# Dynamic Formation of Self-Organized Corner-Connected Square Metallocycles by Stoichiometric Control

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## **Supporting Information**

Table of Contents	
General Methods	3
Metallocycle 5a·2BF <sub>4</sub> ·12NO <sub>3</sub>	3
Metallocycle 6a·4BF <sub>4</sub> ·16NO <sub>3</sub>	3
Metallocycle 7a·6BF <sub>4</sub> ·20NO <sub>3</sub>	3
Metallocycle 5a·2BF <sub>4</sub> ·4OTf·8PF <sub>6</sub>	4
Metallocycle 6a·4BF <sub>4</sub> ·4OTf·12PF <sub>6</sub>	4
Metallocycle 7a·6BF <sub>4</sub> ·4OTf·16PF <sub>6</sub>	4
Metallocycle 5b·14PF <sub>6</sub>	4
Metallocycle 6b·20PF <sub>6</sub>	4
Figure S1: <sup>1</sup> H NMR (D <sub>2</sub> O, 500 MHz) spectrum of $5a \cdot 2BF_4 \cdot 12NO_3$	6
Figure S2: <sup>13</sup> C NMR (D <sub>2</sub> O, 125 MHz) spectrum of $5a \cdot 2BF_4 \cdot 12NO_3$	6
Figure S3: HSQC (D <sub>2</sub> O, 500 MHz and 125 MHz) spectrum of 5a·2BF <sub>4</sub> ·12NO <sub>3</sub>	7
Figure S4: HMBC (D <sub>2</sub> O, 500 MHz and 125 MHz) spectrum of 5a·2BF <sub>4</sub> ·12NO <sub>3</sub>	7
Figure S5: COSY (D <sub>2</sub> O, 500 MHz) spectrum of 5a·2BF <sub>4</sub> ·12NO <sub>3</sub>	8
Figure S6: <sup>1</sup> H NMR (D <sub>2</sub> O, 500 MHz) spectrum of $6a \cdot 4BF_4 \cdot 16NO_3$	9
Figure S7: <sup>13</sup> C NMR (D <sub>2</sub> O, 125 MHz) spectrum of $6a \cdot 4BF_4 \cdot 16NO_3$	9
Figure S8: <sup>1</sup> H NMR (D <sub>2</sub> O, 500 MHz) spectrum of $7a \cdot 6BF_4 \cdot 20NO_3$	10
Figure S9: <sup>13</sup> C NMR (D <sub>2</sub> O, 125 MHz) spectrum of $7a \cdot 6BF_4 \cdot 20NO_3$	10
Figure S10: Partial <sup>1</sup> H NMR spectra (D <sub>2</sub> O, 298 K, 500 MHz) of a) 4a·8NO <sub>3</sub> , b) 5a·2BF <sub>4</sub> ·12NO <sub>3</sub> , c) 6a·4BF <sub>4</sub> ·16NO 7a·6BF <sub>4</sub> ·20NO <sub>3</sub>	93, d) 11
Figure S11: <sup>1</sup> H NMR (CD <sub>3</sub> CN, 500 MHz) spectrum of 5a·2BF <sub>4</sub> ·4OTf·8PF <sub>6</sub>	12
Figure S12: <sup>13</sup> C NMR (CD <sub>3</sub> CN, 125 MHz) spectrum of 5a·2BF <sub>4</sub> ·4OTf·8PF <sub>6</sub>	12
Figure S13: HSQC (CD <sub>3</sub> CN, 500 and 125 MHz) spectrum of 5a·2BF <sub>4</sub> ·4OTf·8PF <sub>6</sub>	13

Figure S14: HMBC (CD <sub>3</sub> CN, 500 and 125 MHz) spectrum of 5a·2BF <sub>4</sub> ·4OTf·8PF <sub>6</sub>	. 13
Figure S15: COSY (CD <sub>3</sub> CN, 500 MHz) spectrum of 5a·2BF <sub>4</sub> ·4OTf·8PF <sub>6</sub>	. 14
Figure S16: DOSY (CD <sub>3</sub> CN, 500 MHz) spectrum of 5a·2BF <sub>4</sub> ·4OTf·8PF <sub>6</sub>	. 15
Figure S17: Fitting of $I/I_0$ for some <sup>1</sup> H signals of compound $5a \cdot 2BF_4 \cdot 4OTf \cdot 8PF_6$ to a simple one-component exponential	. 15
Figure S18: <sup>1</sup> H NMR (CD <sub>3</sub> CN, 500 MHz) spectrum of 6a·4BF <sub>4</sub> ·4OTf·12PF <sub>6</sub>	. 16
Figure S19: <sup>13</sup> C NMR (CD <sub>3</sub> CN, 125 MHz) spectrum of 6a·4BF <sub>4</sub> ·4OTf·12PF <sub>6</sub>	. 16
Figure S20: DOSY (CD <sub>3</sub> CN, 500 MHz) spectrum of 6a·4BF <sub>4</sub> ·4OTf·12PF <sub>6</sub>	. 17
Figure S21: Fitting of $I/I_0$ for some <sup>1</sup> H signals of compound $6a \cdot 4BF_4 \cdot 4OTf \cdot 12PF_6$ to a simple one-component exponential	. 17
Figure S22: <sup>1</sup> H NMR (CD <sub>3</sub> CN, 500 MHz) spectrum of 7a·6BF <sub>4</sub> ·4OTf·16PF <sub>6</sub>	. 18
Figure S23: <sup>13</sup> C NMR (CD <sub>3</sub> CN, 125 MHz) spectrum of 7a·6BF <sub>4</sub> ·4OTf·16PF <sub>6</sub>	. 18
Figure S24: DOSY (CD <sub>3</sub> CN, 500 MHz) spectrum of 7a·6BF <sub>4</sub> ·4OTf·16PF <sub>6</sub>	. 19
Figure S25: Fitting of $I/I_0$ for some <sup>1</sup> H signals of compound $7a \cdot 6BF_4 \cdot 4OTf \cdot 16PF_6$ to a simple one-component exponential	. 19
Figure S26: Partial <sup>1</sup> H NMR (CD <sub>3</sub> CN, 500 MHz) spectra of: a) $4a \cdot 4OTf \cdot 4PF_6$ , b) $5a \cdot 2BF_4 \cdot 4OTf \cdot 8PF_6$ , $6a \cdot 4BF_4 \cdot 4OTf \cdot 12PF_6$ , d) $7a \cdot 6BF_4 \cdot 4OTf \cdot 16PF_6$	c) . 20
Figure S27: <sup>1</sup> H NMR (CD <sub>3</sub> CN, 500 MHz) spectrum of 5b·14PF <sub>6</sub>	. 21
Figure S28: <sup>13</sup> C NMR (CD <sub>3</sub> CN, 125 MHz) spectrum of 5b·14PF <sub>6</sub>	. 21
Figure S29: ESI-MS of 5b · 14PF <sub>6</sub> .	. 22
Figure S30: Observed (top) and theoretical (bottom) isotopic distribution for the fragment $[5b \cdot 6PF_6]^{+8}$	. 22
Figura S31: <sup>1</sup> H NMR (CD <sub>3</sub> CN, 500 MHz) spectrum of 6b·20PF <sub>6</sub>	. 23
Figure S32: <sup>13</sup> C NMR (CD <sub>3</sub> CN, 125 MHz) spectrum of 6b·20PF <sub>6</sub>	. 23
Figure 33: ESI-MS of 6b·20PF <sub>6</sub>	. 24
Figure 34: Observed (top) and theoretical (bottom) isotopic distribution for the fragment $[6b \cdot 14PF_6]^{+6}$	. 24
Dynamic formation of dimer, trimer, and tetramer in D <sub>2</sub> O	. 25
Determination of diffusion coefficients from theoretical models	. 26
Table S1. Diffusion coefficients and dimensions of metallocycles	. 27
Computational Methods	. 28
Figure 35: Calculated structures of 4a-7a	. 28

#### **General Methods**

Ligand  $1^1$ , (en)Pd(OTf)<sub>2</sub>, and (en)Pt(OTf)<sub>2</sub><sup>2</sup> were prepared according to published procedures. All other reagents used were commercial grade chemicals from freshly opened containers. Milli-Q water was purified with a Millipore Gradient A10 apparatus. Merck 60 F<sub>254</sub> foils were used for thin layer chromatography, and Merck 60 (230-400 mesh) silica gel was used for flash chromatography. Proton and carbon nuclear magnetic resonance spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance 300 or Bruker Avance 500 equipped with a dual cryoprobe for <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C, using the deuterated solvent as lock and the residual protiated solvent as internal standard. DOSY experiments were referenced using the value  $1.92 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}^2 \text{s}^{-1}$  for the DHO signal in D<sub>2</sub>O at 298 K<sup>3</sup> and the value  $2.18 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}^2 \text{s}^{-1}$  for the CHD<sub>2</sub>CN signal in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 298 K.<sup>4</sup> Mass spectrometry experiments were carried out in a LC-Q-q-TOF Applied Biosystems QSTAR Elite spectrometer for low- and high-resolution ESI.

#### Metallocycle 5a·2BF<sub>4</sub>·12NO<sub>3</sub>

To a solution of Pd(CH<sub>3</sub>CN)<sub>4</sub>(BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (2.2 mg,  $5.0 \times 10^{-3}$  mmol) in D<sub>2</sub>O (2.0 mL), ligand 1.2NO<sub>3</sub> (9.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and (en)Pd(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (2.9 mg, 0.010 mmol) were added. <sup>1</sup>*H NMR* (500 *MHz*, *D*<sub>2</sub>*O*)  $\delta$ : 2.93 (8H, s); 7.48 (8H, m); 8.00 (8H, d, *J* = 6.9 Hz); 8.04 (8H, d, *J* = 6.9 Hz); 8.52 (16H, m); 8.95 (8H, d, *J* = 6.9 Hz); 9.14 (8H, d, *J* = 5.5 Hz); 9.40 (16H, m); <sup>13</sup>*C NMR* (125 *MHz*, *D*<sub>2</sub>*O*)  $\delta$ : 48.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>); 77.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>); 125.2 (CH); 125.8 (CH); 127.4 (CH); 127.5 (CH); 144.2 (C); 144.9 (C); 145.8 (CH); 152.1 (CH); 152.3 (CH); 154.6 (C); 154.9 (C).

#### Metallocycle 6a·4BF<sub>4</sub>·16NO<sub>3</sub>

To a solution of  $Pd(CH_3CN)_4(BF_4)_2$  (3.0 mg, 6.7×10<sup>-3</sup> mmol) in D<sub>2</sub>O (2.0 mL), ligand (9.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and (en)Pd(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (1.5 mg, 5.0×10<sup>-3</sup> mmol) were added.

1·2NO<sub>3</sub> *NMR (500 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O)*  $\delta$ : 2.92 (8H, s); 7.48 (12H, m); 8.00 (8H, d, *J* = 7.0 Hz); 8.04 (16H, d, *J* = 4.9 Hz); 8.52 (24H, m); 8.95 (8H, d, *J* = 6.8 Hz); 9.14 (16H, d, *J* = 6.4 Hz); 9.40 (24H, m); <sup>*13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O)*  $\delta$ : 46.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>); 77.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>); 125.3 (CH); 125.8 (CH); 127.4 (CH); 127.5 (CH); 144.2 (C); 144.9 (C); 145.8 (CH); 152.1 (CH); 152.3 (CH); 154.6 (C); 154.9 (C).</sup>

#### Metallocycle 7a·6BF<sub>4</sub>·20NO<sub>3</sub>

To a solution of Pd(CH<sub>3</sub>CN)<sub>4</sub>(BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (3.3 mg, 7.5×10<sup>-3</sup> mmol) in D<sub>2</sub>O (2.0 mL), ligand **1**·**2**NO<sub>3</sub> (9.0 mg, 0.020 mmol) and (en)Pd(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (1.5 mg,  $5.0\times10^{-3}$  mmol) were added. <sup>*I*</sup>*H NMR (500 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O)*  $\delta$ : 2.93 (8H, s); 7.48 (16H, m); 8.00 (8H, d, J = 6.9 Hz); 8.04 (24H, d, J = 5.2 Hz); 8.52 (32H, m); 8.96 (8H, d, J = 6.8 Hz); 9.14 (24H, d, J = 6.1 Hz); 9.40 (32H, m); <sup>*I*3</sup>*C NMR (125 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O)*  $\delta$ : 46.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>); 77.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>); 125.3 (CH); 125.8 (CH); 127.4 (CH); 127.5 (CH); 144.2 (C); 144.9 (C); 145.8 (CH); 152.1 (CH); 152.3 (CH); 154.6 (C); 154.9 (C).

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## Metallocycle 5a·2BF<sub>4</sub>·4OTf·8PF<sub>6</sub>

To a solution of Pd(CH<sub>3</sub>CN)<sub>4</sub>(BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (2.2 mg, 5.0×10<sup>-3</sup> mmol) in CD<sub>3</sub>CN (2.0 mL), ligand 1·2PF<sub>6</sub> (12.5 mg, 0.020 mmol) and (en)Pd(OTf)<sub>2</sub> (5.6 mg, 0.010 mmol) were added. <sup>1</sup>*H NMR* (500 *MHz*, *CD*<sub>3</sub>*CN*) δ: 2.90 (8H, s); 4.39 (8H, s); 7.13 (8H, s); 7.97 (16H, m); 8.42 (16H, m); 8.99 (8H, m); 9.13 (16H, m); 9.20 (8H, m); <sup>13</sup>*C NMR* (125 *MHz*, *CD*<sub>3</sub>*CN*) δ: 47.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>); 78.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>); 126.2 (CH); 127.0 (CH); 128.5 (CH); 128.7 (CH); 145.0 (C); 145.7 (C); 147.1 (CH); 147.1 (CH); 147.1 (CH); 153.5 (CH); 154.0 (CH); 155.6 (C); 155.8 (C).

## Metallocycle 6a·4BF<sub>4</sub>·4OTf·12PF<sub>6</sub>

To a solution of Pd(CH<sub>3</sub>CN)<sub>4</sub>(BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (3.0 mg,  $6.7 \times 10^{-3}$  mmol) in CD<sub>3</sub>CN (2.0 mL), ligand **1**·2PF<sub>6</sub> (12.5 mg, 0.020 mmol) and (en)Pd(OTf)<sub>2</sub> (3.7 mg,  $6.7 \times 10^{-3}$  mmol) were added. <sup>1</sup>*H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)*  $\delta$ : 2.90 (8H, s); 4.36 (8H, s); 7.12 (12H, s); 7.98 (24H, m); 8.41 (24H, m); 8.98 (8H, m); 9.12 (24H, m); 9.18 (16H, m); <sup>13</sup>*C NMR (125 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)*  $\delta$ : 47.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>); 78.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>); 126.2 (CH); 127.0 (CH); 128.5 (CH); 128.7 (CH); 145.0 (C); 145.7 (C); 147.0 (CH); 147.0 (CH); 147.0 (CH); 153.5 (CH); 154.0 (CH); 155.6 (C); 155.8 (C).

## Metallocycle 7a · 6BF<sub>4</sub> · 4OTf · 16PF<sub>6</sub>

To a solution of Pd(CH<sub>3</sub>CN)<sub>4</sub>(BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (3.3 mg,  $7.5 \times 10^{-3}$  mmol) in CD<sub>3</sub>CN (2.0 mL), ligand  $1 \cdot 2PF_6$  (12.5 mg, 0.020 mmol) and (en)Pd(OTf)<sub>2</sub> (2.8 mg,  $5.0 \times 10^{-3}$  mmol) were added.<sup>1</sup>*H NMR (500 MHz, CD*<sub>3</sub>*CN)*  $\delta$ : 2.90 (8H, s); 4.35 (8H, s); 7.12 (16H, s); 7.97 (32H, m); 8.41 (32H, m); 8.98 (8H, m); 9.11 (32H, m); 9.18 (24H, m); <sup>13</sup>*C NMR (125 MHz, CD*<sub>3</sub>*CN)*  $\delta$ : 47.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>); 78.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>); 126.2 (CH); 127.0 (CH); 128.5 (CH); 128.7 (CH); 145.1 (C); 145.8 (C); 147.0 (CH); 147.1 (CH); 153.5 (CH); 154.0 (CH); 155.6 (C); 155.8 (C).

## Metallocycle 5b·14PF<sub>6</sub>

A solution of Pt(CH<sub>3</sub>CN)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.9 mg, 8.4×10<sup>-3</sup> mmol), AgOTf (4.3 mg, 16.7×10<sup>-3</sup> mmol), ligand 1·2PF<sub>6</sub> (20.6 mg, 0.033 mmol) and (en)Pt(OTf)<sub>2</sub> (10.7 mg, 16.7×10<sup>-3</sup> mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (3.0 mL) was heated protected from light for 8d at 55°C. The suspension was filtered over a cap of Celite<sup>®</sup> to remove AgCl and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure without heating. The crude product was suspended in water (17 mL) and ion exchange resin (Amberlite IRA-402, 0.50 g) was added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 h. The resin was removed by filtration and an excess of KPF<sub>6</sub> is added to the filtrate until no further precipitation was observed. The solid was filtered and washed with water to yield **5b**·14PF<sub>6</sub> as a grey solid (14.0 mg, 41 %). <sup>*I*</sup>*H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)*  $\delta$ : 2.83 (8H, s); 5.05 (8H, s); 7.16 (8H, s); 7.96 (8H, m); 8.01 (8H, m); 8.45 (16H, m); 9.01 (8H, m); 9.15 (16H, m); 9.22 (8H, m); <sup>*I*3</sup>*C NMR (125 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)*  $\delta$ : 48.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>); 78.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>); 126.7 (CH); 127.4 (CH); 128.5 (CH); 128.7 (CH); 144.9 (C); 145.8 (C); 147.1 (CH); 147.2 (CH); 147.2 (CH); 154.3 (CH); 154.8 (CH); 155.3 (C); 155.5 (C). *HRMS-ESI (m/z)*: calcd for [M–5PF<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup>]<sup>5+</sup> 662.8638, found 662.8639; calcd for [M–6PF<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup>]<sup>6+</sup> 528.2258, found 528.2255; calcd for [M–8PF<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup>]<sup>8+</sup> 359.9281, found 359.9284; calcd for [M–9PF<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup>]<sup>9+</sup> 303.8289, found 303.8289.

## Metallocycle 6b·20PF<sub>6</sub>

A solution of  $Pt(CH_3CN)_2Cl_2$  (12.0 mg,  $34.5 \times 10^{-3}$  mmol), AgOTf (17.7 mg,  $68.9 \times 10^{-3}$  mmol), ligand  $1 \cdot 2PF_6$  (63.7 mg, 0.103 mmol) and (en) $Pt(OTf)_2$  (23.0 mg,  $34.5 \times 10^{-3}$  mmol) in  $CH_3CN$  (11.0 mL) was heated protected from light for 8d at 55°C. The suspension was filtered over a cap of Celite<sup>®</sup> to remove AgCl and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure without heating. The crude product was suspended in water (25 mL) and ion exchange resin (Amberlite IRA-402, 1.00 g) was added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24h. The resin was removed by filtration and an excess of KPF<sub>6</sub> is added to

the filtrate until no further precipitation was observed. The solid was filtered and washed with water to yield **6b** · 20PF<sub>6</sub> as a brown solid (60.9 mg, 61%). <sup>1</sup>*H NMR (500 MHz, CD*<sub>3</sub>*CN)*  $\delta$ : 2.83 (8H, s); 5.05 (8H, s); 7.16 (12H, s); 7.96 (24H, m); 8.42 (24H, m); 8.97 (8H, m); 9.07 (24H, m); 9.11 (16H, m); <sup>13</sup>*C NMR (125 MHz, CD*<sub>3</sub>*CN)*  $\delta$ : 48.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>); 78.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>); 123.5 (CH); 126.7 (CH); 128.2(CH); 127.4 (CH); 128.5 (CH); 128.7 (CH); 144.9 (C); 145.8 (C); 146.8 (CH); 147.1 (CH); 147.2 (CH); 151.6 (CH); 154.2 (CH); 155.5 (C). *HRMS-ESI (m/z)*: calcd for [M–6PF<sub>6</sub><sup>-</sup>]<sup>6+</sup> 814.4018, found 814.4044.



Figure S1: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O, 500 MHz) spectrum of **5a**·2BF<sub>4</sub>·12NO<sub>3</sub>



Figure S2: <sup>13</sup>C NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O, 125 MHz) spectrum of 5a·2BF<sub>4</sub>·12NO<sub>3</sub>



Figure S3: HSQC (D<sub>2</sub>O, 500 MHz and 125 MHz) spectrum of 5a · 2BF<sub>4</sub> · 12NO<sub>3</sub>



Figure S4: HMBC (D<sub>2</sub>O, 500 MHz and 125 MHz) spectrum of 5a · 2BF<sub>4</sub> · 12NO<sub>3</sub>



Figure S5: COSY (D<sub>2</sub>O, 500 MHz) spectrum of 5a·2BF<sub>4</sub>·12NO<sub>3</sub>



Figure S6: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O, 500 MHz) spectrum of **6a**·4BF<sub>4</sub>·16NO<sub>3</sub>



Figure S7: <sup>13</sup>C NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O, 125 MHz) spectrum of **6a**·4BF<sub>4</sub>·16NO<sub>3</sub>



Figure S8: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O, 500 MHz) spectrum of **7a**·6BF<sub>4</sub>·20NO<sub>3</sub>



Figure S9: <sup>13</sup>C NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O, 125 MHz) spectrum of **7a**·6BF<sub>4</sub>·20NO<sub>3</sub>



**Figure S10:** Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (D<sub>2</sub>O, 298 K, 500 MHz) of a) **4a**·8NO<sub>3</sub>, b) **5a**·2BF<sub>4</sub>·12NO<sub>3</sub>, c) **6a**·4BF<sub>4</sub>·16NO<sub>3</sub>, d) **7a**·6BF<sub>4</sub>·20NO<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S11: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 500 MHz) spectrum of **5a**·2BF<sub>4</sub>·4OTf·8PF<sub>6</sub>



Figure S12: <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 125 MHz) spectrum of **5a**·2BF<sub>4</sub>·4OTf·8PF<sub>6</sub>



Figure S13: HSQC (CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 500 and 125 MHz) spectrum of 5a·2BF<sub>4</sub>·4OTf·8PF<sub>6</sub>



Figure S14: HMBC (CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 500 and 125 MHz) spectrum of 5a·2BF<sub>4</sub>·4OTf·8PF<sub>6</sub>



Figure S15: COSY (CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 500 MHz) spectrum of 5a·2BF<sub>4</sub>·4OTf·8PF<sub>6</sub>



**Figure S17:** Fitting of  $I/I_o$  for some <sup>1</sup>H signals of compound **5a**·2BF<sub>4</sub>·4OTf·8PF<sub>6</sub> to a simple one-component exponential.



Figure S18: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 500 MHz) spectrum of **6a**·4BF<sub>4</sub>·4OTf·12PF<sub>6</sub>



Figure S19: <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 125 MHz) spectrum of **6a**·4BF<sub>4</sub>·4OTf·12PF<sub>6</sub>



Figure S20: DOSY (CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 500 MHz) spectrum of 6a·4BF<sub>4</sub>·4OTf·12PF<sub>6</sub>



**Figure S21:** Fitting of  $I/I_0$  for some <sup>1</sup>H signals of compound **6a**·4BF<sub>4</sub>·4OTf·12PF<sub>6</sub> to a simple one-component exponential.



Figure S22: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 500 MHz) spectrum of **7a**·6BF<sub>4</sub>·4OTf·16PF<sub>6</sub>



Figure S23: <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 125 MHz) spectrum of **7a**·6BF<sub>4</sub>·4OTf·16PF<sub>6</sub>



Figure S24: DOSY (CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 500 MHz) spectrum of 7a·6BF<sub>4</sub>·4OTf·16PF<sub>6</sub>



**Figure S25:** Fitting of  $I/I_o$  for some <sup>1</sup>H signals of compound **7a**·6BF<sub>4</sub>·4OTf·16PF<sub>6</sub> to a simple one-component exponential.



Figure S26: Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 500 MHz) spectra of: a)  $4a \cdot 4OTf \cdot 4PF_6$ , b)  $5a \cdot 2BF_4 \cdot 4OTf \cdot 8PF_6$ , c)  $6a \cdot 4BF_4 \cdot 4OTf \cdot 12PF_6$ , d)  $7a \cdot 6BF_4 \cdot 4OTf \cdot 16PF_6$ 



Figure S27: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 500 MHz) spectrum of 5b·14PF<sub>6</sub>



Figure S28: <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 125 MHz) spectrum of **5b**·14PF<sub>6</sub>



2009\_22081\_PVB346\_esitof02

Páx 1 de 47

Figure S29: ESI-MS of 5b · 14PF<sub>6</sub>.



**Figure S30:** Observed (top) and theoretical (bottom) isotopic distribution for the fragment  $[5b \cdot 6PF_6]^{+8}$ .



Figura S31: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 500 MHz) spectrum of **6b**·20PF<sub>6</sub>



Figure S32: <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>CN, 125 MHz) spectrum of **6b**·20PF<sub>6</sub>



Figure 33: ESI-MS of 6b 20PF<sub>6</sub>.



**Figure 34:** Observed (top) and theoretical (bottom) isotopic distribution for the fragment  $[6b \cdot 14PF_6]^{+6}$ .

## Dynamic formation of dimer, trimer, and tetramer in D<sub>2</sub>O.

Three stock solutions were prepared: solution A: 20 mM of  $1 \cdot 2NO_3$ , solution B: 20 mM of 2a, solution C: 10 mM of  $3a \cdot 2BF_4$ 0.3 mL of solution A were mixed with 0.3 mM of solution B. To this solution were added 0.3 mL of A and 0.30 mL of C. This addition was repeated twice. To the resulting solution of tetramer 0.15 mL of solution A and 0.15 mL of solution B were added, and finally 0.45 mL of A and 0.45 mL of B were added. Upon each addition an aliquot was extracted and a <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum was recorded, which were identical to those obtained and reported above.



## Determination of diffusion coefficients from theoretical models



Diffusion coefficients were calculated according to three models: prolate ellipsoid (left), oblate ellipsoid (center) and cylindrical (right).

$$D = \frac{k_B T}{6\pi\mu R f}$$

 $k_B$ , Boltzmann constant, *T*, temperature, *R*, hydrodynamic radius, *f* correction factor of each model, and  $\mu$  viscosity (D<sub>2</sub>O, 1.232x10<sup>-3</sup> Pa s at 298 K)<sup>5</sup>

#### Model: Prolate ellipsoid

$$R = \sqrt[8]{ab^2}$$
$$f = \frac{P^{-1/3}\sqrt{P^2 - 1}}{\ln(P + \sqrt{P^2 - 1})}$$

Where P = a/b

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> (a) Wheate, N. J.; Anil Kumar, P. G.; Torres, A. M.; Aldrich-Wright, J. R.; Price, W. S. *J. Phys. Chem. B* **2008**, *112*, 2311. (b) G. Jones, H. J. Fornwalt, *J. Chem. Phys.* **1936**, *4*, 30.

	a	b	R	Р	f	D	-log D
<b>4</b> a	1.1086E-09	6.903E-10	8.08382E-10	1.60596842	1.02029443	2.1481E-10	9.66795423
5a	2.0397E-09	6.26E-10	9.27944E-10	3.2587474	1.13075773	1.6885E-10	9.77250326
6a	2.9994E-09	6.088E-10	1.03592E-09	4.92674113	1.24491217	1.3738E-10	9.86207845
7a	3.9769E-09	6.0075E-10	1.128E-09	6.61980857	1.352153	1.1616E-10	9.9349466

#### Model: Oblate ellipsoid

$$R = \sqrt[3]{a^2 b}$$
$$f = \frac{P^{-2/3} \sqrt{P^2 - 1}}{\arctan\left(\sqrt{P^2 - 1}\right)}$$

P = a/b

	а	b	R	Р	f	D	-log D
<b>4</b> a	1.11E-09	1.97E-10	6.23738E-10	5.61458597	1.256656216	2.26032E-10	9.64583062
5a	2.04E-09	1.97E-10	9.36532E-10	10.329957	1.470748218	1.28625E-10	9.89067299
6a	3.00E-09	1.97E-10	1.21109E-09	15.1906812	1.642112597	8.90861E-11	10.0501901
7a	3.98E-09	1.97E-10	1.46166E-09	20.1410484	1.78645823	6.785E-11	10.1684499

Model: Cylinder

$$R = \sqrt[8]{\frac{3ab^2}{2}}$$

.

$$f = \frac{(2/3)^{1/3} P^{2/3}}{\ln(2P) - 0.3}$$

	a	b	R	Р	f	D	-log D
<b>4</b> a	1.1086E-09	6.903E-10	9.2537E-10	1.60596842	1.38198991	1.3854E-10	9.85843067
5a	2.0397E-09	6.26E-10	1.0622E-09	3.2587474	1.21954207	1.3676E-10	9.86402757
6a	2.9994E-09	6.088E-10	1.1858E-09	4.92674113	1.27242232	1.1742E-10	9.9302681
7a	3.9769E-09	6.0075E-10	1.2912E-09	6.61980857	1.34892142	1.0172E-10	9.99260451

## Table S1. Diffusion coefficients and dimensions of metallocycles

Compound	$-\log D \ (\mathrm{m}^2 \mathrm{s}^{-1})$	Calculated dimensions $A \times B$ $(nm)^{a}$	Calculated $-\log D (m^2 s^{-1})$
4b	9.64	$2.22 \times 1.38^{\circ}$	9.64 <sup>c</sup>
5a	9.8	$4.08 \times 1.25$	9.86 <sup>ª</sup>
6a	9.9	$6.00 \times 1.22$	9.93 <sup>d</sup>
7a	10.0	$7.95 \times 1.20$	9.99 <sup>d</sup>

<sup>a</sup> A is the distance between the diagonally opposite methylene carbons of the ethyelenediamine ligands in the modeled structures. B is the larger distance between opposite methylene groups of the bipyridinium ligands. <sup>b</sup> Distances measured in the Pd analog. <sup>c</sup> Value fitted according to oblate ellipsoidal model. <sup>d</sup> Value fitted according to cylindrical model.

#### **Computational Methods**

Full geometry optimizations of the **4a-7a** systems were performed at the HF level by using the Gaussian 03 program package (Revision C.01)<sup>1</sup>. In these calculations we used the standard 3-21G basis set for C, H and N atoms, while for Pd the LanL2DZ valence and effective core potential functions were used.<sup>2</sup> The stationary points found on the potential energy surfaces as a result of the geometry optimizations on the **4a** and **5a** systems have been tested to represent energy minima rather than saddle points via frequency analysis. Due to the consierable effort involved in the calculation of second derivatives, the optimized geometries of **6a** and **7a** were not characterized through frequency calculations.



Figure 35: Calculated structures of 4a-7a.

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