

## Kinetic control over the self-assembly of a Pd<sub>6</sub>L<sub>4</sub> square-based pyramid

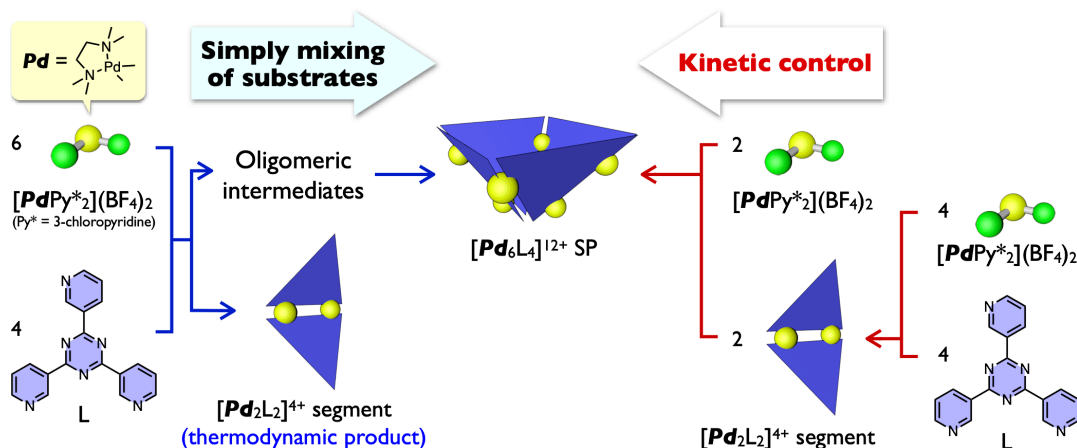
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The self-assembly of the [Pd'L<sub>4</sub>]<sup>12+</sup> square-based pyramid (SP), where Pd' indicates a *cis*-protected Pd(ethylenediamine), in water was reported by Fujita and his coworkers.<sup>1</sup> They proposed that the self-assembly of the SP would take place through a [Pd'L<sub>2</sub>]<sup>4+</sup> segment, which was supported by the isolation of a [Pd''L<sub>2</sub>]<sup>4+</sup> segment, where Pd'' indicates Pd(2,2-bipyridine).

In this work, the time-development of self-assembly process of the [Pd<sub>6</sub>L<sub>4</sub>]<sup>12+</sup> SP, where Pd indicates a *cis*-protected Pd(*N,N,N',N'*-tetramethylethylenediamine)<sup>2</sup>, was investigated in organic solvent by QASAP<sup>3</sup> and NASAP<sup>2,4</sup>. To our surprise, the [Pd<sub>2</sub>L<sub>2</sub>]<sup>4+</sup> segment was produced as a thermodynamically most stable, major product (66%) with the [Pd<sub>6</sub>L<sub>4</sub>]<sup>12+</sup> SP in only 17% yield. QASAP and NASAP indicate that the [Pd<sub>6</sub>L<sub>4</sub>]<sup>12+</sup> SP is not produced mainly through the [Pd<sub>2</sub>L<sub>2</sub>]<sup>4+</sup> segment but through chain-like oligomers without bridging. It was found that the [Pd<sub>6</sub>L<sub>4</sub>]<sup>12+</sup> SP was produced in 69% yield by the reaction between the presynthesized [Pd<sub>2</sub>L<sub>2</sub>]<sup>4+</sup> segment and [PdPy\*<sub>2</sub>](BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> under kinetic control.



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