

## Supplementary Material

## The $[Pd(bipy)]^{2+}$ “merry-go-round”: insights into the lability of the Pd–N bond

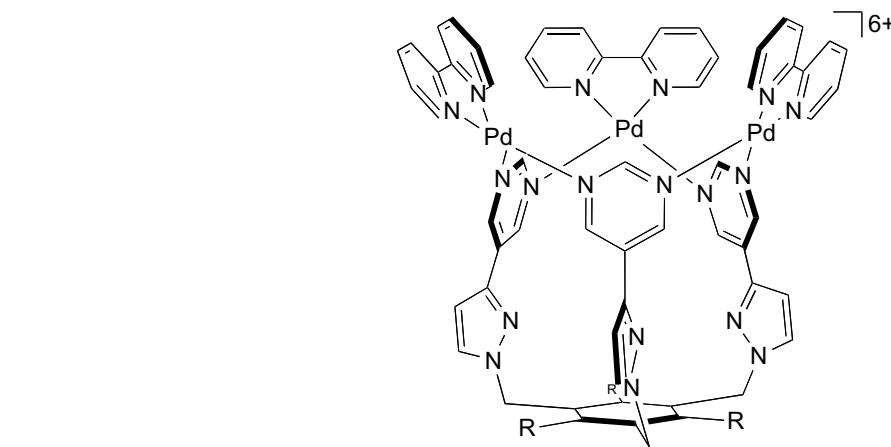
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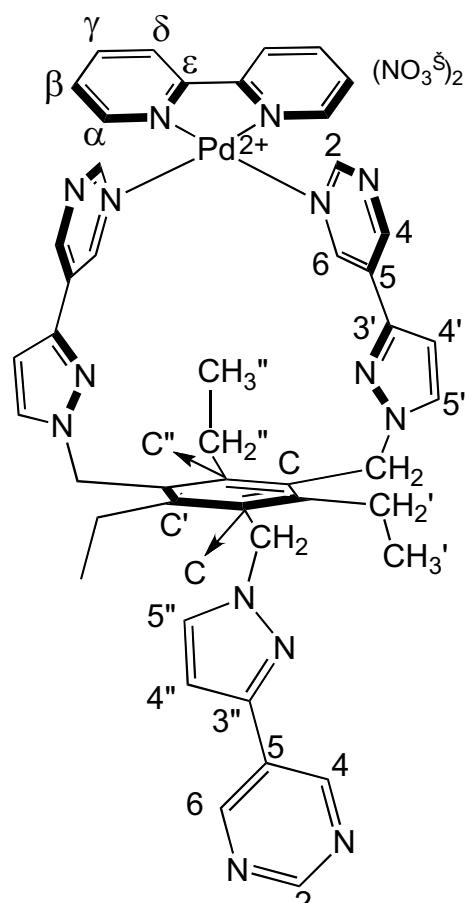
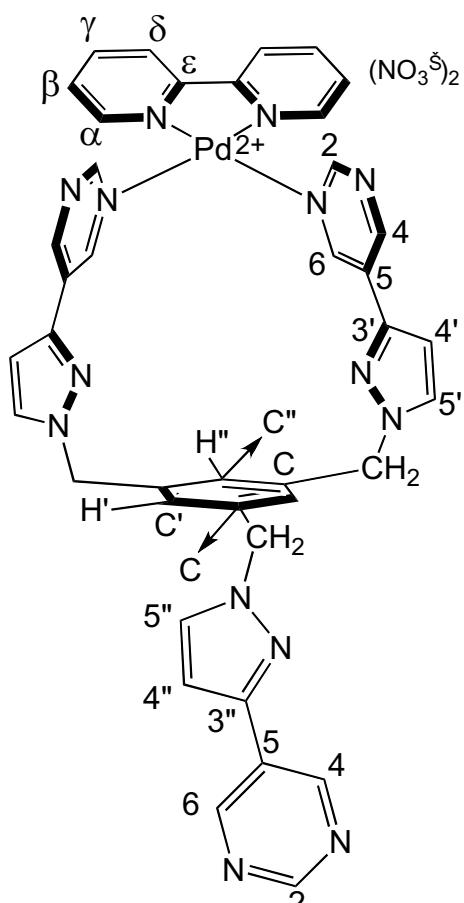
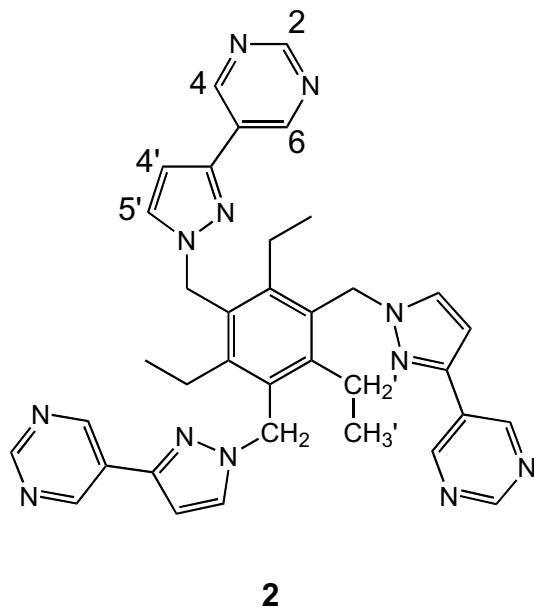
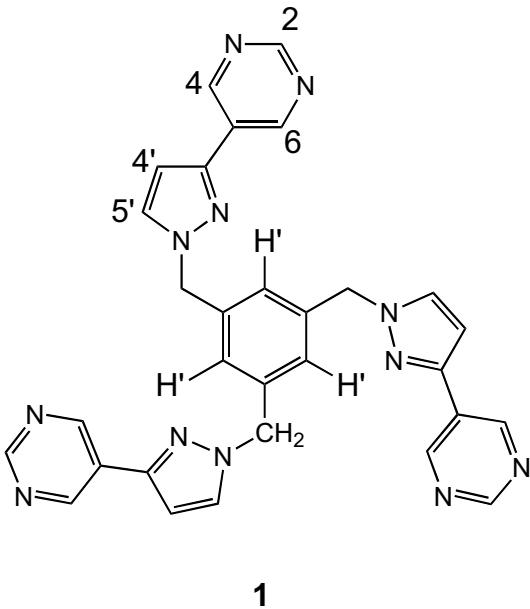
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**Scheme S1.** The target metallo-organic macrocycles  $[\text{Pd}_3(\text{bipy})_3(\mathbf{1})]^{2+}$  and  $[\text{Pd}_3(\text{bipy})_3(\mathbf{2})]^{2+}$ .



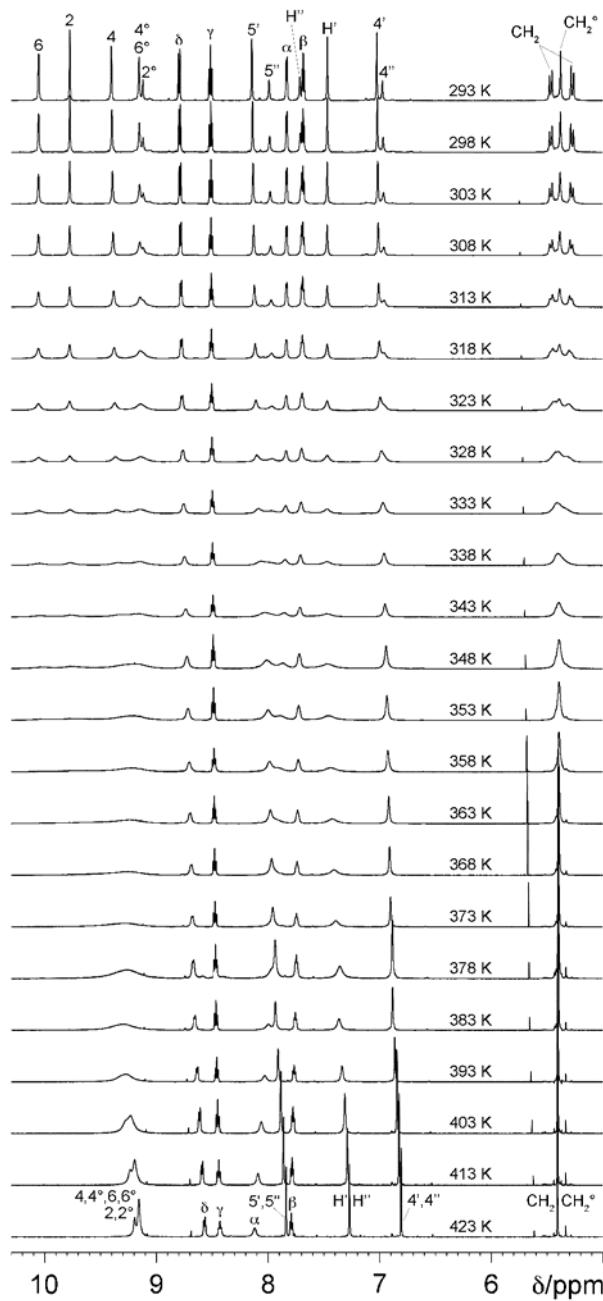
**Scheme S2.** Structural formulae of tripod ligands **1** and **2**, and their  $[\text{Pd}(\text{bipy})]^{2+}$  complexes.

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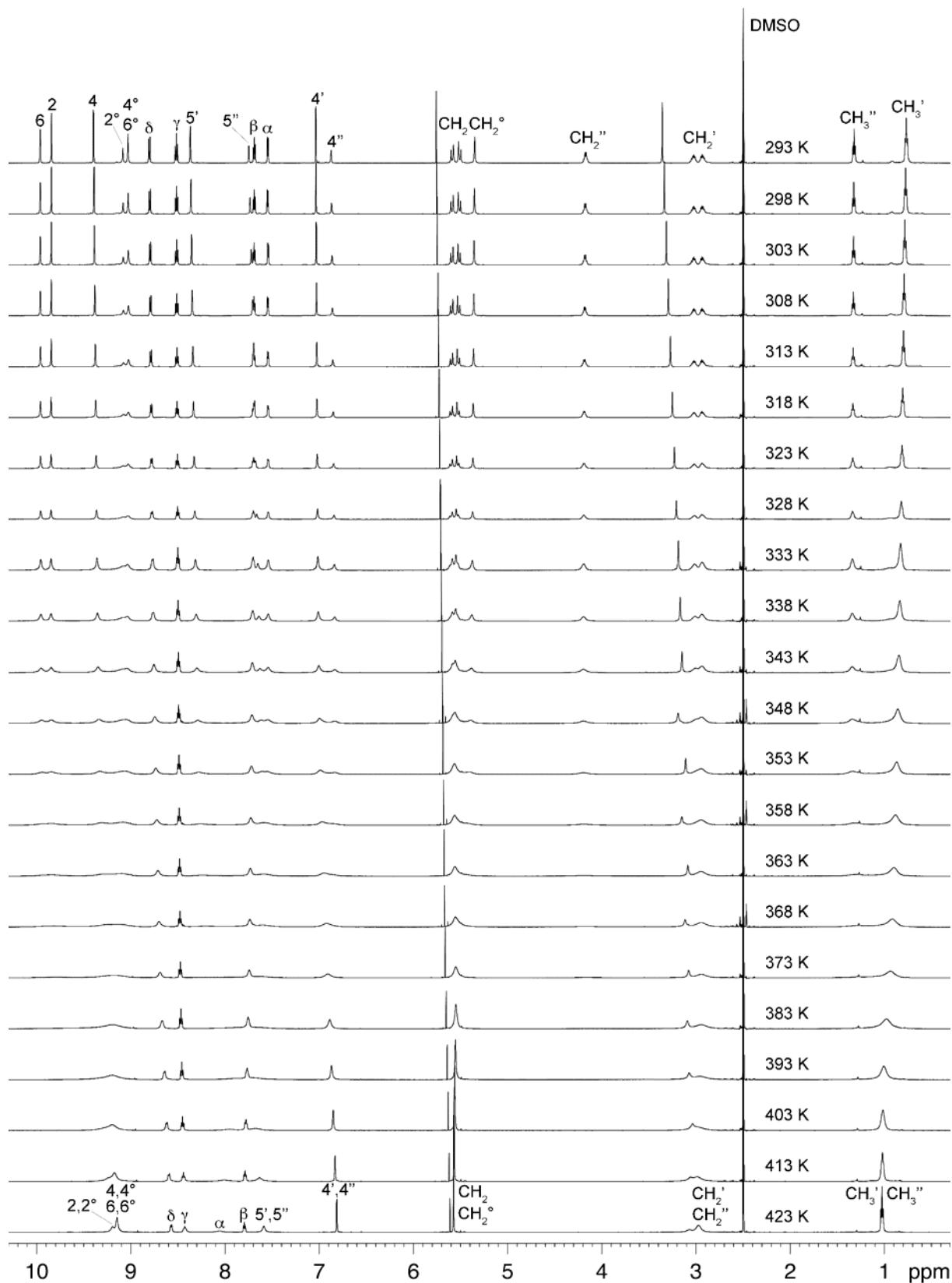
Table S1.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR data and calculated  $\Delta\delta$  between [Pd(**1**)(bipy)][NO<sub>3</sub>]<sub>2</sub> and [Pd(**2**)(bipy)][NO<sub>3</sub>]<sub>2</sub> and the free ligands **1** and **2**.<sup>a</sup>

Compound	Proton	2	2°	4	4°	6	6°	4'	4''	5'	5''	H°	H'',	$\alpha$	$\beta$	$\gamma$	$\delta$	CH <sub>2</sub>	CH <sub>2</sub> °	CH <sub>2</sub> '	CH <sub>2</sub> ''	CH <sub>3</sub> '	CH <sub>3</sub> ''	
[Pd(bipy)][NO <sub>3</sub> ] <sub>2</sub>																								
<b>1</b>	9.07	9.07	9.06	9.06	9.06	9.06	9.06	6.88	6.88	7.94	7.94	7.08	7.08	8.28	7.83	8.45	8.61					5.40	5.40	
[Pd( <b>1</b> )(bipy)][NO <sub>3</sub> ] <sub>2</sub>	9.78	9.12	9.40	9.16	10.06	9.16	7.02	6.97	8.14	7.99	7.47	7.71	7.84	7.69	8.52	8.79	5.37	5.38						
$\Delta\delta$	0.71	0.05	0.34	0.10	1.00	0.10	0.14	0.09	0.20	0.05	0.39	0.63	-0.44	-0.14	0.07	0.18	-0.03	-0.02						
<b>2</b>	9.10	9.10	9.14	9.14	9.14	9.14	9.14	6.92	6.92	7.62	7.62													
[Pd( <b>2</b> )(bipy)][NO <sub>3</sub> ] <sub>2</sub>	9.84	9.08	9.39	9.03	9.96	9.03	7.04	6.87	8.36	7.73														
$\Delta\delta$	0.74	-0.02	0.25	-0.11	0.82	-0.11	0.12	-0.05	0.74	0.11														

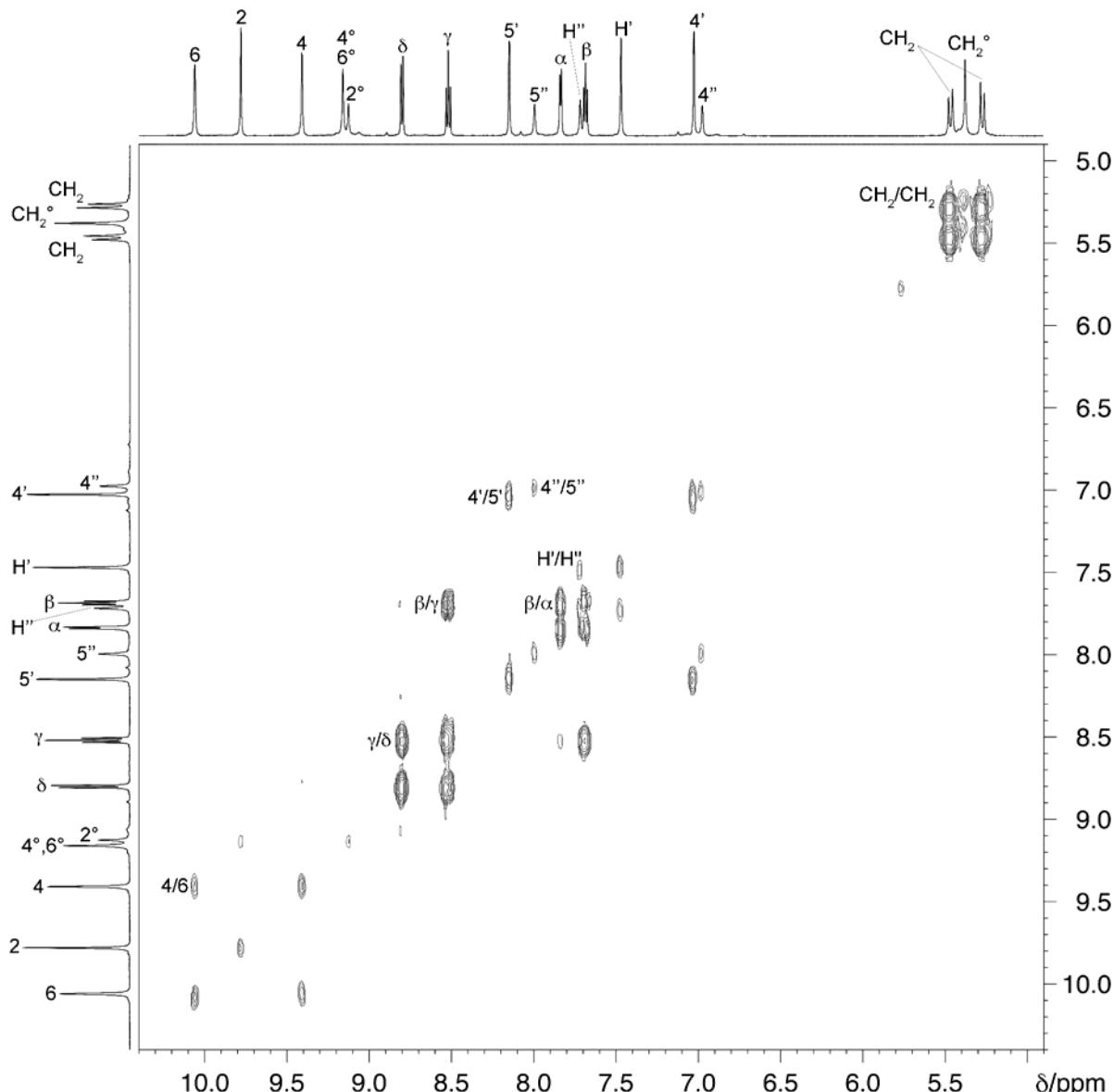
<sup>a</sup> d<sup>6</sup>-dmso, 298 K, 600 MHz.



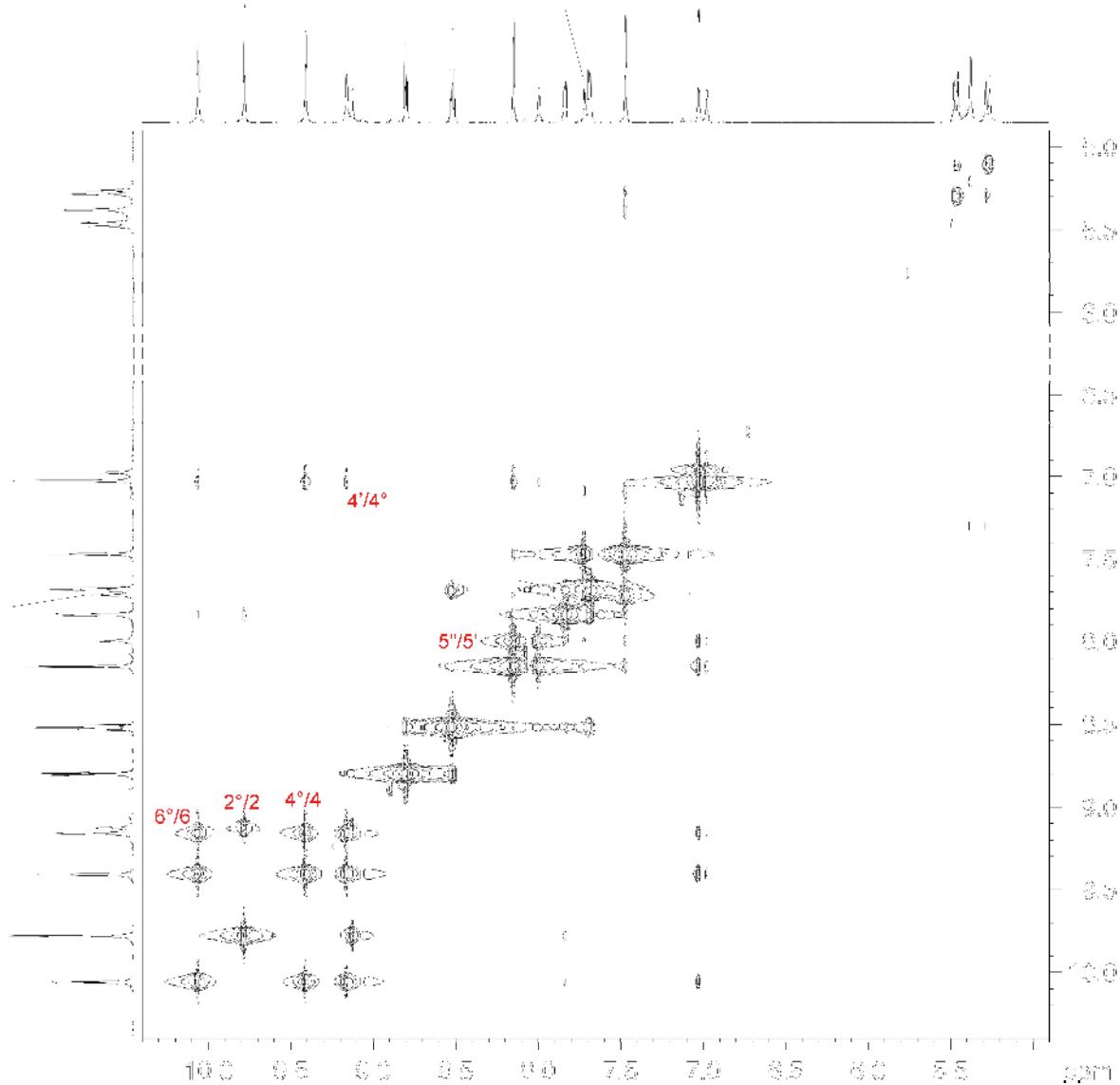
**Figure S1.** Sequence of variable temperature  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of  $[\text{Pd}(\mathbf{1})(\text{bipy})](\text{NO}_3)_2$  in  $\text{d}^6\text{-dmso}$ .



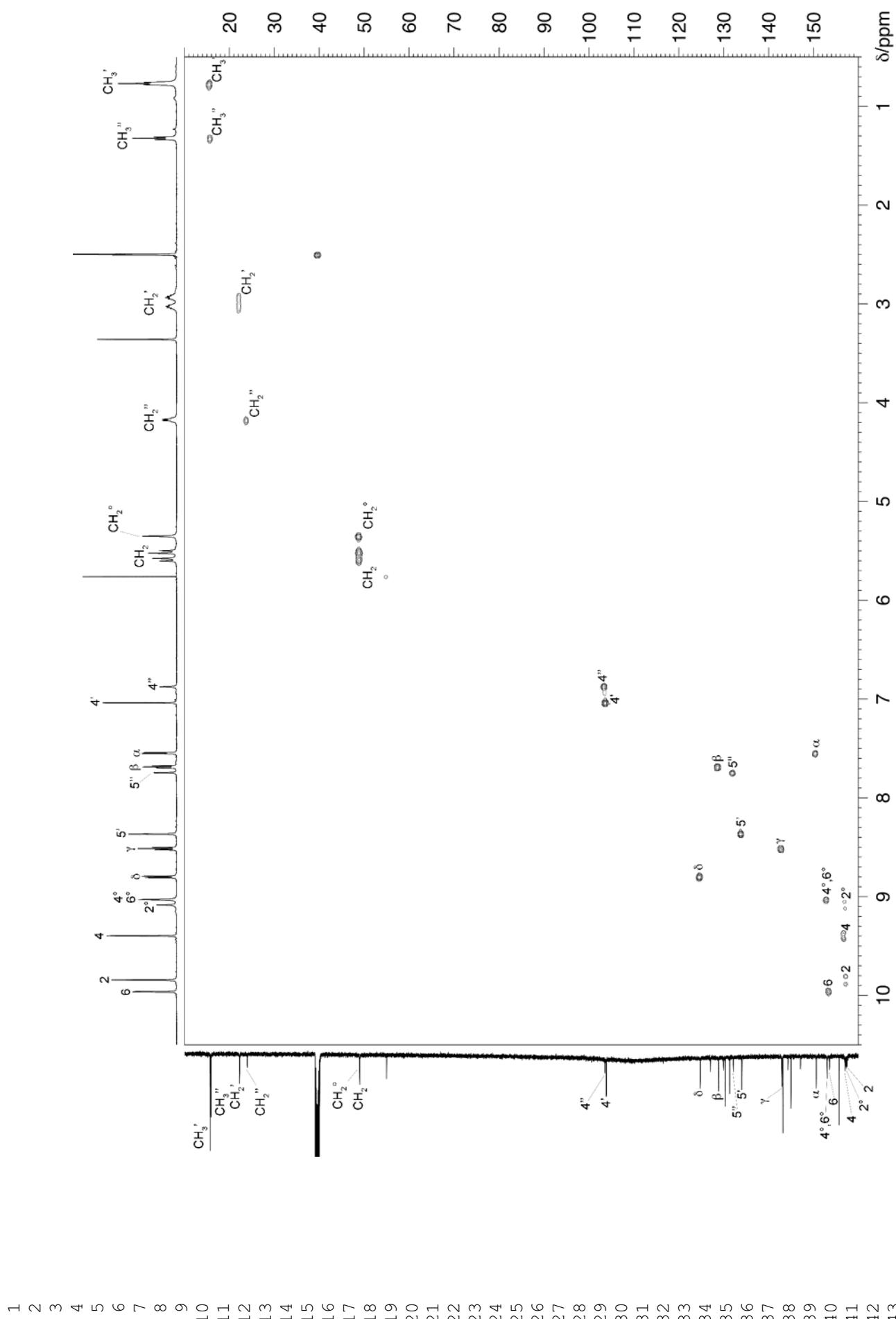
**Figure S2.** Sequence of variable temperature  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of  $[\text{Pd}(2)(\text{bipy})](\text{NO}_3)_2$  in  $d^6\text{-dmso}$ .



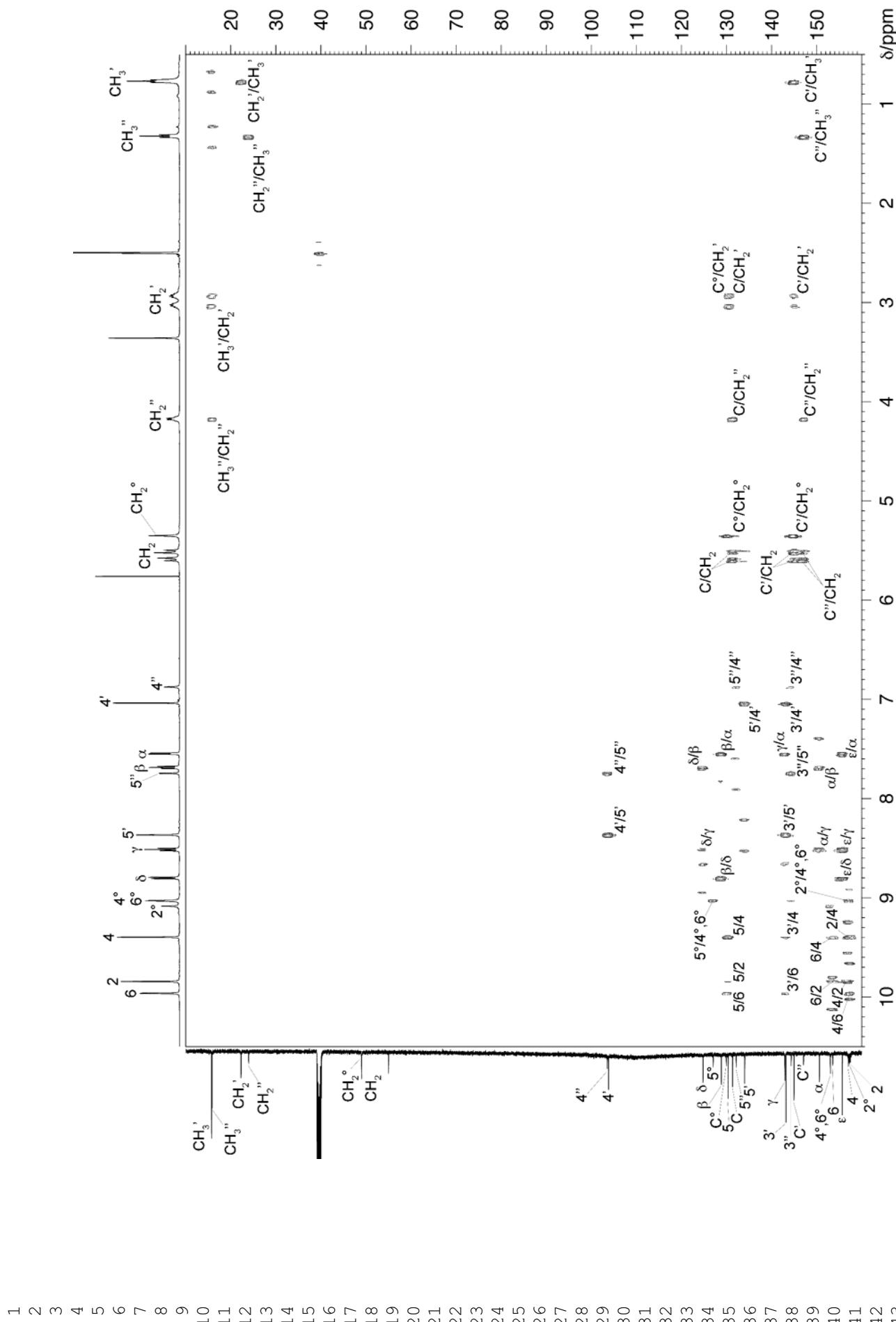
**Figure S3.**  $^1\text{H}/^1\text{H}$  2D NMR COSY map of  $[\text{Pd}(1)(\text{bipy})](\text{NO}_3)_2$  in  $\text{d}^6\text{-dmso}$  (600 MHz, 298 K).



**Figure S4.**  $^1\text{H}/^1\text{H}$  2D NMR ROESY map of  $[\text{Pd}(\mathbf{1})(\text{bipy})](\text{NO}_3)_2$  in  $\text{d}^6\text{-dmso}$  (600 MHz, 293 K).



**Figure S5.**  $^{13}\text{C}$ / $^1\text{H}$  2D NMR HSQC map of  $[\text{Pd}(\mathbf{2})(\text{bipy})](\text{NO}_3)_2$  in d<sup>6</sup>-dmso (600 MHz, 293 K).



**Figure S6.**  $^{13}\text{C}/^1\text{H}$  2D NMR HMQC map of [Pd(2)(bipy)][(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] in d<sup>6</sup>-dmso (600 MHz, 298 K).

**Table 3.** Calculated errors of the free energies of activation.<sup>a</sup>

Compound	Probe protons	$T/\text{K}$	$\Delta\tilde{\nu}/\text{Hz}$	$k_c/\text{s}^{-1}$	$\Delta G^\ddagger/\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$	$\sigma(T_c)$	$\sigma(\Delta\nu)$	$\sigma(k_c)$	$\partial(\Delta G)/\partial(T_c)$	$\partial(\Delta G)/\partial(\Delta\nu)$	$\partial(\Delta G)/\partial(k_c)$	$\sigma(\Delta G^\ddagger)$
[Pd(1)(bipy)] <sup>2+</sup>	4',4"	323	30	66.64	68.0	5.00	5.00	11.11	218.98	-89.51	-40.30	1.18
	5',5"	338	90	199.93	68.2	5.00	5.00	11.11	210.22	-31.22	-14.06	1.06
	H",H" and 4,4°	343	150	333.22	67.8	5.00	5.00	11.11	206.10	-19.01	-8.56	1.03
	2,2°	358	395	877.47	68.1	5.00	5.00	11.11	198.40	-7.54	-3.39	0.99
	6,6°	363	540	1199.58	68.1	5.00	5.00	11.11	195.92	-5.59	-2.52	0.98
[Pd(2)(bipy)] <sup>2+</sup>	4',4"	358	100	222.14	72.1	5.00	5.00	11.11	209.83	-29.76	-13.40	1.06
	CH <sub>2</sub> ,CH <sub>2</sub> °	358	120	266.57	71.6	5.00	5.00	11.11	208.31	-24.80	-11.17	1.05
	CH <sub>3</sub> ',CH <sub>3</sub> ''	373	330	733.08	71.6	5.00	5.00	11.11	200.24	-9.40	-4.23	1.00
	CH <sub>2</sub> ',CH <sub>2</sub> ''	383	715	1588.33	71.1	5.00	5.00	11.11	194.03	-4.45	-2.00	0.97

<sup>a</sup>  $\sigma(\Delta G) = \sqrt{[\partial(\Delta G)/\partial(T_c)]^2 \sigma^2(T_c) + [\partial(\Delta G)/\partial(\Delta\nu)]^2 \sigma^2(\Delta\nu) + 2[\partial(\Delta G)/\partial(T_c)][\partial(\Delta G)/\partial(\Delta\nu)]\text{cov}(T_c, \Delta\nu)}$ . It is assumed that  $\text{cov}(T_c, \Delta\nu) = 0$ , as  $T_c$  and  $\Delta\nu$  are determined independently, see P. Gans, Data Fitting in the Chemical Sciences, John Wiley & Sons Ltd, Chichester, England, 1992.