# Synthesis of complexes with molybdenum-platinum bonds from the alkylidyne(carborane)molybdenum reagent $[NEt_4][Mo(\equiv CC_6H_4Me-4)(CO)_2(\eta^5-C_2B_9H_9Me_2)]^*$

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#### Abstract

Treatment of [*trans*-PtH(Cl)(PEt<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>], in tetrahydrofuran at -30 °C, with [NEt<sub>4</sub>][Mo(=CC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Me-4)(CO)<sub>2</sub>( $\eta^{5}$ -C<sub>2</sub>B<sub>9</sub>H<sub>9</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>)], in the presence of TlBF<sub>4</sub>, affords the thermally labile complex [MoPt(CO)<sub>2</sub>(PEt<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>{ $\eta^{6}$ -C<sub>2</sub>B<sub>9</sub>H<sub>8</sub>(CH<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Me-4)Me<sub>2</sub>)]. Addition of donor molecules L [CO, PEt<sub>3</sub> or dppm (Ph<sub>2</sub>PCH<sub>2</sub>PPh<sub>2</sub>)] to the latter at low temperatures yields the stable compounds [MoPt( $\mu$ -H){ $\mu$ - $\sigma$ : $\eta^{5}$ -C<sub>2</sub>B<sub>9</sub>H<sub>7</sub>(CH<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Me-4)Me<sub>2</sub>)(CO)<sub>2</sub>(L)(PEt<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]. The reaction between [*cis*-PtCl(Me)(PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph)<sub>2</sub>] and [NEt<sub>4</sub>][Mo(=CC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Me-4)(CO)<sub>2</sub>( $\eta^{5}$ -C<sub>2</sub>B<sub>9</sub>H<sub>9</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>)] in tetrahydrofuran, in the presence of TlBF<sub>4</sub>, gives a mixture of the dimetal compounds [MoPt( $\mu$ -CC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Me-4)( $\mu$ - $\sigma$ : $\eta^{5}$ -C<sub>2</sub>B<sub>9</sub>H<sub>8</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>)(CO)<sub>2</sub>(PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph)] and [MoPt( $\mu$ -CC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Me-4)( $\mu$ - $\sigma$ : $\eta^{5}$ -C<sub>2</sub>B<sub>9</sub>H<sub>8</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>)(CO)<sub>2</sub>(PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph)<sub>2</sub>], from which the latter may be isolated pure by addition of PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph. The NMR spectra (<sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}, <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} and <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H}) of the new complexes are reported and discussed in relation to the structures proposed.

### Introduction

Salts of the anionic tungsten complexes  $[W \equiv CR)(CO)_2(\eta^5 - 7, 8 - C_2B_9H_9R'_2]^-$  (R = alkyl, aryl or alkynyl; R' = Me or H)<sup>†</sup> are versatile reagents for the synthesis of polynuclear metal complexes containing tungsten since they react with a great variety of low valent metal compounds. The products isolated often have novel molecular structures resulting from the nonspectator role displayed by the carborane cage ligands in these reactions [1, 2]. This feature provides an important impetus for further work in this area. So far relatively little has been done to extend this chemistry to anionic alkylidyne(carborane)molybdenum species, apart from a study of some reactions of  $[NEt_4][Mo(\equiv CC_6H_4Me-4)(CO){P(OMe)_3}(\eta^5-C_2B_9H_9-$ Me<sub>2</sub>)] leading to products with molybdenum-gold,

-rhodium and -iron bonds [3]. Recently we have synthesized the salt [NEt<sub>4</sub>][Mo( $\equiv$ CC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Me-4)(CO)<sub>2</sub>-( $\eta^{5}$ -C<sub>2</sub>B<sub>9</sub>H<sub>9</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>)] (1a) and have shown that when treated with HBF<sub>4</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O in the presence of [W( $\equiv$ CMe)(CO)<sub>2</sub>( $\eta$ -C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)] the bimetal compound [MoW( $\mu$ -CMe)(CO)<sub>3</sub>{ $\eta^{5}$ -C<sub>2</sub>B<sub>9</sub>H<sub>8</sub>(CH<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Me-4)Me<sub>2</sub>}-( $\eta$ -C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)] is obtained [4]. In this paper we report further reactions of 1a in order to compare its reactivity towards certain platinum reagents with that of the analogous tungsten species 1b and 1c.

#### **Results and discussion**

Treatment of 1a with [trans-PtH(thf)(PEt<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>][BF<sub>4</sub>] (thf=tetrahydrofuran), prepared in situ by treating  $[trans-PtCl(H)(PEt_3)_2]$  with TlBF<sub>4</sub> in thf, gave an orange product 2a, stable only below c. -30 °C. The spectroscopic data strongly support the formulation  $[MoPt(CO)_2(PEt_3)_2\{\eta^6-C_2B_9H_8(CH_2C_6H_4Me-4)Me_2\}]$ for this species, a molybdenum analogue of the tungsten-platinum compound  $[WPt(CO)_2(PEt_3)_2\{\eta^6 C_2B_9H_8(CH_2C_6H_4Me-4)Me_2$ ] (2b) prepared in a simmanner from the salt 1b and ilar trans- $PtH(thf)(PEt_3)_2|[BF_4]$  [5]. Compound 2b is stable, and it was possible to establish its novel hypercloso structure by X-ray diffraction. In the IR spectrum it shows a single CO band at 1828  $cm^{-1}$ , to be compared with

<sup>\*</sup>This article is Part 114 of a series on the synthesis and structures of complexes containing bonds between different transition elements. For Part 113 see ref. 15.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup>In these anionic complexes a tungsten atom forms with a  $[nido-7,8-C_2B_9H_9R'_2]^{2-}$  anion a *closo-1,2-dicarba-3-tungstadodecabor*ane icosahedral structure. However, in this and many of our other papers the carborane group is designated as  $\eta^5-C_2B_9H_9R'_2$ in order to emphasise its pentahapto ligand properties in which it formally acts as a four-electron donor.



| TABLE 1. | Analytical <sup>a</sup> | and other | data for | the p | molybdenum- | platinum | complexes |
|----------|-------------------------|-----------|----------|-------|-------------|----------|-----------|
|----------|-------------------------|-----------|----------|-------|-------------|----------|-----------|

| Compound <sup>b</sup>   | Colour | Yield | $\nu_{\rm max}({\rm CO})^{\rm c}~({\rm cm}^{-1})$ |       | Analysis (%) |          |
|---|--------|-------|---|-------|--------------|----------|
|   |        | (%)   |   |       | c            | н        |
| $Pt(CO)_2(PEt_1)_2\{\eta^6-C_2B_0H_8(CH_2R)Me_2\}^d$ (2a) orange                              |        |       | 1835  |       |              |          |
| $[MoPt(\mu-H){\mu-\sigma:\eta^{3}-C_{2}B_{9}H_{7}(CH_{2}R)Me_{2}}(CO)_{3}(PEt_{3})_{2}] (3a)$ | orange | 66    | 2016s<br>1910s                                    | 1952m | 37.3(37.0)   | 6.4(6.1) |
| $[MoPt(\mu-H){\mu-\sigma:\eta^{5}-C_{2}B_{9}H_{7}(CH_{2}R)Me_{2}}(CO)_{2}(PEt_{3})_{3}]$ (3b) | orange | 65    | 1920m   | 1833s | 39.7(39.8)   | 7.4(7.1) |
| $[MoPt(\mu-H){\mu-\sigma;\eta^5-C_2B_9H_7(CH_2R)Me_2}(CO)_2(PEt_3)_2(dppm)]$ (3c)             | orange | 38    | 1925m   | 1840s | •47.5(47.4)  | 6.5(5.9) |
| $[MoPt(\mu-H){\mu-\sigma:\eta^5-C_2B_9H_7(CH_2R)Me_2}(CO)_2(PEt_3)_2]$ (4)                    | green  | 19    | 1925s   | 1858m | °34.9(34.8)  | 6.5(5.9) |
| $[MoPt(\mu-CR)(\mu-\sigma;\eta^{5}-C_{2}B_{9}H_{8}Me_{2})(CO)_{3}(PMe_{2}Ph)]^{f}$ (5a)       | red    | 40    | 2055m<br>1939s                                    | 2002s |              |          |
| $[MoPt(\mu-CR)(\mu-\sigma:\eta^{5}-C_{2}B_{9}H_{8}Me_{2})(CO)_{2}(PMe_{2}Ph)_{2}] (5b)$       | red    | 10    | 1982s   | 1913s | 41.1(40.7)   | 5.7(4.9) |

<sup>a</sup>Calculated values in parentheses. <sup>b</sup>R = C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Me-4. <sup>c</sup>Measured in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>; a broad band is observed in all the spectra near 2550 cm<sup>-1</sup> due to  $\nu$ (BH). <sup>d</sup>Unstable, see text. <sup>c</sup>Crystallises with one molecule of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. <sup>f</sup>Inseparable mixture with **5b** (see text), microanalytical data not obtained.

that observed for 2a at 1835 cm<sup>-1</sup> (Table 1). The <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra are also similar. For 2a, measured at -50 °C, there is a singlet at  $\delta$  37.2 ppm, with J(PtP) 3520 Hz. The corresponding data for 2b are  $\delta$  35.7 ppm (J(PtP) 3347 Hz) [5].

A possible pathway for the formation of compound **2a** is shown on Scheme 1. There are several precedents for the  $\mu$ - $\sigma$ : $\eta^3$ -C(H)C\_6H\_4Me-4 ligand present in the proposed intermediate **A**, which would arise by addition of Pt-H to the C=Mo bond [6, 7]. Intermediate **B** contains the well defined B-H  $\rightarrow$  Pt bridge system [5, 8], and a terminal alkylidene group on the molybdenum. The final step to give **2a** involves the well established insertion of the alkylidene group into the cage B-H bond [4, 9], with cleavage of the cage C-C connectivity.

Compound 2a is an electronically unsaturated 30 electron dimetal species. Accordingly treatment of its solutions in thf at -30 °C with donor molecules (L=CO, PEt<sub>3</sub> or dppm (diphenylphosphinomethane)) affords the complexes [MoPt( $\mu$ -H){ $\mu$ - $\sigma$ : $\eta$ <sup>5</sup>-C<sub>2</sub>B<sub>9</sub>H<sub>7</sub>-(CH<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Me-4)Me<sub>2</sub>}(CO)<sub>2</sub>(L)(PEt<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] (3a, L=CO; 3b, L=PEt<sub>3</sub>; 3c, L=dppm), data for which are given in

Tables 1-3. The reactivity of **2a** towards donor molecules parallels that of **2b**, which with CO and PMe<sub>3</sub> yields the complexes **3d** and **3e**, respectively. In the compounds **3**, the carborane group has regained the *closo* icosahedral geometry, but a hydrogen atom from one of the BH groups in the *nido* face of the cage has migrated to bridge the metal-metal bond, with concomitant formation of an *exo*-polyhedral B-Pt  $\sigma$  bond.

The NMR data for the compounds **3a-3c** (Tables 2 and 3) are in complete agreement with the structures shown. In the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum there are diagnostic resonances for the  $\mu$ -H nuclei at  $\delta$  -7.95 (**3a**), -8.60 (**3b**) and -8.54 (**3c**) each signal displaying coupling with non-equivalent <sup>31</sup>P nuclei. In the spectra of **3d** and **3e** the corresponding signals are at  $\delta$  -8.81 and -8.45, respectively [5]. Peaks for the two diastereotopic protons of the BCH<sub>2</sub> group should occur as an AB pattern. In practice, one-half of this pattern is obscured by resonances due to the CH<sub>2</sub>P nuclei. However, for **3a-3c** a broad doublet corresponding to one proton of the BCH<sub>2</sub> fragment is seen at  $\delta$  2.42 (**3a**), 2.63 (**3b**) and 2.59 (**3c**), with J(HH) c. 14 Hz. The BCH<sub>2</sub> group



Scheme 1.  $R = C_6H_4Me-4$ , (i) + [PtH(thf)(PEt\_3)\_2][BF\_4].

in 3d displays a similar pattern, with the resonance for one proton overlapping with that for the  $CH_2P$  nuclei, while the other signal appears at  $\delta 2.47$  ppm as a broad doublet (J(HH) 13 Hz) [5].

The CMe groups of the carborane cage are asymmetric in the compounds **3a-3c**, a feature displayed most clearly in the <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra. Thus for **3a** signals at  $\delta$ 71.8 and 69.7 ppm (*J*(PtC) 39) may be assigned to the CMe nuclei, and those at 35.8 (*J*(PtC) 38) and 32.2 ppm to the CMe groups. Interestingly, <sup>195</sup>Pt-<sup>13</sup>C couplings are observed on the peaks of one CMe and one CMe fragment. It is probable that these groups are  $\alpha$ and  $\beta$  to the boron forming the B-Pt  $\sigma$  bond, respectively, leading to the observation of appreciable <sup>3</sup>*J*(PtC) couplings. The magnitude of such couplings vary in the sequence <sup>3</sup>*J*(PtC) > <sup>2</sup>*J*(PtC)  $\approx 0$  Hz [11].

The presence of the BCH<sub>2</sub> and BPt groups in the complexes **3a–3c** is fully confirmed by the <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra (Table 3). In each spectrum there are two relatively deshielded resonances, each corresponding in intensity to one boron nucleus. None of these resonances show <sup>1</sup>H–<sup>11</sup>B coupling in the <sup>11</sup>B spectra, establishing that they are not due to BH groups. The more deshielded resonance in each pair may be ascribed to the BPt moieties. This signal is seen at  $\delta$  51.4, 39.6 and 40.2 ppm for **3a**, **3b** and **3c**, respectively, and for **3a** and **3b** the spectra were sufficiently well resolved for <sup>11</sup>B–<sup>195</sup>Pt coupling to be observed: 550 Hz for **3a** and 450 Hz for **3b**. The second deshielded signal in each spectrum is due to the BCH<sub>2</sub> groups, and these are seen at  $\delta$  16.4 (**3a**), 13.1 (**3b**) and 13.8 ppm (**3c**).

The <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR data for **3e**, the structure of which has been established by X-ray diffraction, are very similar with resonances at  $\delta$  36.2 (BPt, *J*(PtB) 400 Hz) and 10.6 ppm (BCH<sub>2</sub>).

The  ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$  NMR spectra (Table 3) are as expected. That for **3a** consists of a doublet signal at  $\delta$  24.4(*J*(PP) 18, J(PtP) 4082) and a broad peak at  $\delta$  14.2 ppm (J(PtP)) 1740 Hz). The latter resonance may be assigned to the PEt<sub>3</sub> ligand transoid to the BPt group, the broadening being due to <sup>11</sup>B-<sup>31</sup>P coupling. The former signal must thus be due to the PEt<sub>3</sub> ligand transoid to the Mo-Pt bond, and this is in agreement with the larger <sup>195</sup>Pt-<sup>31</sup>P coupling observed for this resonance. The spectrum of 3b displays three resonances. The apparent triplet at  $\delta$  28.8 ppm (J(PP) 8 and 6, J(PtP) 32 Hz) may be assigned to the MoPEt<sub>3</sub> fragment, and the signals at δ 25.2 (J(PP) 14 and 8, J(PtP) 4229) and 14.6 ppm (br, J(PtP) 1750 Hz) to the cis-Pt(PEt<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> fragment. As would be anticipated, the <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum of 3c shows four resonances, these occurring at  $\delta$  47.7, 25.2, 16.4(br) and -28.1 ppm. The latter signal is diagnostic for the non-ligating PPh2 group of the dppm molecule [10]. Indeed, the chemical shift is close to that ( $\delta$  -23.1 ppm) for the free ligand, measured under the same conditions. The peaks at  $\delta$  16.4 and 25.2 ppm are due to the cis-Pt(PEt<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> fragment, the broadness of the former signal resulting from transoid <sup>11</sup>B-Pt-<sup>31</sup>P coupling. The fourth peak at  $\delta$  47.7 ppm, also broad, may be assigned to the MoPPh<sub>2</sub> moiety.

Compound 3c was refluxed in thf in an attempt to displace a PEt<sub>3</sub> ligand, and induce formation of a

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| Compound                | <sup>1</sup> Η (δ) <sup>b</sup>  | <sup>13</sup> C{ <sup>1</sup> H} (δ) <sup>c</sup>   |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| 3a                      | -7.95 (d of d, 1 H, $\mu$ -H, $J$ (PH) 51 and 16, $J$ (PtH) 382),<br>1.05-1.19 (m, 18 H, CH <sub>2</sub> Me), 2.05-2.21 (m, 13 H, CH <sub>2</sub> Me<br>and BCH <sub>2</sub> ), 2.02, 2.14, 2.24 (s×3, 9 H, CMe, Me-4), 2.42<br>(d, br, 1 H, BCH <sub>2</sub> , $J$ (HH) 13), 6.87, 6.92 ((AB) <sub>2</sub> , 4 H,<br>C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> , $J$ (AB) 8)  | 231.9 (CO), 227.0 (CO, $J(PtC)$ 24), 224.5 (CO), 144.3 (C <sup>1</sup> (C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> )), 132.6, 129.3, 128.1 (C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ), 71.8 (CMe), 69.7 (CMe, $J(PtC)$ 39), 35.8 (CMe, $J(PtC)$ 38), 34.0 (br, BCH <sub>2</sub> ), 32.2 (CMe), 21.0 (Me-4), 20.1, 17.9 (m×2, CH <sub>2</sub> Me), 9.0, 8.6 (m×2, CH <sub>2</sub> Me)   |
| 3b                      | -8.60 (d of d of d, 1 H, $\mu$ -H, $J$ (PH) 54, 14, and 9,<br>J(PtH) 443), 1.10 (m, 27 H, CH <sub>2</sub> Me), 1.99 (m, 19 H,<br>CH <sub>2</sub> Me and BCH <sub>2</sub> ), 2.06, 2.10, 2.23 (s×3, 9 H, CMe and<br>Me-4), 2.63 (d, br, 1 H BCH <sub>2</sub> , $J$ (HH) 14), 6.77, 6.89<br>((AB) <sub>2</sub> , 4 H, C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> , $J$ (AB) 8)  | 240.0 (d, CO, $J(PC)$ 23), 234.6 (d, CO, $J(PC)$ 30),<br>146.6 (C <sup>1</sup> (C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> )), 132.1, 128.9, 128.0 (C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ), 66.3<br>(CMe), 66.2 (CMe, $J(PtC)$ 38), 37.4 (CMe, $J(PtC)$ 44),<br>32.9 (br, BCH <sub>2</sub> ), 30.5 (CMe), 21.0 (Me-4), 20.1, 17.7<br>(m×2, CH <sub>2</sub> Me), 9.1, 8.5 (m×2, CH <sub>2</sub> Me)  |
| 3c                      | -8.54 (d of d of d, 1 H, $\mu$ -H, $J$ (PH) 53, 14, and 9, $J$ (PtH) 431), 1.18 (m, 18 H, CH <sub>2</sub> Me), 2.01 (s, 3 H, Me-4 or CMe), 2.15 (m, 13 H, CH <sub>2</sub> Me and BCH <sub>2</sub> ), 2.21 (s, 6 H, Me-4 and/or CMe), 2.59 (d, br, 1 H, BCH <sub>2</sub> , $J$ (HH) 14), 3.65 (m, 2 H, PCH <sub>2</sub> P), 6.42, 6.75 ((AB) <sub>2</sub> , 4 H, C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> , $J$ (AB) 8), 6.88-7.95 (m, 20 H, Ph) | 239.4 (d, CO, $J(PC)$ 25), 236.5 (d, CO, $J(PC)$ 31),<br>146.3 (C <sup>1</sup> (C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> )), 140.2–127.9 (C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> and Ph), 67.4<br>(CMe), 66.2 (CMe, $J(PtC)$ 43), 37.3 (CMe. $J(PtC)$ 44),<br>33.5 (br, BCH <sub>2</sub> ), 29.0 (d of d, PCH <sub>2</sub> P, $J(PC)$ 39 and<br>19), 27.8 (CMe), 21.0 (Me-4), 20.1, 17.6 (m×2,<br>CH <sub>2</sub> Me), 9.1, 8.6 (m×2, CH <sub>2</sub> Me) |
| 4                       | -4.50 (d of d, 1 H, $\mu$ -H, $J$ (PH) 65 and 17, $J$ (PtH) 470),<br>0.98 (m, 18 H, CH <sub>2</sub> Me), 1.09, 2.24, 2.53 (s×3, 9 H, CMe<br>and Me-4), 1.95-2.17 (m, 13 H, CH <sub>2</sub> Me and BCH <sub>2</sub> ), 3.03<br>(d, br, 1 H, BCH <sub>2</sub> , $J$ (HH) 13), 6.86, 6.91 ((AB) <sub>2</sub> , 4 H,<br>C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> , $J$ (AB) 8)  | 255.4 (CO), 145.5 ( $C^{1}(C_{6}H_{4})$ ), 132.6, 129.0, 128.2 ( $C_{6}H_{4}$ ), 74.4 (CMe), 70.6 (d, CMe, J(PC) 8), 37.6 (br, BCH <sub>2</sub> ), 31.1, 29.5 (CMe), 21.1 (Me-4), 20.8 (d, CH <sub>2</sub> Me, J(PC) 22), 17.9 (d of d, CH <sub>2</sub> Me, J(PC) 29 and 5, J(PtC) 73), 8.9, 8.7 (CH <sub>2</sub> Me)   |
| 5 <b>a</b> <sup>d</sup> | 1.61 (d, 6 H, MeP, $J(PH)$ 9, $J(PtH)$ 20), 2.03 (s, 6 H, CMe), 2.36 (s, 3 H, Me-4), 6.55, 6.88 ((AB) <sub>2</sub> , 4 H, C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> , $J(AB)$ 8), 7.19–7.46 (m, 5 H, Ph)   | 303.7 ( $\mu$ -C), 219.9 (CO), 188.5 (d, CO, J(PC) 8, J(PtC) 1514), 149.8 (d, C <sup>1</sup> (C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ), J(PC) 8), 136.2–121.6 (C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> and Ph), 62.6 (CMe), 27.6 (CMe), 19.0 (Me-4), 13.1 (d, MeP, J(PC) 32, J(PtC) 34)  |
| 5b                      | 0.87 (d, 6 H, MeP, $J(PH)$ 9, $J(PtH)$ 20 ), 1.57 (d, 6 H, MeP, $J(PH)$ 11, $J(PtH)$ 38) , 2.08 (s, 6 H, CMe), 2.41 (s, 3 H, Me-4), 7.03–7.41 (m, 14 H, C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> and Ph)  | <sup>6</sup> 306.8 (d, $\mu$ -C, $J(PC)$ 46), 227.0 (CO), 151.7 (d,<br>C <sup>1</sup> (C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ), $J(PC)$ 7), 140.1–128.5 (C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> and Ph), 63.7<br>(CMe), 30.3 (CMe), 21.5 (Me-4), 16.8 (d, MeP, $J(PC)$<br>36, $J(PtC)$ 49), 14.3 (d, MeP, $J(PC)$ 22, $J(PtC)$ 18)   |

<sup>a</sup>Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) in ppm, coupling constants in Hz. <sup>b</sup>Measured in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. Signals for BH groups occur as broad unresolved peaks in the range 0-3 ppm. <sup>c</sup>Hydrogen-1 decoupled, chemical shifts are positive to high frequency of SiMe<sub>4</sub>, with measurements in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> unless otherwise stated. <sup>d</sup>Measurements made from a mixture with 5b. <sup>c</sup>Measured in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/thf (1:1).

| Compound        | <sup>11</sup> B{ <sup>1</sup> H} (δ) <sup>b</sup>   | <sup>31</sup> P{ <sup>1</sup> H} (δ) <sup>c</sup>   |  |  |  |
|-----------------|---|---|--|--|--|
| 3a              | 51.4 (1 B, BPt, J(PtB) c. 550), 16.4 (1 B, BCH <sub>2</sub> ), 2.6<br>(1 B), -7.8 (3 B), -11.1 (2 B), -15.1 (1 B)     | 24.4 (d, J(PP) 18, J(PtP) 4082), 14.2 (br, J(PtP) c. 1740)  |  |  |  |
| 3b              | 39.6 (1 B, BPt, $J(PtB)$ c. 450), 13.1 (1 B, BCH <sub>2</sub> ),<br>-2.3 (1 B), -10.1 (3 B), -11.9 (2 B), -16.4 (1 B) | 28.8 (app. t, MoPEt <sub>3</sub> , J(PP) 8 and 6, J(PtP) 32),<br>25.2 (d of d, PEt <sub>3</sub> , J(PP) 14 and 8, J(PtP) 4229),<br>14.6 (br, PEt <sub>3</sub> , J(PtP) c. 1750)   |  |  |  |
| 3c              | 40.2 (1 B, BPt), 13.8 (1 B, BCH <sub>2</sub> ), -1.8 (1 B), -9.9 (5 B), -16.3 (1 B)                                   | 47.7 (br, MoPPh <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> PPh <sub>2</sub> ), 25.2 (d of d, PEt <sub>3</sub> ,<br>J(PP) 14 and 6, J(PtP) 4224), 16.4 (br, PEt <sub>3</sub> , J(PtP)<br>c. 1730), -28.1 (d, MoPPh <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> PPh <sub>2</sub> , J(PP) 10) |  |  |  |
| 4               | 41.8 (1 B, BPt), 25.6 (1 B, BCH <sub>2</sub> ), 2.1 (1 B), -3.5 (2 B), -7.7 (1 B), -10.0 (2 B), -12.6 (1 B)           | 20.7 (d, PEt <sub>3</sub> , J(PP) 18, J(PtP) 3833), 15.7 (br, PEt <sub>3</sub> , J(PtP) c. 1800)  |  |  |  |
| 5a <sup>d</sup> | 54.1 (1 B, BPt), -6.8 to -18.0 (br, 8 B)  | <sup>e</sup> -5.6 (br, J(PtP) c. 2700)  |  |  |  |
| 5b              | 52.7 (d, 1 B, $J(PP)$ 64, $J(PtP)$ 436), $-8.5$ to $-17.2$ (br, 8 B)  | -0.4 (d, J(PP) 26, J(PtP) 3496), $-6.9$ (br, J(PtP) c. 2480)  |  |  |  |

TABLE 3. <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} and <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR data<sup>a</sup> for the molybdenum-platinum compounds

<sup>a</sup>Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) in ppm, coupling constants in Hz, measurements in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at ambient temperatures unless otherwise stated. <sup>b</sup>Hydrogen-1 decoupled, chemical shifts are positive to high frequency of BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O (external). <sup>c</sup>Hydrogen-1 decoupled, chemical shifts are positive to high frequency of 85% H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (external). <sup>d195</sup>Pt{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\delta$  -245 (d of q, J(PPt) c. 2700, J(BPt) c. 350); chemical shifts are to high frequency of  $\Xi$ (<sup>195</sup>Pt) = 21.4 MHz. <sup>e</sup>Measured in (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CO/thf (1:1). bridging  $\mu$ -dppm group. However, this procedure was not successful, although formation of a pale green very insoluble species was observed which could not be characterised. Probably the dppm groups engage in intermolecular bridging, a process which might well lead to an insoluble product.

It was observed that if solutions of 2a were allowed to warm above -30 °C, or if the reaction between 1a and [PtH(thf)(PEt<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>][BF<sub>4</sub>] was performed at room temperature, a mixture of products was obtained. Chromatography on alumina yielded a mixture of 3a and 3b, in a ratio of c. 4:1, which proved inseparable on the column. A subsequent green eluate afforded a product 4, the formulation of which has not been fully resolved. Unfortunately, despite persistent efforts, crystals for an X-ray diffraction study could not be obtained. Nevertheless, there is good spectroscopic evidence (Tables 1-3) that 4 is the dimetal complex [MoPt( $\mu$ -H)-{ $\mu$ - $\sigma$ : $\eta^5$ -C<sub>2</sub>B<sub>9</sub>H<sub>7</sub>(CH<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Me-4)Me<sub>2</sub>}(CO)<sub>2</sub>(PEt<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>].

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (Table 2) displays a resonance characteristic for a  $\mu$ -H group at  $\delta$  -4.50 which is a doublet of doublets, due to coupling with the nonequivalent PEt<sub>3</sub> ligands (J(PH) 65 and 17 Hz). The <sup>195</sup>Pt-<sup>1</sup>H coupling of 470 Hz is also diagnostic for a hydrido ligand bridging a metal-metal bond involving platinum. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR reveals a broad doublet at  $\delta$ 3.03 (J(HH) 13 Hz), corresponding to one half of the AB pattern produced by the diastereotopic protons of the  $BCH_2$  group. As with the compounds 3, the other half of this pattern is obscured by the PEt<sub>3</sub> resonances. The <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum (Table 3) shows resonances with intensities corresponding to single boron nuclei at  $\delta$  41.8 and at 25.6 ppm, and these shifts are fully diagnostic for BPt and BCH<sub>2</sub> groups, respectively [5]. The <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum (Table 3) shows two resonances with <sup>31</sup>P-<sup>31</sup>P and <sup>195</sup>Pt-<sup>31</sup>P couplings similar to those for the cis-Pt(PEt<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> group in 3a.

The IR spectrum reveals two CO stretching bands at 1925s and 1858s cm<sup>-1</sup>. The latter frequency suggests a semi-bridging arrangement, leaving open the precise arrangement of the carbonyls. There is apparently a



dynamic process which site-exchanges the CO ligands, since the <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum displays only one CO resonance at  $\delta$  255.4. The relative peak intensity of this resonance when compared with that for the  $C^{1}(C_{c}H_{d})$  nucleus suggests that the carbonyl signal is due to two CO ligands. Moreover, the chemical shifts is unusually deshielded for two terminal groups, but might be explained if a terminal and a bridging CO ligand were undergoing site exchange. The cage ligand is seen to be asymmetric by the presence in the  ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum of signals at  $\delta$  74.4 and 70.6 ppm (CMe) and 31.1 and 29.5 ppm (CMe) due to non-equivalent CMe groups. It is interesting to note that unlike the compound 3 no <sup>195</sup>Pt-<sup>13</sup>C coupling is seen on the peaks for the CMe groups, but the resonance at  $\delta$  70.6 ppm is a doublet, presumably due to <sup>31</sup>P-<sup>13</sup>C coupling (8 Hz) with the PEt<sub>3</sub> ligand transoid to the B-Pt bond.

Assuming the structure shown for 4 is correct, as seems likely based on the NMR data, its formation might arise through a thermally induced isomerisation of 2a to relieve the electron deficiency of the *hypercloso*cage. However, on present evidence assignment of the structure of 4 must remain somewhat tentative.

The reaction between 1a and cis-[PtMe(thf)-(PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph)<sub>2</sub>][BF<sub>4</sub>] was next investigated. The latter species was prepared in situ by treating cis-[PtCl(Me)(PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph)<sub>2</sub>][BF<sub>4</sub>] with TIBF<sub>4</sub>, in thf at room temperature. Reaction with 1a proceeds to afford a mixture of the two compounds  $[MoPt(\mu-CC_6H_4Me-4) (\mu - \sigma; \eta^{5} - C_{2}B_{9}H_{8}Me_{2})(CO)_{3}(PMe_{2}Ph)]$  (5a) and [MoPt- $(\mu - CC_6H_4Me - 4)(\mu - \sigma : \eta^5 - C_2B_9H_8Me_2)(CO)_2(PMe_2Ph)_2]$ (5b) in the ratio 4:1. This mixture proved inseparable by chromatography. However, treatment of the product mixture with an excess of PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph yielded pure 5b. The latter is the molybdenum analogue of the complex [WPt( $\mu$ -CC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Me-4)( $\mu$ - $\sigma$ : $\eta^{5}$ -C<sub>2</sub>B<sub>9</sub>H<sub>8</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>)(CO)<sub>2</sub>- $(PMe_2Ph)_2$ ] (5c), the structure of which has been established by X-ray crystallography [12]. Compound 5c was obtained by treating 1c with [cis-PtMe(Me<sub>2</sub>CO)(PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph)<sub>2</sub>][BF<sub>4</sub>]. Interestingly, an isomer of 1c was also formed in this reaction, having a structure in which the B-Pt  $\sigma$  bond involves a boron atom  $\alpha$  to a carbon in the open pentagonal CCBBB face of the cage. There was no evidence for the formation of a similar isomer in the synthesis of 5b for which, as described below, there is good NMR evidence for the presence of a B-Pt  $\sigma$  bond involving a boron in the  $\beta$  site of the CCBBB ring ligating the molybdenum.

Since 5b could be isolated free of 5a, it could be fully characterised by microanalysis and by its spectroscopic properties (Tables 1–3). The IR spectrum shows two IR stretching bands at 1982 and 1913 cm<sup>-1</sup>, as well as the usual broad BH stretch for the carborane cage at 2552 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The presence of the B-Pt  $\sigma$  bond is revealed in the <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum by a doublet resonance at  $\delta$  52.7 ppm (J(PB) 64 Hz) with <sup>195</sup>Pt satellite peaks (J(PtB) 436 Hz). The <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum displays a doublet resonance at  $\delta$  -0.4 (J(PP) 26, J(PtP) 3496) and a broad signal at -6.9 ppm (J(PtP) 2480 Hz). The latter may be ascribed to the PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph group *transoid* to the B-Pt  $\sigma$  bond. These<sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} and <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR data are very similar to those for 5c: <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H},  $\delta$  48.2 (d, BPt, J(PB) 68, J(PtB) 533); <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H},  $\delta$  -2.3 (d, J(PP) 25, J(PtP) 3607) and -5.2 ppm (br, J(PtP) 2500 Hz) [12].

In the <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum of **5b** a doublet resonance is seen at  $\delta$  306.8 ppm (J(PC) 46 Hz) for the ligated carbon atom of the bridging alkylidyne ligand. The chemical shift is very close to that found for the C=Mo nucleus in the precursor **1a** ( $\delta$  305.7 ppm). This indicates that in **5b**, as in **5c** ( $\mu$ -C,  $\delta$  290.4 ppm, J(PC) 36 Hz), the alkylidyne group semi-bridges the W-Pt bond, lying much closer to the tungsten atom than to the platinum. The X-ray diffraction study of **5c** revealed a W-C distance of 1.89(1) Å and a Pt-C separation of 2.14(1) Å [12]. The W-C separation is similar to that observed for the C=W bond (1.83(1) Å) in the mononuclear tungsten complex [PPh<sub>4</sub>][W(=CC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Me-4)(CO)<sub>2</sub>( $\eta$ <sup>5</sup>-C<sub>2</sub>B<sub>9</sub>H<sub>9</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>] [13].

It is evident from the  ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$  NMR spectrum of **5b** that the molecule has a plane of symmetry encompassing the two metal atoms, the  $\mu$ -C atom, the B atom  $\sigma$  bonded to the platinum, and the mid-point of the connectivity between the cage carbon atoms. This leads to the carbonyl groups being in similar environments, and hence only one resonance is observed, at  $\delta$  227.0 ppm. Similarly only one signal is seen for the *C*Me and *CMe* nuclei, at  $\delta$  63.7 and 30.3 ppm, respectively. This information is supported by the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum, which shows one peak for the CMe groups at  $\delta$  2.08 ppm.

Complex 5a, the major component of the product mixture resulting from reaction of 1a with [cis- $PtMe(thf)(PMe_2Ph)_2$ [BF<sub>4</sub>], has three carbonyl stretching bands in the IR spectrum at 2055, 2002 and 1939  $cm^{-1}$ . Two peaks are seen in the <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum at  $\delta$  219.9 and 188.5 ppm. The latter is a doublet (J(PC) 8 Hz) with <sup>195</sup>Pt satellite peaks (J(PtP) 1514 Hz) and can be assigned to the PtCO group, whereas the former represents the two equivalent MoCO groups. The <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum shows only one resonance ( $\delta$ -5.6 ppm, J(PtP) 2700 Hz), and the broadness of the peak indicates that the phosphine is transoid to the B-Pt  $\sigma$  bond. The presence of the B-Pt linkage is indicated by a resonance in the <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum at  $\delta$  54.1 ppm, showing shoulders due to <sup>195</sup>Pt coupling. The magnitude of this coupling can be estimated from the <sup>195</sup>Pt{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum, which consists of a single resonance at  $\delta - 245$  ppm split into a doublet of quartets

(J(PPt) 2700, J(BPt) 350 Hz). As in 5b, only two resonances are seen for the CMe groups in the  ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum ( $\delta$  62.6 (CMe) and 27.6 ppm (CMe)). Similarly, in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum only one peak is seen for the CMe groups at  $\delta$  2.03. The equivalence of the two MoCO ligands and the two CMe groups confirms that 5a exists as the isomer with the  $\beta$ -boron of the CCBBB pentagonal ring forming the B-Pt bond. The alkylidyne carbon resonance, at  $\delta$  303.7 ppm in the <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum, is in the semi-bridging region and shows neither <sup>31</sup>P nor <sup>195</sup>Pt coupling, being cisoid to the phosphine on the platinum centre. Interestingly, the C<sup>1</sup> atom of the  $C_6H_4$  ring shows coupling to phosphorus ( $\delta$  149.8 ppm, J(PC) 8 Hz), presumably because it is a  ${}^{3}J$  coupling. A similar feature is seen in the spectrum of 5b. As 5a was part of an inseparable mixture, microanalytical data were not forthcoming.

Scheme 2 shows a likely pathway for the formation of the complexes 5a and 5b. Intermediate C would result from displacement of a PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph ligand from platinum as a result of forming a  $B-H \rightarrow Pt$  three-centre two-electron bond. This type of linkage has ample precedent, as has previously been mentioned [1, 5, 8]. The linkage may be viewed as incipient oxidativeaddition of a B-H group at the Pt centre, and the next step would be reductive elimination releasing methane and forming D. Intermediate C is modelled on the compound [WPtH( $\mu$ -CC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>-2,6)(CO)<sub>2</sub>(PEt<sub>3</sub>)( $\eta^{5}$ - $C_2B_9H_9Me_2$ )] which contains both a terminal Pt-H group and an exo-polyhedral  $B-H \rightarrow Pt$  linkage [8]. This hydrido tungsten-platinum complex slowly releases hydrogen gas yielding a mixture of  $[WPt(\mu-CC_6H_3Me_2 (2,6)(\mu - \sigma; \eta^5 - C_2 B_9 H_8 Me_2)(CO)_2(PEt_3)]$  and  $[WPt(\mu - \sigma; \eta^5 - C_2 B_9 H_8 Me_2)(CO)_2(PEt_3)]$  $CC_6H_3Me_2-2,6)(\mu-\sigma:\eta^5-C_2B_9H_8Me_2)(CO)_3(PEt_3)$  the structures of both of which have been determined by X-ray diffraction. Hence the suggested loss of methane in the formation of **D** is reasonable.

Intermediate D is similar to to the aforementioned  $[WPt(\mu-CC_6H_3Me_2-2,6)(\mu-\sigma:\eta^5-C_2B_9H_8Me_2)$ species  $(CO)_2(PEt_3)$ , and with the Pt centre formally having only 14 valence electrons, it readily adds a CO molecule to give  $[WPt(\mu-CC_6H_3Me_2-2,6)(\mu-\sigma:\eta^5 C_2B_9H_8Me_2$ (CO)<sub>3</sub>(PEt<sub>3</sub>)]. Likewise, intermediate D would also be expected to add a donor molecule to relieve the unsaturation of the platinum centre. The presence of free PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph in solution would lead to 5b, but the concomitant formation of 5a is not surprising since CO is readily scavenged by metal centres in these types of reaction. Moreover, the relatively high proportion of 5a formed, compared with 5b, may well arise because the PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph released in the initial step, would react with the reagent  $[PtMe(thf)(PMe_2Ph)_2][BF_4]$  to yield the very stable cationic complex [PtMe- $(PMe_2Ph)_3$ <sup>+</sup>. Although this cation was not identified in the present study, it could have been present in the



Scheme 2.  $R = C_6 H_4 Me-4$ , (i) + [PtMe(thf)(PMe\_2Ph)\_2][BF\_4], (ii) - PMe\_2Ph, (iii) - CH\_4, (iv) + L (CO or PMe\_2Ph).

mixture, since it has been observed in the synthesis of 5c [12].

Treatment of solutions of **5b** with CO gas results in the formation of **5a**. However, the reaction does not go to completion, presumably because of competition from the displaced PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph for the coordination site on platinum. Upon removal of solvent *in vacuo* from the solutions, complex **5b** is regenerated quantitatively.

The new compounds described significantly extend the range of known species with molybdenum-platinum bonds [14]. Moreover, the presence of the exopolyhedral B-Pt  $\sigma$  bonds in the various products represents an interesting structural feature. Whilst the reactivity of the molybdenum salt 1a towards the platinum reagents is generally similar to that of tungsten analogues 1b or 1c, differences are observed, as in the instability of 2a versus 2b, and in the formation of 5a, the tungsten analogue of which is not formed in the synthesis of 5c from [*cis*-PtMe(Me<sub>2</sub>CO)(PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph)<sub>2</sub>][BF<sub>4</sub>].

## Experimental

Experiments were carried out under nitrogen using Schlenk-tube techniques. All solvents were rigorously dried before use. Light petroleum refers to that fraction of b.p. 40-60 °C. Chromatography columns (c. 20 cm in length and 3 cm in diameter) were packed with alumina (Brockmann activity II). The IR spectra were measured with a Perkin-Elmer FT1600 spectrometer, and NMR spectra with JEOL JNM GX270 and GX400 instruments. The salt **1a** was prepared as previously reported [4], and the platinum reagents [*trans*-PtH(thf)(PEt<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>][BF<sub>4</sub>] and [*cis*-PtMe(thf)(PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph)<sub>2</sub>]-[BF<sub>4</sub>] were generated *in situ* as described below. Data characterising the new compounds are given in Tables 1-3.

# Reactions of $[NEt_4[Mo(=CC_6H_4Me-4)(CO)_2(\eta^5-C_2B_9H_9Me_2)]$ with $[PtH(thf)(PEt_3)_2][BF_4]$

The compound *trans*-[PtH(Cl)(PEt<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>][BF<sub>4</sub>] (0.08 g, 0.18 mmol), in thf (20 cm<sup>3</sup>) at -30 °C, was treated with TlBF<sub>4</sub> (0.05 g, 0.18 mmol) and **1a** (0.10 g, 0.18 mmol), and the mixture was stirred for c. 2 h to yield an orange solution containing [MoPt(CO)<sub>2</sub>(PEt<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>{ $\eta^{6}$ -C<sub>2</sub>B<sub>9</sub>H<sub>8</sub>(CH<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Me-4)Me<sub>2</sub>]] (**2a**). Solutions of this species were stable below c. -30 °C, and were used without further purification.

(i) Carbon monoxide gas was bubbled through the solution of **2a** for 5 min, and then the mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature. Solvent was removed *in vacuo*, and the residue redissolved in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (30 cm<sup>3</sup>). The resulting suspension was filtered through a Celite plug (c.  $2 \times 1$  cm), and the plug washed with  $CH_2Cl_2$  ( $2 \times 10$  cm<sup>3</sup>) with the washings being combined with the filtrate. The solution was evaporated to dryness

in vacuo, redissolved in  $CH_2Cl_2$ -light petroleum (2 cm<sup>3</sup>, 2:3) and chromatographed at room temperature. Elution with the same solvent mixture afforded an orange eluate, and removal of solvent *in vacuo* gave orange microcrystals of  $[MoPt(\mu-H)\{\mu-\sigma:\eta^5-C_2B_9H_7(CH_2C_6H_4Me-4)Me_2\}(CO)_3(PEt_3)_2]$  (3a) (0.11 g).

(ii) In a similar manner, a solution of **2a** made from *trans*-[PtH(Cl)(PEt<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] (0.08 g, 0.18 mmol), TlBF<sub>4</sub> (0.05 g, 0.18 mmol) and **1a** (0.10 g, 0.18 mmol) was treated with PEt<sub>3</sub> (25  $\mu$ l, 0.26 mmol) to give orange microcrystals of [MoPt( $\mu$ -H){ $\mu$ - $\sigma$ : $\eta$ <sup>5</sup>-C<sub>2</sub>B<sub>9</sub>H<sub>7</sub>(CH<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Me-4)Me<sub>2</sub>}-(CO)<sub>2</sub>(PEt<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>] (**3b**) (0.11 g).

(iii) A solution of **2a** made from *trans*-[PtH(Cl)(PEt<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] (0.10 g, 0.21 mmol), TlBF<sub>4</sub> (0.06 g, 0.20 mmol) and **1a** (0.11 g, 0.20 mmol) was treated with dppm (0.23 g, 0.60 mmol), in a similar manner to (i) above, to afford orange microcrystals of [MoPt( $\mu$ -H){ $\mu$ - $\sigma$ : $\eta^{5}$ -C<sub>2</sub>B<sub>9</sub>H<sub>7</sub>-(CH<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Me-4)Me<sub>2</sub>}(CO)<sub>2</sub>(PEt<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(dppm)] (3c) (0.10 g).

(iv) The compounds trans-[PtH(Cl)(PEt<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] (0.17 g, 0.36 mmol), TlBF<sub>4</sub> (0.13 g, 0.38 mmol) and 1a (0.20 g, 0.36 mmol) were stirred together at room temperature in thf (20 cm<sup>3</sup>) for 1 h. The solvent was removed in vacuo, and the residue redissolved in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (50 cm<sup>3</sup>). The resulting suspension was filtered through a Celite plug (c.  $2 \times 3$  cm) to remove TlCl, and the plug washed with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (2×15 cm<sup>3</sup>), the washings being combined with the filtrate. The solution was reduced to an oil in vacuo and redissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-light petroleum (6  $cm^3$ , 2:3) and chromatographed. Elution with the same solvent mixture gave first an orange band comprising a mixture of 3a and 3b in approximately 4:1 proportion, followed by a green band. Solvent was removed from the green eluate in vacuo, and the residue dissolved in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (1 cm<sup>3</sup>). Addition of light petroleum (c. 5 cm<sup>3</sup>) to the rapidly stirring solution afforded green microcrystals of  $[MoPt(\mu-H){\mu-\sigma:\eta^5-C_2B_9H_7(CH_2C_6 H_4Me-4)Me_2$  (CO)<sub>2</sub> (PEt<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (4) (0.06 g).

# Reactions of $[NEt_4][Mo(\equiv CC_6H_4Me-4)(CO)_2(\eta^5-C_2B_9H_9Me_2)]$ with $[PtMe(thf)(PEt_3)_2][BF_4]$

(i) A mixture of the compounds 1a (0.21 g, 0.38 mmol), cis-[PtCl(Me)(PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph)<sub>2</sub>] (0.20 g, 0.38 mmol) and TlBF<sub>4</sub> (0.15 g, 0.60 mmol) was stirred in thf (20 cm<sup>3</sup>) at room temperature for 16 h. The suspension was allowed to settle, and the supernatant solution was decanted. The residue was washed with thf (2×5 cm<sup>3</sup>) and the washings combined with the solution. Solvent was removed *in vacuo*, the residue redissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (6 cm<sup>3</sup>), and the solution chromatographed. Elution with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> gave a dark red eluate. Removal of solvent *in vacuo* gave red microcrystals which were found to be a c. 4:1 mixture of [MoPt( $\mu$ -CC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Me-4)( $\mu$ - $\sigma$ : $\eta^{5}$ -C<sub>2</sub>B<sub>9</sub>H<sub>8</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>)(CO)<sub>3</sub>(PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph)] (5a) and [MoPt( $\mu$ -

 $CC_6H_4Me-4)(\mu-\sigma:\eta^5-C_2B_9H_8Me_2)(CO)_2(PMe_2Ph)_2]$ (5b) (0.16 g).

(ii) A mixture of **5a** and **5b** (0.10 g), prepared as described above, was treated with an excess of PMe<sub>2</sub>Ph (0.20 cm<sup>3</sup>) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 cm<sup>3</sup>). Following gas evolution, the solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the residue was washed with light petroleum  $(3 \times 15 \text{ cm}^3)$  to yield red microcrystals of pure **5b** (0.11 g).

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