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Asymmetric acetylenic thioethers in ruthenium cluster chemistry

M. Isabel Alcalde ^a, Esther Delgado ^{a,*}, Bruno Donnadieu ^b, Elisa Hernández ^a, M. Paz Martín ^a, Félix Zamora ^a

^a Departamento de Química Inorgánica, Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, 28049 Madrid, Spain ^b Service de Cristallochimie. Laboratoire de Chimie de Coordination CNRS, 31077 Toulouse, France

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Abstract

The compounds $[Ru_3(CO)_9(\mu,\eta^2-SC\equiv CR)(\mu_3,\eta^2-C\equiv CR')]$ (R = SiMe₃, R' = Si^{*i*}Pr₃ (1); R = Si^{*i*}Pr₃, R' = SiMe₃ (2); R = Si^{*i*}Pr₃, R' = SiMe₃ (2); R = Si^{*i*}Pr₃ (4)) have been obtained by cleavage of one S–C bond of the thioethers ^{*i*}Pr₃SiC≡CSC≡CR (R = H, SiMe₃) in the presence of Ru₃(CO)₁₂. Thermal treatment of $[Ru_3(CO)_9(\mu,\eta^2-SC\equiv CSi'Pr_3)(\mu_3,\eta^2-C\equiv CH)]$ yields to the cluster $[Ru_4(CO)_9(\mu-CO)_2(\mu_4-S)(\mu_4-\eta^2-C(H)C)(C\equiv CSi'Pr_3)]$ (5) which contains a bridging sulfur atom and a polycarbon chain as a consequence of the rupture of the S–C bond and a C–C coupling reaction. All derivatives have been characterized by spectroscopic data. An X-ray diffraction study was carried out on the species $[Ru_3(CO)_9(\mu,\eta^2-SC\equiv CSi'Pr_3)(\mu_3,\eta^2-C\equiv CSiMe_3)]$ and of $[Ru_3(CO)_9(\mu,\eta^2-S\subseteq CSi'Pr_3)(\mu_3,\eta^2-C\equiv CSiMe_3)]$ and of $[Ru_3(CO)_9(\mu,\eta^2-SC\equiv CSi'Pr_3)(\mu_3,\eta^2-C\equiv CSiMe_3)]$ and of $[Ru_3(CO)_9(\mu,\eta^2-SE\otimes CSi'Pr_3)(\mu_3,\eta^2-C\equiv CSiMe_3)]$ and of $[Ru_3(CO)_9(\mu,\eta^2-SE\otimes CSi'Pr_3)(\mu_3,\eta^2-C\equiv CSiMe_3)]$ and of [R

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1. Introduction

Transition metal chemistry with organosulfur compounds is a subject of interest due to its relevance from a biological, industrial and environmental point of view [1]. By contrast with the amount of coordination and organometallic compounds prepared using alkyl and aryl thiolate or thioether, work devoted to alkynyl groups is scarce [2]. On the other hand, in the last years, investigations on new materials that may exhibit relevant electrical and optical properties have focused the attention of the researchers on transition metal compounds with bridging polycarbons ligands bearing unsaturated C-C bonds, due to these may allow electronic communication between metal centres [3]. Among the different methods used for construction of these chains, the one based on C-C coupling reactions of ynyl or polyynyl groups is being developed [4].

Following our research field on ruthenium clusters containing acetylenic chains, in this paper we described the synthesis and characterization of the new clusters
$$\begin{split} & [Ru_3(CO)_9(\mu,\eta^2\text{-}SC\equiv\!CR)(\mu_3,\eta^2\text{-}C\equiv\!CR')] \quad (R=SiMe_3, \\ & R'=Si'Pr_3 \ (1); \ R=Si'Pr_3, \ R'=SiMe_3 \ (2); \ R=Si'Pr_3, \\ & R'=H \ (3), \ R=H, \ R'=Si'Pr_3 \ (4)) \ derived \ from \ the \ reaction \ of \ Ru_3(CO)_{12} \ and \ the \ corresponding \\ & RC\equiv\!CSC\equiv\!CR'. \ Compounds \ 3 \ and \ 4 \ have \ also \ been \ obtained \ by \ desilylation \ reaction \ of \ 2 \ and \ 1, \ respectively. \ The \ cluster \ [Ru_4(CO)_9(\mu\text{-}CO)_2(\mu_4\text{-}S)(\mu_4-\eta^2\text{-}C(H) \ C)(C\equiv\!CSi'Pr_3)] \ (5) \ has \ been \ generated \ from \ [Ru_3(CO)_9(\mu,\eta^2\text{-}SC\equiv\!CSI'Pr_3)] \ (5) \ has \ been \ generated \ from \ [Ru_3(CO)_9(\mu,\eta^2\text{-}SC\equiv\!CSI'Pr_3)(\mu_3,\eta^2\text{-}C\equiv\!CH)] \ via \ a \ thermolytic \ reaction. \end{split}$$

2. Results and discussion

The synthesis of compounds containing two redox active subunits joined by a polycarbon chain which permit the electronic transmission between them is a subject of interest in the last years [3,5]. Due to clusters acting as reservoirs of electrons, able to accept or release them, we planned to prepare ruthenium clusters connected to metal-ligand fragments by an unsaturated C_n chain. Previous results obtained in our laboratory [4d] on the symmetric thioether $S(C \equiv CSiMe_3)_2$ with $Ru_3(CO)_{12}$ have showed that the heating of the

^{*} Corresponding author. Tel.: +34913975268; fax: +34913974833. *E-mail address:* esther.delgado@uam.es (E. Delgado).

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compound $[Ru_3(CO)_9(\mu,\eta^2-SC\equiv CSiMe_3)(\mu_3,\eta^2-C\equiv CS$ iMe₃)] provokes the rupture of the S-C bond of the alkynylthiolate ligand as well as the formation of a diynyl ligand as a consequence of a C-C coupling reaction between the two acetylide groups, yielding the tetranuclear cluster $[Ru_4(CO)_9(\mu-CO)_2(\mu_4-S)(\mu_4-\eta^2-$ C(SiMe₃)C)(C=CSiMe₃)]. Taking all these into account, we decided to explore the behaviour of the asymmetric thioether ⁱPr₃SiC=CSC=CH in order to prepare a cluster containing an unprotected acetylenic chain which allows a link to redox-active ML_n fragments. As compound ${}^{i}Pr_{3}SiC \equiv CSC \equiv CSiMe_{3}$ is the starting material to synthesized ${}^{i}Pr_{3}SiC \equiv CSC \equiv C$, on the bases of our previous results using a symmetric thioether, we initially have study the behaviour of the former in order to find an alternative way to obtain a tetraruthenium cluster containing a μ -C(R)CC=CH ligand. In fact the presence in the molecule of two different acetylide groups afford to isomers. A mixture of $Ru_3(CO)_{12}$ and an excess of the freshly prepared thioether ^{*i*}Pr₃SiC≡CSC≡CSiMe₃ was heated in toluene at 70 °C for 3 h. The product of the reaction was chromatographed affording a yellow band of $[Ru_3(CO)_9(\mu, \eta^2 - SC \equiv CSiMe_3)(\mu_3, \eta^2 - C \equiv CSi^i Pr_3)]$ (1) (isomer I) in trace amounts and a second orange band of $[Ru_3(CO)_9(\mu,\eta^2-SC\equiv CSi^iPr_3)(\mu_3,\eta^2-C\equiv CSiMe_3)]$ (2)(isomer II) as the main product (Scheme 1). A hexane solution of 2 kept at -20 °C during 24 h gave suitable crystals for an X-ray diffraction study, confirming the structure which will be discussed in the following section.

The ¹H NMR spectra of both isomers show the resonances corresponding to the SiMe₃ [0.19 (1), 0.59 (2) ppm] and SiⁱPr₃ [1.08 (1), 1.08 (2) ppm] groups as singlets. The carbonyl stretching frequencies observed in their IR spectra [2096 (w), 2068 (s), 2052 (s), 2021 (vs) and 1990 (w) (1); 2091 (w), 2072 (s), 2051 (s), 2018 (vs) and 1988 (w) (2) cm⁻¹] exhibit a similar pattern to those reported for compounds [Ru₃(CO)₉(μ , η^2 -SC=CSiMe₃) (μ_3 , η^2 -C=CSiMe₃)] [4d], [Ru₃(CO)₉(μ -PPh₂)(μ -C=CR)] [6] and [Ru₃(CO)₉(μ -SC₂H₅)(μ_3 , η^2 -C=CR) (R = Me, Ph)] [2h].

The reaction carried out analogous using ^{*i*}Pr₃SiC=CSC=CH instead afforded [Ru₃(CO)₉(μ , η^2 - $SC \equiv CSi^{i}Pr_{3}(\mu_{3},\eta^{2}-C \equiv CH)$] (3) and $[Ru_{3}(CO)_{9}(\mu,\eta^{2}-C \equiv CH)]$ $SC \equiv CH$)(μ_3, η^2 - $C \equiv CSi^i Pr_3$)] (4). The favouring of 2 and 3 over 1 and 4 (Scheme 1) may be due to steric reasons. In the ¹H NMR spectrum of **3** and **4** the resonances of the Si^{*i*}Pr₃ and CH groups appear as singlets at [1.13, 5.44 (3)], and [1.06, 2.99 (4) ppm], respectively. The IR v(CO) bands of both sets of compounds were similar to the above mentioned. We also found that desilylation of compounds 1 and 2 produces 4 and 3, respectively (Scheme 1).

X-ray diffraction studies have been carried out on compounds 2 and 3. Plots of the molecular structures are shown in Figs. 1 and 2. Selected bond lengths and angles are given in Tables 1 and 2.

Compounds 2 and 3 consist of an open triangular arrangement. The overall structure shown for these compounds is analogous to that previously described for the cluster [Ru₃(CO)₉(μ , η -SC=CSiMe₃)(μ , η -C=CSiMe₃)] [4d]. The alkynethiolate ligand bridges the two ruthenium atoms of the open edge of the Ru₃ triangle and the acetylide group is σ , π coordinate to three atoms. Assuming that the SC=C'Bu and C=C'Bu fragments formally donate three and five electrons, respectively, each metal center is electronically precise giving a total count of 50 cluster valence electrons to the molecule. The Ru–Ru bond distances [2.8166(7), 2.8346(10) and 2.8319(11), 2.8274(10) Å] are similar to those exhibited by [Ru₃(CO)₉(μ , η -SC=CSiMe₃)] [2.8397 (5) and 2.8204 (5) Å] [4d], [Ru₃



Scheme 1.



Fig. 1. Molecular structure of compound 2.



Fig. 2. Molecular structure of compound 3.

Table 1

Selected distances (Å) and angles (°) of $[Ru_3(CO)_9(\mu,\eta^2-SC\equiv CSi^4Pr_3)(\mu_3,\eta^2-C\equiv CSiMe_3)]$

Ru(1)–C(4)	2.354(4)
Ru(1)–C(3)	2.241(4)
Ru(1)–Ru(2)	2.8166(7)
Ru(2)–C(3)	1.945(4)
Ru(1)–S(1)	2.4321(11)
Ru(3)–C(4)	2.345(4)
Ru(2)–Ru(3)	2.8346(10)
Ru(3)–C(3)	2.246(4)
Ru(3)–S(1)	2.4326(11)
C(3)–C(4)	1.290(6)
S(1)–C(1)	1.705(5)
C(1)–C(2)	1.205(6)
Ru(1)-Ru(2)-Ru(3)	3.05(2)
Ru(1)-S(1)-Ru(3)	87.48(4)
C(1)–C(2)–Si(2)	167.8(4)
C(1)-C(2)-S(1)	173.2(4)
C(4)–C(3)–Ru(2)	153.8(3)

Table 2

Selected distances (Å) and angles (°) of $[Ru_3(CO)_9(\mu,\eta^2-SC\equiv CSi'Pr_3)(\mu_3,\eta^2-C\equiv CH)]$

Ru(1)–C(1)	1.934(8)
Ru(1)-Ru(3)	2.8319(11)
Ru(1)-Ru(2)	2.8274(10)
Ru(2)-C(1)	2.241(7)
Ru(2)–C(2)	2.287(8)
Ru(2)-S(1)	2.430(2)
Ru(3)–C(1)	2.235(7)
Ru(3)–C(2)	2.276(8)
Ru(3)-S(1)	2.4255(19)
C(3)–C(4)	1.197(10)
S(1)–C(3)	1.699(8)
C(1)–C(2)	1.288(11)
Ru(1)-Ru(2)-Ru(3)	71.90(3)
Ru(3)-S(1)-Ru(2)	86.36(6)
C(3)-C(4)-Si(1)	175.5(7)
C(4)-C(3)-S(1)	175.8(7)
C(1)-C(2)-Ru(1)	150.4(6)



 $(CO)_9(\mu$ -SC₂H₅)(μ_3,η^2 -C \equiv CR)] [(R = CH₃, 2.843(1) and 2.847(1) Å); R = Ph, 2.8391(8) and 2.8524(8) Å] [2h] and [Ru₃(CO)₉(μ -PPh₂)(μ_3,η^2 -C \equiv C'Bu)] [5a]. In addition the Ru–S distances [2.4321(11), 2.4326(11) and 2.430(2), 2.4255(19) Å] are comparable to values of 2.4353(7) and 2.4337(7) Å [4d].

Taking into account our experience in C-C coupling reactions between acetylide fragments to generate polycarbon chains, compound 3 was heated in xylene at 120 °C for 5 h affording complex 5 after chromatographic workup (Scheme 2). The new compound has been characterized by IR and NMR spectroscopy, analytical data and FAB mass spectrometry. The FAB mass spectrum gives the molecular ion at m/z 951 together with several peaks due to CO loss. The IR spectrum of 5 shows the presence of both terminal and bridging CO groups and the pattern is analogous to the related compounds $[Ru_4(CO)_9(\mu-CO)_2(\mu_4-S)(\mu_4,\eta^3-C)]$ $(Me_3Si)C(C \equiv CSiMe_3)$ [4d] and $[Ru_4(CO)_9(\mu - CO)_2(\mu_4 - Me_3)]$ S)(μ_4, η^2 -HC=CPh)] [7]. Although suitable crystals for X-ray diffraction were not obtained, all spectroscopic and analytical data as well as the absence of a terminal acetylenic hydrogen in the ¹H NMR spectrum suggest the formula $[Ru_4(CO)_{10}(\mu_4-S)(\mu_4,\eta^2-CHC)]$ (C=CSiⁱ Pr₃)] for this cluster.

Attempts to join compound 5 to ML_n fragments failed; however, this compound is of interest as an acetylenic cluster stabilized by sulfur.

3. Experimental

3.1. General information

All reactions were carried out under argon atmosphere using Schlenk techniques. Solvents were dried according to standard methods. IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin–Elmer 1600 FTIR spectrophotometer using NaCl cells. ¹H NMR was registered on a Bruker AMX-300 instrument in CDCl₃. Elemental analyses were performed on a Perkin–Elmer 240-B microanalyzer. FAB⁺ mass spectra were carried out on a WG AutoSpec spectrometer, using 3-nitrobenzyl

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alcohol as matrix. ${}^{i}Pr_{3}SiC \equiv CSC \equiv CSiMe_{3}$ and ${}^{i}Pr_{3}SiC \equiv CSC \equiv CH$ were prepared as previously reported [8].

3.2. Reaction of $Ru_3(CO)_{12}$ with ${}^iPr_3SiC \equiv CSC \equiv CSiMe_3$

A mixture of Ru₃(CO)₁₂ (0.100 g, 0.156 mmol) and an excess of ^{*i*}Pr₃SiC=CSC=CSiMe₃ (0.097 g, 0.313 mmol) in toluene (20 cm³) was heated at 70 °C. After stirring for 3 h at this temperature, the solvent was removed under vacuum and the residue chromatographed on silica gel. Elution with *n*-hexane gave first apale yellow band of [Ru₃(CO)₉(μ , η^2 -SC=CSiMe₃)(μ_3 , η^2 -C=CSi^{*i*}Pr₃)] (1) in trace amounts and a second orange band which afforded by dryness [Ru₃(CO)₉(μ , η^2 -SC=CSi^{*i*}Pr₃)(μ_3 , η^2 -C=CSiMe₃)] (2) as yellow solid (0.074 g, 55% yield). Crystals suitable for X-ray study of isomer 2 were obtained from *n*-hexane at 20 °C.

1: IR (*n*-hexane, cm⁻¹): 2096 (w), 2068 (s), 2052 (s), 2021 (vs), 1990 (w). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): 1.08 (s, 21H, Si^{*i*}Pr₃), 0.19 (s, 9H, SiMe₃).

2: IR (*n*-hexane, cm⁻¹): 2091 (w), 2072 (s), 2051 (s), 2018 (vs), 1988 (w).¹H NMR (CDCl₃): 1.08 (s, 21H,, Si^{*i*}Pr₃), 0.59 (s, 9H, SiMe₃). *Anal.* Calc. for $Ru_3SSi_2O_9C_{25}H_{30}$ (Found): C, 34.68 (34.90); H, 3.49 (3.48)%.

3.3. Reaction of $Ru_3(CO)_{12}$ with ${}^iPr_3SiC \equiv CSC \equiv CH$

Ru₃(CO)₁₂ (0.100 g, 0.156 mmol) in toluene (20 cm³) was heated at 60 °C and then an excess of ^{*i*}Pr₃SiC=CSC=CH (0.041 g, 0.172 mmol) added and the mixture was stirred for 5 h. Due to the thermal decomposition of the thioether, additional portions of the ligand were required until the reaction was complete as indicated by the IR spectrum. Elution with *n*-hexane afforded a yellow band of [Ru₃(CO)₉(μ , η^2 -SC=CSi^{*i*}Pr₃)(μ_3 , η^2 -C=CH)] (3) (0.043 g, 35% yield). Further elution with the same solvent gave trace amounts of a yellow band containing [Ru₃(CO)₉(μ , η^2 -SC=CH)(μ_3 , η^2 -C=CSi^{*i*}Pr₃)] (4).

3: IR (*n*-hexane, cm⁻¹): 2087 (w), 2077 (vs), 2054 (vs), 2019 (vs), 1990 (m). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): 5.44 (s, 1H, CCH), 1.13 (s, 21H, SiⁱPr₃). *Anal.* Calc. for Ru₃SSiO₉C₂₂H₂₂ (Found): C, 33.29 (33.40); H, 2.79 (2.68)%.

4: IR (*n*-hexane, cm⁻¹): 2098 (w), 2076 (s), 2054 (s), 2021 (vs), 1992 (w). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): 2.99 (s, 1H, SCCH), 1.08 (s, 21H, Si^{*i*}Pr₃).

3.4. Synthesis of compound $[Ru_4(CO)_9(\mu-CO)_2(\mu_4-S)(\mu_4-\eta^2-C(H)C)(C\equiv CSiMe_3)]$ (5)

 $[Ru_3(CO)_9(\mu,\eta^2-SC\equiv CSi^iPr_3)(\mu_3,\eta^2-C\equiv CH)]$ (0.127 g, 0.15 mmol) was heated at 120 °C in xylene (20 cm³) for 5 h.

Then the solvent was removed under vacuum. Column chromatography on silica gel, using *n*-hexane as eluent, yielded a yellow band containing $[Ru_4(CO)_9(\mu-CO)_2(\mu_4-S)(\mu_4,\eta^2-C(H)C)(C\equiv CSi^iPr_3)]$ as the main product.

IR (*n*-hexane, cm⁻¹): 2095 (w), 2062 (s) 2044 (vs), 2039 (sh), 2007 (m), 1995 (w), 1860 (w). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): 4.26 [s, 1H, C(H)C], 0.92 [s, 21H, SiⁱPr₃]. *Anal.* Calc. for Ru₄SSiO₁₁C₂₄H₂₂ (Found): C, 30.32 (30.35); H, 2.31 (2.58)%.

3.5. Crystal data for complexes 2 and 3

For the two compounds data were collected on a IPDS STOE diffractometer using a graphite-monochromated Mo K α radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073$ Å) at 170 K for 2 and at 293 K for 3. Crystal data and structure refinement parameters for compounds 2 and 3 are listed in Table 3. Final unit cell parameters were obtained by means of a least-squares refinement of a set of 8000 well measured reflections, and crystal decay was monitored during the data collection. No significant fluctuation of intensities were observed during the measurement. Structures were solved by Direct Methods using SIR 92 [9], and refined by least-squares procedures on a $|F|^2$ with the aid of SHELXL97 [10] included in the programs package WinGX version 1.63 [11]. The atomic scattering factors were taken from International Tables for X-Ray Crystallography [12]. All hydrogen atoms were located on a difference Fourier maps, and refined by using a riding model, with a Uiso fixed at 20% higher than Uiso of the

Table 3

Crystal data, data collection and structure refinement for compounds $\mathbf{2}$ and $\mathbf{3}$

	2	3
Formula	$C_{25}H_{30}O_9SSi_2Ru_3$	C22H22O9SSiRu3
Molecular weight	865.94	793.76
<i>T</i> (K)	170(2)	293(2)
Grid crystal size (mm)	$0.27 \times 0.22 \times 0.07$	$0.50 \times 0.45 \times 0.25$
Colour	light yellow	pale yellow
Crystal form	plate	parallelepiped
Crystal system	monoclinic	orthorhombic
Space group	$P2_{1}/c$	Pbca
a (Å)	25.220(5)	16.053(5)
$b(\mathbf{A})$	9.121(2)	16.088(5)
<i>c</i> (Å)	29.700(6)	22.600(5)
β (°)	101.15(3)	
V (Å ³)	6703(2)	5837(3)
Ζ	8	8
$\mu \text{ (mm}^{-1})$	1.512	1.807
2θ Range (°)	3.3-52.1	2.9-48.4
Reflections measured	43 953	35140
Reflections unique	10834	4620
$R_{\rm int}$	0.0484	0.1146
R	0.0283	0.0444
$R_{ m w}$	0.0596	0.0990
Goodness-of-fit	0.934	0.924
$\rho_{\rm max} - \rho_{\rm min} \ ({ m e} \ { m \AA}^{-3})$	0.720 and -0.378	0.512 and -0.608

 $C(sp^2)$ to which they were connected and 50% higher for hydrogens attached to $C(sp^3)$ atoms. All non-hydrogen atoms were anisotropically refined and in the last cycles of refinement a weighting scheme was used, where weights are calculated from the following formula: $w = 1/[\sigma_2(F_o^2) + (aP)^2 + bP]$, where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$. Criteria for a satisfactory complete analysis were the ratio of rms shift to standard deviations being less than 0.1 and also no significant residual electronic densities on final difference maps. Drawings of molecules are performed with the program ORTEP32 [13] with 50% probability displacement ellipsoids for non-hydrogen atoms.

4. Supplementary material

Crystallographic data for the structures reported on this paper have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, CCDC No. 219311 for compound **2** and No. 219312 for compound **3**. Copies of this information may be obtained free of charge from the Director, CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK (Fax: +44-1223-336033); e-mail: deposit@ ccdc.cam.ac.uk or www: http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

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