Table 5. Comparison of some kinetic and thermodynamic parameters for  $[Fe(5-Brphen)_{3}]^{2+}$ ,  $[Fe(5-Brphch.)_{3}]^{3+}$  and 5-Brphen with those for other substituted 1,10-phenanthrolines and their iron(II) and iron(III) tris-complexes

Thermodynamic				Kinetic lron(II)			lron(III)	
Ligand	Ligand $pK_a$	Complex $\log \beta_3$	$[Fe(LL)3]2+/3+$	$10^4 k_{\text{aq}} (308.2)^{\text{g}}$ $0.54 M H_2SO_4$	$k_{\text{OH}}$ – (298 K) <sup>h</sup> ) $I = 0.243 M$ (NaOH/NaCl)	$k_{\text{CN}}$ (308.2) <sup>i</sup> ) $I = 0.5 M (KCN/KCl)$	$10^4 k_{\text{ag}} (307.5 \text{ K})^{\text{j}}$ 1.09 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	
$5-\text{NO}_2$ phen	$3.57^{a}$	$17.8^{a}$	$1.25^{e}$	23	0.094	0.51	200	
5-Clphen	$4.26^{a}$	$19.7^{a}$	$1.12^{e}$	12	0.052	0.10	22	
5-Brphen	$4.20^{k}$		$1.12^{e}$	8.6	0.057	0.11	6.4	
phen	$4.96^{a}$	$21.2^{\rm c}$	$1.06^{e}$	3.8	0.011	0.034	1.2	
4,7-Me <sub>2</sub> phen 5.94 <sup>b)</sup>		$23.1^{d}$	$0.87^{\dagger}$	1.1	0.007	ca. 0.006	0.13	

a) Ref. 21(b) ref. 22; c) ref. 23; d) ref. 24; e) ref. 25; f) ref. 26; g) see<sup>-1</sup>, ref. 13; h) mol dm<sup>-3</sup>s<sup>-1</sup>, ref. 16; i) mol dm<sup>-3</sup>s<sup>-1</sup>, ref. 17; i) s<sup>-1</sup>, ref.  $6$ ; k) ref. 27.

(4) See pp. 51 and 78 of ref. 3.

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TMC 77/138

# Some Complexes of Rhodium and Iridium with 2-(Di-t-butylphosphinomethyl)-1-methoxy-4-methylbenzene\*

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#### Summary

The new tertiary phosphine

t-Bu<sub>2</sub> (2-MeO-5-MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)P, L, was prepared by the base treatment of the phosphonium salt, LHTT, which was in turn

prepared from t-Bu<sub>2</sub>PH, 2-MeO-5-MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Cl and sodium iodide. This phosphine, L, reacts with various chloro-rhodium and -iridium species without O-demethylation. This contrasts with the behaviour of t-Bu<sub>2</sub>PC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>OMe-2 which demethylates readily on similar treatment to give chelate complexes. The completely different behaviour between this new 2-methoxybenzylphosphine, L, and the 2-anisylphosphine, t-Bu<sub>2</sub>PC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>OMe-2, is explained in terms of steric effects.

No reprints are available.

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# Introduction

We have shown that tertiary 2-anisylphosphines generate some unusual chemistry when reacted with platinum metal salts. This is especially so when the other groups on phosphorus are bulky, e.g. t-Bu or Ph. Thus with phosphines such as 2-MeOC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>PR<sub>2</sub><sup>(1, 2)</sup>, 2,6-(MeO)<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>PR<sub>2</sub> or 2,3-(MeO)<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>PR<sub>2</sub><sup>(3)</sup> (R = t-Bu or Ph), O-metallation (with loss of the methyl group) commonly occurs to give a chelate ring of type  $(1)$   $(M = metal)$ ,



but in nonpolar solvents C-metallation can occur preferentially to give a six-membered chelate ring of type  $(2)^{(1)}$ . Using chelate rings of type (1) we have stabilized unusual valency states such as iridium(II)<sup>(2)</sup> and rhodium(II)<sup>(4)</sup>, (the iridium(II) complexes take up dioxygen reversibly) and also stabilized five-coordinate iridium(III) hydrides which showed some unusual properties<sup>(2, 3)</sup>. It therefore seemed of interest to study the behaviour of an analogous 2-methoxybenzylphosphine towards platinum metals. If a similar demethylation occurred then a six-membered chelate ring would form.

# **Results and Discussion**

We chose to study the new tertiary phosphine 2-(di-t-butyl-phosphinomethyl)-1-methoxy-4-methylbenzene  $L(3)$  which we readily prepared by treating the known 2-chloromethyl-1-methoxy-4-methylbenzene with di-t-butylphosphine and sodium iodide and subsequent treatment of the resultant phosphonium iodide with base (see Experimental and Table 1 for characterizing data).

We have shown previously that di-t-butyl-2-methoxyphenylphosphine does not react readily with rhodium trichloride in propan-2-ol (or ethanol) at room temperature and when the mixture is heated demethylation occurs to give the P- and O-bonded chelate complex  $\hat{R}h(t-Bu_2P_{C_6}H_4O_2)^{(4)}$ . In contrast, the new ligand,  $L(3)$ , reacts readily with an ethanolic solution of rhodium trichloride to give an emerald green crystalline material which we formulate as the rhodium(II) species trans-RhCl<sub>2</sub>L<sub>2</sub>. The <sup>1</sup>H n.m.r. spectrum of this complex in deuteriochloroform is very broad, in agreement with its being paramagnetic and the microanalytical and molecular weight data (Table 2) are in agreement with the formulation. A band (at 349 cm<sup>-1</sup>) with a shoulder (at 342 cm<sup>-1</sup>) is assignable to  $\nu(Rh-Cl)$ : this band is very strong and at a value typical of a trans-Cl-Rh-Cl moiety. The electronic absorption spectrum of this green complex in benzene solution shows  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  values at 587 and 321 nm with  $\epsilon$  = 286 and 8090  $1 \text{ mol}^{-1}$  cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. When a propan-2-ol solution of rhodium trichloride was heated under reflux for 2 h with L



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Complex	Yield	Colour	M.p. (ຶ)	Found Calcd.)%			M.W.
	( %)				н	Hal	
<i>trans</i> -RhCl <sub>2</sub> L <sub>2</sub> <sup>a)</sup>	79	green	$201 - 107^{b}$	55.4(55.6)	7.95(7.95)	9.6(9.65)	710(734)
RhHCl <sub>2</sub> L <sub>2</sub>	72	green	$183 - 189b$	55.35(55.5)	8.05(8.1)	9.5(9.65)	
trans-RhCl(CO) $L_2$	75	yellow	$218 - 221$	56.8(56.8)	8.1(8.05)	5.25(4.9)	
$Rh2Cl2(CO)2L2$	63	yellow	$214 - 216$	47.85(48.4)	6.45(6.55)	7.95(8.15)	857(894)
1rH <sub>2</sub> ClL <sub>2</sub>	68	orange	$190 - 194^{b}$	51.1(51.65)	7.5(7.5)	4.6(4.5)	817(790)
IrH <sub>2</sub> Cl(CO)L <sub>2</sub>	82	white	$242 - 244^{b}$	50.95(51.35)	7.25(7.4)	4.3(4.35)	843(818)
IrH <sub>2</sub> Cl(MeNC)L <sub>2</sub>	93	white	$190 - 192^{b}$	51.55(52.0)	7.7(7.65)		831(832)
<i>trans-IrCI(CO)</i> $L_2$	58	vellow	$246 - 249^{b}$	51.45(51.5)	7.45(7.15)	4.4(4.35)	801(816)

Table 2. Yield, colour, m.p., analytical and molecular weight data for the rhodium and iridium complexes

a)  $L = t-Bu_2(2-MeO-5-MeC_6H_3CH_2)P_1^{(b)}$  Dec.

(4 mole per Rh atom) the green crystalline five-coordinate rhodium(III) hydride,  $RhHCl<sub>2</sub>L<sub>2</sub>$  (4), was obtained. This formulation follows from the microanalytical data (Table 2) the  $<sup>1</sup>H$  n.m.r. spectrum, which shows a high field doublet</sup> of triplet hydride resonance at  $-29.8 \delta$ , <sup>2</sup>J (PH) = 12.9, <sup>1</sup>J (RhH) = 31.6 Hz and a t-butyl triplet resonance showing mutually *trans-phosphorus* nuclei; the 31 p n.m.r, spectrum which shows a 1:1 doublet at 55.2  $\delta$ , <sup>1</sup> J (RhP) = 95 Hz; and the i.r. spectrum, which shows a weak band due to  $\nu(Rh-H)$ (at 1939 cm<sup>-1</sup>), the remainder of the spectrum being virtually identical to that of *trans-RhCl2L2* discussed above. We could find no evidence of complexes in which demethylation had occurred which contrasts with the behaviour of  $t-Bu_2PC_6H_4OMe-2$  which, as mentioned above reacts with rhodium trichloride to give the bis-chelate complex

 $\overline{Rh(t-Bu_2PC_6H_4O^{-2})_2}$ <sup>(4)</sup>, possibly contaminated with a little  $\overline{R}$ hH(t-Bu<sub>2</sub>PC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>O-2)<sub>2</sub>. When carbon monoxide was bubbled through a benzene solution of this red five-coordinate rhodium(III) hydride,  $RhHCl<sub>2</sub>L<sub>2</sub>$  (4), the solution became pale yellow almost immediately and the pale yellow rhodium(1) complex, *trans-RhCl(CO)L2* was isolated readily from the solution. The <sup>1</sup>H n.m.r. spectrum shows a 'virtually coupled'  $1:2:1$  triplet resonance at  $1.48 \delta$  J(PH) = 12.7 Hz but the 31p n.m.r, spectrum at *ca.* 300 K shows a broad resonance at *ca.* 53 8, indicative of relatively slow rotation around the rhodium-phosphorus bonds since at 233 K a doublet resonance at  $60.6 \delta^{-1} J(RhP) = 120$  Hz and an  $ABX$ pattern,  $\delta_A = 39.75$ ,  $\delta_B = 62.2$  p.p.m.,  $^2$  J<sub>AB</sub> = 318,  $\overline{1}$ J(RhP<sub>A</sub>) = 120 Hz,  $\overline{1}$ J(RhP<sub>B</sub>) = 120 Hz with approximate intensity ratios of 1 : 1 indicates the presence of two rotamers (5), and either (6) or (7) ( $M = Rh$ ). Strong interaction between the t-butyl groups and the chlorine or carbonyl ligands lead to high energy barriers to rotation<sup>(5)</sup>. One rotamer, (6) or (7), is for some reason present in only small (and undetected) amount.



When the phosphine, L, (2.2 mole equivalents per Rh atom) is added to a yellow solution of the binuclear chlorocarbonyl  $Rh_2Cl_2(CO)_4$  and the mixture is heated under reflux for 1 h the *trans-RhCl(CO)L2* complex, described above, is not formed in significant quantities. Somewhat

surprisingly, only one phosphine per rhodium atom is taken up and the binuclear  $Rh_2Cl_2(CO)_2L_2$  complex, with bridging chlorines, is formed. Presumably steric hindrance greatly reduces the rate of incorporation of a second mole of phosphine per rhodium atom. The microanalytical and molecular weight data (Table 2) shows the complex to be binuclear and in the  $<sup>1</sup>H$  n.m.r. spectrum the t-butyl hydrogens resonate</sup> as a doublet at 1.37  $\delta$ ,  $3J(PH) = 13.7$  Hz. The  $31P$  n.m.r. spectrum shows a doublet resonance at  $80.0\delta$  with  $J(RhP) = 174$  Hz.

When a suspension of iridium trichloride in propan-2-ol was heated with the ligand (4 mole equivalents per iridium atom) and the resultant green slurry heated under reflux, a dark orange solution formed over 2 days. From this solution a five-coordinate iridium(III) dihydride IrClH<sub>2</sub>L<sub>2</sub> was isolated as orange crystals. The formulation follows from the microanalytical data (Table 2) and the i.r. and n.m.r, data (Table 1). The i.r. spectrum shows a band at 273  $cm^{-1}$  due to  $\nu(Ir\text{-}Cl)$  and a band at 2300 cm<sup>-1</sup> due to  $\nu(Ir\text{-}H)$ . The <sup>1</sup>H n.m.r. hydride resonance occurs at  $-32.6$   $\delta$ , <sup>2</sup>J(PH) = 13 Hz and the virtually coupled 1:2:1 triplet pattern of the t-butyl hydrogens (Table 1) indicates mutually *trans-phos*phines. In fact the ligand L behaves very similarly to t-Bu<sub>2</sub>PPh towards iridium chloride and the complex IrH<sub>2</sub>Cl(t-Bu<sub>2</sub>PPh)<sub>2</sub> has very similar i.r. and n.m.r. parameters<sup>(6)</sup>. We thus formulate IrClH<sub>2</sub>L<sub>2</sub> as the trigonal bipyramidal structure (8).



The somewhat less bulky phosphines t-Bu<sub>2</sub>PR ( $R = Me$ , Et, n-Pr) with iridium trichtoride in propan-2-ol preferentially give 5-coordinate monohydrides  $IrHCl<sub>2</sub>(t-Bu<sub>2</sub>PR)<sub>2</sub><sup>(7)</sup>$  and presumably the formation of dihydrides from t-Bu2PPh or L is a consequence of the greater steric bulk and therefore a greater relief of steric strain on replacing a second chlorine by hydrogen. As expected, IrH<sub>2</sub>ClL<sub>2</sub> reacts rapidly with carbon monoxide to give the white complex  $(9, Q = CO)$  in a very similar manner to  $IrH<sub>2</sub>Cl(t-Bu<sub>2</sub>PPh)<sub>2</sub>$ . For this complex, the very low value of 254 cm<sup>-1</sup> for  $\nu(\text{Ir-Cl})$  is indicative of CI *trans* to H and the two values of v(Ir-H) 2360 and 2135 cm<sup>-1</sup> and the value of  $\nu(CO)$  at 1955 cm<sup>-1</sup> are in agreement with this structure. The hydride resonances in the <sup>1</sup>H n.m.r. spectra occur at  $-8.75$  *(trans-CO)* and  $-20.85 \delta$ (trans-Cl) both doublets of triplets. Both the benzylic hydro-

gens and the t-butyl hydrogens resonate as 'virtually coupled' doublets of 1 : 2 : 1 triplets indicating mutually *trans* and strongly coupled phosphorus nuclei with no plane of symmetry through the phosphorus-iridium bonds. An analogous complex IrH<sub>2</sub>Cl(MeNC) $L_2$  was prepared from methyl isocyanide and  $IrH<sub>2</sub>ClL<sub>2</sub>$  and given an analogous configuration  $(9, Q = MeNC)$ .

We have reported previously that when  $t$ -Bu<sub>2</sub>PC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>OMe-2 is added to a solution prepared by passing carbon monoxide through a boiling 2-methoxyethanol solution of sodium chloroiridate demethylation occurs and the yellow iridium(l) complex  $Ir(CO)(t-Bu<sub>2</sub>PC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>O)(t-Bu<sub>2</sub>PC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>OH-2)$  is formed which, in air, gives the blood-red iridium(ll) complex  $\sqrt{\frac{I_r(t-Bu_2PC_6H_4O}{2}}$  and, subsequently, other complexes<sup>(8)</sup>. It was clearly therefore of interest to study the action of our new 2-methoxybenzylphosphine, L, on a similarly carbonylated solution of sodium chloroiridate. However, in this case demethylation did not occur and the pale yellow complex *trans-lrCl(CO)L2* was isolated readily. This formulation follows from the microanalytical, i.r. and  ${}^{1}H$  n.m.r. data (Tables). The proton decoupled  $31P$  n.m.r. spectrum at *ca.* 300 K shows a broad ill-defined resonance at *ca.* 45 6 whilst at 233 K an AB-pattern;  $\delta_A = 50.0$ ,  $\delta_B = 21.6$  p.p.m.  $J(AB) = 307$  Hz, and a singlet resonance at 49.0  $\delta$  are observed in the approximate intensity ratios of 1 : 1. We suggest that as with the analogous rhodium complex the two conformers present are (5) and either (6) or (7) ( $M = Ir$ ). Thus in no instance did we observe demethylation of the ligand t-Bu<sub>2</sub>(2-MeO-5-MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)P, L, by rhodium or iridium although, as reported, demethylation was the commonly observed reaction with t-Bu<sub>2</sub>PC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>OMe-2. We offer the following explanation for this difference in behaviour. Whereas in the case of  $t$ -Bu<sub>2</sub>PC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>OMe-2 complexed to an OC-Ir-CI moiety, restricted rotation around the Ir-P and aryl-P bonds due to the bulky t-butyl groups will lead to a preferred conformation in which the ether oxygen is held in close proximity to the metal-chlorine bond, as shown in *(10)* this will not be the case with the ligand (L). The extra



methylene group between the arene ring and the phosphorus donor atom allows the 2-methoxyphenyl group to point away from the metal, as shown in *(11).* With t-Bu<sub>2</sub>PC<sub>0</sub>H<sub>4</sub>OMe-2 therefore O-metallation with loss of methyl chloride relieves the steric strain and occurs readily but with the ligand (L) complex formation can and does occur without demethylation.

#### Experimental

The apparatus and general techniques used in this work were the same as in other recent publications from this laboratory $^{(2)}$ .

# $[t-Bu<sub>2</sub>(2-MeO-5-MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)PH]<sup>+</sup>I$

A solution of t-Bu<sub>2</sub>PH (6.75 g, 46 mmol) in Me<sub>2</sub>CO  $(10 \text{ cm}^3)$  was added to a mixture of Nal  $(7.0 \text{ g}, 51 \text{ mmol})$ and 2-MeO-5-Me $C_6H_3CH_2Cl$  (7.9 g, 46 mmol) in Me<sub>2</sub>CO  $(30 \text{ cm}^3)$  at room temperature. The product precipitated as white microcrystals, m.p.  $206-208^{\circ}$  (dec); precipitation was complete after 2 h. Yield 19.7 g, 45 mmol, 98% (Found: C,  $49.75$ ; H,  $7.25$ . C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>30</sub>IOP calcd.: C,  $50.0$ ; H,  $7.4\%$ ).

# *t-Bu2(2-MeO-5-MeC6H3CH z )P (L)*

A mixture of the above phosphonium salt (9.54 g, 23.4 mmol) in MeOH (20 cm<sup>3</sup>) and KOH (2.62 g, 46.8 mmol) in degassed  $H_2O$  (15 cm<sup>3</sup>) was shaken for 5 min. The product was extracted with  $Et<sub>2</sub>O$  under  $N<sub>2</sub>$  and isolated by distillation as a colourless liquid, b.p.  $100-103^{\circ}/0.003$ mmHg. Yield 5.58 g, 19.8 mmol, 85%.

# *trans-RhCl2 L2*

The ligand (0.72 g, 2.55 mmol) was added to a solution of hydrated rhodium trichloride (0.166 g, 0.64 mmol) in EtOH  $(20 \text{ cm}^3)$  and the resultant mixture was shaken for 20 h. This gave the required product (0.37 g, 0.50 mmol, *79%)* as green prisms.

#### $RbHCl<sub>2</sub>L<sub>2</sub>$

The ligand (1.23 g, 4.37 mmol) was added to a solution of hydrated rhodium trichloride (0.285 g, 1.09 mmol) in  $H<sub>2</sub>O$  $(1 \text{ cm}^3)$  and propan-2-ol  $(10 \text{ cm}^3)$  and the resultant red slurry heated under reflux for 2 h. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, giving the required product as green prisms (0.57 g, 0.78 mmol, 72%).

#### *trans-RbCl(CO)L2*

Carbon monoxide was bubbled through a solution of RhHCl<sub>2</sub>L<sub>2</sub> (0.36 g, 0.49 mmol) in C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub> (30 cm<sup>3</sup>). The solution, which rapidly became pale yellow, was then evaporated under reduced pressure to give the required product (0.27 g, 0.37 mmol, 75%) as yellow prisms from  $C_6H_6$ : MeOH.

#### $Rb_2Cl_2(CO)_2L_2$

Carbon monoxide was bubbled through a solution of hydrated rhodium trichloridc (0.44 g, 1.68 mmol) in EtOH  $(10 \text{ cm}^3)$  at 60 $^{\circ}$  for 3 h. The resultant pale yellow solution containing rhodium chlorocarbonyl was treated with the phosphine, L (1.03 g, 3.68 mmol) and the resultant mixture heated under reflux for 1 h, and then cooled to give the binuclear species (0.47 g, 0.52 mmol, 63%) as yellow prisms.

#### *IrH2CIL2*

The ligand, *L,* (1.07 g, 3.8 mmol) was added to a suspension of hydrated iridium trichloride (0.34 g, 0.94 mmol) in

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propan-2-ol (10  $\text{cm}^3$ ). The resultant green slurry was heated under reflux for 50 h to give a dark orange solution from which the required product  $(0.51 \text{ g}, 0.64 \text{ mmol}, 68\%)$ separated as orange prisms on cooling.

# *IrH2 CI(CO)L2*

Carbon monoxide was bubbled through a solution of IrH<sub>2</sub>ClL<sub>2</sub> (0.22 g, 0.28 mmol) in C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub> (10 cm<sup>3</sup>) until it turned pale yellow *(ca.* 1 min). The required product was isolated by evaporation and recrystallization from  $C_6H_6$ : MeOH. It formed white prisms (0.185 g, 0.23 mmol, 82%).

### *lrH2 CI (Me NC) L 2*

Methyl isocyanide (0.09 g, 2.2 mmol) was added to a solution of  $IrH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>L<sub>2</sub></sub>$  (0.176 g, 0.22 mmol) in  $C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>$  (10 cm<sup>3</sup>). The resultant colourless solution was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue recrystallized from  $C_6H_6$ : MeOH to give the required product (0.17 g, 0.21 mmol, 93%) as white prisms.

## *trans-lrCl(CO)L2*

Carbon monoxide was bubbled through a refluxing solution of sodium chloroiridate  $(0.70 g, 1.36 mmol)$  in 2-methoxyethanol (15 cm<sup>3</sup>) for 3 h. The resultant pale

yellow solution was cooled and the ligand, L, (0.84 g, 3.0 mmol) added. The resultant solution was then heated under reflux for 1 h and cooled to  $ca. -15^\circ$  giving the required product (0.65 g, 0.79 mmol, 58%) as yellow plates.

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TMC 78/5

# **Zinc(lI), Cadmium(II) and Mercury(II) Halide Pyrrolidine-2-selone Complexes':**

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### Summary

Reaction of zinc(ll), cadmium(ll) and mercury(II) halides with *pyrrolidine-2-selone* yields complexes of general formula  $ML_2X_2$  (X = Cl, Br or I) which are monomeric, tetrahedral and Se-bonded to the metals. The comparison of their i.r.

spectra with the spectrum of the free ligand confirms that the band at 1005 cm<sup>-1</sup> in pyrrolidine-2-selone arises predominantly from the C=Se stretching vibration. The metalhalogen absorptions above 200 cm<sup>- I</sup> are identified.

#### Introduction

Recently<sup>(1)</sup>, we reported zinc(II), cadmium(II) and mercury(ll) halide complexes containing pyrrolidine-2-thione

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