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Contract N00014-89-J-1041
R&T Code 413C012----04

Technical Report No. 14

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The Reactions of Alkynylcyclophazenes with Metal Carbonyls

by

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AUG 18 1989
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Prepared for Publication
in
Phosphorus, Sulfur and Silicon

August 15, 1989

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REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

1a. REPORT SECURITY CLASSIFICATION			1b. RESTRICTIVE MARKINGS			
2a. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY			3. DISTRIBUTION / AVAILABILITY OF REPORT Available for public release; Distribution unlimited			
2b. DECLASSIFICATION / DOWNGRADING SCHEDULE						
4. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER(S) Technical Report No. 14			5. MONITORING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER(S)			
6a. NAME OF PERFORMING ORGANIZATION University of Vermont		6b. OFFICE SYMBOL (If applicable)	7a. NAME OF MONITORING ORGANIZATION			
6c. ADDRESS (City, State, and ZIP Code) Department of Chemistry Cook Physical Science Building Burlington, VT 05405			7b. ADDRESS (City, State, and ZIP Code) Office of Naval Research Arlington, VA 22217			
8a. NAME OF FUNDING / SPONSORING ORGANIZATION ONR		8b. OFFICE SYMBOL (If applicable)	9. PROCUREMENT INSTRUMENT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER			
8c. ADDRESS (City, State, and ZIP Code) Office of Naval Research 800 N. Quincy Arlington, VA 22217			10. SOURCE OF FUNDING NUMBERS			
			PROGRAM ELEMENT NO. N00014-89	PROJECT NO. J-1041	TASK NO. 413C012	WORK UNIT ACCESSION NO.
11. TITLE (Include Security Classification) The Reactions of Alkynylcyclophosphazenes with Metal Carbonyls						
12. PERSONAL AUTHOR(S) C.W. Allen, P. Malik, A. Bridges, J. Desorcie and B. Pellon						
13a. TYPE OF REPORT Preprint		13b. TIME COVERED FROM _____ TO _____		14. DATE OF REPORT (Year, Month, Day)		
15. PAGE COUNT 4						
16. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTATION Prepared for publication in "Phosphorus, Sulfur and Silicon"						
17. COSATI CODES			18. SUBJECT TERMS (Continue on reverse if necessary and identify by block number)			
FIELD	GROUP	SUB-GROUP	cyclophosphazenes, metal carbonyls, alkynyl complexes, cyclooligomerization.			
19. ABSTRACT (Continue on reverse if necessary and identify by block number)						
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20. DISTRIBUTION / AVAILABILITY OF ABSTRACT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNCLASSIFIED/UNLIMITED <input type="checkbox"/> SAME AS RPT. <input type="checkbox"/> DTIC USERS			21. ABSTRACT SECURITY CLASSIFICATION unclassified			
22a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUAL Dr. Kenneth J. Wynne			22b. TELEPHONE (Include Area Code) 202-696-4410		22c. OFFICE SYMBOL NC	

THE REACTIONS OF ALKYNLCYCLOPHOSPHAZENES WITH METAL CARBONYLS.

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Abstract The reaction of $N_3P_3F_3C\equiv CR$ ($R=Ph, Me_2Si, n-C_4H_9$) with $Co_2(CO)_8$ leads to $N_3P_3F_3C\equiv CR\cdot Co_2(CO)_6$. The corresponding reaction with $2,2-N_3P_3F_3(C\equiv CPh)_2$ produces the novel, structurally characterized, tetracobalt species $2,2-N_3P_3F_3(C\equiv CPh\cdot Co_2(CO)_6)_2$. In the case of the previously reported $N_3P_3F_3C\equiv CPh$ complex, we now report that reaction with excess phosphazene leads to the cyclotrimerized material $1,2,4-(N_3P_3F_3)_3Ph_3C_6(I)$. Detailed dynamic ^{19}F NMR spectroscopy studies of this material shows detectable barriers to rotation about the phosphorus-carbon bond of the central arene. The reaction of a more reactive catalyst, $\eta^5-C_5H_5Co(CO)_2$, with $N_3P_3F_3C\equiv CPh$ gives rise to a variety of cyclooligomerized products. A cyclodimerized material, $(N_3P_3F_3)_2Ph_2C_2(II)$ is isolated as the cobalt stabilized entity $II\cdot CoCp$. The carbonyl insertion product of the cyclodimerized complex has been isolated as well as I and its cobalt complex $I\cdot CoCp$ (which is believed to contain an η^4 arene). The reaction of $Fe(CO)_5$ with $N_3P_3F_3C\equiv CPh$ gives the iron stabilized cyclodimer, $II\cdot Fe(CO)_3$. The corresponding reaction with $Fe_2(CO)_9$ gives a plethora of products including the cyclodimerized material noted above and its carbonyl insertion product. Other characterized products include $I\cdot Fe(CO)_3$ (also believed to be an η^4 material), an iron containing metallocycle and unique derivative in which the alkyne bridges iron and cyclopentadienone fragments.

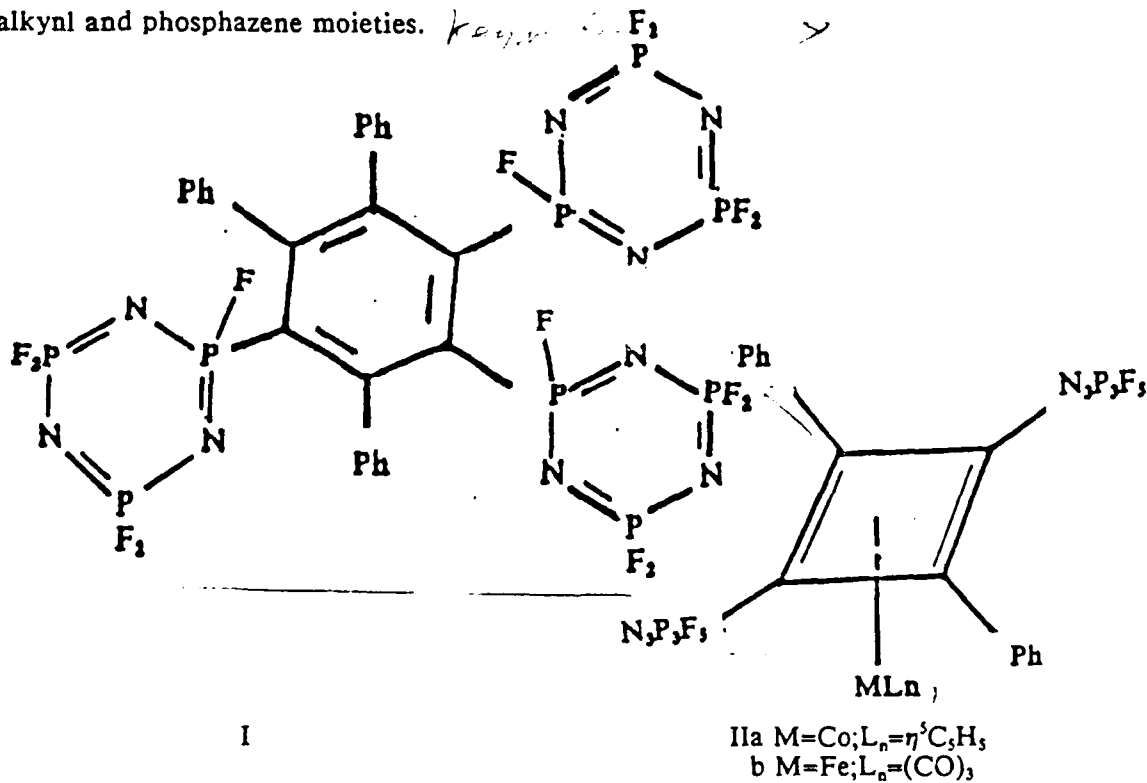
INTRODUCTION

In recent years it has been shown that the range of cyclo- and polyphosphazene derivatives can be dramatically expanded by synthetic transformations of organofunctional units attached to the phosphorus atoms.^{1,2} In previous, and ongoing, investigations we have explored the reactions of alkenes attached to cyclophosphazenes particularly with respect to polymer synthesis.³ A logical extension of this interest would be to investigate the reactions of alkynes attached to cyclophosphazenes. Previous work in this area is restricted to the preparation of $N_3P_3F_3C\equiv CPh\cdot Co_2(CO)_6$ by Chivers⁴ and a study by Allcock et.al. of the cyclotrimerization of propargylchlorocyclotriphosphazenes and cocyclotrimerization of propynylchlorocyclotriphosphazenes and acetylenes all through the alkyne bridged dicobalt hexacarbonyl derivatives.⁵ Given these initial studies and the tremendous range of chemistry which has been reported from metal carbonyl mediated reactions of alkynes,⁶ we have begun a systematic study of the reactions of alkynlphosphazenes with low valent transition metal complexes. The aims of these studies include construction of

structurally complex phosphazene derivatives which are not available from direct synthetic routes, generation of redox active phosphazene substituents, and to examine the effect of the strongly electron withdrawing phosphazene function⁷ on the products derived from these reactions.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Initial studies have involved expansion of the number of known alkynylphosphazene bridging dicobalt complexes, $N_3P_3X_nY_mC\equiv CR\cdot Co_2(CO)_6$. We have prepared complexes of this type from $N_3P_3F_3C\equiv CR$ ($R=SiMe_3$, $n-C_4H_9$) and $N_3P_3F_3(OC_2H_5)_2C\equiv CH$. A novel tetracobalt cluster, $2,2-N_3P_3F_3(C\equiv CPh)_2Co_4(CO)_8$, has been obtained from the reaction of the alkynylphosphazene with $Co_2(CO)_8$. The crystal structures of the free alkynylphosphazene and the tetracobalt cluster have been determined and allow for the evaluation of structural perturbation of the cyclophosphazene which occur upon coordination of the dicobalt unit to the alkyne. Electrochemical reduction of both the di- and tetracobalt species has been accomplished using cyclic voltametry. A reversible one electron reduction to a stable anion is followed by an irreversible second step. The epr spectrum of the first reduction product shows that the reduction is primarily metal based. The potentials for the first reduction are equal for the di- and tetracobalt species indicating the absence of any significant electronic communication between the alkynyl and phosphazene moieties.



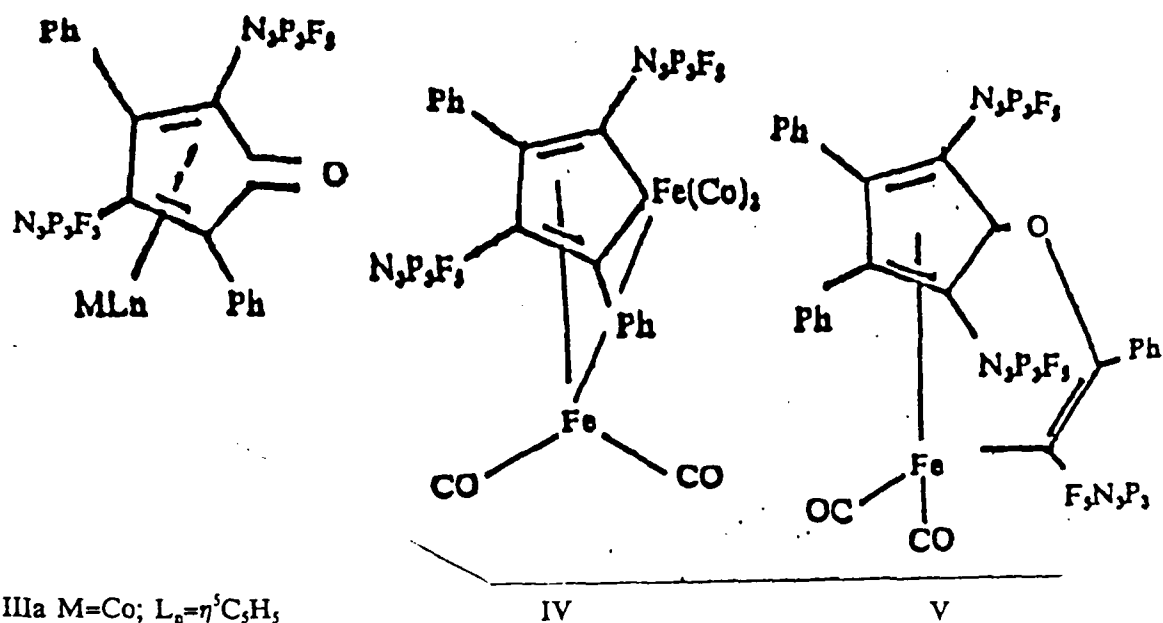
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The reaction of the known⁴ $N_3P_3F_3C\equiv CPh\cdot Co_2(CO)_4$ complex with excess $N_3P_3F_3C\equiv CPh$ produces a cyclotrimerized material, $(N_3P_3F_3)_3Ph_3C_6(I)$. The ^{19}F NMR spectrum in the fast exchange limit shows that the major component is the 1,2,4-regio isomer about the central arene (as shown for I). A small amount of the symmetric (1,3,5) isomer was also observed. The ratio of the symmetrical to unsymmetrical regio isomers can be significantly increased if $Ni(PPh_3)_4$ is used as the cyclooligomerization catalyst. Full line shape analysis of the dynamic ^{19}F NMR spectra shows that restricted rotation occurs about the phosphorus-carbon bond in I and that all three phosphazenes rotate at different rates.

In order to expand the range of cobalt mediated chemistry, the reactions of a more active catalyst, $CpCo(CO)_2$, with $N_3P_3F_3C\equiv CPh$ were explored under a wide variety of conditions. The major products derived from these reactions include the cobalt stabilized cyclodimerized material IIa, for which a crystal structure has been determined, its carbonyl insertion product, IIIa, the cyclotrimer (I) and its cobalt complex I \cdot CoCp. Both electron counting considerations and electrochemical evidence suggest that the central arene to cobalt coordination in I \cdot CoCp is of the η^4 type. In contrast to the reactions of $Co_2(CO)_8$, $CpCo(CO)_2$ induces cyclooligomerization for other alkynylphosphosphazenes, e.g. $N_3P_3F_3C\equiv C-n-C_4H_9$, in addition to $N_3P_3F_3C\equiv CPh$.



The chemistry of iron carbonyl-alkynylphosphazene interactions is even more complex than that observed for cobalt mediated reactions. The reaction of the coordinately saturated $Fe(CO)_5$ with $N_3P_3F_3C\equiv CPh$ is sluggish but does yield the iron

stabilized cyclodimer IIb. The crystal structure of IIb has been determined. The corresponding reactions with $\text{Fe}_2(\text{CO})_9$, give a plethora of products including the stabilized cyclodimer, IIb, and its carbonyl insertion product IIIb. A iron complex of I, $1\text{-Fe}(\text{CO})_3$, which is also believed to exhibit η^4 iron-central arene coordination, has been isolated. In addition to these materials and numerous trace level products, the iron metallocycle IV and a high relative yield of the unique species V have been isolated. The structure of V has been determined by x-ray crystallography and may be considered to arise from an unusual reaction of a coordinated cyclobutadienone with an alkyne. It is of interest to note that the proposed cyclobutadiene $\bullet\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_3$, precursor to V results from a head to head addition of alkynes as opposed to the head to tail addition which produces IIb.

In conclusion, it is clear that a wide range of new exocyclic groups can be constructed on cyclophosphazenes using transition metal-alkylphosphazene reactions and that in certain cases novel reactions or products are observed.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This work was supported in part by the Office of Naval Research. We thank A.W. Cordes of the University of Arkansas and J.L. Hubbard and W.L. Elecesser of the University of Vermont for determination of crystal structures as well as W.E. Geiger and M. Bahadur for electrochemical data.

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