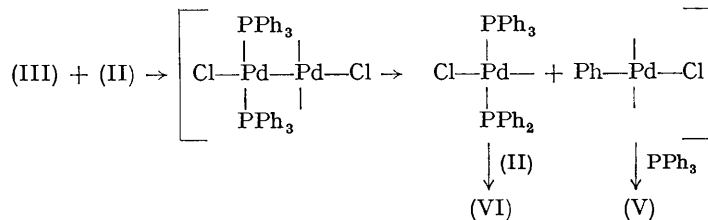


from solutions containing triphenylphosphine suggests the presence of a co-ordinatively saturated

(III) to (II) followed by an internal cleavage of the resulting intermediate:



system. This apparent stability towards triphenylphosphine, together with the previous evidence, suggests that (VI) exists as a cluster formation, *i.e.* (VIII). A definite structural assignment, however, must await additional information.

Although one can only speculate on a detailed mechanism at this point, it is felt that a reasonable pathway would involve the oxidative addition of

The triphenylphosphine arising from these reactions could react with (III) to account for the formation of (IV).

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¹ P. Fitton and J. E. McKeon, *Chem. Comm.*, 1968, 4.

² P. Fitton, M. P. Johnson, and J. E. McKeon, *Chem. Comm.*, 1968, 6. These authors report an analogous preparation of $(\text{PPh}_3)_2\text{Pd}(\text{Ph})\text{I}$.

³ D. R. Eaton and S. Suart, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, 1968, 30, 4170.