

## Supporting Information

### **Rationalizing the effect of benzo-fusion at [a] and [b] position of BODIPY on fluorescence yields**

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## 1. Experimental Section

**General.** All reactions were carried out under argon atmosphere. All reagents were purchased from common suppliers and used as received. All yields given referred to isolated yields.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker DRX400 spectrometer, and referenced to the residual proton signals of deuterated solvents.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR chemical shifts were referenced to  $\text{CDCl}_3$  (7.26 ppm).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR chemical shifts were referenced to  $\text{CDCl}_3$  (77.16 ppm). ESI–HRMS spectra were recorded on Bruker Daltonics Apex-III. MALDI–TOF–MS were performed on a microflex MALDI-TOF (Bruker Daltonics, USA) Spectrometer. UV-vis spectra were obtained by a Shimadzu UV-1800 spectrophotometer. Fluorescence spectra and the fluorescence lifetimes of the samples were recorded on a HORIBA JobinYvon Fluorolog-3 spectrofluorimeter.

## 2. Spectroscopic data

**Table S1.** Photophysical properties of BODIPY **1-5** in solvents with various polarities.

	Solvent	$\lambda_{\text{abs}}$ [nm]	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$ [nm]	$\Delta\nu_{\text{abs-em}}$ [cm <sup>-1</sup> ]	$\tau$ [ns]	$\Phi$	$k_{\text{r}}$ [10 <sup>8</sup> ]/s	$k_{\text{nr}}$ [10 <sup>8</sup> ]/s
<b>1</b> <sup>[a]</sup>	DCM	631	664	788	5.2	0.93	1.79	0.13
	THF	631	651	487	n.a. <sup>[e]</sup>	0.64	-	-
<b>2</b> <sup>[b]</sup>	Hexane	599	605	176	5.71	0.91	1.59	0.16
	THF	600	609	217	5.26	0.99	1.89	0.02
	MeCN	597	606	241	5.63	0.87	1.55	0.2
<b>3</b> <sup>[c]</sup>	DCM	568	n.d. <sup>[d]</sup>	-	-	-	-	-
	Hexane	556	n.d.	-	-	-	-	-
	Toluene	567	n.d.	-	-	-	-	-
<b>4</b>	DCM	560	n.d.	-	-	-	-	-
	THF	558	n.d.	-	-	-	-	-
	MeCN	550	n.d.	-	-	-	-	-
<b>5</b>	Hexane	557	n.d.	-	-	-	-	-
	Toluene	567	n.d.	-	-	-	-	-
	DCM	560	n.d.	-	-	-	-	-
	THF	559	n.d.	-	-	-	-	-
	MeCN	551	n.d.	-	-	-	-	-

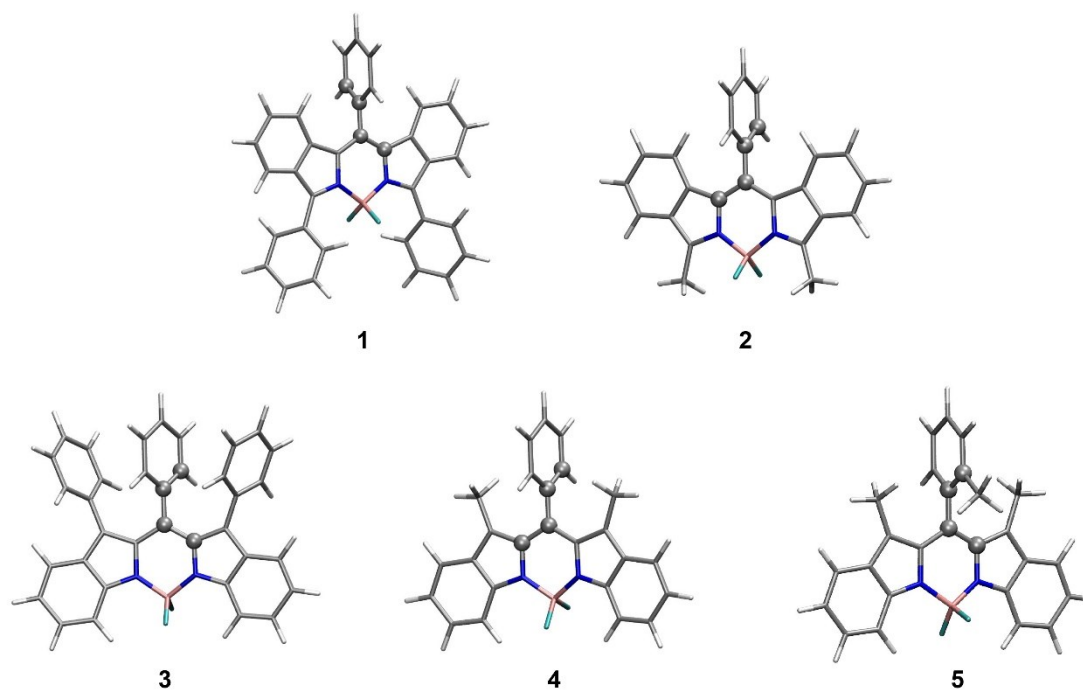
[a] Y. Tomimori, T. Okujima, T. Yano, S. Mori, N. Ono, H. Yamada, H. Uno, *Tetrahedron*, 67 (2011) 3187-3193.

[b] Z. Shen, H. Röhr, K. Rurack, H. Uno, M. Spieles, B. Schulz, G. Reck, N. Ono, *Chem. Eur. J.*, 10 (2004) 4853-

4871. [c] Y. Ni, W. Zeng, K.-W. Huang, J. Wu, *Chem. Commun.*, 49 (2013) 1217-1219. [d] not detect. [e] not

available.

### 3. DFT and TD-DFT Calculations



**Fig. S1.** Optimized geometries of the  $S_0$  state. The atoms for defining the dihedral angle used in the potential energy surface (PES) scan are highlighted in the CPK mode.

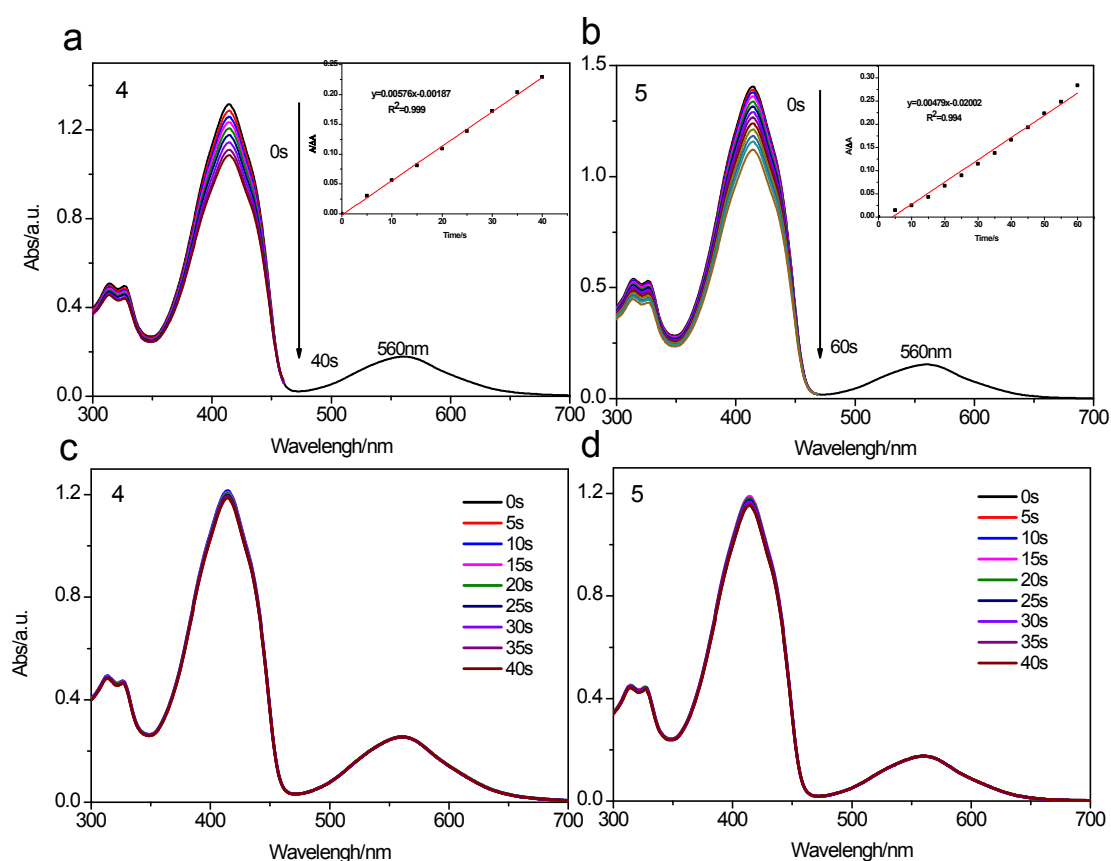
**Table S2.** Dihedral angles, excitation energies, and oscillator strengths of the local minima on the PESs of the  $S_1$  state of **3** and **4**.

Compound	local minimum	optimized dihedral angle ( $^\circ$ )	excitation energy (eV)	$f$
<b>3</b>	<b>A</b>	57.4	1.43	0.034
	<b>B</b>	122.6	1.46	0.035
	<b>C</b>	171.4	0.89	0.017
<b>4</b>	<b>D</b>	-112.7	1.47	0.013
	<b>E</b>	7.3	0.77	0.003

**Table S3.** Energy levels of  $S_1$  and  $T_n$  ( $n = 1 \sim 4$ ) states and contributions of MO transitions.

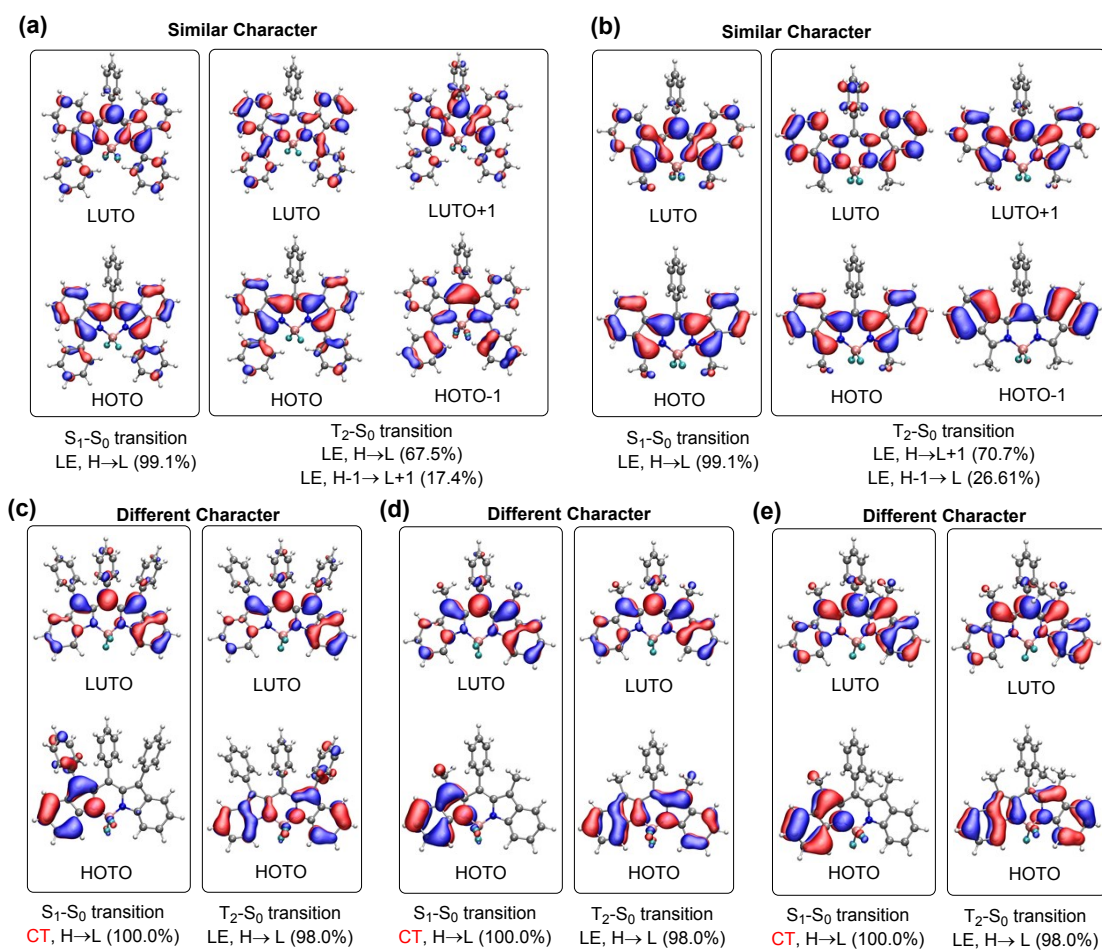
Compound	state	$n$ -th	energy (eV)	MO transition
1	$S_n$	1	2.16	H→L (98.6%)
	$T_n$	1	0.88	H→L (97.5%)
		2	2.43	H→L+1 (65.7%) H-1→L (20.1%)
		3	2.80	H-1→L (66.5%) H→L+1 (19.5%)
		4	2.89	H→L+2 (35.0%) H-2→L (31.5%)
2	$S_n$	1	2.41	H→L (98.2%)
	$T_n$	1	0.99	H→L (97.6%)
		2	2.56	H→L+1 (66.6%) H-1→L (17.1%)
		3	2.87	H→L+2 (50.4%) H-2→L (26.5%) H-1→L+1 (11.3%)
		4	3.06	H-1→L (67.5%) H→L+1 (17.6%)
3	$S_n$	1	1.43	H→L (95.3%) H-1→L (2.9%)
	$T_n$	1	0.69	H→L (86.9%) H-1→L (9.3%)
		2	1.23	H-1→L (84.4%) H→L (8.6%)
		3	1.69	H-2→L (94.7%) H-1→L (1.5%)
		4	2.27	H-3→L (86.0%)
4	$S_n$	1	1.47	H→L (95.4%) H-1→L (3.3%)
	$T_n$	1	0.69	H→L (82.6%) H-1→L (13.7%)
		2	1.28	H-1→L (76.9%) H→L (12.6%)
		3	1.73	H-2→L (91.1%) H-1→L (5.6%)
		4	2.69	H-3→L (77.3%) H-6→L (10.7%)
5	$S_n$	1	1.51	H→L (95.1%) H-1→L (3.5%) H-2→L (1.0%)
	$T_n$	1	0.70	H→L (82.1%) H-1→L (14.2%)
		2	1.28	H-1→L (77.1%) H→L (13.1%) H-2→L (5.0%)
		3	1.75	H-2→L (91.8%) H-1→L (4.9%) H→L (1.0%)
		4	2.74	H-4→L (51.9%) H-6→L (26.0%) H-3→L (13.2%)

#### 4. Singlet Oxygen Efficiency



**Fig. S2.** Changes in the absorption spectra (a, b) of DPBF upon laser illumination (525 nm, 0.23 W) in the presence of **4**(a) , **5**(b) with 5 s interval in DCM, the absorption intensity of DPBF (~417 nm) decrease gradually as the laser irradiation time increase, indicating that  $^1\text{O}_2$  is continuously produced over time. Changes in the absorption spectra (c, d) of DPBF upon laser illumination (525 nm, 0.23 W) in the presence of **4**(c), **5**(d) after deoxygenation with 5 s interval in DCM.

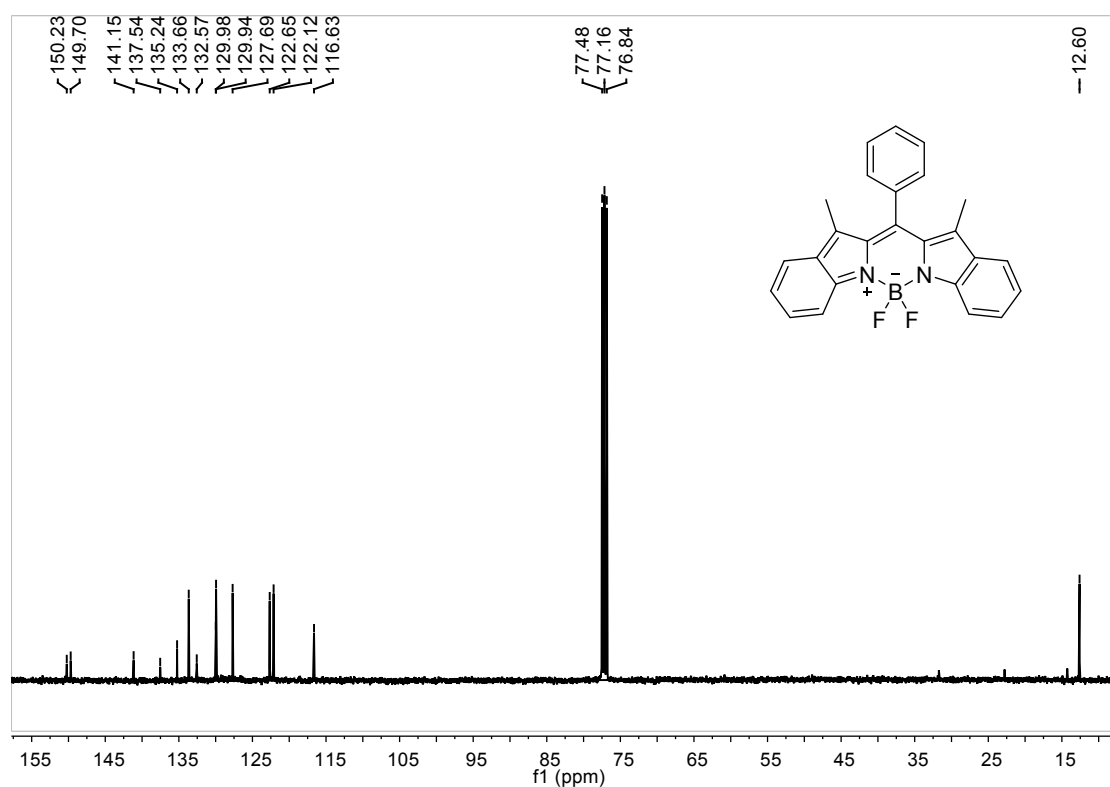
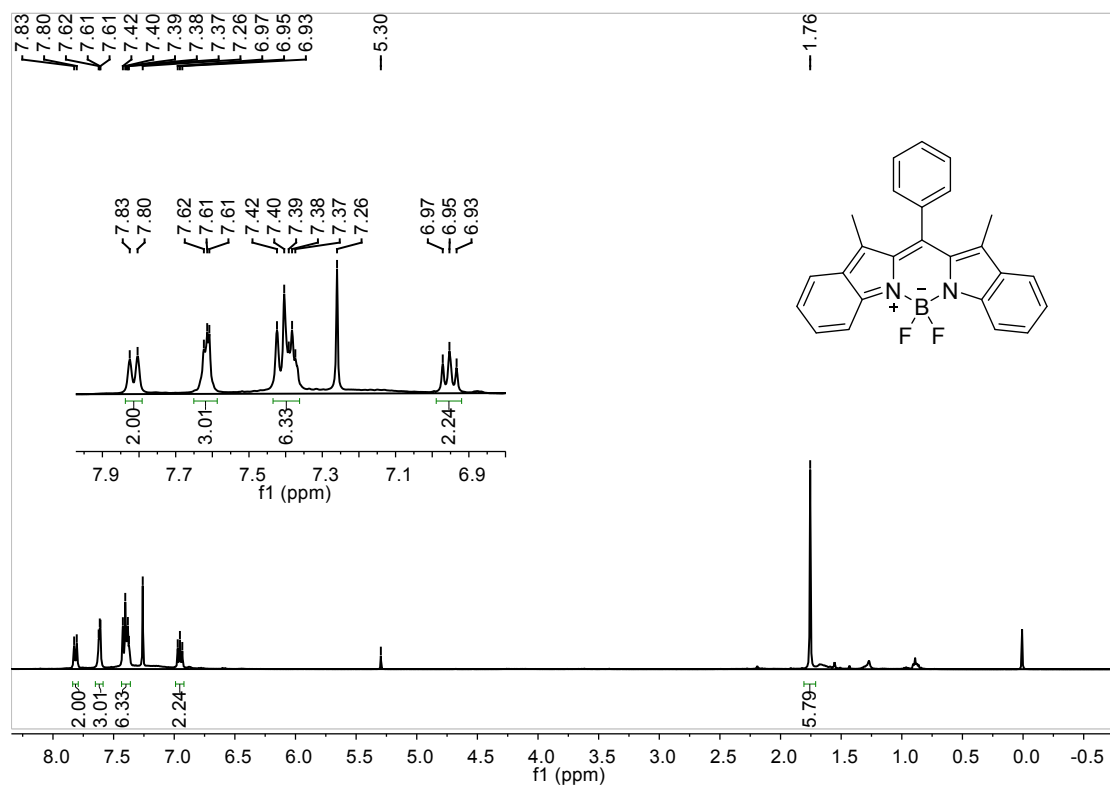
#### 5. NTO analyses

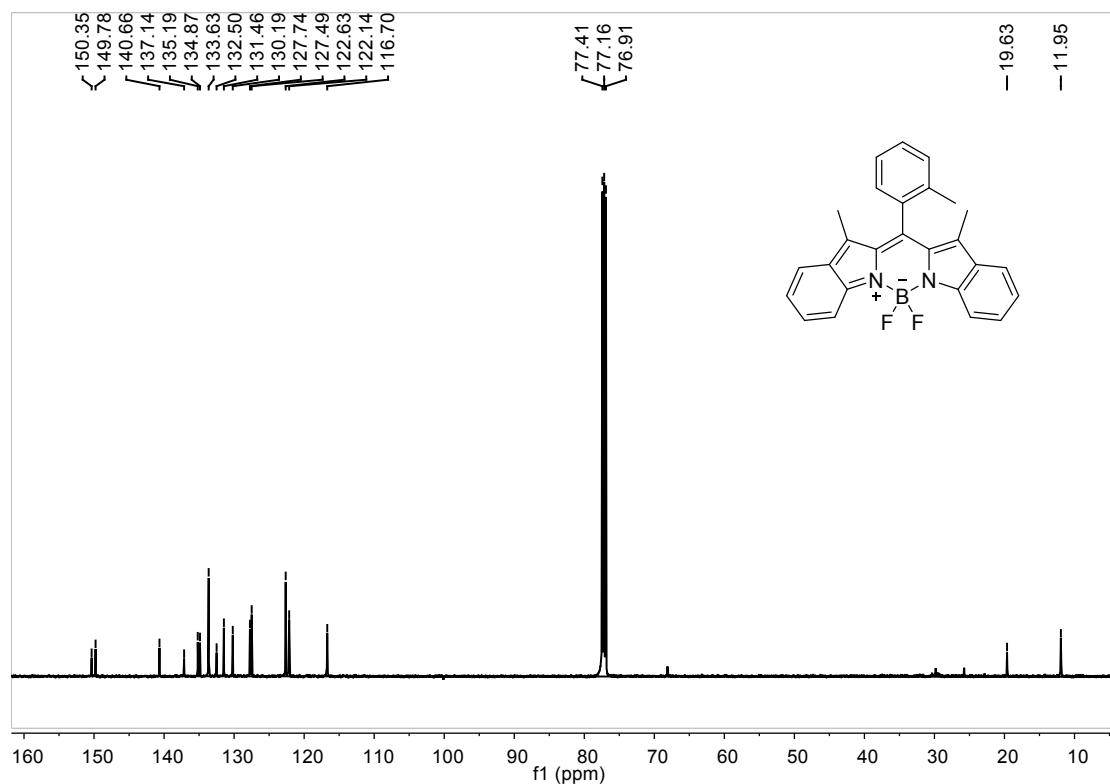
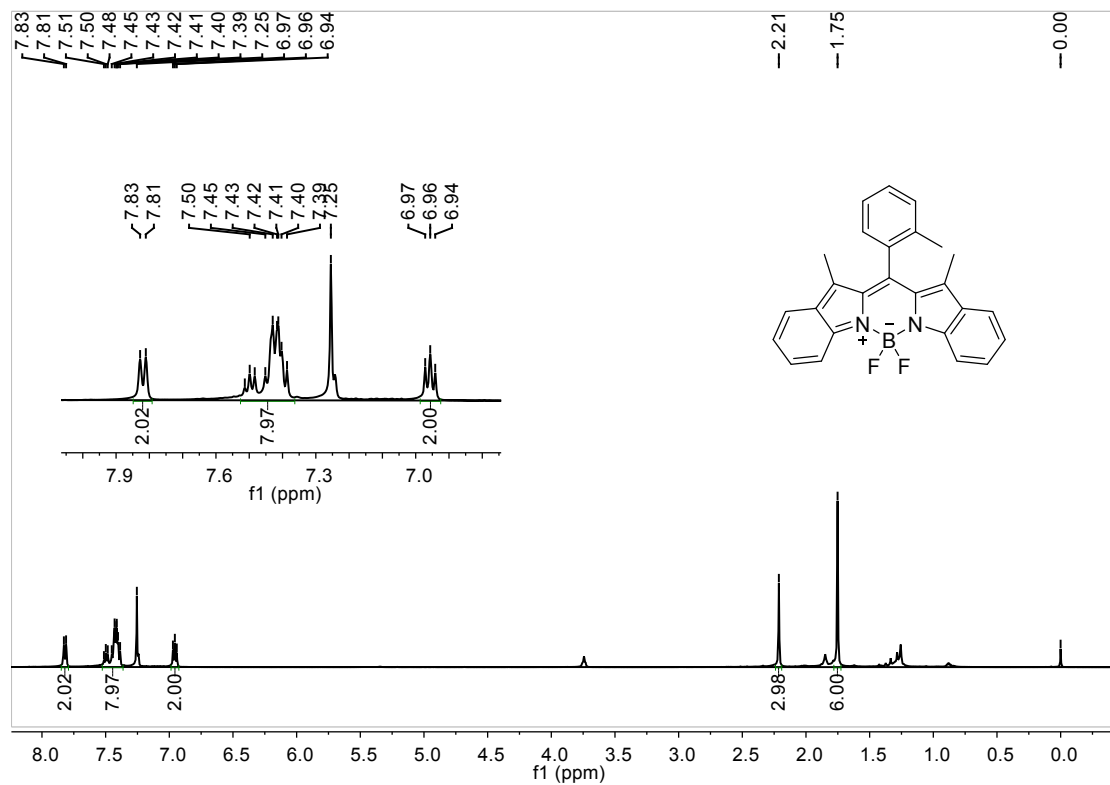


**Fig. S3** Natural transition orbital (NTO) analyses for  $S_1$  and  $T_2$  states of the studied compounds. HOTO: highest occupied transition orbital, LUTO: lowest unoccupied transition orbital.

## 5. $^1\text{H}$ NMR, $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR and HR MS Spectrum







## Mass Spectrum SmartFormula Report

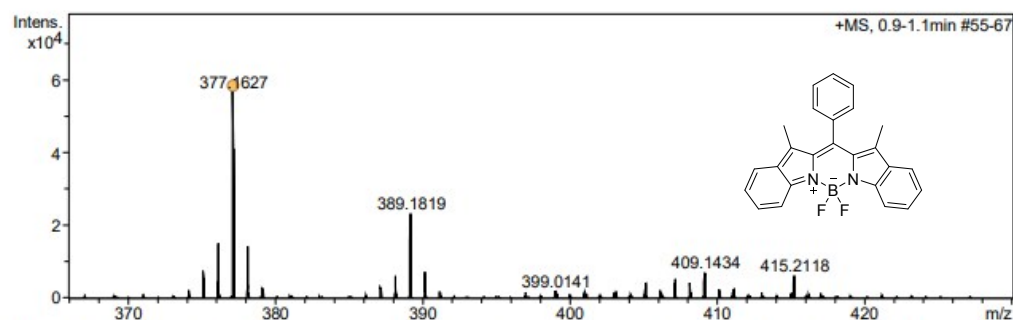
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 Comment

Acquisition Date 12/18/2020 4:12:40 PM  
 Operator BDAL@DE  
 Instrument / Ser# microTOF-Q II 228888.10  
 324

### Acquisition Parameter

Source Type	APCI	Ion Polarity	Positive	Set Nebulizer	0.8 Bar
Focus	Active	Set Capillary	4500 V	Set Dry Heater	200 °C
Scan Begin	100 m/z	Set End Plate Offset	-500 V	Set Dry Gas	2.0 l/min
Scan End	1100 m/z	Set Collision Cell RF	180.0 Vpp	Set Divert Valve	Source



Meas. m/z	#	Ion Formula	m/z	err [ppm]	mSigma	# Sigma	Score	rdb	e <sup>-</sup> Conf	N-Rule
377.1627	1	C25H19BFN2	377.1624	-0.8	21.4	1	100.00	17.5	even	ok

## Mass Spectrum SmartFormula Report

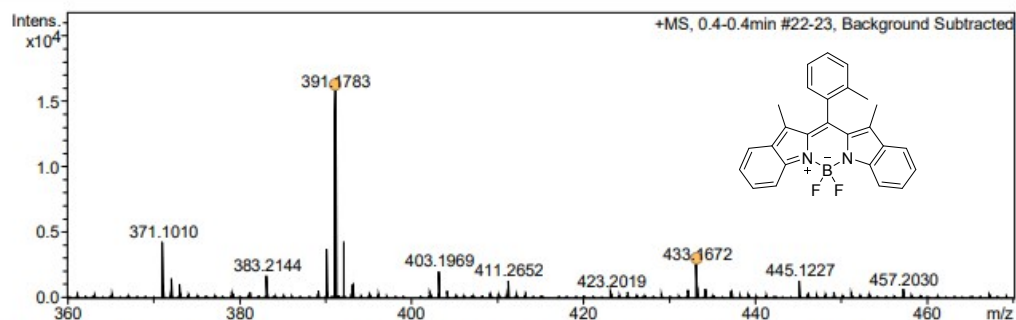
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 Comment

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 Operator BDAL@DE  
 Instrument / Ser# microTOF-Q II 228888.10  
 324

### Acquisition Parameter

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Scan End	1000 m/z	Set Collision Cell RF	180.0 Vpp	Set Divert Valve	Source



Meas. m/z	#	Ion Formula	m/z	err [ppm]	mSigma	# Sigma	Score	rdb	e <sup>-</sup> Conf	N-Rule
391.1783	1	C26H21BFN2	391.1781	-0.5	15.1	1	100.00	17.5	even	ok
433.1672	1	C26H21BF2N2Na	433.1663	2.3	19.9	1	100.00	16.5	even	ok

## 7. The Cartesian coordinates of the optimized geometries

(1)			
C	-1.20640400	1.00281200	0.11865800
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C	4.09199800	-4.75711400	0.22976500
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(2)

C	1.20850500	-0.15432400	0.00053800
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C	-2.84415000	-3.43019100	-0.00101200
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C	-2.558426	-0.100034	-0.091975
C	4.723826	-1.613418	-0.347088
C	5.160545	-2.908131	-0.511155
C	4.246132	-3.981145	-0.565791

C	2.882254	-3.785398	-0.452163
C	-3.043625	-3.695080	0.246841
C	-4.429950	-3.877361	0.210929
C	-5.277710	-2.792677	0.064220
C	-4.777871	-1.471195	-0.048601
C	3.149453	1.114397	0.204400
C	0.033692	1.592060	0.093719
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C	4.056577	1.663698	-0.707232
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C	4.256955	3.649310	0.639851
C	3.374566	3.101605	1.565901
C	2.830721	1.845772	1.354045
C	0.667400	2.337008	-0.906134
C	0.665357	3.721807	-0.865437
C	0.024299	4.388635	0.172863
C	-0.616164	3.659950	1.168711
C	-0.615674	2.274402	1.127390
C	-4.086088	1.757649	0.481613
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C	-3.069392	3.312545	-1.583518
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(4)

C	1.221734	0.287297	-0.001896
N	1.223368	-1.106885	-0.065464
B	0.051726	-1.981405	0.344830
N	-1.229405	-1.110590	0.079782
C	-1.236902	0.286996	-0.016080
C	0.029190	0.997191	0.031855
C	2.575953	0.750104	0.007431
C	3.382616	-0.396553	-0.093407
C	2.518802	-1.531475	-0.125351
C	-2.492182	-1.578496	-0.022799
C	-3.362803	-0.476632	-0.188685
C	-2.527934	0.720972	-0.203913
C	4.778541	-0.585184	-0.145976
C	5.270145	-1.868673	-0.218714
C	4.399088	-2.978113	-0.240383
C	3.024643	-2.829289	-0.193011
C	-2.950358	-2.899125	0.021180
C	-4.330151	-3.109618	-0.093578
C	-5.189991	-2.039514	-0.253280
C	-4.709971	-0.701105	-0.305177
C	3.091563	2.138027	0.140952
C	-0.008171	2.470079	0.057677
C	-3.069328	2.088086	-0.414987
C	0.378212	3.215746	-1.059107
C	0.306803	4.602098	-1.042091
C	-0.149747	5.264056	0.092239
C	-0.536230	4.531318	1.209494
C	-0.471332	3.145048	1.190872
F	0.061978	-2.297021	1.696876
F	-0.030235	-3.139321	-0.423941
H	5.450545	0.266371	-0.130818
H	6.340811	-2.036328	-0.261574
H	4.820254	-3.976243	-0.298116
H	2.355523	-3.679446	-0.219043
H	-2.247660	-3.715729	0.124930
H	-4.721158	-4.119223	-0.061135
H	-6.256045	-2.215602	-0.343981
H	-5.412714	0.115873	-0.431824



H	2.498344	2.729848	0.840980
H	4.122819	2.114545	0.501405
H	3.088091	2.680048	-0.811798
H	-3.994422	2.041224	-0.995952
H	-3.304832	2.575701	0.538849
H	-2.364942	2.735416	-0.936386
H	0.723281	2.693066	-1.945145
H	0.605459	5.168008	-1.918346
H	-0.203752	6.347312	0.105996
H	-0.886230	5.042761	2.100099
H	-0.768570	2.569368	2.061499

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C	1.207716	0.122072	-0.117166
N	1.146286	-1.268340	-0.051173
B	-0.090687	-2.065568	0.315961
N	-1.309564	-1.134409	-0.034403
C	-1.245142	0.264202	-0.096834
C	0.059047	0.897339	-0.112305
C	2.578648	0.518599	-0.233016
C	3.331003	-0.668132	-0.231530
C	2.416580	-1.759349	-0.117186
C	-2.600269	-1.530566	-0.099621
C	-3.416126	-0.378461	-0.179830
C	-2.520426	0.774372	-0.165447
C	4.713277	-0.930909	-0.322239
C	5.142874	-2.237865	-0.289062
C	4.222963	-3.300941	-0.170767
C	2.860016	-3.081168	-0.084886
C	-3.127387	-2.824921	-0.073996
C	-4.520750	-2.958082	-0.136310
C	-5.327271	-1.839050	-0.216251
C	-4.777866	-0.526593	-0.234593
C	3.135988	1.890471	-0.366367
C	0.124167	2.374696	-0.147456
C	-2.999448	2.179373	-0.230754
C	-0.015357	3.047576	-1.360787
C	0.024977	4.434053	-1.415659
C	0.201266	5.158411	-0.243813
C	0.337831	4.493114	0.968197
C	0.303136	3.101304	1.040175
F	-0.173143	-2.337991	1.675853
F	-0.196258	-3.240422	-0.422743
H	5.424377	-0.116479	-0.411595

H	6.202242	-2.460623	-0.355328
H	4.595981	-4.319440	-0.149738
H	2.153174	-3.897094	-0.008493
H	-2.465638	-3.680147	-0.025853
H	-4.964025	-3.946331	-0.124545
H	-6.404253	-1.954938	-0.264949
H	-5.440427	0.331264	-0.284408
H	2.950021	2.503181	0.521912
H	4.216043	1.842884	-0.518288
H	2.697908	2.431655	-1.209761
H	-4.001572	2.256678	0.199911
H	-2.340844	2.867228	0.298229
H	-3.060968	2.529608	-1.268337
H	-0.150849	2.465469	-2.266945
H	-0.079350	4.944974	-2.366842
H	0.232862	6.242543	-0.271429
H	0.473467	5.063767	1.882259
C	0.455520	2.390700	2.352047
H	-0.354113	1.672076	2.509574
H	1.387391	1.816838	2.385217
H	0.459764	3.098219	3.183380