## A Novel Type of '1-Methyluracil (Hmeu) Blue:' the Trinuclear, Mixed-metal Complex cis-[(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Pt(meu)<sub>2</sub>Pd(meu)<sub>2</sub>Pt(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>3+</sup>

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The formation and crystal structure of a novel heteronuclear complex, containing two d<sup>8</sup> (Pt<sup>III</sup>) and one d<sup>7</sup> (Pd<sup>IIII</sup>) metals linked through four bridging 1-methyluracilato (meu) ligands is reported, and its relationship to the 'platinum pyrimidine blues' is briefly discussed.

'Platinum pyrimidine blues,' prepared by the reaction of aquated cisplatin, *cis*-[(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Pt(OH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>2+</sup>, with pyrimidine bases such as uracil, thymine, or related ligands, have received considerable attention for their antitumour activity,<sup>1</sup> their property of staining nucleic acids,<sup>2</sup> and in particular for their challenging chemistry as oligomeric, mixed-valence-state compounds.<sup>3</sup> To date, three well characterized 'platinum blues' are established, all having similar dimer-of-dimers structures [(I) in Figure 1] with bridging  $\alpha$ -pyridonato,<sup>4</sup> and 1-methyluracilato ligands,<sup>5</sup> respectively, and a Pt(2.25) average oxidation state, resulting formally from the presence of three Pt<sup>II</sup> and one Pt<sup>III</sup>.

At least in the case of the '1-methyluracil blue,' the visible spectra clearly indicate that the Pt(2.25) species, which absorbs at 740 nm, is not responsible for the *blue* colour, but rather is a green component. With this in mind, and encouraged by our more recent findings on a rather facile substitution of  $NH_3$  ligands in a diplatinum(III) complex,<sup>6</sup> we

have attempted to synthesize, among others, a trinuclear, mixed-valence-state compound of type cis-[(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Pt(meu)<sub>2</sub>-Pt(meu)<sub>2</sub>Pt(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>3+</sup> by the reaction of cis-(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Pt(meu)<sub>2</sub> and [Pt(OH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]<sup>2+</sup> under oxidizing conditions (Hmeu = 1-methyluracil). Although these attempts have been unsuccessful as yet, the heteronuclear Pt<sub>2</sub>Pd analogue [(II) in Figure 1] could be isolated and characterized.

The title compound,  $cis-[(NH_3)_2Pt(meu)_2Pd(meu)_2-Pt(NH_3)_2]^{3+}$  (3), was obtained *via* three different routes (Scheme 1) in several modifications, depending on the conditions of crystallization (anions, pH, concentration). (a) HNO<sub>3</sub> oxidation of  $cis-[(NH_3)_2Pt(meu)_2Pd(en)](NO_3)_2\cdot 2H_2O$  (1) (en = ethylenediamine): a solution of (1)<sup>+</sup> (500 mg) in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup> Complex (1) was obtained from cis-(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Pt(meu)<sub>2</sub><sup>7</sup> and [(en)-Pd(OH<sub>2</sub>)](NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> in analogy to related diplatinum( $\pi$ ) complexes with head-head arranged meu ligands.<sup>8</sup> Orange-yellow crystals, characterized by elemental analysis and X-ray crystallography.





Figure 1. Comparison of [Pt<sup>II</sup><sub>3</sub>Pt<sup>III</sup>] (I) and [Pt<sup>II</sup><sub>2</sub>Pd<sup>III</sup>] (II) structures.

conc.  $HNO_3$  (2 ml) was kept at room temperature for 24 h. The deep blue solution was then diluted with  $H_2O$  to 20 ml and allowed to evaporate slowly at 3 °C. The yield after 2 days was 75 mg of  $(3)(NO_3)_3$ ·HNO<sub>3</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O, (3a).‡§ In one instance, a second modification,  $(3)(NO_3)_3 \cdot 11H_2O_1$ ,  $(3b)_3$  was obtained in low yield. (b) To a solution of  $cis-(NH_3)_2Pt(meu)_2$  (240 mg) in H<sub>2</sub>O (20 ml) at 40 °C an aqueous solution (5 ml) of  $[Pd(OH_2)_4](NO_3)_2^{10}$  (ca. 20 mmol 1<sup>-1</sup> in 1.3 M HNO<sub>3</sub>) was slowly added. After an initial colour change to red, the solution eventually became intensely blue. After removal by filtration of a small amount of a red precipitate, the solution was allowed to evaporate at 3 °C. After 6 days, 130 mg of  $(3)(NO_3)_3 \cdot 5H_2O_1$ ,  $(3c)^{\ddagger}$  was filtered off and briefly dried in air. (c) To a solution of cis-[(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Pt(meu)<sub>2</sub>Pd(meu)<sub>2</sub>Pt(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]-(ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O (2)¶ (195 mg) in H<sub>2</sub>O (20 ml) at 60 °C, NaClO<sub>4</sub> (50 mg) and finally freshly prepared Cl<sub>2</sub>-water (2 ml) were

 $\ddagger$  Satisfactory elemental analyses (C, H, N, O) [and Cl for (3d)] were obtained.

§ Crystal data for (3a): C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>43</sub>N<sub>16</sub>O<sub>25</sub>PdPt<sub>2</sub>, M = 1403.88, triclinic, space group  $P\bar{1}$ , a = 10.032(2), b = 10.160(2), c = 11.666(2) Å,  $\alpha = 103.33(1)$ ,  $\beta = 106.29(1)$ ,  $\gamma = 96.03(1)^\circ$ , U = 1092.1 Å<sup>3</sup>,  $D_m = 2.135$ ,  $D_c = 2.134$  g cm<sup>-3</sup>, Z = 1,  $\mu$ (Mo- $K_{\alpha}$ ) = 69.6 cm<sup>-1</sup>, F(000) = 677, T = -35°C. 4748 Unique reflections, 4448 'observed' with  $I \ge 2.0 \sigma$  (I), Lorentz-polarisation and empirical absorption correction [ $\omega$  scans,  $\Delta \omega = 0.8^\circ$ , (sin  $\theta/\lambda)_{max} = 0.639$ , +h,  $\pm k$ ,  $\pm l$ , Mo- $K_{\alpha}$  radiation,  $\lambda = 0.71069$  Å, graphite monochromator, Syntex P2<sub>1</sub>]. Solution by Patterson methods; R = 0.042,  $R_w = 0.057$ ,  $w = 1/\sigma^2(F_o)$  for 324 refined parameters (SHELX 76),  $\Delta \rho_{fin} = +1.75/-1.23$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>.

refined parameters (SHELX 76),  $\Delta \rho_{\text{fin.}} = \pm 1.75/-1.23 \text{ e}$  Å<sup>-3</sup>. Crystal data for (**3b**):  $C_{20}H_{54}N_{15}O_{28}PdPt_2$ , M = 1448.96, triclinic, space group  $P\overline{1}$ , a = 11.611(4), b = 10.083(2), c = 12.121(4) Å,  $\alpha = 109.19(2)$ ,  $\beta = 106.29(2)$ ,  $\gamma = 99.73(2)^\circ$ , U = 1231.8 Å<sup>3</sup>,  $D_c = 1.953$  g cm<sup>-3</sup>, Z = 1,  $\mu$ (Mo- $K_{\alpha}$ ) = 61.7 cm<sup>-1</sup>, F(000) = 705,  $T = -40^\circ$ C. 4846 Unique reflections with 4240 'observed' [ $\omega$  scans,  $\Delta \omega = 1^\circ$ , (sin  $\theta/\lambda)_{max} = 0.617$ ]. Patterson methods, R = 0.045,  $R_w = 0.052$ ,  $w = 1/\sigma^2(F_o)$  for 275 refined parameters,  $\Delta \rho_{\text{fin.}} = \pm 2.93/-1.17$  e Å<sup>-3</sup> Additional, partial occupancy by water molecules of sites in the unit cell cannot be excluded on the basis of the last difference map. Atomic co-ordinates, bond lengths and angles, and thermal parameters for (**3a**) and (**3b**) have been deposited at the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre. See Notice to Authors, Issue No. 1.

¶ Complex (2) was prepared from cis-(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Pt(meu)<sub>2</sub><sup>7</sup> and [Pd(OH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>](ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub><sup>10</sup> in 90% yield. Golden-brownish crystals, characterized by elemental analyses (C, H, N, O, Cl), u.v.-visible spectroscopy, and X-ray analysis.<sup>9</sup>

Scheme 1. Methods of preparation of (3) from the dinuclear complex (1) and the trinuclear precursor complex (2).



Figure 2. Molecular structure of the cation  $[(NH_3)_2Pt(meu)_2Pd(meu)_2Pt(NH_3)_2]^{3+}$  (3a) with atom numbering (ORTEP, 50% thermal ellipsoids). Principal distances (Å) and angles (°) for (3a) [(3b)]: Pt-Pd, 2.634(1) [2.641(1)]; Pt-N(31), 2.034(7) [2.038(8)]; Pt-N(32), 2.025(7) [2.027(7)]; Pt-N(10), 2.049(7) [2.050(7)]; Pt-N(20), 2.043(7) [2.052(8)]; Pd-O(41), 1.963(7) [1.987(6)]; Pd-O(42), 1.998(7)]; N(31)-Pt-N(10), 178.9(3) [179.0(3)]; N(32)-Pt-N(20), 178.9(3) [177.7(3)]; Pd-Pt-N(31), 83.2(2) [82.8(2)]; Pd-Pt-N(32), 83.9(2) [83.2(2)]; Pt-Pd-O(41), 86.6(2) [87.1(2)]; Pt-Pd-O(42), 86.1(2) [85.6(2)].

added. The then deep-blue solution (pH 2.2) was brought to room temperature and then kept in an open beaker at 3 °C. Complex (3)(ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O, (3d) $\ddagger$  (100 mg) was filtered off after 24 h and, on addition of another 30 mg NaClO<sub>4</sub> and 0.5 ml of Cl<sub>2</sub>-water, 30 mg of (3d) after a further 2 h. Compounds (3a)—(3d) exhibit the same appearance, having a metallic blue-purple lustre. When crushed, the compounds look deep blue. According to i.r. and u.v.-visible spectra, the cations in (3a)—(3d) are identical. The u.v.visible spectrum (0.1 M HNO<sub>3</sub> or 0.1 M HClO<sub>4</sub>) shows three absorptions at 608 ( $\epsilon \sim 9800 \text{ dm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), 546 (~3800), and 354 nm (~3100). As judged from <sup>1</sup>H n.m.r. spectra, solutions of (3) in D<sub>2</sub>O or DNO<sub>3</sub> are paramagnetic, giving a magnetic moment of 1.9 µ<sub>B</sub>.<sup>11</sup> E.s.r. spectra of polycrystalline (3) are qualitatively similar to those of platinum blues,<sup>5</sup> with somewhat different g values of 2.167( $\perp$ ) and 1.986(||) and no fine structure at room or liquid nitrogen temperatures.

Figure 2 depicts the cation of (3a). The cation of (3b) is virtually identical. Two  $cis-(NH_3)_2Pt(meu-N^3)_2$  units are linked via four exocyclic O(4) oxygen atoms to palladium to give a centrosymmetric, trinuclear complex. The three metals have square-planar co-ordination spheres with two adjacent planes tilted by 14.5°. Angles about the metals are close to 90°, and Pt-N [2.025(7)-2.049(7) Å] and Pd-O distances [1.963(7), 1.998(7) Å] are normal. Certainly the most significant feature of cation (3a) is its very short Pt-Pd separation of 2.634(1) Å [2.641(1) Å in (3b)], which is a consequence of metal-metal bonding within the Pt,Pd,Pt chain. This intermetallic distance compares with 2.927(1) Å in the dinuclear (Pt<sup>II</sup>,Pd<sup>II</sup>) complex (1) and 2.839(1) Å in the trinuclear (Pt<sup>II</sup>, Pd<sup>II</sup>, Pt<sup>II</sup>) complex (2).9 For an unambiguous assessment of the charge of the cations in (3a) and (3b) the number of anions becomes crucial. Regardless of appreciable disorder of some of the  $NO_3^-$  ions in the structures of (3a) and (3b), the existence of more than three counter-ions can be definitely excluded for (3b). In (3a), two disordered  $NO_3^-$  ions form dimers not unlike the known hydrogen bonded  $[H(NO_3)_2]^{-1}$ species<sup>12</sup> thereby corroborating further the presence of HNO<sub>3</sub> in the crystal lattice.

Finally, we note that we have isolated the complete series of complexes (1)—(3) with (en)Pt substituting the *cis*- $(NH_3)_2$ Pt moieties.

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