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## Review

Structural systematics of some trinuclear alkynyl and diynyl Group 11 complexes containing dppm [ $\text{dppm} = \text{CH}_2(\text{PPh}_2)_2$ ]Michael I. Bruce <sup>a,\*</sup>, Jean-François Halet <sup>b</sup>, Boris Le Guennic <sup>b</sup>, Brian W. Skelton <sup>c</sup>, Alexandre N. Sobolev <sup>c</sup>, Christopher J. Sumby <sup>a,\*</sup>, Allan H. White <sup>c,1</sup><sup>a</sup> Department of Chemistry, School of Physical Sciences, University of Adelaide, South Australia 5005, Australia<sup>b</sup> Institut des Sciences Chimiques de Rennes, UMR 6226 CNRS – Université de Rennes 1, F-35042 Rennes Cedex, France<sup>c</sup> School of Molecular Sciences, M313, The University of Western Australia, Perth 6009, Western Australia, Australia

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## ABSTRACT

In this review the molecular structures of a series of trinuclear alkynyl and diynyl Group 11 cations  $[\{\text{M}_3(\mu\text{-dppm})_3\}(\text{X})_n]^{(3-n)+}$  ( $\text{M} = \text{Cu}, \text{Ag}; n = 1, 2$ ; where  $\text{X}$  is an alkynyl or diynyl group, an inorganic anion or solvent) are considered from the points of view of (i) the dimensions and geometries of the  $\text{M}_3(\text{P-P})_3$  cores, (ii) the conformations of the dppm ligands, and (iii) the attachment of the alkynyl and diynyl ligands. In the crowded  $[\text{M}_3(\mu\text{-dppm})_3]^{3+}$  core, the dppm ligands are arranged so that there is always one  $\text{CH}_2$  group up and two down, to give pseudo mirror symmetry perpendicular to the  $\text{M}_3$  plane (crystallographic in some cases). Attachment of the alkynyl or diynyl substituent(s) occurs roughly normal to the  $\text{M}_3$  plane; according to their perpendicularity, the C(1) atom may be  $\mu_2$  or  $\mu_3$ . In most cases where only one alkynyl or diynyl ligand is present, a second ligand is also attached to the  $\text{M}_3$  core. Unusual and interesting dispositions/conformations of the dppm ligands are widespread, among the mono-diynyl complexes in particular, whereby some phosphorus donor atoms lie at unusual distances out of the  $\text{M}_3$  planes, a concomitant of strong agostic interactions between phenyl H atoms and the atoms of the open  $\text{M}_3$  face, and weak  $\text{M}\cdots\text{M}$  interactions. With one X group, C–H · · M interactions persist on the other face, with C–H · · X interactions with the alkyne affecting the inclination of the alkyne and the conformation of the Ph rings. With two substituents (one of which may be a loosely bound anion), similar interactions may occur, accompanied by twisting of the dppm chelate ring to displace P atoms from the  $\text{M}_3$  plane. These factors possibly inhibit formation of the bis(diynyl) complexes, which are only obtained under more strongly basic conditions.

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## 1. Introduction

Numerous examples of trinuclear Group 11 complexes containing  $M_3(\mu\text{-dppm})_3$  [ $M = \text{Cu, Ag}$ ; dppm =  $\text{CH}_2(\text{PPh}_2)_2$ ] moieties are known, more than 65 structural studies of which are listed in the Cambridge Structural Database (CSD). An extensive survey to 2005 of complexes  $[M_3(\mu\text{-dppm})_3(\mu_3\text{-X}^1)(\mu_3\text{-X}^2)]^+$  in which  $X^1, X^2 = \text{halogen or other simple anion}$  has been given previously [1], including a summary of cation core geometries presented in Tables 1 and 2 therein. Several later individual studies have appeared [2]. A series of alkynyl- or diynyl-Group 11 complexes has been generally obtained from the reactions of  $[M_2(\mu\text{-dppm})_2(\text{NCMe})_n]A_2$  ( $M = \text{Cu, } n = 4$ ;  $\text{Ag, } n = 2$ ;  $A = \text{BF}_4, \text{PF}_6$ ) with a terminal alkyne or

diyne in the presence of an excess of KOH or dbu in refluxing  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{MeOH}$  [3]. Depending on the stoichiometry and reaction conditions, either mono- or bis- $\mu_3\text{-alkynyl-Group 11 metal cluster}$  compounds  $[\{M_3(\mu\text{-dppm})_3\}(C\equiv CR)_n]^{(3-n)+}$  ( $n = 1, 2$ ) may be obtained. In some cases, further reaction may occur to give bi-, tetra- or hexa-nuclear clusters [4,5], although these systems are not considered further here.

We have recently described the syntheses and properties of the diynyl complexes  $[\{M_3(\mu\text{-dppm})_3\}\{\mu\text{-C}\equiv CC\equiv C[M'L_m]\}_n]^{(3-n)+}$  [ $M = \text{Cu, Ag; } n = 1, 2$ ;  $M'L_m = \text{Re}(\text{CO})_3(\text{Bu}^t_2\text{-bpy}), \text{Ru}(\text{dppe})\text{Cp}^*$  ( $\text{dppe} = \text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{PPh}_2$ )], including the single-crystal X-ray structures of those derivatives with  $M'L_m = \text{Ru}(\text{dppe})\text{Cp}^*, M = \text{Cu, } n = 1$  (1), 2 (2) and  $M = \text{Ag, } n = 1$  [3 (two solvates)], and  $M'L_m = \text{Re}(\text{CO})_3$

**Table 1**  
Structures  $[\{M_3(\mu\text{-dppm})_3\}(X^1/X^2)_n]^{(3-n)+}$  ( $n = 1, 2$ ) (by #).

#	M	$X^1$	$X^2$	CCDC	Reference
1	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}\equiv\text{C}[\text{Ru}(\text{dppe})\text{Cp}^*]$	-	IWAFAP	[6]
2	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}\equiv\text{C}[\text{Ru}(\text{dppe})\text{Cp}^*]$	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}\equiv\text{C}[\text{Ru}(\text{dppe})\text{Cp}^*]$	IWAKUO	[6]
3	Ag	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}\equiv\text{C}[\text{Ru}(\text{dppe})\text{Cp}^*]$	-	IWAKOI <sup>a</sup> IWADUH <sup>b</sup>	[6]
4	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}\equiv\text{C}[\text{Re}(\text{CO})_3(\text{Bu}^t_2\text{-bpy})]$	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}\equiv\text{C}[\text{Re}(\text{CO})_3(\text{Bu}^t_2\text{-bpy})]$	IWAGAQ	[6]
5	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4\text{C}\equiv\text{C}[\text{Re}(\text{CO})_3(\text{bpy})]$	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4\text{C}\equiv\text{C}[\text{Re}(\text{CO})_3(\text{bpy})]$	SACFIL	[7c]
6	Ag	$\text{C}\equiv\text{C}[\text{bpy} \text{ReCl}(\text{CO})_4]\text{C}\equiv\text{C}$	NCMe	YESXIE	[8]
7	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}\equiv\text{C}[\text{Re}(\text{CO})_3(\text{Me}_2\text{-bpy})]$	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}\equiv\text{C}[\text{Re}(\text{CO})_3(\text{Me}_2\text{-bpy})]$	ACAKUL	[9c]
8	Ag	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}\equiv\text{C}[\text{Re}(\text{CO})_3(\text{bpy})]$	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}\equiv\text{C}[\text{Re}(\text{CO})_3(\text{bpy})]$	ACALAS	[9c]
9	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}\equiv\text{C}[\text{Au}(\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}\equiv\text{CH})]$	I	XIFWUE	[10]
10	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CCO}_2^-$	OMe	INOSOU	[13]
11	Ag	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CCO}_2^-$	Cl	INOSUA	[13]
12	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}\equiv\text{CH}$	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}\equiv\text{CH}$	EZUHEM	[14]
13	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}\equiv\text{CPh}$	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}\equiv\text{CPh}$	EZUHAI	[14]
14	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CBu}^t$	Cl	WARKEF	[22]
15	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CBu}^t$	-	TOGREM	[23]
16	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CPh}$	$F\text{-BF}_3$	JEBPAH10	[3a,c]
17	Ag	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CCMeEt}(\text{OH})$	$O\text{-NO}_2$	JERVIM	[24]
18	Ag	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4\text{NO}_2\text{-}4$	$F\text{-BF}_3$	RUMWOL	[7b]
19	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4\text{OMe}\text{-}4$	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4\text{OEt}\text{-}4$	GAMNEN	[7d]
20	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4\text{OMe}\text{-}4$	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4\text{NO}_2\text{-}4$	GAMNIR	[7d]
21	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CCOMe}$	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CCOMe}$	IXIDOJ	[25]
22	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CCONH}_2$	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CCONH}_2$	IXIDUP	[25]
23	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CFc}$	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CFc}$	MITLUW	[26]
24	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{C(tol)}$	CNtol	NEVWUG	[27]
25	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CPh}$	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CPh}$	SITNIS10	[3c]
26	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4\text{OMe}\text{-}4$	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4\text{OMe}\text{-}4$	WIWZAD	[15]
27	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{C(benzo-15-c-5)}$	$\text{C}\equiv\text{C(benzo-15-c-5)}$	XIBYUC	[28]
28	Ag	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4\text{NO}_2\text{-}4$	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4\text{NO}_2\text{-}4$	RUMWUR	[7b]
29	Ag	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CPh}$	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CPh}$	TEQSEN	[29]
30	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CPh}$	Cl	WARTIS	[3c]
31	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4\text{C}\equiv\text{C}-$	-	RUFREP	[30]
32	Ag	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4\text{C}\equiv\text{C}-$	-	RUFRT	[30]
33	Ag	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CFc}$	$O\text{-OTf}$	MITLOQ	[26]
34	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4\{\text{NHC(O)C}_6\text{H}_4\text{NO}_2\text{-}4\}\text{-}4$	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4\{\text{NHC(O)C}_6\text{H}_4\text{NO}_2\text{-}4\}\text{-}4$	VUPZAJ <sup>c</sup> VUPZEN <sup>d</sup> VUPZIR <sup>e</sup>	[31]
35	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4\{\text{NHC(O)C}_6\text{H}_4\text{CF}_3\text{-}4\}\text{-}4$	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4\{\text{NHC(O)C}_6\text{H}_4\text{CF}_3\text{-}4\}\text{-}4$	VUPZOX	[31]
36	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4\{\text{NHC(O)Ph}\}\text{-}4$	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4\{\text{NHC(O)Ph}\}\text{-}4$	VUPZUD	[31]
37	Cu	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4\{\text{NHC(O)C}_6\text{H}_4\text{OMe}\text{-}4\}\text{-}4$	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4\{\text{NHC(O)C}_6\text{H}_4\text{OMe}\text{-}4\}\text{-}4$	VUQBAM <sup>c</sup> VUQBEQ <sup>f</sup>	[31]
38	Ag	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4\{\text{NHC(O)C}_6\text{H}_4\text{NO}_2\text{-}4\}\text{-}4$	-	TABBEG	[32]
39	Ag	$\text{C}\equiv\text{CC}\equiv\text{C}[\text{Re}(\text{CO})_3(\text{Bu}^t_2\text{-bpy})]$	Cl	IWAFOF	[6]

<sup>a</sup> THF solvate.

<sup>b</sup> Acetone solvate.

<sup>c</sup>  $\text{BF}_4$  salt.

<sup>d</sup>  $\text{ClO}_4$  salt.

<sup>e</sup>  $\text{PF}_6$  salt.

<sup>f</sup> F salt.

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