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# Preparation and molecular structures of the decanuclear diynyl-ruthenium-silver and -copper complexes $[M_6{\mu_3-C \equiv CC \equiv C[Ru(dppe)Cp^*]}_4(\mu-dppm)_2](BF_4)_2$ (M = Ag, Cu)

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# 1. Introduction

## ABSTRACT

Reactions between  $[M_2(dppm)_2(NCMe)_2]X_2$  [M = Ag, X = ClO<sub>4</sub>; M = Cu, X = BF<sub>4</sub>] and Ru(C=CC=CM)(dppe)Cp\* [M = Ag, Cu; generated in situ from Ru(C=CC=CH)(dppe)Cp\* and AgNO<sub>3</sub> or CuCl(PPh<sub>3</sub>), respectively] afford the cationic mixed-metal cluster diynyl complexes  $[M_6{\mu_3-C=CC=C[Ru(dppe)Cp^*]}_4{\mu-dppm}_2]X_2$ , of which the structures were determined by single-crystal XRD studies. Electrochemical studies indicate that there is no interaction between the ruthenium centres. Reactions between  $[M_2(\mu-dppm)_2(NCMe)_2](BF_4)_2$  and Ru(C=CC=CM')(dppe)Cp\* (M,M' = Cu, Ag) afforded a mixture of  $Ag_{6-n}Cu_n$  clusters, as shown by ES-MS and crystallographic studies. Preliminary studies suggest that extensive disproportionation occurs in solution.

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The formation of trinuclear copper(I) clusters in which the Cu– Cu vectors are bridged by dppm ligands, and bearing a variety of alkynyl groups capping the Cu<sub>3</sub> clusters, has been known for over a decade, the compounds  $[Cu_3(\mu-dppm)_3(\mu_3-C \square CR)_n](X)_{3-n}$  having been described by the groups of Gimeno and co-workers [1] and Yam and co-workers [2]. Since that time, many other examples have been described, including diynyl derivatives [3], extensive studies resulting from the demonstration that some show unusual luminescent behaviour. Some years later, Yam and coworkers described analogous clusters containing silver(I) [4]. Tetranuclear complexes  $Cu_4(\mu_3-C \square CR)_4(PR'_3)_4$  have also been described [5], as well as  $[Cu_4(\mu_4-C \square C)(\mu-dppm)_4](BF_4)_2$  [6].

Trinuclear alkynyl derivatives of Group 11 metals in which the alkynyl is end-capped by other metal-ligand fragments have also been described. For example, the reactions between  $[M_2(\mu$ -

dppm)<sub>2</sub>(NCMe)<sub>2</sub>]X<sub>2</sub> ([**2-M**]X<sub>2</sub>: M = Cu, Ag; X = BF<sub>4</sub>, PF<sub>6</sub>) with Re(C=CC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>2</sub>R<sub>2</sub>C=CH-4)(NN)(CO)<sub>3</sub> (R = H, Me; NN = bpy, Me<sub>2</sub>bpy, Bu<sup>t</sup><sub>2</sub>bpy) afforded complexes [M<sub>3</sub>{ $\mu_3$ -C=CC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>2</sub>R<sub>2</sub>C=C[Re(NN)-(CO)<sub>3</sub>]}<sub>2</sub>( $\mu$ -dppm)<sub>3</sub>]X<sub>2</sub> [7] while similar complexes containing diynyl spacers have also been described [8]. Under different reaction conditions, hexanuclear diynyl complexes [Ag<sub>6</sub>{ $\mu_3$ -C=CC=C[Re(NN)(CO)<sub>3</sub>]}<sub>4</sub>( $\mu$ -dppm)<sub>4</sub>](PF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>2</sub> could be obtained [9]. This Communication describes some related systems containing ruthenium.

# 2. Results and discussion

The reaction of Ru(C $\equiv$ CC $\equiv$ CH)(dppe)Cp<sup>\*</sup> (Cp<sup>\*</sup> =  $\eta$ -C<sub>5</sub>Me<sub>5</sub>) with AgNO<sub>3</sub>, in the presence of 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene (dbu) as base, affords a yellow insoluble, apparently non-explosive and presumably polymeric material of composition Ru(C=CC=CAg)(dppe)Cp\* **1-Ag**. The similar copper(I) analogue be obtained from the reaction 1-Cu can between Ru(C=CC=CH)(dppe)Cp\* and CuCl(PPh<sub>3</sub>) in the presence of NaOMe. Both materials were characterised only on the basis of their microanalyses and limited IR spectral data, the latter having weak  $v(C \equiv C)$  bands between 2025 and 2075 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The ES-MS of **1-Ag** contains ions at m/z ca 1400 corresponding to [{Cp\*(dppe)

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 $\operatorname{RuC}_{4}_{2}^{\dagger}$  and  $[{\operatorname{Cp}^{*}(\operatorname{dppe})\operatorname{RuC}_{4}_{2} + \operatorname{Ag}]^{+}$ , possibly arising from impurities, together with some 3+ ions at m/z ca 7000, indicating very high mass aggregates. Further studies of these systems are necessary for full characterisation.

Nevertheless, we have used both compounds as sources of the diynyl-ruthenium fragment in their reactions with  $[M_2(\mu-dppm)_2(NCMe)_2]^{2+}$  (M = Cu, Ag) (Scheme 1). The reaction between Ru(C=CC=CAg)(dppe)Cp\* **1-Ag** and  $[Ag_2(\mu-dppm)_2(NCMe)_2]$  (ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> **[2-Ag]**(ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> was carried out in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH. Upon work-up, crystalline  $[Ag_6{\mu_3-C}=CC=C[Ru(dppe)Cp^*]_4(\mu-dppm)_2]$  (ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> **[3-Ag]**(ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> was obtained in 76% yield (Scheme 1). The analogous Cu<sub>6</sub>Ru<sub>4</sub> derivative **[3-Cu]**(BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> was obtained as a red crystalline solid in 80% yield from the reaction between Ru(C=CC=CCu)(dppe)Cp\* **1-Cu** and  $[Cu_2(\mu-dppm)_2(NCMe)_2]$  (BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> **[2-Cu]**(BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>.

The IR spectra of  $[3-Ag](ClO_4)_2$  and  $[3-Cu](BF_4)_2$  contain medium intensity  $v(C \equiv C)$  bands at 2039 (sh), 2003 (br) (Ag) or 2004 (sh), 1985 (br) cm<sup>-1</sup> (Cu), while NMR spectra contain appropriate resonances for the Cp\*, dppe and dppm ligands. In particular, the <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectra contain single resonances for the dppe ligands at  $\delta_P$  80.5 (Ag) or 79.3 (Cu), together with broad multiplets at  $\delta_P$ 6.5 (Ag) or -6.6, -11.0 (Cu) for the dppm ligands. The electrospray mass spectra (ES–MS), discussed further below, contain the parent dications  $[M]^{2+}$  at m/z 2073.5 (Ag) or 1941 (Cu), together with weak, presently unassigned, 3+ and 4+ ions and, for  $[3-Cu]^{2+}$ , weak peaks at lower mass corresponding to  $[{Cp*(dppe)RuC_4}_2]^+$  and  $[{Cp*(dppe)RuC_4}_2 + Cu]^+$ .

A cyclic voltammetric study of  $[3-Ag](CIO_4)_2$  showed only a single quasi-reversible oxidation process at +1.29 V, with a second irreversible wave at +2.02 V. This result is consistent with there being no electronic communication between the four ruthenium centres in  $[3-Ag]^{2+}$ . Thus, insertion of the Ag<sub>6</sub> unit into the Ru-C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-Ru fragment destroys the interaction found previously for related Ru-C<sub>8</sub>-Ru systems [10].

The CV of  $[3-Cu](BF_4)_2$  was dominated by a large, irreversible anodic process from ca +0.38 V. The oxidation was accompanied by significant fouling of the electrode, consistent with degradation of the cluster core. The chemical stability of the redox products was not enhanced at sub-ambient temperatures, and the process



M = Ag (3), Ag / Cu (4A, 4B)

Scheme 1. Synthesis of  $[M_6{\mu_3-C \equiv CC \equiv C[Ru(dppe)Cp^*]}_4 (\mu-dppm)_2]^{2+}$ .

remained electrochemically and chemically irreversible at scan rates up to 800 mV s<sup>-1</sup>. Attempts to probe further the nature of the oxidation processes were hampered by the instability of the redox products on the longer timescale of spectro-electrochemical experiments.

#### 2.1. Molecular structures

Crystals of the 9MeCN-solvate of  $[3-Ag](ClO_4)_2$  were obtained from MeCN/diethyl ether, while a mixed CHCl<sub>3</sub>–C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub> solvate of  $[3-Cu](BF_4)_2$  was isolated from a mixture of these solvents. Both crystals proved suitable for XRD structure determinations. Fig. 1 is a plot of the cation  $[3-Ag]^+$ , the copper analogue being similar. Pertinent structural parameters are collected in Tables 1 and 2.

In the cation  $[3-Ag]^{2+}$ , the core is a centrosymmetric distorted octahedral Ag<sub>6</sub> cluster (Fig. 2). Atom sets Ag(1)Ag(3a) and Ag(1a)Ag(3) are each bridged by one dppm ligand [Ag(1)–P(5) and Ag(3)–P(6') separations of 2.404(2), 2.411(2) Å, respectively] leading to long Ag...Ag distances [3.5334(6) Å]. All other Ag...Ag separations are in the range of 2.8104(8)–3.0056(9) Å, which are shorter than the sum of van der Waals radii for Ag (3.4 Å) and are thus suggestive of significant argentophilic interactions [11]. For [3-Cu]<sup>2+</sup>, a similar arrangement is found, with Cu(1)–P(5) and Cu(3)–P(6) separations of 2.194(2), 2.222(2) Å, respectively, and Cu...Cu distances between 2.446(1) and 3.301(2) Å.

Four of the triangular faces of the  $M_6$  octahedron are capped by atoms C(4), C(4'), C(8), C(8') (where the prime refers to the centrosymmetrically related atom) of the butadiynyl-ruthenium group in an asymmetric  $\mu_3$ , $\eta^1$ -bridging mode [Ag(1,2,3)–C(4) 2.359(6), 2.075(6), 2.330(6); Ag(1,2,3)–C(8, or 8') 2.303(6), 2.109(6), 2.389(6); Cu(1,2,3)–C(4) 2.093(6), 1.900(6), 2.110(6); Cu(1,2,3)– C(8, or 8') 2.075(6), 1.937(6), 2.043(6) Å]. The diynyl nature of the carbon chain is shown by the short-long-short CC bond sequences [ranges 1.226(8)–1.240(8), 1.360(9), 1.365(8) (Ag), 1.224–1.231(8), 1.369(9), 1.372(9) (Cu)] which indicate that the alternating C=C and C–C bonds are preserved in the chain. Angles at C(1), C(2), C(3), and C(5), C(6), C(7) are close to linear [range 171.1(6)–179.8(7)°].

The geometries of the Ru(dppe)Cp\* end-caps are similar to those found in many related derivatives, with distances Ru–P [2.269(2)–2.278(2) Å], Ru–C(Cp\*) [2.228(7)–2.310(7) Å] and Ru–C(diynyl) [1.965(6)–1.981(6) Å] and angles P–Ru–P [83.60(8)–84.78(2)°] and P–Ru–C(diynyl) [82.0(2)–88.4(2)°], respectively. These values may be compared to those found in Ru(C=CC=CH)(dppe)Cp\* [12]. There is no obvious contact between the four ruthenium centres, except that provided through the Ag<sub>6</sub> cluster via the diynyl links.

Overall, the structure has some features in common with those found for  $[Ag_6(\mu-dppm)_4{\mu_3-C C C Re(NN)(CO)_3]}_4](PF_6)_2$  (NN = Me<sub>2</sub>bpy, Br<sub>2</sub>phen) [9], in which the central Ag<sub>6</sub> unit has Ag...Ag separations between 2.940(3)–3.007(3) and 3.0206(11)–3.0415(10) Å, respectively. However, there are only two bridging dppm ligands in [**3-Ag**]<sup>2+</sup> and [**3-Cu**]<sup>2+</sup>. The extents of M...M interactions are not obvious from the structural determinations and would require computational studies to establish.

#### 2.2. Mixed Ag/Cu complexes

In an effort to describe the reaction in more detail, we then studied the reactions between the Ru(C=CC=CM')(dppe)Cp\* precursors **1-M'** and  $[M_2(\mu$ -dppm)\_2(NCMe)\_2](BF\_4)\_2 **[2-M]**(BF\_4)\_2 (M, M' = Cu, Ag) using a stoichiometry that generated equal amounts of M and M' in solution. From these reactions, we obtained pale yellow solids **[4A]**<sup>2+</sup> (from **[1-Cu]**<sup>2+</sup> + **[2-Ag]**<sup>2+</sup>) and **[4B]**<sup>2+</sup> (from **[1-Ag]**<sup>2+</sup> + **[2-Cu]**<sup>2+</sup>) as the BF<sub>4</sub> salts, each of which afforded crystals



 $\label{eq:Fig. 1. Plot of the cation in [Ag_6{\mu_3-C} CC CC C[Ru(dppe)Cp^*]}_4(\mu-dppm)_2](ClO_4)_2 \ [\textbf{3-Ag}](ClO_4)_2.$ 

Table 1	
Core geometries (Å) for <b>3-Ag</b> , <b>3-Cu</b> , <b>4A</b> and <b>4B.</b>	

Compound	3-Ag	3-Cu	4A	4B
Composition	Ag <sub>6</sub>	Cu <sub>6</sub>	Ag <sub>2.8</sub> Cu <sub>3.2</sub>	Ag <sub>3.1</sub> Cu <sub>2.9</sub>
M <sub>eq</sub> -M <sub>eq</sub> (dppm-bridged)	3.53	3.30	3.30	3.45
M <sub>eq</sub> ···M <sub>eq</sub> (non-bridged)	2.81	2.45	2.68	2.59
M <sub>eq</sub> -M <sub>ap</sub> (average)	2.96	2.67	2.79	2.86

Table 2
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Some bond distances (Å) and angles (°).

Cation	[ <b>3-Ag</b> ] <sup>2+</sup>	<b>[3-Cu</b> ] <sup>2+</sup>
M(1)-P(5)	2.404(2)	2.194(2)
M(3)-P(6)	2.411(2)	2.222(2)
M(1)-C(4,8)	2.359(6), 2.303(6)	2.093(6), 2.075(6)
M(2)-C(4,8')	2.075(6), 2.109(6)	1.900(6), 1.937(6)
M(3)-C(4,8)	2.330(6), 2.389(6)	2.110(6), 2.043(6)
C(1)-C(2)	1.239(8)	1.225(9)
C(2)-C(3)	1.365(8)	1.369(9)
C(3)-C(4)	1.230(8)	1.224(8)
C(5)-C(6)	1.240(8)	1.225(8)
C(6)-C(7)	1.360(8)	1.372(9)
C(7)-C(8)	1.226(8)	1.231(9)
Ru(1)-C(1)-C(2)	171.1(6)	178.7(7)
Ru(2)-C(5)-C(6)	176.8(5)	171.0(6)
C(1)-C(2)-C(3)	171.4(7)	174.3(8)
C(2)-C(3)-C(4)	179.8(7)	179.4(8)
C(5)-C(6)-C(7)	173.2(6)	171.0(6
C(6)-C(7)-C(8)	178.5(7)	179.7(6)

Symmetry operation:1–*x*, 1–*y*, 1–*z*.

suitable for structure determinations from  $CH_2Cl_2$ /hexane or MeCN /  $Et_2O$ , respectively (below).



Fig. 2. Plot of the core of  $[3\text{-}Ag]^{2+}$  showing Ag, P and C atoms only. The cores in  $[3\text{-}Cu]^{2+}$ ,  $[4A]^{2+}$  and  $[4B]^{2+}$  are similar.

Complexes  $[4A](BF_4)_2$  and  $[4B](BF_4)_2$  were also studied by single-crystal X-ray analyses as their  $8CH_2Cl_2$  and 10MeCN solvates, respectively. A plot of the dication  $[4A]^{2+}$  is shown in Fig. 3. The cations are isostructural with  $[3-Ag]^{2+}$  and  $[3-Cu]^{2+}$  showing common features of distorted octahedral  $M_6$  clusters (M = Ag/Cu) in which two  $M \cdots M$  vectors are bridged by dppm ligands and four of the triangular faces of the octahedron are capped by the diynyl-ruthenium fragments. The inter-Group 11 atom separations are significantly different, as shown in Table 1.



Fig. 3. Plot of the cation in  $[(Cu/Ag)_6 C \equiv CC \equiv C[Ru(dppe)Cp^*]]_4(dppm)_2](BF_4)_2$  [4A](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>.

The Ag/Cu atoms are not statistically placed at each of the sites in the cluster core, rather the refinements for the products from 1-Ag and 1-Cu converge with the fraction of Ag at the M(1,2,3) sites being 0.403(6), 0.287(7), 0.721(6) in [4A]<sup>2+</sup>, and 0.287(1), 0.713(1), 0.577(1) in  $[4B]^{2+}$ , corresponding to compositions Ag<sub>2.8</sub>Cu<sub>3.2</sub>  $([\mathbf{4A}]^{2^+})$  and Ag<sub>3.1</sub>Cu<sub>2.9</sub>  $([\mathbf{4B}]^{2^+})$ . Strangely, the chemically equivalent dppm-bridged equatorial sites M(1) and M(3) have very unequal occupancy values in each case (0.403/0.721 and 0.287/ 0.577, respectively), while the unique apical site M(2) has the lowest Ag contribution for  $[4A]^{2+}$  (0.287) but the largest for  $[4B]^{2+}$ (0.713). The overall composition deduced from the site occupancy factors is supported by the M-M bond distances, with average values gradually decreasing from  $[3-Ag]^{2+}$  to  $[4B]^{2+}$  to  $[4A]^{2+}$  and finally, to [3-Cu]<sup>2+</sup>, as the fraction of the larger Ag decreases at the expense of increasing Cu (Table 1), with longer bonds to comparable sites of higher Ag contribution.

Electrospray mass spectra of solutions of [4A](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and  $[4B](BF_4)_2$  in MeOH revealed that in each case, a mixture of complexes containing  $Ag_{6-n}Cu_n$  (n = 1 - 6) cores was present. Virtually identical mass spectra were found for both  $[\mathbf{4A}]^{2+}$  and  $[\mathbf{4B}]^2$ (Fig. 4). The highest mass ions of significance correspond to  $[M]^{2+}$ and are found between m/z 1940 and 2030, corresponding to complexes with  $Cu_{6-n}Ag_n$  (n = 1-6) cores. However, the distribution is not the statistical one expected from an equal Cu/Ag ratio. The measured ratios are 0.03:0.34:1.00:0.80:0.14:0:0 for n = 0-6, respectively, corresponding to an overall composition Cu<sub>3.7</sub>Ag<sub>2.3</sub> for the products from each of the reactions. Clearly there is a bias towards the inclusion of more Cu than expected on a purely statistical basis, irrespective of whether it is added as diynyl 1-Cu or the dppm-bridged dimer 2-Cu. Further, the overall compositions calculated from the ion relative intensities differ significantly from those obtained from the X-ray studies, namely  $Ag_{2,8}Cu_{3,2}$  ([4A]<sup>2+</sup>)



**Fig. 4.** ES mass spectrum (m/z 1900–2100) of  $[\mathbf{4A}]^{2+}$  shows the distribution of core compositions for the  $[(Ag_nCu_{6-n})\{C_4Ru(dppe)Cp^*\}_4(dppm)_2]^{2+}$  ions. The mass spectrum of  $[\mathbf{4B}]^{2+}$  shows essentially the same relative intensities.

and  $Ag_{3,1}Cu_{2,9}([4B]^{2+})$ . From the stoichiometry of the reaction mixture, an  $Ag_3Cu_3$  ratio might have been expected.

A possible explanation for the discrepancy is the occurrence of redistribution reactions in solution. Further studies of the ES-MS in MeCN as a function of time have given the following results:

- Within the time of mixing, solutions of a mixture of  $[3-\text{Ag}]^{2+}$ and  $[3-\text{Cu}]^{2+}$  contain cluster ions corresponding to Cu<sub>6</sub>, AgCu<sub>5</sub>, Ag<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>4</sub> and Ag<sub>3</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>, the concentrations of the silver-rich ions increasing on standing. However, no Ag<sub>4</sub>Cu<sub>2</sub> ions are present after ten minutes, although this species would have been expected to form statistically.
- A solution of pre-prepared Ag<sub>4</sub>Cu<sub>2</sub> cluster contains Ag<sub>5</sub>Cu and Ag<sub>4</sub>Cu<sub>2</sub>, with lesser amounts of Ag<sub>3</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub> and Ag<sub>6</sub>. After ten minutes, the spectra were more complex.

These data suggest that these clusters are labile in solution, with complex disproportionation reactions occurring, and in turn provide an explanation for the broad resonances found in the <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectra. The differing compositions of materials studied by XRD methods and ES-MS presumably reflect differing stoichiometries of the isolated materials that were used in the separate experiments.

#### 3. Conclusions

Reactions between the Group 11 cations  $[M_2(\mu-dppm)_2(NCMe)_2]^{2+}$  (M = Ag, Cu) and the Ag and Cu derivatives of the diynyl Ru(C=CC=CH)(dppe)Cp\* have given a series of polynuclear complexes in which four C=CC=C{Ru(dppe)Cp\*} fragments and two dppm ligands are attached to a hexanuclear Group 11 metal core. The stoichiometry requires addition of four Ag-diynyl fragments to the disilver cation. Formation of the hexanuclear cation may be envisaged as involving formation of the Ag<sub>6</sub> assembly by argentophilic combination of the precursor reagents 1 and 2, followed by migration of the dppm ligands and capping of four Ag\_3 faces by the diynyl fragments.

Differing compositions of solid materials isolated from mixedmetal reactions, together with extended ES–MS studies, suggest that rapid disproportionation of the complexes is occurring in solution. In this study, it has not been possible to determine how these reactions occur, but scrambling processes of the ligands about the central core may account for the almost identical compositions of the two products obtained in the mixed-metal reactions. This process may involve migration of the dppm ligands between Group 11 metal centres, or migration of the face-capping diynyl ligands, or both.

#### 4. Experimental

#### 4.1. General experimental conditions

All reactions were carried out under dry nitrogen using standard Schlenk techniques, although normally no special precautions to exclude air were taken during subsequent workup. Common solvents were dried, distilled under nitrogen, and degassed before use.

#### 4.2. Instruments

Infrared spectra: Bruker IFS28 FT-IR spectrometer. IR spectra were obtained from samples in Nujol mulls mounted between NaCl discs. NMR spectra: Varian ACP300 instrument (<sup>1</sup>H at 300.13 MHz, <sup>31</sup>P at 121.503 MHz) at 298 K. Unless otherwise stated, samples were dissolved in acetone- $d_6$  (Aldrich) contained in 5 mm sample tubes. Chemical shifts are given in ppm relative to internal tetramethylsilane for <sup>1</sup>H spectra and external H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> for <sup>31</sup>P NMR spec-

tra. Electrospray mass spectra (ES–MS; positive-ion mode): Fisons VG Platform II spectrometer. Solutions in MeOH were injected via a 10 ml injection loop; nitrogen was used as the drying and nebulising gas. Ions listed are the most intense peaks in the isotopic envelope. CVs were recorded from solutions in  $CH_2Cl_2$  ca  $10^{-4}$  M in analyte also containing  $10^{-1}$  M [NBu<sub>4</sub>]BF<sub>4</sub> in a gas-tight single-compartment three-electrode cell equipped with platinum working, coiled platinum wire auxiliary and platinum wire pseudo-reference electrodes at scan rates of 50-800 mV s<sup>-1</sup>. All redox potentials are reported vs SCE, with the FeCp\*<sub>2</sub>/[FeCp\*<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup> redox couple (-0.07 V vs. SCE) used as internal reference. Data were collected using a computer-interfaced EcoChemie PGSTAT-30 potentiostat. Elemental analyses were performed by Campbell Microanalytical Laboratory, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand.

## 4.3. Reagents

The compounds  $Ru(C \equiv CC \equiv CR)(dppe)Cp^*$  (R = H, SiMe<sub>3</sub>) [12], [ $Cu_2(dppm)_2(NCMe)_2$ ](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> [13], [ $Ag_2(dppm)_2(NCMe)_2$ ](ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> [14] and CuCl(PPh<sub>3</sub>) [15] were made by the cited methods.

#### 4.4. Preparation of Ru(C=CC=CAg)(dppe)Cp\* 1-Ag

To a solution of Ru( $C \equiv CC \equiv CH$ )(dppe)Cp\* (68.4 mg, 0.1 mmol) in MeCN (15 mL) was added dbu (0.06 mL, 0.4 mmol), followed by solid AgNO<sub>3</sub> (34 mg, 0.2 mmol). The resulting suspension was stirred overnight at r.t. before being filtered on a sintered glass funnel and washed with MeCN (2 mL) to give yellow Ru( $C \equiv CC \equiv CAg$ )(dppe)Cp\* **1-Ag** which was dried under vacuum (59 mg, 75%). IR/cm<sup>-1</sup>:  $v(C \equiv CC \equiv C)$  2075m, 2045m. Anal. Calcd. (C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>39</sub>AgP<sub>2</sub>Ru): C, 60.76; H, 4.94; Ag, 13.67. Found: C, 60.29; H, 5.01; Ag, 13.14%.

# 4.5. Preparation of Ru(C=CC=CCu)(dppe)Cp\* 1-Cu

To a suspension of Ru(C=CC=CSiMe<sub>3</sub>)(dppe)Cp\* (76 mg, 0.1 mmol) and CuCl(PPh<sub>3</sub>) (36 mg, 0.1 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added NaOMe (from 30 mg Na dissolved in 1 mL MeOH) to give a deep red solution. The reaction mixture was stirred overnight at r.t. The resulting light yellow precipitate was filtered under nitrogen, washed thoroughly with MeOH (2 mL) and dried under vacuum to give Ru(C=CC=Cu)(dppe)Cp\* **1-Cu** (55 mg, 73%). IR/ cm<sup>-1</sup>: v(C=CC=C) 2044w, 2025 w. Anal. Calcd. (C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>39</sub>CuP<sub>2</sub>Ru): C, 64.38; H, 5.27. Found: C, 64.09; H, 5.43%.

4.6. Preparation of [Ag<sub>6</sub>{C=CC=C[Ru(dppe)Cp\*]}<sub>4</sub>(dppm)<sub>2</sub>](ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> [**3-** Ag](ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>

**CAUTION**: Appropriate care should be taken with reactions involving perchlorates and poly-ynes.

Ru(C=CC=CAg)(dppe)Cp\* (80 mg, 0.1 mmol) was added slowly to [Ag<sub>2</sub>(dppm)<sub>2</sub>(MeCN)<sub>2</sub>](ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (32 mg, 0.025 mmol) dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-MeOH (1/1) (15 mL). After stirring overnight with exclusion of light a clear deep red solution resulted. After evaporation to dryness, the solid residue was extracted with MeCN and subsequent diffusion of Et<sub>2</sub>O vapour into the concentrated solution resulted in the formation of yellow crystals of  $[Ag_6]C = CC =$  $C[Ru(dppe)Cp^*]$ <sub>4</sub>(dppm)<sub>2</sub>](ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·9MeCN  $[3-Ag](ClO_4)_2 \cdot 9MeCN$ (90 mg, 76%). Anal. Calcd. (C<sub>210</sub>H<sub>200</sub>Ag<sub>6</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub>P<sub>12</sub>Ru<sub>4</sub>.9MeCN): C, 58.08; H, 4.85; N, 2.67; M (cation), 4147. Found: C, 58.05; H, 4.68; N, 2.31%. IR/cm<sup>-1</sup>: v(C≡CC≡C) 2039 (sh), 2003m (br). <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  1.53 (s, 60H, Cp\*), 2.11 (s, 27H, MeCN), 3.48-3.68 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>-dppm), 2.09, 3.03 (16H, CH<sub>2</sub>-dppe), 7.07-7.84 (m, 120H, Ph); <sup>31</sup>P NMR: δ 80.5 (br s, dppe), 6.5 (br m, dppm). ES-MS/*m*/*z*: 2073.5, [Ag<sub>6</sub>(dppm)<sub>2</sub>{Ru(dppe)Cp\*}<sub>4</sub>]<sup>2+</sup>.

4.7. Preparation of [Cu<sub>6</sub>{C=CcvC[Ru(dppe)Cp\*]}<sub>4</sub>(dppm)<sub>2</sub>](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> [**3-Cu**](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>

A similar reaction used Ru( $C \equiv CC \equiv CCu$ )(dppe)Cp\* (74 mg, 0.1 mmol) and [Cu<sub>2</sub>(dppm)<sub>2</sub>(MeCN)<sub>2</sub>](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (30 mg, 0.05 mmol). After stirring overnight, solvent was removed from the clear dark red solution and the residue was crystallized from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> to give red [Cu<sub>6</sub>{ $C \equiv CC \equiv C[Ru(dppe)Cp^*]$ }(dppm)<sub>2</sub>](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> [**3-Cu**](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (81 mg, 77%). Anal. Calcd. ( $C_{210}H_{200}B_2Cu_6F_8P_{12}Ru_4$ ): C, 62.21; H, 4.97; *M* (cation), 3882. Found: C, 61.81; H, 5.01%. IR/cm<sup>-1</sup>:  $v(C \equiv CC \equiv C)$  2004 (sh), 1985m (br); v(BF) 1092m. <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  1.57 (s, 60H, Cp\*), 3.66 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>-dppm), 2.10, 2.84 (2 × m, 16H, CH<sub>2</sub>-dppe), 6.94–8.00 (m, 120H, Ph); <sup>31</sup>P NMR:  $\delta$  79.3 (br s, dppe), -6.6, -11.0 (2 × m, dppm). ES-MS/*m*/*z*: 1941, [Cu<sub>6</sub>(dppm)<sub>2</sub>{Ru(dppe)Cp\*}<sub>4</sub>]<sup>2+</sup>. X-ray quality crystals were grown from CHCl<sub>3</sub>/C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>.

# 4.8. Preparation of [(Ag/

 $Cu_{6}$   $C \equiv C \equiv C [Ru(dppe)Cp^*]_{4}(dppm)_{2}](BF_{4})_{2} [A and A]$ 

These mixed-metal compounds were made in reactions similar to that used for **2**, using either Ru(C $\equiv$ CCu)(dppe)Cp<sup>\*</sup> and [Ag<sub>2</sub>(dppm)<sub>2</sub>(MeCN)<sub>2</sub>](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> [to give [**4A**](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] or Ru(C $\equiv$ CC $\equiv$ CAg)(dppe)Cp<sup>\*</sup> and [Cu<sub>2</sub>(dppm)<sub>2</sub>(MeCN)<sub>2</sub>](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> [to give [**4B**](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]. Both products formed yellow solids. Anal. for **4B** only. Calcd. (C<sub>210</sub>H<sub>200</sub>Ag<sub>3.1</sub>B<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>2.9</sub>F<sub>8</sub>P<sub>12</sub>Ru<sub>4</sub>): C, 60.09; H, 4.77. Found: C, 59.91; H, 4.99%. IR/cm<sup>-1</sup>: v(C $\equiv$ CC $\equiv$ C) 1989w. <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta$  1.46 (s, 60H, Cp<sup>\*</sup>), 2.05, 2.81 (16H, CH<sub>2</sub>-dppe), 3.4-3.7 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>-dppm), 6.90–7.75 (m, 120H, Ph). <sup>31</sup>P NMR: for **4A**  $\delta$  80.2 (br s, dppe), -2.8, -10.9 (2 × m, dppm); for **4B**  $\delta$  79.8 (s, 8P, dppe) (dppm P not detected). ES-MS/m/z: 1985, [Ag<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>4</sub>(dppm)<sub>2</sub>{Ru(dppe)Cp<sup>\*</sup>}<sub>4</sub>]<sup>2+</sup>; 1963, [AgCu<sub>5</sub>(dppm)<sub>2</sub>{Ru(dppe)Cp<sup>\*</sup>}<sub>4</sub>]<sup>2+</sup>; 2007, [Ag<sub>3</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>(dppm)<sub>2</sub>{Ru(dppe)Cp<sup>\*</sup>}<sub>4</sub>]<sup>2+</sup>.

# 4.9. Structure determinations

Diffractometer data were measured using an Oxford Diffraction Xcalibur ([**3-Ag**](ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, [**4A**](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, [**4B**](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>; Mo Kα radiation,  $\lambda = 0.7107_3$  Å) or Gemini ([**3-Cu**](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>; Cu Kα radiation,  $\lambda = 1.54178v$ Å) CCD diffractometers at 100(2) K. N<sub>tot</sub> reflections were merged to *N* unique (*R*<sub>int</sub> cited) after multi-scan or analytical

#### Table 3

Crystal data and refinement details.

absorption corrections with  $N_0$  having  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ . Following solution by direct methods, the structures were refined against  $F^2$ . Anisotropic displacement parameter forms were refined for the nonhydrogen atoms, (x, y, z,  $U_{iso}$ )<sub>H</sub> being included following a riding model. Neutral atom complex scattering factors were used; computation used the SHELXL-97 program [16]. Pertinent results are given in the Figures and in Tables 1–3.

#### 5. Variata

 $[3-Ag](ClO_4)_2$ . Ph ring (62n) was found to be disordered over two sets of sites with both components assigned occupancy factors of 0.5 after trial refinement. Refinement of ring C42n with anisotropic displacement factors gave unacceptable ellipsoids. A disordered model gave two components with sof 0.85 and 1 - 0.85with some of the atoms of the minor component unacceptably close to solvent atoms. The atoms of this ring were therefore refined with isotropic parameters. The site occupancy of solvent MeCN(5) was set at 0.5 after trial refinement. Atoms of disordered groups were refined with isotropic displacement parameters, with both rings being refined as rigid bodies.

[**3-Cu**]( $BF_4$ )<sub>2</sub>. One Ru(dppe)Cp\* group is disordered over two sets of sites with occupancies refined to 0.578(2) and its complement (with the exception of one Ph group which is common to both components). One Ph ring of the minor component was modeled as being further disordered over two sets of sites and refined with isotropic displacement parameters and with occupancies set equal after trial refinement. The BF<sub>4</sub> anion and solvent CHCl<sub>3</sub> molecule were similarly disordered. The solvent C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub> molecule was refined with isotropic displacement parameters. Residual electron density not modeled as either solvent was effectively removed by use of the program SQUEEZE [17], resulting in a significant decrease in the *R*-factor.

**[4A]**( $BF_{4}$ )<sub>2</sub>. Site occupancy factors for the Ag atoms at the mixed Ag/Cu sites 1, 2 and 3 were found to be 0.403(6), 0.287(6) and 0.721(6), respectively, with the occupancies for the Cu atoms being the complements.

 $[4B](BF_4)_2$ . Site occupancy factors for the Ag atoms at the mixed Ag/Cu sites 1, 2 and 3 were found to be 0.287(1), 0.713(1) and

Complex	[ <b>3-Ag</b> ](ClO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ·9MeCN	$[\textbf{3-Cu}](BF_4)_2 \cdot 2CHCl_3 \cdot C_6H_6$	[ <b>4A</b> ](BF <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ·8CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	[ <b>4B</b> ](BF <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ·10MeCN
Formula	$C_{210}H_{200}Ag_6P_{12}Ru_4$ $\cdot 2ClO_4 \cdot 9C_2H_3N$	$C_{210}H_{200}Cu_6P_{12}Ru_4.2BF_4.2CHCl_3.C_6H_6$	$\begin{array}{l} C_{210}H_{200}(Ag_{2.82}Cu_{3.18})P_{12}Ru_{4}\\ \cdot 2BF_{4}\cdot 8CH_{2}Cl_{2} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{l} C_{210}H_{200}(Ag_{3.15}Cu_{2.85})P_{12}Ru_{4}.2BF_{4}\\ \cdot 10C_{2}H_{3}N\end{array}$
Formula weight	4715.23	4371.32	4859.11	4604.84
Crystal system	Triclinic	Triclinic	Triclinic	Triclinic
Space group	ΡĪ	PĪ	PĪ	ΡĪ
a (Å)	17.2375(9)	16.4015(8)	16.3895(5)	16.4269(5)
b (Å)	18.0414(8)	17.4036(7)	17.6167(4)	17.4036(4)
c (Å)	19.3672(6)	20.7303(6)	21.3267(7)	20.8055(4)
α(°)	105.794(3)	79.070(3)	94.304(2)	78.167(2)
β (°)	92.668(3)	89.119(3)	107.006(3)	88.749(2)
γ (°)	113.674(5)	66.041(4)	113.817(2)	65.372(2)
Volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )	5224	5297	5254	5278
Ζ	1	1	1	1
$ ho_{ m c}$ (Mg m $^{-3}$ )	1.499	1.370	1.536	1.449
Crystal size (mm <sup>3</sup> )	$0.21 \times 0.17 \times 0.16$	$0.12 \times 0.04 \times 0.02$	$0.29 \times 0.26 \times 0.05$	$0.26 \times 0.20 \times 0.13$
$\mu$ (Mo K $lpha$ ) (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	1.007	4.883 (Cu-Kα)	1.205	0.997
F(000)	2394	2230	2459	2349
T <sub>min/max</sub>	0.90	0.75/0.91	0.75	0.94
N <sub>tot</sub>	35 274	55 190	66 926	80 412
$N(R_{\rm int})$	17 766 (0.050)	18 764 (0.1092)	31 695 (0.043)	33 579 (0.045)
No	9282	10 942	20 825	18 043
$R_1, wR_2 [I > 2\sigma(I)]$	0.0471, 0.1036	0.0612, 0.1568	0.0622, 0.1624	0.0478, 0.1030
$R_1$ , $wR_2$ (all data)	0.0922, 0.1138	0.1142, 0.1791	0.1003, 0.1777	0.0981, 0.1166
T (K)	100(2)	100(2)	100(2)	100 (2)

0.557(1), respectively, with the occupancies for the Cu atoms being the complements.

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## Appendix A. Supplementary material

CCDC 734433 **[3-Ag**](ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, 768209 **[3-Cu**](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, 734434 **[4A**](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and 734432 **[4B**](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> contain the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data\_request/cif. Supplementary data associated with this article can be found, in the online version, at doi:10.1016/j.jorganchem.2010.03.016.

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