Supporting Information

Bicyclic Sulfonium Pincer Ligand with a Thiatriptycenium Backbone - Synthesis and Applications in π -Acid Catalysis

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Experimental Procedures

1. Synthetic procedures and characterization

1.1. General information

All air sensitive reactions were carried out under an atmosphere of purified nitrogen in a glovebox equipped with an inert gas purifier. Toluene, acetonitrile (MeCN), diethyl ether (Et₂O), dichloromethane (DCM) and methanol (MeOH), were purified by passing through a column of activated alumina under inert atmosphere. Anhydrous hexane, dimethoxyethane (DME), 1,2-dichloroethane (DCE) and pentane packed under inert gas over molecular sieves were used as purchased. 2,7-di-tert-butyl-4,5-bis(diphenylphosphoryl)-9H-thioxanthen-9one (compound 1),¹ 2-ethynyl-1,1'-binaphthalene,² 2-ethynyl-1-(2,3,4-trimethoxyphenyl)naphthalene,³ [Pt(CH₃CN)₄](OTf)₂⁴ [Pt(CH₃CN)₄](BF₄)₂,⁴ [Pt(CH₃CN)₄](PF₆)₂,⁵ 2-(2-ethynylnaphthalen-1-yl)thiophene,⁶ 2-ethynyl-1-(4-fluorophenyl)naphthalene,² dimethyl 2-(but-3-en-1-yl)-2-(prop-2-yn-1-yl)malonate,⁷ 4-methyl-N-(3-methylbut-2-en-1-yl)-N-(prop-2-yn-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide, 4-methyl-N-(2methylallyl)-N-(prop-2-yn-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide⁸ were prepared according to literatures procedures. Pt(COD)Cl₂, 2-(trimethylsilyl)phenyl trifluoromethanesulfonate, tetrabutylammonium fluoride solution (1.0 M in THF), potassium hydride (KH), methyl triflate, phenyl silane and triflic acid (TfOH) were purchased from STREM. Chemicals and used without purification. All chromatographic purifications were performed with prepacked SiO₂ columns on CombiFlash EZ-Prep instrument. High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on HR Q-TOF-MS mass instrument, using an electrospray ionization (ESI+) technique (MeCN/H₂O 80%, flow: 0.2 ml/min). NMR spectra were measured using Bruker 500 MHz Avance II and Neo spectrometers. Residual solvent peaks were used as internal standards for ¹H and ¹³C respectively (CDCl₃: δ 7.26/77.0 ppm; CD₂Cl₂: δ 5.31/53.8 ppm, and CD₃CN: δ 1.94/0.3 ppm and C₂D₄Cl₂: δ 3.74 / 43.2 ppm. Other nuclei were referenced to the ¹H reference frequency multiplied by the standard ratios:⁷ ¹¹B 0.32083974, ¹³C 0.25145020, ¹⁹F 0.94094011, ³¹P 0.40480742, and ¹⁹⁵Pt 0.21496784. NMR data are reported as follows: chemical shift, multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, br = broad, v = virtual), coupling constant(s), and integration. FT-IR spectra were measure using Bruker AIPHA II compact spectrometer. The NMR spectra were measured at 25 °C, unless stated otherwise. All reactions involving the preparation of sulfonium complexes were performed in degassed dry solvents under the atmosphere of purified nitrogen inside glovebox.

1.2. Synthesis of the thiatriptycenium-based ligands

2,7-di-tert-butyl-4,5-bis(diphenylphosphoryl)-9-hydroxy-9H-9,10-[1,2]benzenothioxanthen-10-ium trifluoromethane-sulfonate [2](OTf)

Under an inert atmosphere 2,7-di-*tert*-butyl-4,5-bis(diphenylphosphoryl)-9H-thioxanthen-9-one (compound **1**) (0.3 g, 0.414 mmol) and TBAF (0.35 mL, 1.24 mmol) were added in 6 mL of acetonitrile and the reaction mixture was stirred for 15 min at room temperature. A solution of 2-(trimethylsilyl)phenyl trifluoromethane sulfonate (0.3 g, 1.24 mmol) in 2 mL acetonitrile was slowly added to the reaction



mixture over 1h and stirred for 2 days at room temperature. Then, the reaction mixture was diluted with 150 mL of ethyl acetate and the organic layer was washed 5 times with 2M aqueous HCl (30 mL each time). The organic layer was then separated and the extracted with ethyl acetate five times. The combined organic layers were washed with water, 10% NaHCO₃, and water, then dried over Na₂SO₄. After evaporation of the solvents, the crude products were washed three times with Et₂O (5 mL of each time), affording 0.295 g of a pure **[2]**OTf, as a white powder (295 mg, 77%).

 $PT_2 P = O$ O PPT 2 ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.57 (s, 2H, Thiatrip-H1), 8.36 (d, ⁴J_{HH} = 6.6 Hz, 1H Thiatrip-H3), 7.73 − 7.69 (m, 4H_{Ph}), 7.63 − 7.59 (m, 5H_{Ph}), 7.57 − 7.52 (m, 7H_{Ph}), 7.50 − 7.46 (m, 4H_{Ph}, 1H Thiatrip-H4), 7.15 (t, *J* = 14.7 Hz, 1H Thiatrip-H5), 7.04 (d, *J* = 13.1 Hz, 2H, Thiatrip-H2), 6.89 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H Thiatrip-H6), 1.18 (s, 18H ^t_{Bu})

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 157.6 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, Ar<u>C</u>-^tBu), 148.9 (d, *J*_{PC} = 8.2 Hz, Ar<u>C</u>_{Thiatrip}), 146.6 (d, *J*_{PC} = 2.2 Hz, Ar<u>C</u>_{Thiatrip}), 133.5 (s, Ph), 132.2-132.0 (m, Ph), 129.7 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, Ar<u>C</u>_{Thiatrip}), 129.5 (d, *J*_{PC} = 12.1 Hz, Ph), 129.2 (*J*_{PC} = 12.5 Hz, Ph), 81.0 (s, <u>C</u>-OH), 35.8(s, <u>C</u>(CH₃)₃), 30.7(s, C(<u>C</u>H₃)₃);

¹⁹F{¹H} NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -78.3 (s, OTf)

³¹P{¹H} NMR (162 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 29.6 ppm.

FTIR: v = 1118 cm⁻¹ (P=O) cm⁻¹.

MS (ESI⁺): *m*/*z* calculated for [C₅₁H₄₇O₃P₂S]⁺: 801.2710, found 801.2715.

2,7-di-tert-butyl-4,5-bis(diphenylphosphoryl)-9-methoxy-9H-9,10-[1,2]benzenothioxanthen-10-ium trifluoromethanesulfonate [3](OTf)



Inside glovebox, a 25 mL Schlenk tube was loaded with compound **[2]**OTf (0.3 g, 0.32 mmol) and KH (0.045 g, 1.12 mmol) in 4 mL of 1,2-dimethoxyethane (DME) and the reaction mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature. A solution of methyl triflate (MeOTf) (0.1 mL, 0.98 mmol) in 1 mL of DME was added slowly to the reaction mixture and stirred for 1h at room temperature. The reaction mixture was then quenched with 15 mL of aqueous NH₄Cl at 0°C. The organic material was extracted three times with ethyl acetate (3×20 mL). The organic phase was washed with saturated NaHCO₃ and dried with Na₂SO₄. The organic phase was evaporated, affording the crude product as an orange solid. This was then purified by an automatic flash chromatography on silica-gel eluting with a

DCM/MeOH (3%) mixture to afford the pure product, as a light yellow (192 mg, 63% yield).

¹**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.22 (d, ⁴*J*_{HH} = 1.2 Hz, 2H _{Thiatrip}-H1), 8.12 (d, ²*J*_{HH} = 8.4 Hz, 1H _{Thiatrip}-H3), 7.80 – 7.73 (m, 4H_{Ph}), 7.68 (d, ³*J*_{HP} = 1.7 Hz, 3H_{Ph}), 7.61 – 7.56 (m, 5H_{Ph}), 7.51 – 7.45 (m, 7H_{Ph}, 1H _{Thiatrip}-H6), 7.37 – 7.32 (m, 1H1H _{Thiatrip}-H4), 7.19 (d, ³*J*_{HH} = 1.1 Hz, 1H1H _{Thiatrip}-H5), 7.03 (dd, ⁴*J*_{HH} = 13.1, 2.0 Hz, 2H1H _{Thiatrip}-H2), 4.45 (s, 3H_{OMe}), 1.17 (s, 18H ^t_{Bu})

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 156.8 (d, J = 9.6 Hz, ArC₂-^LBu), 148.9 (d, J_{PC} = 8.2 Hz, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 146.6 (d, J_{PC} = 2.2 Hz, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 133.1-133.0 (m, Ph) 132.1 (dd, J_{PC} = 16.4, 10.2 Hz, Ph), 131.0 (s, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 129.8 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, Ph), 129.5 – 128.6 (m, Ph), 127.8 (m, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 83.7 (s, C-OMe), 59.2 (OMe), 35.8 (s, C(CH₃)₃), 30.8(s, C(CH₃)₃).

¹⁹F{¹H} NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃): δ –78.1 (s, OTf) ppm

³¹P{¹H} NMR (162 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 28.1 ppm.

FTIR: v = 1117 (P=O) cm⁻¹.

MS (ESI⁺): *m*/*z* calculated for [C₅₂H₄₉O₃P₂S]⁺: 815.2873, found 819.2879.

2,7-di-tert-butyl-4,5-bis(diphenylphosphanyl)-9-methoxy-9H-9,10-[1,2]benzenothioxanthen-10-ium trifluoromethanesulfonate [4](OTf).



Inside glovebox, compound **[3]**(OTf) (0.3 g, 0.321 mmol) was loaded into an oven-dried Schlenk tube and suspended in 12 ml of a 1:2 DCE/Toluene mixture. Then 8.5 μ L (0.3 eq.) of triflic acid were added and the reaction mixture was stirred for 10 minutes. Next, 0.55 mL (16 eq.) of PhSiH₃ were added, the tube was sealed and placed in a preheated oil bath at 90°C. During the reaction, the suspension turned into a clear orange solution. The reaction progress was monitored by ³¹P NMR which showed a complete conversion after 12 h. After cooling down to room temperature, the solvent was evaporated, affording the crude product as an orange solid. This was then purified by passing through a short silica plug, as follows. The crude product was dissolved in a minimum amount of DCM and applied on a silica-gel plug that was first quickly washed with hexane and

DCM, followed by eluting the yellow-colored product with a 3% MeOH/DCM mixture. The collected fractions were evaporated, affording the product, as a light brown solid (260 mg, 88% yield). Crystals of **[3]**(OTf) suitable for XRD were grown by a slow diffusion of hexane into its toluene solution.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 8.02 (dd, ²J_{HH} = 1.1 Hz, 7.9 Hz, 1H _{Thiatrip}-H3), 7.99 (d, ⁴J_{HH} = 1.9 Hz, 1H _{Thiatrip}-H1), 7.58 (dt, ²J_{HH} = 1.17 Hz, 15.41 1H _{Thiatrip}-H4), 7.53-7.48 (m, 9H_{Ph}), 7.53-7.48 (m, 9H_{Ph}), 7.47-7.34 (m, 8H_{Ph}), 7.32 – 7.27 (m, 4H_{Ph}), 7.09 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, _{Thiatrip}-H5), 6.76 (dd, *J* = 3.6, 1.9 Hz, _{Thiatrip}-H2), 6.05 (dd, ²J_{HH} = 1.2 Hz, 7.9 Hz, 1H _{Thiatrip}-H6), 4.39 (s, 3H_{OMe}), 1.15 (s, 18H t_{Bu})

¹³C{¹H} NMR (101 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 157.2 (s, ArC₋^{-t}Bu), 145.9 (s, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 144.7 (s, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 141.83 (d, $J_{C-P} = 21.1$ Hz, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 135.4 – 134.4 (m, Ph), 133.4 (m, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 132.3 (s, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 131.03 (d, $J_{C-P} = 9.4$ Hz, Ph), 130.1 (t, $J_{C-P} = 8.2$ Hz, Ph), 129.9 (t, $J_{C-P} = 8.1$ Hz, Ph), 128.7 (s, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 128.6 (s, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 127.9 (s, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 124.0 128.7 (s, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 88.4 (s, C-OMe), 58.9 (s, OCH3), 36.0 (s, C(CH₃)₃), 30.8 (s, C(CH₃)₃)

¹⁹F{¹H} NMR (376 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): δ –78.1 (s, OTf) ppm

³¹P{¹H} NMR (162 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ -7.2 (s) ppm.

MS (ESI⁺): *m/z* calculated for [C₅₂H₄₉OP₂S]⁺: 783.2974, found 783.2984.

2,7-di-tert-butyl-4,5-bis(diphenylphosphanyl)-10-(2-fluorophenyl)-9-oxo-9,10-dihydrothioxanthylium tetrafluoroborate [4](BF₄) and hexafluorophosphate [4](PF₆)

These compounds were prepared by a double anion exchange, as follows:

$$[4](OTf) \xrightarrow{\text{NaBPh}_4} [4](BPh_4) \xrightarrow{\text{TIBF}_4} [4](BF_4)$$
acetone
$$\xrightarrow{\text{TIPF}_6} [4](PF_6)$$
acetone

Compound [4](OTf) (100 mg, 0.12 mmol) was dissolved in 3 mL of dry acetone. Separately, NaBPh₄ (52 mg, 1.2 eq.) was dissolved in additional 2 mL of dry acetone and added to the solution of [4](OTf). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 15 min. Then the solvent was removed under vacuum, the residue was extracted into DCM and filtered through the Celite. The solvent was removed under vacuum yielding [4](BPh₄) as a yellow solid (109 mg, 92%). Next, [4](BPh₄) (100mg, 0.9 mmol) was dissolved in 2 mL of dry acetone. Separately TIBF₄ (26.3 mg 1 eq.) was dissolved in additional 2 mL of dry acetone and added to the solution of [4](BPh₄). Immediately, a white precipitate (TIBPh₄) formed and was filtered out. The filtrate was then evaporated, and the residue dissolved in CHCl₃, and filtered through the celite, affording [4](BF₄) as yellowish solid (72 mg, 92%). In cases, when the obtained [4](BF₄) was not pure by NMR, it was additionally purified by passing it through a short silica plug as follows. Inside glovebox, the crude product was dissolved in a minimum amount of dry DCM and applied on a silica-gel plug that was first quickly washed with dry DCM, followed by eluting the product with a 3% MeOH/DCM mixture. Using TIPF₆ instead of TIBF₄ in an analogous manner afforded compound [4](PF₆) in (74 mg, 88%) yield.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 8.06 (d, ³J_{HH} = 7.2 Hz, 1H _{Thiatrip}-H3), 7.99 (d, ⁴J_{HH} = 1.9 Hz, 2H _{Thiatrip}-H1), 7.63 (t, ³J_{HH} = 14.2 Hz, 1H _{Thiatrip}-H4), 7.53-7.44 (m, 8H_{Ph}), 7.39-7.35 (m, 8H_{Ph}), 7.31-7.28 (m, 4H_{Ph}), 7.10 (t, ³J_{HH} = 15.5 Hz, 1H _{Thiatrip}-H5), 6.75 (dd, J_{HH} = 8.8 Hz, 1.9Hz, 2H _{Thiatrip}-H4), 4.29 (d, ³J_{HH} = 7.6 Hz, 1H _{Thiatrip}-H6), 4.39 (s, 3H_{OME}), 1.14 (s, 18H ^t_{BU}).



¹³C{¹H} NMR (126 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 156.8(s, ArC₂-tBu), 145.5 (s, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 144.1(s, ArC_{Thiatrip}) 135.2 (s, Ph), 134.4 (s, Ph), 133.2 (s, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 130.59 (d, J_{PC} = 11.5 Hz, Ph), 129.7 (s, ArC_{Thiatrip}) 129.6 (t, J_{PC} = 8.3 Hz, Ph), 129.3 (t, J_{PC} = 8.2 Hz, Ph), 128.3 (s, (s, ArC_{Thiatrip}) 128.2 (s, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 127.5 (s, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 126.8 (s, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 123.6 (s, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 88.0 (s, C-OMe), 58.7 (s, OCH₃), 35.6 (s, C(CH₃)₃), 30.4(s, C(CH₃)₃).

¹⁹F{¹H} NMR (376 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ -153.9 (¹⁰BF₄), -154.0 (¹¹BF₄) ppm.

³¹P{¹H} NMR (162 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ -7.1 ppm.

HRMS (ESI⁺): *m*/*z* calculated for [C₅₂H₄₉OP₂S]⁺: 783.2774, found 787.2984.

¹**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.03 (d, ³*J*_{HH} = 7.2 Hz, 1H _{Thiatrip}.H3), 7.96 (d, ⁴*J*_{HH} = 1.9 Hz, 2H _{Thiatrip}.H1), 7.61 (t, ³*J*_{HH} = 14.2 Hz, 1H _{Thiatrip}.H4), 7.54-7.44 (m, 8H_{Ph}), 7.39-7.35 (m, 8H_{Ph}), 7.31-7.28 (m, 4H_{Ph}), 7.10 (t, ³*J*_{HH} = 15.5 Hz, 1H _{Thiatrip}.H5), 6.70 (dd, *J*_{HH} = 8.8 Hz, 1.9Hz, 2H _{Thiatrip}.H4), 12.9, 5.92 (d, ³*J*_{HH} = 7.6 Hz, 1H _{Thiatrip}.H6), 4.38 (s, 3H_{OMe}), 1.14 (s, 18H ^t_{Bu}).



¹³C{¹H} NMR (126 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 25 °C): δ 156.8(s, Ar<u>C</u>-^tBu), 145.5 (s, Ar<u>C</u>_{Thiatrip}), 134.8 (s, Ph), 134.9-134.7 (m, Ph), 133.2 (s, Ar<u>C</u>_{Thiatrip}), 130.6 (d, J_{PC} = 11.5 Hz, Ph), 129.7 (s, Ar<u>C</u>_{Thiatrip}) 129.6 (t, J_{PC} = 8.3 Hz, Ph), 129.3 (t, J_{PC} = 8.2 Hz, Ph), 128.4 (s, (s, Ar<u>C</u>_{Thiatrip}) 128.2 (s, Ar<u>C</u>_{Thiatrip}), 127.6 (s, Ar<u>C</u>_{Thiatrip}), 126.8 (s, Ar<u>C</u>_{Thiatrip}), 123.7 (s, Ar<u>C</u>_{Thiatrip}), 88.0 (s, <u>C</u>-OMe), 58.7 (s, O<u>C</u>H₃), 35.6 (s, <u>C</u>(CH₃)₃), 30.5 (s, C(<u>C</u>H₃)₃).

¹⁹F{¹H} NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -73.3, (d, ¹J_{P-F} = 707 Hz) ppm.

³¹P{¹H} NMR (162 MHz, CDCl₃): δ –6.8, –144.3 (septet, ¹J_{P-F} = 707 Hz).

HRMS (ESI⁺): *m/z* calculated for [C₅₂H₄₉OP₂S]⁺: 783.2774, found 787.2984.

1.3. Synthesis of the Pt(II) complexes

Tris-cationic thiatripticenium Pt-acetonitrile complexes [6](OTf)₃.

Inside glovebox, ligand **[4]**(OTf) (0.045g, 0.05 mmol) was dissolved in dry MeCN (2 mL) and added slowly to a solution of $Pt(CH_3CN)_4(OTf)_2$ (0.027g, 0.05 mmol) in MeCN (2 mL). The resulting mixture was stirred for 30 min at room temperature. The solvent was then removed under vacuum and the residue was washed several times with diethyl ether. The volatiles were again removed under vacuum yielding **[5]**(OTf)₃, as a white solid (52 mg, 93% yield). Under similar reaction condition, the analogues *tris*-cationic Pt complexes with BF₄ or PF₆, as a counter anions, were prepared by reacting ligands **[4]**(X) with $Pt(CH_3CN)_4(X)_2$ (X = BF₄ or PF₆, (51 mg) 89% and (53 mg) 94%, respectively).



¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ 8.41 (dd, ²*J* = 1.2 Hz, 8.1 Hz, 1H _{Thiatrip}H3), 8.38 (d, ⁴*J* = 1.9 Hz, 2H _{Thiatrip}H1), 8.09 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.1, 7.1 Hz, 1H _{Thiatrip}H6), 8.02 (td, *J* = 7.7, 1.2 Hz, 1H _{Thiatrip}H4), 7.95 – 7.91 (m, 4H_{Ph}), 7.81 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 4H_{Ph}), 7.75-7.68 (m, 3H_{Ph}, 1H _{Thiatrip}H5), 7.60 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 5H_{Ph}), 7.41–7.37 (m, 4H_{Ph}), 7.12 – 7.08 (m, 2H _{Thiatrip}H2), 4.54 (s, 3H_{OMe}), 1.15 (s, 18H ^f_{Bu})

¹³C{¹H} NMR (126 MHz, CD₃CN): δ = ${}^{13}C{}^{1H}$ NMR (126 MHz, CD₃CN, 25 °C): δ = 158.7 (s, ArC_-^tBu), 148.9 (s, ArC_Thiatrip), 145.4 (s, ArC_Thiatrip), 137.3 (t, J_{P-C} = 16.9 Hz, Ph), 136.1 (s, ArC_Thiatrip), 135.8 (s, ArC_Thiatrip), 134.8 (s, ArC_Thiatrip), 134.5 (s, ArC_Thiatrip), 133.3 (t, J_{P-C} = 12.5 Hz, Ph). 131.6-131.4 (m, Ph), 131.3 (t, J_{P-C} = 12.1 Hz, Ph), 130.7 (s, ArC_Thiatrip), 130.5 (s, Ph), 129.5 (s, ArC_Thiatrip), 128.8-127.6 (m, ArC_Thiatrip), 125.2 (s, ArC_Thiatrip), 122.94 (s, ArC_Thiatrip), 124.5 (s, SO₃-CF₃), 89.2 (s, C-OMe), 59.8

(s, OCH₃), 36.7 (s, C(CH₃)₃), 30.8 (s, C(CH₃)₃).

¹⁹F{¹H} NMR (376 MHz, CD₃CN): δ -78.0 (OTf) ppm

³¹P{¹H} NMR (202 MHz, CD₃CN): δ 18.1 (s, Pt satellites, J_{Pt-P} = 2198.0 Hz) ppm

HRMS (ESI⁺): m/z calculated for $[C_{52}H_{49}OP_2PtS]^{2+}$ and $[C_{52}H_{49}OP_2PtS]^+$ ([M - MeCN]²⁺ and ([M - MeCN]⁺, respectively): 489.1311 and 978.2627, found 489.0568 and 978.2630 (presumably, single and double electron reduction, concomitant with a loss of a weakly bound MeCN ligand, occurs upon the ionization of this *tris*-cationic complex).



¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ 8.41 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H _{Thiatrip}H3), 8.38 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 2H _{Thiatrip}H1), 8.09 (dd, J = 7.8, 1.1, Hz, 1H _{Thiatrip}H6), 8.00 (td, J = 7.7, 1.2 Hz, 1H _{Thiatrip}H4), 7.95 – 7.91 (m, 4H_{Ph}), 7.81 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 4H_{Ph}), 7.72 (s, 4H_{Ph}), 7.60 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 5H_{Ph}), 7.40 – 7.37 (m, 4H_{Ph}), 7.12 – 7.08 (m, 2H _{Thiatrip}H1), 4.54 (s, 3H_{OME}), 1.15 (s, 18H ^t_{Bu})

¹³C{¹H} NMR (126 MHz, CD₃CN): δ = ¹³C{¹H} NMR (126 MHz, CD₃CN, 25 °C): δ = 158.8 (s, Ar<u>C</u>-^tBu), 148.9 (s, Ar<u>C</u>_{Thiatrip}), 145.4 (s, Ar<u>C</u>_{Thiatrip}), 137.3 (t, J_{P-C} = 16.9 Hz, Ph), 135.9 (s, Ar<u>C</u>_{Thiatrip}), 134.9 (s, Ar<u>C</u>_{Thiatrip}), 131.5 (t, J_{P-C} = 12.5 Hz, Ph). 131.3 (t, J_{P-C} = 13.1 Hz, Ph), 130.8 (s, Ar<u>C</u>_{Thiatrip}), 130.5 (t, J_{P-C} = 11.6 Hz, Ph), 129.6 (m, Ar<u>C</u>_{Thiatrip}), 128.2 (s, Ar<u>C</u>_{Thiatrip}), 125.3 (s, Ar<u>C</u>_{Thiatrip}), 89.2 (s, <u>C</u>-OMe), 59.8 (s, O<u>C</u>H₃), 36.7 (s, <u>C</u>(CH₃)₃), 30.4 (s, C(<u>C</u>H₃)₃).

¹⁹F{¹H} NMR (376 MHz, CD₃CN): δ –151.46 (¹⁰BF₄), –151.51 (¹¹BF₄) ppm

³¹P{¹H} NMR (202 MHz, CD₃CN): δ 18.6 (s, Pt satellites, J_{Pt-P} = 2198.0 Hz) ppm



¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ 8.41 (d, J = 7.58 Hz, 1H _{Thiatrip}H3), 8.38 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 2H_{Thiatrip}H3), 8.09 (dd, J = 7.81, 0.82 Hz, 1H _{Thiatrip}H6), 8.00 (td, J = 15.53, 1.18 Hz, 1H _{Thiatrip}H4), 7.93 – 7.89 (m, 4H_{Ar}), 7.83 – 7.79 (m, 4H_{Ar}), 7.74 (m, 4H_{Ar}), 7.70 (s, 4H_{Ar}), 7.59 (m, 5H_{Ar}), 7.40 – 7.37 (m, 4H_{Ar}), 7.12 – 7.08 (m, 2H _{Thiatrip}H1), 4.55 (s, 3H_{OMe}), 1.15 (s, 18H t_{Bu})

¹³C{¹H} NMR (126 MHz, CD₃CN): δ = ¹³C{¹H} NMR (126 MHz, CD₃CN, 25 °C): δ = 158.0 (s, ArC₋^{-t}Bu), 148.1 (s, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 144.5 (s, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 136.4 (t, J_{P-C} = 16.9 Hz, Ph), 135.3 (s, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 135.1 (s, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 134.1 (s, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 133.0 (s, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 132.6 (t, J_{P-C} = 12.5 Hz, Ph). 130.7 (t, J_{P-C} = 13.1 Hz, Ph), 130.6 (s, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 130.4 (t, J_{P-C} = 11.6 Hz, Ph), 129.7 (m, ArC_{Thiatrip}), 128.8 (s,

ArC_Thiatrip),128.3 (s, ArC_Thiatrip), 127.4 (s, ArC_Thiatrip),, 126.9 (s, ArC_Thiatrip), 88.4 (s, C-OMe), 59.0 (s, OCH₃), 35.9 (s, C(CH₃)₃), 29.7 (s, C(CH₃)₃).

¹⁹F{¹H} NMR (376 MHz, CD₃CN): -73.4 (d, ¹J_{P-F} = 707 Hz) ppm.

³¹P{¹H} NMR (202 MHz, CD₃CN): δ 18.4 (s, Pt satellites, J_{P+P} = 2198.0 Hz), 144.6 (septet, $^{1}J_{P-F}$ = 707 Hz).



Figure S1. ¹H NMR spectrum of 2(OTf) in CDCl₃ (400 MHz).



Figure S2. ³¹P NMR spectrum of [2](OTf) in CDCl₃ (162 MHz).



Figure S3. ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of [2](OTf) in CDCl₃ (101 MHz).



Figure S4. ${}^{19}F{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum of [2](OTf) in CDCl₃ (376 MHz).



Figure S5. ¹H–¹H COSY NMR (400 MHz) of [2](OTf) in CDCl₃.



Figure S6. ¹H-¹³C HSQC NMR (400 MHz) of [2](OTf) in CDCl₃.



Figure S7. ¹H–¹³C HMBC NMR (400 MHz) of [2](OTf) in CDCl₃.



Figure S8. ¹H NMR spectrum of the [3](OTf) in CDCl₃ (500 MHz).



Figure S9. ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum of the [3](OTf) in CDCl₃ (162 MHz).



Figure S10. ${}^{19}F{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum of [3](OTf) in CDCl₃ (376 MHz).



Figure S11. ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of [3](OTf) in CDCl₃ (101 MHz).



Figure S12. ¹H NMR spectrum of [4](OTf) in CD₂Cl₂ (400 MHz).



Figure S13. $^{1}H-^{13}C$ HSQC NMR (400 MHz) of [4](OTf) in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S14. ¹H-¹³C HMBC NMR (400 MHz) of [4](OTf) in CD₂Cl₂.



Figure S15. ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum of [4](OTf) in CD₂Cl₂ (162 MHz).



Figure S16. ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR spectrum of [4](OTf) in CD₂Cl₂ (376 MHz).



Figure S17. ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of [4](OTf) in CD₂Cl₂ (101 MHz).



Figure S18. ¹H NMR spectrum of [4](BF₄) in CD₂Cl₂ (400 MHz).



Figure S19. ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum of [4](BF₄) in CD₂Cl₂ (162 MHz).



Figure S20. ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR spectrum of [4](BF₄) in CD₂Cl₂ (376 MHz).







Figure S22. ¹H NMR spectrum of [4](PF₆) in CDCl₃ (400 MHz).



Figure S23. ${}^{31}P{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum of [4](PF₆) in CDCl₃ (162 MHz).



Figure S24. $^{13}\text{C}\{^{1}\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum of the [4](PF_6) in CD_2Cl_2 (101 MHz).







Figure S26. ¹H-¹³C HSQC NMR (400 MHz) of [5](OTf)₃ in CD₃CN.



Figure S27. ¹H–¹³C HMBC NMR (400 MHz) of **[5]**(OTf)₃ in CD₃CN.



Figure S28. ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum of [5](OTf)₃ in CD₃CN (162 MHz).







Figure S30. ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum of the [5](OTf)₃ in CD₃CN (101 MHz).



Figure S31. ¹H NMR spectrum of $[5](BF_4)_3$ in CD₃CN (400 MHz).



Figure S32. ¹H–¹H COSY NMR (400 MHz) of [5](BF₄)₃ in CD₃CN.



Figure S33. ¹H-¹³C HSQC NMR (400 MHz) of [5](BF₄)₃ in CD₃CN.



Figure S34. ¹H–¹³C HMBC NMR (400 MHz) of **[5]**(BF₄)₃ in CD₃CN.



Figure S35. ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum of [5](BF₄)₃ in CD₃CN (162 MHz).



Figure S36. ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR spectrum of the **[5]**(BF₄)₃ in CD₃CN (376 MHz).







Figure S39. ³¹P{¹H} NMR spectrum of [5](PF₆)₃ in CD₃CN (162 MHz).



Figure S40. ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR spectrum of the **[5]**(PF₆)₃ in CD₃CN (376 MHz).



Figure S41. ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of the **[5]**(PF₆)₃ in CD₃CN (101 MHz).



Figure S42. ¹H NMR spectra recorded after different timed of light exposure of the sulfonium ligand L2 (a) and the thiatripticenium ligand L3 (b) in CDCl₃.



Figure S43. HRMS mass spectra of compound [2](OTf).



Figure S44. Mass spectra of compound [3](OTf).







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Figure S46. HRMS mass spectra of compound [5](OTf).

2. Catalytic reactions

2.1. General procedures

The general procedure for the Pt catalyzed cycloisomerization reactions

Catalytic reactions were carried out under N₂. In a typical reaction, an alkyne (1 eq.) was mixed with catalyst (5% mmol) in 0.5 ml dichloroethane- d_4 (50 mM) in a J-Young tube that was heated to 80°C. The reaction progress was monitored by ¹H NMR. Once full conversion of the starting material was observed, the solvent was evaporated and the products were extracted into hexane. The yield was calculated after evaporation of the solvent or purification of the product(s) by flash chromatography. The products **13a-c**, **15**, **17a,b** and **19a,b** were identified according to the literature.⁹⁻¹²

2.2. Cycloisomerization of o-ethynyl biaryl substrates

Loading: 2-Ethynyl-1,1'-binaphthalene (70 mg, 0.2 mmol), catalyst (14 mg, 5 mol%) in DCE (5 mL). Conversion: 100%, yield(%) of 9:10 = 92% (100:0).



Figure S47. ¹H NMR spectra collected during cycloisomerization of alkyne 9.







Figure S49. Influence of ambient daylight (a) and counter anion effect (b) on Pt-catalyzed cycloisomerization of 9. Conditions: Pt catalyst (5 mol %), 9 (0.05 M), DCE, 80°C.

Loading: 2-ethynyl-1-(2,3,4-trimethoxyphenyl)naphthalene (70 mg, 0.22 mmol), catalyst (14 mg, 5 mol%) in DCE (5 mL). Conversion: 100%, yield(%) of 13a = 92%





Cycloisomerization of 2-(2-ethynylnaphthalen-1-yl)thiophene.

Loading: 2-(2-ethynylnaphthalen-1-yl)thiophene (70 mg, 0.3 mmol), catalyst (19 mg, 5 mol%) in DCE (5 mL). Conversion: 100%, yield(%) of 13b = 82%



Figure S53. ¹H NMR of helicene 13b in CDCl₃.^{9b}



Figure S55. Mixture ¹H NMR of helicene **13c** in CDCl₃.^{9a}

2.1. Cycloisomerization of enyne substrates

Loading: dimethyl 2-(but-3-en-1-yl)-2-(prop-2-yn-1-yl)malonate (70 mg, 0.31 mmol), catalyst (20 mg, 5 mol%) in DCE (5 mL). Conversion: 100%, yield(%) of 15 = 92%





Loading: 4-methyl-N-(2-methylallyl)-N-(prop-2-yn-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide (70 mg, 0.26 mmol), catalyst (18 mg, 5 mol%) in DCE (5 mL). Conversion: 100%, yield(%) of 17a:17b = 44:56



Figure S58. ¹H NMR spectra collected during cycloisomerization of enyne 16.



Figure S59. ¹H NMR of mixture of compounds 17a and 17b in CDCl₃.¹¹

Loading: 4-4-methyl-N-(3-methylbut-2-en-1-yl)-N-(prop-2-yn-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide (70 mg, 0.25 mmol), catalyst (18 mg, 5 mol%) in DCE (5 mL). Conversion: 100%, yield(%) of 19a:19b = 76:24



Figure S60. ¹H NMR spectra collected during cycloisomerization of enyne 18.





3. Crystallography

3.1. General crystallographic and refinement details.

Single-crystal X-ray diffraction data collections were performed using Rigaku goniometer diffractometer with graphite mono-chromated Mo K α radiation (λ = 0.71073 Å). The diffraction intensity details were extracted from the diffraction frames using CrysAlisPro XtalLAB Synergy-S system (version 41.112a) program. The structures were then solved by SHELXT-9740 available in Olex2 crystallographic suite, which located most of the non-hydrogen atoms. Subsequently, least-squares refinements were carried out on F² using SHELXL-Version 2018/3 to locate the remaining non-hydrogen atoms. Non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic displacement parameters. Hydrogen atoms attached to carbon atoms were fixed in calculated positions. All disorders were handled with SADI, SIMU, EADP, SAME and RIGU constraints and restraints. The crystallographic parameters of each structure are given bellow. All structures are deposited to CCDC and their corresponding deposition numbers are listed below:

CCDC: [4](OTf) = 2416301

3.2. Crystallographic parameters.

Empirical formula	$C_{56.5}H_{49}F_3O_4P_2S_2$
Formula weight	975.01
Temperature/K	200.0(1)
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group	P-1
a/Å	10.0296(3)
b/Å	12.2752(3)
c/Å	22.7212(6)
α/°	80.179(2)
β/°	80.228(2)
γ/°	67.613(3)
Volume/ų	2531.68(13)
Z	2
ρ _{calc} g/cm ³	1.279
µ/mm⁻¹	0.225
F(000)	1018.0
Crystal size/mm ³	0.287 × 0.132 × 0.039
Radiation	Μο Κα (λ = 0.71073)
20 range for data collection/°	4.422 to 62.034
Index ranges	-14 ≤ h ≤ 12, -17 ≤ k ≤ 17, -32 ≤ l ≤ 30
Reflections collected	34010
Independent reflections	12574 [R _{int} = 0.0360, R _{sigma} = 0.0426]
Data/restraints/parameters	12574/136/678
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.038
Final R indexes [I>=2σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0472$, $wR_2 = 0.1240$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0657, wR_2 = 0.1322$
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³	0.40/-0.33

Table 1. Crystal data and structure refinement for [4](OTf)

4. Computational details

4.1. General information

All the molecular structures reported in this study were optimized with the ω B97X-D¹³ functional and def2TZVP basis set¹⁴ with the Gaussian-16 program.¹⁵ For Pt atom the dev2TZVP effective core potential and corresponding basis set were used. Frequency calculations were performed on the optimized geometries to confirm that they are local minimum in the potential energy surface. The Natural Bond Order (NBO) were performed on the optimized structures using NBO-5.0 program as it is implemented in QChem-6.02 program.¹⁶ The absolutely localized molecular orbital – energy decomposition analysis (ALMO-EDA)¹⁷ were performed using the QChem-6.02 program with ω B97X-D3¹⁸ functional and def2TZVP basis set. Deformation density plots were visualized using IQmol 3.0 program.¹⁹ XYZ coordinates of optimized structures are given as a separate file.

4.2. Computational data

Table S2. Comparison between the optimized geometries of model complexes [5*]³⁺ and [6*]³⁺.

	[5*] ³⁺	[6*] ³⁺ (XRD values for complex [6](BF ₄) ₃				
		are given in brackets)				
	Bond lengths	(Å)				
S-Pt	2.213	2.221 (2.163) ^a				
N-Pt	2.006	2.010 (2.020)ª				
P-Pt (av.)	2.377	2.371 (2.346) ^a				
Bond angles (°)						
S-Pt-N	176.43	177.72 (178.05)ª				
P-Pt-P	156.74	163.56 (165.49)ª				
S-Pt-P (av.)	83.89	83.00 (83.27)ª				
N-Pt-P (av.)	95.48	96.82 (98.67)ª				

^a Previously reported computational and experimental data, see ref. S1.

Table S3. Computational data for the model Pt(MeCN) complexes of sulfonium ligands L1, L2, and L3.							
		1-st generation sulfonium	2-nd generation sulfonium	3-rd generation sulfonium			
		ligand (L1)	ligand (L2)	ligand (L3)			
		$\begin{array}{c c} & & & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & &$		$ \begin{array}{c} $			
		CH ₃					
		[7 *] ³⁺	[6*] ³⁺	[5*] ³⁺			
NBO calculations							
Wiberg bond indices for the Pt-E ^a bond		0.500	0.520 ^b	0.519			
NPA	NPA Pt +0.395		+0.407 ^b	+0.421			
charges	Ea	+1.053	+1.110 ^b	+1.069			
Bonding NLMO	Bonding Pt (%) 19.9		20.7 ^b	16.0			
composition E (%) ^a 75.		75.5	74.5 ^b	77.3			
EDA NOCV calculations							
Major Pt-E ^a	σ _{L→M}	-86.35	-89.06 ^b	-84.53			
interactions (kcal/mol)	π _{M→L} (π∥+ π⊥)	-35.48	-36.10 ^b	-39.92			

^aE = S or C ^bPreviously reported data, see ref. S1.

	Comp	lex [5*] ³+			Complex [7*] ³⁺			
Δρ _n	NOCV pair	Eigenvalue (v _n in e)	ΔE orb (kcal/mol)	Δρ _n	NOCV pair	Eigenvalue (v _n in e)	ΔE_{orb} (kcal/mol)	
Δρ1	1->1015	1.343	-187.49	Δρ1	1->947	1.341	-193.73	
Δρ₂: σ∟→Μ	2->1014	0.478	-84.45	Δρ₂: σ∟→Μ	2->946	0.473	-86.27	
Δρ₃	3->1013	0.385	-22.38	Δρ₃	3->945	0.387	-24.09	
Δρ ₄ : π⊥ _{M→L}	4->1012	0.345	-19.63	Δρ₄∶π∥ _{M→L}	4->944	0.339	-20.35	
Δρ₅: π∥ _{M→L}	5->1011	0.342	-20.26	Δρ₅: π⊥ м→∟	5->943	0.321	-15.10	
Δρ ₆	6->1010	0.281	-12.51	Δρ ₆	6->942	0.287	-11.55	
Δρ7	7->1009	0.244	-19.06	Δρ7	7->941	0.255	-22.98	
Δρ ₈	8->1008	0.145	-3.56	Δρ ₈	8->940	0.147	-3.66	
Δρ ₉	9->1007	0.142	-3.65	Δρ ₉	9->939	0.141	-3.88	
Δρ ₁₀	10->1006	0.129	-4.72	Δρ ₁₀	10->938	0.133	-3.62	
Δρ11	11->1005	0.126	-3.17	Δρ11	11->937	0.124	-4.72	
Δρ ₁₂	12->1004	0.111	-3.89	Δρ ₁₂	12->936	0.112	-3.78	
Δρ ₁₃	13->1003	0.105	-3.65	Δρ ₁₃	13->935	0.102	-2.91	
Δρ ₁₄	14->1002	0.101	-2.79	Δρ ₁₄	14->934	0.102	-2.98	
Δρ ₁₅	15->1001	0.095	-1.12	Δρ ₁₅	15->933	0.098	-2.03	
Δρ ₁₆	16->1000	0.094	-2.46	Δρ ₁₆	16->932	0.095	-1.13	
Δρ ₁₇	17->999	0.093	-2.06	Δρ ₁₇	17->931	0.091	-1.13	
Δρ ₁₈	18->998	0.088	-0.81	Δρ ₁₈	18->930	0.087	-1.68	
Δρ ₁₉	19->997	0.077	-1.32	Δρ ₁₉	19->929	0.083	-2.06	
Δρ ₂₀	20->996	0.065	-0.82	Δρ ₂₀	20->928	0.063	-1.12	

Table S4: Eigenvalues and orbital energies of the first 20 NOCV pairs obtained from ALMO-EDA calculations for model complexes $[5^*]^{3+}$ and $[7^*]^{3+}$. NOCV pairs attributed to $\sigma_{L \rightarrow M}$, $\pi|_{M \rightarrow L}$, and $\pi \perp_{M \rightarrow L}$ interactions are highlighted in grey.

Model	Δρ						
complex	(iso-values are given in bracket)						
[5*]3+	Δ ρ ₁	Δ ρ ₂ : σ _{L→M}	Δρ ₃	Δρ ₄ : π⊥ _{M→L}	Δρ₅: π _{M→L}		
	(0.005)	(0.004)	(0.003)	(0.003)	(0.003)		
	Δρ ₆	Δρ ₇	Δ ρ 8	Δ ρ ₉	Δρ ₁₀		
	(0.002)	(0.002)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)		
r→#124	Δ ρ ₁	Δρ ₂ : σ _{L→M}	Δ ρ ₃	Δρ4: π _M →	Δρ ₅ : π⊥ _{M→L}		
	(0.005)	(0.005)	(0.004)	(0.003)	(0.003)		
[1*]2.	Δ ρ ₆	Δ ρ ₇	Δ p s	Δ p ₉	Δρ ₁₀		
	(0.002)	(0.002)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)		

Table S5. Selected EDA-NOCV deformation density plots ($\Delta \rho_{1-10}$) for model complexes [5*]³⁺ and [7*]³⁺ (charge depletion and accumulation areas are colored in red and blue, respectively). Plots attributed to $\sigma_{L \to M}$, $\pi ||_{M \to L}$, and $\pi \perp_{M \to L}$ interactions are highlighted in grey.

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