Metallosite Selectivity Studies in Reactions of Tetrahedral MCo₃ Carbonyl Clusters (M = Fe, Ru) with Cyclohexylphosphine. Skeletal Rearrangements Leading to Tri- and Pentanuclear Phosphinidene Clusters and Crystal Structures of RuCo₄(μ_4 -PCy)(μ -CO)₂(CO)₁₁ and RuCo₂(μ_3 -PCy)(CO)₉[†]

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We have studied the metallosite selectivity of substitution reactions at heterometallic tetranuclear clusters of the type HMCo₃(CO)₁₂ (M = Fe, Ru). Monosubstitution with PCyH₂ occurs with a different metalloselectivity as a function of M. When M = Fe, substitution of a Co-bound CO ligand occurs whereas when M = Ru, the phosphine ligand is bound to Ru. Introduction of a second substituent (PCyH₂ or NMe₃) occurs in both cases at cobalt and, in the case of HFeCo₃(CO)₁₁(PCyH₂), at a cobalt that does not carry the PCyH₂ substituent. The clusters HMCo₃(CO)₁₁(PCyH₂) (**2a**, M = Fe; **2b**, M = Ru) transform in solution to give the corresponding μ_3 -phosphinidene-capped heterotrinuclear clusters MCo₂(μ_3 -PCy)(CO)₉ (**4a**, M = Fe; **4b**, M = Ru). The μ_4 -phosphinidene-capped intermediate RuCo₄(μ_4 -PCy)(μ -CO)₂-(CO)₁₁ (**5b**) could be fully characterized, whereas the analogous species could not be isolated when M = Fe. The transformation of **2a**,**b** was accelerated by addition of Me₃NO. This work demonstrates that a reaction which represents a partial cluster fragmentation, with a nuclearity change from 4 to 3, may occur via the intermediacy of a larger cluster, of nuclearity 5. Reactions and products were studied by IR and ¹H, ³¹P{¹H}, and ⁵⁹Co NMR spectroscopic methods, and the clusters **4b** and **5b** have been characterized by X-ray diffraction.

Introduction

Phosphines are among the most ubiquitous ligands in transition-metal chemistry and are known to significantly alter the structure and/or reactivity of their metal complexes, in both stoichiometric and catalytic reactions. This has been examined in considerable detail in mononuclear chemistry and to a large extent with homonuclear metal clusters. Mixed-metal clusters have been increasingly used in catalysis, and there is evidence that cooperative effects may lead to improved properties compared to homometallic systems.¹ Furthermore, heterometallic clusters provide unique opportunities for studying the synthesis and reactivity of isomers which differ by the nature of the metal to which a given ligand is bound. As a result, investigations concerning the metallosite selectivity of mixed-metal clusters have become of increasing importance and we have recently reported on such aspects.² The tetrahedral carbonyl clusters $HMCo_3(CO)_{12}$ (M = Fe, 1a; M = Ru, 1b) have proven particularly suitable for such studies, as they are amenable to ³¹P{¹H} and ⁵⁹Co NMR investigations.³ In addition, these clusters have received much attention as catalyst precursors in CO/H₂ and methanol homologation chemistry.¹ They have been studied in heterogeneous and homogeneous media, and in the latter case, phosphine ligands have been shown to enhance their activity/selectivity. However, the exact nature of the phosphine-substituted clusters present

 $^{^\}dagger$ Dedicated to our friend and colleague Professor Daniel Grandjean (University Rennes I), on the occasion of his retirement, with our best wishes.

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under catalytic conditions has rarely been determined. For these tetrahedral clusters, stepwise addition of monophosphine ligands may lead to the incorporation of up to three ligands. Carbonyl substitution readily takes place, and the interplay between the changes in kinetic and thermodynamic parameters resulting from phosphine substitution generally leads to complete chemo- and stereoselectivity. Thus, previous studies with 1a and 1b have shown that CO monosubstitution by tertiary or secondary phosphine ligands takes place exclusively at one of the three equivalent Co atoms. The combined use of spectroscopic methods in solution, such as ¹H, ³¹P{¹H}, and ⁵⁹Co NMR, with solid-state studies by ³¹P{¹H} and ⁵⁹Co NMR and X-ray diffraction allows a better monitoring of the reactions and an understanding of the selectivity for apical vs basal substitution, which in the latter case may occur in an axial or equatorial position (Scheme 1).

In such monosubstituted clusters, all observations so far indicate that the phosphorus ligand is bound to cobalt in an axial position. Disubstitution only leads to the axial [Co, Co] isomer of $HMCo_3(CO)_{10}L_2$ (L = phosphine), whereas both [Co, Co] and [Co, Ru] isomers may be observed in the case of **1b**, depending on the nature of the phosphine used:



Trisubstitution of **1a** with P(OMe)₃ has been established by X-ray and neutron diffraction to occur at the cobalt centers (one phosphite on each cobalt center).⁴ In the reaction products of **1b** with various phosphines, one of the three ligands is always bonded to ruthenium.^{2c,5} The affinity toward phosphines decreases in the order Co > Ru > Fe.

The majority of such studies have been concerned with tertiary phosphines, and whereas there have been a few examples dealing with the reactivity of secondary phosphines, relatively little is known about the behavior of primary phosphines PRH₂. The latter ligands could lead to simple CO substitution or formation of organophosphido- (μ -PRH) or phosphinidene-based (μ_3 -PR) polynuclear compounds via P-H oxidative addition. Although such reactions have been observed with homoand heterotrinuclear clusters,⁶ there seems to have been no report on related chemistry involving tetrahedral mixed-metal carbonyl clusters. Here we present a study on the reactivity of **1a** and **1b** toward $PCyH_2$ which led to unprecedented metallosite selectivity and the characterization of metal core rearrangements leading to new tri- and pentanuclear clusters.

Results and Discussion

The reaction of HMCo₃(CO)₁₂ (**1a**, M = Fe; **1b**, M = Ru) with 1 equiv of PCyH₂ in dichloromethane at room temperature led to the formation of HMCo₃(CO)₁₁-(PCyH₂) (**2a**, M = Fe; **2b**, M = Ru), which were characterized by analytical and spectroscopic data (Table 1).

As reported earlier, the reactions of **1a** and **1b** with various tertiary or secondary phosphines lead to monosubstituted derivatives, in which the phosphine ligand is always axially bound to a cobalt center.² Variation in the nature of the phosphine ligand results only in slight changes in the IR patterns of the products. Although the IR spectra in the ν (CO) region of cobaltsubstituted FeCo₃ and RuCo₃ clusters of the type HMCo₃(CO)₁₁L are always very similar, the IR spectra of **2a** and **2b** showed notable differences which point to the presence of two isomers (Scheme 2). The Fe-





containing cluster **2a** was spectroscopically characterized as the axially Co-bound isomer, by analogy with the data for $HFeCo_3(CO)_{11}(PPh_2H)$, the structure of which has been established by X-ray diffraction.^{2a} The

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cluster	IR ν (CO), cm ⁻¹	¹ H NMR δ , ppm ^d	³¹ P{ ¹ H} NMR δ , ppm ($\Delta_{1/2}$, Hz) ^d	⁵⁹ Co NMR δ , ppm ($\Delta_{1/2}$, Hz) ^d
HFeCo ₃ (CO) ₁₂ (1a)	2060 vs, 2052 vs, 2030 m, 1990 m, 1887 s ^c	-21.5 (s, μ ₃ -H)		-2720 (420, Co-CO) ^e
HFeCo ₃ (CO) ₁₁ (PCyH ₂) (Co) (2a)	2080 m, 2036 vs, 2016 s, 1977 m, 1902 w, 1874 m, 1860 m ^c	-21.4 (s, μ_3 -H), 1.24 and 1.80 (2 m, 11H, Cy), 3.2 (dd, PH ₂ , 2H, ${}^{J}J_{P-H}$ = 330 Hz, ${}^{3}J_{H-H}$ = 5 Hz)	-40 (s, P-Co, 3200)	-2719 (1800, 2 Co-CO), -2674 (1800, 1 Co-P)
HFeCo ₃ (CO) ₁₀ (PCyH ₂) ₂ (Co, Co) (3a)	2061 s, 2022 vs, 2003 vs, 1966 m, 1863 w, 1854 m, 1839 m ^a	-21.9 (s, μ_3 -H), 1.32 and 1.82 (2 m, 11H, Cy), 3.72 (dd, PH ₂ , 2H, ${}^{J}J_{P-H} = 312$ Hz, ${}^{4}J_{P-H} = 56$ Hz)	-38 (m, P-Co, 2800)	-2727 (1970, Co-CO), -2629 (1350, Co-P)
FeCo ₂ (µ ₃ -PCy)(CO) ₉ (5a)	2092 m, 2047 vs, 2037 vs, 2030 vs, 2010 w, 2006 sh, 1981 m, 1967 m ^a		483 (s, µ ₃ -P, 410)	-2957 (10 000)
HRuCo ₃ (CO) ₁₂ (1b) HRuCo ₃ (CO) ₁₁ (PCyH ₂) (Ru) (2b)	2067 vs, 2024 m, 1879 m ^c 2078 m, 2043 s, 2028 s, 1985 m, 1880 m, 1868 m ^c	-19.7(s, μ_3 -H) -18.2 (μ_3 -H), 0.9, 1.27, and 1.90 (3 m, 11H, Cy), 4.33 (dd, PH ₂ , 2H, ${}^{I}J_{P-H} =$ 354 Hz, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 5 Hz)	-19.7 (s, P-Ru, 50)	-2760 (1700, Co-CO) -2790 (8300, Co-CO)
HRuCo ₃ (CO) ₁₀ (PCyH ₂) ₂ (Co, Ru) (3b)	2054 s, 2014 vs, 1970 m, 1850 m, 1835 sh ^c	-18.6 (s, μ_3 -H), 0.8-0.9, 1.52-1.8, (3 m, 22H, Cy), 4.0 (d, PH ₂ , 2H, ${}^{I}J_{P-H} =$ 329 Hz, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 5 Hz), 4.3 (d, PH ₂ , 2H, ${}^{I}J_{P-H} =$ 350 Hz, ${}^{3}J_{H-H} =$ 11 Hz)	-23.4 (d, P-Ru, ${}^{3}J_{P-P} = 50$ Hz), P-Co too broad to be assigned	-2774 (5750, Co-CO + Co-P)
$\begin{array}{c} \operatorname{RuCo}_4(\mu_4\operatorname{-PCy})(\operatorname{CO})_{13}\\ (\mathbf{4b}) \end{array}$	2088 w, 2054 vs, 2036 sh, 2033 vs, 2020 w, 2012 w, 1987 w, 1867 m ^a		too unstable	-1805 (7000, Co-CO + Co-P)
RuCo ₂ (µ ₃ -PCy)(CO) ₉ (5b)	2091 s, 2049 vs, 2043 vs, 2028 vs, 2026 m, 2009 m, 1980 m ^a	1.6, 1.96, and 2.35 (3m, 11H, Cy)	450 (s, μ ₃ -Ρ, 530)	-3030 (10 000)
HRuCo ₃ (CO) ₁₀ (PCyH ₂)- (NMe ₃) (Co, Ru) (6b)	2049 m, 1999 vs, 1985 sh, 1964 s, 1941 s, 1868 m, 1846 s, 1824 s ^b	too unstable	too unstable	-2780 (6800, Co-CO), -1360 (3400, Co-N), -1150 (4000, Co-N)

Table 1. Selected IR and NMR Data

^a In hexane. ^b In KBr. ^c In CH₂Cl₂. ^d In CDCl₃. ^e In CD₂Cl₂.

situation appears different for the Ru-containing cluster 2b and, on the basis of ¹H, ³¹P{¹H}, and ⁵⁹Co NMR data (see Table 1) and by comparison with the structurally characterized cluster HRuCo₃(CO)₁₁(TeMe₂),⁷ we suggest that the phosphine is coordinated to the Ru atom (Scheme 2). Thus, the ¹H NMR resonance for the hydride ligand appears at δ –18.2, instead of ca. δ –20 to -22 in clusters of the type HRuCo₃(CO)₁₁L or $HRuCo_3(CO)_{10}L_2$ in which the ligand(s) L is bound to cobalt. Furthermore, the sharp ${}^{31}\overline{P}{}^{1}H$ NMR resonance of 2b contrasts with the quadrupole-broadened signals associated with cobalt-bound phosphorus nuclei.^{3a} Finally, the ⁵⁹Co NMR spectrum of **2b** consists of a broad resonance at δ –2790 ppm, whereas for **2a**, the expected two resonances are observed at δ –2719 ppm (Co–CO) and δ –2674 ppm (Co–P), in a 2:1 ratio.

These features distinguish **2b** from all the other known phosphine-monosubstituted RuCo₃ clusters, where Co is always the preferred coordination site, with the exception of RuCo₃(CO)₁₁(PMe₂Ph)(μ_3 -AuPPh₃), in which the phosphine ligand PMe₂Ph was established by X-ray diffraction to be bound to Ru.⁸ In this case, however, steric effects might be at work. Thus, the bulky group AuPPh₃ may destabilize a phosphine bound to a Co atom and trigger its migration to Ru, whereas with the smaller hydride ligand, which is also μ_3 -bound to the cobalt face in the related HRuCo₃(CO)₁₁(PMe₂Ph), the expected isomer with the phosphine bound to Co was characterized by X-ray diffraction.⁹

The reactions of **1a** and **1b** with more than 2 equiv of PCyH₂ led to the formation of the disubstituted compounds HMCo₃(CO)₁₀(PCyH₂)₂ (**3a**, M = Fe; **3b**, M = Ru). An interesting feature is that only the [Co, Co] isomer of 3a was obtained, whereas 3b was found exclusively as the [Co, Ru] isomer. This was established by comparison of their IR and multinuclear NMR data with those of HFeCo₃(CO)₁₀(PPh₂H)₂^{2a} and HRuCo₃-(CO)₁₀(PMe₂Ph)₂^{2c} (see Table 1). Thus, the ¹H NMR resonance for the hydride ligand in **3b** appears at δ -18.6 ppm, instead of δ -21.9 ppm in **3a**. The sharp ³¹P{¹H} NMR doublet for the Ru-bound P nucleus of **3b** is absent in 3a, where only a broad resonance is observed at δ –40 ppm for the Co-bound P nuclei. These observations are consistent with previous results concerning the reaction of the Ru-bound telluride compound HRuCo₃(CO)₁₁(TeMe₂) with PMe₂Ph, which yielded only the disubstituted [Co, Ru] isomer.^{2c} For other clusters of the type HRuCo₃(CO)₁₀(Phosphine)₂, the structure of the preferred isomer depends on the nature of the phosphine. With, for example, PPh₃, the [Co, Co] isomer first formed was stable, whereas with, for example, PMe₂Ph or Ph₂PCH₂C(O)Ph, the [Co, Co] kinetic isomer slowly isomerized into the [Co, Ru] isomer.^{2c,5}

Isolated **2b** slowly transforms at room temperature in CH₂Cl₂ solution, more rapidly in THF, into two new species (a black and a yellow compound), as indicated by analytical thin-layer chromatography and monitoring by IR spectroscopy in the ν (CO) region or by ⁵⁹Co NMR spectroscopy (Scheme 3). The black species was found

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to be a condensation product, the pentanuclear cluster RuCo₄(μ_4 -PCy)(μ -CO)₂(CO)₁₁ (**4b**), which has been structurally characterized by X-ray diffraction (see below). Such a cluster expansion reaction has been previously observed in the reaction of Ru₃(CO)₁₂ with PPhH₂, which afforded tetranuclear and pentanuclear phosphinidene-capped homometallic clusters.^{6c} On the other hand, the yellow compound was found to be a heterometallic trinuclear cluster and characterized by X-ray diffraction as RuCo₂(μ_3 -PCy)(CO)₉ (**5b**). This cluster results formally from the loss of two 12-valence-electron (12-VE) fragments Co(CO)₂⁺ from **4b**. The analogous clusters RuCo₂(μ_3 -PR)(CO)₉ (R = Me, Ph) have been obtained by reaction of RuCo₂(CO)₁₁ with PRH₂ but were not characterized by X-ray diffraction.^{6e}

At the beginning of the transformation of **2b**, **5b** is only present in minor quantities compared to **4b**. This situation reverses with time, ending with complete conversion of **4b**. When pure **4b** was dissolved in CH₂-Cl₂ or THF, it rapidly formed **5b**, which was the only species detected by ⁵⁹Co NMR spectroscopy, and some decomposition product that did not migrate on TLC plates (Scheme 3). This strongly suggests, but of course does not prove, that **5b** is formed via the intermediacy of **4b** and is not formed directly from **2b**. To see whether a bimolecular process, where a molecule of **1b** would provide a fourth hydrogen and the Co(CO)₂ fragment necessary to complete the transformation of **2b** into **4b**, a 1:1 mixture of pure **1b** and **2b** was stirred in CH₂Cl₂ at room temperature for up to 7 days.²² We found that the presence of **1b** did not affect the course of the transformation of **2b**. When Co₂(CO)₈ was added to **2b** in CH₂Cl₂, the formation of the mixture **4b** + **5b** was slowed, until all Co₂(CO)₈ had been converted into Co₄-(CO)₁₂. At this moment, the transformation of **2b** followed the normal course.

A similar behavior was observed with the ironcontaining cluster **2a**, but in this case the formation of the intermediate condensation product $FeCo_4(\mu_4-PCy)$ - $(\mu-CO)_2(CO)_{11}$ (**4a**) was only detected using thin-layer chromatography and identified by comparison with **4b**. This unstable compound rapidly transforms into the phosphinidene-capped cluster $FeCo_2(\mu_3-PCy)(CO)_9$ (**5a**), which was characterized by comparison with $FeCo_2(\mu_3-PCy)(CO)_9$. PPh)(CO)₉.¹⁰ The latter was prepared in a low yield (2.5%) by a completely different method, the reaction of PhP[Co(CO)_4]_2 with Fe₂(CO)₉.

Although the details of the mechanism leading to elimination of hydrogen are not known, it is reasonable to assume that the transformations leading to **4** and **5** involve initial P–H activation and CO substitution processes, giving MCo₃(μ -H)₂(μ -PCyH)(CO)₁₀ and finally MCo₃(μ -H)₃(μ ₃-PCy)(CO)₉. Unfortunately, none of the expected intermediates has so far been observed. However, this hypothesis of stepwise P–H oxidative-addition reactions of a monosubstituted compound has been verified with the trinuclear clusters Os₃(CO)₁₁(PRH₂).^{6a}

The transformations of **2a** or **2b** may be easily accelerated by reaction with trimethylamine N-oxide. Thus, reaction of **2a** with a stoichiometric amount of Me₃NO led to CO₂ evolution and formation of a green solution characteristic for a disubstituted cluster. After a few minutes, the color of this solution rapidly turned deep red and the presence of cluster **5a** was indicated by TLC, together with a green spot attributed to HFeCo₃(CO)₁₀(NMe₃)(PCyH₂) by analogy with the known HFeCo₃(CO)₁₀(NMe₃)(PPh₂H).^{2a} However, ⁵⁹Co NMR monitoring of this reaction did not allow observation of the resonance of the amine-substituted cobalt atom. The reaction of **2b** with Me₃NO afforded the unstable phosphine–amine disubstituted cluster HRuCo₃(CO)₁₀- $(NMe_3)(PCyH_2)$ (**6b**), which was separated from decomposition products by extraction in nonpolar solvents such as toluene. Cluster **6b** was identified as the [Co, Ru] isomer, where the phosphine has remained on Ru and the amine ligand has substituted a Co-bound CO. This identification was done by comparison of its IR and ⁵⁹Co NMR data with those of the phosphine disubstituted cluster HRuCo₃(CO)₁₀(PMe₂Ph)₂, in which the [Co, Co] and [Co, Ru] isomers can be readily differentiated.^{2c} However, when the reaction of **2b** with Me₃NO was performed in an NMR tube for direct monitoring by 59 Co NMR, two new resonances were observed at δ -1150 ppm and -1360 ppm which are typical for aminesubstituted Co atoms.^{2b} This may be explained by assuming that, in solution, this unstable cluster isomerizes, at least in part, to give a mixture of [Co, Co] and [Co, Ru] isomers (eq 1). For comparison, a similar sensitivity of the ⁵⁹Co NMR resonance of an amine-



substituted Co nucleus to the presence of a phosphine on an adjacent cobalt has been previously observed on going from the [Co, Co] isomer of HFeCo₃(CO)₁₀(NMe₃)-(PPh₂H) (δ –780 ppm) to HFeCo₃(CO)₁₁(NMe₃) (δ –910 ppm).^{2a}

The existence of **6b** supports our previous suggestion that the reaction of HRuCo₃(CO)₁₁(PMe₂Ph) with Me₃-NO occurs via a short-lived intermediate in which the phosphine has migrated to Ru.^{2c} The mixture of **6b** and **7b** transforms rapidly in solution ($t_{1/2} = 30$ min) into first **4b** and **5b** and eventually pure **5b**, as shown by ⁵⁹Co NMR spectroscopy, where the two additional resonances at δ –1805 and –3030 ppm grew at the expense of those at δ –1150 and –1360 ppm, reflecting the displacement of the Co-bound amine ligand.

Crystal Structures of RuCo₄(μ_4 -**PCy**)(μ -**CO**)₂-(**CO**)₁₁ (**4b**) and **RuCo**₂(μ_3 -**PCy**)(**CO**)₉ (**5b**). The molecular structures of **4b** and **5b** have been determined by X-ray diffraction and are shown in Figures 1 and 2. Selected bond distances and angles are given in Tables 2 and 3, respectively.

In cluster 4b the two crystallographically independent molecules in the asymmetric unit are structurally equivalent and are almost related to each other by a mirror plane, except for a slight rotation of the Cy substituent. The overall cluster geometry consists of a distorted octahedron with a cobalt atom and a phosphorus atom on opposite apexes, while the other four metal atoms form an approximately square-planar RuCo₃ array (Figure 1). Two Co-Co bonds are symmetrically bridged by a CO ligand, and the Co-Co distances range from Co(1)-Co(3) = 2.493(2) Å to Co-(2)-Co(3) = 2.598(2) Å (molecule A). The other carbonyl ligands are terminally bound, two on each cobalt and three on ruthenium. The phosphinidene ligand caps the RuCo₃ plane in a slightly asymmetric manner such that one of the Co-P distances is shorter than the other two (see Table 2). The Ru-P(1) distance of 2.305(3) Å (2.273-(3) Å in molecule B) is shorter than in the cluster Ru₅- $(\mu_4$ -PPh)(CO)₁₅ (2.339(6)-2.407(7) Å).¹¹ The P(1)-C(14) distance of 1.85(1) Å (1.89(1) Å in molecule B) involving the phosphinidene ligand is comparable to that previously reported in the only other structurally characterized cluster with a μ_4 -PCy ligand, Ru₄(μ_4 -PCy)₂(μ -PCy₂)₂(CO)₈.¹² Cluster **4b** has 7 electron pairs, consistent with a nido octahedron for the five metal atoms or a closo octahedron when the P atom is considered as part of the skeleton. The metal atoms all obey the 18-electron rule.

Cluster $\mathbf{5b}$ contains a triangular core with one ruthenium and two cobalt atoms. The position of the



Figure 1. ORTEP view of one molecule of RuCo₄(μ_4 -PCy)-(μ -CO)₂(CO)₁₁ (**4b**) with the atom-labeling scheme (50% probability ellipsoids).



Figure 2. ORTEP view of one molecule of $RuCo_2(\mu_3$ -PCy)-(CO)₉ (**5b**) with the atom-labeling scheme (50% probability ellipsoids).

ruthenium atom is statistically disordered over all three metal sites with a pseudo atom named RC (RC = $^{1}/_{3}$ Ru + $^{2}/_{3}$ Co) representing this metal site (Figure 2). Related disorder problems have been encountered with H₂-RuOs₃(CO)₁₃ and (AsPh₄)[H₃RuOs₃(CO)₁₂].¹³ The average metal-metal bond distance of 2.648 Å is intermediate between a Co-Co and a Ru-Co bond length in **4b**. Each metal atom bears three terminal carbonyl groups. As in FeCo₂(μ_3 -PPh)(CO)₉,¹⁴ the phosphorus

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Table 2. Selected Bond Distances (Å) and Angles (deg) for $RuCo_4(\mu_4-PCy)(\mu-CO)_2(CO)_{11}$ (4b)

	molecule			molecule	
	A	В		Α	В
		Bond D	istances		
Ru(1)-Co(1)	2.771(2)	2.684(2)	Co(2)-Co(4)	2.533(2)	2.535(2)
Ru(1)-Co(2)	2.707(2)	2.677(2)	Co(2)-P(1)	2.241(3)	2.256(3)
Ru(1)-Co(4)	2.699(2)	2.666(2)	Co(2) - C(7)	1.76(1)	1.76(1)
Ru(1) - P(1)	2.305(3)	2.273(3)	Co(2) - C(8)	1.76(2)	1.74(2)
Ru(1) - C(1)	1.91(1)	1.88(2)	Co(2) - C(9)	1.92(1)	1.90(1)
Ru(1)-C(2)	1.89(1)	1.93(2)	Co(3)-Co(4)	2.557(2)	2.605(2)
Ru(1)-C(3)	1.97(1)	1.88(2)	Co(3)-P(1)	2.204(3)	2.238(3)
Co(1)-Co(3)	2.493(2)	2.553(2)	Co(3)-C(6)	1.87(1)	1.87(1)
Co(1)-Co(4)	2.498(2)	2.499(2)	Co(3)-C(10)	1.79(1)	1.80(1)
Co(1)-P(1)	2.252(3)	2.236(3)	Co(3)-C(11)	1.80(2)	1.82(1)
Co(1)-C(4)	1.76(1)	1.80(1)	Co(4)-C(9)	1.99(1)	1.98(1)
Co(1)-C(5)	1.76(1)	1.72(1)	Co(4)-C(12)	1.80(1)	1.80(1)
Co(1)-C(6)	1.88(1)	2.24(2)	Co(4)-C(13)	1.83(1)	1.77(2)
Co(2)-Co(3)	2.598(2)	2.638	P(1)-C(14)	1.85(1)	1.89(1)
		Bond	Angles		
Co(1)-Ru(1)-Co(2)	83.89(5)	85.88(6)	Co(4) - Co(2) - P(1)	78.4(1)	78.49(9)
Co(1) - Ru(1) - P(1)	51.69(8)	52.84(8)	P(1)-Co(2)-C(7)	110.0(5)	111.5(4)
Co(2) - Ru(1) - P(1)	52.37(8)	53.48(8)	P(1)-Co(2)-C(8)	119.4(4)	114.8(5)
Co(4) - Ru(1) - P(1)	73.91(8)	75.47(9)	P(1)-Co(2)-C(9)	128.9(4)	128.8(4)
P(1)-Ru(1)-C(1)	119.0(4)	110.7(6)	Co(1)-Co(3)-Co(2)	91.89(9)	89.42(7)
P(1)-Ru(1)-C(2)	94.7(3)	90.8(4)	Co(1)-Co(3)-Co(4)	59.27(8)	57.95(6)
P(1)-Ru(1)-C(3)	144.0(4)	150.3(4)	Co(1) - Co(3) - P(1)	56.9(1)	55.17(9)
Ru(1)-Co(1)-Co(3)	92.35(6)	93.8(7)	Co(1) - Co(3) - C(6)	48.5(4)	58.4(5)
Ru(1)-Co(1)-Co(4)	61.36(5)	61.80(6)	Co(2) - Co(3) - Co(1)	91.95(7)	89.42(7)
Ru(1)-Co(1)-P(1)	53.43(8)	54.10(9)	Co(2) - Co(3) - Co(4)	58.84(6)	57.83(5)
Co(3)-Co(1)-Co(4)	61.65(6)	62.07(6)	Co(2) - Co(3) - P(1)	54.89(9)	54.37(9)
Co(3) - Co(1) - P(1)	55.07(8)	55.25(9)	Co(4) - Co(3) - P(1)	78.50(9)	77.33(9)
Co(3) - Co(1) - C(6)	48.1(4)	45.4(4)	P(1)-Co(3)-C(6)	101.7(4)	107.7(5)
Co(4) - Co(1) - P(1)	78.91(9)	79.65(9)	P(1)-Co(3)-C(10)	154.6(5)	148.1(4)
P(1)-Co(1)-C(4)	101.6(4)	106.8(4)	P(1)-Co(3)-C(11)	97.0(4)	96.1(5)
P(1)-Co(1)-C(5)	150.1(4)	150.8(4)	Ru(1)-Co(4)-Co(1)	64.30(5)	62.52(7)
P(1)-Co(1)-C(6)	99.6(5)	96.1(4)	Ru(1)-Co(4)-Co(2)	62.22(5)	61.89(6)
Ru(1)-Co(2)-Co(3)	91.55(6)	91.33(6)	Ru(1)-Co(4)-Co(3)	92.63(6)	92.32(6)
Ru(1)-Co(2)-Co(4)	61.90(5)	61.46(6)	Co(1) - Co(4) - Co(2)	93.40(7)	93.03(7)
Ru(1) - Co(2) - P(1)	54.56(8)	54.05(8)	Co(1) - Co(4) - Co(3)	59.07(6)	59.98(7)
Co(3) - Co(2) - Co(4)	59.77(6)	60.42(5)	Co(2) - Co(4) - Co(3)	61.39(6)	61.75(5)
Co(3) - Co(2) - P(1)	53.57(8)	53.74(9)	Co(1) - Co(4) - C(9)	140.9(4)	140.1(4)

Table 3. Selected Bond Distances (Å) and Angles (deg) for $RuCo_2(\mu_3-PCy)(CO)_9$ (5b)

	Bond D	istances	
RC(1)-RC(2)	2.641(2)	RC(1) - C(3)	1.818(5)
RC(1)-RC(3)	2.647(1)	RC(2)-C(7)	1.842(5)
RC(2)-RC(3)	2.655(1)	RC(2)-C(8)	1.839(5)
RC(1)-P(1)	2.180(2)	RC(2) - C(9)	1.825(5)
RC(2) - P(1)	2.173(1)	RC(3)-C(4)	1.820(5)
RC(3)-P(1)	2.176(1)	RC(3)-C(5)	1.849(6)
RC(1)-C(1)	1.812(5)	RC(3)-C(6)	1.834(5)
RC(1) - C(2)	1.823(5)	P(1)-C(10)	1.836(4)
	Bond	Anglos	
PC(2) - PC(1) - PC(3)	60 26(A)	PC(3) - PC(2) - P(1)	52 13(1)
RC(2) - RC(1) - P(1)	5253(4)	RC(3) - RC(2) - C(7)	98 0(2)
RC(2) - RC(1) - C(1)	151 8(2)	RC(3) - RC(2) - C(8)	97.7(2)
RC(2) - RC(1) - C(2)	97.4(2)	RC(3) - RC(2) - C(9)	1531(2)
RC(2) - RC(1) - C(3)	96.4(2)	RC(1) - RC(3) - RC(2)	59.77(3)
RC(3) - RC(1) - P(1)	52.51(4)	RC(1) - RC(3) - P(1)	52.64(5)
RC(3) - RC(1) - C(1)	96.8(2)	RC(1) - RC(3) - C(4)	98.7(2)
RC(3) - RC(1) - C(2)	152.1(2)	RC(1) - RC(3) - C(5)	96.5(2)
RC(3) - RC(1) - C(3)	96.4(2)	RC(1) - RC(3) - C(6)	153.7(2)
RC(1) - RC(2) - RC(3)	59.98(4)	RC(2) - RC(3) - P(1)	52.34(4)
RC(1) - RC(2) - P(1)	52.76(4)	RC(2) - RC(3) - C(4)	153.4(2)
RC(1) - RC(2) - C(7)	96.4(2)	RC(2) - RC(3) - C(5)	97.4(2)
RC(1) - RC(2) - C(8)	153.7(2)	RC(2) - RC(3) - C(6)	98.4(2)
RC(1) - RC(2) - C(9)	98.8(2)		

atom of the μ_3 -phosphinidene ligand caps symmetrically the trimetal plane with an average RC-P(1) bond distance of 2.176 Å which is significantly shorter than the Co-P or Ru-P bond distances in cluster **4b**. As expected, the μ_3 -P(1)-C(10) distance of 1.836(4) Å is slightly shorter than the μ_4 -P-C(14) distance in **4b** and is comparable to those observed in other μ_3 -PR ligands.^{6b,14} Cluster **5b** has 6 electron pairs, consistent with an *arachno* trigonal bipyramid for the three metal atoms or a *nido* trigonal bipyramid when the P atom is considered as part of the skeleton. As in **4b**, the metal atoms all obey the **18**-electron rule.

Conclusion

We have observed that monosubstitution of HMCo₃- $(CO)_{12}$ with PCyH₂ occurs with a different metalloselectivity as a function of M = Fe, Ru. In the former case, substitution of a Co-bound CO ligand occurs, whereas when M = Ru, the phosphine ligand is bound to Ru. This reaction appears to be under thermodynamic control. Introduction of a second substituent (PCyH₂ or NMe₃) occurs in both cases at cobalt and, in the case of $HFeCo_3(CO)_{11}(PCyH_2)$, at a cobalt that does not carry the PCyH₂ substituent. The clusters HMCo₃(CO)₁₁- $(PCyH_2)$ (2a, M = Fe; 2b, M = Ru) transform in solution to give the corresponding μ_3 -phosphinidene-capped heterotrinuclear clusters $MCo_2(\mu_3 - PCy)(CO)_9$ (**5a**, M = Fe; **5b**, M = Ru). When M = Ru, a pentanuclear intermediate could be isolated and characterized by X-ray diffraction as the μ_4 -phosphinidene-capped cluster RuCo₄- $(\mu_4$ -PCy) $(\mu$ -CO)₂(CO)₁₁ (**4b**). The analogous species could

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not be isolated when M = Fe, owing to its lability. The transformation of **2a,b** was accelerated by addition of Me₃NO, which generated a labile phosphine-amine intermediate. We believe that a significant aspect of this work is the demonstration that a reaction which represents a cluster partial fragmentation, with nuclearity change from 4 to 3, may occur via the intermediacy of a larger cluster, of nuclearity 5. This observation may bear relevance to a number of rearrangement processes in cluster chemistry and be more general than previously thought.

Experimental Section

General Procedures. Reactions and manipulations, except chromatographic separations, were carried out under N2 using standard Schlenk tube techniques. Solvents were distilled before use. HFeCo₃(CO)₁₂¹⁵ and HRuCo₃(CO)₁₂^{2a} were prepared according to published procedures. PCyH₂ was commercially available and used as received. Solution infrared spectra were recorded on a Nicolet 20SXC or a Bruker IFS-66 FT IR spectrometer. ¹H and ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectra were recorded at 300.17 and 121.5 MHz, respectively, on a Bruker AC-300 spectrometer using CDCl₃ as the solvent. Chemical shifts are relative to TMS and $H_3PO_4,$ respectively. $^{59}\mbox{Co}$ NMR spectra were measured on a Bruker MSL-300 instrument (71.21 MHz). The chemical shifts reported (ppm) for ⁵⁹Co are positive high frequency from the external reference K₃[Co(CN)₆] saturated in D₂O. Standard parameters are as follows: pulse width 3 μ s, sweep width 263 kHz, number of scans between 5000 and 100 000. Selected physical and spectroscopic data for the complexes are given in Table 1. When the product stability allowed, elemental analyses are given. The progress of the reactions was monitored by analytical thin-layer chromatography (5554 Kieselgel 60F₂₅₄, Merck), and the products were separated on 20 \times 20 cm glass plates coated with Kieselgel 60F₂₅₄.

Preparation of HFeCo₃(CO)₁₁(PCyH₂) (2a). HFeCo₃-(CO)₁₂ (**1a**; 0.331 g, 0.581 mmol) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (40 mL), and PCyH₂ (0.077 mL, 0.581 mmol) was added. After the mixture was stirred for 0.5 h at room temperature, the dark violet solution was filtered and the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The resulting solid was extracted with hexane (40 mL), and this solution was placed at -15 °C overnight, giving black crystals of **2a** (0.155 g, 45%). Anal. Calcd for C₁₇H₁₄Co₃-FeO₁₁P: C, 31.04; H, 2.15. Found: C, 30.8; H, 2.2.

Preparation of HRuCo₃(CO)₁₁(PCyH₂) (2b). HRuCo₃-(CO)₁₂ (**1b**; 0.240 g, 0.390 mmol) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL), and PCyH₂ (0.052 mL, 0.391 mmol) was added. The wine red solution, which became immediately dark red, was stirred for 0.5 h at room temperature. The solution was filtered, and the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The resulting solid was extracted with hexane (20 mL), and this solution was placed at -15 °C overnight, giving black crystals of **2b** (0.170 g, 62%). Anal. Calcd for C₁₇H₁₄Co₃O₁₁PRu: C, 29.04; H, 2.01. Found: C, 29.5; H, 2.1.

Preparation of HFeCo₃(CO)₁₀(PCyH₂)₂ (3a). HFeCo₃-(CO)₁₂ (**1a**; 0.231 g, 0.405 mmol) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (30 mL), and PCyH₂ (0.137 mL, 1.04 mmol) was added. After the mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature, the TLC plates indicated the formation of one major dark violet compound. The solution was filtered, and the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The resulting oil was extracted with hexane (60 mL), and this solution was placed at -15 °C overnight, giving a black powder of **3a** (0.162 g, 54%) Anal. Calcd for $C_{22}H_{27}Co_3FeO_{10}P_2$: C, 35.42; H, 3.65. Found: C, 35.7, H, 3.6

Preparation of HRuCo₃(CO)₁₀(PCyH₂)₂ (3b). HRuCo₃-(CO)₁₂ (**1b**; 0.100 g, 0.163 mmol) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL), PCyH₂ (0.043 mL, 0.326 mmol) was added, and the solution was stirred at room temperature. The reaction was monitored by TLC plates, which indicated the formation of two major products: the monosubstituted **2b** followed by the disubstituted compound **3b**. After being stirred for 2 h, the dark red solution was filtered and the solvent evaporated in vacuo. Chromatographic separation, with hexane/CH₂Cl₂ (80/20) as eluant, yielded pure **3b** (0.035 g, 27%). However, this compound was highly unstable in the solid state as well as in solution.

Prolonged reaction times or the use of an excess of $PCyH_2$ did not improve the yield and favored the formation of a new compound (probably a trisubstituted derivative not further investigated) together with some decomposition.

Preparation of RuCo₄(µ₄-PCy)(µ-CO)₂(CO)₁₁ (4b). HRu-Co₃(CO)₁₂ (1b; 0.320 g, 0.520 mmol) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (30 mL), and PCyH₂ (0.069 mL, 0.520 mmol) was added. After the solution was stirred for 0.5 h at room temperature, the solution was filtered and the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The resulting solid was extracted with toluene (30 mL), and this solution was placed at -15 °C. After 1 week the toluene was evaporated; the solid residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL) and this solution stored 1 week at room temperature. The presence of two new products together with the monosubstituted compound **2b** was indicated by TLC. The solvent was evaporated, and the solid residue was extracted with hexane. The resulting solution was placed at -15 °C overnight, giving black needles of 4b (0.080 g, 19%) Anal. Calcd for C₁₉H₁₁Co₄O₁₃-PRu: C, 28.00; H, 1.36. Found: C, 28.5, H, 1.4. FAB-MS: m/z 815 (10%, $M^{+}),\,787$ (74%, M^{+} - CO), 759 (100%, M^{+} - 2CO), 731 (96%, M⁺ - 3CO), 703 (52%, M⁺ - 4CO), 675 (45%, M⁺ -5CO)

Preparation of FeCo₂(\mu_3-PCy)(CO)₉ (5a). HFeCo₃(CO)₁₁-(PCyH₂) (**2a**; 0.050 g, 0.076 mmol) was dissolved in THF (10 mL), and the solution was stirred at room temperature for 2 days. The progressive formation of a new brown-violet compound was monitored by TLC. The solution was filtered, and the solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The resulting solid was extracted with hexane (10 mL), and this solution was placed at -15 °C for 2 days, giving black crystals of **5a** (0.024 g, 58%). Anal. Calcd for C₁₅H₁₁Co₂FeO₉P: C, 33.34; H, 2.05. Found: C, 33.7; H, 2.5.

Preparation of RuCo₂(μ_3 -**PCy**)(**CO**)₉ (**5b**). HRuCo₃(CO)₁₁-(PCyH₂) (**2b**; 0.050 g, 0.071 mmol) was dissolved in THF (20 mL). The solution was stirred at room temperature. The progressive formation of a new orange compound was monitored by TLC. After 2 days, the resulting solution was evaporated to dryness and the solid residue was extracted with hexane. This solution, placed overnight at -15 °C, afforded orange crystals of **5b** (0.017 g, 42%). Anal. Calcd for C₁₅H₁₁-Co₂O₉PRu: C, 30.79; H, 1.90. Found: C, 31.0; H, 2.2. FAB-MS: m/z 585 (40%, M⁺), 557 (100%, M⁺ – CO), 529 (80%, M⁺ – 2CO), 501 (20%, M⁺ – 3CO).

Reaction of HRuCo₃(CO)₁₁(PCyH₂) with Me₃NO. Solid Me₃NO was added to a solution of HRuCo₃(CO)₁₁(PCyH₂) (**1b**; 0.040 g, 0.057 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL). Evolution of CO₂ occurred immediately, and the wine red solution became violet. After the solution was stirred for 0.25 h at room temperature, it was evaporated in vacuo. The resulting solid was extracted with hexane (20 mL), and this solution was placed at -15 °C for 12 h, giving black crystals of HRuCo₃(CO)₁₁(NMe₃) (PCyH₂) (**6b**; 0.020 g, 50%). Anal. Calcd for C₁₉H₂₃NCo₃O₁₀PRu: C, 31.08; H, 3.16; N, 1.91. Found: C, 31.6; H, 3.4; N, 2.1.

X-ray Crystallography. Suitable black crystals of **4b** and **5b** were obtained by slow crystallization from a CH₂Cl₂/hexane solution at -15 °C. Diffraction measurements were carried out at room temperature on an automatic Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer using graphite-monochromated Mo K α radiation.¹⁶

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	02(#3103)(00)9(
	4b	5b
formula	RuC04C19H11O13P	RuCo ₂ C ₁₅ H ₁₁ O ₉ P
fw	815.06	585.2
temp (K)	293(2)	293(2)
wavelength (Å)	0.71069	0.71069
cryst syst	triclinic	triclinic
space group	$P\overline{1}$	$P\overline{1}$
a (Å)	9.103(3)	8.119(2)
<i>b</i> (Å)	16.425(2)	8.124(6)
c (Å)	17.708(2)	17.709(6)
α (deg)	91.12(1)	86.34(3)
β (deg)	91.13(2)	83.61(3)
γ (deg)	99.66(2)	63.52(4)
$V(Å^3)$	2609(1)	1039(1)
Z	4	2
calcd density (Mg/m ³)	2.075	1.871
abs coeff (mm^{-1})	3.180	2.411
<i>F</i> (000)	1584	572
cryst size (mm)	0.35 imes 0.25 imes 0.09	$0.25\times0.22\times0.10$
θ range for data collecn (deg)	1.15-22.97	1.16 - 26.97
limiting indices	$0 \le h \le 9,$ -18 $\le k \le 17,$ -19 $\le l \le 19$	$0 \le h \le 10,$ $-9 \le k \le 10,$ $-22 \le l \le 22$
no. of rflns	7761/7218	4861/4530
collcd/unique	(R(int) = 0.0183)	(R(int) = 0.0148)
completeness to θ_{max}	100.0	100.0
refinement method	full-matrix leas	t squares on F^2
no. of data/restraints/ params	7218/0/686	4530/0/255
goodness of fit on F^2	1.075	1.069
final <i>R</i> indices	R1 = 0.0551,	R1 = 0.0389,
$(I > 2\sigma(I))$	wR2 = 0.1649	wR2 = 0.1162
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.1167,	R1 = 0.0529,
	wR2 = 0.1894	wR2 = 0.1237
extinction coeff	0.0000(2)	0.0067(13)
largest diff peak and hole $e^{A^{-3}}$	1.881 and -1.509	0.977 and -0.580

The cell parameters are obtained by fitting a set of 25 high- θ reflections. The intensities of three reflections were monitored every 1 h of exposure and showed no evidence of decay. Crystal data and intensity collection parameters are given in Table 4. Atomic scattering factors were taken from ref 17. Ortep plots were obtained using PLATON98.¹⁸ All the calculations were performed on a Silicon Graphics Indy computer.

Structure Analysis and Refinement. Compound 4b. Data collection parameters are given in Table 4. $2\theta_{\text{max}} = 54^\circ$, scan $\omega/2\theta = 1$, and $t_{\text{max}} = 60$ s; intensity controls without appreciable decay (1.5%) give 7761 reflections, from which 7218 were independent (4565 with $I > 2\sigma(I)$). After Lorentz and polarization corrections and absorption corrections with ψ scan,¹⁹ the structure was solved with SIR-97, which revealed the non-hydrogen atoms of the structure.²⁰ After anisotropic refinement, all the hydrogen atoms were found by a difference Fourier synthesis. The whole structure was refined with SHELXL97,²¹ by full-matrix least-squares techniques (use of *F* magnitude; *x*, *y*, *z*, β_{ij} for Ru, Co, P, O, and C atoms and *x*, *y*, *z* in riding mode for H atoms): 686 variables and 4565 observations; *w*(calcd) = $1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.1271P)^2]$, where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$ with the resulting R = 0.055, $R_w = 0.164$, and GOF = 1.075 (residual $\Delta \rho \leq 1.88$ e Å⁻³).

Compound 5b. Data collection parameters are given in Table 4. $2\theta_{\text{max}} = 54^\circ$, scan $\omega/2\theta = 1$, and $t_{\text{max}} = 60$ s; intensity controls without appreciable decay (1.0%) give 4861 reflections, of which 4530 were independent (3743 with $I > 2\sigma(I)$). After Lorentz and polarization corrections and absorption corrections with ψ scan,¹⁹ the structure was solved with SIR-97, which revealed the non-hydrogen atoms of the structure.²⁰ During the calculations, the Ru and Co atoms appeared statistically disordered; therefore, a pseudo atom named RC was created $(RC = \frac{1}{3} Ru + \frac{2}{3} Co))$. After anisotropic refinement, all the hydrogen atoms are found by a difference Fourier synthesis. The whole structure was refined with SHELXL97,²¹ by fullmatrix least-squares methods (use of *F* magnitude; *x*, *y*, *z*, β_{ii} for Ru, Co, P, O, and C atoms and x, y, z in riding mode for H atoms): 255 variables and 3743 observations; $w(\text{calcd}) = 1/[\sigma^2 - 1/[\sigma^$ $(F_0^2) + (0.0787P)^2 + 0.8325P$, where $P = (F_0^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$ with the resulting R = 0.039, $R_w = 0.116$, and GOF = 1.069 (residual $\Delta \rho \leq 0.97$ e Å⁻³).

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Supporting Information Available: Tables giving details of the structure determination, atomic coordinates, including those of the hydrogen atoms, anisotropic thermal parameters, and all bond distances and angles for complexes **4b** and **5b**. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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