# Crystal and Molecular Structure of Trichlorobis-(NN'-di-isopropylacetamidinato)tantalum(v) 

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Crystals of the title compound are monoclinic, space group $P 2_{1} / a$ with $a=17 \cdot 420(8), b=11 \cdot 924$ (8), $c=$ $11 \cdot 027$ (8) $A, \beta=95 \cdot 88(8)^{\circ}, Z=4$. The structure was solved by Patterson and Fourier methods from diffractometer data and refined by least-squares techniques to $R 0.064$ for 2003 independent reflections. The seven-coordinate monomer is a highly distorted pentagonal bipyramid with two chlorine atoms in axial positions [2.386(6). $2 \cdot 370(6)$ A], one chlorine [2•436(6)] and four nitrogens [2•098(14), 2•193(16), 2•180(20), and 2•058(16) A] occupying the pentagonal girdle. There are many close contacts involving the isopropyl groups which cause considerable distortion to the polyhedron. The maximum deviation of a contributing atom from the least-squares plane of the $\mathrm{TaClN}_{4}$ unit is 0.33 A .

As part of a general study of seven-co-ordination, ${ }^{1}$ we have been investigating the steric effects which distort the girdle of the $D_{5 h}$ pentagonal bipyramid ( $=\mathrm{PB}$ ). Previously, we reported the crystal structure ${ }^{2}$ of $\mathrm{NbCl}_{3}[\mathrm{NMeC}(: \mathrm{S}) \mathrm{Me}]_{2}$ which is a PB ; in the coordination sphere, the two chlorine atoms occupy axial positions and the remaining five atoms in the girdle follow the sequence: $\mathrm{Cl}, \mathrm{N}, \mathrm{S}, \mathrm{S}, \mathrm{N}$. This structure showed considerable distortions from ideal symmetry due to close contacts between the equatorial chlorine atom and adjacent methyl groups. We then prepared several compounds of general formula $\mathrm{Me}_{n} \mathrm{MCl}_{3 \ldots n} \mathrm{~L}_{2}$, $[\mathrm{M}=\mathrm{Nb}$ or Ta; $n=0$ or 1 ; $\mathrm{L}=$ bidentate ligand $]$ in which steric effects were potentially far greater than in $\mathrm{NbCl}_{3}[\mathrm{NMeC}(: \mathrm{S}) \mathrm{Me}]_{2}$. There are several possible structures for this group of compounds the most likely being: (a) six-co-ordinate, with one of the potentially bidentate ligands unidentate, (b) seven-co-ordinate highly distorted PB , and (c) seven-co-ordinate with some other geometry. We report here the crystal and molecular structure of one of these compounds, trichlorobis-( $N N^{\prime}$-di-isopropylacetamidinato) tantalum(v), $\mathrm{TaCl}_{3}\left[\mathrm{C}_{3} \mathrm{H}_{7} \mathrm{NC}(\mathrm{Me}) \mathrm{NC}_{3} \mathrm{H}_{7}\right]_{2}$, (I). The complex (I) was prepared during a study ${ }^{3}$ of the reactions between $\mathrm{Me}_{n} \mathrm{MCl}_{5-n}(\mathrm{M}=\mathrm{Nb}$ or $\mathrm{Ta} ; n=1-3)$ and disubstituted carbodi-imides.

## EXPERIMENTAL

Crystals of (I), prepared from $\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{TaCl}_{3}$ and $N N^{\prime}$-di-isopropylcarbodi-imide, ${ }^{3}$ were obtained by slowly extracting the powdered material with pentane.

Crystal Data.- $\mathrm{C}_{16} \mathrm{H}_{34} \mathrm{Cl}_{3} \mathrm{~N}_{4} \mathrm{Ta}, M=569 \cdot 68$, Monoclinic, $a=17 \cdot 420(8), \quad b=11.924(8), \quad c=11 \cdot 027(8) \quad \AA, \quad \beta=$ $95.88(8)^{\circ}, \quad U=2278.7 \AA^{3}, \quad D_{\mathrm{m}}=1.63(2), \quad Z=4, \quad D_{\mathrm{c}}=$ $1 \cdot 66, F(000)=1128$. Mo- $K_{\alpha}$ radiation, $\lambda=0.7107 \AA$; $\mu\left(\mathrm{Mo}-K_{\alpha}\right)=52.32 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$. Space group $P 2_{1} / a$, from systematic absences: $h 0 l, h=2 n+1$, and $0 k 0, k=2 n+1$.
A crystal with dimensions ca. $0.1 \times 0.375 \times 0.23 \mathrm{~mm}$ was mounted with the (011) planes perpendicular to the instrument axis of a General Electric XRD 5 apparatus which was used to measure diffraction intensities and cell dimensions. It was equipped with a manual goniostat, scintillation counter, and pulse-height discriminator. Zirconium-filtered molybdenum $X$-radiation was used. The stationary-crystal-stationary-counter method was used
${ }^{1}$ M. G. B. Drew and J. D. Wilkins, J.C.S. Dalton, 1973, 1830, and references therein.
${ }^{2}$ M. G. B. Drew and J. D. Wilkins, J.C.S. Dalton, 1974, 198.
${ }^{3}$ J. D. Wilkins, J. Organometallic Chem., in the press.
with a $4^{\circ}$ take-off angle and a counting time of 10 s . Individual backgrounds were taken from plots of background as a function of $2 \theta$. Several standard reflections, monitored during the course of the experiment, showed a regular decrease in intensity, and at the end of data collection, had ca. 0.7 of their former value. A linear correction factor was thus applied to all data. 3033 Independent reflections were measured with $20<45^{\circ}$. The standard deviation $\sigma(I)$ of the reflections was taken to be $\left[I+2 E+\left(0.03 I^{2}\right)\right]^{\ddagger}$, where $E$ is the estimated background of the reflection. 2005 Reflections with $I>\sigma(I)$ were used in subsequent calculations. An absorption correction was applied using program ABSORB; ${ }^{4}$ transmission factors varied between 0.48 and 0.34 . No extinction correction was applied.

Structure Determination.-The positions of the tantalum atom were determined from the Patterson function. Fourier syntheses were then calculated to determine the positions of the remaining atoms. The structure was refined by full-matrix least squares. The weighting scheme, chosen to give average values of $w \Delta^{2}$ for groups of reflections independent of the value of $F_{0}$ and $\sin \theta / \lambda$, was $\sqrt{ } w=1$ for $F_{0}<140$ and $\sqrt{ } w=140 / F_{0}$ for $F_{\mathrm{o}}>140$. Calculations were made on a CDC 7600 computer at the University of London Computer Centre ${ }^{4}$ and with some of our own programs on an I.C.L. 1904S at this university. Atomic scattering factors for tantalum, chlorine, nitrogen, and carbon were taken from ref. 5 together with corrections for the real and imaginary part of the anomalous dispersion for tantalum and chlorine. Hydrogen scattering factors were taken from ref. 6. The anisotropic thermal parameter was defined as $\exp -2 \pi^{2} \sum_{i} \sum_{j} U_{i j} h_{i} h_{j} b_{i} b_{j}(i, j=$ $1,2,3), b_{i}$ being the $i$ th reciprocal cell dimension, and the isotropic thermal parameter as $\exp -8 \pi^{2} U \sin ^{2} \theta / \lambda^{2}$. The non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically to $R 0.064$ for the 2005 significant reflections. (Refinement with the tantalum atom anisotropic and the other atoms isotropic gave $R 0.074$.) The four non-methyl hydrogenatom positions were calculated assuming $s p^{3}$ carbon; these corresponded to positive regions in the difference Fourier map and were included in the structure-factor calculations, with thermal parameters equivalent to those of the atom to which they were bonded, but were not refined. Methyl hydrogen atoms were not unambiguously discernible in the difference Fourier map and
' ' $X$-RAY' system of programs, ed. J. M. Stewart, University of Maryland, Technical Report, TR 192, June 1972.

5 'International Tables for $X$-Ray Crystallography,' vol. III, Kynoch Press, Birmingham, 1965.
${ }_{6}$ R. F. Stewart, E. R. Davidson, and W. T. Simpson, J. Chem. Phys., 1965, 42, 3175.
were not included. In the final cycle of refinement, no shift was $>0.08 \sigma$. The 1028 reflections given zero weight showed no large discrepancies. The final difference Fourier map showed no significant peaks, the maximum value found being 0.3 of the height of a carbon atom. Final positional co-ordinates and thermal parameters, together with their standard deviations, are in Tables 1 and 2. Molecular dimensions are in Table 3. Observed and calculated structure factors are listed in Supplementary Publication No. SUP 20948 ( 13 pp., 1 microfiche).*

Table 1
Atomic co-ordinates ( $\times 10^{4}$ ), with estimated standard deviations in parentheses*

| Atom | $x$ | $y$ | $z$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Ta | 1623(1) | 0997(1) | 2540(1) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(1)$ | 1184(3) | $1665(5)$ | 0549(5) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | 2118(4) | 0468(6) | 4540 (6) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(3)$ | 2631(4) | 2417(5) | 2590(6) |
| $\mathrm{N}(1 \mathrm{~A})$ | 0442(8) | 0877(16) | 2757(17) |
| $\mathrm{N}(2 \mathrm{~A})$ | 1088(8) | 2404(12) | 3416(16) |
| $\mathrm{N}(1 \mathrm{~B})$ | 1513(8) | -0709(13) | 2304(12) |
| $\mathrm{N}(2 \mathrm{~B})$ | 2454(11) | 0083(17) | 1569(18) |
| $\mathrm{C}(1 \mathrm{~A})$ | 0390(10) | 1875(20) | 3340 (18) |
| $\mathrm{C}(2 \mathrm{~A})$ | -0339(13) | 2335(24) | $3854(24)$ |
| C(1B) | 2124(11) | -0901(22) | 1664(18) |
| $\mathrm{C}(2 \mathrm{~B})$ | 2426(14) | -2027(17) | 1208(23) |
| C(11A) | -0225(11) | 0322(20) | 2092(20) |
| $\mathrm{C}(12 \mathrm{~A})$ | -0722(12) | 1061 (22) | 1215(22) |
| $\mathrm{C}(13 \mathrm{~A})$ | -0749(14) | -0299(23) | 2957(25) |
| $\mathrm{C}(21 \mathrm{~A})$ | 1327(12) | 3372(22) | 4121 (21) |
| $\mathrm{C}(22 \mathrm{~A})$ | 1189(16) | 3253(28) | 5549(24) |
| $\mathrm{C}(23 \mathrm{~A})$ | 1009(18) | 4400 (23) | 3545 (28) |
| C(11B) | 1103(12) | -1622(17) | 2899(21) |
| $\mathrm{C}(12 \mathrm{~B})$ | 1643(15) | -2339(20) | 3789(24) |
| C(13B) | 0607(16) | -2436(25) | 1994(24) |
| C(21B) | 3118(12) | 0377(19) | 0878(24) |
| C(22B) | 2957(17) | 0051 (25) | -0447(25) |
| C(23B) | 3900(15) | 0027(27) | 1488(29) |
| H(11A) | -0004 | -0358 | 1557 |
| $\mathrm{H}(21 \mathrm{~A})$ | 1940 | 3471 | 4077 |
| H(11B) | 0681 | -1235 | 3419 |
| H (21B) | 3218 | 1275 | 0941 |

* Hydrogen atoms not refined and given isotropic thermal parameters equivalent to those of the atoms to which they were bonded.

Table 2
Anisotropic thermal parameters ( $\times 10^{3}$ ), with estimated standard deviations in parentheses

|  |  |  |  | $U_{32}$ | $U_{12}$ | $U_{13}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :--- | :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Atom | $U_{11}$ | $U_{22}$ | $U_{23}$ |  |  |  |
| Ta | $29 \cdot 7(4)$ | $39 \cdot 7(5)$ | $40 \cdot 8(5)$ | $-0 \cdot 6(5)$ | $13 \cdot 9(3)$ | $-2 \cdot 5(6)$ |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(1)$ | $50(3)$ | $64(4)$ | $44(3)$ | $-04(3)$ | $13(3)$ | $07(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | $66(4)$ | $71(4)$ | $51(4)$ | $17(3)$ | $-03(3)$ | $-02(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(3)$ | $50(3)$ | $61(4)$ | $88(5)$ | $-16(3)$ | $30(3)$ | $-24(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(1 \mathrm{~A})$ | $12(7)$ | $59(12)$ | $86(13)$ | $05(8)$ | $12(7)$ | $-06(11)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(2 \mathrm{~A})$ | $27(9)$ | $21(8)$ | $71(12)$ | $06(7)$ | $-02(8)$ | $-09(8)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(1 \mathrm{~B})$ | $22(8)$ | $47(10)$ | $43(10)$ | $14(7)$ | $14(7)$ | $22(8)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(2 \mathrm{~B})$ | $57(12)$ | $63(14)$ | $63(14)$ | $00(11)$ | $23(10)$ | $19(11)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(1 \mathrm{~A})$ | $23(10)$ | $72(15)$ | $40(12)$ | $14(11)$ | $11(9)$ | $-31(11)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(2 \mathrm{~A})$ | $46(14)$ | $92(2 \mathrm{I})$ | $77(18)$ | $16(14)$ | $22(14)$ | $-40(16)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(1 \mathrm{~B})$ | $36(11)$ | $65(15)$ | $41(12)$ | $-07(13)$ | $01(9)$ | $27(13)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(2 \mathrm{~B})$ | $80(17)$ | $16(11)$ | $82(18)$ | $07(11)$ | $45(14)$ | $-16(12)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(11 \mathrm{~A})$ | $30(11)$ | $61(15)$ | $53(14)$ | $00(11)$ | $12(10)$ | $10(12)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(12 \mathrm{~A})$ | $36(12)$ | $59(14)$ | $81(17)$ | $-01(13)$ | $00(11)$ | $-12(5)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(13 \mathrm{~A})$ | $58(15)$ | $66(17)$ | $84(19)$ | $-16(14)$ | $24(14)$ | $15(16)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(21 \mathrm{~A})$ | $32(11)$ | $76(18)$ | $55(15)$ | $-10(12)$ | $13(11)$ | $-25(14)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(22 \mathrm{~A})$ | $81(20)$ | $123(27)$ | $53(16)$ | $-15(19)$ | $35(15)$ | $-21(17)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(23 \mathrm{~A})$ | $93(22)$ | $56(17)$ | $87(21)$ | $10(16)$ | $-03(17)$ | $12(15)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(11 \mathrm{~B})$ | $42(12)$ | $27(11)$ | $67(15)$ | $-01(11)$ | $26(11)$ | $12(11)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(12 \mathrm{~B})$ | $77(18)$ | $50(16)$ | $76(18)$ | $36(14)$ | $-02(14)$ | $30(14)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(13 \mathrm{~B})$ | $77(19)$ | $88(22)$ | $63(17)$ | $01(16)$ | $37(15)$ | $15(16)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(21 \mathrm{~B})$ | $39(13)$ | $40(13)$ | $92(15)$ | $01(11)$ | $44(13)$ | $12(13)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(22 \mathrm{~B})$ | $94(20)$ | $81(20)$ | $67(19)$ | $-09(17)$ | $54(17)$ | $-10(16)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(23 \mathrm{~B})$ | $49(16)$ | $96(23)$ | $112(25)$ | $10(16)$ | $22(16)$ | $-06(20)$ |

Table 3
Molecular dimensions

| Molecular dimensions |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (a) Distances ( $\AA$ ) |  |  |
| $\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{Cl}(1) \quad 2 \cdot 386(6)$ | ) $\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | ) $2 \cdot 370(6)$ |
| $\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{Cl}(3) \quad 2 \cdot 436(6)$ |  |  |
|  | (A) | (B) |
| $\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | 2.098(14) | $2 \cdot 058(15)$ |
| $\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(2)$ | $2 \cdot 193(16)$ | $2 \cdot 180(20)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)$ | 1.36(3) | $1 \cdot 36(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(1)$ | $1 \cdot 36(3)$ | 1-32(3) |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | $1 \cdot 54(3)$ | $1.55(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(11)$ | 1.47 (3) | $1 \cdot 49(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(21)$ | $1 \cdot 43$ (3) | $1.49(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(12)$ | 1.51 (3) | $1.55(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(13)$ | 1-57(4) | $1.58(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(21)-\mathrm{C}(22)$ | 1.62(4) | $1.51(4)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(21)-\mathrm{C}(23)$ | 1-46(4) | 1.52(3) |
| (b) Angles ( ${ }^{\circ}$ ) |  |  |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(1)-\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{Cl}(2) \quad 175 \cdot 3(2)$ | $\mathrm{Cl}(1)-\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{Cl}(3)$ | 87-2(2) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(2)-\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{Cl}(3) \quad 88 \cdot 3(2)$ |  |  |
|  | (A) | (B) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(1)-\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | 84.4(5) 1 | 101.4(4) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(1)-\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(2)$ | 92.2(4) | $83 \cdot 2(5)$ |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(2)-\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | 98.2(2) | $82 \cdot 8(5)$ |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(2)-\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(2)$ | 85.6(5) | 97-3(5) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(3)-\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | $139 \cdot 2(5) \quad 13$ | 138.4(4) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(3)-\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(2)$ | $78 \cdot 2$ (4) | $81 \cdot 1(4)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(2)$ | $62 \cdot 4(6)$ | $60 \cdot 1$ (7) |
| $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(2)$ | $136 \cdot 9(7) \quad 1$ | $140 \cdot 7(6)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(1 \mathrm{~A})-\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(\mathrm{IB}) \quad 8$ | $82 \cdot 4(6) \quad \mathrm{N}(2 \mathrm{~A})-\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}$ | - ${ }^{(2 \mathrm{~B}}$ ) $159 \cdot 0$ (7) |
| $\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)$ | $96 \cdot 2(11)$ | 99-4(14) |
| Ta-N(1)-C(11) | 135.2(14) | $135 \cdot 2(13)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(11)$ | 122.8(16) | 122.9(17) |
| $\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(1)$ | $92 \cdot 0(12)$ | $95 \cdot 1$ (14) |
| $\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(21)$ | 138.0(12) | 136.3(15) |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(21)$ | 128•1(17) | 128.3(20) |
| $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | 125.6(18) | $128 \cdot 9(21)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | $125 \cdot 0(20)$ | 125.6(19) |
| $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{N}(2)$ | 109.4(16) | $105 \cdot 4(20)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(12)$ | $115 \cdot 5(19)$ | $113 \cdot 3(17)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(13)$ | 113.0(18) | 115-2(19) |
| $\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(13)$ | 109.4(17) | $108 \cdot 6(18)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(21)-\mathrm{C}(22)$ | 113-1(21) | $111 \cdot 0(19)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(21)-\mathrm{C}(23)$ | $111.3(19)$ | $114 \cdot 7(21)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(22)-\mathrm{C}(21)-\mathrm{C}(23)$ | $114 \cdot 0(23)$ | $115 \cdot 3(22)$ |

## DISCUSSION

The molecule (I) is shown in Figure 1 with the atomic numbering scheme. Both the $N N^{\prime}$-di-isopropylacetamidinate ligands [labelled (A) and (B)] are bidentate, bonding to the metal atom via the two nitrogen atoms. The tantalum atom is thus seven-co-ordinate being bonded to three chlorine and four nitrogen atoms. The co-ordination sphere is a distorted pentagonal bipyramid with two chlorine atoms $[\mathrm{Cl}(1)$ and $\mathrm{Cl}(2)]$ in axial positions. The atoms in the girdle follow the sequence: $\mathrm{Cl}(3), \mathrm{N}(2 \mathrm{~A}), \mathrm{N}(1 \mathrm{~A}), \mathrm{N}(1 \mathrm{~B}), \mathrm{N}(2 \mathrm{~B})$. In a PB , the ideal angle subtended by pairs of ligand atoms at the metal atom is $72^{\circ}$ and while this is not unreasonable for atoms the size of the present five, the presence of the four isopropyl groups in the girdle make this ideal symmetric arrangement impossible.

Several distortions are necessary to fit these two bidentate ligands into the pentagonal girdle and these are best examined with the aid of Figure 1. The numbers listed in this Figure represent the distance of each atom (in units of $0.01 \AA$ ) from the least-squares plane of atoms Ta, $\mathrm{N}(1 \mathrm{~A}), \mathrm{N}(1 \mathrm{~B}), \mathrm{N}(2 \mathrm{~A}), \mathrm{N}(2 \mathrm{~B}), \mathrm{Cl}(3)$.

* See Notice to authors No. 7 in J.C.S. Dalton, 1973, Index issuc.

The two four-membered rings are planar (Table 4). The planes are twisted by 10.7 and $15 \cdot 5^{\circ}$ out of the plane of the pentagonal girdle, in opposite directions such that $\mathrm{N}(1 \mathrm{~A})$ is 0.27 and $\mathrm{N}(1 \mathrm{~B})-0.33 \AA$ from the girdle


Figure 1 Structure of (I). Deviations of atoms $\left(\AA \times 10^{2}\right)$ from the least-squares plane of the girdle are given
plane. These twists significantly increase the contacts between isopropyl groups on $\mathrm{N}(1 \mathrm{~A})$ and $\mathrm{N}(1 \mathrm{~B})$. The planes of the two four-membered rings intersect at

## Table 4

Equations of least-squares planes for (I) in the form $A x+B y+C z=D$, where $x, y$, and $z$ are the crystallographic fractional co-ordinates of the atoms. Distances ( $\AA$ ) of relevant atoms from each plane are given in square brackets

Plane (1)
$\mathrm{Ta}, \mathrm{Cl}(3), \mathrm{N}(1 \mathrm{~A}), \mathrm{N}(2 \mathrm{~A}), \mathrm{N}(1 \mathrm{~B}), \mathrm{N}(2 \mathrm{~B})$
$\begin{array}{llll}4.60 & -3.47 & 9.79 & 2.87\end{array}$ $[\mathrm{Ta} 0.01, \mathrm{Cl}(3) 0.03, \mathrm{~N}(1 \mathrm{~A})-0.27, \mathrm{~N}(2 \mathrm{~A}) 0.14, \mathrm{~N}(2 \mathrm{~B})-0.24$, $\mathrm{N}(\mathrm{IB}) 0.33, \mathrm{C}(1 \mathrm{~A})-0.07, \mathrm{C}(2 \mathrm{~A})-0.07, \mathrm{C}(1 \mathrm{~B}) 0.05$, $\mathrm{C}(2 \mathrm{~B}) 0.13, \mathrm{C}(11 \mathrm{~A})-1.04, \mathrm{C}(21 \mathrm{~A}) 0.60, \mathrm{C}(21 \mathrm{~B})-0.71$, $\mathrm{C}(11 \mathrm{~B}) 1.04]$
Plane (2)
Ta, $\mathrm{N}(1 \mathrm{~A}), \mathrm{N}(2 \mathrm{~A}), \mathrm{C}(1 \mathrm{~A})$
$\begin{array}{llll}2.46 & -5.17 & 9.60 & 2.31\end{array}$
[Ta $0.01, \mathrm{~N}(1 \mathrm{~A})-0.01, \mathrm{~N}(2 \mathrm{~A})-0.01, \mathrm{C}(1 \mathrm{~A}) 0.02, \mathrm{C}(2 \mathrm{~A})$ $0.09, \mathrm{C}(11 \mathrm{~A})-0.53, \mathrm{C}(21 \mathrm{~A}) 0.22]$
Plane (3)
Ta, $\mathrm{N}(1 \mathrm{~B}), \mathrm{N}(2 \mathrm{~B}), \mathrm{C}(1 \mathrm{~B})$
$8.48 \quad-1.83 \quad 8.88 \quad 3.45$
$[\mathrm{Ta}-0.00, \mathrm{~N}(2 \mathrm{~B}) 0.01, \mathrm{~N}(1 \mathrm{~B}) 0.01, \mathrm{C}(1 \mathrm{~B})-0.01, \mathrm{C}(2 \mathrm{~B})$ $0.05, \mathrm{C}(21 \mathrm{~B})-0.10, \mathrm{C}(11 \mathrm{~B}) 0.35]$

Angles (deg.) between planes: (1)-(2) 10.7, (1)-(3) 15.5, (2)-(3) $25 \cdot 4$
$25 \cdot 4^{\circ}$. The distortions are such that the molecule has $C_{2}$ rather than $m$ symmetry, the rotation axis being coincident with the $\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{Cl}(3)$ bond (see Figure 1).

The $\mathrm{Cl}(3) \cdots \operatorname{Pr}^{\mathrm{i}}(2)$ contacts * are increased by the twist in the rings, and in addition by (a) the large $\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(21)$ angles [138.0(12) and $136 \cdot 3(15) \dagger$ ] and (b) the bending of the $\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(21)$ bonds out of the

* $\operatorname{Pri}(n)$ consists of atoms $\mathrm{C}(n 1), \mathrm{C}(n 2), \mathrm{C}(n 3)$, and $\mathrm{H}(n 1)$.
$\dagger$ Where two dimensions are given, the first pertains to ligand A and the second to ligand B .
planes of the respective rings by -0.20 and $-0 \cdot 11 \AA$. The $\mathrm{Cl}(3) \cdots \mathrm{C}(21)$ distances are still short $(3 \cdot 18$ and $3 \cdot 24 \AA$ ), but not excessively so. The isopropyl groups are twisted around the $\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(21)$ bonds such that the hydrogen atoms $\mathrm{H}(21)$ are directed towards $\mathrm{Cl}(3)$. Calculated positions for $\mathrm{H}(21)$, give $\mathrm{Cl}(3) \cdots \mathrm{H}(21)$ to be 2.47 and $2.57 \AA$. However, with this orientation of the isopropyl groups, the remaining two carbon atoms $[C(22)$ and $C(23)]$ are pointed away from the chlorine atom and indeed the $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(21)-\mathrm{C}(2 n) \quad(n=2$ or 3 ) dihedral angles are close to $60^{\circ}$ (see Table 5).

Table 5
Dihedral angles ( ${ }^{\circ}$ )

|  | $(\mathrm{A})$ | $(\mathrm{B})$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(11)$ | $-41 \cdot 2$ | $-\mathbf{4 7 \cdot 4}$ |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(3)-\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(21)$ | $-25 \cdot 3$ | $-\mathbf{2 5 \cdot 3}$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(21)$ | $10 \cdot 5$ | $8 \cdot 9$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(11)$ | $26 \cdot 3$ | $12 \cdot 4$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(12)$ | $48 \cdot 6$ | $55 \cdot 5$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(13)$ | $-78 \cdot 3$ | $-70 \cdot 3$ |
| $\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{H}(11)$ | $21 \cdot 8$ | $16 \cdot 1$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(21)-\mathrm{C}(23)$ | -77.5 | $-77 \cdot 1$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(21)-\mathrm{C}(22)$ | $52 \cdot 3$ | $55 \cdot 7$ |
| $\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(21)-\mathrm{H}(21)$ | $11 \cdot 2$ | $4 \cdot 8$ |

The $\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(2)$ bonds $[2 \cdot 193$ (16) and $2 \cdot 180(20) \AA$ ] are significantly longer than the $\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(1)$ bonds $[2.098(14)$ and $2.058(15) \AA]$ and can be compared to $2 \cdot 231(15)$ and $2 \cdot 185(13)$ in $\mathrm{NbCl}_{3}\left[\mathrm{MeNC}(: \mathrm{S}) \mathrm{Me}_{2}{ }_{2}{ }^{2}\right.$ These values suggest that the increase to ca. $2 \cdot 18 \AA$ is due to the requirement of increasing the $\mathrm{Cl} \cdots \mathrm{C}$ distances in the two structures. That the $\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(\mathrm{l})$ bonds in (I) are stronger suggests that the $\operatorname{Pr}^{\mathrm{i}}(1 \mathrm{~A}) \cdots \operatorname{Pr}^{\mathrm{i}}(1 \mathrm{~B})$ contacts are of lesser import in fixing the molecular configuration; this is in fact so, since they are rotated well away from each other.
In a planar pentagonal girdle the $\mathrm{C}(11 \mathrm{~A}) \cdots \mathrm{C}(11 \mathrm{~B})$ distance would be similar to the $\mathrm{N}(1 \mathrm{~A}) \cdots \mathrm{N}(1 \mathrm{~B})$ distance $(2.74 \AA)$. As it is, however, the twist in the planar rings together with the large deviation (in opposite directions) of the $\mathrm{C}(11)$ atoms from their respective planes ( -0.53 and $0.34 \AA$ ) increase the $\mathrm{C}(11 \mathrm{~A}) \cdots \mathrm{C}(11 \mathrm{~B})$ distance to a most reasonable $3 \cdot 33 \AA$. The dihedral angles $\mathrm{N}(1 \mathrm{~A})-\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(1 \mathrm{~B})-\mathrm{C}(11 \mathrm{~B})$ and $\mathrm{N}(1 \mathrm{~B})-\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(1 \mathrm{~A})-\mathrm{C}(11 \mathrm{~A})$ are $-41 \cdot 2$ and $-47 \cdot 4^{\circ}$ respectively. The two $\operatorname{Pr}^{i}(1)$ groups are twisted such that the hydrogen atoms $\mathrm{H}(11)$ are in sterically crowded positions. Thus the $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(1 n) \quad(n=2$ or 3) dihedral angles are within $21^{\circ}$ of the staggered value of $60^{\circ}$. Distances $<3 \AA$ between these two $\operatorname{Pr}^{\mathrm{i}}(1)$ groups are: $\mathrm{H}(11 \mathrm{~A}) \cdots \mathrm{H}(11 \mathrm{~B}) 2 \cdot 50, \mathrm{H}(11 \mathrm{~B}) \cdots$ $\mathrm{C}(13 \mathrm{~A}) 2 \cdot 73, \mathrm{H}(11 \mathrm{~A}) \cdots \mathrm{C}(13 \mathrm{~B}) \mathbf{2 \cdot 7 2}, \mathrm{H}(11 \mathrm{~A}) \cdots \mathrm{C}(11 \mathrm{~B})$ $2 \cdot 76$, and $\mathrm{H}(11 \mathrm{~B}) \cdots \mathrm{C}(11 \mathrm{~A}) 2 \cdot 76 \AA$.

The two $\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{Cl}(1)$ and $\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ axial bonds are shorter than the $\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{Cl}(3)$ equatorial bonds by ca. $0 \cdot 05 \AA[2 \cdot 386(6)$ and $2 \cdot 370(6)$ vs. $2 \cdot 436(6) \AA$ ], a normal occurrence in a pentagonal bipyramid. ${ }^{2,7,8}$ This is presumably a steric effect with the chlorine atoms in the less crowded

7 R. B. VonDreele, J. J. Stezowski, and R. C. Fay, J. Amer. Chem. Soc., 1971, 93, 2887.
${ }^{8}$ M. G. B. Drew and R. Mandyczewsky, Chem. Comm., 1970, 292.
sites of the PB forming the stronger bonds. This disparity in $\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{Cl}$ bond lengths lends credence to the view (see earlier) that the $\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(2)$ bond lengths are lengthened to decrease steric strain between the methyl groups and the equatorial chlorine atom. The two $\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{Cl}_{\mathrm{ax}}$ bonds are not significantly distorted from axial positions, and all $\mathrm{Cl}-\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{Cl}$ angles are close to 90 or $180^{\circ}$.

The two chelate angles are $62 \cdot 4(6)$ and $60 \cdot 1(7)^{\circ}$.
are similar $\left(135-138^{\circ}\right)$, having values which increase intramolecular contacts involving the $\operatorname{Pr}^{i}$ groups.

We can conclude from the structure of (I) that the tendency towards a PB with the chlorine atoms in T formation, for complexes $\mathrm{MCl}_{3} \mathrm{~L}_{2}$ ( $\mathrm{L}=$ bidentate) is very strong. The distortions from ideal symmetry found in (I) are a very logical way of minimising the non-bonded repulsions.


Figure 2 The unit cell of (I) in the $b$ projection

This short bite leaves space for the other angles in the girdle to be greater than the ideal $72^{\circ}$. The $\mathrm{Cl}(3)-$ $\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(2)$ angles are $78 \cdot 2(4)$ and $8 \mathrm{l} \cdot 1(4)^{\circ}$ and the nonchelating $N(1 A)-T a-N(1 B)$ angle is $82 \cdot 4(6)^{\circ}$. The sum of these five angles is $\mathbf{3 6 4 \cdot 2 ^ { \circ }}$.*

The $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)$ and $\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ bond lengths are the same within experimental error and the mean value ( $1.35 \AA$ ) suggests a bond order between 1 and 2 . The $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}(\mathrm{Me})-\mathrm{N}$ moiety is isoelectronic with the allyl group but in (I) the bonding occurs between the metal and the terminal nitrogen atoms with no significant interaction with the $\mathrm{C}(\mathrm{Me})$ group. The angles subtended at the nitrogens $N(1)$ and $N(2)$ vary, presumably owing to the differing relative positions of the $\operatorname{Pr}^{i}$ groups, but all four $\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{N}(n)-\mathrm{C}(n \mathrm{l})(n=1$ or 2 ) angles

[^0]The shortest intermolecular contacts in the unit cell are given in Table 6. There are no values appreciably

Table 6
Intermolecular contacts $<3.85 \AA$ (not involving hydrogen atoms)

| $\mathrm{C}(12 \mathrm{~B}) \cdots \mathrm{C}\left(2 \mathrm{~A}^{\mathrm{I}}\right)$ | $3 \cdot 62$ | $\mathrm{Cl}(1) \cdots \mathrm{C}\left(2^{\mathrm{IV}}\right)$ | $3 \cdot 67$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{C}(13 \mathrm{~A}) \cdots \mathrm{Cl}\left(3^{\mathrm{I}}\right)$ | $3 \cdot 83$ | $\mathrm{Cl}(1) \cdots \mathrm{C}\left(12 \mathrm{~A}^{\text {IV }}\right)$ | $3 \cdot 84$ |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(3) \cdots \mathrm{C}\left(12 \mathrm{~B}^{\mathrm{II}}\right)$ | $3 \cdot 75$ | $\mathrm{C}(12 \mathrm{~A}) \cdots \mathrm{Cl}\left(2^{\mathrm{V}}\right)$ | $3 \cdot 83$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(22 \mathrm{~A}) \cdots \mathrm{C}\left(12 \mathrm{~B}^{\mathrm{II}}\right)$ | $3 \cdot 84$ | $\mathrm{C}(12 \mathrm{~A}) \cdots \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{IB}^{\mathrm{V}}\right)$ | $3 \cdot 8 \mathrm{I}$ |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(2) \cdots \mathrm{C}\left(2 \mathrm{~B}^{\text {III }}\right)$ | $3 \cdot 60$ |  |  |
| $\mathrm{C}(22 \mathrm{~B}) \cdots \mathrm{C}\left(2 \mathrm{~B}^{\text {III }}\right)$ | $\mathbf{3 \cdot 6 3}$ |  |  |

Roman numeral superscripts refer to atoms in the following equivalent positions, relative to the reference molecule at $x, y, z$ :

$$
\begin{array}{lc}
\text { I }-x,-y, 1-z & \text { IV } \frac{1}{2}+x, \frac{1}{2}-y, z \\
\text { II } \frac{1}{2}-x, \frac{1}{2}+y, 1-z & \text { V }-x,-y,-z \\
\text { III } \frac{1}{2}-x, \frac{1}{2}+y,-z &
\end{array}
$$

less than the sum of van der Waals radii. Figure 2 is a packing diagram in the $b$ projection.

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[^1]
[^0]:    * Compared to $360.8^{\circ}$ for the less distorted PB in ref. 2. The requirement that the sum of the five angles in the girdle be close to $360^{\circ}$ can be used to predict the viability of the PB for a molecule of particular stoicheiometry. For example, $\mathrm{TaCl}_{3}\left[\mathrm{O}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)_{2}\right.$. $\mathrm{OMe}_{2}$ is a six-co-ordinate monomer with one ligand bi- and the other uni-dentate. ${ }^{8}$ This could have been predicted, since in a PB with two bidentate ligands and one chlorine atom in the girdle, the angles would be ca. O. . O 70, 70 (chelating), 73 (non-chelating) and $\mathrm{Cl} \cdots \mathrm{O} 80,80^{\circ}$ with a sum well in excess of $360^{\circ}$.

[^1]:    ${ }^{9}$ M. G. B. Drew and J. D. Wilkins, Inorg. Nuclear Chem. Letters, in the press.

