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 $\mathbf{RuCo}_2(\mu_3\text{-}\mathbf{PCy})(\mathbf{CO})\mathfrak{g}^\dagger$

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We have studied the metallosite selectivity of substitution reactions at heterometallic tetranuclear clusters of the type $HMO_{0}^3(CO)_{12}$ (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 $HFeCo_3(CO)_{11}(PCyH_2)$, 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 $RuCo_4(\mu_4\text{-}PCy)(\mu\text{-}CO)_2$ - $(CO)_{11}$ (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 $HMCo₃(CO)₁₂$ (M = Fe, **1a**; M = Ru, **1b**) have proven particularly suitable for such studies, as they are amenable to ${}^{31}P[{^1}H]$ and ${}^{59}Co$ 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

[†] 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 ${}^{1}H$, ${}^{31}P\{{}^{1}H\}$, and ${}^{59}Co$ NMR, with solid-state studies by ${}^{31}P{^1H}$ and ${}^{59}Co$ 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 $HMCo₃(CO)₁₀L₂$ (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 PCyH2 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 $PCyH_2$ 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 $HMC_{03}(CO)_{11}L$ 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 $HFeCo₃(CO)₁₁(PPh₂H)$, 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 $(\Delta_{1/2}, Hz)^d$	$59Co$ NMR δ , ppm $(\Delta_{1/2}, Hz)^d$
$HFeCo3(CO)12$ (1a)	2060 vs, 2052 vs, 2030 m, 1990 m. 1887 s ^c	-21.5 (s, μ_3 -H)		-2720 (420, Co-CO) ^e
$HFeCo3(CO)11(PCyH2)$ (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, $^{I}J_{P-H}$ = 330 Hz , ${}^3J_{\text{H-H}}$ = 5 Hz)	-40 (s, P-Co, 3200)	-2719 (1800, 2 Co–CO), -2674 (1800, 1 Co-P)
$HFeCo3(CO)10(PCyH2)2$ (Co, Co) (3a)	2061 s, 2022 vs, 2003 vs, 1966 m, 1863 w, 1854 m, 1839 m^3	-21.9 (s, μ ₃ -H), 1.32 and 1.82 (2 m, 11H, Cy), 3.72 (dd, PH ₂ , 2H, $^{I}J_{P-H} = 312$ Hz, ${}^4J_{\rm P-H}$ = 56 Hz)	-38 (m, P-Co, 2800)	-2727 (1970, Co-CO), -2629 (1350, Co-P)
$FeCo2(\mu3-PCy)(CO)9$ (5a)	2092 m, 2047 vs, 2037 vs, 2030 vs. 2010 w. 2006 sh. 1981 m. 1967 m ^a		483 (s, μ_3 -P, 410)	$-2957(10000)$
$HRuCo_3(CO)_{12}$ (1b) $HRuCo3(CO)11(PCyH2)$ (Ru) $(2b)$	2067 vs, 2024 m, 1879 m ^c 2078 m, 2043 s, 2028 s, 1985 m, 1880 m, 1868 m ^c	$-19.7(s, \mu_3-H)$ $-18.2 \ (\mu_3-H)$, 0.9, 1.27, and 1.90 (3 m, 11H, Cy), 4.33 (dd, PH ₂ , 2H, $^{1}J_{\text{P-H}}$ = 354 Hz, ${}^3J_{H-H}$ = 5 Hz)	-19.7 (s, P-Ru, 50)	-2760 (1700, Co-CO) -2790 (8300, Co-CO)
$HRuCo_3(CO)_{10}(PCyH_2)_2$ (C_0, 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, ${}^3J_{H-H} = 5$ Hz), 4.3 (d, PH ₂ , 2H, $^{I}J_{P-H} = 350$ Hz , ${}^3J_{\text{H-H}}$ = 11 Hz)	-23.4 (d, P-Ru, ${}^{3}J_{\rm P-P}$ = 50 Hz). P-Co too broad to be assigned	-2774 (5750, Co-CO + $Co-P$
$RuCo4(\mu4-PCy)(CO)13$ (4b)	2088 w. 2054 vs. 2036 sh. 2033 vs, 2020 w, 2012 w, 1987 w, 1867 m ^a		too unstable	-1805 (7000, Co-CO + $Co-P$
$RuCo2(\mu3-PCy)(CO)9$ (5 _b)	2091 s, 2049 vs, 2043 vs, 2028 vs, 2026 m, 2009 m, 1980 ma	1.6, 1.96, and 2.35 (3m, 11H, Cy)	450 (s, μ_3 -P, 530)	$-3030(10000)$
$HRuCo3(CO)10(PCyH2)$ - (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 $HRuCo_3(CO)_{11}(TeMe_2)$,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 $HRuCo_3(CO)_{11}L$ or $HRuCo_3(CO)_{10}L_2$ in which the ligand(s) L is bound to cobalt. Furthermore, the sharp ${}^{31}P[{^1}H]$ 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 $HRuCo_3(CO)_{11}(PMe_2Ph)$, 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 $HFeCo_3(CO)_{10}(PPh_2H)_2^{2a}$ and $HRuCo_3$ - $(CO)_{10}$ (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 $HRuCo_3(CO)_{11}(TeMe_2)$ with PMe_2Ph , which yielded only the disubstituted $[C_0, Ru]$ isomer.^{2c} For other clusters of the type $HRuCo_3(CO)_{10}(Phosphine)_2$, 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, PMe_2Ph or $Ph_2PCH_2C(O)Ph$, the [Co, Co] kinetic isomer slowly isomerized into the $[Co, Ru]$ isomer.^{2c,5}

Isolated **2b** slowly transforms at room temperature in CH_2Cl_2 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 (7) Rossi, S.; Pursiainen, J.; Pakkanen, T. A. *J. Organomet. Chem.*

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to be a condensation product, the pentanuclear cluster $RuCo_{4}(\mu_{4}-PCy)(\mu$ -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 $Ru_3(CO)_{12}$ with PPhH₂, which afforded tetranuclear and pentanuclear phosphinidenecapped 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 $RuCo_2(\mu_3\text{-}PCy)(CO)_9$ (5b). This cluster results formally from the loss of two 12-valence-electron (12-VE) fragments $Co(CO)_2^+$ from $\bf{4b}$. The analogous clusters $RuCo₂(\mu₃-PR)(CO)₉$ (R = Me, Ph) have been obtained by reaction of $RuCo_2(CO)_{11}$ with PRH_2 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 CH_2Cl_2 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 $Co_2(CO)_8$ was added to $2b$ in CH_2Cl_2 , the formation of the mixture $4b + 5b$ was slowed, until all $Co_2(CO)_8$ had been converted into Co_4 - $(CO)_{12}$. 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 $FeCo₄(\mu_4$ -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 FeCo2(*µ*3-PCy)(CO)9 (**5a**), which was characterized by comparison with $FeCo₂(\mu_3$ -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 $Fe_2(CO)_9$.

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 $MCo_3(\mu-H)_2(\mu-PCyH)(CO)_{10}$ 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 $\mathrm{Os}_3(\mathrm{CO})_{11}(\mathrm{PRH}_2)$.^{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 2**b** with Me₃NO afforded the unstable phosphine-amine disubstituted cluster $HRuCo_3(CO)_{10}$ -(NMe3)(PCyH2) (**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 $HRuCo_3(CO)_{10}(PMe_2Ph)_2$, 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 59Co 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 $HFeCo_3(CO)_{10}(NMe_3)$ -(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 $HRuCo_3(CO)_{11}(PMe_2Ph)$ 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 $RuCo_2(\mu_3\text{-}PCy)(CO)_9$ (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 Ru_{5} -(*µ*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 **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)- $(\mu$ -CO)₂(CO)₁₁ (4**b**) with the atom-labeling scheme (50%) probability ellipsoids).

Figure 2. ORTEP view of one molecule of $RuCo₂(\mu_3-PCy)$ - $(CO)_9$ (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 = $\frac{1}{3}$ Ru $+$ ²/₃ Co) representing this metal site (Figure 2). Related disorder problems have been encountered with H_2 - $RuOs₃(CO)₁₃$ 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 (11) Natarajan, K.; Zsolnai, L.; Huttner, G. *J. Organomet. Chem.* groups. As in $\text{FeCo}_2(\mu_3\text{-PPh})(\text{CO})_9$, ¹⁴ the phosphorus

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Table 2. Selected Bond Distances (Å) and Angles (deg) for $\text{RuCo}_4(\mu_4\text{-}P\text{Cy})(\mu\text{-}CO)_2(\text{CO})_{11}$ **(4b)**

	molecule			molecule	
	\mathbf{A}	$\mathbf B$		\mathbf{A}	$\mathbf B$
			Bond Distances		
$Ru(1)-Co(1)$	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)	$P(1) - C0(2) - C(7)$	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)	$P(1) - C0(2) - C(9)$	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)	$P(1) - C0(3) - C(10)$	154.6(5)	148.1(4)
$P(1) - C0(1) - C(4)$	101.6(4)	106.8(4)	$P(1) - C0(3) - C(11)$	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)
$P(1) - C0(1) - C(6)$	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 $\text{RuCo}_2(\mu_3\text{-PCy})(\text{CO})_9$ (5b)

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 $HFeCo₃(CO)₁₁(PCyH₂)$, 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 $MCo_2(\mu_3\text{-}PCy)(CO)_{9}$ (**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 $RuCo_4$ - $(\mu_4\text{-PCy})(\mu\text{-CO})_2(\text{CO})_{11}$ (4b). The analogous species could

⁽¹⁴⁾ Beurich, H.; Madach, T.; Richter, F.; Vahrenkamp, H. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl.* **1979**, *18*, 690.

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 N_2 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 ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$ 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 H3PO4, respectively. 59Co 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 $K_3[Co(CN)_6]$ 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 $60F_{254}$, 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 CH_2Cl_2 (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 $C_{17}H_{14}Co_3$ -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 CH_2Cl_2 (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 CH_2Cl_2 (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, 3.8. **Preparation of HRuCo₃(CO)₁₀(PCyH₂)₂ (3b).** HRuCo₃-

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 PCyH2 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(μ **₄-PCy)(** μ **-CO)₂(CO)₁₁ (4b). HRu-** $Co_3(CO)_{12}$ (1b; 0.320 g, 0.520 mmol) was dissolved in CH_2Cl_2 (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 CH_2Cl_2 (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 $C_{19}H_{11}Co_4O_{13}$ -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(μ **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 $C_{15}H_{11}Co_2FeO_9P$: 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 $C_{15}H_{11}$ -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 CH_2Cl_2 (10 mL). Evolution of CO_2 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 $HRuCo_3(CO)_{11}(NMe_3)$ (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

⁽¹⁶⁾ Fair, C. K. MolEN: An Interactive Intelligent System for Crystal Structure Analysis; Enraf-Nonius, Delft, The Netherlands, 1990.

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) = $1/[\sigma^2(F_0^2) + (0.1271P)^2]$, where $P = (F^2 + 2F^2)/3$ with the resulting $R = 0.055$, $R = 0.164$ and $(F_6^2 + 2F_5^2)/3$ with the resulting $R = 0.055$, $R_w = 0.164$, and $COF = 1.075$ (residual $\Delta \circ \leq 1.88$ e Δ^{-3}) 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*σ*(*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 $(RC = 1/3 Ru + 2/3 Co)$. 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_{ij} for Ru, Co, P, O, and C atoms and *x*, *y*, *z* in riding mode for H atoms): 255 variables and 3743 observations; $w(\text{calcd}) = 1/[\sigma^2 - \sigma^2]$ $(F_6^2) + (0.0787P)^2 + 0.8325P$, where $P = (F_6^2 + 2F_6^2)/3$ with
the resulting $R = 0.039$ $R = 0.116$ and $GOF = 1.069$ 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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⁽²²⁾ We are grateful to a reviewer for suggesting this experiment.