## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

# Synthesis and electronic properties of $\pi$ -expanded carbazole-based porphyrins

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#### [A] Instrumentation and Materials

<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were taken on a JEOL ECS-400 spectrometer, and chemical shifts are reported as the delta scale in ppm using an internal reference ( $\delta = 7.26$  for <sup>1</sup>H NMR, 77.00 for <sup>13</sup>C NMR, for CDCl<sub>3</sub>, and  $\delta = 8.71$  for <sup>1</sup>H NMR for pyridine-*d*<sub>5</sub>). UV/vis/NIR absorption spectra were recorded on a Shimadzu UV-2600 spectrophotometer. Mass spectra were taken on a Bruker micrOTOF. Redox potentials were measured by the cyclic voltammetry method on an ALS electrochemical analyzer model CHI-600B. Gel permeation chromatography (GPC) was performed with BIO-Rad Bio-Beads ( $\phi$  4 cm × 70 cm). Unless otherwise noted, materials obtained from commercial suppliers were used without further purification. **1'**,<sup>[S1]</sup> **4a**,<sup>[S1]</sup> **11a**,<sup>[S1]</sup> tributyl(1-hexynyl)tin,<sup>[S2]</sup> 1,3,5-tribromo-2-nitrobenzene,<sup>[S3]</sup> bromo(triisopropylsilyl)acetylene,<sup>[S4]</sup> and tributyl(triisopropylsilylethynyl)tin<sup>[S5]</sup> were prepared according to the literature method.

Single crystals of **3b'** were obtained by slow diffusion of acetonitrile vapor into a chloroform solution of **3b'**. X-ray data at 93 K were taken on a Rigaku XtaLAB P200 with Cu- $K_{\alpha}$  radiation ( $\lambda = 1.54187$  Å). The structures were solved by direct methods and refined with the full-matrix least square technique. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically, and the hydrogen atoms were calculated in ideal positions.

#### [B] Experimental Procedures and Compound Data



Scheme S1 Synthesis of 2a-d

#### Synthesis of 4b

To a suspension of **1'** (188 mg, 151  $\mu$ mol) and SiO<sub>2</sub> (6.00 g) in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (70 mL) was added dropwise a solution of *N*-bromosuccinimide (NBS) (36.8 mg, 207  $\mu$ mol) in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (30 mL) over 5 min at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred at rt for 15 h. The reaction mixture was passed through a silica gel column with CHCl<sub>3</sub> and evaporated. The residue was dissolved in toluene (10 mL), and



tributyl(1-hexynyl)tin (137 mg, 369 µmol) and Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (10.9 mg, 9.43 µmol) were added. The mixture

was degassed and heated at reflux for 15 h under  $N_2$ . After cooling to rt and concentrating, the residue was separated over a silica gel column with CHCl<sub>3</sub>/hexane as an eluent to give **4b** as a reddish-brown solid (156 mg, 117  $\mu$ mol, 78%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 10.45 (s, 1H, NH), 10.40 (s, 1H, NH), 8.47 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.39 (s, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.38 (s, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.36 (s, 2H, carbazole-H), 8.01 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H, carbazole-H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H, carbazole-H), 7.98 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H, carbazole-H), 7.63–7.61 (m, 8H for Ar, 1H for thiophene-H), 7.56 (s, 2H, thiophene-H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 3H, Ar), 7.48 (s, 1H, Ar), 2.41 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.47 (s, 54H, *t*-Bu), 1.46 (s, 18H, *t*-Bu), 1.27 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), and 0.69 ppm (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 151.44, 151.18, 141.50, 141.37, 139.90, 139.76, 139.22, 137.89, 137.32, 137.16, 137.00, 136.00, 135.89, 135.42, 130.74, 127.10, 126.98, 126.11, 125.09, 125.02, 124.96, 124.57, 124.42, 122.36, 122.31, 122.27, 121.31, 121.05, 120.35, 120.12, 120.03, 118.06, 117.93, 117.44, 116.91, 94.01, 75.62, 35.23, 35.19, 31.79, 30.71, 22.05, 19.46, and 13.50 ppm; MS (ESI): *m*/*z* = 1326.7735. calcd for C<sub>94</sub>H<sub>105</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: 1326.7757 [M–H]<sup>-</sup>.

#### Synthesis of 4c

Compound **4c** was synthesized according to the method similar to the synthesis of **4b**.

Reddish-brown solid, 108 mg, 61% yield: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 10.48 (s, 1H, NH), 10.47 (s, 1H, NH), 8.62 (s, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.45 (s, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.41 (s, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.39 (s, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.38 (s, 1H, carbazole-H),



8.03 (s, 3H, carbazole-H), 7.65 (s, 1H, thiophene-H), 7.63 (s, 8H, Ar), 7.58 (s, 2H, thiophene-H), 7.53 (s, 3H, Ar), 7.49 (s, 1H, Ar), 7.31 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H, Ph), 7.26 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H, Ph), 7.16 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H, Ph), 1.48 (s, 54H, *t*-Bu), and 1.37 ppm (s, 18H, *t*-Bu); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 151.44$ , 151.37, 141.52, 141.48, 141.38, 141.33, 140.39, 139.89, 139.74, 138.29, 137.31, 137.16, 137.01, 136.06, 136.00, 135.97, 135.45, 131.76, 129.92, 128.47, 127.16, 127.09, 126.44, 125.17, 125.13, 125.11, 124.99, 124.58, 124.50, 124.42, 122.87, 122.37, 122.31, 122.26, 121.72, 121.33, 121.05, 120.49, 120.32, 120.14, 120.10, 118.09, 117.97, 117.30, 116.78, 92.82, 84.71, 35.24, 35.12, 31.80, and 31.70 ppm; MS (APCI): m/z = 1346.7447. calcd for C<sub>96</sub>H<sub>101</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: 1346.7444 [M–H]<sup>-</sup>.

#### Synthesis of 4d

Compound 4d was synthesized according to the method similar to the synthesis of **4b**.

Reddish-brown solid, 99.1 mg, 50% yield: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 10.51 (s, 1H, NH), 10.42 (s, 1H, NH), 8.66 (s, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.39 (s, 2H, carbazole-H), 8.38 (s, 2H, carbazole-H), 8.033 (s, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.027 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H,



carbazole-H), 8.00 (s, 1H, carbazole-H), 7.66 (s, 1H, thiophene-H), 7.63 (s, 6H, Ar), 7.60 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.58 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H, thiophene-H), 7.57 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H, thiophene-H), 7.52 (s, 3H, Ar), 7.39 (s, 1H, Ar), 7.16 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H, Ph), 6.46 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H, Ph), 3.85 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.48 (s, 54H, t-Bu), 1.30 (s, 18H, t-Bu), 1.23 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.09–0.98 (m, 20H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.70 ppm (t, J =7.0 Hz, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 161.30, 151.42, 151.40, 151.36, 151.06, 141.68, 141.56, 141.45, 139.99, 139.79, 139.25, 137.62, 137.29, 137.14, 137.05, 135.95, 135.92, 135.88, 135.41, 130.80, 129.82, 127.04, 127.01, 126.85, 125.19, 125.01, 124.99, 124.97, 124.53, 124.42, 124.35, 122.71, 122.37, 122.27, 121.28, 121.22, 120.77, 120.26, 120.09, 119.99, 119.91, 118.10, 117.93, 117.57, 117.06, 104.97, 102.69, 92.33, 85.62, 69.04, 35.23, 34.98, 31.80, 31.60, 29.33, 29.28, 29.06, 25.99, 22.68, and 14.17 ppm; MS (APCI): m/z = 1602.9838. calcd for C<sub>112</sub>H<sub>133</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: 1602.9847 [M-H]<sup>-</sup>.

#### Synthesis of 2a'

A suspension of 4a (67.4 mg, 53.0  $\mu$ mol) and PtCl<sub>2</sub> (5.65 mg, 21.2  $\mu$ mol) in toluene (10 mL) was degassed and heated at reflux for 48 h under N<sub>2</sub>. After cooling to rt and concentrating, the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography with CHCl<sub>3</sub>/hexane as an eluent to give 2a' as a yellow solid (44.7 mg, 35.1 µmol, 66%).



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 11.44 (s, 1H, NH), 11.13 (s, 1H, NH), 8.39 (s, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.37 (s, 2H, carbazole-H), 8.33 (s, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.29 (s, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.09 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H, -CH=CH-), 8.05 (s, 2H for carbazole-H, 1H for thiophene-H), 7.95 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H, -CH=CH-), 7.66–7.62 (m, 6H, Ar), 7.60 (s, 2H, thiophene-H), 7.57 (t, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.56–7.51 (m, 5H, Ar), 1.49 (s, 18H, t-Bu), 1.48 (s, 18H, t-Bu), 1.473 (s, 18H, t-Bu), and 1.468 ppm (s, 18H, t-Bu);  ${}^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 151.44, 150.80, 141.71, 141.56, 141.49, 140.70, 140.02, 139.69, 139.26, 137.44, 136.95, 136.70, 136.35, 136.23, 136.00, 134.80, 134.33, 130.95, 128.53, 127.89, 127.61, 126.34, 125.57, 125.38, 125.05, 123.19, 123.05, 122.37, 121.56, 121.40, 121.34, 121.23, 121.13, 121.05, 120.59, 120.22, 120.14, 119.75, 119.28, 118.61, 118.45, 117.65, 116.05, 35.23, 35.18, and 31.81 ppm; MS (APCI): m/z = 1270.7146. calcd for  $C_{90}H_{97}N_2S_2$ : 1270.7132 [*M*-H]<sup>-</sup>; UV/vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\lambda_{max}(\varepsilon) = 299$  (85800), 405 (19800), 423 nm (27600)  $M^{-1}cm^{-1}$ ).

#### Synthesis of 2b'

Compound **2b**' was synthesized according to the method similar to the synthesis of **2a**'.

Yellow solid, 27.2 mg, 71% yield: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 11.42 (s, 1H, NH), 11.16 (s, 1H, NH), 8.38 (s, 2H, carbazole-H), 8.36 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H, carbazole-

H), 8.29 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.20 (s, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.055 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.047 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.03 (s, 1H, thiophene-H), 7.86 (s, 1H, -C*H*=CBu-), 7.640 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.636 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.63 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.61–7.59 (m, 2H, thiophene-H), 7.53 (t, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.52 (t, J = 1.8 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.50 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.43 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 2H, Ar), 2.58 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.48 (s, 18H, *t*-Bu), 1.47 (s, 18H, *t*-Bu), 1.45 (s, 18H, *t*-Bu), 1.42 (s, 18H, *t*-Bu), 1.34 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.91 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), and 0.71 ppm (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 151.45$ , 151.41, 150.20, 144.54, 141.61, 141.58, 141.54, 140.38, 140.07, 139.76, 139.17, 137.71, 137.50, 137.09, 136.75, 136.24, 136.19, 135.97, 135.29, 134.79, 129.51, 127.81, 127.74, 127.57, 126.22, 125.36, 125.00, 124.92, 124.63, 123.82, 123.54, 123.26, 123.08, 122.39, 122.32, 121.38, 121.33, 121.21, 120.74, 120.53, 120.24, 120.04, 119.26, 118.97, 118.61, 118.47, 117.70, 117.28, 36.34, 35.12, 34.57, 31.80, 22.82, and 14.02 ppm; MS (ESI): m/z = 1326.7773. calcd for C<sub>94</sub>H<sub>105</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: 1326.7757 [M-H]<sup>-</sup>; UV/vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\lambda_{max}$  ( $\varepsilon$ ) = 300 (88300), 408 (20600), 427 nm (30400 M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>).

#### Synthesis of 2c'

Compound **2c'** was synthesized according to the method similar to the synthesis of **2a'**.

Yellow solid, 44.3 mg, 49% yield: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 11.47 (s, 1H, NH), 11.16 (s, 1H, NH), 8.38 (s, 3H, carbazole-H), 8.30 (s, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.26 (s,



1H, carbazole-H), 8.09 (s, 1H, thiophene-H), 8.07 (s, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.06 (s, 1H, carbazole-H), 7.90 (s, 1H, -C*H*=CPh-), 7.64–7.63 (m, 6H for Ar, 2H for thiophene-H), 7.53–7.52 (m, 2H, Ar), 7.51 (t, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.17 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H, Ph), 7.06 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.03 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.01–6.92 (m, 3H, Ph), 1.47 (s, 36H, *t*-Bu), 1.46 (s, 18H, *t*-Bu), and 1.28 ppm (s, 18H, *t*-Bu); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 151.47$ , 151.43, 149.15, 143.52, 143.27, 141.62, 141.56, 141.50, 140.40, 140.03, 139.77, 139.64, 137.53, 137.25, 137.17, 136.75, 136.42, 136.26, 136.06, 135.52, 134.86, 130.53, 130.11, 127.89, 127.62, 127.47, 126.78, 126.39, 126.33, 125.88, 125.45, 125.04, 125.00, 124.82, 124.64, 123.33, 123.24, 122.38, 121.42, 121.36, 121.27, 120.68, 120.38, 120.28, 120.20, 119.80, 119.43, 118.69, 118.49, 117.59, 117.50, 35.25, 34.82, 31.81, and 31.58 ppm; MS (APCI): m/z = 1346.7432. calcd for C<sub>96</sub>H<sub>101</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: 1346.7444 [M–H]<sup>-</sup>; UV/vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\lambda_{max}$  ( $\varepsilon$ ) = 293 (86700), 409 (21800), 426 nm (23900 M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>).



#### Synthesis of 2d'

Compound **2d'** was synthesized according to the method similar to the synthesis of **2a'**.

Yellow solid, 39.8 mg, 70% yield: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 11.45 (s, 1H, NH), 11.26 (s, 1H, NH), 8.39 (s, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.38 (s, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.35 (s,

1H, carbazole-H), 8.29 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.07 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.06 (s, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.05 (s, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.03 (s, 1H, thiophene-H), 7.81 (s, 1H, -C*H*=CR-), 7.64–7.63 (m, 6H for Ar, 2H for thiophene-H), 7.53 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.50 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.13 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.11 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H, Ar), 6.84 (t, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, Ph), 6.20 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H, Ph), 3.97–3.92 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.73–3.67 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.48 (s, 36H, *t*-Bu), 1.46 (s, 18H, *t*-Bu), 1.30 (s, 18H, *t*-Bu), 1.12–0.90 (m, 24H, CH<sub>2</sub>), and 0.65 ppm (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta = 156.36$ , 151.45, 151.38, 151.35, 148.44, 143.41, 141.80, 141.67, 141.62, 140.38, 139.73, 138.77, 137.54, 137.29, 137.05, 136.76, 136.21, 136.13, 136.08, 136.03, 134.96, 132.45, 130.29, 128.89, 128.07, 127.79, 127.62, 126.67, 126.21, 125.71, 125.02, 124.96, 123.97, 123.39, 123.24, 122.67, 122.43, 122.39, 122.35, 121.62, 121.35, 121.31, 121.08, 120.22, 119.48, 119.02, 118.53, 117.86, 116.66, 104.53, 68.01, 35.24, 35.21, 34.73, 31.80, 31.65, 29.37, 29.32, 29.29, 26.22, 22.64, and 14.16 ppm; MS (APCI): m/z = 1602.9839. calcd for C<sub>112</sub>H<sub>133</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: 1602.9847 [M–H]<sup>-</sup>; UV/vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\lambda_{max} (\varepsilon) = 301 (89400), 407 (20000), 427 nm (28900 M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>).$ 

#### Synthesis of 2a

To a solution of 2a' (30.8 mg, 24.2 µmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (15 mL) was added MnO<sub>2</sub> (940 mg, 10.8 mmol), and the resulting suspension was stirred. After 14 h, MnO<sub>2</sub> (745 mg, 8.57 mmol) was added, and the mixture was stirred for further 5 h. The reaction mixture was then passed through a silica gel column with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The solvent was evaporated to give **2a** as a green solid (18.6 mg, 14.6 µmol, 60% yield).



Green solid, 18.6 mg, 60% yield: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (pyridine- $d_5$ )  $\delta$  = 10.21 (s, 1H), 10.07 (s, 2H), 9.97 (s, 1H), 9.77 (s, 1H), 9.57 (s, 1H), 9.48 (s, 2H), 9.25 (s, 1H), 9.09 (s, 1H), 8.74–8.62 (m, 2H, CH=CH), 8.25 (s, 2H, Ar), 8.23 (s, 2H, Ar), 8.21 (s, 2H, Ar), 8.00 (s, 2H, Ar), 7.91 (s, 2H, Ar), 7.84 (s, 2H, Ar), 1.54 (s, 36H, *t*-Bu), 1.52 (s, 18H, *t*-Bu), and 1.51 ppm (s, 18H, *t*-Bu); <sup>13</sup>C NMR couldn't detect peaks due to very low solubility; MS (ESI): m/z = 1270.7127. calcd for C<sub>90</sub>H<sub>97</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: 1270.7121 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>; UV/vis/NIR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\lambda_{max}$  ( $\varepsilon$ ) = 277 (60100), 421 (15700), 963 (14700), 1180 nm (4490 M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>).



#### Synthesis of 2b

Compound **2b** was synthesized according to the method similar to the synthesis of **2a**.

Green solid, 14.0 mg, 64% yield: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (pyridine- $d_5$ )  $\delta = 10.24$  (s, 1H), 10.08 (s, 2H), 10.01 (s, 1H), 9.79 (s, 1H), 9.60 (s, 1H), 9.50 (s, 2H), 9.19 (s, 1H),

8.97 (s, 1H), 8.64 (s, 1H, -C*H*=CBu-), 8.25 (s, 4H, Ar), 8.22 (s, 2H, Ar), 7.84 (s, 6H, Ar), 3.06 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.67 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.52 (s, 72H, *t*-Bu), 1.15 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), and 0.85 ppm (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR couldn't detect peaks due to very low solubility; MS (ESI): m/z = 1326.7714. calcd for C<sub>94</sub>H<sub>105</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: 1326.7747 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>; UV/vis/NIR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\lambda_{max}$  ( $\varepsilon$ ) = 277 (52700), 328 (44700), 960 (22000), 1176 nm (6460 M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>).

#### Synthesis of 2c

Compound 2c was synthesized according to the method similar to the synthesis of 2a.

Green solid, 10.9 mg, 62% yield: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (pyridine- $d_5$ )  $\delta$  = 10.16 (s, 1H), 9.99 (s, 2H), 9.92 (s, 1H), 9.72 (s, 1H), 9.56 (s, 1H), 9.43 (s, 2H), 9.19 (s, 1H),

9.03 (s, 1H), 8.65 (s, 1H, -C*H*=CPh-), 8.24 (s, 4H, Ar), 8.22 (s, 2H, Ar), 7.85 (s, 3H, Ar), 7.63 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H, Ph), 7.49 (s, 2H, Ar), 7.38 (s, 1H, Ar), 7.25 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H, Ph), 7.14 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H, Ph), 1.56 (s, 18H, *t*-Bu), 1.55 (s, 18H, *t*-Bu), 1.54 (s, 18H, *t*-Bu), and 1.42 ppm (s, 18H, *t*-Bu); <sup>13</sup>C NMR couldn't detect peaks due to very low solubility; MS (ESI): m/z = 1346.7406. calcd for C<sub>96</sub>H<sub>101</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: 1346.7434 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>; UV/vis/NIR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\lambda_{max}(\varepsilon) = 276$  (68400), 962 (15900), 1177 nm (4970 M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>).

#### Synthesis of 2d

Compound **2d** was synthesized according to the method similar to the synthesis of **2a**.

Green solid, 17.2 mg, 88% yield: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 9.71 (s, 3H, thiophene-H), 9.49 (s, 1H, carbazole-H), 9.43 (s, 1H, carbazole-H), 9.18 (s, 1H, carbazole-

H), 8.89 (s, 2H, carbazole-H), 8.61 (s, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.54 (s, 1H, carbazole-H), 8.39 (s, 1H, -CH=CR-), 7.96 (s, 2H, Ar), 7.92 (s, 2H, Ar), 7.87 (s, 2H, Ar), 7.66–7.61 (m, 3H, Ar), 7.35 (s, 2H, Ar), 7.22 (s, 1H, Ar), 6.92 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H, 2,6-dioctyloxyphenyl-*p*-H), 6.30 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H, 2,6dioctyloxyphenyl-*m*-H), 4.01 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.80 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.57–1.54 (s, 54H, *t*-Bu), 1.37 (s, 18H, *t*-Bu), 0.94–0.82 (m, 24H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.49 ppm (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR couldn't detect peaks due to very low solubility; MS (ESI): m/z = 1602.9800 calcd for C<sub>112</sub>H<sub>133</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: 1602.9836 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>; UV/vis/NIR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\lambda_{max}$  ( $\varepsilon$ ) = 279 (61900), 424 (17500), 951 (19800), 1180 nm (5980 M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>).









Scheme S2 Synthesis of 10 and 11b

#### Synthesis of 5

A solution of 1,3,5-tribromo-2-nitrobenzene (644 mg, 1.79 mmol), 2,4,6trimethylphenylboronic acid (362 mg, 1.97 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (113 mg, 97.8 µmol), and



 $K_2CO_3$  (735 mg, 5.33 mmol) in toluene/EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O (4/2/2 mL) was heated at 100 °C for 41 h under N<sub>2</sub>. After cooling to rt, organic products were extracted with EtOAc, and the organic layer was passed through a silica gel column with EtOAc and evaporated. The residue was separated over a silica gel column with CHCl<sub>3</sub>/hexane as an eluent to give **5** as a white solid (506 mg, 1.27 mmol, 71%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 7.50 (s, 2H, H<sup>a</sup>), 7.02 (s, 2H, Mes), 2.40 (s, 3H, Me), and 2.10 ppm (s, 6H, Me); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 150.13, 145.92, 138.31, 135.25, 134.50, 133.58, 128.58, 113.73, 21.08, and 20.72 ppm; MS (APCI): *m*/*z* = 398.9294. calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>: 398.9288 [*M*]<sup>+</sup>.

#### Synthesis of 6

A solution of **5** (506 mg, 1.27 mmol), naphthalene-1-boronic acid (175 mg, 1.02 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (50.2 mg, 43.4  $\mu$ mol), and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (409 mg, 2.96 mmol) in toluene/EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O (2/1/1 mL) was heated at 100 °C for 15 h under N<sub>2</sub>. After cooling



to rt, organic products were extracted with EtOAc, and the organic layer was passed through a silica gel column with EtOAc and evaporated. The residue was separated over a silica gel column with CHCl<sub>3</sub>/hexane as an eluent to give **6** as a white solid (367 mg, 823  $\mu$ mol, 65%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 7.949 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H, Np), 7.945 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H, Np), 7.68 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H, Np), 7.65 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H<sup>b</sup>), 7.58–7.50 (m, 4H, Np), 7.27 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H<sup>a</sup>), 7.00 (s, 1H, Mes), 6.99 (s, 1H, Mes), 2.38 (s, 3H, Me), 2.22 (s, 3H, Me), and 2.14 ppm (s, 3H, Me); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 150.24, 144.42, 137.91, 135.49, 135.35, 134.92, 133.76, 133.61, 132.58, 132.52, 131.58, 129.59, 128.55, 128.52, 127.10, 126.85, 126.33, 125.09, 125.06, 113.16, 21.09, 20.95, and 20.82 ppm; MS (APCI): *m*/*z* = 447.0634. calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>Br: 447.0655 [*M*]<sup>+</sup>.

#### Synthesis of 7

A solution of **6** (872 mg, 1.96 mmol) and PPh<sub>3</sub> (5.23 g, 19.9 mmol) in 1,2dichlorobenzene (8.0 mL) was heated at 190 °C for 42 h under Ar. After cooling to rt, excess 1,2-dichlorobenzene was removed by distillation. The residue was separated

over a silica gel column with CHCl<sub>3</sub>/hexane as an eluent to give 7 as a white solid (324 mg, 783  $\mu$ mol, 40%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 8.77 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, H<sup>f</sup>), 8.68 (s, 1H, NH), 8.42 (s, 1H, H<sup>g</sup>), 8.07 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, H<sup>e</sup>), 7.95 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H, H<sup>b</sup>), 7.74 (dt, *J* = 1.5, 7.5 Hz, 1H, H<sup>e</sup>), 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H, H<sup>a</sup>), 7.57 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H, H<sup>d</sup>), 7.57 (d, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H, H<sup>h</sup>), 7.16 (s, 2H, Mes), 2.52 (s, 3H, Me), and 2.25 ppm (s, 6H, Me); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 138.80, 137.29, 137.02, 136.78, 135.93, 134.49, 129.92, 129.44, 129.37, 128.30, 128.25, 127.64, 127.17, 125.42, 123.48, 123.19, 121.76, 116.12, 112.75, 104.64, 21.22, and 21.18 ppm; MS (APCI): *m/z* = 414.0679. calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NBr: 414.0689 [*M*-H]<sup>-</sup>.

#### Synthesis of 8

A solution of 7 (197 mg, 476  $\mu$ mol), (Bpin)<sub>2</sub> (92.8 mg, 365  $\mu$ mol), [Ir(OMe)(cod)]<sub>2</sub> (8.3 mg, 13  $\mu$ mol), and dtbpy (6.5 mg, 24  $\mu$ mol) in dry THF (0.50 mL) was heated at reflux for 18 h under N<sub>2</sub>. The mixture was passed through a silica gel column with CHCl<sub>3</sub> and evaporated. A solution of the



residue, bromo(triisopropylsilyl)acetylene (595 mg, 2.24 mmol),  $Pd_2(dba)_3$  (11.3 mg, 12.3 µmol), Xantphos (26.3 mg, 45.4 µmol), and K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (235 mg, 1.11 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane/water (0.9 mL/0.1 mL) was heated at reflux for 16 h under N<sub>2</sub>. After cooling to rt, the solvents were evaporated, and the residue was passed through a silica gel column with CHCl<sub>3</sub>. Purification of the residue by silica gel column chromatography with CHCl<sub>3</sub>/hexane as an eluent gave **8** as a white solid (152 mg, 255 µmol, 54%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 8.91 (s, 1H, NH), 8.60 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, H<sup>e</sup>), 8.25 (s, 1H, H<sup>f</sup>), 8.07 (s, 1H, H<sup>a</sup>), 7.96 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, H<sup>b</sup>), 7.65 (dt, *J* = 1.3, 7.7 Hz, 1H, H<sup>d</sup>), 7.48 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, H<sup>e</sup>), 7.46 (s, 1H, H<sup>g</sup>), 7.04 (s, 2H, Mes), 2.41 (s, 3H, Me), 2.11 (s, 6H, Me), and 1.29 ppm (m, 21H, TIPS); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 138.74, 137.83, 137.12, 136.81, 135.66, 134.78, 130.90, 129.93, 129.48, 129.18, 128.28, 127.98, 125.68, 123.94, 123.23, 121.90, 115.68, 108.32, 104.91, 102.36, 97.17, 21.25, 21.15, 19.02, and 11.46 ppm; MS (APCI): *m*/*z* = 594.2009. calcd for C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>39</sub>NBrSi: 594.2027 [*M*–H]<sup>-</sup>.

#### Synthesis of 9

A solution of **8** (202 mg, 339  $\mu$ mol), tributyl(triisopropylsilylethynyl)tin (330 mg, 701  $\mu$ mol), and Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (23.2 mg, 20.1  $\mu$ mol) in toluene (5 mL) was heated at reflux for 12 h under N<sub>2</sub>. After cooling to rt, the mixture was evaporated. The



residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography with  $CHCl_3$ /hexane as an eluent to give **9** as a white solid (211 mg, 303 µmol, 89%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 8.88 (s, 1H, NH), 8.63 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, H<sup>e</sup>), 8.30 (s, 1H, H<sup>f</sup>), 8.09 (s, 1H, H<sup>a</sup>), 7.97 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, H<sup>b</sup>), 7.64 (dt, *J* = 1.2, 7.6 Hz, 1H, H<sup>d</sup>), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H, H<sup>e</sup>), 7.44 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H<sup>g</sup>), 7.04 (s, 2H, Mes), 2.41 (s, 3H, Me), 2.11 (s, 6H, Me), 1.25 (m, 21H, TIPS), and 1.22 ppm (m, 21H, TIPS); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 139.15, 137.77, 137.11, 137.02, 136.92, 133.39, 132.00, 130.10, 129.83, 129.26, 129.07, 128.25, 127.84, 124.50, 123.80, 123.38, 123.29, 115.67, 108.23, 106.93, 102.96, 102.59, 96.34, 96.05, 21.24, 21.20, 18.96, and 11.54 ppm; MS (APCI): *m/z* = 694.4285. calcd for C<sub>47</sub>H<sub>60</sub>NSi<sub>2</sub>: 694.4270 [*M*–H]<sup>–</sup>.

#### Synthesis of 10

To a solution of **9** (203 mg, 292  $\mu$ mol) in dry THF (10 mL) was added TBAF (1 M in THF, 1.2 mL, 1.2 mmol), and the resulting mixture was heated at 60 °C for 1 h under N<sub>2</sub>. After the mixture was evaporated, the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography with CHCl<sub>3</sub>/hexane as an eluent to give **10** as a pale yellow solid (104 mg, 272  $\mu$ mol, 93%).



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 9.02 (s, 1H, NH), 8.64 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H, H<sup>e</sup>), 8.36 (s, 1H, H<sup>f</sup>), 8.08 (s, 1H, H<sup>a</sup>), 7.96 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, H<sup>b</sup>), 7.67 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H, H<sup>d</sup>), 7.491 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H, H<sup>c</sup>), 7.488 (s, 1H, H<sup>g</sup>), 7.07 (s, 2H, Mes), 3.59 (s, 2H, C=CH), 2.43 (s, 3H, Me), and 2.14 ppm (s, 6H, Me); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 138.95, 138.48, 137.40, 137.02, 136.83, 133.46, 131.85, 129.97, 129.46, 129.40, 128.88, 128.28, 128.13, 124.36, 123.95, 123.89, 123.24, 115.66, 106.67, 105.30, 82.50, 80.03, 79.68, 21.24, and 21.18 ppm; MS (APCI): *m*/*z* = 382.1596. calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N: 382.1601 [*M*–H]<sup>-</sup>.

#### Synthesis of 3,6-bis(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-1,8-dibromocarbazole

To a suspension of 3,6-bis(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)carbazole (500 mg, 1.24 mmol) and  $SiO_2$  (2.09 g) in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (70 mL) was added dropwise a solution of NBS (883 mg, 4.96 mmol) in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (30 mL) over 10 min, and the mixture was stirred at rt for 19 h. After

concentrating, the residue was passed through a silica gel column with CHCl<sub>3</sub> and evaporated to give a desired product as a pale brown solid (685 mg, 1.22 mmol, 98%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 8.46 (s, 1H, NH), 7.76 (d, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 2H, H<sup>b</sup>), 7.48 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 2H, H<sup>a</sup>), 7.02 (s, 4H, Mes), 2.40 (s, 6H, Me), and 2.10 ppm (s, 12H, Me); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 138.18, 137.06, 137.03, 136.57, 134.63, 130.11, 128.27, 125.15, 120.60, 104.51, 21.19, and 21.10 ppm; MS (APCI): *m*/*z* = 560.0437. calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NBr<sub>2</sub>: 560.0419 [*M*–H]<sup>-</sup>.

#### Synthesis of 11b

A solution of 3,6-bis(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-1,8-dibromocarbazole (685 mg, 1.22 mmol), tributyl(trimethylsilylethynyl)tin (1.91 g, 4.94 mmol), and Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (141 mg,

122  $\mu$ mol) in toluene (10 mL) was degassed and heated at reflux for 17 h under N<sub>2</sub>. After cooling to rt, the reaction mixture was passed through a silica gel column with CHCl<sub>3</sub> and evaporated. To a solution of the residue in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (10 mL) was added TBAF (1.0 M in THF, 5.0 mL, 5.0 mmol), and the mixture was stirred at rt for 10 min. After concentrating, the residue was separated over a silica gel column with CHCl<sub>3</sub>/hexane as an eluent to give **11b** as a yellow solid (315 mg, 697  $\mu$ mol, 57%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 8.73 (s, 1H, NH), 7.81 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 2H, H<sup>b</sup>), 7.42 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 2H, H<sup>a</sup>), 7.00 (s, 4H, Mes), 3.55 (s, 2H, C=CH), 2.38 (s, 6H, Me), and 2.07 ppm (s, 12H, Me); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 139.90, 138.57, 136.87, 136.66, 132.96, 131.16, 128.25, 123.67, 122.43, 104.93, 82.35, 79.98, 21.20, and 21.11 ppm; MS (APCI): *m/z* = 450.2249. calcd for C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N: 450.2227 [*M*–H]<sup>–</sup>.



Scheme S3 Synthesis of 3



#### Synthesis of 12a

To a suspension of  $Cu(OAc)_2 \cdot H_2O(2.00 \text{ g}, 10.0 \text{ mmol})$  in pyridine (75 mL) was added dropwise a solution of **10** (174 mg, 454 µmol) and **11a** (323 mg, 546 µmol) in toluene (250 mL) over 2 h. The mixture was stirred for further 4.5 d under air. After the solvents were evaporated, the



residue was separated over a silica gel column with CHCl<sub>3</sub> and GPC to give **12a** as a yellow solid (101 mg, 104  $\mu$ mol, 21%) and **13a** as a yellow solid (190 mg, 161  $\mu$ mol, 32%). Separation of **12a** and **13a** was achieved by GPC with TLC analysis (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/hexane = 1/2). **13a** (R<sub>f</sub> = 0.80) is faster fraction in GPC than **12a** (R<sub>f</sub> = 0.75).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 9.33 (s, 1H, NH), 9.04 (s, 1H, NH), 8.58 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H, H<sup>e</sup>), 8.33 (s, 1H, H<sup>f</sup>), 8.32 (s, 1H, H<sup>i</sup> or H<sup>j</sup>), 8.30 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H, H<sup>i</sup> or H<sup>j</sup>), 8.03 (s, 1H, H<sup>a</sup>), 7.95 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, H<sup>b</sup>), 7.83 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H<sup>h</sup> or H<sup>k</sup>), 7.79 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H<sup>h</sup> or H<sup>k</sup>), 7.63 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, H<sup>d</sup>), 7.52–7.48 (m, 6H, Ar), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H, H<sup>d</sup>), 7.42 (d, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H, H<sup>g</sup>), 7.06 (s, 2H, Mes), 2.41 (s, 3H, Me), 2.13 (s, 6H, Me), 1.45 (s, 18H, *t*Bu), and 1.44 ppm (s, 18H, *t*Bu); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 151.50, 142.38, 142.33, 140.61, 140.25, 138.78, 138.42, 137.23, 136.88, 135.69, 133.86, 130.39, 129.81, 129.07, 128.59, 128.37, 127.75, 127.58, 124.83, 124.40, 124.24, 123.98, 123.87, 123.40, 122.15, 121.93, 121.71, 121.51, 115.97, 106.44, 105.04, 104.84, 104.61, 80.61, 80.38, 80.21, 79.78, 79.66, 79.54, 79.46, 35.21, 31.77, and 21.25 ppm; MS (APCI): *m/z* = 969.5134. calcd for C<sub>73H65</sub>N<sub>2</sub>: 969.5153 [*M*–H]<sup>-</sup>.

#### Synthesis of 12b

To a suspension of Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O (1.06 g, 5.30 mmol) in pyridine (30 mL) was added dropwise a solution of **10** (98.4 mg, 257 µmol) and **11b** (115 mg, 254 µmol) in toluene (100 mL) over 2.5 h. The mixture was stirred for further 4.5 d under air. After the solvents were evaporated, the residue was separated over a silica gel column with CHCl<sub>3</sub> and GPC to give **12b** as a yellow solid (60.1 mg, 72.3 µmol, 28%) and **13b** as a yellow solid (62.0 mg, 69.0 µmol, 27%). Separation of **12b** and **13b** was achieved by GPC with TLC analysis (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/hexane = 1/2). **13b** (R<sub>f</sub> = 0.73) is faster fraction in GPC than **12b** (R<sub>f</sub> = 0.66).

**12b:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 9.45 (s, 1H, NH), 9.16 (s, 1H, NH), 8.60 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H, H<sup>e</sup>), 8.32 (s, 1H, H<sup>f</sup>), 8.09 (s, 1H, H<sup>a</sup>), 7.99 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H, H<sup>b</sup>), 7.82 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H, H<sup>i</sup> or H<sup>j</sup>), 7.81 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H,



H<sup>i</sup> or H<sup>j</sup>), 7.68 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H, H<sup>d</sup>), 7.50 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H, H<sup>c</sup>), 7.41 (s, 1H, H<sup>a</sup>), 7.38 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H, H<sup>h</sup> or H<sup>k</sup>), 7.36 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H<sup>h</sup> or H<sup>k</sup>), 7.04 (s, 2H, Mes), 7.00 (s, 2H, Mes), 6.99 (s, 2H, Mes), 2.40 (s, 3H, Me), 2.37 (s, 3H, Me), 2.36 (s, 3H, Me), 2.11 (s, 6H, Me), 2.074 (s, 6H, Me), and 2.068 ppm

(s, 6H, Me); <sup>13</sup>C NMR couldn't detect peaks due to very low solubility; MS (APCI): m/z = 829.3617. calcd for C<sub>63</sub>H<sub>45</sub>N<sub>2</sub>: 829.3588 [*M*-H]<sup>-</sup>.

**13b:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 9.24 (s, 2H, NH), 7.81 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 4H, H<sup>b</sup>), 7.35 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 4H, H<sup>a</sup>), 6.99 (s, 8H, Mes), 2.34 (s, 12H, Me), and 2.07 ppm (s, 24H, Me); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 141.89, 138.39, 137.06, 136.67, 133.35, 129.00, 128.33, 123.64, 123.44, 80.57, 79.64,

Mes H<sup>b</sup> NH Mes Mes Mes

21.23, and 21.17 ppm; MS (APCI): m/z = 897.4232. calcd for C<sub>68</sub>H<sub>53</sub>N<sub>2</sub>: 897.4214 [*M*-H]<sup>-</sup>.

#### Synthesis of 3a'

A solution of **12a** (75.5 mg, 77.8  $\mu$ mol) and Na<sub>2</sub>S·9H<sub>2</sub>O (189 mg, 788  $\mu$ mol) in toluene/2-methoxyethanol (2.3/2.3 mL) was heated at reflux for 17 h under Ar. After cooling to rt, the mixture was diluted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>, washed with water, passed through a silica gel column with CHCl<sub>3</sub>, and evaporated to dryness to give **3a**' as a yellow solid (53.5 mg, 51.5  $\mu$ mol, 66%).



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 10.83 (s, 1H, NH), 10.57 (s, 1H, NH), 8.74 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H, H<sup>e</sup>), 8.39 (s, 1H, H<sup>f</sup>), 8.37 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H, H<sup>k</sup> or H<sup>1</sup>), 8.36 (d, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H, H<sup>k</sup> or H<sup>1</sup>), 8.22 (s, 1H, H<sup>a</sup>), 8.12 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, H<sup>b</sup>), 8.02 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H, H<sup>j</sup> or H<sup>m</sup>), 8.01 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H, H<sup>j</sup> or H<sup>m</sup>), 7.70 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, H<sup>d</sup>), 7.64 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H<sup>g</sup>), 7.63 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H, H<sup>o</sup>), 7.62 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.61 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.58 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H, H<sup>a</sup>), 7.56 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 1H, H<sup>h</sup> or H<sup>i</sup>), 7.54 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, H<sup>c</sup>), 7.51 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.50 (t, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.48 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H, H<sup>h</sup> or H<sup>i</sup>), 7.09 (s, 2H, Mes), 2.43 (s, 3H, Me), 2.19 (s, 6H, Me), 1.47 (s, 18H, *t*-Bu), and 1.46 ppm (s, 18H, *t*-Bu); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 151.44, 141.50, 140.41, 139.85, 139.74, 139.61, 139.35, 137.15, 137.07, 137.00, 135.97, 135.69, 134.99, 134.11, 129.98, 129.79, 128.38, 127.72, 127.56, 127.39, 127.10, 126.88, 125.59, 125.52, 125.02, 124.99, 124.45, 124.25, 124.13, 123.93, 123.37, 123.05, 122.34, 121.32, 120.31, 120.14, 119.65, 118.34, 118.01, 117.97, 116.89, 35.23, 31.80, 21.34, and 21.29 ppm; MS (APCI): *m/z* = 1037.4886. calcd for C<sub>73</sub>H<sub>69</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: 1037.4908 [*M*-H]<sup>-</sup>. UV/vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\lambda_{max}$  ( $\varepsilon$ ) = 277 (66400), 410 nm (22200 M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>).

#### Synthesis of 3b'

A solution of **21b** (76.8 mg, 92.4  $\mu$ mol) and Na<sub>2</sub>S·9H<sub>2</sub>O (222 mg, 924  $\mu$ mol) in toluene/2-methoxyethanol (2.3/2.3 mL) was heated at reflux for



13 h under Ar. After cooling to rt, the mixture was diluted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>, washed with water, passed through a silica gel column with CHCl<sub>3</sub> to give **3b'** as a brown solid (68.2 mg, 82.1 μmol, 89%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 10.86 (s, 1H, NH), 10.59 (s, 1H, NH), 8.72 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, H<sup>e</sup>), 8.39 (s, 1H, H<sup>f</sup>), 8.20 (s, 1H, H<sup>a</sup>), 8.08 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H, H<sup>b</sup>), 7.872 (s, 1H, H<sup>I</sup> or H<sup>k</sup>), 7.865 (s, 1H, H<sup>I</sup> or H<sup>k</sup>), 7.68 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H, H<sup>d</sup>), 7.64 (d, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H, H<sup>g</sup>), 7.61–7.60 (m, 3H, H<sup>j</sup>, H<sup>m</sup>, H<sup>o</sup>), 7.51 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, H<sup>c</sup>), 7.47–7.44 (m, 3H, H<sup>h</sup>, H<sup>i</sup>, H<sup>n</sup>), 7.09 (s, 2H, Mes), 7.05 (s, 2H, Mes), 7.04 (s, 2H, Mes), 2.43 (s, 3H, Me), 2.41 (s, 3H, Me), 2.40 (s, 3H, Me), 2.19 (s, 6H, Me), 2.16 (s, 6H, Me), and 2.15 ppm (s, 6H, Me); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 140.37, 139.75, 139.65, 139.58, 139.30, 139.11, 137.04, 136.94, 136.89, 136.82, 136.47, 136.34, 135.59, 134.90, 134.12, 133.55, 129.91, 129.77, 129.74, 128.36, 128.33, 127.52, 127.00, 126.71, 125.61, 125.53, 125.37, 124.72, 124.70, 124.04, 123.89, 123.35, 123.00, 121.70, 121.58, 119.61, 118.34, 117.93, 116.90, 21.31, and 21.28 ppm; MS (APCI): *m/z* = 897.3347. calcd for C<sub>63</sub>H<sub>49</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: 897.3343 [*M*–H]<sup>-</sup>. UV/vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\lambda_{max}$  ( $\varepsilon$ ) = 317 (40500), 406 nm (26900 M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>).

#### Synthesis of 3a

To a solution of **3a'** (4.90 mg, 4.72  $\mu$ mol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (20 mL) was added PbO<sub>2</sub> (1.75 g, 7.32 mmol), and the resulting suspension was stirred for 15 h. The reaction mixture was passed through a Cerite with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and evaporated to give **3a** as a deep green solid (3.40 mg, 3.28  $\mu$ mol, 69%).



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 9.68 (s, 1H, H<sup>a</sup>), 9.56 (s, 1H, H<sup>o</sup>), 9.51 (s, 2H, H<sup>h</sup>, H<sup>i</sup>), 9.43 (s, 1H, H<sup>n</sup>), 9.32 (s, 1H, H<sup>m</sup>), 9.15 (s, 1H, H<sup>j</sup>), 8.95 (s, 1H, H<sup>e</sup>), 8.87 (s, 1H, H<sup>g</sup>), 8.78 (s, 1H, H<sup>f</sup>), 8.75 (s, 2H, H<sup>l</sup>, H<sup>k</sup>), 8.40 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H, H<sup>b</sup>), 7.93 (s, 2H, Ar), 7.88 (s, 2H, Ar), 7.78 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H, H<sup>d</sup>), 7.66 (s, 3H, Ar, H<sup>c</sup>), 7.21 (s, 2H, Mes), 2.52 (s, 3H, Me), 2.45 (s, 6H, Me), 1.59 (s, 18H, *t*-Bu), and 1.56 ppm (s, 18H, *t*-Bu); <sup>13</sup>C NMR couldn't detect peaks due to very low solubility; MS (ESI): *m/z* = 1037.4843. calcd for C<sub>73</sub>H<sub>69</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: 1037.4897 [*M*+H]<sup>+</sup>. UV/vis/NIR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\lambda_{max}(\varepsilon) = 271$  (50000), 356 (39700), 910 (25900), 1100 nm (16300 M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>).

#### Synthesis of 3b

To a solution of **3b'** (63.9 mg, 71.1  $\mu$ mol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (20 mL) was added PbO<sub>2</sub> (6.04 g, 25.3 mmol), and the resulting suspension was stirred for 15 h. The reaction mixture was passed through a Celite with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and evaporated to give **3b** as a deep green solid (42.2 mg, 47.0  $\mu$ mol, 66%).



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 9.92 (s, 1H, H<sup>a</sup>), 9.76 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H, H<sup>o</sup>), 9.61 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H, H<sup>h</sup> or H<sup>i</sup>), 9.57 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H, H<sup>h</sup> or H<sup>i</sup>), 9.53 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H, H<sup>n</sup>), 9.08 (s, 1H, H<sup>m</sup>), 9.01 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H, H<sup>e</sup>), 8.92 (s, 1H, H<sup>g</sup>), 8.89 (s, 1H, H<sup>j</sup>), 8.85 (s, 1H, H<sup>f</sup>), 8.52 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H, H<sup>b</sup>), 8.29 (s, 2H, H<sup>l</sup>, H<sup>k</sup>), 7.84 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H, H<sup>d</sup>), 7.71 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, H<sup>e</sup>), 7.20 (s, 2H, Mes), 7.164 (s, 2H, Mes), 7.157 (s, 2H, Mes), 2.51 (s, 3H, Me), 2.48 (s, 3H, Me), 2.47 (s, 3H, Me), 2.39 (s, 6H, Me), 2.34 (s, 6H, Me), and 2.31 ppm (s, 6H, Me); <sup>13</sup>C NMR couldn't detect peaks due to very low solubility; MS (ESI): m/z = 897.3340. calcd for C<sub>63</sub>H<sub>49</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: 897.3332 [*M*+H]<sup>+</sup>; UV/vis/NIR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\lambda_{max}$  ( $\varepsilon$ ) = 271 (49700), 359 (39300), 392 (35600), 870 (25700), 1103 nm (15200 M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>).

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#### [D] UV/vis/NIR Absorption Spectra



Fig. S1 UV/vis/NIR absorption spectra of (a) 2' and 2, (b) 3' and 3.

### [E] DFT Calculations

State	Transition energy	Oscillator	Composition of band and CI coefficiencies
	(nm)	strength	
1	918.53	0.2160	$H-1 \rightarrow L (95\%), H \rightarrow L+2 (3\%)$
2	885.61	0.7529	$H \rightarrow L (97\%), H-1 \rightarrow L+2 (3\%)$
3	760.95	0.0000	$H-2 \rightarrow L (98\%)$
4	740.57	0.0069	$H-3 \rightarrow L (98\%)$
5	586.52	0.0000	$H-4 \rightarrow L (98\%)$
6	561.97	0.0000	$H-10 \rightarrow L (93\%)$
7	529.37	0.0000	$\text{H-9} \rightarrow \text{L} \text{ (63\%), H-11} \rightarrow \text{L} \text{ (30\%), H-6} \rightarrow \text{L} \text{ (5\%)}$
8	499.32	0.0006	$\text{H-6} \rightarrow \text{L} \text{ (92\%), H-9} \rightarrow \text{L} \text{ (7\%),}$
9	499.12	0.0000	$H-7 \rightarrow L (100\%)$
10	499.11	0.0006	$H-8 \rightarrow L (100\%)$

 Table S1
 Selected data of calculated electronic transitions in 1

 Table S2
 Selected data of calculated electronic transitions in 2a

State	Transition energy	Oscillator	Composition of band and CI coefficiencies
	(nm)	strength	
1	1130.59	0.1106	$H-1 \rightarrow L (58\%), H-2 \rightarrow L (24\%), H \rightarrow L (18\%)$
2	942.65	0.6195	$H \rightarrow L (72\%), H-1 \rightarrow L (25\%)$
3	847.19	0.1853	$\mathrm{H}2 \rightarrow \mathrm{L} \ (75\%),  \mathrm{H}1 \rightarrow \mathrm{L} \ (16\%),  \mathrm{H} \rightarrow \mathrm{L} \ (8\%)$
4	782.23	0.0122	$H-3 \rightarrow L (98\%)$
5	639.04	0.0078	$H-4 \rightarrow L (74\%), H-5 \rightarrow L (22\%)$
6	586.54	0.0001	H−10 → L (86%), H−6 → L (5%), H−9 → L (2%)

State	Transition energy	Oscillator	Composition of band and CI coefficiencies
	(nm)	strength	
1	1130.78	0.1074	$H \rightarrow L (70.5\%), H-2 \rightarrow L (20\%), H-1 \rightarrow L (9.5\%)$
2	920.20	0.1202	$\text{H-2} \rightarrow \text{L}$ (65%), $\text{H-1} \rightarrow \text{L}$ (26%), $\text{H} \rightarrow \text{L}$ (6%)
3	867.79	0.6016	$H-1 \rightarrow L (61\%), H \rightarrow L (23\%), H-2 \rightarrow L (13\%)$
4	771.26	0.0103	$H-3 \rightarrow L (97\%)$
5	608.62	0.0209	$H-4 \rightarrow L (95\%)$
6	583.35	0.0001	$H-10 \rightarrow L (88\%), H-9 \rightarrow L (9\%)$
7	572.73	0.0021	$H-5 \rightarrow L (98\%)$
8	550.07	0.0008	$H-8 \rightarrow L (73\%), H-11 \rightarrow L (13\%), H-6 \rightarrow L (6\%)$
9	543.58	0.0003	$H-6 \rightarrow L (93\%), H-8 \rightarrow L (5\%)$
10	516.34	0.0003	$H-7 \rightarrow L (98\%)$

 Table S3
 Selected data of calculated electronic transitions in 3a



**Fig. S2** NICS(0) values at the selected points of (a) **1**, (b) **2a**, and (c) **3a** calculated at B3LYP/6-31G(d) levels.

#### [F] NMR spectra



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **4b** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **4b** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **4c** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **4d** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **2a'** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **2b'** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **2c'** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **2d'** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **2d'** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 2a in pyridine- $d_5$ 



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **2b** in pyridine- $d_5$ 



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **2d** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **5** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **6** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 7 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 7 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **8** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>





<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **9** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **10** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 3,6-bis(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-1,8-dibromocarbazole in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 3,6-bis(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-1,8-dibromocarbazole in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **11b** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>





<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **12a** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **12b** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **13b** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



 $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of 13b in CDCl\_3



<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3a'** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3b'** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3a** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3b** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>