

an excess of acetic anhydride (1 mL, 10 mmol), to obtain complete acetylation of the amino groups. The control silica gel was processed as described earlier. C) Naphthalene/silica gel: The same procedure was used as for theophylline/silica gel (A), but using 2-naphthylacetic acid (186 mg, 1 mmol) instead of 8-carboxypropyltheophylline.

Preparation of the polymers: A pre-polymerization mixture consisting of DVB (2.14 mL, 12 mmol), TFMAA (336 mg, 2.4 mmol), and 2,2'-azobis(2,4-dimethylvaleronitrile) (20 mg) was prepared in a glass vial. According to the pore volume of the silica (ca. 0.65 mL g<sup>-1</sup>), the amount of the mixture required to fill the pores was added to the silica gel (theophylline/silica gel, control silica gel, or naphthalene/silica gel) and gently stirred with a stainless steel spatula.<sup>[11]</sup> The vial was flushed gently with N<sub>2</sub> for 2 min and the mixture was then allowed to polymerize overnight at 45 °C. After polymerization was completed (this was monitored by polymerizing a portion of the pre-polymerization mixture without silica gel) the polymer/silica gel composite was gently wet-milled in acetone with a manual mortar and pestle to disintegrate any particle aggregates. The composite was then transferred into a plastic tube with a screw cap, suspended in acetone (2 mL), and cooled in a water/ice bath. Aqueous HF (4 mL, 40%) was added portionwise whilst shaking the mixture to dissolve the silica matrix of the composite. The suspension was then allowed to react overnight on a rocking-table at room temperature. The remaining polymer was washed extensively on a G4-glass filter funnel with 20% acetone in deionized water (ca. 2 L) until the filtrate had a neutral pH value, and finally washed with methanol (0.25 L). The polymer particles were then dried in an oven at 45 °C for 6 h and in vacuo for a further 6 h.

Elemental analysis: Flash combustion elemental analysis coupled to gas chromatography was performed at MikroKemi AB (Uppsala, Sweden).

Radioligand binding assays: The polymer particles were suspended in toluene and appropriate volumes were added into 1.5-mL polypropylene test tubes, followed by the radioligand [<sup>3</sup>H]-theophylline, varying amounts of a solution of a competing ligand if appropriate, and toluene to give a total volume of 1 mL. The samples were incubated on a rocking-table for 12 h at room temperature. Particles were removed by centrifugation and supernatant (500 µL) was withdrawn and added to scintillation liquid (10 mL, Ecoscint O, National Diagnostics, Atlanta, GA, USA). The radioactivity was measured by liquid scintillation counting with a Rackbeta 1219 counter (LKB Wallac, Turku, Finland). This assay is similar to that described previously.<sup>[12]</sup>

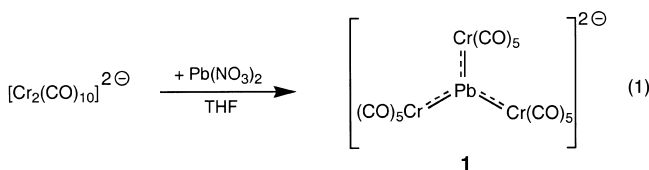
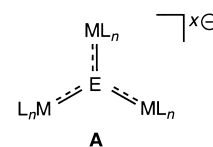
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## Synthesis and Reactivity of [(CO)<sub>5</sub>Cr]<sub>3</sub>Pb]<sup>2-</sup>, an Unsaturated Compound with Trigonal-Planar Coordinated Lead

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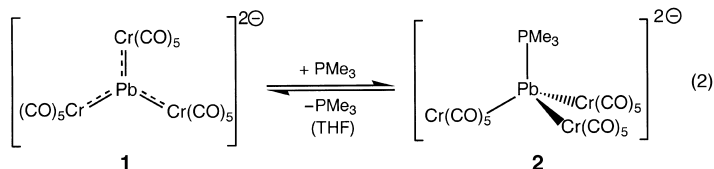
Dedicated to Professor Arndt Simon  
on the occasion of his 60th birthday

Compounds **A**, which contain a main group element bound in a trigonal-planar environment to three organotransition metal 16-valence electron fragments L<sub>n</sub>M (e.g. L<sub>n</sub>M = (CO)<sub>4</sub>Fe, E = In, x = 3;<sup>[1]</sup> L<sub>n</sub>M = (CO)<sub>4</sub>Fe, E = Sn, Pb, x = 2;<sup>[2]</sup> L<sub>n</sub>M = (CO)<sub>5</sub>Cr, E = Sn, x = 2;<sup>[3]</sup> L<sub>n</sub>M = (CO)<sub>5</sub>Cr, E = Sb, x = 1;<sup>[4]</sup> L<sub>n</sub>M = Cp(CO)<sub>2</sub>Mn, E = Te, x = 0<sup>[5]</sup>), are in the broadest sense isoelectronic analogues of well known four-center, six-π-electron systems such as NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> and CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>. The p<sub>π</sub>-p<sub>π</sub> interaction in systems such as CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup> corresponds to the metal-d<sub>π</sub>-main group element-p<sub>π</sub> interaction in the organometal derivatives.<sup>[6]</sup> The unsaturated character of these organometallic π systems becomes apparent from the short M-E bonds<sup>[1-5]</sup> as well as from their spectroscopic behavior.<sup>[3]</sup> The NMR signals of the trigonal-planar coordinated main group elements are each shifted to low field.<sup>[3, 7]</sup> This is also true for **1**, which is obtained from the reaction of disodium decacarbonyldichromate with lead nitrate [Eq. (1)]. The <sup>207</sup>Pb NMR



signal of **1** is shifted to low field at δ = 7885 and supports, in agreement with the structural data (Figure 1),<sup>[8]</sup> the unsaturated character of **1**.

Chemical evidence for the unsaturated character of π systems of the type **A** was hitherto unknown. We have now found that **1** in presence of PMe<sub>3</sub> is in equilibrium with its base adduct **2** [Eq. (2)]. From the temperature dependence of the <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectra of **2**, the following thermodynamic parameters are obtained for the position of the formation equilibrium



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solved by direct methods with SHELXS-86 and refined with SHELXL-93.<sup>[12]</sup> The program XPM was used for the graphical processing of the data.<sup>[13]</sup> The figures were produced with WINRAY-32.<sup>[14]</sup> The refinement was carried out anisotropically against  $F^2$ , hydrogen atoms were included in calculated positions. **1**: space group  $P2_1/c$ ,  $a = 1277.4(3)$ ,  $b = 1956.0(4)$ ,  $c = 2436.8(5)$  pm,  $\beta = 103.63(3)^\circ$ ,  $V = 5917 \times 10^6$  pm<sup>3</sup>,  $\rho_{\text{calc}} = 1.641$  g cm<sup>-3</sup>,  $2\theta_{\text{max}} = 52.1^\circ$ ,  $Z = 4$ , 71 438 measured reflections, 11 474 independent reflections, of which 5485 ( $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ) observed, 758 refined parameters,  $R = 0.070$ ,  $R_w = 0.112$ , max. residual electron density  $1.54 \times 10^{-6}$  e pm<sup>-3</sup>. **2**: space group  $P\bar{1}$ ,  $a = 1422.2(3)$ ,  $b = 1902.5(4)$ ,  $c = 2609.1(5)$  pm,  $\alpha = 100.58(3)$ ,  $\beta = 103.63(3)$ ,  $\gamma = 108.48(3)^\circ$ ,  $V = 6490 \times 10^6$  pm<sup>3</sup>,  $\rho_{\text{calc}} = 1.543$  g cm<sup>-3</sup>,  $2\theta_{\text{max}} = 55.0^\circ$ ,  $Z = 4$ , 58 282 measured reflections, 29 826 independent reflections, of which 19 004 ( $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ) observed, 1463 refined parameters,  $R = 0.077$ ,  $R_w = 0.204$ , max. residual electron density  $2.39 \times 10^{-6}$  e pm<sup>-3</sup>. The two crystallographically independent anions **2** are the same with regard to all the important structural features. Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) for the structures reported in this paper have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publication nos. CCDC-137594 (**1**), -137593 (**2**), and -137592 ( $\text{Na}_2[\{(\text{CO})_5\text{Cr}\}_2\text{Pb}(\text{NO}_3)_2]$ ). Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge on application to CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK (fax: (+44) 1223-336-033; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

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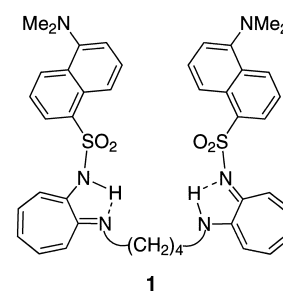
## Metal-Based NO Sensing by Selective Ligand Dissociation\*\*

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The large and increasing number of biological processes for which nitric oxide is implicated necessitates the development of improved methods of NO detection. Currently available techniques often rely on the identification of NO metabolites, such as nitrite and nitrate, or lack sensitivity.<sup>[1]</sup> The application of ratiometric biosensors<sup>[2]</sup> and ultramicro amperometric sensors<sup>[3–5]</sup> affords one avenue to obtain selective, sensitive detection of NO in vivo. Fluorescent indicators also provide desirable properties that allow direct, real-time detection with both spatial and temporal resolution,<sup>[6]</sup> as has been amply demonstrated for  $\text{Ca}^{II}$  sensors.<sup>[7]</sup> Although the invention of fluorescent NO sensors is an active research area, so far these methods rely on indirect detection of more reactive  $\text{NO}_x$  species,<sup>[8–10]</sup> display decreased fluorescence intensities upon NO binding,<sup>[11]</sup> or require further chemistry to provide a positive fluorescence response.<sup>[12, 13]</sup> We report herein an approach in which the formation of a transition metal nitrosyl complex triggers a positive fluorescent signal in response to NO.

The design of this NO sensor takes advantage of the fluorescence-quenching properties of transition metal ions with partly filled d shells. We prepared a ligand containing a fluorophore that is quenched by the metal center, in this case  $\text{Co}^{II}$ , in the absence of NO to give little residual signal for the “off” response. In the presence of NO, however, the formation of the metal–nitrosyl adduct selectively displaces a fluorescent ligand, thereby removing it from the quenching environment and turning the fluorescence “on”. A similar approach was reported for an  $\text{Fe}^{II}$  complex of a quinoline pendant cyclam but the fluorescence intensity decreased in the presence of NO.<sup>[11]</sup> An analogous ligand-displacement strategy has also been applied for a pH-sensitive fluorescent probe.<sup>[14]</sup>

In the newly designed ligand  $\text{H}_2\text{DATI-4}$  (**1**), each aminotroponimate (ATI) ring is modified with a dansyl fluorophore on one of the imine nitrogen atoms and linked through the other nitrogen by a 4-methylene chain to a second such chelating unit.<sup>[15]</sup> The yellow ligand **1** is rather in-



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