Supplementary Information for:

Organophosphorus-B(C₆F₅)₃ adducts: towards new solid-state emitting materials

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1. General section:

Reactions were carried out in dry glassware and under inert atmosphere of purified argon or nitrogen using Schlenk techniques. CH₂Cl₂ was used directly from a solvent purification system MB SPS-800. Dried deuterated solvents were dried over molecular sieves. Compounds **1a** and **1b** were prepared according to our reported protocols.^[S1]

NMR: ¹H, ¹³C, ³¹P, ¹¹B and ¹⁹F NMR as well as COSY, ROESY, HSQC and HMBC spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance III, Bruker Avance 400, Bruker Avance-III-300, Bruker Avance DRX-300, Bruker Avance 500 or Bruker Avance 600. Chemical shifts are expressed as parts per million (ppm, δ) and referenced to external 85% H₃PO₄ (³¹P), or solvent signals (¹H / ¹³C): CDCl₃ (7.27 / 77.16 ppm) and CD₂Cl₂ (5.33 / 53.80 ppm) as internal standards. Signal descriptions include: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet and br = broad. All coupling constants are absolute values and *J* values are expressed in Hertz (Hz).

Mass spectrometry: (MS and HRMS) were measured at the Institute of Organic Chemistry of the University Heidelberg. A Bruker ApexQe FT-ICR was used for ESI spectra and a JEOL JMS-700 MS for EI+ and LIFDI. GCMS was performed in a GC system 7890a from Agilent Technologies.

X-Ray crystallography: X-ray crystal structure analyses were measured on Bruker Smart CCD or Bruker Smart APEX instrument using Mo-K α radiation. Diffraction intensities were corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects. An empirical absorption correction was applied using SADABS^[S2] based on the Laue symmetry of reciprocal space. Heavy atom diffractions were solved by direct methods and refined against F2 with the full matrix least square algorithm. Hydrogen atoms were either isotropically refined or calculated. The structures were solved and refined using the SHELXTL^[S3] software package. Crystal structure of **2a** (CCDC 1904487) was obtained by crystallization from DCM, crystals of **2b** (CCDC 1904488) were grown by slow diffusion of *n*-pentane into a saturated solution of DCM, crystal structures of **1a** and **1b** were obtained according to previously reported methods.^[S1]

Theoretical calculations: Theoretical calculations have been carried out at the B3LYP/6-31G* level using the GAUSSIAN 09 suite of programs.^[S4]

Steady-state spectroscopy: Absorption and emission spectra were recorded from DCM solutions using a Jasco V660 and Jasco FP6500 spectrometer, respectively.

Fluorescence quantum yields Φ : Quantum yields in solution were calculated relative to quinine sulfate in 0.1 M sulfuric acid as a reference ($\Phi = 0.54$ according to the literature^[S5]) from five dilutions and using the formula:

 $\Phi_{\rm x} = \Phi_{\rm st} \left({\rm Grad}_{\rm x} / {\rm Grad}_{\rm st} \right) \left({n_{\rm x}}^2 / {n_{\rm st}}^2 \right)$

 Φ_x : quantum yield of sample X

 Φ_{st} : quantum yield of the reference

Grad_x: Gradient from the plot of integrated fluorescence intensity vs absorbance of the sample x

 $Grad_{st}$: Gradient from the plot of integrated fluorescence intensity vs absorbance of the reference n_x : refractive index from the solvent employed with the sample X

nst: refractive index from the solvent employed with the reference

Quantum yields in the solid state were measured with a calibrated Ulbricht sphere; values are an average from at least two independent measurements.

Fluorescence lifetimes τ : The fluorescence decays were recorded with a HORIBA Scientific Fluorocube single photon counting system operated with HORIBA Scientific DataStation version 2.2. Fluorescence lifetimes were acquired by an exponential fit according to the least mean square with commercially available software HORIBA Scientific Decay Data Analyses 6 (DAS6) version 6.4.4.

Deactivation pathways constants: Radiative decay constant (k_r) was calculated according to the following equation: $k_r = \Phi / \tau$; while the non-radiative decay constant (k_{nr}) was calculated using the following formula: $k_{nr} = (1-\Phi) / \tau$.

2. Experimental Details

2.1. Synthetic procedures

(2a) 7-Phenylbenzo[4,5]phosphinolino[3,2-*b*]thiophene 7-oxide tris(pentafluorophenyl)borane adduct



In a heated-out Schlenk flask 7-phenylbenzo[4,5]phosphinolino[3,2-*b*]thiophene 7-oxide (1.0 eq., 105 μ mol, 35 mg) was dissolved in 1 mL dry dichloromethane. Tris(pentafluorophenyl)-borane (1.0 eq., 105 μ mol, 54 mg) was added and the solution turned from yellow to dark orange. It was stirred at rt for 15 min and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. Washing with pentane four times and drying under high vacuum at 40 °C yielded the pure product as the white solid (80 mg, 41 μ mol, 90 %). ¹**H NMR** (600 MHz, in CDCl₃): δ 8.22 (m, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 3H), 8.09 (t, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (dq, *J*₁ = 7.7 Hz, *J*₂ = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (m, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (dt, *J*₁ = 7.5 Hz, *J*₂ = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (m, *J* = 3.8 Hz, 3H). ¹³C{1H}{31P} and DEPT 135{31P} NMR (151 MHz, in CDCl₃): δ 147.1 (d, *J* = 240.0 Hz, CF), 140.1 (s, C), 139.8 (s, CH), 139.7 (d, *J* = 249.7 Hz, CF), 136.5 (d, *J* = 244.1 Hz, CF), 134.2 (s, CH), 134.1 (s, C), 133.4 (s, CH), 132.7 (s, C), 130.7 (s, CH), 129.6 (s, CH), 128.0 (s, CH), 127.5 (s, C), 127.3 (s, C), 126.2 (s, CH), 125.5 (s, CH), 125.1 (s, CH), 122.1 (s, C), 122.0 (s, CH), 120.0 (s, C), 119.3 (s, C). ³¹P{1H} NMR (400 MHz, in CDCl₃): δ 19.17. ¹¹B{1H} NMR (128 MHz, in CDCl₃): δ -1.78. ¹⁹F{1H} NMR (283 MHz, in CDCl₃): δ -1.32.37 (d, *J* = 23.4 Hz, 6F, *o*-F), -158.49 (t, *J* = 20.8 Hz, 3F, *p*-F), -164.62 (t, *J* = 18.21 Hz, 6F, *m*-F).

(2b) 10-Methyl-7-phenyl-10H-benzo[4,5]phosphinolino[3,2-*b*]pyrrole 7-oxidetris(pentafluorophe-nyl)borane adduct



In a heated-out Schlenk flask 10-methyl-7-phenyl-10H-benzo[4,5]phosphinolino[3,2-b]pyrrole 7-oxide (1.0 eq., 33 µmol, 11 mg) was dissolved in 0.5 mL dry dichloromethane. Tris(pentafluorophenyl)borane (1.0 eq., 33 µmol, 17 mg) was added and the solution turned from yellow to dark orange. It was stirred at rt for 15 min and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. Washing with pentane three times yielded the pure product as bright yellow solid (27 mg, 32 µmol, 96 %). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, in CD₂Cl₂): δ 8.21 (t, J = 9 Hz, 2H), 8.01 (dd, J₁ = 1.5 Hz, J₂ = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (dq, J₁ = 1.4 Hz, J₂ = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (dq, $J_1 = 1.2$ Hz, $J_2 = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.74 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (dt, $J_1 = 1.6$ Hz, $J_2 = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.64 (dt, $J_1 = 1.7$ Hz, $J_2 = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.58 (dt, $J_1 = 3.9$ Hz, $J_2 = 7.8$ Hz, 2H), 6.90 (dd, $J_1 = 1.1$ Hz, J_2 = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.54 (dd, J_1 = 1.9 Hz, J_2 = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.13 (s, 3H). ¹³C{¹H}{³¹P} and DEPT 135{³¹P} **NMR** (151 MHz, in CD₂Cl₂): δ 148.04 (d, J = 242 Hz, CF), 139.57 (dt, J_1 = 247 Hz, J_2 = 13.2 Hz, CF), 138.16 (s, C), 137.07 (s, CH), 136.96 (dq, $J_1 = 247$ Hz, $J_2 = 10.6$ Hz, CF), 136.47 (s, CH), 133.82 (s, CH), 133.39 (s, C), 133.10 (s, CH), 131.51 (s, CH), 130.82 (s, CH), 129.44 (s, CH), 128.99 (s, C), 127.79 (s, C), 126.94 (s, CH), 126.58 (s, CH), 125.25 (s, CH), 122.90 (s, C), 121.12 (s, C), 120.43 (s, C), 111.76 (s, CH), 102.55 (s, C), 40.25 (s, CH₃). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (242 MHz, in CD₂Cl₂): δ 21.82. ¹¹B{¹H} NMR (96 MHz, in CD₂Cl₂): δ -2.22. ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR (470 MHz, in CD₂Cl₂): δ -132.53 (d, J = 24.7 Hz, 6F, o-F), -159.99 (t, J = 20.0 Hz, 3F, p-F), 165.93 (dt, $J_1 = 6.9$ Hz, $J_2 = 22.4$ Hz, 6F, m-F).



Figure S1. ¹H NMR spectra of 1a and 2a.



Figure S2. ¹H NMR spectra of 1b and 2b.

2.3. Crystallographic data



Figure S3. X-ray structures of **2a** (50% probability level ellipsoids). a) top view, b) front view, c) side view, and d) crystal packing. Hydrogens have been omitted for clarity.



Figure S4. X-ray structures of **2b** (50% probability level ellipsoids). a) top view, b) front view, c) side view, and d) crystal packing. Hydrogens have been omitted for clarity.



Figure S5. X-ray structure of $1a^{[S1]}$ (top (a) and front (c) views) compared with the simplified x-ray structure of **2a** (top (b) and front (d) views). Hydrogens and tris(pentafluorophenyl groups of **2a** have been omitted for clarity. Bond lengths are expressed in angstroms.



Figure S6. X-ray structure of **1b**^[S1] (top (a) and front (c) views) compared with the simplified x-ray structure of **2b** (top (b) and front (d) views). Hydrogens and tris(pentafluorophenyl) groups of **2b** have been omitted for clarity. Bond lengths are expressed in angstroms.



Figure S7. X-ray structures of 2a (a) and 2b (b).

	Compound 2a	Compound 2b	
Empirical formula	C ₃₈ H ₁₃ BF ₁₅ OPS	C ₃₉ H ₁₆ BF ₁₅ NOP	
Molecular weight	844.32	841.31	
Temperature	100(2) K	100(2) K	
Wavelength	1.54178 Å	1.54178 Å	
Crystal system	monoclinic	monoclinic	
Space group	$P2_1/n$	Pn	
Z	4	4	
a/Å	$10.0001(3)$ Å; $\alpha = 90^{\circ}$	9.9754(15) Å; α = 90 °	
b/Å	29.9868(8) Å; $\beta = 96.102(3)^{\circ}$	$30.114(3)$ Å; $\beta = 95.823(12)$ °	
c/Å	10.9105(3) Å; γ = 90 °	10.9427(16) Å; γ = 90 °	
Volume	3253.21(16) Å ³	3270.2(8) Å ³	
Density (calculated)	1.72 g/cm ³	1.709 g/cm^3	
Absorption coefficient	2.47 mm ⁻¹	1.882 mm ⁻¹	
Crystal shape	irregular	rectangular	
Crystal size	0.097 x 0.082 x 0.058 mm ³	0.163 x 0.130 x 0.042 mm ³	
Crystal colour	colourless	light yellow/brown	
Theta range for data collection	4.3 to 60.9 °	4.318 to 68.208 °	
Index Ranges	-10≤h≤11, -33≤k≤28, -11≤l≤12	-11≤h≤10, -31≤k≤35, -6≤l≤13	
Reflections collected	17238	22471	
Independent reflections	4779 (R(int) = 0.0291)	7213 (R(int) = 0.0199)	
Observed reflections	4000 (l > 2σ (l))	6688 (l > 2σ (l))	
A 1	Semi-empirical from	Semi-empirical from	
Absorption correction	equivalents	equivalents	
Max. and min. transmission	1.70 and 0.60	1.92 and 0.57	
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares an F ²	Full-matrix least-squares an F ²	
Data/restraints/parameters	4779 / 1259 / 659	7213 / 1618 / 1112	
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.21	1.04	
Final R indices (l>2sigma(l))	R1 = 0.058, wR2 = 0.106	R1 = 0.036, wR2 = 0.091	
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.43 and -0.32 eÅ ⁻³	0.40 and -0.31 eÅ ⁻³	

 Table S1.
 Selected crystallographic data of adducts 2a and 2b.

Selected bonds or angles	Compound					
Selected bonds of angles	1a	1b	2a	2b		
P1-O1	1.482(4)	1.493(2)	1.581(5)	1.540(4)		
O1-B1	-	-	1.541(5)	1.526(7)		
P1-C31	1.795(6)	1.811(3)	1.726(11)	1.792(6)		
C31-C36	1.381(8)	1.392(4)	1.375(6)	1.382(8)		
C31-C32	1.372(8)	1.383(4)	1.378(6)	1.361(9)		
P1-O1-B1	-	-	135.8	134.3		
C11-P1-O1	114.20	113.41	109.24	117.64		
C11-P1-C22	106.56	109.48	111.69	105.03		

Table S2. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) for phosphaphenalene oxides (1a and 1b)^[S1] and their adducts with borane (2a and 2b).



Figure S8. Electronic density distribution of **2a** (left) and **2b** (right) at the B3LYP/6-31+G(d) level of theory. See Table S3 for values. **S13**



Figure S9. Energy levels' distribution of **1a**, **2a**, **1b** and **2b** the B3LYP/6-31+G(d) level of theory. See Table S3 for values.

Table S3. Orbitals' energy obtained by TD-DFT calculations at the B3LYP/6-31+G(d) level of theory.

	Compound				
	1a	2a	2b	1b	
LUMO+2	-1.107	-1.826	-1.465	-0.755	
LUMO+1	-1.367	-2.177	-1.694	-1.006	
LUMO	-2.056	-2.815	-2.811	-1.985	
НОМО	-6.054	-6.667	-6.453	-5.722	
HOMO-1	-6.978	-6.958	-6.837	-6.63	
HOMO-2	-7.101	-7.013	-6.891	-6.922	
HOMO-3	-7.151	-7.065	-6.948	-6.971	
HOMO-4	-7.237	-7.145	-7.084	-7.024	
Band GAP	3.998	3.852	3.642	3.737	

Table S4. Photo-induced transitions obtained by TD-DFT calculations at the B3LYP/6-31+G(d) level of theory.

		Compound 2b	Calc. $\lambda_{max}(nm)$	J
447.7	0.0999	HOMO-LUMO	499.3	0.088
		HOMO-4→LUMO		
385.9	0.0009	HOMO-3→LUMO	390.66	0.001
		HOMO-2→LUMO		
		HOMO-1→LUMO		
		HOMO-4→LUMO		
		HOMO-3→LUMO		
376.6	0.0004	HOMO-2→LUMO	383.02	0.0011
		HOMO-1→LUMO		
	385.9	385.9 0.0009	385.9 0.0009 HOMO-4→LUMO HOMO-3→LUMO HOMO-2→LUMO HOMO-1→LUMO HOMO-4→LUMO HOMO-4→LUMO HOMO-1→LUMO 376.6 0.0004	385.9 0.0009 HOMO-4→LUMO HOMO-3→LUMO HOMO-2→LUMO HOMO-1→LUMO HOMO-4→LUMO HOMO-3→LUMO HOMO-3→LUMO HOMO-2→LUMO HOMO-2→LUMO 383.02

^a Oscillator strength

2.4. Device optimization

Table S5. Summary of the parameters investigated for the optimization of the device based on compound 2b compared with those reported for the device based on compound 1b. [S6]

Compound 2b						
Conditions	Stack	Thickness (nm)	Max. luminance (cd m ⁻²)	V _{to} (V)	Efficiency (cd A ⁻¹)	Efficacy (lm W ⁻¹)
Toluene 10 g L ⁻¹	TPBi/LiF/Al	31±10	725±164	5.0±0.1	0.718±0.308	0.348±0.170
<i>o</i> -DCB 10 g L ⁻¹	TPBi/LiF/Al	31±9	723±174	4.1±0.1	0.316±0.098	0.165±0.045
DCM 10 g L ⁻¹	TPBi/LiF/Al	76±21	34±5	7.1±0.2	0.204±0.028	0.062±0.008
Toluene 10 g L ⁻¹	Ca/Al	32±6	5±1	7.8±1.0	0.003±0.001	0.001±0.001
	Compound 1b ^[S6]					
Conditions	Stack	Thickness (nm)	Max. luminance (cd m ⁻²)	V _{to} (V)	Efficiency (cd A ⁻¹)	Efficacy (lm W ⁻¹)
Toluene 5 g L ⁻¹	TPBi/LiF/Al	48±7	694±13	5.3±0.1	0.350±0.018	0.133±0.01

2.5. NMR data

¹H NMR (600 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) of 2a



¹³C DEPT 135 NMR (151 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) of 2a



³¹P{1H} NMR (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) of 2a

- 19.166





¹H-¹H COSY NMR (600 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) of 2a



¹H-¹H ROESY NMR (600 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) of 2a



HSQC-DEPT NMR (151 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) of 2a



¹H NMR (600 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) of 2b





¹³C{1H} NMR (151 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) of 2b



¹³C DEPT 135 NMR (151 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) of 2b

$\begin{array}{c} 136.211\\ 136.196\\ 133.565\\ 133.565\\ 133.564\\ 130.553\\ 120.553\\ 120.5358\\ 121.6667\\ 121.6667\\ 121.9221\\ 121.987\\ 111.461\\ 111.461\end{array}$	₹53.929 53.749 - 40.175
F_{r}	*
160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90	80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 ppm

³¹P{1H} NMR (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) of 2b



¹⁹F{1H} NMR (283 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) of 2b





¹H-¹H ROESY NMR (600 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) of 2b

3. Literature

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