Accepted Manuscript

Research paper

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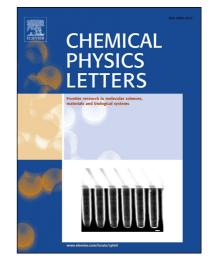
 PII:
 S0009-2614(17)30187-2

 DOI:
 http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.cplett.2017.02.071

 Reference:
 CPLETT 34584

To appear in: Chemical Physics Letters

Received Date:25 January 2017Revised Date:20 February 2017Accepted Date:21 February 2017



Please cite this article as: R. Monni, G. Auböck, D. Kinschel, K.M. Lange, H.B. Gray, A. Vlček, M. Chergui, Conservation of vibrational coherence in ultrafast electronic relaxation: The case of diplatinum complexes in solution, *Chemical Physics Letters* (2017), doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.cplett.2017.02.071

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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Conservation of vibrational coherence in ultrafast electronic relaxation:

The case of diplatinum complexes in solution

Roberto Monni^a, Gerald Auböck^{a,§}, Dominik Kinschel^a, Kathrin M. Lange^{a,#} Harry B. Gray^b, Antonín Vlček^{c,d,*}, and Majed Chergui^{a,*}

^a Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Laboratoire de spectroscopie ultrarapide, ISIC and Lausanne Centre for Ultrafast Science (LACUS), FSB, Station 6, CH-1015 Lausanne, Switzerland

^b Beckman Institute, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California 91125, United States

^c School of Biological and Chemical Sciences, Queen Mary University of London, Mile End Road, London E1 4NS, United Kingdom

^d J. Heyrovský Institute of Physical Chemistry, Czech Academy of Sciences, Dolejškova 3, CZ-182 23 Prague, Czech Republic

Abstract:

We report the results of ultrafast transient absorption studies of tetrakis(μ -pyrophosphito)diplatinate(II), $[Pt_2(\mu-P_2O_5H_2)_4]^{4-}$ (Pt(pop)) and its perfluoroborated derivative $[Pt_2(\mu-P_2O_5(BF_2)_4]^{4-}$ (Pt(pop-BF_2)) in water and acetonitrile upon excitation of high lying (<300 nm) UV absorption bands. We observe an ultrafast relaxation channel from high lying states to the lowest triplet state that partly (Pt(pop) in H₂O, Pt(pop-BF₂)) or fully (Pt(pop) in MeCN) bypasses the lowest singlet excited state. As a consequence, vibrational wave packets are detected in the lowest triplet state and/or the lowest excited singlet of both complexes, even though the electronic relaxation cascade spans ca. 2 and 1.3 eV, respectively. In the case of Pt(pop-BF₂), coherent wave packets generated by optical excitation of the lowest singlet ¹A_{2u} state also are reported. Overall, the reported dephasing times of the Pt-Pt oscillator in the ground, singlet and triplet states do not depend on the solvent or the molecular structure.

[§] Current address: CTR Carinthian Tech Research AG; Europastrasse 4/1, 9524 Villach/St. Magdalen, Austria

Helmholtz-Zentrum Berlin, Hahn-Meitner-Platz 1, 14109 Berlin, Germany

* Corresponding authors: a.vlcek@qmul.ac.uk; Majed.chergui@epfl.ch

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