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## PENTAFLUOROPHENYL-BIS(2-PHENYLBENZOTHIAZOLE) Pt<sup>IV</sup> DERIVATIVES: OPTOELECTRONIC AND BIOLOGICAL STUDIES

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Luminescent complexes based on organic chromophores with late transition metals have attracted a great interest due to their interesting applications in fields such as photocatalysis, biosensing, photosensitizers and optoelectronic devices. In particular, numerous studies have been published on cyclometalated d<sup>6</sup> (Ru<sup>II</sup>, Os<sup>II</sup> or Ir<sup>III</sup>) and d<sup>8</sup> (Pt<sup>II</sup>) systems, whereas luminescent Pt<sup>IV</sup> complexes have received less attention.<sup>[1]</sup> Our group has recently published two series of neutral pentafluorophenylbis(cyclometalated) Pt<sup>IV</sup> with Cl<sup>-</sup> or CN<sup>-</sup> as auxiliary ligands.<sup>[2]</sup> In this field, 2-arylbenzothiazole chromophores have been employed as ligands to form yellow-orange phosphorescent metal complexes and recent studies have also demonstrated promising antiproliferative activity.<sup>[3]</sup>

In this communication, we present a series of luminescent mononuclear Pt<sup>IV</sup> complexes, *fac*-[Pt(pbt)<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)L]<sup>n+</sup> (pbt = 2-phenylbenzothiazole; L = 4-Mepy **1**, pybt **2**, 4,4'-bpy **3**, bpe **4**, bpyb **5**, n = 1; OCOCF<sub>3</sub>, **6** n = 0), and a bimetallic complex *fac*-[{Pt(pbt)<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>)}<sub>2</sub>( $\mu$ -bpyb)](PF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (**7**), in which the *trans* ligand to the C(pbt) is varied to modify the optical properties and lipophilicity. All complexes have been fully characterized and their structure confirmed by X-ray diffraction studies on **1**, **4** and **6**. Optical properties have been investigated in detail and supported by DFT/TD-DFT theoretical calculations. **4** is not emissive due to a fast photoisomerization process *E/Z* on the bpe ligand. The *in-vitro* antiproliferative activity of selected compounds (**1**-**3** and **6**) against two human tumor cell lines (A549 and HeLa) and their selectivity index against the non-tumor cell line BEAS-2B were examined. Cationic complexes **1**-**3** exhibit IC<sub>50</sub> values in the nanomolar range, revealing an encouraging antineoplastic activity, whereas the neutral complex **6** shows low cytotoxicity in the dark and high photocytotoxicity by short irradiation with blue light.



## References

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