

Supplementary Material (ESI) for Dalton Transactions
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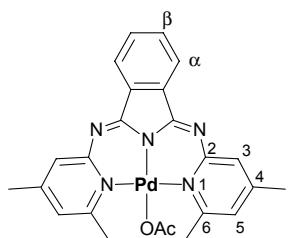
**Cyclometalation vs. Werner-type coordination of sterically enforced palladium(II)-
1,3-bis(pyridyl-2-imino)isoindolines (Pd-BPIs)**

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Supplementary information

1. Preparation, analyses and spectroscopic data for **3** and **5**
2. NOESY and HMBC spectra for **5**

*Numbering scheme for **3**:*



The numbering of equivalent positions of **5** is according to the one shown here for **3**.

1. Preparation, analyses and spectroscopic data for 3 and 5

(4,6-Me₂BPI)PdOAc (3):

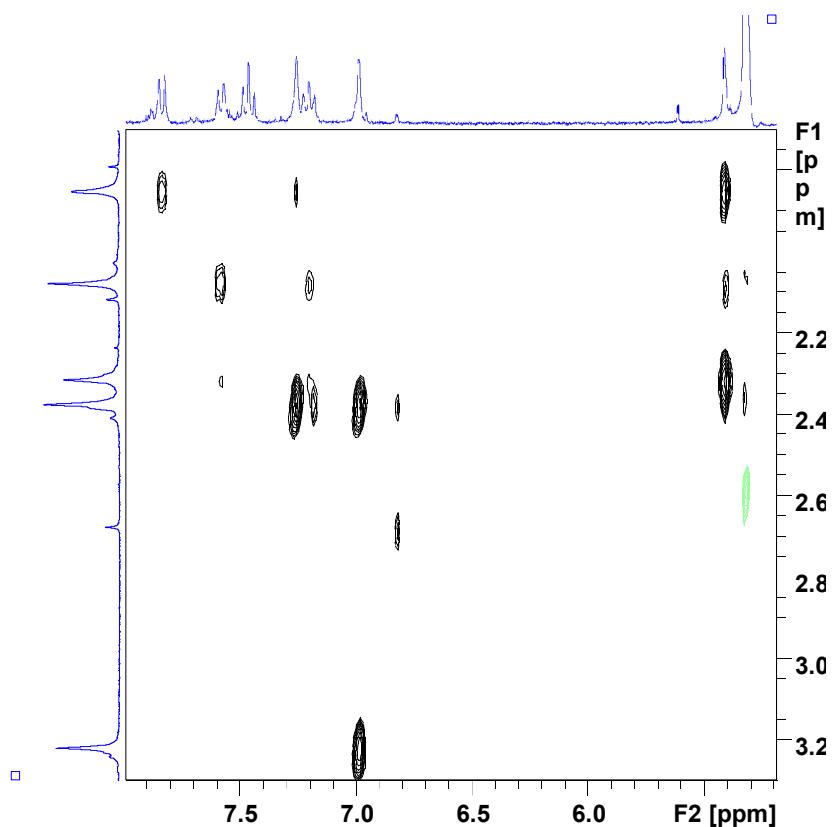
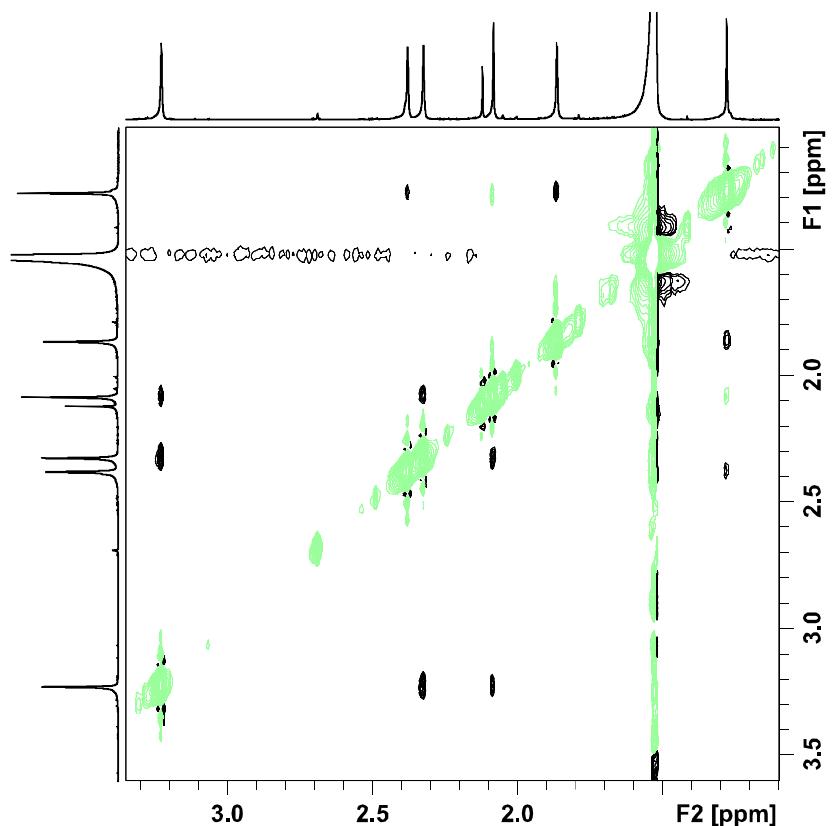
H-4,6-Me₂BPI **4** (100 mg, 0.28 mmol) and palladium acetate (65.1 mg, 0.29 mmol) are suspended in methanol (6.5 ml) and stirred at room temperature under a blanket of argon for 16 h. The mixture is then filtered through celite and the solvent removed in vacuo. The title compound is obtained after recrystallization from dichloromethane/n-hexane as fine, intensely red needles. Yield: 132 mg (93%). Mp.: 180°C (decomp.). Anal. calc. (C₂₄H₂₃N₅PdO₂): C 55.45, H 4.46, N 13.47; found: C 55.52, H 4.28, N 13.42 %. HRMS (ESI): m/z 460.0753, calc. for ([M-OAc]⁺): 460.0748, $\Delta = 0.5$ mmu. ¹H-NMR (300 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = 8.21 - 8.13$ (m, 2 H, α -CH), 7.88 - 7.85 (m, 2 H, β -CH), 7.16 (s, 2 H, 3-CH_{Ar}), 6.80 (s, 6 H, 5-CH_{Ar}), 2.69 (s, 6 H, 6-Me), 2.37 (s, 6 H, 4-Me), 1.91 (s, 3 H, OAc). ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): 177.7, 160.7, 155.3, 153.3, 151.4, 137.6, 131.0, 123.5, 122.6, 122.1, 26.6, 22.9, 20.5.

(4,6-Me₂BPI)₂Pd₄(OAc)₄ (5):

H-4,6-Me₂BPI **4** (50 mg, 0.14 mmol) and palladium acetate (62.9 mg, 0.28 mmol) are suspended in methanol (3 ml) and stirred at room temperature under a blanket of argon for 16 h. A solid separates, which is collected by filtration and washed extensively with methanol. The title compound remains as an orange-yellow solid. Yield: 45 mg (47%). Mp.: > 200°C. Anal. calc. (C₅₂H₅₀N₁₀Pd₄O₈): C 45.63, H 3.68, N 10.23; found: C 45.22, H 3.80, N 10.00%. HRMS (ESI): m/z 460.0744, calc. for ([BPI-Pd]⁺): 460.0748, $\Delta = 0.4$ mmu. ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): $\delta = 7.84$ (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H, α -CH), 7.58 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H, α -CH), 7.50 - 7.42 (m, 1 H, β -CH), 7.26 (s, 1 H, CH_{Ar}), 7.23 - 7.17 (m, 1 H, β -CH), 6.98 (s, 1 H, CH_{Ar}), 5.42 (s, 1 H, CH_{Ar}), 3.22 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 2.38 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 2.32 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 2.08 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 1.86 (s, 3 H, CH₃), 1.27 (s, 3 H, CH₃).

2. NOESY and HMBC spectra for 5

H,H-NOESY spectra (CD_2Cl_2 , 400 MHz; top: aliphatic area; bottom: aliphatic/aromatic cross section)



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H,C-HMBC spectra (CD_2Cl_2 , 400 MHz; $\text{H}_{\text{aliphatic}}-\text{C}_{\text{aromatic}}$ cross section)

