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Helen Stoeckli-Evans^{b*}^aDepartment of Chemistry, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli 620 024, Tamilnadu, India, and ^bInstitut de Chimie, Université de Neuchâtel, Avenue de Bellevaux 51, CH-2000 Neuchâtel, Switzerland[‡] Holder of a Swiss Federal Commission Scholarship, for study at the Université de Neuchâtel, Switzerland, 2003–2004.Correspondence e-mail:
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Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study
 $T = 153$ K
Mean $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.004$ Å
 R factor = 0.041
 wR factor = 0.094
Data-to-parameter ratio = 20.3For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see <http://journals.iucr.org/e>.**[1,3-Bis(2-pyridylimino)isoindolino- κ^3 N,N',N'']**-
chloro(1,2-dicyanobenzene- κ N)(dimethyl
sulfoxide- κ S)ruthenium(II)

The title compound, $[\text{Ru}(\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_5)\text{Cl}(\text{C}_8\text{H}_4\text{N}_2)(\text{C}_2\text{H}_6\text{OS})]$, consists of an Ru^{II} atom hexagonally coordinated by a tridentate isoindoline ligand, a Cl atom, the S atom of a dimethyl sulfoxide molecule and an N atom of a CN group of dicyanobenzene. In the crystal structure, a three-dimensional network is built up owing to the presence of weak $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$ and $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{Cl}$ intermolecular hydrogen bonds.

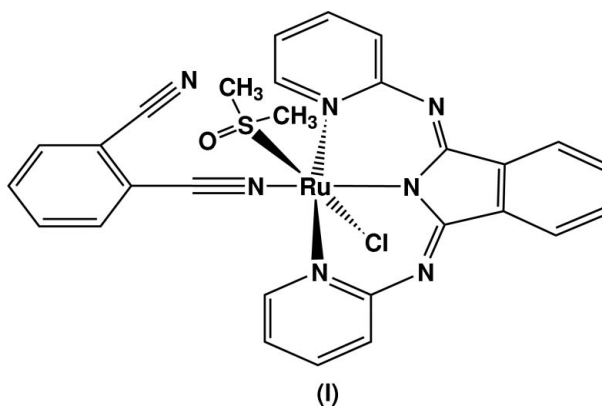
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Comment

The title compound, (I), was synthesized when attempts were made to prepare the first ruthenium(II) complex of the ligand 1,3-tris(2'-pyridylimino)isoindoline, *L1*, using $\text{Ru}(\text{dms})_4\text{Cl}_2$ in the metal-to-ligand ratio of 1:2 (dms is dimethyl sulfoxide). The ligand synthesis involves the reaction of 1,2-dicyanobenzene with 2-aminopyridine (Siegl, 1977). Owing to the similar solubility properties of the final product, *L1*, and the starting materials it was not easy to purify *L1*. The reaction of crude *L1* with $\text{Ru}(\text{dms})_4\text{Cl}_2$ in methanol led to the formation of (I). The crystal structure of the free ligand *L1*, (II), has been published recently (Schilf, 2004). The molecule is planar, with intramolecular, bifurcated, symmetric hydrogen bonds involving the three N atoms (N1, N3 and N5; Fig. 1). We subsequently also obtained single crystals of (II) and our structure analysis agreed with that reported above.



The molecular structure of (I) is shown in Fig. 1 and selected geometric parameters are given in Table 1. Atom Ru1 has a reasonably regular octahedral coordination environment. The central $\text{Ru}-\text{N}(\text{isoindoline})$ bond distance is shorter [1.997 (2) Å] than the $\text{Ru}-\text{N}(\text{pyridine})$ bond distances [2.111 (2) and 2.094 (2) Å]. The ligand *L1* in (I), twisting essentially about the bond $\text{N4}-\text{C13}$, is less planar than that in (II). The relevant torsion angles involving atoms N2 and N4 are given in Table 1. Within the complex there are

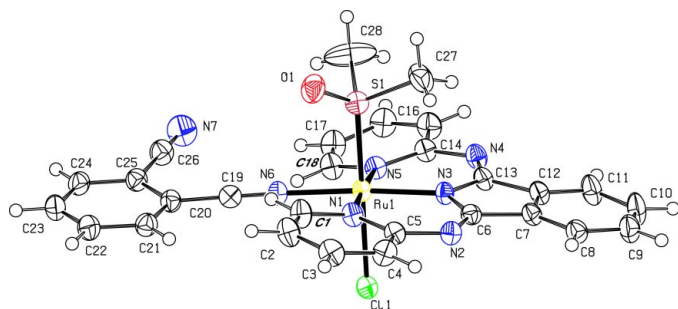


Figure 1
The molecular structure of (I), showing the atomic numbering scheme and displacement ellipsoids at the 50% probability level.

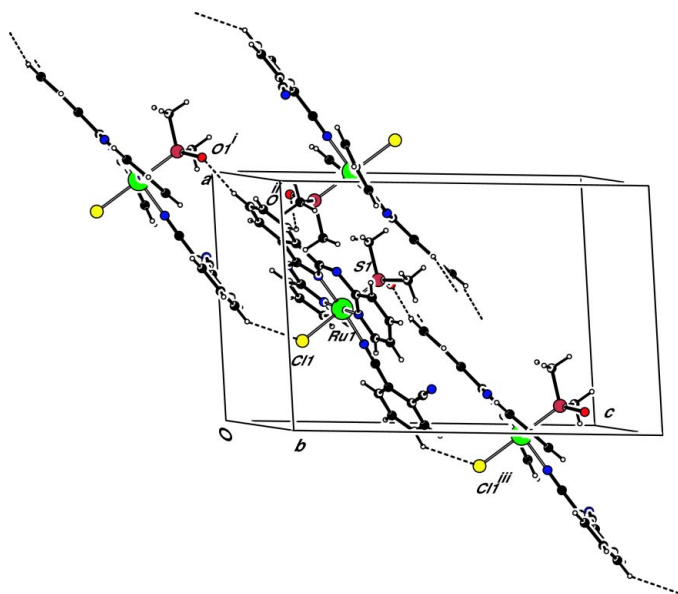


Figure 2
Part of the crystal packing in (I), showing the formation of the hydrogen-bonded (dashed lines) network. [Symmetry codes: (i) $x + \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} - y, -\frac{1}{2} + z$; (ii) $\frac{3}{2} - x, \frac{1}{2} + y, \frac{1}{2} - z$; (iii) $-\frac{1}{2} + x, \frac{1}{2} - y, \frac{1}{2} + z$.]

two intramolecular C—H...N contacts involving the coordinated cyano N atom, N6, and the H atoms of atoms C1 and C18 of the two pyridine rings of L1 (H1...N6 = 2.33 Å and H18...N6 = 2.34 Å).

The dmsomole coordinates atom Ru1 *via* atom S1, with an Ru1—S1 bond distance of 2.2087 (7) Å. This is shorter than those observed in similar compounds, for example, 2.251 (1) and 2.258 (1) Å in chloro(dimethyl sulfoxide)tris(2-pyridylmethyl)amineruthenium(II) hexafluorophosphate (Bjernerose *et al.*, 2003). The Ru1—C11 bond distance [2.4325 (7) Å] is very similar to that in the above-mentioned compound [2.430 (1) and 2.420 (1) Å]. The 1,2-dicyanobenzene ligand coordinates atom Ru1 *via* the N atom of one cyano group, the Ru1—N6 bond distance being 2.027 (2) Å. This mono-coordination mode of 1,2-dicyanobenzene with ruthenium has never been observed previously, but examples exist with zirconium (Kubiak & Ejsmont, 1998), titanium (Berhalter & Thewalt, 1987) and rhenium (Derringer *et al.*, 1991).

In the crystal structure, the molecules are linked by weak intermolecular C—H...O and C—H...Cl hydrogen bonds

(Table 2) to form a three-dimensional network, as shown in Fig. 2.

Experimental

The precursor complex Ru(dmsomole)₄Cl₂ was prepared according to the procedure of Evans *et al.* (1973). The ligand (L1) was prepared following the procedure described by Siegl (1977). Complex (I) was prepared by adding Ru(dmsomole)₄Cl₂ (0.05 g, 0.1 mmol) to the ligand (L1; 0.06 g, 0.2 mmol) in methanol (14 ml). The mixture was allowed to reflux for 10 h and was then cooled to ambient temperature. The solution was filtered and the filtrate was allowed to evaporate slowly in air. In about a week, dark-red block-like X-ray quality crystals of the title complex were obtained. X-ray analysis indicated that the original ligand sample was not pure, but contaminated by 1,2-dicyanobenzene used in the synthesis of L1.

Crystal data

[Ru(C₁₈H₁₂N₅)Cl(C₈H₄N₂)-
(C₂H₆OS)]
M_r = 641.11
Monoclinic, *P*₂₁/*n*
a = 11.5299 (5) Å
b = 12.9081 (5) Å
c = 17.4774 (9) Å
β = 94.538 (4)°
V = 2593.0 (2) Å³
Z = 4

D_x = 1.642 Mg m⁻³
Mo *Kα* radiation
Cell parameters from 30 303
reflections
θ = 1.8–29.6°
μ = 0.83 mm⁻¹
T = 153 (2) K
Block, dark red
0.35 × 0.24 × 0.10 mm

Data collection

Stoe IPDS-II diffractometer
ω scan
Absorption correction: multi-scan
(*MULscanABS* in *PLATON*;
Spek, 2003)
T_{min} = 0.728, *T_{max}* = 0.970
37 823 measured reflections

7199 independent reflections
6291 reflections with *I* > 2σ(*I*)
R_{int} = 0.043
θ_{max} = 29.6°
h = -15 → 15
k = -17 → 17
l = -24 → 24

Refinement

Refinement on *F*²
R[*F*² > 2σ(*F*²)] = 0.041
wR(*F*²) = 0.094
S = 1.07
7199 reflections
354 parameters
H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0441P)^2 + 3.0086P]$
where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
(*Δ*/σ)_{max} = 0.001
*Δρ*_{max} = 0.57 e Å⁻³
*Δρ*_{min} = -0.98 e Å⁻³

Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Ru1—C11	2.4325 (7)	Ru1—N3	1.997 (2)
Ru1—S1	2.2087 (7)	Ru1—N5	2.094 (2)
Ru1—N1	2.111 (2)	Ru1—N6	2.027 (2)
C11—Ru1—S1	179.64 (3)	S1—Ru1—N6	91.00 (6)
C11—Ru1—N1	91.54 (6)	N1—Ru1—N3	88.50 (8)
C11—Ru1—N3	87.53 (6)	N1—Ru1—N5	176.91 (8)
C11—Ru1—N5	87.57 (6)	N1—Ru1—N6	90.40 (8)
C11—Ru1—N6	88.89 (6)	N3—Ru1—N5	88.51 (8)
S1—Ru1—N1	88.12 (6)	N3—Ru1—N6	176.22 (8)
S1—Ru1—N3	92.58 (6)	N5—Ru1—N6	92.54 (8)
S1—Ru1—N5	92.78 (6)		
C5—N2—C6—N3	-2.7 (4)	C14—N4—C13—N3	-10.0 (4)
C6—N2—C5—N1	1.5 (4)	C13—N4—C14—N5	-2.6 (4)

Table 2
Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

	<i>D</i> —H	H··· <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> ··· <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> —H··· <i>A</i>
C9—H9···O1 ⁱ	0.95	2.34	3.264 (3)	165
C11—H11···O1 ⁱⁱ	0.95	2.59	3.241 (4)	126
C23—H23···Cl1 ⁱⁱⁱ	0.95	2.80	3.557 (3)	137

Symmetry codes: (i) $x + \frac{1}{2}, -y + \frac{1}{2}, z - \frac{1}{2}$; (ii) $-x + \frac{3}{2}, y + \frac{1}{2}, -z + \frac{1}{2}$; (iii) $x - \frac{1}{2}, -y + \frac{1}{2}, z + \frac{1}{2}$

H atoms were included in calculated positions and treated as riding atoms, with C—H = 0.95–0.98 Å and with $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$ or $1.5U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$. The methyl atom, C28, of the dmso molecule undergoes considerable thermal vibration but attempts to refine it as a split atom were not successful.

Data collection: *X-AREA* (Stoe & Cie, 2004); cell refinement: *X-AREA*; data reduction: *X-RED32* (Stoe & Cie, 2004); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1990); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular

graphics: *PLATON* (Spek, 2003); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL97*.

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