens SHELXTL PLUS). The positions of the hydrogen atoms were calculated in ideal geometry (d_{CH} = 0.960 Å) and refined in the “riding model”. All other atoms were refined anisotropically.

Kinetic Investigations. Kinetic measurements were performed with a stopped-flow apparatus SFA-11 (HI-TECH) by using a thermostated UV–vis cuvette (d = 0.2 cm) as the reaction cell. Air and moisture were carefully excluded. The reactions were followed by UV–vis spectroscopy (Lambda 15, Perkin-Elmer). For all reactions, pseudo-first-order conditions were employed (ratio [ynamine]₀/[1]₀ > 10). The disappearance of the educt complexes **1c,d** was monitored continuously at λ = 684 (**1c**) and 686 (**1d**) nm in 1,1,2-trichloroethane and λ =

678 (**1c**) and 708 (**1d**) nm in 1,1,2-trichloroethane/*n*-heptane (1:4) for at least 5–7 half-lives. Plots of ln(A − A_∞) vs time were linear for more than 3 half-lives (usually 4–5 half-lives). The rate constant k_{obs} was determined from the slope of these lines by the least-squares method using the data for the first 3 half-lives. The rate constants k_{obs} for different kinetic runs under identical conditions were reproducible to at least 6%. The accuracy of the temperature measurements was ±0.1 °C. The second-order rate constants k₂ given in Table 2 were calculated from plots of k_{obs} vs [1]₀. The averages of k_{obs} of at least 3 runs under identical conditions were employed. The activation parameters given in Table 3 were determined from second-order rate constants at 5 temperatures between 15 and 50 °C (15, 20, 25, 30, 40, and 50 °C) each. After completion of the kinetic runs, the reaction solutions were transferred into a Schlenk tube. The solvent was evaporated in vacuo, the residue dissolved in 1 mL of CH₂Cl₂, and the product ratio determined by IR spectroscopy.

Acknowledgment. Support of this research by the Fonds der Chemischen Industrie is gratefully acknowledged. We thank Dr. A. Geyer for performing the HMBC NMR experiments.

Supporting Information Available: Tables of crystal data and refinement details, positional and thermal parameters, and bond distances and angles for compound **3d** and kinetic data for the reactions of **1c,d** with ynamines (17 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

OM971102+