

Solution Structure and Dynamics of Five-Coordinate d^6 Complexes

P. R. Hoffman and K. G. Caulton*

Contribution No. 2648 from the Department of Chemistry, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana 47401. Received January 20, 1975

Abstract: $\text{MX}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ ($\text{M} = \text{Ru}, \text{Os}$; $\text{X} = \text{Cl}, \text{Br}$) all exhibit square pyramidal (C_{2v}) geometry in solution but undergo an intramolecular rearrangement which equilibrates the two phosphorus environments. The rearrangement barrier is higher for Os than Ru, a fact which correlates with the bond length changes which accompany the rearrangement. The barrier for the bromo complex is larger than that of the chloro analog. $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ completely dissociates one phosphine in solution. $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ also dissociates triphenylphosphine to some extent, forming $[\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_2]_2$. $\text{OsX}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ does not exhibit detectable phosphine dissociation. $\text{RuHCl}(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ also undergoes intramolecular rearrangement, but shows no dissociated phosphine. $\text{RuH}(\text{O}_2\text{CCH}_3)(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ shows neither rearrangement nor phosphine dissociation. $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ exchanges with free PPh_3 by a dissociative mechanism. ^{31}P NMR parameters are reported for all complexes.

Wilkinson and coworkers have synthesized a variety of catalytically active triphenylphosphine (L) complexes of ruthenium(II). RuHClL_3^1 and $\text{RuH}(\text{O}_2\text{CR})\text{L}_3^2$ catalyze hydrogenation and olefin isomerization. The former compound also catalyzes hydrosilylation³ and exchange of the metal-bound and olefinic protons.⁴ While early reports showed hydrogenation catalysis when RuCl_2L_3 is the charged catalyst, the induction period observed suggests preliminary conversion to RuHClL_3 ; RuCl_2L_3 is also observed to catalyze the hydrogenation of oxygen to water.⁵ RuCl_2L_3 promotes exchange of D_2 with OH and NH bonds.⁶ Olefin isomerization,^{7,8} oxidation of PPh_3 ,⁹ and alcoholysis of diarylsilanes³ are also catalyzed by RuCl_2L_3 . At elevated temperatures in neat substrate, RuCl_2L_3 catalyzes dehydration of tertiary alcohols to the corresponding ether, racemization of $\text{RR}'\text{HCOH}$, and H/D interchange of $\text{RR}'\text{CHOD}$.^{10,11}

Characterization of the equilibria in solution is a prerequisite to any understanding of the mechanism of catalysis. We describe here such a study which includes detailed examination of the energetics and mechanism of the rearrangement of square pyramidal complexes of Ru(II) and Os(II). A portion of this work has appeared as a preliminary communication.¹²

Experimental Section

Instrumentation and sample handling have been described earlier.¹³ Downfield chemical shifts are recorded as *positive*. While this is contrary to most previous papers on ^{31}P NMR, it conforms to the recommended convention.¹⁴ Concentrations were calculated from weights of solid complexes and volumes (or weights) of pure solvents. The resulting concentration units are quoted as molarities, neglecting any small volume increase due to the solute. Line widths were read directly from the digitized spectra; the $\nu_{1/2}$ values in Table III represent only the exchange contribution to the full width at half-height. Error limits represent maximum possible deviations from stated values and were determined as previously described.¹³ RuCl_2L_3 ,¹⁵ RuCl_2L_4 ,¹⁵ RuHClL_3 ,¹ $\text{RuH}(\text{O}_2\text{C-Me})\text{L}_3$,² RuH_2L_4 ,¹⁶ and $\text{RuCl}_2[\text{P}(\text{OPh})_3]_4$ ¹⁷ were prepared according to the literature.

At 30° RuCl_2L_3 is stable in sealed evacuated tubes in CHCl_3 or CH_2Cl_2 for months, showing only a tendency to deposit dark crystals (see text). Oxygen reacts instantly with RuCl_2L_3 to produce triphenylphosphine oxide, and the absence of a ^{31}P NMR peak at +27.7 ppm (CH_2Cl_2) due to this product is a useful criterion of purity; phosphine oxide is also produced in some of the syntheses used here, thus providing an alternative source for this resonance. RuHClL_3 shows no evidence for reaction with CH_2Cl_2 over a period of 12–24 hr at 30° . We find no evidence by ^{31}P or ^1H NMR, for a second "isomer" of RuHClL_3 as described in ref 1.

$\text{OsCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$. $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{OsCl}_6$ (0.10 g) and PPh_3 (0.42 g) were refluxed under nitrogen for 115 hr in a solvent mixture composed of 25 ml of *tert*-butyl alcohol and 10 ml of water. After cooling to room temperature, the pale green solid was filtered, washed with three 5-ml portions of H_2O , three 5-ml portions of methanol, and three 5-ml portions of hexane. The solid was dried under vacuum. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{54}\text{H}_{45}\text{Cl}_2\text{OsP}_3$: C, 61.89; H, 4.30; Cl, 6.78. Found: C, 61.15; H, 4.54; Cl, 6.59. This sample was shown by ^{31}P NMR to contain about 10 mol % PPh_3 . This can be removed by prolonged stirring under hexane at room temperature.

$\text{RuH}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_4 + \text{HBr}$. To 0.5 g of RuH_2L_4 and 0.34 g of L in a mixture of 40 ml of methanol and 4 ml of THF was added 2 ml of 48% aqueous HBr. After stirring with slight warming for 2 hr under nitrogen, the mixture was cooled and filtered and the solid vacuum dried. Analysis of the purple-brown crystals (C, 62.89; H, 4.53; Br, 13.45) shows them to be a mixture; an infrared absorption at 1913 cm^{-1} is tentatively assigned to ν_{RuH} .

$[\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_2]_n$. $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ (0.168 g, 0.175 mmol) was slurried in 20 ml of refluxing ethanol under nitrogen for 2 hr. The dark solid was allowed to settle for 15 hr, filtered, and vacuum dried (0.102 g, 84% yield assuming $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_2$). The infrared spectrum of this solid, which appears green when finally divided, is almost identical with that of $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{30}\text{Cl}_2\text{RuP}_2$: C, 62.07; H, 4.30; Cl, 10.20. Found: C, 62.60; H, 4.51; Cl, 10.08. The filtrate, a rosé color, was taken to dryness, yielding mainly a white solid (0.054 g).

Repetition of the procedure for $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_2 \cdot \text{acetone}$ ¹⁸ produced a solid with no ketonic $\text{C}=\text{O}$ stretching frequency. Anal. Found: C, 63.00; H, 4.58, Cl, 9.39.

Decoupling of the hydride ligand in $\text{RuHCl}(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ at low temperatures occurs very readily, even to the extent that initial attempts to selectively decouple only phenyl protons were unsuccessful. Reducing decoupling power to a nominal 2.5 W at a "single frequency" (band width less than 5 Hz) centered at τ 3.0 revealed hydride-phosphorus coupling, but with an anomalously low apparent P-H coupling constant (a value of 25 Hz is observed by ^1H NMR). On further reduction in decoupling power (to a limiting value of 0.5 W), the average of the apparent $J_{\text{P-H}}$ values increases smoothly toward that observed by ^1H NMR.

None of the spectra recorded here shows evidence for broadening by (or coupling to) the quadrupolar nuclei ^{99}Ru (13%), ^{101}Ru (17%), and ^{189}Os (16%).

We find numerous instances of temperature dependent ^{31}P chemical shifts. Some of these are evident in Table IV. Of possibly more general interest, we find the chemical shift of triphenylphosphine to be more strongly temperature dependent. In CH_2Cl_2 , the shift changes from -5.5 ppm at $+30^\circ$ to -8.2 ppm at -79° .

Results and Discussion

Solid State Structures. The structure of $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ was determined¹⁹ sufficiently long ago that it is appropriate to reassess its geometry in the light of recent work on five-

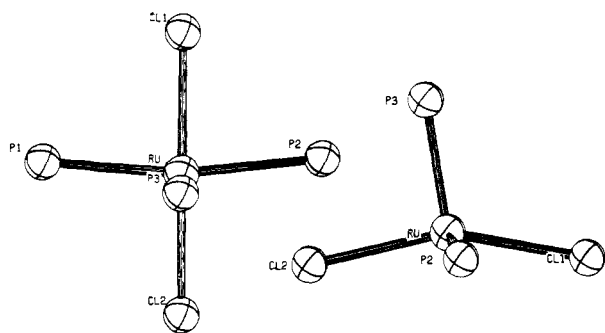


Figure 1. Two views of the first coordination sphere of $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$. At left, a view from above and perpendicular to the $\text{P}_1\text{P}_2\text{Cl}_1\text{Cl}_2$ plane. At right, a view down the P_2P_1 line perpendicular to the Cl_1Cl_2 line (P_1 is hidden behind P_2).

coordinate complexes. The rush of structural studies which resulted from Ibers' review²⁰ of five-coordinate complexes in 1965 established the numerical superiority of the trigonal bipyramid, particularly for complexes with five monodentate ligands.²¹ While authors invariably comment on the near energetic equality of the trigonal bipyramid (TBP) and the square pyramid (SP), the former geometry is usually given preferred status as *the* ground state structure. This generalization is specific to the d^8 electronic configuration, which has been shown to favor TBP geometry for electronic reasons.²² On the other hand, an examination of the literature shows that d^6 complexes, *when they can be induced to be five-coordinate*, are best classified as square pyramidal. This is in agreement with second-order Jahn-Teller arguments.²² For configuration d^6 , coordination number six predominates, presumably because of the high crystal field stabilization energy associated with a low-spin octahedron. Low-spin octahedral d^6 complexes are kinetically inert via $\text{S}_{\text{N}}1$ processes for this same reason, and all of the following discussion is relevant to the structure of the intermediate in such $\text{S}_{\text{N}}1$ processes.²³ However, five-coordinate complexes are known: $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$,¹⁹ $\text{RuHCl}(\text{PPh}_3)_3$,²⁴ $\text{RhI}_2\text{-Me}(\text{PPh}_3)_2$,²⁵ $\text{RhHCl}_2[\text{P}(\text{C}_3\text{H}_7)_2\text{-}t\text{-Bu}]_2$,²⁶ $\text{RhHCl}(\text{SiCl}_3)(\text{PPh}_3)_2$.²⁷ All of these are satisfactorily described as square pyramidal. $\text{M}(\text{COR})\text{Cl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_2$ ($\text{M} = \text{Rh}$,^{28,29} Ir ³⁰) species exhibit molecular weights characteristic of monomers. Finally, $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_5$ in "inert" matrices has a ground state geometry with C_{4v} symmetry.³¹

For complexes of stoichiometry MX_2L_3 , distinguishing between TBP (I) and SP (II) is difficult because the two



isomers both possess C_{2v} symmetry. Spectroscopic methods are therefore useless, and a careful analysis of accurate structural parameters is required. Figure 1 shows two views of the coordination sphere of $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ chosen so as to exhibit adherence to and deviations from the two idealized five-coordinate polyhedra. Recently an objective criterion of stereochemistry was proposed based on interplanar angles of the actual coordination polyhedron.³² Table I displays the values of these parameters for both idealized polyhedra, as well as the values found in solid $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$. Two points emerge from these data, as well as from Figure 1. First, $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ is best described as a square pyramid. Some authors have failed to appreciate this fact.^{21,33} Second, a distortion is present which favors neither TBP nor SP geometry. The ruthenium atom lies 0.12 Å out of the

Table I. Interplanar Angles for Idealized Five-Coordinate Polyhedra and for $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$

I. Trigonal Bipyramid				
r_a/r_e^a	0.9	1.0	1.1	
A (deg)	98.4	101.5	104.1	
B (deg)	58.1	53.1	48.9	
II. Square Pyramid				
r_a/r_e^a	0.9	0.934 ^b	1.0	
A (deg)	122.0	121.2	119.8	
B (deg)	73.7	74.4	75.7	
III. $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$				
	Plane ^c	A (deg)	Plane	B (deg)
	13	116.4	12	74.9
	46	116.5	45	75.0
	23	125.8	14	64.7
	56	126.5	25	81.7

^a Ratio of apical to equatorial metal-ligand bond lengths. For the square pyramid, an apical-to-basal bond angle of 102° is assumed.

^b This value is taken from the observed structure of $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$.

^c Planes not defined on the diagram are as follows: plane 3 is defined by atoms P_1 , Cl_1 , and Cl_2 while plane 6 is defined by P_2 , Cl_1 , and Cl_2 .

$\text{P}_1\text{P}_2\text{P}_3$ plane, while it lies in the $\text{Cl}_1\text{Cl}_2\text{P}_3$ plane to within experimental error. We see no ready intramolecular explanation for this result; *o*-phenyl hydrogen interactions (see below) are not at fault.

The most striking aspect of the $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ structure is the pattern of Ru-P bond lengths. While bonds Ru- P_1 and Ru- P_2 differ by only 3σ, Ru- P_3 is shorter by 0.163 Å than the average of the other two. This pattern contrasts to that found for d^8 complexes of formula $\text{MXY}(\text{PPh}_3)_3$,²¹ which are trigonal bipyramidal with three equatorial phosphines.

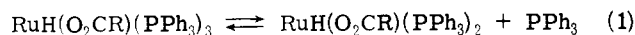
A final point relates to the origin of the square pyramidal geometry. LaPlaca and Ibers¹⁹ note that the close approach of one *o*-phenyl hydrogen to the metal effectively blocks this potential coordination site and causes the complex to be five-coordinate. We concur that steric effects, possibly those described by these authors, prevent Ru(II) from achieving its usual coordination *number* of six. However, it would be incorrect to attribute the square pyramidal coordination *geometry* to *o*-phenyl hydrogen interactions. Such an argument reverses the cause and effect: a square pyramidal geometry is favored by the d^6 configuration, and the resulting "open" side of the coordination polyhedron provides a natural site for packing a phenyl ring in the solid state. The proton NMR at 220 MHz (CH_2Cl_2 , 20°) shows the usual pair of phenyl multiplets (ortho, and meta plus para) with intensities 2:3; there is no evidence for a long-lived interaction of any phenyl groups with the metal.

$\text{RuHCl}(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ also possesses inequivalent phosphine ligands.²⁴ The basic geometry is the same as that of $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ with some distortion resulting from the small hydride ligand. One Ru-P bond is again significantly shorter than the other two. Here any argument for distortions away from C_{3v} symmetry based on the assumption that three triphenylphosphine ligands are too large to fit in equivalent positions around ruthenium is untenable. HRhCOL_3 , HIrNOL_3^+ , HRuNOL_3 , and HCoN_2L_3 all possess equivalent phosphines.²¹ The origin of the observed distortion in $\text{RuHCl}(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ must therefore lie in the electronic requirements of the d^6 configuration.

In spite of the fact that $\text{RuH}(\text{O}_2\text{CCH}_3)(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ is six-coordinate (bidentate acetate) in the solid state,³⁴ the structure bears a close relationship to those of RuCl_2L_3 and RuHClL_3 ; the pattern of the three Ru-P bond lengths and

the three PRuP angles are similar. The hydride is trans to one of the carboxylate oxygens. The Ru-O distances are both long and, as a result of the small (57.6°) angle ORuO, the acetate has been termed "pseudo-monodentate". Our NMR data show this description to be somewhat misleading. The structure of the formate analog also exhibits all the features of the acetate discussed here.³⁵

Solution. Present knowledge of the solution behavior of $\text{RuH}(\text{O}_2\text{CCH}_3)\text{L}_3$ is due entirely to the work of Wilkinson et al.² There is no evidence for ionic dissociation in solution. "Reliable" molecular weights in the range 400–500 are said to imply phosphine dissociation (eq 1). However, the hy-



dride resonance is a quartet ($J_{\text{P-H}} = 25 \text{ Hz}$) due to coupling to three equivalent phosphines. In summary, it is stated² that it is "... possible that the carboxylate group becomes unidentate ..." in solution and that the catalytic activity of the complex is "... most readily interpreted in terms of square Ru(II) with *trans*- PPh_3 groups and H *trans* to the carboxylate group".

RuCl_2L_3 has been little studied in solution due to a lack of suitable spectroscopic probes. Molecular weights in the range 409–433 are said to indicate considerable phosphine dissociation.¹⁵ James and Markham recently described the results of an equilibrium study in benzene and *N,N*-dimethylacetamide using the electronic spectrum as a probe.³⁶ The derived thermodynamic parameters imply 80% dissociation of one phosphine in a 10^{-3} M benzene solution at 25° .

The proton NMR of RuHClL_3 consists of a sharp quartet down to -60° . It has been stated that the complex exhibits "little dissociation" of phosphine ligand.¹ Dissociation to produce a "kinetically significant" amount of a *trans* square planar monomer is suggested, however.

$\text{RuCl}_2\text{L}_{3,4}$. The reactions of PPh_3 with commercial "ruthenium trichloride hydrate" are puzzling. Reaction in methanol with a 6:1 PPh_3 :Ru ratio produces different products at reflux temperature ($\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$) and room temperature ($\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_4$). The reaction chemistry of both tris and tetrakis complexes appears to be the same, but the structure of the latter is unknown. Both are dark solids which form solutions with similar colors.

The ^{31}P NMR spectrum of RuCl_2L_4 at 30° in CHCl_3 shows (Figure 1 of ref 12) peaks at the chemical shift of $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ (see below) and PPh_3 with relative intensities 3:1. Both resonances are broadened, although the origin of the broadening is different for the two compounds. This indicates "complete" dissociation of one phosphine from $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_4$, and brings up the question of the exact nature of " $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ " in the solid state. There are no confirmed examples of nonhydridic five- or six-coordinate complexes with four triphenylphosphine ligands; even $\text{RhCl}(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ shows puckering characteristic of crowding among the phosphines.³⁷ We therefore tentatively propose that $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ does not have four-coordinated phosphines in the solid, but instead contains $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ molecules and "lattice PPh_3 ". Comparable situations exist for $\text{Li}\cdot 5\text{PPh}_3\text{PO}$ ³⁸ and $\text{Ni}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_8\text{N}_2)_6\text{Cl}_2$.³⁹ In support of this idea, we note that *Dq* values for octahedral Ru(II) are large, shifting d-d transitions toward the ultraviolet. As a result, $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PR}_3)_4$ (*R* = alkyl),⁴⁰ $\text{Ru}_2\text{X}_3(\text{PR}_3)_6^+$,⁴¹ and $\text{RuCl}_2[\text{P}(\text{O}i\text{Pr})_3]_4$ ¹⁷ are all yellow or colorless. $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_4$, even in the solid state, is dark brown (the color of RuCl_2L_3); such low transition energies are more characteristic of the orbital energies found in coordination number five. A crystal structure determination should prove interesting.

A set of observed and calculated ^{31}P NMR spectra for

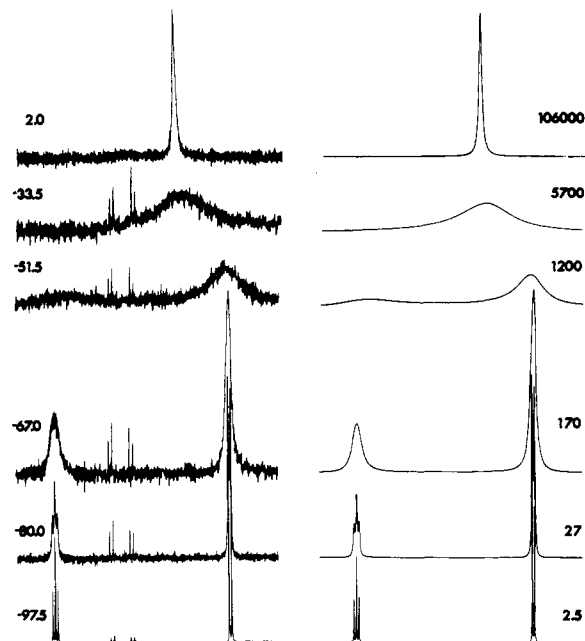


Figure 2. Observed (left) and calculated ^{31}P -[H] spectra of $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ in CH_2Cl_2 (0.05 *M*). Spectra are labeled with degrees and rate constants, respectively. The AB pattern is due to $[\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_2]_2$ (see text).

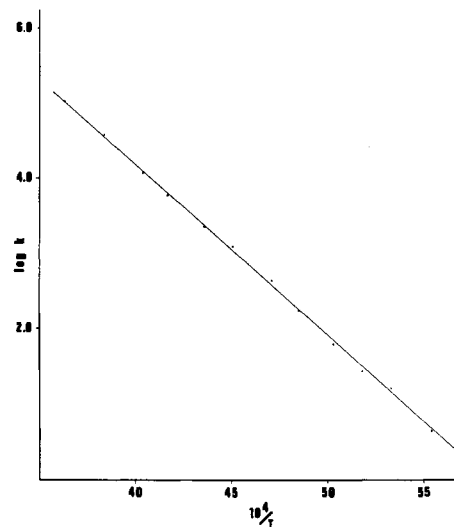


Figure 3. Arrhenius plot for intramolecular site exchange in $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$.

RuCl_2L_3 is shown in Figure 2. The major pattern observed at low temperatures is characteristic of the solid state structure of RuCl_2L_3 (inequivalent phosphines). The inequivalent phosphorus sites interchange more rapidly at elevated temperatures, and a single (though still slightly broadened) line is observed at $+30^\circ$. Line shape analysis yields rate constants which vary over 5 orders of magnitude. An Arrhenius plot appears in Figure 3. The activation parameters derived from a least-squares treatment of this plot and a plot of the Eyring equation appear in Table II. The values of $\log A$ and ΔS^\ddagger are consistent with this being an intramolecular process. This evidence for intramolecularity is particularly important in view of the presence of $[\text{RuCl}_2\text{L}_2]_2$ (see below) in solution. This excludes the plausible alternative bond breaking mechanism for site exchange (eq 2). Site

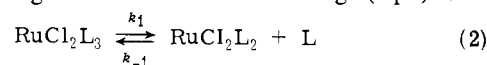


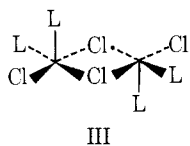
Table II. Activation Parameters for Phosphine Site Exchange

	Log <i>A</i>	<i>E</i> _a (kcal/mol)	Δ <i>H</i> [‡] (kcal/mol)	Δ <i>S</i> [‡] (eu)
RuCl ₂ (PPh ₃) ₃	13.3 (5)	10.4 (4)	10.0 (4)	0.9 (21)
RuHCl(PPh ₃) ₃	15.2 (6)	13.9 (6)	13.4 (6)	9.4 (26)
OsCl ₂ (PPh ₃) ₃	12.7 (5)	11.5 (6)	11.0 (6)	-2.3 (23)
OsBr ₂ (PPh ₃) ₃	13.3 (4)	12.6 (5)	12.0 (5)	0.4 (20)

exchange by a bimolecular process is also excluded by the observation that the line shape (at -50°) of RuCl₂L₃ with added equimolar PPh₃ is not altered from that shown in Figure 2.

RuCl₂L₃ dissociates phosphine ligand detectably in CHCl₃, CH₂Cl₂, and toluene. This is evident at all temperatures as a resonance due to free ligand as well as by resonances 50–60 ppm downfield from 85% H₃PO₄. In CHCl₃ at 30°, a solution 0.076 *M* in ruthenium contains 85% undissociated RuCl₂L₃. The same is true for a 0.05 *M* solution in CH₂Cl₂. In toluene at 30°, however, a solution 0.01 *M* in ruthenium is only 41% undissociated RuCl₂L₃. In order to more closely simulate catalytic conditions, a ³¹P NMR spectrum was recorded on a 7 × 10⁻⁴ *M* solution of RuCl₂L₃ in CH₂Cl₂ at 30°. The spectrum exhibited only the peaks found in more concentrated solutions.

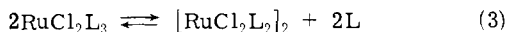
The sharp AB pattern observed at low temperatures (Figure 2) has an integrated intensity equal to twice that of the free ligand signal and is attributed to a species of formula [RuCl₂L₂]_{*n*}. Since a monomer based on tetrahedral or planar geometry would produce only a ³¹P singlet, a monomer is excluded. Monomeric RuCl₂L₂ would be a 14-electron species. Although one can write monomeric *five-coordinate* structures by invoking coordinated solvent, halocarbons and particularly toluene have never been shown to occupy coordination sites. We therefore discount this explanation. The simplest explanation for the observed spectrum is a halide-bridged structure with two square pyramids sharing a basal edge (III).⁴² The anion Ni₂Cl₈⁴⁻ possesses such



a structure.⁴³ Assuming no coupling across the halide bridges, an AB spin system results. An alternative structure based on a pair of trigonal bipyramids sharing an axial-equatorial edge is inconsistent with the ground state geometry favored by the d⁶ configuration.

An attempt was made to prepare a pure sample of [RuCl₂(PPh₃)₂]₂ by refluxing RuCl₂L₃ in a solvent which dissolves L but not RuCl₂L₃. When RuCl₂L₃ is slurried in boiling ethanol, a dark solid of empirical formula RuCl₂L₂ is indeed produced. Attempts to synthesize Wilkinson's RuCl₂L₂-acetone produced a material of the same stoichiometry. Unfortunately, these solids are not soluble in any common solvents; the material may be polymeric.

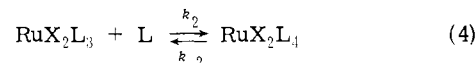
With the demonstration that RuCl₂L₃ dissociates to a dimer, the thermodynamic data of James and Markham become suspect.³⁶ These authors *assumed* dissociation to a monomer (eq 2) and derived equilibrium constants and thermodynamic functions. While we do not deny the possible kinetic importance of "RuCl₂L₂", we find it to have no spectroscopically detectable population in solution. Our efforts to determine thermodynamic parameters for eq 3 have



been frustrated by precipitation at low temperature. Even at 25°, sealed evacuated tubes of RuCl₂L₃ slowly form dark crystals over a period of weeks. Although material sufficient for elemental analysis has not been obtained, solids of composition [RuCl₂L₂]_{*n*} obtained by alternative methods are also insoluble in CHCl₃ once formed.

Site exchange also occurs for [RuCl₂L₂]₂. Thus, solutions of RuCl₂L₃ show only two broad humps in the region +50 to +60 ppm at 30° (see Figure 1 of ref 12). It is clear from Figure 2, however, that site exchange in the molecule RuCl₂L₃ is independent of site exchange in [RuCl₂L₂]₂, since coalescence of apical and basal sites of the former actually occurs around (or through) the AB pattern of the latter. This is particularly evident at -33.5°, where the AB pattern is still sharp.

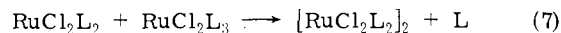
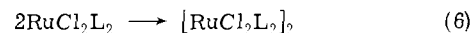
We have briefly investigated exchange of free and coordinated phosphine at 30° in CH₂Cl₂ solutions containing the RuCl₂L₃-[RuCl₂L₂]₂ equilibrium system. Since the RuCl₂L₃ singlet is significantly broadened by intramolecular site exchange, it is not possible to detect intermolecular exchange broadening on this signal. Moreover, since addition of L decreases the concentration of [RuCl₂L₂]₂ according to eq 3, line width measurements on the dimer are also impossible. Our measurements have therefore been limited to the line width of free L. Table III summarizes the results. If exchange occurs by an associative mechanism (eq 4),



then τ_L⁻¹, the inverse lifetime of the ligand, is given by k₂[RuX₂L₃]. If, on the other hand, a dissociative process is operative (eq 2), τ_L⁻¹ is given by eq 5. The experiments in

$$\tau_L^{-1} = k_1([\text{RuX}_2\text{L}_3]/[\text{L}]) \quad (5)$$

Table III were carried out with [RuX₂L₃] in the range 0.04–0.05 *M* and [L] varied over a wide range. The dependence of τ_L⁻¹ clearly rules out an associative mechanism⁴⁴ and the constancy of the derived values of k₁ in the last column of Table III supports a dissociative mechanism.⁴⁵ This is the only evidence we have for monomeric RuCl₂L₂, which may be a 14-electron species. The nature of this experiment makes determination of k₋₁, and therefore the equilibrium constant for eq 2, impossible. It must be emphasized that we never directly observe RuCl₂L₂ spectroscopically, but its existence as a kinetically important species is implied by the concentration dependence of phosphine exchange. We do feel that our kinetic measurements actually refer to eq 2, while the thermodynamic measurements of James and Markham do not. Our work directly demonstrates eq 3. While this describes the overall stoichiometry, the mechanism must involve eq 2 followed by dimerization of the resultant monomer (eq 6) or reaction with RuCl₂L₃ (eq 7).



Equation 2 certainly has an extremely small equilibrium constant. Finally, consistent with these mechanistic conclusions, no trace of a ³¹P resonance due to the molecule RuCl₂L₄ is observed even when [L]/[RuCl₂L₃] = 6.

RuCl_xBr_{2-x}L₃. The spectrum of a sample of "RuBr₂L₃" prepared according to the literature¹⁵ is shown in Figure 4A. It is apparent that the literature synthesis produces a mixture of three species, RuBr₂L₃, RuBrClL₂, and RuCl₂L₃, in a mole ratio of 4.9:4.7:1. While the synthesis was performed with a Br/Cl ratio of 6:1, the corresponding ratio of coordinated halides in the product is only 2:1. The ³¹P NMR spectrum of a CH₂Cl₂ solution 0.08 *M* in

Table III. Kinetic Data at 30°

[L]	[L]/[RuCl ₂ L ₃]	$\nu_{1/2}^L$ (Hz)	τ_L^{-1} (sec ⁻¹)	$\tau_L^{-1} \cdot [L] / [\text{RuCl}_2\text{L}_3]$ (sec ⁻¹)
0.0079 ^a	0.171	9.5	30	5.1
0.0077	0.188	7.6	24	4.5
0.0145	0.324	7.0	22	7.1
0.0351	0.615	4.6	14	8.8
0.0519	1.04	2.7	8.6	9.0
0.2942 ^b	5.94	0.31	1.0	5.7

^aIn 0.0463 M RuCl₂L₃; no added L. ^bIn 0.0495 M RuCl₂L₄ + 0.2610 M L.

"RuBr₂L₃" and 0.58 M in tetrabutylammonium bromide is shown in Figure 4B. The upfield resonance is due to the dichloride. The extreme downfield peak increases most in intensity, so it is assigned as the dibromide. Substitution of chloride by bromide thus shifts the ³¹P resonance downfield.

If the equilibria among the three RuCl_xBr_{2-x}L₃ species were statistical, Figure 4B would exhibit a RuBr₂L₃:RuBrClL₃ ratio of 7:1. This spectrum, as well as the initial failure of the literature preparation to produce pure RuBr₂L₃, is indicative of enhanced stability of the chloride containing species relative to the bromide species. It has been shown that solvation plays a key role in determining relative stabilities of halide complexes of rhodium and iridium.⁴⁶ The trends observed here therefore may not indicate relative bond strengths.

The low temperature spectrum of an RuCl_xBr_{2-x}L₃ mixture shows at least three AB quartets due to [RuCl_xBr_{2-x}L₂]₂. This confirms that this species is indeed a dihalide and not a salt such as [RuXL₂]X.

As an alternative route to RuBr₂L₃, the reaction of RuH₂L₄ with excess HBr was investigated. The products consist mainly of the RuBr₂L₃-[RuBr₂L₂]₂ equilibrium system, with about 16% of the ruthenium as RuHBrL₃; the latter compound was identified by the similarity of its spectrum to that of the hydrido chloro compound (see below).

OsCl₂L₃. This is a new compound, although a brief report of the bromo analog exists.⁴⁷ Reduction of (NH₄)₂OsCl₆ and PPh₃ with N₂H₄ under reflux produces only yellow (octahedral) complexes with infrared spectra suggesting coordinated dinitrogen. Reduction with the phosphine alone succeeds if the solvent is chosen carefully. *tert*-Butyl alcohol is employed as solvent in order to avoid carbonyl abstraction from the solvent. The lack of solubility of (NH₄)₂OsCl₆ in this alcohol necessitates addition of water to the reaction mixture; without it, (NH₄)₂OsCl₆ is unchanged after 48 hr reflux in the pure alcohol. The reaction is slow, passing through several diamagnetic intermediates. The product shows no tendency to add dinitrogen at 1 atm.

OsCl₂L₃ shows no evidence for dissociation of triphenylphosphine in CH₂Cl₂ at 30°. Some samples (see Experimental Section) gave acceptable analyses for OsCl₂L₃ but showed observable amounts of PPh₃ in solution. Since the chloride analysis precludes the phosphine being present as such, it may be that OsCl₂L₄ is present in the solid. The ³¹P spectrum in CH₂Cl₂ at 30° is a singlet (4.3 Hz broad). Site exchange is slowed at reduced temperatures and an AX₂ pattern is evident by about -60°. There is no evidence for other osmium-phosphine complexes between -69 and +30°. Kinetic analysis as for RuCl₂L₃ yields the parameters shown in Table II. The results of a similar study of OsBr₂L₃ appear in Table II. Refluxing this compound in methanol for 3 hr brings about partial conversion to *mer*-OsHBr(CO)(PPh₃)₃,⁴⁸ identified by ir and ³¹P NMR. RuCl₂L₃ has been shown to decarbonylate many solvents.⁴⁹

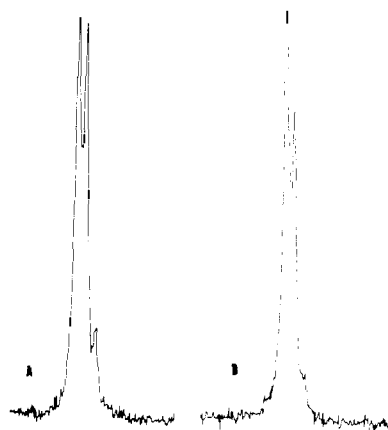


Figure 4. (A) "RuBr₂(PPh₃)₃" in CHCl₃ at 30°; (B) 0.08 M "RuBr₂(PPh₃)₃" and 0.58 M N(*n*-Bu)₄Br in CHCl₃ at 30°. Horizontal bar indicates 100 Hz.

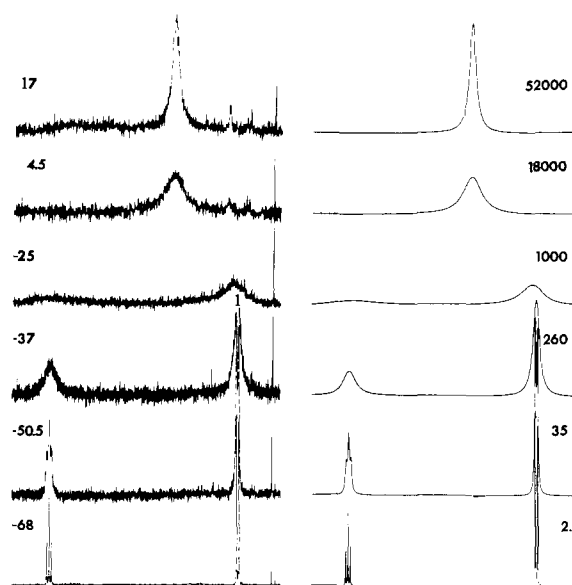


Figure 5. Observed (left) and calculated ³¹P-{¹H} spectra of RuHCl(PPh₃)₃ in CH₂Cl₂ (0.05 M). Spectra are labeled with degrees and rate constants, respectively. The far upfield observed resonance is due to Ph₃PO.

Stirring OsCl₂L₃ or OsBr₂L₃ in hexanes does not produce bisphosphine complexes.

RuHClL₃. The proton decoupled ³¹P NMR spectrum of RuHCl(PPh₃)₃ at +30° in CH₂Cl₂ is a broad singlet. On lowering the temperature, this line broadens, then disappears and an AX₂ pattern develops and sharpens (Figure 5). A static spectrum is achieved by -68°. At this temperature no resonances due to free PPh₃ or any other complexes are evident. Consistent with this, refluxing RuHClL₃ in methanol does not produce any bisphosphine species.

Selective decoupling of only the phenyl protons at -77° allows determination of ²J_{P-H} = 30.7 and ²J_{P-H} = 21.4 Hz. This yields a weighted average of 24.5, compared to a value of 25 measured by proton NMR at 220 MHz and 20° in CH₂Cl₂. At 30°, selective decoupling does not resolve the averaged J_{P-H} in the ³¹P spectrum due to the magnitude of the exchange broadening.

Line shape analysis as for RuCl₂L₃ yields the activation parameters shown in Table II. An intramolecular process is indicated by the log *A* and ΔS[‡] values,⁵⁰ although these are significantly larger than those for RuCl₂L₃, OsCl₂L₃, and OsBr₂L₃. It has been shown recently that solvation can alter

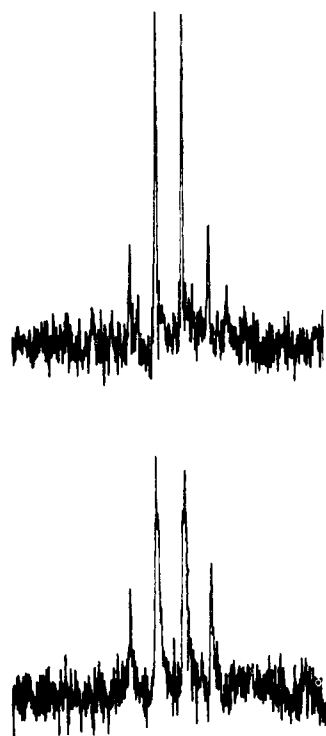


Figure 6. The 220-MHz ^1H NMR spectra of $\text{RuHCl}(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ and $\text{RuH}(\text{O}_2\text{CCH}_3)(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ (bottom) in CH_2Cl_2 . Only the high field resonance due to the hydride proton is shown. Calibration bar is 50 Hz.

ΔS^\ddagger values by 10 eu.⁵¹ While this may be significant for RuHClL_3 , we are presently unable to provide a detailed explanation.

$\text{RuH}(\text{O}_2\text{CMe})\text{L}_3$. The proton-decoupled ^{31}P NMR spectrum of $\text{RuH}(\text{O}_2\text{CMe})(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ at $+30^\circ$ in CH_2Cl_2 (in which it is inactive) and in THF (in which it is catalytically active) is an AX_2 pattern consistent with the solid state structure. The value of $^2J_{\text{PP}}$ is typical of cis stereochemistry on Ru(II). There is no spectroscopic evidence for free phosphine or any other metal complex (signal/noise ratio of 95:1). The spectrum is unchanged on lowering the temperature to -72° .

Selective decoupling of the phenyl protons produces a ^{31}P spectrum which exhibits coupling of each phosphorus environment to the hydride ligand with coupling constants $^2J_{\text{P}_e\text{-H}} = 25.8$, $^2J_{\text{P}_a\text{-H}} = 28.4$ Hz. Since the hydride resonance has been reported to be a quartet,^{2,52} we have reinvestigated the high-field NMR. The 220-MHz spectrum at 20° in CH_2Cl_2 is shown in Figure 6, along with that of $\text{RuHCl}(\text{PPh}_3)_3$. The amplitudes of the quartet peaks of the hydrido acetate are not 1:3:3:1. The central peaks have shoulders on their interior sides, identifying this pattern as a doublet of triplets with deceptively similar J_{PH} values. The proton NMR therefore accurately reflects the stereochemical rigidity of this complex. The osmium analog also exhibits near degeneracy of these coupling constants.⁵²

Phosphine dissociation by $\text{RuH}(\text{O}_2\text{CCH}_3)(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ is spectroscopically undetectable. The low solution molecular weights are thus erroneous. Nevertheless, from the standpoint of catalytic activity, $\text{RuH}(\text{O}_2\text{CCH}_3)(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ could obtain an open coordination site if the carboxylate group became monodentate in solution. However, such a five-coordinate complex should exhibit nonrigid behavior similar

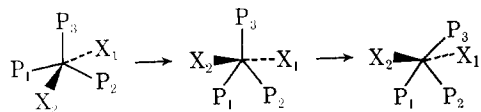
to that observed for the other Ru(II) species studied here. The observed rigidity of $\text{RuH}(\text{O}_2\text{CCH}_3)(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ is therefore highly suggestive of coordination number six persisting in solution. The catalytic activity exhibited by this complex must therefore result from very small concentrations of relatively high energy species. The solution structure of $\text{RuH}(\text{O}_2\text{CCH}_3)(\text{PPh}_3)_3$, with bidentate acetate, contrasts to that of $\text{Rh}(\text{O}_2\text{CPh})(\text{PPh}_3)_3$, which has a monodentate carboxylate group in the solid.⁵³

$\text{RuCl}_2[\text{P}(\text{OPh})_3]_4$. For comparison purposes, we have investigated the solution properties of $\text{RuCl}_2[\text{P}(\text{OPh})_3]_4$ which is formally similar to $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ and is prepared from $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ by addition of $\text{P}(\text{OPh})_3$. This complex shows only a single resonance in CH_2Cl_2 at $+30$ and -92° . This establishes an exclusive trans stereochemistry for the product prepared in this manner, as well as the absence of phosphite dissociation. While electronic factors may be significant, it is worth noting that the smaller cone angle⁵⁴ (121°) of $\text{P}(\text{OPh})_3$ relative to PPh_3 (145°) is sufficient to rationalize the persistence of the six-coordinate complex $\text{RuCl}_2[\text{P}(\text{OPh})_3]_4$ in solution.

Rearrangement Mechanism and Energetics. The log A and activation entropy parameters for RuCl_2L_3 , OsCl_2L_3 , and OsBr_2L_3 are all equal within experimental error. In view of the structural similarity of these molecules, this result is expected and suggests that the ΔS^\ddagger values determined here are meaningful, and not mere artifacts. The large temperature range over which rate data are obtainable is partly responsible. All three molecules exhibit near-zero activation entropies. The averaging process is thus intramolecular.

The possible "modes of rearrangement" of square pyramidal polyhedra have been enumerated for the general case of an MX_5 species.⁵⁵ If we assume a model with no population of an intermediate with three equatorial phosphines or with one apical and two cis equatorial ones, a single "observable process" exists for an MX_2L_3 species. Using ^{31}P NMR, one cannot discriminate between a physical process which (a) interchanges L_3 (structure II) with either basal phosphorus leaving the other phosphorus and the X groups unmoved (ea) and (b) one which sequentially permutes L_1 , L_2 , and L_3 while leaving the X groups unmoved (trans eea).

Berry pseudorotation is the physical process often used to account for equilibration of axial and equatorial nuclei in TBP species.⁵⁶ In cases studied to date, the energy surface for rearrangement has an absolute minimum at the TBP structure and either a maximum or a local minimum at the SP geometry. Berry pseudorotation, which corresponds to the trans eea mode for an MX_2L_3 species, also effects the permutations observed in this work. A new feature of $\text{MX}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ ($\text{M} = \text{Ru}, \text{Os}$) species is that the square pyramid is the ground state and the trigonal bipyramid is the transition state.



This characteristic reveals a new feature of rearrangements of five-coordinate complexes. Previous analyses of trends in rearrangement parameters gave no consideration to changes in bond length in creating the transition state. This is because nothing is known about a d^8 square pyramid. For the d^6 case, grossly inequivalent metal-phosphorus bond lengths characterize the square pyramidal ground state. The transition state, on the other hand, has X_1 and X_2 precisely trans and has three equivalent phosphorus nuclei.⁵⁷ Energetically, the most demanding feature of such a rear-

rangement is probably the stretching and compression of Ru–P bonds. If metal–phosphorus bond stretching is a major factor in the rearrangement a correlation should, and does, exist between activation parameters and vibrational force constants. The osmium compound has higher values of E_a , ΔH^\ddagger , and ΔG^\ddagger at all temperatures; at 200°K, the ratio of rate constants for RuCl_2L_3 and OsCl_2L_3 is 10^2 . Although metal–phosphorus force constants are unknown for isostructural complexes of ruthenium and osmium, comparison is possible for bonds to ligands Cl, O, N, and CO. In every instance force constants are larger for osmium than ruthenium.^{58–60} We see no reasonable argument based on size effects (compare $\text{M}[\text{P}(\text{OR})_3]_5^{n+}$ complexes⁵⁶) due to the very similar radii of ruthenium and osmium. The steric contribution to the barrier may be large,⁶¹ but it is certainly the same for the two MCl_2L_3 species.

Values of E_a , ΔH^\ddagger , and ΔG^\ddagger (at temperatures below 500°K) are higher for OsBr_2L_3 than for the chloro analog. This is viewed as a “site preference” effect in the trigonal bipyramidal transition state. σ -Bonding ligands prefer to occupy apical positions in a TBP. π -Acidity leads to preference for equatorial sites.⁶² Since bromide is a stronger π -acid than chloride, it destabilizes trigonal bipyramidal OsX_2L_3 for $\text{X} = \text{Br}$ relative to $\text{X} = \text{Cl}$.

Values of E_a , ΔH^\ddagger , and ΔG^\ddagger (below 400°K) are higher for RuHClL_3 than for RuCl_2L_3 . This cannot be a transition state effect since hydride should prefer an apical position in a TBP more than chloride.⁶³ It must be concluded that RuHClL_3 has a lower ground state energy, possibly steric in origin. Since a square pyramid does not possess the requisite C_{3v} symmetry the “tetrahedral edge traverse” mechanism⁶⁴ does not smoothly produce the permutation observed for RuHClL_3 . The possibility remains, however, that the physical pathway utilized by RuHClL_3 differs from that of the dihalo species.

Magnetic Resonance Parameters. These are summarized in Table IV. The axial–equatorial chemical shift differences observed in RuCl_2L_3 is exceptionally large (51.6 ppm). The differences observed for RuHClL_3 (55.6 ppm) and $\text{RuH}(\text{O}_2\text{CMe})\text{L}_3$ (33.9 ppm) are also large. It is unlikely that this large difference is related to the short axial Ru–P bond distance, since $[\text{RuCl}_2\text{L}_2]_2$ and both OsX_2L_3 species have axial–equatorial separations less than 10 ppm. The chemical shifts of the osmium compounds lie close to that of free L (–5.4 ppm). For both OsX_2L_3 species, the axial resonance is upfield of the equatorial resonance, reversing the pattern found in the ruthenium complexes.

Conclusion

A dissociated ligand is spectroscopically detectable only in the case of RuCl_2L_3 (and RuCl_2L_4). The decreased dissociation on passing from Ru(II) to Os(II) is consistent with trends observed for RhL_3Cl ,⁶⁵ and IrL_3Cl ,⁶⁶ and also for the pair HRhCOL_3 – HIrCOL_3 .^{67,68} For complexes of formula $\text{M}(\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{PPh}_2)(\text{CO})^{+13}$ and $\text{M}(\text{CO})_2\text{L}_2\text{Cl}$ ⁶⁹ ($\text{M} = \text{Rh}, \text{Ir}$), the tendency to bind carbon monoxide is $\text{Ir} > \text{Rh}$. The third-row complex generally is “tighter” than the second-row analog. Decreased dissociation on passing from RuCl_2L_3 to RuHClL_3 follows from the latter molecule being less crowded; predictably the structure of the hydrido chloride shows bending of the three phosphines toward the hydride. Crowding in $\text{RuH}(\text{O}_2\text{CMe})\text{L}_3$ is predicted to be intermediate between that in the dichloride and the hydrido chloride.

RuHClL_3 and $\text{RuH}(\text{O}_2\text{CCH}_3)\text{L}_3$, both active hydrogenation catalysts, show no detectable dissociation of phosphine. The acetate complex must dissociate to be catalytically active, however. This work therefore stands as a brutal

Table IV. ^{31}P NMR Parameters^a

	Chemical shift (ppm) ^b	Temp, °C	$^2J_{\text{PP}}$ (Hz)
$\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$	40.9	30	
	75.7, 24.1	–97	30.5
$\text{RuClBr}(\text{PPh}_3)_3$	42.8	30	
	79.0, 25.9	–93	30.5
$\text{RuBr}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$	43.8	30	
	80.0, 27.4	–88	30.5
$\text{OsCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$	–3.9	30	
	–7.2, –1.3	–79	13.4
$\text{OsBr}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$	–5.3	30	
	–9.0, –0.45	–80	13.4
$\text{RuHCl}(\text{PPh}_3)_3$	59.0	30	
	94.0, 38.4	–74	29.0
$\text{RuHBr}(\text{PPh}_3)_3$	93.8, 38.6	–88	29.3
$\text{RuH}(\text{O}_2\text{CCH}_3)(\text{PPh}_3)_3$	77.6, 43.8 ^c	30	27.5
	78.1, 44.3	30	27.5
	78.0, 43.6	–83	27.5
$[\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_2]_2$	58.8, 53.0	–97	41.5
$[\text{RuBr}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_2]_2$	61.6, 55.0	–88	41.5
$\text{RuCl}_2[\text{P}(\text{OPh})_3]_4$	110.7	30	
	114.2	–92	
<i>mer</i> - $\text{OsHBr}(\text{CO})(\text{PPh}_3)_3$	–12.3, +4.2	30	11.0

^aIn CH_2Cl_2 unless otherwise noted. ^bWhen two values are listed for an AX_2 pattern, the first refers to the unique (apical) ligand. ^cIn THF.

reminder that “spectroscopically undetectable” species are real, possibly central features of catalytic systems. It may be common that catalytically active species (i.e., the catalyst, as opposed to the catalyst precursor) are undetectable (at least by NMR), and the phrase “kinetically significant concentrations” takes on added meaning.

A final comment deserves mention simply because it explains so many of the observations made here. The great steric bulk of triphenylphosphine appears to be a feature which dominates the chemistry of these Ru(II) and Os(II) complexes. Iron(II) is not known to form $\text{FeCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$. Five-coordination is atypical for Ru(II) and Os(II). The conversion of RuCl_2L_3 to $\text{RuCl}_2[\text{P}(\text{OPh})_3]_4$ makes this clear, as does the analogous transformation of RuHClL_3 to $\text{RuHCl}[\text{P}(\text{OPh})_3]_4$.⁷⁰ In the absence of four equivalents of smaller phosphines, six-coordinate dimers of stoichiometry $\text{L}_3\text{RuX}_3\text{RuL}_3^+\text{X}^-$ invariably form. Oxidation of $\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$ with SnCl_4 produces $(\text{OC})_3\text{RuCl}_3\text{Ru}(\text{SnCl}_3)(\text{CO})_2$.⁷¹ It therefore appears reasonable to attribute the unusual coordination number observed for $\text{MX}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ ($\text{M} = \text{Ru}, \text{Os}$) to the steric requirements of triphenylphosphine. The dissociation of RuCl_2L_3 to the dimer replaces PPh_3 by bridging halide. This implies the presence of even three triphenylphosphine ligands in a five- or six-coordinate nonhydridic complex is unfavorable. The dissociative dimerization⁶⁵ of $\text{RhCl}(\text{PPh}_3)_3$ also supports this contention. Indeed there is a remarkable similarity between the RuCl_2L_3 – $[\text{RuCl}_2\text{L}_2]_2$ equilibrium system and that of RhClL_3 – $[\text{RhClL}_2]_2$.⁶⁵ The occurrence of intermolecular phosphine exchange by a dissociative mechanism (RuCl_2L_3) is evidence for the difficulty of binding three triphenylphosphine ligands to a five-coordinate complex. Moreover, the lack of any significant participation by an associative pathway merely reiterates the obvious. In summary, it is important to recognize that triphenylphosphine is a very atypical phosphine, although it may be precisely this steric factor which optimizes its effect as a catalyst “promoter”.

Acknowledgment. We gratefully acknowledge support of this work by the Research Corporation and the National Science Foundation (GP-38641X). We also thank Professor S. D. Robinson for the sample of $\text{OsBr}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_3$.

References and Notes

- (1) P. S. Hallman, B. R. McGarvey, and G. Wilkinson, *J. Chem. Soc. A*, 3143 (1968).
- (2) D. Rose, J. D. Gilbert, R. P. Richardson, and G. Wilkinson, *J. Chem. Soc. A*, 2610 (1969).
- (3) R. J. P. Corriu and J. J. E. Moreau, *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.*, 38 (1973).
- (4) B. Hudson, D. E. Webster, and P. B. Wells, *J. Chem. Soc., Dalton Trans.*, 1204 (1972).
- (5) L. Vaska and M. E. Tadros, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **93**, 7099 (1971).
- (6) G. G. Eberhardt, M. E. Tadros, and L. Vaska, *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.*, 290 (1972).
- (7) D. R. Fahey, *J. Org. Chem.*, **38**, 80 (1973).
- (8) J. E. Lyons, *J. Org. Chem.*, **36**, 2497 (1971).
- (9) S. Cenini, A. Fusi, and G. Capparella, *J. Inorg. Nucl. Chem.*, **33**, 3576 (1971).
- (10) Y. Sasson and J. Blum, *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.*, 309 (1974).
- (11) S. L. Regen, *J. Org. Chem.*, **39**, 260 (1974).
- (12) K. G. Caulton, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **96**, 3005 (1974).
- (13) J. S. Miller and K. G. Caulton, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **97**, 1067 (1975).
- (14) E. F. Mooney, *Annu. Rep. NMR Spectrosc.*, **5B** (1973).
- (15) T. A. Stephenson and G. Wilkinson, *J. Inorg. Nucl. Chem.*, **28**, 945 (1966).
- (16) J. J. Levison and S. D. Robinson, *J. Chem. Soc. A*, 2947 (1970).
- (17) J. J. Levison and S. D. Robinson, *J. Chem. Soc. A*, 639 (1970).
- (18) J. D. Gilbert and G. Wilkinson, *J. Chem. Soc. A*, 1749 (1969).
- (19) S. J. LaPlaca and J. A. Ibers, *Inorg. Chem.*, **4**, 778 (1965).
- (20) J. A. Ibers, *Annu. Rev. Phys. Chem.*, **16**, 375 (1965).
- (21) B. A. Frenz and J. A. Ibers, *MTP Int. Rev. Sci., Phys. Chem., Ser. One*, **11**, 33 (1972).
- (22) R. G. Pearson, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **91**, 4947 (1969).
- (23) D. J. Darensbourg and H. H. Nelson III, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **96**, 6411 (1974).
- (24) A. C. Skapski and P. G. H. Troughton, *Chem. Commun.*, 1230 (1968).
- (25) P. G. H. Troughton and A. C. Skapski, *Chem. Commun.*, 575 (1968).
- (26) C. Masters, W. S. McDonald, G. Raper and B. L. Shaw, *Chem. Commun.*, 210 (1971).
- (27) K. W. Muir and J. A. Ibers, *Inorg. Chem.*, **9**, 440 (1970).
- (28) K. Ohno and J. Tsuji, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **90**, 99 (1968).
- (29) M. C. Baird, J. T. Mague, J. A. Osborn, and G. Wilkinson, *J. Chem. Soc. A*, 1347 (1967).
- (30) M. Kubota and D. M. Blake, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **93**, 1368 (1971).
- (31) G. Ozin, private communication. This represents a revision from the conclusions presented earlier: E. P. Kundig and G. A. Ozin, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **96**, 3820 (1974).
- (32) E. L. Muetterties and L. J. Guggenberger, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **96**, 1748 (1974).
- (33) D. L. Kepert, *Inorg. Chem.*, **12**, 1938 (1973).
- (34) A. C. Skapski and F. A. Stephens, *J. Chem. Soc., Dalton Trans.*, 390 (1974).
- (35) A. I. Gusev, G. G. Aleksandrov, and Y. T. Struchkov, *J. Struct. Chem. (USSR)*, **14**, 633 (1973).
- (36) B. R. James and L. D. Markham, *Inorg. Chem.*, **13**, 97 (1974).
- (37) P. B. Hitchcock, M. McPartlin, and R. Mason, *Chem. Commun.*, 1367 (1969).
- (38) Y. M. G. Yasin, O. J. R. Hodder, and H. M. Powell, *Chem. Commun.*, 705 (1966).
- (39) R. C. Elder, D. Koran, and H. B. Mark, Jr., *Inorg. Chem.*, **13**, 1644 (1974).
- (40) P. W. Armit and T. A. Stephenson, *J. Organomet. Chem.*, **57**, C80 (1973).
- (41) J. Chatt and R. G. Hayter, *J. Chem. Soc.*, 896 (1961).
- (42) The terms apical and axial are used interchangeably, as are the designations equatorial and basal.
- (43) F. K. Ross and G. D. Stucky, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **92**, 4538 (1970).
- (44) Broadening of the PPh₃ resonance cannot be due to reaction with [RuCl₂L₂]₂. This would make τ_L^{-1} dependent on [RuCl₂L₃]²[L]⁻¹.
- (45) The value found for k_1 also confirms that axial-equatorial site exchange ($k = 10^9$ at 30°) does not occur via this dissociative path.
- (46) D. Forster, *Inorg. Chem.*, **11**, 1686 (1972).
- (47) L. Vaska, *Chem. Ind. (London)*, 1402 (1961).
- (48) L. Vaska, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **86**, 1943 (1964).
- (49) R. K. Poddar and U. Agarwala, *Indian J. Chem.*, **9**, 447 (1971).
- (50) W. Forst, "Theory of Unimolecular Reactions", Academic Press, New York, N.Y., 1973.
- (51) C. Kutal and R. E. Sievers, *Inorg. Chem.*, **13**, 897 (1974).
- (52) S. D. Robinson and M. F. Uttley, *J. Chem. Soc., Dalton Trans.*, 1912 (1973).
- (53) I. S. Kolomnikov, A. O. Gusev, T. S. Belopotapova, M. K. Grigoryan, T. V. Lysyak, Y. T. Struchkov, and M. E. Volpin, *J. Organomet. Chem.*, **69**, C10 (1974).
- (54) C. A. Tolman, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **92**, 2956 (1970).
- (55) J. Musher and W. C. Agosta, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **96**, 1320 (1974).
- (56) J. P. Jesson and P. Meakin, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **96**, 5760 (1974), and references therein.
- (57) Rearrangement passing through a trigonal bipyramid (which has a ³A₂' ground state) is formally spin forbidden. This apparently rigorous prohibition may be relaxed by spin-orbit coupling or a transition-state with less than D_{3h} symmetry. The latter could have the angular disposition of a trigonal bipyramid, with one unique (long) metal-phosphorus bond.
- (58) F. G. Gonzalez-Vilchez and W. P. Griffith, *J. Chem. Soc., Dalton Trans.*, 1416 (1972).
- (59) W. P. Griffith and D. Pawson, *J. Chem. Soc., Dalton Trans.*, 1315 (1973).
- (60) M. J. Cleare and W. P. Griffith, *J. Chem. Soc. A*, 372 (1969).
- (61) Steric effects may actually stabilize the transition state, since phosphine-phosphine repulsions decrease on forming a trigonal bipyramid.
- (62) S. A. Goldfield and K. N. Raymond, *Inorg. Chem.*, **13**, 770 (1974).
- (63) M. B. Smith and R. Bau, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **95**, 2388 (1973).
- (64) E. L. Muetterties and F. J. Hirsekorn, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **95**, 5419 (1973).
- (65) C. A. Tolman, P. Z. Meakin, D. L. Lindner, and J. P. Jesson, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **96**, 2762 (1974).
- (66) M. A. Bennett and D. L. Milner, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **91**, 6983 (1969).
- (67) D. Evans, G. Yagupsky, and G. Wilkinson, *J. Chem. Soc. A*, 2660 (1968).
- (68) S. S. Bath and L. Vaska, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **85**, 3500 (1963).
- (69) N. C. Payne and J. A. Ibers, *Inorg. Chem.*, **8**, 2714 (1969).
- (70) G. W. Parshall, W. H. Knoth, and R. A. Schunn, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **91**, 4990 (1969).
- (71) M. Elder and D. Hall, *J. Chem. Soc. A*, 245 (1970).

Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Studies of Planar Low-Spin Complexes of Cobalt(II) with Schiff Bases. *N,N'*-Ethylenebis(salicylideneiminato)cobalt(II) in Noncoordinating Solvents

Kouto Migita,* Masamoto Iwaizumi, and Taro Isobe

Contribution from the Chemical Research Institute of Non-Aqueous Solutions, Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan. Received November 13, 1974

Abstract: Isotropic proton NMR shifts have been measured for low-spin salicylaldehyde Schiff base complexes of cobalt(II) in CDCl₃. The isotropic shifts are shown to arise from both dipolar and contact interaction of comparable magnitude. This appreciable contact contribution is attributable to spin delocalization involving $M \leftarrow L \pi$ charge transfer out of the highest filled π MO. From the mode of the interaction between the cobalt ion and the ligand, it is concluded that the cobalt(II) complexes have an electronic ground state with the unpaired electron in the d_{yz} orbital.

The electronic structure of the *N,N'*-ethylenebis(salicylideneiminato)cobalt(II) complex, Co(salen), has been widely investigated by electronic spectroscopy,¹ ESR spectroscopy,^{1,2} and other methods.³ It is known that in coordinating

solvents, such as pyridine, piperidine, etc., the complex forms a five-coordinate, square pyramidal species with the solvent molecules, and it possesses an electronic ground state having an unpaired electron in the d_{z^2} level.^{1b,c,2b,4} In