Organometallics in Organic Synthesis

1. So who cares (i.e., why?)

-Pattern of reactivity of organic compounds is imposed on molecule by existing functional groups

- By default, this limits what you can do with the compound
- Coordination of a metal fragment can change this completely
- i.e., can render an electrophilic species nucleophilic
 - a nucleophilic species electrophilic
 - can make a normally unstable molecule stable
 - can make a stable molecule reactive
 - can make impossible reactions possible

The (Very) Basics of Organometallics

-The 18 Electron Rule

Most (middle) transition metal complexes prefer having 18 valence electrons (2s + 6p + 10d)

For transition metal complexes in the 0 oxidation state

4e	5e	6e	7e	8e	9e	10e
Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Со	Ni
Zr	Nb	Мо	Rc	Ru	Rh	Pd
Hf	Та	W	Re	Os	lr	Pt

- -The 18 e rule is followed most closely in complexes of middle transition metals (Cr to Co)
- -As for early transition metal complexes, it's usually too difficult to get enough ligands around the metal to get it to 18 e (i.e., Ti)

- As for late transition metal complexes (Ni, Pd, Pt), particularly the square planar M^{II}L₄ complexes
 - tend to be very stable as 16 e- complexes
 - energy gap to 9th orbital is quite big; molecule is quite willing <u>not</u> to fill that orbital

To count to 18 (or 16), need e-'s from ligands - I'll adopt a 'radical approach' – not only valid one

A) Inorganic Ligands

2e⁻
$$R_3P$$
: $(RO)_3P$: $R-C\equiv N$: $R-N\equiv C$:

$$R_3N$$
: R_2S : R_2O :

3e- NO (usually) nitrosyl complexes

Organic Ligands - Part 1

η¹ (3e⁻)

$$\eta^{1} \text{ (1 e-)} \qquad -R \text{ (alkyls)} \qquad -Ph \text{ (aryls)} \qquad M \qquad (\sigma \text{ -allyls})$$

$$\eta^{2} \text{ (2 e-)} \qquad M \longrightarrow \qquad (\text{alkenes}) \qquad M \longrightarrow \qquad (\text{alkynes})$$

$$\eta^{1} \text{ (2e-)} \qquad M \longrightarrow \qquad M = C = O \qquad M = C$$

$$\text{(carbonyl ligands)} \qquad \text{(carbenes, alkylidenes)}$$

$$\eta^{3} \text{ (3e-)} \qquad M \longrightarrow \qquad (\pi \text{ -allyls})$$

(carbynes)

 $M \equiv C - R$

Organic Ligands, Cont'd.

$$\eta^4 \text{ (4e-)} \qquad \qquad = \qquad \text{(dienes)} \qquad \text{(trimethylenemethanes)}$$

$$\eta^5 \text{ (5e-)} \qquad \qquad \text{(dienyls)} \qquad \qquad \text{(cyclopentadienyls)}$$

$$\eta^6 \text{ (6e-)} \qquad \qquad \text{(arenes, trienes)}$$

$$\eta^7 \text{ (7e-)} \qquad \qquad \text{(trienyls)}$$

So.....

The number of electrons on the free metal

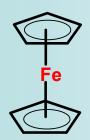
- + sum of the η number of the hydrocarbon ligands
- + sum of the electrons donated by other ligands

+ any negative charge on the complex

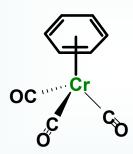
- positive charge on the complex

Should = 18 normally

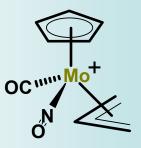
Many exceptions with early or late transition metals; works best with middle transition metals



$$8 (Fe) + (2x5) = 18e^{-}$$



$$6 (Cr) + 6 (Ph) + (3x2) = 18 e^{-}$$



$$6 \text{ (Mo)} + 5 \text{ (Cp)} + 2 + 3 + 3 - 1 = 18 e^{-1}$$

10 (Pd) + (2x2) + (2x1) =
$$16$$
 e⁻¹

Bonding of Hydrocarbon Ligands

- In its simplist form, bonding of the π - system to a transition metal fragment is based on the

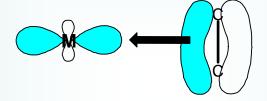
Dewar-Chatt-Duncanson Model

Consider



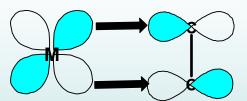
- There are two contributions to bonding

1) Ligand to Metal Donation



Note: this is <u>not</u> a π - bond, but rather a σ - bond

2) Metal to Ligand Back Donation



Note: this <u>is</u> a π - bond

Dewar, M. J. S. Bull. Chim. Soc. Fr. 1951, C71.

Chatt, J.; Duncanson, L. A. J. Chem. Soc. 1953, 2939.

For higher level descriptions:

Consequences of Bonding of Hydrocarbon Ligands

- 1) In the alkene, the C=C bond is made weaker by complexation
- 2) The ligand may be made more *or* less electron rich by complexation -depends on case
- 3) The organic fragment often loses its only plane of symmetry -for example

But.....

These are not the same compound - the plane of symmetry is destroyed

No non-superimposable mirror images <u>Enantiomers</u>

Other examples

Same situation: Each pair is enantiomeric

Basic Organometallic Reactions

There are several <u>additional</u> fundamental types of reactions in organometallic chemistry

The more complex reactions are normally some combination of these fundamental ones

1) Lewis Acid Dissociation

- many transition metal compounds, especially hydrides, can lose as Lewis acid (i.e., deprotonate)

This may be a surprise, but many transition metal hydrides are quite acidic -notice that making the metal more electron rich decreases acidity

$$HCo(CO)_4$$
 (pK_a = 8.3, CH₃CN) $H_2Fe(CO)_4$ (11.4) $HCo(CO)_3PPh_3$ (15.4)

Winkler, J. R. et al (Gray, H. B.) J. Am. Chem Soc. 1986, 108, 2263.

SH
$$(pK_a = 10.3, CH_3S(O)CH_3)$$
 (18.0) $(18.$

2) Lewis Base Dissociation

Very, very, very.....common process

change in number of metal valence e⁻'s

change in formal metal oxidation state

0

change in coordination number at the metal -1

-Reverse reaction: Lewis base Association

Obvious application are in ligand substitution processes, which may be <u>dissociative</u> (' S_N 1 like')

$$Ni(CO)_4$$
 \xrightarrow{slow} $Ni(CO)_3 + CO$ \xrightarrow{L} $LNi(CO)_3$
 $v = k [Ni(CO)_4]$ 1st order

- Alternatively, this can be <u>associative</u>, i.e., "S_N2 like" -more common fo 16 e⁻, d⁸ square planar complexes (i.e., Ni^{II}, Pd^{II}, Pt^{II}) Rh^I, Ir^I)

3) Oxidative Addition

- represented by

for more details, see: R Yamamoto pp. 222-239 R Collman & Hegedus pp. 279-321

- -Overall reaction is cleavage of the A-B bond with bonding to the metal
- Most common A-B is R₃C-X X = halogen or pseudohalogen

-Classic 'organic' example is Grignard reagent formation

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- Most common example in this course will be of the following type:

$$Pd(PPh_3)_4 \longrightarrow 2 PPh_3 + Pd(PPh_3)_2 + Pd(P$$

- the 2nd step is the oxidative addition

Therefore, system needs: a) 2 available oxidation states i.e., Pdº/Pd", Feº/Fe^{II}, Ir^I/Ir^{III}

b) open coordination site

- Reverse reaction: Reductive Elimination

Mechanism

- Most is known about late transition metals (such as Ir, Ni groups)
- A) If the R of R-X is <u>alkyl</u> (especially 1° or 2°), the reaction is believed to (usually) occur via an S_{N2} substitution

- Inversion at alkyl carbon has been observed
- Kinetics are overall 2nd order

$$v = k [Ir^I] [CH_3I]$$

B) Vinyl (and perhaps aryl) halides go via π - complex formation, with ultimate direct insertion

- Goes with retention of configuration of C=C configuration
- Also believed to be mechanism for addition of H₂
- B') Aryl halides go via direct insertion into C-X bond (clearly related to B)

C) - Now defrocked - Nucleophilic Aromatic Substitution - was an old proposal for aryl cases, to rationalized that <u>cases with electron withdrawing groups "always" go faster</u>

C)' - much more likely and often detected in calculations is initial formation of an η^2 -benzene complex

Green, J. C. J. Organomet. Chem. 2005, 690, 6054.

D) - Electron transfer, radical mechanisms do exist (Ni, Mg)

i.e.
$$L_n + RX \xrightarrow{ras} [L_nM^+ RX^-]$$

$$[L_nM^+ RX^-] \xrightarrow{} L_nM$$

Bi, S. Chem. Phys. Lett. 2006, 431, 385.

Aside: One electron oxidative additions also exist

$$2 L_n M^{\circ} + A - B$$
 \longrightarrow $L_n M^{\circ} - A + L_n M^{\circ} - B$

Conventional organic example - Lithium-Halogen exchange

Many new opinions on these matters:

R Hartwig, J. F. Synlett 2006, 1283.

R Espinet, P.; Echavarren, A. M. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl. 2004, 43, 4704.

R Jutand, A. Eur. J. Inorg. Chem. 2003, 2017.

Alcazar-Roman, L. M.; Luis, M.; Hartwig, J.F.; Rheingold, A. L.; Liable-Sands, L. M.; Guzei, I. A. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2000, 122, 4618. (chelate PR₃)

Hartwig, J. F.; Paul, P. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1995, 117, 5373 (monodentate PR₃)

R Amatore, C.; Jutand, A. Acc. Chem. Res. 2000, 33, 314.

Lersh, M.; Tilset, M. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2005, 127, 2471 (C-H activation).

4) Reductive Elimination - reverse of oxidative addition

$$L_nM^{\circ}$$
 \longrightarrow L_nM° + A-B

change in number of metal valence e⁻'s

change in formal metal oxidation state

-2 (16e - 14e)

change in coordination number at the metal

-2

transition state
-not an intermediate

-and, importantly for organic chemists......

Milstein, D.; Stille, J. K. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1979, 101, 4981

Note: Whether the precursor is square planar or trigonal bipyramidal, it's the *cis* groups which reductively eliminate

- Again, need two accessible oxidation states
- Other notes on reductive elimination: Non 18 e- situations must be accessible
 - Ni group (Ni, Pd, Pt) are the usual synthetic choices

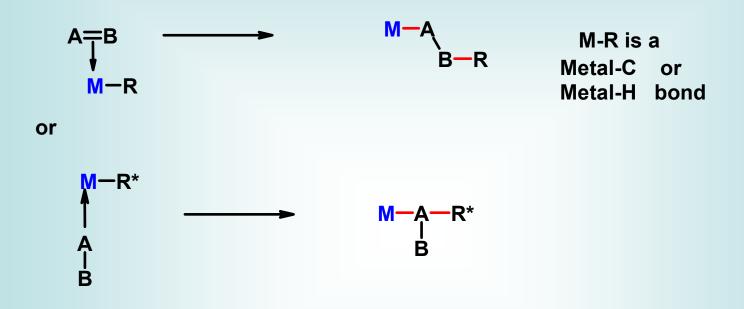
Since metal becomes more electron rich during the reaction, the reaction is sometimes accelerated by addition of a ligand which is electron withdrawing

More details in general:

Yamamoto, pp. 240-5 Collman, Hegedus pp 322-33

5) Insertion (Migration)

-There is more than one type possible



Most common : A-B is CO

-The reaction is a concerted migration of R*, with retention of configuration at R* and the metal, if they are chiral

Change in # of valence electron at the metal -2 (18 to 16e)

Change in metal oxidation state 0 (+1 to +1)

Change in coordination number -1 (6 to 5)

Note: Reverse reaction is <u>deinsertion</u>

Most common A=B in this case are alkenes or alkynes
-for example, the intermediate step in hydrogenation

- The reverse reaction in this case (β -elimination) is one of the most common reactions of alkylmetals main mode of decomposition
- -again, if inserting group is alkyl, generally there is retention of configuration at R*
- see R Cross, R. J., in "Chemistry of the Metal-Carbon Bond", Hartley and Patai, 1982, V.2

6) Oxidative Coupling

Oxidative coupling occurs when two ' π -bound' ligands on the metal react with each other to form (usually) a C-C σ bond

One of the best known examples is....

-This has become increasingly important with a variety of metals and transformations

Change in number of valence electrons at metal -2 (18 to 16e)

Change in metal oxidation state +2 (+1 to +3)

Change in metal coordination number 0 ('3' to '3')

Note: There are several other fundamental mechanisms, but they have a close 'organic' analogy