

## Electronic Supplementary Information for

### Narrowband emission from fully bridged triphenylamine derivatives: Insight into effects of structure modification and pressure

Qing Zhang,<sup>a</sup> Tao Liu,<sup>a</sup> Yuhua Guo,<sup>a</sup> Yujian Zhang,<sup>b</sup> Chunyan Lv,<sup>\*a</sup> Yue Zhang,<sup>c\*</sup>  
Zexing Cao<sup>\*d</sup>

<sup>[a]</sup>Department of Materials Chemistry, Huzhou University, Huzhou, 313000, People's Republic of China, E-mail: [lcy@zjhu.edu.cn](mailto:lcy@zjhu.edu.cn)

<sup>[b]</sup>Key Laboratory of the Ministry of Education for Advanced Catalysis Materials, Department of Chemistry, Zhejiang Normal University, Jinhua 321004, People's Republic of China

<sup>[c]</sup>School of Intelligent Manufacturing, Huzhou College, Huzhou, 313000, People's Republic of China, E-mail: [zhangyue@zjhzu.edu.cn](mailto:zhangyue@zjhzu.edu.cn)

<sup>[d]</sup>State Key Laboratory of Physical Chemistry of Solid Surfaces and Fujian Provincial Key Laboratory of Theoretical and Computational Chemistry, College of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Xiamen University, Xiamen 360015, People's Republic of China, E-mail: [zxcao@xmu.edu.cn](mailto:zxcao@xmu.edu.cn)

#### 1. Definition of RMSD

The root mean square displacement (RMSD) is a simple and versatile metric to quantitatively measure the overall structural changes among different geometries. For a given molecule with  $N$  atoms, the RMSD value can be evaluated as

$$RMSD = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_i^{natom} [(x_i - x'_i)^2 + (y_i - y'_i)^2 + (z_i - z'_i)^2]}$$

where  $x_i$  and  $x'_i$  are the  $x$ -coordinates of the  $i$ th atom in the first and second geometry, respectively, as are  $y$  and  $z$ .

#### 2. Definitions of MPP and SDP

For a given molecule with  $N$  atoms, the molecular planarity parameter (MPP) can be defined as the root-mean-square of deviation of atoms from the fitting plane

$$MPP = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_i d_i^2}$$

where  $d_i$  is the distance between the atom  $i$  and the fitting plane. The signed distance between the atom  $i$  and the fitting plane can be evaluated as

$$d_i^s = \frac{Ax_i + By_i + Cz_i + D}{\sqrt{A^2 + B^2 + C^2}}$$

where  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $C$ ,  $D$  are parameters of the fitting plane. Following that, the span of deviation from plane (SDP) can be defined as

$$SDP = d_{\max}^s - d_{\min}^s$$

where the  $d_{\max}^s$  and  $d_{\min}^s$  are the most positive and the most negative  $d^s$  values among all the considered atoms, respectively.

### 3. Definitions of $D$ and $S_r$ indexes

The charge transfer length in the X/Y/Z direction can be simulated by evaluating the distance between the centroid of hole and electron in the corresponding directions:

$$D_x = |X_{\text{ele}} - X_{\text{hole}}|, D_y = |Y_{\text{ele}} - Y_{\text{hole}}|, D_z = |Z_{\text{ele}} - Z_{\text{hole}}|$$

According to abovementioned definitions, the total magnitude of the charge transfer length can be defined as  $D$  index:

$$D = \sqrt{(D_x)^2 + (D_y)^2 + (D_z)^2}$$

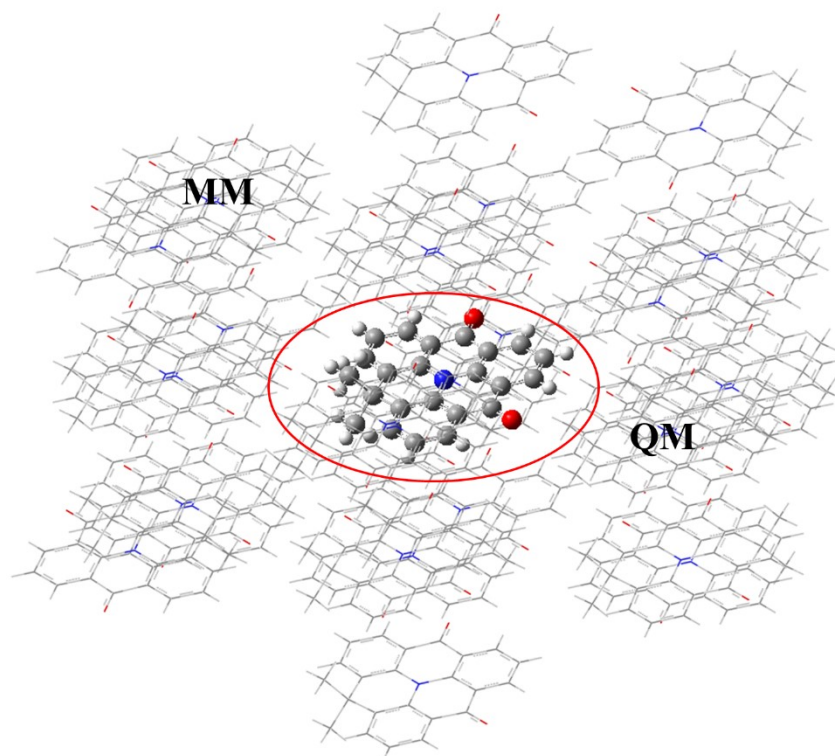
The overlap function between the hole and electron distribution can be defined as

$$S_r(r) = \sqrt{\rho^{\text{hole}}(r)\rho^{\text{ele}}(r)}$$

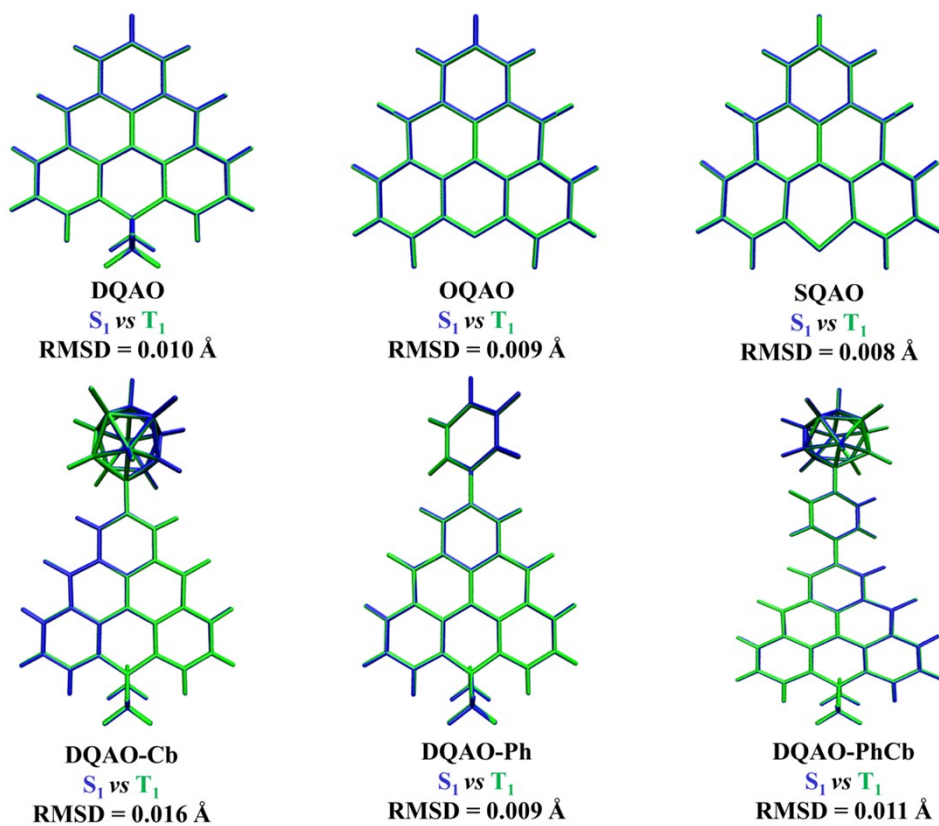
in which  $\rho^{\text{hole}}$  and  $\rho^{\text{ele}}$  are the density distribution of hole and electron, respectively.

The  $S_r$  index means the overlapping extent of the hole and electron, and it can be defined as the integral of the  $S_r$  function:

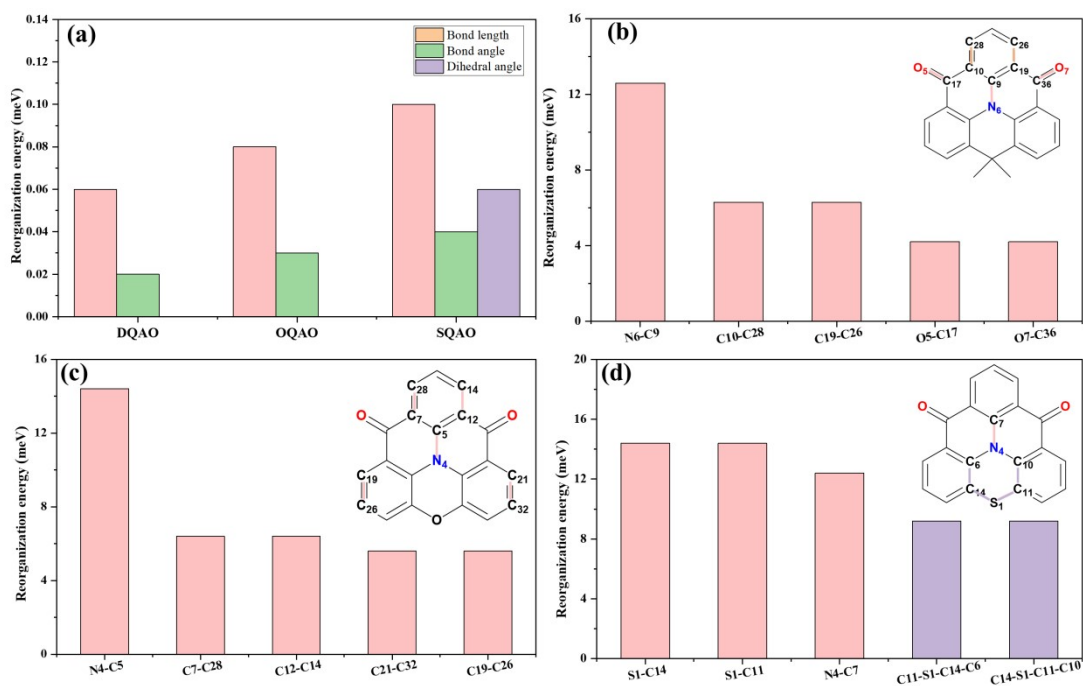
$$S_r = \int S_r(r)dr = \int \sqrt{\rho^{\text{hole}}(r)\rho^{\text{ele}}(r)}$$



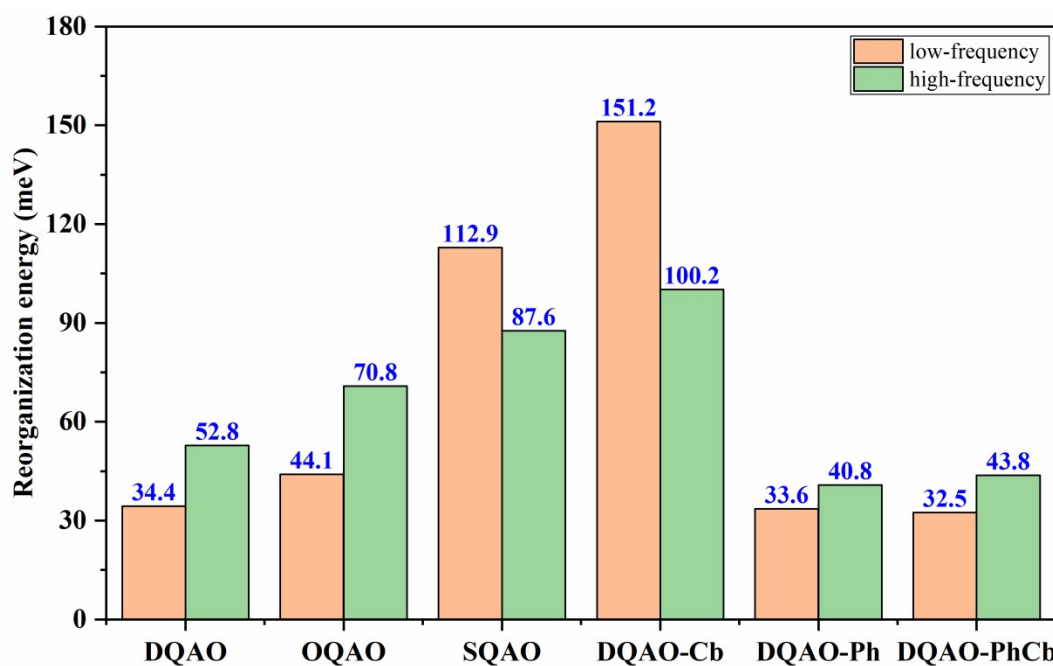
**Fig. S1** Two-layered ONIOM model of DQAO in the aggregated state.



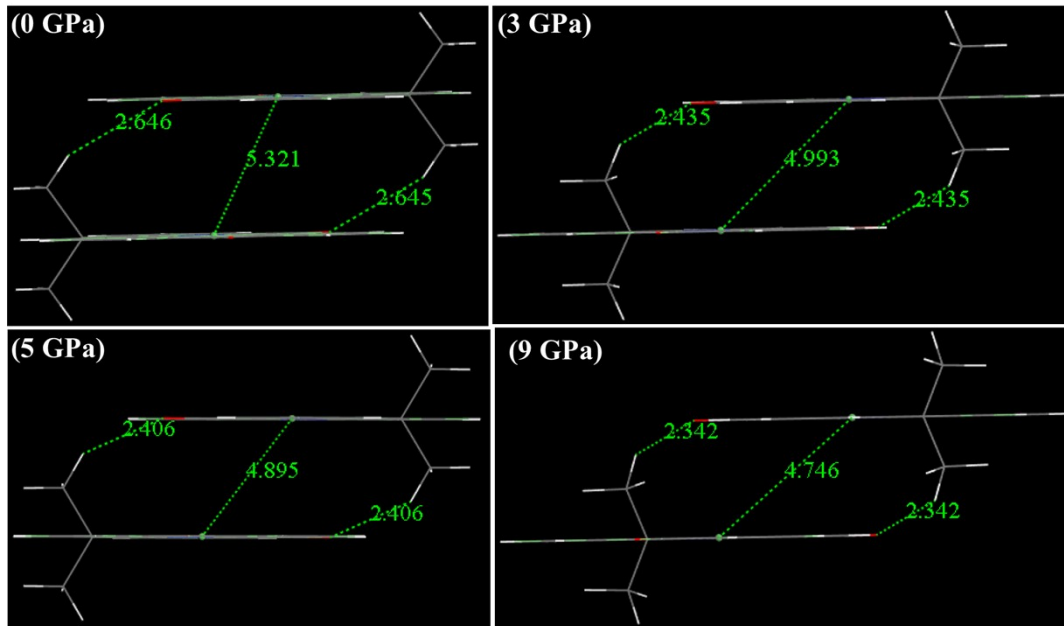
**Fig. S2.** Geometry comparisons and RMSD values for the  $S_1$  (blue) vs  $T_1$  (green) of all the systems considered here.



**Fig. S3** Contributions of bond lengths, bond angles, and dihedral angles to the reorganization energies between  $S_0$  and  $S_1$  at  $S_1$ -optimized geometries (a) for DQAO (b), OQAO (c), SQAQ (d), respectively (shown with the largest five contributions).



**Fig. S4** Contributions of low-frequency vibrations ( $< 1000 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) and high-frequency vibrations ( $\geq 1000 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) to the reorganization energies of all the studied systems.



**Fig. S5** Centroid distances of  $\pi$ -stacked dimers extracted from the DQAO unit cell at various external pressures, where units are in Å.

**Table S1.** Emission energies of  $S_1$  and  $T_1$  (eV), the maximum wavelength of fluorescence ( $\lambda_{\text{emi}}$ , nm), and  $S_1$ - $T_1$  energy gaps ( $\Delta E_{\text{ST}}$ , eV) simulated by combining B3LYP, PBE0, MN15, and wb97xd functionals with def-TZVP basis sets, respectively, as well as the  $\lambda_{\text{emi}}$  and  $\Delta E_{\text{ST}}$  values obtained in the experiment.<sup>15</sup>

		B3LYP	PBE0	MN15	CAM-B3LYP	Expt.
<b>DQAO</b>	$S_1$	2.74	2.86	3.09	3.28	2.66
	$\lambda_{\text{emi}}$	452	434	401	378	465
	$T_1$	2.28	2.32	2.53	2.54	2.47
	$\Delta E_{\text{ST}}$	0.46	0.53	0.56	0.75	0.19
<b>OQAO</b>	$S_1$	2.35	2.47	2.73	2.92	2.34
	$\lambda_{\text{emi}}$	528	503	454	425	520
	$T_1$	1.96	2.02	2.28	2.31	2.18
	$\Delta E_{\text{ST}}$	0.39	0.45	0.46	0.60	0.16
<b>SQAO</b>	$S_1$	2.16	2.29	2.62	2.83	2.23
	$\lambda_{\text{emi}}$	573	541	474	439	552
	$T_1$	1.86	1.94	2.25	2.33	2.07
	$\Delta E_{\text{ST}}$	0.30	0.35	0.37	0.50	0.16

**Table S2.** Calculated vertical excitation energies of  $S_1$  ( $\Delta E_{S1}$ , eV) and  $T_1$  ( $\Delta E_{T1}$ , eV), fluorescence peaks ( $\lambda_{\text{emi}}$ , nm), and energy gaps between  $S_1$  and  $T_1$  ( $\Delta E_{ST}$ , eV) by the wavefunction-based STEOM-DLPNO-CCSD/def2-SVP calculations, together with the fluorescence peaks ( $\lambda_{\text{expt}}$ , nm) and energy gaps between  $S_1$  and  $T_1$  ( $\Delta E_{\text{expt}}$ , eV) measured in experiment.

	DQAO	OQAO	SQAO
$S_1$	2.96	2.65	2.62
$\lambda_{\text{emi}}$	419	469	474
$T_1$	2.68	2.43	2.43
$\Delta E_{ST}$	0.28	0.22	0.18
$\lambda_{\text{expt}}$	465	520	552
$\Delta E_{\text{expt}}$	0.19	0.16	0.16

**Table S3.** The lattice parameters of the DQAO unit cell at ambient pressure and various

	$a$ (Å)	$b$ (Å)	$c$ (Å)	Density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	Volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )	R/D
0 GPa	22.78	6.78	11.55	1.35	1661.83	0.42
3 GPa	21.64	6.26	10.93	1.62	1385.04	0.72
5 GPa	21.48	6.09	10.80	1.70	1315.21	0.83
9 GPa	21.22	5.85	10.63	1.83	1221.74	1.05

external pressures of 3, 5, and 7 Gpa, respectively.

**Table S4.** Interaction energy decomposition of the  $\pi$ -stacked dimers of DQAO calculated by the EDA-FF approach at various external pressures, where energies are in kJ/mol.

	electrostatic	repulsion	dispersion	total
0 GPa	-5.67	52.81	-126.55	-79.41
3 GPa	-6.61	134.82	-187.79	-59.58
5 GPa	-6.85	177.66	-212.92	-42.11
9 GPa	-7.22	270.79	-256.99	6.59

**Table S5.** Contribution of each non-hydrogen atom to hole and electron of the reported DQAO and its structure-modified derivatives DQAO-Cb, DQAO-Ph, and DQAO-PhCb.

Atoms	DQAO		DQAO-Cb		DQAO-Ph		DQAO-PhCb	
	Hole (%)	Electron (%)	Hole (%)	Electron (%)	Hole (%)	Electron (%)	Hole (%)	Electron (%)
C1	1.52	0.03	1.59	0.03	1.31	0.03	1.40	0.03
O5	3.86	8.17	3.64	7.79	3.68	8.21	3.72	8.15

N6	19.85	0.05	19.34	0.04	17.32	0.06	18.63	0.05
O7	3.86	8.17	3.55	8.28	3.67	8.21	3.72	8.17
C8	3.52	2.78	4.06	2.34	2.10	2.83	2.91	2.69
C9	0.18	0.35	0.16	0.24	1.04	0.37	0.39	0.28
C10	3.86	4.02	3.52	5.30	4.33	3.83	4.03	4.29
C11	3.52	2.78	3.75	2.52	2.10	2.83	2.90	2.68
C12	3.03	1.29	2.96	0.83	2.32	1.38	2.64	1.18
C13	0.26	3.56	0.24	2.88	0.37	3.76	0.34	3.48
C15	8.72	0.26	9.02	0.16	6.98	0.28	8.03	0.23
C16	8.72	0.26	8.84	0.20	6.98	0.28	8.03	0.24
C17	0.76	8.62	0.72	7.78	0.82	8.76	0.79	8.57
C18	3.03	1.29	2.82	0.89	2.32	1.38	2.63	1.17
C19	3.86	4.02	3.47	5.22	4.33	3.83	4.04	4.31
C20	7.69	0.23	8.06	0.14	5.73	0.24	6.79	0.19
C22	0.26	3.56	0.25	3.20	0.37	3.75	0.34	3.47
C24	3.54	3.08	3.82	2.58	3.03	3.23	3.44	3.04
C26	0.40	17.39	0.21	18.36	1.57	16.51	0.78	17.16
C28	0.40	17.39	0.18	17.61	1.57	16.51	0.78	17.18
C30	3.54	3.08	3.75	2.92	3.03	3.23	3.44	3.05
C32	7.69	0.23	7.71	0.14	5.73	0.24	6.78	0.19
C34	3.78	0.46	3.20	0.49	5.67	0.47	4.58	0.46
C36	0.76	8.62	0.76	8.58	0.82	8.76	0.79	8.60
C37	0.76	0.00	0.83	0.00	0.58	0.00	0.70	0.00
C38	1.73	0.03	1.85	0.02	1.19	0.03	1.57	0.03
C41	-	-	-	-	2.07	0.06	0.63	0.10
C42	-	-	-	-	2.12	0.11	1.16	0.14
C43	-	-	-	-	2.12	0.11	1.19	0.12
C44	-	-	-	-	0.33	0.08	0.08	0.07
C46	-	-	-	-	0.33	0.08	0.08	0.09
C48	-	-	-	-	3.30	0.03	1.49	0.05
C	-	-	0.06	0.02	-	-	0.03	0.01
C	-	-	0.02	0.05	-	-	0.06	0.00
B	-	-	0.11	0.27	-	-	0.02	0.00
B	-	-	0.07	0.01	-	-	0.03	0.00
B	-	-	0.07	0.05	-	-	0.01	0.00
B	-	-	0.13	0.05	-	-	0.01	0.00
B	-	-	0.09	0.21	-	-	0.02	0.00
B	-	-	0.03	0.12	-	-	0.05	0.00
B	-	-	0.03	0.07	-	-	0.04	0.00
B	-	-	0.02	0.08	-	-	0.03	0.00
B	-	-	0.06	0.04	-	-	0.03	0.00
B	-	-	0.09	0.08	-	-	0.01	0.00