## Platinum Dithiocarbonimidato Complexes *via* Abstraction of Sulphur from **Organic Isothiocyanates**

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Summary Dithiocarbonimidatoplatinum(II) complexes,  $Pt(S_2C:NR)L_2$ , are obtained from  $Pt(allene)L_2$ ,  $PtL_4$ , or Pt(PhNCS)L<sub>2</sub> by a reaction with organic isothiocyanates that involves a novel sulphur abstraction.

ONLY three neutral transition metal complexes of the dithiocarbonimidate ligand, S<sub>2</sub>C=NR<sup>2-</sup> are known; these are  $M(S_2C=NR)L_2$ , (M=Ni,Pd,Pt; R = CN, L = Ph\_3P) prepared from (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(S<sub>2</sub>C=NCN) and MCl<sub>2</sub>L<sub>2</sub>.<sup>1</sup> We now report that the platinum complexes Pt(allene)L<sub>2</sub> (Ia, allene =  $CH_2$ ; C;  $CH_2$ ; Ib, allene =  $CF_3$ ·CH; C;  $CH_2$ ),  $PtL_4$ (II), or Pt(PhNCS)L<sub>2</sub> (III) ( $L = Ph_3P$ ) react with an excess of a liquid organic isothiocyanate (e.g., PhNCS or MeNCS) at room temperature to give red solutions from which white crystals of the dithiocarbonimidato complexes Pt(S2C:NR)-L<sub>2</sub> (IVa, R=Ph; IVb, R=Me) are isolated (30-60%). The formation of phenyl isocyanide by sulphur abstraction from phenyl isothiocyanate is shown by the isolation of the complex Pt(S<sub>2</sub>C: NPh)(PhNC)L (V) (4%); a red oil, possibly an oligomer of phenyl isocyanide, is also obtained.

Phenyl isothiocyanate undergoes sulphur abstraction reactions with Fe(CO)<sub>5</sub> and Mo(CO)<sub>6</sub> but the only characterised products from these reactions are Fe(CO)<sub>4</sub>PhNC and Mo(CO)<sub>3</sub>PhNC.<sup>2</sup>

Reaction of phenyl isothiocyanate with (Ia) in a 1:1 ratio at room temperature gives (III) as the main product.

The formulae proposed<sup>†</sup> for complexes (IV) and (V) are supported by i.r. [IVa, v(C=N) 1560, v(C-S) 930; IVb ν(C=N) 1585, ν(C-S) 903; V, ν(NC) 2180, ν(C=N) 1576, ν(C-

S) 918 cm<sup>-1</sup>] and <sup>1</sup>H n.m.r. data [IVb,  $\tau$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 6.89 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.70 (complex, 30H, phenyl)], and by the results of protonation and deprotonation reactions. Protonation of (IVa) and (IVb) with trifluoroacetic acid in benzene affords white crystalline complexes† formulated as  $[Pt(S_2C:NHR)L_2]^+[CF_3CO_2]^-$ , (VIa, R = Ph; VIb, R = Me) [VIa,  $\nu(NH^+)$  2500 br,  $\nu(CO_2^-)$  1671,  $\nu(C=N)$  1558,  $\nu(C-S)$ 970; VIb, v(NH<sup>+</sup>) 2600 br, v(CO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>) 1686, v(C=N) 1574, v(C-S) 950 cm<sup>-1</sup>] which are 1: 1 electrolytes in nitromethane. The <sup>1</sup>H n.m.r. spectrum of (VIa) shows a broad peak centred on  $\tau$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub> solution) 0.81 (1 H, NH<sup>+</sup>) which vanishes on addition of D<sub>2</sub>O to the solution. Treatment of (VIa) with base regenerates (IVa). The possibility that the 2180 cm<sup>-1</sup> band in the i.r. spectrum of (V) is due to a co-ordinated nitrile was excluded on the grounds that no replacement of the phosphine ligands in (IVa) could be achieved even with a large excess of benzonitrile under forcing conditions.

The formation of the sulphur-rich complexes (IVa, IVb) probably involves the formation of (III) from (Ia), (Ib), or (II) either via  $PtL_2$  as an intermediate or by direct ligand displacement. Co-ordination of an additional molecule of RNCS to (III) could then give Pt(RNCS)<sub>2</sub>L<sub>2</sub>, which collapses to the dithiocarbonimidato complex via extrusion of RNC. A rhodium compound RhCl(PhNCS)<sub>2</sub>L<sub>2</sub> has been reported as the major product of the reaction between  $RhClL_3$  (L =  $Ph_3P$ ) and  $PhNCS.^3$ 

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+ Complexes (IVa), (IVb), and (V) had correct molecular weights and, like complexes (VIa) and (VIb), gave satisfactory elemental analysis.

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<sup>2</sup> T. A. Manuel, Inorg. Chem., 1964, 3, 1703.
<sup>3</sup> M. C. Baird and G. Wilkinson, J. Chem. Soc. (A), 1967, 865.