# Palladium(II) and platinum(II) complexes of 1-thia-4,7diazacyclononane (L<sup>1</sup>). Crystal structures of $[Pd(L^1)_2]Cl_2 \cdot H_2O$ , $[Pt(L^1)_2](PF_6)_2$ and $[Pd_3(L^1)_4Cl_2]Cl_4 \cdot 2H_2O$

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#### Abstract

The palladium(II) and platinum(II) complexes of 1-thia-4,7-diazacyclononane (L<sup>1</sup>) [Pd(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>2</sub>]Cl<sub>2</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O, [Pt(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>2</sub>](PF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and [Pd<sub>3</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>]Cl<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O have been prepared and characterized by X-ray crystallography. In 1 and 2 the metal center is coordinated in a square-planar configuration to the N-donor atoms of two macrocyclic ligands. The thioether groups are non-interacting and dangling away from the metal center. **3** contains the three-nuclear centrosymmetric anion [Pd<sub>3</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>]<sup>2+</sup>. A central [Pd(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>2+</sup> unit is bridged via exo coordination of its thioether groups to two [Pd(L<sup>1</sup>)Cl]<sup>+</sup> moieties. All thioether groups show long-range apical interactions. Crystal data for [Pd(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>2</sub>]Cl<sub>2</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O (1): monoclinic, space group C2/c, a = 15.574(3), b = 7.768(2), c = 15.310(3) Å,  $\beta = 106.87(7)^\circ$ , Z = 4, R = 0.032 for 1546 independent reflections with  $I \ge 1.96\sigma(I)$ ; [Pt(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>2</sub>](PF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (2): monoclinic, space group P2<sub>1</sub>/c, a = 8.451(5), b = 14.724(5), c = 9.055(6) Å,  $\beta = 94.48(3)^\circ$ , Z = 2, R = 0.043 for 1912 independent reflections with  $I \ge 1.96\sigma(I)$ ; [Pd<sub>3</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>]Cl<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O (3): orthorhombic, space group Pbca, a = 19.194(4), b = 10.081(2), c = 23.819(5) Å, Z = 4, R = 0.0612 for 3394 independent reflections with  $I \ge 1.96\sigma(I)$ .

### Introduction

The coordination chemistry of the small macrocycles 1-thia-4,7-diazacyclononane (L1), 1,4,7-triazacyclononane  $(L^2)$ , 1,4,7-trithiacyclononane  $(L^3)$  and 1,4-dithia-7-diazacyclononane (L<sup>4</sup>) are characterized by their ability to bind to triangular faces of octahedra [1-3]. This property has stimulated studies to elucidate the structures of 2:1 or 1:1 complexes of these ligands with metal ions which prefer square-planar stereochemistry like Pd(II), Pt(II) and Au(III). During these studies it was found, that L<sup>3</sup> forms five or six coordinate complexes with Pd(II) and Pt(II), in which there are long-range apical interactions between the metal ion center and the S-donors of the crown thioether in addition to the square-planar MS<sub>4</sub> coordination. Examples herefore are the complexes  $[M(L^3)_2]^{2+}$  (M = Pd,Pt) [3] or the half-sandwich complexes  $[M(L^3)(L)]^{n+1}$  $(L=2Cl, 2Br; n=0 \text{ or } L=2PPh_3, n=2)$  [3, 4]. Until recently such long-range interactions to Pd(II) and Pt(II) have not been observed with the polyaza-ligand L<sup>2</sup>. The  $[Pd(L^2)_2]^{2+}$  ion shows square-planar coordination at Pd(II) with the third N-donor of the ligands non-interacting and dangling away from the metal center [5, 6]. But according to a preliminary report [4], apical interaction is present as well in  $[Pd(L^5)(NCMe)_2]^{2+}$ (L<sup>5</sup>=1-methyl-1,4,7-triazacyclononane).

We are engaged in studies of the respective properties of the analogous mixed-donor macrocycle  $L^1$ . In an earlier paper we reported the structures of  $[Pd(L^1)_2](PF_6)_2$  and  $[Pt(L^1)_2]Br_2 \cdot H_2O$  [7]. Both complexes contain square-planar MN<sub>4</sub> cores; the former shows two long-range apical interactions with the Sdonor atom of  $L^1$ , whereas in the Pt(II) complex no such interaction is observed. In this paper the preparation and structures of three further complexes of  $L^1$  with platinum group metal ions are described.

### Experimental

### Syntheses

 $L^1 \cdot 2HBr$  was prepared as described previously [8]. To obtain the free ligand, NaOH (1 g) was added to an aqueous solution (10 ml) of  $L^1 \cdot 2HBr$  (0.34 g, 1.1 mmol), which was extracted several times with CHCl<sub>3</sub>. The solutions were combined and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was distilled off, and the resultant yellow oil dissolved in the suitable solvent.

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 $cis-[Pd(L^1)Cl_2]$ 

 $L^1$  (0.15 g, 1 mmol) was added to a suspension of PdCl<sub>2</sub> (0.18 g, 1 mmol) in nitromethane/dichloromethane (3:1). The mixture was refluxed for 8 h under N<sub>2</sub>. From the clear solution the product crystallized in the form of orange, very thin platelets during slow cooling.

*Anal.* Calc. for  $C_6H_{14}N_2SCl_2Pd$ : C, 22.28; H, 4.36; N, 8.66. Found: C, 21.62; H, 4.39; N, 8.35%. IR (KBr disc): 3210vs, 993vs, 800s, 315m, 290m ( $\nu$ Pd–Cl) cm<sup>-1</sup>.

 $[Pd(L^{1})_{2}]Cl_{2} \cdot H_{2}O$  (1)

 $L^1$  (0.15 g, 1 mmol) was added to a suspension of PdCl<sub>2</sub> (0.18 g, 1 mmol) in nitromethane/dichloromethane (3:1). The mixture was irradiated for 5 h with ultrasonic sound at room temperature. The white-yellow solids were filtered off and dissolved in a minimum of water. The solution was layered with ethanol to grow large, slightly yellow coloured, rhombic crystals.

Anal. Calc. for  $C_{12}H_{30}N_4S_2Cl_2OPd$ : C, 29.54; H, 6.10; N, 11.49. Found: C, 29.44; H, 6.61; N, 11.28%. Yield: 120 mg (25%). IR (KBr disc): 3460m, 3047vs,b, 1394s, 1090s, 1031s cm<sup>-1</sup>.

 $[Pt(L^2)_2](PF_6)_2$  (2)

Solid K<sub>2</sub>PtCl<sub>4</sub> (0.2 g, 0.5 mmol) and NaPF<sub>6</sub> (0.5 g, 3 mmol) were added to a solution of L<sup>1</sup> (0.33 g, 2.2 mmol) in water (20 ml). A yellow precipitate, which appeared after several minutes, was filtered off. Slow evaporation of the filtrate yielded colourless, hexagon-shaped crystals.

Anal. Calc. for  $[Pt(C_6H_{14}N_2S)_2](PF_6)_2$ : C, 18.54; H, 3,63; N, 7.21. Found: C, 19.14; H, 3.51; N, 7.66%. Yield 50 mg (13%). IR (KBr disc): 3295s, 3280s, 1400s, 1028s, 840vs,b, 750s, 554vs cm<sup>-1</sup>.

## $[Pd_{3}(L^{1})_{4}Cl_{2}]Cl_{4} \cdot 2H_{2}O$ (3)

cis-[Pd(L<sup>1</sup>)Cl<sub>2</sub>] (360 mg, 0.75 mmol) was dissolved in the minimum amount of water. The solution was carefully layered with ethanol. After several days, dark red crystals of X-ray quality appeared.

Anal. Calc. for  $C_{24}H_{60}N_8S_4Cl_6O_2Pd_3$ : C, 25.00; H, 5.25; N, 9.72. Found: C, 23.39; H, 5.43; N, 9.06%. Yield 100 mg (35%). IR (KBr disc): 3050s,b, 1090s, 1000s, 805m cm<sup>-1</sup>.

### X-ray crystallography

Measurements were made at room temperature on a Nonius CAD4 diffractometer with graphite-monochromated Mo K $\alpha$  radiation  $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å. Cell parameters were refined from  $2\theta$  values of 25 reflections. Intensity data were collected in the  $2\theta$  range 4-54° using the  $\omega$ -2 $\theta$  scan technique. Two check reflections were measured at constant intervals. No crystal decay was observed. Empirical absorption corrections ( $\Psi$ -scan) were applied to the data sets of 2 and 3. The structures were solved and refined by standard methods using the SHELXTL PLUS [9] program system. Anisotropic thermal parameters were refined for non-H atoms; the positions of H atoms were calculated (C-H, 0.96; N-H, 0.90 Å) and refined using the riding model  $(U_{\rm H}=0.08 \text{ Å}^2)$ . The weighting scheme  $w^{-1}=\sigma^2(F)+gF^2$  (for g see Table 1) was used in the least-squares refinement. Table 1 contains the crystal data and further details concerning the individual compounds. Refined atomic coordinates are given in Tables 2–4, and selected bond lengths and angles in Tables 5 and 6. See also 'Supplementary material'.

### **Results and discussion**

In a 3:1 mixture of nitromethane and dichloromethane two different compounds can be prepared from PdCl<sub>2</sub> and L<sup>1</sup> depending on the reaction temperature. At room temperature  $[Pd(L^1)_2]Cl_2 \cdot H_2O$  (1) is obtained, and at 80 °C the 1:1 complex *cis*- $[Pd(L^1)Cl_2]$ , both in moderate yields. During attempts to grow X-ray quality crystals from the latter compound, we obtained the dark red three-nuclear complex  $[Pd_3(L^1)_4Cl_2]Cl_4 \cdot 2H_2O$ (3).  $[Pt(L^1)_2](PF_6)_2$  (2) can be prepared in small yields from K<sub>2</sub>PtCl<sub>4</sub> and L<sup>1</sup> in water. The main product is a yellow precipitate of varying composition, which has not been characterized so far.

1 and 2 contain isolated  $[M(L^1)_2]^{2+}$  (M=Pd, Pt) ions sitting across crystallographic inversion centers. 1 and the related platinum(II) complex  $[Pt(L^1)_2]Br_2 \cdot H_2O$ are isotypic, but 2 and the analogous palladium compound  $[Pd(L^1)_2](PF_6)_2$  have different structures (vide infra) [7]. The structure of 1 (see Fig. 1) shows the Pd(II) ion coordinated to the four N-donors of the two ligands in a square-planar configuration. The Pd-N distances 2.05–2.06 Å and the N–Pd–N angles are in the usual range [6, 7]. The thioether donor atoms are non-interacting and dangling away from the metal center. This contrasts with the structure of the  $[Pd(L^1)_2]^{2+1}$ ion in the  $PF_6^-$  salt  $[Pd(L^1)_2](PF_6)_2$ . Here the sulfur donor atoms of both ligands are involved in weak apical interactions with Pd-S equal 3.034(1) Å. The remaining bond parameters in 1 are normal. Anions, cations and water of crystallization are linked to a three-dimensional network through hydrogen bonds of medium strength  $(N \cdots Cl 3.175(2) \text{ and } 3.171(2), O \cdots Cl 3.248(4) \text{ Å}).$ 

In 2 the metal center is coordinated exactly as in 1 (see Fig. 2). The S-donor atoms are also dangling away from the metal center. The Pt–N distances are 2.08(1) and 2.08(1) Å. But in contrast to this compound, 1,4,7-trithiacyclononane complexes of Pt(II), e.g.  $[Pt(L^3)_2]^{2+}$  show apical interactions of thioether groups with Pt–S distances of approximately 3 Å [4, 10]. As we have

#### TABLE 1. Crystallographic data

	$[Pd(L^1)_2]Cl_2 \cdot H_2O$	$[Pt(L^1)_2](PF_6)_2$	$[Pd_3(L^1)_4Cl_2]Cl_4 \cdot 2H_2O$
Formula	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>28</sub> N <sub>4</sub> S <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> OPd	$C_{12}H_{28}F_{12}N_4S_2P_2Pt$	$C_{24}H_{60}N_8S_4Cl_6O_2Pd_3$
Molecular weight	485.6	777.5	1152.6
Crystal system	monoclinic	monoclinic	orthorhombic
Space group	C2/c	$P2_1/c$	Pbca
a (Å)	16.574(3)	8.451(5)	19.194(4)
b (Å)	7.768(2)	14.724(5)	10.081(2)
c (Å)	15.310(3)	9.055(6)	23.819(5)
β (°)	106.87(7)	94.48(3)	90
V (Å <sup>3</sup> )	1886.3	1123.4	4608.7
$D_{\rm x} ({\rm g \ cm^{-1}})$	1.71	2.30	1.66
F(000)	992	752	2320
$\mu$ (Mo K $\alpha$ ) (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	1.476	6.736	1.787
Crystal size (mm)	$0.12 \times 0.22 \times 0.18$	$0.13 \times 0.18 \times 0.27$	0.13×0.24×0.19
Octants	$h, -k, \pm l$	$h, k, \pm l$	$h, k, \pm l$
Reflections measured	4409	2725	9889
Unique reflections	2052	2450	4524
Reflections with $I \ge 1.96\sigma(I)$	1546	1912	3394
g in weighting scheme	0.0004	0.0003	0.0003
No. parameters	102	151	214
$R(\hat{R_{w}})$	0.032(0.033)	0.043(0.043)	0.062(0.066)

TABLE 2. Atomic coordinates ( $\times 10^4$ ) and equivalent isotropic displacement parameters ( $\mathring{A}^2 \times 10^3$ ) in [Pd(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>2</sub>]Cl<sub>2</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O

	<i>x</i>	у	Z	$U_{eq}^{\ a}$
Pd	2500	2500	0	21(1)
Cl	1479(1)	244(2)	7190(1)	50(1)
O(1)	0	2211(8)	2500	90(3)
N(2)	3507(2)	2286(4)	1157(2)	31(1)
C(2)	4317(3)	2584(7)	925(3)	50(2)
C(4)	3249(3)	-940(5)	1096(3)	37(1)
C(3)	3548(3)	656(6)	1670(3)	40(1)
S	3823(1)	-1629(2)	319(1)	43(1)
C(6)	3592(3)	978(6)	- 1068(3)	41(2)
C(5)	3263(3)	-676(6)	-778(3)	40(2)
N(1)	3428(2)	2611(4)	-636(2)	28(1)
C(1)	4164(3)	3377(8)	37(3)	50(2)

<sup>a</sup>Equivalent isotropic U defined as one third of the trace of the orthogonalized  $U_{ii}$  tensor.

found recently, this type of interaction occurs also in cis-[Au(L<sup>1</sup>)Cl<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup> (Au-S=2.929(2) Å) [2].

Compound 3 contains an unique centrosymmetric three-nuclear cation with the composition  $[Pd_3(L^1)_4Cl_2]^{2+}$ . A central  $[Pd(L^1)_2]^{2+}$  group is bridged via its thioether donor atoms to two [Pd(L1)Cl] moieties (see Fig. 3). Four additional Cl<sup>-</sup> ions act as counterions. The central Pd(II) is coordinated to four N-donors of two ligands in the usual square-planar configuration. But in contrast to 1 and 2 the thioether groups of both ligands (S(1), S(1a)) show apical interactions with  $Pd \cdots S$  equal 3.008(2) Å. The Pd–S vectors forms angles of 72.7° with the PdN<sub>4</sub> plane. S(1) and S(1a) form also short exodentate bonds (2.308(3) Å) to Pd(1) and Pd(1a). Exodentate coordination of  $L^1$  has been obTABLE 3. Atomic coordinates ( $\times 10^4$ ) and equivalent isotropic displacement parameters ( $Å^2 \times 10^3$ ) in  $[Pt(L^1)_2](PF_6)_2$ 

	x	у	z	$U_{eq}^{a}$
Pt	0	0	0	18(1)
S	-45(4)	-2609(2)	939(4)	33(1)
P(1)	4978(4)	8860(3)	6954(4)	33(1)
F(1)	5345(12)	9251(8)	8598(10)	72(4)
F(2)	4620(12)	8485(9)	5354(11)	80(5)
F(3)	3194(9)	8660(7)	7345(11)	60(3)
F(4)	6759(11)	9062(8)	6621(13)	81(4)
F(5)	5459(12)	7881(7)	7503(15)	80(5)
F(6)	4472(17)	9841(7)	6468(14)	92(5)
N(1)	- 1531(11)	- 343(7)	1608(10)	24(3)
N(2)	1687(11)	- 555(7)	1535(10)	24(3)
C(1)	-1790(14)	-1923(8)	401(14)	32(4)
C(2)	-2350(13)	-1246(9)	1483(14)	31(4)
C(3)	-540(16)	-218(9)	3026(13)	34(4)
C(4)	956(15)	- 760(9)	2975(12)	30(4)
C(5)	2563(13)	- 1364(9)	1034(14)	30(4)
C(6)	1582(14)	- 2032(9)	122(14)	30(4)

"Equivalent isotropic U defined as one third of the trace of the orthogonalized  $U_{ij}$  tensor.

served so far only in  $[Ag_4(L^1)_4](CF_3SO_3)_4$  [2]. The square-planar configuration of Pd(1) and Pd(1a) is completed by the N,N'-coordinated L<sup>1</sup> and a chloro ligand. The distances within the PdN<sub>2</sub>SCl plane agree well values found dinuclear with the in [Pd<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>([18]aneN<sub>2</sub>S<sub>4</sub>)] [11] with a similar PdNS<sub>2</sub>Cl configuration. The thioether group of  $L^1$  at Pd(1) and Pd(1a) also shows apical interaction (S2-Pd(1) =3.008(2) Å). As a consequence, Pd(1) is shifted 0.07 Å off the mean plane containing the N<sub>2</sub>SCl donor set toward S(2). The Cl<sup>-</sup> counterions are fixed through

	x	у	z	$U_{eq}^{a}$
Pd(1)	355(1)	1558(1)	1621(1)	31(1)
Pd(2)	0	5000	0	26(1)
S(1)	32(1)	2780(2)	844(1)	30(1)
S(2)	1585(2)	-90(3)	1265(2)	56(1)
Cl(1)	- 567(2)	103(3)	1531(1)	50(1)
Cl(2)	503(2)	5725(3)	1692(1)	56(1)
Cl(3)	6964(3)	2554(5)	170(3)	140(3)
N(1)	-1012(4)	5021(9)	254(4)	34(3)
N(2)	- 318(5)	3333(8)	-437(4)	33(3)
N(3)	1161(5)	2815(9)	1772(4)	43(3)
N(4)	680(5)	736(14)	2368(4)	200(6)
C(1)	5(7)	1568(10)	280(4)	37(3)
C(2)	95(7)	2103(11)	-323(5)	41(4)
C(3)	-1095(6)	3110(11)	-380(5)	41(4)
C(4)	-1436(6)	4347(13)	-185(5)	46(4)
C(5)	-1095(6)	4534(12)	847(5)	43(4)
C(6)	- 874(5)	3143(11)	976(5)	37(3)
C(7)	1104(10)	1645(20)	2675(7)	92(7)
C(8)	1354(13)	2686(18)	2372(7)	111(9)
C(9)	1742(7)	2682(14)	1368(7)	62(5)
C(10)	2098(7)	1340(15)	1340(8)	73(6)
C(11)	1545(8)	-873(18)	1955(7)	80(6)
C(12)	926(9)	-686(14)	2301(7)	74(6)
O(1)	8206(8)	602(14)	325(7)	128(7)

TABLE 4. Atomic coordinates (×10<sup>4</sup>) and equivalent isotropic displacement parameters ( $Å^2 \times 10^3$ ) in [Pd<sub>3</sub>(L<sup>1</sup>)<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>]Cl<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O

<sup>a</sup>Equivalent isotropic U defined as one third of the trace of the orthogonalized  $U_{ij}$  tensor.

TABLE 6. Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) in  $[Pd_3(L^1)_4Cl_2]Cl_4\cdot 2H_2O$  (3)

Pd(2)–N(1)	2.034(9)	Pd(1)N(3)	2.03(1)
Pd(2) - N(2)	2.070(8)	Pd(1)N(4)	2.06(1)
Pd(2) - S(1)	3.008(2)	Pd(1) - S(1)	2.308(3)
		Pd(1)-Cl(1)	2.308(3)
		Pd(1)–S(2)	3.008(2)
N(1)-Pd(2)-N(2)	82.9(3)	S(1)-Pd(1)-Cl(1)	93.4(1)
N(1)-Pd(2)-N(2a)	97.1(3)	S(1) - Pd(1) - N(3)	90.8(3)
		S(1) - Pd(1) - N(4)	171.4(4)
Pd(1)-S(1)-C(1)	104.0(3)	Cl(1)-Pd(1)-N(3)	175.1(3)
Pd(1)S(1)C(6)	103.1(4)	Cl(1)-Pd(1)-N(4)	93.2(3)
		N(3)-Pd(1)-N(4)	82.4(4)

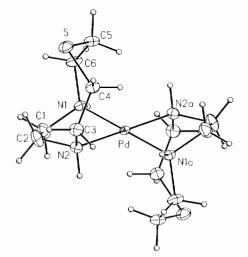


TABLE 5. Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) in  $^{\rm Pd}(L^1)_2]Cl_2\cdot H_2O$  (1) and  $[Pt(L^1)_2](PF_6)_2$  (2)

1		2	
Pd-N(1)	2.047(4)	Pt-N(1)	2.08(1)
Pd-N(2)	2.058(3)	Pt-N(2)	2.08(1)
Pd···S	3.836(1)	Pt···S	3.936(2)
S-C(5)	1.822(4)	SC(1)	1.82(1)
SC(4)	1.808(5)	S-C(6)	1.82(1)
N(1)-C(1)	1.475(5)	N(1)-C(2)	1.50(2)
N(2)-C(2)	1.502(6)	N(1)-C(3)	1.49(2)
N(2)-C(3)	1.481(6)	N(2)-C(4)	1.52(2)
C(2)-C(1)	1.446(7)	N(2)-C(5)	1.49(2)
C(4)-C(3)	1.517(6)	C(1)-C(2)	1.50(2)
C(6)-C(5)	1.512(7)	C(3)–C(4)	1.50(2)
C(6)–N(1)	1.492(6)	C(5)–C(6)	1.49(2)
N(1)-Pd-(N1a)	180.0	N(1)-Pt-N(2)	82.4(4)
N(1)-Pd-(N2a)	97.0(1)	N(1)-Pt- $N(1a)$	180.0(0)
N(2)-Pd-(N1)	83.0(1)	N(1)-Pt-N(2a)	97.6(4)
Pd-N(1)-C(1)	105.6(3)	Pt-N(1)-C(2)	118.1(7)
Pd-N(1)-C(6)	115.7(3)	Pt-N(1)-C(3)	103.6(7)
C(1)-N(1)-C(6)	115.6(3)	C(2)-N(1)-C(3)	113.6(9)
Pd-N(2)-C(2)	110.0(3)	Pt-N(2)-C(4)	110.4(7)
Pd-N(2)-C(3)	115.2(2)	PtN(2)C(5)	116.2(7)
C(2)-N(2)-C(3)	110.6(3)	C(4)–N(2)–C(5)	116.2(7)
C(4)–S–C(5)	105.2(2)	C(1)-S-C(6)	104.7(6)

Fig. 1. Perspective view of the cation  $[Pd(L^1)_2]^{2+}$  in 1 and atom labelling scheme.

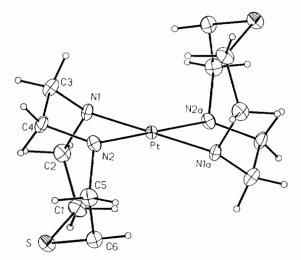


Fig. 2. Perspective view of the cation  $[Pt(L^1)_2]^{2+}$  in 2 and atom labelling scheme.

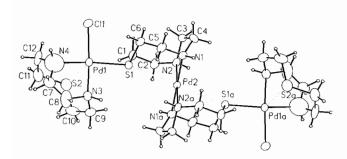


Fig. 3. Perspective view of the cation  $[Pd_3(L^1)_4Cl_2]^{4+}$  in 3 and atom labelling scheme.

hydrogen bonds of medium strength (3.112–3.199 Å) to the N-H groups and the solvate  $H_2O$  molecule.

As already mentioned, the structures of the  $[Pd(L^1)_2]^{2+}$  ion in the compounds  $[Pd(L^1)_2](PF_6)_2$  [7] and  $[Pd(L^1)_2]Cl_2 \cdot H_2O$  (this work) differ with respect to the coordination of the thioether group. The S-donor is dangling away in 1, but weakly donating in the  $PF_6^$ salt (and also in the three-nuclear complex 3). In complexes with apical interaction the ligand L<sup>1</sup> adopts a [234] conformation; without apical interaction the conformation changes to [333]. The small difference in energy between these two conformations [12] is probably compensated by gaining ligand field stabilization energy through the apical interactions. The  $[Pd(L^1)_2]^{2+}$  ion is reported to show fluxional behaviour in solution [6]. This can now be correlated to an isomerization process between the [234] and [333] conformation of the ligands. In the solid state the individual isomers are stabilized by electrostatic forces originating from the different counterions  $Cl^-$  and  $PF_6^-$ .

### Supplementary material

Tables of complete crystallographic data, bond distances and angles, and thermal parameters are available from the authors on request.

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