Reactions of 1,4-Diazabutadienes with Chloro-bridged Palladium(II) and Platinum(II) Allyl Derivatives

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The 1,4-diazabutadienes (or α -diimines) R-N= $C(R')-C(R'')=N-R, DAB, (R = p-C_6H_4OMe, R' =$ $R'' = H, DAB^{I}; R = p-C_{6}H_{4}OMe, R' = H, R'' = Me, DAB^{II}; R = p-C_{6}H_{4}OMe, R' = R'' = Me, DAB^{III}; R = t-Bu, R' = R'' = H, DAB^{IV})$ react with the allylic compounds $[PdCl(\eta^{3}-2-Y-C_{3}H_{4})]_{2}$ (Y = H: all; Y = Me: Meall) and $[PtCl(C_3H_5)]_4$ in the presence of NaClO₄ yielding the cationic complexes $[M(\eta^3-2 Y-C_{3}H_{4}/(DAB)/(ClO_{4}) (M = Pd, I; M = Pt, II).$ The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra indicate a σ, σ' -N,N' chelation of DAB. In the complexes with the asymmetric ligand DAB^{II} a fast syn-syn, anti-anti, exchange of the allylic protons occurs at room temperature in CDCl₃. In acetonitrile a partial dissociation of DAB is observed, with the following order of stability constants: $DAB^{III} > DAB^{I}$ and $Pt \gg Pd$. In the absence of NaClO₄, equilibria are established involving the starting reactant $[PdCl(\eta^3-Meall)]_2$, binuclear species { $PdCl(\eta^3-Meall)$]₂(DAB)}, III (in which DAB acts as a bidentate bridging ligand) and ionic complexes $[Pd(\eta^3-Meall)(DAB)]^*[PdCl_2 (\eta^3$ -Meall)]⁻, IV. These equilibria were studied in various solvents by variable temperature ¹H NMR spectra, electronic spectra, molecular weight and conductivity measurements. The complexes III can be isolated as solids and are the predominant species in concentrated solution only with DAB^{I} and DAB^{IV} , both having R' = R'' = H. With DAB^{III} , the predominant species in CDCl₃ at -40 °C is a complex of type IV. A similar compound, $[Pd(\eta^3-Meall)(bipy)]$ - $[PdCl_2(\eta^3-Meall)]$, is also obtained in the reaction with 2,2'-bipyridine.

Introduction

The chemistry of palladium and platinum allyl derivatives has been extensively studied with a special focus on the fluxional behaviour of the allylic moiety [1]. The dimer $[PdCl(\eta^3-all)]_2$ and tetramer

[PtCl(all)]₄ easily undergo bridge-splitting reactions with a large variety of mono- and bidentate ligands to yield in general mononuclear complexes containing a trihapto η^3 -allyl group. Some monohapto η^1 allyl derivatives of platinum(II) have been also isolated [2]. As a preliminary step towards the study of the reactions with organometallic 1,4-diazabutadiene ligands, derived from the complex -trans-[PdCl- $[\overline{C(=Np-C_6H_4OMe)C(Me)}=Np-C_6H_4OMe](PPh_3)_2]$ (which contains a σ -bonded 1,4-bis(p-methoxyphenyl)1,4-diaza-3-methylbutadiene-2-yl group [3]), we have investigated the reactivity of some simpler α -dimines towards [PdCl(η^3 -2-Y-C₃H₄)]₂ (Y = H, Me) and $[PtCl(C_3H_5)]_4$, in order to ascertain the type of bonding of these ligands (σ -monodentate, σ,σ -bridging bidentate, σ,σ - or σ,π -chelating bidentate [4, 5]) and the possible fluxional behaviour in the systems.

Experimental

The 1,4-diazabutadiene ligands (DAB^I, DAB^{III}, DAB^{IV}) and the starting complexes [PdCl(η^3 -2-Y-C₃H₄)]₂ (Y = H, Me) and [PtCl(C₃H₅)]₄ were prepared by standard methods [6–8]. All other chemicals and solvents were reagent grade, and were used without further purification.

R-N=C(Me)-CH=N-R ($R = p-C_6H_4OMe: DAB^{II}$)

A 40% aqueous solution of methylglyoxal (2.25 g, 12.5 mmol) was slowly added dropwise to a stirred solution of *p*-anisidine (98% purity, 3.14 g, 25 mmol) in *ca*. 7 ml of methanol, at -20 °C. After the addition, the reaction mixture was kept at -10 °C for one day. The yellow product was filtered off, washed with water and dried *in vacuo* (1.24 g, 35% yield). This compound is rather unstable at room temperature and must be stored at -10 °C under N₂ atmosphere.

$[M(\eta^3-Meall)(DAB)]ClO_4 (M = Pd, Pt; Y = H, Me)$

a) The dimer $[PdCl(\eta^3-Meall)]_2$ (0.5 mmol) dissolved in *ca*. 50 ml of dichloromethane was treated

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with DAB (1 mmol) and then with a solution of NaClO₄•H₂O (0.281 g, 2 mmol) in 5 ml of methanol. A white precipitate of NaCl was immediately formed. After stirring for 30 min the reaction mixture was evaporated to dryness and the residue treated with dichloromethane and charcoal. After filtration the clear solution was concentrated to a small volume at reduced pressure and the product was precipitated by addition of diethyl ether. All the cationic complexes were purified by recrystallization from dichloromethane/diethyl ether (Yields 80–95%). With the unstable DAB^{II} ligand, the reactants were initially mixed together at 0 °C. After stirring for 15 min, the reaction mixture was worked up at room temperature as quickly as possible.

b) The compound $[PtCl(all)]_4$ (0.272 g, 0.25 mmol) suspended in *ca*. 50 ml of dichloromethane was treated with DAB (1 mmol) and then with a solution of NaClO₄·H₂O (0.281 g, 2 mmol) in 5 ml of methanol. The resulting reaction mixture was worked up as described above to give pure, well-defined products only with DAB^I and DAB^{III} (Yields 80–90%).

$[Pd(\eta^3-Meall)(bipy)]BF_4$

The dimer $[PdCl(\eta^3-Meall)]_2$ (0.197 g, 0.5 mmol) dissolved in *ca*. 50 ml of dichloromethane was treated with 2,2-bipyridine (0.156 g, 1 mmol) and then with a solution of NaBF₄ (0.22 g, 2 mmol) in 5 ml of methanol. The reaction mixture was worked up as described above to yield the white cationic complex (0.324 g, 80%).

Reactions of $[PdCl(\eta^3-Meall)]_2$ with DAB in the Absence of NaClO₄

DABI

Addition of DAB^I (0.134 g, 0.5 mmol) to [PdCl- $(\eta^3$ -Meall)]₂ (0.197 g, 0.5 mmol; molar ratio DAB^I/Pd ½) dissolved in *ca.* 30 ml of benzene gave an orange solution, from which a yellow precipitate began to separate after a few minutes. After stirring for 2 h, the product {[PdCl(η^3 -Meall)]₂(DAB^I)} (0.310 g) was filtered off, washed with benzene and dried *in vacuo*.

The same reaction in methanol gave a red solution from which a yellow precipitate began to separate after a few minutes. The mixture was concentrated to a small volume at reduced pressure and the precipitation was completed with diethyl ether. This product (0.300 g) was found to be identical to that prepared in benzene on the basis of elemental analysis and IR spectra. Similar results are obtained in chlorinated solvents such as dichloromethane, chloroform an 1,2-dichloroethane.

DABII

In the reaction with DAB¹¹, carried out under the same experimental conditions, extensive decomposition occurred as to prevent the isolation of any pure product.

DABIII

The ligand DAB^{III} (0.5 mmol) was added to $[PdCl(\eta^3-Meall)]_2$ (0.5 mmol) dissolved in *ca*. 30 ml of benzene. After 30 min the yellow solution was concentrated to a small volume, whereupon yellow crystals of DAB^{III} were obtained. The precipitation was completed by addition of diethyl ether. From the mother liquor, upon concentration and dilution with a diethyl ether/*n*-hexane (1/1 v/v mixture, a second yellow precipitate is formed, which consists of $[PdCl(\eta^3-Meall)]_2$ and a small amount of DAB^{III}. The same results are obtained in chloroform and methanol: in both cases the colour of the initial reaction solution is red-orange.

DAB^{IV}

Addition of DAB^{IV} (0.084 g, 0.5 mmol) to [PdCl- $(\eta^3$ -Meall)]₂ in *ca.* 30 ml of benzene (or dichloromethane) gave a yellow solution, from which the product {[Pd(η^3 -Meall)]₂(DAB^{IV})} (0.24 g) was precipitated after concentration to a small volume and addition of *n*-pentane. Attempts to recrystallize this compound from a dilute benzene/*n*-pentane solution yielded crystals of [PdCl(η^3 -Meall)]₂.

Bipy

The dimer $[PdCl(\eta^3-Meall)]_2$ (0.197 g, 0.5 mmol) was treated with bipy (0.078 g, 0.5 mmol) in *ca*. 30 ml of dichloromethane (or methanol). The resulting yellow solution was concentrated at reduced pressure and the pale-yellow product $[Pd(\eta^3-Meall)-(bipy)]$ [PdCl₂(η^3 -Meall)] (0.26 g) was precipitated upon addition of n-hexane (diethyl ether for methanol).

In all cases, the same final products are obtained if the starting compounds are reacted with a DAB/Pd molar ratio of 1/1.

Physical Measurements

Microanalyses were performed by A. Berton and G. Biasioli of the Microanalytical Laboratory, Laboratorio Radioelementi C.N.R., Padua. Molecular weights were determined using a Knauer osmometer in 1,2-dichloroethane and benzene at 37 °C. The conductivity measurements were carried out with a Philips PR9500 bridge at 20 °C. ¹H NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian EM-390 90 MHz spectrometer with tetramethylsilane (TMS) as internal standard; ¹³C NMR spectra were obtained on a Bruker WP 60FT at room temperature with dichloromethane-d₂ or TMS as internal standard. Electronic spectra in solution were recorded with a Bausch-

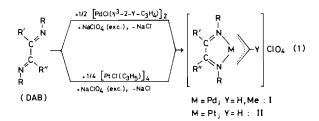
Lomb Spectronic 210 UV spectrophotometer in the range 650–250 nm at 25 °C, using quartz cells of 1 cm path length. Infrared spectra were recorded with a Perkin-Elmer 597 instrument, using hexachlorobutadiene mulls and NaCl plates in the range 4000–1300 cm⁻¹, Nujol mulls and CsI in the range 1700–250 cm⁻¹.

Results and Discussion

The reactions of organic 1,4-diaza-1,3-butadienes (DAB), R-N=C(R')-C(R'')=N-R (R = p-C₆H₄-OMe, R' = R'' = H, DAB^I; R = p-C₆H₄OMe, R' = H, R'' = Me, DAB^{II}; R = p-C₆H₄OMe, R' = R'' = Me, DAB^{III}; R = t-Bu, R' = R'' = H, DAB^{IV}) with [PdCl(η^3 -2-Y-C₃H₄)]₂ (Y = H: all; Y = Me: Meall) or [PtCl(all)]₄ yield different products depending on whether NaClO₄ is present or not.

Reactions in the Presence of NaClO₄

In the presence of an excess of NaClO₄, the reactions lead to the formation of intensely coloured ($R = p-C_6H_4OMe$) cationic complexes according to eqn. 1:

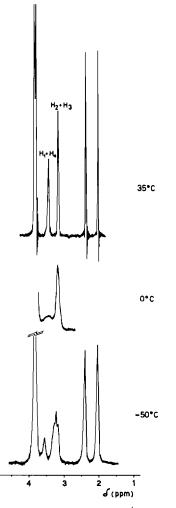


The reactions with $[PtCl(all)]_4$ yield well-defined products only with the ligands DAB^I and DAB^{III}. The cationic compound $[Pd(\eta^3-Meall)(bipy)]BF_4$ can be prepared in a similar way starting from $[Pd-Cl(\eta^3-Meall)]_2, 2,2'$ -bipyridine (bipy) and NaBF₄.

The analytical and physical data are reported in Table I.

The complexes I and II are uni-univalent electrolytes in methanolic solutions. The presence of the ClO_4^- anion is confirmed by the typical IR absorptions at *ca.* 1090 cm⁻¹ [ν (Cl-O)] and *ca.* 624 cm⁻¹ [δ (Cl-O)]. The 1,4-diazabutadienes are σ , σ' -N,N' chelated to the central metals, as indicated by the downfield shifts of the signals δ (N=C-H) and δ (N= C) in the ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra, compared to those of the free ligands [4, 5] (Tables II and III). The relatively high value (74.4 Hz) of ³J_{Pt-H} for the δ (N=C-H) signal of [Pt(η^3 -all)(DAB^I)] ClO₄ is also in agreement with a *trans* Pt-N=C-H arrangement [9].

In general, all the C- and N-substituent protons of DAB are deshielded upon coordination. The ¹H NMR spectra show also the characteristic features



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Fig. 1. Variable temperature ¹H NMR spectrum of $[Pd(\eta^3 - Meall)(DAB^I)] ClO_4$ in CDCl₃.

of η^3 -allyl groups, with separate resonances for the syn (H₁, H₄) and anti (H₂, H₃) protons (the numbering of the allylic protons is reported in Table II). These spectra are rather simple for palladium(II) derivatives, since no coupling between syn and anti protons was observed within the resolution limit of the spectrometer. In the case of platinum(II) complexes, however, the η^3 -all resonances are much more complicated due to coupling with the ¹⁹⁵Pt isotope and to a small syn-anti coupling of ca. 2 Hz [10].

The presence of a plane of symmetry in the cationic derivatives of DAB^I, DAB^{III} and DAB^{IV} does not allow one to investigate any fluxional behaviour other than syn-anti exchange. This is not the case for $[Pd(\eta^3-2-Y-C_3H_4)(DAB^{II})]ClO_4$ containing an asymmetrically C-substituted α -diimine. The spectra of these compounds at various temperatures indicate that a fast syn-syn, anti-anti exchange (on the NMR time scale) occurs at 35 °C, when only one

Compound	Colour	Melting Point (°C) ^a	C ^b (%)	H (%)	N (%)	Cl (%)
[PdCl(η^3 -all)(DAB ^I)]ClO ₄	red-purple	147	44.6	4.1	5.3	7.0
2 I			(44.29)	(4.11)	(5.44)	(6.88)
[Pd(η ³ -Meall)(DAB ^I)]ClO ₄	red	183	45.0	4.4	5.2	6.8
			(45.38)	(4.38)	(5.29)	(6.70)
$[Pt(\eta^{3}-all)(DAB^{I})]ClO_{4}$	red-brown	189	37.9	3.4	4.7	5.9
3			(37.78)	(3.50)	(4.64)	(5.87)
$[Pd(\eta^3-all)(DAB^{II})]ClO_4$	red-brick	97	45.2	4.3	5.3	6.8
1			(45.38)	(4.38)	(5.29)	(6.70)
$[Pd(\eta^3-Meall)(DAB^{II})]ClO_4$	red-brick	126	46.6	4.7	5.1	6.4
			(46.42)	(4.64)	(5.15)	(6.52)
$[Pd(\eta^3-all)(DAB^{III})]ClO_4$	yellow	199	46.7	4.6	5.1	6.5
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			(46.42)	(4.63)	(5.16)	(6.52)
$[Pd(\eta^3-Meall)(DAB^{III})]ClO_4$	orange	164	47.1	5.0	4.9	6.5
			(47.41)	(4.88)	(5.03)	(6.36)
$[Pt(\eta^3-all)(DAB^{III})]ClO_4$	red-orange	234	39.8	3.9	4.4	5.7
			(39.91)	(3.99)	(4.43)	(5.61)
$[Pd(\eta^3-all)(DAB^{IV})]ClO_4$	white	189	37.4	6.1	6.7	8.6
IN A AN AN AN AN AN AN	•		(37.60)	(6.07)	(6.75)	(8.54)
$[Pd(\eta^3-Meall)(DAB^{IV})]ClO_4$	white	212	39.4	6.5	6.5	8.4
			(39.17)	(6.34)	(6.53)	(8.26)
$[Pd(\eta^3-Meall)(bipy)]BF_4$	white	277	41.3	3.8	7.0	
(mar in the second			(41.57)	(3.74)	(6.93)	
$\left\{ \left[PdCl(\eta^{3}-Meall) \right]_{2}(DAB^{I}) \right\}$	yellow	153	43.3	4.6	4.2	10.8
			(43.53)	(4.57)	(4.23)	(10.71)
${[PdCl(\eta^3-Meall)]_2(DAB^{IV})}$	pale-yellow	157	38.2	6.2	5.0	12.5
			(38.45)	(6.10)	(4.98)	(12.61)
$[Pd(\eta^3-Meall)(bipy)]^+$	lemon-yellow	195	39.5	3.9	5.1	13.0
$[PdCl_2(\eta^3-Meall)]^-$			(39.30)	(4.03)	(5.09)	(12.89)

^aUncorrected values: all compounds decompose on melting, ^bCalcd, values in parenthesis. $c_{10}^{-3} M$ MeOH solutions at 20 °C. of the *para*-substituted phenyl groups around 1600 and 1500 cm⁻¹.

sharp signal was observed for the *anti* protons and a separate one for the *syn* protons. At lower temperatures these signals progressively broaden and eventually at -50 °C (the lowest temperature examined) four resonances are detected (Fig. 1). Because some decomposition occurs in solution with time, the mechanism of the dynamic process was no further investigated. It is likely that the interchange of the coordination sites of the two nitrogen atoms, generating a time averaged plane of symmetry through the molecule, takes place *via* a monodentate DAB^{II} intermediate, as was proposed for cationic Pd(η^3 -allyl) complexes with chelating N-ligands [11], but a rotation of the η^3 -allyl group around its bond axis to the central metal may also be operative [10].

The ¹³C NMR spectra are reported in Table III together with the labelling of diazabutadiene and allylic carbons. The assignment of the ¹³C signals is mainly based on the coupling with ¹H and for the complex [Pt(η^3 -all)(DAB^I)] ClO₄ also with the ¹⁹⁵Pt isotope. In the latter case, the assignment of the phenyl ring carbons C_{2,6} is clearly indicated by the

higher value of ${}^{3}J_{Pt-C} = 18.5$ Hz as compared to $C_{3,5}$ (${}^{4}J_{Pt-C} = 0$). The $C_{3,5}$ chemical shifts fall in the narrow range 114.86–115.64 ppm, as expected for *meta* carbons of *para*-substituted phenyl groups [12].

Upon coordination, a down-field shift is observed not only for δ (C=N), but also for the signals of C- and N-substituents of DAB such as $\delta(C-Me)$ and $\delta(N-CMe_3)$. When the N substituent is the p-C₆H₄-OMe group, the $C_{2,6}$ and C_4 carbon atoms appear to be the more deshielded by mesomeric effect, being ortho and para respectively to the coordinated nitrogen atom. In general, these effects parallel those observed in the corresponding ¹H NMR spectra, and indicate a marked decrease of electron density on the coordinated ligand. In other words, σ -donation seems to be predominant in the metal-DAB bond of these cationic derivatives. The metal \rightarrow ligand π back-donation becomes more relevant in complexes of low-valent metals, such as [Fe(CO)3- $(Pr^{i}N=CH-CH=NPr^{i})$ [5a], $[M(CO)_{4}(DAB^{IV})]$ (M = Cr, Mo, W) and $[Mo(CO)_{4-n}(DAB^{IV})(PR_3)_n]$

M_{M} ohm ⁻¹ cm ² mol ⁻¹) ^c	ν(Cl-O)	δ(Cl–O)	ν (C=N) ^d	Other Bands
88	1085s,br	622s	1568sh,br	
99	1095s,br	623s	1588s,br	
84	1085s,br	623s	1562s,br	
82	1090s,br	624s	1543m,br	
77	1090s,br	623s	1540m,br	
86	1095s,br	624s	n. o.	
97	1095s,br	624s	n.o.	
76	1095s,br	625s	n.o.	
98	1090s,br	623s	1606mw	
92	1095s,br	624s	1611mw	
04				1100s,br; 1060s,br; 1040sh: ν(B–F); 524ms: δ(B–F)
74			1567ms; 1560sh	$\nu(B-F); 524ms: \delta(B-F)$ 278ms: $\nu(Pd-Cl)$
37			1616ms	276s: v(Pd–Cl)
84				270s; 256s; v(Pd-Cl)

^dThe assignment of ν (C=N) bands for the ligands with R = p-C₆H₄OMe is complicated by the occurrence of intense absorptions

(n = 1, 2) [13], all containing a σ , σ' -N,N' chelating diazabutadiene. In these compounds π back-donation results in an increased electron density on the N=C-C=N unit and correspondingly in a higher shielding of the imino carbons in the ¹³C NMR spectra.

The small π contribution in the Pd–DAB^{IV} bond is also indicated by the small shift to lower frequency (ca. 20 cm⁻¹) of the C=N stretching vibrations of [Pd(η^3 -2-Y-C₃H₄)(DAB^{IV})]ClO₄ relative to that of free DAB^{IV} (1630 cm⁻¹). Much higher shifts to lower frequency have been reported for DAB^{IV} complexes with considerable extent of π back-donation [13, 14].

The electronic spectra of the cationic derivatives of DAB^I, DAB^{II} and DAB^{III} (R = p-C₆H₄OMe) are characterized by a series of bands in the frequency range 18,000–28,000 cm⁻¹, which give rise to a rather broad absorption with a main maximum surrounded by one or more shoulders and with molar extinction coefficients varying from 5000 to 19,000 cm⁻¹ M^{-1} . These bands are essentially due to metal \rightarrow DAB CT transitions, as indicated by their dependence on the nature of the central metal and of the diazabutadiene ligands, as well as by solvatochromic effects [6, 13, 14].

An increasing substitution of protons by methyl groups at the imino carbon atoms in DAB ligands shifts the band maxima to higher frequency and reduces their intensities, as shown by the MeOH solution spectra of the complexes: $[Pd(\eta^3 \text{-Meall})(DAB^1)] ClO_4$, λ_{max} 21,550 cm⁻¹ (ϵ 14,000 cm⁻¹ M^{-1}); $[Pd(\eta^3 \text{-Meall})(DAB^{11})] ClO_4$, 23,920 (8000); $[Pd(\eta^3 \text{-Meall})DAB^{111}] ClO_4$, 24,510 (4600). A higher frequency shift is also observed in more polar solvents as reported in Fig. 2 for $[Pt(\eta^3 \text{-all})(DAB^{111})] ClO_4$ spectra in 1,2-dichloroethane νs . methanol solutions.

In the latter solvents the Lambert-Beer law is generally observed, whereas in acetonitrile a dissociation equilibrium occurs according to eqn. 2:

$$[M(\eta^{3}-2-Y-C_{3}H_{4})(DAB)]^{*} + 2S \neq$$

$$DAB + [M(\eta^{3} - 2 - Y - C_{3}H_{4})(S)_{2}]^{*}$$
(2)

TABLE II. ¹H NMR Spectra.^a

Compound	DAB Ligand		η^3 -Allyl Group ^b		Solvent
DAB ^I	3.77 S	O-Me			CDCl ₃
	6.8–7.4 M ^c	-C6H4-			
	8.35 S	N=CH			
[Pd(all)(DAB ^I)]ClO ₄	3.83 S	O-Me	3.54 D ${}^{3}J_{H-Y} = 12.0$	H ₂ , H ₃	CD ₂ Cl ₂
	6.9–6.6 M ^c	-C ₆ H ₄ -	4.06 D ${}^{3}J_{H-Y} = 6.9$	H ₁ , H ₄	
	8.47 S	N=CH	5.82 M	Y = H	
[Pd(Meall)(DAB ^I)]ClO ₄	3.87 S	O-Me	2.15 S	Y = Me	CD ₂ Cl ₂
	6.9–7.5 М ^с	-C6H4-	3.39 S	H2, H3	
	8.50 S	N=CH	3.83 S	H ₁ , H ₄	
[Pt(all)(DAB ^I)] ClO ₄	3.89 S	O-Me	3.20 M	H ₂ , H ₃	CD ₂ Cl ₂
[6.8-7.8 M ^d	-C ₆ H ₄ -	${}^{3}J_{H-Y} = 12.3$	273	
	9.10 T ${}^{3}J_{Pt-H} = 74.4$	N=CH	$J_{syn-anti} = 2.1$ ${}^{2}J_{Pt-H} = 73.2$ 4.04 M ${}^{3}J_{H-Y} = 7.5$ $J_{syn-anti} = 2.1$	H ₁ , H ₄	
			${}^{2}J_{Pt-H} = 24$ 5.22 M	Y = H	
DAB ¹¹	2.15 S	CMe			CDCl ₃
	3.72 S	O-Me			Ũ
	6.6–7.4 M ^e	C6H4			
	8.15 S	N=CH			
[Pd(all)(DAB ^{II})]ClO ₄	2.36 S 3.79 S	C–Me O–Me	3.31 D ³ J _{H-Y} = 12.6	H ₂ , H ₃	CDCl ₃
	6.8–7.6 M ^e	$-C_{6}H_{4}-$	3.66 D	H1, H4	
	8.35 S	N=CH	${}^{3}J_{H-Y} = 6.6$		
			5.68 M	Y = H	
[Pd(Meall)(DAB ^{II})]ClO ₄	2.37 S	С–Ме	2.05 S	Y = Me	CDCl ₃
	3.78 S	O–Me	3.16 S	H2, H3	
	3.80 S	OMe	3.42 S	H1, H4	
	6.8–7.6 M ^e	$-C_{6}H_{4}-$			
	8.37 S	N=CH			
DAB ^{III}	2.10 S	C–Me			CDCl ₃
	3.75 S	O–Me			
	6.6–6.9 М ^с	C6H4			
[Pd(all)(DAB ^{III})]ClO ₄	2.33 S	CMe	3.17 D	H2, H3	CD ₂ Cl ₂
	3.83 S	O–Me	${}^{3}J_{H-Y} = 12.6$		
	6.8–7.2 М ^с	-C ₆ H ₄ -	3.38 D	H1, H4	

(continued on facing page)

Pd(II) and Pt(II) Diazabutadiene Complexes

TABLE II. (continued)

Compound	DAB Ligand		η^3 -Allyl Group ^b		Solvent
			³ J _{H-Y} = 6.9 5.65 M	Y = H	
[Pd(Meall)(DAB ^{III})]ClO ₄	2.33 S (2.30) ^f	CMe	2.03 S (1.98) ^f	Y = Me	CD ₂ Cl ₂
	3.83 S (3.79) ^f	O–Me	3.02 S (2.94) ^f	H ₂ , H ₃	
	6.9–7.2 М ^с (6.8–7.2) ^f	C6H4			
			3.17 S (3.05) ^f	H ₁ , H ₄	
[Pt(all)(DAB ^{III})]ClO ₄	2.31 T	C–Me	2.80 M	H ₂ , H ₃	CD ₂ Cl ₂
	⁴ J _{Pt−H} = 7.9		${}^{3}J_{H-Y} = 12.7$ $J_{syn-anti} = 2.2$		
	3.84 S 6.9–7.3 M ^d	0-Ме С ₆ Н4	² J _{Pt-H} = 75 3.35 M	H ₁ , H ₄	
	0.9 7.9 M		${}^{3}J_{H-Y} = 6.8$ $J_{syn-anti} = 2.2$	111, 114	
			² J _{Pt-H} = 27 4.92 M	Y = H	
DAB ^{IV}	1.29 S 7.93 S	C(Me) ₃ N=CH			CDCl ₃
[Pd(all)(DAB ^{IV})]ClO ₄	1.37 S	C(Me) ₃	3.36 D	H ₂ , H ₃	CDCl ₃
	8.44 S	N=CH	${}^{3}J_{H-Y} = 12.6$ 4.47 D	112, 113	CDCI3
			${}^{3}J_{H-Y} = 7.2$	H ₁ , H ₄	
			5.69 M	Y = H	
[Pd(Meall)(DAB ^{IV})]ClO ₄	1.38 S	C(Me) ₃	2.12 S	Y = Me	CDCl ₃
	8.45 S	N=CH	3.21 S 4.20 S	H ₂ , H ₃ H ₁ , H ₄	
[Pd(Meall)(bipy)]BF4	7.5-8.8 М	-NC ₅ H ₄	2.24 S	Y = Me	CD ₂ Cl ₂
			3.38 S 3.97 S	H ₂ , H ₃ H, H,	
			3.77 3	H ₁ , H ₄	
${[PdCl(Meall)]_2(DAB^I)}$	3.80 S [5H] ^g	O-Me	2.05 S [3H]	Y = Me	CDCl ₃
	6.8-7.6 M [4H]	C ₆ H ₄ N=CH	2.86 S [2H] 3.75 S [5H] ^g	H ₂ , H ₃ Н. Н.	
	8.78 S, br [1H]	N-Ch	5.75 [56]	H ₁ , H ₄	
[PdCl(Meall)] ₂ + DAB ^{III}	2.49 S, br [3H]	C–Me	2.01 S [3H]	Y = Me	CDCl ₃
	3.80 S [3H]	O-Me	2.86 br [2H]	H ₂ , H ₃	
	6.8-7.4 M [4H]	C6H4-	3.50 br [2H]	H ₁ , H ₄	
[PdCl(Meall)]2 + DABIII h	2.56 S, br [6H]	C–Me	1.97 S [6H]	Y = Me	CDCl ₃

(continued overleaf)

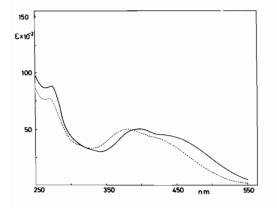
Compound	DAB Ligand			η^3 -Allyl Group ^b		Solvent
P	3.76 S	[8H] ^g	OMe	2.71 S [2H]	H_2, H_3^i	
	6.8–7.3 М ^с	[8H]	C6H4	2.98 S [2H]	H2, H3 ^j	
				3.07 S [2H]	H ₁ , H ₄ ^j	
				3.78 sh [6H] ^g	H ₁ , H ₄ ⁱ	
${[PdCl(Meall)]_2(DAB^{IV})}$	1.39 S	[9H]	C(Me) ₃	2.07 S [3H]	Y = Me	CDCl ₃
	8.62 S, br	[1H]	N=CH	2.80 S [2H]	H2, H3	
				3.81 S [2H]	H_1, H_4	
[Pd(Meall)(bipy)] ⁺	7.5–8.9 M	[8H]	-NC ₅ H ₄	2.02 S [3H]	$Y = Me^{i}$	CDCl ₃
[PdCl ₂ (Meall)]				2.20 S [3H]	$Y = Me^{j}$	
				2.75 S [2H]	H2, H3 ⁱ	
				3.45 S,br [2H]	H ₂ , H ₃ ^j	
				3.76 S [2H]	H_1, H_4^i	
				4.04 S,br [2H]	H_1, H_4^{j}	
[PdCl ₂ (Meall)] AsPh ₄	7.4–7.9 M		C ₆ H ₅	2.01 S	Y = Me	CDCl ₃
				2.70 S	H ₂ , H ₃	
				3.71 S	H ₁ , H ₄	

TABLE II. (continued)

^aSpectra recorded at 35 °C; δ values in ppm from TMS as internal standard; S singlet, D doublet, T triplet, M multiplet, sh shoulder, br broad. Coupling constants in Hz. Integration values are given in square brackets. ^bNumbering of allylic protons



^cAA'BB' symmetrical multiplet. ^dAA'BB' signal coupled with ¹⁹⁵Pt. ^eTwo overlapping AA'BB' signals. ^fSpectrum in CDCl₃ solution. ^gIntegration value of two overlapping signals. ^hSpectrum at -40 °C. ^JSignals of the cationic species (see text). ⁱSignals of anionic species [PdCl₂(Meall)]⁻.



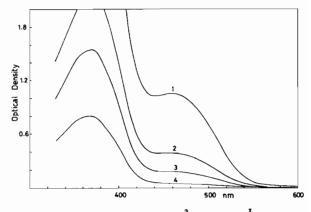


Fig. 2. Electronic spectra of $[Pt(\eta^3-all)(DAB^{III})]ClO_4$ in 1,2dichloroethane (-----) and methanol (-----).

Fig. 3. Electronic spectra of $[Pd(\eta^3-Meall)(DAB^1)]ClO_4$ in acetonitrile (25 °C) at the following concentrations (M): 1) 2.39 × 10⁻⁴; 2) 1.20 × 10⁻⁴; 3) 7.98 × 10⁻⁵; 4) 3.99 × 10⁻⁵.

(M = Pd, Pt; Y = H, Me; S = MeCN)

As an example, Fig. 3 shows the electronic spectra of $[Pd(\eta^3-Meall)(DAB^I)] ClO_4$ at various concentrations at 25 °C.

The intense band at 27,030 cm⁻¹ is due to the free DAB^I ligand, while the maximum at 21,740 cm⁻¹ is assigned to the CT band system of the undissociated complex. Abstract factor analysis [15] of the spectral changes with dilution has shown the presence of only two absorbing species in the range 30,000-22,000 cm⁻¹ (viz. the free ligand and the undissociated complex) whereas one single absorbing species (i.e. the undissociated substrate) is observed below 22,000 cm⁻¹. As expected, increasing additions of free DAB^I will shift the equilibrium to the left, as indicated by the corresponding intensity increase of the maximum at 21,740 cm⁻¹. The dissociation product $[Pd(\eta^3-Meall)(S)_2]^+$ can also be generated in situ by an alternative route, namely by treatment of an acetonitrile solution of $[PdCl(\eta^3-Meall)]_2$ with AgClO₄ (Pd/Ag 1/1 molar ratio): after filtration of the AgCl precipitate, the resulting pale-yellow solution was found to be conducting and did not display any appreciable absorption in the frequency range in which the equilibrium 2 had been investigated. Consistently, appropriate additions of free DAB¹ to such solution closely reproduced the electronic spectra corresponding to the dissociation of $[Pd(\eta^3-Meall)(DAB^1)]$ ClO₄ under the same concentration conditions.

Non-linear regression analysis of the spectral changes with dilution, analogous to those of Fig. 3, was carried out according to the following model [16]:

$$\frac{[M] [L]}{[ML]} = K_{D}$$

$$[ML] = \frac{1}{2} \{ (2a + K_{D}) - [(2a + K_{D})^{2} - 4a^{2}]^{1/2} \}$$

$$A_{\lambda} = \epsilon_{MT}^{\lambda} [ML] + \epsilon_{L}^{\lambda} [L]$$

where:

 $ML = [M(\eta^{3}-2-Y-C_{3}H_{4})(DAB)]^{*}$ $M = [M(\eta^{3}-2-Y-C_{3}H_{4})S_{2}]^{*}$ L = DAB a = total, analytical concentration of ML $A_{\lambda} = \text{optical density of the solution at wave-length } \lambda$

 ϵ_i^{λ} = extinction coefficients at λ

The function minimized was

$$\phi = \phi(\epsilon_{i}, K_{D}) = \Sigma w_{i} (A_{obs} - A_{calcd})^{2}$$

No weighting scheme was applied. The minimization was carried out by an optimized version of

Marquardt's algorithm [17] as implemented on a Tektronix 4052 Graphic System minicomputer with 64 Kbytes of memory. Good starting guesses for the parameter vector were obtained by a preliminary Nelder-Mead Simplex search [18]. The following dissociation constants $K_D(M)$ were obtained:

$[Pd(\eta^3-all)(DAB^I)]ClO_4$	$(3.0 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-4}$
$[Pd(\eta^3 \cdot Meall)(DAB^I)] ClO_4$	$(3.4 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-4}$
$[Pd(\eta^3-all)(DAB^{III})]ClO_4$	$(1.7 \pm 0.7) \times 10^{-5}$
$[Pd(\eta^3-Meall)(DAB^{III})]ClO_4$	$(3.4 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-5}$
$[Pt(\eta^3-all)(DAB^I)] ClO_4$	$(3.0 \pm 0.8) \times 10^{-6}$

(averages of determinations at several wavelengths; errors quoted are averaged standard errors of estimate).

The complexes $[Pt(\eta^3-all)(DAB^{III})] ClO_4$ and $[Pd-(\eta^3-Meall)(bipy)] ClO_4$ are virtually undissociated and the Lambert-Beer law is obeyed even at rather high dilutions. The cationic derivatives of DAB^{II} and DAB^{IV} undergo extensive decomposition in acetonitrile, which prevents any equilibrium study.

The values of the dissociation constants show that the stability of the five-membered ring depends on the 1,4-diazabutadiene ligand and more markedly on the central metal in the orders:

$$bipy > DAB^{III} > DAB^{I}$$

and

Pt ≥ Pd

Reactions in the Absence of NaClO₄

When the dimer $[PdCl(\eta^3-Meall)]_2$ is treated with the DAB ligands in various solvents, such as dichloromethane, chloroform,1,2-dichloroethane, benzene, methanol, the following equilibria take place:

DAB + [PdCl(
$$\eta^3$$
-Meall)]₂ \neq {[PdCl(η^3 -Meall)]₂(DAB)}

$$\bigwedge \qquad \bigwedge \qquad \bigwedge \qquad \bigwedge \qquad \bigwedge \qquad III \qquad (3)$$
[Pd(η^3 -Meall)(DAB)]⁺[PdCl₂(η^3 -Meall)]⁻

Although only the species that were isolated and characterized are reported in eqn. 3, labile compounds of type [PdCl(η^3 -Meall)(DAB)] containing the metal and the DAB ligand in a 1/1 molar ratio may also be present in solution [19, 20]. In any case, the ¹H NMR spectra of the reaction mixtures indicate that the allyl moiety is *trihapto* bonded in all the equilibrium components (*cf.* Table II, Fig. 5 and further discussion).

The particular product that can be precipitated off the equilibrium solution by addition of ethyl ether

TABLE III. ¹³ C NMR Spectra. ^a						
Compound	1,4-Diazabutadiene	1,4-Diazabutadiene RN=C(R')C(R')=N-R		η ³ -Allyl Group C _I -C _{II} (Y)-C _{III}	C _{II} (Y)-C _{III}	
	C=N	N-R	R'	C _{I,III}	Сп Ү	
DAB ^I	158.43 DD ¹ J _{C-H} = 163.0 ² J _{C-H} = 10.1	$144.0 S (C_1)$ $123.60 DD (C_{2,6})$ ${}^{J}_{C-H} = 160.2$ ${}^{J}_{C-H} = 5.5$ $115.16 DD (C_{3,5})$ ${}^{J}_{C-H} = 160.2$ ${}^{2}_{J}_{C-H} = 160.2$ ${}^{2}_{J}_{C-H} = 4.6$ $160.43 S (C_4)$ $56.12 Q (OCH_3)$ ${}^{J}_{C-H} = 144.6$				
[Pd(all)(DAB ^I)]CIO4 ^b	161.70	142.40 (C ₁) 125.23 (C ₂ ,6) 115.64 (C ₃ ,5) 162.55 (C ₄) 56.59 (OCH ₃)		66.67	120.0	
[Pt(all)(DAB ¹)] ClO4 ^b	164.68 T ² Jpt-C = 16.5	$143.20 S^{c} (C_{1})$ $125.60 T (C_{2},6)$ $^{3} J_{Pt-C} = 18.5$ $115.53 S (C_{3},5)$ $162.86 S (C_{4})$ $56.54 S (OCH_{3})$		50.96 T ¹ J _{Pt-C} = 232.6	109.52 T ¹ J _{Pt-C} = 73.2	
DAB ^{III b}	169.0	144.9 (C ₁) 121.11 (C ₂ ,6) 114.86 (C ₃ ,5) 157.16 (C ₄) 56.01 (0CH ₃)	15.58 (CH ₃)			
[Pd(all)(DAB ^{III})] ClO4	177.24 S	143.20 S (C ₁) 123.11 DD (C ₂ ,6) ¹ J _{C-H} = 163.0	20.31 Q (CH ₃) ¹ J _{C-H} = 130.0	64.98 T ¹ J _{C-H} = 157.7	120.50 D ¹ J _{C-H} = 163.9	

18

		${}^{2}J_{C-H} = 4.6$ 115.16 DD (C ₃ ,s) ${}^{1}J_{C-H} = 162.0$ ${}^{2}J_{C-H} = 3.7$ 159.46 S (C ₄) 56.23 Q (OCH ₃) ${}^{1}J_{C-H} = 144.7$				
[Pd(Meall)(DAB ^{III})] ClO4	177.04 S	143.18 S (C ₁) 123.05 DD (C ₂ , 6) ¹ J _{C-H} = 163.0 ² J _{C-H} = 5.1 115.10 DD (C ₃ , 5) ¹ J _{C-H} = 162.0 ² J _{C-H} = 4.6 159.44 S (C ₄) 56.17 Q (OCH ₃) ¹ J _{C-H} = 143.7	20.25 Q (CH ₃) ¹ J _{C-H} = 131.0	63.46 Т ¹ J _{С-Н} = 156.6	136.80 S	23.95 Q (CH ₃) ¹ J _{C-H} = 131.8
DAB ^{IV}	157.8 ^d (159.10) ^e	58.1 (61.13) 29.4 (23.32) C(CH ₃) ₃				
[Pd(all)(DAB ^{IV})]ClO4 ^b	163.22	64.31 C(CH ₃) ₃ 29.36 C(CH ₃) ₃		64.68	116.56	
[Pd(Meall)(DAB ^{IV})]ClO4 ^b	163.04	64.07 C(CH ₃) ₃ 29.30 C(CH ₃) ₃		64.07	132.40	23.17 (CH ₃)
^a Spectra recorded in CD ₂ Cl ₂ ; 5 values in ppm from TMS at room temperature; the coupling constants are given in Hz (±0.1); S singlet, D doublet, T triplet, Q quartet, DD doublet of doublets; the carbon atoms of the phenyl ring are numbered as follows: $N-C_1 \begin{pmatrix} C_6-C_5 \\ C_4-OCH_3 \end{pmatrix}$	6 values in ppm from 7 of the phenyl ring are n	FMS at room temperature; the or numbered as follows:	coupling constants are giv	en in Hz (±0.1); S single	st, D doublet, T triple	t, Q quartet, DD doublet

^eSpectrum in CDCl₃ reported in ref. [13]. ^dSpectrum in CDCl₃ reported in ref. [5a]. ^cThe ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites are masked by the instrument noise. ^bProton decoupled spectra. $C_{2}-C_{3}$

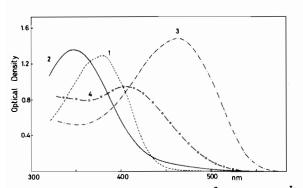


Fig. 4. Electronic spectra: 1) $\{[PdCl(\eta^3-Meall)]_2(DAB^I)\}$ in CHCl₃, 5.06 × 10⁻⁵ M; 2) Reaction mixture DAB^{III}/ $[PdCl(\eta^3-Meall)]_2$ in CHCl₃ (molar ratio DAB^{III}/Pd ½, DAB^{III} 2 × 10⁻⁴ M); 3) $\{[PdCl(\eta^3-Meall)]_2(DAB^I)\}$ in MeOH, 1 × 10⁻⁴ M; 4) Reaction mixture DAB^{III}/[PdCl- $(\eta^3-Meall)]_2$ in MeOH (molar ratio DAB^{III}/Pd ½, DAB^{III} 2 × 10⁻⁴ M).

and/or light petroleum ether appears to depend only on the nature of DAB and neither on the molar ratio of reactants nor on the solvent. In fact, when DAB^I and DAB^{IV}, both having R' = R'' = H, are involved in eqn. 3, only products of type *III* can be isolated in the solid. With DAB^{III}, the isolation procedure leads back to the starting reactants, although the ¹H NMR spectrum of the reaction mixture in CDCl₃ at -40 °C and the electronic spectrum in methanol both show the ionic compound *IV* to be the predominant species. When bipy is used, only the product *IV* is obtained. These findings occur whatever the Pd/DAB molar ratio in the range 1/1-2/1 in all solvents examined.

The product *III* containing DAB^I can also be obtained from the reaction of $[Pd(\eta^3-Meall)(DAB^I)]$ -ClO₄ with $[PdCl_2(\eta^3-Meall)]$ AsPh₄ (molar ratio 1/1) in chlorinated solvents, after filtration of the insoluble AsPh₄ClO₄.

Complexes III are stable only in the solid state and represent the predominant species in highly concentrated solutions, such as those employed for NMR studies (ca. 0.1 M)*. The coordination of both imino nitrogens of DAB is confirmed by the low frequency shift of the ν (C=N) bands as compared to the free ligands. Also, the down-field shifts of δ (N= CH) signals in the ¹H NMR spectra (Table II) indicate a Pd-N σ type of bonding. Cleavage of chlorobridges of the starting dimeric allyl compound is suggested by the presence of only one ν (Pd-Cl) band in III at ca. 277 cm⁻¹ (Table I), a significantly higher frequency than ν (Pd-Cl_{bridging}) in [PdCl(η^3 -Meall)]₂ (260 and 248 cm⁻¹). This is consistent with the ν (Pd–Cl) values of the bridge-splitting products [PdCl(η^3 -Meall)(L)] (L = pyridine, ν (Pd–Cl) 283; AsPh₃, 280; PPh₃, 276 cm⁻¹).

The far-IR spectra of *III* also rule out the presence of the anion $[PdCl_2(\eta^3-Meall)]^-$ of compound *IV*, which is characterized by two strong $\nu(Pd-Cl)$ bands at 270 and 257 cm⁻¹. The most probable formulation for *III* in the solid state involves a N-bidentate DAB ligand bridging two PdCl(η^3 -Meall) units, similar to that reported for the binuclear complexes {[RhCl-(CO)_2]_2(DAB^{IV})} [4b] and {[*trans*-PtCl_2(PBu_3)]_2-(DAB^{IV})} [19].

In dilute solutions complexes III are extensively dissociated as indicated by molecular weight, conductivity measurements and electronic spectra. The M.W. value in 1,2-dichloroethane for the DAB^I derivative is found to be 325 (calcd. 662.2), whereas for the DAB^{IV} species the observed value is 298 as compared to the theoretical value of 562.2. Dissociation in methanol solution yields ionic products: conductivity measurements for 10^{-3} M solutions give the following Λ_M values (ohm⁻¹ cm² mol⁻¹): 37 and 74 for DAB^{IV} and DAB^I compounds, respectively. In benzene and chlorinated solvents $(10^{-3}-5 \times 10^{-5} M)$ the complex {[PdCl(η^3 -Meall)]₂(DAB^I)} is almost quantitatively dissociated into $[PdCl(\eta^3-Meall)]_2$ the free DAB^I ligand, the latter being characterized by spectrum 1 in Fig. 4, while the former was isolated by crystallisation from a dilute solution of {[PdCl- $(\eta^3$ -Meall)]₂(DAB^{IV})} in benzene/*n*-pentane.

In dilute methanol solution the dissociation of DAB^{I} derivative yields quantitatively the ionic compound *IV*, the cation of which imparts a red colouration to the solution due to its intense CT band at 21,550 cm⁻¹ (spectrum 3 in Fig. 4).

The electronic spectra of the reaction mixture DAB^{III}/[PdCl(η^3 -Meall)]₂ (molar ratio DAB^{III}/Pd ½; concentration range $10^{-3}-10^{-4}$ M) in chlorinated solvents clearly indicate that in this case also the predominant absorbing species is the free ligand (spectrum 2 in Fig. 4), whereas in methanol the equilibria 3 are almost completely shifted towards species IV, as shown by conductivity measurements and by the strong CT bands of the cation [Pd(η^3 -Meall)-(DAB^{III})]⁺ with a maximum at 24,500 cm⁻¹ (spectrum 4 in Fig. 4).

The reaction 3 with 2,2'-bipyridine yields quantitatively the ionic product IV, $[Pd(\eta^3-Meall)(bipy)]^+$ $[PdCl_2(\eta^3-Meall)]^-$ ($\Lambda_M = 84$ ohm⁻¹ cm² mol⁻¹ in 10⁻³ *M* methanol solution; $\nu(PdCl) = 270, 256$ cm⁻¹). The electronic spectra in chloroform and methanol closely match those of $[Pd(\eta^3-Meall)-(bipy)]BF_4$ in the same solvents.

The ¹H NMR spectrum of {[PdCl(η^3 -Meall)]₂-(DAB^I)} in CDCl₃ at 35 °C is reported in Table II and in Fig. 5a. An identical spectrum is obtained for the reaction mixtures: (i) DAB^I/[PdCl(η^3 -Meall)]₂ (molar ratio DAB^I/Pd ¹/₂), (ii) [Pd(η^3 -

^{*}Analytical data and NMR integration values both indicate that in *III* a Pd/DAB ratio of 2:1 is present.

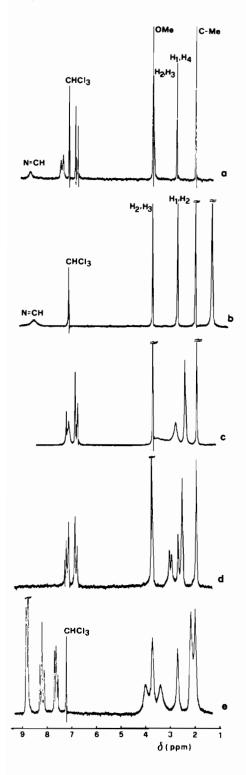


Fig. 5. ¹H NMR spectra in CDCl₃: { $[PdCl(\eta^3-Meall)]_2$ -(DAB^I)} at 35 °C (a); { $[PdCl(\eta^3-Meall)]_2$ (DAB^{IV})} at 35 °C (b); Reaction mixture DAB^{III}/[PdCl(\eta^3-Meall)]_2 (molar ratio DAB^{III}/Pd ½) at 35 °C (c) and at -40 °C (d); [Pd(\eta^3-Meall)](bipy)] [PdCl₂(\eta^3-Meall)] at 35 °C (e).

Meall)(DAB^I)] ClO₄/[PdCl₂(η^3 -Meall)] AsPh₄ (molar ratio 1/1). This spectrum is characterized by a broad δ (N=C-H) signal at 8.78 ppm and two sharp singlets at 3.75 and 2.86 ppm, due to the syn (H_1, H_4) and anti (H₂, H₃) allylic protons, respectively. This is a strong evidence that a fast syn, syn-anti, anti exchange takes place in this system at 35 °C, caused by the rapid (on the NMR time scale) establishment of equilibria 3, which entails scrambling of the $Pd(\eta^3)$ -Meall) unit among the different allyl complexes involved. A similar spectrum is displayed by {[PdCl- $(\eta^3$ -Meall)]₂(DAB^{IV})} (Fig. 5b and Table II). The broad $\delta(N=C-H)$ signal at 8.62 ppm and the sharp $\delta(H_2, H_3)$, $\delta(H_1, H_4)$ and $\delta(CMe_3)$ singlets at 2.80, 3.81 and 1.39 ppm, respectively, are each resolved into four non-equivalent signals at -50 °C. Although a detailed study was not attempted, the features of the low temperature spectrum suggest the presence of various conformers of III, since no δ (N=C-H) resonance attributable to free DAB^{IV} and/or [Pd(η^3 -Meall) (DAB^{IV})]⁺ was detected.

The ¹H NMR spectrum in CDCl₃ at 35 °C of the reaction mixture $DAB^{III}/[PdCl(\eta^3-Meall)]_2$ (molar ratio DAB^{III}/Pd ½) is reported in Fig. 5c. In this case the allylic proton signals appear as broad resonances centered at 2.86 and 3.50 ppm (Table II), which indicates a markedly lower exchange rate as compared to the previous systems. Lowering the temperature to -40 °C (Fig. 5d) leads to an almost complete freezing of the exchange, whereupon the allylic protons give rise to four singlets. Two of these (at 2.98 and 3.07 ppm) are assigned to the anti and syn protons of the cationic species $[Pd(\eta^3 -$ Meall)(DAB^{III})]⁺ respectively (cf. the spectrum of $[Pd(\eta^3-Meall)(DAB^{III})]ClO_4$ in CDCl₃). The other two singlets at 2.71 and 3.78 ppm are assigned to the anti and syn protons of the anion $[PdCl_2(\eta^3-Meall)]$ respectively (cf. the spectrum of $[PdCl_2(\eta^3-Meall)]$ -AsPh₄ in CDCl₃). The 3.78 ppm signal is partially masked by the stronger resonance of the OMe group at 3.76 ppm.

The ¹H NMR spectrum of product IV, $[Pd(\eta^3-Meall)(bipy)]$ $[PdCl_2(\eta^3-Meall)]$, in CDCl₃ also appears as a superposition of the spectra of $[Pd(\eta^3-Meall)(bipy)]$ BF₄ and $[PdCl_2(\eta^3-Meall)]$ AsPh₄ even at 35 °C (see Table II and Fig. 5e). The broadness of the four allylic proton singlets indicates that the *syn-syn* and *anti-anti* exchange upon anion-cation interaction is still operating at this temperature, albeit at a much lower rate than the other systems.

From the above discussion it follows that the exchange rate depends on the nature of diazabutadiene ligands in the order

$$DAB^{I} > DAB^{III} > bipy$$

which is the reverse order of stability of the cationic complexes $[Pd(\eta^3-Meall)(DAB)]^+$ resulting from the equilibrium studies in acetonitrile.

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