

Triphenylbismuthine complexes of group 6 metal carbonyls: X-ray crystal structures of $[M(\text{CO})_5(\text{BiPh}_3)]$ ($M = \text{Mo}$ or W)

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Abstract

The $[M(\text{CO})_5(\text{BiPh}_3)]$ ($M = \text{Cr}, \text{Mo}$ or W) complexes have been prepared from $[M(\text{CO})_5(\text{thf})]$ and BiPh_3 in thf ($\text{thf} = \text{tetrahydrofuran}$), and characterised by analysis, FAB mass spectrometry, IR and $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ -NMR spectroscopy, and the results compared with literature data on $[M(\text{CO})_5(\text{EPh}_3)]$ ($E = \text{P}, \text{As}$ or Sb). The crystal structures of the Mo and W species have been determined (Mo-Bi 2.832(1), W-Bi 2.829(1) Å). © 1997 Elsevier Science B.V.

Keywords: Molybdenum; Tungsten; Chromium; Bismuthine; X-ray structure

1. Introduction

The study of complexes of Group 15 donor ligands remains one of the most active areas of coordination chemistry. Nitrogen, phosphorus and arsenic donors have received most study [1] with more limited attention devoted to antimony ligands [2]. Tertiary bismuthines are the cinderellas of this group with few thoroughly characterised complexes [2], and only two examples of single crystal X-ray structures have been reported, $[\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_5(\text{BiPh}_3)]$ [3] and $[(\text{Cp})\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_2(\text{BiPh}_3)]\text{BF}_4$ [4]. We have recently begun a systematic study of metal complexes of tertiary bismuthines, and report here detailed re-examination of the Group 6 carbonyl complexes $[M(\text{CO})_5(\text{BiPh}_3)]$ ($M = \text{Cr}, \text{Mo}$ or W) first described by Brown and Dobson [5]. Complexes of the Group 6 metal carbonyls with other Group 15 ligands have been thoroughly studied over many years [2,6,7], and continue to attract further work aimed at refining understanding of the M-donor bonding [8].

2. Results and discussion

The three complexes $[M(\text{CO})_5(\text{BiPh}_3)]$ ($M = \text{Cr}, \text{Mo}$ or W) were originally prepared by photolysis of a

mixture of BiPh_3 and the appropriate $[M(\text{CO})_6]$ in benzene [5]. We used the reaction of BiPh_3 with $[M(\text{CO})_5(\text{thf})]$ ($\text{thf} = \text{tetrahydrofuran}$) in thf solution, followed by recrystallisation from hexane to remove unreacted BiPh_3 and $[M(\text{CO})_6]$. Attempts to make the complexes by reaction of $[M(\text{CO})_5\text{Br}]$ with BiPh_3 or thermally from $[M(\text{CO})_6]$ and BiPh_3 failed, nor have we been able to prepare $[M(\text{CO})_4(\text{BiPh}_3)_2]$ by displacement of the neutral ligand from for example $[\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_4(\text{norbornadiene})]$. The failure of these routes with BiPh_3 , in contrast to their successful use with lighter EPh_3 ligands, is consistent with very poor coordinating properties of bismuthine ligands. The yellow $[M(\text{CO})_5(\text{BiPh}_3)]$ appear to be air-stable in the solid state, but decompose quite rapidly in solution with the formation of black precipitates, whilst $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ -NMR of the supernatant solutions show only $[M(\text{CO})_6]$ and BiPh_3 . As a result of this instability, measurements were made upon freshly prepared CH_2Cl_2 solutions, and for the NMR studies the data were collected from solutions cooled to 250 K at which temperature decomposition is minimal over several hours.

For an $[M(\text{CO})_5\text{L}]$ complex of C_{4v} symmetry, three IR active $\nu(\text{CO})$ stretches are expected ($2A_1 + E$) and Table 1 lists the data obtained, along with literature data of corresponding $[M(\text{CO})_5(\text{EPh}_3)]$ ($E = \text{P}, \text{As}$ or Sb) for comparison. As can be seen, the majority of the complexes show only two $\nu(\text{CO})$ vibrations explained [5,9-11] as resulting from near coincidence of the A_1 and E

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Table 1
 $\nu(\text{CO})$ IR frequencies for $[\text{M}(\text{CO})_5\text{L}]$ complexes (cm^{-1})^a

L	$[\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_5\text{L}]$	$[\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_5\text{L}]$	$[\text{W}(\text{CO})_5\text{L}]$
PPh_3	2066, 1943	2075, 1950, 1945	2075, 1944
AsPh_3	2068, 1946	2073, 1952, 1945	2076, 1945
SbPh_3	2065, 1948	2075, 1955	2070, 1943
BiPh_3	2064, 1945	2075, 1954	2074, 1945
BiPh_3^b	2061, 1943	2074, 1952	2071, 1942

^a BiPh_3 complexes this work, other data from Refs. [5,9–11] for complexes in hydrocarbon solutions.

^b Hexane solution.

^c Nujol mull.

modes of the equatorial carbonyl groups. The variations in $\nu(\text{CO})$ with changes in EPh_3 for a fixed M are very small, presumably as a result of the decreasing σ -donor and π -acceptor power $\text{P} > \text{As} > \text{Sb} > \text{Bi}$, the net electron density on M varies little in the series. FAB mass spectra (3-NOBA matrix) show molecular ions M^+ for $\text{M} = \text{Cr}$ or W , but for the molybdenum complex the highest mass feature corresponded to $(\text{M}-\text{CO})^+$.

The $^1\text{H-NMR}$ spectra (Section 3) are uninformative, but the $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ -NMR data are more interesting (Table 2). Two $\delta(\text{CO})$ resonances are observed with the resonance of the axial CO to high frequency of that of the equatorials. Comparison with literature data [12,13] for analogous complexes of PPh_3 , AsPh_3 and SbPh_3 reveal that the $\delta(^{13}\text{C})$ differ by ≤ 2 ppm along the series $[\text{M}(\text{CO})_5(\text{EPh}_3)]$ ($\text{E} = \text{P}, \text{As}, \text{Sb}$ or Bi) for fixed M. For the $[\text{W}(\text{CO})_5(\text{EPh}_3)]$ complexes the $^1\text{J}(^{183}\text{W}-^{13}\text{C})$ coupling to the equatorial carbonyls is constant, but that of the axial carbonyl increases $\text{P} < \text{As} < \text{Sb} < \text{Bi}$. Comparison of the value in the BiPh_3 complex with the data of Buchner and Schenk [13] for a wide range of ligands places BiPh_3 very low in the *trans* influence series, consistent with the much reduced σ donor power at bismuth.

2.1. X-ray structures of $[\text{M}(\text{CO})_5(\text{BiPh}_3)]$ ($\text{M} = \text{Mo}, \text{W}$)

The two structures are isomorphous with one discrete molecule in the asymmetric unit (see Fig. 1) and selected bond lengths and angles for the two compounds are given in Table 3. Earlier work on $[\text{M}(\text{CO})_5(\text{EPh}_3)]$

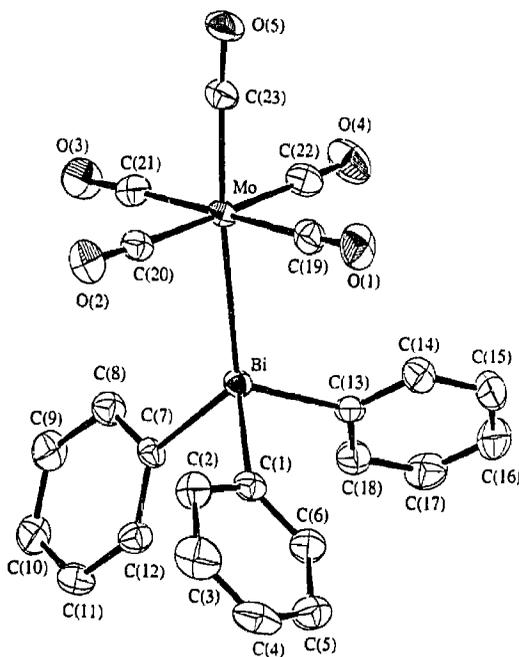


Fig. 1. Molecular structure of $[\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_5(\text{BiPh}_3)]$ showing the atom numbering scheme. H atoms are omitted for clarity and the thermal ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level. The W compound is essentially identical with the same numbering scheme.

had reported superficially different cell parameters, however closer examination shows that all ($\text{M} = \text{Cr}, \text{Mo}, \text{W}$; $\text{E} = \text{P}, \text{As}, \text{Sb}, \text{Bi}$) are isomorphous. There are very few complexes containing triphenylbismuth [2] although the structure of the parent ligand is known

Table 3
 Selected bond lengths (\AA) and angles ($^\circ$) for $[\text{M}(\text{CO})_5(\text{BiPh}_3)]$ ($\text{M} = \text{Mo}, \text{W}$)

Parameter	$\text{M} = \text{Mo}$	$\text{M} = \text{W}$
M–Bi	2.8325(5)	2.8294(5)
Bi–C(1)	2.233(6)	2.234(9)
Bi–C(7)	2.214(5)	2.217(9)
Bi–C(13)	2.213(6)	2.225(10)
C–C (phenyl)	1.368(8)–1.407(8)	1.356(17)–1.401(14)
M–C(19)	2.046(7)	2.018(12)
M–C(20)	2.036(6)	2.050(11)
M–C(21)	2.060(7)	2.055(12)
M–C(22)	2.051(7)	2.057(11)
M–C(23)	1.983(6)	1.984(10)
C–O	1.135(7)–1.151(7)	1.131(13)–1.159(13)
Bi–M–C(23)	174.7(2)	173.7(3)
M–Bi–C(1)	119.2(1)	118.2(2)
M–Bi–C(7)	124.5(1)	123.6(2)
M–Bi–C(13)	114.2(1)	114.0(3)
C(1)–Bi–C(7)	95.7(2)	97.0(4)
C(1)–Bi–C(13)	96.5(2)	97.3(4)
C(7)–Bi–C(13)	101.7(2)	102.3(4)
C(1)–Bi–M–C(19)	43.1(2)	43.6(4)
C(7)–Bi–M–C(21)	–14.2(2)	–13.2(4)
C(13)–Bi–M–C(22)	21.4(2)	21.7(4)

Table 2
 $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ -NMR data for $[\text{M}(\text{CO})_5\text{L}]$ complexes^a

L	$[\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_5\text{L}]$	$[\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_5\text{L}]$	$[\text{W}(\text{CO})_5\text{L}]$ ^b
PPh_3	216.5, 221.3	205.7, 210.2	197.2(126), 199.0(140)
AsPh_3	216.7, 222.0	205.3, 210.3	196.7(126), 199.0(155)
SbPh_3	217.0, 222.4	205.6, 209.6	196.1(124), 198.2(162)
BiPh_3	217.5, 222.4	206.1, 210.6	197.5(126), 198.2(183)

^a $\delta(^{13}\text{C})$ relative to TMS in CDCl_3 solution. BiPh_3 complexes in this work, data collected at 250 K, other data from Refs. [12,13].

^b $^1\text{J}(^{183}\text{W}-^{13}\text{C})$ in parentheses/Hz.

[14,15] together with two BiR_3 ($\text{R} = \text{aryl}$). In view of the detailed discussion of the P, As and Sb compounds [8] we will concentrate on the trends associated with the BiPh_3 ligand most of which are also found in the lighter Group 15 species. The $\text{M}-\text{C}(\text{trans Bi})$ is shorter than the remaining four $\text{M}-\text{C}$ bonds and the BiPh_3 is tilted with the $\text{C}_{\text{ax}}-\text{M}-\text{Bi}$ angle some 5° off linear. The BiPh_3 geometry is not significantly different for the Cr [3], Mo or W complexes (Table 4), but surprisingly in the complexes the $\text{Bi}-\text{C}$ bonds are shorter (2.220 Å (av, Mo), 2.225 Å (av, W)) and the $\text{C}-\text{Bi}-\text{C}$ angles larger (98.0° (av, Mo), 98.9° (av, W)) than in the free ligand ($\text{Bi}-\text{C}$ 2.259 Å (av), $\text{C}-\text{Bi}-\text{C}$ 93.9° (av) [14]). A similar change to the angles was hinted at in the data of the As and Sb derivatives but not for the phosphorus compounds [8]. The geometry at pyramidal Group 15 elements has been reviewed [17].

The conformation of the BiC_3 (ca. C_{3v}) residue with respect to the $\text{M}(\text{CO})_5$ (ca. C_{4v}) is as observed before, with one phenyl group bisecting a $\text{C}_{\text{eq}}-\text{M}-\text{C}_{\text{eq}}$ angle (fig. 2 in Ref. [8]), and although BiPh_3 itself does not have the 'propeller' C_3 symmetry, the complexed ligand has $\text{M}-\text{Bi}-\text{C}$ torsion angles in the range $34-53^\circ$ showing that the $\text{M}-\text{BiPh}_3$ residue has approximately C_3 symmetry. These two structures add to bismuthine complexes and complete the series both for the Group 15 EPh_3 and Group 6 elements. A summary of the parameters for $[\text{M}(\text{CO})_5(\text{BiPh}_3)]$ is given in Table 4.

3. Experimental

Physical measurements were made as described elsewhere [16].

3.1. Synthesis

$[\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_5(\text{BiPh}_3)]$. $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_6$ (0.22 g, 1.0 mmol) was dissolved in thf (40 ml) and irradiated with UV light (365 nm, 125 W) under nitrogen with stirring for 1 h. To the bright-orange solution formed, BiPh_3 (0.35 g, 0.8 mmol) was added and the solution stirred under nitrogen for 30 min. to form a yellow/orange solution.

Table 4
Average bond (Å) and angle($^\circ$) parameters for $[\text{M}(\text{CO})_5(\text{BiPh}_3)]$

Parameter	$[\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_5(\text{BiPh}_3)]^a$	$[\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_5(\text{BiPh}_3)]$	$[\text{W}(\text{CO})_5(\text{BiPh}_3)]$
M–Bi	2.705(1)	2.8325(5)	2.8294(5)
M–C _{ax}	1.86(1)	1.983(6)	1.984(10)
M–C _b	1.905	2.035	2.048
Bi–C _b	2.216	2.220	2.225
Bi–M–C _{ax}	175.7(3)	174.7(2)	173.7(3)
C–Bi–C _b	102.6	98.0	98.9

^a Ref. [3].

^b Averaged value.

Table 5
Crystal data for $[\text{M}(\text{CO})_5(\text{BiPh}_3)]$ ($\text{M} = \text{Mo, W}$)

	M = Mo	M = W
Formula	$\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{15}\text{BiMoO}_5$	$\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{15}\text{BiO}_5\text{W}$
M_r	676.29	764.20
Cryst. syst.	triclinic	triclinic
Space group	$\text{P}\bar{1}$ (no. 2)	$\text{P}\bar{1}$ (no. 2)
a , Å	9.705(3)	9.726(2)
b , Å	12.674(4)	12.624(2)
c , Å	9.399(2)	9.384(2)
α , deg	94.08(2)	93.94(2)
β , deg	93.39(2)	93.33(2)
γ , deg	103.79(3)	104.06(2)
V , Å ³	1116.5(5)	1111.7(4)
T , K	150(2)	150(2)
Density (calcd), g cm^{-3}	2.012	2.283
Z	2	2
$F(000)$, e	636	700
Cryst. size, mm	$0.50 \times 0.45 \times 0.35$	$0.45 \times 0.35 \times 0.3$
Type of data collection	$\omega-2\theta$	$\omega-2\theta$
Total no. of observations	4174	4160
Total no. of unique observations	3919 ($R_{\text{int}} = 0.014$)	3906 ($R_{\text{int}} = 0.034$)
Abs. cor.	ψ -scan	ψ -scan
No. of data used in refinement	3578	3164
No. of parameters	271	272
Weighting scheme (w^{-1})	$\sigma^2(F_o)$	$\sigma^2(F_o)$
λ , Å (Mo $K\alpha$)	0.71069	0.71069
μ , cm^{-1}	84.47	131.92
Max 2θ , deg	50.0	50.0
S	2.03	2.15
Max shift/esd	0.01	0.02
Resid. electron density, e Å^{-3}	1.11 to -1.62	2.63 to -2.97
$R(I > n\sigma(I))$	0.025 ($n = 2.5$)	0.033 ($n = 3.0$)
$wR(I > n\sigma(I))$	0.028 ($n = 2.5$)	0.035 ($n = 3.0$)

$$[R = \sum ||F_o| - |F_c|| / \sum |F_o|; wR = [\sum w(F_o - F_c)^2 / \sum wF_o^2]^{1/2}]$$

The solvent was removed to leave a dirty yellow solid. This was extracted into hexane, filtered and the solvent again removed to leave a yellow/orange solid which was finally recrystallised from hexane at -20°C . Yield ca. 10% after recrystallisation. (Found: C, 44.0; H, 2.5. $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{15}\text{BiCrO}_5$ requires C, 43.7; H, 2.4%). ^1H NMR (CDCl_3) 7.1–7.5(m). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ -NMR (CDCl_3 , 250K) 222.4, 217.5, 140.2, 136.2, 131.0, 129.9¹. FAB MS (3-NOBA) M^+ 652, 576, 492, 363, 286. Calc. for $[\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_5(\text{BiPh}_3)]^+$ 652, other ions correspond respectively to $(\text{P}-2\text{CO})^+$, $(\text{P}-5\text{CO})^+$, $(\text{BiPh}_2)^+$ and $(\text{BiPh})^+$.

$[\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_5(\text{BiPh}_3)]$. $\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_6$ (0.53 g, 2.0 mmol) was dissolved in thf (70 ml) and irradiated with UV light

¹ $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ -NMR spectrum of BiPh_3 in CDCl_3 137.8, 130.9, 128.1.

under nitrogen with stirring for 1 h. To the yellow solution formed, BiPh_3 (0.70 g, 1.6 mmol) was added and the solution stirred under nitrogen for 30 min. The solvent was removed from the yellow solution to leave a dirty yellow solid. This was extracted into hexane, filtered and the solvent again removed to leave a yellow/brown solid which was recrystallised from hexane at -20°C . Yield ca. 10% (Found: C, 40.7; H, 2.4. $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{15}\text{BiMoO}_5$ requires C, 40.8; H, 2.2%). ^1H NMR (CDCl_3) 7.1–7.5(m). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ -NMR (CDCl_3 , 250K) 210.6, 206.1, 139.6, 136.4, 131.0, 129.5. FAB MS (3-NOBA) 649, 363, 286. Calc. for $[\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_5(\text{BiPh}_3)]^+$ 650, other ions correspond to $[\text{BiPh}_2]^+$ and $[\text{BiPh}]^+$.

$[\text{W}(\text{CO})_5(\text{BiPh}_3)]$. $\text{W}(\text{CO})_6$ (0.70 g, 2.0 mmol) was dissolved in thf (70 ml) and irradiated with UV light under nitrogen with stirring for 1 h. To the yellow-coloured solution formed, BiPh_3 (0.70 g, 1.6 mmol) was added and the solution stirred under nitrogen for 30 min to form a pale yellow solution. The solvent was removed to leave a dirty yellow solid. This was extracted into hexane, filtered and the solvent again removed to leave a yellow solid which was recrystallised from hexane at -20°C . Yield 10% (Found: C, 36.3; H, 2.2.

Table 6
Atomic coordinates and equivalent isotropic displacement parameter for $[\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_5(\text{BiPh}_3)]$

Atom	x	y	z	B_{eq} (\AA^2)
Bi	0.14034(2)	0.27150(2)	0.35920(2)	1.725(5)
Mo	0.22703(5)	0.47166(4)	0.23508(5)	1.72(1)
O(1)	0.0521(5)	0.3545(4)	-0.0533(5)	3.6(1)
O(2)	0.5121(5)	0.4156(4)	0.1383(5)	3.0(1)
O(3)	0.4131(5)	0.5898(4)	0.5201(5)	3.5(1)
O(4)	-0.0480(5)	0.5364(4)	0.3498(5)	3.9(1)
O(5)	0.2909(5)	0.6851(4)	0.0763(5)	3.3(1)
C(1)	0.1462(6)	0.1165(5)	0.2337(6)	2.0(1)
C(2)	0.2729(7)	0.1100(5)	0.1720(7)	2.8(1)
C(3)	0.2797(8)	0.0108(6)	0.1026(8)	3.8(2)
C(4)	0.1641(9)	-0.0781(5)	0.0929(7)	3.5(2)
C(5)	0.0409(8)	-0.0709(5)	0.1508(7)	3.0(2)
C(6)	0.0321(7)	0.0280(5)	0.2231(7)	2.5(1)
C(7)	0.2383(6)	0.2330(5)	0.5616(6)	1.8(1)
C(8)	0.2900(6)	0.3156(5)	0.6709(6)	2.4(1)
C(9)	0.3602(7)	0.2936(5)	0.7957(7)	2.8(1)
C(10)	0.3784(7)	0.1914(6)	0.8107(7)	3.1(2)
C(11)	0.3262(7)	0.1089(5)	0.7032(7)	2.9(1)
C(12)	0.2556(6)	0.1299(5)	0.5788(6)	2.3(1)
C(13)	-0.0888(6)	0.2252(4)	0.3950(6)	2.0(1)
C(14)	-0.1849(7)	0.2371(5)	0.2858(7)	2.5(1)
C(15)	-0.3299(7)	0.2070(6)	0.3008(8)	3.2(2)
C(16)	-0.3798(7)	0.1667(6)	0.4261(8)	3.4(2)
C(17)	-0.2850(7)	0.1569(5)	0.5356(8)	3.3(2)
C(18)	-0.1399(7)	0.1851(5)	0.5217(7)	2.7(1)
C(19)	0.1144(6)	0.3944(5)	0.0506(7)	2.4(1)
C(20)	0.4078(7)	0.4335(5)	0.1724(6)	2.1(1)
C(21)	0.3441(7)	0.5484(5)	0.4196(7)	2.5(1)
C(22)	0.0501(7)	0.5132(5)	0.3075(7)	2.7(1)
C(23)	0.2709(6)	0.6079(5)	0.1372(7)	2.3(1)

Table 7

Atomic coordinates and equivalent isotropic displacement parameter for $[\text{W}(\text{CO})_5(\text{BiPh}_3)]$

Atom	x	y	z	B_{eq} (\AA^2)
Bi	0.13908(4)	0.27219(3)	0.35950(4)	1.694(9)
W	0.22753(4)	0.47312(3)	0.23491(4)	1.683(10)
O(1)	0.0525(9)	0.3554(6)	-0.0530(8)	3.5(2)
O(2)	0.5099(8)	0.4131(6)	0.1379(8)	2.9(2)
O(3)	0.4134(9)	0.5906(6)	0.5198(8)	3.3(2)
O(4)	-0.0454(9)	0.5395(7)	0.3508(9)	3.7(2)
O(5)	0.2928(8)	0.6871(6)	0.0738(9)	3.3(2)
C(1)	0.1465(11)	0.1180(8)	0.2316(10)	1.9(2)
C(2)	0.2690(11)	0.1094(8)	0.1734(12)	2.8(3)
C(3)	0.2795(14)	0.0111(10)	0.1031(13)	3.7(3)
C(4)	0.1633(14)	-0.0790(9)	0.0928(11)	3.1(3)
C(5)	0.0413(12)	-0.0704(9)	0.1502(12)	2.9(3)
C(6)	0.0311(11)	0.0273(8)	0.2204(11)	2.4(2)
C(7)	0.2377(10)	0.2360(8)	0.5636(10)	1.9(2)
C(8)	0.2885(10)	0.3183(8)	0.6719(11)	2.3(2)
C(9)	0.3564(11)	0.2974(9)	0.7956(11)	2.7(2)
C(10)	0.3773(11)	0.1934(9)	0.8115(11)	2.8(3)
C(11)	0.3265(12)	0.1103(9)	0.7039(12)	2.8(3)
C(12)	0.2573(11)	0.1317(8)	0.5803(11)	2.5(2)
C(13)	-0.0915(10)	0.2259(8)	0.3943(12)	2.3(2)
C(14)	-0.1858(11)	0.2368(8)	0.2851(11)	2.3(2)
C(15)	-0.3326(11)	0.2070(9)	0.2981(12)	2.7(3)
C(16)	-0.3797(12)	0.1667(10)	0.4250(15)	3.6(3)
C(17)	-0.2872(13)	0.1561(9)	0.5336(13)	3.3(3)
C(18)	-0.1416(12)	0.1852(9)	0.5216(12)	2.7(3)
C(19)	0.1165(11)	0.3978(8)	0.0522(12)	2.2(2)
C(20)	0.4084(12)	0.4332(8)	0.1721(10)	2.0(2)
C(21)	0.3462(12)	0.5486(8)	0.4200(12)	2.4(2)
C(22)	0.0505(12)	0.5146(8)	0.3077(12)	2.5(2)
C(23)	0.2702(10)	0.6088(8)	0.1335(11)	2.1(2)

$\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{15}\text{BiO}_5\text{W}$ requires C, 36.2; H, 2.0%). ^1H NMR (CDCl_3) 7.1–7.5(m). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ -NMR (CDCl_3 , 250K) 198.2(183), 197.5(126), 139.3, 136.3, 131.2, 130.0. FAB MS (3-NOBA) M^+ 764, 708, 363, 286. Calc. for $[\text{W}(\text{CO})_5(\text{BiPh}_3)]^+$ 764, other ions correspond respectively to $(\text{P}-2\text{CO})^+$, $(\text{BiPh}_2)^+$ and $(\text{BiPh})^+$.

3.2. Crystallography

Air-stable crystals of both materials were obtained by cooling hexane solutions overnight. Crystals were mounted on a glass fibre using the oil film technique and held at 150 K using the Oxford Cryosystems low temperature device. Data were recorded using a Rigaku AFC7S diffractometer fitted with graphite monochromator and Mo $\text{K}\alpha$ radiation. The structures were solved via standard heavy atom procedures and refined by full-matrix least-squares refinement on F^2 . H atoms were positioned either in observed positions (Mo) or geometrically (W, $d(\text{C}-\text{H}) = 0.95 \text{ \AA}$) and for both an empirical ψ -scan absorption correction applied during the data processing. No significant decay was observed. Crystallographic data are summarised in Table 5 and atomic coordinates are given in Table 6 (Mo) and Table 7 (W).

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