

Figure 6.—Reflectance spectra of:  $Co(MABen-NEt_2)Br_2$ , curve A;  $Co(MABen-NEt_2)Cl_2$ , curve B;  $Co(Me_3dien)Cl_2$ , curve C.

sition is split into two components with an energy difference of *ca.*  $1500\text{ cm}^{-1}$  is indicative of a high distortion in these complexes. The final band, which is due to a  ${}^4A_2'(F) \rightarrow {}^4A_2'(P)$  transition, is expected to be

almost independent of the ligand field strength and the geometry of the complex and is, as anticipated, around  $16,000\text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

The magnetic moments are also in the same range as those found for other five-coordinate cobalt complexes ( $4.7\text{--}4.8\text{ BM}$ ). All the physical measurements therefore suggest that a five-coordinate structure may also be assigned to the cobalt complexes, as is confirmed by the isomorphism between  $Co(MABen-NEt_2)Br_2$  and the corresponding nickel complex.

**Manganese Bromide.**—The crystal field spectra of manganese complexes, as is well known, are of little use in determining the stereochemistry. The only useful correlation is therefore given by X-ray diffraction powder photograms which show the complex to be isomorphous with its cobalt and nickel analogs. This suggests that it may also be assigned a similar five-coordinate structure.

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## The Crystal Structure of

### *trans*-Bis(phenylethynyl)bis(triethylphosphine)nickel(II), $[P(C_2H_5)_3]_2Ni(C\equiv CC_6H_5)_2$

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The crystal structure of *trans*-bis(phenylethynyl)bis(triethylphosphine)nickel(II),  $[P(C_2H_5)_3]_2Ni(C\equiv CC_6H_5)_2$ , has been determined from three-dimensional counter data at room temperature. The crystals are monoclinic ( $P2_1/a$ ), with  $a = 15.31$ ,  $b = 10.88$ ,  $c = 9.08\text{ \AA}$  (all  $\pm 0.01\text{ \AA}$ ), and  $\beta = 105^\circ 30' \pm 10'$ . The structure consists of discrete molecules separated by ordinary van der Waals distances. Space group symmetry demands that the Ni atom and its four nearest neighbors be coplanar. The Ni-P bond length was found to be  $2.220 \pm 0.003\text{ \AA}$ , while the Ni-C distance is  $1.879 \pm 0.011\text{ \AA}$ . Both are significantly shorter than what is expected for "single" bonds and indicate substantial  $d\pi-d\pi$  and  $d\pi-p\pi$  interaction. The acetylenic and benzene C-C distances appear normal, as do the bond distances in the triethylphosphine groups. The benzene ring is tilted by  $43.6 \pm 0.5^\circ$  to the Ni-P-C plane.

#### Introduction

In general, transition metal to alkyl or aryl M-C  $\sigma$  bonds are unstable at room temperature as well as air and water sensitive. However, if strongly  $\pi$ -bonding ligands such as CO,  $\pi-C_6H_5$ , phosphines, or arsines are also present in the molecule, then stable alkyls and aryls can be prepared, *e.g.*, *cis*-( $PR_3$ ) $_2Pt(CH_3)_2$ .<sup>1</sup> If, in addition to the presence of one of the  $\pi$ -bonding ligands in the molecule, the carbon  $\sigma$  bonded to the transition metal is involved in an acetylenic bond, then the metal-carbon bond is still further stabilized.<sup>2</sup> This increase

in stability of the metal-carbon bond by the above ligands is generally attributed to the fact that these ligands tend to increase the separation between the highest filled and lowest empty MO's.<sup>1-8</sup> Similar reasoning can be used to explain the increasing M-C stability with increasing atomic number in the series  $Pt > Pd > Ni$  as observed by Chatt and Shaw. The transition metal-carbon  $\sigma$  bond can also be stabilized by making the carbon part of a highly fluorinated alkyl

(2) (a) G. E. Coates, "Organometallic Compounds," Methuen and Co., Ltd., London, 1960, p 316; (b) G. E. Coates and F. Glockling in "Organometallic Chemistry," H. Zeiss, Ed., Reinhold Publishing Corp., New York N. Y. 1960, Chapter 9.

(3) J. W. Richardson, ref 2b, Chapter 1.

(1) J. Chatt and B. L. Shaw, *J. Chem. Soc.*, 705 (1959).

system, and the structures of these compounds have been recently investigated by X-ray diffraction.<sup>4,5</sup> However, it is clear that the reasons for the increased stability of the M-C bond in the case of the fluoroalkyls are quite different than for the aryls and acetylides.<sup>6</sup>

The crystal structures of phenylethynyl(trimethylphosphine)copper(I) and -silver(I) have been determined by Corfield and Shearer,<sup>7,8</sup> but no crystal structures of any of the transition metal acetylides have been reported. Further, nickel acetylides seem to be formed as intermediates in the polymerization of terminal acetylenes by Ni(0) catalysts.<sup>9</sup> These facts prompted us to investigate the crystal structure of *trans*-bis(phenylethynyl)bis(triethylphosphine)nickel(II).

Crystals of *trans*-[P(C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>3</sub>]<sub>2</sub>Ni(C≡CC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub> were generously supplied to us by Dr. J. Chatt. Preliminary photographic data were collected on the Weissenberg and precession cameras. Cell constants were measured with calibrated precession photographs and then checked on the diffractometer; they agreed within the stated error. The crystals are monoclinic, P<sub>2</sub><sub>1</sub>/a, with  $a = 15.31$ ,  $b = 10.88$ ,  $c = 9.08$  Å (each  $\pm 0.01$  Å), and  $\beta = 105^\circ 30' \pm 10'$  (Cu K $\alpha = 1.5418$  Å). There are two molecules in the unit cell and the X-ray density is 1.14 g cm<sup>-3</sup>, in agreement with approximate density measurements that were limited by the rapid rate of solution of the compound in all organic solvents.

A single crystal 0.06  $\times$  0.04  $\times$  0.6 mm was mounted about the needle axis ([001] direction) on the GE single-crystal orienter and was used to collect 1120 independent  $hkl$  pieces of intensity data by a scan technique with a Picker diffractometer. The take-off angle was set at 4.0° and the receiving aperture was 6  $\times$  8 mm high. Backgrounds were estimated by stationary count for 40 sec at  $\pm 1.67^\circ$ ,  $2\theta$  of the peak maxima. The peak was then scanned for 100 sec by the  $\theta$ - $2\theta$  technique. The background was assumed to vary linearly across the peak and the integrated intensity was calculated as  $I = I_{\text{scan}} - 1.25(B_1 + B_2)$ , where  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  are the background counts at  $\pm 1.67^\circ$ ,  $2\theta$ , respectively, from the peak maximum. Only those reflections for which the integrated intensity was statistically above the background were retained. The intensity of a standard reflection was checked every 2 hr to ensure stability of operation.

The linear absorption coefficient ( $\mu$ ) for this compound with Cu K $\alpha$  radiation is 25 cm<sup>-1</sup>. No corrections were made for absorption. It has been recently shown<sup>10</sup> that absorption effects even with  $\mu$  as large as 191 cm<sup>-1</sup> do not significantly change the positional parameters; hence, we feel our positional parameters are probably within our esd. However, the estimate of

error in our atomic thermal parameters may be somewhat optimistic.

The usual Lorentz-polarization corrections were made and the intensities reduced to squared structure factors.

### Structure Determination and Refinement

With two molecules per cell in space group P<sub>2</sub><sub>1</sub>/a, the nickel atoms must be located on centers of symmetry. Therefore, the molecule must have the *trans* configuration, and Ni with its four nearest neighbor atoms must be coplanar. The Ni atoms were placed at 0, 0, 0 and  $1/2, 1/2, 0$  and the other atoms into the general set  $\pm(x, y, z; 1/2 + x, 1/2 - y, z)$ . We could have proceeded to solve the structure by Fourier analysis with signs determined by the Ni atoms, but we chose instead to compute a three-dimensional Patterson function.<sup>11</sup> From this Patterson function the phosphorus and acetylenic and benzene carbon atoms were located. The triethylphosphine carbon atoms were located from a three-dimensional electron density map calculated with phases based on the Ni, P, and acetylenic and benzene carbon atoms. Refinement was performed by full-matrix least squares<sup>12</sup> using anisotropic temperature factors with observations equally weighted and minimizing the function  $\sum w(F_o - F_c)^2$ . A refinement varying this same function with observations weighted on counting statistics and a 4% ignorance factor<sup>13</sup> gave essentially the same results. The scattering factors for neutral nickel, phosphorus, and carbon were obtained from a standard source.<sup>14</sup> Real anomalous dispersion<sup>15</sup> corrections of -3.2 and +0.31 electrons were made to the nickel and phosphorus scattering factors, but the small imaginary term was neglected. Final coordinate shifts were less than  $3 \times 10^{-4}$  of a cell edge and the final  $R$ ,<sup>16</sup> weighted  $R$ , and standard error were 0.096, 0.103, and 1.50, respectively. Machine core storage limitations precluded the variation of all 142 variables simultaneously, and, consequently, we did the refinement in overlapping blocks of 125 variables. Although small peaks at reasonable locations were found for benzene hydrogen atoms in the final difference electron density map, the inclusion of these hydrogen atoms in the structure factor calculations did not significantly improve the agreement, and they were not included in the listing of the final calculated and observed structure factors of Table I. Otherwise the final three-dimensional electron density difference map was qualitatively featureless and showed no indication of triethylphosphine hydrogen atoms. Final atomic parameters and errors are listed in Table II.

(11) Patterson and electron density calculations were performed with a local modification of a program due to N. Baenziger for the IBM 7040.

(12) Least-squares calculations were made on the IBM 7040 with a local variation of the W. Busing, K. O. Martin, and H. Levy ORFLS program.

(13) S. W. Peterson and H. A. Levy, *Acta Cryst.*, **10**, 70 (1957).

(14) From the compilation of J. A. Ibers in "International Tables for X-ray Crystallography," Vol. III, The Kynoch Press, Birmingham, England, 1962, pp 202, 212.

(15) D. T. Cromer, *Acta Cryst.*, **18**, 17 (1965).

(16)  $R = \sum |F_o| - |F_c| / \sum |F_o|$ ; weighted  $R = \sum w(F_o - F_c)^2 / \sum w(F_o)^2$ ; standard error =  $[\sum w(F_o - F_c)^2 / (NO - NV)]^{1/2}$ ; where  $NO = 1120$  and  $NV = 125$  (actually there were 142 independent variables, but we could only vary 125 at any one time.)

(4) M. R. Churchill, *Inorg. Chem.*, **4**, 1734 (1965).

(5) M. R. Churchill, *ibid.*, **6**, 185 (1967).

(6) F. A. Cotton and J. A. McCleverty, *J. Organometal. Chem. (Amsterdam)*, **4**, 490 (1965).

(7) P. W. R. Corfield and H. M. M. Shearer, *Acta Cryst.*, **20**, 502 (1966).

(8) P. W. R. Corfield and H. M. M. Shearer, *ibid.*, **21**, 957 (1966).

(9) L. S. Meriwether, M. F. Leto, E. C. Colthup, and W. G. Kennerly, *J. Org. Chem.*, **27**, 3930 (1962).

(10) R. C. Srivastava and E. C. Lingafelter, *Acta Cryst.*, **20**, 918 (1966).

TABLE I  
OBSERVED AND CALCULATED STRUCTURE FACTORS\*

Observed	Calculated	Structure Factor		
• 0 K 0 •	11 25 27	8 100 92		
• 4 95 215	• 10 K 0 •	4 112 106		
• 4 12 104	• 0 234 203	5 116 92		
• 4 28 27	• 10 42 33	• 2 K 2 •	11 37 35	
10 40 53	• 2 267 253	• 8 K 2 •	3 282 250	
12 57 44	• 4 K 1 •	• 0 99 92	• 3 117 311	
• 1 K 4 •	• 2 909 189	1 43 61	• 9 96 78	
2 137 131	• 11 K 0 •	• 4 35 60	• 2 K 3 •	4 107 101
• 4 47 147	• 1 77 156	• 6 30 14	• 10 K 4 •	• 6 159 159
• 4 227 197	• 1 277 34	• 3 133 144	• -8 K 2 •	• 8 82 83
• 3 41 3	• 4 97 65	• 10 K 1 •	• -8 K 4 •	• 9 68 71
• 8 41 35	• 4 37 44	• 2 281 289	• 10 149 141	• 10 51 46
12 24 5	• 5 134 152	• 4 113 115	• 2 119 100	• 5 44 68
• 4 81 76	• 6 260 262	• 6 125 129	• 5 67 74	• 2 82 72
• 8 48 35	• 8 217 202	• 3 50 46	• 4 34 50	• 4 34 50
12 24 5	• 9 39 29	• 4 280 281	• 4 41 79	• 0 137 154
• 2 K 0 •	• 10 70 65	• 1 328 313	• 1 179 100	• 5 44 68
• 0 110 124	• 1 25 19	• 6 294 285	• 9 K 2 •	• 2 61 54
• 1 352 334	• 2 142 130	• 7 70 63	• 9 K 3 •	• 4 95 93
• 2 203 218	• 3 42 51	• 8 183 163	• 1 98 103	• 3 42 38
• 3 41 3	• 4 97 65	• 2 225 219	• 4 189 177	• 5 143 145
• 4 308 297	• 12 K 0 •	• 3 50 46	• 6 289 304	• -9 K 3 •
• 5 48 37	• 1 102 89	• 1 151 174	• 1 184 173	• 2 81 78
• 6 144 144	• 3 110 88	• 3 294 292	• 8 172 169	• 2 158 149
• 7 27 90	• 4 97 65	• 4 41 79	• 3 37 36	• 4 168 177
• 8 109 105	• 5 134 152	• 5 114 93	• 10 67 66	• 7 90 94
• 9 122 107	• 2 47 4	• 3 K 2 •	• 1 205 184	• 10 K 3 •
10 38 41	• 15 K 0 •	• 4 66 61	• 1 711 734	• 2 48 57
11 39 39	• 2 44 39	• 5 K 1 •	• 2 119 121	• 3 102 111
• 1 K 0 •	• 0 195 228	• 1 448 136	• 5 300 329	• 6 47 46
• 1 742 243	• 2 252 245	• 4 29 23	• 7 236 222	• 10 K 2 •
• 3 198 179	• 3 271 265	• 5 191 253	• 8 41 41	• 1 31 36
• 4 149 128	• 5 197 185	• 7 9 17	• 8 173 128	• 5 75 39
• 5 326 292	• 6 18 18	• 8 33 32	• 5 57 66	• 4 K 2 •
• 6 90 91	• 9 48 49	• 9 57 52	• 0 757 749	• -3 K 3 •
• 7 179 157	• 11 44 41	• 11 34 36	• 1 120 116	• 5 70 70
• 8 127 114	• 14 K 0 •	• 12 11 11	• 4 21 29	• 7 49 57
• 10 101 98	• 2 376 269	• 0 80 104	• 4 49 39	• 3 184 194
• 10 67 58	• 2 63 229	• 1 173 141	• 2 49 83	• 4 45 48
11 50 34	• 3 101 148	• 2 129 133	• 4 39 27	• 0 184 176
12 29 28	• 4 97 65	• 3 48 38	• 5 34 29	• 6 32 38
• 4 K 0 •	• 6 86 72	• 4 188 216	• -12 K 1 •	• 7 39 38
• 0 103 124	• 7 57 43	• 5 114 115	• -4 K 2 •	• 3 159 183
• 1 277 232	• 9 94 96	• 6 168 172	• 2 60 50	• 0 255 225
• 3 197 194	• 10 46 27	• 8 113 113	• 7 75 75	• 1 355 159
• 4 97 65	• 11 50 26	• 9 32 30	• 8 33 33	• 11 K 2 •
• 5 3 108	• -1 K 1 •	• -6 K 1 •	• 5 50 55	• 4 203 203
• 6 117 117	• 3 624 598	• 0 54 42	• 6 48 39	• 5 186 194
• 7 32 16	• 4 338 311	• 0 54 42	• 8 32 30	• 6 190 185
• 8 46 78	• 5 107 115	• 1 101 115	• 4 90 89	• 7 101 109
10 47 42	• 6 131 122	• 2 159 172	• 1 76 58	• 9 68 59
11 25 27	• 7 55 48	• 3 45 43	• 2 25 19	• 5 K 2 •
12 26 14	• 8 174 126	• 4 18 33	• -13 K 1 •	• 1 394 390
• 1 75 74	• 9 K 0 •	• 10 11 13	• 1 24 34	• -12 K 2 •
• 2 19 34	12 35 27	8 85 85	2 61 50	3 159 140
3 130 144	• 2 K 1 •	9 46 49	• 14 K 1 •	• 5 105 115
4 132 132	• -2 K 2 •	10 46 51	• 14 K 2 •	• 6 92 92
5 135 133	• 7 K 1 •	11 24 22	• 2 76 63	• -6 93
6 155 147	• 4 288 270	1 120 103	3 62 56	1 370 309
7 155 86	5 71 69	2 152 137	5 42 38	2 305 317
8 140 95	6 116 115	3 61 55	-14 K 1 •	4 145 158
• 9 K 0 •	9 97 21	4 29 24	0 96 82	5 163 195
• 10 341 377	10 50 44	5 205 206	2 44 38	6 131 144
11 39 54	12 56 47	7 126 121	4 44 46	7 163 169
12 29 28	• -2 K 2 •	9 62 63	5 33 40	8 62 94
• 1 75 74	11 53 65	• -7 K 2 •	• 15 K 1 •	• 6 K 2 •
2 207 217	4 306 292	1 237 229	2 63 52	0 44 48
3 162 183	5 150 146	2 210 200	3 30 24	1 92 86
4 75 38	6 175 185	3 102 105	4 56 49	2 106 123
5 116 105	8 45 39	4 135 156	• -15 K 1 •	• 3 214 221
• 7 K 0 •	9 38 32	5 104 118	1 54 46	4 192 195
1 160 99	9 38 32	6 20 29	5 47 37	5 60 54
3 78 77	10 52 43	8 45 52	• -16 K 1 •	• 6 94 110
4 69 41	• 3 K 1 •	9 62 63	• 3 38 33	• 7 K 2 •
5 128 130	1 416 343	• 8 K 1 •	• 0 K 2 •	• 9 31 34
7 138 142	2 39 19	0 47 44	2 264 234	• -6 K 2 •
8 52 41	3 185 191	1 24 0	3 328 292	• 0 337 319
9 60 34	4 60 34	2 164 145	4 183 177	• 3 52 52
10 44 40	6 62 61	3 102 108	5 128 113	• 2 216 232
• 8 K 0 •	7 35 28	4 139 135	6 217 186	1 155 138
• 0 134 114	8 54 50	5 67 76	8 77 71	4 119 145
1 63 54	• -3 K 1 •	6 123 136	10 63 82	5 80 88
2 143 137	7 150 187	8 124 122	• 1 K 2 •	• 4 96 88
3 156 187	8 154 184	9 47 37	1 157 171	8 98 92
4 73 59	9 131 131	10 40 33	2 46 19	10 50 39
5 64 92	• 8 K 2 •	• 8 K 2 •	• 3 270 236	• 7 K 2 •
6 70 79	7 200 196	8 240 208	4 30 25	1 120 130
7 58 52	8 40 51	1 95 95	5 154 117	2 80 68
10 34 28	9 60 51	2 246 250	6 73 58	3 188 184
• 11 38 28	• 3 2 3	• 3 2 3	• 4 9 9	• 4 9 9
• 9 K 0 •	• 0 617 603	4 129 146	9 33 27	5 221 233
1 215 193	1 77 32	5 43 62	11 44 34	6 81 93
2 124 124	2 185 191	6 23 33	• -1 K 2 •	• 7 163 178
3 138 131	3 138 131	4 36 74	• 7 K 3 •	• 8 74 87
4 37 34	4 248 212	• 9 K 1 •	• 3 117 130	• -7 K 2 •
8 30 31	5 102 105	1 113 99	4 486 437	1 198 203
9 27 18	6 126 121	2 29 24	5 170 161	• -1 K 3 •
10 38 28	7 35 32	3 121 119	6 65 71	5 71 77

\* Columns 1, 2, and 3 are  $k$ ,  $F$ , and  $F_0$ , respectively.  $F_0 = 10F(\text{caled})$ ;  $F(\text{caled})_{\text{absolute}} = F(\text{caled})/\text{scale factor}$ ; scale factor =  $0.674 \pm 0.001$ .

Interatomic distances, angles, and errors, as well as atomic thermal parameters,<sup>17</sup> are tabulated in Tables III and IV.

### Results and Discussion

The structure is most readily described as molecular units, indicated by the perspective drawing of Figure 1, separated by ordinary van der Waals distances, Table III. Symmetry demands that within the molecule the Ni and its near-neighbor phosphorus and carbon atoms all lie in the same plane. In fact, the  $C_2$ ,  $C_3$ , and  $C_8$  atoms also lie in this same plane. The P-Ni- $C_1$  angle is within experimental error of the idealized 90° for a "square-planar" complex. The benzene ring is planar well within experimental error. The equation

(17) Distances, angles, errors, and thermal parameters were calculated with a local version of the W. Busing, K. O. Martin, and H. Levy ORFEE program on the IBM 7040.

of the weighted best least-squares plane through the benzene carbon atoms is  $0.6429x + 0.3951y - 0.6562z - 0.1107 = 0$ , in which  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  refer to an internal orthogonal coordinate system. The deviations from this plane are  $-0.017$ ,  $+0.024$ ,  $+0.002$ ,  $-0.009$ ,  $+0.022$ , and  $-0.019$  Å for  $C_3$ - $C_8$ , respectively.

The observed Ni-P distance of  $2.220 \pm 0.003$  Å is considerably shorter than the 2.49 Å than one might expect from the sum of the single-bond covalent radii<sup>18</sup> and indicates a substantial amount of Ni-P  $d\pi$ - $d\pi$  bonding. This no doubt contributes to the thermal and aerobic stability of this compound and in particular to the stabilization of the Ni-C  $\sigma$  bond. Although Pt-P distances of  $2.315 \pm 0.004$ ,  $2.298 \pm 0.018$ ,<sup>19</sup> and

(18) L. Pauling, "Nature of the Chemical Bond," 3rd ed, Cornell University Press, Ithaca, N. Y., 1960, p 246.

(19) G. G. Messmer and E. L. Amma, *Inorg. Chem.*, **5**, 1775 (1966).

TABLE II  
 ATOM POSITIONAL AND TEMPERATURE PARAMETERS AND ERRORS;  $\sigma' = \sigma \times 10^4$ 

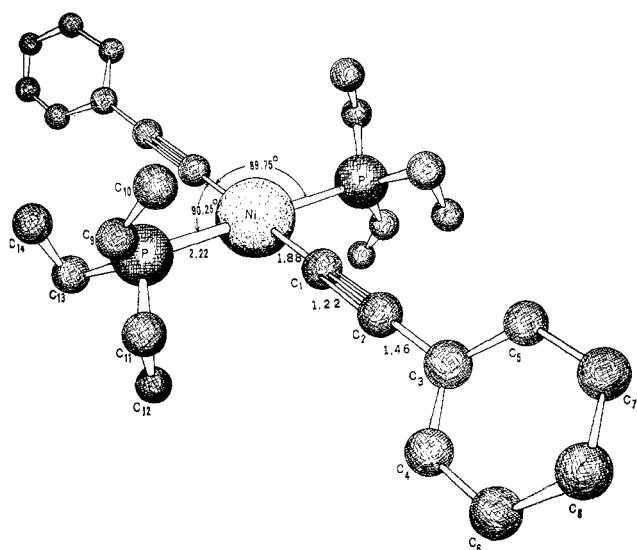
	$x/a$	$\sigma'(x/a)$	$y/b$	$\sigma'(y/b)$	$z/c$	$\sigma'(z/c)$
Ni	0	...	0	...	0	...
P	0.0931	2	0.9265	3	0.8713	4
C <sub>1</sub>	0.0992	8	0.0331	12	0.1680	12
C <sub>2</sub>	0.1660	8	0.0535	11	0.2735	14
C <sub>3</sub>	0.2490	7	0.0735	13	0.3964	12
C <sub>4</sub>	0.2618	9	0.1869	14	0.4748	15
C <sub>5</sub>	0.3171	8	0.9816	13	0.4316	14
C <sub>6</sub>	0.3425	10	0.2020	15	0.5969	17
C <sub>7</sub>	0.3987	9	-0.0008	16	0.5491	18
C <sub>8</sub>	0.4083	10	0.1083	17	0.6320	17
C <sub>9</sub>	0.0844	10	0.0145	18	0.6939	15
C <sub>10</sub>	0.1060	13	0.1550	21	0.7296	24
C <sub>11</sub>	0.0623	9	0.7713	14	0.7981	16
C <sub>12</sub>	0.0648	13	0.6780	16	0.9260	22
C <sub>13</sub>	0.2185	8	0.9202	15	0.9712	17
C <sub>14</sub>	0.2845	10	0.8749	19	0.8793	22

## Thermal Parameters and Standard Deviations

## Anisotropic Temperature Factors of the Form

$$\exp[-(\beta_{11}h^2 + \beta_{22}k^2 + \beta_{33}l^2 + 2\beta_{12}hk + 2\beta_{13}hl + 2\beta_{23}kl)]; \sigma' = \sigma \times 10^4$$

Atom	$\beta_{11}$	$\sigma'$	$\beta_{22}$	$\sigma'$	$\beta_{33}$	$\sigma'$	$\beta_{12}$	$\sigma'$	$\beta_{13}$	$\sigma'$	$\beta_{23}$	$\sigma'$
Ni	0.0064	1	0.0120	3	0.0109	4	-0.0005	2	0.0004	2	-0.0006	3
P	0.0067	2	0.0133	4	0.0139	5	-0.0000	2	0.0014	2	-0.0013	4
C <sub>1</sub>	0.0064	7	0.0168	19	0.0117	18	-0.0006	9	0.0012	9	-0.0008	14
C <sub>2</sub>	0.0068	7	0.0113	14	0.0195	22	0.0011	8	0.0006	11	-0.0012	14
C <sub>3</sub>	0.0057	7	0.0151	16	0.0133	18	-0.0005	9	-0.0007	9	-0.0009	16
C <sub>4</sub>	0.0079	8	0.0170	18	0.0148	22	-0.0017	10	-0.0001	10	-0.0045	16
C <sub>5</sub>	0.0068	7	0.0139	16	0.0212	23	0.0013	10	-0.0015	11	0.0019	17
C <sub>6</sub>	0.0092	10	0.0186	21	0.0212	27	-0.0012	13	0.0001	13	-0.0034	19
C <sub>7</sub>	0.0078	9	0.0156	18	0.0302	31	-0.0005	12	-0.0011	13	0.0031	24
C <sub>8</sub>	0.0088	10	0.0174	21	0.0216	26	-0.0025	13	-0.0011	13	0.0022	20
C <sub>9</sub>	0.0117	11	0.0223	24	0.0177	23	-0.0007	15	0.0052	12	0.0025	22
C <sub>10</sub>	0.0152	16	0.0227	28	0.0451	50	0.0019	18	0.0108	22	0.0097	33
C <sub>11</sub>	0.0089	9	0.0173	20	0.0210	27	0.0000	11	0.0033	12	-0.0026	19
C <sub>12</sub>	0.0180	17	0.0130	19	0.0362	43	0.0002	15	0.0019	20	0.0016	23
C <sub>13</sub>	0.0059	8	0.0224	22	0.0285	29	0.0002	11	0.0030	12	-0.0049	22
C <sub>14</sub>	0.0072	9	0.0303	31	0.0453	46	0.0009	14	0.0063	17	-0.0041	31


 Figure 1.—Perspective view of *trans*-bis(phenylethynyl)bis(triethylphosphine)nickel(II) with the most important distances and angles indicated.

$2.268 \pm 0.008$  Å<sup>20</sup> have been observed in *trans* P–Pt–P configurations which indicate that the Pt–P bond contains considerable multiple bonding (2.41 Å expected

(20) R. Eisenberg and J. A. Ibers, *Inorg. Chem.*, **4**, 773 (1965).

from covalent radii), it has been tacitly assumed in the past<sup>2</sup> that tertiary phosphines will form stronger d $\pi$ –d $\pi$  bonds with heavier transition metal (Pt > Pd > Ni) atoms without any supporting data. It is interesting to note that Ibers and Enemark found a Mn–P distance of 2.28 Å in Mn(NO)(CO)<sub>2</sub>[P(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>3</sub>]<sub>2</sub>.<sup>21</sup> Our Ni–P distance indicates that, at least in this compound, the Ni–P d $\pi$ –d $\pi$  interaction seems to be as large as in the heavier transition metals of this group. Further, we believe that this is the first measurement of an Ni–P distance in a trialkylphosphine complex.

On the other hand, our Ni–C distance of  $1.879 \pm 0.011$  Å is significantly shorter than the 2.08 Å expected from the sum of an sp carbon radius of 0.689 Å (see below) and the Ni(II) radius of 1.39 Å. This indicates a significant amount of d $\pi$ –p $\pi$  multiple bonding in the Ni–C bond. However, the carbon–carbon triple bond length in the acetylene moiety (C<sub>1</sub>–C<sub>2</sub>,  $1.218 \pm 0.014$  Å) is not significantly different from that in acetylene itself ( $1.204 \pm 0.001$  Å).<sup>22</sup> Although the benzene C–C distances appear uniformly somewhat longer (Figure 1, Table III) than the 1.39 Å expected for a benzene C–C

(21) J. A. Ibers, private communication. See also J. H. Enemark and J. A. Ibers, Abstracts, American Crystallographic Association Meeting, Atlanta, Ga., Jan 25–28, 1967, paper 18.

(22) B. D. Saksena, *J. Chem. Phys.*, **20**, 95 (1952).

TABLE III  
 INTERATOMIC DISTANCES (Å), ANGLES (DEGREES), AND ERRORS<sup>a</sup>

Bonding Interatomic Distances and Angles			
Ni-P	2.220 (3)	P-Ni-C <sub>1</sub>	89.75 (36)
Ni-C <sub>1</sub>	1.879 (11)	P-Ni-C <sub>1</sub>	90.25 (36)
C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>2</sub>	1.218 (14)	Ni-P-C <sub>9</sub>	111.20 (52)
C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>3</sub>	1.464 (15)	Ni-P-C <sub>11</sub>	112.68 (46)
C <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>4</sub>	1.413 (17)	Ni-P-C <sub>13</sub>	118.21 (47)
C <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>5</sub>	1.425 (16)	P-C <sub>9</sub> -C <sub>10</sub>	111.27 (1.12)
C <sub>4</sub> -C <sub>6</sub>	1.429 (17)	P-C <sub>11</sub> -C <sub>12</sub>	112.19 (1.02)
C <sub>5</sub> -C <sub>7</sub>	1.420 (16)	P-C <sub>13</sub> -C <sub>14</sub>	118.46 (1.10)
C <sub>6</sub> -C <sub>8</sub>	1.415 (20)	Ni-C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>2</sub>	177.27 (1.10)
C <sub>7</sub> -C <sub>8</sub>	1.407 (21)	C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>3</sub>	176.92 (1.33)
P-C <sub>9</sub>	1.854 (14)	C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>4</sub>	119.32 (1.16)
C <sub>9</sub> -C <sub>10</sub>	1.551 (24)	C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>5</sub>	120.20 (1.16)
P-C <sub>11</sub>	1.833 (15)	C <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>4</sub> -C <sub>6</sub>	121.47 (1.32)
C <sub>11</sub> -C <sub>12</sub>	1.525 (21)	C <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>4</sub> -C <sub>8</sub>	118.45 (1.29)
P-C <sub>13</sub>	1.896 (12)	C <sub>5</sub> -C <sub>7</sub> -C <sub>8</sub>	117.18 (1.39)
C <sub>13</sub> -C <sub>14</sub>	1.551 (20)	C <sub>4</sub> -C <sub>6</sub> -C <sub>8</sub>	119.86 (1.37)
		C <sub>6</sub> -C <sub>8</sub> -C <sub>7</sub>	122.46 (1.30)
		C <sub>9</sub> -P-C <sub>11</sub>	102.42 (73)
		C <sub>9</sub> -P-C <sub>13</sub>	105.26 (70)
		C <sub>11</sub> -P-C <sub>13</sub>	105.64 (67)

## Nonbonding Intramolecular Distances

Ni-C <sub>2</sub>	3.097 (12)	C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>13</sub> '	3.132 (18)
Ni-C <sub>3</sub>	4.558 (10)	C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>9</sub>	3.993 (19)
P-C <sub>1</sub>	2.902 (12)	C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>11</sub>	3.882 (18)
P-C <sub>1</sub> '	2.915 (12)	C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>3</sub>	2.682 (15)
P-C <sub>2</sub>	3.836 (12)	C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>4</sub>	3.612 (17)
P-C <sub>2</sub> '	3.784 (13)	C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>5</sub>	3.594 (16)
P-C <sub>10</sub>	2.816 (20)	C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>13</sub> '	3.132 (18)
P-C <sub>12</sub>	2.792 (18)	C <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>9</sub>	5.038 (19)
P-C <sub>14</sub>	2.967 (15)	C <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>11</sub>	4.919 (18)
C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>9</sub>	3.411 (18)	C <sub>4</sub> -C <sub>11</sub>	4.945 (19)
C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>11</sub>	3.339 (18)	C <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>13</sub> '	4.115 (19)
C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>12</sub>	3.959 (21)	C <sub>5</sub> -C <sub>13</sub> '	4.099 (19)

## Nonbonding Intermolecular Distances

C <sub>4</sub> -C <sub>14</sub>	3.720 (24)	All others	>3.900
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<sup>a</sup> Primes refer to atoms related by the center of symmetry of the Ni site. The dihedral angle between normals to planes defined by Ni-P-C<sub>1</sub> and the benzene ring is  $43.6 \pm 0.5^\circ$ .

distance, our errors are, unfortunately, sufficiently large that these differences are not statistically significant. The C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> distance of 1.46 Å might appear at first glance to be somewhat short for a carbon-carbon single bond, but it must be borne in mind that this is a C-C bond involving an sp- and an sp<sup>2</sup>-hybridized carbon atom. If the sp carbon radius is taken as half the carbon-carbon single-bond distance in diacetylene<sup>23</sup> or the methyl carbon to acetylenic carbon distance in methylacetylene<sup>24</sup> minus 0.772 Å, one finds a value of 0.689 Å.

(23) G. D. Craine and H. W. Thompson, *Trans. Faraday Soc.*, **49**, 1273 (1953).

 TABLE IV  
 RMS ATOMIC DISPLACEMENTS IN THE DIRECTION OF THE PRINCIPAL AXES OF THE THERMAL ELLIPSOIDS (Å)

Atom	R <sub>1</sub>	$\sigma' = \sigma \times 10^3$				
		$\sigma'$	R <sub>2</sub>	$\sigma'$	R <sub>3</sub>	$\sigma'$
Ni	0.199	3	0.267	4	0.284	3
P	0.227	4	0.278	4	0.288	4
C <sub>1</sub>	0.210	16	0.275	14	0.319	18
C <sub>2</sub>	0.246	16	0.256	16	0.320	16
C <sub>3</sub>	0.201	16	0.290	14	0.302	16
C <sub>4</sub>	0.206	18	0.324	16	0.334	17
C <sub>5</sub>	0.222	17	0.297	17	0.348	16
C <sub>6</sub>	0.255	18	0.342	20	0.356	18
C <sub>7</sub>	0.265	17	0.300	19	0.395	19
C <sub>8</sub>	0.254	18	0.299	20	0.386	20
C <sub>9</sub>	0.248	17	0.356	18	0.374	20
C <sub>10</sub>	0.320	23	0.385	22	0.463	25
C <sub>11</sub>	0.275	18	0.315	16	0.333	19
C <sub>12</sub>	0.277	21	0.365	21	0.476	21
C <sub>13</sub>	0.254	16	0.311	18	0.388	19
C <sub>14</sub>	0.272	18	0.399	22	0.448	23

The aromatic sp<sup>2</sup> carbon radius of 0.75 Å can be taken from nitromesitylene,<sup>25</sup> biphenyl,<sup>26</sup> or toluene.<sup>27</sup> Hence, one would predict a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> distance of 1.44 Å and the observed distance is not significantly different at  $1.464 \pm 0.015$  Å. Therefore, we conclude that if there is any substantial conjugative effect due to nickel-carbon bonding, it is not discernible from our data. This lack of observed bond elongation due to a possibly conjugated chain is supported by the fact (Table III) that the benzene ring is tilted  $43.6 \pm 0.5^\circ$  to the plane defined by the Ni, P, and C<sub>1</sub> atoms. This tilting of the benzene ring is most likely due to nonbonded intra- and intermolecular contacts.

The P-C carbon distance that is expected from the single-bond radii is 1.87 Å. Our observed values are  $1.854 \pm 0.014$ ,  $1.833 \pm 0.015$ , and  $1.896 \pm 0.012$  Å, none of which is significantly different from the expected value; however, the shortest seems to be significantly shorter than the longest for no obvious reason. Further, the carbon involved in the longest P-C distance also has a P-C-C angle significantly different from the idealized tetrahedral value at  $118.46 \pm 1.1^\circ$ . Nevertheless, the trialkylphosphine C-C distances are well within statistical error of the expected 1.54 Å.

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(24) L. F. Thomas, E. I. Sherrard, and J. Sheridan, *ibid.*, **51**, 619 (1955).

(25) J. Trotter, *Acta Cryst.*, **12**, 605 (1959).

(26) J. Trotter, *ibid.*, **14**, 1135 (1961).

(27) F. A. Keidel and S. H. Bauer, *J. Chem. Phys.*, **25**, 1218 (1956).