## Effect of the substituents on the <sup>1</sup>O<sub>2</sub> production and biological activity of (N^N^N)Pt(py) complexes.

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## **Supporting Information**



Figure S1. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of ligand  $H_2L^3$  in DMSO- $d^6$ .



Figure S2. <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of complex  $H_2L^3$  in DMSO- $d^6$ .



Figure S3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of ligand  $H_2L^4$  in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S4. <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of complex  $H_2L^4$  in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S5. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex 1-CF<sub>3</sub> in DMSO-*d*<sup>6</sup>.



Figure S6. <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of complex 1-CF<sub>3</sub> in DMSO-*d*<sup>6</sup>.



Figure S7. ESI-TOF(+) of complex 1-CF<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S8. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex 1-CHF<sub>2</sub> in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S9. <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of complex 1-CHF<sub>2</sub> in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S10. ESI-TOF(+) of complex 1-CHF<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S11. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex 1-CH<sub>3</sub> in DMSO-*d*<sup>6</sup>.



Figure S12. ESI-TOF(+) of complex 1-CH<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S13. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex 2-CF<sub>3</sub> in DMSO-*d*<sup>6</sup>.



Figure S14. <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of complex 2-CF<sub>3</sub> in DMSO-*d*<sup>6</sup>.



Figure S16. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex 2-CHF<sub>2</sub> in DMSO-*d*<sup>6</sup>.



Figure S17. <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of complex 2-CHF<sub>2</sub> in DMSO-*d*<sup>6</sup>.



Figure S18. ESI-TOF(+) of complex 2-CHF<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S19. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex 2-CH<sub>3</sub> in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S20. ESI-TOF(+) of complex 2-CH<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S21. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex 3-CF<sub>3</sub> in DMSO-*d*<sup>6</sup>.



Figure S22. <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of complex **3-CF**<sub>3</sub> in DMSO-*d*<sup>6</sup>.



Figure S23. ESI-TOF(+) of complex 3-CF<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S24. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex 3-CHF<sub>2</sub> in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S25. <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of complex 3-CHF<sub>2</sub> in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.







Figure S27. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex 3-CH<sub>3</sub> in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S28. <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of complex 3-CH<sub>3</sub> in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S30. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex 4-CF<sub>3</sub> in DMSO-*d*<sup>6</sup>.



Figure S31. <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of complex 4-CF<sub>3</sub> in DMSO-*d*<sup>6</sup>.



Figure S32. ESI-TOF(+) of complex 4-CF<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S34. <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of complex 4-CHF<sub>2</sub> in DMSO-*d*<sup>6</sup>.



Figure S35. ESI-TOF(+) of complex 4-CHF<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S36. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex 4-CH<sub>3</sub> in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S37. <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of complex 4-CH<sub>3</sub> in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S38. ESI-TOF(+) of complex 4-CH<sub>3</sub>.



**Figure S39**. Absorption spectra of 10<sup>-5</sup> M DMSO air-equilibrated (A) and N<sub>2</sub> saturated solutions of compounds 1-CF<sub>3</sub>, 1-CHF<sub>2</sub>, and 1-CH<sub>3</sub>.



**Figure S40**. Absorption spectra of 10<sup>-5</sup> M DMSO air-equilibrated (A) and N<sub>2</sub> saturated solutions of compounds **2-CF<sub>3</sub>**, **2-CHF<sub>2</sub>**, and **2-CH<sub>3</sub>**.



Figure S41. Absorption spectra of 10<sup>-5</sup> M DMSO air-equilibrated (A) and N<sub>2</sub> saturated solutions of compounds 3-CF<sub>3</sub>, 3-CHF<sub>2</sub>, and 3-CH<sub>3</sub>.



Figure S42. Absorption spectra of 10<sup>-5</sup> M DMSO air-equilibrated (A) and N<sub>2</sub> saturated solutions of compounds 4-CF<sub>3</sub>, 4-CHF<sub>2</sub>, and 4-CH<sub>3</sub>.

Complex	Wavelength (nm)	Energy (eV)	Oscillator strength	Transitions
1-CF <sub>3</sub>	376	3.298	0.0170	$S_0 \rightarrow S_1$
	305	4.060	0.0160	$S_0 \rightarrow S_2$
1-CHF <sub>2</sub>	375	3.308	0.0184	$S_0 \rightarrow S_1$
	305	4.062	0.0158	$S_0 \rightarrow S_2$
1-CH <sub>3</sub>	373	3.327	0.0204	$S_0 \rightarrow S_1$
	304	4.084	0.0159	$S_0 \rightarrow S_2$
<b>2-CF</b> <sub>3</sub>	382	3.244	0.0184	$S_0 \rightarrow S_1$
<b>2-CHF</b> <sub>2</sub>	381	3.256	0.0201	$S_0 \rightarrow S_1$
2-CH <sub>3</sub>	379	3.271	0.0220	$S_0 \rightarrow S_1$
<b>3-CF</b> <sub>3</sub>	338	3.670	0.0098	$S_0 \rightarrow S_1$
<b>3-CHF</b> <sub>2</sub>	337	3.674	0.0100	$S_0 \rightarrow S_1$
3-CH <sub>3</sub>	337	3.682	0.0100	$S_0 \rightarrow S_1$
<b>4-CF</b> <sub>3</sub>	341	3.633	0.0079	$S_0 \rightarrow S_1$
4-CHF <sub>2</sub>	341	3.637	0.0080	$S_0 \rightarrow S_1$
	316	3.930	0.0002	$S_0 \rightarrow S_2$
4-CH <sub>3</sub>	341	3.639	0.0079	$S_0 \rightarrow S_1$
	314	3.941	0.0000	$S_0 \rightarrow S_2$

**Table S1.** Calculated wavelengths of absorption, transition energies, and oscillator strength computed at the CAM-B3LYP/def2-TZVP level



Figure S34. Representation of the NTOs involved in the  $S_0 \rightarrow S_1$  (left)  $S_0 \rightarrow S_2$  (right) excitation of compound 1-CHF<sub>2</sub>, with indication of the theoretical  $\lambda_{exc}$ , oscillator strength and relative contribution of each NTO pair.



Figure S44. Representation of the NTOs involved in the  $S_0 \rightarrow S_1$  (left)  $S_0 \rightarrow S_2$  (right) excitation of compound 1-CH<sub>3</sub>, with indication of the theoretical  $\lambda_{exc}$ , oscillator strength and relative contribution of each NTO pair.



Figure S45. Representation of the NTOs involved in the  $S_0 \rightarrow S_1$  excitation of compound 2-CF<sub>3</sub>, with indication of the theoretical  $\lambda_{exc}$ , oscillator strength and relative contribution of each NTO pair.



Figure S46. Representation of the NTOs involved in the  $S_0 \rightarrow S_1$  excitation of compound 2-CHF<sub>2</sub>, with indication of the theoretical  $\lambda_{exc}$ , oscillator strength and relative contribution of each NTO pair.



Figure S47. Representation of the NTOs involved in the  $S_0 \rightarrow S_1$  (left) excitation of compound 2-CH<sub>3</sub>, with indication of the theoretical  $\lambda_{exc}$ , oscillator strength and relative contribution of each NTO pair.



Figure S48. Representation of the NTOs involved in the  $S_0 \rightarrow S_1$  excitation of compound 3-CF<sub>3</sub>, with indication of the theoretical  $\lambda_{exc}$ , oscillator strength and relative contribution of each NTO pair.



Figure S49. Representation of the NTOs involved in the  $S_0 \rightarrow S_1$  excitation of compound 3-CHF<sub>2</sub>, with indication of the theoretical  $\lambda_{exc}$ , oscillator strength and relative contribution of each NTO pair.



Figure S50. Representation of the NTOs involved in the  $S_0 \rightarrow S_1$  excitation of compound 3-CH<sub>3</sub>, with indication of the theoretical  $\lambda_{exc}$ , oscillator strength and relative contribution of each NTO pair.



Figure S51. Representation of the NTOs involved in the  $S_0 \rightarrow S_1$  excitation of compound 4-CF<sub>3</sub>, with indication of the theoretical  $\lambda_{exc}$ , oscillator strength and relative contribution of each NTO pair.



Figure S52. Representation of the NTOs involved in the  $S_0 \rightarrow S_1$  (left)  $S_0 \rightarrow S_2$  (right) excitation of compound 4-CHF<sub>2</sub>, with indication of the theoretical  $\lambda_{exc}$ , oscillator strength and relative contribution of each NTO pair.



Figure S53. Representation of the NTOs involved in the  $S_0 \rightarrow S_1$  (left)  $S_0 \rightarrow S_2$  (right) excitation of compound 4-CH<sub>3</sub>, with indication of the theoretical  $\lambda_{exc}$ , oscillator strength and relative contribution of each NTO pair.



Figure S54. Phosphorescence lifetime and residuals of 1-CF<sub>3</sub> in solid state.



Figure S55. Phosphorescence lifetime and residuals of  $1-CHF_2$  in solid state.



Figure S56. Phosphorescence lifetime and residuals of 1-CH<sub>3</sub> in solid state.



Figure S57. Phosphorescence lifetime and residuals of 3-CF<sub>3</sub> in solid state.



Figure S58. Phosphorescence lifetime and residuals of 3-CHF<sub>2</sub> in solid state.



Figure S59. Phosphorescence lifetime and residuals of 3-CH<sub>3</sub> in solid state.



Figure S60. Phosphorescence lifetime and residuals of  $4-CF_3$  in solid state.



Figure S61. Phosphorescence lifetime and residuals of  $4\text{-}CHF_2$  in solid state.



Figure S62. Phosphorescence lifetime and residuals of 4-CH<sub>3</sub> in solid state.



Figure S63. Stability of 1-CHF<sub>2</sub> in PBS and DMSO (5%) at 37 °C measured by UV-Vis.



Figure S64. Stability of 1-CH<sub>3</sub> in PBS and DMSO (5%) at 37 °C measured by UV-Vis.



Figure S65. Stability of 2-CH<sub>3</sub> in PBS and DMSO (5%) at 37 °C measured by UV-Vis.



Figure S66. Stability of 3-CF<sub>3</sub> in PBS and DMSO (5%) at 37 °C measured by UV-Vis.



Figure S67. Stability of 3-CH<sub>3</sub> in PBS and DMSO (5%) at 37 °C measured by UV-Vis.



Figure S68. Stability of 4-CF<sub>3</sub> in PBS and DMSO (5%) at 37 °C measured by UV-Vis.



Figure S69. Stability of 4-CH<sub>3</sub> in PBS and DMSO (5%) at 37 °C measured by UV-Vis.