### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Probing the Solvent Shell with  $^{195}$ Pt Chemical Shifts: Density Functional Molecular Dynamic Study of Pt $^{II}$  and Pt $^{IV}$  Anionic Complexes in Aqueous Solution

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# 1 Calculation of structural and dynamical properties

## 1.1 Radial distribution functions

The radial distribution function (RDF)  $g_{ij}(r)$  for a pair of atoms ij is related to the probability of finding the atom pair a distance r apart, relative to the probability expected for a completely random distribution at the same density.<sup>1</sup> This definition can be expressed as an average over pairs, using the formal equation,

$$g_{ij}(r) = \frac{V}{N_{ij}} \left\langle \sum_{i} \sum_{j \neq i} \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_{ij}) \right\rangle_{\text{configurations}}$$
(1)

where V is the volume of the cell and  $N_{ij}$  the number of atom pairs. An efficient calculation of the RDF is based on the evaluation of atom pair probability  $\delta \rho_{ij}(r)$ , i.e. the number of ij pairs in the range  $[r, r + \delta r]$ . The calculation of  $\delta \rho_{ij}$  is repeated for each configuration involved in the statistics, where the radius r is incremented by  $\delta r$  until the radial cutoff value  $r_c$  is reached. The latter is generally defined as the length of the box divided by two in order to respect the periodic image constraint. As a result,  $g_{ij}(r)$  is expressed as

$$g_{ij}(r) = \frac{V}{N_{ij}} \left\langle \sum_{i} \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{1}{4\pi r^2 \delta r} \delta \rho_{ij} \right\rangle_{\text{configurations}}$$
(2)

A number of 2048 configurations along with a radial step of 0.10 Å were used to generate the RDFs in this work. The RDFs expressed in eq. 2 are normalized such that  $g_{ij}$  approaches unity for large r.

## 1.2 Velocity auto-correlation functions and power spectra

The dynamical properties of a liquid such as the time integrals which are related to macroscopic transport coefficients can be evaluated from the velocity auto-correlation functions (VACFs). Their Fourier transformed amplitudes – often referred to as the "power density spectra" (PSD) or the "vibrational density of states" (VDOS) – yield the intensity of ro-vibrational excitation frequencies of the system at a given temperature.<sup>1,2</sup> The normalized VACF, C(t), is defined by

$$C(t) = \mathcal{N} \frac{\langle \sum_{i} \sum_{\alpha} v_{i\alpha}(t_i + t) v_{i\alpha}(t) \rangle_N}{\langle \sum_{i} \sum_{\alpha} v_{i\alpha}(t_i) v_{i\alpha}(t_i) \rangle_N}$$
(3)

where  $v_{i\alpha}$  denotes the velocity component  $\alpha$  of the atom i, i runs over the number  $N_t$  of time intervals  $t_i$ , and  $\mathcal{N}$  is a normalization factor given as  $\mathcal{N}=1/N_tN$ , with N being the number of atoms. Considering that C(t) is averaged over N, it is straightforward to decompose the velocity the VACFs into separate contributions; in our work, for instance, from the inorganic complex (Pt and ligand atoms) and from the solvent molecules (H and O atoms).

$$C(t) = C_{\text{complex}}(t) + C_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}(t)$$
(4)

Then the vibrational frequency spectrum  $I(\omega)$  can be obtained by computing the following Fourier transform,<sup>3</sup>

$$I(\omega) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^\infty dt \ C(t)e^{i\omega t}$$
 (5)

Power spectra presented in the paper were obtained using the maximum entropy method.<sup>4</sup> Results were checked using more conventional Fourier transform methods involving data windowing functions such as the Bartlett window.<sup>5</sup>

# 2 Structural properties of bulk water

The bulk water structure related to the solvated  $[PtCl_4]^{2-}$  system (noted  $[PtCl_4]^{2-}_{SOI}$ ) is compared to pure water simulations in Figure S1a-c. For example, considering the RDF of oxygen in water (g<sub>OO</sub>(r)), the first peak position is at 2.70 Å with a height of 3.17 (Figure S1a), compared to the experimental values of 2.73 Å and 2.75 (vs. 2.71Å/3.30 from previous CP-aiMD). Likewise, the first minimum is at  $g_{OO}^{min}(3.30) = 0.42$  in this study, which is also in good agreement with  $g_{OO}^{min}(3.30) = 0.41$  from the CP-aiMD simulations of Grossman et al.<sup>6,7</sup> Compared to the results obtained for [PtCl<sub>4</sub>]<sup>2-</sup><sub>Sol</sub>, the overall liquid structure of water remains relatively unchanged despite the presence of the Pt complex. As observed for  $[PtCl_4]_{SOI}^{2-}$ , peak positions and linewidths are globally conserved for the three RDFs. Nevertheless, the presence of the Pt-complex influences the behavior of the water shells as shown by the overstructured RDFs of S1a-c. The fact that these modifications seems be stronger at long range (around r = 4 Å) indicates that the difference observed between  $[PtCl_4]_{SOI}^{2-}$  and pure water are related to the densities of the liquid systems. From the comparison of the  $g_{HO}(r)$  RDFs within the range of 1.0-1.5 Å (Figure S1a) we point out that, whereas for pure water a clear separation (g\_{\mbox{HO}}(1.2 \le r \le 1.3)\,=\,0.0) is observed between the O-H ( $\approx 1.5$  Å) and O···H ( $\approx 1.7$  Å) bond distance distributions, this property is not observed for  $[PtCl_4]_{SOI}^{2-}$  (g<sub>HO</sub>(1.2  $\leq$  r  $\leq$  1.3) = 0.1). This result indicates the presence of intermediate O-H distances which might be related to H<sub>2</sub>O molecules bonded to the [PtCl<sub>4</sub>]<sup>2-</sup> anion and the existence of solvated H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> entities. We emphasize that these conclusions are transferable to the water liquid structure of the other solvated Pt-halides complexes.

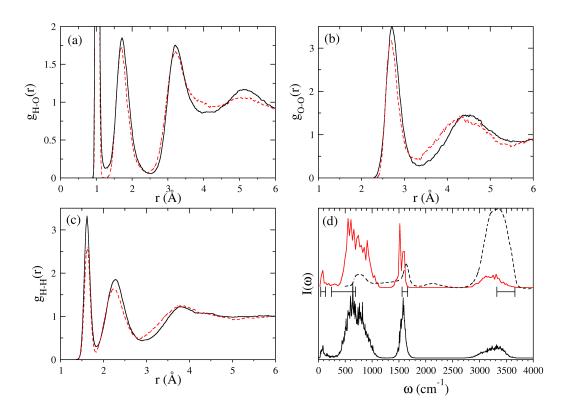


Figure S1: (a,b,c) Partial radial distribution functions of  $H_2O$  for the solvated  $PtCl_4^{2-}$  complex (black solid line) and pure water (red dashed line). (d) Spectral density of the velocity auto-correlation functions of the solvated  $[PtCl_4]^{2-}$  complex (black solid line) and pure water (red dashed line), along with the infra-red experimental spectrum (dashed line) from Ref. 8 and the peak widths of the experimental Raman spectrum (bars) from Ref. 9.

# 3 Additional data

# 3.1 H-X and and Pt-H Radial distribution functions

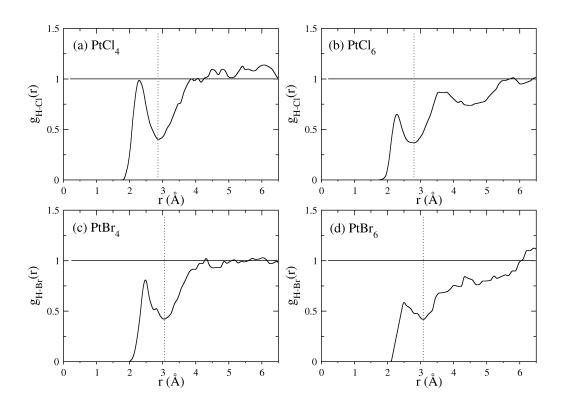


Figure S2: Partial radial distribution functions for H–X atom pairs with  $X = \{Cl, Br\}$  for the various solvated  $[PtX_n]^{2-}$  complexes. The vertical dotted lines indicate the integration radius used for the calculation of the H coordination number.

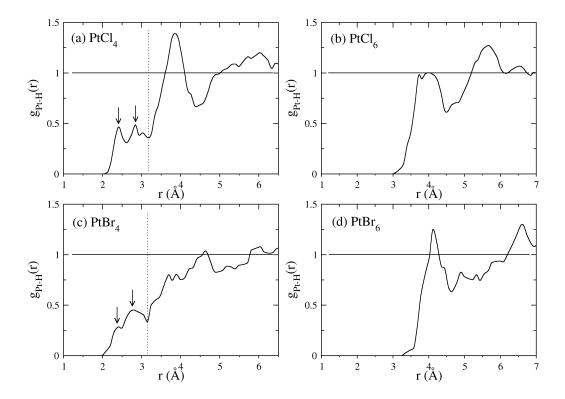


Figure S3: Partial radial distribution functions for Pt–H atom pairs for the various solvated  $[PtX_n]^{2-}$  complexes. Arrows point out the presence of direct  $Pt\leftarrow H_2O$  and/or  $Pt\leftarrow OH_2$  interactions along the axis perpendicular to the square-planar Pt complexes. The vertical dotted lines indicate the integration radius used for the calculation of the H coordination number.

# 3.2 Vibrational properties of $[PtCl_4]^{2-}$ and $[Pt(CN)_4]^{2-}$ in water

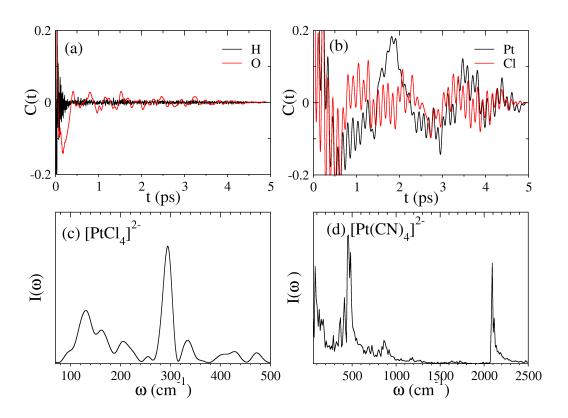


Figure S4: (a,b) Partial velocity auto-correlation functions C(t) calculated for the four atomic species in  $[\operatorname{PtCl_4}]^{2-}_{\operatorname{SOl}}$ . (c,d) Partial vibrational density of states  $I(\omega)$  calculated for the isolated  $[\operatorname{PtCl_4}]^{2-}$  and  $[\operatorname{Pt(CN)_4}]^{2-}$  complexes.

### Theoretical <sup>195</sup>Pt isotropic shieldings and chemical shifts 3.3

Table S1: Theoretical <sup>195</sup>Pt isotropic shielding and chemical shift contributions calculated for the set of  $PtX_n^{2-}$  complexes, along with their statistical errors (in ppm).

Hamiltonian <sup>a</sup>	$[PtCl_6]^{2-b}$	[PtCl <sub>4</sub> ] <sup>2-</sup>		[PtBr <sub>4</sub> ] <sup>2-</sup>		[PtBr <sub>6</sub> ] <sup>2-</sup>		$[Pt(CN)_4]^{2-}$	
	$\sigma_{\mathrm{av}}^{T\ c}$	$\sigma_{\mathrm{av}}^{T}$	$\delta_{ m av}^T$	$\sigma_{ m av}^T$	$\delta_{ m av}^T$	$\sigma_{ m av}^T$	$\delta_{ m av}^T$	$\sigma_{\mathrm{av}}^{T}$	$\delta_{ m av}^T$
SC	-2307	-913	-1391	-191	-2111	-1038	-1267	3038	-5346
SO	1340	2702	-1364	3665	-2329	3299	-1962	6068	-4728
	$\langle \sigma_{\rm bare} \rangle$	$\langle \sigma_{\rm bare} \rangle$	$\langle \delta_{\rm bare} \rangle$	$\langle \sigma_{\rm bare} \rangle$	$\langle \delta_{\mathrm{bare}} \rangle$	$\langle \sigma_{\rm bare} \rangle$	$\langle \delta_{\rm bare} \rangle$	$\langle \sigma_{\rm bare} \rangle$	$\langle \delta_{\rm bare} \rangle$
SC	$-2381 \pm 46$	$-959 \pm 47$	$-1419 \pm 93$	$-323 \pm 43$	$-2053 \pm 89$	$-1139 \pm 33$	$-1239 \pm 79$	$2945 \pm 7$	$-5314 \pm 53$
SO	$1274 \pm 40$	$2663 \pm 37$	$-1391 \pm 77$	$3554 \pm 37$	$-2283 \pm 77$	$3214 \pm 27$	$-1943 \pm 67$	$5978 \pm 5$	$-4710 \pm 45$
	$\langle \sigma^T \rangle$	$\langle \sigma^T \rangle$	$\left<\delta^T\right>$	$\langle \sigma^T \rangle$	$\left<\delta^T\right>$	$\langle \sigma^T \rangle$	$\left<\delta^T\right>$	$\langle \sigma^T \rangle$	$\left<\delta^T\right>$
NR	$426 \pm 28$	$1536 \pm 28$	$-1110 \pm 56$	$2316 \pm 24$	$-1890 \pm 52$	$1714 \pm 19$	$-1288 \pm 47$	$3536 \pm 7$	$-3111 \pm 35$
SC	$-2063 \pm 44$	$-278 \pm 43$	$-1781 \pm 87$	$209 \pm 39$	$-2268 \pm 83$	$-933 \pm 30$	$-1128 \pm 74$	$2932 \pm 8$	$-4985 \pm 52$
SO	$1576 \pm 38$	$3235 \pm 35$	$-1661 \pm 73$	$4105 \pm 33$	$-2533 \pm 71$	$3405 \pm 25$	$-1832 \pm 63$	$5996 \pm 6$	$-4426 \pm 44$
Expt.			-1623 <sup>10</sup>		-2672 <sup>10</sup>		-188211		-4746 <sup>12</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> The abbreviations SC and SO denote the scalar and spin-orbit ZORA Hamiltonian.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Reference system used for the calculation of the <sup>195</sup>Pt chemical shifts (see eq. (4) of the main paper). <sup>c</sup> See eq. (5) and (6) and text of the main paper for the definitions of  $\sigma_{av}^T$ ,  $\delta_{av}^T$ ,  $\langle \sigma_{bare} \rangle$  and  $\langle \delta_{bare} \rangle$ .

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