

## **Excitation wavelength dependent emission of silver(I) complexes with a pyrimidine ligand**

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## Synthesis

### General

The ligand 2-amino-4-phenyl-6-methylpyrimidine (L) was synthesized using reported procedure,<sup>1</sup> all other reagents and solvents were commercially available. Ethanol was distilled prior to use. Elemental analysis (C, H, and N) was performed on a Carlo–Erba analyzer using a standard technique. The XPRD analysis of samples was performed on a Shimadzu XRD-7000 diffractometer (Cu-K $\alpha$  radiation).

### Synthesis of [Ag<sub>3</sub>L<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>0.55</sub>(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>]<sub>n</sub> (1)

A warm solution of AgNO<sub>3</sub> (0.450 mmol, 76.7 mg) in 3 ml of EtOH/MeCN (2:1) was added to a warm solution of L (0.300 mmol, 55.5 mg) in 3 ml of MeCN/CHCl<sub>3</sub> (2:1). The resulting mixture was transparent; nothing precipitated. This mixture was heated and concentrated to 0.5 ml. After that it was cooled at room temperature. Suddenly, a white powder appeared. The precipitate was filtered off, washed with 2 ml of MeCN/EtOH (1:1) and dried in ambient air. Yield: 87.9 mg (66 %). Anal. calc. for Ag<sub>3</sub>C<sub>22</sub>N<sub>9</sub>H<sub>23.1</sub>O<sub>9.55</sub>, %: C, 29.7; H, 2.6; N, 14.2. Found, %: C, 30.0; H, 2.8; N, 14.3.

Colorless transparent single crystals of **1** were obtained by slow crystallization of a solution containing AgNO<sub>3</sub> (0.0810 mmol, 13.8 mg) and L (0.0540 mmol, 10.0 mg) in 3 ml of EtOH/MeCN /CHCl<sub>3</sub> (1:1:1) at room temperature for three months.

### Synthesis of [Ag<sub>2</sub>L<sub>2</sub>(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] (2)

A solution of L (0.270 mmol, 50.0 mg) and PPh<sub>3</sub> (0.270 mmol, 70.9 mg) in 2.5 ml of CHCl<sub>3</sub> was slowly added to a solution of AgNO<sub>3</sub> (0.270 mmol, 45.9 mg) in 1 ml of MeCN. The resulting mixture was transparent; nothing precipitated. This mixture was concentrated to 0.5 ml. After a week of crystallization, large colorless crystals appeared in this solution. The crystals were filtered off, washed with 2 ml of MeCN and dried in ambient air. Yield: 44.4 mg (27 %). Anal. calc. for AgC<sub>29</sub>N<sub>4</sub>H<sub>26</sub>PO<sub>3</sub>, %: C, 56.4; H, 4.2; N, 9.1. Found, %: C, 56.4; H, 4.2; N, 9.1.

## X-Ray diffraction

Single-crystal XRD data for the compound **1** were collected a Bruker Apex DUO diffractometer equipped with a 4K CCD area detector using the graphite-monochromated MoK $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å) at 298 K. The  $\phi$ - and  $\omega$ -scan techniques were employed to measure intensities. Absorption correction was applied with the use of the SADABS program.<sup>2</sup> The crystal structure was solved using the SHELXT<sup>3</sup> and was refined using SHELXL<sup>4</sup> programs with OLEX2 GUI.<sup>5</sup> Atomic displacement parameters for non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. One nitrate was disordered over two positions as bridging/terminate ligand with the corresponding refined occupancies of 45/55%. DFIX, DANG, SIMU and ISOR restraints were used. Fourier difference map revealed the presence of a partially occupied H<sub>2</sub>O ligand, which equalizes coordination numbers of Ag atoms with disordered bridging and terminal nitrates. Thus, the occupancy of O atom of the aqua ligand was refined together with that of the terminal nitrate. Hydrogens of the aqua ligand were not located but included in the final formula of the compound.

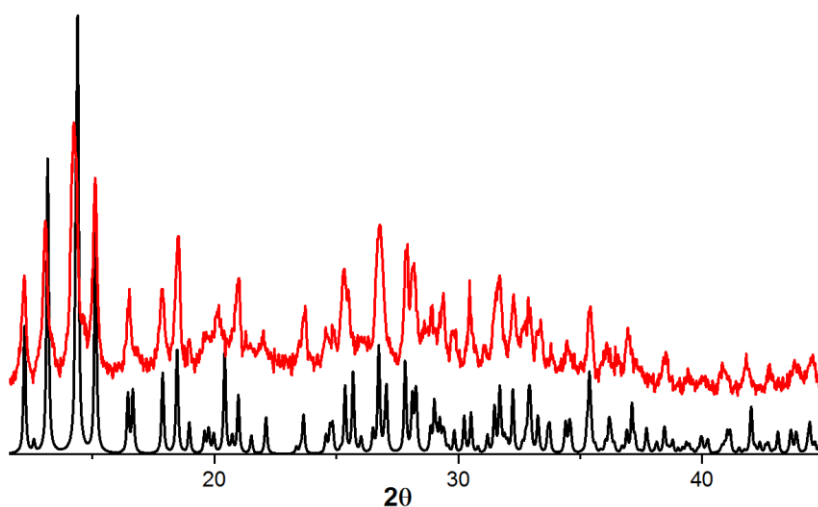


Fig. S1. PXRD pattern for the complex **1**. Red curve is an experimental powder diffractogram (293 K), black one is a theoretical diffractogram calculated from single X-ray data (298 K).

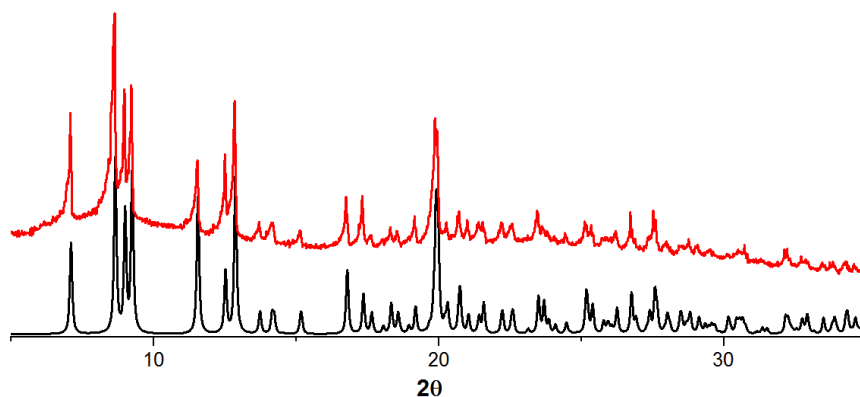


Fig. S2. PXRD pattern for the complex **2**. Red curve is an experimental powder diffractogram (293 K), black one is a theoretical diffractogram calculated from single X-ray data (298 K).

Table S1. Crystallographic data of the compounds.

| Compound                                    | <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>   |
|---|---|--|
| Empirical formula                           | $C_{22}H_{23.1}Ag_3N_9O_{9.55}$                               | $C_{29}H_{26}AgN_4O_3P$  |
| Formula weight                              | 889.82  | 617.38   |
| Space group                                 | <i>Pc</i>   | <i>P</i> -1  |
| <i>a</i> /Å                                 | 10.0066(8)  | 9.8657(3)  |
| <i>b</i> /Å                                 | 10.6023(8)  | 11.0186(3)   |
| <i>c</i> /Å                                 | 14.1784(11)   | 13.7663(4)   |
| $\alpha$ /°                                 | 90  | 67.9270(10)  |
| $\beta$ /°                                  | 98.056(3)   | 75.6170(10)  |
| $\gamma$ /°                                 | 90  | 83.3680(10)  |
| Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>                       | 1489.4(2)   | 1342.92(7)   |
| Z   | 2   | 2  |
| $\rho_{\text{calc}}/\text{cm}^3$            | 1.984   | 1.527  |
| $\mu/\text{mm}^{-1}$                        | 2.019   | 0.848  |
| F(000)                                      | 871.0   | 628.0  |
| 2 $\theta$ range for data collection/°      | 3.842 to 51.5   | 4.764 to 54.25   |
| Index ranges                                | -12 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 12, -12 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 12, -11 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 17 | -12 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 11, -13 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 14, -17 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 17    |
| Reflections collected                       | 12392   | 11320  |
| Independent reflections                     | 4578 [ $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0232$ , $R_{\sigma} = 0.0321$ ]    | 5790 [ $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0330$ , $R_{\text{sigma}} = 0.0372$ ] |
| Restraints/parameters                       | 158/436   | 0/344  |
| Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$                    | 1.064   | 1.049  |
| Final R indexes [ $I \geq 2\sigma(I)$ ]     | $R_1 = 0.0474$ , $wR_2 = 0.1223$                              | $R_1 = 0.0244$ , $wR_2 = 0.0642$                                 |
| Final R indexes [all data]                  | $R_1 = 0.0582$ , $wR_2 = 0.1295$                              | $R_1 = 0.0274$ , $wR_2 = 0.0665$                                 |
| Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup> | 0.80/-1.01  | 0.30/-0.51   |
| Flack parameter                             | 0.040(14)   |  |

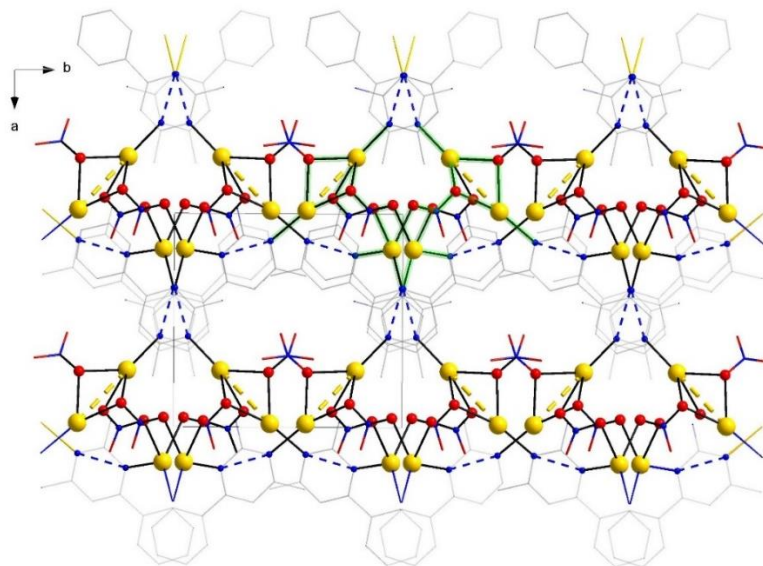


Fig. S3. Crystal packing of the compound **1** along *c* direction. One of the chains formed only by Ag–NO<sub>3</sub> bonds is highlighted green. {Ag<sub>2</sub>(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>} units are highlighted by yellow dashed lines between Ag atoms. Dashed blue lines indicate bridging L ligands. Atoms not directly bonded to Ag atoms are simplified. Only one position of disordered nitrate is shown. Hydrogen atoms are not shown.

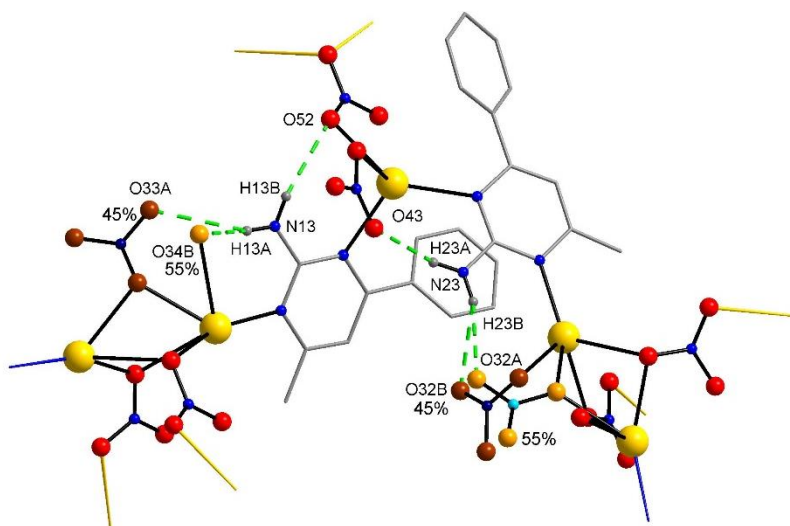


Fig. S4. Fragment of the structure **1** showing intramolecular hydrogen bonds between H atoms of the amino groups and O atoms of the nitrate or aqua ligands. Atoms of the nitrate and water in alternative positions with occupancy of 55 and 45% are differently colored. Hydrogen atoms not involved in hydrogen bonding are omitted. Donor⋯acceptor distances (Å) are: N13⋯O33A 3.41; N13⋯O34B 2.91; N13⋯O52 3.43; N23⋯O32A 3.18; N23⋯O32B 3.17; N23⋯O43 2.97.

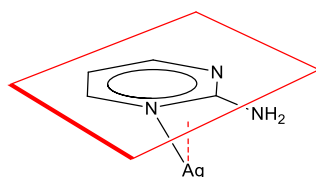
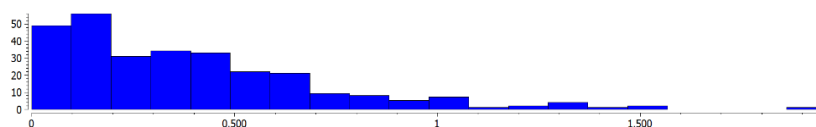


Fig. S5. Histogram of separation between Ag and pyrimidine plane (Å) in the structures of Ag complexes with aminopyrimidines found in CSD.

# Quantum chemical calculations and photophysics

## DFT and TD-DFT calculations

To analyze the electronic structures of **L**, **L**<sub>2</sub>, **1** and **2**, quantum chemical calculations were performed using a density functional theory (DFT) approach with the three-parameter hybrid functional of Becke based on the correlation functional of Lee, Yang, and Parr (B3LYP)<sup>6,7</sup> for geometry optimizations and time dependent DFT calculations (TD-DFT). The DGDZVP basis set<sup>8,9</sup> was applied for the calculations of **L** and **L**<sub>2</sub>, the def2-SVP basis set<sup>10,11</sup> was applied for the calculations of **1** and **2**. Gaussian 09 code<sup>12</sup> was used in all calculations. Experimental X-ray geometries were used for ground state geometry (*S*<sub>0</sub>) optimizations of **1**, **2**, **L** and **L**<sub>2</sub>. The ground state molecular geometries of **1**, **2**, **L** and **L**<sub>2</sub> are found to be in a good agreement with the geometry obtained from the X-ray single crystal diffraction analysis. Resulting ground state optimized geometries were used as initial guesses for the excited state geometry optimizations of **2**, **L** and **L**<sub>2</sub>. All frequencies in harmonic approximation for the calculated minimum energy geometries are positive and atomic coordinates are given in the Tables S2–S6.

## Photophysics

The electronic spectra of **L** and **1** in MeCN solution were recorded on an SF 2000 spectrophotometer. The electronic diffuse reflectance spectra were recorded on a UV-3101 PC Shimadzu spectrophotometer. BaSO<sub>4</sub> was used for the baseline. Spectra are reported as the Kubelka–Munk function,  $F(R) = (1 - R)^2/2R$ , where *R* is the diffuse reflectance of the sample as compared to BaSO<sub>4</sub>. Corrected photoluminescence spectra were recorded on a Fluorolog 3 spectrometer (Horiba Jobin Yvon) with a cooled PC177CE-010 photon detection module equipped with an R2658 photomultiplier. The absolute values of quantum yields were recorded using a Fluorolog 3 Quanta-phi device. Temperature dependences of luminescence were carried out using Optistat DN optical cryostats (Oxford Instruments). Luminescence decay kinetics was recorded by a Time-Correlated Single Photon Counting (TCSPC) technique using a NanoLED pulsed light source and a NanoLED-C2 controller.

Table S2. Calculated (B3LYP/DGDZVP) gas phase geometries of **L** in cartesian (XYZ) coordinates.

| Ground state ( <i>S</i> <sub>0</sub> ) |           |           | Lowest singlet state ( <i>S</i> <sub>1</sub> ) |   |           |           |           |
|--|-----------|-----------|--|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| N                                      | 2.697448  | 2.442885  | -0.163047                                      | N | 2.701949  | 2.505275  | 0.062776  |
| H                                      | 2.117438  | 3.191266  | -0.519260                                      | H | 2.120225  | 3.277296  | -0.238566 |
| H                                      | 3.669353  | 2.448633  | -0.443976                                      | H | 3.664746  | 2.535945  | -0.249843 |
| N                                      | 2.928379  | 0.141612  | -0.022388                                      | N | 2.889538  | 0.160563  | -0.005293 |
| N                                      | 0.758055  | 1.178229  | -0.111309                                      | N | 0.824934  | 1.093696  | 0.004807  |
| C                                      | -2.033627 | 1.112710  | 0.319174                                       | C | -2.026271 | 1.156460  | 0.006335  |
| H                                      | -1.480044 | 2.014671  | 0.559209                                       | H | -1.472080 | 2.090786  | 0.013619  |
| C                                      | -3.429454 | 1.108297  | 0.334367                                       | C | -3.414214 | 1.182379  | 0.009339  |
| H                                      | -3.969046 | 2.015816  | 0.594948                                       | H | -3.928242 | 2.141535  | 0.016441  |
| C                                      | -4.135126 | -0.058210 | 0.015792                                       | C | -4.160683 | -0.009476 | 0.002696  |
| H                                      | -5.222512 | -0.060735 | 0.024317                                       | H | -5.246782 | 0.016172  | 0.005743  |
| C                                      | -3.431411 | -1.220327 | -0.319234                                      | C | -3.471830 | -1.237010 | -0.008272 |
| H                                      | -3.970483 | -2.127693 | -0.580880                                      | H | -4.031969 | -2.169852 | -0.014171 |
| C                                      | -2.034355 | -1.218104 | -0.326781                                      | C | -2.084663 | -1.282376 | -0.011276 |
| H                                      | -1.507950 | -2.124883 | -0.611027                                      | H | -1.595556 | -2.252004 | -0.023150 |
| C                                      | -1.315350 | -0.052860 | -0.004047                                      | C | -1.307193 | -0.081120 | -0.002920 |
| C                                      | 0.173261  | -0.026182 | -0.001281                                      | C | 0.117679  | -0.096908 | -0.003162 |
| C                                      | 0.947232  | -1.192573 | 0.121762                                       | C | 0.967489  | -1.261337 | -0.003796 |
| H                                      | 0.493530  | -2.168343 | 0.250878                                       | H | 0.539669  | -2.256840 | 0.001405  |
| C                                      | 2.102545  | 1.201054  | -0.107242                                      | C | 2.123528  | 1.263497  | 0.005679  |
| C                                      | 2.339597  | -1.057787 | 0.099716                                       | C | 2.333175  | -1.088457 | -0.000278 |
| C                                      | 3.259581  | -2.246992 | 0.213807                                       | C | 3.310884  | -2.235061 | 0.008748  |
| H                                      | 3.917043  | -2.296434 | -0.660278                                      | H | 3.966105  | -2.185446 | -0.868052 |
| H                                      | 2.705573  | -3.185742 | 0.293501                                       | H | 2.790562  | -3.194720 | 0.005374  |
| H                                      | 3.902566  | -2.139788 | 1.093570                                       | H | 3.950979  | -2.183163 | 0.896614  |

Table S3. Calculated (B3LYP/DGDZVP) gas phase geometries of L<sub>2</sub>-amino in cartesian (XYZ) coordinates.

| Ground state (S <sub>0</sub> ) |           |           |           | Lowest singlet state (S <sub>1</sub> ) |           |           |           |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| N                              | 1.329456  | -1.377053 | -0.100005 | N                                      | 1.297529  | -1.388679 | 0.018530  |
| H                              | 0.325841  | -1.206738 | 0.016792  | H                                      | 0.277883  | -1.240407 | 0.010239  |
| H                              | 1.701985  | -2.292625 | 0.108554  | H                                      | 1.686215  | -2.322924 | 0.011460  |
| N                              | 1.709878  | 0.909563  | -0.163330 | N                                      | 1.642262  | 0.891093  | 0.011901  |
| N                              | 3.524478  | -0.668492 | -0.033722 | N                                      | 3.481448  | -0.686634 | 0.006778  |
| C                              | 6.249835  | -1.333946 | -0.345137 | C                                      | 6.206517  | -1.378129 | 0.004781  |
| H                              | 5.489660  | -2.049075 | -0.642194 | H                                      | 5.437356  | -2.142547 | 0.009675  |
| C                              | 7.596502  | -1.699256 | -0.307763 | C                                      | 7.551870  | -1.731561 | 0.002593  |
| H                              | 7.889488  | -2.709145 | -0.585138 | H                                      | 7.829053  | -2.783726 | 0.006424  |
| C                              | 8.568735  | -0.771446 | 0.084951  | C                                      | 8.553504  | -0.746234 | -0.004124 |
| H                              | 9.617578  | -1.056723 | 0.117206  | H                                      | 9.603926  | -1.025821 | -0.006612 |
| C                              | 8.180970  | 0.525006  | 0.440898  | C                                      | 8.177024  | 0.606985  | -0.007711 |
| H                              | 8.927075  | 1.248867  | 0.759839  | H                                      | 8.939948  | 1.382410  | -0.012479 |
| C                              | 6.833911  | 0.892982  | 0.395528  | C                                      | 6.833263  | 0.969745  | -0.005220 |
| H                              | 6.552770  | 1.898095  | 0.696749  | H                                      | 6.586249  | 2.027229  | -0.006730 |
| C                              | 5.849395  | -0.029999 | -0.001343 | C                                      | 5.807054  | -0.013857 | 0.000609  |
| C                              | 4.407486  | 0.338402  | -0.061704 | C                                      | 4.390546  | 0.329103  | 0.001592  |
| C                              | 3.977754  | 1.674900  | -0.158015 | C                                      | 3.910006  | 1.672067  | -0.002262 |
| H                              | 4.677469  | 2.499699  | -0.221769 | H                                      | 4.592669  | 2.513460  | -0.011107 |
| C                              | 2.214772  | -0.345070 | -0.092567 | C                                      | 2.185925  | -0.349483 | 0.011719  |
| C                              | 2.602209  | 1.911991  | -0.201479 | C                                      | 2.541307  | 1.913230  | 0.003790  |
| C                              | 2.040817  | 3.309193  | -0.296379 | C                                      | 1.971962  | 3.307755  | 0.002378  |
| H                              | 1.390595  | 3.513505  | 0.561147  | H                                      | 1.345080  | 3.467718  | 0.888102  |
| H                              | 1.432711  | 3.411788  | -1.201603 | H                                      | 1.340131  | 3.464595  | -0.880423 |
| H                              | 2.831755  | 4.062774  | -0.320659 | H                                      | 2.759515  | 4.065064  | -0.001237 |
| N                              | -1.329664 | 1.377429  | 0.100421  | N                                      | -1.269675 | 1.322516  | -0.016745 |
| H                              | -0.325934 | 1.207128  | -0.015476 | H                                      | -0.242915 | 1.157543  | -0.007280 |
| H                              | -1.702164 | 2.292727  | -0.109395 | H                                      | -1.642377 | 2.264845  | -0.011060 |
| N                              | -1.709864 | -0.909176 | 0.165847  | N                                      | -1.652663 | -0.944182 | -0.012281 |
| N                              | -3.524557 | 0.668538  | 0.033505  | N                                      | -3.467376 | 0.670593  | -0.007704 |
| C                              | -6.250134 | 1.334296  | 0.341574  | C                                      | -6.180457 | 1.409956  | 0.004774  |
| H                              | -5.490183 | 2.049975  | 0.637866  | H                                      | -5.400212 | 2.163047  | 0.006176  |
| C                              | -7.596795 | 1.699468  | 0.302726  | C                                      | -7.520039 | 1.783707  | 0.007631  |
| H                              | -7.890008 | 2.709819  | 0.578171  | H                                      | -7.781495 | 2.839627  | 0.011010  |
| C                              | -8.568737 | 0.770933  | -0.088996 | C                                      | -8.535532 | 0.813008  | 0.006119  |
| H                              | -9.617574 | 1.056101  | -0.122398 | H                                      | -9.581444 | 1.108562  | 0.008929  |
| C                              | -8.180680 | -0.526109 | -0.442460 | C                                      | -8.181062 | -0.545600 | 0.000963  |
| H                              | -8.926545 | -1.250567 | -0.760605 | H                                      | -8.955839 | -1.308850 | -0.000946 |
| C                              | -6.833629 | -0.893928 | -0.395625 | C                                      | -6.843059 | -0.928663 | -0.002140 |
| H                              | -6.552280 | -1.899550 | -0.694936 | H                                      | -6.612660 | -1.989798 | -0.008174 |
| C                              | -5.849399 | 0.029783  | 0.000261  | C                                      | -5.803868 | 0.040079  | 0.000079  |
| C                              | -4.407492 | -0.338412 | 0.062080  | C                                      | -4.392451 | -0.324944 | -0.002226 |
| C                              | -3.977665 | -1.674743 | 0.160199  | C                                      | -3.933462 | -1.676694 | 0.000298  |
| H                              | -4.677296 | -2.499569 | 0.224466  | H                                      | -4.631692 | -2.504988 | 0.008132  |
| C                              | -2.214859 | 0.345337  | 0.093527  | C                                      | -2.176021 | 0.305025  | -0.011688 |
| C                              | -2.602116 | -1.911641 | 0.204640  | C                                      | -2.565164 | -1.946911 | -0.005896 |
| C                              | -2.040639 | -3.308692 | 0.301291  | C                                      | -2.023330 | -3.351291 | -0.005943 |
| H                              | -1.390456 | -3.514054 | -0.556019 | H                                      | -1.398457 | -3.519483 | -0.890819 |
| H                              | -1.432477 | -3.410105 | 1.206606  | H                                      | -1.394150 | -3.518413 | 0.876123  |
| H                              | -2.831530 | -4.062291 | 0.326534  | H                                      | -2.824657 | -4.093843 | -0.003463 |



Table S4. Calculated (B3LYP/DGDZVP) gas phase geometries of L<sub>2</sub>-imino in cartesian (XYZ) coordinates

| Ground state (S <sub>0</sub> ) |           |           |           | Lowest singlet state (S <sub>1</sub> ) |           |           |           |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| N                              | 1.288829  | -1.418898 | -0.018095 | N                                      | 1.173506  | -1.316458 | -0.000684 |
| H                              | -0.724902 | -1.036842 | 0.012446  | H                                      | -0.674633 | -1.091677 | -0.001233 |
| H                              | 1.726810  | -2.339559 | -0.023393 | H                                      | 1.594628  | -2.247912 | -0.000812 |
| N                              | 1.745726  | 0.854607  | -0.006757 | N                                      | 1.694084  | 0.926027  | -0.000454 |
| N                              | 3.557195  | -0.704825 | -0.011175 | N                                      | 3.458601  | -0.677987 | -0.000310 |
| C                              | 6.247655  | -1.382200 | 0.029253  | C                                      | 6.151728  | -1.387340 | -0.001154 |
| H                              | 5.470882  | -2.130931 | 0.050136  | H                                      | 5.362978  | -2.123128 | -0.002468 |
| C                              | 7.594217  | -1.737721 | 0.029069  | C                                      | 7.488864  | -1.769987 | -0.000842 |
| H                              | 7.872957  | -2.782936 | 0.051539  | H                                      | 7.742600  | -2.822249 | -0.001932 |
| C                              | 8.584640  | -0.750256 | 0.000048  | C                                      | 8.506194  | -0.807825 | 0.000900  |
| H                              | 9.630680  | -1.026856 | -0.000220 | H                                      | 9.545195  | -1.108598 | 0.001067  |
| C                              | 8.214699  | 0.595989  | -0.029213 | C                                      | 8.163607  | 0.551515  | 0.002430  |
| H                              | 8.973134  | 1.367124  | -0.053293 | H                                      | 8.940752  | 1.304703  | 0.003928  |
| C                              | 6.865406  | 0.953575  | -0.028478 | C                                      | 6.829431  | 0.942949  | 0.002146  |
| H                              | 6.608471  | 2.002550  | -0.055130 | H                                      | 6.603772  | 2.000240  | 0.003736  |
| C                              | 5.860611  | -0.029663 | 0.001299  | C                                      | 5.787637  | -0.017525 | 0.000243  |
| C                              | 4.413164  | 0.314037  | 0.001880  | C                                      | 4.375948  | 0.347831  | -0.000255 |
| C                              | 3.961004  | 1.670914  | 0.016634  | C                                      | 3.923354  | 1.696502  | -0.000974 |
| H                              | 4.645482  | 2.500377  | 0.034897  | H                                      | 4.621517  | 2.516625  | -0.001799 |
| C                              | 2.183706  | -0.475355 | -0.012091 | C                                      | 2.136955  | -0.381718 | -0.000497 |
| C                              | 2.608063  | 1.910705  | 0.010345  | C                                      | 2.569370  | 1.982551  | -0.000913 |
| C                              | 1.996788  | 3.281539  | 0.021504  | C                                      | 1.985215  | 3.361331  | -0.001216 |
| H                              | 1.357372  | 3.412950  | 0.896634  | H                                      | 1.356906  | 3.524054  | 0.878551  |
| H                              | 1.370704  | 3.433188  | -0.860037 | H                                      | 1.356567  | 3.523661  | -0.880817 |
| H                              | 2.768056  | 4.048322  | 0.035856  | H                                      | 2.772400  | 4.112364  | -0.001535 |
| N                              | -1.288842 | 1.418934  | 0.015021  | N                                      | -1.152703 | 1.277740  | -0.001206 |
| H                              | 0.724868  | 1.036949  | -0.014015 | H                                      | 0.665097  | 1.055010  | -0.000615 |
| H                              | -1.726783 | 2.339616  | 0.019710  | H                                      | -1.566447 | 2.211772  | -0.001129 |
| N                              | -1.745710 | -0.854512 | 0.005794  | N                                      | -1.703567 | -0.962712 | -0.000789 |
| N                              | -3.557219 | 0.704868  | 0.009799  | N                                      | -3.445884 | 0.665079  | -0.000327 |
| C                              | -6.247720 | 1.382122  | -0.030367 | C                                      | -6.129592 | 1.407895  | 0.001582  |
| H                              | -5.470983 | 2.130847  | -0.052751 | H                                      | -5.330997 | 2.133027  | 0.002491  |
| C                              | -7.594292 | 1.737607  | -0.029741 | C                                      | -7.461773 | 1.807412  | 0.001688  |
| H                              | -7.873077 | 2.782784  | -0.053418 | H                                      | -7.702033 | 2.862995  | 0.002672  |
| C                              | -8.584667 | 0.750155  | 0.001271  | C                                      | -8.491828 | 0.858525  | 0.000506  |
| H                              | -9.630714 | 1.026726  | 0.001884  | H                                      | -9.527053 | 1.172406  | 0.000679  |
| C                              | -8.214669 | -0.596040 | 0.032083  | C                                      | -8.165743 | -0.504818 | -0.000893 |
| H                              | -8.973066 | -1.367162 | 0.057726  | H                                      | -8.952270 | -1.248433 | -0.001942 |
| C                              | -6.865367 | -0.953592 | 0.030902  | C                                      | -6.836377 | -0.913054 | -0.001029 |
| H                              | -6.608380 | -2.002521 | 0.058851  | H                                      | -6.623771 | -1.973036 | -0.002471 |
| C                              | -5.860621 | 0.029634  | -0.000883 | C                                      | -5.781708 | 0.033624  | 0.000290  |
| C                              | -4.413168 | -0.314027 | -0.001964 | C                                      | -4.374608 | -0.349557 | 0.000343  |
| C                              | -3.960977 | -1.670904 | -0.015833 | C                                      | -3.941413 | -1.706472 | 0.001154  |
| H                              | -4.645444 | -2.500396 | -0.033166 | H                                      | -4.650828 | -2.517021 | 0.002561  |
| C                              | -2.183730 | 0.475415  | 0.010225  | C                                      | -2.125784 | 0.355301  | -0.000768 |
| C                              | -2.608027 | -1.910653 | -0.010046 | C                                      | -2.593730 | -2.009517 | 0.000462  |
| C                              | -1.996718 | -3.281476 | -0.020480 | C                                      | -2.027801 | -3.396350 | 0.000888  |
| H                              | -1.357786 | -3.413539 | -0.895866 | H                                      | -1.402975 | -3.569497 | -0.879714 |
| H                              | -1.370135 | -3.432429 | 0.860825  | H                                      | -1.401742 | -3.568579 | 0.880794  |
| H                              | -2.767970 | -4.048292 | -0.033815 | H                                      | -2.825597 | -4.136193 | 0.001828  |

Table S5. Calculated (B3LYP/def2-SVP) gas phase geometry of the fragment of **1** in cartesian (XYZ) coordinates

| Ground state ( $S_0$ ) |           |           |           |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| N                      | 2.189768  | -0.178168 | -0.832421 |
| N                      | 3.065532  | -2.277115 | -0.428883 |
| N                      | -1.103391 | 0.811816  | 1.221704  |
| N                      | -1.077222 | 3.104194  | 1.801329  |
| N                      | 4.542811  | -0.504752 | -0.581013 |
| C                      | 3.269174  | -0.956166 | -0.610915 |
| C                      | 2.378380  | 1.126595  | -1.077956 |
| C                      | -3.039807 | 2.157564  | 1.002548  |
| H                      | -4.101582 | 2.220432  | 0.753586  |
| C                      | 1.161475  | 1.934622  | -1.363332 |
| C                      | -0.500282 | 1.877516  | 1.722449  |
| C                      | 4.734570  | 0.791232  | -0.802245 |
| C                      | -3.127935 | -0.264374 | 0.422055  |
| C                      | -4.143588 | -0.177374 | -0.546349 |
| H                      | -4.424861 | 0.796211  | -0.953208 |
| C                      | 0.084252  | 1.371166  | -2.065436 |
| H                      | 0.125196  | 0.322416  | -2.366401 |
| C                      | -2.386778 | 3.241476  | 1.422324  |
| C                      | 3.668570  | 1.668252  | -1.077866 |
| H                      | 3.845279  | 2.719909  | -1.300989 |
| C                      | 1.065322  | 3.278411  | -1.023294 |
| H                      | 1.886071  | 3.744504  | -0.470443 |
| C                      | -3.373382 | -2.685650 | 0.405425  |
| H                      | -3.047292 | -3.663780 | 0.762533  |
| C                      | -4.356742 | -2.587768 | -0.581925 |
| H                      | -4.797546 | -3.492749 | -1.004270 |
| C                      | -2.420993 | 0.953497  | 0.899177  |
| C                      | -4.748989 | -1.330356 | -1.047136 |
| H                      | -5.506166 | -1.247598 | -1.830325 |
| C                      | -0.067653 | 4.014598  | -1.295161 |
| H                      | -0.167154 | 5.056569  | -0.992025 |
| C                      | -1.020355 | 2.099156  | -2.352771 |
| H                      | -1.835356 | 1.603393  | -2.887548 |
| C                      | -1.112583 | 3.338738  | -2.003657 |
| H                      | -2.015505 | 3.915493  | -2.234695 |
| C                      | -2.759174 | -1.536263 | 0.902723  |
| H                      | -1.977506 | -1.632466 | 1.657818  |
| C                      | 6.154839  | 1.296855  | -0.744836 |
| O                      | 0.704500  | -2.643956 | 1.945856  |
| O                      | -1.496847 | -3.877217 | -2.370578 |
| O                      | -1.403162 | -1.730086 | -2.164115 |
| O                      | -0.056957 | -2.926075 | -1.043256 |
| N                      | -0.935449 | -2.829293 | -1.870437 |
| Ag                     | 0.134957  | -0.799269 | 0.132288  |
| O                      | 2.197356  | -2.813408 | 3.499744  |
| O                      | 1.919660  | -0.952144 | 2.490576  |
| N                      | 1.600643  | -2.111742 | 2.660303  |
| C                      | -2.977136 | 4.621455  | 1.483312  |
| N                      | 0.763254  | 1.734810  | 2.177708  |
| H                      | 2.114489  | -2.631158 | -0.323755 |
| H                      | 6.845814  | 0.449337  | -0.643786 |
| H                      | 6.292520  | 1.969624  | 0.119182  |
| H                      | 6.410658  | 1.872406  | -1.650202 |
| H                      | -2.431397 | 5.229167  | 2.223652  |

|   |           |           |           |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| H | -4.052965 | 4.591742  | 1.737580  |
| H | -2.879128 | 5.117455  | 0.495928  |
| H | 1.229957  | 2.541040  | 2.568174  |
| H | 3.836222  | -2.818443 | -0.059681 |
| H | 1.182139  | 0.797907  | 2.274681  |

Table S6. Calculated (B3LYP/def2-SVP) gas phase geometries of **2** in cartesian (XYZ) coordinates

| Ground state ( $S_0$ ) |           |           |           | Lowest triplet state ( $T_1$ ) |            |           |           |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Ag                     | 1.820679  | -0.852990 | -0.023427 | Ag                             | -1.880336  | 0.516228  | -0.222037 |
| P                      | 2.060143  | -3.316224 | -0.036847 | P                              | -2.383066  | 2.939713  | -0.094537 |
| N                      | 5.633945  | 1.367528  | -1.020327 | N                              | -5.696250  | -1.610881 | -1.121295 |
| O                      | 0.076933  | 0.184112  | -1.384828 | O                              | 0.043113   | -0.215160 | -1.442891 |
| N                      | 3.607676  | 0.708275  | 0.065375  | N                              | -3.570191  | -1.093435 | -0.080613 |
| N                      | 0.180014  | 0.631856  | -2.581282 | N                              | -0.057775  | -0.687546 | -2.631803 |
| O                      | -0.771874 | 1.238442  | -3.078107 | O                              | 0.943313   | -1.140594 | -3.186321 |
| C                      | 2.559897  | -4.042408 | -1.660312 | C                              | -2.708465  | 3.760650  | -1.711342 |
| C                      | 3.291849  | -3.974857 | 1.170404  | C                              | -3.831813  | 3.342833  | 0.969876  |
| O                      | 1.232181  | 0.435751  | -3.207494 | O                              | -1.166569  | -0.668102 | -3.191806 |
| N                      | 3.913887  | 0.435199  | -2.227238 | N                              | -3.867786  | -1.016594 | -2.380755 |
| C                      | 0.498465  | -4.196885 | 0.398067  | C                              | -0.992020  | 3.891734  | 0.649532  |
| C                      | 6.140993  | 1.787050  | 0.141117  | C                              | -6.258214  | -1.889541 | 0.097106  |
| C                      | 7.528571  | 2.329880  | 0.117700  | C                              | -7.632187  | -2.187966 | 0.186592  |
| C                      | 8.170392  | 2.536826  | -1.117457 | C                              | -8.466055  | -2.170521 | -1.011848 |
| H                      | 7.626018  | 2.286764  | -2.028532 | H                              | -7.981260  | -1.914288 | -1.952960 |
| C                      | 4.371055  | -4.791047 | 0.796834  | C                              | -4.970186  | 4.016993  | 0.501348  |
| H                      | 4.498486  | -5.091036 | -0.245020 | H                              | -5.015908  | 4.367403  | -0.531088 |
| C                      | 3.347201  | -3.261082 | -2.523938 | C                              | -3.119484  | 2.970035  | -2.797171 |
| H                      | 3.625196  | -2.240957 | -2.244556 | H                              | -3.224571  | 1.888579  | -2.678039 |
| C                      | 8.229584  | 2.642055  | 1.297025  | C                              | -8.302011  | -2.530431 | 1.439519  |
| H                      | 7.769869  | 2.477555  | 2.272911  | H                              | -7.736475  | -2.560313 | 2.370591  |
| C                      | 9.466768  | 3.047975  | -1.171777 | C                              | -9.805983  | -2.466026 | -0.951379 |
| H                      | 9.947310  | 3.205478  | -2.140931 | H                              | -10.405736 | -2.442442 | -1.865500 |
| C                      | 4.393207  | 0.856684  | -1.032795 | C                              | -4.443099  | -1.259982 | -1.183306 |
| C                      | 3.152545  | -3.591180 | 2.518369  | C                              | -3.799870  | 2.883674  | 2.301184  |
| H                      | 2.325747  | -2.943194 | 2.822335  | H                              | -2.920069  | 2.352196  | 2.675935  |
| C                      | 4.091336  | 1.166481  | 1.236334  | C                              | -4.051395  | -1.466381 | 1.122840  |
| C                      | 5.371053  | 1.721577  | 1.316175  | C                              | -5.378098  | -1.866141 | 1.265220  |
| H                      | 5.739509  | 2.089927  | 2.271383  | H                              | -5.743241  | -2.140968 | 2.252091  |
| C                      | 9.528433  | 3.150358  | 1.242379  | C                              | -9.649215  | -2.822693 | 1.467950  |
| H                      | 10.057946 | 3.382700  | 2.169840  | H                              | -10.122013 | -3.077192 | 2.420436  |
| C                      | 5.142656  | -4.853377 | 3.094680  | C                              | -6.014948  | 3.795377  | 2.678711  |
| H                      | 5.862641  | -5.195207 | 3.842923  | H                              | -6.864407  | 3.972875  | 3.342836  |
| C                      | 5.292420  | -5.225039 | 1.756592  | C                              | -6.056656  | 4.238909  | 1.354651  |
| H                      | 6.129864  | -5.858811 | 1.452850  | H                              | -6.939294  | 4.762494  | 0.979112  |
| C                      | 2.184057  | -5.335467 | -2.063684 | C                              | -2.552232  | 5.146576  | -1.891441 |
| H                      | 1.559539  | -5.952699 | -1.414667 | H                              | -2.218683  | 5.771315  | -1.059839 |
| C                      | 3.765559  | -3.771664 | -3.756226 | C                              | -3.382739  | 3.557932  | -4.038787 |
| H                      | 4.375541  | -3.151676 | -4.418081 | H                              | -3.697784  | 2.932178  | -4.877051 |
| C                      | 10.151555 | 3.357660  | 0.007980  | C                              | -10.434055 | -2.800520 | 0.286179  |
| H                      | 11.168396 | 3.756674  | -0.033698 | H                              | -11.499186 | -3.034992 | 0.322837  |
| C                      | 3.392013  | -5.060339 | -4.147011 | C                              | -3.230244  | 4.936290  | -4.208366 |
| H                      | 3.711478  | -5.454976 | -5.115120 | H                              | -3.429306  | 5.394005  | -5.180562 |
| C                      | 4.069648  | -4.037904 | 3.471985  | C                              | -4.883658  | 3.119186  | 3.149472  |
| H                      | 3.947203  | -3.738985 | 4.516278  | H                              | -4.844266  | 2.767591  | 4.183332  |
| C                      | 2.597692  | -5.839274 | -3.299766 | C                              | -2.813352  | 5.729400  | -3.133347 |

|    |            |           |           |    |           |           |           |
|----|------------|-----------|-----------|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| H  | 2.294256   | -6.844803 | -3.602937 | H  | -2.686935 | 6.806997  | -3.264031 |
| C  | -0.718542  | -3.592923 | 0.038538  | C  | 0.315051  | 3.511386  | 0.300483  |
| H  | -0.712089  | -2.611797 | -0.443390 | H  | 0.475854  | 2.678239  | -0.389267 |
| C  | 3.204462   | 1.094378  | 2.446103  | C  | -3.111014 | -1.441530 | 2.295096  |
| H  | 2.462633   | 1.910998  | 2.412306  | H  | -2.366037 | -2.249545 | 2.198522  |
| H  | 3.784078   | 1.206245  | 3.372795  | H  | -3.649006 | -1.592863 | 3.241096  |
| H  | 2.637139   | 0.153146  | 2.487223  | H  | -2.548758 | -0.497454 | 2.357455  |
| C  | 0.478678   | -5.437100 | 1.057987  | C  | -1.176009 | 4.940019  | 1.566133  |
| H  | 1.414953   | -5.909295 | 1.364044  | H  | -2.182882 | 5.237649  | 1.864826  |
| C  | -1.931811  | -4.227770 | 0.316710  | C  | 1.415300  | 4.165196  | 0.858732  |
| H  | -2.870943  | -3.744837 | 0.037984  | H  | 2.421994  | 3.829002  | 0.601371  |
| C  | -0.737227  | -6.067517 | 1.338034  | C  | -0.071623 | 5.599271  | 2.114528  |
| H  | -0.741190  | -7.030685 | 1.855117  | H  | -0.227564 | 6.411854  | 2.828386  |
| C  | -1.943184  | -5.466610 | 0.965052  | C  | 1.224863  | 5.212721  | 1.765000  |
| H  | -2.893210  | -5.958113 | 1.190267  | H  | 2.086076  | 5.718618  | 2.208125  |
| H  | 4.488857   | 0.671707  | -3.027357 | H  | -4.432905 | -1.194110 | -3.200739 |
| H  | 2.903679   | 0.355833  | -2.403106 | H  | -2.858106 | -0.886559 | -2.501245 |
| Ag | -1.820716  | 0.853006  | 0.023384  | Ag | 1.906619  | -0.628302 | 0.184073  |
| P  | -2.060147  | 3.316238  | 0.036825  | P  | 2.412285  | -3.053710 | 0.049497  |
| N  | -5.633887  | -1.367515 | 1.020427  | N  | 5.665778  | 1.656478  | 1.124020  |
| O  | -0.076973  | -0.184102 | 1.384811  | O  | -0.011746 | 0.155084  | 1.398407  |
| N  | -3.607684  | -0.708233 | -0.065368 | N  | 3.617889  | 1.011441  | 0.071434  |
| N  | -0.180037  | -0.631853 | 2.581263  | N  | 0.094011  | 0.629718  | 2.586966  |
| O  | 0.771867   | -1.238419 | 3.078083  | O  | -0.905223 | 1.091667  | 3.140593  |
| C  | -2.559855  | 4.042458  | 1.660283  | C  | 2.788137  | -3.872780 | 1.657803  |
| C  | -3.291888  | 3.974844  | -1.170408 | C  | 3.830299  | -3.477798 | -1.051086 |
| O  | -1.232198  | -0.435781 | 3.207497  | O  | 1.200535  | 0.604248  | 3.147444  |
| N  | -3.913736  | -0.435133 | 2.227229  | N  | 3.948785  | 0.742166  | 2.354520  |
| C  | -0.498476  | 4.196863  | -0.398164 | C  | 1.002482  | -4.008012 | -0.657676 |
| C  | -6.140981  | -1.787033 | -0.141002 | C  | 6.154351  | 2.079989  | -0.044634 |
| C  | -7.528548  | -2.329892 | -0.117555 | C  | 7.546442  | 2.612574  | -0.041644 |
| C  | -8.170260  | -2.537110 | 1.117614  | C  | 8.244167  | 2.715398  | 1.176447  |
| H  | -7.625822  | -2.287217 | 2.028696  | H  | 7.737361  | 2.395420  | 2.086795  |
| C  | -4.371127  | 4.790979  | -0.796812 | C  | 4.937734  | -4.231455 | -0.632128 |
| H  | -4.498554  | 5.090950  | 0.245047  | H  | 4.982836  | -4.623364 | 0.385437  |
| C  | -3.347180  | 3.261164  | 2.523919  | C  | 3.420948  | -3.113366 | 2.657325  |
| H  | -3.625204  | 2.241042  | 2.244549  | H  | 3.657326  | -2.060429 | 2.479126  |
| C  | -8.229646  | -2.641847 | -1.296886 | C  | 8.197070  | 3.020252  | -1.220758 |
| H  | -7.770011  | -2.477118 | -2.272773 | H  | 7.693670  | 2.945508  | -2.185472 |
| C  | -9.466616  | -3.048311 | 1.171934  | C  | 9.545917  | 3.213638  | 1.214892  |
| H  | -9.947073  | -3.206032 | 2.141094  | H  | 10.070614 | 3.286146  | 2.170794  |
| C  | -4.393149  | -0.856662 | 1.032836  | C  | 4.422714  | 1.154351  | 1.155383  |
| C  | -3.152583  | 3.591194  | -2.518381 | C  | 3.797629  | -2.970372 | -2.364293 |
| H  | -2.325759  | 2.943250  | -2.822368 | H  | 2.939157  | -2.382852 | -2.702931 |
| C  | -4.091375  | -1.166447 | -1.236309 | C  | 4.082312  | 1.474512  | -1.105413 |
| C  | -5.371090  | -1.721556 | -1.316095 | C  | 5.362188  | 2.024021  | -1.206274 |
| H  | -5.739583  | -2.089938 | -2.271277 | H  | 5.713315  | 2.393196  | -2.167050 |
| C  | -9.528476  | -3.150198 | -1.242239 | C  | 9.500376  | 3.518580  | -1.182101 |
| H  | -10.058061 | -3.382359 | -2.169705 | H  | 9.988259  | 3.828591  | -2.109273 |
| C  | -5.142759  | 4.853308  | -3.094648 | C  | 5.951818  | -3.985621 | -2.821434 |
| H  | -5.862770  | 5.195116  | -3.842876 | H  | 6.777057  | -4.184764 | -3.509655 |
| C  | -5.292524  | 5.224942  | -1.756551 | C  | 5.993999  | -4.480307 | -1.515475 |
| H  | -6.129992  | 5.858673  | -1.452790 | H  | 6.852611  | -5.066393 | -1.178248 |
| C  | -2.183969  | 5.335507  | 2.063640  | C  | 2.464104  | -5.214987 | 1.919488  |
| H  | -1.559433  | 5.952712  | 1.414615  | H  | 1.962581  | -5.814597 | 1.157083  |
| C  | -3.765517  | 3.771771  | 3.756203  | C  | 3.738717  | -3.692956 | 3.889188  |
| H  | -4.375518  | 3.151812  | 4.418068  | H  | 4.229057  | -3.092030 | 4.658773  |

|   |            |           |           |   |           |           |           |
|---|------------|-----------|-----------|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| C | -10.151490 | -3.357774 | -0.007832 | C | 10.179854 | 3.618954  | 0.035662  |
| H | -11.168315 | -3.756828 | 0.033847  | H | 11.199573 | 4.010790  | 0.064956  |
| C | -3.391926  | 5.060438  | 4.146974  | C | 3.415461  | -5.029277 | 4.141158  |
| H | -3.711375  | 5.455095  | 5.115081  | H | 3.654929  | -5.478420 | 5.108201  |
| C | -4.069718  | 4.037891  | -3.471978 | C | 4.850359  | -3.232606 | -3.243514 |
| H | -3.947271  | 3.738994  | -4.516277 | H | 4.809681  | -2.842302 | -4.263360 |
| C | -2.597580  | 5.839338  | 3.299721  | C | 2.775433  | -5.787671 | 3.155561  |
| H | -2.294108  | 6.844859  | 3.602882  | H | 2.514667  | -6.831028 | 3.349843  |
| C | 0.718529   | 3.592905  | -0.038622 | C | -0.297864 | -3.611981 | -0.300369 |
| H | 0.712072   | 2.611818  | 0.443386  | H | -0.440588 | -2.765110 | 0.376915  |
| C | -3.204530  | -1.094345 | -2.446101 | C | 3.165947  | 1.412837  | -2.292428 |
| H | -2.462701  | -1.910965 | -2.412322 | H | 2.401754  | 2.205279  | -2.210565 |
| H | -3.784170  | -1.206194 | -3.372779 | H | 3.712745  | 1.573064  | -3.231814 |
| H | -2.637196  | -0.153118 | -2.487224 | H | 2.622177  | 0.458494  | -2.352651 |
| C | -0.478682  | 5.437057  | -1.058125 | C | 1.167390  | -5.075021 | -1.556397 |
| H | -1.414956  | 5.909254  | -1.364183 | H | 2.168751  | -5.386030 | -1.860167 |
| C | 1.931803   | 4.227741  | -0.316802 | C | -1.409713 | -4.270482 | -0.829952 |
| H | 2.870935   | 3.744830  | -0.038028 | H | -2.412709 | -3.929202 | -0.564050 |
| C | 0.737227   | 6.067453  | -1.338202 | C | 0.051935  | -5.735999 | -2.079625 |
| H | 0.741195   | 7.030602  | -1.855319 | H | 0.193215  | -6.562307 | -2.780683 |
| C | 1.943182   | 5.466554  | -0.965195 | C | -1.237496 | -5.335128 | -1.719889 |
| H | 2.893209   | 5.958050  | -1.190421 | H | -2.107746 | -5.844009 | -2.141367 |
| H | -4.488637  | -0.671625 | 3.027400  | H | 4.527073  | 0.959683  | 3.155319  |
| H | -2.903512  | -0.355744 | 2.403004  | H | 2.941118  | 0.632897  | 2.510717  |

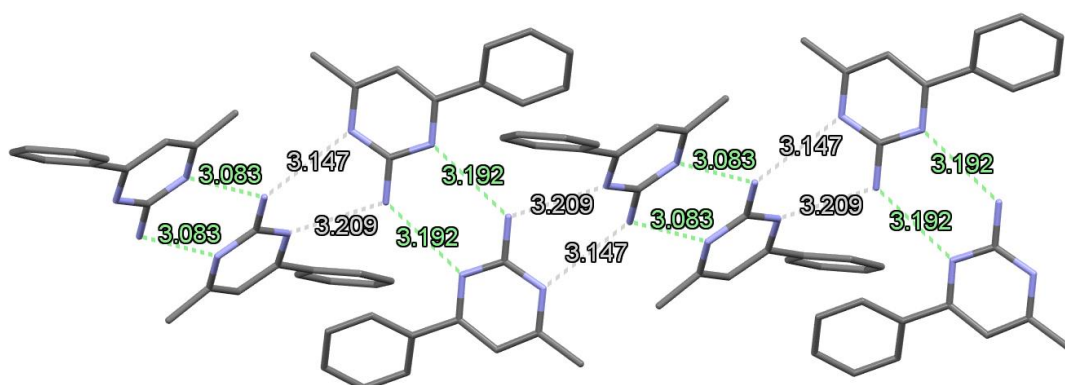


Fig. S6. Crystal packing of **L**: an infinite network of hydrogen bonded molecules. C and N atoms are shown in “stick model”, hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

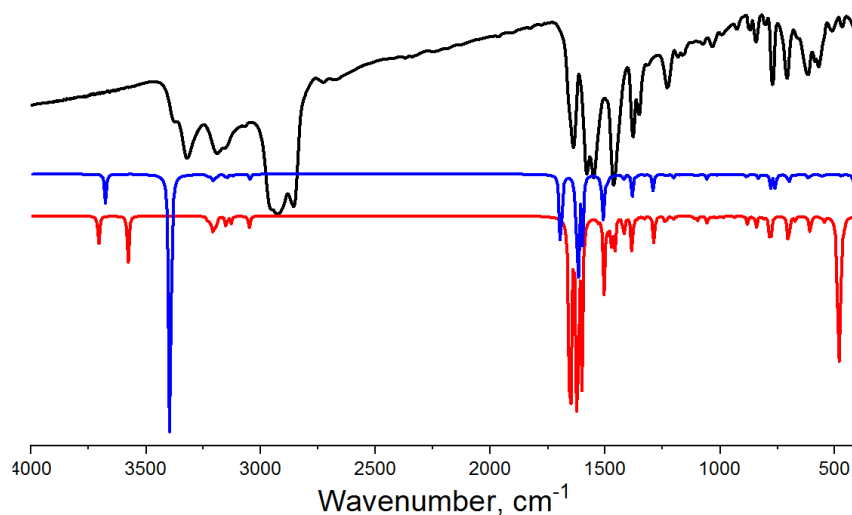


Fig. S7. Experimental IR spectrum of **L** (black); calculated IR spectrum of the monomer **L** (red); calculated IR spectrum of the dimer **L**<sub>2</sub> (blue).

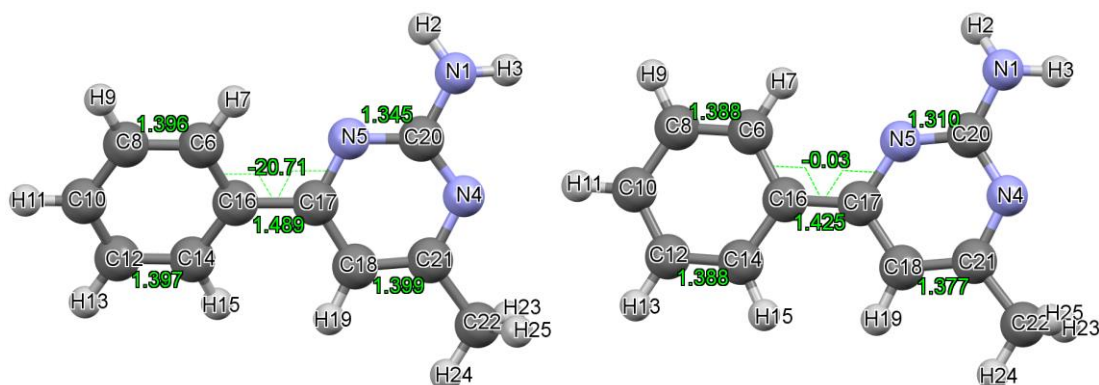


Fig. S8. Ground state  $S_0$  (left) and first singlet state  $S_1$  (right) geometry optimized structures of **L**

Table S7. Selected bond lengths in optimized  $S_0$  and  $S_1$  geometries of **L**

| Bond    | Length in $S_0$ optimised geometry,<br>Å | Length in $S_1$ optimised geometry,<br>Å |
|---------|--|--|
| C18-C21 | 1.399                                    | 1.377                                    |
| N5-C20  | 1.345                                    | 1.310                                    |
| C16-C17 | 1.489                                    | 1.425                                    |
| C8-C6   | 1.396                                    | 1.388                                    |
| C12-C14 | 1.397                                    | 1.388                                    |

Table S8. Merz-Singh-Kollman charges on optimized  $S_0$  and  $S_1$  geometries of **L**

| Atom/ Group     | Charge on optimized $S_0$<br>geometry | Charge on optimized $S_1$<br>geometry |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| N1              | -0.874441                             | -0.870037                             |
| H2              | 0.369248                              | 0.357001                              |
| H3              | 0.374085                              | 0.367270                              |
| N4              | -0.820358                             | -0.856007                             |
| N5              | -0.792959                             | -0.776317                             |
| C6              | -0.142482                             | -0.043080                             |
| H7              | 0.155955                              | 0.098554                              |
| C8              | -0.136858                             | -0.168524                             |
| H9              | 0.132988                              | 0.134412                              |
| C10             | -0.125321                             | -0.095006                             |
| H11             | 0.132723                              | 0.125877                              |
| C12             | -0.123989                             | -0.140491                             |
| H13             | 0.132162                              | 0.125812                              |
| C14             | -0.178785                             | -0.130973                             |
| H15             | 0.137576                              | 0.125627                              |
| C16             | -0.018366                             | -0.039239                             |
| C17             | 0.688487                              | 0.581283                              |
| C18             | -0.870010                             | -0.752640                             |
| H19             | 0.251082                              | 0.208418                              |
| C20             | 0.975019                              | 1.013980                              |
| C21             | 0.866276                              | 0.912826                              |
| C22             | -0.618066                             | -0.757185                             |
| H23             | 0.159989                              | 0.188893                              |
| H24             | 0.149309                              | 0.181884                              |
| H25             | 0.176736                              | 0.207661                              |
| Ph <sup>a</sup> | -0.034397                             | -0.007031                             |

a – Phenyl substituent of the pyrimidine ring in **L**

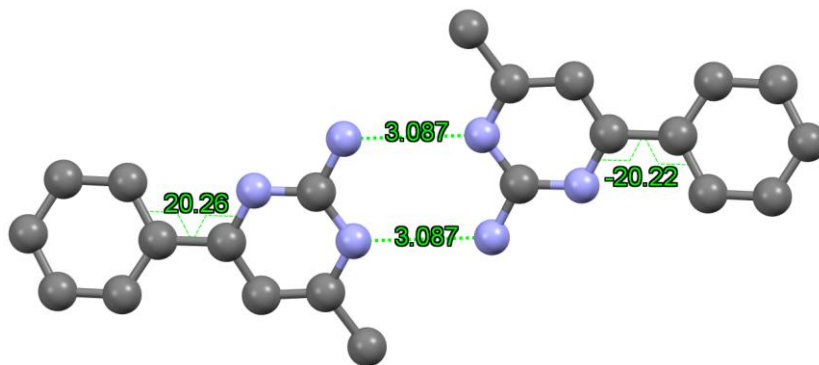


Fig. S9. Ground state ( $S_0$ ) geometry optimized structure of  $L_2$ . Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

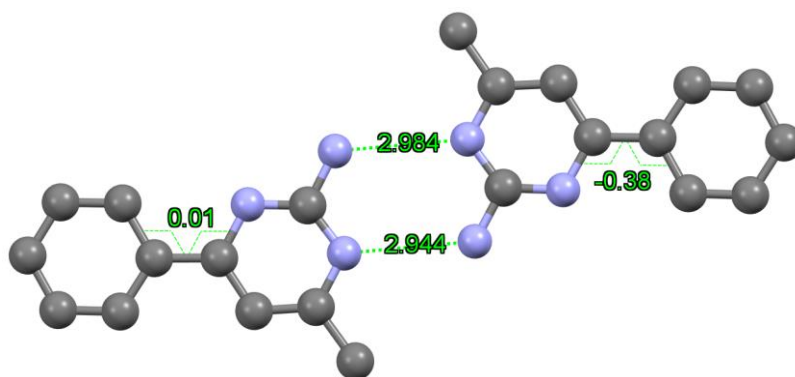
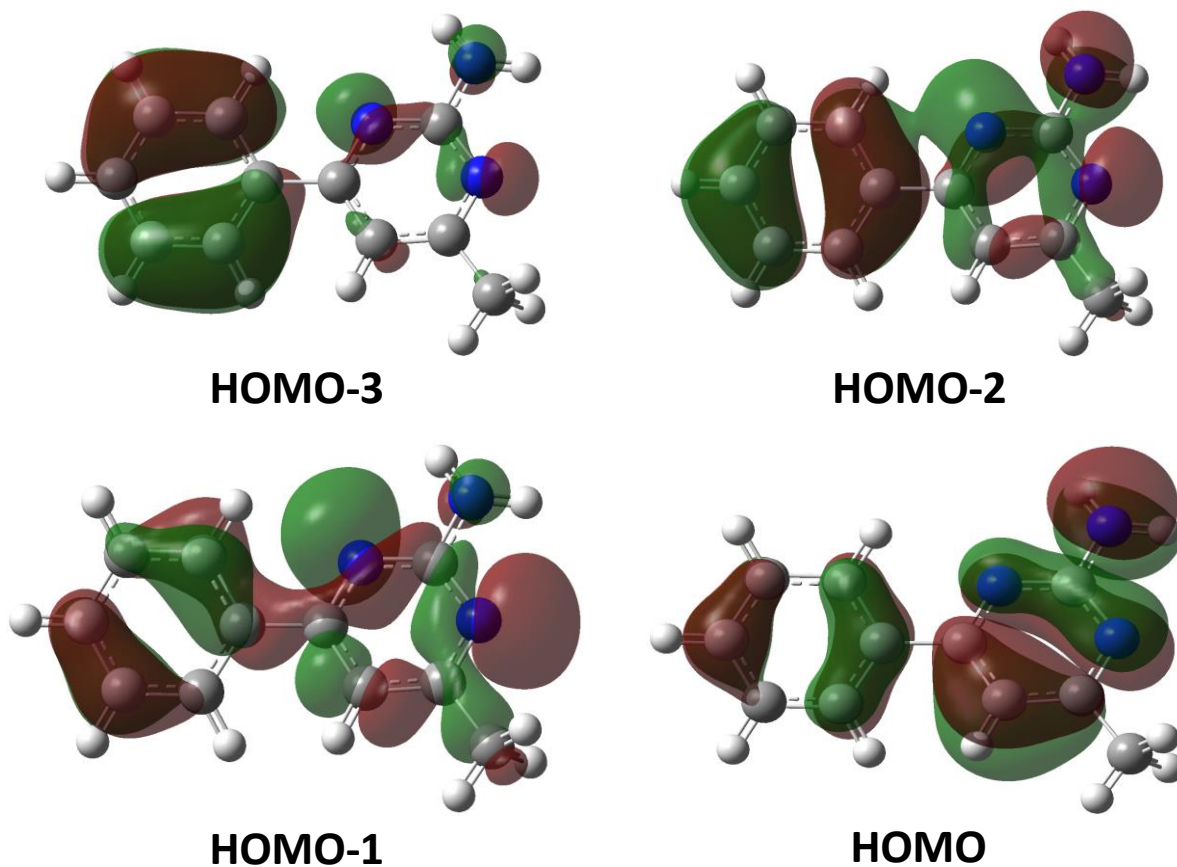


Fig. S10. First singlet state ( $S_1$ ) geometry optimized structure of  $L_2$ . Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

Table S9. Iso-surface contour plots (iso-value = 0.02) of the molecular orbitals of  $L$  as calculated at the B3LYP/DGDZVP theory level in the ground state ( $S_0$ ) geometry.



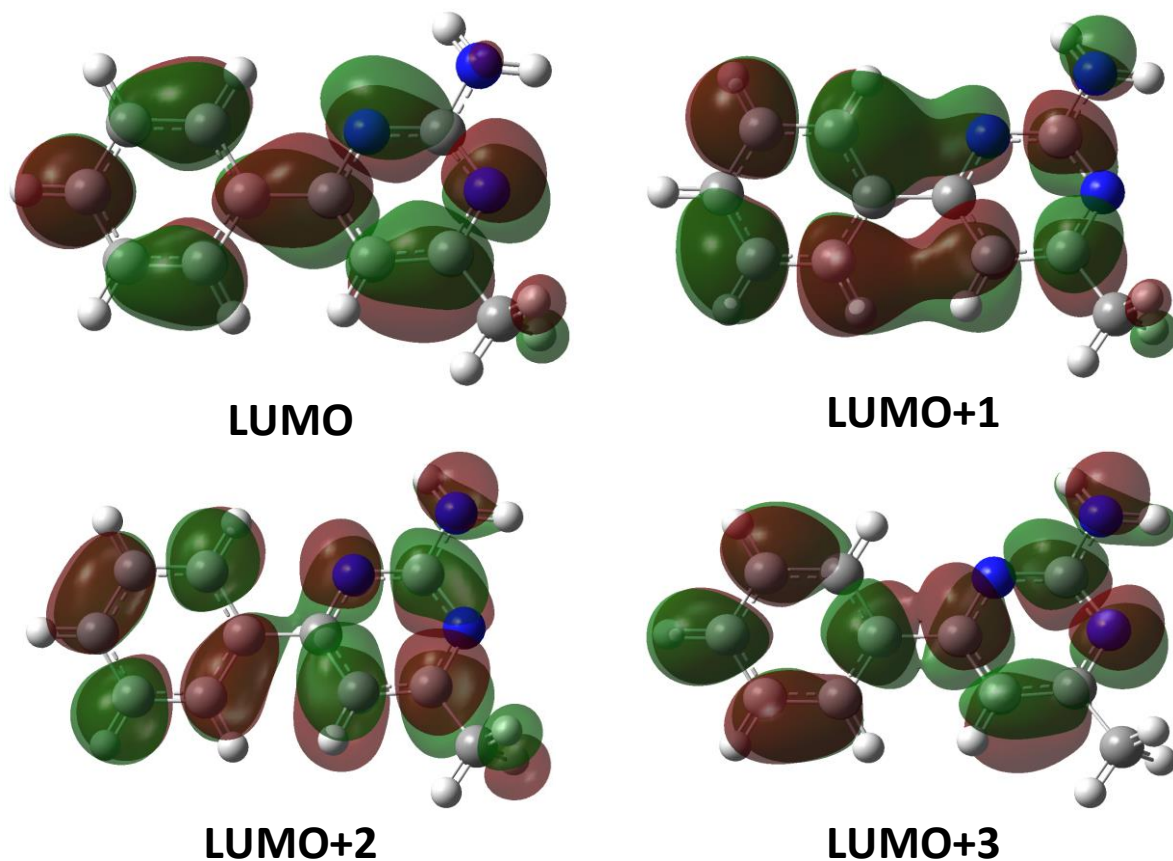


Table S10. Excited state properties of **L** obtained from TD-DFT calculations for the gas phase relaxed geometry of the ground state ( $S_0$ ).

| State | Energy (eV) | Energy (nm) | Contributions (%)   | Oscillator strength | Character                       |
|-------|-------------|-------------|---|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| S1    | 4.12        | 301         | HOMO – LUMO (24%),<br>HOMO-1 – LUMO (66%)                           | 0.0354              | $\pi$ - $\pi^*$ , $n$ - $\pi^*$ |
| S2    | 4.13        | 300         | HOMO – LUMO (70%),<br>HOMO-1 – LUMO (17%),<br>HOMO-2 – LUMO (9%)    | 0.1148              | $\pi$ - $\pi^*$ , $n$ - $\pi^*$ |
| S3    | 4.71        | 263         | HOMO – LUMO+1 (11%),<br>HOMO-2 – LUMO (13%),<br>HOMO-3 – LUMO (57%) | 0.0332              | $\pi$ - $\pi^*$ , $n$ - $\pi^*$ |
| S4    | 4.89        | 254         | HOMO-2 – LUMO (67%),<br>HOMO-3 – LUMO (18%)                         | 0.2918              | $\pi$ - $\pi^*$ , $n$ - $\pi^*$ |
| S5    | 5.19        | 239         | HOMO-1 – LUMO+2 (25%),<br>HOMO-1 – LUMO+1 (50%)                     | 0.0065              | $\pi$ - $\pi^*$ , $n$ - $\pi^*$ |

Table S11. Orbital energies and characters resulting from Mulliken population analysis calculated for **L** at the ground state ( $S_0$ ) optimized geometry.

| Orbital | Energy (eV) | Contributions (%) |                              |                              |                 |
|---------|-------------|-------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
|         |             | Pym <sup>a</sup>  | NH <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup> | CH <sub>3</sub> <sup>c</sup> | Ph <sup>d</sup> |
| HOMO-3  | -7.12       | 6                 | 1                            | 0                            | 92              |
| HOMO-2  | -6.93       | 32                | 9                            | 1                            | 58              |
| HOMO-1  | -6.85       | 78                | 1                            | 2                            | 19              |
| HOMO    | -6.28       | 59                | 27                           | 1                            | 13              |
| LUMO    | -1.61       | 56                | 0                            | 2                            | 42              |

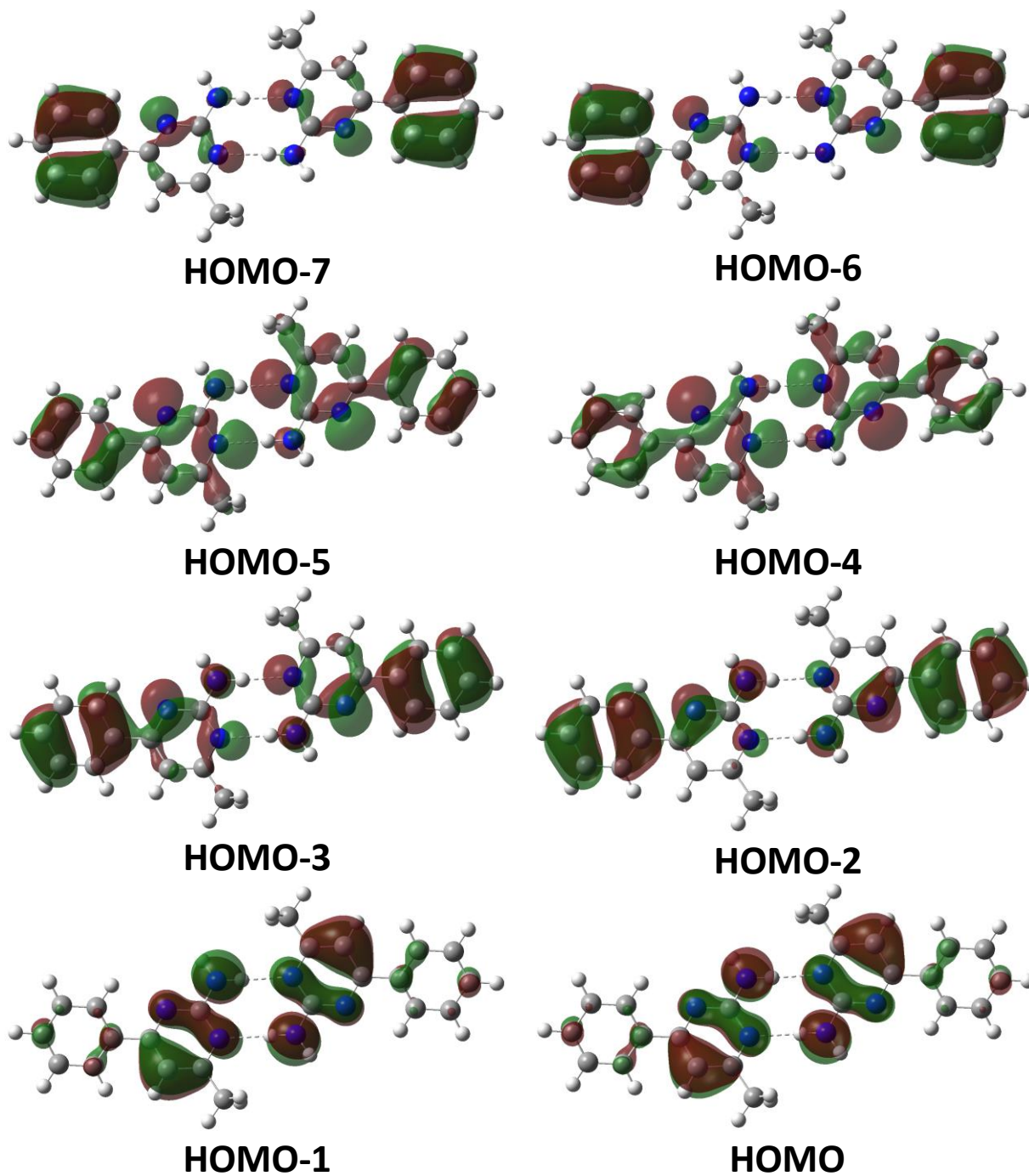


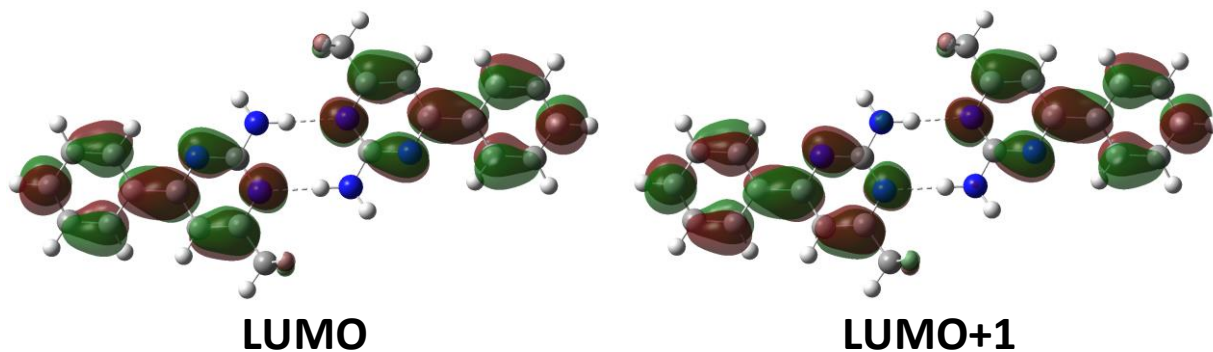
|        |       |    |   |   |    |
|--------|-------|----|---|---|----|
| LUMO+1 | -0.57 | 28 | 2 | 1 | 69 |
| LUMO+2 | -0.18 | 53 | 3 | 2 | 42 |
| LUMO+3 | 0.49  | 44 | 4 | 1 | 50 |

a – Pyrimidine ring in **L**, b – NH<sub>2</sub> substituent of the pyrimidine ring in **L**,

c – CH<sub>3</sub> substituent of the pyrimidine ring in **L**, d – Phenyl substituent of the pyrimidine ring in **L**

Table S12. Iso-surface contour plots (iso-value = 0.02) of the molecular orbitals of **L**<sub>2</sub>-**amino** as calculated at the B3LYP/DGDZVP theory level in the ground state (*S*<sub>0</sub>) geometry.





**Table S13.** Excited state properties of **L<sub>2</sub>-amino** obtained from TD-DFT calculations for the gas phase relaxed geometry of the ground state (*S*<sub>0</sub>).

| State | Energy (eV) | Energy (nm) | Contributions (%)  | Oscillator strength | Character  |
|-------|-------------|-------------|--|---------------------|------------|
| S1    | 3.94        | 315         | HOMO – LUMO+1 (71%),<br>HOMO-1 – LUMO (25%)  | 0.2426              | n-π*       |
| S2    | 4.09        | 303         | HOMO – LUMO+1 (24%),<br>HOMO-1 – LUMO (70%)  | 0.0093              | n-π*       |
| S3    | 4.19        | 296         | HOMO-5 – LUMO (30%),<br>HOMO-4 – LUMO+1 (36%),<br>HOMO-3 – LUMO (11%)                          | 0.0005              | π-π*, n-π* |
| S4    | 4.19        | 296         | HOMO-5 – LUMO+1 (27%),<br>HOMO-4 – LUMO (41%),<br>HOMO-3 – LUMO+1 (10%)                        | 0.0093              | π-π*, n-π* |
| S5    | 4.69        | 264         | HOMO-7 – LUMO (27%),<br>HOMO-6 – LUMO+1 (25%),<br>HOMO-3 – LUMO+1 (9%),<br>HOMO-2 – LUMO (16%) | 0.1285              | π-π*, n-π* |

**Table S14.** Orbital energies and characters resulting from Mulliken population analysis calculated for **L<sub>2</sub>-amino** at the ground state (*S*<sub>0</sub>) optimized geometry.

| Orbital | Energy (eV) | Contributions (%)   |                                 |                                 |                    |                     |                                 |                                 |                    |
|---------|-------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
|         |             | (1)Pym <sup>a</sup> | (1)NH <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup> | (1)CH <sub>3</sub> <sup>c</sup> | (1)Ph <sup>d</sup> | (2)Pym <sup>a</sup> | (2)NH <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup> | (2)CH <sub>3</sub> <sup>c</sup> | (2)Ph <sup>d</sup> |
| HOMO-7  | -7.12       | 6                   | 0                               | 0                               | 43                 | 6                   | 0                               | 0                               | 44                 |
| HOMO-6  | -7.11       | 6                   | 0                               | 0                               | 44                 | 6                   | 0                               | 0                               | 43                 |
| HOMO-5  | -6.97       | 34                  | 2                               | 1                               | 13                 | 34                  | 2                               | 1                               | 13                 |
| HOMO-4  | -6.93       | 40                  | 1                               | 1                               | 9                  | 40                  | 1                               | 1                               | 9                  |
| HOMO-3  | -6.84       | 15                  | 2                               | 0                               | 31                 | 15                  | 3                               | 0                               | 34                 |
| HOMO-2  | -6.84       | 11                  | 4                               | 0                               | 37                 | 10                  | 3                               | 0                               | 35                 |
| HOMO-1  | -6.17       | 30                  | 16                              | 0                               | 3                  | 30                  | 16                              | 0                               | 3                  |
| HOMO    | -6.07       | 30                  | 17                              | 0                               | 3                  | 30                  | 17                              | 0                               | 3                  |
| LUMO    | -1.64       | 29                  | 0                               | 1                               | 20                 | 28                  | 0                               | 1                               | 20                 |
| LUMO+1  | -1.60       | 28                  | 0                               | 1                               | 21                 | 28                  | 0                               | 1                               | 21                 |

a – Pyrimidine ring in L, b – NH<sub>2</sub> substituent of the pyrimidine ring in L,

c – CH<sub>3</sub> substituent of the pyrimidine ring in L, d – Phenyl substituent of the pyrimidine ring in L

(1) – First molecule of L in L<sub>2</sub>-amino, (2) – Second molecule of L in L<sub>2</sub>-amino

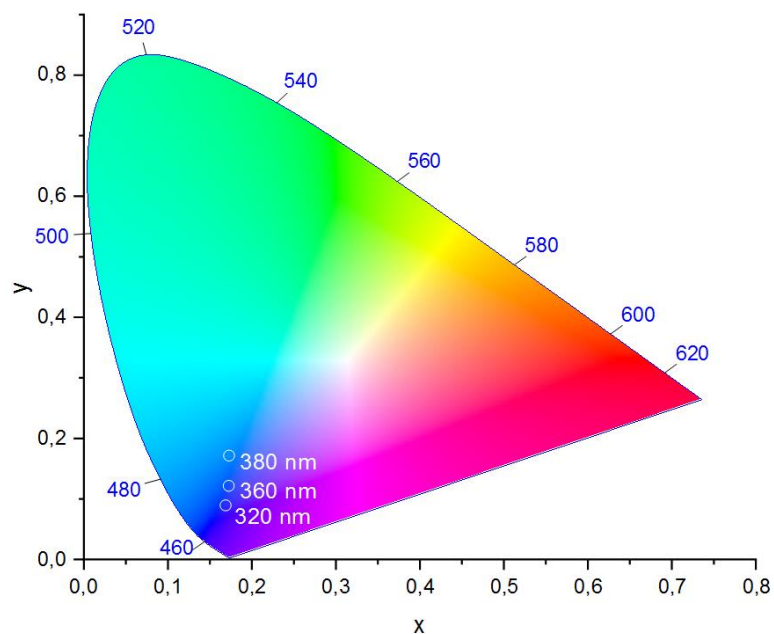


Fig. S11. CIE 1931 chromaticity diagram showing the chromaticity of the emission of **L** recorded at 300 K at  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 320$ , 360 and 380 nm.

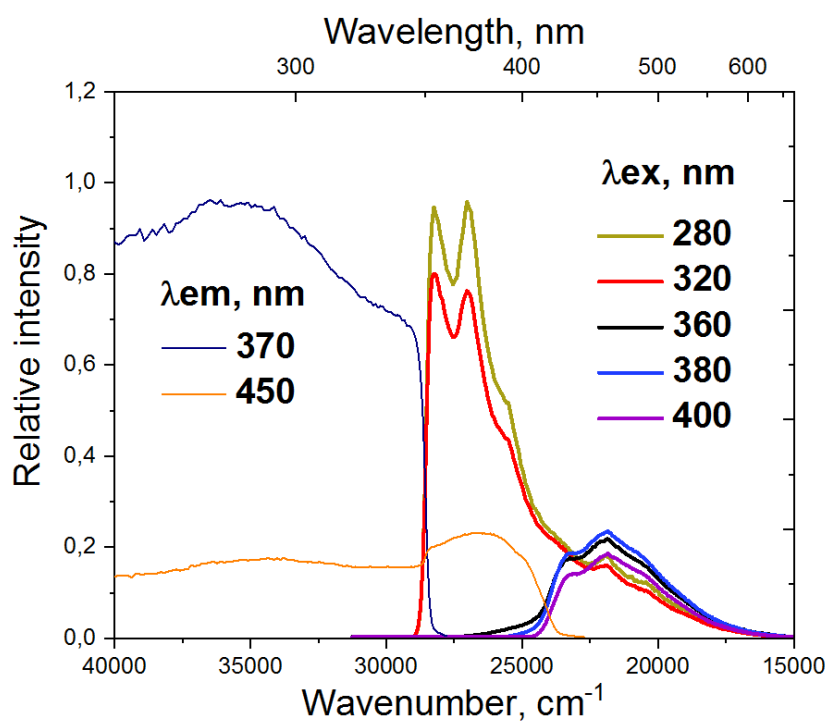


Fig. S12. Normalized emission ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 280$ , 320, 360, 380 and 400 nm) and excitation ( $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 370$  and 450 nm) spectra of **L** in the solid state at 77 K.

Table S15. Iso-surface contour plots (iso-value = 0.02) of the molecular orbitals of **L** as calculated at the B3LYP/DGDZVP theory level in the first singlet excited state ( $S_1$ ) geometry.

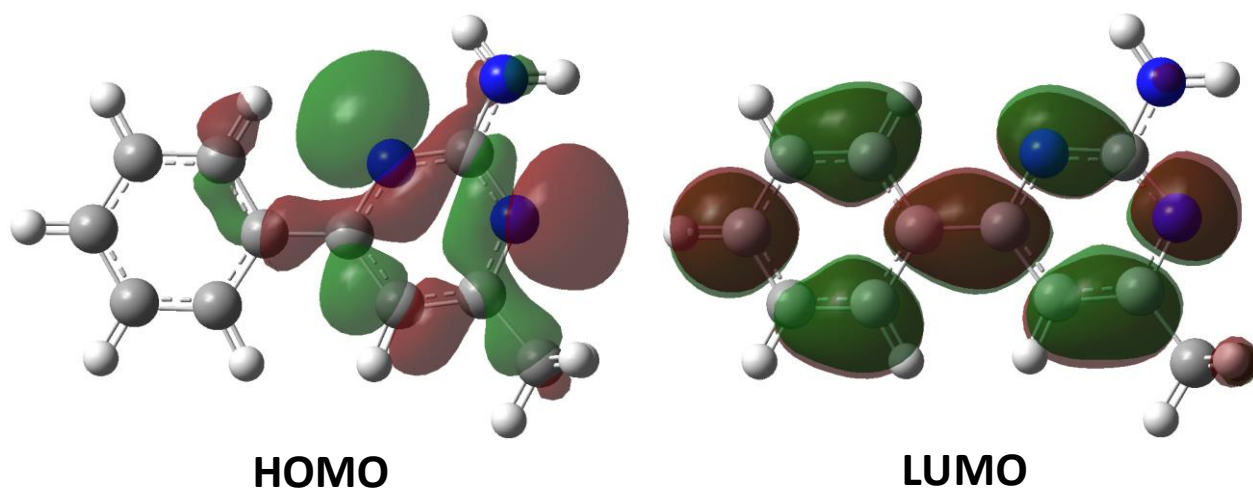


Table S16. Orbital energies and characters resulting from Mulliken population analysis calculated for **L** at the first excited singlet state ( $S_1$ ) optimized geometry.

| Orbital | Energy (eV) | Contributions (%) |                              |                              |                 |
|---------|-------------|-------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
|         |             | Pym <sup>a</sup>  | NH <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup> | CH <sub>3</sub> <sup>c</sup> | Ph <sup>d</sup> |
| HOMO    | -6.08       | 96                | 0                            | 2                            | 2               |
| LUMO    | -1.98       | 52                | 0                            | 1                            | 47              |

a – Pyrimidine ring in **L**, b – NH<sub>2</sub> substituent of the pyrimidine ring in **L**,

c – CH<sub>3</sub> substituent of the pyrimidine ring in **L**, d – Phenyl substituent of the pyrimidine ring in **L**

Table S17. Iso-surface contour plots (iso-value = 0.02) of the molecular orbitals of **L<sub>2</sub>-imino** as calculated at the B3LYP/DGDZVP theory level in the first singlet excited state ( $S_1$ ) geometry.

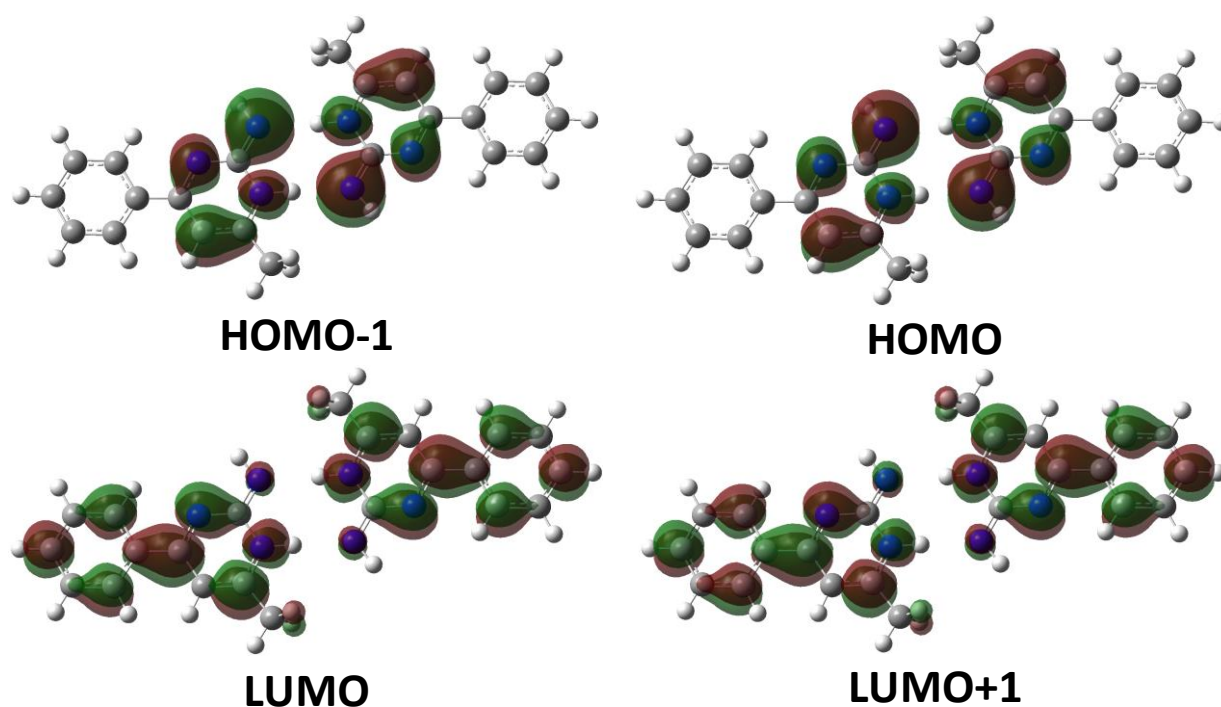


Table S18. Orbital energies and characters resulting from Mulliken population analysis calculated for **L<sub>2</sub>-imino** at the first excited singlet state ( $S_1$ ) optimized geometry.

| Orbital | Energy (eV) | Contributions (%)   |                                 |                                 |                    |                     |                                 |                                 |                    |
|---------|-------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
|         |             | (1)Pym <sup>a</sup> | (1)NH <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup> | (1)CH <sub>3</sub> <sup>c</sup> | (1)Ph <sup>d</sup> | (2)Pym <sup>a</sup> | (2)NH <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup> | (2)CH <sub>3</sub> <sup>c</sup> | (2)Ph <sup>d</sup> |
| HOMO-1  | -5.50       | 25                  | 24                              | 0                               | 1                  | 25                  | 25                              | 0                               | 1                  |
| HOMO    | -5.37       | 25                  | 25                              | 0                               | 0                  | 25                  | 25                              | 0                               | 0                  |
| LUMO    | -2.07       | 31                  | 1                               | 1                               | 17                 | 30                  | 1                               | 1                               | 17                 |
| LUMO+1  | -2.00       | 31                  | 1                               | 1                               | 17                 | 30                  | 1                               | 1                               | 17                 |

a – Pyrimidine ring in **L**, b – NH<sub>2</sub> substituent of the pyrimidine ring in **L**,

c – CH<sub>3</sub> substituent of the pyrimidine ring in **L**, d – Phenyl substituent of the pyrimidine ring in **L**,

(1) – First molecule of **L** in **L<sub>2</sub>**, (2) – Second molecule of **L** in **L<sub>2</sub>**

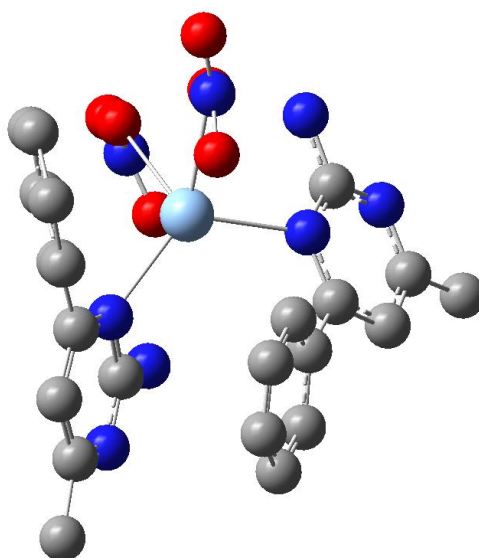
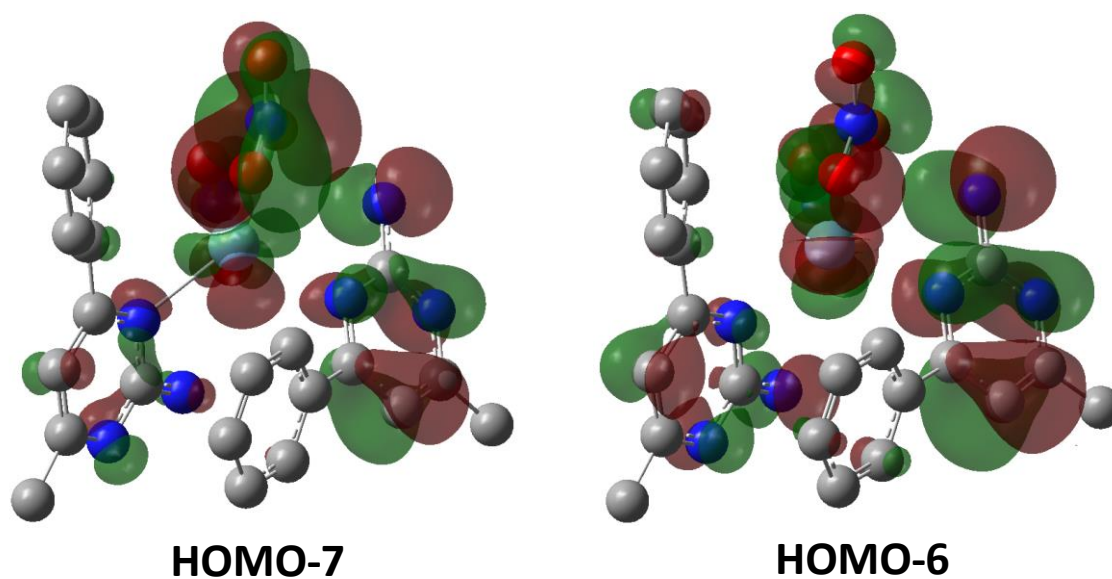
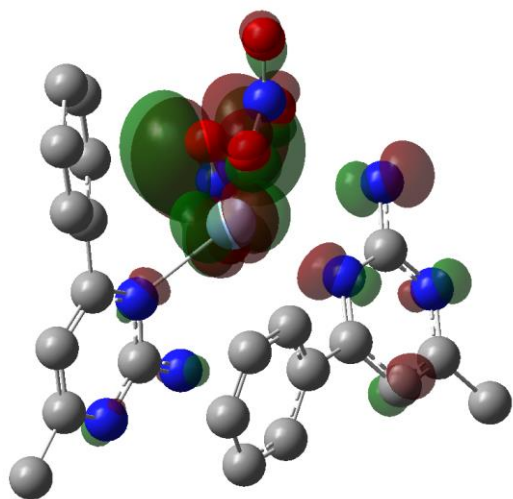


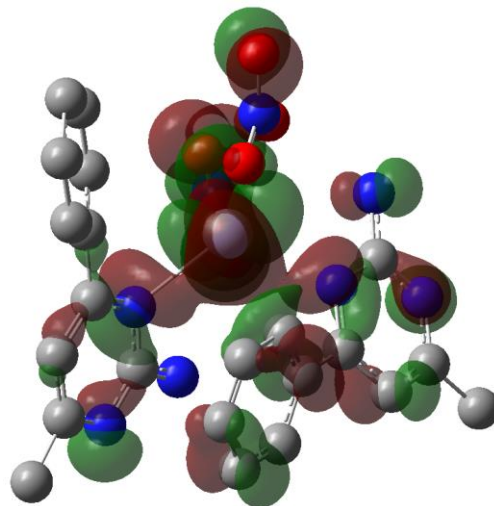
Fig. S13. Fragment of **1** taken for the ground state geometry optimization.

Table S19. Iso-surface contour plots (iso-value = 0.02) of the molecular orbitals of the fragment of **1** as calculated at the B3LYP/def2-SVP theory level in the ground state ( $S_0$ ) geometry.

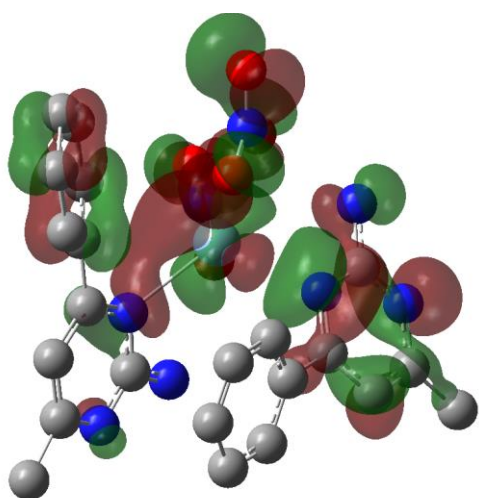




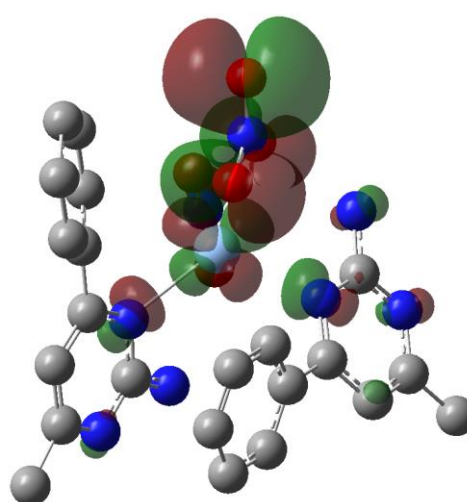
**HOMO-5**



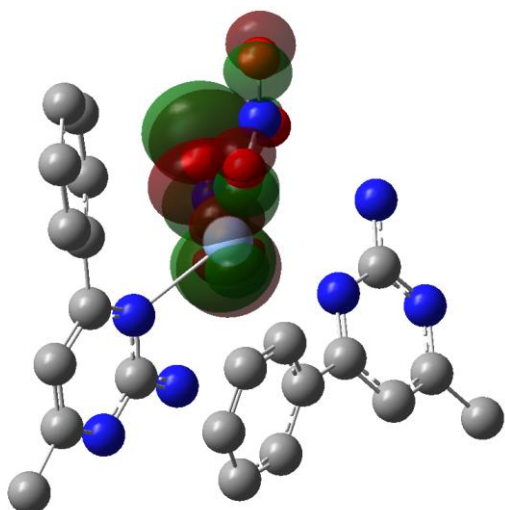
**HOMO-4**



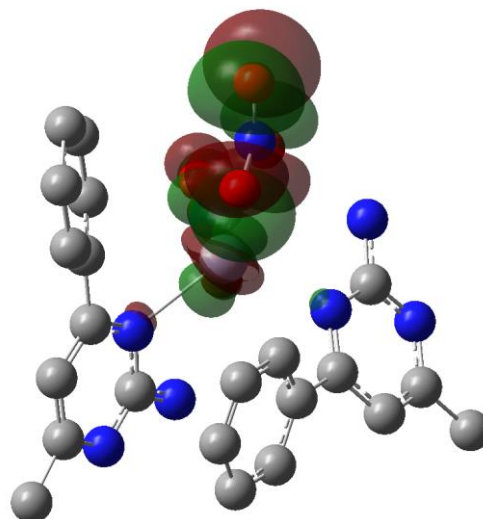
**HOMO-3**



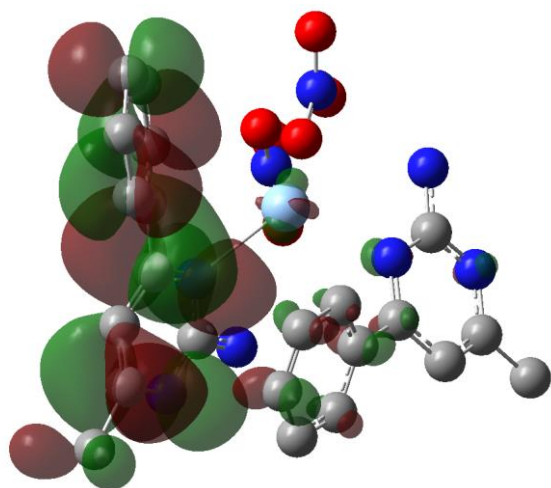
**HOMO-2**



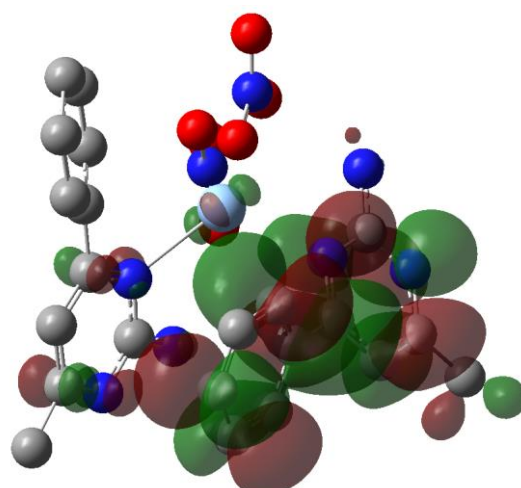
**HOMO-1**



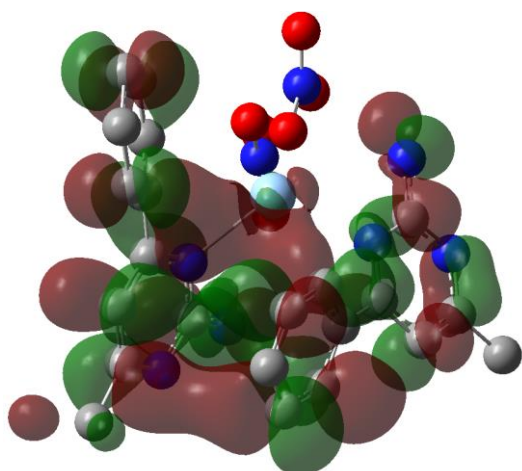
**HOMO**



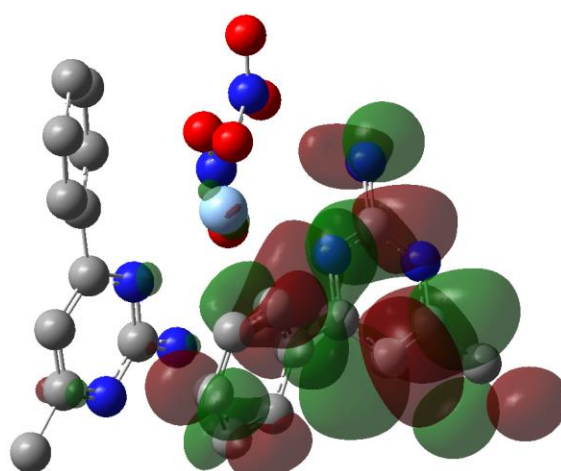
**LUMO**



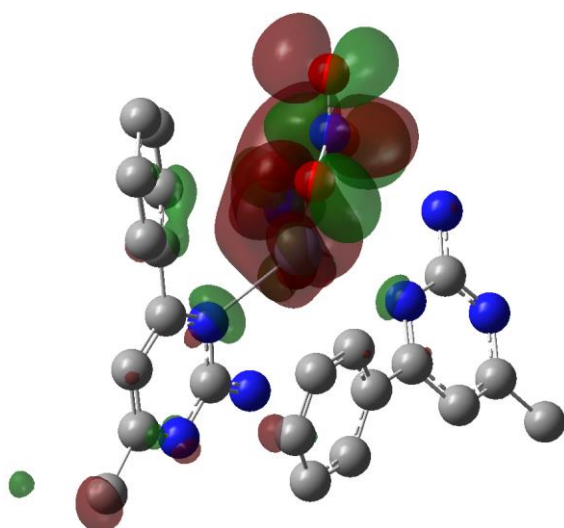
**LUMO+1**



**LUMO+2**



**LUMO+3**



**LUMO+10**

Table S20. Excited state properties of the fragment of **1** obtained from TD-DFT calculations for the gas phase relaxed geometry of the ground state ( $S_0$ ).

| State | Energy (eV) | Energy (nm) | Contributions (%)   | Oscillator strength | Character             |
|-------|-------------|-------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| S1    | 2.21        | 560         | HOMO – LUMO (99.1%) | 0.0006              | (M+X)LCT <sup>a</sup> |

|     |      |     |   |        |                            |
|-----|------|-----|---|--------|----------------------------|
| S2  | 2.46 | 504 | HOMO – LUMO+1 (99.2%)   | 0.0009 | (M+X)LCT                   |
| S3  | 2.55 | 487 | HOMO-1 – LUMO (99.5%)   | 0.0001 | (M+X)LCT                   |
| S4  | 2.73 | 454 | HOMO-1 – LUMO+1 (99.6%)   | 0.0003 | (M+X)LCT                   |
| S5  | 3.25 | 382 | HOMO-3 – LUMO (39.1%),<br>HOMO-2 – LUMO+1 (48.6%)   | 0.0049 | (M+X)LCT + LC <sup>b</sup> |
| S6  | 3.35 | 370 | HOMO-1 – LUMO+2 (88.4%)   | 0.0001 | (M+X)LCT                   |
| S7  | 3.37 | 368 | HOMO-4 – LUMO (14.9%),<br>HOMO-3 – LUMO (25.3%),<br>HOMO-3 – LUMO+1 (31.4%),<br>HOMO-2 – LUMO+1 (10.9%) | 0.0089 | (M+X)LCT + LC              |
| S8  | 3.41 | 363 | HOMO-3 – LUMO (32.5%),<br>HOMO-3 – LUMO+1 (31.5%),<br>HOMO-2 – LUMO (22.5%)                             | 0.0203 | (M+X)LCT + LC              |
| S9  | 3.49 | 356 | HOMO-4 – LUMO (59.0%),<br>HOMO-2 – LUMO (14.9%),<br>HOMO – LUMO+3 (10.5%)                               | 0.0008 | (M+X)LCT + LC              |
| S10 | 3.50 | 355 | HOMO – LUMO+3 (87.6%)   | 0.0003 | (M+X)LCT                   |
| T1  | 2.21 | 560 | HOMO – LUMO (98.4%)   | 0.0000 | (M+X)LCT                   |
| T2  | 2.45 | 507 | HOMO – LUMO+1 (99.2%)   | 0.0000 | (M+X)LCT                   |
| T3  | 2.54 | 488 | HOMO-1 – LUMO (99.5%)   | 0.0000 | (M+X)LCT                   |
| T4  | 2.72 | 456 | HOMO-1 – LUMO+1 (99.6%)   | 0.0000 | (M+X)LCT                   |
| T5  | 2.98 | 417 | HOMO-7 – LUMO (21.5%),<br>HOMO-3 – LUMO (40.8%)   | 0.0000 | (M+X)LCT + LC              |
| T6  | 3.13 | 396 | HOMO-7 – LUMO (12.6%),<br>HOMO-4 – LUMO (14.2%),<br>HOMO-2 – LUMO (35.6%)                               | 0.0000 | (M+X)LCT + LC              |
| T7  | 3.18 | 390 | HOMO-6 – LUMO+1 (26.9%),<br>HOMO-4 – LUMO+1 (14.2%),<br>HOMO-2 – LUMO+1 (11.4%)                         | 0.0000 | (M+X)LCT + LC              |
| T8  | 3.19 | 388 | HOMO-4 – LUMO (10.1%),<br>HOMO-4 – LUMO+1 (15.5%),<br>HOMO-3 – LUMO+1 (42.2%)                           | 0.0000 | (M+X)LCT + LC              |
| T9  | 3.31 | 375 | HOMO – LUMO+2 (76.5%),<br>HOMO – LUMO+10 (10.8%)  | 0.0000 | (M+X)LCT                   |
| T10 | 3.31 | 374 | HOMO-7 – LUMO (21.5%),<br>HOMO-4 – LUMO (19.4%),<br>HOMO-3 – LUMO (20.2%)                               | 0.0000 | (M+X)LCT + LC              |

a – Metal + nitrate anion to ligand charge transfer, b – Ligand centered charge transfer

Table S21. Orbital energies and characters resulting from Mulliken population analysis calculated for the fragment of **1** at the ground state ( $S_0$ ) optimized geometry.

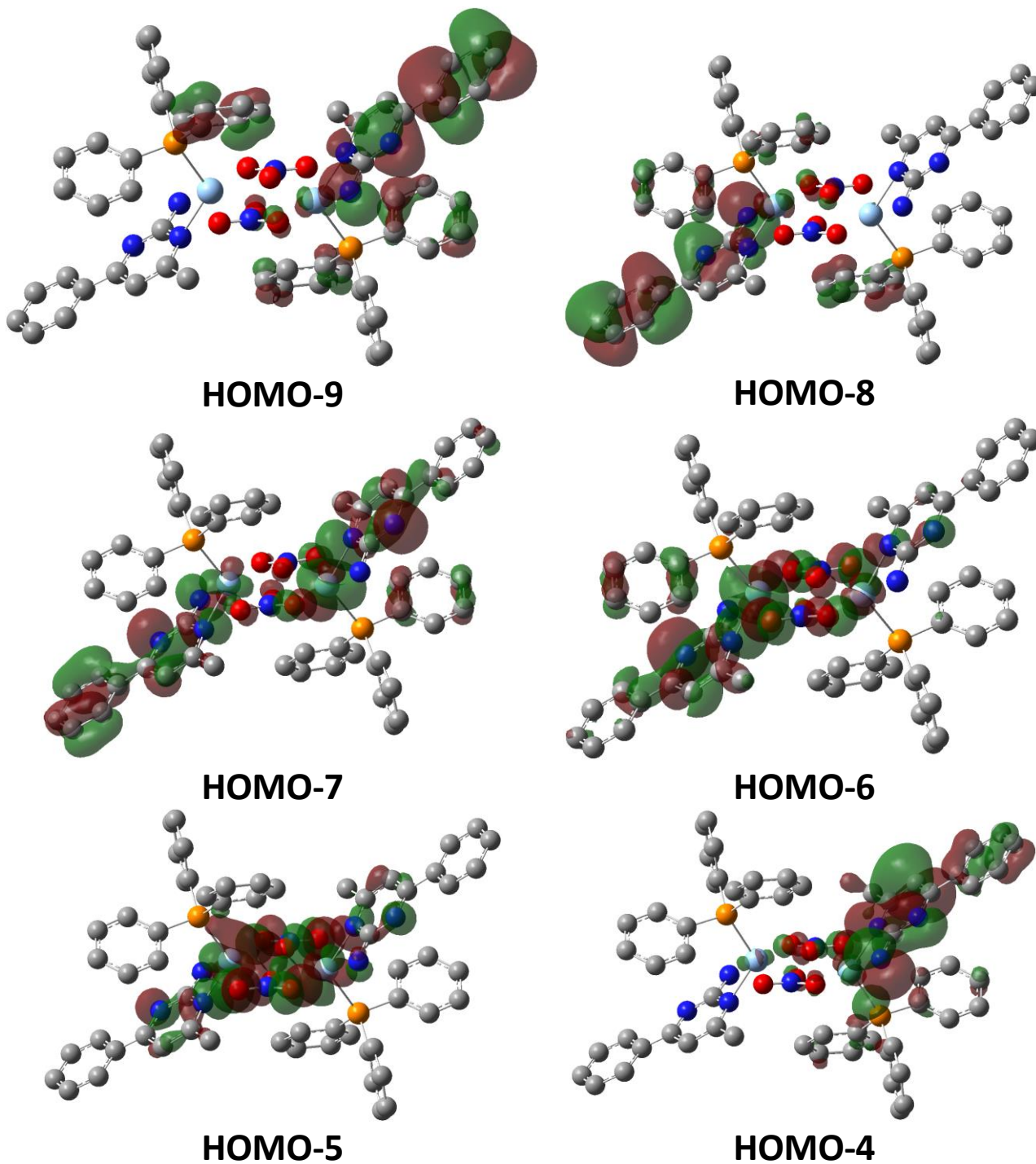
| Orbital | Energy (eV) | Contributions (%) |                              |                   |                   |
|---------|-------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|         |             | Ag                | NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> | (1)L <sup>a</sup> | (2)L <sup>b</sup> |
| HOMO-7  | -3.92       | 7                 | 25                           | 66                | 3                 |
| HOMO-6  | -3.77       | 13                | 24                           | 10                | 53                |
| HOMO-5  | -3.62       | 8                 | 82                           | 4                 | 6                 |
| HOMO-4  | -3.57       | 43                | 28                           | 12                | 17                |
| HOMO-3  | -3.36       | 40                | 29                           | 13                | 18                |
| HOMO-2  | -3.27       | 11                | 80                           | 4                 | 5                 |
| HOMO-1  | -2.41       | 4                 | 95                           | 0                 | 0                 |
| HOMO    | -2.14       | 5                 | 94                           | 1                 | 0                 |
| LUMO    | 0.66        | 1                 | 0                            | 90                | 9                 |
| LUMO+1  | 0.86        | 1                 | 0                            | 8                 | 91                |
| LUMO+2  | 1.78        | 3                 | 0                            | 38                | 59                |



|         |      |    |    |   |    |
|---------|------|----|----|---|----|
| LUMO+3  | 1.87 | 2  | 0  | 2 | 97 |
| LUMO+10 | 3.55 | 15 | 80 | 3 | 3  |

a – The first ligand **L** in the fragment of **1**, b – The second ligand **L** in the fragment of **1**

Table S22. Iso-surface contour plots (iso-value = 0.02) of the molecular orbitals of **2** as calculated at the B3LYP/def2-SVP theory level in the ground state ( $S_0$ ) geometry.



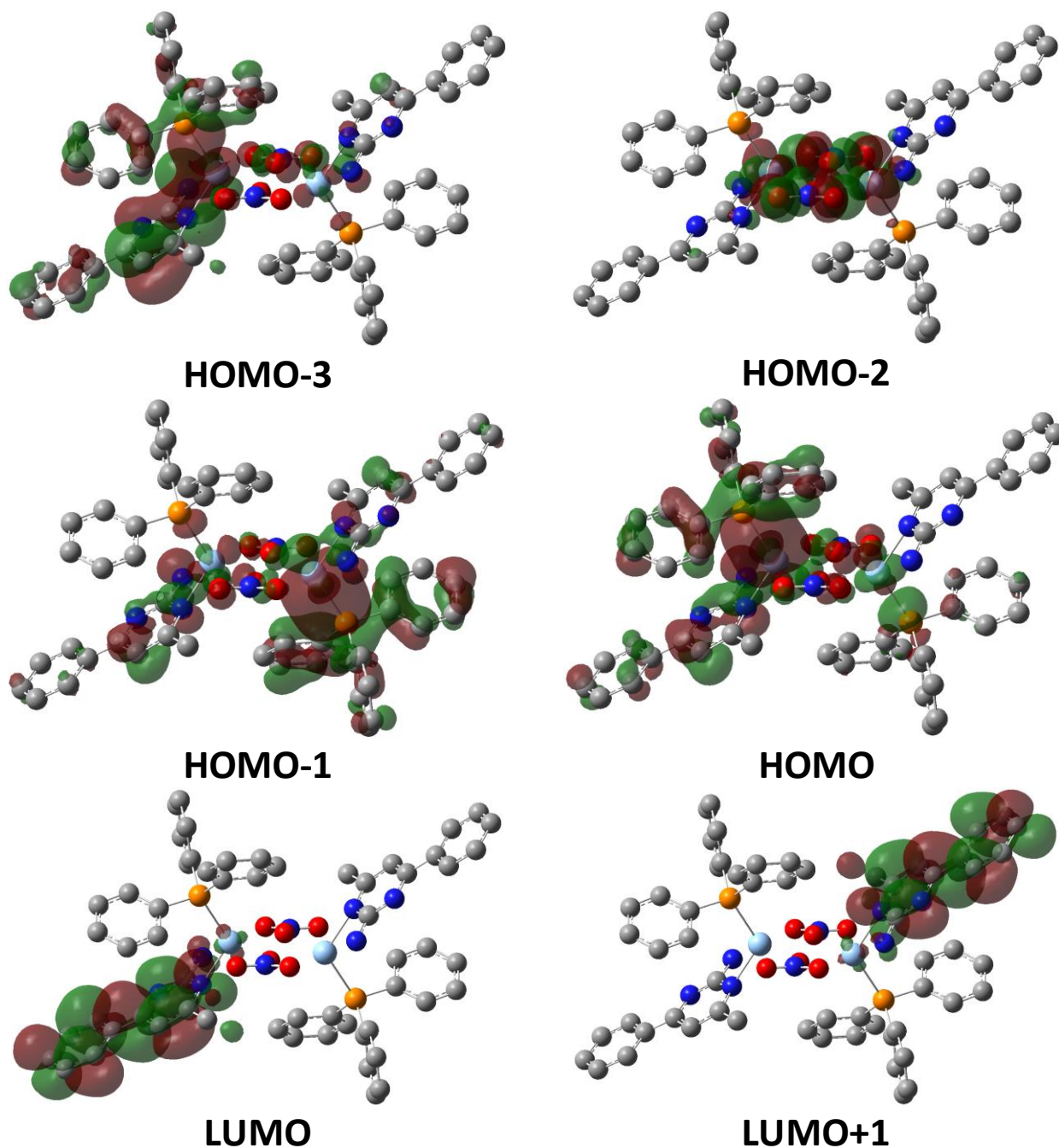


Table S23. Excited state properties of **2** obtained from TD-DFT calculations for the gas phase relaxed geometry of the ground state ( $S_0$ ).

| State | Energy (eV) | Energy (nm) | Contributions (%)   | Oscillator strength | Character                                 |
|-------|-------------|-------------|---|---------------------|---|
| S1    | 3.14        | 394         | HOMO – LUMO (95.4%)   | 0.1680              | (M+X)LCT <sup>a</sup> + LLCT <sup>b</sup> |
| S2    | 3.34        | 371         | HOMO-2 – LUMO (89.7%)   | 0.0108              | (M+X)LCT                                  |
| S3    | 3.38        | 367         | HOMO-1 – LUMO (82.3%)   | 0.0282              | (M+X)LCT + LLCT                           |
| S4    | 3.46        | 358         | HOMO-3 – LUMO (72.1%),<br>HOMO-5 – LUMO (10.1%)                           | 0.0357              | LC <sup>c</sup>                           |
| S5    | 3.54        | 350         | HOMO-5 – LUMO (44.6%),<br>HOMO-6 – LUMO (23.5%),<br>HOMO-3 – LUMO (15.0%) | 0.0013              | LC + (M+X)LCT                             |
| S6    | 3.61        | 344         | HOMO – LUMO+1 (58.4%),<br>HOMO-1 – LUMO+1 (38.7%)                         | 0.0842              | (M+X)LCT + LLCT                           |
| S7    | 3.73        | 333         | HOMO – LUMO+1 (39.9%),  | 0.0359              | (M+X)LCT + LLCT                           |

|    |      |     | HOMO-1– LUMO+1 (48.9%)  |        |                     |
|----|------|-----|---|--------|---------------------|
| S8 | 3.76 | 330 | HOMO-2– LUMO+1 (94.8%)  | 0.0053 | (M+X)LCT            |
| T1 | 2.31 | 536 | HOMO-3– LUMO (33.6%),<br>HOMO– LUMO (38.3%),<br>HOMO-1– LUMO (15.0%),<br>HOMO-8– LUMO (6.8%)  | 0.0000 | (M+X)LCT+ LLCT + LC |
| T2 | 3.02 | 411 | HOMO-4– LUMO+1 (51.7%),<br>HOMO-1– LUMO+1 (17.1%),<br>HOMO-9– LUMO+1 (10.8%)                  | 0.0000 | (M+X)LCT+ LLCT + LC |
| T3 | 3.07 | 404 | HOMO-8– LUMO (50.5%),<br>HOMO-3– LUMO (25.4%)   | 0.0000 | LC + (M+X)LCT       |
| T4 | 3.15 | 393 | HOMO-8– LUMO (13.5%),<br>HOMO-6–LUMO (12.5%),<br>HOMO-3– LUMO (13.5%),<br>HOMO– LUMO (38.6%)  | 0.0000 | (M+X)LCT+ LLCT + LC |
| T5 | 3.31 | 375 | HOMO-6– LUMO (16.7%),<br>HOMO-5– LUMO (19.3%),<br>HOMO-1– LUMO (21.9%),<br>HOMO– LUMO (15.7%) | 0.0000 | (M+X)LCT+ LLCT + LC |
| T6 | 3.36 | 369 | HOMO-2– LUMO (81.3%)  | 0.0000 | (M+X)LCT            |
| T7 | 3.42 | 363 | HOMO-9– LUMO+1 (43.5%),<br>HOMO-4– LUMO+1 (24.9%)   | 0.0000 | (M+X)LCT+ LC        |
| T8 | 3.45 | 360 | HOMO-3– LUMO (16.8%),<br>HOMO-1– LUMO (56.8%)   | 0.0000 | (M+X)LCT+ LLCT + LC |

a – Metal+ nitrate anion to **L** charge transfer, b – Ligand triphenylphosphine (PPh<sub>3</sub>) to ligand **L** charge transfer, c – Ligand **L** centered charge transfer

Table S24. Orbital energies and characters resulting from Mulliken population analysis calculated for **2** at the ground state (S<sub>0</sub>) optimized geometry.

| Orbital | Energy (eV) | Contributions (%) |                              |                |                               |
|---------|-------------|-------------------|------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
|         |             | Ag                | NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> | L <sup>a</sup> | PPh <sub>3</sub> <sup>b</sup> |
| HOMO-9  | -6.96       | 1                 | 1                            | 89             | 9                             |
| HOMO-8  | -6.86       | 5                 | 24                           | 89             | 2                             |
| HOMO-7  | -6.84       | 20                | 6                            | 68             | 6                             |
| HOMO-6  | -6.83       | 17                | 27                           | 48             | 8                             |
| HOMO-5  | -6.72       | 1                 | 1                            | 94             | 4                             |
| HOMO-4  | -6.48       | 15                | 63                           | 19             | 4                             |
| HOMO-3  | -6.34       | 2                 | 5                            | 86             | 7                             |
| HOMO-2  | -6.14       | 17                | 68                           | 8              | 7                             |
| HOMO-1  | -6.10       | 25                | 12                           | 8              | 55                            |
| HOMO    | -5.96       | 25                | 11                           | 8              | 56                            |
| LUMO    | -3.38       | 1                 | 0                            | 98             | 1                             |
| LUMO+1  | -1.80       | 1                 | 0                            | 98             | 1                             |

a – The ligands **L** in **2**, b – The triphenylphosphine (PPh<sub>3</sub>) ligands in **2**

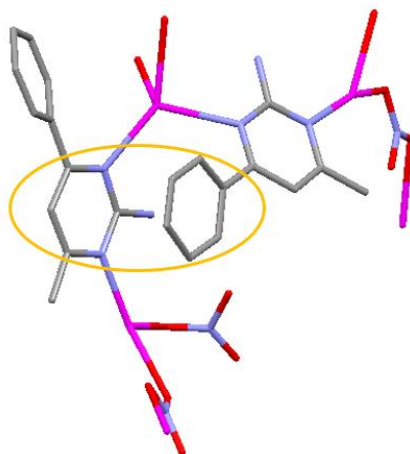


Fig. S14. Excimer generated by the aggregation through  $\pi$ - $\pi$  intermolecular interactions between the pyrimidine and phenyl rings of the ligands **L** in the complex **1**.

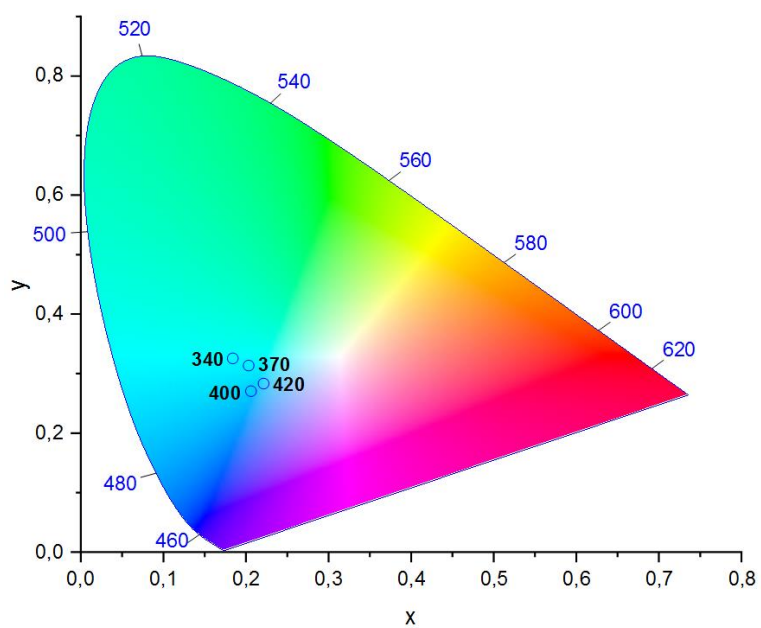


Fig. S15. CIE 1931 chromaticity diagram showing chromaticity of emission of **1** recorded at  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 340, 370, 400$  and  $420$  nm ( $T = 77$  K).

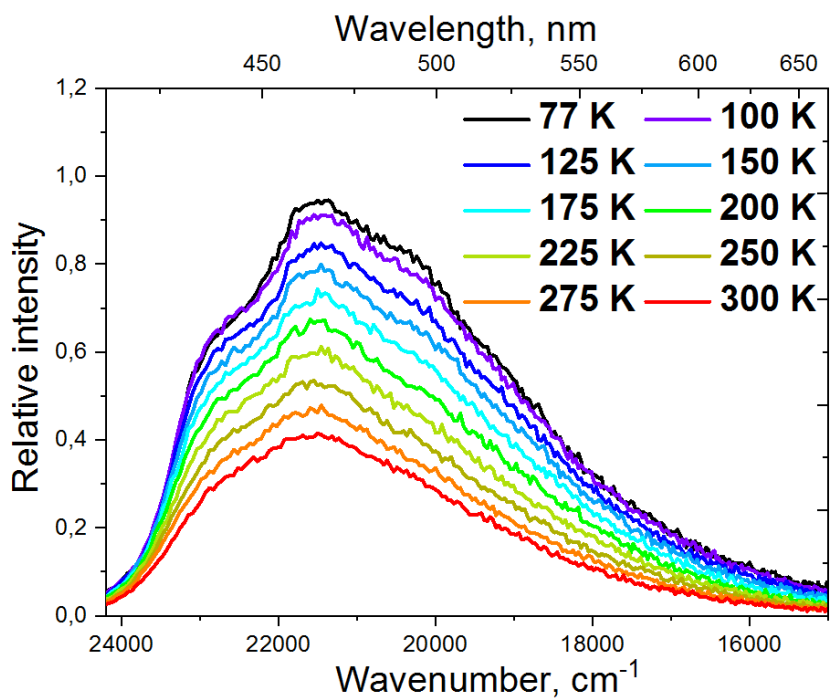


Fig. S16. Temperature dependence of the emission of **1** at  $\lambda_{\text{ex}}=340$  nm.

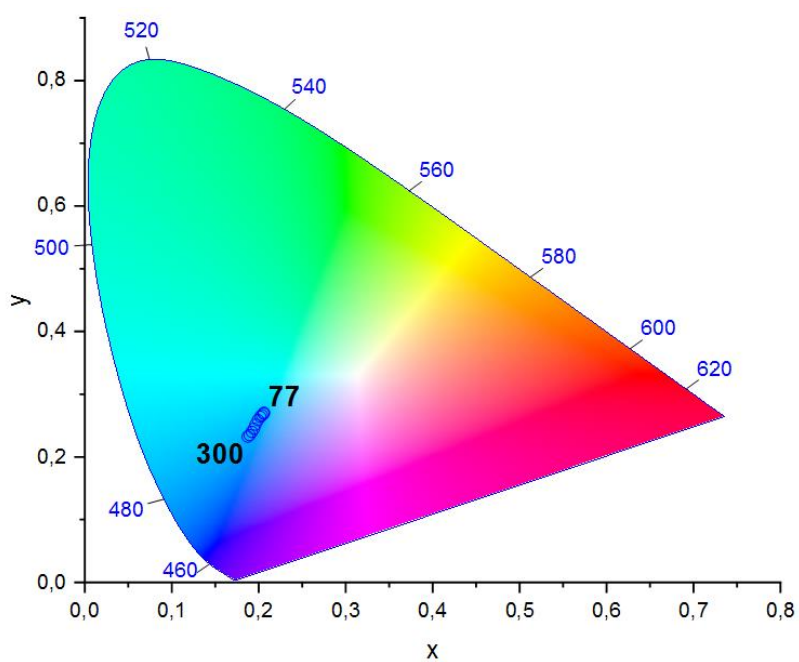


Fig. S17. CIE 1931 chromaticity diagram showing chromaticity of emission of **1** recorded at different temperatures ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 400$  nm).

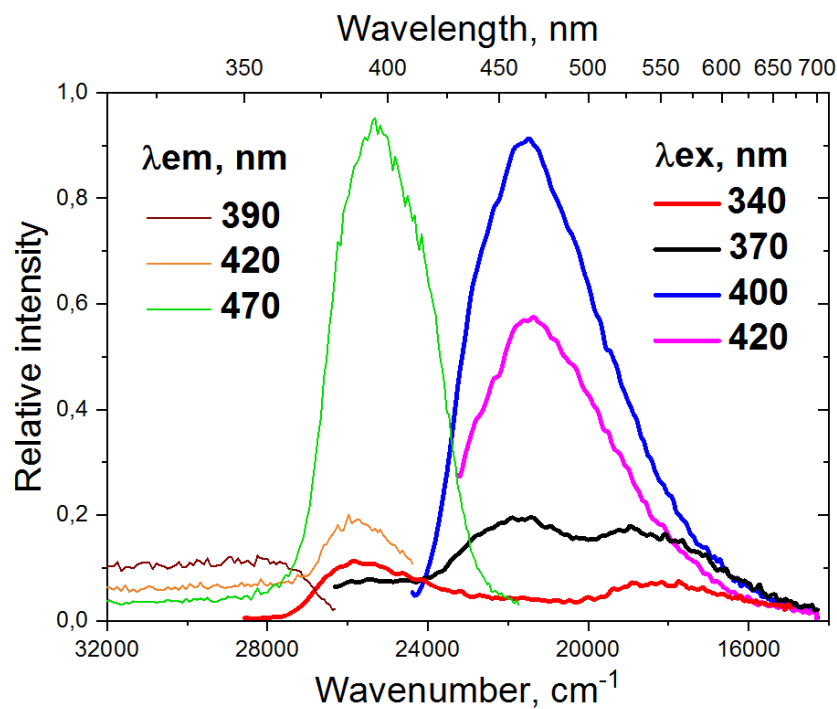


Fig. S18. Normalized emission ( $\lambda_{ex}$  = 340, 370, 400 and 420 nm) and excitation ( $\lambda_{em}$  = 390, 420 and 470 nm) spectra of **1** in the solid state at 300 K.

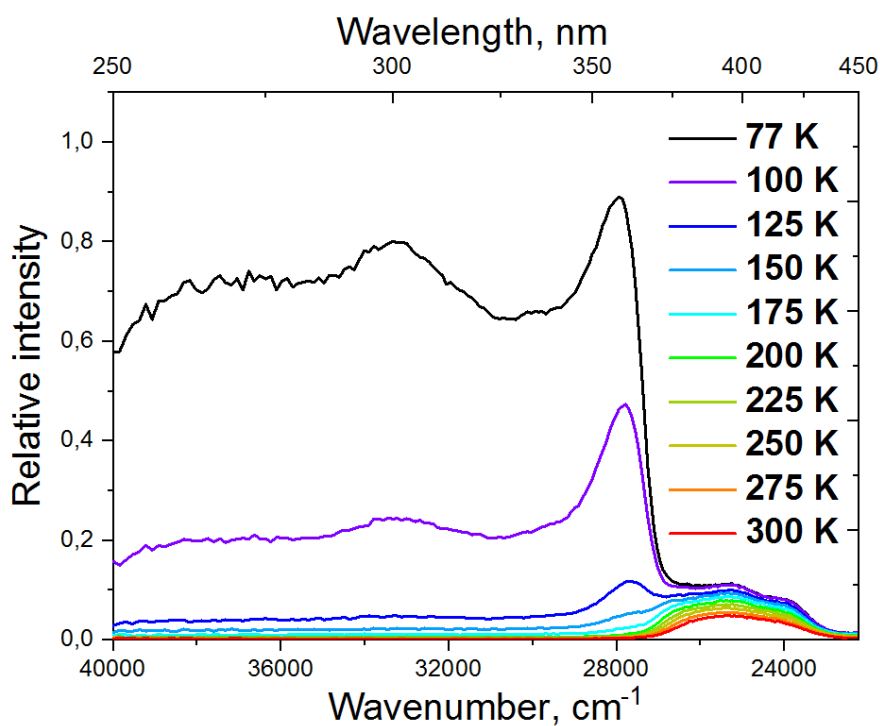


Fig. S19. Temperature dependence of the excitation of **1** at  $\lambda_{em} = 470$  nm.

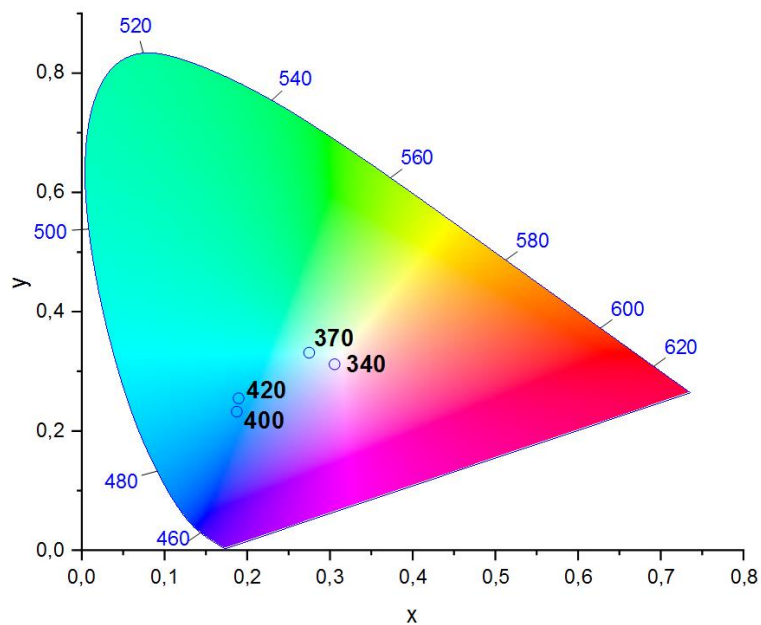
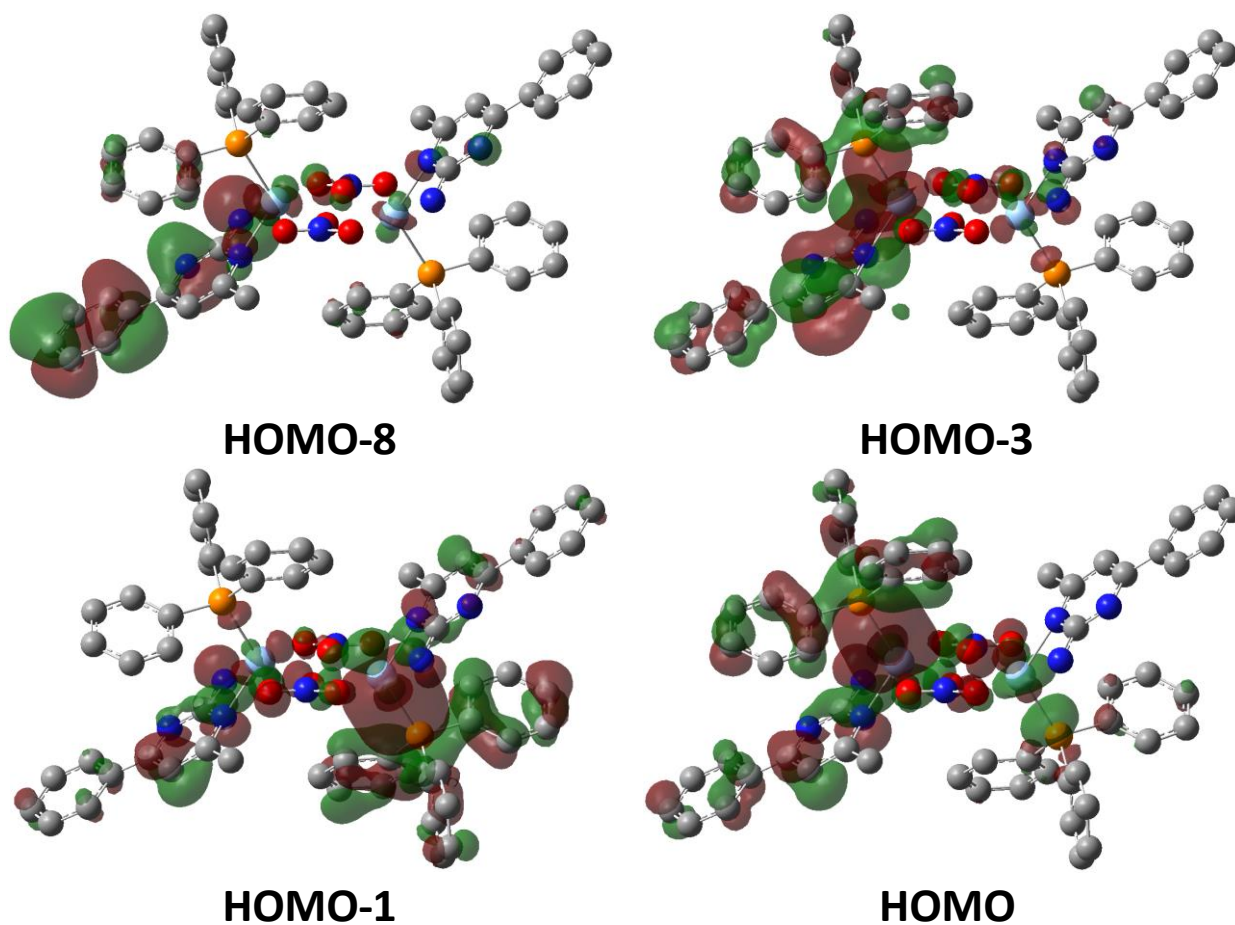
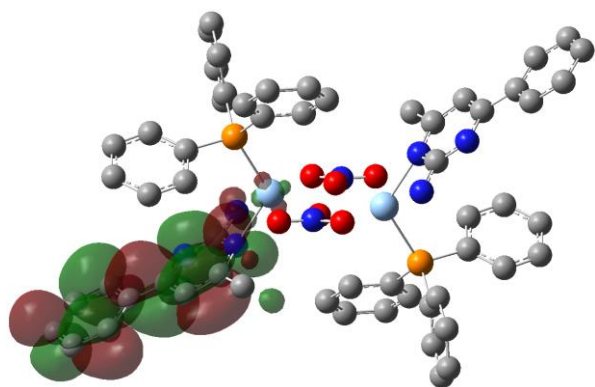


Fig. S20. CIE 1931 chromaticity diagram showing chromaticity of emission of **1** recorded at  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 340, 370, 400$  and  $420$  nm ( $T = 300$  K).

Table S25. Iso-surface contour plots (iso-value = 0.02) of the molecular orbitals of **2** as calculated at the B3LYP/def2-SVP theory level in the first triplet excited state ( $T_1$ ) geometry.





**LUMO**

Table S26. Orbital energies and characters resulting from Mulliken population analysis calculated for **2** at the first triplet state ( $T_1$ ) optimized geometry.

| Orbital | Energy (eV) | Contributions (%) |                              |                |                               |
|---------|-------------|-------------------|------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
|         |             | Ag                | NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> | L <sup>a</sup> | PPh <sub>3</sub> <sup>b</sup> |
| HOMO-8  | -6.78       | 4                 | 1                            | 88             | 7                             |
| HOMO-3  | -6.09       | 8                 | 6                            | 64             | 23                            |
| HOMO-1  | -5.91       | 22                | 6                            | 25             | 47                            |
| HOMO    | -5.76       | 23                | 9                            | 24             | 44                            |
| LUMO    | -2.19       | 1                 | 0                            | 98             | 1                             |

a – The ligands L in **2**, b – The triphenylphosphine (PPh<sub>3</sub>) ligands in **2**

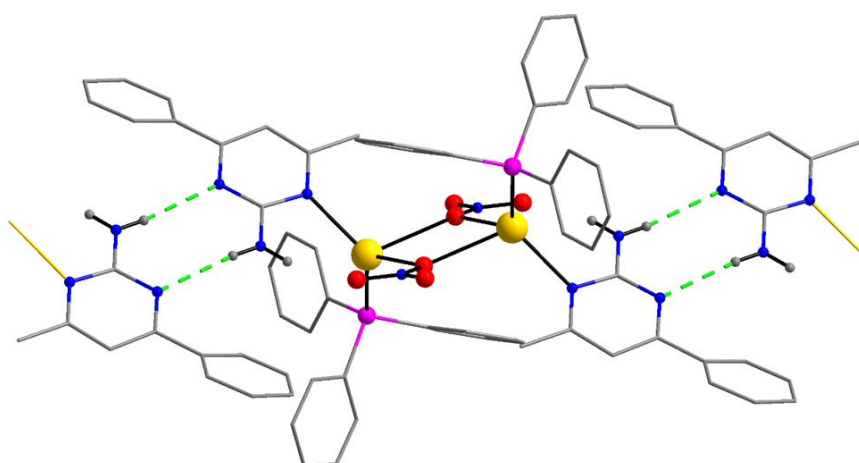


Fig. S21. A fragment of the structure **2** showing intermolecular hydrogen bonds (marked green) between H atoms of the amino groups and N atoms of the neighboring pyrimidine moieties. Hydrogen atoms not involved in hydrogen bonding are omitted. Donor...acceptor distance is 2.44 Å.



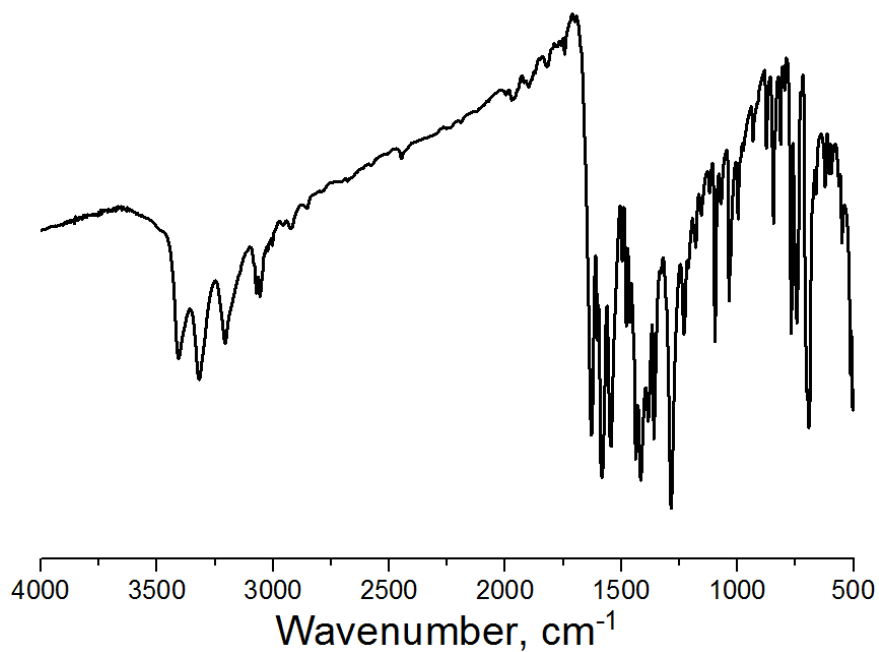


Fig. S22. Experimental IR spectrum of the complex **2**.

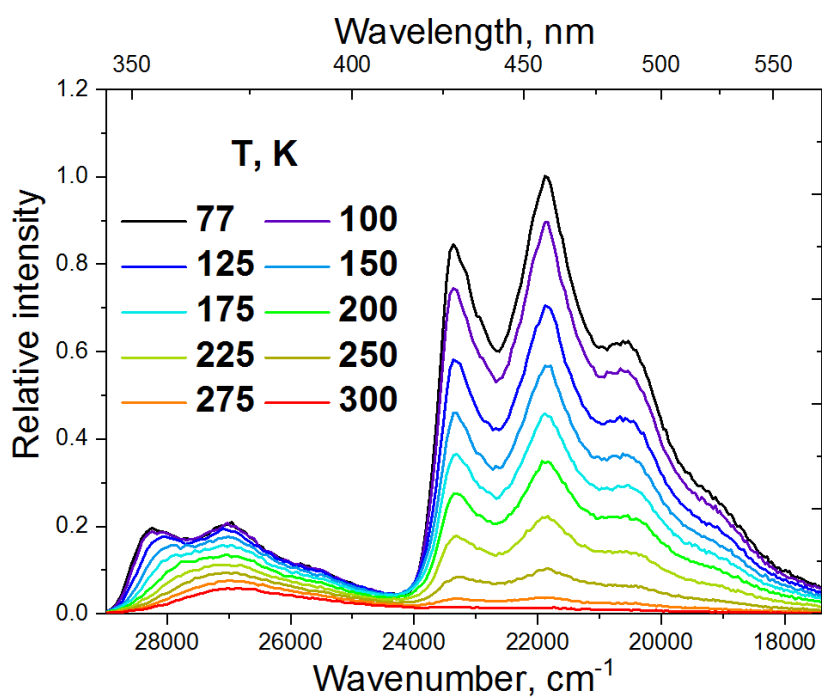


Fig. S23. Temperature dependence of the emission of **2** at  $\lambda_{ex}=340$  nm

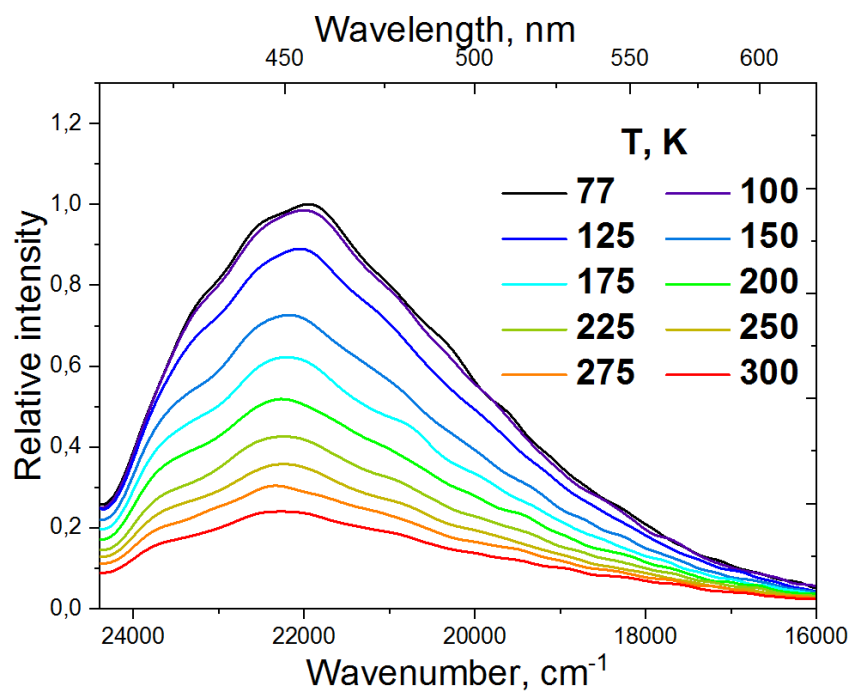


Fig. S24. Temperature dependence of the emission of **2** at  $\lambda_{ex}=400$  nm.

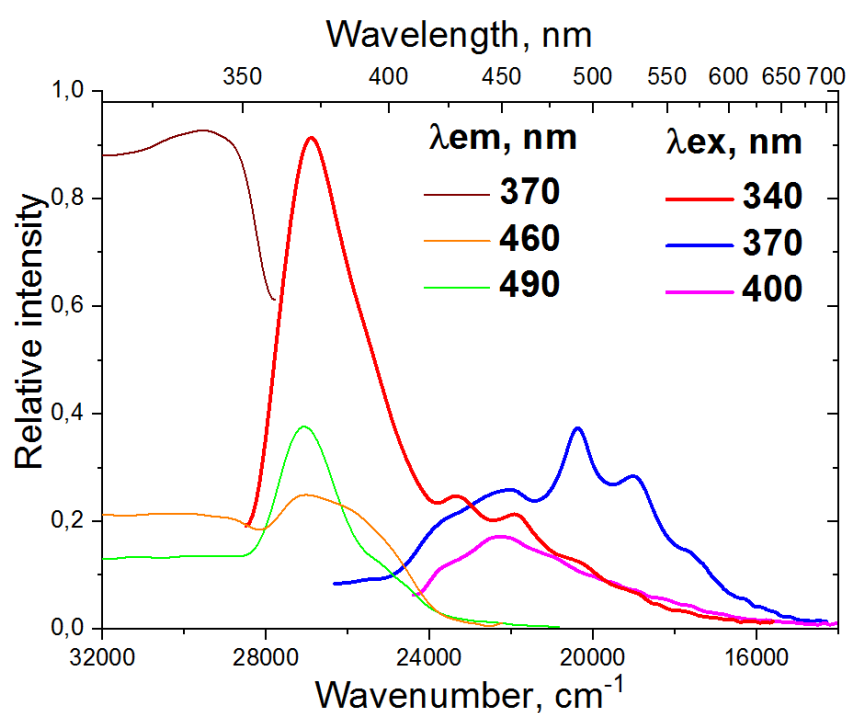


Fig. S25. Normalized emission ( $\lambda_{ex} = 340, 370$  and  $400$  nm) and excitation ( $\lambda_{em} = 370, 460$  and  $490$  nm) spectra of **2** in the solid state at  $300$  K.

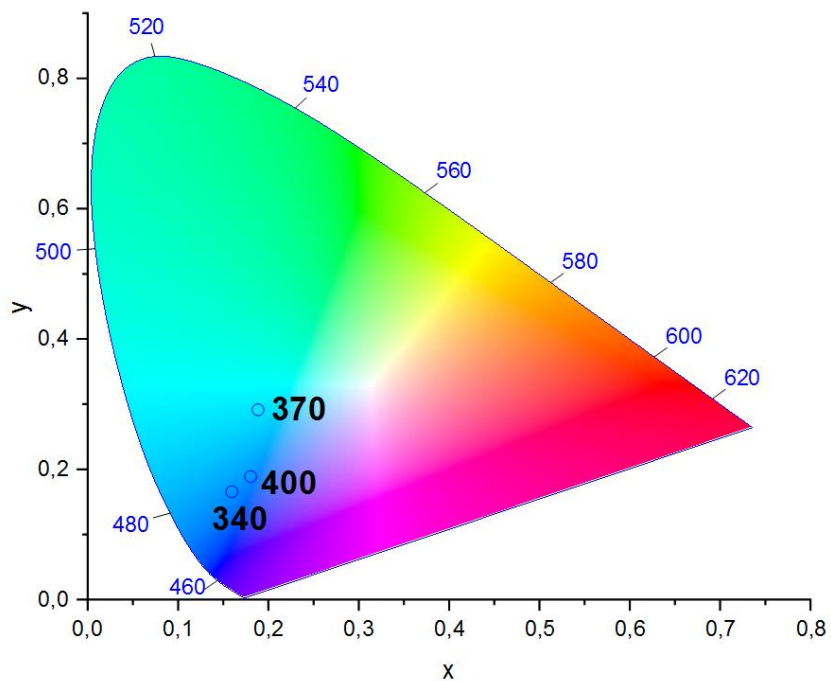


Fig. S26. CIE 1931 chromaticity diagram showing chromaticity of emission of **2** recorded at  $\lambda_{ex}$  = 340, 370 and 400 nm ( $T = 77$  K).

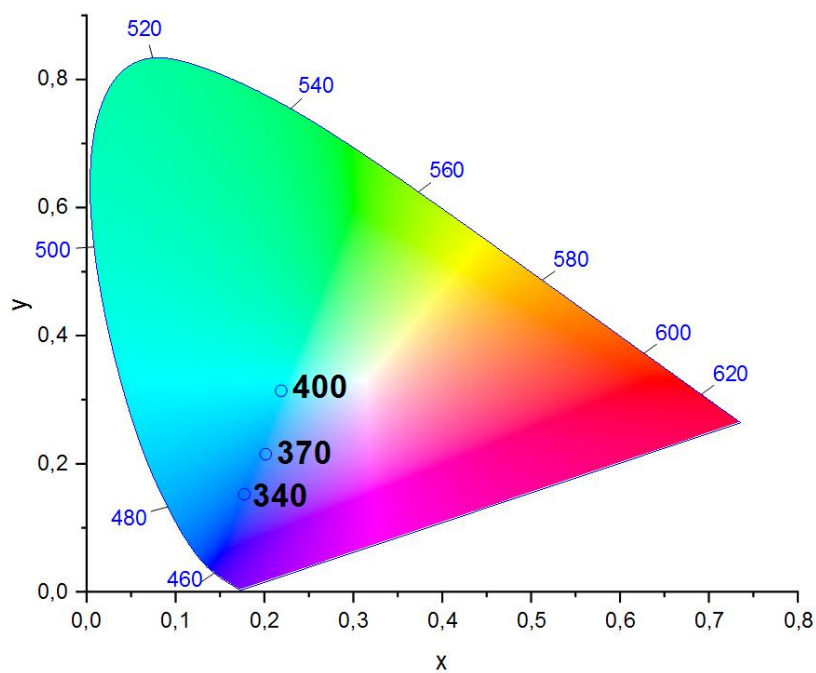


Fig. S27. CIE 1931 chromaticity diagram showing chromaticity of emission of **2** recorded at  $\lambda_{ex}$  = 340, 370 and 400 nm ( $T = 300$  K).

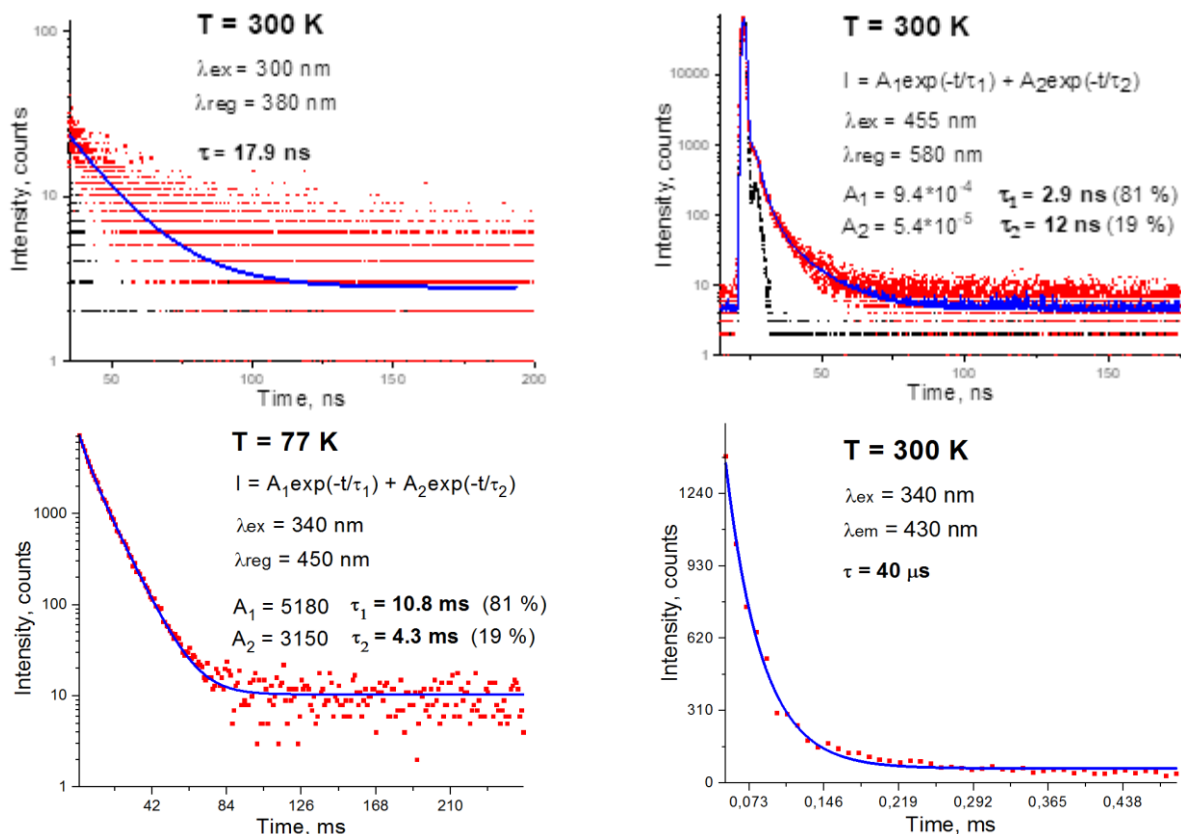


Fig. S28. Luminescence decay curves for the complex 1.

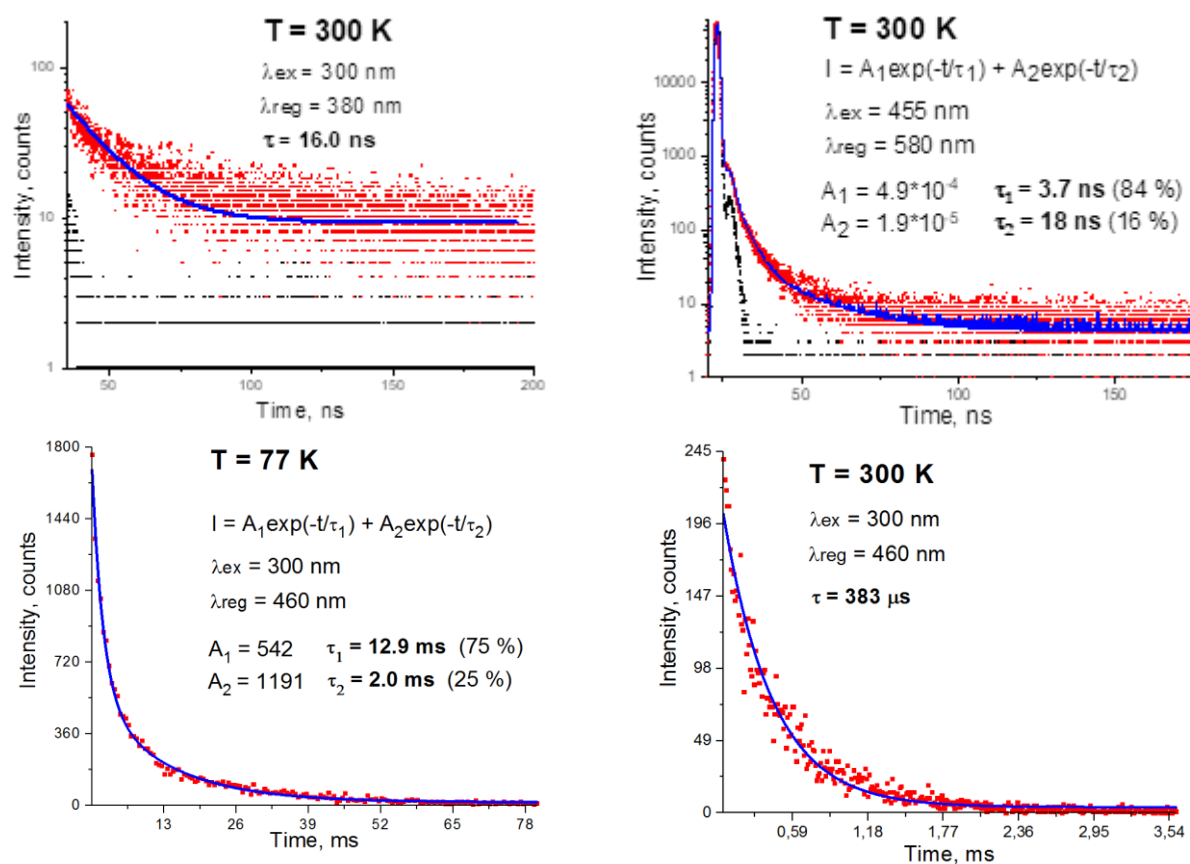


Fig. S29. Luminescence decay curves for the complex 2.

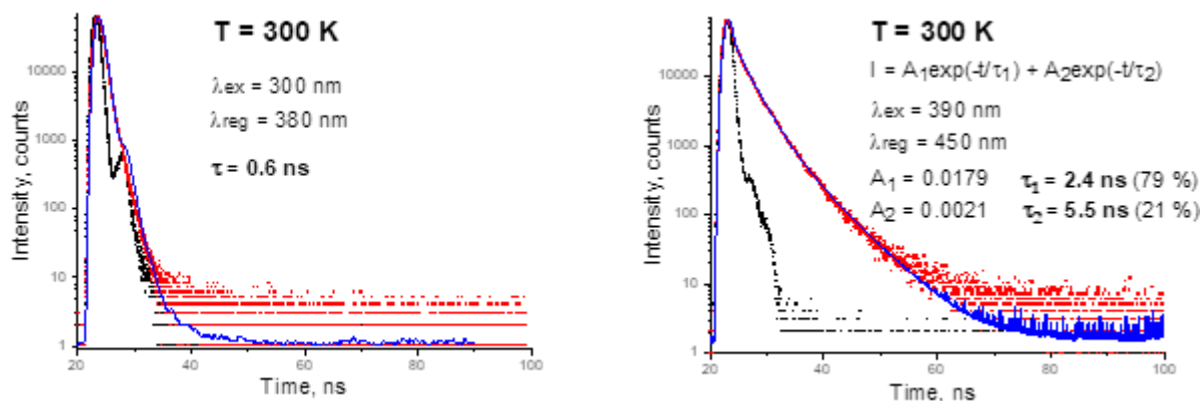


Fig. S30. Luminescence decay curves for **L**.

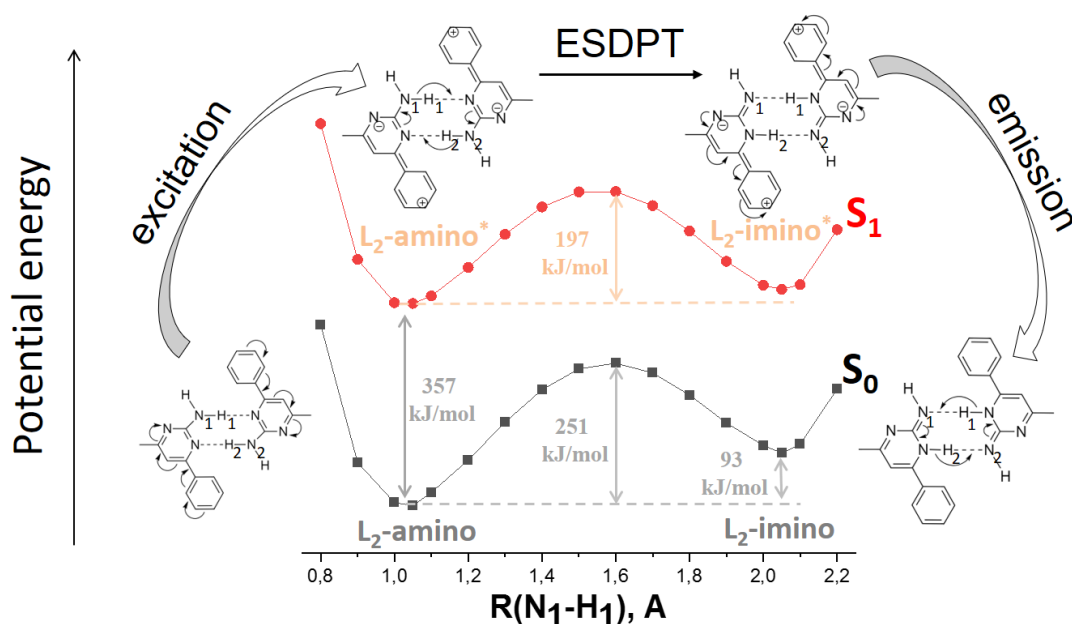


Fig. S31. 2D potential energy curves for the ground and first singlet excited states of **L<sub>2</sub>** with variation of  $N_1-H_1$  and  $N_2-H_2$  bond lengths in a concerted double proton transfer process (B3LYP/DGDZVP).

Considering that the hydrogen atoms are transferred collectively and symmetrically, we have plotted the potential energy of the dimers **L<sub>2</sub>** as a function of the proton transfer reaction coordinate (Fig. S31). We have optimized the structures of the dimeric associates in the ground state ( $S_0$ ) keeping the  $N_1-H_1$  and  $N_2-H_2$  bond lengths between 0.8 to 2.2 Å. The energy curve of the first excited singlet state ( $S_1$ ) was obtained by the vertical transition of each ground state optimized geometry followed by optimization of the excited state using TD-DFT calculations. There are two minima both in the ground state and in the first excited singlet state corresponding to **L<sub>2</sub>-amino** ( $R_{N_1-H_1} = R_{N_2-H_2} = 1.05 \pm 0.05$  Å) and **L<sub>2</sub>-imino** ( $R_{N_1-H_1} = R_{N_2-H_2} = 2.05 \pm 0.05$  Å) forms. Computations performed at different levels of theory for the ground state indicate that the energy barrier is weakly dependent on the level of theory (Table S27).

Apart from the concerted ESDPT process, we have also explored the possibility of stepwise double proton transfer in **L<sub>2</sub>**. Potential energy curve for the ground state of **L<sub>2</sub>** associates (Fig. S32) reveals that two transition states and metastable intermediate structure exist along reaction coordinate. The energy barriers are lower than a single barrier in the concerted mechanism but remain rather high.

Table S27. Energy barriers for the ground state potential energy curve calculated at different levels of theory.

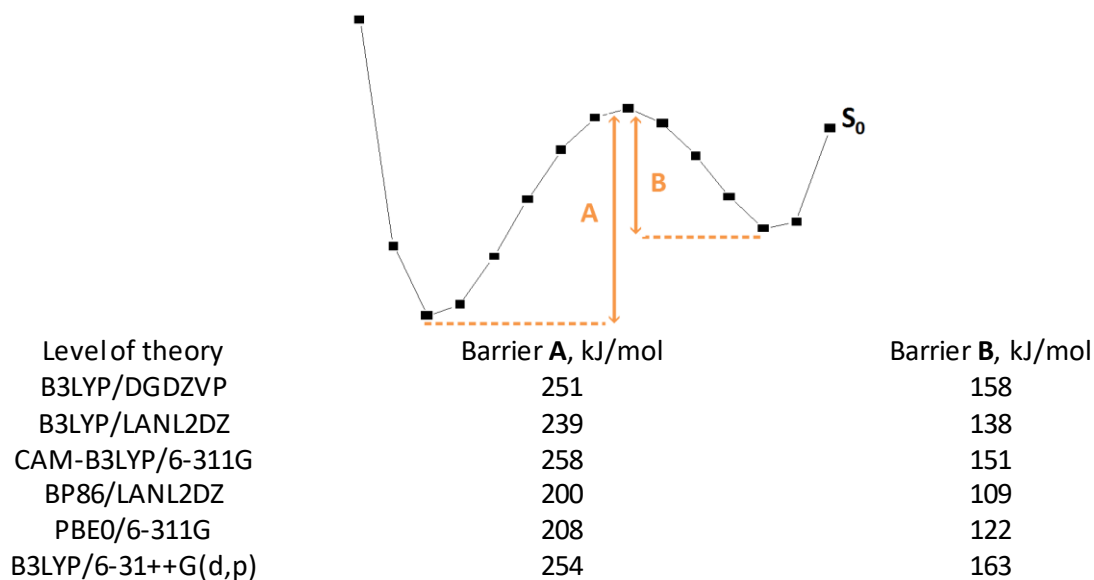
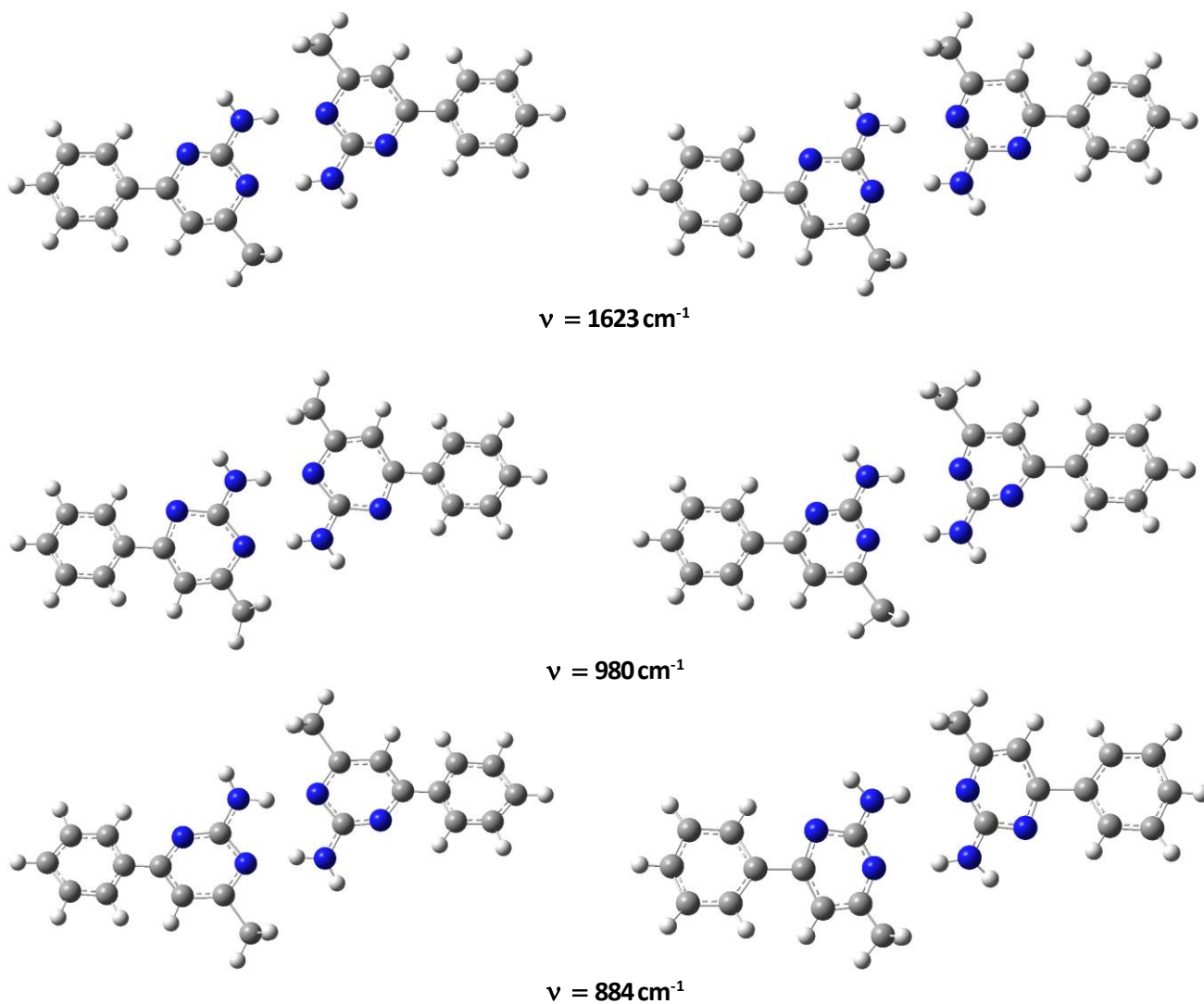


Table S28. Vibrations of nitrogen atoms involved in N–H...N hydrogen bonds towards each other in the IR spectrum of  $L_2$



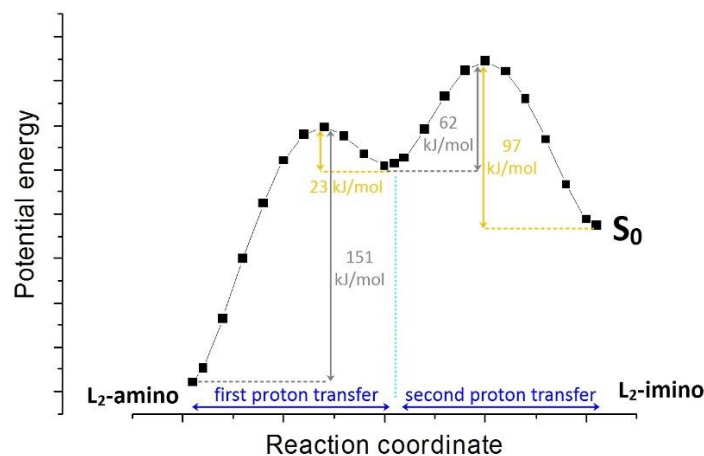


Fig. S32. 2D potential energy curve for the ground state of L<sub>2</sub> with variation of N–H bond lengths in a stepwise double proton transfer process.

### Purity of 1 and 2

In some cases, excitation wavelength dependent emission may be related to the presence of impurities. Emission bands C/C' and B/B' of the complexes **1** and **2** are similar to the high- and low-energy emission bands of **L** in the solid state. Therefore, we paid special attention to rule out the possibility of the presence of impurities of **L**. According to analytical and PXRD data the complexes **1** and **2** are chemically and phase pure. Emission bands C/C' and B/B' of the complexes **1** and **2** are not associated with impurities of **L** for the following reasons. (1) The maxima of emission bands C and B of the complex **1** are red-shifted to the maxima of the high- and low-energy band of **L** at 300 K (390 nm vs 375 nm and 467 nm vs 450 nm, respectively); the maximum of emission band C' of the complex **2** is blue-shifted to the maximum of the high-energy band of **L** (372 nm vs 375 nm). (2) At 77 K and  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 340$  nm the complex **1** demonstrates pure phosphorescence (emission A); impurity of **L** would cause appearance of a high-intense band at 375 nm. (3) The reported results are reproducible on different samples of the complexes **1** and **2**, some of these samples were synthesized in different molar ratio with excess of Ag(I). In this context, the excitation wavelength dependent behavior of the complexes **1** and **2** cannot originate from impurities.

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