

Table 2. Selected geometric parameters (\AA , $^\circ$)

Sn1—C14	2.101 (4)	S1—C1	1.780 (4)
Sn1—C13	2.105 (5)	S1—C15	1.796 (4)
Sn1—O1	2.397 (3)	O2—S2	1.515 (3)
Sn1—O2	2.404 (3)	S2—C7	1.795 (5)
Sn1—C12	2.482 (1)	S2—C16	1.807 (4)
Sn1—C11	2.486 (1)	C15—C15 ⁱ	1.511 (9)
O1—S1	1.517 (3)	C16—C16 ⁱⁱ	1.500 (9)
Cl4—Sn1—C13	165.2 (2)	O2—Sn1—C11	172.23 (8)
Cl4—Sn1—O1	83.7 (2)	Cl2—Sn1—C11	98.73 (4)
C13—Sn1—O1	85.3 (2)	S1—O1—Sn1	121.8 (2)
Cl4—Sn1—O2	84.2 (2)	O1—S1—C1	105.0 (2)
C13—Sn1—O2	85.2 (2)	O1—S1—C15	105.8 (2)
O1—Sn1—O2	86.03 (1)	C1—S1—C15	100.8 (2)
Cl4—Sn1—C12	95.34 (1)	S2—O2—Sn1	127.6 (2)
C13—Sn1—C12	94.7 (2)	O2—S2—C7	104.3 (2)
O1—Sn1—C12	175.04 (8)	O2—S2—C16	105.4 (2)
O2—Sn1—C12	89.03 (8)	C7—S2—C16	99.3 (2)
Cl4—Sn1—C11	94.94 (1)	C15 ⁱ —C15—S1	113.0 (4)
C13—Sn1—C11	94.2 (2)	C16 ⁱⁱ —C16—S2	112.1 (4)
O1—Sn1—C11	86.21 (8)		

Symmetry codes: (i) $1 - x, 1 - y, -z$; (ii) $-x, 1 - y, -z$.

Data collection: *CAD-4 Software* (Enraf–Nonius, 1989). Cell refinement: *CAD-4 Software*. Data reduction: *SDP* (Frenz, 1978). Program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS86* (Sheldrick, 1990). Program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL93* (Sheldrick, 1993). Molecular graphics: *ORTEP* (Johnson, 1965).

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Lists of structure factors, anisotropic displacement parameters, H-atom coordinates and complete geometry have been deposited with the IUCr (Reference: FG1084). Copies may be obtained through The Managing Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England.

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Phenylimidopentachloroniobate(V) Dianion with *N*-Allylphenylammonium Counterion

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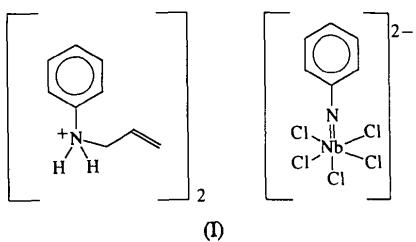
Abstract

Bis[phenyl(2-propenyl)ammonium] pentachloro(phenylimido)niobate(V), $(\text{C}_9\text{H}_{12}\text{N})_2[\text{NbCl}_5(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{N})]$, is a product of the reaction of niobium pentachloride and *N*-allylphenylamine. The coordinated secondary amine loses its allyl group and forms an imino bond to the metal. Unreacted *N*-allylphenylamine behaves as a proton acceptor and is a counterion in the solid state. In the crystalline state, the asymmetric unit consists of two octahedral pentachloro(phenylimido)niobate(V) dianions and four *N*-allylphenylammonium cations.

Comment

Several routes exist for synthesizing alkylimido complexes of early transition metals: (i) azobenzene has been reported to react metathetically with $[\text{Nb}_2\text{Cl}_6(\text{Me}_2\text{S})_3]$ to form a monomeric phenylimido complex (Cotton, Duraj & Roth, 1984) and (ii) *tert*-butylamide lithium together with LiNMe_2 reacts with niobium and tantalum pentahalides to form tris(dimethylamido)–*tert*-butylimido complexes (Nugent & Harlow, 1978). It is also known that even osmium tetroxide can be used as a metal source and oxoimino derivatives are formed when osmium(VIII) oxide is allowed to react with imido selenium reagents (Chong, Oshima & Sharpless, 1977). Many of the known niobium and tantalum–imido complexes are cyclopentadienyl derivatives, for example, half-sandwich monocyclopentadienyl–methylimido complexes (Williams *et al.*, 1992) and *ansa*-metallocene derivatives with butylimido ligands (Chernega, Malcolm & Suárez, 1995).

The title complex, (I), was prepared by the direct reaction of *N*-allylphenylamine and niobium pentachloride in toluene. The pentachloro(phenylimido)niobium dianion is formed when *N*-allylphenylamine loses its allylic group. Some of the *N*-allylphenylamine molecules form ammonium ions by behaving as proton acceptors and these exist as counterions in the solid state. Two pentachloro(phenylimido)niobium dianions and four *N*-allylphenylammonium ions form the asymmetric unit.



Both pentachloro(phenylimido)niobium units in the asymmetric unit are distorted octahedra, with all the *cis*-positioned N—Nb—Cl angles clearly greater than 90° (Fig. 1). For one octahedron the angles are between 95.0 (2) (N1A—Nb1A—Cl4A) and 97.7 (2)° (N1A—Nb1A—Cl3A), while in the other octahedron they vary between 93.9 (2) (N1B—Nb1B—Cl3B) and 97.2 (2)° (N1B—Nb1B—Cl1B). The Nb—N—C angles are almost linear, with values of 174.0 (5) for Nb1A—N1A—C1A and 172.8 (6)° for Nb1B—N1B—C1B. This supports the theory of the role of the nitrogen lone pair, which donates electron density to the metal center. The bond has been assumed to have triple-bond character (Nugent & Harlow, 1978). The Nb1A—N1A and Nb1B—N1B distances are 1.754 (5) and 1.746 (6) Å, respectively. These values are close to the value [1.731 (3) Å] found in the [Nb(N^tBu)Cl₄(py)][−] monoanion (Clegg, Errington, Hockless & Redshaw, 1991). The imido H atom has a significant effect on the *trans* positions, the *trans* bond lengths being the longest, with values of 2.692 (2) and 2.655 (2) Å for Nb1A—C15A and Nb1B—C15B, respectively. The equatorial Nb—Cl bond lengths vary between 2.415 (2) and 2.472 (2) Å [Nb1A—Cl1A and Nb1A—Cl3A, respectively] for one octahedron, whereas they are between 2.374 (2) and 2.478 (2) Å [Nb1B—Cl4B and Nb1B—Cl1B, respectively] in the second octahedron.

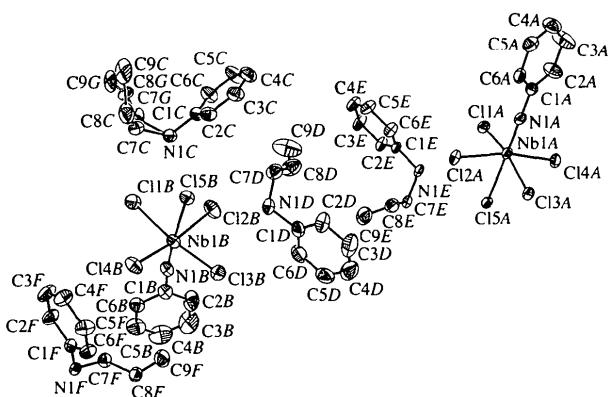


Fig. 1. A view of the asymmetric unit of (I), with ellipsoids drawn at the 30% probability level and H atoms omitted for clarity.

The protonated *N*-allylphenylammonium counterions show disordering in the allylic part, with the terminal C atoms in the chain having large displacement parameters. The disorder is most pronounced in the C7C—C9C

chain, which can be refined in two orientations, the additional chain being denoted as C7G—C9G. The refined population parameter of 0.50 (2) indicates equal populations for these different sites. The refinement did not improve C—C bond lengths, but displacement parameters were significantly reduced. Refinement of the other allyl chains gave good results. The double bonds were easily located. Terminal C8—C9 bond lengths vary between 1.202 (14) and 1.292 (12) Å, whereas the C7—C8 bond lengths are between 1.462 (12) and 1.472 (9) Å. C—N bonds in the cations are normal, varying between 1.467 (8) and 1.500 (9) Å for the N1—C1 bonds to the aromatic rings, whereas the allyl group is attached to nitrogen with N1—C7 distances between 1.502 (8) and 1.506 (8) Å.

Experimental

The title complex was prepared by refluxing *N*-allylphenylamine (4.20 ml, 4.12 g, 30.97 mmol) and niobium(IV) pentachloride (2.22 g, 8.22 mmol) in toluene (50 ml) for 2 h. The reaction mixture was then filtered and reduced by evaporation to a smaller volume (40 ml). Purple prismatic crystals suitable for single-crystal measurements were obtained at room temperature in 24 h. All reaction steps were carried out under an argon atmosphere using standard Schlenk techniques. The crystal used for the X-ray measurements was mounted on a glass fiber using the oil-drop method (Kottke & Stalke, 1993).

Crystal data

(C ₉ H ₁₂ N) ₂ [NbCl ₅ (C ₆ H ₅ N)])	Mo K α radiation
$M_r = 629.66$	$\lambda = 0.71069 \text{ \AA}$
Triclinic	Cell parameters from 25 reflections
P $\bar{1}$	$\theta = 5\text{--}25^\circ$
$a = 11.868 (7) \text{ \AA}$	$\mu = 0.906 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$b = 12.200 (10) \text{ \AA}$	$T = 193 (2) \text{ K}$
$c = 20.746 (11) \text{ \AA}$	Prismatic
$\alpha = 96.83 (5)^\circ$	$0.30 \times 0.27 \times 0.25 \text{ mm}$
$\beta = 100.85 (5)^\circ$	Purple
$\gamma = 101.16 (4)^\circ$	
$V = 2857 (3) \text{ \AA}^3$	
$Z = 4$	
$D_x = 1.464 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$	
D_m not measured	

Data collection

Rigaku AFC-7S diffractometer	6988 observed reflections [$I > 2\sigma(I)$]
$2\theta\text{--}\omega$ scans	$\theta_{\max} = 25^\circ$
Absorption correction:	$h = -14 \rightarrow 13$
ψ scan (North, Phillips & Mathews, 1968)	$k = 0 \rightarrow 14$
$T_{\min} = 0.70$, $T_{\max} = 0.80$	$l = -24 \rightarrow 24$
8824 measured reflections	3 standard reflections monitored every 200 reflections
8824 independent reflections	intensity decay: 0.8%

Refinement

Refinement on F^2	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} = -0.065$
$R(F) = 0.065$	$\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.731 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
$wR(F^2) = 0.150$	$\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.861 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$

$S = 1.042$
 8824 reflections
 623 parameters
 H atoms riding
 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.058P)^2 + 5.4193P]$
 where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$

Extinction correction: none
 Atomic scattering factors
 from *International Tables for Crystallography* (1992,
 Vol. C, Tables 4.2.6.8 and
 6.1.1.4)

C9D	-0.0651 (12)	-0.1841 (12)	-0.7693 (7)	0.155 (6)
C7E	-0.4404 (6)	-0.0530 (6)	-0.6312 (3)	0.052 (2)
C8E	-0.3802 (7)	-0.0029 (8)	-0.6797 (4)	0.067 (2)
C9F	-0.3824 (10)	-0.0552 (11)	-0.7380 (5)	0.105 (4)
C7F	-0.4372 (6)	-0.3722 (5)	-1.3430 (4)	0.052 (2)
C8F	-0.4912 (7)	-0.2818 (6)	-1.3177 (4)	0.059 (2)
C9F	-0.4678 (8)	-0.2299 (7)	-1.2586 (4)	0.078 (2)

† Refined occupancy of 0.50 (2).

Table 1. Fractional atomic coordinates and equivalent isotropic displacement parameters (\AA^2)

	x	y	z	U_{eq}
Nb1A	-0.27892 (5)	0.30579 (5)	-0.45346 (3)	0.0407 (2)
Nb1B	-0.18452 (6)	-0.30352 (6)	-1.08294 (3)	0.0549 (2)
C11A	-0.25495 (15)	0.13279 (13)	-0.41239 (9)	0.0505 (4)
C12A	-0.20993 (15)	0.24425 (14)	-0.55114 (9)	0.0533 (4)
C13A	-0.34548 (14)	0.45621 (13)	-0.51033 (8)	0.0471 (4)
C14A	-0.3905 (2)	0.35338 (15)	-0.37191 (9)	0.0541 (4)
C15A	-0.48483 (13)	0.17306 (12)	-0.52253 (8)	0.0418 (4)
C11B	-0.0481 (2)	-0.4334 (2)	-1.08504 (11)	0.0744 (6)
C12B	-0.1834 (2)	-0.3313 (2)	-0.96749 (11)	0.0857 (7)
C13B	-0.2849 (2)	-0.1510 (2)	-1.06521 (11)	0.0750 (6)
C14B	-0.1436 (2)	-0.2490 (2)	-1.18372 (10)	0.0742 (6)
C15B	0.0079 (2)	-0.14905 (14)	-1.02175 (9)	0.0547 (4)
N1A	-0.1436 (5)	0.3872 (4)	-0.4066 (3)	0.0481 (13)
N1B	-0.3143 (5)	-0.4037 (5)	-1.1193 (3)	0.0572 (2)
N1C	0.1481 (5)	-0.3125 (5)	-0.9477 (3)	0.0565 (15)
N1D	-0.1281 (5)	-0.0430 (5)	-0.9081 (3)	0.0602 (2)
N1E	-0.3575 (4)	-0.0400 (4)	-0.5647 (3)	0.0456 (13)
N1F	-0.3795 (4)	-0.3417 (4)	-1.3989 (3)	0.0469 (13)
C1A	-0.0382 (6)	0.4443 (5)	-0.3645 (4)	0.0492 (2)
C2A	-0.0261 (8)	0.4543 (8)	-0.2971 (4)	0.0843 (3)
C3A	0.0817 (10)	0.5100 (11)	-0.2557 (5)	0.1134 (4)
C4A	0.1746 (8)	0.5517 (8)	-0.2825 (5)	0.0873 (3)
C5A	0.1620 (7)	0.5428 (6)	-0.3489 (5)	0.0652 (2)
C6A	0.0570 (6)	0.4902 (6)	-0.3906 (4)	0.0532 (2)
C1B	-0.4237 (7)	-0.4718 (6)	-1.1469 (4)	0.0612 (2)
C2B	-0.5150 (10)	-0.4734 (10)	-1.1143 (6)	0.1054 (4)
C3B	-0.6243 (12)	-0.5441 (14)	-1.1423 (8)	0.1446 (6)
C4B	-0.6393 (11)	-0.6096 (12)	-1.2037 (9)	0.1355 (5)
C5B	-0.5520 (10)	-0.6072 (9)	-1.2357 (6)	0.1013 (3)
C6B	-0.4439 (7)	-0.5404 (6)	-1.2081 (4)	0.0672 (2)
C1C	0.1988 (6)	-0.2380 (6)	-0.8825 (4)	0.0542 (2)
C2C	0.2320 (6)	-0.1233 (6)	-0.8811 (4)	0.0602 (2)
C3C	0.2737 (7)	-0.0554 (7)	-0.8203 (4)	0.0712 (2)
C4C	0.2862 (8)	-0.1007 (8)	-0.7632 (4)	0.0772 (2)
C5C	0.2574 (9)	-0.2139 (9)	-0.7660 (4)	0.0933 (3)
C6C	0.2122 (8)	-0.2862 (7)	-0.8260 (4)	0.0762 (2)
C1D	-0.2215 (7)	0.0180 (8)	-0.8945 (4)	0.0672 (2)
C2D	-0.1875 (9)	0.1252 (8)	-0.8615 (5)	0.0893 (3)
C3D	-0.2776 (14)	0.1816 (12)	-0.8528 (7)	0.1254 (4)
C4D	-0.3889 (14)	0.1296 (15)	-0.8752 (7)	0.1255 (5)
C5D	-0.4230 (10)	0.0221 (17)	-0.9067 (6)	0.1416 (6)
C6D	-0.3355 (8)	-0.0358 (11)	-0.9157 (5)	0.1034 (4)
C1E	-0.2616 (6)	-0.1003 (5)	-0.5662 (3)	0.0430 (15)
C2E	-0.2850 (6)	-0.2142 (6)	-0.5639 (4)	0.0582 (2)
C3E	-0.1933 (7)	-0.2696 (7)	-0.5655 (5)	0.0752 (2)
C4E	-0.0842 (7)	-0.2120 (6)	-0.5678 (4)	0.0662 (2)
C5E	-0.0641 (6)	-0.0999 (6)	-0.5704 (4)	0.0642 (2)
C6E	-0.1529 (6)	-0.0409 (6)	-0.5684 (4)	0.0582 (2)
C1F	-0.2600 (6)	-0.2706 (6)	-1.3788 (3)	0.0482 (2)
C2F	-0.1671 (7)	-0.3222 (6)	-1.3710 (4)	0.0692 (2)
C3F	-0.0556 (7)	-0.2579 (7)	-1.3501 (5)	0.0843 (3)
C4F	-0.0357 (7)	-0.1427 (7)	-1.3367 (4)	0.0702 (2)
C5F	-0.1308 (7)	-0.0911 (7)	-1.3438 (4)	0.0692 (2)
C6F	-0.2429 (6)	-0.1555 (6)	-1.3651 (4)	0.0572 (2)
C7C†	0.238 (2)	-0.305 (2)	-0.9966 (10)	0.0596 (6)
C8C†	0.306 (3)	-0.292 (3)	-0.9967 (17)	0.11415 (15)
C9C†	0.439 (3)	-0.286 (3)	-0.9486 (18)	0.12212 (12)
C7G†	0.2334 (19)	-0.370 (2)	-0.9731 (16)	0.0889 (9)
C8G†	0.3423 (16)	-0.3522 (14)	-0.9643 (10)	0.0585 (5)
C9G†	0.434 (3)	-0.286 (3)	-0.9835 (14)	0.09910 (10)
C7D	-0.0414 (7)	-0.0565 (8)	-0.8482 (4)	0.0752 (2)
C8D	-0.0971 (9)	-0.1151 (10)	-0.8009 (6)	0.1013 (3)

Table 2. Selected geometric parameters (\AA , °)

Nb1A—N1A	1.754 (5)	Nb1B—Cl4B	2.374 (2)
Nb1A—C11A	2.415 (2)	Nb1B—C13B	2.423 (2)
Nb1A—C12A	2.417 (2)	Nb1B—C12B	2.456 (2)
Nb1A—C14A	2.421 (2)	Nb1B—C11B	2.478 (2)
Nb1A—Cl3A	2.472 (2)	Nb1B—Cl5B	2.655 (2)
Nb1A—C15A	2.692 (2)	N1A—C1A	1.384 (8)
Nb1B—N1B	1.746 (6)	N1B—C1B	1.376 (9)
N1A—Nb1A—C11A	95.1 (2)	N1B—Nb1B—C13B	93.9 (2)
N1A—Nb1A—C12A	97.3 (2)	Cl4B—Nb1B—C13B	92.01 (9)
C11A—Nb1A—C12A	89.89 (6)	N1B—Nb1B—C12B	96.7 (2)
N1A—Nb1A—C14A	95.0 (2)	Cl4B—Nb1B—C12B	167.04 (8)
C11A—Nb1A—C14A	92.41 (6)	Cl3B—Nb1B—C12B	88.33 (9)
C12A—Nb1A—C14A	167.30 (7)	N1B—Nb1B—C11B	97.2 (2)
N1A—Nb1A—C13A	97.7 (2)	Cl4B—Nb1B—C11B	89.68 (9)
C11A—Nb1A—C13A	167.17 (6)	Cl3B—Nb1B—C11B	168.54 (7)
C12A—Nb1A—C13A	88.29 (6)	Cl2B—Nb1B—C11B	87.51 (9)
Cl4A—Nb1A—C13A	86.70 (6)	N1B—Nb1B—C15B	176.8 (2)
N1A—Nb1A—C15A	177.4 (2)	Cl4B—Nb1B—C15B	86.48 (7)
C11A—Nb1A—C15A	82.35 (6)	Cl3B—Nb1B—C15B	84.39 (7)
C12A—Nb1A—C15A	83.02 (6)	Cl2B—Nb1B—C15B	80.66 (7)
Cl4A—Nb1A—C15A	84.91 (6)	Cl1B—Nb1B—C15B	84.40 (7)
C13A—Nb1A—C15A	84.83 (6)	C1A—N1A—Nb1A	174.0 (5)
N1B—Nb1B—C14B	96.2 (2)	C1B—N1B—Nb1B	172.8 (6)

Data collection: *MSC/AFC Diffractometer Control Software* (Molecular Structure Corporation, 1993a). Cell refinement: *MSC/AFC Diffractometer Control Software*. Data reduction: *TEXSAN* (Molecular Structure Corporation, 1993b). Program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS86* (Sheldrick, 1990a). Program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL93* (Sheldrick, 1993). Molecular graphics: *SHELXTL/PC* (Sheldrick, 1990b). Software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL93*.

Lists of structure factors, anisotropic displacement parameters, H-atom coordinates and complete geometry have been deposited with the IUCr (Reference: BK1221). Copies may be obtained through The Managing Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England.

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Racemic (α -Ferrocenylphenacyl)triphenylphosphonium Iodide

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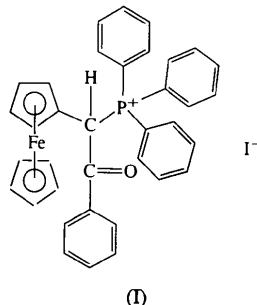
Abstract

In racemic (α -ferrocenylphenacyl)triphenylphosphonium iodide, $[\text{Fe}(\text{C}_5\text{H}_5)(\text{C}_3\text{H}_{25}\text{OP})]\text{I}$, the cations are involved in C—H···I[−] interactions with short C···I distances of 3.836(7), 3.932(7) and 3.995(7) Å.

Comment

The structures of (ferrocenylmethyl)triphenylphosphonium iodide and 1,1'-ferrocenediylbis(methylphenylphosphonium iodide) (as the dichloromethane solvate), $[\text{Fe}\{(\text{C}_5\text{H}_4)\text{CH}_2\text{P}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)_3\}_2]^{2+} \cdot 2\text{I}^- \cdot \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$, have recently been found to exhibit extensive three-dimensional networks of C—H···I[−] interactions (Glidewell, Zakaria, Ferguson & Gallagher, 1994). In a similar way, the structures of (ferrocenylmethyl)trimethylammonium iodide and hexa-N-methylferrocene-1,1'-diylbis(methylammonium iodide), $[\text{Fe}\{(\text{C}_5\text{H}_4)\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_3\}_2]^{2+} \cdot 2\text{I}^-$, are also characterized by such interactions (Ferguson, Gallagher, Glidewell & Zakaria, 1994). In all of these structures there are C···I[−] distances in the range 3.8–3.9 Å. Such C—H···I[−] hydrogen bonds are uncommon; for example, in tetraphenylphosphonium iodide (Schweizer, Baldacchini & Rheingold, 1989) and dimethyldiphenylphosphonium iodide (Staples, Carlson, Wang & Fackler, 1995), compounds related to (ferrocenylmethyl)triphenylphosphonium iodide, there are no C···I[−] distances less than 4.0 Å; however, well documented examples occur in the structures

of benzyltriphenylphosphonium iodide (Archer, Modro & Nassimbeni, 1981), methylphenylphospholanium iodide, $[(\text{CH}_3)(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)\text{P}(\text{CH}_2)_4]^+ \cdot \text{I}^-$ (Alver & Holtedahl, 1967), 3,3-dimethyl-1,1-diphenylphosphetanium iodide, $[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)_2\text{PCH}_2\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CH}_2]^+ \cdot \text{I}^-$ (Mazhar-ul-Haque, 1979), and bis[1,2-bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane]-platinum(II) diiodide deuteriochloroform solvate, $\{(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)_2\text{PCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{P}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)_2\}_2\text{Pt}^{2+} \cdot 2\text{I}^- \cdot 2(\text{CDCl}_3)$ (Ferguson, Lough, McAlees & McCrindle, 1993). Particularly short C···I[−] distances (3.67 Å) occur in the fulleride salt $[(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)_4\text{P}]_2(\text{C}_{60})\text{I}_{0.35}$ (Penicaud, Perez-Benitez, Gleason, Munoz & Escudero, 1993), but the apparent shortness may be influenced by the low occupancy (35%) of the iodide sites. Here we report the structure of (α -ferrocenylphenacyl)triphenylphosphonium iodide, $[\{\text{Fe}(\text{C}_5\text{H}_4)\}\text{CH}_2(\text{CO}\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)\text{P}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)_3]^+ \cdot \text{I}^-$, (I), a benzoylated derivative of (ferrocenylmethyl)triphenylphosphonium iodide, which also contains short C···I[−] distances.



(I)

The structure consists of ion pairs (Fig. 1) within which there is a single short C—H···I[−] interaction involving C62, characterized by C···I 3.836(7) Å and C—H···I 151°. There are also two further fairly short C—H···I[−] interactions involving C44 in the cation at $(-\frac{1}{2} + x, y, \frac{1}{2} - z)$ [C···I 3.932(7) Å, C—H···I 134°] and C33 in the cation at $(\frac{3}{2} - x, \frac{1}{2} + y, z)$ [C···I 3.995(7) Å, C—H···I 132°], which serve to generate a continuous network. The cations are chiral, but the space group accommodates equal numbers of *R* and *S* enantiomers. The almost perfectly staggered conformation about the C1—C2 bond is such that O2 and H1 are anti-periplanar, while O2 and P1 are synclinal; despite this, the O···P distance of 3.184(6) Å is significantly shorter than the sum of van der Waals radii (3.45 Å; Bondi, 1984). Since the O atom undoubtedly carries a partial negative charge, the occurrence of an attractive P···O interaction is not surprising. Similar, although stronger, attractive interactions have been observed previously in acyl and sulfonyl ylides of arsenic and antimony (Ferguson, Glidewell, Lloyd, Metcalfe & Ruhl, 1987; Ferguson *et al.*, 1988). The conformation about the C1—P1 bonds departs from perfect staggering by *ca* 14(2)°. The C1—P1 bond [1.845(6) Å] is significantly longer than the corresponding bonds in both (ferrocenylmethyl)triphenylphosphonium iodide [1.813(2) Å] and