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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 293 K Mean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.008 Å R factor = 0.039 wR factor = 0.079 Data-to-parameter ratio = 25.8

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

# *trans*-(Isothiocyanato-*kN*)phenylbis(triphenyl-phosphine-*kP*)platinum(II)

The crystal structure of the title compound, *trans*-[Pt(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)(NCS)(C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>15</sub>P)<sub>2</sub>], represents a typical example where steric crowding around the platinum metal centre induces *N*-coordination of the thiocyanate ligand. The compound crystallizes on a twofold rotation axis. Selected geometrical parameters are Pt-C = 2.019 (6) Å, Pt-P = 2.3007 (11) Å, Pt-N = 2.052 (6) Å, C-Pt-P = 92.47 (3)°, P-Pt-P' = 175.06 (5)° and N-Pt-P = 87.53 (3)°. The compound represents a rare example of a *trans* bisphosphine complex of platinum(II) containing the NCS<sup>-</sup> ligand.

## Comment

As part of an extensive investigation into the structure and reactivity relationships of platinum(II) complexes, NCS<sup>-</sup> was evaluated as ligand in systems with the general formula *trans*- $[PtRCl(L)_2]$  (R = Me, Ph or H, and L = phosphine, arsine or stibine; Otto, 2000). Crystals of the title compound, (I), were obtained from a chloroform solution containing Bu<sub>4</sub>N(NCS) and *trans*- $[PtPhCl(PPh_3)_2]$  as a result of these studies.



Compound (I) (Fig. 1) crystallizes with a distorted squareplanar geometry; a twofold rotation axis passes through Pt and the thiocyanate and phenyl ligands. The compound crystallizes with the two bulky PPh<sub>3</sub> ligands in the expected *trans* orientation with respect to each other. The NCS<sup>-</sup> ligand is coordinated through the N atom, an indication of the steric strain induced by the PPh<sub>3</sub> ligands, making the electronically preferred S coordination mode energetically unfavourable. <sup>31</sup>P NMR studies confirmed that this was indeed the only isomer formed in solution. The packing in the unit cell is governed by van der Waals forces alone, with no significant intermolecular interactions.

The Pt1-P1 and Pt1-C1 bond distances within the squareplanar coordination are within the expected ranges, at 2.3007 (11) and 2.019 (6) Å, respectively. The Pt1-N1 bond distance, of 2.052 (6) Å, is slightly elongated compared with that found in the related *trans*-[Pt(NCS)<sub>2</sub>(PBz<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] complex Received 22 June 2005 Accepted 7 July 2005 Online 13 July 2005

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(see Table 2). This difference is mainly attributed to the large *trans* influence of the  $\sigma$ -bonded C atom of the phenyl ring. The Pt1-N1 bond distance is indeed similar to that found *trans* to the C atom of the ruthenocenyl group. With regards to the bond angles, the only significant distortion is the  $P1-Pt1-P1^{i}$ angle of 175.06 (5) Å. As expected, the phenyl ring is orientated almost perpendicular to the equatorial plane, as indicated by the C2-C1-Pt1-P1 torsion angle of 71.66 (19) Å.

It was noted previously (Johansson & Otto, 2000; Johansson et al., 2000) for a series of structures of trans-[PtCl<sub>2</sub>(L)<sub>2</sub>] (L = PPh<sub>3</sub> and AsPh<sub>3</sub>) that tertiary phosphine and arsine ligands seem to have a preferred orientation as described by their rotation with respect to the coordination plane in squareplanar complexes. Further investigation (Johansson et al., 2002) in a series of structures with the general formula trans- $[PtX_2(PBz_3)_2]$  (X<sup>-</sup> = Cl, I and NCS) showed that all of the PBz<sub>3</sub> ligands had one X-Pt-P-C torsion angle very close to zero (lying parallel to the coordination plane). In the case of  $X^{-}$  = Cl and I, the opposing PBz<sub>3</sub> ligand exhibited an *anti* conformation with respect to the first PBz<sub>3</sub> ligand. In the case of  $X^-$  = NCS, however, the two PBz<sub>3</sub> ligands exhibited a gauche conformation, as in the current study, where a gauche conformation for the phosphine ligands, in this case PPh<sub>3</sub>, was observed.

# **Experimental**

Crystals suitable for diffraction studies of the title compound were isolated by slow evaporation of a chloroform solution containing trans-[PtPhCl(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] (50 mg, 0.06 mmol) and Bu<sub>4</sub>N(NCS) (90 mg, 0.3 mmol). <sup>31</sup>P NMR /CDCl<sub>3</sub>: 21.45 p.p.m. (t, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>Pt-P</sub> = 3073 Hz). IR (KBr):  $\nu$ (NCS) 2106 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

# Crystal data

$[Pt(C_6H_5)(NCS)(C_{18}H_{15}P)_2]$	D <sub>m</sub> measured by flotation in NaI/
$M_r = 854.81$	$H_2O$
Monoclinic, $C2/c$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
a = 25.317 (5)  Å	Cell parameters from 6384
b = 13.762 (3) Å	reflections
c = 11.542 (2) Å	$\theta = 2.0-27.4^{\circ}$
$\beta = 114.26 \ (3)^{\circ}$	$\mu = 4.00 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$V = 3666.2 (13) \text{ Å}^3$	T = 293 (2) K
Z = 4	Prism, colourless
$D_x = 1.549 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$	$0.10 \times 0.05 \times 0.02 \text{ mm}$
$D_{\rm m} = 1.525 \ {\rm Mg} \ {\rm m}^{-3}$	
Data collection	
Siemens SMART diffractometer	3249 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
$\omega$ scans	$R_{\rm int} = 0.088$
Absorption correction: multi-scan	$\theta_{\rm max} = 31.8^{\circ}$
(SADABS; Bruker, 1998)	$h = -37 \rightarrow 32$
T = 0.662 T = 0.923	$k18 \rightarrow 19$

 $0.662, T_{max}$ 18254 measured reflections 5693 independent reflections

### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$ 
$$\begin{split} R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] &= 0.039 \\ wR(F^2) &= 0.079 \end{split}$$
S = 0.875693 reflections 221 parameters

 $l = -16 \rightarrow 16$ 

H-atom parameters constrained  $w = 1/[\sigma^{2}(F_{o}^{2}) + (0.0278P)^{2}]$ where  $P = (F_{o}^{2} + 2F_{c}^{2})/3$  $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} = 0.001$  $\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.80 \text{ e} \text{ Å}^{-3}$  $\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -1.20 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$ 



## Figure 1

A view of the structure of (I), showing the atom-numbering scheme and displacement ellipsoids at the 30% probability level. All H atoms have been omitted for clarity. The phenyl rings of the PPh<sub>3</sub> ligands are numbered with the first digit referring to the number of the ring (1-3) and the second digit referring to the number of the C atom within the ring (1-6). [Symmetry code: (i)  $1 - x, y, \frac{1}{2} - z$ .]

#### Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Pt1-C1	2.019 (6)	P1-C11	1.807 (4)
Pt1-N1	2.052 (6)	P1-C31	1.809 (4)
Pt1-P1	2.3007 (11)	S1-C5	1.630 (8)
P1-C21	1.803 (4)	C5-N1	1.092 (8)
C1-Pt1-N1	180	C21-P1-Pt1	108.52 (14)
C1-Pt1-P1	92.47 (3)	C11-P1-Pt1	117.65 (13)
N1-Pt1-P1	87.53 (3)	C31-P1-Pt1	115.12 (14)
C21-P1-C11	105.43 (19)	N1-C5-S1	180
C21-P1-C31	106.1 (2)	C5-N1-Pt1	180
C11-P1-C31	103.06 (18)		
P1-Pt1-C1-C2	-71.66 (19)	N1-Pt1-P1-C21	-53.05 (15)
N1-Pt1-P1-C11	-172.54 (15)	N1-Pt1-P1-C31	65.64 (15)

Table 2	
Comparative X-ray data for trans- $[Pt(X)(NCS)(L)_2]$	complexes.

X	L	Pt-X(Å)	Pt-N (Å)	$Pt-L_{ave}$ (Å)
NCS <sup>i</sup> Ph <sup>ii</sup>	PBz <sub>3</sub> PPh <sub>3</sub>	1.966 (5) 2.019 (6)	2.014 (5) 2.052 (6)	2.3221 (14) 2.3007 (11)
Rc <sup>iii</sup>	PEt <sub>3</sub>	2.031 (8)	2.055 (8)	2.309 (3)

Notes: (i) Johansson et al. (2002); (ii) this work; (iii) Rc = ruthenocenyl, all bonds averaged for two independent molecules (Yoshida et al., 1999)

All H atoms were placed in geometrically idealized positions (C-H = 0.93 Å) and constrained to ride on their parent atoms with  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(C)$ . The minimum and maximum residual electron density are located within 1.3 Å of the Pt atom, indicating no physical meaning.

Data collection: SMART (Siemens, 1995); cell refinement: SAINT (Siemens, 1995); data reduction: SAINT; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine

structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *DIAMOND* (Brandenburg & Berndt, 1999); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL97*.

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