# The Structure Optimization of Phenanthroimidazole Based Isomers with External Quantum Efficiency Approaching 7% in non-doped Deep-blue OLEDs

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## SI-1. Quantum Chemical Calculations

**Fig. S1**. Natural transition orbitals of  $S_0 \rightarrow S_n$  and  $T_0 \rightarrow T_n$  (n = 1-3) of four compounds. The blue and green isosurfaces present hole and electron distribution, respectively.

State	Energy level (eV)	λ <sub>ex</sub> (nm)	Oscillator strength	State	Energy level	$\lambda_{ex}$	
					(eV)	(nm)	
$S_1$	2.94	421.7	0.0298	$T_1$	2.54	488.7	
$S_2$	3.24	383.4	1.2087	$T_2$	2.77	447.7	
$S_3$	3.27	379.4	0.007	T <sub>3</sub>	2.83	439.0	
$S_4$	3.64	340.4	0.0803	$T_4$	2.95	420.1	
$S_5$	3.69	336.0	0.0533	T <sub>5</sub>	3.15	394.3	
$S_6$	3.77	329.0	1.0169	$T_6$	3.18	390.1	
$S_7$	3.82	325.0	0.0507	T <sub>7</sub>	3.26	380.8	
$S_8$	3.85	322.6	0.0596	$T_8$	3.29	376.7	
<b>S</b> <sub>9</sub>	3.86	321.6	0.0815	T <sub>9</sub>	3.33	372.4	
$S_{10}$	3.90	317.9	0.0199	$T_{10}$	3.47	357.5	

Table S1. The calculated first-ten singlet and triplet states of TPA-PPI-PBI.

State	Energy level (eV)	λ <sub>ex</sub> (nm)	Oscillator strength	State	Energy level (eV)	λ <sub>ex</sub> (nm)
S1	3.02	411.3	0.0662	Tı	2.54	488.8
S <sub>2</sub>	3.23	383.8	1.1162	T <sub>2</sub>	2.82	439.4
S <sub>3</sub>	3.34	371.9	0.0132	T <sub>3</sub>	3.02	411.4
$S_4$	3.62	342.8	0.0231	$T_4$	3.02	410.6
$S_5$	3.64	341.1	0.0192	T <sub>5</sub>	3.14	395.0
$S_6$	3.66	339.1	0.0812	$T_6$	3.15	393.4
$S_7$	3.78	327.8	0.0434	T <sub>7</sub>	3.18	389.6
$S_8$	3.79	327.2	0.0197	$T_8$	3.31	374.6
$S_9$	3.85	322.2	0.0121	Τ <sub>9</sub>	3.36	369.7
$S_{10}$	3.89	318.9	0.0295	T <sub>10</sub>	3.47	357.1

Table S2. The calculated first-ten singlet and triplet states of TPA-PPI-NPBI.

Table S3. The calculated first-ten singlet and triplet states of PBI-PPI-TPA.

State	Energy level (eV)	λ <sub>ex</sub> (nm)	Oscillator strength	State	Energy level (eV)	λ <sub>ex</sub> (nm)
$\mathbf{S}_1$	3.25	382.3	1.0073	$T_1$	2.54	488.2
$S_2$	3.39	366.0	0.162	$T_2$	2.74	452.1
$S_3$	3.42	362.8	0.3285	$T_3$	2.83	438.1
$\mathbf{S}_4$	3.51	353.8	0.4735	$T_4$	3.08	403.5
$S_5$	3.59	345.5	0.0015	$T_5$	3.21	386.2
$S_6$	3.69	335.8	0.5018	$T_6$	3.32	373.9
$S_7$	3.75	331.2	0.0116	$T_7$	3.36	368.8
$S_8$	3.82	324.7	0.0028	$T_8$	3.40	364.6
S <sub>9</sub>	3.87	320.6	0.0019	T9	3.44	360.2
$S_{10}$	3.92	316.4	0.0344	T <sub>10</sub>	3.49	355.5

 Table S4. The calculated first-ten singlet and triplet states of NPBI-PPI-TPA.

State	Energy level (eV)	λ <sub>ex</sub> (nm)	Oscillator strength	State	Energy level (eV)	λ <sub>ex</sub> (nm)
$\mathbf{S}_1$	3.34	371.9	0.6616	$T_1$	2.59	478.9
$S_2$	3.42	363.1	0.4296	$T_2$	2.75	451.7
$S_3$	3.45	359.3	0.2827	T <sub>3</sub>	2.97	418.3
$S_4$	3.49	355.2	0.2837	$T_4$	3.02	410.7
$S_5$	3.78	328.7	0.0058	T <sub>5</sub>	3.21	386.0
$S_6$	3.81	325.7	0.0153	$T_6$	3.34	372.0
$S_7$	3.87	320.8	0.0106	$T_7$	3.35	370.5
$S_8$	3.94	315.0	0.0474	$T_8$	3.44	360.9
$S_9$	3.96	313.0	0.0244	T <sub>9</sub>	3.44	360.4
$\mathbf{S}_{10}$	4.00	310.2	0.0993	T <sub>10</sub>	3.49	355.4



Fig. S2. The major molecular orbital contribution to  $S_0 \rightarrow S_n$  transfer of new compounds.

## SI-2. Photophysical properties



Fig. S3. Normalized UV/Vis absorption and PL spectra of new compounds in neat film.



Fig. S4. Normalized fluorescence spectra of new compounds in different solvents.



Fig. S5. Normalized fluorescence and phosphorene spectra of new compounds at 77 K.



Fig. S6. Lifetime measurement of new compounds in degassed DCM (a) and neat film (b).

## SI-3. Crystal structure



Fig. S7. Crystal structure of intermediate NPBI-PPI-Br.

#### SI-4. Distributions of the molecular frontier orbitals



Fig. S8. The HOMOs distribution and energy levels of PBI-PPI-TPA.



SI-5. Electroluminescence spectra

Fig. S9. Electroluminescence spectra of new compounds at different voltage

SI-6. Current density versus voltage characteristics



**Fig. S10**. Current density versus voltage characteristics of hole-only device and electron-only device of **PBI-PPI-TPA**.

#### SI-7. NMR spectra

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 $^1\mathrm{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cb) ö 8.80 (d,  $J\!=\!9.1$  Hz, 1H), 8.75 (d,  $J\!=\!8.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d,  $J\!=\!8.2$  Hz, 3H), 7.76 (s, 5H), 7.67 (dd,  $J\!=\!15.4,$  8.3 Hz, 5H), 7.56 (t,  $J\!=\!6.8$  Hz, 6H), 7.50 (d,  $J\!=\!8.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.45 – 7.36 (m, 3H), 7.29 (dd,  $J\!=\!16.2,$  8.9 Hz, 8H), 7.11 (d,  $J\!=\!7.4$  Hz, 6H), 7.05 (t,  $J\!=\!8.0$  Hz, 2H).



Fig. S11 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of TPA-PPI-PBI in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.



<sup>10</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCb) δ 151.75, 150.84, 147.58, 143.09, 141.31, 140.81, 140.18, 138.32, 137.67, 137.45, 137.09, 133.86, 130.09, 130.05, 129.80, 129.77, 129.57, 129.57, 129.52, 128.83, 128.79, 128.54, 128.31, 128.18, 127.76, 127.56, 127.52, 127.25, 127.01, 126.36, 126.29, 125.66, 124.92, 124.53, 124.18, 123.72, 123.59, 123.19, 123.13, 123.09, 123.05, 122.82, 120.87, 119.95, 110.52.



Fig. S12 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of TPA-PPI-PBI in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

\_8.83 \_8.82 \_8.77 \_8.76

 $^{1}\mathrm{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  8.83 (d,  $J\!=\!8.5$  Hz, 1H), 8.76 (d,  $J\!=\!8.5$  Hz, 1H), 8.01 – 7.92 (m, 5H), 7.79 (t,  $J\!=\!6.3$  Hz, 2H), 7.72 (t,  $J\!=\!8.3$  Hz, 6H), 7.58 (t,  $J\!=\!8.4$  Hz, 4H), 7.51 (d,  $J\!=\!8.5$  Hz, 4H), 7.47 – 7.33 (m, 8H), 7.28 (t,  $J\!=\!7.9$  Hz, 4H), 7.17 – 7.09 (m, 6H), 7.06 (t,  $J\!=\!7.4$  Hz, 2H).



Fig. S13 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of TPA-PPI-NPBI in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.





156 154 152 150 148 146 144 142 140 138 136 134 132 130 128 126 124 122 120 118 116 114 112 110 108 106 fl (ppm)

Fig. S14 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of TPA-PPI-NPBI in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

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<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  8.80 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 8.75 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 7.77 (dd, J = 12.8, 7.8 Hz, 3H), 7.68 (dd, J = 18.5, 7.1 Hz, 6H), 7.64 – 7.53 (m, 10H), 7.42 – 7.36 (m, 4H), 7.36 – 7.25 (m, 7H), 7.17 (dd, J = 16.2, 8.1 Hz, 6H), 7.09 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H).

8.81 8.80 8.76 8.74



Fig. S15 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of PBI-PPI-TPA in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.





3 154 152 150 148 146 144 142 140 138 136 134 132 130 128 126 124 122 120 118 116 114 112 110 108 106 f1 (ppm)

Fig. S16<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of PBI-PPI-TPA in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

8.83 8.71 8.75 8.75

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<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cb<sub>2</sub>) δ 8.82 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.76 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.81 (dd, J = 15.3, 7.9 Hz, 6H), 7.70 (dd, J = 22.5, 8.2 Hz, 7H), 7.64 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.34 (m, 10H), 7.34 – 7.28 (m, 5H), 7.19 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.09 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H).



Figure S17 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of NPBI-PPI-TPA in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.



Figure S18 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of NPBI-PPI-TPA in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.