## Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

# Through-Space Charge Transfer Dendrimers Employing Oxygen-Bridged Triarylboron Acceptors for Efficient Deep-Blue Electroluminescence 

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## Experimental Details

General information. The chemicals and reagents were obtained from commercial sources (TCI (Shanghai), SigmaAldrich (China) and Energy Chemical (Beijing)) and were used directly. $N$, N -dimethylformamide (DMF) and 1,3-dimethyl-2-imidazolidinone (DMI) were dried by $\mathrm{CaH}_{2}$, while tetrahydrofuran (THF) and 1,4-dioxane were distilled from sodium/benzophenone before use. Synthesis of $\mathbf{1}^{[1]}$ and $\mathbf{5}^{[2]}$ has been reported in literatures. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}, ~{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ and ${ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ NMR spectra were recorded by Bruker Avance NMR spectrometers in $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ with tetramethylsilane (TMS) as the internal standard. Matrix-assisted laser desorption/ ionization time of flight (MALDI-TOF) mass spectra was measured on AXIMA CFR MS apparatus (COMPACT). Thermal gravimetric analysis (TGA) was performed on Perkin-Elmer-TGA 7. Cyclic voltammetry (CV) was carried out in electrochemical workstation (CHI610E) with a typical three-electrode cell using $n$ - $\mathrm{Bu}_{4} \mathrm{NClO}_{4}(0.1$ M) as supporting electrolyte and ferrocene as external reference. The oxidation and reduction curves were recorded in dichloromethane and DMF respectively, with dendrimer concentration of $5.0 \mathrm{mg} / \mathrm{mL}$ and scan rate of $50 \mathrm{mV} / \mathrm{s}$. The highest occupied molecular orbital (HOMO) and the lowest unoccupied molecular orbital (LUMO) energy levels of the compounds were calculated
according to equations of $\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{HOMO}} / \mathrm{E}_{\text {LUMO }}=-\left(4.80+\mathrm{E}_{\text {onset, ox }} / \mathrm{E}_{\text {onset, red }}\right)$, in which $\mathrm{E}_{\text {onset, ox }}$ and $\mathrm{E}_{\text {onset, }}$ red are the onset of oxidation and reduction potentials respectively.

Photophysical measurements. UV-visible absorption was measured by PerkinElmer Lambda 35 UV-vis spectrometer, and photoluminescence (PL) spectra was measured by PerkinElmer LS 50B spectrofluorometer, respectively. PL decay curves were detected on Edinburgh fluorescence spectrometer (FLSP-980). The absolute PLQY values were measured by integrating sphere on Hamamatsu Photonics C9920-2 with excitation wavelength of 350 nm .

Computational method. The calculations were performed with Gaussian 09 package ${ }^{[3]}$ using density functional theory (DFT) for ground state configuration optimization (B3LYP/6-31G(d)), and time-dependent density functional theory (TD-DFT) for excited state energy, natural transition orbitals (NTO) and IFCT analysis (PBE38/6-31G(d)). PBE38 is chosen as the function for TD-DFT calculation because its Hartree-Fock (HF) fraction (38.5\%) is close to the optimal HF\% for TAcBO-H (38.8\%) and TAcBO-F (39.7\%) according to the optimal Hartree-Fock (OHF) method established for donor-acceptor systems. ${ }^{[17]}$ The optimal HF\% (OHF\%) is determined by OHF \% $=42 q,{ }^{[17]}$ where $q$ is the amount $(q)$ of charge transfer from donor to acceptor calculated by Multiwfn package (version 3.7), ${ }^{[5]}$ and is 0.923 and 0.946 for TAcBO-H and TAcBO-F respectively. The reduced density gradient (RDG) analysis ${ }^{[4]}$ were performed by Multiwfn ${ }^{[5]}$ and RDG isosurface map was drawn by VMD software (version 1.9.3).

Fabrication of solution-processed OLEDs. Solution-processed OLEDs were fabricated with device configuration of ITO/PEDOT:PSS $(40 \mathrm{~nm}) /$ /dendrimer doped (5 or $10 \mathrm{wt} \%$ ) in Ac6 (40 $\mathrm{nm}) / \mathrm{TSPO} 1(8 \mathrm{~nm}) / \mathrm{TmPyPB}(42 \mathrm{~nm}) / \mathrm{LiF}(1 \mathrm{~nm}) / \mathrm{Al}(100 \mathrm{~nm})$. The glass substrates coated with indium tin oxide (ITO) (15 $\Omega$ per square) were washed with acetone, isopropanol and deionized water in sequence, and were dried under $120^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 45 min . Afterwards the substrates were treated by ultraviolet-ozone for 45 min . PEDOT:PSS (Clevious P AI4083) was spin-coated on the substrates to form a film with thickness of 40 nm , and annealed at $120{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 1 h . After transferring the substrates into glovebox filled with $\mathrm{N}_{2}$, solutions of dendrimers in chlorobenzene ( $10 \mathrm{mg} / \mathrm{mL}$ ) were spin-coated ( 1500 rpm ) on PEDOT:PSS layer at room temperature to form the emissive layer. Then TSPO1 and TmPyPB was evaporated successively on top of the emissive layer in a vacuum chamber at a pressure less than $4 \times 10^{-4} \mathrm{~Pa}$ with deposition rate of $0.6 \AA / \mathrm{s}$ and 1.2
$\AA / \mathrm{s}$, respectively. LiF and Al were then deposited as the cathode with deposition rate of $0.2 \AA / \mathrm{s}$ and $3.3 \AA / \mathrm{s}$, respectively, providing the device with individual pixel size of $0.14 \mathrm{~cm}^{2}(0.35$ $\mathrm{cm} * 0.40 \mathrm{~cm}$ ). The $J-V-L$ characteristics of the OLEDs were measured using Keithley 2400/2000 source meter. EL spectra were measured by a PR650 spectra colorimeter. EQE of the devices were calculated based on the $J-L$ characteristics.

## Synthetic procedures

Scheme S1. Synthetic route for TAcBO-H and TAcBO-F.



## 10'-(4-iodophenyl)-9,9,9',9',9',9'-hexamethyl-teracridan (2)

A mixture of 9,9,9', $9^{\prime}, 9^{\prime \prime}, 9^{\prime \prime}$-hexamethyl-teracridan (1) ( $25.0 \mathrm{~g}, 40.0 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), 1, 4-diiodobenzene $(14.5 \mathrm{~g}, 44.0 \mathrm{mmol})$, $\mathrm{CuI}(2.3 \mathrm{~g}, 12.0 \mathrm{mmol})$ and $\mathrm{K}_{2} \mathrm{CO}_{3}(8.3 \mathrm{~g}, 60.0 \mathrm{mmol})$ in 1,3-dimethyl-2-imidazolidinone (DMI) ( 500 mL ) was stirred at $170{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 24 h . After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was poured into deionized water ( 2000 mL ) and extracted by chloroform three times $(400 \mathrm{~mL} \times 3)$. After drying the combined organic phase with anhydrous $\mathrm{MgSO}_{4}$, the solvent was removed under vacuum and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ dichloromethane $=5 / 1, \mathrm{v} / \mathrm{v}$ ) to afford the product as a white solid (22.5 g, 68\%). ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 8.07(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.47(\mathrm{dd}, J=7.7,1.5$ $\mathrm{Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 7.42(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.32(\mathrm{dd}, J=8.9,2.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.00(\mathrm{~m}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 6.94(\mathrm{t}, J=6.0 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $4 \mathrm{H}), 6.56(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 6.36(\mathrm{dd}, J=8.1,1.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 1.72(\mathrm{~s}, 12 \mathrm{H}), 1.68(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (126 MHz, $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 141.21,140.52,140.07,134.22,133.30,132.41,129.88,129.10,127.79$, 126.36, 125.27, 120.34, 116.03, 113.97.

## 9,9,9',9',9',9'-hexamethyl-10'-(4-((trimethylsilyl)ethynyl)phenyl)-teracridan (3)

Under argon atmosphere, $2(21.5 \mathrm{~g}, 26.0 \mathrm{mmol})$, trimethylsilylacetylene ( $3.1 \mathrm{~g}, 31.2 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(II) chloride $\left(\mathrm{Pd}_{( }\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}, 365.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.52 \mathrm{mmol}\right), \mathrm{CuI}(99.3$
$\mathrm{mg}, 0.52 \mathrm{mmol})$, triphenylphosphine $\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3}, 272.8 \mathrm{mg}, 1.04 \mathrm{mmol}\right)$, triethylamine $\left(\mathrm{Et}_{3} \mathrm{~N}, 50 \mathrm{~mL}\right)$ and DMF ( 100 mL ) were added into a Schlenk flask. The mixture was heated at $80{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 24 h , then poured into dilute hydrochloric acid ( $1 \mathrm{~mol} / \mathrm{L}, 500 \mathrm{~mL}$ ). After filtration, the filter residue was washed with deionized water and dried under vacuum. The filter residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/dichloromethane $=5: 1, \mathrm{v} / \mathrm{v}$ ) to afford the product as a white solid (18.2 g, 88\%). ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 7.80(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.48(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4$ $\mathrm{Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.43(\mathrm{dd}, J=7.6,1.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 7.38(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.0-6.89(\mathrm{~m}, 10 \mathrm{H}), 6.51(\mathrm{~d}, J=$ $8.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 6.33(\mathrm{dd}, J=8.0,1.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 1.69(\mathrm{~s}, 12 \mathrm{H}), 1.65(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 0.29(\mathrm{~s}, 9 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(126 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 141.32,140.83,140.25,134.85,134.24,132.45,131.30,129.97,129.14$, $127.86,126.45,125.36,123.89,120.41,116.15,114.08,104.03,96.27,36.67,36.03,31.56,30.90$, 0.01 .

## 10'-(4-ethynylphenyl)-9,9,9',9',9',9'-hexamethyl-teracridan (4)

After dissolving $3(16.0 \mathrm{~g}, 20.0 \mathrm{mmol})$ in THF $(150 \mathrm{~mL})$, tetrabutylammonium fluoride (TBAF, 1 $\mathrm{mol} / \mathrm{L}$ in THF, $24 \mathrm{~mL}, 24.0 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was added dropwise. After stirring for 2 h at room temperature, the mixture was added into dilute hydrochloric acid ( $1 \mathrm{~mol} / \mathrm{L}, 200 \mathrm{~mL}$ ). The mixture was filtered and the filter residue was washed with deionized water. After drying under vacuum, the filter residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/dichloromethane $=5: 1$, $\mathrm{v} / \mathrm{v})$ to afford the product as a white solid $(13.0 \mathrm{~g}, 90 \%) .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \mathrm{NMR}\left(500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 7.85(\mathrm{~d}, \mathrm{~J}$ $=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.53(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.45(\mathrm{dd}, J=7.5,2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 7.41(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H})$, $7.0-6.96(\mathrm{~m}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 6.91(\mathrm{t}, J=7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 6.55(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 6.36(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 1.71$ (s, 12H), $1.68(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (126 MHz, $\left.\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 141.25,141.15,140.13,134.96,134.23$, $132.43,131.36,129.91,129.11,127.81,126.37,125.27,122.82,120.35,116.07,114.00,82.70$, 78.78, 36.60, 35.95, 31.45, 30.84 .

10'-(4-(5,9-dioxa-13b-boranaphtho[3,2,1-de]anthracen-7-ylethynyl)phenyl)-9,9,9',9',9',9'-hexa methyl-teracridan (6a)


7-bromo-5,9-dioxa-13b-boranaphtho[3,2,1-de]anthracene (5a, $1.8 \mathrm{~g}, 5.0 \mathrm{mmol}), \mathrm{Pd}\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ ( $70.2 \mathrm{mg}, 0.1 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), $\mathrm{CuI}(19.1 \mathrm{mg}, 0.1 \mathrm{mmol}), \mathrm{PPh}_{3}(52.6 \mathrm{mg}, 0.2 \mathrm{mmol}), \mathrm{Et}_{3} \mathrm{~N}(25 \mathrm{~mL})$ and DMF ( 50 mL ) were added into a dry Schlenk flask. The mixture was heated at $80^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 24 h , then
the mixture was poured into dilute hydrochloric acid ( $1 \mathrm{~mol} / \mathrm{L}, 50 \mathrm{~mL}$ ). After filtration, the filter residue was washed with deionized water and dried under vacuum. The filter residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/dichloromethane $=4: 1, \mathrm{v} / \mathrm{v}$ ) to afford the product as a white solid $(3.5 \mathrm{~g}, 70 \%) .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 8.69(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.95$ $(\mathrm{d}, J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.72(\mathrm{t}, J=7.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.60-7.56(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 7.46-7.41(\mathrm{~m}, 10 \mathrm{H}), 7.01-6.98(\mathrm{t}, J$ $=9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 6.90(\mathrm{t}, J=7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 6.59(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 6.36(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 1.70(\mathrm{~s}$, 12H), $1.67(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR (126 MHz, $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 159.80,156.54,140.97,140.60,139.74$, $134.32,134.07,133.59,133.44,131.98,131.09,129.60,128.68,128.20,127.40,126.03,124.80$, $122.90,122.66,121.70,120.10,118.09,115.79,114.55,113.74,111.23,90.64,90.41,36.18,35.54$, 30.85, 30.55. MALDI TOF-MS: calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{71} \mathrm{H}_{54} \mathrm{BN}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{2}$ : 991.4, found: $991.4[\mathrm{M}]^{+}$.

10'-(4-((2,12-difluoro-5,9-dioxa-13b-boranaphtho[3,2,1-de]anthracen-7-yl)ethynyl)phenyl)-9,9, 9',9',9',9'-hexamethyl-9',10'-dihydro-teracridan (6b)
$\begin{array}{llllllll}\text { Under argon } & \text { atmosphere, } & \mathbf{4} & (2.3 & \mathrm{g}, & 3.2 & \mathrm{mmol}) \text {, }\end{array}$ 7-bromo-2,12-difluoro-5,9-dioxa-13b-boranaphtho[3,2,1-de]anthracene (5b, $1.2 \mathrm{~g}, 3.2 \mathrm{mmol}$ ), $\operatorname{Pd}\left(\mathrm{PPh}_{3}\right)_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}(45.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.064 \mathrm{mmol}), \mathrm{CuI}(12.2 \mathrm{mg}, 0.064 \mathrm{mmol}), \mathrm{PPh}_{3}(33.6 \mathrm{mg}, 0.128 \mathrm{mmol})$, $\mathrm{Et}_{3} \mathrm{~N}(20 \mathrm{~mL})$ and DMF $(40 \mathrm{~mL})$ were added into a dry Schlenk flask. The mixture was heated at $80^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 24 h , then the mixture was poured into dilute hydrochloric acid ( $1 \mathrm{~mol} / \mathrm{L}, 50 \mathrm{~mL}$ ). After filtration, the filter residue was washed with deionized water and dried under vacuum. The filter residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/dichloromethane $=4: 1$, $\mathrm{v} / \mathrm{v})$ afforded the product as a white solid $(2.2 \mathrm{~g}, 67 \%) .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H} \operatorname{NMR}\left(400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 8.19(\mathrm{dd}, J$ $=8.8,2.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.96(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.62-7.55(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 7.49-7.45(\mathrm{~m}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 7.43(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H})$, $7.41(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 7.02-6.97(\mathrm{~m}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 6.90(\mathrm{t}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 6.59(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}), 6.36$ $(\mathrm{dd}, J=9.2,1.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}), 1.70(\mathrm{~s}, 12 \mathrm{H}), 1.68(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C} \operatorname{NMR}\left(126 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 159.11$, 157.17, 157.11, 156.49, 141.25, 140.17, 134.67, 134.26, 132.47, 131.55, 129.91, 129.35, 129.14, $127.84,126.38,125.29,123.33,121.91,121.72,120.36,120.25,118.29,118.13,116.10,114.00$, $111.59,91.25,90.39,36.63,35.95,31.47,30.83 .{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ NMR ( $471 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta-119.42(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{~F})$. MALDI TOF-MS: calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{71} \mathrm{H}_{52} \mathrm{BF}_{2} \mathrm{~N}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{2}$ : 1027.4, found: 1027.4 [M] ${ }^{+}$.

## TAcBO-H

A mixture of $\mathbf{6 a}(2.0 \mathrm{~g}, 2.0 \mathrm{mmol}), \mathrm{Co}_{2}(\mathrm{CO})_{8}(136.8 \mathrm{mg}, 0.4 \mathrm{mmol})$ and 1,4-dioxane $(20 \mathrm{~mL})$ was
stirred at $125^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 48 h under argon atmosphere. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was poured into water $(100 \mathrm{~mL})$ and the precipitation was filtered. This precipitation contains two main products with close $R_{f}$ values of 0.30 and 0.33 respectively by thin layer chromatography (TLC) analysis (silica gel, petroleum ether/dichloromethane $=2: 1, \mathrm{v} / \mathrm{v}$ ). The precipitation was subjected to silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/dichloromethane $=3: 1, \mathrm{v} / \mathrm{v}$ ), and the product with $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{f}}$ of 0.33 can be separated as pure compound, which was proved to be the desired compound TAcBO-H (white powder, $360.0 \mathrm{mg}, 18 \%$ ). Note that the other product with $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{f}}$ of 0.30 (which may be the asymmetrical isomer according to previous report ${ }^{[18]}$ ) cannot be separated as pure compound by us because it was mixed with TAcBO-H and some other unknown impurities although different purification methods (column chromatography, extraction and precipitation) were tried. Characterization data for TAcBO-H: ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 8.00$ (d, $J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 7.48(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 7.43(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 12 \mathrm{H}), 7.23(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 7.08$ $(\mathrm{d}, J=7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 12 \mathrm{H}), 7.06(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 6.87(\mathrm{t}, J=7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 12 \mathrm{H}), 6.84(\mathrm{t}, J=7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 6.78(\mathrm{t}, J=7.0 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $12 \mathrm{H}), 6.66(\mathrm{t}, J=7.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 5.96(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 12 \mathrm{H}), 5.83(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 5.50(\mathrm{~d}, J=9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $6 \mathrm{H}), 1.68(\mathrm{~s}, 36 \mathrm{H}), 1.40(\mathrm{~s}, 18 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $126 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 160.16,156.52,146.84,141.26$, $140.54,140.42,140.30,139.78,134.35,133.66,133.61,133.43,131.53,130.38,129.59,128.83$, $127.08,126.18,124.79,122.88,121.71,120.04,118.87,117.85,115.30,114.04,112.75,112.25$, 36.28, 35.86, 31.21, 30.72. MALDI TOF-MS: calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{213} \mathrm{H}_{162} \mathrm{~B}_{3} \mathrm{~N}_{9} \mathrm{O}_{6}$ : 2976.1, found: 2976.1 $[\mathrm{M}]^{+}$.

## TACBO-F

A mixture of $\mathbf{6 b}(1.9 \mathrm{~g}, 1.8 \mathrm{mmol}), \mathrm{Co}_{2}(\mathrm{CO})_{8}(123.1 \mathrm{mg}, 0.36 \mathrm{mmol})$ and 1,4-dioxane ( 20 mL ) was stirred at $125^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 48 h under argon atmosphere. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was poured into water $(100 \mathrm{~mL})$ and the precipitation was filtered. This precipitation also contains two main products with close $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{f}}$ values of 0.28 and 0.30 respectively by TLC analysis (silica gel, petroleum ether/dichloromethane $=2: 1, \mathrm{v} / \mathrm{v}$ ), and only the product with $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{f}}$ of 0.30 can be separated as pure compound by silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/dichloromethane $=3: 1, \mathrm{v} / \mathrm{v})$, affording TAcBO-F as light-green powder $(288.0 \mathrm{mg}, 16 \%) .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 7.51(\mathrm{dd}, J=6.8,2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 7.48-7.45(\mathrm{~m}, 18 \mathrm{H}), 7.20(\mathrm{dd}, J=7.2,3.6$ $\mathrm{Hz}, 12 \mathrm{H}), 7.13-7.10(\mathrm{~m}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 7.07(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 6.92(\mathrm{t}, J=6.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 12 \mathrm{H}), 6.78(\mathrm{t}, J=6.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 12 \mathrm{H}), 6.56(\mathrm{t}$,
$J=6.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 5.96(\mathrm{~d}, J=6.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 12 \mathrm{H}), 5.83(\mathrm{~d}, J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}), 5.60(\mathrm{dd}, J=7.2,1.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H})$, $1.67 \mathrm{~s}, 36 \mathrm{H}), 1.43(\mathrm{~s}, 18 \mathrm{H}) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $126 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 158.85,156.55,156.42,156.24,147.33$, $141.25,140.47,140.32,139.70,138.85,133.56,131.66,130.89,130.51,129.99,128.79,127.29$, $125.98,124.93,121.84,121.60,120.24,119.57,118.24,115.19 .113 .73, .112 .31,111.82,36.32$, 35.93, 30.71, 29.69. ${ }^{19}$ F NMR ( $471 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta-117.66$ ( $\mathrm{s}, 6 \mathrm{~F}$ ). MALDI TOF-MS: calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{213} \mathrm{H}_{156} \mathrm{~B}_{3} \mathrm{~F}_{6} \mathrm{~N}_{9} \mathrm{O}_{6}: 3084.0$, found: $3084.0[\mathrm{M}]^{+}$.


Figure S1. Natural transition orbitals (NTOs) for $\mathrm{S}_{0}-\mathrm{S}_{1}$ transition of TAcBO-H and TAcBO-F by TD-DFT calculation. (HONTO and LUNTO refer to highest occupied and lowest unoccupied NTOs respectively.)


| Emitter | TAcBO-H | TAcBO-F |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\eta$ (donor to acceptor) | 0.88206 | 0.92205 |
| $\eta$ (donor to linker) | 0.07713 | 0.05191 |
| $\eta$ (linker to acceptor) | 0.00003 | 0.00001 |

Figure S2. Contribution ratio $(\eta)$ for electron transfer from donor to acceptor, donor to linker (central phenyl ring), and linker to acceptor for $S_{0} \rightarrow S_{1}$ transition by interfragment charge transfer (IFCT) analysis using Multiwfn (version 3.7) package.


Figure S3. Reduced density gradient (RDG) isosurface map (isovalue=1.30) and corresponding scatter diagram (plots of RDG to $\operatorname{sign}\left(\lambda_{2}\right) \rho$ ) for TAcBO-H and TAcBO-F. The green region (in red dashed box) and the spikes region (in red dashed circles) show the noncovalent through-space $\pi-\pi$ interactions between donor and acceptor.


Figure S4. Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) curves for TAcBO-H and TAcBO-F.


Figure S5. PL spectra of TAcBO-H and TAcBO-F in solvents with different polarity ( $10^{-4} \mathrm{~mol}$ $L^{-1}$.


Figure S6. PL spectra for neat films of TAcBO-H and TAcBO-F.


Figure S7. PL spectra for doped films of TAcBO-H and TAcBO-F in Ac6 (doping concentration: $10 \mathrm{wt} \%$ ).


Figure S8. Phosphorescent spectra of TAcBO-H and TAcBO-F in toluene at 77 K (delay time: 2 ms , integration time: 2 ms ).


Figure S9. Transient PL decay profiles of TAcBO-H and TAcBO-F in doped film.


Figure S10. Temperature-dependent PL decay characteristics for TAcBO-H and TAcBO-F in doped films (5 wt\% in Ac6).

Table S1. Summary of physical properties for TAcBO-H and TAcBO-F.

| Dendrimer | $\lambda_{\mathrm{em}}{ }^{\mathrm{a}}$ <br> $(\mathrm{nm})$ | $\tau_{\mathrm{p}} / \tau_{\mathrm{d}}{ }^{\mathrm{b}}$ <br> $(\mu \mathrm{s} / \mu \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{tol})$ | $\tau_{\mathrm{p}} / \tau_{\mathrm{d}}{ }^{\mathrm{b}}$ <br> $(\mu \mathrm{s} / \mu \mathrm{s}, \mathrm{film})$ | $\mathrm{PLQY}^{\mathrm{c}}$ <br> $(\%)$ | $\mathrm{k}_{\text {RISC }}{ }^{\mathrm{d}}$ <br> $\left(\times 10^{6} \mathrm{~s}^{-1}\right)$ | $\mathrm{E}_{\text {onset, ox }} / \mathrm{E}_{\text {onset, red }}{ }^{\mathrm{e}}$ <br> $(\mathrm{V})$ | $\mathrm{HOMO} / \mathrm{LUMO}$ <br> $(\mathrm{eV})$ | $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{S}} / \mathrm{T}_{1}{ }^{\mathrm{g}}$ <br> $(\mathrm{eV})$ | $\Delta \mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{ST}}{ }^{\mathrm{h}}$ <br> $(\mathrm{eV})$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| TAcBO-H | 453 | $0.010 / 0.30$ | $0.012 / 0.18$ | $70(56)$ | 2.7 | $0.30 /-2.04$ | $-5.10 /-2.76$ | $2.98 / 2.89$ | 0.09 |
| TAcBO-F | 489 | $0.013 / 0.31$ | $0.010 / 0.19$ | $85(68)$ | 5.2 | $0.30 /-1.91$ | $-5.10 /-2.89$ | $2.84 / 2.76$ | 0.08 |

${ }^{\mathrm{a}}$ Emission peak in doped film ( $5 \mathrm{wt} \%$ in Ac6). ${ }^{\mathrm{b}}$ Lifetimes of prompt fluorescence $\left(\tau_{\mathrm{p}}\right)$ and delayed fluorescence $\left(\tau_{\mathrm{d}}\right)$ in toluene and doped film at 300 K under vacuum. ${ }^{\mathrm{c}} \mathrm{PL}$ quantum yield for doped film ( $5 \mathrm{wt} \% \mathrm{in} \mathrm{Ac6}$ ) and neat film (in parentheses). ${ }^{\text {d }}$ RISC rate constants calculated according to the following equations ${ }^{[6]}: \mathrm{k}_{\mathrm{p}}=1 / \tau_{\mathrm{p}}, \mathrm{k}_{\mathrm{d}}=1 / \tau_{\mathrm{d}}, \mathrm{k}_{\mathrm{ISC}}=\left(1-\Phi_{\mathrm{p}}\right) \mathrm{k}_{\mathrm{p}}, \mathrm{k}_{\mathrm{RISC}}=\left(\mathrm{k}_{\mathrm{P}} \mathrm{k}_{\mathrm{d}} / \mathrm{k}_{\mathrm{ISC}}\right)\left(\Phi_{\mathrm{DF}} / \Phi_{\mathrm{PF}}\right)$, where $k_{p}$ and $k_{d}$ are decay rate constants of prompt and delayed fluorescence respectively, $k_{\text {ISC }}$ is intersystem crossing rate constant from $\mathrm{S}_{1}$ to $\mathrm{T}_{1}$ state, and $\Phi_{D F}$ and $\Phi_{P \mathrm{~F}}$ are PLQY for delayed and prompt fluorescence respectively. ${ }^{\mathrm{e}}$ Onset of oxidation and reduction potential respectively. ${ }^{f}$ HOMO and LUMO levels determined by $\mathrm{E}_{\text {onset, ox }}$ and $\mathrm{E}_{\text {onset, red }}$ respectively. ${ }^{\mathrm{g}}$ Lowest singlet/triplet energy from fluorescence/phosphorescence spectra in toluene. ${ }^{\text {h }}$ Singlet-triplet energy gap.


Figure S11. EQE- $L$ characteristics for solution-processed OLEDs based on TSCT dendrimers.

Table S2. Device performance for solution-processed OLEDs based on TAcBO-H and TAcBO-F.

| Dendrimer | $\mathbf{V}_{\text {on }}{ }^{\mathbf{a}}$ <br> (V) | $\begin{gathered} \mathbf{L E}{ }^{b} \\ \left(\mathbf{c d} A^{-1}\right) \end{gathered}$ | EQE ${ }^{\text {c }}$ <br> (\%) | $\mathbf{L}_{\max }^{d}$ <br> (cd m${ }^{-2}$ ) | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{CIE}^{\mathrm{e}} \\ & (\mathbf{x}, \mathrm{y}) \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Maximum value/at $100 \mathrm{~cd} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} / \mathrm{at} 500 \mathrm{~cd} \mathrm{~m}^{-2}$ |  |  |  |
| $5 \mathrm{wt} \% \mathrm{TAcBO}-\mathrm{H}$ | 3.1 | 19.4/18.4/12.8 | 14.6/13.8/9.6 | 1637 | 0.16, 0.14 |
| $10 \mathrm{wt} \% \mathrm{TAcBO}-\mathrm{H}$ | 3.1 | 23.1/22.0/15.6 | 15.8/15.0/10.7 | 1850 | 0.16, 0.16 |
| $5 \mathrm{wt} \% \mathrm{TAcBO}-\mathrm{F}$ | 3.0 | 46.7/45.5/35.7 | 18.2/17.6/13.9 | 3160 | 0.20, 0.41 |
| $10 \mathrm{wt} \% \mathrm{TAcBO}-\mathrm{F}$ | 3.0 | 52.0/51.8/44.0 | 19.5/19.4/16.5 | 3439 | 0.20, 0.43 |

[^0]

Figure S12. Maximum EQEs for solution-processed OLEDs using TAcBO-H (5 wt\% in Ac6 ) as emitter measured from 12 devices. The average maximum EQE is $14.63 \%$ with distribution from $14.20 \%$ to $14.95 \%$, corresponding to variation of $\pm 0.43 \%$.


Figure S13. EL performance for TAcBO-H in this work and blue TADF dendrimers in literatures.

Table S3. List of EL performance for blue TADF dendrimers reported in this work and literatures.

| Emitter | $\mathbf{V}_{\text {on }}$ <br> $(\mathbf{V})$ | $\mathbf{L E}_{\text {max }}$ <br> $\left(\mathbf{c d ~ A}^{-1}\right)$ | $\mathbf{E Q E}_{\text {max }}$ <br> $(\%)$ | CIE <br> $(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ | Reference |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| TAcBO-H | 3.1 | 19.4 | 14.6 | $0.16,0.14$ | this work |
| Ac3TRZ3 | 2.9 | 30.3 | 11.0 | $0.22,0.42$ | $[7]$ |
| CzDMAC-DPS | 3.6 | 30.6 | 12.2 | $0.22,0.44$ | $[8]$ |
| DCzDMAC-DPS | 5.2 | 3.8 | 2.2 | $0.18,0.27$ | $[8]$ |
| POCz-DPS | 5.4 | 12.6 | 7.3 | $0.18,0.30$ | $[9]$ |
| tbCz-SO | 5.1 | 4.0 | 2.6 | $0.16,0.19$ | $[10]$ |


| poCz-SO | 6.1 | 10.5 | 6.2 | $0.18,0.27$ | $[10]$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cz-4CzCN: Cz-4CzCN | 3.5 | 48.6 | 23.5 | $0.15,0.30$ | $[11]$ |
| PCz-4CzCN | 2.8 | 45.2 | 22.6 | $0.16,0.29$ | $[12]$ |
| 5CzBN-Cz | 3.5 | 27.03 | 9.42 | $0.21,0.44$ | $[13]$ |
| G2 | 4.8 | 4.1 | -- | $0.15,0.12$ | $[14]$ |
| G3 | 5.2 | 1.07 | -- | $0.19,0.15$ | $[14]$ |
| TPPOCz | 4.3 | 0.2 | 0.27 | $0.18,0.13$ | $[15]$ |
| TPPOCz/TmPyPB | 6.2 | 3.2 | 2.0 | $0.26,0.31$ | $[15]$ |
| TB14CZ-ACTRZ | 4.5 | 20.7 | 8.1 | $0.22,0.43$ | $[16]$ |

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Figure S14. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum of 2 .


Figure S15. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{2}$.


Figure S16. ${ }^{1}$ H NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{3}$.


Figure S17. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum of 3 .


Figure S18. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum of 4 .


Figure S19. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum of 4 .


Figure S20. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{6 a}$.


Figure S21. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{6 a}$.


Figure S22．${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{6 b}$ ．


Figure S23．${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum of $\mathbf{6 b}$ ．


Figure S24. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum of TAcBO-H.


Figure S25. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum of TAcBO-H.


Figure S26. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectrum of TAcBO-F.


Figure S27. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectrum of TAcBO-F.


[^0]:    ${ }^{a}$ Turn-on voltage at luminance of $1 \mathrm{~cd} \mathrm{~m}^{-2} .{ }^{b}$ Luminous efficiency. ${ }^{c}$ External quantum efficiency. ${ }^{d}$ Maximum luminance. ${ }^{e}$ CIE coordinates at 4 V .

