

# A $^{197}\text{Au}$ Mössbauer Study of a Series of Isocyanide, Carbene, or Methanide Derivatives of Gold. The Crystal Structure of *trans,trans*- and *cis,cis*-[(Carbene) $_2\text{Au}]\text{ClO}_4$ and of *cis,trans*-(Carbene) $\text{AuCl}$ (Carbene = *p*- $\text{MeC}_6\text{H}_4\text{NHCOEt}$ )

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$^{197}\text{Au}$  Mössbauer spectra were recorded for a homogeneous series of two-coordinate organogold(I) and four-coordinate organogold(III) complexes:  $\text{LAuCl}$ ,  $[\text{L}_2\text{Au}]^+$  (where L may be  $\text{Ar-NC}$  or a carbene such as  $(\text{Ar-NH})_2\text{C}$  or  $(\text{Ar-NH})(\text{EtO})\text{C}$ , Ar being *p*-tolyl),  $[\text{L}_2\text{AuI}_2]^+$  (where L is a carbene),  $[(\text{Ar-N}=\text{C})(\text{EtO})\text{CAu}]_3$ , and  $[(\text{Ar-N}=\text{C})(\text{Ar-NH})\text{C-Au}]_n$ . The Mössbauer parameters are dominated by the  $\sigma$  donor properties of the ligands used; they are sensitive to the immediate environment of the gold atom and not to the geometrical isomerism found in the carbene derivatives investigated. Such isomerism, detected in solution by NMR, was confirmed by X-ray crystal structure determinations carried out on the *trans,trans* (7tt) and *cis,cis* (7cc) steric isomers of  $\{[(p\text{-MeC}_6\text{H}_4\text{NH})(\text{EtO})\text{C}]_2\text{Au}\}\text{ClO}_4$  (7,  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_2\text{O}_6\text{ClAu}$ ) as well as on another isomer, (*cis,trans*- $\text{MeC}_6\text{H}_4\text{NH})(\text{EtO})\text{CAuCl}$  (5,  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{13}\text{NOClAu}$  (5ct)). Compounds 7tt, 7cc, and 5ct crystallize in the triclinic system of space group  $P\bar{1}$ . 7tt:  $a = 11.686$  (3) Å,  $b = 11.257$  (4) Å,  $c = 11.258$  (4) Å,  $\alpha = 112.5$  (5)°,  $\beta = 102.5$  (4)°,  $\gamma = 112.2$  (6)°,  $Z = 2$ . 7cc:  $a = 13.493$  (5) Å,  $b = 9.283$  (6) Å,  $c = 9.978$  (5) Å,  $\alpha = 94.0$  (4)°,  $\beta = 107.4$  (3)°,  $\gamma = 99.6$  (3)°,  $Z = 2$ . 5ct:  $a = 10.000$  (3) Å,  $b = 12.953$  (4) Å,  $c = 9.680$  (3) Å,  $\alpha = 90.9$  (4)°,  $\beta = 108.0$  (4)°,  $\gamma = 88.8$  (3)°,  $Z = 4$ . Comparison between Mössbauer spectra, NMR spectra, and X-ray crystal structures reveals some limitation of the techniques employed when each alone is considered, while these together provide a satisfactory characterization and suggest that the amount of Au-C  $\pi$  bonding in our compounds is negligible.

## Introduction

During the recent years the chemistry of gold has been extensively investigated.<sup>1,2</sup> In addition to intrinsic scientific interest, the relevance of this field is due to the several uses of certain compounds, for example, as pharmaceutical products<sup>3</sup> or catalysts,<sup>4</sup> as well as to some theoretical aspects of the bonding.<sup>5</sup> As a result, several reviews<sup>6,7</sup> and a monograph<sup>8</sup> on parts of the subject have become available.

Although the  $^{197}\text{Au}$  Mössbauer spectroscopy has some disadvantages such as the short half-life of the  $^{197}\text{Pt}$  isotope

and the low recoil-free fraction, it has been increasingly used in studies of the nature of bonding and of the structures of gold compounds. The available results were summarized in reviews<sup>7-9</sup> to which some more recent papers<sup>10-12</sup> should be added to obtain a panorama of the use of Mössbauer spectroscopy in the chemistry of gold.

Since we have obtained and characterized several sets of new types of gold compounds,<sup>13-18</sup> it seemed interesting to study a homogeneous series of these molecules by Mössbauer spectroscopy, X-ray diffraction, and carbon-13

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Table III. Crystallographic Data

	$[[cis,trans-(ArNH)(EtO)C]AuCl]$	$[[trans,trans-(ArNH)(EtO)C]_2Au]ClO_4$	$[[cis,cis-(ArNH)(EtO)C]_2Au]^+$
unit cell	triclinic	triclinic	triclinic
formula	$C_{10}H_{13}NOClAu$	$C_{20}H_{26}N_2O_6ClAu$	$C_{20}H_{26}N_2O_6ClAu$
fw, amu	395.6	622.9	622.9
space group	$P\bar{1}$	$P\bar{1}$	$P\bar{1}$
<i>a</i> , Å	10.000 (3)	11.686 (3)	13.493 (5)
<i>b</i> , Å	12.953 (4)	11.257 (4)	9.283 (6)
<i>c</i> , Å	9.680 (3)	11.258 (4)	9.978 (5)
$\alpha$ , deg	90.9 (4)	112.5 (5)	94.0 (4)
$\beta$ , deg	108.0 (4)	102.5 (4)	107.4 (3)
$\gamma$ , deg	88.8 (3)	112.2 (6)	99.6 (3)
<i>V</i> , Å <sup>3</sup>	1192.2 (5)	1148.4 (6)	1165.8 (6)
<i>Z</i>	4	2	2
<i>d</i> <sub>calcd</sub> , g/cm <sup>3</sup>	2.20	1.80	1.77
cryst dimens, mm	0.25 × 0.25 × 0.30	0.30 × 0.30 × 0.20	0.30 × 0.20 × 0.40
no. of reflectns measd	5333	5159	4097
data used, <i>I</i> > 3σ( <i>I</i> )	2864	3524	3078
<i>R</i>	0.089	0.077	0.0818
$\mu$ cm <sup>-1</sup>	108.1	56.5	55.6

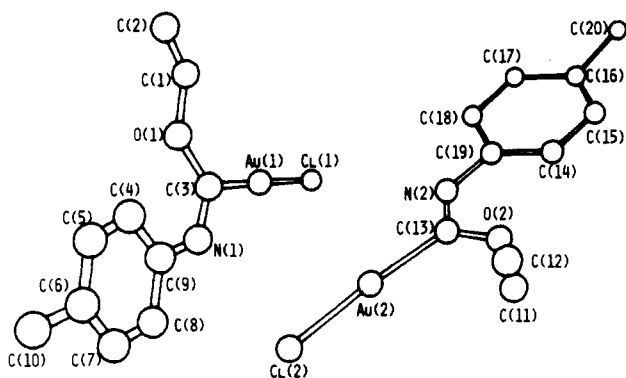


Figure 3. Diagram of the molecular structure of *cis,trans*-(*p*-MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>NH)(EtO)CAuCl (**5ct**).

computed with an unitary weighting scheme. The non-hydrogen atoms of **5ct**, of the **7cc** cation, and the gold atoms of the **7tt** isomer were refined anisotropically and the others isotropically. The hydrogen atoms were calculated but not refined. The final atomic coordinates are reported in the Table IV and the bond distances and angles in Table V. The molecular diagrams for **5ct** and the Ortep plot for the **7cc** cation are reported in Figures 3 and 4, respectively, together with the atomic labeling scheme. Only the molecular diagram for the **7tt** isomer is reported in Figure 5 because its atoms (gold excepted) were refined isotropically.

The most significant data obtained from the AuCON and *p*-tolyl least-squares planes are reported in Table VI.

## Results and Discussion

**Crystal Structures.** The X-ray crystal structures were carried out on **5ct**, the *cis,trans* isomer of compound 5 [(ArNH)(EtO)CAuCl], on **7tt**, and on **7cc**, respectively the *trans,trans* and the *cis,cis* isomers of compound 7 ([{(ArNH)(EtO)C]<sub>2</sub>Au]ClO<sub>4</sub>).

The structure of **5ct** (Figure 3) consists of covalent molecules with intermolecular Au...Au interactions and N...Cl at 3.327 (7) and 3.22 (1) Å. Coordination around the gold atoms is nearly linear, the Cl-Au-C bond angles being 171 (1)° and 175 (1)°; the gold-chlorine and gold-carbon bonds are 2.315 (9) or 2.38 (1) and 1.98 (3) or 2.04 (4) Å, respectively.

The structures of both isomers of compound 7 (cf. Figures 4 and 5) consist of bis(carbene) cations and perchlorate anions. The **7cc** isomer may be stabilized by the

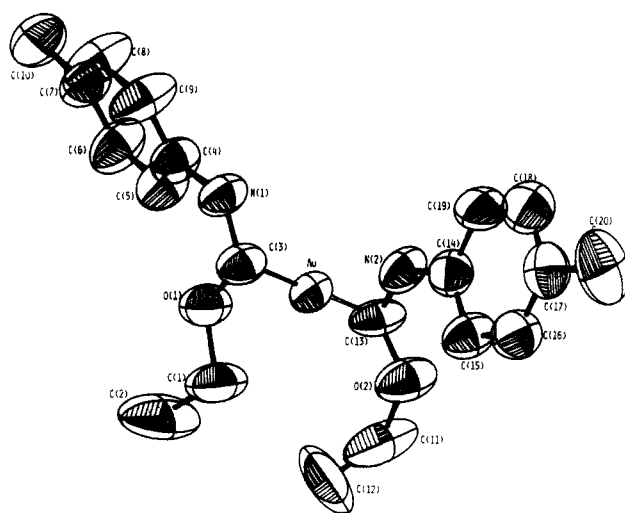


Figure 4. Ortep plot for [*cis,cis*-(*p*-MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>NH)(EtO)C]<sub>2</sub>Au<sup>+</sup> cation (**7cc**).

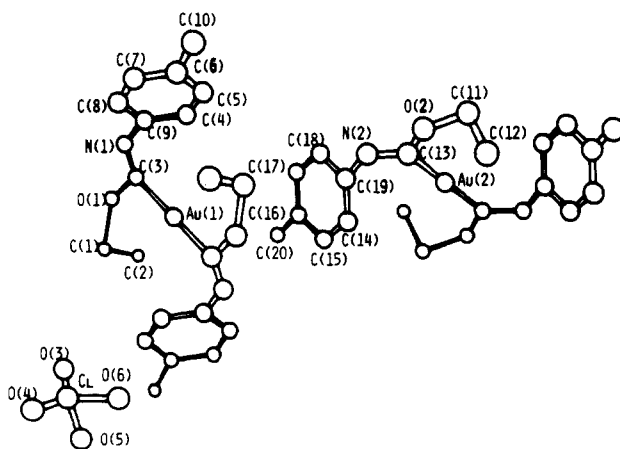


Figure 5. Diagram of the molecular structure of  $[[trans,trans-(p-MeC_6H_4NH)(EtO)C]_2Au]ClO_4$  (**7tt**).

presence of two hydrogen bonds between the perchlorate oxygen and the carbene nitrogen atoms at 2.83 (1) and 2.97 (1) Å. The presence of hydrogen bonding coincides with a very weak intermolecular Au...Au interaction of 3.415 (2) Å in the **7cc** isomer against 5.60 (1) Å in the **7tt** species where only van der Waals forces are operating.

The different conformation of the **7tt** and of the **7cc** isomers is shown by the values of the dihedral angles reported in Table VI: the angle between the two Au,C,O,N

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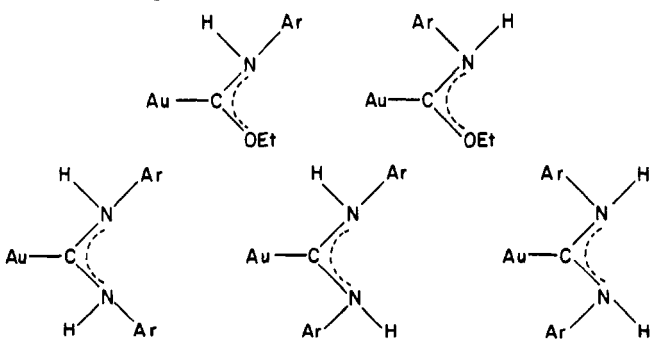
Table IV. Final Atomic Coordinates with Esd's in Parentheses

atom	[[ <i>cis,trans</i> -(ArNH)(EtO)C]AuCl]			[[ <i>trans,trans</i> -(ArNH)(EtO)C] <sub>2</sub> Au]- ClO <sub>4</sub>			[[ <i>cis,cis</i> -(ArNH)(EtO)C] <sub>2</sub> Au]ClO <sub>4</sub>		
	x/a	y/b	z/c	x/a	y/b	z/c	x/a	y/b	z/c
Au(1)	0.5888 (1)	0.6537 (1)	0.5576 (1)	0.5000	1.0000	0.5000 <sup>a</sup>	0.4198 (1)	0.1190 (1)	1.0183 (1)
Cl(1)	0.5135 (9)	0.6486 (8)	0.3062 (9)						
O(1)	0.573 (3)	0.625 (3)	0.856 (3)	0.742 (2)	0.952 (2)	0.516 (2)	0.248 (1)	-0.119 (2)	1.048 (1)
N(1)	0.790 (2)	0.652 (2)	0.848 (3)	0.539 (2)	0.735 (2)	0.388 (2)	0.227 (1)	-0.074 (2)	0.829 (2)
C(1)	0.424 (4)	0.619 (5)	0.791 (4)	0.832 (6)	1.133 (6)	0.628 (6)	0.303 (2)	-0.082 (4)	1.203 (2)
C(2)	0.352 (4)	0.630 (7)	0.882 (7)	0.968 (7)	1.162 (8)	0.616 (8)	0.229 (4)	-0.161 (5)	1.273 (3)
C(3)	0.659 (3)	0.645 (3)	0.772 (3)	0.597 (4)	0.883 (4)	0.466 (4)	0.289 (2)	-0.042 (2)	0.965 (2)
C(4)	0.813 (3)	0.634 (3)	1.108 (3)	0.311 (2)	0.634 (2)	0.397 (1)	0.062 (1)	-0.145 (1)	0.640 (1)
C(5)	0.904 (3)	0.610 (3)	1.245 (4)	0.169 (2)	0.542 (2)	0.325 (1)	-0.031 (1)	-0.245 (1)	0.565 (2)
C(6)	1.043 (3)	0.599 (3)	1.274 (3)	0.108 (2)	0.453 (2)	0.180 (1)	-0.054 (1)	-0.381 (1)	0.613 (2)
C(7)	1.101 (3)	0.615 (3)	1.154 (4)	0.187 (2)	0.457 (2)	0.102 (1)	0.016 (1)	-0.416 (1)	0.735 (2)
C(8)	1.009 (3)	0.628 (4)	1.019 (4)	0.329 (2)	0.548 (2)	0.173 (1)	0.109 (1)	-0.316 (1)	0.809 (2)
C(9)	0.872 (3)	0.637 (3)	0.995 (4)	0.391 (2)	0.637 (2)	0.321 (1)	0.132 (1)	-0.180 (1)	0.762 (2)
C(10)	1.141 (4)	0.573 (3)	1.430 (3)	-0.041 (3)	0.355 (4)	0.089 (4)	-0.154 (2)	-0.495 (4)	0.528 (3)
Au(2)	0.7937 (2)	0.8396 (1)	0.5083 (2)	1.0000	1.0000	0.0 <sup>a</sup>			
Cl(2)	0.9706 (9)	0.739 (1)	0.652 (1)						
O(2)	0.659 (3)	1.031 (3)	0.370 (3)	1.233 (2)	1.221 (2)	0.290 (2)	0.619 (1)	0.326 (2)	1.192 (2)
N(2)	0.534 (4)	0.895 (3)	0.273 (3)	1.038 (2)	1.149 (2)	0.304 (2)	0.568 (1)	0.339 (2)	0.972 (2)
C(11)	0.792 (4)	1.091 (6)	0.462 (7)	1.333 (6)	1.260 (6)	0.214 (6)	0.604 (3)	0.251 (4)	1.319 (3)
C(12)	0.764 (6)	1.160 (7)	0.581 (9)	1.377 (6)	1.156 (7)	0.194 (6)	0.552 (3)	0.320 (6)	1.395 (5)
C(13)	0.646 (5)	0.922 (3)	0.354 (5)	1.089 (4)	1.125 (4)	0.203 (4)	0.545 (2)	0.281 (3)	1.068 (2)
C(14)	0.414 (5)	1.047 (3)	0.138 (6)	0.811 (2)	0.915 (2)	0.178 (2)	0.717 (1)	0.570 (1)	1.101 (2)
C(15)	0.304 (6)	1.086 (4)	0.025 (6)	0.670 (2)	0.845 (2)	0.131 (2)	0.797 (1)	0.683 (1)	1.097 (2)
C(16)	0.198 (5)	1.023 (4)	-0.057 (5)	0.608 (2)	0.930 (2)	0.157 (2)	0.813 (1)	0.709 (1)	0.968 (2)
C(17)	0.206 (5)	0.915 (4)	-0.024 (4)	0.687 (2)	1.086 (2)	0.229 (2)	0.749 (1)	0.621 (1)	0.843 (2)
C(18)	0.323 (5)	0.875 (3)	0.096 (5)	0.828 (2)	1.156 (2)	0.276 (2)	0.668 (1)	0.508 (1)	0.847 (2)
C(19)	0.428 (4)	0.942 (3)	0.173 (4)	0.890 (2)	1.070 (2)	0.291 (2)	0.652 (1)	0.482 (1)	0.976 (2)
C(20)	0.070 (4)	1.052 (4)	-0.176 (5)	0.460 (3)	0.864 (4)	0.098 (3)	0.905 (3)	0.933 (4)	0.960 (5)
Cl(2)				0.2515 (8)	0.4545 (9)	0.7049 (9)	0.3953 (5)	0.1805 (8)	0.5937 (6)
O(3)				0.323 (5)	0.429 (6)	0.611 (5)	0.326 (2)	0.207 (3)	0.449 (3)
O(4)				0.186 (7)	0.304 (7)	0.599 (7)	0.264 (2)	0.123 (3)	0.639 (2)
O(5)				0.231 (5)	0.434 (5)	0.826 (5)	0.414 (2)	0.326 (3)	0.682 (4)
O(6)				0.214 (7)	0.553 (8)	0.686 (7)	0.424 (3)	0.083 (4)	0.587 (3)

<sup>a</sup>Occupancy Parameter 0.5

planes I/II is 119.8° vs. 6.0° and the angle between the Au,C,O,N plane and the neighbor *p*-tolyl plane I/III (or II/IV) is 118.5° vs. 32.7° (or 116.7 vs. 19.4°).

**Mononuclear Gold(I) Compounds.** The Mössbauer parameters, isomer shifts, IS, electric quadrupole splittings, QS, and average full line width at half-maximum, *W*, are reported in Table I. All the line widths (except those of the polynuclear compounds 8 and 9) are close to the observed minimum of 1.87 (3) mm/s. The spectrum of each compound consists of a quadrupole-split doublet, indicating the presence of only one distinguishable good site in the mononuclear compounds even if, in the case of the carbene complexes, different isomers



are known to be present in the sample used. The isomers were detected independently in solution by proton or by carbon-13 NMR spectra (Table II) in the samples of compound 4 or 7 actually used in this work for Mössbauer measurements. It is interesting to note that the crystal structures of 7tt and 7cc, both being isomers of the compound 7, were resolved by using different crystals obtained from the same solution of the analytical sample after re-

cording proton and carbon-13 NMR spectra. In the case of compound 5, where both isomers were isolated by fractional crystallization,<sup>13</sup> suitable crystals for X-ray structure determination were available only for the 5ct isomer.

The geometrical isomers of the same carbene complex exhibited indistinguishable Mössbauer parameters because the Mössbauer effect is generally the result of a short-range interaction and, therefore, is not sensitive to a type of geometric isomerism which takes place at a significant distance from the gold nucleus: three atoms away in our case. By comparison, carbon-13 NMR spectra are more sensitive to changes in fairly remote environments, so that isomerism is detected even when Mössbauer spectra are blind to it. But even the high sensitivity of carbon-13 NMR spectroscopy may be insufficient for routine characterization of certain organogold compounds. For example, in the case of compounds 1-3 the signals of the isocyanide carbon and of the ipso-carbon nuclei could not be detected with certainty or even found. In addition, the same signals could not be found in the spectrum of (*p*-anisyl isocyanide)chlorogold(I), another known compound, and they are the weakest in the spectrum of *p*-tolyl isocyanide, both in deuteriochloroform or in a solvent mixture.<sup>21</sup>

Relevant IS and QS literature data are plotted in Figure 6 for a series of covalent, two-coordinate gold(I) compounds of the type (ligand)AuCl. It can be seen that a widely spread cluster is formed by the compounds where the C-donating ligand contains a carbon in the formal oxida-

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**Table V. Significant Bond Distances (Å) and Bond Angles (deg) with Esd's in Parentheses**

	5ct	7tt	7cc
<b>Bond Distances</b>			
Au(1) - Cl(1)	2.315 (9)		
Au(2) - Cl(2)	2.283 (10)		
Au(1) - C(3)	1.98 (3)	2.03 (3)	2.02 (2)
Au(2) - C(13)	2.04 (4)	1.92 (3)	1.97 (2)
O(1) - C(3)	1.37 (4)	1.43 (3)	1.31 (3)
O(2) - C(13)	1.43 (5)	1.43 (3)	1.32 (2)
O(1) - C(1)	1.43 (5)	1.64 (4)	1.49 (3)
O(2) - C(11)	1.56 (6)	1.62 (5)	1.55 (4)
C(1) - C(2)	1.30 (8)	1.54 (6)	1.51 (6)
C(11) - C(12)	1.54 (11)	1.41 (5)	1.37 (7)
N(1) - C(3)	1.29 (3)	1.33 (3)	1.34 (2)
N(2) - C(13)	1.21 (5)	1.39 (3)	1.32 (3)
C(6) - C(10)	1.56 (4)	1.48 (3)	1.54 (30)
C(16) - C(20)	1.48 (6)	1.46 (3)	1.57 (4)
N(1) - C(9)	1.42 (4)	1.46 (2)	1.43 (2)
N(2) - C(19)	1.34 (5)	1.45 (2)	1.45 (2)
Cl(2) - O(3)		1.49 (5)	1.43 (3)
Cl(2) - O(4)		1.39 (6)	1.46 (3)
Cl(2) - O(5)		1.52 (5)	1.51 (3)
Cl(2) - O(6)		1.40 (7)	1.41 (4)
<b>Bond Angles</b>			
Cl(1)-Au(1)-C(3)	175 (1)		
Cl(2)-Au(2)-C(13)	171 (1)		
C(3)-Au(1)-C(13)			178 (1)
Au(1)-C(3)-O(1)	123 (2)	123 (2)	129 (1)
Au(2)-C(13)-O(2)	114 (3)	128 (2)	129 (2)
N(1)-C(3)-O(1)	113 (3)	110 (3)	111 (2)
N(2)-C(13)-O(2)	114 (4)	101 (3)	109 (2)
C(1)-O(1)-C(3)	121 (3)	117 (3)	116 (2)
C(11)-O(2)-C(13)	126 (3)	118 (3)	116 (2)
O(1)-C(1)-C(2)	115 (3)	98 (4)	105 (2)
O(2)-C(11)-C(12)	113 (4)	103 (4)	115 (3)
C(3)-N(1)-C(9)	136 (3)	122 (2)	131 (2)
C(13)-N(2)-C(19)	134 (4)	116 (2)	134 (2)
N(1)-C(9)-C(4)	123 (2)	123.1 (9)	123 (1)
N(2)-C(19)-C(14)	128 (4)	122.0 (9)	117 (1)
N(1)-C(9)-C(8)	115 (3)	116.9 (9)	117 (1)
N(2)-C(19)-C(18)	113 (4)	118.0 (9)	123 (2)
C(5)-C(6)-C(10)	122 (3)	125 (1)	120 (2)
C(15)-C(16)-C(20)	129 (5)	122 (1)	118 (2)
C(7)-C(6)-C(10)	121 (3)	115 (1)	120 (2)
C(17)-C(16)-C(20)	113 (4)	117 (1)	121 (2)
O(3)-Cl(2)-O(4)		68 (3)	113 (1)
O(3)-Cl(2)-O(5)		141 (3)	107 (2)
O(3)-Cl(2)-O(6)		104 (3)	98 (2)
O(4)-Cl(2)-O(5)		99 (3)	109 (2)
O(4)-Cl(2)-O(6)		122 (4)	116 (2)
O(5)-Cl(2)-O(6)		114 (3)	112 (2)

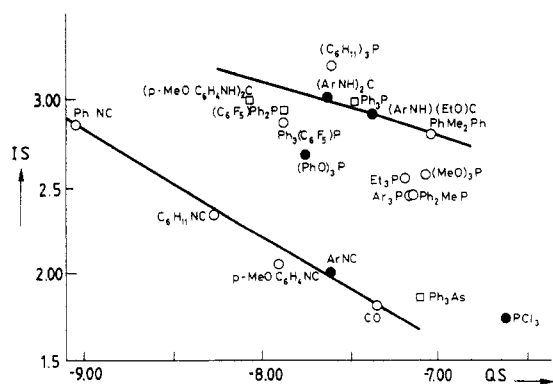
**Table VI. Orthogonalized Least-Squares Planes, Dihedral Angles (deg), and Individual Deviations (Å) for the Isomers Reported in This Paper**

plane no.	atoms defining the plane		
I	Au(1), C(3), O(1), N(1)		
II	Au(2), C(13), O(2), N(2)		
III	C(4), C(5), C(6), C(7), C(8), C(9), C(10)		
IV	C(14), C(15), C(16), C(17), C(18), C(19), C(20)		
<b>dihedral angles</b>			
	cis, trans	trans,trans	cis,cis
I-II	75.8	119.8	6.0
I-III	14.3	118.5	32.7
I-IV	70.7	3.5	14.3
II-III	81.3	1.9	26.6
II-IV	5.1	116.7	19.4
III-IV	76.5	115.4	44.7
<b>individual deviations</b>			
	cis,trans	trans,trans	cis,cis
<b>Plane I</b>			
Au(1)	-0.004	-0.008	0.008
O(1)	-0.005	-0.010	0.011
C(1)	0.068	0.183	0.111
C(2)	0.424	-0.327	0.433
C(3)	0.015	0.029	-0.029
C(4)	0.021	0.993	-0.660
N(1)	-0.006	-0.011	0.010
C(10)	-0.901	-0.459	-0.098
<b>Plane II</b>			
Au(2)	0.018	0.001	
O(2)	0.021	0.001	-0.007
C(11)	-0.152	0.367	0.067
C(12)	1.109	-0.899	1.327
C(13)	-0.069	-0.001	0.017
C(14)	-0.085	-0.983	0.382
N(2)	0.030	0.001	-0.006
C(20)	-0.141	0.421	-0.184

soft character of all these ligands, which are bonded to the gold(I) atom through P, As, or one carbon donor atom. This qualitative trend is in agreement with the absence of a relevant  $\pi$  bonding interaction in these isocyanide, carbene, or carbon monoxide complexes of gold(I). Independent confirmation of the absence of a significant amount of  $\pi$  bonding comes from the X-ray crystal structure<sup>22</sup> determination carried out on  $\{(trans,trans-MeC_6H_4NH)_2C_2Au\}BF_4$  (6), where the Au-C distance, 2.02 (1) Å, is typical of a single bond. The same absence is also evidenced by the Au-C bond lengths in the X-ray crystal structures here reported: 1.97 (2) and 2.02 (2) Å in 7cc, 1.92 (3) and 2.03 (3) Å in 7tt, and 1.98 (3) and 2.04 (4) Å in 5ct.

The electrical field gradient (EFG) in Au(I) complexes arises from the  $6p_z$  rather than from the  $5d_{zz,yz}$  electron populations.<sup>23,24</sup> This determines a negative sign for the EFG as verified in the case of  $K[Au(CN)_2]$ .<sup>23</sup> Since the quadrupole moment of the  $^{197}Au$  nuclear ground state is positive, the sign of the electric quadrupole splitting is negative with—presumably—a vanishing asymmetric parameter for all the linear complexes 1–9 of Table I.

Upon complex formation the  $\sigma$  bonding involves electronic population of the unfilled  $6s,6p$  hybrid orbitals of gold(I) from the ligands. Consequently the s-electron



**Figure 6.** Mössbauer data for polyvalent LAuCl compounds. The ligand L as reported Ar is p-tolyl: O, from ref 7 or 19, ●, from Table I, and □, from ref 19.

tion state of +2, namely, isocyanides, carbenes or carbon monoxide. This region overlaps largely with that occupied by the (tertiary phosphine)chlorogold(I) and by the (tertiary arsine)chlorogold(I) species, in agreement with the

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**Table VII. Comparison of Experimental Quadrupole Splittings (in mm/s) with Values Predicted by the Partial Quadrupole Splitting Model**

	QS <sup>a</sup>	L <sup>b</sup>	QS <sup>c</sup>
1 [ArNCAuCl]	(-) 7.61 (1)		-7.20 (6)
2 [(ArNC) <sub>2</sub> Au] <sup>+</sup>	(-) 9.51 (3)	-2.38 (3)	
3 [(ArNC) <sub>2</sub> Au] <sup>+</sup>	(-) 9.33 (3)		-9.52 (6)
4 [(ArNH) <sub>2</sub> CAuCl]	(-) 7.62 (1)		-7.20 (6)
5 [(ArNH)(EtO)CAuCl]	(-) 7.36 (1)		-7.74 (6)
6 {[(ArNH) <sub>2</sub> C] <sub>2</sub> Au} <sup>+</sup>	(-) 10.73 (1)		-10.60 (2)
7 {[(ArNH)(EtO)C] <sub>2</sub> Au} <sup>+</sup>	(-) 10.61 (2)	-2.65 (1)	

<sup>a</sup> Experimental value. A negative sign is assumed for  $V_{zz}$ .<sup>24,25</sup>

<sup>b</sup> Derived pqs by using  $QS = 4[L]$  for  $[L_2Au]^+$  complexes ( $D_{3h}$  symmetry). <sup>c</sup> Calculated value by using  $QS = 4[L]$  or  $2\{[L_1] + [L_2]\}$  for  $[L_1L_2Au]^+$  complexes ( $C_{2v}$  symmetry).

density at the gold nucleus increases. The isomer shift values increase on going from Ar-NC to (Ar-NH)(EtO)C and to (Ar-NH)<sub>2</sub>C in the LAuCl series while for the same ligand L, the isomer shift values are larger for the  $[LAuL]^+$  than for the LAuCl complexes (Table I). Figure 6 shows that there is an approximately linear correlation between the IS and QS parameters for the LAuCl series: L = phenyl, *c*-hexyl, or *p*-anisyl isocyanide and carbon monoxide in the lower part and (MeOC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>NH)<sub>2</sub>C, (MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>NH)<sub>2</sub>C, and (MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>NH)(EtO)C in the upper part of the figure. Assuming that in both series the binding properties of the fixed Cl ligand do not change appreciably and that, consequently, the changes in the Mössbauer parameters are mainly due to the L ligand, one concludes that the  $\sigma$  donor properties dominates both the IS and QS parameters. If one assumes a simple molecular orbital model in which the  $\sigma$  bonding is into the empty 6s, 6p<sub>z</sub> and  $\pi$  back-bonding from the filled 5d<sub>zz</sub>, 5d<sub>yz</sub> orbitals the two types of bonding influence the quadrupole splitting in opposite directions, such that QS becomes more positive with decreasing the 6p<sub>z</sub> contribution and (or) with decreasing the 5d<sub>zz</sub> contribution. The existence of the nearly linear correlations for the two groups of ligands thus indicates that within each group mainly  $\sigma$  bonding is responsible for the changes of IS and QS.

The application of the partial quadrupole splitting (pqs) model<sup>25</sup> to rationalize the electric quadrupole splitting of the gold(I) compounds is generally not successful because of the s-p rehybridization effects resulting from the trans influence. Nevertheless, the pqs model will be used here to verify in the mononuclear complexes 1-7 whether it is consistent with the presence of linear coordination, established through X-ray crystal structures for 5, 7, and 6<sup>22</sup> as well as for another isocyanide complex of gold(I), MeNCAuCl.<sup>26</sup> To this end the pqs for Ar-NC (-2.38 (3) mm/s) is derived from the splitting of  $[(Ar-NC)_2Au]ClO_4$  (QS = -9.51 (3) mm/s) and the pqs for (Ar-NH)(X)C (-2.65 (1) mm/s), where X is either Ar-NH or EtO, from  $\{[(Ar-NH)(EtO)C]_2Au\}ClO_4$  (QS = -10.61 (2) mm/s). With use of these data and the already available pqs value for chlorine (-1.22 (5) mm/s),<sup>25</sup> the QS values of the Table VII are obtained. The agreement between observed and calculated values of QS (Table VII) is considered to support the linear coordination assumed for all compounds 1-7 and verified for some of them. In addition, it should be noted

that assumption of two-coordination even for those compounds where a gold-gold interaction seems to be present (e.g., those, like 5ct, having an Au...Au separation smaller than ca. 3.4 Å) means that such an interaction has no sensible influence on the Mössbauer parameters.

The relative bonding ability of the ligands may be expressed in a semiquantitative form by the  $\sigma$  donor ability of the ligands derived from both the IS and QS splitting data. For this purpose we have used the procedure of ref 27 (Table VIII). In this way one reaches the following conclusions on the bonding properties and the charge distribution of the ligands here investigated in the  $[LAuL]^+$  complexes: (1) the  $\sigma$  donor ability of the ligands obeys the relation Ar-NC < (Ar-NH)<sub>2</sub>C < (Ar-NH)(EtO)C; (2) the ligands Ar-NC, (Ar-NH)<sub>2</sub>C, and (Ar-NH)(EtO)C are better s than p<sub>z</sub> donors; (3) the carbenes (Ar-NH)(X)C where X = Ar-NH or OEt do not differ much in their s as well as p donor properties, but both are better s donors than ArNC.

**Polynuclear Gold(I) Compounds.** The X-ray crystal structure determination carried out<sup>28</sup> on the trimeric compound 8 indicates small differences in the environment of the three gold atoms, as well as inter- and intramolecular Au...Au interactions. Owing to these, the ring is puckered rather than planar as expected if the nitrogen and carbon atoms of the ring had sp<sup>2</sup> and the gold atoms had sp hybrid orbitals. Moreover, although the three Au-C [1.93 (3), 1.95 (2), and 1.97 (3) Å] and the three Au-N distances [2.04 (2), 2.02 (2), and 2.04 (2) Å] are indistinguishable, one of the three AuC=N double-bond lengths, 1.22 (3) Å, is different from the other two, 1.38 (4) and 1.37 (4) Å, indicating a slightly different environment for one of the three atoms of gold.

The Mössbauer spectrum of compound 8 shows only one resolved quadrupole doublet, the line width (*W*) of which, however, is somewhat larger than normal for the compounds listed in Table I. The Mössbauer line width for the polynuclear compound 9 is similar to that of the trimer 8. These findings agree with the idea that the individual gold sites in both compounds are slightly different, but not sufficiently so as to yield resolved, individual quadrupole doublets.

The similarity of IS and *W* for compounds 8 and 9 requires only a similarity in the local environment around the gold atoms; it does not mean that 9 has the same trimeric structure as ascertained for 8. Indeed, the latter is soluble in organic solvents, while the former is insoluble, in agreement with the suggested oligomeric or polymeric nature.<sup>16</sup>

It is tempting to associate the stability, in general terms, of 8 and 9, of their homologues, and of other trimeric molecules as well (such as 2-pyridylgold(I),<sup>29</sup> (1-methylbenzimidazol-2-yl)gold(I),<sup>30</sup> or tris( $\mu$ -[bis(3,5-trifluoromethyl)pyrazolato-*N,N'*]}trigold(I)<sup>31</sup>) with some form of  $\pi$  bonding involving, e.g., 5d<sub>zz</sub>, 5d<sub>xy</sub> orbitals of gold and the unfilled  $\pi^*$  C=N orbitals. The nonplanarity of 8, however, rules out an electron delocalization over the entire nine-membered ring.

Other trimeric gold(I) derivatives with the general formula<sup>32</sup> Au<sub>3</sub>( $\mu$ -pyrazolato-*N,N'*)<sub>3</sub> or Au<sub>3</sub>( $\mu$ -pyrazolato-*N,*

**Table VIII. Derivation of the  $\sigma$ -Bonding Parameters from  $[L_2Au]^+$  Complexes<sup>a</sup> Following Ref 27**

ligand	IS <sup>a,b</sup>	QS <sup>b</sup>	$\Delta n_s^c$	p <sub>z</sub> <sup>c</sup>	$\sigma^c$
Cl <sup>d</sup>	1.72	6.13	0.22	0.27	0.25
ArNC	3.88 (4)	9.51 (3)	0.48 (4)	0.48 (3)	0.45 (7)
(ArNH) <sub>2</sub> C	5.68 (2)	10.73 (1)	0.71 (2)	0.48 (1)	0.59 (3)
(ArNH)(EtO)C	5.78 (3)	10.61 (2)	0.72 (3)	0.47 (2)	0.60 (5)

<sup>a</sup> Reference to gold metal. <sup>b</sup> From Table I. <sup>c</sup>  $\Delta n_s = IS/8$ ;  $p_z = QS/22.37$ ;  $\sigma = (\Delta n_s + p_z)/2$ . <sup>d</sup> In AuCl<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> from ref 27.

$N\gamma_3I_2$  were investigated by Mössbauer spectroscopy<sup>10a</sup> and found to have even larger line widths than those of the spectra of 8 or 9. It is not possible to compare the Mössbauer parameters of 8 and 9 with other suitable gold(I) compounds having a similar arrangement of ligands because such Mössbauer data have not been reported in the literature. The best candidate for such a comparison may be the linear  $(Au-C\equiv N)_n$  (IS = 2.30 and QS = 7.95 mm/s) since in this compound the gold has one unsaturated carbon and one unsaturated nitrogen as donor ligands.

**Gold(III) Derivatives.** An X-ray crystal structure determination established that a trans square-planar coordination about the gold center is present in the cation  $\{[(ArNH)_2C]_2AuI_2\}^+$  (no. 10 in Table I). The bonding involves  $5d6s6p^2$  hybridization, and the Au-C bonds have been reported to be almost pure  $\sigma$  bonds.<sup>33</sup> Similar as-

sumptions can be made by analogy for cation 11.

The Mössbauer parameters of cations 10 and 11 are typical of covalent compounds containing gold(III). The parameters are close to those of another covalent species having two unsaturated C ligands and two iodine atoms around the gold(III) coordination center, namely,  $[Au(C-N)_2I_2]^-$ .<sup>34</sup> The EFG, which would be negative for a  $d_z^2$  electron configuration, changes sign from negative to positive owing to the population of the Au  $p_x$  and  $p_y$  orbitals<sup>24</sup> in covalent Au(III) complexes. So a positive sign for the quadrupole coupling constant is expected for complexes 10 and 11.

On complex formation not only the quadrupole coupling increases but also the isomer shift becomes more positive. Its value increases with the  $\sigma$  donor properties of the ligands. On comparing cations 10 and 11 it may be observed from the Mössbauer parameters that  $(Ar-NH)(EtO)C$  is a better  $\sigma$  donor than  $(ArNH)_2C$ , in agreement with the behavior of these ligands in the gold(I) complexes.

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**Supplementary Material Available:** Tables of least-squares of planes and listings of the structure factors amplitudes with thermal parameters (53 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

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## Radicals of $C_7$ -Polyolefin Cobalt Complexes: Electrochemistry, Reaction Routes, and Structure of a Resulting Dimer

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The reduction and oxidation of several cyclopentadienyl (Cp) cobalt complexes with  $\pi$ -bonded  $C_7$ -polyolefin ligands have been studied by electrochemical methods. The cycloheptadienyl complex  $CpCo(\eta^5-C_7H_9)^+$  is reversibly reduced to a neutral radical which undergoes a slow dimerization reaction with a rate constant of  $k = 1.35 \pm 0.23 M^{-1} s^{-1}$  as measured by cyclic voltammetry. X-ray crystallographic studies of the dimer confirmed that coupling took place at the  $C_7$  ligand. The dimer crystallizes in the space group  $P\bar{1}$  with  $a = 6.577(1) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $b = 12.152(2) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c = 12.693(2) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\beta = 100.90(1)^\circ$ , and  $Z = 2$ .  $CpCo(\eta^4-C_7H_9)$  is reduced to a reactive monoanion that undergoes protonation and further reduction to yield  $CpCo(\eta^4-C_7H_{10})$ .  $CpCo(\eta^4-C_7H_{10})$  is also reduced electrochemically, but its radical anion is very unstable and no product analysis was performed. However,  $CpCo(\eta^4-C_7H_{10})$  gives a cation radical upon one-electron oxidation that is stable enough to be characterized by electron spin resonance spectroscopy.

### Introduction

The  $(\eta^5\text{-cyclopentadienyl})\text{cobalt}$  (CpCo) moiety has been useful as a template to facilitate the study of reactions of coordinated polyolefins with electrophiles and nucleophiles.<sup>1-4</sup> Since CpCo (polyolefin) complexes often display

reversible electron-transfer reactions,<sup>5</sup> we sought to use electrochemistry to prepare CpCo (polyolefin) radicals in

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