

# INTERESTING SELENIUM-OXYGEN/PHOSPHORUS CONTAINING MIXED DONOR MACROCYCLES; SYNTHETIC AND STRUCTURAL PERSPECTIVES

## Abstract

Oxygen, Sulfur-based macrocycles were known and investigated widely. Emergence of the equivalent macrocyclic polyselena ethers was anticipated, since the introduction of sulfur coronands and their extensive and fascinating coordination chemistry. The synthetic along with coordination chemistry investigations of selena-macrocycles have attracted a lot of interest following accidental finding of selena-crown ethers. A lot of work has been put into designing and synthesizing new homo as well as mixed donor selenoether macrocyclic molecules over past few decades in order to examine their ligation characteristics towards transition along with post-transition metal ions. To be able for interaction with both "hard" as well as "soft" guest ions and/or molecules, macrocycles containing soft Se atoms along with other hard donor atoms as binding sites, close to one another within same ring framework, were produced. In this chapter, chemistry of mixed donor (O/P) selena-macrocycles has been discussed from their synthetic and structural perspectives, briefly.

**Keywords:** selena-macrocycles, organo selenium, Oxygen, coronands, polyselena

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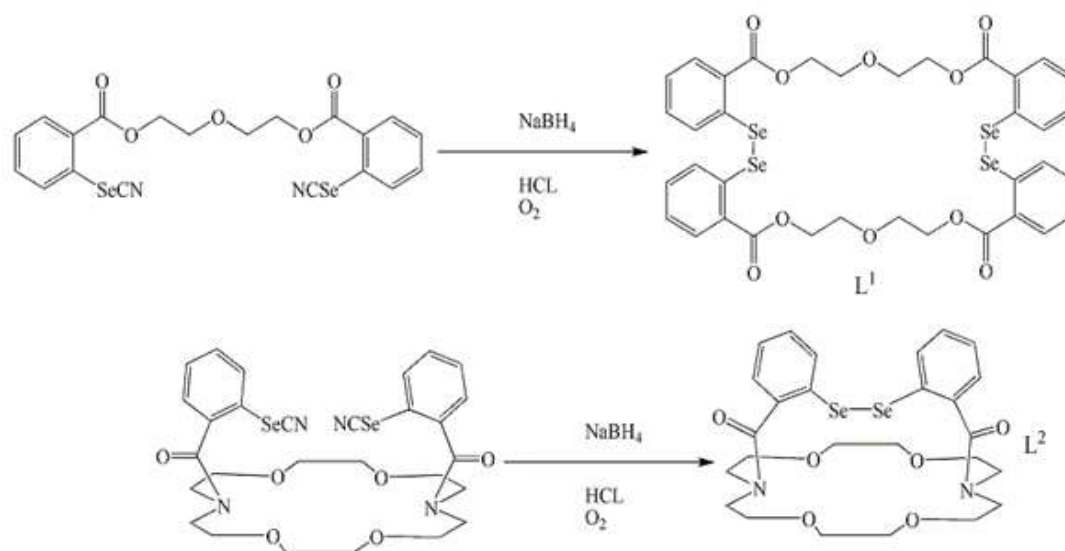
## I. INTRODUCTION

Since Pedersen<sup>1</sup>, Cram<sup>2</sup>, and Lehn's<sup>3</sup> pioneering discovery, the science related to "supramolecular chemistry"/"host-guest chemistry" has expanded significantly. The chemistry of associates having an extensively defined framework or chemistry that goes beyond our traditional covalent bonds is both examples of supramolecular chemistry. A number of comparatively weak forces, including H-bonding,  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking, ion-dipole, dipole-dipole forces, van der Waals interactions, etc., control the architecture of the associated. Chemical sensing, the specific extraction of toxic or radioactive metal ions from streams of waste, membrane transport, the immobilization of radioisotopes, phase-transfer catalysis, and other uses are only a few of the numerous uses involving selective association with metal ions. Prototype platforms for (metallo)enzymes, activation of small molecules, the specific interaction of anions, as well as the nucleophilic parts of neutral compounds are additional fields of importance. Owing of their extremely specific ability for chelating metal ions, mixed donor macrocycles received a great deal of attention. Bigger Se atom's inclusion ought to alter ring's cavity's dimensions, allowing for certain intriguing coordinating behavior. Additionally, Se-containing macrocycles prove good ligands for binding transition metals and this subject have been thoroughly investigated because of the low electronegativity of Se. Therefore, macrocycles with soft Se atoms and hard donor atoms like Phosphorus, Nitrogen, or Oxygen in the ring structure may function as possible hetero dinuclear macrocyclic ligands. Such macrocyclic ligands are going to possess both 'hard' as well as 'soft' binding sites adjacent to one another, which gives them the ability to communicate with both 'hard' and 'soft' guest ions and/or molecules. The term "hard" describes Group I (alkali metal) as well as Group II (alkaline earth metal) cations that possess poor polarizability. Since these are extremely easy to polarize, transition metal ions are referred to as "soft" cations. The redox characteristics exhibited by the transition-metal ions are going to differ when a hard cation and a transition-metal cation form compounds together within a single macrocycle. These compounds can be utilized for supramolecular network development, activation, along with bimetallic catalysis<sup>4</sup>. In this chapter seleno-macrocyclic systems which additionally have donor centers (Oxygen/Phosphorus) are discussed briefly; from their synthetic, metal complexation and structural viewpoints.

## II. SELENIUM-OXYGEN DONOR ATOM CONTAINING MACROCYCLES

Se-Se bond-containing organoselenium molecules tend to be interesting as they make good substrates during selected synthetic organic chemistry. These also act as intermediates in crucial biological reactions which involve glutathione peroxidase, which is enzyme that contain Se. when suitable metal cations exist within the cavity, incorporating this bond into crown ether kind hosts offer an outstanding chance for a novel molecular device that can experience specific membrane transport of particular metal cations upon exposure to light or function as a catalyst during a photochemically induced redox process. The *inter*- as well as *intra*-molecular cyclization associated with substrates having Se has been utilized to describe the synthesis of the initial macrocycles with Se-Se linkage ( $L^1$ ,  $L^2$ ), shown in Scheme 1. The noteworthy closeness of Se and O atoms within the structural arrangements of  $L^1$  and  $L^2$  is an especially intriguing aspect of the structures. The atoms in question have significant attractive interactions with one another, given such

seemingly low interatomic spacing. O(12')-Se(1)-Se(2)-O(51) in  $L^1$  and Se(6)-Se(5)-O(16) in  $L^2$  are in a nearly straight arrangement, which [Figure 1] convincingly demonstrate that those interactions are caused by the hypervalent feature of the Se atoms. The benzene ring and carbonyl group's  $\pi$ -electron conjugation as well as the integrated impact of hypervalent interactions all help to maintain the macrocyclic system's structural integrity<sup>5</sup>.



Scheme 1

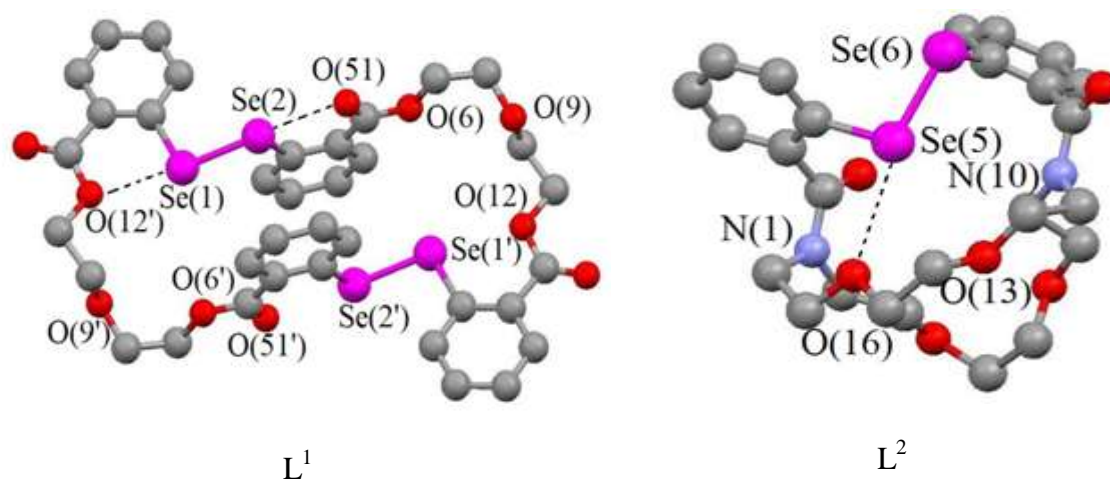
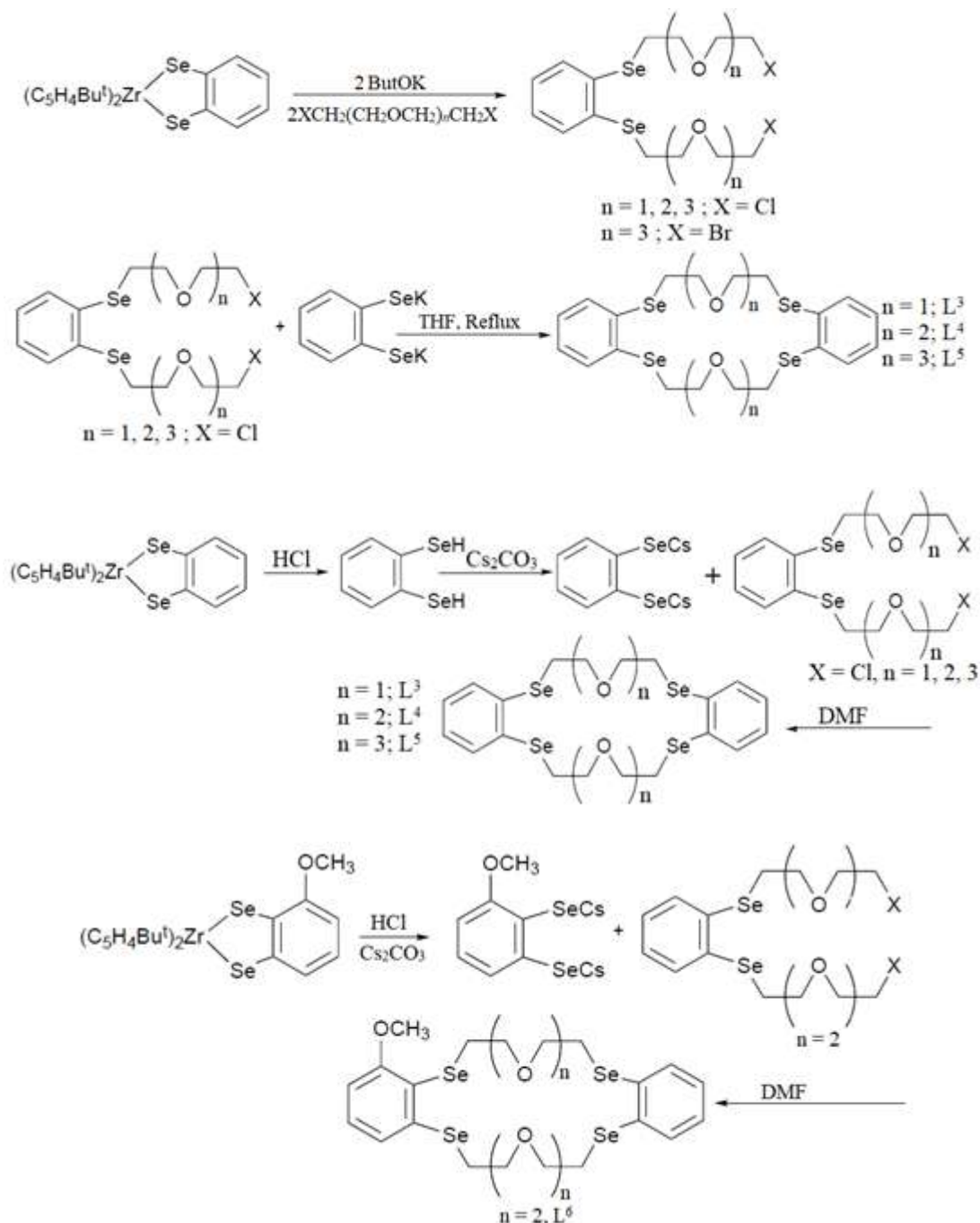


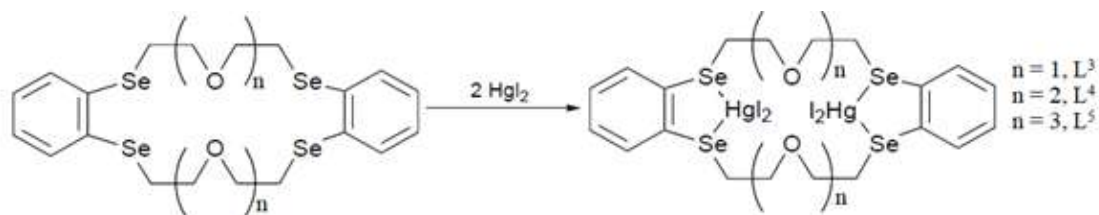
Figure 1

Three distinct  $\text{Se}_4$  crown ethers ( $L^3$ ,  $L^4$  and  $L^5$ ;  $n = 1, 2$  and  $3$ , respectively) were synthesized using dipotassium benzene-1,2-diselenolate [ $o\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{SeK}_2)$ ] with dihalogenoselenoethers  $o\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4[\text{SeCH}_2(\text{CH}_2\text{OCH}_2)_n\text{CH}_2\text{X}]_2$  ( $\text{X} = \text{Cl}$ ,  $n = 1, 2, 3$  or  $\text{X} = \text{Br}$ ,  $n = 3, 4$ ). The yield might be raised by utilizing the "Cs effect" [Scheme 2]<sup>6,7</sup>. X-Ray diffraction was used to evaluate the crystal framework and solid-state configuration of  $L^4$  (Figure 2). The formation of unsymmetrical crown ether modified on just a single benzene ring was additionally done using the "cesium effect."



Scheme 2

Two mole equivalents of Mercuric Iodide are bound with these Se-crown ethers to generate dinuclear compounds<sup>6</sup> with basic composition as  $[(HgI_2)_2(L^n)]$ ;  $n = 3, 4$  and  $5$ . Just those Se donors within the macrocycle connect around the roughly tetrahedral  $Hg^{II}$  centers, according to the arrangement of  $[(HgI_2)_2(L^n)]$  [Figure 2], while I donors filling the other two positions for coordination for both  $Hg^{II}$  center. The synthesis is displayed in Scheme 3, below.



Scheme 3

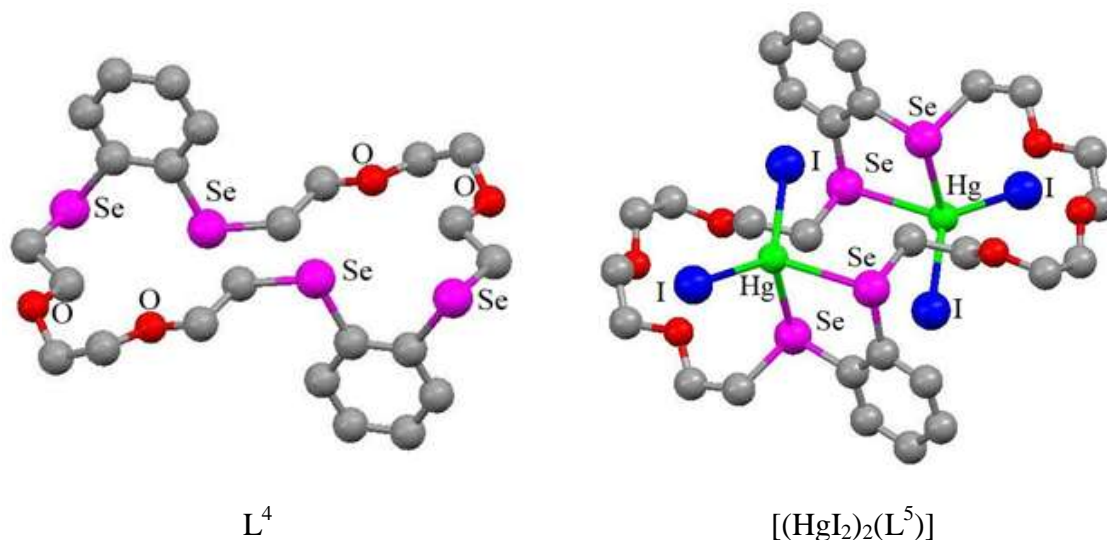
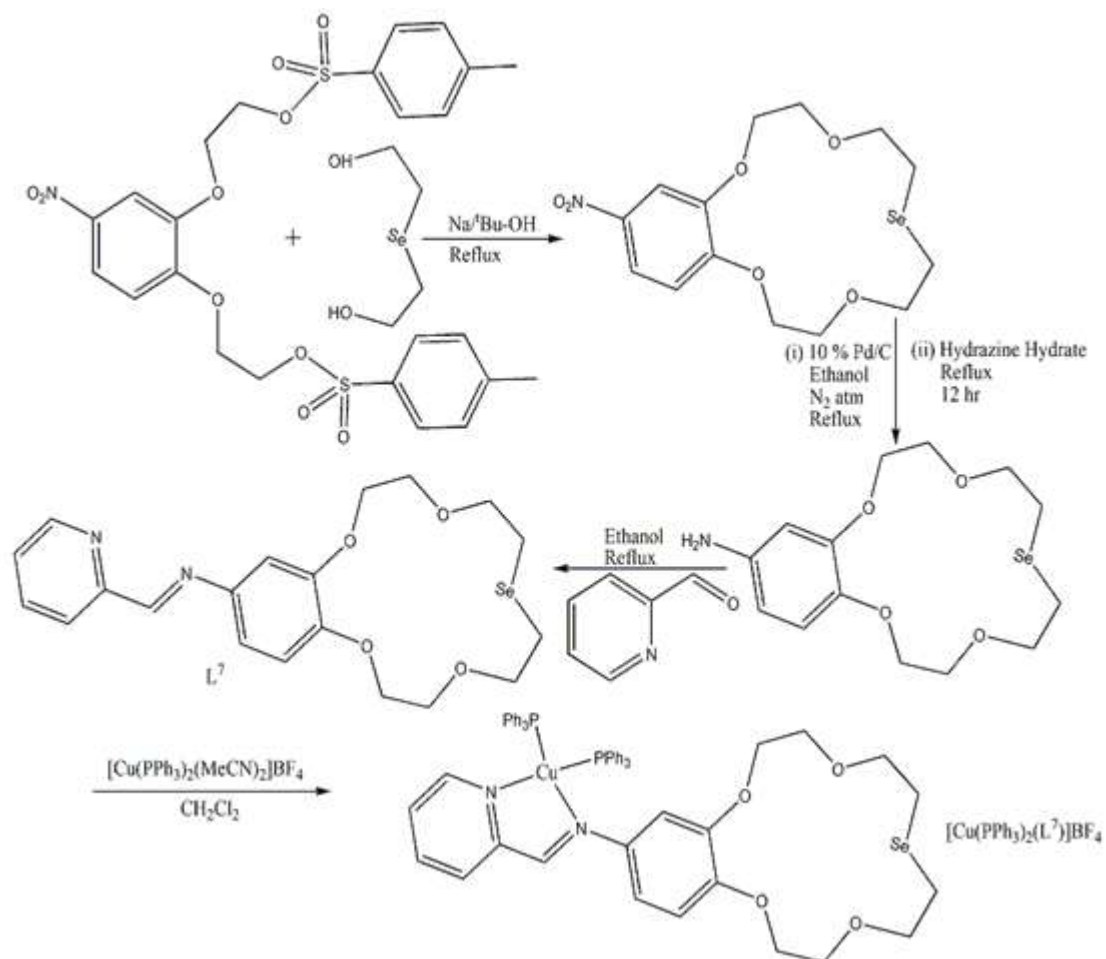


Figure 2

The photophysics along with electrochemistry properties of the compound  $[\text{Cu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2(\text{L}^7)](\text{BF}_4)$  [Figure 3] were described. The ligand  $\text{L}^7$  was synthesized as shown in Scheme 4. Electronic absorption as well as emission spectroscopy is used to examine how soft metal ions are encapsulated by the complex's ring. In contrast to the analogous all-oxygen counterpart crown ether complex, that favors binding Gr I and Gr II cations including  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{K}^+$ , and  $\text{Ba}^{2+}$ ,  $[\text{Cu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2(\text{L}^7)](\text{BF}_4)$  favors to interact with transition metal cations including  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Cd}^{2+}$ . The inclusion of the softer Se donor element in  $\text{L}^7$ , provides greater affinity towards softer metal cations, is responsible for the changes that have been noted in ion interaction properties<sup>8</sup>.

Researchers produced  $\text{L}^8$  using a method<sup>9</sup> identical to that used for generating  $\text{L}^{3-5}$ . The interaction between  $\text{L}^8$  and  $\text{Li}_2[\text{PdCl}_4]$  produced the neutral molecule  $[\text{PdCl}_2(\text{L}^8)]$ , where  $\text{Pd}^{\text{II}}$  is most likely linked to a  $\text{Se}_2\text{Cl}_2$  combination (Scheme 5). Four Se donors comprising from two Se-macrocyclic molecules are arranged in a square planar pattern surrounding the cation in the framework of the unique Se-cationic  $\text{Pd}^{\text{II}}$  compound  $[\text{Pd}(\text{L}^8)_2]\text{X}_2$ ,  $[\text{X}=\text{NO}_3, \text{PF}_6]$ <sup>10</sup>. Figure 3, displays the crystal structure of the cation of  $[\text{Pd}(\text{L}^8)_2](\text{PF}_6)_2$ .



Scheme 4

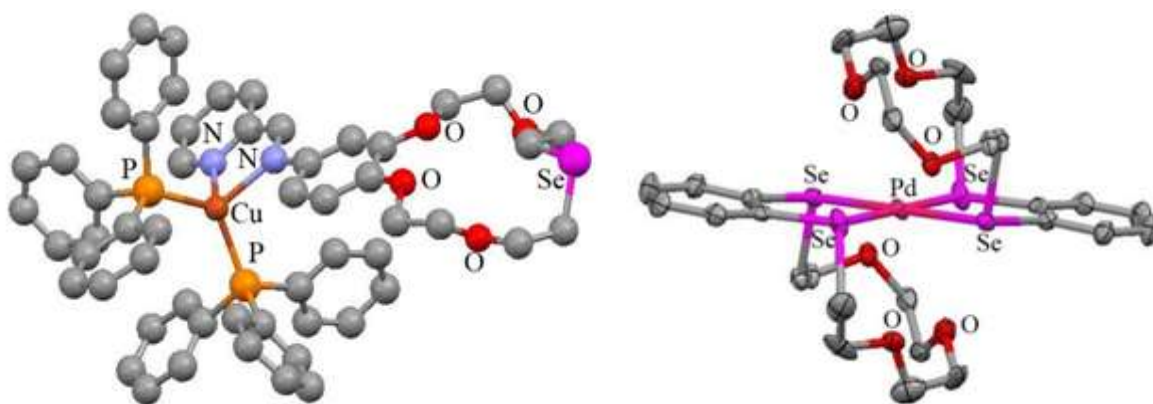
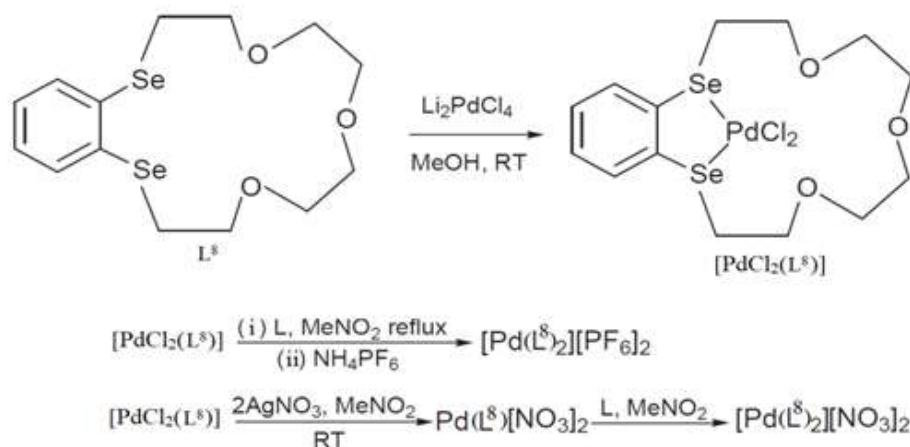
Cation of  $[\text{Cu}(\text{PPh}_3)_2(L^7)](\text{BF}_4)$ Cation of  $[\text{Pd}(L^8)_2](\text{PF}_6)_2$ 

Figure 3



Scheme 5

The cation binding properties of a number of Se<sub>4</sub>-crown ether analogues using aqueous Group I (Li<sup>+</sup>, Na<sup>+</sup>, K<sup>+</sup>) as well as certain heavy (Ag<sup>+</sup>, Tl<sup>+</sup>) metal cations are assessed<sup>11,12,13</sup>. The ligands involved are displayed in Figure 4. Synthesis method of L<sup>10</sup> is shown in Scheme 6.

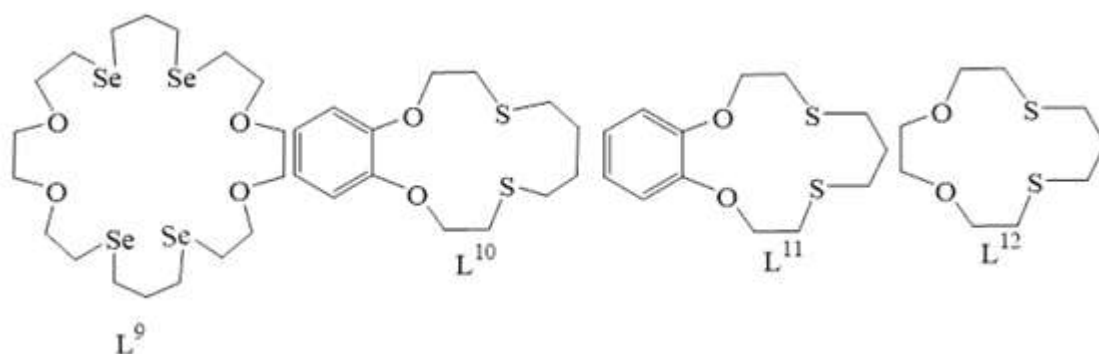
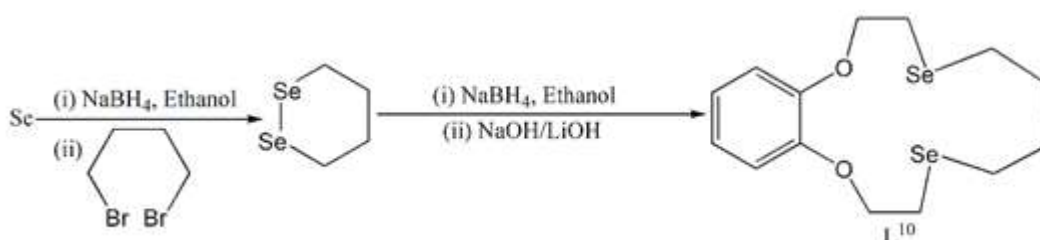


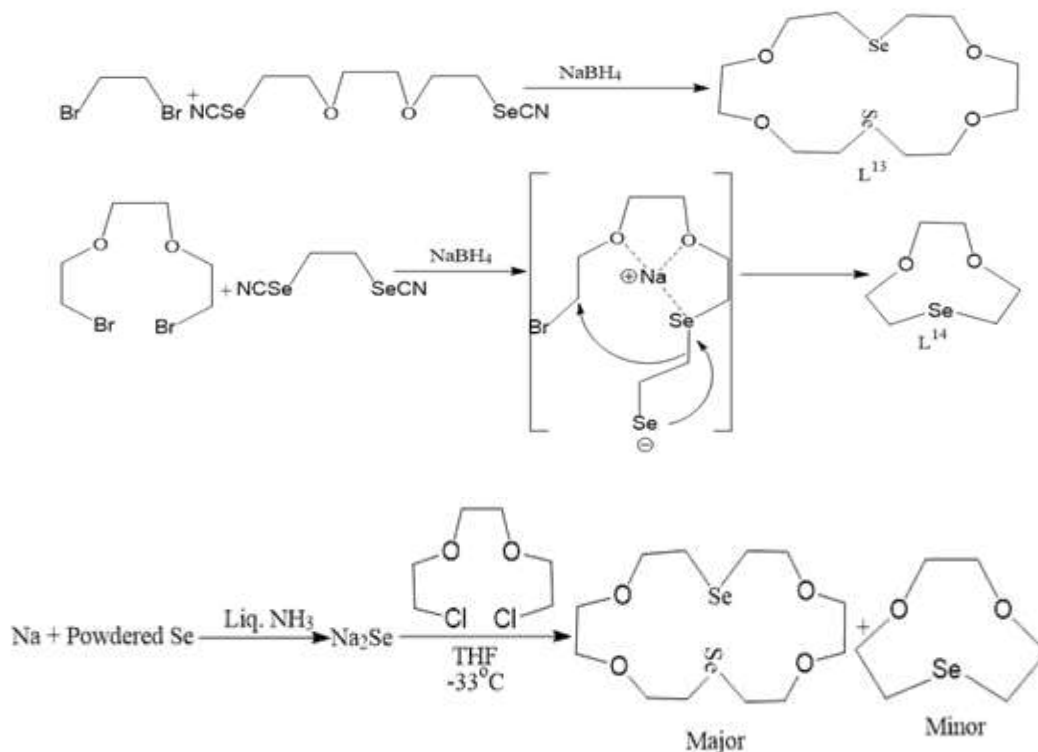
Figure 4



Scheme 6

By carrying out the study in C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH rather than liquid NH<sub>3</sub><sup>14</sup>, it is possible to improve the production of the novel macrocycle L<sup>13</sup> [Scheme 7]. The reaction involving 1,2-bis(2-bromoethoxy)ethane, 1,2-diselenocyanatoethane, and sodium borohydride yields the

nine-membered ring molecule  $L^{14}$  as a side effect, that was additionally noted as an unanticipated ring contracting result<sup>15</sup> [Scheme 7]. As shown in Figure 5, the compound  $[PtCl_2(L^{13})]$  exhibits a square planar architecture ( $Se_2Cl_2$ ) therefore the  $Pt^{II}$  core is not interacting with any ether oxygen donors.



Scheme 7

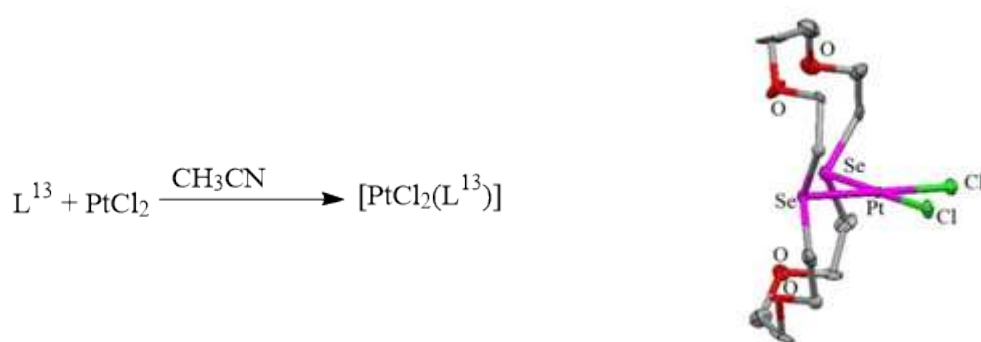
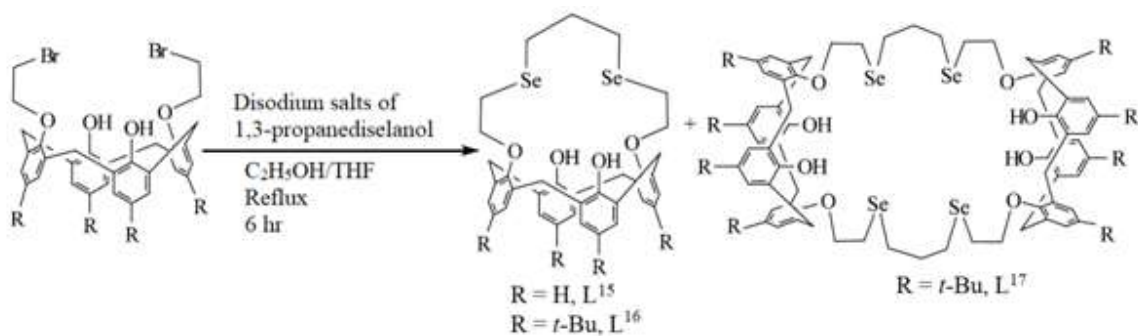


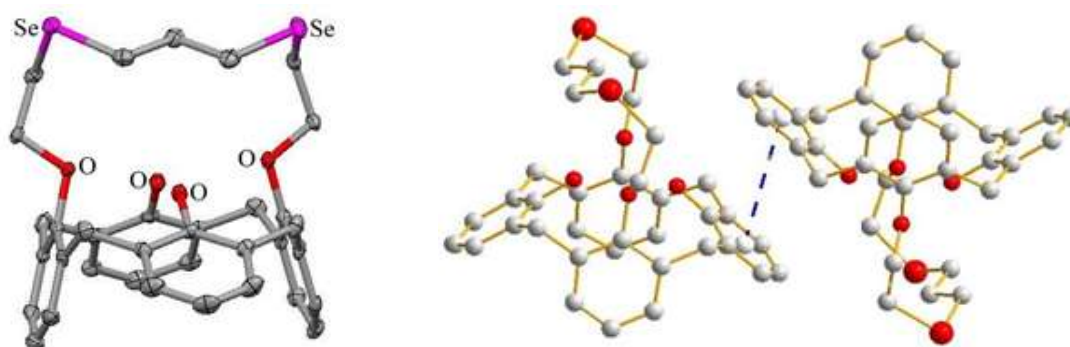
Figure 5

According to Scheme 8, two calix[4]crowns with Se functionality,  $L^{15}$  and  $L^{16}$ , were produced. In the process of producing  $L^{16}$ , a byproduct known as double bridged biscalix[4](tetraseleno)crownether ( $L^{17}$ ) is produced in 4% production; nevertheless, this amount of product is capable of being boosted by gradually adding the disodium salt of 1,3-propanediselenol into the solution of the corresponding precursor. Figure 6 shows the cone structure that Calix[4]crown ether ( $L^{15}$ ) exhibits<sup>16</sup>.



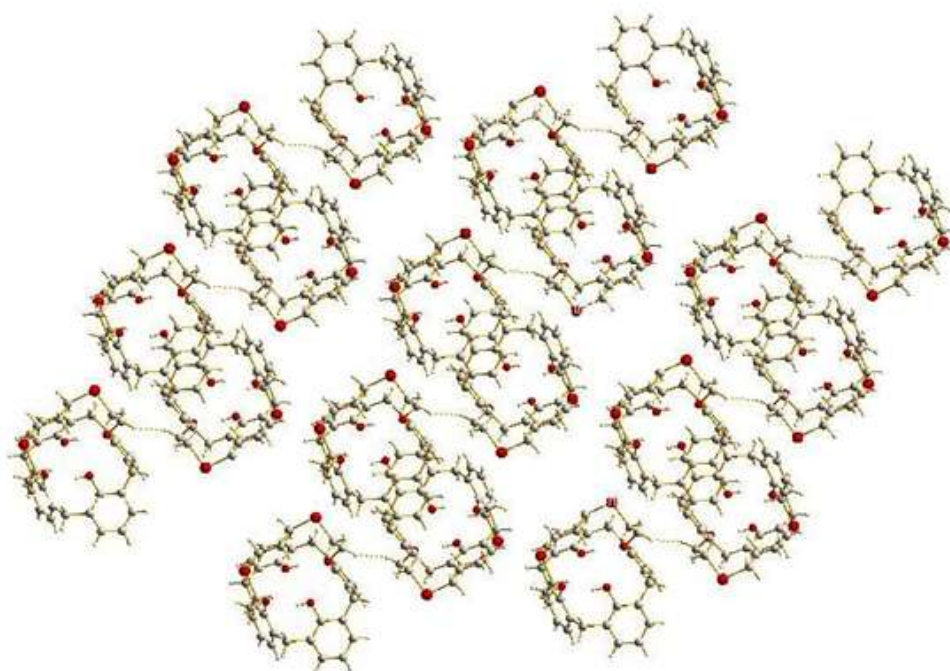


**Scheme 8**



L<sup>15</sup>

Self-assembly of L<sup>15</sup> via parallel-displaced  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking

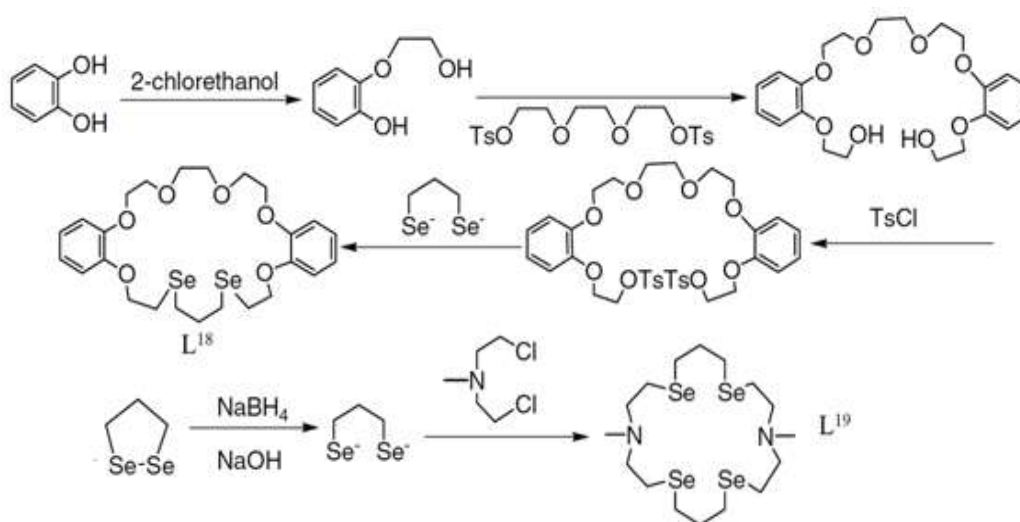


Infinite sheet aggregate of calix[4]crown ether L<sup>15</sup>

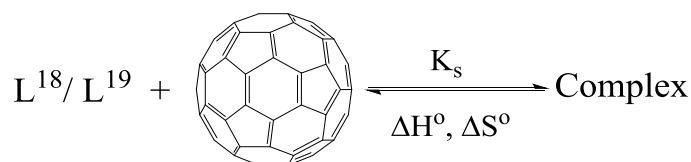
**Figure 6**

Through the self-inclusion of the two cavities, it generates a dimer-like architecture. Surprisingly, in the solid phase, *inter*-molecular Se-Se interactions allowed this dimeric arrangement to gradually organize forming a 2-D aggregation<sup>16</sup> [Figure 6]. These ionophores work effectively for Ag<sup>+</sup>-selective electrodes. Exceptional potentiometric selectivity coefficients for Ag<sup>+</sup> can be obtained by polymer membranes comprising the ionophores L<sup>15</sup> and L<sup>16</sup>. This happens as a result of their strong linkage to Se donor atoms through soft-soft interactions with high hydration energies as opposed to transition metal cations having +2 charges for their fragile interactions with Se donors of the ionophore.

Step-by-step synthesis was used to generate two novel Se-crown ethers, L<sup>18</sup> and L<sup>19</sup> [Scheme 9]. UV-Vis spectroscopy was used for calculating the complex stability constants as well as thermodynamic variables related to the interaction of C<sub>60</sub> with various crown ethers, resulting L<sup>19</sup> having the highest K<sub>s</sub> value. The association of C<sub>60</sub> to L<sup>18</sup> and L<sup>19</sup> [Scheme 10] is completely enthalpy-driven thermodynamically, whereas the stability of the combination is controlled by the entropy component<sup>17</sup>.



Scheme 9

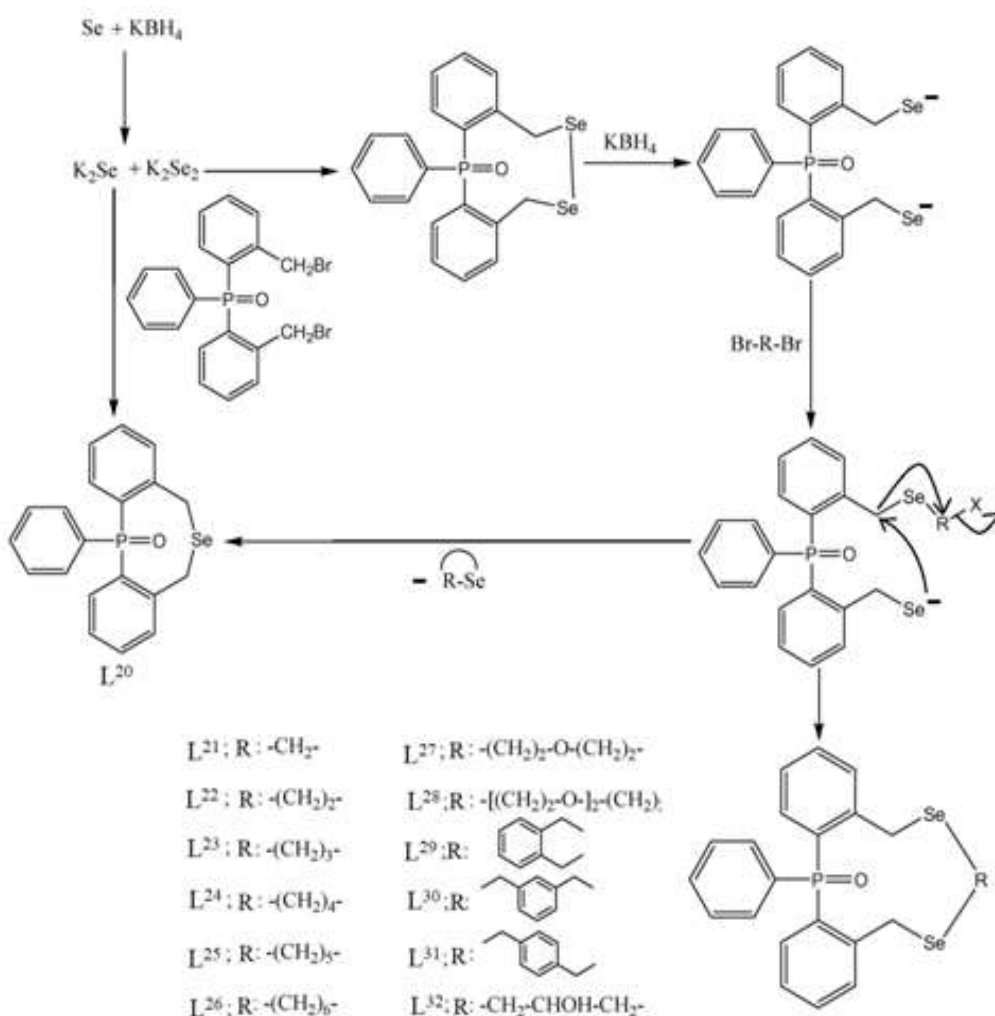


Scheme 10

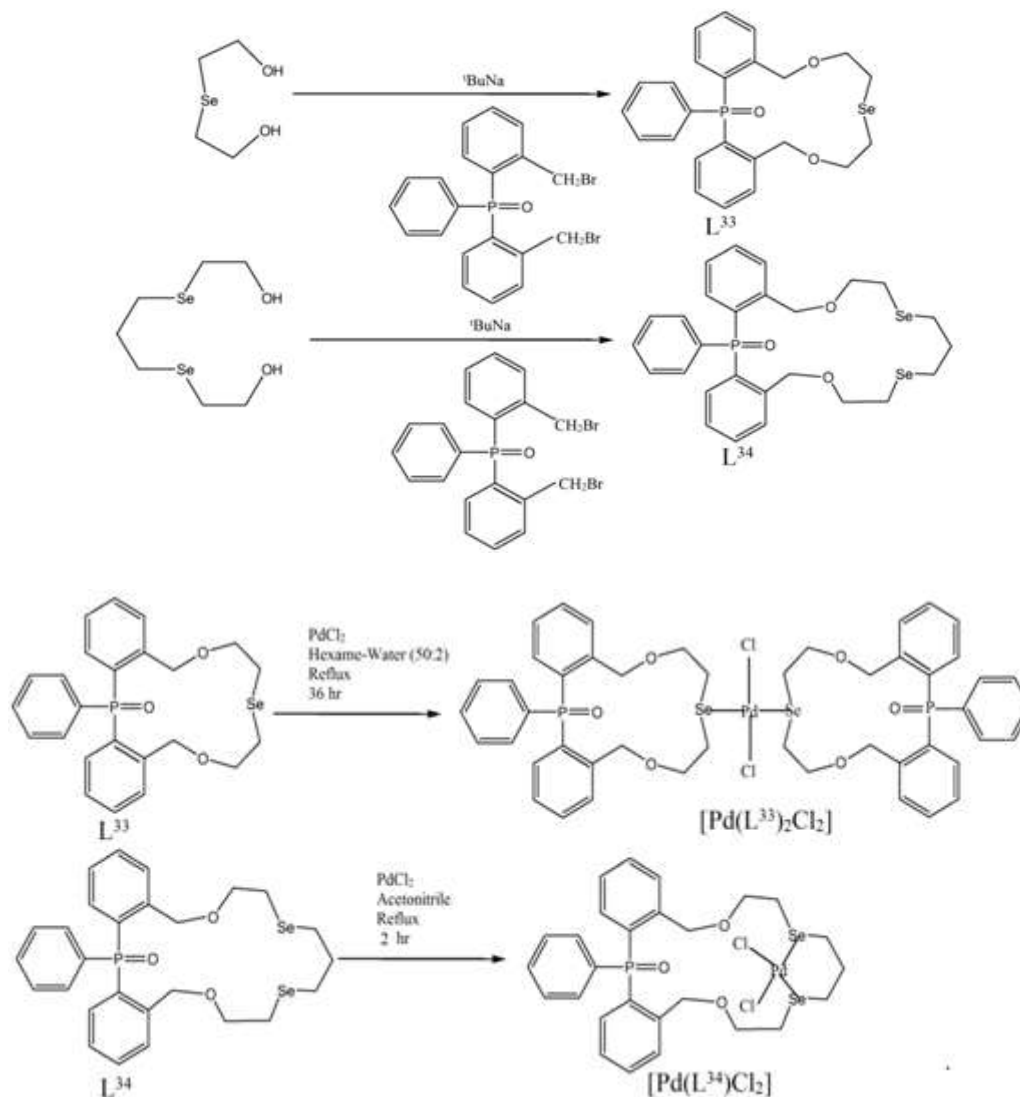
### III. SELENIUM-PHOSPHORUS DONOR ATOM CONTAINING MACROCYCLES

The one-pot procedure depicted in Scheme 11 was used to generate the 10 to 17-member macrocycles L<sup>21-32</sup>, each of which contained one P and two Se donors. A byproduct L<sup>20</sup>, is additionally separated in each instance<sup>18</sup>. Furthermore, as shown in Scheme 12, two similar macrocycles L<sup>33</sup> and L<sup>34</sup> that each contained two ether-O donors within the cycle were

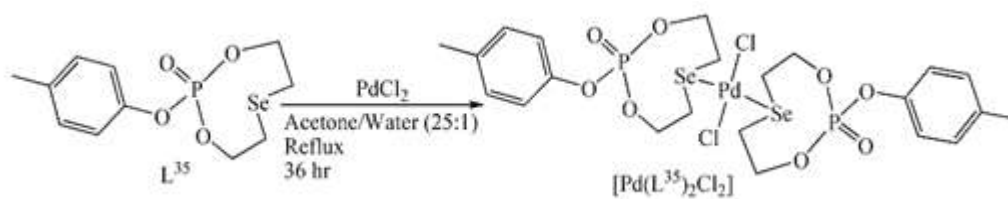
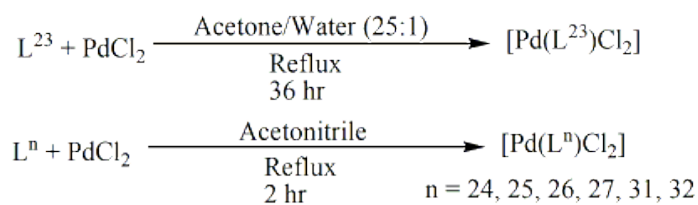
published. The phosphoryl P=O bond for all three of the structurally characterized macrocycles ( $L^{23}$ ,  $L^{26}$ , and  $L^{34}$ ) points upward towards the interior of the macrocycles<sup>18</sup>. Four sets of two separate molecules, each of which can't be converted into other through a translational as well as symmetrical operation, comprise  $L^{23}$ 's unit cell. Apart from the dihedral angles among the benzene ring's planes, there are no appreciable variations in the bonding properties between the two molecules. Aside  $L^{33}$ , that generates a 2:1 compound, all macrocycles interact with  $PdCl_2$  to form 1:1 compounds<sup>18</sup>, as depicted in Scheme 12. The crystal structures of  $L^{23}$ ,  $L^{26}$ , and  $L^{34}$  are shown in Figure 7. The reported synthesis of metal complexes with these ligands is shown in Scheme 13. Selenium-containing phosphocane  $L^{35}$ , forms 2:1  $Pd^{II}$  Complex  $[Pd(L^{35})_2Cl_2]$  with  $PdCl_2$ . The synthetic method is shown in Scheme 13 and the crystal structure is shown in Figure 7.



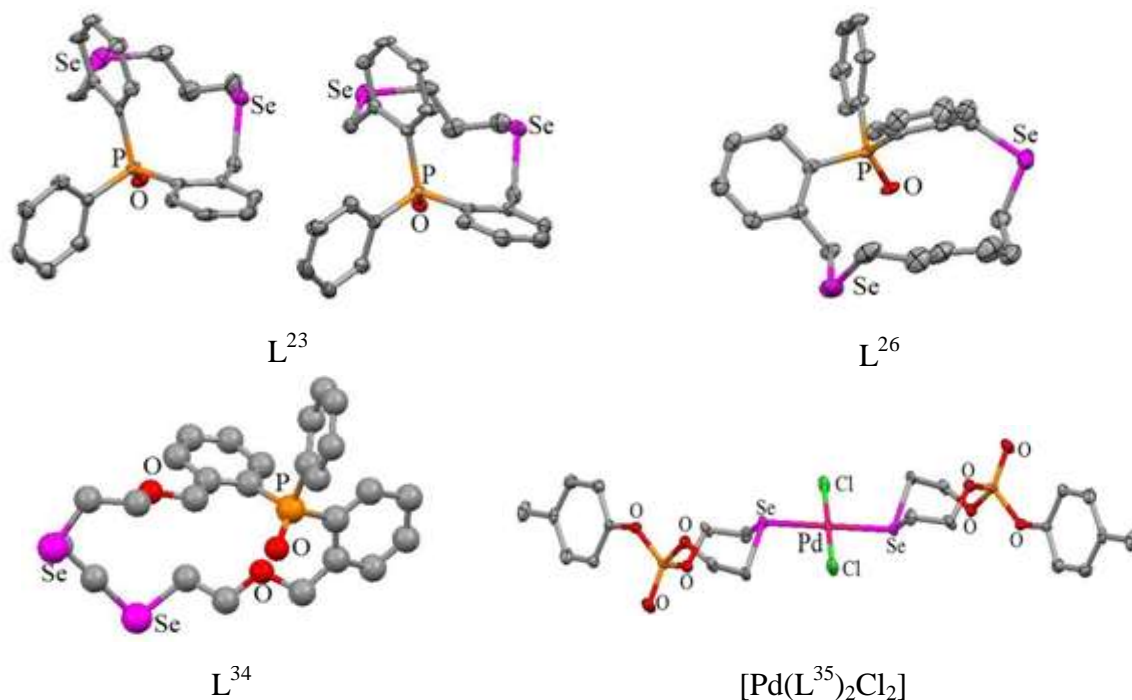
Scheme 11



Scheme 12

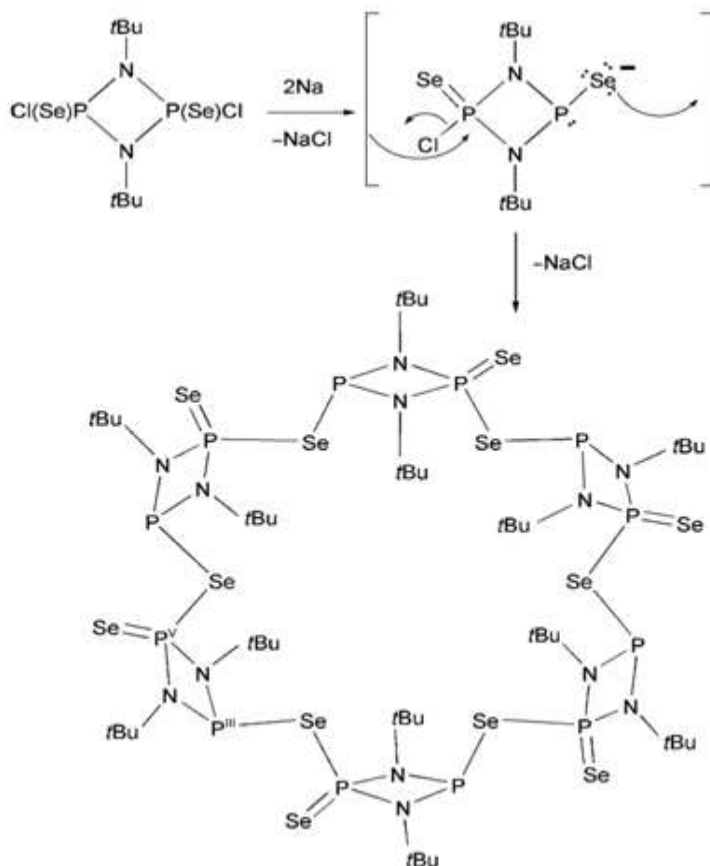


Scheme 13

**Figure 7**

For  $[Pd(L^{35})_2Cl_2]^{18}$ , the protons' signals  $\alpha$ - to the Se atom for  $L^{35}$  ( $\delta = 2.86$  and  $3.12$  ppm) are moved by  $0.5$ - $0.6$  ppm to the lower field ( $\delta = 3.50$  and  $3.60$  ppm). The drop in electron density over the Se atom following complex formation was the cause for this downfield movement. It must be emphasised that only minor downfield movements ( $0$ - $0.2$  ppm) were seen for the protons of  $[Pd(L^{35})_2Cl_2]$   $\alpha$ - to the O donors, demonstrating  $Pd^{II}$  binding does not take place on O donors.

The head-to-tail cyclization of the intermediate anion derived from the reaction between the dimer  $[(Cl)(Se=P(\mu-N^tBu))_2]$  and Na metal, resulting in Se-bridged hexamer  $[(Se=P(\mu-N^tBu))_2P(\mu-Se)]_6$  macrocycle<sup>19</sup>. In Scheme 14, the interaction is depicted. The intermediary anion's ambidentate character is what causes the P-Se-P link to develop. The structural analysis of  $[(Cl)(Se=P(\mu-N^tBu))_2]$  and the  $^{31}P$  NMR spectrum studies indicate the existence of *cis*- and *trans*- isomers in a 7:1 ratio. A macrocyclic product is influenced by the amount of the *cis*- isomer of  $[(Cl)(Se=P(\mu-N^tBu))_2]$  present. Six  $[(Se=P(\mu-N^tBu))_2P(\mu-Se)]$  components connected via bridging Se atom, collectively generates a macrocyclic configuration of  $[(Se=P(\mu-N^tBu))_2P(\mu-Se)]_6$ . Just a minor distortion from overall planarity exists in the molecule. The  $P_2N_2$  ring components give the molecules a toroidal form because they are nearly perpendicular towards the median plane of the macrocycle. A brand-new class of Se-macrocycle;  $[(Se=P(\mu-N^tBu))_2P(\mu-Se)]_6$ , stands out due to its rigid, crown-like structure and enormous cavity diameter. In  $[(Se=P(\mu-N^tBu))_2P(\mu-Se)]_6$ , the  $\mu$ -Se donors have a cisoid shape in relation to the  $P_2N_2$  rings, which makes Se donors accessible for possible metal linkage<sup>19</sup>. Additionally, *exo*- Se donors have the potential to coordinate to metal ions. Such Se-macrocycle's rigidity as well as sizable molecular cavity render the host-guest interaction especially intriguing. The crystal structure of  $[(Se=P(\mu-N^tBu))_2P(\mu-Se)]_6$  is shown in Figure 8.



Scheme 14

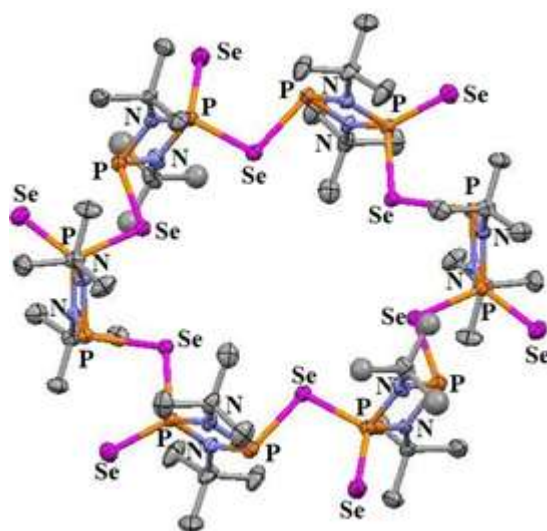
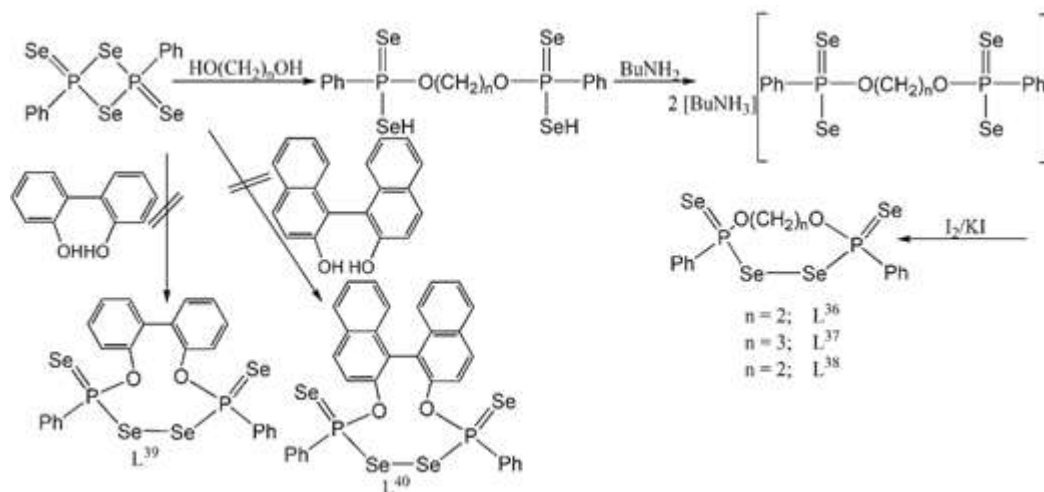


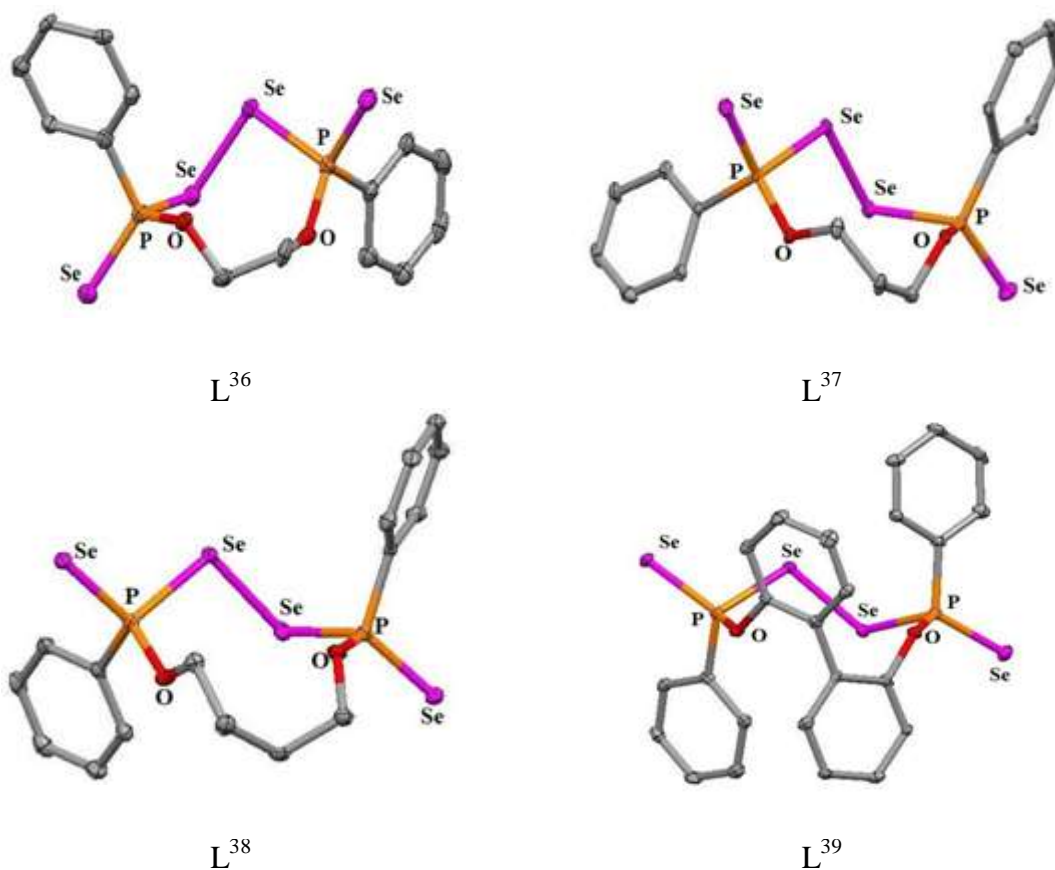
Figure 8

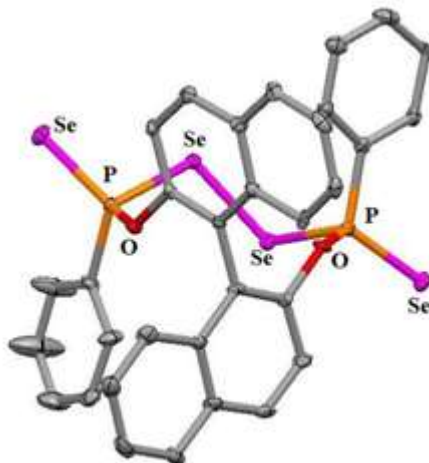
Massive ring diselenides with the P-Se-Se-P connectivity were reportedly synthesised, as shown in Scheme 15. The eight, nine, and ten-member rings are present, according to the frameworks of  $L^{36-38}$ . Each of the molecules contain both R,R as well as S,S enantiomers; no R,S/S,R diastereomers were found. Two phenyl rings are located on the reverse side of the

heterocycle, and the macrocyclic structure is strongly puckered. Tetrahedral geometry around both P atoms is deformed<sup>20</sup>. In Figure 9, their crystal structures are displayed. L<sup>39</sup> and L<sup>40</sup>, two further P-Se heterocyclic diselenides, was additionally documented<sup>20</sup>. Despite the P-Se-Se angles for L<sup>39</sup> as well as L<sup>40</sup> are greater compared to that observed in L<sup>36-38</sup>, the architecture of L<sup>39</sup> and L<sup>40</sup> resemble the structures of L<sup>36-38</sup>. In Figure 9, their structures are depicted. Syntheses of L<sup>36-38</sup> are also displayed in Scheme 15.



Scheme 15



L<sup>40</sup>**Figure 9**

#### IV. CONCLUSION

In summary, this chapter addresses chemistry of some important Selenium-Oxygen/Phosphorus containing macrocycles. Organoselenium compounds with Se-Se (Diselenium) bonds are usually noteworthy because they function diversely as substrates in some synthetic organic chemistry. In important biological processes involving glutathione peroxidase, a selenium-containing enzyme, diselenium components function as intermediates. Keeping that mind, macrocycles with diselenium bonds<sup>5</sup> were discussed. Macrocycles with multiple Se, O donors with different ring sizes and their metal complex synthesis have been thoroughly discussed. Two calix[4]crowns with Se functionality and double bridged biscalix[4](tetraseleno)crownether were mentioned. Regarding Ag<sup>I</sup>-selective electrodes, such ionophores function satisfactorily. This occurs as a consequence of their robust association with Se donors via soft-soft connections<sup>16</sup>. Interaction of C<sub>60</sub> with Se-O-crown ethers is intriguing<sup>17</sup>. Phosphorus containing Se-macrocycles are not common. P/Se and P/O/Se-containing macromolecule's synthesis, metal complexation were focused<sup>18</sup>. Diselenides with the P-Se-Se-P connectivity<sup>20</sup> and a very unique and rare P/N/Se containing macrocyclic molecule<sup>19</sup> [(Se=)P(μ-N<sup>t</sup>Bu)<sub>2</sub>P(μ-Se)]<sub>6</sub> are known and their synthesis procedures and structural details are depicted.

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