

Water-Soluble Tris(hydroxymethyl)phosphine Complexes with Nickel, Palladium, and Platinum. Crystal Structure of $[\text{Pd}\{\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3\}_4]\cdot\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$

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The large-scale synthesis of the water-soluble phosphine $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$ (**1**) from either PH_3 or $[\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_4]\text{Cl}$ is described. Treatment of $[\text{MX}_2(\text{COD})]$ ($\text{M} = \text{Pt}$ or Pd ; $\text{X} = \text{Cl}$, Br , or I ; $\text{COD} = \text{cycloocta-1,5-diene}$) with **1** gives the corresponding $[\text{MX}_2\{\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3\}_2]$ (**2–7**) complexes which are soluble in water, methanol, or dmsO but insoluble in most common organic solvents. Methanolic or dmsO solutions of the organoplatinum complex $[\text{Pt}(\text{CH}_3)_2\{\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3\}_2]$ (**8**) can be generated from **1** and $[\text{Pt}(\text{CH}_3)_2(\text{COD})]$, but **8** decomposes in concentrated solutions. Treatment of $[\text{PtCl}(\text{CH}_3)(\text{COD})]$ with **1** gives the stable, water-soluble mixture of organoplatinum complexes *cis*- and *trans*- $[\text{PtCl}(\text{CH}_3)\{\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3\}_2]$ (**9a,b**) which reacts with LiBr or LiI to give the corresponding $[\text{PtX}(\text{CH}_3)\{\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3\}_2]$ (**10** and **11**). The zerovalent complex $[\text{Ni}\{\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3\}_4]$ (**12**) is made by adding **1** in methanol to a toluene solution of $[\text{Ni}(\text{COD})_2]$ whereas the best method for synthesizing the palladium analogue **13** is by addition of an aqueous solution of **1** to a CH_2Cl_2 solution of $[\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4]$ followed by isolation of the product from the aqueous layer. The crystal structure of $[\text{Pd}\{\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3\}_4]\cdot\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ shows the $\text{Pd}(0)$ center to be tetrahedrally coordinated by $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$ ligands ($\text{Pd}-\text{P}$ 2.326 (3), 2.321 (1) Å). The hydroxyl groups are all involved in either intramolecular or intermolecular $\text{OH}\cdots\text{O}$ hydrogen bonding ($\text{O}\cdots\text{O}$ distances 2.68 (1)–2.76 (1) Å). Treatment of a suspension of $[\text{Pt}(\text{PPh}_3)_4]$ or $[\text{Pt}(\text{COD})_2]$ in methanol with **1** gave a compound with composition $[\text{Pt}\{\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3\}_4]\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (**14**) which, from NMR and IR spectroscopy in solution, is shown to be an equilibrium mixture of $[\text{Pt}\{\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3\}_4]$ (**14a**) and the five-coordinate hydridoplatinum(II) complex $[\text{PtH}\{\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3\}_4]\text{OH}$ (**14b**). The chemical and spectroscopic properties of the complexes of **1** are compared with analogous PMe_3 and PET_3 species, and it is concluded that, in many respects, **1** has coordination properties that would be expected of a small hydrophilic trialkylphosphine but, in addition, has some unique properties associated with the hydrogen bonding present among the coordinated $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$ ligands.

Introduction

There is increasing interest in organometallic chemistry in aqueous media^{1–6} because of its applications in catalysis and

organic synthesis,^{2–5} its relevance to the Rhône-Poulenc hydroformylation process,² and its novelty.⁶ The most common method employed to transfer organometallic chemistry from organic to

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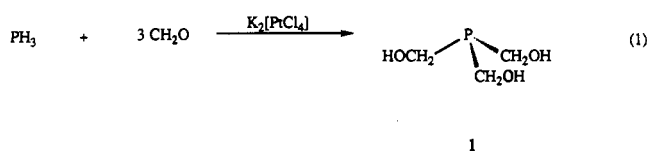
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aqueous media has been to use hydrophilic arylphosphine ligands (especially those containing SO_3Na substituents), and comparatively little work has been carried out on hydrophilic trialkylphosphines.¹

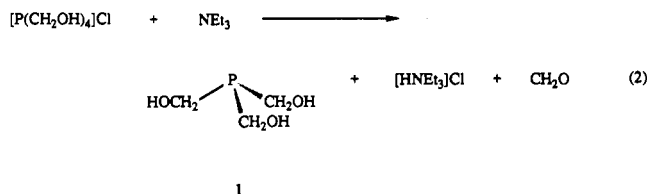
Tris(hydroxymethyl)phosphine (**1**) is an unusual trialkylphosphine in being a crystalline solid at room temperature (mp 58 °C), water soluble, and moderately air stable. In view of these favorable properties, it is surprising that its coordination chemistry has been little studied.^{7,8} In this paper, we report that complexes of **1** with platinum(II) and palladium(II) are water soluble but in most other respects they are similar to analogous PMe_3 or PET_3 complexes whereas complexes of **1** with nickel(0), palladium(0), and platinum(0) have exceptional properties in terms of stability and reactivity.

Results and Discussion

The addition of PH_3 to CH_2O in water in the presence of $\text{K}_2[\text{PtCl}_4]$ (eq 1) is an efficient route⁹ to $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$ (**1**) (see Experimental Section) but requires the handling of highly toxic PH_3 on a large scale which may have been a significant impediment



to the development of the chemistry of **1**. An alternative synthesis of **1**, not requiring PH_3 , is the reaction of the readily available phosphonium salt $[\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_4]\text{Cl}$ with base¹⁰ (eq 2). Phosphine **1** can be readily made on a large scale (>50 g) using our modification of this route (see Experimental Section).



Platinum(II) and Palladium(II) Complexes of $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$. A reliable synthesis of the dihalo complexes $[\text{MX}_2\{\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3\}_2]$ (**2–7**) is from the corresponding $[\text{MX}_2(\text{COD})]$ (COD = cycloocta-1,5-diene) and ligand **1**. The dibromo and diiodo complexes can also be made by metathesis of the dichloro complexes using LiBr or LiI in water or methanol. Chatt et al.^{7a} previously reported the synthesis of the dichloro complexes **2** and **5** from the appropriate $[\text{MCl}_4]^{2-}$ salt, but in our hands this route gave poor yields of impure products. All the complexes **2–7** are soluble in water, though the diiodo complexes only sparingly so; 10^{-2} M

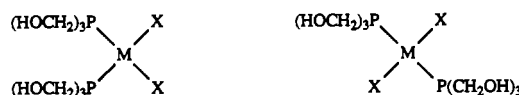
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Table I. Elemental Analytical Data^a

	C	H	halogen
2	13.80 (14.00)	3.65 (3.55)	14.10 (13.80)
3	12.30 (11.95)	3.00 (3.00)	26.30 (26.50)
4	10.95 (10.35)	2.70 (2.60)	36.10 (36.40)
5	17.00 (16.95)	4.30 (4.25)	16.70 (16.65)
6	13.75 (14.00)	3.65 (3.55)	30.90 (31.10)
7	11.90 (11.85)	3.15 (3.00)	41.80 (41.75)
9	17.25 (17.05)	4.45 (4.30)	6.95 (7.20)
11	14.20 (14.40)	3.80 (3.65)	21.95 (21.65)
12	26.20 (26.00)	6.65 (6.55)	
13	24.60 (24.65)	6.55 (6.35)	
14	20.45 (20.30)	5.40 (5.40)	

^a Calculated values in parentheses.

aqueous solutions of the dichloro complexes **2** and **5** have pH's in the range 3–4, indicating that coordination of $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$ has increased the acidity of the hydroxyl protons since the pH of 10^{-2} M solutions of $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$ is ca. 6.5. None of the complexes is soluble in CH_2Cl_2 , CHCl_3 , or toluene, but they are freely soluble in MeOH or dmsO.



2a M = Pt X = Cl

3a M = Pt X = Br

4a M = Pt X = I

5a M = Pd X = Cl

6a M = Pd X = Br

7a M = Pd X = I

4b M = Pt X = I

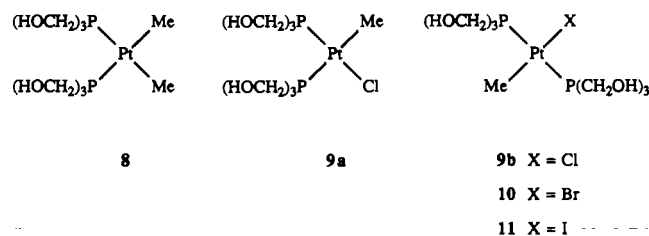
5b M = Pd X = Cl

6b M = Pd X = Br

7b M = Pd X = I

Complexes **2–7** have been characterized by a combination of elemental analysis and IR and NMR spectroscopy; these characterizing data are collected in Tables I–III. The geometries of complexes **2–7** were established in solution by $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$, $^{195}\text{Pt}\{^1\text{H}\}$, $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$, and ^1H NMR and in some cases by comparison of these data with known PMe_3 or PET_3 analogues.¹¹ The tendency to form the trans isomer is in the order $\text{Pd} > \text{Pt}$ and $\text{I} > \text{Br} > \text{Cl}$, as would be expected from many previous studies of $[\text{MX}_2(\text{PR}_3)_2]$ complexes.¹¹ Hence in the platinum series **2–4**, only in dmsO solutions of the diiodo species were significant amounts of trans isomer **4b** detected (freshly generated solutions of **4** contained 66% trans isomer but after 14 h this proportion had reduced to 9%); in the palladium series **5–7** the dichloro complex is almost exclusively *cis*-**5a** while the dibromo complex **6** in aqueous solution exists as a 10:1 *cis*-**6a**:*trans*-**6b** mixture; similarly, the diiodo complex **7** is a 1:11 *cis*-**7a**:*trans*-**7b** mixture in dmsO solution.

Treatment of $[\text{Pt}(\text{CH}_3)_2(\text{COD})]$ with $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$ in dmsO or methanol gave $[\text{Pt}(\text{CH}_3)_2\{\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3\}_2]$ (**8**) quantitatively. Although **8** has been fully characterized by NMR spectroscopy



in solution (see Tables II and III), attempts to isolate this species from methanol were unsuccessful because of rapid decomposition

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Table II. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR Data^a for $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$ Complexes and Analogous PMe_3 and PEt_3 Complexes

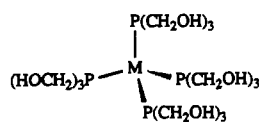
	$\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$			PMe_3		PEt_3	
	$\delta(\text{P})$	$^1J(\text{PtP})$	$\Delta\delta^b$	$^1J(\text{PtP})$	$\Delta\delta^b$	$^1J(\text{PtP})$	$\Delta\delta^b$
2	9.5	3431	33.5	3480	38.7 ^c	3516	29.1 ^d
3	10.1	3369	34.1	3426	38.9 ^c	3479	29.1 ^d
4a	9.7	3227	33.7	3306	36.7 ^c	3374	26.4 ^d
4b	-6.6 ^e	2162	17.4	2230	30.5 ^c	2273	20.4 ^d
5a	34.4 ^e		58.4		60.8 ^c		54.5 ^f
5b	14.8		38.8		50.8 ^c		38.2 ^d
6a	31.8		55.8		61.0 ^c		
6b	7.1		31.1		45.8 ^c		35.2 ^d
7a	29.4 ^e		53.4				
7b	1.3 ^e		25.3	34.8			28.8 ^d
8	8.8 ^e	1765	32.8			1846	29.6 ^d
9a	11.7 ^e	2817	35.7			2821	36.6 ^d
9b	13.3 ^{e,h}	1650	37.3			1719	35.0 ^d
	8.3 ^e	4032	32.3			4179	29.1 ^d
10	9.6 ^e	2810	33.6			2797	34.3 ^d
11	6.1 ^e	2764	30.1			2753	31.2 ^d
12	22.9		46.9	84.9			22.8 ⁱ
13	16.2		36.6	27.9 ^j			18.9 ^j
14	1.2 ^k	3227					
14b	-5.5 ^{k,l}	2653	18.5			2730 ^m	17.4
	-11.6	1824	12.4			2125	20.8

^a Spectra (36.2 MHz) measured in D_2O at 28 °C unless otherwise stated. Chemical shifts (δ) in ppm (± 0.1) to high frequency of 85% H_3PO_4 . Coupling constants (J) in Hz (± 3). ^b $\Delta\delta = \delta(\text{complex}) - \delta(\text{phosphine})$. $\delta(\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3) = -24.0$ (D_2O); $\delta(\text{PMe}_3) = -62.7$ (from ref 17); $\delta(\text{PEt}_3) = -20.4$ (from ref 17). ^c Data from ref 11a. ^d Spectra measured in CDCl_3 . ^e Spectra measured in $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{SO}$. ^f Data from ref 11b. ^g Data from ref 32. ^h P trans to CH_3 ; $^2J(\text{PP}) = 15$ Hz. ⁱ Data from ref 33. ^j Data from ref 34; at 27 °C, $\omega_{1/2} = 100$ Hz. ^k Spectra measured in CD_3OD containing 1 equiv of aqueous HCl. ^l At -78 °C; $^2J(\text{PP}) = 29$ Hz. ^m Data from ref 15 measured in CHCl_2 at -137 °C; $^2J(\text{PP}) = 31$ Hz.

to platinum metal upon concentration of the solutions. The instability of **8** may be due to the acidity of the coordinated $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$ ligands (see above) leading to loss of methane.

Stable organoplatinum species are formed upon treatment of $[\text{PtCl}(\text{CH}_3)(\text{COD})]$ with $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$; both *cis*- and *trans*- $[\text{PtCl}(\text{CH}_3)[\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3]_2$ (**9a,b**) have been characterized in solution. Metathesis of (**9a,b**) with LiBr or LiI gave the corresponding complexes *trans*- $[\text{PtX}(\text{CH}_3)[\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3]_2$ [$\text{X} = \text{Br}$ (**10**) and $\text{X} = \text{I}$ (**11**)] (see Tables I–III for characterizing data).

Nickel(0) and Palladium(0) Complexes of $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$. The nickel complex $[\text{Ni}\{\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3\}_4]$ (**12**) is precipitated immediately and quantitatively upon addition of 4 equiv of $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$ in methanol to a toluene solution of $[\text{Ni}(\text{COD})_2]$. The palladium



12 M = Ni

13 M = Pd

complex $[\text{Pd}\{\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3\}_4]$ (**13**) can be made in an analogous manner by treatment of $[\text{Pd}(\text{dibenzylideneacetone})_2]$ in toluene with $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$ in methanol, but the most convenient synthesis of **13** uses a two phase aqueous/organic system. Aqueous $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$ is added to a CH_2Cl_2 solution of $[\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4]$, and the layers are rapidly stirred; after 3 h the color completely transferred from the organic layer to the aqueous layer. The water-soluble product **13** is then readily freed from displaced PPh_3 simply by separating the layers. Both complexes **12** and **13** are soluble in water and very polar organic solvents (e.g. MeOH, dmsO) but insoluble in common halocarbon or hydrocarbon solvents. They have been fully characterized by elemental analysis

Table III. ^1H , $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$,^b and $^{195}\text{Pt}\{^1\text{H}\}$ ^c Data

	$\delta(\text{PCH}_2\text{O})$	$^3J(\text{PtH})$	$\delta(\text{PCH}_2\text{O})$	$ ^1J(\text{PC}) = ^2J(\text{PC}) $	$\delta(^{195}\text{Pt})$
2	4.32 ^d	21.6	56.2 ^e	44.6	-4
3	4.39	23.0	55.3	43.9	-306
4a	4.49	21.8	57.2	43.2	-793 ^f
4b	4.47	21.8	55.9	41.2	-1053 ^f
5a	4.33 ^f		55.4	35.9	
6a	4.40		56.5	34.6	
7b	4.44		57.6	33.9	
8			56.5 ^h	<i>i</i>	-192 ^f
9a					-88
9b	4.36 ^j	18.4	54.0 ^k		+42
10	4.41 ^l	17.5	54.4 ^m		-114
11	4.28 ⁿ	<i>o</i>	53.9 ^p		-353
12	3.69 ^q		60.3	11.5	
13	3.68		59.7	<i>o</i>	
14	3.65 ^r		60.8	<i>o</i>	

^a Spectra (270 MHz) measured in $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{SO}$ at 18 °C unless otherwise stated; chemical shifts (δ) in ppm (± 0.01) to high frequency of SiMe_4 and coupling constants (J) in Hz (± 0.1). ^b Spectra (67.5 MHz) measured in $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{SO}$ at 20 °C unless otherwise stated; chemical shifts (δ) in ppm (± 0.1) to high frequency of SiMe_4 and coupling constants (J) in Hz (± 0.1). ^c Spectra (19.2 MHz) measured in D_2O at 28 °C unless otherwise stated; chemical shifts (δ) in ppm (± 0.5) to high frequency of $\Sigma(\text{Pt}) = 21.4$ MHz. ^d A δ value (in CD_3OD) of 4.50 ppm and $^3J(\text{PtH})$ of 23.4 Hz have been previously reported.^{7a} ^e In CD_3OD ; $^2J(\text{PtC}) = 45.2$ Hz. ^f A δ value (in CD_3OD) of 4.50 ppm has been previously reported.^{7a} ^g In $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{SO}$. ^h Data for the PtCH_3 resonance: δ 2.1 ppm, $^1J(\text{PtC}) = 584.3$ Hz, $^2J(\text{PC}) = ^2J(\text{P}^{\prime}\text{C}) = 104.9$ Hz. ⁱ Multiplet observed. ^j Data for the PtCH_3 resonance: δ 0.60 ppm, $^2J(\text{PtH}) = 83.1$ Hz, $^3J(\text{PH}) = 6.2$ Hz. ^k Data for the PtCH_3 resonance: δ -26.8 ppm, $^1J(\text{PtC}) = 634.2$ Hz, $^2J(\text{PC}) = 6.5$ Hz. ^l Data for the PtCH_3 resonance: δ 0.64 ppm, $^2J(\text{PtH}) = 82.5$ Hz, $^3J(\text{PH}) = 6.4$ Hz. ^m Data for the PtCH_3 resonance: δ -23.7 ppm, $^1J(\text{PtC}) = 638.4$ Hz, $^2J(\text{PC}) = 6.4$ Hz. ⁿ Data for the PtCH_3 resonance: δ 0.73 ppm, $^2J(\text{PtH}) = 82.9$ Hz, $^3J(\text{PH}) = 6.4$ Hz. ^o Not resolved. ^p Data for the PtCH_3 resonance: δ -18.3 ppm, $^1J(\text{PtC}) = 634.1$ Hz, $^2J(\text{PC}) = 6.5$ Hz. ^q In CD_3OD . ^r See caption for Figure 3 for the data from the low-temperature spectra.

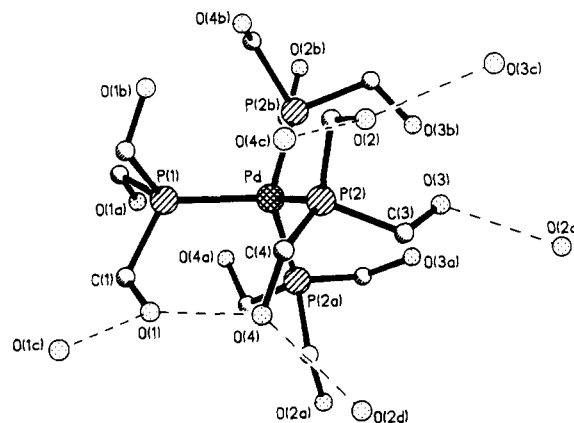


Figure 1. Molecular structure of $[\text{Pd}\{\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3\}_4] \cdot \text{MeOH}$ (**13**) showing atom-labeling scheme. The crystallographic 3-fold axis (parallel to the z axis of the unit cell) passes through the Pt and P(1) atoms. All hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity. The unique O...O hydrogen bond contacts involving the hydroxyl groups ($\text{O} \cdots \text{O} < 2.8$ Å) are shown.

and NMR spectroscopy (see Tables I–III), and the X-ray crystal structure of the palladium complex **13** has been determined.

X-ray Crystal Structure of $[\text{Pd}\{\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3\}_4] \cdot \text{MeOH}$. Deep yellow crystals of **13**·MeOH were obtained from a methanol/diethyl ether solution, and the crystal structure was determined. The complex crystallizes as discrete molecules which lie on C_3 axes in the trigonal space group $R\bar{3}c$ with one molecule of methanol cocrystallized per molecule of **13**. Bond lengths and angles (numbering scheme shown in Figure 1) are listed in Table IV. The molecular structure shows the expected tetrahedral coordination at the palladium(0) [P–Pd–P 108.5 (1), 110.4 (1)°] with Pd–P distances similar to those of other palladium(0) trialkylphosphine complexes [Pd–P 2.326 (3), 2.321 (1) Å in **13**; Pd–PMe₃, average 2.287 Å, Pd–PEt₃, average 2.315 Å].¹² The

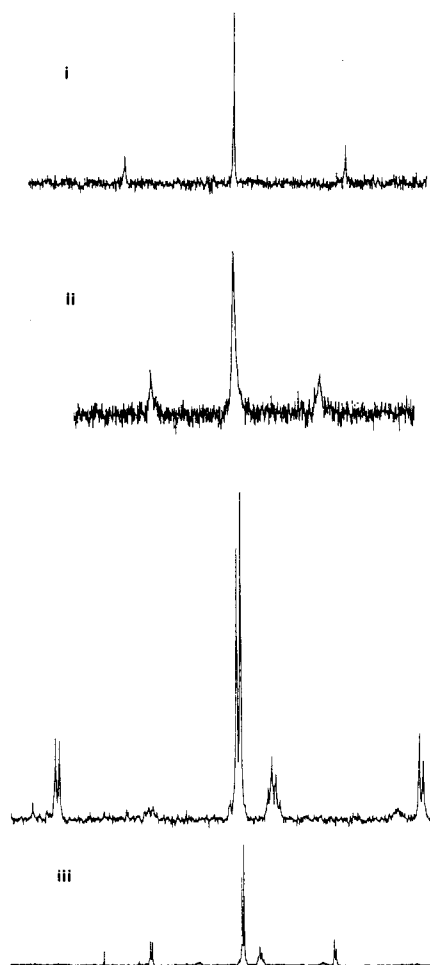


Figure 2. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectra of $[\text{Pt}\{\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3\}_4]$ in CD_3OD : (i) at $+28^\circ\text{C}$; (ii) at $+28^\circ\text{C}$ in the presence of 1 equiv of aqueous HCl ; (iii) at -78°C in the presence of 1 equiv of aqueous HCl .

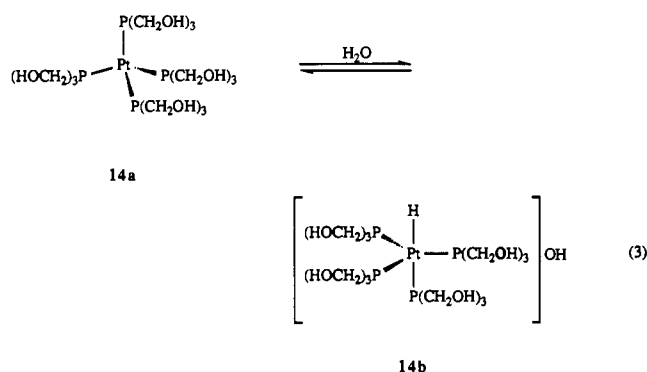
Table IV. Bond Lengths (Å) and Bond Angles (deg) for **13**-MeOH

Pd-P(1)	2.326 (3)	Pd-P(2)	2.321 (1)	P(1)-C(1)	1.858 (11)
C(1)-O(1)	1.364 (13)	C(1)-O(1')	1.222 (30)	P(2)-C(2)	1.845 (7)
P(2)-C(3)	1.849 (7)	P(2)-C(4)	1.848 (7)	C(2)-O(2)	1.437 (6)
C(3)-O(3)	1.410 (9)	C(4)-O(4)	1.428 (10)	C(9)-O(9)	1.302 (39)
P(1)-Pd-P(2)	108.5 (1)	P(2)-Pd-P(2A)	110.4 (1)		
Pd-P(1)-C(1)	117.8 (3)	C(1)-P(1)-C(1A)	100.1 (3)		
P(1)-C(1)-O(1)	113.1 (6)	P(1)-C(1)-O(1')	118.9 (20)		
Pd-P(2)-C(2)	116.5 (2)	Pd-P(2)-C(3)	119.1 (2)		
C(2)-P(2)-C(3)	100.7 (3)	Pd-P(2)-C(4)	119.3 (2)		
C(2)-P(2)-C(4)	98.9 (3)	C(3)-P(2)-C(4)	98.5 (3)		
P(2)-C(2)-O(2)	115.9 (5)	P(2)-C(3)-O(3)	111.4 (6)		
P(2)-C(4)-O(4)	112.8 (4)				

water solubility of **13** is due to the palladium atom being sheathed by 12 alcohol groups and thereby presenting a highly hydrophilic surface to an approaching solvent. The most striking feature of the crystal structure is the extensive hydrogen-bonding pattern (see Figure 1). First, there is an intramolecular hydrogen bond between O(1) and O(4) (2.68 (1) Å). Secondly, there are two symmetry-related hydrogen bonds (O...O 2.73 (1) Å) that link molecules into a two-dimensional layer network perpendicular to the *c* axis of the unit cell. These are between O(2) and O(4c) and between O(4) and O(2d). Finally, there are intermolecular hydrogen bonds that link together these hydrogen-bonded layers of molecules. These are O(1)...O(1c) (2.76 (1) Å), O(2)...O(3c), and O(3)...O(2c) (2.69 (1) Å). O(2d) is generated from O(2) by the symmetry operation $-x + y, 1 - x, z$, O(4c) is generated from O(4) by $1 - y, 1 + x - y, z$, O(1c) is related to O(1) by

$0.3333 - x + y, 0.6667 - y, 0.6667 - z$, O(2c) is related to O(2) by $0.6667 + y, -0.6667 - x - y, 0.3333 - z$, and O(3c) is related to O(3) by the $0.6667 + x - y, 0.3333 + x, 0.3333 - z$ operation. The methanol of crystallization does not form any strong (<2.8 Å) O...HO hydrogen bonds with molecules of **13**. Lickiss and co-workers¹³ have observed a variety of intra- and intermolecular hydrogen-bonding patterns in topologically similar tetrahedral species with hydroxyl groups [e.g. $\text{C}(\text{SiMe}_2\text{OH})_4$], but **13** differs from these in having 12 hydroxyl groups (rather than four) all of which are involved in hydrogen bonding.

Platinum Complex $[\text{Pt}\{\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3\}_4]\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (14**).** Treatment of $[\text{Pt}(\text{COD})_2]$ or $[\text{Pt}(\text{PPh}_3)_4]$ with $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$ yielded a product which, from elemental analysis, had a composition corresponding to $[\text{Pt}\{\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3\}_4]\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (**14**), i.e. ostensibly the platinum(0) analogue of complexes **12** and **13**. Treatment of **14** with iodine in methanol gave **4**, the product that would be expected from oxidative addition of I_2 to platinum(0). However, unlike **12** and **13**, species **14** forms strongly alkaline aqueous solutions (10^{-2} M solutions have a pH of ca. 11) which we associate with the presence of an equilibrium mixture of the tetrahedral platinum(0) complex **14a** and the trigonal-bipyramidal hydridoplatinum(II) complex **14b** (eq 3). This assignment is supported by much spectroscopic evidence, as detailed below:



The IR spectrum of **14** in the solid state and in MeOH solution features a weak band at 2110 (CsI disk) or 2103 (MeOH) cm^{-1} assigned to $\nu(\text{PtH})$.

The $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (36.2 MHz) signal for **14** in methanol at $+28^\circ\text{C}$ is a broad singlet ($w_{1/2} = 28$ Hz) with ^{195}Pt satellites which, upon addition of 1 equiv of aqueous HCl , broadens further ($w_{1/2} = 40$ Hz) and shifts to lower frequency (from +1.2 to -7.3 ppm), and the $^1J(\text{PtP})$ value falls nearly 800 Hz (from 3227 to 2437 Hz). At -78°C , the broad signals of this acidified solution are resolved into a doublet and a quartet (see Figure 2), as expected for the trigonal-bipyramidal **14b**. Above -78°C , these signals broaden and coalesce at ca. -40°C , and then at -5°C , a minimum line width is observed ($w_{1/2} = 8$ Hz). At $+28^\circ\text{C}$, the values of $\delta(\text{P})$ and $^1J(\text{PtP})$ are the weighted averages of the values at -78°C , which is consistent with **14b** being fluxional on the NMR time scale, as is observed in other five-coordinate platinum hydrides.^{15,16} The low-temperature (-78°C) $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of **14** is the same in the absence or the presence of added acid, which indicates that the equilibrium (eq 3) shifts to the right at low temperatures. Addition of $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$ (**1**) to nonacidified solutions of **14** results in further broadening of the signal for **14** and a broad signal for free phosphine **1**, indicating that phosphine exchange takes place at ambient temperature (see below).

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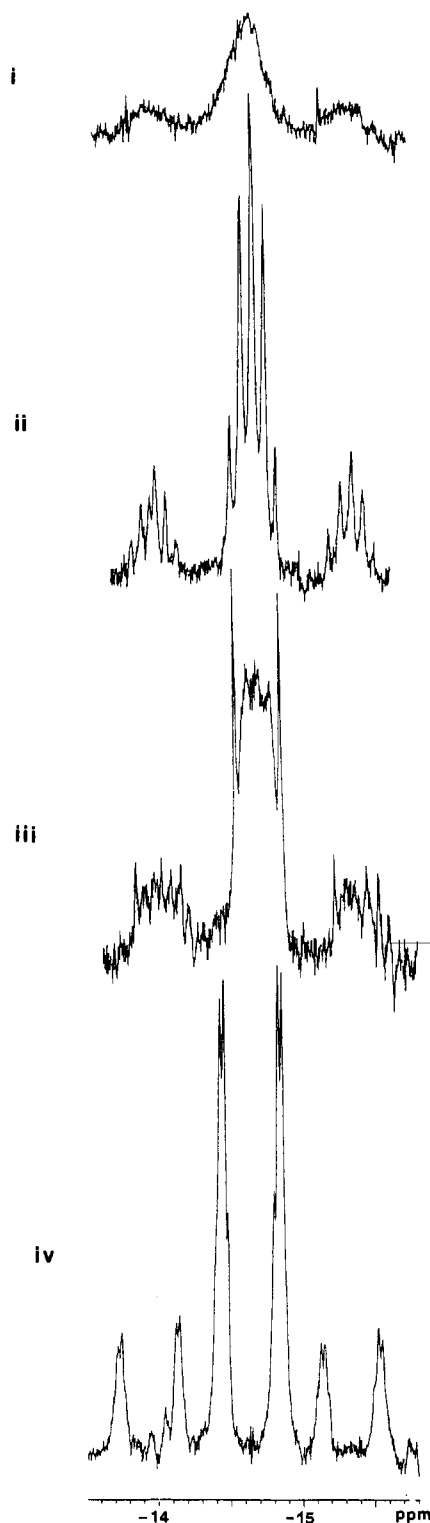
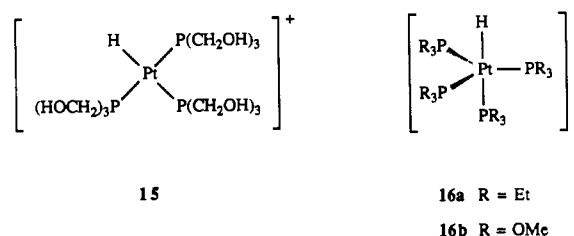


Figure 3. Hydride region of the ^1H NMR spectrum (400 MHz) of $[\text{Pt}\{\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3\}_4]^+$ in the presence of 1 equiv aqueous HCl in CD_3OD : (i) $+21^\circ\text{C}$ $\delta(\text{H}) = -13.90$, $^1J(\text{PtH}) = \text{ca. } 550$ Hz; (ii) -10°C $\delta(\text{H}) = -14.06$, $^1J(\text{PtH}) = 544$ Hz, $^2J(\text{PH}) = 31$ Hz; (iii) -30°C ; (iv) -65°C $\delta(\text{H}) = -14.60$, $^1J(\text{PtH}) = 566$ Hz, $^2J(\text{PH}) = 10$ and 162 Hz.

The variable-temperature ^1H NMR spectra (Figure 3) of acidified methanolic solutions of **14** strongly support the above conclusions. At -65°C , a doublet of quartets (not fully resolved) is observed at -14.60 ppm, as expected for the axial hydride ligand in the static trigonal-bipyramidal structure **14b**. Upon warming of the solution, this signal broadens and then sharpens into a quintet at -10°C , showing unambiguously that the $[\text{PtH}(\text{PR}_3)_4]^+$ structure is maintained. Above -10°C , the signal broadens and fine structure due to H–P coupling is lost, consistent

with **14b** undergoing phosphine exchange on the NMR time scale (presumably via the square-planar transient **15**). Interestingly,



Pt–H coupling is retained, indicating that proton exchange from **14b**, in acidic media, is not rapid on the NMR time scale at ambient temperatures. However, proton exchange (eq 3) is rapid in alkaline solution, as evidenced by the absence of a hydride resonance in aqueous methanolic solutions of **14**.

Complex **14b** is a rare example of a five-coordinate platinum hydride that is stable at ambient temperatures.¹⁴ The species $[\text{PtH}(\text{PET}_3)_4]^+$ (**16a**) has been observed¹⁵ at very low temperatures, but above -100°C , it is completely dissociated into $[\text{PtH}(\text{PET}_3)_3]^+$ (an analogue of **15**). The fluxional phosphite complex $[\text{PtH}\{\text{P}(\text{OMe})_3\}_4]^+$ (**16b**)¹⁶ (which, coincidentally, is an isomer of **14b**) is stable at $+25^\circ\text{C}$.

Comparison of $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$ with PMe_3 and PET_3 . In order to put the chemistry described above into context, it is instructive to compare it with analogous PMe_3 and PET_3 chemistry. The pK_a values for $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$, PMe_3 , and PET_3 (5.5, 8.65, and 8.69, respectively)¹⁷ show that $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$ is significantly less basic, presumably as a result of the presence of the three electron-withdrawing OH substituents. The cone angle¹⁸ for $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$ should lie between that of PMe_3 (118°) and PET_3 (132°), and one might anticipate that it would lie closer to that of PET_3 .

In Table II the ^{31}P coordination chemical shifts for all the metal(II) complexes are collected along with the values for analogous PMe_3 and PET_3 complexes. The coordination shifts and $^1J(\text{PtP})$ values for platinum(II) and palladium(II) complexes of $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$, PMe_3 , and PET_3 are similar and it is therefore clear from these data that, notwithstanding its lower Brønsted basicity, $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$ coordinates to these metal centers like other small, basic trialkylphosphines.

There are significant differences in the properties of the complexes formed by $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$ and other trialkylphosphines which may be associated with the hydrophilicity and hydrogen-bonding capacity of the OH groups. The most obvious is the water solubility of all the $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$ complexes reported here. More subtle differences emerge when the complexes $[\text{M}\{\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3\}_4]$ [$\text{M} = \text{Ni}$ (**12**) or Pd (**13**)] are compared with the analogous $[\text{M}(\text{PR}_3)_4]$ ($\text{M} = \text{Ni}$ or Pd ; $\text{R} = \text{Me}$ or Et) (**17a–d**). The $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$ complexes are essentially air-stable in the solid state and in solution whereas the analogous PMe_3 or PET_3 complexes **17a–d** are extremely air sensitive, even pyrophoric.¹⁹ The PMe_3 and PET_3 complexes **17a–d** react readily with EtOH to form hydrides $[\text{MH}(\text{PR}_3)_4]^+$ ($\text{M} = \text{Ni}$, $\text{R} = \text{Me}$) or $[\text{MH}(\text{PR}_3)_3]^+$ ($\text{M} = \text{Ni}$ or Pd , $\text{R} = \text{Me}$ or Et)²⁰ whereas we observe no reaction between **12** or **13** and alcohols.

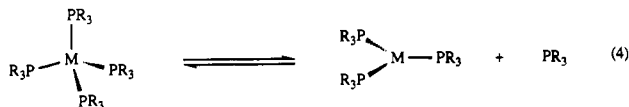
When $\text{P}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$ is added to solutions of **12** or **13**, sharp ^{31}P NMR signals are observed for the complexes and free ligand, indicating that dissociative phosphine exchange (eq 4) is slow on the NMR time scale. In this respect **12** and **13** resemble the

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12 M = Ni R = CH₂OH13 M = Pd R = CH₂OH

17a M = Ni R = Me

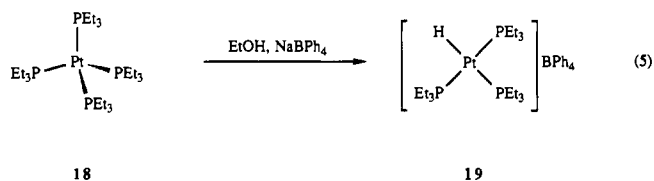
17b M = Ni R = Et

17c M = Pd R = Me

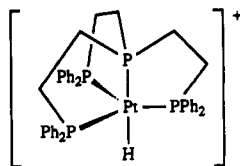
17d M = Pd R = Et

PMe₃ analogues **17a,c** rather than the PEt₃ analogues **17b,d** which are extensively dissociated in solution.¹⁹ Since dissociative equilibria of this type (eq 4) are normally governed by steric rather than electronic effects, we might conclude that P(CH₂OH)₃ has an effective cone angle closer to PMe₃ than PEt₃. Another possible explanation is that dissociation of the phosphines from **12** and **13** is inhibited by intramolecular hydrogen bonding between the coordinated P(CH₂OH)₃ ligands; a similar explanation has been given for the high energy barrier to phosphine dissociation from [RhH(CO){P(*m*-C₆H₄SO₃Na)₃}]₃.²¹

The protonation of the platinum(0) complex **14a** by H₂O to give the five-coordinate hydride **14b** (eq 3) should be contrasted with the reaction²⁰ between [Pt(PEt₃)₄] (**18**) and EtOH which gives the four-coordinate hydride [PtH(PEt₃)₃]⁺ (**19**) (eq 5).



The intramolecular hydrogen bonding detected in the crystal structure of [Pd{P(CH₂OH)₃}]₄ links the four ligands in such a way that the {P(CH₂OH)₃}₄ unit may be considered as a tetradentate ligand. Viewed in this way, the stability of the palladium(0) and nickel(0) complexes **12** and **13** can be rationalized in terms of the multiple-chelate effect of the linked P(CH₂OH)₃ ligands. The {P(CH₂OH)₃}₄ unit can also be thought of as analogous to the tripod tetradentate ligand P(CH₂CH₂PPh₂)₃ which has recently been shown²¹ to be an excellent ligand for the stabilization of trigonal-bipyramidal geometry for platinum(II) (e.g. the hydridoplatinum(II) complex **20**). Hence the stabili-



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zation of the trigonal-bipyramidal hydridoplatinum(II) complex **14b** can be interpreted as a manifestation of the tripod qualities of the hydrogen-bonded {P(CH₂OH)₃}₄ unit. Further study of this analogy is in progress.

Conclusion

The overall conclusion from our work with P(CH₂OH)₃ is that its coordination chemistry with nickel, palladium, and platinum,

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in many respects, resembles PMe₃ or PEt₃ but the OH substituents not only confer water solubility on the complexes but also influence the chemistry in more subtle ways, such as stabilizing low oxidation states and high coordination numbers.

Experimental Section

All syntheses were carried out under a nitrogen atmosphere unless otherwise stated and solvents dried, when necessary, by refluxing over the appropriate drying reagents (calcium hydride for dichloromethane, sodium/benzophenone for diethyl ether, toluene, and *n*-hexane) and distilled under nitrogen prior to use. Commercial reagents were used as supplied unless otherwise stated; the phosphonium salt [P(CH₂OH)₄]Cl can be obtained from Albright and Wilson (see above address) as an 80% solution in water. The following starting materials were prepared according to literature methods: [PtX₂(COD)] (X = Cl, Br, I, CH₃),^{22,23} [PtCl(CH₃)(COD)],²⁴ [Pt(COD)₂],²⁵ [Pt(PPh₃)₄],²⁶ [PdX₂(COD)] (X = Cl, Br),²³ [Pd(dba)₂],²⁷ [Pd(PPh₃)₄],²⁸ [Ni(COD)₂].²⁹

Synthesis of Tris(hydroxymethyl)phosphine (1) from PH₃. (CAUTION: Phosphine gas is extremely toxic and should only be handled in a well-ventilated fume cupboard). A 250-cm³, three-necked flask, equipped with gas inlet, mechanical stirrer, and a gas exhaust outlet, was charged with aqueous formaldehyde (37%, 100 cm³, 0.88 mol). The solution was purged thoroughly with nitrogen for ca. 30 min, then the K₂[PtCl₄] catalyst (0.5 g, 1.04 mmol) added as a solid in one portion. Further purging with nitrogen was continued for ca. 10 min; then PH₃ was admitted at a slow rate to the vigorously stirred solution at room temperature. The reaction was complete when PH₃ adsorption had ceased (ca. 2.5 h). Removal of all volatiles on a vacuum line with a warm external water bath affords crystalline ligand **1** in essentially quantitative yields.

Synthesis of Tris(hydroxymethyl)phosphine from [P(CH₂OH)₄]Cl. For this preparation, it is important to have anhydrous [P(CH₂OH)₄]Cl which can be conveniently obtained as follows. The 80% aqueous solution of [P(CH₂OH)₄]Cl is evaporated to dryness on a rotary evaporator, and the resulting solid is then further dried by azeotropic distillation with toluene; finally, the solid is recrystallized from twice its weight of 2-propanol. Anhydrous [P(CH₂OH)₄]Cl is very hygroscopic and should therefore be stored under anhydrous conditions.

A 1-L three-necked flask was charged with anhydrous [P(CH₂OH)₄]Cl (95.25 g, 0.500 mol). Dry triethylamine (600 cm³) was then added in one portion under nitrogen with stirring. The resulting mixture was then heated to 60 °C for 1 h and then allowed to cool to room temperature. The solid [NEt₃]Cl byproduct was filtered off and the filtrate collected. The triethylamine solvent was distilled out at atmospheric pressure to give the crude product (at this stage it is a mixture of **1** and its hemiacetal adducts) which was then heated at 90 °C for 5 h under reduced pressure (1 mmHg) using a nitrogen bleed. The product, a viscous oil or low-melting solid was obtained in quantitative yield and was 96% pure by ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectroscopy. Recrystallization was achieved by dissolving 60 g of crude product in 44 g of MeOH and then cooling the solution to -20 °C for 16 h to yield 52 g (84% of crystalline product (98.5% purity by ³¹P{¹H} NMR analysis). Phosphine **1** is slowly oxidized by atmospheric oxygen, is hygroscopic, and has an unpleasant smell; it should therefore be stored under nitrogen. Purification of **1** by distillation has been reported^{7b} but we do not recommend this method for large-scale preparations because above 130 °C, **1** decomposes exothermally, releasing PH₃ gas in the process.

Preparation of [PtCl₂{P(CH₂OH)₃}₂] (2**).** A solution of P(CH₂OH)₃ (0.361 g, 2.91 mmol) in methanol (4 cm³) was added to a suspension of [PtCl₂(COD)] (0.532 g, 1.42 mmol) in methanol (20 cm³) and the mixture stirred until all the solid had dissolved (ca. 30 min). Evaporation of the solvent to ca. 1–2 cm³ followed by addition of dichloromethane (30 cm³) gave the white solid product **2** (0.658 g, 90%).

Preparation of [PtBr₂{P(CH₂OH)₃}₂] (3**).** A solution of P(CH₂OH)₃ (0.192 g, 1.55 mmol) in methanol (2 cm³) was added to a suspension of

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 (28) Coulson, D. R. *Inorg. Synth.* **1972**, *13*, 121.
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[PtBr₂(COD)] (0.350 g, 0.76 mmol) in methanol (15 cm³) and the mixture stirred for 1 h. Evaporation of the resulting solution to ca. 2 cm³, followed by addition of dichloromethane (30 cm³), gave the white solid product 3 (0.409 g, 90%).

Preparation of [PtI₂{P(CH₂OH)₃]₂ (4). (i) A solution of P(CH₂OH)₃ (0.076 g, 0.61 mmol) in methanol (1 cm³) was added to a suspension of [PtI₂(COD)] (0.166 g, 0.30 mmol) in methanol (10 cm³). The suspension dissolves to give a yellow solution and then, after ca. 5 min, the yellow solid product 4 precipitates; it was filtered off and dried in vacuo (0.166 g, 80%).

(ii) A solution of lithium iodide (0.268 g, 2.00 mmol) in methanol (2 cm³) was added to a solution of [PtCl₂{P(CH₂OH)₃]₂ (0.103 g, 0.20 mmol) in methanol (3 cm³). The solution immediately turns deep yellow followed by precipitation of a yellow solid. After the mixture was stirred for an additional 3 h, the precipitated product 4 was filtered off and washed with water (5 cm³). The product was then dried in vacuo (0.092 g, 66%).

(iii) A solution of iodine (0.217 g, 0.86 mmol) in methanol (2 cm³) was added to a solution of [Pt{P(CH₂OH)₃]₄·H₂O (0.202 g, 0.28 mmol) in methanol/water (15 cm³/1 cm³) and the mixture stirred for ca. 4 h. The yellow solid product 4 which had formed was filtered off and dried in vacuo (0.113 g, 58%).

Preparation of [PdCl₂{P(CH₂OH)₃]₂ (5). A solution of P(CH₂OH)₃ (0.285 g, 2.30 mmol) in methanol (3 cm³) was added to a suspension of [PdCl₂(COD)] (0.320 g, 1.12 mmol) in methanol (20 cm³) and the mixture stirred until all the solid had dissolved (ca. 10 min). Evaporation of the solvent to ca. 1–2 cm³, followed by addition of dichloromethane (20 cm³), gave the yellow solid product 5 (0.418 g, 88%).

Preparation of [PdBr₂{P(CH₂OH)₃]₂ (6). A solution of P(CH₂OH)₃ (0.119 g, 0.96 mmol) in methanol (3 cm³) was added to a suspension of [PdBr₂(COD)] (0.174 g, 0.47 mmol) in methanol (5 cm³) and the mixture stirred until all the solid had dissolved (ca. 5 min) to give an orange solution. Evaporation of the solvent to ca. 1–2 cm³ followed by addition of dichloromethane (20 cm³) gave the yellow solid product 6 (0.159 g, 68%).

Preparation of [PdI₂{P(CH₂OH)₃]₂ (7). A solution of lithium iodide (0.361 g, 2.70 mmol) in water (2 cm³) was added to a solution of [PdCl₂{P(CH₂OH)₃]₂ (0.114 g, 0.27 mmol) in water (7 cm³). Immediately, the dark orange product 7 precipitates. After ca. 5 min, this solid was filtered off and dried in vacuo (0.141 g, 87%).

In Situ Preparation of [Pt(CH₃)₂{P(CH₂OH)₃]₂. A solution of [Pt(CH₃)₂(COD)] (0.045 g, 0.14 mmol) and P(CH₂OH)₃ (0.035 g, 0.28 mmol) in (CD₃)₂SO (0.5 cm³) was examined by ³¹P{¹H}, ¹³C{¹H}, and ¹⁹⁵Pt{¹H} NMR spectroscopy. The spectroscopic data were consistent with the formation of complex 8.

Preparation of *cis*- and *trans*-[PtCl(CH₃){P(CH₂OH)₃]₂ (9a,b). A solution of P(CH₂OH)₃ (0.166 g, 1.30 mmol) in methanol (2 cm³) was added to a suspension of [PtCl(CH₃)(COD)] (0.235 g, 0.67 mmol) in methanol (8 cm³), and the mixture was stirred until all the solid had dissolved (ca. 15 min). Evaporation of the solvent to ca. 1 cm³ and addition of dichloromethane (30 cm³) afforded the solid product 9 which was filtered off and dried in vacuo (0.238 g, 73%).

Preparation of *trans*-[PtBr(CH₃){P(CH₂OH)₃]₂ (10). [PtCl(CH₃){P(CH₂OH)₃]₂ (0.020 g, 0.041 mmol) and lithium bromide (0.035 g, 0.041 mmol) were dissolved in dmsO (0.5 cm³), and the resulting solution was examined by ³¹P{¹H} and ¹⁹⁵Pt{¹H} NMR spectroscopy. The only species observed was assigned to *trans*-[PtBr(CH₃){P(CH₂OH)₃]₂ (10), but this was not isolated.

Preparation of *trans*-[PtI(CH₃){P(CH₂OH)₃]₂ (11). A solution of lithium iodide (0.350 g, 2.30 mmol) in methanol (2 cm³) was added to a solution of [PtCl(CH₃){P(CH₂OH)₃]₂ (0.114 g, 0.23 mmol) in methanol (5 cm³) to give a pale yellow solution. After ca. 5 min a white precipitate formed and the mixture was then stirred for a further 20 min. The product was filtered off, washed with small portions of water (2 × 5 cm³), acetone (2 × 5 cm³), and *n*-hexane (2 × 5 cm³), and finally dried in vacuo (0.087 g, 65%).

Preparation of [Ni{P(CH₂OH)₃]₄ (12). A solution of P(CH₂OH)₃ (1.818 g, 14.66 mmol) in methanol (6 cm³) was added to a solution of [Ni(COD)₂] (0.996 g, 3.62 mmol) in toluene (70 cm³) to give a buff precipitate immediately. The mixture was stirred for ca. 15 min and then the product 12 filtered off under nitrogen. The solid was dried in vacuo (1.889 g, 94%).

Preparation of [Pd{P(CH₂OH)₃]₄ (13). (i) A solution of P(CH₂OH)₃ (1.20 g, 9.68 mmol) in water (60 cm³) was added to a solution of [Pd(PPh₃)₄] (2.70 g, 2.34 mmol) in dichloromethane (80 cm³). The two phases were stirred vigorously for 3 h, during which the orange/yellow

Table V. Crystallographic Data for 13-MeOH

formula: C ₁₃ H ₄₀ O ₁₃ P ₄ Pd	fw: 634.8
<i>a</i> = 10.202 (3) Å	space group: <i>R</i> 3̄ <i>c</i> (No. 167)
<i>c</i> = 86.937 (25) Å	<i>T</i> = 295 °C
<i>V</i> = 7837 (4) Å ³	$\bar{\rho}$ = 0.710 69 Å
<i>Z</i> = 12	μ (Mo K α) = 9.9 cm ⁻¹
ρ_{calc} = 1.62 g cm ⁻³	<i>F</i> (000) = 3924
<i>R</i> ^a = 0.057	<i>S</i> = 2.05 ^a
<i>R</i> _w = 0.067	

$$^a R = \sum |\Delta| / \sum |F_o|; R_w = [\sum w\Delta^2 / \sum wF_o^2]^{1/2}; S = [\sum w\Delta^2 / (\text{NO} - \text{NV})]^{1/2}; \Delta = F_o - F_c.$$

Table VI. Atomic Coordinates (×10⁴) and Equivalent Isotropic Displacement Parameters (Å² × 10³) for 13-MeOH

atom	<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>z</i>	<i>U</i> _{eq} ^a
Pd	0	0	1258 (1)	33 (1)
P(1)	0	0	991 (1)	44 (1)
C(1)	-1071 (10)	782 (9)	891 (1)	74 (4)
O(1)	-704 (11)	2191 (10)	942 (1)	119 (6)
O(1')	-1113 (32)	766 (32)	751 (3)	80 (11)
P(2)	1737 (2)	2415 (2)	1343 (1)	38 (1)
C(2)	3730 (6)	2878 (6)	1354 (1)	51 (3)
O(2)	4797 (4)	4390 (5)	1403 (1)	59 (2)
C(3)	1490 (7)	3027 (8)	1536 (1)	55 (3)
O(3)	1246 (7)	1938 (7)	1649 (1)	86 (3)
C(4)	2002 (7)	4073 (7)	1232 (1)	57 (3)
O(4)	603 (6)	3964 (5)	1187 (1)	68 (2)
C(9)	6667	3333	617 (3)	150 (11)
O(9)	7163 (31)	2526 (30)	684 (4)	173 (19)

^a Equivalent isotropic *U* defined as one-third of the trace of the orthogonalized *U*_{ij} tensor.

color transferred from the organic to the aqueous layer. The dichloromethane layer was syringed off and the aqueous layer washed with dichloromethane (2 × 50 cm³). Evaporation of the water under reduced pressure and trituration of the residue with diethyl ether (50 cm³) affords 13 as an orange solid (1.085 g, 77%).

(ii) A solution of P(CH₂OH)₃ (0.527 g, 4.25 mmol, 4.05 equiv) in methanol (4 cm³) was added to a solution of [Pd(dba)₂] (0.600 g, 1.05 mmol) in toluene (60 cm³). After ca. 5 min, the dark purple solution turned deep yellow and then an olive green solid precipitated. The solid product was filtered off under nitrogen and dried in vacuo (0.702 g, 89%). It was identical spectroscopically to the orange product obtained from [Pd(PPh₃)₄] and the green coloration is assumed to be due to the presence of a small amount of metallic palladium.

Preparation of [Pt{P(CH₂OH)₃]₄·H₂O (14). (i) A solution of P(CH₂OH)₃ (0.860 g, 6.94 mmol, 4.16 equiv) in methanol (10 cm³) was added to a suspension of [Pt(PPh₃)₄] (2.08 g, 1.67 mmol) in methanol (125 cm³), and the resulting pale yellow solution was stirred for 4 h. The solvent was then evaporated under reduced pressure to ca. 5–10 cm³, and diethyl ether (90 cm³) was added to precipitate the off-white solid product 14 (0.98 g, 83%).

(ii) A solution of P(CH₂OH)₃ (0.185 g, 1.49 mmol) in methanol (2 cm³) was added to a suspension of [Pt(COD)₂] (0.141 g, 0.34 mmol) in methanol (10 cm³), and the resulting solution was stirred for 15 min and then concentrated to ca. 1–2 cm³. The product 14 was precipitated by the addition of dichloromethane (18 cm³) (0.108 g, 45%).

Crystal Structure of [Pd{P(CH₂OH)₃]₄·MeOH, (13)·MeOH. Crystal data for 13-MeOH are listed in Table V. A single crystal of 13-MeOH (approximate dimensions 0.4 × 0.4 × 0.25 mm) was mounted in a thin-walled glass capillary under N₂. All diffraction measurements were made on a Nicolet P3m diffractometer at room temperature, using graphite-monochromated Mo K α X-radiation. Unit cell dimensions were determined from 15 centered reflections in the range 16.0 < 2 θ < 25.0°. Diffracted intensities were measured in a hemisphere of reciprocal space for 4.0 < 2 θ < 50.0° by $\omega/2\theta$ scans. Three check reflections were re-measured after every 100 ordinary data over the period of data collection, and a correction for long-term intensity fluctuation was applied on the basis of the variation in their intensities. Of the 4786 noncheck, non-absence, intensity data collected, 1567 unique observations remained after averaging of duplicate and equivalent measurements, of these 1237 (=NO) with *I* > 2 σ (*I*) were retained for use in structure solution and refinement. No absorption correction was applied. Lorentz and polarization corrections were applied.

The structure was solved by heavy-atom (direct and Fourier) methods and refined by full-matrix least squares. The complex and solvent

molecules each lie on crystallographic 3-fold axes. In the case of the solvent, this leads to disorder, with the oxygen disordered between three off-axis sites and the carbon on-axis. The hydroxymethyl groups on P(1) suffer a 2-fold disorder, with the oxygens in two sites of refined occupancy 0.82 (1) (O(1)) and 0.18 (1) (O(1')). All non-hydrogen atoms other than O(1') were assigned anisotropic displacement parameters, and O(1') was assigned a refined isotropic displacement parameter. All hydrogen atoms were assigned fixed (at ca. 1.2 times that of their attached carbon) isotropic displacement parameters. All methylene hydrogen atoms were constrained to idealized geometries (C-H 0.96 Å) and other hydrogens omitted from the model. Refinement of this model (NV = 105 parameters) converged (average parameter shift/esd in final cycle of least-squares <0.01) to the final residual indices given in Table V. Weights, w , were set equal to $[\sigma_c^2(F_o) + gF_o^2]^{-1}$. Here $\sigma_c^2(F_o)$ is the variance in F_o due to counting statistics and $g = 0.0005$ was chosen to minimize the variation in S as a function of F_o . Final difference electron density maps showed no features outside the range +0.5 to -1 e Å⁻³, the largest of these being close to the palladium atoms. Table VI lists the final atomic positional parameters for the non-hydrogen atoms, and Table IV the derived bond

lengths and interbond angles. All calculations were carried out on a Nicolet R3m/V structure determination system using programs of the SHELXTL-PLUS package.³⁰ Complex neutral-atom scattering factors were taken from ref 31.

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Supplementary Material Available: Tables of thermal parameters and positions of hydrogen atoms and a textual presentation of crystallographic details (4 pages); a listing of structure factors (6 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

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