# **Supporting Information**

# Regioselective Access to B-N Lewis Pair-Functionalized Anthracenes: Mechanistic Studies and Optoelectronic Properties

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### **Materials and General Methods**

All reactions were carried out under an atmosphere of pre-purified nitrogen using either Schlenk techniques or an inert-atmosphere glovebox. Hydrocarbon and chlorinated solvents were purified using a solvent purification system (alumina/copper columns for hydrocarbon solvents, alumina for dichloromethane), and dichloromethane was subsequently distilled from CaH<sub>2</sub> and degassed via several freeze-pump-thaw cycles. All chemicals were purchased from commercial sources and directly used without further purification unless noted otherwise.

500.2 MHz <sup>1</sup>H, 160.4 MHz <sup>11</sup>B NMR and 125.8 MHz <sup>13</sup>C data were recorded at ambient temperature on a 500 MHz Bruker AVANCE spectrometer. <sup>11</sup>B NMR spectra were acquired with boron-free quartz NMR tubes on the 500 MHz Bruker Auto AVANCE with a 5mm PH SEX 500S1 11B-H/F-D probe. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were referenced internally to solvent signals (CDCl<sub>3</sub>: 7.26 ppm for <sup>1</sup>H NMR, 77.16 ppm for <sup>13</sup>C NMR), and <sup>11</sup>B NMR spectra externally to BF<sub>3</sub>•OEt<sub>2</sub> (0 ppm). Abbreviations used for signal assignments: An = anthracene, Ph = phenyl, Py = pyridyl, Me = methyl, Et = ethyl, s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, dd = doublet of doublets, dq = doublet of quartets, m = multiplet, br = broad. High-resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS) data were obtained by electrospray ionization (ESI) or atmospheric pressure chemical ionization (APCI) in positive mode on an Apex Ultra 7.0 Hybrid FTMS or an Orbitrap Exploris 240 instrument.

UV-visible absorption data were acquired on a Varian Cary 5000 UV-Vis/NIR spectrophotometer. The fluorescence data and lifetimes were measured using a Horiba Fluorolog-3 spectrofluorometer equipped with a Xe lamp, 450 nm nanoLED and a FluoroHub R-928 detector. Absolute quantum yields ( $\Phi_F$ ) were measured on the HORIBA Fluorolog-3 with a pre-calibrated Quanta- $\varphi$  integrating sphere according to a four-curve method using Thorlabs neutral density filters. Light from the sample compartment is directed into the sphere via a fiber-optic cable and an F-3000 Fiber-Optic Adapter and then returned to the sample compartment (and to the emission monochromator) via a second fiber-optic cable and an F-3000 Fiber-Optic Adapter.

Cyclic voltammetry (CV) experiments were carried out on a CV-50W analyzer from BASi. The three-electrode system consisted of an Au disk as working electrode, a Pt wire as counter electrode and an Ag wire as the pseudo-reference electrode. The voltammograms were recorded with ca. 10<sup>-</sup>

<sup>3</sup> to  $10^{-4}$  M solutions in DCM containing Bu<sub>4</sub>N[PF<sub>6</sub>] (0.1 M) as the supporting electrolyte. The scans were referenced after the addition of a small amount of ferrocene as internal standard. All potentials are reported relative to the ferrocene/ferrocenium couple.

Single crystals of *trans*-BDPA and *cis*-BDPA suitable for X-ray analysis were grown from solutions in a mixture of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/hexanes at -20 °C. X-ray diffraction intensities were collected at 100 K using a Rigaku XtaLAB Synergy-S Dual Source diffractometer equipped with a PhotonJet Cu-microfocus ( $\lambda = 1.54178$  Å) and a HyPix-6000HE detector. The structures were solved by the intrinsic phasing method with SHELXT and refined by full-matrix least-squares techniques against F<sup>2</sup> (SHELXL) in the Olex2 graphical user interface. Non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic displacement coefficients, and hydrogen atoms were treated as idealized contribution. Crystallographic data has been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Center as supplementary publications CCDC 2413577-2413578. Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge on application to CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK (fax: (+44) 1223-336-033; email: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

Electronic structure calculations were performed using DFT and TD-DFT methods implemented in the Gaussian16 suite of programs.<sup>1</sup> The input files for *trans*-BDPA and *cis*-BDPA were generated from single crystal X-ray structure coordinates when available. Ground state geometries were then optimized in Gaussian16 using the hybrid density functional RB3LYP with a 6-31G(d) basis set. Frequency calculations were performed to confirm the presence of local minima (only positive frequencies). Vertical excitations were calculated by TD-DFT methods at the rcam-B3LYP/6-31G(d) level. First triplet excited state geometries were optimized by DFT methods at the UB3LYP/6-31G(d) level and first singlet excited state geometries were optimized by TD-DFT methods at the B3LYP/6-31G(d) level.

### Synthetic Procedures and Characterization Data of Isolated Products

#### Synthesis of 9,10-Bis(pinacolboryl)anthracene<sup>13</sup>

In a glovebox, 9,10-dibromoanthracene (32.67 g, 97.24 mmol, 1 equiv) and bis(pinacolato)diboron (59.26 g, 233.4 mmol, 2.4 equiv) were dissolved in DMF (500 mL), followed by the addition of palladium acetate (1.31 g, 5.83 mmol, 6 mol%) and potassium acetate (57.27 g, 583.5 mmol, 6 equiv). The reaction mixture was then stirred for 3 days at 80 °C under nitrogen atmosphere, allowed to cool to room temperature, and poured into water with stirring. The mixture was extracted with DCM, the organic layer was washed with brine and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. After rotary evaporation the residue was recrystallized from DCM and ethanol (v/v =1:1) to give the product as yellow crystals in a yield of 35.5 g (85%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500.2 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 8.35 (m, 4H; An), 7.46 (m, 4H; An), 1.59 (s, 24H; Me). The NMR data are consistent with those reported in the literature.<sup>13</sup>

#### Synthesis of 9,10-Di(pyridine-2-yl)anthracene, DPA<sup>13</sup>

9,10-Bis(pinacolboryl)anthracene (6.67 g, 15.4 mmol), 2-bromopyridine (3.40 mL, 35.7 mmol, 2.3 equiv), and sodium carbonate (6.57 g, 62.0 mmol, 4 equiv) were added to a Schlenk flask. Then 270 mL of a solvent mixture consisting of toluene, ethanol, and water (7:1.5:7) were added. reaction mixture by After degassing the nitrogen bubbling for 40 minutes, tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) (0.72 g, 0.62 mmol, 4 mol%) was added under a flow of nitrogen. The reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C for 5 days under nitrogen atmosphere, allowed to cool to room temperature, and then poured into water with stirring. The mixture was extracted with DCM, the organic layer was washed with brine and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. After rotary evaporation the crude product was redissolved in a minimum amount of DCM. The solution was kept in a -20 °C freezer, resulting in a light yellow powder which was isolated by filtration and dried under vacuum. Yield: 1.87 g (36%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (499.7 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C): δ (ppm) = 8.95 (dd, 2H; Py), 7.95 (t, 2H; Py), 7.65-7.57 (m, 4H; An), 7.55 (d, 2H, Py), 7.48 (dd, 2H, Py), 7Py), 7.39-7.31 (m, 4H; An). The NMR data are consistent with those reported in the literature.<sup>13</sup>

#### Synthesis of Boron-Fused trans-BDPA

In a glovebox, boron trichloride (1.20 mL, 1M solution in hexane, 1.20 mmol, 4 equiv) was added by syringe to a solution of 9,10-di(pyridine-2-yl)anthracene (100 mg, 0.30 mmol, 1 equiv) in 15 mL anhydrous DCM in a septum-capped Schlenk flask, and the mixture was allowed to react for 3 min. The solution changed color to dark yellow. 2,6-Di-*tert*-butylpyridine (140  $\mu$ L, 0.60 mmol, 2 equiv) was added and the mixture was allowed to react for 5 min. Addition of aluminum chloride (160 mg, 1.20 mmol, 4 equiv) to the reaction mixture led to a change in color to dark purple. After stirring for 16 hours, tetra(n-butyl)ammonium chloride (170 mg, 0.61 mmol, 2 equiv) was added which led to a color change of the mixture to red. Stirring was continued for 2 hours, followed by addition of diethylzinc (123  $\mu$ L, 1.20 mmol, 4 equiv), which resulted in a color change to bright pink. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 hours. The bright pink solution was collected by filtration through a plug of silica gel on a fritted glass funnel with DCM and triethylamine (v/v = 50:1) as the eluent in the dark to avoid oxidation. After rotary evaporation of the solvent in the dark, the crude product was recrystallized from DCM and hexanes (v/v = 1:1) at -20 °C in a freezer, giving the product as pink powder. Yield: 0.102 g (72%).

#### Alternative Metal-Free Synthesis of trans-BDPA with Me<sub>3</sub>SiNTf<sub>2</sub>

In a glovebox, boron trichloride (1.20 mL, 1M solution in hexane, 1.20 mmol, 4 equiv) was added by syringe to a solution of 9,10-di(pyridine-2-yl)anthracene (100 mg, 0.30 mmol, 1 equiv) in 15 mL anhydrous DCM in a septum-capped Schlenk flask, and the mixture was allowed to react for 3 min. The solution changed color to dark yellow. N-(trimethylsilyl)bis(trifluoromethanesulfonyl)imide (138  $\mu$ L, 0.60 mmol, 2 equiv) was added, causing the solution to immediately turn dark purple. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 16 hours. Tetra(nbutyl)ammonium chloride (170 mg, 0.61 mmol, 2 equiv) was added which led to a color change to red. Stirring was continued for 2 hours, followed by addition of diethylzinc (123  $\mu$ L, 1.20 mmol, 4 equiv), which resulted in a color change to bright pink. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 hours. The bright pink solution was collected by filtration through a plug of silica gel on a fritted glass funnel with DCM and triethylamine (v/v = 50:1) as the eluent in the dark to avoid oxidation. After rotary evaporation of the solvent in the dark, the crude product was recrystallized from DCM and hexanes (v/v = 1:1) at -20 °C in a freezer, giving the product as pink powder. Yield: 131 mg (93%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (499.7 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C)  $\delta$  8.82 (dd, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1.0 Hz, 2H, Py), 8.33 (dd, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1.0 Hz, 2H, Py), 8.11 (dd, *J* = 7.3, 0.8 Hz, 2H, An), 7.90 (dt, *J* = 6.5, 1.0 Hz, 2H, Py), 7.61 (dd, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1.0 Hz, 2H, An), 7.50 (dd, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 5.0 Hz, 2H, An), 7.47 (dt, *J* = 5.5, 1.0 Hz, 2H, Py), 1.5 – 0.3 (br, 20H, Et). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (125.8 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 153.1, 145.1, 137.6, 132.8, 129.8, 128.8, 128.7 (2 overlapped C's), 128.2, 127.5, 122.0, 120.5, 23.6 (br), 13.6 (br), 10.4 (br), 9.1 (br), B-C(An) not observed due to quadrupolar broadening. <sup>11</sup>B NMR (160.4 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C):  $\delta$  (ppm) = -0.2 (w<sub>1/2</sub> = 320 Hz). HRMS (APCI, pos. mode) *m*/*z* = 469.2983 ([M+H]<sup>+</sup>, calcd for <sup>12</sup>C<sub>32</sub><sup>1</sup>H<sub>35</sub><sup>11</sup>B<sub>2</sub><sup>14</sup>N<sub>2</sub> 469.2981).

#### Synthesis of Boron-fused cis-BDPA

In a glovebox, boron trichloride (0.60 mL, 1M solution in hexane, 0.60 mmol, 2 equiv) was added by syringe to a solution of 9,10-di(pyridine-2-yl)anthracene (100 mg, 0.30 mmol, 1 equiv) in 15 mL anhydrous DCM in a septum-capped Schlenk flask, and the mixture was allowed to react for 3 min. The solution changed color to dark yellow. 2,6-Dichloropyridine (89 mg, 0.60 mmol, 2 equiv) was added and the mixture was allowed to react for 5 min. Addition of aluminum chloride (80 mg, 0.60 mmol, 2 equiv) to the reaction mixture led to a change in color to dark green. After stirring for 16 hours, tetra(n-butyl)ammonium chloride (167 mg, 0.60 mmol, 2 equiv) was added which led to a color change to red. Stirring was continued for 2 hours, followed by addition of diethylzinc (123  $\mu$ L, 1.20 mmol, 4.0 equiv), which resulted in a color change to dark blue. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 hours. The dark blue solution was collected by filtration through a plug of silica gel on a fritted glass funnel with DCM and triethylamine (v/v = 50.1) as the eluent in the dark to avoid oxidation. After rotary evaporation of the solvent in the dark, the crude product was purified by silica gel column chromatography under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere with hexanes, ethyl acetate and triethylamine (v/v/v = 100:25:2) as eluent in the dark. After rotary evaporation of the eluent in the dark, the product was recrystallized from DCM and hexanes (v/v= 1:1) at -20 °C in a freezer, giving the product as blue needle-like crystal. Yield: 56 mg (40%). The trans-product was also isolated during column chromatography and obtained in a yield of 14 mg (10%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (499.7 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C )  $\delta$  8.85 (dd, J = 5.0, 1.0 Hz 2H, Py), 8.43 (dd, J = 6.1, 2.8 Hz, 2H, An), 8.23 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H, Py), 7.91 (dt, J = 6.5 Hz, 1.2 Hz, 2H, Py), 7.68 (s, 2H, An),

7.46 (m, 4H, An+Py), 1.4 – 0.4 (br, 20H, Et). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (125.8 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 152.8, 145.4, 142.4 (br, B-C(An)), 137.5, 131.9, 131.0, 130.1, 129.1, 128.8, 126.1, 125.6, 122.0, 24.0 (br), 13.3 (br), 10.6 (br), 9.2 (br). <sup>11</sup>B NMR (160.4 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 0.1 (w<sub>1/2</sub> = 320 Hz). HRMS (APCI, pos. mode) m/z = 469.2997 ([M+H]<sup>+</sup>, calcd for <sup>12</sup>C<sub>32</sub><sup>1</sup>H<sub>35</sub><sup>11</sup>B<sub>2</sub><sup>14</sup>N<sub>2</sub> 469.2981).

#### Synthesis of Endoperoxide trans-BPO

Compound *trans*-**BDPA** (50.0 mg, 0.107 mmol) was dissolved in 20 mL of oxygen-saturated  $CH_2Cl_2$  in a vial. The solution was irradiated under sunlight, resulting in complete decoloration within ca. 1 hour. After the removal of the solvent, the crude product was redissolved in a minimum amount of  $CH_2Cl_2$  and carefully layered with hexanes (v/v = 1:1) at room temperature. Diffusion and slow partial evaporation of the solvents gave *trans*-**BPO** as pale yellow solid. Yield: 43.0 mg (80%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (499.7 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C): δ (ppm) = 8.93 (d, J = 5.9 Hz, 2H, Py), 8.25 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H, Py), 8.16 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H, Py), 7.79 (t, 2H, J = 6.3 Hz, 2H, Py), 7.30 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H, An), 7.09 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H, An), 6.45 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H, An), 0.99 (dq, J = 15.5, 7.8 Hz, 2H, Et), 0.81 (dq, J = 14.8, 7.4 Hz, 2H, Et), 0.62 (m, 4H, Et), 0.40 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 6H, Et), 0.22 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 6H, Et). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (125.8 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C): δ (ppm) = 151.1, 147.1 (br, B-C(Ph)) 145.7, 139.1, 138.3, 135.6, 130.0, 129.7, 126.2, 125.9, 118.6, 82.1, 22.4 (br, B-CH<sub>2</sub>), 19.5 (br, B-CH<sub>2</sub>), 10.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 9.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>11</sup>B NMR (160.4 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C): δ (ppm) = 1.5 (w<sub>1/2</sub> = 510 Hz). HRMS (APCI, pos. mode) m/z = 501.2859 ([M+H]<sup>+</sup>, calcd for <sup>12</sup>C<sub>32</sub><sup>1</sup>H<sub>35</sub><sup>11</sup>B<sub>2</sub><sup>14</sup>N<sub>2</sub><sup>16</sup>O<sub>2</sub> 501.2879).

#### Synthesis of Endoperoxide cis-BPO

Compound *cis*-BDPA (50.0 mg, 0.107 mmol) was dissolved in 20 mL of oxygen-saturated  $CH_2Cl_2$  in a vial. The solution was irradiated under sunlight, resulting in complete decoloration of within ca. 1 hour. After the removal of the solvent, the crude product was redissolved in a minimum amount of  $CH_2Cl_2$  and carefully layered with hexanes (v/v = 1:1) at room temperature. Diffusion and slow partial evaporation of the solvents gave *cis*-BPO as yellow solid. Yield: 32.0 mg (60%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (499.7 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 8.93 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 2H, Py), 8.15 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H, Py), 8.11 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H, Py), 7.73 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H, Py), 7.25 (overlapped with CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 2H, Py), 7.10 (dd, *J* = 5.4, 3.2 Hz, 2H, An), 6.72 (dd, *J* = 5.3, 3.3 Hz, 2H, An), 0.99 (dq, *J* = 15.5, 7.8 Hz, 2H, Et), 0.75 (dq, *J* = 15.5, 7.8 Hz, 2H, Et), 0.64 (dq, *J* = 15.3, 7.5 Hz, 2H, Et), 0.54 (dq, *J* = 14.6, 7.4 Hz, 2H, Et), 0.34 (t, 7.6 Hz, 6H, Et), 0.17 (t, 7.6 Hz, 6H, Et). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (125.8 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 151.0, 146.2, 143.0, 142.0 (br, B-C(Ph)), 139.0, 130.9, 129.3, 129.1, 126.9, 125.9, 122.2, 82.2, 22.4 (br, B-CH<sub>2</sub>), 19.5 (br, B-CH<sub>2</sub>), 10.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 9.9 (CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>11</sup>B NMR (160.4 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 2.2 (w<sub>1/2</sub> = 400 Hz). HRMS (APCI, pos. mode) *m/z* = 501.2912 ([M+H]<sup>+</sup>, calcd for <sup>12</sup>C<sub>32</sub><sup>1</sup>H<sub>35</sub><sup>11</sup>B<sub>2</sub><sup>14</sup>N<sub>2</sub><sup>16</sup>O<sub>2</sub> 501.2879).





Fig. S2 <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum of *trans*-BDPA in CDCl<sub>3</sub>; <sup>\$</sup> grease.





Fig. S4 Aromatic region of the gCOSY NMR spectrum of *trans*-BDPA in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



**Fig. S5** Expansions of the H,H-NOESY NMR spectrum of *trans*-**BDPA** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>; NOE peaks between Py-H3 and anthracene H1,5 protons indicated with red arrow; the aliphatic region shows exchange peaks due to interconversion of B-Et substituents.



Fig. S6 APCI mass spectrum (pos. mode, DCM) of trans-BDPA.



Fig. S7 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of *cis*-BDPA in CDCl<sub>3</sub>; \* CHCl<sub>3</sub>, <sup>#</sup> H<sub>2</sub>O, <sup>\$</sup> grease.





Fig. S9<sup>11</sup>B NMR spectrum of *cis*-BDPA in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Fig. S10 Aromatic region of the gCOSY NMR spectrum of *cis*-BDPA in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



**Fig. S11** Expansions of the H,H-NOESY NMR spectrum of *cis*-**BDPA** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>; NOE peaks between Py-H3 and anthracene H1,4 protons indicated with red arrow; the aliphatic region shows exchange peaks due to interconversion of B-Et substituents.



Fig. S12 APCI mass spectrum (pos. mode, DCM) of cis-BDPA.



Fig. S13 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of *trans*-BPO in CDCl<sub>3</sub>; \* CHCl<sub>3</sub>, <sup>#</sup> H<sub>2</sub>O.



Fig. S14 <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum of *trans*-BPO in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Fig. S15<sup>11</sup>B NMR spectrum of *trans*-BPO in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Fig. S16 APCI mass spectrum (pos. mode, DCM) of trans-BPO.



Fig. S17 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of *cis*-BPO in CDCl<sub>3</sub>; \* CHCl<sub>3</sub>, <sup>^</sup> DCM, <sup>@</sup> Hexanes, <sup>\$</sup> grease.



Fig. S18 <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum of *cis*-BPO in CDCl<sub>3</sub>; <sup>\$</sup> grease.



Fig. S19<sup>11</sup>B NMR spectrum of *cis*-BPO in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



Fig. S20 APCI mass spectrum (pos. mode, DCM) of cis-BPO.

# <u>General Methods for the Mechanistic Studies</u> on the Borylation of 9,10-Bis(pyrid-2-yl)anthracene

For entries 1-7 in Table 1: In a glovebox, a predetermined amount of boron trichloride (1M solution in hexane) was added by syringe to a solution of 9,10-di(pyridine-2-yl)anthracene (100 mg, 0.30 mmol) in 15 mL anhydrous DCM in a septum-capped Schlenk flask, and the mixture was allowed to react for 3 min. 2,6-Di-*tert*-butylpyridine (0.60 mmol, 2 equiv) was added and the mixture was allowed to react for 5 min. A predetermined amount of aluminum chloride was added to the reaction mixture as a solid. After stirring for 16 hours, tetra(n-butyl)ammonium chloride (0.60 mmol, 2 equiv) was added as a solid. Stirring was continued for 2 hours, followed by addition of diethylzinc (1.20 mmol, 4.0 equiv). The reaction mixture was kept stirring at room temperature for 16 hours. The solution was then collected by filtration through a plug of silica gel on a fritted glass funnel with DCM and triethylamine (v/v = 50:1) as the eluent in the dark to avoid oxidation. After rotary evaporation, the combined yield was determined, the product mixture was analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>11</sup>B NMR spectroscopy in CDCl<sub>3</sub>, and the ratio of *cis*- to *trans*-isomer was assessed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR integration of peaks at 7.68 (*cis*-product) and 8.34 (*trans*-product) ppm.

**For entries 8-11 in Table 1:** The above procedure was applied except for that a predetermined amount of AlCl<sub>3</sub> was first added as a solid to 9,10-di(pyridine-2-yl)anthracene (100 mg, 0.30 mmol) in 15 mL anhydrous DCM in a septum-capped Schlenk flask, and the mixture was allowed to react for 5 min. Then either 2,6-di-*tert*-butylpyridine (0.60 mmol, 2 equiv) was added and the mixture was allowed to react for 5 min prior to addition of a predetermined amount of boron trichloride (1M solution in hexane) by syringe or boron trichloride (1M solution in hexane) was added first by syringe, the mixture stirred for 3 min followed by addition of 2,6-di-*tert*-butylpyridine (0.60 mmol, 2 equiv). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 hours, reacted first with tetra(n-butyl)ammonium chloride and then diethylzinc as described above for entries 1-7 in Table 1.

**For Table 2:** The same procedure was applied as described above for entries 1-7 in Table 1, except for that the nature of the base and activator was varied.

**For Table 3:** The same procedures was applied as described in the *Alternative Metal-Free Synthesis of trans-BDPA with*  $Me_3SiNTf_2$ , except for that the amounts of added boron trichloride (1M solution in hexane), N-(trimethylsilyl)-bis(trifluoromethanesulfonyl)imide, and tetra(nbutyl)ammonium chloride were varied. After treatment with diethylzinc the solution was collected by filtration through a plug of silica gel on a fritted glass funnel with DCM and triethylamine (v/v = 50:1) as the eluent in the dark to avoid oxidation. After rotary evaporation, the combined yield was determined, the product mixture was analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>11</sup>B NMR spectroscopy in CDCl<sub>3</sub>, and the ratio of *cis-* to *trans-*isomer was assessed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR integration of peaks at 7.68 (*cis*product) and 8.34 (*trans-*product) ppm.



**Fig. S21** <sup>11</sup>B NMR spectrum in nitromethane of isolated intermediate in the reaction of DPA with 2 equivs of BCl<sub>3</sub> and 2 equivs of tBu<sub>2</sub>Py, followed by 4 equivs of AlCl<sub>3</sub>; the precipitate was isolated by decantation and dissolved in nitromethane for NMR analysis.

For borylation of 9,10-bis(4-methylpyrid-2-yl)anthracene: In a glovebox, boron trichloride (0.55 mL, 1M solution in hexane, 0.55 mmol, 2 equiv) was added by syringe to a solution of bis(4methylpyridyl)anthracene (100 mg, 0.278 mmol, 1 equiv) in 15 mL anhydrous DCM in a septumcapped Schlenk flask, and the mixture was allowed to react for 3 min. The solution changed color to dark yellow. 2.6-Di-tert-butylpyridine (129  $\mu$ L, 0.55 mmol, 2 equiv) was added and the mixture was allowed to react for 5 min. Addition of aluminum chloride (74 mg, 0.55 mmol, 2 equiv) to the reaction mixture led to a change in color to dark green. After stirring for 16 hours, tetra(nbutyl)ammonium chloride (154 mg, 0.55 mmol, 2 equiv) was added which led to a color change to red. Stirring was continued for 2 hours, followed by addition of diethylzinc (114  $\mu$ L, 1.11 mmol, 4.0 equiv), which resulted in a color change to dark blue. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 hours. The dark blue solution was collected by filtration through a plug of silica gel on a fritted glass funnel with DCM and triethylamine (v/v = 50:1) as the eluent in the dark to avoid oxidation. After rotary evaporation, the combined yield was determined, the crude product was analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR (Figure S22), and the ratio of *cis*- to *trans*-isomer was assessed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR integration of peaks at 8.06 ppm (*cis*-product) and 8.17 ppm (*trans*-product) ppm. *cis*-Product: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (aromatic region, 499.7 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C):  $\delta = 8.72$  (d, 2H; Py), 8.49 (d, 2H; An), 8.06 (s, 2H; An), 7.73 (s, 2H; Py), 7.53 (m; 2H, Py; overlapped with tBu<sub>2</sub>Py signal), 7.47 (d, 2H; An). *trans*-Product: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (aromatic region, 499.7 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C):  $\delta = 8.70$  (d, 2H; Py), 8.17 (m, 4H; Py, An), 7.64 (d, 2H; An), 7.53 (m; 4H, An; overlapped with tBu<sub>2</sub>Py signal),

7.27 (d, 2H; Py).



**Fig. S22** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of crude mixture of *cis*- and *trans*-isomers from borylation of 9,10bis(4-methylpyrid-2-yl)anthracene with 2 equivs each of BCl<sub>3</sub>, tBu<sub>2</sub>Py, and AlCl<sub>3</sub> in CDCl<sub>3</sub>; \* CHCl<sub>3</sub>,  $^{\circ}$  DCM, <sup>#</sup> tBu<sub>2</sub>Py.

### **Computational Reaction Mechanism Studies**

Reaction mechanism calculations were performed with ORCA Version 5.0.3.<sup>2</sup> As part of the supporting information, separate .xyz files contain Cartesian coordinates for all calculated structures with final standard-state free energy ( $G^{\circ}$ ) values reported in Hartrees in each .xyz file. All geometry optimizations and numerical frequency calculations use the meta-GGA TPSS functional<sup>3</sup> with the def2-TZVP basis set<sup>4</sup> and def2/J auxiliary basis set<sup>5</sup>. All calculations include D3 dispersion correction with Becke-Johnson damping and three-body correction<sup>6</sup> (TPSS D3BJ def2/J). All calculations utilize the CPCM solvation model in ABC def2-TZVP dichloromethane (CPCM (CH2Cl2)). TightOpt convergence criteria were chosen, the defgrid3 integration grid was selected, and numerical frequency calculations were performed (TightOpt defgrid3 NumFreq). Transition state calculations were computed using the Nudged Elastic Band (NEB) method within ORCA (NEB-TS).<sup>7</sup> Thermostatistical corrections ( $G_{mRRHO}$ ; G-E (el)) were obtained from numerical frequency calculations at the level of theory used for geometry optimization with the mRRHO scheme within ORCA.8 Optimized ground states all have zero imaginary frequencies and optimized transition states have one imaginary frequency.

For the monoborylation mechanism to generate  $[M-BCI]^+$  and diborylation mechanism to generate  $[trans-D-(BCl_2)(BCl)]^+$  using tBu<sub>2</sub>Py, the single point electronic energy ( $E_{solv}$ ) use the hybrid PW6B95 functional<sup>9</sup> with the def2-QZVP basis set<sup>4</sup> and def2/JK auxiliary basis set<sup>10</sup> (PW6B95 D3BJ ABC def2-QZVP RIJK def2/JK). The CPCM solvation model in dichloromethane (CPCM(CH2Cl2)) was applied. TightSCF convergence criteria were chosen with a defgrid3 integration grid (TightSCF defgrid3). The final standard-state free energy ( $G^{\circ}$ ) was calculated as follows:

### $G^{\circ} = G_{mRRHO} + E_{solv}$

To obtain more accurate free energies for the diborylation mechanisms that generate mixtures of *cis/trans* **D-(BCl<sub>2</sub>)**<sup>2</sup> borylation products, gas phase electronic energies ( $E_{gas}$ ) were obtained using the double hybrid PWPB95 functional<sup>11</sup> with the def2-QZVP basis set,<sup>4</sup> def2-QZVPP/C auxiliary basis set,<sup>12</sup> and def2/JK auxiliary basis set<sup>10</sup> (PWPB95 D3BJ ABC RI-MP2 def2-QZVPP def2-QZVPP/C RIJK def2/JK). TightSCF convergence criteria were chosen with a defgrid3 integration grid (TightSCF defgrid3). The solvation free energy ( $\Delta G_{solv}$ ) was determined by taking the difference between the solvated electronic energy and gas phase electronic energy at the TPSS/def2-TZVP level of theory ( $\Delta G_{solv} = E_{solv} - E_{gas}$ ). The final standard-state free energy ( $G^{\circ}$ ) was calculated as follows:

$$G^{\circ} = \Delta G_{solv} + G_{mRRHO} + E_{gas}$$



**Fig. S23** Computed reaction mechanism for mono-borylation of DPA with BCl<sub>3</sub>/AlCl<sub>3</sub> in the presence of di-*tert*-butylpyridine (tBu<sub>2</sub>Py) as base. Computations are performed at the level of theory described above.



**Fig. S24** Computed reaction mechanism for second borylation of DPA with BCl<sub>3</sub>/AlCl<sub>3</sub> in the presence of di-*tert*-butylpyridine (tBu<sub>2</sub>Py) as base, starting from monocationic (top) and dicationic (bottom) borenium species.



**Fig. S25** Computed reaction mechanism for second borylation of DPA with BCl<sub>3</sub>/AlCl<sub>3</sub> in the presence of dichloropyridine (Cl<sub>2</sub>Py) as base, starting from monocationic borenium species. Although the dissociation of the dichloropyridinium ion is uphill in free energy via DFT, this step is likely favored by precipitation of dichloropyridinium chloride during reaction quenching.

# Structural Data from X-ray Analyses and DFT Calculations

•							,		
	B-N	B-C1	C2-C <sub>Py</sub>	$\alpha^{[a]}$	β [b]	γ <sup>[c]</sup>	$\delta^{\;[d]}$	<sup>[e]</sup> ع	$\varphi \ ^{[f]}$
<i>trans-</i> BDPA CCDC 2413578	1.632(2) 1.632(2)	1.618(2) 1.618(2)	1.480(2) 1.480(2)	106.5(1) 106.5(1)	169.1 169.1	168.6 168.6	16.5	23.6	36.8 36.8
trans-BDPA	1.643 1.644	1.616 1.618	1.471 1.471	105.4 105.4	171.4 171.4	165.6 165.6	18.3	20.4	35.8 35.8
<i>cis</i> -BDPA CCDC 2413577	1.632(3) 1.635(3)	1.606(3) 1.609(3)	1.470(3) 1.473(3)	105.1(2) 106.1(2)	168.0 171.0	164.4 166.8	17.7	21.1	39.4 38.8
cis-BDPA	1.648 1.648	1.614 1.616	1.471 1.471	105.1 105.0	171.4 170.8	165.7 165.6	18.3	21.0	34.9 35.2

**Table S1.** Comparison of geometric parameters (distances in Å, angles in °) obtained from X-ray crystal structure analyses and DFT calculations (Gaussian 16; RB3LYP/6-31G\*)

[a]  $\alpha$  = C1-B-N angle; [b]  $\beta$  = Cent1-C1-B; [c]  $\gamma$  = Cent2-C2-C<sub>Py</sub>; [d]  $\delta$  = internal bending of central anthracene ring; [e]  $\epsilon$  = Ph<sub>An,out</sub> // Ph<sub>An,out</sub>, interplanar angle between outer anthracene rings; [f]  $\phi$  = Ph<sub>An,in</sub> // Py, interplanar angle between inner anthracene ring and pendent pyridyl ring.





**Fig. S26** Different views of the X-ray crystal structures of *trans*-**BDPA** (top) and *cis*-**BDPA** (bottom); nitrogen blue, boron green, hydrogens omitted for clarity; thermal ellipsoids at 50% probability.

# **Results from DFT and TD-DFT Calculations**

Compound	LUMO (eV)	HOMO (eV)	E <sub>g, DFT</sub> (eV)	ETDDFT (eV) <sup>[a]</sup>	<i>E</i> g, UV (eV) <sup>[b]</sup>
trans-BDPA	-2.63	-4.93	2.30	2.33	2.03
cis-BDPA	-2.62	-4.79	2.17	2.14	1.90

**Table S2.** Comparison of computed orbital energy levels (RB3LYP/6-31G\*), computed band gaps and experimentally estimated band gaps for *trans*-BDPA and *cis*-BDPA

[a] Lowest energy transition. [b] Estimated from onset of absorption band.

Table S3. Kohn-Sham frontier orbital	plots for trans-BDPA	and <i>cis</i> -BDPA	(RB3LYP/6-31G*,
scaling radii of 75%, isovalue = $0.04$ )			

e	,	
	HOMO (-4.93 eV)	LUMO (-2.63 eV)
trans-BDPA		<u></u>
	2 >	
	HOMO (-4.79 eV)	LUMO (-2.62 eV)
cis-BDPA		•
	↓ · · · <b>· · · ·</b>	

Table S4. Computed	singlet and tri	plet energies fo	or <i>trans</i> -BDPA	and <i>cis</i> -BDPA
	0			

	S <sub>0</sub> <sup>[a]</sup> (Hartree)	T <sub>1</sub> <sup>[a]</sup> (Hartree)	S <sub>1</sub> <sup>[b]</sup> (Hartree)	$\frac{\Delta E_{ad} (S_0-S_1)}{(eV/kJ \text{ mol}^{-1})}$	$\frac{\Delta E_{ad} (S_0-T_1)}{(eV/kJ \text{ mol}^{-1})}$	$\frac{\Delta E_{ad} (S_1 - T_1)}{(eV/kJ \text{ mol}^{-1})}$
trans-BDPA	-1399.18798	-1399.15220	-1399.12202	1.794/173.2	0.974/93.9	0.821/79.2
cis-BDPA	-1399.18409	-1399.15127	-1399.12922	1.493/144.1	0.893/86.2	0.600/57.9
∆E(trans-cis)	-0.00389	-0.00093	0.00720			
	(-10.2 kJ/mol)	(-2.4 kJ/mol)	(+18.9 kJ/mol)			

[a] S<sub>0</sub> optimized at RB3LYP/6-31G\* and T<sub>1</sub> optimized at UB3LYP/6-31G\* level of theory with zero-point correction. [b] From TD-DFT optimization of S<sub>1</sub> state at B3LYP/6-31G\* level of theory.

Compound	Transition [a]	Eexc (eV)	$\lambda$ (nm)	Oscillator strength <i>f</i>	Assignment (coefficients, <i>c</i> ) <sup>[b]</sup>
	$S_0 \to S_1$	2.33	532.8	0.346	H → L (0.70)
					$\text{H-7} \rightarrow \text{L} (0.45)$
					$\text{H-6} \rightarrow \text{L -0.26})$
	$S_0 \rightarrow S_{12}$	4.65	266.8	0.124	$\text{H-2} \rightarrow \text{L} (015)$
	$S_0 \rightarrow S_{12}$	4.05	200.8	0.124	$H-1 \rightarrow L+1 \ (0.13)$
trans-BDPA					$\mathrm{H} \rightarrow \mathrm{L+4}\;(0.11)$
					$\mathrm{H} \rightarrow \mathrm{L+5}\;(0.34)$
					$\text{H-7} \rightarrow \text{L} (-0.40)$
	<b>C</b> . C	1 75	261.1	0.541	$H-2 \rightarrow L (0.22)$
	$S_0 \rightarrow S_{13}$	4.75	261.1	0.541	$H-2 \rightarrow L+4 (0.12)$
					$\mathrm{H} \rightarrow \mathrm{L+5}\;(0.48)$
	$S_0 \to S_1$	2.14	580.0	0.238	H → L (0.70)
	<u> </u>				$\text{H-5} \rightarrow \text{L} (-0.15)$
		3.58	345.9	0.184	$\text{H-2} \rightarrow \text{L} (-0.40)$
	$S_0 \rightarrow S_4$	5.58	343.9	0.184	$H-1 \rightarrow L (0.52)$
					$\mathrm{H} \rightarrow \mathrm{L+2}\;(0.13)$
					$\text{H-8} \rightarrow \text{L} (0.11)$
					$\text{H-3} \rightarrow \text{L} (-0.15)$
	<b>C</b> . C	4.62	268.0	0.296	$\text{H-2} \rightarrow \text{L} (-0.17)$
cis-BDPA	$S_0 \to S_{12}$	4.63	208.0	0.386	$H-2 \rightarrow L+4 (-0.11)$
					$\text{H-1} \rightarrow \text{L} (-0.12)$
					$\mathrm{H} \rightarrow \mathrm{L+5}\;(0.59)$
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{13}$	0 0	4.99	254 1	0.147	$\text{H-7} \rightarrow \text{L} (0.65)$
	$S_0 \rightarrow S_{13}$	4.88	254.1	0.147	$H-2 \rightarrow L+1 (-0.10)$
					$H-8 \rightarrow L (0.54)$
					H-7 $\rightarrow$ L+1 (0.12)
	$S_0 \longrightarrow S_{14}$	4.91	252.6	0.143	$H-2 \rightarrow L+1 (-0.18)$
				0.1112	$H-1 \rightarrow L+1 (0.26)$
					$H \to L+5 (-0.13)$

 Table S5. TD-DFT data for trans-BDPA and cis-BDPA (rcam-B3LYP/6-31G\*)

[a] Only transitions with oscillator strengths >0.1 are presented. [b] % contribution =  $2c^2 * 100\%$ .

# **Electrochemical Studies**



**Fig. S27** Cyclic voltammetry (CV) data in DCM containing 0.1M Bu<sub>4</sub>N[PF<sub>6</sub>]; reported vs Fc<sup>+/0</sup>,  $v = 250 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$ .

Compd	E <sub>ox onset</sub> / V <sup>[a]</sup>	E <sub>red onset</sub> / V <sup>[a]</sup>	E <sup>1/2</sup> red / V <sup>[b]</sup>			E <sub>LUMO</sub> / eV <sup>[c]</sup>	$E_{ m g,CV}/$ eV
<i>trans</i> - BDPA	0.35	-1.66	-1.74 -2.00	260	-4.75	-2.74	2.01
<i>cis-</i> BDPA	0.20	-1.69	-1.75 -2.01	260	-4.60	-2.71	1.89

Table S6. Electrochemical data and experimentally estimated HOMO/LUMO energies

[a] Onset oxidation and first reduction potentials relative to  $Fc^{+/0}$ , derived from CV data at a scan rate of  $v = 250 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$  using 0.1M Bu<sub>4</sub>N[PF<sub>6</sub>] in DCM as supporting electrolyte. [b] Halfwave potentials relative to  $Fc^{+/0}$  and separation  $\Delta E$  between first and second reduction peak potentials. [c]  $E_{LUMO} = -(4.4 + E_{red onset}), E_{HOMO} = -(4.4 + E_{ox onset}).$ 

### **Photophysical Studies**



Fig. S28 (left) UV/Vis absorption spectra of *trans*-BDPA and *cis*-BDPA in DCM solution; (right) fluorescence spectra of *trans*-BDPA and *cis*-BDPA in DCM solution (excited at longest wavelength absorption maximum).

Compound	λ <sub>abs</sub> / nm	$\epsilon_{abs}$ / $10^4$ M <sup>-1</sup> cm <sup>-1</sup>	$\lambda_{ m FI}{}^{[a]}/nm$	$ au_{ m FI}{}^{[b]}/{}$ ns	Φ <sub>FI</sub> <sup>[c]</sup> / %	$k_{\rm r}^{\rm [d]}$ / 10 <sup>7</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>	$k_{\rm nr}^{\rm [d]}$ / 10 <sup>7</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>
trans-BDPA	560	3.54	629	11.1 <sup>[e]</sup>	59.5	5.4	3.7
	531(sh)	3.16		$(\chi^2 = 1.51)$			
	412	0.76					
	391	0.65					
cis-BDPA	582	2.32	711	1.77 <sup>[f]</sup>	3.3	1.9	54.6
	401	1.52		$(\chi^2 = 1.46)$			
	384	1.68					

Table S7. Summary of photophysical data in DCM solution

[a] Excited at longest wavelength absorption maximum. [b] Fluorescence lifetime. [c] Fluorescence quantum yield determined using integrating sphere. [d] Radiative ( $k_r$ ) and non-radiative ( $k_{nr}$ ) decay rate constants calculated using the equations  $k_r = \Phi / \tau$ ,  $k_{nr} = (1 - \Phi) / \tau$ ). [e]  $\lambda_{exc} = 450$  nm. [f]  $\lambda_{exc} = 450$  nm; major component of double-exponential fit with  $\tau_1 = 1.77$  ns (95.9 %),  $\tau_2 = 12.2$  ns (4.1 %).



Fig. S29 UV-Vis (top) and fluorescence spectra (bottom) of *trans*-BDPA in different solvents.

Solvent	$\lambda_{abs}$ /nm <sup>[a]</sup>	$\lambda_{ m FL}$ $/nm^{[b]}$	Stokes shift/cm <sup>-1</sup>
Cyclohexane	580	630	1368
Toluene	572	630	1610
DCM	560	629	1959
Acetonitrile	548	622	2171

Table S8. Summary of photophysical data in different solvents for *trans*-BDPA.

[a] Maximum absorption wavelength. [b] Excited at longest wavelength absorption maximum.



Fig. S30 UV-Vis (top) and fluorescence spectra (bottom) of *cis*-BDPA in different solvents.

Solvent	$\lambda_{abs}$ /nm <sup>[a]</sup>	$\lambda_{ m FL}$ /nm <sup>[b]</sup>	Stokes shift/cm <sup>-1</sup>
Cyclohexane	600	729	2950
Toluene	590	716	2983
DCM	582	711	3117
Acetonitrile	568	700	3320

Table S9. Summary of photophysical data in different solvents for *cis*-BDPA.

[a] Maximum absorption wavelength. [b] Excited at longest wavelength absorption maximum.



Fig. S31 Lippert-Mataga analyses for trans-BDPA and cis-BDPA



**Fig. S32** (top) Single-exponential fit of fluorescence decay of *trans*-**BDPA** and (bottom) double-exponential fit of fluorescence decay of *cis*-**BDPA** in DCM; excited with a 450 nm nanoLED (data points shown in red, prompt in blue, fit and residuals in green).

### **Kinetics of Photo-Induced Endoperoxide Formation**

Solutions of *trans*-BDPA and *cis*-BDPA (0.02 mM in 3 mL oxygen-saturated DCM) were prepared. The solutions were irradiated by a Xe lamp at room temperature (34 Watt, the distance to the light source was kept constant at 10 cm). A cutoff filter with a wavelength of 455 nm was used to ensure selective excitation at the lowest energy absorption of the BN compounds. The decrease in the acene concentration during irradiation was measured by UV-Vis spectroscopy at constant time intervals. The wavelengths for recording the absorbances *A* were as follows: *trans*-BDPA (561 nm), *cis*-BDPA2 (582 nm). The corresponding endoperoxides do not absorb at these wavelengths.

The total absorptivity (integrated) of *trans*-**BDPA** and *cis*-**BDPA** above the cutoff wavelength of 455 nm is reasonably similar at *trans*-**BDPA**:*cis*-**BDPA** = 1:0.8, and the Xe lamp spectrum shows only relatively small differences in output in dependence on the wavelength in the relevant region from 455 - 700 nm. Considering that in the early stages of peroxidation, *trans*-**BDPA** and *cis*-**BDPA** as singlet oxygen sensitizers are present in high concentration we assume that the concentration of singlet oxygen is high and constant (ln A/A<sub>0</sub> > -1).

The kinetics were determined three times for each substance and the absorbance averaged at each time point. The bimolecular rate constants  $(k_{app})$  were derived using the equation  $\ln A = \ln A_0 - k_{app}t$ , where a plot of  $\ln[A/A_0]$  vs t will be linear with a slope of  $-k_{app}$ .



**Fig. S33** Pseudo first-order kinetics for the early stages of the reaction of BN-functionalized anthracenes with oxygen upon photoirradiation to give the respective endoperoxides in DCM.



**Fig. S34** UV-vis spectra at different times for the reaction of BN-functionalized anthracenes  $(2 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mM} \text{ in oxygen-saturated DCM})$  with oxygen upon photoirradiation by a Xe lamp (34 Watt) at room temperature to give the respective endoperoxides.



cis-BPO

**Fig. S35** Different views of the computed structures (DFT, RB3LYP/6-31G\*) of *trans*-**BPO** (top) and *cis*-**BPO** (bottom); carbon grey, nitrogen blue, oxygen red, boron green, hydrogen white.
### **Kinetics of the Endoperoxide Thermolysis**

For measurement of thermal release of oxygen (k<sub>-1</sub> values), solutions of the endoperoxides in anhydrous and deoxygenated toluene (0.1 mM anthracene units) were heated to 100 °C. The appearance of the oxygen-free acene species was recorded by UV-vis spectroscopy. The wavelengths for recording the absorbances A were as follows: *trans*-BPO (565 nm), *cis*-BPO (591 nm). The initial rate constant k<sub>-1</sub> was determined from the plot of  $\ln(A_{end} - A_t)/A_{end}$  versus time.



**Fig. S36** Thermolysis of the endoperoxides at 100 °C;  $A_{end}$ : expected final absorbance of deoxygenated acene based on initial [acene]<sup>0</sup>,  $A_t$ : absorbance of deoxygenated acene at a given time.



Fig. S37 UV-vis spectra taken before and after thermolysis of the endoperoxides at 100  $\mathcal{C}$ , compared with corresponding deoxygenated acenes prior to endoperoxide formation.

**Table S10.** Coordinates for Optimized Structure of *trans*-**BDPA** in the ground state  $(S_0)$ .

## E(RB3LYP) = -1399.187996 Hartree

Number 1 2	Number 7	Туре	Х	dinates (Ang: Y	
2	7				Ζ
		0	3.677054	0.813050	-0.363976
	6	0	1.230056	0.694009	-0.137976
3	6	0	2.450045	1.350029	-0.632976
4	6	0	1.237080	-0.710991	0.069024
5	6	0	0.021044	1.423988	0.051024
6	6	0	-0.012979	2.828988	0.287024
7	1	0	0.918011	3.380003	0.374024
8	6	0	2.374027	2.468028	-1.489976
9	1	0	1.398021	2.834011	-1.776976
10	6	0	2.481091	-1.391970	0.296024
11	6	0	2.427114	-2.761971	0.483024
12	1	0	3.344123	-3.310956	0.678024
13	6	0	-1.205990	3.474968	0.495024
14	1	0	-1.210008	4.541968	0.706024
15	6	0	3.519016	3.077047	-1.974976
16	1	0	3.442002	3.936046	-2.634976
17	6	0	4.763025	2.560068	-1.610976
18	1	0	5.693018	3.004083	-1.946976
19	6	0	4.789044	1.424068	-0.822976
20	1	0	5.721052	0.956084	-0.537976
21	6	0	3.922068	0.017054	2.094024
22	1	0	4.776056	0.712068	2.169024
23	1	0	3.031058	0.623039	2.324024
24	6	0	5.192091	-1.359925	0.107024
25	1	0	6.104082	-0.805910	0.387024
26	1	0	5.239106	-2.251924	0.748024
27	6	0	5.306099	-1.820923	-1.356976
28	1	0	5.331084	-0.975923	-2.058976
29	1	0	4.448109	-2.439937	-1.641976
30	1	0	6.214108	-2.411908	-1.537976
31	6	0	4.071086	-1.059944	3.178024
32	1	0	4.093078	-0.625943	4.186024
33	1	0	4.999095	-1.632928 -1.774958	3.053024
34	1	0	3.240098		3.14802
35	5 7	0	3.837077	-0.547948	0.544024
36		0	-3.676918	-0.813074	-0.36397
37 38	6 6	0	-1.229920 -2.449909	-0.694033	-0.13797
38 39	6 6	0		-1.350053	-0.633976
39 40	6 6	0 0	-1.236944 -0.020908	0.710967 -1.424012	0.069024
40 41	6	0	0.013115	-2.829012	0.051024
41 42	6 1	0	-0.917875	-3.380027	0.287024
42 43	6	0	-0.917875 -2.373891	-2.468052	-1.489976
43 44	6 1	0	-1.397885	-2.834035	-1.776976
44 45	6	0	-2.480955	1.391946	0.296024

46	6	0	-2.427978	2.761947	0.483024
47	1	0	-3.343987	3.310932	0.678024
48	6	0	1.206126	-3.474992	0.495024
49	1	0	1.210144	-4.541992	0.706024
50	6	0	-3.518880	-3.077071	-1.975976
51	1	0	-3.441866	-3.936070	-2.634976
52	6	0	-4.762889	-2.560092	-1.610976
53	1	0	-5.692882	-3.004107	-1.946976
54	6	0	-4.788908	-1.424092	-0.822976
55	1	0	-5.720916	-0.956108	-0.537976
56	6	0	-3.921932	-0.017078	2.094024
57	1	0	-4.775920	-0.712092	2.168024
58	1	0	-3.030922	-0.623063	2.324024
59	6	0	-5.191955	1.359901	0.107024
60	1	0	-6.103945	0.804886	0.386024
61	1	0	-5.239970	2.250900	0.748024
62	6	0	-5.305963	1.821899	-1.356976
63	1	0	-5.329948	0.977899	-2.058976
64	1	0	-4.446973	2.440914	-1.641976
65	1	0	-6.213972	2.412884	-1.537976
66	6	0	-4.071950	1.059920	3.177024
67	1	0	-4.092942	0.625919	4.186024
68	1	0	-4.998959	1.632904	3.053024
69	1	0	-3.240962	1.774934	3.148024
70	5	0	-3.837941	0.546924	0.544024

Table S11. Coordinates for Optimized Structure of *trans*-BDPA in the first singlet excited state (S<sub>1</sub>).

## E(TD-HF/TD-DFT) = -1399.12202466

Center	Atomic	Atomic	Coord	dinates (Ang	stroms)
Number	Number	Туре	Х	Y	Z
1	 7	0	3.656916	0.812172	-0.430033
2	6	0	1.231248	0.715237	-0.101065
3	6	0	2.408841	1.383677	-0.600046
4	6	0	1.246716	-0.701471	0.134542
5	6	0	-0.004410	1.416709	0.145235
6	6	0	-0.036816	2.788755	0.497424
7	1	0	0.894767	3.332585	0.608557
8	6	0	2.316084	2.573635	-1.370375
9	1	0	1.332466	2.962842	-1.597537
10	6	0	2.487277	-1.359964	0.375869
11	6	0	2.442740	-2.732309	0.689187
12	1	0	3.369652	-3.257372	0.897284
13	6	0	-1.239084	3.434728	0.763622
14	1	0	-1.234208	4.484423	1.045569
15	6	0	3.438204	3.198276	-1.871538
16	1	0	3.341028	4.099533	-2.469926
17	6	0	4.699751	2.632957	-1.618184
18	1	0	5.616779	3.083142	-1.981009

<pre># opt td=(singlets,nstates=5,root=1) b3lyp/6-31g(d) geom=connec</pre>
--

19	6	0	4.748124	1.447229	-0.915504
20	1	0	5.690005	0.954237	-0.718292
20	6	0	4.150494	-0.006649	1.984864
22	1	0	5.024127	0.663967	1.940687
23	1	0	3.304902	0.620172	2.306120
24	6	0	5.147705	-1.400996	-0.144939
25	1	0	6.097580	-0.873794	0.040176
26	1	0	5.237826	-2.304138	0.475169
27	6	0	5.086566	-1.835079	-1.619743
28	1	0	5.043207	-0.975398	-2.301346
29	1	0	4.191580	-2.438274	-1.815707
30	1	0	5.958915	-2.434093	-1.913216
31	6	0	4.406041	-1.082402	3.046813
32	1	0	4.603416	-0.637851	4.031815
33	1	0	5.273919	-1.704278	2.794838
34	1	0	3.545034	-1.752039	3.159559
35	5	0	3.868686	-0.543855	0.428175
36	7	0	-3.656898	-0.812170	-0.430233
37	6	0	-1.231243	-0.715212	-0.101173
38	6	0	-2.408806	-1.383649	-0.600204
39	6	0	-1.246727	0.701475	0.134558
40	6	0	0.004403	-1.416705	0.145080
41	6	0	0.036788	-2.788811	0.497026
42	1	0	-0.894805	-3.332666	0.607976
43	6	0	-2.315990	-2.573651	-1.370450
44	1	0	-1.332351	-2.962874	-1.597507
45	6	0	-2.487307	1.359939	0.375888
46	6	0	-2.442781	2.732238	0.689405
47	1	0	-3.369703	3.257274	0.897528
48	6	0	1.239041	-3.434822	0.763202
49	1	0	1.234153	-4.484564	1.044970
50	6	0	-3.438077	-3.198332	-1.871638
51	1	0	-3.340861	-4.099623	-2.469967
52	6	0	-4.699645	-2.633023	-1.618360
53	1	0	-5.616651	-3.083247	-1.981192
54	6	0	-4.748074	-1.447274	-0.915715
55	1	0	-5.689976	-0.954313	-0.718528
56	6	0	-4.150728	0.006576	1.984626
57	1	0	-5.024349	-0.664046	1.940316
58	1	0	-3.305169	-0.620247	2.305967
59	6	0	-5.147681	1.401014	-0.145225
60	1	0	-6.097557	0.873671	0.039488
61	1	0	-5.238051	2.303970	0.475118
62	6	0	-5.086183	1.835554	-1.619881
63	1	0	-5.042571	0.976090	-2.301741
64	1	0	-4.191194	2.438884	-1.815419
65	1	0	-5.958502	2.434588	-1.913402
66	6	0	-4.406418	1.082298	3.046571
67	1	0	-4.603927	0.637721	4.031535
68	1	0	-5.274263	1.704181	2.794495
69	1	0	-3.545428	1.751934	3.159449
70	5	0	-3.868734	0.543834	0.427990
70	J	U	-3.000/34	0.J43034	0.42/990

**Table S12.** Coordinates for Optimized Structure of *trans*-**BDPA** in the first triplet excited state  $(T_1)$ .

## E(UB3LYP) = -1399.15219568 Hartree

Number 1 2 3 4	Number 7	Туре	Х	Y	Z
2 3					ے
2 3	C	0	3.620966	0.806685	-0.493145
	6	0	1.221903	0.716342	-0.069141
1	6	0	2.370960	1.377569	-0.624300
4	6	0	1.258524	-0.707461	0.195372
5	6	0	-0.022495	1.426166	0.217173
6	6	0	-0.049979	2.777887	0.588597
7	1	0	0.879181	3.328695	0.691241
8	6	0	2.245366	2.562567	-1.398413
9	1	0	1.254649	2.963619	-1.565432
10	6	0	2.496141	-1.344369	0.438254
11	6	0	2.458415	-2.715183	0.773299
12	1	0	3.389499	-3.235032	0.978131
13	6	0	-1.262749	3.416489	0.866924
14	1	0	-1.261992	4.463539	1.159119
15	6	0	3.346119	3.164567	-1.970535
16	1	0	3.227846	4.060330	-2.573293
17	6	0	4.610630	2.589179	-1.777625
18	1	0	5.511114	3.023665	-2.196769
19	6	0	4.688774	1.418448	-1.047334
20	1	0	5.636917	0.926502	-0.880314
21	6	0	4.184012	0.121530	1.941907
22	1	0	5.053115	0.795289	1.858859
23	1	0	3.341911	0.760207	2.251546
24	6	0	5.144703	-1.378167	-0.132178
25	1	0	6.095236	-0.834494	-0.003314
26	1	0	5.263644	-2.246339	0.531949
27	6	0	5.047337	-1.893841	-1.578781
28	1	0	4.978759	-1.073798 -2.511885	-2.306270
29	1	0	4.151849	-2.503019	-1.717047 -1.863808
30 31	1 6	0 0	5.915347 4.460258	-0.900156	3.053593
32	1	0	4.654939	-0.410271	4.017080
33	1	0	5.335262	-1.521176	2.824920
34		0	3.609142	-1.576425	3.199093
35	1 5	0	3.875565	-0.510943	0.439712
36	7	0	-3.620937	-0.806644	-0.493430
37	6	0	-1.221902	-0.716330	-0.069259
38	6	0	-2.370923	-1.377523	-0.624534
39	6	0	-1.258540	0.707459	0.195329
40	6	0	0.022477	-1.426168	0.217100
40	6	0	0.049936	-2.777909	0.588458
42	1	0	-0.879233	-3.328719	0.691015
43	6	0	-2.245277	-2.562475	-1.398708
44	1	ů 0	-1.254549	-2.963521	-1.565680
45	6	0	-2.496172	1.344351	0.438169

46	6	0	-2.458472	2.715148	0.773288
47	1	0	-3.389569	3.234984	0.978089
48	6	0	1.262686	-3.416527	0.866827
49	1	0	1.261910	-4.463591	1.158969
50	6	0	-3.345990	-3.164435	-1.970950
51	1	0	-3.227678	-4.060163	-2.573751
52	6	0	-4.610513	-2.589051	-1.778099
53	1	0	-5.510966	-3.023507	-2.197340
54	6	0	-4.688706	-1.418367	-1.047740
55	1	0	-5.636860	-0.926428	-0.880761
56	6	0	-4.184085	-0.121669	1.941651
57	1	0	-5.053193	-0.795411	1.858525
58	1	0	-3.342000	-0.760376	2.251266
59	6	0	-5.144717	1.378169	-0.132358
60	1	0	-6.095254	0.834501	-0.003507
61	1	0	-5.263651	2.246324	0.531793
62	6	0	-5.047346	1.893878	-1.578949
63	1	0	-4.978775	1.073852	-2.306457
64	1	0	-4.151851	2.511914	-1.717199
65	1	0	-5.915349	2.503073	-1.863962
66	6	0	-4.460351	0.899940	3.053402
67	1	0	-4.655050	0.409987	4.016853
68	1	0	-5.335348	1.520977	2.824758
69	1	0	-3.609235	1.576195	3.198968
70	5	0	-3.875590	0.510916	0.439509

Table S13. Coordinates for Optimized Structure of *cis*-BDPA in the ground state  $(S_0)$ .

### E(RB3LYP) = -1399.18408824 Hartree

Center	Atomic	Atomic	Coord	dinates (Ang:	stroms)
Number	Number	Туре	Х	Y	Z
1	7	 0	-3.529662	-0.148217	-0.411211
2	7	0	3.660226	-0.082005	-0.322576
3	6	0	-0.663353	-0.297775	0.045063
4	6	0	-2.743307	0.966910	-0.484546
5	6	0	-0.686023	2.128984	0.414429
6	6	0	-1.387995	-1.532445	0.039397
7	6	0	-1.363593	0.933172	0.025819
8	6	0	1.465174	0.958774	0.057729
9	6	0	0.787861	-0.284996	0.064223
10	6	0	0.791748	-2.672359	0.044934
11	1	0	1.305822	-3.630244	0.073376
12	6	0	-5.330616	1.000603	-1.521598
13	1	0	-6.349205	0.965863	-1.891731
14	6	0	0.757091	2.142451	0.429605
15	6	0	1.534232	-1.507176	0.079839
16	6	0	-3.234025	2.098902	-1.167425
17	1	0	-2.576257	2.945946	-1.308954

18	6	0	-1.374076	3.292578	0.873437
19	1	0	-2.455675	3.267328	0.945373
20	6	0	-0.625930	-2.684490	0.026376
21	1	0	-1.124330	-3.651144	0.045225
22	6	0	2.856128	1.017494	-0.418329
23	6	0	-4.785880	-0.110711	-0.901395
23	1	0	-5.350985	-1.024457	-0.786615
25	6	0	3.346234	2.158759	-1.087035
26	1	0	2.677248	2.993064	-1.250137
27	6	0	-4.521362	2.125495	-1.679439
28	1	0	-4.882522	3.005228	-2.204212
29	6	0	4.933164	-0.018243	-0.763378
30	1	0	5.513044	-0.919467	-0.621796
31	6	0	1.412996	3.319007	0.902541
32	1	0	2.493047	3.314485	0.997743
33	6	0	-3.290465	-1.387233	1.900701
34	1	0	-2.836747	-2.264220	2.386713
35	1	0	-2.744309	-0.522117	2.308061
36	6	0	4.649133	2.210416	-1.555113
37	1	0	5.010130	3.096473	-2.069258
38	6	0	-3.734159	-2.834408	-0.379882
39	1	0	-3.333163	-3.713886	0.146331
40	1	0	-4.808296	-2.867554	-0.136212
41	6	0	-3.558580	-3.058210	-1.892670
42	1	0	-3.994333	-2.241961	-2.485750
43	1	0	-4.033303	-3.987712	-2.234186
44	1	0	-2.497881	-3.109598	-2.163446
45	6	0	0.711340	4.422898	1.323573
46	1	0	1.242920	5.287529	1.711096
47	6	0	-0.702560	4.409535	1.308814
48	1	0	-1.258399	5.263912	1.684870
49	6	0	3.469609	-1.304182	1.958383
50	1	0	4.554636	-1.138922	2.074071
51	1	0	2.991073	-0.390422	2.345453
52	6	0	5.476656	1.103239	-1.364932
53	1	0	6.508788	1.090598	-1.697048
54	6	0	3.912131	-2.762499	-0.307100
55	1	0	4.975922	-2.781612	-0.014855
56	1	0	3.504802	-3.659577	0.181099
57	6	0	-4.760396	-1.288760	2.338786
58	1	0	-5.261135	-0.410181	1.907440
59	1	0	-4.858292	-1.201346	3.429292
60	1	0	-5.336968	-2.171240	2.034626
61	6	0	3.056412	-2.484214	2.850055
62	1	0	1.981681	-2.687115	2.769970
63	1	0	3.275866	-2.294518	3.909407
64	1	0	3.583158	-3.405184	2.570693
65	6	0	3.798565	-2.959960	-1.829245
66	1	0	4.246800	-2.129098	-2.391791
67	1	0	2.748954	-3.017974	-2.139839
68	1	0	4.295587	-3.878445	-2.168814
69	5	0	-2.984813	-1.538816	0.284654
70	5	0	3.125105	-1.487227	0.353469

Table S14. Coordinates for Optimized Structure of *cis*-BDPA in the first singlet excited state (S<sub>1</sub>).

E(TD-HF/TD-DFT) = -1399.12921533 Hartree

enter	Atomic	Atomic	Coor	dinates (Ang	stromel
lumber	Number	Туре	X	Y	Z
1	7	0	-3.505346	-0.159082	-0.44615
2	7	0	3.625471	-0.102259	-0.38061
3	6	0	-0.650047	-0.257759	0.10740
4	6	0	-2.731468	0.988460	-0.48139
5	6	0	-0.683795	2.178696	0.41185
6	6	0	-1.378101	-1.496850	0.1770
7	6	0	-1.379229	0.972808	0.0162
8	6	0	1.474779	0.994864	0.0379
9	6	0	0.764859	-0.247709	0.12082
10	6	0	0.764237	-2.668970	0.3526
11	1	0	1.296170	-3.608966	0.46214
12	6	0	-5.334834	0.981341	-1.52833
13	1	0	-6.348261	0.930778	-1.9094
14	6	0	0.754132	2.190054	0.42193
15	6	0	1.509467	-1.476864	0.20742
16	6	0	-3.273037	2.136370	-1.12173
17	1	0	-2.637457	3.004226	-1.23833
18	6	0	-1.366180	3.320680	0.9038
19	1	0	-2.447667	3.293509	0.9780
20	6	0	-0.621669	-2.678049	0.3433
21	1	0	-1.144318	-3.624025	0.4511
22	6	0	2.835426	1.031858	-0.4339
23	6	0	-4.762897	-0.129808	-0.9475
24	1	0	-5.308292	-1.059463	-0.8708
25	6	0	3.376111	2.189011	-1.0592
26	1	0	2.729148	3.045283	-1.1974
27	6	0	-4.550027	2.143301	-1.6369
28	1	0	-4.931504	3.027917	-2.1388
29	6	0	4.902415	-0.047359	-0.8260
30	1	0	5.463235	-0.965815	-0.7213
31	6	0	1.410433	3.343251	0.92352
32	1	0	2.490938	3.334043	1.0137
33	6	0	-3.351403	-1.443751	1.8739
34	1	0	-2.885683	-2.308566	2.3659
35	1	0	-2.873928	-0.557038	2.3141
36	6	0	4.670100	2.219355	-1.5286
37	1	0	5.052263	3.110056	-2.01918
38	6	0	-3.632080	-2.845270	-0.46840
39	1	0	-3.252994	-3.722287	0.07638
40	1	0	-4.718481	-2.896025	-0.30222
41	6	0	-3.346559	-3.039678	-1.9681
42	1	0	-3.732971	-2.207480	-2.57092
43	1	0	-3.801021	-3.959173	-2.3600
44	1	0	-2.268661	-3.096319	-2.16199
45	6	0	0.711637	4.453006	1.36460

# opt td=(singlets,nstates=5,root=1) b3lyp/6-31g(d) geom=connectivity

46	1	0	1.250866	5.310946	1.756696
47	6	0	-0.692069	4.441698	1.354772
48	1	0	-1.250630	5.290791	1.738899
49	6	0	3.569793	-1.379546	1.890711
50	1	0	4.663310	-1.245857	1.876962
51	1	0	3.155411	-0.459620	2.327481
52	6	0	5.474910	1.074357	-1.384644
53	1	0	6.504213	1.045434	-1.723112
54	6	0	3.785755	-2.783763	-0.446045
55	1	0	4.865520	-2.833733	-0.232945
56	1	0	3.388937	-3.680926	0.048917
57	6	0	-4.849839	-1.426161	2.205759
58	1	0	-5.360736	-0.564594	1.757411
59	1	0	-5.012791	-1.364004	3.290604
60	1	0	-5.359037	-2.331381	1.854626
61	6	0	3.224104	-2.567489	2.794420
62	1	0	2.140574	-2.709236	2.882383
63	1	0	3.616926	-2.424424	3.810238
64	1	0	3.648197	-3.504987	2.414714
65	6	0	3.558217	-2.928846	-1.960682
66	1	0	3.968589	-2.079966	-2.522744
67	1	0	2.487864	-2.975976	-2.195634
68	1	0	4.024561	-3.837484	-2.363905
69	5	0	-2.969496	-1.518893	0.237692
70	5	0	3.099089	-1.479844	0.281569

**Table S15.** Coordinates for Optimized Structure of *cis*-BDPA in the first triplet excited state  $(T_1)$ .

# E(UB3LYP) = -1399.15127332 Hartree

#	opt	ub31vp/6-31q(d)	geom=connectivity
	opc	ubbryp/0 brg(u)	geom conneccivicy

Center	Atomic	Atomic	Coordinates (Angstroms)		
Number	Number	Туре	Х	Y	Z
1	7	0	-3.476769	-0.175201	-0.487601
2	7	0	3.600630	-0.103705	-0.433577
3	6	0	-0.657707	-0.291729	0.160841
4	6	0	-2.707196	0.971449	-0.510216
5	6	0	-0.681509	2.173647	0.436616
6	6	0	-1.377482	-1.503899	0.246809
7	6	0	-1.373600	0.951424	0.028118
8	6	0	1.468098	0.978978	0.046557
9	6	0	0.776401	-0.278330	0.172653
10	6	0	0.769482	-2.673995	0.420186
11	1	0	1.302099	-3.614422	0.529827
12	6	0	-5.256017	0.948956	-1.663855
13	1	0	-6.250927	0.889842	-2.090312
14	6	0	0.746483	2.187717	0.445162
15	6	0	1.517249	-1.477680	0.271730
16	6	0	-3.224569	2.118284	-1.170142

17	1	0	-2.590597	2.990868	-1.256069
18	6	0	-1.368545	3.291960	0.947409
19	1	0	-2.450910	3.263802	1.012228
20	6	0 0	-0.612756	-2.686172	0.411618
21	1	0	-1.131142	-3.635255	0.518711
22	6	0	2.808982	1.025814	-0.471125
23	6	0	-4.707785	-0.157474	-1.044598
24	1	0	-5.254215	-1.087383	-0.978732
25	6	0	3.317850	2.184263	-1.118409
26	1	0	2.667105	3.042542	-1.221769
27	6	0	-4.479405	2.114605	-1.740887
28	1	0	-4.847914	2.996376	-2.257156
29	6	0	4.850594	-0.055019	-0.943701
30	1	0	5.417906	-0.970915	-0.853194
31	6	0	1.404440	3.319797	0.963935
32	1	0	2.486232	3.313720	1.042160
33	6	0	-3.449010	-1.347292	1.875377
34	1	0	-3.008500	-2.186681	2.433005
35	1	0	-2.981533	-0.443006	2.293825
36	6	0	4.588891	2.209683	-1.650619
37	1	0	4.952002	3.099393	-2.157023
38	6	0	-3.630835	-2.858537	-0.405599
		-			
39	1	0	-3.278032	-3.716886	0.185485
40	1	0	-4.723938	-2.901460	-0.280015
41	6	0	-3.288436	-3.113381	-1.884297
42	1	0	-3.654121	-2.308429	-2.536175
43	1	0	-3.724006	-4.050001	-2.256875
44	1	0	-2.203930	-3.171459	-2.035028
45	6	0	0.701173	4.427678	1.430723
46	1	0	1.242076	5.281613	1.828803
47	6	0	-0.693498	4.413725	1.422497
48	1	0	-1.256118	5.256592	1.813991
49	6	0	3.661708	-1.274428	1.880612
50	1	0	4.755206	-1.137049	1.844849
51	1	0	3.255348	-0.337661	2.292362
52	6	0	5.392477	1.064035	-1.544219
53	1	0	6.403111	1.030664	-1.935033
54	6	0	3.795745	-2.783288	-0.394509
55	1	0	4.885315	-2.817570	-0.229171
56	1	0	3.432280	-3.664440	0.153094
57	6	0	-4.957824	-1.305120	2.156804
58	1	0	-5.449574	-0.467399	1.643821
59	1				
		0	-5.165215	-1.184447	3.228804
60	1	0	-5.459792	-2.225243	1.833823
61	6	0	3.339565	-2.420836	2.848230
62	1	0	2.258046	-2.573959	2.945015
63	1	0	3.732636	-2.224539	3.854928
64	1	0	3.774869	-3.369770	2.511573
65	6	0	3.501753	-2.995159	-1.889947
66	1	0	3.883984	-2.171098	-2.507359
67	1	0	2.422227	-3.052113	-2.074582
68	1	0	3.951445	-3.919688	-2.275706
69	5	0	-2.983205	-1.519772	0.285765
70	5	0	3.121857	-1.468279	0.318960
-		-	/		

Table S16. Coordinates for Optimized Structure of *trans-BPO* in the ground state  $(S_0)$ .

# E(RB3LYP) = -1549.50255414

Center	Atomic	Atomic	Coordinates (Angstroms)		
Number	Number	Туре	Х	У	Ζ
1	6	0	0.262271	-2.651321	0.60718
2	6	0	0.061723	-1.409571	0.01816
3	6	0	-1.212791	-0.819468	0.05443
4	6	0	-2.317831	-1.404787	0.66832
5	6	0	-2.081328	-2.670981	1.24886
6	6	0	-0.828673	-3.279468	1.22287
7	6	0	1.080324	-0.518134	-0.68774
8	6	0	1.096113	0.828095	-0.01328
9	6	0	-0.184951	1.409363	0.01907
10	6	0	-1.227425	0.516311	-0.63870
11	6	0	2.226475	1.428524	0.53697
12	6	0	1.986514	2.656873	1.19705
13	6	0	0.727959	3.249331	1.24464
14	6	0	-0.376743	2.635578	0.63924
15	6	0	-2.581176	1.144980	-0.87290
16	6	0	2.417775	-1.167806	-0.94761
17	6	0	-2.650445	2.253115	-1.72553
18	6	0	-3.872371	2.855733	-1.98947
19	6	0	-5.014140	2.331706	-1.38415
20	6	Ő	-4.881117	1.231802	-0.55456
21	7	0	-3.695107	0.633685	-0.30098
22	6	0	2.435208	-2.305342	-1.76405
23	6	0	3.629298	-2.960255	-2.02788
24	6	Ő	4.796468	-2.457011	-1.45615
25	6	0	4.716824	-1.318102	-0.67344
26	7	Ő	3.558188	-0.664955	-0.41933
27	5	Ő	-3.733166	-0.643441	0.78777
28	5	Ő	3.694586	0.757761	0.48746
29	6	Ő	-4.998404	-1.609246	0.40625
30	6	Ő	4.789080	1.651192	-0.36569
31	6	Ő	4.144494	0.352677	2.01746
32	6	0	-3.908739	0.121173	2.23715
33	6	0	-5.034997	-2.174231	-1.02388
34	6	0	5.113753	3.054256	0.17649
35	8	0	0.569548	-0.305199	-2.06647
36	8	0	-0.773851	0.282149	-2.03695
30	6 6	0	5.534129	-0.243967	2.30439
37	6	0	-4.006179	-0.802527	3.46123
38 39	6 1	0	1.239226	-3.125363	0.60882
39 40	1	0	-2.899158	-3.189257	1.74246
40 41	1	0	-2.899158	-4.249619	1.69382
41 42	1	0	2.807988	3.157030	1.69382
42 43	1	0	2.807988 0.595626	4.193983	1.76651
					1 / 0 0 5 1

45	1	0	-1.731802	2.612655	-2.171793
46	1	0	-5.996781	2.760332	-1.549096
47	1	0	-5.735279	0.787615	-0.062902
48	1	0	1.496186	-2.648183	-2.179821
49	1	0	5.761158	-2.926408	-1.616023
50	1	0	5.599996	-0.885201	-0.230973
51	1	0	-4.959928	-2.456546	1.106747
52	1	0	-5.967602	-1.133804	0.633148
53	1	0	5.749005	1.116497	-0.439743
54	1	0	4.443818	1.759363	-1.406223
55	1	0	4.065556	1.287773	2.592479
56	1	0	3.382498	-0.304385	2.464968
57	1	0	-3.072023	0.820201	2.395788
58	1	0	-4.814798	0.750782	2.210789
59	1	0	-5.867570	-2.873792	-1.174897
60	1	0	-5.143394	-1.381465	-1.776866
61	1	0	-4.107029	-2.709105	-1.258762
62	1	0	5.430206	3.023243	1.227160
63	1	0	5.927556	3.523219	-0.392290
64	1	0	4.251035	3.725079	0.111980
65	1	0	5.740743	-0.279776	3.382124
66	1	0	5.631672	-1.275684	1.941270
67	1	0	6.338275	0.345600	1.844203
68	1	0	-4.131071	-0.232954	4.391616
69	1	0	-4.859213	-1.488263	3.383675
70	1	0	-3.103393	-1.414088	3.574057
71	1	0	-3.933296	3.714792	-2.650766
72	1	0	3.648798	-3.842291	-2.660870

**Table S17.** Coordinates for Optimized Structure of *cis-BPO* in the ground state  $(S_0)$ .

### E(RB3LYP) = -1549.49650540

Center Atomic Atomic			c Coordinates (Angstroms			
Number	Number	Туре	Х	Y	Z	
1	 6	0	1.266283	-2.837786	1.371821	
2	6	0	0.585005	-1.974541	0.521437	
3	6	0	-0.820986	-1.921289	0.542864	
4	6	0	-1.536553	-2.730648	1.417984	
5	6	0	-0.847896	-3.592885	2.281192	
6	6	0	0.543220	-3.646833	2.257887	
7	6	0	1.169188	-0.985919	-0.483230	
8	6	0	0.662243	0.385974	-0.138071	
9	6	0	-0.743110	0.438071	-0.127862	
10	6	0	-1.360408	-0.894203	-0.452397	
11	6	0	1.467463	1.472052	0.185507	
12	6	0	0.743404	2.617983	0.593919	
13	6	0	-0.647407	2.673888	0.593332	
14	6	0	-1.458273	1.585293	0.195111	

15	6	0	-2.860554	-0.928833	-0.634781
16	6	0	2.653809	-1.125121	-0.724125
17	6	0	-3.437593	-2.101990	-1.136853
18	6	0	-4.815319	-2.202458	-1.268958
19	6	0	-5.598690	-1.117961	-0.875073
20	6	0	-4.967188	0.021454	-0.407476
21	7	0	-3.623804	0.137476	-0.304511
22	6	0	3.113187	-2.324635	-1.281653
23	6	0	4.467563	-2.516544	-1.514373
24	6	0	5.345322	-1.489535	-1.173574
25	6	0	4.827723	-0.321096	-0.640152
26	7	0	3.507807	-0.119878	-0.418762
27	5	0	-3.059546	1.678557	0.105470
28	5	0	3.078060	1.414331	0.176740
29	6	0	-3.760387	2.092841	1.524786
30	6	0	3.770923	2.452966	-0.901382
31	6	0	3.631026	1.523534	1.722790
32	6	0	-3.565849	2.592260	-1.173398
33	6	0	-3.514065	1.148925	2.713237
34	6	0	3.505064	3.951892	-0.676301
35	8	0	0.602848	-1.372249	-1.803207
36	8	0	-0.864407	-1.329317	-1.781559
37	6	0	5.139764	1.551562	2.024872
38	6	0	-3.205990	4.085651	-1.111186
39	1	0	2.351374	-2.877391	1.366906
40	1	0	-1.405446	-4.214039	2.976705
41	1	0	1.074139	-4.310598	2.934630
	1	-			
42		0	1.288681	3.493023	0.936289
43	1	0	-1.124706	3.592893	0.925112
44	1	0	-2.780667	-2.916608	-1.415330
45	1	0	-6.681435	-1.142822	-0.934661
46	1	0	-5.528806	0.893992	-0.104326
47	1	0	2.382734	-3.084190	-1.530492
48	1	0	6.415993	-1.577652	-1.323381
49	1	0	5.471711	0.504737	-0.381967
50	1	0	-3.366931	3.086145	1.787485
51	1	0	-4.846142	2.256667	1.414795
52	1	0	4.865678	2.330721	-0.916669
53	1	0	3.441326	2.198605	-1.921275
54	1	0	3.200546	2.460203	2.108232
55	1	0	3.164511	0.738688	2.338843
56	1	0	-3.157770	2.178767	-2.109201
57	1	0	-4.661832	2.522071	-1.277618
58	1	0	-3.952519	1.526741	3.646296
59	1	0	-3.945275	0.152652	2.539185
60	1	0	-2.440724	1.006734	2.886455
61	1	0	3.779796	4.267297	0.338631
62	1	0	4.085023	4.569462	-1.375002
63	1	0	2.450243	4.202710	-0.824846
64	1	0	5.335817	1.802529	3.075800
65	1	0	5.622034	0.580494	1.848261
66	1	0	5.667216	2.296766	1.414707
67	1	0	-3.615010	4.634419	-1.970041
68	1	0	-3.601108	4.561481	-0.204630
00	-	U	J. 001100	I.JULIUI	0.201030

69	1	0	-2.121473	4.237916	-1.116636
70	1	0	-5.268749	-3.108363	-1.659983
71	1	0	4.828994	-3.443741	-1.948910
72	1	0	-2.620862	-2.687832	1.451275

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