

## Supplementary Information for

# The absorption and fluorescence emission spectra of meso-tetra(aryl)porphyrin dication with weak and strong carboxylic acids: a comparative study

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**S1a:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR and UV-Vis spectral data of the porphyrins

**H<sub>2</sub>TPP.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: -2.77 (2H, br, s, NH), 7.77-7.84 (8H<sub>m</sub> and 4H<sub>p</sub>, m), 8.26-8.27 (8H<sub>o</sub>, d), 8.90 (8H<sub>β</sub>, s);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (~100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 120.18 (C<sub>meso</sub>), 142.20 (C<sub>1</sub>), 134.60 (C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>), 126.73 (C<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>5</sub>), 127.75 (C<sub>4</sub>), 131.5 (C<sub>β</sub>); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, λ<sub>max</sub>/nm (logε): 417 (5.79), 513 (4.58), 548 (4.38), 590 (4.30), 647 (4.29).

**H<sub>2</sub>T(4-OMe)PP.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: -2.72 (2H, br, s, NH), 7.29-7.32 (8H<sub>m</sub>, d), 8.15-8.17 (8H<sub>o</sub>, d), 8.89 (8H<sub>β</sub>, s), 4.13 (12H<sub>Me</sub>, s);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (~100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 119.75 (C<sub>meso</sub>), 134.67 (C<sub>1</sub>), 135.62 (C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>), 112.20 (C<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>5</sub>), 159.39 (C<sub>4</sub>), 131.34 (C<sub>β</sub>), 55.61 (C<sub>Me</sub>); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, λ<sub>max</sub>/nm (logε)= 421 (5.61), 517 (4.32), 555 (4.22), 593 (4.06), 651 (4.11).

**H<sub>2</sub>T(2-Me)PP.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: -2.59 (2H, br, s, NH), 7.54-7.74 (8H<sub>m</sub> and 4H<sub>p</sub>, m, meta and para-position relative to C atom attached to meso position), 7.99-8.11 (4H<sub>o</sub>, m, ortho-position relative to C atom attached to meso position ), 8.70 (8H<sub>β</sub>, s), 2.01-2.11 (12H<sub>Me</sub>, m);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (~100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 118.82 (C<sub>meso</sub>), 139.54 (C<sub>1</sub>), 139.63 (C<sub>2</sub>), 128.38 (C<sub>3</sub>), 129.22 (C<sub>4</sub>), 124.21 (C<sub>5</sub>), 133.90 (C<sub>6</sub>), 141.48 (C<sub>a</sub>), 129.22 (C<sub>β</sub>), 21.37 (C<sub>Me</sub>); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, λ<sub>max</sub>/nm (logε): 416 (6.04), 512 (4.74), 545 (4.34), 589 (4.34), 645 (4.25).

**H<sub>2</sub>T(4-Me)PP.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: -2.76 (2H, br, s, NH), 7.55-7.58 (8H<sub>m</sub>, d), 8.09-8.12 (8H<sub>o</sub>, d), 8.86 (8H<sub>β</sub>, s), 2.65 (12H<sub>Me</sub>, s);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (~100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 120.47 (C<sub>meso</sub>), 139.73 (C<sub>1</sub>), 134.92 (C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>), 127.81 (C<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>5</sub>), 137.71 (C<sub>4</sub>), 131.37 (C<sub>β</sub>), 21.57 (C<sub>Me</sub>); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, λ<sub>max</sub>/nm (logε): 418 (5.89), 516 (4.54), 551 (4.34), 590 (4.18), 647 (4.20).

**H<sub>2</sub>T(2-Cl)PP.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: -2.62 (2H, br, s, NH), 7.66-7.87 (8H<sub>m</sub> and 4H<sub>p</sub>, m, meta and para-position relative to C atom attached to meso position), 8.10-8.26 (4H<sub>o</sub>, m, ortho-position relative to C atom attached to meso position), 8.72 (8H<sub>β</sub>, s);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (~100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 116.76 (C<sub>meso</sub>), 137.10 (C<sub>1</sub>), 136.94 (C<sub>2</sub>), 129.01 (C<sub>3</sub>), 129.93 (C<sub>4</sub>), 125.32 (C<sub>5</sub>), 135.52 (C<sub>6</sub>), 140.50 (C<sub>a</sub>), 135.39 (C<sub>β</sub>); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, λ<sub>max</sub>/nm (logε): 416 (5.64), 512 (4.47), 543 (4.07), 587 (4.15), 643 (3.96).

**H<sub>2</sub>T(4-Cl)PP.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: -2.83 (2H, br, s, NH), 7.77-7.79 (8H<sub>m</sub>, d), 8.15-8.17 (8H<sub>o</sub>, d), 8.87 (8H<sub>β</sub>, s);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (~100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 119.01 (C<sub>meso</sub>), 140.37 (C<sub>1</sub>), 135.52 (C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>), 127.07 (C<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>5</sub>), 134.41 (C<sub>4</sub>), 131.64 (C<sub>β</sub>); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, λ<sub>max</sub>/nm (logε): 418 (5.79), 513 (4.52), 547 (4.25), 590 (4.16), 647 (4.10).

**H<sub>2</sub>T(thien-2-yl)P.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: -2.65 (2H, br, s, NH); 7.48-7.51(4H, m); 7.84-7.86 (4H, m); 7.907-7.920 (4H, m); 9.03 (8H, s, β); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, λ<sub>max</sub>/nm (logε): (See ESI,† S3-1).

**H<sub>2</sub>T(4-SCH<sub>3</sub>)PP.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 8.82 (s,8H,H<sub>β</sub>), 8.07 (d, 8H, H<sub>o</sub>), 7.58 (d, 8H, H<sub>m</sub>), 2.70 (s,12H,CH<sub>3</sub>), -2.84 (s,2H,NH); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, λ<sub>max</sub>/nm (logε): (See ESI,† S3-1).

**H<sub>2</sub>T(2-NO<sub>2</sub>)PP.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: - 2.83 (s, 2H, NH), 8.61 (s, 8H, H<sub>β</sub>), 8.30 (m, 4H, H<sub>o</sub>), 8.45 (m, 8H, H<sub>m</sub>), 7.98 (m, 4H, H<sub>p</sub>); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, λ<sub>max</sub>/nm (logε): (See ESI,† S3-1).

**H<sub>2</sub>T(2,6-Cl)PP.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: -2.59 (2H, br, s, NH), 7.68 (12H, m, H<sub>m,p</sub>), 8.66 (8H, s, H<sub>β</sub>); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, λ<sub>max</sub>/nm (logε): (See ESI,† S3-1).

**S1b:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR and UV-Vis spectral data of the porphyrins dications

**H<sub>4</sub>TPP(CF<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 0.276 (4H, br, s, NH), 7.99-8.043 (8H<sub>m</sub> and 4H<sub>p</sub>, m), 8.616-8.652 (8H<sub>o</sub>, m), 8.616-8.652 (8H<sub>β</sub>, m);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (~100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 122.77 (C<sub>meso</sub>), 139.90 (C<sub>1</sub>), 138.52 (C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>), 128.31 (C<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>5</sub>), 130.01 (C<sub>4</sub>), 145.72 (C<sub>a</sub>), 128.31 (C<sub>β</sub>); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, λ<sub>max</sub>/nm (logε): 437 (5.83), 600 (4.46), 652 (4.93).

**H<sub>4</sub>T(4-OMe)PP(CF<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 0.425 (4H, br, s, NH), 7.553-8.573 (8H<sub>m</sub>, d), 8.527-8.562 (8H<sub>β</sub>, 8H<sub>o</sub>, br), 4.195 (12H<sub>Me</sub>, s);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (~100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 122.09 (C<sub>meso</sub>), 133.44 (C<sub>1</sub>), 140.01 (C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>), 114.01 (C<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>5</sub>), 161.49 (C<sub>4</sub>), 146.11 (C<sub>a</sub>), 127.75 (C<sub>β</sub>), 55.84 (C<sub>Me</sub>); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, λ<sub>max</sub>/nm (logε): 449 (5.77), 686 (5.07).

**H<sub>4</sub>T(2-Me)PP(CF<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: -0.954 (4H, br, s, NH), 7.721-7.895 (8H<sub>m</sub> and 4H<sub>p</sub>, br, meta and para-positions relative to C atom attached to the meso position), 8.181-8.216 (4H<sub>o</sub>, br, ortho-position relative to the C atom attached to the meso position), 8.651-8.682 (8H<sub>β</sub>, s), 2.208-2.285 (H<sub>Me</sub>, m);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (~100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm:

121.47 (C<sub>meso</sub>), 138.33 (C<sub>1</sub>), 140.86 (C<sub>2</sub>), 128.41 (C<sub>3</sub>), 129.08 (C<sub>4</sub>), 125.39 (C<sub>5</sub>), 136.62 (C<sub>6</sub>), 145.51 (C<sub>a</sub>), 130.54 (C<sub>β</sub>), 21.87 (C<sub>Me</sub>); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>,  $\lambda_{max}/nm$  (log $\epsilon$ ): 432 (5.99), 583 (6.46), 633 (4.89).

**H<sub>4</sub>T(4-Me)PP(CF<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 0.42 (4H, br, s, NH), 7.79-7.82 (8H<sub>m</sub>, d), 8.46-8.49 (8H<sub>o</sub>, d), 8.55 (8H<sub>β</sub>, s), 2.67 (12H<sub>Me</sub>, s); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (~100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 122.60 (C<sub>meso</sub>), 137.56 (C<sub>1</sub>), 138.62 (C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>), 129.12 (C<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>5</sub>), 140.31 (C<sub>4</sub>), 145.85 (C<sub>a</sub>), 127.95 (C<sub>β</sub>), 21.68 (C<sub>Me</sub>); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>,  $\lambda_{max}/nm$  (log $\epsilon$ ): 442 (5.85), 666 (5.01).

**H<sub>2</sub>T(thien-2-yl)P(CF<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 1.53 (4H, br, s, NH); 7.78-7.814 (4H, dd); 8.26-8.28 (4H, d); 8.37-8.38 (4H, d); 8.58 (8H, s, β); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>,  $\lambda_{max}/nm$  (log $\epsilon$ ): (See ESI,† S3-2).

**H<sub>2</sub>T(4-SCH<sub>3</sub>)PP(CF<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 8.77 (s, 8H, H<sub>β</sub>), 8.33 (d, 8H, H<sub>o</sub>), 7.88 (d, 8H, H<sub>m</sub>), 3.12 (s, 12H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.2 (s, 4H, NH); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>,  $\lambda_{max}/nm$  (log $\epsilon$ ): (See ESI,† S3-2).

**H<sub>2</sub>T(2-NO<sub>2</sub>)PP(CF<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 1.25 (s, 4H, NH), 8.53 (s, 8H, H<sub>β</sub>), 8.10 (m, 4H, H<sub>o</sub>), 8.30 (m, 8H, H<sub>m</sub>), 8.10 (m, 4H, H<sub>p</sub>); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>,  $\lambda_{max}/nm$  (log $\epsilon$ ): (See ESI,† S3-2).

**H<sub>2</sub>T(2,6-Cl)PP(CF<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 0.5 (4H, br, s, NH), 7.8-8.0 (12H, m, H<sub>m,p</sub>), 8.79 (8H, s, H<sub>β</sub>); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>,  $\lambda_{max}/nm$  (log $\epsilon$ ): (See ESI,† S3-2).

**H<sub>4</sub>T(4-Cl)PP(HCOO)<sub>2</sub>.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 7.746 (8H<sub>m</sub>, d), 8.4 (8H<sub>o</sub>, d), 8.674 (8H<sub>β</sub>, s); no signal was observed for the NH protons at 20 °C, but at -60 °C, the NH resonance was observed at δ 0.19 ppm<sup>1</sup>; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (~100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 122.17 (C<sub>meso</sub>), 138.09 (C<sub>1</sub>), 139.59 (C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>), 129.19 (C<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>5</sub>), 137.54 (C<sub>4</sub>), 145.66 (C<sub>a</sub>), 128.94 (C<sub>β</sub>); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>,  $\lambda_{max}/nm$  (log $\epsilon$ ): 442 (5.65), 662 (4.91).

**H<sub>4</sub>T(2-Cl)PP(CF<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 1.5 (4H, br, s, NH), 7.77-7.938 (8H<sub>m</sub> and 4H<sub>p</sub>, m, meta and para-positions relative to the C atom attached to the meso position), 8.29 (4H<sub>o</sub>, br, ortho-position relative to C atom attached to the meso position), 8.681 (8H<sub>β</sub>, s); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (~100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 117.99 (C<sub>meso</sub>), 137.39 (C<sub>1</sub>), 137.72 (C<sub>2</sub>), 129.58 (C<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>4</sub>), 125.88 (C<sub>5</sub>), 136.75 (C<sub>6</sub>), 146.16 (C<sub>a</sub>), 131.04 (C<sub>β</sub>); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>,  $\lambda_{max}/nm$  (log $\epsilon$ ): 431 (5.76), 580 (4.69), 632 (4.75).

**H<sub>4</sub>T(4-Cl)PP(CF<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 0.392 (4H, br, s, NH), 8.026-8.046 (8H<sub>m</sub>, d), 8.518-8.539 (8H<sub>o</sub>, d), 8.635 (8H<sub>β</sub>, s); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (~100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 121.73 (C<sub>meso</sub>), 138.11 (C<sub>1</sub>), 139.22 (C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>), 128.81 (C<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>5</sub>), 137.50 (C<sub>4</sub>), 145.67 (C<sub>a</sub>), 128.38 (C<sub>β</sub>); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>,  $\lambda_{max}/nm$  (log $\epsilon$ ): 439 (6.06), 656 (5.16).

**H<sub>4</sub>TPP(HCOO)<sub>2</sub>.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 7.777 (8H<sub>m</sub> and 4H<sub>p</sub>, d), 8.174 (8H<sub>o</sub>, d), 8.828 (8H<sub>β</sub>, s); no signal was observed for the NH protons at 20 °C, but at -60 °C, the NH resonance was observed at δ 0.49 ppm<sup>1</sup>; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (~100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 123.26 (C<sub>meso</sub>), 139.23 (C<sub>1</sub>), 138.85 (C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>), 129 (C<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>5</sub>), 130.70 (C<sub>4</sub>), 145.67 (C<sub>a</sub>), 128.78 (C<sub>β</sub>); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>,  $\lambda_{max}/nm$  (log $\epsilon$ ): 439 (5.75), 604 (4.42), 657 (4.89).

**H<sub>4</sub>T(4-OMe)PP(HCOO)<sub>2</sub>.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 7.532 (8H<sub>m</sub>, d), 8.547 (8H<sub>o</sub>, d), 8.56 (8H<sub>β</sub>, s), 4.162 (12H<sub>Me</sub>, s); no signal was observed for the NH protons at 20 °C, but at -60 °C, the NH resonance was observed at δ 0.42 ppm<sup>1</sup>; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (~100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 122.59 (C<sub>meso</sub>), 132.67 (C<sub>1</sub>), 140.31 (C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>), 114.62 (C<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>5</sub>), 162.13 (C<sub>4</sub>), 145.99 (C<sub>a</sub>), 128.46 (C<sub>β</sub>), 55.89 (C<sub>Me</sub>); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>,  $\lambda_{max}/nm$  (log $\epsilon$ ): 452 (5.36), 695 (4.73).

**H<sub>4</sub>T(2-Me)PP(HCOO)<sub>2</sub>.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 7.863-7.9 (8H<sub>m</sub> and 4H<sub>p</sub>, br, meta and para-position relative to C atom attached to meso position), 8.254-8.332 (4H<sub>o</sub>, br, ortho-position relative to C atom attached to meso position), 8.73-8.76 (8H<sub>β</sub>, br), 2.144-2.203 (H<sub>Me</sub>, m); no signal was observed for the NH protons at 20 °C.; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (~100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 121.69 (C<sub>meso</sub>), 138.12 (C<sub>1</sub>), 140.86 (C<sub>2</sub>), 129.53 (C<sub>3</sub>), 129.56 (C<sub>4</sub>), 125.62 (C<sub>5</sub>), 136.54 (C<sub>6</sub>), 145.63 (C<sub>a</sub>), 130.60 (C<sub>β</sub>), 21.03 (C<sub>Me</sub>); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>,  $\lambda_{max}/nm$  (log $\epsilon$ ): 433 (5.79), 582 (4.49), 635 (4.69).

**H<sub>4</sub>T(4-Me)PP(HCOO)<sub>2</sub>.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 7.88-7.91 (8H<sub>m</sub>, d), 8.533-8.553 (8H<sub>o</sub>, d), 8.7 (8H<sub>β</sub>, s), 2.767 (12H<sub>Me</sub>, s); no signal was observed for the NH protons at 20 °C.; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (~100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 123.1 (C<sub>meso</sub>), 136.87 (C<sub>1</sub>), 138.86 (C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>), 129.63 (C<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>5</sub>), 141.34 (C<sub>4</sub>), 145.75 (C<sub>a</sub>), 128.68 (C<sub>β</sub>), 21.62 (C<sub>Me</sub>); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>,  $\lambda_{max}/nm$  (log $\epsilon$ ): 443 (5.88), 672 (5.09).

**H<sub>4</sub>T(2-Cl)PP(HCOO)<sub>2</sub>.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 7.92-7.95 (8H<sub>m</sub> and 4H<sub>p</sub>, br, meta and para-positions relative to the C atom attached to the meso position), 8.4-8.5 (4H<sub>o</sub>, br, ortho-position relative to C atom attached to meso position), 8.78-8.826 (8H<sub>β</sub>, br); no signal was observed for the NH protons at 20 °C.; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (~100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 119.24 (C<sub>meso</sub>), 137.83 (C<sub>1</sub>), 138.02 (C<sub>2</sub>), 129.87 (C<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>4</sub>), 126.62 (C<sub>5</sub>), 136.84 (C<sub>6</sub>), 145.57 (C<sub>a</sub>), 132.55 (C<sub>β</sub>); UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>,  $\lambda_{max}/nm$  (log $\epsilon$ ): 432 (5.65), 580 (4.41), 631 (4.52).

**H<sub>2</sub>T(thien-2-yl)P(HCOO)<sub>2</sub>.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 7.81-7.83 (4H, dd); 8.38-8.39 (4H, d); 8.43-8.44 (4H, d); 8.69 (8H, s, β); no signal was observed for the NH protons at 20 <sup>0</sup>C<sup>1</sup>; UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, λ<sub>max</sub>/nm (logε): (See ESI,† S3-2).

**H<sub>2</sub>T(4-SCH<sub>3</sub>)PP(HCOO)<sub>2</sub>.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 8.67 (s,8H,H<sub>β</sub>), 8.5 (b, 8H, H<sub>o</sub>), 8.31 (b, 8H, H<sub>m</sub>), 2.73 (s,12H,CH<sub>3</sub>); no signal was observed for the NH protons at 20 <sup>0</sup>C<sup>1</sup>; UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, λ<sub>max</sub>/nm (logε): (See ESI,† S3-2).

**H<sub>2</sub>T(2-NO<sub>2</sub>)PP(HCOO)<sub>2</sub>.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 8.76 (s, 8H, H<sub>β</sub>), 8.57-8.67 (m, 4H, H<sub>o</sub>), 8.71-8.73 (m, 8H, H<sub>m</sub>), 8.19-8.23 (m, 4H, H<sub>p</sub>); no signal was observed for the NH protons at 20 <sup>0</sup>C<sup>1</sup>; UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, λ<sub>max</sub>/nm (logε): (See ESI,† S3-2).

**H<sub>2</sub>T(2,6-Cl)PP(HCOO)<sub>2</sub>.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS), δ/ppm: 7.87-7.90 (12H, m, H<sub>m,p</sub>), 8.95 (8H, s, H<sub>β</sub>); no signal was observed for the NH protons at 20 <sup>0</sup>C<sup>1</sup>; UV-vis in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, λ<sub>max</sub>/nm (logε): (See ESI,† S3-2).

**S2** The UV-Vis spectral data of the free base porphyrins in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub><sup>a</sup>

Porphyrins	$\lambda$ (nm)	Bands					$\Delta\nu_{Q(0,0), \text{Soret}}$ (cm <sup>-1</sup> )
		Soret	IV	III	II	I	
H <sub>2</sub> TPP	$\lambda$ (nm)	417	513	548	590	647	8525
	$\log\epsilon$	5.79	4.58	4.38	4.30	4.29	
	$f$	1.734	0.112	0.035	0.024	0.015	
	$f_{\text{Soret}}/f_{Q(0,0)}$	115.6					
H <sub>2</sub> T(4-OMe)PP	$\lambda$ (nm)	421	517	555	593	651	8392
	$\log\epsilon$	5.61	4.32	4.22	4.06	4.11	
	$f$	1.510	0.068	0.037	0.014	0.014	
	$f_{\text{Soret}}/f_{Q(0,0)}$	107.9					
H <sub>2</sub> T(2-Me)PP	$\lambda$ (nm)	416	512	545	589	645	8535
	$\log\epsilon$	6.04	4.74	4.34	4.34	4.25	
	$f$	2.210	0.173	0.039	0.043	0.018	
	$f_{\text{Soret}}/f_{Q(0,0)}$	122.8					
H <sub>2</sub> T(4-Me)PP	$\lambda$ (nm)	418	516	551	590	647	8467
	$\log\epsilon$	5.89	4.54	4.34	4.18	4.20	
	$f$	2.710	0.218	0.091	0.050	0.037	
	$f_{\text{Soret}}/f_{Q(0,0)}$	73.2					
H <sub>2</sub> T(2-Cl)PP	$\lambda$ (nm)	416	512	543	587	643	8486
	$\log\epsilon$	5.64	4.47	4.07	4.15	3.96	
	$f$	1.590	0.094	0.014	0.024	0.005	
	$f_{\text{Soret}}/f_{Q(0,0)}$	318.0					
H <sub>2</sub> T(4-Cl)PP	$\lambda$ (nm)	418	513	547	590	647	8467
	$\log\epsilon$	5.79	4.52	4.25	4.16	4.10	
	$f$	2.560	0.190	0.062	0.045	0.022	
	$f_{\text{Soret}}/f_{Q(0,0)}$	116.4					

<sup>a</sup> Oscillator strength;  $f = 4.32 \times 10^{-9} \int \epsilon_v d\nu$

**S3-1** The UV-Vis spectral data of some electron-rich and electron-deficient free base porphyrins and their dications with CF<sub>3</sub>COOH in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub><sup>a</sup>

Porphyrins		Bands					$\Delta v_{Q(0,0)}$ , Soret (cm <sup>-1</sup> )
		Soret	IV	III	II	I	
H <sub>2</sub> T(thien-2-yl)P <sup>b</sup>	$\lambda$ (nm)	424	521	560	596	660	8433
	log $\epsilon$	5.39	4.40	4.28	4.24	4.24	
	<i>f</i>	1.130	0.054	0.021	0.011	0.005	
	<i>f</i> <sub>Soret/f</sub> <sub>Q(0,0)</sub>	204					
H <sub>4</sub> T(thien-2-yl)P(CF <sub>3</sub> COO) <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup>	$\lambda$ (nm)	459	-	-	-	723	7955
	log $\epsilon$	5.53	-	-	-	4.9	
	$\Delta v$ <sup>c</sup>	-1798	-	-	-	-	-1320
	<i>f</i>	1.25	0.112	0.035	0.024	0.27	
	<i>f</i> <sub>Soret/f</sub> <sub>Q(0,0)</sub>	4.6					
H <sub>2</sub> T(4-SMe)PP <sup>b</sup>	$\lambda$ (nm)	422	517	555	594	651	8336
	log $\epsilon$	5.64	4.55	4.46	4.32	4.39	
	<i>f</i>	1.260	0.058	0.035	0.015	0.010	
	<i>f</i> <sub>Soret/f</sub> <sub>Q(0,0)</sub>	120					
H <sub>4</sub> T(4-SMe)PP(CF <sub>3</sub> COO) <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup>	$\lambda$ (nm)	461	-	-	-	692	7241
	log $\epsilon$	5.53	-	-	-	4.99	
	$\Delta v$ <sup>c</sup>	-2005	-	-	-	-	-910
	<i>f</i>	1.57	-	-	-	0.35	
	<i>f</i> <sub>Soret/f</sub> <sub>Q(0,0)</sub>	4.5					
H <sub>2</sub> T(2-NO <sub>2</sub> )PP <sup>b</sup>	$\lambda$ (nm)	420	516	550	593	650	8425
	log $\epsilon$	5.57	4.66	4.44	4.40	4.27	
	<i>f</i>	1.28	0.095	0.029	0.023	0.005	
	<i>f</i> <sub>Soret/f</sub> <sub>Q(0,0)</sub>	264.5					
H <sub>4</sub> T(2-NO <sub>2</sub> )PP(CF <sub>3</sub> COO) <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup>	$\lambda$ (nm)	431	-	536	583	635	7454
	log $\epsilon$	5.62	-	4.47	4.52	4.67	
	$\Delta v$ <sup>c</sup>	-608	-	475	289	363	
	<i>f</i>	1.27	-	0.057	0.046	0.073	
	<i>f</i> <sub>Soret/f</sub> <sub>Q(0,0)</sub>	17.4					
H <sub>2</sub> T(2,6-Cl)PP <sup>d</sup>	$\lambda$ (nm)	417	512	-	606	630	8108
	log $\epsilon$	5.24	4.55	-	4.59	4.51	
	<i>f</i>	0.722	0.057	-	0.088	0.033	
	<i>f</i> <sub>Soret/f</sub> <sub>Q(0,0)</sub>	21.9					
H <sub>2</sub> T(2,6-Cl)PP(CF <sub>3</sub> COO) <sub>2</sub>	$\lambda$ (nm)	429	-	-	580	612	8467

$\log\epsilon$	5.24	-	-	4.76	4.58
$\Delta\nu^c$	-608	-	-	740	647
$f$	0.8	-	-	0.15	0.12
$f_{\text{Soret}}/f_{Q(0,0)}$	6.7				

<sup>a</sup> See the footnotes of S2. <sup>b</sup> See the Tables and supporting information of [2]. <sup>c</sup>  $\Delta\nu$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) =  $10^7(1/\lambda_1 - 1/\lambda_2)$ ; ( $\lambda_1$  = the wavelength of the band of the free base porphyrin;  $\lambda_2$  = the wavelength of the corresponding band of the dication). <sup>d</sup> Prepared and purified according to the literature.<sup>3</sup>

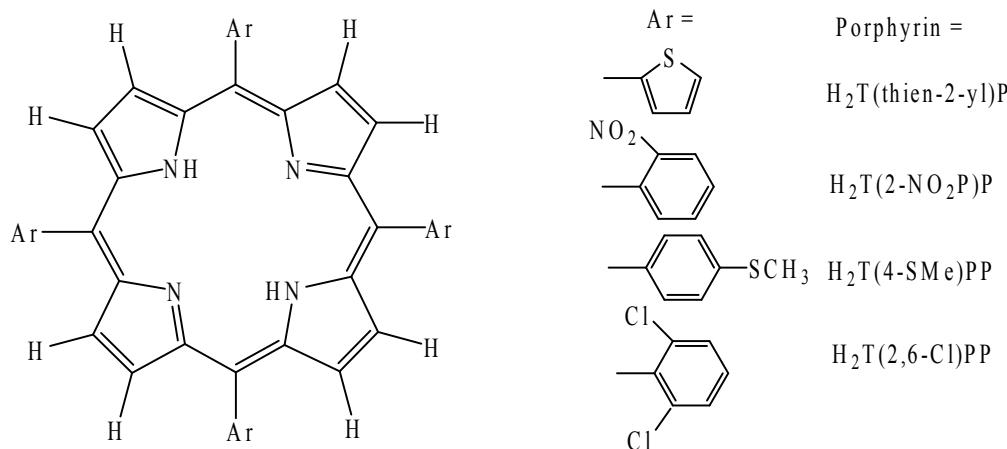
**S3-2** The UV-Vis spectral data of some electron-rich and electron-deficient free base porphyrins and their dications with HCOOH in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub><sup>a,b</sup>

Porphyrins		Bands					$\Delta v_{Q(0,0), \text{Soret}}$ (cm <sup>-1</sup> )
		Soret	IV	III	II	I	
H <sub>2</sub> T(thien-2-yl)P	$\lambda$ (nm)	424	521	560	596	660	8433
	<i>f</i>	1.130	0.054	0.021	0.011	0.005	
	$f_{\text{Soret}}/f_{Q(0,0)}$	204					
H <sub>4</sub> T(thien-2-yl)P(HCOO) <sub>2</sub>	$\lambda$ (nm)	460	-	-	-	732	8078
	log $\epsilon$	5.53	-	-	-	4.93	
$\Delta v^b$		-1846	-	-	-	-1490	
	<i>f</i>	1.566	-	-	-	0.33	
	$f_{\text{Soret}}/f_{Q(0,0)}$	4.74					
H <sub>2</sub> T(4-SMe)PP	$\lambda$ (nm)	422	517	555	594	651	8336
	<i>f</i>	1.260	0.058	0.035	0.015	0.010	
	$f_{\text{Soret}}/f_{Q(0,0)}$	120					
H <sub>4</sub> T(4-SMe)PP(HCOO) <sub>2</sub>	$\lambda$ (nm)	465	-	-	-	706	7341
	log $\epsilon$	5.45	-	-	-	5.04	
	$\Delta v^b$	-2191	-	-	-	-1197	
	<i>f</i>	1.35	-	-	-	0.35	
	$f_{\text{Soret}}/f_{Q(0,0)}$	3.9					
H <sub>2</sub> T(2-NO <sub>2</sub> )PP	$\lambda$ (nm)	420	516	550	593	650	8425
	<i>f</i>	1.28	0.095	0.029	0.023	0.005	
	$f_{\text{Soret}}/f_{Q(0,0)}$	264.5					
H <sub>4</sub> T(2-NO <sub>2</sub> )PP(HCOO) <sub>2</sub>	$\lambda$ (nm)	431	-	546	582	636	7454
	log $\epsilon$	5.63	-	4.47	4.52	4.68	
	$\Delta v^b$	-608	-	133	319	339	
	<i>f</i>	1.53	-	0.066	0.047	0.039	
	$f_{\text{Soret}}/f_{Q(0,0)}$	39					
H <sub>2</sub> T(2,6-Cl)PP	$\lambda$ (nm)	417	512	-	606	630	8108
	<i>f</i>	0.722	0.057	-	0.088	0.033	
	$f_{\text{Soret}}/f_{Q(0,0)}$	21.9					
H <sub>2</sub> T(2,6-Cl)PP(HCOO) <sub>2</sub>	$\lambda$ (nm)	425	-	-	594	628	8467
	log $\epsilon$	5.11	-	-	4.52	4.41	
	$\Delta v^b$	-451	-	-	333	50	

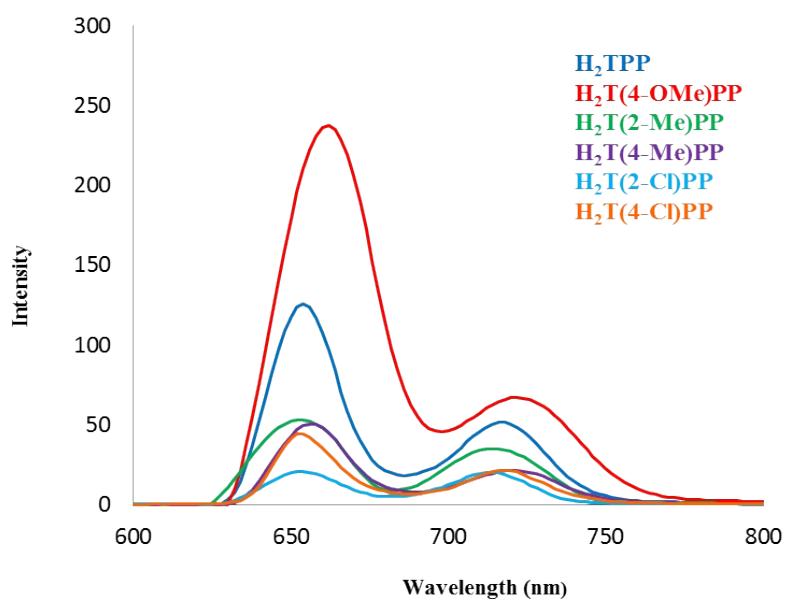
<i>f</i>	0.81	-	-	-	0.02
<i>f</i> <sub>Soret</sub> / <i>f</i> <sub>Q(0,0)</sub>	40.5				

<sup>a,b</sup> See the footnotes of S2 and S3. <sup>c</sup> See S3-3 for the structure of the porphyrins.

### S3-3 The structure of porphyrins of S3-1 and S3-2.



### S4 The emission spectra of the free base porphyrins in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>



## S5 The fluorescence spectral data of the free base porphyrins in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>

Porphyrins	H <sub>2</sub> TPP	H <sub>2</sub> T(4-OMe)PP	H <sub>2</sub> T(2-Me)PP	H <sub>2</sub> T(4-Me)PP	H <sub>2</sub> T(2-Cl)PP	H <sub>2</sub> T(4-Cl)PP
Absorption						
Q <sub>X10</sub> (λ/nm)	590	593	589	590	587	590
Q <sub>X00</sub> (λ/nm)	647	651	645	647	643	647
Splitting (Δv <sub>1</sub> /cm <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>a</sup>	1493	1502	1474	1493	1484	1493
Emission						
Q* <sub>X00</sub> (λ/nm)	654 (2.21)	662 (3.55)	652 (1.57)	656 (2.05)	654 (1.07)	652 (1.81)
Δv <sub>1/2</sub> (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	606	822	798	603	700	513
Q* <sub>X01</sub> (λ/nm)	716 (1.00)	722 (1.00)	714 (1.00)	720 (1.00)	712 (1.00)	718 (1.00)
Δv <sub>1/2</sub> (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	684	945	785	722	632	662
Splitting (Δv <sub>2</sub> /cm <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>b</sup>	1324	1255	1332	1355	1246	1410
Δv <sub>3</sub> = Δv <sub>1</sub> -Δv <sub>2</sub> (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	169	247	142	138	238	83
E <sub>00</sub> (eV) <sup>c</sup>	1.91	1.89	1.91	1.90	1.91	1.91
Stokes shift (Δv/cm <sup>-1</sup> )	165	255	166	212	262	118
Φ <sub>f</sub> <sup>d</sup>	0.130	0.280	0.073	0.050	0.031	0.043
τ <sub>1</sub> (ns) <sup>e</sup>	34.42	57.04	22.26	17.86	40.95	20.57
τ <sub>2</sub> (ns) <sup>f</sup>	153.57	309.70	89.65	90.33	171.42	101.7
τ <sub>3</sub> (ns) <sup>g</sup>	79.35	130.18	52.12	41.55	98.89	48.03
Σk <sub>1</sub> (× 10 <sup>-6</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>h</sup>	29	17	45	56	24	48
Σk <sub>2</sub> (× 10 <sup>-6</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>i</sup>	6	3	11	11	6	10
Σk <sub>3</sub> (× 10 <sup>-6</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>j</sup>	13	8	19	24	10	21
k <sub>r1</sub> (× 10 <sup>-6</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>k</sup>	3.8	4.9	3.4	2.8	0.7	2.1
k <sub>r2</sub> (× 10 <sup>-6</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>l</sup>	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.2	0.4
k <sub>r3</sub> (× 10 <sup>-6</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>m</sup>	1.7	2.1	1.4	1.2	0.3	0.9
k <sub>nr1</sub> (× 10 <sup>-6</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>n</sup>	25.2	12.6	41.7	53.2	23.3	45.9
k <sub>nr2</sub> (× 10 <sup>-6</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>o</sup>	6.1	2.3	10.2	10.4	5.6	9.4
k <sub>nr3</sub> (× 10 <sup>-6</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>p</sup>	11.3	5.5	17.6	22.8	9.7	20.1

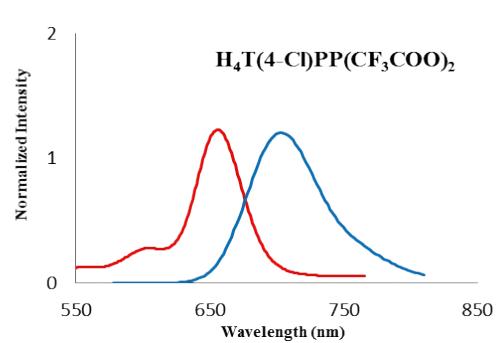
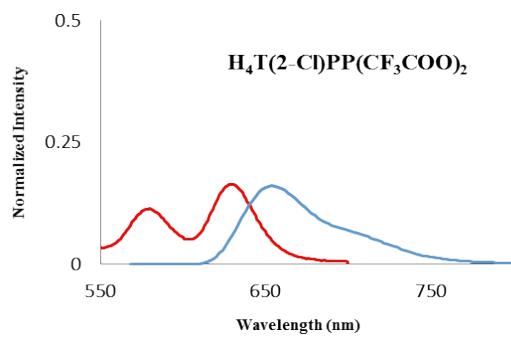
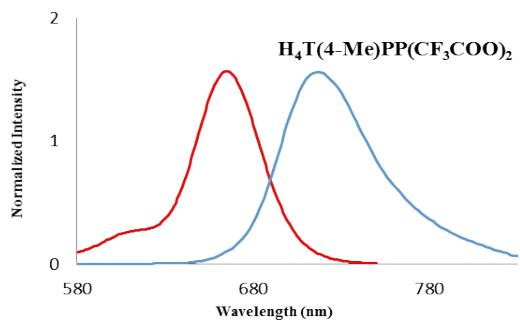
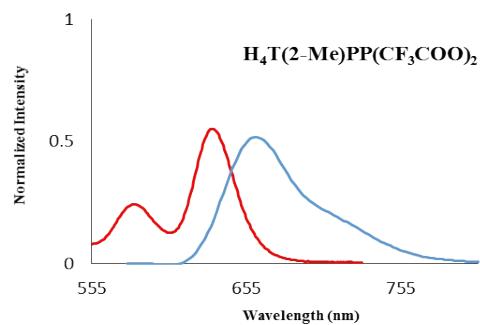
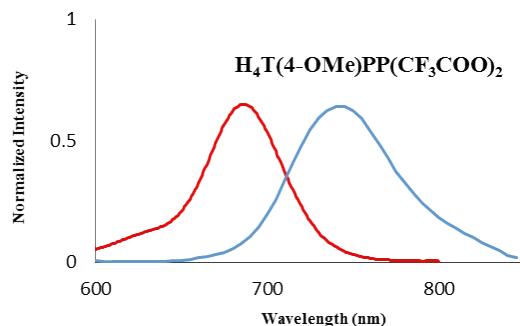
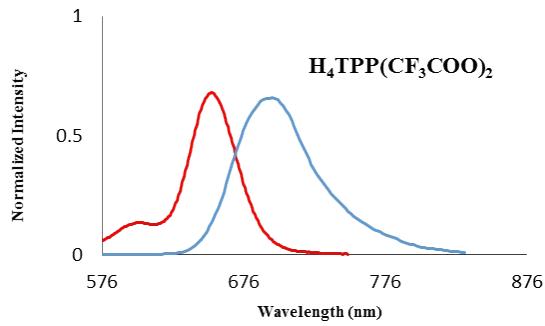
<sup>a</sup> Energy difference between the Q<sub>X10</sub> and Q<sub>X00</sub> bands. <sup>b</sup> Energy differences between the Q\*<sub>X00</sub> and Q\*<sub>X01</sub> bands. <sup>c</sup> Midpoint of Q<sub>X00</sub> and Q\*<sub>X00</sub>

maxima. <sup>d</sup>Based on a reported value of 0.13 for Q<sub>f</sub> of TPP in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub><sup>4</sup>. <sup>e</sup> τ<sub>1</sub><sup>-1</sup> = 2.880 × 10<sup>-9</sup> n<sup>2</sup> <sup>g<sub>l</sub></sup>/<sub>u</sub> <sup>g<sub>l</sub></sup> <sup><v<sup>2</sup>></sup> ∫ ε(v)dv. <sup>f</sup> τ<sub>2</sub><sup>-1</sup> = 2.880 × 10<sup>-9</sup> n<sup>2</sup>

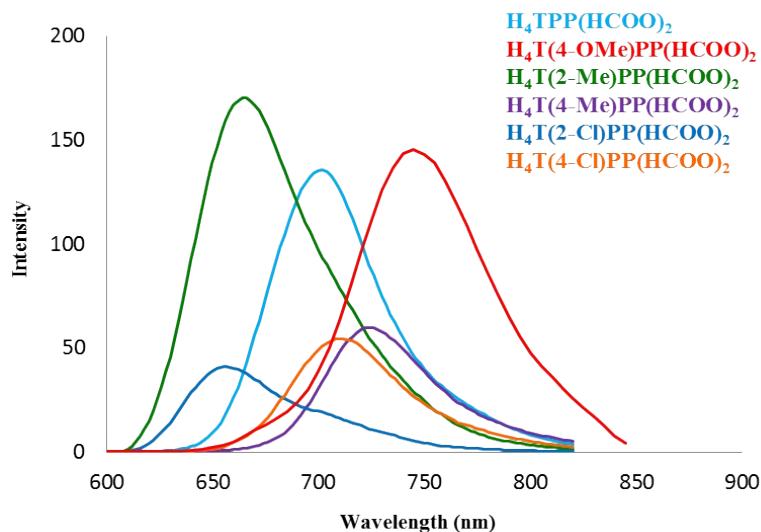
$$\frac{g_l}{g_u} \int \frac{(2v_0 - v)^3}{v} \epsilon(v) dv \quad \frac{g_l}{g_u} <v_f^{-3}>_{av}^{-1} \int \frac{\epsilon(v)}{v} dv \quad <v_f^{-3}>_{av}^{-1} = \frac{\int F(v) dv}{\int F(v)v^{-3} dv} \xrightarrow{s=7} h \Sigma k_1 = \tau_1^{-1}. i \Sigma k_2 = \tau_2^{-1}. j$$

Σk<sub>3</sub> = τ<sub>3</sub><sup>-1</sup>. k k<sub>r1</sub> = Q<sub>f</sub> × Σk<sub>1</sub>. l k<sub>r2</sub> = Q<sub>f</sub> × Σk<sub>2</sub>. m k<sub>r3</sub> = Q<sub>f</sub> × Σk<sub>3</sub>. n k<sub>nr1</sub> = Σk<sub>1</sub> - k<sub>r1</sub>. o k<sub>nr2</sub> = Σk<sub>2</sub> - k<sub>r2</sub>. p k<sub>nr3</sub> = Σk<sub>3</sub> - k<sub>r3</sub><sup>7</sup>.

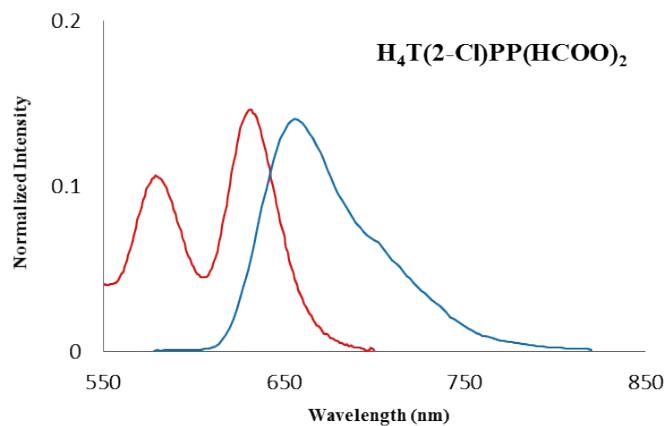
**S6** Absorption (Q region) and emission spectra of the porphyrin dications with  $\text{CF}_3\text{COOH}$  in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  solutions normalized to each other at their respective Q maxima



**S7** The emission spectra of the porphyrin dications with HCOOH in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>



**S8** Absorption (Q region) and emission spectra of the H<sub>4</sub>T(2-Cl)PP(HCOO)<sub>2</sub> in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution normalized to it's Q maxima.



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