$C_{4v}$  symmetry belong to different symmetry species (A<sub>1</sub> for 1581 cm<sup>-1</sup> and B<sub>1</sub> for 1558 cm<sup>-1</sup>), but they belong to the same symmetry species (A<sub>1</sub>) for Fe(OEC)Br with  $C_{2v}$  symmetry. Therefore it seems very likely that vibrational coupling of two A<sub>1</sub> modes causes a large splitting of the two  $C_{\beta}C_{\beta}$  stretching modes for Fe(OEC)Br. The so-called oxidation-state marker ( $\nu_4$ ) is seen at 1371 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the RR spectrum of Fe(OEC)Br.

The middle spectrum of Fig. 1 was obtained by dissolving Fe(OEC)Br in a 1:1 mixture (V/V) of  $CH_2Cl_2/Me_2SO$ . The RR spectrum resembles that of Fe(OEP)(Me\_2SO)\_2 regarding the frequencies of the methine bridge stretching modes [5], suggesting that ferric chlorin forms the hexa-coordinated high-spin complex with dimethyl sulfoxide at two axial positions as in the case of porphyrin.

Upon the high- to low-spin conversion of ferric chlorins all the **RR** bands above 1450 cm<sup>-1</sup> showed large upward shifts. The  $\nu_{10}$ ,  $\nu_{19}$ , and  $\nu_3$  modes of Fe(OEC)(Im)<sub>2</sub>Br were observed at 1640, 1580, and 1508 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. These frequencies are again close to those of the corresponding modes of Fe(OEP)(Im)<sub>2</sub>Br.

The reduction of the iron atom resulted in numerous changes in both positions and intensities of RR bands. However, the frequency shift of the  $\nu_4$ mode was rather small (*ca.* 4 cm<sup>-1</sup>) compared with porphyrins (7-17 cm<sup>-1</sup>) [3,4]. The frequency decrease of the  $\nu_4$  mode upon the change from Fe<sup>3+</sup> to Fe<sup>2+</sup> has been attributed to the increased  $\pi$ -back donation of d<sub> $\pi$ </sub> electrons to porphyrin  $\pi^*$  orbital [3,4]. Therefore, the relatively small frequency shift of  $\nu_4$  mode indicates that  $\pi$ -back donation is less significant in ferrous chlorins than in ferrous porphyrins.

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# PALLADIUM(II) DERIVATIVES OF SOME 1,4-BENZODIAZEPIN-2-ONES

The reaction of  $PdCl_2$  and  $Na_2[PdCl_4]$  with two 1,4--benzodiazepin-2-ones, L, (DIAZEPAM and PRAZEPAM) has been investigated. Complexes of the types trans- $(L)_2PdCl_2$ ,  $[(L-H)PdCl]_2$ ,  $(L-H)(Ph_3P)PdCl$  and (L-H)Pd(acac) have been characterized by IR and NMR spectroscopy. An X-ray structure determination of  $(PRAZEPAM)_2PdCl_2$  has shown that the ligand is coordinated to the metal through the 4-nitrogen atom.

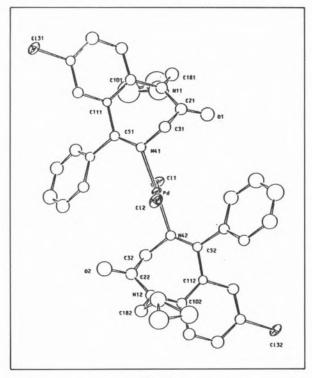
## RESULTS

Previously we have shown that the reaction of some 1,4-benzodiazepin-2-ones, (L) (*e.g.* DIAZE-PAM, PRAZEPAM, NIMETAZEPAM, LORA-ZEPAM, NITRAZEPAM) with gold(III) chloride affords 1:1 adducts (L)AuCl<sub>3</sub>. For the complex (PRAZEPAM)AuCl<sub>3</sub> the coordination mode of the ligand has been ascertained by an X-ray structure determination and found to occur through the 4-nitrogen atom [1].

We report now some preliminary results on the interaction of  $PdCl_2$  and  $Na_2[PdCl_4]$  with DIA-ZEPAM and PRAZEPAM (scheme I):

- 1)  $PdCl_2 + nL \xrightarrow{CHCl_3} trans-(L)_2PdCl_2$ n = 1,2,3
- 2) Na<sub>2</sub>[PdCl<sub>4</sub>] + L  $\longrightarrow$  [(L-H)PdCl]<sub>2</sub> + + (L-H)(L)PdCl
- 3)  $[(L-H)PdCl]_2 +$ 2  $Ph_3P \longrightarrow 2 (L-H)(Ph_3P)PdCl$
- 4)  $[(L-H)PdCl]_2 +$ +2 Tl(acac)  $\longrightarrow$  2 (L-H)Pd(acac) +2 TlCl

Reaction 1) was carried out in mild conditions (room temperature,  $CHCl_3$ ): in any case only 1:2 adducts were obtained, even when excess ligand was employed. The *trans*-arrangement of the ligands was assigned on the basis of the IR and X-ray data. The complex (PRAZEPAM)<sub>2</sub>PdCl<sub>2</sub> exists in two crystalline modifications: one of them is pictured in Fig. 1. The ligand is bonded to the metal through the 4-nitrogen atom: the overall geometry to the organic molecule [2] does not appear to be remarkably affected by the comple-



#### Fig. 1

ORTEP view of compound (PRAZEPAM)<sub>2</sub>PdCl<sub>2</sub>. The hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity.

xation to the metal, as observed previously in the gold(III) complex and in a copper(II) derivative, (DIAZEPAM)<sub>2</sub>CuCl<sub>2</sub> [3], the only complexes of these ligands so far investigated by X-ray analysis. Reaction 2) gave, as the main product, the species [(L-H)PdCl]<sub>2</sub> plus a small amount of (L-H)(L)PdCl. The former are dinuclear complexes where the benzodiazepine ligand is likely to be coordinated through the 4-nitrogen atom and the ortho-carbon atom of the phenyl ring, to give a five-membered cyclometallated system. The dinuclear species are easily split by classical reactions such as 3) and 4) [4]. At the best of our knowledge these are the first complexes where a 1,4--benzodiazepin-2-one acts as an anionic chelating ligand.

Work is in progress to collect X-ray evidence of such a behaviour.

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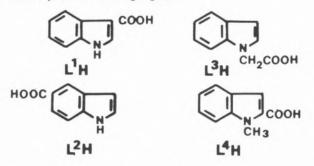


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## COPPER(II) COMPLEXES OF SOME INDOLIC ACIDS

Indolecarboxylic acids are a class of plant auxins which are responsible for metal complex formation in plant tissues [1]. As a continuation of our previous studies on the metal complexes of indolic auxins [2], we report here the synthesis and the characterization of the copper(II) complexes formed by the following ligands:



The complexes obtained, along with their solid--state magnetic properties and electronic absorption data, are listed in Table I.

		Ta	ble I			
Magnetic	properties	and	electronic	absorption	data	

Compound		$\lambda_{max}$ (nm)	
$Cu(L^1)_2 \cdot H_2O$	dimer	685	
Cu(L <sup>2</sup> ) <sub>2</sub> ·1.5 H <sub>2</sub> O	dimer	690	
Cu(L3)2.2 CH3OH	dimer	700	
$Cu(L^3)_2$	dimer	685	
Cu(L4)2.1.5 H2O	dimer	710	
$Cu(L^4)_2 \cdot 2 H_2O$	monomer	700	

Indole-3-carboxylic and indole-5-carboxylic acids yield compounds having formulae  $Cu(L^1)_2 \cdot H_2O$ and  $Cu(L^2)_2 \cdot 1.5 H_2O$ , respectively, which exhibit spectral properties typical of tetracarboxylate--bridged dimers of the copper(II) acetate monohydrate-type.

Also indole-*N*-acetic acid yields dimeric compounds,  $Cu(L^3)_2 \cdot 2CH_3OH$  and  $Cu(L^3)_2$ , the latter one exhibiting an ESR powder spectrum supportive of interdimeric exchange interactions as is often the case of anhydrous copper(II) carboxylates.

On the other hand, N-methyl-indole-2-carboxylic acid yields, in addition to the dimeric complex  $Cu(L^4)_2 \cdot 1.5 H_2O$ , a monomeric compound,  $Cu(L^4)_2 \cdot 2 H_2O$ , whose spectral properties are consistent with a tetragonally elongated coordination involving two water molecules and two bidentate carboxylate groups behaving in a strongly asymmetrical fashion.

By taking into account also the results obtained previously for the complexes of indole-3-acetic, -3-butanoic, -3-propanoic and -2-carboxylic acids [2], it may be suggested that indolic acids behave as simple carboxylic ligands and that monomeric arrangements for the copper(II) complexes are allowed only when the carboxylic group is in *ortho* to the ring nitrogen atom.

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