

1 Design of phenanthroline and diindolocarbazole
2 based emitter for efficient upconversion of triplet
3 excitons by improving rISC

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16

17 **Keywords:** Diindolocarbazole, Phenanthroline, TADF, OLED, RISC.

18

19 **Abstract:**

20 There has been significant advancement in display technology in recent times. However,
21 synthetic efforts toward designing more efficient emitters are still underway. TADF emitters
22 offer the advantage of an all organic based design with IQE_{max} of 100%. To study the effect of
23 phenanthroline-based moieties, we designed and synthesized two yellow-green thermally

24 activated delayed fluorescent (TADF) emitters, **DICz-DBPZ** and **DICz-DPPN**. Due to
25 structural variations associated with steric strain, the two emitters displayed different
26 photophysical and organic light-emitting diode (OLED) performances. For **DICz-DPPN**, the
27 absorption and emission maxima were recorded at 313-368 nm and 516 nm, respectively, while
28 for **DICz-DBPZ**, they were observed at 311-393 nm and 559 nm. The DPPN-substituted TADF
29 emitter had an EQE of 5.0% and color coordinates of (0.37, 0.53), whereas the DBPZ-
30 substituted emitter displayed a high EQE of 15% with color coordinates of (0.47, 0.51). Due to
31 the closed structure of **DICz-DBPZ**, thermal decomposition temperature occurred at 269°C as
32 compared to 213°C for **DICz-DPPN**, which significantly influenced the difference in EQE
33 between the two emitters. In order to simultaneously obtain high EQE and a long lifetime, this
34 study offers an approach to synthesize yellow TADF emitters by utilizing a combination of
35 diindolocarbazole (DICz) and 1,10-phenanthroline-5,6-diamine as a stable donor-acceptor.

36

37 **Introduction:**

38 Following the groundbreaking work by Van Slyke and Tang et al. in 1987, organic light-
39 emitting diodes (OLEDs) are used as economically viable replacements for traditional display
40 and lighting technologies.[1] OLEDs, a subclass of organic-based devices, have revolutionized
41 the display and lighting industries due to their exceptional benefits such as high luminance
42 efficiency, full color/large area displays, wide viewing angles, lightness and transparency, low
43 power consumption, and so on.[2-5] Although the phosphorescent emitters used in modern
44 commercialized OLEDs have 100% efficiency, they have disadvantages such as the use of
45 expensive noble metals, being less ecologically friendly, and having short device lifetimes.
46 Recently, it has also been shown that organic emitters made without metals and using thermally
47 activated delayed fluorescence (TADF) are capable of 100% exciton harvesting.[6], [7]
48 Therefore, for everyday applications, the TADF system combines the desired advantages of
49 cheap cost, energy savings, environmental friendliness, and sustainability.

50 The majority of TADF emitters are donor (D)-acceptor (A) systems, which have a significant
51 intramolecular charge transfer (ICT) effect that can reduce the singlet-triplet splitting energy
52 (Δ EST) and allow triplet-to-singlet up-conversion via reverse intersystem crossing (RISC). A
53 small Δ EST can be attained by decreasing the overlap between the highest occupied molecular
54 orbital (HOMO) and the lowest unoccupied molecular orbital (LUMO). A high
55 photoluminescence quantum yield (PLQY), which can be achieved by maintaining a maximum

56 overlap between the HOMO and LUMO in the molecular design, is another need for high-
57 performance TADF emitters.[8] In order to prevent non-radiative loss processes and create
58 pure-colour extremely effective TADF emitter-based OLEDs, molecular designs with
59 controlled donor/acceptor rotation are preferred over those with unrestricted rotation. Therefore,
60 to obtain a high external quantum efficiency (EQE), it is necessary to achieve a balance between
61 a small Δ EST and a high PLQY inside a single organic molecule. [9-14]

62 In all three colours, the TADF OLEDs' external quantum efficiency (EQE) is close to or above
63 30%, but their lifetime is substantially shorter than that of fluorescent and phosphorescent
64 OLEDs. [15], [16] The Adachi group presented a device design that would use the TADF
65 material as a sensitizer or assistant dopant for the red, yellow, green, and blue-fluorescent
66 emitters in order to address the short lifetime of the TADF OLEDs.[17]

67 Because of its strong thermal properties [18], [19], rigid planar structure [20]–[24], and
68 simplicity of structural alteration, phenanthroline demonstrated the proper characteristics as an
69 acceptor. Diindolocarbazole (DICz), which is composed of carbazole units, was selected as a
70 suitable TADF donor after it was shown to reduce the singlet-triplet energy gap (Δ EST) at high
71 reverse intersystem crossing (RISC) rates.[25]

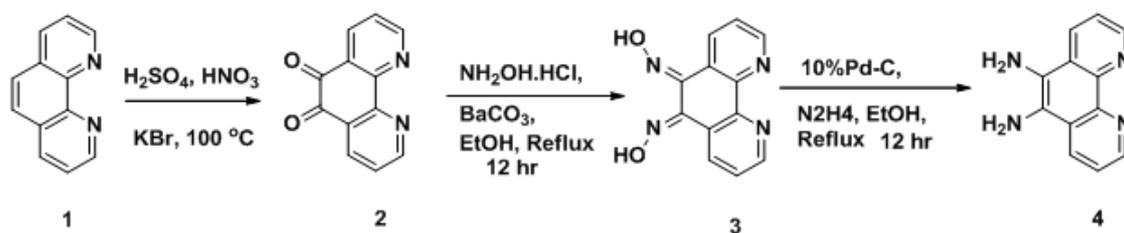
72 Two novel yellow TADF materials were synthesized consisting of diindolocarbazole as donor
73 and pyrimidine-5-carbonitrile as an acceptor unit. PyCNTruX demonstrated an external
74 quantum efficiency of 21.6%, compared to TCNTruX's 12.8%.[26] Shantaram Kothavale, Won
75 Jae Chung, and Jun Yeob Lee created two isomeric dipyrido[3,2-a:20,30-c]phenazine (DPPZ)
76 acceptors by attaching two 9,9-dimethyl-9,10-dihydroacridine (DMAC) donor units to the ortho
77 (11, 12) and para (10, 13) positions of the DPPZ acceptor. The red TADF-OLED displayed a
78 much greater EQE of 13.4% as compared to the pDMAC-DPPZ-doped OLED, which displayed
79 an EQE of 4.0%.[8]

80 In this study, we report a diindolocarbazole (DICz) donor and 1,10-phenanthroline-5,6-diamine
81 acceptor derived donor–acceptor combination for the design of two green-yellow TADF
82 emitters, namely 5,10-diphenyl-15-(4-(3-phenylpyrazino[2,3-f][1,10]phenanthroline-2-
83 yl)phenyl)-10,15-dihydro-5H-diindolo[3,2-a:3',2'-c]carbazole [**DICz-DPPN**] and 12-(10,15-
84 diphenyl-10,15-dihydro-5H-diindolo[3,2-a:3',2'-c]carbazol-5-yl)dibenzo[a,c]dipyrido[3,2-
85 h:2',3'-j]phenazine [**DICz-DBPZ**].

86 **Experimental section**

87 **Synthesis**

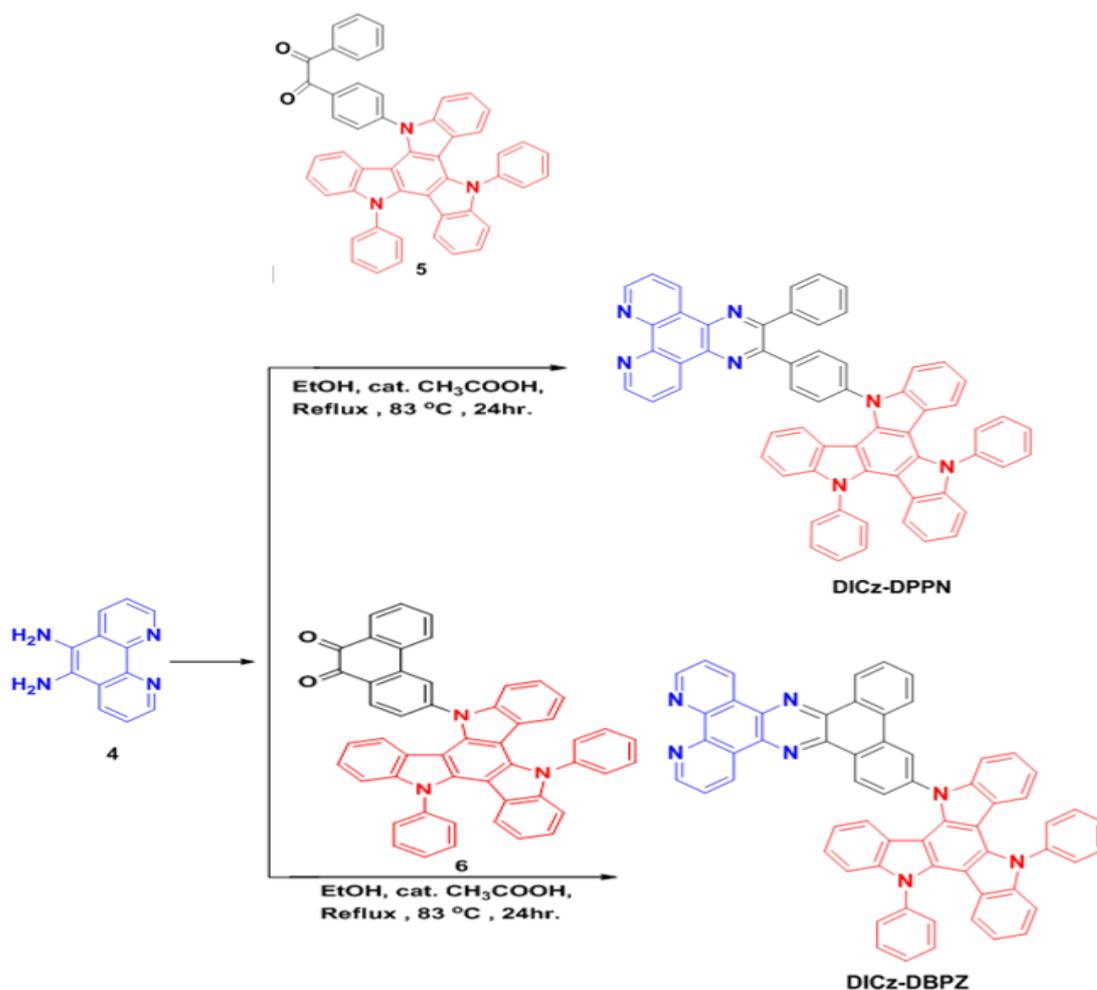
88 The synthesis of emitters was accomplished using the following synthetic scheme as described.



89

90

Scheme 1: Synthesis of intermediates (4)



91

92

Scheme 2: Synthesis of **DICz-DPPN**, **DICz-DBPZ** from intermediate 4

93 The synthesis of the two TADF-based OLED molecules- **DICz-DPPN** and **DICz-DBPZ** is
94 described in **Scheme 1&2** along with their chemical structure. The common intermediate 1,10-
95 phenanthroline-5,6-diamine [4] was synthesized by reduction of 1,10-phenanthroline-5,6-dione

96 dioxime [3] and was coupled with 1-(4-(10,15-diphenyl-10,15-dihydro-5H-diindolo[3,2-a:3',2'-
97 c]carbazol-5-yl)phenyl)-2-phenylethane-1,2-dione [5] and 3-(10,15-diphenyl-10,15-dihydro-
98 5H-diindolo[3,2-a:3',2'-c]carbazol-5-yl)phenanthrene-9,10-dione [6] in ethanol and catalytic
99 amount of acetic acid to give [DICz-DPPN] and [DICz-DBPZ] in 50% and 55% yields,
100 respectively.

101 **1. Synthesis of 1,10-phenanthroline-5,6-dione [2]**

102 A mixture of 1,1'-phenanthroline (1.0 g) and NaBr (5.7 g, 55 mmol) was added slowly in a flask
103 containing sulphuric acid [20ml], HNO₃ [10ml] was introduced in this solution. This procedure
104 was carried out in an ice bath for 10 minutes. The oil-Water separator was connected to the
105 flask and the mixture was heated to 90⁰C for 2 hours. The cooled mixture was poured into ice
106 and NaHCO₃ was added to neutralize till pH 6-7 was obtained. The suspension was extracted
107 in CH₂Cl₂ and the organic layer was recrystallized by 95% ethanol.

108 **2. Synthesis of (5E,6E)-1,10-phenanthroline-5,6-dione dioxime [3]**

109 A mixture of 0.420g (2.00 mmol) 1,10-phenanthroline-5,6-dione, 0.486g (7.00 mmol) of
110 NH₂OH·HCl, and 0.592g of (3.00 mmol) of BaCO₃ was refluxed in 30ml of ethanol for 12
111 hours by constant stirring. The solvent was evaporated by Rotary evaporation and the residue
112 was treated by 40ml of 0.2 M HCL. The mixture was stirred for 30 min and then filtered
113 followed by washing with solvents like water, ethanol and ether. The residue was dried under
114 vacuum at 80⁰C to obtain 1,10-phenanthroline-5,6-dione dioxime.

115 **3. Synthesis of 1,10-phenanthroline-5,6-diamine [4]**

116 A mixture of 0.400g (1.63 mmol) of phendioxime and 0.40g of Pd-C (10%) in 100 ml of dry
117 ethanol were purged with N₂ and refluxed at 83⁰ C. A solution of 3.50 ml of N₂H₄.H₂O and 15
118 ml of ethanol was added over a period of an hour while refluxing for 12 hours. The mixture was
119 filtered hot on a bed of celite and was washed with 20 ml of boiling ethanol. The filtrate was
120 dried and triturated with 30 ml of water and left at 4⁰ C overnight. The solid was filtered and
121 washed with cold water and dried.

122 **4. Synthesis of 5,10-diphenyl-15-(4-(3-phenylpyrazino[2,3-f][1,10]phenanthroline-2- 123 yl)phenyl)-10,15-dihydro-5H-diindolo[3,2-a:3',2'-c]carbazole [DICz-DPPN]**

124 Intermediate [5] 1-(4-(10,15-diphenyl-10,15-dihydro-5H-diindolo[3,2-a:3',2'-c]carbazol-5-
125 yl)phenyl)-2-phenylethane-1,2-dione (300mg, 1.023 mmol) and 1,10-phenanthroline-5,6-

126 diamine [4] (89.31 mg, 1.023 mmol) were dissolved in anhydrous ethanol (10 mL). A catalytic
127 amount of acetic acid was added and the resulting mixture was refluxed for 12 hrs. After cooling
128 to room temperature, the solid precipitated out in the reaction mixture was filtered, washed with
129 DCM, and dried well. The crude product obtained was further purified by column
130 chromatography (3% MeOH in DCM) to obtain the desired product as a yellow solid [55%].

131 **5. Synthesis of 12-(10,15-diphenyl-10,15-dihydro-5H-diindolo[3,2-a:3',2'-c]carbazol-5-** 132 **yl)dibenzo[a,c]dipyrido[3,2-h:2',3'-j]phenazine [DICz-DBPZ]**

133 Intermediate [6] 3-(10,15-diphenyl-10,15-dihydro-5H-diindolo[3,2-a:3',2'-c]carbazol-5-
134 yl)phenanthrene-9,10-dione (300mg, 1.023 mmol) and 1,10-phenanthroline-5,6-diamine [4]
135 (89.61 mg, 1.023 mmol) were dissolved in anhydrous ethanol (10 mL). A catalytic amount of
136 acetic acid was added and the resulting mixture was refluxed for 12 hrs. After cooling to room
137 temperature, the solid precipitated out in the reaction mixture was filtered, washed with DCM,
138 and dried well. The crude product obtained was further purified by column chromatography
139 (3% MeOH in DCM) to obtain the desired product as Greenish-brown solid [55%].

140 **Photophysical, thermal, electrochemical measurement**

141 All the photophysical measurements in solution were done at a concentration of 10 μ M in
142 suitable HPLC grade solvents obtained from Sigma-Aldrich. The UV spectra were recorded in
143 Shimadzu Uv-visible Spectrophotometer UV-1780 and the steady state fluorescence spectra
144 were recorded in Shimadzu RF-6000 spectrofluorimeter with an excitation and emission slit
145 bandwidth of 5 nm. TGA was performed using HITACHI STA7300 and a nitrogen environment,
146 at a heating rate of 10⁰C/min from up to 600⁰C. On a Metrohm Autolab PGSTAT204
147 Potentiostat/Galvanostat in cyclic voltammetry mode, electrochemical analysis was carried out.
148 As working, counter, and reference electrodes, glassy carbon, Pt wire, and Ag/AgCl,
149 respectively, were used. The electrolytes utilised were tetrabutyl ammonium perchlorate (0.1
150 mol/L) and tetrabutyl ammonium hexafluorophosphate (0.1 mol/L) at a scan rate of 100 mV/sec.

151 **Fabrication and Characterization of OLEDs**

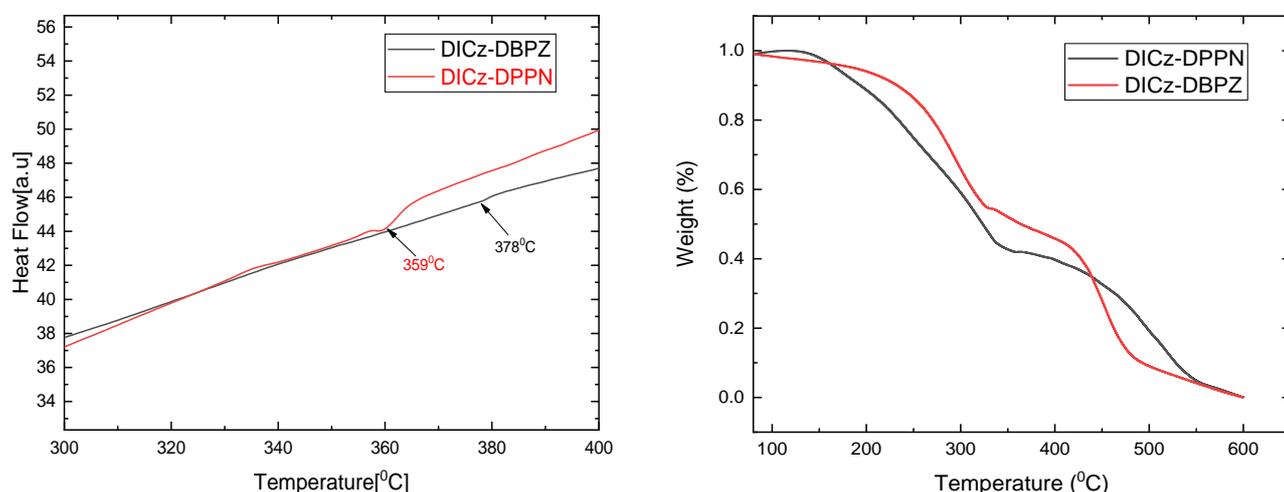
152 Organic materials purchased from Shine Materials Technology were subjected to
153 temperature-gradient sublimation in a high vacuum before use. After a cleaning procedure
154 of ultrasonication of the ITO-coated glass in deionized water and organic solvents, the ITO
155 substrate was pretreated with plasma for 5 minutes. The organic and metal layers were
156 deposited by thermal evaporation in a vacuum chamber with a base pressure of < 10⁻⁶ Torr.

157 Device fabrication was completed in a single cycle without breaking the vacuum. The
158 deposition rate of organic materials was kept at around 0.1 nm s^{-1} . The active area was
159 defined by the shadow mask ($2 \times 2 \text{ mm}^2$). Current density-voltage-luminance
160 characterization was done using two Keysight B2901A current source-measure units
161 equipped with a calibrated Si-photodiode. The electroluminescent spectra of the devices
162 were recorded using an Ocean Optics spectrometer (Ocean Optics 2000).

163 Results and Discussion:

164 Thermal properties:

165



166

167 **Fig 1:** Thermo gravimetric Analysis and Differential scanning calorimetric curves of **DICz-DBPZ**
168 and **DICz-DPPN**.

169

170 To determine the glass transition temperature (T_g) and thermal decomposition temperature
171 (T_d), **DICz-DPPN** and **DICz-DBPZ** were subjected to thermal analysis using differential
172 scanning calorimetry (DSC) and a thermogravimetric analyzer (TGA) at a heating rate of 10°C
173 min^{-1} under a nitrogen environment. **DICz-DPPN** and **DICz-DBPZ** had measured T_g values of
174 359°C and 378°C , respectively. Additionally, it was determined that the T_d values of **DICz-**
175 **DPPN** and **DICz-DBPZ** at 5% weight loss were 213°C and 269°C , respectively which indicates
176 their suitability for vacuum-evaporation-based device fabrication (**Fig. 1**).

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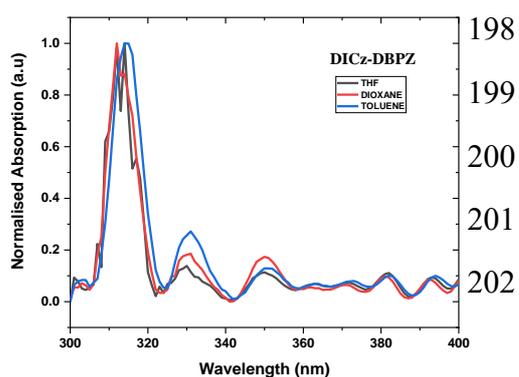
178 **Photophysical properties:**

179 Photophysical features of two emitters, including absorption and emission spectra, were
180 examined to determine the influence of two distinct acceptors and a rigid diindolocarbazole
181 (DICz) donor. The high energy absorption peak π - π^* was observed from 311-314 nm for the
182 **DICz-DBPZ** molecule, and the n - π^* transition was observed from 330-393 nm. The **DICz-**
183 **DPPN** molecule exhibited absorption from 313-314 nm for the π - π^* transition, while the low
184 energy absorption peak n - π^* was in the 331-368 nm region. Because the π - π^* transition
185 demands a lot of energy, the wavelength decreases, but the n - π^* transition requires less energy,
186 hence the wavelength increases. Broad absorption peaks at long wavelengths can be attributed
187 to intramolecular charge transfer (ICT) peaks from the DICz donor to the acceptor unit. The
188 molecules in this case are solvent independent, which is described by the Frank-Condon
189 Transition, which also explains the weak interaction between solvent and the molecule. The
190 emission of **DICz-DBPZ** and **DICz-DPPN** in toluene at 559 nm and 516 nm at an excitation
191 wavelength of 480 nm exhibits a remarkable bathochromic shift of 97 nm and 78 nm, which is
192 compatible with its red-shifted 1 CT absorption band (**Fig. 2**). The shift demonstrated that the
193 compounds are solvent polarity dependent, confirming the strong electron-accepting properties.
194 This solvent-dependent nature can be explained by Photo-Induce Electron Transfer (PET).

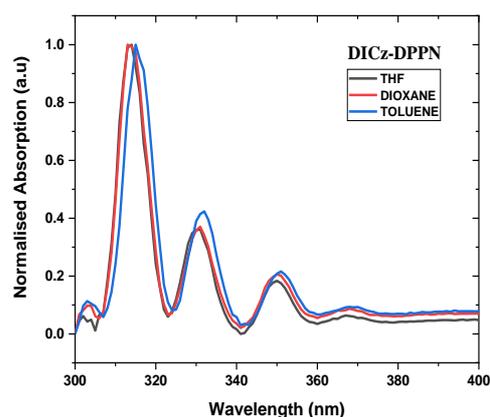
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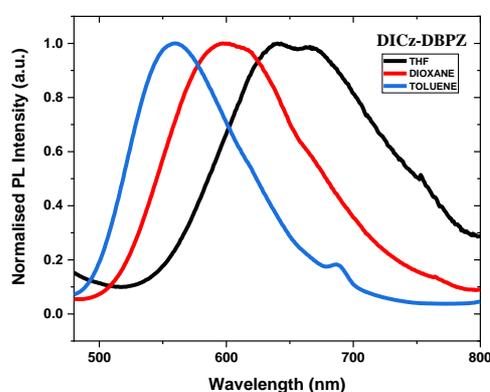
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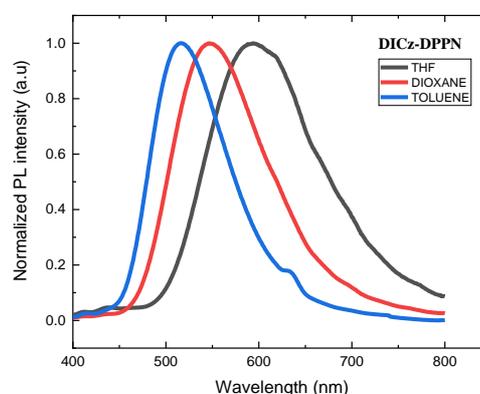
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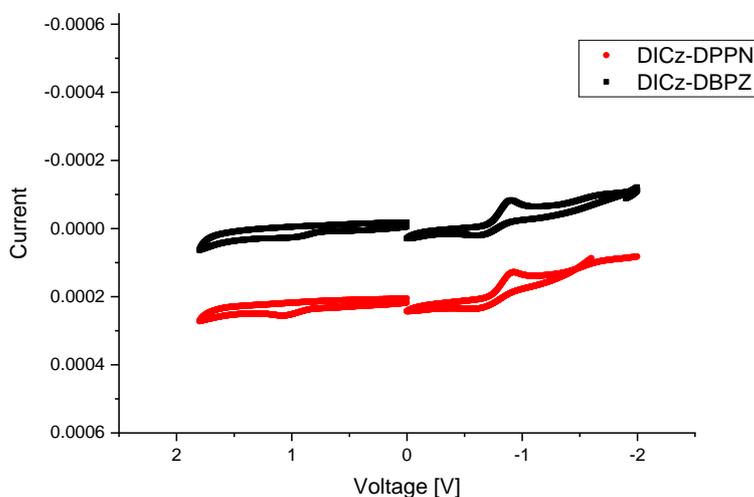


206 **Fig 2:** Ultraviolet-visible (UV-vis) and photoluminescence (PL) spectra of **DICz-DPPN** and
207 **DICz-DBPZ** at room temperature.

208 **Electrochemical properties:**

209 To examine the HOMO-LUMO energy levels of two compounds, **DICz-DPPN** and **DICz-**
210 **DBPZ**, a three-electrode cell system was used for Cyclic Voltammetry (CV). The cyclic
211 voltammetry experiment was carried out with tetrabutylammonium hexafluorophosphate
212 (TBAPF₆) in DCM (0.1 M) as a supporting electrolyte for the oxidation and
213 tetrabutylammonium perchlorate (TBAP) in DMF for reduction potential. Both molecules
214 showed an irreversible oxidation peak potential. Overall onset oxidation potentials were 1.04
215 and 0.94 for **DICz-DPPN** and **DICz-DBPZ** emitters, respectively (**Fig. 3**). The HOMO energy
216 levels were calculated from the onset of the oxidation potential using the formula $\text{HOMO (eV)} = - (E_{\text{ox onset}} - 0.44) - 4.80 \text{ eV}$ and appear at -5.4eV and -5.3eV, whereas the LUMO energy
217 levels were calculated from the onset of the reduction potential using the equation $\text{LUMO} =$
218

219 HOMO + Eg and appear at -1.66eV and -1.54eV and the resulting band gap energy was 3.74
 220 eV and 3.76 eV for **DICz-DPPN** and **DICz-DBPN**, respectively.



221

222 **Fig. 3:** Cyclic voltammograms of **DICz-DPPN** and **DICz-DBPN** in DCM with a scan rate of
 223 100mVs⁻¹

Table.1 – Photophysical, thermal and electrical parameters of DICz-DPPN and DICz-DBPN TADF emitters

Compound	λ_{abs} (nm)	λ_{PL} (nm)	HOMO (ev)	LUMO (ev)	E_g (eV)	T_d (°C)	T_g (°C)
DICz-DPPN	314, 368	516	-5.4	-1.66	3.74	213	359
DICz-DBPN	314, 393	559	-5.3	-1.54	3.76	269	378

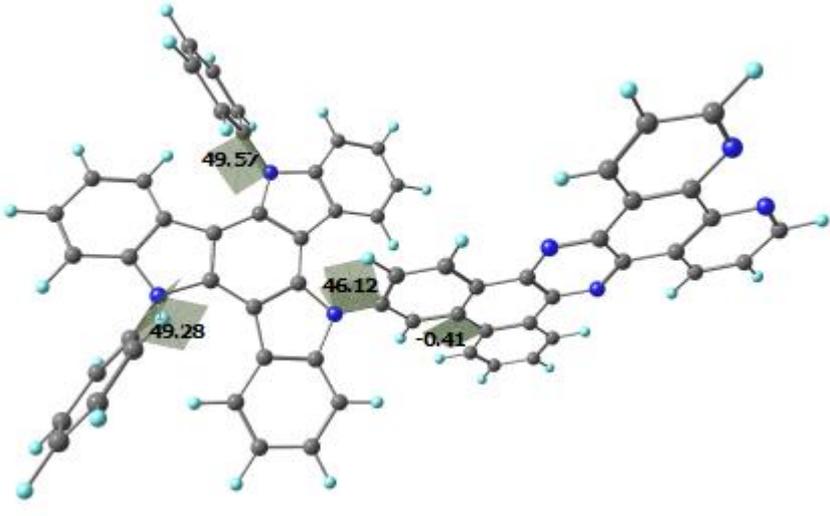
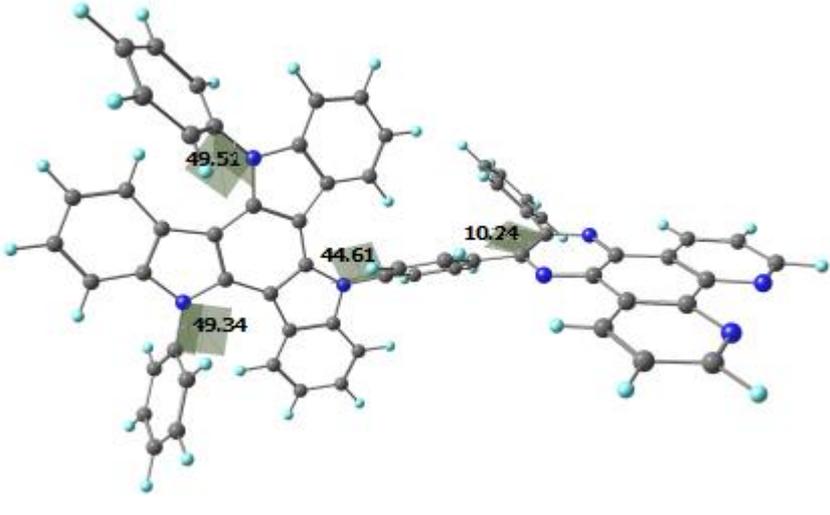
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225 **Theoretical Studies:**

226 Theoretical studies were carried out to understand the differences in optical properties of the
 227 synthesized molecules. The geometries of the two molecules were optimized by Density
 228 Functional Theory (DFT) using the popular B3LYP functional and 6-31G** basis set. The
 229 choice of the functional and the basis set were based on the constituting atoms in the molecules.
 230 Since both organic molecules are composed of carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen atoms in strongly
 231 conjugated aromatic rings; B3LYP level of theory was found suitable with a split valence basis

232 set 6-31G** having additional polarization function. The optimized geometries (**Table 2**)
233 showed no negative frequencies indicating energy minima for the molecules.

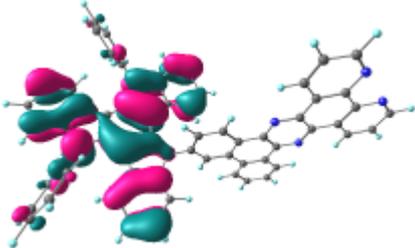
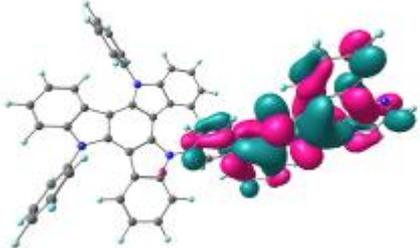
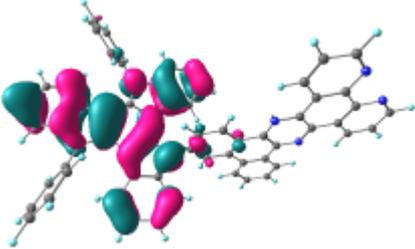
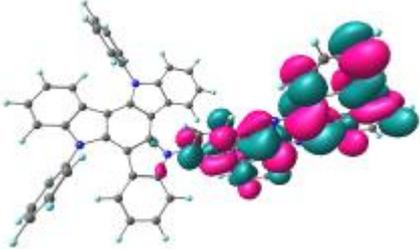
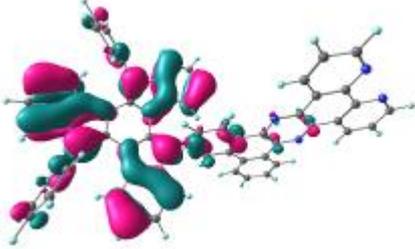
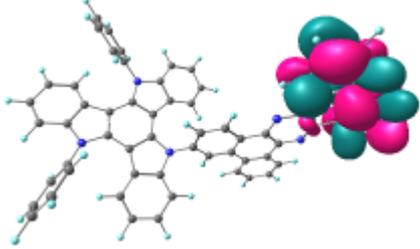
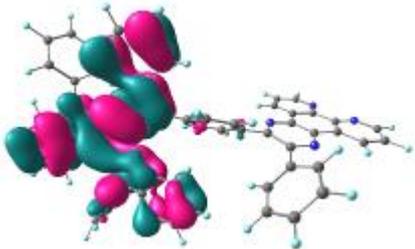
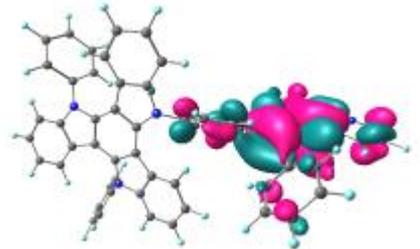
234 **Table 2: Optimized geometries of DICz_DBPZ and DICz_DPPN using B3LYP functional**
235 **with 6-31G** basis set**

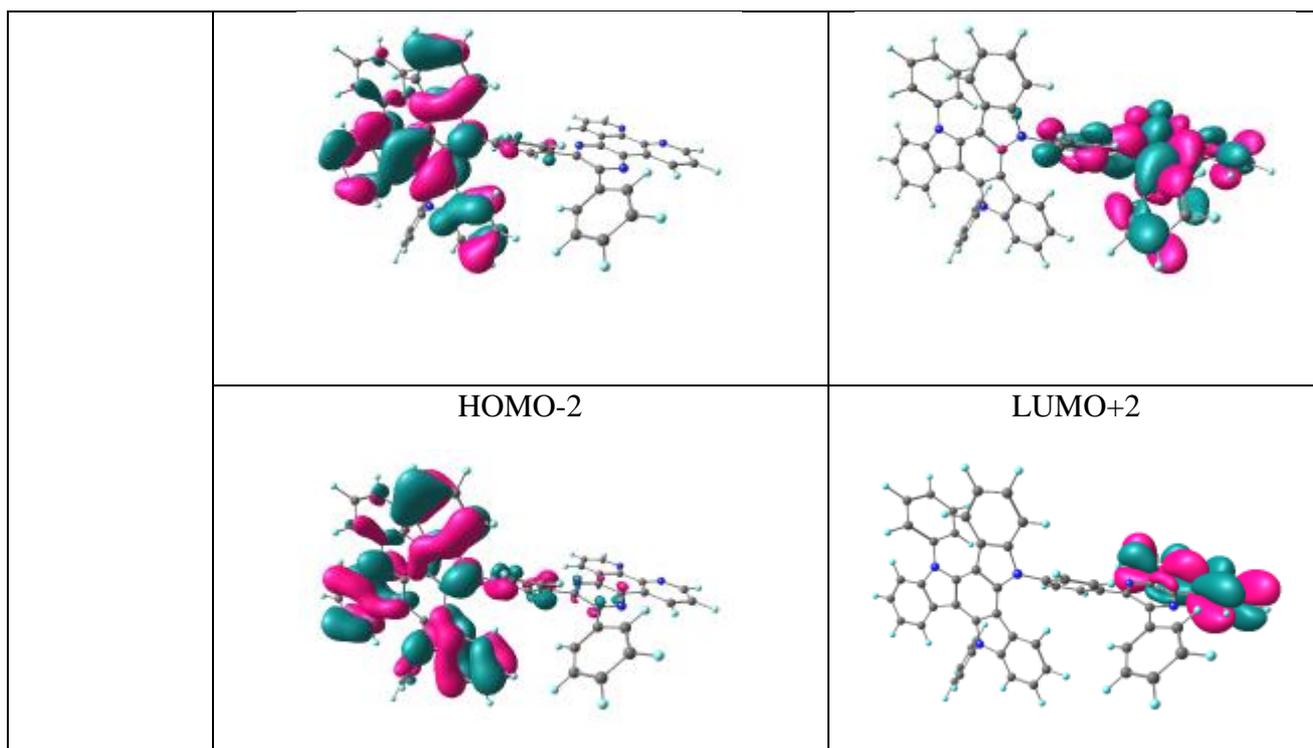
Molecule	Optimized Structure
DICz_DBPZ	
DICz_DPPN	

236

237 Population analysis was then done to visualize the molecular orbitals involved in the electronic
238 transitions. The HOMO was found to reside predominantly on the donor moiety whereas the
239 LUMO was largely populated on the acceptor in both the molecules. The table also shows
240 orbital populations of other orbitals which are involved in the first five electronic transitions in
241 TDDFT. (**Table 3**)

242 **Table 3: Orbital plots of different molecular orbitals of DICz_DBPZ and DICz_DPPN**
 243 **from population analysis**

Molecule	FMOs	
DICz_DBPZ	HOMO 	LUMO 
	HOMO-1 	LUMO+1 
	HOMO-2 	LUMO+2 
DICz_DPPN	HOMO 	LUMO 
	HOMO-1	LUMO+1



244

245 The optimized coordinates of the molecules were then used to predict the absorption spectrum
 246 of the two molecules. TD-DFT was performed using the same B3LYP functional with the 6-
 247 31G** basis set. Since the molecules exhibited long range conjugation, the computation was
 248 performed for 10 states (Nroots=10) to get a complete absorption profile of the molecule.
 249 Complete data of the first five states is tabulated in **Table 4**.

Table 4: Absorption maxima (λ_{\max}), oscillator strength (f), major transitions (MT), weight in % (% Ci), Energy of transitions (eV) of the first five states					
Molecule	States	Absorption (nm)	f	M.T.	%Ci
DICz_DBPZ	S1	551	0.029	H-1 \rightarrow L	38
				H \rightarrow L	61
	S2	548	0.026	H-1 \rightarrow L	62
				H \rightarrow L	38
	S3	439	0.041	H-1 \rightarrow L+1	55
				H \rightarrow L+1	42
S4	437	0.022	H-1 \rightarrow L+1	42	

				H → L+1	56
	S5	415	0.095	H-2 → L	97
DICz_DPPN	S1	487	0.060	H-1 → L	82
				H → L	16
	S2	484	0.007	H-1 → L	16
				H → L	83
	S3	441	0.047	H-1 → L+1	81
				H → L+1	16
	S4	438	0.006	H-1 → L+1	16
				H → L+1	82
	S5	382	0.001	H-1 → L+2	64
				H → L+2	35

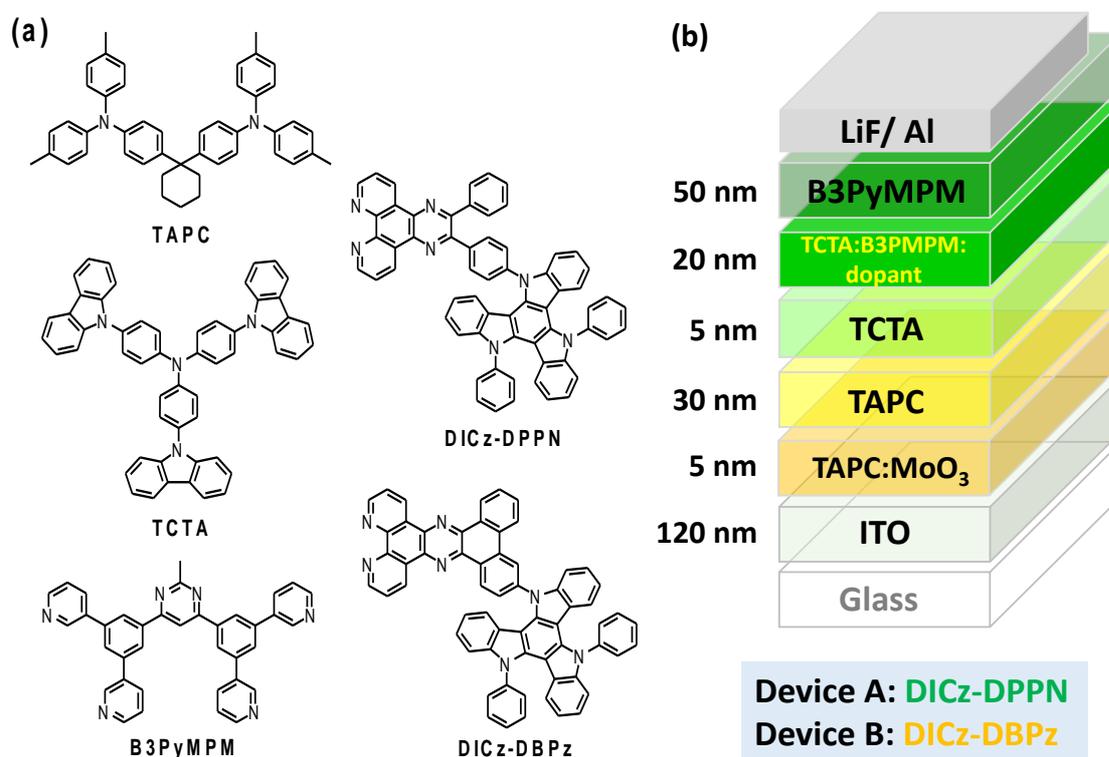
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251 **Device performance**

252 **OLEDs Fabrication and Performance**

253 Regarding the favorable physical properties, these TADF compounds exhibiting intense
 254 emissions were employed as emitters in OLED fabrication to explore their potential for
 255 electroluminescent applications. Given the emission colors of these phenanthroline-based
 256 TADF emitters span from green to yellow, it is crucial to meticulously choose the appropriate
 257 host materials and the corresponding adjacent carrier transport layers to achieve efficient
 258 exothermic energy transfer. 1,1-bis[(di-4-tolylamino)phenyl]cyclohexane (TAPC) and 4,4',4''-
 259 tris(carbazol-9-yl)-triphenylamine (TCTA) were used to generate a step-wise hole transport,
 260 aiming to promote smooth hole injection from the hole transporting layer (HTL) into the
 261 emitting layer (EML).[27] Conversely, as the electron transporting layer (ETL) situated
 262 between the EML and the lithium fluoride (LiF)-electron injection layer (EIL), we selected a
 263 wide triplet-energy-bandgap material, bis-4,6-(3,5-di-3-pyridylphenyl)-2-methylpyrimidine
 264 (B3PyMPM).[28] Herein, we present the EML configuration in the proposed device
 265 architecture, utilizing an exciplex host to enhance current density and expand the carrier
 266 recombination zone.[29] This choice facilitates both exciton confinement and efficient electron
 267 transport. Moreover, we selected TCTA:B3PyMPM as the exciplex host to assist efficient

268 emission from the emitters due to its matched energy levels between the host and the
 269 guest.[30]Therefore, the carrier transport layers neighboring the EML were constructed using
 270 the same materials as the host, enhancing the current density and eliminating the energy barrier.
 271 Additionally, our device architecture incorporates a composite structure of HIL composed of a
 272 TAPC layer and a TAPC doped with MoO₃ layer, enabling a smooth hole injection from the
 273 ITO anode to the organic layer [5]. The thickness of each layer and the emitter concentrations
 274 were carefully regulated to maximize efficiency. For instance, in Fig. S1, various **DICz-DBPz**-
 275 based devices with different doping concentrations are depicted, revealing that the most
 276 favorable doping concentration is 5 wt %. As a result, the optimized architecture for the tested
 277 devices was set to ITO (120 nm)/TAPC:MoO₃ 20 wt.% (5 nm)/TAPC (30 nm)/TCTA (5 nm)/
 278 TCTA:B3PyMPM:emitter (47.5:47.5:5) (20 nm)/B3PyMPM (50 nm)/LiF (0.8 nm)/Al (120
 279 nm), where the aluminum was used as the cathode. The dopant materials adopted in the devices
 280 are as follows: **DICz-DPPN** for device A; **DICz-DBPz** for device B. The corresponding
 281 chemical structures of the employed materials and the schematic structures of the fabricated
 282 TADF OLEDs are presented in Figs. 4(a) and 1(b).

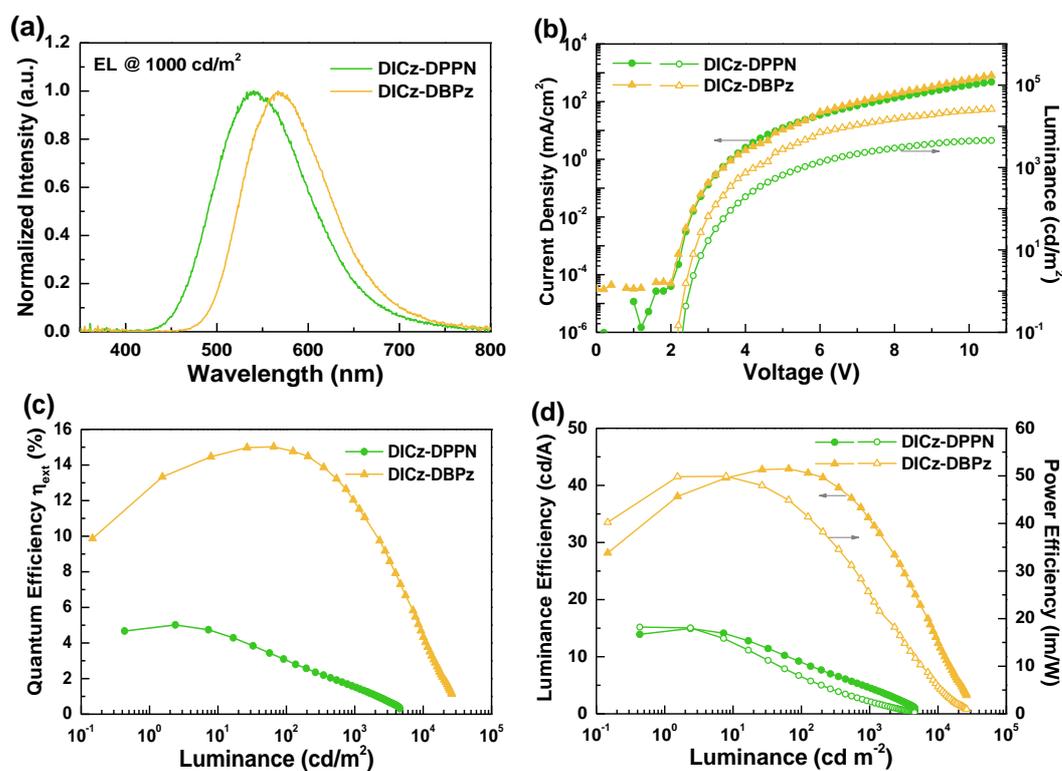


283

284 **Figure 4.** (a) Structural drawings of the materials used in OLEDs and (b) schematic structures
 285 of the fabricated OLEDs with different emitters.

286

287 Figure 5 and Table 5 summarize the EL characteristics and numerical data of the tested
 288 devices with different TADF emitters. Figure 5(a) illustrates that the emission spectral
 289 characteristics of all OLEDs align with the photoluminescence (PL) of the dopants. This
 290 alignment suggests that carrier recombination was confined within the EML, successfully
 291 preventing exciton diffusion to neighboring layers in both devices. [31] In addition, the green
 292 and yellow devices displayed spectral profiles devoid of distinctive features. The respective full
 293 width at half maximum (FWHM) are considered 120 and 109 nm. Consequently, the green and
 294 yellow devices maintained stable CIE coordinates of (0.37, 0.53) and (0.46, 0.52), respectively,
 295 across a luminance range of 1 to 1000 cd/m². The current density-voltage-luminance (*J-V-L*)
 296 characteristics of the tested devices are depicted in Fig. 5(b). As evident from the data, device
 297 B exhibited a slightly higher current density than device A. Since both devices have identical
 298 architectures, the increased current densities in device B can be attributed to the synergistic
 299 impact of reduced carrier trapping and enhanced carrier transport capabilities of **DICz-DBPz**.
 300 The respective turn-on voltages defined at a luminance value of 1 cd/m² of devices A and B are
 301 recorded at 2.5 and 2.3 V. In contrast, the luminance curves of device B showed much higher
 302 values than device A, indicating superior electroluminescence (EL) efficiency. Device A had a
 303 maximum luminance of 4541 cd/m² at an operating voltage of 10.6 V, while device B only
 304 achieved a much higher maximum luminance of 26142 cd/m² at the same voltage.



305

306 **Figure 5.** (a) Normalized EL spectra at a luminance of 100 cd/m²; (b) current
 307 density–voltage–luminance (*J–V–L*) characteristics; (c) external quantum efficiency vs
 308 luminance; (d) luminance/power efficiency vs luminance for devices A (**DICz-DPPN**) and B
 309 (**DICz-DBPz**).

310

311 **Table 5.** EL characteristics of the devices with different TADF emitters.

Device		A	B
Host		TCTA:B3PyMPM (1:1)	TCTA:B3PyMPM (1:1)
TADF emitter (5 wt.%)		DICz-DPPN	DICz-DBPz
External quantum efficiency (%)	[a]	5.0	15.0
	[b]	3.0	14.9
Luminance efficiency (cd/A)	[a]	14.9	42.9
	[b]	9.1	42.5
Power efficiency (lm/W)	[a]	18.2	49.9
	[b]	7.8	42.9
V _{on} (V)	[c]	2.5	2.3
λ _{max.} (nm)	[b]	539.5	567.0
FWHM (nm)	[b]	120	109
Max. Luminance (cd/m ²)		4541 [10.6]	26142 [10.6]
CIE1931	[b]	(0.37, 0.53)	(0.47, 0.51)
Coordinates (x, y)	[d]	(0.37, 0.53)	(0.46, 0.52)

312 [a] Maximum efficiency; [b] measured at 10² cd/m²; [c] turn-on voltage measured at 1 cd/m²;
 313 [d] measured at 10³ cd/m².

314 **Conclusion:**

315 Using DICz and phenanthroline as the donor-acceptor combination, two highly efficient and
316 stable yellow-green TADF emitters, DICz-DBPZ and DICz-DPPN, were developed. In order
317 to determine the relationship between theoretical and experimental results, the photophysical,
318 thermal, electrochemical, and electroluminescent properties of the two emitters were
319 extensively investigated. Utilizing DICz-DBPZ and DICz-DPPN emitters, respectively, the
320 OLED device was able to emit the yellow emission peak at 567 nm with a colour coordinate of
321 (0.47, 0.51) and the green emission peak at 539 nm with a colour coordinate of (0.37, 0.53). In
322 comparison to the DICz-DPPN molecule, which displayed an EQE of 5% with a luminance
323 efficiency of 14.9 lm/W, the DBPZ acceptor-based DICz-DBPZ was favorable in achieving a
324 high EQE of 15% with a luminance efficiency of 42.9 lm/W.

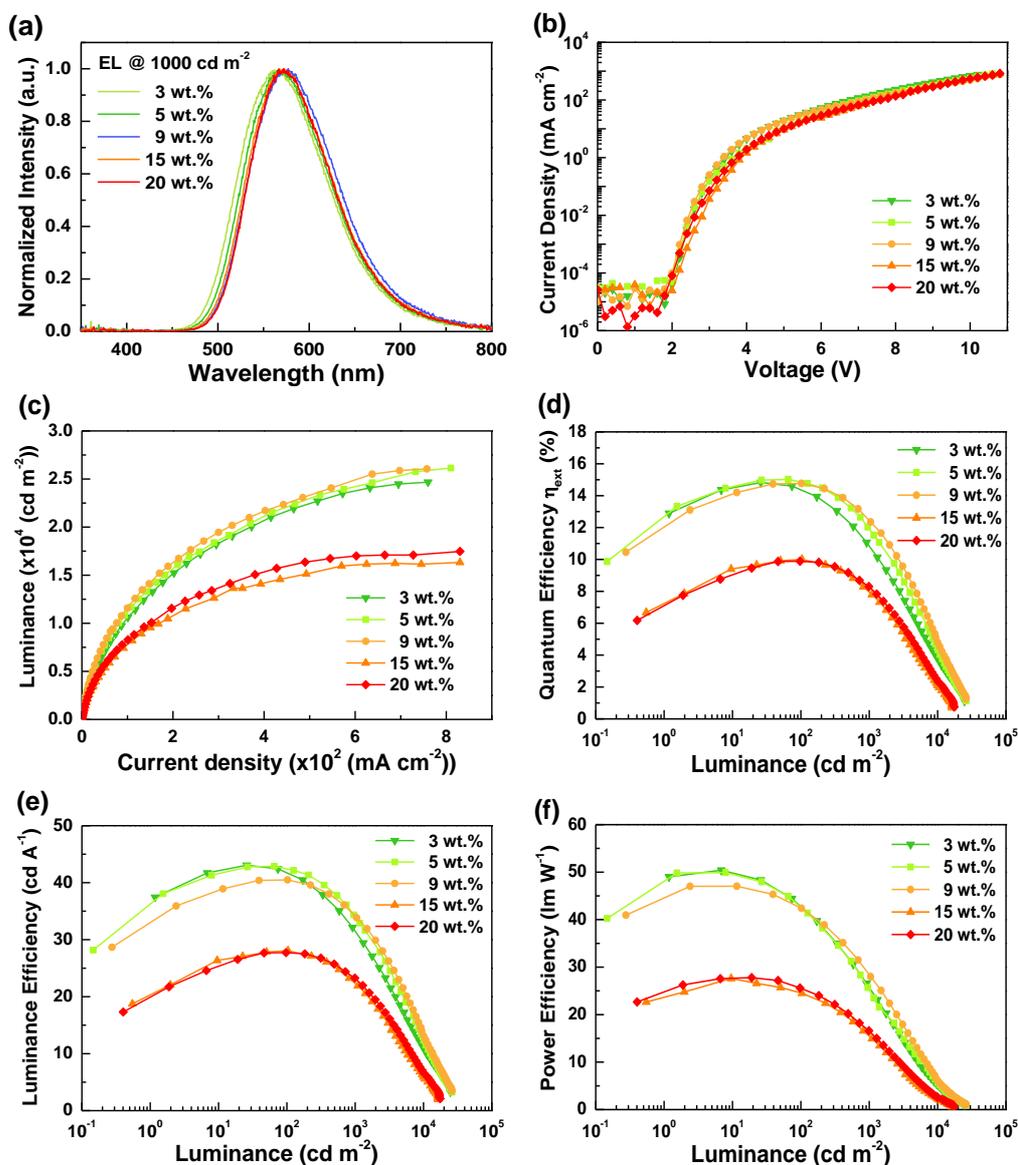
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435
 436 **Fig. S1.** (a) Normalized EL spectra at a luminance of 10^2 cd m^{-2} ; (b) current density–voltage
 437 (J – V) characteristics; (c) luminance–current density (L – J) characteristics; (d) external quantum
 438 efficiency (EQE) vs. luminance; (e) luminance efficiency vs. luminance; (f) power efficiency
 439 vs. luminance for devices B (DICz-DBPz) with different doping concentrations.

440 **Table S1.** EL characteristics of the device B with different doping concentrations.

Host	TCTA:B3PyMPM (1:1)
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Doping concentration of DICz-DBPz (%)		3	5	9	15	20
External quantum efficiency (%)	[a]	14.8	15.0	14.8	10.0	9.9
	[b]	14.4	14.9	14.8	10.0	9.8
Luminance efficiency (cd/A)	[a]	43.1	42.9	40.5	28.1	27.7
	[b]	41.9	42.5	40.5	28.1	27.7
Power efficiency (lm/W)	[a]	50.4	49.9	47.0	27.6	27.8
	[b]	43.1	42.9	42.5	24.6	25.5
V_{on} (V)	[c]	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.6	2.4
λ_{max} . (nm)	[b]	567.0	567.0	577.0	567.0	572.0
FWHM (nm)	[b]	112	109	111	107	104
Max. Luminance (cd/m ²)		24674 [10.4]	26142 [10.6]	26058 [10.8]	16327 [10.8]	17467 [10.8]
CIE1931 Coordinates (x, y)	[b]	(0.46, 0.52)	(0.47, 0.51)	(0.49, 0.50)	(0.47, 0.51)	(0.48, 0.51)
	[d]	(0.44, 0.53)	(0.46, 0.52)	(0.48, 0.51)	(0.47, 0.51)	(0.48, 0.51)
	[e]	(0.44, 0.53)	(0.46, 0.52)	(0.47, 0.51)	(0.47, 0.51)	(0.47, 0.51)

441 [a] Maximum efficiency; [b] measured at 10² cd/m²; [c] turn-on voltage measured at 1 cd m⁻²;
442 [d] measured at 10³ cd/m²; [e] measured at 10⁴ cd/m².

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