## Metal-induced pre-organization for anion recognition in a neutral platinum-containing receptor

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All reactions were performed in oven-dried glassware under a slight positive pressure of nitrogen. 2.2'-bipyridine-4.4'-dicarbonyl dichloride,<sup>1</sup> 7-aminoindole<sup>2</sup> and the complex cis-[PtCl<sub>2</sub>(DMSO)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>3</sup> were synthesised following a literature procedure. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz) and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz) spectra were determined on a Bruker AV300 spectrometer. <sup>31</sup>P-NMR (121 MHz) and <sup>195</sup>Pt NMR (64 MHz) were recorded on a Varian VXR-300 and the chemical shifts were recorded in ppm relative to H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, 85% in water and K<sub>2</sub>PtCl<sub>6</sub> in water, respectively. Chemical shifts for <sup>1</sup>H NMR are reported in parts per million (ppm), calibrated to the residual solvent peak set, with coupling constants reported in Hertz (Hz). The following abbreviations are used for spin multiplicity: s =singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, m = multiplet . Chemical shifts for  ${}^{13}C$  NMR are reported in ppm, relative to the central line of a septet at  $\delta = 39.52$  ppm for deuterio-dimethylsulfoxide. Infrared (IR) spectra were recorded on a a NICOLET 5700 FT-IR spectrophotometer and reported in wavenumbers (cm<sup>-1</sup>). Microanalytical data were obtained using a Fisons EA CHNS-O instrument (T = 1000 °C). UV-Vis spectra were recorded on a Thermo Nicolet Evolution 300 spectrophotometer. All solvents and starting materials were purchased from commercial sources where available. Proton NMR titrations were performed by adding aliquots of the putative anionic guest (as the TBA) salt (0.15 M) in a solution of the receptor (0.01M) in DMSO- $d_6/0.5\%$  water to a solution of the receptor (0.01M).

<sup>1</sup> Uppadine L. H., Keene F. R., Beer P. D., *Journal of the Chemical Society, Dalton Trans.*, 2001, **14**, 2188.

<sup>2</sup>Zielinski T., Dydio P., Jurczak J., *Tetrahedron*, 2008, **64**, 568.

<sup>3</sup> Price J. H., Williamson A. N., Schramm R. S., Wayland B. B., Inorg. Chem., 1972, 11, 1280.

## Synthesis of 4,4'-dicarboxamido-di(indol-7-yl)-2,2'-bipyridine 1

To a solution of 7-aminoindole (0.342 g, 2.59 mmol) in THF (15 mL) a solution of 2,2'-dipyridyl-4,4'-dicarbonyl dichloride (0.365 g, 1.30 mmol) in THF (75 mL) was added dropwise in the presence of 1.5 mL of triethylamine and a catalytic amount of DMAP. The reaction mixture was heated at 50°C under N<sub>2</sub> for 36 h. It was then filtered, and the solvent removed under reduced pressure. The residue (a brown oil) was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and washed with diethyl ether to precipitate the compound as a light brown powder. The solid was washed with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (200 mL), filtered and dried under vacuum. Yield: 58% (0.356 g, 0.75 mmol). M.p. over 250°C; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta_{\rm H}$  6.4-6.6 (m, 2H); 7.04 (t, J=7.68 Hz, 2H); 7.33 (d, J=7.32 Hz, 2H); 7.34-7.42 (m, 2H); 7.48 (d, J=8.04 Hz, 2H); 8.03-8.18 (m, 2H); 8.99 (d, J=5.10 Hz, 2H); 9.04 (s, 2H); 10.64 (s, 2H, NH amide); 10.97 (s, 2H, NH indole). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (D1.47 (CH); 116.41 (CH); 117.95 (CH); 118.73 (CH); 119.00 (CH); 122.39 (C); 122.53 (CH); 125.35 (CH); 129.29 (C); 130.06 (C); 143.41 (C); 150.06 (CH); 155.53 (C); 163.97 (C). IR (KBr disk, cm<sup>-1</sup>) v = 3423, 3200 (s, NH stretching), 1650 (s, CO stretching); LRMS (ESI<sup>-</sup>, m/z): 471.1 [M-H]<sup>-</sup>. Elemental analysis: found (calculated for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub>): C 71.21 (71.19); H 4.87 (4.24); N 17.78 (17.80).

## Synthesis of 4,4'-dicarboxamido-di(indol-7-yl)-2,2'-bipyridine dichloro platinum (II) 2

To a solution of **1** (87.5 mg, 0.185 mmol) in MeCN (25 mL) [PtCl<sub>2</sub>(DMSO)<sub>2</sub>]*cis* (78.2 mg, 0.185 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was refluxed under N<sub>2</sub> overnight. It was then filtered to give the desired compound as a brown orange solid. Yield: 75% (0.102 g, 0.139 mmol). M.p. over 250°C; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta_{\rm H}$  6.4-6-6 (m, 2H); 7.05 (t, J=7.05 Hz, 2H); 7.32 (d, J=7.17 Hz, 2H); 7.35-7.45 (m, 2H); 7.50 (d, J=7.53 Hz, 2H); 8.44 (m, 2H); 9.20 (s, 2H); 9.77 (d, J=6.03 Hz, 2H); 10.82 (s, 2H, NH amide); 11.01 (s, 2H, NH indole). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 298 K):  $\delta_{\rm C}$  101.67 (CH); 116.37 (CH); 118.41 (CH); 118.83 (CH); 119.58 (CH); 121.79 (C); 123.50 (CH); 125.46 (CH); 129.33 (C); 130.00 (C); 149.01 (C); 150.67 (CH); 156.95 (C); 161.96 (C) IR (KBr disk, cm<sup>-1</sup>): v = 3386, 3344 (s, NH stretching), 1670 (s, CO stretching); LRMS (ESF, m/z): 736.1 [M-H]<sup>-</sup>. Elemental analysis: found (calculated for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub>PtCl<sub>2</sub>): C 45.93 (45.54); H 2.62 (2.73); N 11.42 (11.38).



**Figure S5** Hydrogen bonding environment in the crystal structure of compound **1** with chloride around Cl1 and Cl2. Additional C-H<sup>--</sup>O hydrogen bonds and contacts extend the structure into a 3D lattice.

Table S1. Hydrogen bonds and short contacts [Å and °] in the chloride complex of 1.

D-H···A	d(D-H)	<i>d</i> (H··· <i>A</i> )	$d(D \cdots A)$	$\angle(DHA)$	
N1-H901 <sup></sup> Cl1	0.88	2.21	3.083(8)	169.3	
N2-H902 <sup></sup> Cl1	0.88	2.42	3.249(8)	157.3	
N4-H904 Cl2 <sup>ii</sup>	0.88	2.21	3.064(8)	164.6	
N5-H905 <sup></sup> Cl2 <sup>ii</sup>	0.88	2.45	3.315(8)	169.4	
C5-H5 <sup></sup> Cl2 <sup>i</sup>	0.95	2.80	3.569(10)	139.4	
С6-Н6 <sup>…</sup> О1	0.95	2.36	2.898(12)	116.2	
C11-H1 <sup></sup> N3 <sup>i</sup>	0.95	2.49	2.808(12)	100.9	
C19-H19 <sup></sup> Cl1	0.95	2.68	3.524(11)	148.0	
C20-H20 <sup></sup> O2	0.95	2.29	2.885(12)	120.3	
C33-H33B <sup></sup> Cl1 <sup>iii</sup>	0.99	2.72	3.651(10)	157.3	
C37-H37A <sup></sup> Cl1 <sup>iii</sup>	0.99	2.74	3.601(11)	146.9	
C41-H41ACl1	0.99	2.70	3.680(10)	172.5	
C45-H45A Cl2	0.99	2.76	3.697(10)	158.4	
C45-H45B <sup></sup> O1 <sup>i</sup>	0.99	2.37	3.338(13)	167.3	
C49-H49B Cl2 <sup>iv</sup>	0.99	2.75	3.672(10)	155.9	
C50-H50B <sup></sup> O1 <sup>i</sup>	0.99	2.58	3.276(14)	127.5	
C53-H53ACl2	0.99	2.77	3.711(10)	159.2	
C57-H57B <sup></sup> Cl2 <sup>iv</sup>	0.99	2.78	3.682(10)	152.1	

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms:

(i) = 1-x, 1-y, 1-z (ii) = 1-x, -y, 1-z (iii) = -1+x, y, z (iv) = 1+x, y, z



Calculations by WinEQNMR Version 1.20 by Michael J. Hynes Program run at 10:50:39 on 03/05/2009

IDEAL DATA FOR 1:1 COMPLEX USING CHEMICAL SHIFT (TEST11.FIT) M + L = MLReaction: FILE: TEST11.FIT IDEAL DATA: K1 = 63.091; DELTA M = 20.0; DELTA ML = 120.0 File prepared by M. J. Hynes, October 22 2000 NO. А PARAMETER DELTA ERROR CONDI TI ON DESCRI PTI ON 3. 15279E+01 2. 000E-01 1. 924E+00 4. 187E+01 1 1 Κ1 1.03120E+01 2.000E-01 3.047E-02 5.478E+00 SHIFT M 2 1 3 1.65012E+01 1.000E+00 1.499E-01 2.653E+01 SHIFT ML 1 ORMS ERROR = 3.02E-02 MAX ERROR = 4.28E-02 AT OBS. NO. RESI DUALS SQUARED = 6.40E-038

Figure S6 Proton NMR titration of compound 1 with TBAF in DMSO- $d_6/0.5\%$  water.



IDEAL DATA FOR 1:1 COMPLEX USING CHEMICAL SHIFT (TEST11.FIT)

Calculations by WinEQNMR Version 1.20 by Michael J. Hynes Program run at 10:14:58 on 03/05/2009

IDEAL DATA FOR 1:1 COMPLEX USING CHEMICAL SHIFT (TEST11.FIT) Reaction: M + L = MLFILE: TEST11. FIT IDEAL DATA: K1 = 63.091; DELTA M = 20.0; DELTA ML = 120.0 File prepared by M. J. Hynes, October 22 2000 NO. А PARAMETER DELTA ERROR CONDI TI ON DESCRI PTI ON 5. 81803E+01 2. 000E-01 1. 062E+00 3. 131E+01 1 1 Κ1 1.05346E+01 2.000E-01 4.521E-03 4.166E+00 SHIFT M 2 1 3 1. 28712E+01 1. 000E+00 1. 312E-02 2. 092E+01 SHIFT ML 1 ORMS ERROR = 5.08E-03 MAX ERROR = 1.10E-02 AT OBS. NO. 10 RESI DUALS SQUARED = 2.84E-04RFACTOR = 0.0390 PERCENT

Figure S7 Proton NMR titration of compound 1 with TBAOAc in DMSO- $d_6/0.5\%$  water.



IDEAL DATA FOR 1:1 COMPLEX USING CHEMICAL SHIFT (TEST11.FIT)

Calculations by WinEQNMR Version 1.20 by Michael J. Hynes Program run at 14:52:27 on 03/05/2009

IDEAL DATA FOR 1:1 COMPLEX USING CHEMICAL SHIFT (TEST11.FIT) Reaction: M + L = MLFILE: TEST11. FIT IDEAL DATA: K1 = 63.091; DELTA M = 20.0; DELTA ML = 120.0 File prepared by M. J. Hynes, October 22 2000 NO. А PARAMETER DELTA ERROR CONDI TI ON DESCRI PTI ON 3. 46749E+01 2. 000E-01 6. 495E-01 5. 766E+01 1. 05794E+01 2. 000E-01 4. 228E-03 8. 041E+00 1 1 Κ1 SHIFT M 2 1 3 1. 28269E+01 1. 000E+00 1. 469E-02 3. 317E+01 SHIFT ML 1 ORMS ERROR = 4.25E-03 MAX ERROR = 1.09E-02 AT OBS. NO. 14 RESI DUALS SQUARED = 2.71E-04RFACTOR = 0.0341 PERCENT

Figure S8 Proton NMR titration of compound 1 with TBAOBz in DMSO- $d_6/0.5\%$  water.



IDEAL DATA FOR 1:1 COMPLEX USING CHEMICAL SHIFT (TEST11.FIT)

Calculations by WinEQNMR Version 1.20 by Michael J. Hynes Program run at 15:11:29 on 03/05/2009

IDEAL DATA FOR 1:1 COMPLEX USING CHEMICAL SHIFT (TEST11.FIT) M + L = MLReaction: FILE: TEST11. FIT IDEAL DATA: K1 = 63.091; DELTA M = 20.0; DELTA ML = 120.0 File prepared by M. J. Hynes, October 22 2000 NO. А PARAMETER DELTA ERROR CONDI TI ON DESCRI PTI ON 9.01778E+01 2.000E-01 5.129E+00 2.396E+01 1.04783E+01 2.000E-01 1.398E-02 6.041E+00 1 1 Κ1 SHIFT M 2 1 3 1. 20118E+01 1. 000E+00 1. 973E-02 1. 204E+01 SHIFT ML 1 ORMS ERROR = 1.26E-02 MAX ERROR = 2.42E-02 AT OBS. NO. RESI DUALS SQUARED = 2.24E-03 1 RFACTOR = 0. 1020 PERCENT

Figure S9 Proton NMR titration of compound 1 with  $TBAH_2PO_4$  in DMSO- $d_6/0.5\%$  water.



IDEAL DATA FOR 1:1 COMPLEX USING CHEMICAL SHIFT (TEST11.FIT)

Calculations by WinEQNMR Version 1.20 by Michael J. Hynes Program run at 09:28:46 on 03/17/2009

IDEAL DATA FOR 1:1 COMPLEX USING CHEMICAL SHIFT (TEST11.FIT) Reaction: M + L = MLFILE: TEST11. FIT IDEAL DATA: K1 = 63.091; DELTA M = 20.0; DELTA ML = 120.0 File prepared by M. J. Hynes, October 22 2000 NO. А PARAMETER DELTA ERROR CONDI TI ON DESCRI PTI ON 1.88796E+02 2.000E-01 3.556E+01 1.643E+01 1.08438E+01 2.000E-01 8.892E-02 6.327E+00 1 1 Κ1 SHIFT M 2 1 3 1. 29327E+01 1. 000E+00 6. 112E-02 6. 651E+00 SHIFT ML 1 ORMS ERROR = 5.95E-02 MAX ERROR = 1.06E-01 AT OBS.NO. RESI DUALS SQUARED = 4.24E-021 RFACTOR = 0.4382 PERCENT

Figure S10 Proton NMR titration of compound 2 with TBAOAc in DMSO- $d_6/0.5\%$  water.



IDEAL DATA FOR 1:1 COMPLEX USING CHEMICAL SHIFT (TEST11.FIT)

Calculations by WinEQNMR Version 1.20 by Michael J. Hynes Program run at 17:07:42 on 03/17/2009

IDEAL DATA FOR 1:1 COMPLEX USING CHEMICAL SHIFT (TEST11.FIT) Reaction: M + L = MLFILE: TEST11. FIT IDEAL DATA: K1 = 63.091; DELTA M = 20.0; DELTA ML = 120.0 File prepared by M. J. Hynes, October 22 2000 NO. А PARAMETER DELTA ERROR CONDI TI ON DESCRI PTI ON 2.80122E+02 2.000E-01 2.443E+01 1.872E+01 1.10167E+01 2.000E-01 4.161E-02 6.473E+00 1 1 Κ1 SHIFT M 2 1 3 1. 30055E+01 1. 000E+00 2. 424E-02 7. 937E+00 SHIFT ML 1 ORMS ERROR = 2.42E-02 MAX ERROR = 3.69E-02 AT OBS. NO. RESI DUALS SQUARED = 7.63E-03 1 RFACTOR = 0.1765 PERCENT

Figure S11 Proton NMR titration of compound 2 with TBAOBz in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>/0.5% water.



IDEAL DATA FOR 1:1 COMPLEX USING CHEMICAL SHIFT (TEST11.FIT)

Calculations by WinEQNMR Version 1.20 by Michael J. Hynes Program run at 16:50:50 on 03/17/2009

IDEAL DATA FOR 1:1 COMPLEX USING CHEMICAL SHIFT (TEST11.FIT) Reaction: M + L = MLFILE: TEST11. FIT IDEAL DATA: K1 = 63.091; DELTA M = 20.0; DELTA ML = 120.0 File prepared by M. J. Hynes, October 22 2000 NO. А PARAMETER DELTA ERROR CONDI TI ON DESCRI PTI ON 3. 64407E+03 2. 000E-01 3. 063E+02 6. 116E+00 1. 06580E+01 2. 000E-01 1. 661E-02 1. 323E+00 1 1 Κ1 SHIFT M 2 1 3 1. 28607E+01 1. 000E+00 1. 077E-02 5. 770E+00 SHIFT ML 1 ORMS ERROR = 1.33E-02 MAX ERROR = 1.99E-02 AT OBS. NO. RESI DUALS SQUARED = 1.58E-03 7 RFACTOR = 0.0919 PERCENT

Figure S12 Proton NMR titration of compound 2 with TBAH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>/0.5% water.



Calculations by WinEQNMR Version 1.20 by Michael J. Hynes Program run at 17:23:39 on 03/17/2009

IDEAL DATA FOR 1:1 COMPLEX USING CHEMICAL SHIFT (TEST11.FIT) M + L = MLReaction: FILE: TEST11. FIT IDEAL DATA: K1 = 63.091; DELTA M = 20.0; DELTA ML = 120.0 File prepared by M. J. Hynes, October 22 2000 NO. А PARAMETER DELTA ERROR CONDI TI ON DESCRI PTI ON 3. 68298E+01 2. 000E-01 3. 284E+00 6. 278E+01 1. 10071E+01 2. 000E-01 5. 477E-03 7. 398E+00 1 1 Κ1 SHIFT M 2 1 3 1. 16974E+01 1. 000E+00 2. 265E-02 3. 849E+01 SHIFT ML 1 ORMS ERROR = 5.18E-03 MAX ERROR = 1.11E-02 AT OBS. NO. 14 RESI DUALS SQUARED = 2.96E-04RFACTOR = 0.0409 PERCENT

Figure S13 Proton NMR titration of compound 2 with TBACl in DMSO- $d_6/0.5\%$  water.



Figure S14 Job plot of 1 with TBAF in DMSO- $d_6/0.5\%$  water.



Figure S15 Job plot of 1 with TBAOAc in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>/0.5% water.



Figure S16 Job plot of 1 with  $TBAH_2PO_4$  in DMSO- $d_6/0.5\%$  water.



Figure S17 Job plot of 1 with TBAOBz in DMSO- $d_6/0.5\%$  water.



**Figure S18**<sup>31</sup>P NMR of TBAH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> and compound **2** with one equivalent of  $H_2PO_4^-$  in DMSO- $d_6/0.5\%$  water.



**Figure S19**<sup>195</sup>Pt NMR of free compound **2** and after the addition of one equivalent of TBAH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> in DMSO- $d_6/0.5\%$  water.



Figure S20<sup>195</sup>Pt NMR of free compound 2 and after the addition of one equivalent of TBAF in DMSO- $d_6/0.5\%$  water.



**Figure S21** Changes in the UV-Vis spectrum of compound **2** ( $5.5 \times 10^{-5}$  M) upon addition of 40 equivalents TBAF and 4 equivalents of TEAOH in DMSO/0.5% water.



**Figure S22** Colour changes of compound **2**  $(1.6 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M})$  upon addition of 60 equivalents of anions as tetrabutylammonium salts in DMSO/0.5% water. From left to right: free **2**, **2** +F<sup>-</sup>, **2** + ACO<sup>-</sup>, **2** + BzO<sup>-</sup>, **2** + H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>, **2** + Cl<sup>-</sup>.



**Figure S23** Full UV-Vis titration of compound **2**  $(1.6 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M})$  in the presence of TBAF in DMSO/0.5% water.



**Figure S24** Portions of the full UV-Vis titration shown in Fig. S23 of compound **2** ( $1.6 \times 10^{-4}$  M) in the presence of increasing amounts of TBAF.



Figure S25 Full UV-Vis titration of compound 2 ( $1.6 \times 10^{-4}$  M) in the presence of TBAOAc in DMSO/0.5% water.



Figure S26 Full UV-Vis titration of compound 2 ( $1.6 \times 10^{-4}$  M) in the presence of TBAOBz in DMSO/0.5% water.



Figure S27 Full UV-Vis titration of compound 2 ( $1.6 \times 10^{-4}$  M) in the presence of TBACl in DMSO/0.5% water.



**Figure S28** Full UV-Vis titration of compound **2**  $(1.6 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M})$  in the presence of TBAH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> in DMSO/0.5% water.