

## Supporting Information

# Heteronuclear phosphorescent iridium(III) complexes with tunable photophysical and excited-state properties by chelating BF<sub>2</sub> moiety for application in bioimaging

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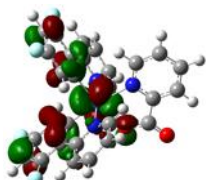
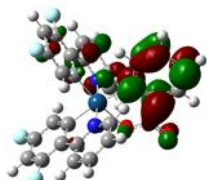
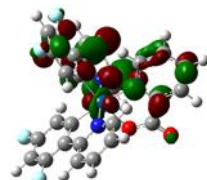
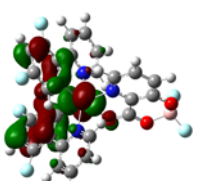
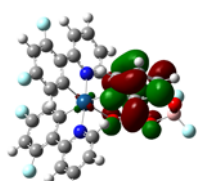
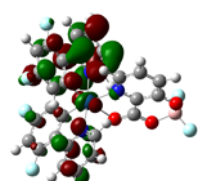
**Table S1** Crystal data and refinement parameters for complex **2b**

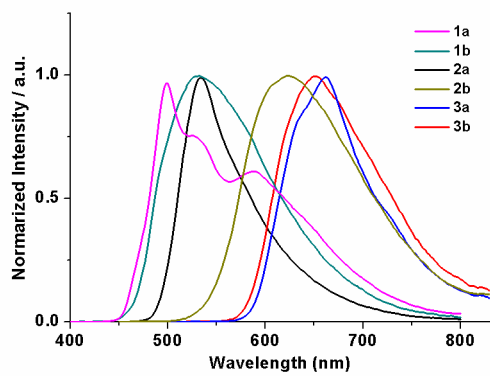
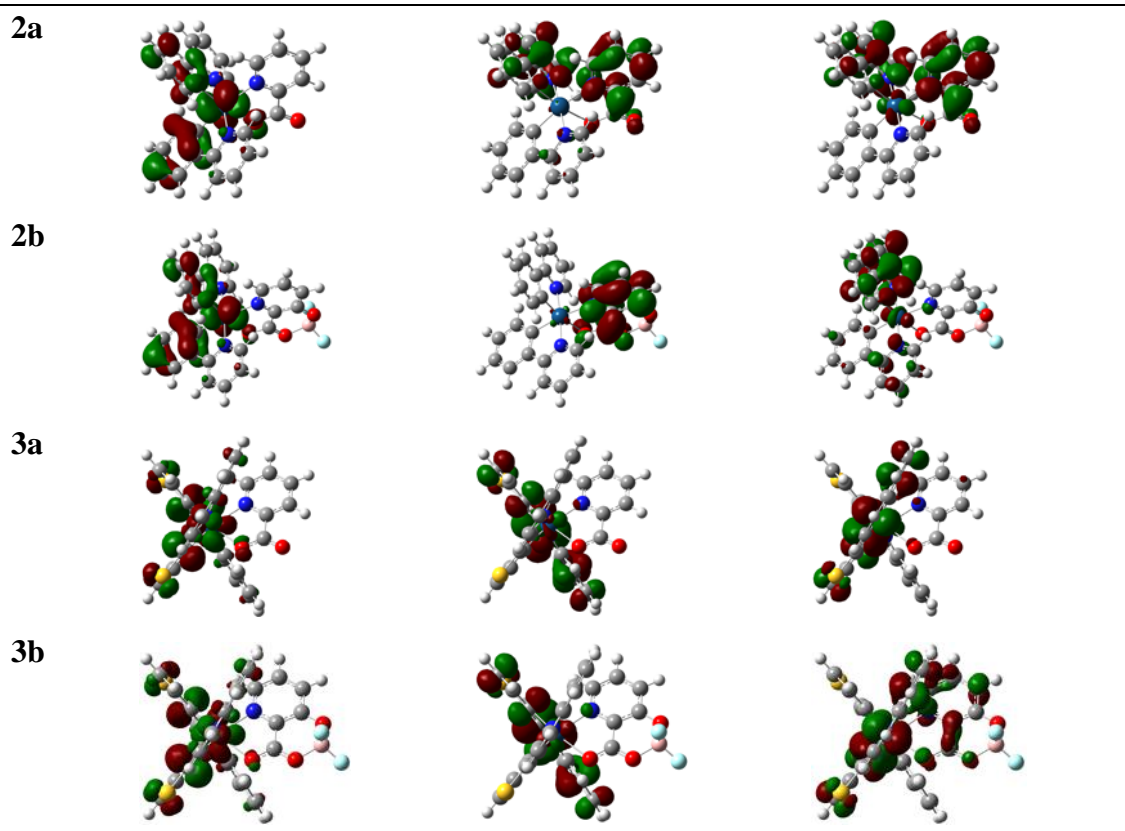
empirical formula	[IrC <sub>28</sub> H <sub>19</sub> N <sub>3</sub> F <sub>2</sub> BO <sub>3</sub> ](CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> )
formula weight	771.42
crystal system	orthorhombic crystal system
space group	Pna2 <sub>1</sub>
a (Å)	12.522(3)
b (Å)	22.397(5)
c (Å)	9.999(2)
V (Å <sup>3</sup> )	V (Å <sup>3</sup> )
Z	4
D(calcd) (g cm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.827
μ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	5.002
F(000)	1496
scan type	ω-2θ
R <sub>1</sub> , wR <sub>2</sub>	0.0266, 0.0681
goodness of fit	1.047

**Table S2.** The selected bond length of calculation results of **2b** compared with the X-Ray crystallography results

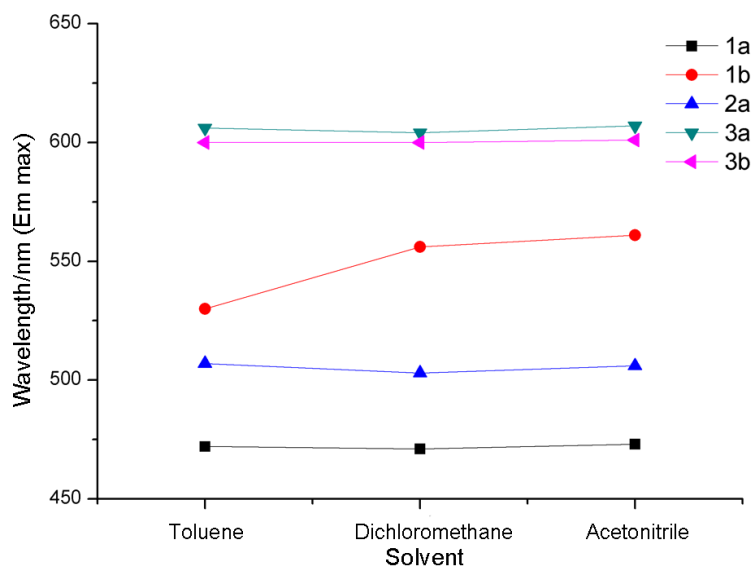
Selected bond	X-Ray crystallography results	Calculated bond lengths
Ir1-C11	1.994(5)	2.01719
Ir1-C12	1.991(5)	2.00388
Ir1-N1	2.059(4)	2.06565
Ir1-N2	2.036(4)	2.07907
Ir1-N3	2.150(5)	2.22634
Ir1-O1	2.242(3)	2.24965
B1-O2	1.510(10)	1.53785
B1-O3	1.385(10)	1.50508
B1-F1	1.383(12)	1.37448
B1-F2	1.323(11)	1.35901

**Table S3.** HOMOs and LUMOs distributions of **1a-3a** and **1b-3b** at the lowest singlet state

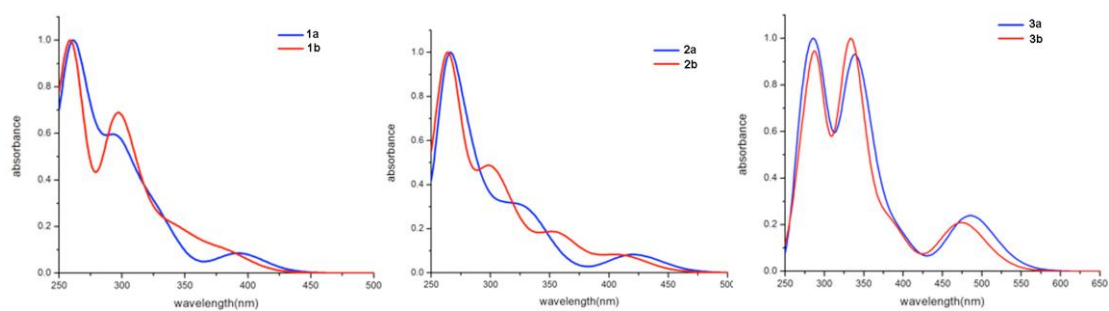
	HOMO	LUMO	LUMO+1
<b>1a</b>			
<b>1b</b>			



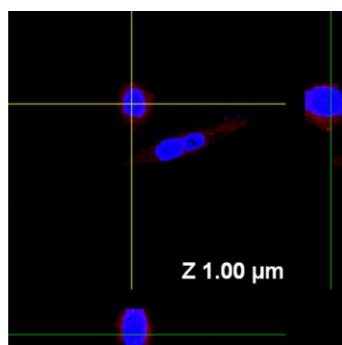
**Fig. S1.** Emission spectra (excited at 365 nm) in solid state.



**Fig. S2.** The maximum emission peak changes of the complexes with different solvent.



**Fig. S3.** The calculated absorption spectra of **1a-3a** and **1b-3b** in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  solution.



**Fig. S4** overlap Z-scan confocal image of living HeLa cells incubated with **3a** and DAPI.