

**Near-infrared light-emitting electrochemical cells based on excimer emission of a
cationic iridium complex**

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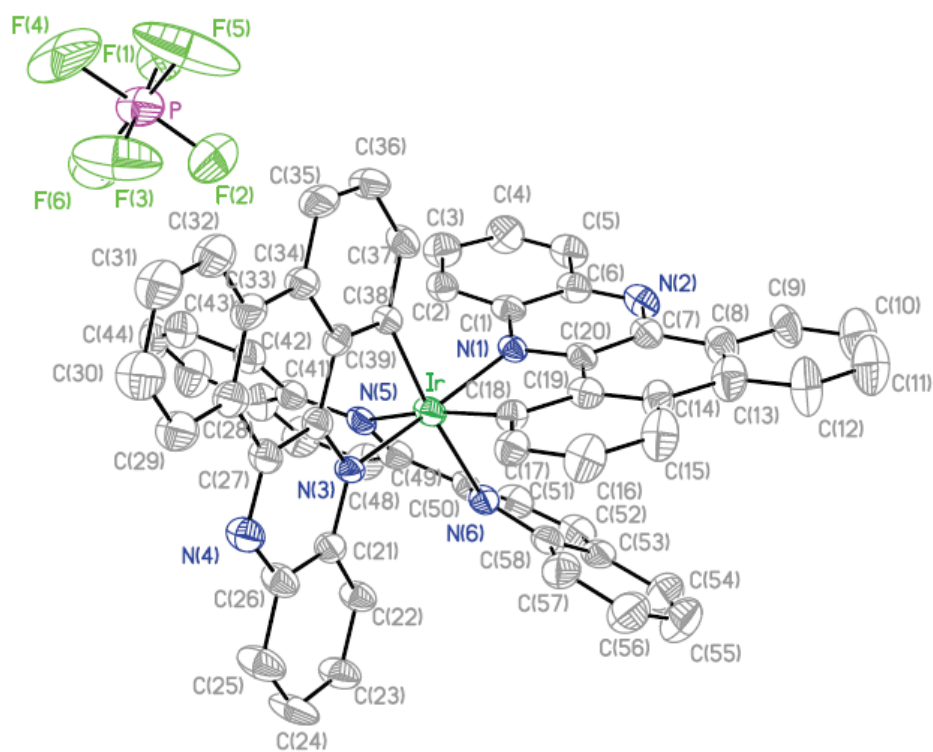


Figure S1. Crystal of complex **NIREx**. The hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

Table S1. Crystal data of complex **NIREx**.

Complex	NIREx (CCDC 1986267)
Empirical formula	C ₅₈ H ₃₄ F ₆ Ir N ₆ P
Formula weight	1152.08
Temperature	150(2) K
Wavelength	0.71073 Å
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group	P -1
Unit cell dimensions	a = 11.6607(18) Å a = 75.403(5)° b = 15.168(2) Å b = 85.538(5)°

	$c = 16.304(3) \text{ \AA}$
	$g = 79.408(5)^\circ$
Volume	$2741.5(7) \text{ \AA}^3$
Z	2
Density (calculated)	1.396 Mg/m^3
Absorption coefficient	2.526 mm^{-1}
F(000)	1140
Crystal size	$0.420 \times 0.230 \times 0.010 \text{ mm}^3$
Theta range for data collection	$2.817 \text{ to } 28.080^\circ$
Index ranges	$-15 \leq h \leq 15, -20 \leq k \leq 19, -20 \leq l \leq 21$
Reflections collected	51672
Independent reflections	13138 [R(int) = 0.1339]
Completeness to theta = 25.242°	99.8 %
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.9281 and 0.5590
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F ²
Data / restraints / parameters	13138 / 0 / 649
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	0.991
Final R indices [I > 2σ(I)]	R1 = 0.0617, wR2 = 0.1453
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.1200, wR2 = 0.1797
Extinction coefficient	n/a
Largest diff. peak and hole	2.844 and -3.396 e.Å ⁻³

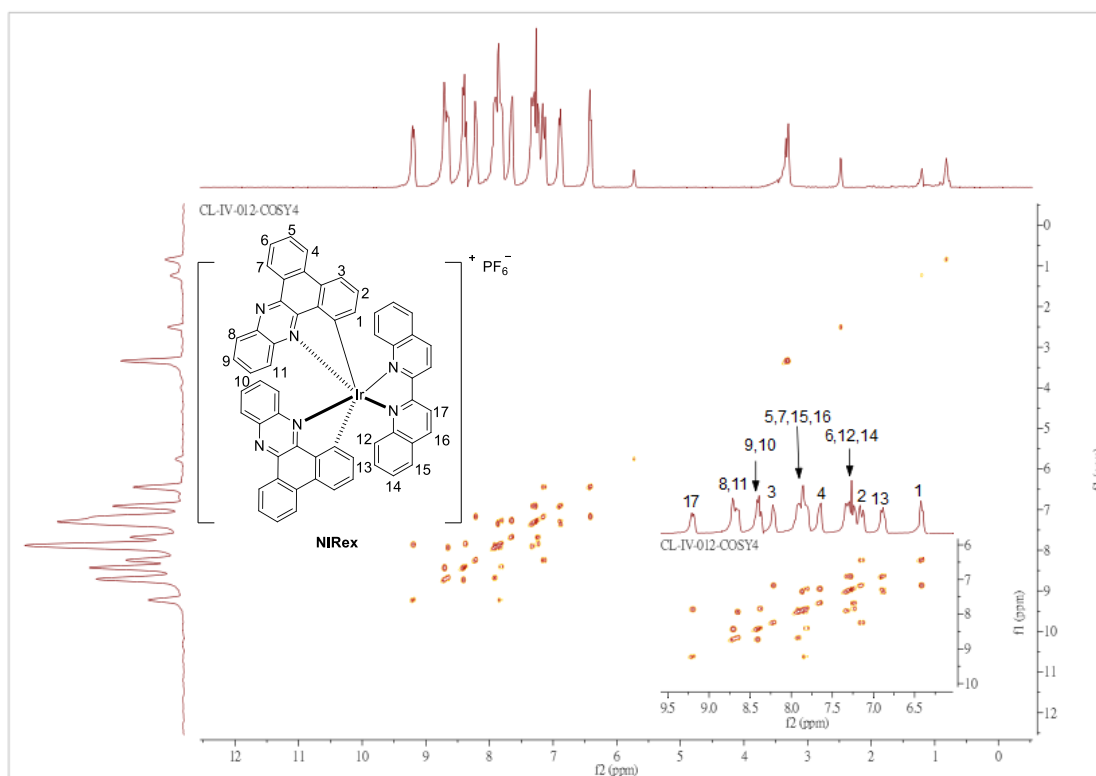


Figure S4. ^1H - ^1H COSY spectrum (400 MHz, pulse width of 14.0) of complex **NIRex** in CDCl_3 at 298 K, the inset is the expansion of the aromatic region.

Data:CL-IV-012

Comment:

Description:

Ionization Mode:ESI+

History:Average(MS[1] 0.37..0.40)

Acquired:3/5/2020 11:53:57 AM

Operator:AccuTOF

m/z Calibration File:20200218-TFANA_...

Created:3/5/2020 4:08:56 PM

Created by:AccuTOF

Charge number:1

Tolerance:200.00[ppm], 200.00 .. 200....

Unsaturation Number:-150.0 .. 200.0 (...)

Element: ^{12}C :58 .. 58, ^1H :33 .. 35, ^{19}F :6 .. 6, ^{191}Ir :0 .. 1, ^{193}Ir :0 .. 1, ^{14}N :6 .. 6, ^{23}Na :0 .. 2, ^{31}P :0 .. 10, ^{32}S :1 .. 1

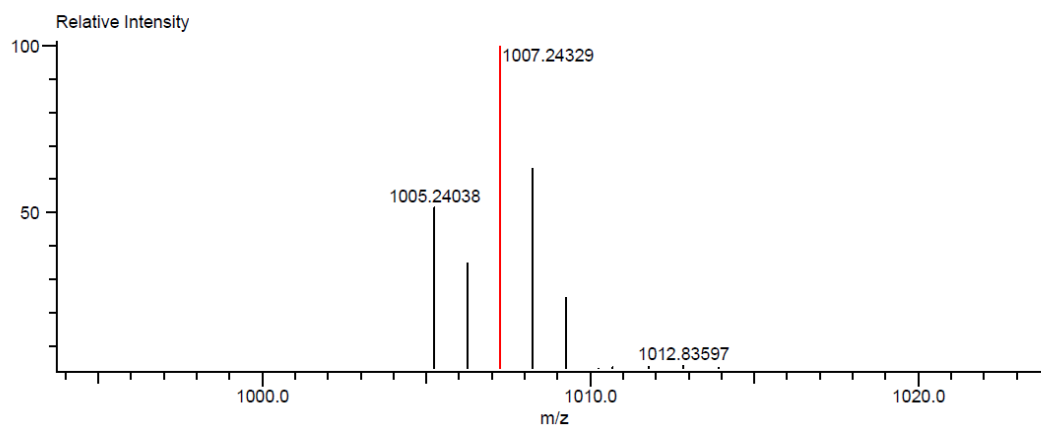


Figure S5. HRMS-ESI $^+$ spectrum of **NIRex**.

Table S2. Calculated singlet and triplet states for cationic iridium complex **NIRex** by TD-DFT approach.

Complex	States	eV ^(a) (nm)	$f^{(b)}$	Monoexcitations ^(c)	Ground state dipole moment [D]
NIRex	S ₁	2.06 (601)	0.0066	H - 4 → L (1.3%) H - 2 → L (1.2%) H - 1 → L (6.6%) H → L (40%) H - 4 → L (8.0%) H - 4 → L + 1 (4.2%) H - 2 → L (3.3%)	5.9337
	T ₁	1.50 (826)	0.0000	H - 2 → L + 1 (1.5%) H - 1 → L (4.4%) H - 1 → L + 1 (1.8%) H → L (17%) H → L + 1 (6.7%)	

(a) Calculated vertical excitation energies. (b) f = oscillator strength. (c) H and L denote the HOMO and LUMO, respectively; data in parentheses are the contributions of the excitation.

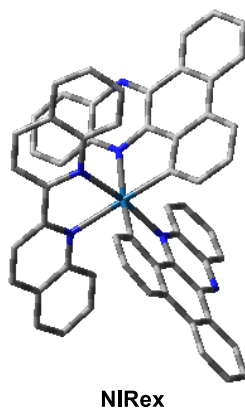


Figure S6. Ground state geometries of complex **NIRex** obtain at B3LYB/6-31G(d)/LanL2DZ level of theory. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

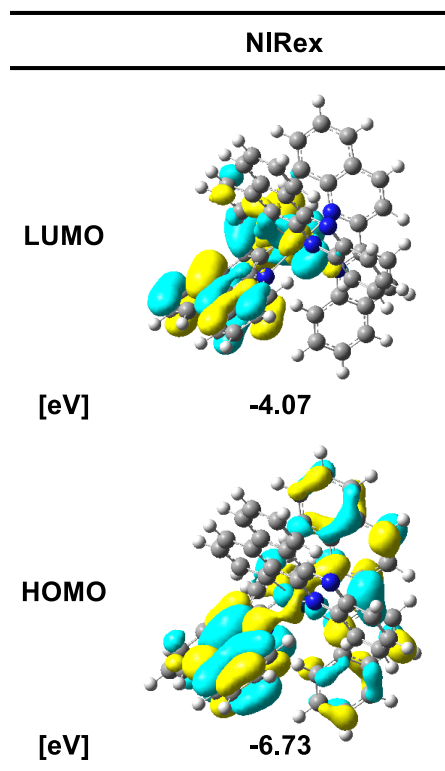


Figure S7. Electron density distribution pattern of the frontier molecular orbitals for complex **NIRex**, obtained at B3LYP/6-31G(d,p)/LanL2DZ level of theory.

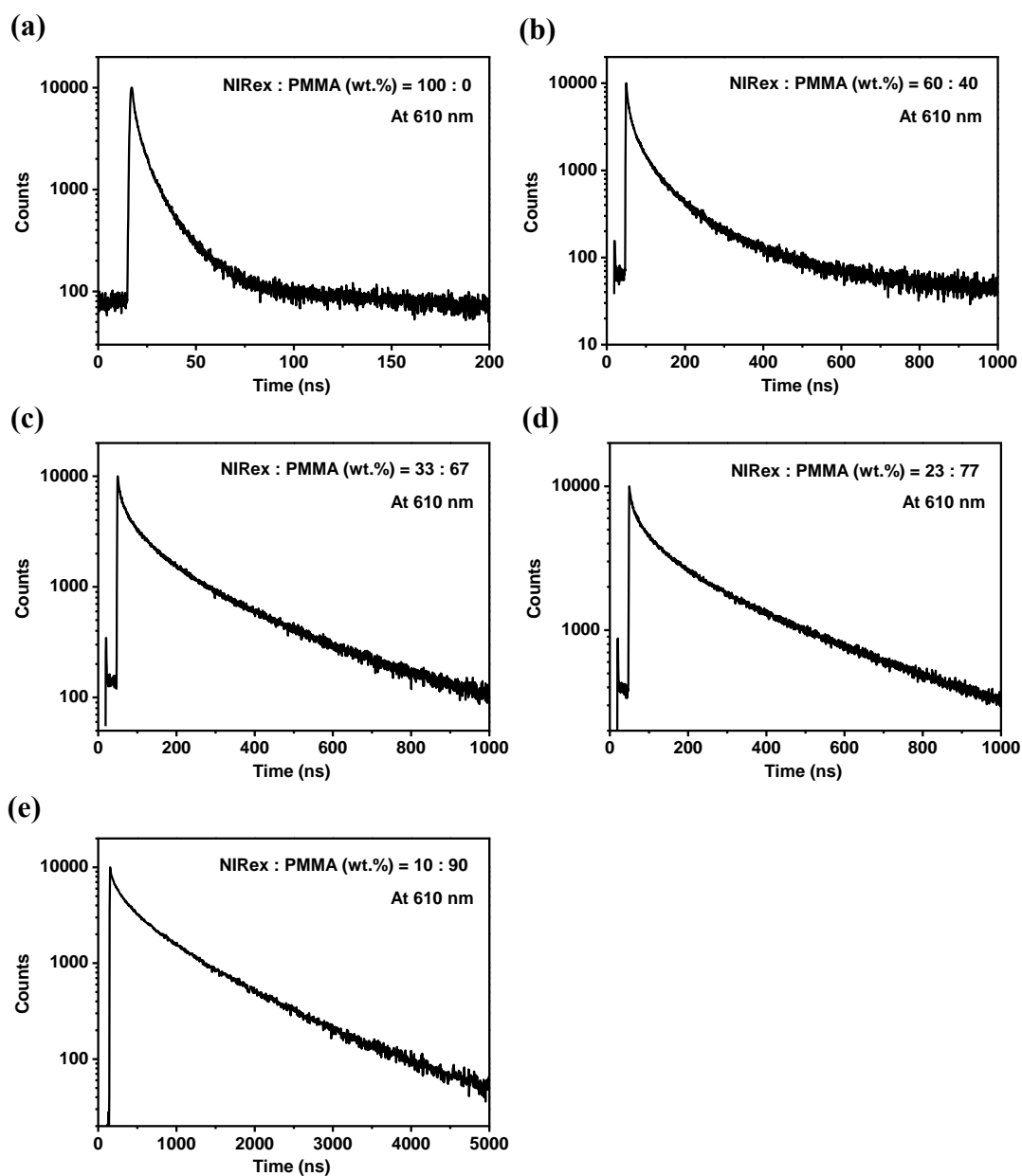


Figure S8. Excited-state lifetimes at 610 nm of thin films with weight ratios of complex NIRex and PMMA of (a) 100 : 0, (b) 60 : 40, (c) 33 : 67, (d) 23 : 77 and (e) 10 : 90.

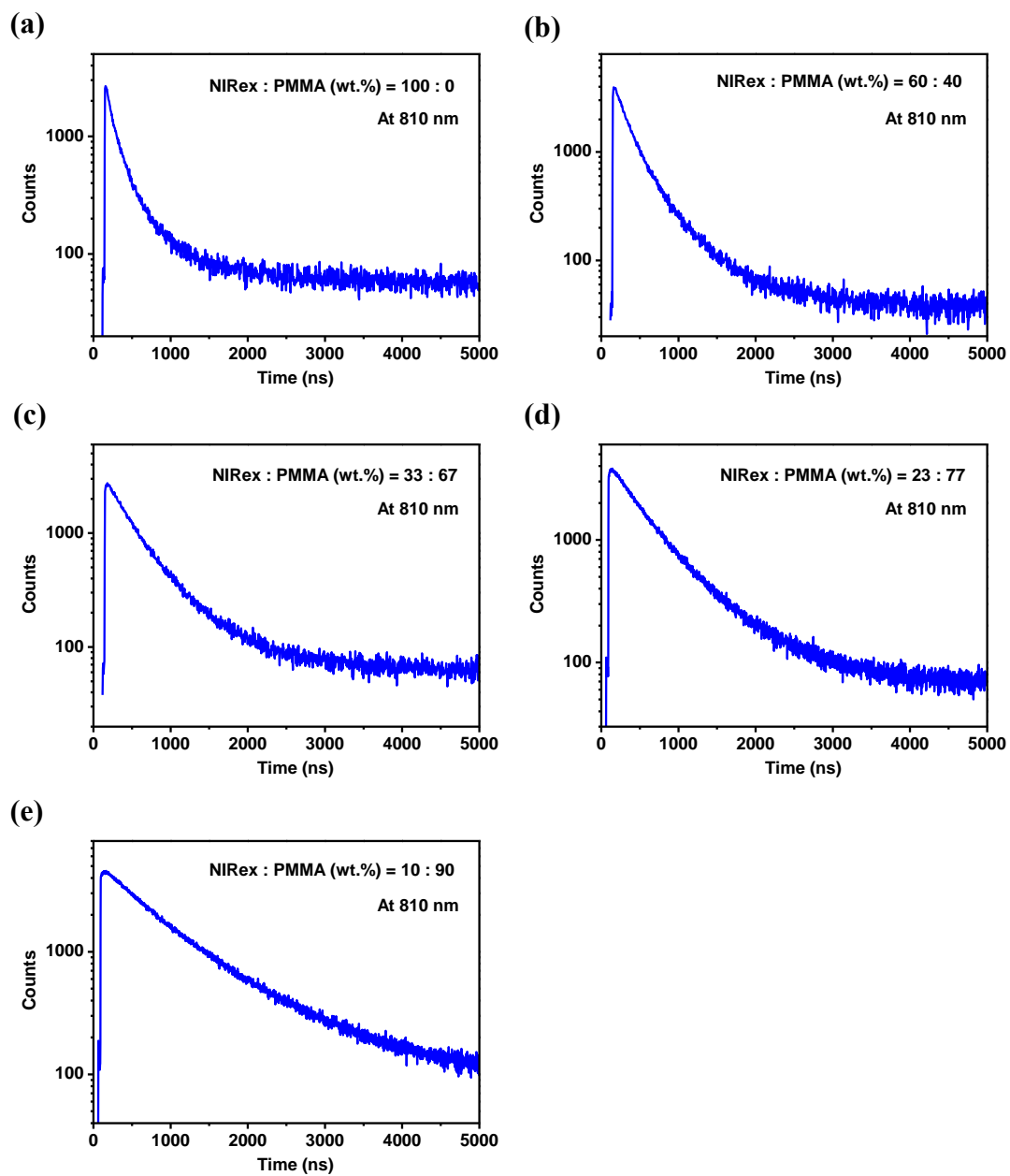


Figure S9. Excited-state lifetimes at 810 nm of thin films with weight ratios of complex NIRex and PMMA of (a) 100 : 0, (b) 60 : 40, (c) 33 : 67, (d) 23 : 77 and (e) 10 : 90.

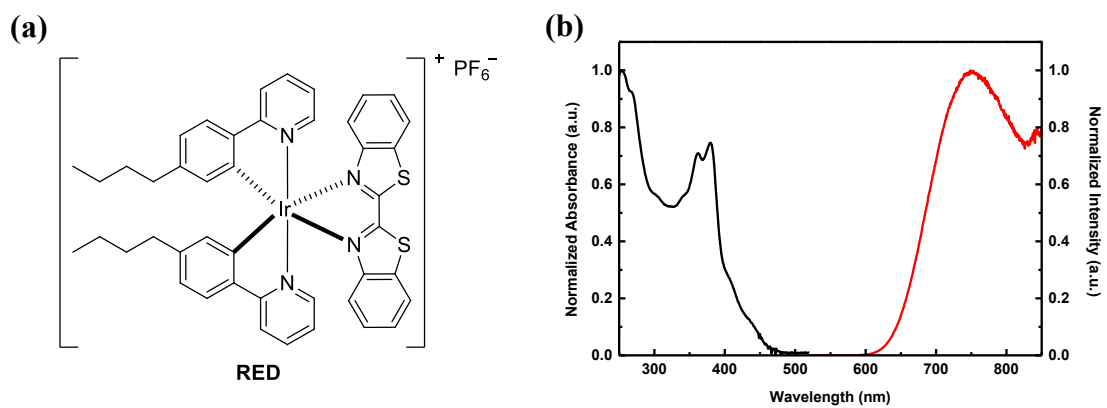


Figure S10. (a) Structure of complex **RED** for comparison. (b) Absorption (left axis) and PL spectra (right axis) of complex **RED** in MeCN solution (1.0×10^{-5} M, $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 385$ nm).

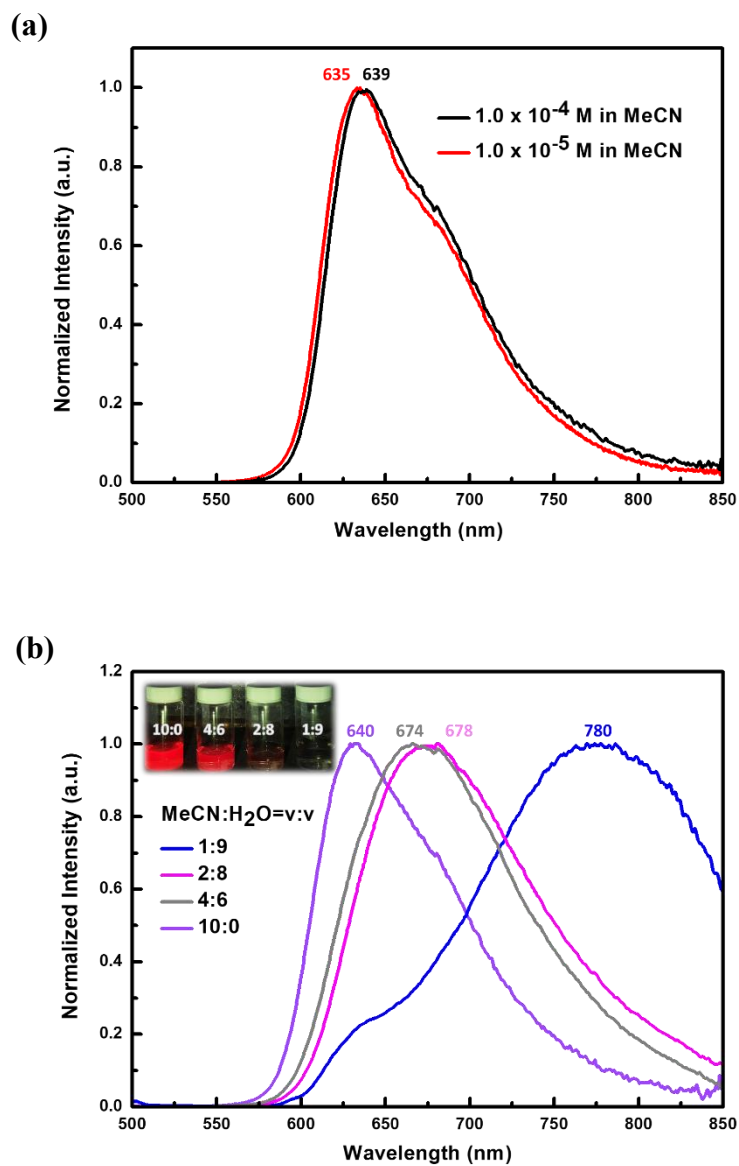


Figure S11. (a) Concentration-dependent PL spectra; (b) PL spectra of complex **NIREx** in MeCN with the increasing of water content (*ca.* 1.0×10^{-4} M, water fraction from 0 to 90% by volume).

Table S3. Summary of the characteristics of NIR LECs reported in literatures

Emissive material	$\lambda_{\max, \text{EL}}$ [nm] ^a	L_{\max} [$\mu\text{W cm}^{-2}$] ^b	$\eta_{\text{ext, max}}$ [%] ^c	$\eta_{\text{P, max}}$ [mW W ⁻¹] ^d	Ref.
[Ir(ppy) ₂ (dasb)][PF ₆]:DOTCI (1.0 wt.%)	729	2.42	0.93	6.43	1
[Ir(ppy) ₂ (dasb)][PF ₆]:DTTCI (1.0 wt.%)	805	8.19	1.49	10.16	1
dye H: dye G (0.1 wt.%)	706	170	0.44	-	2
polymers with dinuclear Ru complexes	790	0.016 ^e	5.4 x 10 ^{-6e}	-	3
PIDTT-TQ	705	129	0.1	0.48	4
PBDTTBTzT	723	169	0.135	-	5
PIDTT-SBS	725	263	0.214	-	6
PBDTSi-BDD:ZnP(TDPP) ₄ (5 wt.%)	900	36	0.028	-	7
[Os(phen) ₃][PF ₆] ₂	710	-	0.08 ^e	-	8
[Ru(tpy)(tpy-O ₂ Et)][PF ₆] ₂	706	-	-	-	9
Ru complex (3)	780	30.8 ^e	0.013	-	10
Ru complex (4)	880	5.7 ^e	0.075	-	10
Ru complex (5)	900	2.5 ^e	0.006	-	10
Ru complex (6)	945	3.1 ^e	0.030	-	10
Ru complex (7)	1040	-	-	-	10
[Ru(tpy-CO ₂ Et)(trz)][PF ₆] ₂	725	-	0.005	-	11
heteroleptic bis(tridentate) Ru complexes	722	-	0.028	-	12
Ru(dtb-bpy) ₃ (PF ₆) ₂ : DOTCI (1	739	14.9	2.75	9.37	13

wt.%)					
phenanthroimidazole Ru complex (NE04)	700	-	1.367	-	14
[Ir(ppy) ₂ (2,2'- bibenzo[d]thiazole)][PF ₆]	705	260 ^e	0.37	-	15
Ru(dtb-bpy) ₃ (PF ₆) ₂	718	33.6	0.64	3.76	16
Ir complex (NIR3)	882	44.1	0.036	0.122	17
Ir complex (NIR6)	790	56.9	0.05	0.181	17
complex RED : complex NIR3 (20 wt.%)	778	12.6	0.116	0.747	17
complex RED : complex NIR6 (20 wt.%)	778	13.6	0.093	0.631	17
Ru complex (Bn2)	706	-	0.93	-	18
complex NIRex	860	143	0.26	0.93	this work
complex RED : complex NIRex (60 wt.%)	824	164	0.39	1.46	this work
complex RED : complex NIRex (40 wt.%)	809	303	0.57	2.20	this work
complex RED : complex NIRex (20 wt.%)	744	637	0.82	3.29	this work

^a EL peak wavelength. ^b Maximal light output power. ^c Maximal external quantum efficiency. ^d Maximal power efficiency. ^e Estimated from the reported data.

Abbreviations

1. ppy: 2-phenylpyridine
2. dasb: 4,5-diaza-9,9'-spirobifluorene
3. DOTCI: 3,3'-diethyl-2,2'-oxathiacarbocyanine iodide
4. DTTCI: 3,3'-diethylthiatricarbocyanine iodide
5. dye H: 1-ethyl-2-[3-(1-ethyl-1,3-dihydro-3,3-dimethyl-2H-indol-2-ylidene)-propenyl]-3,3-dimethyl-3H-indolium hexafluorophosphate
6. dye G: 1-butyl-2-[5-(1-butyl-1,3-dihydro-3,3-dimethyl-2H-indol-2-ylidene)-penta-1,3-dienyl]-3,3-dimethyl-3H-indolium hexafluorophosphate
7. PIDTT-TQ: poly[indacenodithieno[3,2-b]thiophene-2,8-diyl-alt-2,3-bis(3-(octyloxy)phenyl)-5,8-di(thiophen-2-yl)quinoxaline-5,5'-diyl]
8. PBDTTBTzT: polybenzodithiophene 4,7-bis(5-bromothiophen-2-yl)-2-(2-hexyldecyl)-2H-benzo[d][1,2,3]triazole
9. PIDTT-SBS: poly(indacenodithieno[3,2-b]thiophene) 4,7-Bis(4,4-bis(2-ethylhexyl)-4H-silolo[3,2-b:4,5-b']dithiophen-2-yl)benzo[c][1,2,5]-thiadiazole
10. PBDTSi-BDD: poly[1,3-bis(2-ethylhexyl)-5-(5-(6-methyl-4,8-bis(5-tributylsilyl)thiophen-2-yl)benzo[1,2-b:4,5-b']dithiophen-2-yl)thiophen-2-yl)-7-(5-methylthiophen-2-yl)-4H,8H-benzo[1,2-c:4,5-c']dithiophene-4,8-dione]
11. TDPP: 2,5-thienyl diketopyrrolopyrrole
12. phen: 1,10-phenanthroline
13. tpy: terpyridine
14. trz: 2-phenyl-4,6-dipyridin-2-yl-1,3,5-triazine
15. dtb-bpy is 4,4'-ditertbutyl-2,2'-bipyridine

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