

Aqua Group Acidity in Complexes of the Type $trans\text{-}[\text{Pt}(\text{NH}_3)_2(\text{L})(\text{H}_2\text{O})]^{2+}$ (with L = Substituted Pyridines). Linear, yet Weak Dependence of $\text{p}K_a$ of the Aqua Ligand from L Basicity

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Dedicated to Professor Hubert Schmidbaur on the occasion of his 75th birthday

The $\text{p}K_a$ of the aqua ligand in complexes of the type $trans\text{-}[\text{Pt}(\text{NH}_3)_2(\text{L})(\text{H}_2\text{O})]^{n+}$ depends on the nature of the ligand *trans* to H_2O , as expected. With $\text{L} = \text{NH}_3$ or NH_2R and $n = 2$, the $\text{p}K_a$ is around 6.0 – 6.4. With $\text{L} = N$ -heterocyclic ligands generally higher acidities of the aqua ligands are observed, with $\text{p}K_a$ values being in the range of 4.7 – 5.4. These values are between those for $\text{L} = \text{H}_2\text{O}$, $n = 2$ (4.4) and $\text{L} = \text{Cl}^-$, $n = 1$ (5.7). For differently substituted pyridine ligands L a linear relationship exists between the $\text{p}K_a$ of the H_2O ligand and the basicity of the heterocyclic ligand L , which is relatively weak, however.

Key words: Transplatin, Pyridine Ligands, Aqua Ligand Acidity, *trans* Influence