

Proofs to:  
Dr Martin B. Smith  
Department of Chemistry  
Loughborough University  
Loughborough  
Leics  
LE11 3TU  
UK

**New (aminomethyl)phosphines via selective hydrophosphination and/or  
phosphorus based Mannich condensation reactions**

Bo Cao, Mark R. J. Elsegood,<sup>#</sup> Nuria Lastra-Calvo, Martin B. Smith\*

*Department of Chemistry, Loughborough University, Loughborough, Leics,  
UK, LE11 3TU*

---

\* To whom correspondence should be addressed. E-mail: [m.b.smith@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:m.b.smith@lboro.ac.uk), Tel: +44 (0)1509 222553; Fax: +44 (0)1509 223925. <sup>#</sup> ORCID: 0000-0002-8984-4175

## ABSTRACT

Controlled stepwise reaction of a geminal substituted alkene or primary amine group afforded a small library of new functionalised tertiary and ditertiary phosphines. Accordingly, Mannich based condensation of the commercially available disubstituted arene  $C_6H_4(NH_2)\{2-C(Me)=CH_2\}$  with  $HOCH_2PR_2$  ( $R_2 = Cg$ : 1,3,5,7-tetramethyl-2,4,8-trioxa-6-phosphaadamantyl;  $Ph_2$ ) afforded the (aminomethyl)phosphines  $C_6H_4(NHCH_2PCg)\{2-C(Me)=CH_2\}$  **L**<sub>1</sub> and  $C_6H_4(NHCH_2PPh_2)\{2-C(Me)=CH_2\}$  **L**<sub>2</sub> in approx. 60% yield. In addition to the formation of **L**<sub>2</sub>, the diphosphine **L**<sub>3</sub> was also identified and independently synthesised upon reaction of  $C_6H_4(NH_2)\{2-C(Me)=CH_2\}$  with two equiv. of  $HOCH_2PPh_2$  in  $CH_3OH$  under reflux. Alternatively, reaction of  $C_6H_4(NH_2)\{2-C(Me)=CH_2\}$  with  $H-PR_2$  ( $R_2 = Cg$  or  $Ph_2$ ) in the presence of AIBN [2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionitrile)] as free radical initiator, afforded the primary amine functionalised phosphines  $C_6H_4(NH_2)\{2-CH(Me)CH_2PCg\}$  **L**<sub>4</sub> and  $C_6H_4(NH_2)\{2-CH(Me)CH_2PPh_2\}$  **L**<sub>5</sub> in 85% and 66% isolated yields respectively. In both cases only the anti-Markovnikov addition products were observed. Subsequent reaction of **L**<sub>5</sub> with  $HOCH_2PR_2$  ( $R_2 = Ph_2$ ) afforded the unsymmetrical ditertiary phosphine  $C_6H_4(NHCH_2PPh_2)\{2-CH(Me)CH_2PPh_2\}$  **L**<sub>6</sub>. Some preliminary coordination studies towards  $[RuCl(\mu-Cl)(\eta^6-C_{10}H_{14})]_2$ ,  $[AuCl(tht)]$  (tht = tetrahydrothiophene) and  $[MCl_2(\eta^4-cod)]$  ( $M = Pd, Pt$ ; cod = cycloocta-1,5-diene) demonstrate these new ligands behave as classic P-donors leaving the pendant amino or alkenyl groups non-coordinating. All compounds have been characterised by multinuclear NMR, FT-IR, mass spectrometry and microanalysis. Single crystal X-ray studies have been performed on **L**<sub>3</sub>, **L**<sub>5</sub>, **L**<sub>6</sub>, **1**, **3b**·0.5 $CH_2Cl_2$ , **4a**·1.5 $CH_2Cl_2$ , **5** and **6**·0.5 $CDCl_3$ ·0.5 $C_4H_{10}O$

*Keywords:* P ligands; Late-transition metals; X-ray crystallography; Organometallic complexes; Hydrophosphinations

## 1. Introduction

The coordination and organometallic chemistry of late transition metal complexes using tertiary phosphines as ancillary ligands continues to attract much attention. In the quest for developing new P-based ligands, a plethora of synthetic methodologies have thus far been developed allowing precise control of factors such as the incorporation of suitable electronic groups, sterically bulky substituents, functional groups, chirality and solubility properties [1]. For a number of years, our research group has been interested in developing atom economical and facile procedures to phosphorus based ligands [2]. In particular we [3], and others [4], have successfully used Mannich based condensations for accessing new (aminomethyl) derivatised phosphines through C–N bond formation (Scheme 1, pathway a). Recently there has also been much interest in hydrophosphinations (Scheme 1, pathway b) as an entry route to P–C bond formation using suitable P–H precursors [5]. Single [6] or double [7] hydrophosphination of alkenes have been developed as well as metal catalysed double hydrophosphination of alkynes [8] leading to unsymmetric ditertiary phosphines. Webster et al [9] employed simple iron catalysts to promote catalytic intramolecular hydrophosphination of alkene or alkyne functionalised primary phosphines. Furthermore the scope of this approach has also been extended to the alternative use of phosphine oxides [R<sub>2</sub>P(O)–H or (RO)<sub>2</sub>P(O)–H] and applied in alkene [10a,10b], alkyne [10b], nitrile [11], or azobenzene [12] hydrophosphination reactions. Asymmetric palladium(II) catalysed hydrophosphinations have also achieved much recent prominence [13] for the preparation of chiral phosphine ligands.

Herein we describe, using a commercially available starting material, the straightforward synthesis and characterisation of new amino- or alkenyl-functionalised tertiary monodentate and bidentate phosphines using Mannich based condensation and/or hydrophosphination protocols. We demonstrate the facile nature of the syntheses of these ligands opposed to

alternative P–C bond forming synthetic methods [14]. Furthermore we show these ligands function in a classical P-monodentate or  $\mu$ -P,P-bridging manner through conducting some brief coordination studies to Ru<sup>II</sup>, Au<sup>I</sup>, Pd<sup>II</sup>, and Pt<sup>II</sup> metal centres. All new compounds have been structurally verified by a combination of spectroscopic and crystallographic techniques.

< *Insert Scheme 1 and Scheme 1 caption here* >

## 2. Experimental

### 2.1. Materials

All reactions were conducted under an inert atmosphere except for the coordination studies which were carried out in air using reagent grade quality solvents. The compounds [MCl<sub>2</sub>( $\eta^4$ -cod)] (cod = cycloocta-1,5-diene) [15], [RuCl( $\mu$ -Cl)( $\eta^6$ -C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>14</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] [16], and [AuCl(tht)] (tht = tetrahydrothiophene) [17] were all prepared according to known procedures. HOCH<sub>2</sub>PR<sub>2</sub> (R<sub>2</sub> = Cg or Ph<sub>2</sub>) [3a, 18] were prepared, either in situ or preformed, according to literature methods. 2-isopropenylaniline was obtained from Sigma-Aldrich and used directly without further purification.

### 2.2. Instrumentation

Infrared spectra were recorded as KBr pellets on either a Perkin-Elmer System 2000 (4000–400 cm<sup>-1</sup> range) or a Spectrum 100S (4000–250 cm<sup>-1</sup> range) Fourier-Transform spectrometer. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (400 MHz) were recorded on a Bruker DPX-400 FT spectrometer with chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) in ppm to high frequency of Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> and coupling constants ( $J$ ) in Hz. <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker DPX-400 FT spectrometer with chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) in ppm to high frequency of 85% H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>. NMR spectra were measured in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 298 K. Elemental analyses (Perkin-Elmer 2400 CHN or Exeter

Analytical, Inc. CE-440 Elemental Analyzers) were performed by the Loughborough University Analytical Service within the Department of Chemistry. Mass spectra were recorded within the Department of Chemistry at Loughborough University and by the EPSRC National Mass Spectrometry Service at Swansea University.

## 2.3 Syntheses

**2.3.1 Preparation of  $C_6H_4(NHCH_2PCg)\{2-C(Me)=CH_2\}$  ( $L_1$ ).** A solution of  $CgPCH_2OH$  (0.635 g, 2.57 mmol) in  $CH_3OH$  (10 ml) was added to  $C_6H_4(NH_2)\{2-C(Me)=CH_2\}$  (0.342 g, 2.57 mmol) and the resulting solution stirred for 24 h at r.t. The solvent volume was reduced in vacuo to ~5 ml and the suspension kept in the freezer for 12 h. The resulting solid was collected by suction filtration and dried in vacuo. Yield: 0.600 g, 64%.  $^1H$  NMR [ $CDCl_3$ ]:  $\delta$  7.21 (1H, *virtual t*,  $^3J_{HH}$  7.2, arom. *H*), 7.05 (1H, *d*,  $^3J_{HH}$  6.8, arom. *H*), 6.75 (2H, arom. *H*), 5.33 (1H, *s*, =*CH*), 5.05 (1H, *s*, =*CH*), 4.74 (1H, *bs*, *NH*), 3.52 (1H, *d*,  $^2J_{HH}$  12.7,  $PCH_2N$ ), 3.02 (1H, *d*,  $^2J_{HH}$  12.7,  $PCH_2N$ ), 2.17–1.21 (19H, *m*,  $CH_2 + CH_3$ , *Cg*).  $^{31}P\{^1H\}$  NMR [ $CDCl_3$ ]:  $\delta$  -33.3, -33.5. FT-IR (KBr):  $\nu_{NH}$  3428  $cm^{-1}$ . EI-MS ( $m/z$ ) [ $MH$ ] $^+$  362. Anal. (%) Calcd. for  $C_{20}H_{28}NO_3P \cdot 0.5H_2O$ : C, 64.85; H, 7.89; N, 3.78. Found: C, 64.63; H, 7.32; N, 3.86.

**2.3.2 Preparation of  $C_6H_4(NHCH_2PPh_2)\{2-C(Me)=CH_2\}$  ( $L_2$ ).** A solution of  $C_6H_4(NH_2)\{2-C(Me)=CH_2\}$  (0.300 g, 2.25 mmol) in  $CH_3OH$  (7.5 ml) was added to a  $CH_3OH$  solution (7.5 ml) of  $Ph_2PCH_2OH$  (0.487 g, 2.25 mmol) by cannula. The resulting mixture was stirred for 24 h and the solvent concentrated under reduced pressure to ~5 ml. The suspension was kept in the freezer for 12 h and the solid collected by suction filtration and dried in vacuo. Yield: 0.449 g, 60%.  $^1H$  NMR [ $CDCl_3$ ]:  $\delta$  7.54–7.32 (10H, *m*, arom. *H*), 7.20 (1H, *dt*,  $^3J_{HH}$  7.3,  $^4J_{HH}$  1.5, arom. *H*), 6.99 (1H, *dd*,  $^3J_{HH}$  7.4,  $^4J_{HH}$  1.5, arom. *H*), 6.81 (1H, *d*,  $^3J_{HH}$  8.1,

arom. *H*), 6.72 (1H, vt,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  7.4 arom. *H*), 5.06 (1H, d,  $^2J_{\text{HH}}$  1.3, =*CH*), 4.74 (1H, d,  $^2J_{\text{HH}}$  1.3, =*CH*), 4.23 (1H, bs, *NH*), 3.83 (2H, d,  $^2J_{\text{HP}}$  4.5, *PCH*<sub>2</sub>*N*), 1.86 (3H, s, *CH*<sub>3</sub>).  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR [ $\text{CDCl}_3$ ]:  $\delta$  -18.5. FT-IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{NH}}$  3401  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . EI-MS ( $m/z$ ) [ $\text{MH}]^+$  332. Anal. (%) Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{22}\text{NP}\cdot 0.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$ : C, 78.65; H, 6.41; N, 4.16. Found: C, 79.09; H, 6.52; N, 4.21.

**2.3.3 Preparation of  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\{\text{N}(\text{CH}_2\text{PPh}_2)_2\}\{2\text{-C}(\text{Me})=\text{CH}_2\}$  ( $\text{L}_3$ ).** A solution of  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{NH}_2)\{2\text{-C}(\text{Me})=\text{CH}_2\}$  (0.300 g, 2.25 mmol) and  $\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{OH}$  (0.974 g, 4.51 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  (10 ml) was refluxed for 12 d, cooled and the volume concentrated under reduced pressure resulting in a colourless solid. Yield: 0.695 g, 58%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR [ $\text{CDCl}_3$ ]:  $\delta$  7.67–6.95 (24H, m, arom. *H*), 5.00 (1H, s, =*CH*), 4.84 (1H, d,  $^2J_{\text{HH}}$  1.4, =*CH*), 4.41 (4H, s, *PCH*<sub>2</sub>*N*), 1.81 (3H, s, *CH*<sub>3</sub>) ppm.  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR [ $\text{CDCl}_3$ ]:  $\delta$  -27.3. EI-MS ( $m/z$ ) [ $\text{MH}]^+$  530. Anal. (%) Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{35}\text{H}_{34}\text{NP}_2$ : C, 79.26; H, 6.30; N, 2.72. Found: C, 79.38; H, 6.28; N, 2.64.

**2.3.4 Preparation of  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{NH}_2)\{2\text{-CH}(\text{Me})\text{CH}_2\text{PCg}\}$  ( $\text{L}_4$ ).** The compounds  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{NH}_2)\{2\text{-C}(\text{Me})=\text{CH}_2\}$  (0.500 g, 3.75 mmol),  $\text{CgPH}$  (0.812 g, 3.75 mmol) and AIBN [2,2'-azobis(2-methylpropionitrile)] (0.085 g, 0.53 mmol) were placed in a Schlenk tube. The mixture was freeze-pump-thawed (3 times) and stirred at 110 °C for 24 h. The yellow oily product solidified upon cooling in the freezer. Yield: 1.112 g, 85%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR [ $\text{CDCl}_3$ ]:  $\delta$  7.17 (1H, dd,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  3.2,  $^4J_{\text{HH}}$  0.6, arom. *H*), 7.05 (1H, dd,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  3.2,  $^4J_{\text{HH}}$  0.6, arom. *H*), 6.83 (1H, vt,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  3.2, arom. *H*), 6.71 (1H, d,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  3.2, arom. *H*), 3.61 (2H, bs, *NH*), 3.02 (1H, m, *CH*), 2.27–1.12 (23H, m, *CH*<sub>2</sub>, *CH*<sub>3</sub>, *Cg*).  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR [ $\text{CDCl}_3$ ]:  $\delta$  -31.7, -31.9. FT-IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{NH}}$  3460, 3369  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . EI-MS ( $m/z$ ) [ $\text{MH}]^+$  350. Anal. (%) Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{28}\text{NO}_3\text{P}$ : C, 65.96; H, 8.30; N, 4.04. Found: C, 65.31; H, 8.08; N, 4.01.

**2.3.5 Preparation of  $C_6H_4(NH_2)\{2-CH(Me)CH_2PPh_2\}$  ( $L_5$ ).** The compounds  $C_6H_4(NH_2)\{2-C(Me)=CH_2\}$  (0.500 g, 3.75 mmol),  $HPPH_2$  (0.698 g, 3.75 mmol) and AIBN (0.085 g, 0.53 mmol) were placed in a Schlenk tube. The mixture was freeze–pump–thawed (3 times) and stirred at 110 °C for 3 d. After that time more AIBN was added (0.024 g, 0.15 mmol) and left for a further 2 d. The colourless oily product solidified upon addition of  $CH_3OH$  (10 ml) and was purified by adding  $Et_2O$  (5 ml). The resulting solid was collected by suction filtration and dried in vacuum. Yield: 0.789 g, 66%.  $^1H$  NMR [ $CDCl_3$ ]:  $\delta$  7.57–7.33 (10H, arom. *H*), 7.25 (1H, dd,  $^3J_{HH}$  7.7,  $^4J_{HH}$  1.4, arom. *CH*), 7.06 (1H, dt,  $^3J_{HH}$  7.6,  $^4J_{HH}$  1.5, arom. *H*), 6.84 (1H, dt,  $^3J_{HH}$  7.5,  $^4J_{HH}$  1.2, arom. *H*), 6.65 (1H, dd,  $^3J_{HH}$  7.9,  $^4J_{HH}$  1.2, arom. *H*), 2.95 (2H, bs, *NH*), 2.75 (1H, m, *CH*), 2.49 (1H, dt,  $^2J_{HH}$  13.6,  $^3J_{HH}$  4.0,  $^2J_{HP}$  3.2, *CH*<sub>2</sub>), 2.23 (1H, ddd,  $^2J_{HH}$  13.6,  $^3J_{HH}$  10.0,  $^2J_{HP}$  3.2, *CH*<sub>2</sub>), 1.49 (3H, d,  $^3J_{HH}$  6.8, *CH*<sub>3</sub>).  $^{31}P\{^1H\}$  NMR [ $CDCl_3$ ]:  $\delta$  –19.5. FT–IR (KBr):  $\nu_{NH}$  3462, 3377  $cm^{-1}$ . EI–MS (*m/z*) [ $MH$ ]<sup>+</sup> 320. Anal. (%) Calcd. for  $C_{21}H_{22}NP \cdot 0.25CH_3OH$ : C, 77.96; H, 7.08; N, 4.28. Found: C, 77.65; H, 6.64; N, 3.99.

**2.3.6 Preparation of  $C_6H_4(NHCH_2PPh_2)\{2-CH(Me)CH_2PPh_2\}$  ( $L_6$ ).** Method 1:  $L_5$  (0.100 g, 0.313 mmol) and  $Ph_2PCH_2OH$  (0.081 g, 0.38 mmol) were placed in a Schlenk tube and degassed  $CH_3OH$  (10 ml) added. The mixture was refluxed for 3 d and concentrated under reduced pressure to ~1 ml. The resulting solid was filtered off under vacuum. Yield: 0.074 g, 46%. Method 2:  $L_2$  (0.200 g, 0.60 mmol),  $HPPH_2$  (0.224 g, 1.21 mmol) and AIBN (0.018 g, 0.108 mmol) were placed in a Schlenk tube and degassed  $CH_3OH$  (10 ml) added. The mixture was refluxed for 5 d, stirred for a further 2 d at r.t. and concentrated under reduced pressure to dryness. The resulting oil was solidified with  $Et_2O$  (10 ml) and filtered off under vacuum. Yield: 0.052 g, 17% (not optimised).  $^1H$  NMR [ $CDCl_3$ ]:  $\delta$  7.60–7.27 (10H, m, arom. *H*), 7.25 (1H, dd,  $^3J_{HH}$  7.7,  $^4J_{HH}$  1.4, arom. *H*), 7.06 (1H, dt,  $^3J_{HH}$  7.7,  $^4J_{HH}$  1.4, arom. *H*), 6.84

(1H, dt,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  7.7,  $^4J_{\text{HH}}$  1.4, arom. *H*), 6.65 (1H, dd,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  7.7,  $^4J_{\text{HH}}$  1.4, arom. *H*), 3.30 (1H, bs, *NH*), 2.84–2.70 (1H, m, *CH*), 2.56–2.44 (1H, dt,  $^2J_{\text{HH}}$  12.3,  $^2J_{\text{HP}}$  4.0,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  4.0, *CH*<sub>2</sub>), 2.26 (1H, ddd,  $^2J_{\text{HH}}$  12.3,  $^2J_{\text{HP}}$  4.0,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  8.0, *CH*<sub>2</sub>), 1.52 (3H, d,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  6.8, *CH*<sub>3</sub>).  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR [ $\text{CDCl}_3$ ]:  $\delta$  -19.6, -19.8. FT-IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{NH}}$  3400  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . EI-MS ( $m/z$ ) [ $\text{MOH}$ ]<sup>+</sup> 534, [ $\text{MO}_2\text{H}$ ]<sup>+</sup> 550. Anal. (%) Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{33}\text{NP}_2$ : C, 78.90; H, 6.43; N, 2.71. Found: C, 78.80; H, 6.45; N, 2.80.

**2.3.7 Preparation of 1.** The solids **L**<sub>2</sub> (0.084 g, 0.26 mmol) and  $[\text{RuCl}(\mu\text{-Cl})(\eta^6\text{-C}_{10}\text{H}_{14})]_2$  (0.092 g, 0.13 mmol) were dissolved in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (10 ml) and the solution stirred for 1 h. The solvent was reduced in volume to ~1 ml and  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  (20 ml) added to afford a red solid **1** which was collected by suction filtration and dried in vacuum. Yield: 0.132 g, 69%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR [ $\text{CDCl}_3$ ]:  $\delta$  7.93–7.37 (10H, m, arom. *H*), 7.00–6.81 (1H, m, arom. *H*), 6.78 (1H, dd,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  7.8,  $^4J_{\text{HH}}$  1.5, arom. *H*), 6.49 (1H, t,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  7.8, arom. *H*), 6.34 (1H, d,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  7.8, arom. *H*), 5.33 (2H, d,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  6.2, arom. *CH*), 5.20 (2H, d,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  6.2, arom. *CH*), 4.98 (1H, s, =*CH*), 4.56 (1H, s, =*CH*), 4.48 (2H, s, *PCH*<sub>2</sub>*N*), 4.18 (1H, bs, *NH*), 2.57 (1H, sept.,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  7.0, *CH*), 1.94 (3H, s, *CH*<sub>3</sub>), 1.70 (3H, s, *CH*<sub>3</sub>), 0.87 (6H, d,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  7.0, *CH*<sub>3</sub>).  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR [ $\text{CDCl}_3$ ]:  $\delta$  25.2. FT-IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{NH}}$  3390  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . EI-MS ( $m/z$ ) [ $\text{M-Cl}$ ]<sup>+</sup> 602. Anal. (%) Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{36}\text{NPRuCl}_2 \cdot 0.75\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ : C, 56.09; H, 5.39; N, 2.00. Found: C, 56.53; H, 5.38; N, 1.99.

**2.3.8 Preparation of 2a.** To a  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (10 ml) solution of  $[\text{AuCl}(\text{tht})]$  (0.115 g, 0.36 mmol) was added **L**<sub>2</sub> (0.117 g, 0.35 mmol) as a solid in one portion. The colourless solution was stirred for 1 h, evaporated under vacuum to ~1–2 ml. Addition of  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  (15 ml) afforded solid **2a** which was collected by suction filtration and dried under vacuum. Yield: 0.120 g, 59%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR [ $\text{CDCl}_3$ ]:  $\delta$  7.71–7.46 (10H, m, arom. *H*), 7.15 (1H, dt,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  8.0,  $^4J_{\text{HH}}$  1.2, arom. *H*), 6.99 (1H, dd,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  7.6,  $^4J_{\text{HH}}$  1.6, arom. *H*), 6.87 (1H, t,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  8.8, arom. *H*), 6.75 (1H, d,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$



8.4, arom. H), 5.11 (1H, s, =CH), 4.75 (1H, s, =CH), 4.22 (2H, d,  $^2J_{\text{PH}}$  4.0, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.87 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>).  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR [CDCl<sub>3</sub>]:  $\delta$  25.0. FT-IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{NH}}$  3381,  $\nu_{\text{AuCl}}$  327 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. (%) Calcd. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NPAuCl: C, 46.86; H, 3.94; N, 2.48. Found: C, 46.34; H, 3.66; N, 2.52.

Preparation of **2b**. To a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 ml) solution of [AuCl(tht)] (0.069 g, 0.22 mmol) was added **L**<sub>3</sub> (0.057 g, 0.11 mmol) as a solid in one portion. The colourless solution was stirred for 30 min, evaporated under vacuum to ~1-2 ml. Addition of Et<sub>2</sub>O (25 ml) and n-hexanes (25 ml) afforded solid **2** which was collected by suction filtration and dried under vacuum. Yield: 0.056 g, 52%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR [CDCl<sub>3</sub>]:  $\delta$  7.57–7.35 (20H, m, arom. H), 7.13 (1H, d,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  7.2, arom. H), 7.05 (1H, dt,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  7.2,  $^4J_{\text{HH}}$  2.0, arom. H), 6.89 (1H, t,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  7.6, arom. H), 6.87 (1H, dt,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  7.6,  $^4J_{\text{HH}}$  2.0 arom. H), 4.96 (4H, s, CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.94 (1H, s, =CH), 4.65 (1H, s, =CH), 1.57 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>).  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR [CDCl<sub>3</sub>]:  $\delta$  16.1. FT-IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{AuCl}}$  332 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. (%) Calcd. for C<sub>35</sub>H<sub>33</sub>NP<sub>2</sub>Au<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: C, 42.27; H, 3.35; N, 1.41. Found: C, 42.27; H, 3.37; N, 1.45.

**2.3.9 Preparation of 3a.** To a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 ml) solution of [PdCl<sub>2</sub>( $\eta^4$ -cod)] (0.043 g, 0.15 mmol) was added **L**<sub>2</sub> (0.100 g, 0.30 mmol) as a solid in one portion. The orange solution was stirred for 1 h, evaporated under vacuum to ~1-2 ml and addition of Et<sub>2</sub>O (20 ml) afforded **3a** which was collected by suction filtration and dried under vacuum. Yield: 0.087 g, 69%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR [CDCl<sub>3</sub>]:  $\delta$  7.85–6.94 (m, arom. H), 6.78 (2H, dt, CH), 6.58 (1H, d,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  8.4, arom. H), 6.41 (1H, d,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  8.4, arom. H), 5.13 (1H, dd, =CH), 5.01 (1H, dd, =CH), 4.78 (2H, multiplet, =CH), 4.68 (1H, bs, NH), 4.43 (4H, s, PCH<sub>2</sub>N), 4.38 (4H, s, PCH<sub>2</sub>N), 1.92 (6H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.86 (6H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>).  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR [CDCl<sub>3</sub>]:  $\delta$  26.8, 14.3 (ca. 45:55 ratio of cis/trans isomers). FT-IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{NH}}$  3402,  $\nu_{\text{NH}}$  307, 283 cm<sup>-1</sup>. EI-MS ( $m/z$ ) [M-Cl]<sup>+</sup> 803. Anal. (%) Calcd. for C<sub>44</sub>H<sub>44</sub>N<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub>PdCl<sub>2</sub>·0.25CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: C, 61.69; H, 5.22; N, 3.25. Found: C, 61.24; H, 5.20; N, 3.26.

In a similar manner the platinum(II) complex **3b** was synthesised (75%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR [CDCl<sub>3</sub>]:  $\delta$  7.88–7.42 (20H, m, arom. H), 7.08 (3H, m, arom. H), 6.64 (1H, d,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  6.8 arom. H), 5.09

(1H, s, =CH), 4.76 (1H, s, =CH), 4.23 (4H, vt,  $^3J_{\text{PtH}}$  40,  $^2J_{\text{PH}}$  1.6, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.92 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>).  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR [CDCl<sub>3</sub>]:  $\delta$  7.3 ( $^1J_{\text{PPt}}$  3661). FT-IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{PtCl}}$  316, 290 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. (%) Calcd. for C<sub>44</sub>H<sub>44</sub>N<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub>PtCl<sub>2</sub>: C, 56.89; H, 4.78; N, 3.02. Found: C, 57.65; H, 4.94; N, 2.82.

**2.3.10 Preparation of 4a.** To a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 ml) solution of [PdCl<sub>2</sub>( $\eta^4$ -cod)] (0.041 g, 0.14 mmol) was added L<sub>3</sub> (0.077 g, 0.15 mmol) as a solid in one portion. The yellow solution was stirred for 1 h, evaporated under vacuum to ~1-2 ml whereupon a yellow solid started to deposit. Addition of Et<sub>2</sub>O (20 ml) afforded solid **4a** which was collected by suction filtration and dried under vacuum. Yield: 0.094 g, 92%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR [CDCl<sub>3</sub>]:  $\delta$  7.81–7.42 (20H, m, arom. H), 7.03 (3H, m, arom. H), 6.59 (1H, d,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  7.8, arom. H), 4.72 (1H, s, =CH), 4.62 (1H, s, =CH), 3.92 (4H, s, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.57 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>).  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR [CDCl<sub>3</sub>]:  $\delta$  10.0. FT-IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{PtCl}}$  307, 294 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. (%) Calcd. for C<sub>35</sub>H<sub>33</sub>NP<sub>2</sub>PdCl<sub>2</sub>: C, 59.46; H, 4.71; N, 1.98. Found: C, 58.97; H, 4.59; N, 2.06. In a similar manner the platinum(II) complex **4b** was synthesised (94%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR [CDCl<sub>3</sub>]:  $\delta$  7.88–7.42 (20H, m, arom. H), 7.08 (3H, m, arom. H), 6.64 (1H, d,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  6.8 arom. H), 4.74 (1H, s, =CH), 4.67 (1H, s, =CH), 4.03 (4H, vt,  $^3J_{\text{PtH}}$  40.0,  $^2J_{\text{PH}}$  1.6, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.46 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>).  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR [CDCl<sub>3</sub>]:  $\delta$  -6.1 ( $^1J_{\text{PPt}}$  3417). FT-IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{PtCl}}$  313, 289 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. (%) Calcd. for C<sub>35</sub>H<sub>33</sub>NP<sub>2</sub>PtCl<sub>2</sub>·0.5Et<sub>2</sub>O: C, 53.37; H, 4.61; N, 1.68. Found: C, 53.85; H, 4.64; N, 1.60.

**2.3.11 Preparation of 5.** From L<sub>6</sub> (0.050 g, 0.096 mmol) and [PtCl<sub>2</sub>( $\eta^4$ -cod)] (0.036 g, 0.096 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and precipitation with Et<sub>2</sub>O. Yield: 0.060 g, 80%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR [CDCl<sub>3</sub>]:  $\delta$  7.92–6.95 (20H, m, arom. H), 6.47 (2H, t,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  6.0, arom. H), 6.34 (1H, dd,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  8.0,  $^4J_{\text{HH}}$  1.2, arom. H), 6.18 (1H, d,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  9.2, arom. H), 5.32–5.27 (1H, m, PCH<sub>2</sub>N), 4.30 (1H, m, NH), 3.57–3.47 (1H, m, CH), 3.42 (1H, bt,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  12.8, PCH<sub>2</sub>N), 2.67 (1H, q,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  13.6, CH), 1.97 (1H, q,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  8.4, CH), 1.78 (3H, dd,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  16.0,  $J$  2.0, CH<sub>3</sub>).  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR [CDCl<sub>3</sub>]:  $\delta$  26.9

( $^1J_{\text{Pt}}$  3768,  $^2J_{\text{PP}}$  9), 11.3 ( $^1J_{\text{Pt}}$  3479,  $^2J_{\text{PP}}$  9). FT-IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{NH}}$  3358,  $\nu_{\text{PtCl}}$  316, 291  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . EI-MS ( $m/z$ )  $[\text{M}-\text{Cl}]^+$  747. Anal. (%) Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{33}\text{NP}_2\text{PtCl}_2$ : C, 52.12; H, 4.24; N, 1.79. Found: C, 51.74; H, 4.13; N, 1.76.

**2.3.12 Preparation of 6.** From **L**<sub>6</sub> (0.0052 g, 0.010 mmol) and  $[\text{RuCl}(\mu\text{-Cl})(\eta^6\text{-C}_{10}\text{H}_{14})]_2$  (0.0060 g, 0.0098 mmol) in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  (0.5 ml). After NMR data acquisition, vapour diffusion with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  afforded red crystals. Yield: 0.0079 g, 73%.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR [ $\text{CDCl}_3$ ]:  $\delta$  7.78 (2H, t, arom. *H*), 7.70 (2H, t, arom. *H*), 7.61 (2H, t, arom. *H*), 7.48 (2H, t, arom. *H*), 7.40 (5H, s, arom. *H*), 7.29-7.20 (5H, m, arom. *H*), 7.11 (2H, t, arom. *H*), 6.62 (1H, d,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  8.4, arom. *H*), 6.45 (1H, t,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  7.2, arom. *H*), 6.20 (1H, d,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  7.6, arom. *H*), 5.86 (1H, d,  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  8.0, arom. *H*), 5.40–4.99 (8H, m,  $\text{CH}_{\text{cymene}}$ ), 4.18 (2H, s,  $\text{PCH}_2\text{N}$ ), 2.88 (2H, m,  $\text{PCH}_2$ ), 2.51 [3H, m, *CH* and  $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ], 1.88 (3H, s,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.79 (3H, s,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{CH}_3$ ), 0.96–0.50 (15H, m,  $\text{CH}_3$  and  $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ).  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR [ $\text{CDCl}_3$ ]:  $\delta$  25.1, 21.6. Anal. (%) Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{54}\text{H}_{61}\text{NP}_2\text{Ru}_2\text{Cl}_4 \cdot 0.25\text{CDCl}_3$ : C, 56.17; H, 5.33; N, 1.21. Found: C, 55.77; H, 5.11; N, 1.33.

#### 2.4. X-ray crystallography

Suitable crystals of **L**<sub>3</sub> were obtained from an in situ NMR aliquot of the reaction between 1 equiv.  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{NH}_2)\{2\text{-C}(\text{Me})=\text{CH}_2\}$  and two equiv. of  $\text{Ph}_2\text{PCH}_2\text{OH}$  in MeOH. Compounds **L**<sub>5</sub> and **L**<sub>6</sub> were crystallised upon allowing a  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  filtrate to stand for several days. Red block crystals of the ruthenium(II) complex **1** were obtained by vapour diffusion of  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  into a  $\text{CHCl}_3$  solution. The complexes **3b**·0.5 $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , **4a**·1.5 $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  and **5** were obtained by vapour diffusion of  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  into a  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  solution whereas complex **6**·0.5 $\text{CDCl}_3$ ·0.5 $\text{C}_4\text{H}_{10}\text{O}$  was obtained by vapour diffusion of  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  into a  $\text{CDCl}_3$  solution. Details of the data collection parameters and crystal data for **L**<sub>3</sub>, **L**<sub>5</sub>, **L**<sub>6</sub>, **1**, **3b**·0.5 $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , **4a**·1.5 $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , **5** and **6**·0.5 $\text{CDCl}_3$ ·0.5 $\text{C}_4\text{H}_{10}\text{O}$  are given in Table 1. Measurements for **L**<sub>3</sub>, **L**<sub>5</sub>, **L**<sub>6</sub>, **1**, **3b**·0.5 $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,

**4a**·1.5CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, **5** and **6**·0.5CDCl<sub>3</sub>·0.5C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>O were made on modern CCD diffractometers using graphite-monochromated radiation from a rotating anode source (for **5**) or sealed tube source (all others) [19]. Intensities were corrected semi-empirically for absorption, based on symmetry-equivalent and repeated reflections [19, 20]. The structures were solved [21] by direct or dual-space methods and refined on  $F^2$  values for all unique data by full-matrix least squares [21, 22]. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. Carbon-bound hydrogen atoms were constrained in a riding model with  $U_{eq}$  set to  $1.2U_{eq}$  of the carrier atom ( $1.5 U_{eq}$  for methyl hydrogen). NH coordinates were freely refined, except for those in **3b**·0.5CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> which were constrained with  $U_{eq}$  set to  $1.2U_{eq}$  of the carrier atom. For **1** C–CH<sub>3</sub> and =CH<sub>2</sub> atoms were modelled as 50/50 disordered on atoms C(31) and C(32). For **3b**·0.5CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> one molecule of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> was modelled as 2-fold disordered with a major component 63.6(16)%. The H atoms on the terminal =CH<sub>2</sub> and C–CH<sub>3</sub> groups at C(9)/C(10) and C(9A)/C(10A) were also modelled as two-fold disordered with major components 58(11)% and 54(11)% respectively. In these two cases, as in **1** above, the C–C bond lengths were very similar and the sites could also not be distinguished based on H atom electron density. For **4a**·1.5CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> one of the CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> molecules of crystallisation was modelled as two-fold disordered with major component occupancy 57.6(10)%. For **6**·0.5CDCl<sub>3</sub>·0.5C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>O the solvent of crystallisation was modelled using the Platon Squeeze procedure [23]. This recovered 85 electrons in one void which corresponds roughly to one CDCl<sub>3</sub> and one Et<sub>2</sub>O per unit cell, which agreed with point atom observations.

## 2. Results and Discussion

### 3.1. Ligand Synthesis

The amino(methyl)phosphines **L**<sub>1</sub> and **L**<sub>2</sub> were synthesised in ~60% yield upon reaction of one equiv. of HOCH<sub>2</sub>PR<sub>2</sub> [readily prepared from equimolar amounts of (CH<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>n</sub> and Ph<sub>2</sub>PH

[18] or CgPH [3d] respectively] and one equivalent of  $C_6H_4(NH_2)\{2-C(Me)=CH_2\}$  in  $CH_3OH$  (Scheme 1). There has been much interest in the Cg group, as seen here in **L**<sub>1</sub>, for its steric properties [3a], diverse coordination behaviour [2, 3a, 6g] and versatility in homogeneous metal catalysed reactions [24a]. For **L**<sub>2</sub>, small amounts of the disubstituted phosphine **L**<sub>3</sub> were also formed during the reaction as observed by in situ NMR spectroscopy [ $\delta(P) -27.0$ ]. To confirm this assignment, reaction of two equiv. of  $Ph_2PCH_2OH$  with one equiv. of  $C_6H_4(NH_2)\{2-C(Me)=CH_2\}$  in refluxing  $CH_3OH$  afforded **L**<sub>3</sub> in 58% yield. Other characterising data for **L**<sub>1</sub>–**L**<sub>3</sub> are given in the Experimental Section and are broadly as expected. In the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of **L**<sub>1</sub> and **L**<sub>2</sub> the  $PCH_2N$  methylene protons showed an ABX splitting pattern (A and B for the diastereotopic protons and X for the P).

< Insert Scheme 2 and Scheme 2 caption here >

The X-ray structure of **L**<sub>3</sub> has been determined (Fig. 1) and supports the spectroscopic and analytical characterising data. Both phosphorus atoms are pyramidal as reflected by the C–P–C bond angles whilst P–C and C–N bond lengths and P–C–N/C–N–C bond angles are in agreement with previously reported ligands of this type [3]. The C(7)–C(8) bond length of 1.329(3) Å is consistent with a C=C double bond and is shorter than that found in **L**<sub>5</sub> and **L**<sub>6</sub> (vide infra).

< Insert Table 1 and Table 1 caption here >

< Insert Figure 1 and Figure 1 caption here >

The primary amine functionalised tertiary phosphines **L**<sub>4</sub> and **L**<sub>5</sub> were prepared by free radical catalysed hydrophosphination using equimolar amounts of  $C_6H_4(NH_2)\{2-$

C(Me)=CH<sub>2</sub>} and secondary phosphines (H-PR<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> = Cg or Ph<sub>2</sub>) with AIBN at 110 °C for 5 d. Cui and co-workers recently showed that a NHC-Yb(III) amide complex hydrophosphinates Ph<sub>2</sub>C=CH<sub>2</sub>, when reacted with Ph<sub>2</sub>PH, at r.t. for 4 h with 100% conversion [6c]. No efforts toward double hydrophosphination of C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>(NH<sub>2</sub>){2-C(Me)=CH<sub>2</sub>} with primary phosphines have been attempted. Compound **L**<sub>5</sub> was obtained as a yellowish oil which solidified upon adding CH<sub>3</sub>OH and the resulting colourless solid was purified with Et<sub>2</sub>O (see Experimental Section). The <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum of **L**<sub>5</sub> showed a singlet at δ(P) –19.5, similar to that found for **L**<sub>2</sub>. The linear isomer of **L**<sub>5</sub> was formed in excellent regioselectivity with no observable NMR evidence for the branched isomer. Hence three well defined sets of resonances in the region between δ(H) 2.75–2.23 for **L**<sub>5</sub>, corresponding to the methine and diastereotopic methylene protons, support the terminal addition of the “H”/“PPh<sub>2</sub>” groups across the C(Me)=CH<sub>2</sub> bond. Suitable crystals of **L**<sub>5</sub> were obtained from a CH<sub>3</sub>OH filtrate with the molecular structure shown in Fig. 2. The C–C and C–C–C parameters for C(8)–C(7), C(7)–C(6) and C(7)–C(9) are in agreement with typical single C–C bond lengths and C–C–C angles.

< Insert Figure 2 and Figure 2 caption here >

To demonstrate the free –NH<sub>2</sub> group is susceptible to further reaction, initial NMR monitoring of the reaction between **L**<sub>5</sub> with Ph<sub>2</sub>PCH<sub>2</sub>OH, in a 1:1 stoichiometry, showed no reaction. Nevertheless, after several hours, a solid precipitated which, after NMR inspection, revealed two closely spaced peaks around δ(P) –19 [25] assigned to the unsymmetrical diphosphine **L**<sub>6</sub>. The yield could be increased after some optimisation work. No one-pot approach to the preparation of **L**<sub>6</sub> has been attempted in this study. This procedure therefore has potential scope for expanding this class of ligand through simple manipulation of the

appropriate secondary phosphine or hydroxymethylditertiary phosphine. Crystals of **L**<sub>6</sub> were obtained from a CH<sub>3</sub>OH filtrate. The P–C/C–C bond lengths and the P–C–C/C–C–C bond angles are fairly similar to those found in **L**<sub>5</sub> whereas the C–N and P–C–N values are in accordance with literature values [3]. The C(7)–C(8) and C(7)–C(9) bond lengths are consistent with single C–C bonds.

< Insert Figure 3 and Figure 3 caption here >

### 3.2. Metal coordination studies

The ligating ability of **L**<sub>2</sub> and **L**<sub>3</sub> was assessed through a range of simple coordination studies towards [RuCl(μ-Cl)(η<sup>6</sup>-C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>14</sub>)]<sub>2</sub>, [AuCl(tht)] and [MCl<sub>2</sub>(η<sup>4</sup>-cod)] (M = Pd, Pt) in the appropriate stoichiometry, in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and at r.t., affording the complexes **1–4b** in 52–94% isolated yields. The characterising details for these compounds is as expected and furthermore, in the case of the dichloropalladium(II) complex **3a** both cis (**3a**) and trans (**3aa**) isomers were observed whereas for the dichloroplatinum(II) complex **3b** only the cis isomer was observed in solution.

< Insert Table 2 and Table 2 caption here >

< Insert Chart 1 and Chart 1 caption here >

The molecular structures of the ruthenium(II) complex **1** (Fig. 4), **3b**·0.5CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (Fig. 5) and the dichloropalladium(II) complex **4a**·1.5CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (Fig. 6) have each been determined by single crystal X-ray crystallography (Table 2 and Figure Captions for selected geometrical parameters). The structures are broadly as anticipated reflecting their piano-stool (for **1**) or square-planar arrangements (for **3b**·0.5CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and **4a**·1.5CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) around the metal centre.

Moreover, in all three structures the alkenyl C=C bond length is in the region 1.311(15)–1.361(15) Å consistent with the absence of any binding to the metal centre in any of these examples. We note that the –CH<sub>3</sub> and =CH<sub>2</sub> groups are often disordered in the solid state, since they occupy similar volumes within the unit cell.

< Insert Figure 4 and Figure 4 caption here >

< Insert Figure 5 and Figure 5 caption here >

< Insert Figure 6 and Figure 6 caption here >

The coordination capability of the asymmetric aminomethylphosphine **L**<sub>6</sub> was also investigated towards [PtCl<sub>2</sub>(η<sup>4</sup>-cod)] and [RuCl(μ-Cl)(η<sup>6</sup>-C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>14</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]. The synthesis of the cis isomer **5** (isolated in 80% yield) was achieved by reacting [PtCl<sub>2</sub>(η<sup>4</sup>-cod)] and one equiv. of **L**<sub>6</sub>. In the <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum, two resonances at δ(P) 26.9 and 11.3 were observed with associated *J*<sub>PtP</sub> coupling constants of 3768 and 3479 respectively. Known reported compounds with medium sized chelate rings showed two phosphorus signals flanked by <sup>195</sup>Pt satellites with values similar to **5** [25, 26]. The FT-IR spectrum shows two ν<sub>PtCl</sub> vibrations (316 and 291 cm<sup>-1</sup>) consistent with cis-chelation and an ν<sub>NH</sub> vibration at 3358 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Bridge cleavage of the dimer [RuCl(μ-Cl)(η<sup>6</sup>-C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>14</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] with 1 equiv. of **L**<sub>6</sub> in CDCl<sub>3</sub> gave the new bimetallic complex **6** as confirmed by <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectroscopy. The phosphorus chemical shifts for the two inequivalent <sup>31</sup>P centres (δ 25.1 and 21.6) are very similar to that found in **1** and furthermore show a downfield shift with respect to the free ligand **L**<sub>6</sub>. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **6** showed the anticipated resonances for the two inequivalent *p*-cymene ligands. The bridging behaviour observed here for **L**<sub>6</sub> contrasts with that previously observed



for  $C_6H_4(NHCH_2PPh_2)(2-PPh_2)$  [25] in which both P-monodentate and P,P-chelating modes towards late transition metal centres were observed.

The structures of the dichloroplatinum(II) complex **5** (Fig. 7) and the dinuclear ruthenium(II) complex **6**·0.5CDCl<sub>3</sub>·0.5C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>O (Fig. 8) were confirmed by single crystal X-ray crystallography (Table 2). The square planar environment around the Pt(II) centre is clearly evident from the relevant bond angles and **5** displays typical Pt–P and Pt–Cl bond lengths. The phosphine forms a nine-membered metallacycle at the platinum(II) centre. The X-ray structure of **6**·0.5CDCl<sub>3</sub>·0.5C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>O confirms a bimetallic arrangement of [RuCl<sub>2</sub>(η<sup>6</sup>-C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>14</sub>)] metal fragments supported by a bridging L<sub>6</sub> diphosphine ligand. The Ru–P and Ru–Cl bond lengths in **6**·0.5CDCl<sub>3</sub>·0.5C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>O are similar to previously reported examples [27] and both ruthenium(II) metal centres show piano-stool arrangements.

*< Insert Figure 7 and Figure 7 caption here >*

*< Insert Figure 8 and Figure 8 caption here >*

#### **4. Conclusions**

In summary, we have shown that new functionalised (aminomethyl)phosphines are readily obtainable through simple Mannich based condensation or hydrophosphination reactions of a 1,2-disubstituted arene. The resulting phosphine ligands display classic ligating behaviour at various late transition metal centres. Given the diversity of known R substituents this approach should be amenable to other ligand systems by careful choice of R<sub>2</sub>PCH<sub>2</sub>OH and R<sub>2</sub>PH precursors.

## Acknowledgements

We thank Johnson Matthey for their kind donation of precious metals and to the EPSRC National Mass Spectrometry Service at Swansea University and the UK National Crystallography Service at the University of Southampton for data collections. Cytec are gratefully acknowledged for the secondary phosphine HPCg.

## Appendix A. Supplementary material

A complete set of X-ray crystallographic structural data for compounds **L<sub>3</sub>**, **L<sub>5</sub>**, **L<sub>6</sub>**, **1**, **3b**·0.5CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, **4a**·1.5CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, **5** and **6**·0.5CDCl<sub>3</sub>·0.5C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>O (CCDC 1562158–65) are available free of charge via [http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data\\_request/cif](http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif) or from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, 12 Union Road, Cambridge, CB2 1EZ, UK; fax: (+44) 1223 336 033 or e-mail: [deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk](mailto:deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

## References

- [1] J.H. Downing, M.B. Smith, M. B., In Comprehensive Coordination Chemistry II, Vol. 1, (2004) 253, Amsterdam, Elsevier.
- [2] For example, see: G.M. Brown, M.R.J. Elsegood, M.B. Smith, K. Blann, Inorg. Chem. Commun. 14 (2011) 940.
- [3] (a) G.M. Brown, M.R.J. Elsegood, A.J. Lake, N.M. Sanchez-Ballester, M.B. Smith, T.S. Varley, K. Blann, Eur. J. Inorg. Chem. (2007) 1405;  
(b) M.B. Smith, S.H. Dale, S.J. Coles, T. Gelbrich, M.B. Hursthouse, M.E. Light, P.N. Horton, CrystEngCommun 9 (2007) 165;  
(c) M.B. Smith, S.H. Dale, S.J. Coles, T. Gelbrich, M.B. Hursthouse, M.E. Light, CrystEngCommun 8 (2006) 140;  
(d) M.R.J. Elsegood, M.B. Smith, P.M. Staniland, Inorg. Chem. 45 (2006) 6761.

- [4] (a) P. Qiu, J.Y. Zhao, X. Shi, X.H. Duan, *New J. Chem.* 40 (2016) 6568;
- (b) E.I. Musina, T.I. Fesenko, I.D. Strel'nik, F.M. Polyancev, S.K. Latypov, P. Lönnecke, E. Hey-Hawkins, A.A. Karasik, O.G. Sinyashin, *Dalton Trans.* 44 (2015) 13565;
- (c) P. Das, M.-H. Ho, M. O'Hagan, W.J. Shaw, R.M. Bullock, S. Raugei, M.L. Helm, *Dalton Trans.* 43 (2014) 2744;
- (d) H. Schubert, W. Leis, H.A. Mayer, L. Wesemann, *Chem. Commun.* 50 (2014) 2738;
- (e) A.A. Karasik, A.S. Balueva, E.I. Musina, O.G. Sinyashin, *Mendeleev Commun.* 23 (2013) 237;
- (f) R. Starosta, M. Florek, J. Król, M. Puchalska, A. Kochel, *New J. Chem.* 34 (2010) 1441.
- [5] (a) C.A. Bange, R. Waterman, *Chem. Eur. J.* 22 (2016) 12598;
- (b) A.A. Trifonov, I.V. Basalov, A.A. Kissel, *Dalton Trans.* 45 (2016) 19172;
- (c) J.T. Fleming, L.J. Higham, *Coord. Chem. Rev.* 297-298 (2015) 127;
- (d) B.P. Nell, D.R. Tyler, *Coord. Chem. Rev.* 279 (2014) 23;
- (e) V. Koshti, S. Gaikwad, S.H. Chikkali, *Coord. Chem. Rev.* 265 (2014) 52;
- (f) L. Rosenberg, *ACS Catal.* 3 (2013) 2845.
- [6] (a) M. Espinal-Viguri, M.F. Mahon, S.N.G. Tyler, R.L. Webster, *Tetrahedron* 73 (2017) 64;
- (b) Q. Liu, C. Wang, X. Zhang, M. Xue, Y. Yao, Y. Zhang, Q. Shen, *New J. Chem.* 40 (2016) 10447;
- (c) J. Yuan, H. Hu, C. Cui, *Chem. Eur. J.* 22 (2016) 5778;
- (d) J.R.F. Pritzwald-Stegmann, P. Lönnecke, E. Hey-Hawkins, *Dalton Trans.* 45 (2016) 2208;

- (e) L.A. Oparina, N.K. Gusarova, O.V. Vysotskaya, A.V. Artem'ev, N.A. Kolyvanov, B.A. Trofimov, *Synthesis* 46 (2014) 653;
- (f) K.J. Gallagher, R.L. Webster, *Chem. Commun.* 50 (2014) 12109;
- (g) T.J. Cunningham, M.R.J. Elsegood, P.F. Kelly, M.B. Smith, P.M. Staniland, *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* (2008) 2326;
- (h) N. Bampos, L.D. Field, B.A. Messerle, R.J. Smernik, *Inorg. Chem.* 32 (1993) 4084.
- [7] I.V. Basalov, B. Liu, T. Roisnel, A.V. Cherkasov, G.K. Fukin, J.-F. Carpentier, Y. Sarazin, A.A. Trifonov, *Organometallics* 35 (2016) 3261.
- [8] (a) J. Yuan, L. Zhu, J. Zhang, J. Li, C. Cui, *Organometallics* 36 (2017) 455;
- (b) M. Itazaki, S. Katsube, M. Kamitani, H. Nakazawa, *Chem. Commun.* 52 (2016) 3163;
- (c) A. Di Giuseppe, R. De Luca, R. Castarlenas, J.J. Pérez-Torrente, M. Crucianelli, L.A. Oro, *Chem. Commun.* 52 (2016) 5554.
- [9] M. Espinal-Viguri, A.K. King, J.P. Lowe, M.F. Mahon, R.L. Webster, *ACS Catal.* 6 (2016) 7892.
- [10] (a) M.-S. Li, Q. Zhang, D.-Y. Hu, W.-W. Zhong, M. Cheng, J.-X. Ji, W. Wei, *Tetrahedron Lett.* 57 (2016) 2642;
- (b) P.-Y. Geant, B.S. Mohamed, C. Périgaud, S. Peyrottes, J.-P. Uttaro, C. Mathé, *New J. Chem.* 40 (2016) 5318.
- [11] M.M.I. Basiouny, J.A.R. Schmidt, *Organometallics* 36 (2017) 721.
- [12] G. Hong, X. Zhu, C. Hu, A.N. Aruma, S. Wu, L. Wang, *J. Org. Chem.* 81 (2016) 6867.
- [13] (a) X.-R. Li, X.-Y. Yang, Y. Li, S.A. Pullarkat, P.-H. Leung, *Dalton Trans.* 46 (2017) 1311;

- (b) S.A. Pullarkat, *Synthesis* 48 (2016) 493;
- (c) X. Wei, J. Lu, W.-L. Duan, *Synthesis* 48 (2016) 4155;
- (d) Y.-C. Song, G.-F. Dai, F. Xiao, W.-L. Duan, *Tetrahedron Lett.* 57 (2016) 2990.
- [14] (a) Y.-B. Yu, L. Cheng, Y.-P. Li, Y. Fu, S.-F. Zhu, Q.-L. Zhou, *Chem. Commun.* 52 (2016) 4812;
- (b) F.-L. Zhu, Y. Zou, D.-Y. Zhang, Y.-H. Wang, X.-H. Hu, S. Chen, J. Xu, X.-P. Hu, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 53 (2014) 1410.
- [15] (a) D. Drew, J.R. Doyle, *Inorg. Synth.* 13 (1972) 47;
- (b) J.X. McDermott, J.F. White, G.M. Whitesides, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 98 (1976) 6521.
- [16] M.A. Bennet, T.N. Huang, T.W. Matheson, A.R. Smith, *Inorg. Synth.* 21 (1982) 74.
- [17] R. Uson, A. Laguna, M. Laguna, *Inorg. Synth.* 26 (1989) 85.
- [18] H. Hellmann, J. Bader, H. Birkner, O. Schumacher, *Justus Liebigs Ann. Chem.* 659 (1962) 49.
- [19] (a) APEX II Program for Diffractometer Control. Bruker AXS Inc., Madison, WI (2006–2014);
- (b) CrysAlis PRO, Rigaku Oxford Diffraction, (2015);
- (c) CrysAlis PRO, Agilent Technologies, (2013).
- [20] (a) SAINT software for CCD diffractometers, Bruker AXS Inc., Madison, WI, (2006–2014);
- (b) SADABS software, L. Krause, R. Herbst-Irmer, G.M. Sheldrick, D.J. Stalke, *Appl. Cryst.* 48 (2015) 3.
- [21] (a) G.M. Sheldrick, *Acta Crystallogr., Sect. A* 71 (2015) 3;
- (b) G.M. Sheldrick, *Acta Crystallogr. Sect. A* 64 (2008) 112.
- [22] G.M. Sheldrick, *SHELXTL user manual*, version 6.12, Bruker AXS Inc., Madison, WI, (2001).

- [23] (a) A.L. Spek, *Acta Crystallogr. Sect. A* 46 (1990) C34;  
(b) P.v.d. Sluis, A.L. Spek, *Acta Crystallogr. Sect. A* 46 (1990) 194.
- [24] (a) T.A. Shuttleworth, A.M. Miles-Hobbs, P.G. Pringle, H.A. Sparkes, *Dalton Trans.* 46 (2017) 125;  
(b) T.J. Cunningham, M.R.J. Elsegood, P.F. Kelly, M.B. Smith, P.M. Staniland, *Dalton Trans.* 39 (2010) 5216.
- [25] Q. Zhang, S.M. Aucott, A.M.Z. Slawin, J.D. Woollins, *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* (2002) 1635.
- [26] I.D. Kostas, G. Antonopoulou, C. Potamitis, C.P. Raptopoulou, V. Psycharis, *J. Organomet. Chem.* 828 (2017) 133.
- [27] S.E. Durrant, M.B. Smith, A.M.Z. Slawin, J.W. Steed, *J. Chem. Soc., Dalton Trans.* (2000) 2771.

















