

(dppe)₂Zn[ClO₄]₂ (**13**), [Pt{OP(OMe)₂(diars)}₂Cu][ClO₄]₂ (**14**), and [Pt{OP(OMe)₂(diars)}₂Co][ClO₄]₂ (**15**) (dppe = Ph₂PCH₂CH₂PPh₂, and diars = Me₂AsC₆H₄AsMe₂).†

Electronic spectra of (**5**), (**6**), (**10**), and (**14**) show the compounds to be square planar about Cu. The observed diamagnetism of (**12**) indicates a similar geometry about Ni, although a tetrahedral geometry about Co is found for (**8**) and (**11**). The electronic spectral data place the chelating *O*-bonded phosphonito-ligand in a position comparable to -NCS in the spectrochemical series. The 6-co-ordinate complex (**7**) shows the yellow colour of the linear uranyl ion indicating a square planar arrangement of the phosphonito-ligands. The novel pentametallic Th complex (**9**) is octaco-ordinate about thorium, and determination of the molecular weight by osmometry in benzene indicates only slight dissociation.

During the preparation of compound (**2**) from K₂PtCl₄ and P(OMe)₃ in aqueous solution we noticed a small quantity of a side product which shows an intense green emission on irradiation with u.v. light. Subsequently we have found that this material can be obtained in better yield by treating K₂PtCl₄ with phosphorous acid in a melt. The compound is unstable to either acid or base and shows properties identical to those of [Pt{OP(OH)₂}₂{P(OH)₃}₂], previously prepared from K₂PtCl₄ and a concentrated aqueous solution of phosphorous acid.⁶ This compound is unique for a

Pt^{II} complex in showing an intense emission spectrum in aqueous solution at room temperature. The emission band is centred at 514 nm, and results from excitation of an absorption band at 368 nm ($\epsilon = 2.8 \times 10^3$) (Figure). This complex is the only one of these phosphonito-complexes which shows such a charge-transfer band in the edge of the visible region. For [Pt{OP(OMe)₂}₂{HOP(OMe)₂}₂] the lowest energy charge-transfer band is at 310 nm. The reason for the low energy band in [Pt{OP(OH)₂}₂{P(OH)₃}₂], along with the failure of efficient quenching at room temperature in aqueous solution, is currently being investigated. It is interesting to speculate, however, that the failure of water to quench the emission may be due to the fact that the solvent water preferentially hydrogen bonds to the ten hydroxy groups of the ligand, rather than to co-ordinate to the central metal atom. This postulate derives some support from the symmetrical unstructured nature of the emission band which makes it likely that the excited state is metal centred.

We thank the National Science Foundation and the donors of the Petroleum Research Fund, administered by the American Chemical Society, for partial support, and Mr. W. B. Beaulieu for helpful discussions. M.K.D. is an N.S.F.-U.R.P. student from the University of Southern Colorado.

(Received, 14th October 1976; Com. 1165.)

† Satisfactory microanalytical data were obtained for all new numbered compounds.

¹ W. B. Beaulieu, T. B. Rauchfuss, and D. M. Roundhill, *Inorg. Chem.*, **1975**, **14**, 1732; P-C. Kong and D. M. Roundhill, *J.C.S. Dalton*, **1974**, 187; D. V. Naik, G. J. Palenik, S. Jacobson, and A. J. Carty, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, **1974**, **96**, 2286; A. J. Carty, S. E. Jacobson, R. T. Simpson, and N. J. Taylor, *ibid.*, **1975**, **97**, 7254.

² K. R. Dixon and A. D. Rattray, *Canad. J. Chem.*, **1971**, **49**, 3996.

³ P-C. Kong and D. M. Roundhill, *Inorg. Chem.*, **1972**, **11**, 749.

⁴ A. Pidcock and C. R. Waterhouse, *J. Chem. Soc. (A)*, **1970**, 2080; A. A. Grinberg and A. D. Troitskaya, *Bull. Acad. Sci., U.S.S.R.*, **1944**, 178; T. N. Itskovich and A. D. Troitskaya, *Trudy Kazan. Khim. Tekhnol. Inst. im. S. M. Kirova*, **1953**, **18**, 59 (*Chem. Abs.*, **1957**, **51**, 11148g).

⁵ A. Schmidpeter, R. Bohm, and H. Groeger, *Angew. Chem. Internat. Edn.*, **1964**, **3**, 704.

⁶ A. D. Troitskaya, *Trudy Kazan. Khim. Tekhnol. Inst. im. S. M. Kirova*, **1957**, **23**, 228 (*Chem. Abs.*, **1958**, **52**, 9951a); A. D. Troitskaya *Russ. J. Inorg. Chem.*, **1961**, **6**, 585.