

# $^{119}\text{Sn}$ and $^{195}\text{Pt}$ NMR Spectroscopy of $\text{SnCl}_3^-$ Complexes of Platinum and Palladium.

## Some Chemistry of the Complexes $(\text{Ph}_4\text{P})_2[\text{PtCl}_4]$ and $[\text{Pt}(\mu\text{-Cl})\text{Cl}(\text{PEt}_3)]_2$ with $\text{SnCl}_2$

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Received September 24, 1983

$^{119}\text{Sn}$  and  $^{195}\text{Pt}$  NMR solution data for the complex anions  $\text{cis-}[\text{PdCl}_2(\text{SnCl}_3)_2]^{2-}$ ,  $[\text{Pd}(\text{SnCl}_3)_5]^{3-}$ ,  $[\text{PtCl}(\text{SnCl}_3)_3]^{2-}$ ,  $[\text{Pt}(\text{SnCl}_3)_4]^{2-}$ ,  $[\text{PtH}(\text{SnCl}_3)_4]^{3-}$  and  $[\text{PtH}(\text{SnCl}_3)_2(\text{PEt}_3)_2]^-$  are reported and compared with those for known related complexes. An increasing number of  $\text{SnCl}_3^-$ -ligands per metal results in deshielding of the  $^{119}\text{Sn}$ , but a shielding of the  $^{195}\text{Pt}$  nuclei. The values  $^1J(^{195}\text{Pt}, ^{119}\text{Sn})$  and  $^2J(^{119}\text{Sn}, ^{117}\text{Sn})$  are found to be especially useful probes for molecular structure in this chemistry. Reaction of the complexes  $\text{sym-trans-}[\text{PtCl}(\mu\text{-Cl})\text{L}]_2$ ,  $\text{L} = \text{PEt}_3$ ,  $\text{PTol}_3$ ,  $\text{AsEt}_3$ , with one and two equivalents of  $\text{SnCl}_2$  leads to  $[\text{PtClL}(\mu\text{-Cl})_2\text{Pt}(\text{SnCl}_3)\text{L}]$  and  $\text{sym-trans-}[\text{Pt}(\mu\text{-Cl})(\text{SnCl}_3)\text{L}]_2$  respectively, and these compounds have been characterized by  $^{119}\text{Sn}$ ,  $^{195}\text{Pt}$  and  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectroscopy.

### Introduction

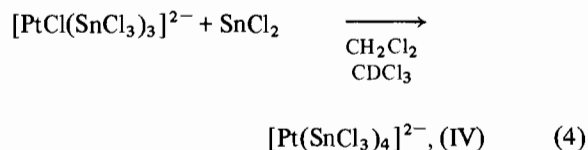
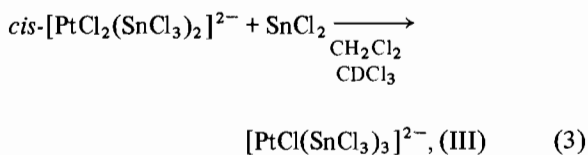
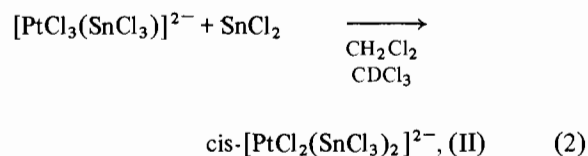
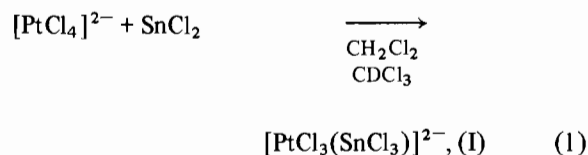
Mixtures of platinum or palladium salts with excess tin(II) chloride are recognized as being homogeneous hydrogenation catalysts [1, 2]. Such mixtures contain trichlorostannate complexes and several studies have shown that the anions  $\text{cis-}[\text{PtCl}_2(\text{SnCl}_3)_2]^{2-}$  and  $[\text{Pt}(\text{SnCl}_3)_5]^{3-}$  are stable, isolatable [3–7] and, in some cases [8, 9] useful catalyst precursors. As part of our continuing interest in the chemistry of the  $\text{SnCl}_3^-$  ligand [10–14] we have measured  $^{119}\text{Sn}$  and, where appropriate,  $^{195}\text{Pt}$  NMR spectra of solutions containing varying  $[\text{MCl}_4]^{2-}/\text{SnCl}_2$  ratios,  $\text{M} = \text{Pd}, \text{Pt}$ , and have identified several new  $\text{SnCl}_3^-$  complexes. Additionally, we have studied the reactions of the dimeric complexes  $\text{sym-trans-}$

$[\text{Pt}(\mu\text{-Cl})\text{ClL}]_2$ ,  $\text{L} = \text{PEt}_3, \text{PTol}_3$ ,  $\text{Tol} = p\text{-CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$ , and  $\text{AsEt}_3$  with  $\text{SnCl}_2$  in the hope of gaining insight into how and where the  $\text{SnCl}_2$  attacks the transition metal. We report here on our multinuclear NMR studies in both of these areas.

### Results and Discussion

#### Reactions of $(\text{Ph}_4\text{P})_2[\text{PtCl}_4]$ , with $\text{SnCl}_2$

The chemistry of  $\text{SnCl}_2$  with  $[\text{PtCl}_4]^{2-}$  can be described qualitatively by the following equations:



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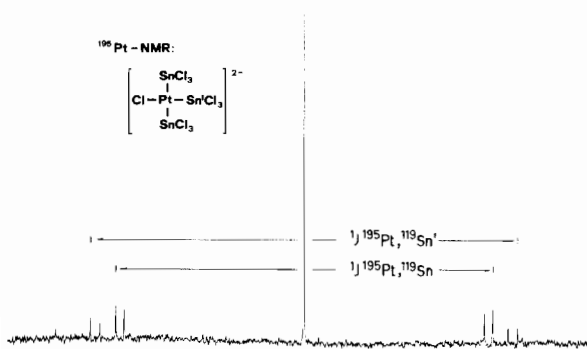
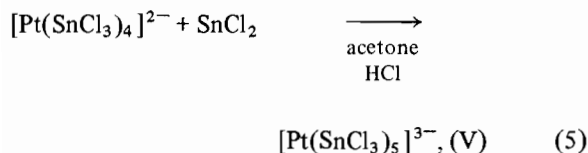
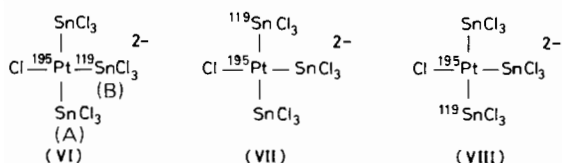


Fig. 1.  $^{195}\text{Pt}$  NMR spectrum of the  $[\text{PtCl}(\text{SnCl}_3)_3]^{2-}$  anion. There are two  $^1J(^{195}\text{Pt}, ^{119}\text{Sn})$  values as well as two  $^1J(^{195}\text{Pt}, ^{117}\text{Sn})$  values.  $\delta(^{195}\text{Pt}) = -4829$ .



In reaction (5) the fifth  $\text{SnCl}_3^-$  ligand can be generated either by direct addition of a suitable salt, e.g.  $(\text{Ph}_4\text{P})\text{SnCl}_3$ , or by addition of excess  $\text{SnCl}_2$ . Complexes (I), (II) and (V) have been described previously [3–5, 15]; (III) and (IV) are new and warrant further discussion.

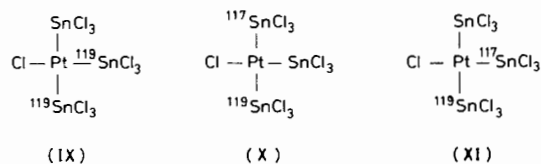
Compound (III) is the major component\* of the reaction of  $(\text{Ph}_4\text{P})_2[\text{PtCl}_4]$  with three equivalents of  $\text{SnCl}_2$  and its  $^{195}\text{Pt}$  NMR spectrum is shown in Fig. 1. The different  $^1J(^{195}\text{Pt}, ^{119}\text{Sn})$  couplings, 21448 Hz and 24236 Hz, arising from the isotopomers (VI)–(VIII) are clearly visible, as are the appropriate



$^{117}\text{Sn}$  splittings ( $^{119}\text{Sn}$  and  $^{117}\text{Sn}$  have  $I = \frac{1}{2}$ , with 8.6% and 7.6% natural abundance, respectively). The differences in intensity between the satellite lines are accounted for by statistical arguments, i.e., both (VII) and (VIII) contribute to  $^1J(^{195}\text{Pt}, ^{119}\text{Sn}(\text{A}))$ , but only (VI) to  $^1J(^{195}\text{Pt}, ^{119}\text{Sn}(\text{B}))$ . The  $^{119}\text{Sn}$  NMR spectrum of (III) shows signals centered at  $\delta = -78$  for  $\text{Sn}(\text{A})$ , with the observed value of

\*The reaction mixture also contains the *cis*- $[\text{PtCl}_2(\text{SnCl}_3)_2]^{2-}$  and the  $[\text{Pt}(\text{SnCl}_3)_5]^{3-}$  ions as well as the  $[\text{Pt}(\text{SnCl}_3)_4]^{2-}$  ion.

21448 Hz in agreement with that found for  $^1J(^{195}\text{Pt}, ^{119}\text{Sn})$  in the  $^{195}\text{Pt}$  spectrum. The smaller signals from the three types of  $^2J(^{119}\text{Sn}, ^{117,119}\text{Sn})$ , arising from (IX)–(XI), could also be observed.



Fortunately, these various isotopomers can be identified as there is now a substantial literature concerning  $^2J(^{119}\text{Sn}, ^{117}\text{Sn})_{\text{cis}}$  and  $^2J(^{119}\text{Sn}, ^{117}\text{Sn})_{\text{trans}}$  in square planar complexes [11–13, 16].

As expected [13], the resonance at  $\delta = -78$  shows a very large  $^2J(^{119}\text{Sn}, ^{117}\text{Sn})_{\text{trans}}$  value of 43689 Hz stemming from (X) and a much smaller  $^2J(^{119}\text{Sn}, ^{117}\text{Sn})_{\text{cis}}$  coupling of 2039 Hz, arising from (XI).

The  $>40$  KHz two-bond coupling for two *trans*  $\text{SnCl}_3^-$  ligands is no longer surprising, especially since the value found in the *trans*- $[\text{PtCl}(\text{SnCl}_3)_2(\text{PEt}_3)]^-$  anion is larger at 46582 Hz [16]. There is a  $^{119}\text{Sn}$  signal at  $\delta = -228$  which we tentatively assign to  $\text{Sn}(\text{B})^{**}$ .

Complex (IV) is obtained by reacting the  $[\text{PtCl}_4]^{2-}$  anion with four equivalents of  $\text{SnCl}_2$  in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{CDCl}_3$ . Its  $^{195}\text{Pt}$  spectrum is centered at  $\delta = -5615$  and one-bond couplings to both  $^{119}\text{Sn}$  and  $^{117}\text{Sn}$  are clearly observable, e.g.  $^1J(^{195}\text{Pt}, ^{119}\text{Sn}) = 19421$  Hz. The relative intensities of the tin satellites [17] are consistent with a formulation having four equivalent  $\text{SnCl}_3^-$  ligands. The  $^{119}\text{Sn}$  signals for (IV) are centered at  $\delta = -20$ , and the relative intensities of the  $^{117}\text{Sn}$  satellites as well as the presence of both  $^2J(^{119}\text{Sn}, ^{117}\text{Sn})_{\text{cis}} = 1835$  Hz, and  $^2J(^{119}\text{Sn}, ^{117}\text{Sn})_{\text{trans}} = 29882$  Hz further support the structure assigned to this complex.

There are relatively few tetrakis  $\text{SnCl}_3^-$ -platinum complexes and those which have been characterized are usually five-coordinate, e.g.,  $[\text{Pt}(\text{SnCl}_3)_4(\text{PET}_3)]^{2-}$  which we recently prepared [16], and  $[\text{PtH}(\text{SnCl}_3)_4]^{3-}$  prepared earlier [18] for which we give new NMR data in Table I. Since  $[\text{Pt}(\text{SnCl}_3)_5]^{3-}$  is a hydrogenation catalyst [9], and assuming that a coordinatively unsaturated species activates the hydrogen, perhaps affording  $[\text{PtH}(\text{SnCl}_3)_4]^{3-}$  or some related platinum hydride, (IV) may be a catalyst precursor resulting from  $\text{SnCl}_3^-$  dissociation from the pentakis complex. The recognition of

\*\*Although the value of  $^1J(^{195}\text{Pt}, ^{119}\text{Sn}(\text{B}))$  observed in the  $^{119}\text{Sn}$  spectrum agrees with that found in the  $^{195}\text{Pt}$  spectrum, the intensity of the signal at  $\delta = -228$  is  $\cong$  one sixth, and not one half of that found at  $\delta = -78$ . We have no explanation for this observation.

TABLE I. NMR Data<sup>a</sup> for the  $\text{SnCl}_3^-$  Complexes.

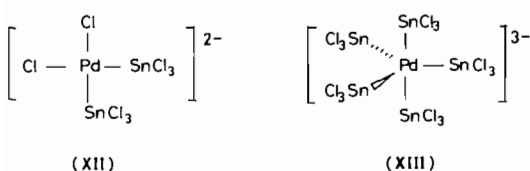
	$\delta^{119}\text{Sn}^b$	$\delta^{195}\text{Pt}^c$	$^1J(^{195}\text{Pt}, ^{119}\text{Sn})$	$^2J(^{119}\text{Sn}, ^{117}\text{Sn})$
$[\text{PtCl}_3(\text{SnCl}_3)]^{2-}$	-596	-2748	33165	
<i>cis</i> - $[\text{PtCl}_2(\text{SnCl}_3)_2]^{2-}$	-383	-4202	27966	2564
$[\text{PtCl}(\text{SnCl}_3)_3]^{2-}$	-228 (B)	-4829	24236	2039
	-78 (A)		21448	43689
$[\text{Pt}(\text{SnCl}_3)_4]^{2-}$	-20	-5615	19421	1835
				29882
$[\text{Pt}(\text{SnCl}_3)_5]^{3-}$	-128	-5894	16015	6226
$[\text{PtH}(\text{SnCl}_3)_4]^{3-}$ <sup>d</sup>	-114	-5824	18737	7178
$[\text{PtH}(\text{SnCl}_3)_2(\text{PEt}_3)_2]^{3-}$ <sup>e</sup>	-122	-5396	4488	2356
<i>cis</i> - $[\text{PdCl}_2(\text{SnCl}_3)_2]^{2-}$	-242			1575
$[\text{Pd}(\text{SnCl}_3)_5]^{3-}$	+68			7460

<sup>a</sup>Chemical shifts in ppm, coupling constants in Hz. <sup>b</sup>Relative to ext.  $(\text{CH}_3)_4\text{Sn}$ . <sup>c</sup>Relative to ext.  $\text{Na}_2[\text{PtCl}_6]$ ; <sup>d</sup> $\delta^1\text{H} = -15.3$ ,  $^1J(^{195}\text{Pt}, ^1\text{H}) = 692$ ,  $^2J(^{119}\text{Sn}, ^1\text{H}) = 367$ ; room temp. in acetone. <sup>e</sup> $\delta^1\text{H} = -12.6$ ,  $^1J(^{195}\text{Pt}, ^1\text{H}) = 1326$ ,  $^2J(^{119}\text{Sn}, ^1\text{H}) = 787$ ;  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 173 K.

(III) and (IV) in solution shows that polytrichlorostannate complexes with between one and five coordinated  $\text{SnCl}_3^-$  ligands are all relatively stable materials.

#### Reactions of $[\text{PdCl}_4]^{2-}$ with $\text{SnCl}_2$

The identification of the products resulting from reactions of  $[\text{PdCl}_4]^{2-}$  with  $\text{SnCl}_2$  is more difficult as we do not have the spin  $I = \frac{1}{2}$  metal to assist us; nevertheless, based on  $\delta^{119}\text{Sn}$ , the magnitude of  $^2J(^{119}\text{Sn}, ^{117}\text{Sn})$  and the relative  $^{117}\text{Sn}$  satellite intensities, we have identified complexes (XII) and (XIII). Compound (XII) is observed in ~95% NMR yield\* at



$\delta = -242$  when the tetrachloropalladate dianion reacts with two equivalents of tin(II) chloride ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{CDCl}_3$ ). The assignment of the *cis* isomer for (XII) follows from the modest value of 1575 Hz observed for  $^2J(^{119}\text{Sn}, ^{117}\text{Sn})$ . The *trans* coupling would be in excess of 20000 Hz [13]. The relative intensities of the  $^{117}\text{Sn}$  satellite lines confirm that there are only two coordinated  $\text{SnCl}_3^-$  ligands.

The five-coordinate (XIII) oils out of a  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{CDCl}_3$  solution when  $(\text{Bu}_4^{\text{N}})_2[\text{PdCl}_4]$  is treated with

five equivalents of tin(II) chloride and one equivalent of  $(\text{Bu}_4^{\text{N}})\text{Cl}$ , but redissolves upon addition of a few drops of acetone. Its  $^{119}\text{Sn}$  NMR spectrum shows the expected series of lines centered at  $\delta = +68$ , with an average  $^2J(^{119}\text{Sn}, ^{117}\text{Sn})$  of 7460 Hz. Interestingly, for (XIII) we observe a broad  $^{119}\text{Sn}$  signal at room temperature which sharpens to the expected group of lines at  $-20^\circ\text{C}$ . Since we observe chemically equivalent  $\text{SnCl}_3^-$  ligands at this low temperature, the intramolecular scrambling is still rapid. Consequently, we attribute the broad line at room temperature to  $\text{SnCl}_3^-$  exchange. This contrasts with the findings of Nelson and co-workers [5] for the  $[\text{Pt}(\text{SnCl}_3)_5]^{3-}$ , species, which shows sharp  $^{119}\text{Sn}$  resonances at ambient probe temperature.

#### NMR Trends

There are several NMR features worth noting:

1. Increasing the number of coordinated  $\text{SnCl}_3^-$  ligands shifts  $\delta^{195}\text{Pt}$  to successively *higher* field.
2. Increasing the number of coordinated  $\text{SnCl}_3^-$  ligands shifts  $\delta^{119}\text{Sn}$  to successively *lower* field.
3. There is a *cis* effect of  $\text{SnCl}_3^-$  on  $^1J(^{195}\text{Pt}, ^{119}\text{Sn})$  such that substitution of  $\text{SnCl}_3^-$  for  $\text{Cl}^-$ , *cis* to a second  $\text{SnCl}_3^-$ , decreases this coupling constant.
4.  $^2J(^{119}\text{Sn}, ^{117}\text{Sn})_{\text{trans}}$  is always  $>^2J(^{119}\text{Sn}, ^{117}\text{Sn})_{\text{cis}}$ .
5. The values for  $^2J(^{119}\text{Sn}, ^{117}\text{Sn})$  are larger in the five-coordinate complexes than in the four-coordinate *cis* complexes. This is understandable if we assume that there is an averaging of  $^2J_{\text{trans}}$  and  $^2J_{\text{cis}}$  in the five-coordinate compounds due to intramolecular exchange. This relatively large  $^2J$  observed

\*There are two small resonances at  $\delta^{119}\text{Sn} = -207$  and  $-227$ , each  $\cong 2-3\%$ .

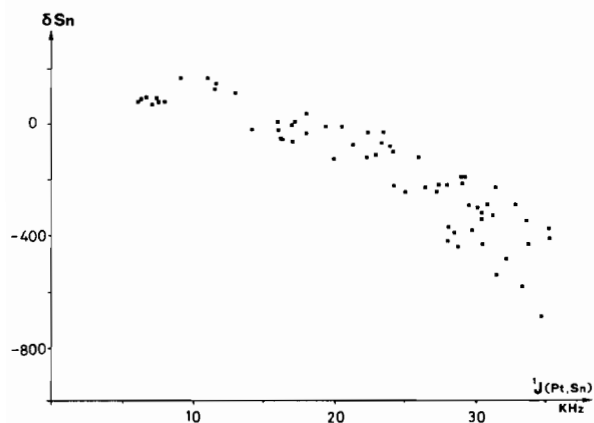
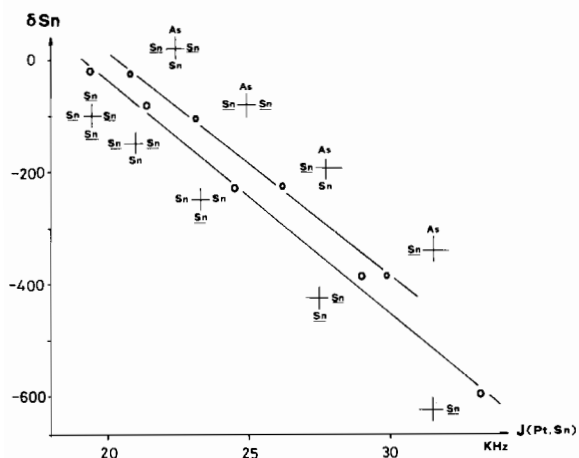


Fig. 2. Plots of  $\delta^{119}\text{Sn}$  vs.  $^1J(^{195}\text{Pt}, ^{119}\text{Sn})$  for (top) the complexes  $[\text{PtCl}_n(\text{SnCl}_3)_{4-n}]^{2-}$ ,  $n = 0-3$ ,  $[\text{PtCl}_n(\text{SnCl}_3)_{3-n}(\text{AsMe}_3)]^-$ ,  $n = 0-3$ , and (bottom) a variety of trichlorostannate complexes from references 10-14 and 16.

in the five-coordinates might be helpful in distinguishing a square planar from a trigonal bipyramidal compound. Observations 2 and 3 are illustrated graphically in Fig. 2, together with some additional data from earlier studies [16].

Clearly, the combined *cis* and *trans* effects are resulting in an approximately linear relationship between  $\delta^{119}\text{Sn}$  and  $^1J(^{195}\text{Pt}, ^{119}\text{Sn})$  for these two series of molecules. Attempts to expand this correlation *via* the use of our full data base [10-14, 16] leads to significant deviations from linearity (see Fig. 2, bottom) although a general trend is still observable. We consider curves such as that shown in the figure to be useful empirical aids in assigning the structure of unknown trichlorostannate complexes.

$^{195}\text{Pt}$ -NMR:  $\text{Pt}_2\text{Cl}_2(\text{SnCl}_3)_2(\text{PEt}_3)_2$

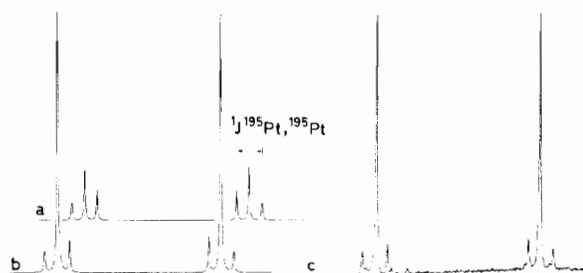
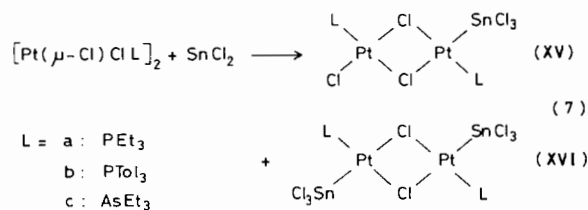


Fig. 3. Experimental  $^{195}\text{Pt}$  NMR spectrum of  $[\text{Pt}(\mu\text{-Cl})(\text{SnCl}_3)(\text{PEt}_3)_2]$ , *c*, with simulations for the spectrum with two  $^{195}\text{Pt}$  atoms, *a*, and for the composite of all the isotomers involving platinum, *b*.  $\delta^{195}\text{Pt} = -4320$ .

### Reactions of Dimeric Complexes

Although  $\text{SnCl}_2$  reacts with many transition metal halogen bonds to give trichlorostannate complexes [5-7, 10-14], there is no accepted mechanism for this reaction. To obtain some qualitative insight into this area we have studied the reactions of  $\text{SnCl}_2$  with the dimers *sym-trans*- $[\text{Pt}(\mu\text{-Cl})\text{ClL}]_2$ , (XIV),

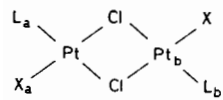


as shown in (7). Reaction with one equivalent of  $\text{SnCl}_2$  in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{CDCl}_3$  leads to a mixture of (XV) and (XVI) plus some unreacted starting material. The mono  $\text{SnCl}_3^-$  complex (XVa) is readily identified from its  $^{195}\text{Pt}$  NMR spectrum. There are two distinct  $^{195}\text{Pt}$  absorptions of equal integral at  $\delta = -3419$  and  $-4270$  which are coupled to one another,  $^2J(^{195}\text{Pt}, ^{195}\text{Pt}) = 238$  Hz. The higher field signal has a  $^1J(^{195}\text{Pt}, ^{119}\text{Sn})$  value of 33642 Hz; however, there is no observable tin coupling to the lower field platinum. The  $^{31}\text{P}$  spectrum provides complementary data in that there are two  $^{31}\text{P}$  resonances of equal integral with  $^4J(^{31}\text{P}, ^{31}\text{P}) = 3$  Hz, and only one of these shows an observable coupling to tin. A summary of all of these data is given in Table II.

Addition of a second equivalent of  $\text{SnCl}_2$  affords primarily (XVI). The dimeric nature of (XVIa) is supported by the observation of a  $^2J(^{195}\text{Pt}, ^{195}\text{Pt})$  coupling, 531 Hz (see Fig. 3), and the remaining NMR parameters are consistent with this formulation\*. (XVIb) and (XVIc) were assigned by analogy.

\*Please for footnote see overleaf.

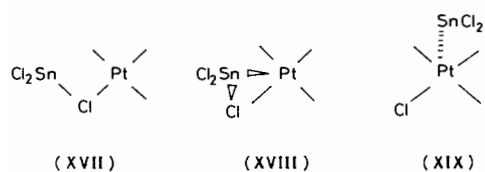
TABLE II. NMR Data\* for the Dimeric Complexes.



L	X <sub>a</sub>	X <sub>b</sub>	$\delta\text{Pt}_a$	$\delta\text{Pt}_b$	$\delta\text{Sn}$	$\delta\text{P}_a$	$\delta\text{P}_b$	$^1\text{J}(\text{Pt},\text{Sn})$	$^1\text{J}(\text{Pt},\text{P})$	$^2\text{J}(\text{Pt},\text{Pt})$	$^2\text{J}(\text{Sn},\text{P})$
PEt <sub>3</sub>	Cl	Cl		-3409				10.3		3850	
	Cl	SnCl <sub>3</sub>	-3419	-4270	-355	11.2	12.5	33642	3814 3490	238	238
	SnCl <sub>3</sub>	SnCl <sub>3</sub>	-4320		-383	12.2		35309	3480	531	238
PTol <sub>3</sub>	Cl	Cl		-3353				3.3		4065	
	Cl	SnCl <sub>3</sub>	-3293	-4157	-385	1.5	5.6	33890	4004 3660		224
	SnCl <sub>3</sub>	SnCl <sub>3</sub>	-4178		-425	5.0		35278	3721		215
AsEt <sub>3</sub>	Cl	Cl		-3069							
	Cl	SnCl <sub>3</sub>	-3045	-4170	-412				32519		
	SnCl <sub>3</sub>	SnCl <sub>3</sub>	-4231		-440			33691			

\*  $^{195}\text{Pt}$ ,  $^{119}\text{Sn}$  and  $^{31}\text{P}$  chemical shifts are relative to external  $\text{Na}_2[\text{PtCl}_6]$ ,  $(\text{CH}_3)_4\text{Sn}$  and  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$ , respectively.

Furthermore, we have crystallized (XVIIa) and confirmed its dimeric structure by X-ray diffraction [14]. It would seem that for molecules of type (XIV),  $\text{SnCl}_2$  does *not* split the halogen bridges, in contrast to the behavior of nucleophilic nitrogen, phosphorus and arsenic ligands [19]. Conceivably, the  $\text{SnCl}_2$  chooses to attack electrophilically at the relatively electron-rich terminal  $\text{Cl}^-$ , or alternatively a carbene-like insertion is possible. It may also be that the tin lone-pair coordinates to the platinum without bridge cleavage. All three of these possibilities are shown as (XVII)–(XIX). Although there is some support for a structure similar to (XVII) in



the complexes *trans*- $[\text{IrCl}(\text{SnCl}_2)(\text{CO})(\text{P}(\text{p-XC}_6\text{H}_4)_3)_2]$  [20], and  $[\text{Ag}(\text{SnCl}_3)(\text{PP})]$ , PP = 2,11-bis(diphenylphosphinomethyl)benzo[*c*]phenanthrene [21], the compounds  $[\text{MoCl}(\text{SnCl}_2\text{CH}_3)(\text{CO})_3(2,2\text{-bipyridyl})]$  [22],  $[\text{WCl}(\text{SnCl}_2\text{CH}_3)(\text{CO})_3(\text{CH}_3\text{-SCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{SCH}_3)]$  [23] contain structural units relat-

ed to (XVIII). It may well develop that the choice between (XVII)–(XIX), and perhaps others, will be dictated by the metal and its ligand.

#### Acknowledgements

We thank the E.T.H. Zürich for support and the Johnson Matthey Research Centre, England for the loan of platinum salts.

#### Experimental

The  $^{195}\text{Pt}$  and  $^{119}\text{Sn}$  NMR spectra were measured using a Bruker WM-250 spectrometer as described previously [11–13]. The solutions for the measurements were prepared as follows:

##### Preparation of the $[\text{PtCl}_{3-n}(\text{SnCl}_3)_n]^{2-}$ Ions

A solution of  $(\text{Ph}_4\text{P})_2[\text{PtCl}_4]$  (203 mg, 0.20 mmol) in 5 ml  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  was treated with solid  $\text{SnCl}_2$  ( $n \times 38$  mg,  $n \times 0.2$  mmol) and then stirred for *ca.* 24 h. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the resulting solid dissolved in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{CDCl}_3$ , 1:1, and the NMR spectra recorded. The five coordinate  $[\text{Pt}(\text{SnCl}_3)_5]^{3-}$  was prepared according to literature methods [9].

##### Preparation of the *cis*- $[\text{PdCl}_2(\text{SnCl}_3)_2]^{2-}$ and $[\text{Pd}(\text{SnCl}_3)_5]^{3-}$ Anions

$(\text{Bu}_4\text{N})_2[\text{PdCl}_4]$  (73.3 mg, 0.10 mmol) was dissolved in 3 ml  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{CDCl}_3$ , 1:1, and then treated with solid  $\text{SnCl}_2$  (38 mg, 0.20 mmol) at room temperature for 2 h. The resulting solution was employed directly for the NMR measurement. The

\* $\text{SnCl}_2$  does not insert between two platinum atoms. This would result in two large  $^1\text{J}(\text{Pt}, \text{Sn})$  values. See Goodfellow and Herbert, *Inorg. Chim. Acta*, 65, L161 (1982).

$[\text{Pd}(\text{SnCl}_3)_5]^{3-}$  was prepared similarly except that a) solid  $(\text{Bu}_4\text{N})\text{Cl}$  was added directly after the 5 equivalents of  $\text{SnCl}_2$ , and b), the resulting oil was dissolved by the addition of a minimum amount of acetone.

#### Preparation of the Dimers (XV) and (XVI)

The complexes (XV) may be generated by adding solid  $\text{SnCl}_2$  (19 mg, 0.10 mmol) to a solution containing 0.1 mmol of (XIVa-c) in 3 ml  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{CDCl}_3$ . Further addition of  $\text{SnCl}_2$  (19 mg, 0.10 mmol) affords the symmetrical dimers (XVIa-c).

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