

Ambidentate Pyridyl-carboxylate Ligands in the **Coordination-Driven Self-Assembly of 2D Pt Macrocycles:** Self-Selection for a Single Isomer

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Abstract: The coordination-driven self-assembly of discrete 2D macrocyclic species from ambidentate pyridyl-carboxylate-based donor ligands and platinum-containing acceptors is presented. All these species are characterized by electrospray ionization mass spectrometry (ESIMS), multinuclear NMR, and in one example, X-ray crystallography. In each case only one isomeric assembly is selectively formed in high yield, despite the potential for more than one product as a consequence of differences in connectivity.

Introduction

The rational design and self-assembly of large discrete supramolecules from simple precursors has been extensively studied.^{1–12} In particular, the coordination bonding motif of pyridyl-based ligands with platinum and palladium acceptors has proven very useful for constructing a wide array of architectures. Recently, rigid oxygen donor linkers were incorporated into neutral 2D Pt-containing macrocycles.13,14 Most assemblies prepared to date are highly symmetrical in nature as they are built from simple homodi- and tridentate pyridine-containing donors and metal acceptors. In fact, we are aware of only one example of a molecular square incorporating an ambidentate ligand, 4-isonicotinate (1a).¹⁵ The hydrogen-bond-mediated selfassembly of discrete and polymeric arrays from bis-platinum complexes containing nicotinamide and nicotinic and isonicotinic acids was also reported recently.¹⁶ The chemistry of some elongated derivatives of 1a, namely sodium 4-(4-pyridyl)benzoate (1b), potassium 4-(4-pyridylethynyl)benzoate (1c), and their free acids, is limited to studies on crystal engineering,¹⁷

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supramolecular self-assembly on metal surfaces,18,19 and amorphous glass substrates in high vacuum.²⁰ One problem inherent in the design of lower symmetry discrete self-assembled species containing this type of ligand is the possibility of linkage isomerism. The result is a larger number of potential products, constitutional isomers that differ only in connectivity. The simplest approach is the combination of an ambidentate ligand (X-Y)with a homotopic bidentate acceptor in a 1:1 ratio (Scheme 1), where only two cyclic products (A/B or C/D) are possible in each case.

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We were interested in the self-assembly outcome between ambidentate ligands 1 and platinum-containing acceptors 4 and 5 (shown in Scheme 2). Particularly interesting is the question of self-recognition and self-selection for one or the other of the two possible constitutional isomers. Herein we report that, despite the possibility of product mixtures, essentially a single ensemble is formed in high yield in each case.

Results and Discussion

The self-assembly processes were all performed in the same general manner. A 1:1 acetone- d_6/D_2O solution of ligand 1 and a particular organoplatinum 4 or 5 was either stirred at room temperature (4) or heated at 60 °C (5) for up to 2.5 h, followed by anion exchange with KPF₆ (except 3a) to precipitate the products 2 and 3 in high yield.

NMR spectroscopy was initially used to characterize the ensembles. The ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectra of **2** displayed two coupled doublets (**2a**, 6.65, 2.05 ppm, ² $J_{P-P} = 21.2$ Hz; **2b**, 6.79, 1.84 ppm, ² $J_{P-P} = 21.6$ Hz, Figure 1; **2c**, 7.47, 2.15 ppm, ² $J_{P-P} = 21.4$ Hz) of approximately equal intensity with concomitant ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites. The signals near 2 ppm are shifted

approximately 4 ppm upfield relative to 4 due to back-donation from the platinum centers. These phosphorus nuclei are trans to the pyridine ring. In contrast, coordination of the carboxylate group does not result in a large ³¹P chemical shift change. Assemblies 2, which are representative of topology A (Scheme 1), contain two inequivalent (and thus coupled) phosphorus nuclei bound to the same platinum atom. This is consistent with our data. The other possible macrocyclic product B also possesses two inequivalent phosphorus nuclei; these are bound to different platinum atoms. The ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum of this species would show two uncoupled signals with shifts and intensities similar to what is observed. In the ¹H NMR spectra of 2, a multiplet near 8.9 ppm for the pyridine hydrogens adjacent to the nitrogen nucleus is shifted approximately 0.5 ppm to lower field relative to 1, consistent with the loss of electron density that occurs upon coordination.

The ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$ NMR spectra of **3** gave two sharp singlets (**3a**, 12.77, 7.38 ppm; 3b, 13.00, 8.00 ppm; 3c, 12.43, 7.70 ppm) of equal intensity with concomitant 195Pt satellites. The upfield shift of the signals near 8 ppm relative to 5 shows they are bound to the platinum nucleus coordinated to the pyridine rings. In this case, the ³¹P NMR data are insufficient for distinguishing the products 3 (topology C in Scheme 1) from their isomeric relatives **D**. This problem was initially solved by examination of the ¹H NMR spectra. One unique feature of assemblies **3** is the presence of an inversion center in the middle of the molecule. Consequently, **3** has only one type of H_9 and H_{10} anthracene proton nuclei, while isomer **D** has two types. The ¹H NMR spectrum reveals one signal each for H₉ (3a, 9.83 ppm; 3b, 10.06 ppm; **3c**, 9.95 ppm, Figure 2) and H₁₀ (**3a**, 8.31 ppm; **3b**, 8.39 ppm, part of multiplet; 3c, 8.38 ppm). Given the sharpness of these signals and good spectral resolution, we are confident they do *not* represent an accidental equivalence of both H_9 and H_{10} nuclei for isomer D. Two sets of doublets corresponding to the pyridyl hydrogens highlighted the restricted rotation of these rings once the macrocycle is formed, thus creating different inner and outer environments, consistent with previous observations in related systems.²¹

X-ray crystallography confirmed that the NMR assignment of **3** was indeed topology **C**. Diffraction-quality single crystals of **3a** were grown by vapor diffusion of hexane into a chloroform solution of the assembly. Crystallographic data and refinement parameters are listed in Table 1. Although the isonicotinate moieties show significant disorder in the rectangle **3a**, there is no doubt as to their head-to-tail orientation (Figure 3a). Three molecules of disordered CHCl₃ per unit cell were also found.

The packing pattern of **3a** in the solid state is also shown in Figure 3. When viewed along the *b* axis (Figure 3b), the isonicotinate moieties from neighboring rectangles are superimposed and are separated by 14.8 Å. A system of channels is also obvious. One nitrate anion is located halfway between the charged platinum nuclei of two adjacent ensembles, while the other can be found in the middle of each channel. The assemblies are arranged in an intercalating fashion so that the closest anthracene groups are approximately 8.7 Å apart. Each individual rectangle shows significant deviation from planarity (Figure 3c).

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Figure 2. ¹H NMR spectrum of 3c.

Further evidence for the structures of 2 and 3 was obtained with electrospray ionization mass spectrometry (ESIMS). Ensembles 2a,b and 3a,b were analyzed as their nitrate salts, whereas 2c and 3c were analyzed as the hexafluorophosphate salts after anion exchange. For 2, peaks were observed corresponding to the intact structure minus one counterion: [2a - $NO_3^{-}]^+$ (*m*/*z* 1169), [**2b** - $NO_3^{-}]^+$ (*m*/*z* 1321), and [**2c** - PF_6^{-} ⁺ (*m*/z 1451). In the case of **3**, peaks were found attributable to the consecutive loss of counterions: [3a - $NO_3^{-}]^+$ (*m*/*z* 2384), [**3a** - 2NO_3^{-}]^{2+} (*m*/*z* 1161); [**3b** - NO_3^{-}]^+ $(m/z \ 2535)$, $[3b - 2NO_3^-]^{2+}$ $(m/z \ 1237)$; and $[3c - PF_6^-]^+$

 $(m/z \ 2666, \text{ Figure 4}), \ [3c - 2PF_6^-]^{2+} (m/z \ 1261).$ These were all isotopically resolved and are in excellent agreement with their theoretical distributions.

All reactions gave one predominant species with few minor byproducts evident in the NMR spectra. There are two small peaks (<5%) near 14 and 9 ppm in the ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectra of 3 which we were unable to assign. Their sharp appearance suggests they are not oligomeric in nature. They may belong to isomeric assembly **D**.

Formation of isomer \mathbf{B} is highly unfavorable with regard to strain energy. The ideal N-Pt-N bond angle is approximately

Table 1. Crystallographic Data and Refinement Parameters for 3a

formula	$C_{91}H_{147}Cl_9N_4O_{10}P_8Pt_4$
formula weight	2804.30
temp (K)	150(1)
λ (Å)	0.71073
crystal system	triclinic
space group	$P\overline{1}$
a (Å)	13.1654(2)
b (Å)	14.8448(2)
c (Å)	16.6288(3)
α (deg)	70.9567(6)
β (deg)	69.6170(7)
γ (deg)	74.8414(14)
$V(Å^3)$	2839.31(8)
Ζ	1
D_{calc} (g/cm ³)	1.640
$\mu ({\rm mm}^{-1})$	5.287
F(000)	1386
reflections collected	20964
independent reflections	13409
max and min trans	0.4178 and 0.2999
$R1 \left[I > 2\sigma(I) \right]$	0.0815
wR2	0.2272

90°. Due to the rigidity of 1, this angle, or anything close to it, is virtually impossible to obtain in the closed system **B**. We illustrate this by using the MM2 force field simulation²² to optimize some intermediates which may be involved in the formation of 2b and its isomer B (Figure 5). Structures E and **F** are precursors to **B**. They are formed when 2 equiv of **1b** bond to a single platinum atom via their pyridyl (E) or carboxyl (F) termini. The largest distance between the carboxyl oxygen atoms is 14.7 Å in the case of E, while in F 7.5 Å separates the pyridine nitrogens. The analogous gap in G (with one pyridyl and one carboxyl group bound to the same platinum) is only 4.5 Å. Our experimental results show that in these systems closed structures are preferred over oligomers. Of the three intermediates E-G, G has the best arrangement of uncoordinated termini to form a closed macrocycle upon reaction with a second platinum center and does not experience the same repulsive forces that presumably occur in ${\bf E}$ and ${\bf F}$ as two ends of similar polarity approach each other in space. Charge distribution is also a factor in the orientation 1b adopts as it approaches an intermediate structure comprised of a single unit of 1b spanning two platinum nuclei. In this case, the head-totail orientation of the 1b units (topology A) maximizes the charge separation as the closed assembly 2b forms. We believe these intermediate geometries and polarity considerations are the major reasons why 2 is selectively formed instead of **B**. Clearly, the formal charge of 1+ on the pyridine nitrogens is more widely separated in the closed macrocycles 2 and 3 than in their isomers **B** and **D**.

Several unsuccessful attempts were made at synthesizing open-chain intermediates **E** and **F** to examine the possible stepwise formation of products. When **4** was reacted with **1b** (either 2.2 equiv or in excess), ill-defined product mixtures resulted (NMR) from which no simple product could be isolated. This was also true when the free acid of **1b** ($M = H^+$) was used. Reaction of clip **5** with **1b** (similar stoichiometries) resulted in polymer formation. However, when excess free acid **1b** ($M = H^+$) was used, the ³¹P{¹H}</sup> NMR spectrum displayed one predominant peak at 8.8 ppm consistent with an open-chain structure composed of one clip **5** with two pyridine-bound



Figure 3. (a) ORTEP drawing (30% probability ellipsoids) of **3a**. (b) Packing diagram when viewed along the b axis. (c) Another orientation highlights the nonplanarity of each ensemble. Solvent molecules, hydrogen atoms, and the phosphine ethyl groups are omitted from all illustrations for clarity. Nitrate anions are shown in (b) only as CPK models.

ligands **1b**. Unfortunately, the workup was complicated by excess **1b** ($M = H^+$) and decomposition of the product before it could be isolated.

In conclusion, we have prepared discrete macrocycles 2 and 3 from ambidentate donor ligands 1 and platinum-containing acceptors 4 and 5. Despite the possibility of forming multiple products that differ only in connectivity, ambidentate ligands 1 and acceptors 4 and 5 prefer to self-assemble predominantly into one closed species. They are another important example of the relatively few discrete supramolecules made from ambidentate ligands via coordination-driven transition-metal-mediated self-assembly. These results also provide further insights into the coordination driven self-assembly process. Moreover, they demonstrate that ambidentate ligands can be used in the self-assembly of discrete metallacycles with some

⁽²²⁾ CS Chem3D Ultra 7.0.0; CambridgeSoft Corp., 2001.



Figure 4. ESIMS of 3c.



Figure 5. Possible intermediates leading to 2b optimized with the MM2 force field simulation.²² All distances are in Å. Atom key: green, Pt; pink, P; blue, N; red, O; gray, C. Hydrogens are omitted for clarity.

predictability as a consequence of preferred self-recognition due to charge separation as well as strain.

Experimental Section

Methods and Materials. Isonicotinic acid was purchased from Aldrich. The free acid of $1c^{20}$ was synthesized by the published procedure. These acids were dissolved in an aqueous solution containing 1 equiv of the appropriate alkali metal hydroxide. Evaporation of the solvent afforded a quantitative recovery of 1. Ligand 1b²³ and organoplatinum compounds 4²⁴ and 5²¹ were prepared as reported. Deuterated solvents were purchased from Cambridge Isotope Laboratories. All NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Unity 300 spectrometer. ¹H and ³¹P{¹H} NMR chemical shifts are reported relative

to the residual protons of acetone- d_6 (2.05 ppm) and an external, unlocked sample of H₃PO₄ (0.0 ppm), respectively. ESI mass spectra were recorded on a Micromass Quattro II triple-quadrupole mass spectrometer with Micromass MassLynx operating system. Elemental analyses were performed by Atlantic Microlab, Norcross, GA.

X-ray Data Collection, Structure Solution, and Refinement. A yellow prism-shaped crystal of **3a** (0.30 \times 0.25 \times 0.20 mm) was mounted on a glass fiber with traces of viscous oil and then transferred to a Nonius KappaCCD diffractometer equipped with Mo Ka radiation $(\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ Å})$. Ten frames of data were collected at 150(1) K with an oscillation range of 1 deg/frame and an exposure time of 20 s/frame.25 Indexing and unit cell refinement were based on all observed reflection from those 10 frames. The structure was solved by a combination of direct and heavy-atom methods using SIR 97.26 All of the non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic displacement coefficients. Hydrogen atoms were assigned isotropic displacement coefficients U(H) =1.2U(C) or 1.5U(Cmethyl), and their coordinates were allowed to ride on their respective carbons using SHELXL97.27 The weighting scheme employed was $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_0^2) + (0.1462P)^2 + 26.9617P]$, where P = $(F_0^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$. Scattering factors were taken from the International Tables for Crystallography, Volume C.28,29 The disordered assembly is sitting on an inversion center.

General Procedure for the Preparation of Assemblies 2 and 3. The platinum acceptor (4, 9 μ mol; 5, 5 μ mol) and ambidentate ligand 1 (1 equiv) were placed in a 1-dram vial. Acetone- d_6 (0.5 mL) and D₂O (0.5 mL) were added. The vial was sealed with Teflon tape and the reaction stirred at room temperature for 2 h (4) or heated in an oil bath at 60 °C for 2.5 h (5). NMR spectroscopy was used to follow the progress of the reaction. In all cases (except 3a) excess KPF₆ was added

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to precipitate the product, which was collected, washed with water, and then dried in vacuo.

2a: yield 92%; ¹H NMR (acetone- d_6 /D₂O, 300 MHz) δ 8.89 (m, 4H, H_{α -P_y}), 7.79 (m, 4H, H_{β -P_y}), 1.98 (m, 24H, PCH₂), 1.26 (m, 36H, PCH₂CH₃); ³¹P{¹H} NMR (acetone- d_6 /D₂O, 121 MHz) δ 6.65 (d, ²J_{P-P} = 21.2 Hz, ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites ¹J_{Pt-P} = 3208 Hz, PCH₂CH₃), 2.05 (d, ²J_{P-P} = 21.3 Hz, ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites ¹J_{Pt-P} = 3511 Hz, PCH₂CH₃), -142.7 (septet, ¹J_{P-F} = 707 Hz, PF₆⁻). Anal. Calcd for C₃₆H₆₈F₁₂N₂O₄P₆Pt₂: C, 30.95; H, 4.91; N, 2.01. Found: C, 31.06; H, 5.00; N, 2.02.

2b: yield 97%; ¹H NMR (acetone- d_6 , 300 MHz) δ 8.93 (m, 4H, $H_{\alpha-Py}$), 7.95 (d, ${}^{3}J = 5.8$ Hz, 4H, $H_{\beta-Py}$), 7.81 (d, ${}^{3}J = 8.6$ Hz, 4H, H_{phenyl}), 7.75 (d, ${}^{3}J = 8.6$ Hz, 4H, H_{phenyl}), 2.06 (m, 24H, PCH₂), 1.33 (m, 36H, PCH₂CH₃); ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$ NMR (acetone- d_6 , 121 MHz) δ 6.79 (d, ${}^{2}J_{P-P} = 21.6$ Hz, ${}^{195}Pt$ satellites ${}^{1}J_{Pt-P} = 3238$ Hz, PCH₂CH₃), 1.84 (d, ${}^{2}J_{P-P} = 21.3$ Hz, ${}^{195}Pt$ satellites ${}^{1}J_{Pt-P} = 3468$ Hz, PCH₂CH₃), -142.7 (septet, ${}^{1}J_{P-F} = 707$ Hz, PF₆⁻). Anal. Calcd for C₄₈H₇₆F₁₂N₂O₄P₆Pt₂: C, 37.22; H, 4.95; N, 1.81. Found: C, 37.57; H, 5.09; N, 1.73.

2c: yield 95%; ¹H NMR (acetone- d_6 , 300 MHz) δ 8.97 (m, 4H, $H_{\alpha-Py}$), 7.79 (m, 4H, H_{phenyl}), 7.71 (dd, ³J = 6.7 Hz, ⁴J = 1.0 Hz, 4H, $H_{\beta-Py}$), 7.51 (m, 4H, H_{phenyl}), 2.05 (m, 24H, PCH₂), 1.32 (m, 36H, PCH₂CH₃); ³¹P{¹H} NMR (acetone- d_6 , 121 MHz) δ 7.47 (d, ² J_{P-P} = 21.4 Hz, ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites ¹ J_{Pt-P} = 3228 Hz, PCH₂CH₃), 2.15 (d, ² J_{P-P} = 21.5 Hz, ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites ¹ J_{Pt-P} = 3446 Hz, PCH₂CH₃), -142.7 (septet, ¹ J_{P-F} = 707 Hz, PF₆⁻). Anal. Calcd for C₅₂H₇₆F₁₂N₂O₄P₆Pt₂·H₂O: C, 38.67; H, 4.87; N, 1.73. Found: C, 38.44; H, 4.79; N, 1.67.

3a: yield 94%; ¹H NMR (acetone-*d*₆/D₂O, 300 MHz) δ 9.83 (s, 2H, H₉), 9.72 (d, ³*J* = 5.5 Hz, 2H, H_{α-Py}), 9.18 (d, ³*J* = 5.4 Hz, 2H, H_{α'-Py}), 8.38 (m, 4H, H_{β-Py}), 8.31 (s, 2H, H₁₀), 7.69–7.59 (m, 8H, H_{2,4,5,7}), 7.13 (t, ³*J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H, H₃ or H₆), 7.06 (t, ³*J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H, H₆ or H₃), 1.51 (m, 48H, PCH₂), 0.87 (m, 72H, PCH₂CH₃); ³¹P{¹H} NMR (acetone-*d*₆/D₂O, 121 MHz) δ 12.77 (s, ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites, ¹*J*_{Pt-P} = 2855 Hz, COO-Pt-PCH₂CH₃), 7.38 (s, ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites, ¹*J*_{Pt-P} = 2686 Hz, Py-Pt-PCH₂CH₃). Anal. Calcd for C₈₈H₁₄₄N₄O₁₀P₈Pt₄·3H₂O: C, 42.27; H, 6.05; N, 2.24. Found: C, 42.04; H, 5.75; N, 2.21.

3b: yield 93%; ¹H NMR (acetone- d_6 , 300 MHz) δ 10.06 (s, 2H, H₉), 9.96 (d, ³*J* = 6.1 Hz, 2H, H_{\alpha-Py}), 9.14 (d, ³*J* = 5.8 Hz, 2H, H_{\alpha'-Py}), 8.39 (m, 8H, H_{β-Py}, H₁₀ and H_{phenyl}), 8.03 (d, ³*J* = 8.3 Hz, 4H, H_{phenyl}), 7.92 (d, ³*J* = 6.2 Hz, 2H, H_{β'-Py}), 7.78–7.67 (m, 8H, H_{2,4,5,7}), 7.19 (t, ³*J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H, H₃ or H₆), 7.12 (t, ³*J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H, H₆ or H₃), 1.68 (m, 48H, PCH₂), 0.98 (m, 72H, PCH₂CH₃); ³¹P{¹H} NMR (acetone- d_6 , 121 MHz) δ 13.00 (s, ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites, ¹*J*_{Pt-P} = 2910 Hz, COO-Pt-PCH₂CH₃), 8.00 (s, ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites, ¹*J*_{Pt-P} = 2699 Hz, Py-Pt-PCH₂CH₃), -142.7 (septet, ¹*J*_{P-F} = 707 Hz, PF₆⁻). Anal. Calcd for C₁₀₀H₁₅₂F₁₂N₂O₄P₁₀Pt₄: C, 43.45; H, 5.54; N, 1.01. Found: C, 43.21; H, 5.53; N, 0.96.

3c: yield 97%; ¹H NMR (acetone- d_6 , 300 MHz) δ 10.08 (d, ³J = 5.7 Hz, 2H, H_{α -Py}), 9.95 (s, 2H, H₉), 9.10 (d, ³J = 5.7 Hz, 2H, H_{α' -Py}), 8.38 (s, 2H, H₁₀), 8.30 (m, 4H, H_{phenyl}), 8.00 (dd, ³J = 5.7 Hz, ⁴J = 1.8 Hz, 2H, H_{β -Py}), 7.88 (m, 4H, H_{phenyl}), 7.81 (dd, ³J = 5.7 Hz, ⁴J = 1.8 Hz, 2H, H_{β '-Py}), 7.76–7.67 (m, 8H, H_{2,4.5.7}), 7.18 (dd, ³J = 8.2 Hz, ³J = 7.0 Hz, 2H, H₃ or H₆), 7.11 (dd, ³J = 8.0 Hz, ³J = 6.8 Hz, 2H, H₆ or H₃), 1.67 (m, 48H, PCH₂), 0.95 (m, 72H, PCH₂CH₃); ³¹P{¹H} NMR (acetone- d_6 , 121 MHz) δ 12.43 (s, ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites, ¹ J_{Pt-P} = 2915 Hz, COO–Pt–PCH₂CH₃), 7.70 (s, ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites, ¹ J_{Pt-P} = 2695 Hz, Py–Pt–PCH₂CH₃), -142.7 (septet, ¹ J_{P-F} = 707 Hz, PF₆⁻). Anal. Calcd for C₁₀₄H₁₅₂F₁₂N₂O₄P₁₀Pt₄·H₂O: C, 44.13; H, 5.48; N, 0.99. Found: C, 43.88; H, 5.44; N, 0.97.

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Supporting Information Available: NMR and mass spectral data for assemblies **2** nd **3** (PDF); X-ray crystallographic data of **3a** (CIF). This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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