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#### **Supporting Information**

#### A Novel Design Strategy of Tetradentate Pt(II) Complexes through Conformation Manager for High Efficiency and Narrow Emission in Blue Organic Light-Emitting Diodes

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#### 1. General information

All chemical compounds were commercially available. Reaction reagents were purchased from Sigma Aldrich Co., Alfa aesar Co., and TCI Co. Paldium catalysts were puchased from P&H Tech Co. Solvents were purchased from Samchun Pure Chemical CO., Ltd., Duksan Sci. Co., and Daejung Chemical & Metal Co. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were measured on Unity Inova 500 MHz spectrometer. Chloroform- $d_3$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) and methylene chloride-d<sub>2</sub> (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) were used for NMR analysis. UV-vis spectrophometer (JASCO, V-730) and fluorescence spectopheometer (PerkinElmer, LS-55) were used for UV-vis spectra and PL spectra, respectrively. The HOMO levels were estimated using a cyclic voltammetry (CV) (Ivium Tech., Iviumstat). CV measurement was carried out in dichloromethane solution with scan rate at 100 mV/s. The platinum wires were used as working and counter and Ag/AgCl was used as reference electrode respectively. Internal standard was ferrocenium/ferrocene couple and supporting electrolyte was 0.1 M tetrabutylammonium perchlorate ( $TBACIO_4$ ). The mass spectra were measured using a JMS-700 (JEOL) with high resolution fast atom bombardment (FAB) mode and Advion Expression-L CMS spectrometer in APCI mode. PL quantum yield and transient PL decay data were obtained using Quantaurus QY Absolute system (Hamamatsu, C11347-11) and Hamamatsu Quantaurus-Tau system (Hamamatsu, C11367-31). The thermal stability was measured using Seiko Exstar 6000 (TG/DTA6100) for thermogravimetric analyzer (TGA) and Nexta DSC 600 for differential Scanning Calorimetry analysis (DSC). The sample was heated at a rate of 10 °C/min to 600 °C under an N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere in the TGA measurement. The sample was heated at a rate of 10 °C/min from 0 °C to 350 °C in the DSC measurement.

#### 2. Computational details

Density functional theory (DFT) calculations and time-dependent DFT (TD-DFT) were performed using the Gaussian 16 program package. The ground state geometries were optimized using B3LYP functional and LANL2DL basis set for Pt and B3LYP/6-31g(d,p) for light elements (C, H, N and O). The computations of the singlet and triplet transition energies were carried out using TD-DFT by same method based on the optimized ground state geometry.<sup>[1]</sup>

#### **3. Experimental Procedures**

#### 1-(3-bromophenyl)-4-methyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Me-L2)

4-Methyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (1.32 g, 10 mmol), 1-bromo-3-fluorobenzene (1.7 mL, 15 mmol) and potassium phosphate tribasic (K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>) (10 g, 50 mmol) were added into a two-neck flask. *N*,*N*-dimethylformamide (20 mL) was added into the flask. The flask was stirred at 160 °C for 12 h. After completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was slowly cooled to room temperature. The product was extracted using methylene chloride (MC) and water. A white solid was obtained after further purification by column chromatography using ethyl acetate (EA):hexane (1:4) eluent (1.8 g, yield 62%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>Cl):  $\delta$  8.20 (s, 1H), 7.69 (td, J = 1.9, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (dt, J = 7.2, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.50 – 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.37 (ddd, J = 8.2, 1.1, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.30 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.21 – 7.17 (m, 1H), 2.74 (s, 3H). MS (APCI) m/z 287.0 [(M+H)<sup>+</sup>].

# 9-(4-(tert-butyl)pyridin-2-yl)-2-(3-(4-methyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-1-yl)phenoxy)-9*H*carbazole (Me-L1)

**Me-L2** (1.7 g, 6.0 mmol), 9-(4-(*tert*-butyl)pyridin-2-yl)-9*H*-carbazol-2-ol<sup>[2]</sup> (2.1 g, 6.6 mmol), copper iodide (I) (0.3 g, 1.8 mmol), picolinic acid (1.2 g, 9.6 mmol), and K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (5.1 g, 24 mmol) were added and dissolved in dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) (12 mL) into a two-neck flask. After that, the flask was stirred at 100 °C for 12 h. When the reaction finished, the residue was filtered using EA at short silica column. The filtrate was extracted using EA and washed by brine. A brown powder was obtained after further purification by column chromatography using an EA:hexane (1:4) eluent (2.3 g, yield 73%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>Cl):  $\delta$  8.57 (dd, J = 5.3, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 8.17 (s, 1H), 8.11 – 8.08 (m, 1H), 8.08 – 8.06 (m, 1H), 7.72 (dt, J = 8.3, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.60 – 7.59 (m, 1H), 7.57 (dd, J = 1.7, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.50 – 7.46 (m, 1H), 7.42 (ddd, J = 8.4, 7.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.40 – 7.36 (m, 1H), 7.34 – 7.30 (m, 1H), 7.27 (dd, J = 5.4, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.23 – 7.18 (m, 3H), 7.15 – 7.12 (m, 1H), 7.11 (ddd, J = 8.3, 2.3, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 2.71 (s, 3H), 1.35 (s, 9H). MS (APCI) m/z 523.2 [(M+H)<sup>+</sup>].

#### 9-(4-(tert-butyl)pyridin-2-yl)-2-(3-(3-(3,5-di-tert-butylphenyl)-4-methyl-1H-3λ<sup>4</sup>-

#### benzo[d]imidazol-1-yl)phenoxy)-9H-carbazole trifluoromethanesulfonate (Me-L)

**Me-L1** (3.4 g, 5.7 mmol), (3,5-di-*tert*-butylphenyl)(mesityl)iodonium trifluoromethane sulfonate<sup>[3]</sup> (2.0 g, 3.8 mmol) and copper acetate (41.8 mg, 0.2 mmol) were added into a two-neck flask and dissolved in dimethylformamide (19 mL). The flask was stirred at 130 °C at 12 h. After that, filtered roughly through a short pad of silica and washed with EA:MC (1/9) eluent.

Brown powder was obtained without further purification and used it next metalation (3.1 g, yield 94%).

# Platinum(II) $1-(3-((9-(4-(tert-butyl)pyridin-2-yl-\kappa N)-9H-carbazol-2-yl-\kappa C^1)oxy)phenyl-\kappa C^1)-3-(3,5-di-tert-butylphenyl)-4-methyl-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-ylidene-\kappa C^2 (Pt-Me-bzim)$

**Me-L** (2.0 g, 2.3 mmol), dichloro(1,5-cyclooctadiene)platinum(II) (Pt(cod)Cl<sub>2</sub>) (0.9 g, 2.3 mmol), and sodium acetate (NaOAc) (0.6 g, 7.0 mmol) were added it into a two-neck flask and dissolved in DMF (40 mL). The flask was stirred at 160 °C for 12 h. After that, the reaction was extracted using MC and water. A yellow powder was obtained after further purification by column chromatography using an MC:hexane (1:1) eluent (850 mg, yield 41%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): δ 8.61 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 8.07 (s, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 8.04 – 8.00 (m, 1H), 7.79 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.61 – 7.57 (m, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 2H), 7.40 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 7.06 – 7.04 (m, 1H), 6.11 (dd, J = 6.3, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 1.85 (s, 3H), 1.46 (s, 9H), 1.13 (s, 18H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 190.2, 162.1, 155.0, 154.2, 152.6, 150.4, 148.4, 144.2, 138.9, 137.8, 134.9, 132.5, 128.9, 126.7, 124.5, 124.4, 123.9, 123.0, 122.3, 119.9, 116.1, 115.4, 114.2, 113.6, 112.3, 112.2, 109.7, 108.1, 35.2, 31.2, 29.8, 19.0. HRMS (FAB+) m/z 904.3565 [(M+H)<sup>+</sup>]. Calculated for C<sub>49</sub>H<sub>4x</sub>N<sub>4</sub>OPt: 903.3476.

#### 4-bromo-1-(3-iodophenyl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ph-L3)

**Ph-L3** was synthesized by using the same method for synthesis of **Me-L2**. 4-Bromo-1Hbenzo[*d*]imidazole (7.4 g, 37.3 mmol) was used and a product was obtained after further purification by column chromatography using an EA/hexane (1:4) eluent (7.1 g, yield 48%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>Cl):  $\delta$  8.14 (s, 1H), 7.87 (t, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (dd, J = 7.9, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (ddd, J = 8.0, 2.0, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H). MS (APCI) m/z 398.9 [(M+H)<sup>+</sup>].

# 2-(3-(4-bromo-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-1-yl)phenoxy)-9-(4-(*tert*-butyl)pyridin-2-yl)-9*H*-

#### carbazole (Ph-L2)

**Ph-L2** was synthesized by using the same method for synthesis of **Me-L1**. **Ph-L3** (7.0 g, 17.5 mmol) was used and a product was obtained after further purification by column chromatography using an EA/hexane (1:4) eluent (6.3 g, yield 61%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>Cl):  $\delta$  8.58 (d, J = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (s, 1H), 8.10 (t, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, J = 1.5, 1H), 7.52 – 7.47 (m, 3H), 7.46 – 7.41 (m, 1H), 7.33 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, J = 5.3, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (t, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (dd, J = 16.1, 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 1.36 (s, 9H). MS (APCI) m/z 587.1 [(M+H)<sup>+</sup>].

# 9-(4-(tert-butyl)pyridin-2-yl)-2-(3-(4-phenyl-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-1-yl)phenoxy)-9Hcarbazole (Ph-L1)

**Ph-L2** (2.0 g, 3.4 mmol), phenylboronic acid (0.5 g, 4.0 mmol), tris(dibenzylideneacetone)dipalladium ( $Pd_2(dba)_3$ ) (0.3 g, 0.3 mmol), XPhos (0.5 g, 1.0 mmol)

and K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (2.2 g, 10.2 mmol) were added and dissolved in toluene (7 mL)/1,4-dioxane/water (2:1:1) into a two-neck flask. The flask was stirred at 100 °C for 12 h. After that, the product was extracted using MC and water. A pale yellow powder was obtained after further purification by column chromatography using a EA:hexane (1:4) eluent (2.0 g, yield 98%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>Cl):  $\delta$  8.59 (dd, J = 5.3, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 8.26 (s, 1H), 8.13 – 8.10 (m, 1H), 8.09 (ddd, J = 7.8, 1.2, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (dd, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (dd, J = 4.8, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (dd, J = 1.7, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (dt, J = 2.4, 1.3 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (dt, J = 3.8, 1.7 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (ddd, J = 8.4, 7.2, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.42 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.37 – 7.31 (m, 1H), 7.29 (dd, J = 5.4, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.27 – 7.25 (m, 1H), 7.24 (ddd, J = 7.8, 2.0, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (ddd, J = 8.4, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 1.37 (s, 9H). MS (APCI) m/z 585.3 [(M+H)<sup>+</sup>].

#### 9-(4-(tert-butyl)pyridin-2-yl)-2-(3-(3-(3,5-di-tert-butylphenyl)-4-phenyl-1H-3λ<sup>4</sup>-

#### benzo[d]imidazol-1-yl)phenoxy)-9H-carbazole trifluoromethanesulfonate (Ph-L)

**Ph-L** was synthesized by using the same method for synthesis of **Me-L**. **Ph-L1** (0.2 g, 0.3 mmol) was used and a product was filtered roughly through a short pad of silica and washed with EA:MC (1:9) eluent. Brown powder was obtained without further purification and used it next metalation (0.25 g, yield 82%).

Platinum(II) 1-(3-((9-(4-(*tert*-butyl)pyridin-2-yl- $\kappa$ N)-9*H*-carbazol-2-yl- $\kappa$ C<sup>1</sup>)oxy)phenyl- $\kappa$ C<sup>1</sup>)-3-(3,5-di-*tert*-butylphenyl)-4-phenyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-ylidene- $\kappa$ C<sup>2</sup> (Pt-Ph-bzim)

**Pt-Ph-bzim** was synthesized by using the same method for synthesis of **Pt-Me-bzim**. **Me-L** (600 mg, 0.65 mmol) was used and a product was obtained after further purification by column chromatography using an MC:hexane (1:1) eluent (440 mg, yield 35%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ ):  $\delta$  8.37 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 8.27 (dd, J = 8.4, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 8.06 – 8.01 (m, 1H), 7.79 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (dd, J = 7.7, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (s, 1H), 7.52 (dd, J = 8.3, 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.41 – 7.36 (m, 1H), 7.36 – 7.26 (m, 5H), 7.22 (dd, J = 7.5, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (dd, J = 8.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (t, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.00 – 6.97 (m, 1H), 6.79 (s, 1H), 6.47 (d, J = 84.3 Hz, 1H), 5.95 (dd, J = 6.3, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 1.10 (s, 18H), 1.04 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  191.3, 162.0, 154.8, 154.0, 152.3, 150.5, 148.5, 144.3, 138.9, 137.6, 137.2, 133.2, 133.1, 126.7, 124.41, 124.38, 123.8, 123.2, 122.3, 122.0, 119.9, 116.2, 115.64, 115.55, 115.5, 114.1, 113.7, 112.4, 112.2, 110.7, 108.0, 35.1, 34.6, 31.3, 29.7. HRMS (FAB+) m/z 966.3708 [(M+H)<sup>+</sup>]. Calculated for C<sub>54</sub>H<sub>50</sub>N<sub>4</sub>OPt: 965.3633.

### 4. Supplementary Figures



**Figure S1**. (a) The details of calculated geometries. (b) Root mean square displacement (RMSD) of **BD-02**, **Pt-Me-bzim** and **Pt-Ph-bzim**.



Figure S2. PL spectra of (a) BD-02, (b) Pt-Me-bzim, and (c) Pt-Ph-bzim at 298 and 77 K.



**Figure S3.** PL spectra of BD-02, Pt-ME-bzim, and Pt-Ph-bzim on THF solution  $(1.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M})$  at 298K



**Figure S4**. Photoemission yield spectroscopy in air measurement of (a) Pt-ME-bzim and (b) Pt-Ph-bzim in air measurements



Figure S5. (a) TGA and (b) DSC measurements for Pt-Me-bzim and Pt-Ph-bzim (DSC measurements:  $2^{nd}$  scan after N<sub>2</sub> treatment, 10 °C min<sup>-1</sup>, under N<sub>2</sub>).



Figure S6. TRPL curves of (a) BD-02, (b) Pt-Me-bzim, and (c) Pt-Ph-bzim.



Figure S7. ADPL curves of (a) BD-02, (b) Pt-Me-bzim, and (c) Pt-Ph-bzim.

**Figure S8**. (a) Energy diagram of PhOLEDs with **BD-02**, **Pt-Me-bzim**, and **Pt-Ph-bzim**. (b) The molecular structure of materials used for fabricating PhOLEDs.

**Figure S9**. (a) EL spectra, (b) *J-V-L* curves, and (c) luminance-EQE curves of PhOLEDs based on **BD-02**, **Pt-Me-bzim**, and **Pt-Ph-bzim** at 15 and 20 wt% doping concentration.



**Figure S10**. (a) Energy diagram of PhOLEDs with **BD-02**, **Pt-Me-bzim**, and **Pt-Ph-bzim**. (b) op erational lifetime curves of PhOLEDs.

# 5. Supplementary Tables

	 measurea	nom	phoemission	yiciu	specifoscopy	ш	an(FISA)
measurments							

<b>C</b>		HOMO [eV]	
Sample –	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Pt-Me-bzim	-5.28	-5.30	-5.28
Pt-Ph-bzim	-5.26	-5.25	-5.27

Pt dopant	EQE <sub>max</sub> (%)	CIE <sub>y</sub>	FWHM (nm)	ref
Pt-Me-bzim	27.1	0.084	18	This work
Pt-Ph-bzim	27.5	0.100	20	This work
BD-02 (PtON- TBBI)	25.2	0.115	21	This work
PtON1	23.3	0.13	-	4
PtON7	20.4	0.14	-	4
PtON7-dtb	24.8	0.079	29	5
PtON1-tBu	5.3	0.098	24	5
PtON6-tBu	10.9	0.093	30	5
Pt7O7	26.3	0.24	-	6
6	15.4	0.17	-	7
10	17.6	0.29	-	8
11	15.6	0.28	-	8
PtSN1	14.4	0.48	-	9
PtSN2	36.2	0.47	-	9
Pt-Ada	20.6	0.11	-	10

Table S2. Summarized EQE,  $\text{CIE}_y$ , and FWHM of tetradentate Pt(II) complexes

Pt-R	21.4	0.12	-	10
Pt-AdaPh	21.2	0.12	-	10
Pt-AdaTol	22.6	0.122	-	10
PtON7-TMS	21.4	0.097	30	11
t-Pt-Ad	20.3	0.092	-	12
Pt-NPT	19.8	0.118	-	12
Pt-adNPT	15.7	0.090	-	12
Pt-tmCyCz	21.5	0.13	22	13
Pt-tBuCz	23.7	0.172	25	2
Pt-dipCz	25.0	0.157	22	2
Pt-biPh	19.0	0.15	21	14
Pt-biPh5tBu	18.1	0.168	22	14
Pt-biPh4tBu	21.8	0.149	21	14
PtON-tb-DTB	20.9	0.22	-	15
PtON-tb-TTB	26.7	0.22	-	15
Pt3	20.2	0.181	-	16
Pt4	21.0	0.175	-	16
PtON5N-dtb	20.4	0.17	30	17

Pt-SPCz	25.1	0.131	22	18
Pt(t- BuBnOCzPy)	19.0	0.17	26	19
Pt(BnOCz4t- BuPy)	18.6	0.17	26	19
PtON7-dtb	27.6	0.088	28	20
BD-02 (PtON- TBBI)	28.0	0.104	21	20

# 6. Supplementary Scheme



Scheme S1. Improved synthetic scheme of Pt-Ph-bzim.

# 7. <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C NMR and HRMS



<sup>1</sup>H NMR data of **Pt-Me-bzim**.



<sup>13</sup>C NMR data of **Pt-Me-bzim**.



HRMS data of Pt-Me-bzim.



<sup>1</sup>H NMR data of **Pt-Ph-bzim**.







HRMS data of **Pt-Me-bzim**.

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