

# Synthesis, characterization, and cytotoxicities of palladium(II) and platinum(II) complexes containing fluorinated pyridinecarboxaldimines

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## Abstract

Condensation of 2-pyridinecarboxaldehyde with several primary amines containing fluorine groups gave the corresponding pyridinecarboxaldimines (N-N'). Addition of these ligands to  $[MCl_2(\text{coe})_2]$  ( $M = \text{Pd}, \text{Pt}$ ;  $\text{coe} = \text{cis-cyclooctene}$ ) gave complexes of the type  $\text{cis-}MCl_2(\text{N-N}')$  [ $\text{Pd}$  (**3**),  $\text{Pt}$  (**4**)] in moderate to high yields. All palladium and platinum complexes were examined for their potential cytotoxicities against OV2008 (human ovarian carcinoma) and the analogous cisplatin-resistant C13.

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## 1. Introduction

Cisplatin,  $\text{cis-[PtCl}_2(\text{NH}_3)_2]$  and a few related platinum-based complexes are currently used as anticancer agents against testicular and ovarian malignancies [1–7]. There are several limitations to platinum therapy, however, such as neural and kidney toxicity as well as intrinsic and acquired resistance of tumor cells to the drugs [1]. These complications have provided an incentive for further research into the development of platinum-based complexes with increased solubility and enhanced specificity towards cancer cells. Recent studies have shown that *cis*-amminedichloro(2-methylpyri-

dine)platinum(II) (AMD473 or ZD0473, Fig. 1) shows considerable cytotoxicity in cisplatin-resistant cell lines [8,9]. Steric crowding from the methyl group is believed to decrease the rates of hydrolysis and substitution reactions of AMD473 by effectively shielding the platinum atom and thereby permitting high selectivity in binding to DNA [10]. The primary mechanism of action in these platinum drugs is believed to arise from the metal's interaction with DNA.

We have begun to develop AMD473 analogues by replacing the  $\text{NH}_3$  group with a pendant imine group. Previous studies have shown that the platinum complex derived from aniline, **2** (Fig. 1), has shown considerable activity against the hormone independent human mammary carcinoma cell line MDA-MB 231 [11]. Varying the aniline functionality allows us to design compounds with a wide range of physical and chemical properties

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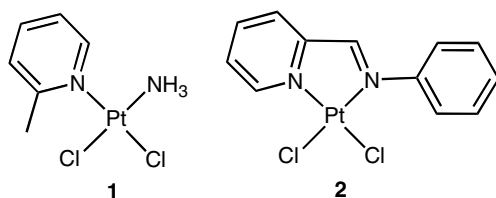


Fig. 1. Structure of AMD473 (1) and complex 2.

that may provide steric congestion around the platinum atom. As well, the use of bidentate ligands prevents trans labilization and undesired displacement of the ligands by sulfur and nitrogen donors in biomolecules, interactions believed responsible for some of the adverse side effects associated with cisplatin [1–3]. We report herein our results on the synthesis and initial cytotoxicity testing of *cis*-dichloro(pyridin-2-ylcarboxaldimine)-palladium(II) and -platinum(II) compounds containing bulky fluorinated aryl groups (Fig. 2).

## 2. Experimental

### 2.1. General procedures and methods

Reagents and solvents used were obtained from Aldrich Chemicals.  $\text{PdCl}_2$  and  $\text{K}_2\text{PtCl}_4$  were purchased from Precious Metals Online Ltd. and  $[\text{PdCl}_2(\text{coe})]_2$  and  $[\text{PtCl}_2(\text{coe})]_2$  were made by established procedures [12]. Pyridinecarboxaldimine ligands were prepared as previously reported [13]. NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL JNM-GSX270 FT NMR or Varian Mercury Plus 200 NMR spectrometer.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR chemical shifts are reported in ppm and are referenced to residual protons in deuterated solvent at 270 and 200 MHz.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR chemical shifts are referenced to solvent carbon resonances as internal standards at 68 and 50 MHz.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR chemical shifts are referenced to  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ . Multiplicities are reported as singlet (s), doublet (d), tri-

plet (t), quartet (q), multiplet (m), broad (br) and overlapping (ov). Infrared spectra were obtained using a Mattson Genesis II FT-IR spectrometer and are reported in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Melting points were measured uncorrected with a Mel-Temp apparatus. Microanalyses for C, H and N were carried out at Guelph Chemical Laboratories Ltd. (Guelph, Ont.).

### 2.2. General procedure for the preparation of metal complexes

A  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (5 ml) solution of ligand (0.55 mmol) was added to the appropriate  $[\text{MCl}_2(\text{coe})]_2$  (where M = Pd or Pt) (0.25 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (5 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred for 5 h at room temperature and the precipitate was collected by suction filtration and washed with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  ( $3 \times 5$  ml) to afford the metal complex.

#### 2.2.1. Compound 3a

Yield: 80% as an orange solid; m.p. 280–281 °C (decomposition). Spectroscopic NMR data (in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ ):  $^1\text{H}$   $\delta$ : 9.05 (d,  $J = 6$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.89 (s, 1H, C(H)=N), 8.43 (t of d,  $J = 8$ , 1 Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.23 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.97 (t of d,  $J = 6$ , 1 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.48–7.27 (ov m, 4H, Ar);  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$   $\delta$ : 175.7, 155.9, 154.5 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 274$  Hz, CF), 150.9, 142.0, 135.6 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 12$  Hz), 130.7 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 8$  Hz), 130.5, 130.2, 125.7, 124.9 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 4$  Hz), 116.4 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 20$  Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$   $\delta$ : –118.4. IR (nujol): 2949, 2904, 2860, 1581, 1460, 1377, 1250, 1228, 1159, 1101, 955, 798, 771, 739. Anal. Calc. for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_9\text{N}_2\text{Cl}_2\text{FPd}$ : C, 38.16; H, 2.41; N, 7.42. Found: C, 38.20; H, 2.29; N, 7.13%.

#### 2.2.2. Compound 3b

Yield: 76% as an orange solid; m.p. 278–280 °C (decomposition). Spectroscopic NMR data (in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ ):  $^1\text{H}$   $\delta$ : 9.05 (d,  $J = 6$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.80 (s, 1H, C(H)=N), 8.42 (t,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.21 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.96 (t,  $J = 6$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.55–7.47 (m,

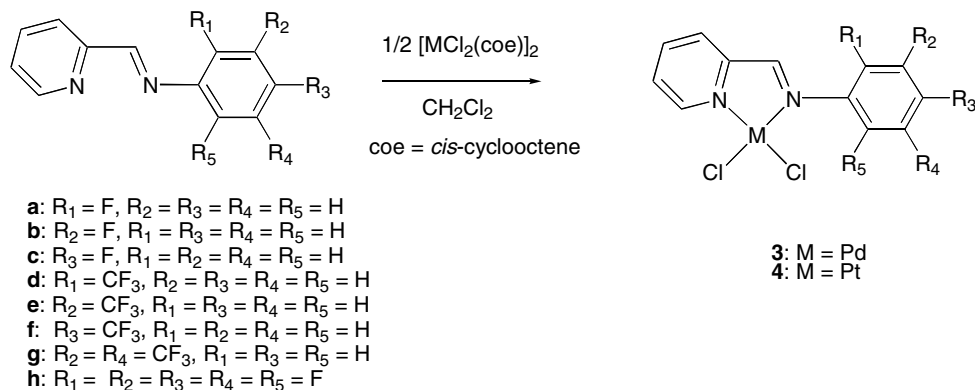


Fig. 2. Synthesis of palladium and platinum complexes 3–4.

1H, Ar), 7.34–7.24 (ov m, 3H, Ar);  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$   $\delta$ : 174.0, 161.7 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 245$  Hz, CF), 156.2, 150.7, 148.8 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 10$  Hz), 141.9, 130.6 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 9$  Hz), 130.3, 129.9, 120.7, 115.9, (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 21$  Hz), 112.4 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 25$  Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$   $\delta$ : –112.8. IR (nujol): 2951, 2927, 2854, 1591, 1460, 1377, 1360, 1300, 1269, 1252, 1228, 1167, 1138, 980, 897, 856, 796, 771, 723, 692. *Anal.* Calc. for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_9\text{N}_2\text{Cl}_2\text{FPd}$ : C, 38.16; H, 2.41; N, 7.42. Found: C, 38.22; H, 2.13; N, 7.25%.

### 2.2.3. Compound 3c

Yield: 60% as an orange solid; m.p. 328 °C (decomposition). Spectroscopic NMR data (in DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $^1\text{H}$   $\delta$ : 9.05 (d,  $J = 6$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.75 (s, 1H, C(H)=N), 8.40 (t,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.20 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.94 (t,  $J = 6$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.51–7.46 (m, 2H, Ar), 7.34–7.28 (m, 2H, Ar);  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$   $\delta$ : 173.4, 162.2 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 246$  Hz, CF), 156.4, 150.6, 143.9 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 2$  Hz), 141.9, 130.1, 129.7, 126.8 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 9$  Hz), 115.6 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 22$  Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$   $\delta$ : –113.0. IR (nujol): 3109, 3041, 3016, 2920, 1597, 1579, 1498, 1479, 1308, 1296, 1242, 1228, 1196, 1157, 1103, 960, 850, 806, 795, 768, 579. *Anal.* Calc. for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_9\text{N}_2\text{Cl}_2\text{FPd}$ : C, 38.16; H, 2.41; N, 7.42. Found: C, 37.98; H, 2.10; N, 7.10%.

### 2.2.4. Compound 3d

Yield: 70% as an orange solid; m.p. 324–326 °C (decomposition). Spectroscopic NMR data (in DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $^1\text{H}$   $\delta$ : 9.04 (d,  $J = 6$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.97 (s, 1H, C(H)=N), 8.44 (t of d,  $J = 8$ , 1 Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.25 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.01 (t of d,  $J = 6$ , 1 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.82–7.76 (ov m, 2H, Ar), 7.61 (t,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.51 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar);  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$   $\delta$ : 175.2, 155.6, 151.2, 145.3, 142.1, 133.5, 130.6 (2C), 129.0, 126.8 (q,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 5$  Hz), 126.2, 124.5 (q,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 274$  Hz,  $\text{CF}_3$ ), 122.2 (q,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 30$  Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$   $\delta$ : –55.9. IR (nujol): 3074, 3014, 2952, 2925, 2854, 1593, 1471, 1456, 1319, 1296, 1269, 1203, 1155, 1124, 1055, 1034, 984, 768, 571. *Anal.* Calc. for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_9\text{N}_2\text{Cl}_2\text{F}_3\text{Pd}$ : C, 36.51; H, 2.13; N, 6.55. Found: C, 36.57; H, 1.98; N, 6.54%.

### 2.2.5. Compound 3e

Yield: 65% as an orange solid; m.p. 346–348 °C (decomposition). Spectroscopic NMR data (in DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $^1\text{H}$   $\delta$ : 9.06 (d,  $J = 6$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.85 (s, 1H, C(H)=N), 8.42 (t,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.23 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.97 (t,  $J = 6$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.85 (s, 1H, Ar), 7.80 (m, 1H, Ar), 7.77–7.68 (ov m, 2H, Ar);  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$   $\delta$ : 175.0, 156.8, 151.3, 148.2, 142.5, 130.8, 130.5 (2C), 129.9 (q,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 32$  Hz), 129.4, 128.7 (q,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 274$  Hz,  $\text{CF}_3$ ), 126.1 (q,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 4$  Hz), 122.0 (q,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 4$  Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$   $\delta$ : –61.0. IR (nujol): 3074, 3014, 2953, 2854, 1593, 1450, 1362, 1329, 1238, 1184, 1159, 1117, 1068, 808, 773, 700, 658. *Anal.* Calc. for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_9\text{N}_2\text{Cl}_2\text{F}_3\text{Pd}$ : C, 36.51; H, 2.13; N, 6.55. Found: C, 36.23; H, 2.11; N, 6.33%.

### 2.2.6. Compound 3f

Yield: 65% as an orange solid; m.p. 301–302 °C (decomposition). Spectroscopic NMR data (in DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $^1\text{H}$   $\delta$ : 9.06 (d,  $J = 6$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.83 (s, 1H, C(H)=N), 8.42 (t of d,  $J = 8$ , 1 Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.22 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.97 (t of d,  $J = 6$ , 1 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.87 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.63 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 2H, Ar);  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$   $\delta$ : 174.4, 156.3, 150.7, 150.4, 142.0, 130.4, 130.0, 129.1 (q,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 35$  Hz), 126.0 (q,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 4$  Hz), 125.6, 124.5 (q,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 274$  Hz,  $\text{CF}_3$ );  $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$   $\delta$ : –60.8. IR (nujol): 3074, 2870, 1460, 1377, 1186, 1169, 1107, 966, 854, 766, 721, 607. *Anal.* Calc. for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_9\text{N}_2\text{Cl}_2\text{F}_3\text{Pd}$ : C, 36.51; H, 2.13; N, 6.55. Found: C, 36.66; H, 1.97; N, 6.45%.

### 2.2.7. Compound 3g

Yield: 60% as an orange solid; m.p. 358–360 °C (decomposition). Spectroscopic NMR data (in DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $^1\text{H}$   $\delta$ : 9.07 (d,  $J = 6$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.98 (s, 1H, C(H)=N), 8.45 (t of d,  $J = 8$ , 1 Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.27 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.24 (s, 1H, Ar), 8.19 (s, 2H, Ar), 8.00 (t of d,  $J = 6$ , 1 Hz, 1H, Ar);  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$   $\delta$ : 175.7, 156.1, 150.9, 148.2, 142.1, 130.8, 130.6 (q,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 34$  Hz), 130.3, 126.1, 123.5 (q,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 274$  Hz,  $\text{CF}_3$ ), 122.6 (q,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 4$  Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$   $\delta$ : –61.2. IR (nujol): 3107, 3020, 2951, 2922, 2854, 1371, 1358, 1292, 1279, 1242, 1184, 1174, 1126, 970, 901, 881, 777, 702, 683. *Anal.* Calc. for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_8\text{N}_2\text{Cl}_2\text{F}_6\text{Pd}$ : C, 33.92; H, 1.63; N, 5.65. Found: C, 33.50; H, 1.39; N, 5.43%.

### 2.2.8. Compound 3h

Yield: 65% as an orange solid; m.p. 288 °C (decomposition). Spectroscopic NMR data (in DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $^1\text{H}$   $\delta$ : 9.21 (s, 1H, C(H)=N), 9.04 (d,  $J = 6$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.46 (t,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.34 (d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.06 (t,  $J = 6$  Hz, 1H, Ar);  $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$   $\delta$ : –145.4 (d,  $J_{\text{F-Pt}} = 19$  Hz), –154.2 (t,  $J_{\text{F-Pt}} = 19$  Hz), –162.8 (t,  $J_{\text{F-Pt}} = 9$  Hz). IR (nujol): 3095, 3016, 2951, 2924, 2856, 1591, 1512, 1470, 1433, 1352, 1294, 1221, 1103, 1009, 995, 960, 885, 793, 781. *Anal.* Calc. for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_5\text{N}_2\text{Cl}_2\text{F}_5\text{Pd}$ : C, 32.06; H, 1.12; N, 6.23. Found: C, 31.91; H, 0.83; N, 5.99%.

### 2.2.9. Compound 4a

Yield: 65% as an orange solid; m.p. 282 °C (decomposition). Spectroscopic NMR data (in DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $^1\text{H}$   $\delta$ : 9.51 (s,  $J_{\text{H-Pt}} = 92$  Hz, 1H, C(H)=N), 9.47 (d,  $J_{\text{H-H}} = 6$  Hz,  $J_{\text{H-Pt}} = 40$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.47 (t,  $J_{\text{H-H}} = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.25 (d,  $J_{\text{H-H}} = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.04 (t,  $J_{\text{H-H}} = 6$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.50–7.31 (ov m, 4H, Ar);  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$   $\delta$ : 175.4, 157.1, 154.9 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 250$  Hz, CF), 149.8, 141.4, 135.4 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 12$  Hz), 131.1 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 8$  Hz), 130.8 (2C), 126.5, 124.9 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 4$  Hz), 116.5 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 20$  Hz);  $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$   $\delta$ : –120.0. IR (nujol): 2941, 2902, 2860, 1589, 1558, 1493, 1456, 1377, 1348, 1300, 1250, 1228, 1159, 1101, 937, 856, 800, 766, 739,

667, 596. *Anal.* Calc. for  $C_{12}H_9N_2Cl_2FPt$ : C, 30.91; H, 1.95; N, 6.01. Found: C, 30.44; H, 1.73; N, 5.68%.

#### 2.2.10. Compound 4b

Yield: 81% as an orange solid; m.p. 286 °C (decomposition). Spectroscopic NMR data (in DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $^1H$   $\delta$ : 9.48 (d,  $J_{H-H} = 6$  Hz,  $J_{H-Pt} = 47$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 9.40 (s,  $J_{H-Pt} = 91$  Hz, 1H, C(H)=N), 8.45 (t,  $J_{H-H} = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.24 (d,  $J_{H-H} = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.01 (t,  $J_{H-H} = 6$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.60–7.52 (m, 1H, Ar), 7.40–7.29 (ov m, 3H, Ar);  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$   $\delta$ : 174.0, 161.8 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 247$  Hz, CF), 157.5, 149.7, 148.7 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 10$  Hz), 141.3, 130.7, 130.5, 130.4, 121.2 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 3$  Hz), 116.2 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 21$  Hz), 112.7 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 25$  Hz);  $^{19}F\{^1H\}$   $\delta$ : –112.7. IR (nujol): 2931, 2912, 2856, 1593, 1460, 1377, 1358, 1300, 1269, 1252, 1230, 1138, 984, 897, 858, 796, 769, 694. *Anal.* Calc. for  $C_{12}H_9N_2Cl_2FPt$ : C, 30.91; H, 1.95; N, 6.01. Found: C, 31.27; H, 1.65; N 6.00%.

#### 2.2.11. Compound 4c

Yield: 85% as an orange solid; m.p. 327 °C (decomposition). Spectroscopic NMR data (in DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $^1H$   $\delta$ : 9.47 (d,  $J_{H-H} = 6$  Hz,  $J_{H-Pt} = 40$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 9.34 (s,  $J_{H-Pt} = 93$  Hz, 1H, C(H)=N), 8.45 (t of d,  $J_{H-H} = 8$ , 1 Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.23 (d,  $J_{H-H} = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.00 (t of d,  $J_{H-H} = 6$ , 1 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.56–7.51 (ov m, 2H, Ar), 7.39–7.33 (ov m, 2H, Ar);  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$   $\delta$ : 172.8, 161.8 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 250$  Hz, CF), 157.1, 149.1, 143.3 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 2$  Hz), 140.7, 129.8, 129.7, 126.6 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 9$  Hz), 115.0 (d,  $J_{C-F} = 23$  Hz);  $^{19}F\{^1H\}$   $\delta$ : –112.7. IR (nujol): 2951, 2939, 2914, 2852, 1462, 1377, 1298, 1244, 1228, 1157, 1101, 1059, 1039, 972, 947, 932, 920, 850, 806, 766, 752, 586. *Anal.* Calc. for  $C_{12}H_9N_2Cl_2FPt$ : C, 30.91; H, 1.95; N, 6.01. Found: C, 30.75; H, 1.69; N, 5.72%.

#### 2.2.12. Compound 4d

Yield: 75% as an orange solid; m.p. 315 °C (decomposition). Spectroscopic NMR data (in DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $^1H$   $\delta$ : 9.59 (s,  $J_{H-Pt} = 90$  Hz, 1H, C(H)=N), 9.48 (d,  $J_{H-H} = 6$  Hz,  $J_{H-Pt} = 40$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.48 (t,  $J_{H-H} = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.30 (d,  $J_{H-H} = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.06 (t,  $J_{H-H} = 6$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.88–7.79 (ov m, 2H, Ar), 7.67 (t,  $J_{H-H} = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.54 (d,  $J_{H-H} = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar);  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$   $\delta$ : 174.9, 163.2, 156.9, 150.1, 141.5, 133.4, 131.1, 130.9, 129.4, 127.1, 126.9 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 5$  Hz), 125.0 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 274$  Hz, CF<sub>3</sub>), 122.9 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 30$  Hz);  $^{19}F\{^1H\}$   $\delta$ : –56.2. IR (nujol): 2945, 2902, 2868, 1560, 1460, 1377, 1317, 1306, 1271, 1234, 1201, 1163, 1124, 1055, 1032, 968, 781, 762, 723, 596. *Anal.* Calc. for  $C_{13}H_9N_2Cl_2F_3Pt$ : C, 30.24; H, 1.76; N, 5.43. Found: C, 29.81; H, 1.69; N, 5.25%.

#### 2.2.13. Compound 4e

Yield: 65% as an orange solid; m.p. 336 °C (decomposition). Spectroscopic NMR data (in DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $^1H$   $\delta$ :

9.48 (d,  $J_{H-H} = 6$  Hz,  $J_{H-Pt} = 40$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 9.45 (s,  $J_{H-Pt} = 88$  Hz, 1H, C(H)=N), 8.47 (t of d,  $J_{H-H} = 8$ , 1 Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.26 (d,  $J_{H-H} = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.02 (t of d,  $J_{H-H} = 6$ , 1 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.90 (s, 1H, Ar), 7.85–7.75 (ov m, 3H, Ar);  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$   $\delta$ : 174.5, 157.6, 149.7, 147.6, 141.4, 130.6, 130.5, 130.2 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 31$  Hz), 130.0, 129.2, 128.3 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 274$  Hz, CF<sub>3</sub>), 126.0 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 4$  Hz), 121.9 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 4$  Hz);  $^{19}F\{^1H\}$   $\delta$ : –61.0. IR (nujol): 2943, 2910, 2860, 1460, 1377, 1327, 1240, 1182, 1161, 1117, 1066, 941, 808, 771, 700, 660, 596. *Anal.* Calc. for  $C_{13}H_9N_2Cl_2F_3Pt$ : C, 30.24; H, 1.76; N, 5.43. Found: C, 30.20; H, 1.50; N, 5.43%.

#### 2.2.14. Compound 4f

Yield: 85% as an orange solid; m.p. 300 °C (decomposition). Spectroscopic NMR data (in DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $^1H$   $\delta$ : 9.48 (d,  $J_{H-H} = 6$  Hz,  $J_{H-Pt} = 40$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 9.43 (s,  $J_{H-Pt} = 97$  Hz, 1H, C(H)=N), 8.47 (t of d,  $J_{H-H} = 8$ , 1 Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.26 (d,  $J_{H-H} = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.03 (t of d,  $J_{H-H} = 6$ , 1 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.92 (d,  $J_{H-H} = 8$  Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.68 (d,  $J_{H-H} = 8$  Hz, 2H, Ar);  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$   $\delta$ : 174.4, 157.5, 149.7, 149.5, 141.3, 130.6, 130.5, 130.2 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 31$  Hz), 126.5 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 274$  Hz, CF<sub>3</sub>), 126.0 (2C);  $^{19}F\{^1H\}$   $\delta$ : –60.8. IR (nujol): 2958, 2939, 2883, 1416, 1325, 1201, 1111, 1066, 856, 825, 808, 760, 731, 700, 685, 669, 606, 596, 515. *Anal.* Calc. for  $C_{13}H_9N_2Cl_2F_3Pt$ : C, 30.24; H, 1.76; N, 5.43. Found: C, 29.98; H, 1.42; N, 5.22%.

#### 2.2.15. Compound 4g

Yield: 60% as an orange solid; m.p. 338 °C (decomposition). Spectroscopic NMR data (in DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $^1H$   $\delta$ : 9.59 (s,  $J_{H-Pt} = 85$  Hz, 1H, C(H)=N), 9.49 (d,  $J_{H-H} = 6$  Hz,  $J_{H-Pt} = 40$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.49 (t,  $J_{H-H} = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.31 (d,  $J_{H-H} = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.27 (s, 1H, Ar), 8.25 (s, 2H, Ar), 8.05 (t,  $J_{H-H} = 6$  Hz, 1H, Ar);  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$   $\delta$ : 175.6, 157.4, 149.9, 148.1, 141.5, 130.9, 130.6 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 34$  Hz), 130.4, 126.5, 123.5 (q,  $J = 274$  Hz, CF<sub>3</sub>), 123.1 (q,  $J_{C-F} = 4$  Hz);  $^{19}F\{^1H\}$   $\delta$ : –61.2. IR (nujol): 2935, 2904, 2870, 1460, 1377, 1290, 1173, 1126, 974, 900, 847, 773. *Anal.* Calc. for  $C_{14}H_8N_2Cl_2F_6Pt$ : C, 28.77; H, 1.38; N, 4.80. Found: C, 28.57; H, 1.16; N, 4.57%.

#### 2.2.16. Compound 4h

Yield: 60% as an orange solid; m.p. 302 °C (decomposition). Spectroscopic NMR data (in DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $^1H$   $\delta$ : 9.85 (s,  $J_{H-Pt} = 82$  Hz, 1H, C(H)=N), 9.47 (d,  $J_{H-H} = 6$  Hz,  $J_{H-Pt} = 38$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.50 (t,  $J_{H-H} = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.40 (d,  $J_{H-H} = 8$  Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.14 (t,  $J_{H-H} = 6$  Hz, 1H, Ar);  $^{19}F\{^1H\}$   $\delta$ : –145.9 (d,  $J = 19$  Hz), –153.6 (t,  $J = 19$  Hz), –162.6 (t,  $J = 19$  Hz). IR (nujol): 3041, 3016, 2960, 2939, 2864, 1512, 1471, 1433, 1350, 1292, 1223, 1105, 1026, 1011, 993, 939, 887, 779, 667. *Anal.* Calc. for  $C_{12}H_5N_2Cl_2F_5Pt$ : C, 26.77; H, 0.94; N, 5.21. Found: C, 26.53; H, 0.75; N, 5.15%.

### 2.3. X-ray crystallography

Crystals of **3d**·DMF were grown from a saturated DMF solution at 20 °C. Single crystals were coated with Paratone-N oil, mounted using a glass fibre and frozen in the cold stream of the goniometer. A hemisphere of data was collected on a Bruker AXS P4/SMART 1000 diffractometer using  $\omega$  and  $\theta$  scans with a scan width of 0.3° and 10 s exposure time. The detector distance was 4 cm. The data were reduced [14] and corrected for absorption [15]. The structure was solved by direct methods and refined by full-matrix least-squares on  $F^2$  [16]. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. Hydrogen atoms were located in Fourier difference maps and refined isotropically.

### 2.4. Cell culture

OV2008 (human ovarian carcinoma) and the analogous cisplatin-resistant cell line C13 were a generous gift from Dr. Barbara C. Vanderhyden of the Centre for Cancer Therapeutics, Ottawa Regional Cancer Centre, Ont., Canada. Both cell lines were cultured in complete RPMI-1640 medium with L-glutamine, supplemented with 5% fetal bovine serum, penicillin (50 units/ml) and streptomycin (50 mg/ml). Cells were incubated in a humidified atmosphere of 5% CO<sub>2</sub> at 37 °C and were subcultured twice weekly using trypsin–EDTA.

### 2.5. Cell growth inhibition assay

Cells were seeded in 96-well plates at a concentration of  $0.1\text{--}1.0 \times 10^4$  cells/well in 200  $\mu\text{l}$  of complete media and incubated for 24 h at 37 °C in a 5% CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere to allow for cell adhesion. Stock solutions (15 mM) of the compounds made in DMSO were filter sterilized, then diluted to 10 mM in phosphate-buffered saline (PBS, 0.02 M phosphate, 0.11 M NaCl, pH 7.0, sterile). The 10 mM solutions were diluted to 50  $\mu\text{M}$  and 1.4 mM in complete media for treatment against OV2008 and C13 cell lines, respectively, where 20  $\mu\text{l}$  of compound solutions were added to 180  $\mu\text{l}$  of fresh medium in wells to give final concentrations of 5  $\mu\text{M}$  against OV2008 and 140  $\mu\text{M}$  for C13. All assays were performed in two independent sets of quadruplicate tests. Control groups containing no drug were run in each assay, along with standards of cisplatin and a previously studied *cis*-dichloro(pyridin-2-ylcarboxaldimine)platinum(II) complex (**2**) [11].

Following 48 h of exposure, each well was carefully rinsed with 200  $\mu\text{l}$  PBS buffer. MTT solution (50  $\mu\text{l}$ , 1 mg/ml ddH<sub>2</sub>O) along with 200  $\mu\text{l}$  of fresh, complete media were added to each well, and plates were incubated for 45 min. Following incubation, the medium was removed and the purple formazan precipitate in each well was solubilized in 200  $\mu\text{l}$  DMSO. Absorbances were

measured using a VersaMax tunable microplate reader (Molecular Devices) at 570 nm. Reduction of cell proliferation was determined as a fraction of the absorbance values for each drug treatment ( $T$ ) to the mean absorbance of the no-drug control ( $C$ ), and calculated using the expression  $1 - T/C \times 100\%$ . Data from the separate trials were combined using a  $t$  test ( $P < 0.05$ ).

## 3. Results and discussion

### 3.1. Synthesis and structure

The addition of a primary amine to commercially available 2-pyridinecarboxaldehyde to afford the corresponding pyridinecarboxaldimine ligand is a well-known route to a versatile class of bidentate ligands [17–27]. Variation of the amine therefore allows for the facile design of ligands and subsequent metal complexes with different physical and chemical properties. In this study, the metal complexes **3–4** (Fig. 2) were prepared by addition of the pyridin-2-ylcarboxaldimine ligands to CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solutions of [MCl<sub>2</sub>(coe)]<sub>2</sub> (M = Pd, Pt; coe = *cis*-cyclooctene) [12,13]. Palladium complexes were also prepared because of recent interest for their anticancer potential. Compounds of the type [Pd(en)Cl<sub>2</sub>] and [Pd(en)L] (en = ethylenediamine; L = malonato, methylmalonato, dimethylmalonato and 1,1-cyclobutanedicarboxylato) were recently shown to bind to DNA in a manner similar to that proposed for cisplatin [28].

Complexes containing fluorine groups are of particular interest as substitution of hydrocarbon fragments with C–F moieties can dramatically alter the properties of biologically active compounds and can influence the metabolism and distribution of drug molecules in the body [29–31]. For instance, substitution of fluorine on the aromatic ring of the neurotransmitter norepinephrine produces large differences in its adrenergic activities [32].

In this study, complexes **3–4** have been characterized by a number of physical methods, including multinuclear NMR spectroscopy. A significant downfield shift in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR is observed for the imine sp<sup>2</sup> proton upon coordination of the ligand to the metal center. For instance, the singlet at  $\delta$  8.59 ppm for the free ligand derived from 2-pyridinecarboxaldehyde and 4-fluoroaniline shifts to 9.34 ppm in complex **4c**. Platinum satellites are also observed for this resonance ( $J_{\text{H-Pt}} = 93$  Hz) upon complexation of the ligand to the metal. Similar trends are observed for the pyridine hydrogen  $\alpha$  to the nitrogen atom as the chemical shift changes from  $\delta$  8.71 to 9.47 ppm ( $J_{\text{H-Pt}} = 40$  Hz). The <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra for compounds **3–4** are similar to analogous palladium and platinum complexes containing fluorinated imines [33–36]. For instance, three distinct resonances appear

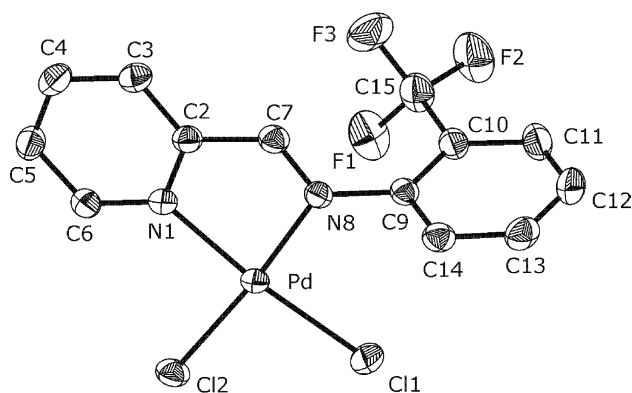


Fig. 3. A view of molecule **3d**·DMF, with displacement ellipsoids drawn at the 30% probability level. H atoms and the molecule of DMF have been omitted for clarity.

in the aromatic region for complexes **3**, **4h**, derived from pentafluoroaniline, and coupling constants are in the expected range for analogous compounds [37]. It is interesting to note, however, that metal complexes **3**, **4h** were unstable in DMSO and decomposed after ca. 12 h to give a number of unidentified products, precluding the acquisition of  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR data. As late metals are known to activate the C–F bond in related pentafluoropyridine [38], it is plausible that compounds **3**, **4h** are also decomposing via a similar mechanism [39,40].

Complex **3d**·DMF has also been characterized by an X-ray diffraction study (Fig. 3). Crystallographic data are given in Table 1 and selected bond lengths and angles provided in Table 2. The nitrogen–palladium bonds of 2.0296(15) Å (pyridine) and 2.0181(16) Å (imine) are similar to those reported in other imine palladium systems [41–43]. The imine C(7)–N(8) distance of 1.286(2) Å is in the range of accepted carbon–nitrogen double bonds [44]. Interesting, the aromatic ring on the imine nitrogen is almost perpendicular to the N(1)–Pd–N(8) plane ( $83.4^\circ$ ), a trend that is observed in related diimine platinum systems [45]. Indeed, this structural feature has been used to create active and selective catalyst precursors for the polymerization of  $\alpha$ -olefins, where *ortho* substitution of the aniline group with bulky groups is believed to shield and stabilize the metal center. The structure of the related  $[\text{PtCl}_2(\text{R-pea})]$  (pea = 1, (2-pyridyl)ethylamine) has been reported recently [46], where the methyl group of the backbone lies in an equatorial plane and results in a close contact between it and the pyridine, which would otherwise not be present if the methyl group were in the axial position. In the case of **3d**·DMF, a closest contact of Pd with F is 3.387 Å, where the trifluoromethyl group is canted over the plane of the metal center. This observation suggests that complexes with  $\text{CF}_3$  groups in the *ortho* position of the imine aryl ring may shield the metal atom in a similar way to AMD473.

Table 1

Crystallographic data collection parameters for **3d**·DMF

Complex	<b>3d</b> ·DMF
Formula	$\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{16}\text{Cl}_2\text{F}_3\text{N}_3\text{OPd}$
Formula weight	500.62
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group	$P\bar{1}$
$a$ (Å)	7.9624(5)
$b$ (Å)	9.4425(5)
$c$ (Å)	12.8704(7)
$\alpha$ ( $^\circ$ )	77.022(1)
$\beta$ ( $^\circ$ )	76.213(1)
$\gamma$ ( $^\circ$ )	89.263(1)
$V$ (Å $^3$ )	914.93(9)
$Z$	2
$D_{\text{calc}}$ (Mg m $^{-3}$ )	1.817
Crystal size (mm $^3$ )	$0.375 \times 0.30 \times 0.15$
$T$ (K)	173(1)
Radiation	Mo K $\alpha$ ( $\lambda = 0.71073$ )
$\mu$ (mm $^{-1}$ )	1.346
Total reflections	7377
Total unique reflections	4769
Number of variables	299
$R_{\text{int}}$	0.0244
$\theta$ Range ( $^\circ$ )	2.22–30.00
Largest difference peak/hole (e Å $^{-3}$ )	0.918/−0.2828
$S$ (Goodness-of-fit) on $F^2$	1.063
$R_1^a$ ( $I > 2\sigma(I)$ )	0.0272
$wR_2^b$ (all data)	0.0703

$$^a R_1 = \sum \|F_o| - |F_c| \| / \sum |F_o|.$$

$$^b wR_2 = (\sum [w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2] / \sum [F_o^4])^{1/2}, \text{ where } w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0354 \times P)^2 + (0.2668 \times P)], \text{ where } P = (\max(F_o^2, 0) + 2 \times F_c^2)/3.$$

Table 2

Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles ( $^\circ$ ) for **3d**·DMF

Pd–N(8)	2.0181(16)
Pd–N(1)	2.0296(15)
Pd–Cl(1)	2.2663(5)
Pd–Cl(2)	2.2841(5)
N(1)–C(6)	1.327(2)
N(1)–C(2)	1.357(2)
C(7)–N(8)	1.286(2)
N(8)–C(9)	1.424(2)
C(15)–F(2)	1.325(2)
C(15)–F(1)	1.334(3)
C(15)–F(3)	1.341(3)
N(8)–Pd–N(1)	80.39(6)
N(8)–Pd–Cl(1)	93.28(5)
N(1)–Pd–Cl(1)	173.64(4)
N(8)–Pd–Cl(2)	174.97(4)
N(1)–Pd–Cl(2)	94.66(5)
Cl(1)–Pd–Cl(2)	91.673(19)
C(6)–N(1)–C(2)	118.60(17)
C(6)–N(1)–Pd	128.69(14)
C(2)–N(1)–Pd	112.68(12)
F(2)–C(15)–F(1)	106.7(2)
F(2)–C(15)–F(3)	106.8(2)
F(1)–C(15)–F(3)	105.64(19)
F(2)–C(15)–C(10)	112.02(18)
F(1)–C(15)–C(10)	112.97(19)
F(3)–C(15)–C(10)	112.2(2)



### 3.2. Cytotoxic activity

We have tested the cytotoxic activity of all the new palladium and platinum complexes against both cisplatin-sensitive and cisplatin-resistant human ovarian cells (Table 3), OV2008 and C13, respectively, at concentrations corresponding to cisplatin's  $IC_{50}$  value against either cell line [47–49]. While marginal activity was observed for palladium complexes against cisplatin-sensitive cells OV2008, most of the analogous platinum complexes showed significantly less activity. Indeed, the platinum complexes **4a** and **4h**, which contain a F group in the  $\alpha$  position showed no activity against the cisplatin-sensitive cell line. In contrast, however, is the observation that **4d**, with a bulky  $CF_3$  group in the  $\alpha$  position, showed considerable activity against OV2008 while **4e** showed no activity with the  $CF_3$  group in the *meta* position. More remarkable is that almost all palladium and platinum complexes displayed substantial activity against cisplatin-resistant cell lines C13. Only compound **4a** does not show any significant activity. Compound **3d**, with the  $CF_3$  group in the *ortho* position of the aryl group, was significantly more active than its platinum analogue **4d**. The platinum compounds **4e** and **4g** contain a  $CF_3$  moiety in the *meta* position and show enhanced activities towards C13 as compared to OV2008. Interestingly, increased activities were observed for both metal complexes when the  $CF_3$  group was bound in the *para* position (complexes **3f** and **4f** show the greatest activity against C13). While these initial studies have shown that some compounds show promise against the cisplatin-resistant cell line, further in vitro studies are needed

to address the structure activity relationships in these complexes in order to design a potent drug candidate.

### 4. Conclusion

Pyridinecarboxaldehydes derived from the condensation of 2-pyridinecarboxaldehyde and fluorine-containing amines have been prepared in high yields and used as ligands for palladium and platinum salts. The resulting metal complexes have shown considerable cytotoxicity against the OV2008 (human ovarian carcinoma) cisplatin-resistant C13 cell line. Future work in this area will continue to develop bulkier metal complexes containing highly fluorinated groups.

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### Appendix A. Supplementary material

Full crystallographic data in CIF format have been deposited with The Director, CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge, CB2 1EZ, UK (fax: +44-1223-366033; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk or www: <http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk>) and are available on request, quoting deposition number 237107 for compound **3d**·DMF. Supplementary data associated with this article can be found, in the online version at doi:10.1016/j.poly.2004.06.013.

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Table 3  
Percent reduction of cell proliferation of cisplatin-sensitive (OV2008) and cisplatin-resistant (C13) cancer cells to compounds at 5 and 140  $\mu$ M, respectively ( $n = 8$ ;  $\pm$ SD)

Compound	OV2008	C13
cisplatin	44 $\pm$ 11	41 $\pm$ 8
<b>2</b>	21 $\pm$ 3	37 $\pm$ 8
<b>3a</b>	25 $\pm$ 11	78 $\pm$ 8
<b>3b</b>	21 $\pm$ 7	31 $\pm$ 9
<b>3c</b>	28 $\pm$ 12	31 $\pm$ 7
<b>3d</b>	28 $\pm$ 10	79 $\pm$ 11
<b>3e</b>	20 $\pm$ 11	29 $\pm$ 16
<b>3f</b>	24 $\pm$ 12	83 $\pm$ 15
<b>3g</b>	23 $\pm$ 10	39 $\pm$ 15
<b>3h</b>	25 $\pm$ 8	56 $\pm$ 13
<b>4a</b>	0	4 $\pm$ 4
<b>4b</b>	10 $\pm$ 16	83 $\pm$ 4
<b>4c</b>	26 $\pm$ 5	78 $\pm$ 7
<b>4d</b>	70 $\pm$ 14	28 $\pm$ 13
<b>4e</b>	0	81 $\pm$ 6
<b>4f</b>	45 $\pm$ 12	96 $\pm$ 2
<b>4g</b>	12 $\pm$ 9	87 $\pm$ 9
<b>4h</b>	0	35 $\pm$ 12

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