## Supplementary Information

## Introducing Asymmetry in Tetradentate Azadipyrromethene Chromophores:

## A Systematic Study of the Impact on Electronic and Photophysical Properties

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## NMR Characterization

Figure S. $1-{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ of Azadipyrromethene $\mathbf{3}\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right.$; poorly soluble)


Figure S. $2-{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ of Azadipyrromethene $\mathbf{4}\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)$


Figure S. $3-{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ of Azadipyrromethene $\mathbf{4}\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)$


Figure S. $4-{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ of Azadipyrromethene $5\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)$


Figure S.5 - ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ of Azadipyrromethene $5\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)$


Figure S. $6-{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ of Azadipyrromethene $\mathbf{6}\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)$


Figure S. $7-{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ of Azadipyrromethene $6\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)$


## HRMS Characterization

Figure S.8-HRMS of Azadipyrromethene 3


MS Spectrum Peak List

| Ion | Ion Formula | Abund | Expe. $\boldsymbol{m} / \boldsymbol{z}$ | Calc. $\boldsymbol{m} / \boldsymbol{z}$ | Diff(ppm) |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $(\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H})+$ | C 30 H 21 N 5 |  | 452.18572 | 452.18697 | 2.77 |

Figure S. 9 - HRMS of Azadipyrromethene 4


MS Spectrum Peak List

| Ion | Formula | Abund | Observed $\mathbf{m} / \mathbf{z}$ | Calc $\mathbf{m} / \mathbf{z}$ | Diff (ppm) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $(\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H})+$ | C 33 H 25 N 3 O 2 | 1075282.31 | 496.20238 | 496.20195 | -0.87 |

Figure S. 10 - HRMS of Azadipyrromethene 5


MS Spectrum Peak List

| Ion | Ion Formula | Abund | Expe. $\boldsymbol{m} / \boldsymbol{z}$ | Ca/c. $\boldsymbol{m} / \boldsymbol{z}$ | Diff(ppm) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $(\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H})+$ | C 32 H 25 N 40 | 25811.2 | 481.20252 | 481.20229 | 0.49 |

Figure S. 11 - HRMS of Azadipyrromethene 6


MS Spectrum Peak List

| Ion | Formula | Abund | Observed $\mathbf{m} / \mathbf{z}$ | Calc m/z | Diff (ppm) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $(\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H})+$ | C31H22N4O | 856545.24 | 467.18724 | 467.18664 | -1.29 |

## Electrochemistry

Figure S. 12 - CV of ADPM 1 with ferrocene reference measured before and after due to interaction with the compound.
( 0.46 V vs SCE in DCM) (Scan rate of $50 \mathrm{mV} / \mathrm{s}$ at R.T.)


Figure S. 13 - DPV of ADPM 1 with ferrocene reference measured before and after due to interaction with the compound.
( 0.46 V vs SCE in DCM) (Scan rate of $50 \mathrm{mV} / \mathrm{s}$ at R.T.)



Figure S. 14 - CV of ADPM 2 with ferrocene as internal reference.
( 0.46 V vs SCE in DCM) (Scan rate of $50 \mathrm{mV} / \mathrm{s}$ at R.T.)


Figure S. 15 - DPV of ADPM 2 with ferrocene as internal reference.
( 0.46 V vs SCE in DCM) (Scan rate of $50 \mathrm{mV} / \mathrm{s}$ at R.T.)



Figure S. 16 - CV of ADPM 3 with ferrocene as internal reference.
( 0.46 V vs SCE in DCM) (Scan rate of $50 \mathrm{mV} / \mathrm{s}$ at R.T.)


Figure S. 17 - DPV of ADPM 3 with ferrocene as internal reference.
( 0.46 V vs SCE in DCM) (Scan rate of $50 \mathrm{mV} / \mathrm{s}$ at R.T.)



Figure S. 18 - CV of ADPM 4 with ferrocene as internal reference.
( 0.46 V vs SCE in DCM) (Scan rate of $50 \mathrm{mV} / \mathrm{s}$ at R.T.)


Figure S. 19 - DPV of ADPM 4 with ferrocene as internal reference.
( 0.46 V vs SCE in DCM) (Scan rate of $50 \mathrm{mV} / \mathrm{s}$ at R.T.)



Figure S. 20 - CV of ADPM 5 with ferrocene as internal reference.
( 0.46 V vs SCE in DCM) (Scan rate of $50 \mathrm{mV} / \mathrm{s}$ at R.T.)


Figure S. 21 - DPV of ADPM 5 with ferrocene as internal reference.
( 0.46 V vs SCE in DCM) (Scan rate of $50 \mathrm{mV} / \mathrm{s}$ at R.T.)



Figure S. 22 - CV of ADPM 6 with ferrocene as internal reference.
( 0.46 V vs SCE in DCM) (Scan rate of $50 \mathrm{mV} / \mathrm{s}$ at R.T.)


Figure S. 23 - DPV of ADPM 6 with ferrocene as internal reference.
( 0.46 V vs SCE in DCM) (Scan rate of $50 \mathrm{mV} / \mathrm{s}$ at R.T.)



## Computational Modelization

Figure S. 24 - Representation of molecular orbital's energy levels (in eV) of ADPM derivatives $\mathbf{1}$ - $\mathbf{8}$ as obtained by DFT computational modelization and the corresponding band gap (occupied orbitals $=$ blue; virtual orbitals $=$ red $).$


Table S.1-Electronic distribution ( \% ) on HOMO and LUMO for ADPM derivatives $\mathbf{1}-\mathbf{8}$ as obtained by DFT computational modelization (r-pbe0 / 6-311g(2d,p); $\mathrm{CPCM}=\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ). ${ }^{\text {a), b) }}$
(Refer to Figure 5 for division of ADPM chromophore in computational modelization analysis)

|  | Molecular <br> Orbital | ADPM | Proximal <br> $\mathbf{A r}_{\mathbf{1}}$ | Proximal <br> $\mathbf{A r}_{\mathbf{2}}$ | Distal <br> $\mathbf{A r}_{\mathbf{1}}$, | Distal <br> $\mathbf{A r}_{\mathbf{2}}$, |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | HOMO | 62 | 17 | 11 | 6 | 4 |
|  | LUMO | 66 | 8 | 14 | 6 | 5 |
| $\mathbf{2}$ | HOMO | 59 | 15 | 16 | 6 | 3 |
|  | LUMO | 65 | 9 | 16 | 6 | 5 |
| $\mathbf{3}$ | HOMO | 68 | 12 | 8 | 8 | 4 |
|  | LUMO | 70 | 7 | 11 | 7 | 5 |
| $\mathbf{4}$ | HOMO | 60 | 17 | 14 | 5 | 4 |
|  | LUMO | 66 | 8 | 15 | 6 | 5 |
| $\mathbf{5}$ | HOMO | 66 | 18 | 7 | 5 | 4 |
|  | LUMO | 67 | 8 | 11 | 4 | 10 |
| $\mathbf{6}$ | HOMO | 66 | 17 | 8 | 5 | 4 |
|  | LUMO | 67 | 8 | 11 | 4 | 10 |
| $\mathbf{7}$ | HOMO | 66 | 13 | 9 | 7 | 4 |
|  | LUMO | 63 | 12 | 14 | 6 | 5 |
| $\mathbf{8}$ | HOMO | 54 | 17 | 12 | 11 | 6 |
|  | LUMO | 61 | 12 | 14 | 6 | 6 |

a) Ar1 is the aryl on the pyrrole side of the ADPM.
b) Distal $\mathrm{Ar}=\mathrm{Ph}$, otherwise stated. The prime number (\#') in subscript corresponds to the distal aryl on the same side as the proximal one.

Table S. 2 - Assignment of optical absorption bands of ADPM 1 in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ based on TD-DFT

$$
\text { calculations (TD-BMK/6-311+G(2d,p); } \mathrm{CPCM}=\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2} \text { ). }
$$

| $\lambda, \mathrm{nm}$ |  | Excitation | Assignation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Observed $\left(\varepsilon, \mathrm{x}^{1} 0^{3} \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}\right)$ | Calculated (Osc. Strength) |  |  |
| 605 (47) | 553 (0.834) | H -> L (99\%) | Prox_1 -> ADPM |
| 407 (6.8) | 422 (0.040) | H-1 -> L (94\%) | Dist_2 -> ADPM |
|  | 368 (0.252) | H-2 (77\%), H-3 (16\%) -> L | Periphery (except Dist_2) -> ADPM |
|  | 356 (0.168) | H-3 (79\%), H-2 (16\%) -> L | Prox_2 + Dist_1 -> ADPM |
|  | 349 (0.005) | H-8 (59\%), H-9 (17\%), H-6 (14\%) -> L | Prox_1 + Dist_2 -> ADPM |
| 299 (34) | 320 (0.062) | H-4 -> L (92\%) | Prox $1+2$-> Dist $1+2+$ ADPM |
|  | 305 (0.004) | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{H}-10(38 \%), \mathrm{H}-12(32 \%), \mathrm{H}-6(12 \%), \\ \mathrm{H}-8(10 \%)->\mathrm{L} \end{gathered}$ | Dist 1+2 --> Prox $1+2+$ ADPM |
|  | 297 (0.264) | H -> L+1 (80\%) | ADPM + Side $2-->$ Side 1 |
|  | 296 (0.015) | H-5 -> L (78\%) | Dist 1+2 --> Prox 1+2 + ADPM |
|  | 288 (0.433) | H-7 -> L (72\%); H -> L+1 (10\%) | Prox_2 --> ADPM |

Figure S. 25 - Experimental absorption spectrum in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ vs calculated optical absorption bands of ADPM 1 based on TD-DFT calculations (TD-BMK/6-311+G(2d,p); $\mathrm{CPCM}=\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ).


Table S. 3 - Assignment of optical absorption bands of ADPM 2 in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ based on TD-DFT

$$
\text { calculations (TD-BMK/6-311+G(2d,p); } \mathrm{CPCM}=\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2} \text { ). }
$$

| $\lambda, \mathrm{nm}$ |  | Excitation | Assignation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { Observed } \\ \left(\varepsilon, \times 10^{3} \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Calculated } \\ \text { (Osc. Strength) } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |
| 615 (39) and 577 | 560 (0.834) | H -> L (99\%) | Side 1 -> ADPM |
| 415 (6.0) | 413 (0.093) | H-2 (70\%), H-1 (22\%) -> L | Periphery (except Dist_1) -> ADPM |
|  | 378 (0.130) | H-1 (73\%), H-2 (17\%) -> L | Periphery (except Dist_1) -> ADPM |
|  | 368 (0.233) | H-3 -> L (85\%) | Side 1 -> ADPM |
| 307 (26) | 339 (0.008) | H-9 (53\%), H-4 (20\%), H-6 (14\%) -> L | $\begin{gathered} \text { Periphery (except Prox_2) - } \\ >\text { ADPM } \end{gathered}$ |
|  | 332 (0.092) | H-4 (70\%), H-9 (15\%) -> L | Prox_1 -> ADPM |
|  | 309 (0.003) | H-5 -> L (86\%) | Dist $1+2+$ Prox_1-> ADPM + Prox_2 |
|  | 303 (0.026) | H-7 (58\%), H-6 (17\%) -> L | Periphery -> ADPM |
|  | 297 (0.026) | $\begin{gathered} \text { H-6 (48\%), H-7 (24\%), H-9 (13\%), } \\ \text { H-5 (11\%) -> L } \end{gathered}$ | Periphery -> ADPM |
|  | 283 (0.023) | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{H}-12(34 \%), \mathrm{H}-10(28 \%), \mathrm{H}-8(12 \%)->\mathrm{L} ; \\ \mathrm{H} \rightarrow \mathrm{~L}+1(10 \%) \end{gathered}$ | Periphery -> ADPM |

Figure S. 26 - Experimental absorption spectrum in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ vs calculated optical absorption bands of ADPM 2 based on TD-DFT calculations (TD-BMK/6-311+G(2d,p); $\mathrm{CPCM}=\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ).


Table S.4-Assignment of optical absorption bands of ADPM 3 in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ based on TD-DFT

$$
\text { calculations (TD-BMK/6-311+G(2d,p); } \mathrm{CPCM}=\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2} \text { ). }
$$

| $\lambda, \mathrm{nm}$ |  | Excitation | Assignation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { Observed } \\ \left(\varepsilon,{\left.\mathrm{x} 10^{3} \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}\right)}^{2}\right. \end{gathered}$ | Calculated (Osc. Strength) |  |  |
| 590 (39) and 558 | 547 (0.877) | H -> L (99\%) | Side 1 -> Side $2+$ ADPM |
| -- | 441 (0.064) | H-1 -> L (95\%) | Dist_2 -> Periphery + ADPM |
| -- | 381 (0.164) | H-2 -> L (94\%) | Dist_1 -> Periphery + ADPM |
| 307 (30) | 357 (0.006) | $\begin{gathered} \text { H-9 (37\%), H-7 (20\%), H-6 (18\%), H-4 } \\ (12 \%)->\text { L } \end{gathered}$ | Periphery -> ADPM |
|  | 328 (0.003) | H-6 -> L (56\%) | Periphery (except Dist_1) -> ADPM |
|  | 311 (0.000) | H-3 -> L (86\%) | Dist $1+2$-> ADPM + Prox 1+2 |
|  | 305 (0.076) | H-5 (35\%), H-4 (20\%), H-7 (13\%) -> L | Periphery -> ADPM |
|  | 299 (0.026) | $\begin{gathered} \text { H-4 }(34 \%), \text { H-5 (33\%), H-9 (10\%) -> L; } \\ \text { H }->\text { L+1 (11\%) } \end{gathered}$ | Periphery (except Prox_1) -> Prox_1 + ADPM |
|  | 293 (0.266) | $\begin{gathered} \text { H -> L+1 (37\%); } \\ \text { H-14(15\%), H-4 (10\%) ->L } \end{gathered}$ | Periphery (except Prox_1) -> Prox_1 + ADPM |
|  | 289 (0.826) | $\begin{gathered} \text { H -> L+1 (37\%); } \\ \text { H-5 (21\%), H-14 (15\%) -> L } \end{gathered}$ | Periphery (except Prox_1) -> Prox_1 + ADPM |

Figure S. 27 - Experimental absorption spectrum in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ vs calculated optical absorption bands of ADPM 3 based on TD-DFT calculations (TD-BMK/6-311+G(2d,p); $\mathrm{CPCM}=\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ).


Table S. 5 - Assignment of optical absorption bands of ADPM 4 in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ based on TD-DFT

$$
\text { calculations (TD-BMK/6-311+G(2d,p); } \mathrm{CPCM}=\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2} \text { ). }
$$

| $\lambda, \mathrm{nm}$ |  | Excitation | Assignation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { Observed } \\ \left(\varepsilon, \times 10^{3} \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Calculated } \\ \text { (Osc. Strength) } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |
| $\begin{gathered} 602 \text { (33) and } 567 \\ (24) \end{gathered}$ | 571 (0.861) | H -> L (99\%) | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Prox_1 + Prox_2 + Dist_1 -> } \\ \text { Dist_2 + ADPM } \end{gathered}$ |
| 417 (8.3) | 409 (0.070) | H-2 -> L (87\%) | Dist $1+2$-> Prox_2 + ADPM |
|  | 374 (0.380) | H-1 -> L (88\%) | Periphery -> ADPM |
|  | 370 (0.019) | H-3 -> L (86\%) | $\begin{gathered} \text { Prox_2 + Dist 1+2 -> } \\ \text { Prox_1 + ADPM } \end{gathered}$ |
| 298 (30) | 340 (0.009) | H-9 (64\%), H-6 (15\%) -> L | Dist $1+2$-> Prox_2 + ADPM |
|  | 328 (0.089) | H-4 -> L (84\%) | Prox_1-> Dist_2 + ADPM |
|  | 304 (0.002) | H-5 -> L (89\%) | Dist $1+2->$ Prox $1+2+$ |
|  | 301 (0.024) | $\begin{gathered} \text { H-7 (50\%), H-6 (12\%) -> L; } \\ \text { H -> L+1 (23\%) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Prox_2 + Dist } 1+2 \text {-> } \\ \text { Prox_1 + ADPM } \end{gathered}$ |
|  | 294 (0.374) | $\begin{gathered} \text { H -> L+1 (48\%); } \\ \text { H-6 (29\%), H-9 (10\%) -> L } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Prox_2 + Dist 1+2 -> } \\ \text { Prox_1 + ADPM } \end{gathered}$ |
|  | 292 (0.347) | $\begin{gathered} \text { H-7 (32\%), H-6 (27\%) -> L; } \\ \text { H -> L+1 (22\%) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Prox_2 + Dist } 1+2 \text {-> } \\ \text { Prox_1 + ADPM } \end{gathered}$ |

Figure S. 28 - Experimental absorption spectrum in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ vs calculated optical absorption bands of ADPM 4 based on TD-DFT calculations (TD-BMK/6-311+G(2d,p); $\mathrm{CPCM}=\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ).


Table S.6-Assignment of optical absorption bands of ADPM 5 in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ based on TD-DFT

$$
\text { calculations (TD-BMK/6-311+G(2d,p); } \mathrm{CPCM}=\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2} \text { ). }
$$

| $\lambda, \mathrm{nm}$ |  | Excitation | Assignation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { Observed } \\ \left(\varepsilon, \times 10^{3} \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}\right) \end{gathered}$ | Calculated (Osc. Strength) |  |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & 619 \text { (52) and } 576 \\ & \text { (28) } \end{aligned}$ | 566 (0.830) | H -> L (99\%) | $\begin{gathered} \text { Prox_1-> } \\ \text { Prox_2 + Dist_2 }+ \text { ADPM } \end{gathered}$ |
| 417 (3.9) | 445 (0.051) | H-1 -> L (96\%) | Dist_2 -> Periphery + ADPM |
|  | 373 (0.228) | H-2 -> L (89\%) | Side $1->$ Side $2+$ ADPM |
| 307 (35) | 348 (0.021) | H-9 (43\%), H-7 (32\%) -> L | $\begin{gathered} \text { Prox_2 + Dist 1+2 -> } \\ \text { Prox_1 + ADPM } \end{gathered}$ |
|  | 332 (0.085) | H-3 -> L (87\%) | Side $1->$ Side $2+$ ADPM |
|  | 308 (0.030) | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{H}-7(26 \%), \mathrm{H}-13(20 \%), \mathrm{H}-4(19 \%), \mathrm{H}-5 \\ (11 \%), \mathrm{H}-6(10 \%)->\mathrm{L} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Prox_2 + Dist 1+2 -> } \\ \text { Prox_1 + ADPM } \end{gathered}$ |
|  | 306 (0.009) | H-4 -> L (74\%) | Dist $1+2$-> Periphery + ADPM |
|  | 298 (0.060) | H-6 -> L (58\%); H -> L+2 (17\%) | Periphery (except Prox_1) -> ADPM |
|  | 294 (0.004) | H-5 (57\%), H-9 (26\%) -> L | Dist_1 + Prox_2-> <br> Prox_1 + Dist_2 + ADPM |
|  | 289 (0.749) | H -> L+1 (41\%); H -> L+2 (35\%) | ADPM -> <br> Periphery (except Dist_1) |

Figure S. 29 - Experimental absorption spectrum in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ vs calculated optical absorption bands of ADPM 5 based on TD-DFT calculations (TD-BMK/6-311+G(2d,p); $\mathrm{CPCM}=\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ).


Table S. 7 - Assignment of optical absorption bands of ADPM 6 in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ based on TD-DFT

$$
\text { calculations (TD-BMK/6-311+G(2d,p); } \mathrm{CPCM}=\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2} \text { ). }
$$

| $\lambda, \mathrm{nm}$ |  | Excitation | Assignation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { Observed } \\ \left(\varepsilon, \times 10^{3} \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}\right) \end{gathered}$ | Calculated (Osc. Strength) |  |  |
| 598 (43) and 561 | 564 (0.850) | H -> L (99\%) | Prox_1 -> Side 2 + ADPM |
| 418 (6.9) | 446 (0.054) | H-1 -> L (96\%) | Dist_2 -> Periphery + ADPM |
|  | 371 (0.203) | H-2 -> L (91\%) | Side $1->$ Side $2+$ ADPM |
| 308 (36) | 348 (0.018) | H-9 (45\%), H-7 (33\%) -> L | $\begin{gathered} \text { Prox_2 + Dist } 1+2 \text {-> } \\ \text { Prox_1 + ADPM } \end{gathered}$ |
|  | 325 (0.091) | H-3 -> L (92\%) | Prox_1 -> Side $2+$ ADPM |
|  | 309 (0.034) | $\begin{gathered} \text { H-7 (26\%), H-13 (20\%), H-4 (15\%), } \\ \text { H-6 (12\%), H-5 (11\%) -> L } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Prox_2 + Dist 1+2 -> } \\ & \text { Prox_1 + ADPM } \end{aligned}$ |
|  | 306 (0.009) | H-4->L (78\%) | Dist $1+2$-> Prox $1+2+$ ADPM |
|  | 299 (0.042) | H-6 -> L (55\%); H -> L+2 (20\%) | $\begin{gathered} \text { Prox_2 + Dist 1+2-> } \\ \text { Prox_1 + ADPM } \end{gathered}$ |
|  | 294 (0.003) | H-5 (57\%), H-9 (26\%) ->L | Dist_1 + Prox_2-> <br> Prox_1 + Dist_2 + ADPM |
|  | 290 (0.736) | $\begin{gathered} \text { H-6 -> L ( } 10 \% \text { ); H -> L+1 ( } 16 \% \text { ); } \\ \text { H -> L+2 (53\%) } \end{gathered}$ | ADPM -> <br> Periphery (exept Prox_2) |

Figure S. 30 - Experimental absorption spectrum in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ vs calculated optical absorption bands of ADPM 6 based on TD-DFT calculations (TD-BMK/6-311+G(2d,p); $\mathrm{CPCM}=\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ).


Table S.8-Assignment of optical absorption bands of ADPM 7 in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ based on TD-DFT

$$
\text { calculations (TD-BMK/6-311+G(2d,p); } \mathrm{CPCM}=\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2} \text { ). }
$$

| $\lambda, \mathrm{nm}$ |  | Excitation | Assignation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { Observed } \\ \left(\varepsilon, \times 10^{3} \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}\right) \end{gathered}$ | Calculated (Osc. Strength) |  |  |
| 590 (40) | 551 (0.885) | H -> L (99\%) | Side $1->$ Side $2+$ ADPM |
| -- | 428 (0.059) | H-1 -> L (96\%) | Dist_2 -> Periphery + ADPM |
| -- | 372 (0.190) | H-2 -> L (97\%) | Dist_1 -> Side $2+$ ADPM |
| 297 (43) | 346 (0.003) | H-9 (61\%), H-5 (16\%), H-8 (13\%) -> L | $\begin{gathered} \text { Prox_1 + Dist 1+2 -> } \\ \text { Prox_2 + ADPM } \end{gathered}$ |
|  | 311 (0.261) | H-4 -> L (66\%) | Periphery -> ADPM |
|  | 305 (0.000) | H-3 -> L (80\%) | Dist $1+2->$ Prox $1+2+$ ADPM |
|  | 299 (0.084) | $\begin{gathered} \text { H-5 (24\%), H-12 (21\%), H-4 (19\%), } \\ \text { H-10 (10\%) -> L } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Prox_2 + Dist 1+2 -> } \\ \text { Prox_1 + ADPM } \end{gathered}$ |
|  | 293 (0.023) | H-6 (68\%), H-5 (16\%) ->L | Prox_2 + Dist 1+2 -> Prox_1 + ADPM |
|  | 291 (0.017) | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{H}-5(27 \%), \mathrm{H}-10(21 \%), \mathrm{H}-12(20 \%), \\ \mathrm{H}-6(13 \%)->\mathrm{L} \end{gathered}$ | Prox_2 + Dist $1+2$-> Prox_1 + ADPM |
|  | 286 (0.714) | H -> L+1 (79\%) | ADPM + Side 2 -> Side 1 |

Figure S. 31 - Experimental absorption spectrum in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ vs calculated optical absorption bands of ADPM 7 based on TD-DFT calculations (TD-BMK/6-311+G(2d,p); $\mathrm{CPCM}=\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ).


Table S.9-Assignment of optical absorption bands of ADPM 8 in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ based on TD-DFT

$$
\text { calculations (TD-BMK/6-311+G(2d,p); } \mathrm{CPCM}=\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2} \text { ). }
$$

| $\lambda, \mathrm{nm}$ |  | Excitation | Assignation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { Observed } \\ \left(\varepsilon, \mathrm{x}_{10} \mathrm{M}^{-1} \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}\right) \end{gathered}$ | Calculated (Osc. Strength) |  |  |
| 627 (52) | 587 (0.889) | H -> L (99\%) | Periphery -> Dist_2 + ADPM |
| 414 (10) | 452 (0.147) | H-1 -> L (93\%) | Dist_2 -> Periphery + ADPM |
|  | 400 (0.283) | H-2 -> L (96\%) | Side $1->$ Side $2+$ ADPM |
| 322 (40) | 345 (0.505) | H-3 -> L (88\%) | Prox $1+2->$ Dist $1+2+$ ADPM |
|  | 337 (0.022) | H-11 (51\%), H-10 (16\%), H-6 (14\%) -> L | Dist $1+2$-> Prox 1+2 + ADPM |
|  | 303 (0.050) | H-4 -> L (66\%) | Periphery -> Dist_1 + ADPM |
|  | 292 (0.098) | H-12 -> L (47\%); H -> L+1 (15\%) | Periphery -> Prox_1 + ADPM |
|  | 290 (0.450) | H -> L+1 (67\%); H-5 -> L (16\%) | ADPM + Periphery -> Prox_1 |
|  | 287 (0.063) | H-5 (64\%), H-6 (10\%) -> L (47\%); | Dist 1+2 -> Prox 1+2 + ADPM |
|  | 283 (0.169) | H -> L+2 (42\%); H-7 -> L (30\%) | Periphery -> Dist_2 + ADPM |

Figure S. 32 - Experimental absorption spectrum in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ vs calculated optical absorption bands of ADPM 8 based on TD-DFT calculations (TD-BMK/6-311+G(2d,p); $\mathrm{CPCM}=\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ).


## X-ray diffraction measurements and structure determination

Crystallographic data for $\mathbf{3}$ and $\mathbf{5}$ were collected at 150 K , from single crystal samples, which were mounted on a loop fiber. Data were collected using a Bruker Microstar diffractometer equipped with a Platinum 135 CCD Detector, a Helios optics and a Kappa goniometer. The crystal-to-detector distance was 3.8 cm , and the data collection was carried out in $512 \times 512$ pixel mode. The initial unit cell parameters were determined by a least-squares fit of the angular setting of strong reflections, collected by a 110.0 degree scan in 110 frames over three different parts of the reciprocal space. Crystallographic data for $\mathbf{1}$ and $\mathbf{4}$ were collected at 100 K , using a Bruker smart diffractometer equipped with an APEX II CCD Detector, a Incoatec IMuS source and a Quazar MX mirror. The crystal-to-detector distance was 4.0 cm , and the data collection was carried out in $512 \times 512$ pixel mode. The initial unit cell parameters were determined by a leastsquares fit of the angular setting of strong reflections, collected by a 180.0 degree scan in 180 frames over three different parts of the reciprocal space. For determination of cell parameters, cell refinement and data reduction APEX2 was used. ${ }^{1}$ Absorption corrections were applied using SADABS. ${ }^{2}$ Structure solution was performed using direct methods with SHELXS97 and refined on $F^{2}$ by full-matrix least squares using SHELXL97. ${ }^{3}$

For 1, $\mathbf{4}$ and 5, all non-H atoms were refined by full-matrix least-squares with anisotropic displacement parameters. The H -atoms were included in calculated positions and treated as riding atoms: aromatic C-H $0.95 \AA$, methyl C-H $0.98 \AA$, with $\mathrm{U}_{\text {iso }}(\mathrm{H})=\mathrm{k} \times \mathrm{U}_{\text {eq }}$ (parent C-atom), where $\mathrm{k}=1.2$ for the aromatic H -atoms and 1.5 for the methyl H -atoms. The H -atoms connected to heteroatoms ( N and O ) were in all cases located from the difference Fourier map. For $\mathbf{1}$ and $\mathbf{5}$, they were freely refined. For 4, in order to better model the disorder, the H -atoms on N and O
atoms were refined using the riding model, with appropriate thermal displacement coefficient: $\mathrm{U}_{\text {iso }}(\mathrm{H})=1.2 \times \mathrm{U}_{\text {eq }}($ heteroatom $)$.

The structure of the compound $\mathbf{3}$ was obtained from the best available crystal, which unfortunately was very poor quality, resulting in poor data quality. In addition, the whole molecule presents a very high degree of disorder. Therefore, only the isotropic refinement of the atoms was possible. All the H -atoms were located using the riding model. Under these circumstances, only the connectivity of the atoms can be discussed in this structure. The position of the pyridyl groups can be either endo- or exo-, but a final conclusion can't be derived from the analysis due to a so highly disordered model. The identity of the compound was confirmed by mass spectrometry performed on the same crystal sample (see experimental section).

For compound 4, a very good data set was obtained, but nevertheless high residual electron density peaks were located during the refinement. They were considered to be highly disordered solvent molecules. All the attempts to model the solvent molecules were unsuccessful, and they were removed using the SQUEEZE routine from PLATON. ${ }^{4}$ As a result, an improvement of the $R_{1}$ factor with $\sim 2.3 \%$ was obtained. Solvent accessible voids of $56 \AA^{3}$ were found, containing 12 electrons. Water didn't fit. The structure of $\mathbf{4}$ contains 4 molecules in the asymmetric unit, and two of these display disorder at the level of the ADPM moiety and of the proximal phenyl groups, over two positions. The disorder was modelled as two components using PART instructions. The occupation factor was first refined, and then fixed at the values obtained after refinement [0.63:0.37]. The model was refined anisotropically. SIMU restraints were used.

The following software were used to prepare material for publication: PLATON, UdMX and Mercury. ${ }^{4,5,6}$. Figures were generated using ORTEP3 and POV-Ray. ${ }^{7}$ Data were deposited in

CCDC under the deposit numbers: CCDC 1005388-1005391. ${ }^{8}$ The alerts given by the checkCIF/ PLATON routine are commented in the crystallographic information files (cifs) of the corresponding compounds.

Table S. 1 - Solid-state structure and refinement data for compounds $\mathbf{1 , 3 , 4}$ and 5.

|  | 1 | $3^{a}$ | $4^{\text {b }}$ | 5 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Formula | C34 H27 N3 | C30 H21 N5 | C33 H25 N3 O2 | C32 H24 N4 O |
| $M_{w}(\mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{mol})$ | 509.58 | 451.52 | 495.56 | 480.55 |
| $T$ (K) | 100 | 150 | 100 | 100 |
| Wavelength (A) | 1.54178 | 1.54178 | 1.54178 | 1.54178 |
| Crystal System | Monoclinic | Monoclinic | Monoclinic | Monoclinic |
| Space Group | P2/n | P2 ${ }_{1}$ | Pc | P2/c |
| Unit Cell: $\quad a(\AA)$ | 14.2562(1) | 5.6755(2) | 20.1555(2) | 11.3385(6) |
| $b$ ( $\AA$ ) | 14.1356(1) | 11.9628(4) | 9.6757(1) | $13.9762(7)$ |
| $c(\AA)$ | 14.3787(1) | 16.5633(6) | 25.4600(3) | $15.3735(8)$ |
| $\alpha\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ | 90 | 90 | 90 | 90 |
| $\beta\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ | 117.825(1) | 91.632(2) | 100.668(1) | 97.732(2) |
| $\gamma\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ | 90 | 90 | 90 | 90 |
| $V\left(\AA^{3}\right)$ | 2562.57(3) | 1124.11(7) | 4879.35(9) | 2414.1(2) |
| Z | 4 | 2 | 8 | 4 |
| $d_{\text {calce. }}\left(\mathrm{g} / \mathrm{cm}^{3}\right)$ | 1.321 | 1.334 | 1.349 | 1.322 |
| $\mu\left(\mathrm{mm}^{-1}\right)$ | 0.656 | 0.636 | 0.674 | 0.644 |
| $\mathrm{F}(000)$ | 1072 | 472 | 2080 | 1008 |
| $\theta$ range ( ${ }^{\circ}$ ) | 3.61 to 71.04 | 2.67 to 69.58 | 2.23 to 71.12 | 3.93 to 69.67 |
| Reflections collected | 100228 | 22472 | 94028 | 64766 |
| Independent reflections | 4923 | 4153 | 18292 | 4534 |
| GoF | 1.057 | 1.034 | 1.034 | 1.019 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{R} 1(\mathrm{~F}) ; \\ & \mathrm{wR}\left(\mathrm{~F}^{2}\right)[\mathrm{I}>2 \sigma(\mathrm{I})] \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.0360 ; \\ 0.0883 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.1790 ; \\ 0.3067 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.0461 ; \\ 0.1183 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.0360 ; \\ 0.0955 \end{gathered}$ |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { R1(F); } \\ & \text { wR( } \mathrm{F}^{2} \text { ) (all data) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.0362 ; \\ 0.0884 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.1853 ; \\ 0.3091 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.0531 ; \\ 0.1241 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.0390 ; \\ 0.0984 \end{gathered}$ |
| Largest diff. peak and hole (e/ $\AA^{3}$ ) | $\begin{gathered} 0.256 \text { and } \\ -0.154 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1.400 \text { and } \\ & -0.653 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.306 \text { and } \\ -0.232 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 0.212 \text { and } \\ -0.191 \end{gathered}$ |

[^0]Table S. 11 - Selected bond lengths $(\AA)$ and angles $\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ for compounds $\mathbf{1 , 4}$ and 5.

|  | 1 | $4^{a}$ | 5 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Bond length (A)/ Angle ( ${ }^{\circ}$ ) |  |  |  |
| N1-C1 | 1.380(1) | $1.392(8)^{a}$ | 1.384(1) |
| C1-N2 | 1.339(1) | $1.332(8)^{a}$ | 1.342(1) |
| N2-C17 | 1.317(2) | $1.320(7)^{a}$ | 1.318(2) |
| C17-N3 | 1.390 (1) | $1.400(7)^{a}$ | 1.391(2) |
| N1-C1-N2 | 125.6(1) | $129.6(7)^{a}$ | 126.4(1) |
| C1-N2-C17 | 124.2(1) | $129.2(7)^{a}$ | 123.0(1) |
| N2-C17-N3 | 126.6(1) | 128.3(7) ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 125.0(1) |
| Tilt angles ( ${ }^{\circ}$ ) between the planes of the two central pyrrolic rings |  |  |  |
|  | 10.9(1) | 8.0(1) ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 9.8(1) |
| Tilt angles ( ${ }^{\circ}$ ) between ADPM moiety and the aryl rings ${ }^{\text {c }}$ |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{Ar}_{1}$ (proximal) | 13.6(1) | 1.2(1)-2.4(1) ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 17.5(1) |
| $\mathrm{Ar}_{2}$ (distal) | $9.5(1)$ | 28.7(1)-38.1(1) ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 35.7(1) |
| $\mathrm{Ar}_{3}$ (distal) | 45.3(1) | 24.8(1)-38.2(1) ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 27.5(1) |
| $\mathrm{Ar}_{4}$ (proximal) | 26.4(1) | $1.2(1)-4.2(1)^{b}$ | 19.8(1) |

[^1]Table S. 12 - Intramolecular H-bonding for compounds $\mathbf{1 , 4}$ and 5. Distances are in $\AA$ and angles in degree $\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$. 3-center bifurcated H -bonds are displayed in italic.

| $\boldsymbol{D}-\mathbf{H} \cdots \boldsymbol{A}$ | $\boldsymbol{D}-\mathbf{H}$ | $\mathbf{H} \cdots \boldsymbol{A}$ | $\boldsymbol{D} \cdots \boldsymbol{A}$ | $\boldsymbol{D}-\mathbf{H} \cdots \boldsymbol{A}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{1}$ |  |  |  |  |
| $N 1-H 1 \cdots N 3$ | $0.88(1)$ | $2.16(1)$ | $2.76(1)$ | $125(1)$ |
| $N 1-H 1 \cdots O 1$ | $0.88(1)$ | $2.12(1)$ | $2.64(1)$ | $117(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 10-\mathrm{H} 10 \cdots \mathrm{~N} 2$ | $0.95(1)$ | $2.31(1)$ | $2.99(1)$ | $129(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 19-\mathrm{H} 19 \cdots \mathrm{O} 2$ | $0.95(1)$ | $2.41(1)$ | $2.87(1)$ | $109(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 32-\mathrm{H} 32 \cdots \mathrm{~N} 3$ | $0.95(1)$ | $2.46(1)$ | $2.80(1)$ | $101(1)$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |

(values are shown for one of the 4 molecules in the asymmetric unit; similar intramolecular H bonding pattern is observed for the other three molecules)

| $N 1-H 1 A \cdots \mathrm{O} 1$ | $0.86(1)$ | $2.20(1)$ | $2.73(1)$ | $120(1)$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $N 1-\mathrm{H} 1 \cdots \mathrm{~N} 3$ | $0.86(1)$ | $2.59(1)$ | $3.06(1)$ | $116(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{O} 2-\mathrm{H} 2 \mathrm{~B} \cdots \mathrm{~N} 3$ | $0.82(1)$ | $1.88(1)$ | $2.60(1)$ | $146(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 6-\mathrm{H} 6 \cdots \mathrm{~N} 2$ | $0.93(1)$ | $2.53(1)$ | $3.05(1)$ | $116(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 26-\mathrm{H} 26 \cdots \mathrm{~N} 2$ | $0.93(1)$ | $2.46(1)$ | $3.03(1)$ | $119(1)$ |
| $\mathbf{5}$ |  |  |  |  |
| $N 1-\mathrm{H} 1 \cdots \mathrm{~N} 3$ | $0.88(1)$ | $2.19(1)$ | $2.70(1)$ | $124(1)$ |
| N1-H1$\cdots \mathrm{O} 1$ | $0.88(1)$ | $2.15(1)$ | $2.65(1)$ | $116(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 6-\mathrm{H} 6 \cdots \mathrm{~N} 2$ | $0.95(1)$ | $2.62(1)$ | $3.10(1)$ | $112(1)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 22-\mathrm{H} 22 \cdots \mathrm{~N} 2$ | $0.95(1)$ | $2.48(1)$ | $3.05(1)$ | $118(1)$ |

Figure S. 33 - Packing diagram for compound 4: space-filling model showing the $\pi-\pi$ and $\pi-\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{sp}^{2}\right)$ intermolecular interactions.


## References

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8. CCDC 1005388-1005391 contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge via http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif, or by emailing data_request@ccdc.cam.ac.uk, or by contacting The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, 12, Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK; fax: +44 1223336033.

[^0]:    ${ }^{a}$ only isotropic refinement of the structure was possible due to a whole molecule disorder situation and poor quality of the crystal; we only aim to highlight the connectivity of the atoms in this structure.
    ${ }^{b}$ the SQUEEZE routine from PLATON was applied in the case of this structure (see text).

[^1]:    ${ }^{a}$ average values on the four molecules in the asymmetric unit; the error was calculated using the formula for propagation of error in calculations.
    ${ }^{b}$ values are shown as range for the four molecules in the asymmetric unit. ${ }^{c}$ see Figure 1 in the article for the numbering of the aryl rings.

