

mechanism and general scope of application of this reaction are now under investigation.

# Experimental Section

**1 and 2:** A solution of  $[\text{Cp}^*_2\text{Ru}_2\text{S}_4]$  (161 mg, 0.268 mmol) in toluene (15 mL) was added to a solution of  $[\text{W}(\text{CO})_5(\text{MeCN})_3]$  in acetonitrile, which was prepared by refluxing a solution of  $[\text{W}(\text{CO})_6]$  (189 mg, 0.536 mmol) in acetonitrile (5 mL). The mixture was heated with stirring at 50 °C for 40 min. The volatile components were removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was extracted with toluene/hexane (1/1, 10 mL). Compounds **1** and **2** were obtained from the extracted solution and the insoluble material as follows: the extracted solution was subjected to flash column chromatography (silica gel, eluent toluene/hexane (1/1)). A red-brown fraction was concentrated to give **1** in 58% yield. An analytically pure sample was obtained by recrystallization from dichloromethane/hexane. The insoluble dark brown residue was dissolved in dichloromethane and subjected to flash column chromatography (silica gel, eluent dichloromethane). The red-brown fraction was collected, and the solution was concentrated to give red-brown **2** in 11% yield. Analytically pure **2** was obtained by recrystallization from toluene/hexane.

**1:** Elemental analysis calcd for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{30}\text{O}_6\text{Ru}_2\text{S}_4\text{W}_2$ : C 27.48, H 2.66; found C 27.83, H 2.74; MS (FAB, Xe, *m*-nitrobenzyl alcohol matrix):  $m/z$ : 1138  $[M^+]$ ; IR (KBr):  $\tilde{\nu}_{\text{max}}[\text{cm}^{-1}]$  = 2031, 1975, 1959, 1921, 1848  $\nu_{\text{CO}}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $[\text{D}_6]$ benzene):  $\delta$  = 1.68 (s, 30H, Cp\*),  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $[\text{D}_6]$ benzene):  $\delta$  = 207.8, 204.3, 200.5 (CO), 100.5 ( $\text{C}_5\text{Me}_5$ ), 10.2 ( $\text{C}_5\text{Me}_5$ ); UV/Vis (toluene):  $\lambda_{\text{max}}[\text{nm}]$  ( $\epsilon[\text{cm}^{-1}\text{M}^{-1}]$ ) = 314 ( $1.7 \times 10^4$ ), 349 ( $1.5 \times 10^4$ ), 408 ( $1.2 \times 10^4$ ), 480 (sh), 535 (sh).

**2:** Elemental analysis calcd for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{30}\text{O}_6\text{Ru}_2\text{S}_4\text{W}_2$ : C 27.48, H 2.66; found C 27.71, H 2.95; MS (FAB, Xe, *m*-nitrobenzyl alcohol matrix):  $m/z$ : 1138  $[M^+]$ ; IR (KBr):  $\tilde{\nu}_{\text{max}}[\text{cm}^{-1}]$  = 2019, 1975, 1905(sh), 1882  $\nu_{\text{CO}}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $[\text{D}_6]$ benzene):  $\delta$  = 1.59 (s, 30H, Cp\*),  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $[\text{D}_2]$ dichloromethane):  $\delta$  = 209.7, 208.1, 205.3, 196.2 (CO), 100.4 ( $\text{C}_5\text{Me}_5$ ), 10.3 ( $\text{C}_5\text{Me}_5$ ); UV/Vis (toluene):  $\lambda_{\text{max}}[\text{nm}]$  ( $\epsilon[\text{cm}^{-1}\text{M}^{-1}]$ ) = 325 ( $2.4 \times 10^4$ ), 429 ( $1.1 \times 10^4$ ), 510 ( $8.2 \times 10^3$ ), 682 ( $2.3 \times 10^3$ ).

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density 1.09 e Å<sup>−3</sup>. Crystal data for **2**:  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{34}\text{Cl}_4\text{O}_6\text{Ru}_2\text{S}_4\text{W}_2$ ,  $M_r$  = 1306.47, crystal dimensions  $0.30 \times 0.20 \times 0.15 \text{ mm}^3$ ,  $a$  = 15.642(8),  $b$  = 11.132(6),  $c$  = 23.463(4) Å,  $\beta$  = 96.64(2)°,  $V$  = 4058(2) Å<sup>3</sup>,  $T$  = 293 K, monoclinic, space group  $P2_1/c$  (no. 14),  $Z$  = 4,  $\rho_{\text{calcd}}$  = 2.138 g cm<sup>−3</sup>,  $\rho_{\text{found}}$  = 2.1 g cm<sup>−3</sup>,  $F(000)$  = 2472,  $\mu$  = 68.92 cm<sup>−1</sup>, Rigaku AFC6S diffractometer, MoK $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda$  = 0.71069 Å) graphite monochromator, scan mode  $\omega - 2\theta$ ,  $2\theta_{\text{max}}$  = 55.0°, 10167 measured reflections, Lorentz-polarization, decay (27.4%) and absorption correction (transmission factors: 0.7988–1.0000), 3634 observed reflections with ( $I > 3\sigma(I)$ ), Patterson methods (DIRDIF92 PATTY), full-matrix least-squares refinement, 415 parameters, H atoms not located,  $R$  = 0.056 and  $R_w$  = 0.075 ( $w = 1/(\sigma^2 F_o)$ ), max. residual electron density 2.12 e Å<sup>−3</sup>. Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) for the structures reported in this paper have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Center as supplementary publication no. CCDC-101083. Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge on application to CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB21EZ, UK (fax: (+44) 1223-336-033; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

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## $[\text{Re}_5(\mu\text{-H})_4(\text{CO})_{20}]^-$ and $[\text{Re}_5(\mu\text{-H})_5(\text{CO})_{20}]$ , Two Isolobal Analogues of Cyclopentane

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The  $\text{ReH}(\text{CO})_4$  fragment, isoelectronic with d<sup>8</sup>  $\text{M}(\text{CO})_4$ , can be considered isolobal with (singlet) methylene,<sup>[1]</sup> as far as the formation of metal–metal interactions is concerned, since its frontier orbitals allow the interaction with two metal centers. The known  $[\text{ReH}(\text{CO})_4]_n$  oligomers ( $n = 2–4$ )<sup>[2]</sup> are therefore isolobal analogues of the corresponding  $(\text{CH}_2)_n$  species:  $[\text{Re}_2(\mu\text{-H})_2(\text{CO})_8]$  is an ethylene-like molecule,<sup>[2b]</sup> and the triangular and square-planar clusters  $[\text{Re}_3(\mu\text{-H})_3(\text{CO})_{12}]$  and  $[\text{Re}_4(\mu\text{-H})_4(\text{CO})_{16}]$  “correspond” to cyclopropane and cyclobutane, respectively. Interestingly, until now no organometallic analogue of the most stable  $(\text{CH}_2)_n$  oligomers (i.e., those with  $n = 5$  or 6) was known. The pentanuclear cyclic clusters  $[\text{Re}_5(\mu\text{-H})_5(\text{CO})_{20}]^{n-}$  ( $n = 0, 1$ ) reported here fill this gap, at least partially.

We recently exploited the  $\sigma$ -donor capability of transition metal hydrides<sup>[3–5]</sup> in the synthesis of open-chain tri- and

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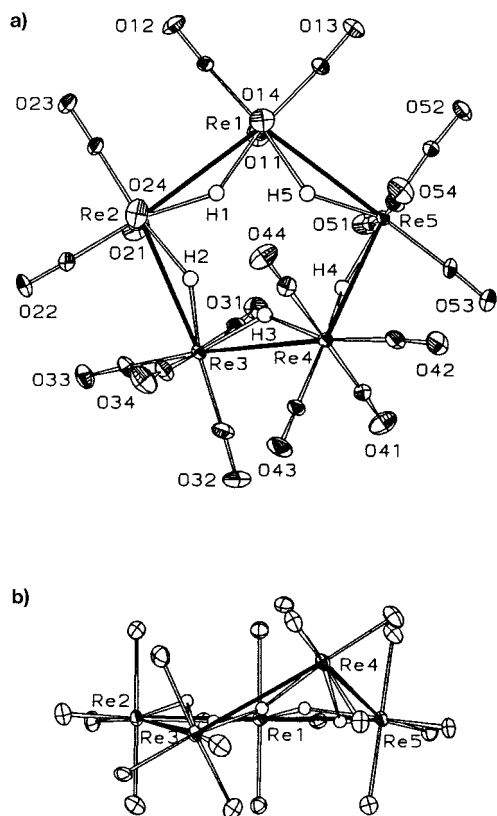


Figure 2. Ortep drawing of **4b**. a) Top view. b) The same molecule viewed along the Re2–Re1–Re5 bisector, to show the envelope conformation. Metal–metal bond lengths (the values for **4a** are given in square brackets) [Å]: Re1–Re2 3.4967(5) [3.4934(5)], Re2–Re3 3.3537(5) [3.3663(5)], Re3–Re4 3.3546(6) [3.3308(6)], Re4–Re5 3.3406(5) [3.3286(5)], Re5–Re1 3.4620(6) [3.4696(6)] (mean Re–Re bond length 3.402 in **4b**, 3.398 in **4a**).

The presence of two significantly different conformations in the same crystal, which are both on the pseudorotation path for pentaatomic rings (the puckering amplitude is almost the same in all the three species **3**, **4a**, and **4b**), stems from the high flexibility of these molecules, so that packing forces are sufficient to drive these clusters into different conformations. In agreement with this, only two sharp resonances for carbonyl groups (axial and equatorial CO groups) were observed in the  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of **3** and **4** in solution, even at 193 K. For **3**, this also implies fast scrambling of the four H ligands over the five Re–Re bonds.

In spite of the octahedral coordination at the Re centers, the puckering amplitude of these rhenium species is comparable with that observed for organic five-membered rings of tetrahedral carbon atoms.<sup>[16]</sup> The puckering features therefore make these clusters even more akin to the purely organic cycloalkanes, and further demonstrate that isolobality may lead to more than a purely formal relationship.

### Experimental Section

The addition of  $[\text{Re}_2(\mu\text{-H})_2(\text{CO})_8]$  (143 mg, 0.240 mmol) to a solution of  $[\text{NEt}_4][\text{ReH}_2(\text{CO})_4]$  (103 mg, 0.240 mmol) in THF at 273 K afforded the trinuclear anion **2** instantaneously, as shown by IR spectroscopy. The solvent was removed under vacuum, and the residue was treated with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  (ca. 10 mL) and filtered. Addition of *n*-hexane gave a yellow precipitate of spectroscopically pure **2** (160 mg, 0.156 mmol, 65% yield). IR (THF):  $\nu(\text{CO}) = 2098\text{w}$ ,  $2067\text{m}$ ,  $2031\text{w}$ ,  $2002\text{vs}$ ,  $1989\text{s}$ ,  $1970\text{ms}$ ,  $1929\text{m cm}^{-1}$ ;

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $[\text{D}]_8\text{THF}$ , 193 K):  $\delta = -5.82(2)$ ,  $-16.10(2)$ . The  $[\text{PPh}_4]^+$  salt was prepared in the same way.

A sample of  $[\text{NEt}_4]\textbf{2}$  (88 mg, 0.0856 mmol) dissolved in THF was treated at 273 K with a solution of **1** (2 mL, ca. 0.045 M) in THF. The solution was allowed to warm up to room temperature, and was then evaporated to dryness. The residue was dissolved in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , and IR spectroscopy showed the fast formation of **3**, which was complete within 10 min. Workup with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}/n$ -hexane afforded 85 mg of spectroscopically pure  $[\text{NEt}_4]\textbf{3}$  (61% yield). IR ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ):  $\nu(\text{CO}) = 2115\text{vw}$ ,  $2092\text{m}$ ,  $2053\text{mw}$ ,  $2028\text{vs}$ ,  $2005\text{s}$ ,  $1994\text{sh}$ ,  $1953\text{ms}$ ,  $1885\text{mw cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $[\text{D}]_8\text{THF}$ , 193 K):  $\delta = -15.74$ ;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $[\text{D}]_8\text{THF}$ , 193 K):  $\delta = 192.1(1)$ ,  $187.8(1)$ .

A sample of  $[\text{NEt}_4]\textbf{3}$  (30 mg, 0.018 mmol) in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  was treated with  $\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_3\text{H}$  (1.8  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.020 mmol) at 193 K. The solution changed from yellow-orange to colorless, and IR spectroscopy showed that **4** had formed quantitatively. The solution was filtered through Florosil, concentrated and recrystallized from  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/n$ -hexane to give colorless crystals of **4**. IR (THF):  $\nu(\text{CO}) = 2107\text{m}$ ,  $2094\text{w}$ ,  $2038\text{vs}$ ,  $2013\text{s}$ ,  $1968\text{mw cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $[\text{D}]_8\text{THF}$ , 193 K):  $\delta = -17.22$ ;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $[\text{D}]_8\text{THF}$ , 193 K):  $\delta = 182.5(1)$ ,  $180.8(1)$ .

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## Photoluminescent Rigid Molecular Rods with Cumulenic $\text{C}_n$ ( $n = 3, 4$ ) Spacers: Modulation of Electronic Interaction\*\*

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Rigid molecular rods with linear structures, molecular wires, are currently studied as important components for the construction of functional nanoscale photonic and electronic devices.<sup>[1,2]</sup> With the incorporation of photoactive and/or redox-active metal centers, these molecular assemblies may present interesting properties based on long range electron/energy transfer and electronic communication between the two remote ends of the wires.<sup>[2–5]</sup> To ensure the directionality and also to construct multicomponent supramolecular systems with well-defined structures, rigid spacers must be used to afford restricted conformational mobility and a controllable distance between structural subunits. In addition,

spacers (for example, polyphenyls,<sup>[6]</sup> alkenes,<sup>[7]</sup> or alkynes<sup>[5,8]</sup>) can also be selected to serve as electron-conducting active components to promote long-range electronic coupling between terminal subunits or (for example, saturated hydrocarbons<sup>[9]</sup>) to serve as passive connecting components.

Systems with unsaturated sp carbon chains ( $\text{C}_n$ ) between two subunits constitute one of the most fundamental classes of one-dimensional molecular wires, however, intense studies in numerous laboratories have focused on the systems with alkynes or acetylenyl bridges.<sup>[2,5,8]</sup> We report here the photoluminescent and redox-active systems with Ru and Os centers spanned by allene ( $\text{C}_3$ ) or cumulene ( $\text{C}_4$ ) bridges, and the preliminary data on the unique molecular photophysical and redox properties of these new rigid rodlike supramolecular systems. The unique structures of the allene and cumulene bridges permit the tuning of electronic communication between the end subunits. In the  $\text{C}_3$  chain the two terminal  $p\pi$  orbitals will be rotated by  $90^\circ$ , while in the  $\text{C}_4$  chain the terminal  $p\pi$  orbitals remain conjugated (Figure 1).

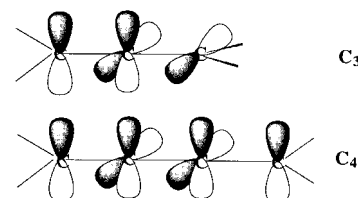


Figure 1. Comparison of the  $p\pi$  orbitals in the  $\text{C}_3$  and  $\text{C}_4$  bridges.

As a result, the electronic coupling across the sp carbon chain can be readily controlled by changing the number of carbon atoms.

The  $\text{C}_n$ -bridged tetratopic spacers, namely, 1,1',3,3'-tetrakis(diphenylphosphanyl)allene ( $\text{C}_3\text{P}_4$ ), 1,1',4,4'-tetrakis(diphenylphosphanyl)cumulene ( $\text{C}_4\text{P}_4$ ), and the ligand 1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphanyl)ethene ( $\text{C}_2\text{P}_2\text{e}$ ) are prepared according to the literature methods.<sup>[10–12]</sup> The use of the phosphane group in the spacer here has two advantages. First, it serves as a linker group between the  $\text{C}_n$  bridge and the metal-based subunits ( $\text{M}(\text{bpy})_2$  ( $\text{M} = \text{Ru}$  and  $\text{Os}$ ;  $\text{bpy} = 2,2'$ -bipyridine)). Second, the incorporation of phosphane ligands in polypyridyl-osmium(II) complexes can enhance the lifetime of the  $^3\text{MLCT}$  state;<sup>[13–15]</sup> the replacement of one of the  $\sigma$ -donating polypyridyl ligands with phosphane can result in the increase in the energy of the  $^3\text{MLCT}$  excited state and the decrease of the rate of nonradiative decay.

The  $\text{PF}_6^-$  salts of the  $\text{C}_n$ -bridged ruthenium(II) and osmium(II) complexes are synthesized by treatment of  $\text{C}_n\text{P}_4$  ( $n = 3$  or 4), in a refluxing tetrahydrofuran/ethylene glycol mixture, with  $[\text{M}(\text{bpy})_2\text{Cl}_2]$  ( $\text{M} = \text{Ru}$  or  $\text{Os}$ , Table 1). Mono- or bimetallic complexes,  $\text{MC}_2\text{P}_2\text{e}$ ,  $\text{MC}_n\text{P}_4$  ( $n = 3$  or 4), and  $\text{MC}_n\text{P}_4\text{M}$  ( $n = 3$  or 4), are obtained by using different metal-to-ligand ratios. All new complexes have been fully characterized by  $^31\text{P}\{\text{H}\}$  NMR spectroscopy, fast atom bombardment mass spectrometry (FAB-MS), and elemental analysis. Specifically, many of the fragment ions observed in FAB-MS only involve sequential loss of counteranions ( $\text{PF}_6^-$ ) and  $\text{PPh}_2$  units, and the inner sphere metal–ligand coordination was left intact, thus making peak identification straightforward.

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