

## Supporting Information

# The Role of Bridging Ligands in Determining DNA-binding ability and Cross-linking Patterns of Dinuclear Platinum (II) Antitumor Complexes

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### Synthesis of {[*cis*-Pt(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl]<sub>2</sub>L<sub>2</sub>}(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (**2**)

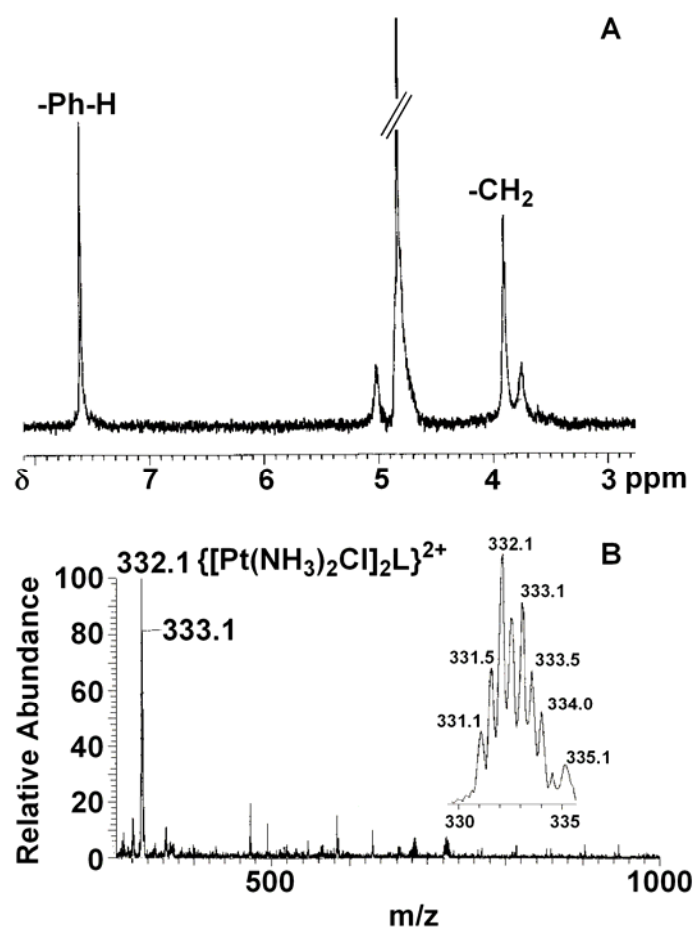
The *cis*-[Pt(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl(DMF)](NO<sub>3</sub>), which was used as starting material to prepare the complex **2**, was obtained by stirring AgNO<sub>3</sub> and *cis*-[Pt(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>] in dimethylformamide (DMF) overnight and filtering off AgCl precipitate, as previously described.<sup>1</sup> The DMF solution of linker L<sub>2</sub> (30.00 mg, 0.22 mmol) was added dropwise to the solution of *cis*-[Pt(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl(DMF)](NO<sub>3</sub>) (0.47 mmol) with stirring, then the resultant mixture was stirred overnight in the dark at room temperature. After precipitation, filtration, condensation and vacuum dry, light yellow solids of complex **2** were obtained (yield 85 mg, 43%).

The purity of complex **2** was characterized by <sup>1</sup>H NMR and ESI-MS. In the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (Fig. S1A), only one set of signals of methylene and phenyl (3.91 ppm, -CH<sub>2</sub>; 7.60 ppm, -Ph-H) was observed, shifting significantly to lower field compared to those of free L<sub>2</sub>, which suggested both amine groups of L<sub>2</sub> bind to Pt(II) equivalently (Fig. S1B). In the ESI-MS spectrum, a major peak was observed at *m/z* 332.1, which corresponds to the positively doubly charged species {[Pt(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl]<sub>2</sub>L<sub>2</sub>}<sup>2+</sup>. The isotopic distribution pattern of this peak matched perfectly with the simulated one.

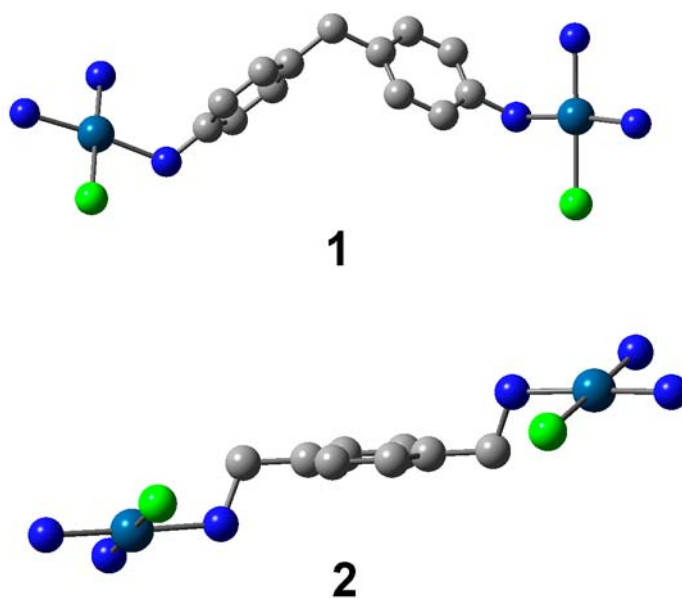
Elemental analysis of complex **2**, found (calcd.) for Pt<sub>2</sub>C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>24</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>6</sub> (%): C, 12.17 (12.03); H, 3.04 (3.16); N, 14.20 (14.53).

### Computational Methods

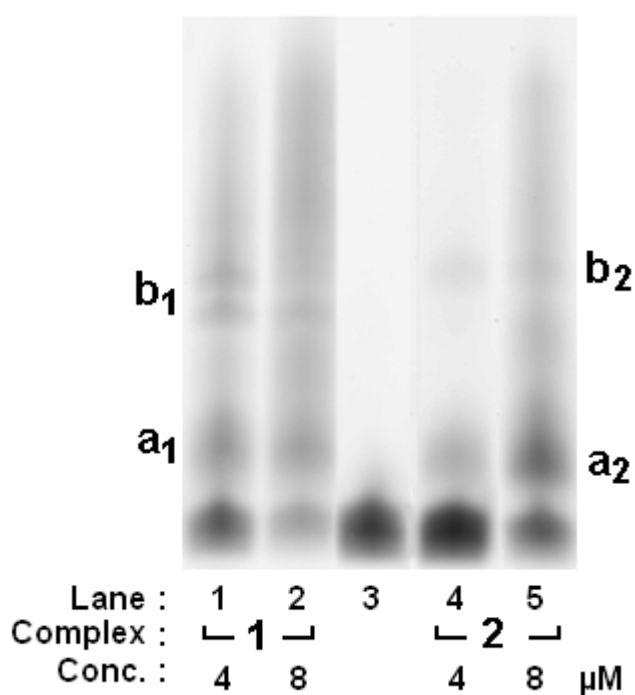
The starting geometry for each optimization was generated with the Q-Chem electronic structure calculation suite of programs.<sup>2</sup> Bond lengths of 2.31 Å for Pt-Cl<sup>3</sup> and 2.03 Å for Pt-amine<sup>4</sup> were used. All N-Pt-N angles were started at 90°. The electrostatic potential used in the RESP charge fitting<sup>5</sup> was calculated at the HF/6-31G\*\* level using the Gaussian 03 program.<sup>6</sup> Computational results of the geometry-optimized structures of complexes 1 and 2 are shown in the Fig. S2.



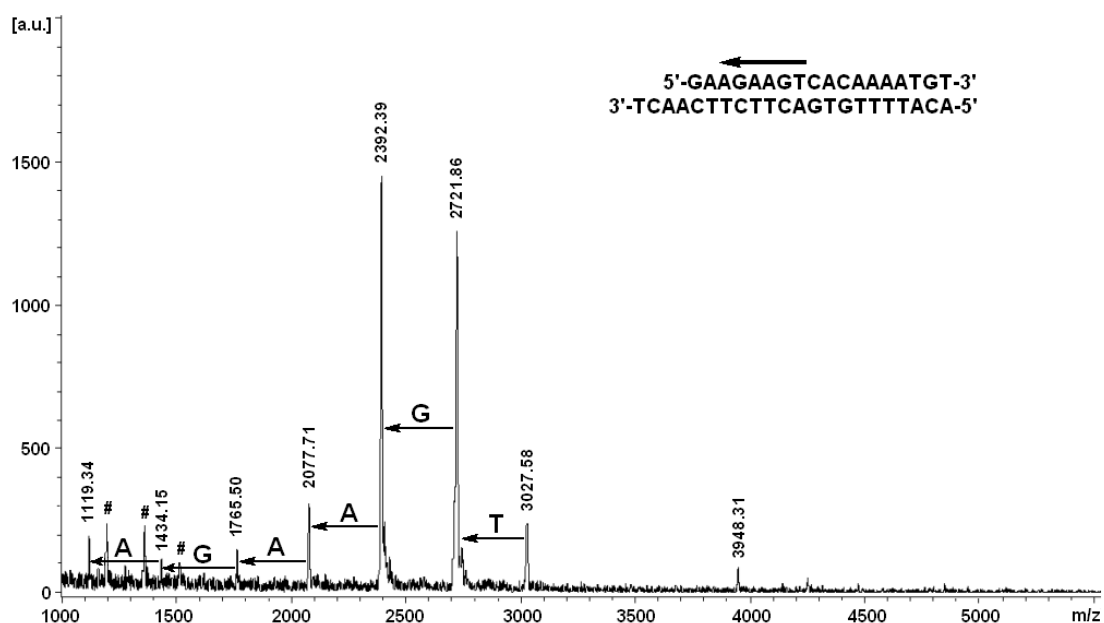
**Fig. S1** The <sup>1</sup>H NMR (A, D<sub>2</sub>O, 298 K) and electrospray mass spectrometry (B, methanol, positive mode) spectra of complex 2.



**Fig. S2** Calculated structures of complexes **1** and **2**. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.



**Fig. S3** Fluorescence image of a 20% polyacrylamide denaturing gel of DNA adducts of complex **1** and **2** induced in duplex **N2**. Lane 1 and 2: complex **1**; lane 3, unplatinated duplex **N2**; lane 3 and 4: complex **2**.



**Fig. S4** MALDI-TOF mass spectra of Exo III digests of duplex **N3**. The arrows indicate the cleavage direction and location along the sequence. The peaks corresponding to doubly charged ions are marked with #.

## References

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