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Morphology-driven absorption and emission colour changes in liquid-crystalline, cyclometallated platinum(II) complexes.

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Electronic Supplementary Information

Experimental Section

Materials and Methods. All commercially available reagents were used as received. TLC was carried out on silica gel Si 60-F254. Column chromatography was carried out on silica gel Si 60, mesh size 0.040-0.063 mm (Merck, Darmstadt, Germany). Nuclear magnetic resonance spectra were recorded on a Jeol JNM-EX 270 FT NMR system or Bruker 400 MHz and referenced to TMS or residual solvent resonances. UV-Vis and Infrared spectra were obtained by using a Shimadzu UV-2401 PC and Shimadzu IR Prestige-21 spectrometers, respectively. UV-Vis spectra were obtained using a Shimadzu UV-2401 PC instrument. Microanalyses were performed at the Department of Chemistry, University of York using Exeter Analytical Inc. CE 440 instrument. Hitachi F-4500 fluorescence spectrophotometer was used for recording emission and excitation spectra. The phase transition temperatures were determined using Mettler Toledo DSC-822e differential scanning calorimeter with a heating and cooling rate of 10°C min⁻¹ (the apparatus was calibrated with indium, 156.6°C). Texture observations were made using Olympus BX50 polarizing microscope in conjunction with a Linkam LTS350 hot stage and Linkam TMS92 control unit.

Small-angle X-ray scattering (SAXS) patterns were obtained with two different experimental setups, by using linear CuK α_1 beams ($\lambda = 1.5405$ Å) from a sealed-tube generator (600 W) equipped with bent quartz monochromators. The crude powder was filled in Lindemann capillaries of 1 mm diameter and 10 μ m wall-thickness, and in each case, exposure times were varied from 1 to 24 h. Patterns at scattering vectors from 0.09 to 2.1 Å⁻¹ were acquired with a curved Inel CPS 120 counter gas-filled detector, by controlling the sample temperature within ± 0.01 °C between 20 to 200°C. Patterns of the pristine sample at room temperature were completed in the 0.05 to 0.10 Å⁻¹ range, by using the other set-up with imaging plate detection (STORM 820 scanner from Molecular Dynamics in 50 μ m resolution). Exposure times were varied between 1 and 24 h.

4,6-difluorobenzene-1,3-diboronic acid dipinacol ester 1

A mixture of 1,5-dibromo-2,4-difluorobenzene (2.72 g, 10 mmol), bispinacolatodiboron (6.6 g, 22 mmol), potassium acetate (4.9 g, 50 mmol), $PdCl_2(PPh_3)_2$ and dry DMSO (30 cm³) was degassed by bubbling argon through the mixture for 10 minutes. The reaction mixture was stirred at 80°C for 10 h and filtered. The solid on the filter was washed with chlorophorm (2 x 50 cm³). The filtrate was washed with water (3 x 50 cm³). Organic layer was dried under MgSO₄ and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in hot petrol ether (50 cm³) and filtered. The filtrate was evaporated to dryness and the product was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, petrol ether/ethyl acetate, 10/1) to give the title product as colourless solid. Yield 2.6 g, 71%. δ_H (270 MHz; CDCl₃; solvent): 1.34 (24H, s, 8 x CH₃), 6.71 (1H, t, *J* 9.8, 5-H), 8.11 (1H, t, *J* 7.5, 2-H). Elemental analysis calcld for $C_{18}H_{26}B_2F_2O_4$: C 59.07, H 7.16; found C 59.07, H 7.34.

4,6-difluoro-1,3-di(5-bromo-2-pyridyl)benzene 2

A mixture of 5-bromo-2-iodopyridine (6.81 g, 24 mmol), 4,6-difluorobenzene-1,3-diboronic acid dipinacol ester (3.66 g, 10 mmol), K_3PO_4 (6.36 g, 30 mmol) and dry DMF (150 cm³) was degassed by bubbling argon through the mixture for 10 minutes. Pd(PPh₃)₄ (693 mg, 0.6 mmol) was added and the mixture was degassed for additional 15 minutes. The reaction mixture was then stirred at 100°C for 14 hours under argon atmosphere. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was treated with methanol (100 cm³) and filtered. The solid was placed in a beaker and stirred with water (100 cm³) for 5 min, filtered, washed with water (50 cm³) and methanol (20 cm³). The solid was then heated to reflux with methanol (100 cm³) cooled to room temperature and filtered to give the titled product. Yield 2.95 g 69%; δ_H (270 MHz; CDCl₃; solvent): 6.96 (1H, t, *J* 10.5.), 7.63 (2H, d, *J* 8.0), 7.83 (2H, dd, *J* 8.0, 1.9), 8.59 (1H, t, *J* 8.9), 8.47 (dd, *J* 1.9, 0.7, 2H); Elemental analysis calcld for $C_{16}H_8Br_2F_2N_2$: C 45.11, H 1.89, N 6.58; found C 44.93, H 1.90, N 6.43.

A mixture of bibromo compound **NCN-16** (718 mg, 1.69 mmol), CuI (107 mg, 0.56 mmol), 1-dodecyne (843 mg, 5.07 mmol), dry thriethylamine (50 ml) and dry DMF (50 ml) was degassed by bubbling argon through the mixture for 15 min. Catalyst Pd(Ph₃P)₄ (196 mg, 0.17 mmol), was added and the reaction mixture was heated under reflux for 12 h. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the product was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, petrol ether / ethyl acetate, 10/1). Yield 640 mg, 63%. $\delta_{\rm H}$ (270 MHz; CDCl₃; solvent): 0.85 (6H, t, *J* 7.3), 1.25-1.43 (28H, m), 1.59 (4H, q, *J* 7.8), 2.42 (4H, t, *J* 7.8), 6.94 (1H, t, *J* 8.0), 7.70 (m, 4H), 8.63 (t, 1H, *J* 9.0), 8.70 (br.s, 2H). Elemental analysis calcld for C₄₀H₅₀F₂N₂: C 80.50, H 8.44, N 4.69; found C 80.53, H 8.44, N 4.72.

$$C_{13}H_{27}$$
 $C_{13}H_{27}$
 $C_{13}H_{27}$

A mixture of bibromo compound **NCN-16** (426 mg, 1 mmol), CuI (70 mg), 1-tetradecyne (624 mg, 3 mmol), dry thriethylamine (30 ml) and dry DMF (30 ml) was degassed by bubbling argon through the mixture for 15 min. Catalyst Pd(Ph₃P)₄ (116 mg, 0.045 mmol), was added and the reaction mixture was heated under reflux for 12 h. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the product was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, petrol ether / ethyl acetate, 5/1). Yield 120 mg, 45%. $\delta_{\rm H}$ (270 MHz; CDCl₃; solvent): 0.81 (6H, t, *J* 7.3), 1.15-1.45 (40H, m), 1.55 (4H, q, *J* 7.4), 2.38 (4H, t, *J* 7.2), 6.94 (1H, t, *J* 10.7), 7.68 (m, 4H), 8.59 (t, 1H, *J* 9.1), 8.65 (br.s, 2H).

The starting material (120 mg, 0.2 mmol) was dissolved in ethylacetate (10 cm³), Pd/C (10%, 50 mg) was added. Hydrogen was bobbled through the mixture for 10 min and then reaction mixture was stirred for 2 days at room temperature under hydrogen atmosphere. The reaction mixture was then filtered and the filtrate was evaporated under reduced pressure. Yield 108 mg, 89%. mp 40.2-40.7°C. $\delta_{\rm H}$ (270 MHz; CDCl₃; solvent): 0.81 (6H, t, *J* 7.3), 1.17-1.37 (36H, m), 1.53-1.68 (4H, m), 2.58 (4H, t, *J* 7.3), 6.93 (1H, t, *J* 10.5.), 7.50 (2H, dd, *J* 8.0, 1.9), 7.61 (2H, d, *J* 8.0), 8.47 (br.s, 2H), 8.48 (1H, t, *J* 8.9).

The starting material (520 mg, 0.76 mmol) was dissolved in ethylacetate (30 cm³), Pd/C (10%, 250 mg) was added. Hydrogen was bobbled through the mixture for 10 min and then reaction mixture was stirred for 7 days at room temperature under hydrogen atmosphere. The reaction mixture was then filtered and the filtrate was evaporated under reduced pressure. Yield 484 mg, 92%. $\delta_{\rm H}$ (270 MHz; CDCl₃; solvent): 0.80 (6H, t, *J* 7.3), 1.1-1.7 (52H, m), 2.58 (4H, t, *J* 7.3), 6.92 (1H, t, *J* 10.5.), 7.50 (2H, dd, *J* 8.0, 1.9), 7.61 (2H, d, *J* 8.0), 8.47 (br.s, 2H), 8.48 (1H, t, *J* 8.9).

$$C_{12}H_{25}$$
 $C_{12}H_{25}$
 $C_{12}H_{25}$
 $C_{12}H_{25}$

A mixture of the ligand (300 mg, 0.5 mmol), K₂PtCl₄ (206 mg, 0.5 mmol) and acetic acid was (50 cm³) heated under reflux for 24 hours. Precipitated upon cooling solid was filtered off, washed on filter with acetone (20 cm³), dissolved in chloroform (10 cm³) and filtered. Acetone 30 (cm³) was added to the filtrate, and precipitated solid was filtered off to give the product. Yield 292 mg, 59%.δ_H (270 MHz; CDCl₃; solvent): 0.85 (6H, t, *J* 7.3), 1.1-1.7 (40H, m), 2.64 (4H, t, *J* 7.2), 6.55 (1H, t, *J* 11.1.), 7.70 (4H, m), 9.05 (br.s, 2H). Elemental analysis calculated for C₄₀H₅₇ClF₂N₂Pt: C 57.58, H 6.89, N 3.36; found C 57.55, H 6.86, N 3.31.

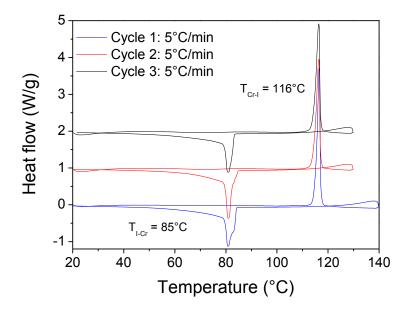
$$5(15)$$
 $C_{15}H_{31}$
 N
 Pt
 N
 $C_{15}H_{31}$
 $C_{15}H_{31}$

A mixture of the ligand (220 mg, 0.32 mmol), K₂PtCl₄ (132 mg, 0.32 mmol) and acetic acid was (50 cm³) heated under reflux for 24 hours. Precipitated upon cooling solid was filtered off, washed

on filter with acetone (20 cm³), dissolved in chloroform (10 cm³) and filtered. Acetone 20 (cm³) was added to the filtrate, and precipitated solid was filtered off to give the product. Yield 187 mg, 64%. $\delta_{\rm H}$ (270 MHz; CDCl₃; solvent): 0.85 (6H, br.t, J 7.5), 1.1-1.7 (52H, m), 2.66 (4H, t, J 7.2), 6.69 (1H, t, J 11.1), 7.74 (4H, m), 9.11 (br.s, 2H). Elemental analysis calculated for $C_{46}H_{69}ClF_2N_2Pt$: C 60.15, H 7.57, N 3.05; found C 60.33, H 7.54, N 3.01.

DSC of **5**(12)

Same pan, three consecutive identical cycles



T = 80 °C (cooling)
T = 120 °C (isotropic liquid phase)
T = 80 °C (prisitine state)

T = 80 °C (prisitine state)

T = 80 °C (prisitine state)

SAXS diffractogram of a mixture of **5**(12) and **5**(15) at 83 °C in crystalline (blacj), isotropic (blue) and liquid crystalline states (red).

The mixture of **5**(12) and **5**(15) was prepared by dissolving 30 mg of each compound in 20 mL of dichloromethane, followed by evaporation in vacuum.