

Activation of a C–H Bond in a Pyridine Ring. Reaction of 6-Substituted 2,2'-Bipyridines with Methyl and Phenyl Platinum(II) Derivatives: N',C(3)-"Rollover" Cyclometalation

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The reaction of the electron-rich derivatives *cis*-[Pt(R)₂(DMSO)₂] (R = Me, Ph) with a series of 6-substituted-2,2'-bipyridines, HL, occurs with loss of methane or benzene, respectively, to yield cyclometalated platinum(II) species [Pt(R)(L)(DMSO)] where L is an anionic ligand N',C(3) coordinated. The unusual C–H activation entails a consecutive reaction process through a detectable intermediate. The reaction is peculiar of 6-substituted ligands: for comparison no reaction occurs with 6,6'-Me₂-2,2'-bipy and an adduct, [Pt(R)₂(HL)], is obtained with 5-Me-2,2'-bipy.

Introduction

Cyclometalated complexes arising from direct C–H activation of 6-substituted 2,2'-bipyridines are well known: they include both N,N,C(sp²)-M as well as N,N,C(sp³)-M species, the former ones being more common.¹

In contrast, although reported first several years ago, still very rare is the direct metal-mediated activation of a C–H bond of a pyridyl ring. As far as we know, N',C(3) five-membered rings have been observed in an Ir(III) 2,2'-bipyridine (bipy) complex,² in some platinum derivatives with N-substituted-2,2'-bipyridines,³ and quite recently in a palladium and a platinum species,

[PdCl(L)]₂ and [PtCl(L)(SMe₂)], respectively⁴ (HL = 6-alkyl-2,2'-bipy). Furthermore the formation of Ar–H in a process of thermal rearrangement of [Pt(Ar)₂(bipy)] derivatives was explained assuming activation of a C–H bond of the bipy ligand.⁵

In platinum(II) chemistry examples of activation of a C–H bond of the heterocyclic ring promoted by platinum(II) chlorides such as [PtCl₄]²⁻ or [PtCl₂(L)₂] adducts have not been reported. In the case of the intermediates *trans*-[Pt(R)Cl(SMe₂)₂] (R = Me, Ph) the reaction with 6-substituted-2,2'-bipyridines, HL, mostly gives adducts [Pt(R)Cl(HL)] or cyclometalated species [PtCl(L)] where L is the anionic N,N,C ligand arising from activation of a C–H bond of the substituent.⁶ Only with HL = 6-C(Me)₃-2,2'-bipy does the methyl-chloro intermediate *trans*-[Pt(Me)Cl(SMe₂)₂] give the aforementioned rollover N',C(3) cyclometalated species [PtCl(L)(SMe₂)] with loss of methane.⁴ Here we report on the reaction of the electron-rich [Pt(Me)₂(DMSO)₂] and [Pt(Ph)₂(DMSO)₂] derivatives with 6-alkyl-, benzyl-, and aryl-substituted 2,2'-bipyridines, HL, to give new "rollover" cyclometalated species [Pt(Me)(L)(DMSO)] and [Pt(Ph)(L)(DMSO)] through methane or benzene elimination.

A preliminary communication relevant to 6-Ph-2,2'-bipy has been recently reported.⁷

Aspects of the reactivity of the new species will also be discussed.

Results and Discussion

The ligands HLⁿ, shown in Scheme 1, include alkyl-, benzyl-, and phenyl-6-substituted-2,2'-bipyridines.

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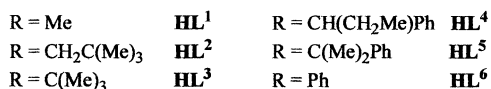
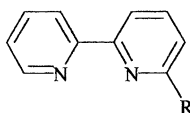
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Table 1. Selected ^1H NMR Data^a

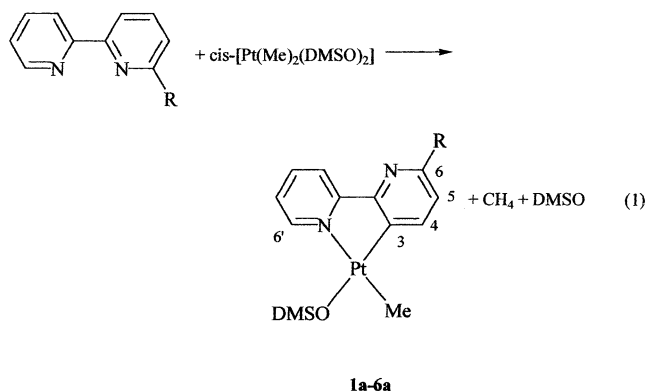
		Me	DMSO	H(4)	H(5)	H(6)
[Pt(Me)(L ¹)(DMSO)]	1a	0.69 [82.0]	3.24 [19.3]	7.88 (8.0) [53.0]	7.04 (8.0) [18.6]	9.67 (5.9) [14.0]
[Pt(Me)(L ²)(DMSO)]	2a	0.70 [82.0]	3.24 [18.3]	7.88 (7.7) [52.6]	6.98 (7.6) [18.9]	9.66 (6.1) [14.1]
[Pt(Me)(L ³)(DMSO)]	3a	0.69 [82.3]	3.23 [18.1]	7.89 [51.9]	7.21 [18]	9.65 [13.8]
[Pt(Me)(L ⁴)(DMSO)]	4a	0.66 [82.0]	3.21 [18.1]	7.85 (7.8) [52.9]	7.01 (7.8) [18.1]	9.66 (6.6) [13.8]
[Pt(Me)(L ⁵)(DMSO)]	5a	0.66 [82.0]	3.23 [18.1]	7.75 (8.1) [51.8]	6.84 (8.1) [17.6]	9.58 (6.3) [13.7]
[Pt(Me)(L ⁶)(DMSO)]	6a	0.75 [81.8]	3.26 [18.3]	8.07 (8.1) [52.0]	7.65 (8.1) [17.8]	9.71 (5.6) [13.7]
[Pt(Ph)(L ³)(DMSO)]	3b		2.95 [17.6]	6.77 (8.1) [61.0]	6.94 (8.1) [16.6]	9.56 (5.6) [12.6]
[Pt(Ph)(L ⁶)(DMSO)]	6b		2.98 [17.6]	6.94 (7.8) [62.8]	<i>b</i>	9.63 (5.4) [12.7]
[Pt(Cl)(L ³)(DMSO)]	3c		3.63 [24.7]	8.53 (8.3) [41.0]	7.19 (8.3) [13.2]	9.57 (5.8) [35.4]
[Pt(Cl)(L ⁶)(DMSO)]	6c			8.64 (8.3) [42.0]	7.55 (8.3) [13.0]	9.59 (5.8) [31.1]
[Pt(Me)(L ³)(CO)]	13	1.19 [86.2]		7.96 (7.8) [45.9]	7.29 (7.8) [<i>b</i>]	8.61 (5.4) [19]
[Pt(Me)(L ³)(3,5-(Me) ₂ py)]	14	0.93 [84.0]		7.96 (8.0) [54.6]	7.13 (8.0) [11.4]	7.72 (5.4)
[Pt(Me)(L ⁶)(PPh ₃)]	15	0.79 [83.0]		8.31 (8.1) [46.5]	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>

^a Room temperature, solvent CDCl₃, chemical shifts in ppm from internal SiMe₄, coupling constants in Hz, $J(\text{H}-\text{H})$ in parentheses, $J(\text{Pt}-\text{H})$ in square brackets. ^b Signals partially overlapping.

Scheme 1



The reaction of *cis*-[Pt(Me)₂(DMSO)₂] with the ligands has been carried out both in acetone at room or reflux temperature and in toluene at 70–90 °C with a Pt/L 1:1 molar ratio.



With the ligands HL^{1–6} the reaction is straightforward and yields, at least in acetone solution, are fairly good.⁸ In toluene at 70–90 °C, partial decomposition to metal occurs. The isolated species, **1a–6a**, are stable in the solid state, soluble in several organic solvents, and not electrolytes in acetone. They have been fully characterized by elemental analyses and by ^1H NMR and FAB-MS spectroscopy. In the FAB-MS spectra, besides the molecular ions, $[\text{M}]^+$, both the $[\text{M} - \text{Me}]^+$ and $[\text{M} - \text{DMSO}]^+$ ions are observed (compounds **2a**, **3a**, **5a**, and **6a**). The ^1H NMR spectra provide evidence for only one out of the two possible isomers. The resonance of the methyl bonded to the platinum atom, at high field (δ 0.66–0.75, CDCl₃ solution), is a singlet with satellites: the $^{195}\text{Pt}-\text{H}$ coupling constants, ca. 82 Hz, fit a methyl *trans* to a nitrogen atom.⁹ On the other hand, the rather

small $^3J(\text{Pt}-\text{H})$ values, ca. 18 Hz, relative to the protons of DMSO, are consistent with a ligand *trans* to a C(sp²).^{7,10} The aromatic region shows six resonances: an AB system due to H(4) and H(5) with satellites (e.g., compound **3a**: δ (H₄) 7.89, $^3J(\text{Pt}-\text{H}) = 51.9$ Hz; δ (H₅) 7.21, $^4J(\text{Pt}-\text{H}) = 18.0$ Hz) confirms coordination of platinum to the C(3) atom. The H(6') proton is remarkably deshielded, ca. 9.6–9.7 ppm (see Table 1), and coupled to ^{195}Pt : the $^3J(\text{Pt}-\text{H})$ values, ca. 14 Hz, reflect the high *trans* influence of the methyl group. The resonances of the aliphatic protons in the substituent, which are far away from the platinum atom, are very slightly affected by coordination. Compound **3a** has been fully characterized by means of ^1H , ^1H NOE difference, $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$, ^{13}C APT, and ^1H single frequency decoupled ^{13}C NMR experiments, allowing a full assignment of ^1H and ^{13}C resonances. Finally, ^1H NOE difference experiments agree with the proposed geometry of the complex (e.g., irradiation of the Pt-Me at 0.69 ppm gives enhancement at 3.23 (coordinated DMSO) and 7.89 ppm (H(4)).

In agreement with the ^1H NMR data, the $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of **3a** shows an aromatic carbon atom bonded to platinum at 141.31 ppm, with $^1J_{\text{Pt}-\text{C}} = 1086$ Hz, to be compared with previously reported data for N,C(sp²) cyclometalated Pt(II) derivatives.¹¹ In addition the ^{13}C APT spectrum shows in the aromatic region only six tertiary and four quaternary carbon atoms, the metalated one included. In the aliphatic region two resonances, at –13.91 ppm ($^1J(^{13}\text{C}-^{195}\text{Pt}) = 763.8$ Hz) and 43.69 ppm ($^2J(^{13}\text{C}-^{195}\text{Pt}) = 42.5$ Hz), give clear evidence for coordinated Me and DMSO groups, respectively.

A series of ^1H single frequency decoupled ^{13}C NMR spectra allowed us to assign the C resonances, showing that the $^{195}\text{Pt}-^{13}\text{C}$ coupling constants of the carbon atoms of the metalated pyridine are much larger than those of the N-bonded pyridine ring (e.g., C5, $J(\text{Pt}-\text{C}) = 59.7$ Hz; C5', $J(\text{Pt}-\text{C}) = 9.9$ Hz).

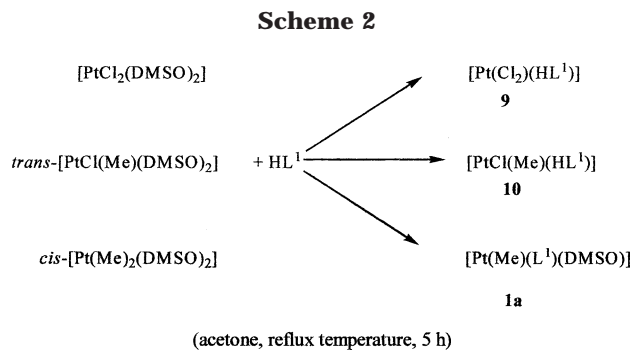
The N',C(3) metalation seems to be peculiar of electron-rich derivatives. To point out the role of the substitution of a methyl for a chloride, the behavior of the strictly homologous species [Pt(Me)₂(DMSO)₂], [PtCl(Me)(DM-

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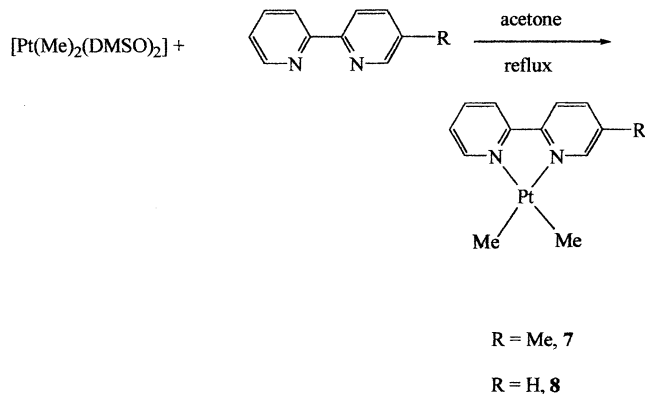
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(8) An additional ligand was investigated, namely, 6-(1-methylbenzyl)2,2'-bipyridine: although ^1H NMR spectra give evidence for N',C(3) metalation, a number of other species are formed, hampering isolation of a pure compound



SO₂], and [PtCl₂(DMSO)₂] toward ligand HL¹ has been compared under the same conditions, Scheme 2. As can be seen C(3)–H activation is achieved only with the dimethyl derivative, at least under these experimental conditions.

A substituent in 6 position is of paramount importance to achieve N',C(3) metalation. By comparison, the reaction of [Pt(Me)₂(DMSO)₂] with 5-Me-2,2'-bipyridine (HL⁷) or the unsubstituted 2,2'-bipy (HL⁸), carried out under the same experimental conditions (acetone, reflux), affords the adducts [Pt(Me)₂(HLⁿ)] (*n* = 7, 8) (**7**, **8**); with the disubstituted 6,6'-Me₂-2,2'-bipyridine no reaction occurs at room temperature, whereas heavy decomposition is observed in refluxing acetone.



The nature of the electronic and steric properties of the 6-substituent of HLⁿ does not remarkably affect the reaction, which in most cases, e.g., *n* = 1, 2, 3, and 6, occurs even at room temperature.

The progress of the N',C(3) metalation was investigated following by ¹H NMR spectroscopy the reaction of [Pt(Me)₂(DMSO)₂] with the ligands HL¹ and HL² in acetone at room temperature (see Experimental Section).

The ¹H NMR spectrum ((CD₃)₂CO) of the starting complex [Pt(Me)₂(DMSO)₂] shows a sharp peak at δ 3.12 (12H) with ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites (³J(Pt–H) = 13.3 Hz), due to the S-bonded Me₂SO, and a singlet at δ 0.56 due to Pt–Me (²J(Pt–H) = 80.2 Hz). After addition of the ligand HL¹ a rapid decrease of these signals is observed; in the aliphatic region of the spectra the signal of coordinated DMSO, δ 3.12, partially converts into a singlet characteristic of free DMSO, δ 2.52. At the same time a new species, **i**, is formed, characterized by a H(6') resonance at low field (δ 9.11), with no coordinated DMSO. After a few minutes after the mixing of the reactants, the spectra show, in low concentration, the final reaction products, [Pt(L¹)(Me)(DMSO)] and methane (δ = 0.16).

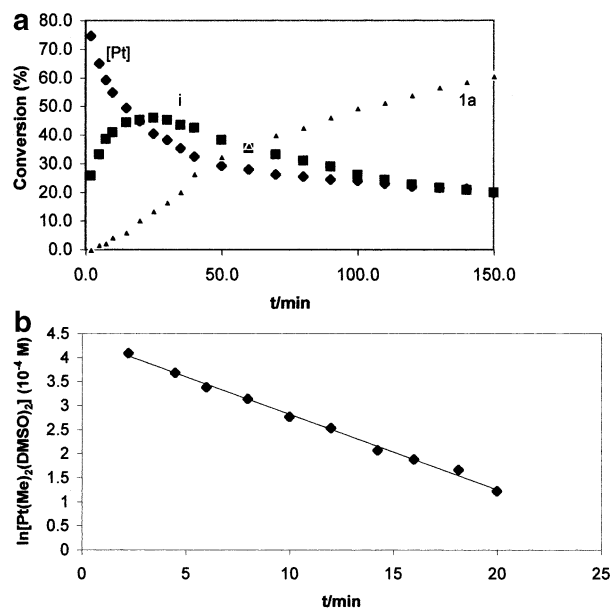


Figure 1. (a) ¹H NMR progress of the reaction of [Pt(Me)₂(DMSO)₂] with HL¹ (1:1 molar ratio) in (CD₃)₂CO, [Pt] = [Pt(Me)₂(DMSO)₂]; (b) plot of ln[Pt(Me)₂(DMSO)₂] vs time with a large excess of HL¹.

The reaction is almost complete after 24 h. Conversion of species **i** to complex **1a** or **3a** is relatively slow, but not enough to allow isolation of the intermediates.

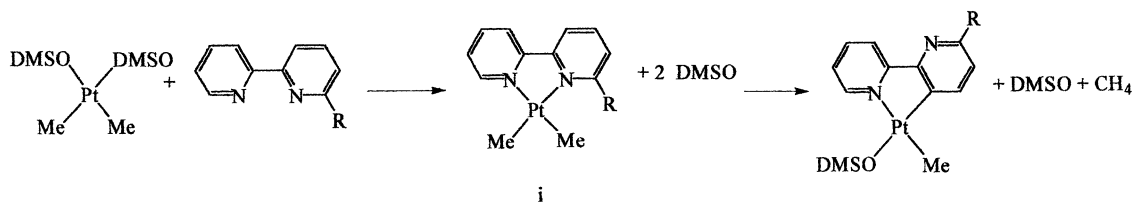
On the whole in the progress of the reaction only three platinum(II) species are detected in solution: the reactant ([Pt(Me)₂(DMSO)₂]), the final product ([Pt(L)(Me)(DMSO)]), and the new complex **i**. No other DMSO-containing Pt(II) complex is observed.

The ¹H NMR spectrum of the intermediate species **i** shows only the signals of two Pt–Me groups and of a coordinated HL unit. The resonances of the Pt–methyl protons are very close, e.g., for HL¹, δ 1.02, s, ²J(Pt–H) = 89 Hz; 1.03, s, ²J(Pt–H) = 87 Hz. Both the nitrogen donors of the bipyridine seem to be coordinated: the H(6') proton is shifted to low field and coupled to platinum (e.g., for HL¹ δ 9.11 d, H_{6'}, ³J(Pt–H) = 23 Hz) and the 6-Me protons resonate at δ 2.83, a value very similar to that previously observed for the isomer of [Pt(HL¹)(Me)I], having the coordinated Me group close to the 6-Me (δ 2.87). It is worth noting that in the rollover species the chemical shift of the latter protons is usually very similar to that of the free ligand (e.g., δ(Me): **1a**, 2.46; HL¹, 2.57). On the whole, the spectrum of complex **i** strictly reminds us of those of the isolated adducts **7** and **8** (see Experimental Section), so that we feel confident to identify compound **i** as the adduct [Pt(Me)₂(HL¹)]. Attempts to isolate the adduct by reaction of [Pt(Me)₂(COD)] with HL¹ were unsuccessful: no reaction occurs even at reflux temperature.

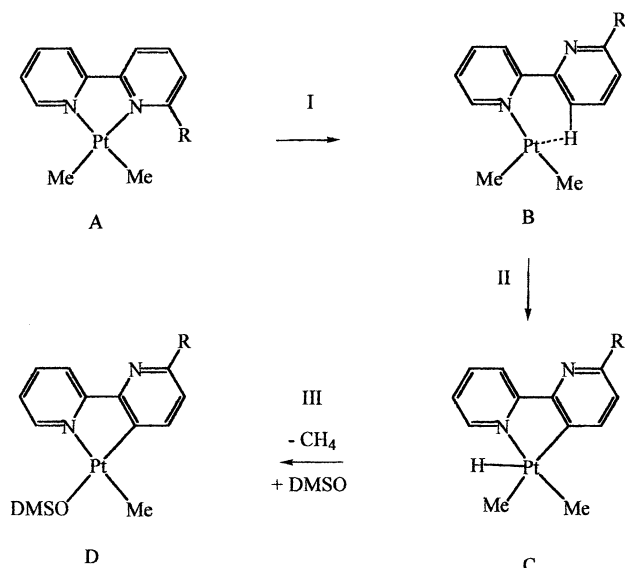
A plot of the concentrations of [Pt(Me)₂(DMSO)₂], **i**, and **1a** versus time (see Figure 1a) shows a pattern consistent with a two-step consecutive reaction (Scheme 3). ¹H NMR follow-up of the reaction with a large excess of the ligand HL¹ indicates that overall the reaction is first order in [Pt(Me)₂(DMSO)₂] with *k*_{obs} = 0.16 s⁻¹ at 18.5 °C. A plot of ln[Pt(Me)₂(DMSO)₂] versus time is shown in Figure 1b.

A plausible pathway for the conversion of the adduct to the N',C(3) cyclometalated species is shown in

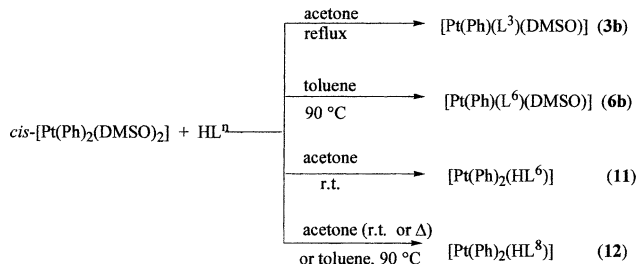
Scheme 3



Scheme 4



Scheme 5



Scheme 4. The steric hindrance due to the substitution in **6** makes the adduct A unstable and allows the cleavage of a Pt–N bond weakened by the strong *trans* influence of the methyl group. Rotation of a pyridine ring around the C(2)–C(2') bond brings a C–H bond close to the metal, B. The pseudo coordinately unsaturated intermediate B¹² promotes the C(sp²)-H oxidative addition to yield the pentacoordinated hydrido-platinum(IV), C.^{13,14} From C, loss of methane eventually leads to the platinum(II) N'-C(3) cyclometalated species as the thermodynamically stable isomer D. An oxidative addition from B to C is supported by the observation that the formation of Ar–H in the thermal rearrangement of [Pt(Ar)₂(bipy)] is strongly favored in the case of Ar = 4-CMe₃-C₆H₄ versus Ar = 4-CF₃-C₆H₄ (the former reacts 62 times faster than the latter).^{5,15}

(12) The X-ray structure of a 14-electron platinum(II) complex stabilized by an agostic interaction has been quite recently reported: Baratta, W.; Stoccoro, S.; Doppiu, A.; Herdtweck, E.; Zucca, A.; Rigo, P. *Angew. Chem.* **2003**, *42* (1), 105–109.

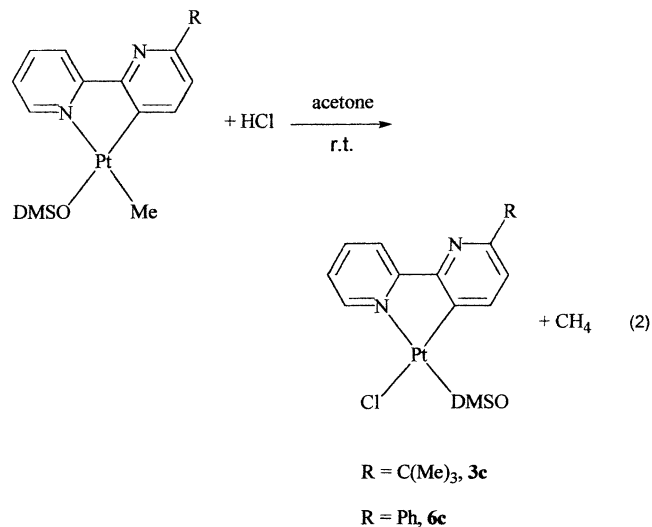
(13) Puddephatt, R. J. *Coord. Chem. Rev.* **2001**, *219–221*, 157–185.

(14) Sixteen-electron platinum(IV) species have been recently characterized by X-ray structure: (a) Fekl, U.; Kaminsky, W.; Goldberg, K. I. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2001**, *123*, 6423. (b) Reinartz, S.; White, P. S.; Brookhart, M.; Templeton, J. L. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2001**, *123*, 6425.

Accordingly, the *cis*-[Pt(Ph)₂(DMSO)₂] complex seems to be somewhat less prone than the corresponding dimethyl derivative to give N'-C(3) cyclometalation: indeed this can be achieved under more severe conditions such as refluxing acetone for HL³ or toluene at 90 °C for HL⁶.⁶ Under mild conditions adducts, e.g., [Pt(Ph)₂(HL⁶)] and [Pt(Ph)₂(HL⁸)], are obtained.

On the whole, the ¹H NMR spectra of **3b** and **6b** are similar to those of the corresponding methyl derivatives. Evidence for the isomer having the phenyl *trans* to the nitrogen atom is provided by the upfield shift with respect to **3a** and **6a** ($\Delta\delta$ 1.12–1.13 ppm) of the resonances of the H(4) protons, due to the shielding effect of the adjacent phenyl ring.

In complexes **3a** and **6a** the platinum–C(sp³) bond was cleaved by reaction with HCl in acetone at room temperature (reaction 2):



The metal–carbon bond inside the five-membered N,C cycle is unaffected. One isomer is selectively formed; the correct assignment of the isomer can be attained through the IR and NMR spectra. In the IR spectrum (complex **3c**) a strong absorption at 276 cm⁻¹ is consistent with the stretching vibration of a Pt–Cl bond *trans* to a ligand with a high *trans* influence.¹⁶ In the ¹H NMR spectra the ³J(Pt–H) relevant to the methylic protons of DMSO, 24.7 Hz, agrees with a DMSO *trans* to a nitrogen atom.

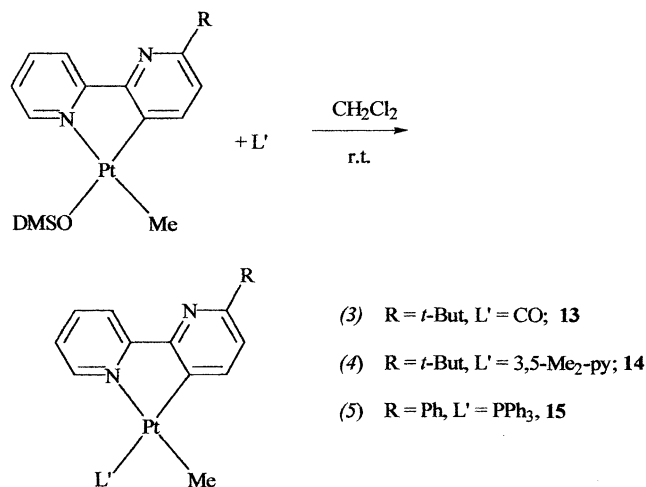
The mononuclear chloride species are accompanied by a minor product, [PtCl(L)₂], formed by elimination of DMSO and poorly soluble, as often observed for this type of chloro-bridged dimers. In its turn the bridge can be opened by DMSO to restore the mononuclear complexes.

(15) Ryabov, A. D. *Chem. Rev.* **1990**, *90*, 403–424.

(16) Appleton, T. G.; Clark, H. C.; Manzer, L. E. *Coord. Chem. Rev.* **1973**, *10*, 335–422.

Reaction 2 is likely to occur through oxidative addition of HCl followed by fast reductive elimination of CH₄: no hydrido-alkyl species is detected.¹³ The different *trans* influence of the donors accounts for the isomer having a *trans* Cl–Pt–C arrangement.

As shown, *inter alia*, by the reaction with HCl, the N',C(3) five-membered ring is rather robust, and a variety of species can be obtained by substitution of DMSO with neutral ligands, e.g., CO, 3,5-Me₂pyridine, and PPh₃, reactions 3–5.



Reactions 3–5 occur in dichloromethane solution at room temperature, i.e., in very mild conditions. Compounds containing a single molecule of DMSO have been reported to be rather inert¹⁷ to substitution; in complexes such as **3a** and **6a**, the easy displacement of DMSO by neutral ligands is promoted by the metal–carbon σ -bond in *trans* position. Compounds **13**–**15** contain four different groups coordinated to the metal center. Complex **13** in particular is not trivial, having three different metal–carbon bonds, M–C(sp³), M–C(sp²), and M–C(sp), respectively. ¹H NMR data are consistent with the isomer having an N–Pt–Me arrangement. A NOE difference experiment supports this assignment: irradiation of the resonance of the methyl bound to the platinum atom, δ 1.19, gives enhancement of the signal of H(4), δ 7.96.

The present results point out that an interesting intramolecular activation of a C–H bond of 6-substituted pyridine rings can be attained by reaction of electron-rich platinum(II) derivatives. Although the presence of a substituent in 6-position is crucial in driving the reaction toward the N',C(3) metalation, we have evidence (¹H NMR spectroscopy) that in the case of [Pt(Me)₂(DMSO)₂] activation of a C–H bond of a pyridine ring occurs even with the unsubstituted 2,2'-bipyridine. However, the process requires harsh conditions, e.g., refluxing toluene,⁵ and is accompanied by heavy decomposition to metal. A dynamic behavior implying dissociation–association of a nitrogen donor has been previously observed in some palladium(II) 2,2'-bipy complexes.¹⁸

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Finally it is worth mentioning that with the 6-alkyl- and benzyl-substituted ligands, HL¹–HL⁵, we were unable to attain multiple C–H bond activation, as recently reported in the case of 6-phenyl-2,2'-bipyridine, HL.^{6,7} Nevertheless, the FAB mass spectra of compounds **2a**, **3a**, and **5a** provide evidence for dinuclear species (e.g., **2a**, *m/z* 613 [Pt₂(L-2H)⁺] in the vapor phase.

Experimental Section

The ligands were prepared according to literature methods.¹⁹

All the reactions were carried out under argon. The solvents have been purified and dried according to standard methods.²⁰ Compounds *cis*-[Pt(Me)₂(DMSO)₂], *cis*-[Pt(Ph)₂(DMSO)₂], and *trans*-[Pt(Me)Cl(DMSO)₂] were prepared according to literature procedures.²¹ Elemental analyses were performed with a Perkin-Elmer 240B elemental analyzer by Mr. A. Canu (Dipartimento di Chimica, Università di Sassari). Infrared spectra were recorded with a Perkin-Elmer 983 using Nujol mulls. ¹H, ¹³C{¹H}, and ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectra were recorded with a Varian VXR 300 spectrometer operating at 300.0, 75.4, and 121.4 MHz, respectively.

Chemical shifts are given in ppm relative to internal TMS (¹H, ¹³C) and external 85% H₃PO₄ (³¹P). NOE difference spectra were performed by means of standard pulse sequences. The mass spectrometric measurements were performed on a VG 7070EQ instrument, equipped with a PDP 11-250J data system and operating under positive ion fast atom bombardment (FAB) conditions with 3-nitrobenzyl alcohol as supporting matrix.

Preparations. General Procedures for Preparation of Compounds 1a–6a. Method A. To a suspension of *cis*-[Pt(Me)₂(DMSO)₂] (88 mg, 0.231 mmol) in toluene (7 mL) were added under stirring 0.236 mmol of HL^{*n*} (*n* = 1–6). The yellow solution was heated to 70–80 °C, then evaporated to dryness. The crude product was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂, filtered over Celite, and treated with pentane. The precipitate obtained was filtered, washed with pentane, and vacuum-dried to give the analytical sample as a pale yellow solid.

Method B. To a solution of the ligand HL^{*n*} (*n* = 1–6, 0.30 mmol) in acetone (15 mL) was added under stirring 114 mg of *cis*-[Pt(Me)₂(DMSO)₂] (0.30 mmol). The yellow solution was refluxed, then concentrated to small volume and treated with pentane. The precipitate obtained was filtered, washed with pentane, and vacuum-dried to give the analytical sample as a pale yellow solid.

[Pt(Me)(L¹)(DMSO)], 1a. Compound **1a** was obtained according to method B (5 h), yield 68%, mp 140–3 °C. Anal. Calcd for C₁₄H₁₈N₂OPtS: C 36.76, H 3.97, N 6.12. Found: C 37.13, H, 3.65, N, 6.06. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 0.69 (s, 3H, Me–Pt, ²J_{Pt–H} = 82.0 Hz), 2.52 (s, 3H, Me–bipy), 3.24 (s, 6H, Me(DMSO), ³J_{Pt–H} =

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19.3 Hz), 7.04 (d, 1H, H₅, ³J_{H-H} = 8.0 Hz, ⁴J_{Pt-H} = 18.6 Hz), 7.31 (m, 1H, H₅), 7.88 (d, 1H, H₄, ³J_{H-H} = 8.0 Hz, ³J_{Pt-H} = 53.0 Hz), 7.91 (td, 1H, H₄ (partially overlapping)), 8.31 (d, 1H, H₃, ³J_{H-H} = 7.6 Hz), 9.67 (d, 1H, H₆, ³J_{H-H} = 5.9 Hz, ³J_{Pt-H} = ca. 14 Hz).

[Pt(Me)(L²)(DMSO)], 2a. Method A (80 °C, 16 h), yield 60%; method B, yield 81%; mp 145 °C (dec). Anal. Calcd for C₁₈H₂₆N₂O₂PtS·0.5DMSO: C 41.29, H 5.29, N 5.07. Found: C 40.98, H 5.12, N 5.11. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 0.70 (s, 3H, Me-Pt, ²J_{Pt-H} = 82.0 Hz), 0.96 (s, 9H, (Me)₃C); 2.65 (s, 2H, CH₂), 3.24 (s, 6H, Me(DMSO) ³J_{Pt-H} = 18.3 Hz), 6.98 (d, 1H, H₅, ³J_{H-H} = 7.6 Hz, ⁴J_{Pt-H} = 18.9 Hz) 7.32 (td, 1H, H₅) 7.88 (d, 1H, H₄, ³J_{H-H} = 7.6 Hz, ³J_{Pt-H} = 52.6 Hz), 7.91 (1H, H₄ (overlapping)); 8.34 (d, 1H, H₃; ³J_{H-H} = 7.9 Hz), 9.66 (d, 1H, H₆, ³J_{H-H} = 6.1 Hz, ³J_{Pt-H} = 14.1 Hz). MS-FAB⁺ (*m/z*): 513 [M]⁺, 498 [M - Me]⁺, 435 [M - DMSO]⁺, 419 [M - DMSO - CH₄]⁺, 403 [M - DMSO - 2 CH₄]⁺, 363 [M - DMSO - C(Me)₃ - Me]⁺.

[Pt(Me)(L³)(DMSO)], 3a. Method A (70 °C, 14 h), yield. 61%; method B, yield 88%; mp 187 °C. Anal. Calcd for C₁₇H₂₄ N₂O₂PtS: C 40.87, H 4.84, N 5.61. Found: C 40.51, H 4.54, N 5.42. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 0.69 (s, 3H, Me-Pt, ²J_{Pt-H} = 82.3 Hz), 1.38 (s, 9H, (Me)₃C); 3.23 (s, 6H, Me(DMSO) ³J_{Pt-H} = 18.1 Hz); 7.21 (d, 1H, H₅, ³J_{H-H} = 8.1 Hz, ⁴J_{Pt-H} = 18.0 Hz), 7.31 (ddd, 1H, H₅, ³J_{H-H} = 7.3 Hz, ³J_{H-H} = 5.6 Hz, ⁴J_{H-H} = 1.5 Hz), 7.89 (d, 1H, H₄, ³J_{Pt-H} = 51.9 Hz, ³J_{H-H} = 8.1 Hz), 7.91 (m, 1H, H₄ (overlapping)), 8.36 (d, 1H, H₃, ³J_{H-H} = 8.1 Hz), 9.65 (d, 1H, H₆, ³J_{Pt-H} = 19.8 Hz, ³J_{H-H} = 5.6 Hz). ¹³C-{¹H} NMR: δ -13.91 (CH₃-Pt, ¹J_{Pt-C} = 763.8 Hz), 30.21 (C-(CH₃)), 43.69 (CH₃ (DMSO), ²J_{Pt-C} = 42.5 Hz), 119.37 ((C5), ¹J_{Pt-C} = 59.7 Hz), 121.35 (C3', ¹J_{Pt-C} = 24.2 Hz), 124.07 (C5', ¹J_{Pt-C} = 9.9 Hz), 138.25 (C4', ¹J_{Pt-C} = n.r.), 140.21 (C4, ¹J_{Pt-C} = 90.8 Hz), 141.31 (C3, ¹J_{Pt-C} = 1086 Hz), 150.11 (C6', ¹J_{Pt-C} = 7.7 Hz). MS-FAB⁺ (*m/z*): 499 [M]⁺, 484 [M - Me]⁺, 421 [M - DMSO]⁺, 405 [M - DMSO - CH₄]⁺, 390 [M - DMSO - CH₄ - Me]⁺, 375 [M - DMSO - 2Me - CH₄]⁺, 349 [M - DMSO - C(Me)₃ - Me]⁺.

[Pt(Me)(L⁴)(DMSO)], 4a. Method B (1.5 h), yield 99%; mp 172–174 °C. Anal. Calcd for C₂₂H₂₆N₂O₂PtS: C 47.05, H 4.67, N 4.99. Found: C 46.72, H 4.39, N 5.38. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 0.66 (s, 3H, Me-Pt, ²J_{Pt-H} = 82.0 Hz), 0.90 (t, 3H, MeCH₂, ³J_{H-H} = 7.3 Hz), 2.08 (m, 1H, CH₂), 2.37 (m, 1H, CH₂), 3.21 (s, 6H, Me(DMSO), ³J_{Pt-H} = 18.1 Hz), 3.90 (t, 1H, CH, ³J_{H-H} = 7.7 Hz), 7.01 (d, 1H, H₅, ³J_{H-H} = 7.8 Hz, ⁴J_{Pt-H} = 18.1 Hz), 7.12–7.37 (m, 6H, aromatics), 7.85 (d, 1H, H₄, ³J_{H-H} = 7.8 Hz, ³J_{Pt-H} = 52.9 Hz), 7.92 (td, 1H), H₄, ³J_{H-H} = 7.6 Hz, ⁴J_{H-H} = 1.5 Hz), 8.39 (d, 1H, H₃, ³J_{H-H} = 7.6 Hz), 9.66 (dd, 1H, H₆, ³J_{H-H} = 6.6 Hz, ³J_{Pt-H} = 13.8 Hz).

[Pt(Me)(L⁵)(DMSO)], 5a. Method B (2.5 h): yield 73%; mp dec 155 °C. Anal. Calcd for C₂₂H₂₆N₂O₂PtS: C 47.05, H 4.67, N 4.99. Found: C 46.55, H, 4.24, N, 5.10. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 0.66 (s, 3H, Me-Pt, ²J_{Pt-H} = 82.0 Hz), 1.77 (s, 6H, (Me)₂C), 3.23 (s, 6H, Me(DMSO), ³J_{Pt-H} = 18.1 Hz), 6.84 (d, 1H, H₅, ³J_{H-H} = 8.1 Hz, ⁴J_{Pt-H} = 17.6 Hz), 7.04–7.26 (m, 6H), 7.75 (d, 1H, H₄, ³J_{H-H} = 8.1 Hz, ³J_{Pt-H} = 51.8 Hz), 7.83 (td, 1H, H₄, ³J_{H-H} = 7.8 Hz, ⁴J_{H-H} = 1.3 Hz), 8.27 (d, 1H, H₃, ³J_{H-H} = 7.8 Hz), 9.58 (d, 1H, H₆, ³J_{H-H} = 6.3 Hz, ³J_{Pt-H} = 13.7 Hz). MS-FAB⁺ (*m/z*): 561 [M]⁺, 546 [M -

Me]⁺, 483 [M - DMSO]⁺, 467 [M - DMSO - CH₄]⁺, 453 [M - DMSO - 2Me]⁺.

[Pt(Me)(L⁶)(DMSO)], 6a. Method A (2 h), yield 93%; method B (1 h, reflux temp), yield 89%; mp 174–176 °C. Anal. Calcd for C₁₉H₂₀N₂O₂PtS: C 43.93, H 3.88, N 5.39. Found: C 43.73, H 3.63, N 5.20. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 0.75 (s, 3H, Me-Pt, ²J_{Pt-H} = 81.8 Hz), 3.26 (s, 6H, (Me)₂SO, ³J_{Pt-H} = 18.3 Hz), 7.32–7.54 (m, 4H, aromatics), 7.65 (d, 1H, H₅, ³J_{H-H} = 8.1 Hz, ⁴J_{Pt-H} = 17.8 Hz), 7.97 (dt, 1H, H₄, ⁴J_{H-H} ≈ 1 Hz ³J_{H-H} = 7.8 Hz), 8.07 (d, 1H, H₄, ³J_{H-H} = 8.1 Hz, ³J_{Pt-H} = 52.0 Hz), 8.14 (d, 2H, Ho (Ph), ³J_{H-H} = 7.8 Hz), 8.50 (ddd, 1H, H₃, ³J_{H-H} = 7.3 Hz), 9.71 (ddd, 1H, H₆, ³J_{H-H} = 5.6 Hz, ³J_{Pt-H} = 13.7 Hz). ¹³C NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ -13.83 (s, ¹J_{C-Pt} = 772.5 Hz), 120.06 (s, ¹J_{C-Pt} = 60.0 Hz), 121.12 (s, ¹J_{C-Pt} = 20.0 Hz), 125.09 (s), 125.93 (s), 128.46 (s), 128.67 (s), 138.87 (s, ¹J_{C-Pt} = 90.6 Hz), 139.28 (s), 140.78 (s, ¹J_{C-Pt} = 90.2 Hz), 145.52 (s), 149.86 (s), 151.35 (s, ¹J_{C-Pt} = 214.7 Hz), 161.65 (s, ¹J_{C-Pt} = 56.4 Hz), 164.01 (s, ¹J_{C-Pt} = 25.0 Hz). MS-FAB⁺ (*m/z*): 519 [M]⁺, 504 [M - Me]⁺, 441 [M - DMSO]⁺, 426 [M - DMSO - Me]⁺.

[Pt(Ph)(L³)(DMSO)], 3b. Complex **3b** was obtained according to method B (5 h) using [Pt(Ph)₂(DMSO)₂] instead of [Pt(Me)₂(DMSO)₂], pale yellow, yield 44%; mp 225 °C. Anal. Calcd for C₂₂H₂₆N₂O₂PtS: C 47.05, H 4.67, N 4.99. Found: C 47.36, H 4.57, N 4.99. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 1.32 (s, 9H, (Me)₃C), 2.95 (s, 3H, Me(DMSO), ³J_{Pt-H} = 17.6 Hz), 6.77 (d, 1H, H₄, ³J_{H-H} = 8.1 Hz, ³J_{Pt-H} = 61.0 Hz), 6.94 (d, 1H, H₅, ³J_{H-H} = 8.1 Hz, ⁴J_{Pt-H} = 16.6 Hz), 6.98–7.11 (m, 3H), 7.34 (m, 1H), 7.48 (dd, 2H, Ho (Ph), ³J_{H-H} = 8.1 Hz, ⁴J_{H-H} = 1.5 Hz, ³J_{Pt-H} = 66.9 Hz), 7.93 (td, 1H, H₄, ³J_{H-H} = 7.6 Hz, ⁴J_{H-H} = 1.4 Hz), 8.37 (dd, 1H, H₃, ³J_{H-H} = 7.6 Hz, ⁴J_{H-H} = 0.7 Hz), 9.56 (ddd, 1H, H₆, ³J_{Pt-H} = 12.6 Hz, ³J_{H-H} = 5.6 Hz, ⁴J_{H-H} = 1.4 Hz, ⁵J_{H-H} = 0.7 Hz). MS-FAB⁺ (*m/z*): 562 [MH]⁺, 483 [M - DMSO]⁺, 406 [M - DMSO - Ph]⁺, 391 [M - DMSO - Ph - Me]⁺.

Synthesis of [Pt(Ph)(L⁶)(DMSO)], 6b. Complex **6b** was obtained according to method A (90 °C, 8.5 h), using [Pt(Ph)₂(DMSO)₂] instead of [Pt(Me)₂(DMSO)₂]; pale yellow, yield 51%; mp 240 °C. Anal. Calcd for C₂₄H₂₂N₂O₂PtS: C 49.56, H 3.81, N 4.82. Found: C 49.43, H 3.85, N 4.72. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 2.98 (s, 6H, Me(DMSO), ³J_{Pt-H} = 17.6 Hz), 6.94 (d, 1H, H₄, ³J_{H-H} = 7.8 Hz, ³J_{Pt-H} = 62.8 Hz), 7.03–7.47 (m, 8H, aromatics), 7.51 (d, 2H, Ho (Ph-Pt), ³J_{H-H} = 6.8 Hz, ³J_{Pt-H} = 65.0 Hz), 7.98 (t, 1H, H₄, ³J_{H-H} = 7.7 Hz), 8.02 (d, 2H, Ho Ph bipy, ³J_{H-H} = 7.8 Hz), 9.63 (d, 1H, H₆, ³J_{H-H} = 5.4 Hz, ³J_{Pt-H} = 12.7 Hz). MS-FAB⁺ (*m/z*): 503 [M - DMSO]⁺, 426 [M - DMSO - Ph]⁺.

[Pt(Cl)(L³)(DMSO)] (3c) and [Pt₂(μ-Cl)₂(L³)₂] (3d). To a solution of **3a** (157.0 mg, 0.315 mmol) in acetone (20 mL) was added under stirring 3.2 mL of 0.1 M HCl (0.320 mmol). The color of the solution changed immediately to orange-yellow and a precipitate was formed. The suspension was stirred for 4 h; after that the precipitate was filtered and washed with acetone, to give compound **3d** as a yellow solid. The filtered solution was concentrated to small volume. The precipitate formed was filtered and washed with H₂O, EtOH, and Et₂O to give compound **3c**.

3d, [Pt₂(μ-Cl)₂(L³)₂]: yield 15%; mp > 260 °C. Anal. Calcd for C₂₈H₃₀Cl₂N₄Pt₂·H₂O: C 37.32, H 3.55, N 6.22. Found: C 36.73, H 3.20, N 5.93. IR (Nujol, ν_{max}/cm⁻¹):

330 (s), 347 (s), 371 (s), 393 (s). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (CDCl_3): δ 1.38 (s, 18H, $(\text{Me})_3\text{C}$), 7.06 (d, 2H), ca. 7.3 (2H, partially hidden by the solvent), 7.58 (d, 2H), 7.91 (t, 2H, H_4), 8.08 (d, 2H), 8.80 (d + d, 2H, H_6). MS-FAB $^+$ (m/z): 884 $[\text{M} + 2\text{H}]^+$, 848 $[\text{MH} - \text{Cl}]^+$, 441 $[\text{M}/2]^+$, 405 $[\text{M}/2 - \text{HCl}]^+$, 390 $[\text{M}/2 - \text{HCl} - \text{Me}]^+$.

3c, **[Pt(CI)(L³)(DMSO)]** yield 60%; mp 210 °C. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{21}\text{ClN}_2\text{OPtS}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$: C 35.72, H 4.31, N 5.21. Found: C 35.47, H 3.99, N 4.95. IR (Nujol, $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$): 276 (s), 316 (m). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (acetone- d_6): δ 1.38 (s, 9H, $(\text{Me})_3\text{C}$), 3.63 (s, 6H, Me(DMSO)), $^3J_{\text{Pt-H}} = 24.7$ Hz), 7.19 (d, 1H, H_5 , $^4J_{\text{Pt-H}} = 13.2$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H-H}} = 8.3$ Hz), 7.62 (m, 1H, H_5), 8.22 (td, 1H, H_4), 8.29 (dd, 1H, H_3), 8.53 (d, 1H, H_4 , $^3J_{\text{Pt-H}} = 41.0$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H-H}} = 8.3$ Hz), 9.57 (d, 1H, H_6 , $^3J_{\text{Pt-H}} = 35.4$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H-H}} = 5.8$ Hz).

[Pt(CI)(L⁶)(DMSO)], **6c**. To a solution of **6a** (46.1 mg; 0.089 mmol) in acetone (15 mL) was added, under vigorous stirring, 0.9 mL of 0.1 M HCl (0.09 mmol). The color of the solution became immediately orange-yellow and a precipitate formed. The suspension was stirred for 6 h and concentrated to small volume. The precipitate was filtered, washed with acetone, and vacuum-dried to give the analytical sample. Yield 58%; mp 215 °C. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{17}\text{ClN}_2\text{OPtS}$: C 40.04, H 3.17, N 5.19. Found: C 39.86, H 3.12, N 5.27. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (CDCl_3): δ 3.67 (s, 6H, Me(DMSO)), $^3J_{\text{Pt-H}} = 24.2$ Hz), 7.38–7.51 (m, 4H, aromatics), 7.55 (d, 1H, H_5 , $^3J_{\text{H-H}} = 8.3$ Hz, $^4J_{\text{Pt-H}} = 13.0$ Hz), 8.01 (dt, 1H, H_4 , $^3J_{\text{H-H}} = 7.7$ Hz, $^4J_{\text{H-H}} = 1.5$ Hz), 8.10 (d, 2H, Ho Ph), 8.39 (d, 1H, H_3 , $^3J_{\text{H-H}} = 7.2$ Hz), 8.64 (d, 1H, H_4 , $^3J_{\text{H-H}} = 8.3$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{Pt-H}} = 42.0$ Hz), 9.59 (ddd, 1H, H_6 , $^3J_{\text{H-H}} = 5.8$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{Pt-H}} = 31.1$ Hz).

[Pt(Me)₂(HL⁷)], **7**. Method B: yield 90%; mp 152–154 °C. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{Pt}$: C 39.49, H 4.08, N 7.09. Found: C 39.13, H 4.34, N 6.77. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (CDCl_3): δ 2.89 (s, 3H, bipy-Me), 0.94 (s, 3H, Pt-Me), $^2J_{\text{Pt-H}} = \text{ca. } 85$ Hz), 0.95 (s, 3H, Pt-CH₃, $^2J_{\text{Pt-H}} = \text{ca. } 85$ Hz), 7.63 (m, 1H), 8.09 (d, 1H), 8.22–8.36 (m, 3H), 8.98 (s (br), 1H, H_6 , $^3J_{\text{Pt-H}} = 21$ Hz), 9.20 (dd, 1H, H_6 , $^3J_{\text{Pt-H}} = 22$ Hz).

[Pt(Me)₂(HL⁸)], **8**. Method B: 30 min, room temperature, yield 92%. Spectroscopic data in agreement with those reported in ref 22.

[Pt Cl₂ (HL¹)], **9**. Complex **9** was obtained according to method B (30 h) using $[\text{PtCl}_2(\text{DMSO})_2]$ instead of $[\text{Pt}(\text{Me})_2(\text{DMSO})_2]$. Yield: 89%, mp: on heating a change of color from yellow to brick red occurs at 230–232 °C; no further decomposition up to 270 °C. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{10}\text{Cl}_2\text{N}_2\text{Pt}$: C 30.29, H 2.31, N 6.42. Found: C 30.15, H 2.39, N 6.20. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (CDCl_3): δ 3.18 (s, 3H, Me), 7.40 (dd, 1H), 7.48 (m, 1H), 7.91–7.99 (m, 3H), 8.13 (td, 1H), 9.69 (d, 1H, $^3J_{\text{Pt-H}} = \text{ca. } 33$ Hz).

[PtCl(Me)(HL¹)], **10**. Complex **10** was obtained according to method B (30 h) using *trans*- $[\text{PtCl}(\text{Me})(\text{DMSO})_2]$ instead of $[\text{Pt}(\text{Me})_2(\text{DMSO})_2]$. Spectroscopic and analytical data in agreement with those reported in ref 6.

[Pt(Ph)₂(HL⁶)], **11**. Complex **11** was obtained according to method B (2.5 h, at room temperature) using $[\text{Pt}(\text{Ph})_2(\text{DMSO})_2]$ instead of $[\text{Pt}(\text{Me})_2(\text{DMSO})_2]$. Yield: 90%; mp 180 °C (dec). Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_2\text{Pt}\cdot 0.5\text{DMSO}$: C 56.12, H 4.06, N 4.51. Found: C 56.10, H

3.93, N 4.64. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (CD_2Cl_2): δ 6.34–8.17 (m, 21H, aromatics), 8.38 (d, 1H, H_6).

[Pt(Ph)₂(HL⁸)], **12**. Complex **12** was obtained according to method B, 30 min, room temperature, yield 95%. Spectroscopic data in agreement with those reported in ref 23.

[Pt(Me)(L³)(CO)], **13**. CO (1 atm) was bubbled for 3 h into a solution of **3a** (81.9 mg, 0.164 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (15 mL). The solution was concentrated to small volume, then Et_2O was added. The precipitate formed was filtered, washed with Et_2O , and vacuum-dried to give the analytical sample as a yellow solid. Yield: 75%; mp 160 °C. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{OPt}$: C 42.76, H 4.04, N 6.23. Found: C 42.69, H 3.70, N 6.04. IR (Nujol, $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$): 1159 (w), 1259 (w), 1569 (m), 1608 (m), 2049 (s). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (CDCl_3): δ 1.19 (s, 3H, Me-Pt, $^2J_{\text{Pt-H}} = 86.2$ Hz), 1.38 (s, 9H, $(\text{Me})_3\text{C}$), 7.29 (d, 1H, H_5 , $^3J_{\text{H-H}} = 7.8$ Hz (partially overlapping)), 7.31 (m, 1H, H_5 , (partially overlapping)), 7.96 (d, 1H, H_4 , $^3J_{\text{Pt-H}} = 45.9$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H-H}} = 7.8$ Hz), 8.00 (td, 1H, H_4 , $^3J_{\text{H-H}} = 7.8$ Hz, $^4J_{\text{H-H}} = 1.6$ Hz), 8.39 (ddd, 1H, H_3 , $^3J_{\text{H-H}} = 8.0$ Hz), 8.61 (ddd, 1H, H_6 , $^3J_{\text{H-H}} = 5.4$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{Pt-H}} = 19$ Hz). MS-FAB $^+$ (m/z): 450 $[\text{MH}]^+$, 434 $[\text{M} - \text{Me}]^+$, 421 $[\text{M} - \text{CO}]$, 405 $[\text{M} - \text{H} - \text{Me} - \text{CO}]^+$, 391 $[\text{M} - 2\text{Me} - \text{CO}]^+$.

[Pt(Me)(L³)(3,5-(Me)₂py)], **14**. To a solution of **3a** (70.6 mg; 0.141 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (15 mL) was added, under vigorous stirring, 93.9 mg (0.876 mmol) of 3,5-(Me)₂py. The solution was stirred for 3.5 h, then concentrated to small volume and treated with hexane. The precipitate formed was filtered, washed with hexane, and vacuum-dried to give the analytical sample as a yellow solid. Yield: 50%. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{27}\text{N}_3\text{Pt}$: C 49.99, H 5.15, N 7.95. Found: C 49.60, H 4.82, N 7.66. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (CDCl_3): δ 0.93 (s, 3H, Me-Pt, $^2J_{\text{Pt-H}} = 84.0$ Hz), 1.37 (s, 9H, $(\text{Me})_3\text{C}$), 2.38 (s, 6H, Me (lutidine)), 7.08 (m, 1H, H_5), 7.13 (d, 1H, H_5 , $^3J_{\text{Pt-H}} = 11.4$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H-H}} = 8.0$ Hz), 7.48 (s, 1H, H_4 (lutidine)), 7.72 (d, 1H, H_6), 7.84 (td, 1H, H_4), 7.96 (d, 1H, H_4 , $^3J_{\text{Pt-H}} = 54.6$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H-H}} = 8.0$ Hz), 8.32 (d, 1H, H_3), 8.51 (s, 2H, H_2 (lutidine) $^3J_{\text{Pt-H}} = 21$ Hz).

[Pt(Me)(L⁶)(PPh₃)], **15**. To a solution of **6a** (55.2 mg, 0.106 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (15 mL) was added, under vigorous stirring, 28.6 mg of PPh_3 (0.109 mmol). The solution was stirred for 4 h, then concentrated to small volume and treated with hexane. The precipitate formed was filtered, washed with hexane, and vacuum-dried to give the analytical sample as a pale yellow solid. Yield: 76%; mp 245 °C. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{35}\text{H}_{29}\text{N}_2\text{PPt}\cdot 0.5\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$: C 57.15, H 4.05, N 3.75. Found: C 56.85, H 3.84, N 3.96. IR (Nujol, $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$): 654 (s), 774 (s), 1097 (s), 1569 (m), 1604 (m). $^1\text{H NMR}$ (CDCl_3): δ 0.79 (d, 3H, Me-Pt, $^2J_{\text{Pt-H}} = 83.0$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{P-H}} = 7.7$ Hz), 6.68 (m, 1H), 7.35–7.80 (m, 21H, aromatics), 8.15 (d, 2H, $^3J_{\text{H-H}} = 7.6$ Hz), 8.31 (dd, 1H, H_4 , $^3J_{\text{H-H}} = 8.1$ Hz, $^4J_{\text{P-H}} = 5.1$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{Pt-H}} = 46.5$ Hz), 8.53 (dd, 1H, H_3 , $^3J_{\text{H-H}} = 7.8$ Hz). $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (CDCl_3): δ 33.01 (s, $^1J_{\text{P-Pt}} = 2233$ Hz).

NMR Follow-Up Experiments. The rollover metalation was monitored by $^1\text{H NMR}$ spectroscopy. In a typical experiment 10.0 mg of $[\text{Pt}(\text{Me})_2(\text{DMSO})_2]$ and an equimolar amount of HL^n ($n = 1, 3$) were dissolved in 1.0 mL of acetone- d_6 . The solution was rapidly mixed,

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and ^1H NMR spectra were recorded at regular intervals until completion of the reaction at room temperature (18.5 °C, HL¹ and HL²) and at -60 °C (HL²). Selected peaks (e.g., H(6') or Pt-Me) were integrated, and the values obtained were reported versus time.

The study was repeated with a large excess of ligand in the case of HL¹ (>10:1), and $\ln[\text{Pt}(\text{Me})_2(\text{DMSO})_2]$ was plotted versus time, showing a pseudo-first-order rate.

In solution the presence of the starting reactants ($[\text{Pt}(\text{Me})_2(\text{DMSO})_2]$ and HL^{*n*}), the reaction products (the rollover species $[\text{Pt}(\text{Me})(\text{L}^n)(\text{DMSO})]$, free DMSO, and methane ($\delta = 0.16$ ppm)), and a reaction intermediate, formulated as the adduct species $[\text{Pt}(\text{Me})_2(\text{HL}^n)]$, was observed.

$[\text{Pt}(\text{Me})_2(\text{HL}^1)]$: ^1H NMR δ 1.02 (s, Pt-Me, $^2J_{\text{Pt-H}} = 89$ Hz), 1.03 (s, Pt-Me, $^2J_{\text{Pt-H}} = 87$ Hz), 2.83 (s, Me), 8.06–8.29 (m, 4H, H₃, H_{3'}, H₄, H_{4'}), 7.56–7.63 (m, 2H, H₅, H_{5'}), 9.11 (d, H_{6'}, $^3J_{\text{Pt-H}} = 23$ Hz).

$[\text{Pt}(\text{Me})_2(\text{HL}^2)]$: ^1H NMR δ ca. 1.0 (m (signals overlapping), Pt-Me, C(Me)₃), 3.41 (s, CH₂), 8.10–8.35 (m, 4H, H₃, H_{3'}, H₄, H_{4'}), 7.56–7.63 (m, 2H, H₅, H_{5'}), 9.07 (d, H_{6'}, $^3J_{\text{Pt-H}} = 23$ Hz).

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