

## Synthesis and Characterization of Some Transition Metal Complexes with Thiourea Derivatives

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Reactions of mono-, di- and tri-substituted thiourea with chloride salts of palladium, platinum, rhodium and iridium and with chlorocarbonyls of rhodium and iridium were carried out. The complexes were characterized by elemental analysis, spectroscopic data (UV and IR) and conductivity measurements. According to infrared data, thiourea derivatives are suggested to be sulfur bonded in all cases.

### INTRODUCTION

Thiourea and its derivatives have been devoted much attention since they are important ligands for transition metals, especially platinum<sup>1–6</sup>. The spectroscopic properties of these ligands and their complexes have been studied thoroughly in order to confirm mode of coordination and the conformation of the ligand in the complexes<sup>7</sup>. Infrared spectroscopy is used for assigning structure of the thiourea complexes, although it is difficult sometimes to draw a conclusion due to overlap between the different bands in the spectra of the complexes. It has been found that lowering of  $\nu(\text{C}=\text{S})$  value compared to free ligands in some complexes is an evidence for monodentate ligation through sulfur as in case of  $[\text{PtCl}_2(\text{TMeTU})]$  (TMeTU = tetramethylthiourea) and consequently it is proposed to have a dimeric structure<sup>8</sup>. Kukushkin *et al.*<sup>1</sup> assigned (Pt—N) bonding for allylthiourea in the platinum complex  $[\text{Pt}(\text{ATU})\text{Cl}_2]_2$  (ATU = allylthiourea) depending on the appearance of a strong absorption band at  $515\text{ cm}^{-1}$  in the infrared spectrum of the complex.

X-ray crystallography is the most reliable method that can be used to elucidate the bonding mode of such ligands. It has been found in complexes of copper<sup>9,10</sup>, gold<sup>11</sup>, nickel<sup>12</sup>, palladium<sup>11,13</sup> and platinum<sup>14</sup>, the thiourea derivatives are sulfur bonded. In these complexes the average C—N bond distance is shorter than those in free ligands while the C—S bond distance is longer which is an indication of metal-sulfur bond formation. Ligands as N-aryl-N'(2-pyridyl) thiourea have been characterized to act as bidentate through sulfur and nitrogen in their complexes of Co(II) and Ni(II) according to their infrared spectral analysis<sup>15</sup>.

Although many transition metal complexes of thiourea derivatives have been synthesized and characterized spectroscopically, little is known about complexes of rhodium and iridium with such ligands. In order to know more about bonding

modes of such ligands, series of complexes have been synthesized and characterized with these ligands. The ligands were mostly disubstituted where one nitrogen has a phenyl group and the other nitrogen substituent was varied. In addition, some trisubstituted thiourea ligands have been used. The ligands were reacted with rhodium and iridium chlorides and with their chlorocarbonyl anions. Since much attention has been paid to platinum and palladium complexes in the last decades, we tried to prepare and characterize such complexes with thiourea derivatives that have not been reported before.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A series of N,N'-disubstituted thiourea derivatives have been synthesized according to the method reported in the literature<sup>2</sup>. These ligands were reacted with platinum, palladium, rhodium and iridium chlorides and also with chlorocarbonyls of rhodium and iridium. The physical properties of these complexes are listed in Tables 1 and 2.

**Palladium and platinum complexes:** Some of the prepared complexes of these two metals are formulated as neutral  $[MCl_2L]_2$  and  $[MCl_2L_2]$ ; others as ionic  $[MCIL_3]Cl$  and  $[ML_4]Cl_2$ . The isolated complexes are coloured solids and stable in air. The complexes were formulated according to their elemental analysis, conductivity measurement and infrared spectral data.

The complexes which are suggested to have  $MCl_2L$  formula might have a dimeric structure  $[MCl_2L]_2$  since their IR spectra show a weak band in the  $300\text{--}235\text{ cm}^{-1}$  range which can be attributed to bridging  $M\text{--}Cl$  bond<sup>2,17</sup>. Another band appearing in the range  $370\text{--}350\text{ cm}^{-1}$  could be assigned to terminal ( $M\text{--}Cl$ ) stretching<sup>17</sup>. A previous study indicated that the platinum complex of tetramethylthiourea ligand may have the dimeric structure  $[PtCl_2(TMTU)]_2$  with either ( $M\text{--}Cl$ ) or ( $M\text{--}S$ ) bridge. However, metal chloride bridge is usually more common than metal-sulfur bridge in such complexes<sup>8</sup>.

Infrared spectra of the complexes that were formulated as  $[ML_2Cl_2]$  where ( $M = Pt, L = BPTU; M = Pd, L = PMPTU$ ) indicate the presence of a terminal ( $M\text{--}Cl$ ) bond which appears in the range  $370\text{--}330\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and a band in the range  $460\text{--}380\text{ cm}^{-1}$  which can be assigned to ( $M\text{--}S$ ) bond stretching. Based on steric effects, these complexes are more likely to have *trans* arrangement<sup>18</sup>.

Infrared spectra of the complexes that are formulated as  $[PdLCl_3]Cl$  where  $L = MPTU, n\text{-BPTU}$  and  $BPTU$  indicate the presence of ( $Pd\text{--}Cl$ ) and ( $Pd\text{--}S$ ) bonds which appear in the  $370\text{--}340\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $490\text{--}400\text{ cm}^{-1}$  range respectively.

Other bands have appeared in the infrared spectra of the isolated complexes which have been shifted to lower or higher frequencies compared to those in the free ligand. The band which appears in the range  $1530\text{--}1515\text{ cm}^{-1}$  due to ( $N\text{--}H$ ) deformation and ( $N\text{--}C\text{--}N$ ) antisymmetric stretching is shifted to higher frequency range  $1590\text{--}1560\text{ cm}^{-1}$  which indicates a greater double bond character of carbon-nitrogen bond caused by bonding of the ligand to the metal through sulfur<sup>12,17</sup>. Another difference in the spectra of the ligands and that of the metal complexes appears in the region around  $1000\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , where the free ligands usually show a strong band in the range  $1050\text{--}970\text{ cm}^{-1}$  due to ( $N\text{--}C\text{--}N$ ) symmetric

stretching and (C=S) bond stretching. This bond usually disappears upon complexation due to weakening of (C=S) bond<sup>18</sup>. There is no considerable difference in the frequency of (N—H) bond stretching which appears above 3000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in the IR spectra of the free ligands and their complexes, which indicates no metal-nitrogen bond formation.

TABLE-1  
ANALYTICAL DATA OF PLATINUM METAL COMPLEXES

Complex	Colour	m.p. (°C)	Yield (%)	Found (Calc.) %		
				C	H	N
1. [Pd(BPTU)Cl <sub>2</sub> ] <sub>2</sub>	Brown	160	72	40.3(40.1)	3.4(3.4)	6.9(6.7)
2. [Pd(DMPTU)Cl <sub>2</sub> ·C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> OH]	Brown	175	66	32.1(31.5)	3.8(3.5)	7.2(7.3)
3. [Pd(PMPTU) <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ]	Yellow-orange	122	81	46.7(46.6)	5.4(5.2)	9.0(9.1)
4. [Pd(MPTU) <sub>3</sub> Cl]Cl·H <sub>2</sub> O	Yellow-orange	190	74	41.8(41.5)	4.5(4.6)	11.8(12.1)
5. [Pd( <i>n</i> -BPTU) <sub>3</sub> Cl]Cl	Orange	140	81	50.1(49.5)	6.1(6.0)	9.6(10.5)
6. [Pd(BPTU) <sub>3</sub> Cl]Cl	Brown	100	75	55.9(55.8)	4.7(4.7)	9.4(9.3)
7. [Pd(MPTU) <sub>4</sub> ]Cl <sub>2</sub> ·H <sub>2</sub> O	Yellow	200	66	44.4(44.7)	4.8(4.9)	12.7(13.1)
8. [Pd( <i>n</i> -BPTU) <sub>4</sub> ]Cl <sub>2</sub> ·2H <sub>2</sub> O	Orange	155	82	51.1(50.7)	6.6(6.6)	10.1(10.8)
9. [Pd(PPTU) <sub>4</sub> ]Cl <sub>2</sub>	Yellow	130	74	57.0(57.2)	4.3(4.4)	10.1(10.3)
10. [Pd(1-NPTU) <sub>4</sub> ]Cl <sub>2</sub>	Orange-brown	155	75	63.0(63.2)	4.2(4.3)	8.5(8.7)
11. [Pt(PTU)Cl <sub>2</sub> ] <sub>2</sub>	Orange	215	68	20.2(20.1)	2.2(1.9)	6.6(6.7)
12. [Pt(MPTU)Cl <sub>2</sub> ] <sub>2</sub>	Yellow	200	62	22.1(22.2)	2.4(2.3)	6.3(6.3)
13. [Pt(BPTU) <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ]	Yellow	150	74	44.7(44.8)	3.6(3.8)	7.5(7.5)
14. [Rh(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>3</sub> (CPTU)]·H <sub>2</sub> O	Orange	160	77	30.9(31.4)	4.3(4.8)	5.6(5.6)
15. [Rh(CO) <sub>2</sub> (DMPTU) <sub>2</sub> ]Cl·2H <sub>2</sub> O	Brown	145	81	39.0(40.6)	4.3(4.8)	9.5(9.5)
16. [Rh(CO) <sub>2</sub> (BPTU) <sub>2</sub> ]Cl	Orange	140	84	52.4(53.1)	4.2(4.1)	8.4(8.3)
17. [Rh(CO) <sub>2</sub> (1-NPTU) <sub>2</sub> ]Cl·2H <sub>2</sub> O	Orange	150	70	55.5(54.9)	4.3(4.1)	7.2(7.1)
18. [Rh(CO) <sub>2</sub> (PMPTUAT)]·H <sub>2</sub> O	Brown	210	61	42.9(42.3)	4.9(4.3)	7.2(7.1)
19. [Ir(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>3</sub> (PMPTU)]	Yellow	220	62	26.4(25.9)	3.7(3.6)	5.0(5.0)
20. [Ir(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>3</sub> (CPTU)]·2H <sub>2</sub> O	Yellow	250	75	25.9(25.8)	4.0(4.3)	4.5(4.6)
21. [Ir(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>3</sub> (PPTU)]	Yellow	266	73	29.1(27.8)	2.5(2.8)	5.0(5.0)
22. [Ir(CO)Cl(MPTU) <sub>2</sub> ]·2H <sub>2</sub> O	Yellow	172	64	31.1(30.8)	3.9(3.9)	8.7(9.0)
23. [Ir(CO)Cl(CPTU) <sub>2</sub> ]·2H <sub>2</sub> O	Yellow	160	61	42.8(42.7)	5.3(4.9)	7.4(7.2)
24. [Ir(CO)Cl(BPTU) <sub>2</sub> ]·3H <sub>2</sub> O	Yellow	125	68	44.0(43.9)	4.4(4.3)	7.4(7.1)
25. [Ir(CO)Cl(DMPTU) <sub>2</sub> ]·2H <sub>2</sub> O	Yellow	145	78	34.2(35.0)	3.8(4.3)	8.8(8.6)
26. [Ir(CO)Cl(PMPTU) <sub>2</sub> ]·3H <sub>2</sub> O	Yellow	177	81	39.6(39.9)	5.2(5.1)	8.0(7.4)
27. [Ir(CO)Cl(PTU) <sub>2</sub> ]·2H <sub>2</sub> O	Orange	162	60	31.6(30.2)	3.8(3.4)	9.0(9.4)
28. [Ir(CO)Cl(PPTU) <sub>2</sub> ]·4H <sub>2</sub> O	Yellow	135	77	40.5(41.4)	3.7(4.1)	7.1(7.1)

TABLE-2  
 CHARACTERISTIC IR BANDS<sup>a</sup> (cm<sup>-1</sup>) OF COMPLEXES AND LIGANDS AND THE  
 MOLAR CONDUCTIVITY (ohm<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>2</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup>) VALUES OF COMPLEXES

Compounds No. and ligands	$\nu(\text{C}=\text{S})$	$\nu(\text{CO})$	$\nu(\text{M}-\text{Cl})^a$	$\nu(\text{M}-\text{S})$	$(\Lambda_m)^b$
1.	965m, 735m	—	355s <sup>t</sup> , 260w <sup>b</sup>	420w	29.4
2.	1020w, 740m	—	350m <sup>t</sup> , 300w <sup>b</sup>	390m	30.6
3.	1015m, 750s	—	330w	380m	25.3
4.	1030m, 740w	—	340w	400w	46.2
5.	1030w, 740w	—	375m	380m	69.5
6.	965m, 755m	—	—	410w	58.8
7.	1005w, 730m	—	—	430w	46.6
8.	1030m, 750w	—	—	400w	44.6
9.	1010m, 700m	—	—	410w	45.3
10.	1020m, 750w	—	—	370m	30.9
11.	1030w, 745m	—	235w <sup>b</sup> , 370m <sup>t</sup>	410w	23.3
12.	1040m, 740w	—	270w <sup>b</sup> , 370m <sup>t</sup>	450w	20.9
13.	965w, 740s	—	366m	430w	50.5
14.	970m, 740m	—	300b	330w	17.6
15.	1000m, 730w	1985s, 2060s	—	350b	27.6
16.	965w, 750s	1995s, 2065s	—	350b	35.8
17.	1010m, 765s	1985s, 2066s	—	340m	33.5
18.	900w, 740m	1975s, 2050s	—	355m	16.8
19.	1020m, 765s	—	350m	380s	7.5
20.	970w, 745w	—	340m	370m	2.3
21.	990w, 735m	—	320m	370m	12.4
22.	990m, 740m	2030s	330m	370m	12.4
23.	985m, 740s	2025s	320m	370m	12.2
24.	960w, 710m	2030s	320m	370m	18.8
25.	1000m, 750m	2050s	305m	350m	13.8
26.	1010m, 755m	2050s	300m	345m	18.1
27.	1030w, 740w	2040s	330m	380m	11.6
28.	1000w, 755w	2060s	330m	370m	19.2
DMPTU	1020s, 760m				
PMPTU	1030s, 755m				
CPTU	980s, 740s				
BPTU	970s, 740s				
1-NPTU	1020s, 745s				
PPTU	1000m, 750s				
PTU	1050s, 755s				
<i>n</i> -BPTU	1030s, 730s				
MPTU	1040s, 750s				

a. ( )<sup>t</sup> stands for terminal and ( )<sup>b</sup> for bridging.  
 b.  $\Lambda_m$  : molar conductivity of  $1 \times 10^{-3}$  M solution at 25°C in DMF.

However, it was observed that the band due to N—H bond stretching is sharper and stronger in the infrared spectra of the free ligands which may be due to hydrogen bonding in the complexes<sup>12</sup>.

Molar conductivity values of the neutral complexes fall in the range usually assigned for neutral species. However, the obtained values of molar conductance for ionic complexes are less than those expected. This decrease might be caused by intramolecular hydrogen bonding or ion-dipole interaction of chloride ion with coordinated ligand and this leads to a decrease in the dissociation ability of the complex in DMF solvent. Similar results were obtained previously for some complexes of platinum and palladium with thiourea derivatives<sup>19</sup>. As a support for this is the X-ray structure of some thiourea complexes where hydrogen bonding between coordination thiourea derivative and the chloride ion was established<sup>11, 12, 20</sup>.

**Rhodium and iridium complexes:** Few number of rhodium<sup>21-23</sup> and iridium<sup>24</sup> complexes have been reported in the literature. The complexes we have prepared are obtained by reaction of thiourea derivative with either  $MCl_3$  or  $[M(CO)_2Cl_2]^-$  ( $M = Rh, Ir$ ). In many cases reaction with the salts produced compounds that were difficult to characterize which might be due to formation of mixtures with similar solubilities and therefore difficult to separate.

The complexes that are formulated as  $[M(H_2O)_2Cl_3(RNHCSNPh)]$  ( $M = Rh, R = cyclohexyl; M = Ir, R = phenyl, cyclohexyl, (CH_2)_5$ ) were obtained from reaction of thiourea derivative with the trichloride salt.

Infrared spectra of the above complexes show broad bands in the range  $290-230\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $250-230\text{ cm}^{-1}$  which could be assigned for (Rh—Cl) and (Rh—S) bonds, respectively. The bands that appear in the range  $350-320\text{ cm}^{-1}$  is attributed to (Ir—Cl) bond but the band that appears in the range  $380-365\text{ cm}^{-1}$  is due to (Ir—S) bond.

Moreover, the band at  $980\text{ cm}^{-1}$  which appears in the IR spectra of the free ligand CPTU, appears as a weak band at  $970\text{ cm}^{-1}$  in the spectrum of the complex. However, the strong band that appears in the range of  $1020-980\text{ cm}^{-1}$  in the infrared spectra of the thiourea derivatives that form complexes to iridium is also weakened which indicates formation of metal-sulfur bond<sup>12, 17, 18</sup>. Moreover, the strong band which is responsible for (N—C—N) antisymmetric stretching which appears in the range  $1530-1510\text{ cm}^{-1}$  in free ligands is shifted to higher frequencies ( $1580-1550\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) which is also an evidence for M—S bond formation<sup>17, 18</sup>.

Coordinated water is indicated by appearance of a broad band in the range  $3520-3120\text{ cm}^{-1}$  due to O—H bond stretching. However, coordinated water is not easy to assign since the vibration frequencies of coordinated water are expected to appear in the range of  $1000-600\text{ cm}^{-1}$  where usually several bands due to thiourea derivatives appear.

The complexes which were formulated as  $[Rh(CO)_2L_2]Cl$  and  $[Ir(CO)ClL_2]$  where L is N,N-dimethyl-N'-phenylthiourea, N-benzyl-N'-ethylthiourea, N-1-naphthyl-N'-phenylthiourea, N-methyl-N'-phenylthiourea, N,N'-diphenylthiourea, N-cyclohexyl-N'-phenylthiourea, N,N-pentamethylene-N-phenylthiourea were obtained upon reaction of the dichlorocarbonyl anion with the thiourea

derivative. It seems that in these reactions two molecules of thiourea derivative substitute two chloride ions in the square planar  $[M(CO)_2Cl_2]^-$  to produce tetracoordinate ionic dicarbonyl rhodium complexes and neutral monocarbonyl iridium complexes.

Infrared spectra of these complexes show bands characteristic of the carbonyl groups. The appearance of two strong bands in the range 2060–2025 and 1995–1985  $cm^{-1}$  in case of rhodium complexes and one strong band in the range 2060–2025  $cm^{-1}$  in case of the iridium complexes is an evidence that these carbonyl groups are terminal<sup>16</sup>. The band in the range 1530–1525  $cm^{-1}$  which appears in the free ligands is shifted to the range 1555–1545  $cm^{-1}$  in the infrared spectra of the rhodium complexes and to the range 1565–1540  $cm^{-1}$  in the infrared spectra of the iridium complexes. In addition, the band that appears in the range 1050–980  $cm^{-1}$  in the infrared spectra of the free ligands is weakend in some complexes and disappears in others which as discussed earlier is an evidence for metal-sulfur bond formation<sup>12, 17</sup>. The band that appears in the range of 380–345  $cm^{-1}$  of the infrared spectra of the complexes could be attributed to (M—S) bond, whereas the band that appears in the infrared spectra of the iridium complexes in the range 330–300  $cm^{-1}$  could be attributed to terminal (Ir—Cl) bond<sup>17</sup>. The strong band which is attributed to (N—H) bond stretching in the infrared spectra of the free ligands appears broad and medium or weak in their complexes which might be due to presence of inter or intramolecular hydrogen bonding<sup>12</sup>.

Molar conductivity values of the rhodium complexes in DMF solvent fall in the range of 27.6–35.8  $ohm^{-1} cm^2 mol^{-1}$  which is less than the expected values for ionic complexes. As stated earlier this might be due to hydrogen bonding or ion-dipole interaction of the chloride ion with the coordinated ligands which causes a decrease in the dissociation of the complexes<sup>19</sup>.

One of the obtained rhodium complexes,  $[(CO)_2Rh(CH_2)_5C(S)NPh]$ , was prepared by mixing of the rhodium dicarbonyldichloro anion with N-pentamethylene-N'-phenylthiourea in presence of triethylamine. The added base abstracts a proton making the ligand negatively charged and bonds to the metal as bidentate through N and S atoms. Infrared spectrum of the compound shows the characteristic bands of terminal carbonyl groups at 2050 and 1975  $cm^{-1}$  and bands due to (Rh—S) and (Rh—N) bonds at 355 and 530  $cm^{-1}$ , respectively. Complexes of this formula  $[Rh(CO)_2L]$  where L is a thiourea derivative have been reported previously which were formed by reaction of the dimer  $[Rh(CO)_2Cl_2]_2$  and some thiourea derivatives in presence of triethylamine<sup>22</sup>.

## EXPERIMENTAL

Infrared spectra were recorded on a Pye-Unicam SP3-300 spectrophotometer in the 4000–200  $cm^{-1}$  range using CsI discs. Elemental analyses were carried out by M.H.W. laboratories, Phoenix, Arizona, USA. Conductivity measurements were made on  $10^{-3}$  M solutions of the complexes at ambient temperature using a Cole-Parmer 01481-61 conductivity meter in  $10^{-3}$  M dimethylformamide solutions.

Electronic absorption spectra were recorded on a DMS spectrophotometer in

dimethylformamide. Melting points were taken on an electrothermal melting point apparatus.

Sulfuric acid, formic acid, Rh(III) chloride trihydrate, dimethylformamide, methylamine, dimethylamine, *n*-butylamine, cyclohexylamine, piperidine, triethylamine and phenylisothiocyanate were purchased from BDH, England. Iridium(III) chloride trihydrate and iridium(IV) chloride trihydrate were purchased from Koch-Light Limited.  $K_2PtCl_4$  was from Aldrich Chemical Company.  $K_2PdCl_4$ , *N,N'*-diphenylthiourea and phenylthiourea were from Fluka.

The *N,N'*-disubstituted thioureas,  $RNC(S)NHC_6H_5$ , where R = methyl, benzyl, *n*-butyl, cyclohexyl, 1-naphthyl and of the formula  $R_2NC(S)NHC_6H_5$  where  $R_2 = (CH_3)_2$  and  $(CH_2)_5$  were prepared by using the following standard method<sup>2</sup>.

Equimolar quantities of the amino compound ( $RNH_2$ ) and the corresponding isothiocyanate (RNC(S)) were dissolved in EtOH. The mixture was heated under reflux for 10 to 90 min. The solution thus formed was kept in ice-cold water for ~ 30 min, giving a white precipitate. This was recrystallized from EtOH and dried *in vacuo* for several hours. The prepared thiourea derivatives were phenylthiourea (PTU), *N,N'*-diphenylthiourea (PPTU), *N*-methyl-*N'*-phenylthiourea (MPTU), *N,N*-pentamethylene-*N'*-phenylthiourea (PMPTU), *N*-benzyl-*N'*-phenylthiourea (BPTU), *N*-(1-naphthyl)-*N'*-phenylthiourea (1-NPTU), *N*-(*n*-butyl)-*N'*-phenylthiourea (*n*-BPTU), *N*-cyclohexyl-*N'*-phenylthiourea (CPTU) and *N,N*-dimethyl-*N'*-phenylthiourea (DMPTU).

### Preparation of the complexes

$[ML_2Cl_2]_2$  ( $M = Pd, L = BPTU, DMPTU$ ;  $M = Pt, L = PTU, MPTU$ ),  $[ML_2Cl_2]$  ( $M = Pd, L = PMPTU$ ;  $M = Pt, L = BPTU$ ),  $[PdL_3Cl]Cl$  ( $L = MPTU, n-BPTU, BPTU$ ) and  $[PdL_4]Cl_2$  ( $L = MPTU, n-BPTU, PPTU, 1-NPTU$ ).

The complexes  $[Pd(BPTU)Cl_2]_2$ ,  $[Pd(MPTU)_3Cl]Cl \cdot H_2O$  and  $[Pd(n-MPTU)_3Cl]Cl$  were prepared by adding an aqueous solution (3 mL) containing (0.31 mmol) of  $K_2PdCl_4$  to an ethanolic solution (5 mL) containing an equimolar quantity of thiourea derivative. The mixture was stirred for about 3 h at room temperature where a precipitate was formed. The precipitate was filtered, washed with water, ethanol then ether and finally was dried overnight at room temperature *in vacuo*.

The complexes  $[Pd(DMPTU)Cl_2]_2 \cdot C_2H_5OH$ ,  $[Pd(PMPTU)_2Cl_2]$ ,  $[Pd(BPTU)_3Cl]$  and  $[PdL_4]Cl_2$  were prepared by the same method described above except the molar ratio of metal to ligand was 1 : 2.

The complexes  $[Pt(PTU)Cl_2]_2$  and  $[Pt(MPTU)Cl_2]_2$  were prepared by the same method mentioned for the palladium complexes except that  $K_2PtCl_4$  was the metal salt used and metal to ligand molar ratio was 1 : 1.

### Rhodium complexes

$[RhCl_3(H_2O)_2L] \cdot H_2O$  where  $L = N$ -cyclohexyl, *N'*-phenylthiourea

This complex was prepared by mixing 0.10 g of  $RhCl_3 \cdot 3H_2O$  (0.38 mmol) and 0.2 g of *N*-cyclohexyl-*N'*-phenylthiourea (1.14 mmol) in 10 ml ethanol and the

suspension was refluxed for 1 h until a colour change from red to orange was observed. The resulted solution was cooled and *n*-pentane was slowly added until precipitation started. The precipitate was filtered, washed with *n*-pentane, ether and dried at room temperature *in vacuo*.

$[\text{Rh}(\text{CO})_2\text{L}_2]\text{Cl}$  where  $L = \text{DMPTU}$ ,  $\text{BPTU}$  and  $1\text{-NPTU}$  and  $[\text{Rh}(\text{CO})_2]$  ( $\text{PMPTUAT}$ )

Complexes of the general formula  $[\text{Rh}(\text{CO})_2\text{L}_2]\text{Cl}$  were prepared by mixing an equimolar quantity of the ligand dissolved in ethanol (5 mL) with an ethanolic solution containing the anion,  $[\text{Rh}(\text{CO})_2\text{Cl}_2]^-$  which was prepared according to the method reported by Chatt<sup>16</sup>. The solution was refluxed for 1 h until a color change was observed. The solution was cooled, then *n*-pentane was gradually added until precipitation started. The precipitate was collected by filtration, washed with *n*-pentane, ether and dried at room temperature *in vacuo*. The complex  $\text{Rh}(\text{CO})_2(\text{PMPTUAT})$  where  $\text{PMPTUAT}$  is *N,N*-pentamethylene-*N'*-phenylthioureate anion was prepared by the same method described above except that an excess amount of triethylamine was added to the mixture at the beginning of the reaction.

### Iridium complexes

$[\text{Ir}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2\text{Cl}_3\text{L}]$  where  $L = \text{PMPTU}$ ,  $\text{CPTU}$  and  $\text{PPTU}$

These complexes were prepared by mixing an ethanolic solution (10 mL) containing 0.10 g of  $\text{IrCl}_3 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$  with an excess amount of the ligand dissolved in ethanol in 1 : 3 molar ratio. The mixture was refluxed for 1 h until a color change was observed. Cooling the solution and addition of *n*-pentane caused precipitate formation. The precipitate was collected by filtration, washed with *n*-pentane, ether and dried at room temperature *in vacuo*.

$[\text{Ir}(\text{CO})\text{ClL}_2]$  where  $L = \text{MPTU}$ ,  $\text{CPTU}$ ,  $\text{BPTU}$ ,  $\text{DMPTU}$ ,  $\text{PMPTU}$ ,  $\text{PTU}$ ,  $\text{PPTU}$

These were prepared by refluxing for 1 h a solution containing the anion  $[\text{Ir}(\text{CO})_2\text{Cl}_2]^-$  and the ligand dissolved in ethanol in 1 : 3 molar ratio. The complex was isolated and dried by the same method described above for the iridium aquo complexes.

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