# Tetrathiafulvalene-s-tetrazine: versatile platform for donor-acceptor systems and multifunctional ligands 

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## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

## Experimental section

General comments. Reactions were carried out under Argon and using toluene HPLC. Nuclear magnetic resonance spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance DRX 500 spectrometer (operating at 500.04 MHz for 1 H and 125 MHz for ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ ) and Bruker Avance DRX 300 automatic spectrometer (operating at 300 MHz for ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$, and 75 MHz for ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ ). Chemical shifts are expressed in parts per million (ppm) downfield from external TMS. The following abbreviations are used: s , singlet; d , doublet; td, triplet of doublets; ddd, doublet of doublet of doublets; m, multiplet. MALDI- TOF MS spectra were recorded on Bruker BiflexIIITM apparatus, equipped with a 337 nm N2 laser. ESI MS spectra were recorded on a Bruker Esquire 3000 plus apparatus. Elemental analyses were recorded using Flash 2000 Fisher Scientific Thermo Electron analyzer. Melting points were measured with a Stuart Scientific melting point apparatus SMP3.

3,6-Dichloro-1,2,4,5-tetrazine was synthesized in several steps as previously described. [1]
[1] (a) D. E. Chavez and M. A. Hiskey, J. Heterocycl. Chem. 1998, 35, 1329; (b) M. D. Coburn, G. A. Buntain, B. W. Harris, M. A. Hiskey, K. Y. Lee and D. G. Ott, J. Heterocycl. Chem. 1991, 28, 2049; (c) M. D. Helm, A. Plant and J. P. A. Harrity, Org. Biomol. Chem,. 2006, 4, 4278.

## TTF-chloro-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (1)

3,6-Dichloro-1,2,4,5-tetrazine ( $0.30 \mathrm{~g}, 2 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), 4-(trimethylstannyl)-tetrathiafulvalene ( 0.35 g, 0.95 mmol$)$, and $\mathrm{Pd}\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3}\right)_{4}$ as catalyst $(15 \% \mathrm{mmol})$ were mixed in 20 mL of dry toluene overnight at $60^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ under argon. The mixture was filtered over Celite and silica, washed with toluene followed by dichloromethane and solvents concentrated to afford the crude as a black solid. The residue was purified by column chromatography (cyclohexane/dichloromethane $1 / 1)$ to give 140 mg of black solid, yield: $46 \%$, m. p. $>250^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, dec.
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta / \mathrm{ppm}: 8.10(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}), 6.38\left(\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H},{ }^{3} J=6.5 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 6.36\left(\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H},{ }^{3} J=\right.$ 6.5 Hz ); ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta / \mathrm{ppm}: 165.8,159.6,132.2,126.5,119.3,118.9$, 116.5, 106.3; MS (MALDI-TOF): m/z: 317.9 ( $\mathrm{M}_{\mathrm{th}}=317.89$ ); elemental analysis calcd. (\%) for $\mathrm{C}_{9} \mathrm{H}_{3} \mathrm{Cl}_{2} \mathrm{~N}_{3} \mathrm{~S}_{4}$ : C 30.14, H 0.95 , N 17.57, S 40.23; found: C 30.72, H 1.29, N 17.05 , S 39.72.

## Chloro-di(2-picolyl)amine-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (2)

Di(2-picolyl)amine ( $1.31 \mathrm{~g}, 6.6 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) in 20 ml of MTBE was added drop wise to a solution of 3,6-dichloro-1,2,4,5-tetrazine in 100 ml of MTBE. The mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight, the black solid formed was filtered, the solvent concentrated and the
crude purified by chromatography (dichloromethane/ethylacetate $1 / 1$ ) to give 700 mg of red solid, yield: $67 \%$, m. p. $=104.0-104.6^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(300 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta / \mathrm{ppm}: 8.54\left(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m},{ }^{3} J=4.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Py} H\right), 7.65\left(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{td},{ }^{3} J=7.8\right.$ $\left.\mathrm{Hz},{ }^{4} J=1.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Py} H\right), 7.31\left(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Py} H\right), 7.20\left(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{ddd},{ }^{3} J=4.8 \mathrm{~Hz},{ }^{4} J=1.2\right.$, $\mathrm{Py} H$ ), 5.21 ( $4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{Py}$ ); ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(75 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta / \mathrm{ppm}: 161.4,160.2,155.3,148.1$, 137.4, 122.9, 122.8, 52.7; ESI-MS m/z $314.00[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}\left(\mathrm{M}_{\mathrm{th}}=313.08\right)$; elemental analysis calcd. (\%) for $\mathrm{C}_{14} \mathrm{H}_{12} \mathrm{ClN}_{7}$ : C 53.59, H 3.86, N 31.25; found: C 52.94, H 3.85, N 30.25.

## TTF-di(2-picolyl)amine-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (3)

$2(0.47 \mathrm{~g}, 1.5 \mathrm{mmol})$, 4-(trimethylstannyl)-tetrathiafulvalene ( $0.66 \mathrm{~g}, 1.8 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and $\operatorname{Pd}\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3}\right)_{4}$ as catalyst $(15 \% \mathrm{mmol})$ were refluxed in 30 mL of dry toluene overnight under argon. The residue was purified by column chromatography (cyclohexane/dichloromethane $1 / 1$, followed by dichloromethane) to give 200 mg of black solid, yield: $28 \%, \mathrm{~m} . \mathrm{p} .=199.5-$ $200.0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(300 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta / \mathrm{ppm}: 8.53\left(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{m},{ }^{3} J=4.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Py} H\right), 7.63\left(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{td},{ }^{3} J=7.8\right.$ $\left.\mathrm{Hz},{ }^{4} J=1.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Py} H\right), 7.51(1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{TTF} H), 7.32\left(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{d},{ }^{3} J=7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{Py} H\right), 7.18\left(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{ddd},{ }^{3} J\right.$ $\left.=4.8 \mathrm{~Hz},{ }^{4} J=0.9, \operatorname{Py} H\right), 6.33(2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{TTF} H), 5.25\left(4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{Py}\right) ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{NMR}(125 \mathrm{MHz}$, $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta / \mathrm{ppm}: 159.9,155.9,155.7,149.6,136.7,130.1,122.6,122.2,121.8,119.2,118.8$, 113.3, 108.4, 52.6; MS (MALDI-TOF): $m / z: 480.5\left(\mathrm{M}_{\mathrm{th}}=481.03\right)$; elemental analysis calcd. (\%) for $\mathrm{C}_{20} \mathrm{H}_{15} \mathrm{~N}_{7} \mathrm{~S}_{4}$ : C 49.87, H 3.14, N 20.36, S 26.63; found: C 49.24, H 3.00, N 19.91, S 27.46.

## (3) $\mathrm{ZnCl}_{2}$

A solution of TTF-di(2-picolyl)amine-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (3) ( $5 \mathrm{mg}, 0.01 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) in 3 ml of dichloromethane was mixed with a solution of $\mathrm{ZnCl}_{2}(1.4 \mathrm{mg}, 0.01 \mathrm{mmol})$ in 3 ml of acetonitrile. Slow diffusion of diethyl ether or pentane onto this solution afforded single crystals of the desired complex $\mathbf{3}$ which was further analyzed by X-ray diffraction.

ESI-MS m/z $579.66[\mathrm{M}-\mathrm{Cl}]^{+}\left(\mathrm{M}_{\mathrm{th}}=614.89\right)$.

## X-Ray structure determinations

Details about data collection and solution refinement are given in Table S1. X-ray diffraction measurements were performed on a Bruker Kappa CCD diffractometer, operating with a $\mathrm{Mo}_{\mathrm{K} \alpha}(\lambda=0.71073 \AA$ ) X-ray tube with a graphite monochromator. The structures were solved (SHELXS-97) by direct methods and refined (SHELXL-97) by full matrix least-square procedures on $\mathrm{F}^{2}$. All nonhydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. Hydrogen atoms were introduced at calculated positions (riding model), included in structure factor calculations but not refined. Crystallographic data for the two structures have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, deposition numbers CCDC 888570 (1), CCDC 888571 (3) $\mathrm{ZnCl}_{2}$. These data can be obtained free of charge from CCDC, 12 Union road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK (e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk or http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

Table S1. Crystal Data and Structure Refinement for 1 and (3) $\mathrm{ZnCl}_{2}$

|  | $\mathbf{1}$ | $(3) \mathrm{ZnCl}_{2}$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| formula | $\mathrm{C}_{8} \mathrm{H}_{3} \mathrm{ClN}_{4} \mathrm{~S}_{4}$ | $\mathrm{C}_{20} \mathrm{H}_{15} \mathrm{C}_{12} \mathrm{~N}_{7} \mathrm{~S}_{4} \mathrm{Zn}$ |
| $M\left[\mathrm{gmol}^{-1}\right]$ | 318.87 | 617.90 |
| $T[\mathrm{~K}]$ | $293(2)$ | $293(2)$ |
| crystal system | Monoclinic | Triclinic |
| space group | $P 2_{l} / c$ | $P-1$ |
| $a[\AA]$ | $7.4751(11)$ | $8.7852(17)$ |
| $b[\AA]$ | $22.522(2)$ | $9.2555(14)$ |
| $c[\AA]$ | $7.5169(9)$ | $16.386(4)$ |
| $\alpha\left[{ }^{\circ}\right]$ | $90.000(11)$ | $74.976(17)$ |
| $\beta\left[^{\circ}\right]$ | $109.736(9)$ | $88.387(14)$ |
| $\gamma\left[{ }^{\circ}\right]$ | $90.000(12)$ | $72.238(14)$ |
| $V\left[\AA^{3}\right]$ | $1191.2(3)$ | $1223.6(4)$ |
| $Z$ | 4 | 2 |
| $\rho_{\text {calce }}\left[\mathrm{gcm}^{-3}\right]$ | 1.778 | 1.677 |
| $\mu\left[\mathrm{~mm}^{-1}\right]$ | 1.000 | 1.589 |
| goodness-of-fit on $\mathrm{F}^{2}$ | 1.037 | 1.013 |
| final R1/wR2 $\mathrm{I}>2 \sigma(\mathrm{I})]$ | $0.0516 / 0.0852$ | $0.0430 / 0.0817$ |
| $\mathrm{R} 1 / w \mathrm{R} 2($ all data $)$ | $0.1116 / 0.1026$ | $0.0952 / 0.0923$ |

## Compound 1




Fig. S1 Left: molecular structure of $\mathbf{1}$ with the numbering scheme (top), together with a side view of the molecule (bottom). Right: short $\mathrm{S} \cdots \mathrm{S}$ and TTF $\cdots \mathrm{TTZ}$ intra-stack contacts.


Fig. S2 Packing diagram for $\mathbf{1}$ in the $b c$ plane with an emphasis on the $\mathrm{S} \cdots \mathrm{S}$ and $\mathrm{N} \cdots \mathrm{H}$ inter-stack contacts.


Fig. S3 Packing diagram for $\mathbf{1}$ in the $a b$ plane with an emphasis on the $\mathrm{S} \cdots \mathrm{S}$ inter-stack contacts.

Table S2. Bond lengths $(\AA)$ and angles $\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ for 1

| Bond lengths ( $\AA$ ) |  | Bond angles ( ${ }^{\circ}$ ) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| S(1)-C(1) | 1.731(4) | $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{C}(3)$ | 94.54(17) |
| S(1)-C(3) | 1.763(3) | $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{C}(3)$ | 94.43(18) |
| $\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | 1.737(4) | $\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{S}(3)-\mathrm{C}(4)$ | 94.84(15) |
| $\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{C}(3)$ | 1.755(3) | $\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{S}(4)-\mathrm{C}(4)$ | 94.27(15) |
| $\mathrm{S}(3)-\mathrm{C}(5)$ | 1.714(3) | $\mathrm{N}(3)-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | 117.2(3) |
| S(3)-C(4) | 1.766(3) | $\mathrm{N}(4)-\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | 117.2(3) |
| $\mathrm{S}(4)-\mathrm{C}(6)$ | 1.753(3) | $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{N}(3)-\mathrm{C}(8)$ | 116.4(3) |
| S(4)-C(4) | 1.764(3) | $\mathrm{C}(8)-\mathrm{N}(4)-\mathrm{N}(2)$ | 116.4(3) |
| $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{N}(3)$ | 1.320(4) | $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{S}(1)$ | 118.3(3) |
| $\mathrm{N}(1)$-C(7) | 1.352(4) | $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{H}(1)$ | 120.8 |
| $\mathrm{N}(2)$ - $\mathrm{N}(4)$ | 1.336(3) | $\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{H}(1)$ | 120.8 |
| $\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | 1.335(4) | $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{S}(2)$ | 118.5(3) |
| $\mathrm{N}(3)-\mathrm{C}(8)$ | 1.338(4) | $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{H}(2)$ | 120.7 |
| $\mathrm{N}(4)-\mathrm{C}(8)$ | 1.323(4) | $\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{H}(2)$ | 120.7 |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(1)-\mathrm{C}(8)$ | 1.710(3) | $\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{S}(2)$ | 123.3(2) |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | 1.303(5) | $\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{S}(1)$ | 122.5(2) |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{H}(1)$ | 0.9300 | $\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{S}(1)$ | 114.18(18) |
| $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{H}(2)$ | 0.9300 | $\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{S}(4)$ | 122.5(2) |
| $\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(4)$ | 1.343 (4) | $\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{S}(3)$ | 122.8(2) |
| $\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{C}(6)$ | 1.341(4) | $\mathrm{S}(4)-\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{S}(3)$ | 114.74(18) |
| $\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{H}(5)$ | 0.9300 | $\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{S}(3)$ | 118.9(3) |
| $\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | 1.457(4) | $\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{H}(5)$ | 120.6 |
|  |  | $\mathrm{S}(3)-\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{H}(5)$ | 120.6 |
|  |  | $\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | 124.7(3) |
|  |  | $\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{S}(4)$ | 117.3(2) |
|  |  | $\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{S}(4)$ | 118.0(2) |
|  |  | $\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{N}(1)$ | 125.4(3) |
|  |  | $\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{C}(6)$ | 117.4(3) |
|  |  | $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{C}(6)$ | 117.2(3) |
|  |  | $\mathrm{N}(4)-\mathrm{C}(8)-\mathrm{N}(3)$ | 127.3(3) |
|  |  | $\mathrm{N}(4)-\mathrm{C}(8)-\mathrm{Cl}(1)$ | 116.9(3) |
|  |  | $\mathrm{N}(3)-\mathrm{C}(8)-\mathrm{Cl}(1)$ | 115.8(3) |

Complex (3) $\mathrm{ZnCl}_{2}$


Fig. S4 Molecular structure of (3) $\mathrm{ZnCl}_{2}$.


Fig. S5 Packing diagram for (3) $\mathrm{ZnCl}_{2}$.

Table S3. Bond lengths ( $\AA$ ) and angles ( ${ }^{\circ}$ ) for (3) $\mathrm{ZnCl}_{2}$

| Bond lengths $(\AA)$ |  |  | Bond angles $\left(^{\circ}\right)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{Zn}(1)-\mathrm{N}(7)$ | $2.051(3)$ | $\mathrm{N}(7)-\mathrm{Zn}(1)-\mathrm{N}(6)$ | $135.75(12)$ |
| $\mathrm{Zn}(1)-\mathrm{N}(6)$ | $2.056(3)$ | $\mathrm{N}(7)-\mathrm{Zn}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | $106.30(9)$ |
| $\mathrm{Zn}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | $2.2643(12)$ | $\mathrm{N}(6)-\mathrm{Zn}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | $99.97(8)$ |
| $\mathrm{Zn}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(1)$ | $2.2862(11)$ | $\mathrm{N}(7)-\mathrm{Zn}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(1)$ | $102.48(8)$ |
| $\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)$ | $1.728(4)$ | $\mathrm{N}(6)-\mathrm{Zn}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(1)$ | $101.77(9)$ |
| $\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{C}(3)$ | $1.762(3)$ | $\mathrm{Cl}(2)-\mathrm{Zn}(1)-\mathrm{Cl}(1)$ | $108.94(5)$ |
| $\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | $1.734(4)$ | $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{C}(3)$ | $94.85(18)$ |
| $\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{C}(3)$ | $1.763(4)$ | $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{C}(3)$ | $94.43(19)$ |
| $\mathrm{S}(3)-\mathrm{C}(5)$ | $1.761(3)$ | $\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{S}(3)-\mathrm{C}(4)$ | $94.59(16)$ |
| $\mathrm{S}(3)-\mathrm{C}(4)$ | $1.762(4)$ | $\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{S}(4)-\mathrm{C}(4)$ | $94.34(17)$ |
| $\mathrm{S}(4)-\mathrm{C}(6)$ | $1.728(4)$ | $\mathrm{N}(3)-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | $118.9(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{S}(4)-\mathrm{C}(4)$ | $1.769(3)$ | $\mathrm{N}(4)-\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | $117.2(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{N}(3)$ | $1.318(4)$ | $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{N}(3)-\mathrm{C}(8)$ | $116.2(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | $1.339(4)$ | $\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{N}(4)-\mathrm{C}(8)$ | $117.4(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{N}(4)$ | $1.315(4)$ | $\mathrm{C}(8)-\mathrm{N}(5)-\mathrm{C}(10)$ | $117.2(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | $1.357(4)$ | $\mathrm{C}(8)-\mathrm{N}(5)-\mathrm{C}(9)$ | $116.8(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(3)-\mathrm{C}(8)$ | $1.350(4)$ | $\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{N}(5)-\mathrm{C}(9)$ | $116.8(3)$ |


| N(4)-C(8) | 1.354(5) | $\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{N}(6)-\mathrm{C}(15) \quad 118.2(3)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{N}(5)-\mathrm{C}(8)$ | $1.375(4)$ | $\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{N}(6)-\mathrm{Zn}(1) \quad 125.8(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(5)-\mathrm{C}(10)$ | 1.470(4) | $\mathrm{C}(15)-\mathrm{N}(6)-\mathrm{Zn}(1) \quad 115.4(2)$ |
| N(5)-C(9) | $1.474(5)$ | $\mathrm{C}(16)-\mathrm{N}(7)-\mathrm{C}(20) \quad 117.7(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(6)-\mathrm{C}(11)$ | 1.327(4) | $\mathrm{C}(16)-\mathrm{N}(7)-\mathrm{Zn}(1) \quad 127.3(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(6)-\mathrm{C}(15)$ | 1.344(4) | $\mathrm{C}(20)-\mathrm{N}(7)-\mathrm{Zn}(1) \quad 114.9(2)$ |
| N(7)-C(16) | 1.332(4) | $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{S}(1) \quad 118.3(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{N}(7)-\mathrm{C}(20)$ | 1.352(4) | $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{H}(1) \quad 120.9$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | $1.302(5)$ | $\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{H}(1) \quad 120.9$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{H}(1)$ | 0.9300 | $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{S}(2) \quad 118.7(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{H}(2)$ | 0.9300 | $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{H}(2) \quad 120.7$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(4)$ | 1.333(4) | $\mathrm{S}(2)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{H}(2) \quad 120.7$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{C}(6)$ | $1.331(5)$ | $\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{S}(1) \quad 121.5(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | $1.455(5)$ | $\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{S}(2) \quad 124.7(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{H}(6)$ | 0.9300 | $\mathrm{S}(1)-\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{S}(2) \quad 113.76$ (17) |
| $\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{C}(11)$ | 1.499(5) | $\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{S}(3) \quad 121.0(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{H}(9 \mathrm{~A})$ | 0.9700 | $\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{S}(4) \quad 124.1(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{H}(9 \mathrm{~B})$ | 0.9700 | $\mathrm{S}(3)-\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{S}(4) \quad 114.80$ (18) |
| $\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{C}(16)$ | 1.504(5) | $\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{C}(7) \quad 128.5(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{H}(10 \mathrm{~A})$ | 0.9700 | $\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{S}(3) \quad 116.7(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{H}(10 \mathrm{~B})$ | 0.9700 | $\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{S}(3) \quad 114.7(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(12)$ | 1.381(5) | $\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{S}(4) \quad 119.5(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{C}(13)$ | $1.379(6)$ | $\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{H}(6) \quad 120.3$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{H}(12)$ | 0.9300 | $\mathrm{S}(4)-\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{H}(6) \quad 120.3$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{C}(14)$ | 1.361(6) | $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{N}(2) \quad 124.5(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{H}(13)$ | 0.9300 | $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{C}(5) \quad 116.4(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(14)-\mathrm{C}(15)$ | 1.363(5) | $\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{C}(5) \quad 119.1(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(14)-\mathrm{H}(14)$ | 0.9300 | $\mathrm{N}(3)-\mathrm{C}(8)-\mathrm{N}(4) \quad 125.4(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(15)-\mathrm{H}(15)$ | 0.9300 | $\mathrm{N}(3)-\mathrm{C}(8)-\mathrm{N}(5) \quad 116.4(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(16)-\mathrm{C}(17)$ | 1.381(5) | $\mathrm{N}(4)-\mathrm{C}(8)-\mathrm{N}(5) \quad 118.2(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(17)-\mathrm{C}(18)$ | $1.374(6)$ | $\mathrm{N}(5)-\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{C}(11) \quad 114.2(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(17)-\mathrm{H}(17)$ | 0.9300 | $\mathrm{N}(5)-\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{H}(9 \mathrm{~A}) \quad 108.7$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(18)-\mathrm{C}(19)$ | 1.363(6) | $\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{H}(9 \mathrm{~A}) \quad 108.7$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(18)-\mathrm{H}(18)$ | 0.9300 | $\mathrm{N}(5)-\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{H}(9 \mathrm{~B}) \quad 108.7$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(19)$ - $\mathrm{C}(20)$ | 1.372(5) | $\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{H}(9 \mathrm{~B}) \quad 108.7$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(19)-\mathrm{H}(19)$ | 0.9300 | $\mathrm{H}(9 \mathrm{~A})-\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{H}(9 \mathrm{~B}) \quad 107.6$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(20)-\mathrm{H}(20)$ | 0.9300 | $\mathrm{N}(5)-\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{C}(16) \quad 116.2(3)$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{N}(5)-\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{H}(10 \mathrm{~A}) \quad 108.2$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{C}(16)-\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{H}(10 \mathrm{~A}) \quad 108.2$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{N}(5)-\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{H}(10 \mathrm{~B}) \quad 108.2$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{C}(16)-\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{H}(10 \mathrm{~B}) \quad 108.2$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{H}(10 \mathrm{~A})-\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{H}(10 \mathrm{~B}) 107.4$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{N}(6)-\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(12) \quad 121.2(3)$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{N}(6)-\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(9) \quad 117.9(3)$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(9) \quad 120.8(3)$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{C}(11) \quad 119.6(4)$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{H}(12) \quad 120.2$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{H}(12) \quad 120.2$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{C}(14)-\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{C}(12) \quad 118.9(4)$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{C}(14)-\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{H}(13) \quad 120.5$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{H}(13) \quad 120.5$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{C}(14)-\mathrm{C}(15) \quad 118.5(4)$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{C}(14)-\mathrm{H}(14) \quad 120.7$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{C}(15)-\mathrm{C}(14)-\mathrm{H}(14) \quad 120.7$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{N}(6)-\mathrm{C}(15)-\mathrm{C}(14) \quad 123.3(4)$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{N}(6)-\mathrm{C}(15)-\mathrm{H}(15) \quad 118.3$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{C}(14)-\mathrm{C}(15)-\mathrm{H}(15) \quad 118.3$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{N}(7)-\mathrm{C}(16)-\mathrm{C}(17) \quad 121.4(3)$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{N}(7)-\mathrm{C}(16)-\mathrm{C}(10) \quad 119.9(3)$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{C}(17)-\mathrm{C}(16)-\mathrm{C}(10) \quad 118.6$ (3) |



Electrochemical studies. Cyclic voltammetry measurements were carried out with a Biologic SP-150 potentiostat in a glove box containing dry, oxygen-free ( $<1 \mathrm{ppm}$ ) argon at 293 K , by using a three-electrode cell equipped with a platinum millielectrode of $0.126 \mathrm{~cm}^{2}$ area, an $\mathrm{Ag} / \mathrm{Ag}+$ pseudo-reference electrode and a platinum wire counter electrode. The potential values were then re-adjusted with respect to the saturated calomel electrode (SCE). The electrolytic media involved a $0.1 \mathrm{~mol} / \mathrm{L}$ solution of $\left(n-\mathrm{Bu}_{4} \mathrm{~N}\right) \mathrm{PF}_{6}$ in dichloromethane/acetonitrile $1 / 1$. All experiments were performed at room temperature at 0.1 V/s.



Fig. S6 Cyclic voltammetry performed in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2} / \mathrm{MeCN}(1: 1)$ in the presence of $\left(n-\mathrm{Bu}_{4} \mathrm{~N}\right) \mathrm{PF}_{6}(0.1 \mathrm{M})$ at a scan rate of $0.1 \mathrm{~V} \cdot \mathrm{~s}^{-1}$ for $\mathbf{1}$ (left) and $\mathbf{3}$ (right).

## UV-Vis spectroscopy and photophysics

UV-Vis spectra for TTF, 3,6-dichloro-1,2,4,5-tetrazine ( $3,6-\mathrm{Cl}_{2}-\mathrm{TTZ}$ ) and 3 were recorded in DCM solutions using a Lambda 19 PERKIN ELMER Spectrometer.


Fig. S7 UV-Vis spectra of TTF, dichloro-tetrazine and the mixture of the two, in $\operatorname{DCM}\left(10^{-4} \mathrm{M}\right)$ with a detailed area inset.


Fig. S8 UV-Vis spectrum of TTF-di(2-picolyl)amine-1,2,4,5-tetrazine (3), $10^{-5} \mathrm{M}$ solution in DCM; $\lambda_{\max }=427$ $\mathrm{nm}\left(23420 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}\right) ; \varepsilon=7000 \mathrm{~L} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1} \cdot \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$.

Solvents always of the best available quality for photophysics and spectroelectrochemistry were purchased from commercial sources and used as received without further purification.

UV-Vis absorption spectra were measured on a Cary 5000 spectrophotometer. Steady-state emission spectra were recorded on a Fluorolog 3 spectrophotometer. In most cases, the preparation of samples in different solvents was started from an initial concentrated DCM standard solution. The volume fraction of DCM in the final solution was less than $5 \%$ in all of the tested solution samples. Solution samples with proper concentrations were prepared by optical dilution for steady-state photoluminescence ( $\mathrm{OD}<0.1$ ) and deoxygenated for 30 min in a 1 cm path-length quartz cell prior to measurements. Precautions were taken to limit exposure of the photosensitive complexes to light in between measurements and during bubbling.


Fig. S9 UV-vis absorption spectra of $\mathbf{1}$ and $3,6-\mathrm{Cl}_{2}-\mathrm{TTZ}$ in DCM at room temperature.


Fig. S10 UV-vis absorption spectra of $\mathbf{1}$ in DCM solution in different cells and concentrations at room temperature. Only the ICT is shown.

Table S4. Photopysics for $\mathbf{1}$ in DCM at room temperature.

| Entry | $v_{\mathrm{abs}} / \mathrm{cm}^{-1}\left(\varepsilon / \mathrm{L} \cdot \mathrm{mol}^{-1} \cdot \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}\right)$ | $v_{\mathrm{em}} / \mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathbf{1}$ | $32468 \quad(22100), \quad 31447$ | $(21100)$, | non-emissive |
|  | $18797(4200)$ |  |  |



Fig. S11 Emission spectrum of $1\left(1 \times 10^{-5} \mathrm{M}\right)$ in DCM at room temperature. ( $\lambda_{\mathrm{ex}}=530 \mathrm{~nm}, 18870 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$, top) and absorption spectra of $\mathbf{1}\left(1 \times 10^{-5} \mathrm{M}\right.$, bottom) before and after emission-excitation measurements.


Fig. S12 ${ }^{1}$ ICT absorption band of $\mathbf{1}$ in (a) toluene, (b) DCM, (c) chloroform, (d) acetonitrile and (e) methanol.


Fig. S13 UV-vis absorption of $\mathbf{1}\left(1.8 \times 10^{-5} \mathrm{M}\right)$ during chemical oxidation by successive addition of oxidant $\mathrm{FeCl}_{3}$ in DCM at room temperature. * unreacted $\mathrm{FeCl}_{3}$.


Fig. S14 UV-vis absorption of $\mathbf{1}\left(1.9 \times 10^{-5} \mathrm{M}\right)$ during chemical oxidation by oxidant $\mathrm{FeCl}_{3}$ in DCM at room temperature. * unreacted $\mathrm{FeCl}_{3}$.

## Theoretical calculations on 1

Density functional theory (DFT) [1,2] has been applied to the determination of the groundstate geometry of the isolated molecule, and its lowest-lying singlet excited states have been characterized within time-dependent DFT (TDDFT) [3-5]. All calculations have been performed with the Gaussian 09 program package [6]. The geometry optimization was carried out with the PBE functional $[7,8]$ and the TDDFT electronic excitation calculations with the PBE1PBE (aka PBE0) functional [9,10]. The atoms were described by Dunning's correlation consistent basis sets augmented with diffuse functions [11,12]: namely, the aug-cc-pVDZ basis set for the H atoms, and the aug-cc-pVTZ basis set for the $\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{N}, \mathrm{S}$, and Cl atoms. The ground-state geometry of the molecule is $C_{l}$ resulting from the pseudo-Jahn-Teller instability of the geometry of $C_{s}$ symmetry as shown in Fig. S15.

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Fig. S15 Optimized geometry of $\mathrm{C}_{1}$ symmetry of the compound $\mathbf{1}$.

Table S5: Characterization of the 14 lowest-lying singlet excited state of the compound $\mathbf{1}$.

| State | Energy ( $\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ ) | Oscillator strength | Major MO $\rightarrow$ MO contributions (\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{S}_{1}$ | 10388 | 0.019 | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO (100) |
| $\mathrm{S}_{2}$ | 15878 | 0.106 | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1 (100) |
| $\mathrm{S}_{3}$ | 18795 | 0.004 | HOMO-2 $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1 (100) |
| $\mathrm{S}_{4}$ | 21698 | 0.000 | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+2 (100) |
| $\mathrm{S}_{5}$ | 25166 | 0.004 | HOMO-1 $\rightarrow$ LUMO (100) |
| $\mathrm{S}_{6}$ | 25198 | 0.000 | HOMO-2 $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1 (100) |
| $\mathrm{S}_{7}$ | 29020 | 0.012 | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+3 (98) |
| $\mathrm{S}_{8}$ | 31715 | 0.103 | HOMO-1 $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1 (39) |
|  |  |  | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+7 (38) |
|  |  |  | $\text { HOMO } \rightarrow \text { LUMO+8 (10) }$ |
| S9 | 31939 | 0.192 | HOMO -1 $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1 (64) |
|  |  |  | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+7 (20) |
| $\mathrm{S}_{10}$ | 32938 | 0.054 | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+4 (19) |
|  |  |  | $\mathrm{HOMO} \rightarrow \mathrm{LUMO}+5$ (19) |
|  |  |  | $\text { HOMO } \rightarrow \text { LUMO+8 (16) }$ |
|  |  |  | $\text { HOMO } \rightarrow \text { LUMO+9 (15) }$ |
|  |  |  | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+10 (10) |
| $\mathrm{S}_{11}$ | 33266 | 0.057 | HOMO-3 $\rightarrow$ LUMO (77) |
| $\mathrm{S}_{12}$ | 34316 | 0.116 | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+4 (32) |
|  |  |  | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+5 (29) |
|  |  |  | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+6 (29) |
| $\mathrm{S}_{13}$ | 34418 | 0.067 | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+4 (35) |
|  |  |  | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+6 (29) |
| $\mathrm{S}_{14}$ | 34816 | 0.161 | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+6 (34) |
|  |  |  | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+5 (31) |
|  |  |  | HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+8 (16) |



HOMO-3 (-8.257 eV)
HOMO-2 (-7.516 eV)
HOMO-1 (-7.170 eV)




Fig. S16 Molecular orbitals of compound 1.


Fig. S17 Electronic absorption spectra of $\mathbf{1}$ in DCM with the calculated $\mathrm{S} 0 \rightarrow \mathrm{Sn}$ transitions.

