Alkyne metathesis, which is known for $(t-BuO)_3W \equiv CR$ compounds,⁹ involves the reversibility of (6i) and would be terminated by (6ii).



Evidence for equilibria involving tungsten alkylidynes and ditungstatetrahedra supported by alkoxide ligands, (7i), has previously been noted,¹⁰ as has the coupling reaction (7ii).7

Reactions between I and C_2H_2 , 2 equiv (also in separate experiments C_2H_2 , 2 equiv, where C represents 92 mol % ¹³C), show formation of $W_2(\mu - C_4 E t_2 H_2)(\eta^2 - C_2 H_2)(O - i - \eta^2 - G_2 H_2)(O - i - \eta^2)(O - i - \eta^2)($ $Pr)_6$ in which the carbon atoms of the ethyne are scrambled over all four sites of the μ -C₄ ring, as might have been anticipated for a reversible reaction, (6i), followed by either (6ii) or (7).

Further studies are in progress.¹¹

Registry No. I, 104240-17-7; II, 104215-35-2; III, 104240-18-8; W₂(O-*i*-Pr)₆(HNMe₂)₂, 104215-36-3; W₂(O-*i*-Pr)₆(py)₂, 70178-75-5; EtC=CEt, 928-49-4.

Supplementary Material Available: A summary of data collections, tables of program MU output, crystal and diffractometer data, fractional coordinates, anisotropic temperature factors, and bond distances and angles, a listing of standard data type, and figures of VERSORT drawings, ORTEP drawings, spacefilling-model drawings, and a plot of standards (35 pages); a list of structure factor amplitudes (6 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

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Synthesis, Structure, and Electrical Properties of $[(MeCp)_5V_5S_8][(TCNQ)_2]$

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Summary: Desulfurization of (MeCp)₂V₂S₄ with PBu₃ gives $(MeCp)_4V_4S_4$ (1) and $(MeCp)_5V_5S_6$ (2). Compounds 1 and 2 were characterized by ¹H NMR spectroscopy and mass spectrometry. Compound 2 forms the chargetransfer salt [2][(TCNQ)₂] which was characterized by X-ray crystallography as its CH₂Cl₂ solvate. The cluster consists of a trigonal-bipyramidal V5 core inside of a trigonal prism of six sulfur atoms. Four-probe conductivity measurements show that $[2][(TCNQ)_2]$ is a *n*-type semiconductor ($E_a \approx 0.25 \text{ eV}$).

We wish to describe the synthesis and characterization of $(MeCp)_5V_5S_6$ $(MeCp = \eta^5 - CH_3C_5H_4)$. This work provides some insights into how cyclopentadienyl metal chalcogenide clusters form from simple precursors. Furthermore our structural work establishes the presence of unusual intracluster sulfur-sulfur interactions. These results are supplemented by electrical measurements on $[(MeCp)_5V_5S_6][(TCNQ)_2].$

The addition of tributylphosphine to a solution of $(MeCp)_2V_2S_4^1$ results in the rapid formation of the phosphine sulfide and two black compounds which were separated by sublimation at 150 °C (0.03 mmHg) (eq 1). The



more volatile species is $(MeCp)_4V_4S_4$ (1). This 56e cubane was obtained in ca. 40% yield and was fully characterized.^{2,3} The less volatile product of the desulfurization reaction is the weakly paramagnetic $(MeCp)_5V_5S_6$ (2).⁴ The ¹H NMR spectrum of 2 is consistent with a trigonal-bipyramidal cluster as two sets of MeCp resonances are observed in a 2:3 ratio. The structure of a derivative of 2 lends credence to this assignment (vide infra) as does Bottomley's recent structural characterization of the closely related compounds $Cp_5Ti_5S_6$ and $Cp_5V_5O_6$.⁵ In contrast to the present work, Bottomley's clusters were prepared from monometallic precursors and sources of atomic sulfur (H_2S) and oxygen (N_2O) .

The formation of 1 and 2 occurs via an aggregation process induced by desulfurization of the V_2S_4 precursor. This aggregation is analogous to the well-known clusterification of metal carbonyls induced by decarbonylation.⁶

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Katugin, A. S.; Ellert, O. G.; Shkloyer, V. E.; Struchkov, Yu. T. *Izv. Akad.* Nauk SSSR, Ser. Khim. 1984, 1669. (3) Anal. Calcd for $C_{24}H_{28}S_4V_4$: C, 44.65; H, 4.35; V, 31.42. Found: C, 44.60; H, 4.44, V, 31.42. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃ solution): δ 59.2 ($\Delta \nu_{1/2} =$ 72 Hz), 58.4 (72 Hz), 7.6 (14 Hz). EIMS (m/e): 648, M⁺; 569 (M – MeCp)⁺; 490 (M – 2MeCp)⁺; 411 (M – 3MeCp)⁺; 332 (M – 4MeCp)⁺. (4) Anal. Calcd for $C_{30}H_{35}S_6V_5$: C, 42.76; H, 4.19. Found: C, 42.85; H, 4.36. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 5.18 (130 Hz), 4.72 (94 Hz), 2.09 (13 Hz), 1.86 (5 Hz). The yield of 2 was typically 10%. The $\mu_{eff} = 0.98 \ \mu_{\rm B}$

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Figure 1. Schematic view of the metal sulfur core in [2]- $[(TCNQ)_2]$. Two types of short V-V distances are observed: V(apical)-V(equatorial) = 2.97-3.01 Å and V(equatorial)-V-(equatorial) = 3.21 - 3.25 Å.



Figure 2. ORTEP packing diagram of [2][(TCNQ)₂] viewed along the c axis and showing the unit cell; selected MeCp groups were omitted for clarity.

Desulfurization of a 1:1 mixture of $(MeCp)_2V_2S_4$ and $Cp_2V_2S_4$ gave all five $Cp_{4-x}(MeCp)_xV_4S_4$ products as assayed by electron-impact mass spectrometry. On the basis of this result, it appears that the $(RCp)_2V_2S_x$ unit does not remain intact during the desulfurization-aggregation process as is also indicated by the formation of 2. It is also mechanistically significant that 2 is not further reactive toward phosphines. Furthermore, it appears that the V_4 cluster 1 is not a precursor to $2.^7$ We recently reported a similar aggregation process whereby $(C_5Me_4Et)_2Ru_2S_4$ is converted into $(C_5Me_4Et)_4Ru_4S_6$ upon treatment with phosphines.8

The cyclic voltammogram of 2 shows three waves at 1393 (irrev), 546 ($i_a/i_c = 1.0$), and -367 mV ($i_a/i_c = 1.2$) vs. Ag/AgCl.⁹ The rich redox properties of 2 led us to attempt the preparation of charge-transfer salts. An increasing number of organometallic compounds have been shown to form electrically and magnetically interesting charge-transfer salts¹⁰ although this approach has not been extended to metal sulfide clusters.¹¹ Treatment of toluene solutions of 2 with 1 or 2 equiv of tetracyanoquinonedimethane (TCNQ) leads to the precipitation of glistening dark green crystals analyzing as $[2][(TCNQ)_2]^{.12}$

Needles of [2][(TCNQ)₂]·CH₂Cl₂ were grown from CH₂Cl₂-hexane solutions. A single-crystal X-ray diffraction study¹³ confirmed the V_5 core in [2][(TCNQ)₂] is trigonal bipyramidal wherein each face is capped by triply bridging sulfur atoms (Figure 1). The anions occur as cofacial pairs normal to the a axis, with a minimum interplanar distance of 3.37 (1) Å and dihedral angle of 0.7° (Figure 2). The closest anion-cation contacts exist between nitrogen atoms of the TCNQ moieties and Cp hydrogen atoms (2.6 Å for six contacts based on "idealized" hydrogen positions). The vanadium centers on the pseudo C_3 axis have short V-S contacts of 2.22 (1) Å which are indicative of multiple V-S bonding.^{1,14} The three equatorial vanadium centers feature normal V-S distances of 2.38 (1) Å. More striking however are the S.-S distances, three of which are much shorter than the V...V contacts. The sulfur atoms are arrayed in pairs parallel with the C_3 axis of the cluster core, and the S.-S distances within these pairs average 2.77 (4) Å. This value is comparable to the transannular distances seen in S_8^{2+} (2.83 Å)¹⁵ These distances are intermediate between normal S-S bonds (2.00-2.15 Å) and the sum of the van der Waals radii (3.60 Å).¹⁶ Such interactions indicate that the valence molecular orbitals feature substantial S-S bonding character. Thus, the V_5S_6 core in [2][(TCNQ)₂] is held together by a combination of V–S, V–V, and S–S bonds. Other examples

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11.938 (3) Å, $\alpha = 95.62$ (4)°, $\beta = 93.69$ (2)°, $\gamma = 86.02$ (3)°, and Z = 2. Diffraction data (graphite-monochromated Mo radiation, $\lambda(K\alpha) = 0.71073$ Å, $2 < 2\theta < 46^{\circ}$, $\pm h, -k, \pm l$) were collected at room temperature on an Enraf-Nonius CAD4 diffractometer and were numerically corrected for absorption (transmission range 0.954-0.833). The number of independent reflections was 7504, 4004 of which were observed $(I > 2.58\sigma(I))$. The structure was solved by direct methods (MULTAN) and difference Fourier synthesis. One dichloromethane solvate molecule was located. The vanadium, chlorine, and sulfur atoms were refined with anisotropic thermal coefficients; the remaining non-hydrogen atoms were isotropically refined. Hydrogen atoms were fixed in "idealized" positions. The highest peaks in the final difference Fourier map (less than $1 e/A^3$) indicated a minor disorder in the Cp ring carbon atom positions. Final agreement factors were R = 0.063 and $R_w = 0.067$.

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of intermediate range interactions between main group centers have recently been identified in other main group-transition metal clusters.¹⁷ A fuller assessment of the situation here awaits the structural characterization of neutral 2.

Electrical measurements show that $[2][(TCNQ)_2]$ is an n-type semiconductor. Four probe conductivity measurements were obtained along the needle axis which is parallel to the long axis of the TCNQ molecules.¹⁸ Plots of -1n (R) vs. kT from 300 to 220 K (5° intervals) give a band gap of 0.24 and 0.26 eV for two different crystals. These values are comparable to the band gap for PbTe (0.27 eV).²⁰ Thermoelectric power measurements at several different temperatures ($T_{\rm av} = 262.3$ K), again along (0.27 eV).²⁰ the needle axis, indicate that electrons are the majority carriers. Given the synthetic manipulability of metal sulfide clusters,²¹ there is reason to expect that the electrical properties of this type of compound can be developed much further. The incentives for such an undertaking are accentuated by the extraordinary properties observed for those metal sulfide clusters prepared by traditional hightemperature methods.²²

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Supplementary Material Available: Tables of positional and thermal parameters for $[(MeCp)_5V_5S_6][(TCNQ)_2]$ (5 pages); a listing of structure factors for $[(MeCp)_5V_5S_6][(TCNQ)_2]$ (17 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

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Oxidative Decarbonation of an Acetylide Ligand

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Summary: The organometal acetylide bridged dicobalt complexes $[Cp(CO)_2MC \blacksquare CPh][Co_2(CO)_6]$ with M = Fe

or Ru undergo a nondestructive reaction with oxygen which results in the net loss of one acetylide carbon atom together with a CO ligand and the formation of the alkylidyne-bridged clusters (μ_3 -PhC)Co₂MCp(CO)₇.

It is standard knowledge that most organometallic compounds have to be handled in the absence of air and that their applications involve reductive chemistry, i.e., the use of unsaturated compounds, CO, or H_2 . Nondestructive oxidative reactions are rare, and only recently has it become obvious that ligand substitutions by oxidants lead to novel classes of compounds.¹ We believe that an extensive chemistry of oxidative ligand transformations has yet to be uncovered. In support of this assumption we report here an oxygen-induced ligand fragmentation.

In the course of cluster construction studies we investigated the trinuclear acetylide complexes $1a^2$ and 1b which can be considered as metalloalkyne representatives of the well-known $\text{Co}_2(\text{CO})_6(\mu$ -alkyne) class. After observing that these compounds are not completely destroyed when their solutions are exposed to air, we optimized their oxidative conversions and found they proceeded according to Scheme I, producing the alkylidyne-bridged MCo₂ clusters 2a and 2b. In a typical run over 8 h a slow stream of oxygen was bubbled for five 1-min periods into a solution of ca. 1 mmol of 1b in 20 mL of n-hexane and 10 mL of dichloromethane. Filtration, concentration, and crystallization yielded about 50% of 2b. 2a was obtained analogously in about 20% yield. Both clusters are fully characterized including elemental analyses. Their identity could be deduced via spectral analogy³ with that of the corresponding μ_3 -MeC-bridged FeCo₂ cluster⁴ and was confirmed for 2b by a crystal structure determination.⁵ The lack of quantitative conversion in these reactions is due not so much to uncontrolled destruction of the starting compounds 1 but to the fact that the product clusters 2 are quite air-sensitive themselves. Nevertheless this route is the best one so far for producing 2b-type FeCo₂ clusters.⁴

The good yield of 2b indicates that the $1 \rightarrow 2$ conversions cannot involve sacrificing 50% of the starting material, thereby generating CPh fragments or their precursors which then attack remaining 1, or any similar destructive reaction step. On the other hand, the nonquantitative reactions prevent simple mechanistic conclusions. Qualitative gas analysis showed the gaseous reaction products to contain CO and CO₂ from which no conclusions can be drawn since this is not unusual for oxidations of metal carbonyls. Control experiments (heating of 1b under Ar and treatment of 1b with H₂O/Ar and with H₂O/O₂)⁶ indicate that $1 \rightarrow 2$ is not a thermal interconversion and that water, which can cleave acetylide

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