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Ruthenium(II) and palladium(II) complexes with 2,6-(bispyrazol-1-yl)pyridines

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Ruthenium(II) and palladium(II) complexes $[\text{Ru}(\text{DMSO})(\text{L})\text{Cl}_2]$ and $[\text{Pd}(\text{L})\text{Cl}]\text{Cl}$, where L = 2,6-bis(pyrazol-1-yl)pyridine (bpp) or 2,6-bis(3,5-dimethylpyrazol-1-yl)pyridine (bdmpp) have been synthesized. All complexes were characterized by elemental analysis, IR, ^1H NMR, UV-Vis, and cyclic voltammetry measurements.

Keywords: Ruthenium(II); Palladium(II); Tripodal; ^1H NMR; UV-Vis; Cyclic voltammetry

1. Introduction

Tripodal ligands are of interest due to the coordinating ability toward metal ions [1–11]. Transition metal complexes with the tripodal ligands, namely, 2,6-bis(pyrazol-1-yl)pyridine (bpp) and 2,6-bis(3,5-dimethylpyrazol-1-yl)pyridine (bdmpp) (figure 1) display interesting physical, chemical, magnetic, structural, and catalytic properties. They also form various supramolecular complexes and generally show high thermodynamic stability and kinetic inertness [12–23]. There is considerable interest in the photophysical, photochemical, and redox properties of these complexes [12, 14, 15, 17].

Complexes of ruthenium(II) with bpp and bdmpp are of the type $[\text{RuL}_2]^{2+}$, $[\text{RuLCl}_3]$, $[\text{RuL}(\text{PMe}_3)\text{Cl}_2]$, $[\text{RuL}(\text{PMe}_3)_2\text{Cl}](\text{ClO}_4)$, *trans*- $[\text{Ru}(\text{L})(\text{NO}_2)(\text{PMe}_3)_2]\text{ClO}_4$, $[\text{RuL}(\beta\text{-diketonate})\text{Cl}]$ (where L = bpp or bdmpp; β -diketonate = 1,3-substituted β -diketonate), *cis*- and *trans*- $[\text{RuCl}(\text{PPh}_3)_2(\text{bpp})]\text{Cl}$, *trans*- $[\text{RuCl}_2(\text{bdmpp})(\text{E})]$ (where E = PPh_3 , C_2H_4 , CO, CH_3CN , or $=\text{C}=\text{CPh}_2$) and $[\text{RuCl}(\text{PPh}_3)(=\text{C}=\text{C}=\text{CPh}_2)(\text{bdmpp})]\text{BF}_4$. In all these complexes bpp and bdmpp are tridentate [12, 13, 18, 24].

The only palladium complex reported with bpp or bdmpp is $[\text{Pd}(\text{Me})(\text{bpp})]\text{OTos}$ (OTos = tosylate). From ^1H NMR spectra bpp is reported as bidentate with the fourth coordination site occupied by tosylate or solvent [25]. Complexes of bpp and bdmpp with Pt(II) are $[\text{Pt}(\text{L})\text{Cl}]\text{Cl} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ and $[\text{Pt}(\text{L})(\text{Ph})]\text{PF}_6$ (where L = bpp or bdmpp).

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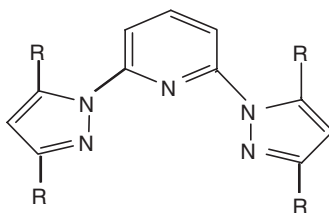


Figure 1. Structure of bpp and bdmpp, R = H, bpp; R = CH₃, bdmpp.

Structures of the bpp analogue of the two types of complexes have been determined by X-ray crystallography, wherein bpp is tridentate to Pt through two pyrazolyl nitrogens and the pyridine nitrogen to give nearly a planar Pt(bpp). The fourth coordination site was occupied by Cl⁻ or Ph [19].

In our previous work synthesis, the characterization and single crystal X-ray structures of Cu(II) complexes [CuBr₂(bpp)] and [Cu₂Br₂(bpp)₂](ClO₄)₂ have been reported [26]. This work describes the synthesis, characterization, and structural assessments of Ru(II) and Pd(II) complexes with bpp or bdmpp.

2. Experimental

All chemicals used are of AR or chemically pure grade. Solvents were purified prior to use by standard methods. 2,6-Dibromopyridine, pyrazole, and PdCl₂ were purchased from Merck. 3,5-Dimethylpyrazole was prepared by the condensation of acetylacetone and hydrazine hydrate. The ligands bpp and bdmpp were prepared according to published procedure [27]. *Cis*-[Ru(DMSO)₄Cl₂] was prepared as reported [28]. Molar conductivity measurements of millimolar solutions were made on a Wayne-Kerr Automatic precision B905 conductometer. IR spectra were recorded as KBr pellets using a Perkin-Elmer spectrum BX series spectrophotometer. C, H, and N analyses were carried out at SAIF, NEHU, Shillong. Spectroscopic grade solvents were used for cyclic voltammetry and UV-Vis measurements. UV-Vis spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer Lamda 25 spectrophotometer. Cyclic voltammetry measurements were carried out on a CH instruments electrochemical analyzer CHI 620B. ¹H NMR spectra were obtained from NMR Instrumental Facility, IISc, Bangalore, India. Room temperature magnetic measurement of the complexes was carried out on a Sherwood Scientific magnetic susceptibility balance.

2.1. Preparation of [Ru(DMSO)(bpp)Cl₂]

A solution of *cis*-[Ru(DMSO)₄Cl₂] (0.48 g, 1.00 mmol) and bpp (0.21 g, 1.00 mmol) in ethanol (25 cm³) was refluxed for 2 h. A reddish solution was obtained and an oily mass was separated after removing the solvent under reduced pressure. The crude product was dissolved in dichloromethane. After addition of hexane, a red crystalline compound was obtained which was separated by centrifugation, washed several times with diethyl ether, and dried *in vacuo*. Yield = 0.30 g (65%). Anal. Calcd for C₁₃H₁₅N₅ORuCl₂ (%):

C, 33.84; H, 3.25; N, 15.18. Found (%): C, 34.07; H, 3.43; N, 15.44. IR (cm^{-1} , KBr pellets): 3098(m), 2919(m), 1487(s), 1089(s), 1016(m). A_M (DMSO): $14 \Omega^{-1} \text{cm}^2 \text{mol}^{-1}$.

2.2. Preparation of [Ru(DMSO)(bdmpp)Cl₂]

A mixture of *cis*-[Ru(DMSO)₄Cl₂] (0.48 g, 1.00 mmol) and bdmpp (0.27 g, 1.00 mmol) in ethanol (25 cm³) was refluxed for 3 h. The solution changed from yellow to orange, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure producing an orange compound which then was washed several times with diethyl ether and dried *in vacuo*. Yield = 0.31 g (60%). Anal. Calcd for C₁₇H₂₃N₅ORuCl₂ (%): C, 39.46; H, 4.45; N, 13.54. Found (%): C, 39.73; H, 4.77; N, 13.76. IR (cm^{-1} , KBr pellets): 3098(m), 2925(m), 1474(s), 1102(s), 1029(s), 875(m). A_M (DMSO): $12 \Omega^{-1} \text{cm}^2 \text{mol}^{-1}$.

2.3. Preparation of [Pd(bpp)Cl]Cl

PdCl₂ (0.18 g, 1.00 mmol) was dissolved in acetonitrile (20 cm³) by refluxing for about 15 min. A solution of bpp (0.21 g, 1.00 mmol) in acetonitrile (10 cm³) was added to the refluxing solution and refluxed for 2 h when a pink compound separated out. It was centrifuged, washed with diethyl ether and dried *in vacuo*. Yield = 0.18 g (46%). Anal. Calcd for C₁₁H₉N₅PdCl₂ (%): C, 34.02; H, 2.31; N, 18.04. Found (%): C, 34.05; H, 2.07; N, 17.75. IR (cm^{-1} , KBr pellets): 3085(m), 3045(m), 1487(s), 1102(s), 1062(m). A_M (DMSO): $20 \Omega^{-1} \text{cm}^2 \text{mol}^{-1}$.

2.4. Preparation of [Pd(bdmpp)Cl]Cl

PdCl₂ (0.18 g, 1.00 mmol) was dissolved in acetonitrile (20 cm³) by refluxing for about 15 min. A solution of bdmpp (0.27 g, 1.00 mmol) in acetonitrile (10 cm³) was added to the refluxing solution and refluxed for 2 h when the color of the solution changed from red to pink. A pink compound separated and was isolated by centrifugation, washed with diethyl ether and dried *in vacuo*. Yield = 0.21 g (47%). Anal. Calcd for C₁₅H₁₇N₅PdCl₂ (%): C, 40.54; H, 3.82; N, 15.76. Found (%): C, 40.45; H, 3.65; N, 15.80. IR (cm^{-1} , KBr pellets): 3091(m), 1487(s), 1062(m), 850(w). A_M (DMSO): $23 \Omega^{-1} \text{cm}^2 \text{mol}^{-1}$.

3. Results and discussion

3.1. Ruthenium(II) complexes with 2,6-bis(pyrazol-1-yl)pyridine (bpp) or 2,6-bis(3,5-dimethylpyrazol-1-yl)pyridine (bdmpp) and dimethyl sulfoxide

A reaction of *cis*-[Ru(DMSO)₄Cl₂] with tridentate ligand L (L = bpp or bdmpp) in ethanol yielded [Ru(DMSO)LCl₂] (where L = bpp or bdmpp). Microanalytical data are in conformity with the composition [Ru(DMSO)LCl₂]. Conductivity measurements in millimolar solution of these complexes in acetonitrile showed molar conductance of 12–15 $\Omega^{-1} \text{cm}^2 \text{mol}^{-1}$, which are very low compared with 120 $\Omega^{-1} \text{cm}^2 \text{mol}^{-1}$ for 1:1 electrolyte in acetonitrile, confirming the covalent nature of the chloro groups [29].

Room temperature magnetic measurement of the complexes showed diamagnetism, confirming Ru^{2+} , d^6 low spin complexes.

IR spectra of $[\text{Ru}(\text{DMSO})\text{LCl}_2]$ ($\text{L} = \text{bpp}$ or bdmpp) showed all the absorption bands attributable to the tridentate ligands and the coordinated DMSO. One band of medium intensity at 3100 cm^{-1} and another at 2920 cm^{-1} may be assigned to $\nu_{\text{C-H}}$ aromatic of L and $\nu_{\text{C-H}}$ aliphatic of the DMSO group, respectively. Further, one absorption at $1474\text{--}1487\text{ cm}^{-1}$ and another at $1308\text{--}1334\text{ cm}^{-1}$ may be assigned to the ring stretching vibration and in plane C-H bending of the tridentate ligands [30, 31]. IR spectra of the complexes show one strong band at $1089\text{--}1102\text{ cm}^{-1}$ which may be assigned to $\nu_{\text{S=O}}$ of the S-bonded DMSO [32, 33]. There was no band of appreciable intensity in the region $900\text{--}1000\text{ cm}^{-1}$, indicating the absence of O-bonded DMSO. The electronic absorption spectra of $[\text{Ru}(\text{DMSO})\text{LCl}_2]$ (where $\text{L} = \text{bpp}$ or bdmpp) show one or two absorption bands in the region $535\text{--}690\text{ nm}$ with ϵ in the range 6.4×10^2 to 8.6×10^2 . These bands may be assigned to d-d transition of the type ${}^1\text{T}_{1g} \leftarrow {}^1\text{A}_{1g}$ or ${}^1\text{T}_{2g} \leftarrow {}^1\text{A}_{1g}$ [34]. The molar extinction coefficient of these bands is slightly higher than the expected for d-d transitions, which may be attributed to mixing of some $\text{M} \rightarrow \text{L}$ charge transfer. One band in the region $405\text{--}430\text{ nm}$ with ϵ in the range 2.5×10^3 to 4.3×10^3 was assigned to $\text{M} \rightarrow \text{L}$ type of charge transfer. Further, three more bands from 250 to 305 nm with ϵ in the order 10^4 were observed in both complexes which may be assigned to the intra-ligand transitions of the type $n \rightarrow \pi^*$ or $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$ (table 1) [12, 19].

The cyclic voltammogram of $[\text{Ru}(\text{DMSO})(\text{bpp})\text{Cl}_2]$ in dichloromethane using tetrabutyl ammonium perchlorate (TBAP) as supporting electrolyte has a quasi-reversible peak at $E_{1/2} = 0.37\text{ V}$ ($\Delta E_p = 160\text{ mV}$), which may be due to the $\text{Ru}^{\text{III}}/\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}$ couple. CV shows another quasi-reversible peak at $E_{1/2} = 1.0\text{ V}$ ($\Delta E_p = 200\text{ mV}$), which may be assigned to $\text{Ru}^{\text{IV}}/\text{Ru}^{\text{III}}$ couple. The cyclic voltammogram of $[\text{Ru}(\text{DMSO})(\text{bdmpp})\text{Cl}_2]$ also shows two quasi-reversible peaks at $E_{1/2} = 0.97\text{ V}$ ($\Delta E_p = 100\text{ mV}$) and $E_{1/2} = 1.33\text{ V}$ ($\Delta E_p = 220\text{ mV}$). These two redox couples could be assigned similar to its bpp analogue to $\text{Ru}^{\text{III}}/\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}$ and $\text{Ru}^{\text{IV}}/\text{Ru}^{\text{III}}$ couples (figure 2) [35, 36].

${}^1\text{H}$ NMR spectrum of $[\text{Ru}(\text{DMSO})(\text{bpp})\text{Cl}_2]$ in DMSO-d_6 showed one singlet at $\delta 3.46$, assigned to S-bonded DMSO [32]. Signals for coordinated bpp are observed at $\delta 6.63$ to $\delta 9.26$, shifted to low field compared to free bpp [27]. Signal at $\delta 6.63(\text{dd})$ is assigned to the $4',4''$ protons, whereas signal at $\delta 9.26(\text{dd})$ is assigned to the $5',5''$

Table 1. ${}^1\text{H}$ NMR and UV-Vis spectral data of ruthenium(II) and palladium(II) complexes.

Complex	${}^1\text{H}$ -NMR (ppm)	UV-Vis (λ_{max} nm(ϵ))
$[\text{Ru}(\text{DMSO})(\text{bpp})\text{Cl}_2]^{\text{a}}$	3.46(s), 6.63(dd), 8.26(s), 8.31(s), 8.34(s), 8.37(s), 8.42(s), 8.44(s), 9.26(dd)	$535(8.6 \times 10^2)$, $428(4.3 \times 10^3)$, $303(2.9 \times 10^4)$, $273(2.9 \times 10^4)$, $265(2.6 \times 10^4)$
$[\text{Ru}(\text{DMSO})(\text{bdmpp})\text{Cl}_2]^{\text{b}}$	2.30(s), 2.59(s), 3.45(s), 6.01(s), 7.68(d), 7.98(t)	$689(6.4 \times 10^2)$, $595(6.9 \times 10^2)$, $406(2.5 \times 10^3)$, $302(3.1 \times 10^4)$, $271(3.6 \times 10^4)$, $249(4.8 \times 10^4)$
$[\text{Pd}(\text{bpp})\text{Cl}]\text{Cl}^{\text{a}}$	6.63(dd), 7.78(s), 8.12(s), 8.20(s), 8.70(s), 8.92(s), 9.27(dd)	$404(8.3 \times 10^2)$, $304(3.1 \times 10^4)$, $275(3.2 \times 10^4)$
$[\text{Pd}(\text{bdmpp})\text{Cl}]\text{Cl}^{\text{a}}$	2.55(s), 6.54(s), 7.77(d), 8.41(t)	$400(\text{sh})(4.8 \times 10^2)$, $303(3.5 \times 10^4)$, $272(3.8 \times 10^4)$

UV-Vis: Electronic spectra taken in DMSO solution; ${}^1\text{H}$ NMR: ^a = in DMSO-d_6 , ^b = in CDCl_3 .

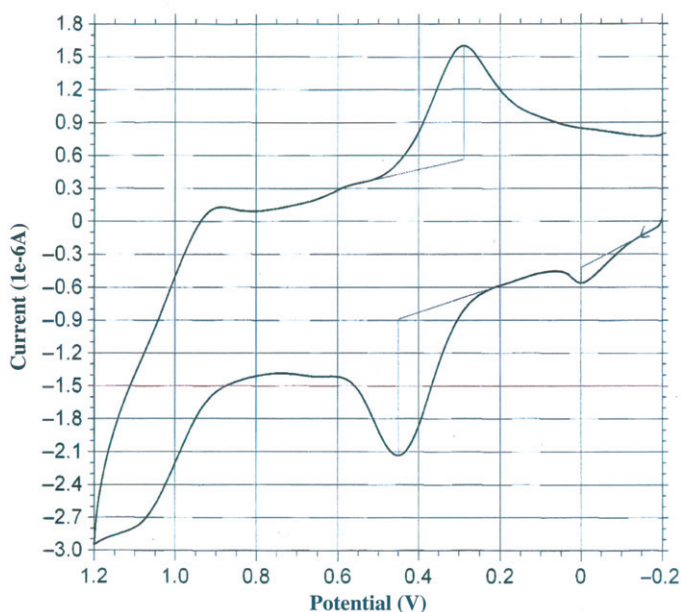


Figure 2. Cyclic voltammogram of $[\text{Ru}(\text{DMSO})(\text{bpp})\text{Cl}_2]$ at 0.05 V s^{-1} at room temperature using TBAP as the supporting electrolyte.

protons of the pyrazolyl. There are five more singlets in the region $\delta 8.26$ to $\delta 8.44$. Two may be assigned to the 3',3'' protons of the pyrazole and the remaining three to the 3-H, 4-H, and 5-H protons of pyridine. These assignments are similar to those reported [18], except that there are more signals, namely, one for each of these protons, which may be explained if *cis*-geometry is proposed for the complex. ^1H NMR spectrum of $[\text{Ru}(\text{DMSO})(\text{bdmpp})\text{Cl}_2]$ in CDCl_3 showed singlets at $\delta 2.30$ and $\delta 2.59$ assigned to methyl protons of *bdmpp* [27], whereas a singlet at $\delta 3.45$ is assigned to S-bonded DMSO [32]. A singlet at $\delta 6.01$ may be assigned to 4',4'' protons of the pyrazolyl ring and a doublet at $\delta 7.68$ and a triplet at $\delta 7.98$ to the 3-H, 5-H, and 4-H protons, respectively, of pyridine (table 1). From ^1H NMR data, a geometry with two chloro groups *trans* and *bdmpp* ligand and S-bonded DMSO in planar position is proposed [18].

3.2. Palladium(II) complexes with 2,6-bis(pyrazol-1-yl)pyridine (*bpp*) or 2,6-bis(3,5-dimethylpyrazol-1-yl)pyridine (*bdmpp*)

Reactions of PdCl_2 with *bpp* or *bdmpp* in acetonitrile resulted in the formation of $[\text{PdLCl}]\text{Cl}$. Microanalytical data of the complexes are in conformity with the composition. These compounds are insoluble in common organic solvents but soluble in DMSO or DMF. Conductivity measurements in millimolar DMSO show molar conductance of $20\text{--}23 \Omega^{-1} \text{ cm}^2 \text{ mol}^{-1}$, lower than for 1:1 electrolyte in DMSO [29]. It seems $[\text{Pd}(\text{L})\text{Cl}]\text{Cl}$ (where $\text{L} = \text{bpp}$ or *bdmpp*) are not completely ionized in DMSO, hence Λ_{M} values are somewhat lower than the expected value for 1:1 electrolyte.

IR spectra of $[\text{Pd}(\text{L})\text{Cl}]\text{Cl}$ (where $\text{L} = \text{bpp}$ or bdmpp) show characteristic absorptions for the tridentate ligands. The shifts in the positions are similar to those described for the $\text{Ru}(\text{II})$ complexes. Spectra in the far IR region showed bands at $425\text{--}450\text{ cm}^{-1}$ and $330\text{--}350\text{ cm}^{-1}$, assignable to $\nu_{\text{Pd-N}}$ and $\nu_{\text{Pd-Cl}}$, respectively [37]. The electronic absorption spectra of the complexes showed one broad band or a shoulder around 400 nm with ϵ in the range of $400\text{--}830$, assigned to the d-d transition of the type $d_{xy} \rightarrow d_{x^2-y^2}$ or d_{xz} , $d_{yz} \rightarrow d_{x^2-y^2}$ [30]. There are two absorptions in the region $300\text{--}250\text{ nm}$ ($\epsilon \approx 10^4$) which could be assigned to intraligand transitions of bpp or bdmpp as in the case of $\text{Ru}(\text{II})$ complexes (*vide infra*) (table 1).

^1H NMR spectrum of $[\text{Pd}(\text{bpp})\text{Cl}]\text{Cl}$ in DMSO-d_6 showed signals at $\delta 6.63(\text{dd})$ and $\delta 9.27(\text{dd})$ assigned to the $4',4''$ and $5',5''$ protons of the pyrazolyl ring. Further, five more signals in the region $\delta 7.78$ to $\delta 8.92$ are assigned to the two $3',3''$ protons of the pyrazolyl ring and the 3-H, 4-H, and 5-H protons of pyridine. $[\text{Pd}(\text{bdmpp})\text{Cl}]\text{Cl}$ shows a singlet at $\delta 2.55$ due to the methyl protons, a singlet at $\delta 6.54$ due to the pyrazolyl $3',3''$ protons, and a doublet at $\delta 7.77$ and a triplet at $\delta 8.41$ to the 3-H, 4-H, and 5-H protons of pyridine (table 1), similar to $\text{Pt}(\text{II})$ analogues, namely, $[\text{Pt}(\text{L})\text{Cl}]^+$ [17]. Similar $\text{Pd}(\text{II})$ complexes described herein are proposed to have a square planar geometry with bpp or bdmpp planar tridentate.

4. Conclusions

Complexes of ruthenium(II) and palladium(II) with 2,6-bis(pyrazol-1-yl)pyridine (bpp) and 2,6-bis(3,5-dimethylpyrazol-1-yl)pyridine (bdmpp) have been synthesized, $[\text{Ru}(\text{DMSO})\text{LCl}_2]$ and $[\text{PdLCl}]\text{Cl}$ (where $\text{L} = \text{bpp}$ or bdmpp). Their structures have been proposed to be distorted octahedral and square planar, respectively, on the basis of various physical measurements.

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