# **Supplementary Information**

# Fischer-type tungsten carbeniate, carbene and carbyne complexes bearing unusual heterocyclic substituents: interaction with gold(I) fragments

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#### Molecular structures of 7.0.5C4H8O and 8

Data associated with the crystal structures are summarised in <sup>10</sup> Table S1. The crystal structure of **7** contains half a thf molecule per formula unit that is disordered around a centre of inversion, it could not be modelled. Its electron density was removed using the Squeeze routine in the Platon set of programmes.<sup>S1</sup> N4 was refined by constraining it to approximate <sup>15</sup> isotropic behaviour. CCDC reference numbers 744828 and

744829 for  $7.0.5C_4H_8O$  and dicarbonylchloro[(4-methylphenyl)methylidyne]bis(pyridine)tungsten, **8**, respectively.

The molecular structure of **7** unambiguously shows the AuCl fragment to be coordinated to the formal W–C triple <sup>20</sup> bond. An alternative site at the thiazole imine nitrogen atom, which, owing to the neighbouring piperidinyl group, should exhibit sufficient electron density to also act as a ligand towards AuCl, is not preferred. This may also be due to an attractive Au<sup>...</sup>S contact which can be formed if the gold atom <sup>25</sup> is coordinated to the carbyne bond.



 $\begin{array}{l} \label{eq:structure} \textbf{Fig S1} \mbox{ Molecular structure of } \textbf{7} \cdot 0.5 C_4 H_8 O, \mbox{ the disordered thf molecule is not shown. Selected bond lengths/Å and angles/°: Au(1)–W(1) 2.7826(7), W(1)–C(1) 1.890(13), Au(1)–C(1) 2.029(10), W(1)–Cl(1) 2.451(3), 30 \mbox{ Au}(1)–Cl(2) 2.281(3), Au(1)–C(1) 3.361(3), W(1)–C(21) 1.973(10), W(1)–C(22) 1.976(12), W(1)–N(3) 2.269(9), W(1)–N(4) 2.246(9), Cl(1)–W(1)–C(1) 152.3(3) W(1)–C(1)–C(10) 152.4(8). \end{array}$ 

Chloro-*cis*-dicarbonyl-*cis*-bis(pyridine)[(4-methylphenyl)methylidyne]tungsten, **8**, was synthesised according to the

<sup>35</sup> synthetic protocol in the publication. The molecular structure, shown in Fig. S2, also confirms the *cis*-dicarbonyl and *cis*-bis(pyridine) configuration.



**Fig. S2** Molecular structure of **8**. Selected bond lengths/Å and angles/°: <sup>45</sup> W(1)–C(1) 1.806(9), W(1)–Cl(1) 2.524(2), W(1)–C(9) 1.994(8), W(1)– C(10) 1.984(8), W(1)–N(1) 2.261(7), W(1)–N(2) 2.269(7), C(1)–C(2) 1.456(12), Cl(1)–W(1)–C(1) 171.2(2), W(1)–C(1)–C(2) 172.4(6).

<b>Fable S1</b>	Crystallographic	and data	collection	parameters

Compound	7.0.5C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O	8			
Empirical formula	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>21</sub> AuCl <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>2</sub> SW·	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>17</sub> ClN <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> W			
1	0.5C4H8O	20 17 2 2			
$M_{ m r}$	881.25	536.66			
Crystal habit	Orange plate	Orange needle			
Crystal size/mm	$0.10 \times 0.09 \times 0.04$	$0.32 \times 0.09 \times 0.04$			
Crystal system	Triclinic	Monoclinic			
Space group	P1 (No. 2)	C2/c (No. 15)			
a/Å	10.603(2)	26.655(4)			
b/Å	11.881(2)	7.127(2)			
c/Å	11.932(2)	23.559(4)			
a/°	70.039(2)	90			
βl°	83.042(2)	121.419(2)			
γl°	69.143(3)	90			
V/Å <sup>3</sup>	1320.2(3)	3819(1)			
$Z, D_c/Mg m^{-3}$	2, 2.126	8, 1.867			
$\mu$ (Mo-K $\alpha$ )/mm <sup>-1</sup>	10.208	6.205			
No. of reflections	14111	10600			
Unique reflections	5400	3889			
$R_{\rm int}$	0.0489	0.0431			
Data, restraints,	4425, 6, 289	3340, 0, 236			
parameters					
F(000)	828	2064			
$R_1, w R_2^a [I > 2\sigma(I)]$	0.0623, 0.1199	0.0500, 0.1295			
$R_1$ , $wR_2$ (all data)	0.0806, 0.1259	0.0586, 0.1349			
Goodness-of-fit	1.218	1.064			
$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_0)^2 + aP^2 + bP]$ where $P = (F_0^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$					

## Synthesis of 2-phenylthiazole

The compound was prepared following a modified literature procedure.<sup>S2</sup> In a round-bottom flask equipped with a reflux condenser thiobenzamide (4.33 g, 31.6 mmol) was dissolved <sup>5</sup> in acetone (30 cm<sup>3</sup>). 1-Bromo-2,2-diethoxyethane (5.0 cm<sup>3</sup>, 32

- mmol) was added with a syringe followed by water (2 cm<sup>3</sup>) and *ca*. 2–3 mg of toluenesulfonic acid monohydrate. After refluxing for 5 h, all volatiles were removed *in vacuo*, the residue was treated with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (40 cm<sup>3</sup>) and 0.5 M NaOH
- <sup>10</sup> solution (70 cm<sup>3</sup>). The aqueous phase was washed twice with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (40 cm<sup>3</sup>) and the combined organic phase distilled in an oil pump vacuum to yield 3.82 g (75%) of a yellowish oil boiling between 96.5 and 98.5 °C.  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 7.98 (2 H, m, *o*-Ph), 7.42 (3 H, m, *m* and *p*-Ph), 7.87 (1 H, d, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>CH</sub>)
- <sup>15</sup> 3.2, NCH) and 7.30 (1 H, d,  ${}^{3}J_{CH}$  3.2, SCH).  $\delta_{C}$  (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 168.2 (s, C2 thiazole), 143.6 (s, C4 thiazole), 133.5 (s, *i*-Ph), 129.9 (s, *p*-Ph), 128.8 (s, *m*-Ph), 126.5 (s, *o*-Ph) and 118.7 (s, C5 thiazole).

#### Synthesis of the control product,

### <sup>20</sup> dicarbonylchloro[(4-methylphenyl)methylidyne]bis(pyridine)tungsten, 8<sup>S3</sup>

Bis(trichloromethyl)carbonate (104 mg, 0.35 mmol) and tetramethylammonium [(4-methylphenyl)carbonyl]pentacarbonyltungstate (525 mg, 1.02 mmol) were dissolved in

- <sup>25</sup> dichloromethane (25 cm<sup>3</sup> each) and cooled to -78 °C. The triphosgene solution was transferred to the acylmetallate *via* a Teflon cannula and the homogeneous solution was stirred for 1.5 h, whereupon it was warmed to 0°C. Freshly distilled pyridine (1 cm<sup>3</sup>, excess) was added with a glass pipet and the
- <sup>30</sup> mixture stirred at room temperature for another 25 min. After filtration under inert conditions and removal of all volatiles *in vacuo* 476 mg (87%) of yellow needles were obtained. Mp. 115°C (decomposition without melting).  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 9.09 (4 H, m, *o*-CH pyridine), 7.82 (4 H, m, *p*-CH
- <sup>35</sup> pyridine), 7.33 (4 H, m, *m*-CH pyridine), 7.27 (2 H, m, *o*- $C_6H_4$ ), 7.12 (2 H, m, *m*- $C_6H_4$ ) and 2.31 (3 H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>).  $\delta_C$  (75.4 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 263.7 (s/d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>WC</sub> 196,  $C_{carbyne}$ ), 221.5 (s/d, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>WC</sub> 171, CO), 153.1 (s, *o*-pyridine), 147.0 (s/d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>WC</sub> 21, WCC), 138.6 (s, *p*-pyridine), 138.4 (s, CCH<sub>3</sub>), 129.5 (s, *o/m*- $C_6H_4$ ), 129.5 (s, *o/m*- $C_6H_4$ ),
- <sup>40</sup> 129.0 (s, *m*/*o*-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>), 125.4 (s, *m*-pyridine) and 21.6 (s, CH<sub>3</sub>).  $v_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$  1978vs (A') and 1876vs (A").

### References

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