Synthesis of Carbodiimidotitanium Complexes by the Reaction of (Trimethylstannyl)carbodiimides with Titanium Chlorides

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Summary: Me₃Sn-*N*=*C*=*N*-*R¹* (*R¹* = *SiⁱPr₃, SiPh₂^{<i>t*}Bu, *Ph) reacts with Cn₂TiCl₃ (<i>Cn* = n^5 -*C*₆H_ε) *or Cn**₂TiCl₃ *Ph) reacts with* Cp_2TiCl_2 $(Cp = \eta^5 \text{-} C_5H_5)$ *or* $Cp^*_{2}TiCl_2$ $(Cp^* = \eta^5 - C_5Me_5)$ selectively at the Sn-*N* bond to give *the corresponding bis(carbodiimido)titanium complexes* $(Cp_2Ti(N=C=N-SiR_3)_2, Cp*_2Ti(N=C=N-SiR_3)_2,$ and *Cp₂Ti(N*=*C*=N-*Ph)₂*) in moderate to high yields. The *structure of* $Cp_2Ti(N=C=N-Ph)_2$ *was determined by X-ray crystallography. Oligomeric complexes were formed by the reaction of* $MegSn-N=C=N-X-N=C=N-SnMe₃$ $(X = -C_6H_3Cl - CH_2-C_6H_3Cl$ -*)* with $Cp^*_{2}TiCl_2$.

Introduction

Titanium complexes having amido-type nitrogen ligands are attracting much interest because of their potential use as new catalysts for polymerization and organic reactions¹ and as pyrolytic precursors for titanium nitride and titanium carbonitride.2 Accordingly, a number of amidotitanium complexes have been synthesized. $1-3$ Among amido-type nitrogen ligands, carbodiimido ligands with their linear $N=C=N$ moiety are sterically less demanding and can retain larger space around the metal center than the usual amido ligands and a variety of substituents can be introduced onto the terminal nitrogen. However, no useful method for the preparation of carbodiimidotitanium complexes has been reported. A paper by Plenio and Roesky disclosed the synthesis of $Cp_2Ti(N=C=O)(N=C=N-$ SiMe₃) (Cp = η^5 -C₅H₅) and Cp₂Ti(N=C=N-SiMe₃)₂ by

Scheme 1

the reaction of $Cp_2Ti(N=C=O)_2$ with $LiN(SiMe_3)_2$,⁴ but the product yields were low (<15%). Here, we report a general and high-yield synthesis of carbodiimidotitanium complexes and the X-ray crystal structure determination of $Cp_2Ti(N=C=N-Ph)₂$.

Results and Discussion

Transmetalation reactions between $R_3Si-N=C=N-X$ and L_nM-Cl ($M = B$, Sb, Ta, Mo, W) have been used to synthesize (carbodiimido)metal species L_nM-N=C=N-X with elimination of R_3 SiCl.⁵ The use of trialkylstannylcarbodiimides seems more attractive because they have higher reactivities toward transmetalation reactions.6 For example, selective monosubstitution proceeds at the Sn-N bond in the reaction of R_3 Sn-N=C=N-SiR[']3 with (ⁱPr₂N)₂PCl.⁷ This procedure proved
to work picely for the synthesis of carbodiimidotitanium to work nicely for the synthesis of carbodiimidotitanium complexes. Thus, (silyl)(stannyl)carbodiimides **1a**,**b** reacted selectively at the Sn–N bond with R^2 ₂TiCl₂ (R^2)
= Cn or Cn* (= n^5 -C-Me-)) in THE at room temperature $=$ Cp or Cp^{*} ($= \eta^5$ -C₅Me₅)) in THF at room temperature to form bis[(trialkylsilyl)carbodiimido]titanium complexes $2-4$ nearly quantitatively (by ¹³C NMR spectroscopy). These complexes were readily purified by recrystallization to give thin orange or red plates (**2**, 85%; **3**, 94%; **4**, 45%), Scheme 1.8 Phenyl(stannyl)carbodiimide **1c** reacted similarly with $\text{Cp}_2 \text{TiCl}_2$ to give 5 nearly quantitatively. The color of the resulting THF solution of **5** was very strongly purple-violet, but **5** crystallized to form shiny metallic thin green plates.

Complexes **²**-**⁴** are air- and light-stable in the crystalline state, while in solution they gradually de-

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⁽⁸⁾ The lower isolated yield of **4** was due to its high solubility in the recrystallization solvents. Most of the products described in this paper were reluctant to burn in combustion analysis. Use of a larger quantity of combustion promoter (V_2O_5) proved to improve elemental analyses but was not sufficiently helpful to obtain satisfactory data.

Figure 1. A view of the molecular structure of **5**.

Table 1. Crystallographic Data for 5	
formula	$C_{24}H_{20}N_{4}Ti$
fw	412.35
cryst size, mm	$0.40 \times 0.20 \times 0.03$
a, A	11.674(2)
b, Å	21.154(2)
c. Å	9.226(2)
β , deg	112.82(1)
V. A ³	2100.0(1)
cryst syst	monoclinic
space group	$P2_1/c$ (No. 14)
Z	4
$D_{\rm calc}$, g cm ⁻³	1.304
μ (Cu Ka), cm ⁻¹	35.75
λ. A	1.541 78
$2\theta_{\text{max}}$, deg	120.1
no. of rflns measd	3454
no. of unique rflns	3234
no. of rflns $I_0 \geq 3.0\sigma(I_0)$	1876
R , R_w	0.047, 0.062
GoF	1.53

Table 2. Selected Bond Lengths (Å) and Angles (deg) for 5

compose under sunlight, even under a nitrogen atmosphere to give insoluble materials. In the decomposition of **2** and **4**, the major soluble product was ^{*i*}Pr₃Si-
N=C=N-Si^{*i*p_{ra} as characterized by comparison of its} N=C=N-Si^{*i*}Pr₃, as characterized by comparison of its
spectral data with those of an authentic sample. On spectral data with those of an authentic sample. On the other hand, the insoluble products did not show $N=C=N$ nor $C=O$ absorptions in the IR spectra. In a patent it was reported that a polymer containing $-SiPh_2-N=C=N-$ repeat units underwent cross-linking upon exposure to an electron beam.⁹ In our photodegradation process, not only the metathesis reaction leading to the formation of $\overline{\mathrm{Pr}}_3\mathrm{Si}-\mathrm{N=}C=\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{Si}^{\mathrm{i}}\mathrm{Pr}_{3}$ but
also a cross-linking process may have been involved also a cross-linking process may have been involved. However, further characterization of the insoluble products was not undertaken. On the other hand, complex **5** is air stable in the solid state and insensitive to the light. When a THF solution of **5** was exposed to air, slow decomposition occurred to precipitate a light

Scheme 2

orange powder. The IR spectrum of the latter showed several new bands assignable to $C=O$ stretching vibrations, formed at the expense of the $N=C=N$ bands. This suggests the formation of urea-type products, as in the case of the usual organic carbodiimides. Such hydrolytic degradation has never been observed for complexes **²**-**4**.

The molecular structure of complex **5** was determined by X-ray diffraction, and the ORTEP drawing¹⁰ is shown in Figure 1. Crystallographic data and selected bond lengths and angles for **5** are given in Tables 1 and 2, respectively. The structure of $M-N=C=N-M'$ is known to be highly dependent on the nature of M and M′. For example, even in the case of symmetric $R_3Si-N=C=N-$ SiR₃, the Si-N-C angle can vary between 180 $^{\circ}$ (R = Ph) and $142.0(11)$ ° ($R = Me$).¹¹ Complex 5 has asymmetric N=C=N linkages; the N1-C1 and N3-C2 bond lengths are 1.187(7) and 1.177(6) Å, respectively, which are close to the N-C triple bond length. On the other hand, the N2-C1 and N4-C2 bond lengths are 1.260-(7) and 1.247(7) Å, respectively, suggesting a doublebond character of these bonds. The bond angles distinctly reflect the difference in these $N-C$ bond lengths; Ti-N1-C1 (168.1(4)^o) and Ti-N3-C2 (174.5(4)^o) are almost linear, while C1-N2-C3 (123.3(5)°) and C2-N4-C4 (125.4(5)°) are those of usual trigonal nitrogens.

The present method should be applicable to the synthesis of polymeric complexes. The reaction of Me₃- $Sn-N=C=N-SnMe₃$ with $Cp_{2}^{*}TiCl_{2}$, $Cp_{2}^{*}TiCl_{2}$, and TiCl4 gave red or reddish-brown materials. However, high air and/or light sensitivity and insolubility prevented characterization of the products. To ensure the characterization of possible polymeric complexes by improving the air- and light-stability and solubility, bis- (stannylcarbodiimido) compound **6**, having an organic spacer, was synthesized by the procedure of Hänssgen and Hajduga.¹² The reaction of 6 with $Cp_{2}^{*}TiCl_{2}$ gave a deep violet solid **7**, which indeed was more stable to air and light than the products derived from $Me₃Sn N=C=N-SnMe₃$, Scheme 2. Product **7** was soluble in CHCl3 and THF. Its IR spectrum showed a typical $N=C=N$ absorption band at 2130 cm⁻¹. GPC (gel permeation chromatography; THF, polystyrene standards) analysis of the crude mixture revealed that the molecular weight of the product ranged from 300 to 3000, indicative of the formation of low molecular weight

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oligomers (Figure 2a; the formula weight of the repeat unit of **7** is 633). The 1H NMR spectrum of crude **7** displayed signals arising from $C_5(CH_3)_5$ and aromatic hydrogens as well as a small amount of Sn(CH₃)₃, which was assignable to the unreacted $-NCN-SnMe₃$ terminus. A small amount of purer **7** could be isolated by recrystallization as fine needles¹³ and showed the same retention time in the GPC analysis (Figure 2a; M_w (polystyrene standard) = 631, $M_w/M_n = 1.08$) as that of the major fraction of the crude material. Although the *M*^w estimated by GPC corresponds to the formula weight of one repeat unit, the absolute value is meaningless since the polystyrene standards are used. Indeed, the FAB mass spectrum of the needle showed a signal at *m*/*z* 1267 (with the expected isotope pattern), which corresponds to the molecular ion peak of a cyclic dimer $(-Cp_{2}^{*}Ti-N=C=N-C_{6}H_{3}Cl-CH_{2}-C_{6}H_{3}Cl N=C=N-$)₂. This result suggests that GPC analysis using the standards underestimates the molecular weight of **7**. Similar underestimations are reported for dendrimers and organometallic oligomers and polymers.¹⁴ The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of the needle verified the presence of Cp^* and $C_6H_3Cl-CH_2-C_6H_3Cl$ groups and the absence of Me3Sn. These spectra also are consistent with the cyclic structure.

Experimental Section

General Procedures. All manipulations of air-sensitive materials were carried out under a nitrogen atmosphere using standard Schlenk tube techniques. Me₃Sn–N=C=N–SnMe₃,¹⁵
Me₂Sn–N=C=N–Si⁷Pr2</sub>7_and_Me2Sn–N=C=N–Ph^{12_}were $Me₃Sn-N=C=N-Si²Pr₃$,⁷ and $Me₃Sn-N=C=N-Ph¹²$ were prepared according to the literature procedures. 1 H, 13 C, and 29Si NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker AC200 and ARX300 spectrometers.

Preparation of Me₃Sn-N=C=N-SiPh₂'Bu (1b). To a **dependent of Me₃SnNCNSnMe₀ (0.55.g. 1.5 mmol)** THF solution (10 mL) of $Me₃SnNCNSnMe₃$ (0.55 g, 1.5 mmol) was added dropwise *^t* BuPh2SiCl (0.41 g, 1.5 mmol) at room temperature. After 2 h, the solvent and $Me₃SnCl$ were removed under vacuum to give **1b** as a colorless oil, which was used in the following reaction without further purification. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 0.47 (s, 9H, $J_{\text{H}^{119}\text{Sn}} = 58.7 \text{ Hz}$, $J_{\text{H}^{117}\text{Sn}} = 56.6$ Hz, SnC*H*₃), 1.06 (s, 9H, 'Bu), 7.33–7.39 (m, 6H), 7.72–7.76
(m, 4H), ¹³C NMR (CDCl₀): δ – 4.14 (*L*₀μ₂₀₀ = 4.01 Hz, *L*₀μ₇₀ (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ – 4.14 ($J_{\rm C}$ ¹¹⁹Sn = 401 Hz, $J_{\rm C}$ ¹¹⁷Sn $=$ 381 Hz, Sn Me_3), 19.55 (*C*Me₃), 26.27 (*CMe₃*), 127.10, 128.84, 130.41 (N*C*N), 134.51, 134.76 (*ipso*). 29Si NMR (CDCl3): *^δ* - 15.96. IR (neat, cm⁻¹): 2148 (NCN). HRMS calcd for $C_{16}H_{19}N_2$ - $Sisin (M^+ - {}^tBu): 386.0328.$ Found: 386.0323.
Coneral Procedure for the Synthesis of

General Procedure for the Synthesis of Compounds 2–4. To a THF solution (8 mL) of R^2_2 TiCl₂ (0.3 mmol) was
added dropwise a THF solution (8 mL) of R^1 –N=C=N–SpMe₀ added dropwise a THF solution (8 mL) of $R^1-N=C=N-SnMe_3$ (0.6 mmol) at room temperature. After the mixture was stirred overnight, the solvent and Me3SnCl were removed under vacuum (3 h, 10-² mmHg) to give **²**-**4**, which were recrystallized from pentane (**2**, 85%), hexane (**3**, 94%), or a THF/acetonitrile mixture (3/7, **4**, 45%).

Cp₂Ti(N=C=N-Si^{*i***}Pr₃)₂ (2).** Orange thin plates (85%) yield), mp 112 °C. 1H NMR (CDCl3): *δ* 1.07 (m, 42H, *ⁱ* Pr), 6.24 (s, 10H, C5*H*5). 13C NMR (CDCl3): *δ* 12.89 (*C*HMe2), 18.19 (CHMe₂), 115.68 (C₅H₅), NCN was not observed. ²⁹Si NMR (CDCl3): *δ* 2.39. IR (KBr, cm-1): 2146, 2112 (NCN). MS (EI, relative intensity): *^m*/*^z* 572 (M+, 8), 529 (M⁺ - *ⁱ* Pr, 100), 507 $(M^+ - C_5H_5, 100)$, 486 (56). HRMS Calcd for $C_{30}H_{52}N_4Si_2Ti$: 572.3210. Found: 572.3176. Anal. Calcd for $C_{30}H_{52}N_4Si_2Ti$: C, 62.90; H, 9.15; N, 9.18. Found: C, 62.34; H, 9.19; N, 9.14.

Cp₂Ti(N=C=N-SiPh₂^(Bu)₂ (3). Orange-red thin plates $\frac{100}{2}$ vield) mn 105 °C ¹¹H NMR (CDCla): δ 1.09 (s. 18H) (94% yield), mp 105 °C. 1H NMR (CDCl3): *δ* 1.09 (s, 18H, C*Me₃*), 6.14 (s, 10H, C₅*H*₅), 7.38–7.78 (m, 20H, Ph). ¹³C NMR (CDCl3): *δ* 19.84 (*C*Me3), 26.77 (C*Me3*), 116.12 (*C*5H5), 127.60, 129.27, 135.19, 135.88 (*ipso*), 138,63 (N*C*N). 29Si NMR (CDCl3): *^δ*-15.53. IR (KBr, cm-1): 2156, 2094 (NCN). MS (EI, relative intensity): *m*/*z* 679 (M⁺ - ^{*B*u, 63), 223 (100), 178 (42) Anal Calcd for C_t H_aN₋S₁; C₁ 71 71 H_a 57 N₋₇ 60} (42). Anal. Calcd for C44H48N4Si2Ti: C, 71.71; H, 6.57; N, 7.60. Found: C, 72.04; H, 6.67; N, 7.60.

Cp^{*}₂Ti(N=C=N-Si^{*i***}Pr₃)₂ (4).** Red plates (45% yield), mp
2 °C ¹H NMR (CDCla): λ 1.04 (m. 42H *Pr*): 1.95 (s. 30H 182 °C. 1H NMR (CDCl3): *δ* 1.04 (m, 42H, *ⁱ* Pr), 1.95 (s, 30H, C5*Me*5). 13C NMR (CDCl3): *δ* 11.99, 13.06, 18.32, 124.74 (*C*5- Me₅), N*C*N was not observed. ²⁹Si NMR (CDCl₃): δ -1.66. IR (KBr, cm-1): 2166, 2102 (NCN). MS (EI, relative intensity): *^m*/*^z* 712 (M+, 0.4), 669 (M⁺ - *ⁱ* Pr, 0.59), 578 (M⁺ - C5Me5, 100). HRMS Calcd for C40H72N4Si2Ti: 712.4775. Found: 712.4786.

 $\mathbf{Cp}_2\mathbf{Ti}(\mathbf{N}=\mathbf{C}=\mathbf{N}-\mathbf{Ph})_2$ (5). To a THF solution (3 mL) of \mathbf{Cp}_2 - $TiCl₂$ (0.075 g; 0.3 mmol) was added dropwise a THF solution (3 mL) of PhNCNSnMe₃ $(0.168 \text{ g}; 0.6 \text{ mmol})$ at room temperature. After the mixture was stirred overnight, the solution was poured into pentane (20 mL). Filtration followed by drying in vacuo gave metallic green crystals **5** (95% yield), mp: 123 °C. 1H NMR (CDCl3): *^δ* 6.41 (s, 10H, C5*H*5), 6.98- 7.24 (m, 10H, Ph). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 116.33 (C₅H₅), 122.01, 122.26, 129.37, 143.72 (N*C*N), 145.53 (*ipso*). IR (KBr, cm-1): 2132, 2092 (NCN). MS (EI, relative intensity): *m*/*z* 412 (M+, 21), 295 (M^+ – PhNCN, 100), 178 (Cp₂Ti, 87). HRMS Calcd for $C_{24}H_{20}N_{4}Ti$: 412.1167. Found: 412.1185. Anal. Calcd for $C_{24}H_{20}N_{4}Ti$: C, 69.91; H, 4.89; N, 13.59. Found: C, 69.29; H, 4.90; N, 13.29.

⁽¹³⁾ We tried the reaction of 6 with $Cp^*{}_2TiCl_2$ several times. In all cases, GPC profiles of the resulting mixtures of oligomers were almost the same. However, we succeeded only once to obtain a small amount of a purer compound as needles by cooling a saturated THF solution of a mixture of oligomers. FAB mass analyses of the crude products also always showed the signal corresponding to the cyclic dimer (–Cp*₂-
Ti–N=C=N−C₆H₃Cl−CH₂−C₆H₃Cl−N=C=N−)₂ at *m*/*z* 1267, 1131,
and 633 and 633.

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Preparation of 6. To a hexane solution (8 mL) of (Me₃-Sn)3N (0.505 g; 1.0 mmol) stirred at room temperature was added dropwise an EtOH solution (3 mL) of 1,1′-methylenebis- (3-chloro-4-isothiocyanatobenzene) (0.175 g; 0.50 mmol). After the mixture was stirred overnight, the solvent and $(Me_3Sn)_2S$ were removed by a syringe. The residue was then dissolved in THF (5 mL) and poured into pentane (20 mL) under vigorous stirring. The solvent was again removed by a syringe, and the remaining product was dried under vacuum, affording a pale yellow solid (89% yield), which was used in subsequent reactions without further purification. 1H NMR (CDCl3): *δ* 0.55 (s, 18H, $J_{H^{119}Sn} = 58.4$ Hz, $J_{H^{117}Sn} = 53.5$ Hz, Sn Me_3), 3.76 (s, 2H, CH₂), 6.91-7.05 (m, 6H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ - 1.98 $(J_{\rm C}^{119}S_{\rm n} = 402 \text{ Hz}, J_{\rm C}^{117}S_{\rm n} = 384 \text{ Hz}, \text{Sn} \text{Me}_3$, 40.85 (*C*H₂), 124.59, 127.79, 128.81, 130.95, 133.14 (N*C*N), 136.36, 140.02. IR (neat, cm⁻¹): 2128 (NCN). HRMS Calcd for $C_{20}H_{23}N_4^{119}Sn_2^{35}$ - $Cl_2 (M^+ - Me): 628.9342.$ Found: 628.9360.

Synthesis of 7. To a THF solution (5 mL) of $Cp^*_{2}TiCl_{2}$ (0.233 g, 0.60 mmol) stirred at room temperature was added dropwise a THF solution (4 mL) of **6** (0.386 g; 0.60 mmol). After the mixture was refluxed for 2 h, the solution was poured into pentane (20 mL). The precipitate was filtered, redissolved in THF (5 mL), and poured again in pentane (15 mL). Filtration and drying under vacuum afforded the oligomers **7** (0.285 g). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 1.95 (s), 2.01 (s), 3.7-3.8 (m), 6.7-7.2 (m). IR (KBr, cm-1): 2130 (NCN).

A small amount (ca. 5 mg) of deep brown needles was obtained from a saturated THF solution of crude **7**. 1H NMR (CDCl3): *^δ* 2.01 (s, 30H, C5*Me*5), 3.73 (s, 2H, C*H*2), 6.83-7.13 (m, 6H, C₆H₃Cl). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 12.35 (C₅Me₅), 40.03 (*C*H2), 123.05, 125.91, 126.52, 127.63, 129.98, 134.16, 139.64 (N*C*N), 141.63. IR (KBr, cm-1): 2136, 2102 (NCN). MS (FAB): *m*/*z* 1267, 1131, 633.

X-ray Structure Determination of 5. A red plate crystal was mounted on a glass fiber. All measurements were made on a Rigaku AFC7R diffractometer with graphite-monochromated Cu K α radiation and a 12 kW rotating anode generator. Cell constants and an orientation matrix for data collection were obtained from a least-squares refinement using the setting angles of 22 carefully centered reflections in the range $50.04^{\circ} < 2\theta < 58.38^{\circ}$. The data were collected at $23 \pm 1^{\circ}$ C using the *^ω*-2*^θ* scan technique to a maximum 2*^θ* value of 120.1°. Of the 3454 reflections which were collected, 3234 were unique $(R_{int} = 0.025)$. The intensities of three representative reflections were measured after every 150 reflections. Over the course of data collection, the standards decreased by 28.7%. A linear correction factor was applied to the data to account for this phenomenon. The linear absorption coefficient, *µ*, for Cu K α radiation was 35.8 cm⁻¹. An empirical absorption correction based on azimuthal scans of several reflections was applied, resulting in transmission factors ranging from 0.69 to 1.00. The data were corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects. The structure was solved by direct methods¹⁶ and expanded using Fourier techniques.¹⁷ The non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. Hydrogen atoms were included but not refined. The final cycle of full-matrix leastsquares refinement was based on 1876 observed reflections (*I* > 3.00*σ*(*I*)) and 262 variable parameters and converged (largest parameter was 1.31 times its esd) with unweighted and weighted agreement factors of $R = \sum ||F_{o}| - |F_{c}||/\sum |\bar{F_{o}}| = 0.047$, $R_{\rm w} = \left[\Sigma w(|F_{\rm o}| - |F_{\rm c}|)^2 / \Sigma w F_{\rm o}^2\right]^{1/2} = 0.062$. The maximum and minimum peaks on the final difference Fourier man conminimum peaks on the final difference Fourier map corresponded to 0.26 and $-$ 0.26 e^{-/ \AA 3}, respectively. All calculations were performed using the teXsan crystallographic software package of Molecular Structure Corp.

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Supporting Information Available: Details of X-ray analysis and tables of crystal data and structure refinement, atomic coordinates, anisotropic thermal parameters, and bond lengths and angles (14 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

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