

Chelate Size Dependence of Dihydrogen-Hydride Exchange in Ruthenium(II) Molecular Hydrogen Complexes with Diphosphines $[\text{RuH}(\eta^2\text{-H}_2)(\text{P-P})_2]\text{PF}_6$ ($\text{P-P} = \text{Ph}_2\text{P}(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{PPh}_2$; $n = 2, 3, 4$)

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The introduction of H_2 gas into CD_2Cl_2 solutions of the five-coordinate complexes $[\text{RuH}(\text{P-P})_2]\text{PF}_6$ (**1**) resulted in the spontaneous generation of molecular hydrogen complexes $[\text{RuH}(\eta^2\text{-H}_2)(\text{P-P})_2]\text{PF}_6$ (**2**) ($\text{P-P} = 1,3\text{-bis(diphenylphosphino)propane}$, $1,4\text{-bis(diphenylphosphino)butane}$). ^1H -NMR measurements revealed that the dihydrogen-hydride exchange for a series of complexes **2** depends significantly on the size of diphosphine chelate.

Since Kubas reported the first confirmation of the transition metal complex coordinating a molecular hydrogen in the side-on fashion,^{1a)} a considerable number of $\eta^2\text{-H}_2$ complexes has been prepared and characterized in detail in these years.²⁾ Although sixteen electron five-coordinate complexes have been expected to give rise to $\eta^2\text{-H}_2$ complexes upon contacted with dihydrogen, a limited number of such coordinatively unsaturated complexes have been applied as precursors for molecular hydrogen complexes.^{1,3,4)} We have previously reported that the formally five-coordinate ruthenium complex, $[\text{RuH}(\text{binap})_2]\text{PF}_6$ (**1a**, $\text{binap} = (R)\text{-}$ or $(S)\text{-}2,2'\text{-bis(diphenylphosphino)-1,1'-binaphthyl}$ ⁵⁾), coordinates dihydrogen to afford a molecular hydrogen complex, $\text{trans-}[\text{RuH}(\eta^2\text{-H}_2)(\text{binap})_2]\text{PF}_6$ (**2a**).⁶⁾

The preparation of the prototypes of complex **1a**, i.e. $[\text{RuH}(\text{dppp})_2]\text{PF}_6$ (**1b**, $\text{dppp} = 1,3\text{-bis(diphenylphosphino)propane}$) and $[\text{RuH}(\text{dppb})_2]\text{PF}_6$ (**1c**, $\text{dppb} = 1,4\text{-bis(diphenylphosphino)butane}$) and their treatments with dihydrogen were reported in a preliminary form,⁷⁾ but no further details have been clarified to date. During the course of our study on examining the hydrogenation catalytic activity of **1a**, we required to compare the solution behaviors of the $\eta^2\text{-H}_2$ complexes $[\text{RuH}(\text{H}_2)(\text{P-P})_2]\text{PF}_6$ (**2b**, $\text{P-P} = \text{dppp}$; **2c**, $\text{P-P} = \text{dppb}$; **2d**, $\text{P-P} = \text{dppe}$ ($1,2\text{-bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane}$)) with those of **2a**. Here we describe the characteristics of **2b** and **2c**, especially the chelate size dependence of the hydrogen exchange between the dihydrogen and terminal hydride established by variable temperature ^1H - and ^{31}P -NMR measurements.

Deep brown **1b** and **1c** were prepared by reactions of $[\text{RuH}(\text{NH}_2\text{NMe}_2)_3(\text{cod})]\text{PF}_6$ ($\text{cod} = 1,5\text{-cyclooctadiene}$) with respective diphosphines in ethanol.⁷⁾ A distinct color change from brown to pale yellow could be observed spontaneously by introducing H_2 gas into a solution of **1b** in dichloromethane. This strongly suggests the formation of a new Ru(II) species involving a coordinating H_2 molecule, highly probably of the $\eta^2\text{-H}_2$

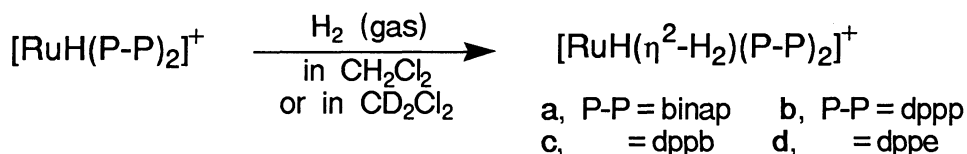


Table 1. ^1H - and ^{31}P -NMR data of $[\text{RuH}(\eta^2\text{-H}_2)(\text{dppp})_2]\text{PF}_6$ (**2b**)

T/K	^1H -NMR (400 MHz in CD_2Cl_2)		^{31}P -NMR (162 MHz)		
	Ru-H	T_1/ms	Ru-(H_2)	T_1/ms	(in CH_2Cl_2)
303	-8.1 (br s)	14	-3.2 (br s)	14	23.6 (s)
273	-8.1 (qui) ^{a)}		-3.2 (br s)		23.7 (s)
243	-8.1 (qui) ^{b)}	239	-3.2 (br s)	6	23.7 (s)
213	-8.1 (qui) ^{c)}		-3.3 (br)		23.9 (s), 23.6 (s)
183	-8.2 (m)		-3.3 (br)		24.3 (t) ^{d)} , 23.6 (t) ^{d)}

a) $^2J(\text{H,P}) = 21$ Hz. b) $^2J(\text{H,P}) = 19$ Hz. c) $^2J(\text{H,P}) = 18$ Hz. d) $J(\text{P,P}) = 34$ Hz.

complex **2b**, in solution, although it was found difficult to isolate the complex as the crystalline product. The complete transformation from **1b** to **2b** under the above conditions could be confirmed by ^1H -NMR spectral changes in the hydride region. Thus, two broad singlets appeared at δ -3.2 and -8.1 with 2:1 intensity ratio by the introduction of H_2 gas to a CD_2Cl_2 solution of **1b** at 303 K, at the expense of the broad hydride resonance of the parent complex at δ -10.4. At lower temperatures (213-273 K) the signal at δ -3.2 appeared as a quintet due to the coupling with P atoms of dppp. The variable temperature ^1H - and ^{31}P -NMR data for **2b** are summarized in Table 1.

The ^1H -NMR features of **2b** in the temperature range 213-273 K are similar to those of previously reported **2d**^{4,8)} and the depe analogue⁹⁾ (depe = 1,2-bis(diethylphosphino)ethane) in the range 210-300 K. The T_1 values of the high-field resonances for **2b** at 243 K, 6 ms for the signal at δ -3.2 and 239 ms at -8.1, enable to assign the former to Ru-($\eta^2\text{-H}_2$) and the latter to Ru-H resonances.^{4,8,9)} It was found further that the $^1J(\text{H,D})$ for the coordinating (HD) at δ -8.1 in an isotopomer $[\text{RuD}(\text{HD})(\text{dppp})_2]^+$ was 32 Hz at 243 K, the corresponding values for **2d** and the depe analogue also being 32⁶⁾ and 32 Hz,⁸⁾ respectively. These NMR characteristics unambiguously indicate that **2b** assumes the *trans* configuration and that no rapid exchange between Ru-(H_2) and Ru-H occurs below 273 K.

A fluxional process, which can be ascribed to the rapid hydrogen exchange between the dihydrogen and the terminal hydride, was recognized in $\text{MH}(\eta^2\text{-H}_2)(\text{L})_4$ species (L = ligand) for M = Fe(II)^{6,8-11)} and Ir(III).¹²⁾ For these instances the exchange is so rapid at higher temperatures that the resonances of M-(H_2) and of M-H coalesced to give a broad signal. Interesting is that the Ru(II) complexes so far reported, **2d** and the

Table 2. ^1H - and ^{31}P -NMR data of $[\text{RuH}(\eta^2\text{-H}_2)(\text{dppb})_2]\text{PF}_6$ (**2c**)

T/K	^1H -NMR (400 MHz) ^{a)}	^{31}P -NMR (162 MHz) ^{b)}
303	-5.8 (br) ^{c)}	33.9 (s), 34.8 (s)
273	-5.5 (br)	34.6 (b)
243	-6.6 (br) ^{d)} , -3.9 (br) ^{d)}	37 ^{e)}
213	-7.9 (m) ^{f)} , -3.1 (br) ^{g)}	17.1 (br), 26.5 (br), 34.4 (br), 38.9 (br), 44.3 (br)
183	-7.9 (m), -3.1 (br)	16.5 (m), 26.0 (m), 34.6 (m), 38.8 (m), 44.7 (m)

a) Obtained in CD_2Cl_2 . b) Obtained in CH_2Cl_2 . c) $T_1 = 23$ ms. d) Partly overlapping with each other. e) Very broad peak with a tendency of splitting. f) $T_1 = 34$ ms. g) $T_1 = 10$ ms.

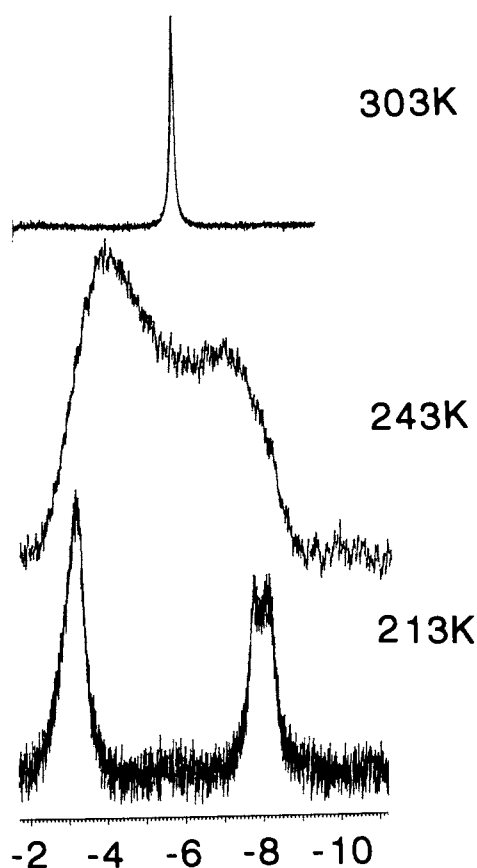


Fig. 1. ^1H -NMR spectra of **2c** in the high field region.

depe analogue, showed no tendency of such fluxionality even at 300 K.^{4,8)} It is worth noting, therefore, that the T_1 values for Ru-(H₂) and Ru-H of **2b** were accidentally the same (14 ms) at this temperature. In accord with this observation, no obvious $^1\text{J}(\text{H},\text{D})$ could be detected for the above mentioned deuterated complex at 303 K. Although the signals of Ru-(H₂) and Ru-H could be observed as the separate peaks up to 323 K, it is apparent that for the dppp complex **2b** an intramolecular hydrogen exchange takes place with a significant rate above 300 K.

It is noteworthy that the chelate size enlargement from five-membered dppe to six-membered dppp by one methylene unit resulted in a marked enhancement of the exchange between dihydrogen and terminal hydride. This suggests a possibility of a faster hydrogen exchange for the corresponding seven-membered dppb complex **2c**. Indeed, the ^1H -NMR spectrum of **2c**, prepared by introducing H₂ into a CD₂Cl₂ solution of **1c**, exhibited only one broad singlet in the hydride region at 303 K (Fig. 1). The NMR data of **2c** at variable temperatures are shown in Table 2. On decreasing the temperature, the signal became broader, and at 243 K an evident decoalescence into two peaks was noticed as shown in Fig. 1. A complete separation into two resonances, δ -3.1 and -7.9 with the intensity ratio ca 5:3, could be attained at 213 K. The T_1 values for these resonances were 10 and 34 ms, respectively. These features seem to indicate that the signal at δ -7.9 is ascribed to Ru-H resonance. The fairly short T_1 time (34 ms) and no observation of clear couplings with P atoms can be ascribed to that the hydrogen exchange

has not fully frozen out at this stage. However, ^{31}P -NMR spectra of **2c** obtained below 213 K revealed another source of fluxionality to be taken into consideration.

The ^{31}P resonance of **2c** was found as broad singlet at 273 K. This became broader as the temperature lowered, and finally split into five peaks having different intensities. No clear $^2\text{J}(\text{P},\text{P})$ values could be obtained. Besides the dihydrogen-hydride exchange discussed above, the second fluxional process has been recognized for $\eta^2\text{-H}_2$ complexes, i.e. the broadening of dihydrogen resonance at low temperatures presumably due to a slowing of the rotation of the $\eta^2\text{-H}_2$ ligand on the square face of a square pyramid defined by the four P atoms and apical hydride.⁴⁾ This should be acting in the case of **2c**, because the ^1H resonance at δ -3.1 showed further broadening at 183 K. However, the ^{31}P splitting pattern which suggests the existence of a few stereoisomers could not be rationalized by the same reasoning.

The conformational inversion of diphosphine chelate ring is regarded as an alternative source of fluxionality for **2c** which should freeze out below 210 K as well as the rotation of $\eta^2\text{-H}_2$ moiety. As for Rh(I)-

dppb complexes, possible conformations such as twist-chair and boat were disclosed in the crystalline state by an X-ray study.¹³⁾ Furthermore, the existence of a few diastereomers due to combinations of varied conformations of both chelates was detected for $[\text{Rh}(\text{dppb})_2]^+$ ion by NMR measurements at 178 K.¹⁴⁾ Thus, the observed ^{31}P -NMR features of **2c** in 183-213 K region are reasonably understood based on the presence of conformers, even if the geometry was restricted in the *trans* configuration. The population of such conformers are considered not to be equal to one another. This may reflect on the complicated ^{31}P -NMR spectra of **2c** at low temperatures, although the spectra could not be fully analyzed.

It was thus demonstrated that for $[\text{RuH}(\eta^2\text{-H}_2)(\text{P-P})_2]^+$ series (P-P = dppe, dppp, dppb) the flexibility of the chelate ring affects considerably the intramolecular hydrogen exchange between Ru-H and Ru-(H₂). Further studies on the effects from the size and flexibility of chelate rings on the dynamic behaviors of these complexes are now in progress.

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