

Supporting Information

On-Demand Hydrogen Production from Formic Acid by Light-Active Dinuclear Iridium Catalysts

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Experimental Procedures

General. All experiments were carried out under a nitrogen atmosphere using standard Schlenk techniques. All solvents were treated with appropriate drying agents, distilled, and stored under nitrogen atmosphere. All the chemicals were purchased from common commercial suppliers. ^1H (400 MHz), ^{13}C (100 MHz), and ^{31}P (162 MHz) spectra were acquired on a JEOL JNM-AL400 FT-NMR spectrometers. Solvents for NMR measurements (CD_3OD , $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$, CD_2Cl_2 , $\text{THF-}d_8$, CD_3NO_2) were dried over molecular sieves, degassed, and stored under N_2 atmosphere. UV-vis absorption spectra were obtained on a JASCO V-670 spectrometer.

Preparation and spectral data of **1d**.

To an acetone (2.0 mL) solution of $[\text{Ir}(\text{cod})_2]\text{BF}_4$ (49.6 mg, 0.10 mmol), a THF solution (1.2 mL) of xylBINAP (2,2'-Bis[di(3,5-xylyl)phosphino]-1,1'-binaphthyl) (7.27 mg, 0.10 mmol) was added. After stirring for 1.5 h, the red-purple solution was concentrated under vacuum and Et_2O was added for recrystallization. $[\text{Ir}(\text{xylBINAP})(\text{cod})]\text{BF}_4$ was obtained as red-purple crystal (108.8 mg, 0.097 mmol, 98%).

A methanol (1 mL) solution of $[\text{Ir}(\text{xylBINAP})(\text{cod})]\text{BF}_4$ (40.0 mg, 0.035 mmol) was degassed by freeze-pump-thaw method, and then 1 atm H_2 gas was introduced. After stirring the solution for 3 h, the solution became cloudy, and Et_2O was directly added to isolate **1d** as yellow powder (27.9 mg, 0.014 mmol, 82%).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_2Cl_2 , δ / ppm) 8.21 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 4 H, Ph + naphthyl), 7.80 (brs, 4 H), 7.57 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 7.49 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 7.27-7.39 (m, 6 H), 7.22 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 4 H), 7.18-7.05 (m, 8 H), 6.86-7.03 (m, 8 H), 6.66 (s, 2 H), 6.27 (s, 2 H), 5.93 (s, 2 H), 2.43 (s, 12 H, $\text{C}_6\text{H}_3\text{-}2\text{CH}_3$), 2.16 (s, 12 H, $\text{C}_6\text{H}_3\text{-}2\text{CH}_3$), 1.79 (s, 12 H, $\text{C}_6\text{H}_3\text{-}2\text{CH}_3$), 0.92 (s, 12 H, $\text{C}_6\text{H}_3\text{-}2\text{CH}_3$), -6.78 (d, J = 74.4 Hz, 2 H, Ir-H), -7.78 (t, J = 63.8 Hz, 1 H, Ir-H), -21.12 (brs, 2 H, Ir-H)

$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (162 MHz, acetone- d_6 , δ / ppm) 34.4, 22.5 (br).

^{13}C (100MHz, CD_2Cl_2 , δ / ppm) 139.0–122.0 (*Ar*), 20.22 (*Ar-CH}_3*), 20.13 (*Ar-CH}_3*), 20.04 (*Ar-CH}_3*), 19.03 (*Ar-CH}_3*).

Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{104}\text{H}_{101}\text{Ir}_2\text{P}_4\text{BF}_4\cdot\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$: C, 62.09; H, 5.11. Found: C, 62.00; H, 5.30.

Preparation and spectral data of **1e**.

To a acetone (2.0 mL) solution of $[\text{Ir}(\text{cod})_2]\text{BF}_4$ (46.5 mg, 0.094 mmol), a THF (1.5 mL) solution of DADMP-BINAP(2,2'-Bis[bis(4-dimethylamino-3,5-dimethylphenyl)phosphino]-1,1'-binaphthyl) (81.0 mg, 0.089 mmol) was added. After stirring for 1.5 h, the red-purple solution was concentrated under vacuum and Et_2O and hexane was added for precipitation. $[\text{Ir}(\text{DADMP-BINAP})(\text{cod})]\text{BF}_4$ was obtained as red powder (113.6 mg, 0.087 mmol, 97%).

A methanol (1 mL) solution of $[\text{Ir}(\text{DADMP-BINAP})(\text{cod})]\text{BF}_4$ (61.1 mg, 0.047 mmol) was degassed by freeze-pump-thaw method, and then 1 atm H_2 gas was introduced. After stirring the solution for 3 h, Et_2O and hexane was added to isolate **1e** as yellow powder (47.8 mg, 0.021 mmol, 89%).

^1H NMR (400 MHz, $\text{MeOH-}d_4$, δ / ppm) 8.33 (d, J = 12.0 Hz, 4 H, Ph + naphthyl), 7.60-7.69 (m, 4 H), 7.47 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 7.35-7.44 (m, 6 H), 7.14-7.43 (m, 12 H), 6.96 (s, 2 H), 6.89 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 2 H), 6.70 (s, 4 H), 7.18-7.05 (m, 8 H), 6.86-7.03 (m, 8 H), 6.66 (s, 2 H), 6.27 (s, 2 H), 5.93 (s, 2 H), 2.93 (s, 26 H, $\text{N-}2\text{CH}_3$), 2.65 (s, 12 H, $\text{N-}2\text{CH}_3$), 2.49 (s, 12 H, $\text{N-}2\text{CH}_3$), 2.29 (s, 14 H, $\text{C}_6\text{H}_3\text{-}2\text{CH}_3$), 2.01 (s, 12 H, $\text{C}_6\text{H}_3\text{-}2\text{CH}_3$), 1.89 (s, 12 H, $\text{C}_6\text{H}_3\text{-}2\text{CH}_3$), 0.88 (brs, 10H, $\text{C}_6\text{H}_3\text{-}2\text{CH}_3$), -6.92 (d, J = 74.4 Hz, 2 H, Ir-H), -7.74 (t, J = 63.8 Hz, 1 H, Ir-H), -20.95 (brs, 2 H, Ir-H)

$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (162 MHz, acetone- d_6 , δ / ppm) 34.6, 20.1 (br).

Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{120}\text{H}_{141}\text{Ir}_2\text{P}_4\text{N}_8\text{BF}_4\cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$: C, 61.47; H, 6.32; N, 4.78. Found: C, 61.14; H, 5.92; N, 4.58.

Preparation and spectral data of monoformate complex **A^a**.

To a MeOH (1.5 mL) solution of **1a** (25.9 mg, 15.0 mmol), HCOOH (2.3 μ L, 4.0 eq) was added and irradiated (395 nm) for 15 minutes. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure to yield **A^a** as yellow powder quantitatively.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, acetone- d_6 , δ / ppm) 8.77 (d, J = 14.8 Hz, 2 H, Ar), 8.34-8.25 (m, 4 H, Ar), 7.85 (brs, 1 H, OCHO), 7.71-7.21 (m, 26 H, Ar), 7.18-7.00 (m, 14 H, Ar), 6.95-6.72 (m, 8 H, Ar), 6.65 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H, Ar), 6.48 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2 H, Ar), 6.42 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2 H, Ar), 6.25 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2 H, Ar), 6.18 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2 H, Ar), -8.43 (dt, J_{PH} = 64 Hz, 2 H, Ir- H), -21.03 (m, 2 H, Ir- H).

$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (162 MHz, acetone- d_6 , δ / ppm) 15.0, 6.1.

Preparation and spectral data of monoformate complex **B^a**.

Complex **1a** (40.0 mg, 23.2 mmol) was dissolved into HCOOH (0.5 mL) and irradiated (395 nm) for 6 h. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure to yield **B^a** as yellow powder quantitatively.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, acetone- d_6 , δ / ppm) 7.92-7.87 (m, 3 H, OCHO + Ar), 7.83-7.76 (m, 4 H, Ar), 7.66-7.47 (m, 22 H, Ar), 7.42-7.32 (m, 6 H, Ar), 7.30-7.09 (m, 5 H, Ar), 6.79-6.57 (m, 6 H, Ar), 6.53-6.43 (m, 8 H, Ar), 6.25-6.19 (m, 4 H, Ar), -13.14 (dt, J_{PH} = 58 Hz, 2 H, Ir- H), -24.70 (s, 2 H, Ir- H).

$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (162 MHz, acetone- d_6 , δ / ppm) 5.3, -9.1.

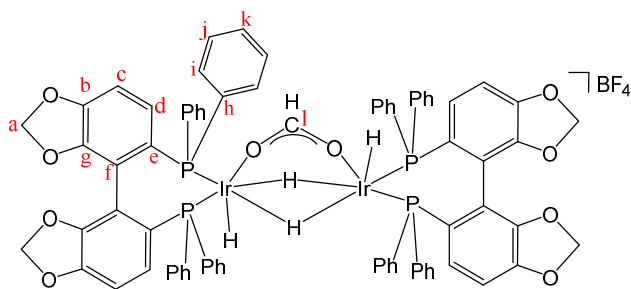
Preparation and spectral data of monoformate complex **A^c**.

The monoformate complex **A^c** was prepared as the same procedure as that for **A^a**.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, acetone- d_6 , δ / ppm) 7.97-7.25 (m, 38 H, Ar), 7.04-6.92 (m, 12 H, Ar), 6.82 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 4H, Ar), 6.69-6.59 (m, 4 H), 6.47 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 4 H, Ar), 6.23 (m, 2 H, Ar), 6.02(s, 2 H, methyl), 5.98 (s, 2 H, methyl), 5.85 (s, 6 H, methyl), -8.39 (dt, J = 64.2 Hz, J = 9.2 Hz, 2 H, Ir- H), -21.45 (t, J = 17.6 Hz, 2 H, Ir- H).

$^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (162 MHz, acetone- d_6 , δ / ppm) 13.87 (brs), 6.17 (brs).

^{13}C NMR (100.8 MHz, acetone- d_6 , δ / ppm) 174.9 (s, 1 (OCHO)), 149.7 (d, $J_{\text{C-O}}$ = 15.3 Hz, b), 147.2 (d, $J_{\text{C-O}}$ = 13.5 Hz, g), 146.9 (d, $J_{\text{C-O}}$ = 14.0 Hz, g), 134.9 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}}$ = 10.6 Hz, h), 134.6 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}}$ = 11.5 Hz, h), 133.8(d, $J_{\text{C-P}}$ = 8.7 Hz, h), 133.2 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}}$ = 10.6 Hz, h), 131.5, 131.2, 130.8, 130.4, 130.2, 130.0 (s, i), 129.3-127.6 (m, d, f, j), 126.9(d, $J_{\text{C-P}}$ = 8.7 Hz, e), 125.8 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}}$ = 8.4 Hz, e), 125.3, 124.7, 123.8, 123.2 (s, k), 117.9, 117.2 (m, c), 107.5–107.9 (m, a), 102.2 (s, a), 102.1 (s, a).



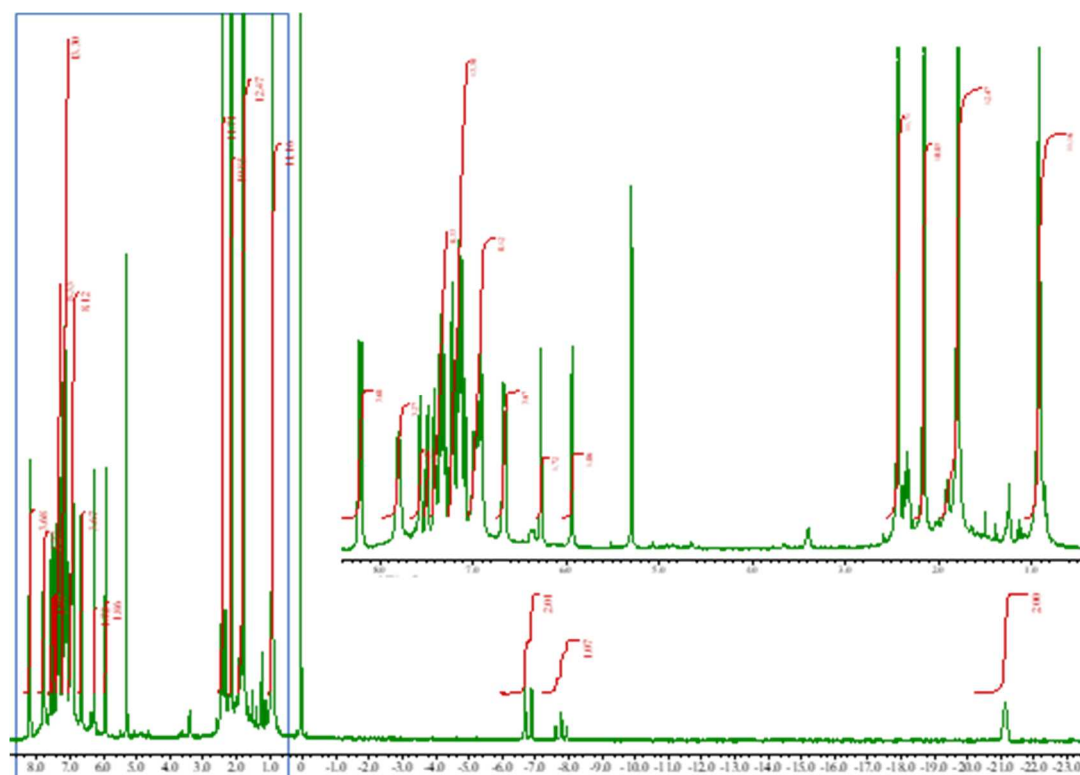


Figure S1. ^1H NMR spectra of **1d** (400 MHz, CD_2Cl_2 , r.t.).

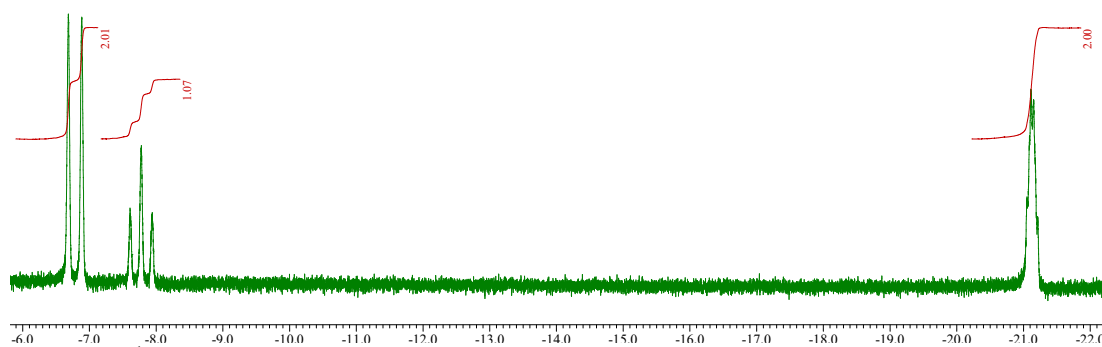


Figure S2. ^1H NMR spectra of hydride region of **1d** (400 MHz, CD_2Cl_2 , r.t.).

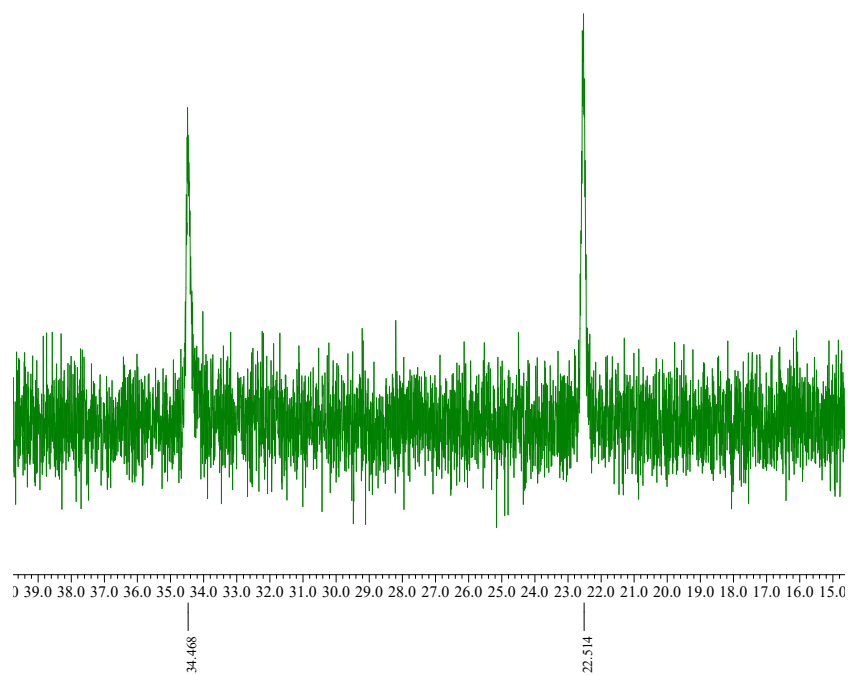


Figure S3. ^{31}P NMR spectra of **1d** (161.8 MHz, CD_2Cl_2 , r.t.).

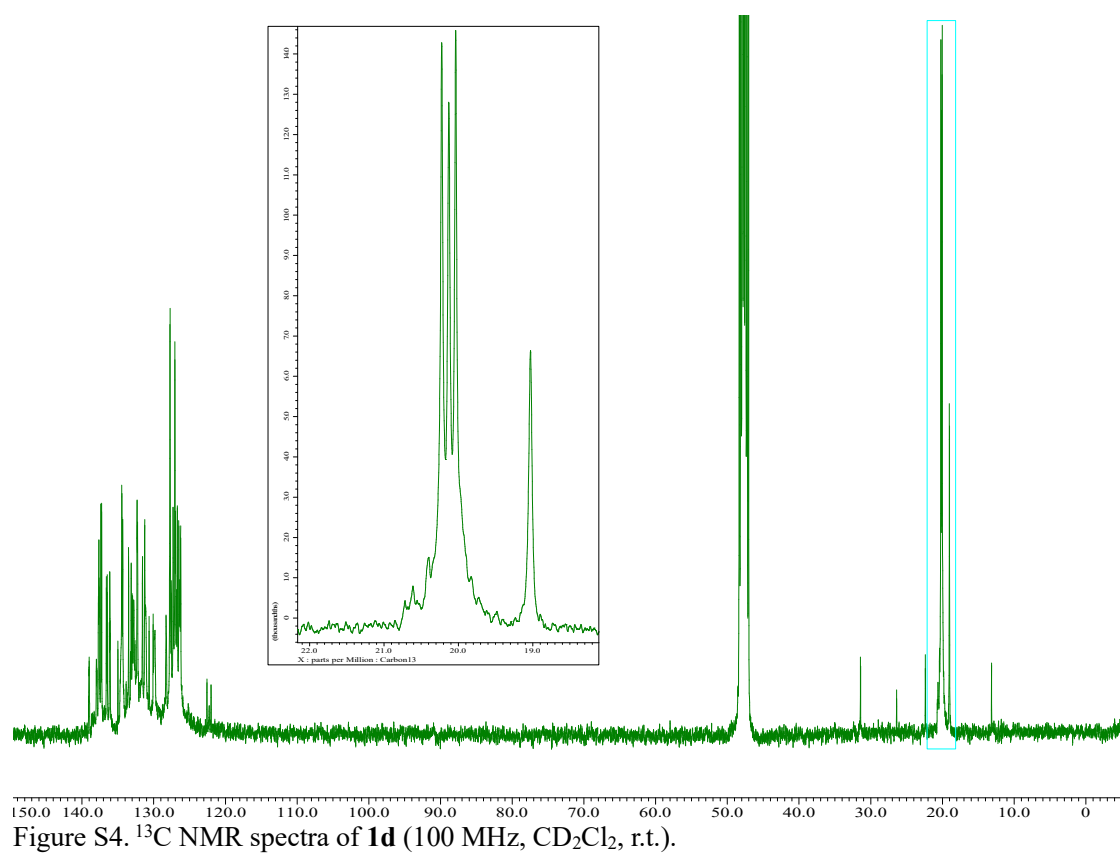


Figure S4. ^{13}C NMR spectra of **1d** (100 MHz, CD_2Cl_2 , r.t.).

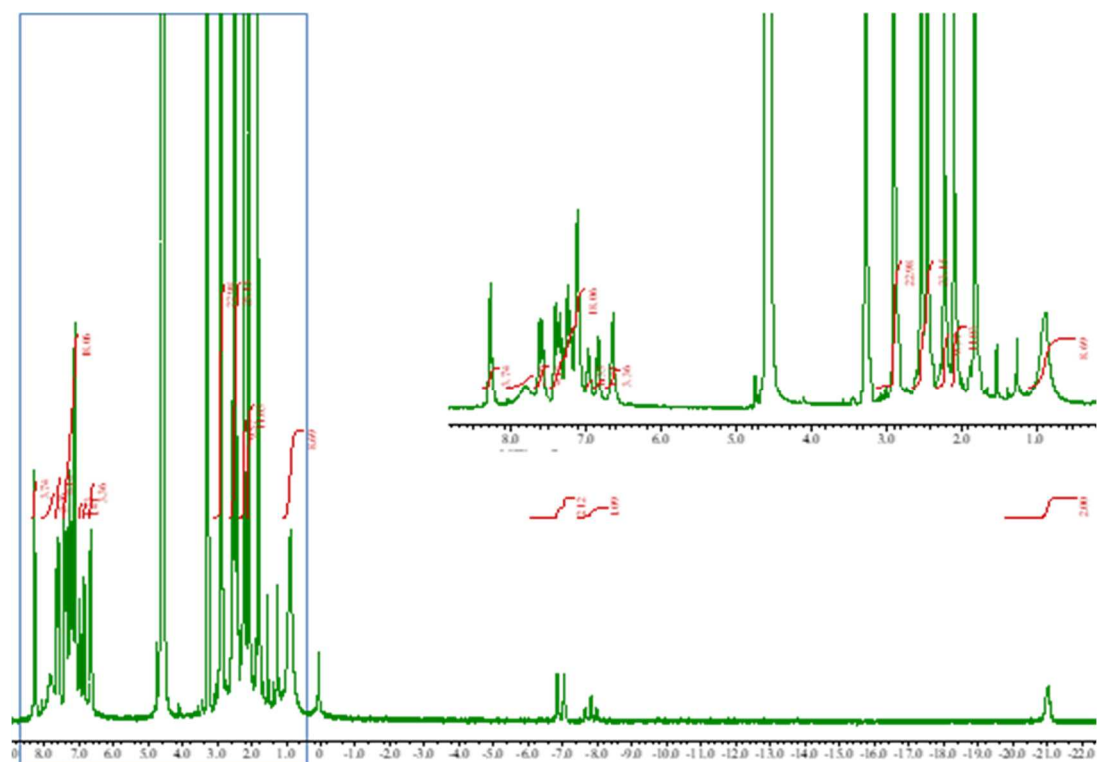


Figure S5. ^1H NMR spectra of **1e** (400 MHz, $\text{MeOH-}d_4$, 323 K).

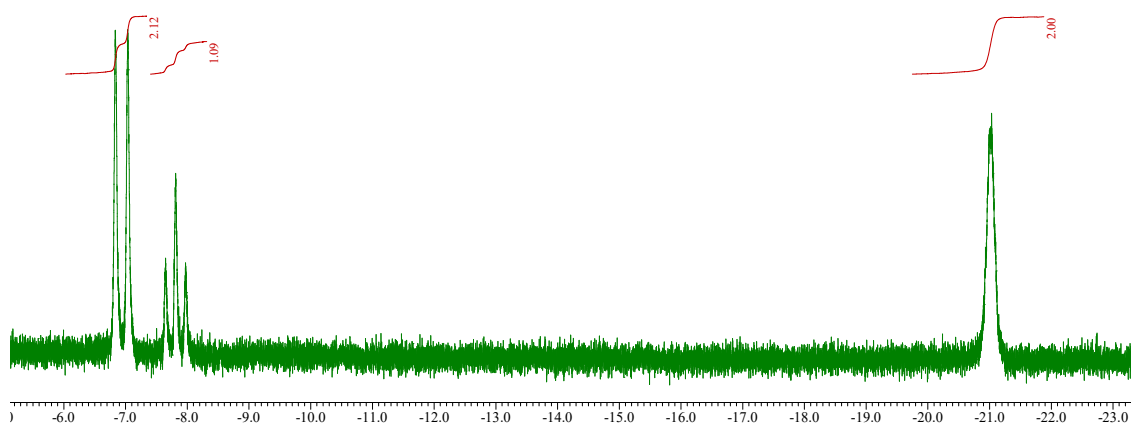


Figure S6. ^1H NMR spectra of hydride region of **1e** (400 MHz, $\text{MeOH-}d_4$, 323 K).

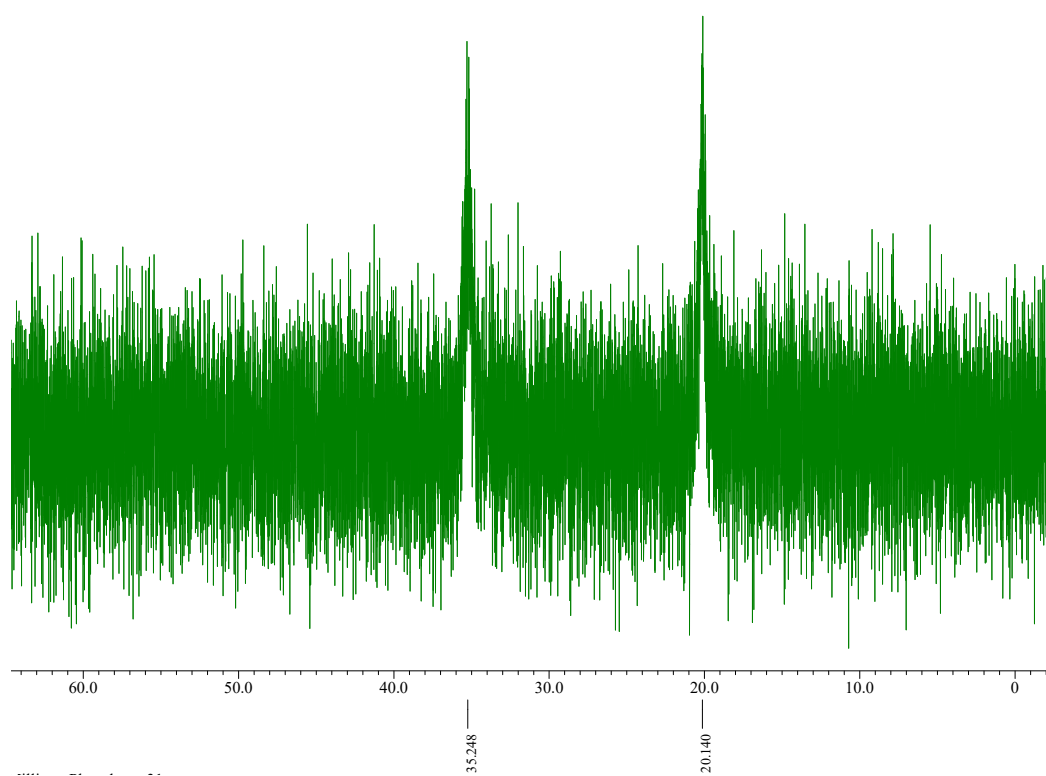


Figure S7. ^{31}P NMR spectra of **1e** (161.8 MHz, $\text{MeOH-}d_4$, r.t.).

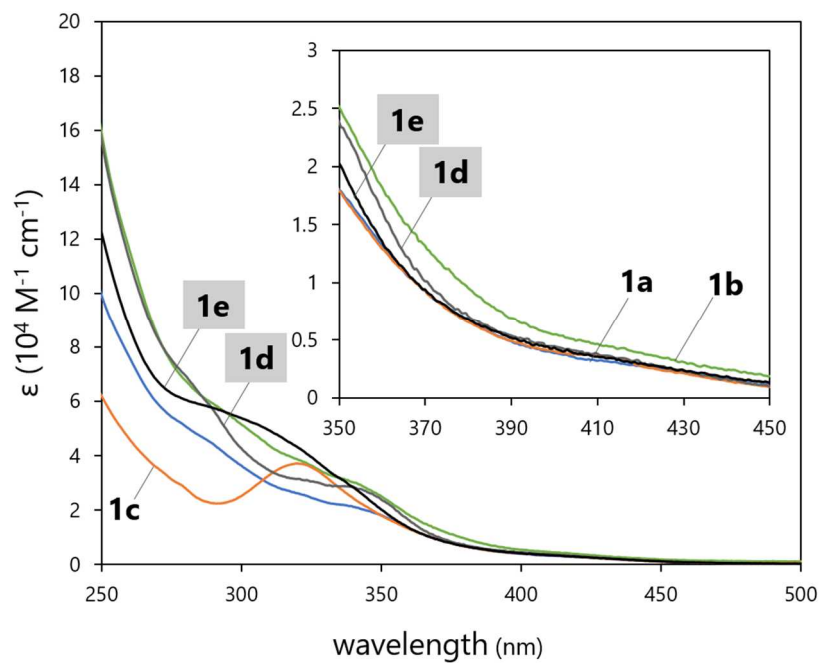


Figure S8. UV-vis absorption spectra of **1a-e** measured in CD_2Cl_2 at r.t.

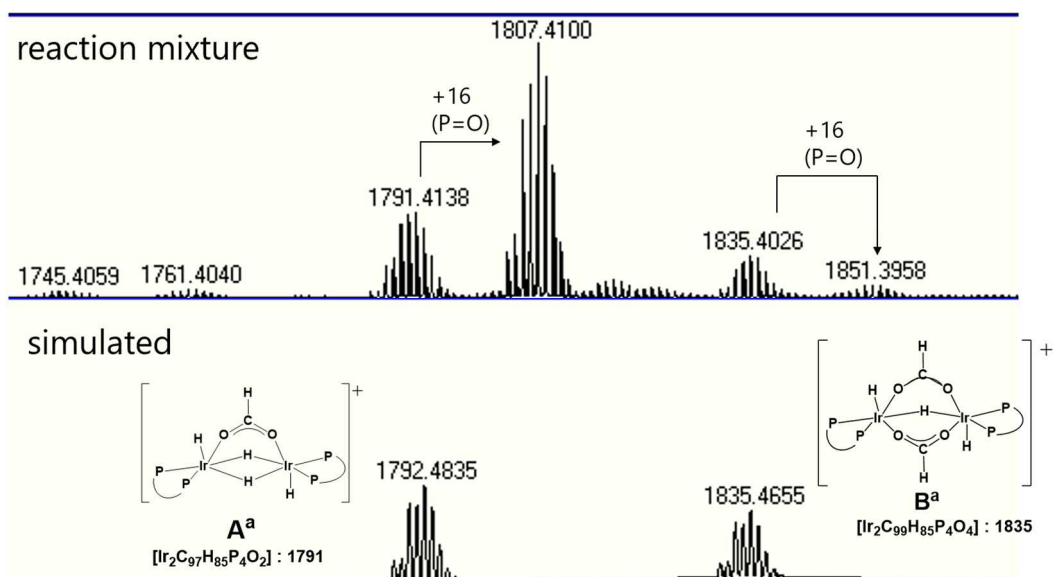


Figure S9. ESI-MS spectra of the reaction mixture of the photocatalytic reaction by **1a** (CH_3CN , r.t.).

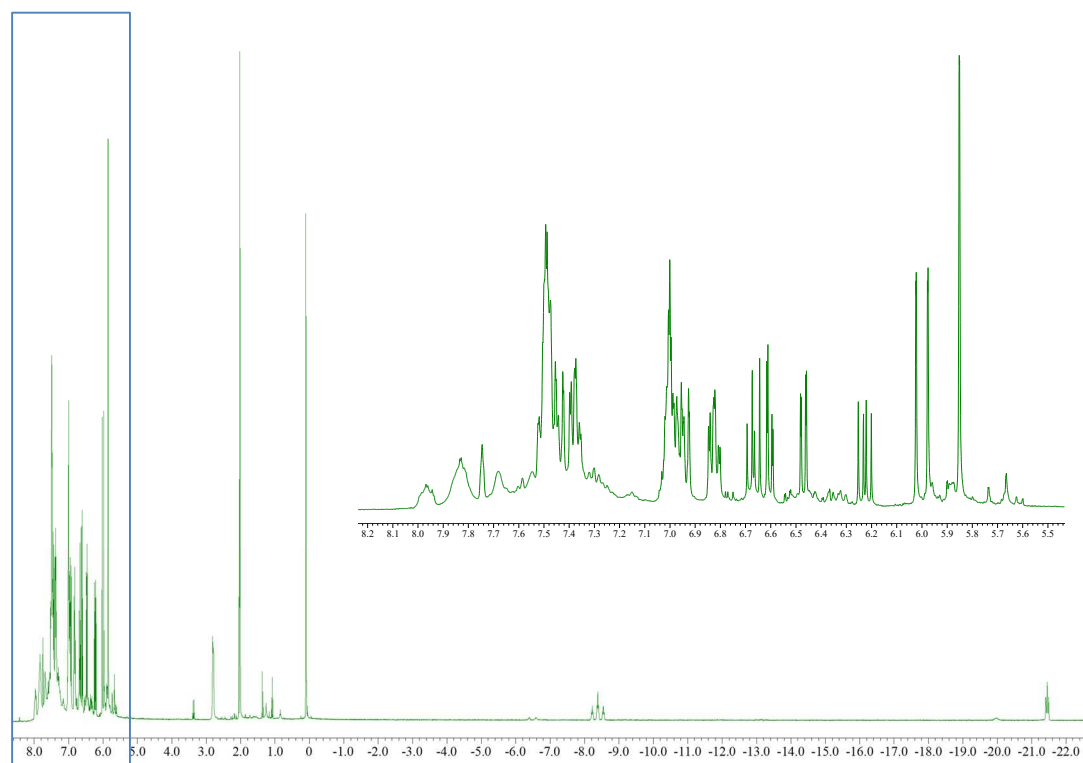


Figure S10. ^1H NMR spectra of A^c (400 MHz, acetone- d_6 , r.t.).

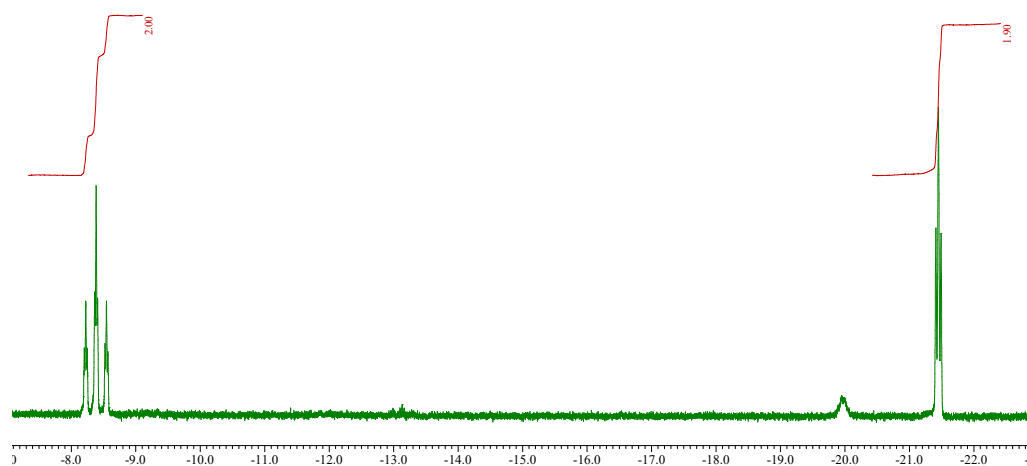


Figure S11. ^1H NMR spectra of hydride region of A^c (400 MHz, acetone- d_6 , r.t.).

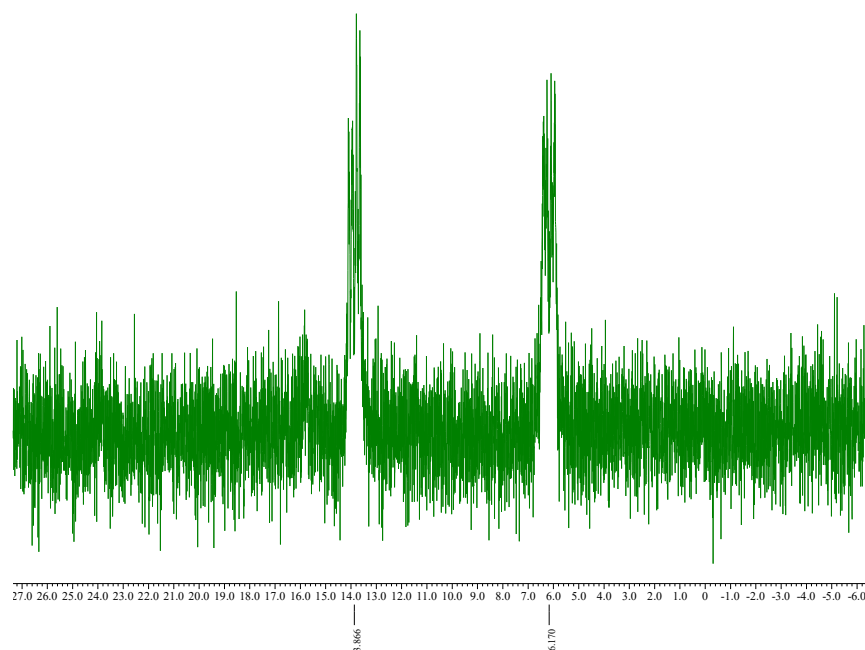


Figure S12. ^{31}P NMR spectra of A^c (161.8 MHz, acetone- d_6 , r.t.).

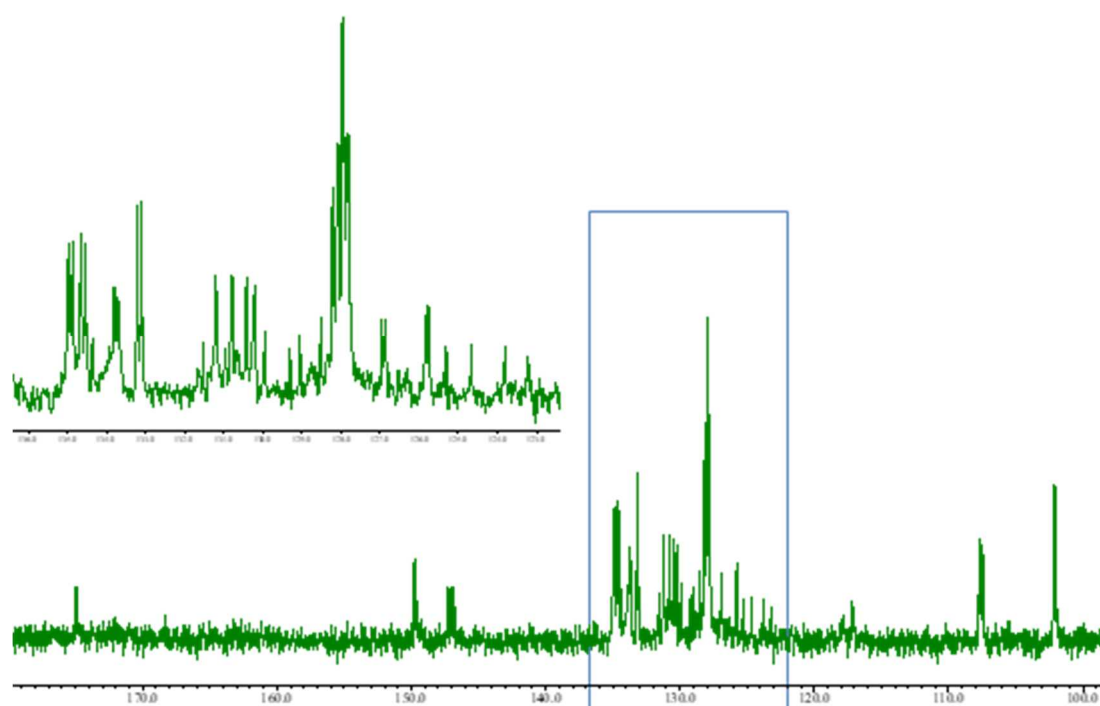


Figure S13. ^{13}C NMR spectra of A^c (100 MHz, acetone- d_6 , r.t.).

X-ray Structural Determinations.

The diffraction data of **B^b** were collected on a Rigaku XtaLAB P100 diffractometer with graphite monochromated MoK α ($\lambda=0.71073\text{\AA}$). The data were collected at a temperature of $-180 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ to a maximum 2θ value of 55.1° . The crystal-to-detector distance was 45.00 mm. Readout was performed in the 0.172 mm pixel mode. Data were collected and processed using CrystalClear (Rigaku).¹ An empirical absorption correction was applied. The data were corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects.

The crystal structures were solved by direct method (SHELXS-97² or SHELXT³) and expanded using Fourier techniques, which are subsequently completed by Fourier recycling using the SHELXL 2014 program.³ Non-hydrogen atoms were refined by anisotropic displacement parameters. Crystallographic data, data collection and refinement parameters for **B^b** are listed in Table S1.

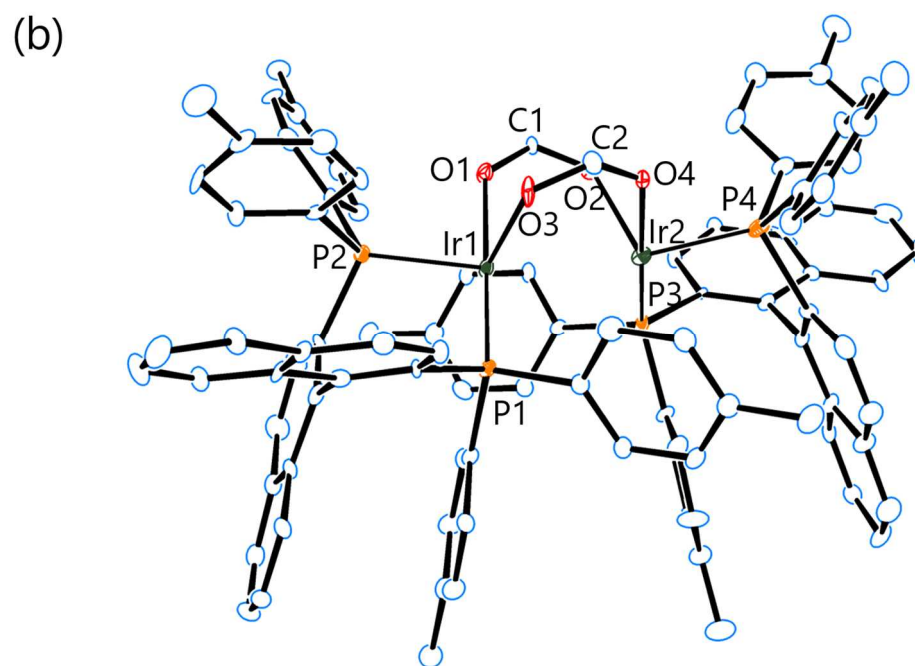
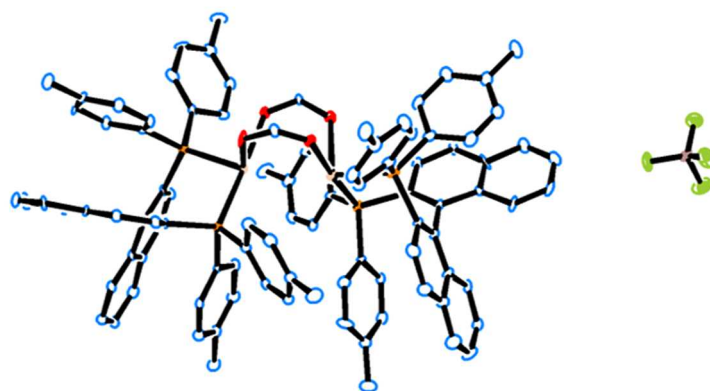
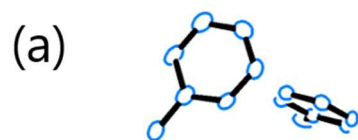


Figure S14. ORTEP diagram of complex **B^b** (a) including solvent and anion, (b) cationic unit.

Table S1. Crystal data and structure refinement for **B^b**.

| Complex | B^b |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Empirical formula | C112 H98 B F4 Ir2 O4 P4 |
| Formula weight | 2102.99 |
| Temperature | 93(2) K |
| Wavelength | 0.71073 Å |
| Crystal system | Orthorhombic |
| Space group | <i>P</i> 2 ₁ 2 ₁ 2 ₁ |
| Unit cell dimensions | a = 15.3077(3) Å b = 17.0493(3) Å c = 35.2582(8) Å |
| | $\alpha = 90^\circ$ $\beta = 90^\circ$ $\gamma = 90^\circ$ |
| Volume | 9201.9(3) Å ³ |
| Z | 4 |
| Density (calculated) | 1.518 Mg/m ³ |
| Absorption coefficient | 3.023 mm ⁻¹ |
| F(000) | 4228 |
| Crystal size | 0.390 x 0.360 x 0.090 mm ³ |
| Theta range for data collection | 2.735 to 27.499° |
| Index ranges | -19 ≤ h ≤ 19, -21 ≤ k ≤ 16, -45 ≤ l ≤ 43 |
| Reflections collected | 67280 |
| Independent reflections | 19583 [R(int) = 0.0537] |
| Completeness to theta = 27.50° | 99.6 % |
| Refinement method | Full-matrix least-squares on F ² |
| Data / restraints / parameters | 19583 / 0 / 1154 |
| Goodness-of-fit on F ² | 1.009 |
| Final R indices [I > 2σ(I)] | R1 = 0.0689, wR2 = 0.1663 |
| R indices (all data) | R1 = 0.0726, wR2 = 0.1687 |
| Largest diff. peak and hole | 13.584 and -4.386 e.Å ⁻³ |

(1) CrystalClear: Data Collection and Processing Software, Rigaku Corporation (1998-2015). Tokyo 196-8666, Japan.

(2) SHELXS Version 2013/1: Sheldrick, G. M. (2008). Acta Cryst. A64, 112-122.

(3) SHELXT Version 2014/5: Sheldrick, G. M. (2014). Acta Cryst. A70, C1437.

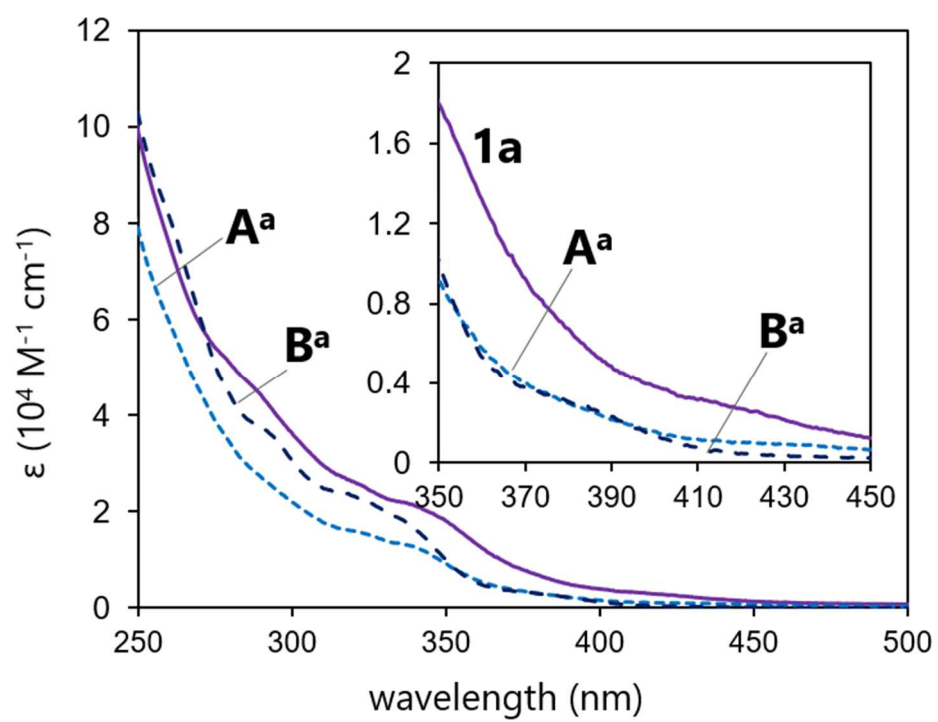


Figure S15. UV-vis absorption spectra of **1a**, **A^a**, and **B^a** measured in CD_2Cl_2 at r.t.