

MeOHT and ODT, respectively. We find values of ΔW_{adh} of 2 mJ m⁻² for hexadecane, 9 mJ m⁻² for acetonitrile, and 43 mJ m⁻² for water. For water, this corresponds to an interaction free energy of ~ 5 kJ per mole of MeOHT.

Sum-frequency spectroscopy shows that specific microscopic interactions, dependent on the chemical structure of both the liquid and the monolayer, clearly exist at the solid-liquid interface. To understand the wettability of organic surfaces, changes in the structure of the surface must be considered, particularly when hydrogen bonding is possible.

Registry No. MeOHT, 115422-11-2; Au, 7440-57-5; hexane, 110-54-3; acetonitrile, 75-05-8.

The First Catalytic Iron-Mediated [4 + 1] Cyclopentenone Assembly: Stereoselective Synthesis of 2,5-Dialkylidenecyclo-3-pentenones

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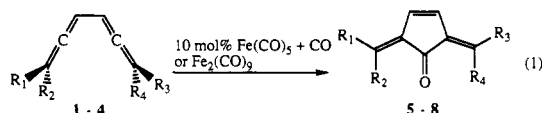
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Herein is described the first transition metal catalyzed [4 + 1] cycloaddition reaction.¹ Conjugated diallenes react with CO under mild conditions in the presence of iron carbonyls to give the new ring structure of 2,5-dialkylidenecyclo-3-pentenones² in good yield. Several examples of [4 + 1] cycloadditions have been reported recently.³ The assembly of 5-membered carbocyclic rings frequently involves [3 + 2]⁴ and Pauson-Khand⁵ [2 + 2 + 1] cobalt-mediated cycloadditions. There is no precedent for iron carbonyls catalyzing [4 + 1] cycloaddition reactions.

Our discovery of this reaction came when diallene **1**⁶ was treated with 1 equiv of Fe₂(CO)₉ at ambient temperature (eq 1), yielding **5** (79%) in less than 9 min! Surprisingly, the catalytic [4 + 1] reaction was achieved with Fe(CO)₅ (10 mol %, 17 mM CO).



1, 5 R₁, R₃, R₂, R₄ = CH₃

2, 6 R₁, R₃ = C(CH₃)₃, R₂, R₄ = CH₃

3, 7 R₁, R₃ = C₆H₅, R₂, R₄ = CH₃

4, 8 R₁, R₄ = CH₃, R₂, R₃ = C(CH₃)₃ and R₂, R₃ = CH₃, R₁, R₄ = C(CH₃)₃

Meso conjugated diallenes **2**⁷ and **3**⁸ gave a highly stereoselective reaction to form only **6** (72%) and **7** (81%), which would be difficult to prepare by other synthetic methods.

We also tested Fe₃(CO)₁₂ (10 mol %, 17 mM CO, THF) and found no detectable reaction. In contrast, Fe₂(CO)₉ (10 mol %, 17 mM CO) rapidly converted one turnover of **1** to **5**, with subsequent product formation occurring at a rate comparable to that observed for Fe(CO)₅ (Table I).

The catalytic reaction rate was measured at varying concentrations of **1**, Fe(CO)₅, and CO (Table I). It was found that the reaction was approximately inverse second order in CO and first order in **1** and Fe(CO)₅. These results are consistent with rate-determining coordination of monomeric iron to the diallene with concomitant loss of two CO groups.

The stereoselectivity of alkylidene bond formation provides information about the topology of this [4 + 1] reaction. Why was only one product formed in the case of the diallenes **2** and **3**? Since only one of the two symmetric products was formed using meso conjugated diallenes, the iron appears to exert a π -facial preference in binding or reaction with the diallene ligand. To probe reaction topology, a chiral (racemic) diallene diastereomer was studied. By fractional crystallization⁶ pure diastereomer **2** was obtained as determined by X-ray crystallography.⁶ A reaction of 4:6 mixture of diastereomers **2**(meso, C₂)/**4**(chiral, C₂) was stopped at 45% completion with 44% recovered starting material. NMR analysis revealed a symmetric product consistent with **6**⁶ (89% based on recovered starting material) and confirmed by X-ray analysis (Figure 1). In addition, a minor unsymmetric isomeric product **8** was formed (7%). The recovered diallene showed a ratio of 14:86 for **2**/**4**, indicating that the meso isomer had reacted faster than the chiral (racemic) diastereomer.

Nevertheless, the formation of **8** requires stereospecific disrotatory movement of the sp diallene carbons of **4** during the cycloaddition. Since **2** was shown to give only **6**, the product **8** came from diastereomer **4**. One plausible mechanism to account for the assembly of **8** is shown in Scheme I. The kinetic data are consistent with rate-determining associative coordination of **4** to give **11** necessitating the formation of Fe(CO)₅ as part of the catalytic cycle. The reactivity of **2** is significantly greater than that of **4**, implying η^4 -coordination to the s-cis diallene conformation as opposed to a mechanism whereby facial selectivity is determined by rate-determining η^2 -coordination.

Cobalt η^4 -bisketene⁹ and iron vinylallene¹⁰ complexes isoelectronic to **11** have been characterized by X-ray crystallography. In analogy to isolobal cobalt,¹¹ molybdenum¹² and zirconium¹³ diene complexes **11** may convert to the metallacyclopentene **12**, necessitating synchronous movement of methyl (and *tert*-butyl) on both terminal diallene carbons. Insertion of CO to give **13**

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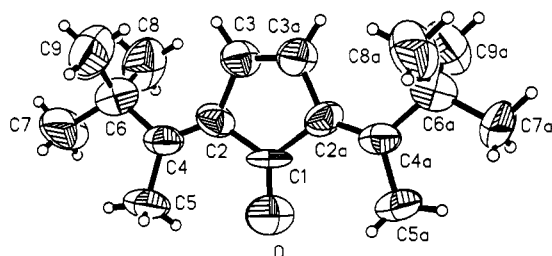
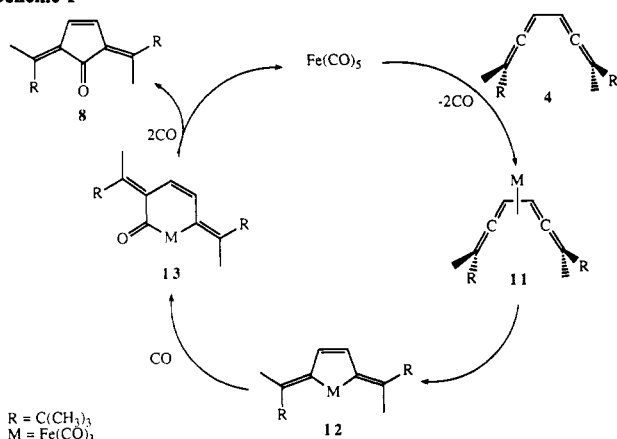
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Table I. Relative Rate Dependence of $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$ -Catalyzed [4 + 1] Cycloaddition at 50 °C in THF^a

[1], mM	[M], mM	[CO], mM	k_{obsd} , s ⁻¹	k_{rel}
290	29	17	9.6×10^{-4}	1.00
70	29	17	1.8×10^{-4}	0.19
290	10	17	3.9×10^{-4}	0.41
290	29	64	7.8×10^{-5}	0.08

^a Each entry represents the average of five kinetic experiments monitored to at least 80% completion by ¹H NMR (200 MHz). M = $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$.

**Figure 1.** X-ray crystal structure analysis ORTEP view of **6**. Selected bond distances (Å): O–Fe 1.232; C1–Fe 1.508; C2–Fe 1.467; C3–Fe 1.319; C4–Fe 1.473; C5–Fe 1.573.**Scheme 1**

and subsequent reductive elimination could form **8**¹⁴ and regenerate the catalyst.

In summary, conjugated diallenes undergo stereoselective [4+1] cycloaddition with CO in the presence of $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$ or $\text{Fe}_2(\text{CO})_9$ under preparatively useful conditions. Consistent with the first step being rate-limiting coordination of iron to the diallene, CO was found to be inhibitory. Facial selectivity of iron coordination may account for why meso diastereomers **2** and **3** yield only **6** and **7**. Surprisingly, sterically demanding diallene **4** gave some of **8** indicative of a stereospecific mechanism.

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Supplementary Material Available: Details of the X-ray crystal structure determination of **2** and **6** including solution and refinement, atomic coordinates, bond lengths, bond angles, isotropic and anisotropic displacement coefficients, and stereo ORTEP plots, together with experimental and analytical data (16 pages); tables of observed and calculated structure factors (6 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

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Ring-Opening Polymerization of Strained, Ring-Tilted Ferrocenophanes: A Route to High Molecular Weight Poly(ferrocenylsilanes)[†]

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The development of new synthetic routes to macromolecules which contain inorganic elements or organometallic units is of considerable interest as a means of preparing materials with unusual and potentially useful properties.¹⁻⁵ Ring-opening polymerization represents an important, well-established route to organic polymers⁶ and an increasingly successful method for the synthesis of inorganic macromolecules.³⁻⁵ Ring-opening methods may also prove of great utility in the preparation of organometallic polymers, however, very few attempts to investigate this approach have been reported.⁷ In this paper, we report the discovery of a novel, ring-opening route to organometallic polymers which provides access to the first examples of high molecular weight poly(ferrocenylsilanes).⁸ These macromolecules possess a highly unusual main chain comprising ferrocene units and silicon atoms. Significantly, the synthetic route described is of potentially broad applicability as a similar methodology might also be successful with other strained organometallic monomers with related structures.^{9,10}

[†] Dedicated to Beverley John Morris.

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