Supporting Information

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Self-assembled Nanostructures with Tridentate Cyclometalated

Platinum(II) Complexes

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Experimental Section

Synthesis and Spectroscopic Characterization:

All starting materials were used as received from commercial sources. The ligand 6-(4'-methylphenyl)-2,2'-bipyridine (HC^N^N) was prepared according to literature methods. Elemental analyses were performed by the Institute of Chemistry at Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing. Fast atom bombardment (FAB) mass spectra were obtained on a Finnigan Mat 95 mass spectrometer using 3-nitrobenzyl alcohol as matrix. Electrospray Ionization (ESI) mass spectra were obtained on a Finnigan LCQ quadrupole ion trap mass spectrometer (samples were dissolved in HPLC CH₃CN). ¹H, ¹³C, ³¹P, ¹⁹F

and ¹⁹⁵Pt NMR spectra were recorded on Avance400 and 500 Bruker FT-NMR spectrometers with chemical shifts (in ppm) relative to tetramethylsilane (for ¹H and ¹³C NMR) and external H₃PO₄ (for ³¹P NMR) respectively. Infrared spectra were recorded on a Bio-Rad FT-IR spectrometer. UV-vis spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer Lambda 19 UV/vis spectrophotometer.

[(C^N^N)PtCl] (2). A mixture of 6-(4'-methylphenyl)-2,2'-bipyridine (HC^N^N) (192 mg, 0.78 mmol) and K₂PtCl₄ (300 mg, 0.72 mmol) in CH₃CN/H₂O (1:1 v/v, 50 mL) was refluxed for 18 hours. The resulted dark red solution was evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure. The residue was extract with CH₂Cl₂ (100 mL × 3) and the extracts was evaporated to dryness. Pure product (250 mg, yield 73%) was isolated as an orange solid by slow diffusion of Et₂O vapor into a concentrated DMF solution. Anal. Calcd for C₁₇H₁₃ClN₂Pt: C, 42.94; H, 2.76; N, 5.90. Found: C, 43.10; H, 2.47; N, 6.27. MS (+ve FAB): m/z 475 [M⁺], 440 [M⁺ – Cl]. ¹H NMR (d_6 -DMSO): δ 8.86 (d, 1H, J = 5.0 Hz), 8.45 (d, 1H, J = 7.9 Hz), 8.31 (t, 1H, J = 7.7 Hz), 8.13–8.10 (m, 2H), 7.88 (t, 1H, J = 6.0 Hz), 7.86 (t, 1H, J = 7.4 Hz), 7.45 (d, 1H, J = 7.7 Hz), 7.28 (s with ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites, 1H, J_{PtH} = 43.6 Hz), 6.87 (d, 1H, J = 7.7 Hz), 2.28 (s, 3H).



Figure S1. ¹H NMR spectrum of **2** in d_6 -DMSO.

 $[(C^N^N)PtC\equiv O](PF_6)$ (3). A mixture of 2 (100 mg, 0.21 mmol) and AgOTf (60 mg, 0.23 mmol) in CH₃CN (30 mL) was refluxed for 2 hours. The resulted suspension was filtered through celite when it was still hot. Orange micro-needles precipitated out when the filtrate was cooled down. This precipitate was proved to be $[(C^N^N)PtN\equiv CCH_3](OTf)$. X-ray crystallographic study on a single crystal of $[(C^N^N)PtN\equiv CCH_3](PF_6)$ has revealed that the $[(C^N^N)PtN\equiv CCH_3]^+$ moieties are linked by Pt…Pt interactions into a dimeric structure in the solid state. The details will be reported elsewhere. To the hot (50 °C) solution of $[(C^N^N)PtN\equiv CCH_3](OTf)$ in CH₃CN was bubbled carbon monoxide (CO) gas for 10 minutes and the resulted yellow solution was stirred overnight at room temperature under a CO atmosphere. The solvent was

evaporated to dryness and the resulted orange solid was dissolved with 20 mL CH₃OH. The CH₃OH solution was filtered into a saturated NH₄PF₆ solution in CH₃OH. The resulted orange-brown solid was collected on sinter-glass filter and washed with copious of water, CH₃OH and Et₂O. Recrystallization by slow diffusion of Et₂O into a concentrated CH₃CN solution yieled orange-brown solid (85 mg, 66%). Anal. Calcd for C₁₈H₁₃N₂OPtPF₆: C, 35.23; H, 2.14; N, 4.57. Found: C, 35.71; H, 2.45; N, 4.15. MS (+ve FAB): m/z 468 [M⁺]. IR (KBr): v = 2109 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (*d*₆-DMSO): δ 8.99 (d, 1H, J = 4.9 Hz), 8.47–8.43 (m, 2H), 8.20 (t, 1H, J = 7.9 Hz), 8.15 (d, 1H, J = 7.7 Hz), 7.97 (t, 1H, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.88 (t, 1H, J = 6.0 Hz), 7.51 (d, 1H, J = 7.8 Hz), 6.94 (d, 1H, J = 7.8 Hz), 6.81 (s with ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites, 1H, $J_{PtH} = 44$ Hz), 2.08 (s, 3H).



Figure S2. ¹H NMR spectrum of **3** in d_6 -DMSO.



Figure S3. IR absorption spectrum of 3 in KBr pellet.

 $\{[(C^N^N)PtCl]]((C^N^N)PtC\equiv O]\}(PF_6)$ (1). Two methods were applied to prepare this complex.

Method I (serendipity approach): To a solution of **2** (120 mg, 0.25 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (120 mL) was bubbled CO gas for 20 minutes. The resulted dark green solid was collected on a sinter-glass filter and washed thoroughly with CH_2Cl_2 and Et_2O . The solid (75 mg) was dissolved with DMF (1.5 mL) in the presence of NH_4PF_6 (20 mg). The resulted dark red solution was filtered into water (30 mL) to give a dark blue precipitate which was collected on a sinter-glass filter and washed thoroughly with water, CH_3OH , CH_2Cl_2 and Et_2O . Yield: 48% based on **2**.

Method II (rational approach): The mixture of **2** (19.0 mg, 0.04 mmol) and **3** (24.5 mg, 0.04 mmol) in CH₃CN (5 mL) was stirred for 10 minutes. The resulted red solution was filtered and evaporated to dryness to give a dark blue solid which was collected on a sinter-glass filter and washed thoroughly with CH₃OH, CH₂Cl₂ and Et₂O. Yield: >80%.

Anal. Calcd for C₃₅H₂₆N₄ClOPt₂PF₆: C, 38.60; H, 2.41; N, 5.15. Found: C, 37.71; H, 2.04; N, 4.65. MS (ESI): m/z 942.5 [M⁺], 468.1 {M⁺ – [(C^N^N)PtCl]}. IR (KBr): v = 2094 (C=O) cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (d_6 -DMSO): δ 8.87 (d, 1H, J = 5.0 Hz), 8.80 (d, 1H, J = 4.9 Hz), 8.31 (d, 1H, J = 7.7 Hz), 8.25 (d, 1H, J = 7.5 Hz), 8.14 (virtual d, 2H), 8.02 (t, 1H, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.97–7.80 (m, 4H), 7.76 (d, 1H, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.68 (d, 1H, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.54 (d, 1H, J = 7.9 Hz), 7.23 (d, 1H, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.14 (d, 1H, J = 7.8 Hz), 6.85 (d, 1H, J = 7.9Hz), 6.74 (d, 1H, J = 5.6 Hz), 6.70 (s with ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites, 1H), 6.30 (s with ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites, 1H), 2.09 (s, 3H), 2.06 (s, 3H). ¹H NMR (CD₃CN): δ 8.66 (d, 1H, J = 4.2 Hz), 8.55 (d, 1H, J = 4.4 Hz), 7.97 (t, 1H, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.92 (t, 1H, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.61 (t, 1H, J = 7.8 (t, 1H, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.56 (t, 1H, J = 5.4 Hz), 7.52 (t, 1H, J = 5.5 Hz), 7.49 (t, 1H, J = 7.9 Hz), 7.41 (d, 1H, J = 8.5 Hz), 7.39 (d, 1H, J = 8.1 Hz), 7.11 (d, 1H, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.00 (t, 1H, J = 7.3Hz), 6.91 (d, 1H, J = 7.9 Hz), 6.68–6.62 (m, 3H), 6.55 (d, 1H, J = 7.9 Hz), 6.28 (s with ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites, 1H), 5.85 (s with ¹⁹⁵Pt satellites, 1H), 2.09 (s, 3H), 1.88 (s, 3H). $^{13}C{^{1}H}$ NMR (CD₃CN): δ 207.8 (*C*≡O), 169.6, 165.7, 164.4, 157.7, 156.9, 155.7, 155.2, 154.9, 148.8, 144.4, 144.3, 143.9, 143.7, 143.1, 141.7, 141.5, 140.5, 139.5, 138.5, 137.4, 134.7, 129.1, 128.7, 127.9, 127.0, 125.6, 125.0, 124.1, 120.9, 120.5, 119.8, 119.6, 22.2 (Me), 21.8 (Me). ¹⁹⁵Pt{¹H} NMR (CD₃CN): δ –3832.7 (virtual s). ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR (CD₃CN): δ – 72.5 (d, $J_{PF} = 708 \text{ Hz}$). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (CD₃CN): δ –144.5 (virtual quintet, $J_{PF} = 706 \text{ Hz}$).



Figure S4. ¹H NMR spectrum of 1 in CD₃CN.



Figure S5. 2D H-H COSY NMR spectrum of 1 in CD₃CN.



Figure S6. 2D NOESY NMR spectrum of 1 in CD₃CN.



Figure S7. 13 C NMR spectrum of 1 in CD₃CN.



Figure S9. ³¹P NMR spectrum of 1 in CD₃CN.



Figure S10. ¹⁹F NMR spectrum of 1 in CD₃CN.



Figure S11. ¹H NMR spectrum of 1 in d_6 -DMSO.



Figure S12. ¹H NMR spectrum of **1** in d_6 -acetone (nanowire dispersion with concentration being $\sim 2 \times 10^{-3}$ M).



Figure S13. IR absorption spectrum of 1 in KBr pellet.



Figure S14. ESI-MS spectrum of 1 in CD₃CN.



Figure S15. Experimental and stimulated (inset) isotopic pattern of $[(C^N^N)PtC=O]^+$ (C₁₈H₁₃N₂OPt).

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Figure S16. Experimental and stimulated (inset) isotopic pattern of $\{[(C^N^N)PtCl][(C^N^N)PtC=O]\}^+(C_{35}H_{26}N_4ClOPt_2).$



Figure S17. UV-vis absorption spectra of 1 dispersed in various poor solvents (prepared by injecting 100 μ L 1.2 × 10⁻³ M acetone solution into 10 mL poor solvent).

TEM, SEM and FET Devices:

TEM images and SAED pictures were recorded on a Philips Tecnai 20 electron microscope (accelerating voltage of 200 kV). The SEM images were taken on a LEO 1530 scanning electron microscope operating at 5.0 kV. A few drops of the nanowire dispersion were deposited on the copper grid and the excess solvent was removed by a piece of filter paper. All the samples for SEM observations were sputtered with gold thin film (20 second, <2 nm thickness).

The XRD pattern of the nanostructured thin film was recorded on a Philips PW1830 powder X-ray diffractometer operating with graphite monochromatized Cu K α radiation ($\lambda = 1.540562$ Å) and nickel filter. The scanning rate is 0.5° min⁻¹ in the 2 θ range from 2 to 70°.

A common substrate-gate structure field effect transistor (FET) was fabricated. The SiO₂ layer (100 nm, relative permittivity = 3.9), heavily doped n-type Si substrates, Ti adhesion film (10 nm, lower)/Au conductive film (50 nm, upper) were used as the insulator, gate electrode and source/drain electrodes, respectively. The transistor output and transfer characteristics were measured with a probe station under nitrogen atmosphere using a Keithley K4200 semiconductor parameter analyzer. The transistor channel length and widths were 5 and 1035 µm respectively.



Figure S18. TEM image of **1** dispersed in acetone (concentration $\sim 6 \times 10^{-3}$ M).



Figure S19. SEM image of 1 dispersed in acetone (concentration $\sim 6 \times 10^{-3}$ M).



in toluene

in water

Figure S20. TEM image of 1 dispersed in various poor solvents.



Figure S21. Transfer (I_{DS} vs. V_G) characteristics of the TFT device with nanostructured 1 as semiconducting layer.



Figure S22. Transient measurement ($V_{DS} = V_G = 20$ V) of the TFT device with nanostructured 1 as semiconducting layer.