Supporting Information for:

Synthesis and characterisation of boranediyl- and diboranediyl-bridged diplatinum A-frame complexes

Carina Brunecker,^{a,b} Merle Arrowsmith,^{a,b} Jonas H. Müssig,^{a,b} Julian Böhnke,^{a,b} Andreas Stoy,^{a,b} Merlin Heß,^{a,b} Alexander Hofmann,^{a,b} Carsten Lenczyk,^{a,b} Crispin Lichtenberg,^a Jacqueline Ramler,^a Anna Rempel,^{a,b} and Holger Braunschweig^{a,b,*}

- ^{*a*} Institute for Inorganic Chemistry, Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg, Am Hubland, 97074 Würzburg (Germany).
- ^b Institute for Sustainable Chemistry & Catalysis with Boron, Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg, Am Hubland, 97074 Würzburg (Germany).

Table of contents

Methods and materials	2
Synthetic procedures	3
NMR spectra of new compounds	9
Decomposition of 4-I ^I and 5-Cl ^{NMe2}	
X-ray crystallographic data	
References	

Methods and materials

All manipulations were performed either under an atmosphere of dry argon or *in vacuo* using standard Schlenk line or glovebox techniques. Deuterated solvents were dried over molecular sieves and degassed by three freeze-pump-thaw cycles prior to use. All other solvents were distilled and degassed from appropriate drying agents. Solvents (both deuterated and non-deuterated) were stored under argon over activated 4 Å molecular sieves. NMR spectra were acquired on a Bruker Avance 500 NMR spectrometer (¹H and ¹H{³¹P}: 500.1 MHz, ¹¹B{¹H}: 160.5 MHz, ¹³C{¹H}: 125.8 MHz, ³¹P{¹H}: 202.5 MHz), Bruker Avance 400 NMR spectrometer (¹H: 400.1 MHz, ¹¹B{¹H}: 128.4 MHz, ¹³C{¹H}: 100.6 MHz, ³¹P{¹H}: 162.0 MHz), a Av NEO 400 SB spectrometer (¹⁹⁵Pt{¹H}: 86.0 MHz). Chemical shifts (δ) are given in ppm and internally referenced to the carbon nuclei (¹³C{¹H}) or residual protons (¹H) of the solvent. ¹¹B{¹H}, ³¹P{¹H} and ¹⁹⁵Pt{¹H} NMR spectra were referenced to [BF₃·OEt₂], 85% H₃PO₄ or Na₂[PtCl₆] as an external standard. Microanalyses (C, H, N) were performed on an Elementar vario MICRO cube elemental analyser.

Solvents and reagents were were purchased from Sigma Aldrich or Alfa Aesar. Deuterated solvents were degassed with three freeze-pump-thaw cycles and stored over molecular sieves in J. Young-style ampoules or in a glovebox. [Pt(nbe)₃] (nbe = norbornene),¹ BCl₂Dur (Dur = 2,3,5,6-tetramethylphenyl),² BCl₂Tip (Tip = 2,4,6-tri*iso*propylphenyl),³ BCl₂NPh₂,⁴ BBr₂Cy (Cy = cyclohexyl),⁵ BBr₂Mes (Mes = 2,4,6-trimethylphenyl),⁶ B₂Cl₂(NMe₂)₂⁷ and complex **2**⁸ were synthesised using literature procedures or based on literature procedures.

Synthetic procedures

Syntheses of Pt2 precursors

$[Pt_2(\mu-dmpm)_3], 1$

[Pt(nbe)₃] (252 mg, 529 μmol) was dissolved in benzene (10 mL) and a solution of dmpm (= bis(dimethylphosphino)methane) in benzene (340 mM, 2.76 mL, 925 μmol) was added. The red reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at ambient temperature before removal of volatiles under reduced pressure. The solid residue was extracted with hexane and the filtrate dried, the solvent was then removed under reduced pressure and **1** (406 mg, 508 mmol, 96% based on Pt) was isolated as a red solid. The compound is fluxional at rt in solution, giving rise to very broad NMR resonances. ¹H NMR (400.1 MHz, C₆D₆): $\delta = 1.66$ (t, ²*J*_{HP} = 14.2 Hz, 48H, *CH*₃), 1.39-1.76 (v. br., 6H, *CH*₂) ppm. ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100.6 MHz, C₆D₆): $\delta = 26.8$ (s, *CH*₃) ppm. *Note: the CH*₂ *resonance was too broad to detect via* ¹³C{¹H} NMR, HSQC or HMBC. ³¹P{¹H} NMR (162.0 MHz, C₆D₆): $\delta = 8.7$ (br s, ¹*J*_{PPt} = 4325 Hz) ppm. Elemental analysis (%) calculated for [C₁₅H₄₂P₆Pt₂] (Mw = 798.51): C 23.59, H 5.69; found: C 23.97, H 5.56.

$[{Pt_2(\mu-dmpm)_3}_2(\mu-dmpm)], 3$

[Pt(nbe)₃] (230 mg, 481 μmol) was dissolved in benzene (10 mL) and dmpm (131 mg, 963 μmol) was added at 0 °C. The red reaction mixture was stirred for 20 min at ambient temperature and all volatiles were removed under reduced pressure at 100 °C. After extraction with hexane (3 x 10 mL) the red solid was recrystallised from hexane to give **3** (165 mg, 96.5 mmol, 80% based on Pt) as a red solid. The compound is highly fluxional at rt in solution, giving rise to very broad NMR resonances. ¹H NMR (400.1 MHz, C₆D₆): $\delta = 2.62$ (br., 12H, CH₃), 2.09 (br., 12H, CH₂), 1.70 (t, ²J_{HP} = 26 Hz, 72H, CH₃), 1.48 (br., 12H, CH₂) ppm. *Note:* ¹³C{¹H} NMR data could not be acquired owing to the poor solubility of **3**. ³¹P{¹H} NMR (162.0 MHz, C₆D₆): $\delta = -20$ (broad higher-order resonance, ¹J_{PPt} ≈ 4000 Hz, P_{P-Pt3}), -61 (broad higher-order resonance, P_{P-Pt3}) ppm. Elemental analysis (%) calculated for [C₃₃H₉₈P₁₄Pt₄] (M_W = 1709.1): C 24.26, H 5.70; found: C 24.19, H 5.83.

Syntheses of diplatinum A-Frame boranediyl complexes

General procedure A

In a vial one equivalent of the relevant dihaloborane was added to a benzene solution (0.7 mL) of **2**. The mixture was shaken, causing the immediate precipitation of an orange or yellow solid. After filtration the solid was recrystallised from CH_2Cl_2 /pentane.

General procedure **B**

In a vial one equivalent of the relevant trihaloborane dimethylsulfide adduct was added to a benzene solution (0.7 mL) of **2**. The mixture was shaken, causing the immediate precipitation of a yellow solid. After filtration the solid was recrystallised from CH_2Cl_2 /pentane.

General procedure C

In a vial two equivalents of the relevant dihaloborane were added to a benzene solution (0.7 mL) of **1**. The mixture was shaken, causing the immediate precipitation of an orange or yellow solid. After filtration the solid was recrystallised from CH_2Cl_2 /pentane.

Note: the isolated A-Frame boranediyl complexes decomposed in solution or under reduced pressure.

$[Pt_2Cl_2(\mu-BDur)(\mu-dmpm)_2], 4-Cl^{Dur}$

A) Complex 2 (40.0 mg, 47.1 μmol) and 1.0 equivalent of BCl₂Dur (10.1 mg, 47.1 μmol) yielded **4-Cl^{Dur}** as a yellow solid (12.7 mg, 14.1 μmol, 82%). ¹H NMR (500.1 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = 7.24$ (s, 1H, Dur-CH), 3.20 (s, 6H, Dur-CH₃), 2.29 (s, 6H, Dur-CH₃), 1.89-2.03 (m, 2H, PCH₂), 1.78-1.84 (m, 12H, PCH₃), 1.66-1.74 (m, 2H; PCH₂), 1.41-1.33 (br. + satellites, 12H, ³J_{HPt} = 40.0 Hz, PCH₃) ppm. ¹³C{¹H} NMR (125.8 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = 148.8$ (br, BC_{Dur}) 136.6 (*m*-Dur-C), 134.9 (*p*-Dur), 30.8-29.9 (m, PCH₂), 25.4 (Dur-CH₃), 21.3 (Dur-CH₃), 14.1-14.5 (m, PCH₃) ppm. ³¹P{¹H} NMR (162.2 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = -11.6$ (s + higher order satellites, ¹J_{P-Pt} = 3544 Hz, ³J_{P-Pt} = 244 Hz, $Q = J_{P1-P2} + J_{P1-P3} = 57$ Hz) ppm. ¹¹B{¹H} NMR (160.5 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = 97$ (br s, fwmh ≈ 2310 Hz) ppm. ¹⁹⁵Pt{¹H} NMR (86.1 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = -3687$ (v. br t, ¹J_{P-Pt} = 3500 Hz) ppm. Elemental analysis (%) calculated for [C₂₀H₄₁BCl₂P₄Pt₂] (M_W = 877.3): C 27.38, H 4.71; found: C 27.99, H 4.75.

[Pt₂Cl₂(µ-BTip)(µ-dmpm)₂], 4-Cl^{Tip}

A) Complex 2 (15.0 mg, 17.6 μmol) and 1.0 equivalent of BCl₂Tip (5.03 mg, 17.6 μmol) yielded **4-Cl^{Tip}** as a yellow solid (11.9 mg, 12.5 μmol, 71%). ¹H NMR (500.1 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = 7.06$ (s, 2H, *m*-Tip-CH₂), 5.14-5.24 (m, 2H, *o*-Tip-CH), 2.81-2.89 (m, 1H, *p*-Tip-CH), 1.93-2.27 (m, 2H, *P*CH₂), 1.86 (br. + satellites, 12H, ³J_{HPt} = 27.0 Hz, *P*CH₃), 1.55-1.61 (m, 2H, *P*CH₂), 1.36 (br. + satellites, 12H, ³J_{HPt} = 37.0 Hz, *P*CH₃), 1.28-1.29 (d, ¹J_{HH} = 6.88 Hz, 12H, *o*-Tip-CH₃), 1.24-1.25 (d, ¹J_{HH} = 6.98 Hz, 6H, *p*-Tip-CH₃) ppm. ¹³C{¹H} NMR (125.8 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = 152.4$ (BC_{Tip}), 150.6 (*o*-Tip-C + *p*-Tip-C), 122.4 (*m*-Tip-CH₃), 23.7 (*p*-Tip-CH₃), 14.4-14.8 (m, PCH₃) ppm. *Note: the* ¹³C *NMR resonances of the dmpm ligands appear as complex multiplets due to coupling with the various* ³¹P nuclei of the molecules. ¹¹B{¹H} NMR (160.5 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = 96$ (br s, fwmh ≈ 2350 Hz) ppm. ³¹P{¹H} NMR (202.5 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = -11.3$ (s + higher order satellites, ¹J_{P-Pt} = 3551 Hz, ³J_{P-Pt} = 242 Hz, $Q = {}^{2}J_{P1-P2} + {}^{2}J_{P1-P3} = 49$ Hz) ppm. Elemental analysis (%) calculated for [C₂₅H₅₁BCl₂P4Pt₂] (Mw = 947.46): C 31.69, H 4.43; found: C 31.12, H 5.30.

$[Pt_2Cl_2(\mu-BNPh_2)(\mu-dmpm)_2], 4-Cl^{NPh_2}$

A) Complex 2 (100 mg, 118 μmol) and 1.0 equivalent of BCl₂NPh₂ (29.4 mg, 118 μmol) yielded **4-Cl^{NPh2}** as an orange solid (22.2 mg, 24.4 μmol, 21%). ¹H NMR (400.1 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = 7.62$ (d, ³*J*_{HH} = 7.48 Hz, 4H, *o*-Ph-C*H*), 7.26 (br. + satellites, 4H, ³*J*_{HPt} = 27.9 Hz, *m*-Ph-C*H*), 7.36 (br. + satellites, 2H, ³*J*_{HPt} = 36.4 Hz, *p*-Ph-C*H*), 1.94-2.20 (dm, 2H, ²*J*_{HH} = 8.7 Hz, *P*C*H*₂), 1.80-1.86 (m, 2H, *P*C*H*₂), 1.69 (br. + satellites, ³*J*_{HPt} = 27 Hz, 12H, PC*H*₃), 1.31 (br. + higher order satellites, ³*J*_{HPt} = 38 Hz, 12H, PC*H*₃) ppm. ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100.6 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 297 K): $\delta = 153.18$ (Ph-C_N), 128.83 (*m*-Ph-CH), 126.95 (*o*-Ph-CH), 124.24 (*p*-Ph-CH), 28.69-29.61 (m, PCH₂), 15.3-15.7 (m, PCH₃), 14.39-14.75 (m, PCH₃) ppm. ¹¹B{¹H} NMR (128.4 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = 58$ (br s, fwmh ≈ 2200 Hz) ppm. ³¹P{¹H} NMR (162.0 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = -6.7$ (s + higher order satellites, ¹*J*_{P-Pt} = 3415 Hz, ³*J*_{P-Pt} = 232 Hz, *Q* = ²*J*_{P1-P2} + ²*J*_{P1-P3} = 46 Hz) ppm. Elemental analysis (%) calculated for [C₂₂H₃₈NBCl₂P4Pt₂] (M_W = 912.33): C 28.96, H 4.20, N 1.54; found: C 27.89, H 4.18, N 1.37.

[Pt₂Cl₂(*µ*-BCl)(*µ*-dmpm)₂], 4-Cl^{Cl}

A) Complex 2 (100 mg, 118 μ mol) and 1.0 equivalent of 1M in hexane BCl₃ (13.8 mg, 118 μ mol) yielded **4-Cl^{Cl}** as a yellow solid (3.67 mg, 4.70 μ mol, 20%).

B) 2 (20.0 mg, 23.51 μmol) and 1.0 equivalent of Me₂S·BCl₃ (4.22 mg, 23.51 μmol) yielded **4**-Cl^{Cl} as a yellow solid (18.0 mg, 23.0 μmol, 98%). ¹H NMR (400.6 MHz, C₆D₆/CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = 1.36$ (br. + satellites, 12H, ³*J*_{HPt} = 25.1 Hz, *P*CH₃), 1.22-1.27 (m, 2H, PCH₂), 1.19 (br. + satellites, 12H, ³*J*_{HPt} = 30.5 Hz, *P*CH₃), 0.92-1.11 (dm, 2H, ²*J*_{HH} = 8.7 Hz, PCH₂) ppm. ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100.6 MHz, C₆D₆/CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = 27.2-27.6$ (m, PCH₂), 14.7 (br. + satellites, ¹*J*_{CP} = 20.7 Hz *P*CH₃), 13.2-13.6 (m, *P*CH₃) ppm. *Note: the* ¹³*C NMR resonances of the dmpm ligands appear as complex multiplets due to coupling with the various* ³¹*P* nuclei of the molecules. ¹¹B{¹H} NMR (128.5 MHz, C₆D₆/CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = 85$ (br s, fwmh ≈ 2170 Hz) ppm. ³¹P{¹H} NMR (162.2 MHz, C₆D₆/CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = -7.0$ (s + higher order satellites, ¹*J*_{P-Pt} = 3328 Hz, ³*J*_{P-Pt} = 230 Hz, $Q = {}^{2}J_{P1-P2} + {}^{2}J_{P1-P3} = 44$ Hz) ppm. Elemental analysis (%) calculated for [C₁₃H₃₂BCl₃F₂P₄Pt₂] = [**4-Cl^{CL}**(C₆H₄F₂)_{0.5}] (M_w = 779.6): C 18.21, H 3.76; found: C 18.20, H 3.64.

$[Pt_2Br_2(\mu-BCy)(\mu-dmpm)_2], 4-Br^{Cy}$

A) Complex 2 (50.0 mg, 58.8 µmol) and 1.0 equivalent of BBr₂Cy (14.92 mg, 58.8 µmol) yielded **4-Br^{Cy}** as an orange solid (33.9 mg, 41.0 µmol, 70%). ¹H{³¹P} NMR (500.1 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = 2.63 \cdot 2.68$ (m, 2H, *p*-Cy-CH₂), 2.23 \cdot 1.90 (m, 2H PCH₂), 1.89 \cdot 1.65 (m, 28H, *o*-Cy-CH₂ + PCH₃), 1.47 \cdot 1.39 (d, 2H, ³J_{HPt} = 14 Hz, PCH₂), 1.37 \cdot 1.16 (m, 5H, *m*-Cy-CH₂ + Cy-CH) ppm. ¹³C{¹H} NMR (125.8 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = 35.2 \cdot 35.5$ (m, PCH₂ + Cy-CH₂), 28.7 (Cy-CH₂), 27.4 \cdot 28.2 (m, CH₂, Cy-CH₂), 26.9 (Cy-CH₂), 15.5 \cdot 15.9 (m, PCH₃) ppm. ¹¹B{¹H} NMR (160.5 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = 105$ (br s, fwmh ≈ 2400 Hz) ppm. ³¹P{¹H} NMR (162.0 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = -7.4$ (s + higher order satellites, ¹J_{P-Pt} = 3440 Hz, ³J_{P-Pt} = 201 Hz, $Q = {}^{2}J_{P1-P2} + {}^{2}J_{P1-P3} = 55$ Hz) ppm. Elemental analysis (%) calculated for [C₁₆H₃₉BBr₂P₄Pt₂] (M_W = 916.2): C 20.98, H 4.29; found: C 21.12, H 4.28.

$[Pt_2Br_2(\mu-BMes)(\mu-dmpm)_2], 4-Br^{Mes}$

A) Complex 2 (15.0 mg, 17.6 μ mol) and 1.0 equivalent of BBr₂Mes (5.09 mg, 17.6 μ mol) yielded **4-Br^{Mes}** as an orange solid (15.1 mg, 10.6 μ mol, 60%).

C) Complex **1** (40.0 mg, 51.7 µmol) and 2.0 equivalents of BBr₂Mes (29.9 mg, 103 µmol) yielded **4-Br^{Mes}** as an orange solid (24.1 mg, 25.3 µmol, 49%). ¹H NMR (500.1 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = 6.96$ (s, 1H, Mes-CH), 3.15 (s, 6H, Mes-CH₃), 2.19 (s, 3H, Mes-CH₃), 1.95 (dm, 2H, ²*J*_{HH} = 4.3 Hz PCH₂), 1.88 (br. + satellites, 12H, ³*J*_{HPt} = 34 Hz, PCH₃), 1.42 (br.+ satellites, 12H, ³*J*_{HPt} = 34 Hz, ³*J*_{HPt} = 34 Hz, PCH₃), 1.22-1.27 (m, 2H, PCH₂) ppm. ¹³C{¹H} NMR (125.8 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = 142.0$ (BC_{Mes}), 141.2 (Mes-C), 130.6 (*m*-Mes-CH), 29.9 (br. + satellites, ²*J*_{CPt} =

31 Hz, PCH₂), 29.6 (*m*-Dur-CH₃), 21.6 (*p*-Dur-CH₃), 16.0-15.7 (m, PCH₃), 14.9-14.6 (m, PCH₃) ppm. ¹¹B{¹H} NMR (160.5 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = 97$ (br s, fwmh ≈ 2250 Hz) ppm. ³¹P{¹H} NMR (202.5 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = -13.3$ (s + higher order satellites, ¹J_{Pt1-P1} = 3506 Hz, ³J_{P-Pt} = 233 Hz, $Q = {}^{2}J_{P1-P2} + {}^{2}J_{P1-P3} = 54$ Hz) ppm. Elemental analysis (%) calculated for [C₁₉H₃₉BBr₂P₄Pt₂] (M_W = 952.2): C 23.97, H 4.13; found: C 24.26, H 4.15. *Note: Single crystals of two types of dmpm-BMesBr₂ byproducts were isolated during fractional recrystallisation: the linear dmpm-bis(borane) adduct (\mu-dmpm)(BMesBr₂)₂ was formed, in which each phosphine moiety coordinates one borane, and a chelating dmpm-boronium adduct with a bromide counteranion, [(\eta^2-dmpm)BMesBr]Br (\delta_{11B} = -3.5 (br) ppm; \delta_{31P} = -6.1 (br) ppm).*

$[Pt_2Br_2(\mu-BDur)(\mu-dmpm)_2], 4-Br^{Dur}$

C) Complex 1 (40.0 mg, 51.7 μ mol) and 2.0 equivalents of BBr₂Dur (31.4 mg, 103 μ mol) yielded **4-Br^{Dur}** as an orange solid (22.0 mg, 22.7 μ mol, 44%). NMR-spectroscopic data matched that from the literature, where **4-Br^{Dur}** was obtained through route **A**).⁸

$[Pt_2I_2(\mu-BI)(\mu-dmpm)_2], 4-I^I$

A) Complex 2 (20.0 mg, 23.5 µmol) and 1.0 equivalent of BI₃ (9.20 mg, 23.5 µmol) yielded 4-I^I as a red solid (5.21 mg, 4.94 µmol, 21%). ¹H NMR (400.6 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = 2.26$ -2.07 (m, 4H PCH₂), 1.87 (br + satellites, 12H, PCH₃), 1.76 (br + satellites, 12H, PCH₃) ppm. ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100.7 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = 21.6$ -21.2 (m, 2C, PCH₂), 17.3-17.0 (m, 4C, PCH₃), 16.1-15.6 (m, 4C, PCH₃) ppm. ³¹P{¹H} NMR (162.0 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = -15.5$ (s + higher order satellites, ¹J_{P-Pt} = 3214 Hz, ³J_{P-Pt} = 195 Hz, $Q = {}^{2}J_{P1-P2} + {}^{2}J_{P1-P3} = 44$ Hz) ppm. ¹¹B{¹H} NMR (128.5 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = 80$ (br s, fwmh ≈ 2730 Hz) ppm. Elemental analysis (%) calculated for [C₁₀H₂₈BI₃P₄Pt₂] = [**4-I^I**] (Mw = 1053.9): C 11.4, H 2.68; found: C 11.92, H 2.78.

[(µ-dmpm)PtI]2, 6-I

A small crop of colourless crystals of **6-I** suitable for X-ray crystallographic analysis was isolated from the decomposition of **4-I**^I. The NMR data fits the literature report of **6-I**.^{9 31}P{¹H} NMR (162.0 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = -31.4$ (s + higher order satellites, ¹*J*_{P-Pt} = 2629 Hz, ²*J*_{P-Pt} = 141 Hz, $Q = {}^{2}J_{P1-P2} + {}^{2}J_{P1-P3} = 73$ Hz). In solution **6-I** underwent disproportionation to **7-I** and an unknown, insoluble Pt(0) compound.

Independent synthesis of [Pt₂I₄(µ-dmpm)₂], 7-I

In a vial two equivalents of I₂ (36.0 mg, 141.8 µmol) were added to a benzene solution (0.7 mL) of **2** (60.3 mg, 70.9 µmol). The mixture was shaken, causing the immediate precipitation of a red solid. After filtration the solid was recrystallised from CH₂Cl₂/pentane. Yielded **7-I** as a red crystalline solid (59.8 mg, 51.06 µmol, 73%). ¹H NMR (400.6 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ = 3.31 (s, 4H, PCH₂), 2.24 (s, 24H, PCH₃) ppm. ¹³C{¹H} NMR (125.8 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ = 39.5 (PCH₂), 19.6 (PCH₃) ppm. ³¹P{¹H} NMR (162.0 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ = -34.4 (s + higher order satellites, ¹*J*_{P-Pt} = 2258 Hz, ²*J*_{P1-P2} + ²*J*_{P1-P3} = 49 Hz) ppm. Elemental analysis (%) calculated for [C₁₀H₂₈I₄P₄Pt₂] (M_W = 1170.01): C 10.27, H 2.41; found: C 10.34, H 2.42.

Synthesis and decomposition of diplatinum A-frame diborane-1,2-diyl complexes

[Pt2Cl2(µ-B2(NMe2)2)(µ-dmpm)2], 5-Cl^{NMe2}

In a vial one equivalent of B₂Cl₂(NMe₂)₂ (5.09 mg, 17.6 µmol) was added to a benzene solution (0.7 mL) of **2** (15.0 mg, 17.6 µmol). The mixture was shaken, causing the immediate precipitation of an orange solid. After filtration the solid was recrystallised from CH₂Cl₂/pentane, yielding **5-Cl^{NMe2}** as an orange solid (15.3 mg, 16.1 µmol, 91%). ¹¹B NMR (128.5 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = 57$ (br s, 1110 Hz) ppm. ³¹P{¹H} NMR (162.0 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = -10.7$ (br s, ¹*J*_{P-Pt} = 3399 Hz) ppm. *Note: Due to rapid decomposition in solution and in the solid state, only ¹¹B and ³¹P{¹H} NMR data of 5-Cl^{NMe2} could be acquired. Multiple attempts to obtain suitable elemental analysis data also failed.*

[(µ-dmpm)PtCl]2, 6-Cl

A small amount of colourless **6-Cl** was isolated from the decomposition of **5-Cl^{NMe2}**. ¹H NMR (400.6 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = 2.77-2.88$ (m, 4H PCH₂), 1.71 (br + satellites, 12H, ³*J*_{HPt} =14.2 Hz, PCH₃) ppm. ³¹P{¹H} NMR (162.2 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = -19.3$ (s + higher order satellites, ¹*J*_{Pt1-P1} = 2654 Hz, *J*_{Pt2-P1} = 149 Hz, *Q* = *J*_{P1-P2} + *J*_{P1-P3} = 111 Hz) ppm. *Note: The compound was never isolated in sufficient quantities for further analysis.*

NMR spectra of new compounds





Figure S2. ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of **1** in C_6D_6 .



Figure S3. ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum of 1 in C₆D₆.



Figure S4. ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum of the cluster decomposition product of **2**, [Pt₆(μ -dmpm)₄(μ -PMe₂)₄], in C₆D₆.



Figure S5. ¹H NMR spectrum of **4-Cl^{Dur}** in CD₂Cl₂. The additional resonance at 0.88 ppm corresponds to residual pentane.



Figure S6. ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum of 4-Cl^{Dur} in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S7. ¹¹B{¹H} NMR spectrum of 4-Cl^{Dur} in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S8. ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum of 4-Cl^{Dur} in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S9. 195 Pt{ 1 H} NMR spectrum of 4-Cl^{Dur} in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S10. ¹H NMR spectrum of **4-Cl^{Tip}** in CD₂Cl₂. The additional resonance at 0.88 ppm corresponds to residual pentane.



Figure S11. ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of 4-Cl^{Tip} in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S12. ¹¹B $\{^{1}H\}$ NMR spectrum of 4-Cl^{Tip} in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S13. ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum of 4-Cl^{Tip} in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S14. ¹H NMR spectrum of 4-Cl^{NPh2} in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S15. ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of $4-Cl^{NPh2}$ in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S16. ¹¹B $\{^{1}H\}$ NMR spectrum of 4-Cl^{NPh2} in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S17. ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum of 4-Cl^{NPh2} in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S18. ¹H NMR spectrum of **4-Cl^{Cl}** in C_6D_6/CD_2Cl_2 . The additional resonances at 1.23 and 0.86 ppm correspond to residual pentane.



Figure S19. ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of **4-Cl^{Cl}** in C₆D₆/CD₂Cl₂. The additional resonances at 34.5, 22.7 and 14.3 ppm correspond to residual pentane.



Figure S20. ¹¹B{¹H} NMR spectrum of $4-Cl^{Cl}$ in C₆D₆/CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S21. ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum of $4-Cl^{Cl}$ in C₆D₆/CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S22. ¹H NMR spectrum of 4-Br^{Cy} in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S23. ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum of 4-Br^{Cy} in CD₂Cl₂.



21

Figure S24. ¹¹B{¹H} NMR spectrum of $4-Br^{Cy}$ in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S25. ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum of 4-Br^{Cy} in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S26. ¹H NMR spectrum of 4-Br^{Mes} in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S27. ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of 4-Br^{Mes} in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S28. ¹¹B{¹H} NMR spectrum of 4-Br^{Mes} in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S29. ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum of 4-Br^{Mes} in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S30. ¹H NMR spectrum of **4-I**^I in CD₂Cl₂. The additional resonances at 0.88 ppm and 1.27 ppm correspond to hexane.



Figure S31. ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of **4-I**^I in CD₂Cl₂. The additional resonances at 128 ppm correspond to benzene.



Figure S32. ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum of **4-I**^I in CD₂Cl₂. The additional resonance at -35.2 ppm corresponds to the decomposition product **7-I**.



Figure S33. ¹¹B NMR spectrum of 4-I^I in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S34. ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum of 6-I in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S35. ¹H NMR spectrum of **7-I** in CD₂Cl₂. The additional resonances at 5.33 ppm and 7.35 ppm correspond to dichloromethane and benzene, respectively.



Figure S36. ¹³C $\{^{1}H\}$ NMR spectrum of **7-I** in CD₂Cl₂. The additional resonance at 128.4 ppm corresponds to benzene.



Figure S37. ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum of 7-I in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S38. ¹¹B{¹H} NMR spectrum of $5-Cl^{NMe2}$ in CD_2Cl_2 .



Figure S39. ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum of 5-Cl^{NMe2} in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S40. ¹H NMR spectrum of **6-Cl** in CD_2Cl_2 . The additional multiplets at 0.89 ppm and 1.30 ppm correspond to residual pentane from washing.



Figure S41. ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum of 6-Cl in CD₂Cl₂.



Decomposition of 4-I^I and 5-Cl^{NMe2}





Figure S43. ³¹P{¹H} NMR-spectroscopic monitoring of the decomposition of **6-I** in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S44. ³¹P{¹H} NMR-spectroscopic monitoring of the decomposition of $5-Cl^{NMe2}$ in CD_2Cl_2 at rt.



X-ray crystallographic data

Crystal data of compound **4-Br^{Mes}** were collected on a BRUKER X8-APEX II diffractometer equipped with a CCD area detector and multi-layer mirror monochromated $Mo_{K\alpha}$ radiation. All other crystal data were collected on a BRUKER D8 QUEST diffractometer equipped with a CMOS area detector and multi-layer mirror monochromated $Mo_{K\alpha}$ radiation. Structures were solved using the intrinsic phasing method,¹⁰ refined with the SHELXL program¹¹ and expanded using Fourier techniques. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. Hydrogen atoms were included in structure factor calculations. All hydrogen atoms were assigned to idealised geometric positions.

Crystallographic data have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Center as supplementary publication no. CCDC 2042866 (1), 2042867 (4-Cl^{Tip}), 2042868 (5-Cl^{NMe2}), 2042869 (6-I), 2042870 (7-I), 2042871 (4-Cl^{Cl}), 2042872 (4-ClN^{Ph2}), 2042873 (4-Br^{Mes}), 2042874 (3), 2042875 (4-Br^{Cy}), 2042876 (Pt₆ cluster), 2042877 (4-I^I), 2042878 (4-Cl^{Dur}). These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre *via* www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.

Refinement details for 1: The displacement parameters of atoms P5 P6 C11 > C15 P2 C4 C5 P3 C6 C7 were restrained to the same value with similarity restraint SIMU 0.002.

Crystal data for 1: C₁₅H₄₂P₆Pt₂, $M_r = 798.48$, red plate, $0.085 \times 0.075 \times 0.021 \text{ mm}^3$, monoclinic space group $P2_1/c$, a = 16.415(5) Å, b = 9.828(3) Å, c = 16.894(8) Å, $\beta = 104.45(2)^\circ$, V = 2639.2(17) Å³, Z = 4, $\rho_{calcd} = 2.010 \text{ g} \cdot \text{cm}^{-3}$, $\mu = 10.952 \text{ mm}^{-1}$, F(000) = 1512, T = 100(2) K, $R_1 = 0.0495$, $wR^2 = 0.0681$, 6309 independent reflections $[2\theta \le 55.85^\circ]$ and 220 parameters.

Refinement details for 3: The asymmetric unit contains two Pt4 molecules and one hexane molecule disordered over two positions in a 58:42 ratio (RESI HEX). ADPs within RESI HEX were restrained using SIMU and ISOR, 1,2-distances were restrained with DFIX 1.53 0.005 and 1,3-distances with DFIX 2.54 0.005 to fit the known geometry of hexane.

Crystal data for 3: $C_{35}H_{98}P_{14}Pt_{4} \cdot (C_{6}H_{14})_{0.5}$, $M_r = 1775.10$, yellow block, 0.337×0.258×0.052 mm³, triclinic space group P $\overline{1}$, a = 9.7921(6) Å, b = 18.6172(12) Å, c = 35.799(2) Å, $\alpha = 86.460(2)^{\circ}$, $\beta = 82.591(2)^{\circ}$, $\gamma = 83.964(2)^{\circ}$, V = 6428.2(7) Å³, Z = 4, $\rho_{calcd} = 1.834$ g·cm⁻³, $\mu = 9.050$ mm⁻¹, F(000) = 3420, T = 100(2) K, $R_I = 0.0325$, $wR^2 = 0.0491$, 25280 independent reflections $[2\theta \le 52.044^{\circ}]$ and 1124 parameters.

Refinement details for Pt₆ cluster decomposition product of 2: The crystal was heavily twinned but the twinning could not be solved, hence the high residual electron density. The data quality is insufficient for structural discussion but provides proof of connectivity.

Crystal data for Pt₆ cluster decomposition product of 2: $(C_{14}H_{40}P_6Pt_3)_2$, $M_r = 1959.11$, colourless needle, $0.242 \times 0.198 \times 0.073$ mm³, triclinic space group P $\overline{1}$, a = 9.6196(4) Å, b = 11.6672(5) Å, c = 12.3195(5) Å, $\alpha = 111.4220(10)^\circ$, $\beta = 93.2400(10)^\circ$, $\gamma = 92.7520(10)^\circ$, V = 1281.58(9) Å³, Z = 1, $\rho_{calcd} = 2.538$ g·cm⁻³, $\mu = 16.705$ mm⁻¹, F(000) = 896, T = 100(2) K, $R_1 = 0.0620$, $wR^2 = 0.1741$, 5619 independent reflections $[2\theta \le 54.214^\circ]$ and 220 parameters.



Figure S45. Crystallographically-derived molecular structure of the cluster decomposition product of **2**. Ellipsoids of ligand periphery and hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity.

Crystal data for 4-Cl^{Dur}: C₂₀H₄₁BCl₂P₄Pt₂·(C₆H₄F₂)₂, $M_r = 1105.48$, yellow block, 0.115×0.103×0.099 mm³, orthorhombic space group *Pbcn*, a = 11.836(4) Å, b = 22.892(8) Å,

c = 14.199(5) Å, V = 3847(2) Å³, Z = 4, $\rho_{calcd} = 1.909$ g·cm⁻³, $\mu = 7.611$ mm⁻¹, F(000) = 2128, T = 100(2) K, $R_I = 0.0240$, $wR^2 = 0.0404$, 4105 independent reflections [2 $\theta \le 53.558^\circ$] and 211 parameters.



Figure S46. Crystallographically-derived molecular structure of **4-Cl^{Dur}**. Thermal ellipsoids drawn at the 50% probability level. Ellipsoids of ligand periphery and hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity.

Refinement details for 4-Cl^{Tip}: The asymmetric unit contains two dichloromethane molecules, one of which is two-fold disordered, modelled in a 34:66 ratio. 1,2- and 1,3-distances within the disorder were restrained using SAME and ADPs using SIMU 0.01

Crystal data for 4-Cl^{Tip}: C₂₇H₅₅BCl₆P₄Pt₂, $M_r = 1117.28$, yellow block, 0.266×0.175×0.119 mm³, monoclinic space group $P2_1/c$, a = 15.217(7) Å, b = 9.891(3) Å, c = 26.831(9) Å, $\beta = 94.952(14)^\circ$, V = 4023(3) Å³, Z = 4, $\rho_{calcd} = 1.845$ g·cm⁻³, $\mu = 7.522$ mm⁻¹, F(000) = 2160, T = 102(2) K, $R_I = 0.0321$, $wR^2 = 0.0449$, 8584 independent reflections $[2\theta \le 53.548^\circ]$ and 403 parameters.

Refinement details for 4-Cl^{NPh2}: the asymmetric unit contains one solvent molecule, which is half-occupied by a benzene and half-occupied by an *o*-difluorobenzene molecule sharing the same C_6 ring.

Crystal data for 4-Cl^{NPh2}: C₂₅H₄₀BCl₂NP₄Pt₂·(C₆H₄F₂)_{0.5}·(C₆H₆)_{0.5}, $M_r = 969.35$, yellow needle, 0.402×0.117×0.056 mm³, monoclinic space group $P2_1/c$, a = 15.0000(5) Å, b = 11.3002(4) Å, c = 19.1129(6) Å, $\beta = 93.1650(10)^\circ$, V = 3234.75(19) Å³, Z = 4, $\rho_{calcd} = 1.990$ g·cm⁻³, $\mu = 9.025$ mm⁻¹, F(000) = 1844, T = 100(2) K, $R_I = 0.0406$, $wR^2 = 0.0615$, 7713 independent reflections [2 $\theta \le 55.776^\circ$] and 344 parameters.

Refinement details for 4-Cl^{Cl}: The structure was refined as a two-component inversion twin using the TWIN keyword. The BASF parameter was refined to 0.46. The asymmetric unit contains two molecules of **4-Cl^{Cl}** and one *o*-difluorobenzene molecule, which was modelled as twofold disordered by rotation around its center in a 57:43 ratio, with the ADP restraint SIMU 0.005. Due to some flexibility in the $Pt_2(dmpm)_2$ framework the ellipsoids of the methyl C1 and C2 groups were highly elongated and restrained to similarity with P1 using SIMU 0.002

Crystal data for 4-Cl^{Cl}: C₂₆H₆₀B₂Cl₆F₂P₈Pt₄, $M_r = 1673.18$, colourless block, 0.146×0.141×0.099 mm³, monoclinic space group *P*2₁, *a* = 14.055(2) Å, *b* = 11.8205(14) Å, *c* = 15.0133(16) Å, $\beta = 98.271(9)^\circ$, *V* = 2468.3(6) Å³, *Z* = 2, $\rho_{calcd} = 2.251$ g·cm⁻³, $\mu = 11.911$ mm⁻¹, *F*(000) = 1556, *T* = 100(2) K, *R*₁ = 0.0145, *wR*² = 0.0327, 10063 independent reflections [2 $\theta \le 52.744^\circ$] and 523 parameters.



Figure S47. Crystallographically-derived molecular structure of **4-Cl^{Cl}**. Thermal ellipsoids drawn at the 50% probability level. Ellipsoids of ligand periphery and hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity.

Crystal data for 4-Br^{Cy}: C₁₆H₃₉BBr₂P₄Pt₂·(CH₂Cl₂), $M_r = 1001.09$, colourless plate, $0.805 \times 0.375 \times 0.184 \text{ mm}^3$, monoclinic space group $P2_1/n$, a = 15.3302(5) Å, b = 10.6045(3) Å,

c = 20.0669(6) Å, $\beta = 109.9580(10)^{\circ}$, V = 3066.34(16) Å³, Z = 4, $\rho_{calcd} = 2.169$ g·cm⁻³, $\mu = 12.109$ mm⁻¹, F(000) = 1872, T = 102(2) K, $R_I = 0.0204$, $wR^2 = 0.0443$, 6024 independent reflections [2 $\theta \le 52.044^{\circ}$] and 261 parameters.

Crystal data for 4-Br^{Mes}: C₁₉H₃₉BBr₂P₄Pt₂·(CH₂Cl₂), $M_r = 1037.12$, orange block, 0.265×0.197×0.106 mm³, orthorhombic space group $P2_12_12_1$, a = 10.731(4) Å, b = 15.170(4) Å, c = 19.590(9) Å, V = 3189(2) Å³, Z = 4, $\rho_{calcd} = 2.160$ g·cm⁻³, $\mu = 11.647$ mm⁻¹, F(000) = 1944, T = 100(2) K, $R_I = 0.0120$, $wR^2 = 0.0258$, 6760 independent reflections [2 $\theta \leq 53.444^{\circ}$] and 291 parameters.



Figure S48. Crystallographically-derived molecular structure of **4-Br^{Mes}**. Thermal ellipsoids drawn at the 50% probability level. Ellipsoids of ligand periphery and hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity.

Crystal data for 4-I^I: : $C_{12}H_{32}BCl_4I_3P_4Pt_2$, $M_r = 1223.74$, orange block, 0.364×0.191×0.163 mm³, monoclinic space group $P2_1/c$, a = 14.9329(9) Å, b = 15.7221(9) Å, c = 26.2447(16) Å, $\beta = 94.570(2)^\circ$, V = 6142.1(6) Å³, Z = 8, $\rho_{calcd} = 2.647$ g·cm⁻³, $\mu = 12.674$ mm⁻¹, F(000) = 4416, T = 100(2) K, $R_I = 0.0328$, $wR^2 = 0.0468$, 12566 independent reflections $[2\theta \le 52.744^\circ]$ and 540 parameters. **Crystal data for 6-I:** $C_{10}H_{28}I_2P_4Pt_2$, $M_r = 916.18$, colourless block, $0.434 \times 0.398 \times 0.33 \text{ mm}^3$, monoclinic space group C2/c, a = 16.063(5) Å, b = 8.568(2) Å, c = 15.827(3) Å, $\beta = 102.115(14)^\circ$, V = 2129.7(9) Å³, Z = 4, $\rho_{calcd} = 2.857 \text{ g} \cdot \text{cm}^{-3}$, $\mu = 16.309 \text{ mm}^{-1}$, F(000) = 1640, T = 100(2) K, $R_I = 0.0398$, $wR^2 = 0.0901$, 2082 independent reflections $[2\theta \le 52.042^\circ]$ and 86 parameters.

Crystal data for 7-I: C₁₆H₀I₄P₄Pt₂, $M_r = 1213.82$, red plate, $0.257 \times 0.154 \times 0.106 \text{ mm}^3$, triclinic space group P $\overline{1}$, a = 8.4725(18) Å, b = 8.5638(18) Å, c = 10.4628(13) Å, $\alpha = 111.406(12)^\circ$, $\beta = 90.373(7)^\circ$, $\gamma = 92.437(8)^\circ$, V = 705.9(2) Å³, Z = 1, $\rho_{calcd} = 2.936 \text{ g} \cdot \text{cm}^{-3}$, $\mu = 14.501 \text{ mm}^{-1}$, F(000) = 558, T = 100(2) K, $R_I = 0.0145$, $wR^2 = 0.0341$, 2772 independent reflections $[2\theta \le 52.032^\circ]$ and 122 parameters.

Crystal data for 5-Cl^{NMe2}: $M_r = 843.06$, orange plate, $0.08 \times 0.06 \times 0.04 \text{ mm}^3$, tetragonal space group $I4_1/a$, a = 17.179(3) Å, b = 17.179 Å, c = 36.881(13) Å, V = 10885(5) Å³, Z = 16, $\rho_{calcd} = 2.058 \text{ g} \cdot \text{cm}^{-3}$, $\mu = 10.706 \text{ mm}^{-1}$, F(000) = 6368, T = 100(2) K, $R_l = 0.0515$, $wR^2 = 0.0562$, 5558 independent reflections $[2\theta \le 52.744^\circ]$ and 247 parameters.

References

- 1 L. E. Crascall and J. L. Spencer, *Inorg. Synth.*, 1990, 28, 126.
- 2 A. Eckert, H. Pritzkow and W. Siebert, *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.*, 2002, 2064.
- 3 H. Braunschweig, Q. Ye and K. Radacki, *Chem. Commun.*, 2012, 48, 2701.
- 4 H. J. Becher, Z. anorg. allg. Chem., 1957, 289, 262.
- 5 R. Soundararajan and D. S. Matteson, *Organometallics*, 1995, 14, 4157.
- 6 W. Haubold, J. Herdtle, W. Gollinger and W. Einholz, J. Org. Chem., 1986, 315, 1.
- 7 H. Schick, *Dissertation*, Ludwig-Maximilians Universität München, 1966.
- 8 C. Brunecker, J. H. Müssig, M. Arrowsmith, F. Fantuzzi, A. Stoy, J. Böhnke, A. Hofmann,
 R. Bertermann, B. Engels and H. Braunschweig, *Chem. Eur. J.*, 2020, 26, 8518.
- 9 S. S. M. Ling and R. J. Puddephatt, *Polyhedron*, 1986, **5**, 1423.
- 10 G. M. Sheldrick, Acta Cryst., 2015, A71, 3.
- 11 G. M. Sheldrick, Acta Cryst., 2008, A64, 112.