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Key indicators
Single-crystal X-ray study
$T=293 \mathrm{~K}$
Mean $\sigma(\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C})=0.012 \AA$
$R$ factor $=0.038$
$w R$ factor $=0.092$
Data-to-parameter ratio $=16.4$

For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see http://journals.iucr.org/e.
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## (2-Methylbenzimidazolyl- $\kappa N$ )(triphenyl-phosphine- $\kappa$ P)gold(I) hemihydrate

The $\mathrm{Au}^{\mathrm{I}}$ atom in the title compound, $\left[\mathrm{Au}\left(\mathrm{C}_{8} \mathrm{H}_{7} \mathrm{~N}_{2}\right)\right.$ $\left.\left(\mathrm{C}_{18} \mathrm{H}_{15} \mathrm{P}\right)\right] \cdot 0.5 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$, shows a linear coordination. The tertiary N atom of the anionic group interacts with the uncoordinated water molecule, which lies on a twofold axis.

## Comment

An earlier study provided details of the crystal structure of the 1/1 benzimidazolylgold(I) adduct with triphenylphosphine, whose metal atom shows linear coordination $[\mathrm{Au}-\mathrm{N}=$ 2.022 (5) $\AA$ and $\mathrm{Au}-\mathrm{P}=2.232$ (2) $\AA ; \mathrm{N}-\mathrm{Au}-\mathrm{P}=179.6$ (1) ${ }^{\circ}$ ] (Li et al., 2004). In the title compound, (I), the introduction of a methyl substituent in the anion leads to only minor changes in the bond dimensions of the $\mathrm{Au}^{\mathrm{I}}$ atom, as shown in Fig. 1 and Table 1. The $180^{\circ}$ angle in the unsubstituted adduct is reduced to 175.3 (2) ${ }^{\circ}$ in the methyl-substituted adduct; the decrease can be attributed to the steric bulk of the methyl group. The non-coordinated atom N2 engages in hydrogen bonding with the uncoordinated water molecule, forming a hydrogenbonded assembly of two complexes and one water molecule (Table 2).


## Experimental

To a solution of chloro(triphenylphosphine)gold ( $0.99 \mathrm{~g}, 2.0 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and 2-methylbenzimidazole ( $0.27 \mathrm{~g}, 2.0 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) in acetone ( 20 ml ) was added 1 M sodium hydroxide ( 2 ml ). The solution was stirred for 2 h ; the precipitated sodium chloride was removed and the filtrate concentrated to give a colorless compound that was recrystallized from dichloromethane ( 10 ml ). Prismatic crystals were obtained by diffusing diethyl ether into a dichloromethane solution of the compound; the yield was about $75 \%$. CHN elemental analysis calculated for $\mathrm{C}_{26} \mathrm{H}_{23} \mathrm{AuN}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{0.5} \mathrm{P}$ : C 52.09, H 3.76, N $4.67 \%$; found: C 52.10, H 3.87, N $4.67 \%$. IR (KBr)/cm ${ }^{-1}: 3424$ ( $m$ ), 3052 ( $w$ ), 2914
 (m), $759(s), 742(s), 699(s), 540(s), 510(m)$.

## Crystal data

| $\left[\mathrm{Au}\left(\mathrm{C}_{8} \mathrm{H}_{7} \mathrm{~N}_{2}\right)\left(\mathrm{C}_{18} \mathrm{H}_{15} \mathrm{P}\right)\right] \cdot 0.5 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ | Mo $K \alpha$ radiation |
| :--- | :--- |
| $M_{r}=599.40$ | Cell parameters from 4375 |
| Orthorhombic, $P$ Pccn | reflections |
| $a=26.2518(9) \AA$ | $\theta=2.6-25.1^{\circ}$ |
| $b=9.3899(4) \AA$ | $\mu=6.54 \mathrm{~mm}^{-1}$ |
| $c=18.4960(6) \AA$ | $T=293(2) \mathrm{K}$ |
| $V=4559.3(3) \AA^{3}$ | Block, colorless |
| $Z=8$ | $0.40 \times 0.30 \times 0.20 \mathrm{~mm}$ |
| $D_{x}=1.746 \mathrm{Mg} \mathrm{m}^{-3}$ |  |

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## Data collection

Bruker SMART area-detector diffractometer
$\varphi$ and $\omega$ scans
Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Bruker, 1999)
$T_{\text {min }}=0.137, T_{\max }=0.270$
10540 measured reflections

## Refinement

Refinement on $F^{2}$
$R\left[F^{2}>2 \sigma\left(F^{2}\right)\right]=0.038$
$w R\left(F^{2}\right)=0.092$
$S=0.99$
4010 reflections
245 parameters

4010 independent reflections
2733 reflections with $I>2 \sigma(I)$
$R_{\text {int }}=0.040$
$\theta_{\text {max }}=25.1^{\circ}$
$h=-21 \rightarrow 31$
$k=-7 \rightarrow 11$
$l=-21 \rightarrow 21$

H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement
$w=1 /\left[\sigma^{2}\left(F_{o}{ }^{2}\right)+(0.0473 P)^{2}\right]$
where $P=\left(F_{o}{ }^{2}+2 F_{c}{ }^{2}\right) / 3$
$(\Delta / \sigma)_{\max }=0.001$
$\Delta \rho_{\text {max }}=0.95 \mathrm{e}_{\AA^{-3}}$
$\Delta \rho_{\min }=-1.65 \mathrm{e}^{-3}$

Table 1
Selected geometric parameters $\left(\AA{ }^{\circ},{ }^{\circ}\right)$.

| $\mathrm{Au} 1-\mathrm{N} 1$ | $2.025(5)$ | $\mathrm{Au} 1-\mathrm{P} 1$ | $2.238(2)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{Au} 1-\mathrm{P} 1$ | $175.3(2)$ |  |  |

Table 2
Hydrogen-bonding geometry $\left(\AA,{ }^{\circ}\right)$.

| $D-\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ | $D-\mathrm{H}$ | $\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ | $D \cdots A$ | $D-\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{H} 1 \cdots \mathrm{~N} 2$ | $0.82(8)$ | $2.09(8)$ | $2.894(8)$ | $168(9)$ |

The phenyl rings of the triphenylphosphine ligand were refined as rigid hexagons $(\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}=1.39 \AA)$. The H atoms were placed at calculated positions [aromatic $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}=0.93 \AA$ and methyl $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}=$ $\left.0.96 \AA ; U_{\text {iso }}(\mathrm{H})=1.2 U_{\text {eq }}(\mathrm{C})\right]$ and were included in the refinement in the riding-model approximation. The torsion angle of the methyl group was refined. The H atom belonging to the water O atom was located and refined freely.


Figure 1
ORTEPII (Johnson, 1976) plot of the title compound (I), showing the atom-numbering scheme and displacement ellipsoids drawn at the $50 \%$ probability level.

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 1999); cell refinement: SAINT (Bruker, 1999); data reduction: SAINT; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: ORTEPII (Johnson, 1976); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXL97.

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