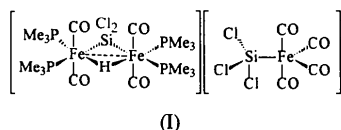




2.249 (3) Å. A bridging hydride was located from a difference map with Fe—H distances of 1.77 and 1.63 Å. The anion has an Fe—Si distance of 2.238 (3) Å.

### Comment

In an attempt to find a one-step synthesis of phosphine-substituted iron—silicon complexes, the reaction of  $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$ ,  $\text{HSiCl}_3$  and  $\text{PMe}_3$  in a 1:1:1 ratio was studied. Combination of these reagents resulted in a vigorous redistribution reaction and the known compound  $\text{SiCl}_4(\text{PMe}_3)_2$  (Beattie & Ozin, 1969) precipitated. The mixture, which presumably contained the redistribution product  $\text{SiH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , was photolysized. After removal of  $\text{SiCl}_4(\text{PMe}_3)_2$  by filtration, the title complex, (I), was isolated from the solution. The formation of (I) can be viewed as the protonation of the neutral complex  $\text{Fe}_2(\text{CO})_4(\text{PMe}_3)_4(\mu_2\text{-SiCl}_2)$  by the strong Brønsted acid  $\text{HFe}(\text{CO})_4(\text{SiCl}_3)$  (Jetz & Graham, 1971). We report herein the crystal structure of (I).



Characterization of (I) by spectral methods proved difficult and an X-ray structure determination was undertaken to establish its identity. The crystal structure of the anion of (I) has been obtained previously (Olie, Oskam & Jansen, 1975) and our results are within experimental error of those of the previous determination. Fig. 1 shows a displacement ellipsoid plot of the cation of (I).

The cation contains two Fe atoms which are doubly bridged by an H atom and an  $\text{SiCl}_2$  ligand. The two Fe atoms and the Si atom define a plane from which

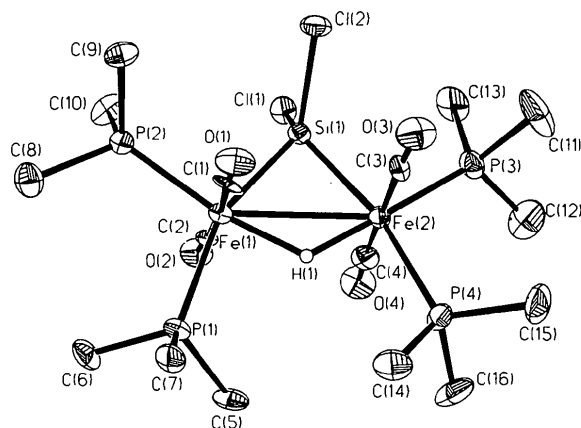


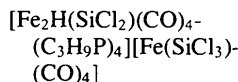
Fig. 1. Structure of the cation of  $[\text{Fe}_2(\text{CO})_4(\text{PMe}_3)_4(\mu_2\text{-H})(\mu_2\text{-SiCl}_2)][\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_4(\text{SiCl}_3)]$ . The displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level. All H atoms except the bridging hydride have been omitted for clarity.

$\text{H}(1)$  deviates by only 0.085 Å. The distorted octahedral geometry at each Fe atom is completed by two  $\text{PMe}_3$  and two carbonyl ligands. The carbonyl ligands have an average  $\text{C}=\text{O}$  bond distance of 1.14 (2) Å and the  $\text{PMe}_3$  ligands have an average  $\text{P}-\text{C}$  bond distance of 1.81 (1) Å. The Fe—Fe distance [2.947 (2) Å] of the cation of (I) is long when compared with other Fe—Fe distances. Typical Fe—Fe distances in complexes bridged by one silyl unit are 2.614 (1)–2.626 (2) Å (Ogino, Tobita & Kawano, 1991, 1992), but distances as long as 2.721 (2) Å have been reported (Ogino *et al.*, 1994). Supported  $\mu_2$ -bridging hydride ligands have been found to exert both lengthening and shortening influences on metal—metal bond distances (Churchill, DeBoer & Rotella, 1976). The long Fe—Fe distance for the cation of (I) is most probably the result of complexation of a proton by the Fe—Fe bond of the neutral complex  $\text{Fe}_2(\text{CO})_4(\text{PMe}_3)_4(\mu_2\text{-SiCl}_2)$ . Even in neutral complexes, a similar description of the supported bridging metal hydrides has been given (Mingos & Wales, 1990; Shriver, Kaesz & Adams, 1990). The bridging hydride was located from the difference Fourier map at distances of 1.77 and 1.63 Å from Fe(1) and Fe(2), respectively. Asymmetric bridging hydrides between two metal atoms have been described before (Bau, Teller, Kirtley & Koetzle, 1979).

### Experimental

Crystals of the title compound suitable for X-ray analysis were obtained from a saturated hexane solution.

#### Crystal data



$M_r = 930.4$

Monoclinic

$P2_1$

$a = 8.411(2)$  Å

$b = 14.454(3)$  Å

$c = 15.800(3)$  Å

$\beta = 91.32(3)^\circ$

$V = 1920.3(7)$  Å<sup>3</sup>

$Z = 2$

$D_x = 1.609$  Mg m<sup>-3</sup>

Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation

$\lambda = 0.71073$  Å

Cell parameters from 25

reflections

$\theta = 10\text{--}15^\circ$

$\mu = 1.733$  mm<sup>-1</sup>

$T = 119$  K

Plate

$0.4 \times 0.2 \times 0.15$  mm

Red

#### Data collection

Syntex  $P2_1$  diffractometer  
 $\omega$  scans

Absorption correction:

$\psi$  scans (North, Phillips  
& Matthews, 1968)

$T_{\min} = 0.242$ ,  $T_{\max} =$

1.000

4299 measured reflections

3524 independent reflections

2972 observed reflections

$[F > 4\sigma(F)]$

$R_{\text{int}} = 0.0145$

$\theta_{\text{max}} = 25^\circ$

$h = -9 \rightarrow 1$

$k = 0 \rightarrow 17$

$l = -18 \rightarrow 18$

3 standard reflections

monitored every 97

reflections

intensity decay: 0.86%

