## organic papers

Acta Crystallographica Section E **Structure Reports** Online

ISSN 1600-5368

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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 110 KMean  $\sigma(C-C) = 0.003$  Å R factor = 0.049 wR factor = 0.138 Data-to-parameter ratio = 19.8

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

# 2-(Diphenylphosphinoylmethyl)pyridinium tetrafluoroborate

In the title compound,  $[OPPh_2(2-CH_2C_5H_4NH)]BF_4$ , the phosphorus atom displays a tetrahedral geometry, with the nitrogen of the pyridyl group protonated and having tetrafluoroborate as counter-anion.

#### Comment

Vapor diffusion of diethyl ether into a solution reaction of  $Cu(BF_4)_2$  with 2-pyridyldiphenylphosphine in acetonitrile at 278 K, provided two easily distinguished kinds of crystals: blue block-shaped crystals corresponding to the reaction product of the Cu<sup>II</sup> salt with the bidentate phosphine ligand and colorless block-shaped crystals of the title compound, (I). An X-ray crystallographic investigation showed (I) to be the oxidized ligand, with further protonation of the nitrogen of the pyridyl group (Fig. 1) due to the presence of water in the system, the charge being balanced by BF<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> present in the solution. The socalled hemilabile hybrid ligand (Minghetti et al., 1998) presents a very close to tetrahedral geometry, with the angles around the P atom ranging from 105.61 (8) to  $112.31 (7)^{\circ}$ (Table 1). The bond lengths and angles are in normal ranges (Allen et al., 1987).



In the crystal structure, the molecules are linked into two chains running in different directions (Fig. 2) by  $C-H \cdots F$  and N-H···O intermolecular hydrogen bonds (Table 2).

### **Experimental**

The title compound, (I), was obtained from the oxidation and protonation of 2-pyridyldiphenylphosphine from a reaction solution containing  $Cu(BF_4)_2$  (0.102 g, 0.4 mmol); the phosphine ligand (0.110 g, 0.4 mmol) was synthesized as reported in the literature with slight modifications of the procedure (Akermark et al., 1986). Diffraction-quality crystals of (I) were obtained by vapor diffusion of diethyl ether into a concentrated acetonitrile solution of the reaction mixture in the presence of air.

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Received 6 October 2006

Accepted 8 November 2006





A view of the molecular structure of the cation of (I), with displacement ellipsoids drawn at the 50% probability level

Z = 8

 $D_x = 1.391 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$ Mo *K* $\alpha$  radiation

 $\mu = 0.20 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ 

T = 110 (2) K

 $R_{\rm int} = 0.041$ 

 $\theta_{\rm max} = 29.0^{\circ}$ 

Block, colorless

 $0.29 \times 0.25 \times 0.21 \ \mathrm{mm}$ 

14958 measured reflections

 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_0^2) + (0.0684P)^2]$ 

where  $P = (F_0^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$ 

+ 4.7739*P*]

 $\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.57 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$ 

 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} = 0.001$  $\Delta\rho_{\rm max} = 0.65 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$ 

4726 independent reflections

3915 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ 

#### Crystal data

 $C_{18}H_{17}NOP^+ \cdot BF_4^ M_r = 381.11$ Monoclinic, C2/c a = 16.7528 (15) Å b = 13.9287 (17) Å c = 15.661 (2) Å  $\beta = 95.314 (4)^{\circ}$  $V = 3638.7 (7) \text{ Å}^3$ 

#### Data collection

Bruker APEX X8 CCD areadetector diffractometer  $\varphi$  and  $\omega$  scans Absorption correction: multi-scan (*SADABS*, Bruker, 2000)  $T_{\min} = 0.958$ ,  $T_{\max} = 0.960$ 

#### Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.049$
$wR(F^2) = 0.138$
S = 1.04
4726 reflections
239 parameters
H atoms treated by a mixture of
independent and constrained
refinement

### Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

P1-O1	1.4939 (12)	P1-C13	1.8000 (17)
P1-C7	1.7946 (17)	P1-C1	1.8283 (18)
O1-P1-C7	112.31 (7)	O1-P1-C1	111.51 (8)
O1-P1-C13	110.04 (8)	C7-P1-C1	105.61 (8)
C7-P1-C13	108.97 (8)	C13-P1-C1	108.22 (8)



#### Figure 2

Packing diagram of (I), showing the C-H···F and N-H···O hydrogen bonds as dashed lines.

## Table 2

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

$D - H \cdots A$	D-H	$H \cdots A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - \mathbf{H} \cdots A$
$N1-H1C\cdotsO1^{i}$	0.96 (3)	1.67 (3)	2.6212 (18)	169 (2)
$C1-H1A\cdots F2^{ii}$	0.99	2.38	3.356 (2)	169
$C18-H18\cdots F2^{ii}$	0.95	2.49	3.265 (3)	139
C3-H3···F3 <sup>ii</sup>	0.95	2.46	3.345 (2)	155
$C6\!-\!H6\!\cdot\cdot\cdot\!F4^{iii}$	0.95	2.40	3.271 (3)	152

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

The H atom attached to the N atom was located in a difference map and refined isotropically. All other H atoms were positioned geometrically, with C-H = 0.95 or 0.99 Å for aromatic and methylene H atoms, respectively, and constrained to ride on their parent atoms, with  $U_{\rm iso}({\rm H}) = 1.2 U_{\rm eq}({\rm C})$ .

Data collection: *APEX2* (Bruker, 2003); cell refinement: *APEX2*; data reduction: *SAINT-Plus* (Bruker, 2003); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *SHELXTL* (Sheldrick, 2000); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL*.

The Bruker X8 APEX2 diffractometer was purchased with funds received from the National Science Foundation Major Research Instrumentation Program Grant CHE-0321214. KK thanks the Robert A. Welch Foundation for support (AA-1508).

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