2015. Том 56, № 5

Сентябрь – октябрь

C. 1075 – 1078

КРАТКИЕ СООБЩЕНИЯ

UDC 548.73

CRYSTAL STRUCTURES OF TWO N-HETEROCYCLIC CARBENE-PALLADACYCLES

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Received December, 14, 2014

Revised — February, 21, 2015

The crystal structures of two *N*-heterocyclic carbene (NHC)-palladacycles are determined by single crystal X-ray diffraction. The intermolecular C—H···Cl hydrogen bonds and π ··· π interactions are found in the crystals.

DOI: 10.15372/JSC20150530

K e y w o r d s: *N*-heterocyclic carbene, palladacycle, C—H···Cl hydrogen bond, π ··· π interaction.

N-heterocyclic carbenes (NHCs) have become a paradigmatically new generation of strong σ -donor ligands and are successfully used in the palladium-catalyzed coupling reactions [1, 2]. Among them, a combination of a palladacycle framework with highly donating and sterically demanding NHCs has been reported [3–8]. These adducts were far more active than the corresponding dimeric palladacycle. In addition, NHCs have attracted increasing interest as ancillary ligands that opened new avenues for the design of emitting materials due to their excellent color purity and high stability [9–11]. Recently, we have investigated fluorescent NHC-cyclopalladated 2-(4-ethyl-phenyl)pyrazine and 2-(4-methoxyphenyl)pyrazine complexes [12]. As a part of our continuous research work, herein, the structures of two NHC [*N*,*N*'-bis((1,3-di-4-methyl-phenyl))-imidazol)-2-ylidene]-palladacycles are determined by single crystal X-ray diffraction.

Experimental. NHC-palladacycles **1** and **2** were prepared by the literature method [12]. Single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were obtained by recrystallization from a CH₂Cl₂-petroleum ether solution at room temperature. Single crystal X-ray diffraction data of complex **1** and **2** were collected on a Xcalibur, Eos, Gemini diffractometer with graphite-monochromated Mo K_{α} radiation ($\lambda = 0.071073$ nm). Data collection and reduction were performed using the Olex2 software [13]. The structures were solved by direct methods and refined by the least-squares methods using the SHELXL-97 program [14]. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. In the final step of the crystal structure refinement, hydrogen atoms of idealized —CH₂ and —CH₃ groups were added and treated with the riding atom mode; their isotropic displacement factor was chosen as 1.2 and 1.5 times the preceding carbon atom, respectively. The ethyl group in **1** was disordered over positions with the major component having a site occupancy of 0.595(11). Crystal data and experimental details of the structure determinations, selected bond distances and angles, and hydrogen bonding parameters are listed in Tables 1 and 2, respectively. The X-ray diffraction data were deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Center (CCDC no. 1039124 for **1** and 1013221 for **2**) and are available from the authors at www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data request/cif.

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1 2 Parametr C29H27ClN4Pd C28H25ClN4OPd Empirical formula Formula weight 573.40 575.37 Crystal system Triclinic Triclinic *P*-1 P-1 Space group a, b, c, Å 10.1608(4), 11.5312(6), 12.2594(6) 10.0414(6), 11.4653(5), 12.3285(5) 67.056(5), 86.629(4), 81.631(4) 67.312(4), 86.019(4), 82.122(4) α , β , γ , deg. V, Å³ 1296.95(11) 1308.67(11) Ζ 2 2 1.455 1.473 $D_{\text{calcd}}, \text{g/cm}^{\circ}$ F(000) 584.0 584.0 Index ranges $-12 \le h \le 12, -13 \le k \le 14, -15 \le l \le 15$ $-14 \le h \le 11, -14 \le k \le 14, -15 \le l \le 14$ Reflections collected / unique 10857 / 5354 1074 / 5305 GOOF on F^2 1.045 1.046 $R_1, wR_2 [I > 2\sigma(I)]$ 0.0353, 0.0741 0.0311, 0.0637 0.0460, 0.0795 0.0389. 0.0671 R_1 , wR_2 [all data]

Crystallographic data and structure refinement for 1 and 2

Table 2

Table 1

1 2 Pd1-Cl1 2.4043(8) Pd1-Cl1 2.4043(7) Pd1-N3 2.070(2)Pd1-N3 2.075(2)Pd1—C1 1.973(3) Pd1—C1 1.970(2)Pd1-C23 Pd1-C23 1.992(3) 1.995(2) C25-C28 [C28A] 1.449(10) [1.527(16)] O1-C25 1.374(3)O1-C28 C28-C29 [C29A] 1.466(11) [1.464(16)] 1.417(4)N3—Pd1—Cl1 93.58(7) N3-Pd1-Cl1 93.83(6) C1-Pd1-Cl1 C1-Pd1-Cl1 94.94(8) 95.06(7) C1-Pd1-C23 89.79(12) C1-Pd1-C23 89.46(10) C23-Pd1-Cl1 C23-Pd1-Cl1 81.71(11) 81.75(9) C1—Pd1—N3 171.39(10) C1—Pd1—N3 170.89(8) C23—Pd1—Cl1 174.84(7) C23—Pd1—Cl1 175.21(9)

Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (deg.) for 1 and 2

Results and discussion. Although many structures of palladacycles have been determined, few reports consider intermolecular interactions in these complexes [15–18]. Thus, we investigated the crystal structures of palladacycles 1 and 2, focusing on the studies of supramolecular interactions. The single crystal X-ray analysis indicates that these palladacycles are *trans* complexes in the solid state. The molecules are shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The Pd atom in each complex is in a slightly distorted square-planar environment bonded to the C atom of NHC, the chlorine atom, the nitrogen atom, and the C atom of the pyrazine ligand. The bicyclic system formed by the palladacycle and the pyrazyl ring is approximately coplanar (dihedral angles of 1.8° and 2.8° for 1 and 2). The Pd-C_{carb} and Pd-N bond lengths are found to be in the range of 1.970(2)-1.973(2) Å and 2.070(2)-2.075(2) Å, respectively, which are comparable to those of the related NHC-palladacycles [17]. The imidazole ring plane of NHC is almost perpendicular to the square plane formed by the Pd(II) center (dihedral angles



Fig. 1. Molecular structure of **1** drawn with 30 % probability displacement ellipsoids (all hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity)

Fig. 2. Molecular structure of **2** drawn with 30 % probability displacement ellipsoids (all hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity)



Fig. 3. The 1D supramolecular structure of 1

of 87.6° and 88.9° for 1 and 2). In this type of arrangement the N-substituents of NHC reduce the steric interaction with the palladacyclic ligand.

For 1 and 2, the NHC ligand can serve as an H donor (Fig. 3). Complex 1 exists as a dimer in the crystal due to intermolecular hydrogen bonds between the chlorine atom and the adjacent C—H group of NHC (Cl···H = 2.960 Å) [19, 20]. The interplanar distance between the two imidazole rings is 5.553 Å and the Pd—Pd distance is 7.410 Å. The crystal structure packing of 1 consists of inversion-related pairs of molecules through $\pi \cdots \pi$ interactions [21, 22]. The pairs are arranged in a head-to-tail manner and involve the close interaction of pyrazine and benzene moieties (3.863 Å). Owing to the CH···Cl hydrogen bonds and $\pi \cdots \pi$ interactions, the crystal structure of 1 is extended into a 1D architecture. Basically, the crystal structure of 2 is quite similar to that of 1 owing to the existence of similar hydrogen bonds and intermolecular $\pi \cdots \pi$ interactions in the crystal. The hydrogen bond length (Cl···H) and the interplanar distance in 2 are 2.959 Å and 3.721 Å, respectively. The interplanar distance between the two imidazole rings and the Pd—Pd distance in 2 are 5.539 Å and 7.401 Å, respectively.

This work was supported by the Aid Project for the Leading Young Teachers in Henan Provincial Institutions of Higher Education of China (2013GGJS-151), Innovation Scientists and Technicians Troop Construction Projects of Henan Province, and the Science Foundation of Henan Education Department (Nos. 14A150049 and 13A150804).

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