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Gold(I) alkynyl complexes derived from ethynylanilines: crystal structure of $[Au(C \equiv C-4-C_6H_4NH_2){P(3-tolyl)_3}]$ a polymer in the solid state via NH···Au contacts

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Dedicated to Professor Gordon Stone in recognition of his contributions to organometallic chemistry

Abstract

Reaction of $[AuCl(SMe_2)]$ with *para*-ethynylaniline and *para*-ethynyl-*ortho*-toluidine affords oligomers, $[Au(C \equiv C_{4} - C_{6}H_{3}RNH_{2})]_{n}$ (R = H, Me), which in turn react with tertiary phosphines or 2,5-dimethylphenylisocyanide to give monomeric adducts, $[Au(C \equiv C_{4} - C_{6}H_{3}RNH_{2})L]$. One of these, $[Au(C \equiv C_{4} - C_{6}H_{4}NH_{2})\{P(3 - tolyl)_{3}\}]$, has been crystallographically characterised and is a polymer in the solid state, being held together via NH···Au contacts. © 2004 Elsevier B.V. All rights reserved.

Keywords: Gold(I) complexes; Alkynyl complexes; Ethynylanilines; X-ray crystal structure

1. Introduction

There is continued interest in the chemistry of alkynyl gold(I) complexes primarily resulting from their physical properties, such as, luminescence [1–5], non-linear optical behavior [6–8] and liquid crystalline [9] properties. Further, the linearity of the M–C \equiv C moiety and the preference of gold(I) for linear two coordination, makes alkynyl gold(I) compounds attractive candidates for the design of rigid-rod molecules [10] or metal-containing linear-chain polymers with extended electronic conjugation along the backbone [8,11–13]. One way of building up extended chains containing these sub-units is to utilise alkynyl ligands with a second metal binding site. In this context, ethynylanilines are potentially useful

building blocks towards the synthesis of multimetallic arrays [14], especially in which the binding sites are electronically conjugated and can potentially incorporate alternating high and low-valent metal centres.

Herein, we describe the synthesis of new alkynyl gold(I) complexes derived from 4-ethynylaniline and 2methyl-4-ethynylaniline by using well-known and straightforward synthetic pathways such as the "acac method" [15] and depolymerization reactions [16–18]. In addition, the crystal structure of $[Au(C = C-4-C_6H_4NH_2){P(3-tolyl)_3}]$ is reported which shows that the molecules pack through N–H···Au contacts. As far as we know, this is the first time such contacts have been shown to play an important role in the molecular packing of gold complexes.

2. Results and discussion

The reactions between [AuCl(SMe₂)] and the corresponding ethynylanilines in the presence of triethylam-

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ine afforded in high yields the neutral oligomers $[Au(C \equiv C-4-C_6H_3RNH_2)]_n$ **1a-b** as orange solids (Scheme 1). As a result of the tendency of many complexes of this type to explode on contact when pure [16–20], we did not attempt any further purification and due to their extreme insolubility in all common organic solvents, they could not be characterized by NMR techniques. Like related (alkynyl)gold(I) complexes [21], both 1a-b showed a band at around 2000 cm⁻¹ in the IR spectrum being attributed to the $v(C \equiv C)$ stretching mode, while elemental analysis were in agreement with the proposed formulation. We assume that **1a-b** adopt structures similar to other gold complexes of this type, whereby each gold atom is assumed to be simultaneously σ -coordinated to one alkynyl fragment and π bonded to the carbon-carbon triple bond of an adjacent molecule [22–24], but cannot rule out the possibility of amine coordination.

One of the most widely used methods of preparing new (alkynyl)gold(I) compounds centres on the depolymerization reaction of neutral homoleptic alkynylgold(I) polymers, upon addition of good σ -donor ligands such as phosphines, isocyanides or halides. Such reactions have allowed the synthesis of a huge number of new neutral [18,25–28] and ionic [29–31] gold(I) alkynyl complexes. In this context, we reacted oligomeric **1a–b** with tertiary phosphines $PR_3(R = Ph, C_6H_4Me-3,$ C₆H₄OMe-4, C₆H₄F-4) or 2,5-dimethylphenylisocyanide (XyNC) to obtain the corresponding mixed (alkynyl)gold(I) derivatives, $[LAu(C \equiv C-4-C_6H_3RNH_2)]$ 2a-6a, 3b, 4b and 6b (Scheme 1). All were carried out in dichloromethane, in which the oligomeric starting materials **1a-b** are completely insoluble. The addition of the appropriate ligand caused the immediate disappearance of the initial suspension, resulting in solutions from which the neutral derivatives were isolated in good to moderate yields (41-77%).

Characterisation was relatively straightforward. All show molecular ions in their FAB mass spectra, although for the phosphine complexes the spectra are dominated by signals corresponding to the $[AuPR_3]^+$ (100%) and $[Au(PR_3)_2]^+$ (90–50%) fragments, as has



previously been reported for other alkynyl(phosphine)gold(I) complexes [32]. All phosphine complexes also show a singlet resonance at around 40 ppm in the ³¹P NMR spectra, being similar to that found for other alkynyl(phosphine)gold(I) complexes [33–37]. The ¹H NMR spectra of 2a-6a, 3b, 4b, and 6b show the signals expected for the ethynylanilines as well as the auxiliary phosphine and isocyanide ligands, and both their number and relative intensities are in agreement with the proposed structures (see Section 3). In all cases, no residual signals attributable to acetylenic hydrogens were observed, proving that in the syntheses of these complexes, the substitution of acetylenic hydrogens by the corresponding gold(I) fragments has been quantitative. The ¹³C NMR spectra all show a singlet around 105 ppm, assignable to one of the carbons of the C=CAu fragment, but in the absence of J_{CP} coupling constants we cannot unequivocally assign this resonance.

The crystal structure of **5a** has been carried out (Fig. 1). It shows the expected mononuclear complex in which the gold atom is coordinated to phosphine and alkynyl ligands in an approximately linear manner [C-Au-P 176.21(10)°]. The C=C [1.198(4) Å], C-Au [1.990(3) Å] and AuP [2.2686(8) Å] bond distances are similar to those found in other alkynyl(phosphine) complexes [25,35,38–40].

Unlike the situation found for many other gold(I) complexes, intermolecular Au···Au contacts are not observed in **5a**. Rather intermolecular contacts N–H···Au are seen $[d_{H...Au} = 3.114 \text{ Å}$, angle N–H···Au = 152.90°] that can be considered as hydrogen bonds (Fig. 2).

A recent paper by Schmidbaur [41] describes the head to tail packing through intermolecular aurophilic contacts in [Me₃PAuC=CAuPMe₃] to give a zig-zag chain analogous to that found in **5a**. A search in the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Base for structures that



Fig. 1. Molecular structure of **5a** with selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°); Au(1)-P(1) 2.2686(8), Au(1)-C(1) 1.990(3), C(1)-C(2) 1.198(4), P(1)-Au(1)-C(1) 176.21(10), Au(1)-C(1)-C(2) 166.9(3), C(1)-C(2)-C(3) 176.1(4).

contain these kind of N–H···Au interactions, the restrictions [42–45] applied being $d(H \cdot \cdot Au)'' d_{VdW} + 0.4$ Å and N–H···Au angle $\geq 135^{\circ}$, revealed the existence of only twelve structures [46–56] in which such contacts are present. Seven [46,49,50,53,54,56] display intermolecular aurophilic contacts which have been previously reported to be the main packing forces in a wide variety of gold(I) compounds [57], whereas the other five [48,51,52,55] show classical hydrogen bonds of the type N–H···E (E = N, O, S). Nevertheless, the authors do not mention the existence of these N–H···Au contacts in any of the papers above mentioned. It is noteworthy that in **5a**, N–H···Au contacts are the only intermolecular contacts found so that they could be responsible for the zig-zag chain packing observed.

Vicente et al. [15] have previously shown the synthetic versatility of the acetylacetonate (acac) gold(I) complexes as starting materials for the preparation of a wide variety of both organometallic and coordination gold compounds, including alkynyl derivatives [10,25,31, 34,35,58,59]. The "acac method" is based on the ability of gold(I)acac derivatives to deprotonate substrates that contain an acidic hydrogen. The reactions occur with the formation of complexes in which the deprotonated ligands coordinate to the metal centre occupying the vacancy generated upon liberation of acetylacetone. This method has also allowed the synthesis of a range of homoleptic anionic (alkynyl)gold(I) derivatives of general formula PPN[Au(C \equiv CR)₂] (R = H, Bu^t, SiMe₃, CH₂Cl, CH₂Br, CH₂OH, C \equiv CH, *p*-C₆H₄CCC₆H₅) [34,35,60].

The reaction of PPN[Au(acac)₂] and 4-ethynylaniline (1:2) in degassed dichloromethane yielded the anionic complex, PPN[Au(C \equiv C-4-C₆H₄NH₂)₂] 7 in quantitative yield (Scheme 1). This was easily characterised on the basis of analytical and spectroscopic data. Notably, a molecular anion of 100% relative intensity was seen in the negative ion FAB mass spectrum and two doublets were seen in the aromatic region of the ¹H NMR spectrum.

In conclusion, we have shown that a range of gold(I) *para*-amino substituted arylacetylide complexes can be readily prepared in high yields from the corresponding ethynylanilines, and our future efforts will focus on the development of multimetallic arrays via functionalisation of the amino group.

3. Experimental

Technical grade solvents were purified by standard procedures. Unless otherwise stated, the reactions were carried out at room temperature without special precautions against moisture. ¹H, ¹³C and ³¹P NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ solutions on a Bruker AMX400 spectrometer at room temperature. Chemical



Fig. 2. Packing diagram for **5a** highlighting the intermolecular NH···Au interactions.

shifts are referenced to H_3PO_4 (³¹P) or TMS (¹H and ¹³C). The gold complexes [AuCl(SMe₂)] [61], PPN[Au (acac)₂] [62] and the organic ligands 4-ethynylaniline [63] and 2-methyl-4-ethynylaniline [64] were prepared as described in the literature.

3.1. Synthesis of $[AuC \equiv CC_6H_3(R-2)NH_2 - 4]_n[R = H (1a), Me(1b)]$

To a solution of 2-R-4-ethynylaniline ($\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{H}$, 192 mg, 1.64 mmol; Me, 213 mg, 1.76 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL) were successively added NEt₃ (**1a**: 0.4; **1b**: 1 mL) and [AuCl(SMe₂)] (**1a**: 483 mg, 1.64 mmol; **1b**: 519 mg, 1.76 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 0.5 (**1a**) or 1 (**1b**) h. In the case of $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{H}$, the resulting suspension was filtered and the solid washed with CH₂Cl₂ (4×5 mL) and air dried to give **1a** as an orange powder. For $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{M}$ e, the resulting solution was concentrated under reduced pressure to ca. 10 mL and MeOH (10 mL) was added to precipitate a dark-orange powder which was filtered, washed with Et₂O (2×5 mL) and air dried to give **1b**.

3.1.1. Compound 1a

Yield: 456 mg, 89%. *Anal.* Calc. for C_8H_6AuN : C, 30.69; H, 1.93; N, 4.47. Found: C, 29.90; H, 2.40; N, 4.40%. IR (cm⁻¹): v(NH), 3344(br), 3205(br); $v(C \equiv C)$, 1998(w).

3.1.2. Compound **1b**

Yield: 412 mg, 72%. *Anal.* Calc. for C_9H_8Au -N·CH₂Cl₂: C, 28.98; H, 2.42; N, 3.38. Found: C, 28.12; H, 2.45; N, 3.57%. IR (cm⁻¹): v(C=C), 1988(w).

3.2. Synthesis of $[Au(C \equiv CC_6H_3(R-2)NH_2-4)(L)]$ [R = H, $L = PPh_3$ (2a), $P(C_6H_4OMe-4)_3$ (3a), $P(C_6H_4F-4)_3$ (4a), $P(C_6H_4Me-3)_3$ (5a), XylNC (6a); R = Me, $L = P(C_6H_4OMe-4)_3$ (3b), $P(C_6H_4F-4)_3$ (4b), XylNC (6b)]

To a suspension of **1a** (**2a**: 166 mg, 0.53 mmol; **3a**: 290 mg, 0.92 mmol; **4a**: 273 mg, 0.87 mmol; **5a**: 150 mg, 0.48 mmol; **6a**: 230 mg, 0.78 mmol) or **1b** (**3b**: 313

mg, 0.96 mmol; 4b: 188 mg, 0.6 mmol; 6b: 196 mg, 0.62 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (15-25 mL) was added the appropriate ligand (2a: PPh₃, 209 mg, 0.8 mmol; 3a: P(C₆H₄OMe-4)₃, 326 mg, 0.92 mmol; **4a**: P(C₆H₄F-4)₃, 276 mg, 0.87 mmol; 5a: P(C₆H₄Me-3)₃ 146 mg, 0.48 mmol; 6a: XylNC, 153 mg, 1.17 mmol; 3b: $P(C_6H_4OMe-4)_3$, 337 mg, 0.96 mmol; **4b**: $P(C_6H_4F-4)_3$, 182 mg, 0.6 mmol; 6b: XylNC, 94 mg, 0.7 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 0.5 (6b) or 1 (2a, 4a, 3b, 4b) or 1.5 (3a) or 2.5 (6a) or 3 (5a) h and filtered through anhydrous MgSO₄. The solution was concentrated under vacuum to 1 (2a, 6a, 6b) or 2 (4a, 3b) mL or to dryness (3a, 5a, 4b) and Et_2O (2a, 3a: 20 mL; 6b:10 mL) or *n*hexane (4a: 10 mL; 4b: 20 mL) or a mixture of both (5a: 4:1, 25 mL; 6a: 2:1, 15 mL; 3b: 2:1, 30 mL) was added. After stirring for 15 min, the suspension was filtered and the solid was air dried to give a bright yellow (2a) or orange (3a, 6a, 6b) or pale yellow $(4a \cdot 2H_2O, 5a)$ or brown (3b, 4b) solid.

3.2.1. Compound 2a

Yield: 127 mg, 41%. *Anal.* Calc. for $C_{26}H_{21}AuNP$: C, 54.27; H, 3.68; N, 2.43. Found: C, 54.90; H, 3.90; N, 1.85%. IR (cm⁻¹): v(NH), 3450(s), 3350(s); $v(C \equiv C)$, 2103(s). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.38–7.51 (m, 15 H, PPh₃), 7.31 (d, 2 H, Ar, ³J_{HH} = 7 Hz), 6.54 (d, 2 H, Ar, ³J_{HH} = 7 Hz), 3.66 (brs, 2 H, NH₂). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 145.3, 134.2 (d, *i*-PPh₃, ¹J_{CP} = 15 Hz), 133.6, 131.1 (m, m+ *p*-PPh₃), 129.0 (d, *o*-PPh₃, ²J_{CP} = 11 Hz), 114.6, 114.5, 104.8 (C = C). ³¹P NMR (162 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 39.9 (s, PPh₃). MS-FAB⁺ (*m*/*z*, %) 575 (M⁺, 23%).

3.2.2. Compound 3a

Yield: 352 mg, 58%. *Anal.* Calc. for C₂₉H₂₇AuNO₃P: C, 52.34; H, 4.09; N, 2.11. Found: C, 52.48; H, 4.13; N, 1.67%. IR (cm⁻¹): v(NH), 3459(s), 3345(s); v(C=C), 2104(s). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.47–7.42 (m, 6 H, PR₃), 7.33 (d, 2 H, Ar, ³J_{HH} = 8 Hz), 6.95–6.93 (m, 6 H, PR₃), 6.56 (d, 2 H, Ar, ³J_{HH} = 8 Hz), 3.83 (s, 9 H, MeO), 3.69 (brs, 2H, NH₂). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 162.0 (*p*-PR₃), 145.3, 135.6 (d, *o*-PR₃, ²J_{CP} = 15 Hz), 133.5; 133.4, 121.4 (d, *i*-PR₃, ¹J_{CP} = 60 Hz), 114.6 (d, *m*-PR₃, ${}^{3}J_{CP} = 13$ Hz), 114.5, 104.8 (C=C), 55.3 (MeO). ${}^{31}P$ NMR (162 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 39.4 (s, PR₃). MS-FAB⁺ (*m*/*z*, %) 665 (M⁺, 14%).

3.2.3. Compound **3b**

Yield: 350 mg, 54%. *Anal.* Calc. for C₃₀H₂₉AuNO₃P: C, 53.03; H, 4.30; N, 2.06. Found: C, 53.22; H, 4.66; N, 1.76%. IR (cm⁻¹): *v*(NH), 3458(s), 3346(s); *v*(C==C), 2104(s). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.42–7.37 (m, 6 H, PR₃), 7.22 (d, 1 H, Ar, ⁴J_{HH} = 2 Hz), 7.19 (dd, 1 H, Ar, ³J_{HH} = 8 Hz, ⁴J_{HH} = 2 Hz), 6.90–6.88 (m, 6 H, PR₃), 6.52 (d, 1 H, Ar, ³J_{HH} = 8 Hz), 3.80 (s, 9 H, MeO), 3.61 (brs, 2 H, NH₂), 2.08 (s, 3 H, MeAr). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 161.8 (*p*-PR₃), 143.6, 135.6 (d, *o*-PR₃, ²J_{CP} = 16 Hz), 134.6, 131.2, 121.8 (d, *i*-PR₃, ¹J_{CP} = 60 Hz), 121.7, 114.6 (d, *m*-PR₃, ³J_{CP} = 12 Hz), 114.6, 114.4, 55.4 (MeO), 17.2 (MeAr). ³¹P NMR (162 MHz, CDCl₃): δ (ppm): 39.9 (s, PR₃). FAB⁺ (*m*/z, %) 679 (M⁺, 25%).

3.2.4. Compound 4a

Yield: 421 mg, 77%. *Anal.* Calc. for $C_{26}H_{22}AuF_{3}NO_{2}$. P · 2H₂O: C, 46.93; H, 3.33; N, 2.11. Found: C, 47.47; H, 3.23; N, 2.25%. IR (cm⁻¹): v(NH), 3432(s), 3325(s); v(C=C), 2109(s). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.54–7.46 (m, 6 H, PR₃), 7.29 (d, 2 H, Ar, ³J_{HH} = 8 Hz), 7.18–7.13 (m, 6 H, PR₃), 6.55 (d, 2 H, Ar, ³J_{HH} = 8 Hz), 3.69 (brs, NH₂, 2H), 1.66 (s, 4H, H₂O). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 164.9 (d, *p*-PR₃, ¹J_{CF} = 260 Hz), 136.3 (dd *o*-PR₃, ³J_{CF} = 9 Hz, ²J_{CP} = 16 Hz,), 133.6, 133.4, 125.3 (di-PR₃, ¹J_{CP} = 58 Hz,), 116.8 (dd *m*-PR₃, ²J_{CF} = 21 Hz, ³J_{CP} = 13 Hz,), 114.6, 114.1. ³¹P NMR (162 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 41.8 (s, PR₃). MS-FAB⁺ (*m*/z, %) 629 (M⁺, 25%).

3.2.5. Compound 4b

Yield: 200 mg, 52%. *Anal.* Calc. for $C_{27}H_{20}AuF_3NP$: C, 50.41; H, 3.13; N, 2.18. Found: C, 50.70; H, 3.34; N, 2.12%. IR (cm⁻¹): v(NH), 3450(s), 3356(s); $v(C \equiv C)$, 2109(s). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 2.07 (s, 3H, MeAr), 3.63 (brs, 2H, NH₂), 6.52 (d, 1H, Ar, $J_{HH} = 8Hz$), 7.12–7.21 (m, 8 H, Ar + PR₃), 7.53–7.46 (m, 6 H, PR₃). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 164.9 (dd, *p*-PR₃, ¹ $J_{CF} = 253$ Hz, ⁴ $J_{CP} = 2$ Hz), 143.9 (Ar), 136.3 (dd, *o*-PR₃, ² $J_{CP} = 16$ Hz, ³ $J_{CF} = 9$ Hz), 134.6, 131.2, 125.2 (d, *i*-PR₃, ¹ $J_{CP} = 58$ Hz), 121.7, 116.8 (dd, m-PR₃, ² $J_{CF} = 21$ Hz, ³ $J_{CP} = 12$ Hz), 114.4, 114.0, 105.3 (C=C), 17.2 (ArMe). ³¹P NMR (162 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 41.6 (s, PR₃). FAB⁺ (*m*/*z*, %) 643 (M⁺, 35%).

3.2.6. Compound 5a

Yield: 211 mg, 71%. *Anal.* Calc. for C₂₉H₂₇AuNP: C, 56.41; H, 4.41; N, 2.27. Found: C, 56.17; H, 4.55; N, 2.34%. IR (cm⁻¹): v(NH), 3459(s), 3355(s); v(C \equiv C), 2108(s). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.41 (m, 3H,

PR₃), 7.31 (d, 2H, Ar, ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 9$ Hz), 7.29–7.17 (m, 9 H, PR₃), 6.53 (d, 2H, Ar, ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 9$ Hz), 3.67 (brs, NH₂, 2H), 2.31 (s, 9H, Me). 13 C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 145.3, 138.9 (d, PR₃, J = 12 Hz), 134.9 (d, PR₃, J = 16 Hz), 133.5, 132.2 (s, PR₃), 131.0 (d, PR₃, J = 12 Hz), 130.0 (d, *i*-PR₃, ${}^{1}J_{CP} = 55$ Hz), 128.8 (d, PR₃, J = 12 Hz), 114.6, 114.4, 104.8 (C=C), 21.4 (Me, PR₃). 31 P NMR (162 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 43.5 (s, PR₃). FAB⁺ (*m*/*z*, %) 617 (M⁺, 35%).

3.2.7. Compound 6a

Yield 230 mg, 70%. *Anal.* Calc. for $C_{17}H_{15}AuN_2$: C, 45.96; H, 3.40; N, 6.31. Found: C, 45.86; H, 3.56; N, 6.13%. IR (cm⁻¹): v(NH), 3452(s), 3352(s), v(C \equiv N), 2194(s); v(C \equiv C), 2110(s). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.31–7.25 (m, 3 H, Xyl + Ar), 7.13 (d, 2H, Xyl, ³J_{HH} = 8 Hz), 6.53 (d, 2H, Ar, ³J_{HH} = 9 Hz), 3.69 (brs, 2H, NH₂), 2.40 (s, 6 H, Me). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 145.5, 136.1, 133.7, 130.7, 128.4, 124.4 (NCAu), 118.9, 114.5, 114.0, 104.7 (C \equiv C), 18.7 (Me). FAB⁺ (*m*/*z*, %) 444 (M⁺, 100%).

3.2.8. Compound 6b

Yield: 150 mg, 55%. *Anal.* Calc. for C₁₈H₁₇AuN₂: C, 47.17; H, 3.74; N, 6.11. Found: C, 47.24; H, 3.79; N, 5.91%. IR (cm⁻¹): v(NH), 3452(s), 3357(s); v(C \equiv N), 2207; v(C \equiv C), 2113(s). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.30–7.26 (m, 1H, Xyl), 7.16–7.11 (m, 4H, Ar + Xyl), 6.51 (d, 1 H, Ar, ³J_{HH} = 8 Hz), 3.63 (s, 2H, NH₂), 2.39 (s, 6H, Me, Xyl), 2.06 (s, 3H, MeAr). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 143.9, 136.0, 134.7, 131.4, 130.7, 128.3, 124.5 (NCAu), 121.6, 118.7, 114.4, 114.0, 105.0 (C \equiv C), 18.7 (Me, Xyl), 17.2 (MeAr). FAB⁺ (*m*/*z*, %) 458 (M⁺, 100%).

3.3. Synthesis of $PPN[Au(C \equiv CC_6H_4NH_2-4)_2]$ (7)

To a solution of 4-ethynylaniline (284 mg, 2.4 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (30 mL) was added solid PPN[Au(acac)₂] (1.03 g, 1.1 mmol). After 6 h of stirring, the reaction mixture was filtered through anhydrous MgSO4 and the solution was concentrated in vacuum to dryness. Et₂O (60 mL) was added, the resulting suspension stirred for 1.5 h, filtered, and the solid air dried to give 7 as a yellow powder. Yield: 1.04 g, 98%. Anal. Calc. for C₅₂H₄₂AuN₃P₂: C, 64.53; H, 4.37; N, 4.34. Found: C, 64.37; H, 4.33; N, 4.62%. IR (cm⁻¹): v(NH), 3441(s), 3329(s); v(C=C), 2096(s). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 7.68–7.45 (m, 30 H, PPN), 7.12 (d, 4H, Ar, ${}^{3}J_{\rm HH}$ = 7 Hz), 6.48 (d, 4H, Ar, ${}^{3}J_{\rm HH}$ = 7 Hz), 3.61 (brs, 4H, NH₂). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 144.6, 134.1 (m, p-PPN), 133.1, 132.6-132.2 (m, m-PPN), 129.9–129.7 (m, *o*-PPN), 127.4 (dd, *i*-PPN, ${}^{3}J_{CP} = 2$ Hz, ${}^{1}J_{CP}$ = 107 Hz), 118.0, 114.8, 114.3, 102.3 (C=C). FAB⁻ (*m*/*z*, %) 429 (M⁻, 100%).

4. X-ray data collection and solution

A single crystal of 5a was mounted on a glass fibre and all geometric and intensity data were taken from this sample using a Bruker SMART APEX CCD diffractometer using graphite-monochromated Mo Ka radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073$ Å) at 293 ± 2 K. Data reduction was carried out with sAINT+ and absorption correction applied using the programme SADABS. The structure was solved by direct methods and developed by using alternating cycles of least-squares refinement and difference-Fourier synthesis. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. Hydrogens were generally placed in calculated positions (riding model). Structure solution used SHELXTL PLUS V6.10 program package. Crystallographic data for the structural analyses has been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, CCDC No. 233870.

Crystallographic data; yellow block, dimensions $0.15 \times 0.13 \times 0.12$ mm, monoclinic, space group *P*21/*n*, a = 11.2208(7), b = 13.9655(9), c = 16.0613(10) (Å), $\beta = 97.945(1)$ (°), V = 2492.7(3) (Å³), Z = 4, F(000) = 1208, $D_{calc} = 1.645$ g cm⁻³, $\mu = 5.982$ mm⁻¹, $T_{max}/T_{min} = 0.534/0.467$. 21779 reflections were collected, 5975 unique [$R_{int} = 0.0251$] of which 4888 were observed [$I > 2.0\sigma(I)$]. At final convergence, $R_1 = 0.0275$, $wR_2 = 0.0634$ [$I > 2.0\sigma(I$]] and $R_1 = 0.0373$, $wR_2 = 0.0674$ (all data), for 292 parameters.

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