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## *In vitro* antigenotoxicity of novel heterometallic dinuclear complexes

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pharmaceuticals



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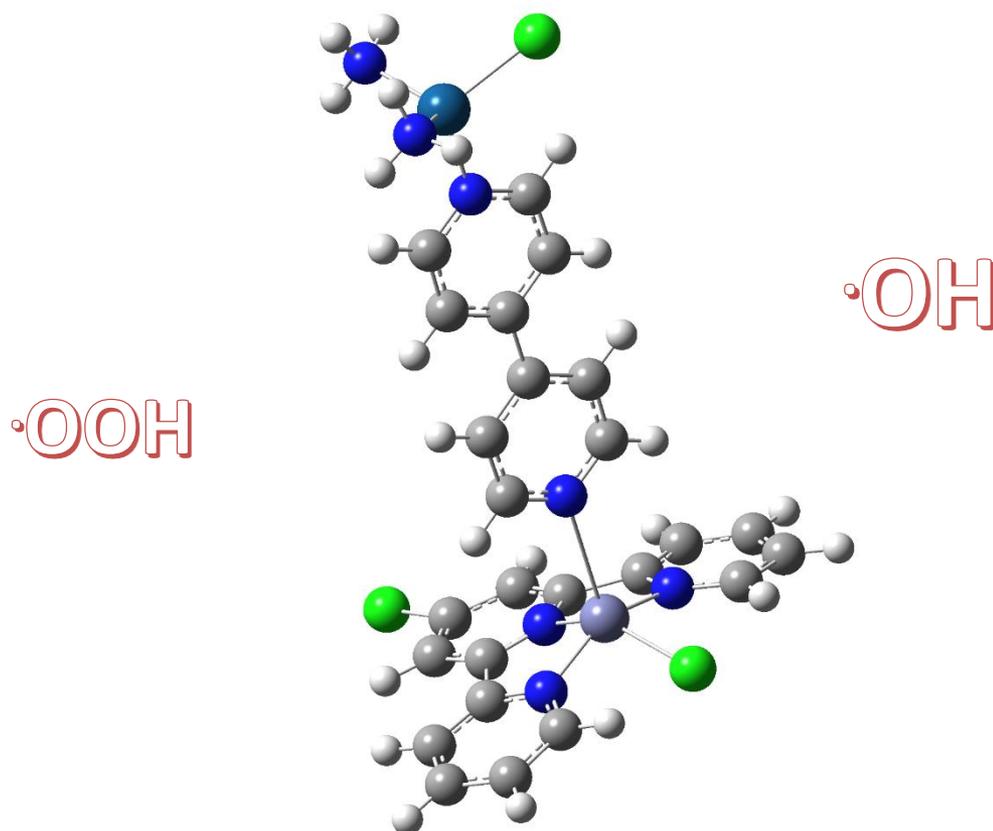
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## *In vitro* antigenotoxicity of novel heterometallic dinuclear complexes





**Abstract:** Four novel dinuclear complexes, derived from mononuclear [ZnCl(terpy-Cl)],  $[\{cis\text{-PtCl}(\text{NH}_3)_2(\mu\text{-}4,4'\text{-bipyridyl})\text{ZnCl}(\text{terpy-Cl})\}](\text{ClO}_4)_2$ ,  $[\{trans\text{-PtCl}(\text{NH}_3)_2(\mu\text{-}4,4'\text{-bipyridyl})\text{ZnCl}(\text{terpy-Cl})\}](\text{ClO}_4)_2$ ,  $[\{cis\text{-PtCl}(\text{NH}_3)_2(\mu\text{-pyrazine})\text{ZnCl}(\text{terpy-Cl})\}](\text{ClO}_4)_2$  and  $[\{trans\text{-PtCl}(\text{NH}_3)_2(\mu\text{-pyrazine})\text{ZnCl}(\text{terpy-Cl})\}](\text{ClO}_4)_2$ , (where terpy-Cl = 4'-chloro-2,2':6',2''-terpyridine) were synthesized and characterized. The possible DNA-protective effects of these complexes at different concentrations against hydroxyl and peroxy radicals-induced DNA damage were determined using two *in vitro* antioxidant assays. All complexes showed the significant DNA-protective effects at the concentrations tested, indicating scavenging activity on hydroxyl and peroxy radicals generated by  $\text{FeSO}_4$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ , and AAPH. The presence of the chloride in the structure of newly synthesized complexes increase the electronic density on Zn center and, thus, decrease its nucleophilicity, which could be an explanation of their behavior. This data could be useful for further *in vitro* and *in vivo* biological evaluations of these antioxidative compounds

**Keywords:** cisplatin; Zn(II) complexes; terpy ligand; DNA protective potential

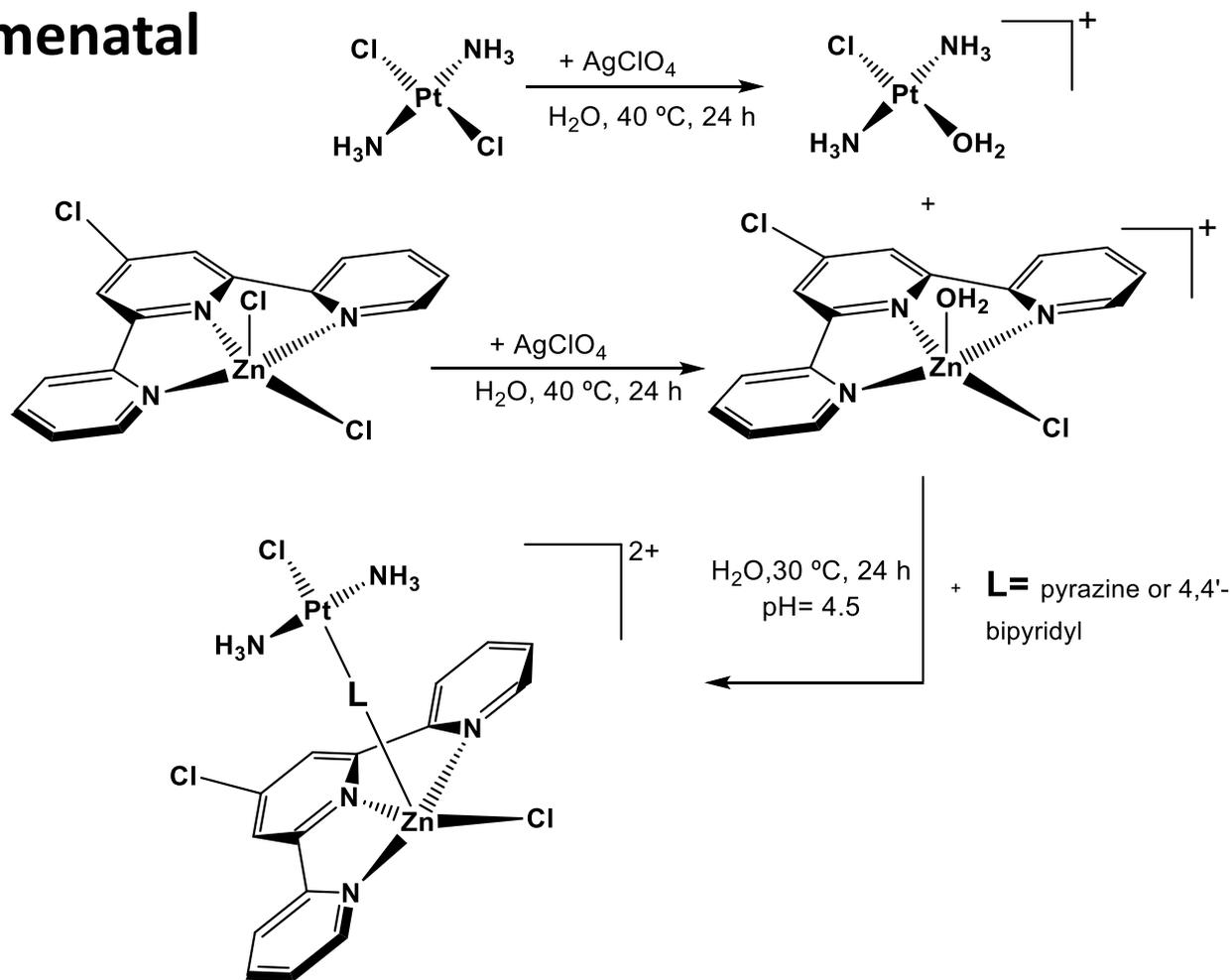


## Introduction

Design of novel heteronuclear platinum(II)-zinc(II) complexes has potential as metal-based anticancer agents. The complexes of these two metal ions have different coordination geometry, affinity and reactivity as well as biological activities. These two metals have different Lewis acidity causing dissimilar reactivity of such complexes which result in various coordination modes of biomolecules and thus have influence on their biological activities.



## Experimental



Synthesis of *trans*- or *cis*-Pt(II)-Zn(II) complexes.



The ability of novel complexes to protect DNA in concentrations of 25, 50, 100, 200, and 400  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$  against hydroxyl and peroxy radicals induced damage was estimated *in vitro* using deoxyribonucleic acid from herring sperm (Sigma Aldrich, St Louis, MO, USA). In both assays, quercetin (100  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ ) was used as a standard drug

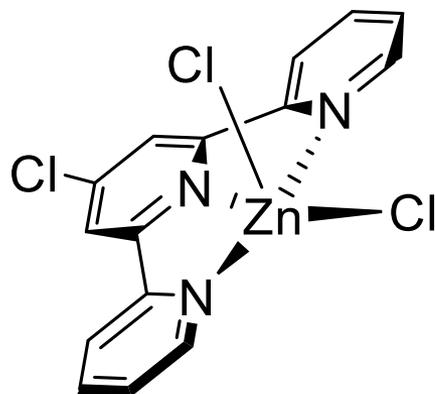


The level of DNA protection was assessed by determining the relative electrophoretic band densities of the tested compounds compared to negative and positive controls.

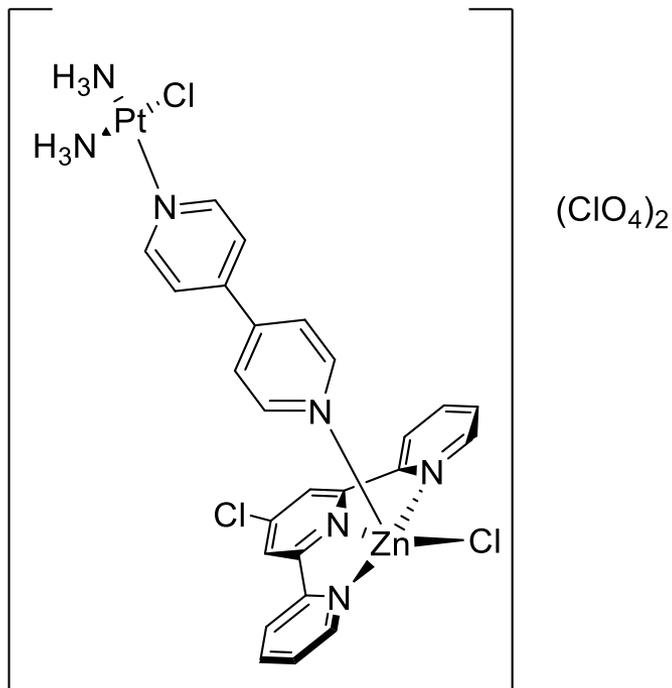


## Results and discussion

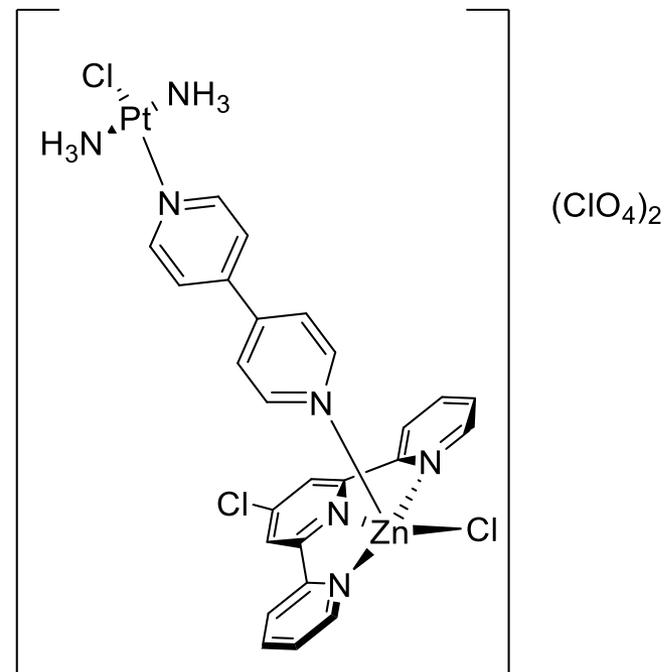
Four new dinuclear complexes of general formula Pt(II)-L-Zn(II) are synthesized from trans- or cisplatin and parent mononuclear  $[ZnCl_2(terpy-Cl)]$  complex (where terpy-Cl = 4'-chloro-2,2':6',2''-terpyridine, and L = bridging ligand, 4,4'-bipyridyl or pyrazine).



Structure of mononuclear  $[ZnCl_2(terpy-Cl)]$  complex

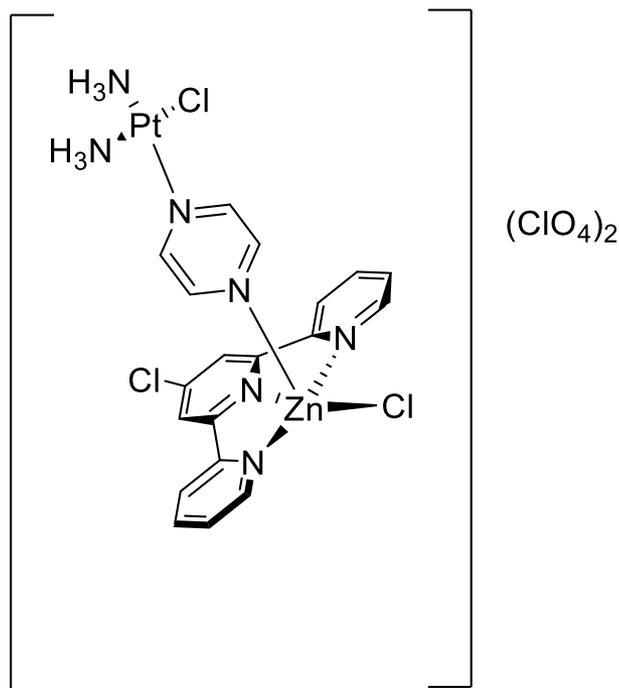


$[\{cis\text{-PtCl}(\text{NH}_3)_2(\mu\text{-4,4'-bipyridyl})\text{ZnCl}(\text{terpy}\text{-Cl})\}](\text{ClO}_4)_2$   
C1



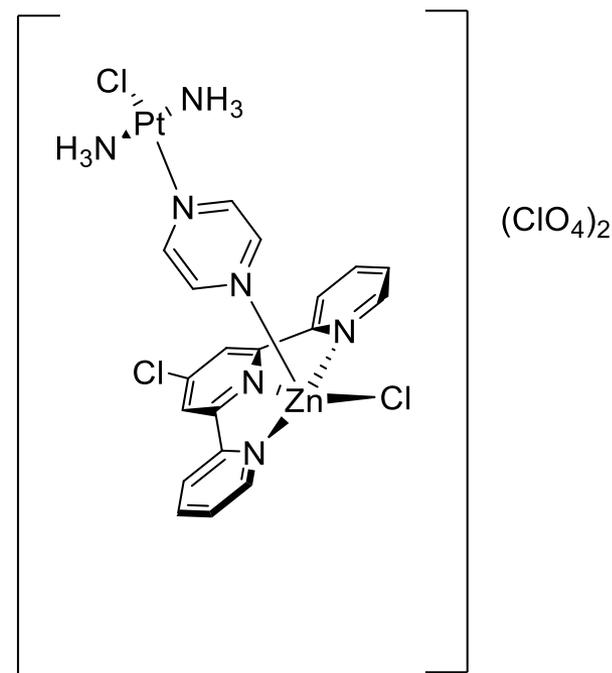
$[\{trans\text{-PtCl}(\text{NH}_3)_2(\mu\text{-4,4'-bipyridyl})\text{ZnCl}(\text{terpy}\text{-Cl})\}](\text{ClO}_4)_2$   
C2

Structures of the investigated dinuclear *cis*- and *trans*-platinum(II)-zinc(II) complexes with adopted abbreviations.



$[\{cis\text{-PtCl}(\text{NH}_3)_2(\mu\text{-pyrazine})\text{ZnCl}(\text{terpy}\text{-Cl})\}](\text{ClO}_4)_2$

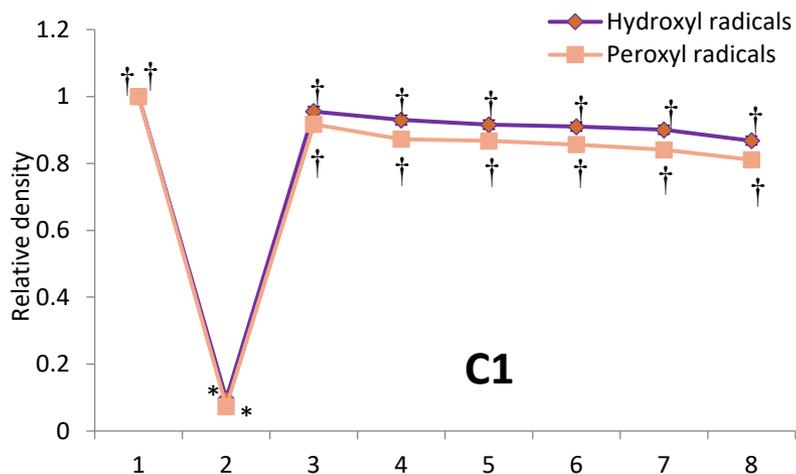
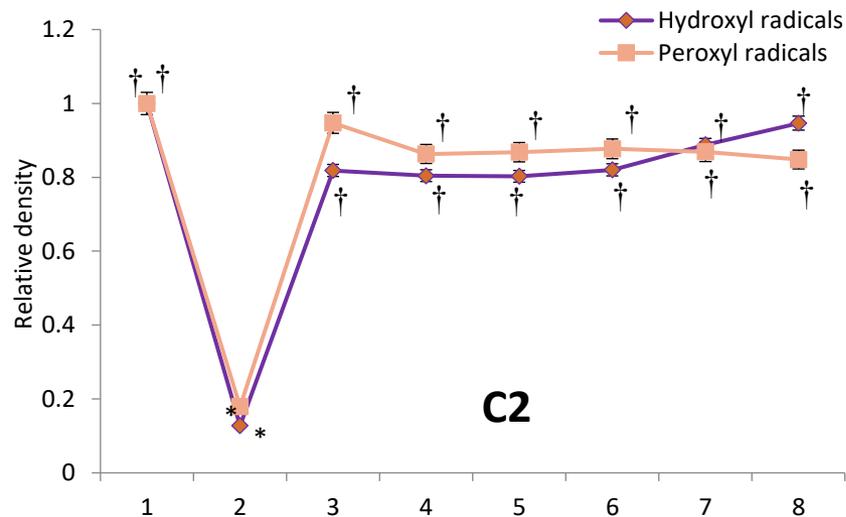
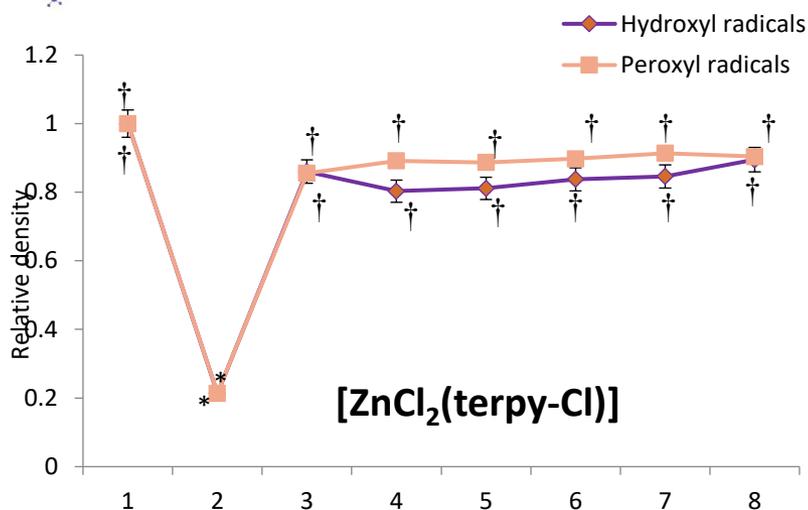
C3



$[\{trans\text{-PtCl}(\text{NH}_3)_2(\mu\text{-pyrazine})\text{ZnCl}(\text{terpy}\text{-Cl})\}](\text{ClO}_4)_2$

C4

Structures of the investigated dinuclear *cis*- and *trans*-platinum(II)-zinc(II) complexes with adopted abbreviations.



### The DNA protective potential of [ZnCl<sub>2</sub>(terpy-Cl)], C1 and C2 complexes against hydroxyl and peroxy radicals-induced DNA damage

DNA from herring sperm (1, negative control), DNA damage control (2, positive control), quercetin (3, 100 µg/mL, standard).

Novel complexes at the concentrations of 25, 50, 100, 200, and 400 µg/mL (4-8).

\*p < 0.05 when compared with the negative control group; †p < 0.05 when compared with the positive control group.

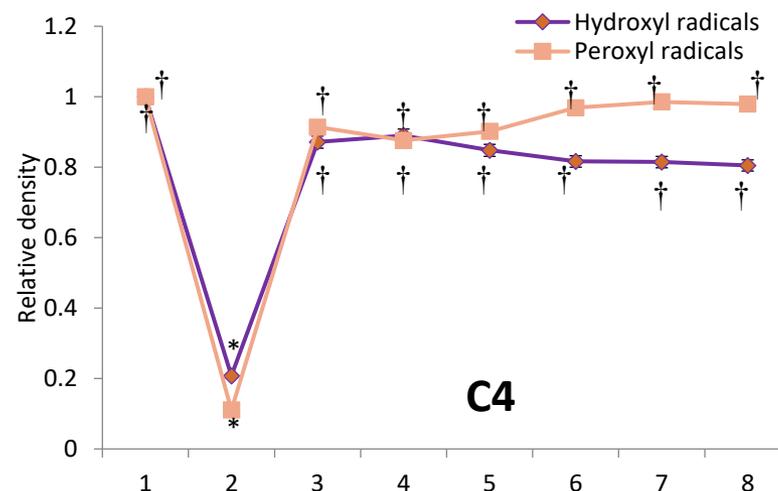
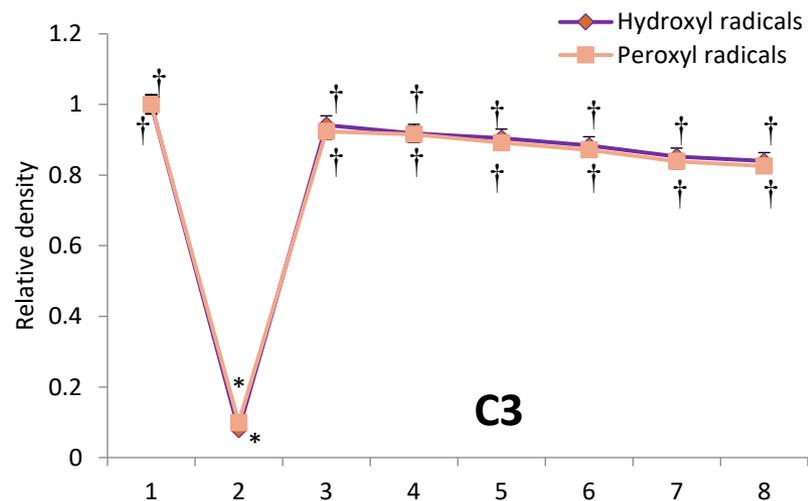


## Results and discussion

The DNA protective activity of  $[\text{ZnCl}_2(\text{terpy-Cl})]$  against DNA damage induced by both radicals was dose-dependent, increasing with higher concentrations.

The complex **C1** show significant DNA protective activity against DNA damage at low concentrations, whereas the complex **C2** at high concentrations had a weaker scavenging activity on peroxy radicals.

The complex **C3** showed effective reduction in the DNA damage induced by both radicals at low concentrations, while the significant DNA protective potential against peroxy radical was obtained for the complex **C4**.



## The DNA protective potential of C3 and C4 complexes against hydroxyl and peroxy radicals-induced DNA damage

DNA from herring sperm (1, negative control), DNA damage control (2, positive control), quercetin (3, 100  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ , standard).

Novel complexes at the concentrations of 25, 50, 100, 200, and 400  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$  (4-8).

\* $p < 0.05$  when compared with the negative control group;  $^{\dagger}p < 0.05$  when compared with the positive control group.



## Conclusions

The significant DNA protective potential was obtained for the tested complexes. The presence of the chloride in the structure terpyridine ligand increase the electronic density on Zn center and, thus, decrease its nucleophilicity, which could be an explanation of their behavior. This data could be useful for further *in vitro* and *in vivo* biological evaluations of these antioxidative compounds.



## Acknowledgments

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