## **Supporting Information**

A supramolecular assembly bearing organic TADF chromophore: synthesis, characterization and light-driven cooperative acceptorless dehydrogenation of secondary amines

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Scheme S1. Synthetic routes for 1 and 1-Co.

## 2. Supplementary Figures



Fig. S1 HR-ESI-MS spectrum of assembly 1-Co (M = 1-Co).



Fig. S2 Partial HR-ESI-MS spectrum of assembly 1-Co.



Fig. S3 UV-vis absorption and photoluminescence (PL) spectra of 1 in  $CH_2Cl_2$  at room temperature,  $\lambda_{ex} = 400$  nm.



Fig. S4 PL spectra of chromophore 1 (10  $\mu$ M) in various solvents (toluene, TFH and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>).



**Fig. S5** Frontier orbitals for optimized chromophore **1** by DFT calculations B3LYP/6-31G(d) level for C, H, N, O atom.



**Fig. S6** DFT calculations of species containing **1** and one Co<sup>III</sup> moiety. DFT calculations were carried out using Gaussian 09 program. Geometry optimizations were performed with the B3LYP functional using the LANL2DZ basis set for Co and the 6-31G basis set for the other atoms, respectively. Polarization functions were added for Co ( $\xi d = 2.78$ ) to the standard LANL2DZ

basis set.



Fig. S7 Transient PL decay of 1 in degassed CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at room temperature.



Fig. S8 Cyclic voltammogram of 1 (0.5 mmol) in  $CH_3CN$  at room temperature under  $N_2$ . Tetranbutylammonium hexafluorophosphate (0.1 M) was used as the supporting electrolyte.



Fig. S9 Emission quenching titration experiments of 1 (10  $\mu$ M) upon addition of Co(dmgH)<sub>2</sub>PyCl (0 – 52  $\mu$ M) in degassed THF ( $\lambda_{ex}$  = 400 nm).



Fig. S10 UV-vis absorption and photoluminescence (PL) spectra of 1-Co (10  $\mu$ M) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at room temperature,  $\lambda_{ex} = 400$  nm.



Fig. S11 Transient PL decay of 1-Co in degassed CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at room temperature.



**Fig. S12** Cyclic voltammogram of **1-Co** (0.5 mmol) in  $CH_3CN$  at room temperature under  $N_2$ . Tetra–nbutylammonium hexafluorophosphate (0.1 M) was used as the supporting electrolyte.



Fig. S13 Emission quenching titration experiments of 1 (10  $\mu$ M) upon addition of 2a (0 – 52  $\mu$ M) in degassed THF ( $\lambda_{ex}$  = 400 nm).



Fig. S14 UV-vis absorption spectra of 1-Co upon blue light irradiation at room temperature.



Fig. S15 Cyclic voltammogram of 2a.



Fig. S16 Cyclic voltammogram of 2b.



Fig. S17 Cyclic voltammogram of 2c.



Fig. S18 Cyclic voltammogram of 2d.



Fig. S19 Cyclic voltammogram of 2e.



Fig. S20 HR-ESI-MS spectrum of chromophore 1 (M = 1).



Fig. S21 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 4-(pyridin-4-ylmethoxy)-9H-carbazole in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>.



Fig. S22 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 4-(pyridin-4-ylmethoxy)-9H-carbazole in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>.



Fig. S23 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 1 in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>.



Fig. S24 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 1 in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>.



Fig. S25 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 1-Co in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>.



Fig. S26 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 1-Co in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>.

## **Characterization of products**



**3a:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>), δ (ppm): 8.36 (s, 1H), 7.77 (d, 2H, J = 3.0 Hz), 7.38-7.39 (m, 3H), 7.32 (d, 4H, J = 4.0 Hz), 7.24 (d, 1H, J = 4.0 Hz), 4.8 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>), δ (ppm): 161.97, 139.44, 136.31,

130.79, 128.65, 128.55, 128.35, 128.04, 127.03, 65.10. HR-MS (m/z): found 196.1139 for [M +H]<sup>+</sup> (calcd. 196.1126,  $C_{14}H_{14}N^{+}$ ).



**3b:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>), δ (ppm): 8.29 (s, 1H), 7.70 (d, 2H, J = 9.0 Hz), 7.23 (d, 2H, J = 8.5 Hz), 6.87-6.93 (m, 4H), 4.72 (s, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>), δ (ppm):

161.68, 160.97, 158.65, 131.67, 129.83, 129.19, 113.98, 113.91, 64.42, 55.37, 55.31. HR-MS (m/z): found 256.1342 for  $[M + H]^+$  (calcd. 256.1338,  $C_{16}H_{18}NO_2^+$ ).

> **3c:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta$  (ppm): 8.34 (s, 1H), 7.65 (d, 2H, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.21 (d, 4H, 6.0 Hz), 7.14 (d, 2H, J = 8.0 Hz), 4.77 (s, 2H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>), δ (ppm): 161.71,

140.99, 136.53, 136.36, 133.63, 129.31, 129.17, 128.25, 127.97, 64.82, 21.52, 21.12. HR-MS (m/z): found 224.1472 for  $[M + H]^+$  (calcd. 224.1439,  $C_{16}H_{18}N^+$ ).



3c

**3d:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>), δ (ppm): 8.27 (s, 1H), 7.74-7.75 (m, 2H), 7.38-7.40 (m, 3H), 1.30 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>), δ (ppm): 155.20, 137.18, 130.19, 128.53, 127.93, 57.26, 29.76. HR-MS (m/z): found 162.1291 for  $[M + H]^+$  (calcd. 162.1283, C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sup>+</sup>).



**3e:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>), δ (ppm): 8.35 (s, 1H), 7.34-7.38 (m, 1H), 7.26-7.32 (m, 2H), 7.5 (d, 1H, J = 7.5 Hz), 3.76-3.80 (m, 2H), 2.74 (t, 2H, J = 7.5 Hz).  $^{13}C$ NMR (125 MHz, CDCl3), δ (ppm): 160.41, 136.35, 131.13, 127.44, 127.28, 127.11, 47.33, 25.03. HR–MS (m/z): found 132.0864 for  $[M + H]^+$  (calcd. 132.0808, C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sup>+</sup>).



**3f:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.40 (d, 1H, J = 5.0 Hz), 7.26-7.29 (m, 1H), 7.19-7.23 (m, 1H), 7.10 (d, 1H, J = 5.0 Hz), 3.57-3.60 (m, 2H), 2.63 (t, 2H, J = 7.5 Hz), 2.32 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>), δ (ppm): 164.54, 137.40, 130.70, 129.51, 127.46, 126.93, 125.39, 46.8, 26.03, 23.22. HR-MS (m/z): found 146.0876

for  $[M + H]^+$  (calcd. 146.0964,  $C_{10}H_{12}N^+$ ).



Fig. S27 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 3a in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Fig. S28 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 3a in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Fig. S29 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 3b in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Fig. S30 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 3b in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Fig. S31 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 3c in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Fig. S32 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 3c in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Fig. S33 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 3d in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Fig. S34 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 3d in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Fig. S35 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 3e in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Fig. S36 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 3e in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.







Fig. S38 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 3e in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.