

Ligand-displacement reactions as a powerful route to *closo*-ruthenacarboranes incorporating bidentate N-donor ligands

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A facile ligand-exchange method based on the direct reaction of either three-bridge *exo-nido* complex [*exo*-5,6,10-{Cl(Ph₃P)₂Ru}-5,6,10-(μ-H)₃-10-H-*nido*-7,8-C₂B₉H₈] or its *closo* isomer [3,3-(PPh₃)₂-3-Cl-3-H-3,1,2-*closo*-RuC₂B₉H₁₁] with chelating N,N-donor ligands was employed to synthesize the N,N-diamine-*closo*-ruthenacarborane complexes [3,3-{κ²-4,4'-R₂-2,2'-(C₅H₃N)₂}-3-PPh₃-*closo*-3,1,2-RuC₂B₉H₁₁] (R = H, Bu^t) and [3,3-{κ²-phen}-3-PPh₃-*closo*-3,1,2-RuC₂B₉H₁₁].

Previously, we have shown that *exo-nido*-ruthenacarborane [*exo*-5,6,10-{Cl(Ph₃P)₂Ru}-5,6,10-(μ-H)₃-10-H-*nido*-7,8-C₂B₉H₈] **1** and its C,C'-dimethylated derivative,¹ as well as the *closo* isomer of **1**, [3,3-(PPh₃)₂-3-Cl-3-H-*closo*-3,1,2-RuC₂B₉H₁₂] **2**,^{2,3} can serve as convenient precursors for the investigation of PPh₃-diphosphine displacement reactions. In particular, using this synthetic methodology, *closo* and *exo-nido* 18-electron diamagnetic and 17-electron paramagnetic *P,P*-diphosphine-ruthenacarborane complexes have been conveniently prepared,^{3–6} some of which are efficient pre-catalysts for the atom-transfer radical polymerization (ATRP) of vinyl monomers.^{3,7–9} Other known *exo-nido*-¹⁰ and *closo*-ruthenacarboranes,^{11,12} which have *exo*-polyhedrally heteroatom-substituted {*nido*-C₂B₉} carborene ligands, have been extensively explored as active promoters for Kharasch chemistry. Herein, we describe the facile synthesis of *closo*-ruthenacarborane clusters with chelating N,N-donor ligands, such as 2,2'-bipyridyl derivatives and 1,10-phenanthroline (phen), where both species **1** and **2** were starting materials.

The Ru^{II} complexes with electron-rich diamine-type ligands are of particular interest because of their potential physical and photophysical properties.¹³ However, only a few complexes, which have both large-cage polyhedral borane or carborane and chelating diamine ligands, were described in the literature.^{14–19} Jelliss and co-workers¹⁹ reported the preparation of carbonyl-bearing *closo*-ruthenacarboranes with TMEDA, as well as

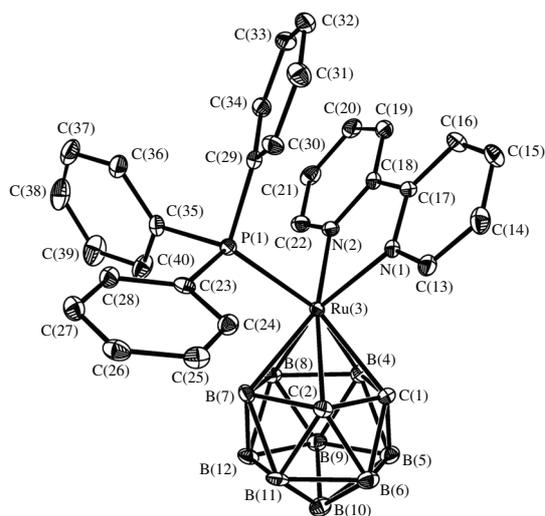
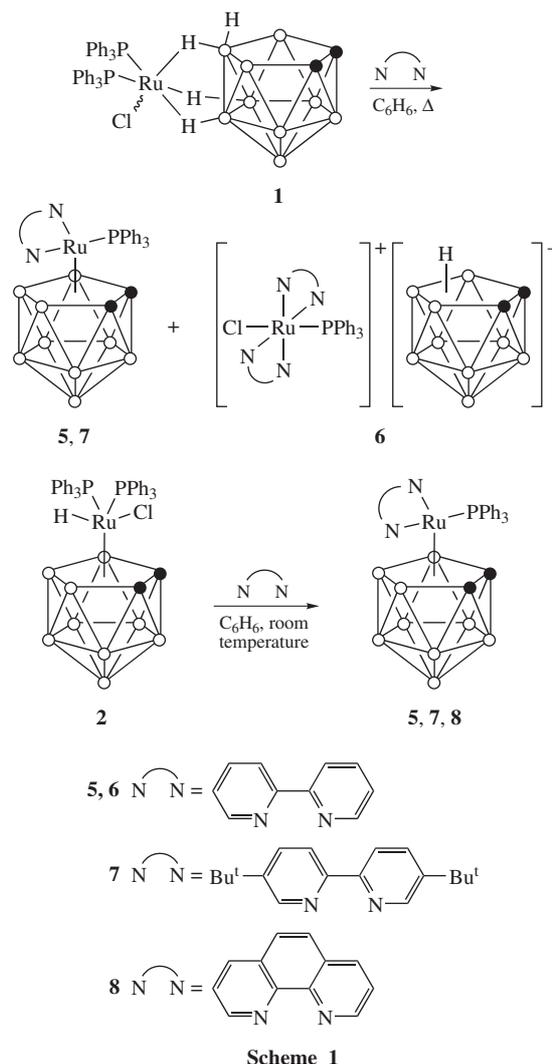


Figure 1 ORTEP representation of the molecular structure of complex **5** with thermal ellipsoids at a 50% probability level. Selected interatomic distances (Å) and angles (°): Ru(3)–P(1) 2.3400(7), Ru(3)–N(1) 2.1147(19), Ru(3)–N(2) 2.0865(19), Ru(3)–C(1) 2.200(2), Ru(3)–C(2) 2.181(2), Ru(3)–B(4) 2.252(3), Ru(3)–B(7) 2.178(3), Ru(3)–B(8) 2.266(3), C(1)–C(2) 1.625(3), C(1)–B(4) 1.696(3), C(2)–B(7) 1.741(4), B(4)–B(8) 1.803(4), B(7)–B(8) 1.794(4); N(1)–C(17)–C(18) 114.4(2), N(2)–C(18)–C(17) 114.4(2), N(2)–Ru(3)–N(1) 76.00(7).



Scheme 1

4,4'-R₂-2,2'-bipyridyl derivatives [R = H (**3**), Bu^t (**4**), and *n*-nonyl] by double carbonyl substitution of [3,3,3-(CO)₃-*closo*-3,1,2-RuC₂B₉H₁₁] in the presence of Me₃NO as the CO-abstracting reagent. Looking for more simple and reliable synthetic routes to *N,N*-diamine-*closo*-ruthenacarborane clusters, we initially examined the reactions of isomeric complexes **1** or **2** with 2,2'-bipyridyl ligand **3**. Thus, the treatment of precursors **1** and **2** with a 20% molar excess of **3**, either on heating in benzene for 2 h (in the case of **1**) or by stirring their benzene solution at ambient temperature for 60 h (in the case of **2**), followed by column chromatography resulted in the isolation of complex [3,3- $\{\kappa^2$ -2,2'-(C₅H₄N)₂\}-3-(PPh₃)-*closo*-3,1,2-RuC₂B₉H₁₁] **5** in 35 and 88% yields, respectively (Scheme 1). Note that target product **5** in the reaction of *exo-nido*-ruthenacarborane **1** with **3** is formed together with an amount of new ionic complex [RuCl(PPh₃){ κ^2 -2,2'-(C₅H₄N)₂\}][*nido*-C₂B₉H₁₁] **6**, which exists in *cis* and *trans* isomeric forms. This fact together with some decomposition of products that occurs could be accounted for the moderate yield of *closo* compound **5** in this reaction. The structures of both complexes **5** and *trans*-**6** have been deduced on the basis of single-crystal X-ray diffraction data[†] (Figures 1 and 2, respectively) and confirmed by multinuclear NMR spectroscopy.[‡]

A single-crystal X-ray diffraction study of complex **5**[†] proved this species to be a mononuclear *closo*-ruthenacarborane with an 18-electron six-coordinate Ru^{II} atom, which adopts the piano stool structure (Figure 1). The ruthenium atom in **5** is bound to one PPh₃ group and ligated by one 2,2'-bipyridyl ligand in a

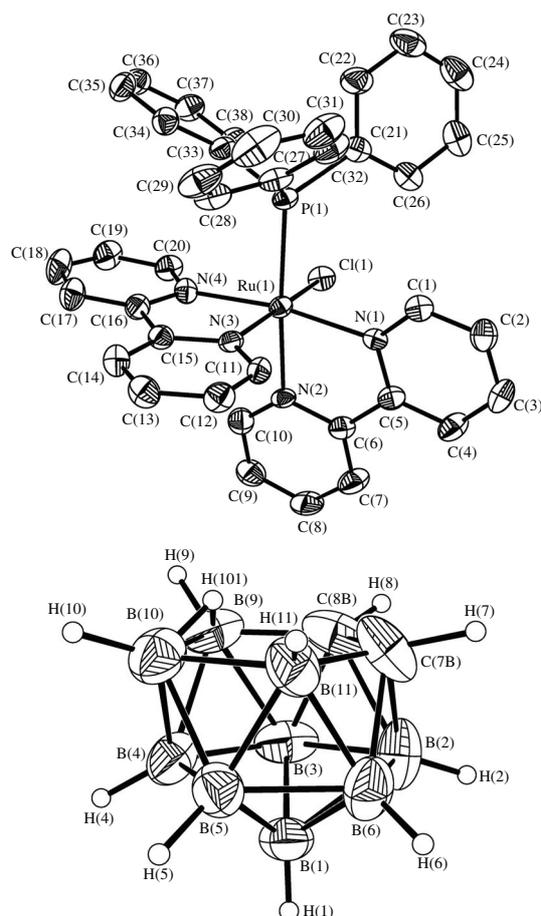


Figure 2 ORTEP representation of the molecular structure of complex **6** with thermal ellipsoids at a 50% probability level. Selected interatomic distances (Å) and angles (°): Ru(1)–Cl(1) 2.4272(9), Ru(1)–P(1) 2.3254(9), Ru(1)–N(1) 2.111(3), Ru(1)–N(2) 2.110(3), Ru(1)–N(3) 2.052(3), Ru(1)–N(4) 2.070(3), C(7B)–C(8B) 1.553(7), C(7B)–B(11) 1.580(8), C(8B)–B(9) 1.587(8), B(9)–B(10) 1.831(9), B(9)–H(101) 1.33, B(10)–H(101) 1.02; P(1)–Ru(1)–N(2) 174.30(8), Cl(1)–Ru(1)–N(3) 171.17(8), N(1)–Ru(1)–N(4) 170.6(1).

chelating manner [Ru(3)–N(1) 2.115(2), Ru(3)–N(2) 2.087(2) Å]. Despite the almost symmetrical coordination of the ruthenium atom by the {*nido*-C₂B₉} ligand [C(1)–C(2) 1.625(3), Ru(3)–C_{cb} 2.19 (av.) and Ru(3)–B 2.23 (av.) Å], one of the Ru–B distances formally *trans*-oriented with respect to the strong diamine donor, namely Ru(3)–B(7) of 2.178(3) Å, proved to be noticeably shorter than the other two within the C₂B₃ open face [Ru(3)–B(4) 2.252(3) and Ru(3)–B(8) 2.266(3) Å]. The bidentate 2,2'-bipyridyl ligand in **5** remains essentially planar with the N(1)–C(14)–C(15)–N(2) torsion angle of 2.4(3)°.

Similarly, complex **2** readily reacted with substituted bipyridyl ligand **4** and 1,10-phenanthroline hydrate in benzene to afford two new more sterically demanded *N,N*-diamine-*closo*-ruthenacarboranes [3,3- $\{\kappa^2$ -4,4'-Bu^t-2,2'-(C₅H₃N)₂\}-3-PPh₃-*closo*-3,1,2-RuC₂B₉H₁₁] **7** and [3,3- $\{\kappa^2$ -phen\}-3-PPh₃-*closo*-3,1,2-RuC₂B₉H₁₁] **8** in 72 and 88% yields, respectively. It is noteworthy that all of the reactions with the use of *closo*-ruthenacarborane **2** as the starting reagent afford compounds **5**, **7** and **8** as the only carborane-containing products formed in high yields. Complexes **5**, **7** and **8** were isolated as air-stable crystalline solids. Analytical and NMR-spectroscopic data[‡] are entirely consistent with the

[†] Crystal data for **5**: C₃₀H₃₄B₉N₂Ru·C₃H₆O, *M* = 710.00, monoclinic, space group *P*2₁/*n*, *a* = 11.0321(9), *b* = 19.768(2) and *c* = 15.841(1) Å, β = 96.566(2)°, *V* = 3432.0(5) Å³, *d*_{calc} = 1.374 g cm⁻³, *Z* = 4, MoK α radiation, λ = 0.71073 Å, μ = 0.534 mm⁻¹, *T* = 100(2) K, $2\theta_{\max}$ = 60°, *R*₁(*F*) = 0.0416 for 7475 reflections with *I* > 2 σ (*I*), and *wR*₂(*F*²) = 0.0909 for all 9993 unique reflections (*R*_{int} = 0.0655).

Crystal data for **6**: C₃₈H₃₁ClN₄PRu·C₂B₉H₁₂·1.5(C₆H₆), *M* = 961.73, monoclinic, space group *P*2₁/*n*, *a* = 11.9780(5), *b* = 13.5873(6) and *c* = 28.926(1) Å, β = 93.435(1)°, *V* = 4699.2(4) Å³, *d*_{calc} = 1.359 g cm⁻³, *Z* = 4, MoK α radiation, λ = 0.71073 Å, μ = 0.465 mm⁻¹, *T* = 120(2) K, $2\theta_{\max}$ = 56°, *R*₁(*F*) = 0.0642 for 8511 reflections with *I* > 2 σ (*I*), and *wR*₂(*F*²) = 0.1559 for all 11303 unique reflections (*R*_{int} = 0.0435).

The SHELXTL program package²⁰ was used for the calculations.

CCDC 756382 and 756383 contain the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif. For details, see 'Notice to Authors', *Mendeleev Commun.*, Issue 1, 2010.

[‡] For **5**: ¹H NMR (CD₂Cl₂) δ : 2.43 (s, 2H, CH_{carb}), 6.95 (t, 6H, PPh₃, *J*_t 8.6 Hz), 7.21 (t, 6H, PPh₃, *J*_t 7.2 Hz), 7.31 (m, 5H, PPh₃ + H^{5,5}), 7.73 (t, 2H, H^{4,4'}, ³*J* 7.6 Hz), 7.81 (d, 2H, H^{3,3'}, ³*J* 8.3 Hz), 9.52 (d, 2H, H^{6,6'}, ³*J* 6.4 Hz). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CD₂Cl₂) δ : 36.2 (s). ¹¹B NMR (CD₂Cl₂) δ : -27.4 (br. s, 2B), -9.95 (d, 2B, *J*_{B,H} 132 Hz), -4.3 (br. s, 3B), 6.65 (br. s, 2B). IR (ν /cm⁻¹): 2523 (B–H). Found (%): C, 54.75; H, 5.16. Calc. for C₃₀H₃₄B₉N₂PRu (%): C, 55.30; H, 5.22.

For *trans*-**6**: ¹H NMR (CD₂Cl₂) δ : -2.9 (br. s, 1H, H_{endo}), 1.84 (br. s, 2H, CH_{carb}), 6.94, 7.16, 7.69, 7.80 (t, 4 \times 1H, H_{bppy}, *J*_t 6.7–8.0 Hz), 7.91, 7.94, 8.72, 8.91 (d, 4 \times 1H, H_{bppy}, *J*_d 5.7–8.3 Hz), 7.0–7.5 (m, 23H, PPh₃ + H_{bppy}). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CD₂Cl₂) δ : 56.1 (s). ¹¹B NMR (CD₂Cl₂) δ : -37.1 (d, 1B, *J*_{B,H} 149 Hz), -33.3 (d, 1B, *J*_{B,H} 133 Hz), -22.1 (d, 2B, *J*_{B,H} 153 Hz), -17.0 (d, 3B, *J*_{B,H} 107 Hz), -11.1 (d, 2B, *J*_{B,H} 136 Hz).

For *cis*-**6**: ¹H NMR (CD₂Cl₂) δ : -2.9 (br. s, 1H, H_{endo}), 1.80 (br. s, 2H, CH_{carb}), 6.77, 7.08, 7.23, 7.24, 7.70, 8.03 (t, 6 \times 1H, H_{bppy}, *J*_t 6.7–7.8 Hz), 7.17 (m, 5H, PPh₃ + H_{bppy}), 7.34 (m, 12H, PPh₃), 7.91 (m, 2H, H_{bppy}), 8.12, 8.19, 8.27, 8.33, 9.16, 9.29 (d, 6 \times 1H, H_{bppy}, *J*_d 5.4–8.3 Hz). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CD₂Cl₂) δ : 42.32 (s). ¹¹B NMR (CD₂Cl₂) δ : -37.1 (d, 1B, *J*_{B,H} 149 Hz), -33.3 (d, 1B, *J*_{B,H} 133 Hz), -22.1 (d, 2B, *J*_{B,H} 153 Hz), -17.0 (d, 3B, *J*_{B,H} 107 Hz), -11.1 (d, 2B, *J*_{B,H} 136 Hz).

For **7**: ¹H NMR (CD₂Cl₂) δ : 1.36 (s, 18H, Bu^t), 2.70 (s, 2H, CH_{carb}), 7.12 (m, 12H, PPh₃), 7.28 (m, 5H, PPh₃ + H^{5,5}), 7.59 (d-like, 2H, H^{3,3'}, ³*J* 2.0 Hz), 9.10 (d, 2H, H^{6,6'}, ³*J* 6.0 Hz). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CD₂Cl₂) δ : 44.84 (s). IR (ν /cm⁻¹): 2529 (B–H). Found (%): C, 60.18; H, 6.50; B, 13.06. Calc. for C₄₀H₅₀B₉N₂PRu (%): C, 59.61; H, 6.80; B, 12.68.

For **8**: ¹H NMR (CD₂Cl₂) δ : 2.89 (s, 2H, CH_{carb}), 6.99 (m, 12H, PPh₃), 7.14 (t-like, 3H, PPh₃, ³*J* 7.0 Hz), 7.62 (q-like, 2H, H^{3,8}), 7.71 (s, 2H, H^{5,6}), 8.15 (d, 2H, ³*J* 5.4 Hz), 9.50 (d, 2H, ³*J* 8.1 Hz). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CD₂Cl₂) δ : 44.97 (s). ¹¹B NMR (CD₂Cl₂) δ : -24.5 (d, 3H, *J*_{B,H} 143 Hz), -11.92 (d, 2B, *J*_{B,H} 145 Hz), -6 (br. t, 3H, *J*_{B,H} 130 Hz), -2.7 (d, 1H, *J*_{B,H} 126 Hz). IR (ν /cm⁻¹): 2512 (B–H). Found (%): C, 57.44; H, 5.85. Calc. for C₃₂H₃₄B₉N₂PRu (%): C, 56.89; H, 5.04.

formulations of all three compounds. The ^1H NMR spectra of neutral *closo* complexes **5**, **7** and **8** are diagnostic in that they do not display a broad high-field resonance at *ca.* -2.5 ppm originating from the B–H–B *endo*-hydrogen of the {*nido*- C_2B_9 } open face, as opposed to the spectrum of ionic complex **6**.[‡] The ^1H NMR spectra of all the above *closo*-ruthenacarboranes show single-cluster CH resonances, as well as diamine, and PPh_3 ligand aromatic resonances with their overall integration corresponding to the *N,N*-diamine/ PPh_3 /carborane ligand ratio of 1:1:1. The $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectra of **5**, **7** and **8** display a sharp singlet at δ 36.2, 44.84 and 44.97 ppm, respectively, that confirms the presence of the ruthenium-bound PPh_3 ligand.

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