

## Supporting Info

### A Highly Efficient and Selective Antitumor Agent Based on a Glucoconjugated Carbene Platinum(II) Complex

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#### Experimental Section

**Figure S1. 1Pt-Glu:** (a) <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (in CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 400 MHz, 298 K); (b) LC/MS–QTOF.

**Figure S2. 1Pt-Gal:** (a) <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (in CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 400 MHz, 298 K); (b) LC/MS–QTOF.

**Figure S3. 1Pt-Glu-dep:** (a) <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (in CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 400 MHz, 298 K); (b) LC/MS–QTOF.

**Figure S4. 1Pt-Gal-dep:** (a) <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (in CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 400 MHz, 298 K); (b) LC/MS–QTOF.

**Figure S5. 1Pt-Et:** (a) <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (in CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 400 MHz, 298 K); (b) LC/MS–QTOF.

**Figure S6.** Projection of **1Pt-Glu** down the edge of coordination plane defined by N3/N4/C33/C34 atoms.

**Figure S7.** Bowl-like distortion of dmphen ligand in **1Pt-Glu**.

**Figure S8.** Crystal packing of **1Pt-Glu** viewed along a axis.

**Figure S9.** Time course UV-vis spectra of  $5 \times 10^{-5}$  M **1Pt-Glu** in 100% DMSO (A), 50% DMSO – 50% PBS pH 7.4 (B), 10% DMSO - 90% PBS pH 7.4 (C), 10% DMSO - 0.05 M ammonium acetate pH 7.5 (D), 100% PBS pH 7.4 (0.5% DMSO; E).

**Figure S10.** Time course UV-vis spectra of  $5 \times 10^{-5}$  M **1Pt-Glu-dep** in 100% DMSO (A), 50% DMSO – 50% PBS pH 7.4 (B), 10% DMSO - 90% PBS pH 7.4 (C), 10% DMSO - 0.05 M ammonium acetate pH 7.5 (D), 100% PBS pH 7.4 (0.5% DMSO; E).

**Figure S11.** Time course UV-vis spectra of  $5 \times 10^{-5}$  M **1Pt-Et** in 100% DMSO (A), 50% DMSO – 50% PBS pH 7.4 (B), 10% DMSO - 90% PBS pH 7.4 (C), 10% DMSO - 0.05 M ammonium acetate pH 7.5 (D), 100% PBS pH 7.4 (0.5% DMSO; E).

**Figure S12.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **1Pt-Gal** in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> after 24 hours (400 MHz, 298 K).

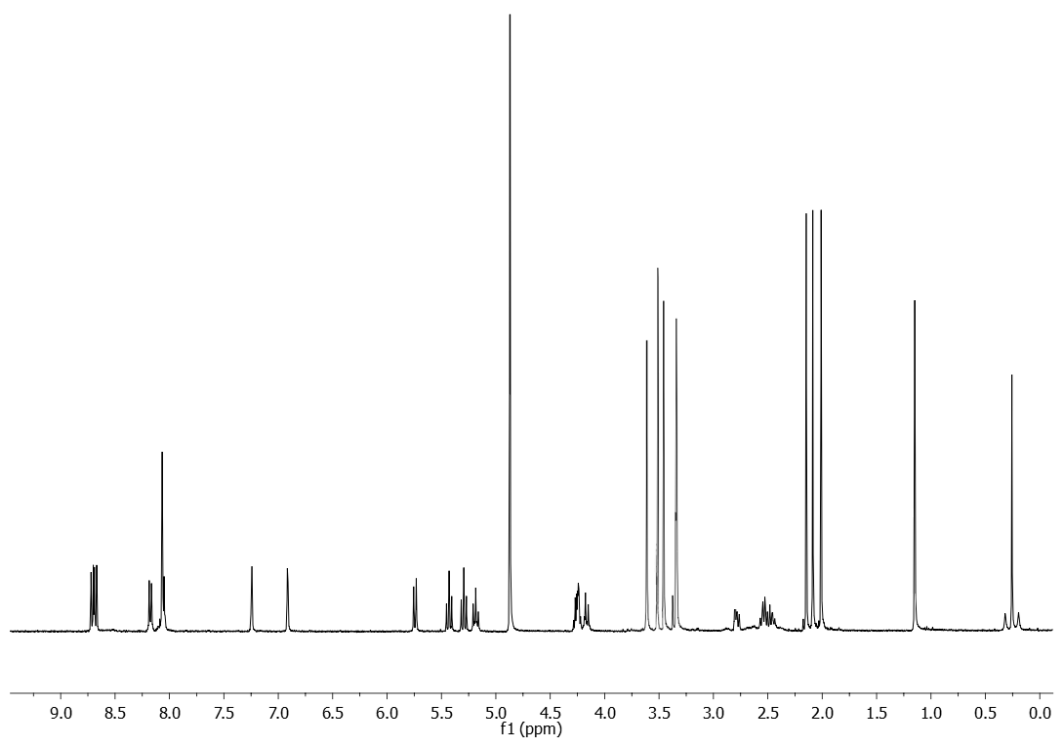
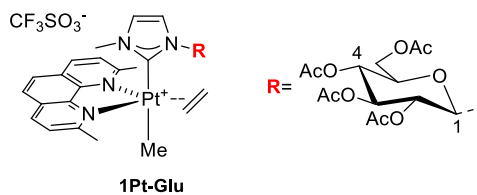
**Figure S13.** CD spectra of calf thymus DNA (200 μM in 0.01 M ammonium acetate buffer, pH 7.5) in the absence and in the presence of **1Pt-Glu-dep** in 1:0.5, 1:1 and 1:2 DNA to metal molar ratios.

**Figure S14.** Emission spectra of ethidium bromide bound to DNA in the presence of **1Pt-Glu** (A), **1Pt-Glu-dep** (B), **1Pt-Et** (C), 0 – 150 μM.

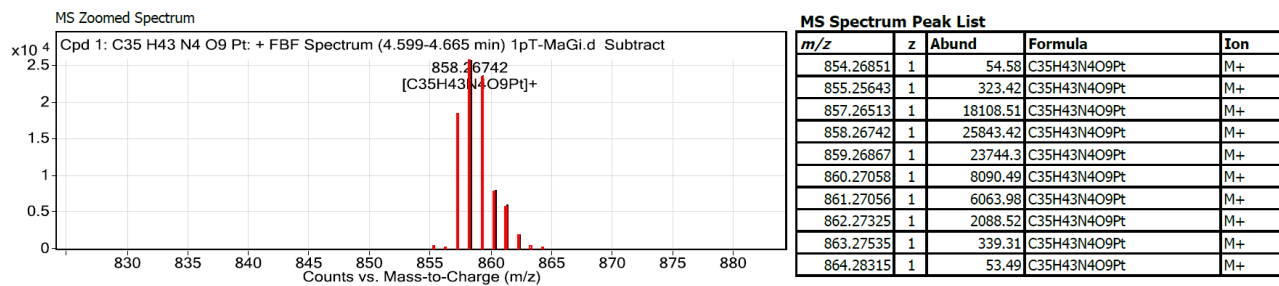
**Figure S15.** Agarose gel mobility shift assay.

**Table S1.** Crystal data and structure refinement details for **1Pt-Glu**.

**Figure S16.** Uncropped Western blots.

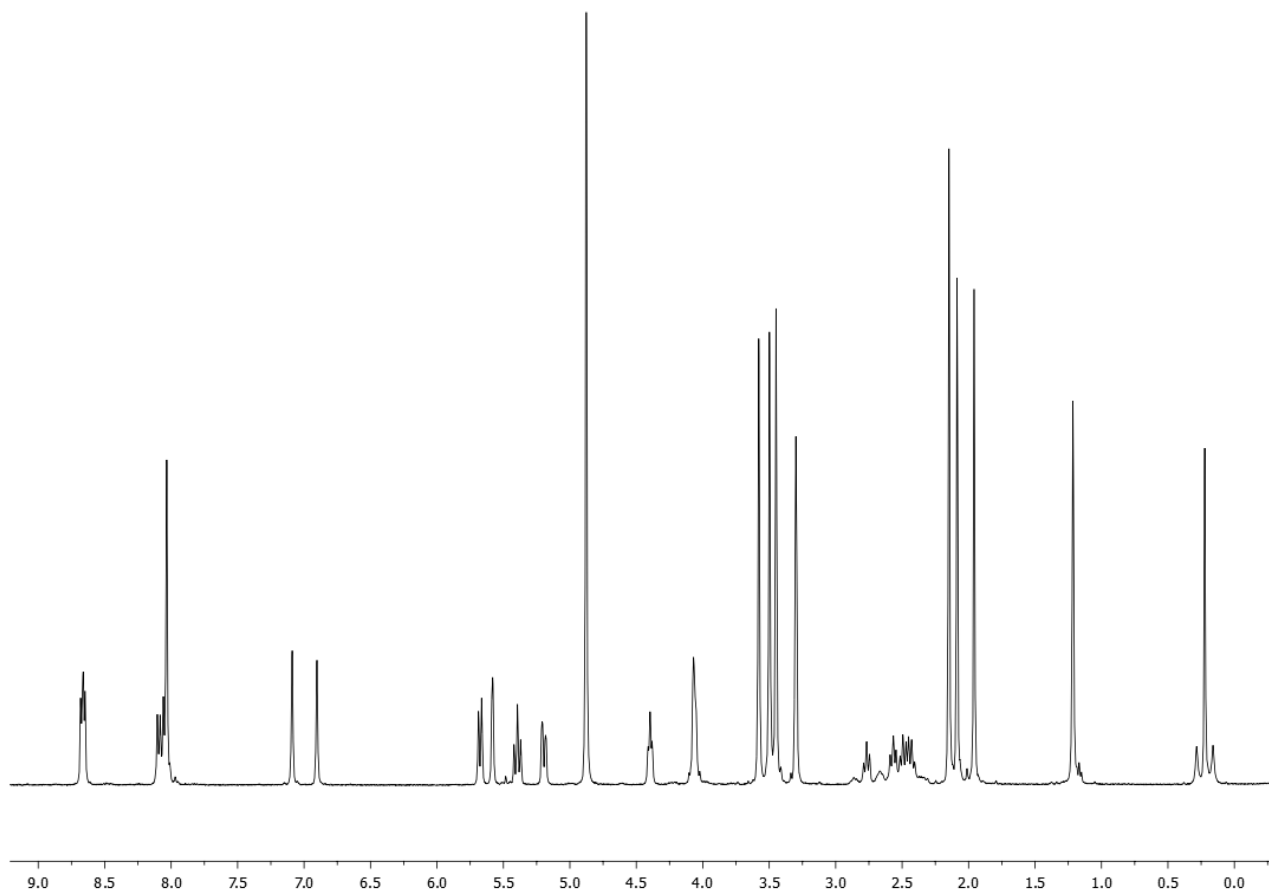
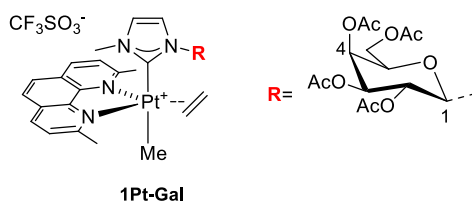


(a)

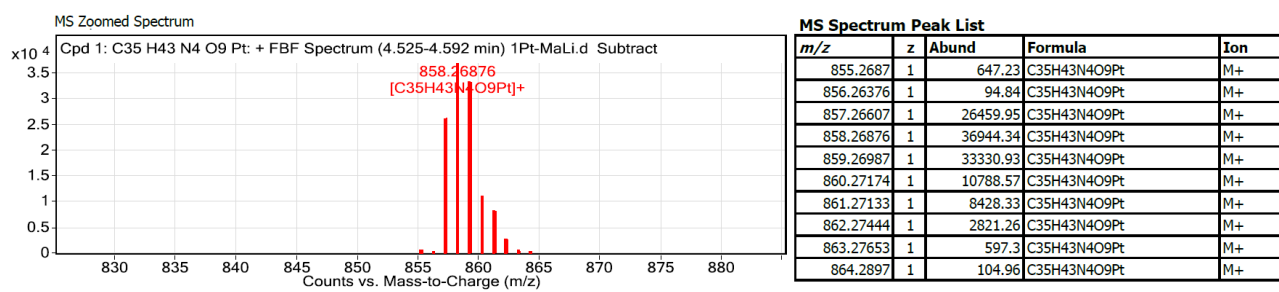


(b)

**Figure S1. 1Pt-Glu:** (a) <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (in CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 400 MHz, 298 K); (b) LC/MS-QTOF.

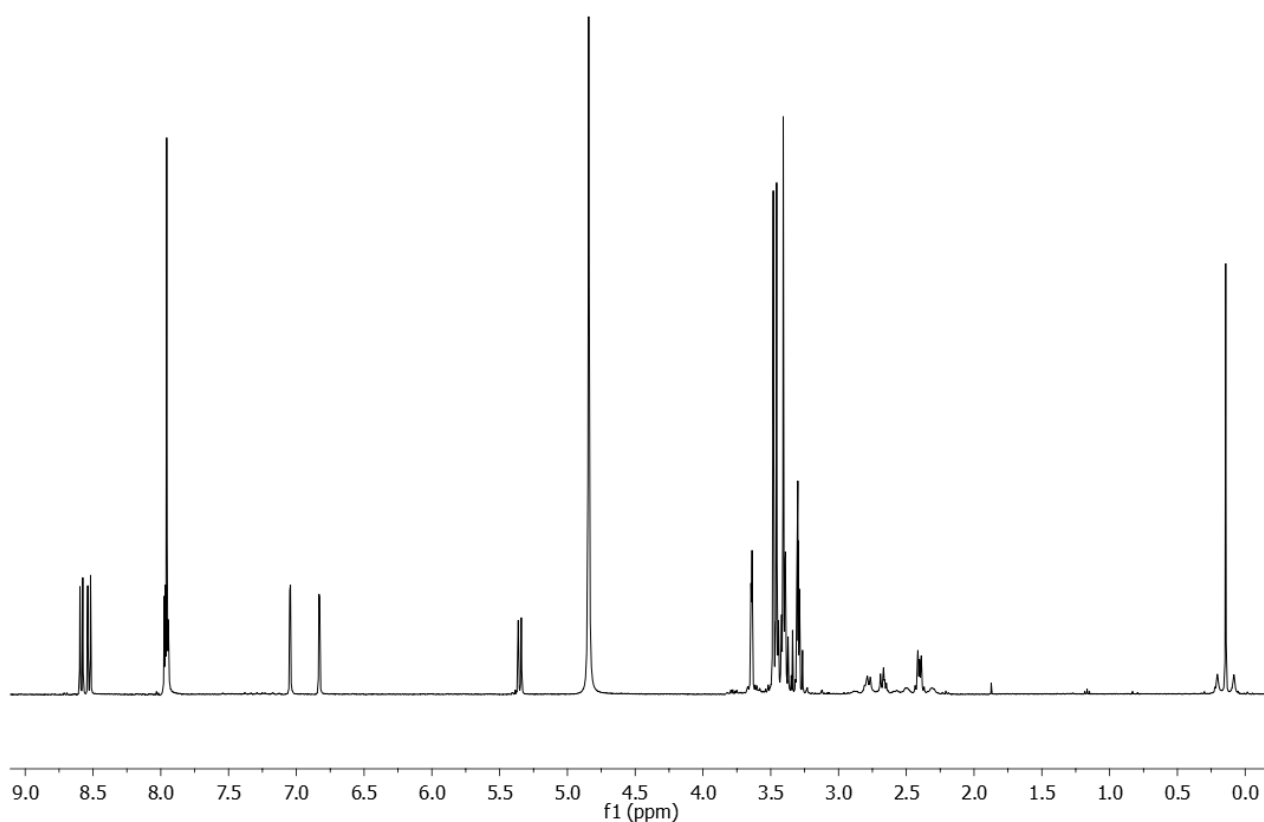
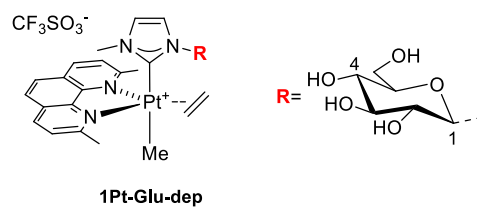


(a)

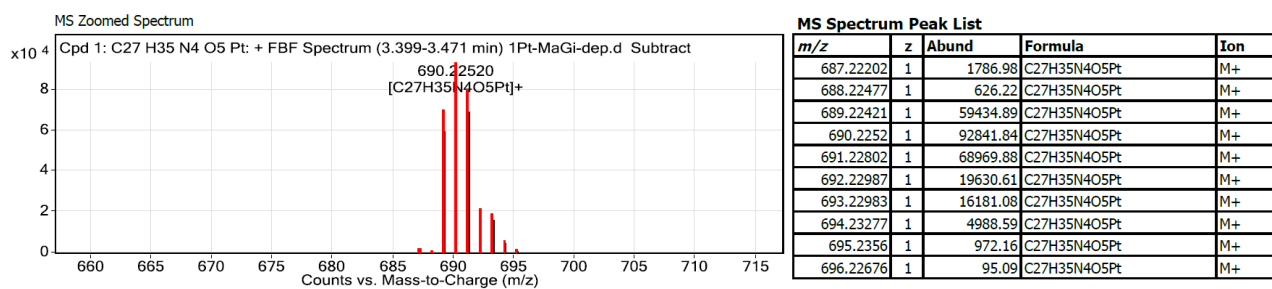


(b)

**Figure S2. 1Pt-Gal:** (a) <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (in CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 400 MHz, 298 K); (b) LC/MS-QTOF.

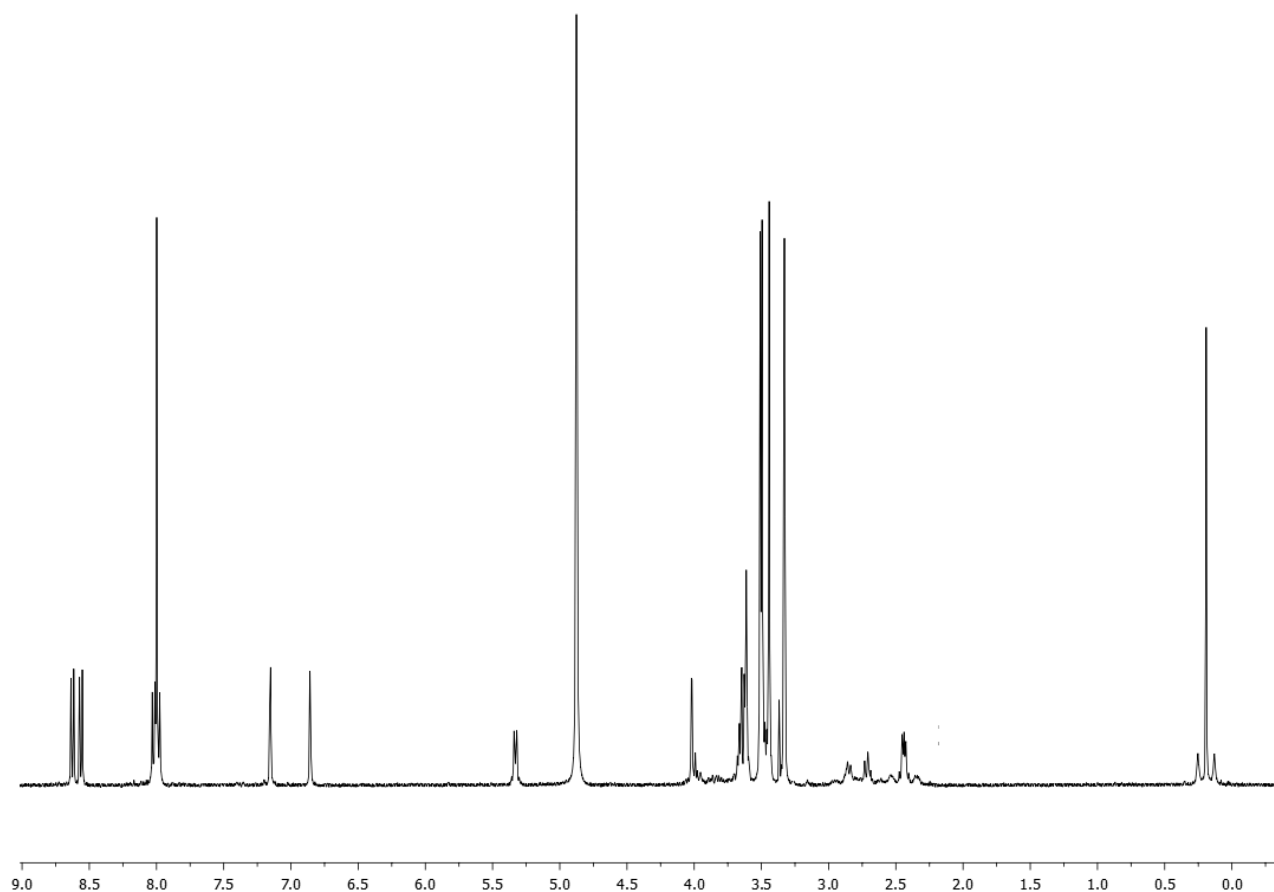
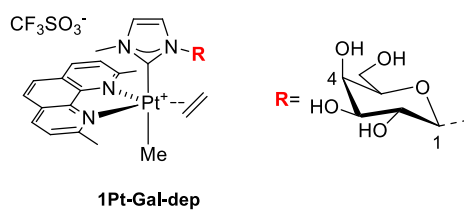


(a)

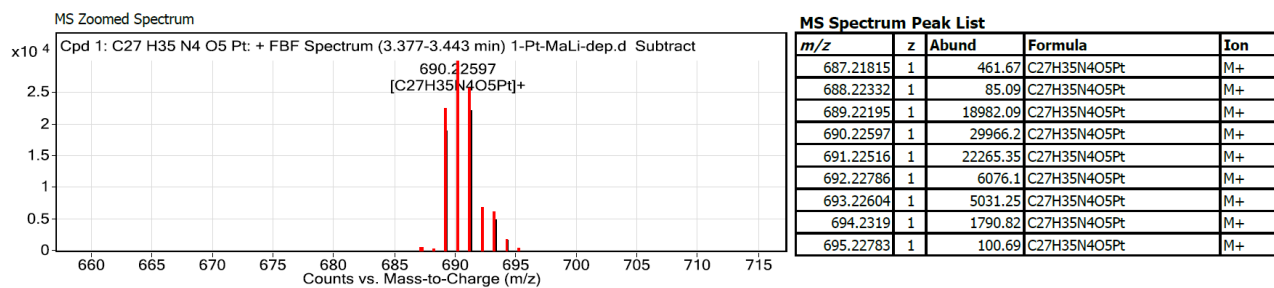


(b)

**Figure S3. 1Pt-Glu-dep:** (a)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (in  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ , 400 MHz, 298 K); (b) LC/MS-QTOF.

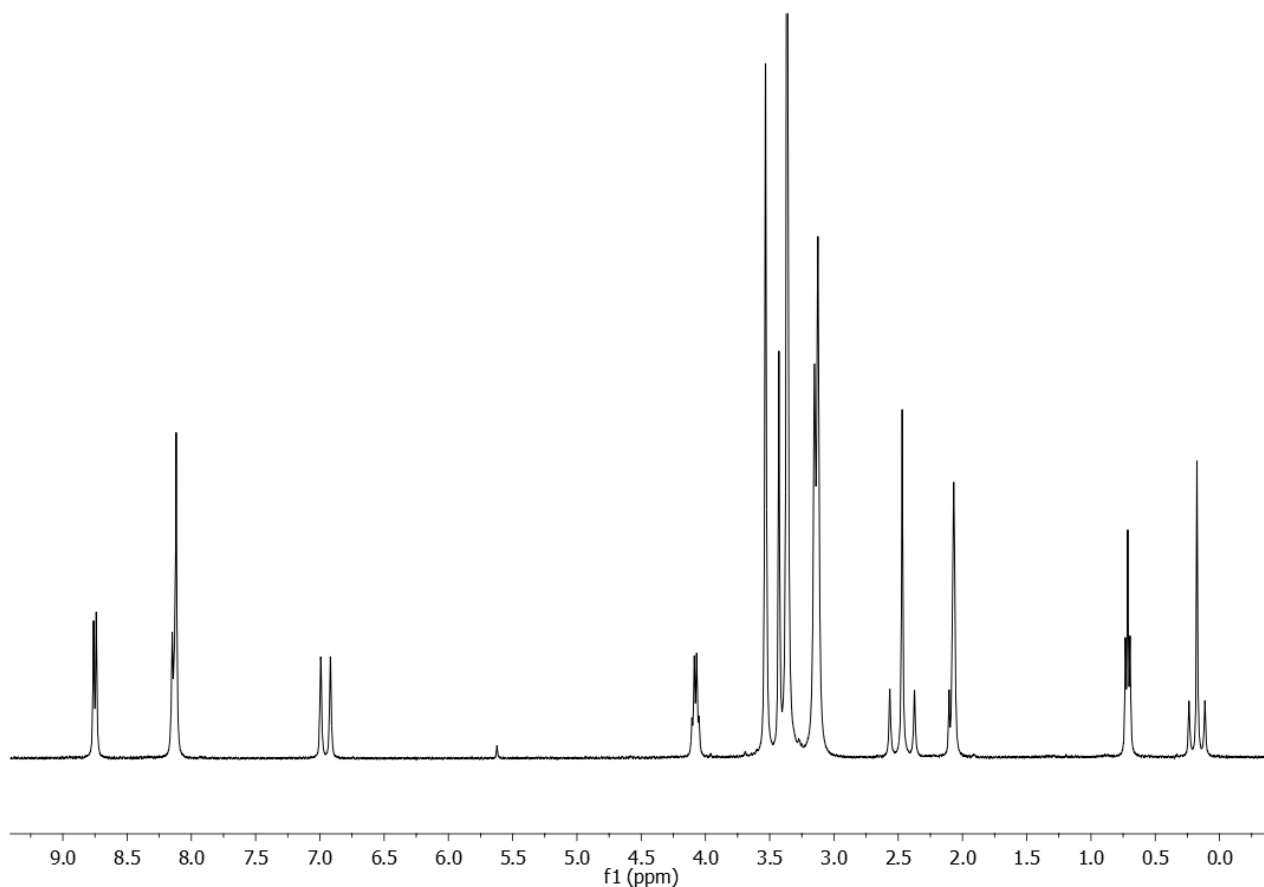
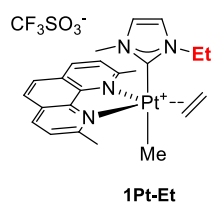


(a)

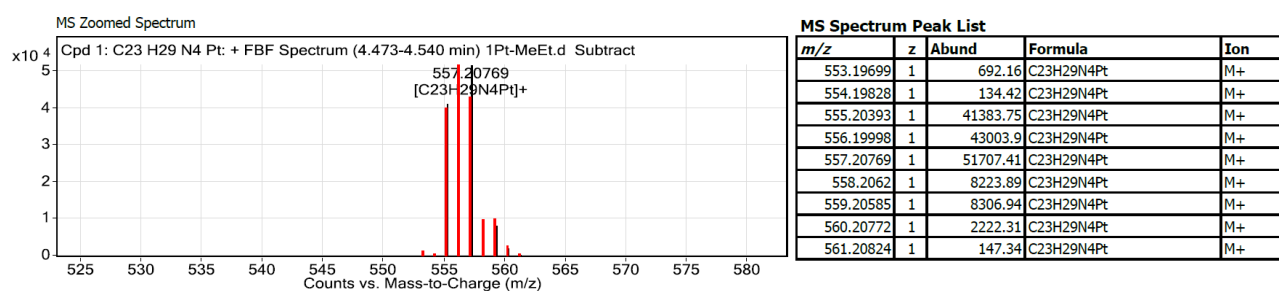


(b)

**Figure S4. 1Pt-Gal-dep:** (a) <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (in CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 400 MHz, 298 K); (b) LC/MS-QTOF.

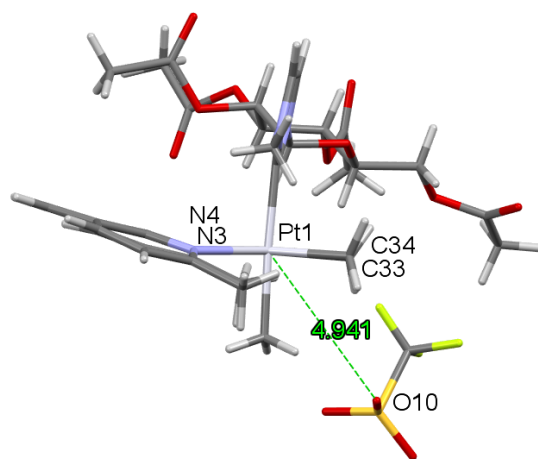


(a)

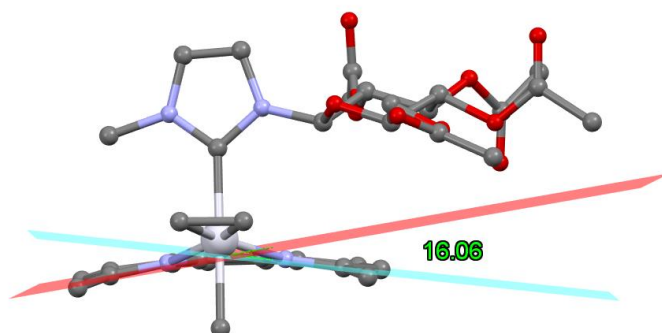


(b)

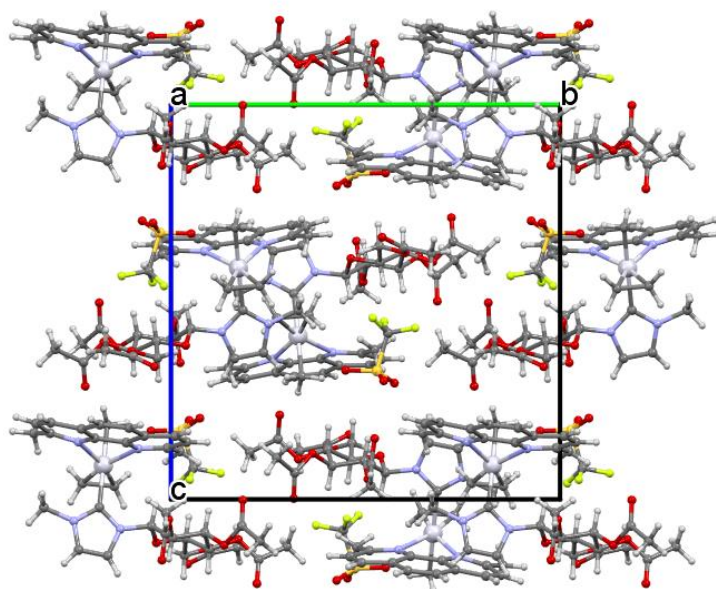
**Figure S5. 1Pt-Et:** (a) <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (in acetone-d<sub>6</sub>, 400 MHz, 298 K); (b) LC/MS-QTOF.



**Figure S6.** Projection of **1Pt-Glu** down the edge of coordination plane defined by N3/N4/C33/C34 atoms showing the flat shape of glucosyl group and the  $\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_3^-$  anion nearest to Pt (shortest distance  $\text{Pt}\cdots\text{O}$  is reported in green).

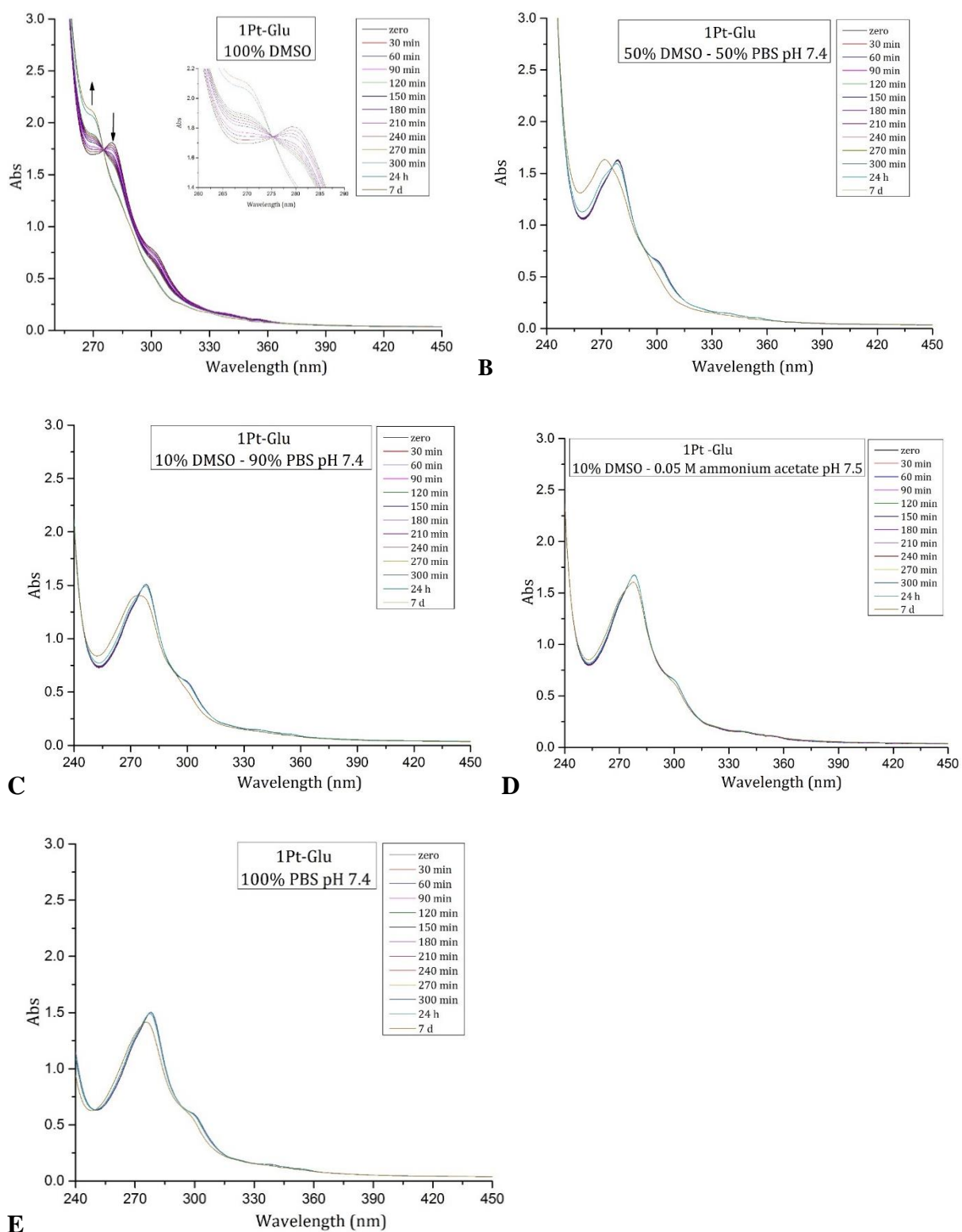


**Figure S7.** Bowl-like distortion of dmphen ligand in **1Pt-Glu** (angle between mean planes of outer rings is reported in green).

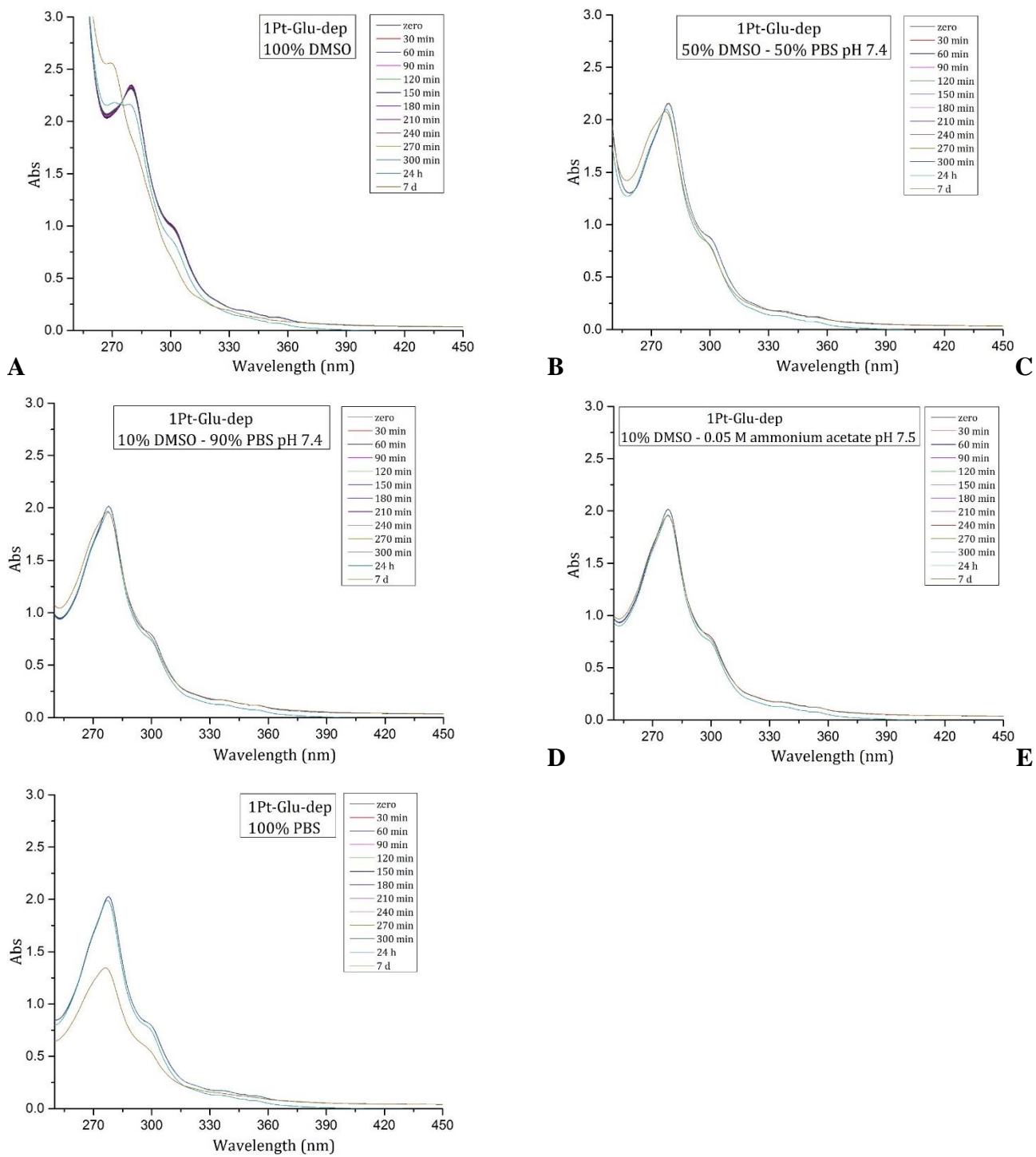


**Figure S8.** Crystal packing of **1Pt-Glu** viewed along **a** axis.

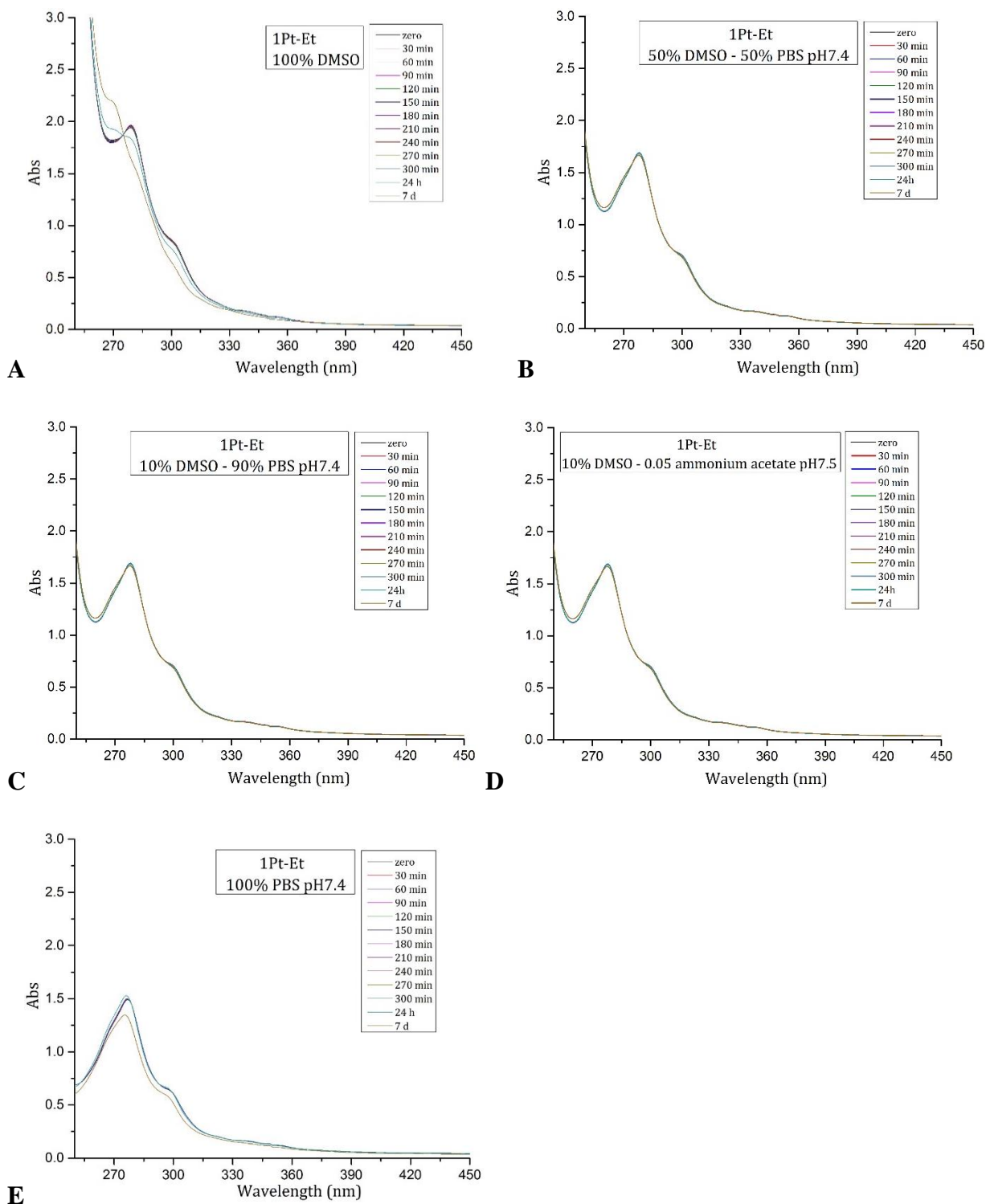




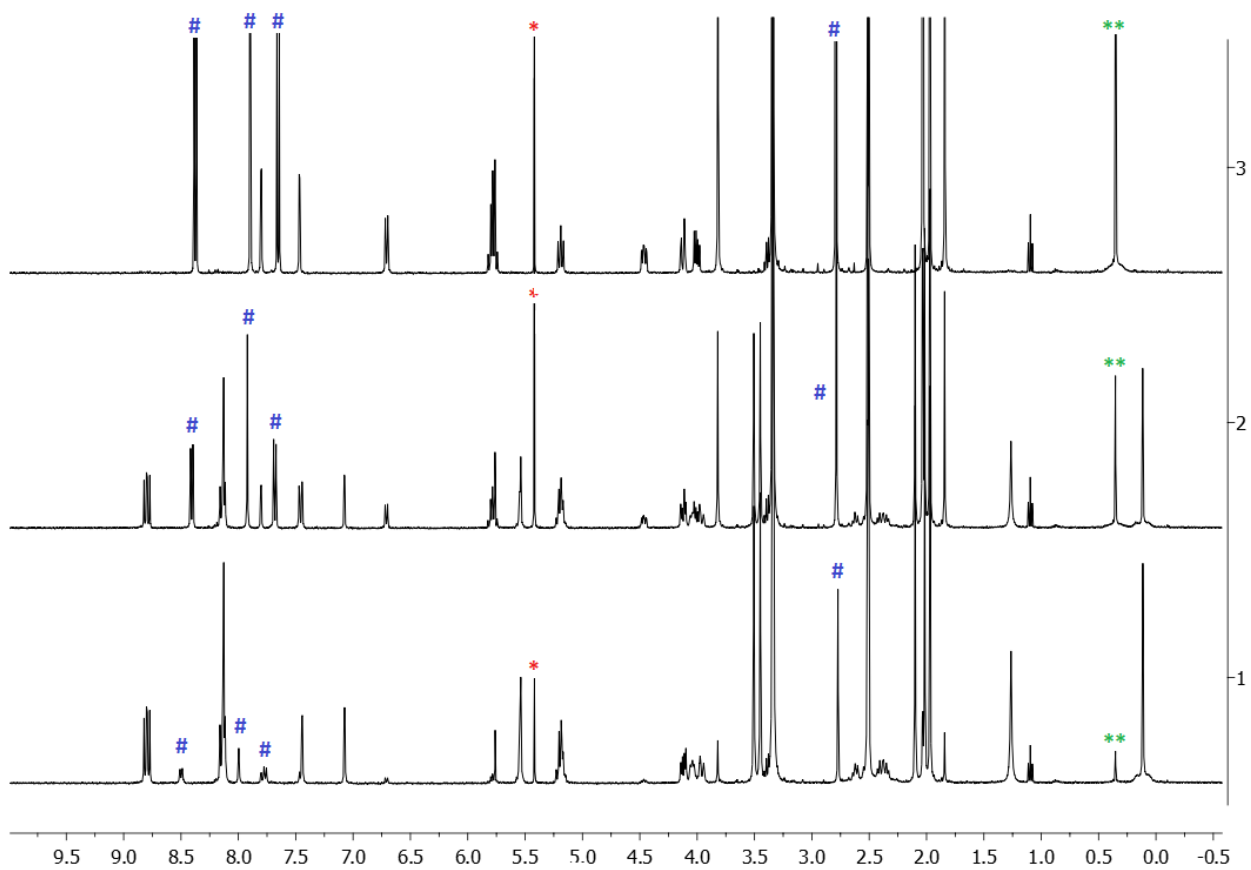
**Figure S9.** Time course UV-vis spectra of  $5 \times 10^{-5}$  M **1Pt-Glu** in 100% DMSO (A), 50% DMSO – 50% PBS pH 7.4 (B), 10% DMSO - 90% PBS pH 7.4 (C), 10% DMSO - 0.05 M ammonium acetate pH 7.5 (D), 100% PBS pH 7.4 (0.5% DMSO; E).



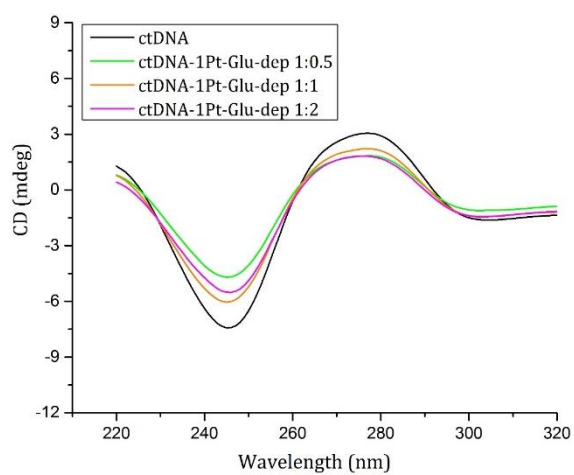
**Figure S10.** Time course UV-vis spectra of  $5 \times 10^{-5}$  M **1Pt-Glu-dep** in 100% DMSO (A), 50% DMSO – 50% PBS pH 7.4 (B), 10% DMSO - 90% PBS pH 7.4 (C), 10% DMSO - 0.05 M ammonium acetate pH 7.5 (D), 100% PBS pH 7.4 (0.5% DMSO; E).



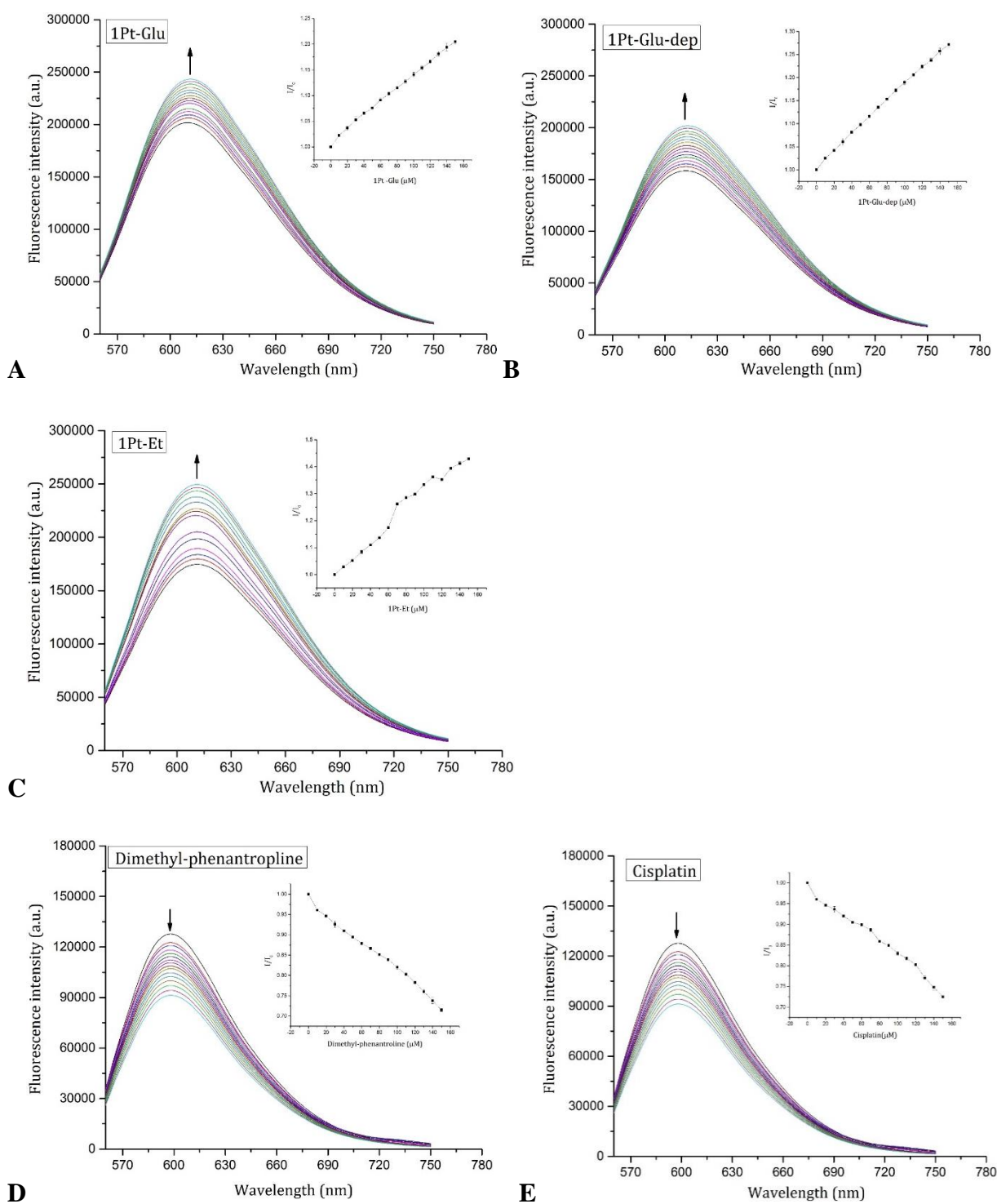
**Figure S11.** Time course UV-vis spectra of  $5 \times 10^{-5}$  M **1Pt-Et** in 100% DMSO (A), 50% DMSO – 50% PBS pH 7.4 (B), 10% DMSO - 90% PBS pH 7.4 (C), 10% DMSO - 0.05 M ammonium acetate pH 7.5 (D), 100% PBS pH 7.4 (0.5% DMSO; E).



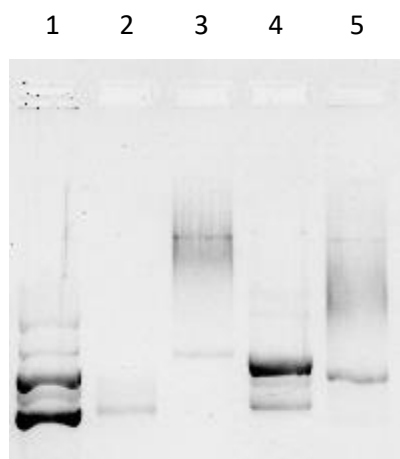
**Figure S12.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra at 400 MHz in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$  of **1Pt-Glu** after 1 hour (trace 1), after 3 hours (trace 2), after 60 hours (trace 3). Legend= \*: free ethene; #: free 2,9-dimethyl-1,10-phenanthroline; \*\*: Pt-Me in the square-planar product.



**Figure S13.** CD spectra of calf thymus DNA (200  $\mu$ M in 0.01 M ammonium acetate buffer, pH 7.5) in the absence and in the presence of **1Pt-Glu-dep** in 1:0.5, 1:1 and 1:2 DNA to metal molar ratios.



**Figure S14.** Emission spectra of ethidium bromide bound to DNA in the presence of **1Pt-Glu** (A), **1Pt-Glu-dep** (B), **1Pt-Et** (C). 0 – 150  $\mu\text{M}$ . In the inset, the fluorescence quenching as a function of the Pt compound concentration is also reported. Emission spectra of ethidium bromide bound to DNA in the presence of the dmphen ligand (D) and in the presence of cisplatin (E) are also reported as an internal control.



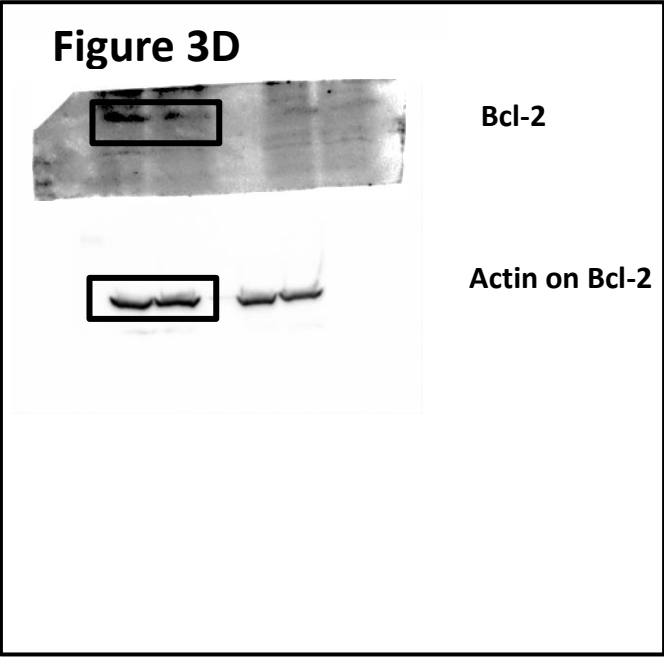
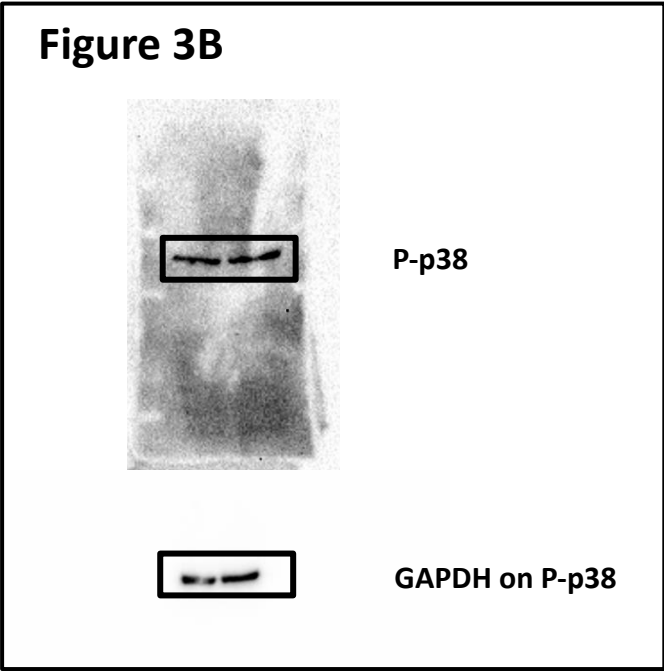
**Figure S15. Agarose gel mobility shift assay.** 200 ng of pGEX plasmid DNA were incubated with the Pt compounds at 1:50 ratio at 37°C for 90 minutes. At the end of the incubation, 100 ng of DNA were loaded onto a 1% agarose gel. The gel electrophoresis was performed applying a potential of 100 V for 45 minutes. The image was obtained with Chemidoc imaging system (Biorad). Lane 1: untreated pGEX plasmid DNA; lane 2: cisplatin; lane 3: **1Pt-Glu**; lane 4: **1Pt-Glu-dep**; lane 5: **1Pt-Et**.

**Table S1.** Crystal data and structure refinement details for **1Pt-Glu**

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Empirical formula                 | $C_{35} H_{43} N_4 O_9 Pt \cdot C F_3 S$  |
| Formula weight                    | 1007.89   |
| Temperature                       | 298(2)K   |
| Wavelength                        | 0.71073 Å   |
| Crystal system, space group       | Orthorhombic, P 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub>  |
| Unit cell dimensions              | $a = 13.170(2)$ Å, $\alpha = 90^\circ$<br>$b = 17.362(5)$ Å, $\beta = 90^\circ$<br>$c = 17.639(6)$ Å, $\gamma = 90^\circ$ |
| Volume                            | 4033.3(19) Å <sup>3</sup>   |
| Z, Calculated density             | 4, 1.660 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>  |
| Absorption coefficient            | 3.610 mm <sup>-1</sup>  |
| F(000)                            | 2016  |
| Crystal size                      | 0.50 x 0.40 x 0.08 mm   |
| Theta range for data collection   | 2.590 to 27.656 °   |
| Reflections collected / unique    | 23099 / 8502 [R(int) = 0.0391]  |
| Data / restraints / parameters    | 8502 / 0 / 523  |
| Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup> | 1.093   |
| Final R indices [I > 2σ(I)]       | $RI = 0.0374$ , $wR2 = 0.0811$  |
| R indices (all data)              | $RI = 0.0503$ , $wR2 = 0.0879$  |
| Absolute structural parameter     | 0.046(11)   |
| Largest diff. peak and hole       | 1.371 and -0.787 e·Å <sup>-3</sup>  |



Figure S16. Uncropped Western blots of Figure 3.



**Figure 3E**

