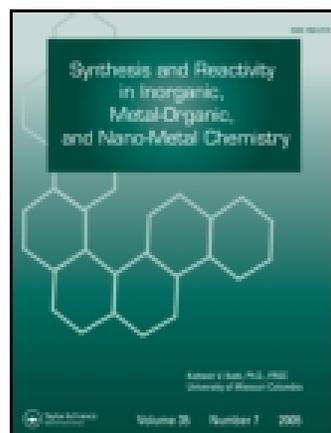


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### Spectroscopic and Electrochemical Studies of Group 6 and 8 Transition Metal Carbonyl Derivatives of tris{(diphenylphosphinomethyl)dimethylsilyl}methane

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# Spectroscopic and Electrochemical Studies of Group 6 and 8 Transition Metal Carbonyl Derivatives of tris{(diphenylphosphinomethyl)dimethylsilyl}methane

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A new series of transition metal carbonyl complexes of tris{(diphenylphosphinomethyl)dimethylsilyl}methane are described in this work. Treatment of  $M(\text{CO})_6$  ( $M = \text{Cr, W, Mo}$ ) and  $\text{Fe}_2(\text{CO})_9$  with  $[(\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{Me}_2\text{Si})_3\text{CH}]$  in tetrahydrofuran at elevated temperature resulted in the isolation of  $[\text{M}(\text{CO})_3\{(\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{Me}_2\text{Si})_3\text{CH}\}]$  ( $M = \text{Cr(1), Mo(2), W(3), Fe(4)}$ ) in good yield. These complexes have been characterized by elemental analysis, conductivity measurements, mass spectrometry, with IR, electronic,  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectroscopy, and cyclic voltammetry. The data suggest that complexes 1, 2, 3, and 4 have octahedral geometry around the metal atom with tridentate coordination of the ligand. Electrochemical studies of 1, 2, 3, and 4 using cyclic voltammetry indicate quasireversible metal centered oxidation ( $E^{o'} -1.217 \text{ V(1), } -1.218 \text{ V(2), } -1.166 \text{ V(3), and } -1.258 \text{ V(4)}$  versus  $\text{Ag/Ag}^+$ ) and ligand reductions (0.292 V, 0.170 V,  $-0.331 \text{ V}$ , and 0.338 V versus  $\text{Ag/Ag}^+$ ).

**Keywords** cyclic voltammetry, M(0)-carbonyl ( $M = \text{Cr, Mo, W, Fe}$ ), NMR, tris{(diphenylphosphinomethyl)-dimethylsilyl}methane

## INTRODUCTION

Polydentate phosphine ligands have received attention because of their rich coordination chemistry and the catalytic application of their metal complexes.<sup>[1–3]</sup> We have been exploring the chemistry of sterically hindered tripodal phosphine ligands of the type  $(\text{Ph}_2\text{PMe}_2\text{Si})_3\text{CH}$  and  $(\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{Me}_2\text{Si})_3\text{CH}$  with main group and transition metals. The lithium compound,  $[\text{Li}(\text{tmen})_2][\text{C}(\text{SiMe}_2\text{PPh}_2)_3]$ , obtained by metallation

of the precursor  $(\text{Ph}_2\text{PMe}_2\text{Si})_3\text{CH}$  has discrete planar carbanions and no Li–P coordination.<sup>[4,5]</sup> However, the lithium compound with a  $[\text{LiC}(\text{SiMe}_2\text{CH}_2\text{PPh}_2)_3]$  precursor has an unusual tricyclic structure with lithium bound to a carbanionic center and three phosphorus atoms.<sup>[6]</sup> Carbonyl complexes have received less attention<sup>[7,8]</sup> and reports are currently limited to our studies of  $[\text{M}(\text{CO})_3\{(\text{Ph}_2\text{PMe}_2\text{Si})_3\text{CH}\}]$ <sup>[9]</sup> where  $M = \text{Cr}$  and  $\text{W}$  and *cis*- $[\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_4\{(\text{Ph}_2\text{PMe}_2\text{Si})_3\text{CH}\}]$ <sup>[4]</sup> and  $[\text{MCl}_2\{(\text{Ph}_2\text{PMe}_2\text{Si})_3\text{CH}\}]$ <sup>[10]</sup> ( $M = \text{Mn(II)}$  and  $\text{Fe(II)}$ ). The tripodal ligand is bidentate toward molybdenum and tridentate toward chromium, tungsten, manganese, and iron. In the present study, we describe the ligating behavior of the tripodal ligand,  $(\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{Me}_2\text{Si})_3\text{CH}$  with  $\text{M}(\text{CO})_6$  ( $M = \text{Cr, W, Mo}$ ) and  $\text{Fe}_2(\text{CO})_9$ . We also report our findings on the electrochemical behavior of these carbonyl complexes.

## EXPERIMENTAL

All reactions were conducted under an argon atmosphere by the use of standard Schlenk techniques on a double manifold vacuum line.<sup>[11,12]</sup> All the chemicals were of reagent grade and were used as received. Chromium, molybdenum and tungsten hexacarbonyls and  $\text{Fe}_2(\text{CO})_9$  were obtained from Aldrich (India). The ligand,  $(\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{Me}_2\text{Si})_3\text{CH}$ , was synthesized following the reported method.<sup>[6]</sup> Solvents were purified by standard methods.<sup>[13]</sup>

## Physical Measurements

Melting points were recorded in capillary tubes and are uncorrected. Elemental analyses were obtained with a Carlo-Erba model DP 200 instrument (United Kingdom). Molar conductances in  $10^{-4} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  MeCN solution were measured using a Global DCM-900 digital conductivity meter (Global Electronics, India). The IR spectra were obtained in KBr pellets on a Shimadzu Prestise-21 FT IR spectrometer (Japan). The FAB mass spectra were recorded in the positive mode on a JEOL SX-102 mass spectrometer (Japan) using 3-nitrophenyl methanol (*m*-nitrobenzyl alcohol, *m*-NBA) as the matrix:  $m/z$  values are given for  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{12}\text{C}$ ,  $^{16}\text{O}$ ,  $^{28}\text{Si}$ ,  $^{31}\text{P}$ ,  $^{52}\text{Cr}$ ,  $^{98}\text{Mo}$ , and  $^{184}\text{W}$ . The samples dissolved in  $(\text{CHCl}_3/\text{MeOH}/\text{EtOH})$  were introduced into the FAB source.

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The electronic spectra in  $10^{-4}$  mol  $\text{dm}^{-3}$   $\text{C}_6\text{H}_6$  solution were obtained by use of a Shimadzu UV-160A recording spectrophotometer (Japan). The  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectra were recorded on a 300 MHz JEOL AL 300 FT NMR instrument (Japan) at 300.4 ( $^1\text{H}$ ) and 121.5 MHz ( $^{31}\text{P}$ ) and chemical shifts are relative to  $\text{SiMe}_4$  for H and  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  (85%) for P.

### Electrochemical Measurements

Cyclic voltammetric measurements were carried out with an Advanced Electrochemical System, the PARSTAT 2253 instrument (Princeton Applied Research, USA) equipped with a three-electrode system. The microcell model KO264 consisted of a glassy carbon working electrode with Pt wire as an auxiliary electrode and a nonaqueous  $\text{Ag}/\text{AgNO}_3$  reference electrode with 0.1 M  $\text{AgNO}_3$  in acetonitrile as a filling solution. Tetrabutylammonium perchlorate (TBAP) (0.1 M solution in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ) was used as the supporting electrolyte. Cyclic voltammograms with scan speeds of 100–500  $\text{mV s}^{-1}$  were run in  $10^{-4}$  M  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  solution under a nitrogen atmosphere. The potentials measured against an  $\text{Ag}/\text{Ag}^+$  reference electrode were compared to those for the ferrocene-ferrocenium couple, which under the same experimental conditions gave  $E_{1/2} = 0.5(E_{\text{pa}} + E_{\text{pc}}) = 0.048\text{V}$  and  $\Delta E_p = (E_{\text{pa}} - E_{\text{pc}}) = 80\text{ mV}$ .

### Synthesis of Tricarbonyl[tris{(diphenylphosphinomethyl)dimethylsilyl}methane] chromium(0)

#### $[\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_3\{(\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{Me}_2\text{Si})_3\text{CH}\}]$ (1)

To a solution of  $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_6$  (0.149 g, 0.677 mmol) in THF (50 mL) was added dropwise a solution of  $(\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{Me}_2\text{Si})_3\text{CH}$  (0.531 g, 0.677 mmol) in THF (50 mL) at room temperature and the mixture was slowly heated to reflux for 72 h. After cooling, a greenish yellow precipitate of  $[\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_3\{(\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{Me}_2\text{Si})_3\text{CH}\}]$  was filtered off, washed with light petroleum (40–60°C), and dried *in vacuo*. Yield: 0.396 g (64%), m.p. 206°C (dec.). Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{49}\text{H}_{55}\text{P}_3\text{Si}_3\text{O}_3\text{Cr}$  (%): C, 63.9; H, 5.9; P, 10.1. Found: C, 63.6; H, 6.2; P, 10.7. MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) ( $m/z$ ): 920 [M<sup>+</sup>].  $\Delta_M$  ( $10^{-4}$  M,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ , 298 K): 50  $S\text{ cm}^2\text{mol}^{-1}$ . IR (KBr,  $\nu$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )): 1925, 1815 [ $\nu(\text{CO})$ ], 1261 [ $\delta(\text{C}-\text{H})$ ], 1022, 866, 748 [ $\rho(\text{H}_3\text{C})\text{Si}$ ], 663 [ $\nu_{\text{as}}(\text{Si}-\text{C})$ ], 610 [ $\nu_s(\text{Si}-\text{C})$ ]. UV-Vis ( $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ,  $\lambda$  (nm)): 270, 305.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$  (ppm)): -0.11 (s, CH), 0.07 (s,  $\text{SiMe}_2$ ), 1.25 (s,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 7.25–7.73 (m, Ph).  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$  (ppm)): 0.6 (s,  $\text{PPh}_2$ ). CV data:  $E^{\circ}(1) -1.217\text{ V}$ ;  $E^{\circ}(2) 0.292\text{ V}$ .

### Synthesis of Tricarbonyl[tris{(diphenylphosphinomethyl)dimethylsilyl}methane] molybdenum(0)

#### $[\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_3\{(\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{Me}_2\text{Si})_3\text{CH}\}]$ (2)

A solution of  $\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_6$  (0.155 g, 0.587 mmol) in THF (45 mL) was added dropwise to a solution of  $(\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{Me}_2\text{Si})_3\text{CH}$  (0.460 g, 0.587 mmol) in THF (45 mL) at room temperature and the mixture was slowly heated to reflux for 48 h. After cooling, a pale yellow precipitate of  $[\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_3\{(\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{Me}_2\text{Si})_3\text{CH}\}]$  was filtered off, washed with light petroleum (40–60°C), and dried *in vacuo*.

Yield: 0.267 g (59%), m.p. 224°C (dec.). Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{49}\text{H}_{55}\text{P}_3\text{Si}_3\text{O}_3\text{Mo}$  (%): C, 60.8; H, 5.7; P, 9.6. Found: C, 61.2; H, 5.8; P, 10.0. MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) ( $m/z$ ): 966 [M<sup>+</sup>].  $\Delta_M$  ( $10^{-4}$  M,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ , 298 K): 30  $S\text{ cm}^2\text{mol}^{-1}$ . IR (KBr,  $\nu$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )): 1938, 1815 [ $\nu(\text{CO})$ ], 1261 [ $\delta(\text{C}-\text{H})$ ], 1022, 864, 756 [ $\rho(\text{H}_3\text{C})\text{Si}$ ], 694 [ $\nu_{\text{as}}(\text{Si}-\text{C})$ ], 610 [ $\nu_s(\text{Si}-\text{C})$ ]. UV-Vis ( $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ,  $\lambda$  (nm)): 273, 324.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$  (ppm)): -0.10 (s, CH), 0.06 (s,  $\text{SiMe}_2$ ), 1.25 (s,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 7.25–7.77 (m, Ph).  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$  (ppm)): 3.8 (s,  $\text{PPh}_2$ ). CV data:  $E^{\circ}(1) -1.218\text{ V}$ ;  $E^{\circ}(2) 0.170\text{ V}$ .

### Synthesis of Tricarbonyl[tris{(diphenylphosphinomethyl)dimethylsilyl}methane] tungsten(0)

#### $[\text{W}(\text{CO})_3\{(\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{Me}_2\text{Si})_3\text{CH}\}]$ (3)

A solution of  $[\text{W}(\text{CO})_6]$  (0.278 g, 0.789 mmol) and  $(\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{Me}_2\text{Si})_3\text{CH}$  (0.619 g, 0.789 mmol) in THF (100 mL) was slowly heated to reflux for 22 h. After cooling, a dark yellow precipitate of  $[\text{W}(\text{CO})_3\{(\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{Me}_2\text{Si})_3\text{CH}\}]$  was filtered off, washed with light petroleum (40–60°C) and dried *in vacuo*. Yield: 0.415 g (90%), m.p. 248°C (dec.). Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{49}\text{H}_{55}\text{P}_3\text{Si}_3\text{O}_3\text{W}$  (%): C, 55.8; H, 5.2; P, 8.8. Found: C, 56.2; H, 5.4; P, 9.3. MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) ( $m/z$ ): 1052 [M<sup>+</sup>].  $\Delta_M$  ( $10^{-4}$  M,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ , 298 K): 10  $S\text{ cm}^2\text{mol}^{-1}$ . IR (KBr,  $\nu$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )): 1919, 1815 [ $\nu(\text{CO})$ ], 1261 [ $\delta(\text{C}-\text{H})$ ], 1024, 868, 748 [ $\rho(\text{H}_3\text{C})\text{Si}$ ], 694 [ $\nu_{\text{as}}(\text{Si}-\text{C})$ ], 610 [ $\nu_s(\text{Si}-\text{C})$ ]. UV-Vis ( $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ,  $\lambda$  (nm)): 273, 311.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$  (ppm)): -0.10 (s, CH), 0.00 (s,  $\text{SiMe}_2$ ), 1.22 (s,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 7.19–7.66 (m, Ph).  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$  (ppm)): 4.1 (s,  $\text{PPh}_2$ ). CV data:  $E^{\circ}(1) -1.166\text{ V}$ ;  $E^{\circ}(2) -0.331\text{ V}$ .

### Synthesis of Tricarbonyl[tris{(diphenylphosphinomethyl)dimethylsilyl}methane] iron(0)

#### $[\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_3\{(\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{Me}_2\text{Si})_3\text{CH}\}]$ (4)

A solution of  $[\text{Fe}_2(\text{CO})_9]$  (0.225 g, 0.618 mmol) and  $(\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{Me}_2\text{Si})_3\text{CH}$  (0.485 g, 0.618 mmol) in THF (100  $\text{cm}^3$ ) was slowly heated to reflux for 43 h. After cooling a reddish brown solid of  $[\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_3\{(\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{Me}_2\text{Si})_3\text{CH}\}]$  was filtered off, washed with light petroleum (40–60°C), and dried *in vacuo*. Yield: 0.289 g (72%), m.p. 304°C (dec.). Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{49}\text{H}_{55}\text{P}_3\text{Si}_3\text{O}_3\text{Fe}$  (%): C, 63.6; H, 5.9; P, 10.1. Found: C, 64.1; H, 6.2; P, 10.8. MS (FAB<sup>+</sup>) ( $m/z$ ): 924 [M<sup>+</sup>].  $\Delta_M$  ( $10^{-4}$  M,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ , 298 K): 60  $S\text{ cm}^2\text{mol}^{-1}$ . IR (KBr,  $\nu$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )): 1937, 1815 [ $\nu(\text{CO})$ ], 1261 [ $\delta(\text{C}-\text{H})$ ], 1022, 869, 748 [ $\rho(\text{H}_3\text{C})\text{Si}$ ], 694 [ $\nu_{\text{as}}(\text{Si}-\text{C})$ ], 610 [ $\nu_s(\text{Si}-\text{C})$ ]. UV-Vis ( $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ,  $\lambda$  (nm)): 273, 330.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$  (ppm)): -0.10 (s, CH), 0.00 (s,  $\text{SiMe}_2$ ), 1.18 (s,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 7.19–7.66 (m, Ph).  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ,  $\delta$  (ppm)): 12.6 (s,  $\text{PPh}_2$ ). CV data:  $E^{\circ}(1) -1.258\text{ V}$ ;  $E^{\circ}(2) 0.338\text{ V}$ .

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Synthesis and Properties

The reactivity of tris{(diphenylphosphinomethyl)dimethylsilyl}methane,  $[(\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{Me}_2\text{Si})_3\text{CH}]$ , a sterically hindered tripodal ligand, toward transition metal carbonyl complexes has been examined. Greenish yellow chromium, pale yellow molybdenum, dark yellow tungsten, and reddish brown iron



TABLE 1  
Cyclic Voltammetric data<sup>a</sup> of a 0.1 mM solution of  $[M(CO)_3\{(Ph_2PCH_2Me_2Si)_3CH\}]$  (**1-4**) in  $CH_3CN/0.1 M NBu_4ClO_4$  at a glassy carbon electrode vs  $Ag/0.1 M AgNO_3$  at different scan rates

Complex	Scan Rate	$E_{pa}$ V(1) ( $i_{pa}$ )/ $\mu A$	$E_{pc}$ V(1) ( $i_{pc}$ )/ $\mu A$	$E^{o/}(1)$ V	$\Delta E_p$ mV	$E_{pa}$ / V(2) ( $i_{pa}$ )/ $\mu A$	$E_{pc}$ / V(2) ( $i_{pc}$ )/ $\mu A$	$E^{o/}(2)/V$	$\Delta E_p$ / mV
<b>1</b>	100	-1.064 (0.839)	-1.408 (-4.056)	-1.236	344	0.736 (2.356)	-0.384 (-1.684)	0.176	1120
	200	-1.008 (1.208)	-1.424 (-5.812)	-1.216	416	0.748 (4.125)	-0.408 (-3.045)	0.170	1156
	300	-0.984 (2.138)	-1.464 (-7.141)	-1.224	480	0.856 (6.155)	-0.280 (-4.372)	0.288	1136
	400	-0.952 (2.638)	-1.456 (-8.392)	-1.204	504	1.248 (9.115)	-0.384 (-5.004)	0.432	1632
	500	-920 (3.535)	1.496 (-9.683)	-1.208	576	1.224 (11.620)	-0.432 (-6.215)	0.396	1656
<b>2</b>	100	-1.072 (1.210)	-1.408 (-3.578)	-1.240	336	0.672 (1.592)	-0.336 (-1.348)	0.168	1008
	200	-1.024 (1.503)	-1.424 (-4.292)	-1.224	400	0.656 (2.347)	-0.312 (-2.029)	0.172	968
	300	-0.984 (2.515)	-1.472 (-6.063)	-1.228	488	0.736 (4.256)	-0.376 (-3.713)	0.180	1112
	400	-0.928 (3.430)	-1.480 (-7.124)	-1.204	552	0.848 (6.190)	-0.472 (-4.734)	0.188	1320
	500	-0.920 (3.980)	1.472 (-8.065)	-1.196	552	0.728 (6.747)	-0.448 (-5.267)	0.140	1176
<b>3</b>	100	-1.088 (0.151)	-1.232 (-4.912)	-1.160	144	-0.104 (3.987)	-0.424 (-4.233)	-0.264	320
	200	-1.088 (0.548)	-1.224 (-8.519)	-1.156	136	-0.296 (5.671)	-0.456 (-7.750)	-0.376	160
	300	-1.120 (0.913)	-1.232 (-11.180)	-1.176	112	-0.248 (8.044)	-0.480 (-9.904)	-0.364	232
	400	-1.096 (1.493)	-1.280 (-13.460)	-1.188	184	-0.224 (10.140)	-0.432 (-11.340)	-0.328	208
	500	-1.072 (2.255)	1.232 (-15.780)	-1.152	160	-0.232 (12.260)	-0.416 (-12.860)	-0.324	184
<b>4</b>	100	-1.048 (0.559)	-1.432 (-3.988)	-1.240	384	0.824 (3.448)	-0.322 (-1.658)	0.251	-1146
	200	-1.064 (1.370)	-1.456 (-5.639)	-1.260	392	0.896 (5.223)	-0.360 (-3.115)	0.268	-1256
	300	-1.048 (1.676)	-1.472 (-6.768)	-1.260	424	1.032 (7.615)	-0.384 (-3.995)	0.324	-1416
	400	-1.072 (2.085)	-1.456 (-8.364)	-1.264	384	1.072 (10.09)	-0.352 (-5.123)	0.360	-1424
	500	-1.072 (2.464)	-1.464 (-9.615)	-1.268	392	1.312 (12.60)	-0.336 (-5.629)	0.488	-1648

$${}^a E^{o/} = \frac{1}{2} (E_{pa} + E_{pc}); \Delta E_p = (E_{pa} - E_{pc}).$$

further shows a quasi-reversible nature of the electrode process. The reduction reflects electron accommodation in the  $\pi^*$  MO of the chelated ligand. The reduction appears at a more positive potential than that of the free ligand, reflecting the stabilization of the  $\pi^*$  MO upon coordination. The ligand reduction is also

quasi-reversible in nature and the peak separation varies as a function of scan rates. A linear plot of the cathodic peak current ( $i_{pc}$ ) versus the square root of the scan rate ( $v^{1/2}$ ) passes close to the origin, indicating that the electrode process is mainly diffusion controlled.

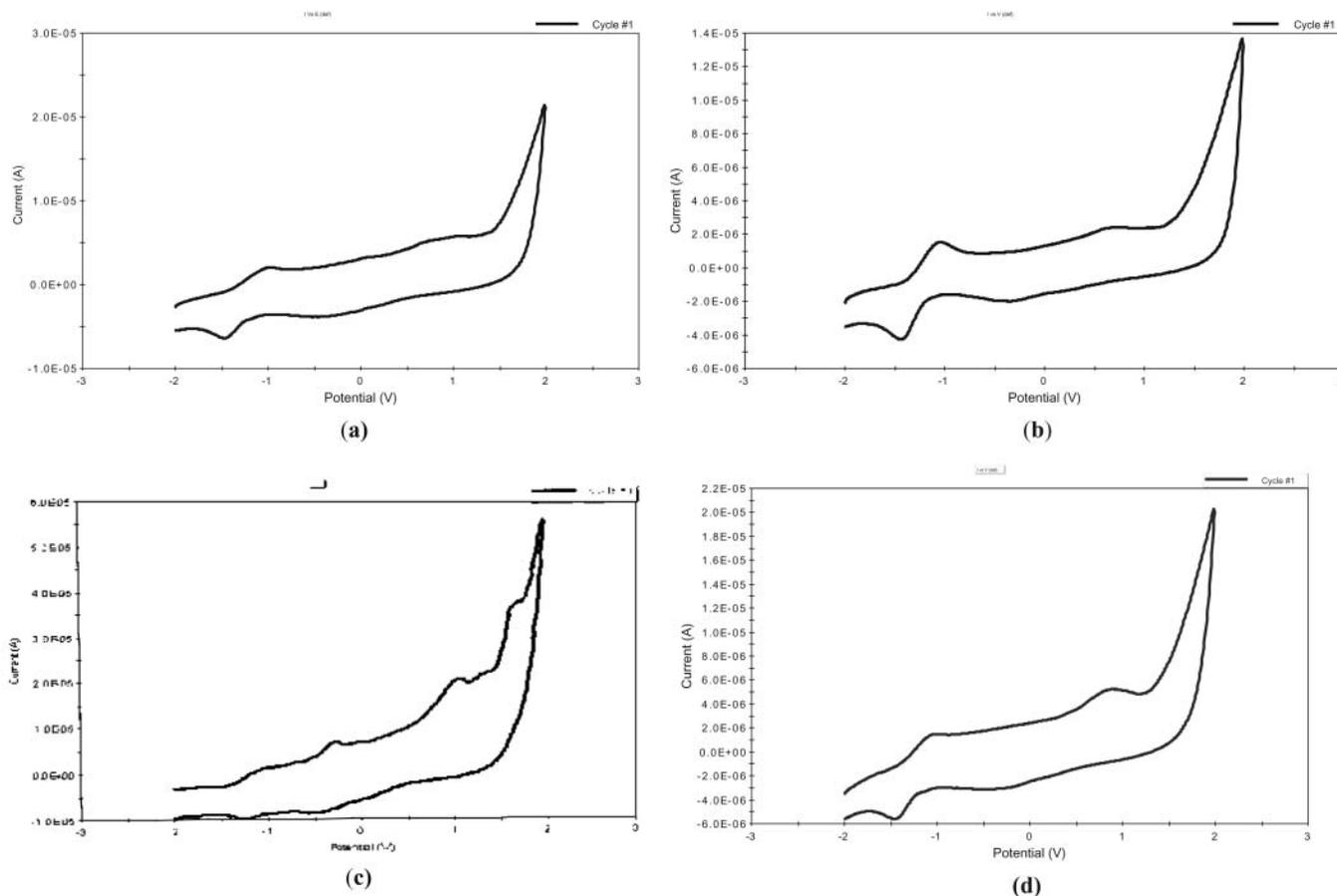


FIG. 1. Cyclic Voltammograms of a 0.1 mM solution of complex **1**(a), **2**(b), **3**(c), and **4**(d) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/0.1 \text{ M NBu}_4\text{ClO}_4$  at a glassy carbon electrode versus  $\text{Ag}/0.1 \text{ M AgNO}_3$  at 100 mV/s scan rate.

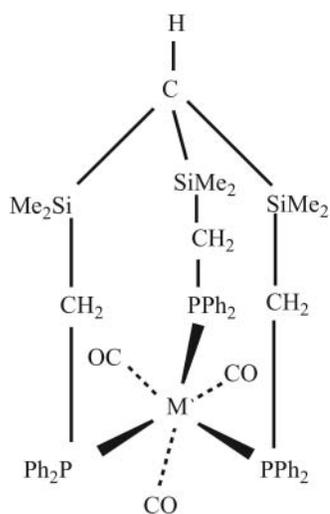


FIG. 2. Proposed structure of  $[\text{M}(\text{CO})_3\{(\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{Me}_2\text{Si})_3\text{CH}\}]$  ( $\text{M} = \text{Cr}, \text{Mo}, \text{W}, \text{Fe}$ ).

Efforts to grow single crystals did not succeed, and this precluded a single-crystal X-ray determination.

#### Proposed Structure of the Complex

The previous analytical evidence suggests an octahedral geometry around the metal with tridentate coordination of the phosphorus ligand. The proposed structure is shown in Figure 2. The carbon, silicon, and phosphorus atoms of the ligand  $\text{HC}(\text{SiMe}_2\text{CH}_2\text{PPh}_2)_3$  retain their tetrahedral configuration in the complex. Similar structures have been proposed for  $[\text{M}(\text{CO})_3\{\text{Ph}_2\text{PMe}_2\text{Si}\}_3\text{CH}]$  ( $\text{M} = \text{Cr}, \text{W}$ ),<sup>[9]</sup>  $[\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_3(\text{CyPH}_2)_3]$ ,<sup>[35]</sup> and  $[\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_3(\text{TPM})]$ .<sup>[7]</sup>

#### CONCLUSION

In the present study we have demonstrated the use of tris{(diphenylphosphinomethyl)dimethylsilyl}methane for the synthesis of novel complexes of the type  $[\text{M}(\text{CO})_3\{(\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{Me}_2\text{Si})_3\text{CH}\}]$  ( $\text{M} = \text{Cr}(0)$ (**1**),  $\text{Mo}(0)$ (**2**),  $\text{W}(0)$ (**3**), and  $\text{Fe}(0)$ (**4**)). These complexes have been synthesized and characterized by different spectroscopic tools. The mass

fragmentation pattern shows successive removal of CO, which is a characteristic pattern of this type of compound. All the complexes show two terminal C – O stretching vibrations consistent with the  $A_1$  and  $E$  modes expected for a pseudo  $C_{3v}$ ,  $X_3MY_3$  coordination structure.  $^1H$  and  $^{31}P$  NMR spectra also confirm tridentate monometallic bonding of the tripodal phosphine ligand. Cyclic voltammogram results show quasireversible metal centered oxidation,  $M^+/M^0$  ( $E^{o1}$   $-1.217$  V(1),  $-1.218$  V(2),  $-1.166$  V(3), and  $-1.258$  V(4) vs  $Ag/Ag^+$ ) and ligand centered reduction (0.292 V, 0.170 V,  $-0.331$  V, and 0.338 V vs.  $Ag/Ag^+$ ).

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