

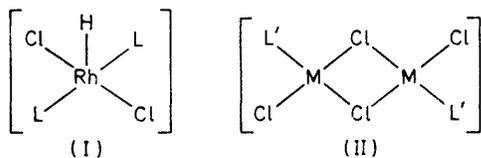
## Transfer of Tertiary Phosphine between Rhodium and either Platinum or Palladium

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Biheterometallic chloro-bridged hydrido-species of type  $[L_2HClRh(\mu-Cl)_2MCIL']$  ( $L = PBu^tPr_2$  or  $PPrBu^t_2$ ,  $M = Pd$  or  $Pt$ ,  $L' = PEt_3$ ,  $PBu_3$ , or  $PPr_2Bu^t$ ) are formed on mixing toluene solutions of square-pyramidal  $[RhHCl_2L_2]$  ( $L = PPr_2Bu^t$  or  $PPrBu^t_2$ ) and a chloro-bridged dimeric palladium or platinum complex,  $[M_2Cl_4L'_2]$  ( $M = Pt$ ,  $L' = PEt_3$ ,  $PBu_3$ , or  $PPr_2Bu^t$ ;  $M = Pd$ ,  $L' = PBu_3$ ). On standing, in solution, at ambient temperature these biheterometallic complexes decompose, giving rise to mixed tertiary-phosphine complexes of type *trans*- $[MCl_2LL']$ . The rate of this reaction is strongly dependent on the nature of both  $M$  and  $L$ . The  $^1H$  and  $^{31}P$  n.m.r. data of the complexes are reported.

ALTHOUGH the transfer of ionic ligands, *e.g.* halogen, alkyl, or hydride, between two different transition-metal complexes is a well established reaction,<sup>1-5</sup> the transfer of tertiary-phosphine ligands, in the absence of added free tertiary phosphine, is less well documented. In view of our interest<sup>3,5-7</sup> in biheterometallic complexes we have investigated the reaction between co-ordinatively unsaturated rhodium hydrido-species of type (I;

attempt to prepare biheterometallic hydrido-species of type (III).



$L = PPr_2Bu^t$  or  $PPrBu^t_2$ ), and palladium or platinum chloro-bridged species of type (II;  $L' = PEt_3$ ,  $PBu_3$ , or  $PPr_2Bu^t$ , and  $M = Pt$ ;  $L' = PBu_3$  and  $M = Pd$ ) in an

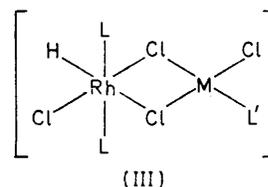
\* An analogous decrease in hydrido-chemical shift was observed when the vacant co-ordination site in (I;  $L = PPr_2Bu^t$ ) was filled by neutral ligands, *i.e.* MeNC, MeCN, or pyridine.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup> W. M. Scovell, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, 1974, **96**, 3451.

<sup>2</sup> D. Slack and M. C. Baird, *J.C.S. Chem. Comm.*, 1974, 701.

<sup>3</sup> J. P. Visser, W. W. Jager, and C. Masters, *Rev. Trav. chim.*, 1975, **94**, 70.

<sup>4</sup> C. White, A. J. Oliver, and P. M. Maitlis, *J.C.S. Dalton*, 1973, 1901.



### RESULTS

With  $[RhHCl_2(PPr_2Bu^t)_2]$ , Configuration (I).—Mixing solutions, in  $C_6D_5CD_3$ , of  $[RhHCl_2(PPr_2Bu^t)_2]$ , (I;  $L = PPr_2Bu^t$ ) (2 molar equivalents), and  $[Pt_2Cl_4L'_2]$ , (II;  $L' = PEt_3$ ,  $PBu_3$ , or  $PPr_2Bu^t$  (1 molar equivalent), at room temperature resulted in the slow disappearance (over *ca.* 30 min), in the  $^1H$  n.m.r. spectrum, of the hydrido-signal of (I;  $L = PPr_2Bu^t$ ) and the concurrent appearance of a new hydrido-signal *ca.* 8.5 p.p.m. downfield of the original signal. This new signal was assigned to the hydrido-ligand in (III;  $L = PPr_2Bu^t$ ,  $L' = PEt_3$ ,  $PBu_3$ , or  $PPr_2Bu^t$ , and  $M = Pt$ ).\* Similarly, in the  $^{31}P$  n.m.r. spectrum of the

<sup>5</sup> J. P. C. M. van Dongen, C. Masters, and J. P. Visser, *J. Organometallic Chem.*, 1975, **94**, C29.

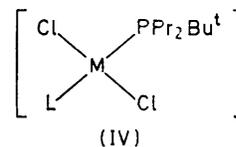
<sup>6</sup> C. Masters and J. P. Visser, *J.C.S. Chem. Comm.*, 1974, 932.

<sup>7</sup> A. A. Kiffen, C. Masters, and J. P. Visser, *J.C.S. Dalton*, 1975, 1311.

<sup>8</sup> C. Masters and B. L. Shaw, *J. Chem. Soc. (A)*, 1971, 3679.

mixture we observed the disappearance of the signals assigned to the original two complexes and the appearance of a new set of signals assigned to (III). Whereas in the  $^{31}\text{P}$  n.m.r. spectrum of the original platinum dimers we observed  $^3J(^{195}\text{Pt}-^{31}\text{P})$  coupling, this was absent in the new set of signals, indicating that we have destroyed the chloro-bridge in (II). We detected no  $^3J(^{103}\text{Rh}-^{31}\text{P})$  or  $^3J(^{195}\text{Pt}-^{31}\text{P})$  coupling in the  $^{31}\text{P}$  n.m.r. spectrum of (III); however, this was not unexpected as (a)  $^{103}\text{Rh}-^{31}\text{P}$  couplings are generally over an order of magnitude smaller than the analogous  $^{195}\text{Pt}-^{31}\text{P}$  couplings, and (b) *cis* couplings, *i.e.*  $^3J(^{195}\text{Pt}-^{31}\text{P})$  in (III), are much smaller than similar *trans* couplings.

of the mixture as a function of time over 15 h. The conversion followed first-order kinetics with  $t_{1/2} = 330 \pm 20$  min.



Using  $[\text{Pd}_2\text{Cl}_4(\text{PBu}_3)_2]$  in place of  $[\text{Pt}_2\text{Cl}_4\text{L}'_2]$  ( $\text{L} = \text{PEt}_3$ ,  $\text{PBu}_3$ , or  $\text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t$ ) we observed an analogous sequence of reactions. However, with the palladium complexes the reactions were about an order of magnitude faster; the

TABLE 1

Phosphorus-31 (36.43 MHz) and  $^1\text{H}$  (90 MHz) n.m.r. data, recorded in  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$  at  $30^\circ\text{C}$ , of complexes of type  $[(\text{Bu}^t\text{Pr}_2\text{P})_2\text{HCIRh}(\mu\text{-Cl})_2\text{MCIL}]$

L	M	$^1\text{H}$			$^{31}\text{P}$					
		t-Butyl resonance		Hydride resonance		PBu <sup>t</sup> Pr <sub>2</sub>		L		
		$\delta^a$	$^3J(\text{P-H}) + ^5J(\text{P-H})^b$	$\delta^a$	$^1J(\text{Rh-H})^b$	$J(\text{P-H})^b$	$\delta^c$	$J(^{103}\text{Rh}-^{31}\text{P})^d$	$\delta^e$	$J(^{195}\text{Pt}-^{31}\text{P})^d$
PEt <sub>3</sub>	Pt	1.31	12.9	-22.67	14.7	11.8	26.5	95.6	4.9	3 821
PPr <sub>2</sub> Bu <sup>t</sup> <sup>e</sup>	Pt	1.28	12.9	-22.72	14.9	12.2	27.4	95.6	17.6	3 933
PBu <sub>3</sub>	Pt	1.32	12.9	-22.68	15.0	12.1	27.3	95.3	-3.0	3 862
PBu <sub>3</sub>	Pd	1.35	12.9	-22.64	14.7	12.1	27.6	95.3	32.4	

N.m.r. data measured in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , for  $[\text{RhHCl}_2(\text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t)_2]$ , configuration (I)  $^1\text{H}$   $\delta(\text{Bu}^t)$  1.23 p.p.m.,  $^3J(\text{P-H}) + ^5J(\text{P-H})^b$  12.9 Hz,  $\delta(\text{hydride})^a$  -31.16 p.p.m.,  $^1J(\text{Rh-H})^b$  35.6,  $J(\text{P-H})^b$  13.2 Hz;  $^{31}\text{P}$   $\delta(\text{P})^c$  35.5 p.p.m.,  $^1J(^{103}\text{Rh}-^{31}\text{P})^d$  97.5 Hz.

<sup>a</sup> Relative to internal  $\text{SiMe}_4 \pm 0.02$  p.p.m. <sup>b</sup>  $\pm 0.1$  Hz. <sup>c</sup> Relative to 85% phosphoric acid (see Experimental section) with the sign convention that increasing frequency is positive. <sup>d</sup>  $\pm 1.0$  Hz. <sup>e</sup> Hydrogen-1 n.m.r. data for  $\text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t$  bound to Pt:  $\delta(\text{Bu}^t)$  1.16 p.p.m.;  $^3J(\text{P-H})$  14.4 Hz. <sup>f</sup> Previously reported (ref.8) with  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  as solvent.

TABLE 2

Phosphorus-31 (36.43 MHz) and  $^1\text{H}$  (90 MHz) n.m.r. data, recorded in  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$  at  $30^\circ\text{C}$ , of complexes of type *trans*- $[\text{MCl}_2\text{LL}']$

L	L'	M	$^1\text{H}$			$^{31}\text{P}$					
			$\delta^a$	$^3J(\text{P-H})^b$	$^5J(\text{P-H})^b$	$\delta_A^c$	$\delta_B^c$	$\Delta_\nu^d$	$^2J(^{31}\text{P}_A-^{31}\text{P}_B)^d$	$^1J(^{195}\text{Pt}-^{31}\text{P}_A)^d$	$^1J(^{195}\text{Pt}-^{31}\text{P}_B)^d$
PPr <sub>2</sub> Bu <sup>t</sup> <sub>2</sub>	PEt <sub>3</sub>	Pt	1.43	12.0	0.9	33.5	9.5	875	447	2 469	2 430
	PPr <sub>2</sub> Bu <sup>t</sup> <sup>e</sup>	Pt	1.43	11.1	1.8	47.9	34.8	477	440	2 462	2 464
	PBu <sub>3</sub>	Pt	1.43	12.2	f	33.5	1.8	1 155	447	2 471	2 412
	PBu <sub>3</sub>	Pd	1.42	12.1	0.9	41.6 <sup>g</sup>	10.1 <sup>g</sup>	1 091	516		
PPr <sub>2</sub> Bu <sup>t</sup>	PEt <sub>3</sub>	Pt	1.25	10.9	2.9	25.3	5.7	356	450	2 406	2 433
	PBu <sub>3</sub>	Pt	1.23	12.0	1.5	30.9	-5.5	456	456	2 465	2 418
	PBu <sub>3</sub>	Pd	1.23	11.7	1.5	36.8	0.4	662	530		

N.m.r. data for  $[\text{RhHCl}_2(\text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t)_2]$ , configuration (I)  $^1\text{H}$   $\delta(\text{Bu}^t)$  1.41 p.p.m.,  $^3J(\text{P-H}) + ^5J(\text{P-H})^b$  12.3 Hz,  $\delta(\text{hydride})^a$  31.03 p.p.m.;  $^1J(\text{Rh-H})^b$  32.6,  $J(\text{P-H})^b$  12.3 Hz;  $^{31}\text{P}$   $\delta(\text{P})^c$  47.5 p.p.m.,  $^1J(\text{Rh-P})$  97.1 Hz.

<sup>a</sup> Relative to internal  $\text{SiMe}_4 \pm 0.02$  p.p.m. <sup>b</sup>  $\pm 0.1$  Hz. <sup>c</sup> Relative to 85%  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  (see Experimental section) with the sign convention that increasing frequency is positive. <sup>d</sup>  $\pm 1.0$  Hz. <sup>e</sup> Hydrogen n.m.r. data for  $\text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t$ :  $\delta(\text{Bu}^t)$  1.22 p.p.m.;  $^3J(\text{P-H})$  11.5,  $^5J(\text{P-H})$  1.8 Hz. <sup>f</sup>  $^5J(\text{P-H})$  not resolved  $< 0.5$  Hz. <sup>g</sup> In the absence of white-noise decoupling; A identified as PBu<sub>3</sub> and B as PPr<sub>2</sub>Bu<sup>t</sup>. <sup>h</sup> Previously reported (ref. 8) with  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  as solvent.

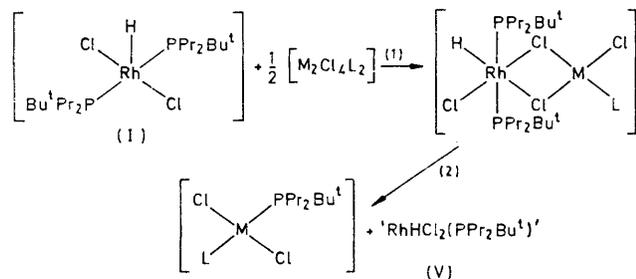
On allowing the reaction solution to stand for several hours at ambient temperature further changes were observed in both the  $^1\text{H}$  and the  $^{31}\text{P}$  n.m.r. spectrum of the mixture. In the  $^1\text{H}$  n.m.r. spectrum the hydrido-signal disappeared completely and the 'triplet' arising from the virtual coupling of the two  $\text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t$  ligands in (III) was replaced by a doublet of doublets. In the  $^{31}\text{P}$  n.m.r. spectrum the signals assigned to (III) were replaced by an AB pattern having  $^{195}\text{Pt}$  satellites. These new signals we assigned to a complex of type (IV;  $\text{L} = \text{PEt}_3$ ,  $\text{PBu}_3$ , or  $\text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t$ ,  $\text{M} = \text{Pt}$ ). We followed the conversion of (III;  $\text{L} = \text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t$ ,  $\text{L}' = \text{PBu}_3$ ,  $\text{M} = \text{Pt}$ ) into (IV;  $\text{L} = \text{PBu}_3$ ,  $\text{M} = \text{Pt}$ ) at  $40 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$  by recording the  $^{31}\text{P}$  n.m.r. spectrum

formation of (III;  $\text{L} = \text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t$ ,  $\text{L}' = \text{PBu}_3$ ,  $\text{M} = \text{Pd}$ ) was essentially complete within 5 min of mixing  $[\text{RhHCl}_2(\text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t)_2]$  and  $[\text{Pd}_2\text{Cl}_4(\text{PBu}_3)_2]$  in  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$ . The conversion of (III) into (IV;  $\text{M} = \text{Pd}$ ,  $\text{L} = \text{PBu}_3$ ) at  $40^\circ\text{C}$  had a half-life of  $19 \pm 2$  min.

The reaction sequence is summarized in the Scheme and the n.m.r. data are presented in Tables 1 and 2. Table 3 contains some n.m.r. data for the dimeric platinum and palladium complexes.

We have been unable, as yet, to characterize the rhodium species (V) formed in step (2) of the above sequence. Our initial observations suggest a fluxional system, since in the  $^1\text{H}$  n.m.r. spectrum of the final mixture, recorded at

−100 °C, we found a broad signal at *ca.*  $\delta$  −19 p.p.m., which disappeared on increasing the temperature. Similarly, in the  $^{31}\text{P}$  n.m.r. spectrum, recorded at −90 °C, we



SCHEME L =  $\text{PEt}_3$ ,  $\text{PBu}_3$ , or  $\text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t$  and M = Pt;  
L =  $\text{PBu}_3$  and M = Pd

observed broad signals which disappeared above *ca.* −50 °C. With  $[\text{RhHCl}_2(\text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t)_2]$ , Configuration (I).—With

at ambient temperature. In the  $^1\text{H}$  n.m.r. spectra of the mixtures we observed the expected doublet of doublets for the *t*-butyl resonance, and in the  $^{31}\text{P}$  n.m.r. spectra the expected AB patterns. N.m.r. data are listed in Table 2. We isolated three of these mixed tertiary-phosphine complexes as stable yellow compounds; analytical, melting-point, and far-infrared data are presented in Table 4.

#### DISCUSSION

The importance of the steric requirements of the tertiary-phosphine ligands on the nature and speed of reactions found in organometallic chemistry has received considerable attention over the last few years.<sup>9-14</sup> We suggest that both the nature of the reaction reported here, *i.e.* transfer of a tertiary-phosphine ligand from rhodium to either platinum or palladium, and the difference in rate of reaction observed on going from  $[\text{RhHCl}_2(\text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t)_2]$  to  $[\text{RhHCl}_2(\text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t)_2]$  may be

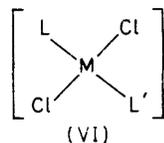
TABLE 3

Phosphorus-31 (36.43 MHz) and  $^1\text{H}$  (90 MHz) n.m.r. data, recorded in  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_5\text{CD}_3$  at 30 °C, of complexes of the type  $[\text{L}'\text{ClM}(\mu\text{-Cl})_2\text{MCIL}]$

L'	M	$^{31}\text{P}$				
		$\delta^a$	$^1J(\text{Pt-P})^b$	$^3J(\text{Pt-P})^b$	$^4J(\text{P-P})^b$	$J(\text{Pt-Pt})^c$
$\text{PEt}_3$	Pt	9.3	3 849	23.6	3.0	193
$\text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t$	Pt <sup>d</sup>	20.7	3 972	21.3	2.6	125
$\text{PBu}_3$	Pd <sup>e</sup>	37.3				

<sup>a</sup> In p.p.m. Relative to 85%  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  (see Experimental section) with the sign convention that increasing frequency is positive. <sup>b</sup>  $\pm 1.0$  Hz. <sup>c</sup>  $\pm 2.0$  Hz. <sup>d</sup> Hydrogen-1 n.m.r. data for  $\text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t$ ;  $\delta(\text{Bu}^t)$  1.03 p.p.m.,  $|^3J(\text{P-H}) + ^2J(\text{P-H})|$  14.9 Hz. <sup>e</sup> Previously measured in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .<sup>7</sup>

$[\text{RhHCl}_2(\text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t)_2]$  in place of  $[\text{RhHCl}_2(\text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t)_2]$  the sequence of reactions shown in the Scheme occurred much



more rapidly. Indeed, we were unable to detect the presence of the mixed-metal hydrido-species, (III), at

TABLE 4

Analytical, melting-point, and far-infrared data of some complexes of type *trans*- $[\text{MCl}_2\text{L}(\text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t)_2]$

L	M	M.p. <sup>a</sup> ( $^\circ\text{C}/^\circ\text{C}$ )	Analysis (%) <sup>b</sup>			Far-infrared <sup>c</sup> data ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) $\nu(\text{M-Cl})$
			C	H	Cl	
$\text{PEt}_3$	Pt	98—99	36.5 (35.7)	7.1 (7.0)	12.9 (12.4)	335s, 321m
$\text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t$	Pt	182—183	39.7 (40.1)	7.7 (7.6)	11.3 (11.3)	330s, 334 (sh)
$\text{PBu}_3$	Pd	232—236 <sup>d</sup>	46.9 (48.7)	9.2 (9.2)	12.8 (12.5)	349s

<sup>a</sup> Uncorrected. <sup>b</sup> Calculated values are given in parentheses. <sup>c</sup> Measured as CsI disc. <sup>d</sup> With decomposition.

ambient temperature. Conversion into complexes of type (VI) was essentially complete within *ca.* 3 min of mixing solutions of  $[\text{RhHCl}_2(\text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t)_2]$  and  $[\text{M}_2\text{Cl}_4\text{L}_2]$  (L =  $\text{PEt}_3$ ,  $\text{PBu}_3$ , or  $\text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t$ , and M = Pt; L =  $\text{PBu}_3$  and M = Pd)

<sup>9</sup> A. J. Cheney, B. E. Mann, B. L. Shaw, and R. M. Slade, *J. Chem. Soc. (A)*, 1971, 3833.

<sup>10</sup> A. J. Cheney and B. L. Shaw, *J.C.S. Dalton*, 1972, 754.

<sup>11</sup> C. A. Tolman, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, 1970, **92**, 2956.

rationalized in terms of steric considerations. Complexes containing two *t*-butyl-substituted phosphines co-ordinated to the same metal atom are sterically very crowded and have been found to undergo a variety of reactions, *e.g.* internal metallation,<sup>9,10</sup> which result in relief of steric strain. Clearly, in the reaction reported here considerable relief of steric strain would result in transfer of one of the *t*-butyl-substituted phosphines from the rhodium centre to the less crowded platinum or palladium centre. Further, this relief will be more marked for the  $\text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t$  than for the  $\text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t$  complex, as can be seen from the considerable differences in reaction rate. The increase in reaction rate observed on going from a platinum to a palladium chloro-bridged dimer may be rationalized in terms of a decrease in bridge strength in going from platinum to palladium. A similar trend has previously been observed in exchange reactions between  $[\text{PtPdCl}_4(\text{PBu}_3)_2]$  and either  $[\text{PtCl}_4(\text{PBu}_3)_2]$  or  $[\text{Pd}_2\text{Cl}_4(\text{PBu}_3)_2]$ .<sup>7</sup>

The system reported here offers a facile synthetic route to platinum(II) and palladium(II) complexes containing two different mutually *trans* tertiary-phosphine ligands. Since the dimeric platinum and palladium species of type (II) are easily synthesized<sup>15</sup> with

<sup>12</sup> G. K. N. Reddy and B. R. Ramesh, *J. Organometallic Chem.*, 1974, **67**, 443.

<sup>13</sup> M. Bressan and P. Rigo, *Inorg. Chem.*, 1975, **14**, 38.

<sup>14</sup> A. A. Kiffen, C. Masters, and L. Raynaud, *J.C.S. Dalton*, 1975, 853.

<sup>15</sup> C. A. McAuliffe, 'Transition Metal Complexes of Phosphorus, Arsenic and Antimony ligands,' McMillan, New York, 1973, p. 163.

a wide range of tertiary-phosphine ligands and since rhodium(III) species of type (I) are known<sup>8</sup> with  $L = \text{PBu}^t\text{R}_2$  and  $\text{PBu}^t_2\text{R}$  ( $\text{R} = \text{Me, Et, or Pr}$ ), a wide spectrum of complexes of type (VI;  $\text{M} = \text{Pd or Pt}$ ,  $L$  and  $L' =$  tertiary phosphine) are readily available.

#### EXPERIMENTAL

Complexes of type  $[\text{M}_2\text{Cl}_4\text{L}_2]$  ( $\text{M} = \text{Pd or Pt}$ ,  $L = \text{PEt}_3$ ,  $\text{PBu}_3$ , or  $\text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t$ ) and  $[\text{RhHCl}_2\text{L}_2]$  ( $L = \text{PPr}_2\text{Bu}^t$  or  $\text{PPrBu}^t_2$ ) were prepared using previously published procedures.<sup>8,15</sup> Hydrogen-1 n.m.r. spectra of solutions in  $[\text{}^2\text{H}_8]\text{toluene}$  (ca.  $0.05 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$ ) were recorded at 90 MHz and  $^{31}\text{P}$  n.m.r. spectra at 36.43 MHz using a Bruker WH 90 spectrometer in the pulse Fourier-transform mode. Phosphorus-31 chemical shifts were measured with respect to ca. 25% trimethyl phosphite in  $[\text{}^2\text{H}_8]\text{toluene}$ , and are quoted in the Tables with respect to 85% phosphoric acid assuming that the  $^{31}\text{P}$  chemical shift of  $\text{P}(\text{OMe})_3$  is +140 p.p.m. relative to 85%  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$ ,<sup>16</sup> with the sign convention that increasing frequency is positive.<sup>17</sup> In the  $^{31}\text{P}$  n.m.r. spectra all proton couplings were removed using a random-

noise decoupler. Infrared spectra (caesium iodide;  $200-4000 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 225 apparatus. Melting points were measured with a Mettler FPI/FP21 apparatus and are uncorrected.

*trans-Dichloro(propyldi-t-butylphosphine)(triethylphosphine)platinum(II)*.— Di- $\mu$ -chloro-bis[chloro(triethylphosphine)platinum(II)] (0.2 g, 0.26 mmol) in dichloromethane ( $5 \text{ cm}^3$ ) was added to dichlorohydridobis(propyldi-t-butylphosphine)rhodium(III), configuration (I) (0.287 g, 0.521 mmol), in dichloromethane ( $5 \text{ cm}^3$ ) and propan-2-ol ( $20 \text{ cm}^3$ ). The resulting mixture was stirred (5 min at  $20^\circ\text{C}$ ). Removal of the solvent gave a brown solid, which on recrystallization from methanol-dichloromethane yielded the product (0.145 g, 0.253 mmol) as yellow prisms.

*trans-Dichloro(dipropyl-t-butylphosphine)(propyldi-t-butylphosphine)platinum(II)* and *trans-dichloro(propyldi-t-butylphosphine)(tributylphosphine)palladium(II)* were similarly prepared.

[6/001 Received, 1st January, 1976]

<sup>16</sup> G. Mavel, *Ann. Rep. N.M.R. Spectroscopy*, 1973, **5B**, 114.

<sup>17</sup> *Pure Appl. Chem.*, 1972, **29**, 625.