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## Supporting Information

Syntheses and studies of electron/energy transfer of new dyads based on an unsymmetrical perylene diimide incorporating chelating 1,10-phenantroline and its corresponding square-planar complexes with dichloroplatinum(II) and dichloropalladium(II)

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## **Synthesis of PDI-3**



Scheme S1. Synthesis of PDI-3.

*N'-(2-ethylhexyl)-1,6,7,12-tetrakis-(4-methoxyphenoxy)perylene-9,10-dicarboxylicimide-3,4-dicarboxylic anhydride (PDI-3)* 

*N*,*N*-di(2-ethylhexyl)-1,6,7,12-tetrakis-(4-methoxyphenoxy)perylene-3,4,9,10-tetracarboxylic acid diimide (4.6 g, 1.49 mmol) and KOH (4.9 g) were heated under reflux for 70 min. in a mixture of isopropanol (48 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (6 mL). After cooling the reaction mixture to room temperature, it was stirred in acetic acid (10 mL) for 1h, H<sub>2</sub>O was added, and the resulting precipitate was filtered and dried under vacuum. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel using (DCM/EtAs – 100/1) as eluent. The product (0.29 g, 20%) was obtained as a purple solid. FT-IR Spectrum [(ATR)/cm<sup>-1</sup>]: 3075 (Ar-CH), 2956-2850 (CH), 1765 (C=O anhydride), 1735 (C=O anhydride), 1662 (C=O imide), 1589 (C=C), 1499, 1463, 1442, 1407, 1394, 1376, 1339, 1285, 1246, 1224, 1197 (C-O-C), 1179 (C-O-C), 1138, 1118, 1102, 1072, 1132, 1007, 946, 905, 873, 828, 796, 758, 742, 730, 705, 669, 650. MALDI-TOF (*m*/2): Calculated: 992.03; Found: 992.4 [M]<sup>+</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{\text{ppm}}$ :  $\delta$  = 8.11 (s, 2H, H<sub>P1</sub>), 8.08 (s, 2H, H<sub>P1</sub>), 6.92 (d, 8H, H<sub>P2</sub>), 6.83 (d, 8H, H<sub>P3</sub>), 4.03 (m, 2H, H<sub>H1</sub>), 3.81 (s, 12H, H<sub>P4</sub>), 1.54 (t, 1H, H<sub>H2</sub>), 1.31-1.25 (m, 8H, H<sub>H3, H5, H6, H7), 0.92-0.86 (m, 6H, H<sub>H4, H8</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DEPT, 600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta_{\text{ppm}}$ : (C) 163.633, 157.273, 156.905, 156.844, 148.170, 123.066, 121.403, 119.043, 117.939 (CH) 121.533, 121.449, 120.529, 118.782, 115.311, 115.265, 38.061 (CH<sub>2</sub>) 44.413, 30.796, 29.685, 24.053, 23.033 (CH<sub>3</sub>) 55.678, 156.884, 10.581.</sub>



Figure S1. FT-IR spectrum of PDI-3



Figure S2. MALDI-TOF spectrum of PDI-3







Figure S4. <sup>13</sup>C NMR DEPT spectrum of PDI-3





Figure S6. FT-IR spectrum of 2



Figure S7. FT-IR spectrum of 3



Figure S8. MALDI-TOF spectrum of 1



Figure S9. MALDI-TOF spectrum of 2



Figure S10. MALDI-TOF spectrum of 3



Figure S11. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 1



Figure S12. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 2



Figure S13. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 3



Figure S14. COSY spectrum of 1



Figure S15. COSY spectrum of 2



Figure S16. COSY spectrum of 3

	1	2	3
Proton	$\Box_{\rm H}, J $ in Hz	$\Box_{\rm H}, J $ in Hz	$\Box_{\rm H}, J \text{ in Hz}$
$H_{P1}$	7.85 (s, 2H)	7.86 (s, 2H)	7.85 (s, 2H)
$H_{P1}$	7.84 (s, 2H)	7.84 (s, 2H)	7.82 (s, 2H)
$H_{P2}$	7.00 (m. 9H)	7.01 (m. 9 H)	6.09 (m, 911)
$H_{P2'}$	7.00 (III, 8H)	7.01 (III, 8H)	0.98 (111, 811)
$H_{P3}$	6 05 (m 8H)	6.05 (m. 8H)	6.02 (m. 8H)
$H_{P3'}$	0.95 (11, 611)	0.93 (111, 811)	0.95 (III, 811)
$H_{P4}$	3.76 (s, 6H)	3.76 (s, 6H)	3.75 (s, 6H)
$H_{P4'}$	3.69 (s, 6H)	3.70 (s, 6H)	3.69 (s, 6H)
$H_2$	9.16 (d, <i>J</i> = 3.89, 1H)	9.75 (d, <i>J</i> = 5.53, 1H)	9.39 (d, <i>J</i> = 5.27, 1H)
$H_3$	7.80 (dd, $J = 4.08$ , 1H)	8.19 (dd, <i>J</i> = 5.59, 1H)	8.14 (dd, <i>J</i> = 5.52, 1H)
$H_4$	8.47 (m, 1H)	9.05 (d, <i>J</i> = 8.17, 1H)	8.96 (d, <i>J</i> = 8.15, 1H)
$H_6$	8.09 (s, 1H)	8.48 (s, 1H)	8.44 (s, 1H)
$H_7$	8.49 (m, 8H)	9.13 (d, <i>J</i> = 8.53, 1H)	9.05 (d, <i>J</i> = 8.47, 1H)
$H_8$	7.64 (dd, $J = 4.11, 1H$ )	8.07 (dd, <i>J</i> = 5.55, 1H)	8.02 (dd, <i>J</i> = 5.39, 1H)
H <sub>9</sub>	9.10 (d, <i>J</i> = 4.07, 1H)	9.73 (d, <i>J</i> = 5.52, 1H)	9.36 (d, <i>J</i> = 5.13, 1H)
$\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{H1}}$	3.87 (m, 2H)	3.89 (m, 2H)	3.84 (m, 2H)
$H_{H2}$	1.75 (m, 1H)	1.75 (m, 1H)	1.74 (m, 1H)
H <sub>H3,H5,H6,H7</sub>	1.21 (m, 8H)	1.21 (m, 8H)	1.20 (m, 8H)
$H_{\rm H4,H8}$	0.80 (m, 6H)	0.80 (m, 6H)	0.79 (m, 6H)

Table S1. <sup>1</sup>H chemical shifts (ppm) for compounds 1, 2 and 3 in DMSO- $d_6$ 



Figure S17. <sup>13</sup>C NMR DEPT spectrum of 1



Figure S18. <sup>13</sup>C NMR DEPT spectrum of 2



Figure S19. <sup>13</sup>C NMR DEPT spectrum of 3



Figure S20. HSQC spectrum of 1



Figure S21. HSQC spectrum of 2



Figure S22. HSQC spectrum of 3



Figure S23. HMBC spectrum of 1



Figure S24. HMBC spectrum of 2



Figure S25. HMBC spectrum of 3

	1	2	3
Carbon		$\Box_{c}$	
C <sub>P1</sub>	118.153	118.176	118.169
C <sub>P1</sub> ,	117.992	117.969	117.969
C <sub>P2</sub>	121.908	121.901	121.901
C <sub>P2'</sub>	121.770	121.694	121.694
C <sub>P3</sub>	115.793	115.770	115.770
С <sub>Р3'</sub>	115.755	115.770	115.770
C <sub>P4</sub>	55.945	55.953	55.953
C <sub>P4</sub> ,	55.907	55.922	55.914
C <sub>a</sub>	163.564	163.580	163.564
$C_{a'}$	163.342	163.304	163.304
C <sub>b</sub>	148.369	148.346	148.346
C <sub>b</sub> ,	148.323	148.277	148.277
C <sub>c</sub>	156.875	156.882	156.882
C <sub>c</sub> ,	156.798	156.798	156.798
C <sub>2</sub>	151.334	150.369	151.587
C <sub>3</sub>	124.182	127.073	126.759
$C_4$	136.912	140.169	140.698
$C_6$	127.916	129.096	129.020
C <sub>7</sub>	132.437	136.330	136.821
$C_8$	124.000	127.073	126.759
C <sub>9</sub>	150.698	150.124	151.265
C <sub>H1</sub>	43.998	43.983	43.983
C <sub>H2</sub>	37.653	37.638	37.638
	22.825	22.818	22.818
	23.937	23.929	23.929
$C_{H3}, C_{H5}, C_{H6}, C_{H7}$	28.573	28.565	28.565
	30.588	30.580	30.580
C C	10.871	10.863	10.863
$C_{H4}, C_{H8}$	14.358	14.350	14.350

Table S2. <sup>13</sup>C chemical shifts (ppm) for compounds 1, 2 and 3 in DMSO- $d_6$ 



**Figure S26.** Electronic absorption spectra of **1** in DMSO at different concentrations (inset: plot of absorbance vs. concentration)



**Figure S27.** Electronic absorption spectra of **2** in DMSO at different concentrations (inset: plot of absorbance vs. concentration)



**Figure S28.** Electronic absorption spectra of **3** in DMSO at different concentrations (inset: plot of absorbance vs. concentration)



**Figure S29.** The fluorescence emission spectra of **1**, **2** and **3** in DMSO ( $1.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M). (Excitation wavelength = 550 nm)



**Figure S30.** UV-Vis absorption spectra of **1**, **2** and **3** at  $5 \times 10^{-5}$  M in DCM.



**Figure S31.** Fluorescence spectra of 1, 2 and 3 at  $5 \times 10^{-5}$  M in DCM.



Figure S32. Schematic representation of the investigated molecules

**Table S3.** Dipole moments ( $\mu$ , Debye), sum of electronic energies and zero-point energies ( $E_{elec}+ZPE$ , Hartree), complexation energies ( $\Delta E_C$ ) and some dihedral angles of studied systems calculated with B3LYP functional using 6-31G(d,p) and LANL2DZ (for metals) basis sets in DCM.

		(-==-				
		μ	E <sub>elec</sub> +ZPE	$^{a}\Delta E_{C}$	Dihedral angle	Dihedral angle
		(D)	(Hartree)	(kcal/mol)	(C1C2C3C4)°	(C5N1C6C7)°
	1	5.36	-3898.118026		-28	90
	2	21.07	-4937.737230	-25.92	-28	89
	3	21.15	-4945.310683	-15.25	-28	92
	PtCl <sub>2</sub>	6.06	-1039.577881			
	PdCl <sub>2</sub>	6.28	-1047.168343			
$\Delta E_{\rm C} = \left[ (E+ZPE)_{2/3} - (E+ZPE)_1 - (E+ZPE)_{\rm MCl2} \right]$						

S27



Figure S33. Calculated IR spectra of 1, 2 and 3 in gas phase.



**Figure S34.** Frontier molecular orbitals, their energies, and HOMO-LUMO energy gaps for the investigated molecules calculated at B3LYP functional using 6-31G(d,p) and LANL2DZ (for metals) basis sets in DCM.

state	$\lambda_{ex}$ (nm)	f	$\mu_{tr}(D)$	Character <sup>a</sup>	Predominant Transitions	%
$\mathbf{S}_1$	661	0.0416	0.9048	ICT1	H→L	70
S <sub>2</sub>	640	0.0019	0.0393	ICT1	H-2→L	68
c	620	0.0622	1 2007	LE1,ICT1	H-1→L	62
33	029	0.0052	1.5087	LE1,ICT1	H-4→L	27
$S_4$	620	0.0233	0.4750	ICT1	H-3→L	70
$S_5$	543	0.5563	9.5352	LE1,ICT1	H-4→L	65
S <sub>6</sub>	447	0.0002	0.0025	ICT2	H-5→L	70
<b>S</b> <sub>7</sub>	400	0.0321	0.4227	LE1,ICT3	H-8→L	62
S <sub>8</sub>	398	0.0102	0.1332	ICT1	H→L+1	64
G	204.2	0.0062	0.0002	ICT2	H-6→L	46
39	394.2	0.0062	0.0805	LE1,ICT1	H-1→L+1	40
S	204	0.0255	0.4610	LE1,ICT1	H-9→L	47
$S_{10}$	394	0.0333	0.4010	ICT2	H-6→L	46
S	202	0.0270	0 3608	LE1,ICT1	H-1→L+1	45
$S_{11}$	393	0.0279	0.3008	LE1,ICT3	H-9→L	37
S <sub>12</sub>	388	0.0089	0.1138	ICT1	H-2→L+1	69
S	386	0.0032	0.0401	ICT1	H-10→L	61
513	380	0.0032	0.0401	LE+ICT1	H-1→L+1	29
S <sub>14</sub>	382.4	0.0077	0.0975	ICT1	H-11→L	65
S <sub>15</sub>	382	0.0010	0.0132	ICT2	H-7→L	66
S <sub>16</sub>	381	0.0004	0.0054	ICT1	H-3→L+1	65
S <sub>17</sub>	380	0.0025	0.0314	ICT1	H-12→L	70
S <sub>18</sub>	376	0.0158	0.1961	ICT1	H-13→L	69
S	369 0.0004	369 0.0004 0.0049	0.0040	LE1,ICT4	H-15→L	51
<b>3</b> 19			0.0049	LE1,ICT4	H-16→L	43
S <sub>20</sub>	366	0.0001	0.0009	LE1,ICT1	H-4→L+1	66

**Table S4.** Electronic transitions  $(\lambda_{ex})$ , oscillator strengths (f), transition dipole moments  $(\mu_{tr})$ , excitation character, molecular orbitals and their % contributions of 1 at B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) level in DCM.

<sup>a</sup>LE1: local excitation of perylene; ICT1: intramolecular charge-transfer from phenyl rings to perylene moiety; ICT2: intramolecular charge-transfer from phenanthroline to perylene moiety; ICT3: intramolecular charge-transfer from perylene to phenyl rings; ICT4: intramolecular charge-transfer from C=O, N and alkyl chain of perylene side to perylene.

stata ) (nm)		f	Character	Predominant	0/	
state	$\lambda_{ex}$ (nm)	1	$\mu_{tr}(D)$	Character	Transitions	<sup>7</sup> 0
$\mathbf{S}_1$	679	0.0581	1.2975	ICT1	H→L	70
S	653	0.0110	0 2540	ICT1	H-2→L	60
$\mathbf{S}_2$	055	0.0119	0.2349	LE1,ICT1	H-1→L	37
S.	646	0 1038	2 2068	LE1,ICT1	H-1→L	57
33	040	0.1038	2.2008	ICT1	H-2→L	37
$S_4$	634	0.0335	0.6981	ICT1	H-3→L	70
$S_5$	563	0.6902	12.7975	LE1,ICT1	H-4→L	68
$S_6$	453	0.0001	0.0014	LMCT1,ICT5	H→L+1	62
<b>S</b> <sub>7</sub>	448	0.0002	0.0023	LMCT2,ICT5	H-1→L+1	61
$S_8$	439	0.0000	0.0006	LMCT1,ICT5	H-2→L+1	66
<b>S</b> 9	436	0.0000	0.0003	MLCT1	H-5→L	71
S <sub>10</sub>	431	0.0001	0.0011	LMCT1,ICT5	H-3→L+1	69
S <sub>11</sub>	425	0.0001	0.0013	LMCT1,ICT5	H→L+2	65
S <sub>12</sub>	423.3	0.0002	0.0027	LMCT2,ICT5	H-1→L+2	62
S <sub>13</sub>	423	0.0001	0.0011	MLCT1,ICT2	H-6→L	70
S <sub>14</sub>	418	0.0034	0.0463	LE2,MLCT3	H-5→L+1	66
S <sub>15</sub>	414	0.0006	0.0084	LMCT2,ICT5	H-4→L+1	65
S <sub>16</sub>	413	0.0000	0.0004	ICT5	H-2→L+2	63
S <sub>17</sub>	407	0.0673	0.9020	LE1,ICT1	H-9→L	67
S <sub>18</sub>	406	0.0004	0.0047	ICT5	H-3→L+2	69
S <sub>19</sub>	405	0.0001	0.0010	MLCT2	H-7→L	70
S <sub>20</sub>	404	0.0036	0.0479	LE2,MLCT3	H-7→L+1	65
S <sub>40</sub>	363	0.1946	2.3306	LE2,MLCT3	H-5→L+1	56

**Table S5.** Electronic transitions ( $\lambda_{ex}$ ), oscillator strengths (f), transition dipole moments ( $\mu_{tr}$ ), excitation character, molecular orbitals and their % contributions of **2** calculated at B3LYP functional using 6-31G(d,p) and LANL2DZ (for metals) basis sets in DCM.

<sup>a</sup>LE1: local excitation of perylene; LE2: local excitation of Pt; LMCT1: charge transfer from phenyl units to Pt; LMCT2: charge transfer from perylene to Pt; MLCT1: charge transfer from Pt-Cl2 to perylene; MLCT2: charge transfer from Pt to perylene; MLCT3: charge transfer from Pt-Cl2 to phenanthroline; ICT1: intramolecular charge-transfer from phenyl rings to perylene moiety; ICT5: intramolecular charge-transfer from phenyl rings to pervlene moiety; ICT5: intramolecular charge-transfer from phenyl rings to phenanthroline.

stata	) (mm)	f	(D)	Character	Predominant	0/
State	$\lambda_{ex}$ (IIIII)	1	$\mu_{tr}(D)$	Character	Transitions	/0
<b>S</b> <sub>1</sub>	678.5	0.0590	1.3178	ICT1	H→L	71
C	(5)	0.0126	0 2712	ICT1	H-2→L	60
$\mathbf{S}_2$	033	0.0126	0.2712	LE1,ICT1	H-1→L	37
c	616	0 1026	2 2028	LE+ICT1	H-1→L	57
33	040	0.1050	2.2028	ICT1	H-2→L	37
S <sub>4</sub>	634	0.0334	0.6962	ICT1	H-3→L	70
S <sub>5</sub>	563	0.6871	12.738	LE1,ICT1	H-4→L	68
S <sub>6</sub>	486	0.0002	0.0025	LE2,MLCT3	H-5→L+1	66
<b>S</b> <sub>7</sub>	485	0.0014	0.0001	LE2,MLCT3	H-8→L+1	62
S <sub>8</sub>	461	0.0000	0.0001	LE2,MLCT3	H-6→L+1	66
S <sub>9</sub>	458	0.0016	0.0243	LE2,MLCT3	H-13→L+1	64
S <sub>10</sub>	452	0.0000	0.0001	LMCT1,ICT5	H→L+1	67
S <sub>11</sub>	447	0.0000	0.0001	LMCT2,ICT5	H-1→L+1	66
S <sub>12</sub>	446	0.0001	0.0014	ICT5	H→L+2	62
S <sub>13</sub>	442	0.0001	0.0018	LMCT2,ICT5	H-1→L+2	61
S <sub>14</sub>	440	0.0000	0.0002	LMCT1,ICT5	H-2→L+1	68
S <sub>15</sub>	433	0.0000	0.0007	ICT5	H-2→L+2	66
S <sub>16</sub>	432	0.0000	0.0002	LMCT1,ICT5	H-3→L+1	69
S <sub>17</sub>	425	0.0001	0.0011	ICT5	H-3→L+2	69
S <sub>18</sub>	419	0.0001	0.0018	ICT5	H→L+2	65
S <sub>19</sub>	418	0.0002	0.0030	LMCT2,ICT5	H-1→L+2	62
S <sub>20</sub>	413	0.0000	0.0002	LMCT2,ICT5	H-4→L+1	70

**Table S6.** Electronic transitions ( $\lambda_{ex}$ ), oscillator strengths (f), transition dipole moments ( $\mu_{tr}$ ), excitation character, molecular orbitals and their % contributions of **3** calculated at B3LYP functional using 6-31G(d,p) and LANL2DZ (for metals) basis sets in DCM.

<sup>a</sup>LE1: local excitation of perylene; LE2: local excitation of Pd; LMCT1: charge transfer from phenyl units to Pd; LMCT2: charge transfer from perylene to Pd; MLCT1: charge transfer from Pd-Cl2 to perylene; MLCT2: charge transfer from Pd-Cl2 to perylene; MLCT3: charge transfer from Pd-Cl2 to phenanthroline; ICT1: intramolecular charge-transfer from phenyl rings to perylene moiety; ICT5: intramolecular charge-transfer from phenyl rings to pervlene moiety; ICT5: intramolecular charge-transfer from phenyl rings to pervlene moiety; ICT5: intramolecular charge-transfer from phenyl rings to pervlene moiety.



Figure S34. Selected molecular orbitals of 1 in DCM



Figure S35. Some molecular orbitals of 2 in DCM.



**S36.** Selected molecular orbitals of **3** in DCM.



Table S7. Charge distribution in compound 2 in DCM

Mulliken charges	NBO charges
0.264	0.378
-0.333	-0.477
-0.334	-0.478
-0.647	-0.415
-0.643	-0.415
0.130	0.087
-0.111	-0.252
-0.484	-0.639
0.203	0.199
-0.621	-0.508
0.487	0.695
0.487	0.694
-0.485	-0.640
-0.484	-0.639
-0.486	-0.502
	Mulliken charges 0.264 -0.333 -0.334 -0.647 -0.643 0.130 -0.111 -0.484 0.203 -0.621 0.487 0.487 -0.485 -0.484 -0.486



**Figure S37.** Ultrafast transient absorption spectra of **2** with different time delays at excited 590 nm femtosecond pulsed laser



**Figure S38.** Ultrafast transient absorption spectra of **3** with different time delays at excited 590 nm femtosecond pulsed laser