

## Heterocyclic Nitrogen-containing Electron-pair Donor Ligands: A Thermochemical Study of Adducts with Zinc, Cadmium, and Mercury Chlorides

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The standard enthalpies ( $\Delta H_R^\circ$ /kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>) of the reactions  $MCl_2(s) + nL(s,l) \longrightarrow MCl_2 \cdot nL(s)$  for ligands pyridine (py), 2,2'-bipyridine (bipy), and 1,10-phenanthroline (phen) were measured calorimetrically at 298.15 K, giving: ZnCl<sub>2</sub>·2py,  $-116.1 \pm 1.0$ ; CdCl<sub>2</sub>·py,  $-46.8 \pm 0.5$ ; HgCl<sub>2</sub>·py,  $-43.4 \pm 0.4$ ; ZnCl<sub>2</sub>·bipy,  $-82.9 \pm 0.5$ ; CdCl<sub>2</sub>·bipy,  $-53.9 \pm 1.6$ ; HgCl<sub>2</sub>·bipy,  $-37.7 \pm 0.9$ ; ZnCl<sub>2</sub>·phen,  $-83.5 \pm 1.5$ ; CdCl<sub>2</sub>·phen,  $-61.7 \pm 1.7$ ; and HgCl<sub>2</sub>·phen,  $-60.0 \pm 1.6$ . The standard enthalpy of formation of bipy ( $216.4 \pm 7.4$  kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>) was derived by combustion calorimetry, while that for phen ( $354$  kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>) was obtained by an estimative calculation method. The standard enthalpies of formation of the adducts were calculated, showing a decrease from zinc to mercury, and for each metal chloride the decrease py > bipy > phen was observed. The standard enthalpies of sublimation of the ligands bipy and phen were calculated, giving 67 and 65 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. The standard enthalpy of the metal–nitrogen bond,  $\bar{D}(M-N)$ , was calculated by assuming the equivalence of each bond in a bidentate ligand. Values of  $\bar{D}(M-N)$  for adducts of bidentate ligands were lower than the corresponding ones of pyridine.

Heterocyclic nitrogen-containing electron-pair donor ligands such as pyridine (py), 2,2'-bipyridine (bipy), and 1,10-phenanthroline (phen) are extensively cited in co-ordination chemistry literature due to their great ability to combine with the majority of metals ions.<sup>1</sup> During this interactive process the ligand electron pair is donated to a metal to form an adduct. Neglecting other features of the complex formed, phen maintains its planarity, while bipy almost always presents a non-planar structure. The co-ordinating characteristics of these ligands are displayed by displacement of the main bands in the i.r. region.<sup>2</sup>

The great majority of publications involving metal complexes of py, bipy, and phen have been directed to the preparation, characterization of the complexes, and related spectroscopic studies. For example, the preparation, properties, and i.r. spectra of the adducts  $MCl_2 \cdot nL$  ( $L = \text{py, bipy, or phen; } M = \text{Zn, Cd, or Hg; } n = 1 \text{ or } 2$ ) have been extensively studied.<sup>3</sup> The same sort of systematic approach has been applied to cationic methylmercury(II) compounds,  $[\text{HgMeL}][\text{NO}_3]$ , for all three ligands. In this case, complementary <sup>1</sup>H n.m.r. data suggested that the metal is located in a three-co-ordinated site for the bipy complex in solution.<sup>4</sup>

Some interesting features are related to the structure of mercury adducts. The dimeric form of HgBr<sub>2</sub>·bipy has been described as having the metal in either a four- or a five-co-ordination site, with the anions in bridging or in terminal positions.<sup>5</sup> On the other hand, HgCl<sub>2</sub>·2py formed a polymeric one-dimensional array of *trans*-HgCl<sub>4</sub>N<sub>2</sub> octahedra, sharing two opposite edges, while HgX<sub>2</sub>·2py ( $X = \text{Br or I}$ ) formed discrete pseudo-tetrahedral molecules.<sup>6</sup>

The <sup>13</sup>C n.m.r. spectra of  $MCl_2 \cdot 2py$  ( $M = \text{Zn, Cd, or Hg}$ ) compounds suggested a  $\pi$ -cloud delocalization in the ring of the adducts,<sup>7</sup> considerably different from that of the free ligand. <sup>113</sup>Cd n.m.r. spectra for CdX<sub>2</sub>·2bipy ( $X = \text{Cl or Br}$ ) showed two different cationic species, with each metal separated by the van der Waals distance, resulting in a near octahedral co-ordination.<sup>8</sup>

Thermal studies of adducts are scarce. A relevant publication in this field is concerned with the determination of the enthalpy

of decomposition of  $\text{CoX}_2 \cdot nL$  ( $n = 2 \text{ or } 4; X = \text{Cl, Br, or I; } L = \text{py, 2-, 3-, or 4-methylpyridine, aniline, or quinoline}$ ) by means of a quantitative thermal differential analysis.<sup>9</sup> This study was also extended to pyridine and quinoline first-row transition-metal halide adducts,  $\text{MX}_2 \cdot 2L$ , in which zinc and cadmium were included. Nevertheless, the enthalpy of decomposition for ZnCl<sub>2</sub>·2py was not obtained.<sup>10</sup>

The acidity properties of mercury halides were reviewed recently.<sup>11</sup> In particular, the thermodynamic data for the formation of 1:1 complexes in benzene solution were reported for mercury chloride interacting with heterocyclic ligands like py, 2-methylpyridine, 4-methylpyridine, or bipy.

In the light of the above and considering the lack of thermochemical data involving adducts of  $MCl_2$  ( $M = \text{Zn, Cd, or Hg}$ ) with the above mentioned ligands, this paper reports some calorimetric studies of the adducts ZnCl<sub>2</sub>·2py,  $MCl_2 \cdot py$  ( $M = \text{Cd or Hg}$ ),  $MCl_2 \cdot bipy$ , and  $MCl_2 \cdot phen$  ( $M = \text{Zn, Cd, or Hg}$ ).

### Experimental

**Reagents.**—Pyridine was dried over potassium hydroxide before distilling for use. 2,2'-Bipyridine (Sigma) was recrystallized from anhydrous ethanol. Hemihydrated 1,10-phenanthroline (Carlo Erba) was dehydrated by standing in a desiccator over sulphuric acid for several hours. All solvents for calorimetric determinations were dried according to standard procedures. Anhydrous zinc and cadmium chlorides were prepared as previously described.<sup>12</sup> Mercury chloride (E. Merck) was dried *in vacuo* before use.

**Preparation of the Adducts.**—These preparations were carried out with pure chemical grade reagents. Operations involving air-sensitive compounds were carried out either *in vacuo* or in a dry-box under an atmosphere of dried nitrogen.<sup>13</sup> All the adducts were prepared similarly. The method for obtaining CdCl<sub>2</sub>·py illustrates the general procedure.

To a solution of CdCl<sub>2</sub> (0.699 g, 3.81 mmol) in ethanol (5.0 cm<sup>3</sup>) was added dropwise, with stirring, pyridine (0.355 cm<sup>3</sup>,

**Table 1.** Molar enthalpies of dissolution at 298.15 K; the number is associated with the individual enthalpies used in the calculation  $\Delta H_R^\circ = n\Delta H_1^\circ + \Delta H_2^\circ - \Delta H_3^\circ$ 

Number	Reaction*	$\Delta H^\circ/\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$
1	py(l) + EtOH $\longrightarrow$ py(EtOH)	-1.73 $\pm$ 0.03
2	ZnCl <sub>2</sub> (s) + 2py(EtOH) $\longrightarrow$ ZnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2py(EtOH)	-45.49 $\pm$ 0.66
3	ZnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2py(s) + EtOH $\longrightarrow$ ZnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2py(EtOH)	67.13 $\pm$ 0.71
1	py(l) + (HNO <sub>3</sub> 2 mol dm <sup>-3</sup> ) $\longrightarrow$ py(HNO <sub>3</sub> 2 mol dm <sup>-3</sup> )	-33.07 $\pm$ 0.43
2	CdCl <sub>2</sub> (s) + py(HNO <sub>3</sub> 2 mol dm <sup>-3</sup> ) $\longrightarrow$ CdCl <sub>2</sub> ·py(HNO <sub>3</sub> 2 mol dm <sup>-3</sup> )	-4.29 $\pm$ 0.13
3	CdCl <sub>2</sub> ·py(s) + (HNO <sub>3</sub> mol dm <sup>-3</sup> ) $\longrightarrow$ CdCl <sub>2</sub> ·py(HNO <sub>3</sub> mol dm <sup>-3</sup> )	9.40 $\pm$ 0.19
1	py(l) + EtOH $\longrightarrow$ py(EtOH)	-1.73 $\pm$ 0.03
2	HgCl <sub>2</sub> (s) + py(EtOH) $\longrightarrow$ HgCl <sub>2</sub> ·py(EtOH)	-1.27 $\pm$ 0.01
3	HgCl <sub>2</sub> ·py(s) + EtOH $\longrightarrow$ HgCl <sub>2</sub> ·py(EtOH)	40.39 $\pm$ 0.44
1	bipy(s) + (MeOH + HCl 0.5 mol dm <sup>-3</sup> ) $\longrightarrow$ bipy(MeOH + HCl 0.5 mol dm <sup>-3</sup> )	-9.93 $\pm$ 0.13
2	ZnCl <sub>2</sub> (s) + bipy(MeOH + HCl 0.5 mol dm <sup>-3</sup> ) $\longrightarrow$ ZnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy(MeOH + HCl 0.5 mol dm <sup>-3</sup> )	-34.05 $\pm$ 0.15
3	ZnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy(s) + (MeOH + HCl 0.5 mol dm <sup>-3</sup> ) $\longrightarrow$ ZnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy(MeOH + HCl 0.5 mol dm <sup>-3</sup> )	38.94 $\pm$ 0.47
1	bipy(s) + (1 NH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH + 3 EtOH) $\longrightarrow$ bipy(1 NH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH + 3 EtOH)	21.41 $\pm$ 0.22
2	CdCl <sub>2</sub> (s) + bipy(1 NH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH + 3 EtOH) $\longrightarrow$ CdCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy(1 NH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH + 3 EtOH)	-101.83 $\pm$ 1.49
3	CdCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy(s) + (1 NH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH + 3 EtOH) $\longrightarrow$ CdCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy(1 NH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH + 3 EtOH)	-26.51 $\pm$ 0.39
1	bipy(s) + (MeOH + HNO <sub>3</sub> 2.5 mol dm <sup>-3</sup> ) $\longrightarrow$ bipy(MeOH + HNO <sub>3</sub> 2.5 mol dm <sup>-3</sup> )	-29.09 $\pm$ 0.78
2	HgCl <sub>2</sub> (s) + bipy(MeOH + HNO <sub>3</sub> 2.5 mol dm <sup>-3</sup> ) $\longrightarrow$ HgCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy(MeOH + HNO <sub>3</sub> 2.5 mol dm <sup>-3</sup> )	11.44 $\pm$ 0.29
3	HgCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy(s) + (MeOH + HNO <sub>3</sub> 2.5 mol dm <sup>-3</sup> ) $\longrightarrow$ HgCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy(MeOH + HNO <sub>3</sub> 2.5 mol dm <sup>-3</sup> )	20.09 $\pm$ 0.35
1	phen(s) + (HNO <sub>3</sub> 2 mol dm <sup>-3</sup> ) $\longrightarrow$ phen(HNO <sub>3</sub> 2 mol dm <sup>-3</sup> )	-20.31 $\pm$ 0.32
2	ZnCl <sub>2</sub> (s) + phen(HNO <sub>3</sub> 2 mol dm <sup>-3</sup> ) $\longrightarrow$ ZnCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen(HNO <sub>3</sub> mol dm <sup>-3</sup> )	-55.89 $\pm$ 1.50
3	ZnCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen(s) + (HNO <sub>3</sub> 2 mol dm <sup>-3</sup> ) $\longrightarrow$ ZnCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen(HNO <sub>3</sub> 2 mol dm <sup>-3</sup> )	7.29 $\pm$ 0.10
1	phen(s) + (1 NH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH + 3 EtOH) $\longrightarrow$ phen(1 NH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH + 3 EtOH)	9.61 $\pm$ 0.41
2	CdCl <sub>2</sub> (s) + phen(1 NH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH + 3 EtOH) $\longrightarrow$ CdCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen(1 NH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH + 3 EtOH)	-104.42 $\pm$ 1.38
3	CdCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen(s) + (1 NH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH + 3 EtOH) $\longrightarrow$ CdCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen(1 NH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH + 3 EtOH)	-33.09 $\pm$ 0.80
1	phen(s) + (1 NH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH + 3 dmsO) $\longrightarrow$ phen(1 NH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH + 3 dmsO)	11.35 $\pm$ 0.23
2	HgCl <sub>2</sub> (s) + phen(1 NH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH + 3 dmsO) $\longrightarrow$ HgCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen(1 NH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH + 3 dmsO)	-132.13 $\pm$ 1.56
3	HgCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen(s) + (1 NH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH + 3 dmsO) $\longrightarrow$ HgCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen(1 NH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH + 3 dmsO)	-60.74 $\pm$ 0.16

\* dmsO = Dimethyl sulphoxide.

12.6 mmol) dissolved in ethanol (5.0 cm<sup>3</sup>). A white solid appeared immediately, and the reaction was complete upon ending the addition. The resulting solution was stirred magnetically for a further 2 h. The precipitate was filtered off, washed three times with anhydrous ethanol, and dried *in vacuo* for several hours. Attempts to prepare adducts of different stoichiometry with the same metal chloride were unsuccessful. Metal<sup>14</sup> or chloride<sup>15</sup> analysis for the zinc and cadmium adducts gave very satisfactory results. For the insoluble adducts of mercury chloride, elemental analyses of carbon, nitrogen, and hydrogen were made.

**Calorimetry.**—A static calorimetric bomb system (Veb Aparatenban, Babelsberg) was used for the determination of the enthalpy of combustion of bipy, for which the calibration and general procedure have been described before.<sup>12</sup> In all experiments the calorimetric bomb, with 250-cm<sup>3</sup> internal capacity, was charged with 30 atm of oxygen (1 atm = 101 325 Pa). The equivalent energy of the calorimeter  $E = 101 40 \pm 8 \text{ J K}^{-1}$  was determined from the combustion of samples of benzoic acid, for which  $\Delta U_c = -(26 435.1 \pm 2.9) \text{ J g}^{-1}$ . The following auxiliary data were used:  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{HNO}_3, \text{l}) = -59.7$ ,<sup>16</sup>  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{H}_2\text{O}, \text{l}) = -(285.83 \pm 0.04)$ ,<sup>17</sup> and  $\Delta H_f^\circ(\text{CO}_2, \text{g}) = -(393.51 \pm 0.31) \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ .<sup>17</sup>

The standard enthalpies of fusion, and the heat capacities of bipy and phen have been determined by using a Perkin-Elmer model 2 differential scanning calorimeter. Six individual samples of both ligands were used for the enthalpy determinations, with masses in the range 3–6 mg. The heat capacities of the ligands in their solid and liquid forms were obtained from seven samples each, with masses 3–7 mg. For the heat capacity determinations the constant of calibration,  $K = 0.0354 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , was obtained from seven measurements of the fusion of an indium standard.<sup>18</sup>

The d.s.c. curves show decomposition of bipy and phen with-

out vaporization. From various determinations with different masses the pseudo process of vaporization was observed which gave mean values at 460 and 485 K, respectively. The respective enthalpies of sublimation were estimated by means of Giacomone, Riedel-Planck-Miller, and Watson empirical equations.<sup>19</sup>

A LKB 8700-1 precision calorimetric system was used to determine the enthalpies of dissolution at 298.15  $\pm$  0.02 K of the salts, adducts, and ligands in the appropriate solvent. Previously described criteria for choosing the calorimetric solvent were used.<sup>13,20</sup> For these measurements sealed thin-glass ampoules containing masses in the range 5–60 mg were broken into the vessel charged with 100.0 cm<sup>3</sup> of thermostatted calorimetric solvent.<sup>13,20</sup>

**Other Measurements.**—Infrared spectra were obtained from samples mullied in Nujol or Fluorolube, using a Perkin-Elmer 180 spectrophotometer. Melting points were determined in a Mettler FP-52 instrument coupled with a Mettler FP-5 recorder. Thermogravimetric curves were obtained by using a Perkin-Elmer model TGS-1 thermobalance with a programmed speed of heating of 5 °C min<sup>-1</sup> in a dry nitrogen flux.<sup>13</sup>

## Results

The adducts are white, non-hygroscopic and melt above 573 K, with the exception of ZnCl<sub>2</sub>·2py and HgCl<sub>2</sub>·py, which appear to fuse at 438–440 and 400–403 K, respectively. From the thermogravimetric curves, one observes a decomposition and not a fusion for both adducts.

The standard enthalpies of the reactions ( $\Delta H_R^\circ$ ) in the condensed phase,  $\text{MCl}_2(\text{s}) + n\text{L}(\text{s}, \text{l}) \longrightarrow \text{MCl}_2 \cdot n\text{L}(\text{s})$ , which resulted from the standard enthalpies of reactions 1, 2, and 3, in the appropriate solvent, are listed in Table 1. For each reaction its enthalpy was determined from at least five measurements.

The standard enthalpies of formation of the adducts were

**Table 2.** Thermochemical results for adducts (kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>)

Substance	$\Delta H_R^\circ$	$\Delta H_f^{\circ a}$	$\Delta H_D^\circ$	$\Delta H_M^{\circ b}$	$\Delta H_g^{\circ b}$	$\bar{D}(M-N)$
ZnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2py	-116.1 ± 1.0	-330.8 ± 1.1	196.5 ± 1.0	-345.5 ± 1.0	-305.3 ± 1.0	153
ZnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	-82.9 ± 0.5	-281.6 ± 7.4	149.9 ± 0.5	-298.9 ± 0.5	-231.9 ± 0.5	116
ZnCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen	-83.5 ± 1.5	-255.2 ± 1.5	148.5 ± 1.5	-297.5 ± 1.5	-232.5 ± 1.5	116
CdCl <sub>2</sub> ·py	-46.8 ± 0.5	-338.1 ± 0.8	87.0 ± 0.5	-268.2 ± 0.5	-228.0 ± 0.5	228
CdCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	-53.9 ± 1.6	-229.0 ± 7.6	120.9 ± 1.6	-302.1 ± 1.6	-235.1 ± 1.6	118
CdCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen	-61.7 ± 1.7	-209.8 ± 1.7	126.7 ± 1.7	-307.9 ± 1.7	-242.9 ± 1.7	121
HgCl <sub>2</sub> ·py	-43.4 ± 0.4	-167.5 ± 0.7	83.6 ± 1.4	-166.4 ± 0.4	-126.2 ± 0.4	126
HgCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	-37.7 ± 0.9	-45.6 ± 7.5	104.7 ± 3.7	-187.5 ± 0.9	-120.5 ± 0.9	60
HgCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen	-60.0 ± 1.6	-40.9 ± 1.6	125.0 ± 1.6	-207.8 ± 1.6	-142.8 ± 1.6	71

<sup>a</sup>  $\Delta H_f^\circ$  (MCl<sub>2</sub>, s) [M = Zn(-415.1 ± 0.03), Cd(-391.5 ± 0.3), or Hg(-224.3 ± 0.2);  $\Delta H_{sub}^\circ$ (ZnCl<sub>2</sub>) = 149 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>] were quoted from ref. 21.

<sup>b</sup>  $\Delta H_{sub}^\circ$  (MCl<sub>2</sub>) [M = Cd(181.2 ± 0.1) or Hg(82.8 ± 0.02) kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>] were taken from F. J. Keneshea and D. Cubicciotti, *J. Chem. Phys.*, 1964, **40**, 1778 and L. G. Hepler and G. Olofsson, *Chem. Rev.*, 1975, **75**, 588, respectively.

**Table 3.** The main i.r. stretching ( $\nu$ ) and bending ( $\delta$ ) bands (cm<sup>-1</sup>) for ligands and adducts

Compound	$\delta(C-H)$		$\nu(C=C)$	$\nu(C=N)$
py	1 130	740	1 580	1 450
bipy	1 140	752	1 579	1 450
phen	1 140	748	1 588	1 460
ZnCl <sub>2</sub> ·2py	1 160	760	1 600	1 460
CdCl <sub>2</sub> ·py	1 152	750	1 588	1 460
HgCl <sub>2</sub> ·py	1 160	750	1 550	1 460
ZnCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	1 155	770	1 595	1 465
CdCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	1 154	772	1 590	1 460
HgCl <sub>2</sub> ·bipy	1 160	765	1 580	1 440
ZnCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen	1 222	780	1 582	1 460
CdCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen	1 224	775	1 580	1 460
HgCl <sub>2</sub> ·phen	1 222	772	1 575	1 460

calculated by using  $\Delta H_R^\circ$  values, the standard enthalpies of formation of the metal chlorides, which are  $-(415.1 \pm 0.03)$ ,  $-(391.5 \pm 0.3)$ , and  $-(224.3 \pm 0.2)$  kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> for zinc, cadmium, and mercury,<sup>21</sup> respectively, and the enthalpies of formation of the ligands, *i.e.*,  $\Delta H_f^\circ$ (adduct, s) =  $\Delta H_f^\circ$ -(MCl<sub>2</sub>, s) +  $n\Delta H_f^\circ$ (L, s, l) +  $\Delta H_R^\circ$ . For pyridine<sup>22</sup>  $\Delta H_f^\circ$  and  $\Delta H_{sub}^\circ$  are  $100.2 \pm 0.5$  and  $40.2 \pm 0.04$  kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. The standard enthalpy of formation of bipy in the solid state was derived from its enthalpy of combustion: C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>2</sub>(s) + 12 O<sub>2</sub>(g) → 10 CO<sub>2</sub>(g) + 4 H<sub>2</sub>O(l) + N<sub>2</sub>(g);  $\Delta H_c^\circ = -(5 294.8 \pm 7.3)$  kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>. This value of  $\Delta H_c^\circ$  resulted from six determinations, giving  $\Delta H_f^\circ$ (bipy, s) =  $216.4 \pm 7.4$  kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>. The error quoted is twice the standard deviation of the mean and included all the uncertainties of the auxiliary data used.

The d.s.c. thermograms for bipy and phen showed sharp peaks at 342 and 398 K respectively, from which were calculated the enthalpies of fusion,  $19.9 \pm 0.2$  and  $15.0 \pm 0.3$  kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. The mean standard enthalpies of vaporization, calculated by using empirical methods, were  $41.55 \pm 0.33$  and  $43.89 \pm 0.35$  kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>, respectively.

The heat capacities of bipy and phen in their solid and liquid forms were also determined, giving  $C_p(s) = 0.21$  and  $C_p(l) = 0.23$  kJ K<sup>-1</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup>, and  $C_p(s) = 0.29$  and  $C_p(l) = 9.23$  kJ K<sup>-1</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. The heat capacities in the gas phase were estimated by means of the method of generalized vibrational assignment<sup>19</sup> through the expressions  $C_p(\text{bipy}, g) = -6.95 \times 10^{-2} + 8.77 \times 10^{-4} T - 4.50 \times 10^{-7} T^2$  and  $C_p(\text{phen}, g) = -7.06 \times 10^{-2} + 9.37 \times 10^{-4} T - 4.89 \times 10^{-7} T^2$ .

By using all these data, the enthalpy of sublimation can be calculated by the expression (1), which gave values of 67 and 65 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> for bipy and phen respectively.

In the case of phen, its standard enthalpy of formation in the gaseous phase ( $419$  kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>) has previously been estimated by means of Benson's method.<sup>23</sup> However some enthalpy group

$$\Delta H_{sub}^\circ(298 \text{ K}) = \int_{298}^{T_{fus}} C_p(s) dT + \Delta H_{fus}^\circ(T_{fus}) + \int_{T_{fus}}^{T_{vap}} C_p(l) dT + \Delta H_{vap}^\circ(T_{vap}) - \int_{298}^{T_{vap}} C_p(g) dT \quad (1)$$

contributions required are not properly quoted in the literature, thus  $\Delta H_f^\circ$ (phen, g) was estimated by following a referee's suggestion. This procedure considers the molecules in the gaseous phase, where the difference in enthalpies between biphenyl<sup>22</sup> and bipy,  $182.1 \pm 2.5$  and  $283.4 \pm 7.4$  kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>, respectively, is the same as that between phenanthrene<sup>22</sup> ( $207.1 \pm 4.6$  kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>) and phen. From this assumption  $\Delta H_f^\circ$ (phen, g) =  $308.4$  kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> and from which  $\Delta H_f^\circ$ (phen, s) =  $243.4$  kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>.

The standard enthalpies of decomposition ( $\Delta H_D^\circ$ ) of the adducts, MCl<sub>2</sub>·nL(s) → MCl<sub>2</sub>(s) + nL(g), and the standard enthalpy of formation ( $\Delta H_M^\circ$ ) of the adducts from reagents in the gas phase, MCl<sub>2</sub>(g) + nL(g) → MCl<sub>2</sub>·nL(s), were calculated and are listed in Table 2.

An inspection of the i.r. spectra of the adducts, in comparison with the spectra of the free ligands, suggests that the ligands are co-ordinated to the metal by their heteroatom, the stretching C=C and C=N and the bending C-H frequencies undergoing appropriate shifts (Table 3).

## Discussion

The thermogravimetric data indicate that the adducts are thermolabile and probably do not exist in appreciable amounts in the gas phase.

The main stretching frequencies C=C and C=N for the ligands are shifted to higher frequencies. However, an opposite shift was shown for C-H in-plane and out-of-plane bending frequencies, Table 3. This behaviour, observed for all the adducts, is in agreement with the mode of co-ordination of the metal to the nitrogen of the heterocyclic molecules.<sup>3</sup>

From the enthalpies of dissolution of the ligands ( $\Delta H_1^\circ$ ), metal halides ( $\Delta H_2^\circ$ ), and adducts ( $\Delta H_3^\circ$ ) given in Table 1, one can obtain the standard enthalpy of the acid-base reaction in the condensed phase ( $\Delta H_R^\circ$ ). These results are listed in Table 2.

The enthalpy of the reaction MCl<sub>2</sub>(s) + nL(s, l) → MCl<sub>2</sub>·nL(s),  $\Delta H_R^\circ$ , can be used to establish the donor strength of the ligand toward specific acceptors.<sup>13,24</sup> In this case  $\Delta H_R^\circ$  values

reflect the Lewis acidities of the zinc family halides. The acid-base strength results from comparison of adducts of the same stoichiometry, in which crystal enthalpies, reorganization enthalpies, etc., are assumed to be the same. Although  $\Delta H_R^\circ$  for the adduct of mercury with phen ( $-60.04 \pm 1.6 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ ), is slightly smaller than for the corresponding adduct of cadmium ( $-61.7 \pm 1.7 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ ), the magnitude of  $\Delta H_R^\circ$  decreases from zinc to mercury. Consequently, the acidity order for these halides is  $\text{ZnCl}_2 > \text{CdCl}_2 > \text{HgCl}_2$ . In comparing the relative basicity, phen behaves much more as a base than does bipy with the mercury and cadmium chlorides. However with adducts of zinc the differences in this property are not distinguishable, due to the proximity of the  $\Delta H_R^\circ$  values. For py, the acidity order is  $\text{CdCl}_2 > \text{HgCl}_2$ . On the other hand, if one considers two py bonds to be equivalent to one bidentate ligand, taking into account the adducts of zinc, the basicity order is  $\text{py} > \text{phen} \approx \text{bipy}$ .

The standard enthalpies of formation of the adducts for each metal-chloride decrease in the order  $\text{py} > \text{bipy} > \text{phen}$ . With the exception of the adducts of pyridine, all the  $\Delta H_f^\circ$  values decrease from zinc to mercury; such results are shown in Table 2.

The parameter involved in the decomposition of the adducts ( $\Delta H_D^\circ$ ) reflects the variation in enthalpy due to the breakage of metal-ligand bonds and to the rearrangement of the structure of the metal-chloride in returning to its original form. At the same time,  $\Delta H_M^\circ$  is related to the metal-ligand interaction and reflects other interactive factors which are linked to the formation of the adducts.<sup>12,13</sup> These parameters were calculated through thermochemical cycles by means of the standard enthalpy of sublimation of the metal chlorides,<sup>21</sup> py,<sup>22</sup> bipy, and phen. Both parameters are useful to compare and systematize adducts,<sup>12,13</sup> these values are listed in Table 2, showing the trends in variation, which are very close to the enthalpies of formation of the adducts.

From the point of view of structural features, there is no doubt about the co-ordination of the ligands to the metals *via* the nitrogen atoms. Thus, in considering the thermochemical context it is important to reiterate that these arguments relate to the metal-nitrogen bond. The enthalpy pertinent to this bond arises from the enthalpy of the reaction ( $\Delta H_g^\circ$ ) in the gas phase,  $\text{MCl}_2(\text{g}) + n\text{L}(\text{g}) \longrightarrow \text{MCl}_2 \cdot n\text{L}(\text{g})$ , which can be calculated by means of a thermochemical cycle, where  $\bar{D}(\text{M-N}) = \Delta H_g^\circ/n$ .

The experimental results show evidence that the adducts decompose on heating, therefore, their enthalpies of sublimation are not experimentally accessible. However, in such a way the enthalpy of the metal-nitrogen bond can be estimated by assuming that the enthalpy of sublimation of the adduct is approximately equal to the enthalpy of vaporization of 1 mol of py or sublimation, in the case of bipy or phen.<sup>13,14,25</sup> Values of  $\Delta H_g^\circ$  and  $\bar{D}(\text{M-N})$  are given in Table 2. The first parameter follows the same trend in variation as  $\Delta H_R^\circ$  and  $\Delta H_f^\circ$ . The enthalpy of the metal-nitrogen bond in Table 2 is listed for an individual bond. In this case, the equivalence of each bond in a bidentate ligand was assumed. Then,  $\bar{D}(\text{M-N})$  was equal to half of  $\Delta H_g^\circ$ . This assumption enables us to compare  $\bar{D}(\text{M-N})$  within the series. As was previously observed,<sup>12,13</sup> the mono adduct  $\text{CdCl}_2 \cdot \text{py}$  has a higher  $\bar{D}(\text{M-N})$  than the bis adduct  $\text{ZnCl}_2 \cdot 2\text{py}$ , which gave 228 and 153  $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$ , respectively. This last value is still higher than those obtained for bidentate ligands, *i.e.*,  $\text{ZnCl}_2 \cdot \text{bipy}$  (116  $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$ ) and  $\text{ZnCl}_2 \cdot \text{phen}$  (116  $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$ ).

In conclusion, pyridine showed a stronger tendency toward bonding, in comparison with the equivalent behaviour of the other ligands, in relation to the metal chlorides of the zinc family.

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