

similar basicity,²³ but 2,6-Me₂py does not cause isomerization. Examination of models suggests the N-H proton in [Me₂AlN(H)SiEt₃]₂ should be readily available to 2,6-dimethylpyridine. Another possibility is cleavage of two Al-N bonds in [R'₂AlN(H)SiR₃]₂, giving monomers R'₂AlN(H)SiR₃, which then recombine, giving both cis and trans dimers. Because a mixture of [Me₂AlN(H)SiMe₃]₂ and [Me₂AlN(H)SiEt₃]₂ showed no crossover (i.e., the mixed dimer [Me₂AlN(H)SiEt₃][Me₂AlN(H)SiMe₃] was not formed), this mechanism may also be excluded.

Future plans include thermal decomposition studies and structural studies to determine the degree of distortion in

the isobutylaluminum compounds and the factors governing cis vs trans isomerism in these compounds.

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Supplementary Material Available: Tables IVS and VS (bond distances and angles for 1 and 2), VIS and VIIS (final fractional coordinates for 1 and 2), VIIIS and IXS (thermal parameters for 1 and 2), and XIIS and XIIIS (H atom coordinates for 1 and 2) (8 pages); Tables XS and XIS (*F*_o vs *F*_c for 1 and 2) (19 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

(23) p*K*_a(4-MepyH⁺) = 6.02, p*K*_a(2,6-Me₂pyH⁺) = 6.77: Clarke, K.; Rothwell, K. *J. Chem. Soc.* 1960, 1885.

(24) Structural data for [Cl₂AlN(H)SiMe₃]₂: *M*_r = 372.2, orthorhombic, *P*cab, *a* = 11.336 (3) Å, *b* = 9.192 (2) Å, *c* = 18.346 (7) Å, *Z* = 4, *R* = 0.048, *R*_w = 0.057. Full details will be provided in a forthcoming publication.

Synthesis of ((Dimethylamino)alkyl)zirconocene Complexes and Their Dynamic Behavior

Karl Plössl and Jack R. Norton*

Department of Chemistry, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado 80523

James G. Davidson and E. Kent Barefield*

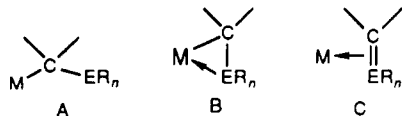
School of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia 30322

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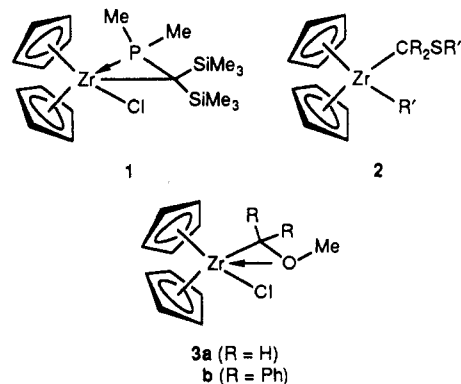
PhCH(K)NMe₂ and LiCH₂NMe₂ react with zirconocene or hafnocene chlorides in THF to give satisfactory yields of their (dimethylamino)alkyl derivatives. Cp₂Zr(R)CH(Ph)NMe₂ (R = Cl, 5; R = Me, 6) was prepared by treating Cp₂Zr(R)Cl with PhCH(K)NMe₂. Cp(η⁵-C₅H₄R)M(Cl)CH₂N(CH₃)₂ (M = Zr, X = Cl, R = H, 7; M = Hf, X = Cl, R = H, 8; M = Zr, X = Cl, R = CPh(CH₃)₂, 11) was prepared by treating the appropriate metallocene dichloride with LiCH₂N(CH₃)₂. Acidic reagents (CF₃CO₂H, CpMo(CO)₃H, [n-Bu₃NH][BPh₄]) cleaved the methyl ligand from 6 and gave the -O₂CCF₃ complex (10), the (μ-OC)Mo(CO)₂Cp complex (12), or the solvated cation (13). Complex 7 did not react with excess LiCH₂N(CH₃)₂, LiPh, MeI, CO(g) (1 atm), or Na(Hg), but a low yield of its methyl derivative was obtained by treating it with LiCH₃. The inequivalence of the *N*-methyl groups in the ¹H NMR spectra of complexes 5, 6, and 10-13 at low temperatures showed that the CH(R)NMe₂ ligands were bound in an η² fashion. Simulation of the temperature-dependent ¹H NMR spectra of CDCl₃ solutions of 11 gave Δ*H*[‡] and Δ*S*[‡] values of 17.1 ± 0.8 kcal/mol and 2.3 ± 2.7 eu, respectively, for *N*-methyl exchange. The Zr-N interaction energy in 11 can thus be estimated at 8 kcal/mol.

Introduction

Alkyl ligands with heteroatom substituents E on the α carbon can bind to transition metals in either an η¹ (A) or an η² (B) manner; the η² form can also be described as a π ligand (C).



Alkyl zirconocene complexes with α-phosphorus substituents generally do not exhibit η² interactions,¹ although an exception, Cp₂Zr(Cl)[CH(SiMe₃)₂PMe₂] (1), has recently been reported by Karsch,² and Hückel calculations suggest



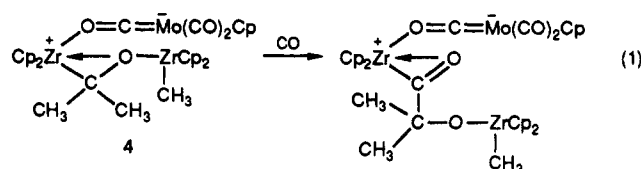
that the η² form of a -CH₂PH₂ complex should be substantially more stable than the η¹ form.³ Sulfur coordination has been suggested in certain zirconocene thioether derivatives, 2, from their NMR behavior; in others there

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is no evidence that the sulfur is coordinated.^{4,5} Analogous oxygen substituents generally are coordinated; examples can be seen in 3a,b⁶ and in 4, which can be carbonylated under mild conditions (eq 1).⁷



The fact that analogous nitrogen compounds were unknown aroused our interest in their synthesis and reactivity. Previous syntheses of aminomethyl complexes had involved the reaction of electrophilic reagents with nucleophilic metal complexes.⁸ However, an alternative method was obviously required in order to introduce an aminomethyl alkyl ligand into a high-valent (and therefore electrophilic) metal complex such as Cp_2MX_2 ($\text{M} = \text{Zr}, \text{Hf}$). The successful synthesis of other α -heteroatom-substituted metal alkyls (e.g., 1–3) with LiCR_2ER_n ($\text{E} = \text{O}, \text{S}, n = 1$; $\text{E} = \text{P}, n = 2$)^{1,2,4–6a} suggested that $\text{LiCH}_2\text{NMe}_2$ ⁹ and $\text{PhCH}(\text{K})\text{NMe}_2$ ¹⁰ might be used for the same purpose.

We now report the successful syntheses of $-\text{CH}_2\text{NMe}_2$ and $-\text{CH}(\text{Ph})\text{NMe}_2$ derivatives of zirconocene and hafnocene dichlorides and also of $\text{Cp}_2\text{Zr}(\text{CH}_2\text{SMe})_2$. We have inferred the strength of the interaction between the dimethylamino nitrogens and zirconium from the variable-temperature ^1H NMR spectra of derivatives in which the N -methyl groups are diastereotopic.

Experimental Section

All operations were performed under a nitrogen or argon atmosphere or under vacuum by Schlenk, inert-atmosphere-box, and vacuum-line techniques. Most of the solvents employed were distilled under N_2 from sodium benzophenone ketyl; the ether used for compounds 7–9, 11, and 14 was distilled from CaH_2 , and the hexanes used for compounds 7–9, 11, and 14 were stirred over H_2SO_4 and distilled from sodium. Cp_2ZrMe_2 ,¹¹ Cp_2ZrMeCl ,¹² $\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_3\text{H}$,¹³ $\text{Bu}_3\text{SnCH}_2\text{NMe}_2$,¹⁴ Cp_2HfCl_2 ,¹⁵ ((methylthio)methyl)lithium,¹⁶ and $\text{Cp}[\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_4(\text{CMe}_2\text{Ph})]\text{ZrCl}_2$ ¹⁷ were syn-

thesized according to literature procedures. Some of the Cp_2ZrCl_2 employed was a gift from Boulder Scientific, Inc.

The ^1H NMR data for compounds 5, 6, 10, 12, and 13 were collected on a Bruker WP200 spectrometer; residual solvent proton shifts were used as internal standards. The NMR spectra of compounds 7–9, 11, and 14 were obtained on a Varian T-60 or a Bruker WNX 300-MHz FT spectrometer, with tetramethylsilane as an internal standard. IR data were collected on a Perkin-Elmer 983 spectrometer and processed on an IBM PC-AT computer with software from On-Line Instrument Systems, Inc. Elemental analyses were performed by Analytische Laboratorien, Gummersbach, Germany. Electron-impact (EI) and chemical-ionization (CI) mass spectra were obtained with a Varian MAT-112S spectrometer.

Bis(η^5 -cyclopentadienyl)chloro[η^2 - α -(dimethylamino)benzyl]zirconium(IV) (5). To prepare $\text{PhCH}(\text{K})\text{NMe}_2$,¹⁰ a 2.5 M solution of $n\text{-BuLi}$ in hexane (6.5 mL, 16.25 mmol) was diluted with an additional 20 mL of hexane and cooled to -95°C . After 16.3 mL of 1 M $\text{KO}^t\text{Bu}/\text{THF}$ (16.3 mmol) was added, the solution was stirred for 15 min (still at -95°C) as it turned yellow. A cold (-78°C) solution of 2.4 mL of $\text{PhCH}_2\text{NMe}_2$ (16.8 mmol) in 10 mL THF was then added; the color changed immediately to a deep red. The mixture was stirred for 30 min and allowed to warm to -78°C .

When this solution of $\text{PhCH}(\text{K})\text{NMe}_2$ was treated with a cold (-78°C) solution of 4.7 g of Cp_2ZrCl_2 (16.1 mmol) in 70 mL of THF, its color changed to a light brown. After the reaction was stirred for 4 h and allowed to warm to 0°C , the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The product was extracted by treating the beige residue with 50 mL of toluene for ~ 30 min. The resulting solution was filtered through a D frit and the gel-like precipitate washed twice with 30 mL of toluene. The combined filtrates were concentrated to ~ 50 mL and overlaid with 50 mL of hexane. Cooling to -20°C resulted in 3 g (48%) of off-white 5, which was collected by filtration, washed twice with 10 mL of hexane, and dried under vacuum. ^1H NMR (C_6D_6): δ 7.5–6.8 (m, 5 H, Ph), 5.64 (s, 5 H, Cp), 5.48 (s, 5 H, Cp), 3.06 (s, 1 H, CH), 2.42 (s, 3 H, NMe), 2.40 (s, 3 H, NMe). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{22}\text{NClZr}$: C, 58.35; H, 5.63; N, 3.58; Cl, 9.09. Found: C, 58.15; H, 5.69; N, 3.34; Cl, 8.87.

Bis(η^5 -cyclopentadienyl)[η^2 - α -(dimethylamino)benzyl]methylzirconium(IV) (6). A red solution of $\text{PhCH}(\text{K})\text{NMe}_2$ prepared as in the previous section was treated with a cold solution (-78°C) of 4.3 g of Cp_2ZrMeCl (15.8 mmol) in 50 mL of THF; its color changed to a light brown. After the reaction was stirred for 4 h and allowed to warm to 0°C , the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The product was extracted by treating the beige residue with 100 mL of toluene for ~ 30 min. The resulting solution was filtered through a D frit and the gel-like precipitate washed twice with 50 mL of toluene. The combined filtrates were concentrated until they became cloudy and then cooled to -20°C . After 12 h, the solution was decanted and 2.2 g of yellow needles was dried under vacuum. The decanted solution was concentrated to ~ 20 mL, then overlaid with 10 mL of pentane, and again cooled to -20°C . Another 2 g of 6 was isolated, giving a total yield of 4.2 g (70%). ^1H NMR (C_6D_6 , 25°C): δ 7.21 (m, 5 H, Ph), 5.42 (s, 5 H, Cp), 5.28 (s, 5 H, Cp), 2.7 (s, 1 H, CH), 2.15 (s, 6 H, NMe), -0.05 (s, 3 H, ZrMe). ^1H NMR (CD_2Cl_2 , -20°C): δ 7.21 (m, 5 H, Ph), 5.7 (s, 5 H, Cp), 5.42 (s, 5 H, Cp), 2.97 (s, 1 H, CH), 2.61 (s, 3 H, NMe), 2.52 (s, 3 H, NMe), -0.33 (s, 3 H, ZrMe). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{25}\text{NZr}$: C, 64.82; H, 6.75; N, 3.78. Found: C, 64.62; H, 6.71; N, 3.64.

$\text{LiCH}_2\text{NMe}_2$.⁹ A THF solution (20 mL) of freshly distilled $\text{Bu}_3\text{SnCH}_2\text{NMe}_2$ ¹⁴ (1.19 g, 3.42 mmol) at -78°C was treated, dropwise, with $n\text{-BuLi}$ /hexane (2.74 mL of a 1.31 M solution). After complete addition, the solution was allowed to stir for 5 min before use. Note: The tin reagent is air and moisture sensitive and should be stored under nitrogen. The quality of the tin reagent and the accuracy of the $n\text{-BuLi}$ titer (solutions were standardized by the method of Kofron and Baclawski¹⁸) are extremely important in obtaining maximum conversions to $\text{LiCH}_2\text{NMe}_2$.

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Cp₂M(Cl)CH₂NMe₂ (M = Zr, 7; M = Hf, 8). To a THF solution (20 mL) of LiCH₂NMe₂ (3.42 mmol) was added a THF solution (15 mL) of Cp₂ZrCl₂ (1.00 g, 3.42 mmol) via cannula. The light yellow solution that resulted was maintained at -78 °C for 2 h and then allowed to warm slowly to room temperature over 30 min. The solvent was removed under vacuum, the yellow residue was extracted with benzene, and the extract was filtered through Celite. The filtrate was concentrated and treated with a small amount of hexane to give 0.50 g of the desired product. Further concentration gave an additional 0.15 g. Yield: 0.65 g or 60%. Mass spectrum (EI) (*m/e*): 313 (0.2%), parent (P); 279 (1.9%), P - Cl; 248 (0.1%), P - C₅H₅; 58 (100%), CH₂NMe₂⁺. ¹H NMR (C₆D₆): δ 1.47 (s, 2 H, CH₂), 2.20 (s, 6 H, NMe₂), 5.55 (s, 10 H, Cp₂). Cp₂Hf(Cl)(CH₂NMe₂) (8) was prepared in 41% yield on a 1.32-mmol scale by an identical procedure. Mass spectrum (EI) (*m/e*): 403 (0.4%), parent (P); 345 (2.3%), P - CH₂NMe₂; 58 (100%), CH₂NMe₂⁺. ¹H NMR (C₆D₆): δ 1.47 (s, 2 H, CH₂), 2.20 (s, 6 H, NMe₂), 5.50 (s, 10 H, Cp₂).

Cp₂Zr(Me)CH₂NMe₂ (9). A THF solution (15 mL) of Cp₂ZrCl(CH₂NMe₂) (7) (0.50 g, 1.59 mmol) was treated with an equimolar amount of CH₃Li/Et₂O at room temperature. The solution was allowed to stand overnight, after which the solvent was removed under vacuum, the off-white residue extracted with hexane (15 mL), and the extract filtered. The colorless filtrate was reduced in volume to 5 mL and cooled to -20 °C. The microcrystalline product that formed was filtered while cold and dried under vacuum. Yield: 0.17 g or 36%. Mass spectrum (EI) (*m/e*): 293 (0.89%), parent (P); 278 (29.07%), P - CH₃; 235 (6.88%), P - CH₂NMe₂; 220 (32.36%), Cp₂Zr⁺; 58 (100%), CH₂NMe₂⁺. ¹H NMR (C₆D₆): δ 0.03 (s, 3 H, ZrCH₃), 1.15 (s, 2 H, CH₂), 1.95 (s, 6 H, NMe₂), 5.37 (s, 10 H, Cp₂).

Attempted Reaction of Cp₂Zr(Cl)CH₂NMe₂ (7) with CH₃OSO₂CF₃. Solutions of 7 in benzene were treated with excess CH₃OSO₂CF₃. No reaction was evident upon mixing. After 1–2 h a small amount of [(CH₃)₂N]OSO₂CF₃ precipitated, but this was less than 10% of the starting complex.

Attempted Reaction of Cp₂Zr(Cl)CH₂NMe₂ (7) with CO(g). A solution of 7 in THF was exposed to 1 atm of CO. The reaction mixture was monitored periodically by infrared spectroscopy, and no change in the appearance of the spectrum was noted. After 1–2 h the starting material could be recovered in good yield.

Attempted Reduction of Cp₂Zr(Cl)CH₂NMe₂ (7) with Sodium Amalgam. Solutions of 7 were stirred with an excess of sodium amalgam (approximately 2%) for up to 16 h. Samples were withdrawn periodically and examined by EPR spectroscopy. No evidence for formation of a paramagnetic species was found.

Bis(η⁵-cyclopentadienyl)(α-(dimethylamino)benzyl)(trifluoroacetato)zirconium(IV) (10) was prepared by treating the methyl complex 6 with 1 equiv of CF₃CO₂H according to a procedure that has been reported elsewhere.¹⁹

Cp[η⁵-C₅H₄(CMe₂Ph)]Zr(Cl)CH₂NMe₂ (11). To a THF solution (15 mL) of LiCH₂NMe₂ (2.44 mmol) at -78 °C was added a THF solution (10 mL) of 1.00 g (2.44 mmol) of Cp[η⁵-C₅H₄(CMe₂Ph)]ZrCl₂.¹⁷ The resulting solution was stirred for 2 h at -78 °C and then allowed to warm slowly to room temperature. The solvent was removed under aspirator vacuum, the residue extracted with benzene, and the extracts filtered through Celite. Concentration of the filtrate and treatment with hexane gave a white solid that was collected, washed with hexane, and dried under vacuum. Yield: 0.57 g or 54%. Mass spectrum (CI) (*m/e*): 432 (15.9%), parent + 1 (P + 1); 397 (79.0%), P + 1 - Cl; 374 (100%), P + 1 - CH₂NMe₂. ¹H NMR (C₆D₆, 25 °C): δ 1.49 (q, 2 H, J_{AB} = 8 Hz, Δν = 8 Hz, CH₂), 1.58 (s, 3 H, CMe), 1.68 (s, 3 H, CMe), 2.20 (br s, 6 H, NMe₂), 5.87, 5.55, 5.32 (m, 4 H, ³J_{H-H} = 2.73 Hz, ⁴J_{H-H} = 1.82 Hz by computer simulation, C₅H₄R), 5.60 (s, 5 H, Cp), 7.37 (m, 5 H, Ph). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 25 °C): δ 1.84 (q, 2 H, J_{AB} = 8 Hz, Δν = 9 Hz, CH₂), 1.66 (s, 3 H, CMe), 1.71 (s, 3 H, CMe), 2.50 (br s, 3 H, NMe), 2.56 (br s, 3 H, NMe), 5.69, 5.89, 5.95 (m, 4 H, C₅H₄R), 5.79 (s, 5 H, Cp), 7.25 (m, 5 H, Ph).

Cp₂Zr(η²-CHPhNMe₂)(μ-OC)Mo(CO)₂Cp (12). The methyl complex 6 (840 mg, 2.2 mmol) and Cp(CO)₂MoH (600 mg, 2.4 mmol) were mixed, and 10 mL of freshly distilled THF was added.

As the compounds dissolved, gas was evolved and the color changed from dark brown to yellow. After the solution was stirred for 1 h at 25 °C the solvent was removed under vacuum. The resulting yellow oily residue was treated with 20 mL of toluene for 1/2 h. Some insoluble material was removed by filtration, and the toluene was then removed under vacuum. The resulting solid was washed with 20 mL of hexane and then dried under vacuum to yield 1 g (70% yield) of tan 12. IR (Nujol): 1916 (s), 1816 (s), 1615 cm⁻¹ (s, br). ¹H NMR (C₆D₆): δ 7.21 (m, 5 H, Ph), 5.67 (s, 5 H, Cp), 5.53 (s, 5 H, Cp), 5.41 (s, 5 H, Cp), 3.14 (s, 1 H, CH), 2.33 (s, 3 H, NMe), 2.4 (s, 3 H, NMe). Anal. Calcd for C₂₇H₂₇MoNO₃Zr: C, 53.98; H, 4.5; N, 2.33. Found: C, 53.76; H, 4.67; N, 2.19.

[Bis(η⁵-cyclopentadienyl)(α-(dimethylamino)benzyl)-(acetonitrile)zirconium(IV)] Tetrphenylborate (13). [n-Bu₃NH][BPh₄]²⁰ was prepared by treating [n-Bu₃NH]Br (from n-Bu₃NH and n-BuBr in boiling toluene) with Na[BPh₄] in H₂O; it was recrystallized from hot ethyl acetate. A solution of 1.01 g (2 mmol) of [n-Bu₃NH][BPh₄] in 30 mL of THF was added over 30 min to a solution of the methyl complex 6 (740 mg, 2.0 mmol) in 30 mL of THF. The mixture was cooled to 0 °C and stirred for 12 h, during which time its yellow color changed to orange. The solution was concentrated to about 10 mL and treated with 20 mL of ether. A tan precipitate resulted, which, when dried under vacuum after the supernatant liquid was decanted, turned into a sticky orange solid. This was washed three times with 20 mL of ether and dried under vacuum again. In order to replace coordinated THF with MeCN, it was dissolved in 20 mL of MeCN, stirred for 15 min, stripped to dryness, and again dissolved in 20 mL of MeCN. Ether (10 mL) was added, and the resulting solution was left standing for 12 h. Orange crystals slowly separated, which were isolated by decanting the supernatant liquid and dried under a flow of N₂. A yield of 800 mg (56%) resulted. IR (KBr): 2301 (s), 2273 cm⁻¹ (vs). ¹H NMR (CD₂Cl₂): δ 7.42 (m, 8 H, BPh₄⁻ ortho), 7.36 (m, 3 H, Ph), 7.20 (m, 2 H, Ph), 7.07 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 8 H, BPh₄⁻ meta), 6.92 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 4 H, BPh₄⁻ para), 6.03 (s, 5 H, Cp), 5.75 (s, 5 H, Cp), 3.69 (s, 1 H, CH), 2.76 (s, 3 H, NMe), 2.65 (s, 3 H, NMe), 1.69 (s, 3 H, MeCN). Anal. Calcd for C₄₅H₄₅BN₂Zr: C, 75.50; H, 6.29; N, 3.91; Zr, 12.75. Found: C, 75.26; H, 6.52; N, 3.77; Zr, 12.65.

Cp₂Zr(CH₂SCCH₃)₂ (14). A solution containing 1.00 g (3.42 mmol) of Cp₂ZrCl₂ in 40 mL of THF was treated with 2 equiv of LiCH₂SM¹⁶ in hexane at room temperature. This caused the previously colorless solution to become yellow in color. After the solution was stirred for 3 h, the THF was evaporated, the yellow residue was extracted with benzene, and the extracts were filtered through Celite. Evaporation of the benzene and treatment of the residue with hexane (5 mL) and a few drops of ether gave an off-white solid that was collected, washed with a small amount of hexane, and dried under vacuum. Yield: 0.61 g or 52%. Mass spectrum (EI): no parent ion observed; *m/e* (100%), P - CH₂-SCH₃. ¹H NMR (C₆D₆): δ 1.78 (s, 4 H, CH₂), 1.93 (s, 6 H, SCH₃), 5.45 (s, 10 H, Cp).

Variable-Temperature Proton NMR Spectra. The proton NMR spectra of 11 were recorded in chloroform-*d*₁ from -50 to +45 °C and in toluene-*d*₈ from -35 to +35 °C. Probe temperatures, estimated to be accurate to ±1.0 °C, were measured with a copper-constantan thermocouple. In the recording of spectra, care was taken (temperature equilibration, constant spin rate, maximum point density, etc.) to minimize the common sources of error in NMR line-broadening studies, as discussed by Gutowsky.^{21a}

The spectra of 11 were analyzed with a line shape program written by the Barefield group at Georgia Tech that employed a classical formalism for the two-site exchange process. Calculated spectra were analyzed by visual comparison of the overlay with experimental spectra. The visual comparison was supplemented by comparison of some measured parameters, for example, peak separations, relative intensities, and peak widths. The transverse relaxation times, *T*₂, used to generate calculated spectra, were

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(21) (a) Allerhand, A.; Gutowsky, H. S.; Jonas, J.; Meinzer, R. A. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1966, 88, 3185. (b) Sandström, J. *Dynamic NMR Spectroscopy*; Academic: New York, 1982.

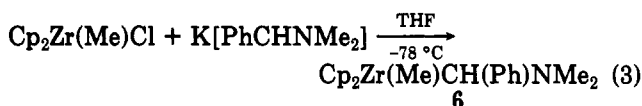
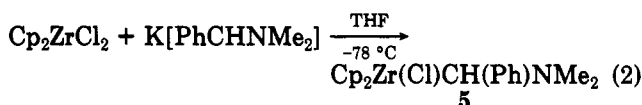
(19) Lubben, T. V.; Plössl, K.; Norton, J. R.; Miller, M. M.; Anderson, O. P. *Organometallics*, in press.

obtained from the line widths of the resonances involved in exchange at, or near, the low-temperature limit. The peak separation $\Delta\nu$ (for CDCl_3 and toluene- d_8 spectra) and the transverse relaxation times (for toluene- d_8 spectra) were found to be temperature dependent by analysis of the spectra in the absence of exchange. The exchange rate constant, k , was determined by the relation $k = \tau/2$, where τ was the lifetime determined from the spectral simulation. The uncertainties associated with the calculated activation parameters were obtained as described by Sandström.^{21b}

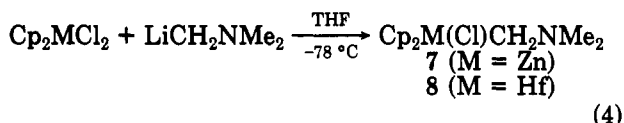
In variable-temperature experiments with 5, 6, 10, 12, and 13, the true probe temperature was determined at the beginning of each set of experiments from the peak separation of methanol or ethylene glycol.²² The separation of the diastereotopic methyl groups $\Delta\nu$ proved temperature dependent for these compounds as it had for 11, so their value of $\Delta\nu$ at the coalescence temperature was extrapolated from their spectra at or near the low-temperature limit. The rate constant k at the coalescence temperature was obtained from $k = \pi(\Delta\nu)/\sqrt{2}$.^{21b}

Results and Discussion

Both organometallic reagents $\text{PhCH}(\text{K})\text{NMe}_2$ and $\text{LiCH}_2\text{NMe}_2$ react with zirconocene or hafnocene chlorides in THF to give satisfactory yields of their (dimethylamino)alkyl derivatives. For example, treatment of Cp_2ZrCl_2 with 1 equivalent of $\text{PhCH}(\text{K})\text{NMe}_2$ gives $\text{Cp}_2\text{Zr}(\text{Cl})\text{CH}(\text{Ph})\text{NMe}_2$ (5) in 48% yield (eq 2) and treatment of $\text{Cp}_2\text{Zr}(\text{Me})\text{Cl}$ with 1 equivalent of $\text{PhCH}(\text{K})\text{NMe}_2$ gives $\text{Cp}_2\text{Zr}(\text{Me})\text{CH}(\text{Ph})\text{NMe}_2$ (6) in 70% yield (eq 3).



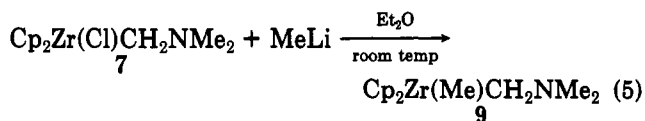
Treatment of Cp_2ZrCl_2 or Cp_2HfCl_2 with 1 equivalent of $\text{LiCH}_2\text{NMe}_2$ gives $\text{Cp}_2\text{M}(\text{Cl})\text{CH}_2\text{NMe}_2$ (7, $\text{M} = \text{Zr}$; 8, $\text{M} = \text{Hf}$) in 60% and 41% yield, respectively (eq 4). An excess of lithium reagent is not detrimental, for reasons that will be explained below.



$\text{LiCH}_2\text{NMe}_2$ appears to be less useful in preparing (dimethylamino)methyl complexes from chloride complexes of the later transition elements. With $\text{Ni}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Cl}_2$ and $\text{Pt}(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Cl}_2$ only zerovalent PPh_3 complexes were isolated, despite the fact that $(\text{Ph}_3\text{P})\text{Ni}(\text{Cl})(\eta^2\text{-CH}_2\text{NMe}_2)$ is known.^{23a}

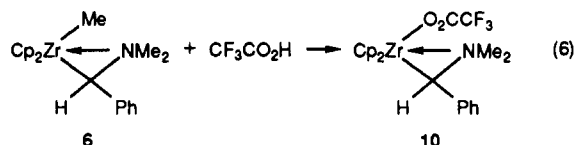
The (dimethylamino)alkyl complexes 5–8 are very sensitive to hydrolysis but are otherwise surprisingly unreactive. The ((dimethylamino)methyl)zirconium complex 7 does not react with excess $\text{LiCH}_2\text{NMe}_2$, whereas care must be taken to avoid disubstitution when alkyl-zirconocene complexes with α -phosphorus or α -sulfur substituents are prepared from lithium reagents.^{1b,4} Phenyllithium does not react with 7 after 24 h at room temperature, but prolonged treatment of 7 with methyl-lithium does give a 36% yield of $\text{Cp}_2\text{Zr}(\text{Me})\text{CH}_2\text{NMe}_2$ (9) (eq 5).

The ((dimethylamino)methyl)zirconium complex 7 is also unaffected by $\text{CO}(\text{g})$ (1 atm) after several hours at



room temperature; most zirconocene alkyls,^{23a} including those containing phosphinomethyl groups,^{1e,23b,c} react readily with CO under these conditions. Similarly, 7 does not react with $\text{CH}_3\text{OSO}_2\text{CF}_3$ or CH_3I in benzene solution. In contrast, $\text{CpFeCO}_2(\eta^1\text{-CH}_2\text{NMe}_2)$ and $\text{CpNi}(\text{PPh}_3)(\eta^1\text{-CH}_2\text{NMe}_2)$ both react readily with methyl iodide in nonpolar solvents to produce the ammonium salts,^{8a,b} and $\text{Cp}_2\text{Zr}(\text{Cl})\text{CH}_2\text{PPh}_2$ reacts with methyl iodide (although the phosphonium salt apparently undergoes further reaction).²⁴ Unlike a variety of other $\text{Cp}_2\text{Zr}(\text{Cl})\text{R}$ complexes, including $\text{Cp}_2\text{Zr}(\text{Cl})\text{CH}_2\text{PPh}_2$,^{1b,c,23a} 7 is apparently not reduced by sodium amalgam: no EPR signal was detectable after stirring a solution of 7 for 16 h with Na/Hg .

The low reactivity of 7 toward nucleophiles, electron donors, and electrophiles suggests that its α nitrogen is coordinated. While we were unable to grow crystals of 7 or of the methyl (dimethylamino)benzyl complex 6 suitable for X-ray analysis, we were able to obtain such crystals of the (dimethylamino)benzyl trifluoroacetate 10, which was easily prepared by treating 6 with 1 equiv of $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ (eq 6). The resulting X-ray structure not only has confirmed

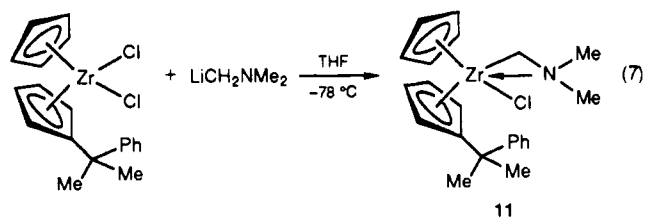


that the nitrogen of 10 is coordinated but has established that the nitrogen occupies the "inside" coordination site, between the benzyl carbon and the $\eta^1\text{-O}_2\text{CCF}_3$ oxygen.¹⁹

Variable-Temperature NMR Spectra and Their Implications for the Structure of These Compounds.

The ^1H NMR spectrum of 10 shows that its (dimethylamino)benzyl nitrogen remains coordinated in solution. At room temperature in CD_2Cl_2 separate peaks at δ 2.83 and 2.75 are observed for the diastereotopic methyl groups of the (dimethylamino)benzyl ligand, but when a $\text{C}_2\text{D}_4\text{Cl}_2$ solution of 10 is heated to 84°C , these peaks coalesce to a single peak (δ 2.80). Similar behavior is observed in the ^1H NMR spectra of the (dimethylamino)benzyl ligands of 5 and of 6: the signals due to the diastereotopic methyl groups of 5 coalesce at 36°C in C_6D_6 , and the signals due to the diastereotopic methyl groups of 6 coalesce at 25°C in CD_2Cl_2 .

The methyls of a (dimethylamino)methyl ligand in a zirconocene complex can be made diastereotopic if the cyclopentadienyl rings are made inequivalent. Complex 11 was made in 54% yield (eq 7) by reaction of



$\text{LiCH}_2\text{NMe}_2$ with $\text{Cp}[\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_4(\text{CPhMe}_2)]\text{ZrCl}_2$, the syn-

(22) Van Geet, A. L. *Anal. Chem.* 1968, 40, 2227. Van Geet, A. L. *Anal. Chem.* 1970, 42, 679.

(23) (a) Cardin, D. J.; Lappert, M. F.; Raston, C. L. *Chemistry of Organo-Zirconium and -Hafnium Compounds*; Ellis Horwood: Chichester, England, 1986; Chapters 7, 8. (b) Choukroun, R.; Gervais, D. J. *Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.* 1982, 1300. (c) Young, S. J.; Hope, H.; Schore, N. E. *Organometallics* 1984, 3, 1585.

(24) Schore, N. E. Personal communication to E.K.B.

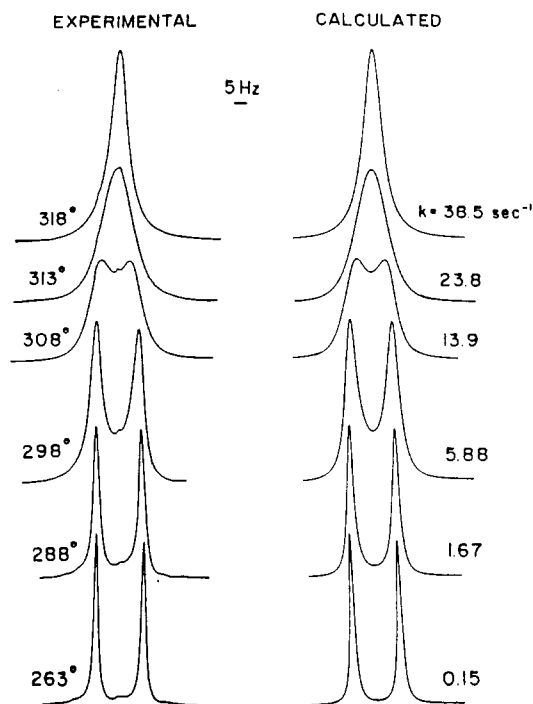


Figure 1. Temperature dependence of experimental and calculated line shapes for *N*-methyl resonances of $\text{Cp}[\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_4\text{-(CPhMe}_2\text{)]Zr(Cl)(\eta^2\text{-CH}_2\text{NMe}_2)$ (11) in CDCl_3 solution at 300 MHz.

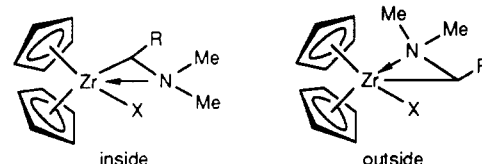
thesis of which had been outlined by Gautheron and co-workers.¹⁷ In CDCl_3 at room temperature the ^1H NMR spectrum of 11 exhibited two broad singlets for the diastereotopic methyl groups on nitrogen, although in C_6D_6 solution at the same temperature only a single broad resonance was present. In both solvents an AB pattern was observed for the methylene protons of the CH_2NMe_2 ligand, and the diastereotopic methyl groups of the cyclopentadienyl substituent appeared as two singlets.

Examination of the temperature dependence of the spectra of 11 revealed two sharp resonances for the diastereotopic nitrogen methyls at low temperatures in both solvents; these collapsed to a single resonance as the temperature was increased. The CDCl_3 experimental results are shown in Figure 1, along with the spectral changes simulated using a two-site exchange model. Appropriate treatment of the resulting rate constants and the corresponding data from toluene solution yielded the activation parameters in Table I for the interconversion of the diastereotopic nitrogen methyls of 11. Over the same temperature range there were no changes in the parts of the ^1H NMR spectrum of 11 due to the CH_2 protons or to the methyl groups of the cyclopentadienyl substituent.

The exchange of the *N*-methyl groups in 11 requires that nitrogen–zirconium bond cleavage be followed by both inversion of configuration at nitrogen and $\text{CH}_2\text{-N}$ bond rotation before the nitrogen–zirconium bond is re-formed. The free energies of activation for nitrogen inversion and C–N bond rotation in aliphatic amines can be estimated as 8 and 5 kcal/mol, respectively.²⁵ If we assume that these values are not greatly increased by the presence of a zirconium substituent and apply to the uncoordinated

nitrogen in the η^1 isomer of 11, they are not large enough to explain the *N*-methyl exchange ΔG^\ddagger values in Table I by themselves. The most likely explanation, illustrated in Figure 2, is that ΔG^\ddagger for cleaving the Zr–N bond of 11 adds to ΔG^\ddagger for nitrogen inversion in the η^1 isomer (ΔG^\ddagger for C–N bond rotation in the η^1 isomer is much smaller) to give the overall ΔG^\ddagger for *N*-methyl exchange.²⁶ The Zr–N interaction energy in 11 can thus be estimated at 8 kcal/mol.

The observation of only one set of N–Me resonances for 5, 6, 10, and 11 at low temperatures is consistent with either “inside” or “outside” nitrogen coordination but rules

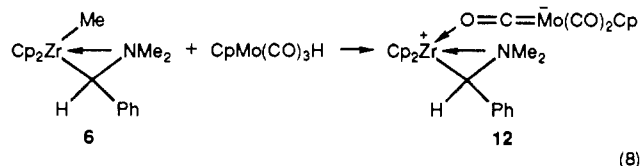


out the existence of both in solution. In view of (1) the “inside” coordination established for 10 in the solid state by X-ray crystallography, (2) our proposal that “outside” structures arise from the steric effects of substitution on the α carbon,¹⁹ and (3) the argument that the (dimethylamino)methyl compounds 7–9 and 11, being unsubstituted on the α carbon ($\text{R} = \text{H}$), should be even less likely to have an “outside” structure than the (dimethylamino)benzyl compound 10 ($\text{R} = \text{Ph}$), we believe that compounds 5–11 and their derivatives all have “inside” nitrogen coordination.

ΔG^\ddagger values for *N*-methyl exchange within 6 and 10 have been estimated from the observed coalescence temperatures for the *N*-methyl resonances of these compounds and placed in Table II along with the average value of ΔG^\ddagger (25 °C) for 11 from Table I. It is probably safe to compare the ΔG^\ddagger values in Table II despite the fact that they have been measured at different temperatures; ΔS^\ddagger should be small for such intramolecular rearrangements, so these ΔG^\ddagger values should show little temperature dependence. The fact that there is no appreciable difference (the imprecision in our taking the numbers in Table II for ΔG^\ddagger (298 K) is at least 0.5 kcal/mol) in the ΔG^\ddagger values for 6 and 11 suggests that the Zr–N interaction energy is about the same (8 kcal/mol) in both compounds.

The chemical shift separation $\Delta\nu$ for the diastereotopic *N*-methyl groups of 5 is so small that no reliable value for the rate constant or ΔG^\ddagger can be obtained from the coalescence temperature.^{21b}

Other Derivatives of 6 That Retain the (Dimethylamino)benzyl Ligand. Other acids emulate the action of $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ in eq 6 and cleave the methyl ligand of 6 rather than the (dimethylamino)benzyl one. Use of the acidic²⁷ $\text{CpMo(CO)}_3\text{H}$ gave the heterobimetallic compound 12 (eq 8) in 70% yield. The (dimethylamino)benzyl



ligand in 6 may facilitate methane loss: the dissociated

(25) Bushweller, C. H.; Fleischman, S. H.; Grady, G. L.; McGoff, P.; Rithner, C. D.; Whalon, M. R.; Brennan, J. G.; Marcantonio, R. P.; Domingue, R. P. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1982, 104, 6224 and references cited. These values were determined by dynamic NMR at temperatures in the region of coalescence (ca. 125 K); however, since ΔS^\ddagger for these processes should be essentially zero, the ΔG^\ddagger values should still be correct at the temperatures of interest in the present study.

(26) The likelihood that ΔG^\ddagger for reversion of the η^1 isomer to the ground state is small makes it implausible that ΔG^\ddagger for breaking the Zr–N bond approaches the overall ΔG^\ddagger for *N*-methyl exchange.

(27) $\text{CpMo(CO)}_3\text{H}$ is known to have the kinetic acidity necessary to cleave a methyl ligand from Cp_2ZrMe_2 : Edidin, R. T.; Sullivan, J. M.; Norton, J. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1987, 109, 3945 and references therein.

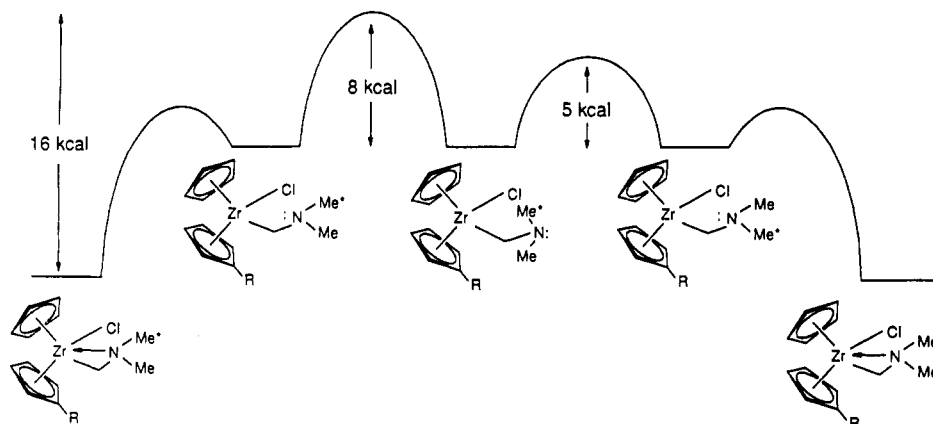


Figure 2. Qualitative energy vs reaction coordinate diagram for *N*-methyl group interchange in $\text{Cp}[\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_4(\text{CPhMe}_2)]\text{Zr}(\text{Cl})(\eta^2\text{-CH}_2\text{NMe}_2)$ (11).

Table I. Activation Parameters for *N*-Methyl Group Exchange in $\text{Cp}[\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_4(\text{CPhMe}_2)]\text{Zr}(\text{Cl})(\eta^2\text{-CH}_2\text{NMe}_2)$ (11)

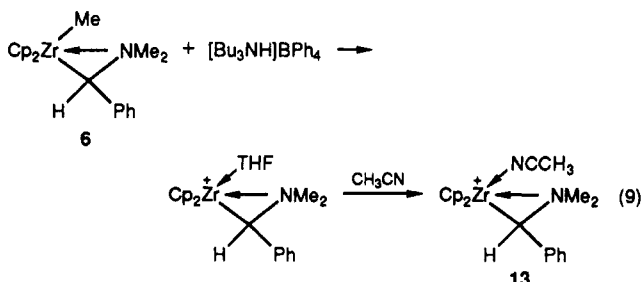
	solvent	
	CDCl_3^a	toluene- d_8^b
E_a , kcal/mol	17.7 ± 0.8	17.5 ± 0.6
ΔH^\ddagger , kcal/mol	17.1 ± 0.8	16.9 ± 0.6
ΔS^\ddagger , eu	2.3 ± 2.7	4.1 ± 2.1
$\Delta G^\ddagger(298 \text{ K})$, kcal/mol	16.4 ± 0.8	15.6 ± 0.6

^a From least-squares analysis of nine data points obtained over the temperature range 263–318 K. ^b From least-squares analysis of six data points obtained over the temperature range 278–308 K.

nitrogen of an $\eta^1\text{-CH}(\text{Ph})\text{NMe}_2$ ligand may be the initial site of protonation. One of us has suggested such a function for the acetyl oxygen in $\text{Cp}_2\text{Zr}(\eta^2\text{-Ac})\text{Me}$ ($\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_3\text{H}$ eliminates methane much more rapidly from $\text{Cp}_2\text{Zr}(\eta^2\text{-Ac})\text{Me}$ than from Cp_2ZrMe_2).²⁸

The ^1H NMR signals due to the diastereotopic methyl groups in 12 showed negligible broadening (<4 Hz) even at 100 °C (toluene- d_8), so one can only say that the rate constant for *N*-methyl exchange in 12 is $<12 \text{ s}^{-1}$ and that ΔG^\ddagger is $>20 \text{ kcal/mol}$ at 100 °C (Table II).

Treatment of 6 with an acid whose conjugate base is not easily coordinated gives a cationic (dimethylamino)benzyl complex. Thus $[\text{n-Bu}_3\text{NH}][\text{BPh}_4]$, which is known to remove a methyl ligand from $\text{Cp}^*_2\text{ZrMe}_2$ and Cp_2ZrMe_2 ,²⁰ removed a methyl ligand from 6 in THF and presumably gave the THF solvate. Isolation of the cation, however, required the replacement of THF by acetonitrile, giving 13 in 56% yield (eq 9).



The ^1H NMR signals due to the diastereotopic methyl groups in 13 showed negligible broadening (<1 Hz) up to 70 °C in $\text{C}_2\text{D}_4\text{Cl}_2$, so one can only say that the rate constant for *N*-methyl exchange in 13 under those conditions is $<3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ and that ΔG^\ddagger for 13 is $>19.4 \text{ kcal/mol}$ in that solvent at 70 °C (Table II). The increase in ΔG^\ddagger in the order 6,

Table II. Coalescence Temperatures, Rate Constants, and Free Energies of Activation for the Interconversion of Diastereotopic Methyl Groups on Nitrogen

compd	solvent	coalescence temp, °C	rate constant, s^{-1}	ΔG^\ddagger , kcal/mol
5	C_6D_6	36	^a	^a
6	CD_2Cl_2	25	31.1	15.4
10	$\text{C}_2\text{D}_4\text{Cl}_2$	84	26.4	18.7
11	$\text{CDCl}_3/\text{toluene-}d_8$			16.0 ^b
12	toluene- d_8	100	<12	>20.0
13	$\text{C}_2\text{D}_4\text{Cl}_2$	70	<3	>19.4

^a As $\Delta\nu$ is very small (<5 Hz in C_6D_6), no reliable rate constant can be obtained. ^b The average 298 K value from the temperature-dependent rate study in Table I.

11 < 10 ≤ 12, 13 presumably reflects the increase in the strength of the Zr–N interaction as the other ligands become more electronegative and the positive charge on zirconium increases.

$\text{Cp}_2\text{Zr}(\text{CH}_2\text{SMe})_2$ (14) has been prepared from Cp_2ZrCl_2 and 2 equiv of LiCH_2SMe . In toluene- d_8 there was no change in the appearance of its ^1H NMR spectrum between 298 and 248 K. Since an η^2 interaction of one of the thiomethyl ligands should result in a more complex spectrum, there is probably no Zr–S interaction over this temperature range.

The principal reason that α -sulfur substituents like the one in 14 and α -phosphorus substituents are less likely to coordinate to Zr(IV) than the α -nitrogen substituents in 5–13 is surely the greater interaction energy expected for a “hard” Lewis base like nitrogen than for a “soft” one like sulfur or phosphorus. However, the fact that η^2 interactions apparently exist in some $-\text{CR}_2\text{SR}'$ complexes that have substituents on carbon (e.g., $\text{Cp}_2\text{Zr}(\text{Cl})\text{CH}(\text{SiMe}_3)\text{SMe}^4$) raises the possibility that sulfur coordination can occur in order to reduce the steric interactions between these substituents and the cyclopentadienyl ligands.

Acknowledgment. J.R.N. and K.P. are grateful to NSF Grant CHE-8819760 for support and to S. Söley Kristjánsdóttir for her assistance in analyzing the variable-temperature NMR spectra of 5, 6, 10, 12, and 13. K.P. is also grateful to the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft for financial assistance.

Registry No. 5, 137918-95-7; 6, 137365-76-5; 7, 137918-96-8; 8, 137918-98-0; 9, 137918-98-0; 10, 137365-77-6; 11, 137918-99-1; 12, 137964-53-5; 13, 137919-01-8; 14, 137919-02-9; $\text{PhCH}_2\text{NMe}_2$, 103-83-3; Cp_2ZrCl_2 , 1291-32-3; Cp_2ZrMeCl , 1291-45-8; Cp_2HfCl_2 , 12116-66-4; $\text{Bu}_3\text{SnCH}_2\text{NMe}_2$, 26285-62-1; $\text{Cp}[\eta^5\text{-C}_5\text{H}_4\text{-(CMe}_2\text{Ph)}]\text{ZrCl}_2$, 66349-71-1; $\text{Cp}(\text{CO})_3\text{MoH}$, 12176-06-6; LiCH_2SMe , 10415-47-1.

(28) Marsella, J. A.; Huffman, J. C.; Caulton, K. G.; Longato, B.; Norton, J. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1982, 104, 6360.