

Description

This invention relates to volatile metal complexes; more particularly, it relates to organometallic compounds, specifically β -diketonate complexes of magnesium and zinc which exhibit unusually high volatility.

Volatile metal complexes are of interest for a variety of applications including fuel additives, metal vapour sources and gas transport reagents. A useful discussion of β -diketonate complexes and the uses thereof is provided by R. E. Sievers, *et al.*, Science, 201, [4352], pages 217—223, (July 1978), wherein numerous references to these complexes and methods for the preparation thereof are cited.

The metal complexes or chelates of the anion of hexafluoroacetylacetone (1,1,1,5,5,5-hexafluoro-2,4-pentane-dione), having the formula $[\text{CF}_3-\text{CO}-\text{CH}=\text{C}(\text{CF}_3)_2]^-$ and hereinafter abbreviated (hfa)⁻, have been the specific objects of study. For example, the complexes $\text{Cd}(\text{hfa})_2$, $\text{Mg}(\text{hfa})_2$ and $\text{Zn}(\text{hfa})_2$ are known, although these complexes are most frequently isolated as adducts with the solvents used in the preparation thereof, such as H_2O and NH_3 . The adducted complexes $\text{Cd}(\text{hfa})_2 \cdot \text{NH}_3 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$, $\text{Cd}(\text{hfa})_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ and $\text{Zn}(\text{hfa})_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$, the latter being referred to as hydrates, have been prepared and reported by S. C. Chatteraj, *et al.*, J. Inorg. Nucl. Chem., 28, (1966), pages 1937—1943.

The present invention relates to adducted complexes of both magnesium and zinc which exhibit unusual stability and volatility. The complexes according to the present invention are tetrahydrofuran (THF) adducts of magnesium and zinc hexafluoroacetylacetonates, i.e. complexes of these metals with 1,1,1,5,5,5-hexafluoro-2,4-pentane-dione which are isolated as adducts with THF.

Complexes provided in accordance with the present invention have the molecular structure: $\text{M}(\text{hfa})_2 \cdot n\text{THF}$ wherein M represents Zn or Mg and n represents 1—4. The preparations of THF adduct present in the isolated complexes depend upon the metal selected and upon the process used to prepare the complex. For the adducted Mg complexes, n typically represents 2—4, while for the Zn complexes n represents 1—2.

The present invention may be further understood by reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 illustrates thermogravimetric curves for selected adducted $\text{Mg}(\text{hfa})_2$ complexes;

Figure 2 illustrates a vapour pressure plot for a selected adducted $\text{Mg}(\text{hfa})_2$ complex according to the

present invention;

Figures 3 and 4 illustrate proton nuclear magnetic resonance spectra for selected $\text{Mg}(\text{hfa})_2 \cdot n\text{THF}$ complexes according to the present invention; and

Figure 5 illustrates thermogravimetric curves for selected adducted $\text{Zn}(\text{hfa})_2$ complexes.

The volatility of metal β -diketonate complexes depends not only upon the selection of the diketone used to form the complex, but also, for each possible diketone, upon the presence or absence and nature of any adduct present within the molecule. β -diketonate complexes are known to form adducts with solvents used in the preparation thereof, particularly when the complex is not coordinatively saturated and the solvent is a good Lewis base. The resulting adducted β -diketonate complexes may be quite stable relative, for example, to the hydrates of the complexes and may themselves exhibit sufficient stability and volatility to constitute useful metal vapour sources. Examples of compounds which form adducts with β -diketonates are ammonia, water, ether, pyridine, bipyridyl, phenanthroline, tetrahydrofuran and dimethylformamide. These molecules attach to the complex as additional ligands to achieve six-fold or higher coordination with the metal nucleus.

The present invention is based on the discovery that certain tetrahydrofuran adducts of $\text{Mg}(\text{hfa})_2$ and $\text{Zn}(\text{hfa})_2$ exhibit better stability, lower melting temperatures and somewhat higher volatility than other adducts of these complexes. Thus, these THF adducts may be maintained as ligands at lower temperatures and may be volatilized more rapidly and completely than the non-adducted complexes or other adducts thereof, rendering them particularly useful, for example, as sources of metal vapours for vapour phase reactions. The THF adduct of $\text{Mg}(\text{hfa})_2$ may be prepared via the reaction of the diketone with basic magnesium carbonate in ether to produce the ether-water adducts, as illustrated by the following Example.

Example 1

A 2.5 g sample of basic magnesium carbonate, $4 \text{MgCO}_3 \cdot \text{Mg}(\text{OH})_2 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ($n \approx 6$) is suspended in 100 ml of diethyl ether with stirring under nitrogen. A 10.41 g sample of the pure β -diketone (Hhfa) is added to the suspension and the mixture is refluxed for two hours. The ether is then separated from a solid residual phase by filtration and evaporated to dryness. Evaporation of the ether phase leaves a residual white powder product identified as the ether-water adduct of magnesium hexafluoroacetylacetonate, $\text{Mg}(\text{hfa})_2 \cdot 1.5\text{Et}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$.

THF adducts of $\text{Mg}(\text{hfa})_2$ may be prepared from the water adduct by adding 20 ml of THF to the residue, which consists of from 1 to 2 g of material. This mixture is refluxed for 1 hour.

The resulting THF solution is dried by rotary evaporation to leave a white powder residue which is identified by proton nuclear magnetic resonance as $\text{Mg}(\text{hfa})_2 \cdot 4\text{THF}$.

The $\text{Mg}(\text{hfa})_2 \cdot 2\text{THF}$ adduct may be prepared from $\text{Mg}(\text{hfa})_2 \cdot 4\text{THF}$ by sublimation of the latter into a dry ice-cooled cold trap. The sublimed product, also a white powder, has a melting point of approximately

130°C and the liquid may readily be vaporized at 160°C to generate Mg-containing vapours without significant decomposition.

Comparative Examples

A comparison of the properties of the stable adduct $\text{Mg(hfa)}_2 \cdot 2\text{THF}$ with other adducts of this hfa complex may be made by thermogravimetric analysis. Other adducts may be prepared by reacting the ether-water adduct of Mg(hfa)_2 produced in accordance with Example 1 above with selected ligands L to form adducted complexes of the formula: $\text{Mg(hfa)}_2 \cdot x\text{L}$, wherein L represents the selected ligand and x represents the number of ligand molecules present in the product.

Each adduct may be prepared in accordance with a procedure wherein 80 ml of diethyl ether is placed in a magnetically-stirred flask and 2 ml of the appropriate ligand is added to the ether with stirring. A 2 g sample of $\text{Mg(hfa)}_2 \cdot 1.5\text{Et}_2\text{O} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ is then added with stirring and stirring is continued overnight. After stirring, each solution is evaporated to dryness to give a white powder or oil.

Examples of adducted complexes which may be produced as described above are reported in Table I below. All are produced as powder products, except the dimethylformamide (DMF) adduct, which is isolated as an oil, but dries to a powder in air. All products may be sublimed in vacuum at the temperatures reported in the Table. The proportions of adduct ligands present in each complex (the value of x above) have not been determined; however infra-red spectra ($4000\text{--}400\text{ cm}^{-1}$) of samples mixed in KBr discs confirm the presence of ligand in the sublimed sample.

TABLE 1

Ligand	Adducted Complex	Sublimation Temp. (Vacuum)
pyridine	$\text{Mg(hfa)}_2 \cdot \text{C}_5\text{H}_5\text{N}$	80—120°C (residue left)
acetonitrile	$\text{Mg(hfa)}_2 \cdot \text{CH}_3\text{CN}$	135—155°C (residue left)
PCl_3	$\text{Mg(hfa)}_2 \cdot \text{PCl}_3$	no sublimation below 190°C
dioxane	$\text{Mg(hfa)}_2 \cdot \text{C}_4\text{H}_8\text{O}_2$	130—160°C (residue left)
dimethylformamide	$\text{Mg(hfa)}_2 \cdot (\text{CH}_3)_2\text{NCOH}$	100—130°C (no residue)

Figure 1 of the accompanying drawings illustrates thermogravimetric analysis curves useful for comparing the volatility and stability of $\text{Mg(hfa)}_2 \cdot 2\text{THF}$ with other adducts, such as shown in Table 1. All data for these curves is generated using sublimed samples of the adducts, except for the PCl_3 adduct which does not readily sublime.

Referring to accompanying Figure 1, good stability in a complex is evidenced by rapid weight loss in the sample over a narrow temperature range to approximately 100% weight loss, with no weight loss occurring thereafter even at very high temperatures. The temperatures at which one-half of the sample has been evaporated (T_1) is a good indicator of the volatility of the adducted complex.

The excellent stability and superior volatility of $\text{Mg(hfa)}_2 \cdot 2\text{THF}$ when compared with other adducts of Mg(hfa)_2 are evident from a study of accompanying Figure 1. No evidence of thermal decomposition of the THF adduct is seen and the sample exhibits about 99.5% evaporation at 200°C. The 50% volatilization temperatures (T_1) for the various adducts are reported in Table 2 below, opposite the formula for the Lewis base which reacts with the diketonate (Lewis acid) to form the adduct or complex.

TABLE 2
Adduct Volatility

Lewis Base	T_1 (°C)
THF ($\text{C}_4\text{H}_8\text{O}$)	180
CH_3CN	200
$\text{C}_5\text{H}_5\text{N}$	212
$\text{C}_4\text{H}_8\text{O}_2$	235
$(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{NCOH}$	235
PCl_3	Decomposed

The stable THF adduct of $\text{Mg}(\text{hfa})_2$ also exhibits unexpectedly high vapour pressure when compared with many other adducted β -diketonates. Figure 2 of the accompanying drawings illustrates the vapour pressure of this complex as a function of temperature over the temperature range of 80—175°C. Vapour pressures for this complex fall within the range of from 4 to 200 mm Hg over this temperature range.

Figures 3 and 4 of the accompanying drawings illustrate proton nuclear magnetic resonance spectra for the compounds $\text{Mg}(\text{hfa})_2 \cdot 2\text{THF}$ and $\text{Mg}(\text{hfa})_2 \cdot 4\text{THF}$, both in a CDCl_3 solvent against a tetramethyl silane (TMS) standard. Figure 3 is for the 2THF adduct after sublimation in vacuum, while Figure 4 is for the 4THF adduct as prepared in accordance with Example 1 prior to sublimation. The proton NMR data and elemental chemical analysis establish the proportions of THF adduct present in each of the complex compounds.

The preparation of the water adduct of $\text{Zn}(\text{hfa})_2$ has been described by Chatteraj *et al.*, J. Inorg. Nucl. Chem., *supra*. A suitable procedure comprises reacting zinc oxide with Hhfa in the presence of water. 10 grams of ZnO and 35.2 ml of Hhfa are added to a flask equipped with a condenser, magnetic stirrer and heating mantel, with stirring to disperse the ZnO . 30 ml of H_2O is added, causing the reflux of Hhfa due to the evolution of heat. Stirring is continued until all evidence of reaction has ceased.

An additional 30 ml of water and 200 ml of ether are then added and the mixture is refluxed for 1 hour. After cooling, excess ZnO is removed by filtration, the ether layer is separated and dried by the addition of 4 Å molecular sieve and the ether is then evaporated to give 55 g of crude $\text{Zn}(\text{hfa})_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ product.

The THF adduct of $\text{Zn}(\text{hfa})_2$ may be prepared from this hydrated complex in accordance with the procedure illustrated in Example 2 below.

Example 2

A 10 g sample of $\text{Zn}(\text{hfa})_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ complex produced as described above is dissolved in THF at room temperature. The THF solvent is then evaporated and the residue is sublimed at 150°C under vacuum to a dry ice-cooled cold trap. Proton NMR spectroscopic analyses of the sublimed product establish that it is a THF adduct of $\text{Zn}(\text{hfa})_2$ having the formula $\text{Zn}(\text{hfa})_2 \cdot n\text{THF}$, where n represents 1—2. The melting temperature of the compound as determined by differential scanning calorimetry at atmospheric pressure is 165°C. The stability of the compound is such that very slight decomposition is observed after 60 hours at the melting temperature, as evidenced by slight gas evolution and moderate discolouration of the white complex.

The superior stability and volatility of the THF adduct of $\text{Zn}(\text{hfa})_2$ when compared with the H_2O adduct may be seen from Figure 5 of the accompanying drawings. Figure 5 illustrates thermogravimetric analysis curves for the two adducts at atmospheric pressure under argon. The data suggest that the THF adduct not only exhibits more complete vaporization than the water adduct, but also vaporizes at a lower temperature, exhibiting a $T_{1/2}$ temperature of 150°C as compared with 155°C for the water adduct.

Proton NMR spectra may be generated for the sublimed THF adduct of $\text{Zn}(\text{hfa})_2$ as produced in accordance with Example 2 above using a TMS standard. In a case where a CDCl_3 solvent is used in the analysis, the data suggest the molecular formula: $\text{Zn}(\text{hfa})_2 \cdot 1.5\text{THF}$. When a d^6 -acetone solvent is used in the analysis, the data suggest a molecular formula: $\text{Zn}(\text{hfa})_2 \cdot 1.8\text{THF}$.

Elemental chemical analysis of the sublimed THF adduct of $\text{Zn}(\text{hfa})_2$ are conducted for F, C and Zn to confirm the number of ligands in the complex. The results of these analyses are reported in Table 3 below. Included in Table 3 are calculated percentages of C, F and Zn, assuming a molecular formula $\text{Zn}(\text{hfa})_2 \cdot 2\text{THF}$ (formula weight = 634 g/mole), and observed percentages for each of these elements.

TABLE 3
Chemical Analysis for $\text{Zn}(\text{hfa})_2 \cdot 2\text{THF}$

Element	% Calculated	% Observed
F	36.3	35.0 (34.9, 35.1)
C	34.6	34.4 (34.3, 32.8, 36.0)
Zn	10.5	10.4 (10.6, 10.2)

In view of the excellent agreement between the calculated and observed values in Table 3 and in view of the structural analogy with $\text{Zn}(\text{hfa})_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$, the formula $\text{Zn}(\text{hfa})_2 \cdot 2\text{THF}$ is presently considered to be the correct formulation for this adducted complex.

The superior volatility and stability of the THF adducts of $\text{Mg}(\text{hfa})_2$ and $\text{Zn}(\text{hfa})_2$ described above make them particularly suitable candidates for applications wherein highly volatile metal complexes of these main group metals would be desirable. Such applications include the use of the compounds as metal sources in vapour phase reactions wherein transport of the metals at relatively low temperatures would be desired.

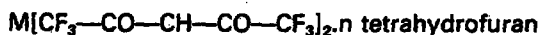


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Claims

1. A compound characterised in that it is a tetrahydrofuran (THF) adduct of a β -diketonate complex of 1,1,1,5,5,5-hexafluoro-2,4-pentane-dione with Mg or Zn, the adduct having a molecular formula:



wherein M represents Mg or Zn and n represents 1—4.

2. A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein M represents Mg and n represents 2—4.

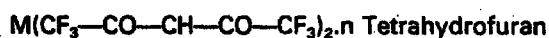
3. A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein M represents Zn and n represents 1—2.

4. A compound as claimed in claim 1, which is the adducted β -diketonate complex $Mg[CF_3-CO-CH-CO-CF_3]_2 \cdot 2$.

5. A compound as claimed in Claim 1, which is the adducted β -diketonate complex $Zn[CF_3-CO-CH-CO-CF_3]_2 \cdot 2$ tetrahydrofuran.

Patentansprüche

1. Verbindung, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß sie ein Tetrahydrofuran (THF)-Addukt eines β -Diketonat-Komplexes von 1,1,1,5,5,5-Hexafluoro-2,4-pentan-dion mit Mg oder Zn ist, wobei das Addukt die Molekularformel:



besitzt, in welcher M entweder Mg oder Zn und n 1—4 bedeutet.

2. Verbindung nach Anspruch 1, in welcher M Mg und n 2—4 bedeutet.

3. Verbindung nach Anspruch 1, in welcher M Zn und n 1—2 bedeutet.

4. Verbindung nach Anspruch 1, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß sie der adduktierte β -Diketonat-Komplex $Mg[CF_3-CO-CH-CO-CF_3]_2 \cdot 2$ Tetrahydrofuran ist.

5. Verbindung nach Anspruch 1, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß sie der adduktierte β -Diketonat-Komplex $Zn[CF_3-CO-CH-CO-CF_3]_2 \cdot 2$ Tetrahydrofuran ist.

Revendications

1. Un composé caractérisé en ce qu'il est un produit d'addition avec le tétrahydrofuranne (THF) d'un complexe β -dicétonate de 1,1,1,5,5,5 hexafluoro-2,4-pentane dione avec Mg ou Zn, le produit d'addition répondant à la formule moléculaire:



dans laquelle M représente Mg ou Zn et n est 1—4.

2. Un composé selon la revendication 1, caractérisé en ce que M représente Mg et n est 2—4.

3. Un composé selon la revendication 1, caractérisé en ce que M représente Zn et en ce que n est 1—2.

4. Un composé selon la revendication 1, caractérisé en ce qu'il est le complexe β -dicétonate additif $Mg[CF_3-CO-CH-CO-CF_3]_2 \cdot 2$ tétrahydrofuranne.

5. Un composé selon la revendication 1, caractérisé en ce qu'il est le complexe β -dicétonate additif $Zn[CF_3-CO-CH-CO-CF_3]_2 \cdot 2$ tétrahydrofuranne.