Table 2. Selected geometric parameters $\left(\AA,{ }^{\circ}\right)$

| $\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{O} 12^{\mathrm{i}}$ | 1.961 (6) | O12--C10 | 1.251 (10) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{O} 21$ | 1.962 (6) | O21--C20 | 1.268 (10) |
| $\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{O} 22^{\text {i }}$ | 1.966 (6) | O22-C20 | 1.263 (11) |
| $\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{O} 11$ | 1.966 (6) | $\mathrm{Ol}-\mathrm{Cl}$ | 1.226 (12) |
| $\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{Ol}$ | 2.156 (6) | $\mathrm{Cl}-\mathrm{N} 2$ | 1.301 (14) |
| $\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{Cu}^{\text {i }}$ | 2.633 (2) | $\mathrm{Cl}-\mathrm{N} 1$ | 1.33 (2) |
| O11-C10 | 1.267 (10) |  |  |
| $\mathrm{O} 12^{\mathrm{i}}-\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{O} 21$ | 87.8 (3) | $\mathrm{Ol1}-\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{Ol}$ | 100.1 (2) |
| $\mathrm{O} 12^{1}-\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{O} 22^{1}$ | 90.8 (3) | $\mathrm{Ol} 2^{i}-\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{Cu}^{\text {1 }}$ | 81.4 (2) |
| $\mathrm{O} 21-\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{O} 22^{\text {i }}$ | 169.1 (3) | $\mathrm{O} 21-\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{Cu}^{\text {i }}$ | 86.9 (2) |
| $\mathrm{O} 12{ }^{\text {i }}-\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{O} 11$ | 167.9 (3) | $\mathrm{O} 22^{1}-\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{Cu}^{1}$ | 82.2 (2) |
| $\mathrm{O} 21-\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{O} 11$ | 89.0 (3) | $\mathrm{Ol1}-\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{Cu}^{2}$ | 86.8 (2) |
| $\mathrm{O} 22^{\mathrm{i}}-\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{O} 11$ | 90.1 (3) | $\mathrm{Ol}-\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{Cu}^{\prime}$ | 172.6 (2) |
| $\mathrm{O} 22^{-}-\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{Ol}$ | 91.8 (2) | O12-C10-OI1 | 124.9 (8) |
| $\mathrm{O} 21-\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{O} 1$ | 95.6 (3) | $\mathrm{O} 22-\mathrm{C} 20-\mathrm{O} 21$ | 126.5 (8) |
| $\mathrm{O} 22^{\mathrm{i}}-\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{O} 1$ | 95.2 (3) | $\mathrm{Cl}-\mathrm{O1}-\mathrm{Cu}$ | 121.7 (6) |
|  | -3.0 (3) | $\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{O} 21-\mathrm{O} 22-\mathrm{Cu}^{1}$ | 0.3 (3) |

Symmetry code: (i) $\frac{2}{3}-x, \frac{1}{3}-y, \frac{1}{3}-z$.
The space group $R \overline{3}$ was deduced from the systematic absences and on the basis of the previous study of the isostructural $\mathrm{Cu}_{2}$ (benz) $)_{4} .4\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{OH}\right)$ (Bkouche-Waksman, Bois, Popovitch \& L'Haridon, 1980). Its choice was confirmed by the successful refinement. All H atoms were found in the difference electron density map, apart from those of the urea ligand, and were included in the refinement at calculated positions with isotropic displacement parameters $1.5 U_{\text {eq }}$ of the attached heavy atoms. The final difference synthesis contained a peak of $+1.25 \mathrm{e}^{\AA^{-3}}$, but we could not interpret it as an additional methanol or water molecule. Additionally, the large thermal displacement parameters of the urea moiety suggest disorder or decomposition of the compound. The rather high value of the final $R$ factor is ascribed to the inferior quality of the crystals. Two sets of diffraction data from two different crystals were collected in Leipzig and in Ljubljana. Results based on the better set are reported here. The sealed crystals exhibited slight decomposition during the data collection. Calculations were performed on a PC $486 / 16 \mathrm{MB}$.

Data collection: CAD-4-PC (Enraf-Nonius, 1992). Cell refinement: CAD-4-PC. Data reduction: NRCVAX (Gabe, Le Page, Charland, Lee \& White, 1989). Program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS86 (Sheldrick, 1990). Program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL93 (Sheldrick, 1993). Molecular graphics: ORTEPII (Johnson, 1971) and PLUTON (Spek, 1991). Software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXL93.

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## Bis(piperazinium) Pentakis(trioxomolybdo)bis(phenylphosphonate) Dihydrate

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#### Abstract

The title compound, bis(piperazine-1,4-diylium) bis-(phenylphosphonato)- $1 \kappa O, 2: 3 \kappa^{2} O^{\prime}, 4: 5 \kappa^{2} O^{\prime \prime} ; 1: 2 \kappa^{2} O, 3: 4-$ $\kappa^{2} O^{\prime}, 5 \kappa O^{\prime \prime}$-penta- $\mu$-охо-1:2 $2 \kappa^{2} O ; 1: 5 \kappa^{2} O ; 2: 3 \kappa^{2} O ; 3: 4 \kappa^{2}$ $O ; 4: 5 \kappa^{2} O$-decaoxo- $1 \kappa^{2} O, 2 \kappa^{2} O, 3 \kappa^{2} \mathrm{O}, 4 \kappa^{2} O, 5 \kappa^{2} O$-penta-molybdenum(4-) dihydrate, $\left(\mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{12} \mathrm{~N}_{2}\right)_{2}\left[\mathrm{Mo}_{5} \mathrm{O}_{15}\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5}-\right.\right.$ $\left.\left.\mathrm{O}_{3} \mathrm{P}\right)_{2}\right] \cdot 2 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$, contains isolated five-unit rings of vertexand edge-sharing distorted octahedral $\mathrm{MoO}_{6}$ units, doubly capped by $\mathrm{PC}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5}$ entities (as $\left[\mathrm{PO}_{3} \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5}\right]^{2-}$ phenylphosphonate groups $)$, to result in $\left[\left(\mathrm{MoO}_{3}\right)_{5}\right.$ $\left.\left\{\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5}\right) \mathrm{PO}_{3}\right\}_{2}\right]^{4-}\left\{\right.$ or $\left.\left[\mathrm{Mo}_{5} \mathrm{P}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{21}\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5}\right)_{2}\right]^{4-}\right\}$ anions. Doubly protonated piperazinium cations and water molecules complete the structure.


## Comment

We have recently reported the hydrothermal syntheses and crystal structures of a family of layered alkali metal/ammonium molybdenum methylphosphonates (Harrison, Dussack \& Jacobson, 1995), which is based on the hexagonal tungsten oxide motif of vertex-sharing octahedra (Gérand, Nowogrocki, Guenot \& Figlarz, 1979). We report here the preparation and characterization of $\left(\mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{12} \mathrm{~N}_{2}\right)_{2}\left[\left(\mathrm{MoO}_{3}\right)_{5}\left\{\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5}\right) \mathrm{PO}_{3}\right\}_{2}\right] .2 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$, (I), a molecular species prepared under similar conditions from closely related starting materials. It is related to similar clusters prepared earlier (Kwak, Pope \& Scully, 1975; Lyxell \& Strandberg, 1988; Harrison, Dussack \& Jacobson, 1997a).

(I)

All Mo centers show a two short-two intermediatetwo long $\mathrm{Mo}-\mathrm{O}$ bond-distance distribution within the distorted octahedral $\mathrm{MoO}_{6}$ unit, which is typical of $\mathrm{Mo}^{\mathrm{VI}}$ in these systems (Stalick \& Quicksall, 1976; Lyxell \& Strandberg, 1988). Each $\mathrm{MoO}_{6}$ center has two short 'oxo' $\mathrm{Mo}=\mathrm{O}$ bonds in a cis configuration, both of which are trans to a long MoO link, and the two remaining bonds are intermediate in length between these two extremes. All $\mathrm{Mo}=\mathrm{O}$ links are terminal bonds, not joined to any other atoms in the cluster (three of them, O6, O11 and O12, are receptors for hydrogen bonding). The $\mathrm{MoO}_{6}$ units are fused together into an isolated five-unit ring via one vertex-sharing and four edge-sharing links. Average Mo-O bond lengths and molybdenum bondvalence sum (BVS) values (Brese \& O'Keeffe, 1991) are typical: $d_{\text {ave }}(\mathrm{Mol}-\mathrm{O})=2.005$ (3) $\AA, \mathrm{BVS}(\mathrm{Mol})=$ $6.00 ; d_{\mathrm{ave}}(\mathrm{Mo} 2-\mathrm{O})=1.973(2) \AA, \quad \mathrm{BVS}(\mathrm{Mo} 2)=$ 6.08; $d_{\text {ave }}(\mathrm{Mo} 3-\mathrm{O})=1.982(2) \AA, \quad \mathrm{BVS}(\mathrm{Mo} 3)=$ $6.03 ; d_{\text {ave }}(\mathrm{Mo} 4-\mathrm{O})=1.984(2) \mathrm{A}, \mathrm{BVS}(\mathrm{Mo} 4)=6.05$; $d_{\mathrm{ave}}(\mathrm{Mo5-O})=1.978(2) \AA, \mathrm{BVS}(\mathrm{Mo5})=6.03$.

Both faces of the $\mathrm{Mo} / \mathrm{O}$ five-unit ring in this phase are capped by $\mathrm{PC}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5}$ entities, as $\left[\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5}\right) \mathrm{PO}_{3}\right]^{2-}$ phenylphosphonate groups, resulting in tetrahedral coordination for P. For both distinct phenylphosphonate groups, one $\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{Mo}$ bond and two $\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{O}-\left(\mathrm{Mo}, \mathrm{Mo}^{\prime}\right)$ links are formed, the latter O atoms being parts of interoctahedral edges. The 210 atoms associated with the cluster fall into the following classes: O5, O6, O11, $\mathrm{O} 12, \mathrm{O} 16, \mathrm{O} 17, \mathrm{O} 18, \mathrm{O} 19, \mathrm{O} 20$ and O 21 are terminal O atoms attached only to $\mathrm{Mo} ; \mathrm{O}, \mathrm{O} 4, \mathrm{O}, \mathrm{O} 9$ and O 13 form bicoordinate $\mathrm{Mo}-\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{Mo}^{\prime}$ bridges; O 3 and


Fig. 1. CAMERON (Watkin, Prout \& Pearce, 1996) view of the asymmetric unit of (I) and the atom-labelling scheme ( $20 \%$ probability displacement ellipsoids). H atoms and water O atoms have been omitted for clarity

O14 form bicoordinate $\mathrm{Mo}-\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{P}$ bonds; $\mathrm{O} 2, \mathrm{O} 7, \mathrm{O} 10$ and O 15 form tricoordinate $\left(\mathrm{Mo}, \mathrm{Mo}^{\prime}\right)-\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{P}$ centers (Fig. 1).
The overall formulation of the cluster is $\left[\left(\mathrm{MoO}_{3}\right)_{5}-\right.$ $\left.\left\{\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5}\right) \mathrm{PO}_{3}\right\}_{2}\right]^{4-}$, assuming the sole presence of $\mathrm{Mo}^{\mathrm{VI}}$, which is consistent with the crystal color and BVS calculations. Charge compensation for the anionic cluster is provided by a pair of doubly protonated $\left(\mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{12} \mathrm{~N}_{2}\right)^{2+}$ piperazinium cations. Both these species adopt typical chair geometries with normal $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}$ and $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}$ bond lengths and angles. Based on their calculated positions, all of the $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}$ protons are involved in hydrogen bonding, either to O atoms in the $\left[\left(\mathrm{MoO}_{3}\right)_{5}\left\{\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5}\right) \mathrm{PO}_{3}\right\}_{2}\right]^{4-}$ cluster or to water molecules (extra-cluster O atoms). There are two water molecules of crystallization (O31 and O32).

The unit-cell packing for $\left(\mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{12} \mathrm{~N}_{2}\right)_{2}\left[\left(\mathrm{MoO}_{3}\right)_{5}\right.$ $\left.\left\{\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5}\right) \mathrm{PO}_{3}\right\}_{2}\right] \cdot 2 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ results in a layered arrangement of the anionic clusters aligned such that the plane formed by the five Mo cations lies approximately normal to [001]. This results in pseudo-channels aligned along [100] which are occupied by the piperazinium cations and water molecules.

The title compound may be briefly compared with the guanidinium-containing phase, $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{6} \mathrm{~N}_{3}\right)_{4}\left[\left(\mathrm{MoO}_{3}\right)_{5}\right.$ $\left\{\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5}\right) \mathrm{PO}_{3}\right\}_{2}$ ] (Lyxell \& Strandberg, 1988), which contains the same molybdenum oxide phenylphosphonate anion. The anionic cluster geometries in the two phases are very similar, with the same distortion modes for the $\mathrm{MoO}_{6}$ groups observed in both cases. For the guanidinium phase, it was suggested that steric considerations led to a structure without stabilizing water molecules, whereas the piperazinium phase contains two water molecules of crystallization, in common with related phases (Harrison, Dussack \& Jacobson, 1997a).
$\left(\mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{12} \mathrm{~N}_{2}\right)_{2}\left[\mathrm{Mo}_{5} \mathrm{O}_{15}\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{O}_{3} \mathrm{P}\right)_{2}\right] \cdot 2 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$

In both phases, a complex network of hydrogen bonds (based on calculated H -atom positions) links the cations and anions into a three-dimensional network.

## Experimental

Single crystals of (I) were prepared hydrothermally from a mixture of $0.1795 \mathrm{~g}(2.084 \mathrm{mmol})$ piperazine, 0.6 g $(4.168 \mathrm{mmol} \mathrm{Mo}) \mathrm{MoO}_{3}$ and $0.468 \mathrm{~g}(4.168 \mathrm{mmol} \mathrm{P}) 98 \%$ $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{PO}_{2} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ in 8 ml deionized $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ (initial piperazine: $\mathrm{Mo}: \mathrm{P}$ ratio of $1: 2: 2$ ). The reactants were sealed in a 23 ml teflonlined Parr reaction vessel and heated to 408 K for 5 d . After slow cooling to ambient temperature over 24 h , the solid product was recovered by vacuum filtration and washing. Clear airstable slightly translucent crystals of (I) (to 2 mm maximum linear dimension) and very dark-blue rhombs of a Kegginion like piperazinium molybdophosphate (Harrison, Dussack \& Jacobson, 1997b) were recovered.

## Crystal data

$\left(\mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{12} \mathrm{~N}_{2}\right)_{2}\left[\mathrm{Mo}_{5} \mathrm{O}_{15}-\right.$
$\left.\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{O}_{3} \mathrm{P}\right)_{2}\right] \cdot 2 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$
$M_{r}=1244.20$
Monoclinic
$P 2_{1} / a$
$a=13.133$ (4) $\AA$
$b=18.932(6) \AA$
$c=14.646(9) \AA$
$\beta=95.70(3)^{\circ}{ }^{\circ}$
$V=3623(4) \AA^{3}$
$Z=4$
$D_{x}=2.27 \mathrm{Mg} \mathrm{m}^{-3}$
$D_{m}$ not measured

## Data collection

Enraf-Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer
$2 \theta / \omega$ scans
Absorption correction: $\psi$ scans (North, Phillips \& Mathews, 1968)
$T_{\text {min }}=0.53, T_{\text {max }}=0.57$
5006 measured reflections
4621 independent reflections

## Mo $K \alpha$ radiation

$\lambda=0.71073 \AA$
Cell parameters from 25 reflections
$\theta=6.3-11.6^{\circ}$
$\mu=1.87 \mathrm{~mm}^{-1}$
$T=298 \mathrm{~K}$
Faceted block
$0.5 \times 0.5 \times 0.3 \mathrm{~mm}$

## Colorless

4307 reflections with

$$
I>0
$$

$R_{\text {int }}=0.013$
$\theta_{\text {max }}=22.5^{\circ}$
$h=0 \rightarrow 14$
$k=0 \rightarrow 20$
$l=-15 \rightarrow 15$
3 standard reflections every 97 reflections intensity decay: none

## Refinement

| Refinement on $F$ | $\Delta \rho_{\max }=0.62 \mathrm{e} \AA^{-3}$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| $R=0.022$ | $\Delta \rho_{\min }=-0.41 \mathrm{e} \AA^{-3}$ |
| $w R=0.035$ | Extinction correction: |
| $S=1.84$ | $\quad$ Larson (1970) |
| 4307 reflections | Extinction coefficient: |
| 489 parameters | $\quad 20.7(13)$ |
| Weighting scheme based | Scattering factors from Inter- |
| on measured e.s.d.'s | national Tables for $X$-ray |
| $(\Delta / \sigma)_{\max }=0.006$ | Crystallography (Vol. IV) |

## Table 1. Selected bond lengths $(\AA)$

| $\mathrm{Mol-O1}$ | $1.903(4)$ | Mo4-O10 | $2.418(3)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{Mol-O2}$ | $2.414(3)$ | Mo4-O13 | $1.952(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{Mol-O3}$ | $2.406(3)$ | Mo4-O15 | $2.204(3)$ |


| Mol-O4 | 1.880 (4) | Mo4-O18 | 1.687 (4) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Mol-O5 | 1.716 (4) | Mo4-019 | 1.703 (4) |
| Mol-O6 | 1.708 (4) | Mo5-O2 | 2.240 (3) |
| Mo2-07 | 2.293 (3) | Mo5-O4 | 1.925 (4) |
| Mo2-O8 | 1.894 (4) | Mo5-07 | 2.341 (3) |
| Mo2-09 | 1.935 (4) | Mo5-08 | 1.955 (4) |
| Mo2-O10 | 2.301 (3) | Mo5-O20 | 1.703 (4) |
| Mo2-Oll | 1.715 (4) | Mo5-O21 | 1.704 (4) |
| Mo2-O12 | 1.708 (4) | $\mathrm{Pl}-\mathrm{O} 3$ | 1.515 (4) |
| Mo3-O1 | 1.904 (4) | $\mathrm{Pl}-\mathrm{O} 7$ | 1.533 (4) |
| Mo3-O13 | 1.931 (4) | $\mathrm{Pl}-\mathrm{Ol} 5$ | 1.550 (4) |
| Mo3-O14 | 2.346 (3) | Pl-C11 | 1.790 (6) |
| Mo3-O15 | 2.301 (3) | $\mathrm{P} 2-\mathrm{O} 2$ | 1.538 (4) |
| Mo3-O16 | 1.709 (4) | $\mathrm{P} 2-\mathrm{O} 10$ | 1.536 (4) |
| Mo3-O17 | 1.702 (4) | P2-O14 | 1.519 (4) |
| Mo4-O9 | 1.940 (3) | P2-C21 | 1.800 (5) |

One of the piperazinium cations is disordered between two chair conformations. A constrained refinement such that $\operatorname{pop}(\mathrm{N} 41)=\operatorname{pop}(\mathrm{N} 42)=1-\operatorname{pop}(\mathrm{N} 51)=1-\operatorname{pop}(\mathrm{N} 52)$ (where pop is population) was carried out and resulted in an approximate $3: 1$ ratio between the two configurations ( $\mathrm{N} 41 / \mathrm{N} 42$ in the majority). Atoms N51 and N52 were refined with isotropic displacement factors. The H atoms $\mathrm{H} 43-\mathrm{H} 54$ are geometrically placed relative to the major conformation only. H atoms on the water molecules (O31 and O 32 ) were not located.

Data collection: CAD-4 Software (Enraf-Nonius, 1989). Cell refinement: CAD-4 Software. Data reduction: $R C 85$ (Baird, 1985). Program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS86 (Sheldrick, 1985). Program(s) used to refine structure: CRYSTALS (Watkin, Prout, Carruthers \& Betteridge, 1996). Molecular graphics: CAMERON (Watkin, Prout \& Pearce, 1996). Software used to prepare material for publication: CRYSTALS.

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Supplementary data for this paper are available from the IUCr electronic archives (Reference: TA1124). Services for accessing these data are described at the back of the journal.

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# trans $\left[\left(\mathrm{Mo}_{6} \mathrm{Cl}_{8}\right)\left(\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{7}\right)_{4}\left\{\mathbf{P}\left(n-\mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{9}\right)_{3}\right\}_{2}\right]$ and trans- $\left[\left(\mathrm{Mo}_{6} \mathrm{Cl}_{8}\right)\left(\mathrm{C}_{8} \mathrm{H}_{5}\right)_{4}\left\{\mathbf{P}\left(\boldsymbol{n}-\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{11}\right)_{3}\right\}_{2}\right]$.$2 \mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{8}$ 

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#### Abstract

The title compounds, tetrabenzyl $-2 \kappa C, 3 \kappa C, 4 \kappa C, 5 \kappa C$ -octa- $\mu_{3}$-chloro-bis (tributylphosphine)- $1 \kappa P, 6 \kappa P$-octa-hedro-hexamolybdenum ( $12 \mathrm{Mo}-\mathrm{Mo}$ ), (1), and tetra-kis(phenylethynyl)- $2 \kappa C, 3 \kappa C, 4 \kappa C, 5 \kappa C$-octa- $\mu_{3}$-chloro-bis(tripentylphosphine)-1 $\kappa P, 6 \kappa P$-octahedro-hexamolybdenum ( $12 \mathrm{Mo}-\mathrm{Mo}$ )-toluene (1/2), (2), containing octahedral Mo clusters with four $\sigma$-C ligands, were prepared by the reaction of trans- $\left(\left(\mathrm{Mo}_{6} \mathrm{Cl}_{8}\right) \mathrm{Cl}_{4}\left(\mathrm{PR}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]$ with tribenzylaluminium and tris(phenylethynyl)aluminium, respectively, and their structures determined. The octahedral $\mathrm{Mo}_{6}$ cores of both compounds are on inversion centres and are almost regular. Average interatomic distances in the clusters for (1) are Mo$\mathrm{Mo}_{\text {edge }} 2.618, \mathrm{Mo} \cdots \mathrm{Mo}_{\text {opposite }} 3.703$, $\mathrm{Mo}-\mathrm{Cl} 2.477$ and Mo-C $2.26 \AA$, and for (2) are Mo-Mo odge $^{2.626, ~}$ Mo $\cdots \mathrm{Mo}_{\text {opposite }} 3.714$ and $\mathrm{Mo}-\mathrm{C} 2.13 \AA$.


## Comment

Classic examples of molybdenum cluster complexes with the $\left[\mathrm{Mo}_{6} \mathrm{Cl}_{8}\right]^{4+}$ core are $\left[\mathrm{Mo}_{6} \mathrm{Cl}_{14}\right]^{2-}$ and $\left[\mathrm{Mo}_{6} \mathrm{Cl}_{8}\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)_{6}\right]^{4+}$. The $\left[\mathrm{Mo}_{6} \mathrm{Cl}_{8}\right]^{4+}$ core can accept various kinds of ligands and recent examples are $\left(\mathrm{CF}_{3} \mathrm{SO}_{3}\right)^{-}$(Johnston, Gaswick, Lonergan, Stern \& Shriver, 1992) and $\left[\mathrm{Mn}(\mathrm{CO})_{2} \mathrm{Cp}\right]^{-}$(Johnston, Stern \& Shriver, 1992). We have reported the preparation and structural analysis of the molybdenum cluster complexes trans-[(Mo $\left.\left.\mathrm{Mo}_{6}\right) \mathrm{Cl}_{4}\left(\mathrm{PR}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]\left(R=n-\mathrm{C}_{3} \mathrm{H}_{7}\right.$, $\left.n-\mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{9}, n-\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{11}\right)$ and an alkyl derivative all-trans$\left[\left(\mathrm{Mo}_{6} \mathrm{Cl}_{8}\right) \mathrm{Cl}_{2}\left(\mathrm{C}_{2} \mathrm{H}_{5}\right)_{2}\left\{\mathrm{P}\left(n-\mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{9}\right)_{3}\right\}_{2}\right]$ (Saito, Nishida,

Yamagata, Yamagata \& Yamaguchi, 1986). In this communication, we report the synthesis and structural characterization of a benzyl complex, trans$\left[\left(\mathrm{Mo}_{6} \mathrm{Cl}_{8}\right)\left(\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{7}\right)_{4}\left\{\mathrm{P}\left(n-\mathrm{C}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{9}\right)_{3}\right\}_{2}\right]$, (1), and an alkynyl complex, trans- $\left[\left(\mathrm{Mo}_{6} \mathrm{Cl}_{8}\right)\left(\mathrm{C}_{8} \mathrm{H}_{5}\right)_{4}\left\{\mathrm{P}\left(n-\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{11}\right)_{3}\right\}_{2}\right]$.$2 \mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{8}$, (2).

(1)

(2)

In both (1) and (2), the cluster units are at the crystallographic inversion centres and the shape of the $\mathrm{Mo}_{6}$ core is an almost perfect octahedron. The regular shape is consistent with the number of metal cluster electrons ( 24 e ) of these cluster complexes. The molecular structures of (1) and (2) are shown in Figs. 1 and 2 , respectively. Selected geometric parameters are listed in Tables 1 and 2.

Three non-bonding Mo $\cdots$ Mo distances between the opposite Mo atoms in the $\mathrm{Mo}_{6}$ core are 3.699 (3), 3.704 (3) and 3.705 (3) $\AA$ for (1), and 3.709 (2), 3.715 (2) and 3.718 (2) $\AA$ for (2). The averages of these distances are comparable in (1) and (2) (3.703 and $3.714 \AA$, respectively). The average $\mathrm{Mo}-\mathrm{Cl}$ distances in (1) and (2) are also very similar to one another ( 2.477 and $2.474 \AA$, respectively). The Mo-C distances of (1), 2.239 (14) and $2.271(15) \AA$, are similar

