# Activation of Elemental Sulfur at a Two-Coordinate Platinum(0) Center 

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#### Abstract

Platinum dichalcogenides have been known to exhibit two-dimensional layered structures. Herein, we describe the syntheses, isolation, and characterization of airstable crystalline cyclic alkyl(amino) carbene (cAAC)-supported monomeric platinum disulfide three-membered ring complex $\left[(c \mathrm{AAC})_{2} \mathrm{Pt}\left(\mathrm{S}_{2}\right)\right]$ (2). The highly reactive platinum(0) [(cAAC) $\left.)_{2} \mathrm{Pt}\right]$ complex (1) with two-coordinate platinum activates elemental sulfur to give 2. The brown crystals of bis-carbene platinum(II)monosulfate $\left[(c \mathrm{AAC})_{2} \mathrm{Pt}\left(\mathrm{SO}_{4}\right)_{x}\left(\mathrm{~S}_{2}\right)_{1-x}\right]$ (4) have been isolated when the reaction was performed in air. The dioxygen analogue of 2 was formed upon exposing the THF solution of 1 to aerial oxygen $\left(\mathrm{O}_{2}\right)$. The binding of oxygen at the $\mathrm{Pt}^{0}$ center was found to be reversible. Additionally, DFT study has been performed to elucidate the electronic structure and bonding scenario of 2,3 , and 4 . Quantum chemical calculations showed donor-acceptor-type interaction for the Pt-S bonds in $\mathbf{2}$ and $\mathrm{Pt}-\mathrm{O}$ bonds in $\mathbf{3}$ and 4.


Platinum disulfide $\left(\mathrm{PtS}_{2}\right)$ has been first synthesized by Davey in 1814 by treating hexachloroplatinate(IV) with sulfur at very high temperatures in the absence of air. ${ }^{[1]}$ The structural characterization of crystalline $\mathrm{PtS}_{2}$ was reported by Grønvold and Kjekshus, which revealed a two-dimensional layered structure of the type $\mathrm{Cdl}_{2}{ }^{[2]}$ In 1970, $\mathrm{PtS} \mathrm{S}_{2}$ has been concluded to have a suitable band gap, which is required to display semiconduct-

[^0]ing properties. ${ }^{[3]}$ Moreover, sulfur-containing metal complexes are very important in various biological reactions and in petro-leum-refining processes. ${ }^{[4]}$ Platinum can attain a broad range of oxidation states from -3 to +10 : it can exhibit a very rich redox chemistry. ${ }^{[5-7]}$ However, the excellent bridging ability of sulfur often leads to the formation of polynuclear sulfurbridged metal complexes. ${ }^{[8]}$ In this context, it is worthy to mention that strong $\sigma$-donating ligands can be effectively utilized to hinder the vacant coordination sites of metals from receiving further donations. This prevents metal-sulfur complexes from undergoing aggregation. ${ }^{[9]}$ Since the first report on cyclic alkyl(amino) carbenes (cAACs), ${ }^{[10]}$ it has been often stated that they are the more advantageous ligands for the stabilization of various reactive species compared to NHCs. ${ }^{[11]}$ Group 10 metal complexes with low-coordinate metals and oxidation state zero have attracted enormous attention of the synthetic chemists due to their proposed function as intermediates in various organometallic reaction protocols. Very recently, the syntheses, isolation, and characterization of cAAC-stabilized complexes of nickel(0), palladium(0), and platinum(0) with two-coordinate metal atoms were reported. ${ }^{[12]}$ cAAC is a stronger $\sigma$ donor and even a better $\pi$ acceptor. Moreover, cAAC can keep the balance between its $\sigma$ donation and $\pi$ acceptance properties to be in tune with the electronic requirements necessary for small-molecule activation. To date, only the activation of molecular hydrogen by these highly reactive (carbene) ${ }_{2} \mathrm{M}$ complexes with low-coordinate metals has been reported $[M=$ Mn ..$^{[13 a]}$ The activation of chalcogens by (carbene) ${ }_{2} \mathrm{M}^{0}$ complexes has been not known to date. Monomeric side-on $\mathrm{MS}_{2}$ complexes of transition metals have been known for almost five decades $[M=N b, I r, R h] .{ }^{[13 b-d]}$ Oxidation of $M S_{2}$ complexes to give the corresponding oxidized complexes of the sulfur oxides $\mathrm{S}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and $\mathrm{S}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{2}$ are known. ${ }^{[13 e-g]}$ However, Pt analogues are not reported until now. Herein, we report the syntheses, isolation, and characterization of the cAAC-stabilized monomeric platinum(II)disulfide $\left[(c A A C)_{2} \operatorname{Pt}\left(\mathrm{~S}_{2}\right)\right]$ (2; Scheme 1) and the partially oxidized product platinum sulfate $\left[(\mathrm{cAAC})_{2} \mathrm{Pt}\left(\mathrm{SO}_{4}\right)_{x}\left(\mathrm{~S}_{2}\right)_{1-x}\right]$ (4). Complex $(\mathrm{cAAC})_{2} \mathrm{Pt}$ (1) also reacted with aerial oxygen to form complex (cAAC) $\mathrm{PtO}_{2}$ (3; Scheme 1). The bonding and electronic distributions of complexes 2, 3, and 4 were studied by theoretical calculations (for computational details, see the Supporting Information).

The precursor complex $(\mathrm{cAAC})_{2} \mathrm{Pt}$ (1) $\left[\left(\mathrm{Et}_{2}-\mathrm{CAAC}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Pt}, 1 \mathrm{a}\right.$; $\left.\left(\mathrm{Me}_{2}-\mathrm{cAAC}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Pt}, \mathbf{1} \mathbf{b}\right]^{[14]}$ was dissolved in THF and the resultant orange solution was transferred into a flask containing 0.25 equivalents of $S_{8}$ at room temperature with continuous

$\left(E t_{2}-c A A C\right)_{2} P t(1 a)$ $\left(\mathrm{Me}_{2}-\mathrm{cAAC}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Pt}(1 \mathrm{~b})$

$\mathrm{M}=\mathrm{Pt}$
$c A A C=E t_{2}-c A A C$
$\mathrm{Me}_{2}$-cAAC
( $\left.\mathrm{Et}_{2}-\mathrm{CAAC}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Pt}\left(\mathrm{S}_{2}\right)(2 \mathrm{a})$ $\left(\mathrm{Me}_{2}-\mathrm{cAAC}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Pt}\left(\mathrm{S}_{2}\right)(\mathbf{2 b})$

| (-183.4) | $\mathrm{O}_{2}[$ air $]$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| THF | $\mathrm{rt}, 7$ days |


$\left(\mathrm{Et}_{2}-\mathrm{cAAC}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Pt}\left(\mathrm{SO}_{4}\right)_{1-\mathrm{x}}\left(\mathrm{S}_{2}\right)_{\mathrm{x}}(4 \mathrm{a})$

Scheme 1. Syntheses of complexes 2-4 from 1. The energy term in parenthesis is $\Delta G^{\mathrm{S}}{ }_{298}\left[\mathrm{kcalmol}^{-1}\right]$ at the M06/def2-TZVP/SMD//M06/def2-SVP level of theory for 2a to $\mathbf{4 a}$.
stirring. After 15 minutes, the color of the reaction solution changed to red, and then slowly faded to a light purple after 30 minutes upon vigorous stirring. The reaction solution was then concentrated and stored at $-32^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ in a freezer to form purple crystals of complex 2 in $70-74 \%$ yield. The crystals of 2 are stable in air for several days at room temperature. The solution of 2 is also stable in air for 3-4 days, and then it is partially oxidized to 4 . Powders of $\mathbf{2 a}$ and $\mathbf{2} \mathbf{b}$ melt above 175 and $218^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, respectively. The THF solutions of $\mathbf{2 a}$ and $\mathbf{2 b}$ are stable at $-32^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to room temperature for several months under inert atmosphere. Compound $2 \mathbf{a}$ is soluble in polar solvents, for example, THF, whereas $\mathbf{2 b}$ is highly crystalline and only sparingly soluble. The ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{2 a}$ in $\left[\mathrm{D}_{8}\right]$ THF solution exhibited a resonance at $\delta=256.44 \mathrm{ppm}$ for $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{CAAC}}$, flanked by a pair of ${ }^{195} \mathrm{Pt}$ satellites ( $J_{\mathrm{Pt}-\mathrm{C}}=1396.7 \mathrm{~Hz}$ ), which is slightly upfield shifted compared with that of the precursor 1 ( 258.76 ppm , $J_{\text {Pt-C }}=1150.7 \mathrm{~Hz}$ ). The ${ }^{195} \mathrm{Pt}$ NMR spectrum of 2 a showed a singlet at $\delta=-4308.47 \mathrm{ppm}$, which is also downfield shifted compared with that of the precursor 1 at -4333.82 ppm . The UV/ Vis spectrum of $\mathbf{2 a}$ was recorded in THF, which showed a broad absorption band at $\lambda=575 \mathrm{~nm}$ (see the Supporting Information), which is close to the theoretically computed value at $584 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$ (TD-M06/def2-TZVP level of theory). The $\tilde{\nu}_{S-s}$ vibration of 2 a was observed at $515 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$ (see the Supporting Information), which is close to the theoretically computed value at $539 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$ (M06/def2-SVP level of theory). Complexes 2a and 2b were further characterized by electron ionization mass spectrometry (ESI-MS) in MeCN ( $[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+} \mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}$ : 2 a : 886.4669; $\mathbf{2 b : 8 3 0 . 4 0 3 3 ; ~ s e e ~ t h e ~ S u p p o r t i n g ~ I n f o r m a t i o n ) . ~}$

When the lighter analogues $(\mathrm{cAAC})_{2} \mathrm{Ni}^{0}$ and $(\mathrm{cAAC})_{2} \mathrm{Pd}^{0}$ were treated with sulfur under similar reaction condition, $c A A C=S$ was isolated (see the Supporting Information).

When a 4:1 mixture of complex 1 a and $\mathrm{S}_{8}$ were reacted under air in THF, a dark red-brown colored solution was obtained after 30 minutes of stirring. The concentrated THF solution was stored at room temperature for one week to obtain
air-stable purple crystals of 4 a in 10\% yield. Synthesis of 4a was assumed to proceed via the initial formation of the intermediate species $\left[(c A A C)_{2} \mathrm{PtO}_{2}\right]$ (3a) from 1 a by activation of molecular oxygen at the $\mathrm{Pt}^{0}$ atom of 1 . This could be attributed by the color change of the THF solution of 1 a from bright orange to dark red when the solution was kept under air for a day. The UV/Vis spectrum of this dark red solution was recorded and displays strong absorption bands at $\lambda=212,281$, 316,360 and 450 nm . The in situ formation of the intermediate species [(cAAC) $\mathrm{PtO}_{2}$ ] (3a) was further investigated by NMR spectroscopy and confirmed by mass spectrometry (see the Supporting Information). The ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum of 3 a recorded in $\left[\mathrm{D}_{8}\right] \mathrm{THF}$ exhibits a singlet at $\delta=249.52 \mathrm{ppm}$ for the $\mathrm{C}_{\text {carbene, }}$ which was upfield shifted compared with that of the precursor 1 a $(\delta=258.0 \mathrm{ppm})$. The ${ }^{195} \mathrm{Pt}$ NMR spectrum of 3 a showed a singlet at -3545.99 ppm , which is downfield shifted compared with that of the precursor 1 ( -4333.82 ppm ). These aforementioned experiments unambiguously indicate the in situ formation of the intermediate $\left[(\mathrm{cAAC})_{2} \mathrm{Pt}\left(\mathrm{O}_{2}\right)\right]$ (3a), which then further reacts with $\mathrm{S}_{8}$ to produce the stable and crystalline complex 4a. However, we were not able to crystallize the intermediate species $3 \mathbf{a}$ after several efforts. The brown crystals of 4a are stable in air for several days at room temperature. The UV/Vis spectrum of 4 a was recorded in THF, which showed broad absorption bands at $\lambda=390$ and 550 nm (see the Supporting Information). Compound 4 a was further characterized by mass spectrometry in $\mathrm{MeCN}\left([M+H]^{+} \mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}\right.$ : 918.4774; see the Supporting Information), NMR spectroscopy and X-ray single-crystal structural analysis.

Complex 2a crystallizes in the monoclinic space group C2/ $c$ with a lattice solvent molecule (THF) within the asymmetric unit. The molecular structure of $\mathbf{2 a}$ is displayed in Figure 1 (top), which shows the formation of a three-membered $\mathrm{PtS}_{2}$ ring, in which the central platinum atom adopts a distorted square planar geometry with a C-Pt-C bond angle of $109.9(2)^{\circ}$, which is smaller compared with that of the precursor 1 a $(c A A C)_{2} \mathrm{Pt}\left(169.53(6)^{\circ}\right)^{[14]}$ and coordinated with two carbene ( $\mathrm{Et}_{2}-\mathrm{CAAC}$ ) rings. The $\mathrm{C}_{\text {carbene }}-\mathrm{Pt}$ distances of $\mathbf{2} \mathbf{a}$ (2.003(2) $\AA$ ) are slightly longer when compared with those of 1 a (ca. $1.97 \AA$ ). ${ }^{[14]}$ The $C_{\text {carbene }}-\mathrm{N}$ bond distance in 2 (1.329(2) $\AA$ ) is very close to that of 1 a (ca. $1.326 \AA$ ). ${ }^{[14]}$ Two five-membered carbene rings are oriented in trans conformation with respect to the $\mathrm{PtS}_{2}$ three-membered ring. The $\mathrm{Pt}-\mathrm{S} / \mathrm{S}-\mathrm{S}$ bond lengths in $\mathbf{2 a}$ are 2.356(1) and 2.067(2) $\AA$, respectively.

Complex 4a crystallizes in the monoclinic space group $P 2_{1} / c$. The molecular structure of 4 a is depicted in Figure 1 (bottom), in which a four-membered $\mathrm{PtO}_{2} \mathrm{~S}$ ring is formed by the side-on coordination of the sulfate anion, disordered with the $\mathrm{PtS}_{2}$ ring of the starting material in a $1: 1$ ratio. The central platinum atom adopts a near tetrahedral geometry with a C-Pt-C bond angle of $107.4(2)^{\circ}$, which is slightly smaller than that of $\mathbf{2 a}$. The two carbene rings are oriented in trans conformation with respect to the $\mathrm{S}_{2} / \mathrm{PtSO}_{4}$ unit. The $\mathrm{Pt}-\mathrm{S}$ bond lengths in 4 a are in the range of $2.371(3)-2.373(3) \AA$, which are slightly longer compared to 2 a . The small difference in the $\mathrm{PtS}_{2}$ bond lengths can result from the disordered structure. The $\mathrm{Pt}-\mathrm{O}$ distance is 2.083(7)-2.084(8) Å. The $C_{\text {carbene }}-P t$ distances of 4 a (1.997(3)-


Figure 1. Molecular structures of complexes 2a (top) and 4a (bottom). Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Selected experimental (calculated at R-M06/def2-SVP for the singlet state) bond lengths $\left[\AA \AA\right.$ ] and angles [ $\left.{ }^{\circ}\right]$ for $\mathbf{2 a}$ : Pt1-C4 2.003(2) [2.037], Pt1-S2 2.356(1) [2.410], S2-S2' 2.067(2) [2.083], C4N3 1.329(2) [1.337]; C4-N3-C7 114.1(2) [113.7], C4-Pt1-C4' 109.9(2) [112.2], S2-Pt1-S2' 52.02(3) [51.2], S2-S2'-Pt1 63.99(2) [64.4]. For 4a: 1:1 $\mathrm{S}_{2} / \mathrm{SO}_{4}$ disorder, Pt1-C9 2.003(3) [2.004], Pt1-C32 1.997(3) [2.004], Pt1-S2 2.373(3), Pt1-S3 2.371(3), S2-S3 2.067(4), Pt1-O7 2.083(7) [2.099], Pt1-O8 2.084(8) [2.099], S4-O5 1.439(5) [1.456], S4-O6 1.440(5) [1.456], S4-O7 1.555(6) [1.584], S4O8 1.548(7) [1.584], C9-N10 1.325(4) [1.329]; C9-N10-C11 114.2(3) [114.1], C9-Pt1-C32 107.4(2) [106.0].
$2.003(3) \AA$ ) are the same compared with those of $2 \mathbf{a}$. The $\mathrm{C}_{\text {carbene }}-\mathrm{N}$ bond length in 4 a is about the same (1.325(4) $\AA$ ) as that of $2 \mathbf{a}$. The $\mathrm{S}-\mathrm{O}$ distances of the platinum-coordinated oxygen atoms are on average $0.12 \AA$ longer than those of the pendent oxygen atoms O 5 and O 6 , emphasizing the partly ionic S-O bond character. ${ }^{[15]}$

To explore the electronic structure and bonding environment, geometry optimization of $2 \mathrm{a}, \mathbf{3}$ a, and 4 a were accomplished at the M06/def2-SVP level of theory (for computational details, see the Supporting Information). The computed bond lengths and bond angles of 2 a and 4 a showed good agreement with the experimentally obtained geometrical parameters, as can be seen from alignments and superposition plot
(Figure S7 and Table S1 in the Supporting Information). The natural bond orbital (NBO) population analysis of $\mathbf{2 a}$ entails that the Pt1 atom is connected with S2/S2' and C4/C4' through single-bond occupancies of 1.870 and 1.889 e , respectively (Table S2 in the Supporting Information). The C4/C4' atoms have main contribution towards electron density (ca. $72.3 \%$ ) in the $\mathrm{Pt} 1-\mathrm{C} 4 / \mathrm{Pt} 1-\mathrm{C} 4^{\prime}$ bonds. Similarly, $\mathrm{S} 2 / \mathrm{S} 2^{\prime}$ atoms donate approximately $67.3 \%$ to form $\mathrm{Pt} 1-\mathrm{S} 2 / \mathrm{Pt} 1-\mathrm{S}^{\prime}$ bonds in both cases, indicating a polar character. This result is supported by the properties of the bond-critical point (BCP) elucidated from quantum theory of atoms in molecules (QTAIM) calculations. ${ }^{[16]}$ The important topological parameters at the $(3,-1)$ bond critical points are given in Table S3. The electron density $[\rho(r)]$ at the BCP of $\mathrm{Pt} 1-\mathrm{C} 4 / \mathrm{Pt} 1-\mathrm{C} 4^{\prime}$ [0.138] and $\mathrm{Pt} 1-\mathrm{S} 2 / \mathrm{Pt} 1-\mathrm{S} 2^{\prime}$ [0.086] bonds along with the respective Laplacian $\left[\nabla^{2} \rho(r) ;+0.233\right.$, and +0.129 ] indicates significant donor-acceptor-type interaction. The NPA charge on Pt1 $\left(q_{\mathrm{Pt} 1}=0.030\right)$ in 2 a is higher than the precursor complex 1 a $\left(q_{\mathrm{Pt} 1}=-0.350\right)$, reflecting electron depletion from the Pt1 to the sulfur atom. The amount of charge transfer is collected in Tables S4 and S5 in the Supporting Information. This result can also be perceived by visualizing the frontier orbital of $\mathbf{2 a}$ and $1 \mathbf{a}$. After electron depletion, the HOMO of 2 a showed $d_{x y}$ orbital character at the Pt 1 atom similar to HOMO-1 of 1 a (Figures 2 and S 8 in the Supporting Information). The Wiberg bond indices of $\mathrm{Pt} 1-\mathrm{C} 4 / \mathrm{Pt} 1-\mathrm{C}^{\prime}$ and


Figure 2. Selected KS-MOs of $\mathbf{2 a}, \mathbf{3 a}, \mathbf{4 a}$, and $\mathbf{1 a}$ (isosurface 0.04 a .u.). Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

Pt1-S2/Pt1-S2' bonds were calculated to be 0.67 and 0.62 , respectively. The calculated $\mathrm{Pt}-\mathrm{C}_{\text {carbene }}$ distance in 2 a is relatively longer than that of the precursor 1, this signifies less back donation from Pt1 to the $C_{\text {carbene }}(2.037 \AA$ in 2 a vs. $2.019 \AA$ in 1 ). It is also evident from the NPA charge at the $\mathrm{C}_{\text {carbene }}$ atom ( 0.290 in 2 a vs. 0.198 in 1 a ) and the Wiberg index of the $\mathrm{Pt}-\mathrm{C}_{\text {carbene }}$ bond ( 0.67 in 2 a vs. 0.73 in 1 a ). The application of the secondorder perturbation theory within the NBO analysis revealed that the occurrence of the stabilizing two-electron donor-acceptor interaction from the lone pair of Pt1 [LP(Pt1)] to the empty orbital [LP*(S2)] of the S2 atom and from the S2 lone pair $[\mathrm{LP}(\mathrm{S} 2)]$ to the anti-bonding orbital of $\mathrm{Pt}-\mathrm{C}_{\text {carbene }}$ bond. The computed associated energies are 66.8 and 106.4 kcal
$\mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ for $[\mathrm{LP}(\mathrm{Pt} 1)] \rightarrow\left[\mathrm{LP}{ }^{*}(\mathrm{~S} 2)\right]$ and $[\mathrm{LP}(\mathrm{S} 2)] \rightarrow \mathrm{\sigma}^{*}\left(\mathrm{Pt}-\mathrm{C}_{\text {carbene }}\right)$, respectively. Similar to $2 \mathrm{a}, \mathrm{C} 9 / \mathrm{C} 32$ (ca. $69.9 \%$ ) atoms in 4 a have main contribution towards the formation of $\mathrm{Pt} 1-\mathrm{C} 9 / \mathrm{Pt} 1-\mathrm{C} 32$ bonds having single-bond occupancies of 1.891 e. The symmetrical nature of the structure showed identical (Pt1-O7/Pt1$\mathrm{O} 8=2.099 \AA$ ) bond lengths. The AIM (Atoms in Molecules) parameter clearly suggested closed-shell-type interaction to be present in the Pt1-07/Pt1-O8 bond $\left(\rho(r) / \nabla^{2} \rho(r)=0.099 / 0.363\right.$, Table S3 in the Supporting Information). The charge on Pt1 $\left(q_{\mathrm{Pt} 1}=0.471 \mathrm{e}\right)$ is much more depleted, and $\Varangle \mathrm{C}_{\text {carbene }}-\mathrm{Pt}-\mathrm{C}_{\text {carbene }}$ largely deviates from $1 \mathrm{a}\left(\Varangle \mathrm{C}_{\text {carbene }}-\mathrm{Pt}-\mathrm{C}_{\text {carbene }}=112.2\right.$ in 2 a vs. 170.7 in 1 a). In a similar vein, the bonding scenario of the transient intermediate 3a was further investigated at the same level of theory. Similar to $2 \mathrm{a}, \mathrm{Pt} 1-\mathrm{C} 4 / \mathrm{Pt} 1-\mathrm{C} 4^{\prime}$ bond showed donor-acceptor $\left[\rho(r) / \nabla^{2} \rho(r)=0.145 / 0.241\right]$ type interactions (Table S3 in the Supporting Information). A greater polar character of $\mathrm{Pt} 1-\mathrm{O} 1 / \mathrm{Pt} 1-\mathrm{O} 2$ bonds in 3a than $\mathrm{Pt} 1-\mathrm{S} 2 / \mathrm{Pt} 1-\mathrm{S} 2^{\prime}$ bonds in 2a $\left[\rho(r) / \nabla^{2} \rho(r)=0.119 / 0.433\right.$ vs. 0.086/0.128] is a direct consequence of higher electronegativity of oxygen than sulfur. Analogous to 2a, the charge on Pt1 (0.406) is much higher, indicating superior charge transfer from Pt1 to the oxygen moiety (Tables S4 and S5 in the Supporting Information). The Wiberg bond index for Pt1-O1/Pt1-O2 (WBI 0.50) bonds are lower than the Pt1-S2/Pt1-S2' (0.62) bonds, stipulating relative weaker Pt1-01/Pt1-02 bonds.

To explain the UV/Vis spectra, we have performed the timedependent (TD) DFT calculations at the M06/def2-TZVP/SMD// M06/def2-SVP level of theory under implicit THF environment. Complex 2a exhibited the characteristic band at $\lambda=584.3 \mathrm{~nm}$ with an oscillator strength of 0.02 , designating the $\mathrm{LP}_{52-52^{\prime}} \rightarrow$ $\pi^{*}{ }_{C 4-N 3 / C 4^{4}-N_{3}}$, which is in line with the experimentally observed band at $\lambda=575 \mathrm{~nm}$. This can be considered as intramolecular ligand-to-ligand charge transfer. It is in line with the lower lying LUMO of CAAC in 2a. ${ }^{[10,1]}$ However, complex 4a showed signature bands at $\lambda=291.3 \mathrm{~nm}$ and 341.5 nm , primarily due to the transition from Pt1 $\mathrm{d}_{x x} / \mathrm{d}_{z^{2}} \rightarrow \pi^{*}{ }_{C-N}$. The relatively higher deviation from experimentally observed bands at $\lambda=390 \mathrm{~nm}$ and 550 nm might be due to the $\left[\mathrm{S}_{2} / \mathrm{SO}_{4}\right]$ disorder present in the crystal of 4a (Figures 2, S8 and Table S6 in the Supporting Information). The TDDFT analysis of $\mathbf{3}$ a gave four main excitations at 256.5 nm ( $\mathrm{HOMO}-1 \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}+2$ ), 317.2 nm (HOMO-3 $\rightarrow$ LUMO), $\quad 358.5 \mathrm{~nm}$ (HOMO-2 $\rightarrow$ LUMO), and 401.5 nm (HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO +1 ), respectively, which are in close agreement with the experimental data (see above).
In conclusion, we have developed the syntheses protocol for the cAAC-stabilized air-stable monomeric $\left[(\mathrm{cAAC})_{2} \mathrm{Pt}\left(\mathrm{S}_{2}\right)\right]$ (2) and the $\left[(c A A C)_{2} \mathrm{Pt}\left(\mathrm{SO}_{4}\right)_{x}\left(\mathrm{~S}_{2}\right)_{1-x}\right](4)$, which were prepared by the reaction of (cAAC) $)_{2} \mathrm{Pt}(\mathbf{1})$ with elemental sulfur. Complex 4 was formed when 2 was exposed to air. NMR spectroscopic studies and theoretical calculations showed that complex 4 was formed via the in situ generated intermediate $\left[(c \mathrm{AAC})_{2} \mathrm{Pt}\left(\mathrm{O}_{2}\right)\right]$ (3), which has been characterized by MS (EI) spectrometry and NMR spectroscopy. The binding of $\mathrm{O}_{2}$ at the $\mathrm{Pt}^{0}$ center was found to be reversible. The monomeric molecular structures of 2 and $\mathbf{4}$ have been confirmed by X-ray single-crystal diffraction analysis, and they were also characterized by NMR and UV/Vis spectroscopy. DFT calculations revealed that the formation of 2
from the initial precursor $\mathbf{1}$ is energetically favorable by $13.1 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$. In contrast, the in situ formation of dioxygen analogue 3 is endergonic by $12.1 \mathrm{kcalmol}^{-1}$. The donor-ac-ceptor-type interactions of $\mathrm{Pt}-\mathrm{S}$ bonds in $\mathbf{2}$ and $\mathrm{Pt}-\mathrm{O}$ bonds in 3 and 4 have been theoretically confirmed.

## Experimental Section

Crystal data for $2 a$ at 100(2) K: $\mathrm{C}_{52} \mathrm{H}_{86} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{PtS}_{2}$, $M_{\mathrm{r}}=$ $1030.43 \mathrm{~g} \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}, \quad 0.178 \times 0.114 \times 0.065 \mathrm{~mm}$, monoclinic, $C 2 / c, a=$ 29.646(2), $\quad b=10.870(2), \quad c=18.065(3) \AA \AA, \quad \beta=125.02(2)^{\circ}, \quad V=$ $4767.5(16) \AA^{3}, Z=4, \mu\left(\mathrm{Ag}_{\mathrm{K} \alpha}\right)=1.672 \mathrm{~mm}^{-1}, 2 \theta_{\max }=22^{\circ}, 51764$ reflections measured, 5942 independent ( $R_{\text {int }}=0.0591$ ) $R_{1}=0.0223$ [ $/>2 \sigma(I)], w R_{2}=0.0436$ (all data), res. density peaks: 0.578 to $-0.751 \mathrm{eA}^{-3}$.
Crystal data for $4 a$ at 100(2) K: $\quad \mathrm{C}_{44} \mathrm{H}_{70} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{1.98} \mathrm{PtS}_{1.50}, \quad M_{\mathrm{r}}=$ $902.08 \mathrm{~g} \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}, \quad 0.158 \times 0.123 \times 0.088 \mathrm{~mm}$, monoclinic, $P 2_{1} / c, a=$ 11.473(2), $\quad b=20.772(3), \quad c=17.246(2) \AA, \quad \beta=95.42(2)^{\circ}, \quad V=$ 4091.6(10) $\AA^{3}, Z=4, \mu\left(\mathrm{Ag}_{\mathrm{K} \alpha}\right)=1.929 \mathrm{~mm}^{-1}, 2 \theta_{\max }=22^{\circ}, 121963$ reflections measured, 10139 independent ( $R_{\text {int }}=0.0728$ ), $R_{1}=0.0344$ [I>2 $/(I)], w R_{2}=0.0548$ (all data), res. density peaks: 0.899 to $-1.489 \mathrm{eA}^{-3}$.
CCDC 1444046 and 1444047 contain the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data are provided free of charge by The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre
All crystals were selected under cooling, using a X-Temp2 device. ${ }^{[17]}$ The data were integrated with SAINT. ${ }^{[18]}$ A multiscan absorption correction was applied by using SADABS. ${ }^{[19]}$ The structures were solved by SHELXT ${ }^{[20]}$ and refined on $F^{2}$ by using SHELXL ${ }^{[21]}$ in the graphical user interface SHELXLE. ${ }^{[22]}$

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