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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 190 KMean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.003 \text{ Å}$  R factor = 0.025 wR factor = 0.059 Data-to-parameter ratio = 19.7

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

# Chloro{1-[(dimethylamino)methyl- $\kappa N$ ]-1*H*-indolyl- $\kappa C^2$ }(triphenylphosphine- $\kappa P$ )palladium(II) dichloromethane solvate

The title compound,  $[Pd(C_{11}H_{13}N_2)Cl(C_{18}H_{15}P)]\cdot CH_2Cl_2$ , crystallizes readily from a mixture of dichloromethane and light petroleum. The structure is one of few examples of palladacycles that incorporate the *N*-substituent in five-membered ring heterocycles [Nonoyama & Nakajima (1998). *Polyhedron* **18**, 533–543.].

#### Comment

Cyclometallation represents one of the most useful methods for the activation and *ortho*-functionalization of  $Csp^2$ -H bonds in aromatic compounds (Ryabov et al., 1993). The presence of a tethered donor group allows the initial coordination of the ligand to the metal and favourable intramolecular cyclization. Whereas heteroatom-directed cvclometallation of benzenoid and heteroaromatic systems has been exhaustively investigated, the chemistry of the analogous indole derivatives has remained virtually unexplored (Valk et al., 1994; Tollari et al., 1997). Palladacycles are amongst the most active catalysts for C-C and Cheteroatom bond formation (Herrmann et al., 1999; Albrecht & van Koten, 2001; Dupont et al., 2001). In addition to their high activity, they permit easy synthesis, facile modification and comparative stability. We report here the synthesis and structure of a five-membered indole-fused ortho-palladacycle, (2), which incorporates N-isogramine, (1), as a C,N-bidentate ligand.



a) PdCl<sub>2</sub>, LiCl, AcONa, EtOH b) PPh<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>

The coordination geometry of the Pd atom closely approximates planarity. The mean plane through the Pd/C/Cl/N/P atoms intersects that of the ring system of the *N*-isogramine ligand (atoms C1–C5/N6/C7–C10) at an angle of 26.69 (6)°. The structure of a related six-membered indole-fused *ortho*-palladacycle which incorporates an *N*-methyl-eneoxazoline as the *C*,*N*-bidentate ligand has also been reported (Cowley *et al.*, 2005).

### **Experimental**

A suspension of  $PdCl_2$  (0.135 g, 0.76 mmol) and LiCl (0.064 g, 1.52 mmol) in ethanol (5 ml) was heated under reflux condition for

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#### Figure 1

The molecular structure of (2), drawn with 50% probability ellipsoids for the anisotropically refined atoms.

2 h to give a dark red solution of Li<sub>2</sub>[PdCl<sub>4</sub>]. The solution was cooled to room temperature and *N*-isogramine (Swaminathan & Narasimhan, 1966) (0.11 g, 0.63 mmol) in ethanol (2 ml) and sodium acetate trihydrate (0.086 g, 0.63 mmol) were added. The resulting suspension was stirred at room temperature for 1.5 h. The insoluble brown solid was filtered off, washed with ethanol and dried *in vacuo*. Degassed CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (8 ml) and PPh<sub>3</sub> (0.413 g, 1.58 mmol) were then added to the solid and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h under an argon atmosphere. Addition of pentane to the solution resulted in precipitation of a yellow solid. Recrystallization of the crude product from dichloromethane–pentane gave the yellow product, (2) (m.p. 398–402 K); full spectroscopic and physical characterization will be reported elsewhere.

Crystal data

$[Pd(C_{11}H_{13}N_2)Cl(C_{18}H_{15}P)] \cdot CH_2Cl_2$	$D_x = 1.518 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
$M_r = 662.31$	Mo K $\alpha$ radiation
Monoclinic, $P2_1/n$	Cell parameters from 6527
a = 11.0324 (1)  Å	reflections
b = 23.9623 (3)  Å	$\theta = 1-27^{\circ}$
c = 11.2437 (1) Å	$\mu = 1.00 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$\beta = 102.9338 \ (8)^{\circ}$	$T = 190 { m K}$
V = 2896.99 (5) Å <sup>3</sup>	Block, yellow
Z = 4	$0.28 \times 0.20 \times 0.20 \text{ mm}$
Data collection	
Nonius KappaCCD diffractometer	$R_{\rm int} = 0.012$
ωscans	$\theta_{\rm max} = 27.5^{\circ}$
Absorption correction: none	$h = -14 \rightarrow 14$
12861 measured reflections	$k = -31 \rightarrow 31$
6622 independent reflections	$l = -14 \rightarrow 14$
5789 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$	
Refinement	
Definition $E^2$	II atom nonomatons not softwar

Refinement on  $F^2$   $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.025$   $wR(F^2) = 0.059$  S = 1.00 6593 reflections 334 parameters H-atom parameters not refined  $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F^2) + 0.02 + 2.41P]$ where  $P = [\max(F_o^2, 0) + 2F_c^2]/3$   $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} = 0.001$   $\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.81 \text{ e Å}^{-3}$  $\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.64 \text{ e Å}^{-3}$ 

Table 1				
Selected	geometric	parameters	(Å,	°).

Pd1-C2	1.9974 (18)	Pd1-P15	2.2536 (5)
Pd1-N12	2.1867 (15)	Pd1-Cl1	2.3618 (5)
C2-Pd1-N12	80.76 (7)	N12-Pd1-Cl1	91.59 (4)
C2-Pd1-P15	91.69 (5)	P15-Pd1-Cl1	96.583 (17)
N12-Pd1-P15	169.10 (4)	Pd1-C2-C3	142.04 (14)
C2-Pd1-Cl1	170.75 (5)	Pd1-C2-N6	110.00 (12)

The 29 reflections below  $[\sin(\theta)/\lambda]^2$  of 0.011 (= ~4.27°) were not used in the refinement. It was suspected that some of them may have been partially obscured by the beam stop. All H atoms were placed in geometrically calculated positions after each refinement cycle, with X-H = 1.0 Å;  $U_{\rm iso}(H)$  values were set at  $1.2U_{\rm eq}$  of the connected atom.

Data collection: *COLLECT* (Nonius, 1998); cell refinement: *DENZO/SCALEPACK* (Otwinowski & Minor, 1997); data reduction: *DENZO/SCALEPACK*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SIR*92 (Altomare *et al.*, 1994); program(s) used to refine structure: *CRYSTALS* (Betteridge *et al.*, 2003); molecular graphics: *CAMERON* (Watkin *et al.*, 1996); software used to prepare material for publication: *CRYSTALS*.

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