Supporting Information for:

From Red to Blue Shift: Switching the Binding Affinity from Acceptor to the Donor End by Increasing the π -Bridge in Push-Pull Chromophores with Coordinative Ends

Marco Caricato,^a Carmine Coluccini,^a Douglas Vander Griend,^b

Alessandra Forni,^c and Dario Pasini^{*,a,d}

^a Department of Chemistry, University of Pavia, Viale Taramelli, 10–27100 Pavia, Italy. Fax: +39 0382 987323; Tel: +39 0382 987835; E-mail: dario.pasini@unipv.it Website: www.unipv.it/labt
^b Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry, Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI 49546-4403- USA.
^c Institute of Molecular Sciences and Technologies (ISTM), CNR, Via Golgi 19, 20133 Milano, Italy
^d INSTM Research Unit, University of Pavia.



Figure S1. UV/Vis titration experiments with $Er(OTf)_3$ in MeCN for ligands 1 (left, *g* and (*h*, with Yb³⁺), 2 (titration *i*), and 3 (titration *l*).



Figure S2. Titration profiles (ascending, wavelenghts indicated on the y axes) and best fit curves corresponding to the titrations shown in Figure S4.



Figure S3. Left: Duplicate titration of **1** with $Sc(OTf)_3$ The isosbestic point is missing. Right: Duplicate titration of **2** with $Sc(OTf)_3$. The isosbestic point is holding.



Figure S4. Job plot experiments of **2** with: a) top, $Sc(OTf)_3$ b) bottom, $Eu(OTf)_3$. Total concentration of species in each case: 76 μ M in MeCN.



Figure S5. Titration of ligand **1** (0.0126 M in CD₃CN, 300 MHz) with Sc(OTf)₃: A) 0 equivalents; B) 0.3 equivalents; C) 0.6 equivalents; D) 0.8 equivalents; E) 1.3 equivalents. This titration has been reduced for the making of Figure 5 in the main text



Figure S6. Titration of ligand **2** (0.007 M in CD_3CN) with $Sc(OTf)_3$: A) 0 equivalents; B) 0.3 equivalents; C) 0.6 equivalents; D) 1.1 equivalents; E) 1.9 equivalents. This titration has been reduced for the making of Figure 6 in the main text







Optimization Summary:

Data at 298 K

Non-negativity was enforced with optimization (not truncation).

Activity Coefficients Model: None.

Species with Fixed Molar Absorptivity Curves: None.

Solutions ignored: None.

Optimized Values (kJ/mol): $\Delta G^{\circ}_{1} = -35$ (unrefined); $\Delta G^{\circ}_{2} = -34.8(1)$; $\Delta G^{\circ}_{3} = -25.5(1)$; $\Delta G^{\circ}_{4} = -32.9(1)$;

Equilibrium Restricted RMS Residual (6 chemical factors): 0.0011557

Unrestricted RMS Residual (6 mathematical factors): 0.0005969

Restricted Data Reconstruction (6 chemical factors): 99.752%

Unrestricted Data Reconstruction (6 mathematical factors): 99.8181%

Remaining Error Imbedded in Absorbance Values: 0.0010009

R²: 99.9994%







Optimization Summary:

Data at 298 K

Non-negativity was enforced with optimization (not truncation).

Activity Coefficients Model: None.

Species with Fixed Molar Absorptivity Curves: None.

Solutions ignored: None.

Optimized Values (kJ/mol): $\Delta G^{\circ}_{1} = -32.4(2)$; $\Delta G^{\circ}_{2} = -46.5(1)$; $\Delta G^{\circ}_{3} = -29.4(1)$; $\Delta G^{\circ}_{4} = -22.6(1)$; Equilibrium Restricted RMS Residual (6 chemical factors): 0.010147 Unrestricted RMS Residual (6 mathematical factors): 0.0019111 Restricted Data Reconstruction (6 chemical factors): 99.3834% Unrestricted Data Reconstruction (6 mathematical factors): 99.6497%

Remaining Error Imbedded in Absorbance Values: 0.0093941

R²: 99.984%







Optimization Summary:

Data at 298 K

Non-negativity was enforced with optimization (not truncation).

Activity Coefficients Model: None.

Species with Fixed Molar Absorptivity Curves: None.

Solutions ignored: None.

Optimized Values (kJ/mol): $\Delta G_1^{\circ} = -60.1(3)$; $\Delta G_2^{\circ} = -41.7(2)$; $\Delta G_3^{\circ} = -45.7(1)$;

Equilibrium Restricted RMS Residual (4 chemical factors): 0.0032382

Unrestricted RMS Residual (4 mathematical factors): 0.00045912

Restricted Data Reconstruction (4 chemical factors): 99.7735%

Unrestricted Data Reconstruction (4 mathematical factors): 99.8377%

Remaining Error Imbedded in Absorbance Values: 0.0019527

R²: 99.996%



Table S4. Titration of Ligand **1** with $Eu(OTf)_3$ (titration *b* in Figure 3)

Optimization Summary:

Data at 298 K

Non-negativity was enforced with optimization (not truncation).

Activity Coefficients Model: None.

Species with Fixed Molar Absorptivity Curves: None.

Solutions ignored: None.

Optimized Values (kJ/mol): $\Delta G^{\circ}_{1} = -31.65(6)$; $\Delta G^{\circ}_{2} = -29.52(5)$; Equilibrium Restricted RMS Residual (4 chemical factors): 0.0028966 Unrestricted RMS Residual (4 mathematical factors): 0.0012714 Restricted Data Reconstruction (4 chemical factors): 99.701%

Unrestricted Data Reconstruction (4 mathematical factors): 99.7264% Remaining Error Imbedded in Absorbance Values: 0.0028966

Remaining Error Imbedded in Absorbance Values: 0.0028966 R²: 99.9968%



Table S5. Titration of Ligand **2** with $Eu(OTf)_3$ (titration *d* in Figure 3)

Optimization Summary:

Data at 298 K

Non-negativity was enforced with optimization (not truncation).

Activity Coefficients Model: None.

Species with Fixed Molar Absorptivity Curves: None.

Solutions ignored: None.

Optimized Values (kJ/mol): $\Delta G^{\circ}_{1} = -48.8(1)$; $\Delta G^{\circ}_{2} = -35.6(1)$; $\Delta G^{\circ}_{3} = -17.9(2)$;

Equilibrium Restricted RMS Residual (5 chemical factors): 0.0082575

Unrestricted RMS Residual (5 mathematical factors): 0.0022966

Restricted Data Reconstruction (5 chemical factors): 98.8921%

Unrestricted Data Reconstruction (5 mathematical factors): 99.3284%

Remaining Error Imbedded in Absorbance Values: 0.0046161

R²: 99.9845%



Table S6. Titration of Ligand **3** with $Eu(OTf)_3$ (titration f in Figure 3)

Optimization Summary:

Data at 298 K

Non-negativity was enforced with optimization (not truncation).

Activity Coefficients Model: None.

Species with Fixed Molar Absorptivity Curves: None.

Solutions ignored: None.

Optimized Values (kJ/mol): $\Delta G^{\circ}_1 = -43.1(1)$; $\Delta G^{\circ}_2 = -33.9(1)$; $\Delta G^{\circ}_3 = -15.0(2)$; $\Delta G^{\circ}_4 = -27.4(2).9$; Equilibrium Restricted RMS Residual (6 chemical factors): 0.0072184 Unrestricted RMS Residual (6 mathematical factors): 0.00055748 Restricted Data Reconstruction (6 chemical factors): 99.847% Unrestricted Data Reconstruction (6 mathematical factors): 99.7912%

Remaining Error Imbedded in Absorbance Values: 0.0041675

R²: 99.9887%