## Electronic Supplementary Information

## Reactivity of a half-lantern $Pt_2(II,II)$ complex with triphenylphosphine: Selectivity in protonation reaction

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МО	Energies(ev)	Pt	Spy	рру	PPh <sub>3</sub>
LUMO+4	-0.73	1	2	2	95
LUMO+3	-0.95	9	5	20	66
LUMO+2	-1.01	5	2	71	22
LUMO+1	-1.06	25	3	11	61
LUMO	-1.72	6	2	86	6
НОМО	-5.22	12	80	6	2
HOMO-1	-5.88	34	24	40	2
HOMO-2	-6.17	68	11	14	7
HOMO-3	-6.35	15	36	46	3
HOMO-4	-6.54	8	25	61	6

 Table S1. Composition (%) of frontier MOs for complex 2 in acetone solution.

**Table S2.** TD-DFT computed and experimental wavelengths (nm) for the lower energy band in complex **2** in acetone solution.

$\lambda_{cal}$	fà	$\lambda_{exp}$	Transition	Character	Assignment
(nm)		(nm)	(Percentage Contribution)		L = ppy, L' = Spy
433	0.018	420	HOMO→LUMO (70%)	$d(Pt)/\pi(spy) \rightarrow \pi^*(ppy)$	<sup>1</sup> L'LCT/ <sup>1</sup> MLCT

<sup>a</sup> Oscillator strength



Figure S1. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of complex (a) 1a and (b) reaction mixture of complex 1a with PPh<sub>3</sub> in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at room temperature.



Figure S2. <sup>31</sup>P {<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra of reaction mixture of complex 1a with PPh<sub>3</sub> in  $CD_2Cl_2$  at room temperature and formed triphenylphosphine oxide.



**Figure S3**. Change in the absorbance spectra of complex  $[{Pt(ppy)(\mu_2-Spy)}_2]$ , **1**, with an excess of PPh<sub>3</sub> in acetone at T = 25 °C as function of wavelength; successive spectra recorded at intervals of 3 min.



Figure S4. Representative frontier orbitals involved in the absorption of complex 2.



Figure S5. ESI-Mass spectrum of complex 2 in cationic mode.



**Figure S6.** ESI-Mass spectrum of complex **2**, peak corresponding to  $[Pt(ppy)(\eta^1-S-Spy)(PPh_3)]^+$ ,  $[\mathbf{2}]^+$  (experimental, black; simulated, blue).



Figure S7. <sup>31</sup>P {<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum of complex 2 in  $CD_2Cl_2$  at room temperature.



**Figure S8.** Complex 2 as monitored by <sup>31</sup>P {<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectroscopy in dmso- $d_6$  at room temperature. (a) complex 2, (b) after 6h in the dry and deoxygenated solvent; (c) 6 h (d) 12 h, (e) 24 h and (f) 48 h in the hydrated (hydrous and aerated) solvent. The signal assignments are depicted.



**Figure S9.** Complex **2** as monitored by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy in dmso- $d_6$  at room temperature. (a) complex **2**, (b) 6 h, (c) 12 h, (d) 24 h, (e) 48 h, (f) 72 h in the hydrous and aerated solvent and (g) complex **1**.



Figure S10. Photograph of transformation of complex 2 to complex 1.



**Figure S11.** <sup>31</sup>P {<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra of (a) complex 2 and (b) complex 5 in acetone- $d_6$  at room temperature.



Figure S12. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of (a) complex 2 and (b) complex 5 in acetone- $d_6$  at room temperature.



**Figure S13.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of (a) complex **5** (b) complex **5** +  $D_2O$  in acetone- $d_6$  at room temperature.

Formula	C <sub>35</sub> H <sub>28</sub> NPPtS		
Formula weight	720.69		
T (K)	298(2)		
$\lambda$ (Å)	0.71073		
Crystal system	Monoclinic		
Space Group	$P2_1/c$		
Crystal size(mm)	0.25×0.15×0.12		
<i>a</i> (Å)	17.452(4)		
<i>b</i> (Å)	8.2580(17)		
<i>c</i> (Å)	20.121(4)		
α (°)	90		
β (°)	90.95(3)		
γ (°)	90		
$V(Å^3)$	2899.4(10)		
Ζ	4		
$D_{\text{calc}} (\text{g cm}^{-1})$	1.651		
$\theta_{\min}, \ \theta_{\max} \ (^{\circ})$	2.32-25.00		
$F_{000}$	1416		
$\mu \text{ (mm}^{-1}\text{)}$	4.992		
Index ranges	$-20 \le h \le 20$		
	$-9 \le k \le 9$		
	$-23 \le 1 \le 23$		
Data collected	15434		
Unique data	5090		
$R_{I^{a}}, wR_{2^{b}} (I > 2\sigma (I))$	0.0542, 0.1014		
$R_1^a$ , $wR_2^b$ (all data)	0.1170, 0.1142		
GOF on $F^2$ (S)	0.803		
${}^{a}R_{1} = \Sigma   F_{o}  -  F_{c}   / \Sigma  F_{o} , {}^{b}wR_{2} = [\Sigma (w(F_{o}^{5} - F_{c}^{2})^{2}) / \Sigma w(F_{o}^{2})^{2}]^{1/2}$			

 Table S3. Crystallographic and structure refinement data for complex 4.



**Figure S14.** C–H··· $\pi$  interaction between C–H group adjacent to metalated carbon atom of the ppy ligand and the phenyl ring of PPh<sub>3</sub> ligand in complex 4 (green lines).



**Figure S15.** Intramolecular  $\pi \cdots \pi$  contact between the SPh and phenyl ring of PPh<sub>3</sub> in complex 4.