# Novel Types of Tetra-, Hexa-, Octa-, and Dodecanuclear Silver Clusters Containing (2,7-Di-*tert*-butylfluoren-9-ylidene)methanedithiolate<sup>†</sup>

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Received October 24, 2008

The reaction of AgClO<sub>4</sub> with piperidinium 2,7-di-*tert*-butyl-9*H*-fluorene-9-carbodithioate (pipH)[S<sub>2</sub>C(*t*-Bu-Hfy)] (1) (*t*-Bu-Hfy = 2,7-di-*tert*-butylfluoren-9-yl) afforded [Ag<sub>n</sub>{S<sub>2</sub>C(*t*-Bu-Hfy)}<sub>n</sub>] (2), which reacted with phosphines to give [Ag{S<sub>2</sub>C(*t*-Bu-Hfy)}<sub>L<sub>2</sub>] [L = PPh<sub>3</sub> (3a); L<sub>2</sub> = bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane (dppe, 3b), 1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphino)-ferrocene (dppf, 3c). By reacting complex 2 with AgClO<sub>4</sub> and piperidine in a 1:1:1 molar ratio, the dodecanuclear cluster [Ag<sub>12</sub>{S<sub>2</sub>C=(*t*-Bu-fy)}<sub>6</sub>] (4) (*t*-Bu-fy = 2,7-di-*tert*-butylfluoren-9-ylidene) was obtained. Compound 4 can also be directly prepared from the reaction of 1 with AgClO<sub>4</sub> and piperidine in a 1:2:1 molar ratio. The reactions of 1 with AgClO<sub>4</sub>, phosphines, and piperidine afforded the compounds [Ag<sub>6</sub>{S<sub>2</sub>C=(*t*-Bu-fy)}<sub>3</sub>L<sub>5</sub>] [1:2:2:1 molar ratio; L = PPh<sub>3</sub> (5a), P(*p*-To)<sub>3</sub> (5b)], [Ag<sub>4</sub>{S<sub>2</sub>C=(*t*-Bu-fy)}<sub>2</sub>(dppf)<sub>2</sub>] (6) (1:2:1:1 molar ratio). [Ag<sub>n</sub>{S<sub>2</sub>C=(*t*-Bu-fy)}<sub>*n*/2}{P(*i*-Pr)<sub>3</sub>*h*] (7) (1:2:2:1 molar ratio), or [Ag<sub>8</sub>{S<sub>2</sub>C=(*t*-Bu-fy)}<sub>4</sub>{P(*i*-Pr)<sub>3</sub>*h*] (8) (1:2:1:1 molar ratio). Complexes 5a,b, 6, 7, and 8 can be also obtained by reacting 4 with the corresponding phosphine in the appropriate molar ratio. The crystal structures of 4, 5b, and 8 have been determined by X-ray diffraction studies. The nuclearity of complex 6 was established from its <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H</sup>} NMR data, which reveal a very fast dynamic process leading to an average coupling of each of the P atoms of the dppf ligands with four Ag atoms.</sub></sub>

#### Introduction

Silver complexes and clusters with thiolato ligands have been the subject of considerable interest because of their extraordinary structural diversity.<sup>1,2</sup> The study of their structures, bonding modes, and spectroscopic features has proved to be relevant to the structural elucidation of the metal-binding sites of metallothioneins.<sup>3</sup> In recent years, their importance has become apparent for a number of applications in the area of advanced materials, including the synthesis of monolayer-protected clusters<sup>4</sup> and the thermolytic preparation of nanostructured materials.<sup>5</sup>

1,1-Ethylenedithiolates (XYC= $CS_2^{2^-}$ ) and related dithio ligands have received attention because of their ability to form high-nuclearity clusters,<sup>6,7</sup> heteronuclear complexes,<sup>8</sup>

and coordination polymers.<sup>9</sup> Our research group has been involved in the synthesis of polynuclear complexes with this type of ligand, including heterometallic derivatives.<sup>10,11</sup> However, the previously reported silver complexes with 1,1-

Inorg. Chem. 2009, 48, 2060-2071

Inorganic Chemistr

10.1021/ic802045j CCC: \$40.75 © 2009 American Chemical Society Published on Web 01/29/2009

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup> (Fluoren-9-ylidene)methanedithiolato Complexes, part 6. For previous parts, see refs 11, 18–21.

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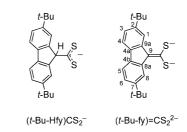
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ethylenedithiolates are very scarce and have been described only with the ligands  $(NC)_2C=CS_2^{2^-}$  (*i*-mnt) and  $\{(EtO)_2-P(O)\}(NC)C=CS_2^{2^-}$  (cpdt). Most of them are anionic clusters, namely,  $[Ag_8(i-mnt)_6]^{4^-,12}$   $[Ag_6(i-mnt)_6]^{6^-,13}$   $[Ag_4(i-mnt)_4]^{4^-}$ ,  $[Ag_8(i-mnt)_6(PPh_3)_4]^{4^-}$ , and  $[Ag_9(i-mnt)_6(PPh_3)_6]^{3^-,7,14}$  The only neutral complexes are the tetranuclear clusters  $[Ag_4(i-mnt)_2(dppm)_4]^{15}$  and  $[Ag_4(cpdt)_2-(dppm)_4]^{16}$  and the coordination polymer  $[Ag_4(i-mnt)_2(HPyS)_4]_n$  (HPyS = pyridine-2-thione).<sup>17</sup> The cationic derivative  $[Ag_5(cpdt)_2(dppm)_4](PF_6)$  has also been reported.<sup>16</sup>

We have recently undertaken the study of the reactivity and photophysical properties of transition metal complexes with (fluoren-9-ylidene)methanedithiolate and several disubstituted derivatives.<sup>11,18–21</sup> The di-*tert*-butyl-substituted homologue [(*t*-Bu-fy)= $CS_2^{2^-}$ , Chart 1] is particularly suitable for the synthesis of metal complexes, because it normally gives more stable and soluble species. In general, the ligands of this kind show remarkable differences from the previously used 1,1-ethylenedithiolates; these are largely attributable to the absence of strongly electron-withdrawing substituents and affect the photophysical properties and redox behavior of their metal complexes. Thus, the strongly electron-donating

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Chart 1



character of these ligands is responsible for the facile oxidation of certain Au(I) and Pt(II) complexes under atmospheric conditions and the unusually low energies of their charge-transfer absorptions and emissions.<sup>18,20</sup> We have also reported the aerial oxidation of Cu(I) and Cu(II) to Cu(III) complexes with (*t*-Bu-fy)= $CS_2^{2^{-19}}$  and the formation of dinuclear derivatives with the condensed dithiolato ligands  $S[(t-Bu-fy)=CS]_2^{2^{-}}$  and  $S[(t-Bu-fy)=CS]_3^{2^{-}}$ .<sup>19,21</sup>

In view of the atypical characteristics of the (fluoren-9ylidene)methanedithiolato ligands, we thought it of interest to carry out an exploration of the chemistry of silver complexes with (*t*-Bu-fy)= $CS_2^{2^-}$ . Here, we present a series of neutral Ag(I) complexes with this ligand and also with its protonated precursor, (*t*-Bu-Hfy) $CS_2^-$  (Chart 1). The new dithiolato complexes represent unprecedented types of silver thiolate clusters.

### **Experimental Section**

General Considerations, Materials, and Instrumentation. All preparations were carried out at room temperature under an atmosphere of nitrogen using Schlenk techniques, except in the cases indicated. Synthesis-grade solvents were obtained from commercial sources. Piperidinium 2.7-di-tert-butyl-9H-fluorene-9carbodithioate (1) was prepared as previously decribed.<sup>22</sup> All other reagents were obtained from commercial sources and used without further purification. NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker Avance 200, 300, or 400 spectrometers, usually at 298 K, unless otherwise indicated. Chemical shifts are referred to internal TMS (1H and  $^{13}C{^{1}H}$  or external 85% H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> ( $^{31}P{^{1}H}$ ). The assignments of the <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra were made with the help of HMBC and HSQC experiments. Chart 1 shows the atom numbering of the dithiolato ligand. NMR simulations were carried out with the program gNMR 5.0. Melting points were determined on a Reichert apparatus and are uncorrected. Elemental analyses were carried out with a Carlo Erba 1106 microanalyzer. Infrared spectra were recorded in the range 4000-200 cm<sup>-1</sup> on a Perkin-Elmer Spectrum 100 spectrophotometer using KBr pellets. Electronic absorption spectra were recorded on a Unicam UV500 spectrophotometer.

**X-Ray Structure Determinations.** Crystals of **4**, **5b**, and **8** suitable for X-ray diffraction studies were obtained from  $C_6H_6/$  hexane (**4**) or CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeCN (**5b**, **8**). Numerical details are presented in Table 1. The data for **4** were collected on an Oxford Diffraction Nova O diffractometer using mirror-focused Cu K $\alpha$  radiation in the  $\omega$ -scan mode. The data for **5b** and **8** were collected on an Oxford Diffraction Xcalibur S diffractometer using monochromated Mo K $\alpha$  radiation in the  $\omega$ -scan mode. The structures were solved by direct methods and refined anisotropically on  $F^2$ 

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**Table 1.** Crystallographic Data for  $4 \cdot C_6 H_{14} \cdot 4 C_6 H_6$ , **5b**  $\cdot C H_2 C l_2 \cdot 3 Me C N$ , and  $8 \cdot C H_2 C l_2 \cdot 3 Me C N$ 

	$\mathbf{4 \cdot C_6 H_{14} \cdot 4 C_6 H_6}$	5b·CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ·3MeCN	$8 \cdot CH_2Cl_2 \cdot 3MeCN$
formula	C <sub>162</sub> H <sub>182</sub> Ag <sub>12</sub> S <sub>12</sub>	$C_{178}H_{188}Ag_6Cl_2N_3P_5S_6$	C <sub>131</sub> H <sub>191</sub> Ag <sub>8</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> N <sub>3</sub> P <sub>4</sub> S <sub>8</sub>
fw	3808.24	3434.82	3122.09
T (K)	103(2)	100(2)	100(2) K
λ (Å)	1.54184	0.71073	0.71073
cryst syst	monoclinic	triclinic	monoclinic
space group	$P2_1/n$	$P\overline{1}$	C2/c
a (Å)	14.5153(3)	16.5832(5)	26.7245(5)
b (Å)	31.7686(6)	17.4121(5)	20.9427(5)
c (Å)	34.3104(6)	32.9195(10)	25.0333(6)
α (deg)	90	75.352(3)	90
$\beta$ (deg)	90.769(3)	75.838(3)	93.527(3)
γ (deg)	90	63.234(3)	90
$V(Å^3)$	15820.2(5)	8116.5(4)	13984.2(5)
Ζ	4	2	4
$\rho_{\text{calcd}} (\text{Mg m}^{-3})$	1.599	1.414	1.483
$u ({\rm mm}^{-1})$	13.469	0.937	1.345
$R1^a$	0.0594	0.0543	0.0270
$wR2^{b}$	0.1765	0.1282	0.0628

 ${}^{a} \operatorname{R1} = \sum ||F_{o}| - |F_{c}||\sum |F_{o}| \text{ for reflections with } I > 2\sigma(I). {}^{b} \operatorname{wR2} = [\sum [w(F_{o}^{2} - F_{c}^{2})^{2}] / \sum [w(F_{o}^{2})^{2}]^{0.5} \text{ for all reflections; } w^{-1} = \sigma^{2}(F^{2}) + (aP)^{2} + bP, \text{ where } P = (2F_{c}^{2} + F_{o}^{2})/3 \text{ and } a \text{ and } b \text{ are constants set by the program.}$ 

using the program SHELXL-97 (G. M. Sheldrick, University of Göttingen).<sup>23</sup> Restraints to local aromatic ring symmetry or lightatom displacement factor components were applied in some cases. Special features of refinement are as follows: The structure of 4 contains four benzene molecules and one hexane, as well as at least one solvent site that could not be identified. Much of the solvent does not refine well. Furthermore, some t-Bu groups are poorly resolved. In view of these problems, C atoms were refined isotropically. For compound 5b, extensive regions of residual electron density presumably correspond to solvent molecules but could not be refined satisfactorily. Accordingly, the program SQUEEZE (A. L. Spek, University of Utrecht, Netherlands) was used to remove mathematically the effects of the solvent. For calculations of formula mass and so forth, an idealized solvent content of one CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and three MeCN molecules was assumed. t-Bu hydrogens were assigned assuming ideally staggered methyl groups. p-Tolyl methyl groups were modeled using idealized geometry but may suffer from rotational disorder. For compound 8, residual electron density was tentatively identified as one MeCN site and one superimposed site with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and MeCN. However, this model could not be refined adequately. The program SQUEEZE was therefore used to cancel the effect of the solvent. For the calculation of mass-dependent parameters, an idealized composition of one CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and three MeCN molecules was assumed. The t-Bu group at C15 is disordered.

[Ag<sub>n</sub>{S<sub>2</sub>C(*t*-Bu-Hfy)}<sub>n</sub>] (2). To a solution of piperidinium 2,7di-*tert*-butyl-9*H*-fluorene-9-carbodithioate (1) (583 mg, 1.22 mmol) in acetone (15 mL) was added AgClO<sub>4</sub> (246 mg, 1.19 mmol). An orange precipitate immediately formed, which was filtered off, recrystallized from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH, and vacuum-dried to give **2** as a red solid. Yield: 508 mg, 93%. Anal. calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>25</sub>AgS<sub>2</sub>: C, 57.26; H, 5.46; S, 13.90. Found: C, 56.94; H, 5.56; S, 13.79. Mp: 198 °C (dec). IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>):  $\nu$ (CS<sub>2</sub>), 1020. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400.9 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.38 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 8.0 Hz, 2 H each, H4, H5), 7.22 (s, 2 H, H1, H8), 7.17 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 8.0 Hz, 2 H, H3, H6), 5.64 (s, 1 H, H9), 1.02 (s, 18 H, *t*-Bu). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100.8 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 151.1 (C2, C7), 146.2 (C8a, C9a), 138.7 (C4a, C4b), 125.8 (C3, C6), 121.7 (C1, C8), 119.6 (C4, C5), 72.2 (C9), 35.5 (*C*Me<sub>3</sub>), 32.2 (*CMe<sub>3</sub>*).

 $[Ag{S_2C(t-Bu-Hfy)}(PPh_3)_2]$  (3a). To a solution of PPh<sub>3</sub> (118 mg, 0.45 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (15 mL) was added complex 2 (96 mg,

0.21 mmol), and the resulting orange solution was stirred for 30 min. The solvent was removed under a vacuum, and the residue was treated with hexane (20 mL) to give a pale brown precipitate, which was filtered off, washed with hexane  $(2 \times 2 \text{ mL})$ , and vacuum-dried to give 3a. Yield: 171 mg, 84%. Anal. calcd for C<sub>58</sub>H<sub>55</sub>AgP<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: C, 70.65; H, 5.59; S, 6.49. Found: C, 70.38; H, 5.62; S, 6.50. Mp: 134 °C. IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): v(CS<sub>2</sub>), 1012. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400.9 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.85 (s, 2 H, H1, H8), 7.62 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 8.0$  Hz, 2 H, H4, H5), 7.37 (dd,  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 8.0$  Hz,  ${}^{4}J_{HH} = 1.6$  Hz, 2 H, H3, H6), 7.33-7.29 (m, 18 H, *o*-H + *p*-H, Ph), 7.19-7.16 (m, 12 H, *m*-H, PPh<sub>3</sub>), 5.66 (s, 1 H, H9), 1.25 (s, 18 H, *t*-Bu). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (50.1 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 259.6 (CS<sub>2</sub>), 149.4 (C2, C7), 146.1 (C8a, C9a), 138.3 (C4a, C4b), 133.8 (d,  ${}^{1}J_{C-P} = 27.0$  Hz, *i*-C, Ph), 133.3 (*o*-C, Ph), 129.7 (*p*-C, Ph), 128.6 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{CP} = 14.7$  Hz, *m*-C, Ph), 124.3 (C3, C6), 122.7 (C1, C8), 118.7 (C4, C5), 72.6 (C9), 34.9 (CMe<sub>3</sub>), 31.6 (CMe<sub>3</sub>). <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (162.3 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 223 K):  $\delta$  6.96 (2 d,  ${}^{1}J_{P-{}^{107}Ag} = 355$  Hz,  ${}^{1}J_{P-{}^{109}Ag} = 407$  Hz).

[Ag{S<sub>2</sub>C(*t*-Bu-Hfy)}(dppe)] (3b). This pale orange compound was prepared as described for 3a, from 2 (63 mg, 0.14 mmol) and dppe (61 mg, 0.15 mmol). Yield: 100 mg, 86%. Anal. calcd for C<sub>48</sub>H<sub>49</sub>AgP<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: C, 67.05; H, 5.74; S, 7.46. Found: C, 67.04; H, 5.88; S, 7.05. Mp: 181 °C (dec). IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>):  $\nu$ (CS<sub>2</sub>), 1011. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400.9 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.93 (s, 2 H, H1, H8), 7.66 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 8.0 Hz, 2 H, H4, H5), 7.41–7.39 (m, 10 H, H3, H6 + Ph), 7.30–7.26 (m, 4 H, Ph), 7.17–7.14 (m, 8 H, Ph), 5.71 (s, 1 H, H9), 2.36 (s, 4 H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.25 (s, 18 H, *t*-Bu). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100.8 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 149.5 (C2, C7), 146.1 (C8a, C9a), 138.4 (C4a, C4b), 133.1 (*i*-C, Ph), 132.7 (*o*-C, Ph), 130.0 (*p*-C, Ph), 128.8 (*m*-C, Ph), 124.3 (C3, C6), 122.7 (C1, C8), 118.8 (C4, C5), 72.7 (C9), 34.9 (CMe<sub>3</sub>), 31.6 (CMe<sub>3</sub>), 24.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>) (CS<sub>2</sub> not observed). <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (162.3 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 223 K): δ 3.16 (2 d, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>P</sub>–<sup>107</sup><sub>Ag</sub> = 351 Hz, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>P</sub>–<sup>109</sup><sub>Ag</sub> = 405 Hz).

[Ag{S<sub>2</sub>C(*t*-Bu-Hfy)}(dppf)] (3c). This orange compound was obtained as a monohydrate following the procedure described for **3a**, from **2** (126 mg, 0.27 mmol) and dppf (163 mg, 0.29 mmol). Yield: 235 mg, 85%. Anal. calcd for C<sub>48</sub>H<sub>55</sub>AgOP<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: C, 65.06; H, 5.36; S, 6.20. Found: C, 65.13; H, 5.29; S, 6.12. Mp: 156 °C (dec). IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>):  $\nu$ (CS<sub>2</sub>), 1011. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400.9 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.93 (br, 2 H, H1, H8), 7.63 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 8.0 Hz, 2 H, H4, H5), 7.54–7.50 (m, 10 H, Ph), 7.37 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 8.0 Hz, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>H-H</sub> = 1.5 Hz, 2 H, H3, H6), 7.34–7.23 (m, 10 H, Ph), 5.72 (s, 1 H, H9), 4.27 (t, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>H-H</sub> = 1.7 Hz, 4 H, H2, H5, Cp), 4.11 (br, 4 H, H3, H4, Cp), 1.21 (s, 18 H, *t*-Bu). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (75.4 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ 

<sup>(23)</sup> Sheldrick, G. M. Acta Crystallogr., Sect. A 2008, 64, 112.

259.5 (CS<sub>2</sub>), 149.4 (C2, C7), 146.1 (C8a, C9a), 138.3 (C4a, C4b), 134.5 (vt, N = 24.2 Hz, *i*-C, Ph), 133.9 (vt, N = 19.1 Hz, *o*-C, Ph), 129.7 (*p*-C, Ph), 128.4 (vt, N = 9.5 Hz, *m*-C, Ph), 124.2 (C3, C6), 122.5 (C1, C8), 118.6 (C4, C5), 74.0 (vt, N = 28.1 Hz, C2, C5, Cp), 72.7 (br, C9), 71.8 (br, C3, C4, Cp), 34.8 (*C*Me<sub>3</sub>), 31.5 (*CMe<sub>3</sub>*) (C1 of Cp not observed). <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (162.3 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 223 K):  $\delta -5.9$  (2 d, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>P</sub>-<sup>107</sup><sub>Ag</sub> = 338 Hz, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>P</sub>-<sup>109</sup><sub>Ag</sub> = 389 Hz).

[Ag<sub>12</sub>{S<sub>2</sub>C=(*t*-Bu-fy)}<sub>6</sub>] (4). Method A. To a solution of 1 (203 mg, 0.42 mmol) and AgClO<sub>4</sub> (170 mg, 0.82 mmol) in THF (15 mL) was added piperidine (44  $\mu$ L, 0.44 mmol), and the resulting orange solution was stirred for 48 h. The solvent was removed under a vacuum, and the residue was treated with MeOH (30 mL), whereupon a brown precipitate formed, which was filtered off and recrystallized from CHCl<sub>3</sub>/pentane to give **4** as a yellowish orange solid. Yield: 130 mg, 56%.

Method B. To a solution of complex 2 (202 mg, 0.44 mmol) and AgClO<sub>4</sub> (90 mg, 0.44 mmol) in THF (15 mL) was added piperidine (44  $\mu$ L, 0.44 mmol), and the resulting orange solution was stirred for 6 h. The solvent was removed under a vacuum, and the residue was treated with MeOH (30 mL), whereupon an orange precipitate formed, which was filtered off and recrystallized from CHCl<sub>3</sub>/pentane to give **4**. Yield: 85 mg, 35%.

Method C. A suspension of complex 5a (431 mg, 0.197 mmol) in distilled THF (30 mL) was stirred for 48 h under atmospheric conditions. An orange solution was obtained. The solvent was removed under a vacuum, and the residue was treated with MeOH (30 mL), whereupon an orange precipitate formed, which was filtered off, washed with MeOH (2 mL), and vacuum-dried to give **4**. Yield: 186 mg, 83%. Anal. calcd for C<sub>132</sub>H<sub>144</sub>Ag<sub>12</sub>S<sub>12</sub>: C, 46.50; H, 4.26; S, 11.28. Found: C, 46.65; H, 4.13; S, 10.63. Mp: 192 °C (dec). IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>):  $\nu$ (C=CS<sub>2</sub>), 1503, 1473. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400.9 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  9.11, 9.02, 9.01 (all d,  ${}^{4}J_{\text{HH}} = 1.5$  Hz, 2 H each, H1, H8), 7.57-7.52 (m, 6 H, H4, H5), 7.32, 7.29, 7.21 (all dd,  ${}^{4}J_{\rm HH} = 1.5$  Hz,  ${}^{3}J_{\rm HH} = 8.0$  Hz, 2 H each, H3, H6), 1.32, 1.26, 1.04 (all s, 18 H each, *t*-Bu).  ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$  NMR (100.8 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ 149.8, 149.5, 149.4 (C2, C7), 144.2 (br, CS<sub>2</sub>), 139.5, 139.4, 138.9 (C8a, C9a), 137.7, 137.6, 137.4 (C4a, C4b), 135.2, 134.9 (C9), 125.6, (C3, C6), 125.1, 125.0, 124.9, 124.7 (C1, C8, C3, C6), 118.3, 118.1, 118.0 (C4, C5), 35.1, 35.0 (CMe<sub>3</sub>), 32.0, 31.8, 31.7 (CMe<sub>3</sub>).

 $[Ag_6{S_2C=(t-Bu-fy)}_2(PPh_3)_5]$  (5a). To a solution of dithioate 1 (154 mg, 0.32 mmol) in MeCN (15 mL) were added AgClO<sub>4</sub> (131 mg, 0.63 mmol), PPh<sub>3</sub> (175 mg, 0.67 mmol), and piperidine  $(32 \,\mu\text{L}, 0.32 \text{ mmol})$ , and the mixture was stirred for 0.5 h. A bright vellow precipitate gradually formed, which was filtered off, washed with MeCN ( $3 \times 3$  mL), and vacuum-dried to give **5a**. Yield: 286 mg, 83%. Anal. calcd for C<sub>156</sub>H<sub>147</sub>Ag<sub>6</sub>P<sub>5</sub>S<sub>6</sub>: C, 62.12; H, 4.91; S, 6.38. Found: C, 61.87; H, 5.07; S, 5.71. Mp: 139 °C (dec). IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): ν(C=CS<sub>2</sub>), 1489. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400.9 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 9.28  $(d, {}^{4}J_{HH} = 1.5 \text{ Hz}, 6 \text{ H}, \text{H1}, \text{H8}), 7.59 (d, {}^{4}J_{HH} = 7.9 \text{ Hz}, 6 \text{ H}, \text{H4},$ H5), 7.24-7.18 (m, 36 H, H3, H6 + *m*-H, Ph), 7.12 (m, 30 H, *o*-H, Ph), 6.95 (m, 15 H, *p*-H, Ph), 1.24 (s, 54 H, *t*-Bu). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 148.2 (C2, C7), 140.5 (C8a, C9a), 136.3 (C4a, C4b), 133.5 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{CP} = 17.2$  Hz, o-C, Ph), 133.2 (C9), 131.7 (d,  ${}^{1}J_{CP} = 53.4$  Hz, *i*-C, Ph), 129.3 (*p*-C, Ph), 128.5 (d,  ${}^{4}J_{CP}$ = 8.5 Hz, m-C, Ph), 124.7 (C1, C8), 122.2 (C3, C6), 117.1 (C4, C5), 34.9 (*C*Me<sub>3</sub>), 31.8 (*CMe*<sub>3</sub>) (CS<sub>2</sub> not observed).  ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H{}$  NMR (81.0 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 4.9 (br).

[Ag<sub>6</sub>{S<sub>2</sub>C=(*t*-Bu-fy}<sub>3</sub>{P(*p*-To)<sub>3</sub>}<sub>5</sub>] (5b). This bright yellow compound was prepared as described for 5a, from 1 (221 mg, 0.46 mmol), AgClO<sub>4</sub> (192 mg, 0.92 mmol), P(*p*-To)<sub>3</sub> (290 mg, 0.95 mmol), and piperidine (50  $\mu$ L, 0.51 mmol). Yield: 454 mg, 91%. Anal. calcd for C<sub>171</sub>H<sub>177</sub>Ag<sub>6</sub>P<sub>5</sub>S<sub>6</sub>: C, 63.65; H, 5.53; S, 5.96. Found:

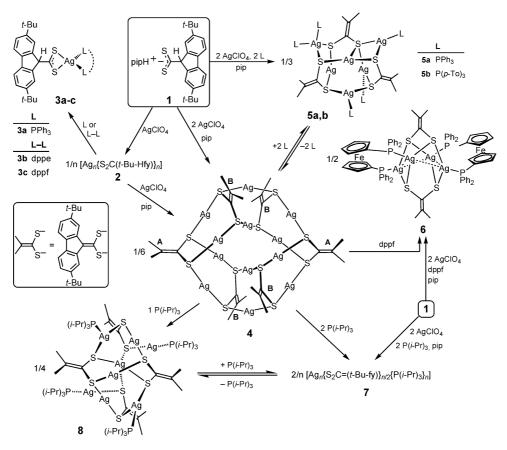
C, 63.37; H, 5.83; S, 5.78. Mp: 158 °C (dec). IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>):  $\nu$ (C=CS<sub>2</sub>), 1496. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400.9 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  9.31 (d, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 1.6 Hz, 6 H, H1, H8), 7.59 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 8.0 Hz, 6 H, H4, H5), 7.19 (dd, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 1.6 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 8.0 Hz, 6 H, H3, H6), 7.02 (m, 30 H, To), 6.60 (br, 30 H, To), 2.10 (s, 45 H, Me, To), 1.18 (s, 54 H, *t*-Bu). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100.8 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  151.9 (br, CS<sub>2</sub>), 148.2 (C2, C7), 140.9 (C8a, C9a), 139.1 (*p*-C, To), 136.2 (C4a, C4b), 133.5 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 17 Hz, *o*-C, To), 132.1 (C9), 130.1 (br, *i*-C, To), 129.2 (d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CP</sub> = 9 Hz, *m*-C, To), 124.8 (C1, C8), 121.8 (C3, C6), 116.9 (C4, C5), 34.9 (CMe<sub>3</sub>), 31.8 (CMe<sub>3</sub>), 21.3 (Me, To). <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (162.3 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  3.5 (br).

[Ag<sub>4</sub>{S<sub>2</sub>C=(*t*-Bu-fy)}<sub>2</sub>(dppf)<sub>2</sub>] (6). Method A. A solid mixture of 1 (104 mg, 0.22 mmol), AgClO<sub>4</sub> (85 mg, 0.41 mmol), and dppf (124 mg, 0.22 mmol) was suspended in MeCN (15 mL). Piperidine (24  $\mu$ L, 0.24 mmol) was then added, and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. A yellow solid gradually precipitated, which was filtered off, washed with MeCN (2 × 3 mL), and vacuum-dried. Yield: 221 mg, 96%.

Method B. To a solution of compound 4 (104 mg, 0.06 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL) was added dppf (116 mg, 0.21 mmol), and the mixture was stirred for 35 min. A small amount of a yellow solid gradually precipitated. The solvent was partially evaporated under a vacuum (5 mL), and Et<sub>2</sub>O was added to complete the precipitation. The solid was then filtered off and vacuum-dried to give 6. Yield: 164 mg, 80%. Anal. calcd for C<sub>112</sub>H<sub>104</sub>Ag<sub>4</sub>Fe<sub>2</sub>P<sub>4</sub>S<sub>4</sub>: C, 59.91; H, 4.67; S, 5.71. Found: C, 59.98; H, 4.70; S, 5.82. Mp: 179 °C (dec). IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): v(C=CS<sub>2</sub>), 1484. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400.9 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  9.55 (d, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 1.5 Hz, 4 H, H1, H8), 7.62 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 7.9 Hz, 4 H, H4, H5), 7.48-7.43 (m, 16 H, o-H, Ph), 7.19-7.13 (m, 12 H, H3, H6 + *p*-H, Ph), 6.95 (t,  ${}^{2}J_{HH} = 7.2$  Hz, 16 H, *m*-H, Ph), 4.83 (br, 8 H, Cp), 3.79 (s, 8 H, Cp), 1.13 (s, 36 H, *t*-Bu).  ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H{}$ NMR (100.8 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 152.3 (CS<sub>2</sub>), 147.8 (C2, C7), 141.1 (C8a, C9a), 135.2 (C4a, C4b), 133.8 (i-C, Ph), 133.4 (m, o-C, Ph), 133.0 (C9), 129.7 (p-C, Ph), 128.4 (m, m-C, Ph), 123.9 (C1, C8), 121.0 (C3, C6), 117.3 (C4, C5), 75.8 (d,  ${}^{2}J_{CP} = 14.6$  Hz, C1, Cp), 74.1 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{CP} = 36.2$  Hz, C2, C5, Cp), 72.5 (m, C3, C4, Cp), 34.9  $(CMe_3)$ , 31.9  $(CMe_3)$ . <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (162.3 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  -0.53 (quint m,  ${}^{1}J_{P-{}^{107}Ag} = 457$  Hz,  ${}^{1}J_{P-{}^{109}Ag} = 524$  Hz, calculated constants, see text).

 $[Ag_n \{S_2 C = (t-Bu-fy)\}_{n/2} \{P(i-Pr)_3\}_n]$  (7). To a solution of 1 (102) mg, 0.21 mmol) in MeCN (15 mL) were added AgClO<sub>4</sub> (83 mg, 0.40 mmol), P(i-Pr)<sub>3</sub> (82  $\mu$ L, 0.43 mmol), and piperidine (22  $\mu$ L, 0.22 mmol), and the mixture was stirred for 1 h. A yellow solid gradually precipitated, which was filtered off, washed with MeCN (2 mL), and vacuum-dried to give 7. Yield: 124 mg, 69%. Anal. calcd for C40H66Ag2P2S2: C, 54.06; H, 7.49; S, 7.22. Found: C, 53.82; H, 7.69; S, 7.16. Mp: 152 °C (dec). IR (KBr,  $cm^{-1}$ ): ν(C=CS<sub>2</sub>), 1482. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300.1 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 9.51 (br, 4 H, H1, H8), 7.60 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{\text{HH}} = 8.0$  Hz, 4 H, H4, H5), 7.19 (dd,  ${}^{4}J_{\text{HH}} =$ 1.5 Hz,  ${}^{3}J_{\text{HH}} = 8.0$  Hz, 4 H, H3, H6), 1.94 (m, 12 H, CHMe<sub>2</sub>), 1.37 (s, 36 H, *t*-Bu), 1.09 (dd,  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 7.0$  Hz,  ${}^{3}J_{HP} = 14.4$  Hz, 72 H, CHMe<sub>2</sub>).  ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$  NMR (50.1 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  147.4 (C2, C7), 141.3 (C8a, C9a), 134.8 (C4a, C4b), 131.8 (C9), 124.5 (C1, C8), 120.2 (C3, C6), 116.7 (C4, C5), 35.0 (CMe<sub>3</sub>), 32.0 (CMe<sub>3</sub>), 22.6 (d,  ${}^{1}J_{CP} = 8.7$  Hz, CHMe<sub>2</sub>), 20.5 (d,  ${}^{2}J_{CP} = 5.8$  Hz, CHMe<sub>2</sub>) (CS<sub>2</sub> not observed). <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (162.3 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 213 K): δ 39.8 (2 d,  ${}^{1}J_{P-{}^{107}Ag} = 460$  Hz,  ${}^{1}J_{P-{}^{109}Ag} = 530$  Hz).

[Ag<sub>8</sub>{S<sub>2</sub>C=(*t*-Bu-fy)}<sub>4</sub>{P(*i*-Pr)<sub>3</sub>}<sub>4</sub>] (8). To a solution of AgClO<sub>4</sub> (205 mg, 0.99 mmol) and 1 (234 mg, 0.49 mmol) in THF (10 mL) were added piperidine (49  $\mu$ L, 0.49 mmol) and P(*i*-Pr)<sub>3</sub> (107  $\mu$ L, 0.49 mmol). The resulting yellowish orange solution was stirred for 15 min and concentrated under reduced pressure (4 mL). The addition of MeCN (20 mL) led to the precipitation of a yellow



<sup>*a*</sup> To = tolyl; pip = piperidine; dppe = 1,2-bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane; dppf = 1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene.

solid, which was filtered off, recrystallized from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeCN, and vacuum-dried to give 8. Yield: 300 mg, 84%. Anal. calcd for C<sub>124</sub>H<sub>180</sub>Ag<sub>8</sub>P<sub>4</sub>S<sub>8</sub>: C, 51.11; H, 6.23; S, 8.80. Found: C, 51.03; H, 6.26; S, 8.71. Mp: 168 °C (dec). IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): v(C=CS<sub>2</sub>), 1496, 1464. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400.9 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 203 K): δ 9.22 (s, 4 H, H1, H8), 9.06, 8.63 (both s, 2 H each, H1, H8), 7.63, 7.59, 7.45, 7.39 (all d,  ${}^{3}J_{\text{HH}} = 8.0 \text{ Hz}$ , 2 H each, H4, H5), 7.22, 7.16, 7.12, 6.94 (all d,  ${}^{3}J_{\rm HH} = 8.0$  Hz, 2 H each, H3, H6), 1.87, 1.63 (both br m, 6 H each, CHMe<sub>2</sub>), 1.28, 1.26, 1.24 (all s, 18 H each, t-Bu), 1.03-0.98 (br m, 18 H, CHMe<sub>2</sub>), 0.84-0.64 (br m, 54 H, CHMe<sub>2</sub>), 0.51 (s, 18 H, *t*-Bu). <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (162.3 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 203 K): δ 48.6 (2 d,  ${}^{1}J_{P-{}^{107}Ag} = 521$  Hz,  ${}^{1}J_{P-{}^{109}Ag} = 594$  Hz), 45.2 (2 d,  ${}^{1}J_{P-{}^{107}Ag} =$ 477 Hz,  ${}^{1}J_{P-{}^{109}Ag} = 549$  Hz). Data for isomer 8\* (see the NMR section) is as follows. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400.9 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 203 K):  $\delta$ 9.17 (d,  ${}^{4}J_{\text{HH}} = 1.4$  Hz, 2 H, H1, H8), 7.58 (d,  ${}^{3}J_{\text{HH}} = 8.0$  Hz, 2 H, H4, H5), 7.26 (dd,  ${}^{4}J_{HH} = 1.4$  Hz,  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 8.0$  Hz, 2 H, H3, H6), 1.55 (br m, 3 H, CHMe<sub>2</sub>), 1.30 (s, 18 H, t-Bu) (CHMe<sub>2</sub> signals overlapped by those from 8). <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (162.3 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 203 K):  $\delta$  50.8 (2 d,  ${}^{1}J_{P^{-107}Ag} = 543$  Hz,  ${}^{1}J_{P^{-109}Ag} = 626$  Hz).

# **Results and Discussion**

Synthesis of Silver(I) Complexes with the (*t*-Bu-Hfy)CS<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> Ligand. The synthesis of Ag(I) complexes with (*t*-Bu-Hfy)CS<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> (Chart 1) was undertaken in order to explore their suitability as precursors for the preparation of complexes with the dithiolato ligand (*t*-Bu-fy)=CS<sub>2</sub><sup>2-</sup>. As we have shown in our previous reports, metal complexes with the (fluoren-9-yliden)methanedithiolato ligand and its 2,7-disubstituted derivatives can be obtained by reacting appropriate metal

precursors with the corresponding piperidinium 9*H*-fluorene-9-carbodithioate in the presence of a base. In some cases, dithioato complexes were obtained when the reactions were carried out in the absence of a base.<sup>18,19</sup>

By reacting dithioate **1** with AgClO<sub>4</sub> in a 1:1 molar ratio in acetone, the red complex  $[Ag_n{S_2C(t-Bu-Hfy)}_n]$  (**2**) precipitated in almost quantitative yield (Scheme 1). The reactions of this compound with PPh<sub>3</sub>, 1,2-bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane (dppe), or 1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene (dppf) in the appropriate molar ratios allowed the preparation of the tetracoordinated complexes  $[Ag{S_2C(t-Bu-Hfy)}_{L_2}]$  $[L = PPh_3$  (**3a**);  $L_2 = dppe$  (**3b**), dppf (**3c**)]. Although it proved impossible to grow crystals of complexes **2** and **3a**-**c**, their elemental analyses are consistent with a 1:1 dithioato/ silver ratio.

Synthesis of Silver(I) Complexes with the (*t*-Bu-fy)=CS<sub>2</sub><sup>2-</sup> Ligand. The attempts to obtain anionic complexes with the dithiolato ligand (*t*-Bu-fy)=CS<sub>2</sub><sup>2-</sup> through the deprotonation of the dithioato complexes 2 or **3a**-**c** with piperidine or (Pr<sub>4</sub>N)OH led in all cases to complicated mixtures. However, the deprotonation of the dithioato ligand in 2 with piperidine was successful in the presence of an additional equivalent of AgClO<sub>4</sub>, leading to the formation of a neutral complex, which, according to its elemental analysis, has a 2:1 silver to dithiolate ratio. An X-ray diffraction study revealed that the product of this reaction is the dodecanuclear cluster [Ag<sub>12</sub>{S<sub>2</sub>C=(*t*-Bu-fy)}<sub>6</sub>] (**4**; Scheme 1). This compound can

also be directly obtained from the reaction of dithioate 1 with AgClO<sub>4</sub> and piperidine in a 1:2:1 molar ratio in THF.

We then attempted the direct synthesis of neutral Ag(I)complexes with  $(t-Bu-fy)=CS_2^{2-}$  and phosphine ligands by reacting dithioate 1 with AgClO<sub>4</sub>, phosphines, and piperidine in a molar ratio of 1:2:2:1 in MeCN. These reactions afforded neutral clusters of various nuclearities, depending on the nature of the phosphine. When PPh<sub>3</sub> or  $P(p-To)_3$  (To = tolyl) was employed, the hexanuclear clusters  $[Ag_6]S_2C=(t-Bu$ fy)}<sub>3</sub>L<sub>5</sub>], where  $L = PPh_3$  (**5a**) or P(*p*-To)<sub>3</sub> (**5b**), were isolated in high yields as bright yellow precipitates. The elemental analyses of **5a** and **5b** are consistent with a 6:3:5 silver/ dithiolate/phosphine ratio, which was confirmed for 5b by means of an X-ray single-crystal structure analysis (see below). Complexes 5a and 5b are only moderately stable in solution, and they slowly lose phosphine. When the complexes are stirred in distilled THF for 48 h, the dodecanuclear cluster 4 eventually forms. The formation of 4 from 5a,b requires the presence of atmospheric oxygen and also requires that the solvent be free of peroxide inhibitors, which suggests that the oxidation of the dissociated phosphine is crucial for the transformation to occur. This process is reversible, and the reaction of 4 with PPh<sub>3</sub> or PTo<sub>3</sub> in a 1:12 molar ratio gave complex 5a or 5b, respectively.

The reaction of **1** with AgClO<sub>4</sub>, dppf, and piperidine in a 1:2:1:1 molar ratio in MeCN afforded the tetranuclear derivative  $[Ag_4{S_2C=(t-Bu-fy)}_2(dppf)_2]$  (6) as a yellow precipitate. Alternatively, compound **6** can be obtained by reacting cluster **4** with dppf in a 1:6 molar ratio in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. In contrast to **5a** and **5b**, complex **6** exhibits a remarkable stability in solution, even under atmospheric conditions. Its nuclearity was established from the <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR data (see the NMR section).

By reacting 1 with  $AgClO_4$ ,  $P(i-Pr)_3$ , and piperidine in a 1:2:2:1 molar ratio in MeCN, a compound with the stoichiometry  $[Ag_n \{S_2 C = (t-Bu-fy)\}_{n/2} \{P(i-Pr)_3\}_n]$  (7) was obtained as a yellow precipitate. Complex 7 can also be prepared from the reaction of 4 with  $P(i-Pr)_3$  in a 1:12 molar ratio. The nuclearity of 7 could not be unequivocally established (see the NMR section). Complex 7 is moderately labile in solution, and it slowly decomposes, giving a complicated mixture. One of the decomposition products is the octanuclear cluster  $[Ag_8{S_2C=(t-Bu-fy)}_4{P(i-Pr)_3}_4]$  (8), which results from the loss of n/2 equiv of  $P(i-Pr)_3$  from 7. Compound 8 crystallized in an attempt to obtain crystals of 7 from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeCN and was structurally characterized by means of an X-ray diffraction study; it can be independently obtained in high yield by reacting a solution of 4 in THF with  $P(i-Pr)_3$  in a 1:6 molar ratio.

**Crystal Structures.** The crystal structure of the dodecanuclear cluster **4** is shown in Figure 1; it displays no imposed crystallographic symmetry. Selected bond distances and angles are listed in Table 2. Each of the six dithiolates acts as a bridging ligand toward four Ag atoms. All 12 metal centers are in approximately linear coordination environments, with S-Ag-S angles in the range 154.68–176.84°; the most appreciable deviations from linearity are observed for the Ag(11) and Ag(8) atoms [S(6)-Ag(8)-S(1),

 $161.00(7)^{\circ}$ ; S(4)-Ag(11)-S(12), 154.68(8)°]. The Ag-S distances lie in the range 2.373-2.428 Å and are normal for dicoordinated silver thiolato complexes.<sup>1,24</sup> The molecule can be viewed as two interlocked Ag<sub>6</sub>S<sub>6</sub> macrocycles, held together by the C atoms of the CS2 moieties. If we consider linear S-Ag-S segments, the shape of each of the macrocycles resembles the twist-boat conformation of cyclohexane (Figure 2). The cluster has approximate  $D_2$  symmetry, with one pseudo-2-fold axis passing through the Ag(11), Ag(1), Ag(2), and Ag(8) atoms; a second axis through the C(104)and C(134) atoms; and a third axis through the midpoint of the Ag(1)-Ag(2) segment. The shape of the  $Ag_{12}$  core is rather flat, with eight of the Ag atoms [Ag(1), Ag(2), and Ag(7-12)] being almost coplanar (mean deviation from plane: 0.068 Å), while the other four make up a slightly twisted rectangle (main deviation from plane: 0.267 Å), perpendicular to the  $Ag_8$  mean plane (Figure 3). There are 21 Ag····Ag metallophilic contacts in the range 2.875-3.367 Å, which, in view of the low coordination number of the Ag atoms, must play a crucial role in the stabilization of the cluster. Notably, the innermost metal centers, Ag(1) and Ag(2), establish a total of eight contacts with neighboring Ag atoms, while the rest of metals are involved in one to four Ag····Ag contacts.

The crystal structure of 5b, which has no imposed symmetry (Figure 4, Table 3), reveals that three of the Ag atoms [Ag(2), Ag(3), Ag(4)] have trigonal AgS<sub>2</sub>P coordination, while the others are in trigonal  $AgS_3$  [Ag(1)], linear  $AgS_2$  [Ag(5)], or tetrahedral  $AgS_2P_2$  [Ag(6)] environments. Five of the S atoms are doubly bridging, while S(2) is triply bridging. The Ag-S bond distances range from 2.382 to 2.798 Å, the shortest corresponding to the linearly coordinated Ag(5) atom. The  $Ag_6S_6$  core as depicted in Figure 4 has very approximate mirror symmetry, although the distance Ag(1)-S(1) is too long (4.228 Å). There are six short Ag...Ag metallophilic contacts in the range 2.886–3.143 Å. As far as we are aware, the arrangement of the silver atoms has no precedent in other silver thiolato complexes. The complex  $[Ag_6(SC_6H_4Cl-p)_6(PPh_3)_5]$  has the same Ag/ S/P ratio, but the  $Ag_6S_6$  core has a very different structure, with one doubly bridging and five triply bridging S atoms.<sup>25</sup>

The molecular structure of compound **8**, which displays crystallographic 2-fold symmetry [the axis passes through Ag(1) and Ag(2)], is represented in Figures 5 and 6. Selected bond distances and angles are listed in Table 4. As observed for **4**, all of the dithiolates act as quadruply bridging ligands. The Ag(1) atom is in a distorted tetrahedral AgS<sub>4</sub> environ-

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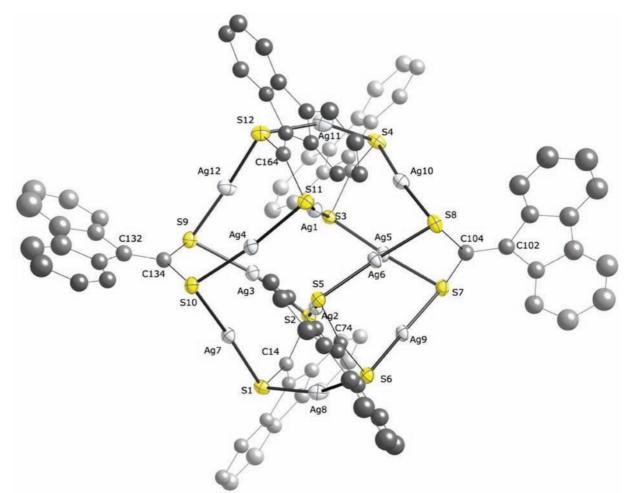
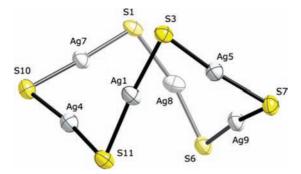


Figure 1. Thermal ellipsoid representation (30% probability; isotropic light atoms as spheres) of the structure of complex 4. H atoms and *t*-Bu groups have been omitted for clarity.



**Figure 2.** Perspective view of one of the  $Ag_6S_6$  macrocycles in the structure of **4** (thermal ellipsoids with 50% probability).

ment, with S-Ag-S angles in the range  $90.07-141.10^{\circ}$ . The Ag(2), Ag(4), and Ag(5) atoms are in approximately linear environments, the first two with AgS<sub>2</sub> coordination and the third with AgSP coordination. The Ag(3) atom is in a distorted trigonal AgS<sub>2</sub>P coordination. The Ag-S bond distances lie in the range 2.381-2.688 Å, the shortest being associated with the linearly coordinated Ag(2), Ag(4), and Ag(5) atoms. The molecule displays a total of 11 Ag····Ag short contacts in the range 2.835-3.258 Å.

NMR Spectra, Solution Structure, and Dynamic Behavior. The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra of complexes 2 and 3a-c show one set of signals for the protons and

resonance in the range of 5.64-5.78 ppm and the  $CS_2$ resonance around 259 ppm. The NMR data of 2 suggest a highly symmetrical, oligomeric structure for this complex. The polymeric  $[Ag_n(S_2C-o-To)_n]^{26}$  is comprised of repeating tetranuclear subunits (Chart 2, a), and some pyridine adducts of Ag(I) dithiobenzoates, such as  $[Ag_4(S_2CMes)_4(py)_3]$  and  $[Ag_4(S_2C-o-To)_4(py)_4]^{27}$  (Mes = mesityl; To = tolyl; b and *c*, respectively), as well as the related  $[Ag_4{S_2CC-(PPh_3)_2}_4]^{4+}$  (*d*),<sup>28</sup> are tetranuclear species. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR data of complexes 3a-c are compatible with mononuclear structures with tetrahedral coordination around silver. Their <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra display the resonance arising from the phosphines as somewhat broad singlets at room temperature, which is attributable to phosphine dissociation and exchange processes in solution.<sup>29</sup> For this reason, we measured the <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra at low temperatures, (26) Lanfredi, A. M. M.; Ugozzoli, F.; Camus, A.; Marsich, N. J. Chem.

carbon atoms of the dithioato ligand slightly modified with

respect to those of the free dithioate  $1,^{22}$  with the H9

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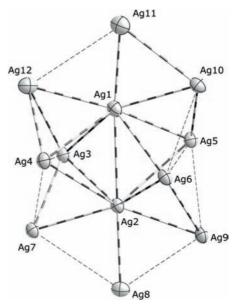
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Table 2. Selected Bond Distances (Å) and Angles (deg) for 4

Table 2. Selected Bon	d Distances (	(A) and Angles (deg) for	4
Ag(1)-S(3)	2.4185(19)	Ag(6)-S(8)	2.382(2)
Ag(1) - S(11)	2.428(2)	Ag(6) - S(5)	2.4156(19)
Ag(1) - Ag(11)	2.9338(10)	Ag(6) - Ag(9)	2.9098(8)
Ag(1) - Ag(12)	3.0113(10)	Ag(7) - S(10)	2.373(2)
Ag(1) - Ag(5)	3.0303(8)	Ag(7) - S(1)	2.375(2)
Ag(1) - Ag(10)	3.0494(9)	Ag(8) - S(6)	2.394(2)
Ag(1) - Ag(4)	3.1071(8)	Ag(8) - S(1)	2.396(2)
Ag(1) - Ag(3)	3.2660(8)	Ag(9) - S(6)	2.409(2)
Ag(1) - Ag(2)	3.2999(8)	Ag(9) - S(7)	2.410(2)
Ag(1) - Ag(6)	3.3669(9)	Ag(10) - S(4)	2.380(2)
Ag(2)-S(2)	2.4077(18)	Ag(10) - S(8)	2.388(2)
Ag(2) - S(5)	2.4099(18)	Ag(10) - Ag(11)	3.2871(10)
Ag(2) - Ag(8)	2.8747(8)	Ag(11)-S(4)	2.419(2)
Ag(2) - Ag(6)	3.0144(8)	Ag(11) - S(12)	2.427(2)
Ag(2) - Ag(3)	3.0318(8)	Ag(12) - S(9)	2.403(2)
Ag(2) - Ag(9)	3.0404(8)	Ag(12) - S(12)	2.405(2)
Ag(2) - Ag(7)	3.0649(8)	S(1)-C(14)	1.788(8)
Ag(2) - Ag(4)	3.2912(8)	S(2)-C(14)	1.785(8)
Ag(2) - Ag(5)	3.3658(8)	S(3) - C(44)	1.784(8)
Ag(3) - S(9)	2.387(2)	S(4) - C(44)	1.776(8)
Ag(3) - S(2)	2.4165(19)	S(5) - C(74)	1.771(7)
Ag(3) = S(2) Ag(3)-Ag(7)	2.8865(8)	S(6) - C(74)	1.783(7)
Ag(3) - Ag(12) Ag(3)-Ag(12)	3.2800(9)	S(0) = C(104) S(7) = C(104)	1.793(8)
Ag(3) - Ag(12) Ag(4)-S(10)	2.389(2)	S(8) - C(104)	1.795(8)
Ag(4) = S(10) Ag(4) = S(11)	2.309(2)	S(9) - C(134)	1.792(8)
Ag(4) = 3(11) Ag(4) = Ag(12)	2.8991(9)	S(9) = C(134) S(10) = C(134)	1.792(8)
	2.8991(9) 2.405(2)		1.777(8)
Ag(5) - S(7) Ag(5) - S(3)	2.403(2)	S(11)-C(164) S(12)-C(164)	1.777(8)
Ag(5) - S(3)	. ,	S(12) - C(164)	1.764(6)
Ag(5) - Ag(10) S(2) - $Ag(1) - S(11)$	2.8984(8) 175.12(8)	C(74) = S(5) = A c(2)	106.6(2)
S(3) - Ag(1) - S(11) S(2) - Ag(2) - S(5)	175.12(8)	C(74)-S(5)-Ag(2) C(74)-S(5)-Ag(6)	
S(2) - Ag(2) - S(5) S(0) - Ag(2) - S(2)		C(74)-S(5)-Ag(6)	103.9(3)
S(9) - Ag(3) - S(2)	168.69(7)	Ag(2)-S(5)-Ag(6)	77.32(6)
S(10) - Ag(4) - S(11)	172.32(7)	C(74) - S(6) - Ag(8)	103.2(3)
S(7) - Ag(5) - S(3)	172.74(7)	C(74) - S(6) - Ag(9)	106.9(3)
S(8) - Ag(6) - S(5)	170.78(7)	Ag(8) - S(6) - Ag(9)	92.47(7)
S(10) - Ag(7) - S(1)	176.82(7)	C(104) - S(7) - Ag(5)	105.1(3)
S(6) - Ag(8) - S(1)	161.00(7)	C(104) - S(7) - Ag(9)	108.8(3)
S(6) - Ag(9) - S(7)	173.04(7)	Ag(5) - S(7) - Ag(9)	91.91(7)
S(4) - Ag(10) - S(8)	170.40(8)	C(104) - S(8) - Ag(6)	108.2(3)
S(4) - Ag(11) - S(12)	154.68(8)	C(104) - S(8) - Ag(10)	101.3(3)
S(9) - Ag(12) - S(12)	176.75(8)	Ag(6) - S(8) - Ag(10)	90.58(8)
C(14) - S(1) - Ag(7)	106.1(2)	C(134) - S(9) - Ag(3)	110.2(3)
C(14) - S(1) - Ag(8)	99.7(3)	C(134) - S(9) - Ag(12)	99.6(3)
Ag(7) - S(1) - Ag(8)	96.03(7)	Ag(3) - S(9) - Ag(12)	86.43(7)
C(14) - S(2) - Ag(2)	105.7(2)	C(134) - S(10) - Ag(7)	105.7(3)
C(14)-S(2)-Ag(3)	103.9(3)	C(134) - S(10) - Ag(4)	106.1(3)
Ag(2)-S(2)-Ag(3)	77.87(5)	Ag(7) - S(10) - Ag(4)	91.08(7)
C(44) - S(3) - Ag(1)	104.7(2)	C(164) - S(11) - Ag(4)	105.6(3)
C(44) - S(3) - Ag(5)	104.9(3)	C(164) - S(11) - Ag(1)	103.3(3)
Ag(1) - S(3) - Ag(5)	77.41(6)	Ag(4) - S(11) - Ag(1)	79.91(6)
C(44) - S(4) - Ag(10)	111.2(3)	C(164) - S(12) - Ag(12)	106.7(3)
C(44) - S(4) - Ag(11)	101.9(3)	C(164) - S(12) - Ag(11)	96.1(3)
Ag(10) - S(4) - Ag(11)	86.47(7)	Ag(12) - S(12) - Ag(11)	106.28(8)

which allowed observation of the Ag–P couplings (see the Experimental Section).

The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR data of cluster **4** are in agreement with its solid-state structure. Thus, its  $D_2$  symmetry in solution leads to two types of dithiolato ligands, labeled as A and B in Scheme 1. The two type-A ligands lie along one of the 2-fold axes and thus give rise to one signal for the *t*-Bu groups in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum, while the four type-B ligands do not contain equivalent atoms and give rise to two different signals for the *t*-Bu groups. The three signals of equal intensity observed for each of the pairs of aromatic protons H1/H8, H3/H6, and H4/H5 (see Chart 1 for the atom numbering) are explained in the same manner. The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **4** shows the expected two signals for the C9 atoms of the *t*-Bu-fy groups at 135.2 and 134.9 ppm, with relative intensities of approximately 2:1, while the CS<sub>2</sub> carbon



**Figure 3.** The  $Ag_{12}$  cluster in the structure of **4**. The  $Ag \cdots Ag$  contacts in the range 2.875–3.367 Å are represented as banded cylinders. Longer Ag–Ag distances are represented by dashed lines. Thermal ellipsoids at 50% probability.

atoms give rise to a broad signal centered at 144.2 ppm, probably as a consequence of unresolved Ag–C couplings. The present NMR data indicate that the structure of **4** is essentially nonfluxional in solution.

The room-temperature <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of the dithiolato complexes **5a** and **5b** show only one resonance for the *t*-Bu substituents and each of the pairs of aromatic protons H1/ H8, H3/H6, and H4/H5 of the fluoren-9-ylidene groups. These data are thus indicative of structures with equivalent and symmetrical dithiolato ligands in solution. However, in view of the crystal structure of **5b**, it is clear that complex dynamic processes take place, which result in the interchange of coordination environments between all of the silver atoms and eventually make the dithiolato ligands equivalent on the NMR time scale. The room-temperature <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra of **5a** and **5b** show a very broad resonance, which is also indicative of exchange processes. Unfortunately, the <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra of **5a,b** could not be measured at low temperatures because of their very low solubilities.

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR data of the dppf complex **6** are also indicative of a structure with symmetrical and equivalent dithiolato ligands. It is therefore striking that its  ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum at room temperature displays the resonance corresponding to the P atoms of the PPh<sub>2</sub> groups as a quintuplet of apparent quintuplets, with almost constant spacings of 122.4 and 8.7 Hz (Figure 7). If the structure of 6 in solution was regular, all of the P atoms would be equivalent, and therefore only one resonance should be observed, which would appear as two doublets because of the coupling with the <sup>107</sup>Ag and <sup>109</sup>Ag isotopes. The observed multiplicity suggests that 6 undergoes a very fast dynamic process in solution by means of which the P atoms exchange their positions. To confirm this possibility, we measured the  ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$  NMR spectra of **6** at different temperatures, which show that the quintuplet broadens as the temperature decreases. However, the complex is scarcely soluble below

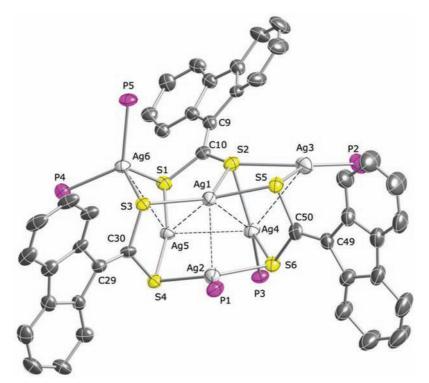


Figure 4. Thermal ellipsoid representation (50% probability) of complex 5b. H atoms and t-Bu and p-To groups have been omitted for clarity.

Table 3. Selected	Bond Distances	(Å) and Angles	s (deg) for <b>5b</b>
Ag(1)-S(3)	2.4242(12)	Ag(5)-S(1)	2.382
A (1) C(5)	2.50(((12))	A (5) O(4)	2 405

	na Bistanees	(iii) and ringles (deg)	101 00
Ag(1)-S(3)	2.4242(12)	Ag(5) - S(1)	2.3823(13)
Ag(1) - S(5)	2.5066(13)	Ag(5)-S(4)	2.4058(13)
Ag(1) - S(2)	2.6495(13)	Ag(5) - Ag(6)	2.9410(5)
Ag(1)-Ag(2)	2.8857(6)	Ag(6) - P(5)	2.4646(14)
Ag(1) - Ag(5)	2.9790(5)	Ag(6) - P(4)	2.4879(14)
Ag(1) - Ag(4)	3.1429(5)	Ag(6) - S(3)	2.6581(13)
Ag(2) - P(1)	2.4304(15)	Ag(6) - S(1)	2.7975(13)
Ag(2) - S(6)	2.5289(13)	S(1) - C(10)	1.765(5)
Ag(2) - S(4)	2.5690(13)	S(2) - C(10)	1.780(5)
Ag(3) - P(2)	2.3896(15)	S(3) - C(30)	1.768(5)
Ag(3) - S(5)	2.4858(13)	S(4) - C(30)	1.780(5)
Ag(3) - S(2)	2.6709(13)	S(5) - C(50)	1.779(5)
Ag(3) - Ag(4)	3.1359(6)	S(6) - C(50)	1.770(5)
Ag(4) - P(3)	2.4226(13)	C(9)-C(10)	1.350(7)
Ag(4) - S(2)	2.4822(13)	C(29)-C(30)	1.375(7)
Ag(4) - S(6)	2.5518(13)	C(49)-C(50)	1.367(7)
Ag(4) - Ag(5)	2.9803(5)		
S(3) - Ag(1) - S(5)	148.34(4)	P(4) - Ag(6) - S(1)	92.87(4)
S(3) - Ag(1) - S(2)	122.22(4)	S(3) - Ag(6) - S(1)	115.15(4)
S(5) - Ag(1) - S(2)	82.60(4)	C(10) - S(1) - Ag(5)	108.41(17)
S(3) - Ag(1) - Ag(2)	82.97(3)	C(10) - S(1) - Ag(6)	99.02(16)
S(5)-Ag(1)-Ag(2)	93.04(3)	Ag(5) - S(1) - Ag(6)	68.65(3)
S(2)-Ag(1)-Ag(2)	134.05(3)	C(10) - S(2) - Ag(4)	105.64(16)
S(3)-Ag(1)-Ag(5)	71.47(3)	C(10) - S(2) - Ag(1)	126.64(17)
S(5)-Ag(1)-Ag(5)	139.38(3)	Ag(4)-S(2)-Ag(1)	75.45(4)
S(2)-Ag(1)-Ag(5)	72.41(3)	C(10) - S(2) - Ag(3)	140.55(16)
P(1) - Ag(2) - S(6)	120.00(5)	Ag(4)-S(2)-Ag(3)	74.87(4)
P(1) - Ag(2) - S(4)	128.12(5)	Ag(1)-S(2)-Ag(3)	92.21(4)
S(6) - Ag(2) - S(4)	111.25(4)	C(30) - S(3) - Ag(1)	109.75(16)
P(2) - Ag(3) - S(5)	148.04(6)	C(30) - S(3) - Ag(6)	110.16(16)
P(2) - Ag(3) - S(2)	126.83(5)	Ag(1)-S(3)-Ag(6)	90.81(4)
S(5) - Ag(3) - S(2)	82.55(4)	C(30) - S(4) - Ag(5)	96.68(15)
P(3) - Ag(4) - S(2)	139.41(4)	C(30) - S(4) - Ag(2)	89.16(16)
P(3) - Ag(4) - S(6)	105.69(4)	Ag(5)-S(4)-Ag(2)	102.28(5)
S(2) - Ag(4) - S(6)	114.88(4)	C(50) - S(5) - Ag(3)	94.82(16)
S(1) - Ag(5) - S(4)	165.87(4)	C(50) - S(5) - Ag(1)	100.91(17)
P(5) - Ag(6) - P(4)	122.27(5)	Ag(3)-S(5)-Ag(1)	100.34(5)
P(5) - Ag(6) - S(3)	101.82(4)	C(50) - S(6) - Ag(2)	100.85(16)
P(4) - Ag(6) - S(3)	110.91(4)	C(50) - S(6) - Ag(4)	109.30(18)
P(5) - Ag(6) - S(1)	114.58(4)	Ag(2)-S(6)-Ag(4)	105.60(5)

233 K in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, and we could not obtain well-resolved spectra (see the Supporting Information for details). A computer simulation of a (P-Ag)<sub>4</sub> system in which the

and  ${}^{1}J_{P-109}Ag}$  and therefore can be interpreted as an average coupling of each of the P atoms with four Ag atoms. The further splitting into apparent quintuplets is attributable to the superposition of the spectra of the different isotopomers. A related process has been reported for the hexanuclear derivatives  $[Ag_6(EAr)_4(dppm)](PF_6)_2$  [EAr = SPh, S(p-To),SePh, or SeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Me-p; dppm = bis(diphenylphosphino)methane], which led to the observation of a septuplet in the <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra at high temperatures, although in these cases, the splittings associated with the different isotopomers did not resolve.<sup>30</sup> The present <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR data prove that the dynamic process is intramolecular and are also an unequivocal demonstration that 6 is tetranuclear. In addition, since the Ag-P couplings are observed at room temperature, they reveal that the dppf ligands do not dissociate easily, which is consistent with the high stability observed for this complex in solution. We note that tetranuclear structures have been found for other silver(I) dithiolato complexes such as [Ag<sub>4</sub>(*i*-mnt)<sub>2</sub>(dppm)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>15</sup> and  $[Ag_4(cpdt)_2(dppm)_4]^{16}(cpdt = {(EtO)_2P(O)}(CN)C=CS_2^{2^{-}}),$ which have their metal atoms in a nearly planar arrangement and the dithiolato ligands acting as quadruply bridging ligands above and below the  $Ag_4$  core. Complex 6 probably has an analogous structure, but with only two diphosphine ligands instead of four (Scheme 1). (30) Yam, V. W. W.; Cheng, E. C. C.; Zhu, N. Y. New J. Chem. 2002, 26, 279

phosphorus atoms exchange their positions through the

migration around a square Ag<sub>4</sub> core (Figure 7) confirmed that the room-temperature  ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$  NMR spectrum of **6** is the result of a dynamic process. The spacing between the peaks of the main quintuplet approximately corresponds to one-quarter of the mean of the coupling constants  ${}^{1}J_{P-107}A_{g}$ 

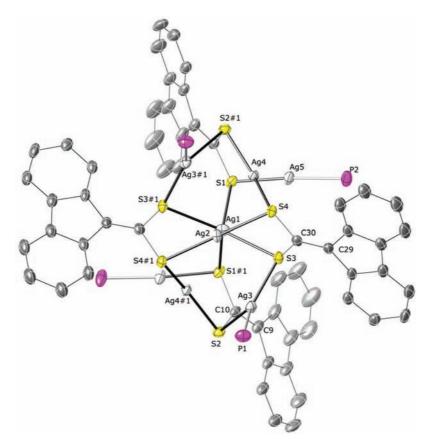


Figure 5. Thermal ellipsoid representation (50% probability) of complex 8. H atoms and t-Bu and i-Pr groups have been omitted for clarity.

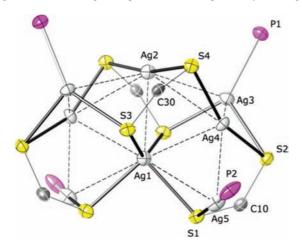
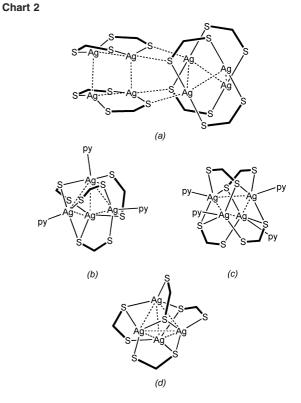


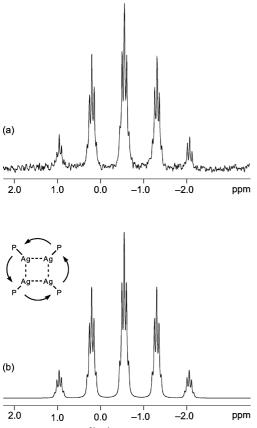
Figure 6. Perspective view of the  $Ag_8S_8P_4$  core of complex 8. Thermal ellipsoids at 50% probability.

Complex 7 gives rise to a very simple <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum at room temperature, which is indicative of symmetrical and equivalent dithiolato ligands, while the <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum shows a broad resonance at 41.7 ppm (CDCl<sub>3</sub>). On cooling down to 213 K, the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum showed no significant changes, while the <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum showed two doublets arising from equivalent  $[Ag{P($ *i* $-Pr)_3}]^+$  units, thus revealing that this complex has a regular structure. A tetranuclear structure similar to that proposed for **6** would be consistent with the NMR data, but it could not be unequivocally established.

The room-temperature <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound **8** shows broad signals for the protons of both the dithiolate



and the phosphine that are not consistent with the structure found in the solid state. The aromatic region of the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra in  $CD_2Cl_2$  at temperatures between 203 and 296 K is shown in Figure 8. At 273 K, the resonances sharpen and reveal the presence of two different species, each one giving

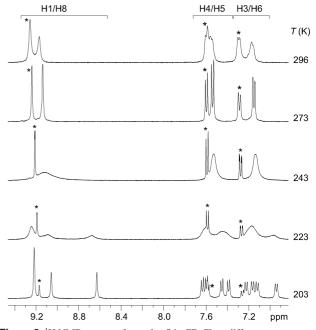


**Figure 7.** (a) Experimental <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum of **6** in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at 298 K. (b) Simulated <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectrum for a  $(P-Ag)_4$  system in which the P atoms migrate around a square Ag<sub>4</sub> core  $({}^{1}J_{P-{}^{107}Ag} = 457$  Hz,  $k = 10^7$  s<sup>-1</sup>).

Table 4. Selected Bond Distances (Å) and Angles (deg) for 8

Ag(1)-S(1)	2.5715(6)	Ag(3)-Ag(4)#1	2.8464(2)
Ag(1) - S(3)	2.6880(6)	Ag(4) - S(4)	2.3946(6)
Ag(1) - Ag(2)	2.8345(4)	Ag(4) - S(2)	2.4038(6)
Ag(1) - Ag(4)	2.9507(2)	Ag(5) - P(2)	2.3697(7)
Ag(2) - S(4)	2.4423(6)	Ag(5) - S(1)	2.3807(6)
Ag(2) - Ag(4)	3.0979(2)	S(1) - C(10)	1.774(2)
Ag(2) - Ag(3)	3.2584(2)	S(2) - C(10)	1.770(2)
Ag(4) - Ag(5)	2.9085(3)	S(3)-C(30)	1.773(2)
Ag(3) - P(1)	2.3946(7)	S(4)-C(30)	1.779(2)
Ag(3) - S(3)	2.4576(6)	C(9) - C(10)	1.364(3)
Ag(3)-S(2)#1	2.6564(6)	C(29)-C(30)	1.362(3)
S(1)#1 - Ag(1) - S(1)	90.07(3)	C(10) - S(1) - Ag(1)	113.32(7)
S(1)-Ag(1)-S(3)#1	92.914(18)	Ag(5)-S(1)-Ag(1)	91.000(19)
S(1) - Ag(1) - S(3)	114.824(18)	C(10) - S(2) - Ag(4)	104.78(8)
S(3)#1-Ag(1)-S(3)	141.10(3)	C(10)-S(2)-Ag(3)#1	106.88(8)
S(1)-Ag(1)-Ag(2)	134.965(14)	Ag(4)-S(2)-Ag(3)#1	68.250(16)
S(3) - Ag(1) - Ag(2)	70.549(13)	C(30) - S(3) - Ag(3)	99.69(8)
S(4)#1-Ag(2)-S(4)	167.78(3)	C(30) - S(3) - Ag(1)	118.95(8)
P(1) - Ag(3) - S(3)	142.42(2)	Ag(3)-S(3)-Ag(1)	95.603(19)
P(1)-Ag(3)-S(2)#1	116.07(2)	C(30) - S(4) - Ag(4)	101.08(7)
S(3)-Ag(3)-S(2)#1	101.492(19)	C(30) - S(4) - Ag(2)	98.03(8)
S(4) - Ag(4) - S(2)	156.36(2)	Ag(4) - S(4) - Ag(2)	79.646(18)
P(2) - Ag(5) - S(1)	175.43(3)	S(2) - C(10) - S(1)	117.55(13)
C(10) - S(1) - Ag(5)	104.15(8)	S(3) - C(30) - S(4)	115.49(12)

rise to a single set of resonances for the pairs of equivalent aromatic protons, H1/H8, H3/H6, and H4/H5 (see Chart 1 for the atom numbering). As the temperature decreases, one of the sets broadens again and at 203 K resolves into four resonances for each of the pairs of protons,<sup>31</sup> while the other



**Figure 8.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of complex **8** in  $CD_2Cl_2$  at different temperatures (aromatic region). The resonances corresponding to the isomeric species **8**\* have been labeled with an asterisk.

set undergoes a minor shift to lower frequencies and a drastic decrease in relative intensity. The resonances of the major species at 203 K are consistent with the structure found for 8 in the solid state, which contains two types of dithiolato ligands, neither of which have equivalent protons, thus giving rise to four signals for each of the H1/H8, H3/H6, and H4/ H5 pairs. The other set of resonances must correspond to an isometric species  $(8^*)$ , which, as deduced from the integration of its signals, has the same Ag/dithiolate/phosphine ratio as 8. We have labeled these signals with an asterisk in Figure 8. In the 0-2 ppm region, four resonances are observed for the *t*-Bu groups of **8**, while  $8^*$  gives only one. The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra also show the resonances of the two different  $P(i-Pr)_3$  ligands expected for 8, while the isomer 8<sup>\*</sup> contains only one type of  $P(i-Pr)_3$  ligand (see the Supporting Information). In conclusion, the present NMR data show that (a) complex 8 is in equilibrium with an isomeric species  $(8^*)$  in solution, (b) the relative concentration of isomer  $8^*$  decreases with the temperature, (c) complex 8 undergoes a dynamic process leading to equivalent and symmetrical dithiolates and equivalent phosphines above 273 K on the NMR time scale, and (d) isomer  $8^*$  has a regular structure with equivalent dithiolates and phosphines. However, the nuclearity of 8\* cannot be inferred from its NMR data.

**IR Spectra.** The solid-state infrared spectrum of the dithioato complex **2** shows a band at 1020 cm<sup>-1</sup> assignable to one of the  $\nu$ (CS<sub>2</sub>) modes. For the phosphino complexes **3a**-**c**, this band is observed at around 1010 cm<sup>-1</sup>. These values are slightly lower than those observed for other silver dithioato complexes.<sup>32</sup>

The dithiolato complexes **5a**,**b**, **6**, and **7** give rise to an intense band between 1485 and 1489  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , assignable to

<sup>(31)</sup> For the H1/H8 protons, three signals are observed, one of them of double intensity.

<sup>(32)</sup> Marsich, N.; Pellizer, G.; Camus, A.; Lanfredi, A. M. M.; Ugozzoli, F. *Inorg. Chim. Acta* **1990**, *169*, 171.

Table 5. Electronic Absorption Data for Compounds 2-8 in  $CH_2Cl_2$  Solution (ca. 5  $\times$   $10^{-5}$  M) at 298 K ( $\lambda$   $\geq$  330 nm)

compd	$\lambda_{\rm max}/{\rm nm}~(\epsilon/{\rm M}^{-1}~{\rm cm}^{-1})$	
2	347 (6000)	
3a	359 (6800)	
3b	356 (6900)	
3c	353 (4400)	
4	363 (136600)	
5a	375 (59000)	
5b	395 (60500)	
6	418 (34600)	
7	386 (40900)	
8	386 (100100)	

the  $\nu$ (C=CS<sub>2</sub>) mode, while for **4** and **8**, two bands are observed at 1503 and 1473 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 1496 and 1464 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. These values are comparable to those found for neutral Au(I) complexes with the (*t*-Bu-fy)=CS<sub>2</sub><sup>2-</sup> ligand.<sup>18</sup>

Electronic Absorption Spectra. The UV-visible absorption spectra of compounds 2-8 were measured in the range 200-700 nm in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at 298 K. All of them show intense bands at around 230, 250-270, and 300 nm arising from the aromatic part of the dithioato or dithiolato ligands.<sup>18,19</sup> The absorptions with  $\lambda > 330$  nm are listed in Table 5. The dithioato complexes 2 and 3a-c give rise to a relatively weak band in the range 347-359 nm. This absorption is only slightly modified with respect to that observed for the free dithioate 1 (346 nm), which can be ascribed to  $n-\pi^*$ transitions within the CS<sub>2</sub> group.<sup>18</sup> The spectra of the dithiolato complexes 4-8 show a broad and intense band in the range 363-418 nm. The energies and relatively large molar extinction coefficients observed for this band are typical of the  $\pi - \pi^*$  transitions associated with the C=CS<sub>2</sub> moiety of the (2,7-di-tert-butylfluoren-9-ylidene)methanedithiolato ligand.<sup>11</sup> As expected, the molar extinction coefficients are larger for the clusters with a higher number of dithiolates per molecule (4 and 8). The molar extinction coefficient for complex 7 was calculated assuming a tetranuclear formulation and fits well within the observed values, although it cannot be considered as a confirmation of the proposed nuclearity.

# Conclusions

A series of neutral silver complexes with 2,7-di-tert-butyl-9H-fluorene-9-carbodithioate and (2,7-di-tert-butylfluoren-9-ylidene)methanedithiolate have been prepared, including tetra-, hexa-, octa-, and dodecanuclear clusters. The compound  $[Ag_{12}{S_2C=(t-Bu-fy)}_6]$  (4) is the first neutral homoleptic 1,1-ethylenedithiolato silver complex, and its structure has no precedent in the chemistry of silver 1,1-dithiolates. Complex 4 is a useful starting material for the preparation of dithiolato complexes of silver with phosphine ligands. The compounds  $[Ag_6{S_2C=(t-Bu-fy)}_3L_5]$  [L = PPh<sub>3</sub> (5a), P(p-To)<sub>3</sub> (**5b**)],  $[Ag_4 \{S_2 C = (t-Bu-fy)\}_2(dppf)_2]$  (**6**),  $[Ag_n \{S_2 C = (t-Bu-fy)\}_2(dppf)_2]$  (**7**) Bu-fy) $_{n/2}$ {P(*i*-Pr)<sub>3</sub>}<sub>n</sub>] (7), and [Ag<sub>8</sub>{S<sub>2</sub>C=(*t*-Bu-fy)}<sub>4</sub>{P(*i*- $Pr_{3}_{4}$  (8) also represent new types of silver clusters containing dithiolato and phosphine ligands. Compounds 5a,b and 7 undergo phosphine dissociation and exchange processes in solution. Complex 6 undergoes a very fast dynamic process leading to an average coupling of each of the P atoms of the dppf ligands with four Ag atoms. The octanuclear derivative 8 is in equilibrium with a structural isomer in solution, but the nuclearity and structure of the latter could not be established. Complex 8 also undergoes a dynamic process leading to equivalent and symmetrical dithiolates and equivalent phosphines in solution. In contrast to the phosphine derivatives, the dodecanuclear cluster 4 does not exhibit fluxional behavior in solution.

Acknowledgment. We thank Ministerio de Educación y Ciencia (Spain), FEDER (CTQ2004-05396 and CTQ2007-60808/BQU), for financial support. Y.G.-S. thanks Ministerio de Educación y Ciencia (Spain) for a grant.

**Supporting Information Available:** Crystallographic data in CIF format for **4**, **5b**, and **8**; <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **4**; variable-temperature  ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H{}$  NMR spectra of **6**; simulations of the  ${}^{31}P$  NMR spectra of a  $(P-Ag)_4$  system at different rate constants; variable-temperature <sup>1</sup>H and  ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H{}$  NMR spectra of **8**. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

IC802045J