# Synthesis and characterization of pentadienyl-iridium(III) and -rhodium(III) complexes

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#### Abstract

1-Halopenta-2,4-dienes  $CH_2=CHCH=CHCH_2X$  (X = Cl, Br) undergo facile oxidative addition with complexes of the type *trans*-MCl(CO)(PR<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (M = Rh, PR<sub>3</sub> = PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph; M = Ir, PR<sub>3</sub> = PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph, PPh<sub>3</sub>). The configurations of these adducts were elucidated by combining their far-IR, <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectra.

#### Introduction

The chemistry of transition-metal acyclic pentadienyl complexes has become the subject of some intensive studies in recent years [1,2]. One of the intriguing features of these complexes is the variety of geometries which are possible for the pentadienyl group bound to the metal center:



The presence of appropriate reagents such as the pentadienyltin compound  $(C_5H_7)Sn(CH_3)_3$  [3] and pentadienyl alkaline-metal salts  $[2,4-(CH_3)_2C_5H_5]M$  (M = Na, K) [4] has greatly contributed to the synthesis and has prompted the rapid development in this area. In our laboratory [5–9], we have used 1-halopenta-2,4-diene seems to be an intriguing reagent because it reacts with metal carbonyl anions to give  $\eta^1$ -pentadienyl complexes, which can be further converted to syn- $\eta^3$  and - $\eta^5$  forms by thermal or photochemical activation [5–9].

Allyl, acyl and alkyl halides are known to undergo oxidative addition with  $d^8$  square planar complexes [10–12]. The stereochemistry of the addition depends largely on the molecule that is added. Methyl and acyl halides add *trans* to

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Scheme 1.

IrCl(CO)(PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph)<sub>2</sub> in an  $S_N 2$  type mechanism [12]. Nevertheless, allyl halides add *cis* to IrCl(CO)(PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph)<sub>2</sub> in benzene [10,11], and an  $S_N 2$  type mechanism via the transition state (I) as depicted in Scheme 1, is suggested for the reaction. In order to further investigate the behaviour of 1-halopenta-2,4-dienes in their reaction with low-valence metal species, their addition reactions to the square-planar complexes *trans*-MCl(CO)(PR<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (M = Rh, P = Me<sub>2</sub>Ph; M = Ir. P = PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph, PPh<sub>3</sub>) were studied.

#### Results and discussion

The 1-halopenta-2,4-diene  $CH_2=CHCH=CHCH_2X$  (X = Cl. Br) readily adds to the complexes *trans*-IrCl(CO)(PR<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (PR<sub>3</sub> = PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph. PPh<sub>3</sub>) in benzene or chloroform to afford the adducts IrCl<sub>2</sub>(CO)( $\eta^1$ -C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>7</sub>)(PR<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (PR<sub>3</sub> = PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph (1); PR<sub>3</sub> = PPh<sub>3</sub> (2)) and IrClBr(CO)( $\eta^1$ -C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>7</sub>)(PR<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (PR<sub>3</sub> = PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph (3); PR<sub>3</sub> = PPh<sub>3</sub> (4)) in good yields (80–92%). In a typical reaction, *trans*-IrCl(CO)(PR<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> was dissolved in a mixture of 1-halopenta-2,4-diene and benzene at 10 ° C. The products separated as colorless needles on addition of ether to the solution. Notable here is that the addition of IrCl(CO)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> to pentadienyl halides is reversible in solution, whereas colorless crystals of the products can be isolated in the presence of pentadienyl halides. Attempts to recrystallize the products, in the absence of pentadienyl halides, however, led to the dissociation of the complex, and the yellow material of IrX(CO)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (X = Cl, for pentadienyl chloride; X = Cl, Br for pentadienyl bromide) gradually reformed after the solution had been allowed to stand for several hours.

All of the elemental analyses are consistent with the proposed formula. Combination of the <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>31</sup>P NMR and far-infrared spectra permitted the determination of their structural configurations. Jenkins and Shaw [13] have shown that the metal-chloride stretching frequencies in the far-infrared region of octahedral com-



plexes vary as follows;  $\nu(Ir-Cl, trans to CO) \sim 300 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\nu(Ir-Cl, trans to CO)$ phosphine) ~ 275 cm<sup>-1</sup>, (Ir-Cl, *trans* to alkyl) ~ 250 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Configurations A and **B** are assigned to 1 and 2, and to 3 and 4 respectively on the basis of their spectroscopic data. All compounds have  $\eta^{1}$ -trans-pentadienyl group as shown from their proton NMR resonances. The trans configuration is inferred from the coupling constant  $J_{23} = 14-15$  Hz. In addition to the  $\nu$ (C=C) bands at 1620-1610 cm<sup>-1</sup>, all complexes show  $\nu$ (C=O) absorption bands at 2045-2030 cm<sup>-1</sup> indicative of the presence of Ir<sup>III</sup>-bound CO groups [10,13]. For complexes 1 and 2, in the far-infrared region, two  $\nu$ (Ir-Cl) bands at ~ 305 and ~ 245 cm<sup>-1</sup> are observed, which are assignable to the Ir-Cl frequency trans to carbonyl and pentadienyl groups respectively. The two trans phosphines of these two compounds were further confirmed by a single resonance in <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectra, indicative of the chemical equivalence of the two phosphines. Similarly, the designation of configuration  $\mathbf{B}$  to 3 and 4 relies largely on the presence of far-infrared  $\nu$ (Ir-Cl) bands at ~ 305 cm<sup>-1</sup> and a single <sup>31</sup>P NMR resonance at  $\delta$  29.6 and 18.1, respectively. Moreover, in the proton NMR spectra of 1 and 3, the resonances of phosphine methyls show two 1/2/1 triplets, which suggest that the phosphines occupy the *trans* positions with no plane of symmetry through the Ir-P bonds. The observed  $P-CH_3$  triplet arises from the strong coupling between the *trans* phosphorus nuclei [14]. The values of  ${}^{2}J(PH) + {}^{4}J(PH) = 8.0$  Hz of phosphine methyls are consistent with the reported values for the isostructural IrX<sub>2</sub>(CO)( $\eta^1$ -allyl)(PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph)<sub>2</sub> (X = Cl, Br) [10].

Scheme 1 shows the reaction mechanism of allyl halides with  $Ir(CO)Cl(PMe_2Ph)_2$ . In benzene, the *cis*-addition adduct with *cis* phosphines is formed first, and in methanol it gradually isomerizes to the *trans* product. Although pentadienyl halides are higher homologs of allyl halides, their reactions with  $IrCl(CO)(PMe_2Ph)_2$ , all give *trans* addition products in both benzene or chloroform. The vinyl group probably exerts unfavorable steric hinderance, which prevents the formation of transition state I. We believe that the reaction mechanism is analogous to that considered for the addition of  $CH_3I$  to  $IrCl(CO)(PMe_2Ph)_2$ . In the latter case, the transition state is highly polar  $Ir^+ \cdots CH_3 \cdots X^-$ , which in benzene gives the ion pair  $[IrCl(CO)CH_3(PMe_2Ph)_2]^+X^-$ . The ions then combine to give the specifically *trans* product.

In a similar manner, RhCl(CO)(PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph)<sub>2</sub> undergoes smooth oxidative addition with pentadienyl halides in benzene or chloroform. Pale yellow crystals of adducts RhCl<sub>2</sub>(CO)(PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph)<sub>2</sub>( $\eta^1$ -C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>7</sub>) (**5**) and RhClBr(CO)(PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph)<sub>2</sub>( $\eta^1$ -C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>7</sub>) (**6**) are obtained in moderate yields, 42–45%. In contrast, the reaction of RhCl(CO)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> with pentadienyl halides fails to produce the desired adducts. RhCl(CO)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> was recovered exclusively after the mixture was stirred for 1 h in both benzene and chloroform. Complex **5** has configuration **A** which was deduced from its IR. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>31</sup>P NMR data. For complex **6** two  $\nu$ (Ir-Cl) bands are observed at 306 and 248 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and this finding suggests the presence of the two isomers, depicted below. The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectra further confirm these structures, which are present in



a molar ratio of about 2/1. In addition to the distinct proton resonances of  $\eta^{1}$ -trans-pentadienyl ligand, each isomer was characterized by its phosphine methyl proton resonances as two 1/2/1 triplets and phosphorus resonance as a doublet with J(Rh-P) = 45 Hz. Absolute assignment of NMR data to each isomer is not possible at this stage. These two isomers appear to be in thermal equilibrium since no further changes in relative intensity are observed if the NMR sample is allowed to stand for a few hours.

# Experimental

All reactions were carried out under dry nitrogen using Schlenk-type glassware. *Trans*-1-chloro and -bromopenta-2.4-diene were synthesized by treatment of penta-1,4-diene-3-ol with the acids,  $HCl_{(aq)}$  and  $HBr_{(aq)}$  at 0 °C [15]. Complexes *trans*-MCl(CO)(PR<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (M = Ir, PR<sub>3</sub> = PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph. PPh<sub>3</sub>: M = Rh, PR<sub>3</sub> = PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph. PPh<sub>3</sub>) were prepared according to the methods in the literature [16]. PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph. PPh<sub>3</sub> and  $MCl_3 \cdot nH_2O$  (M = Rh, Ir) were obtained from Strem Chemicals and used without further purifications. NMR spectra were recorded on either a JEOL FX-100 or a Bruker AM-400 spectrometer. The values of <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>31</sup>P resonances are relative to Me<sub>4</sub>Si and H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> respectively. Infrared spectra in the 2300–1400 cm<sup>-1</sup> region were recorded in Nujol mulls on KBr plates and the far-IR region 400–200 cm<sup>-1</sup> were spectred in Nujol mulls on polyethylene films, by use of a Perkin–Elmer 580

spectrophotometer. Microanalyses were performed by the Microanalytic Laboratory at National Taiwan University.

# Synthesis of $IrCl_2(CO)(\eta^1 - C_5H_7)[P(CH_3)_2C_6H_5]_2$ (1)

*Trans*-1-chloropenta-2,4-diene (0.2 ml, 1.76 mmol) was added to a rapidly stirred solution of *trans*-IrCl(CO)[P(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>]<sub>2</sub> (0.20 g, 0.38 mmol) in 10 ml benzene at 10 ° C. Complex 1 separated as colorless needles in good yields (0.212 g, 0.34 mmol) when ether was added to the solution, which was then stored at 0 ° C. Similarly, the reaction carried out in chloroform gave 1 of the same configuration. Anal. Found: C, 42.04; H, 4.52; C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>29</sub>IrP<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>O calc: C, 41.64; H, 4.61%. IR (Nujol):  $\nu$ (CO) 2041vs,  $\nu$ (C=C) 1614w,  $\nu$ (Ir-Cl): 241s, 301s. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, benzene-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  1.90 (t, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.01 (t, 6H, CH'<sub>3</sub>), 2.48 (q, 2H, H<sup>1</sup>), 4.70 (d, 1H, H<sup>6</sup>), 4.95 (d, 1H, H<sup>5</sup>), 5.22 (dd, 1H, H<sup>3</sup>), 5.40 (dt, 1H, H<sup>2</sup>), 6.10 (dt, 1H, H<sup>4</sup>), 6.97 and 7.42 (complex m, 10H, Ph), <sup>2</sup>*J*(P-CH<sub>3</sub>) + <sup>4</sup>*J*(P-CH<sub>3</sub>) = 8.7 Hz, <sup>2</sup>*J*(P-CH'<sub>3</sub>) + <sup>4</sup>*J*(P-CH'<sub>3</sub>) = 8.0 Hz, *J*(P-H<sup>1</sup>) = *J*<sub>12</sub> = 6.3 Hz, *J*<sub>23</sub> = 14.5 Hz, *J*<sub>34</sub> = *J*<sub>46</sub> = 10.2 Hz, *J*<sub>45</sub> = 16.0 Hz; <sup>31</sup>P NMR (40.3 MHz, benzene-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  26.6(s).



Synthesis of  $IrCl_2(CO)(\eta^1 - C_5H_7)(P(C_6H_5)_3)_2$  (2)

This was prepared similarly using *trans*-1-chloro-penta-2,4-diene and IrCl(CO)-[P(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>3</sub>]<sub>2</sub>. The product was isolated as colorless needles in 88% yield. Anal. Found: C, 56.84; H, 4.01; C<sub>42</sub>H<sub>37</sub>IrP<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>O calc: C, 57.14; H, 4.22%. IR (Nujol):  $\nu$ (CO), 2040vs;  $\nu$ (C=C), 1612w;  $\nu$ (Ir-Cl), 245s, 305s, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, benzened<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  3.27 (q, 2H, H<sup>1</sup>), 4.84 (d, 1H, H<sup>6</sup>), 4.87 (d, 1H, H<sup>5</sup>), 5.10 (dd, 1H, H<sup>3</sup>), 5.86 (dt, 1H, H<sup>2</sup>), 6.20 (dt, 1H, H<sup>4</sup>), 6.89–6.98 and 8.20 (complex m, 30H, Ph), J(H<sup>4</sup>–P) =  $J_{12}$  = 4.6 Hz,  $J_{23}$  = 15.4 Hz,  $J_{34}$  =  $J_{46}$  = 9.8 Hz,  $J_{45}$  = 17.7 Hz, <sup>31</sup>P NMR (benzene-d<sub>6</sub>, 40.3 MHz):  $\delta$  14.7(s).

# Synthesis of $IrClBr(CO)(\eta^1 - C_5H_7)[P(CH_3)_2C_6H_5]_2$ (3)

This was prepared similarly using *trans*-1-bromopenta-2,4-diene and IrCl(CO)-[P(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>]<sub>2</sub>. The product was isolated as colorless needles in 82% yield. Anal. Found: C, 39.14; H, 4.54; C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>29</sub>IrP<sub>2</sub>ClBrO calc: C, 38.91; H, 4.30%, IR (Nujol):  $\nu$ (CO), 2035vs,  $\nu$ (C=C), 1615w;  $\nu$ (Ir–Cl), 305s; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, benzene-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  1.83 (t, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.93 (t, 6H, CH'<sub>3</sub>), 2.40 (q, 2H, H<sup>1</sup>), 4.78 (d, 1H, H<sup>6</sup>), 4.92 (d, 1H, H<sup>5</sup>), 5.15 (dd, 1H, H<sup>3</sup>), 5.46 (dt, 1H, H<sup>2</sup>), 6.10 (dt, 1H, H<sup>4</sup>), 6.97 and 7.42 (complex m, 10H, Ph), <sup>2</sup>*J*(PCH<sub>3</sub>) + <sup>4</sup>*J*(PCH<sub>3</sub>) = 8.2 Hz, <sup>2</sup>*J*(PCH'<sub>3</sub>) + <sup>4</sup>*J*(PCH'<sub>3</sub>) = 8.6 Hz, *J*(P–H<sup>1</sup>) = J<sub>12</sub> = 6.0 Hz, J<sub>23</sub> = 14.7 Hz, J<sub>34</sub> = J<sub>46</sub> = 10.3 Hz, J<sub>45</sub> = 16.1 Hz; <sup>31</sup>P NMR (40.3 MHz, benzene-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  29.6 MHz.

# Synthesis of $IrClBr(CO)(\eta^{1}-C_{5}H_{7})[P(C_{6}H_{5})_{3}]_{2}$ (4)

This was prepared similarly using *trans*-1-bromopenta-2,4-diene and IrCl(CO)- $[P(C_6H_5)_3]_2$ . The product was isolated as colorless needles in 85% yield. Anal.

Found: C, 54.93; H, 4.43.  $C_{42}H_{37}$ IrClBrP<sub>2</sub>O calc: C, 54.37; H, 4.02%. IR (Nujol):  $\nu$ (CO) 2036vs,  $\nu$ (C=C) 1612w,  $\nu$ (Ir-Cl) 303s; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, benzene- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  3.50 (q, 2H, H<sup>1</sup>), 4.84 (d, 1H, H<sup>6</sup>), 4.87 (d, 1H, H<sup>5</sup>), 5.10 (dd. 1H, H<sup>3</sup>), 5.86 (dt. 1H, H<sup>2</sup>), 6.20 (dt, 1H, H<sup>4</sup>), 6.89–6.97 and 8.20 (complex m, 30H, Ph).  $J(H^1-P) = J_{12} = 4.8$  Hz,  $J_{23} = 15.6$  Hz,  $J_{34} = J_{46} = 9.6$  Hz,  $J_{45} = 17.8$  Hz, <sup>31</sup>P NMR (40.3 MHz, benzene- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  18.1(s).

# Synthesis of $RhCl_2(CO)(\eta^1 - C_5H_7)[P(CH_3)_2C_6H_5]_2$ (5)

This was prepared similarly using *trans*-1-chloro-penta-2,4-diene and RhCl-(CO)[P(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>]<sub>2</sub>. The product was isolated as pale yellow prisms in 42% yield. Anal. Found: C, 48.54; H, 5.47. C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>29</sub>RhP<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>O calc: C, 48.46; H, 5.36%. IR (Nujol):  $\nu$ (CO), 2035vs;  $\nu$ (C=C), 1613w,  $\nu$ (Ir–Cl), 247s, 307s; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 Hz, benzene-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  1.90 (t, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.04 (t, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>). 2.86 (m, 2H, H<sup>1</sup>), 4.90 (d, 1H, H<sup>6</sup>), 5.10 (d, 1H, H<sup>5</sup>), 5.50 (dd, 1H, H<sup>3</sup>), 5.60 (dt, 1H, H<sup>2</sup>). 6.20 (dt, 1H, H<sup>4</sup>), 6.94 and 7.50 (complex m, 10H, Ph), <sup>2</sup>*J*(PCH<sub>3</sub>) + <sup>4</sup>*J*(PCH<sub>3</sub>) = 8.3 Hz, <sup>2</sup>*J*(PCH'<sub>3</sub>) + <sup>4</sup>*J*(PCH'<sub>3</sub>) = 8.6 Hz, *J*<sub>23</sub> = 14.9 Hz, *J*<sub>34</sub> = *J*<sub>46</sub> = 10.0 Hz, *J*<sub>45</sub> = 16.8 Hz, <sup>31</sup>P NMR (40.3 MHz, benzene-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  -1.1 (d, *J*(Rh–P) 43.9 Hz).

# Synthesis of RhClBr(CO) $(\eta^{1}-C_{5}H_{7})$ [P(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>], (6)

This was prepared similarly using *trans*-1-bromo-penta-2,4-diene and RhCl-(CO)[P(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>]<sub>2</sub>. The product was isolated as pale yellow prisms in 45% yield. Anal. Found: C, 44.96; H, 5.34. C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>29</sub>RhP<sub>2</sub>ClBrO calc: C. 44.81; H. 4.96%. IR (Nujol):  $\nu$ (CO), 2043 vs;  $\nu$ (C=C), 1618w;  $\nu$ (Ir–Cl): 245vs. 304vs. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, benzene-*d*<sub>6</sub>): major species  $\delta$  1.93 (t, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.99 (t. 6H, CH'<sub>3</sub>), 2.68 (complex m, 2H, H<sup>1</sup>), 4.85 (d, 1H, H<sup>6</sup>), 4.94 (d, 1H, H<sup>5</sup>), 5.32 (dd, 1H, H<sup>3</sup>) 5.49 (dt, 1H, H<sup>2</sup>), 6.20 (dt, 1H, H<sup>4</sup>) 6.97 and 7.50 (complex m, 10H, Ph). <sup>2</sup>*J*(PCH<sub>3</sub>) + <sup>4</sup>*J*(PCH<sub>3</sub>) = 8.5 Hz, <sup>2</sup>*J*(PCH'<sub>3</sub>) + <sup>4</sup>*J*(PCH'<sub>3</sub>) = 8.6 Hz, *J*<sub>23</sub> = 14.7 Hz, *J*<sub>34</sub> = *J*<sub>46</sub> = 10.1 Hz, *J*<sub>45</sub> = 16.7 Hz; minor species, 1.82 (t. 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.86 (t. 6H, CH'<sub>3</sub>), 2.68 (complex m, 2H, H<sup>1</sup>), 4.85 (d, 1H, H<sup>6</sup>), 4.95 (d, 1H, H<sup>5</sup>), 5.37 (dd, 1H, H<sup>3</sup>), 5.49 (dt, 1H, H<sup>2</sup>), 6.20 (dt, 1H, H<sup>4</sup>), 6.97 and 7.50 (complex m, 10H, Ph), <sup>2</sup>*J*(PCH<sub>3</sub>) + <sup>4</sup>*J*(PCH<sub>3</sub>) = 8.4 Hz, <sup>2</sup>*J*(PCH'<sub>3</sub>) + <sup>4</sup>*J*(PCH'<sub>3</sub>) = 8.8 Hz, *J*<sub>23</sub> = 14.6 Hz, *J*<sub>34</sub> = *J*<sub>46</sub> = 10.0 Hz, *J*<sub>45</sub> = 16.6 Hz. <sup>31</sup>P NMR (40.3 MHz, benzene-*d*<sub>6</sub>): major species  $\delta$  0.69 (d. *J*(Rh–P) = 45.1 Hz); minor species 4.57 (d, *J*(Rh–P) 45.2 Hz).

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