

Siamese-Twin Porphyrin Goes Platinum: Group 10 Monometallic, Homobimetallic, and Heterobimetallic Complexes

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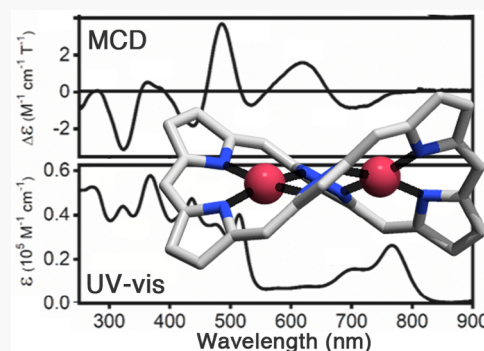


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ABSTRACT: A series of Pt^{II}-based monometallic (H_2PtL), homobimetallic (Pt_2L), and heterobimetallic ($NiPtL$ and $PdPtL$) group 10 complexes of the previously established expanded twin porphyrin (H_4L) were prepared. Structural characterization of the bimetallic Pt^{II} series (Pt_2L , $NiPtL$, and $PdPtL$) revealed their similar general structures, with slight differences correlated to the ion size. An improvement of the metal-ion insertion process also allowed efficient preparation of the known Pd_2L complex, and the novel heterobimetallic $NiPdL$ complex was also structurally characterized. UV–vis spectroscopy, NMR spectroscopy, magnetic circular dichroism (MCD), and (spectro)electrochemistry were used to characterize the complexes; the electronic properties followed largely established lines for metal complexes of the twin porphyrin, except that the Pt^{II}-based systems exhibited more complex UV–vis spectral signatures. MCD spectra accompanied by density functional theory (DFT)/time-dependent DFT computations rationalize the origins of the optical features of the twin porphyrin due to the presence of nonplanar, nonaromatic macrocyclic π systems that are more localized on half of the molecule and significant pyrazole(π) $\rightarrow$ pyrrole(π^*) intramolecular charge-transfer character. This study adds to our fundamental understanding of the formation, structure, and electronic structure of bimetallic complexes of this class of expanded metalloporphyrins containing nonpyrrolic moieties.



INTRODUCTION

Expanded porphyrins are porphyrin-inspired oligopyrrolic macrocycles of at least 17 internal ring atoms.^{1–6} Such an expansion may introduce, inter alia, conformational flexibility into the macrocycle, enlarge its metal binding cavity, or increase the number of donor atoms for the complexation of one or more metal ions. Most expanded porphyrins rely on increasing the number of pyrrolic building blocks linked either directly via α – α linkages or through one C atom, such as the classic sapphyrin,^{7,8} hexaphyrin H_2I ,^{9–13} octaphyrin H_4I ,^{14–16} or even larger architectures (Figure 1).^{5,6} Nonpyrrolic heterocycles (e.g., thiophene, furan, pyridine, or pyrazole)^{8,17–23} or conjugated spacers such as phenylene²⁴ or ferrocene²⁵ may be incorporated into the macrocycle, illustrating the broad diversity of molecules classified as expanded porphyrins.

An abundance of main-group, d-block, and f-block metal ions coordinate to expanded porphyrins,^{26,27} mirroring the versatility of porphyrinic ligands while providing further insight into aromaticity, morphology, and electronic communication.^{5,28–31} Changes in the macrocycle topology upon metal-ion complexation are reflected in the frequently much altered electronic properties of the macrocycle, as measured by UV–vis and NMR spectroscopy or electrochemistry.^{5,28–31}

We previously introduced Siamese-twin porphyrin H_4L as a nonaromatic, nonplanar expanded porphyrin incorporating two pyrazole moieties that bridge two porphyrin-like N_4 binding pockets^{19,32} that are suitable for the coordination of one or two metal ions.^{19,32–34} The periphery of H_4L is decorated with phenyl and ethyl groups, enforcing a helimeric twist that is rigidified and modulated upon metal-ion complexation. The structure of H_4L is reminiscent of hexaphyrin H_2I due to the arrangement of six heterocycles with aryl groups at each meso position^{12,35,36} but more closely resembles octaphyrin H_4I in its mode of all-nitrogen coordination to metal ions (M_2I and M_2L).^{37–39} Metalation of both octaphyrin 2 and twin porphyrin H_4L is facilitated by the steric constraints imposed by the peripheral substituents that force all coordinating N atoms toward the center of the cavity.^{19,32}

Variation of the *meso*-aryl groups in twin porphyrin H_4L only negligibly altered the optical absorbance and redox

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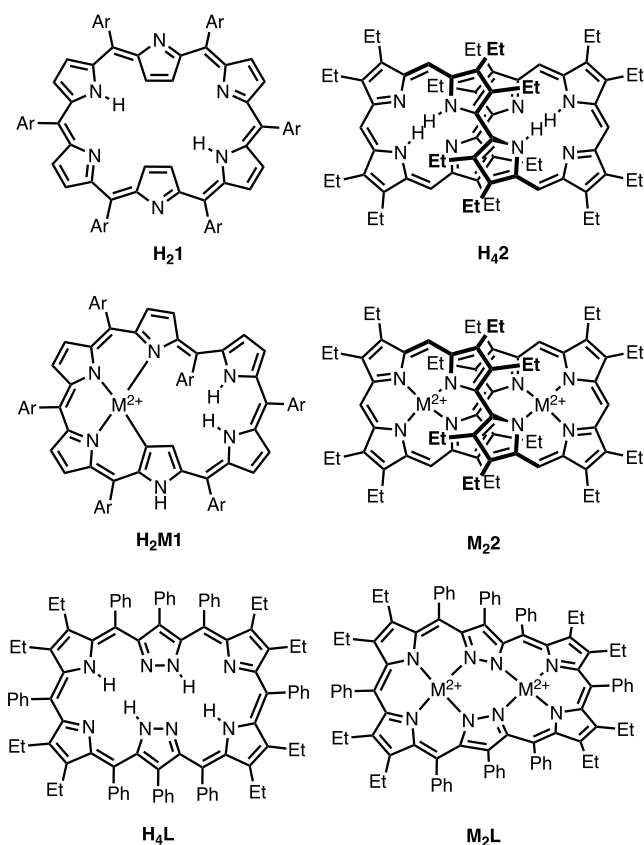


Figure 1. Representative expanded porphyrins and their metal complexes: a hexaphyrin **H₂1** and its metal complexes **H₂M1**, an octaphyrin **H₄2** and its metal complexes **M₂2**, and the Siamese-twin porphyrin **H₄L** and its metal complexes **M₂L**.

properties, reflecting the orthogonality of the aryl π system and the macrocycle mean plane.³³ Efforts to oxidize the macrocycle to achieve a fully aromatic system resulted instead in fused and folded “origami” structures.⁴⁰ The use of different metal ions produced more spectral and electrochemical changes than aryl substitution,^{33,41,42} leading to studies of monometallic and bimetallic complexes of twin porphyrin **H₄L** (i.e., **H₂NiL**, **H₂PdL**, **Ni₂L**, **Cu₂L**, and **NiCuL** complexes),^{19,32–34,41,42} establishing the twin porphyrin macrocycle as a noninnocent ligand capable of undergoing ligand-centered oxidations.^{41,42} The remarkable stability of monometallic **H₂PdL** toward oxidation and reduction allowed for electrochemical, spectroelectrochemical, and electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR) studies of the oxidized/reduced species as well as investigations into its acid–base properties, providing further insight into the conjugated, yet electronically distinct, halves of the macrocycle.³⁴

Platinum(II) and palladium(II) porphyrinoids have found utility as optical oxygen sensors related to technical and biological applications,^{43–48} as photosensitizers for isomerization processes⁴⁹ and photodynamic therapy,^{50,51} as photocatalysts for CH activation,⁵² and as luminophores with high quantum yield [sometimes also emitting in the near-IR (NIR)].^{53–55} In this contribution, we expand the investigation of the twin porphyrin metal complexes to Pt^{II}-based monometallic and bimetallic complexes of the group 10 metals (**H₂PtL**, **Pt₂L**, **NiPtL**, and **PdPtL**), as well as the new heterobimetallic complex **NiPdL**. Thus, in combination with the **H₂NiL**,⁴² **H₂PdL**,³⁴ **Ni₂L**,⁴² and **Pd₂L**³⁴ complexes

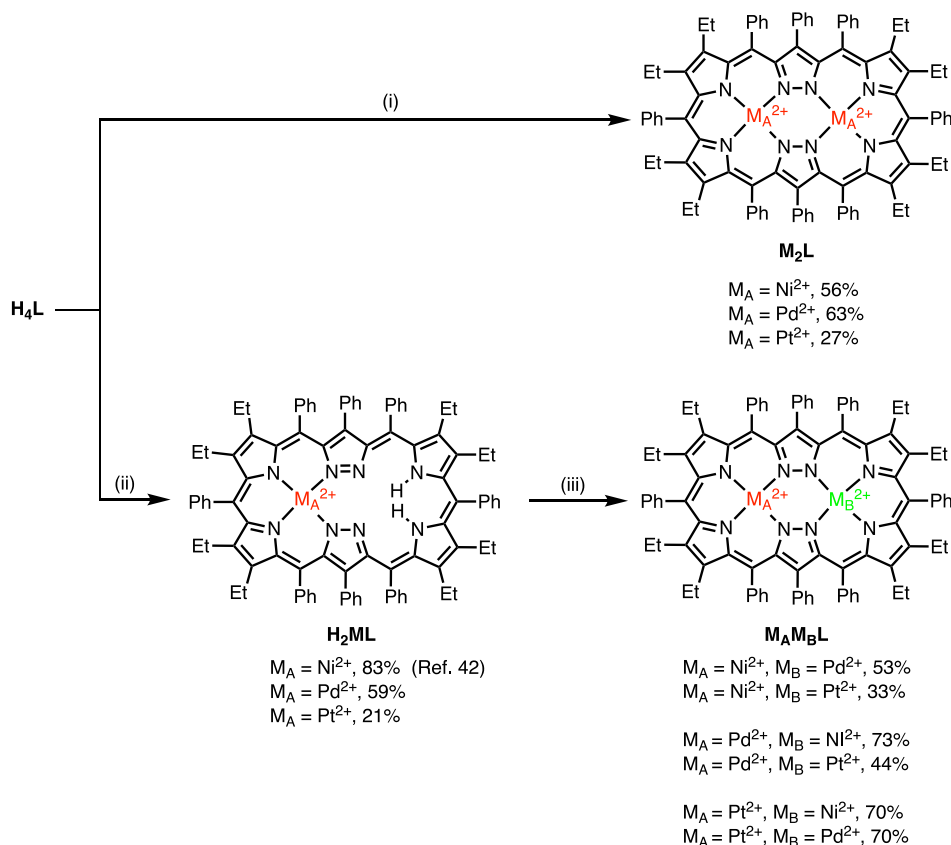
prepared previously, the entire series of monometallic and bimetallic complexes of the group 10 metals with all possible combinations of Ni^{II}, Pd^{II}, and Pt^{II} are now available to further probe structure–function relationships of the twin porphyrins, particularly their optical and redox properties as a function of the chelated metal ions. The diamagnetic nature of the square-planar geometry of these low-spin d⁸ metal ions allows their solution-state structures to be probed using NMR spectroscopy. The series of complexes prepared also proved suitable for magnetic circular dichroism (MCD) spectral analysis combined with time-dependent density functional theory (TDDFT) computations to illuminate in greater detail the origins of their optical spectra.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Synthesis of the Complexes. The twin porphyrin ligand **H₄L**, synthesized according to established routes,^{19,32,40} was mono- and bis-metalated with M = Ni^{II}/Pd^{II} using their acetate salts (Scheme 1). Use of the higher-boiling solvent 1,2-dichloroethane (C₂H₄Cl₂-1,2) proved advantageous and allowed us to readily prepare the known complexes **Ni₂L**⁴² and **Pd₂L**³⁴ more rapidly or in better yields (for experimental details, see the Experimental Section and Supporting Information). This solvent also allowed us to introduce Pt^{II} into the macrocycle to prepare the novel monometallic species **H₂PtL** and its corresponding homobimetallic analogue **Pt₂L** using PtI₂/NaOAc. Complexation of Pt^{II} was noticeably slower (8 h) than that of Ni^{II} (2 h)⁴² and Pd^{II} (1 h).³⁴ A combination of metal salt solubility and intrinsic kinetic factors of the metal ions rationalize these differences.

The progress of metal ion insertion was monitored with thin-layer chromatography (TLC), which indicated that the monometallic species formed before the bimetallic species, as expected. To promote monometallation, the known complexes **H₂NiL** and **H₂PdL** were prepared at ambient temperature, while the preparation of **H₂PtL** required reflux conditions. The latter reaction was carefully monitored with TLC to minimize the formation of **Pt₂L**. After isolation of the platinum complexes **H₂PtL** and **Pt₂L** in good yields using silica gel chromatography, analytical and spectroscopic data confirmed their expected compositions and connectivities (for details, see the Experimental Section and Supporting Information).

The novel heterobimetallic species **NiPtL**, **NiPdL**, and **PdPtL** were prepared from the isolated monometallic species (Scheme 1), whereby two alternative routes are available: insertion of the heavier metal preceding that of the lighter metal, or vice versa. In general, we find that insertion of the heavier, kinetically more inert metal species, followed by the lighter metal species, is more advantageous in terms of yields and reaction times than the alternate route. This likely reflects that insertion of the first metal rigidifies the macrocycle, thereby restricting insertion of a second metal ion, which is less deleterious when the second metal ion for insertion is more labile. Use of C₂H₄Cl₂-1,2 alone or C₂H₄Cl₂-1,2 with either ethanol (EtOH) or acetonitrile (MeCN) further facilitated insertion by providing good solubility of the twin porphyrin and metal salts while also allowing reflux at higher temperature than either dichloromethane (CH₂Cl₂) or chloroform (CHCl₃) with methanol (MeOH). The heterobimetallic complexes formed could be isolated with silica gel chromatography in good yields and showed all of the expected analytical and spectroscopic properties (for details, see the Experimental Section and Supporting Information).

Scheme 1. Synthetic Routes to the Group 10 Twin Porphyrin Complexes^a

^a(i) **Ni₂L**: Ni(OAc)₂, C₂H₄Cl₂-1,2/EtOH, Δ, 2 h. **Pd₂L**: Pd(OAc)₂, C₂H₄Cl₂-1,2, Δ, 1 h. **Pt₂L**: PtI₂/NaOAc, C₂H₄Cl₂-1,2/MeCN, Δ, 8 h. (ii) **H₂NiL**: Ni(OAc)₂, CH₂Cl₂/MeOH, rt, 15 min; **H₂PdL**: Pd(OAc)₂, CH₂Cl₂, rt, 5 h; **H₂PtL**: PtI₂/NaOAc, C₂H₄Cl₂-1,2/MeCN, Δ, 4 h. (iii) **NiPdL**: H₂NiL, Pd(OAc)₂, C₂H₄Cl₂-1,2, Δ, 1 h or H₂PdL, Ni(OAc)₂, C₂H₄Cl₂-1,2/EtOH, Δ, 10 min; **NiPtL**: H₂NiL, PtI₂/NaOAc, C₂H₄Cl₂-1,2/MeCN, Δ, 21 h or H₂PtL, Ni(OAc)₂, C₂H₄Cl₂-1,2/EtOH, Δ, 10 min. **PdPtL**: H₂PdL, PtI₂/NaOAc, C₂H₄Cl₂-1,2/MeCN, Δ, 6 h or H₂PtL, Pd(OAc)₂, C₂H₄Cl₂-1,2, Δ, 10 min.

Solid-State Conformations. All compounds for which solid-state structures could be determined (**NiPdL**, **NiPtL**, **PdPtL**, and **Pt₂L**) show the characteristic twisted conformation intrinsic to the free base **H₄L** (in its diprotonated form),⁴⁰ as well as all other protonated or metalated twin porphyrin species structurally characterized to date (Figure 2A).^{19,32,34,41} All compounds are essentially isostructural (Figure 2B). The small differences in their conformations largely reflect the size of the square-planar-coordinated d⁸ ions [Ni^{II} (0.63 Å) < Pt^{II} (0.74 Å) < Pd^{II} (0.78 Å)].⁵⁶ Thus, the average M–N bond lengths for the homobimetallic complexes are shortest for Ni^{II} (Ni–N_{avg} 1.91 Å), longer for Pt^{II} (Pt–N_{avg} 2.01 Å), and longest for Pd^{II} (Pd–N_{avg} 2.03 Å) (Table 1). The nearly ideal square-planar geometry can be quantified using the structural index parameter τ_4 (where a value of 0 represents perfect square plane and a value of 1 a tetrahedral coordination sphere);⁵⁷ τ_4 values for the homobimetallic complexes **Ni₂L**,⁴² **Pt₂L**, and **Pd₂L** are 0.19 for Ni^{II}, 0.17 for Pt^{II}, and 0.13 for Pd^{II}, respectively, with Pd^{II} possessing a coordination sphere that is least distorted from square planar. In regular porphyrins, Ni^{II} often leads to ruffled macrocycle conformations that reduce the Ni–N bond lengths to better accommodate the small metal ion (with Ni–N distances typically ~1.93 Å),^{58–60} while not substantially distorting the {N₄} coordination sphere. Adjustment of the degree of the twist modality inherent to the twin porphyrin framework allows for a slight shortening of the

Ni–N bond lengths (or, more generally, a narrowing of the N–N distance between opposite N-donor pairs) but at the expense of the degree of deviation from a perfectly square-planar coordination sphere. The slightly more twisted conformation of the nickel complex **Ni₂L** compared to that of the two heavier homobimetallic congeners **Pd₂L** and **Pt₂L** (as well as quite similar heterobimetallic **PdPtL**) is also expressed in the metric parameters that define the macrocycle helimeric twist,³² i.e., the torsion angles along the long axis (τ_{long} between 93 and 106°) and along the short pyrazole axis (τ_{short} between 70 and 76°).

An exact metric analysis of the heterobimetallic complexes is hampered by disorder of both metals over both positions, resulting in only average bond lengths for the crystallographically determined structures in the solid state. Furthermore, depending on the mode of preparation, we also observed noninteger occupancy of the metal ion positions that deviated from the expected 1:1 metal ion distribution, based on mass spectrometry analyses (estimated **Ni_{1.22}Pd_{0.78}L**, **Ni_{1.15}Pt_{0.85}L**, and **Pd_{1.17}Pt_{0.83}L**). Nonetheless, the alternating C–C bond lengths indicative of the nonaromatic π -system inherent to the twin porphyrin macrocycle can be distinguished (Figure 2C).

NMR Spectroscopic Characterization. The low-spin, square-planar d⁸ metal ions Ni^{II}, Pd^{II}, and Pt^{II} are all diamagnetic, making the series of complexes prepared ideal for study by ¹H, ¹³C, and ¹⁹⁵Pt NMR spectroscopy. Unlike the

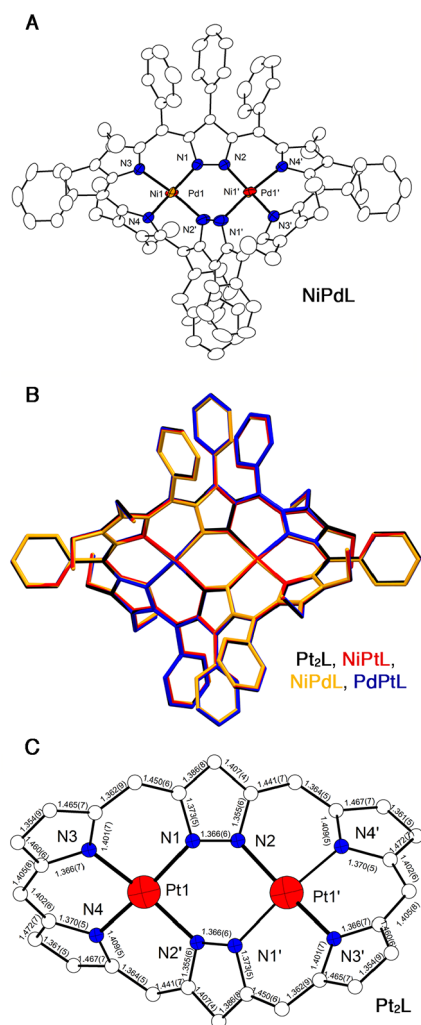


Figure 2. (A) Plot of the molecular structure of NiPdL. (B) Overlay of the molecular structures of Pt₂L (black), NiPtL (red), NiPdL (orange), and PdPtL (blue). H atoms are omitted. (C) Macrocycle framework bond lengths (Å) observed for Pt₂L. For details on the X-ray diffraction studies and bond-length analyses of NiPtL, NiPdL, and PdPtL, see the Supporting Information.

solubility of Pt₂L complicated the collection of ¹³C NMR spectra for this species (for details, see the Supporting Information).

The helimerically twisted homobimetallic species (Ni₂L, Pd₂L, and Pt₂L) are D₂-symmetric, with C₂-symmetric rotation through both the long axis (i.e., viewed down the mes positions of the dipyrromethene locations of the molecule) as well as a second C₂-symmetric rotation through the shorter pyrazole axis (noncrystallographic symmetries). Interpretation of the NMR data of the metal complexes indicates that the helimeric twist observed in the solid state is also preserved in solution; this results in the manifestation of NMR signals from only one-quarter of the molecule with clearly distinct nonequivalent phenyl and ethyl groups. The monometallic species H₂PtL and the heterobimetallic species NiPtL and PdPtL (and NiPdL; see the Supporting Information) lost their symmetry along the short axis, with a corresponding doubling of the NMR signals. Protonation of H₂PtL with trifluoroacetic acid (TFA; at 268 K) resolves the very broad NH signal of the neutral species, but its ¹³C, 2D, and ¹⁹⁵Pt NMR spectra suggest the presence of protonated species, likely a mixture of the mono- and diprotonated species (H₃PtL⁺ and H₄PtL²⁺), as was also observed for H₂NiL.^{34,42}

The Pt^{II}-containing complexes do not exhibit any hyperfine ¹⁹⁵Pt–¹H or ¹⁹⁵Pt–¹³C couplings, likely due to the Pt^{II} coordination sphere comprised solely of four quadrupolar (¹⁴N) N atoms that contribute to the expression of relatively broad signals (see the Supporting Information) because the ¹⁹⁵Pt nucleus is very sensitive to changes in its coordination environment. The typical range of chemical shifts for Pt^{II} coordinated to four N-donor ligands is between –2795 and –2145 ppm,⁶¹ whereas the range of some aromatic Pt^{II} metalloporphyrins was shown to lie between +1235 and +1315 ppm;⁶² the large diatropic ring current induced by the aromatic π system of porphyrins causes this large shift of the signal. Chemical shifts of the bimetallic Pt^{II}-containing twin porphyrin complexes NiPtL, PdPtL, and Pt₂L fall within the range of typical N₄ donors (–2519 to –2372 ppm), highlighting the lack of a macrocyclic ring current. Variation of the observed ¹⁹⁵Pt NMR signals is a result of nuanced distortions of the Pt^{II} coordination sphere and the non-equivalent electronic environments (varying distances of M–Pt separation and different M atoms in the NiPtL, PdPtL, and Pt₂L complexes; cf. Table 1).

UV–Vis Spectra. As is characteristic for the nonaromatic macrocyclic twin porphyrins and their metal complexes,^{19,32–34,40–42} the UV–vis spectra of the group 10 twin porphyrin complexes more closely resemble those of linear

conformationally flexible and dynamic (on the NMR time scale at ambient temperature) free-base ligand H₄L,³² well-resolved NMR spectra of the bimetallic complexes Pd₂L, Pt₂L, NiPtL, PdPtL, and NiPdL (and diprotonated H₄PtL²⁺) could be obtained at 298 K, indicative of significant rigidification upon metal complexation (and protonation; Figure 3). The limited

Table 1. Selected Bond Lengths and Angles of Bimetallic Group 10 Complexes and Structural Index Parameters for the Metal Ions

	M–N _{avg} (Å)	τ ₄ ^a	d _{long} (Å)	τ _{tong} ^b (deg)	d _{short} (Å)	τ _{short} ^c (deg)	M–M (Å)	ref
Ni ₂ L	1.91	0.19	10.48	106	6.92	76	3.81	42
Pd ₂ L	2.03	0.13	10.68	93	7.09	71	3.93	34
Pt ₂ L	2.01	0.17	10.67	95	7.09	70	3.92	this work
NiPdL	1.95	0.16	10.64	99	6.94	74	3.85	this work
NiPtL	1.95	0.17	10.57	99	6.97	73	3.88	this work
PdPtL	2.01	0.15	10.68	94	7.09	70	3.92	this work

^aThe heterobimetallic τ₄ values are an average for both metal ions. ^bTorsion angle measured from the dipyrromethene α-pyrrole/α-pyrrole to opposite the dipyrromethene α-pyrrole/α-pyrrole. ^cTorsion angle measured from the pyrazole 3 and 5 positions to the opposite pyrazole 3 and 5 positions.

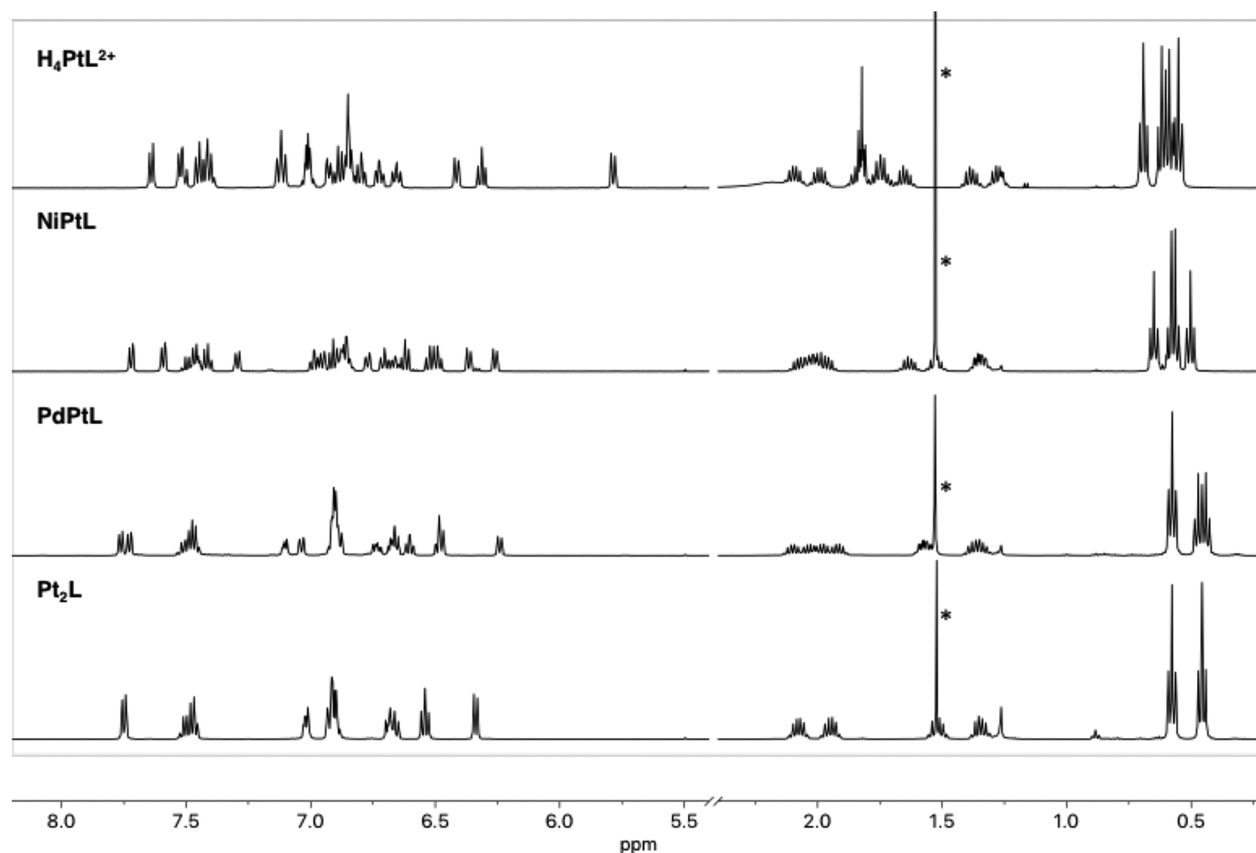


Figure 3. (A) Stacked ^1H NMR spectra (500 MHz, CD_2Cl_2 , 298 K): $\text{H}_2\text{PtL} + 2$ equiv of TFA (H_3PtL^+ and $\text{H}_4\text{PtL}^{2+}$), NiPtL , PdPtL , and Pt_2L . The downfield NH signals for $\text{H}_2\text{PtL} + 2$ equiv of TFA are not shown (see the Supporting Information). Asterisks indicate H_2O .

tetrapyrroles, with molar extinction coefficients (ϵ) between 6×10^4 and $8 \times 10^4 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$. The absence of any significant extension of the UV–vis absorbance into the NIR, as is frequently observed in aromatic expanded porphyrins,⁶³ also reflects the lack of continuous macrocycle π conjugation of the group 10 metal complexes of the twin porphyrin (Figure 4). The UV–vis spectrum of the free base ligand H_4L exhibits two intense bands at 390 and 638 nm with a shoulder on the longest-wavelength band (λ_{max}). Upon complexation with one metal ion, three primary bands arise with some additional minor features present. The monometallic species H_2PtL absorbs well into the NIR, with the λ_{max} band tailing past 1000 nm. The spectrum of the homobimetallic complex Pd_2L possesses three intense and sharpened bands, similar to those observed for the corresponding Ni_2L complex. The UV–vis spectrum of Pt_2L is much different and most striking in its complexity in the range between 250 and 550 nm. Furthermore, its Q-like band region with λ_{max} at 768 nm has the longest wavelength of all of the bimetallic twin porphyrin complexes thus prepared. The heterobimetallic complexes exhibit UV–vis absorbances that are intermediate between the parent homobimetallic species. The Pt-based complexes NiPtL and PdPtL , for example, reflect the complexities seen in the spectrum of Pt_2L , albeit much less pronounced. Monometallic H_2PtL can be reversibly protonated with TFA to obtain the monoprotonated H_3PtL^+ and diprotonated $\text{H}_4\text{PtL}^{2+}$ species. The three main absorbance bands ultimately become hypsochromically shifted, with each band blue-shifting 26–52 nm from the initial neutral to final diprotonated species

(see the Supporting Information), reminiscent of the H_2PdL titration series.³⁴

Electrochemistry. All bimetallic complexes were studied using cyclic voltammetry (CV), exhibiting one electrochemically quasi-reversible reduction ($E_{1/2}^{\text{red}} = -1.901$ to -1.79 V vs $\text{Fc}^{+/0}$) and two quasi-reversible oxidations ($E_{1/2}^{\text{ox}1} = -0.119$ to -0.032 V and $E_{1/2}^{\text{ox}2} = +0.374$ to $+0.447$ V vs $\text{Fc}^{+/0}$; Figure 5 and Table 2). Pt_2L is most easily oxidized to $[\text{Pt}_2\text{L}]^+$, followed by oxidation of Ni_2L to $[\text{Ni}_2\text{L}]^+$, and last of Pd_2L to $[\text{Pd}_2\text{L}]^+$ ($E_{1/2}^{\text{ox}1} = -0.104$, -0.05 , and -0.032 V vs $\text{Fc}^{+/0}$, respectively). Likewise, the first oxidation potential in the heterobimetallic series follows the sequence $[\text{NiPtL}]^+ < [\text{NiPdL}]^+ < [\text{PdPtL}]^+$ ($E_{1/2}^{\text{ox}1} = -0.119$, -0.073 , and -0.063 V vs $\text{Fc}^{+/0}$, respectively). Past studies of Ni_2L , NiCuL , Cu_2L , and H_2PdL indicated that the chemically reversible and electrochemically quasi-reversible oxidative processes were ligand-centered.^{34,41,42} Consistent with trends observed in the past, the redox potentials observed here change little with the type of group 10 d^8 metal ion, suggesting that ligand-centered redox events are also involved. The cyclic voltammogram of the monometallic H_2PtL complex shows only one quasi-reversible reduction ($E_{1/2}^{\text{red}} = -1.482$ V vs $\text{Fc}^{+/0}$) and one quasi-reversible oxidation ($E_{1/2}^{\text{ox}} = -0.231$ V vs $\text{Fc}^{+/0}$), as was also observed for its Pd^{II} analogue H_2PdL ($E_{1/2}^{\text{red}} = -1.59$ V and $E_{1/2}^{\text{ox}} = -0.32$ V vs $\text{Fc}^{+/0}$).³⁴ We infer from this that the single-electron-oxidized species of H_2PtL is also a ligand-centered π -cation radical confined to the metalated side of the macrocycle, while the π -anion radical is located on the nonmetalated side.³⁴ As reported previously, the H_2NiL complex did not display any reversible redox events.⁴²

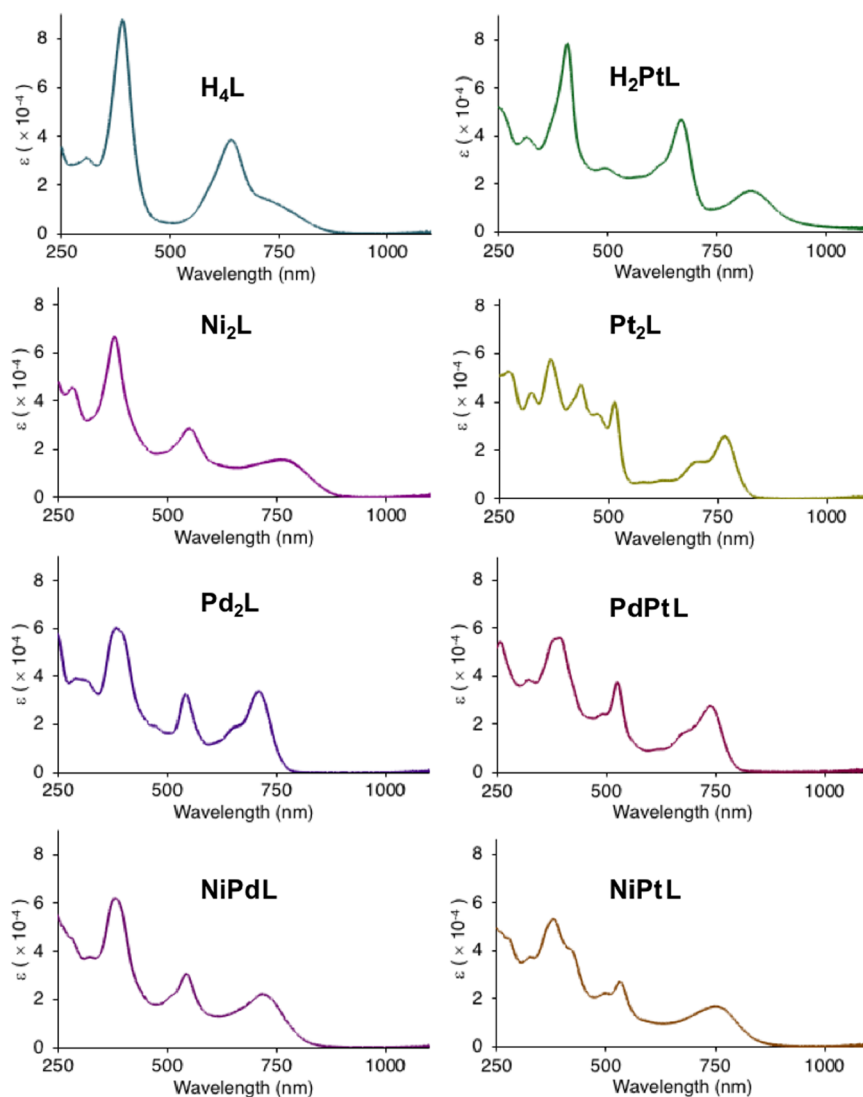


Figure 4. UV-vis spectra (CH_2Cl_2) of the compounds indicated.

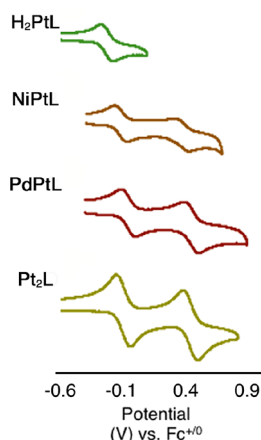


Figure 5. Cyclic voltammograms (CH_2Cl_2 , 0.1 M NBu_4PF_6 , at 100 mV s^{-1}) of the compounds indicated. See the Supporting Information for the scans toward negative potentials.

Table 2. Selected Redox Parameters (Potentials vs $\text{Fc}^{+/0}$)

	$E_{1/2}^{\text{red}}$ (V)	$E_{1/2}^{\text{ox1}}$ (V)	$E_{1/2}^{\text{ox2}}$ (V)	$\text{ox}_1\text{-red}$ (V)	$\text{ox}_2\text{-ox}_1$ (V)
Ni_2L^a	−1.79	−0.05	+0.41	1.74	0.46
Pd_2L	−1.825	−0.032	+0.439	1.793	0.471
Pt_2L	−1.898	−0.104	+0.438	1.794	0.542
NiPdL	−1.864	−0.073	+0.383	1.791	0.456
NiPtL	−1.901	−0.119	+0.374	1.782	0.493
PdPtL	−1.866	−0.063	+0.447	1.803	0.510
H_2PtL	−1.482	−0.231		1.251	
H_2PdL^b	−1.59	−0.32		1.27	

^aReference 42. ^bReference 34.

between their respective homobimetallic complexes and are 10^7 for NiPdL and 10^8 for NiPtL and PdPtL . These numbers provide some insight into the thermodynamic stability of the singly oxidized Pt^{II} -containing complexes relative to complexes of the lighter group 10 metal ions, which is likely correlated to charge delocalization effects.⁶⁴

Spectroelectrochemistry. Spectroelectrochemical studies confirm the chemical reversibility of the species upon oxidation and reduction by comparing the initial and final UV-vis-NIR spectra. In addition, the UV-vis-NIR absorbance spectra

The comproportionation constants (K_c) calculated based on $\Delta E_{1/2}^{\text{ox}}$ ($\Delta E_{1/2}^{\text{ox}} = E_{1/2}^{\text{ox2}} - E_{1/2}^{\text{ox1}}$) are 10^7 for Ni_2L and Pd_2L and higher, 10^9 , for Pt_2L . The heterobimetallic complexes fall

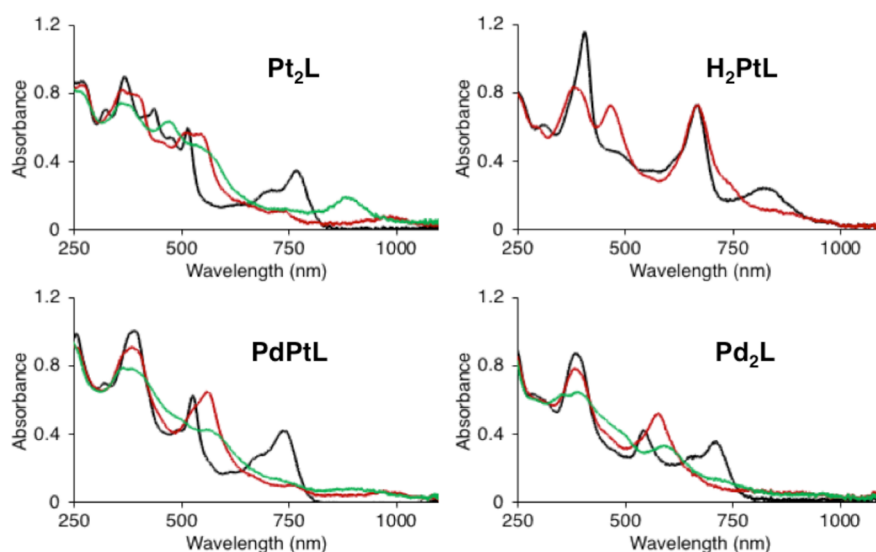


Figure 6. Spectroelectrochemical traces (CH_2Cl_2 , 0.1 M NBu_4PF_6) of the compounds indicated. Black traces correspond to the neutral species, red traces to the singly oxidized species, and green traces to the doubly oxidized species.

of once- and twice-oxidized species can also be determined. Features such as increased absorbance in the NIR region are indicative of the formation of ligand-centered cation radical species, as was also shown before for H_2NiL (Figure 6).⁴²

MCD. The MCD spectra and corresponding UV–vis spectra of the compounds investigated are shown in Figure 7 (cf. also to Figure 4). The MCD spectrum of the H_4L free-base ligand consists of rather weak Faraday *B* terms, with the most intense negative signal in the visible region centered at 686 nm, which does not correlate to any of the major absorption peaks in the UV–vis spectrum. In the higher energy region, the MCD spectrum revealed three negative signals at 533, 421, and 365 nm and two positive Faraday MCD *B* terms observed at 459 and 327 nm, which again do not correlate with the energy of the intense absorption band observed at 390 nm in the UV–vis spectrum of H_4L .

For monometallic H_2ML complexes, the relatively strong bands at 683 nm (H_2NiL), 662 nm (H_2PdL), and 664 nm (H_2PtL) in the visible region are complemented by a fingerprint NIR band between 797 and 829 nm unique to the monometallic twin porphyrin complexes. Unlike in the case of H_4L , no spectral absorption gap was observed between the UV and visible portions of their optical spectra. The MCD spectra of the monometallic derivatives are dominated by a negative signal centered between 481 and 566 nm for H_2NiL and a broad band around 550 nm observed for both H_2PdL and H_2PtL . The NIR fingerprint bands of the monometallic twin porphyrins are associated with weak and positive Faraday *B* terms: one for H_2NiL and two each for H_2PdL and H_2PtL . Similar to the metal-free twin porphyrin, the two most intense absorption bands in the UV–vis spectra of the monometallic derivatives do not show much MCD intensity. The NIR band observed in the absorption spectra for the monometallic derivatives disappears in the case of both homobimetallic and heterobimetallic complexes. Indeed, in the case of the bimetallic compounds, the low-energy spectral envelope is dominated by a prominent band observed between 709 and 767 nm; the bimetallic complexes possess a fingerprint band located between 514 and 548 nm. In all bimetallic complexes, the low-energy visible or NIR MCD signals have negative

intensities and do not correlate with the most intense bands observed in the UV–vis spectra of these compounds.

Thus, in all cases, the most intense absorption bands in the UV–vis spectra of the metal-free, monometallic, and bimetallic twin porphyrins do not possess much MCD intensity. This is in strong contrast to the intense MCD signals that are observed for the Q and Soret bands of metal-free and transition-metal metalloporphyrins and many of their analogues.^{65–69} As was pointed out earlier for the homobimetallic Cu^{II} twin porphyrin complex,⁴¹ the low intensity of the MCD signals is associated with pure macrocycle-centered π – π^* excitations and likely reflects their twisted, nonplanar geometries and poor overlap between atomic π orbitals, resulting in a lack of any strong and delocalized macrocyclic ring current. Thus, their low-intensity MCD transitions indicate that the twin porphyrin π system behaves more like an open-chain tetrapyrrole and not like an aromatic macrocyclic porphyrinic compound. Indeed, the highly nonplanar structure of the twin porphyrins incorporating two nearly independent π systems is one of their defining characteristics.^{32,34,42} Low-intensity MCD spectra were also observed for other macrocyclic porphyrinoids with compromised or localized π -aromatic systems.⁷⁰

DFT and TDDFT. To better correlate the spectroscopic properties observed for the metal-free, monometallic, and bimetallic twin porphyrin complexes, the electronic structures of selected compounds were evaluated using DFT and TDDFT calculations. The resulting molecular orbital (MO) energy diagram is shown in Figure 8.

For all compounds, the highest occupied molecular orbital (HOMO) and HOMO–1 orbitals as well as the lowest unoccupied molecular orbital (LUMO) and LUMO+1 orbitals are energetically well separated from the remaining filled or empty orbitals, respectively. The HOMO to HOMO–1 as well as LUMO to LUMO+1 energy gaps decrease in the order of $\text{H}_2\text{NiL} > \text{H}_2\text{PdL} > \text{H}_4\text{L}$, while similar gaps for the bimetallic Ni_2L , Pd_2L , and NiPdL complexes were predicted to be close to each other.

While the HOMO orbitals of the free base as well as the homobimetallic and heterobimetallic complexes are evenly

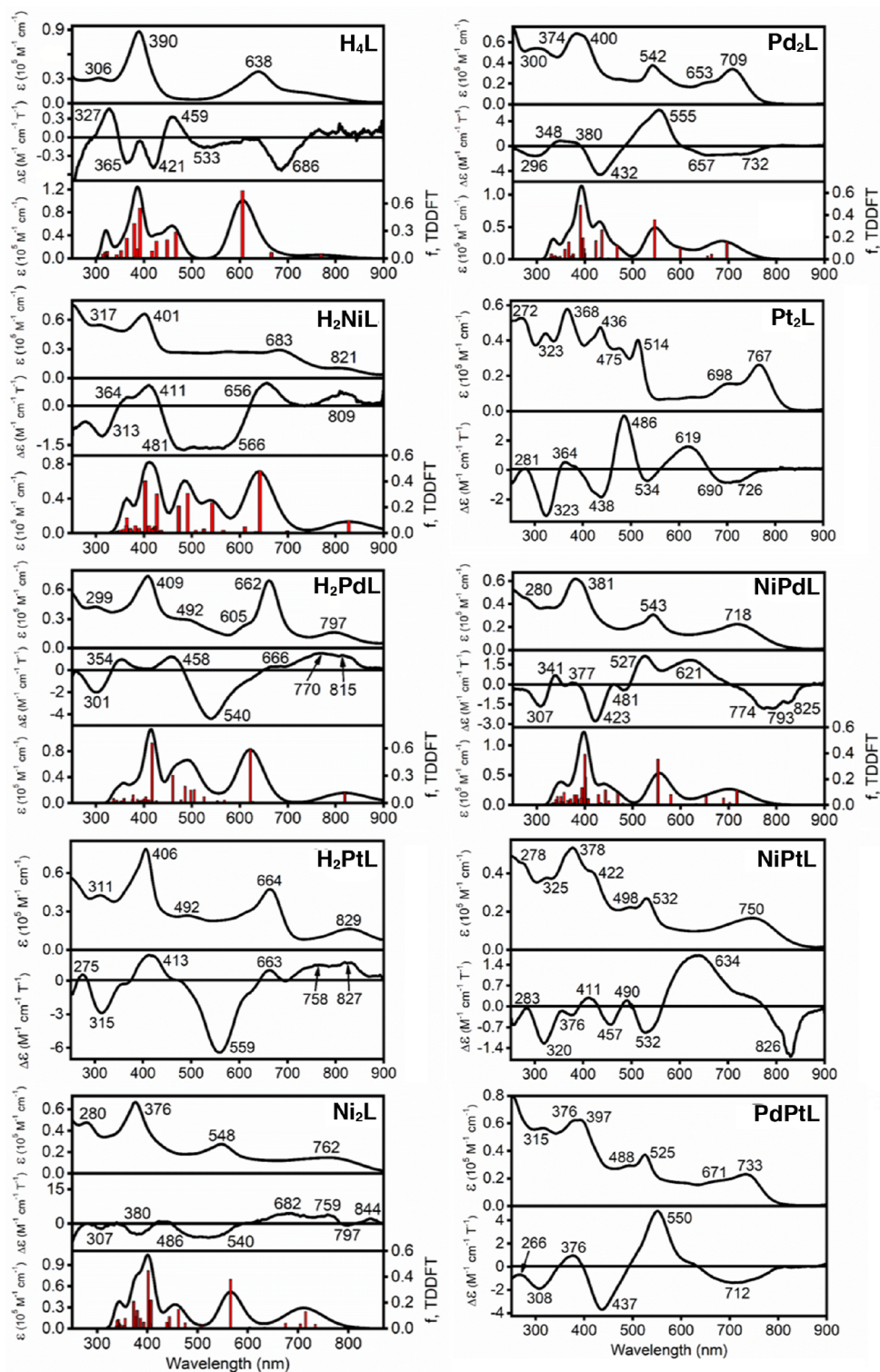


Figure 7. UV-vis (top), MCD (middle), and TDDFT-predicted (bottom) spectra of target compounds (all in CH_2Cl_2). Only the UV-vis (top) and MCD (bottom) spectra of the Pt^{II} complexes are shown.

distributed over the macrocycle, they are mostly centered on the metalated halves of the molecule in the monometallic species (Figure 9 and the Supporting Information). The LUMO orbitals in H_2NiL and H_2PdL are localized on the metal-free part of the macrocycle. The LUMO+1 and LUMO+2 orbitals of H_2NiL are close in energy, with the former localized over the metal-free part and the latter over the metal-

containing part of the macrocycle. In comparison, the LUMO+1 and LUMO+2 orbitals of H_2PdL are better separated and feature an inverse localization.

A MO composition analysis further refines this picture (Figure 10), revealing that the contribution of the pyrazole fragments to the frontier orbitals of all compounds does not exceed 25%, while the contributions from the pyrrolic

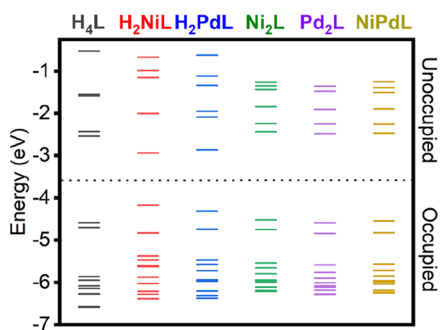


Figure 8. DFT-predicted frontier orbital energy diagram for the compounds indicated.

state predicted at 666 nm, which is dominated by the HOMO-1 $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1 single-electron excitation. TDDFT calculations also predict that the most intense transition, experimentally observed at 638 nm (predicted at 605 nm), is dominated by a nearly equal contribution from the HOMO-1 $\rightarrow$ LUMO and HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1 single-electron excitations (fourth excited state). The predicted higher energy of the 4th excited state compared to that of the 3rd excited state, is rationalized by the configuration interaction between the energetically similar HOMO/HOMO-1 and LUMO/LUMO+1 orbitals. The most intense transition in the higher-energy region observed at 390 nm is associated with nearly equal HOMO-3 $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1 and HOMO-6 $\rightarrow$ LUMO single-electron excitations (excited state 14). The latter single-electron excitation has a distinct pyrazole(π) $\rightarrow$ pyrrole(π^*) charge-transfer character.

In the case of the monometallic H_2NiL and H_2PdL complexes, TDDFT calculations correctly predicted a hypsochromic shift of the lowest energy NIR band when shifting from the lighter to the heavier metal ion, as well as a hypsochromic shift of the most prominent visible band (observed at 683 nm in H_2NiL and 662 nm in H_2PdL) and a bathochromic shift of the most prominent band observed at ~ 400 nm. The first NIR band, observed at ~ 800 nm, is predominantly associated with the HOMO-1 $\rightarrow$ LUMO single-electron excitation, while the intense band in the visible region observed between 660 and 680 nm for these compounds is predicted to be dominated by the HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+2 (H_2NiL) or HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1 (H_2PdL) single-electron excitations. Similar to the metal-free twin porphyrin

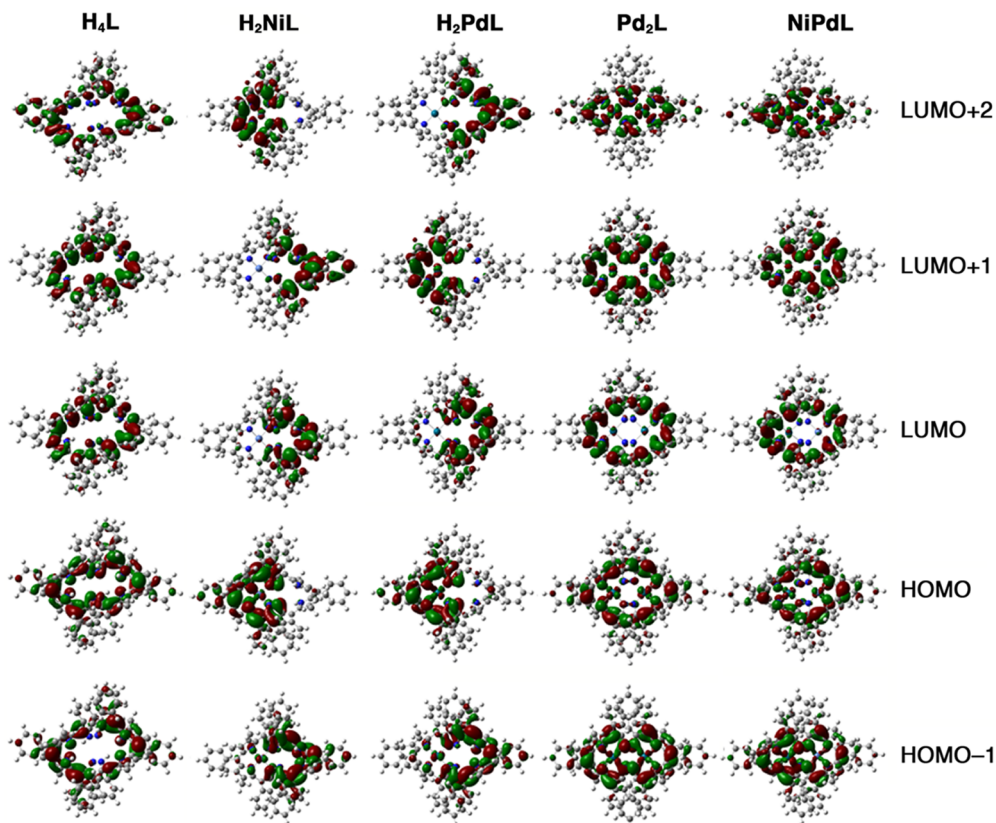


Figure 9. DFT-predicted frontier orbitals for the compounds indicated. See the Supporting Information for the frontier orbitals of the full set of compounds investigated.

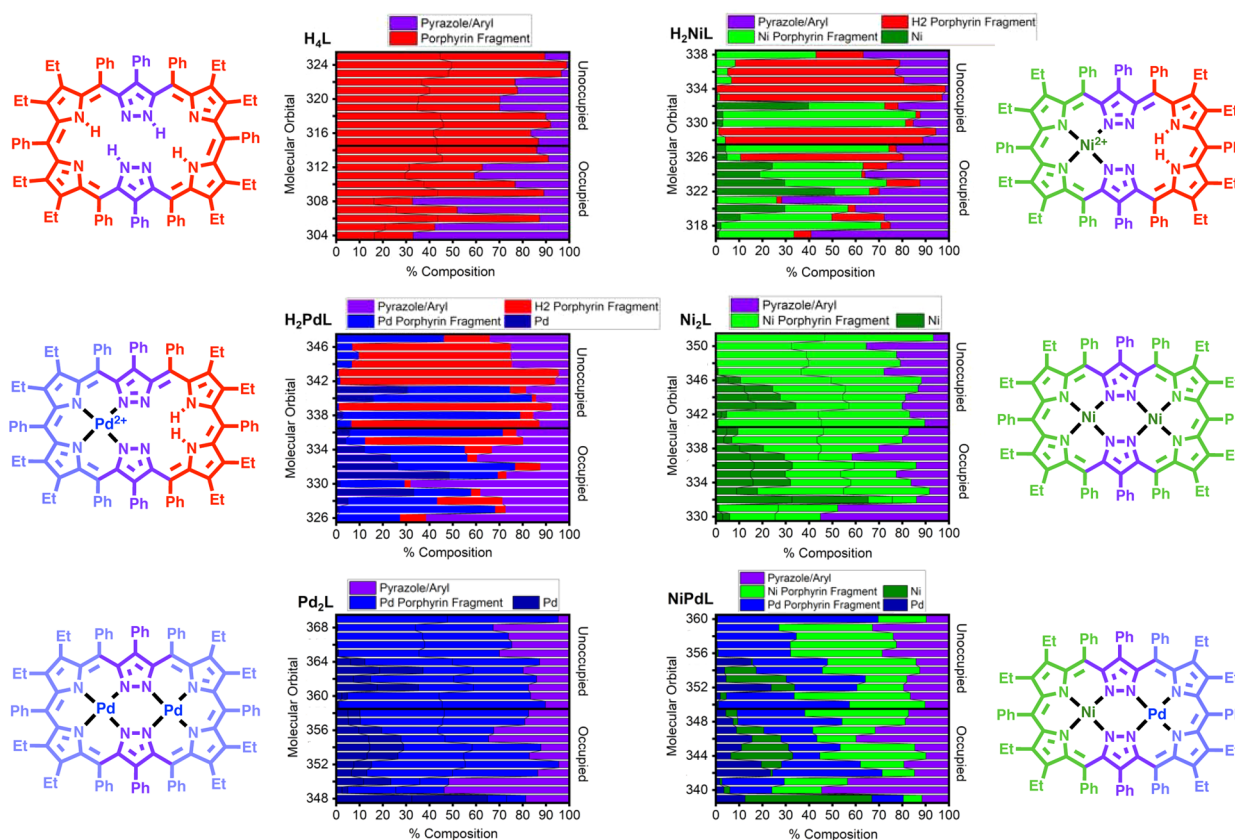


Figure 10. DFT-predicted frontier orbital compositions for the compounds indicated.

H₄L, the intense transition observed at ~400 nm was predicted to have a substantial pyrazole(π) $\rightarrow$ pyrrole(π^*) intramolecular charge-transfer character. Importantly, the TDDFT calculations correctly predicted an energy gap at ~480 nm, which was experimentally observed in the UV-vis spectrum of **H₄L** but is filled with numerous excited states in the **H₂NiL** and **H₂PdL** complexes.

Three distinct absorption envelopes were predicted for the bimetallic **Ni₂L**, **Pd₂L**, and **NiPdL** twin porphyrin complexes without any spectral gap between the UV and visible parts in the spectra of these compounds, in full agreement with experimental observations. In all cases, the intense NIR absorption is dominated by the HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO single-electron excitation centered at the pyrrolic π and π^* orbitals. The most intense absorption band in the visible region of the absorption spectrum for these compounds observed around 545 nm correlates well with the TDDFT-predicted excited state at 550 nm, which is dominated by the HOMO-1 $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1 single-electron excitations centered at the pyrrolic π and π^* orbitals. Parallel to the free-base and monometallic cases, the most intense absorption band in the higher-energy region (~400 nm) correlates well with an excited state dominated by a single-electron transition with significant pyrazole(π) $\rightarrow$ pyrrole(π^*) intramolecular charge-transfer character.

Overall, it appears that the TDDFT calculations correctly predict the broad spectral nature of the monometallic and bimetallic twin porphyrin complexes and accurately predict general trends observed in the UV-vis spectra of these compounds to within ~0.1 eV error, which is typical for modern TDDFT methods.^{71–73} A large number of TDDFT transitions in all target compounds correlate well with the

complex MCD spectra of these systems, indicative of a large number of excited states observed in the UV-vis-to-NIR spectral envelope.

CONCLUSIONS

A comprehensive series of group 10 complexes of the twin porphyrin **H₄L**, including the first Pt^{II}-containing complexes **H₂PtL** and **Pt₂L** as well as the novel heterobimetallic complexes **NiPdL**, **NiPtL**, and **PdPtL**, were prepared and analyzed. Structurally, the bimetallic complexes do not differ considerably from each other or from related twin porphyrin complexes reported previously.^{19,32–34} The diamagnetic nature of the complexes hosting low-spin d⁸ group 10 metal ions allowed a comparison of their well-resolved NMR spectra. The quasi-reversible oxidative and reductive processes observed for the bimetallic species show only subtle variations for the different metal ions, supporting the mostly ligand-centered nature of these redox events. In contrast, their optical spectra are distinctly different from each other, indicative of a mixing of the d orbitals of the metal ions with the π system of the ligand. The low MCD intensity of the group 10 metal complexes of twin porphyrin **H₄L** stands in contrast to the generally intense MCD signals for the Q and Soret bands of transition-metal metalloporphyrins, but the finding is in line with the absence of a strong macrocyclic ring current. This confirms previous notions that the highly twisted twin porphyrin does not possess macrocyclic aromatic character but features two nearly independent conjugated π systems that are separated by the central pyrazolate units.^{19,32–34}

(TD)DFT calculations allowed further analysis of the rich UV-vis to NIR spectral features of the monometallic and

bimetallic twin porphyrin complexes. The frontier MOs involved in the lowest energy transitions are predominantly located at the pyrrolic fragments of the twin porphyrin core, with only minor contributions of the pyrazole units (<25%) and group 10 metal ions (<10%). While frontier orbitals extend over the entire macrocycle for the homobimetallic and heterobimetallic complexes, monometalation results in the HOMO being confined to the metalated half and the LUMO being confined to the free-base half. The panchromatic absorbance of the twin porphyrin complexes, in conjunction with their electrochemical and spectroelectrochemical signatures, suggests that these systems may find utility in optoelectronic or electrochromic applications.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

Materials. Solvents were of reagent-grade or better and were used as received, except CH_2Cl_2 for electrochemistry and spectroelectrochemistry, which was passed over activated silica gel and degassed under Ar. Chromatography: silica gel for column chromatography (technical grade, 60 Å, 70–230 mesh, 63–200 μm , Aldrich); aluminum-backed silica gel TLC plates (60 F₂₅₄, Merck Millipore), neutral and basic alumina 90 for column chromatography (Machery-Nagel), and neutral aluminum oxide TLC plates (0.2 mm, thickness, 556 with 254 nm indicator, Fluka) were used.

H_4L ,^{19,32,40} H_2NiL ,⁴² H_2PdL ,³⁴ and Ni_2L ^{32,42} were prepared according to literature procedures with slight modifications, as detailed in the Supporting Information. All reactions were shielded from light by covering the reaction flask with aluminum foil.

Instruments. NMR spectra (^1H , ^{13}C , ^{195}Pt , and 2D) were recorded in CD_2Cl_2 on a Bruker Avance 500 MHz spectrometer at 298 K. Acid titrations were conducted at 268 K on a Bruker Avance 400 MHz spectrometer. High-resolution mass spectrometry was performed by the Central Analytics Laboratory at the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen using a ThermoFisher LTQ Orbitrap XL mass spectrometer. UV–vis spectra were collected using an Agilent Cary 60 UV–vis spectrophotometer at ambient temperature.

CV. Voltammograms were obtained from 10^{-3} M twin porphyrin complexes in 0.1 M tetrabutylammonium hexafluorophosphate (NBu_4PF_6) in an anhydrous CH_2Cl_2 solution using a PerkinElmer 263A potentiostat with a glassy carbon working electrode, a Pt wire counter electrode, and a Ag wire reference electrode, with decamethylferrocene [$(\text{Cp}^*)_2\text{Fe}$] as the internal standard (see additional details for conversion in the Supporting Information).

Spectroelectrochemistry. Measurements were performed in CH_2Cl_2 /0.1 M NBu_4PF_6 under ambient conditions using a Metrohm Autolab PGSTAT101 potentiostat coupled with an Avantes AvaLight DH-S-BAL light source and an Avantes StarLine AvaSpec-2048 fiber-optic spectrometer equipped with Nova and AvaSoft software following a chronoamperometry protocol (spectra recorded between 250 and 1100 nm). A Pt mesh working electrode, a Pt wire counter electrode, and a freshly prepared Ag/AgNO₃ (10 mM AgNO₃/100 mM NBu_4PF_6 /MeCN) reference electrode were used.

X-ray Diffractometry. Crystals suitable for X-ray diffractometry were grown under ambient conditions. Solvent layering of CH_2Cl_2 with MeOH produced X-ray-quality crystals of Pt_2L , vapor diffusion of MeOH into CHCl_3 (EtOH-stabilized; passed over K₂CO₃ before use) resulted in NiPdL and NiPtL crystals, and vapor diffusion of MeOH into CH_2Cl_2 / CHCl_3 produced PdPtL crystals. For experimental details, see the Supporting Information.

UV–Vis/MCD Spectroscopy. All UV–vis spectra were collected on a Jasco V-770 spectrophotometer (CH_2Cl_2), and MCD spectra were measured (CH_2Cl_2) with a Jasco J-1500 CD spectrometer using a Jasco MCD-581 electromagnet operated at 1.0 T. The MCD spectra were recorded in $\text{mdeg} = [\theta]$ and converted to molar ellipticity as $\Delta\epsilon = \theta/(32980Blc)$, where B is the magnetic field, l is the path length (cm), and c is the concentration (M).⁷⁴ The MCD spectra were measured at 10 °C in parallel and antiparallel orientations with respect to the magnetic field.

DFT and TDDFT Methods. All calculations were performed using the Gaussian 09 software package⁷⁵ on UNIX OS. The geometries of all twin porphyrins were optimized using the hybrid B3LYP exchange–correlation functional⁷⁶ and full-electron DGDZVP basis set⁷⁷ in the gas phase. Frequency calculations were run to ensure that a global energetic minimum on the potential energy surface was obtained. The optimized geometries were used for single-point and TDDFT calculations. The 60 lowest-energy excited states were considered for TDDFT calculations. Only Ni and Pd complexes were modeled using DFT and TDDFT methods because of the lack of a DGDZVP basis set for the Pt ion.

Homobimetallic Pd^{II} Complex, Pd₂L. The free base H_4L (17.9 mg, 13.75 μmol) was dissolved in $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{Cl}_2$ -1,2 (4 mL). Palladium(II) acetate [$\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$; 8.9 mg, 39.7 μmol , 2.8 equiv] dissolved in $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{Cl}_2$ -1,2 (2 mL) was added, and the solution was brought to reflux for 1 h or until the teal starting material was consumed and formation of the nonpolar purple Pd_2L was observed (using TLC, silica–1:2 hexane/EtOAc). The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation, and the residue was purified using column chromatography. Collection of the nonpolar purple fraction, solvent removal by rotary evaporation, and then recrystallization from THF layered with MeOH for a few days at 0 °C yielded dark-purple microcrystalline material (13.2 mg, 63%). $R_f = 0.90$ (silica–2:1 hexane/EtOAc). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CD_2Cl_2 , 298 K): δ 7.73 (dt, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 4H, Ph^A), 7.50 (dt, $J = 6.7$ Hz, 2H, Ph^A), 7.47 (m, 4H, Ph^A), 7.01 (m, 4H, Ph^B), 6.99 (m, 4H, Ph^B), 6.90 (m, 8H, Ph^B), 6.72 (m, 4H, Ph^B), 6.66 (tt, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 2H, Ph^C), 6.54 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 4H, Ph^C), 6.38 (d, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 4H, Ph^C), 2.06 (sextet, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 4H, $^a\text{CH}_2$), 1.95 (sextet, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 4H, $^b\text{CH}_2$), 1.63 (sextet, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 4H, $^b\text{CH}_2$), 1.36 (sextet, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 4H, $^a\text{CH}_2$), 0.58 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 12H, $^a\text{CH}_3$), 0.46 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 12H, $^b\text{CH}_3$). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CD_2Cl_2 , 298 K): δ 157.2 (α -pyrr-a), 152.5 (β -pyrr-a), 147.7 (β -pyrr-b), 147.2 (α -pyrr-b), 145.6 (β -pyrr-a), 139.6 (*ipso*-Ph^A), 137.4 (*ipso*-Ph^B), 134.5 (Ph^A), 134.1 (*ipso*-Ph^C), 133.8 (Ph^B), 132.6 (Ph^C), 132.0 (Ph^B), 128.5 (Ph^A), 128.2 (Ph^A), 127.7 (Ph^B), 127.6 (Ph^B), 127.0 (Ph^B), 126.9 (Ph^C), 125.3 (Ph^C), 124.8 (*meso*-Ph^C), 123.7 (*meso*-Ph^B), 110.3 (*meso*-Ph^A), 19.6 ($^b\text{CH}_3$), 19.3 ($^a\text{CH}_2$), 16.2 ($^a\text{CH}_3$), 15.7 ($^b\text{CH}_3$). For details of the ^1H and ^{13}C NMR assignments, see the Supporting Information. UV–vis [CH_2Cl_2 ; λ_{max} nm (ϵ , $\text{M}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$): 709 (34000), 654 (19200, shoulder), 542 (32800), 472 (19700), 383 (60500), 314 (38700), 300 (39100). HR-MS (ESI⁺, $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$): m/z 1510.4603 (calcd m/z 1510.4610 for $\text{C}_{92}\text{H}_{80}\text{N}_8\text{Pd}_2$).

Homobimetallic Pt^{II} Complex, Pt₂L. The free base H_4L (34.7 mg, 26.7 μmol) was dissolved in $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{Cl}_2$ -1,2 (12 mL), and then CH_3CN (8 mL) was added while the solution was warmed. Pt_2L (64.8 mg, 144 μmol , 5.4 equiv) and NaOAc·3H₂O (21.8 mg, 160 μmol , 6.0 equiv) were added to the warm solution and brought to reflux for 8 h or until teal H_4L was consumed and nonpolar yellow-green Pt_2L formed (monitored by TLC). The volume of the reaction mixture was reduced and submitted to column chromatography (silica–hexane/ CH_2Cl_2). Solvent removal from the nonpolar olive-green fraction and recrystallization of the residue from THF layered with MeOH at 0 °C resulted in crystalline Pt_2L (12.0 mg, 27%). $R_f = 0.88$ (silica–2:1 hexane/EtOAc). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CD_2Cl_2 , 298 K): δ 7.75 (dt, $J = 6.2$ Hz, 4H, Ph^A), 7.51–7.47 (m, 6H, Ph^A), 7.01 (m, 4H, Ph^B), 6.91 (m, 12H, Ph^B), 6.68 (m, 6H, Ph^B/Ph^C), 6.54 (t, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 4H, Ph^C), 6.34 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 4H, Ph^C), 2.08 (sextet, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 4H, $^a\text{CH}_2$), 1.94 (sextet, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 4H, $^b\text{CH}_2$), 1.53 (sextet, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 4H, $^b\text{CH}_2$), 1.35 (sextet, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 4H, $^a\text{CH}_2$), 0.58 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 12H, $^a\text{CH}_3$), 0.46 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 12H, $^b\text{CH}_3$). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CD_2Cl_2 , 298 K): δ 152.7 (C_q), 148.7 (C_q), 146.6 (C_q), 145.4 (C_q), 144.1 (C_q), 139.3 (C_q), 137.0 (C_q), 134.8 (Ph^A), 134.1 (C_q), 133.9 (Ph^B), 133.4 (Ph^C), 132.1 (Ph^B), 128.6 (Ph^A), 128.1 (Ph^A), 127.6 (Ph^B), 127.4 (Ph^B), 127.0 ($2 \times$ intensity Ph^C), 125.4 (Ph^C), 122.4 (C_q), 108.6 (C_q), 19.8 ($^b\text{CH}_2$), 19.4 ($^a\text{CH}_2$), 16.4 ($^a\text{CH}_3$), 15.7 ($^b\text{CH}_3$). For details of the ^1H and ^{13}C NMR assignments, see the Supporting Information; broad peaks in the HMBC spectrum limit assignments of quaternary C atoms. ^{195}Pt NMR (107 MHz, CD_2Cl_2 , 298 K): δ –2437. UV–vis [CH_2Cl_2 ; λ_{max} nm (ϵ , $\text{M}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$): 768 (26200), 709 (15500), 515 (39900), 476 (35300), 437 (47000), 417 670

671 (39900), 368 (57400), 323 (43800), 272 (52500). HR-MS (ESI⁺,
672 CH₂Cl₂/CH₃CN): *m/z* 1687.5795 (calcd *m/z* 1687.5817 for
673 C₉₂H₈₀N₈Pt₂⁺).

674 **Monometallic Pt^{II} Complex, H₂PtL.** The reaction conditions
675 described for Pt₂L were optimized to afford H₂PtL as the main
676 product using H₄L (74.0 mg, 56.8 μmol), PtL₂ (83.3 mg, 186 μmol,
677 3.3 equiv), and NaOAc·3H₂O (19.1 mg, 140 μmol, 2.5 equiv) in a
678 mixed solvent system (24 mL of C₂H₄Cl₂-1,2 and 16 mL of CH₃CN)
679 to improve the solubility and then brought to reflux for 4 h. The
680 solvent was removed under vacuum, followed by purification using
681 column chromatography, and then solvent removal and recrystalliza-
682 tion to afford crystalline H₂PtL (18.2 mg, 21%). *R*_f = 0.62 (silica–2:1
683 hexane/EtOAc). Typically <5% crystalline Pt₂L was also obtained.
684 UV–vis [CH₂Cl₂; λ, nm (ε, M^{−1} cm^{−1}): 825 (17000), 667 (46700),
685 617 (27800), 494 (26500), 406 (78500), 315 (39200). ¹H NMR
686 (500 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 298 K): δ 7.47–7.65 (m, 2H), 7.42–7.39 (m,
687 4H), 6.99–6.92 (m, 12H), 6.75 (m, 3H), 6.64–6.61 (m, 6H), 6.55–
688 6.50 (m, 5H), 6.32 (br s, 2H), 5.77 (br s, 2H), 3.68 (t, 3H), 2.11–
689 2.04 (m, 4H), 1.90–1.80 (overlapping m, 10H), 1.36–1.28 (m, 4H),
690 0.74 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 6H), 0.64 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 6H), 0.68–0.58 (m,
691 12H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 298 K): δ 155.9, 148.8, 142.5,
692 137.5, 133.7, 131.5, 130.7, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 127.9, 127.5, 127.2,
693 127.0, 126.3, 126.6, 126.1, 124.5, 68.2, 26.0 (CH₂), 19.1 (CH₃), 18.8
694 (CH₂), 18.6 (CH₂), 16.2 (CH₃), 15.3 (CH₃), 15.1 (CH₃). HR-MS
695 (ESI⁺, CH₂Cl₂/CH₃CN): *m/z* 1494.6358 (calcd *m/z* 1494.6329 for
696 C₉₂H₈₂N₈Pt⁺).

697 **Monoprotonated Monometallic Pt^{II} Complex, H₃PtL⁺.** The
698 monometallic complex H₂PtL was protonated with 1 equiv of TFA
699 and was not isolated. The addition of 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-
700 ene (DBU) indicated reversibility of protonation/deprotonation.
701 UV–vis [CH₂Cl₂/1% TFA; λ, nm (ε, M^{−1} cm^{−1}): 786 (19000), 646
702 (44600), 565 (19300), 469 (23700), 396 (75600), 304 (34400), 257
703 (43400). For UV–vis titration spectra and low-temperature ¹H NMR
704 titration spectra, see the Supporting Information.

705 **Diprotonated Monometallic Pt^{II} Complex, H₄PtL²⁺.** The
706 monometallic complex H₂PtL was protonated with 2 equiv of TFA
707 in situ in order to obtain ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra; it was not
708 isolated. The addition of DBU indicated reversibility of protonation/
709 deprotonation. UV–vis [CH₂Cl₂/1% TFA; λ, nm (ε, M^{−1} cm^{−1}):
710 773 (23200), 634 (47200), 457 (21000), 380 (81100), 304 (33600),
711 257 (43500). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₂Cl₂/1% TFA, 298 K): δ 16.59
712 (br s, 2H, pz-NH), 12.83 (sharp s, 2H, pyrr-NH), 7.64 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz,
713 2H, Ph), 7.52 (m, 3H, Ph), 7.45 (m, 2H, Ph), 7.41 (m, 3H, Ph), 7.12
714 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H, Ph), 7.01 (m, 4H, Ph), 6.93 (m, 2H, Ph), 6.89 (dt,
715 *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H, Ph), 6.85 (m, 6H, Ph), 6.80 (m, 2H, Ph), 6.73 (m,
716 2H, Ph), 6.66 (m, 2H, Ph), 6.42 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H, Ph), 6.31 (t, *J* =
717 7.5 Hz, 2H, Ph), 5.79 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H, Ph), 2.10 (sextet, *J* = 7.3 Hz,
718 2H, CH₂), 2.00 (sextet, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 1.85 (sextet, *J* = 7.6 Hz,
719 2H, CH₂), 1.75 (sextet, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 4H, CH₂), 1.66 (sextet, *J* = 7.4 Hz,
720 2H, CH₂), 1.39 (sextet, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 1.28 (sextet, *J* = 7.3 Hz,
721 2H, CH₂), 0.69 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 6H, CH₃), 0.62 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 6H,
722 CH₃), 0.59 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 6H, CH₃), 0.55 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 6H, CH₃).
723 ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CD₂Cl₂/1% TFA, 298 K): δ 160.6 (C_q), 160.3
724 (C_q), 160.2 (C_q-pyrr), 154.2 (C_q-pyrr), 149.6 (C_q-pyrr), 147.8 (C_q-
725 pyrr), 146.3 (C_q-pyrr), 145.3 (C_q), 145.1 (C_q-pyrr), 144.9 (C_q), 144.5
726 (C_q-pyrr), 142.2 (C_q), 138.7 (C_q), 138.0 (C_q), 137.1 (C_q), 135.4
727 (C_q), 134.8 (Ph), 134.3 (Ph), 134.1 (Ph), 132.31 (Ph), 132.26 (Ph),
728 132.13 (Ph), 132.08 (Ph), 132.03 (Ph), 130.5 (Ph), 129.1 (Ph),
729 128.9 (Ph), 128.7 (Ph), 128.6 (Ph), 128.4 (Ph), 128.1 (Ph), 127.9
730 (Ph), 127.3 (Ph), 127.2 (Ph), 127.1 (Ph), 127.0 (Ph), 126.8 (Ph),
731 125.9 (Ph), 122.9 (C_q), 121.3 (C_q), 118.4 (C_q), 116.1 (C_q), 111.4
732 (C_q), 106.1 (C_q), 20.0 (CH₂), 19.3 (CH₂), 19.1 (CH₂), 18.8 (CH₂),
733 16.2 (CH₃), 15.7 (CH₃), 14.52 (CH₃), 14.47 (CH₃). ¹⁹⁵Pt NMR
734 (107 MHz, CD₂Cl₂/1% TFA, 298 K): δ −2203. For UV–vis and low-
735 temperature ¹H NMR titration spectra, see the Supporting
736 Information.

737 **Heterobimetallic Ni^{II}/Pd^{II} Complex, NiPdL.** To a solution of
738 H₂NiL (23.6 mg, 17.4 μmol) in 10 mL of C₂H₄Cl₂-1,2 was added
739 Pd(OAc)₂ (9.1 mg, 40.5 μmol, 2.3 equiv), and the solution was
740 brought to reflux for 1 h. The solution changed from dark green-blue

to purple. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the 741
residue purified by column chromatography. After solvent removal 742
again from the main fraction, the product was recrystallized from 743
CH₂Cl₂ layered with MeOH at 0 °C to provide crystalline NiPdL 744
(13.5 mg, 53% yield). Alternatively, beginning with a solution of 745
H₂PdL (11.6 mg, 8.3 μmol) in C₂H₄Cl₂-1,2 (4 mL) was added 746
Ni(OAc)₂·4H₂O (4.4 mg, 17.7 μmol) and EtOH (2 mL). The 747
solution was refluxed, and the reaction was complete within 10 min. 748
Purification via column chromatography and recrystallization from 749
THF layered with MeOH at 0 °C gave crystalline NiPdL (8.9 mg, 750
73% yield). *R*_f = 0.84 (silica–2:1 hexane/EtOAc). ¹H NMR (500 751
MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 7.75 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H, Ph), 7.65 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 752
2H, Ph), 7.52–7.48 (m, 6H, Ph), 7.22 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H, Ph), 7.02 753
(m, 4H, Ph), 6.95–6.90 (m, 10H, Ph), 6.74 (m, 4H, Ph), 6.66 (t, *J* = 754
7.4 Hz, 2H, Ph), 6.61 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H, Ph), 6.49 (q, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 4H, 755
Ph), 6.28 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H, Ph), 2.06 (overlapping sextets, *J* = 7.0 756
Hz, 8H, CH₂), 1.77 (sextet, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 1.64 (sextet, *J* = 7.3 757
Hz, 2H, CH₂), 1.40 (overlapping sextets, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 4H, CH₂), 0.69 758
(t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 6H, CH₃), 0.62 (overlapping t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 12H, CH₃), 759
0.53 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 6H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 157.9 760
(C_q), 156.7 (C_q), 156.2 (C_q), 152.5 (C_q), 149.1 (C_q), 147.3 (C_q), 761
146.7 (C_q), 146.4 (C_q), 145.6 (C_q), 145.4 (C_q), 139.1 (C_q), 138.7 762
(C_q), 137.1 (C_q), 136.0 (C_q), 134.0 (Ph), 133.5 (Ph), 133.4 (Ph), 763
133.3 (Ph), 133.2 (Ph), 132.0 (Ph), 131.9 (Ph), 131.6 (Ph), 131.4 764
(Ph), 128.0 (Ph), 127.9 (Ph), 127.7 (Ph), 127.7 (Ph), 127.2 (Ph), 765
127.1 (Ph), 126.6 (Ph), 126.5 (Ph), 126.4 (Ph), 126.3 (Ph), 124.9 766
(Ph), 123.9 (C_q), 118.8 (C_q), 109.9 (C_q), 108.7 (C_q), 19.3 (CH₂), 767
19.2 (CH₂), 18.9 (CH₂), 18.7 (CH₃), 15.8 (CH₃), 15.7 (CH₃), 15.3 768
(CH₃), 15.1 (CH₃). UV–vis [CH₂Cl₂; λ, nm (ε, M^{−1} cm^{−1}): 718 769
(22400), 543 (30700), 512 (22100), 381 (62300), 323 (37800), 278 770
(46000). HR-MS (ESI⁺, CH₂Cl₂/CH₃CN): *m/z* 1462.4887 (calcd 771
m/z 1462.4905 for C₉₂H₈₀N₈NiPd⁺).

772 **Heterobimetallic Ni^{II}/Pt^{II} Complex, NiPtL.** To a solution of 773
H₂NiL (51.3 mg, 37.8 μmol) in 20 mL of C₂H₄Cl₂-1,2 (20 mL) was 774
added PtL₂ (57.3 mg, 128 μmol), NaOAc·3H₂O (14.1 mg, 104 μmol), 775
and 8 mL of MeCN. The reaction was brought to reflux for 21 h. 776
Column chromatography and collection of the nonpolar pinkish- 777
brown fraction, followed by recrystallization, afforded NiPtL (19.4 778
mg, 33% yield). Alternatively, starting with H₂PtL (16.3 mg, 10.9 779
μmol) dissolved in C₂H₄Cl₂-1,2 (6 mL), Ni(OAc)₂·4H₂O (7.3 mg, 780
29.3 μmol) and EtOH (2 mL) were added, and the resulting solution 781
was heated to reflux for 10 min. Purification via column 782
chromatography, evaporation to dryness, and recrystallization gave 783
NiPtL (11.9 mg, 70%). *R*_f = 0.84 (silica–2:1 hexane/EtOAc). ¹H 784
NMR (500 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 298 K): δ 7.72 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H, Ph), 785
7.60 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H, Ph), 7.54–7.42 (m, 6H, Ph), 7.30 (d, *J* = 6.9 786
Hz, 2H, Ph), 6.99–6.86 (m, 12H, Ph), 6.77 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H, Ph), 787
6.70–6.66 (m, 4H, Ph), 6.62 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H, Ph), 6.51 (dt, *J* = 7.8 788
and 7.2 Hz, 4H, Ph), 6.37 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, Ph), 6.26 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 789
2H, Ph), 2.07–1.99 (4 overlapping sextets, 8H, CH₂), 1.64 (sextet, *J* 790
= 7.2 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 1.53 (sextet obscured by H₂O signal, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 791
2H, CH₂), 1.35 (2 overlapping sextets, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 4H, CH₂), 0.65 (t, 792
J = 7.4 Hz, 6H, CH₃), 0.58 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 6H, CH₃), 0.56 (t, *J* = 7.9 793
Hz, 6H, CH₃), 0.50 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 6H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, 794
CD₂Cl₂, 298 K): δ 158.8 (C_q), 153.9 (C_q), 152.7 (C_q), 151.7 (C_q), 795
149.5 (C_q), 147.1 (C_q), 146.2 (C_q), 145.6 (C_q), 144.6 (C_q), 139.3 796
(C_q), 139.1 (C_q), 136.9 (C_q), 136.7 (C_q), 134.7 (C_q), 134.1 (Ph), 797
133.9 (Ph), 133.8 (Ph), 133.3 (Ph), 133.0 (Ph), 132.7 (Ph), 132.5 798
(Ph), 131.4 (Ph), 128.5 (Ph), 128.4 (Ph), 128.1 (Ph), 128.0 (Ph), 799
127.7 (Ph), 127.6 (Ph), 127.5 (Ph), 127.4 (Ph), 127.1 (Ph), 126.9 800
(Ph), 126.84 (Ph), 126.83 (Ph), 125.3 (Ph), 123.3 (C_q), 119.4 (C_q), 801
109.1 (C_q), 108.9 (C_q), 19.9 (CH₂), 19.7 (CH₂), 19.4 (CH₂), 19.2 802
(CH₂), 16.5 (CH₃), 16.2 (CH₃), 15.7 (CH₃), 15.6 (CH₃). ¹⁹⁵Pt NMR 803
(107 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 298 K): δ −2519. UV–vis [CH₂Cl₂; λ, nm (ε, 804
M^{−1} cm^{−1}): 754 (16900), 532 (27100), 499 (22300), 418 (40800), 805
379 (53400), 326 (37500), 274 (45400). HR-MS (ESI⁺, CH₂Cl₂/ 806
CH₃CN): *m/z* 1550.5511 (calcd *m/z* 1550.5513 for C₉₂H₈₀N₈NiPt⁺). 807

808 **Heterobimetallic Pd^{II}/Pt^{II} Complex, PdPtL.** Monometalated 808
H₂PdL (25.7 mg, 18.3 μmol) could be combined with PtL₂ (32.9 mg, 809
73.3 μmol) and NaOAc·3H₂O (7.2 mg, 52.9 μmol) in C₂H₄Cl₂-1,2 810

(18 mL)/MeCN (6 mL). The contents were refluxed for 6 h. Purification was performed using column chromatography to collect the nonpolar pinkish-brown fraction. Recrystallization gave **PdPtL** (12.9 mg, 44%), and **H₂PdL** could be recovered (<15%). Alternatively, **H₂PtL** (12.5 mg, 8.36 μ mol) was combined with **Pd(OAc)₂** (3.9 mg, 17.4 μ mol) in **C₂H₄Cl₂-1,2** (8 mL) and refluxed for less than 10 min, and then the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and purified via column chromatography to elute the nonpolar mauve/pinkish-brown fraction. Recrystallization from THF layered with MeOH provided **PdPtL** (10.2 mg, 76%). *R_f* = 0.85 (silica–2:1 hexane/EtOAc). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 298 K): δ 7.77 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H, Ph), 7.73 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H, Ph), 7.52–7.48 (m, 6H, Ph), 7.12–7.09 (m, 2H, Ph), 7.04 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H, Ph), 6.94–6.87 (m, 12H, Ph), 6.76–6.71 (m, 2H, Ph), 6.70–6.64 (m, 4H, Ph), 6.60 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H, Ph), 6.48 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H, Ph), 6.24 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H, Ph), 2.09–1.91 (4 overlapping sextets, 8H, CH₂), 1.57 (2 overlapping sextets, 4H, CH₂), 1.37 (sextet, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 4H, CH₂), 0.58 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 12H, CH₃), 0.47–0.44 (2 overlapping t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 12H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 298 K): δ 157.4 (C_q), 153.0 (C_q), 152.4 (C_q), 148.1 (C_q), 147.7 (C_q), 147.4 (C_q), 146.6 (C_q), 145.7 (C_q), 145.3 (C_q), 144.1 (C_q), 139.5 (C_q), 139.4 (C_q), 137.7 (C_q), 136.8 (C_q), 134.8 (Ph), 134.5 (Ph), 134.2 (Ph), 133.5 (Ph), 133.0 (Ph), 132.9 (Ph), 132.4 (Ph), 131.6 (Ph), 128.6 (Ph), 128.5 (Ph), 128.2 (Ph), 128.1 (Ph), 127.7 (Ph), 127.54 (Ph), 127.45 (Ph), 127.03 (Ph), 126.97 (Ph), 126.9 (Ph), 126.4 (Ph), 125.3 (Ph), 123.7 (C_q), 122.5 (C_q), 110.2 (C_q), 109.0 (C_q), 19.9 (CH₂), 19.6 (CH₂), 19.4 (CH₂), 19.3 (CH₂), 16.5 (CH₃), 16.1 (CH₃), 15.7 (CH₃), 15.6 (CH₃). ¹⁹⁵Pt NMR (107 MHz, CD₂Cl₂, 298 K): δ –2372. UV–vis [**CH₂Cl₂**; λ , nm (ϵ , M^{–1} cm^{–1}): 738 (27400), 676 (16300), 620 (9500), 526 (37200), 500 (23900), 393 (55900), 321 (38300), 258 (54200). HR-MS (ESI⁺, **CH₂Cl₂/CH₃CN**): *m/z* 1598.5205 (calcd *m/z* 1598.5213 for C₉₂H₈₀N₈PdPt⁺).

ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge at <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.inorgchem.0c00714>.

Synthetic procedures, analytical and spectroscopic data, and reproduction of the key spectra of all compounds studied, including their HR-MS, 1D and 2D ¹H, ¹³C, and ¹⁹⁵Pt NMR spectra; experimental details for the MCD spectra and DFT/TDDFT calculations; experimental details for the crystal structure determinations of **Pt₂L**, **NiPdL**, **NiPtL**, and **PdPtL** (PDF)

Accession Codes

CCDC 1987503–1987506 contain the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif, or by emailing data_request@ccdc.cam.ac.uk, or by contacting The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK; fax: +44 1223 336033.

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Author Contributions

The manuscript was written through contributions of all authors. S.J.D. and A.V. performed all syntheses, and S.J.D. performed all electrochemical investigations. S.D. performed the X-ray diffractometry studies. D.E.N. and V.N.N. recorded the MCD spectra and conducted all DFT and TDDFT calculations. C.B. and F.M. conceived the study. All authors have given approval to the final version of the manuscript.

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