Inequivalence in the ¹H-NMR Spectra of Alkene-(amine)platinum(II) Complexes

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Inequivalence is very well-known to occur between atoms such as hydrogen in systems such as CH_2Q -CHRS where free rotation occurs in the C--C bond and where, in particular in this context, the interbond angles involving hydrogen are approximately 120° . We report here an example where the interbond geometry is more subtle.

When viewed along an axis containing the centre of the C=C bond, the platinum and the nitrogen atoms, a *trans*-alkene-amine platinum complex,

such as *trans*-[Pt^{II}Cl₂(η^2 -CAB=CDE)(NXXY)], can be depicted as in (I). Then even if there is free rotation in the alkene-Pt-N axis, the X are inequivalent if $A \neq B \neq E \neq D$, if A=D \neq B=E and if A=B=E=D.

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| TABLE I. 'H-NMR Spectra of trans-[Pt(Cl) ₂ (η^2 -alker | 1e)(NHMe ₂)]." | ŧ |
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During work on alkene-amine-platinum(II) complexes [1], we observed that *trans*-[PtCl₂(η^2 -*trans*-MeCH=CHMe)NHMe₂] provided an illustration of the second case. In contrast, in the analogous *cis*-butene complex, where A=E \neq B=D no such inequivalence would be expected, nor is it indeed observed. A curious feature of the *trans*-butene system is that the inequivalence is observed on only one side of the molecule.

In solution in CDCl₃ between -40 and 25 °C, the NHCH₃ peak in the ¹H-NMR spectrum of *trans*-[PtCl₂(*trans*-MeCH=CHMe)NHMe₂] appears as a quartet with platinum satellites. (Throughout platinum satellites are observed as expected, with the same fine structures as their parent peak except where stated otherwise). Either treatment with D₂O or irradiation of the NH proton reduces the quartet to a doublet illustrating that the N(CH₃)₂ are inequivalent. (The former reduces the satellites to doublets. However, use of the latter technique only simplifies the main peak; irradiation at the guessed position of an NH satellite reduces one of the CH₃ satellites to a doublet, coupling being negative.) Full data are given in Table I.

The CCH₃ and CHCH₃ peaks are complex (as in the parent *trans*-2-butene ligand), the former being somewhat like the central quartet of the proton resonance of CH₂=CF₂ [2]. However on irradiation at CH and at CH₃ frequencies, the CH₃ and CH resonances respectively are reduced to singlets. Similarly irradiation of a CH or a CH₃ satellite simplifies one of the CH₃ or CH satellites respectively (coupling again being negative). No doublet structure could be detected.

| alkene | π-CH ₂ = | π-СН= | CH ₃ CH= | NHCH ₃ |
|-------------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| propene | 4.4(c), 4.56(c) | 5.5(c) | 1.85(d) | 2.75(d) |
| ••• | J(Pt-H) ca. 63 Hz | J(Pt-H) 65 Hz | J(Pt-H) 34.5 Hz | J(Pt-H) 33 Hz |
| | | | J(H–H) 7 Hz | J(NH-CH ₃) 6 Hz |
| 1-butene | 4.45(c), 4.52(c) | 5.4(c) | | 2.75(d) |
| | J(Pt-H) ca. 60 Hz | J(Pt-H) 61 Hz | | J(Pt-H) 34 Hz |
| | | | | J(NH-CH ₃) 6 Hz |
| cis-2-butene | | 5.5(q) | 1.75(d) | 2.75(d) |
| | | J(Pt-H) 68 Hz | J(Pt-H) 33 Hz | J(Pt-H) 33 Hz |
| | | | J(H–H) 5 Hz | J(NH-CH ₃) 6 Hz |
| trans-2-butene | | 5.34(c) | 1.79(d), 1.82(d) | 2.83(d), 2.90(d) |
| | | J(Pt-H) 62 Hz | J(Pt-H) 38 Hz | J(Pt-H) 34 Hz |
| | | | J(H-H) 4.5 Hz | |
| 3-methyl-1-butene | 4.2(d), 4.4(d) | 5.25(c) | | 2.74(c), 2.82(d) |
| | J(PtH) 60 Hz | J(Pt-H) 62 Hz | | J(Pt-H) 34 Hz |
| | • • | | | J(H–H) 7.5 Hz |
| | | | | |

^aIn CDCl₃ at 25 °C. Abbreviations: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, c = complex.

| alkene | π-CH ₂ = | CH= | CH ₃ CH= | NHCH3 |
|----------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|-------------|
| ethene | 74.8, 156 Hz | | | 41.8, 13 Hz |
| Propene | 71.1, 153 Hz | 98.2, 144 Hz | 20.9, 27 Hz | 41.7, 15 Hz |
| 1-butene | 69.2, 154 Hz | 104.6, 151 Hz | | 41.5, 13 Hz |
| cis-2-butene | | 89.8, 145 Hz | 15.3, 22 Hz | 41.7, 14 Hz |
| trans-2-butene | | 92.1, 148 Hz | 20.3, 33 Hz | 41.7, 13 Hz |

TABLE II. ¹³C-NMR Spectra of *trans*-[PtCl₂(η^2 -alkene)NHMe₂].^a

^aIn CDCl₃ at 25 °C. First figure: δ values in p.p.m.; second figure: J(Pt-C).

The inequivalence is thus noteworthy in two ways. It is curious, though not impossible in principle, that the interactions between the alkene and amine are not sufficiently close in size for the effect to appear mutual. Secondly, the distance over which the effect is felt suggests that orbitals on the platinum must be involved.

In contrast the spectrum of trans-[PtCl₂(η^2 -cis-MeCH=CHMe)NHMe₂] is much more straightforward. The CCH₃ and CHCH₃ peaks are much simpler than in the complex of the trans alkene (just as they are in the parent ligands) being a doublet and quartet respectively, suggesting that J(CH=CH) is negligible. The NHCH₃ resonance is a simple doublet collapsing to a singlet on treatment with D₂O; there is no detectable inequivalence.

In principle trans-[PtCl₂(η^2 -MeCH=CH₂)NHMe₂] should also exhibit inequivalence since it corresponds to A \neq B=E=D in (I) above. In fact the CHCH₃ peak is a simple doublet (although that in free propene is more complex) while the NHCH₃ resonance is a doublet which collapses to a singlet with D₂O. Inequivalence is not detectable. Nor is it in trans-[PtCl₂(η^2 -EtCH=CH₂)NHMe₂]. However the NHCH₃ spectrum of trans-[PtCl₂(η^2 -^tPrCH=CH₂)NHMe₂] like that of the trans-2-butene complex, is a quartet which collapses to a doublet in D₂O.

The absence of inequivalence in the propene and 1-butene complexes may arise because the RC=C plane is not perpendicular to that containing the PtCl₂N atom (where R is the Me or Et group). Such twisting away from the perpendicular has been proposed many times [3-6]. {It is, of course known that optically active forms of *trans*-[PtCl₂(ol)-NHMeCH₂Ph] (ol = propane, *trans*-2-butene, phenyl-ethene) do not isomerize readily [7], so that it seems fair to assume that full rotation around the C=C axis does not occur in our compounds.} Hence the alkyl group, R, in the RCH=CH₂ ligands may be twisted too far away from the platinum for its effect to be significant. Only when R is large as in

ⁱPrCH=CH₂ is its effect sufficiently great to be transmitted by the platinum to the NHMe₂ group.

There is no significant difference in spectra between -40 °C and 25 °C, which suggests free rotation of the alkene-platinum bond. This occurs at room temperature in platinum-alkene complexes containing *cis* groups more bulky than chloride, but is quenched on cooling [3, 8].

No inequivalences are observed in the ¹³C resonances of the propene, 1-butene and the *trans*-2butene complexes, where they might be seen in principle. However both δ and J values of the coordinated alkenes vary considerably from complex to complex, *cf.* CH= and CH₃CH between the *cis*- and *trans*-2-butene compounds (Table II). This is compatible with the supposition that the angle between the RC=C and PtCl₂N plane varies considerably between complexes.

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