ELECTRONIC SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Title: Decamethyltitanocene hydride intermediates in hydrogenation of corresponding titanocene- $(\eta^2$ -ethene) or $(\eta^2$ -alkyne) complexes and effects of bulkier auxiliary ligands

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Contents:

- HD preparation
- NMR data for titanocenes
- ¹H NMR spectra of hydrogenation products of $Cp_2^{*}Ti(R_1C\equiv CR_2)$ and GC-MS spectra
- Reference 42 in full
- Figure S1. ¹H NMR spectra of [Cp*₂TiH₂] (1)
- Figure S2. ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectra of [Cp*₂TiH₂] (1)

[Cp*₂Ti(C₂H₄)] hydrogenations

- Figure S3. An expanded region of ¹H NMR spectra of products from hydrogenations of $[Cp*_{2}Ti(C_{2}H_{4})]$

- Figure S4. Broad range ¹H NMR spectra of products from hydrogenations of [Cp*₂Ti(C₂H₄)]

[Cp $*_2$ TiH] (2) + H₂ variable temperature

- Figure S5. Variable temperature ¹H NMR spectra of [Cp*₂TiH] (**2**) after addition of hydrogen

- Figure S6. Expanded region of variable temperature ¹H NMR spectra of $[Cp*_{2}TiH_{2}]$ after addition of hydrogen to $[Cp*_{2}TiH]$

Reaction of [Cp*2Ti(C2H4)] with [Cp*2Ti]

- Figure S7. ¹H NMR spectra (expanded region) of two different mixtures of Cp_2^T tautomer [$Cp^*(C_5Me_4CH_2)TiH$] and [$Cp_2^Ti(C_2H_4)$] - Figure S8. Broad range ¹H NMR spectra corresponding to the above expanded spectra of Figure S7.

[Cp*2TiH] variable temperature

- Figure S9. Variable temperature ¹H NMR spectra of [Cp*₂TiH]
- Figure S10. An expanded region of variable temperature ¹H NMR spectra of [Cp*₂TiH]

Reaction of Cp*2Ti(PhCCPh) with H2

- Figure S11. ¹H NMR spectra showing the hydrogenation of [Cp*₂Ti(PhC=CPh)]
- Figure S12. Broad range ¹H NMR spectra of the above reaction mixture
- Figure S13. An expanded region of ¹H NMR and ¹H ${^{2}H}$ spectra of the product of deuteration of

[Cp*₂Ti(PhC≡CPh)]

Hydrogenation of [(C₅Me₄SiMe₃)₂Ti]

- Figure S14. ¹H NMR spectra of a mixture of [(C₅Me₄SiMe₃)₂Ti] and [(C₅Me₄SiMe₃)₂TiH]
- Figure S15. ¹H NMR spectra of [(C₅Me₄SiMe₃)₂TiH₂]
- Figure S16. ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectra of [(C₅Me₄SiMe₃)₂TiH₂]
- Figure S17. ¹H NMR spectrum of the reaction product of [(C₅Me₄SiMe₃)₂Ti] with HD
- Figure S18. ¹H NMR spectra of the above mixture re-measured after 6 months
- Figure S19. ¹H NMR spectrum of [(C₅Me₄t-Bu)₂TiH]
- Figure S20. ¹H NMR spectrum of [(C₅Me₄SiMe₃)₂TiH]
- Figure S21. ¹H NMR spectra of a mixture of [(C₅Me₄t-Bu)₂Ti] and [(C₅Me₄t-Bu)₂TiH]
- Figure S22. ¹H NMR spectra of a mixture of [(C₅Me₄SiMe₃)₂Ti] and [(C₅Me₄SiMe₃)₂TiH]

- UV-vis spectra - hydrogenation of $[Cp^*(C_5Me_4CH_2)TiMe]$

- EPR spectra of Cp*₂TiH and Cp'₂TiH (Cp' = C₅Me₄t-Bu)
- Crystallographic Data, Data Collection and Structure Refinement for 1B, 1A, 5, and 8

-Table 1 DFT calculations of difference in total energies for titanocene dihydride and titanocene dihydrogen complexes and counterpoise energy for the former ones

HD preparation

HD was prepared by stepwise addition of degassed D_2O (1.4 g, 70 mmol) into suspension of LiAlH₄ (1.0 g, 26 mmol) in THF (50 ml). A closed system protected with overpressure valve (overpressure 0.1 bar) was used for the reaction. The evolved HD was purified by consecutive passing through two cold traps (first cooled with solid CO_2 and second cooled with liquid nitrogen) and a column filled with molecular sieve 3A. The purified HD was passed into evacuated flasks (identical with those used for hydrogenation experiments). Overall, HD was obtained in a quantity about 1.2 L and purity > 95% (as determined by NMR spectroscopy).

NMR data for titanocenes

If temperature of measurement is not specified the spectra were taken at 25 °C.

$[Cp*_{2}Ti] (Cp* = \eta^{5}-C_{5}Me_{5})$

¹H NMR (toluene-*d*₈): 63.8 (br s, 30H, C₅*Me*₅). ¹H NMR (toluene-*d*₈, -45 °C): 99.6 (br s, 30H, C₅*Me*₅).

[Cp*(η^5 , η^1 -C₅Me₄(CH₂)}TiH] a tucked-in hydride tautomer of the above titanocene (ca 66 mol % with respect to titanocene): ¹H and ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectra in toluene-*d*₈ measured at 25 °C spectra see ref.¹²

[(η⁵-C₅Me₄tBu)₂Ti]

¹H NMR (toluene-*d*₈): 4.0 (Δν_½ ≈ 60 Hz, 18H, C*Me*₃); 34.0 (Δν_½ ≈ 70 Hz, 12H, C₅*Me*₄,); 62.2 (Δν_½ ≈ 110 Hz, 12H, C₅*Me*₄,).

 $[(\eta^{5}-C_{5}Me_{4}tBu)\{\eta^{5},\eta^{1}-C_{5}Me_{3}tBu(CH_{2})\}TiH]$ a tucked-in hydride tautomer of the above titanocene (ca 5 mol % with respect to titanocene): ¹H NMR (toluene-*d*₈): 2.26, 1.79, 1.57, 1.47 (4 × s, 4 × 3H, C₅Me₄); 1.42, 1.40 (2 × s, 2 × 9H, CMe₃); 1.36, 1.07, 0.99 (3 × s, 3 × 3H, C₅Me₄); 0.61 (d, ²*J*_{HH} = 5 Hz, 1H, TiC*H*₂); the second TiC*H*₂ proton was not localized.

[{C₅Me₄(SiMe₃)}₂Ti]

¹H NMR (toluene-*d*₈): 7.1 (Δν_½ ≈ 85 Hz, 18H, Si*Me*₃); 26.5 (Δν_½ ≈ 150 Hz, 12H, C₅*Me*₄,); 77.1 (Δν_½ ≈ 260 Hz, 12H, C₅*Me*₄,). A tucked-in hydride tautomer was not found.

¹H NMR spectra of hydrogenation products of permethyltitanocene alkyne complexes Cp*₂Ti(R₁C≡CR₂) and GC-MS spectra

R₁, R₂ = Me: n-butane (>95%): ¹H NMR (toluene- d_8), ¹³C{¹H} NMR (toluene- d_8), and GC-MS identical with ref.¹⁴.

 R_1 , R_2 = Et: n-hexane ¹H NMR (toluene- d_8) agreed with the data for n-hexane.¹⁸

R₁, R₂ = Ph:1,2-diphenylethane ¹H NMR (toluene-*d*₈): 2.710 (s, 4H, C*H*₂Ph); 6.90-7.18 (m, 10H,

 CH_2Ph). A trace of *cis*-stilbene (toluene- d_8): 6.428 (s, 2H, CHPh).

R₁ = **Ph**, **R**₂ = **SiMe**₃: 1-phenyl-2-(trimethylsilyl)ethane GC-MS, ¹H NMR (toluene- d_8), and ¹³C{¹H} NMR (toluene- d_8) agreed with the data in ref.¹⁴

R_{1 =} **Me**, **R**₂ = **SiMe**₃: propyltrimethylsilane: ¹H NMR (toluene- d_8): 0.02 (s, 9H, Si Me_3); 0.39-0.49 (m, 2H, C H_2 SiMe₃); 0.96 (t, ³ J_{HH} = 7.2 Hz, C H_3 CH₂); 1.22-1.37 (m, 2H, C H_3 C H_2).

 $\mathbf{R}_1 = \mathbf{R}_2 = \mathbf{SiMe}_3$: Final product mixture contained 1,2-bis(trimethylsilyl)ethene ((*E*-) 50%, (*Z*-) 5%) and 1,2-bis(trimethylsilyl)ethane 45%.

(*E*)-SiMe₃CH=CHSiMe₃ ¹H NMR (toluene-*d*₈): 0.09 (s, 18H, Si*Me*₃); 6.75(s, 2H, C*H*). ¹³C {¹H}(toluene-*d*₈): −1.49 (Si*Me*₃); 151.12 (=*C*H). ²⁹Si {¹H}(toluene-*d*₈): −7.95 (*Si*Me₃).

(Z)-SiMe₃CH=CHSiMe₃¹H NMR (300 MHz, C₆D₆, 298 K): 0.15 (s, 18H, Si*Me*₃); 6.86 (s, 2H, CH). ¹³C

{¹H}(C₆D₆, 298 K): 0.37 (Si*Me*₃); 152.08 (=*C*H). ²⁹Si {¹H}(C₆D₆): - 10.37 (*Si*Me₃).

1,2-bis(trimethylsilyl)ethane ¹H NMR (toluene-*d*₈): 0.01 (s, 18H, Si*Me*₃); 0.41 (s, 4H, C*H*₂). ¹³C

 ${^{1}H}(toluene-d_8): -2.10 (SiMe_3); 9.09 (CH_2). {^{29}Si} {^{1}H}(toluene-d_8): 2.63 (SiMe_3).$

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Figure S1. ¹H NMR spectra of $[Cp_{2}^{*}TiH_{2}]$ (**1**) in toluene- d_{8} measured at -45 °C. (*) denotes solvent signals.

Figure S2. ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectra of $[Cp*_{2}TiH_{2}]$ (**1**) in toluene- d_{8} measured at -45 °C. (*) denotes solvent signals.



Hydrogenations of [Cp*₂Ti(C₂H₄)]

Figure S3. An expanded region of ¹H NMR spectra of products from hydrogenations of $[Cp*_{2}Ti(C_{2}H_{4})]$ after: a) 10 min b) 40 min c) 2 h d) 14 days. The following symbols denote $[Cp*_{2}TiH_{2}]$ (\$); $[Cp*(C_{5}Me_{4}CH_{2})TiH]$ (#); solvent toluene- d_{8} signal (*); (i) Et₂O. The spectra were normalized to an ethane signal.



Figure S4. Broad range ¹H NMR spectra of products from hydrogenation of $[Cp*_{2}Ti(C_{2}H_{4})]$ after: a) 10 min b) 40 min c) 2 h d) 14 days. The following symbols denote $[Cp*_{2}Ti]$ (&); $[Cp*_{2}TiH]$ (%); $[Cp*_{2}TiCI]$ - an impurity used as an internal intensity standard (~).



[Cp*₂TiH] + H₂ variable temperature

Figure S5. Variable temperature ¹H NMR spectra of $[Cp*_{2}TiH]$ (**2**) after addition of hydrogen, measured at: a) -45 °C, b) -35 °C, c) -25 °C, d) -15 °C, e) 5 °C, f) 15 °C, g) 25 °C, h) 35 °C, i) 45 °C, j) 55 °C, k) 65 °C.



Figure S6. Expanded region of variable temperature ¹H NMR spectra of $[Cp*_{2}TiH_{2}]$ (**1**) after addition of hydrogen to $[Cp*_{2}TiH]$ (**2**), measured at: a) –45 °C, b) –35 °C, c) –25 °C, d) –15 °C, e) 5 °C, f) 15 °C, g) 25 °C, h) 35 °C, i) 45 °C, j) 55 °C, k) 65 °C. Spectra measured above 25 °C are seven times amplified. Only signals of $[Cp*_{2}TiH_{2}]$ are labeled, (*) denotes solvent.



Reaction of [Cp*2Ti(C2H4)] with [Cp*2Ti]

Figure S7. ¹H NMR spectra (expanded region) of two different mixtures of $Cp_{2}^{*}Ti$ tautomer [$Cp^{*}(C_{5}Me_{4}CH_{2})TiH$] (#) and [$Cp_{2}^{*}Ti(C_{2}H_{4})$] (o) in sealed NMR tubes stored at -30 °C (left side) and 4 °C (right side). The spectrum taken immediately after mixing of reagents (a); reaction mixture after 9 days (b). Only characteristic signals are marked. While the signals of [$Cp_{2}^{*}Ti(C_{2}H_{4})$] remained unchanged after storing at -30 °C, they disappeared when the sample was stored at 4 °C and the signal of ethane at 0.81 ppm occurred (not depicted).



Figure S8. Broad range ¹H NMR spectra corresponding to the above expanded spectra of Figure 7. Compound signals are labeled as follows: $[Cp*_{2}Ti]$ (&); $[Cp*(C_{5}Me_{4}CH_{2})Ti]$ (\$); $[Cp*_{2}TiH]$ (%); $[Cp*_{2}TiCl]$ (~) non-reacting standard. The amount of titanocene with traces of $[Cp*_{2}TiH]$ and $[Cp*(C_{5}Me_{4}CH_{2})Ti]$ remained unchanged after storing at -30 °C for 9 days (left side). At 4 °C the titanocene (in equilibrium with $[Cp*_{2}TiH]$ and $[Cp*(C_{5}Me_{4}CH_{2})Ti]$) reacted at first via $[Cp*_{2}TiH]$ with $[Cp*_{2}Ti(C_{2}H_{4})]$ (see right side, lower spectrum) to give $[Cp*(C_{5}Me_{4}CH_{2})Ti]$ and ethane. Only after complete consumption of $[Cp*_{2}Ti(C_{2}H_{4})]$ the remaining titanocene disproportionated to $[Cp*_{2}TiH]$ and $[Cp*(C_{5}Me_{4}CH_{2})Ti]$ (right side, upper spectrum).



[Cp*2TiH] - variable temperature

Figure S9. Variable temperature ¹H NMR spectra of $[Cp*_2TiH]$ (**2**) measured at: a) -45 °C, b) -35 °C, c) -25 °C, d) -15 °C, e) -5 °C, f) 5 °C, g) 15 °C, 25 °C (h), 35 °C (i) 45 °C (j). The symbols denote $[Cp*_2TiH]$ (%); $[Cp*_2TiCl]$ impurity (~).



Figure S10. An expanded region of variable temperature ¹H NMR spectra of $[Cp*_{2}TiH]$ (**2**) measured at: a) -45 °C, b) -35 °C, c) -25 °C, d) -15 °C, e) -5 °C, f) 5 °C, g) 15 °C, 25 °C (h), 35 °C (i) 45 °C (j).



Reaction of [Cp*2Ti(PhCCPh)] with H2

Figure S11. ¹H NMR spectra showing the hydrogenation of $[Cp*_{2}Ti(PhC=CPh)]$: (a) the reagent before hydrogen addition; (b) 1 h after hydrogen addition; (c) after 3 days; (d) after heating to 100 °C for 1 h, measured at 100 °C. The following symbols denote: (@) $[Cp*_{2}Ti(PhC=CPh)]$, (\$) $[Cp*_{2}TiH_{2}]$, (*) solvent toluene-*d*₈, (i) impurities. The progress in formation of *cis*-stilbene (characteristic olefinic singlet at 6.43 ppm, denoted (I.)) and 1,2-diphenylethane (characteristic singlet of methylene positioned at 2.71 ppm, denoted (II.)) is highlighted with red rectangles. The spectrum (b) demonstrates a concomitant presence of $[Cp*_{2}Ti(PhC=CPh)]$ (highlighted with blue rectangles) and $[Cp*_{2}TiH_{2}]$ in early stage of reaction.



Figure S12. Broad range of ¹H NMR spectra of the above reaction mixture: (a) 1 h after the hydrogen addition; (b) after 3 days; (c) after heating to 100 °C for 1 h in a probe (measured at 100 °C). The following symbols denote: (%) $[Cp*_{2}TiH]$, (\$) $[Cp*_{2}TiH_{2}]$ (Ti H_{2}).



Figure S13. An expanded region of ¹H NMR (brown) and ¹H{²H}spectra (blue) of the product of deuteration of $[Cp*_{2}Ti(PhC=CPh)]$. Spectra were measured at –35 °C in toluene- d_{8} 30 min after admission of deuterium at room temperature.



1.70 3.68 3.66 3.64 3.62 3.60 3.58 3.56 3.54 3.52 3.50 3.48 3.46 3.44 3.42 3.40 3.38 3.36 3.34 3.32 3.30 3.2 f1 (ppm)

Figure S14. ¹H NMR spectra of a mixture of $[(C_5Me_4SiMe_3)_2Ti]$ (#) and $[(C_5Me_4SiMe_3)_2TiH]$ (\$) in toluene-*d*₈ under H₂ atmosphere (bottom) and the same mixture after degassing (top spectrum). Both spectra were taken at 25 °C. The insert in the bottom spectrum highlights the presence a broad signal of $[(C_5Me_4SiMe_3)_2Ti]$. The peak denoted (+) consists of signal of SiMe₃ group of $[(C_5Me_4SiMe_3)_2TiH]$ and signals of $[(C_5Me_4SiMe_3)_2TiH_2]$.



Hydrogenation of [(C₅Me₄SiMe₃)₂Ti]

Reaction scheme: $[(\eta^5-C_5Me_4SiMe_3)_2Ti] + H_2 \leftrightarrow [(\eta^5-C_5Me_4SiMe_3)_2TiH_2]$ **Figure S15.** ¹H NMR spectra of $[(C_5Me_4SiMe_3)_2TiH_2]$ (**4**) measured in toluene- d_8 at -35 °C. (*) denotes solvent signals and (i) is due to an unknown impurity. The broad signal at ca. 3.2 ppm belongs to Si Me_3 group of $[(C_5Me_4SiMe_3)_2TiH]$ (**6**).



Figure S16. ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectra of $[(C_5Me_4SiMe_3)_2TiH_2]$ (**4**) measured in toluene- d_8 at -35 °C. (*) denotes solvent signals.



Figure S17. ¹H NMR spectrum of the reaction product of $[(C_5Me_4SiMe_3)_2Ti]$ with HD) in toluene- d_8 measured at -45 °C. (*) denotes solvent signals. The hydride signal shows integral intensity of only 1.4 which is consistent with partial isotope exchange. The expanded region displays hydride signals of Ti(-H)₂ and Ti(-H)(-D). The width of the latter signal ca 12 Hz gives an estimated $J_{HD} \sim 6$ Hz.



Figure S18. ¹H NMR spectra of the above mixture re-measured after 6 months, taken in toluene- d_8 at -45 °C. (*) denotes solvent signals. The hydride integral intensity is restored to an expected value 2.





Figure S19. ¹H NMR spectrum of $[(C_5Me_4t-Bu)_2TiH]$ (5) in toluene- d_8 measured at 25 °C.

Figure S20. ¹H NMR spectrum of $[(C_5Me_4SiMe_3)_2TiH]$ (6) in toluene- d_8 measured at 25 °C.



Figure S21. ¹H NMR spectra of a mixture of $[(C_5Me_4t-Bu)_2Ti]$ (#) and $[(C_5Me_4t-Bu)_2TiH]$ (\$) (top spectrum); the mixture after addition of 1,3-butadiene (after 24h, the non-reacted butadiene was removed in vacuum) (bottom spectrum). The signals denoted (&) were tentatively attributed to the formed $[(C_5Me_4t-Bu)_2Ti(\eta^1-but-2-enyl)]$.



Figure S22. ¹H NMR spectra of a mixture of $[(C_5Me_4SiMe_3)_2Ti]$ (#) and $[(C_5Me_4SiMe_3)_2TiH]$ (\$) in toluene-*d*₈ (top spectrum); the mixture after addition of 1,3-butadiene (bottom spectrum). The signals denoted (&) were tentatively assigned to formed $[(C_5Me_4SiMe_3)_2Ti(\eta^1-but-2-enyl)]$.



<u>UV-vis spectra - hydrogenation of [Cp*(C₅Me₄CH₂)TiMe]</u>

The progress of hydrogenating $[Cp^*(C_5Me_4CH_2)TiMe]$ followed by measuring its electronic absorption spectra in the visible region.





<u>EPR spectra of $Cp_{2}^{*}TiH$ and $Cp_{2}^{'}TiH$ ($Cp' = C_{5}Me_{4}t-Bu$)</u>

EPR spectra of Cp*₂TiH and Cp'₂TiH containing various amounts of impurities in toluene- d_8 glass at -160 °C. g-Tensor of axial symmetry of the hydrides is denoted by g_{\perp} and g_{\parallel} ; g-tensors of rhombic symmetry for Cp*₂TiL and Cp'₂TiL (L = OR or Cl) have equal values of g_1 and g_2 ; g_3 determines the nature of the impurity. (Cp*₂Ti)₂O forms the electronic triplet state showing the outmost feature ΔH_{zz} = 473 G, g_{zz} = 1.985 and ΔM_s = 2 at $g \sim$ 3.970 (for full description see ref.³³).





	18	1A	5	8
Formula	C ₆₀ H _{92.50} Cl _{0.75} Ti ₃	$C_{40}H_{62.50}CI_{0.25}Ti_2$	C ₂₆ H ₄₃ Ti	C ₂₈ H ₄₉ Si ₂ Ti
Mol. Wt.	984.12	648.06	403.50	489.75
Crystal system	monoclinic	monoclinic	triclinic	monoclinic
Space group	C2/c	C2/c	<i>P-1</i> (No. 2)	<i>P</i> 2 ₁ / <i>n</i> (No. 14)
<i>a</i> (A)	31.2307(16)	38.9059(17)	8.6546(3)	12.9701(6)
<i>b</i> (A)	8.4988(4)	8.4278(3)	17.0780(5)	14.6030(7)
<i>c</i> (A)	22.5450(10)	22.7517(10)	17.4546(6)	15.4311(7)
α (deg)	90	90	66.0210(10)	90
<i>θ</i> (deg)	108.619(2)	90.247(2)	88.0080(10)	102.825(2)
γ (deg)	90	90	88.7080(10)	90
$V(A^3)$	5670.8(5)	7460.0(5)	2355.67(13)	2849.8(2)
Z	4	8	2	4
D_{calcd} (g cm ⁻³)	1.153	1.154	1.138	1.141
μ (mm ⁻¹)	0.482	0.471	0.371	0.398
Color	ocher	orange	brown	brown
Crystal size (mm ³)	0.627×0.480×0.384	0.862×0.309×0.232	1.11×0.45×0.45	0.787×0.656×0.572
<i>Т</i> (К)	150(2)	150(2)	150(2)	150(2)
$\vartheta_{\min}; \vartheta_{\max}$ (deg)	2.493;27.134	2.473;27.498	1.31; 27.50	1.86; 27.52
Range of h	-40/40	-50/50	-11/11	-16/14
Range of k	-10/10	-10/10	-22/20	-18/18
Range of /	-28/28	-29/29	-18/22	-19/13
No. of diffrns collected	71667	71286	21971	20593
No. of unique diffrns	6250	8538	10747	6446
F(000)	2125	2806	884	1068
No. of params	317	435	587	305
$R(F)$; $wR(F^2)$ all data (%)	6.89; 14.93	5.25; 10.86	5.43; 10.67	6.74; 12.06
GooF (F^2), all data	1.082	1.052	1.026	1.033
$R(F); WR(F^2) [I > 2\sigma(I)]$	5.59; 13.98	4.00; 9.97	3.94; 10.01	4.28;10.90
$\Delta \rho$ (e.A ⁻³)	1.182; -0.890	0.368; -0.594	0.353; -0.267	0.444; -0.345

Crystallographic Data, Data Collection and Structure Refinement for 1B, 1A, 5, and 8

Table 1DFT calculations of difference in total energies for titanocene dihydride and titanocenedihydrogen complexes and counterpoise energy for the former ones

Titanocene Cp' ₂ Ti	Total energy of	Total energy of	$\Delta H^{\ddagger} = E_1 - E_2$	Counterpoise
	Cp' ₂ TiH ₂ E ₁	Cp' ₂ Ti(H ₂) E ₂	(kJ/mol)	energy
	(hartrees)	(hartrees)		(kJ/mol)
				[Cp'2Ti]/[2H]
	TI H	Н Ті/		
	н	H		
Cp [*] ₂ Ti	-1630.29485294	-1630.28178644	34.31	-132.70
(C₅Me₄ ^t Bu)₂Ti	-1865.95558237	-1865.94733667	21.65	-121.11
(C ₅ Me ₄ SiMe ₃) ₂ Ti	-2368.83159428	-2368.82507716	17.11	-112.35