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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 296 KMean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.006 Å R factor = 0.041 wR factor = 0.102 Data-to-parameter ratio = 18.6

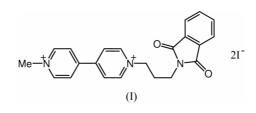
For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see http://journals.iucr.org/e.

hica Section E ports N-Methyl-N'-(3-phthalimidopropyl)-4,4'-bipyridinium diiodide

The asymmetric unit of the title compound,  $C_{22}H_{21}N_3O_2^{2+}\cdot 2I^-$ , consists of a substituted bipyridinium cation and two iodide anions. The dihedral angle between the two rings within the phthalimide moiety is 1.7 (3)°, where the r.m.s. deviations for the five- and six-membered rings are 0.006 and 0.004 Å, respectively. On the other hand, the two pyridinium rings are tilted at an angle of 3.9 (3)° because of the steric contacts between the H atoms at the 3-, 5-, 3'- and 5'-positions of the 4,4'-bipyridinium moiety. The phthalimide plane is tilted by 68.5 (1)° with respect to the pyridinium plane, directly attached to the propylene moiety.

#### Comment

A photochemical system made up of Ru(bpy)<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup> (bpy = 2,2'bipyridine) and methylviologen (usually, *N*,*N*'-dimethyl-4,4'bipyridinium dichloride) has been thought of as one of the promising candidates to achieve artificial photosynthetic devices. We previously reported that some amidate-bridged platinum dimers with the general formula  $[Pt_2(NH_3)_4-(\mu-\text{amidato})_2]^{2+}$  (amidate = acetamidate,  $\alpha$ -pyrrolidinonate,  $\alpha$ -pyridonate, *etc.*) serve as effective H<sub>2</sub>-producing catalysts in a well known photosystem consisting of edta, Ru(bpy)<sub>3</sub><sup>2+</sup> and methylviologen (Sakai *et al.*, 1993). Since then, various efforts have been made to develop a more effective system in which the chemical species mentioned above are linked together to give a single molecular device. The title compound, (I), was obtained as a precursor in such studies.



The molecular structure and the crystal packing diagram for (I) are shown in Figs. 1 and 2, respectively. All bond distances and angles in (I) are in the expected ranges.

## **Experimental**

A solution of *N*-methyl-4,4'-bipyridinium iodide (1.0 mmol; Van Emon *et al.*, 1986) and *N*-(3-bromopropyl)phthalimide (1.1 mmol) in methanol (20 ml) was refluxed for 2 d. The red prisms or plates deposited were collected by filtration and air-dried (yield: 52%). The purity has been checked by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy.

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Received 20 May 2003 Accepted 4 June 2003 Online 17 June 2003 Crystal data

 $C_{22}H_{21}N_{3}O_{2}^{2+}\cdot 2I^{-}$   $M_{r} = 613.22$ Triclinic, *P*I *a* = 6.0535 (5) Å *b* = 7.4674 (6) Å *c* = 25.776 (2) Å *a* = 83.715 (1)° *β* = 88.570 (2)° *γ* = 82.223 (1)° *V* = 1147.45 (16) Å<sup>3</sup>

#### Data collection

Bruker SMART APEX CCDdetector diffractometer  $\omega$  scans Absorption correction: multi-scan (*SADABS*; Sheldrick, 1996)  $T_{\min} = 0.586, T_{\max} = 0.871$ 6983 measured reflections

#### Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$	w
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.041$	
$wR(F^2) = 0.102$	
S = 1.05	(2
4883 reflections	Δ
263 parameters	$\Delta$
H-atom parameters constrained	

Z = 2  $D_x = 1.775 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$ Mo K\alpha radiation Cell parameters from 3414 reflections  $\theta = 2.8-27.2^{\circ}$   $\mu = 2.76 \text{ mm}^{-1}$  T = 296 (2) KPlate, red  $0.20 \times 0.20 \times 0.05 \text{ mm}$ 

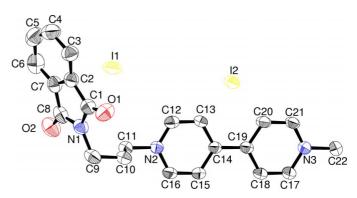
4883 independent reflections 4060 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$  $R_{int} = 0.019$  $\theta_{max} = 27.5^{\circ}$  $h = -7 \rightarrow 7$  $k = -8 \rightarrow 9$  $l = -24 \rightarrow 33$ 

$$\begin{split} w &= 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.048P)^2 \\ &+ 0.5905P] \\ \text{where } P &= (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3 \\ (\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} &= 0.001 \\ \Delta\rho_{\text{max}} &= 1.27 \text{ e } \text{ Å}^{-3} \\ \Delta\rho_{\text{min}} &= -0.44 \text{ e } \text{ Å}^{-3} \end{split}$$

All H atoms were located at their idealized positions as riding atoms [C-H(aromatic) = 0.93 Å, C-H(methylene) = 0.97 Å and C-H(methyl) = 0.96 Å]. In the final difference Fourier synthesis, five residual peaks in the range 1.01–1.27 e Å<sup>-3</sup> were observed within 0.94 Å of I atoms.

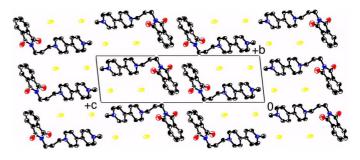
Data collection: *SMART* (Bruker, 2001); cell refinement: *SAINT* (Bruker, 2001); data reduction: *SAINT*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS*97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL*97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *KENX* (Sakai, 2002); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL*97 (Sheldrick, 1997), *TEXSAN* (Molecular Structure Corporation, 2001), KENX (Sakai, 2002) and *ORTEP*II (Johnson, 1976).

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#### Figure 1

The structure of the independent cation and anions in (I), showing the atom-labeling scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level.



#### Figure 2

Crystal packing, viewed down the a axis of (I).

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