metal-organic papers

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Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 173 K Mean σ (C–C) = 0.008 Å Disorder in solvent or counterion R factor = 0.071 wR factor = 0.182 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.

cis-[Bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane- $\kappa^2 P$, P']-dichlororuthenium(II) dichloromethane disolvate

The title compound, cis-[RuCl₂(C₂₆H₂₄P₂)₂]·2CH₂Cl₂, was obtained as an unexpected product from our attempts to prepare new ruthenium molecular wires using organic bridging ligands. Three solvates and a solvent-free structure of the isomeric complex with the chloride anions in a *trans* geometry have already been reported, while the *cis* isomer has been described only in solution studies prior to this work.

Comment

[RuCl₂(dppe)₂] [dppe is (diphenylphosphino)ethane] was prepared for the first time as the trans isomer (Chatt & Hayter, 1961) and, more recently, the cis isomeric form was also isolated (Bautista et al., 1991). The cis-[RuCl₂(dppe)₂] complex is a useful starting material, commonly used for the preparation of mononuclear, as well as bi- and trinuclear, complexes (Lavastre et al., 1997; Rigaut et al., 2003), but its crystal structure has not been reported prior to this work. Four structures containing the complex trans-[RuCl₂(dppe)₂] can be found in the literature, namely in the form of a dichloromethane solvate (Lobana et al., 1990), a chloroform solvate (Fronczek et al., 2001), a tetrahydrofuran solvate (Chang et al., 1998) and a solvent-free structure (Polam & Porter, 1993). In the title compound, cis-[RuCl₂(P₂C₂₆H₂₄)₂]·2CH₂Cl₂, (I), the complex Ru^{II} cation is in a slightly distorted octahedral environment, chelated by two dppe ligands, with two chloride anions in a mutually cis geometry completing the coordination environment (Fig. 1 and Table 1). In addition to the neutral complex, the asymmetric unit also contains two dichloromethane solvent molecules.



Experimental

The reaction was carried out in an oven-dried, vacuum/nitrogen cycled Schlenk flask, under a nitrogen atmosphere. *cis*- $[RuCl_2(dppe)_2]$ (0.283 g, 0.29 mmol) and 1,4-diethoxy-2,5-diethy-nylbenzene (0.023 g, 0.11 mmol) were dissolved in dry tetrahydro-furan (30 ml) in the presence of an excess of triethylamine (10 ml); after 24 h stirring at room temperature a dark-yellow suspension was

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Received 16 April 2006 Accepted 25 April 2006 obtained. The crude yellow product, obtained upon removal from a light-red solution, was dried, washed with dry Et₂O (2×5 ml) and *n*-hexane (5 ml), and dried again under reduced pressure. At this point the product contained a mixture of the *cis*- and *trans*-[RuCl₂(dppe)₂] complexes in an approximate ratio of 46:54 (based on ³¹P NMR). Recrystallization of the product from CH₂Cl₂/Et₂O (3:3), at 253 K, gave a dark-orange powder (fraction *A*) and, mostly, very fine yellow needles (fraction *B*). Further recrystallization of fraction *B*, under the same conditions, gave yellow thick needles suitable for single-crystal X-ray diffraction analysis.

Z = 4

 $D_r = 1.464 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$

 $0.20 \times 0.15 \times 0.15$ mm

29691 measured reflections

11446 independent reflections

7242 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$

Mo $K\alpha$ radiation

 $\mu = 0.77 \text{ mm}^{-1}$

T = 173 (2) K

Block, yellow

 $\begin{aligned} R_{\rm int} &= 0.100\\ \theta_{\rm max} &= 27.5^\circ \end{aligned}$

Crystal data

 $[RuCl_{2}(C_{26}H_{24}P_{2})_{2}]\cdot 2CH_{2}Cl_{2}$ $M_{r} = 1138.61$ Monoclinic, $P2_{1}/n$ a = 17.054 (3) Å b = 13.182 (3) Å c = 23.592 (5) Å $\beta = 103.05$ (3)° V = 5167 (2) Å³

Data collection

Nonius KappaCCD diffractometer φ and ω scans Absorption correction: multi-scan (*SADABS*; Sheldrick, 2003) $T_{\min} = 0.861, T_{\max} = 0.893$

Refinement

Refinement on F^2	H-atom parameters constrained
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.071$	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0675P)^2]$
$wR(F^2) = 0.182$	where $P = (F_0^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
S = 1.04	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} = 0.001$
11446 reflections	$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 1.19 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$
614 parameters	$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -1.22 \text{ e} \text{ Å}^{-3}$

Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Ru1-P1	2.3825 (14)	Ru1-P16	2.3301 (14)
Ru1-Cl1	2.4710 (14)	Ru1-P31	2.3915 (14)
Ru1-Cl2	2.4752 (13)	Ru1-P46	2.3568 (14)
P1-Ru1-Cl1	88.48 (5)	Cl1-Ru1-P46	166.84 (4)
P1-Ru1-Cl2	86.63 (5)	Cl2-Ru1-P16	171.11 (5)
P1-Ru1-P16	84.50 (5)	Cl2-Ru1-P31	83.28 (5)
P1-Ru1-P31	167.19 (5)	Cl2-Ru1-P46	90.35 (5)
P1-Ru1-P46	104.41 (5)	P16-Ru1-P31	105.41 (5)
Cl1-Ru1-Cl2	87.71 (4)	P16-Ru1-P46	92.42 (5)
Cl1-Ru1-P16	91.46 (5)	P31-Ru1-P46	83.58 (5)
Cl1-Ru1-P31	83.26 (5)		

One dichloromethane molecule was refined as disordered over two positions, identified by C62A and C62B, Cl5A and C15B, Cl6A and C16B, and H62A–H62D, with occupancies of 0.552 (8) and 0.448 (8), respectively. All H atoms were refined using a riding model with C–H = 0.95 Å for aromatic atoms, C–H = 0.99 Å for CH₂ and $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(C)$. The maximum and minimum electron-density peaks in the final difference map lie 0.93 Å from atom Ru1 and 0.79 Å from atom Ru1, respectively.

Data collection: *COLLECT* (Hooft, 1998); cell refinement: *EVALCCD* (Duisenberg *et al.*, 2003); data reduction: *EVALCCD*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997);



Figure 1

Plot of the complex (H atoms omitted), showing the atom-numbering scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level. H atoms and solvent molecules have been omitted.

molecular graphics: *ORTEPIII* (Burnett & Johnson, 1996); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL* (Sheldrick, 2001) and *CIFTAB* (Sheldrick, 1993).

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