

## The First Complexes and Cyclodimerisations of Methylphosphaalkyne ( $P\equiv CMe$ )

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### Syntheses of compounds 3 -7.

**Compound 3:** To a solution of  $[Pt(dppe)(C_2H_4)]$  (100 mg, 0.16 mmol) in toluene (10 ml) at 25°C was added  $P\equiv CMe$  (28 mg, 0.48 mmol) in diethyl ether. The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 hr and volatiles subsequently removed *in vacuo*. The residue was recrystallised from diethyl ether to yield **3** as colourless crystals.

**Compound 4:** To a solution of  $[Pt(PEt_3)_2(C_2H_4)]$  (80 mg, 0.26 mmol) in THF (30 ml) at 25°C was added  $P\equiv CMe$  (44 mg, 0.76 mmol) in diethyl ether. The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 hr and volatiles subsequently removed *in vacuo*. The residue was recrystallised from toluene to yield **4** as colourless crystals.

**Compound 5:** To a solution of  $[Pt(PCy_3)_2]$  (50 mg, 0.067 mmol) in toluene (5 ml) at -78°C was added  $P\equiv CMe$  (8 mg, 0.13 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min before warming to 25°C. After a further 1 hr volatiles were removed *in vacuo* and the residue recrystallised from toluene to yield **5** as red crystals.

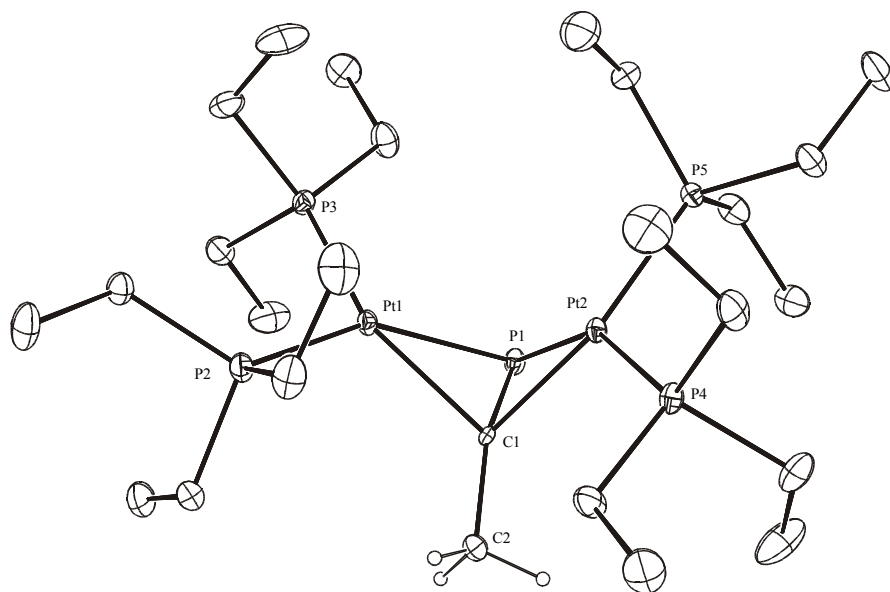
**Compounds 6 and 7:** To a solution of  $[W(CO)_5(THF)]$  (194 mg, 0.55 mmol) in THF (50 ml) at 25°C was added  $P\equiv CMe$  (80 mg, 1.40 mmol). The mixture was stirred for 18 hrs and volatiles removed *in vacuo*. The residue was extracted with hexane and the extract placed at -30°C for 24 hrs to yield **7** as yellow-orange crystals. The remaining solution was

chromatographed (silica gel/hexane) and the orange band collected and concentrated to yield **6** as orange crystals.

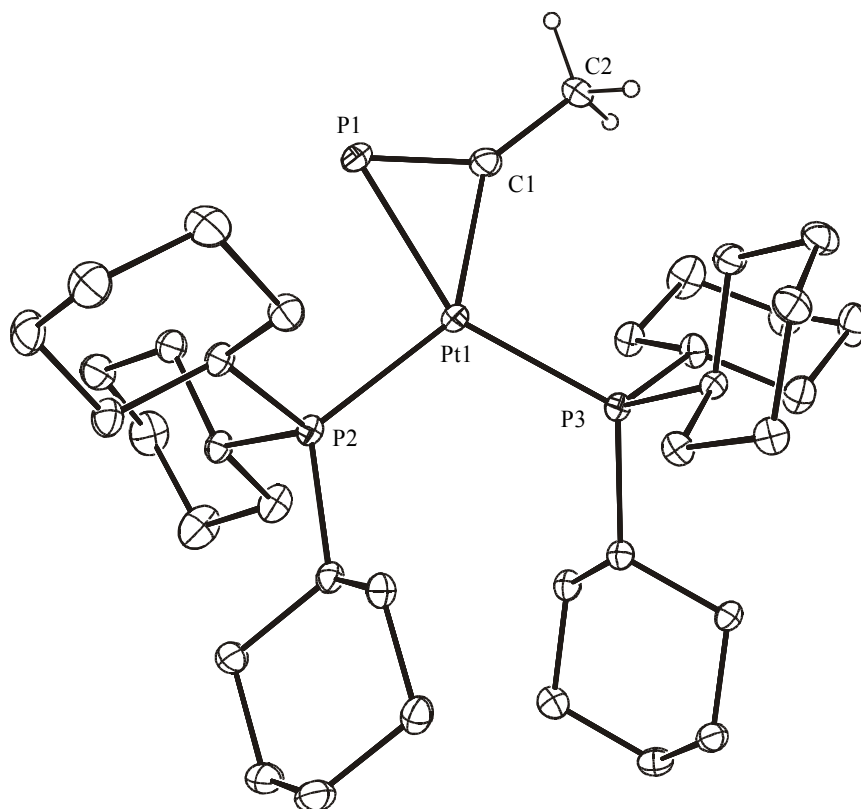
**$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectroscopic data for compounds 1 and 2.**

**Compound 1:**  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (121.6 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 298K):  $\delta$  51.0 (dd,  $^2J_{\text{PP}} = 23.9$  and 58.6 Hz,  $^1J_{\text{PtP}} = 3214$  Hz, dppe), 54.9 (dd,  $^2J_{\text{PP}} = 17.9$  and 58.6 Hz,  $^1J_{\text{PtP}} = 2977$  Hz, dppe), 102.4 (dd,  $^2J_{\text{PP}} = 23.9$  and 17.9 Hz,  $^1J_{\text{PtP}} = 178.0$  Hz, PCMe).

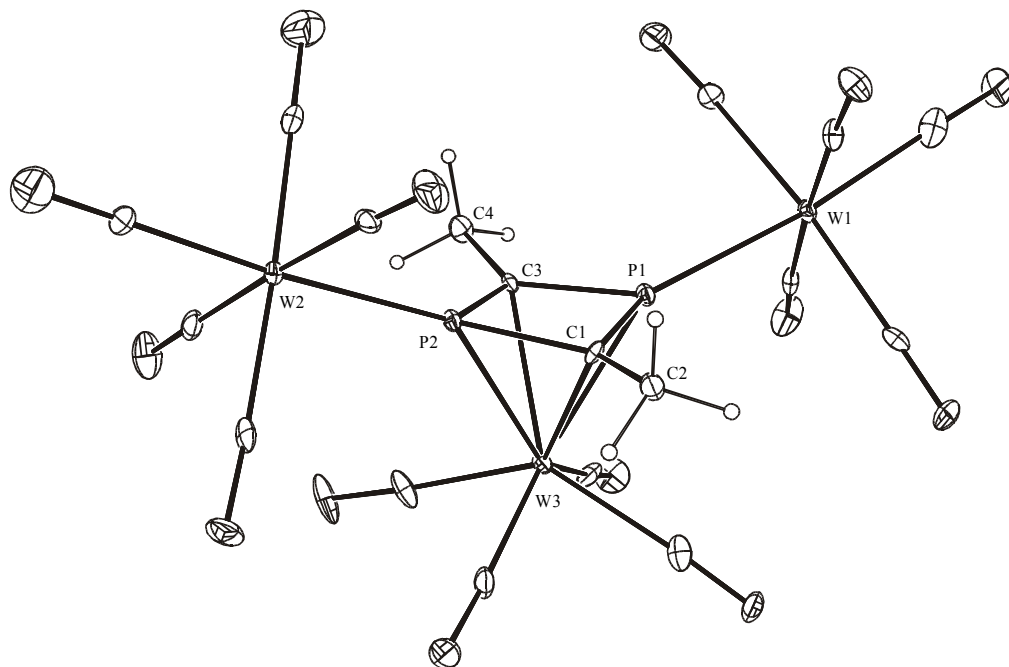
**Compound 2:**  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (121.6 MHz,  $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6$ , 298K):  $\delta$  13.4 (v. tr.,  $^2J_{\text{PP}} = 21.3$  Hz,  $^1J_{\text{PtP}} = 3141$  Hz,  $\text{PEt}_3$ ), 21.3 (v. tr.,  $^2J_{\text{PP}} = 21.3$  Hz,  $^1J_{\text{PtP}} = 3476$  Hz,  $\text{PEt}_3$ ), 90.4 (v. tr.,  $^2J_{\text{PP}} = 23.1$  Hz,  $^1J_{\text{PtP}} = 167.5$  Hz, PCMe).



**Fig. 1-S** Molecular structure of **4** (25% thermal ellipsoids, non-phosphalkyne hydrogens omitted for sake of clarity). Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) relating to one of the two components of the disordered PCMe ligand: Pt(1)-C(1) 2.21(4), Pt(1)-P(2) 2.269(2), Pt(1)-P(3) 2.270(2), Pt(1)-P(1) 2.394(7), Pt(2)-C(1) 2.13(4), Pt(2)-P(4) 2.265(2), Pt(2)-P(5) 2.275(2), Pt(2)-P(1) 2.376(6), P(1)-C(1) 1.715(17), C(1)-C(2) 1.518(17), C(1)-Pt(1)-P(2) 105.5(6), C(1)-Pt(1)-P(3) 147.7(6), P(2)-Pt(1)-P(3) 105.93(9), C(1)-Pt(1)-P(1) 43.5(5), P(2)-Pt(1)-P(1) 148.66(15), P(3)-Pt(1)-P(1) 104.34(15), C(1)-Pt(2)-P(1) 44.3(6), P(4)-Pt(2)-P(1) 147.74(15), P(5)-Pt(2)-P(1) 101.03(15), C(1)-P(1)-Pt(2) 60.2(13), C(1)-P(1)-Pt(1) 62.4(13), Pt(2)-P(1)-Pt(1) 82.9(2), P(1)-C(1)-Pt(1) 74.1(11), Pt(2)-C(1)-Pt(1) 93.5(12), P(1)-C(1)-Pt(2) 75.5(11).



**Fig. 2-S** Molecular structure of **5** (25% thermal ellipsoids, non-phosphorus hydrogens omitted for sake of clarity). Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) relating to one of the two components of the disordered PCMe ligand: Pt(1)-C(1) 2.034(8), Pt(1)-P(3) 2.3035(11), Pt(1)-P(2) 2.3072(10), Pt(1)-P(1) 2.354(3), P(1)-C(1) 1.623(9), C(1)-C(2) 1.505(11), C(1)-Pt(1)-P(3) 106.7(3), C(1)-Pt(1)-P(2) 140.0(3), P(3)-Pt(1)-P(2) 113.32(3), C(1)-Pt(1)-P(1) 42.6(3), P(3)-Pt(1)-P(1) 149.35(8), P(2)-Pt(1)-P(1) 97.33(8), C(1)-P(1)-Pt(1) 58.1(3), C(2)-C(1)-P(1) 140.9(6), C(2)-C(1)-Pt(1) 139.8(6), P(1)-C(1)-Pt(1) 79.2(4).



**Fig. 3-S** Molecular structure of **7** (25% thermal ellipsoids). Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) for one of the crystallographically independent molecules in the asymmetric unit: P(1)-C(3) 1.765(16), P(1)-C(1) 1.797(17), W(1)-P(1) 2.440(5), P(1)-C(3) 1.765(16), P(1)-C(1) 1.797(17), P(1)-W(3) 2.494(5), C(1)-P(2) 1.806(16), C(1)-W(3) 2.356(17), W(2)-P(2) 2.440(4), P(2)-C(3) 1.755(17), P(2)-W(3) 2.492(4), C(3)-P(1)-C(1) 84.2(8), C(2)-C(1)-P(1) 131.8(13), C(2)-C(1)-P(2) 132.2(13), P(1)-C(1)-P(2) 93.8(7), C(3)-P(2)-C(1) 84.3(7).