ELECTROCHEMICAL PREPARATION OF ISOCYANIDE COMPLEXES OF LOW-VALENT PLATINUM CONTAINING A METAL-METAL BOND

Yasuhiro YAMAMOTO, Katsuo TAKAHASHI, and Hiroshi YAMAZAKI RIKEN (The Institute of Physical and Chemical Research) Wako, Saitama 351-01

The potentiostatic reduction of cis-PtCl₂(RNC)₂ (3a:R = 2,4-t-Bu₂-6-MeC₆H₂; **3b**: R = 2,4,6-t-Bu₃C₆H₂; **3c**: R = 2,6-Me₂C₆H₃) were carried out on a mercury pool electrode in CH₃CN. The one-electron reduction (96.5 kC/mol) of **3a** and **3b** gave [PtCl(RNC)₂]₂ (**4a** and **4b**). An X-ray analysis of **4a** showed that the two PtCl(RNC)₂ planes jointed by a Pt-Pt bond were perpendicular. The two-electron reductions (2x96.5 kC/mol) of **3a** and **3b** gave Hg[Pt₃(RNC)₆]₂ and Pt₃(RNC)₆, respectively. Electrolysis of **3c** gave only Hg[Pt₃(2,6-MeC₆H₃NC)₆]₂.

Recently we reported that the reaction of dichlorobis(2,6-xylyl isocyanide)platinum(II) with sodium amalgam gave new homo- and mixed clusters, $Pt_7(2,6-Me_2C_6H_3NC)_{12}$ (1)¹⁾ and $Hg[Pt_3(2,6-Me_2C_6H_3NC)_6]_2$ (2c)^{2).}

Electrochemical studies give useful information on the electronic configuration of complexes and the mechanism of reactions. Furthermore, electrochemical methods can be used for selective preparation of transition metal complexes in higher or lower oxidation state. Several polarographic studies have been made for square planar complexes of nickel, palladium and platinum. Recently, Lemoine and his coworkers reported that electroreduction of cis and trans-dihalobis(alkyl isocyanide)platinum(II) on platinum electrode took place as two irreversible processes.³⁾ Zanello et al. described that cis-MCl₂(p-XC₆H₄NC)(PMePh₂) (M = Pd, Pt; X = Cl, MeO) was electrochemically reduced to give zerovalent species.⁴⁾ However, the two groups could not isolate any discrete complexes.

The present paper reports electrochemical preparation of new platinum(I) dimeric complexes containing a metal-metal bond.

Figure 1 shows polarograms of cis-PtCl₂(RNC)₂ (**3a**; $R=2,4-t-Bu_2-6-MeC_6H_2$, **3b**; R=2,4,6-t-Bu₃C₆H₂, and **3c**; $R=2,6-Me_2C_6H_3$).⁵) Two reduction waves defined by regions of A and B appeared in the polarograms. The waves in A whose waveheights are independent of the concentrations of Pt(II) complexes, are attributed to a reduction of strongly absorbed species of Pt(II) complexes.

The waves in B correspond to a main reduction of Pt(II) complexes and can be analyzed as the diffusion control with a two electron reduction process. However, the shape of the slopes of the waves indicates that the reaction is not a simple polarographic reversible process, but a more complicated process.

The potentiostatic electrolysis of 3a in CH_3CN containing 0.1 M n-Bu₄NClO₄ (TBAP) was carried out by means of a mercury pool electrode at -1.70 V.⁶)



Fig. 1. Polarograms of $PtCl_2(RNC)_2$ in CH_3CN . (3a: $R=2,4-t-Bu_2-6-Me-C_6H_2$; 3b $R=2,4,6-t-Bu_3C_6H_2$; 3a $R=2,6-Me_2C_6H_3$.

After the electrolysis with charge (96.5 kC/mol) corresponding to the one electron reduction of Pt(II) + e \rightarrow Pt(I), a yellow complex **4a**, formulated as [Pt(2,4-t-Bu₂-6-MeC₆H₂NC)₂Cl]₂,⁷ was obtained in a 90% yield. The IR spectrum of **4a** showed a peak at 2142 cm⁻¹, attributable to terminal isocyanide groups.

The crystal structure analysis of 4a shows that the complex unit comprises two independent molecules, as depicted in Fig. 2.⁸) The molecule involves two Pt atoms, each possessing an essentially square-planar coordination jointed by a Pt-Pt bond, where the Pt atom occupies one of the

coordination sites. This type of complex has not been obtained in the chemical reduction with Na-Hg, and 4a is the first neutral Pt(I) dimer which does not contain bridging ligands. The average of the dihedral angles between the two coordination planes are 88°, nearly perpendicular. A similar geometry has been observed in the cationic $[Pd(MeNC)_3]_2^{2+}$ complex 5.⁹

The Pt-Pt bond lengths of 2.563(2) and 2.561(2) Å are shorter by ca. 0.1-0.2 Å than those found in some zerovalent platinum clusters.^{1,2,10)} The averages for Pt-C and Pt-Cl bonds are 1.95 and 2.38 Å, and resemble those found in other related complexes.¹¹⁾ The mean value of the Pt-C-N bond angle is 176.3°, being almost linear. The equatorial isocyanide ligands bend away from the axial Cl atoms giving rise to values of 93.8° for the mean C-Pt-Cl angle and 85.5° for mean Pt-Pt-C angle. A similar type of distortion has been observed in 5.

The electrochemical reaction is considered as a reductive coupling one containing a cis-trans isomerization. This isomerization may proceed either via a 17 electron species $[PtCl_2(RNC)_2]^-$ or a 15 electron one $PtCl(RNC)_2$, since the



Fig. 2. Crystal structure of 4a.

chemical isomerization from $cis-PtCl_2(RNC)_2$ to trans-one has not been observed.

The potential energy curve of a dimer, $[PtCl(HNC)_2]_2$, was calculated as a function of dihedral angles between the two PtClC₂ planes, using the EHMO calculations.¹²) The perpendicular geometry was estimated to be more stable by 3.7 eV than that with dihedral angle of 0° (a planar structure), in agreement with the crystal structure of **4a**.



Fig. 3. Electronic spectra of 3a and 4a in CH₂Cl₂.

The electronic spectrum of **4a** shows a peak at 324 nm (ε 15320) assignable to a $\sigma - \sigma^*$ transition, in the same range as $[Pd(MeNC)_3]_2^{2+}$ (5) (307 nm).

The two electron reduction (2x96.5 kC/mol) of 3a at -2.00 V gave a dark yellowish green solution, from which a green solid was obtained by evaporation. The electronic spectrum of the green solid in CH₃CN was similar to that found in known 2c. An attempt to purify the green solid has failed because of decomposition during the processes, but orange yellow crystals of triangular $Pt_3(2,4-t-Bu_2-6-MeC_6H_2NC)_6$ (6a)¹³⁾ were obtained in ca. 90% yield. These results suggest the initial formation of Hg[Pt3(2,4-t- $Bu_2-6-MeC_6H_2NC)_6]_2$ (2a), followed by the formation of 6a.

When 3a was electrolyzed with charge of 2x96.5 kC/mol at -1.70 V, 4a and 6a were

isolated in yields of 20 and 41%, respectively, suggesting that the electrolysis of **3a** is proceed via two successive one electron reduction processes, and r_1 is larger than r_2 .

$$Pt(II) \xrightarrow{e} Pt(I) \xrightarrow{e} Pt(0)$$

In the case of the reduction at -2.00 V, both of the reaction rates r_1 and r_2 , are fast, and therefore the Pt(0) complex was produced in a rate determining step of a mass-transport of the Pt(II) complex.

One and two electron reductions of 3b consumed 96.5 and 2x96.5 kC/mol at -1.70 V gave $[PtCl(2,4,6-t-Bu_3C_6H_2NC)_2]_2$ (4b)¹⁴) in a 92% yield and $Pt_3(2,4,6-t-Bu_3C_6H_2NC)_6$ (6b)¹⁵) in a 86% yield, respectively. In the latter reaction, the formation of a mixed cluster containing a mercury atom has not been observed. Bulky ligands have sterically prevented the inclusion of a mercury atom into a platinum cluster.

Similar charge-controlled electrolyses of 3c at -1.50 V were carried out and the only isolated product was identified as 2c, whose yields were 24 and 77% for the electrolyses with 96.5 and 2x96.5 kC/mol, respectively. In the former reaction, the starting complex 3c was recovered in a 45% yield without giving the expected Pt(I) dimer, suggesting $r_1 < r_2$ or a two electron-one step reduction taking place.

The mechanistic study is now in progress.

The authors (Y.Y and K.T) wish to express their thanks to Grant-in Aid for Scientific Research from the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture (59540332). We thank Dr. T.Sakurai and Miss. K.Kobayashi for X-ray crystallographic analysis of 4a.

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- 5) Cis-configuration of Pt(II) isocyanide complexes is suggested by the presence of two $V_{N=C}$ bands in the infrared spectra: 2224, 2189 cm⁻¹ for 3a and 2197, 2205 cm⁻¹ for 3b, 2205, 2172 cm⁻¹ for 3c. They gave good elemental analyses.
- 6) The potentials are indicated against a saturated calomel electrode (SCE), although a Ag/AgNO₃-TBAP-CH₃CN electrode was employed.
- 7) Found: C, 57.01; H, 7.03; N, 3.9%. Calcd for C₆₄H₉₂N₄Cl₂Pt₂: C, 57.09; H, 6.76; N, 3.92%. NMR(CDCl₃): § 1.19(p-t-Bu), 1.53(o-t-Bu), 2.56(o-Me), ca. 7.0(aromatic protons).
- 8) Crystal data: space group P1. a= 14.507(3), b=34.212(6), c= 14.502(6)A, α = 99.29(3), β = 91.49(3), γ = 98.60(2) . Z= 4. R = 0.097.
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- 12) The Pt-Pt, Pt-C, and Pt-Cl lengths were set as 2.56, 1.96, and 2.37 Å, respectively. The Pt-C-N-H bond was idealized to be linear. The Pt-Pt-C and Pt-Pt-Cl angles were set as 86 and 180°, respectively. The parameters used in the EHMO calculations were taken from the literature (A.Dedieu and R.Hoffmann, J.Am.Chem.Soc. <u>100</u>, 2074(1978)).
- 13) Found: C, 58.99; H, 7.31; N, 4.22%. Calcd for C₉₆H₁₃₈N₆Pt₃: C, 58.79; H, 7.09; N, 4.28%. IR(nujol): 2108, 2088, 1720 cm⁻¹. NMR(CDCl₃): δ 1.00, 1.15(o-t-Bu), 1.41, 1.56(p-t-Bu), 2.30, 2.59(o-Me), ca. 7.0(aromatic protons). The detail will be reported elsewhere.
- 14) Found: C, 59.42; H, 7.66; N, 3.52%. Calcd for C₇₆H₁₁₆N₄Cl₂Pt₂: C, 59.01; H, 7.56; N, 3.62%. IR(nujol): 2165, 2136 cm⁻¹. NMR(CDCl₃): δ 1.34(o-t-Bu), 1.57(p-t-Bu), ca. 7.3(aromatic protons). Electronic spectrum(CH₂Cl₂): λ 333sh, 271(ε39930).
- 15) Found: C, 61.85; H, 8.01; N, 3.66%. Calcd for C₁₁₄H₁₇₄N₆Pt₃: C, 61.85; H, 7.92; N, 3.80%. IR(nujol): 2099, 1826 cm⁻¹. NMR(CDCl₃): δ 1.32(o-t-Bu), 1.51(p-t-Bu), ca. 7.33(aromatic protons).

(Received November 9, 1984)