

# Supplementary Materials

## Synthesis, Characterization, Fluorescence Properties, and DFT Modeling of Difluoroboron Biindolediketonates

Angelo Maspero <sup>1</sup>, Federico Vavassori <sup>1</sup>, Luca Nardo <sup>1</sup>, Guglielmo Vesco <sup>1</sup>, Jenny G. Vitillo <sup>1\*</sup>, Andrea Penoni <sup>1\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Science and High Technology and INSTM, University of Insubria, Via Valleggio 9, 22100 Como, Italy.

\*Correspondence: (J.G.V.) jg.vitillo@gmail.com, (A.P.) andrea.penoni@uninsubria.it

### Summary

<b>S1. Synthesis of starting materials .....</b>	4
S1.1. 5-Chloro-N-methyl-1H-indole (2b) .....	4
S1.2. 5-Methoxy-N-methyl-1H-indole (2c).....	4
S1.3. 1,3-Bis(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)propane-1,3-dione HBIP (3a).....	4
S1.4 1,3-Bis(5-chloro-1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)propane-1,3-dione HBCIP (3b).....	4
S1.5 1,3-Bis(5-methoxy-1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)propane-1,3-dione HBMIP (3c).....	5
<b>S2. NMR spectroscopy data on 4a.....</b>	6
S2.1. <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of BF2BIP (4a) .....	6
S2.2. <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of BF2BIP (4a) .....	7
S2.3. <sup>19</sup> F-NMR spectrum of BF2BIP (4a) .....	8
S2.4. <sup>11</sup> B-NMR spectrum of BF2BIP (4a) .....	9
<b>S3. NMR spectroscopy data on 4b .....</b>	10
S3.1. <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of BF2CIBIP (4b).....	10
S3.2. <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of BF2CIBIP (4b).....	11
S3.3. <sup>19</sup> F-NMR spectrum of BF2CIBIP (4b) .....	12
S3.4. <sup>11</sup> B-NMR spectrum of BF2CIBIP (4b) .....	13
<b>S4. NMR spectroscopy data on 4c .....</b>	14
S4.1. <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of BF2BMIP (4c).....	14
S4.2. <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of BF2BMIP (4c) .....	15
S4.3. <sup>19</sup> F-NMR spectrum of BF2BMIP (4c) .....	16
S4.4. <sup>11</sup> B-NMR spectrum of BF2BMIP (4c) .....	17
<b>S5. IR spectra.....</b>	18
<b>S6. Supplementary experimental UV-Vis absorption spectroscopy data.....</b>	20
<b>S7. Supplementary theoretical UV-Vis absorption spectra and data .....</b>	21
S7.1. TD-B3LYP-D3: Excitation energies and oscillator strengths of the first excited states .....	23

<b>3a keto-enol .....</b>	23
<b>3a cis-diketo .....</b>	23
<b>3a trans-diketo.....</b>	23
<b>4a .....</b>	24
<b>4b .....</b>	24
<b>4c .....</b>	24
<b>S7.2. TDA-B3LYP-D3: Excitation energies and oscillator strengths of the first excited states .....</b>	24
<b>3a keto-enol .....</b>	24
<b>3a cis-diketo .....</b>	25
<b>3a trans-diketo.....</b>	25
<b>4a .....</b>	25
<b>4b .....</b>	26
<b>4c .....</b>	26
<b>S7.3. TDA-<math>\omega</math>B97X-D: Excitation energies and oscillator strengths of the first excited states .....</b>	26
<b>3a keto-enol .....</b>	26
<b>3a cis-diketo .....</b>	27
<b>3a trans-diketo.....</b>	27
<b>4a .....</b>	28
<b>4b .....</b>	28
<b>4c .....</b>	28
<b>S7.4. TDA-M06-2X: Excitation energies and oscillator strengths of the first excited states .....</b>	29
<b>3a keto-enol .....</b>	29
<b>3a cis-diketo .....</b>	29
<b>3a trans-diketo.....</b>	30
<b>4a .....</b>	30
<b>4b .....</b>	30
<b>4c .....</b>	31
<b>S7.5. TDA-CAM-B3LYP-D3: Excitation energies and oscillator strengths of the first excited states.....</b>	31
<b>3a keto-enol .....</b>	31
<b>3a cis-diketo .....</b>	31
<b>3a trans-diketo.....</b>	32
<b>4a .....</b>	32
<b>4b .....</b>	33
<b>4c .....</b>	33
<b>S8. Supplementary electronic-state transition spectroscopy data .....</b>	38
<b>S9. Supplementary theoretical emission data .....</b>	42



## S1. Synthesis of starting materials

### S1.1. 5-Chloro-N-methyl-1H-indole (2b)

Under inert atmosphere 5-chloro-1H-indole (3 g, 20 mmol, 1 equiv.) is dissolved in dry THF (80 mL) and sodium hydride (1.2 g, 60% suspension in mineral oil, 1.5 equiv.) is slowly added at 0 °C. After being stirred at 0 °C for 1.5 h methyl iodide (1.62 mL, 26 mmol, 1.3 equiv.) is added. The mixture is then warmed to rt and stirred overnight. After cooling again to 0°C, the reaction is quenched with water (40 mL) and extracted with diethyl ether (3x50 mL); the combined organic layers are dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and the solvent removed under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product is purified via column chromatography (n-Hexane/EtOAc 9:1, R<sub>f</sub> = 0.56) to give 5-chloro-N-methyl-1H-indole (2.84 g, 85% yield). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ = 7.58 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.26 - 7.15 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.06 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H, ArH), 6.42 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H, ArH), 3.27 (s, 3H, NCH<sub>3</sub>).

### S1.2. 5-Methoxy-N-methyl-1H-indole (2c)

Under inert atmosphere, 5-Methoxy-1H-indole (2 g, 13.6 mmol, 1 eq.) is dissolved in dry THF (60 mL) and sodium hydride (0.81 g, 60% suspension in mineral oil, 1.5 eq.) is slowly added 0 °C. After being stirred at 0 °C for 1.5 min, methyl iodide (1.1 mL, 17.7 mmol, 1.3 eq.) is added. The mixture is warmed to rt and stirred overnight. After cooling again to 0°C, the reaction is quenched with water (40 mL) and extracted with diethyl ether (3x50 mL); the combined organic layers are dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and the solvent removed under reduced pressure. The resulting crude product is purified via column chromatography (n-Hexane/EtOAc 9:1) to give 5-methoxy-N-methyl-1H-indole (2.09 g, 94% yield). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ = 7.30 (d, 1H, J = 8.5 Hz, ArH), 7.13 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.05 (s, 1 H, ArH), 6.92 (d, 1H, J = 8.8 Hz, ArH), 6.43 (d, 1H, J = 1.0 Hz, ArH), 3.90 (s, 3H, NCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.80 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>).

### S1.3. 1,3-Bis(1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)propane-1,3-dione HBIP (3a)

Under inert atmosphere, a solution of malonyl dichloride (1 mL, 10 mmol) in dichloromethane (10 mL) is added dropwise to a stirred solution of 1-methyl-1H-indole (2.55 mL, 20 mmol) in dichloromethane (15 mL) at 0°C. The reaction is stirred for 2h at rt. The mixture is then added to 5% aqueous sodium carbonate, vigorously stirred for 2 min and extracted with dichloromethane, dried over sodium sulfate and evaporated. The residue is purified via column chromatography (DCM/EtOAc 95:5) to obtain HBIP as a yellow powder (1.42 g, 42% yield). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO) δ = 17.4 (keto-enol, br s, 1H, enol OH) 8.44 (diketo, s, 2H), 8.40 (keto-enol, s, 2H), 8.23 (keto-enol, d, <sup>3</sup>J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 8.16 (diketo, d, <sup>3</sup>J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (diketo/keto-enol, m, 4H), 7.29 (diketo/keto-enol, m, 4H), 7.23 (diketo/keto-enol, m, 4H), 6.77 (keto-enol, s, 1H, enol CH), 4.39 (diketo, s, 2H, diketo CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.91 (keto-enol, s, 6H, N-CH<sub>3</sub>) 3.89 (diketo, s, 6H, N-CH<sub>3</sub>). IR (ATR)  $\tilde{\nu}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 3105 (w), 1618 (vs), 1575 (w), 1524 (vs), 1487 (vw), 1461 (s), 1421 (vw), 1391 (vw), 1365 (vs), 1334 (w), 1218 (s), 1126 (m), 1089 (s), 1081 (s), 1056 (w), 919 (s), 855 (w), 762 (w), 746 (s), 683 (w).

### S1.4 1,3-Bis(5-chloro-1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)propane-1,3-dione HBCIIP (3b)

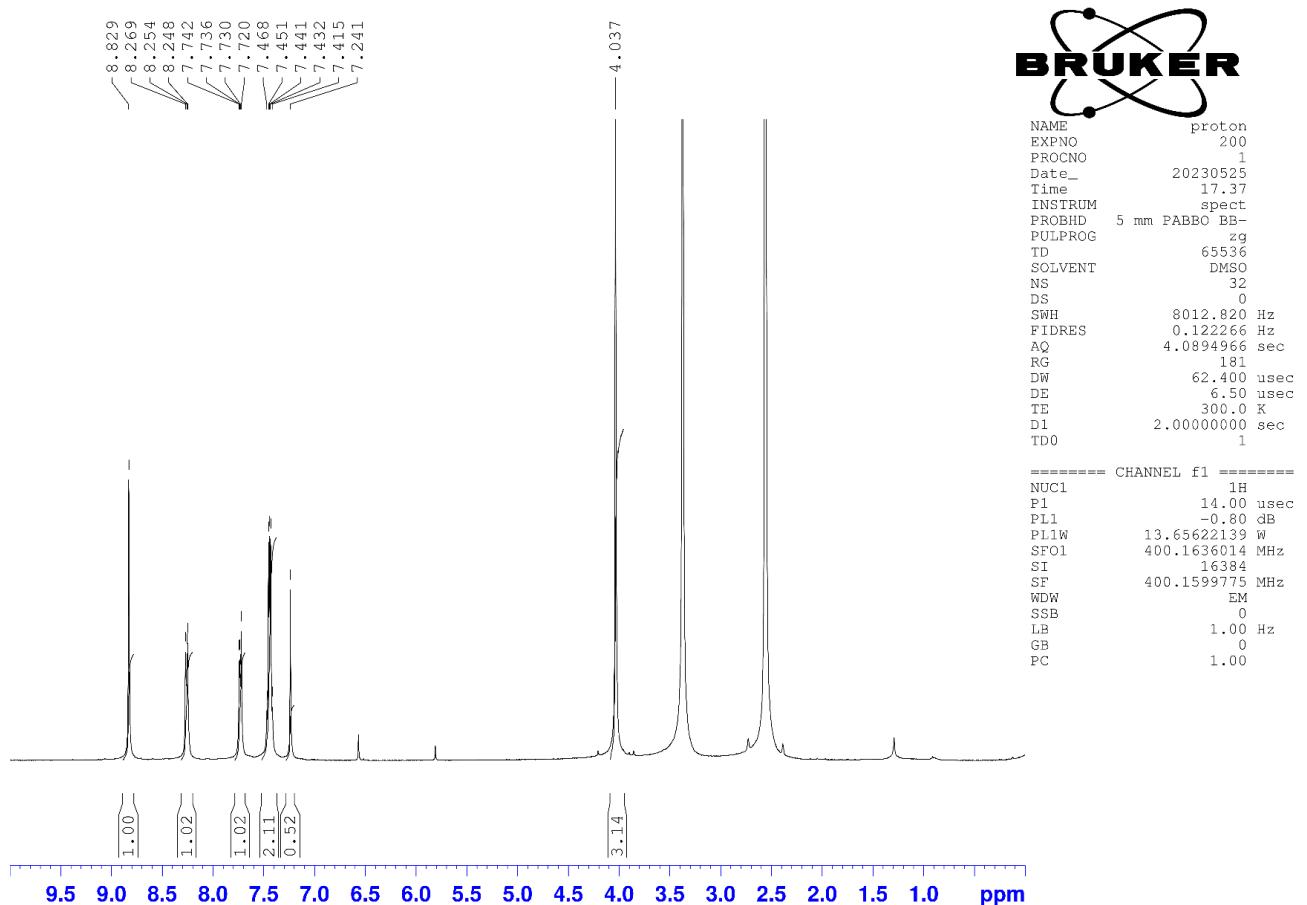
Under inert atmosphere a solution of malonyl dichloride (973  $\mu$ L, 10 mmol, 1 eq.) in dichloromethane (10 mL) is added dropwise to a stirred solution of 5-chloro-1-methyl-1H-indole (3.31 g, 20 mmol, 2 eq.) in dichloromethane (20 mL) at 0°C. The reaction is stirred for 2h at rt and then added to a 5% aqueous sodium carbonate solution, vigorously stirred for 2 min and extracted with dichloromethane, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated. The residue is purified via column chromatography (DCM/n-Hexane 9:1) to obtain HBCIIP as a yellow powder (0.911 g, 23% yield). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO) δ = 8.5 (diketo, s, 2H, H2), 8.47 (keto-enol, s, 2H, H2) 8.19 (keto-enol, d, 2H, <sup>4</sup>J = 1.8 Hz, H4), 8.14 (diketo, d, 2H, <sup>4</sup>J = 1.5 Hz, H4), 7.63 (keto-enol, d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J = 8.4 Hz) 7.61 (diketo, d, 2H, <sup>3</sup>J = 8.7 Hz, H7), 7.32 (diketo/keto-enol dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 8.8 Hz, <sup>4</sup>J = 1.6 Hz, H6, 4H), 6.77 (keto-enol, s, 1H, enol CH), 4.4 (diketo s, 2H, diketo CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.91 (keto-enol, s, 6H, NCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.90 (diketo, s, 6H, NCH<sub>3</sub>). IR (ATR)  $\tilde{\nu}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 3105 (vw); 2928 (vw); 2894 (vw); 1645 (m); 1631 (s); 1614 (m); 1572 (w); 1528 (vs); 1471 (sh, m); 1461 (s), 1452 (s), 1421 (w), 1405 (vw), 1385 (w), 1363 (vs), 1341 (sh, w), 1311 (vw), 1289 (vw), 1271 (w), 1235 (m), 1234 (m), 1217 (s), 1176 (w), 1159 (w), 1137 (s), 1089 (vs), 1058 (m), 1044 (m), 972 (w), 955 (w), 916 (vw), 888 (w), 883 (w), 856 (vw), 844 (w), 837, (w), 820 (m), 802 (s), 776 (m), 752 (w), 747 (w), 730 (s).

**S1.5 1,3-Bis(5-methoxy-1-methyl-1H-indol-3-yl)propane-1,3-dione HBMIP (3c)**

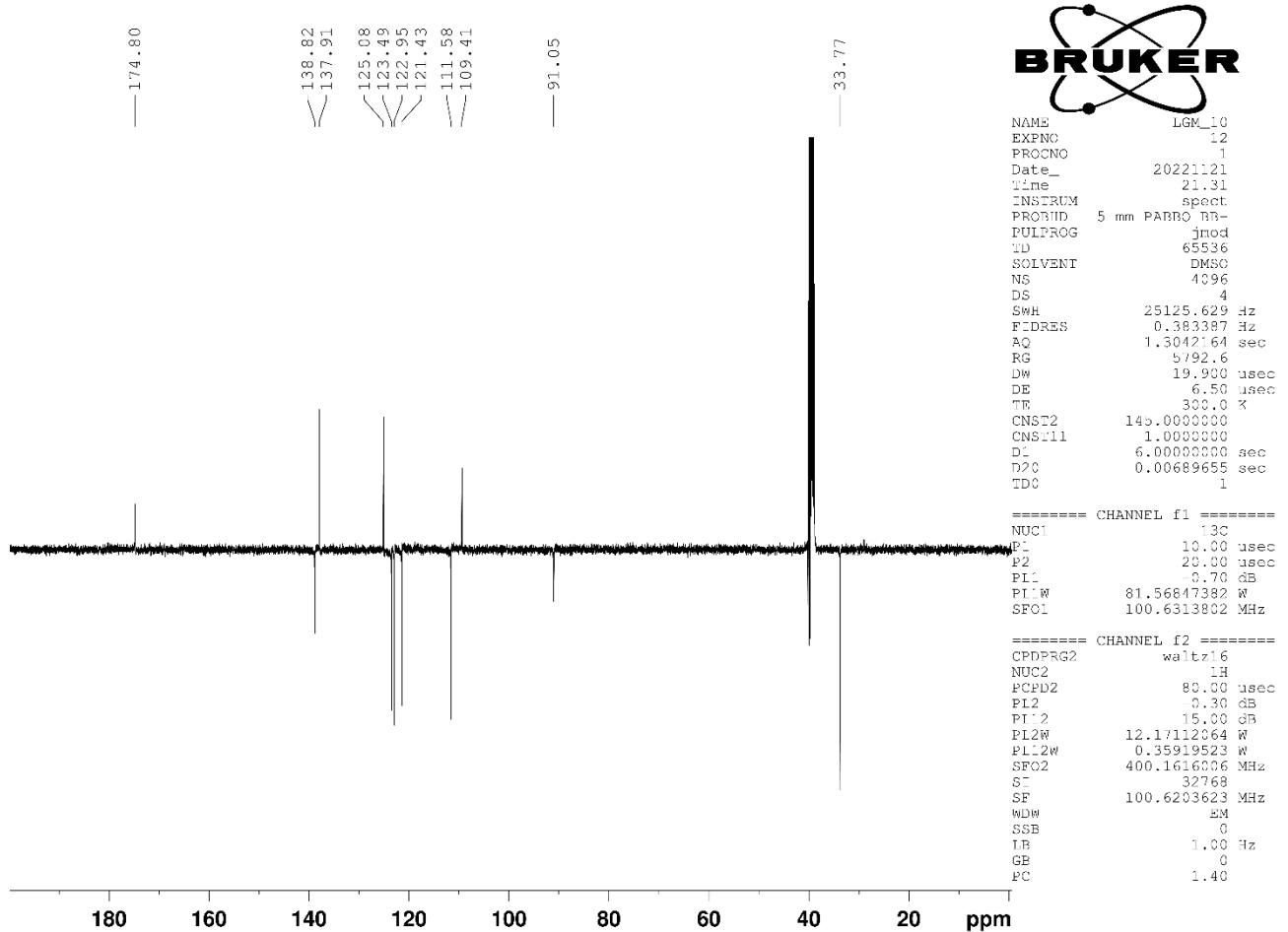
Under inert atmosphere a solution of malonyl dichloride (700  $\mu$ L, 7.17 mmol, 1 eq.) in dichloromethane (8 mL) is added dropwise to a stirred solution of 5-methoxy-1-methyl-1H-indole (2.31 g, 14.3 mmol, 2 eq.) in dichloromethane (15 mL) at 0°C. The reaction is then stirred for 2h at rt and then added to a 5% aqueous sodium carbonate solution, vigorously stirred for 2 min and extracted with dichloromethane, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated. The residue is purified via column chromatography (toluene/EtOAc 7:3) to obtain HBMIP (1.26 g, 45% yield) as a yellow solid. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR ( $d_6$ -DMSO)  $\delta$  = 8.36 (diketo, s, 2H, H2) 7.67 (diketo d, <sup>4</sup>J = 2.1 Hz, 2H, H4), 7.45 (diketo, d, <sup>3</sup>J = 9 Hz, 2H, H7), 6.91 (diketo, dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 9 Hz, <sup>4</sup>J = 2.3 Hz, 2H, H6), 4.34 (diketo, s, 2H, diketo CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.85 (diketo, s, 6H), 3.77 (diketo, s, 6H). IR (ATR) (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 2941 (w), 1713 (w), 1619 (vs), 1521 (s), 1477 (s), 1453 (vs), 1361 (vs), 1264 (s), 1222 (s), 1210 (s), 1181 (m), 1139 (m), 1131 (s), 1083 (s), 1021 (s), 912 (m), 873 (s), 853 (s), 835 (s), 799 (vs), 778 (m), 683 (m), 654 (vs), 640 (s).

## S2. NMR spectroscopy data on 4a

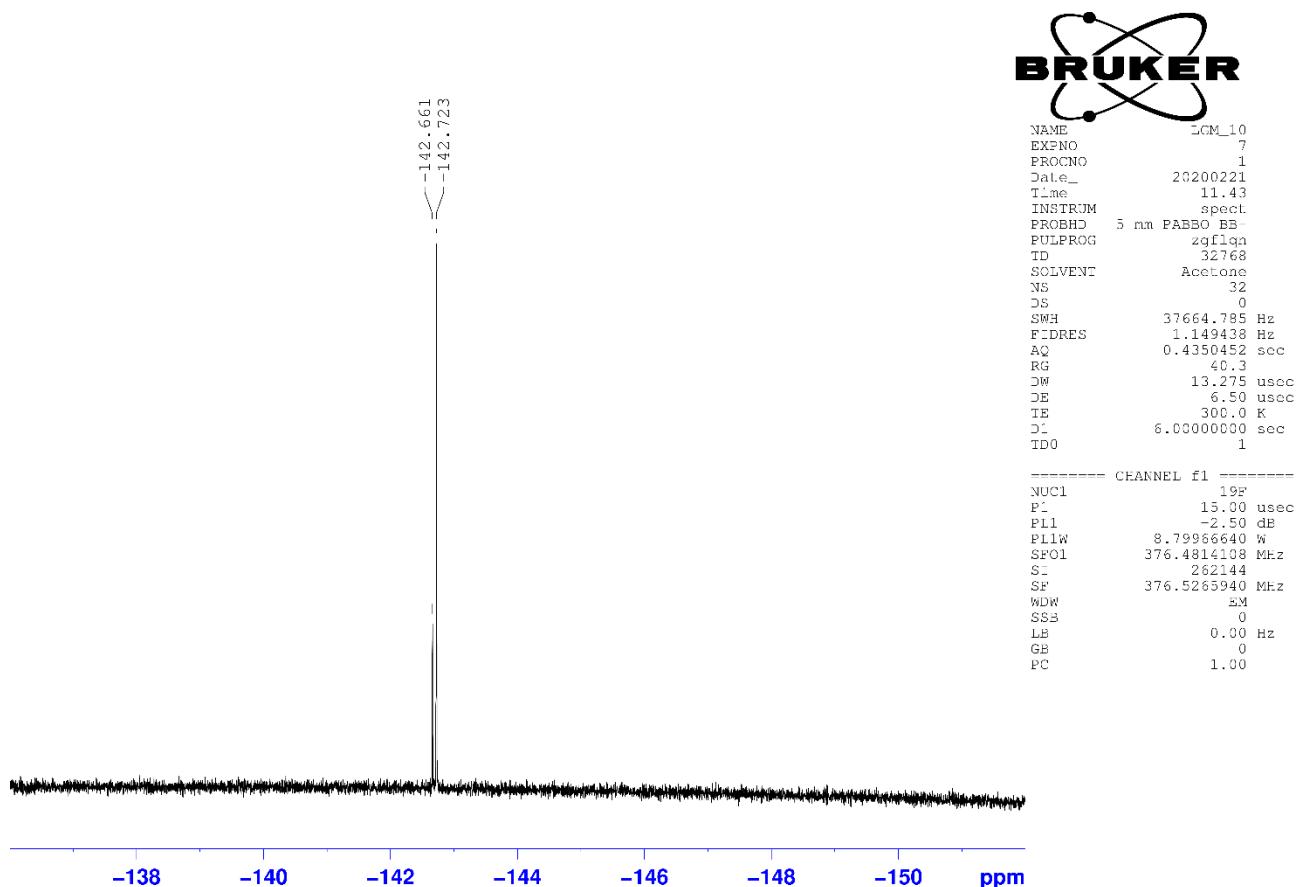
### S2.1. $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of BF2BIP (4a)



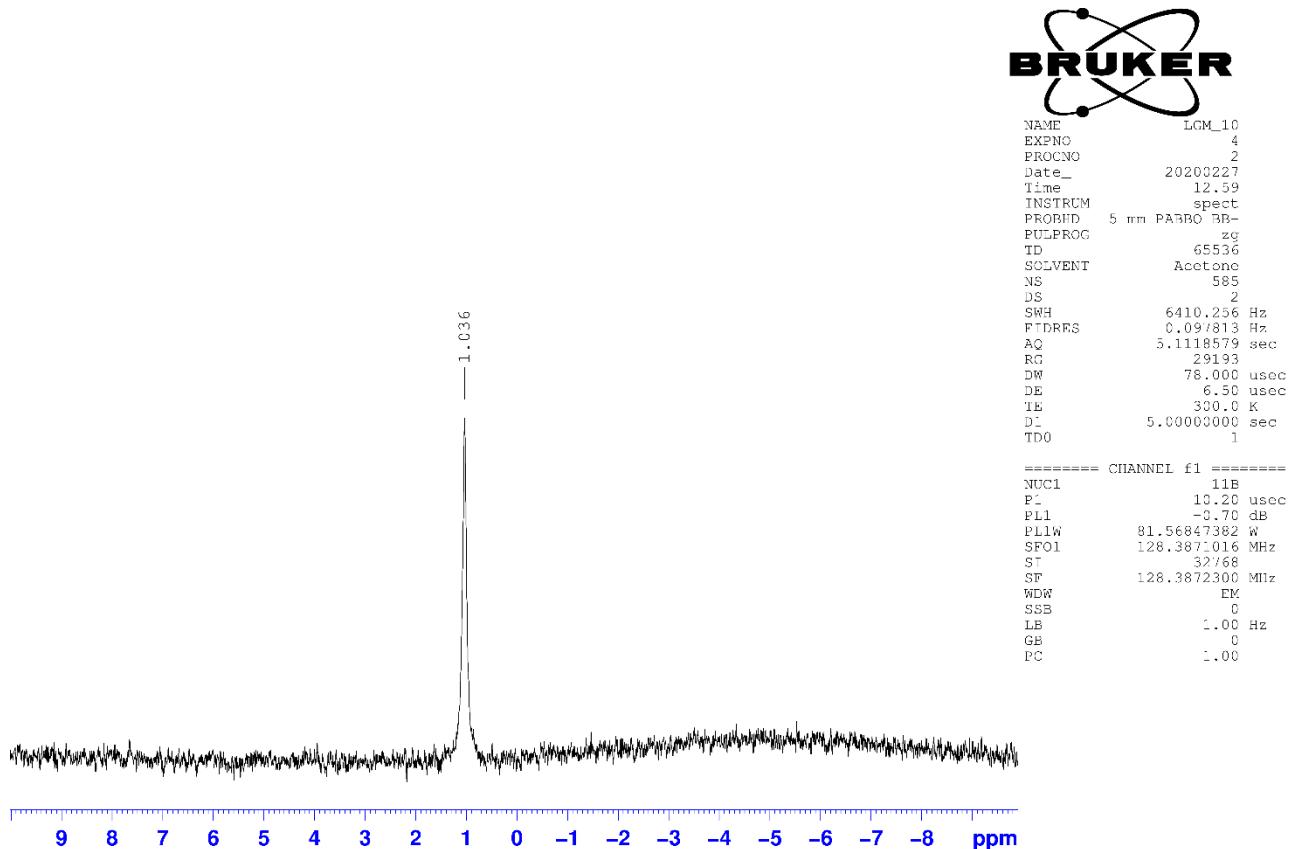
**S2.2.  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of BF2BIP (4a)**



**S2.3.  $^{19}\text{F}$ -NMR spectrum of BF2BIP (4a)**

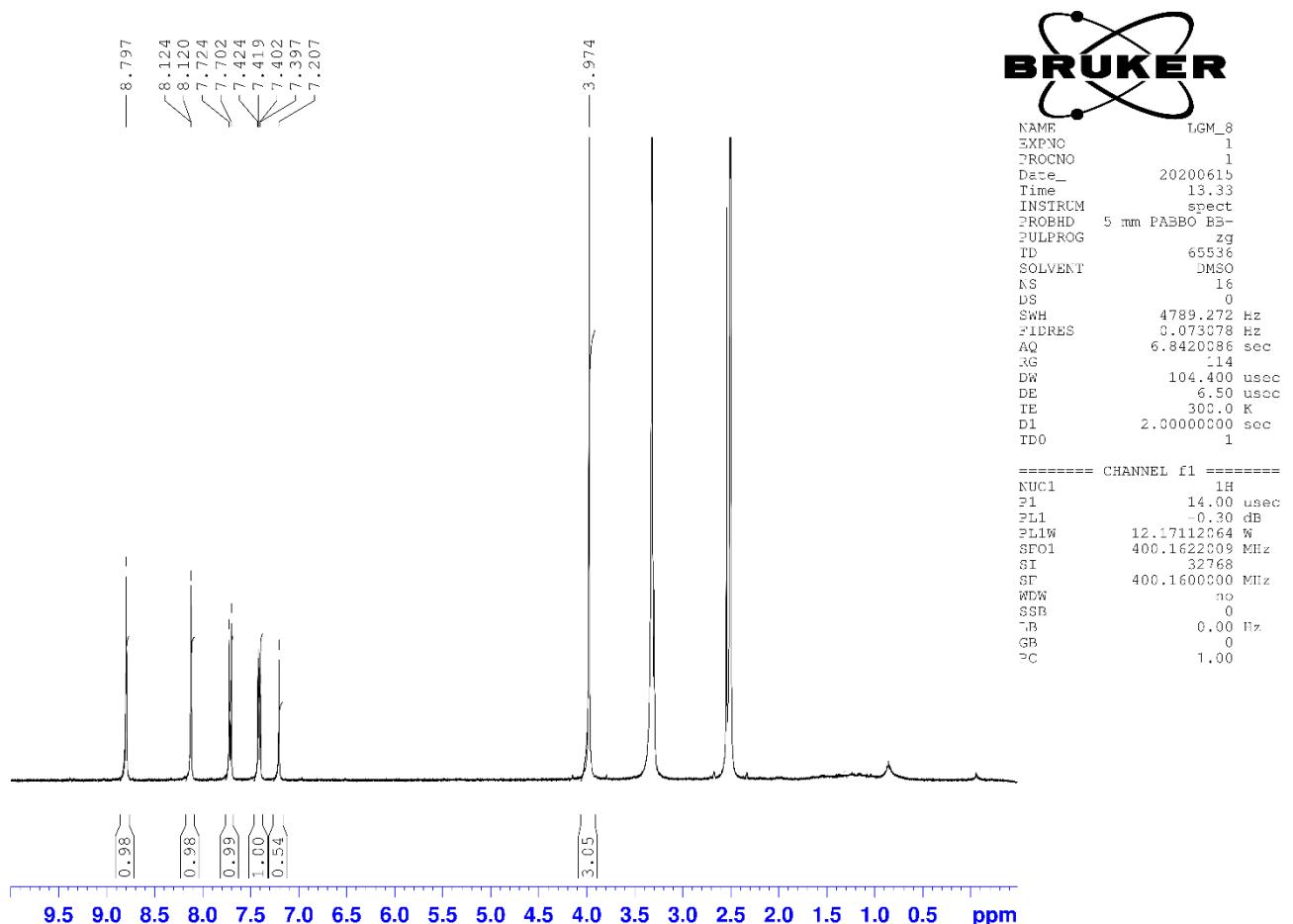


S2.4.  $^{11}\text{B}$ -NMR spectrum of BF2BIP (4a)

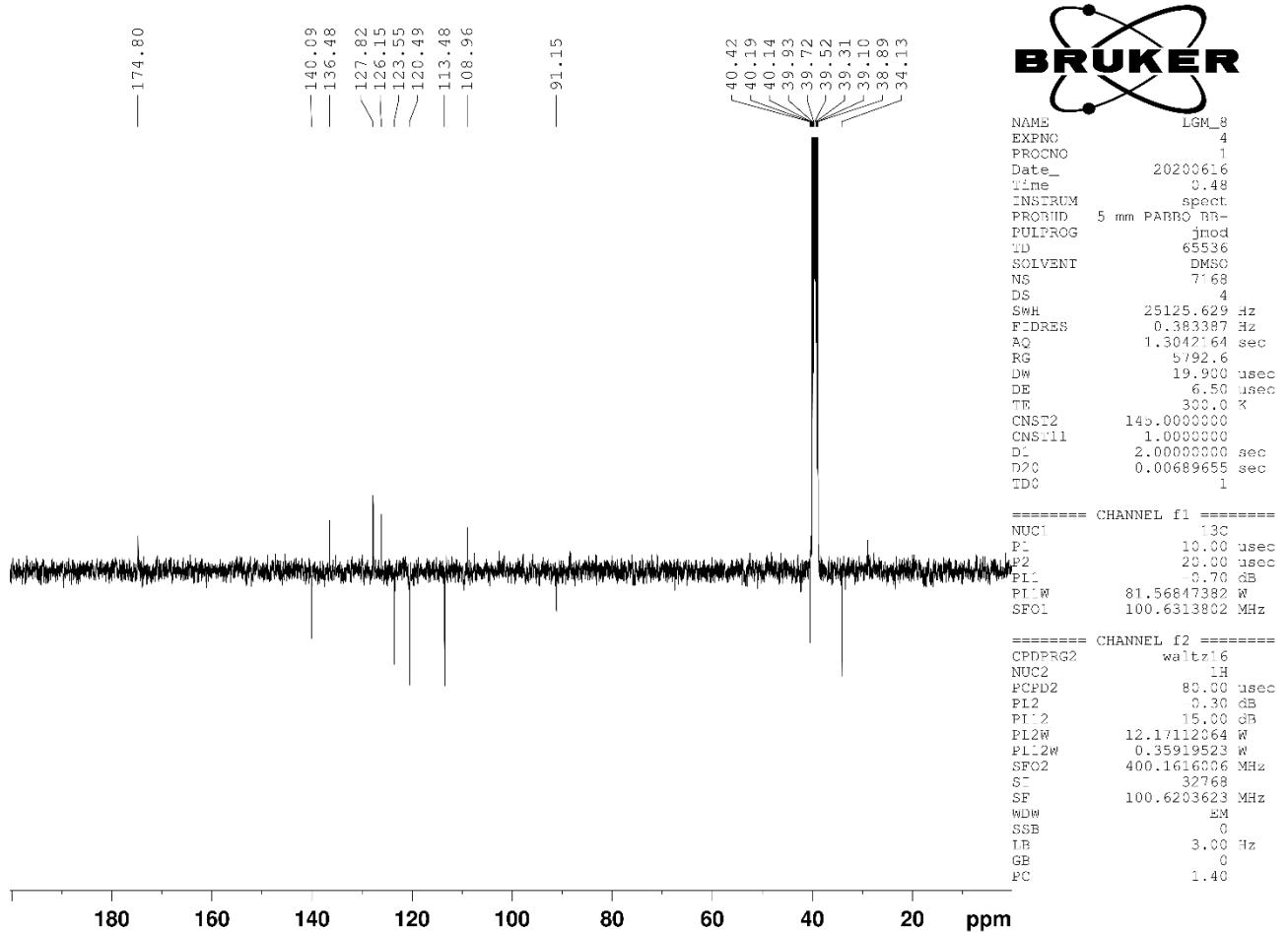


### S3. NMR spectroscopy data on 4b

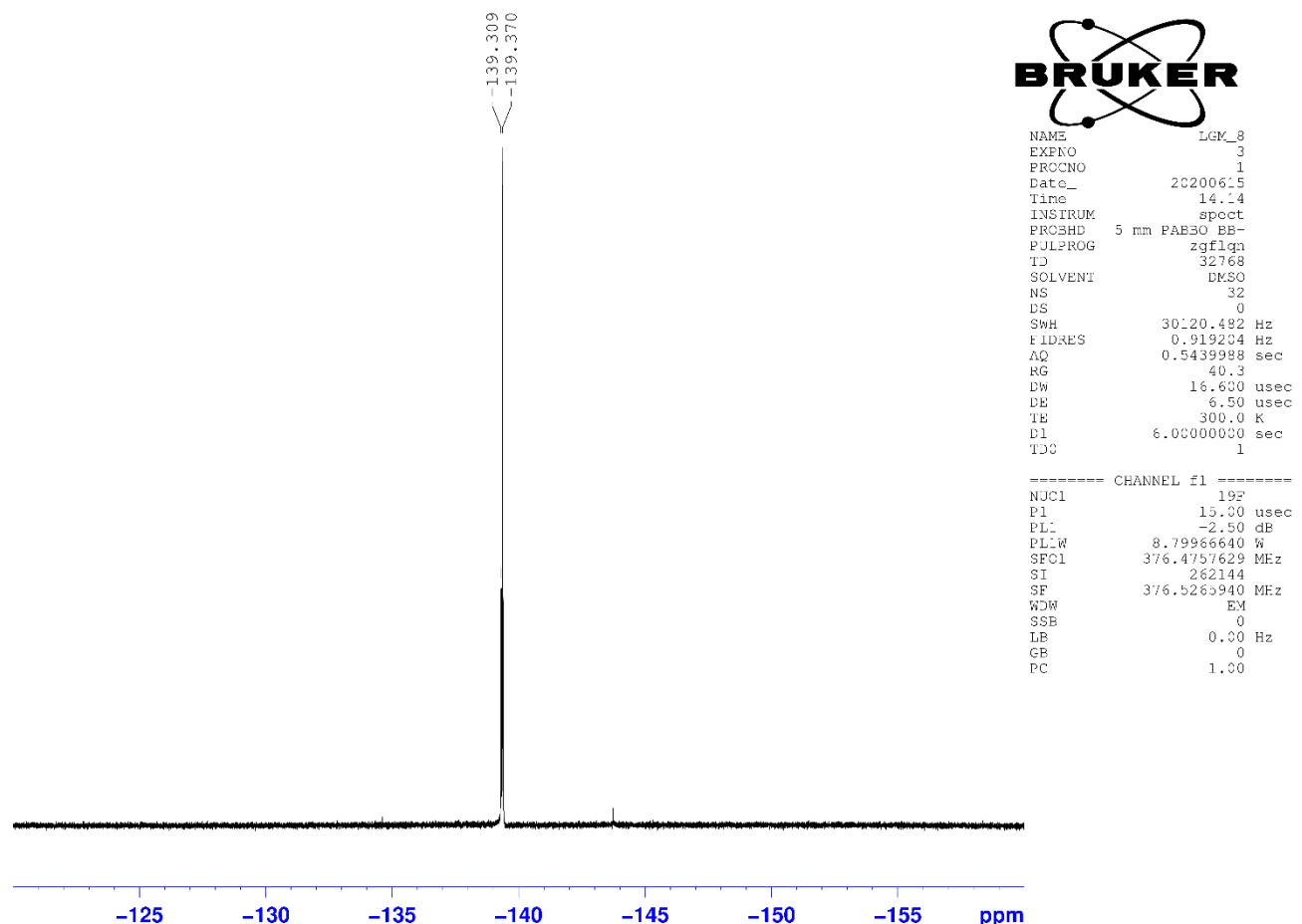
#### S3.1. $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of BF<sub>2</sub>ClIBIP (4b)



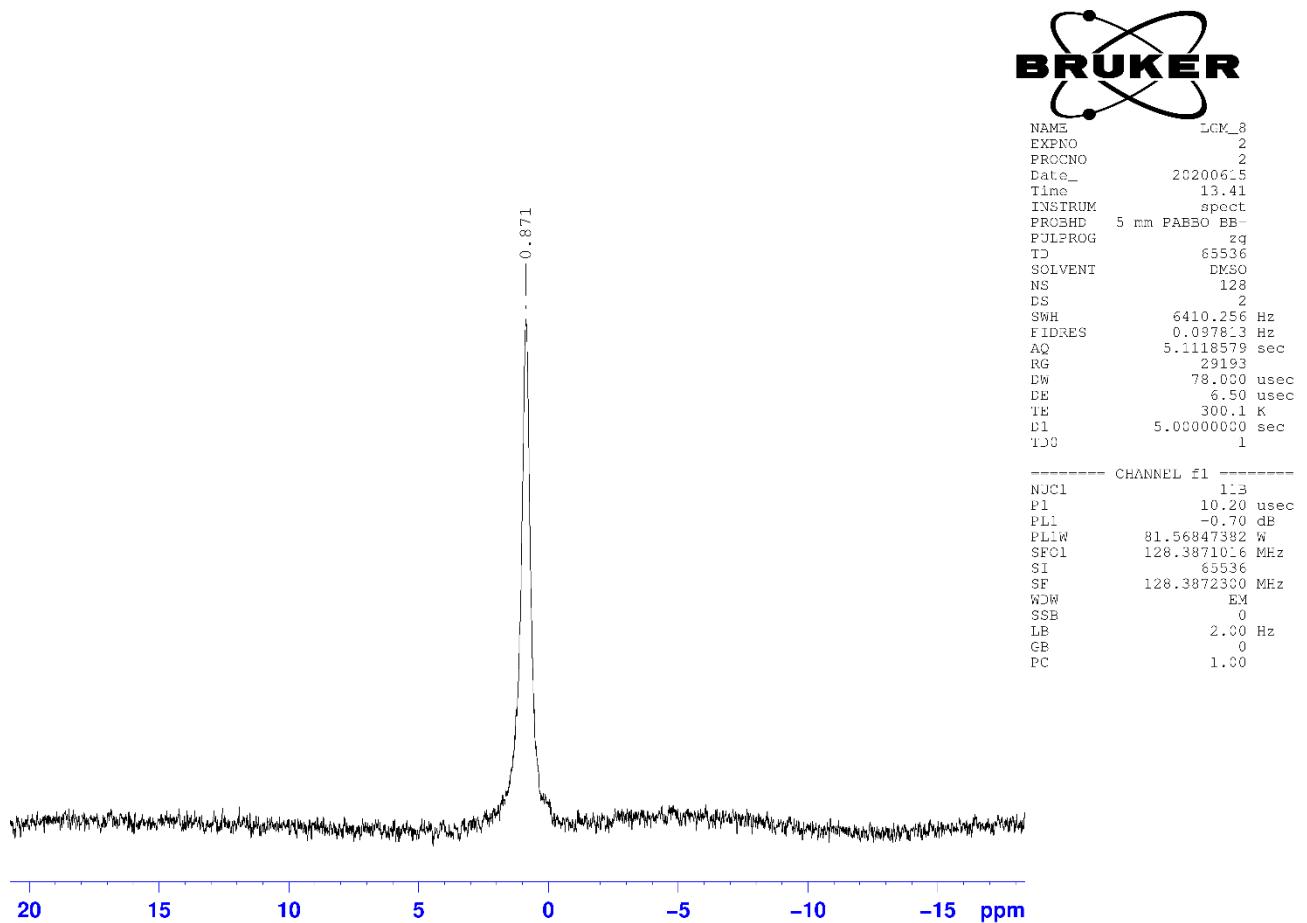
**S3.2.  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of BF<sub>2</sub>CIBIP (4b)**



**S3.3.  $^{19}\text{F}$ -NMR spectrum of BF<sub>2</sub>CIBIP (4b)**

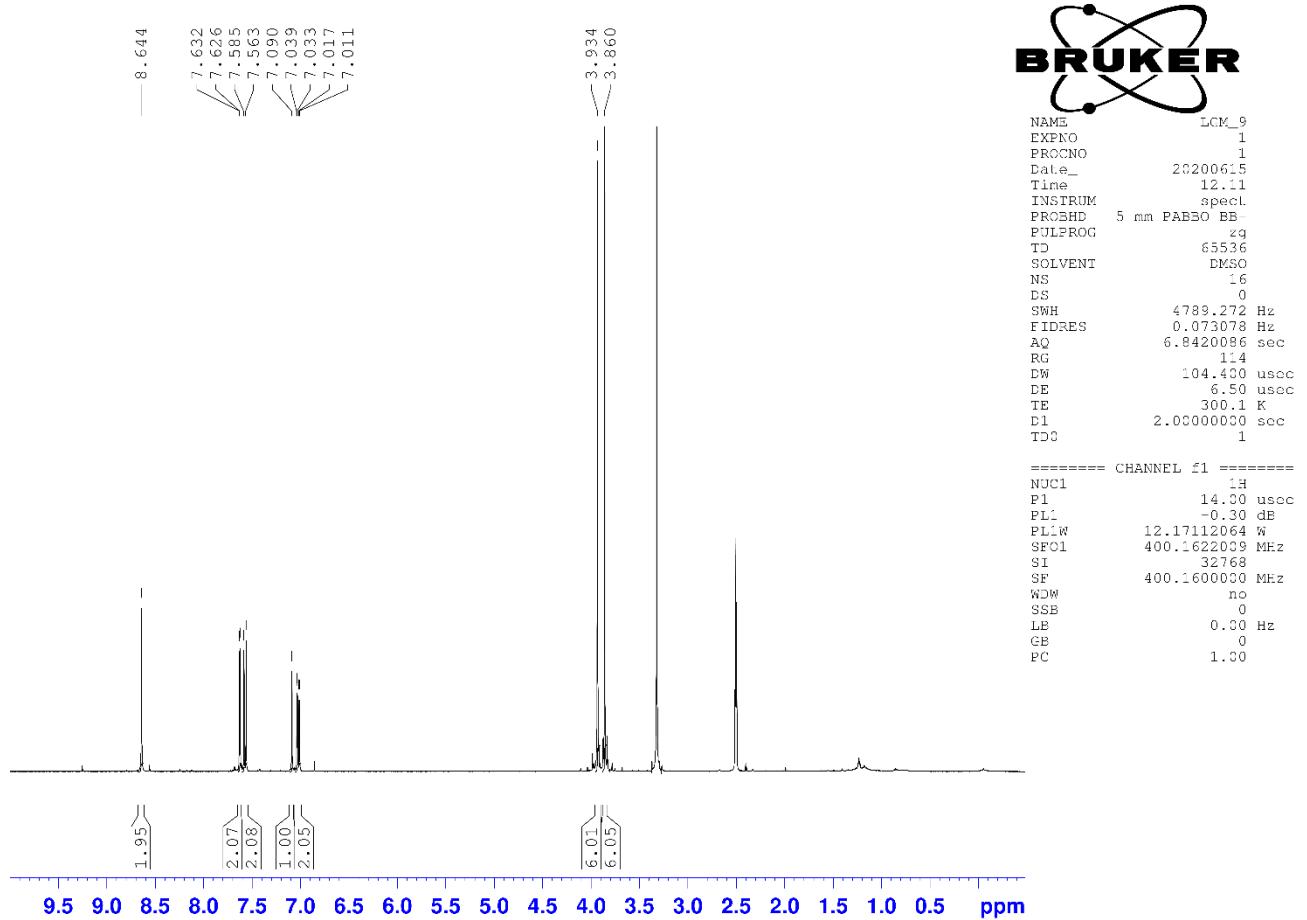


S3.4.  $^{11}\text{B}$ -NMR spectrum of BF<sub>2</sub>ClBIP (4b)

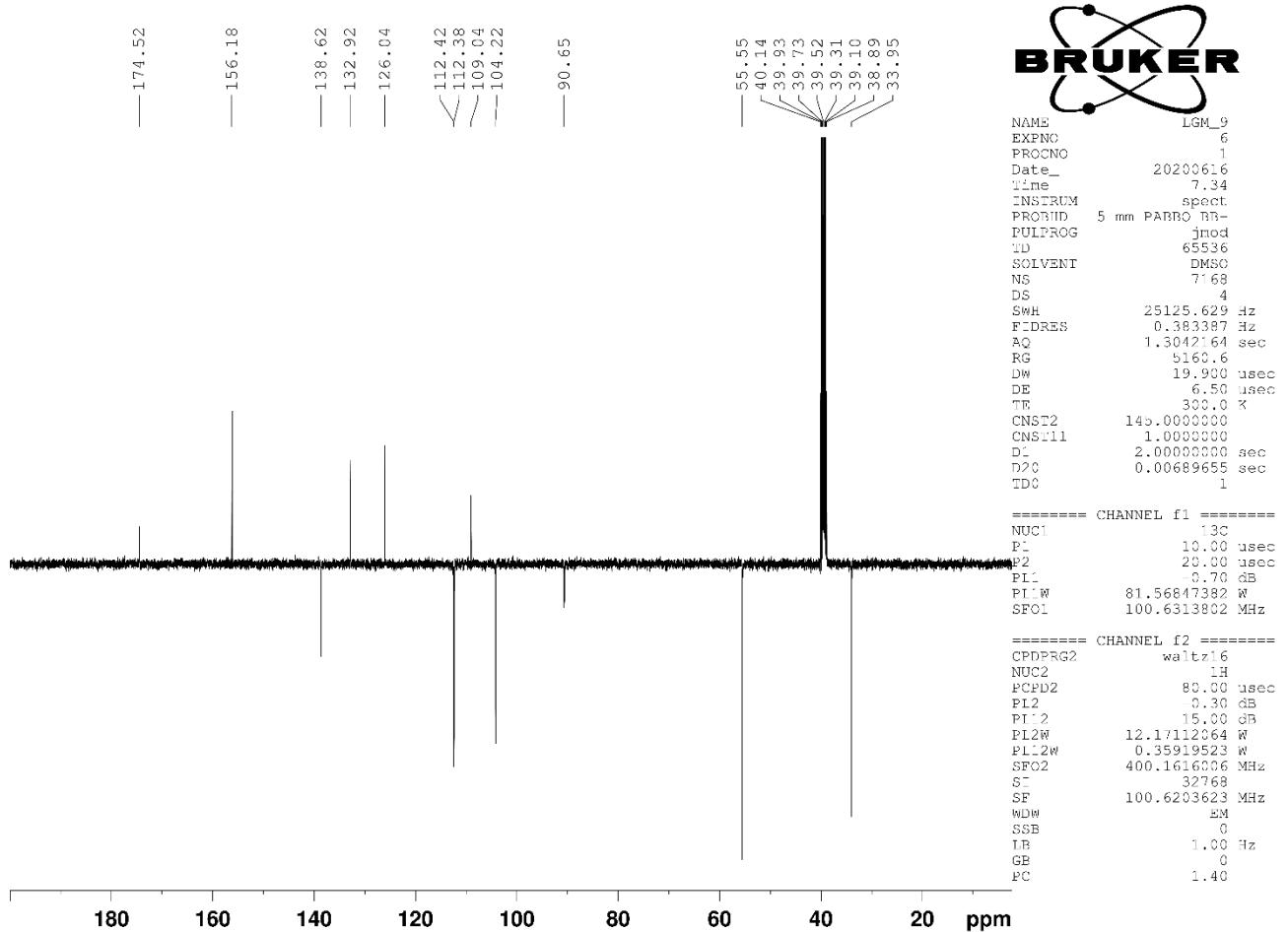


## S4. NMR spectroscopy data on 4c

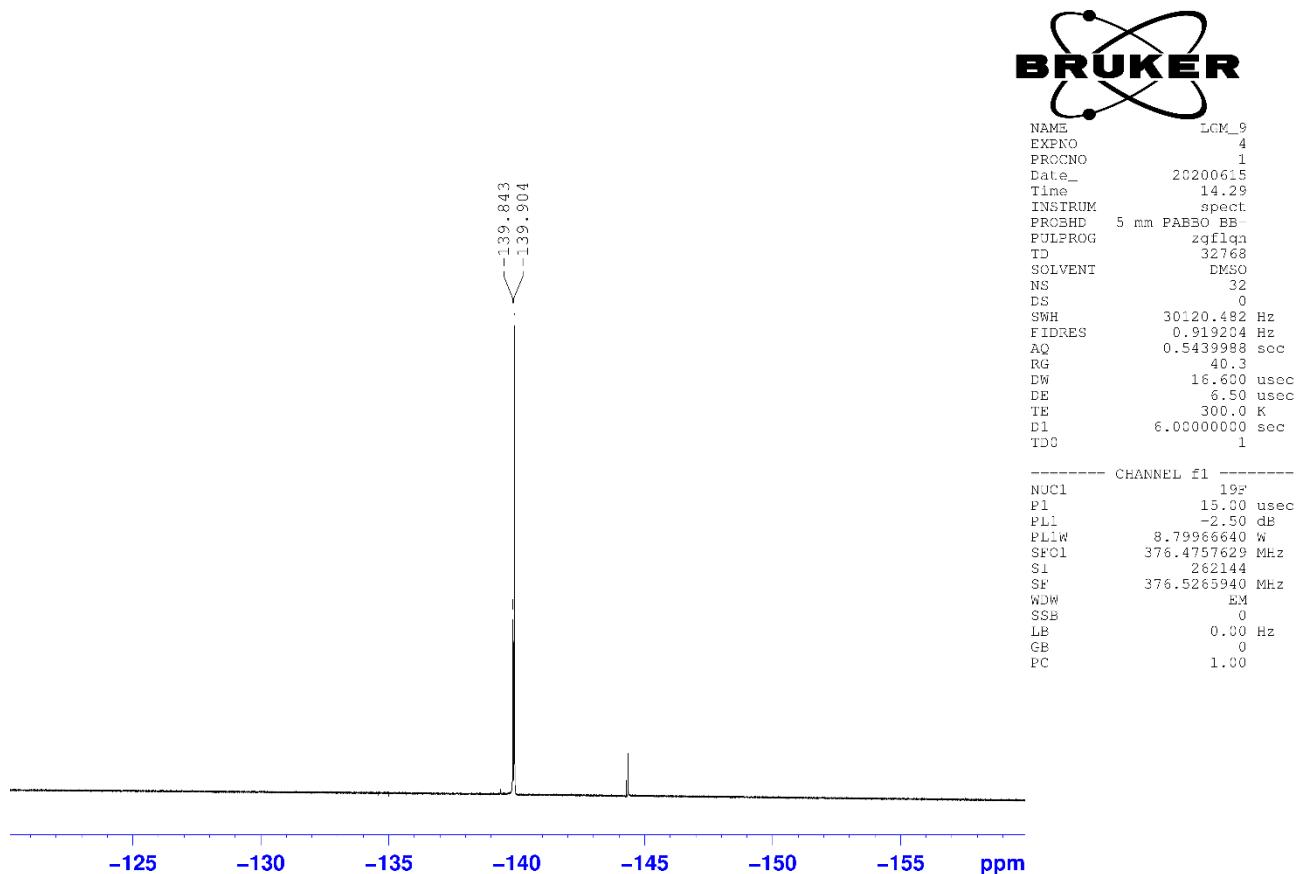
### S4.1. $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of BF2BMIP (4c)



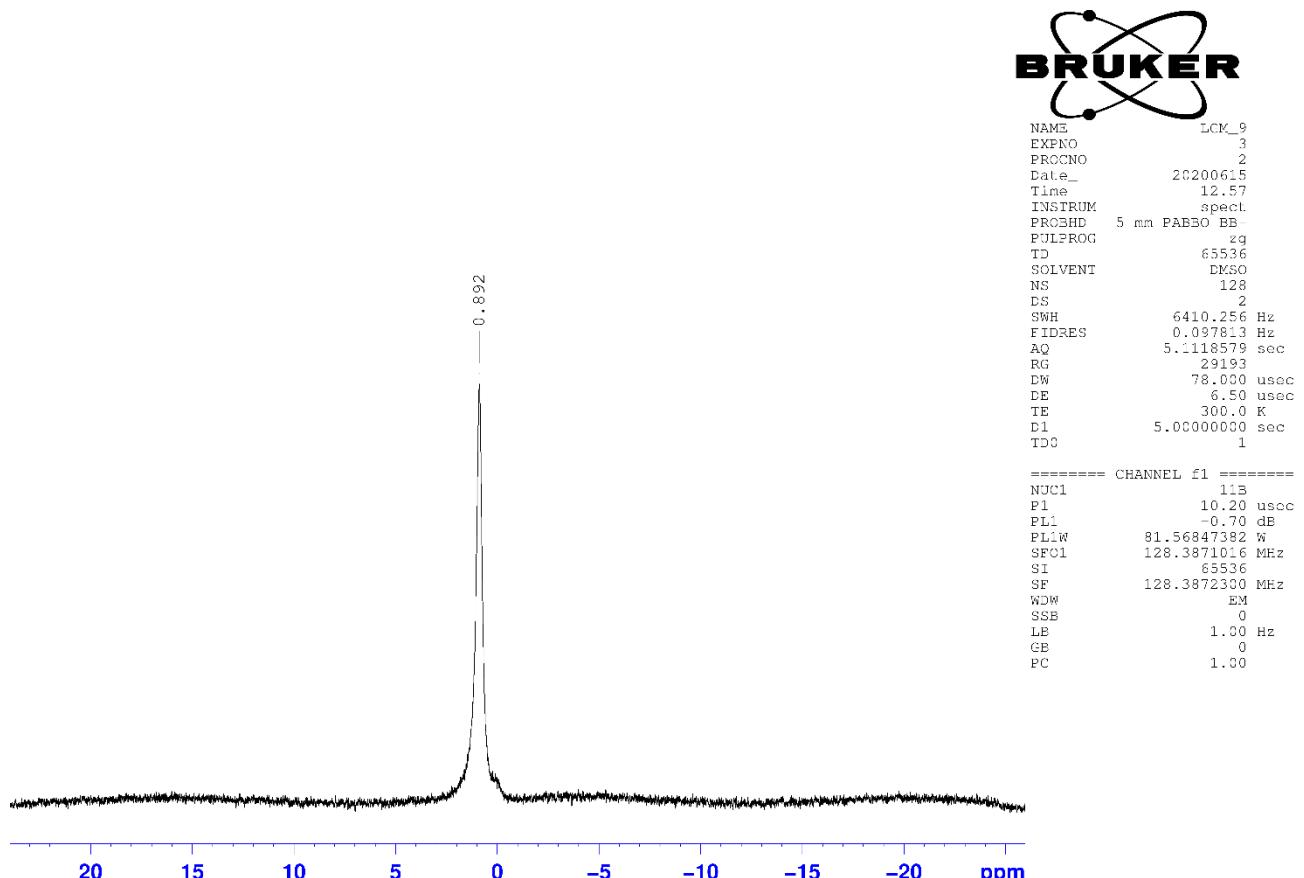
**S4.2.  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of BF2BMIP (4c)**



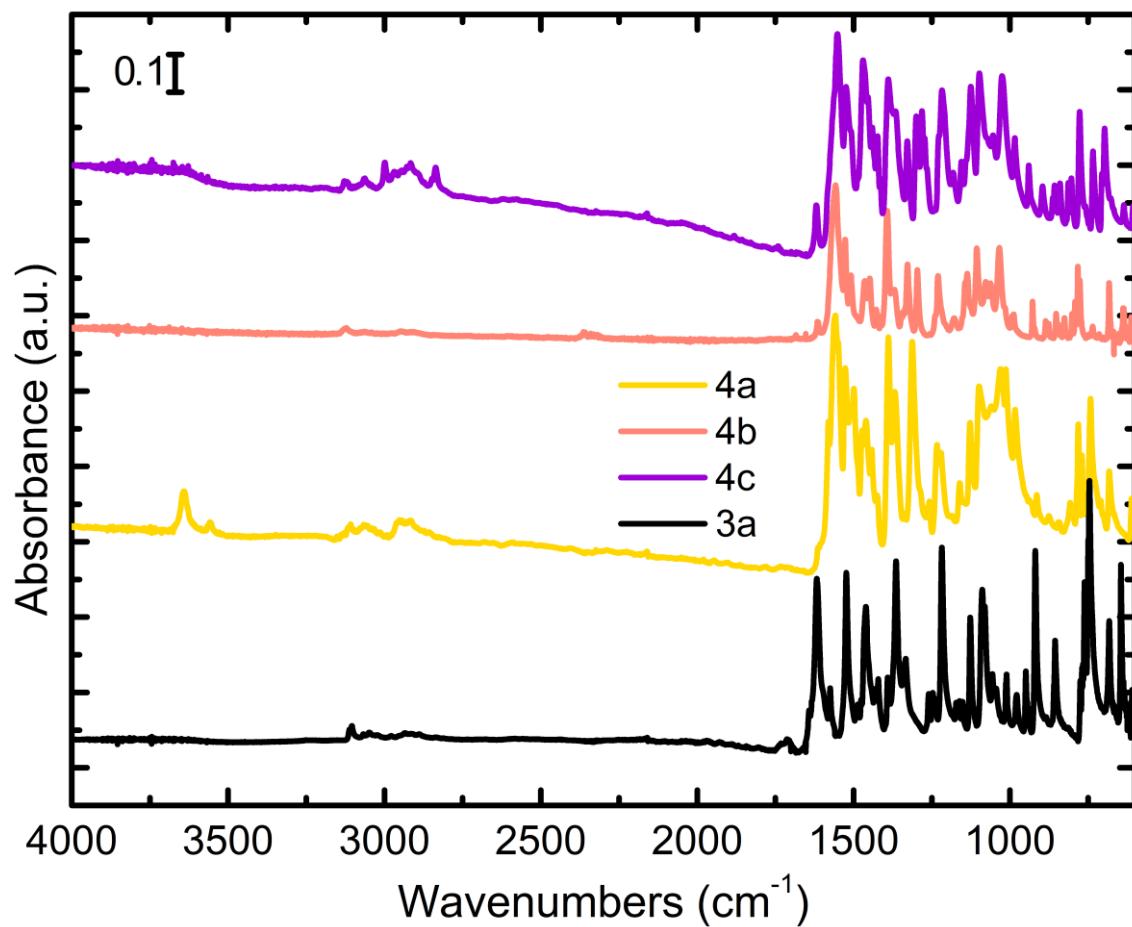
**S4.3.  $^{19}\text{F}$ -NMR spectrum of BF2BMIP (4c)**



**S4.4.  $^{11}\text{B}$ -NMR spectrum of BF2BMIP (4c)**



## S5. IR spectra

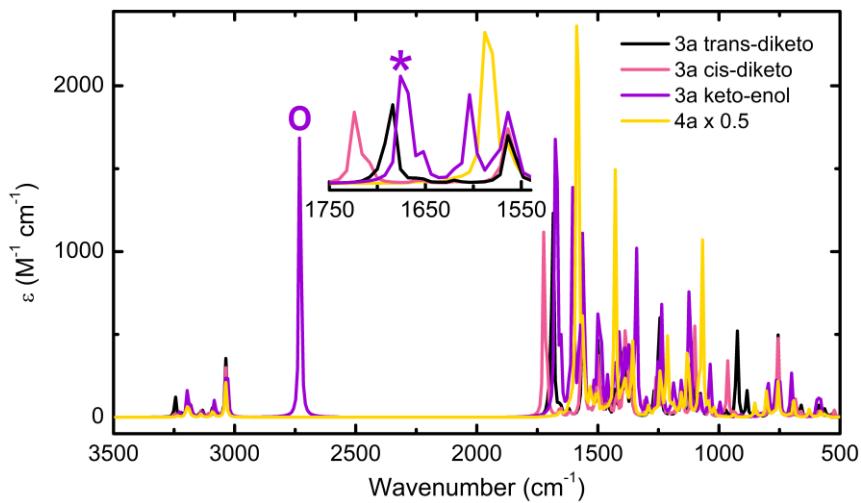


**Figure S1.** ATR-IR spectra recorded on loose powders in the air of **3a** before (black curve) and after difluoroboronation (**4a**, yellow curve), **4b** (pink), **4c** (violet). The peaks at  $\sim 3600 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  in **4a** are associated to impurities (based on NMR spectra, boronic acids formed from the decomposition of  $\text{BF}_3$ ).

**Table S1.** Carbonyl stretching frequency ( $\tilde{\nu}_{\text{C=O}}$ ) as measured by ATR-IR in the air of the as-synthesized bdk (3) and  $\text{BF}_2\text{bdk}$  (4). The corresponding experimental shift of this frequency are also reported ( $\Delta\tilde{\nu}_{\text{C=O}}$ ). All the values are in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

Entry	$\tilde{\nu}_{\text{C=O}}$ bdk 3	$\tilde{\nu}_{\text{C=O}}$ $\text{BF}_2\text{bdk}$ 4	$\Delta\tilde{\nu}_{\text{C=O}}$
a	1618	1560	-58
b	1630	1557	-73
c	1617	1555	-62

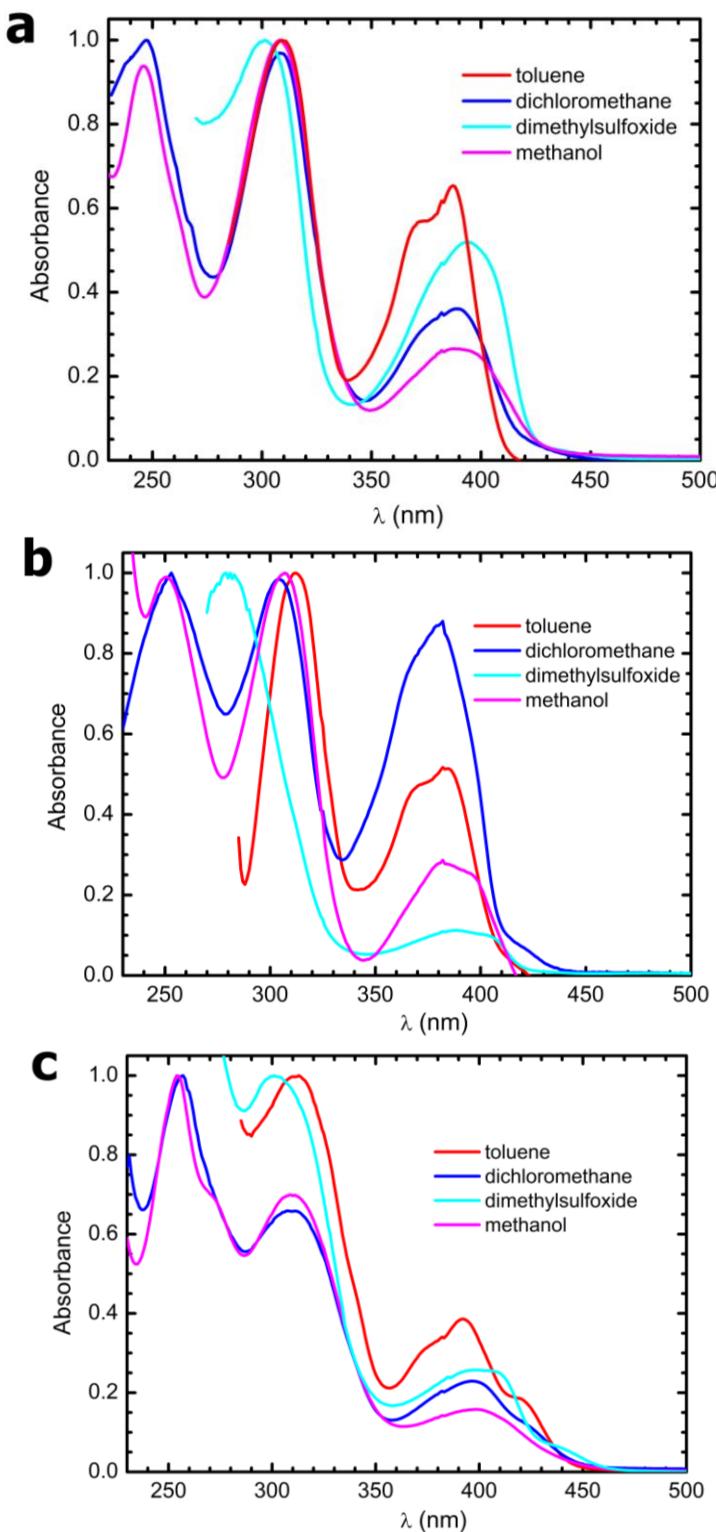
The computed DFT spectra for the three conformers of **3a** are reported in Figure S2. The calculations confirm the redshift of the carbonyl stretching mode after difluoroboronation (**4a**, yellow curve), although the computed  $\Delta\tilde{\nu}_{\text{C=O}}$  are on average larger than the experimental values: -126 (trans-diketo, black curve), -163 (cis-diketo, pink), -42  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (keto-enol, violet) as computed at the B3LYP level. The difference between the computed and the experimental values is likely associated to the conditions used in the calculations (gas phase) and in the experiment (bulk phase).



**Figure S2.** Theoretical IR spectra computed at the B3LYP/def2-TZVPD in the gas phase for the three possible conformers of **3a**: trans-diketo (black curve), cis-diketo (pink), keto-enol (violet). “O” and “\*” mark the O-H stretching and bending modes in keto-enol, respectively. The spectrum of the corresponding  $BF_2$ bdk **4a** is also shown for comparison (yellow curve). Inset: enlarged view of the carbonyl stretching region.

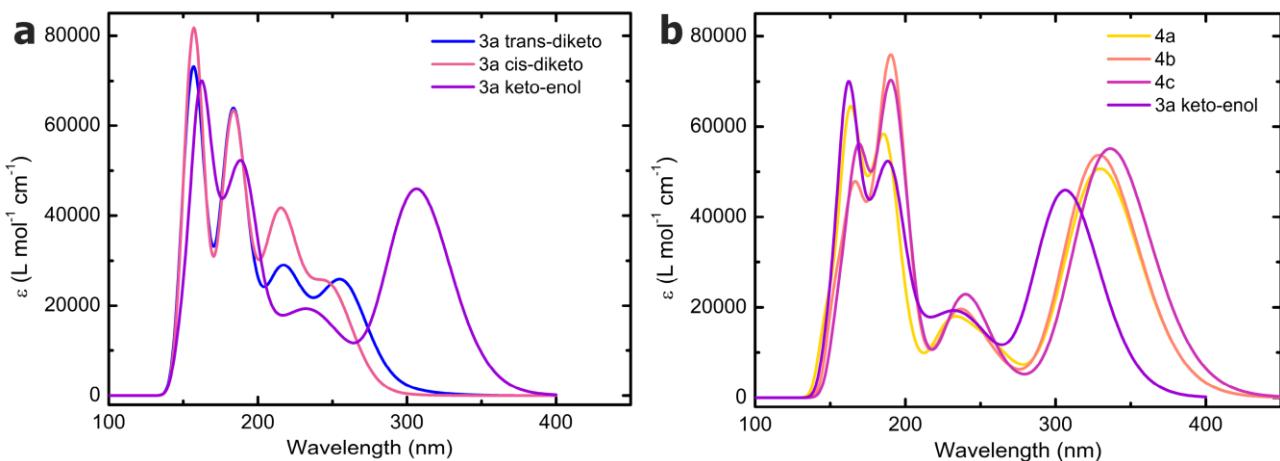
## S6. Supplementary experimental UV-Vis absorption spectroscopy data

The UV-Vis absorption spectra of **3a**, **3b**, and **3c** in different solvents are shown in Figure S3.

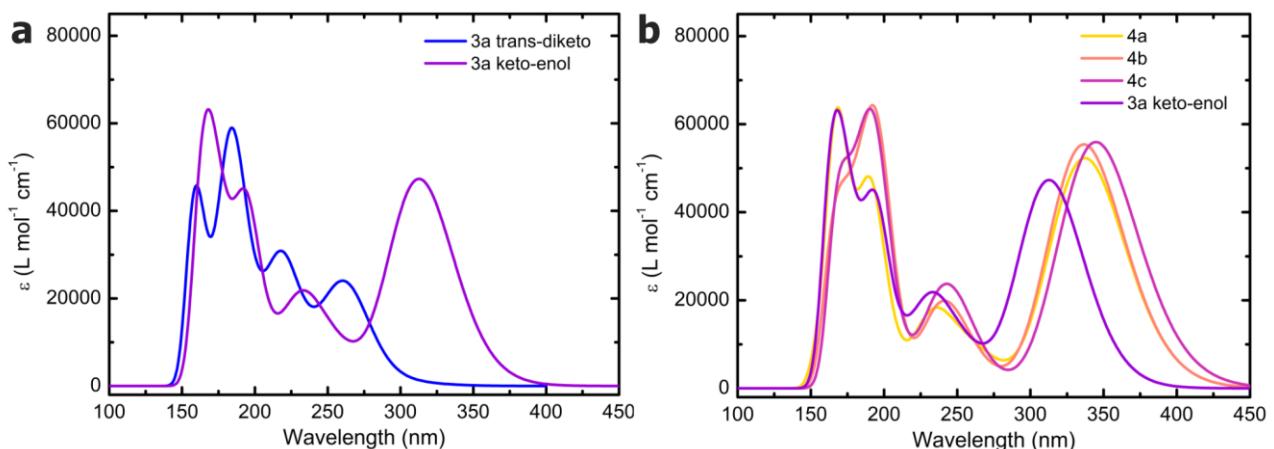


**Figure S3.** UV-Vis absorption spectra of HBIP (**3a**, top), BCLIP (**3b**, middle) and BMIP (**3c**, below) in representative solvents.

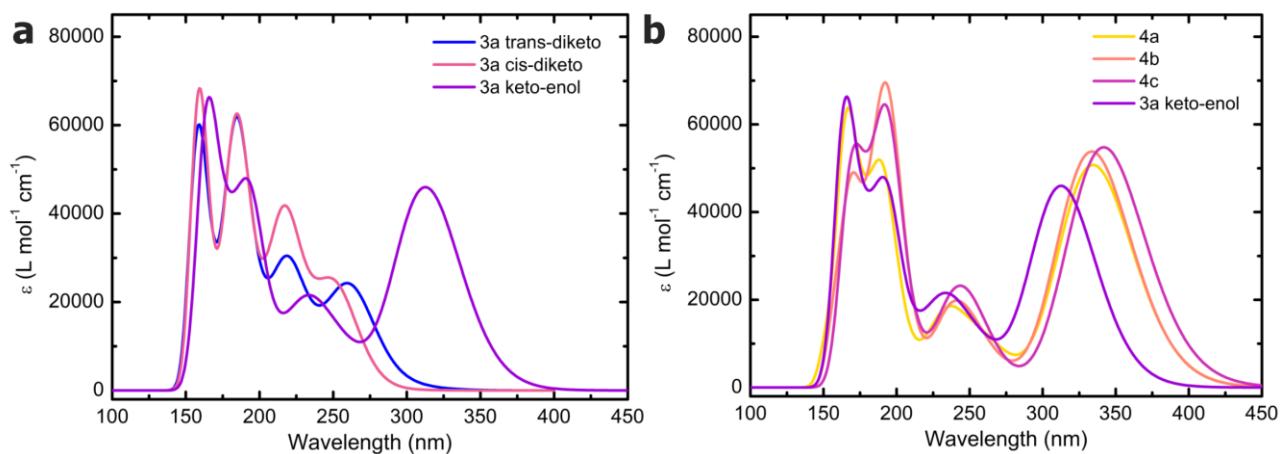
## S7. Supplementary theoretical UV-Vis absorption spectra and data



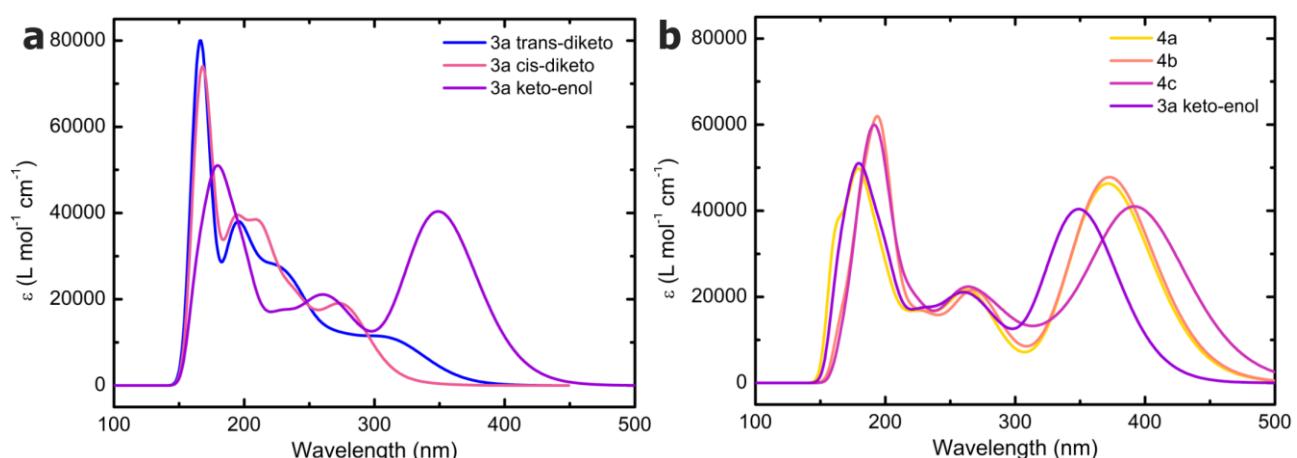
**Figure S4.** Electronic absorption spectra of (a) the three conformers of **3a** and (b) the BF<sub>2</sub>bdks compounds as computed at the TDA- $\omega$ B97X-D/def2-TZVPD including the first 100 excitations.



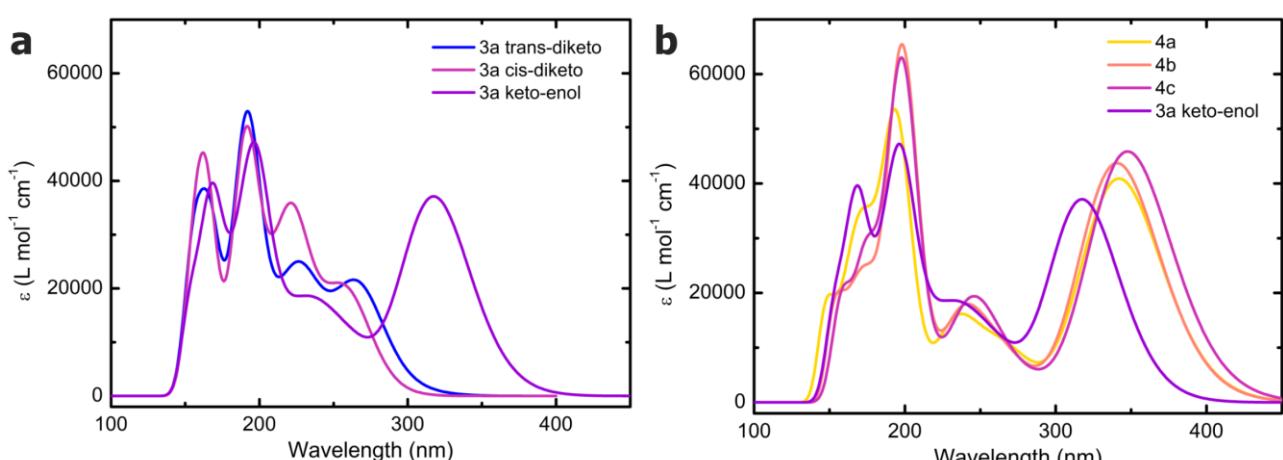
**Figure S5.** Electronic absorption spectra of (a) the three conformers of **3a** and (b) the BF<sub>2</sub>bdks compounds as computed at the TDA-M06-2X/def2-TZVPD including the first 100 excitations.



**Figure S6.** Electronic absorption spectra of (a) the three conformers of **3a** and (b) the  $BF_2bdks$  compounds as computed at the TDA-CAM-B3LYP-D3/def2-TZVPD including the first 100 excitations.



**Figure S7.** Electronic absorption spectra of (a) the three conformers of **3a** and (b) the  $BF_2bdks$  compounds as computed at the TDA-B3LYP-D3/def2-TZVPD including the first 100 excitations.



**Figure S8.** Electronic absorption spectra of (a) the three conformers of **3a** and (b) the  $BF_2bdks$  compounds as computed at the TD- $\omega$ B97X-D/def2-TZVPD including the first 100 excitations.

## S7.1. TD-B3LYP-D3: Excitation energies and oscillator strengths of the first excited states

### 3a keto-enol

87 HOMO, 88 LUMO

Excited State 1: Singlet-A 3.4247 eV 362.02 nm f=0.7873 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
87 -> 88 0.70215

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(TD-HF/TD-DFT) = -1071.41850459

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle Rhoci density.

Excited State 2: Singlet-A 3.9809 eV 311.45 nm f=0.0001 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
82 -> 88 0.67923

Excited State 3: Singlet-A 4.0132 eV 308.94 nm f=0.0006 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
84 -> 88 0.10257  
85 -> 88 -0.10853  
86 -> 88 -0.41945  
87 -> 89 0.53520

### 3a cis-diketo

87 HOMO, 88 LUMO

Excited State 1: Singlet-A 3.8096 eV 325.45 nm f=0.0075 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
82 -> 88 0.16969  
84 -> 88 -0.16259  
87 -> 88 0.65105

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(TD-HF/TD-DFT) = -1071.39857189

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle Rhoci density.

Excited State 2: Singlet-A 3.8330 eV 323.46 nm f=0.0020 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
82 -> 88 -0.40108  
82 -> 90 0.13407  
84 -> 88 0.46566  
84 -> 90 -0.12042  
87 -> 88 0.25657

Excited State 3: Singlet-A 3.9552 eV 313.47 nm f=0.0010 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
82 -> 89 0.18655  
84 -> 89 0.61163  
84 -> 91 0.18304  
86 -> 89 -0.16251

Excited State 4: Singlet-A 4.2665 eV 290.60 nm f=0.1496 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
82 -> 88 -0.19292  
86 -> 88 0.48338  
87 -> 89 0.44092

### 3a trans-diketo

87 HOMO, 88 LUMO

Excited State 1: Singlet-A 3.7419 eV 331.34 nm f=0.0831 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
82 -> 89 0.14560  
83 -> 88 0.57985  
87 -> 88 -0.34553

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(TD-HF/TD-DFT) = -1071.41128221

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle Rhoci density.

Excited State 2: Singlet-A 3.9447 eV 314.30 nm f=0.0212 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
82 -> 88 -0.12465  
86 -> 88 0.66244  
87 -> 89 0.14646

Excited State 3: Singlet-A 3.9450 eV 314.28 nm f=0.1423 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
83 -> 88 0.31898  
86 -> 89 0.10968  
87 -> 88 0.59930

**4a**

98 HOMO, 99 LUMO

Excited State 1: Singlet-A 3.2070 eV 386.60 nm f=0.8815 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
 98 -> 99 0.70450

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(TD-HF/TD-DFT) = -1295.66360691

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle RhoCI density.

Excited State 2: Singlet-A 3.8302 eV 323.70 nm f=0.0283 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
 97 -> 99 0.67666  
 98 ->100 0.16215

Excited State 3: Singlet-A 3.9196 eV 316.32 nm f=0.0002 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
 95 -> 99 0.65628  
 97 -> 99 0.12835  
 98 ->100 -0.21155

**4b**

114 HOMO, 115 LUMO

Excited State 1: Singlet-A 3.2105 eV 386.18 nm f=0.9422 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
 114 -> 115 0.70129

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(TD-HF/TD-DFT) = -2214.92008102

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle RhoCI density.

Excited State 2: Singlet-A 3.6795 eV 336.96 nm f=0.0009 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
 111 -> 115 -0.19951  
 113 -> 115 0.66962

Excited State 3: Singlet-A 3.7437 eV 331.18 nm f=0.0035 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
 112 -> 115 0.69260

**4c**

114 HOMO, 115 LUMO

Excited State 1: Singlet-A 3.0596 eV 405.23 nm f=0.8498 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
 114 -> 115 0.70059

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(TD-HF/TD-DFT) = -1524.81651337

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle RhoCI density.

Excited State 2: Singlet-A 3.3875 eV 366.00 nm f=0.0006 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
 113 -> 115 0.69728

Excited State 3: Singlet-A 3.6135 eV 343.12 nm f=0.1013 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
 112 -> 115 0.69440

**S7.2. TDA-B3LYP-D3: Excitation energies and oscillator strengths of the first excited states****3a keto-enol**

87 HOMO, 88 LUMO

Excited State 1: Singlet-A 3.5491 eV 349.34 nm f=0.9917 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
 87 -> 88 0.68865

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(CIS/TDA) = -1071.41393316

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle RhoCI density.

Excited State 2: Singlet-A 3.9946 eV 310.38 nm f=0.0001 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
 82 -> 88 0.68211

```

Excited State  3:      Singlet-A      4.0481 eV  306.27 nm  f=0.0013  <S**2>=0.000
  84 -> 88      0.11597
  85 -> 88     -0.13822
  86 -> 88     -0.38677
  87 -> 89      0.55022

```

### 3a cis-diketo

87 HOMO, 88 LUMO

```

Excited State  1:      Singlet-A      3.8161 eV  324.90 nm  f=0.0084  <S**2>=0.000
  82 -> 88      0.10938
  87 -> 88      0.67921

```

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(CIS/TDA) = -1071.39833283

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle RhoCI density.

```

Excited State  2:      Singlet-A      3.8505 eV  321.99 nm  f=0.0028  <S**2>=0.000
  82 -> 88     -0.41869
  82 -> 90      0.13853
  84 -> 88      0.48938
  84 -> 90     -0.12342
  87 -> 88      0.15888

```

```

Excited State  3:      Singlet-A      3.9753 eV  311.89 nm  f=0.0011  <S**2>=0.000
  82 -> 89      0.18370
  84 -> 89      0.61252
  84 -> 91      0.18039
  86 -> 89     -0.16374

```

```

Excited State  4:      Singlet-A      4.3454 eV  285.32 nm  f=0.0011  <S**2>=0.000
  85 -> 88      0.65914
  86 -> 88     -0.13378
  87 -> 89     -0.13424

```

```

Excited State  5:      Singlet-A      4.3697 eV  283.74 nm  f=0.1722  <S**2>=0.000
  82 -> 88     -0.30926
  84 -> 88     -0.17148
  85 -> 88      0.23400
  86 -> 88      0.41641
  87 -> 89      0.30592

```

### 3a trans-diketo

87 HOMO, 88 LUMO

```

Excited State  1:      Singlet-A      3.7661 eV  329.21 nm  f=0.0850  <S**2>=0.000
  82 -> 89      0.15024
  83 -> 88      0.59178
  87 -> 88     -0.31966

```

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(CIS/TDA) = -1071.41039462

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle RhoCI density.

```

Excited State  2:      Singlet-A      3.9927 eV  310.52 nm  f=0.1414  <S**2>=0.000
  83 -> 88      0.29240
  86 -> 89      0.19591
  87 -> 88      0.59091

```

```

Excited State  3:      Singlet-A      3.9932 eV  310.49 nm  f=0.0186  <S**2>=0.000
  82 -> 88     -0.16690
  83 -> 89     -0.12654
  86 -> 88      0.61689
  87 -> 89      0.23781

```

### 4a

98 HOMO, 99 LUMO

```

Excited State  1:      Singlet-A      3.3366 eV  371.59 nm  f=1.1408  <S**2>=0.000
  98 -> 99      0.69334

```

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(CIS/TDA) = -1295.65884438

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle Rhoci density.

Excited State	2:	Singlet-A	3.9015 eV	317.79 nm	f=0.0190 <S**2>=0.000
95 -> 99		-0.23319			
97 -> 99		0.58747			
98 ->100		0.29024			
Excited State	3:	Singlet-A	3.9639 eV	312.78 nm	f=0.0017 <S**2>=0.000
95 -> 99		0.62057			
97 -> 99		0.29500			
98 ->100		-0.11722			

#### 4b

114 HOMO, 115 LUMO

Excited State	1:	Singlet-A	3.3228 eV	373.13 nm	f=1.1695 <S**2>=0.000
112 -> 115		-0.14749			
114 -> 115		0.68405			

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(CIS/TDA) = -2214.91595357

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle Rhoci density.

Excited State	2:	Singlet-A	3.7238 eV	332.95 nm	f=0.0026 <S**2>=0.000
111 -> 115		-0.25441			
113 -> 115		0.64664			
Excited State	3:	Singlet-A	3.8001 eV	326.27 nm	f=0.0386 <S**2>=0.000
112 -> 115		0.67468			
114 -> 115		0.13424			

#### 4c

114 HOMO, 115 LUMO

Excited State	1:	Singlet-A	3.1431 eV	394.47 nm	f=0.9753 <S**2>=0.000
112 -> 115		-0.15674			
114 -> 115		0.68445			

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(CIS/TDA) = -1524.81344658

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle Rhoci density.

Excited State	2:	Singlet-A	3.4386 eV	360.56 nm	f=0.0014 <S**2>=0.000
111 -> 115		-0.11489			
113 -> 115		0.68862			
Excited State	3:	Singlet-A	3.7037 eV	334.76 nm	f=0.2405 <S**2>=0.000
112 -> 115		0.67211			
114 -> 115		0.14773			
Excited State	4:	Singlet-A	3.9019 eV	317.75 nm	f=0.0002 <S**2>=0.000
111 -> 115		0.45519			
114 -> 116		0.52300			
Excited State	5:	Singlet-A	4.2324 eV	292.94 nm	f=0.1124 <S**2>=0.000
109 -> 115		-0.12204			
111 -> 115		0.49539			
114 -> 116		-0.44998			

### S7.3. TDA- $\omega$ B97X-D: Excitation energies and oscillator strengths of the first excited states

#### 3a keto-enol

87 HOMO, 88 LUMO

Excited State	1:	Singlet-A	4.0442 eV	306.58 nm	f=1.1314 <S**2>=0.000
83 -> 88		0.11660			
87 -> 88		0.66536			

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(CIS/TDA) = -1070.93226768

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle Rhoci density.

```

Excited State  2:      Singlet-A      4.3596 ev  284.39 nm  f=0.0009  <S**2>=0.000
  82 -> 88      0.64539
  82 -> 89      0.11441
  82 -> 91      0.15711
  83 -> 88      0.10033

Excited State  3:      Singlet-A      4.8527 ev  255.50 nm  f=0.1610  <S**2>=0.000
  84 -> 88      -0.15318
  84 -> 96      0.11778
  86 -> 88      -0.33196
  86 -> 91      0.15728
  87 -> 89      0.51507
  87 -> 91      0.11107

```

### 3a cis-diketo

87 HOMO, 88 LUMO

```

Excited State  1:      Singlet-A      4.1641 ev  297.75 nm  f=0.0021  <S**2>=0.000
  82 -> 88      0.46321
  82 -> 89      -0.10256
  82 -> 91      -0.25114
  83 -> 88      -0.35194
  83 -> 89      0.11171
  83 -> 91      0.18796

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.
Total Energy, E(CIS/TDA) = -1070.92552459
Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle RhoCI density.

Excited State  2:      Singlet-A      4.2544 ev  291.42 nm  f=0.0007  <S**2>=0.000
  82 -> 89      0.23394
  82 -> 93      0.12336
  83 -> 88      0.12474
  83 -> 89      0.53174
  83 -> 93      0.28043

Excited State  3:      Singlet-A      4.9015 ev  252.95 nm  f=0.1682  <S**2>=0.000
  86 -> 88      0.35050
  87 -> 88      0.24831
  87 -> 89      0.49118

Excited State  4:      Singlet-A      4.9949 ev  248.22 nm  f=0.3387  <S**2>=0.000
  84 -> 88      0.10186
  84 -> 91      -0.10223
  84 -> 95      0.11479
  86 -> 88      0.53685
  87 -> 88      -0.15358
  87 -> 89      -0.30638

```

```

Excited State  5:      Singlet-A      5.0172 ev  247.12 nm  f=0.0180  <S**2>=0.000
  84 -> 88      0.14681
  85 -> 88      0.14524
  85 -> 89      0.46564
  85 -> 93      -0.15392
  87 -> 88      0.10567
  87 -> 93      -0.29011
  87 -> 98      0.20787

```

### 3a trans-diketo

87 HOMO, 88 LUMO

Excitation energies and oscillator strengths:

```

Excited State  1:      Singlet-A      4.1293 ev  300.26 nm  f=0.0207  <S**2>=0.000
  82 -> 89      0.22324
  82 -> 93      -0.17836
  83 -> 88      0.59029
  83 -> 90      -0.16359
  87 -> 88      0.11313

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.
Total Energy, E(CIS/TDA) = -1070.93622230
Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle RhoCI density.

Excited State  2:      Singlet-A      4.3627 ev  284.19 nm  f=0.0027  <S**2>=0.000
  82 -> 88      0.47919

```

82 -> 90	-0.14227
83 -> 89	0.37114
83 -> 93	-0.26375
Excited State 3:	Singlet-A
86 -> 89	0.23471
87 -> 88	0.60854

#### 4a

98 HOMO, 99 LUMO

Excited State 1:	Singlet-A
94 -> 99	-0.13207
98 -> 99	0.66959

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(CIS/TDA) = -1295.11002172

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle RhoCI density.

Excited State 2:	Singlet-A
95 -> 102	0.10139
97 -> 99	0.57703
98 -> 100	-0.31810

Excited State 3:	Singlet-A
95 -> 99	0.47783
96 -> 100	0.24504
97 -> 99	-0.12465
97 -> 102	-0.20931
98 -> 100	-0.28672
98 -> 106	-0.14907

#### 4b

114 HOMO, 115 LUMO

Excited State 1:	Singlet-A
110 -> 115	-0.12484
114 -> 115	0.66924

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(CIS/TDA) = -2214.33140936

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle RhoCI density.

Excited State 2:	Singlet-A
112 -> 116	-0.12851
112 -> 121	-0.11189
113 -> 115	0.49343
113 -> 117	-0.13983
114 -> 116	-0.39032

Excited State 3:	Singlet-A
111 -> 116	0.11366
111 -> 121	0.14911
112 -> 115	0.47669
112 -> 117	-0.14570
113 -> 116	-0.31530
114 -> 117	-0.24636
114 -> 122	0.11315

#### 4c

114 HOMO, 115 LUMO

Excited State 1:	Singlet-A
110 -> 115	-0.11926
112 -> 115	-0.11490
113 -> 116	-0.10371
114 -> 115	0.65979

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(CIS/TDA) = -1524.17658990

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle RhoCI density.

Excited State 2:	Singlet-A
113 -> 115	0.55153

113 -> 118	-0.12259			
114 -> 116	-0.36084			
Excited State 3:	Singlet-A	4.5964 eV	269.74 nm	f=0.0219 <S**2>=0.000
111 -> 127	0.12685			
112 -> 115	0.48297			
113 -> 116	-0.34185			
114 -> 118	-0.27987			

#### S7.4. TDA-M06-2X: Excitation energies and oscillator strengths of the first excited states

##### 3a keto-enol

87 HOMO, 88 LUMO

Excited State 1:	Singlet-A	3.9629 eV	312.86 nm	f=1.1661 <S**2>=0.000
87 -> 88	0.67537			
This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.				
Total Energy, E(CIS/TDA) = -1070.86805747				
Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle RhoCI density.				
Excited State 2:	Singlet-A	4.3550 eV	284.70 nm	f=0.0001 <S**2>=0.000
82 -> 88	0.63773			
82 -> 90	-0.12554			
82 -> 92	0.16984			
82 -> 102	-0.11073			
Excited State 3:	Singlet-A	4.7764 eV	259.57 nm	f=0.1360 <S**2>=0.000
84 -> 88	0.17203			
86 -> 88	0.27093			
86 -> 92	-0.12580			
87 -> 90	0.56117			
87 -> 92	-0.12231			
Excited State 4:	Singlet-A	4.8098 eV	257.78 nm	f=0.0031 <S**2>=0.000
86 -> 91	-0.10399			
87 -> 89	0.64902			
87 -> 93	0.17301			

##### 3a cis-diketo

87 HOMO, 88 LUMO

Excited State 1:	Singlet-A	4.0458 eV	306.45 nm	f=0.0169 <S**2>=0.000
82 -> 89	-0.22005			
82 -> 93	-0.11152			
82 -> 95	0.16970			
83 -> 88	0.55502			
83 -> 92	-0.18225			
87 -> 88	0.10803			
This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.				
Total Energy, E(CIS/TDA) = -1070.86858006				
Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle RhoCI density.				
Excited State 2:	Singlet-A	4.2341 eV	292.82 nm	f=0.0026 <S**2>=0.000
82 -> 88	0.44624			
82 -> 92	-0.15527			
83 -> 89	-0.33538			
83 -> 93	-0.15883			
83 -> 95	0.23885			
Excited State 3:	Singlet-A	4.7160 eV	262.90 nm	f=0.4831 <S**2>=0.000
86 -> 89	0.15947			
87 -> 88	0.64319			
Excited State 4:	Singlet-A	4.7554 eV	260.73 nm	f=0.0523 <S**2>=0.000
86 -> 88	0.63397			
87 -> 89	0.19995			
Excited State 5:	Singlet-A	5.0235 eV	246.81 nm	f=0.0455 <S**2>=0.000
84 -> 89	-0.31351			
85 -> 88	0.45831			
85 -> 92	0.11502			

86 -> 89	0.15245
86 -> 95	0.13755
86 -> 101	0.10200
87 -> 92	0.24128
87 -> 102	-0.12257

### 3a trans-diketo

87 HOMO, 88 LUMO

Excited State	1:	Singlet-A	4.0458 eV	306.45 nm	f=0.0169 <S**2>=0.000
82 ->	89	-0.22008			
82 ->	93	0.11158			
82 ->	95	-0.16965			
83 ->	88	0.55501			
83 ->	92	-0.18222			
87 ->	88	0.10816			

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(CIS/TDA) = -1070.86857954

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle Rhoci density.

Excited State	2:	Singlet-A	4.2341 eV	292.82 nm	f=0.0026 <S**2>=0.000
82 ->	88	0.44625			
82 ->	92	-0.15526			
83 ->	89	-0.33542			
83 ->	93	0.15893			
83 ->	95	-0.23877			

Excited State	3:	Singlet-A	4.7160 eV	262.90 nm	f=0.4829 <S**2>=0.000
86 ->	89	0.15943			
87 ->	88	0.64318			

### 4a

98 HOMO, 99 LUMO

Excited State	1:	Singlet-A	3.6760 eV	337.28 nm	f=1.2909 <S**2>=0.000
94 ->	99	-0.10776			
98 ->	99	0.67919			

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(CIS/TDA) = -1295.05039901

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle Rhoci density.

Excited State	2:	Singlet-A	4.6698 eV	265.50 nm	f=0.1373 <S**2>=0.000
97 ->	99	0.63999			
98 ->	101	-0.19149			

Excited State	3:	Singlet-A	4.7548 eV	260.76 nm	f=0.0014 <S**2>=0.000
95 ->	99	0.49836			
96 ->	101	0.15667			
97 ->	99	-0.13493			
97 ->	103	-0.16909			
98 ->	100	0.12466			
98 ->	101	-0.35686			

### 4b

114 HOMO, 115 LUMO

Excited State	1:	Singlet-A	3.6835 eV	336.60 nm	f=1.3679 <S**2>=0.000
110 ->	115	-0.10316			
114 ->	115	0.67952			

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(CIS/TDA) = -2214.25683363

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle Rhoci density.

Excited State	2:	Singlet-A	4.5870 eV	270.29 nm	f=0.0163 <S**2>=0.000
111 ->	115	-0.10000			
113 ->	115	0.58309			
114 ->	116	-0.32225			

Excited State	3:	Singlet-A	4.6655 eV	265.75 nm	f=0.0148 <S**2>=0.000
111 ->	123	0.10704			
112 ->	115	0.58978			
113 ->	116	-0.23552			

114 -> 118 -0.21862

#### 4c

114 HOMO, 115 LUMO

Excited State 1: Singlet-A 3.5958 eV 344.81 nm f=1.3811 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
114 -> 115 0.67700

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(CIS/TDA) = -1524.09980894

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle Rhoci density.

Excited State 2: Singlet-A 4.3489 eV 285.09 nm f=0.0134 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
113 -> 115 0.63020  
114 -> 116 0.10965  
114 -> 117 -0.24573

Excited State 3: Singlet-A 4.5163 eV 274.53 nm f=0.0004 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
112 -> 115 0.59954  
113 -> 117 -0.22164  
114 -> 119 -0.21858

### S7.5. TDA-CAM-B3LYP-D3: Excitation energies and oscillator strengths of the first excited states

#### 3a keto-enol

87 HOMO, 88 LUMO

Excited State 1: Singlet-A 3.9641 eV 312.77 nm f=1.1325 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
83 -> 88 0.10074  
87 -> 88 0.67289

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(CIS/TDA) = -1070.79296311

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle Rhoci density.

Excited State 2: Singlet-A 4.4009 eV 281.72 nm f=0.0001 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
82 -> 88 0.65290  
82 -> 89 0.12235  
82 -> 92 0.16258

Excited State 3: Singlet-A 4.7644 eV 260.23 nm f=0.1473 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
84 -> 88 -0.15899  
84 -> 96 0.10652  
86 -> 88 -0.28953  
86 -> 92 0.13893  
87 -> 89 0.55348  
87 -> 92 0.10465

#### 3a cis-diketo

87 HOMO, 88 LUMO

Excited State 1: Singlet-A 4.1779 eV 296.76 nm f=0.0017 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
82 -> 88 0.46503  
82 -> 91 0.25389  
83 -> 88 0.34916  
83 -> 89 -0.11163  
83 -> 91 0.18547

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(CIS/TDA) = -1070.77942857

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle Rhoci density.

Excited State 2: Singlet-A 4.2617 eV 290.92 nm f=0.0006 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
82 -> 89 -0.22593  
82 -> 94 0.12422  
83 -> 88 0.11363  
83 -> 89 0.52285  
83 -> 90 -0.12195  
83 -> 94 -0.28656

Excited State 3: Singlet-A 4.8528 eV 255.49 nm f=0.1571 <S\*\*2>=0.000  
86 -> 88 0.30873  
87 -> 88 0.34030

87 -> 89	0.46278
<b>Excited State 4:</b>	<b>Singlet-A</b>
84 -> 91	0.11146
84 -> 97	-0.10318
86 -> 88	0.56810
87 -> 88	-0.20175
87 -> 89	-0.22410
<b>Excited State 5:</b>	<b>Singlet-A</b>
84 -> 88	0.10528
85 -> 88	0.12322
85 -> 89	0.43328
85 -> 90	-0.10180
85 -> 94	0.14229
87 -> 88	0.19197
87 -> 89	-0.20233
87 -> 94	0.26624
87 -> 99	-0.12783
87 -> 100	0.11226
87 -> 101	-0.11527

### 3a trans-diketo

87 HOMO, 88 LUMO

<b>Excited State 1:</b>	<b>Singlet-A</b>	4.1349 eV	299.85 nm	f=0.0212	<S**2>=0.000
82 -> 89	-0.22255				
82 -> 93	0.17606				
83 -> 88	0.58699				
83 -> 92	-0.16496				
87 -> 88	0.11999				

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(CIS/TDA) = -1070.79082359

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle RhoCI density.

<b>Excited State 2:</b>	<b>Singlet-A</b>	4.3668 eV	283.93 nm	f=0.0033	<S**2>=0.000
82 -> 88	0.47661				
82 -> 92	-0.14440				
83 -> 89	-0.36777				
83 -> 93	0.25877				

<b>Excited State 3:</b>	<b>Singlet-A</b>	4.7218 eV	262.58 nm	f=0.4670	<S**2>=0.000
86 -> 89	0.18284				
87 -> 88	0.63279				

<b>Excited State 4:</b>	<b>Singlet-A</b>	4.7505 eV	260.99 nm	f=0.0496	<S**2>=0.000
84 -> 92	0.10658				
86 -> 88	0.61653				
87 -> 89	0.22490				

<b>Excited State 5:</b>	<b>Singlet-A</b>	4.9806 eV	248.93 nm	f=0.0510	<S**2>=0.000
84 -> 89	0.32872				
85 -> 88	0.45321				
85 -> 92	0.11557				
86 -> 89	-0.13535				
86 -> 93	-0.16968				
86 -> 97	0.11895				
87 -> 92	-0.23559				
87 -> 98	-0.12718				

### 4a

98 HOMO, 99 LUMO

<b>Excited State 1:</b>	<b>Singlet-A</b>	3.7065 eV	334.51 nm	f=1.2530	<S**2>=0.000
94 -> 99	0.11252				
98 -> 99	0.67648				

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(CIS/TDA) = -1294.98467519

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle RhoCI density.

<b>Excited State 2:</b>	<b>Singlet-A</b>	4.6928 eV	264.20 nm	f=0.1657	<S**2>=0.000
97 -> 99	0.60405				
98 -> 100	-0.28870				

```

Excited State  3:      Singlet-A      4.7604  ev  260.45  nm  f=0.0001  <S**2>=0.000
  95 ->  99      0.50282
  96 -> 100      0.19871
  97 ->  99      0.15992
  97 -> 103      0.18332
  98 -> 100      0.31898
  98 -> 107      0.12002

```

#### 4b

114 HOMO, 115 LUMO

```

Excited State  1:      Singlet-A      3.7156  ev  333.68  nm  f=1.3283  <S**2>=0.000
  110 -> 115      0.10701
  114 -> 115      0.67646

```

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(CIS/TDA) = -2214.24613977

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle RhoCI density.

```

Excited State  2:      Singlet-A      4.6102  ev  268.93  nm  f=0.0163  <S**2>=0.000
  111 -> 115      -0.13431
  112 -> 116      -0.10384
  113 -> 115      0.53778
  114 -> 116      0.35674

```

```

Excited State  3:      Singlet-A      4.6716  ev  265.40  nm  f=0.0274  <S**2>=0.000
  111 -> 121      0.12260
  112 -> 115      0.55712
  113 -> 116      -0.26800
  114 -> 118      0.22231

```

```

Excited State  4:      Singlet-A      4.7522  ev  260.90  nm  f=0.0776  <S**2>=0.000
  111 -> 115      0.52307
  112 -> 116      0.23946
  113 -> 115      0.22574
  113 -> 118      0.21945
  114 -> 121      0.16116

```

```

Excited State  5:      Singlet-A      5.0066  ev  247.64  nm  f=0.1107  <S**2>=0.000
  111 -> 118      -0.10566
  112 -> 116      0.12742
  113 -> 115      -0.35434
  114 -> 116      0.54050

```

#### 4c

114 HOMO, 115 LUMO

```

Excited State  1:      Singlet-A      3.6268  ev  341.85  nm  f=1.3519  <S**2>=0.000
  110 -> 115      0.10187
  114 -> 115      0.67085

```

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(CIS/TDA) = -1524.04043612

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle RhoCI density.

```

Excited State  2:      Singlet-A      4.3615  ev  284.27  nm  f=0.0132  <S**2>=0.000
  113 -> 115      0.60504
  114 -> 116      0.30459

```

```

Excited State  3:      Singlet-A      4.5069  ev  275.10  nm  f=0.0046  <S**2>=0.000
  111 -> 129      0.10380
  112 -> 115      0.56684
  113 -> 116      -0.28012
  114 -> 119      -0.22848

```

```

Excited State  4:      Singlet-A      4.6826  ev  264.78  nm  f=0.0067  <S**2>=0.000
  111 -> 115      0.40546
  112 -> 116      0.20431
  113 -> 115      0.24377
  113 -> 119      -0.30455
  114 -> 116      -0.27631
  114 -> 129      0.12609

```

```

Excited State  5:      Singlet-A      4.8875  ev  253.68  nm  f=0.2098  <S**2>=0.000

```

111 -> 115	0.30616
112 -> 116	0.25966
113 -> 115	-0.21638
114 -> 116	0.48503

### S7.3. TD- $\omega$ B97X-D: Excitation energies and oscillator strengths of the first excited states

#### 3a keto-enol

87 HOMO, 88 LUMO

Excited State 1: Singlet-A    3.9016 eV 317.78 nm f=0.9123 < $S^{**2}$ >=0.000  
 83 -> 88    0.13946  
 86 -> 89    -0.10641  
 87 -> 88    0.66706

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(TD-HF/TD-DFT) = -1070.93750704

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle Rhoci density.

Excited State 2: Singlet-A    4.3362 eV 285.93 nm f=0.0006 < $S^{**2}$ >=0.000  
 82 -> 88    0.64507  
 82 -> 89    0.11498  
 82 -> 91    0.15750  
 83 -> 88    0.10138

Excited State 3: Singlet-A    4.6779 eV 265.04 nm f=0.1734 < $S^{**2}$ >=0.000  
 86 -> 88    -0.41743  
 86 -> 91    0.14807  
 87 -> 89    0.50054

Excited State 4: Singlet-A    4.8843 eV 253.84 nm f=0.0122 < $S^{**2}$ >=0.000  
 84 -> 88    -0.29301  
 84 -> 89    0.24499  
 84 -> 91    0.14525  
 85 -> 88    0.15980  
 86 -> 88    0.17677  
 86 -> 89    0.26976  
 86 -> 96    -0.11071  
 87 -> 91    0.33302  
 87 -> 96    -0.12250

Excited State 5: Singlet-A    4.9032 eV 252.87 nm f=0.0087 < $S^{**2}$ >=0.000  
 84 -> 88    0.13896  
 84 -> 89    -0.10884  
 85 -> 88    0.32141  
 85 -> 89    0.31754  
 85 -> 91    -0.18387  
 86 -> 88    -0.23053  
 86 -> 91    -0.23172  
 86 -> 97    -0.16957  
 87 -> 89    -0.12062  
 87 -> 96    0.12134  
 87 -> 97    0.13343

#### 3a cis-diketo

87 HOMO, 88 LUMO

Excited State 1: Singlet-A    4.1346 eV 299.87 nm f=0.0020 < $S^{**2}$ >=0.000  
 82 -> 88    0.46341  
 82 -> 89    -0.10278  
 82 -> 91    -0.25212  
 83 -> 88    -0.35098  
 83 -> 89    0.11241  
 83 -> 91    0.18863

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(TD-HF/TD-DFT) = -1070.92660669

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle Rhoci density.

Excited State 2: Singlet-A    4.2242 eV 293.51 nm f=0.0006 < $S^{**2}$ >=0.000  
 82 -> 89    0.23480  
 82 -> 93    0.12407  
 83 -> 88    0.12462  
 83 -> 89    0.53109

83 -> 93		0.28142
Excited State 3:	Singlet-A	4.7166 eV 262.87 nm f=0.1403 <S**2>=0.000
86 -> 88		0.35015
87 -> 88		0.22517
87 -> 89		0.52687
Excited State 4:	Singlet-A	4.8000 eV 258.30 nm f=0.2824 <S**2>=0.000
86 -> 88		0.56583
87 -> 88		-0.10361
87 -> 89		-0.33578
Excited State 5:	Singlet-A	4.9327 eV 251.35 nm f=0.0341 <S**2>=0.000
84 -> 88		0.19235
85 -> 88		0.15281
85 -> 89		0.47810
85 -> 93		-0.16407
86 -> 91		0.10137
87 -> 93		-0.27254
87 -> 98		0.18316

### 3a trans-diketo

87 HOMO, 88 LUMO

Excitation energies and oscillator strengths:

Excited State 1:	Singlet-A	4.1012 eV 302.31 nm f=0.0189 <S**2>=0.000
82 -> 89		0.22287
82 -> 93		-0.17807
83 -> 88		0.59010
83 -> 90		-0.16479
87 -> 88		0.11583

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(TD-HF/TD-DFT) = -1070.93725221

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle RhoCI density.

Excited State 2:	Singlet-A	4.3316 eV 286.23 nm f=0.0027 <S**2>=0.000
82 -> 88		0.47829
82 -> 90		-0.14284
83 -> 89		0.37109
83 -> 93		-0.26471
Excited State 3:	Singlet-A	4.6346 eV 267.52 nm f=0.4189 <S**2>=0.000
86 -> 89		0.29562
87 -> 88		0.59945
Excited State 4:	Singlet-A	4.6373 eV 267.36 nm f=0.0414 <S**2>=0.000
86 -> 88		0.58281
87 -> 89		0.32970
Excited State 5:	Singlet-A	4.9272 eV 251.63 nm f=0.0439 <S**2>=0.000
84 -> 89		0.36085
85 -> 88		0.41951
85 -> 90		0.16037
86 -> 89		0.10856
86 -> 93		0.18138
86 -> 97		-0.12495
87 -> 90		0.23506
87 -> 98		-0.11822

### 4a

98 HOMO, 99 LUMO

Excitation energies and oscillator strengths:

Excited State 1:	Singlet-A	3.6254 eV 341.98 nm f=1.0097 <S**2>=0.000
94 -> 99		-0.15585
98 -> 99		0.67085

This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.

Total Energy, E(TD-HF/TD-DFT) = -1295.11496532

Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle RhoCI density.

Excited State 2:	Singlet-A	4.5762 eV 270.94 nm f=0.1701 <S**2>=0.000
------------------	-----------	---

97 -> 99	0.56293
98 -> 100	-0.36801
<b>Excited State 3:</b>	<b>Singlet-A</b>
95 -> 99	0.47658
95 -> 102	-0.11702
96 -> 100	0.27009
97 -> 99	-0.14143
97 -> 102	-0.21204
98 -> 100	-0.25790
98 -> 106	-0.14636
<b>Excited State 4:</b>	<b>Singlet-A</b>
95 -> 100	0.28352
96 -> 99	0.50349
96 -> 102	-0.14362
97 -> 100	0.17187
97 -> 106	0.13438
98 -> 102	0.23073
98 -> 108	0.10280
<b>Excited State 5:</b>	<b>Singlet-A</b>
94 -> 99	0.45014
95 -> 100	0.18933
96 -> 102	-0.18454
97 -> 100	-0.29876
98 -> 102	-0.27431
98 -> 108	0.11797

#### 4b

114 HOMO, 115 LUMO

Excitation energies and oscillator strengths:

<b>Excited State 1:</b>	<b>Singlet-A</b>	3.6388 eV	340.73 nm	f=1.0796	<S**2>=0.000
110 -> 115	-0.14825				
114 -> 115	0.66936				
This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.					
Total Energy, E(TD-HF/TD-DFT) = -2214.33618114					
Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle Rhoci density.					
<b>Excited State 2:</b>	<b>Singlet-A</b>	4.5644 eV	271.63 nm	f=0.0748	<S**2>=0.000
111 -> 115	0.13026				
111 -> 117	-0.10265				
112 -> 121	-0.10000				
113 -> 115	0.49870				
114 -> 116	-0.41782				
<b>Excited State 3:</b>	<b>Singlet-A</b>	4.6708 eV	265.45 nm	f=0.0575	<S**2>=0.000
111 -> 116	0.11549				
111 -> 121	0.13595				
112 -> 115	0.47184				
112 -> 117	-0.16465				
113 -> 116	-0.33965				
114 -> 117	-0.24691				
<b>Excited State 4:</b>	<b>Singlet-A</b>	4.7037 eV	263.59 nm	f=0.0509	<S**2>=0.000
111 -> 115	0.49841				
112 -> 116	0.31817				
113 -> 117	0.26383				
114 -> 121	-0.17568				
<b>Excited State 5:</b>	<b>Singlet-A</b>	5.0308 eV	246.45 nm	f=0.0829	<S**2>=0.000
110 -> 115	0.36462				
111 -> 116	-0.32967				
112 -> 115	0.18564				
112 -> 117	0.31604				
113 -> 121	-0.18041				
114 -> 117	-0.16958				
114 -> 122	-0.15799				

#### 4c

114 HOMO, 115 LUMO

Excitation energies and oscillator strengths:

Excited State	1:	Singlet-A	3.5655 eV	347.73 nm	f=1.1315 <S**2>=0.000
110 -> 115		-0.13902			
112 -> 115		-0.14567			
113 -> 116		-0.10200			
114 -> 115		0.65508			
This state for optimization and/or second-order correction.					
Total Energy, E(TD-HF/TD-DFT) = -1524.18100447					
Copying the excited state density for this state as the 1-particle RhoCI density.					
Excited State	2:	Singlet-A	4.3391 eV	285.74 nm	f=0.0336 <S**2>=0.000
113 -> 115		0.52757			
113 -> 118		-0.15175			
114 -> 116		-0.39917			
Excited State	3:	Singlet-A	4.4691 eV	277.42 nm	f=0.0391 <S**2>=0.000
111 -> 127		0.10889			
112 -> 115		0.45614			
112 -> 118		-0.12401			
113 -> 116		-0.37477			
114 -> 118		-0.29415			
Excited State	4:	Singlet-A	4.6275 eV	267.93 nm	f=0.0395 <S**2>=0.000
111 -> 115		0.43794			
112 -> 116		0.30124			
113 -> 115		0.17670			
113 -> 118		0.32155			
114 -> 124		0.13538			
114 -> 127		-0.13597			
Excited State	5:	Singlet-A	4.8964 eV	253.21 nm	f=0.1641 <S**2>=0.000
111 -> 115		-0.22738			
111 -> 118		0.10715			
112 -> 116		-0.20511			
112 -> 124		0.11024			
113 -> 115		0.38124			
113 -> 118		0.17603			
114 -> 116		0.43332			

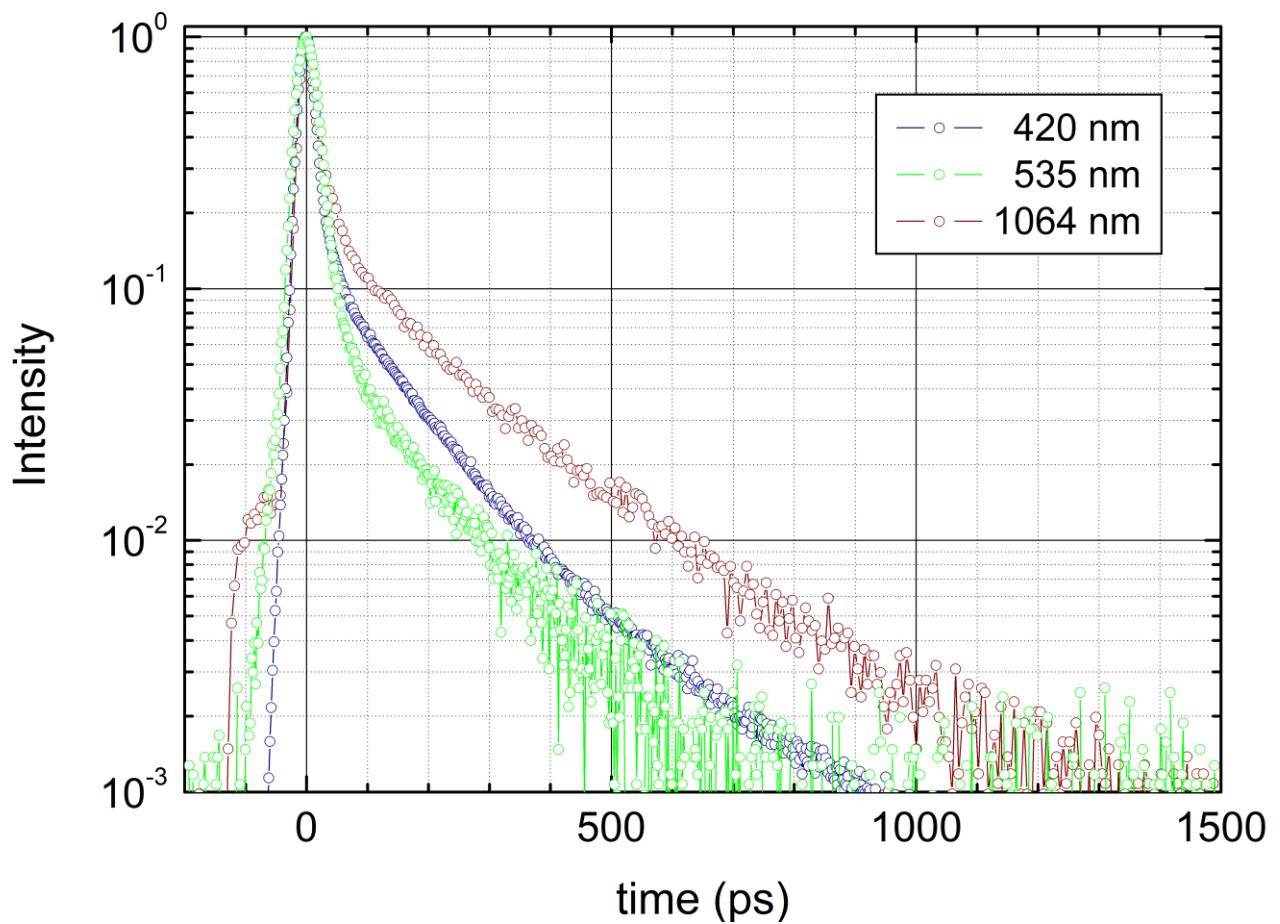
## S8. Supplementary electronic-state transition spectroscopy data

**Table S2.** Fluorescence decay times,  $\tau_i$ , and relative amplitudes,  $f_i$ , of compounds **3a**, **3b**, and **3c**, as retrieved from fitting the experimental decay patterns measured upon excitation at 280 nm to a biexponential decay model function. The reported values are averaged over three parallels. The pertaining errors are the corresponding standard deviations.

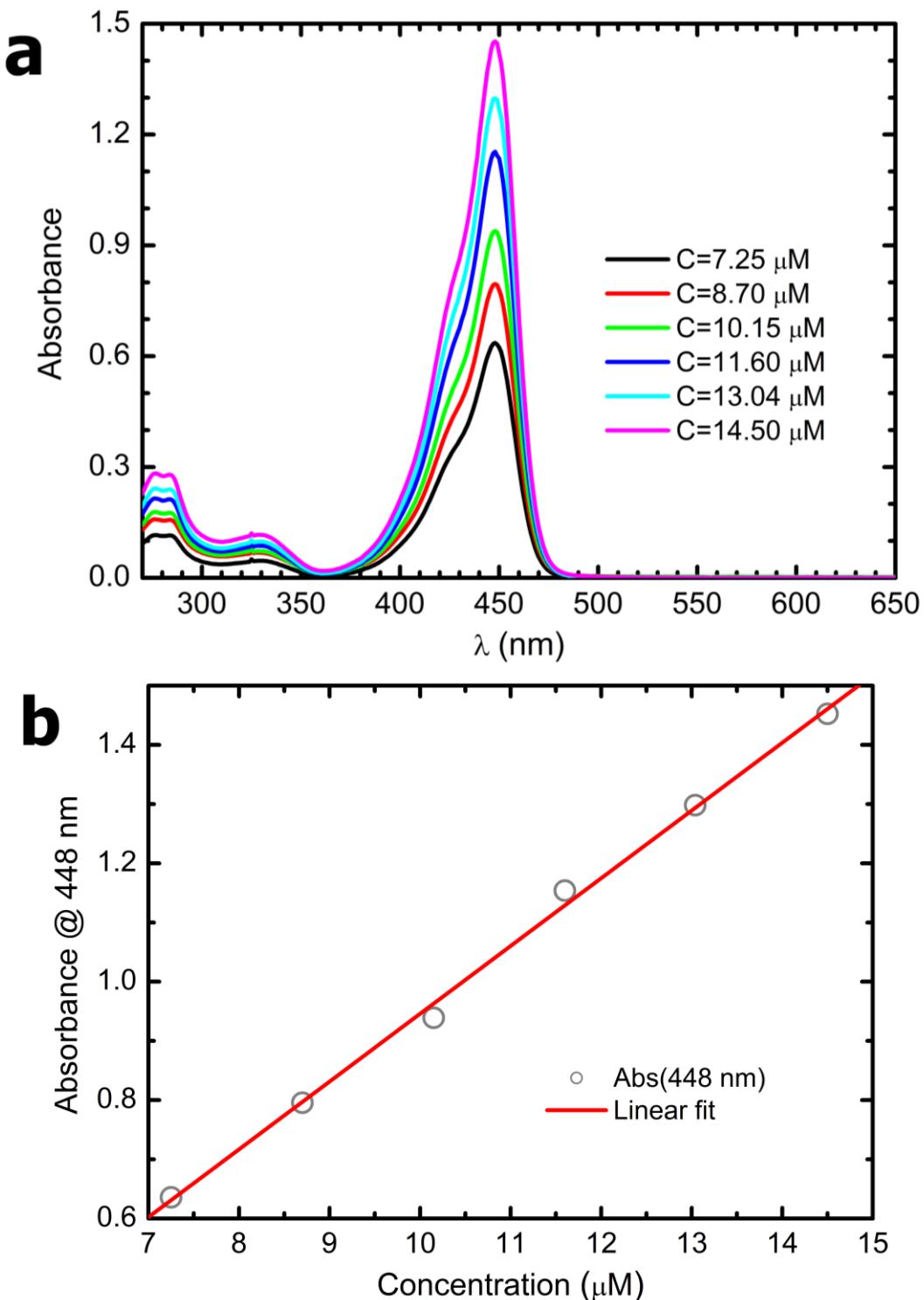
Compound	Solvent	$\tau_1$ (ps)	$f_1$	$\tau_2$ (ps)	$f_2$
<b>3a</b>	ethyl acetate	-	0	$2072 \pm 11$	1
	dichloromethane	$222 \pm 1$	$0.93 \pm 0.01$	$2248 \pm 4$	$0.07 \pm 0.01$
	acetonitrile	$209 \pm 1$	$0.97 \pm 0.01$	$2368 \pm 24$	$0.03 \pm 0.01$
	dimethylformamide	$249 \pm 1$	$0.58 \pm 0.01$	$2163 \pm 1$	$0.42 \pm 0.01$
	dimethyl sulfoxide	$258 \pm 1$	$0.94 \pm 0.01$	$2188 \pm 24$	$0.06 \pm 0.01$
	butanol	$431 \pm 1$	$0.98 \pm 0.01$	$2653 \pm 1$	$0.02 \pm 0.01$
	ethanol	$360 \pm 1$	$\approx 1$	$\approx 3660$	$<0.01$
	methanol	$388 \pm 2$	$0.97 \pm 0.01$	$2434 \pm 21$	$0.03 \pm 0.01$
<b>3b</b>	ethyl acetate	$202 \pm 2$	$0.95 \pm 0.01$	$1940 \pm 8$	$0.05 \pm 0.01$
	dichloromethane	$262 \pm 3$	$0.97 \pm 0.01$	$2057 \pm 13$	$0.03 \pm 0.01$
	acetonitrile	$205 \pm 2$	$0.96 \pm 0.01$	$2207 \pm 29$	$0.04 \pm 0.01$
	dimethylformamide	$257 \pm 2$	$0.91 \pm 0.01$	$2933 \pm 1$	$0.09 \pm 0.01$
	dimethyl sulfoxide	$271 \pm 1$	$0.96 \pm 0.01$	$2471 \pm 5$	$0.04 \pm 0.01$
	butanol	$451 \pm 4$	$0.75 \pm 0.01$	$4011 \pm 20$	$0.25 \pm 0.01$
	ethanol	$281 \pm 2$	$0.99 \pm 0.01$	$2612 \pm 71$	$0.01 \pm 0.01$
	methanol	$275 \pm 1$	$0.89 \pm 0.01$	$2460 \pm 14$	$0.11 \pm 0.01$
<b>3c</b>	ethyl acetate	$309 \pm 2$	$0.89 \pm 0.03$	$1669 \pm 22$	$0.11 \pm 0.03$
	dichloromethane	$735 \pm 52$	$0.30 \pm 0.01$	$1602 \pm 17$	$0.70 \pm 0.01$
	acetonitrile	$501 \pm 15$	$0.30 \pm 0.01$	$1863 \pm 9$	$0.70 \pm 0.01$
	dimethylformamide	$362 \pm 5$	$0.76 \pm 0.01$	$2325 \pm 7$	$0.24 \pm 0.01$
	dimethyl sulfoxide	$406 \pm 3$	$0.71 \pm 0.01$	$2232 \pm 4$	$0.29 \pm 0.01$
	butanol	$730 \pm 6$	$0.37 \pm 0.01$	$2501 \pm 6$	$0.63 \pm 0.01$
	ethanol	$644 \pm 23$	$0.45 \pm 0.01$	$1590 \pm 12$	$0.55 \pm 0.01$
	methanol	$545 \pm 1$	$0.98 \pm 0.01$	$2657 \pm 24$	$0.02 \pm 0.01$

**Table S3.** Fluorescence decay times,  $\tau_i$ , and relative amplitudes,  $f_i$ , of compounds **3a**, **3b**, and **3c**, as retrieved from fitting the experimental decay patterns measured upon excitation at 420 nm to a biexponential decay model function. The reported values are averaged over three parallels. The pertaining errors are the corresponding standard deviations.

Compound	Solvent	$\tau_1$ (ps)	$f_1$	$\tau_2$ (ps)	$f_2$	$\tau_3$ (ps)	$f_3$
<b>3a</b>	toluene	-	0	$361 \pm 3$	$0.87 \pm 0.01$	$2058 \pm 5$	$0.13 \pm 0.01$
	ethyl acetate	$30 \pm 2$	$0.13 \pm 0.01$	-	0	$2059 \pm 3$	$0.87 \pm 0.01$
	dichloromethane	$11 \pm 4$	$0.28 \pm 0.04$	$282 \pm 2$	$0.63 \pm 0.03$	$2467 \pm 1$	$0.09 \pm 0.01$
	acetone	$19 \pm 1$	$0.37 \pm 0.02$	$277 \pm 1$	$0.21 \pm 0.01$	$2154 \pm 8$	$0.42 \pm 0.03$
	acetonitrile	$16 \pm 1$	$0.30 \pm 0.03$	$243 \pm 2$	$0.63 \pm 0.03$	$2454 \pm 18$	$0.07 \pm 0.01$
	dimethylformamide	-	0	$273 \pm 8$	$0.32 \pm 0.01$	$2098 \pm 1$	$0.68 \pm 0.01$
	dimethyl sulfoxide	-	0	$291 \pm 4$	$0.92 \pm 0.01$	$2244 \pm 9$	$0.08 \pm 0.01$
	butanol	-	0	$405 \pm 6$	$\approx 1$	$\approx 3700$	$<0.001$
	ethanol	-	0	$353 \pm 10$	$\approx 1$	$\approx 2800$	$<0.01$
	methanol	-	0	$371 \pm 6$	$0.96 \pm 0.01$	$2224 \pm 1$	$0.04 \pm 0.01$
<b>3b</b>	toluene	-	0	$412 \pm 4$	$0.94 \pm 0.01$	$1269 \pm 24$	$0.06 \pm 0.01$
	ethyl acetate	$29 \pm 2$	$0.35 \pm 0.01$	$213 \pm 1$	$0.64 \pm 0.01$	$2226 \pm 7$	$0.01 \pm 0.01$
	dichloromethane	-	0	$320 \pm 1$	$0.92 \pm 0.01$	$2336 \pm 6$	$0.08 \pm 0.01$
	acetone	$53 \pm 3$	$0.46 \pm 0.01$	$202 \pm 3$	$0.53 \pm 0.01$	$2010 \pm 46$	$0.01 \pm 0.01$
	acetonitrile	$51 \pm 1$	$0.61 \pm 0.01$	$236 \pm 1$	$0.33 \pm 0.01$	$2069 \pm 2$	$0.06 \pm 0.01$
	dimethylformamide	$75 \pm 9$	$0.19 \pm 0.03$	$207 \pm 4$	$0.77 \pm 0.03$	$1345 \pm 61$	$0.04 \pm 0.01$
	dimethyl sulfoxide	-	0	$247 \pm 1$	$0.97 \pm 0.01$	$2333 \pm 6$	$0.03 \pm 0.01$
	butanol	-	0	$328 \pm 2$	$0.97 \pm 0.01$	$3198 \pm 15$	$0.03 \pm 0.01$
	ethanol	-	0	$252 \pm 2$	$0.98 \pm 0.01$	$1720 \pm 41$	$0.02 \pm 0.01$
	methanol	-	0	$279 \pm 2$	$0.90 \pm 0.01$	$2031 \pm 6$	$0.10 \pm 0.01$
<b>3c</b>	toluene	-	0	$416 \pm 1$	$0.98 \pm 0.01$	$2360 \pm 15$	$0.02 \pm 0.01$
	ethyl acetate	$32 \pm 1$	$0.39 \pm 0.02$	$229 \pm 1$	$0.59 \pm 0.02$	$2259 \pm 17$	$0.02 \pm 0.01$
	dichloromethane	$22 \pm 1$	$0.28 \pm 0.01$	$371 \pm 1$	$0.71 \pm 0.01$	$\approx 3700$	$<0.01$
	acetone	$38 \pm 1$	$0.51 \pm 0.01$	$196 \pm 1$	$0.47 \pm 0.01$	$1553 \pm 37$	$0.02 \pm 0.01$
	acetonitrile	$38 \pm 1$	$0.49 \pm 0.01$	$225 \pm 1$	$0.38 \pm 0.01$	$2017 \pm 2$	$0.12 \pm 0.01$
	dimethylformamide	-	0	$320 \pm 1$	$0.77 \pm 0.01$	$2197 \pm 2$	$0.23 \pm 0.01$
	dimethyl sulfoxide	-	0	$349 \pm 1$	$0.98 \pm 0.01$	$3117 \pm 8$	$0.02 \pm 0.01$
	butanol	-	0	$397 \pm 1$	$0.91 \pm 0.01$	$1270 \pm 5$	$0.09 \pm 0.01$
	ethanol	-	0	$546 \pm 2$	$0.92 \pm 0.01$	$1716 \pm 10$	$0.08 \pm 0.01$
	methanol	-	0	$579 \pm 1$	$0.93 \pm 0.01$	$1943 \pm 15$	$0.07 \pm 0.01$

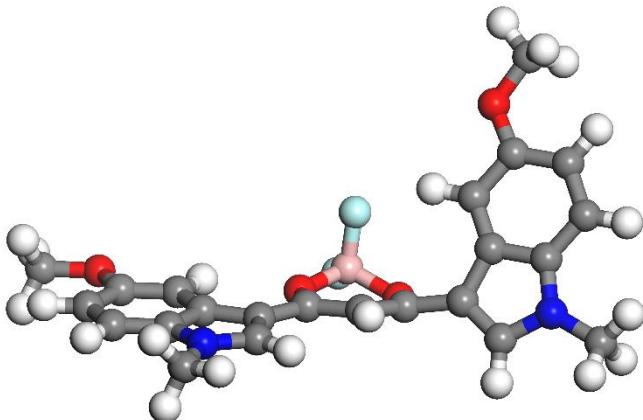


**Figure S9.** The TCSPC apparatus instrumental response to <10 ps laser pulses at 420 nm (violet, laser pulse duration 2.8 ps), 532 nm (green, laser pulse duration 6.4 ps), and 1064 nm (dark red, laser pulse duration 9 ps). The full-width at half maximum of the temporal point-spread functions is in any case <30 ps.



**Figure S10.** Exemplary dataset for determination of molar extinction coefficient values (namely 4a in dimethyl sulfoxide). a) Absorption spectra recorded for six solutions obtained by dilution of the stock at known concentration (determined by weight, see Materials and Methods); b) peak absorbance versus nominal concentration (dots) and linear regression of the data (red line). The slope is the molar extinction coefficient (in the case at hand  $0.1144 \mu\text{M}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$ ).

## S9. Supplementary theoretical emission data



**Figure S11.** Global minimum geometry for the first excited state of **4c** as obtained at the TD- and TDA-B3LYP-D3/def2-TZVPD. Color code: red (oxygen), pink (boron), blue (nitrogen), light blue (fluoride), grey (carbon), white (hydrogen).

**Table S4.** Excited state properties of **3a** keto-enol, **3a** trans-diketo, **4a**, **4b**, and **4c** as computed at DFT/TDA-DFT with ωB97X-D/def2-TZVPD. Vertical ( $\Delta E_{\text{vert}}$ ), adiabatic ( $\Delta E_{\text{adia}}$ ), and ZPVE-corrected adiabatic ( $\Delta E_{\text{adiaZPVE}}$ ) excitation energies for the  $S_0 \rightarrow S_1$  transition in the gas phase. The HOMO to LUMO energy difference in  $S_0$  ( $\Delta E_{\text{HOMO-LUMO}}$ ) and the vertical de-excitation energy for  $S_1 \rightarrow S_0$  transition ( $\Delta E'_{\text{vert}}$ ) is also showed for comparison. The energies are defined in Figure 8. All the energies are reported in eV. The absorption wavelength ( $\lambda_{\text{abs}0\text{B97}}$ , nm) corresponding to the  $S_0 \rightarrow S_1$  transition is also showed with its oscillator strength ( $f_{\text{abs}0\text{B97}}$ , a.u.), the dipole moment associated with the transition ( $\mu_{S_0 \rightarrow S_1}$  a.u.), and the radiative decay rates of the  $S_1$  state ( $k_{\text{rad}0\text{B97}}$ , s<sup>-1</sup>), defined as in Equation 4.  $k_{\text{rad}0\text{B97}}$  is computed considering the intensity and the maximum of the corresponding band in the computed spectrum. The emission wavelength ( $\lambda_{\text{fluo}0\text{B97}}$ ) corresponding to  $S_1 \rightarrow S_0$  computed on  $S_1$  geometry and its oscillator strength ( $f_{\text{fluo}0\text{B97}}$ ) is also reported.

	<b>3a keto-enol</b>	<b>3a trans-diketo</b> <sup>1</sup>	<b>4a</b>	<b>4b</b>	<b>4c</b>
$\Delta E_{\text{HOMO-LUMO}}$	7.51	8.13	7.15	7.19	7.04
$\Delta E_{\text{vert}}$	4.04	4.13	3.76	3.77	3.69
$\Delta E_{\text{adia}}$	3.86	3.95	3.65	3.65	3.57
$\Delta E_{\text{adiaZPVE}}$	3.73	3.84	3.54	3.54	3.46
$\Delta E'_{\text{vert}}$	-3.69	-3.68	-3.54	-3.54	-3.46
$\mu_{S_0 \rightarrow S_1}$	11.4	(0.2, 0.0, 4.1)	13.6	14.4	15.1
$\lambda_{\text{abs}0\text{B97}}$	306.6	255.1 (300.26, 284.19, 258.67)	329.8	329.0	336.4
$f_{\text{abs}0\text{B97}}$	1.13	(0.02, 0.00, 0.49)	1.25	1.33	1.36
$k_{\text{rad}0\text{B97}}$	$9.17 \times 10^9$	$2.01 \times 10^9$	$1.04 \times 10^{10}$	$1.17 \times 10^{10}$	$1.21 \times 10^{10}$
$\lambda_{\text{fluo}0\text{B97}}$	335.8	263.6 (336.74, 298.3, 266.1)	350.6	350.4	357.8
$f_{\text{fluo}0\text{B97}}$	1.10	(0.014, 0.01, 0.49)	1.26	1.33	1.37

<sup>1</sup> The lowest energy band in the absorption, emission, and excitation spectra of **3a** trans-diketo is the result of the convolution of more than one signal. The wavelength value is the maximum of the band resulting from the convolution of these signals, while in parentheses are reported the three lowest energy transitions contributing to this band. For **3a** trans-diketo,  $k_{\text{rad}0\text{B97}}$  is computed for the third transition, i.e. the one having the higher oscillator strength.

**Table S5.** Excited state properties of **3a** keto-enol, **3a** trans-diketo, **4a**, **4b**, and **4c** as computed at DFT/TD-DFT with ωB97X-D/def2-TZVPD. Vertical ( $\Delta E_{\text{vert}}$ ), adiabatic ( $\Delta E_{\text{adia}}$ ), and ZPVE-corrected adiabatic ( $\Delta E_{\text{adiaZPVE}}$ ) excitation energies for the  $S_0 \rightarrow S_1$  transition in the gas phase. The HOMO to LUMO energy difference in  $S_0$  ( $\Delta E_{\text{HOMO-LUMO}}$ ) and the vertical de-excitation energy for  $S_1 \rightarrow S_0$  transition ( $\Delta E'_{\text{vert}}$ ) is also showed for comparison. The energies are defined in Figure 8. All the energies are reported in eV. The absorption wavelength ( $\lambda_{\text{abs}\omega\text{B97}}$ , nm) corresponding to the  $S_0 \rightarrow S_1$  transition is also showed with its oscillator strength ( $f_{\text{abs}\omega\text{B97}}$ , a.u.), the dipole moment associated with the transition ( $\mu_{S_0 \rightarrow S_1}$  a.u.), and the radiative decay rates of the  $S_1$  state ( $k_{\text{rad}\omega\text{B97}}$ ,  $\text{s}^{-1}$ ), defined as in Equation 4.  $k_{\text{rad}\omega\text{B97}}$  is computed considering the intensity and the maximum of the corresponding band in the computed spectrum. The emission wavelength ( $\lambda_{\text{fluo}\omega\text{B97}}$ ) corresponding to  $S_1 \rightarrow S_0$  computed on  $S_1$  geometry and its oscillator strength ( $f_{\text{fluo}\omega\text{B97}}$ ) is also reported.

	<b>3a</b> keto-enol	<b>3a</b> trans-diketo <sup>1</sup>	<b>4a</b>	<b>4b</b>	<b>4c</b>
$\Delta E_{\text{HOMO-LUMO}}$	7.51	8.13	7.15	7.19	7.04
$\Delta E_{\text{vert}}$	3.90	4.10	3.63	3.64	3.57
$\Delta E_{\text{adia}}$	3.69	3.92	3.50	3.51	3.44
$\Delta E_{\text{adiaZPVE}}$	3.57	3.81	3.40	3.41	3.33
$\Delta E'_{\text{vert}}$	-3.49	-3.65	-3.38	-3.38	-3.33
$\mu_{S_0 \rightarrow S_1}$	9.5	(0.2, 0.0, 3.7)	11.4	12.1	13.0
$\lambda_{\text{abs}\omega\text{B97}}$	317.8	263.5 (302.31, 286.23, 267.52)	342.0	340.7	347.7
$f_{\text{abs}\omega\text{B97}}$	0.91	(0.02, 0.00, 0.42)	1.01	1.08	1.13
$k_{\text{rad}\omega\text{B97}}$	$5.75 \times 10^9$	$1.44 \times 10^9$	$6.55 \times 10^9$	$7.51 \times 10^9$	$8.08 \times 10^9$
$\lambda_{\text{fluo}\omega\text{B97}}$	355.2	272.4 (339.36, 300.46, 277.1, 274.44)	367.2	366.4	372.9
$f_{\text{fluo}\omega\text{B97}}$	0.84	(0.01, 0.01, 0.15, 0.34)	0.99	1.06	1.12

<sup>1</sup> The lowest energy band in the absorption, emission, and excitation spectra of **3a** trans-diketo is the result of the convolution of more than one signal. The wavelength value is the maximum of the band resulting from the convolution of these signals, while in parentheses are reported the three lowest energy transitions contributing to this band. For **3a** trans-diketo,  $k_{\text{radB3}}$  is computed for the third transition, i.e. the one having the higher oscillator strength.

**Table S6.** Excited state properties of **3a** keto-enol, **3a** trans-diketo, **4a**, **4b**, and **4c** as computed at DFT/TDA-DFT with M06-2X/def2-TZVPD. Vertical ( $\Delta E_{\text{vert}}$ ), adiabatic ( $\Delta E_{\text{adia}}$ ), and ZPVE-corrected adiabatic ( $\Delta E_{\text{adiaZPVE}}$ ) excitation energies for the  $S_0 \rightarrow S_1$  transition in the gas phase. The HOMO to LUMO energy difference in  $S_0$  ( $\Delta E_{\text{HOMO-LUMO}}$ ) and the vertical de-excitation energy for  $S_1 \rightarrow S_0$  transition ( $\Delta E'_{\text{vert}}$ ) is also showed for comparison. The energies are defined in Figure 8. All the energies are reported in eV. The absorption wavelength ( $\lambda_{\text{absM06}}$ , nm) corresponding to the  $S_0 \rightarrow S_1$  transition is also showed with its oscillator strength ( $f_{\text{absM06}}$ , a.u.), the dipole moment associated with the transition ( $\mu_{S_0 \rightarrow S_1}$  a.u.), and the radiative decay rates of the  $S_1$  state ( $k_{\text{radM06}}$ ,  $\text{s}^{-1}$ ), defined as in Equation (4).  $k_{\text{radM06}}$  is computed considering the intensity and the maximum of the corresponding band in the computed spectrum. The emission wavelength ( $\lambda_{\text{fluoM06}}$ ) corresponding to  $S_1 \rightarrow S_0$  computed on  $S_1$  geometry, and its oscillator strength ( $f_{\text{fluoM06}}$ ) is also reported.

	<b>3a</b> keto-enol	<b>3a</b> trans-diketo <sup>1</sup>	<b>4a</b>	<b>4b</b>	<b>4c</b>
$\Delta E_{\text{HOMO-LUMO}}$	5.95	6.57	5.60	5.64	5.51
$\Delta E_{\text{vert}}$	3.96	4.05	3.68	3.57	3.60
$\Delta E_{\text{adia}}$	3.80	3.90	3.57	3.68	3.49
$\Delta E_{\text{adiaZPVE}}$	3.66	3.77	3.46	3.46	3.37
$\Delta E'_{\text{vert}}$	-3.64	-3.69	-3.47	-3.58	-3.38
$\mu_{S_0 \rightarrow S_1}$	12.0	(0.2, 0.0, 4.2)	14.3	15.2	15.7
$\lambda_{\text{absM06}}$	312.9	260.0 (306.45, 292.82, 262.90)	337.3	336.6	344.8
$f_{\text{absM06}}$	1.17	(0.02, 0.00, 0.48)	1.29	1.37	1.38
$k_{\text{radM06}}$	$9.54 \times 10^9$	$1.95 \times 10^9$	$1.08 \times 10^{10}$	$1.11 \times 10^{10}$	$1.21 \times 10^{10}$
$\lambda_{\text{fluoM06}}$	340.2	268.4 (336.35, 302.58, 270.81, 268.45)	357.7	357.8	366.5
$f_{\text{fluoM06}}$	1.15	(0.011, 0.009, 0.376, 0.1749)	1.31	1.39	1.41

<sup>1</sup> The lowest energy band in the absorption, emission, and excitation spectra of **3a** *trans*-diketo is the result of the convolution of more than one signal. The wavelength value is the maximum of the band resulting from the convolution of these signals, while in parentheses are reported the three lowest energy transitions contributing to this band. For **3a** *trans*-diketo,  $k_{\text{radB3}}$  is computed for the third transition, i.e. the one having the higher oscillator strength.

**Table S7.** Excited state properties of **3a** keto-enol, **3a** *trans*-diketo, **4a**, **4b**, and **4c** as computed at DFT/TDA-DFT with CAM-B3LYP-D3/def2-TZVPD. Vertical ( $\Delta E_{\text{vert}}$ ), adiabatic ( $\Delta E_{\text{adia}}$ ), and ZPVE-corrected adiabatic ( $\Delta E_{\text{adiaZPVE}}$ ) excitation energies for the  $S_0 \rightarrow S_1$  transition in the gas phase. The HOMO to LUMO energy difference in  $S_0$  ( $\Delta E_{\text{HOMO-LUMO}}$ ) and the vertical de-excitation energy for  $S_1 \rightarrow S_0$  transition ( $\Delta E'_{\text{vert}}$ ) is also showed for comparison. The energies are defined in Figure 8. All the energies are reported in eV. The absorption wavelength ( $\lambda_{\text{absCAM}}$ , nm) corresponding to the  $S_0 \rightarrow S_1$  transition is also showed with its oscillator strength ( $f_{\text{absCAM}}$ , a.u.), the dipole moment associated with the transition ( $\mu_{S_0 \rightarrow S_1}$  a.u.), and the radiative decay rates of the  $S_1$  state ( $k_{\text{radCAM}}$ , s<sup>-1</sup>), defined as in Equation (4).  $k_{\text{radCAM}}$  is computed considering the intensity and the maximum of the corresponding band in the computed spectrum. The emission wavelength ( $\lambda_{\text{fluoCAM}}$ ) corresponding to  $S_1 \rightarrow S_0$  computed on  $S_1$  geometry, and its oscillator strength ( $f_{\text{fluoCAM}}$ ) is also reported.

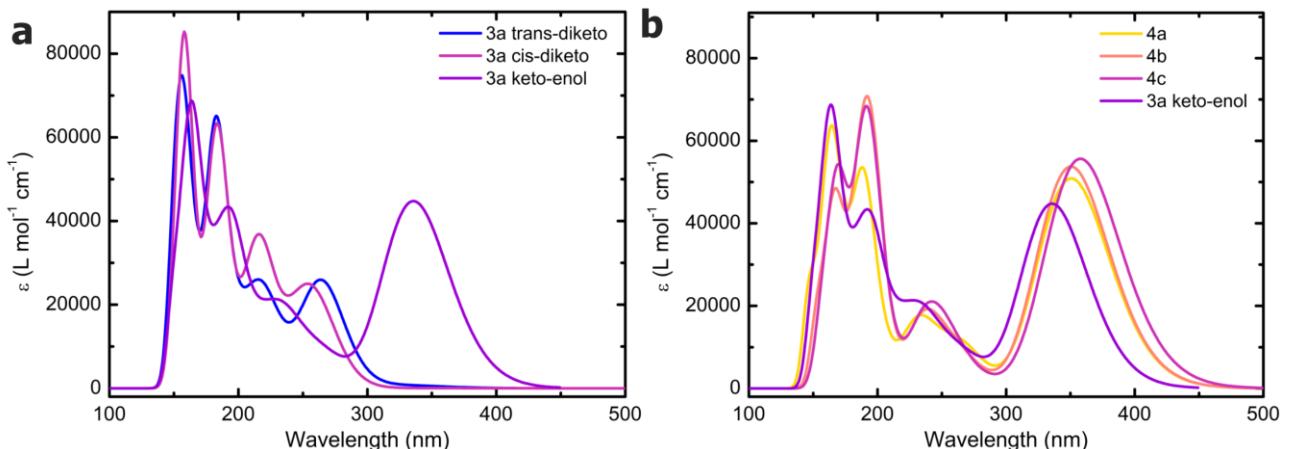
	<b>3a</b> keto-enol	<b>3a</b> <i>trans</i> -diketo <sup>1</sup>	<b>4a</b>	<b>4b</b>	<b>4c</b>
$\Delta E_{\text{HOMO-LUMO}}$	6.32	6.94	5.99	6.03	5.89
$\Delta E_{\text{vert}}$	3.96	4.13	3.71	3.72	3.63
$\Delta E_{\text{adia}}$	3.81	3.96	3.60	3.61	3.52
$\Delta E_{\text{adiaZPVE}}$	3.68	3.82	3.49	3.50	3.41
$\Delta E'_{\text{vert}}$	-3.66	-3.69	-3.50	-3.50	-3.42
$\mu_{S_0 \rightarrow S_1}$	11.7	(0.2, 0.0, 4.0)	13.8	14.6	15.2
$\lambda_{\text{absCAM}}$	312.8	259.3 (299.85, 283.93, 262.58)	334.5	333.7	341.9
$f_{\text{absCAM}}$	1.13	(0.02, 0.00, 0.47)	1.25	1.33	1.35
$k_{\text{radCAM}}$	$9.00 \times 10^9$	$1.66 \times 10^9$	$1.03 \times 10^{10}$	$1.16 \times 10^{10}$	$1.17 \times 10^{10}$
$\lambda_{\text{fluoCAM}}$	339.2	269.2 (335.65, 297.65, 272.1, 270.22)	354.5	354.3	363.0
$f_{\text{fluoCAM}}$	1.10	(0.01, 0.01, 0.28, 0.25)	1.26	1.34	1.37

<sup>1</sup> The lowest energy band in the absorption, emission, and excitation spectra of **3a** *trans*-diketo is the result of the convolution of more than one signal. The wavelength value is the maximum of the band resulting from the convolution of these signals, while in parentheses are reported the three lowest energy transitions contributing to this band. For **3a** *trans*-diketo,  $k_{\text{radB3}}$  is computed for the third transition, i.e. the one having the higher oscillator strength.

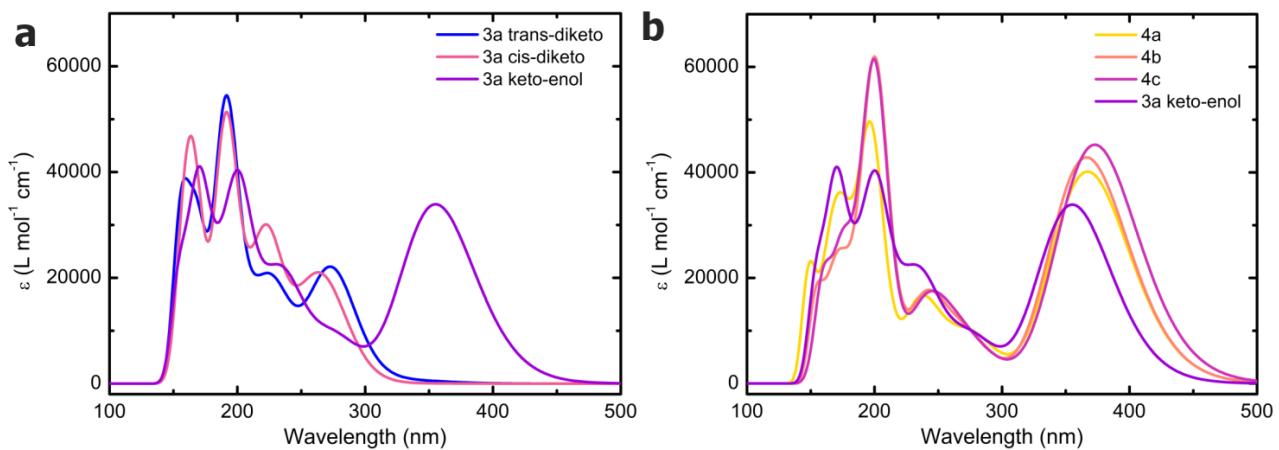
**Table S8.** Excited state properties of **3a** keto-enol, **3a** trans-diketo, **4a**, **4b**, and **4c** as computed at DFT/TDA-DFT with B3LYP-D3/def2-TZVPD. Vertical ( $\Delta E_{\text{vert}}$ ), adiabatic ( $\Delta E_{\text{adia}}$ ), and ZPVE-corrected adiabatic ( $\Delta E_{\text{adiaZPVE}}$ ) excitation energies for the  $S_0 \rightarrow S_1$  transition in the gas phase. The HOMO to LUMO energy difference in  $S_0$  ( $\Delta E_{\text{HOMO-LUMO}}$ ) and the vertical de-excitation energy for  $S_1 \rightarrow S_0$  transition ( $\Delta E'_{\text{vert}}$ ) is also showed for comparison. The energies are defined in Figure 8. All the energies are reported in eV. The absorption wavelength ( $\lambda_{\text{abs}S_0B97}$ , nm) corresponding to the  $S_0 \rightarrow S_1$  transition is also showed with its oscillator strength ( $f_{\text{abs}S_0B97}$ , a.u.), the dipole moment associated with the transition ( $\mu_{S_0 \rightarrow S_1}$  a.u.), and the radiative decay rates of the  $S_1$  state ( $k_{\text{rad}S_0B97}$ ,  $\text{s}^{-1}$ ), defined as in Equation 4.  $k_{\text{rad}S_0B97}$  is computed considering the intensity and the maximum of the corresponding band in the computed spectrum. The emission wavelength ( $\lambda_{\text{fluo}B3TDA}$ ) corresponding to  $S_1 \rightarrow S_0$  computed on  $S_1$  geometry, and its oscillator strength ( $f_{\text{fluo}B3TDA}$ ) is also reported. The  $S_1$  used in the energy and emission spectra calculations have been the CAM-B3LYP-D3 geometries.

	<b>3a keto-enol</b>	<b>3a trans-diketo</b> <sup>1</sup>	<b>4a</b>	<b>4b</b>	<b>4c</b> <sup>2</sup>
$\Delta E_{\text{HOMO-LUMO}}$	3.84	4.41	3.58	3.61	3.49
$\Delta E_{\text{vert}}$	3.55	3.77	3.34	3.32	3.14
$\Delta E_{\text{adia}}$	3.49	3.59	3.31	3.30	3.10
$\Delta E_{\text{adiaZPVE}}$	3.48	3.57	3.33	3.30	3.13
$\Delta E'_{\text{vert}}$	-3.37	-3.34	-3.24	-3.21	-3.03
$\mu_{S_0 \rightarrow S_1}$	11.4	(0.92, 1.45, 0.19)	14.0	14.4	12.7
$\lambda_{\text{abs}B3TDA}$	349.3	308.8 (329.21, 310.52, 310.49)	371.6	373.1	394.5
$f_{\text{abs}B3TDA}$	0.99	(0.09, 0.14, 0.02)	1.14	1.17	0.98
$k_{\text{rad}B3TDA}$	$6.18 \times 10^9$	$4.82 \times 10^7$	$7.69 \times 10^9$	$8.05 \times 10^9$	$5.30 \times 10^9$
$\lambda_{\text{fluo}B3TDA}$	368.1	314 (371.08, 328.8, 320.12)	383.1	385.7	409.8
$f_{\text{fluo}B3TDA}$	0.97	(0.03, 0.11, 0.03)	1.19	1.23	1.03

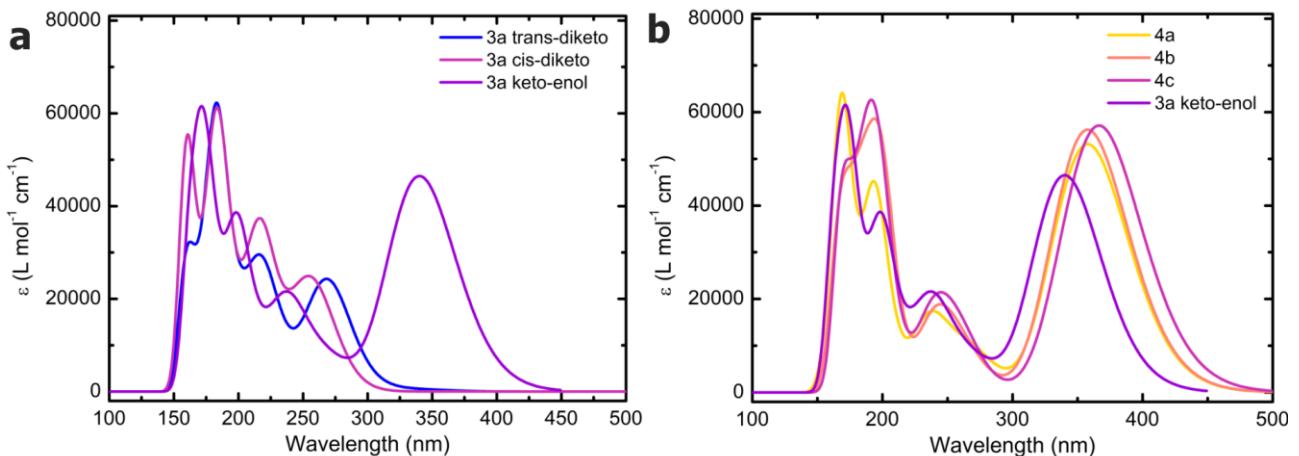
<sup>1</sup> The lowest energy band in the absorption, emission, and excitation spectra of **3a** trans-diketo is the result of the convolution of more than one signal. The wavelength value is the maximum of the band resulting from the convolution of these signals, while in parentheses are reported the three lowest energy transitions contributing to this band.



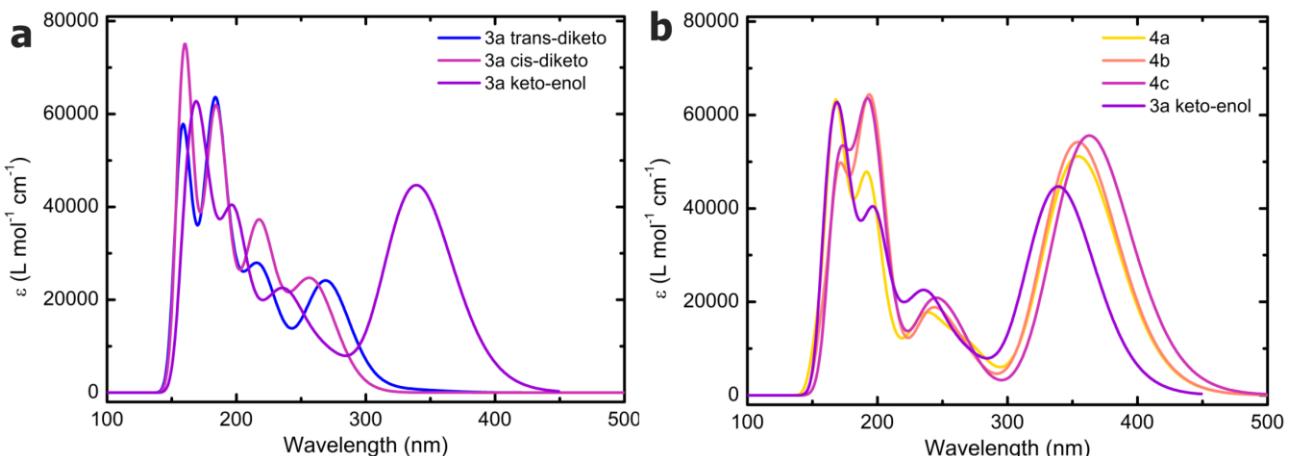
**Figure S12.** Electronic fluorescence spectra of (a) the three conformers of **3a** and (b) the BF<sub>2</sub>bdks compounds as computed at the TDA- $\omega$ B97X-D/def2-TZVPD for  $S_1$  including the first 100 excitations.



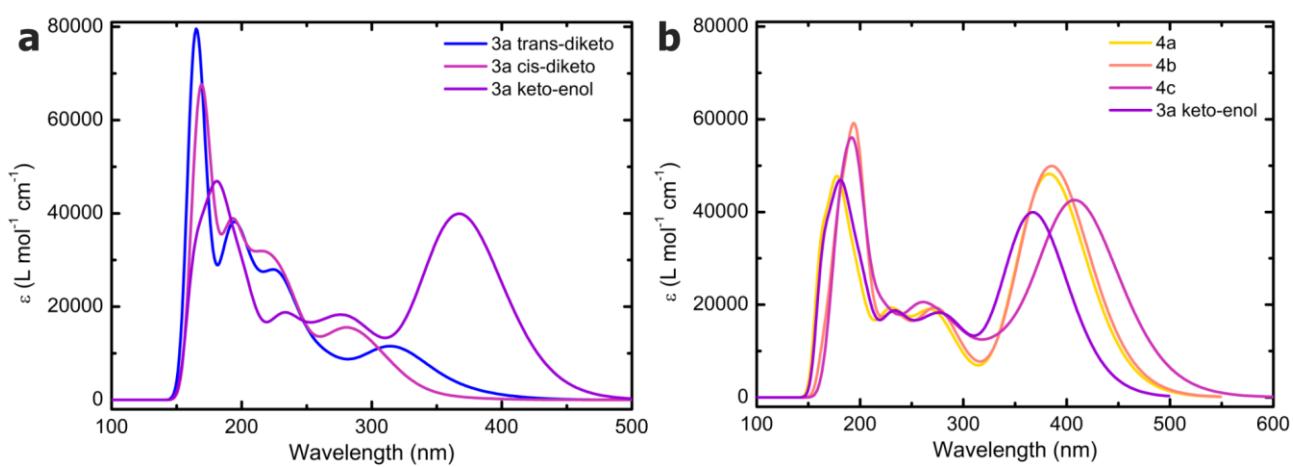
**Figure S13.** Electronic fluorescence spectra of (a) the three conformers of 3a and (b) the BF<sub>2</sub>bdks compounds as computed at the TD- $\omega$ B97X-D/def2-TZVPD for S<sub>1</sub> including the first 100 excitations.



**Figure S14.** Electronic fluorescence spectra of (a) the three conformers of 3a and (b) the BF<sub>2</sub>bdks compounds as computed at the TDA-M06-2X/def2-TZVPD for S<sub>1</sub> including the first 100 excitations.



**Figure S15.** Electronic fluorescence spectra of (a) the three conformers of 3a and (b) the BF<sub>2</sub>bdks compounds as computed at the TDA-CAM-B3LYP-D3/def2-TZVPD for S<sub>1</sub> including the first 100 excitations.



**Figure S16.** Electronic fluorescence spectra of (a) the three conformers of **3a** and (b) the  $\text{BF}_2\text{bdks}$  compounds as computed at the TDA-B3LYP-D3/def2-TZVPD for  $S_1$  including the first 100 excitations. The spectra are obtained on the TDA-CAM-B3LYP-D3 geometry for  $S_1$ .