

## Supplementary Materials

# Formylation as a Chemical Tool to Modulate the Performance of Photosensitizers Based on Boron Dipyrromethene Dimers

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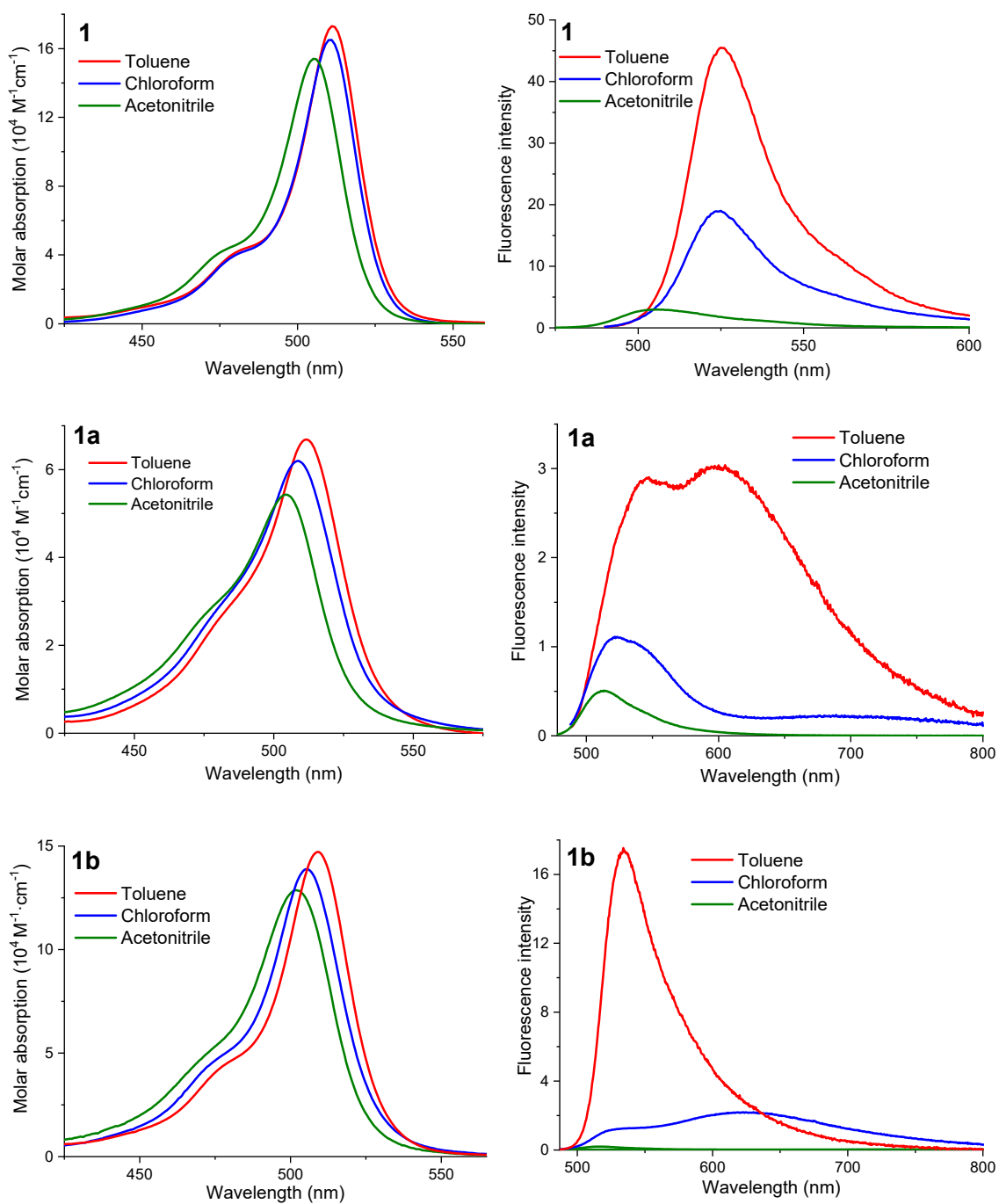
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**Table S1.** Photophysical properties of the BODIPY-based 2-8' and 3-8' dimers and their formulated derivatives in diluted solutions (2  $\mu$ M) of different solvents.

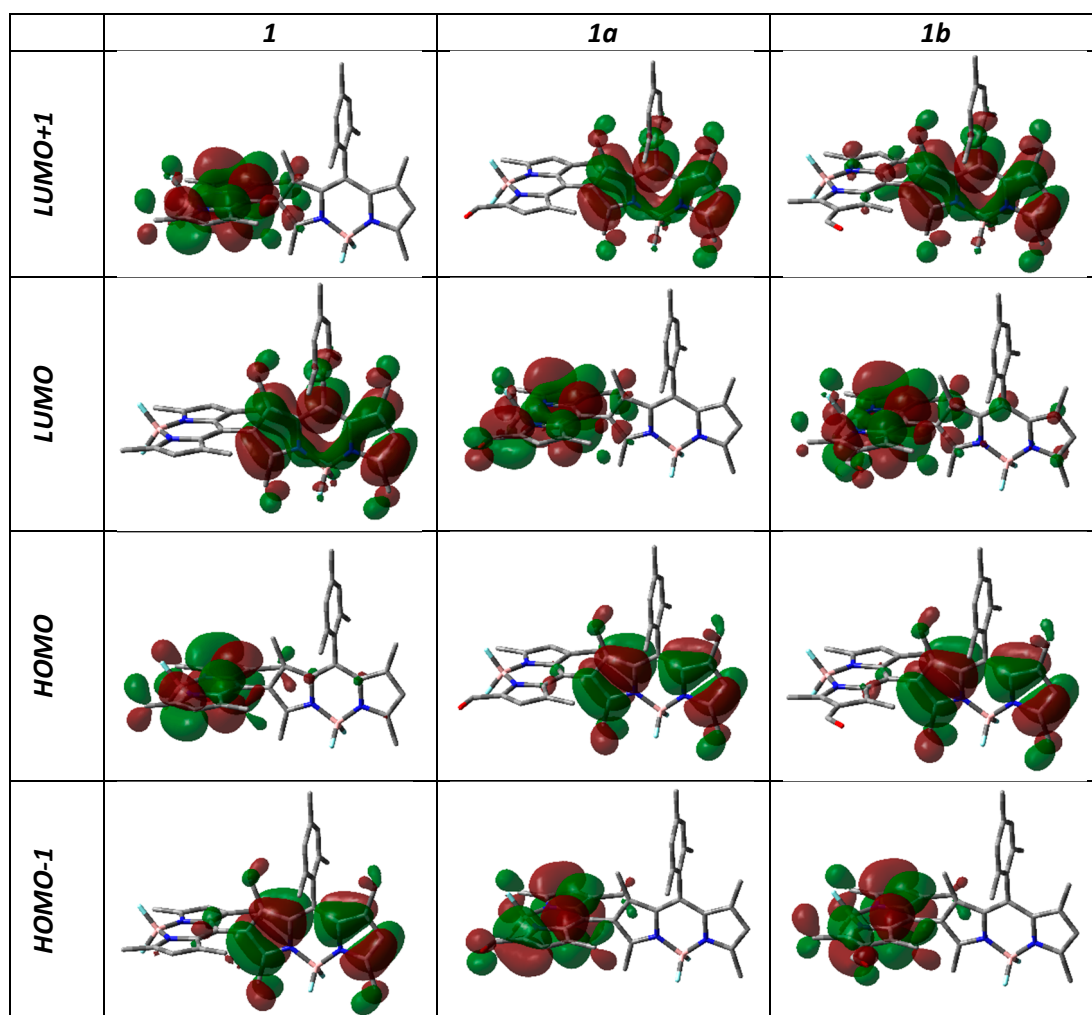
|           |                   | $\lambda_{ab}$<br>(nm) | $\epsilon_{max}$<br>( $10^4 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) | $\lambda_{fl}$<br>(nm) | $\phi$ | $\tau$<br>(ns)                                     | $\phi^A$ |
|-----------|-------------------|------------------------|---|------------------------|--------|--|----------|
| <b>1</b>  | Toluene           | 511.0                  | 17.3  | 525.0                  | 0.46   | 1.56(5%) - 5.87(95%)                               | 0.41     |
|           | CHCl <sub>3</sub> | 511.0                  | 16.5  | 525.0                  | 0.19   | 0.02(78%) - 5.02(22%)                              | 0.84     |
|           | ACN               | 505.0                  | 15.4  | 512.5                  | 0.03   | 0.63(10%) - 4.67(90%)                              | 0.65     |
| <b>1a</b> | Toluene           | 511.5                  | 6.7   | 545.5<br>605.0         | 0.030  | 1.88(40%) - 4.30(60%)<br>1.88(93%) - 4.79(7%)      | 0.93     |
|           | CHCl <sub>3</sub> | 509.0                  | 6.2   | 521.5                  | 0.011  | 1.54(21%) - 4.21(79%)                              | 0.50     |
|           | ACN               | 504.5                  | 5.5   | 513.0                  | 0.005  | -  | 0        |
| <b>1b</b> | Toluene           | 509.0                  | 14.7  | 534.0                  | 0.175  | 0.89(9%) - 3.32(91%)                               | 0.71     |
|           | CHCl <sub>3</sub> | 505.5                  | 13.9  | 529.5<br>625.0         | 0.022  | 0.02(94%) - 1.65(6%)<br>1.23(38%) - 1.91(62%)      | 0.75     |
|           | ACN               | 501.5                  | 12.9  | 517.0                  | 0.002  | -  | 0        |
| <b>2</b>  | Toluene           | 509.0                  | 7.3   | 529.0<br>596.0         | 0.021  | 1.27(17%) - 4.49(83%)<br>1.51(25%) - 4.01(75%)     | 0.84     |
|           | CHCl <sub>3</sub> | 507.0                  | 6.7   | 522.5                  | 0.011  | 1.59(25%) - 4.84(75%)                              | 0.64     |
|           | ACN               | 506.0                  | 6.5   | 518.0                  | 0.004  | -  | 0        |
| <b>2a</b> | Toluene           | 504.5                  | 7.2   | 589.5                  | 0.24   | 4.19   | 0.61     |
|           | CHCl <sub>3</sub> | 499.5                  | 5.4   | 519.0<br>638.0         | 0.020  | 1.85(21%) - 4.87(79%)<br>1.18(92%) - 2.62(8%)      | 0.62     |
|           | ACN               | 496.5                  | 5.4   | 527.5                  | 0.005  | -  | 0        |
| <b>2b</b> | Toluene           | 510.0                  | 8.9   | 586.5                  | 0.268  | 2.06(18%) - 5.49(82%)                              | 0.40     |
|           | CHCl <sub>3</sub> | 507.0                  | 8.7   | 587.0                  | 0.161  | 2.59(32%) - 4.43(68%)                              | 0.50     |
|           | ACN               | 502.5                  | 8.0   | 517.5                  | 0.003  | -  | 0.23     |
| <b>3</b>  | Toluene           | 509.5                  | 8.8   | 518.5<br>580.0         | 0.144  | 2.89 (44%) - 5.49 (56%)<br>1.02 (10%) - 2.50 (90%) | 0.80     |
|           | CHCl <sub>3</sub> | 507.0                  | 7.9   | 513.5<br>676.0         | 0.028  | 2.59 (15%) - 4.36 (85%)<br>1.43                    | 0.55     |
|           | ACN               | 502.5                  | 7.9   | 508.0                  | 0.004  | -  | 0        |
| <b>3a</b> | Toluene           | 521.5                  | 5.1   | 558.5                  | 0.348  | 1.91 (11%) - 5.97 (89%)                            | 0.31     |
|           | CHCl <sub>3</sub> | 518.0                  | 4.8   | 559.5                  | 0.189  | 0.50 (14%) - 4.06 (86%)                            | 0.22     |
|           | ACN               | 508.0                  | 4.6   | 508.5                  | 0.004  | -  | 0.17     |

Absorption ( $\lambda_{ab}$ ) and fluorescence ( $\lambda_{fl}$ ) wavelength, molar absorption at the maximum ( $\epsilon_{max}$ ), fluorescence quantum yield ( $\phi$ ) and lifetime ( $\tau$ ), and singlet oxygen generation quantum yield ( $\phi^A$ ).

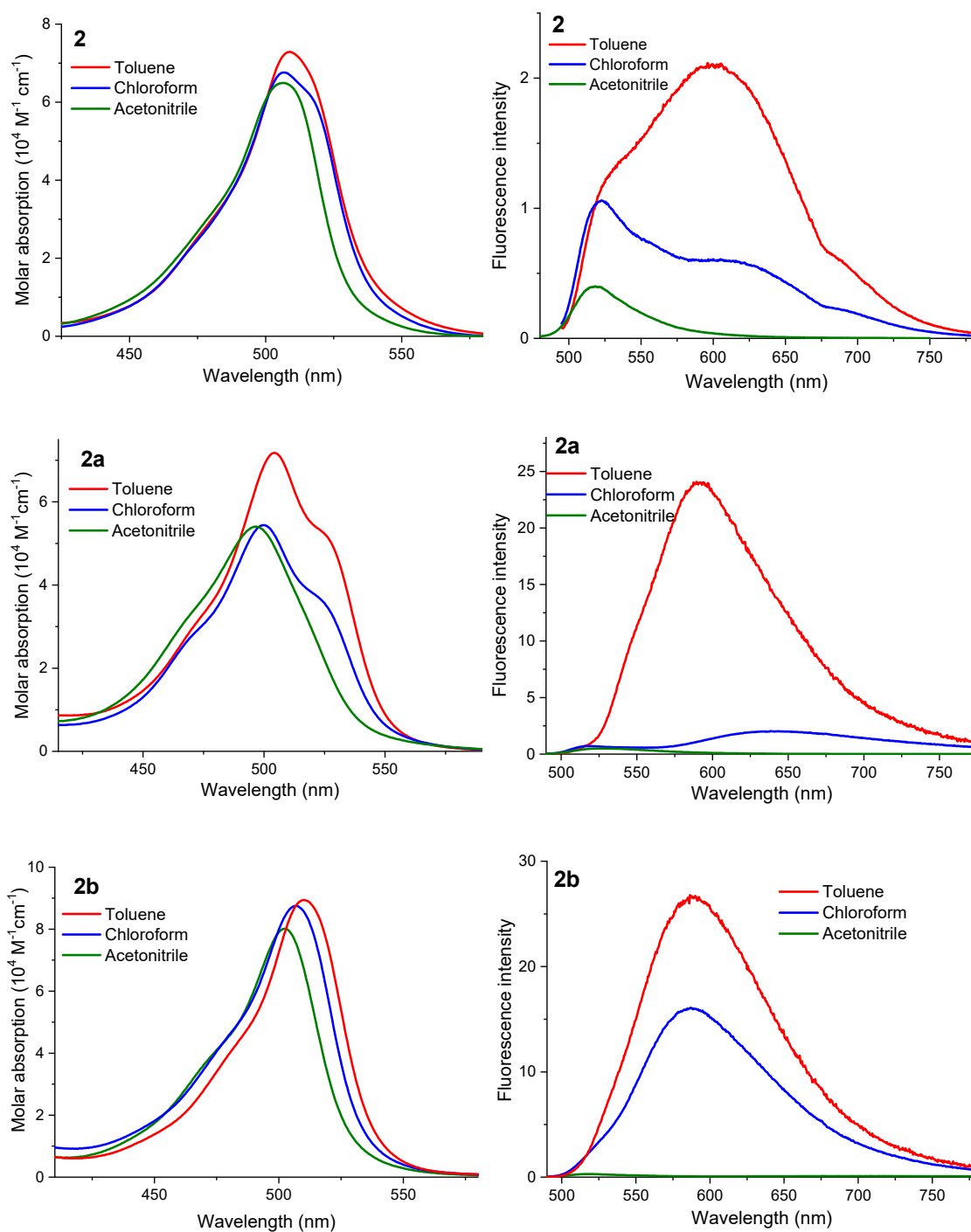
CHCl<sub>3</sub>: chloroform; ACN: acetonitrile



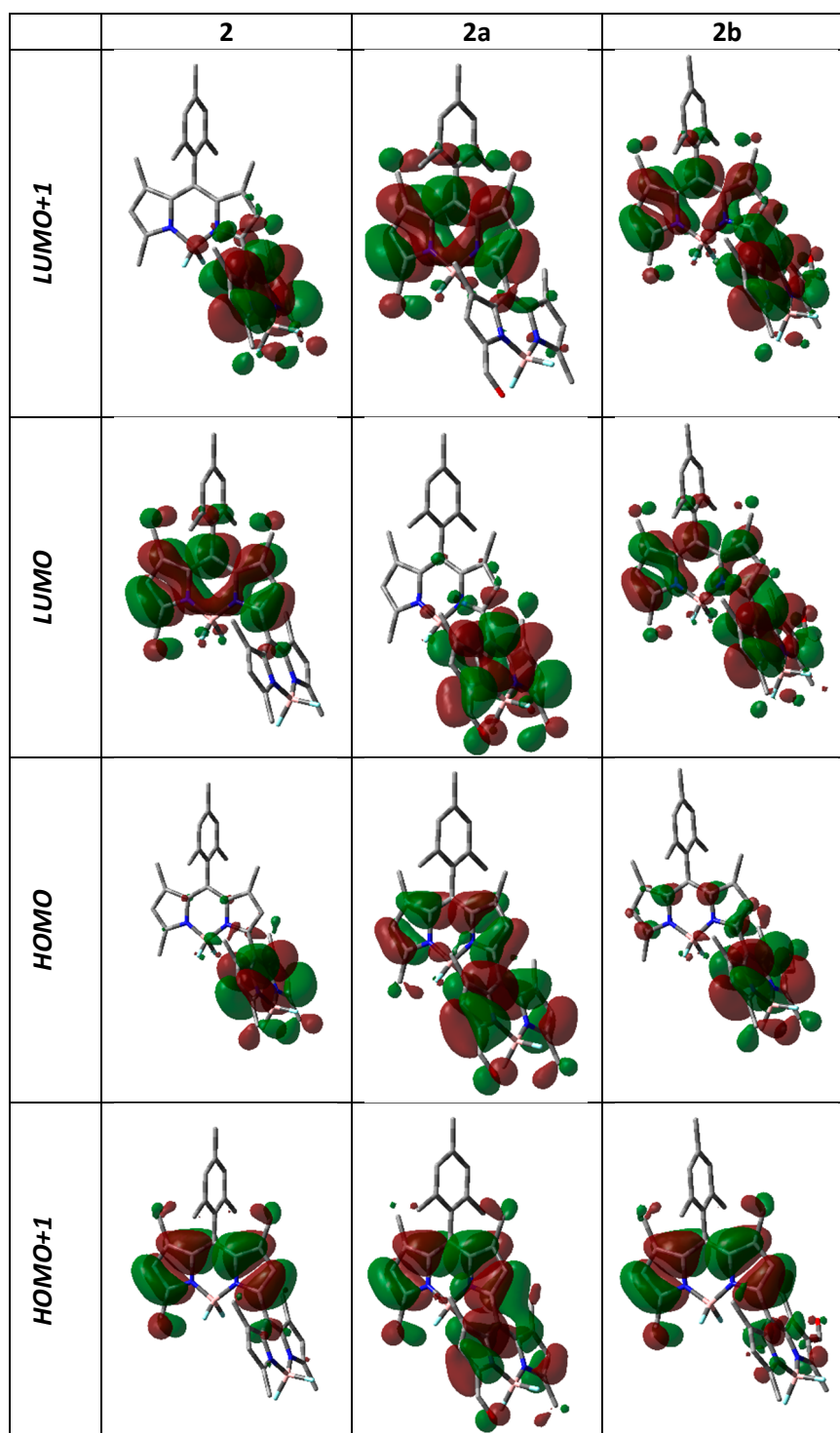
**Figure S1.** Absorption and fluorescence (scaled by fluorescence quantum yield) spectra of the 2-8' dimers in diluted solutions of different solvents.



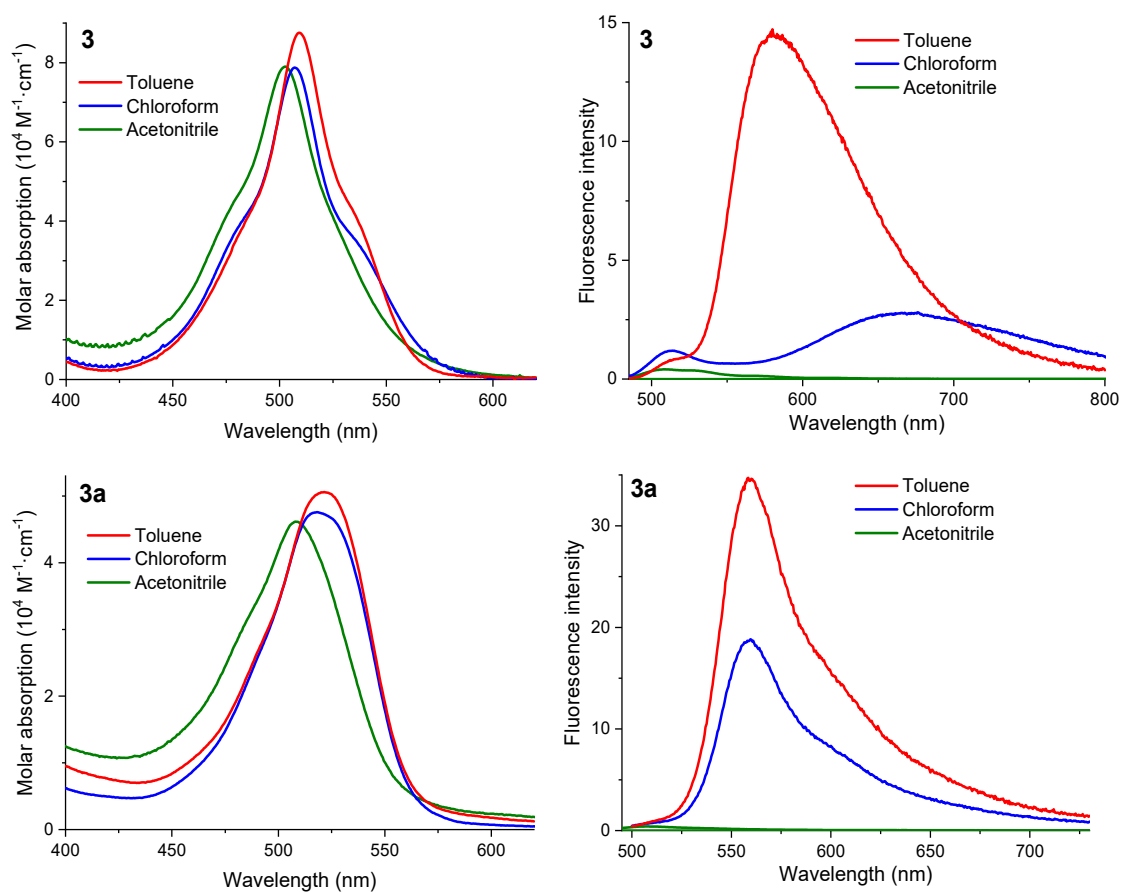
**Figure S2.** Contour maps of the main molecular orbital involved in the absorption transition of the 2-8' dimers attained from their ground state optimized geometries (CAM-B3LYP/6-311g\*) in chloroform (PCM).



**Figure S3.** Absorption and fluorescence (scaled by fluorescence quantum yield) spectra of the 3-8' dimers in diluted solutions of different solvents.



**Figure S4.** Contour maps of the main molecular orbital involved in the absorption transition of the 3-8' dimers attained from their ground state optimized geometries (CAM-B3LYP/6-311g\*) in chloroform (PCM).

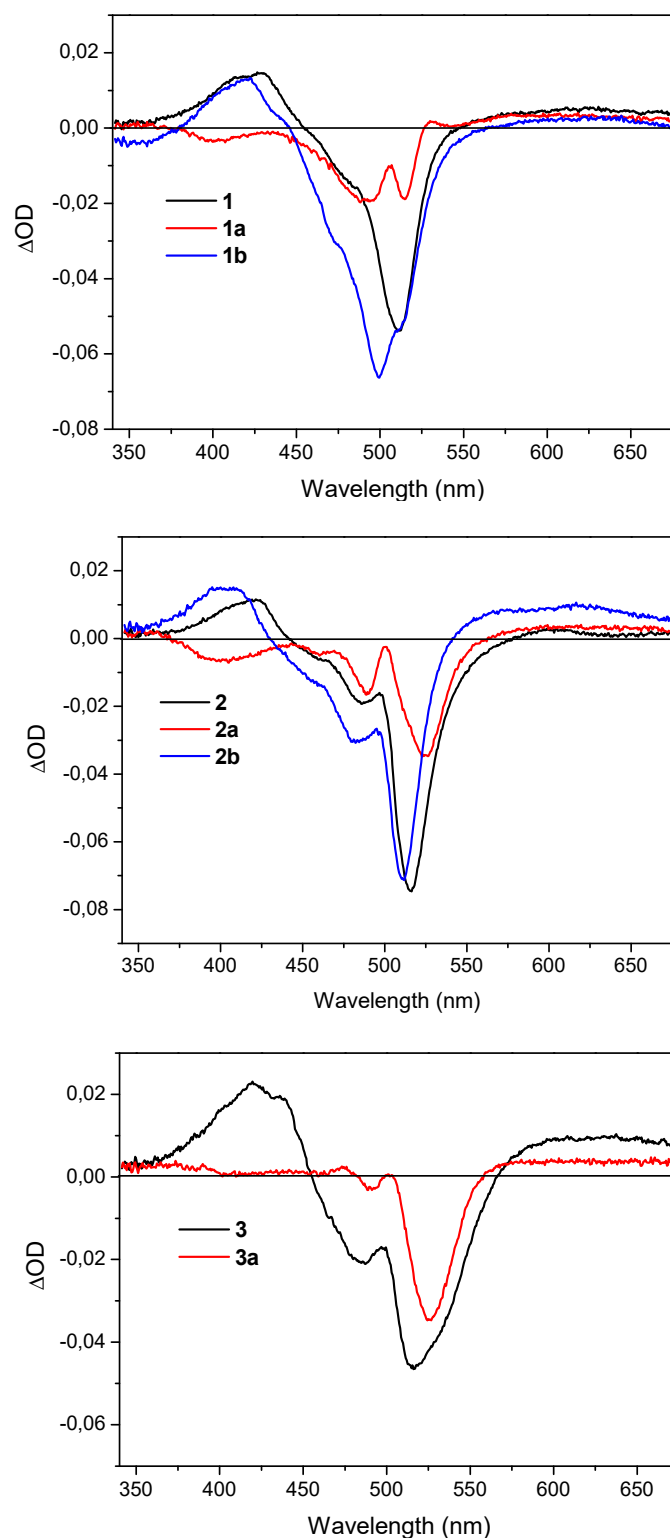


**Figure S5.** Absorption and fluorescence (scaled by fluorescence quantum yield) spectra of dimer **3** and its 3-formylated derivative **3a** in diluted solutions of different solvents.

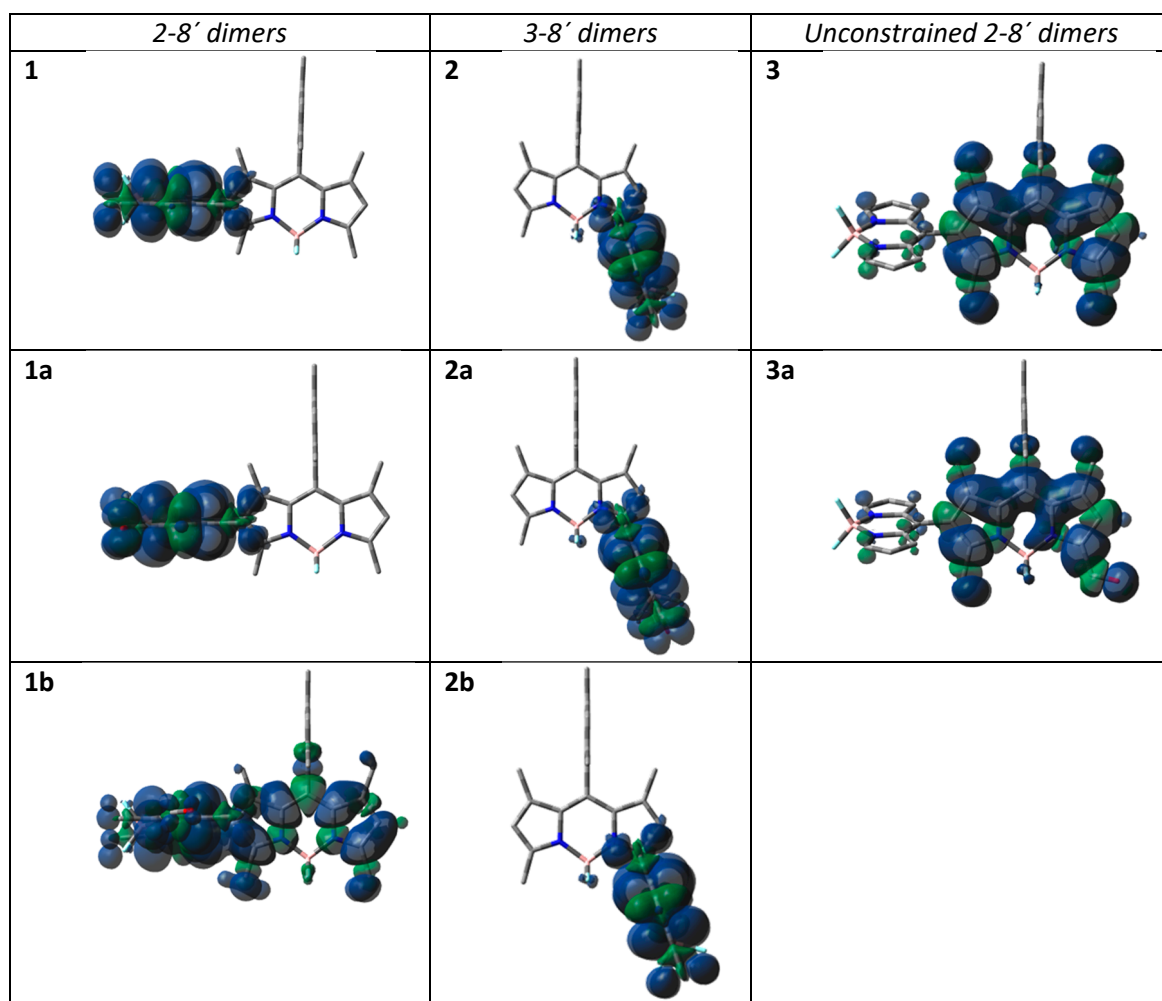
|        | 3 | 3a |
|--------|---|----|
| LUMO+1 |   |    |
| LUMO   |   |    |
| HOMO   |   |    |
| HOMO-1 |   |    |

**Figure S6.** Contour maps of the main molecular orbital involved in the absorption transition of the less constrained 2-8' dimers attained from their ground state optimized geometries (CAM-B3LYP/6-311g\*) in chloroform (PCM).





**Figure S7.** Transient absorption spectra of the dimers ( $10^{-5}$  M) in chloroform solutions after purging them with nitrogen during 15 minutes.



**Figure S8.** Isosurfaces of spin-density of the optimized  $T_1$  state geometry (CAM-B3LYP/6-311g\*) for all the tested dimers in chloroform (PCM).