Luminescent gold(I) supermolecules with trithiocyanuric acid. Crystal structure, spectroscopic and photophysical properties

Biing-Chiau Tzeng,^a Chi-Ming Che^{*a} and Shie-Ming Peng^b

^a Department of Chemistry, The University of Hong Kong, Pokfulam Road, Hong Kong

^b Department of Chemistry, Natonal Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan

The first example of an ordered array of Au_6 clusters with trithiocyanuric acid, [(LAu)(AuPPhMe₂)₂]₂ (H₃L = trithiocyanuric acid), is prepared and characterized by X-ray crystallography; it has a two-dimensional structure *via* intermolecular Au^I...Au^I interactions and possesses photoluminescence properties; the ability of trithiocyanuric acid to act as a bridging ligand for molecular assembly of twodimensional polymeric solids is demonstrated.

Molecular materials composed of discrete metal clusters arranged in extended structures are useful model systems for understanding surface chemistry and catalysis, but the synthesis of such materials is usually serendipitous. Herein we show that Au^I...Au^I interactions can provide a driving force for self-assembly of such molecular solids,^{1–6} as well as the first example of an ordered array of Au₆ clusters arranged in a two-dimensional structure *via* intermolecular Au^I...Au^I interactions. While examples of one-dimensional gold(1) chains are not uncommon in the literature,^{1a,2b,4–6} gold(1) solids with two-dimensional structures are rare.^{1b}

Complexes $L(AuPPh_3)_3$ **1** and $L(AuPPhMe_2)_3$ **2** were prepared by treating AuCl(PPh_3) and AuCl(PPhMe_2) respectively with a methanolic solution of H_3L (H_3L = trithiocyanuric acid) and NaOMe. Slow diffusion of diethyl ether into a CH₂Cl₂–MeOH solution of complex **2** gave [(LAu)-(AuPPhMe₂)₂]₂ **3** with low solubility.[†]

Complexes 1 and 3 have been characterized by X-ray crystallography. The structure of complex 1 features a triazine with three bent S–Au–PPh₃ appendages pointing away from each other. This is similar to that of the reported [$\{CSAu(PPh_3)\}_6$] supermolecule,^{2c} whereas there is no intermolecular close contact of the gold(I) atoms in both complexes. Presumably, this is due to the steric hindrance provided by the AuPPh₃⁺ units.

A perspective view of complex 3 and its extended twodimensional structure are shown in Figs. 1 and 2, respectively. Complex 3 is a hexanuclear gold(I) supermolecule with a crystallographic centre of inversion at the centre of the 12-membered ring metallocycle. Four gold(I) centres are arranged in the form of a parallelogram with AuI...AuI distances of 2.964(2) and 2.987(2) Å, and a long transannular Au^I...Au^I separation of 3.347(3) Å. A similar arrangement of Au₄ has been found in $[\{Au_2(C_6H_4S_2-1,2)(PEt_3)\}_2]^{2d}$ and $[Au_4(\mu-S_2C_6H_3Me)_2(PEt_3)_2]^{.7}$ Notably, there is an intermolecular Au^I...Au^I close contact of 3.130(2) Å resulting in a novel twodimensional structure with the Au₆ supermolecule as the repeating unit. One recent novel example is $[L'(AuCl)_4]_{\infty}$ [L' = 1,4,8,11-tetrakis(diphenylphosphinomethyl)-1,4,8,11-tetraazacyclotetradecane].1b The intermolecular AuI...AuI separation in complex 3 is comparable to related values in one- and two-dimensional gold(I) solids such as 3.104(1) Å in $[L'({\rm AuCl})_4]_\infty,^{1b}$ 3.174(1) Å in [Au₂(C≡CPh)₂(µ- $C \equiv NBu_2^tC_6H_2N \equiv C]_{\infty}^{5a}$ and 3.200(1)Å in [Au₂(p-1,5-= *p*-thiocresol; $tc)_2(dpppn)]_{\infty}$ [*p*-tc dpppn = bis(diphenylphosphino)pentane].6b Another important structural feature is coordination of Au(PPhMe₂)+ units to one of the nitrogen atoms in each of the triazine rings, which is

isolobal to a proton. A reaction scheme which rationalizes the formation of the Au_6 supermolecule is shown in Scheme 1.

Recently, the gold(1) complexes of two tridentate bridging ligands, 1,3,5-tris(diphenylphosphino)benzene^{4b} and



Fig. 1 A perspective view of complex **3** (bond lengths in Å, angles in °): Au(1)···Au(3) 2.987(2), Au(1)···Au(3') 2.964(2), Au(3)···Au(3') 3.347(3), Au(1)–S(1) 2.279(9), Au(1)–S(2) 2.280(9), Au(2)–P(1) 2.234(10), Au(2)–S(3) 2.310(10), Au(3)–P(2) 2.210(11), Au(3)–N(1) 2.094(22); S(1)–Au(1)–S(2) 168.1(3), S(3)–Au(2)–P(1) 174.7(5), P(2)–Au(3)–N(1) 160.4(7)



Fig. 2 An extended two-dimensional structure of complex 3 with intermolecular Au \cdots Au distances of 3.130(2) Å (the phenyl and methyl groups are omitted for clarity)

Chem. Commun., 1997 1771



 $[C_6H_3(C\equiv C)_3]^{3-5b}$ are shown to form interesting one-dimensional polymeric solids *via* Au^I···Au^I interactions. Here, the trithiocyanuric acid demonstrates its ability to act as a bridging ligand for molecular assembly of two-dimensional polymeric solids.

The absorption spectra of complexes 1 and 2 measured in CH₂Cl₂ are very similar. As shown in Fig. 3 (insert), both complexes exhibit an intense absorption band at ca. 295 nm $(\varepsilon_{\text{max}} = 51\,320 \text{ and } 45\,650 \text{ dm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1} \text{ for complexes } \mathbf{1}$ and 2, respectively). However, complex 3 shows intense absorption at 320 nm ($\varepsilon_{max} = 44\,870$). This red shift in transition energy is not uncommon in d10-d10 systems and hence the 320 nm band in complex 3 is assigned to the $5d(d_{\sigma^*}) \rightarrow 6p(_{\sigma})$ tansition modified by Au^I...Au^I interactions.⁸ As with most gold(I) complexes, complexes 1-3 are emissive both in solution and in the solid state, showing a broad emission at ca. 520-530 nm with long lifetimes (0.37, 0.34, 0.34 µs in degassed CH₂Cl₂; 3.7, 10.4, 11.6 µs in the solid state for complexes 1, 2, and 3, respectively) upon photoexcitation at 300–400 nm (shown in Fig. 3), and these emissions are assigned to the $S \rightarrow Au$ excitation.

This work highlights the application of Au^I...Au^I interactions as well as the judicious choice for bridging ligands in the formation of a two-dimensional array of luminescent metal clusters.

We acknowledge support from The University of Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Research Grants Council, and the Croucher Foundation.



Fig. 3 The emission spectra of complexes 1–3 measured in degassed CH_2Cl_2 at room temp. (insert is the absorption spectra of complexes 1–3 (3.5 × 10⁻⁵ M) in CH_2Cl_2); (a) 1 (b) 2, (c) 3

Footnotes and References

* E-mail: cmche@hkucc.hku.hk

† [L(AuPPh₃)₃] 1: the reaction of Na₃L [61 mg, obtained from H₃L (44 mg) and NaOMe (41 mg) in MeOH (25 ml)] with Au(PPh₃)Cl (148 mg) in CH₂Cl₂–MeOH (1:1, 50 ml) at room temp. for 4 h gave a pale-yellow solid which was recrystallized by diffusion of diethyl ether into CH₂Cl₂–dmf. Pale yellow crystals of [L(AuPPh₃)₃] were obtained in *ca*. 80% yield. Its ³¹P NMR spectrum recorded in CDCl₃ shows a singlet at δ 37.01. Anal. Calc.: C, 44.07; H, 2.90; N, 2.71. Found: C, 44.28; H, 2.74; N, 2.57%. FAB: {[L(AuPPh₃)₃], *m/z* = 1552, 40%.

[L(AuPPhMe₂)₃] **2**: It was similarly prepared to give a pale-yellow solid in *ca*. 75% yield, and its ³¹P NMR spectrum recorded in CDCl₃ shows a singlet at δ 10.78. Anal. Calc.: C, 27.48; H, 2.80: N, 3.56. Found: C, 27.25; H, 2.64; N, 3.27% FAB: {[L(AuPPhMe₂)₃]}, *m*/*z* = 1180, 80%.

 $[(LAu)(AuPPhMe_2)_2]_2$ 3: slow diffusion of diethyl ether into a CH₂Cl₂dmf solution of complex 2 gave yellow crystals in *ca*. 40% yield. Anal. Calc.: C, 21.88; H, 2.11; N, 4.03. Found: C, 22.13; H, 2.34; N, 3.77% FAB: $\{[(LAu)(AuPPhMe_2)_2]_2\}, m/z = 2082, 15\%.$

(10.16)(rtime 1.2)(2), that $1 \ge 2C_3H_7$ NO: Au₃C₆₃H₅₉Au₃N₅O₂P₃S₃, M = 1698.18, monoclinic, space group P_{21}/n , a = 13.993(4), b = 23.289(6), c = 19.245(6) Å, $\beta = 92.07(3)^\circ$, U = 6267(3) Å³, Z = 4, $D_c = 1.800$ g cm⁻³, μ (Mo-K α) = 71.90 cm⁻¹, F(000) = 3249. Intensity data were collected on Enraf-Nonius CAD4 diffractometer with graphitemonochromated Mo-K α radiation ($\lambda = 0.7107$ Å), 8173 unique reflection ($2\theta < 45^\circ$) were measured 4828 with $I > 2\sigma(I)$ were used in the refinement. Refinement of positional and anisotropic thermal parameters for all nonhydrogen atoms (713 variables) converged to R = 0.047 and $R_w = 0.043$. The final Fourier difference map showed residual extrema in the range of 1.57 to -2.07 e Å⁻³.

3·2MeOH: C₄₀H₅₂Au₆N₆O₂P₄S₆, M = 2146.93, monoclinic, space group $P2_1/c$, a = 10.951(3), b = 18.827(3), c = 15.193(2) Å, $\beta = 105.90(2)^\circ$, U = 3013(1) Å³, Z = 2, $D_c = 2.367$ g cm⁻³, μ (Mo-K α) = 149.15 cm⁻¹, F(000) = 1936. Intensity data were collected on Enraf-Nonius CAD4 diffractometer with graphite-monochromated Mo-K α radiation ($\lambda = 0.7107$ Å), 3926 unique reflection ($2\theta < 45^\circ$) were measured and 2206 with $I > 2\sigma(I)$ were used in the refinement. Refinement of positional and anisotropic thermal parameters for all non-hydrogen atoms (290 variables) converged to R = 0.061 and $R_w = 0.054$. The final Fourier difference map showed residual extrema in the range of 1.80 to -2.05 e Å⁻³. CCDC 182/541.

- (a) S.-J. Shieh, X. Hong, S.-M. Peng and C.-M. Che, J. Chem. Soc., Dalton Trans., 1994, 3067; (b) B.-C. Tzeng, K.-K. Cheung and C.-M. Che, Chem. Commun., 1996, 1681; (c) B.-C. Tzeng, C.-M. Che and S.-M. Peng, J. Chem. Soc., Dalton Trans., 1996, 1769.
- H. Schmidbaur, Chem. Soc. Rev., 1995, 391; (b)
 W. Schneider, A. Bauer and H. Schmidbaur, Organometallics, 1996, 15, 5445; (c)
 H.-K. Yip, A. Schier, J. Riede and H. Schmidbaur, J. Chem. Soc., Dalton Trans., 1994, 2333; (d)
 M. Nakamoto, A. Schier and H. Schmidbaur, J. Chem. Soc., Dalton Trans., 1994, 2333; (d)
- 3 D. M. P. Mingos, J. Yau, S. Menzer and D. J. Williams, Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl., 1995, 34, 1894.
- 4 (a) P. M. V. Calcar, M. M. Olmstead and A. L. Balch, J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun., 1995, 1773; (b) P. M. V. Calcar, M. M. Olmstead and A. L. Balch, Chem. Commun., 1996, 2597.
- 5 (a) M. J. Irwin, G. Jia, N. C. Payne and R. J. Puddephatt, Organometallics, 1996, 15, 51; (b) M. J. Irwin, L. M. Muir, K. W. Muir, R. J. Puddephatt and D. S. Yufit, Chem. Commun., 1997, 219.
- 6 (a) M. Contel, J. Garrido, M. C. Gimeno, P. G. Jones, A. Laguna and M. Laguna, *Organometallics*, 1996, **15**, 4939; (b) R. Narayanaswamy, M. A. Young, E. Parkhurst, M. Ouellette, M. E. Kerr, D. M. Ho, R. C. Elder, A. E. Bruce and M. R. M. Bruce, *Inorg. Chem.*, 1993, **32**, 2506.
- 7 R. M. Dávila, A. Elduque, T. Grant, R. J. Staples and J. P. Fackler, Jr., *Inorg. Chem.*, 1993, **32**, 1749.
- 8 (a) C.-M. Che, H.-L. Kwong and C.-K. Poon, J. Chem. Soc., Dalton Trans., 1990, 3215; (b) C.-M. Che, H.-L. Kwong, V. W.-W. Yam and K.-C. Cho, J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun., 1989, 885; (c) C. King, J. C. Wang, M. N. I. Khan and J. P. Fackler, Jr., Inorg. Chem., 1989, 28, 2145.
- 9 W. B. Jones, J. Yuan, R. Narayanaswamy, M. A. Young, R. C. Elder, A. E. Bruce and M. R. M. Bruce, *Inorg. Chem.*, 1995, 34, 1996.

Received in Cambridge, UK, 4th June 1997; Com. 7/03891G