

Competition between fluorescence and triplet production ruled by nitro groups in one-arm and two-arm styrylbenzene heteroanalogues

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ELECTRONIC SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Steady-state absorption spectra

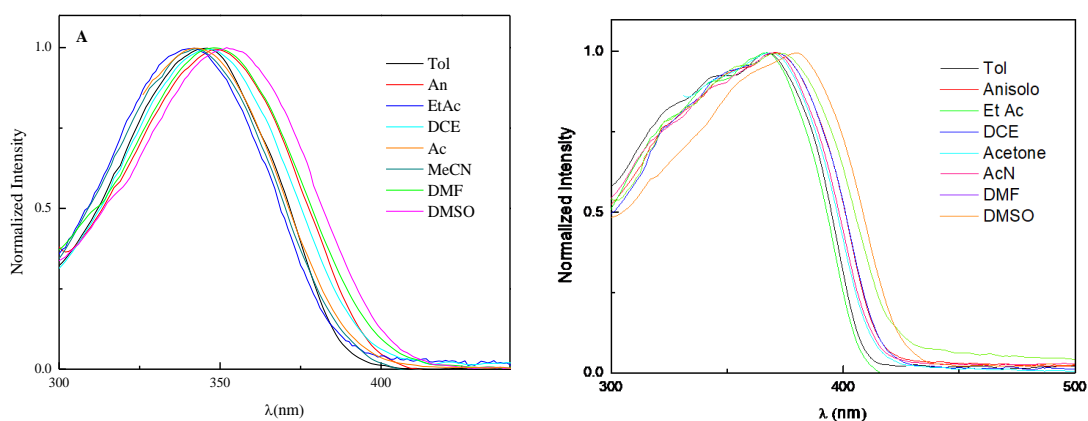


Figure ESI.1. Normalized absorption spectra of compounds **DP** (left) and **QP** (right) in solvents of different polarity (from Ref. [29] B. Carlotti, A. Cesaretti, G. Cacioppa, F. Elisei, I. Odak, I. Škorić, A. Spalletti, *J. Photochem. Photobiol. A* 368 (2019) 190–199).

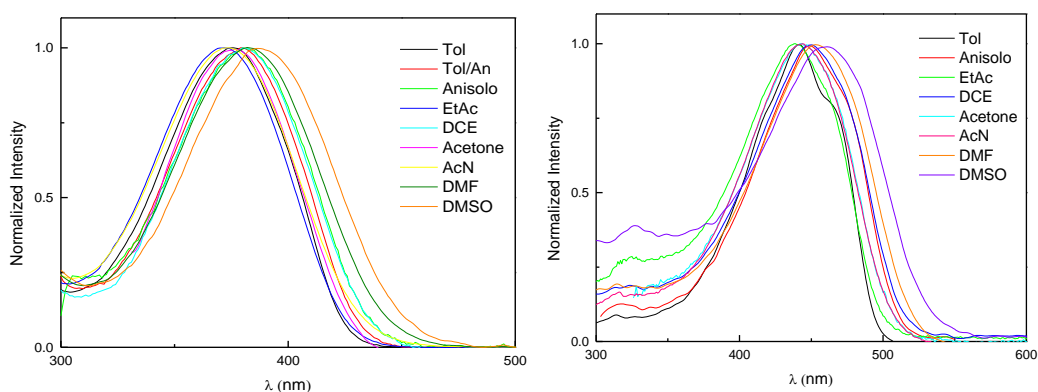


Figure ESI.2. Normalized absorption spectra of compounds **DF** (left) and **QF** (right) in solvents of different polarity (from Ref. [29] B. Carlotti, A. Cesaretti, G. Cacioppa, F. Elisei, I. Odak, I. Škorić, A. Spalletti, *J. Photochem. Photobiol. A* 368 (2019) 190–199).

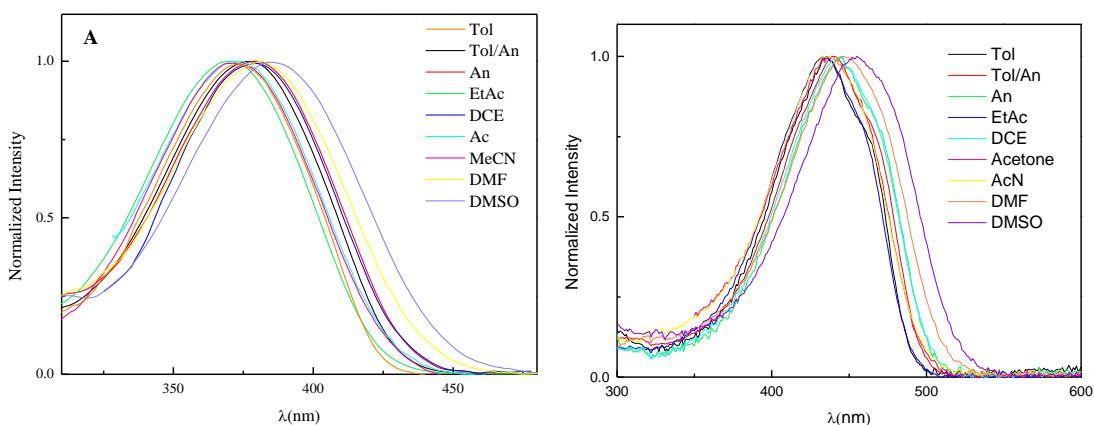


Figure ESI.3. Normalized absorption spectra of compounds **DT** (left) and **QT** (right) in solvents of different polarity (from Ref. [29] B. Carlotti, A. Cesaretti, G. Cacioppa, F. Elisei, I. Odak, I. Škorić, A. Spalletti, *J. Photochem. Photobiol. A* 368 (2019) 190–199).

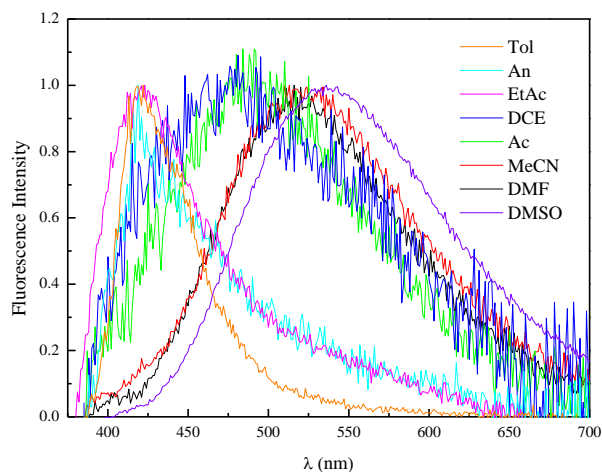
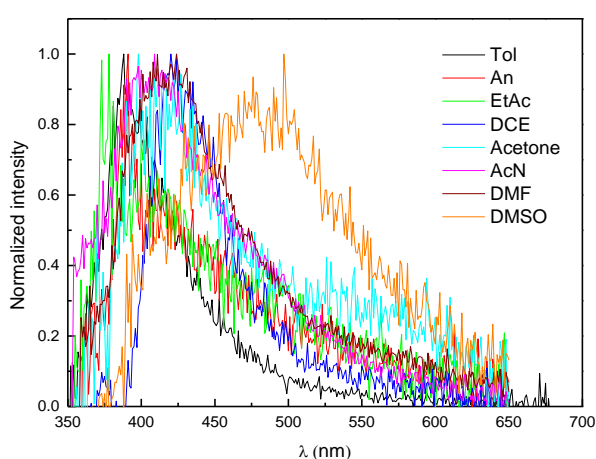


Figure ESI.4. Normalized emission spectra of compounds **DP** (left) and **QP** (right) in solvents of different polarity (from Ref. [29] B. Carloti, A. Cesaretti, G. Cacioppa, F. Elisei, I. Odak, I. Škorić, A. Spalletti, *J. Photochem. Photobiol. A* 368 (2019) 190–199).

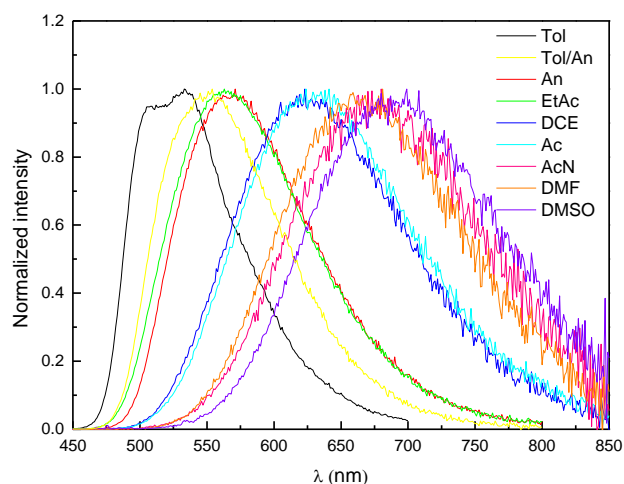
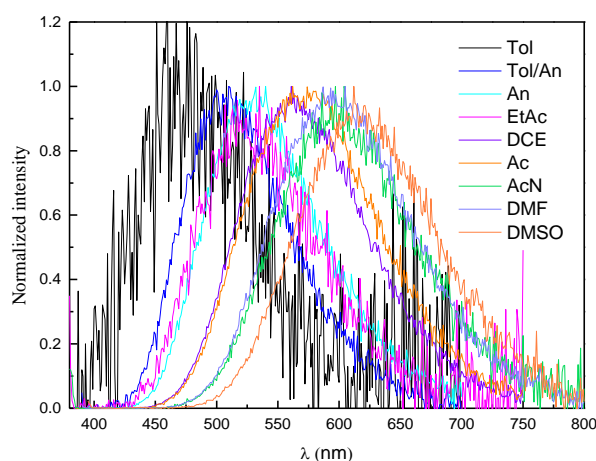


Figure ESI.5. Normalized emission spectra of compounds **DF** (left) and **QF** (right) in solvents of different polarity (from Ref. [29] B. Carloti, A. Cesaretti, G. Cacioppa, F. Elisei, I. Odak, I. Škorić, A. Spalletti, *J. Photochem. Photobiol. A* 368 (2019) 190–199).

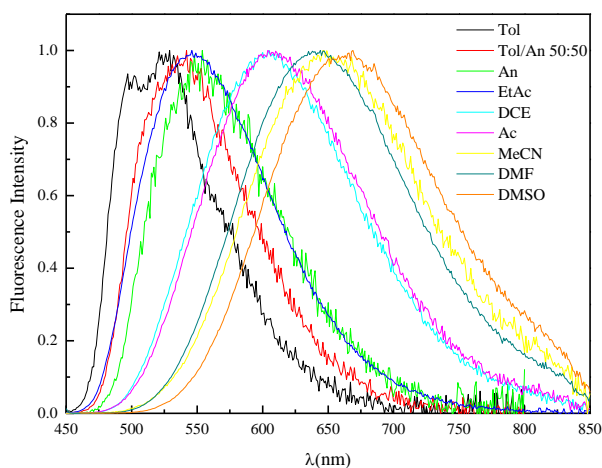
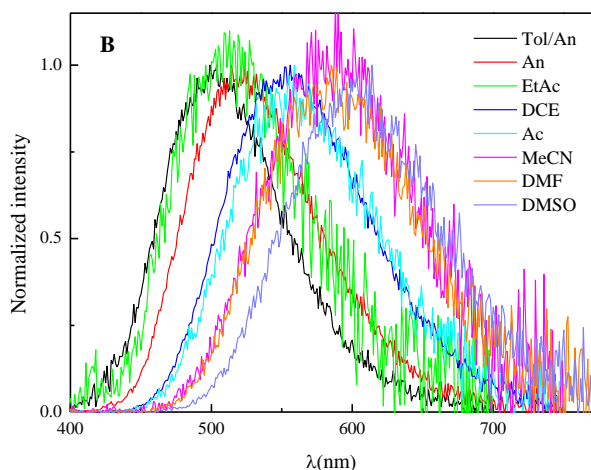


Figure ESI.6. Normalized emission spectra of compounds **DT** (left) and **QT** (right) in solvents of different polarity (from Ref. [29] B. Carloti, A. Cesaretti, G. Cacioppa, F. Elisei, I. Odak, I. Škorić, A. Spalletti, *J. Photochem. Photobiol. A* 368 (2019) 190–199).

Quantum mechanical calculations

Table ESI.1. Theoretical absorption and emission wavelengths of **DP**, oscillator strengths, nature and composition in terms of molecular orbitals obtained by TD WB97XD/6-31+G(d)//B-3LYP/6-31+G(d) in Tol (CPCM) compared to the experimental absorption spectra.

Transition	λ_{th} / nm	f	configuration	$c_i^2 / \%$	$\lambda_{exp} / \text{nm}$
$S_0 \rightarrow T_1$	581	0.0000	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	67	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_2$	439	0.0000	$\pi_{H-6} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	70	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_3$	373	0.0000	$n_{H-5} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	72	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_4$	368	0.0000	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	31	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_1$	342	1.2603	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	86	343
$S_0 \rightarrow S_2$	324	0.0000	$n_{H-5} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	74	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_5$	323	0.0000	$\pi_{H-2} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	88	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_6$	315	0.0000	$n_{H-7} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	73	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_7$	306	0.0000	$n_{H-1} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	47	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_8$	301	0.0000	$\pi_{H-3} \rightarrow \pi_{L+2}^*$	30	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_9$	284	0.0000	$\pi_{H-2} \rightarrow \pi_{L+3}^*$	74	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_3$	281	0.0004	$n_{H-7} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	75	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_{10}$	280	0.0000	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_{L+2}^*$	34	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_4$	279	0.0315	$\pi_{H-2} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	85	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_5$	273	0.0026	$n_{H-1} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	48	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_6$	261	0.0171	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	61	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_7$	237	0.0485	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_{L+2}^*$	49	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_8$	229	0.0023	$n_{H-1} \rightarrow \pi_{L+2}^*$	90	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_9$	224	0.0907	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_{L+3}^*$	57	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{10}$	218	0.0207	$\pi_{H-3} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	45	
$S_1 \rightarrow S_0$	406	1.3339	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	99	388

Table ESI.2. Theoretical absorption and emission wavelengths of **DF**, oscillator strengths, nature and composition in terms of molecular orbitals obtained by TD WB97XD/6-31+G(d)//B-3LYP/6-31+G(d) in Tol (CPCM) compared to the experimental absorption spectra.

Transition	λ_{th} / nm	f	configuration	$c_i^2 / \%$	$\lambda_{exp} / \text{nm}$
$S_0 \rightarrow T_1$	666	0.0000	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	61	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_2$	439	0.0000	$n_{H-5} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	73	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_3$	387	0.0000	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	27	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_4$	374	0.0000	$n_{H-4} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	74	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_1$	369	1.2488	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	85	375
$S_0 \rightarrow S_2$	324	0.0000	$n_{H-4} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	77	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_5$	321	0.0000	$\pi_{H-1} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	66	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_6$	315	0.0000	$n_{H-6} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	75	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_7$	292	0.0000	$\pi_{H-2} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	13	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_8$	287	0.0000	$\pi_{H-1} \rightarrow \pi_{L+2}^*$	40	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_3$	280	0.0004	$n_{H-6} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	77	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_4$	279	0.0273	$\pi_{H-1} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	65	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_9$	269	0.0194	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_{L+2}^*$	62	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_5$	265	0.0194	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	65	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_{10}$	253	0.1119	$\pi_{H-3} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	26	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_6$	234	0.0307	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_{L+2}^*$	43	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_7$	227	0.1119	$\pi_{H-2} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	35	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_8$	209	0.0039	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_{L+3}^*$	73	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_9$	208	0.0327	$\pi_{H-3} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	50	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{10}$	205	0.0496	$n_{H-5} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	35	
$S_1 \rightarrow S_0$	435	1.3446	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	99	467

Table ESI.3. Theoretical absorption and emission wavelengths of DT, oscillator strengths, nature and composition in terms of molecular orbitals obtained by TD WB97XD/6-31+G(d)//B-3LYP/6-31+G(d) in Tol (CPCM) compared to the experimental absorption spectra.

Transition	λ_{th}/nm	f	configuration	$c_i^2 / \%$	λ_{exp}/nm
S ₀ →T ₁	671	0.0000	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	63	
S ₀ →T ₂	439	0.0000	$\pi_{H-5} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	70	
S ₀ →T ₃	400	0.0000	$\pi_{H-3} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	36	
S ₀ →T ₄	374	0.0000	$n_{H-4} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	72	
S ₀ →S ₁	370	1.2328	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	84	372
S ₀ →S ₂	324	0.0000	$n_{H-4} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	74	
S ₀ →T ₅	320	0.0000	$\pi_{H-2} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	86	
S ₀ →T ₆	315	0.0000	$n_{H-6} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	73	
S ₀ →T ₇	309	0.0000	$\pi_{H-1} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	47	
S ₀ →T ₈	300	0.0000	$\pi_{H-3} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	24	
S ₀ →T ₉	288	0.0000	$\pi_{H-2} \rightarrow \pi_{L+2}^*$	70	
S ₀ →S ₃	280	0.00044	$n_{H-6} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	74	
S ₀ →S ₄	279	0.0254	$\pi_{H-2} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	79	
S ₀ →S ₅	271	0.0029	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	64	
S ₀ →T ₁₀	269	0.0000	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_{L+2}^*$	64	
S ₀ →S ₆	250	0.1087	$\pi_{H-1} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	54	
S ₀ →S ₇	233	0.0499	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_{L+2}^*$	54	
S ₀ →S ₈	228	0.0460	$\pi_{H-3} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	49	
S ₀ →S ₉	216	0.0001	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_{L+5}^*$	28	
S ₀ →S ₁₀	211	0.0330	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_{L+4}^*$	54	
S ₁ →S ₀	444	1.2931	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	92	500

Table ESI.4. Theoretical absorption and emission wavelengths of **QP**, oscillator strengths, nature and composition in terms of molecular orbitals obtained by TD WB97XD/6-31+G(d)//B-3LYP/6-31+G(d) in Tol (CPCM).

Transition	$\lambda_{\text{th}} / \text{nm}$	f	configuration	$c_i^2 / \%$	$\lambda_{\text{exp}} / \text{nm}$
$S_0 \rightarrow T_1$	599	0.0000	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	38	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_2$	555	0.0000	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	44	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_3$	440	0.0000	$\pi_{H-9} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	29	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_4$	440	0.0000	$\pi_{H-8} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	29	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_5$	374	0.0000	$\pi_{H-1} \rightarrow \pi_{L+3}^*$	23	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_6$	373	0.0000	$n_{H-7} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	24	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_7$	373	0.0000	$n_{H-8} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	24	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_1$	360	1.2428	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	65	367
$S_0 \rightarrow T_8$	358	0.0000	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_{L+2}^*$	36	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_2$	329	1.0724	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	58	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_3$	324	0.0000	$n_{H-7} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	25	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_4$	324	0.0000	$n_{H-8} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	25	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_9$	323	0.0000	$\pi_{H-3} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	45	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_{10}$	323	0.0000	$\pi_{H-2} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	44	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_5$	283	0.1116	$\pi_{H-1} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	39	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_6$	281	0.0004	$n_{H-11} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	20	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_7$	281	0.0004	$n_{H-12} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	20	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_8$	280	0.0029	$n_{H-4} \rightarrow \pi_{L+2}^*$	47	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_9$	279	0.0501	$\pi_{H-3} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	43	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{10}$	278	0.0059	$\pi_{H-2} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	42	
$S_1 \rightarrow S_0$	397	1.2062	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	72	419

Table ESI.5. Theoretical absorption and emission wavelengths of **QF**, oscillator strengths, nature and composition in terms of molecular orbitals obtained by TD WB97XD/6-31+G(d)//B-3LYP/6-31+G(d) in Tol (CPCM).

Transition	$\lambda_{\text{th}} / \text{nm}$	f	configuration	$c_i^2 / \%$	$\lambda_{\text{exp}} / \text{nm}$
$S_0 \rightarrow T_1$	903	0.0000	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	69	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_2$	545	0.0000	$\pi_{H-1} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	36	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_1$	447	1.5003	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	84	442
$S_0 \rightarrow T_3$	440	0.0000	$\pi_{H-8} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	34	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_4$	440	0.0000	$\pi_{H-9} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	34	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_5$	400	0.0000	$\pi_{H-4} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	28	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_6$	374	0.0000	$n_{H-6} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	21	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_7$	374	0.0000	$n_{H-7} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	21	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_2$	340	0.6446	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	74	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_8$	340	0.0000	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_{L+3}^*$	20	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_3$	324	0.0000	$n_{H-7} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	21	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_4$	324	0.0000	$n_{H-6} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	21	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_9$	322	0.0000	$\pi_{H-3} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	45	
$S_0 \rightarrow T_{10}$	322	0.0000	$\pi_{H-2} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	45	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_5$	281	0.0539	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_{L+2}^*$	36	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_6$	281	0.0001	$n_{H-11} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	38	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_7$	281	0.0007	$n_{H-10} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	38	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_8$	280	0.0502	$\pi_{H-2} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	47	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_9$	278	0.0031	$\pi_{H-3} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	27	
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{10}$	269	0.0930	$\pi_{H-1} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	64	
$S_1 \rightarrow S_0$	536	1.4645	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	90	535

Table ESI.6. Theoretical absorption and emission wavelengths of QT, oscillator strengths, nature and composition in terms of molecular orbitals obtained by TD WB97XD/6-31+G(d)//B-3LYP/6-31+G(d) in Tol (CPCM).

Transition	$\lambda_{\text{th}} / \text{nm}$	f	configuration	$c_i^2 / \%$	$\lambda_{\text{exp}} / \text{nm}$
S ₀ →T ₁	925	0.0000	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	72	
S ₀ →T ₂	542	0.0000	$\pi_{H-1} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	40	
S ₀ →S ₁	445	1.8965	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	84	436
S ₀ →T ₃	440	0.0000	$\pi_{H-8} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	40	
S ₀ →T ₄	440	0.0000	$\pi_{H-9} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	40	
S ₀ →T ₅	409	0.0000	$\pi_{H-5} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	26	
S ₀ →T ₆	374	0.0000	$n_{H-6} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	32	
S ₀ →T ₇	374	0.0000	$n_{H-7} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	32	
S ₀ →T ₈	339	0.0000	$\pi_{H-10} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	17	
S ₀ →S ₂	337	0.2642	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	65	
S ₀ →T ₉	331	0.0000	$n_{H-2} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	51	
S ₀ →S ₃	324	0.0000	$n_{H-6} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	33	
S ₀ →S ₄	324	0.0000	$n_{H-7} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	33	
S ₀ →T ₁₀	322	0.0000	$n_{H-2} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	51	
S ₀ →S ₅	285	0.1199	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_{L+2}^*$	57	
S ₀ →S ₆	281	0.0003	$n_{H-11} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	40	
S ₀ →S ₇	281	0.0004	$n_{H-12} \rightarrow \pi_{L+1}^*$	40	
S ₀ →S ₈	279	0.0552	$\pi_{H-4} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	45	
S ₀ →S ₉	279	0.0003	$\pi_{H-3} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	44	
S ₀ →S ₁₀	273	0.0296	$n_{H-2} \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	51	
S ₁ →S ₀	538	1.8463	$\pi_H \rightarrow \pi_L^*$	91	526

Femtosecond Transient Absorption

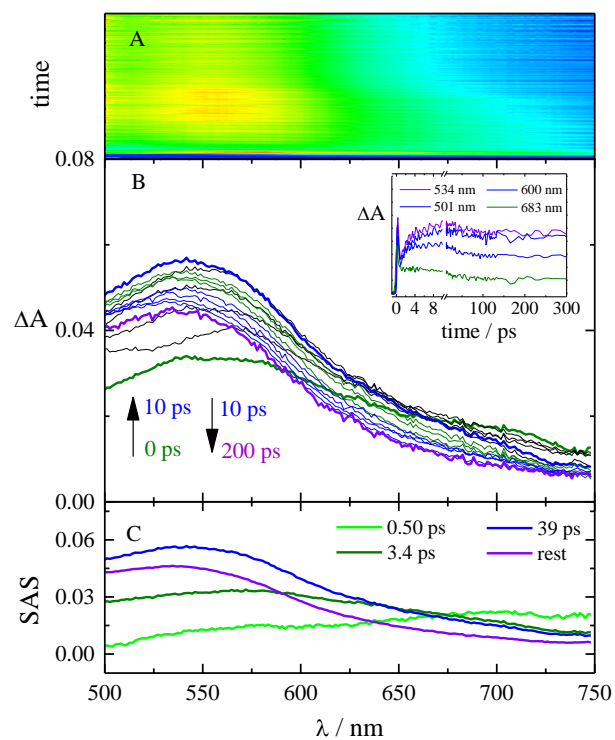


Figure ESI.7. Femtosecond Transient absorption measurements of compound DP in Tol: experimental 3D data matrix (panel A); main time-resolved absorption spectra (panel B) and representative kinetics recorded at significant wavelengths (inset); Species Associated Spectra (SAS) of main transients accompanied by relative lifetimes, obtained by Target Analysis (panel C).

Table ESI.7. Spectral and kinetic properties of DP in several solvents obtained by transient absorption measurements with fs time resolution.

Solvent	λ / nm	τ / ps	Transient
Tol	560(+) 545(-) 595(+) 535(+)	0.50 3.4 39 Rest	solv. solv. + ¹ LE T ₁ ' T ₁
Tol/An (50/50)	540(+) 530(-) 580(+) <490(+), 540(+)	0.6 4.2 75 Rest	solv. solv. + ¹ LE T ₁ ' T ₁
An	550(+) 550(-) 560(+) <490(+), 545(+)	0.55 4.4 70 Rest	solv. solv. + ¹ LE T ₁ ' T ₁
EtAc	530(+) 520(-) 580(+) <490(+), 520(+)	0.2 2.6 320 Rest	solv. solv. + ¹ LE T ₁ ' T ₁
DCE	555(+) 530(-) 590(+) <490(+), 540(+)	0.3 4.6 100 Rest	solv. solv. + ¹ LE T ₁ ' T ₁
Ac	530(+) 550(-) 540(+) <490(+), 530(+)	0.19 1.3 240 Rest	solv. solv. + ¹ LE T ₁ ' T ₁
MeCN	560(+) 560(-), 600(-) 600(+) 540(+)	0.26 21 82 Rest	solv. ¹ LE T ₁ ' T ₁
DMF	555(+) 545(-) 590(+) <490(+), 560(+)	0.66 6.6 290 Rest	solv. solv. + ¹ LE T ₁ ' T ₁
DMSO	555(+) 540(-) 570(+) <490(+), 565(+)	0.76 7.8 180 Rest	solv. solv. + ¹ LE T ₁ ' T ₁

Table ESI.8. Spectral and kinetic properties of DF in several solvents obtained by transient absorption measurements with fs time resolution.

Solvent	λ / nm	τ / ps	Transient
Tol	530(+), 590(+) 530(+), 580(+) 560(+) 530(+), 580(+)	0.86 9.2 89 Rest	solv. ¹ LE T ₁ T ₁
Tol/An (50/50)	520(+), 570(+) <540(-), 555(+), 600(-) 545(+) 590(+)	0.65 3.3 410 Rest	solv. ¹ LE ¹ CT T ₁
An	520(+), 570(+) 520(-), 560(+) 535(+), 605(-) 540(+), 590(+)	0.89 7.2 320 Rest	solv. ¹ LE ¹ CT T ₁
EtAc	<500(-), 560(+) 520(-), 550(+), 590(-), 670(+) 530(+), 580(-) 530(+), 580(+)	0.67 10 105 Rest	solv. ¹ LE ¹ CT T ₁
DCE	<500(-), 520(+), 570(+) 520(-), 560(+), 630(+) 535(+), 610(-) 525(+), 600(-) 580(+)	0.78 3.8 95 1600 Rest	solv. solv. + ¹ LE SR/ISO ¹ CT T ₁
Ac	515(-), 565(+) 530(+), 595(-) 520(+), 595(-) 580(+)	0.88 26 2000 Rest	solv. + ¹ LE SR/ISO ¹ CT T ₁
MeCN	505(-), 655(+) 525(+), 640(-) 510(+), 640(-) 520(+), 580(+)	0.55 37 870 Rest	solv. + ¹ LE SR/ISO ¹ CT T ₁
DMF	<540(-), 570(+) 505(-), 560(-), 670(+) 525(+), 640(-) 510(+), 630(-) 510(+)	0.55 4.2 67 1600 Rest	solv. solv. + ¹ LE SR/ISO ¹ CT T ₁
DMSO	515(-), 605(+) 500(-), 530(+), 580(-), 695(+) 520(+), 660(-) 505(+), 650(-) 580(+)	0.79 4.1 205 1490 Rest	solv. solv. + ¹ LE SR/ISO ¹ CT T ₁

Table ESI.9. Spectral and kinetic properties of DT in several solvents obtained by transient absorption measurements with fs time resolution.

Solvent	λ / nm	τ / ps	Transient
Tol	565(+) <540(-), 595(-) 550(+), 580(+)	0.30 5.9 rest	solv. ¹ LE T ₁
Tol/An	560(+), 700(-) <535(-), 560(+) 540(+) 580(+)	0.46 4.0 90 rest	solv. solv. + ¹ LE ¹ CT T ₁
An	555(+), 740(-) <540(-), 555(+) 535(+), 620(-) 590(+)	0.28 4.3 210 rest	solv. solv. + ¹ LE ¹ CT T ₁
EtAc	555(+), 760(+) <530(-), 540(+) 525(+), 590(-) 550(+)	0.37 3.4 76 rest	solv. ¹ LE ¹ CT T ₁
DCE	<510(-), 560(+) 515(-), 550(+) 535(+), 610(-) 525(+), 605(-) 580(+)	0.61 4.0 88 1500 rest	solv. solv. + ¹ LE SR ¹ CT T ₁
Ac	<530(-), 555(+) 520(+), 595(-) 515(+), 595(-) 575(+)	0.61 61 1500 rest	solv. + ¹ LE SR ¹ CT T ₁
MeCN	500(-), 550(+), 630(+) 515(+), 620(-) 505(+), 620(-) 580(+)	0.38 46 1000 rest	solv. + ¹ LE SR ¹ CT T ₁
DMF	565(+), 690(-) <535(-), 650(+) 515(+), 610(-) 510(+), 615(-) 520(+)	0.63 1.5 78 1800 rest	solv. solv. + ¹ LE SR ¹ CT T ₁
DMSO	515(-), 560(+) <520(-), 535(+), 570(-), 670(+) 515(+), 625(-) 510(+), 650(-) 570(+)	0.49 3.6 150 1800 rest	solv. solv. + ¹ LE SR ¹ CT T ₁

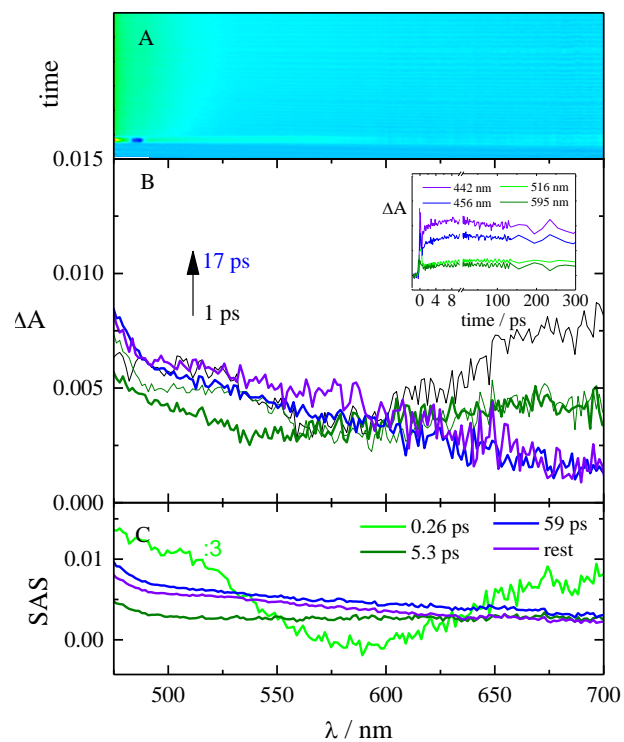


Figure ESI.8. Femtosecond Transient absorption measurements of compound **QP** in Tol: experimental 3D data matrix (panel A); main time-resolved absorption spectra (panel B) and representative kinetics recorded at significant wavelengths (inset); Species Associated Spectra (SAS) of main transients accompanied by relative lifetimes, obtained by Target Analysis (panel C).

Table ESI.10. Spectral and kinetic properties of **QP** in several solvents obtained by transient absorption measurements with fs time resolution.

Solvent	λ / nm	τ / ps	Transient
Tol	450(-), 500(+) 700(-) 440(+) 450(+), 520(+)	0.26 5.3 59 Rest	solv. ¹ LE T ₁ T ₁
Tol/An	520(+) 660(-) broad <480(+), 660(+)	0.34 41 460 Rest	solv. ¹ LE T ₁ T ₁
An	515(+) <500(-), 660(-) broad <480(+), 660(+)	0.15 25 290 Rest	solv. ¹ LE T ₁ T ₁
EtAc	530(+) <500(-), 610(-) <480(+), broad <480(+), broad	0.27 3.8 110 Rest	solv. ¹ LE T ₁ T ₁
DCE	525(+) <500(-), 600(-) broad <480(+), broad	0.53 3.8 170 Rest	solv. solv. + ¹ LE ¹ CT T ₁
Ac	510(+) 495(+), 720(-) broad <490(+), broad	0.18 12 160 Rest	solv. ¹ LE ¹ CT T ₁
MeCN	450(-), 515(+) 455(-), 530(-) 450(+), 490(+) 450(+), 520(+)	0.26 2.0 48 Rest	solv. ¹ LE ¹ CT T ₁
DMF	<500(-), 530(+) <500(-), 560(-) 490(+), 670(+) <480(+), broad	0.58 4.7 92 Rest	solv. solv. + ¹ LE ¹ CT T ₁
DMSO	470(-), 525(+) 500(-), 545(-) 490(+) <450(+), broad	0.76 2.9 93 Rest	solv. solv. + ¹ LE ¹ CT T ₁

Table ESI.11. Spectral and kinetic properties of **QF** in several solvents obtained by transient absorption measurements with fs time-resolution.

Solvent	λ / nm	τ / ps	Transient
Tol	560(+) 690(+) 540(-), 685(+) 550(-), 690(+) 620(+)	0.37 1.8 118 1850 Rest	solv. solv. SR ¹ LE T ₁
Tol/An	550(+), 700(-) 500(-), 740(+) 560(-), 670(+) 565(-), 685(+) 620(+)	0.46 6.2 150 2250 Rest	solv. solv. + ¹ LE SR ¹ CT T ₁
An	550(+), 695(-) 530(-), 710(+) 580(-), 695(+) 580(-), 690(+) 635(+)	0.39 8.4 185 2500 Rest	solv. solv. + ¹ LE SR ¹ CT T ₁
EtAc	515(-), 640(+), 670(-), 700(+) 675(+), 565(-) 565(-), 630(+), 670(+) 610(+)	2.9 61 2200 Rest	solv. + ¹ LE SR ¹ CT T ₁
DCE	525(-), 660(+), 720(+) 600(-), 665(-), 705(+) 680(+) <495(-),620(+), 675(+),760(-)	2.2 5.8 190 2000	solv. solv. + ¹ LE SR ¹ CT
Ac	580(-), 655(-), 690(+) 665(+) 600(+), 660(+), 760(-)	1.2 100 1500	solv. + ¹ LE SR ¹ CT
MeCN	650(-), 690(+) 665(+) 650(+), 600(+), 750(-)	0.50 61 820	solv. ¹ LE ¹ CT
DMF	560(-), 675(+), 705(+) 660(-), 695(+), 610(-) 670(+) <500(-),610(+),665(+),750(-)	1.2 5.1 185 1200	solv. ¹ LE SR ¹ CT
DMSO	580(-), 680(-), 720(+) 600(-), 660(-), 705(+) 670(+) <500(-),610(+),665(+),760(-)	1.3 6.9 210 750	solv. ¹ LE SR ¹ CT

Table ESI.12. Spectral and kinetic properties of QT in several solvents obtained by transient absorption measurements with fs time resolution.

Solvent	λ / nm	τ / ps	Transient
Tol	535(+), 690(-) 525(-), 700(+), 750(+) 540(-), 580(-), 710(+) 620(+)	0.26 105 940 Rest	solv. SR ¹ LE T ₁
Tol/An	540(+), 700(-) 530(-), 580(+), 740(+) 550(-), 695(+) 570(-), 700(+), 740(+) 630(+)	0.42 4.7 150 1000 Rest	solv. solv. + ¹ LE SR ¹ CT T ₁
An	540(+), 700(-) <570(-), 740(+) 565(-), 700(+) 575(-), 700(+) 635(+)	0.52 6.7 190 1200 Rest	solv. solv. + ¹ LE SR ¹ CT T ₁
EtAc	<560(-),690(+),740(+) 595(+), 560(-) 565(-), 695(+) 620(+)	1.9 100 1000 Rest	solv. + ¹ LE SR ¹ CT T ₁
DCE	<540(-),565(+),695(+) 555(-),670(+),735(+) 575(-), 705(+) 525(+), 700(+) 640(+)	0.5 4.0 170 1700 Rest	solv. solv. + ¹ LE SR ¹ CT T ₁
Acetone	550(-), 665(-), 730(+) 695(+) 690(+) 625(+)	0.97 84 1550 Rest	solv. + ¹ LE SR ¹ CT T ₁
MeCN	542(+), 580(+) 560(-), 675(-), 720(+) 690(+) 590(+), 680(+)	0.1 0.50 110 1000	solv. solv. + ¹ LE SR ¹ CT
DMF	525(-), 685(+) 575(-), 690(-), 730(+) 700(+) 695(+)	0.5 1.9 230 1700	solv. solv. + ¹ LE SR ¹ CT
DMSO	560(-), 675(+) 610(-), 680(-), 735(+) 695(+) 695(+), 780(-)	0.72 4.0 410 1270	solv. solv. + ¹ LE SR ¹ CT

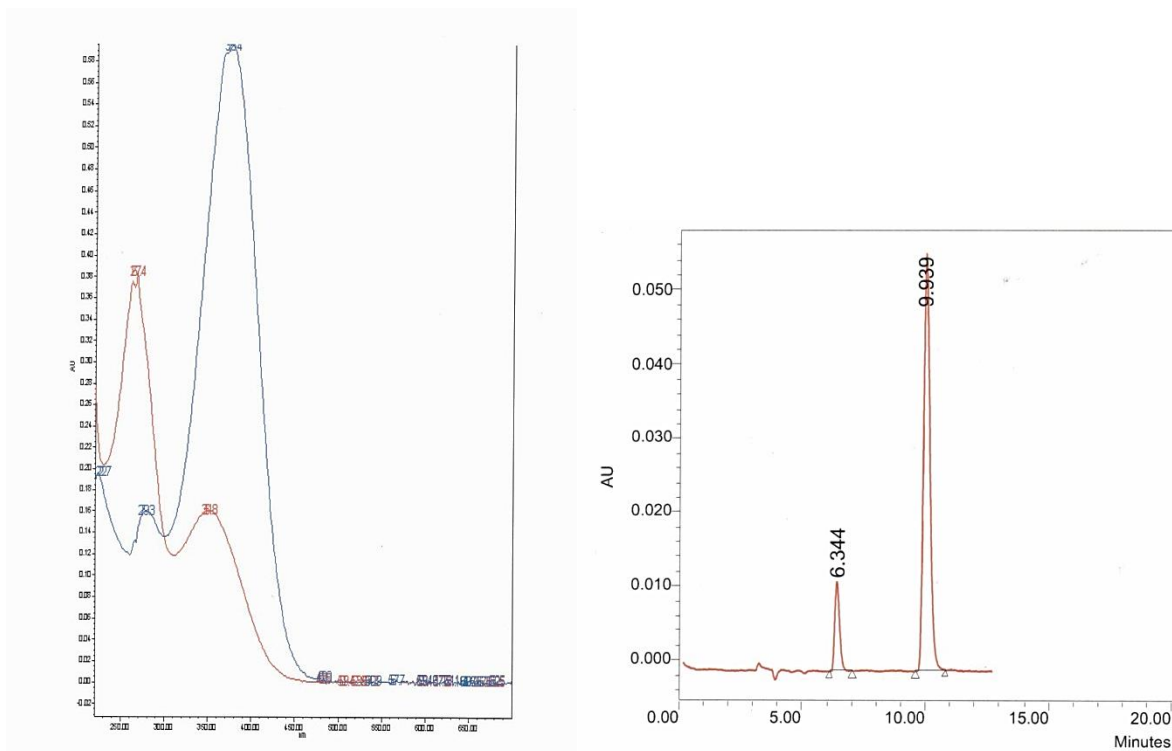


Figure ESI.9. Absorption spectrum of the cis (red line) and trans (blue line) isomers of **DT** in the eluent mixture (MeCN/water, 70:30, left panel) and chromatographic peaks for cis (6.344) and trans (9.939) **DT** monitored at the isosbestic point (297 nm) after irradiation of a sample of pure trans-**DT** in Tol at 375 nm.