

## Photoreactive Gold(I) Macrocycles with Diphosphine and *trans, trans*-Muconate Ligands

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### Electronic Supplementary Information

15 **Synthesis of Complexes:** All reactions were performed under pure dry nitrogen or argon using standard Schlenk techniques and apparatus used were wrapped with aluminum foil as the gold compounds are light sensitive. Au<sub>2</sub>(μ-dppm)Cl<sub>2</sub> and Au<sub>2</sub>(μ-dppe)Cl<sub>2</sub> were prepared according to standard literature procedures.<sup>6c</sup>

20 **1:** Silver trifluoroacetate (0.044 g, 0.2 mmol) was added to a suspension of Au<sub>2</sub>(dppm)Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.085 g, 0.1mmol) in THF (10 mL). The mixture was stirred for 1h and then filtered through Celite to remove AgCl. An aqueous solution of the Na<sub>2</sub>muco acid obtained by neutralizing H<sub>2</sub>muco (0.014 g, 0.1 mmol) with 0.5 M NaOH in H<sub>2</sub>O (4 mL) was added to the resulting filtrate. After stirring for 2 h, the white solid product was collected by filtration, washed with THF and diethyl ether  
25 and dried under vacuum. The residue was then recrystallized from C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH (2:1). Yield: 38.1%. NMR in d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO: δ(<sup>1</sup>H) 7.35-7.78 (m, 40H, Ph), 4.61 (t, 4H), 6.07 (m, 4H), 7.02 (m, 4H); δ(<sup>31</sup>P) 26.4 (s); IR(KBr)/cm<sup>-1</sup>: ν(C=O) 1618, ν(P-C<sub>Ph</sub>) 1102. Elemental analysis (%) calcd. for C<sub>64</sub>H<sub>60</sub>Au<sub>4</sub>O<sub>10</sub>P<sub>4</sub>: C: 40.5, H: 2.83; Found: C: 40.34, H: 2.77. FAB mass: m/z = 1837.3 (calcd 1836.8)

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**2:** Compound **2** was obtained similar to **1**, but Au<sub>2</sub>(dppe)Cl<sub>2</sub> was used instead of Au<sub>2</sub>(dppm)Cl<sub>2</sub>. The residue was recrystallized from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH (1:1). Yield: 56.5%. NMR in d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO: δ(<sup>1</sup>H) 7.53-7.89 (m, 40H, Ph), 2.90 (d, 8H), 6.07 (m, 4H), 7.00 (m, 4H); δ(<sup>31</sup>P) 24.3 (s); IR(KBr)/cm<sup>-1</sup>: ν(C=O) 1622, ν(P-C<sub>Ph</sub>) 1104. Elemental analysis (%) calcd. for  
35 C<sub>67</sub>H<sub>64</sub>Au<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub>O<sub>9</sub>P<sub>4</sub>: C: 41.2, H: 3.00; Found: C: 41.69, H: 3.05. FAB mass: m/z = 1865.5 (calcd 1864.9)

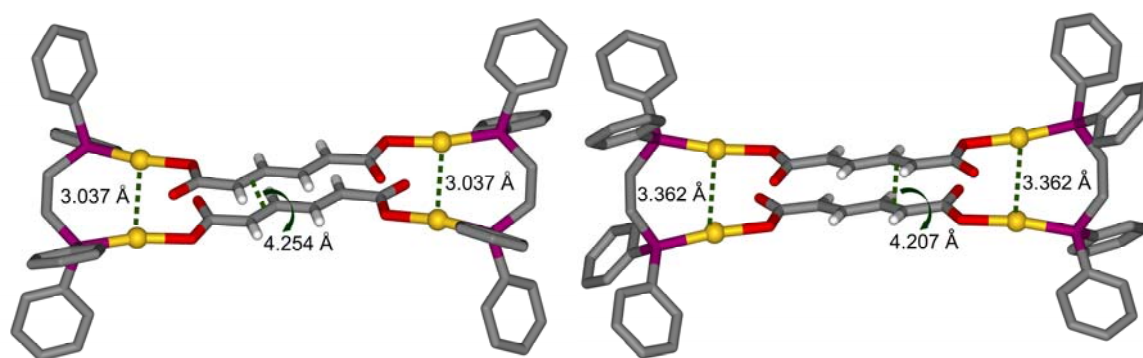
**UV irradiation of complexes:** Photodimerization reactions were carried out using fibre optics of MAX-150 xenon light source (150 W) of 100% intensity and wave length range 280-350 nm.

**1:** 5-10 mg of compound **1** was packed between two Pyrex glass slides and was irradiated under 5 UV irradiation for 1h on each side of the glass slide respectively. For photodimerization in solution, 5 mg of compound **1** was dissolved in  $d_6$ -DMSO and the NMR tube was irradiated under UV irradiation for 1h. NMR in  $d_6$ -DMSO:  $\delta(^1\text{H})$  7.38-7.73 (m, 40H, Ph), 4.59 (t, 4H), 3.78 (s, 4H), 5.75 (s, 4H);  $\delta(^{31}\text{P})$  27.2 (s).

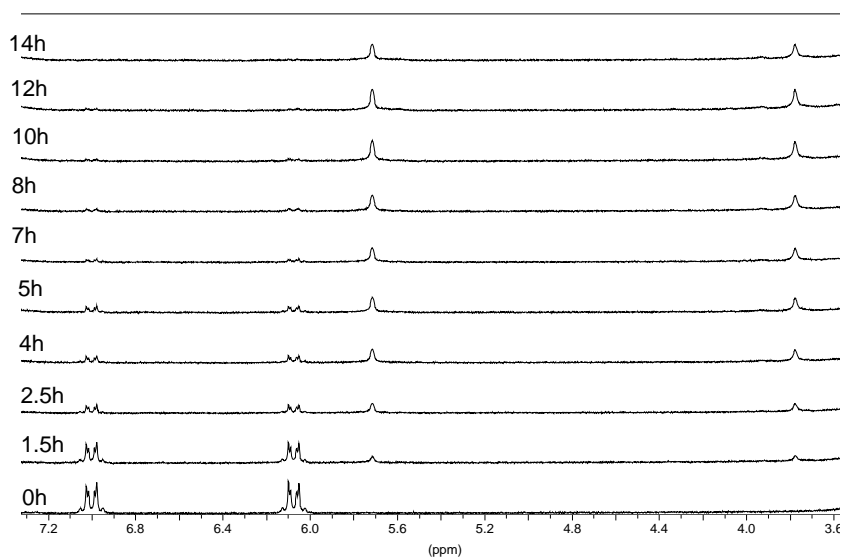
**10 2:** Compound **2** was irradiated similar to **1** to obtain the photodimerized product. NMR in  $d_6$ -DMSO:  $\delta(^1\text{H})$  7.55-7.86 (m, 40H, Ph), 2.87 (d, 8H), 3.78 (s, 4H), 5.71 (s, 4H);  $\delta(^{31}\text{P})$  27.4 (s).

**Crystal Data: 1**,  $\text{C}_{64}\text{H}_{60}\text{Au}_4\text{O}_{10}\text{P}_4$  (for. wt. 1900.87). Monoclinic space group  $P2_1/c$ ,  $a = 11.2747(10)$ ,  $b = 17.2947(14)$ ,  $c = 16.2187(14)$  Å,  $\beta = 103.224(2)^\circ$ ,  $V = 3078.7(5)$  Å<sup>3</sup>,  $Z = 2$ ,  
15  $\rho_{\text{calcd}} = 2.051$  g.cm<sup>-3</sup>,  $\mu = 9.663$  mm<sup>-1</sup>,  $T = 223(2)$  K,  $R1 = 0.0432$ ,  $wR2 = 0.0885$ , GOF = 0.987 for 7054 total reflections of which 5412 reflections have  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ,  $\text{MoK}\alpha$ -Ray ( $\lambda = 71,073$  pm) and  $R(\text{int}) = 0.0598$ . Each formula unit has two MeOH in the lattice. **CCDC:836596**.

**2**,  $\text{C}_{67}\text{H}_{64}\text{Au}_4\text{Cl}_4\text{O}_9\text{P}_4$  (for. wt. 2066.73). Triclinic space group  $P\bar{1}$ ,  $a = 13.1309(8)$ ,  $b = 20$  14.7191(8),  $c = 18.2436(11)$  Å,  $\alpha = 80.685(1)$ ,  $\beta = 81.181(1)$ ,  $\gamma = 87.496(1)^\circ$ ,  $V = 3437.8(3)$  Å<sup>3</sup>,  $Z = 2$ ,  $\rho_{\text{calcd}} = 1.997$  g.cm<sup>-3</sup>,  $\mu = 8.811$  mm<sup>-1</sup>,  $T = 223(2)$  K,  $R1 = 0.0547$ ,  $wR2 = 0.1412$ , GOF = 0.978 for 15638 total reflections of which 12074 reflections have  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ,  $\text{MoK}\alpha$ -Ray ( $\lambda = 71,073$  pm) and  $R(\text{int}) = 0.0404$ . The molecule crystallized with two  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  and one MeOH. Of these one of the  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  was disordered with two  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$  fragments pivoted on an un-disordered Cl4.  
25 The occupancy was refined to 0.48(3). Distance constraints were applied to this with the option 'dfix'. **CCDC:836597**.

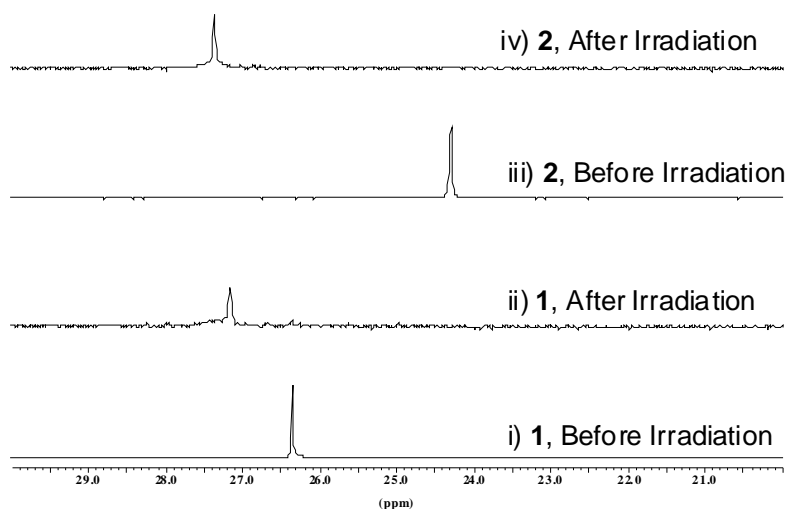


**Fig S1.** Molecular structures of the two independent units of **2** (left and right). The hydrogen atoms and solvents are omitted for clarity.



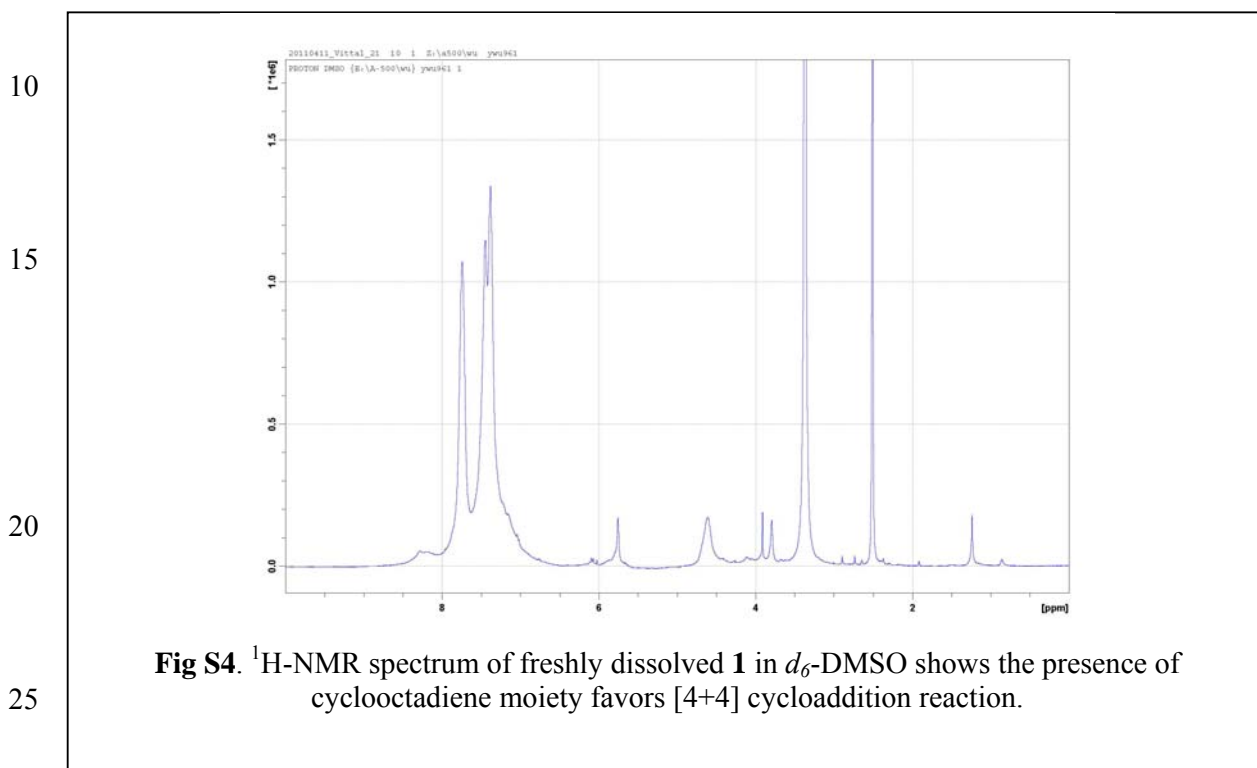
**Fig S2.** Stack plots of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR during the progress of photodimerization reaction of complex **2** irradiated at room temperature. Only selected region 3.6-7.2 is shown for the clarity.

The  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectra were also recorded. The singlet peak at 26.4 ppm for **1** is shifted slightly to 27.2 ppm and 24.3 ppm for **2** is shifted to 27.4 ppm upon dimerization. This is consistent with the formation of the highly symmetrical cyclooctadiene complex which corroborates with the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR data.

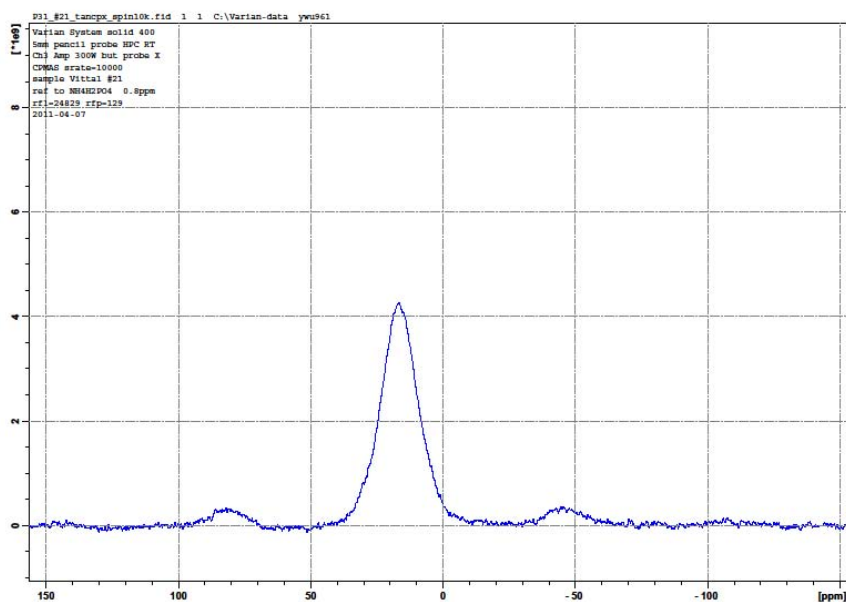


**Fig S3.**  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectra of complex **1** in  $d_6$ -DMSO i) before and ii) after irradiation and **2** in  $d_6$ -DMSO iii) before and iv) after irradiation under UV lamp.

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We have recorded solid state  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  and  $^{31}\text{P}$ -NMR spectra of **1** to shed further lights on the mechanism of formation of [4+4] products. While  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  were too broad to give any useful information,  $^{31}\text{P}$ -NMR (given below) spectrum gave a single line indicating the formation of a symmetrical compound, i.e., [4+4] product. The spectrum is given below.



**Fig. S5.** Solid state  $^{31}\text{P}$ -NMR spectrum of the sample **1** after irradiation. The presence of single peak confirms that it is [4+4] product.