# Structural Characterization of $\mathbf{C p} * \mathrm{Ru}$-Intermediates of Phenylacetylene Cyclotrimerization 

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#### Abstract

Phenylacetylene reacts depending on the reaction conditions with $\mathrm{Cp} * \mathrm{Ru}(\mathrm{COD}) \mathrm{Cl}$ under formation of the neutral dicarbene complex 2,5-diphenyl-Cp*ruthena-cyclopentatriene (1) or the cationic sandwich compound $[\mathrm{Cp} * \mathrm{Ru}(1,2,4-$


triphenyl)benzene] (2). The X-ray structures and spectroscopic data of both complexes are presented. The complexes can be interpreted as intermediates in the CpRu-catalyzed cyclotrimerization of acetylenes.

Cyclotrimerization of acetylenes is catalyzed by various complex compounds from the early to the late transition metals [1]. On the cyclotrimerization using Ru-complexes only few is reported [2].
We report here on the reaction of a $\mathrm{Cp} * \mathrm{RuCl}$-fragment, which is isolobal to the CpCo-fragment [3], with acetylenes and the formation of the organometallic products obtained from this reaction.

## Results and Discussion

Phenylacetylene reacts with $\mathrm{Cp} * \mathrm{Ru}(\mathrm{COD}) \mathrm{Cl}$ depending on the reaction conditions under formation of the neutral dicarbene complex, 2,5 -diphenyl-Cp*ruthena-cyclopentatriene (1), or the cationic sandwich compound $[\mathrm{Cp} * \mathrm{Ru}(1,2,4-$ triphenyl)benzene] (2) (Scheme 1). The main difference in


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Scheme 1 Reaction of $\mathrm{Cp} * \mathrm{Ru}(\mathrm{COD}) \mathrm{Cl}$ with phenylacetylene
the preparation is the reaction time which has to be longer to build the Ru-sandwich compound 2 . The formation of 2 can be explained by further reaction of $\mathbf{1}$ with another molecule of phenylacetylene under elimination of a chloride ligand. In contrast at the CpCo -fragment only a $\eta^{4}$ - coordination of the benzene built from cyclotrimerization of acetylenes is observed [4]. Elimination of the benzene derivative and recoordination of the chloride ligand can reform the $\mathrm{Cp} * \mathrm{RuCl}-\mathrm{frag}-$ ment, which coms to a catalytic cycle according to that known from CpCo-catalysis [5].

Single crystals of $\mathbf{1}$ were grown from a $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ solution layered with $n$-hexane at $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ during one week [6]. Compound $\mathbf{1}$ crystallizes in the orthorhombic space group Pnma with half a molecule $\mathbf{1}$ in the crystallographic independent unit of the elementary cell (Table 1, Fig. 1), the other half of the molecule is symmetry equivalent and generated by a mirror plane.

The coordination of the Ru-centre in $\mathbf{1}$ is very similar to its bromine derivative [2a] and can be described as distorted tetrahedral when the coordination of the Cp-ring is reduced to its centre. However, the Cp-ring is not coordinated symmetrically to the Ru-atom which causes different C -Ru-distances (Table 2). The embedding of the Ru-metal in the metallacyclopentatriene leads to a smaller $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{Ru}-\mathrm{C}$-bond angle of $78.9^{\circ}$ than expected for an idealized tetrahedral environment (Table 2, Fig. 1). The bond angles at the Ru-atom between the centre of the Cp-ring and the chlorine ligand as well as between the carbene C -atom (C1, Fig. 1) are widened to circa $121^{\circ}$ (Table 2). The coupling of the phenylacetylene leads to the formation of a C-C-bond with a C-C-distance of 137 (1) pm in $\mathbf{1}$ which has double bond character. The $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}-$

Table 1 Crystallographic data of the neutral complex 1 and the cationic complex 2

| Compound | 1 | $2 \mathrm{Cl} \cdot \mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Empirical formula | $\mathrm{C}_{26} \mathrm{H}_{27} \mathrm{ClRu}$ | $\mathrm{C}_{35} \mathrm{H}_{35} \mathrm{Cl}_{3} \mathrm{Ru}$ |
| Formula weight | 476.00 | 661.03 |
| Crystal size | $0.4 \times 0.38 \times 0.36 \mathrm{~mm}^{3}$ | $0.4 \times 0.3 \times 0.2 \mathrm{~mm}^{3}$ |
| Crystal system | orthorhombic | monoclinic |
| Space group | Pnma (No. 62) | $\mathrm{P}_{1} / \mathrm{ln}($ No. 14) |
| Unit cell dimensions | $\mathrm{a}=1885.8$ (4) pm | $\mathrm{a}=1101.0$ (1) pm |
|  | $\mathrm{b}=1575.2$ (3) pm | $\mathrm{b}=1303.3$ (3) pm |
|  | $\mathrm{c}=724.9$ (1) pm | $\mathrm{c}=2126.6$ (3) pm |
|  |  | $\beta=95.64$ (1) ${ }^{\circ}$ |
| Volume | $2153.3(7) \times 10^{6} \mathrm{pm}^{3}$ | $3036.9(9) \times 10^{6} \mathrm{pm}^{3}$ |
| Z | $\mathrm{Z}=4$ | $\mathrm{Z}=4$ |
| Density (calculated) | $1.468 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{cm}^{3}$ | $1.446 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{cm}^{3}$ |
| Diffractometer | Enraf Nonius CAD4 | Siemens SMART 5000 |
|  |  | CCD-Diffractometer |
| Wavelength | MoK ${ }_{\alpha}$ Graphit |  |
| Temperature | 200 K | 200 K |
| $\theta$-Range | $2.52 \leq \theta \leq 27.42^{\circ}$ | $1.84 \leq \theta \leq 28.38^{\circ}$ |
| Scan | $\omega$-Scan, $\Delta \omega=0.3^{\circ}$ | $\omega$-Scan, $\Delta \omega=0.3^{\circ}$ |
| Index ranges | $\begin{aligned} & -24 \leq h \leq 0,0 \leq k \leq 20, \\ & 0 \leq 1 \leq 9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & -14 \leq \mathrm{h} \leq 14,-17 \leq \mathrm{k} \leq 17, \\ & -28 \leq 1 \leq 27 \end{aligned}$ |
| Number of |  |  |
| reflections measured | 2543 | 31625 |
| independent reflections | 2543 | 7475 |
| reflections observed | 2172 | 6026 |
| Number of parameters refined | 188 | 362 |
| Residual electron density | $0.801 \times 10^{-6} \mathrm{e} / \mathrm{pm}^{3}$ | $0.948 \times 10^{-6} \mathrm{e} / \mathrm{pm}^{3}$ |
| Corrections | Lorentz and Polarisation, Absorption correction (SADABS) [11]direct methods |  |
| Structure solution |  |  |
| Structure refinement | direct methods full matrix least square on $\mathrm{F}^{2}$ |  |
| Programs and weightings used | SHELXS-86 [12], | SHELX-97 [13], |
|  | SHELXL-93 [14] | xpma, zortep [15] |
| R indices | $\mathrm{R}_{1}=0.0436(\mathrm{I}>2 \sigma)$ | $\mathrm{R}_{1}=0.0261(\mathrm{I}>2 \sigma$ ) |
|  | $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{w}}=0.1121$ (all data on $\mathrm{F}^{2}$ ) | $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{w}}=0.0697$ (all data on $\mathrm{F}^{2}$ ) |

Standard deviations in parentheses.


Fig. 1 View to the molecular structure of $\mathbf{1}$ in the crystal
distance between the former C -atoms belonging to the triple bond is elongated to $140.2(7) \mathrm{pm}$ (Table 2). The distance of the quaternary C -atom of the phenylacetylene to the Ru-centre is with 196.9(4) pm in the range for a double bond. Both carbon atoms of the former acetylene unit show $\mathrm{sp}^{2}$-hybridization. All these findings are conform with those reported from the bromine derivative of $\mathbf{1}$ [2]. So, the coupling of phenylacetylene at a $\mathrm{Cp} * \mathrm{Ru}$-centre leads to the formation of a new C -C-bond involving the necessary change of hybridization and the formation of metal-carbon bonds.

Table 2 Selected bond lengths (pm) and angles ( ${ }^{\circ}$ ) for $\mathbf{1}$

| $\mathrm{Ru}-\mathrm{Cl}$ | $236.5(2)$ | $\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{Ru}-\mathrm{C} 1 \mathrm{a}$ | $78.9(3)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{Ru}-\mathrm{C} 1$ | $196.9(4)$ | $\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{Ru}-\mathrm{Cl}$ | $102.7(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{Ru}-\mathrm{C} 9$ | $235.1(4)$ | $\mathrm{Cp}-\mathrm{Ru}-\mathrm{Cl}$ | 120.8 |
| $\mathrm{Ru}-\mathrm{C} 10$ | $229.2(4)$ | $\mathrm{Cp}-\mathrm{Ru}-\mathrm{C} 1$ | 121.5 |
| $\mathrm{Ru}-\mathrm{C} 11$ | $219.6(6)$ | $\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{C} 3$ | $119.5(4)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{C} 2$ | $140.2(7)$ | $\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{Ru}$ | $116.6(4)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{C} 3$ | $147.3(7)$ | $\mathrm{C} 3-\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{Ru}$ | $123.8(4)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{C} 2 \mathrm{a}$ | $137(1)$ | $\mathrm{C} 2 \mathrm{a}-\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{C} 1$ | $113.7(3)$ |

Standard deviations in parentheses. The suffix a indicates an atom which is symmetry-equivalent to the atom without the suffix. The abbreviation Cp symbolizes the centre of the Cp -ring coordinated to the Ru-centre.

When $\mathbf{1}$ is allowed to react with a further molecule of phenylacetylene by longer stirring at room temperature, the cationic sandwich complex [ $\mathrm{Cp} * \mathrm{Ru}(1,2,4-$ triphenyl)benzene] 2 (Scheme 1) is built. The counter anion is a chloride which left the coordination sphere of the Ru-centre. Single crystals of 2 Cl were obtained from a $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ solution layered with $n$-hexane at $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ during two weeks [6]. 2 Cl crystallizes in the monoclinic space group $\mathrm{P} 2_{1} / \mathrm{n}$ with one molecule $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ per unit (Table 1, Fig. 2). The coordination of both ring systems to the Ru-centre in 2 is nearby ideal. The angle at the Ru-atom formed by the two centres of the ring system is very


Fig. 2 View to the molecular structure of the cation 2 in the crystal

Table 3 Selected bond lengths (pm) and angles ( ${ }^{\circ}$ ) for 2 lengths

| Ru-C(Cp) | $218.0(2)$ to 220.3(2) |  |
| :--- | :--- | ---: |
| Ru-C(Ph) | $220.5(2)$ to 226.8(2) |  |
| Ru-CentreCp | 182.0 |  |
| Ru-CentrePh | 171.8 |  |
| angles |  |  |
| CentrePh-Ru-CentreCp | 4.9 |  |
| plane Ph to plane Cp | 4.6 |  |

Standard deviations in parentheses.
close to $180^{\circ}$ (Table 3, Fig. 2). This is also expressed in the nearby coplanarity of the Ph - and Cp -ring. As the Ph -ring has a larger diameter than the Cp-ring its centre is closer to the Ru-metal-atom than the centre of the Cp-ring even when the Ru -C-distances for the C -atoms of the Cp -ring are shorter than the corresponding Ru -C-distances of the Ph -ring (Table 3 ). This behaviour is typical for complexes of this type [7].


Fig. 3 Ru-containing polymer

The results confirm the knowledge about the CpRu-catalyzed cyclotrimerization of acetylenes [2] according to a mechanism similar to the CpCo-catalysis [5].

The possibility of the use of bisacetylenes in this reaction would lead to polymeric materials containing the Ru-metal in the main chain of the polymer, which have attracted great attention [8] (Fig. 3). As monomeric compounds of this type show interesting electronic properties the polymeric material should be of high potential [9]. These are topics of present
work and the knowledge of the purest preparation method is essential to produce pure polymeric materials.

## Experimental

Chemicals were purchased from Aldrich and used as received. Solvents and reagents were purified by literature methods. $\mathrm{Cp} * \mathrm{Ru}(\mathrm{COD}) \mathrm{Cl}$ was synthezised according to the literature [10]. NMR-spectra were registered on a Varian Unity Inova spectrometer in $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ solution at $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ referring to the rest proton signal of the solvent ( $\delta=7.27 \mathrm{ppm}$ ) or its carbon frequency ( $\delta=77.0 \mathrm{ppm}$ ). The spectra were obtained at the operating frequency of 400 MHz for proton spectroscopy or 100 MHz for ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectra, respectively. Infrared spectra were recorded on a BIORAD FT spectrometer in KBr-pellets in the region of $400-4000 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$. For the details of the single crystal X-ray diffraction measurements see table 1 and [6].

## 2,5-Diphenyl-Cp*ruthena-cyclopentatriene (1)

$0.085 \mathrm{~g}(8.38 \mathrm{mmol})$ of phenylacetylene were added at $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to a solution of $0.0453 \mathrm{~g}(0.16 \mathrm{mmol}) \mathrm{Cp} * \mathrm{Ru}(\mathrm{COD}) \mathrm{Cl}$ in 40 ml THF. The mixture was stirred overnight and allowed to warm up to room temperature. The solvent was removed in vacuo and the residue washed with 10 ml cold $\left(0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$ $n$-hexane to give a dark red powder. Single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were obtained by crystallization from a $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ solution of $\mathbf{1}$, layered with $n$-hexane at $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ during 7 days. Yield $0.068 \mathrm{~g}(0.14 \mathrm{mmol}, 89 \%)$. $-{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR: $\delta / \mathrm{ppm}=7.56(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ph}-\mathrm{H}), 7.26(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}$, metallacyclopentatriene), $7.18(\mathrm{~m}, 8 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ph}-\mathrm{H}), 1.19\left(\mathrm{~s}, 15 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Cp}-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)$. ${ }^{13}$ C NMR: $\delta / \mathrm{ppm}=264.1,160.3,156.4,130.8,128.2,126.0$, 107.8, $11.1\left(\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{Me}_{5}\right) .-\mathrm{IR} v / \mathrm{cm}^{-1}=2962(\mathrm{~m}), 1447(\mathrm{~m}), 1261$ (s), 1093 (s), 1022 (s), 802 (s).
$\left[C p * R u(1,2,4 \text {-triphenyl)benzene }]^{+} \mathrm{Cl}^{-}(\mathbf{2 C l})\right.$
$0.085 \mathrm{~g}(8.38 \mathrm{mmol})$ of phenylacetylene were added at $0{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to a solution of $0.045 \mathrm{~g}(0.16 \mathrm{mmol}) \mathrm{Cp} * \mathrm{Ru}(\mathrm{COD}) \mathrm{Cl}$ in $30 \mathrm{ml} \mathrm{CH} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$. The mixture was allowed to warm up to room temperature and stirred for 72 h at room temperature. The solvent was removed in vacuo and the residue washed three times with 10 ml cold $\left(0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right) n$-hexane to give a light yellow powder. Single crystals were obtained by crystallization from a $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ solution of 2 Cl , layered with $n$-hexane at $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ during 14 days. Yield $0.046 \mathrm{~g}(0.078 \mathrm{mmol}, 49 \%)$. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR: $\delta / \mathrm{ppm}=7.92(\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.74(\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 7.55-7.12(\mathrm{~m}, 12 \mathrm{H}), 6.81$ $(\mathrm{d}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 6.28(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 5.27(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 1.68(\mathrm{~s}, 15 \mathrm{H}) .-$ ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR: $\delta / \mathrm{ppm}=134.6,132.9,130.9-128.4,127.2,127.1$, 95.6, 10.1. - IR $\mathrm{v} / \mathrm{cm}^{-1}=3053$ (m), 2922 (m), 1492 (m), 1475 (m), 1449 (m), 1384 (s), 1074 (m), 1028 (m), 699 (s).

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