

Synthesis, Characterization and Biological Activity of Bis[3-ethyl-4-aryl-5-(2-methoxypyridin-5-yl)-1-propyl-1,3-dihydro-2*H*-imidazol-2-ylidene]gold(I) Complexes

Supplementary Information

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1. Analytical Characterization

1.1 ^1H NMR Spectroscopy

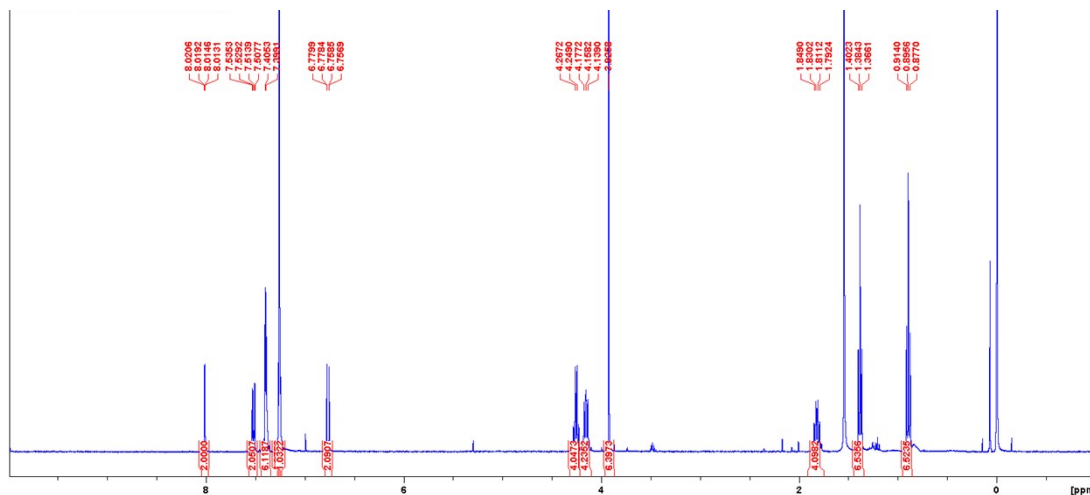


Figure S1. ^1H NMR spectrum of bis[3-ethyl-4-phenyl-5-(2-methoxypyridin-5-yl)-1-propyl-1,3-dihydro-2*H*-imidazol-2-ylidene]gold(I) bromide complex **2a** recorded in CDCl_3 .

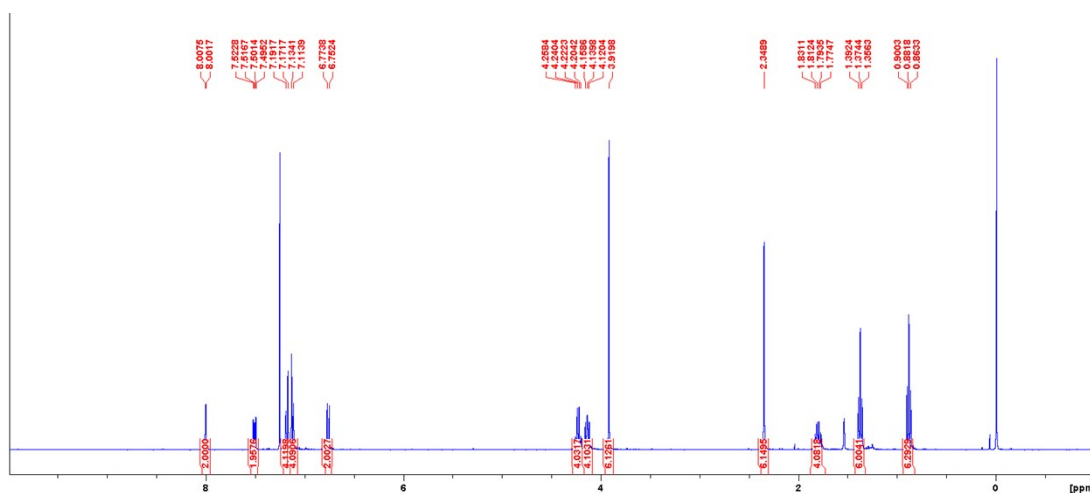


Figure S2. ^1H NMR spectrum of bis[3-ethyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)-5-(2-methoxypyridin-5-yl)-1-propyl-1,3-dihydro-2*H*-imidazol-2-ylidene]gold(I) bromide complex **2b** recorded in CDCl_3 .

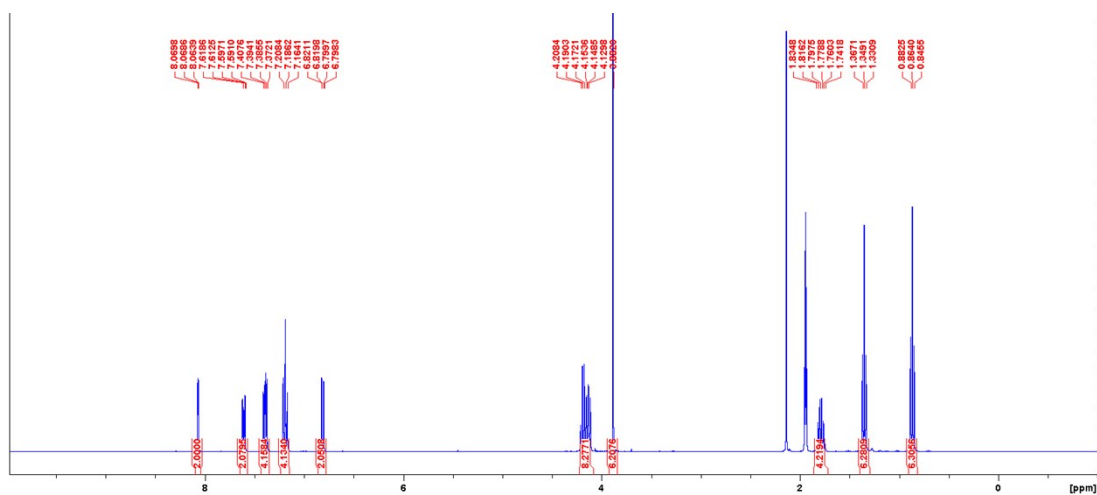


Figure S3. ¹H NMR spectrum of bis[3-ethyl-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-(2-methoxypyridin-5-yl)-1-propyl-1,3-dihydro-2H-imidazol-2-ylidene]gold(I) bromide complex **2c** recorded in CD₃CN.

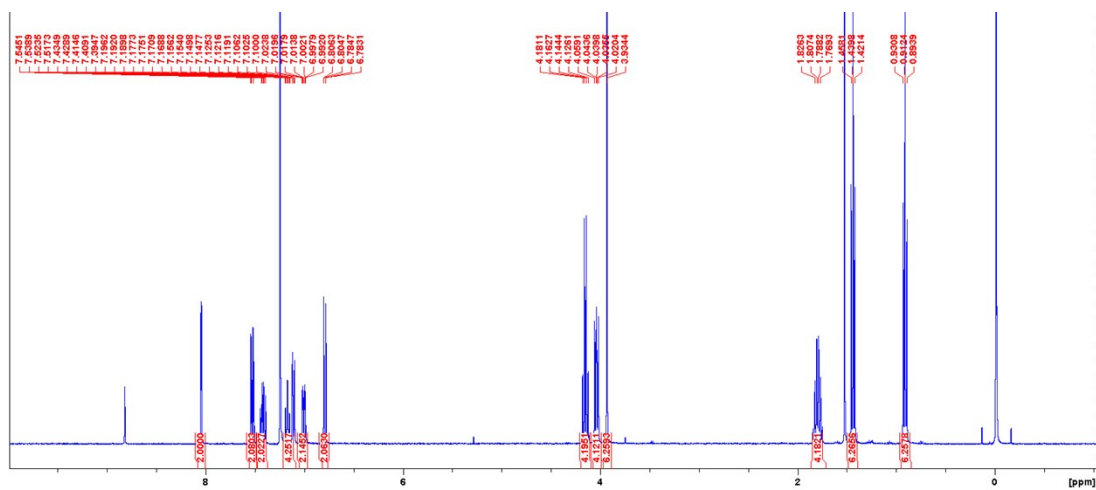


Figure S4. ¹H NMR spectrum of bis[3-ethyl-4-(3-fluorophenyl)-5-(2-methoxypyridin-5-yl)-1-propyl-1,3-dihydro-2H-imidazol-2-ylidene]gold(I) bromide complex **2d** recorded in CDCl₃.

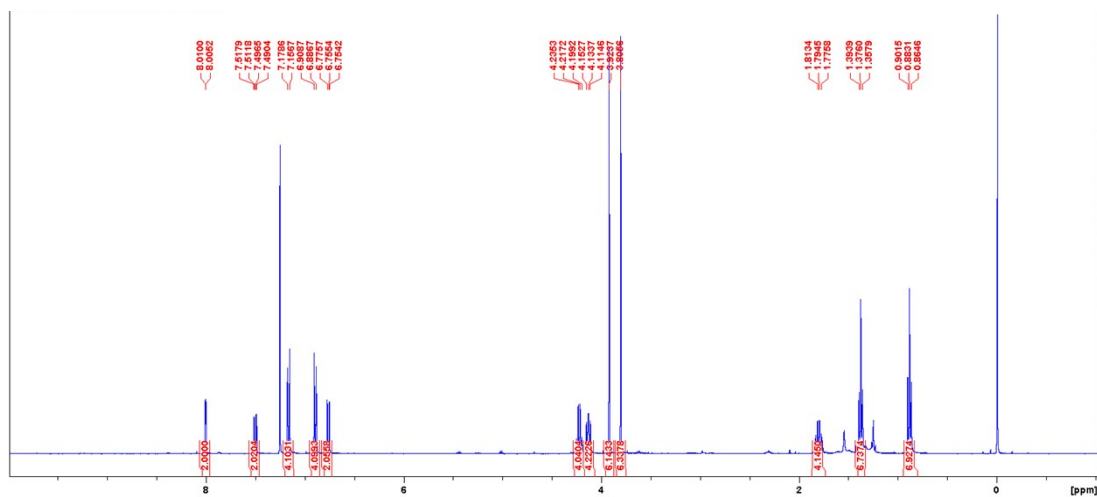


Figure S5. ^1H NMR spectrum of bis[3-ethyl-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-(2-methoxypyridin-5-yl)-1-propyl-1,3-dihydro-2*H*-imidazol-2-ylidene]gold(I) bromide complex **2e** recorded in CDCl_3 .

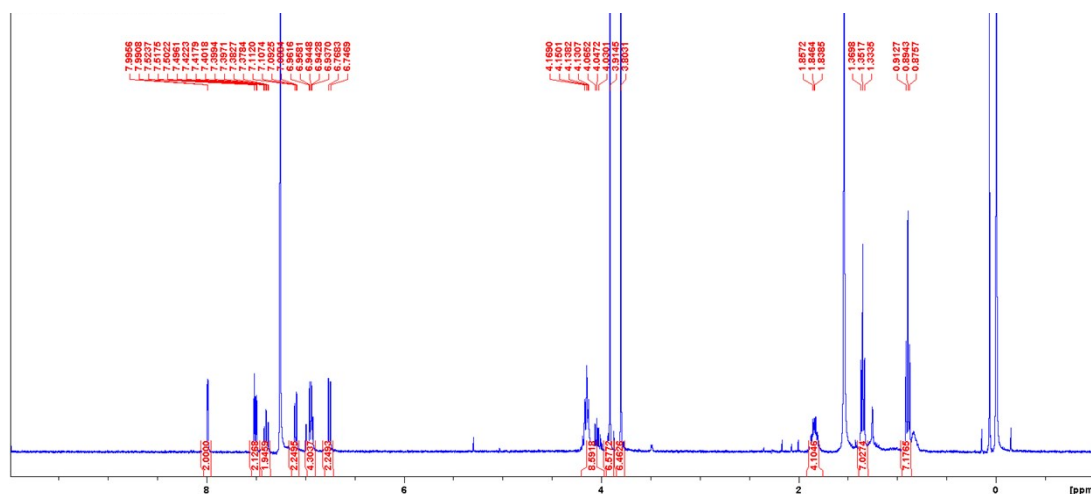


Figure S6. ^1H NMR spectrum of bis[3-ethyl-4-(2-methoxyphenyl)-5-(2-methoxypyridin-5-yl)-1-propyl-1,3-dihydro-2*H*-imidazol-2-ylidene]gold(I) bromide complex **2f** recorded in CDCl_3 .

1.2 ^{13}C NMR Spectroscopy

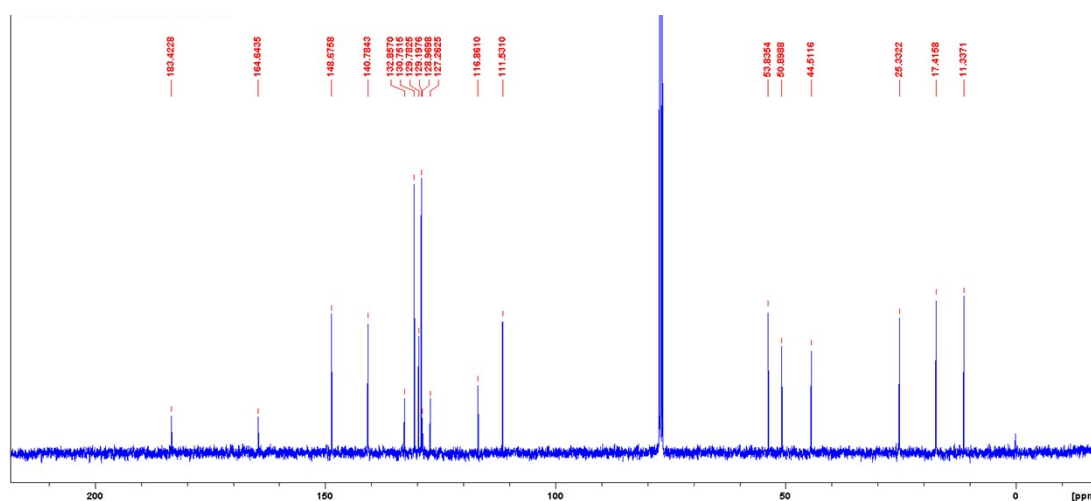


Figure S7. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of bis[3-ethyl-4-phenyl-5-(2-methoxypyridin-5-yl)-1-propyl-1,3-dihydro-2*H*-imidazol-2-ylidene]gold(I) bromide complex **2a** in CDCl_3 .

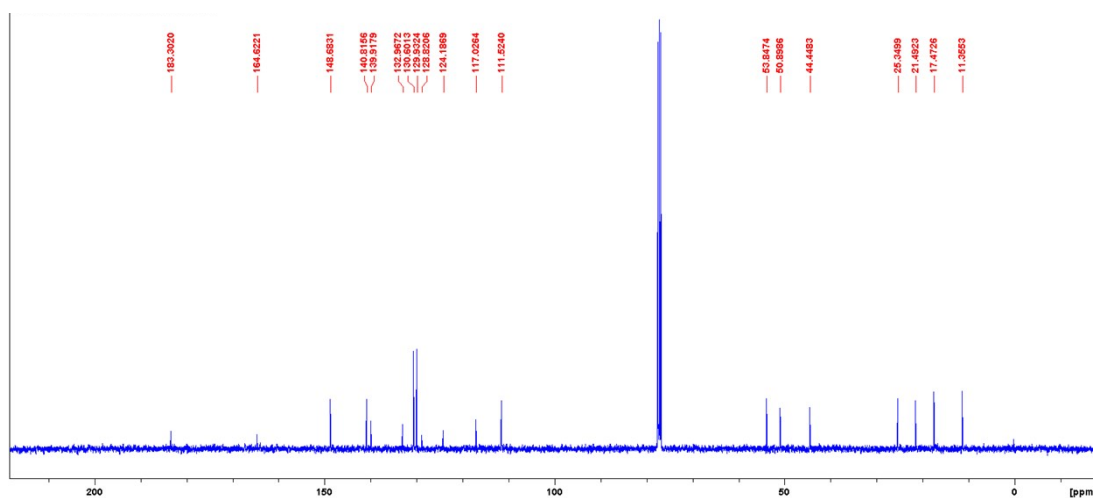


Fig. S8. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of bis[3-ethyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)-5-(2-methoxypyridin-5-yl)-1-propyl-1,3-dihydro-2*H*-imidazol-2-ylidene]gold(I) bromide complex **2b** in CDCl_3 .

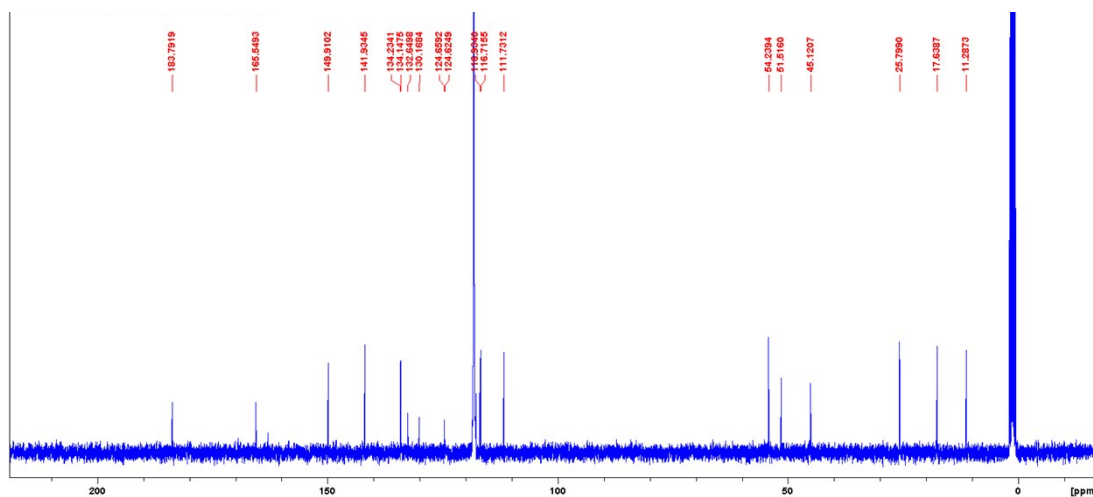


Figure S9. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of bis[3-ethyl-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-(2-methoxypyridin-5-yl)-1-propyl-1,3-dihydro-2*H*-imidazol-2-ylidene]gold(I) bromide complex **2c** in CD_3CN .

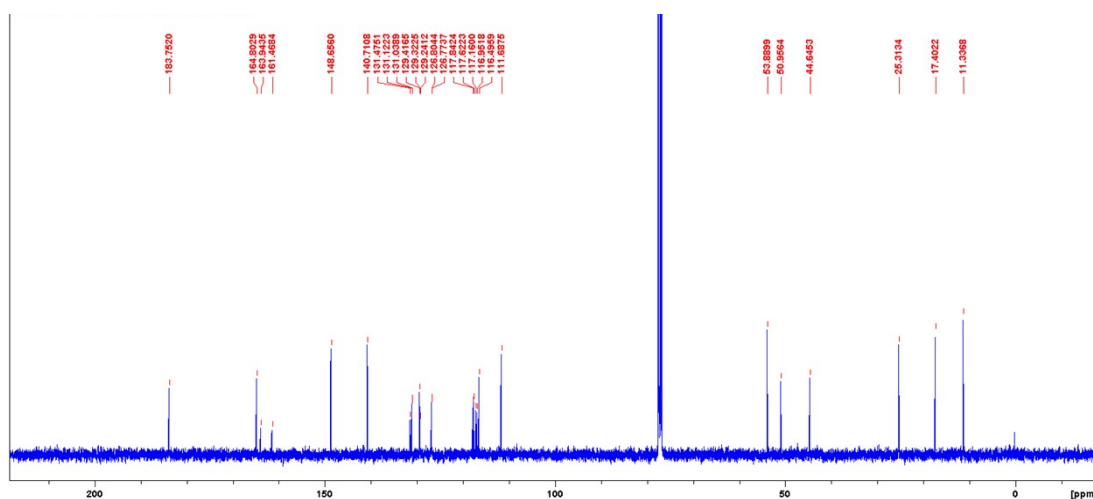


Figure S10. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of bis[3-ethyl-4-(3-fluorophenyl)-5-(2-methoxypyridin-5-yl)-1-propyl-1,3-dihydro-2*H*-imidazol-2-ylidene]gold(I) bromide complex **2d** in CDCl_3 .

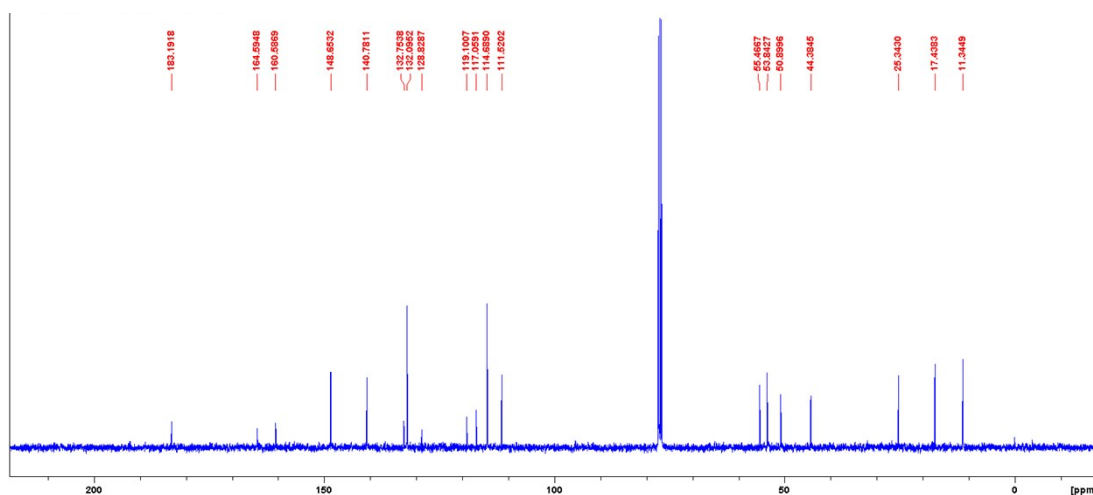


Figure S11. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of bis[3-ethyl-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-(2-methoxypyridin-5-yl)-1-propyl-1,3-dihydro-2*H*-imidazol-2-ylidene]gold(I) bromide complex **2e** in CDCl_3 .

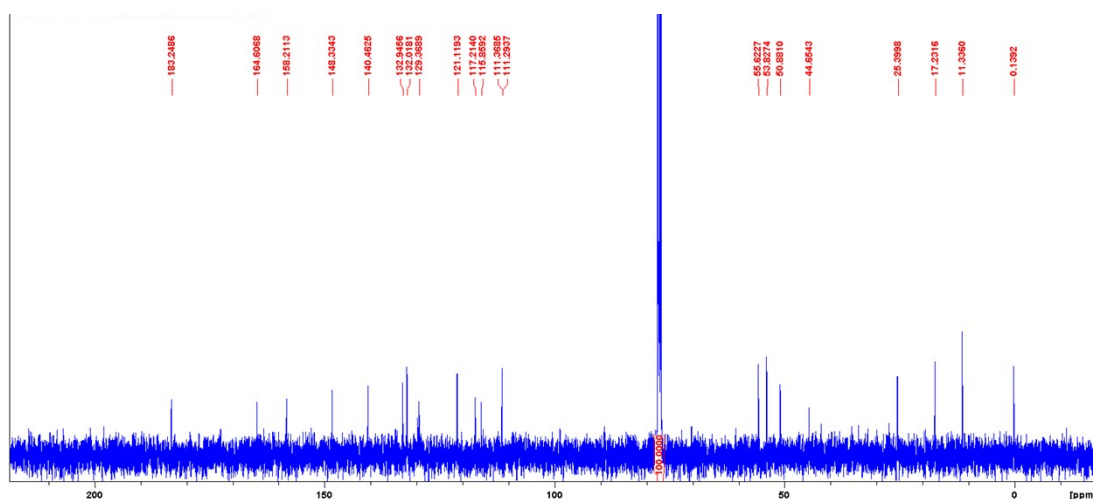


Figure S12. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of bis[3-ethyl-4-(2-methoxyphenyl)-5-(2-methoxypyridin-5-yl)-1-propyl-1,3-dihydro-2*H*-imidazol-2-ylidene]gold(I) bromide complex **2f** in CDCl_3 .

1.3 UV-Vis Spectroscopy

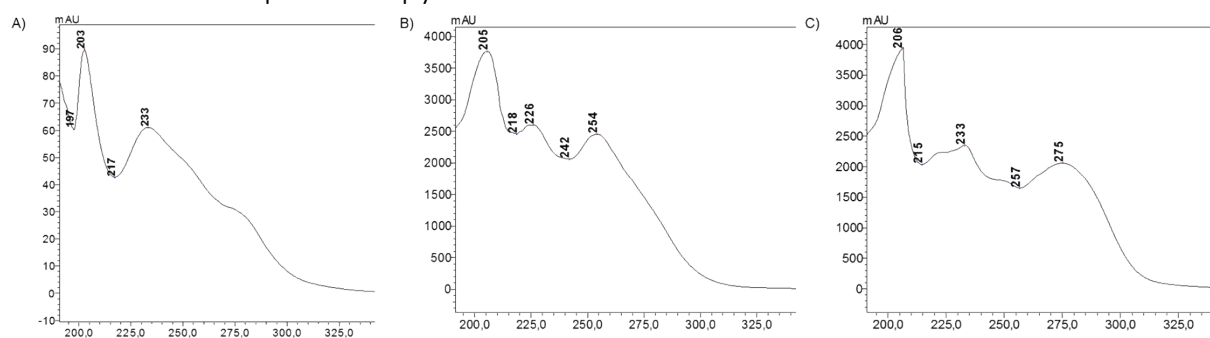


Figure S13. UV-Vis spectra of the NHC precursor **1e** (A), mono-NHC gold(I) complex **3e** (B) and bis-NHC gold(I) complex **2e** (C).

1.4 HR-MS Spectrometry

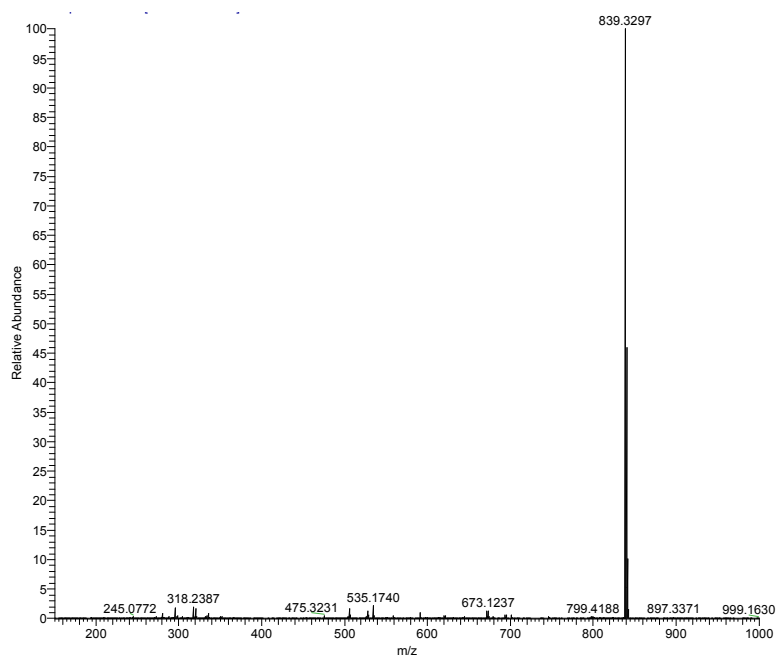


Figure S14. ESI-MS spectrum of **2a** (m/z 839).

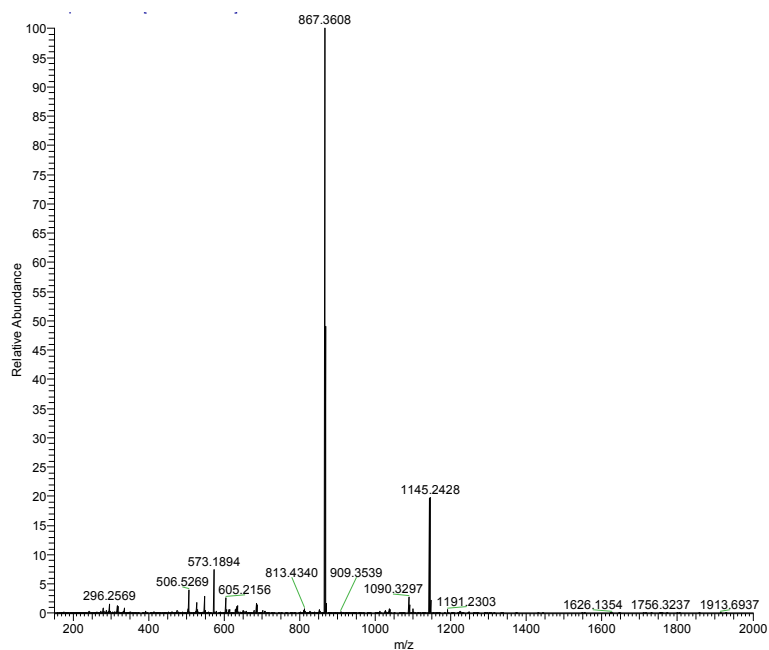


Figure S15. ESI-MS spectrum of **2b** (m/z 867). M/z 1145 corresponds to the $(\text{NHC})_2\text{Au}_2\text{Br}$ species.

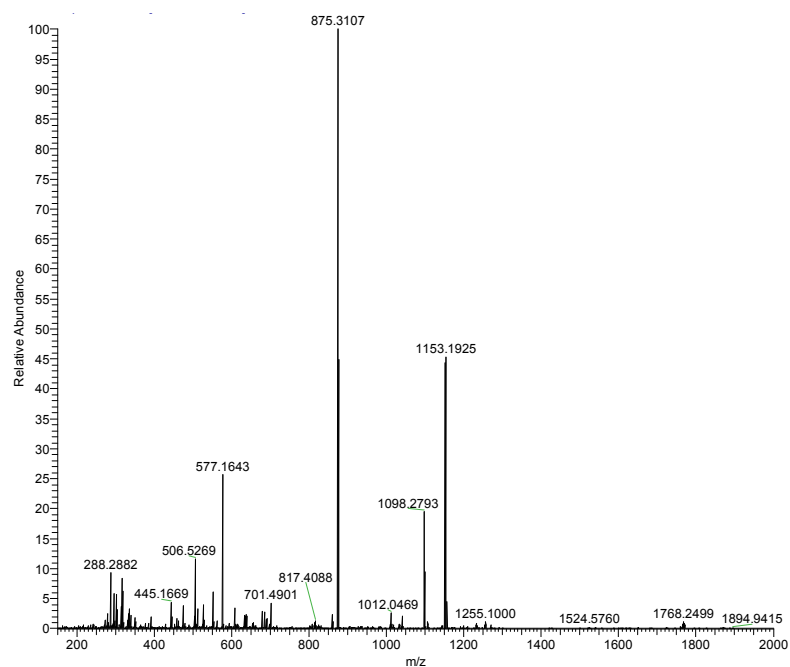


Figure S16. ESI-MS spectrum of **2c** (m/z 875). M/z 1153 corresponds to the $(\text{NHC})_2\text{Au}_2\text{Br}$ species and m/z 1098 to the $(\text{NHC})_2\text{Au(III)Br}_2$ complex.

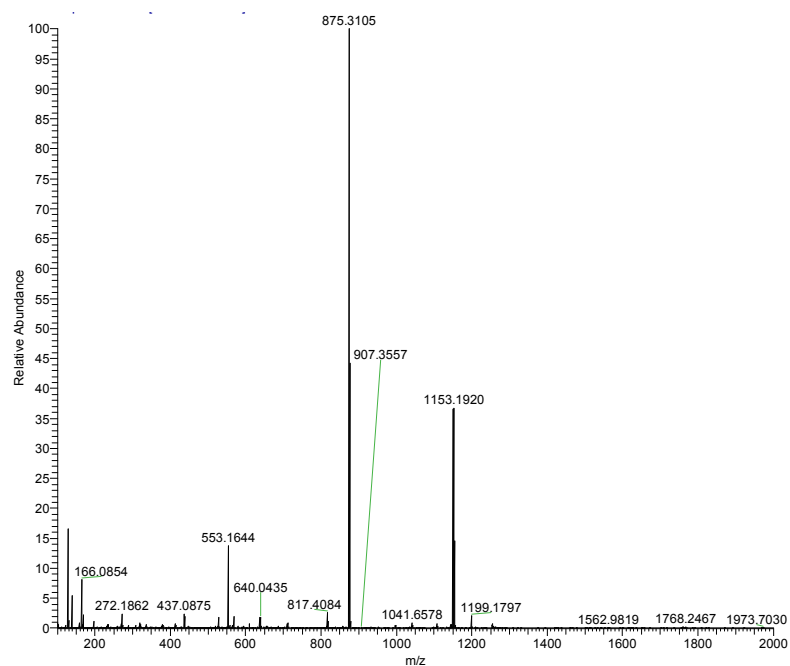


Figure S17. ESI-MS spectrum of **2d** (m/z 875). M/z 1153 corresponds to the $(\text{NHC})_2\text{Au}_2\text{Br}$ species.

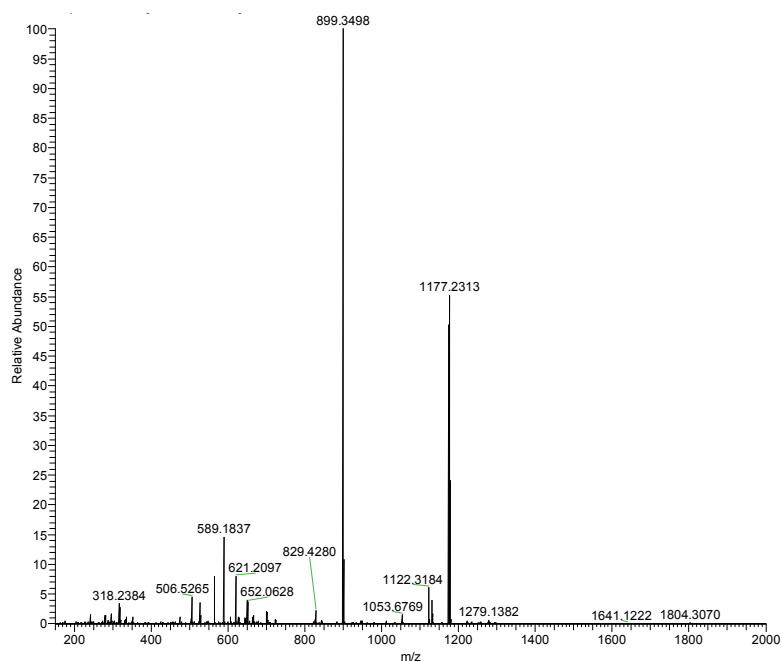


Figure S18. ESI-MS spectrum of **2e** (m/z 899). M/z 1177 corresponds to a cationic $(\text{NHC})_2\text{Au}_2\text{Br}$ intermediate.

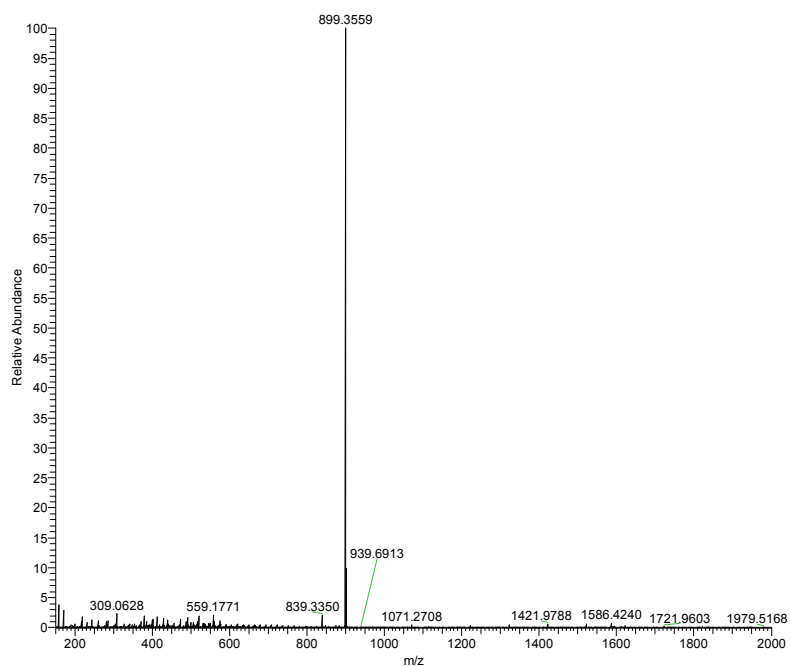


Figure S19. ESI-MS spectrum of **2f** (m/z 899).

1.5 HPLC analysis

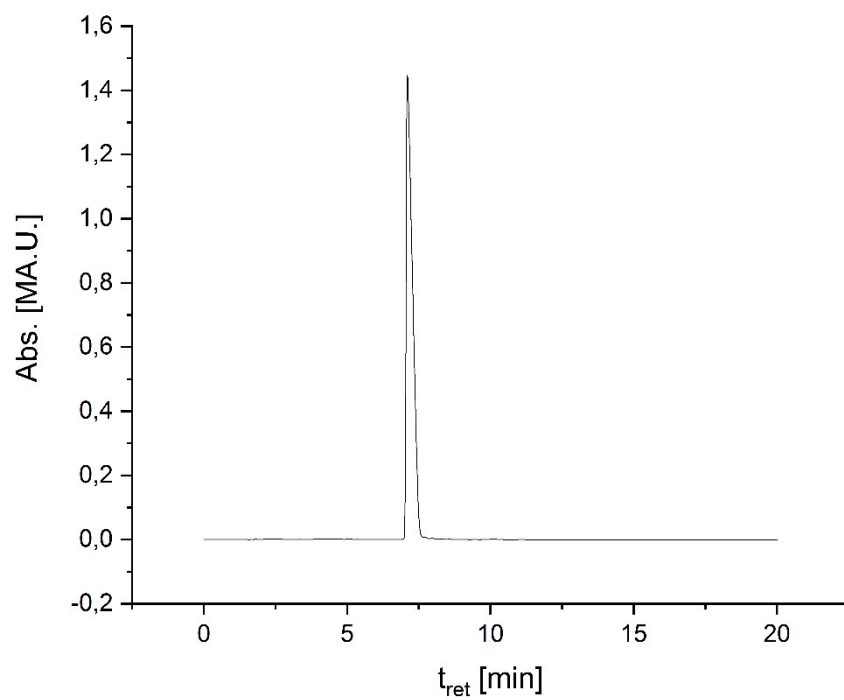


Figure S20. HPLC chromatogram of **2a** dissolved in ACN.

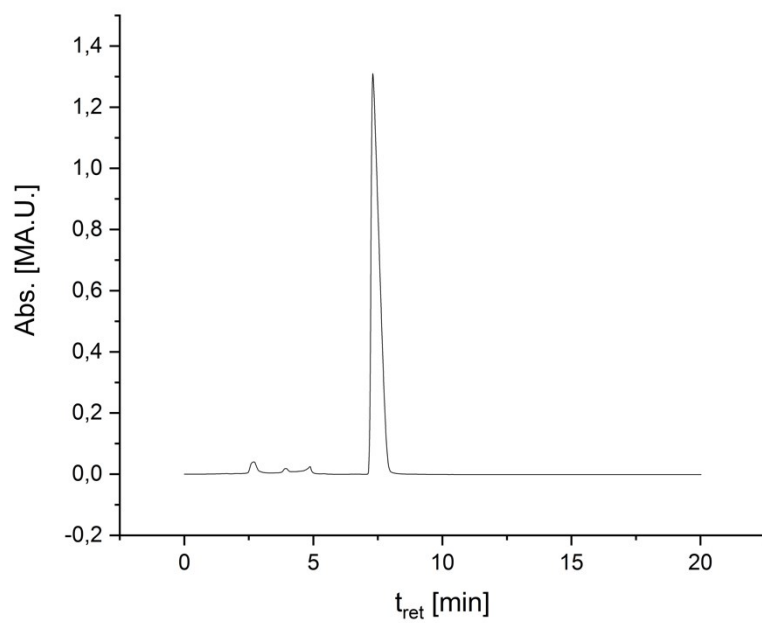


Figure S21. HPLC chromatogram of **2b** dissolved in ACN.

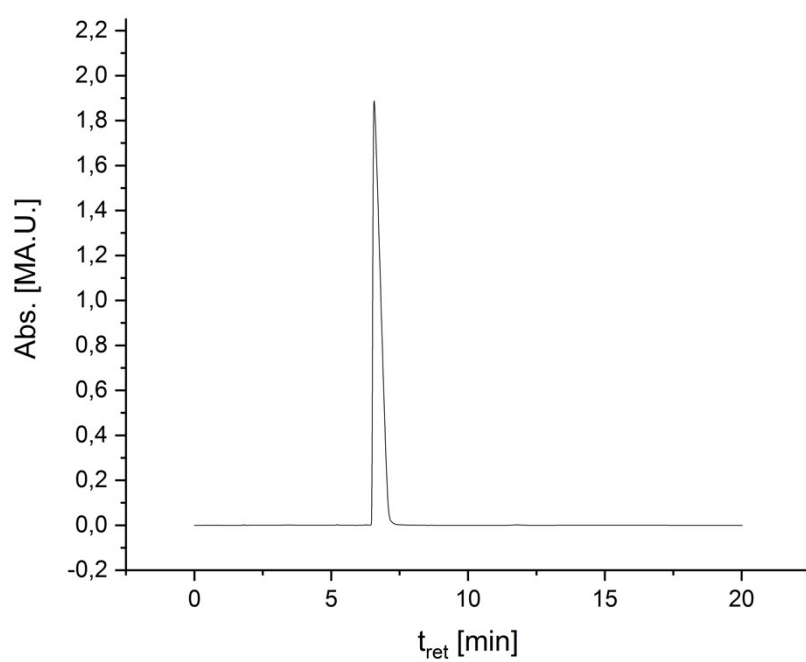


Figure S22. HPLC chromatogram of **2c** dissolved in ACN.

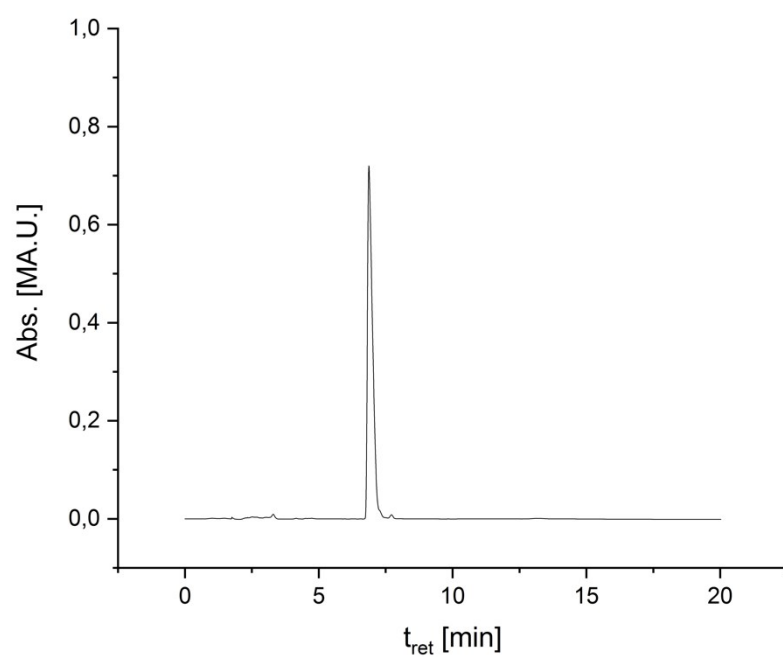


Figure S23. HPLC chromatogram of **2d** dissolved in ACN.

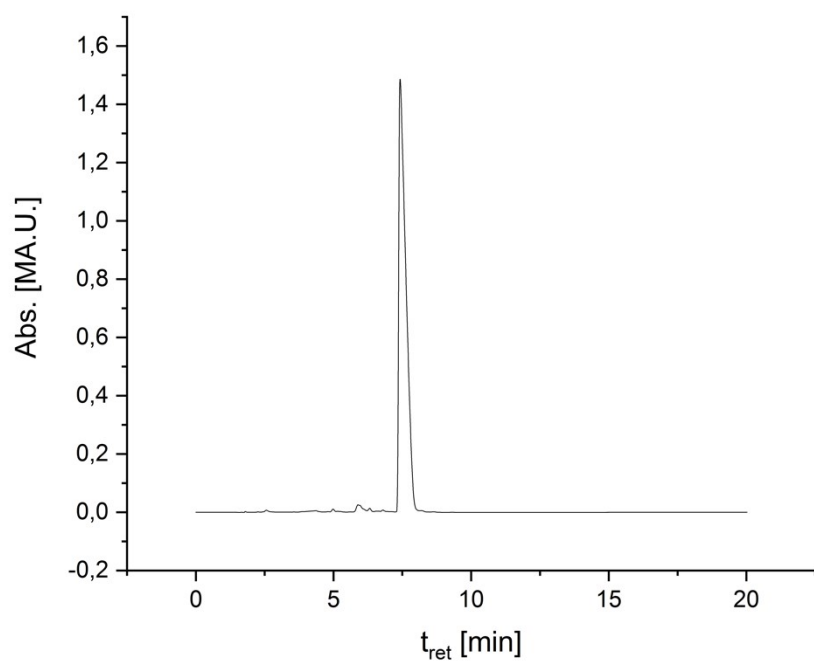


Figure S24. HPLC chromatogram of **2e** dissolved in ACN.

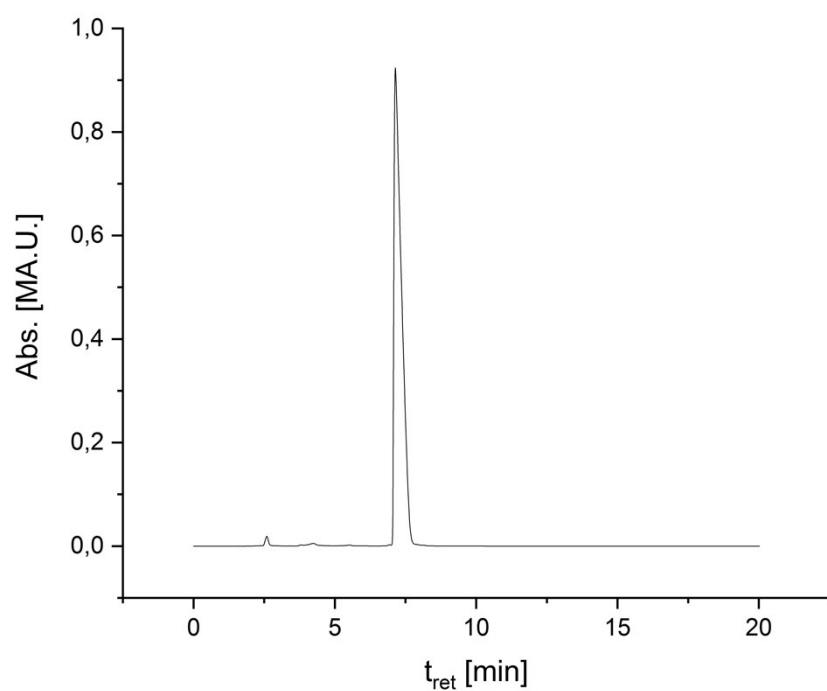


Figure S25. HPLC chromatogram of **2f** dissolved in ACN.

2. Biological activity

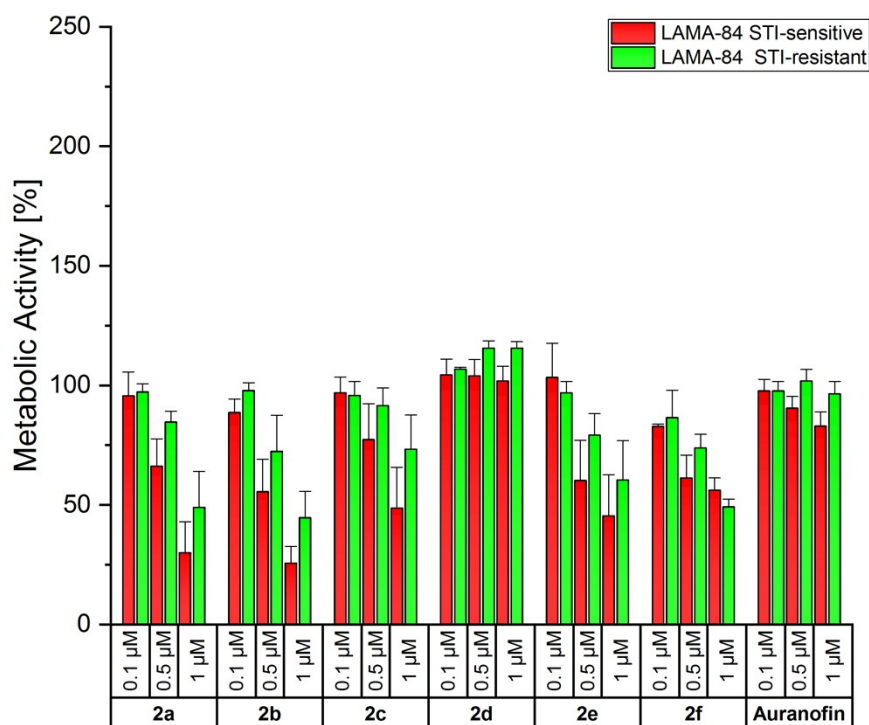


Figure S26. Anti-metabolic activity of complexes **2a-f** in comparison to Auranofin using different concentrations (0.1, 0.5 and 1 μM) in LAMA-84 STI-sensitive (red) and STI-resistant (green) cancer cells. The metabolic activity in the absence of the compounds was set at 100%. The mean + standard error was calculated from three independent experiments.

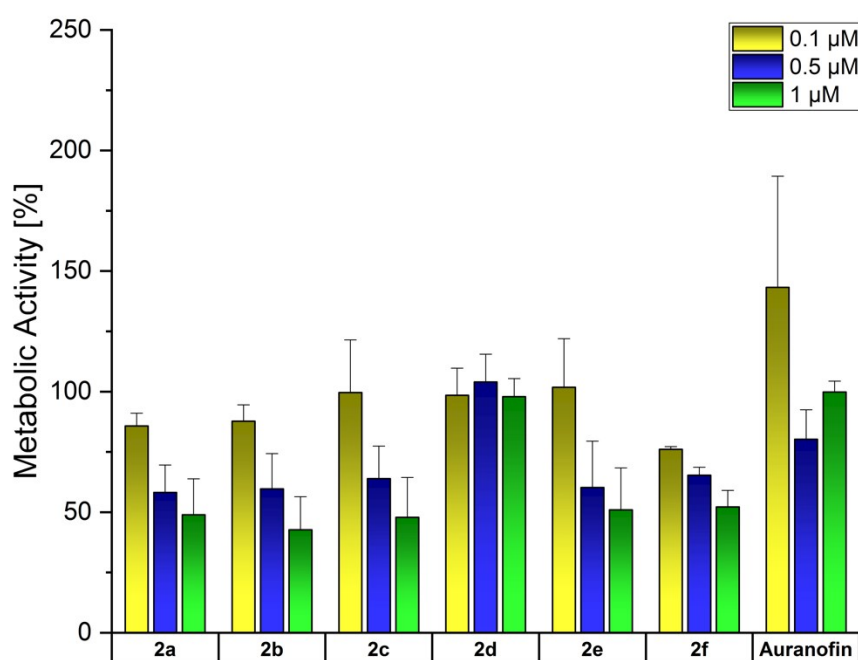


Figure S27. Anti-metabolic activity of complexes **2a-f** in comparison to Auranofin using different concentrations (0.1, 0.5 and 1 μM) in HL-60 cells. The metabolic activity in the absence of the compounds was set at 100%. The mean + standard error was calculated from three independent experiments.

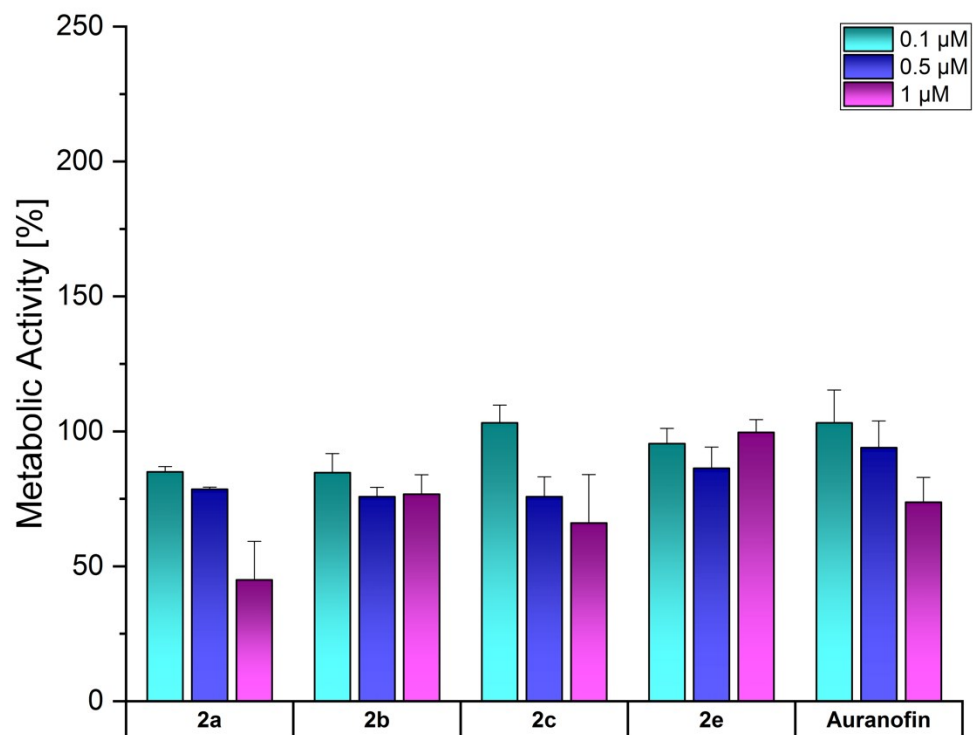


Figure S28. Anti-metabolic activity of complexes **2a-c,e** in comparison to Auranofin at different concentrations (0.1, 0.5 and 1 μM) in the non-cancerous lung fibroblast cell line SV-80. The metabolic activity in the absence of the compounds was set at 100%. The mean + standard error was calculated from three independent experiments.