

Supporting Information

Blue-Emitting Ir(III) Phosphors with Ancillary 4,6-Difluorobenzyl diphenylphosphine Based Cyclometalate

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General procedures: All reactions were performed under argon atmosphere and solvents were distilled from appropriate drying agents prior to use. Commercially available reagents were used without further purification unless otherwise stated. All reactions were monitored using pre-coated TLC plates (0.20 mm with fluorescent indicator UV₂₅₄). Mass spectra were obtained on a JEOL SX-102A instrument operating in electron impact (EI) or fast atom bombardment (FAB) mode. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Mercury-400 or an INOVA-500 instrument. Elemental analysis was carried out with a Heraeus CHN-O Rapid Elementary Analyzer.

Synthesis of *trans*-(N_{py},N_{py})-[Ir(dfppy)₂(dfbdp)Cl] (1). (2,4-difluorobenzyl) diphenylphosphine (dfbdpH, 69 mg, 0.22 mmol) and [(dfppy)₂Ir(μ-Cl)]₂ (122 mg, 0.1 mmol) were added in anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL) and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 hours. After removal of solvent *in vacuo*, the residue was subjected to silica gel column chromatography using a 1:1 mixture of ethyl acetate and hexane as the eluent. The pale yellow crystals were obtained by slow diffusion of hexane into a CH₂Cl₂ solution at RT (137 mg, 0.15 mmol, 74%).

Spectra data of 1: MS (FAB): *m/z* 885 (M-Cl⁺). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 294K): δ 9.36 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 9.14 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 8.37 (dd, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.25 ~ 7.30 (m, 3H), 7.18 ~ 7.22 (m, 1H), 7.01 ~ 7.07 (m, 6H), 6.96 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.57 ~ 6.62 (m, 1H), 6.33 ~ 6.46 (m, 3H), 6.22 (td, *J* = 10.4 Hz, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 5.70 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 5.27 (td, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (dd, *J* = 16.0, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.66 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 4.8 Hz, 1H). ¹⁹F-¹H NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃, 294K): δ -107.30 (dd, *J* = 9.8, 7.5 Hz, 1F), -108.25 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz, 1F), -109.70 (t, *J* = 9.8 Hz, 1F), -110.12 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz, 1F), -110.57 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1F), -111.84 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 4.5 Hz, 1F). ³¹P-¹H NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃, 294K): δ -3.41 (s, 1P). Anal. calcd. For C₄₁H₂₇ClF₆IrN₂P: N, 3.04; C, 53.51; H, 2.96. Found: N,

3.02; C, 53.50; H, 2.78.

Selected crystal data of **1**: $C_{41}H_{27}ClF_6IrN_2P$, $M = 920.27$, monoclinic, space group $P2(1)/c$, $T = 150(2)$ K, $a = 10.9279(6)$, $b = 9.5832(6)$, $c = 34.0479(19)$ Å, $\beta = 94.773(1)^\circ$, $V = 3553.3(4)$ Å³, $Z = 4$, $\rho_{\text{calcd}} = 1.720$ Mg/m³, $F(000) = 1800$, $\lambda(\text{Mo-K}\alpha) = 0.7107$ Å, $\mu = 3.943$ mm⁻¹, crystal size = $0.42 \times 0.12 \times 0.06$ mm³, 8038 independent reflections collected ($R_{\text{int}} = 0.0457$), $\text{GOF} = 1.167$, final $R_1[I > 2\sigma(I)] = 0.0411$, $wR_2(\text{all data}) = 0.0843$, and D-map, max./min. = $1.788/-1.844$ e/Å³.

Synthesis of *cis*-(N_{py},N_{py})-[Ir(dfppy)₂(dfbdp)Cl] (2**).** (2,4-difluorobenzyl) diphenylphosphine (dfbdpH, 69 mg, 0.22 mmol) and [(dfppy)₂Ir(μ -Cl)]₂ (122 mg, 0.1 mmol) were added in decahydronaphthalene (30 mL) and the mixture was refluxed for 8 hour. After cooling to RT and removal of solvent, the residue was subjected to silica gel column chromatography using a 1:3 mixture of ethyl acetate and hexane as the eluent. The pale yellow crystals were obtained by slow diffusion of hexane into a CH₂Cl₂ solution at RT (94 mg, 0.1 mmol, 51%).

Spectra data of **2:** MS (FAB): m/z 885 ($M-\text{Cl}^+$). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 294K): δ 9.14 (d, $J = 5.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.24 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.09 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.56 ~ 7.65 (m, 3H), 7.28 ~ 7.32 (m, 3H), 7.16 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.03 ~ 7.17 (m, 4H), 6.97 (td, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2.5 Hz, 2H), 6.93 (t, $J = 4.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.83 (t, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.74 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.60 ~ 6.67 (m, 2H), 6.41 ~ 6.49 (m, 2H), 6.34 (td, $J = 11.0, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.26 (dd, $J = 9.0, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.92 (dd, $J = 16.0, 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.31 (dd, $J = 15.0, 8.0$ Hz, 1H). ¹⁹F-¹H NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃, 294K): δ -107.72 (d, $J = 10.2$ Hz, 1F), -108.70 (d, $J = 9.8$ Hz, 1F); -108.99 (d, $J = 10.5$ Hz, 1F), -109.04 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1F), -109.48 (d, $J = 10.5$ Hz, 1F), -109.48 (dd, $J = 7.5, 4.6$ Hz, 1F). ³¹P-¹H NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃, 294K): δ -6.45 (d, $J = 4.6$ Hz, 1P). Anal. calcd. For $C_{41}H_{27}ClF_6IrN_2P$: N, 3.04; C, 53.51; H, 2.96. Found: N, 2.96; C, 53.81; H, 3.10.

Selected crystal data of **2**: $C_{41}H_{27}ClF_6IrN_2P$, $M = 920.27$, monoclinic, space group $C2/c$, $T = 150(2)$ K, $a = 34.6365(14)$, $b = 11.3201(5)$, $c = 18.1593(7)$ Å, $\beta =$

107.152(1)°, $V = 6803.4(5) \text{ \AA}^3$, $Z = 8$, $\rho_{\text{calcd}} = 1.797 \text{ Mg/m}^3$, $F(000) = 3600$, $\lambda(\text{Mo-K}\alpha) = 0.7107 \text{ \AA}$, $\mu = 4.118 \text{ mm}^{-1}$, crystal size = $0.26 \times 0.20 \times 0.05 \text{ mm}^3$, 7813 independent reflections collected ($R_{\text{int}} = 0.0534$), GOF = 1.127, final $R_1[I > 2\sigma(I)] = 0.0363$, $wR_2(\text{all data}) = 0.0885$, and D-map, max./min. = $1.886/-1.306 \text{ e/\AA}^3$.

Synthesis of [Ir(dfppy)₂(dfbdp)] (3). (2,4-difluorobenzyl) diphenylphosphine (dfbdpH, 69 mg, 0.22 mmol), [(dfppy)₂Ir(μ -Cl)]₂ (122 mg, 0.1 mmol) and sodium acetate (82 mg, 1 mmol) were added in degassed decahydronaphthalene (20 mL) and the mixture was refluxed for 26 hours. After cooling to RT and removal of solvent, the residue was subjected to silica gel column chromatography using a 1:1 mixture of ethyl acetate and hexane as the eluent. The pale yellow crystals were obtained by slow diffusion of hexane into a CH₂Cl₂ solution at RT (76 mg, 0.09 mmol, 43%).

Spectra data of 3: MS (FAB): m/z 885 (M^+). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 294K): δ 8.21 (d, $J = 9.0 \text{ Hz}$, 1H), 8.06 (d, $J = 8.0 \text{ Hz}$, 1H), 7.60 ~ 7.65 (m, 3H), 7.51 (d, $J = 5.5 \text{ Hz}$, 1H), 7.42 (t, $J = 8.0 \text{ Hz}$, 1H), 7.38 (d, $J = 7.5 \text{ Hz}$, 1H), 7.29 (t, $J = 7.0 \text{ Hz}$, 2H), 7.19 ~ 7.21 (m, 1H), 6.91 (t, $J = 7.0 \text{ Hz}$, 1H), 6.85 (t, $J = 6.5 \text{ Hz}$, 1H), 6.78 (t, $J = 6.0 \text{ Hz}$, 3H), 6.56 ~ 6.62 (m, 3H), 6.33 ~ 6.44 (m, 4H), 5.75 (d, $J = 9.0 \text{ Hz}$, 1H), 4.43 (t, $J = 15.5 \text{ Hz}$, 1H), 3.94 (dd, $J = 17.0, 7.5 \text{ Hz}$, 1H). ¹⁹F-¹H NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃, 294K): δ -109.25 (d, $J = 10.5 \text{ Hz}$, 1F), -109.71 ~ -109.79 (m, 4F), -115.50 (d, $J = 6.0 \text{ Hz}$, 1F). ³¹P-¹H NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃, 294K): δ 14.71 (s, 1P). Anal. calcd. for C₄₁H₂₆F₆IrN₂P: N, 3.17; C, 55.72; H, 2.97. Found: N, 3.19; C, 55.49; H, 3.31.

Selected crystal data of **3**: C₄₂H₂₈Cl₂F₆IrN₂P, $M = 968.73$, Triclinic, space group P-1, $T = 150(2) \text{ K}$, $a = 9.7300(5)$, $b = 10.1357(5)$, $c = 18.3439(9) \text{ \AA}$, $\alpha = 80.580(1)^\circ$, $\beta = 80.553(1)^\circ$, $\gamma = 80.913(1)^\circ$, $V = 1744.44(15) \text{ \AA}^3$, $Z = 2$, $\rho_{\text{calcd}} = 1.844 \text{ Mg/m}^3$, $F(000) = 948$, $\lambda(\text{Mo-K}\alpha) = 0.7107 \text{ \AA}$, $\mu = 4.095 \text{ mm}^{-1}$, crystal size = $0.40 \times 0.10 \times 0.07 \text{ mm}^3$, 7985 independent reflections collected ($R_{\text{int}} = 0.0411$), GOF = 1.051, final $R_1[I > 2\sigma(I)] = 0.0293$, $wR_2(\text{all data}) = 0.0677$, and D-map, max./min. = $1.663/-1.318 \text{ e/\AA}^3$.

Synthesis of [Ir(dfpbpy)₂(dfbdp)] (4). (2,4-difluorobenzyl) diphenylphosphine (dfbdpH, 69 mg, 0.22 mmol), [(dfpbpy)₂Ir(μ -Cl)]₂ (144 mg, 0.1 mmol) and sodium acetate (82 mg, 1 mmol) were added in degassed decahydronaphthalene (20 mL) and the mixture was refluxed for 28 hours. After cooling to RT and removal of solvent, the residue was subjected silica gel column chromatography using a 1:1 mixture of ethyl acetate and hexane as the eluent. The pale yellow crystals were obtained by slow diffusion of hexane into a CH₂Cl₂ solution at RT (92 mg, 0.09 mmol, 46%).

Spectra data of 4: MS (FAB): *m/z* 996 (M⁺). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 294K): δ 8.21 (s, 1H), 8.08 (s, 1H), 7.63 (t, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.36 ~ 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.29 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (dd, *J* = 6.0, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 6.75 ~ 6.78 (m, 3H), 6.63 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.57 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.33 ~ 6.44 (m, 4H), 5.75 (dd, *J* = 5.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 4.41 (t, *J* = 15.0 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (dd, *J* = 16.0, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 1.28 (s, 9H), 1.23 (s, 9H). ¹⁹F-¹H NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃, 294K): δ -110.06 ~ -110.09 (m, 2F), -110.18 (d, *J* = 9.4 Hz, 1F), -110.22 (d, *J* = 10.2 Hz, 1F), -110.52 (d, *J* = 9.4 Hz, 1F), -115.80 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1F). ³¹P-¹H NMR (202 MHz, CDCl₃, 294K): δ 14.83 (s, 1P). Anal. calcd. for C₄₉H₄₂F₆IrN₂P: N, 2.81; C, 59.09; H, 4.25. Found: N, 3.19; C, 58.91; H, 4.25

Synthesis of [Ir(dfppy)₂(bdp)] (5). Benzyldiphenylphosphine (bdpH, 61 mg, 0.22 mmol), [(dfppy)₂Ir(μ -Cl)]₂ (122 mg, 0.1 mmol) and sodium acetate (82 mg, 1 mmol) were added in degassed decahydronaphthalene (30 mL) and the mixture was refluxed for 26 hours. After cooling to RT and removal of solvent, the residue was subjected to silica gel column chromatography using a 1:3 mixture of ethyl acetate and hexane as the eluent. The pale yellow crystals were obtained by slow diffusion of hexane into a CH₂Cl₂ solution at RT (70 mg, 0.08 mmol, 41%).

Spectra data of 5: MS (FAB): *m/z* 848 (M⁺). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 294K): δ 8.17 (d, *J* = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 8.05 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.55 ~ 7.64 (m, 4H), 7.36 ~ 7.40

(m, 3H), 7.28 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 6.93 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.37 (t, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.72 ~ 6.83 (m, 6H), 6.62 ~ 6.66 (m, 3H), 6.38 ~ 6.43 (m, 1H), 6.27 ~ 6.35 (m, 3H), 4.32 (dd, $J = 15.5, 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.21 (t, $J = 15.0$, 1H). $^{19}\text{F}-\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3 , 294K): δ -110.05 ~ -110.01 (m, 2F), -110.23 (d, $J = 10.9$ Hz, 1F); -110.28 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 1F), $^{31}\text{P}-\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (202 MHz, CDCl_3 , 294K): δ 13.34 (s, 1P). Anal. calcd. For $\text{C}_{41}\text{H}_{28}\text{F}_4\text{IrN}_2\text{P}$: N, 3.30; C, 58.08; H, 3.33. Found: N, 2.96; C, 57.84; H, 3.10.

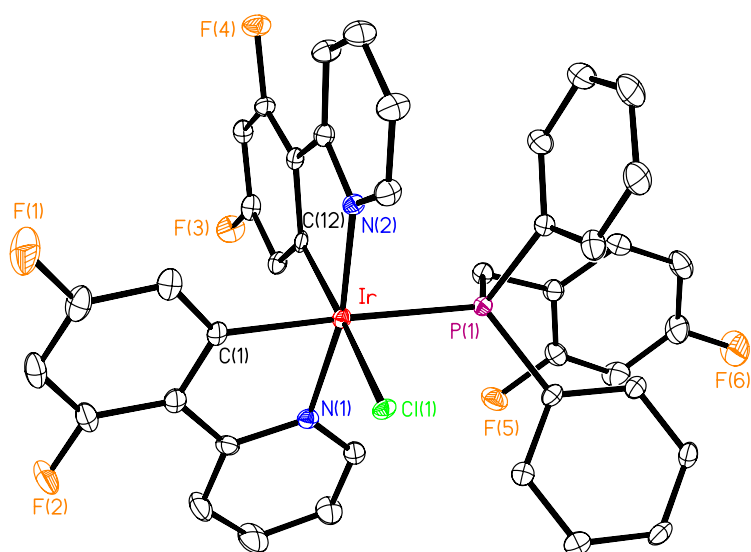


Figure S1. ORTEP diagram of complex **1**; selected bond distances: Ir-C(12) = 2.006(4), Ir-C(1) = 2.035(5), Ir-N(2) = 2.036(4), Ir-N(1) = 2.064(4), Ir-P(1) = 2.391(1), Ir-Cl(1) = 2.487(1) Å.

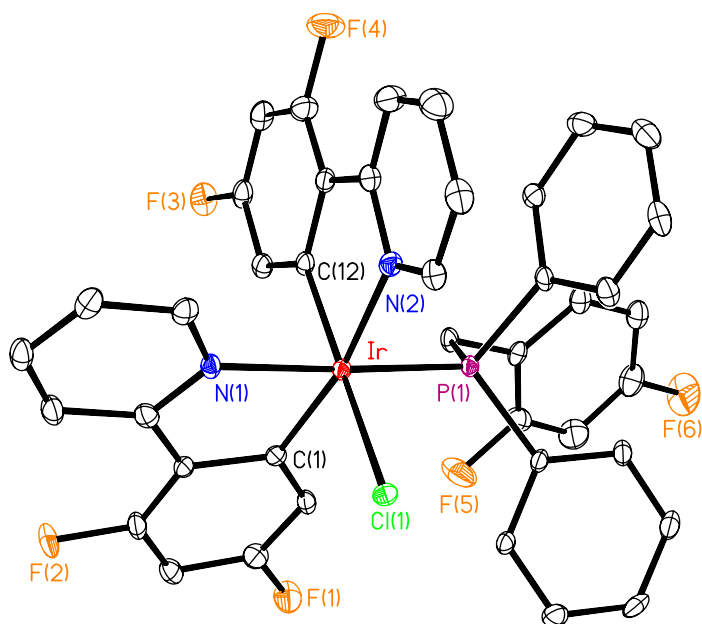


Figure S2. ORTEP diagram of complex **2**; selected bond distances: Ir-C(12) = 2.005(4), Ir-C(1) = 2.039(4), Ir-N(1) = 2.100(3), Ir-N(2) = 2.118(4), Ir-P(1) = 2.288(1), Ir-Cl(1) = 2.481(1) Å.

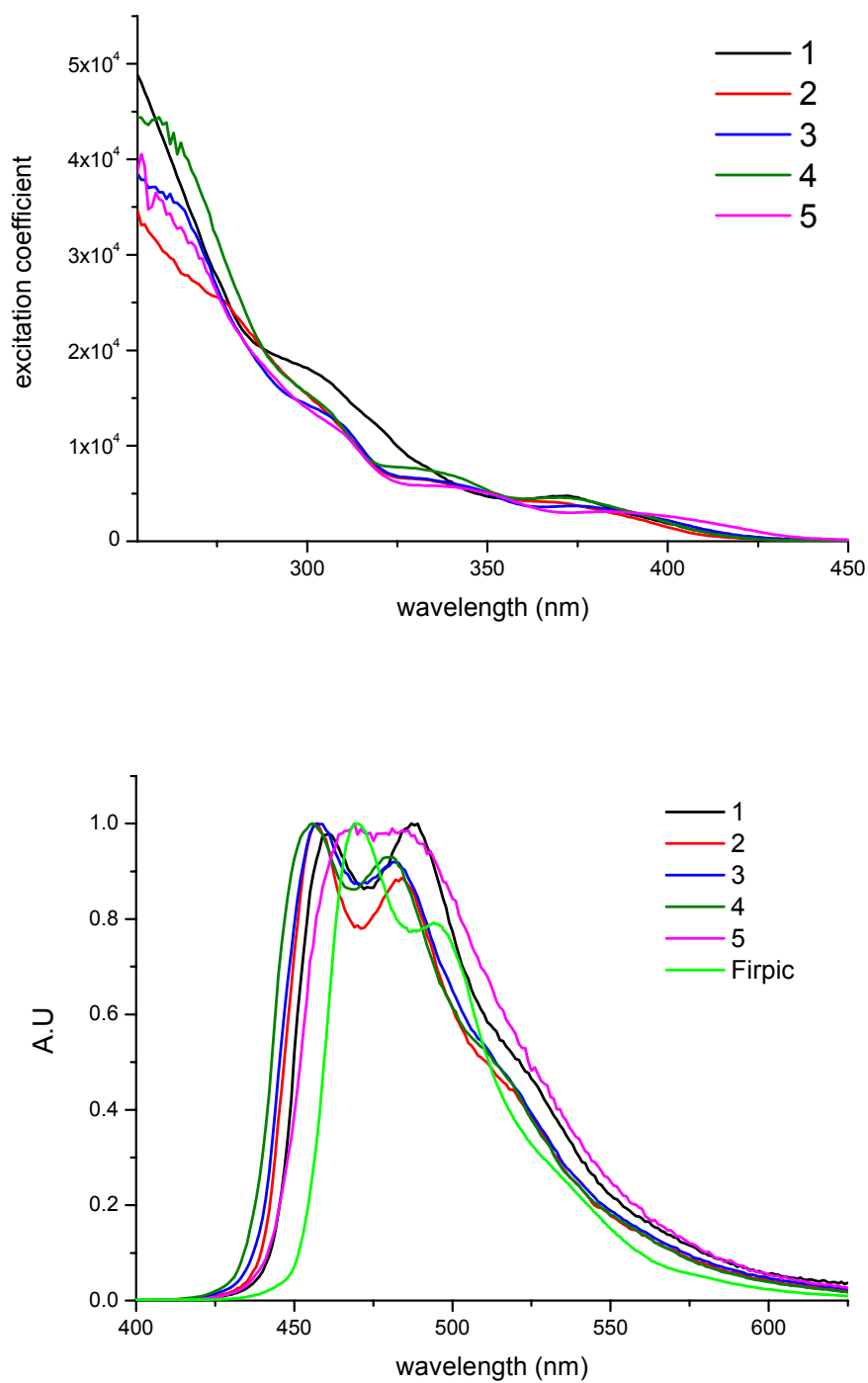


Figure S3. The UV-Vis absorption and emission spectra of Ir(III) complexes **1 ~ 5** and **Firpic** in CH_2Cl_2 at RT.

Table S1. Performance characteristics for the OLEDs based on complexes **4**.

sample		η_{ext} (%)	η_{l} (cd/A)	η_{p} (lm/W)	V_{on} (@ 1 cd/m ²)	CIE (x, y) (@ 100 cd/m ²)	Max. Luminance (cd/m ²) (@V)
4	Peak	10.24	15.95	10.07	4.6V	(0.156, 0.199)	9679 (20.0V)
	100 cd/m ²	9.09	14.14	6.17			