Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

## New Thermally Stable Aggregation-Induced Emission Enhancement Compounds for Non-doped Red Organic Light-Emitting Diodes

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#### Materials and Measurements

Diphenylmethane, benzophenone, 4-bromobenzophenone, *n*-butyllithium in hexane (2.2M), 4, 7-dibromobenzo-1, 2, 5-thiadiazole, palladium acetate, tetrabutyl ammonium bromide (TBAB), trimethyl borate, *t*-BuOK, POCl<sub>3</sub>, KI, KIO<sub>3</sub> and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> purchased from Alfa Aesar were used as received. Triphenylamine was obtained from Zhenjiang Haitong Chemical Industry Co., Ltd. (China). All other reagents and solvents were purchased as analytical grade from Guangzhou Dongzheng Company (China) and used without further purification. Intermediates **T<sub>2</sub>TPA-CHO**<sup>1</sup> and **Ar<sub>1</sub>-B(OH)<sub>2</sub>**<sup>2</sup> were prepared according to the literature procedures.

Proton and carbon nuclear magnetic resonance (<sup>1</sup>H-NMR and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR) spectra were measured on Mercury-Plus 300 spectrometer (for intermediates) and Varian INOVA500NB spectrometer ( for <sup>13</sup>C-NMR of the target products) [CDCl<sub>3</sub>, tetramethylsilane (TMS) as the internal standard]. Mass spectra (MS) were measured on a VG ZAB-HS Double Focussing Mass Spectrometer or a Thermo DSQ MS spectrometer. Elemental analyses (EA) were performed with an Elementar Vario EL elemental analyzer. Photoluminescence spectra (PL) were measured on a Shimadzu RF-5301pc spectrometer. UV-vis absorption spectra (UV) were recorded on a Hitachi UV-vis spectrophoto-meter (U-3900). Differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) curves were obtained with a NETZSCH thermal analyzer (DSC 204 F1) at a heating rate of 10 °C/min under N2 atmosphere. Thermogravimetric analyses (TGA) were carried out using a thermal analyzer (Shimadzu, TGA-50H) under N<sub>2</sub> gas flow with a heating rate of 20 °C/min. Cyclic voltammetry (CV) measurement was carried out on a Shanghai Chenhua electrochemical workstations CHI660C in a three-electrode cell with a Pt disk working electrode, a Ag/AgCl reference electrode, and a glassy carbon counter electrode. All CV measurements were performed under an inert argon atmosphere with supporting electrolyte of 0.1M tetrabutylammonium perchlorate (n-Bu<sub>4</sub>NClO<sub>4</sub>) in dichloromethane at scan rate of 100 mV/s using ferrocene (Fc) as standard. The HOMO energy levels were obtained using the onset oxidation potentials from the CV curves. The lowest unoccupied molecular orbital/highest occupied molecular orbital (LUMO/HOMO) energy gaps  $\Delta Eg$  for the compounds were estimated from the onset absorption wavelengths of UV absorption spectra. The water-DMF mixtures with different water fractions were prepared by slowly adding distilled water into the DMF solution of samples under ultrasound at room temperature. For example, a 70% water fraction mixture was prepared in a volumetric flask by adding 7 mL distilled water into 3 mL DMF solution of the sample. The concentrations of all samples were adjusted to 5  $\mu$ M after adding distilled water.



Scheme S1. Synthetic rutes to the compounds.

#### Synthesis of compound V<sub>2</sub>TPA-CHO

DITPA-CHO (1.58g, 3.0 mmol) and Ar<sub>1</sub>-B(OH)<sub>2</sub> (1.80g, 6.0 mmol) in toluene (40 mL), 2M aqueous K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> solution (9 mL) and TBAB (0.1g) were added. The mixture was stirred for 40 min under an argon atmosphere at room temperature. Then the Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> catalyst (catalytic amount) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at 80°C for 16 h. After cooling to room temperature, the product was concentrated and purified by silica gel column chromatography with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: n-hexane (v: v; 2: 3), Light yellow power of V<sub>2</sub>TPA-CHO was obtained in 83% yield. <sup>1</sup>HNMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ (ppm): 7.00 (s, 2H), 7.07-7.12 (dd, 6H), 7.17-7.26 (m, 8H), 7.27-7.40 (m, 20H), 7.46-7.55 (d, 4H), 7.68-7.73 (d, 2H), 9.82 (s, 1H) ; <sup>13</sup>CNMR (75MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ (ppm): 120.35, 126.50, 127.80, 128.20, 128.40, 129.00, 129.80, 130.30, 130.65, 131.60, 136.75, 137.35, 138.40, 140.06, 143.00, 143.50, 145.45, 153.15, 190.50 ; MS (EI), m/z: 781([M]<sup>+</sup>, calcd for *C*<sub>59</sub>*H*<sub>43</sub>*NO*, 781) ; Anal. Clac. For *C*<sub>59</sub>*H*<sub>43</sub>*NO: C 90.62, H 5.54, N 1.79, O 2.05; Found: C 90.55, H 5.57, N 1.71.* 

### Synthesis of compound V<sub>2</sub>TPA-V and T<sub>2</sub>TPA-V

Methyltriphenylphosphonium Iodide (0.88g, 2.2 mmol), and the corresponding aldehyde (2.0 mmol) were solved in anhydrous THF (40 mL). Then the mixtures were stirred under an Argon atmosphere at room temperature. After 30 min, potassium tert-butyloxide (0.268g, 2.4 mmoL) was added and the mixture was stirred for another 4 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated and purified by silica gel column chromatography with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: n-hexane (v:v, 1: 5, V<sub>2</sub>TPA-V, yield 61%; v:v, 1: 4, T<sub>2</sub>TPA-V, yield 53%). V<sub>2</sub>TPA-V: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ (ppm): 5.18 (d, 1H), 5.565 (d, 1H), 6.70 (dd, 1H), 7.00 (s, 2H), 7.05-7.15 (m, 10H), 7.20-7.40 (m, 26H), 7.40-7.50 (d, 4H). <sup>13</sup>CNMR (75MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ (ppm): 112.70, 124.50, 126.25, 127.40, 127.80, 128.00, 128.40, 129.00, 130.20, 130.60, 132.60, 135.10, 136.25, 138.80, 140.70, 142.70, 143.60, 146.85, 147.20. T<sub>2</sub>TPA-V: <sup>1</sup>HNMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ (ppm): 5.17 (d, 1H), 5.65 (d, 1H), 6.67 (dd, 1H), 7.00-7.15 (m, 40H), 7.27-7.35 (m, 6H), 7.45 (d, 4H). <sup>13</sup>CNMR (75MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ (ppm): 111.30, 112.65, 124.20, 124.60, 125.90, 126.70, 127.40, 128.00, 131.60, 132.00, 132.45, 135.30, 136.40, 137.00, 137.40, 138.40, 139.50, 140.05, 140.75, 141.20, 142.65, 144.00,

146.80, 147.30, 148.00,.

### Synthesis of compound $V_2BV_2$ and $T_2BT_2$

4, 7-dibromobenzo-1, 2, 5-thiadiazole (0.126g, 0.43 mmol), anhydrous  $K_2CO_3$  (0.61g, 4.5 mmol), 0.1g TBAB, and the corresponding vinyltriphenylamine derivative (0.90 mmol) were solved in anhydrous DMAc (30 mL). The mixture was stirred for 40 min under an argon atmosphere at room temperature. Then the Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> catalyst (catalytic amount) was added

and the reaction mixture was stirred at  $120^{\circ}$ C for 24 h. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction mixture was concentrated and purified by silica gel column chromatography with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: n-hexane (v:v, 1: 4, V<sub>2</sub>BV<sub>2</sub>, yield 33%; v:v, 1: 3, T<sub>2</sub>BT<sub>2</sub>, yield 26%).

**V**<sub>2</sub>**BV**<sub>2</sub>: <sup>1</sup>HNMR(300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ(ppm): 7.00 (s, 4H), 7.05-7.20 (m, 20H), 7.23-7.40 (m, 48H), 7.43-7.58 (m, 14H), 7.62-7.67 (s, 2H), 7.90-7.98 (d, 2H); <sup>13</sup>CNMR(125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)δ(ppm): 123.11, 123.83, 124.65, 126.08, 126.57, 127.60, 128.23, 128.74, 129.29, 130.03, 130.42, 131.85, 132.13, 132.44, 135.29, 136.17, 138.58, 140.50, 142.59, 143.45, 146.53, 147.39, 153.67, 154.00; MS (FAB), m/z: 1691([M]<sup>+</sup>, calcd for *C*<sub>126</sub>*H*<sub>90</sub>*N*<sub>4</sub>*S* 1691)<sub>0</sub>

**T<sub>2</sub>BT<sub>2</sub>**: <sup>1</sup>HNMR(300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ(ppm): 7.00-7.20 (m, 79H), 7.30-7.40 (d, 9H), 7.43-7.57 (m, 14H), 7.63 (s, 2H), 7.95 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>CNMR(125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ(ppm): 123.40, 123.65, 124.68, 125.73, 126.48, 127.64, 127.76, 129.27, 131.36, 131.42, 131.83, 132.01, 132.43, 135.39, 138.13, 140.60, 141.10, 142.50, 143.79, 146.46, 147.42, 154.00. MS (FAB), m/z: 1995([M]<sup>+</sup>, calcd for  $C_{150}H_{106}N_4S$  1995).

### References

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Fig. S1. UV-vis absorption spectra of  $V_2BV_2$  and  $T_2BT_2$  in different solvents (5  $\mu$ M).



Fig. S2. PL emission spectra of  $V_2BV_2$  and  $T_2BT_2$  in different solvents (5  $\mu$ M).



**Fig. S3.** UV absorption spectra of  $V_2BV_2$  and  $T_2BT_2$  in water/DMF mixtures with different volume fractions of water.



Fig. S4. The emission images of  $V_2BV_2$  and  $T_2BT_2$  in pure DMF, 20%, 40% and 60% water fraction mixtures under 365 nm UV illumination (5  $\mu$ M).



Fig. S5. CV curves of  $T_2BT_2$  and  $V_2BV_2$  in MC.



Fig. S6. DSC (a) and TGA (b) curves of  $V_2BV_2$  and  $T_2BT_2$ .



**Fig. S7.** The powder colors (left) and solid PL spectra (right) of  $V_2BV_2$  and  $T_2BT_2$  (inset, PL spectra of  $V_2BV_2$  and  $T_2BT_2$  in DMF solution).



Fig. S8. The energy level diagram and structure of the OLED device.



Fig. S9. Current efficiency, and power efficiency vs current density.



Fig. S10. The device external quantum efficiency vs current density.



Fig. S11. Electroluminescence spectra of the devices.

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**Fig. S13**. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of V<sub>2</sub>TPA-CHO.

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**Fig. S15**. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of V<sub>2</sub>TPA-V.







**Fig. S19**. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of  $V_2BV_2$ .



**Fig. S20**. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum of  $V_2BV_2$ .

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**Fig. S24**. MS spectrum of  $T_2BT_2$ .