

Ionic Interaction as a Powerful Driving Force for the Formation of Heterobidentate Assembly Ligands

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Abstract: An ionic interaction has been used for the first time to assemble monophosphane ligands. NMR spectroscopy and X-ray studies show that cationic and anionic triphenylphosphane derivatives form ion pairs and subsequently act as a ligand in various transition-metal complexes. The position of the ionic functional groups allows both *cis* and *trans* coordination of the novel assembly ligand in square-planar transition-metal complexes.

Keywords: chelating ligands • combinatorial chemistry • ion pairs • phosphanes • self-assembly

Introduction

Combinatorial approaches and high-throughput experimentation are of great interest in homogeneous catalysis. A recently developed, and elegant, approach involves using mixtures of monodentate ligands. When considering catalysts in which the active metal species holds two ligands, a mixture of two different monophosphorus compounds, L_a and L_b , may form complexes $[ML_aL_a]$, $[ML_bL_b]$, and $[ML_aL_b]$. If the heterocombination is more active and selective than either of the homocombinations then the new catalytic system (a mixture of $[ML_aL_a]$, $[ML_bL_b]$, and $[ML_aL_b]$) should be more active and selective than the ones that are prepared conventionally from L_a ($[ML_aL_a]$) or L_b ($[ML_bL_b]$). The methodology is extremely powerful because N different monophosphorus ligands lead to the formation of $N \times N$ catalytic systems, which can be tested. This approach has been useful in asymmetric hydrogenation,^[1] asymmetric C–C bond formation,^[2] and hydroformylation.^[3]

Whereas the formation of heterocombinations can be left to mere chance, the idea has emerged that the population of the heterocombinations could be increased by using noncovalent interactions between monophosphorus compounds. This approach uses monodentate ligands that are functionalized with complementary binding sites. Such monophospho-

rus compounds will form assemblies with one another, and the equilibrium of the complexes described above can be shifted towards the desired heterocomplex. The first examples reported involved the formation and application of heterobidentate ligands assembled by means of Lewis acid–base interactions.^[4] The building blocks are monophosphites that have Zn^{II} –porphyrin binding motifs and different monophosphorus ligands with nitrogen donor functionalities. The ligand assemblies have been tested in asymmetric allylic alkylation,^[4a,b] hydroformylation,^[4b] and asymmetric hydrogenation.^[4c] Most recently, complementary hydrogen-bond motifs have been exploited to assemble monophosphorus ligands.^[5] It was demonstrated that aminopyridine and isoquinolone functionalities form a pair of strong hydrogen bonds, and the phosphane and phosphonite units that are attached coordinate to the active metal center in a heterobidentate fashion. These ligand systems were used for rhodium-catalyzed hydroformylation of 1-octene,^[5a] and also for the asymmetric hydrogenation of several substrates.^[5b]

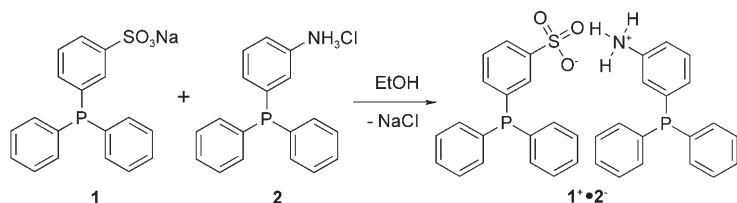
It occurred to us that ionic interactions might be suitable binding motifs for the formation of heterobidentate ligand combinations. Herein, we describe the application of an ionic interaction to assemble triphenylphosphane derivatives, and discuss the influence of the ionic bond on the coordination behavior of phosphanes in comparison with hydrogen bonds.

Results and Discussion

Ligand **1**[–]**2**⁺ was formed by means of a simple ion-exchange reaction between the monosulfonated triphenylphos-

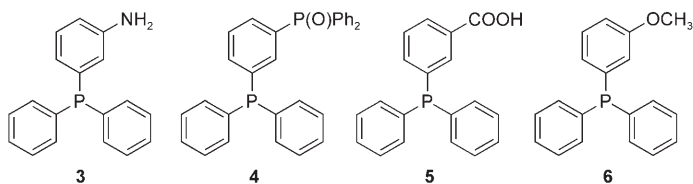
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phane sodium salt (**1**) and 3-(diphenylphosphanyl)aniline hydrochloride (**2**) (Scheme 1). The coordination behavior of ion pair **1**·**2**⁺ was tested with various transition-metal com-



Scheme 1. Synthesis of ligand assembly **1**·**2**⁺.

plexes. Other monophosphanes (**3**–**6**) containing functional groups capable of forming hydrogen bonds were also tested to compare the efficiency of different types of noncovalent interactions.



All the monophosphorus ligands that were used are *meta*-substituted triphenylphosphane derivatives. Their structural similarity ensures that they will also have similar binding properties to transition metal centers, and the distribution of

the complexes will only be influenced by the interactions of the functional groups.

First, the reactions of phosphanes **1**–**6** with [PtCl₂(cod)] were studied (cod: 1,5-cyclooctadiene). It should be noted that by using this precursor, under the chosen reaction conditions, each of the monophosphanes forms *cis*-[PtCl₂L₂] as the major product in which L: phosphane (Table 1; Figure 2A (see below)). These results suggest that *cis* geometry of the platinum complexes is not necessarily due to attractive ligand–ligand interactions.^[6]

The statistical distribution of *cis*-[PtCl₂L_aL_b], *cis*-[PtCl₂(L_a)₂], and *cis*-[PtCl₂(L_b)₂] has been modeled by using a mixture of anisylidiphenylphosphane (**6**) and triphenylphosphane (tpp). No significant attractive interactions were expected, and accordingly, *cis*-[Pt(**6**)Cl₂(tpp)], *cis*-[Pt(**6**)₂Cl₂], and *cis*-[PtCl₂(tpp)₂] were observed by means of ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectroscopy in a ratio of 2:1:1 (Table 2). For **3/5**, **4/5**, and **2/4** ligand mixtures, the formation of COOH...NH₂, COOH...O=P, and NH₃⁺...O=P hydrogen bonds might have been anticipated,^[7] however, under the conditions used no increase in hetero-combinations was achieved. An interesting phenomenon was observed over the course of the reaction of [PtCl₂(cod)] with a 1:1 mixture of *m*-(diphenylphosphanyl)aniline (**3**) and its hydrochloride (**2**). The ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum displays only one singlet at $\delta = 16.7$ ppm with a coupling constant of ¹J(Pt,P) = 3684 Hz. These NMR characteristics suggest that a fast intermolecular–intramolecular proton exchange among the nitrogen atoms renders the two *cis*-oriented phosphanes equivalent on the NMR timescale. An X-ray study of the crystals obtained from the reaction mixture confirms the formation of

Table 1. Reaction of triphenylphosphane derivatives and [PtCl₂(cod)].^[a]

Phosphane	Solvents	Products ^[b]	³¹ P NMR [ppm] (<i>J</i> in Hz)	Product distribution [%]
1	CD ₃ OD	<i>cis</i> -[PtCl ₂ L ₂], [PtClL ₃], <i>cis</i> -[Pt(CD ₃ OD) ₂ L ₂]	17.07 (s, <i>J</i> (Pt,P) = 3702); 15.40 (t, <i>J</i> (P,P) = 19.8, <i>J</i> (Pt,P) = 3664, 1P), 25.91 (d, <i>J</i> (P,P) = 19.8, <i>J</i> (Pt,P) = 2511, 2P); 22.92 (s, <i>J</i> (Pt,P) = 3123)	78, 16, 6
2	CDCl ₃	<i>cis</i> -[PtCl ₂ L ₂]	17.18 (s, <i>J</i> (Pt,P) = 3696)	100
3	CDCl ₃	<i>cis</i> -[PtCl ₂ L ₂]	17.56 (s, <i>J</i> (Pt,P) = 3694)	100
4	[D ₇]DMF	<i>cis</i> -[PtCl ₂ L ₂]	18.00 (s, <i>J</i> (Pt,P) = 3662, P ^{III}), 27.71 (s, P ^V)	100
5	CDCl ₃ /CD ₃ OD ^[c]	<i>cis</i> -[PtCl ₂ L ₂], <i>trans</i> -[PtCl ₂ L ₂]	17.14 (s, <i>J</i> (Pt,P) = 3684), 23.80 (s, <i>J</i> (Pt,P) = 2640)	95, 5
6	CDCl ₃	<i>cis</i> -[PtCl ₂ L ₂]	17.72 (s, <i>J</i> (Pt,P) = 3674)	100

[a] [PtCl₂(cod)] (0.04 mmol) and tpp derivative (0.084 mmol) were transferred to a Schlenk tube before the solvent was added, and the mixture was stirred for 10–30 min. [b] L = phosphane. [c] 5:1 ratio.

Table 2. Attempts at the formation of assemblies of tpp derivatives by using hydrogen bonds.^[a]

Phosphanes	Functional groups	Solvents (quantities in mL)	Products	Distribution [%]
tpp, 6 ^[b]	–, OCH ₃	[CDCl ₃]/[DMF] (1:1)	<i>cis</i> -[PtCl ₂ L _a L _b], <i>cis</i> -[PtCl ₂ (L _a) ₂], <i>cis</i> -[PtCl ₂ (L _b) ₂]	50, 25, 25
3 , 5 ^[b]	NH ₂ , COOH	[CDCl ₃]/[DMF] (1:1)	<i>cis</i> -[PtCl ₂ L _a L _b], <i>cis</i> -[PtCl ₂ (L _a) ₂], <i>cis</i> -[PtCl ₂ (L _b) ₂]	50, 25, 25
4 , 5 ^[c]	NH ₂ , COOH	CDCl ₃ /THF (1:0.1)	<i>cis</i> -[PtCl ₂ L _a L _b], <i>cis</i> -[PtCl ₂ (L _a) ₂], <i>cis</i> -[PtCl ₂ (L _b) ₂]	50, 25, 25
4 , 5 ^[b]	P=O, COOH	[CDCl ₃]/[DMF] (1:1)	<i>cis</i> -[PtCl ₂ L _a L _b], <i>cis</i> -[PtCl ₂ (L _a) ₂], <i>cis</i> -[PtCl ₂ (L _b) ₂]	50, 25, 25
4 , 5 ^[c]	P=O, COOH	[CDCl ₃] (1)	<i>cis</i> -[PtCl ₂ L _a L _b], <i>cis</i> -[PtCl ₂ (L _a) ₂], <i>cis</i> -[PtCl ₂ (L _b) ₂]	50, 25, 25
2 , 4 ^[b]	P=O, NH ₃ ⁺	[CDCl ₃]/[DMF] (1:1)	<i>cis</i> -[PtCl ₂ L _a L _b], <i>cis</i> -[PtCl ₂ (L _a) ₂], <i>cis</i> -[PtCl ₂ (L _b) ₂]	50, 25, 25
2 , 3 ^[b]	NH ₂ , NH ₃ ⁺	[CDCl ₃]/[DMF] (1:1)	<i>cis</i> -[PtCl ₂ L _a L _b] ^[d]	100

[a] [PtCl₂(cod)] (0.04 mmol) and equimolar amounts of both phosphanes (0.042 mmol). [b] The solution of the ligand mixture (solvent in []) was added to the solution of the precursor (solvent in { }), and the reaction mixture was stirred for 10–30 min. [c] The solution of the ligand mixture was added to the solid precursor, and the reaction mixture was stirred for 10–30 min. [d] The two coordinated phosphanes are equivalent on the NMR timescale.

cis-[Pt(2)(3)Cl₂], although in the solid state NH₃⁺⋯Cl⁻ interactions are observed instead of NH₃⁺⋯NH₂ hydrogen bonds (Figure 1).

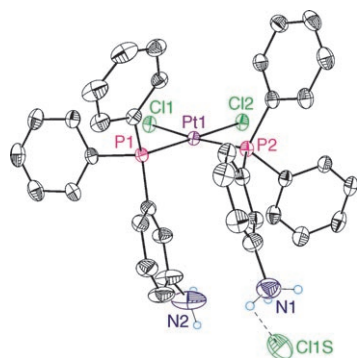


Figure 1. X-ray structure of *cis*-[Pt(2)(3)Cl₂].^[8]

In contrast to the mixtures of tpp derivatives that are only capable of forming hydrogen bonds, the phosphane ion pair **1**⁻**2**⁺ did increase the formation of heterocomplex *cis*-[Pt(**1**⁻**2**⁺)Cl₂] to as much as 97% (Table 3).^[9] The byproduct is the ion pair formed from the homocombinations of *cis*-[Pt(**1**⁻)₂Cl₂]*cis*-[Pt(**2**⁺)₂Cl₂] (**1**⁻: **1**-Na⁺; **2**⁺: **2**-Cl⁻),^[10] its relative proportion depends on the solvents used, the concentration of the reaction mixtures, and the way that the complexes are made (Table 3). It is particularly remarkable that the ion pair **1**⁻**2**⁺ formed 77% of the heterocombination, even in strongly polar, protic solvents, such as a 1:1 mixture of MeOH/DMF (Table 3, entry 8). The X-ray structure confirms the *cis* coordination and the presence of the expected NH₃⁺⋯O₃S ionic bond (Figure 2B). Again it is important to note that this ionic bond is not necessarily the cause of the *cis* coordination. Both the NMR data summarized in Table 1, and the X-ray structure of *cis*-[Pt(6)₂Cl₂] (Figure 2A) reveal that triarylphosphanes lacking complementary functional groups can form *cis*-[PtCl₂L₂] complexes with high selectivity.^[6]

To survey the coordination properties of the ligand assembly **1**⁻**2**⁺, [Pd(CH₃)Cl(cod)] was chosen as a precursor. The

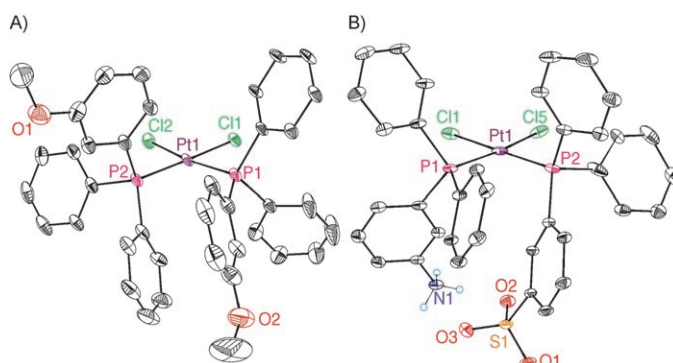


Figure 2. X-ray structure of A) *cis*-[Pt(6)₂Cl₂] and B) *cis*-[Pt(**1**⁻**2**⁺)Cl₂].^[11]

reaction of phosphanes with this transition-metal complex is greatly influenced by their structure. Bisphosphanes with a small bite angle give *cis* complexes, whereas *trans*-spanning bis- and monophosphanes favor the *trans*-coordination mode. The different coordination modes result in rather distinctive ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectra. The reaction of **1**⁻**2**⁺ and [Pd(CH₃)Cl(cod)] could be studied in relatively apolar halogenated hydrocarbon solvents (CD₂Cl₂ and CDCl₃) without the addition of polar cosolvents. The chemical shifts of the coordinated phosphanes in the ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum are very similar, which results in a single broad resonance at δ = 34.4 ppm. This pattern excludes the possibility of *cis* coordination, and the *trans* position of the phosphanes was proven by means of X-ray studies (Figure 3B). Most interestingly, the structure reveals that in this coordination mode the ionic bond can be as efficient as in the case of *cis* coordination.^[12] The conformation of the ionically assembled ligand is quite different from that of monophosphanes that lack complementary binding motifs (Figure 3A), and rather resembles the coordination of *trans*-spanning bisphosphanes.

Finally, we studied the reaction of **1**⁻**2**⁺ and [{Rh(CO)₂Cl]₂}. To the best of our knowledge, the coordination behavior of bisphosphanes assembled by using noncovalent interactions has not yet been tested with dimeric precursors. Despite the presumably more complex reaction mechanism, a single product was observed in the ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum (Figure 4A), in which **1**⁻**2**⁺ is coor-

Table 3. Reactions of ionic assembly **1**⁻**2**⁺ and [PtCl₂(cod)].^[a]

Method ^[b]	Solvents (quantities in mL)	Products ^[c]	Distribution [%]
A	CDCl ₃ /CD ₃ OD (1:0.2)	<i>cis</i> -[Pt(1 ⁻ 2 ⁺)Cl ₂], <i>cis</i> -[Pt(1 ⁻) ₂ Cl ₂] <i>cis</i> -[Pt(2 ⁺) ₂ Cl ₂]	83, 17 ^[d]
A	[D ₇]DMF (1)	<i>cis</i> -[Pt(1 ⁻ 2 ⁺)Cl ₂], <i>cis</i> -[Pt(1 ⁻) ₂ Cl ₂] <i>cis</i> -[Pt(2 ⁺) ₂ Cl ₂]	80, 10, 10
A	THF/[D ₇]DMF (9:1)	<i>cis</i> -[Pt(1 ⁻ 2 ⁺)Cl ₂], <i>cis</i> -[Pt(1 ⁻) ₂ Cl ₂] <i>cis</i> -[Pt(2 ⁺) ₂ Cl ₂]	97, 1.5, 1.5
B	[CDCl ₃]/[CDCl ₃ /CD ₃ OD] (0.5:0.5:0.2)	<i>cis</i> -[Pt(1 ⁻ 2 ⁺)Cl ₂], <i>cis</i> -[Pt(1 ⁻) ₂ Cl ₂] <i>cis</i> -[Pt(2 ⁺) ₂ Cl ₂]	85, 15 ^[d]
B	[DMF]/[DMF] (0.5:0.5)	<i>cis</i> -[Pt(1 ⁻ 2 ⁺)Cl ₂], <i>cis</i> -[Pt(1 ⁻) ₂ Cl ₂] <i>cis</i> -[Pt(2 ⁺) ₂ Cl ₂]	80, 10, 10
B	[DMF]/[DMF] (1:1)	<i>cis</i> -[Pt(1 ⁻ 2 ⁺)Cl ₂], <i>cis</i> -[Pt(1 ⁻) ₂ Cl ₂] <i>cis</i> -[Pt(2 ⁺) ₂ Cl ₂]	83, 8.5, 8.5
B	[CDCl ₃]/[DMF] (1:1)	<i>cis</i> -[Pt(1 ⁻ 2 ⁺)Cl ₂], <i>cis</i> -[Pt(1 ⁻) ₂ Cl ₂] <i>cis</i> -[Pt(2 ⁺) ₂ Cl ₂]	85, 7.5, 7.5
B	[CD ₃ OD]/[DMF] (1:1)	<i>cis</i> -[Pt(1 ⁻ 2 ⁺)Cl ₂], <i>cis</i> -[Pt(1 ⁻) ₂ Cl ₂] <i>cis</i> -[Pt(2 ⁺) ₂ Cl ₂]	77, 11.5, 11.5
B	[CHCl ₃ /CDCl ₃]/[CHCl ₃ /DMF] (4:1:4:1)	<i>cis</i> -[Pt(1 ⁻ 2 ⁺)Cl ₂], <i>cis</i> -[Pt(1 ⁻) ₂ Cl ₂] <i>cis</i> -[Pt(2 ⁺) ₂ Cl ₂]	90, 5, 5

[a] [PtCl₂(cod)] (0.04 mmol) and **1**⁻**2**⁺ (0.042 mmol). [b] Method A: The precursor and the assembly ligand were transferred to a Schlenk tube before the solvent was added, and the mixture was stirred for 10–30 min. Method B: The solution of assembly ligand **1**⁻**2**⁺ (solvent in []) was added to the solution of the precursor (solvent in {}), and the reaction mixture was stirred for 10–30 min. [c] For representative ³¹P{¹H} NMR data see refs. [9] and [10]. [d] The resonances of the anionic and cationic complexes overlap.

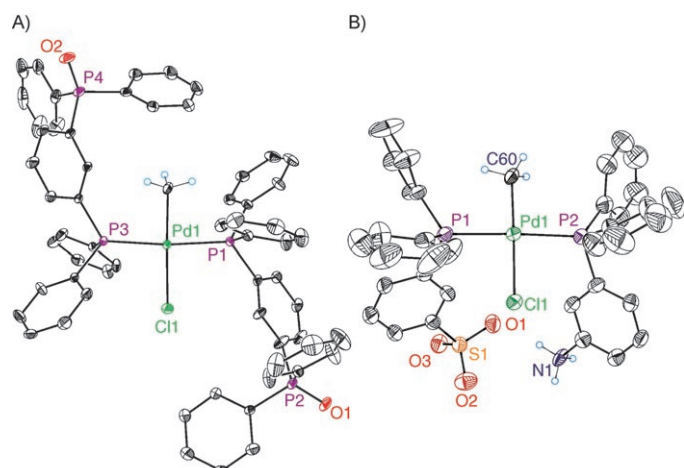


Figure 3. A) X-ray structure of *trans*-[Pd(4)(CH₃)Cl], which shows no significant interaction between the functionalized tpp derivatives; B) X-ray structure of *trans*-[Pd(1⁻2⁺)(CH₃)Cl], ionic assembly 1⁻2⁺ acts as a *trans*-spanning assembly ligand, which maintains the ionic interaction in the *trans* position.^[13]

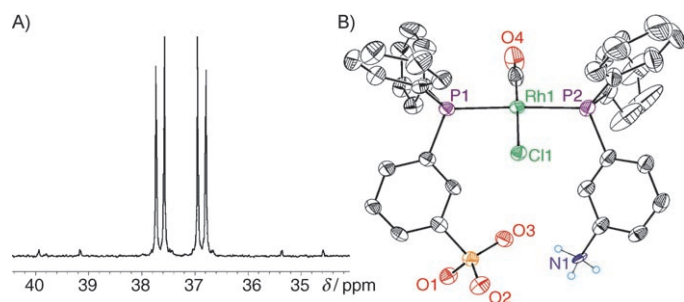


Figure 4. A) The ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum and B) the X-ray structure of *trans*-[Rh(1⁻2⁺)(CO)Cl].^[14]

minated as a heterobidentate ligand. The characteristics of the strongly distorted ABX spin system ($\delta = 36.1$ ppm, $^1J(\text{Rh},\text{P}) = 125$ Hz, $^2J(\text{P},\text{P}) = 357$ Hz; $\delta = 38.7$ ppm, $^1J(\text{Rh},\text{P}) = 125$ Hz, $^2J(\text{P},\text{P}) = 357$ Hz) indicate the *trans* position of the two phosphorus atoms. The X-ray structure of [Rh(1⁻2⁺)(CO)Cl] (Figure 4B) is very similar to that of palladium complex [Pd(1⁻2⁺)(CH₃)Cl], which confirms that the *trans* coordination mode allows the formation of a strong NH₃⁺...⁻O₃S electrostatic interaction.^[12]

Conclusion

In summary, we have used an ionic bond as the driving force for the formation of a heterobidentate phosphane for the first time. A number of test reactions have shown that the cationic and anionic monodentate phosphorus ligands form an ion pair even in strongly polar, protic media. The ligand design, that is the position of the ionic functional groups, allows both *cis* and *trans* coordination of 1⁻2⁺ in square-planar transition-metal complexes. It remains to be

seen how this novel supramolecular strategy can be applied in homogeneous catalytic reactions.

Experimental Section

General remarks: All manipulations were carried out under argon by using Schlenk techniques. Solvents were purified, dried, and deoxygenated by using standard methods. Tpp, fuming sulfuric acid, [[3-*N,N*-bis(trimethylsilyl)amino]phenyl]magnesium chloride, chlorodiphenylphosphane, 3-bromoaniline, magnesium turnings, solution of HCl in methanol, [PtCl₂(cod)], and [[Rh(CO)₂Cl]₂] were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich and used as received. [Pd(CH₃)Cl(cod)]^[15] and 5^[16] were prepared according to literature procedures. Diphenylphosphane,^[17] 1,^[18] 2,^[19] 3,^[19] and 6^[20] were prepared based on modified literature methods (see below). ³¹P{¹H}, ¹H, and ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectra were recorded by using a Bruker ATM-400 spectrometer operating at 161.98, 400.13, and 100.61 MHz, respectively. Mass spectra were recorded by using a Waters LCT Premier spectrometer.

Sodium 3-(diphenylphosphanyl)benzenesulfonate (1): PPh₃ (10 g, 38.2 mmol) was added portionwise over 90 min to fuming sulfuric acid (20 mL, 30 wt %) under argon, while the flask was cooled in an ice bath. The homogeneous reaction mixture was heated at 93 °C for 2 h. The acidic solution was quenched by the addition of ice (40 g), and it was diluted with deoxygenated water (100 mL). Adjusting the pH of the reaction mixture to 6–7 by using an aqueous NaOH solution (30%) gave a milky suspension. The precipitate was filtered and dried in vacuo. The crude product was recrystallized twice from deoxygenated water to give colorless microcrystals (4.16 g, 29%). ¹H NMR (CD₃OD): $\delta = 7.24$ – 7.36 (m, 12H; Ph and sulfonated), 7.40 (broad pseudo t, $J \approx 7$ –8 Hz, 1H; sulfonated), 7.84 (brd, $J \approx 7.6$ Hz, 1H; sulfonated), 7.87 ppm (brd, $J \approx 7.5$ Hz, 1H; sulfonated); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CD₃OD): $\delta = 127.5$ (s; sulfonated), 129.6 (d, $^1J(\text{P},\text{C}) = 6.1$ Hz; sulfonated), 129.7 (d, $^3J(\text{P},\text{C}) = 7.2$ Hz; *m*-phenyl), 130.1 (s, *p*-phenyl), 132.0 (d, $J(\text{P},\text{C}) = 22.9$ Hz; sulfonated), 134.8 (d, $^2J(\text{P},\text{C}) = 19.1$ Hz; *o*-phenyl), 136.3 (d, $J(\text{P},\text{C}) = 18.2$ Hz; sulfonated), 138.0 (d, $J(\text{P},\text{C}) = 10.8$ Hz; *ipso*-phenyl), 139.7 (d, $J(\text{P},\text{C}) = 14.6$ Hz; sulfonated), 146.6 ppm (d, $J(\text{P},\text{C}) = 6.2$ Hz; sulfonated); ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CD₃OD): $\delta = -2.0$ ppm (s); ESMS: m/z : 341.0 [$M - \text{Na}^+$]⁺; elemental analysis calcd (%) for C₁₈H₁₄NaO₄PS·H₂O: C 56.54, H 4.22, S 8.39; found: C 56.01, H 4.22, S 7.94.

3-(Diphenylphosphanyl)aniline (3): PPh₂Cl (17.95 mL, 100 mmol) was added dropwise over 15 min to 1 M solution of [[3-*N,N*-bis(trimethylsilyl)amino]phenyl]magnesium chloride in THF (100 mL, 100 mmol) while the reaction flask was cooled in an ice bath. The PPh₂Cl residue was rinsed into the reaction mixture from the dropping funnel with THF (30 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred overnight. The solvent was removed in vacuo and the solid residue was extracted with Et₂O (3 × 300 mL). The crude diphenyl[[*N,N*-bis(trimethylsilyl)amino]phenyl]phosphane was isolated by removing volatile compounds in vacuo. The crude product was dissolved in MeOH (320 mL) and the solution was left at reflux for 12 h. The solution was concentrated in vacuo to precipitate the product as a white microcrystalline solid (16.14 g). Further product (4.57 g) was obtained from the mother liquor after the solvent was removed and the residue was recrystallized from a minimum amount of hot methanol, to give an overall yield of 75% (20.71 g). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 3.6$ (brs, 2H), 6.61–7.74 ppm (m, 14H); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 115.6$ (s; C₆H₄NH₂), 120.1 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P}) = 20.5$ Hz; C₆H₄NH₂), 124.1 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P}) = 19.8$ Hz; C₆H₄NH₂), 128.5 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P}) = 6.6$ Hz; Ph), 128.7 (s; Ph), 129.4 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P}) = 8.1$ Hz; C₆H₄NH₂), 133.8 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P}) = 19.8$ Hz; Ph), 137.3 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P}) = 11.0$ Hz; Ph), 138.1 (d, $J(\text{C},\text{P}) = 9.5$ Hz; C₆H₄NH₂), 146.9 ppm (brd, $J(\text{C},\text{P}) = 8.1$ Hz; C₆H₄NH₂); ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = -3.1$ ppm (s); ESMS: m/z : 278.1 [$M + \text{H}^+$]⁺; elemental analysis calcd (%) for C₁₈H₁₆NP: C 77.96, H 5.82, N 5.05; found: C 76.79, H 6.27, N 5.12.

3-(Diphenylphosphanyl)aniline hydrochloride (2): A solution of 1.25 M HCl in MeOH (8.0 mL, 10 mmol) was slowly added to a solution of *m*-aminophenyldiphenylphosphane (2.77 g, 10 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL) and stirred for 1 h at room temperature. The solvents were removed in

vacuo to give a white solid residue, which was suspended in Et₂O (80 mL) and isolated by means of filtration. The product was washed with further Et₂O (20 mL) and it was dried under vacuum (2.31 g, 73 %). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 7.08–7.41 (m, 14H), 10.20 ppm (brs, 3H; NH₃⁺); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 123.3 (s), 127.9 (*J*(C,P) = 25.6 Hz), 128.8 (*J*(C,P) = 7.3 Hz), 129.2 (s), 130.0 (*J*(C,P) = 5.1 Hz), 130.4 (*J*(C,P) = 9.5 Hz), 133.8 (*J*(C,P) = 19.8 Hz), 135.9 (*J*(C,P) = 10.2 Hz), 141.0 ppm (*J*(C,P) = 16.1 Hz); ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃): δ = -2.17 ppm; ESMS: *m/z*: 278.1 [*M*-Cl]⁺; elemental analysis calcd (%) for C₁₈H₁₇ClNP: C 68.90, H 5.46, N 4.46; found: C 68.66, H 5.68, N 4.51.

3-(Diphenylphosphanyl)(triphenylphosphane oxide) (4): BuLi (6 mL, 2.5 M in hexane, 15 mmol) was slowly added over a period of 10 min to (3-bromophenyl)diphenylphosphane (5.12 g, 15 mmol) dissolved in THF (120 mL) at an external temperature of -85 to -80 °C. The dark red solution was stirred at this temperature for 30 min before MgBr₂·Et₂O (4.45 g, 17.3 mmol) was added in one portion. The reaction mixture was allowed to reach -10 °C over a period of 3.5 h. This solution was added to Ph₂P(O)Cl (2.9 mL, 15 mmol) dissolved in THF (35 mL) while the flask was cooled with an ice bath. The reaction mixture was stirred overnight and the inorganic salts precipitated from the solution. The reaction mixture was then filtered through a pad of alumina, was concentrated to half of its original volume, and the reaction mixture was quenched with deoxygenated water (100 mL). Diethyl ether (60 mL) was added, and the organic phase was separated. The aqueous phase was washed with EtOAc (2 × 30 mL), the combined organic phase was washed with water (pH 7), and it was dried over MgSO₄. The solvent was removed to give a waxy residue. The crude product contained considerable amounts of PPh₃, and it was purified by means of column chromatography (neutral Al₂O₃; toluene → Et₂O/THF(8:1) → THF). Removal of the solvent resulted in a colorless, glassy material (2.75 g), which was dissolved in Et₂O and subsequently precipitated by adding hexane to give the product as an off-white solid (1.32 g, 19 %). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 7.19–7.27 (m, 10H), 7.28–7.64 (m, 13H), 7.79 ppm (m, 1H); ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃): δ = -2.39 (s, P^{III}), 31.66 ppm (s, P^V); ESMS (%): *m/z*: 463.1 (40) [*M*+H]⁺, 485.1 (100) [*M*⁺+Na⁺]; elemental analysis calcd (%) for C₃₀H₂₄OP₂: C 77.91, H 5.23; found: C 78.00, H 5.76.

(3-Methoxyphenyl)(diphenyl)phosphane (6): Ph₂PCl (18.75 g, 85 mmol) was added dropwise to a solution of 3-anisylmagnesium bromide in THF (prepared from 3-bromoanisole (18.7 g, 100 mmol) in THF (100 mL) and an excess of magnesium (3.16 g, 130 mmol), while the flask was chilled with crushed ice. The Ph₂PCl residue was rinsed from the dropping funnel into the reaction mixture with THF (10 mL). The ice bath was removed and the reaction mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature. The organic layer was separated from the inorganic salts by using a cannula, and it was concentrated to about a third of the original volume. It was quenched with 10 % aqueous NH₄Cl solution (10 g), diluted with Et₂O (80 mL) and THF (20 mL), and then extracted with water (2 × 40 mL). The second aqueous extract was washed with a THF/Et₂O (1:1) mixture (20 mL). The combined organic phase was dried over MgSO₄. Removal of the solvent resulted in a yellowish oil, which was purified by means of distillation (165–176 °C, 0.20 mbar) to give a colorless, viscous liquid (21.20 g, 85 %). After several weeks in the fridge, the product had not crystallized, however, it could be crystallized in the following manner: Some of the product (12.06 g) was dissolved in hot ethanol. The mixture, which was a clear solution at room temperature, was cooled to -20 °C, and it was slowly concentrated in vacuo. The product precipitated as a white microcrystalline solid, which was isolated by decanting the mother liquor by using a cannula (11.60 g). M.p. 55–58 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 3.62 (s, 3H; OCH₃), 6.73–6.83 (m, 3H; C₆H₄OCH₃), 7.17 (m, 1H; C₆H₄OCH₃), 7.20–7.23 ppm (m, 10H; Ph); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 55.3 (s; OCH₃), 114.5 (s; anisyl), 119.2 (d, *J*(C,P) = 21.2 Hz; anisyl), 126.2 (d, *J*(C,P) = 19.0 Hz; anisyl), 128.7 (d, ³*J*(P,C) = 7.3 Hz; *m*-phenyl), 128.9 (s; *p*-phenyl), 129.7 (d, *J*(C,P) = 7.3 Hz; anisyl), 133.9 (d, ²*J*(P,C) = 19.0 Hz; *o*-phenyl), 137.2 (d, *J*(P,C) = 11.0 Hz; *ipso*-phenyl), 138.9 (d, *J*(C,P) = 11.0 Hz; anisyl), 159.7 ppm (d, *J*(C,P) = 8.8 Hz; anisyl); ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃): δ = -1.5 ppm (s); ESMS: *m/z*: 293.1 [*M*+H]⁺; elemental analysis calcd (%) for C₁₉H₁₇OP: C 78.07, H 5.86; found: C 78.06, H 6.36.

Diphenylphosphane: THF (300 mL) was added slowly to a stirred mixture of triphenylphosphane (52.46 g, 200 mmol) and lithium granules (5.55 g, 800 mmol). The reaction started immediately and the solution turned dark red. The reaction mixture was stirred for 27 h before a ³¹P NMR spectrum of the solution indicated that full conversion, without any side reactions, had occurred. An excess of water (5 mL) was slowly added to the reaction mixture while the flask was cooled with an ice bath. The reaction mixture was then diluted with Et₂O (100 mL), and washed with 13.4 wt % aqueous NH₄Cl solution (2 × 100 g, 2 × 250 mmol) and water (2 × 50 mL). The organic phase was dried overnight over MgSO₄ before the solution was filtered and the solvents were removed in vacuo. The crude product was purified by means of vacuum distillation (1.7–1.9 mbar, 130–160 °C (oil bath)) to give a colorless liquid (27.35 g, 74 %). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 5.22 (d, *J*(P,H) = 218 Hz, 1H; P-H), 7.22–7.50 ppm (m, 10H; Ph); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 128.6 (s; *para*), 128.8 (d, *J*(C,P) = 6.6 Hz; *meta*), 134.2 (d, *J*(C,P) = 16.8 Hz; *ortho*), 134.9 ppm (d, *J*(C,P) = 10.2 Hz; *ipso*); ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃): δ = -37.12 (s), -37.19 ppm (doublet of quintets, ¹*J*(P,H) = 218 Hz, ³*J*(P,H) = 7.4 Hz).

3-(Diphenylphosphanyl)anilinium-3-(diphenylphosphanyl)benzenesulfonate (1·2⁺): Compounds **1** (764 mg, 2 mmol) and **2** (628 mg, 2 mmol) were stirred in EtOH (10 mL) for one hour before CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) was added, and the reaction mixture was left to stand until the precipitate settled. The solution phase was carefully decanted through a fine-porosity glass sinter by using a metal cannula. The solvents were removed in vacuo and the white solid residue was redissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (15 mL). The opaque solution was left to stand for a few hours until the precipitate had settled, and the solution phase (still slightly iridescent) was decanted. The solvent was evaporated and the product was dried in vacuo to give a white solid (1238 mg, quantitative). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 6.98–7.18 (m, 4H), 7.18–7.32 (m, 21H), 7.37 (brd, *J* = 7.0 Hz), 7.50 (brd, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 7.82 (brd, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 9.70 ppm (brs, 3H; NH₃⁺); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 123.5 (s), 126.4 (s), 128.0 (*J*(C,P) = 24.2 Hz), 128.6 (³*J*(C,P) = 7.3 Hz; *m*-phenyl), 128.6 (d, ³*J*(P,C) = 7.3 Hz; *m*-phenyl), 128.9 (s; *p*-phenyl), 129.0 (s; *p*-phenyl), 129.7 (d, *J*(C,P) = 5.1 Hz), 131.3 (d, *J*(C,P) = 29.3 Hz), 131.4 (d, *J*(C,P) = 8.1 Hz), 133.3 (d, *J*(C,P) = 15.4 Hz), 133.7 (²*J*(C,P) = 19.8 Hz; *o*-phenyl), 133.8 (²*J*(C,P) = 19.8 Hz; *o*-phenyl), 135.4 (d, *J*(C,P) = 11.0 Hz), 136.2 (d, ¹*J*(C,P) = 11.0 Hz; *ipso*-phenyl), 136.2 (d, ¹*J*(C,P) = 11.0 Hz; *ipso*-phenyl), 136.6 (d, ¹*J*(C,P) = 11.0 Hz; *ipso*-phenyl), 138.1 (d, *J*(C,P) = 14.6 Hz), 140.1 (d, *J*(C,P) = 14.6 Hz), 143.3 ppm (d, *J*(C,P) = 8.8 Hz); ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃): δ = -2.35 (s), -2.20 ppm (s); ESMS⁺: *m/z*: 278.1 [*M*-(diphenylphosphanyl)benzenesulfonate]⁺; ESMS⁻: *m/z*: 341.0 [*M*-(diphenylphosphanyl)anilinium]⁻; elemental analysis calcd (%) for C₃₆H₃₁NO₃P₂: C 69.78, H 5.04, N 2.26, S 5.17; found: C 69.17, H 5.18, N 2.28, S 4.60.

Crystallization techniques and X-ray studies

General: CCDC 622934–622939 contain the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.

cis-[Pt(2)(3)Cl₂]: Compounds **2** (11.9 mg, 0.042 mmol) and **3** (11.6 mg, 0.042 mmol) were dissolved in CDCl₃ (1 mL). The phosphane solution was added to [PtCl₂(PhCN)₂] (15 mg) dissolved in DMF (1 mL). Crystallization of the product was initiated by layering Et₂O on the top of the solution. ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃/DMF): δ = -16.75 ppm (s, *J*(Pt,P) = 3682 Hz).

cis-[Pt(6)₂Cl₂]: [PtCl₂(cod)] (15.0 mg, 0.04 mmol) and **6** (24.6 mg, 0.084 mmol) were stirred in CDCl₃ for 45 min to form a homogeneous, colorless solution. Crystallization of the product was initiated by layering Et₂O on the top of the solution. ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃): δ = -17.72 ppm (s, *J*(Pt,P) = 3674 Hz).

cis-[Pt(1·2⁺)Cl₂]: Several experiments were carried out to determine the structure of this compound. The crystals are sensitive and tend to lose solvent molecules quickly, which results in the collapse of the crystal. The best quality crystals were obtained in the following manner: Ionic assembly **1·2⁺** (26 mg, 0.042 mmol) and [PtCl₂(cod)] (15.0 mg, 0.04 mmol) were stirred in CH₃CN for a few seconds. DMF (1 mL) was added within a minute and the reaction mixture was stirred for an hour to obtain a ho-

mogeneous solution. The next day colorless crystals of *cis*-[Pt(**1**-**2**⁺)Cl₂] had deposited on the wall of the vial.

trans-[Pd(**4**)₂(CH₃)Cl]: [Pd(CH₃)Cl(cod)] (10.6 mg, 0.04 mmol) and **4** (38.8 mg, 0.084 mmol) were dissolved in CD₂Cl₂ (1 mL). Crystallization of the product was initiated by layering pentane on the top of the solution. ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CD₂Cl₂): δ = 29.93 (s, 1P), 33.89 ppm (s, 1P).

trans-[Pd(**1**-**2**⁺)(CH₃)Cl]: Ionic assembly **1**-**2**⁺ (26 mg, 0.042 mmol) and [Pd(CH₃)Cl(cod)] (10.6 mg, 0.04 mmol) were dissolved in CDCl₃ (1 mL). Layering Et₂O on the top of the solution initiated crystallization of the product within a few hours. ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 34.45 ppm (brs).

trans-[Rh(**1**-**2**⁺)Cl(CO)]: Several experiments were conducted to determine the structure of this compound. The crystals are sensitive and tend to lose solvent molecules quickly, which results in the collapse of the crystal. The best quality crystals were obtained in the following manner: Ionic assembly **1**-**2**⁺ (26 mg, 0.042 mmol) and [Rh(CO)₂Cl]₂ (7.8 mg, 0.02 mmol) were stirred in CH₃CN (5 mL). The product precipitated immediately. Therefore, THF (1 mL) was added to obtain a homogeneous solution. The next day yellow crystals of *trans*-[Rh(**1**-**2**⁺)(CO)Cl] were deposited on the wall of the vial.

Acknowledgements

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- [8] Crystal data for *cis*-[Pt(**2**)(**3**)Cl₂] at 100 K: C₃₉H₄₀Cl₃N₃O₁P₂Pt₁; 930.12 gmol⁻¹; triclinic; *P*2₁/c; *a* = 10.3025(16), *b* = 24.451(4), *c* = 15.062(2) Å; β = 97.516(5)°; *V* = 3761.5(10) Å³; *Z* = 4; ρ_{calcd} = 1.642 Mg m⁻³; *R*₁ = 0.0376 (0.0462); *wR*₂ = 0.0868 (0.0902); for 17762 reflections with *I* > 2σ(*I*) (for 20381 reflections [*R*_{int}]: 0.0298] with a total of 71782 measured reflections); goodness-of-fit on *F*² = 1.244; largest diff. peak (hole) = 2.338 (−1.894) e Å⁻³.
- [9] The ³¹P NMR spectroscopic characteristics of *cis*-[Pt(**1**-**2**⁺)Cl₂] vary slightly with the solvent. Representative ³¹P NMR (CDCl₃/CD₃OD, *v/v* = 5): δ = 15.50 (d, *J*(P,P) = 15.9 Hz, ¹J(Pt,P) = 3607 Hz), 20.87 ppm (d, *J*(P,P) = 15.9 Hz, ¹J(Pt,P) = 3771 Hz).
- [10] The ³¹P NMR spectroscopic characteristics of *cis*-[Pt(**1**-**2**⁺)₂Cl₂]-*cis*-[Pt(**2**⁺)₂Cl₂] vary slightly with the solvent. The resonances of the anionic and cationic complex overlap in several solvent systems. Representative ³¹P NMR (CD₃OD/DMF, *v/v* = 1): δ = 17.18 (s, *J*(Pt,P) = 3686 Hz), 17.36 ppm (s, *J*(Pt,P) = 3690 Hz).
- [11] Crystal data for *cis*-[Pt(**6**)₂Cl₂] at 100 K: C₃₈H₃₄Cl₂O₂P₂Pt₁·1/2 C₇H₇Cl₃; 910.27 gmol⁻¹; triclinic; *P*1̄; *a* = 11.1876(14), *b* = 12.1238(15), *c* = 16.2261(19) Å; α = 91.801(3), β = 107.201(3), γ = 113.421(3)°; *V* = 1901.1(4) Å³; *Z* = 2; ρ_{calcd} = 1.590 Mg m⁻³; *R*₁ = 0.0582 (0.0650); *wR*₂ = 0.01589 (0.1646); for 12262 reflections with *I* > 2σ(*I*) (for 13546 reflections [*R*_{int}]: 0.0343] with a total of 31412 measured reflections); goodness-of-fit on *F*² = 1.129; largest diff. peak (hole) = 4.640 (−3.275) e Å⁻³. Crystal data for *cis*-[Pt(**1**-**2**⁺)Cl₂] at 100 K: C₄₁H₄₁Cl₂N₃O₄P₂Pt₁S₁; 999.76 gmol⁻¹; triclinic; *P*1̄; *a* = 10.1891(11), *b* = 12.6860(13), *c* = 15.7962(16) Å; α = 81.116(2), β = 84.807(3), γ = 73.142(3)°; *V* = 1928.4(3) Å³; *Z* = 2; ρ_{calcd} = 1.772 Mg m⁻³; *R*₁ = 0.0360 (0.0455); *wR*₂ = 0.0901 (0.1001); for 12205 reflections with *I* > 2σ(*I*) (for 13782 reflections [*R*_{int}]: 0.0399] with a total of 32624 measured reflections); goodness-of-fit on *F*² = 1.040; largest diff. peak (hole) = 5.649 (−4.395) e Å⁻³.
- [12] Preliminary MM2 analysis of **1**-**2**⁺ coordinated to a nonconfigured metal shows that the natural bite angle of the ionically assembled phosphane is larger than 150°, and the *trans*-coordination mode is more favorable than the *cis* geometry. However, the small energy difference (6 kcal mol⁻¹) between the *trans* and *cis* structures indicates that other factors, such as the *trans* influence of other ligands, might determine the geometry of the transition-metal complexes of **1**-**2**⁺.
- [13] Crystal data for *trans*-[Pd(**4**)₂(CH₃)Cl] at 100 K: C₆₁H₅₁O₂P₄Pd₁C₁H₂Cl₂; 1124.21 gmol⁻¹; triclinic; *P*1̄; *a* = 9.4561(7), *b* = 15.6232(12), *c* = 18.7685(14); α = 76.543(2), β = 77.078(2), γ = 76.452(2)°; *V* = 2579.3(3) Å³; *Z* = 2; ρ_{calcd} = 1.448 Mg m⁻³; *R*₁ = 0.0434 (0.0494); *wR*₂ = 0.1125 (0.1168); for 21238 reflections with *I* > 2σ(*I*) (for 23758 reflections [*R*_{int}]: 0.0385] with a total of 52460 measured reflections); goodness-of-fit on *F*² = 1.064; largest diff. peak (hole) = 2.209 (−2.041) e Å⁻³. Crystal data for *trans*-[Pd(**1**-**2**⁺)(CH₃)Cl] at 100 K: C₃₇H₃₄Cl₁N₁O₃P₂Pd₁S₁; 776.50 gmol⁻¹; rhombohedral; *R*3̄; *a* = 20.9955(5) Å; α = 103.68(2)°; *V* = 8308.3(3) Å³; *Z* = 6; ρ_{calcd} = 0.931 Mg m⁻³; *R*₁ = 0.0668 (0.0956); *wR*₂ = 0.1901 (0.2086); for 10932 reflections with *I* > 2σ(*I*) (for 16928 reflections [*R*_{int}]: 0.0696] with a total of 108109 measured reflections); goodness-of-fit on *F*² = 1.015; largest diff. peak (hole) = 2.274 (−0.712) e Å⁻³. This structure shows pseudosymmetry. Refinement in *Pna*₂₁ led to *R*₁ = 0.1013 with negative atomic displacement parameters owing to correlation effects. Compound **3b** includes highly disordered chloroform molecules in the crystal structure and was treated with Squeeze (Platon) to avoid modeling the disordered molecules; A. L. Spek, *Acta Crystallogr.* **1990**, *A46*, C34; A. L. Spek, Platon: A Multipurpose Crystallographic Tool, University of Utrecht, Utrecht (The Netherlands), **2003**.
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