

## Control of metal/ligand stoichiometry and structure in aminopyridinato complexes of zirconium: *N*-alkyl is better than -trimethylsilyl

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### Characterising data for ligands and complexes

**HL<sup>1</sup>**, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (293 K, d<sub>6</sub>-benzene) δ 8.26 (d, 1H, Py), 7.06 (t, 1H, Py), 6.34 (t, 1H, Py), 6.05 (d, 1H, Py), 4.03 (s, 1H, NH), 2.11 (bs, 6H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.01 (bs, 3H, CH), 1.62 (q, 6H, CH<sub>2</sub>), <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (293 K d<sub>6</sub>-benzene) δ 164.3 (s, Py), 159.3 (s, Py), 148.7 (s, Py), 136.8 (s, Py), 112.7 (s, Py), 52.0 (s, C<sub>q</sub>), 42.9 (s, CH<sub>2</sub>), 37.2 (s, CH<sub>2</sub>), 30.5 (s, CH), MS (EI) m/z 228 (100%, M<sup>+</sup>).

**HL<sup>2</sup>**, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (293 K, d<sub>6</sub>-benzene) δ 7.09 (t, 1H, Py), 6.32 (d, 1H, Py), 6.02 (d, 1H, Py), 4.11 (s, 1H, NH), 2.42 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.08 (bs, 6H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.00 (s, 3H, CH), 1.62 (q, 6H, CH<sub>2</sub>), <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (293 K d<sub>6</sub>-benzene) δ 164.3 (s, Py), 157.2 (s, Py), 137.4 (s, Py), 111.8 (s, Py), 106.6 (s, Py), 51.8 (s, C<sub>q</sub>), 43.0 (s, CH<sub>2</sub>), 37.3 (s, CH<sub>2</sub>), 30.5 (s, CH), 25.1 (s, CH<sub>3</sub>), MS (EI) m/z 242 (100 %, M<sup>+</sup>).

**1a**, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (293 K, d<sub>2</sub>-dichloromethane) δ 7.74 (d, 2H, Py), 7.51 (t, 2H, Py), 6.65 (d, 2H, Py), 6.46 (t, 2H, Py), 2.12 (s, 6H, CH), 2.02 (bs, 12H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.72 (bs, 12H, CH<sub>2</sub>), <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (293 K d<sub>6</sub>-benzene) δ 168.5 (s, Py), 144.3 (s, Py), 142.3 (s, Py), 111.1 (s, Py), 110.7 (s, Py), 55.6 (s, C<sub>q</sub>), 42.0 (s, CH<sub>2</sub>), 37.2 (s, CH<sub>2</sub>), 30.5 (s, CH), MS (EI) m/z 616 (15 %, M<sup>+</sup>).

**1b**, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (293 K, d<sub>2</sub>-dichloromethane) δ 7.39 (t, 2H, Py), 6.57 (d, 2H, Py), 6.30 (t, 2H, Py), 2.23 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.08 (m, 18H, CH<sub>2</sub>/CH), 1.73 (bs, 12H, CH<sub>2</sub>), <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (293 K d<sub>6</sub>-benzene) δ 165.4 (s, Py), 141.6 (s, Py), 112.3 (s, Py), 108.1 (s, Py), 54.9 (s, C<sub>q</sub>), 42.3 (s, CH<sub>2</sub>), 37.3 (s, CH<sub>2</sub>), 30.6 (s, CH), 23.4 (s, CH<sub>3</sub>), MS (EI) m/z 644 (100 %, M<sup>+</sup>).

**2a**,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (293 K,  $d_6$ -benzene)  $\delta$  7.51 (d, 2H, Py), 6.94 (t, 2H, Py), 6.40 (d, 2H, Py), 5.90 (t, 2H, Py), 3.31 (s, 12H,  $\text{NMe}_2$ ), 2.22 (bs, 18H,  $\text{CH}_2/\text{CH}$ ), 1.69 (bs, 12H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ),  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (293 K  $d_6$ -benzene)  $\delta$  168.6 (s, Py), 145.0 (s, Py), 139.1 (s, Py), 110.1 (s, Py), 107.3 (s, Py), 54.0 (s,  $\text{C}_q$ ), 45.4 (s,  $\text{NMe}_2$ ), 42.7 (s,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 41.9 (s,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 30.8 (s, CH), MS (EI)  $m/z$  632 (12 %,  $\text{M}^+$ ), 588 (100 %,  $\text{M}^+ - \text{NMe}_2$ ).

**2b**,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (293 K,  $d_6$ -benzene)  $\delta$  6.96 (t, 2H, Py), 6.34 (d, 2H, Py), 5.8 (t, 2H, Py), 3.21 (s, 12H,  $\text{NMe}_2$ ), 2.17 (m, 18H,  $\text{CH}_3/\text{CH}_2/\text{CH}$ ), 1.73 (bs, 12H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ),  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (293 K  $d_6$ -benzene)  $\delta$  167.5 (s, Py), 155.0 (s, Py), 138.7 (s, Py), 107.5 (s, Py), 107.0 (s, Py), 54.3 (s,  $\text{C}_q$ ), 45.0 (s,  $\text{NMe}_2$ ), 42.9 (s,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 37.7 (s,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 31.0 (s, CH), 22.9 (s,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), MS (EI)  $m/z$  662 (25 %,  $\text{M}^+$ ).

**3a**,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (293 K,  $d_6$ -benzene)  $\delta$  7.69 (d, 2H, Py), 7.44 (d, 4H, Ph), 7.06 (m, 4H, Ph), 6.97 (t, 2H, Py), 6.87 (t, 2H, Ph), 6.19 (d, 2H, Py), 5.94 (t, 2H, Py), 2.88 (bs, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$ ), 2.66 (bs, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$ ), 2.03 (bs, 12H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.93 (bs, 6H, CH), 1.55 (bs, 12H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ),  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (293 K  $d_6$ -benzene)  $\delta$  171.7 (s, Py), 147.2 (s, Ph), 144.4 (s, Py), 141.3 (s, Py), 129.0 (s, Ph), 128.9 (s, Ph), 122.0 (s, Ph), 109.3 (s, Py), 109.1 (s, Py), 72.6 (s,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$ ), 54.8 (s,  $\text{C}_q$ ), 41.3 (s,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 37.3 (s,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 30.3 (s, CH), MS (EI)  $m/z$  727 (15 %,  $\text{M}^+$ ), 636 (86 %,  $\text{M}^+ - \text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$ ).

**3b**,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (293 K,  $d_6$ -benzene)  $\delta$  7.47 (d, 4H, Ph), 7.16 (t, 2H, Ph), 6.91 (d, 2H, Ph), 6.88 (t, 2H, Ph), 6.86 (t, 2H, Py), 6.16 (d, 2H, Py), 5.85 (d, 2H, Py), 2.91 (d, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$ ), 2.82 (d, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$ ), 2.04 (q, 12H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.99 (bs, 12H,  $\text{CH}_3/\text{CH}$ ), 1.59 (bs, 12H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ),  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (293 K  $d_6$ -benzene)  $\delta$  164.5 (s, Py), 140.1 (s, Py), 129.0 (s, Ph), 121.9 (s, Ph), 110.8 (s, Py), 106.9 (s, Py), 75.4 (s,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$ ), 54.9 (s,  $\text{C}_q$ ), 41.7 (s,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 37.4 (s,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 30.5 (s, CH), 23.8 (s,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), MS (EI)  $m/z$  663 (85 %,  $\text{M}^+ - \text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$ ).

**4a**,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (293 K,  $\text{d}_2$ -dichloromethane)  $\delta$  8.13 (d, 2H, Py), 7.41 (t, 2H, Py), 6.44 (d, 2H, Py), 6.28 (t, 2H, Py), 2.00 (m, 18H,  $\text{CH}_2/\text{CH}$ ), 1.65 (bs, 12H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.44 (d, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CMe}_3$ ), 0.98 (bs, 20H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CMe}_3/\text{CH}_3$ ),  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (293 K,  $\text{d}_2$ -dichloromethane)  $\delta$  172.4 (s, Py), 143.3 (s, Py), 142.1 (s, Py), 110.0 (s, Py), 107.9 (s, Py), 86.5 (s,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 54.5 (s,  $\text{C}_q$ ), 41.4 (s,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 37.5 (s,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 35.9 (s,  $\text{CMe}_3$ ), 34.9 (s,  $\text{CMe}_3$ ), 30.6 (s, CH), MS (EI)  $m/z$  687 (5 %,  $\text{M}^+$ ), 615 (40 %,  $\text{M}^+$ - $\text{CH}_2\text{CMe}_3$ ).