## **Electronic Supplementary Information for:**

# Unusual Carbon-Sulfur Bond Cleavage in the Reaction of a New Type of Bulky Hexathioether with a Zerovalent Palladium Complex

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## **Experimental Section**

**General Procedures.** All reactions were carried out under an argon atmosphere, unless otherwise noted. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz), <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz), and <sup>31</sup>P NMR (121 ppm) spectra were measured in CDCl<sub>3</sub> with a JEOL AL–300 spectrometer. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR chemical shifts were reported in ppm downfield from tetramethylsilane (δ scale) and referenced to the internal residual CHCl<sub>3</sub> (7.25 ppm). The <sup>13</sup>C NMR chemical shifts were reported in ppm downfield from tetramethylsilane (δ scale) and referenced to the internal residual CHCl<sub>3</sub> (7.25 ppm). The <sup>13</sup>C NMR chemical shifts were reported in ppm downfield from tetramethylsilane (δ scale) and referenced to the carbon–13 signals of CDCl<sub>3</sub> (77.0 ppm). Multiplicity of signals in <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra was determined by DEPT techniques. The <sup>31</sup>P NMR chemical shifts were referenced to the external standards 85% H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> in water (0 ppm). Preparative gel permeation liquid chromatography (GPLC) was performed on an LC–908 or LC–918 instrument (Japan Analytical Industry Co., Ltd.) equipped with JAI gel 1H+2H columns using chloroform or toluene as an eluent. Column chromatography was performed with Nacalai Tesque Silica Gel 60. High–resolution mass spectral data were obtained on a JEOL JMS–700 spectrometer. All melting points were determined on Yanaco micro melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. Elemental analyses were performed by the Microanalytical Laboratory of the Institute for Chemical Research, Kyoto University.

**Synthesis of hexathioether (1).** To a suspension of 1,2-benzenedithiol (437 mg, 3.07 mmol) and Cu<sub>2</sub>O (293 mg, 2.05 mmol) in 2,4,6-trimethylpyridine (30 mL) was added dropwise a solution of TbtSC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>I<sup>1</sup> (1.61 g, 2.05 mmol) in 2,4,6-trimethylpyridine (20 mL) at 170 °C. The mixture was refluxed for 3 h under argon to generate intermediate **3**, and stirred for further 12 h at room temperature under the air. The reaction mixture was passed through a short column (SiO<sub>2</sub>, benzene) to remove inorganic salts. After addition of benzene (200 mL), the mixture was washed with a 0.2 M aqueous solution of HCl three times (100 mL × 3). The organic layer was dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvents were removed under reduced pressure to afford a light yellow oil. The residue was subjected to GPLC (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) followed by the reprecipitation from CHCl<sub>3</sub> and CH<sub>3</sub>CN solution to give hexathioether **1** (1.50 g, 0.93 mmol, 93%) as colorless crystals. **1**: Mp: 188.0–189.0 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.03 (s, 72H, Si*Me<sub>3</sub>*), 0.07 (s, 36H, Si*Me<sub>3</sub>*), 1.38 (s, 2H, Tbt *p*-benzyl), 2.66 (s, 4H, Tbt *o*-benzyl), 6.42 (s, 2H), 6.57 (s, 2H), 6.63–6.68 (m, 2H), 6.92–7.01 (m, 6H), 7.08–7.24 (m, 4H), 7.29 (dd, *J* = 1.4, 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (dd, *J* = 1.4, 8.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.7 (q, Si*Me<sub>3</sub>*), 0.9 (q, Si*Me<sub>3</sub>*), 26.5 (d × 2, Tbt *o*-benzyl), 30.6 (d, Tbt *p*-benzyl), 122.6 (d), 123.9

(s), 125.0 (d), 126.6 (d), 127.0 (d), 127.0 (d), 127.3 (d), 127.7 (d), 128.9 (d), 130.0 (d), 131.8 (s), 133.6 (d), 139.8 (s), 140.1 (s), 144.5 (s), 150.3 (s × 2); HRMS (FAB): found *m*/*z* 1598.5974 ( $[M]^+$ ), calcd for C<sub>78</sub>H<sub>134</sub>S<sub>6</sub>Si<sub>12</sub> 1598.6041; Anal. Calcd for C<sub>78</sub>H<sub>134</sub>S<sub>6</sub>Si<sub>12</sub>: C, 58.50; H, 8.43. Found: C, 58.44; H, 8.52.

### In the case of the oxidization with I<sub>2</sub> instead of air-oxidization.

After the generation of intermediate **3** by the above-mentioned method, to the reaction mixture was added a small excess of iodine, and the mixture was subsequently stirred for 3 h at room temperature under argon atmosphere. The reaction mixture was passed through a short column (SiO<sub>2</sub>, benzene) to remove inorganic salts. After the addition of benzene, the mixture was washed with a 0.6 M aqueous solution of Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> before washing with a 0.2 M aqueous solution of HCl three times. The organic layer was dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvents were removed under reduced pressure to afford a light yellow oil. The residue was subjected to GPLC (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) followed by the reprecipitation from CHCl<sub>3</sub> and CH<sub>3</sub>CN solution to give hexathioether **1** as colorless crystals.

Synthesis of trinuclear Pd complex (4). To a benzene solution (5 mL) of hexathioether 1 (30 mg, 18.7  $\mu$ mol) was added 3 molar amounts of tetrakis(triphenylphosphine) palladium(0) (64.9 mg, 56.1  $\mu$ mol) at room temperature. After stirring of the mixture for 62 h at the same temperature, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved into CHCl<sub>3</sub> (15 mL) and the brown suspension was filtered through Celite<sup>®</sup>. The filtrate was evaporated and the residual brown solid was subjected to GPLC  $(CHCl_3)$  followed by silica gel column chromatography (benzene:hexane = 1:1) to give pure tripalladium complex 4 (26.5 mg, 10.8  $\mu$ mol, 58%) as yellow crystals. 4: Mp: 182.7–183.7 °C (decomp). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 50 °C): δ –0.22 (s, 18H, SiMe<sub>3</sub>), –0.19 (s, 18H, SiMe<sub>3</sub>), 0.08 (s, 18H, SiMe<sub>3</sub>), 0.09 (s, 36H, SiMe3), 0.16 (s, 18H, SiMe3), 1.38 (s, 2H, Tbt p-benzyl), 2.53 (s, 2H, Tbt o-benzyl), 3.30 (s, 2H, Tbt *o*-benzyl), 5.11 (d,  ${}^{3}J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 5.80–5.94 (m, 4H), 5.97 (ddd,  ${}^{3}J = 7.8$ , ~8.0 Hz,  ${}^{4}J = 1.5$  Hz, 2H), 6.10-6.19 (m, 4H), 6.17-6.22 (m, 2H), 6.53 (ddd,  ${}^{3}J = 7.2$ ,  $\sim 8.0$  Hz,  ${}^{4}J = 1.5$  Hz, 2H), 6.58 (s, 2H), 6.66 (s, 2H), 7.09–7.26 (m, 18H), 7.44–7.91 (m, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 50 °C): δ 0.8 (q, SiMe<sub>3</sub>), 0.9 (q, SiMe<sub>3</sub>), 1.5 (q, SiMe<sub>3</sub>), 2.0 (q, SiMe<sub>3</sub>), 26.4 (d, Tbt *p*-benzyl), 27.1 (d, Tbt *o*-benzyl), 30.8 (d, Tbt *o*-benzyl), 122.0 (d), 122.5 (d), 122.6 (d), 123.8 (d), 124.6 (d), 125.5 (s), 128.1 (d), 128.3 (d), 130.3 (d), 131.7 (d), 134.4 (d × 2), 134.7 (s), 136.2 (d), 136.3 (d), 142.1 (s), 143.4 (s), 143.8 (s), 146.0 (s), 150.4 (s), 151.9 (s), 152.5 (s); <sup>31</sup>P NMR (121 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 50 °C): δ 28.1; Anal. Calcd for C<sub>114</sub>H<sub>164</sub>P<sub>2</sub>Pd<sub>3</sub>S<sub>6</sub>Si<sub>12</sub>: C, 56.00; H, 6.76. Found: C, 55.98; H, 6.83.

X-Ray structural analysis of 1·0.5(CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)·0.5(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>14</sub>) and 4·3.2(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)·0.8(CHCl<sub>3</sub>). Single crystals of 1·0.5(CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)·0.5(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>14</sub>) and 4·3.2(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)·0.8(CHCl<sub>3</sub>) suitable for X-ray structural analysis were obtained by slow recrystallization from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>14</sub> and CHCl<sub>3</sub>/C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, respectively. The crystals were mounted on a glass fiber. The intensity data were collected on Rigaku/MSC Mercury CCD diffractometer with graphite monochromated Mo K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71070$  Å for 1·0.5(CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)·0.5(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>14</sub>) and  $\lambda = 0.71069$  Å for 4·3.2(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)·0.8(CHCl<sub>3</sub>)). The structures were solved by direct methods (SIR-97)<sup>2</sup>, and refined by

full-matrix least-squares procedures on  $F^2$  for all reflections (SHELXL-97).<sup>3</sup> The solvated dichloromethane was disordered and their occupancies were refined (0.50:0.50) in  $1 \cdot 0.5(CH_2Cl_2) \cdot 0.5(C_6H_{14})$ . In the crystal of  $4 \cdot 3.2(C_6H_6) \cdot 0.8(CHCl_3)$ , some molecules of **4** are solvated by two benzene molecules and others are solvated by one benzene and one chloroform molecules. The occupancies of one of the benzene molecules and the chloroform molecule were refined (0.60:0.40). All the non-hydrogen atoms, except for the carbon atom of solvated dichloromethane in  $1 \cdot 0.5(CH_2Cl_2) \cdot 0.5(C_6H_{14})$ , were refined anisotropically. All hydrogens were placed using AFIX instructions. The structural data are shown in Table 1. In the analysis of  $1 \cdot 0.5(CH_2Cl_2) \cdot 0.5(C_6H_{14})$ , there are the highest peak (1.554 e Å<sup>-3</sup>) and the deepest hole (-1.242 e Å<sup>-3</sup>) near to the CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solvent molecule due to disorders that could no be completely dissolved.

	$1.0.5(CH_2Cl_2).0.5(C_6H_{14})$	$\overline{4.3.2(C_6H_6).0.8(CHCl_3)}$
empirical formula	$C_{81.50}H_{142}ClS_6Si_{12}$	$C_{134}H_{184}Cl_{2.40}P_2Pd_3S_6Si_{12}$
formula weight	1686.84	2790.47
temperature	103(2) K	103(2) K
crystal system	triclinic	monoclinic
space group	<i>P</i> -1(# 2)	<i>C</i> 2/c (#15)
a (Å)	10.920(2)	31.9316(5)
b (Å)	20.424(5)	24.7082(6)
<i>c</i> (Å)	23.068(5)	24.0157(5)
$\alpha$ (deg)	71.290(7)	90
$\beta$ (deg)	83.335(10)	130.2043(8)
$\gamma(\text{deg})$	83.675(11)	90
$V(Å^3)$	4825.5(18)	14471.3(5)
Ζ	2	4
$D_{\text{calc}}$ (Mg m <sup>-3</sup> )	1.161	1.281
absorp coeff (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.357	0.666
crystal size (mm)	$0.30 \times 0.10 \times 0.01$	$0.30\times0.10\times0.10$
$\theta$ range	2.35 to 25.00°	2.95 to 25.00°
no. of reflns measd	31210	47590
no. of indep reflns	16506	12714
$R_{ m int}$	0.0454	0.0758
completeness	97.20%	99.70%
data/restraints/parameters	16506 / 0 / 941	12714 / 63 / 769
goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.081	1.058
final <i>R</i> indices $[I > 2\sigma(I)]^a$	$R_1 = 0.0647$	$R_1 = 0.0438$
	$wR_2 = 0.1482$	$wR_2 = 0.0841$
R indices (all data) <sup><i>a</i></sup>	$R_1 = 0.0914$	$R_1 = 0.0893$
	$wR_2 = 0.1661$	$wR_2 = 0.0936$
largest diff. peak and hole (e $Å^{-3}$ )	1.554 and -1.242	1.400 and -0.766

Table 1. Crystal Data and Refinement Details for 1.0.5(CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>).0.5(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>14</sub>) and 4.3.2(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>).0.8(CHCl<sub>3</sub>)

<sup>*a*</sup>  $R_1 = \Sigma ||F_0| - |F_c|| / \Sigma |F_0|, wR_2 = [(\Sigma w (F_0^2 - F_c^2)^2 / \Sigma w (F_0^2)^2]^{1/2}.$ 

#### References

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