

Reactions of nickel(II) 2,21-dimethyl-2-aza-21-carbaporphyrin with phenyl Grignard reagents, phenyllithium, and *n*-butyllithium.

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Streszczenie

Addition of a phenyl Grignard reagent to a toluene solution of the nickel(II) chloride complex of a dimethylated inverted porphyrin, (2-NCH₃-21-CH₃CTPP)Ni^{II}Cl (**1**), at 203 K results in the formation of a rare paramagnetic (σ -phenyl)nickel(II) species, (2-NCH₃-21-CH₃CTPP)Ni^{II}Ph (**2**). The coordination of the σ -phenyl in **2** is determined by a unique pattern of three σ -phenyl resonances (ortho 375.0 ppm; meta 108.94 ppm; para 35.68 ppm (at 283 K)) in the ¹H NMR and ²H NMR spectra. The (σ -phenyl)nickel(II) compound **2** is in the high-spin ground electronic state (d_{xy})²(d_{xz})²(d_{yz})²(d_{z²})¹(d_{x²-y²})¹, as confirmed by similarity of the NMR spectra of the equatorial ligand in **1** and **2**. Titration of **1** with phenyllithium produces (2-NCH₃-21-CH₃CTPP)Ni^{II}Ph (**2**). One-electron reduction with excess PhLi yields [(2-NCH₃-21-CH₃CTPP)Ni^{II}Ph]^{•-} (**3**), which can be also generated by independent routes, e.g., by reduction of (2-NCH₃-21-CH₃CTPP)Ni^{II}Ph using lithium triethylborohydride or tetrabutylammonium borohydride. The spectroscopic data indicate that (2-NCH₃-21-CH₃CTPP)Ni^{II}Ph (**2**) undergoes one-electron reduction without a substantial disruption of the molecular geometry. The presence of two paramagnetic centers in **3**, i.e., the high-spin nickel(II) and the carbaporphyrin anion radical, produces remarkable variations in a spectral patterns, such as the upfield and downfield positions of pyrrole resonances (103.78, 96.66, -25.35, -50.97, -92.15, -114.83 ppm (at 253 K)) and sign alternations of the meso-phenyl resonances (ortho -77.81, -79.34 ppm; meta 48.77, 48.04 ppm; para -85.65, -86.46 ppm (at 253 K)). A single species, **4**, is detected in the ¹H NMR titration of **1** with *n*-butyllithium. The formation of one- or two-electron-reduced species, [(2-NCH₃-21-CH₃CTPP)NiBu]^{•-} or [(2-NCH₃-21-CH₃CTPP)NiBu]²⁻, respectively, is considered to account for the spectroscopic properties of **4** (pyrrole 17.33, 15.45, -5.79, -7.74, -14.62, -58.14 ppm; 21-CH₃ 3 ppm (at 203 K)). The temperature

dependence of the hyperfine shifts of **4** demonstrates pronounced anti-Curie behavior, interpreted in terms of a temperature-dependent spin equilibrium between diamagnetic and paramagnetic states with diamagnetic properties approached as the temperature is lowered. Warming of **2–4** results in complete decomposition via homolytic/heterolytic cleavage of an axial nickel–apical carbon bond. In the case of **2** or **3**, the process yields a mixture of two compounds, **5** and **6**, which are detected by EPR spectroscopy, demonstrating the anisotropy of the **g** tensor (**5**, $g_1 = 2.237$, $g_2 = 2.092$, $g_3 = 2.090$; **6**, $g_1 = 2.115$, $g_2 = 2.030$, $g_3 = 1.940$ (in frozen toluene solution at 77 K)).

Słowa kluczowe

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