



The 8th International Electronic Conference on Medicinal Chemistry (ECMC 2022)

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Interaction of monosubstituted paddlewheel diruthenium compounds with proteins: a structural study

Chaired by **DR. ALFREDO BERZAL-HERRANZ**;
Co-Chaired by **PROF. DR. MARIA EMÍLIA SOUSA**



pharmaceuticals



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¹ Department of Inorganic Chemistry, Chemistry Faculty, Complutense University, Madrid, Spain

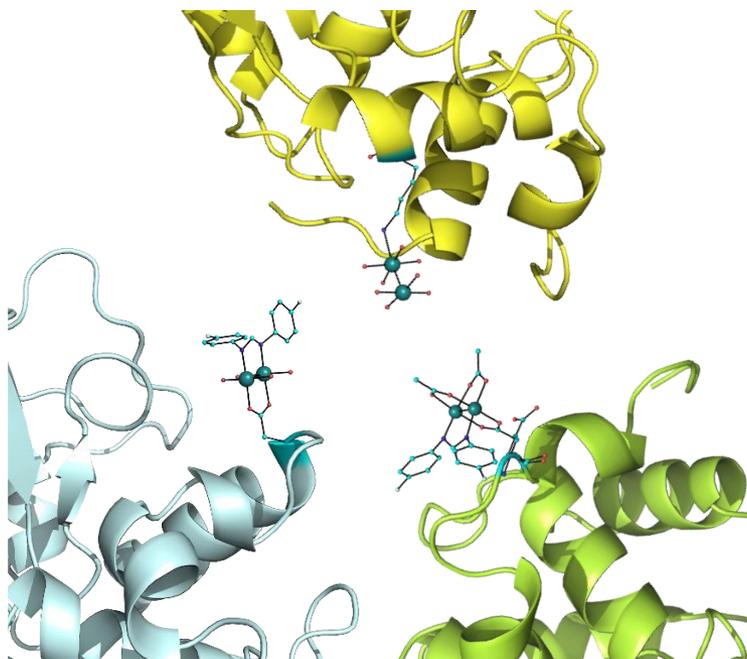
² Department of Chemical Sciences, University of Naples Federico II, Naples, Italy.



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Interaction of monosubstituted paddlewheel diruthenium compounds with proteins: a structural study



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Abstract:

Paddlewheel diruthenium complexes have interesting pharmaceutical properties. The diruthenium tetracetate complex ($[\text{Ru}_2\text{Cl}(\text{O}_2\text{CCH}_3)_4]$), the prototype of the diruthenium compound family, has been used to prepare promising anticancer agents (i.e., against glioma tumor models and glioblastoma). The interaction of $[\text{Ru}_2\text{Cl}(\text{O}_2\text{CCH}_3)_4]$ with proteins has been already investigated: diruthenium moieties bind Asp side chains upon releasing of one acetate ligand; a second acetate is replaced by two water molecules in each diruthenium center. Recently, it has been suggested that the use of bulky equatorial substituents may constitute an approach to increase the selectivity of diruthenium complexes toward anticancer targets. To study the effect of equatorial ligand replacement on the reactivity of diruthenium compounds with proteins, we solved high-resolution X-ray structures of adducts formed upon reaction of the model protein lysozyme with the monosubstituted complex $[\text{Ru}_2\text{Cl}(\text{L-L})(\text{O}_2\text{CCH}_3)_3]$ (L-L = *N,N'*-bis(4-fluorophenyl)formamidinate). Results indicate that these complexes bind the protein via coordination of the Ru-Ru core to the side chain of Asp residues at the equatorial coordination site, losing only one acetate ligand. Protein binding occurs *cis* or *trans* to the L-L ligands that remain attached to the dimetallic center. The side chain of a Lys and even main chain carbonyl groups can coordinate diruthenium core at the axial site. These data help to understand the reactivity of paddlewheel diruthenium complexes with proteins, providing useful information for the design of new diruthenium compounds with improved pharmacological properties.

Keywords: artificial metalloproteins; paddlewheel diruthenium complexes; protein-metal adducts; ruthenium compounds.



Introduction

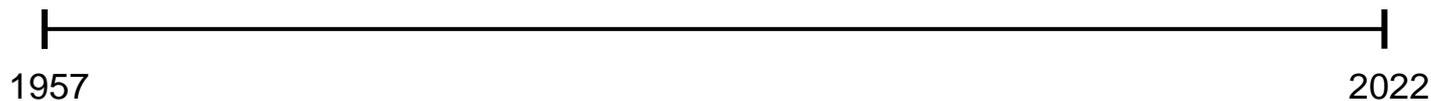
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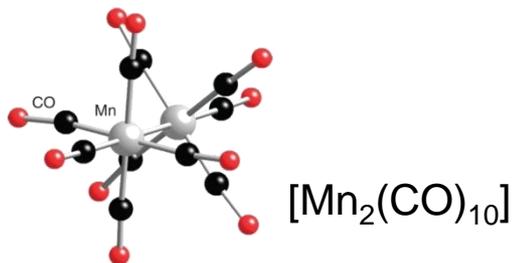
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Introduction



1st compound with a
single **M-M** bond



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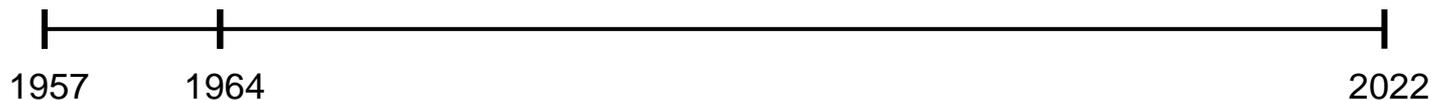
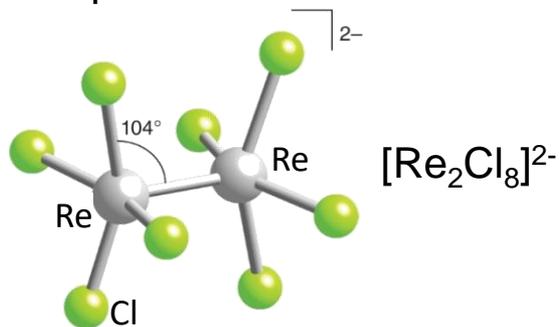
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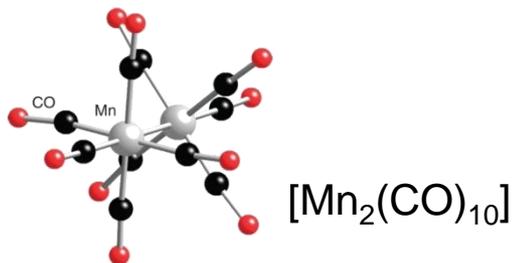


Introduction

1st compound with a multiple **M-M bond**

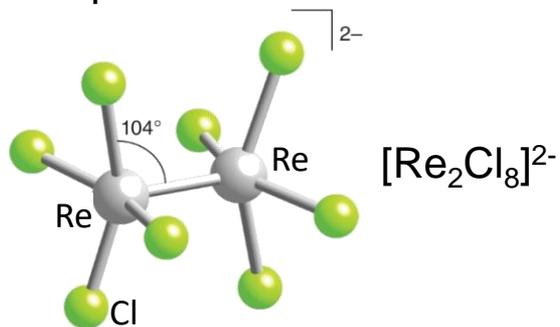


1st compound with a single **M-M bond**



Introduction

1st compound with a multiple **M-M bond**



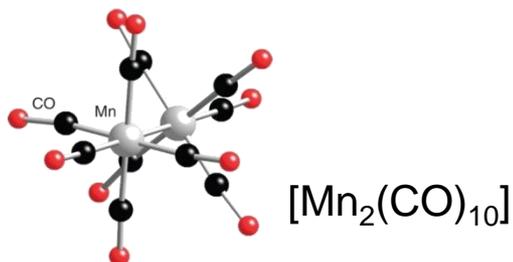
1957

1964

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Molecular compounds with M-M bond

1st compound with a single **M-M bond**



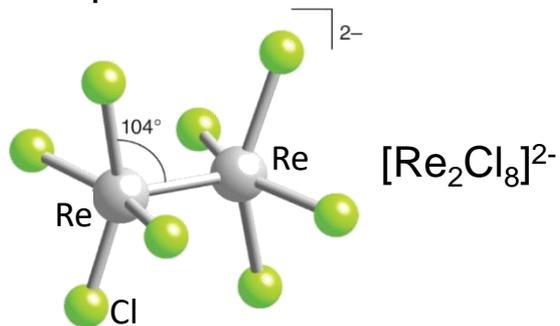
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Introduction

1st compound with a multiple **M-M bond**



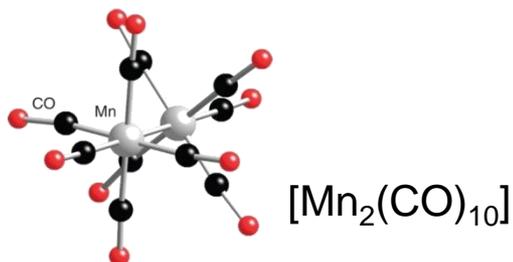
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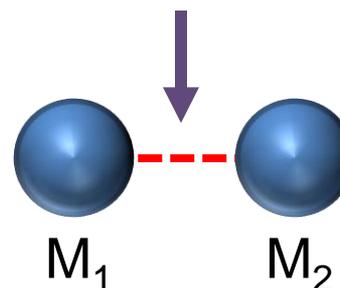
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Molecular compounds with M-M bond

1st compound with a single **M-M bond**



Single or multiple



$$\begin{matrix} M_1 = M_2 \\ M_1 \neq M_2 \end{matrix}$$

- Transition metals

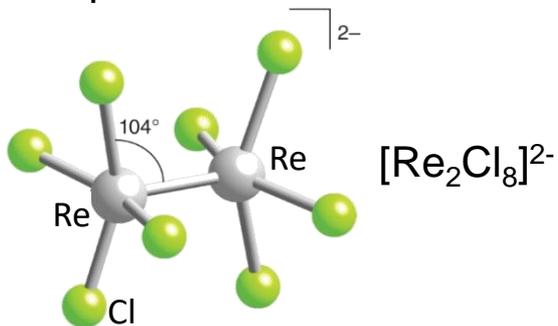
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Introduction

1st compound with a multiple **M-M bond**



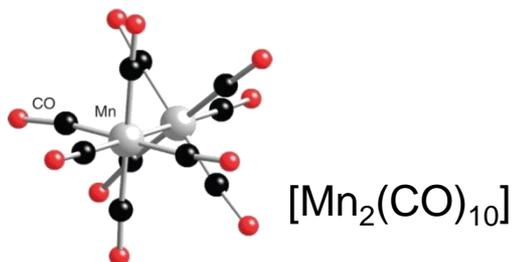
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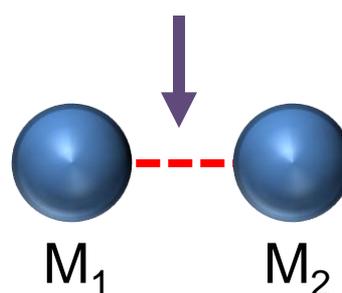
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Molecular compounds with M-M bond

1st compound with a single **M-M bond**



Single or multiple



$$\begin{aligned} M_1 &= M_2 \\ M_1 &\neq M_2 \end{aligned}$$

- Transition metals
- *s*-, *p*-, *f*-block elements

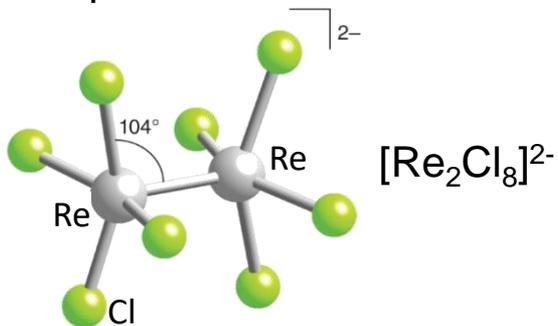
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Introduction

1st compound with a multiple **M-M bond**



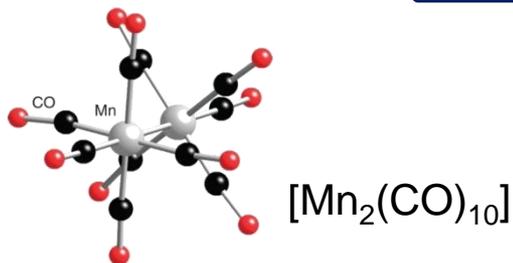
1957

1964

1969

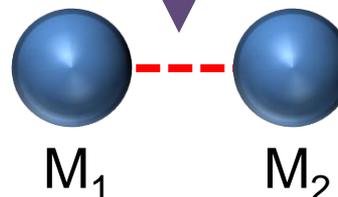
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1st compound with a single **M-M bond**



Ru_2^{5+}

Single or multiple



$M_1 = M_2$
 $M_1 \neq M_2$

- Transition metals
- *s*-, *p*-, *f*-block elements

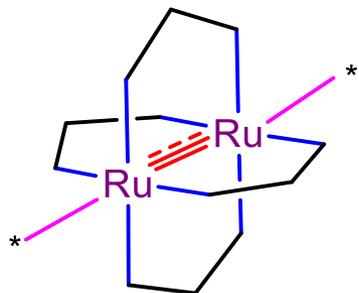
Molecular compounds with M-M bond

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Introduction



Paddlewheel
structure

-  Equatorial positions
-  Axial positions

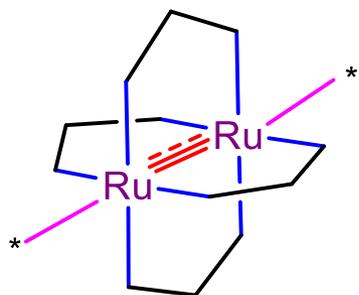
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01-30 NOVEMBER 2022 | ONLINE



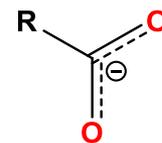
Introduction



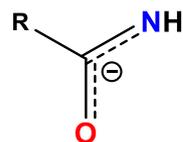
Paddlewheel structure

- Equatorial positions
- Axial positions

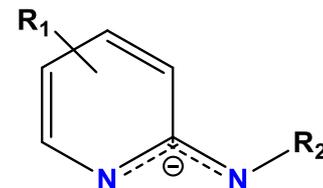
Common ligands



O,O-donor



O,N-donor



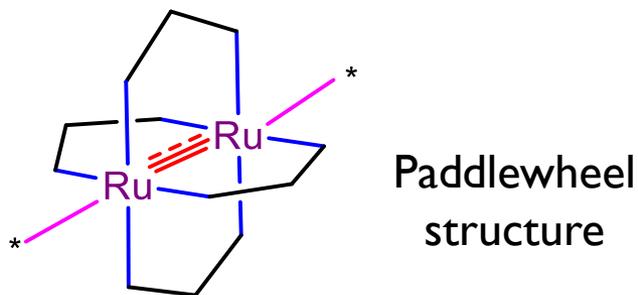
N,N-donor

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01-30 NOVEMBER 2022 | ONLINE

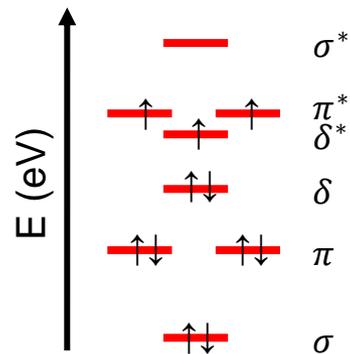


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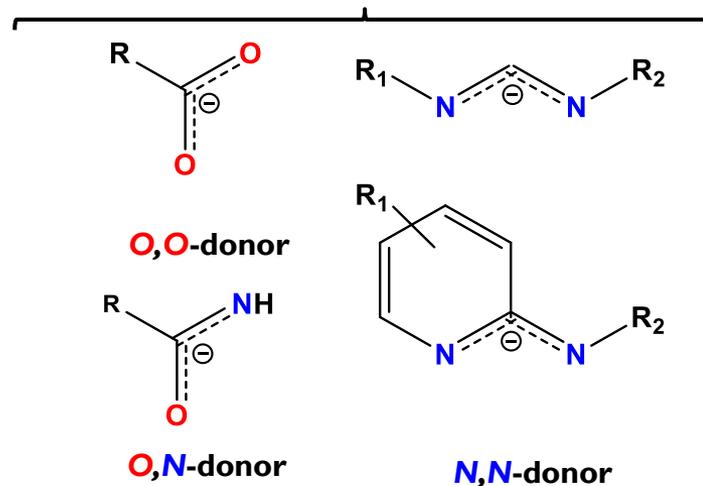


- Equatorial positions
- Axial positions

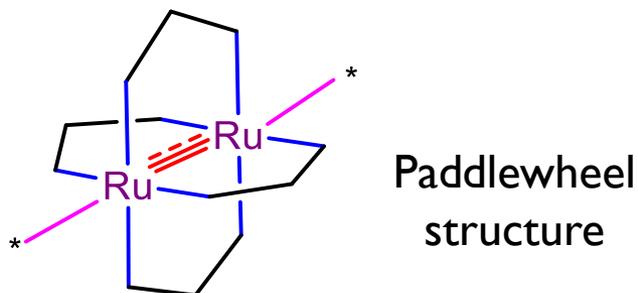
Molecular orbital diagram



Common ligands

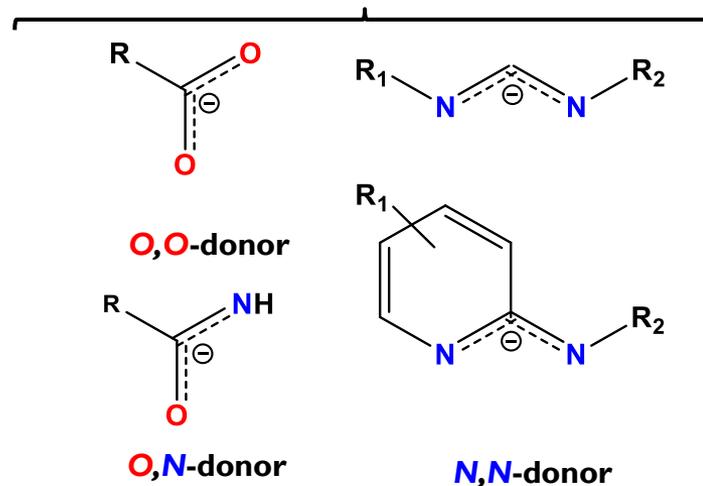


Introduction

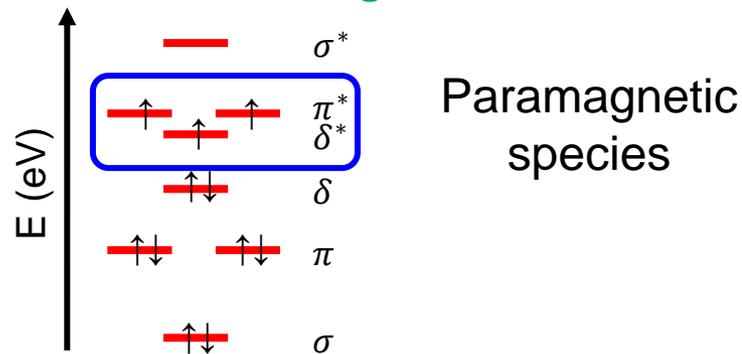


- Equatorial positions
- Axial positions

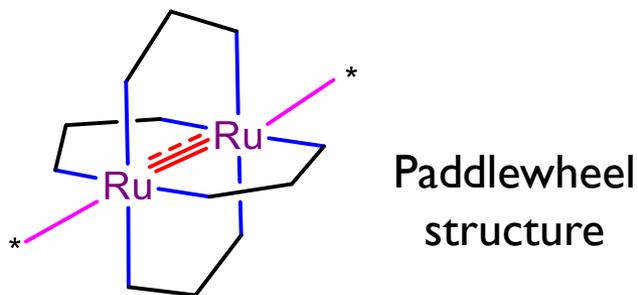
Common ligands



Molecular orbital diagram

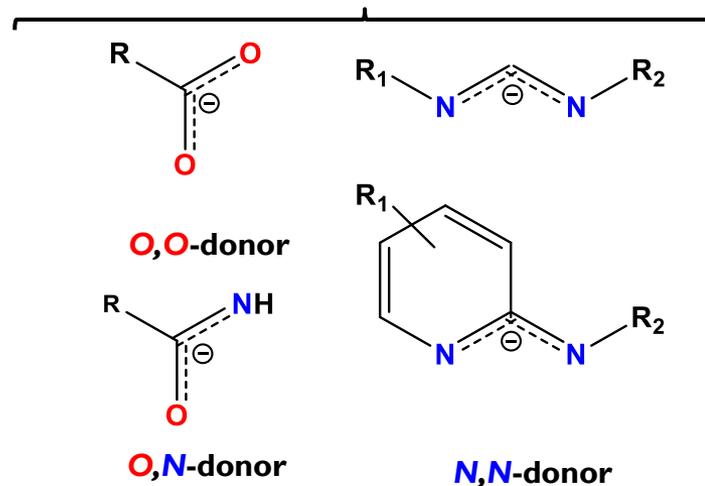


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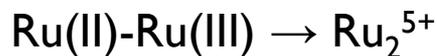
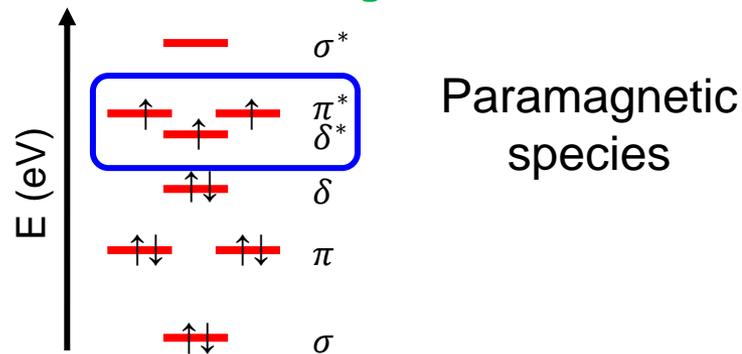


- Equatorial positions
- Axial positions

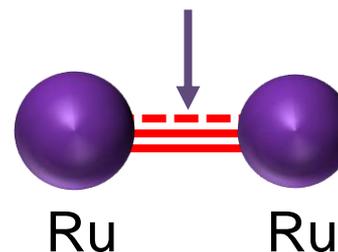
Common ligands



Molecular orbital diagram

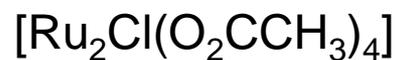
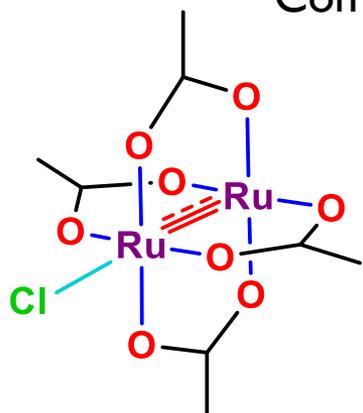


O.E. M-M = 2.5



Introduction

Common starting material



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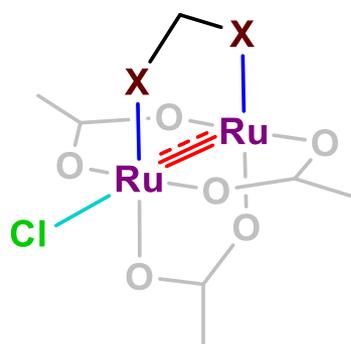
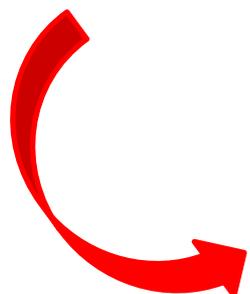
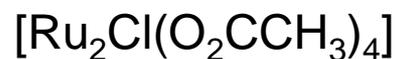
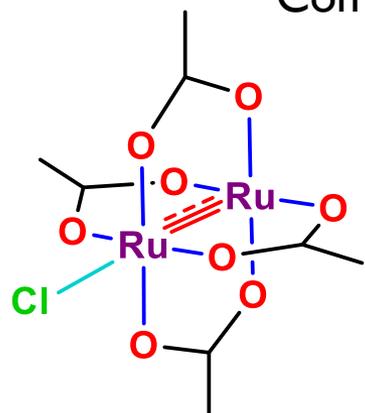
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01-30 NOVEMBER 2022 | ONLINE

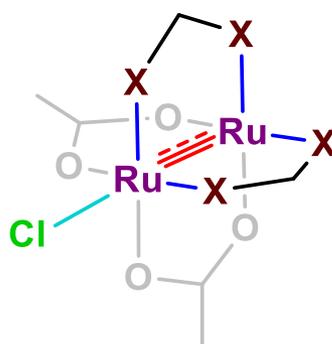


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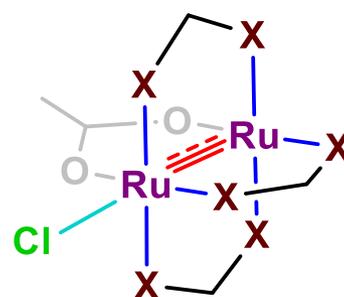
Common starting material



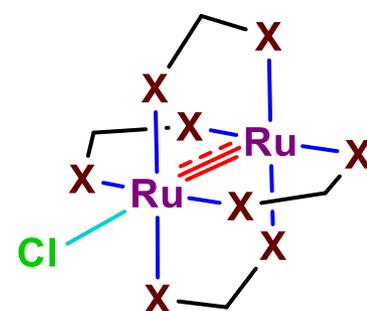
Mono-



Di-



Tri-



Tetra-

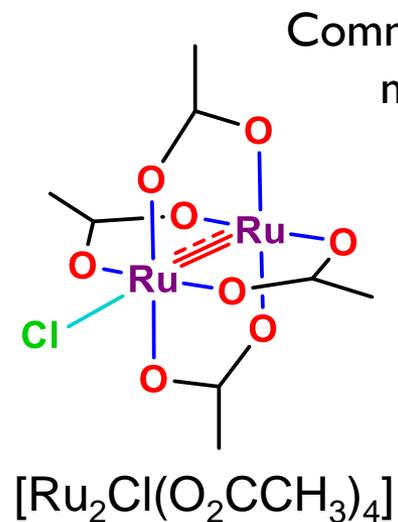
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01-30 NOVEMBER 2022 | ONLINE



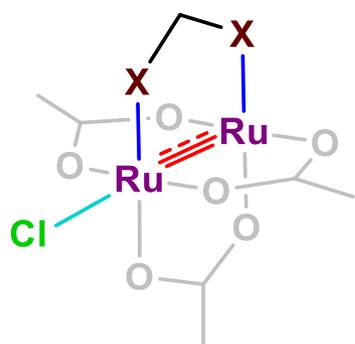
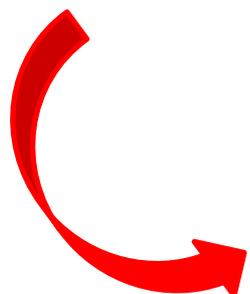
Introduction



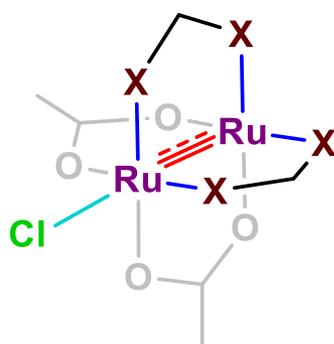
Biochemistry

Medicinal chemistry

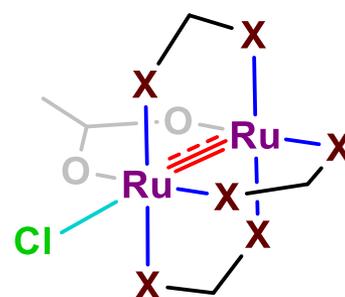
Catalysis



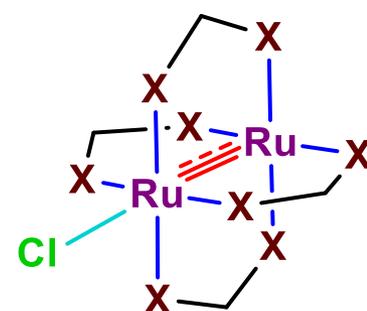
Mono-



Di-



Tri-



Tetra-

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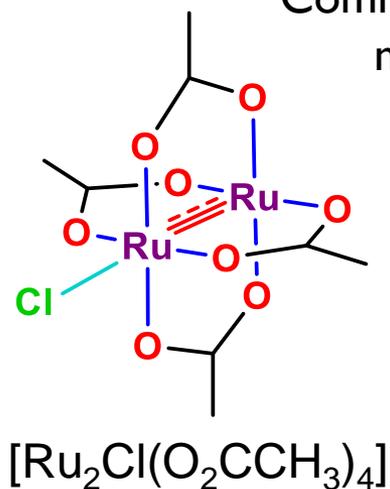
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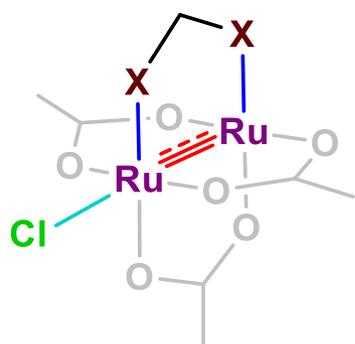
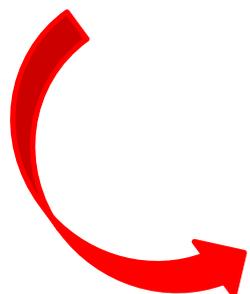
Common starting material



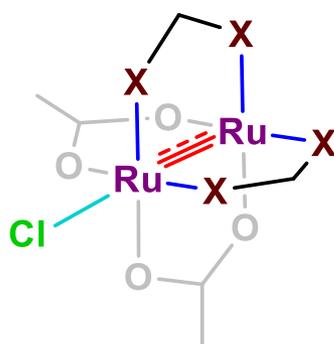
Biochemistry

Medicinal chemistry

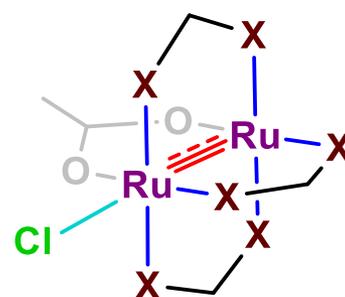
Catalysis



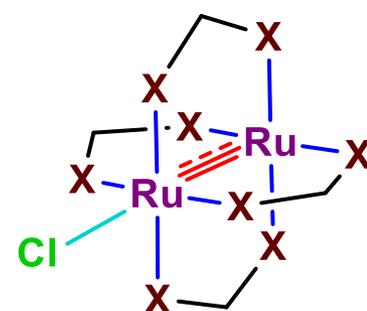
Mono-



Di-



Tri-



Tetra-

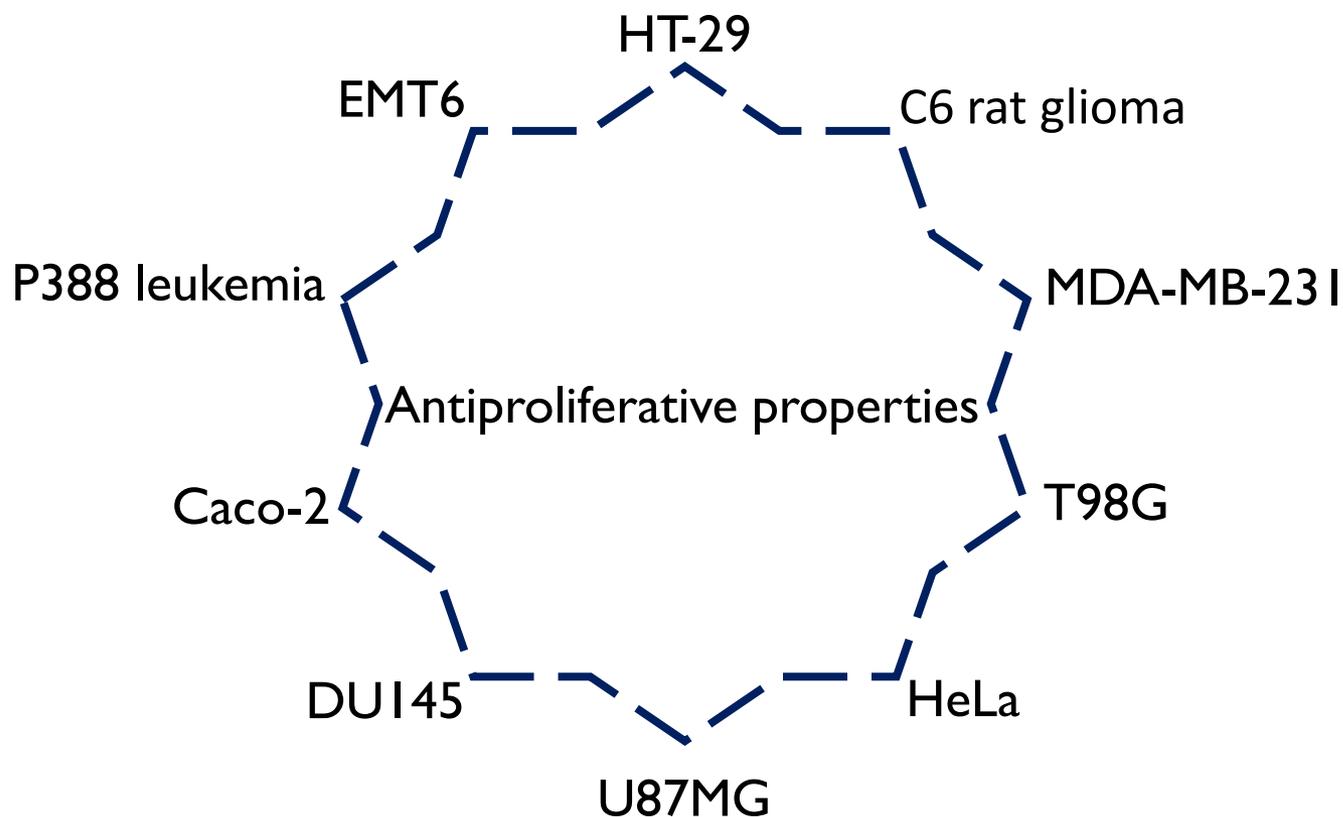
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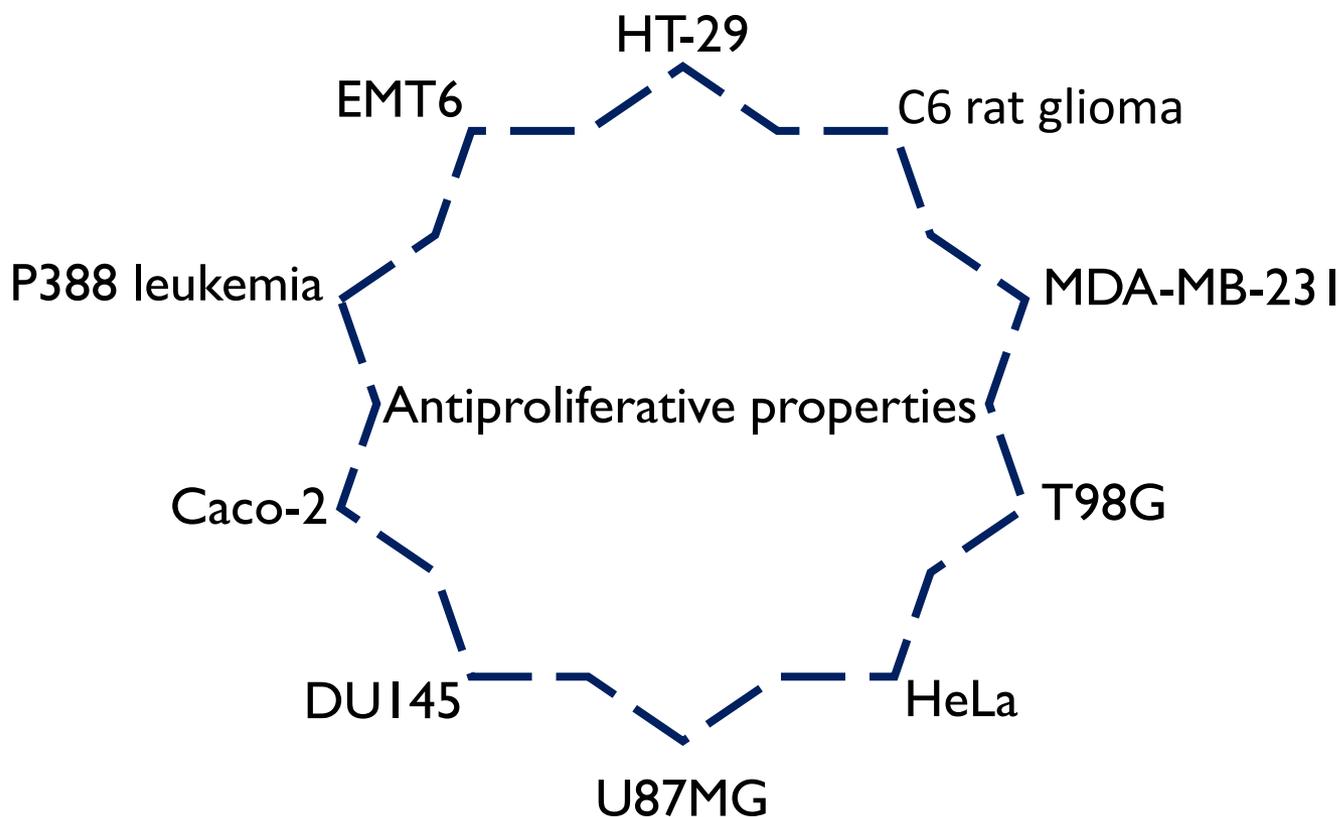
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Introduction



Introduction



Major problem



Poor water
solubility

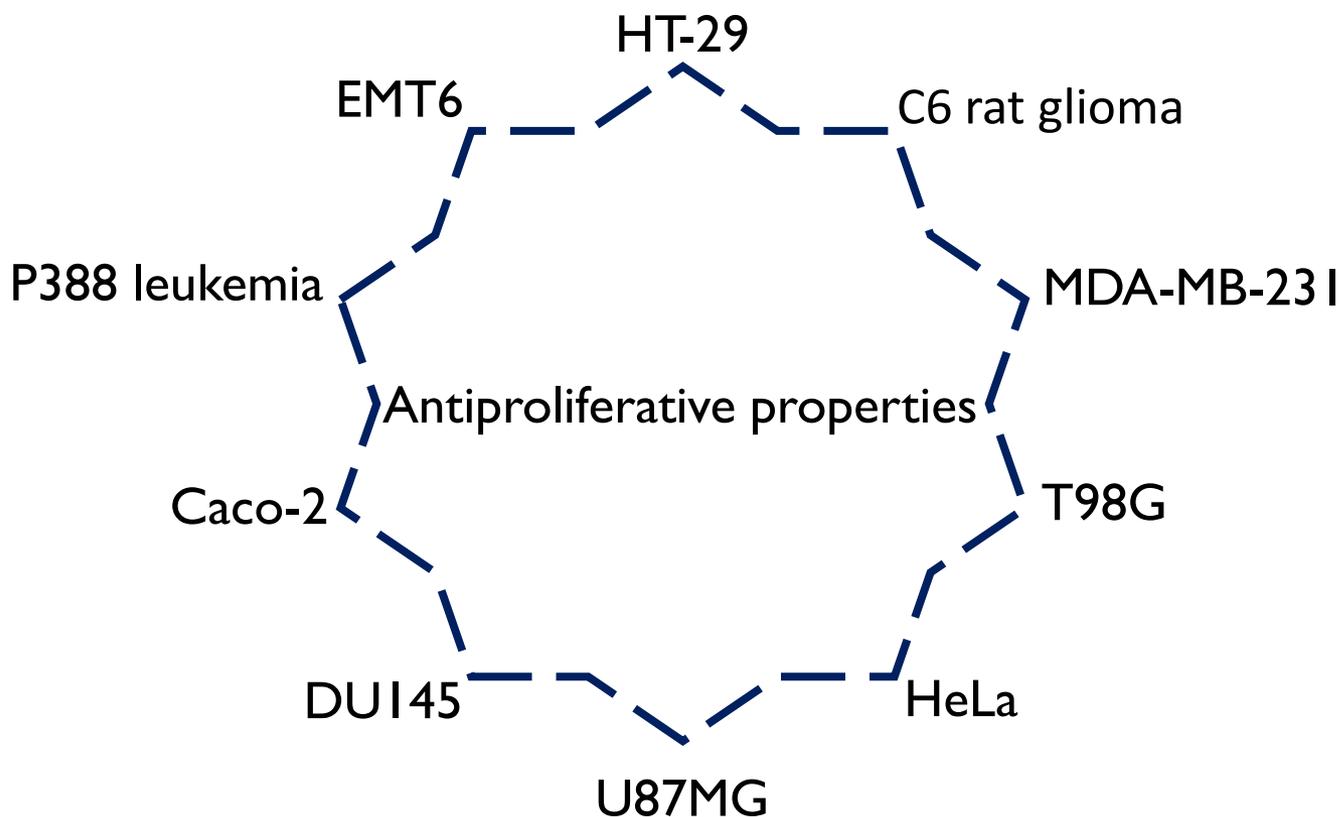
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Introduction



Major problem



Poor water
solubility

Solution



Encapsulation
techniques

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Introduction

Structure – Activity relationship

Angewandte
Communications

Metal–Protein Interactions

DOI: 10.1002/anie.201403337

Unusual Structural Features in the Lysozyme Derivative of the Tetrakis(acetato)chloridodiruthenium(II,III) Complex**

Luigi Messori,* Tiziano Marzo, Rute Nazaré Fernandes Sanches, Hanif-Ur-Rehman, Denise de Oliveira Silva,* and Antonello Merlino*

Journal of Coordination Chemistry, 2015
Vol. 68, Nos. 17–18, 3209–3228, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00958972.2015.1074684>

Spectroscopic studies on interactions of the tetrakis(acetato)chloridodiruthenium(II,III) complex and the Ru₂(II,III)-NSAID-derived metallodrugs of ibuprofen and ketoprofen with human serum albumin

RODRIGO LUIS SILVA RIBEIRO SANTOS^{1,2},
RUTE NAZARÉ FERNANDES SANCHES² and DENISE DE OLIVEIRA SILVA*

Dalton Transactions

Dalton Trans., 2021, **50**, 9643–9647 | 9643

Two mixed valence diruthenium(II,III) isomeric complexes show different anticancer properties†

Elisabetta Barresi,^{id} ‡^{a,c} Iogann Tolbatov,^{id} ‡^b Tiziano Marzo,^{id} *^{a,c} Elisa Zappelli,^a Alessandro Marrone,^{id} ^d Nazzeno Re,*^d Alessandro Pratesi,^{id} ^e Claudia Martini,^{a,c} Sabrina Taliani,*^{a,c} Federico Da Settimo^{a,c} and Diego La Mendola^a

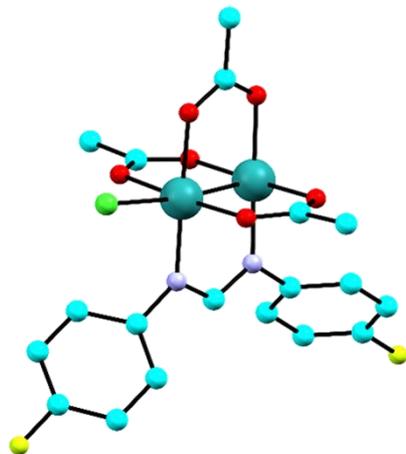
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Proposal

Design and synthesis of novel
Ru₂ compounds



L-L = *N,N'*-bis(4-fluorophenyl)formamidinate

Stable and soluble in water

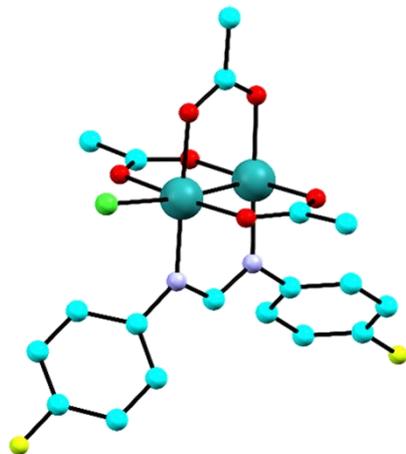
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Proposal

Design and synthesis of novel
 Ru_2 compounds



L-L = *N,N'*-bis(4-fluorophenyl)formamidinate

Stable and soluble in water

Reactivity studies of
 $[\text{Ru}_2\text{Cl}(\text{L-L})(\text{O}_2\text{CCH}_3)_3]$ with HEWL



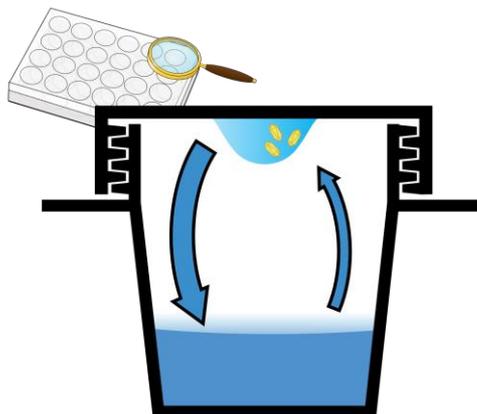
High-resolution X-ray crystallography

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Results and discussion



Hanging drop vapor
diffusion

Structure A

2 M HCOONa
0.1 M HEPES buffer (pH 7.5)

Structure B

20 % Ethylene glycol
CH₃COONa buffer (pH 4)
NaNO₃ 0.6 M

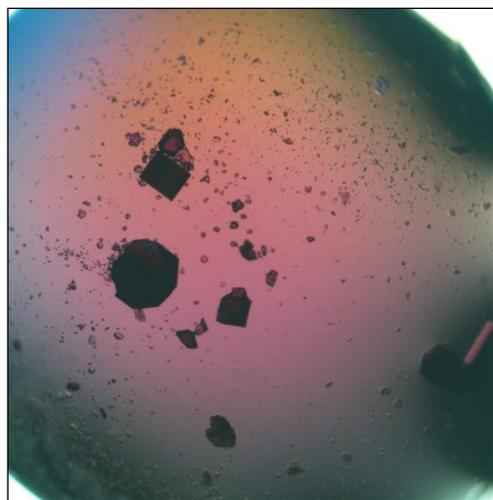
Structure C

0.8 M Succinic acid (pH 7)



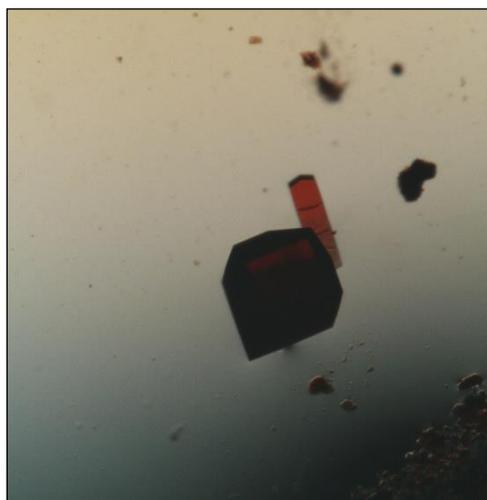
Results and discussion

Soaking



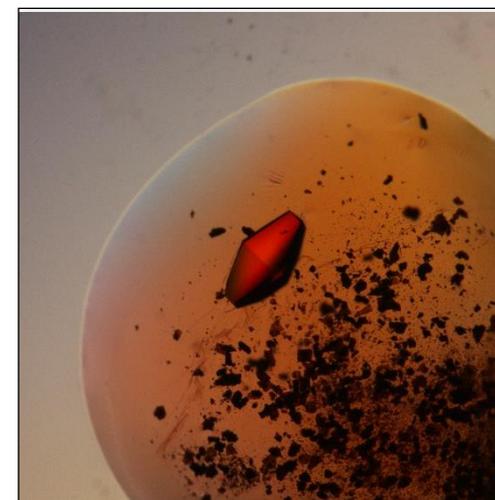
Structure A

2 M HCOONa
0.1 M HEPES buffer (pH 7.5)



Structure B

20 % Ethylene glycol
CH₃COONa buffer (pH 4)
NaNO₃ 0.6 M



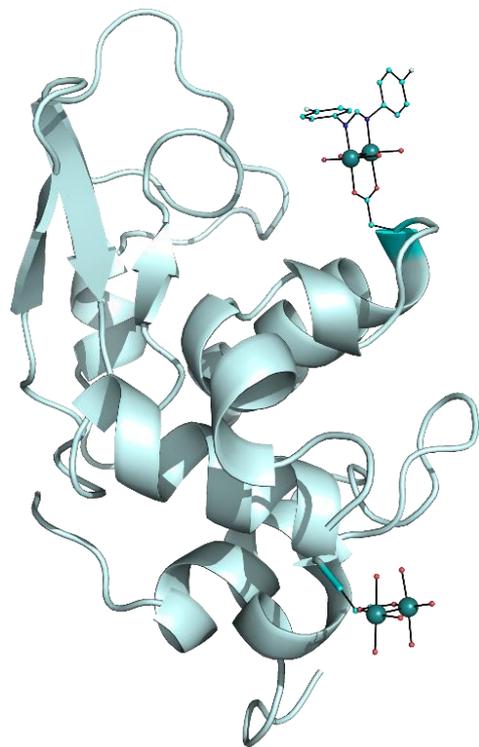
Structure C

0.8 M Succinic acid (pH 7)



Results and discussion

Structure A



Resolution	R-factor (R-free)	Condition
1.81 Å	0.223 (0.283)	2 M HCOONa, 0.1 M HEPES buffer (pH 7.5)

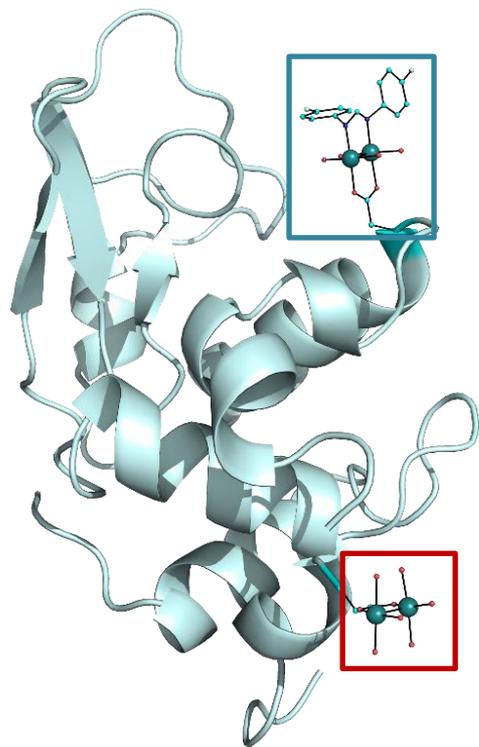
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Results and discussion

Structure A



Resolution	R-factor (R-free)	Condition
1.81 Å	0.223 (0.283)	2 M HCOONa, 0.1 M HEPES buffer (pH 7.5)

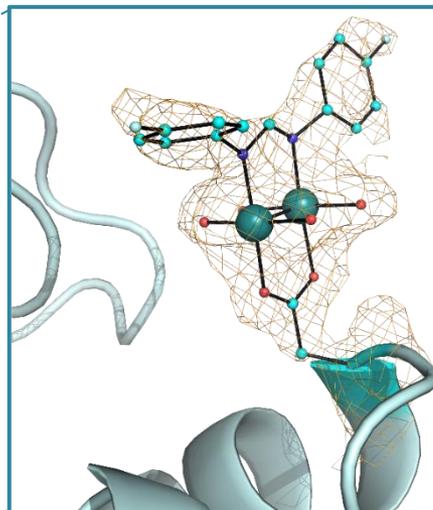
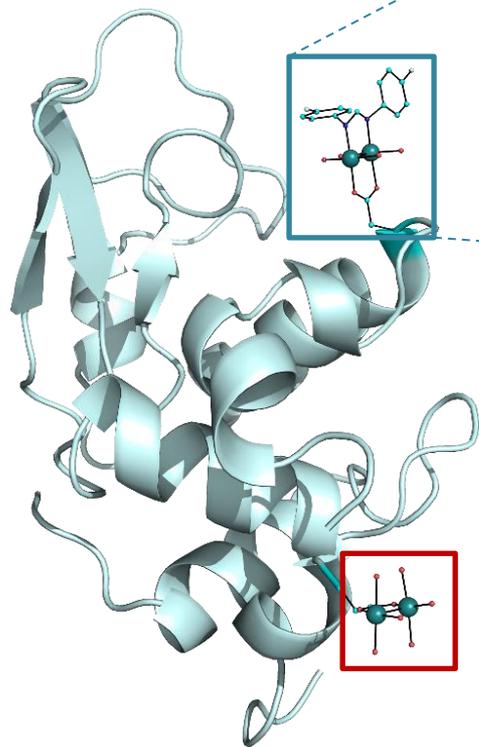
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Results and discussion

Structure A



Site I → Asp101
Trans coordination to
formamidinate ligand

Resolution	R-factor (R-free)	Condition
1.81 Å	0.223 (0.283)	2 M HCOONa, 0.1 M HEPES buffer (pH 7.5)

The $2F_o - F_c$ electron density maps are contoured at 1σ level

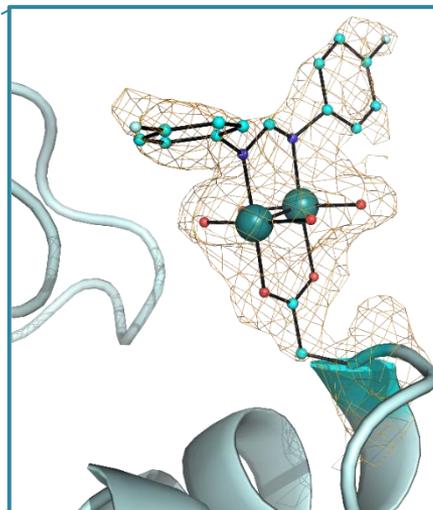
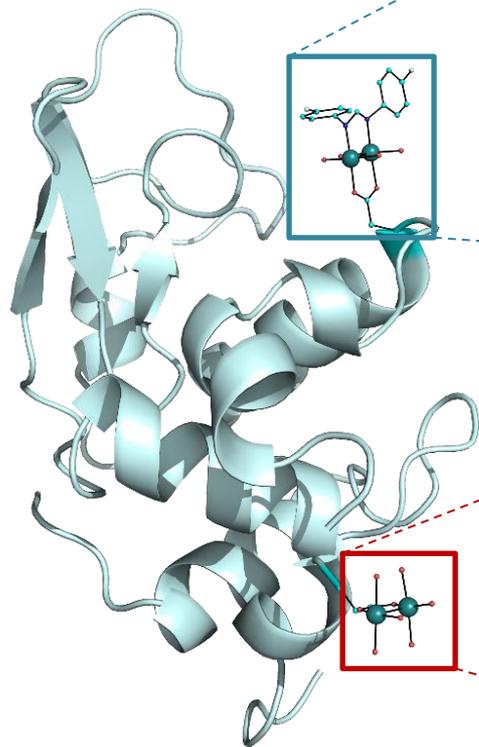
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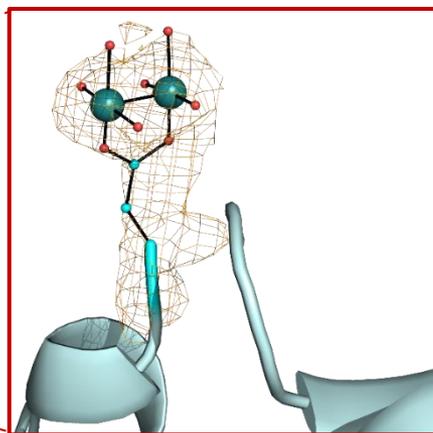


Results and discussion

Structure A



Site 1 → Asp101
Trans coordination to
formamidinate ligand



Site 2 → Asp119

Resolution R-factor (R-free) Condition

1.81 Å 0.223 (0.283) 2 M HCOONa, 0.1 M
HEPES buffer (pH 7.5)

The $2F_o - F_c$ electron density maps are contoured at 1σ level

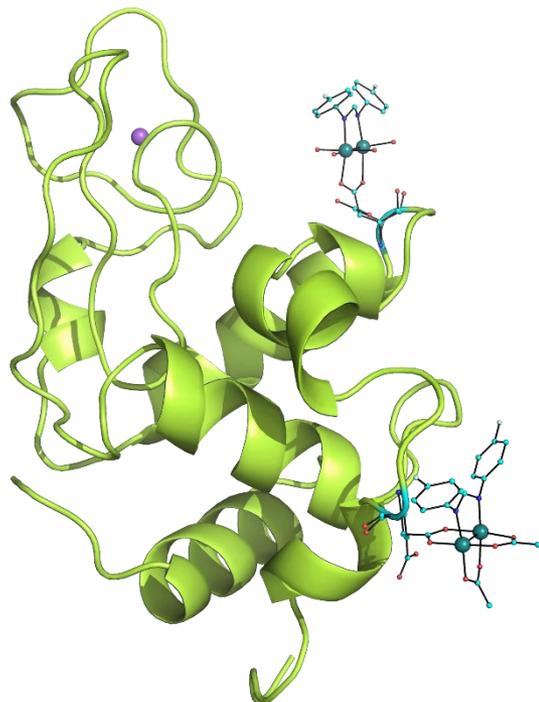
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Results and discussion

Structure B



Resolution	R-factor (R-free)	Condition
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1.38 Å

0.190 (0.233)

20 % Ethylene glycol
CH₃COONa buffer (pH 4)
NaNO₃ 0.6 M

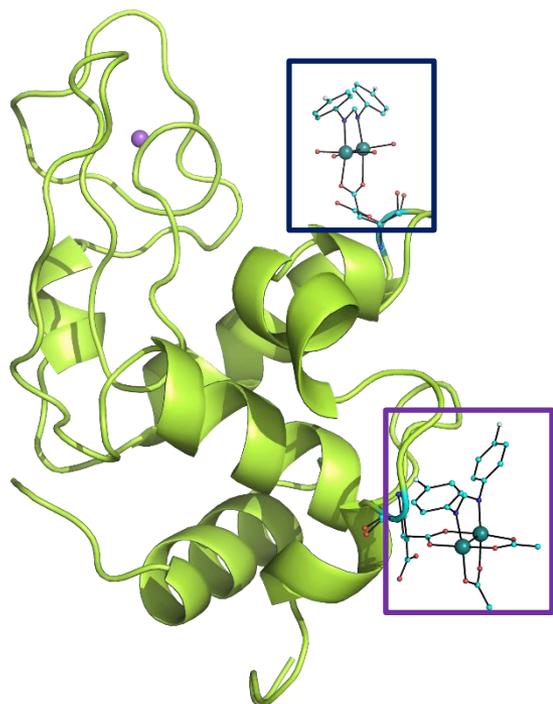
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Results and discussion

Structure B



Resolution	R-factor (R-free)	Condition
------------	-------------------	-----------

1.38 Å

0.190 (0.233)

20 % Ethylene glycol
CH₃COONa buffer (pH 4)
NaNO₃ 0.6 M

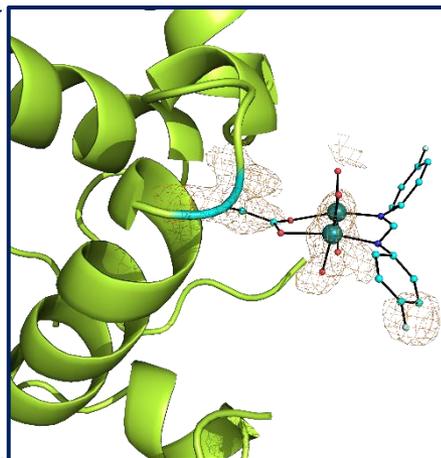
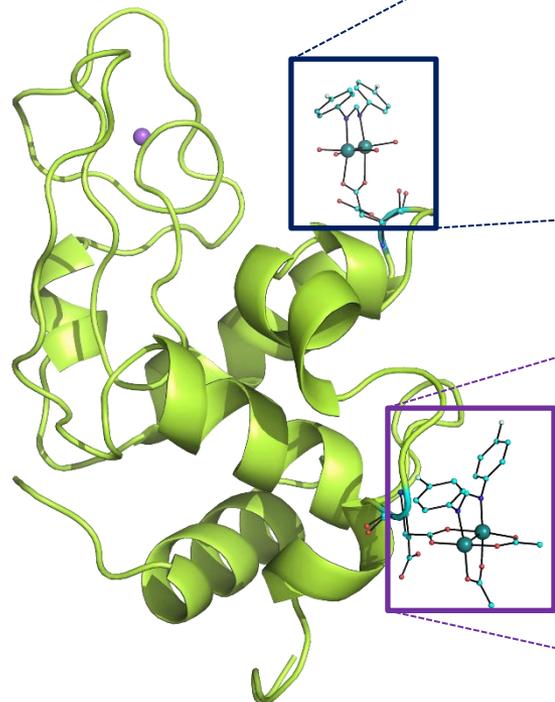
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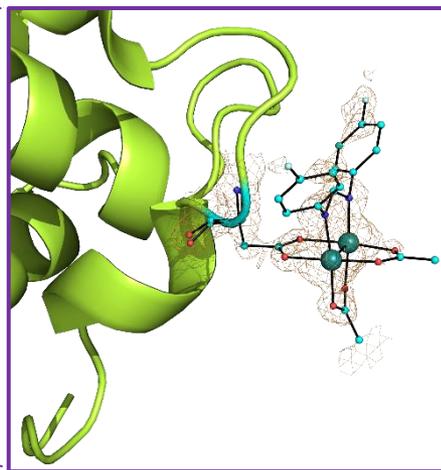


Results and discussion

Structure B



Site 1 → Asp101



Site 2 → Asp119

Resolution **R-factor (R-free)** **Condition**

1.38 Å

0.190 (0.233)

20 % Ethylene glycol
CH₃COONa buffer (pH 4)
NaNO₃ 0.6 M

The 2F_o-F_c electron density maps are contoured at 1σ level

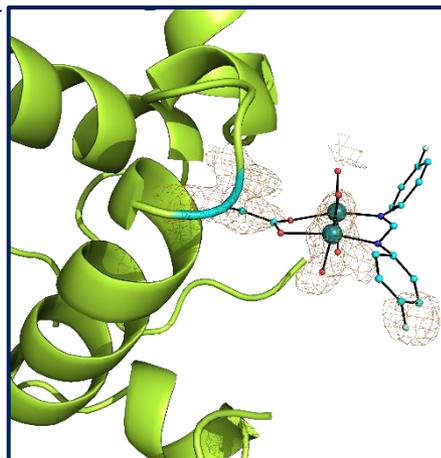
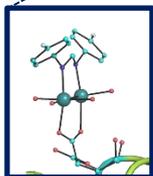
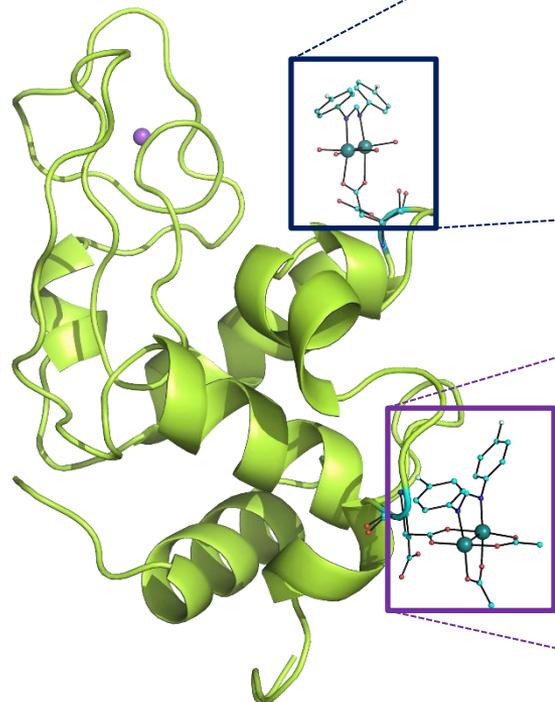
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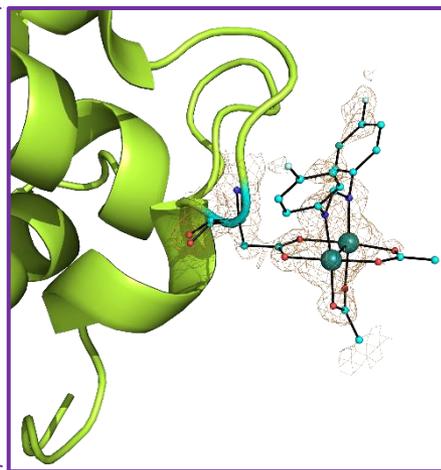
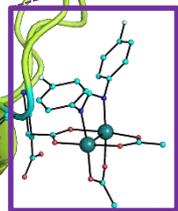


Results and discussion

Structure B



Site 1 → Asp101
Trans coordination to
formamidinate ligand



Site 2 → Asp119
Cis coordination to
formamidinate ligand

Resolution **R-factor (R-free)** **Condition**

1.38 Å

0.190 (0.233)

20 % Ethylene glycol
CH₃COONa buffer (pH 4)
NaNO₃ 0.6 M

The 2F_o-F_c electron density maps are contoured at 1σ level

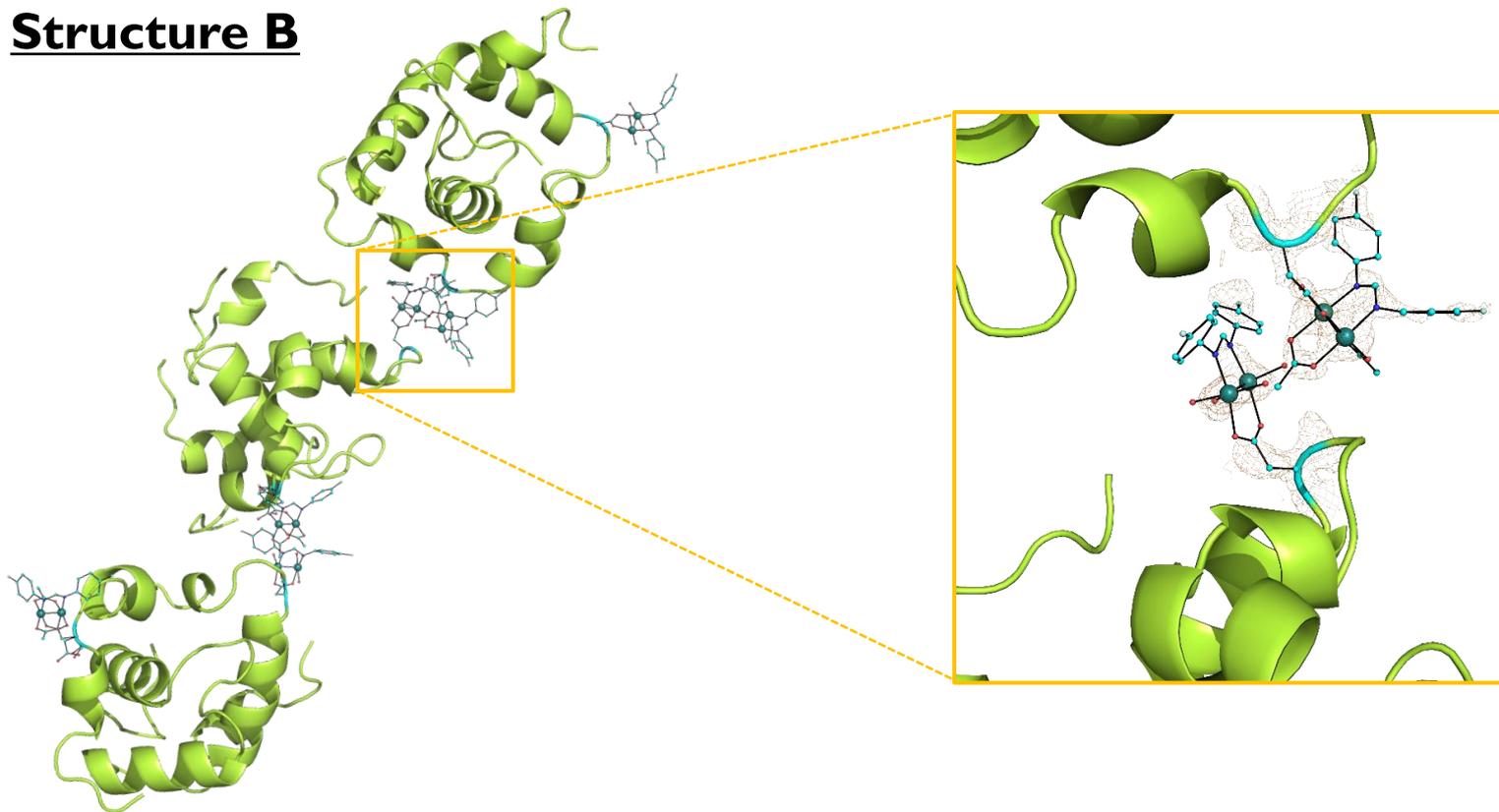
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Results and discussion

Structure B



Resolution	R-factor (R-free)	Condition
------------	-------------------	-----------

1.38 Å

0.190 (0.233)

20 % Ethylene glycol
CH₃COONa buffer (pH 4)
NaNO₃ 0.6 M

The 2F_o-F_c electron density maps are contoured at 1σ level

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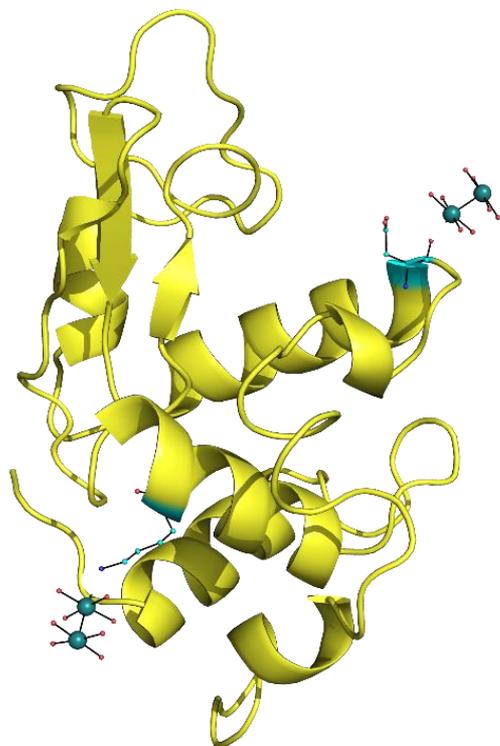
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Results and discussion

Structure C



Resolution	R-factor (R-free)	Condition
1.07 Å	0.184 (0.214)	0.8 M Succinic acid (pH 7)

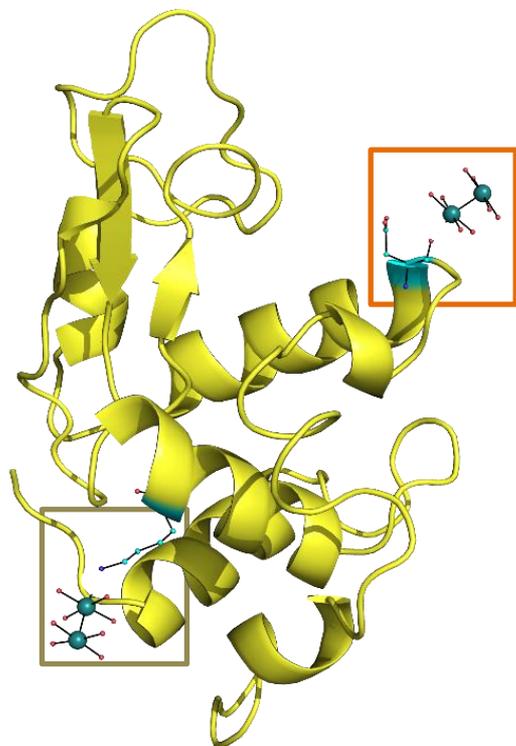
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Results and discussion

Structure C



Resolution	R-factor (R-free)	Condition
1.07 Å	0.184 (0.214)	0.8 M Succinic acid (pH 7)

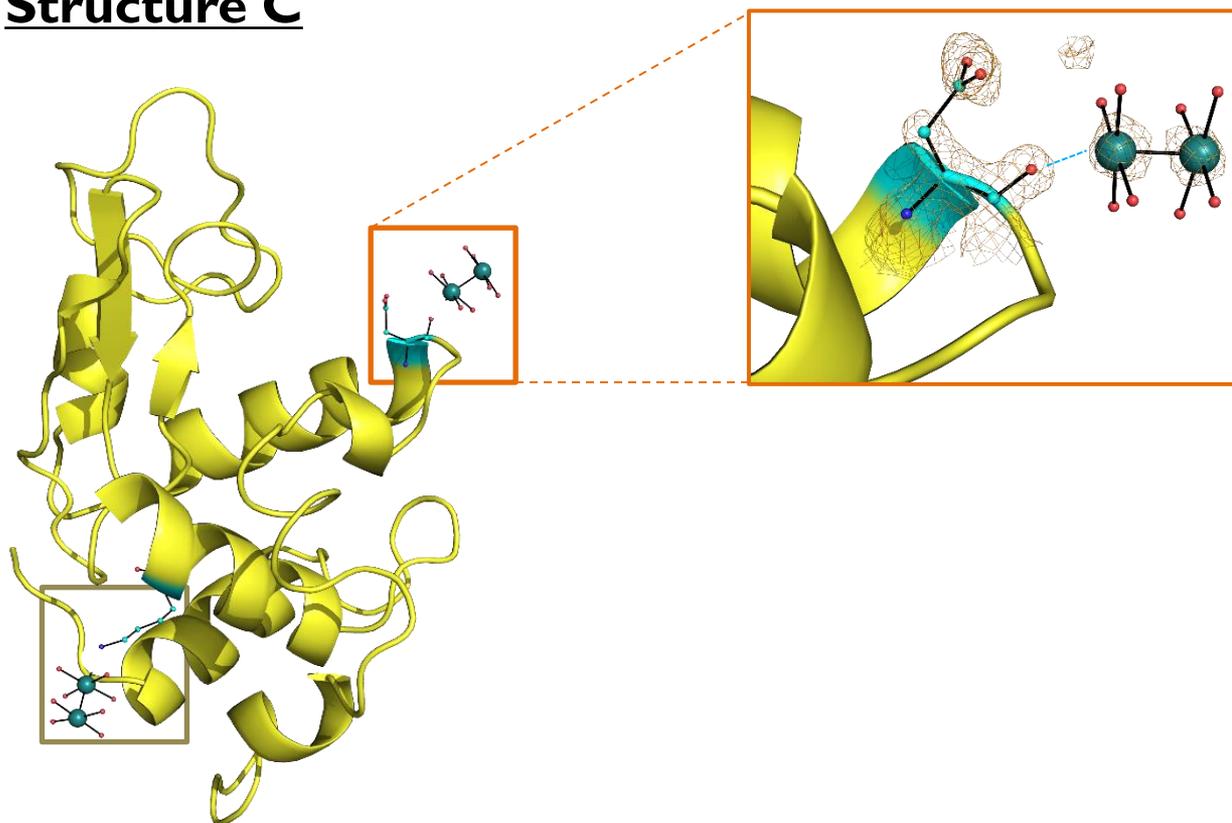
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Results and discussion

Structure C



Site I → Asp 101
Axial interaction with
the carbonyl group

Resolution	R-factor (R-free)	Condition
1.07 Å	0.184 (0.214)	0.8 M Succinic acid (pH 7)

The $2F_o - F_c$ electron density maps are contoured at 1σ level

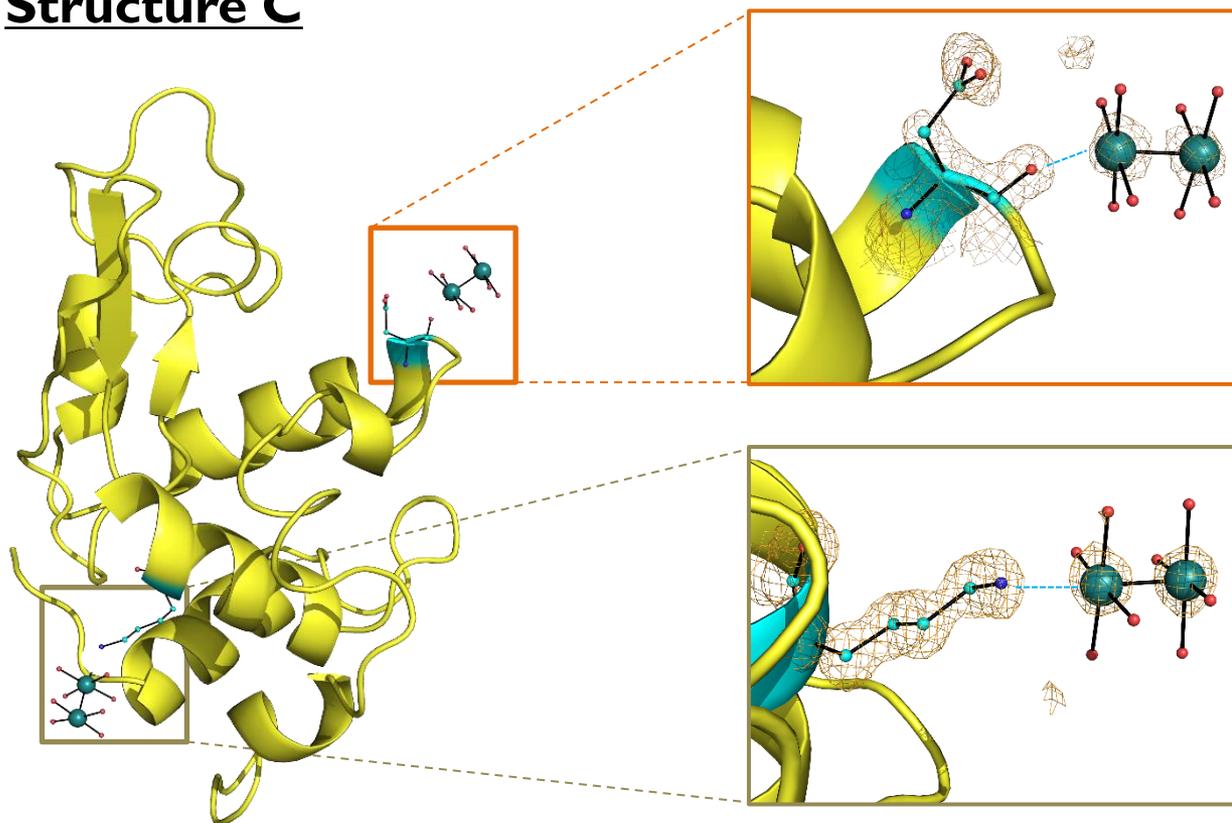
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Results and discussion

Structure C



Site 1 → Asp 101
Axial interaction with
the carbonyl group

Site 2 → Lys33
Axial interaction with
the side chain of
Lysine

Resolution	R-factor (R-free)	Condition
1.07 Å	0.184 (0.214)	0.8 M Succinic acid (pH 7)

The $2F_o - F_c$ electron density maps are contoured at 1σ level

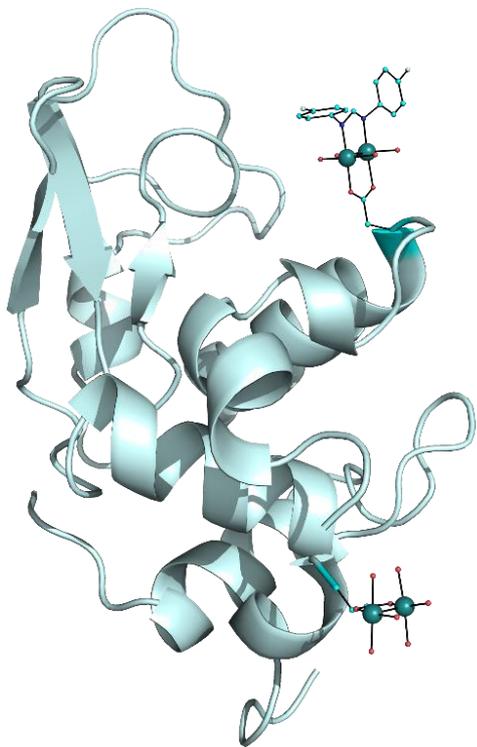
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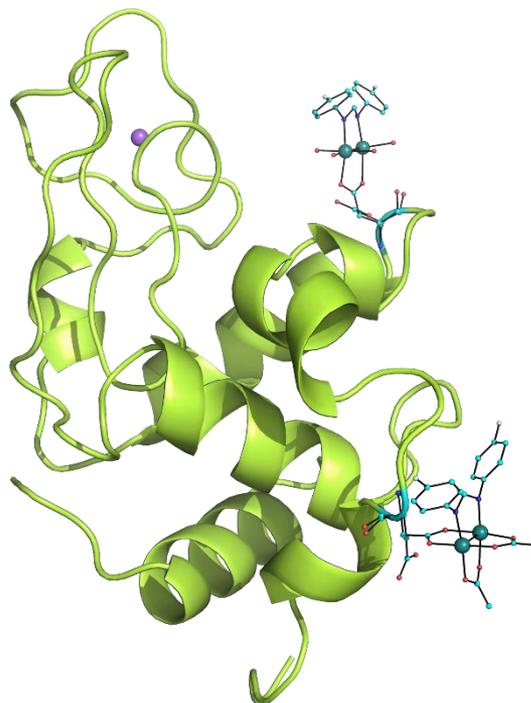


Conclusions

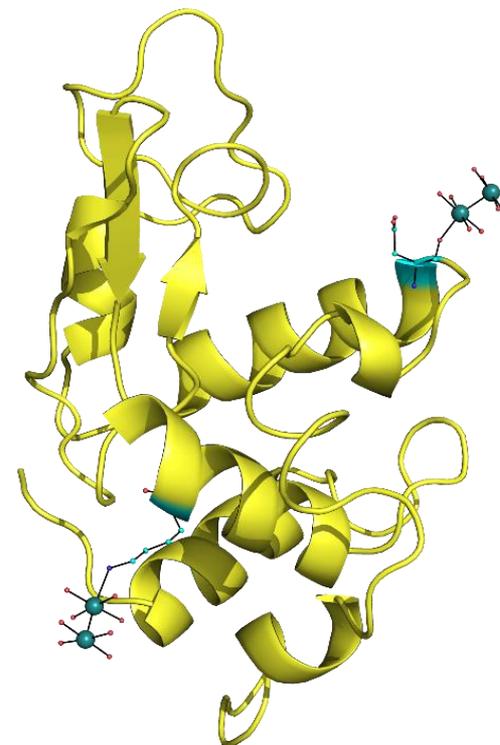
Novel structures of Ru₂-HEWL



Structure A



Structure B

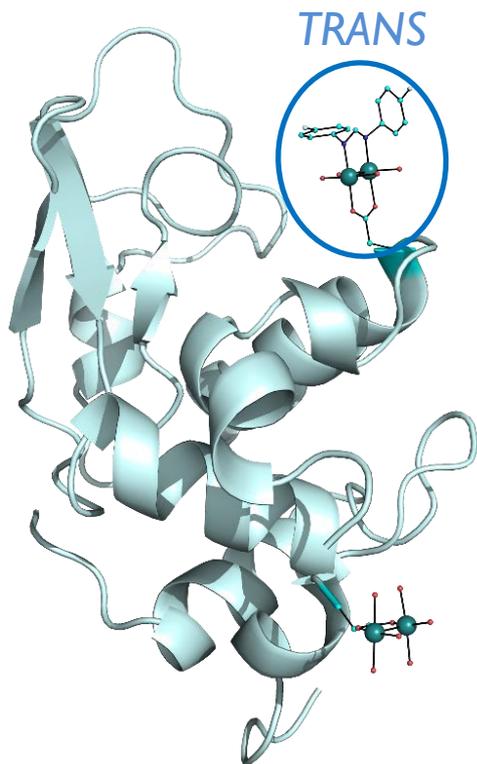


Structure C

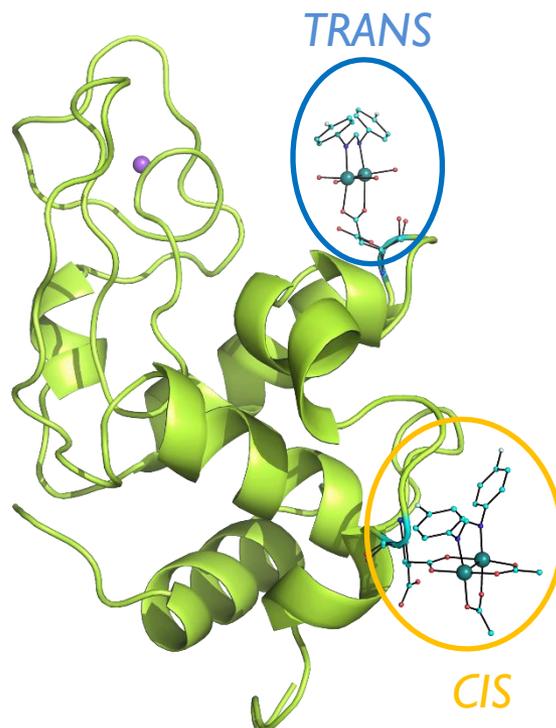


Conclusions

Different coordination modes



Structure A

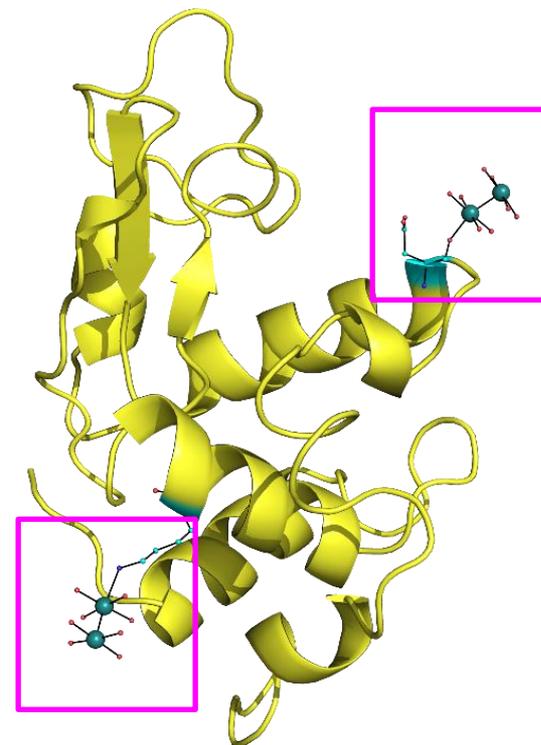


Structure B



Conclusions

Axial interaction Ru₂-HEWL

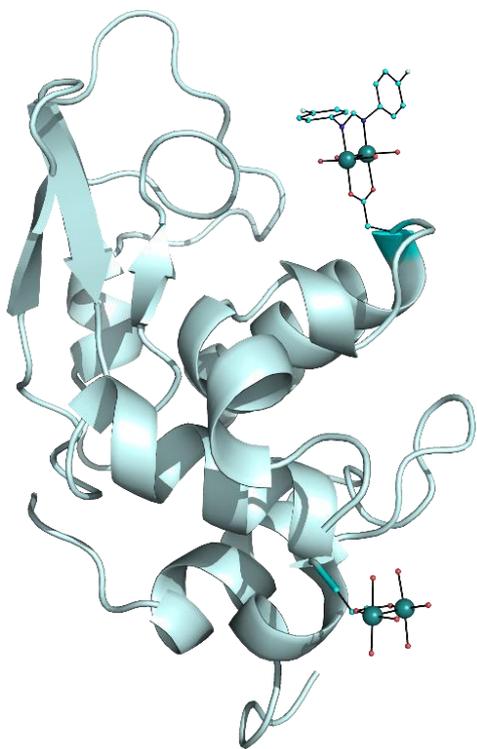


Structure C

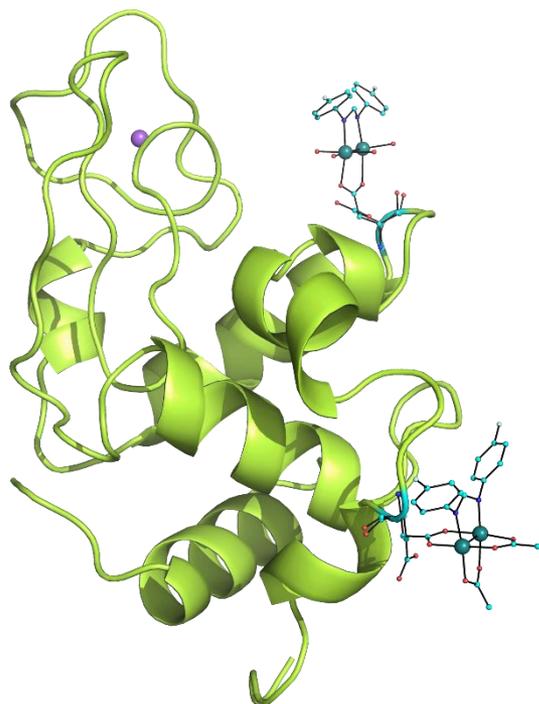


Conclusions

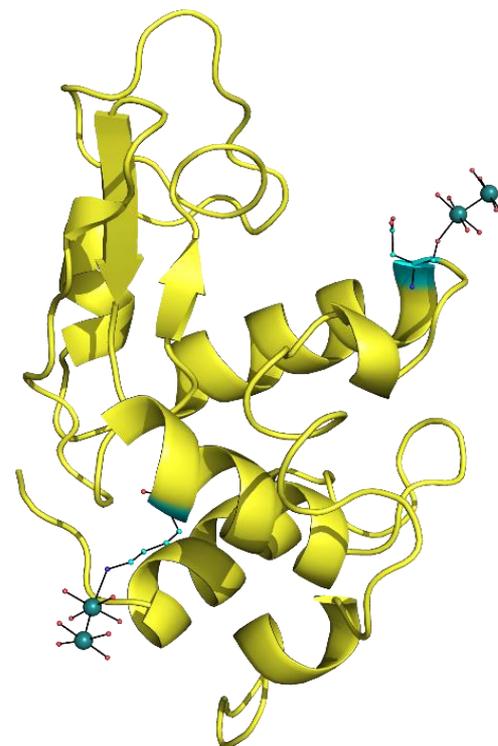
Valuable information to design new metalloenzymes



Structure A



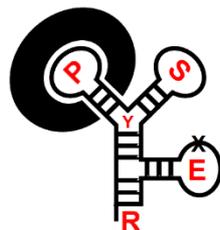
Structure B



Structure C



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