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# LiBin Gao,\* Liyi Zhang and Zhongning Chen

State Key Laboratory of Structural Chemistry, FuJian Institute of Research on the Structure of Matter, Fuzhou, FuJian, 350002, People's Republic of China

Correspondence e-mail: gaolibinhotmail@sohu.com

#### Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 293 KMean  $\sigma(C-C) = 0.018 \text{ Å}$ H-atom completeness 96% R factor = 0.086 wR factor = 0.199 Data-to-parameter ratio = 13.9

For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see http://journals.iucr.org/e.

# Tetrakis( $\mu_2$ -anilinopyridinato- $\kappa^2 N:N'$ )aquadiruthenium(II,III) hexafluoroantimonate diethyl ether solvate

The title complex,  $[Ru_2(C_{11}H_9N_2)_4(H_2O)][SbF_6]\cdot C_2H_{10}O$ , has a diruthenium(II,III) unit bridged by four PhNpy ligands. There is an axial aqua ligand on the ruthenium(III) atom. The  $Ru \cdot \cdot \cdot Ru$  distance is 2.288 (1) Å. Received 11 March 2003 Accepted 28 May 2003 Online 10 June 2003

# Comment

In the chemistry of multiple-bonded diruthenium complexes, a variety of diruthenium compounds have been reported (Cotton & Walton, 1985; Tooze et al., 1984; Chakravarty & Cotton, 1975) many years ago. In most cases, spectroscopic and electrochemical studies on the diruthenium complexes show that modification of the axial ligand usually results in a dramatic shift of the visible band energy and the redox potentials. These complexes of Ru<sup>II</sup>-Ru<sup>III</sup> are quite different from those of other dimetallic species. The cationic species  $[Ru_2(\mu_2-PhNpy)_4\cdot H_2O]^+$  consists of a diruthenium core held together by four PhNpy ligands. The ruthenium(III) atom that is bonded to pyridine N atoms has an axial H<sub>2</sub>O, while the axial site on the other ruthenium(II) atom is vacant. The molecular structure of Ru<sub>2</sub>Cl(PhNpy)<sub>4</sub> has already been reported (Chakravarty et al., 1985). The two molecules are very similar in structure, except that the Ru-Cl bond in  $Ru_2Cl(PhNpy)_4$  is replaced by  $Ru-OH_2$ . This change has a small effect on the Ru-Ru distance, which changes from  $Ru_2Cl(PhNpy)_4$  to 2.275 (3) Å in 2.288 (1) Å in  $[Ru_2(ap)_4(H_2O)](SbF_6)$ . The average  $Ru^{II}-N$  distance is 2.014 (6) Å, but  $Ru^{III}$  – N is 2.056 (8) Å in the title compound, the O1-Ru1-Ru2 angle being  $178.80 (18)^{\circ}$ .



## **Experimental**

The title compound was synthesized by the reaction of  $Ru_2Cl(PhNpy)_4$  with a small excess of  $AgSbF_6$  in methanol–dichloromethane in the dark for 12 h. The solution changed from blue to deep red. After filtration, the filtrate was evaporated under vacuum to leave a red residue, which was dissolved in dichloromethane. Well shaped crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction measurement were grown by layering diethyl ether onto the solution.

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# metal-organic papers

 $D_x = 1.667 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$ 

Cell parameters from 5202

Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation

reflections

 $\theta = 1.3-22.5^{\circ}$  $\mu = 1.25 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ 

T = 293 (2) K

 $\begin{aligned} R_{\rm int} &= 0.048\\ \theta_{\rm max} &= 25.1^\circ \end{aligned}$ 

 $h = -11 \rightarrow 11$ 

 $k = -26 \rightarrow 24$ 

 $l = -25 \rightarrow 14$ 

Block, deep red

 $0.72 \times 0.46 \times 0.30 \ \mathrm{mm}$ 

8405 independent reflections

5834 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ 

 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0478P)^2]$ 

where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$ 

+ 41.132*P*]

 $\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.89 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$ 

 $\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.75 \text{ e} \text{ Å}^{-3}$ 

 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} = 0.001$ 

## Crystal data

$$\begin{split} & [\mathrm{Ru}_2(\mathrm{C}_{11}\mathrm{H}_9\mathrm{N}_2)_4(\mathrm{H}_2\mathrm{O})] - \\ & [\mathrm{SbF}_6]\cdot\mathrm{C}_4\mathrm{H}_{10}\mathrm{O} \\ & M_r = 1206.83 \\ & \mathrm{Monoclinic}, P2_1/n \\ & a = 10.1385 \ (1) \ \mathrm{\AA} \\ & b = 22.5901 \ (5) \ \mathrm{\AA} \\ & c = 21.0672 \ (5) \ \mathrm{\AA} \\ & \beta = 94.860 \ (1)^\circ \\ & V = 4807.67 \ (16) \ \mathrm{\AA}^3 \\ & Z = 4 \end{split}$$

### Data collection

Siemens SMART CCD diffractometer  $\varphi$  and  $\omega$  scans Absorption correction: multi-scan (*SADABS*; Sheldrick, 1996)  $T_{min} = 0.433, T_{max} = 0.687$ 15139 measured reflections

### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.086$   $wR(F^2) = 0.199$  S = 1.178405 reflections 604 parameters H atoms constrained

#### Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Ru1-O1	2.012 (6)	Sb-F4	1.719 (17)
Ru1-N7	2.048 (8)	Sb-F3	1.781 (18)
Ru1-N3	2.054 (8)	Sb-F6	1.820 (17)
Ru1-N1	2.056 (8)	C44-C45	1.369 (17)
Ru1-N5	2.067 (9)	C45-C46	1.366 (15)
Ru1-Ru2	2.2882 (11)	C52-C53	1.422 (15)
Ru2-N8	2.007 (8)	C83-C84	1.357 (19)
Ru2-N6	2.022 (8)	C85-C86	1.385 (16)
O1-Ru1-N7	91.3 (3)	C52-N6-Ru2	120.5 (7)
N7-Ru1-N3	87.9 (3)	C76-N8-C81	109.5
N3-Ru1-N1	90.3 (3)	N1-C12-C13	123.5 (11)
N1-Ru1-N5	91.4 (3)	C14-C15-C16	119.1 (11)
N7-Ru1-Ru2	89.8 (2)	C23-C22-C21	120.1 (11)
N8-Ru2-N2	179.2 (3)	C43-C42-C41	121.0 (11)
N2-Ru2-N4	89.6 (3)	C46-C45-C44	120.8 (11)
N4-Ru2-Ru1	89.5 (2)	C54-C53-C52	120.9 (13)
F4-Sb-F5	91.6 (10)	C64-C63-C62	120.2 (14)
F4-Sb-F2	83.8 (11)	C74-C75-C76	117.9 (12)
F4-Sb-F6	167.6 (12)	C83-C82-C81	119.6 (12)
C12-N1-Ru1	121.9 (7)	C84-C85-C86	120.4 (13)
C36-N4-Ru2	120.8 (6)		. ,

The H atoms were positioned geometrically (C–H bond length fixed at 0.96 Å), assigned isotropic displacement parameters and allowed to ride on their parent C atoms before the final cycle of least-squares refinement.

Data collection: SMART (Siemens, 1994); cell refinement: SMART and SAINT (Siemens, 1996); data reduction: XPREP in SHELXTL



### Figure 1

A view of the structure of (I), with partial atomic numbering scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level. H atoms have been omitted for clarity.

(Bruker, 1997); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS*97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL*97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *SHELXTL*; software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL*.

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