

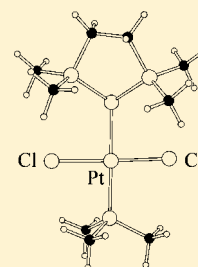
Platinum(II) Complexes of Cyclic Triphosphenium Ions: a ^{31}P NMR Spectroscopic and Computational Study

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S Supporting Information

ABSTRACT: The first transition metal complexes of cyclic triphosphenium ions have been unequivocally identified in solution by ^{31}P NMR spectroscopy. The ligands coordinate to platinum(II) via the central phosphorus atom, but only when at least one of the outer phosphorus atoms has non-aromatic substituents. Depending on the system, either trans- (the kinetic reaction product) and/or cis- (the thermodynamic reaction product) complexes are formed. The 1J coupling constants between ^{195}Pt and the central phosphorus atom of the CTI (P_A) are small for both cis- and trans-isomers, between 900 and 1300 Hz, whereas other phosphanes in these complexes derived from the platinum(II) starting material show normal $^1J_{\text{PtP}}$ values. These results suggest a possible long P–Pt bond between the overall positively charged ligand and the platinum(II) cation. Calculations including predicted ^{31}P NMR shifts for the CTIs and their Pt(II) complexes largely support our experimental findings.



INTRODUCTION

Cyclic triphosphenium ions (CTIs) are positively charged heterocycles with a hydrocarbon backbone and three linked phosphorus atoms, the middle one of these being “bare” and nominally in the +1 oxidation state, Figure 1. The first example

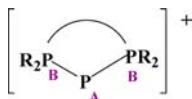


Figure 1. General structure of a CTI.

of a CTI was prepared and structurally characterized by Schmidpeter and co-workers in 1982.¹ Several other examples have subsequently been synthesized,^{2–17} particularly by Macdonald et al.^{7–10} and by our research group,^{12–17} with ring sizes varying from 4 to 8. They feature in a review by Ellis and Macdonald,¹⁸ and may be readily recognized by ^{31}P NMR solution-state spectroscopy, with a large $^1J_{\text{PP}}$ and a marked shift difference between P_A and P_B (Figure 1). Where these species have been characterized by single-crystal X-ray diffraction, the P–P distances lie between 2.11 and 2.15 Å, intermediate between normal P–P single and double bonds, providing clear evidence for a delocalized system.^{1,7–13,16} The mechanism of their formation, at least for certain substituents, has been established.¹⁹ The ions may be regarded as consisting of a phosphide(I) anion coordinated by two phosphonium(V) cations, Figure 2, which gives rise to the possibility of coordination to a transition metal fragment via a lone pair on the central phosphorus atom. No examples of such complexes have been reported, however. It is reasonable to expect that coordination may be weak to a metal cation because of repulsion between the positive charges. This may have

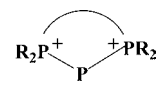


Figure 2. Charge distribution in a CTI.

applications in areas such as catalysis, where displacement of a weakly bound ligand may be advantageous.

We now report the unequivocal identification by ^{31}P NMR solution-state spectroscopy of the first platinum(II) complexes of cyclic triphosphenium ions, clearly coordinated to the metal via the central phosphorus atom. The platinum(II) precursors used were dimeric halogen-bridged complexes $\text{trans}[\text{Pt}(\text{PR}_3)\text{X}(\mu\text{-X})]_2$, with $\text{R}_3 = \text{Et}_3, \text{PhMe}_2$ or Ph_2Me and $\text{X} = \text{Cl}$ or Br .^{20–23}

Most of the CTIs prepared by other research groups have aromatic, usually phenyl, substituents on the outer (phosphonium) phosphorus atoms.^{1–17} We have found no evidence for coordination by these ligands to our platinum(II) substrates, suggesting that they are not good enough donors (Results and Discussion). Complexation does occur, however, for alkyl or alicyclic substituents, and even for an unsymmetrical CTI with ethyl substituents on one of the outer phosphorus atoms and phenyl groups on the other. Several examples of both trans- (the kinetic product) and cis- (the thermodynamic product) complexes have been identified in solution by ^{31}P NMR spectroscopy, as described below.

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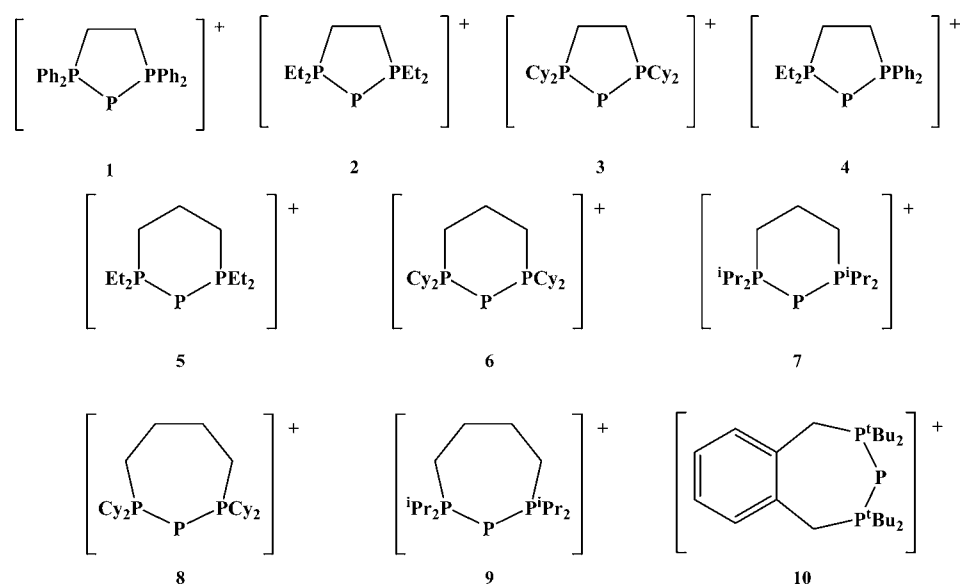


Figure 3. CTIs used in this study.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Synthesis of CTIs. Using literature methods,^{13,15,17,19,24} various CTIs (Figure 3) were synthesized and their formation confirmed using ³¹P NMR spectroscopy (Table 1).

Table 1. ³¹P NMR Data for CTIs Used in This Study

CTI number	SnCl ₂ present	δP _{B'} , ^b ppm	δP _B , ppm	δP _A , ppm	¹ J _{PA-PB} , Hz	¹ J _{PA-PB'} , Hz	reference
1	×		65.0	-229.5	450		<i>a</i>
2	×		81.5	-269.0	437		13
2	√		80.5	-264.1	444		13
3	×		87.3	-289.3	457		24
3	√		87.2	-289.0	455		17
4	×	78.0	67.1	-251.0	431	460	13
4	√	81.3	69.4	-251.0	434	466	13
5	×		31.1	-253.3	417		15
5	√		30.5	-252.3	419		19
6	×		36.5	-297.4	452		19
6	√		36.6	-292.9	456		<i>a</i>
7	×		44.7	-299.6	458		19
7	√		44.8	-299.4	457		17
8	×		48.3	-262.5	472		15
8	√		48.1	-260.8	476		<i>a</i>
9	×		55.9	-264.8	474		17
9	√		55.5	-262.5	480		17
10	√		45.5	-237.5	565		<i>a</i>

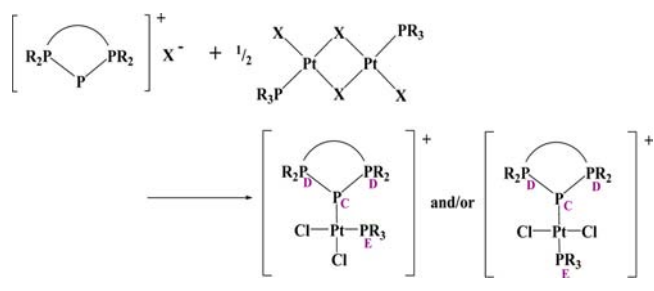
^aThis work. ^bB' = Ph₂P in dedppe.

It should be noted that CTIs were sometimes prepared as their simple chloride salt, but in other reactions tin(II) chloride was added (Experimental Section), making [SnCl₆]²⁻ the most probable counterion, although the possibility of [SnCl₅]⁻ cannot be discounted. If excess SnCl₂ is present, this introduces the possibility of SnCl₃⁻ rather than Cl⁻ as a ligand on platinum(II),²⁵⁻³¹ which is sometimes reflected in chemical shift and coupling constant differences for the phosphorus-containing ligands, as discussed below. This does not apply to the five-membered ring CTI systems, however, where no such pairs of complexes were investigated. Hence the identity of the two nonphosphorus ligands in monomeric platinum(II)

complexes where SnCl₂ is present in the reaction mixture cannot be specified, although Cl⁻ may clearly be assumed when no SnCl₂ is present. What is certain in all systems is the identity of the phosphorus ligands attached to platinum(II), and their relative positions, that is, cis or trans, since the NMR evidence on these points is clear. The CTI complexes with Pt(II) described here will also carry an overall charge of +1, for which various counterions may be present in solution.

Solution Studies on Pt(II) Complexes of CTIs. Scheme 1 shows the general reaction (for all ring sizes) between one mole

Scheme 1. Synthesis of Pt(II) Complexes of CTIs



of a dimeric platinum(II) precursor and two moles of a CTI. The kinetic product is the trans-complex, whereas the thermodynamic product is the cis-complex.

(i). *Attempted Formation of Pt(II) Chloro-Complexes of Five-Membered Ring CTIs.* The initial experiment attempted was a 2:1 reaction of the CTI 1 derived from dppe with *trans*-[Pt(PEt₃)Cl(μ-Cl)]₂; the ³¹P NMR spectrum was recorded as soon as possible after addition of the dimer solution. There was no evidence of complexation of the CTI, even though the NMR spectrum indicated that some unreacted CTI was still present (δ ³¹P_B 65.0(d), δ ³¹P_B -229.5(t) ppm, ¹J_{PP} 450 Hz). The major products of the reaction were identified as [Pt(dppe)₂]²⁺ and [Pt(dppe)(PEt₃)Cl]⁺, Figure 4. The ³¹P NMR data for these complexes, along with literature values, are shown in Table 2. This result suggests that ring scission is the preferred reaction with purely aromatic substituents on the outer phosphorus atoms of the CTI.

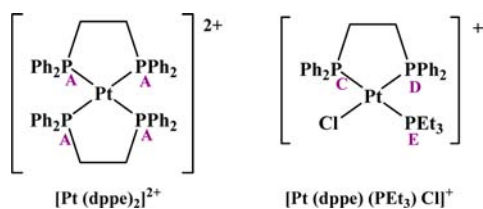


Figure 4. Reaction products from CTI 1 and $\text{trans-}[\text{Pt}(\text{PEt}_3)\text{Cl}(\mu\text{-Cl})_2]$.

The reactions with the depe derivative 2 (Figure 3) were usually carried out with SnCl_2 present; for $\text{R}_3 = \text{PEt}_3$ or PhMe_2 in $\text{trans-}[\text{Pt}(\text{PR}_3)\text{X}(\mu\text{-X})_2]$, cis-complexes only were observed, as shown in Table 3. For $\text{R}_3 = \text{Ph}_2\text{Me}$, no ring complexation was apparent, just coordination of depe to platinum(II), indicating the break-up of the CTI. Similar results were obtained for this system without SnCl_2 present.

For CTI 3 synthesized from dcypc (Figure 3), the reactions with $\text{R}_3 = \text{Et}_3$ were performed for the chloride salt, since the hexachlorostannate appeared to be sparingly soluble and no reliable results could be obtained. Both the trans- and cis-complexes were identified in solution (Table 3); the results clearly demonstrate coordination by the central phosphorus atom of the CTI to Pt(II). For reactions of 3 with the Pt(II) precursors where $\text{R}_3 = \text{PhMe}_2$ or Ph_2Me , SnCl_2 was present. The trans- and cis-complexes were both detected for PPh_2Me as coligand, but only the cis-isomer for PPhMe_2 (Table 3).

In view of the results above, a particularly interesting system to study was CTI 4, derived from the unsymmetrical diphosphane dedppe, $\text{Et}_2\text{P}(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{PPh}_2$ (Figure 3).¹³ The NMR spectra from the CTI itself and its potential platinum(II) complexes are more complicated than usual, because all three phosphorus atoms in the CTI are nonequivalent. The results in Table 4 clearly show that this CTI, too, will coordinate via the central phosphorus atom to form a cis-complex upon reaction with $\text{trans-}[\text{Pt}(\text{PEt}_3)\text{Cl}(\mu\text{-Cl})_2]$. (We did not have enough material to investigate its reactions with the other Pt dimers.)

In each of the new Pt(II) complexes containing a five-membered ring CTI the most notable feature is the comparatively low value for $^1J_{\text{PtP}}$ to the CTI, irrespective of whether the geometry is cis or trans, as shown in Tables 3 and 4. The 1J values range from 1023 to 1183 Hz, and where both isomers have been identified in solution these are higher for the cis-complex than for the trans-complex, as is usually the case for other phosphorus donors to platinum(II).³⁴ The phosphanes PR_3 introduced with the platinum(II) precursor have completely normal 1J values for cis- (3385–3625 Hz) or trans- (2783–2972 Hz) Pt(II) complexes. The chemical shift of the central phosphorus atom of the CTI also moves to much higher frequency on complexation, as shown by a comparison of the data in Table 1 with those in Tables 3 and 4. Where isomeric pairs have been identified, this shift is larger for the cis-

than for the trans-complex. These observations are discussed further below.

(ii). *Formation of Pt(II) Chloro-Complexes of Six-Membered Ring CTIs.* CTIs 5, 6, and 7 (Figure 3) were synthesized from the diphosphanes depp, dcypc, and dippp, respectively.

Reaction of 5 as its chloride salt with $\text{trans-}[\text{Pt}(\text{PEt}_3)\text{X}(\mu\text{-X})_2]$ afforded both cis- and trans-complexes (Table 5). The signals from the trans-isomer were weak, however, and not all of the coupling constants could be recorded. This system was also investigated with SnCl_2 present, when only the cis-complex was detected. The differences in the results for the cis-complex with Cl^- only and with SnCl_2 also present, particularly δP_E , suggest that a change in one or both coligands from Cl to SnCl_3 is quite probable here. The reactions of 5 with $\text{trans-}[\text{Pt}(\text{PR}_3)\text{Cl}(\mu\text{-Cl})_2]$, where $\text{R}_3 = \text{PhMe}_2$ and Ph_2Me , were both carried out with SnCl_2 present; a cis-complex was formed in each instance.

Reaction of 6 with $\text{trans-}[\text{Pt}(\text{PEt}_3)\text{Cl}(\mu\text{-Cl})_2]$ and no SnCl_2 initially afforded only the trans-complex (Table 5). Weak signals of the cis-isomer subsequently appeared, although these signals were recorded more readily in the same reaction with SnCl_2 present. Analogous reactions of 6 with $\text{trans-}[\text{Pt}(\text{PR}_3)\text{Cl}(\mu\text{-Cl})_2]$, where $\text{R}_3 = \text{PhMe}_2$ and $\text{R}_3 = \text{Ph}_2\text{Me}$, were also performed. The reaction for $\text{R}_3 = \text{PhMe}_2$ was carried out only in the presence of SnCl_2 , yielding a cis-complex. Both trans- and cis-isomers were observed for $\text{R}_3 = \text{Ph}_2\text{Me}$ in the absence of SnCl_2 , though again the signals from the trans-complex were weak, and not all coupling constants could be measured.

Experiments with 7 were only performed with $\text{trans-}[\text{Pt}(\text{PEt}_3)\text{Cl}(\mu\text{-Cl})_2]$; in the absence of SnCl_2 , the cis-complex was detected, but in the presence of SnCl_2 both cis- and trans-species were apparent, Figure 5. The signals from the trans-complex were again weak, and it was not possible to assign $\delta\text{P}_{E(\text{trans})}$ with certainty (Table 5). Comparison of the results for the cis-complex with and without SnCl_2 again suggests the strong possibility of a change of coligand, with differences in both chemical shifts and coupling constants being apparent.

As for the five-membered ring CTIs, the six-membered ring analogues show a very significant shift to higher frequency for the central coordinated phosphorus atom, which is larger for cis-complexes than for their trans-isomers. All of the $^1J_{\text{PtP}}$ values for this atom lie between 1100 and 1300 Hz, where they could be recorded.

(iii). *Formation of Pt(II) Chloro-Complexes of Seven-Membered Ring CTIs.* CTIs 8, 9, and 10 (Figure 3) were synthesized from the diphosphanes dcypb, dippb, and dtbpox, respectively. Reaction of 8 as its chloride salt with $\text{trans-}[\text{Pt}(\text{PEt}_3)\text{Cl}(\mu\text{-Cl})_2]$, yielded a cis-complex, whereas in the presence of SnCl_2 a trans-complex was detected, Table 6. It is probable that there is also a change in coligand from Cl to SnCl_3 , since $^1J_{\text{PtP}}$ to the central phosphorus atom of the CTI is slightly higher for the trans-complex than for the cis-complex,

Table 2. ^{31}P NMR Data for Products from the Reaction of CTI 1 and $\text{trans-}[\text{Pt}(\text{PEt}_3)\text{Cl}(\mu\text{-Cl})_2]$

	δP , ppm			$^1J_{\text{Pt-P}}$, Hz			
$[\text{Pt}(\text{dppe})_2]^{2+}$				48.3			2356
literature data for $[\text{Pt}(\text{dppe})_2]^{2+32}$				47.0			2360
	δP_C , ppm	δP_D , ppm	δP_E , ppm	$^1J_{\text{Pt-PC}}$, Hz	$^1J_{\text{Pt-PD}}$, Hz	$^1J_{\text{Pt-PE}}$, Hz	$^2J_{\text{PC-PE}}$, Hz
$[\text{Pt}(\text{dppe})(\text{PEt}_3)\text{Cl}]^+$	53.5	43.7	17.2	2260	3542	2282	369
literature data for $[\text{Pt}(\text{dppe})(\text{PEt}_3)\text{Cl}]^{+33}$	53.1	43.3	16.6	2263	3527	2282	368

Table 3. ^{31}P NMR Data for 5-Membered Ring Chloro-Complexes of CTIs

complex number	CTI	SnCl ₂ present	PR ₃	cis/trans	$\delta\text{P}_{\text{D}}$, ppm	$\delta\text{P}_{\text{C}}$, ppm	$\delta\text{P}_{\text{E}}$, ppm	$^1J_{\text{PC-PD}}$, Hz	$^1J_{\text{PC-PC}}$, Hz	$^1J_{\text{PE-PE}}$, Hz	$^2J_{\text{PC-PE}}$, Hz
11	2	✓	PEt ₃	cis	70.0	-104.3	11.4	363	1059	3407	
12	2	✓	PPhMe ₂	cis	69.3	-113.2	-14.0	359	1120	3534	
13	3	×	PEt ₃	cis	69.9	-107.2	8.9	384	1099	3422	
14	3	×	PEt ₃	trans	72.6	-148.2	16.3	408	1023	2972	321
15	3	✓	PPhMe ₂	cis	69.9	-111.6	-19.6	381	1179	3492	
16	3	✓	PPh ₂ Me	trans	72.1	-124.7	14.4	380	1032	2783	215
17	3	✓	PPh ₂ Me	cis	72.9	-104.1	0.2	392	1183	3625	

Table 4. ^{31}P NMR Data for 5-Membered Ring Chloro-Complexes of CTI 4

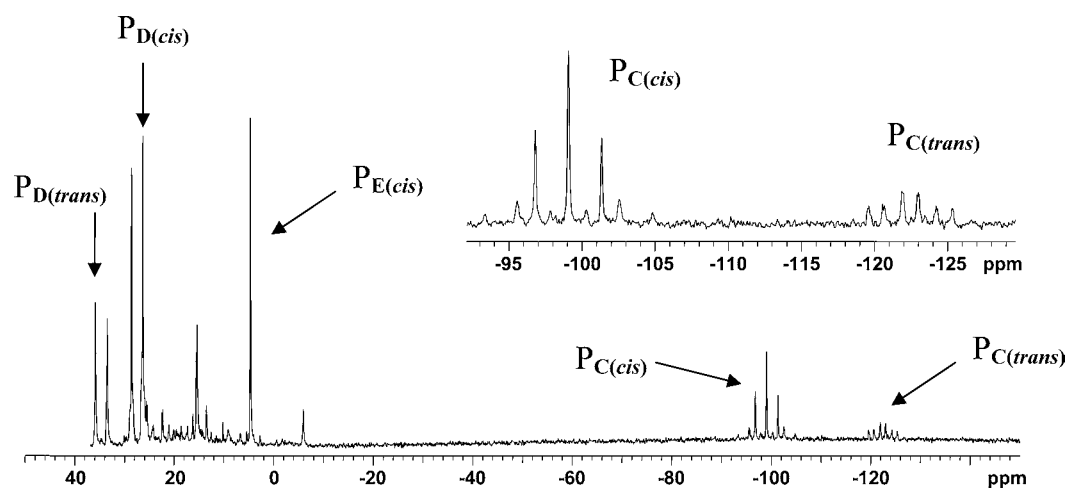
compound number	CTI	SnCl ₂ present	PR ₃	cis/trans	$\delta\text{P}_{\text{D}'}$, ppm	$\delta\text{P}_{\text{D}}$, ppm	$\delta\text{P}_{\text{C}}$, ppm	$\delta\text{P}_{\text{E}}$, ppm	$^1J_{\text{PC-PD}'}$, Hz	$^1J_{\text{PC-PD}}$, Hz	$^1J_{\text{PE-PC}}$, Hz	$^1J_{\text{PE-PE}}$, Hz
18	4	✓	PEt ₃	cis	72.9	50.8	-89.5	10.7	359	365	1096	3385

^aD' = Ph₂P in dedppe.

Table 5. ^{31}P NMR Data for Chloro-Complexes of 6-Membered Ring CTIs^a

compound number	CTI	SnCl ₂ present	PR ₃	cis/trans	$\delta\text{P}_{\text{D}}$, ppm	$\delta\text{P}_{\text{C}}$, ppm	$\delta\text{P}_{\text{E}}$, ppm	$^1J_{\text{PC-PD}}$, Hz	$^1J_{\text{PC-PC}}$, Hz	$^1J_{\text{PE-PE}}$, Hz	$^2J_{\text{PC-PE}}$, Hz
19	5	×	PEt ₃	cis	19.1	-102.3	3.2	340	1104	3369	
20	5	×	PEt ₃	trans	26.1	-136.0	9.3	348	nr	nr	170
21	5	✓	PEt ₃	cis	18.0	-98.6	9.7	344	1117	3392	
22	5	✓	PPhMe ₂	cis	18.8	-108.3	-14.4	338	1166	3550	
23	5	✓	PPh ₂ Me	cis	18.8	-111.6	-11.0	344	~1200	3642	
24	6	×	PEt ₃	cis	20.3	-102.7	3.4	371	nr	nr	
25	6	×	PEt ₃	trans	27.5	-151.9	15.6	369	nr	nr	172
26	6	✓	PEt ₃	cis	20.5	-102.3	3.6	375	1154	3456	
27	6	✓	PPhMe ₂	cis	20.4	-104.7	-13.6	372	1227	3513	
28	6	×	PPh ₂ Me	cis	20.0	-97.0	0.1	380	1267	3628	
29	6	×	PPh ₂ Me	trans	27.6	-148.0	3.9	366	nr	nr	266
30	7	×	PEt ₃	cis	27.6	-94.6	0.2	374	1223	3628	
31	7	✓	PEt ₃	cis	27.7	-99.1	4.7	369	1133	3447	
32	7	✓	PEt ₃	trans	34.8	-122.4	nr	380	1115	nr	172

^anr = not recorded.

Figure 5. ^{31}P NMR spectrum of the reaction between 7 and $\text{trans-}[\text{Pt}(\text{PEt}_3)\text{Cl}(\mu\text{-Cl})_2]$ to give complexes 31 and 32.

opposite to the normal trend if all other ligands are kept constant.

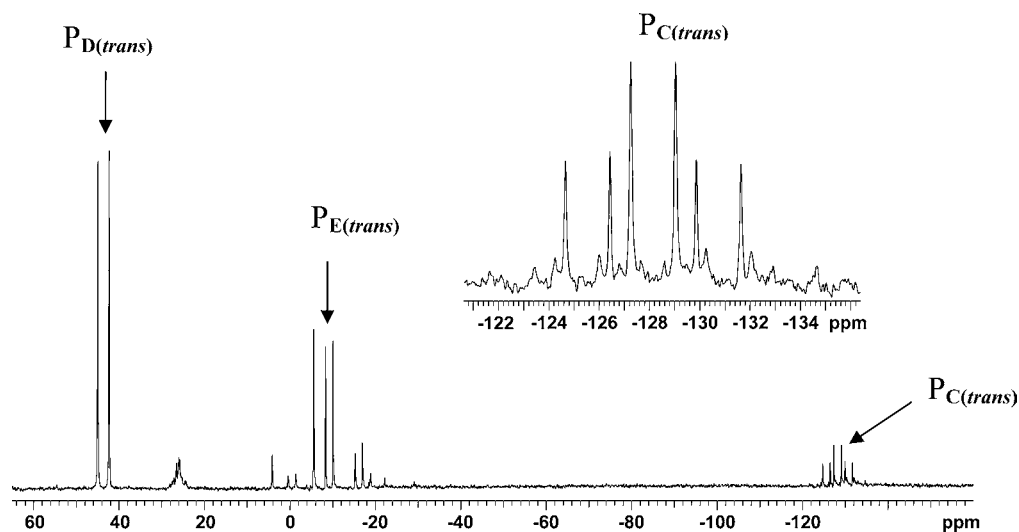
Reactions of 8 with $\text{trans-}[\text{Pt}(\text{PR}_3)\text{Cl}(\mu\text{-Cl})_2]$ for $\text{R}_3 = \text{PhMe}_2$ and Ph_2Me were only carried out with SnCl_2 present. The initial product was a trans-isomer in each case (Table 6). The ^{31}P NMR spectrum of the trans-complex formed in the reaction of 7 with $\text{trans-}[\text{Pt}(\text{PPhMe}_2)\text{Cl}(\mu\text{-Cl})_2]$ is depicted in Figure 6. The experiment with PPhMe_2 as coligand was

repeated, to ascertain whether the trans-complex would convert to its cis-isomer on standing. Very weak signals for a cis-complex were obtained soon after mixing the solutions (Table 6), but because of weak satellite peaks one of the coupling constants could not be measured. After 1 day, these signals had disappeared, and no CTI complexes were observed in solution.

Reactions of 9 with $\text{trans-}[\text{Pt}(\text{PEt}_3)\text{Cl}(\mu\text{-Cl})_2]$ were performed both with and without SnCl_2 . A trans-isomer was

Table 6. ^{31}P NMR Data for 7-Membered Ring Chloro-Complexes of CTIs^a

Compound number	CTI	SnCl ₂ present	PR ₃	cis/trans	δP_D , ppm	δP_C , ppm	δP_E , ppm	$^1J_{\text{PC-PD}}$, Hz	$^1J_{\text{Pt-PC}}$, Hz	$^1J_{\text{Pt-PE}}$, Hz	$^2J_{\text{PC-PE}}$, Hz
33	8	×	PEt ₃	cis	38.5	-78.6	3.9	418	1222	3431	
34	8	✓	PEt ₃	trans	43.3	-127.8	14.6	423	1245	2842	281
35	8	✓	PPhMe ₂	cis	40.0	-78.5	-15.1	421	nr	3630	
36	8	✓	PPhMe ₂	trans	44.0	-124.1	3.4	420	1017	2512	291
37	8	✓	PPh ₂ Me	trans	43.7	-124.1	2.3	421	1030	2586	287
38	9	×	PEt ₃	trans	50.9	-133.1	15.7	418	943	2840	275
39	9	✓	PEt ₃	trans	50.9	-132.5	15.6	420	949	2842	275
40	9	×	PPh ₂ Me	trans	51.1	-127.7	5.1	417	1013	2873	287
41	10	✓	PEt ₃	trans	50.8	-136.5	11.4	550	nr	nr	375

^anr = not recorded.Figure 6. ^{31}P NMR spectrum of the reaction between 8 and $\text{trans-}[\text{Pt}(\text{PPhMe}_2)\text{Cl}(\mu\text{-Cl})_2]$ to give complex 36.Table 7. ^{31}P NMR Data for 5-Membered Ring Bromo-Complexes of CTI 2

compound number	CTI	PR ₃	cis/trans	δP_D , ppm	δP_C , ppm	δP_E , ppm	$^1J_{\text{PC-PD}}$, Hz	$^1J_{\text{Pt-PC}}$, Hz	$^1J_{\text{Pt-PE}}$, Hz
42	2	PEt ₃	cis	71.0	-103.9	3.6	369	1032	3584

formed in each case. The NMR data (Table 6) are so similar here that the coligands may be reasonably assumed to be chlorides in both reactions. A trans-complex was also produced from reaction of 9 with $\text{trans-}[\text{Pt}(\text{Ph}_2\text{Me})\text{Cl}(\mu\text{-Cl})_2]$ with no SnCl₂ added (Table 6).

A new CTI, 10, was prepared from dtbpox by reaction with PCl₃ in the presence of SnCl₂. Formation of the CTI was confirmed by a doublet, δ ^{31}P 45.5 ppm, and a triplet, δ ^{31}P -237.5 ppm, for P_B and P_A respectively, $^1J_{\text{PP}}$ 565 Hz, in the ^{31}P NMR solution spectrum. Only the reaction of 10 with $\text{trans-}[\text{Pt}(\text{PEt}_3)\text{Cl}(\mu\text{-Cl})_2]$ was carried out, because of only a small amount of the diphosphane being available. Weak signals from a trans-complex were apparent in the ^{31}P NMR spectra (Table 6), but reliable values could not be obtained for either $^1J_{\text{PtP}}$, because of the very low intensities of the satellite signals.

The same overall trends are again apparent in Table 6 that were noted for the smaller ring CTIs. Where they could be measured, the $^1J_{\text{PtP}}$ values to the central phosphorus atom of the CTI are again low, between 940 and 1250 Hz, whereas the phosphane coligands show normal $^1J_{\text{PtP}}$ values for cis- or trans-complexes. There is a large shift to higher frequency for the central phosphorus atom of the CTI on complexation, which is greater for cis-complexes than for their trans-isomers. The outer phosphorus atoms of the CTI are very little affected by

complexation, as is reasonable for coordination via the central P atom.

The P–P coupling constant within the CTI decreases somewhat on complexation to platinum(II) in all cases, irrespective of ring size, although the change is less marked than that which occurs on either protonation^{3,15,24,35} or alkylation^{3,14,36–38} of the central phosphorus atom. The latter reactions result in a change of formal oxidation state of P_A from +1 to +3, and the P–P bonds become normal single bonds, with distances between 2.191(1) and 2.233(1) Å in all the structures that have been determined by single-crystal X-ray diffraction.^{37,38} Complexation to a transition metal such as platinum(II) changes the geometry at the central phosphorus atom of the CTI, but not its formal oxidation state. A reduction in $^1J_{\text{PP}}$ is expected on complexation because of the transfer of electron density away from phosphorus to the metal, but it seems entirely reasonable that this reduction should be smaller than that caused by protonation or alkylation. The consequence may well be a slight lengthening of the P–P bonds in the CTI complexes relative to those in the free ligand, but they will probably still be shorter than usually found for P–P single bonds.

(iv). Attempted Formation of Pt(II) Bromo-Complexes of Five-Membered Ring CTIs. In an attempt to obtain a

crystallizable complex, reactions were carried out between **2** as its bromide salt and the platinum(II) bromo-dimers *trans*-[Pt(PR₃)Br(μ-Br)]₂ (where R₃ = Et₃, PhMe₂ or Ph₂Me).^{21,23}

Formation of a platinum(II) complex was only observed for the reaction between **2** and *trans*-[Pt(PEt₃)Br(μ-Br)]₂; the ³¹P NMR parameters for this *cis*-species are given in Table 7. The data are entirely in keeping with those for the analogous chloro-complex in Table 3. In the chloro-systems a *cis*-complex was also formed for R₃ = PhMe₂, though not for R₃ = Ph₂Me, possibly suggesting that a better donor phosphane as coligand is necessary in the bromo-complexes. The same feature of a normal ¹J_{PP} for a *cis*-PEt₃ group but a comparatively low ¹J_{PP} for the coordinated CTI is apparent as in the chloro-complexes.

While these species are the first transition metal derivatives of CTIs, complexes of phosphonium ions with heavier transition metals, including rhodium(I),³⁹ platinum(0),^{40,41} and palladium(0)^{41,42} have been described. In these, the phosphonium ion is usually stabilized by two adjacent nitrogen atoms in a heterocyclic system. The platinum derivatives were formed by reaction with Pt(PPh₃)₄. They have very short Pt–P bond distances to the phosphonium ion in structurally characterized compounds, regarded as double bonds, between 2.1073(9) and 2.116(3) Å, with correspondingly very high ¹J_{PtP} values, ranging from 6446 to 7354 Hz (not in the same sequence).^{40,41} The platinum(II) complexes in the present work are much more similar in their NMR behavior to terminal phosphido complexes with PR₁R₂ ligands, which have long Pt–P distances in structurally characterized compounds, from 2.351(2) to 2.4117(10) Å, and low ¹J_{PtP} values, from 643 to 1239 Hz.⁴³ The small coupling constants and long Pt–P distances in these complexes have been attributed to the bonding phosphorus atom remaining pyramidal,^{43a,e} and to a low degree of *s* character in the Pt–P bond.^{43e} The conclusion that phosphido complexes form a better model for CTI complexes than the phosphonium complexes mentioned above is supported by theoretical calculations described below.

DFT Calculations. (i). *CTIs and Their Protonated Derivatives.* As we have not yet succeeded in obtaining suitable crystals of the platinum(II) complexes of CTIs **2–10** for X-ray structural determinations, density functional theory (DFT) calculations were carried out on model systems to give insight into their geometries. As far as we are aware, there are no reported X-ray data on monocationic CTIs with alkyl substituents on the P_B atom. There are also no X-ray structures of any protonated forms of CTIs with P_A–H bonds.

To estimate the accuracy of the optimized geometries, the experimental and computed geometries of [(Ph₃P)₂P]⁺ and [(Ph₃P)₂PH]²⁺ were compared, as crystal structures of both compounds have been published.^{35,44,45} The calculated P–P bond lengths of [(Ph₃P)₂P]⁺ and [(Ph₃P)₂PH]²⁺ are 2.186 and 2.273 Å, respectively, whereas the corresponding observed values are 2.131 and 2.215 Å. While the calculated P–P bonds are 0.055–0.058 Å longer than observed, the differences in the bond lengths between the two cations in both calculated and observed values are virtually the same.

One way to confirm good agreement between computed and experimental geometries is by comparison of the observed and calculated ³¹P NMR shifts. Experimentally, these are 30 and –174 ppm for [(Ph₃P)₂P]⁺ and 23 and –120 ppm for [(Ph₃P)₂PH]²⁺, whereas computationally they are 37.5 and –103 ppm for [(Ph₃P)₂P]⁺ and 32.3 and –44.1 ppm for [(Ph₃P)₂PH]²⁺, respectively.^{35,44} While the actual shift values are different, the correlation between observed and computed

values is acceptable, with a line fitting error value of *R* = 0.982. This is in spite of the probable free rotations of the PPh₃ groups in solution. This computed NMR procedure was applied to the CTIs **1–10** here. Figure 7 shows the excellent agreement

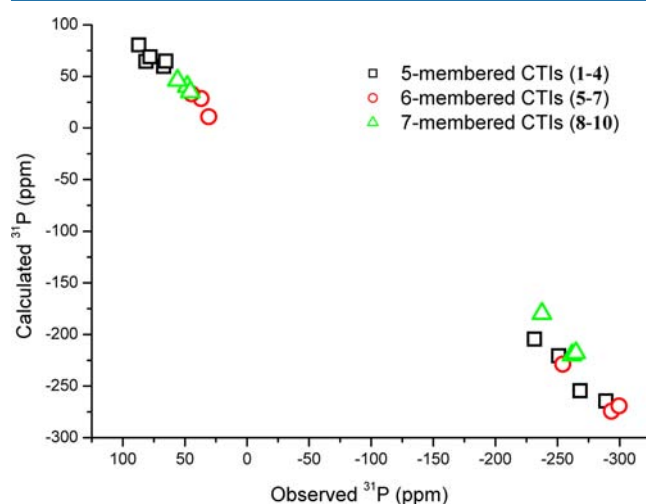


Figure 7. Comparison between computed and observed values for CTIs **1–10**.

between observed and computed ³¹P NMR shifts. The line fitting error values of *R* = 0.999 were found for the 5- and 6-membered ring CTIs whereas a slightly less accurate fit of *R* = 0.998 was estimated for the 7-membered ring CTIs. The optimized geometries of **1–10** are therefore appropriate and likely to be found experimentally.

Figure 8 shows three optimized model geometries of **43**, **44**, and **45** to represent the 5- (**2–4**), 6- (**5–7**), and 7- (**8–10**)

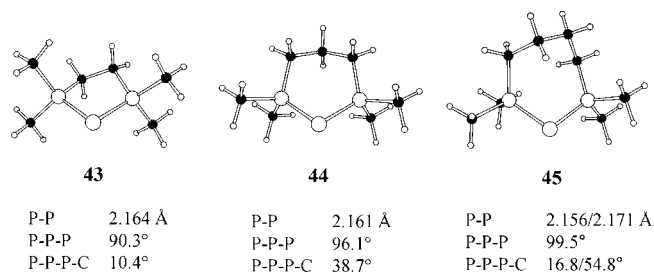


Figure 8. Calculated geometries of model CTIs **43** (*n* = 2), **44** (*n* = 3), and **45** (*n* = 4) derived from Me₂P(CH₂)_{*n*}PMe₂.

membered CTIs, respectively. It is shown here that the P–P–P angles and P–P–P–C torsion angles widen as the ring size increases, yet the averaged P–P bond lengths are similar. The seven-membered ring CTI has two nonequivalent P–P bonds and P–P–P–C torsion angles; thus, it is likely that the two mirror image conformers are fluxional in solution, which may explain the slightly lower *R* = 0.998 value for the 7-membered ring CTIs. The methyl groups point toward the area of the P_A phosphorus atom as the ring size increases. Hence steric effects increase, especially with more bulky groups than methyl, when coordination to the P_A atom is considered.

(ii). *Pt(II) Complexes of CTIs.* The geometries of the platinum complexes were optimized with the model CTIs **43**, **44** and **45** as the CTI ligand and trimethylphosphine, PMe₃, was used to model the phosphine ligand, PEt₃, PMe₂Ph or PMePh₂. Figures 9 and 10 depict the most stable geometries

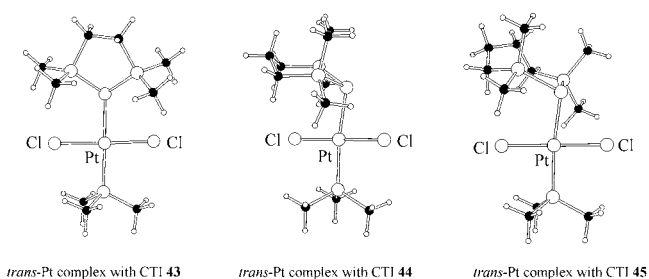


Figure 9. Optimized geometries of *trans*-Pt(PMe₃)(CTI)Cl₂ complexes.

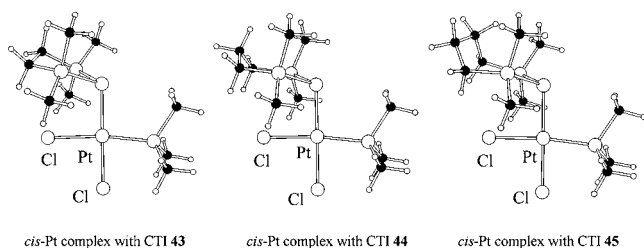


Figure 10. Computed geometries of *cis*-Pt(PMe₃)(CTI)Cl₂ complexes.

located for the *trans*- and *cis*-platinum complexes. The three *trans*-complexes show different CTI orientations, reflecting the steric influences of the different CTI ring sizes. These orientations affect the P–P bond lengths from 2.206 for the 5-membered, 2.218 for the 6-membered, and 2.224 Å for the 7-membered CTI ligand. The Pt–P bonds are, however, consistent across the series with ranges of 2.338–2.342 Å determined for Pt–P(phosphine, PMe₃) bonds and 2.391–2.431 Å for the Pt–P(CTI) bonds. The short Pt-phosphine and long Pt–P(CTI) bonds are in accord with the large ¹J(Pt–P) values observed for the P(phosphine) peaks and small ¹J(Pt–P) coupling constants for the P(CTI) peaks.

For the *cis*-complexes with model CTIs 43, 44, and 45, the orientation of the CTI ligand is inevitably identical across the series, because of unfavorable steric interactions with the neighboring phosphine, PMe₃. The Pt-phosphine bond lengths are 2.306–2.309 Å, which are some 0.03 Å shorter than those found for the *trans*-complexes. This is reflected in the larger Pt–P coupling constants seen for the phosphine peaks in the *cis*-isomers compared to those couplings observed for the phosphine peaks in the *trans*-complexes. However, the geometries for the *cis*-complexes show comparatively short Pt–P(CTI) bonds of 2.328–2.332 Å which, while still longer than the Pt–P phosphine bonds, do not support the small ¹J(Pt–P) coupling constants observed for the P(CTI) peaks, assuming that these coupling constants are directly related to Pt–P distances. The experimental results are entirely self-consistent, however, suggesting that there may be other factors involved which we are unable to model satisfactorily. The long calculated P–P distances of 2.244 to 2.258 Å suggest that they are single bonds.

Figure 11 shows the comparison between observed and computed ³¹P NMR shifts for the *trans*- and *cis*-complexes of the CTIs 2–10 with the phosphine, PMe₃, used to model the PR₃ ligand in all cases. It is clear that while the shifts of the phosphines (P_E) and the P_D atoms of the CTI ligands are in broad agreement, the shifts for the P_C atoms vary considerably. The optimized geometries for the *trans*-complexes with 5- and

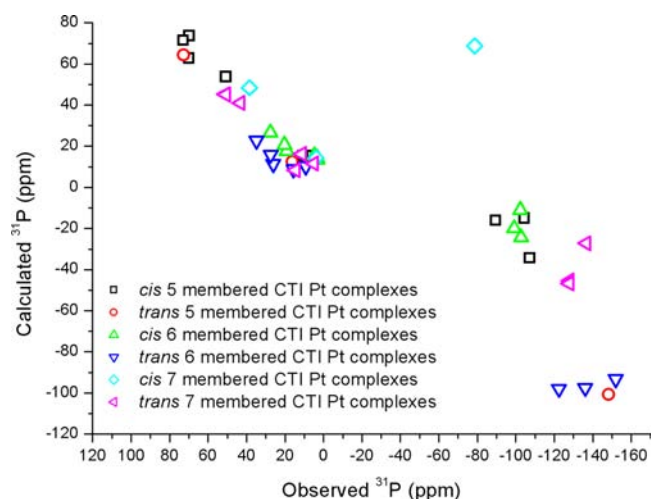


Figure 11. Comparison between computed and observed values for platinum complexes of CTIs 2–10 with the PMe₃ ligand in the optimized geometries and the PEt₃ ligand in experimental complexes.

6-membered ring CTIs ($R = 0.998$ and 0.992 respectively) are considered as appropriate models, whereas the optimized geometries for the *trans*- and *cis*-complexes with 7-membered CTIs are likely to have the environment of the P_C atom incorrectly modeled (with R values between 0.572 and 0.965).

Despite the poor agreement for the P_E and P_C atoms in some complexes, computed NMR shifts for all complexes show that the predicted ³¹P shift for P_C is always at a higher frequency than for P_E within each complex. This is in accord with experimental ³¹P data where both isomers of the complex could be observed.

The *cis*-isomer is considered as the thermodynamic product whereas the *trans*-isomer is the kinetic product according to NMR observations. Here, relative energies computed using the solvation model (with a dielectric constant, ϵ , of 35.7) support this deduction (Table 8).⁴⁶ For complexes from the CTIs 1–9, the energies required for *cis* to *trans* isomerization are between 4.1 and 10.0 kcalmol⁻¹. The calculated isomerization energy at 0.0 kcal mol⁻¹ for the complexes from the 7-membered CTI 10, suggests that the steric effects of the 7-membered CTI 10 are considerable compared to other CTIs in the *cis*-complexes here.

The question of why the CTI 1 derived from dppe does not form a Pt complex has been explored here by looking at the relative energies of the CTI Pt complexes and [(Me₃P)PtCl₂]₂ with different CTIs (Table 8). The reaction of [(Me₃P)PtCl₂]₂ with CTI 1 to form the *cis*-complex is endothermic (5.6 kcalmol⁻¹) whereas the reaction of [(Me₃P)PtCl₂]₂ with CTI 2 to form the *cis*-complex is exothermic (–5.5 kcalmol⁻¹). The Pt complex with CTI 10 is endothermic at 13.8 kcalmol⁻¹ because of the considerable steric effects of the *tert*-butyl groups in the *cis*-complex. The *cis*-complex from CTI 10 was not observed experimentally. Examination of the optimized geometry of the Pt complex with CTI 1 did not show any obvious steric effects. It is likely that formation of the Pt complex would not be favorable because of electronic effects, where the phenyl groups reduce the electron density on the P_A atom, making it a poor donor, so that it does not coordinate to the platinum experimentally.

The relationship between the CTI, the heterocyclic N–P–N phosphonium cation, and the Ph₂P phosphide anion was explored using models 43, 46, and 47 for these respective

Table 8. Energies^a for the cis to trans Isomerizations of the Model Pt Complexes and for Formations of the Model Pt Complexes

CTI	cis to trans isomerization of the Pt complex	formation of the cis-complex 0.5 [(Me ₃ P)PtCl ₂] ₂ and CTI 1 to (Me ₃ P)Pt(CTI)Cl ₂
1	4.4	5.6
2	5.5	-5.5
3	7.2	0.9
4	6.9	-2.7
5	7.3	-12.5
6	9.2	-0.3
7	5.2	-4.5
8	10.0	1.3
9	4.1	-2.8
10	0.0	13.8

^aIn kcal mol⁻¹.

ligands (Figure 12). Calculated natural charges for these models show that the CTI ligand has the charge distribution shown in

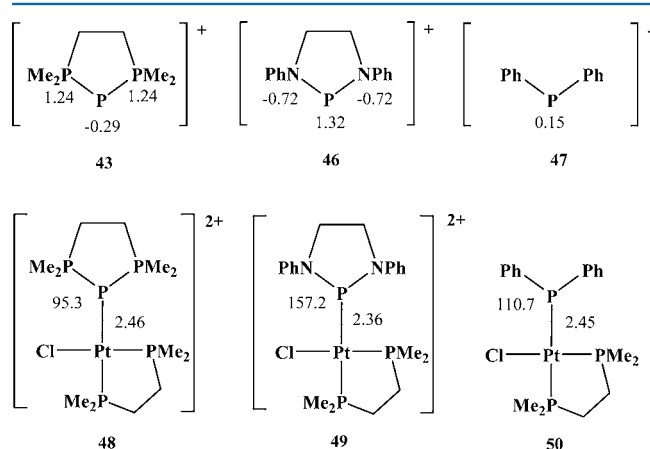


Figure 12. Comparison of (above) natural charges at P and N atoms for model ligands 43, 46, and 47 and (below) of P–Pt bond lengths and pyramidal angles at P for model complexes 48, 49, and 50.

Figure 2, and the charge on the P_A atom is more like that on the P atom in the phosphide 47 than in the phosphonium ion 46.

Optimized geometries for model platinum complexes [Pt(dpme)Cl(L)]ⁿ⁺ 48, 49, and 50 with L as 43, 46, and 47 respectively (Figure 12) reveal long Pt–P bonds of 2.45–2.46 Å and pyramidal coordination at P for the ligands L in 48 and 50. By contrast, the Pt–P bond is shorter at 2.36 Å and a more planar conformation is found at the P atom in the phosphonium ligand. Thus the CTI as a ligand behaves similarly to the Ph₂P monoanion (terminal phosphide) in complex 50 rather than to the phosphonium cation in complex 49.

CONCLUSIONS

We have shown conclusively that CTIs of various ring sizes are capable of coordinating to a platinum(II) moiety via the central phosphorus atom, P_A, provided that the substituents on the outer phosphorus atoms (P_B and/or P_{B'}) are not all aromatic groups. Even the CTI derived from dedppe formed complexes in this way. Both trans- (the kinetic reaction product) and/or cis- (the thermodynamic reaction product) complexes have been identified in solution by ³¹P NMR spectroscopy; over 30 complexes have been thus produced. Unfortunately, despite our best efforts to obtain one of the complexes in crystalline form, any crystals isolated have been from either the platinum(II)

dimer starting material or the decomposition products. Nevertheless, the geometries of the complexes are supported by DFT calculations. Complete removal of solvent was not attempted, since it was clear from the NMR spectra (see Figures 5 and 6 for typical examples) that although the CTI complexes were the predominant species in solution, there were minor amounts of impurities present. Hence the likelihood of obtaining pure material for further characterization was remote. Since these complexes are necessarily ionic, with very large cations, it seems probable that they will have very low lattice energies, and will be soluble in nonpolar as well as polar solvents, similar to salts of large tetra-alkyl ammonium cations. This may explain why techniques such as layering the reaction mixture with a nonpolar solvent such as hexane did not lead to the formation of crystals of the CTI complexes.

Irrespective of CTI ring size or geometry of the complex, the most remarkable feature of the solution-state NMR results is a comparatively small ¹J_{PtP} to the central phosphorus atom (P_C) of the CTI, between 943 and 1267 Hz, whereas the phosphane coligand which is an artifact of the preparative procedure has a normal ¹J_{PtP} value (2200–3000 Hz for trans, 3200–4000 Hz for cis), consistent with the geometry. In this respect the CTI complexes behave similarly to terminal phosphido-complexes.⁴³ The data strongly suggest that the CTIs coordinate comparatively weakly and that the bond from platinum to P_C is a long one, possibly because of repulsion between two species with overall positive charges, although the geometry at phosphorus may also play an important role.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

All manipulations, including NMR sample preparation, were carried out either under an inert atmosphere of dry nitrogen or in vacuo, using standard Schlenk line or glovebox techniques. Chemicals of the best available commercial grade were used, in general without further purification. The ³¹P NMR spectra of diposphanes were recorded, to verify that no major impurities were present. ³¹P NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Mercury 300 or Varian VXR 400 Fourier-transform spectrometer at 121.4 and 161.9 MHz, respectively. Chemical shifts were measured relative to external H₃PO₄ (³¹P), with the higher frequency direction taken as positive.

Example Reaction. Reaction of the CTI (2) with trans-[Pt(PPhMe₂)Cl(μ-Cl)]₂. depe (0.0300 g, 0.14 mmol) and SnCl₂ (0.0265 g, 0.14 mmol) were dissolved in 1.0 mL of CDCl₃. PCl₃ (0.014 mL, 0.14 mmol) was then added, and a ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum recorded soon after mixing to confirm the formation of the cyclic triphosphenium ion. When necessary, residual PCl₃ was removed in vacuo. trans-[Pt(PPhMe₂)Cl(μ-Cl)]₂ dimer (0.0560 g, 0.07 mmol) was then added to the solution.

Quantities of reagents used in all reactions are shown in Table 9.

Table 9. Quantities of Reagents Used

compound number	quantity of diphosphane		quantity of PCl ₃		quantity of SnCl ₂		quantity of Pt dimer	
	g	mmol	mL	mmol	g	mmol	g	mmol
11	0.0530	0.26	0.020	0.23	0.0474	0.25	0.0960	0.13
12	0.0300	0.14	0.014	0.16	0.0265	0.14	0.0560	0.07
13/14	0.2061	0.49	0.030	0.34			0.1409	0.18
15	0.0193	0.05	0.004	0.05	0.0095	0.05	0.0202	0.03
16/17	0.0310	0.07	0.010	0.11	0.0139	0.07	0.0342	0.04
18	0.4228	1.40	0.14	1.60	0.2654	1.40	<i>a</i>	<i>a</i>
19/20	0.0642	0.19	0.015	0.17			0.0456	0.05
21	0.0230	0.10	0.010	0.11	0.0197	0.10	0.0398	0.05
22	0.0140	0.06	0.005	0.06	0.0114	0.06	0.0242	0.03
23	0.0210	0.10	0.010	0.11	0.0190	0.10	0.0242	0.03
24/25	0.0808	0.18	0.010	0.11			0.0547	0.07
26	0.0239	0.05	0.005	0.06	0.0157	0.08	0.0192	0.03
27	0.0260	0.06	0.005	0.06	0.0114	0.06	0.0242	0.03
28/29	0.0446	0.10	0.010	0.11			0.0466	0.05
30	0.0397	0.14	0.010	0.11			0.0513	0.06
31/32	0.0136	0.05	0.004	0.05	0.0100	0.05	0.0191	0.03
33	0.1411	0.31	0.020	0.23			0.1071	0.14
34	0.0900	0.20	0.018	0.20	0.0400	0.20	0.1532	0.20
35/36	0.0733	0.16	0.014	0.16	0.0303	0.16	0.0647	0.08
37	0.0569	0.13	0.010	0.11			0.0498	0.05
38	0.0305	0.11	0.010	0.11			0.0466	0.05
39	0.0280	0.10	0.010	0.11	0.0291	0.15	0.0583	0.08
40	0.0235	0.08	0.007	0.08	0.0151	0.08	0.0323	0.04
41	0.1550	0.40	0.040	0.44	0.0810	0.43	<i>a</i>	<i>a</i>
42	0.0386	0.18	0.016	0.18			0.0850	0.09

^aDimer was not added quantitatively.

■ COMPUTATIONAL SECTION

All computations were carried out with the Gaussian 09 package.⁴⁷ Geometry optimizations for all compounds discussed here were carried out with the DFT-hybrid functional B3LYP⁴⁸ using the 6-31G* basis set⁴⁹ for all atoms except for Pt where the pseudopotential LANL2DZ⁵⁰ was used. No symmetry constraints were used in all cases. Calculated ³¹P NMR chemical shifts at the GIAO⁵¹-B3LYP/6-31G* level were obtained from the optimized geometries using the $\delta(^{31}\text{P}) = 350.0 - \sigma(^{31}\text{P})$ scale.

■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

📄 Supporting Information

Cartesian coordinates of optimized geometries of CTIs 1–10 and their (Me₃P)Pt(CTI)Cl₂ complexes. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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■ ABBREVIATIONS

CTI, cyclic triphosphenium ion; dcybp, 1,4-bis-(dicyclohexylphosphino)butane; dcype, 1,2-bis-(dicyclohexylphosphino)ethane; dcypp, 1,3-bis-(dicyclohexylphosphino)propane; dedppe, (1-diethylphosphino-2-diphenylphosphino)ethane; depe, 1,2-bis(diethylphosphino)ethane; depp, 1,3-bis(diethylphosphino)propane; dippb, 1,4-bis(diisopropylphosphino)butane; dippp, 1,3-bis(diisopropylphosphino)propane; dppe, 1,2-bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane; dtbpx, bis(α,α -di-*t*-butylphosphino)-*o*-xylene

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