

## Supplementary Information

### Photofunctions of iridium(III) complexes in vesicles: long-lived excited states and visible-light sensitization for hydrogen evolution in aqueous solution

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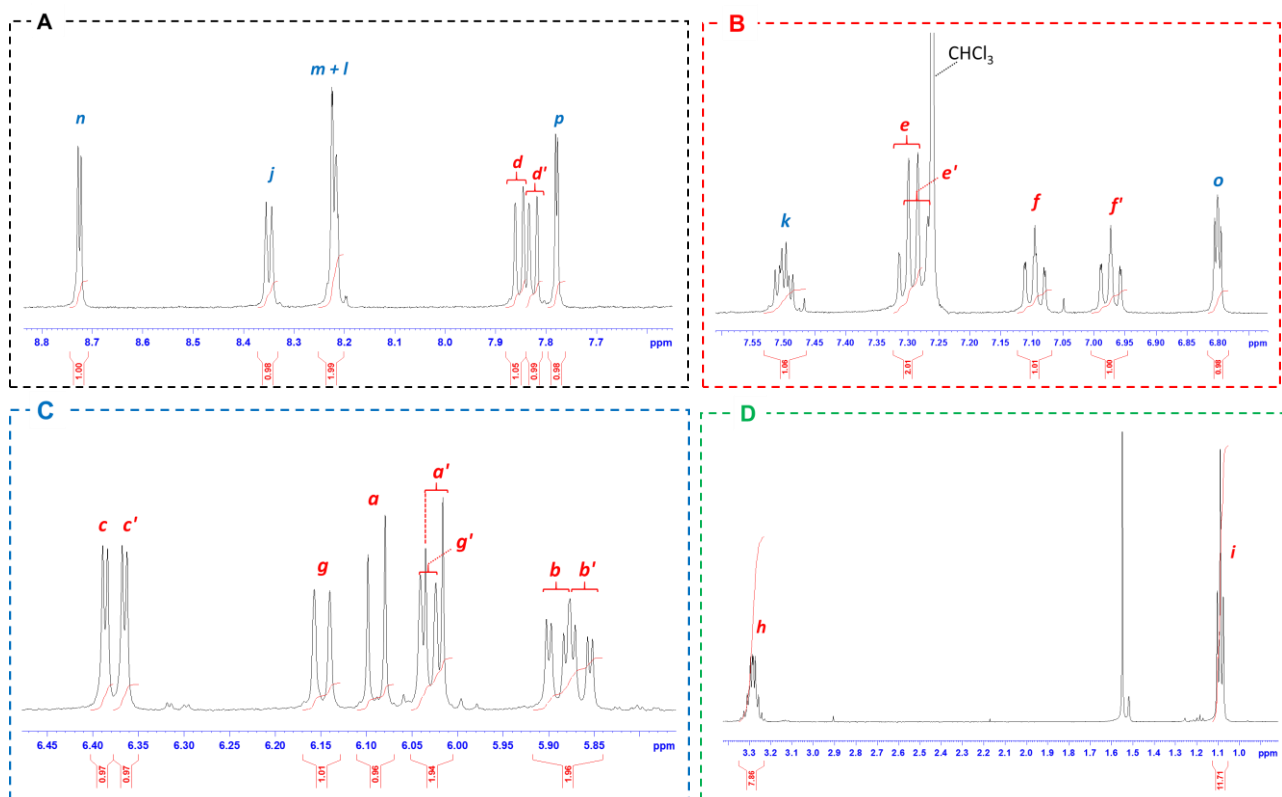
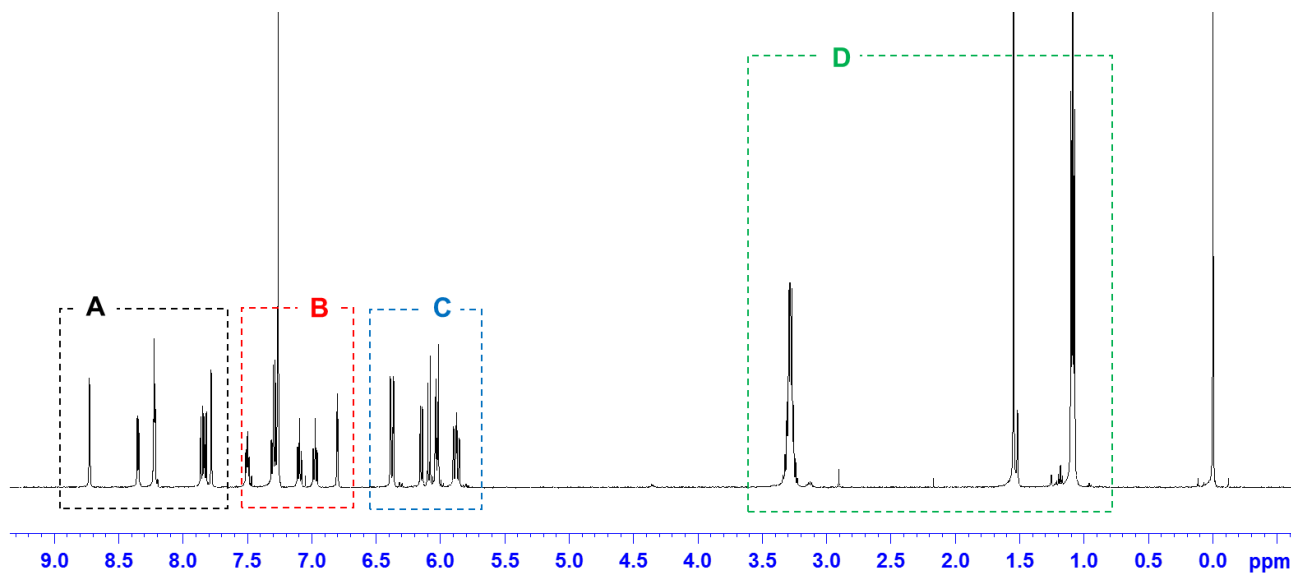
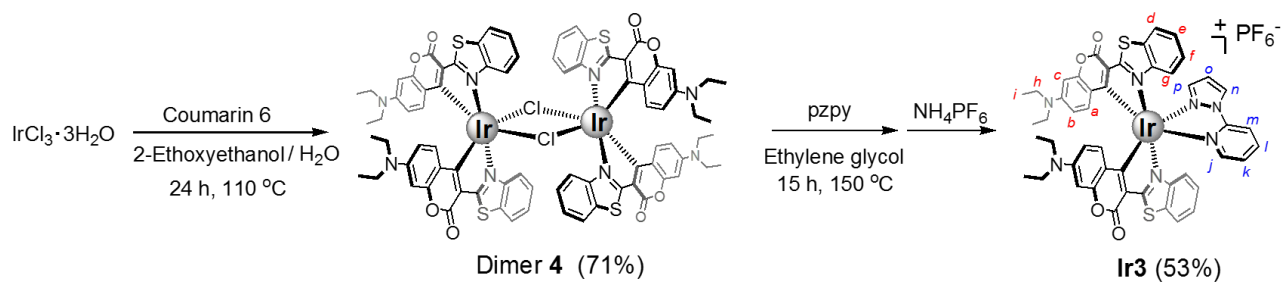
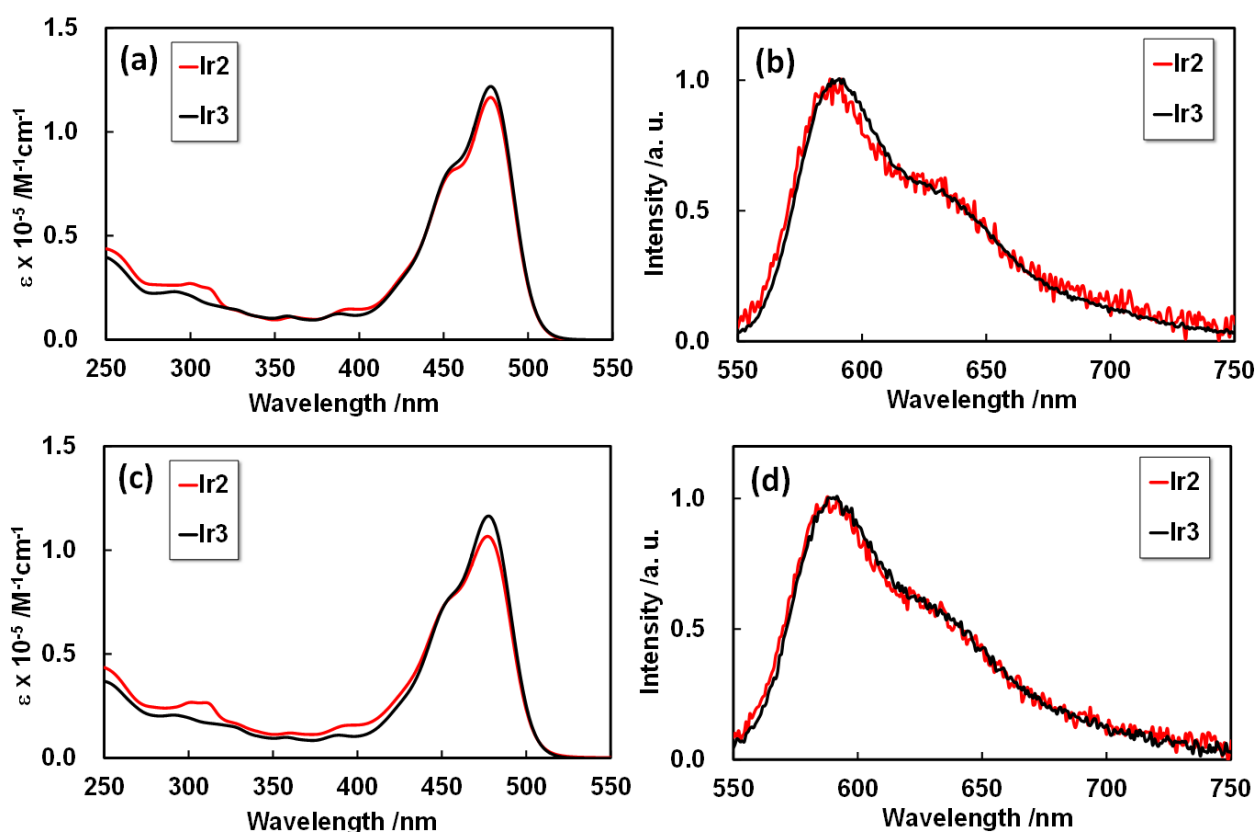


Fig. S1 Synthetic scheme and  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of Ir**3** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$

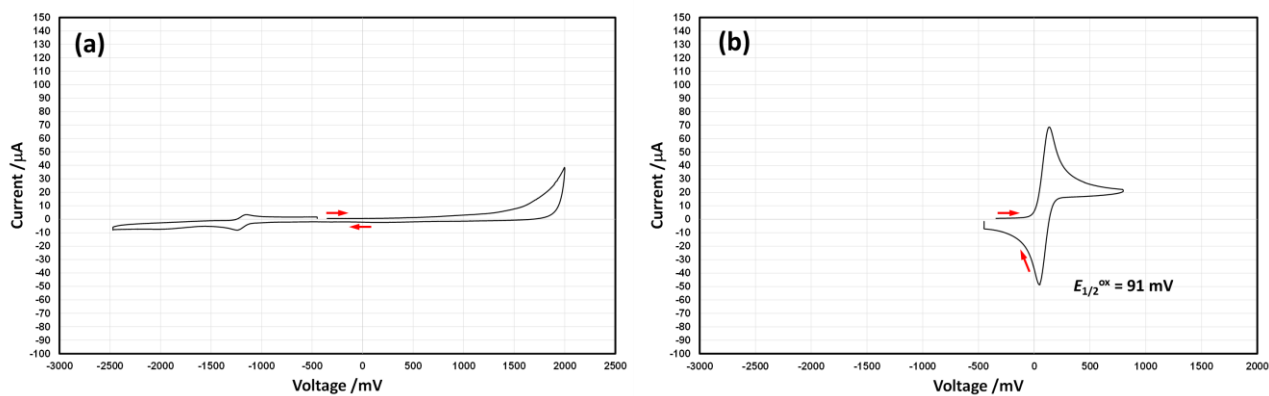


**Fig. S2** UV-vis absorption and phosphorescence spectra of **Ir2** and **Ir3**. (a) UV-vis absorption spectra in CH<sub>3</sub>CN. (b) Phosphorescence spectra in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (excited at 478 nm). (c) UV-vis absorption spectra in CH<sub>3</sub>CN-pH 4.5 acetate/acetic acid buffer solution (1:1 v/v). (d) Phosphorescence spectra in CH<sub>3</sub>CN-pH 4.5 acetate/acetic acid buffer solution (1:1 v/v) (excited at 477–478 nm).

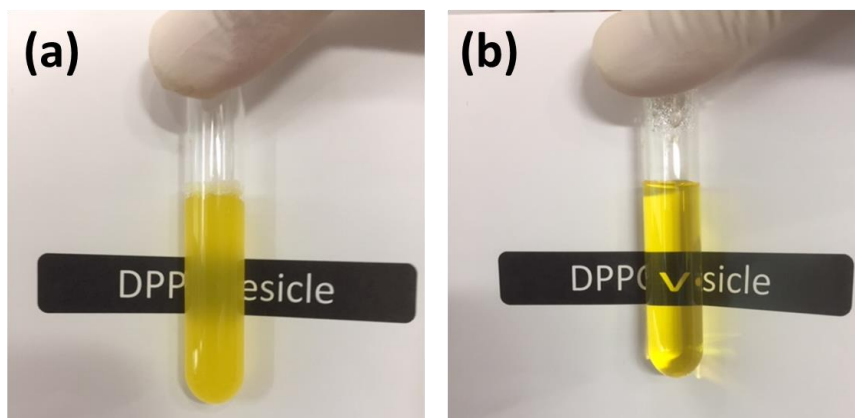
**Table S1** Phosphorescent properties of **Ir2** and **Ir3** at 77 K<sup>a</sup>

Complex	$\lambda_{\text{em}} / \text{nm}^b$	$\Phi^c$
<b>Ir2</b>	578, 630, 690	0.92
<b>Ir3</b>	579, 630, 693	0.84

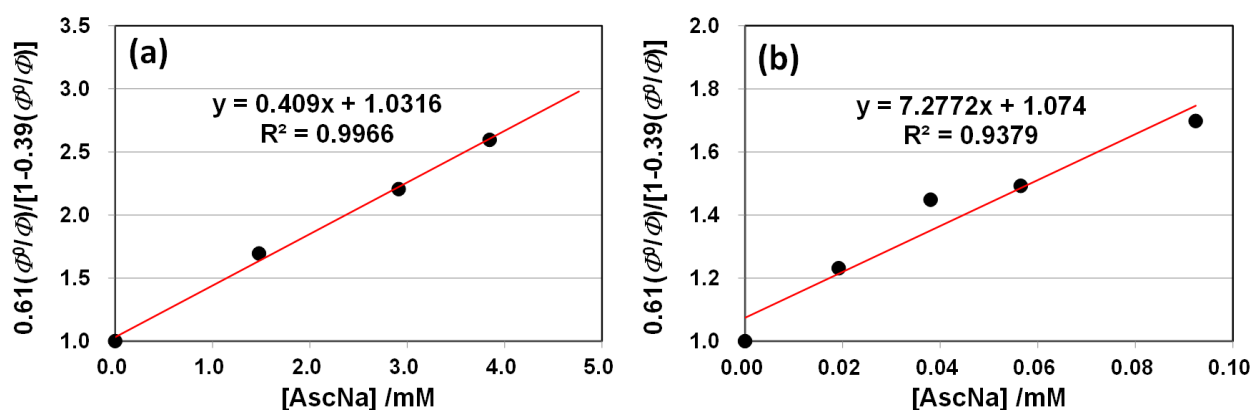
<sup>a</sup> In 2-MeTHF, excited at 481 nm. <sup>b</sup> Emission maxima. <sup>c</sup> Emission quantum yield.



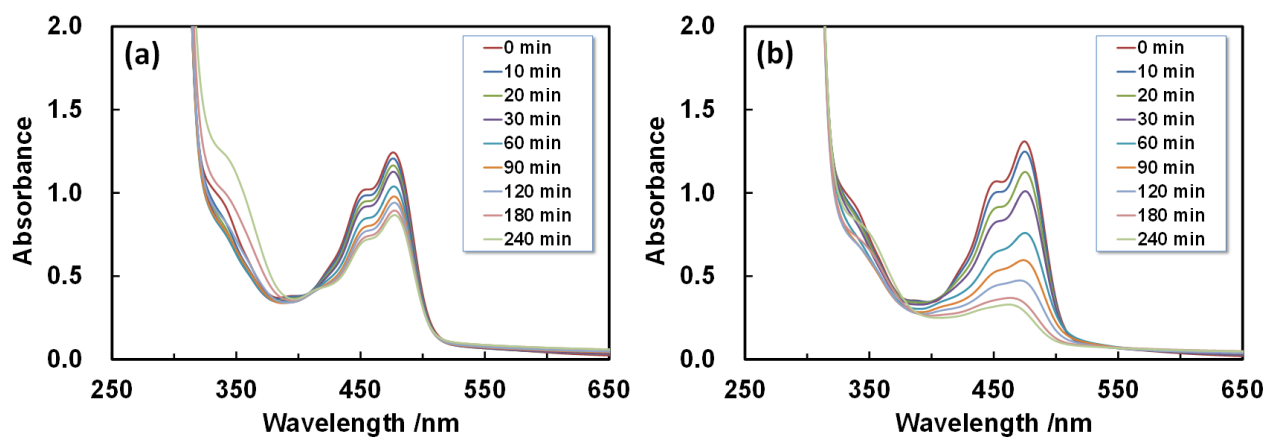
**Fig. S3** Cyclic voltammograms of (a) the blank solution and (b) ferrocene recorded at a 100 mV/s scan rate (in deaerated  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ , vs.  $\text{Ag}/\text{AgNO}_3$ ). In the blank solution, a weak reversible wave was observed at approximately  $-1.2 \text{ V}$  most probably due to residual oxygen.<sup>1</sup>



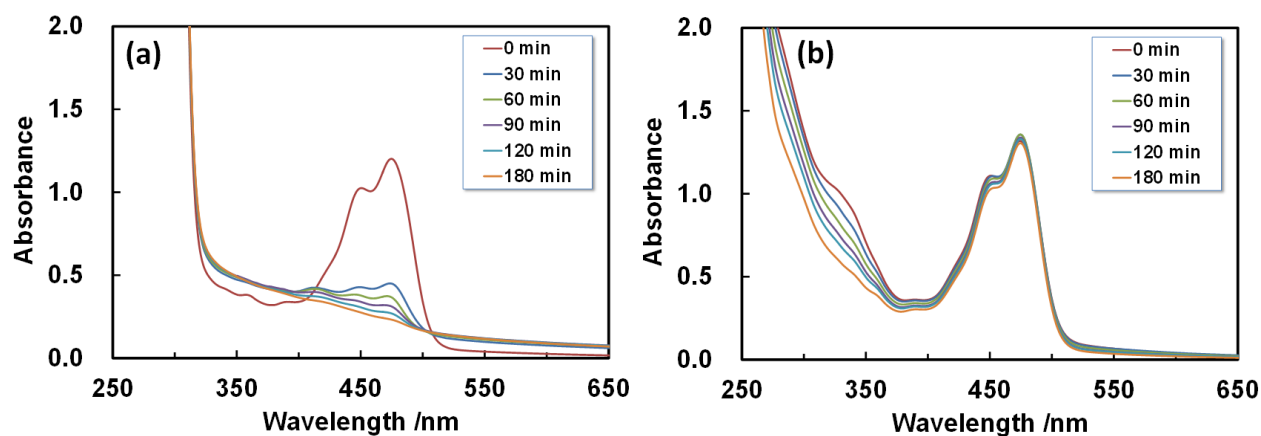
**Fig. S4** Photographs of the DPPC vesicle solution containing **Ir2** (a) before and (b) after the ultrasonic process



**Fig. S5** (a) Modified Stern–Volmer plot for quenching of the phosphorescence from **Ir2** (excitation: 477 nm) with AscNa in vesicle solution ( $[\text{Ir2}] = 11 \mu\text{M}$ ). (b) Modified Stern–Volmer plot for quenching of the phosphorescence from **Ir3** (excitation: 475 nm) with AscNa in vesicle solution ( $[\text{Ir2}] = 11 \mu\text{M}$ ). The least-squares analyses of the plots yield quenching constants,  $K_{\text{sv}}$ , of  $409 \text{ M}^{-1}$  and  $7280 \text{ M}^{-1}$ , respectively.



**Fig. S6** Changes observed in the absorption spectra during the photochemical  $\text{H}_2$  evolution using (a) the **Ir2**-embedded DPPC vesicles and (b) the **Ir3**-embedded DPPC vesicles. Conditions: AscNa (100 mM)/DPPC vesicles with **Ir2** or **Ir3** ( $11 \mu\text{M}$ )/NiP (0.05 mM),  $\lambda > 440 \text{ nm}$ .



**Fig. S7** Changes observed in the absorption spectra during the irradiation (> 440 nm) of the Ir<sup>3+</sup>-embedded vesicles only with (a) AscNa (100 mM) or (b) NiP (0.05 mM).

#### Reference

1. N. Elgrishi, K. J. Rountree, B. D. McCarthy, E. S. Rountree, T. T. Eisenhart and J. L. Dempsey, *J. Chem. Educ.*, 2018, **95**, 197.