

Electronic Supporting Information
for the article

**Design and Synthesis of Lipid-Mimetic Organometallic Complexes and their Liposomal Formulation for
in vitro and *in vivo* Application in Luminescent Bioimaging**

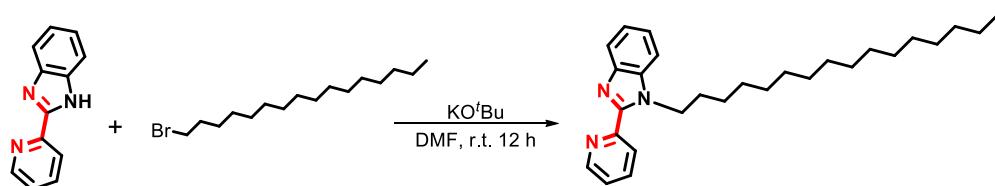
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Scheme S1. Synthesis of pyridine-benzimidazole ligand with inserted C₁₆ aliphatic chain.

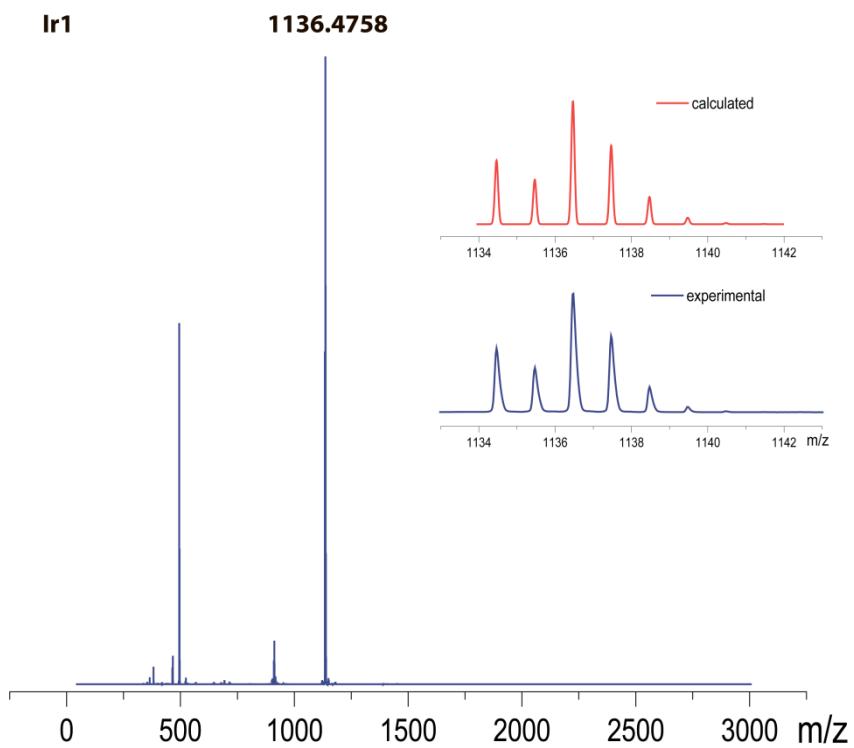


Figure S1. Experimental and calculated ESI⁺ mass-spectra of Ir1.

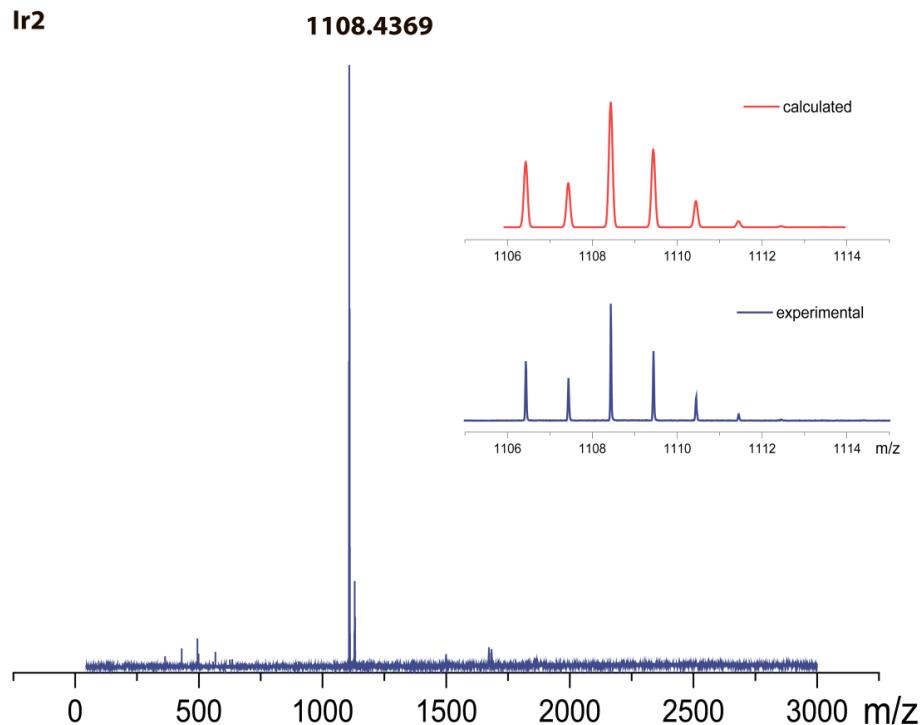


Figure S2. Experimental and calculated ESI⁺ mass-spectra of Ir2.

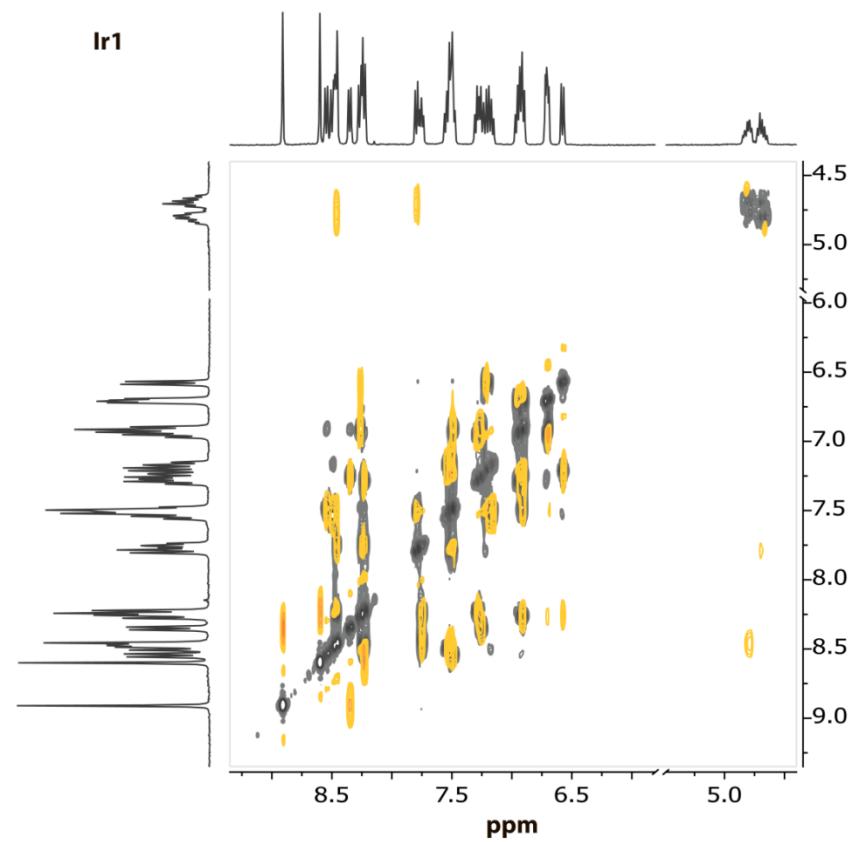


Figure S3. The overlay of the ^1H - ^1H COSY (grey color)/NOESY (orange color) spectra of **Ir1**, acetone-d₆, 298 K.

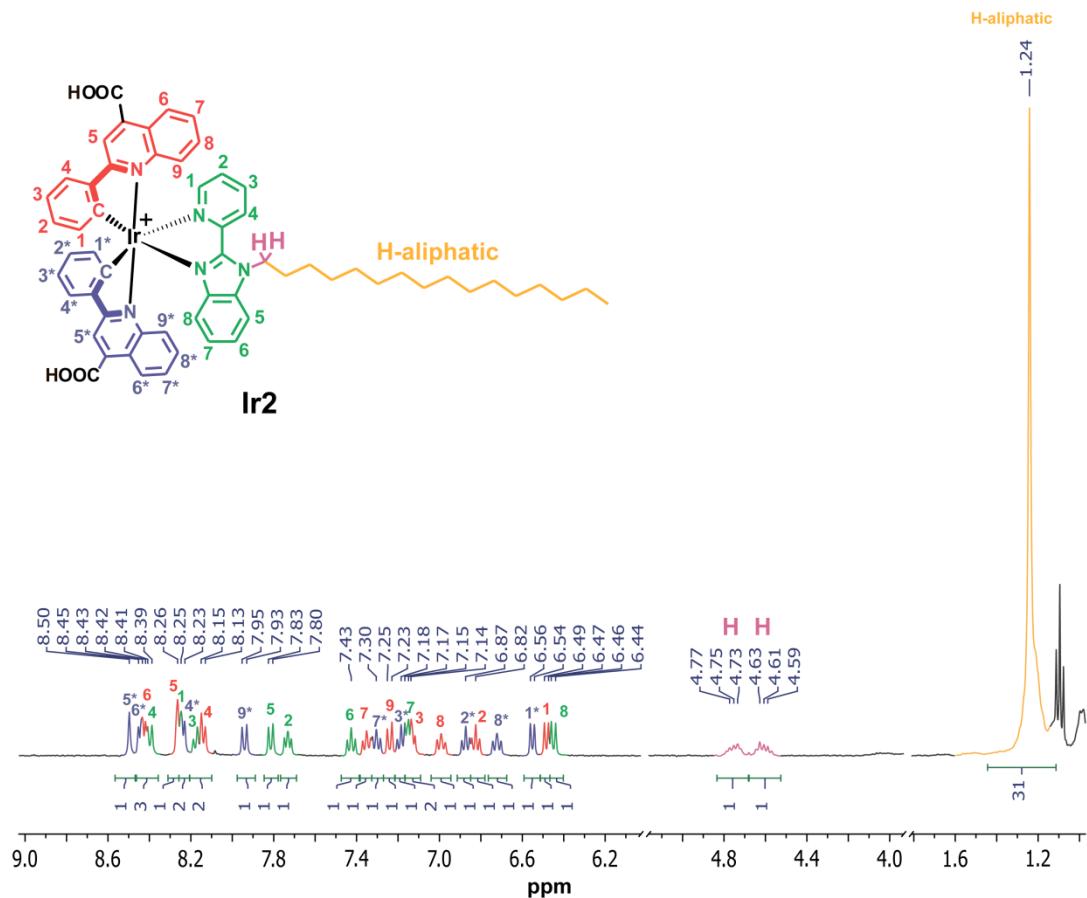


Figure S4. ^1H NMR spectrum of **Ir2**, DMSO- d_6 , 298K.

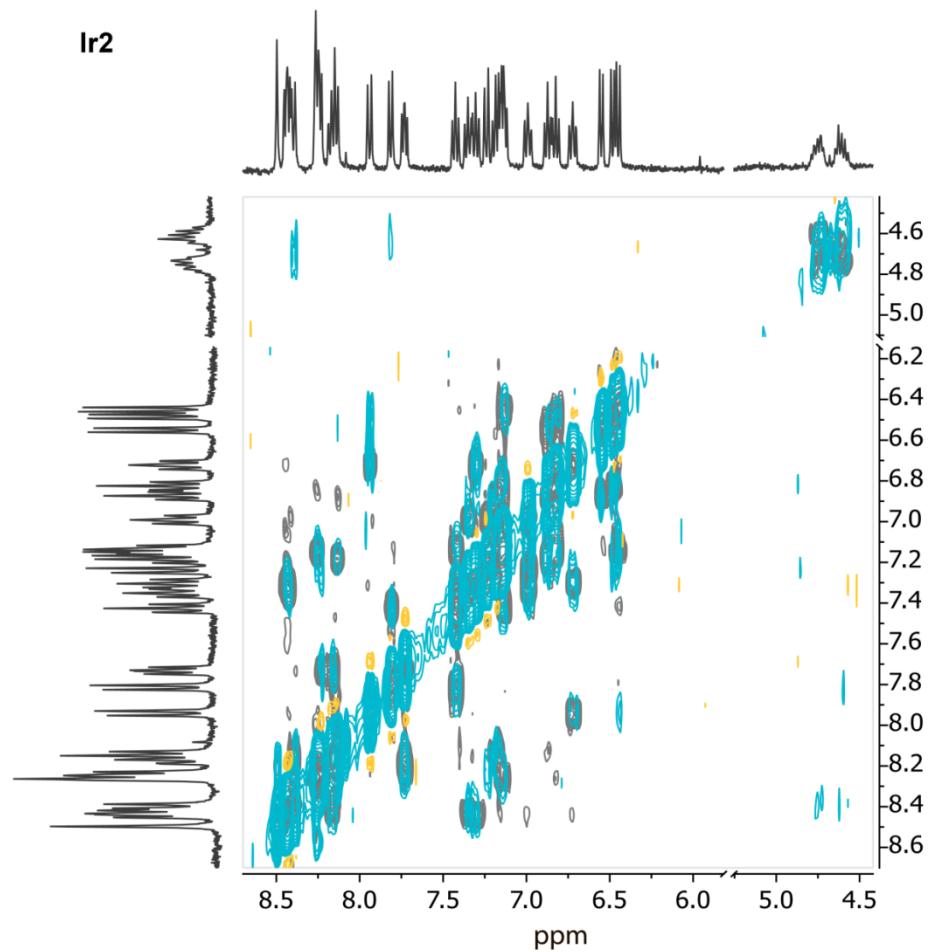


Figure S5. The overlay of the ^1H - ^1H COSY (grey color)/NOESY (cyan and orange color) spectra of **Ir2**, DMSO- d_6 , 298 K.

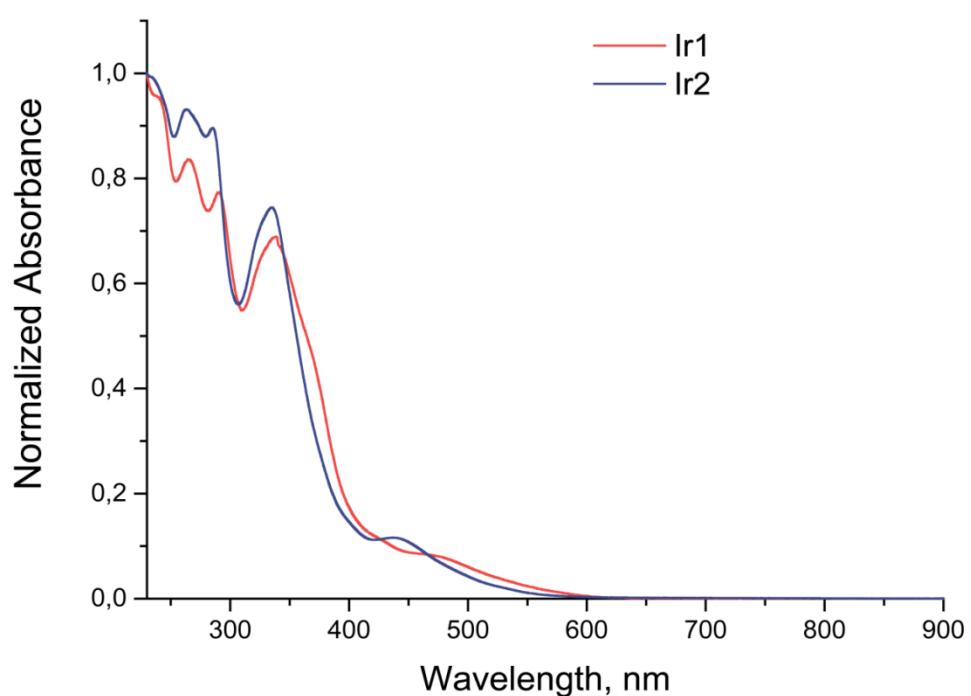
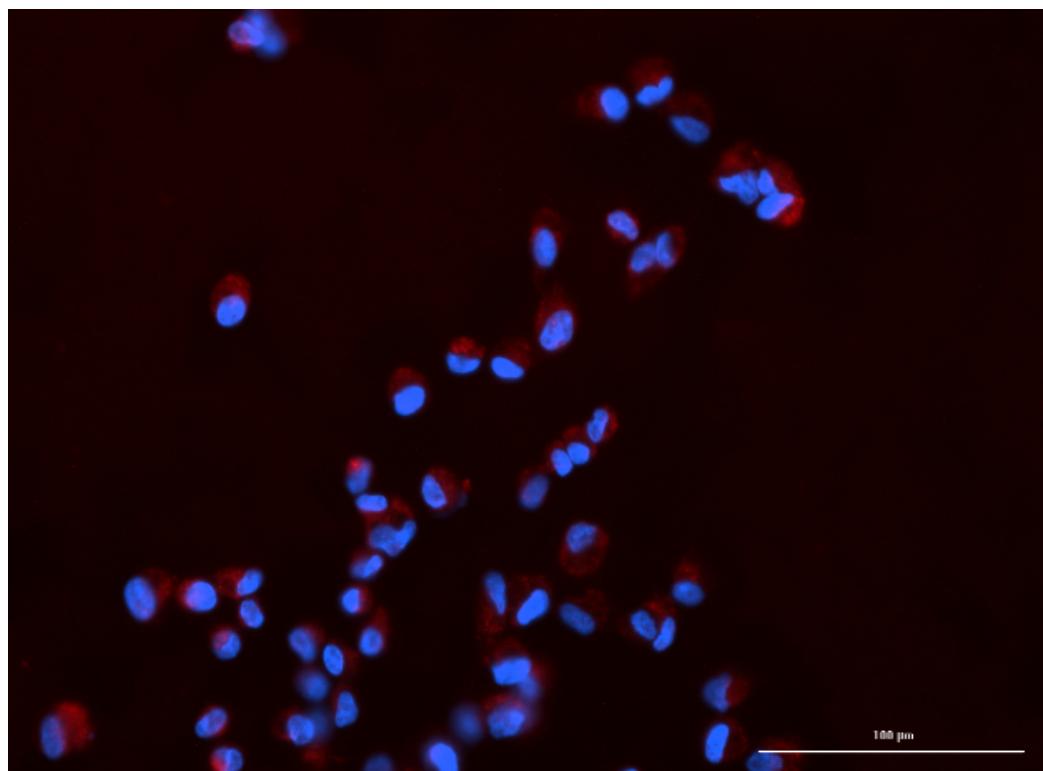


Figure S6. Normalized absorption spectra of complexes **Ir1**, **Ir2** in methanol solution.

A



B

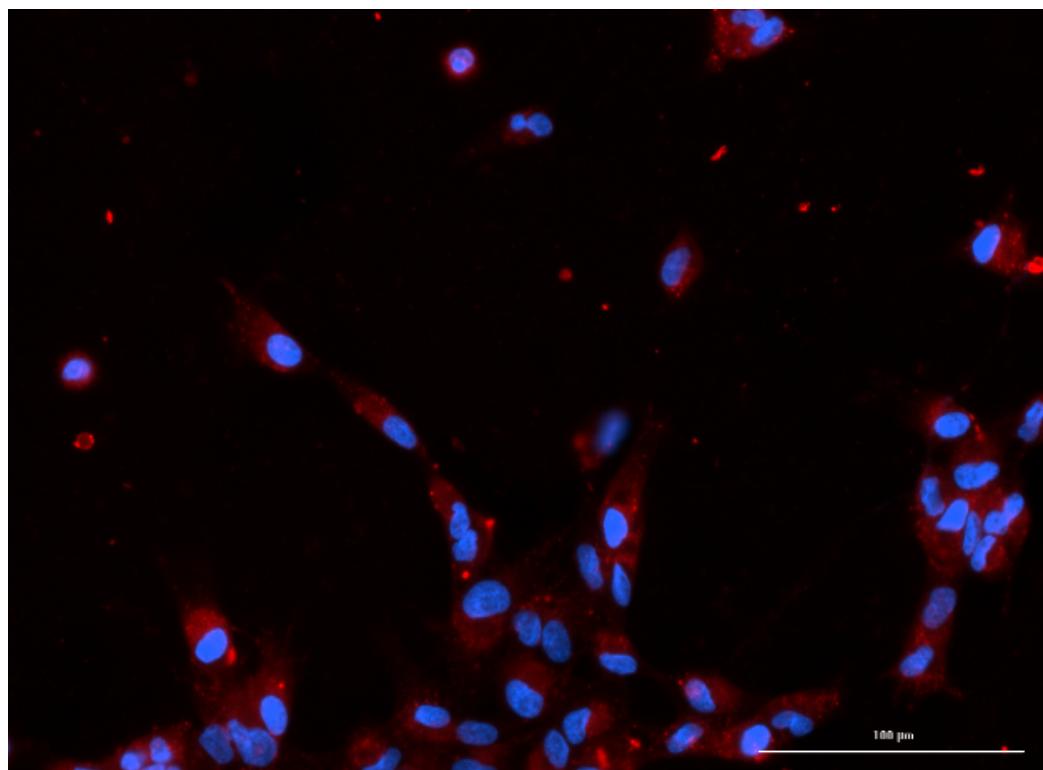


Figure S7. Microphotographs of ARPE-19 cells stained with **Ir1** (red, panel A), **Ir2** (red, panel B), and Hoechst (blue, panels A-B). Lipid concentration: 0.3 μmol/mL. Magnification: 20x. Scale bar: 100 μm.