# Reaction of $\mathrm{Co}_{4}(\mathrm{CO})_{10}\left(\mu_{4}-\mathrm{PPh}\right)_{2}$ with Tricyclohexylphosphine and Structure of $\mathrm{Co}_{4}(\mathrm{CO})_{9}\left(\mu_{4}-\mathrm{PPh}\right)_{2}\left(\mathrm{PCy}_{3}\right)$.Toluene. $\mu_{4}$-Phenylphosphinidene Rotation as a Consequence of Thermodynamic Product Control 

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#### Abstract

Di- $\mu$-carbonyl-heptacarbonyl-bis ( $\mu_{4^{-}}$ phenylphosphinidene)-(tricyclohexylphosphine)tetracobalt $(\mathrm{I})(4 \mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{Co})$-toluene $\quad(1 / 1), \quad\left[\mathrm{Co}_{4}(\mathrm{CO})_{9}-\right.$ $\left.\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{P}\right)_{2}\left\{\mathrm{P}\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{11}\right)_{3}\right\}\right] . \mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{8}, \quad \mathrm{C}_{39} \mathrm{H}_{43} \mathrm{Co}_{4} \mathrm{O}_{9} \mathrm{P}_{3} \cdot \mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{8}$, $M_{r}=1076 \cdot 57$, monoclinic, $P 2_{1}, a=10 \cdot 634$ (1), $b=$ 20.674 (4) $, \quad c=12 \cdot 189(2) \AA, \quad \beta=112 \cdot 44(1)^{\circ}, \quad V=$ 2476.8 (7) $\AA^{3}, Z=2, D_{x}=1.443 \mathrm{~g} \mathrm{~cm}^{-3}, \lambda($ Mo $K \alpha)$ $=0.71073 \AA, \mu=14.59 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}, \quad F(000)=1104, \quad T=$ $295 \mathrm{~K}, R=0.044$ for 2976 independent reflections. The rectangular array of Co atoms is planar and is capped by a pair of $\mu_{4}$-phenylphosphinidene groups to give a closo polyhedral core. The substitution of a CO ligand by a $\mathrm{PCy}_{3}$ (where $\mathrm{Cy}=$ cyclohexyl) ligand causes a $\sim 0.13 \AA$ elongation of the non-carbonylbridged $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{Co}$ bond adjacent to the $\mathrm{PCy}_{3}$ group in addition to a $\sim 90^{\circ}$ twist in one of the $\mu_{4^{-}}$ phenylphosphinidene groups. The adopted structure of $\mathrm{Co}_{4}(\mathrm{CO})_{9}\left(\mu_{4}-\mathrm{PPh}\right)_{2}\left(\mathrm{PCy}_{3}\right)$ is discussed with respect to thermodynamic product control.


Introduction. The reaction of phosphines with the tetracobalt cluster $\mathrm{Co}_{4}(\mathrm{CO})_{10}\left(\mu_{4}-\mathrm{PPh}\right)_{2}$ has been extensively studied in the last few years. Efficient CO substitution by phosphines has been shown to arise from both paramagnetic and diamagnetic cluster species. For example, facile electron-transfer chain (ETC) catalysis is observed from the coordinatively unsaturated cluster $\mathrm{Co}_{4}(\mathrm{CO})_{9}\left(\mu_{4}-\mathrm{PPh}\right)_{2}^{-}$. The chaincarrying cluster in this ETC reaction is readily obtained from $\mathrm{Co}_{4}(\mathrm{CO})_{10}\left(\mu_{4}-\mathrm{PPh}\right)_{2}^{--}$following the one-electron reduction of $\mathrm{Co}_{4}(\mathrm{CO})_{10}\left(\mu_{4}-\mathrm{PPh}\right)_{2}$ and dissociative CO loss (Richmond \& Kochi, 1986a, 1987a). However, the majority of reports describe associative thermal reactions of $\mathrm{Co}_{4}(\mathrm{CO})_{10}\left(\mu_{4}-\mathrm{PPh}\right)_{2}$ with phosphines (Ryan, Pittman, O'Connor \& Dahl,

[^0]1980; Richmond \& Kochi, 1986b, 1987b; Schulman, Richmond, Watson \& Nagl, 1989). In this genre of cluster it has been suggested that thermodynamic product control is important in determining the disposition of the $\mu_{4}$-phenylphosphinidene groups relative to the ancillary phosphine ligands in polysubstituted clusters (Don, Richmond, Watson \& Nagl, 1989a,b). If severe intramolecular contacts exist between the ancillary phosphines and the cluster, a $\mu_{4}$-phenylphosphinidene group twists away from its preferred bisection of the carbonyl-bridged Co-Co bonds. All of the structurally characterized clusters have involved bis-, tris- and tetrakissubstituted clusters that adopt solid-state structures with minimized intramolecular contacts between the phosphine ligands and the $\mu_{4}$-phenylphosphinidene groups. The generality of thermodynamic product control has not, however, been tested with monosubstituted derivatives. Accordingly, we have studied the reaction of $\mathrm{Co}_{4}(\mathrm{CO})_{10}\left(\mu_{4}-\mathrm{PPh}\right)_{2}$ with $\mathrm{PCy}_{3}$ and report the single-crystal X-ray determination of $\mathrm{Co}_{4}(\mathrm{CO})_{9}\left(\mu_{4}-\mathrm{PPh}\right)_{2}\left(\mathrm{PCy}_{3}\right)$ which establishes the disposition of the $\mu_{4}$-phenylphosphinidene group cis to the $\mathrm{PCy}_{3}$ ligand.


Experimental. To 0.50 g of $\mathrm{Co}_{4}(\mathrm{CO})_{10}\left(\mu_{4}-\mathrm{PPh}\right)_{2}$ $(0.68 \mathrm{mmol})$ in 100 ml of THF was added 0.21 g of $\mathrm{PCy}_{3}(0.75 \mathrm{mmol})$, followed by the addition of a few drops of $0.25 M$ sodium benzophenone ketyl solution (THF). The solution was stirred for several

Table 1. Atomic coordinates $\left(\times 10^{4}\right)$ and isotropic thermal parameters $\left(\AA^{2} \times 10^{3}\right)$
${ }^{*}$ Equivalent isotropic $U$ defined as one third of the trace of the orthogonalized $U_{i j}$ tensor.
hours at room temperature, after which time TLC examination (benzene/petroleum ether, 8:2 v/v) revealed $\sim 70 \%$ conversion to the monosubstituted cluster $\mathrm{Co}_{4}(\mathrm{CO})_{9}\left(\mu_{4}-\mathrm{PPh}\right)_{2}\left(\mathrm{PCy}_{3}\right)$. Chromatography over silica gel using benzene/petroleum ether ( $8: 2$ $\mathrm{v} / \mathrm{v}$ ) afforded pure $\mathrm{Co}_{4}(\mathrm{CO})_{9}\left(\mu_{4}-\mathrm{PPh}\right)_{2}\left(\mathrm{PCy}_{3}\right)$ which was recrystallized from toluene/heptane ( $1: 1 \mathrm{v} / \mathrm{v}$ ) at 253 K to give 0.41 g ( $61 \%$ yield) of dark red $\mathrm{Co}_{4}(\mathrm{CO})_{9}\left(\mu_{4}-\mathrm{PPh}\right)_{2}\left(\mathrm{PCy}_{3}\right)$. Crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction analysis were selected from this

Table 2. Bond lengths $(\AA \AA)$ and angles $\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$

| $\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{Co}(2)$ | $2 \cdot 544$ (2) | $\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{Co}(4)$ | 2.806 (1) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{Co}(2)-\mathrm{Co}(3)$ | $2 \cdot 677$ (1) | $\mathrm{Co}(3)-\mathrm{Co}(4)$ | $2 \cdot 526$ (1) |
| $\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{P}(1)$ | 2.232 (2) | $\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{P}(2)$ | $2 \cdot 277$ (2) |
| $\mathrm{Co}(2)-\mathrm{P}(2)$ | $2 \cdot 263$ (3) | $\mathrm{Co}(2)-\mathrm{P}(1)$ | $2 \cdot 239$ (3) |
| $\mathrm{Co}(3)-\mathrm{P}(2)$ | 2.318 (2) | $\mathrm{Co}(3)-\mathrm{P}(1)$ | $2 \cdot 231$ (3) |
| $\mathrm{Co}(4)-\mathrm{P}(1)$ | $2 \cdot 241$ (3) | $\mathrm{Co}(4)-\mathrm{P}(2)$ | 2.275 (2) |
| $\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{P}(3)$ | 2.296 (2) | $\mathrm{P}(1) \cdots \mathrm{P}(2)$ | $2 \cdot 544$ (3) |
| $\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)$ | 1.763 (10) | $\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | 1.906 (9) |
| $\mathrm{Co}(2)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | 2.006 (9) | $\mathrm{Co}(2)-\mathrm{C}(3)$ | 1.788 (12) |
| $\mathrm{Co}(2)-\mathrm{C}(4)$ | 1.785 (10) | $\mathrm{Co}(3)-\mathrm{C}(5)$ | 1.798 (12) |
| $\mathrm{Co}(3)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | 1.910 (9) | $\mathrm{Co}(3)-\mathrm{C}(6)$ | 1.809 (11) |
| $\mathrm{Co}(4)-\mathrm{C}(8)$ | 1.782 (12) | $\mathrm{Co}(4)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | 1.968 (9) |
| $\mathrm{Co}(4)-\mathrm{C}(9)$ | 1.796 (12) |  |  |
| $\mathrm{Co}(2)-\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{Co}(4)$ | ) 88.0 (1) | $\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{Co}(2)-\mathrm{Co}(3)$ | ) 91.6 (1) |
| $\mathrm{Co}(2)-\mathrm{Co}(3)-\mathrm{Co}(4)$ | ) $91 \cdot 3(1)$ | $\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{Co}(4)-\mathrm{Co}(3)$ | ) 89.1 (1) |
| $\mathrm{P}(1)-\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{P}(2)$ | 68.7 (1) | $\mathrm{P}(1)-\mathrm{Co}(2)-\mathrm{P}(2)$ | 68.8 (1) |
| $\mathbf{P}(1)-\mathrm{Co}(3)-\mathrm{P}(2)$ | 68.0 (1) | $\mathrm{P}(1)-\mathrm{Co}(4)-\mathrm{P}(2)$ | 68.6 (1) |
| $\mathrm{P}(1)-\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{P}(3)$ | 173.4 (1) | $\mathrm{P}(2)-\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{P}(3)$ | 105.6 (1) |
| $\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{O}(1)$ | 174.8 (7) | $\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{O}(2)$ | 144.6 (9) |
| $\mathrm{Co}(2)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{O}(2)$ | $133 \cdot 8$ (9) | $\mathrm{Co}(2)-\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{O}(3)$ | $176 \cdot 6$ (1) |
| $\mathrm{Co}(2)-\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{O}(4)$ | 174.8 (10) | $\mathrm{Co}(3)-\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{O}(5)$ | 177.4 (12) |
| $\mathrm{Co}(3)-\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{O}(6)$ | 175.0 (11) | $\mathrm{Co}(3)-\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{O}(7)$ | 141.2 (9) |
| $\mathrm{Co}(4)-\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{O}(7)$ | 137.4 (9) | $\mathrm{Co}(4)-\mathrm{C}(8)-\mathrm{O}(8)$ | 177.0 (13) |
| $\mathrm{Co}(4)-\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{O}(9)$ | 174.4 (10) | $\mathrm{Co}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{Co}(2)$ | $81 \cdot 1$ (3) |
| $\mathrm{Co}(3)-\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{Co}(4)$ | $81 \cdot 3$ (3) |  |  |

recrystallization. Crystal dimensions $0.15 \times 0.28 \times$ 0.35 mm ; Nicolet $R 3 \mathrm{~m} / \mu$ update of $P 2_{1}$ diffractometer; data collected in the $\omega$-scan mode ( $3 \leq 2 \theta \leq$ $45^{\circ}$ ), scan rate 4 to $29 \cdot 3^{\circ} \mathrm{min}^{-1}$, graphite-monochromated Mo $K \alpha$ radiation, lattice parameters from a least-squares refinement of 25 reflections ( $38 \cdot 64 \leq$ $2 \theta \leq 44 \cdot 96^{\circ}$ ), angles measured by a centering routine; Laue symmetry and intensity statistics consistent with the space group $P 2_{1}$; monitored reflections 135 and 207 showed a $25 \%$ decay, data corrected by linear interpolation using check reflections and the 15 reflections in the automatic centering routine when appropriate; 4300 total reflections, 3366 independent reflections measured ( $-11 \leq h \leq 10,0$ $\leq k \leq 22,0 \leq l \leq 14), \quad R_{\text {merge }}=0.007,2976 \geq 3 \sigma(l)$; Lorentz-polarization corrections and a $\psi$-scan-based empirical absorption correction (transmission factors 0.66 to 0.787 ); structure solved by direct methods; block-cascade least-squares refinement; H atoms located in difference map but allowed to ride at fixed distance from attached atom, single isotropic thermal parameters were refined for the phenyl H atoms and for the cyclohexyl H atoms; the structure contained a molecule of toluene which was slowly lost during data collection leading to a number of disordered solvent peaks in the difference maps. The seven largest peaks were refined and then fixed, but no attempt was made to constrain a toluene molecule. Final $R=0.044, w R=0.059$ for 498 parameters and 2976 reflections ( $R=0.0517$, $w R=0.0609$ for all data), $S=1.045,(\Delta / \sigma)_{\max }=0.021,(\Delta / \sigma)_{\mathrm{av}}=0.006 ;$ largest peaks in final difference map +0.53 and $-0.48 \mathrm{e} \AA^{-3} ; \quad \sum w\left(\left|F_{o}\right|-\left|F_{c}\right|\right)^{2}$ minimized with $w=$ $\left[\sigma^{2}\left(F_{\mathrm{o}}\right)+0.000024 F_{c}^{2}\right]^{-1} ;$ extinction correction $F^{*}=$ $F_{c}\left[1 \cdot 0+4 \cdot 1(3) \times 10^{-6} F_{c}^{2} / \sin (2 \theta)\right]^{0.25}$ applied. All computer programs supplied by Nicolet (Nicolet Instrument Corporation, 1986) for Desktop 30

Microeclipse and Nova 4/c configuration; atomic scattering factors and anomalous-dispersion corrections from International Tables for $X$-ray Crystallography (1974, Vol. IV). Table 1 lists atomic positional parameters for $\mathrm{Co}_{4}(\mathrm{CO})_{9}\left(\mu_{4}-\mathrm{PPh}\right)_{2}\left(\mathrm{PCy}_{3}\right)$ while Table 2 gives bond distances and valence angles.* Fig. 1 is a drawing of the $\mathrm{PCy}_{3}$-substituted cluster.

Discussion. The structure of $\mathrm{Co}_{4}(\mathrm{CO})_{9}\left(\mu_{4}-\mathrm{PPh}\right)_{2^{-}}$ $\left(\mathrm{PCy}_{3}\right)$ consists of four Co atoms in a planar, rectangular array and is capped by a pair of $\mu_{4^{-}}$ phenylphosphinidene groups to give a closo octahedral core commonly observed in this genre of cluster. Asymmetric carbonyl-bridged and non-carbonylbridged $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{Co}$ bonds are observed as a result of the destabilizing effect of the large $\mathrm{PCy}_{3}$ ligand which possesses a cone angle of $170^{\circ}$ (Tolman, 1977). At the site of $\mathrm{PCy}_{3}$ substitution the carbonyl-bridged Co-Co bond length is 2.544 (2) $\AA$ while the non-carbonyl-bridged $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{Co}$ bond length is 2.806 (1) $\AA$. These bond lengths are 0.018 (2) and $0 \cdot 129$ (1) $\AA$ longer than the opposite carbonyl-bridged and non-carbonyl-bridged Co-Co bonds, respectively. Similar bond-length alterations have been observed in $\mathrm{Co}_{4}(\mathrm{CO})_{8}\left(\mu_{4}-\mathrm{PPh}\right)_{2}(\mathrm{dmpe})$ (Schulman, Richmond, Watson \& Nagl, 1989) and $\mathrm{Co}_{4}(\mathrm{CO})_{8}\left(\mu_{4}-\mathrm{PPh}\right)_{2}{ }^{-}$ $\left(\mathrm{Ph}_{2} \mathrm{PCH}=\mathrm{CHPPh}_{2}\right)$ (Richmond \& Kochi, 1987a) and are attributed to unfavorable P-ligand/cluster interactions which are minimized through $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{Co}$ bond lengthening.

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Fig. 1. Diagram of $\mathrm{Co}_{4}(\mathrm{CO})_{9}\left(\mu_{4}-\mathrm{PPh}\right)_{2}\left(\mathrm{PCy}_{3}\right)$ with the thermal ellipsoids drawn at the $30 \%$ probability level. H atoms are omitted for clarity.

Another indication of unfavorable intramolecular $\mathrm{PCy}_{3} /$ cluster interactions is seen in the disposition of the $\mu_{4}$-phenylphosphinidene group that is cis to the $\mathrm{PCy}_{3}$. The plane formed by the phenyl group bound to $\mathrm{P}(2)$ and the tetracobalt plane possesses a dihedral angle of $81.8(7)^{\circ}$ which represents a tipping of $8.1(6)^{\circ}$ between $P(2)-C(20)$ and the normal to the tetracobalt plane. A near perpendicular relation of these planes is found in the parent cluster (Ryan \& Dahl, 1975; Ryan, Pittman, O’Connor \& Dahl, 1980). Furthermore, the twist angle between the $\mu_{4}$-phenylphosphinidene group is $77.3(8)^{\circ}$. The phenyl group associated with $\mathrm{P}(2)$ twists and tips from its preferred orientation (see above) as a result of close intramolecular contacts with the ancillary $\mathrm{PCy}_{3}$ ligand, consistent with previous reports on structurally similar $\mu_{4}$-phenylphosphinidene-capped clusters (Ryan, Pittman, O'Conor \& Dahl, 1980; Richmond \& Kochi, 1986b, 1987b).

The terminal $\mathrm{Co}-\mathrm{CO}$ distances range from $1.763(10)$ to $1.809(11) \AA$ while the bridging Co-CO distances are asymmetric, ranging from 1.906 (9) to 2.006 (9) $\AA$. The remaining $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{O}, \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{P}$ and $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}$ distances are unexceptional and require no comment.

The reaction of $\mathrm{Co}_{4}(\mathrm{CO})_{9}\left(\mu_{4}-\mathrm{PPh}\right)_{2}\left(\mathrm{PCy}_{3}\right)$ with different phosphines is planned in order to test the generality of thermodynamic control in determining the location and stereochemistry of incoming phosphine ligands.

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[^1]:    * Lists of H -atom coordinates, anisotropic thermal parameters and structure factors have been deposited with the British Library Document Supply Centre as Supplementary Publication No. SUP 53325 ( 27 pp.). Copies may be obtained through The Technical Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CHI 2HU, England.

