

Electronic Supplementary Information for

# Identification and Isolation of Highly Emissive Cinnamic Derivatives in $\pi$ -Stacked Polybenzofulvene Derivatives for Optoelectronic Applications

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**Table ESI1.** Optical properties of cinnamic derivatives **1a-c** compared with those of the corresponding polybenzofulvene derivatives poly-6-DMFL-**BF3k**, poly-6-MCBZ-**BF3k**, and poly-6-TPA-**BF3k**.

compound or polymer	solution <sup>a</sup>			powder	
	$\lambda_{ab}$ (nm)	$\lambda_{emi}$ (nm)	QY (%)	$\lambda_{emi}$ (nm)	QY (%)
<b>1a</b>	334	430	57	407	64 <sup>b</sup>
poly-6-DMFL- <b>BF3k</b> <sup>c</sup>	295, 319, 345	465	21	486 <sup>d</sup>	24 <sup>d</sup>
<b>1b</b>	242, 302, 347	480	77	448, 466	69 <sup>e</sup>
poly-6-MCBZ- <b>BF3k</b> <sup>c</sup>	290, 350	497	17	535	19
<b>1c</b>	292, 371	540	78	470	80 <sup>f</sup>
poly-6-TPA- <b>BF3k</b> <sup>c</sup>	305, 377	495	46	530	35

<sup>a</sup> dichloromethane, <sup>b</sup>  $\lambda_{ex} = 350$  nm, <sup>c</sup> see ref [1], <sup>d</sup> cast films from dichloromethane solutions, <sup>e</sup>  $\lambda_{ex} = 380$  nm, <sup>f</sup>  $\lambda_{ex} = 420$  nm.

**Table ESI2.** TD-DFT (MPW1K/6-311+G(2d,p) computed absorption maxima ( $\lambda_{\text{a}}^{\text{max}}$ , nm), vertical excitation energies ( $E_{\text{exc}}$ , eV), oscillator strengths ( $f$ ) and composition in terms of molecular orbitals for the lowest singlet-singlet excitation of **1a**, **1b**, **1c'** and **1c''** in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  and for **1c**, **1c'** and **1c''** in gas-phase.

Molecules		Excited states	$\lambda_{\text{a}}^{\text{max}}$	$E_{\text{exc}}$	$f$	Transition (%)
<b>1a</b>	$\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$	1	336	3.68	1.70	89% H $\rightarrow$ L
<b>1b</b>	$\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$	1	336	3.69	1.64	85% H-1 $\rightarrow$ L
		2	325	3.82	0.06	72% H $\rightarrow$ L
		3	275	4.51	0.08	31% H $\rightarrow$ L+1 24% H-2 $\rightarrow$ L
		8	238	5.21	0.31	35% H $\rightarrow$ L+3 14% H-3 $\rightarrow$ L
		9	232	5.35	0.34	31% H-3 $\rightarrow$ L 8% H-1 $\rightarrow$ L+2
<b>1c</b>	Gas-phase	1	367	3.38	0.09	62% H-2 $\rightarrow$ L+1
		3	358	3.46	0.21	56% H-3 $\rightarrow$ L
		4	349	3.56	2.67	29% H-1 $\rightarrow$ L+3 13% H-2 $\rightarrow$ L+1 9% H-2 $\rightarrow$ L
<b>1c'</b>	$\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$	1	364	3.40	1.30	85% H $\rightarrow$ L
		3	286	4.34	0.31	82% H $\rightarrow$ L+3
		4	285	4.34	0.21	64% H-1 $\rightarrow$ L 9% H $\rightarrow$ L+3
<b>1c'</b>	Gas-phase	1	351	3.52	1.17	82% H $\rightarrow$ L
		3	283	4.37	0.22	88% H $\rightarrow$ L+3
		4	278	4.46	0.22	64% H-1 $\rightarrow$ L
<b>1c''</b>	$\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$	2	366	3.38	2.54	51% H-1 $\rightarrow$ L
		8	287	4.33	0.19	45% H $\rightarrow$ L+6
		9	287	4.33	0.37	45% H $\rightarrow$ L+7
		10	284	4.36	0.51	44% H-3 $\rightarrow$ L 9% H-1 $\rightarrow$ L+7
<b>1c''</b>	Gas-phase	2	356	3.48	2.24	53% H-1 $\rightarrow$ L 24% H-2 $\rightarrow$ L+1
		7	286	4.34	0.28	31% H-1 $\rightarrow$ L+6 26% H $\rightarrow$ L+7
		8	285	4.34	0.14	40% H $\rightarrow$ L+6 34% H-1 $\rightarrow$ L+7
		10	277	4.47	0.42	40% H-3 $\rightarrow$ L 23% H-2 $\rightarrow$ L+1

## References

- [1] A. Cappelli, V. Razzano, G. Fabio, M. Paolino, G. Grisci, G. Giuliani, A. Donati, R. Mendichi, W. Mróz, F. Villafiorita-Monteleone, C. Botta, Side chain engineering in  $\pi$ -stacked polybenzofulvene derivatives bearing electron-rich chromophores for OLED applications, *RSC Adv.* 5 (2015) 101377–101385. doi:10.1039/c5ra21164f.