# Crystal structure of $\left[\mathrm{Rh}\left(\mathrm{SnCl}_{3}\right)\right.$ (norbornadiene)(dppp)]. $\mathrm{A}^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR study of [ $\mathrm{Rh}\left(\mathrm{SnCl}_{3}\right)$ (norbornadiene)(diphosphine)] complexes 

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#### Abstract

The molecular structure of $\left[\mathrm{Rh}\left(\mathrm{SnCl}_{3}\right)\right.$ (norbornadiene) (dppp)] (dppp $=1,3$-bis(diphenylphosphino)propane) 1 has been determined by an X-ray diffraction study. The structure is best described as distorted square pyramidal, with the equatorial positions occupied by the diolefin and the diphosphine; respectively, and the $\mathrm{SnCl}_{3}$ fragment in the apical position. The temperature dependence of the ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$-NMR spectra of $\left[\mathrm{Rh}\left(\mathrm{SnCl}_{3}\right)\right.$ (norbornadiene) (diphosphine)] complexes indicates that this structure is also the most stable in solution at $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.


## Introduction

The reactions of halogeno compounds of the transition elements with tin(II) halides have attracted considerable interest mainly due to the potential catalytic activity of the resulting complexes in organic transformations, and their chemistry has been recently reviewed [1]. Several rhodium(I) complexes, containing trichlorostannato fragments and diolefins, have been described [2-8]. Most of

[^0]these are pentacoordinated and they have been assumed to have distorted trigonal bipyramidal structure, with the diolefinic ligands occupying one axial and one equatorial position and undergoing a Berry pseudorotation mechanism at low temperatures that accounts for the observed NMR spectra $[2,9,10]$.

To our knowledge, only two structures of complexes containing the $\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{SnCl}_{3}$ fragment have been reported [11,12], and both compounds are dimers. We thus thought it of interest to determine the crystal structure of [ $\left.\mathrm{Rh}\left(\mathrm{SnCl}_{3}\right)\left(\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{8}\right)(\mathrm{dppp})\right]$ (dppp $=1,3$-bis(diphenylphosphino)propane) in order to establish the preferred coordination around the rhodium atom. A variable temperature ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$-NMR study of [ $\mathrm{Rh}\left(\mathrm{SnCl}_{3}\right)\left(\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{8}\right)$ (diphosphine)] complexes in which diphosphine $=\mathrm{dppp}$ or dppb (1,4-bis(diphenylphosphino)butane) is also reported.

## Results and discussion

$\mathrm{Rh}\left(\mathrm{SnCl}_{3}\right)\left(\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{8}\right)(\mathrm{dppp}) 1$, was prepared as previously reported [2]. The diffraction study gave the atomic parameters of 1 in Table 1 and bond lengths and angles listed in Table 2. The geometry of the molecule is shown in Fig. 1 [13].

When account is taken of earlier reports [9,11,14-16], and our own results for related complexes [17], a careful analyses of the angles and bond lengths suggested that the coordination geometry is best described as distorted square pyramidal, with the equatorial positions occupied by S 1 and S 2 (S1 and S 2 being the centres of the $\mathrm{C} 1=\mathrm{C} 2$ and $\mathrm{C} 4=\mathrm{C} 5$ bonds respectively) and by P 1 and P 2 , with the $\mathrm{SnCl}_{3}$ ligand in the axial position. A detailed structural study of a related iridium compound, $\mathrm{Ir}\left(\mathrm{SnCl}_{3}\right)\left(\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{8}\right)\left(\mathrm{PMe}_{2} \mathrm{Ph}\right)_{2}$ has been reported [9], revealing it to have a distorted trigonal bipyramidal structure. Comparison of some selected angles in the two compounds shows that the $\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{Ir}-\mathrm{P}$ angles (95.79(4) ${ }^{\circ}$ and $97.03(4)^{\circ}$ respectively) are remarkably close to our $\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{P}$ angles (96.59(6) ${ }^{\circ}$ and $99.24(6)^{\circ}$ respectively) and this might have been taken to indicate the same kind of structure for both compounds. However, the angles involving the diolefin indicate that the geometry of the rhodium compound is closer to distorted square pyramidal; thus, mutually cis groups show the angles: $\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{S} 1=99.1(3)^{\circ}$ and $\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{S} 2=$ $102.2(3)^{\circ}$, while mutually trans groups show the angles: $\mathrm{P} 1-\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{S} 2=156.6(6)^{\circ}$ and $\mathrm{P} 2-\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{S} 1=159.5(3)^{\circ}$. In contrast, the iridium complex is closer to distorted trigonal bipyramidal: $\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{Ir}-\mathrm{B}_{\mathrm{ax}}=103.38(16)^{\circ}, \mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{Ir}-\mathrm{A}_{\mathrm{ec}}=113.9(17)^{\circ}, \mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{ec}}-\mathrm{Ir}-\mathrm{A}_{\mathrm{ec}}$ $=146.25(18)^{\circ}$ and $\mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{ax}}-\mathrm{Ir}-\mathrm{B}_{\mathrm{ax}}=157.40(16)^{\circ}$ ( A and B are the centres of the olefinic double bonds). Moreover, the best least-square plane for S1S2P1P2 shows a maximum deviation of $0.093(9) \AA$ for $S 1$, with the $R h$ atom at $0.353(7) \AA$ above this plane. The C 1 C 2 C 4 C 5 atoms are virtually in a plane, with a maximum deviation of $0.002(8) \AA$ for C 1 , and this plane forms a dihedral angle of $79.8(3)^{\circ}$ with the S1S2P1P2 plane [18]. The plane S1S2P1P2 and the $\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{Sn}$ bond are almost perpendicular, $87.80(2)^{\circ}$.

The $\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{S} 1$ and $\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{S} 2$ distances, 2.13(1) and 2.11(1) $\AA$ respectively, are equal within experimental error, confirming the equivalence of the positions of the olefin ligands. Similar behaviour has been observed for norbornadiene in analogous pentacoordinated complexes [15]. (When the olefinic double bonds occupy axial and equatorial positions in a trigonal bipyramid the corresponding distances normally differ significantly $[9,17]$.) The $\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{Sn}$ distance, $2.637(1) \AA$, is in accord with previously reported values [11,12], and is slightly longer than that for an

Table 1
Atomic coordinates for $\left[R \mathrm{Rh}\left(\mathrm{SnCl}_{3}\right)\left(\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{8}\right)(\mathrm{dppp})\right]$ and thermal parameters as $U_{\text {eq }}$ $=\frac{1}{3} \sum_{i} \sum_{j} U_{i j} a_{i}^{*} a_{j}^{\star} \mathbf{a}_{i} \mathbf{a}_{j} 10^{-4}$

| Atom | $x$ | $y$ | $z$ | $U_{\text {eq }}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Rh | $0.73356(3)$ | $0.38018(4)$ | $0.55702(7)$ | $370(2)$ |
| Sn | $0.69598(3)$ | $0.31306(3)$ | $0.31819(6)$ | $445(2)$ |
| P1 | $0.77943(10)$ | $0.48280(11)$ | $0.45771(22)$ | $388(7)$ |
| P2 | $0.63570(10)$ | $0.44025(12)$ | $0.59521(22)$ | $405(7)$ |
| C11 | $0.77789(13)$ | $0.25468(15)$ | $0.1700(3)$ | $806(11)$ |
| C12 | $0.63089(14)$ | $0.20347(15)$ | $0.3390(3)$ | $836(11)$ |
| C13 | $0.63278(14)$ | $0.36740(16)$ | $0.12122(26)$ | $783(11)$ |
| C1 | $0.8296(4)$ | $0.3438(5)$ | $0.6581(12)$ | $669(39)$ |
| C2 | $0.8141(4)$ | $0.2968(6)$ | $0.5480(11)$ | $626(37)$ |
| C3 | $0.7740(5)$ | $0.2363(5)$ | $0.6188(10)$ | $613(37)$ |
| C4 | $0.7102(4)$ | $0.2763(5)$ | $0.6600(10)$ | $554(33)$ |
| C5 | $0.7264(5)$ | $0.3238(5)$ | $0.7686(10)$ | $626(37)$ |
| C6 | $0.8009(5)$ | $0.3131(6)$ | $0.7941(11)$ | $755(42)$ |
| C7 | $0.8071(5)$ | $0.2322(6)$ | $0.7672(11)$ | $789(45)$ |
| C8 | $0.7234(4)$ | $0.5381(5)$ | $0.3490(9)$ | $483(30)$ |
| C9 | $0.6615(4)$ | $0.5645(5)$ | $0.4303(10)$ | $493(30)$ |
| C10 | $0.6108(4)$ | $0.5041(5)$ | $0.4546(9)$ | $498(31)$ |
| C11 | $0.8199(4)$ | $0.5483(4)$ | $0.5767(8)$ | $414(29)$ |
| C12 | $0.8433(5)$ | $0.6135(5)$ | $0.5208(10)$ | $627(36)$ |
| C13 | $0.8781(5)$ | $0.6614(5)$ | $0.6093(13)$ | $769(44)$ |
| C14 | $0.8900(4)$ | $0.6457(6)$ | $0.7527(13)$ | $663(41)$ |
| C15 | $0.8680(4)$ | $0.5824(6)$ | $0.8056(10)$ | $613(37)$ |
| C16 | $0.8334(4)$ | $0.5326(5)$ | $0.7199(9)$ | $479(30)$ |
| C17 | $0.8465(4)$ | $0.4636(5)$ | $0.3332(9)$ | $483(31)$ |
| C18 | $0.9110(5)$ | $0.4598(7)$ | $0.3748(1)$ | $940(53)$ |
| C19 | $0.9624(6)$ | $0.4453(10)$ | $0.2897(15)$ | $1379(79)$ |
| C20 | $0.9506(5)$ | $0.4325(7)$ | $0.1479(13)$ | $878(50)$ |
| C21 | $0.8890(6)$ | $0.4348(6)$ | $0.0958(10)$ | $721(42)$ |
| C22 | $0.8353(5)$ | $0.4479(6)$ | $0.1889(10)$ | $650(38)$ |
| C23 | $0.6248(4)$ | $0.4959(4)$ | $0.7574(8)$ | $435(29)$ |
| C24 | $0.6780(4)$ | $0.5091(5)$ | $0.8498(9)$ | $478(31)$ |
| C25 | $0.6701(5)$ | $0.5547(5)$ | $0.9678(9)$ | $546(35)$ |
| C26 | $0.6097(6)$ | $0.5849(5)$ | $0.9939(10)$ | $711(42)$ |
| C27 | $0.5564(5)$ | $0.5709(6)$ | $0.9044(12)$ | $804(45)$ |
| C28 | $0.5633(5)$ | $0.5271(6)$ | $0.7861(10)$ | $663(38)$ |
| C29 | $0.5658(4)$ | $0.3775(5)$ | $0.6082(10)$ | $491(30)$ |
| C30 | $0.5468(5)$ | $0.3507(5)$ | $0.7417(11)$ | $661(39)$ |
| C31 | $0.4960(5)$ | $0.3007(6)$ | $0.7513(13)$ | $767(44)$ |
| C32 | $0.4633(5)$ | $0.2777(6)$ | $0.6284(18)$ | $890(56)$ |
| C33 | $0.4820(5)$ | $0.3036(6)$ | $0.4970(14)$ | $827(48)$ |
| C34 | $0.5333(4)$ | $0.3531(5)$ | $0.4865(10)$ | $598(35)$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |

equatorial $\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{Sn}$ bond in a trigonal bipyramid, 2.587(3) $\AA$ [11]. The $\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{P} 1$ and $\mathbf{R h}-\mathbf{P} 2$ distances are as expected [16,17].

The $\mathrm{SnCl}_{3}$ ligand shows the following bond lengths: $\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{Cl} 1,2.414(3) ; \mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{Cl} 2$, 2.414(3) and $\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{C} 13,2.429(3) \AA$. The mean $\mathrm{Cl}-\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{Cl}$ angle of 95.4(1) is below the $109.4 \mathrm{sp}{ }^{3}$ angle, but the mean $\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{Cl}$ angle of 121.1 is higher. This has been observed for other $\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{SnCl}_{3}$ or $\mathrm{Ir}-\mathrm{SnCl}_{3}$ compounds [9,11-12], and is a general feature of $\mathrm{SnCl}_{3}$ coordination to transition metals [1].

The angles and bond lengths in the norbornadiene ligand are as expected [9,15,17].

A ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}-\mathrm{NMR}$ variable temperature study on both $\left[\mathrm{Rh}\left(\mathrm{SnCl}_{3}\right)\left(\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{8}\right)\right.$ (diphos-

Table 2
Bond distances ( $\AA$ ) and angles (deg) with e.s.d.s in parentheses

| Rh-Sn | 2.637(1) | C9 - C 10 | 1.53(1) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Rh-P1 | 2.297(2) | C11-C12 | 1.39(1) |
| Rh-P2 | 2.295(2) | C11-C16 | 1.38(1) |
| Rh-C1 | 2.244(9) | C12-C13 | 1.39 (1) |
| Rh-C2 | 2.236(9) | C13-C14 | 1.38(2) |
| Rh-C4 | 2.189(9) | C14-C15 | 1.34(1) |
| Rh-C5 | 2.224(9) | C15-C16 | 1.39(1) |
| $\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{Cl} 1$ | 2.414(3) | C17-C18 | 1.36(1) |
| $\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{Cl} 2$ | 2.414(3) | C17-C22 | 1.38(1) |
| $\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{Cl} 3$ | 2.429(3) | C18-C19 | 1.36(2) |
| P1-C8 | 1.816(8) | C19-C20 | 1.35(2) |
| P1-C11 | 1.820 (8) | C20-C21 | 1.33(2) |
| P1-C17 | 1.825(9) | C21-C22 | 1.41(1) |
| P2-C10 | 1.819(9) | C23-C24 | 1.39(1) |
| P2-C23 | 1.833(8) | C23-C28 | 1.40(1) |
| P2-C29 | 1.828(8) | C24-C25 | 1.39(1) |
| C1-C2 | 1.37(1) | C25-C26 | 1.36(1) |
| C1-C6 | 1.50(1) | C26-C27 | 1.38(2) |
| C2-C3 | 1.53(1) | C27-C28 | 1.37(1) |
| C3-C4 | 1.53(1) | C29-C30 | 1.39(1) |
| C3-C7 | 1.52(1) | C29-C34 | 1.37(1) |
| C4-C5 | 1.37(1) | C30-C31 | 1.38(1) |
| C5-C6 | 1.53(1) | C31-C32 | 1.38(2) |
| C6-C7 | 1.51(1) | C32-C33 | 1.37(2) |
| C8-C9 | 1.54(1) | C33-C34 | 1.38(1) |
| C4-Rh-C5 | 36.1(3) | C4-C3-C7 | 99.2(8) |
| C2-Rh-C5 | 76.6(4) | Rh-C4-C3 | 97.1(6) |
| C2-Rh-C4 | 65.1(3) | C3-C4-C5 | 107.2(8) |
| C1-Rh-C5 | 63.8(4) | Rh-C4-C5 | 73.4(6) |
| C1-Rh-C4 | 75.4(3) | Rh-C5-C4 | 70.5(5) |
| $\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{C} 2$ | 35.6(4) | C4-C5-C6 | 104.9(8) |
| P2-Rh-C5 | 91.3(2) | Rh-C5-C6 | 97.0(6) |
| P2-Rh-C4 | 99.3(2) | C1-C6-C5 | 102.2(8) |
| P2-Rh-C2 | 164.4(3) | CS-C6-C7 | 100.7(8) |
| P2-Rh-C1 | 145.1(3) | C1-C6-C7 | 101.3(8) |
| P1-Rh-C5 | 140.0(2) | C3-C7-C6 | 93.6(8) |
| P1-Rh-C4 | 168.7(2) | P1-C8-C9 | $114.0(6)$ |
| P1-Rh-C2 | 104.6(2) | C8-C9-C10 | 113.0(7) |
| P1-Rh-C1 | 93.6(2) | P2-C10-C9 | 113.2(6) |
| P1-Rh-P2 | 91.1(1) | P1-C11-C16 | 121.7(6) |
| $\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{C} 5$ | 120.1(2) | P1-C11-C12 | 119.8(6) |
| $\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{C} 4$ | 84.1(2) | C12-C11-C16 | 118.3(8) |
| $\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{C} 2$ | 81.4(3) | C11-C12-C13 | 119.9(9) |
| Sn-Rh-C1 | 116.7(3) | C12-C13-C14 | 121.2(9) |
| Sn-Rh-P2 | 96.6(1) | C13-C14-C15 | 118.6(9) |
| Sn-Rh-P1 | 99.2(1) | C14-C15-C16 | 121.9(9) |
| Rh-Sn-Cl3 | 125.6(1) | C11-C16-C15 | 120.1(8) |
| Rh-Sn-Cl2 | 118.3(1) | P1-C17-C22 | 122.5(6) |

Table 2 (continued)

| $\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{Cl} 1$ | $119.6(1)$ | $\mathrm{P} 1-\mathrm{C} 17-\mathrm{C} 18$ | $121.9(7)$ |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{Cl} 2-\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{Cl} 3$ | $96.9(1)$ | $\mathrm{C} 18-\mathrm{C} 17-\mathrm{C} 22$ | $115.5(8)$ |
| $\mathrm{Cl} 1-\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{Cl} 3$ | $96.4(1)$ | $\mathrm{C} 17-\mathrm{C} 18-\mathrm{C} 19$ | $124(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{Cl} 1-\mathrm{Sn}-\mathrm{Cl} 2$ | $93.0(1)$ | $\mathrm{C} 18-\mathrm{C} 19-\mathrm{C} 20$ | $120(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{P} 1-\mathrm{C} 17$ | $113.6(3)$ | $\mathrm{C} 19-\mathrm{C} 20-\mathrm{C} 21$ | $120(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{P} 1-\mathrm{C} 11$ | $118.7(3)$ | $\mathrm{C} 20-\mathrm{C} 21-\mathrm{C} 22$ | $120.3(9)$ |
| $\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{P} 1-\mathrm{C} 8$ | $115.5(3)$ | $\mathrm{C} 17-\mathrm{C} 22-\mathrm{C} 21$ | $120.5(9)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 11-\mathrm{P} 1-\mathrm{C} 17$ | $100.3(4)$ | $\mathrm{P} 2-\mathrm{C} 23-\mathrm{C} 28$ | $120.2(6)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 8-\mathrm{P} 1-\mathrm{C} 17$ | $102.7(4)$ | $\mathrm{P} 2-\mathrm{C} 23-\mathrm{C} 24$ | $120.2(6)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 8-\mathrm{P} 1-\mathrm{C} 11$ | $103.8(4)$ | $\mathrm{C} 24-\mathrm{C} 23-\mathrm{C} 28$ | $119.7(8)$ |
| $\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{P} 2-\mathrm{C} 29$ | $111.9(3)$ | $\mathrm{C} 23-\mathrm{C} 24-\mathrm{C} 25$ | $119.7(8)$ |
| $\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{P} 2-\mathrm{C} 23$ | $120.5(3)$ | $\mathrm{C} 24-\mathrm{C} 25-\mathrm{C} 26$ | $119.8(8)$ |
| $\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{P} 2-\mathrm{C} 10$ | $115.5(3)$ | $\mathrm{C} 25-\mathrm{C} 26-\mathrm{C} 27$ | $120.7(9)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 23-\mathrm{P} 2-\mathrm{C} 29$ | $101.3(4)$ | $\mathrm{C} 26-\mathrm{C} 27-\mathrm{C} 28$ | $120.5(9)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 10-\mathrm{P} 2-\mathrm{C} 29$ | $104.3(4)$ | $\mathrm{C} 23-\mathrm{C} 28-\mathrm{C} 27$ | $119.6(9)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 10-\mathrm{P} 2-\mathrm{C} 23$ | $101.1(4)$ | $\mathrm{P} 2-\mathrm{C} 29-\mathrm{C} 34$ | $120.9(7)$ |
| $\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{C} 6$ | $96.9(6)$ | $\mathrm{P} 2-\mathrm{C} 29-\mathrm{C} 30$ | $120.3(7)$ |
| $\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{C} 2$ | $71.9(5)$ | $\mathrm{C} 30-\mathrm{C} 29-\mathrm{C} 34$ | $118.8(8)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{C} 6$ | $107.5(9)$ | $\mathrm{C} 29-\mathrm{C} 30-\mathrm{C} 31$ | $120.4(9)$ |
| $\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{C} 1$ | $72.5(6)$ | $\mathrm{C} 30-\mathrm{C} 31-\mathrm{C} 32$ | $120(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{C} 3$ | $104.8(8)$ | $\mathrm{C} 31-\mathrm{C} 32-\mathrm{C} 33$ | $120(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{Rh}-\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{C} 3$ | $95.3(6)$ | $\mathrm{C} 32-\mathrm{C} 33-\mathrm{C} 34$ | $121(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{C} 3-\mathrm{C} 7$ | $101.1(8)$ | $\mathrm{C} 29-\mathrm{C} 34-\mathrm{C} 33$ | $120.5(9)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{C} 3-\mathrm{C} 4$ | $102.1(7)$ |  |  |

phine)] complexes was previously reported. The invariability of the spectra below $-20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, showing one doublet flanked by tin satellites in each case, was attributed to a Berry pseudorotation mechanism that is still fast at $-90^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ [2]. The crystal structure of $\mathrm{Rh}\left(\mathrm{SnCl}_{3}\right)\left(\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{8}\right)(\mathrm{dppp})$ describcd above shows the presence of two equivalent phosphorus atoms, and this could also be the structure in solution at $-20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, responsible for the reported ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}-\mathrm{NMR}$ spectrum. We thus thought it of interest to carry out a ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$ variable temperature study, since the olefinic and methine norbornadiene protons would not be equivalent in the limiting structure and might provide more information on the behaviour of these complexes in solution.

Above $+30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ the ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra of these complexes show only three signals due to the norbornadiene ligand, centred around 3.7, 3.3 and 1.4 ppm , respectively (see Table 3). At room temperature ( $+18^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ) the resonances are broad indicating the slowing down of a dynamic process. As the temperature is lowered further the signals corresponding to the olefinic and methine protons broaden and collapse at $c a .+10^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for both complexes. By $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ they are each split into two broad resonances. The methylene signals remain unaltered.

In the light of these results, we conclude that Berry pseudorotation may be responsible for the equilibration of the norbornadiene protons, that the coalescence temperatures are rather high owing to strain destabilization in the transition state in which the diphosphine must occupy two equatorial sites [10], and that the process is slow at $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.

As regards the diphosphine ligands, their ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$ signals in the aliphatic region show different temperature dependence (Table 3). Thus, dppb shows two


Fig. 1. View of $\left[\mathrm{Rh}\left(\mathrm{SnCl}_{3}\right)\left(\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{8}\right)(\mathrm{dppp})\right]$ showing the numbering schemes.
broad resonances at $+30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (markedly displaced with respect to those for the free ligand) that both broaden and collapse at $+10^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to give two broad multiplets at $c a$. $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. This temperature dependence suggests the Berry mechanism is also responsible for the equilibration of the methylene protons, though conformational

Table 3
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$-NMR data for complexes in $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ at various temperatures

|  | [ $\left.\mathrm{Rh}\left(\mathrm{SnCl}_{3}\right)\left(\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{8}\right)(\mathrm{dppp})\right]$ |  | $\underline{\left[R h\left(S N C l_{3}\right)\left(\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{8}\right)(\mathrm{dppb})\right]}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $+30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ | $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ | $+30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ | $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |
| Norbornadiene |  |  |  |  |
| $=\mathrm{CH}$ | 3.80 | 4.26 | 3.69 | 4.19 |
|  |  | 3.36 |  | 3.26 |
| $\geqslant \mathrm{CH}$ | 3.40 | 4.05 | 3.26 | 3.89 |
|  |  | 2.89 |  | 2.57 |
| $-\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ | 1.40 | 1.40 | 1.26 | 1.26 |
| Diphosphine |  |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ (free) | 3.00 (2.20) | 3.06 | 2.93 (2.0) | 3.09 |
| $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ (free) |  |  |  | 2.77 |
|  | 2.60 (1.60) | 2.70 | 1.38 (1.5) | 1.60 |
|  |  |  |  | 1.04 |

fluxionality of the seven-membered ring cannot be excluded. On the other hand, the dppp complex shows two broad multiplets for the methylene protons (also displaced with respect to those for the free ligand), that remain unaltered when the temperature is lowered. This is probably due to conformational fluxionality, since six-membered chelate rings may undergo a ring inversion process, still rapid at $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ in our case, that would equilibrate the axial and equatorial methylene protons [19-20].

## Experimental

The metal complexes were prepared as previously reported [2].
NMR spectra were recorded on an XL-300 Varian spectrometer, ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ (TMS internal standard) and ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}\left(\mathrm{H}_{3} \mathrm{PO}_{4}\right.$ external standard) spectra were measured with $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ solutions in 5 mm tubes.
$X$-ray structure determinations
Crystal data and details of data collection and refinement are given in Table 4. A fibrous yellow needle-like crystal was mounted in a kappa diffractometer. Three standard reflections measured at intervals shared no significant variation. The cell dimensions refined by least-squares fitting the values of 25 reflections. The

Table 4
Crystal, collection and refinement data for $\left[\mathrm{Rh}\left(\mathrm{SnCl}_{3}\right)\left(\mathrm{C}_{7} \mathrm{H}_{8}\right)(\mathrm{dppp})\right]$

| Formula | $\mathrm{RhSnCl}_{3} \mathrm{P}_{2} \mathrm{C}_{34} \mathrm{H}_{34}$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| M | 832.54 |
| Crystal system | monoclinic |
| Space group | $P 2_{1} / n$ |
| $a(\AA)$ | 20.189(4) |
| $b$ ( $\AA$ ) | 18.373(3) |
| $c(\AA)$ | 9.2683(3) |
| $\beta$ (deg) | 90.69 (2) |
| $\mathrm{V}\left(\AA^{3}\right)$ | 3437.7(9) |
| $Z$ | 4 |
| $F(000)$ | 1656 |
| $\rho$ (calc, $)\left(\mathrm{g} \mathrm{cm}^{-3}\right)$ | 1.61 |
| Temperature ( ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ) | 21 |
| $\mu\left(\mathrm{cm}^{-1}\right)$ | 15.5 |
| Crystal dimensions (mm) | $0.25 \times 0.2 \times 0.15$ |
| Diffractometer | Enraf-Nonius CAD4 |
| Radiation | $\begin{aligned} & \text { graphite-monochromated Mo- } K_{\alpha} \\ & (\lambda=0.71069 \AA) \end{aligned}$ |
| Scan technique | $\omega / 2 \theta$ |
| Data collected | $(-24,0,0)$ to $(24,21,11)$ |
| Unique data | 6022 |
| Unique data $I \geqslant 2 \sigma(I)$ | 3305 |
| $R$ (int) (\%) | 1.4 |
| $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{F}}$ (\%) | 4.0 |
| $R_{\text {wF }}$ (\%) | 4.8 |
| Average shift/error | 0.02 |

intensities were corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects. Scattering factors for neutral atoms and anomalous dispersion corrections for $\mathrm{Rh}, \mathrm{Sn}, \mathrm{P}$ and Cl were taken from tables [21]. The heavy atoms were located from a three-dimensional Patterson map. The position of the remaining atoms were obtained from Fourier synthesis. An empirical absorption correction [22] was applied at the end of the isotropic refinement.

In order to prevent bias on $\Delta F v s .\left(F_{0}\right)$ or $\sin \theta / \lambda$, the last steps of the refinement were carried out by pesos program [23] with weights $w=1 /(a+$ $\left.b\left|F_{\mathrm{o}}\right|\right)^{2}$ and the following coefficients: $\left|F_{\mathrm{o}}\right|<37, a=8.99, b=-0.16 ; 37<\left|F_{\mathrm{o}}\right|$ $<458, a=2.09, b=-0.002$. Final mixed refinement was with fixed isotropic factors and coordinates for H atoms. Final difference synthesis showed no significantly electron density. Most of the calculations were carried out with the X-Ray80 system [24].

Thermal parameters, hydrogen parameters and structure factors are available from the authors.

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