

## Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

# Controllable synthesis of iridium(III)-based aggregation-induced emission and/or piezochromic luminescence phosphors by simply adjusting the substitutions on ancillary ligands

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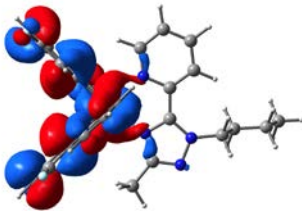
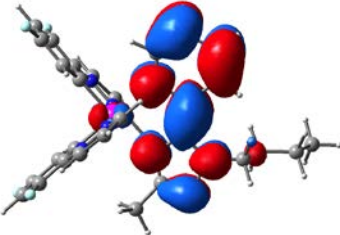
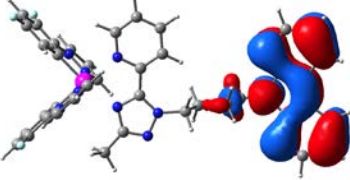
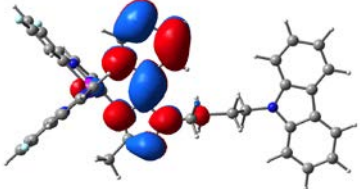
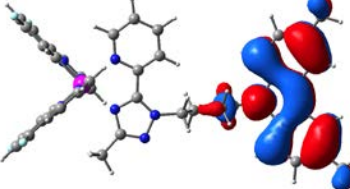
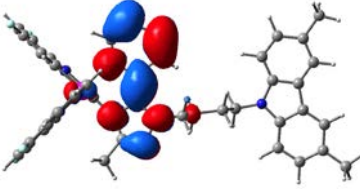
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## 1. Theoretical calculations

Calculation on the ground and excited electronic state of complexes were investigated by performing DFT and TD-DFT at B3LYP level. The 6-31G\* basis sets were employed for optimizing the C, H, N atoms and the LANL2DZ basis sets for Ir atom. An effective core potential (ECP) replaces the inner core electrons of iridium leaving the outer core  $(5s)^2(5p)^6$  electrons and the  $(5d)^6$  valence electrons of Ir(III). In order to reduce the computational efforts, the molecular structure of complex **3** was simplified by replacing *tert*-butyl moiety with methyl group. All calculations reported here were carried out with the Gaussian 09 software package.<sup>1</sup>

**Table S1** HOMO and LUMO orbitals of complexes **1**, **2** and **3**

	HOMO	LUMO
complex <b>1</b>		
complex <b>2</b>		
complex <b>3</b>		

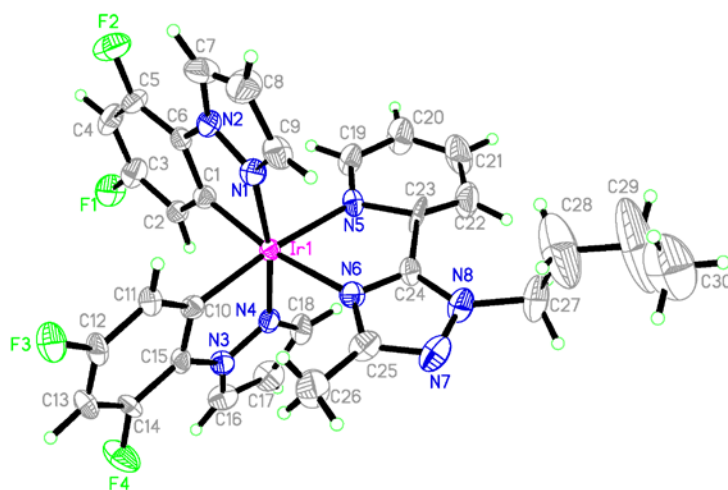
**Table S2** The calculated energy levels of the lower-lying transitions of complexes **1**, **2** and **3**

Complex	States	Assignment	eV	<i>f</i>	Nature
<b>1</b>	T <sub>1</sub>	H→L (97%)	2.90	0	<sup>3</sup> MLCT/ <sup>3</sup> LLCT
<b>2</b>	T <sub>1</sub>	H→L (100%)	2.63	0	<sup>3</sup> ILCT
<b>3</b>	T <sub>1</sub>	H→L (100%)	2.45	0	<sup>3</sup> ILCT

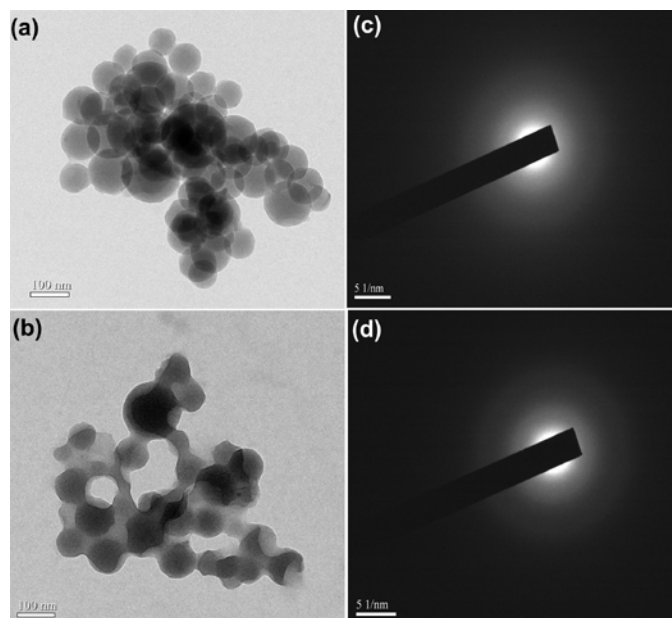
**Table S3** Crystal data and summary of data collection and refinement for complex **1**.

<b>1</b>	
Formula	C <sub>30</sub> H <sub>26</sub> F <sub>10</sub> IrN <sub>8</sub> P
<i>Mr</i>	911.76
Crystal system	Triclinic
Space group	P-1
<i>a</i> / Å	9.795(5)
<i>b</i> / Å	9.798(5)
<i>c</i> / Å	19.810 (5)
$\alpha$ / °	95.148(5)
$\beta$ / °	97.711(5)
$\gamma$ / °	118.407(5)
<i>V</i> / Å <sup>3</sup>	1631.2(12)
<i>Z</i>	2
$\rho_{\text{calc}}$ (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	1.856
temp (K)	293(2)
$\mu$ / mm <sup>-1</sup>	4.235
<i>R</i> <sub>int</sub>	0.0282
Goodness-of-fit on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>	1.086
<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> <sup>a</sup> , <i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup> [ <i>I</i> > 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> )]	0.0993, 0.2611
<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> , <i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub> (all data)	0.1082, 0.2662

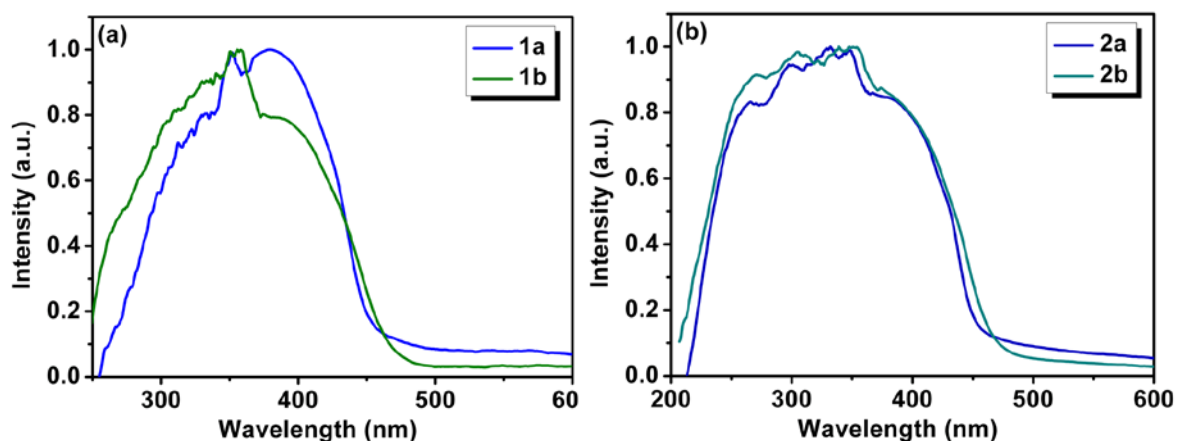
<sup>a</sup>  $R_1 = \frac{\sum ||F_o| - |F_c||}{\sum |F_o|}$ . <sup>b</sup>  $wR_2 = \left\{ \frac{\sum [w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2]}{\sum [w(F_o^2)^2]} \right\}^{1/2}$



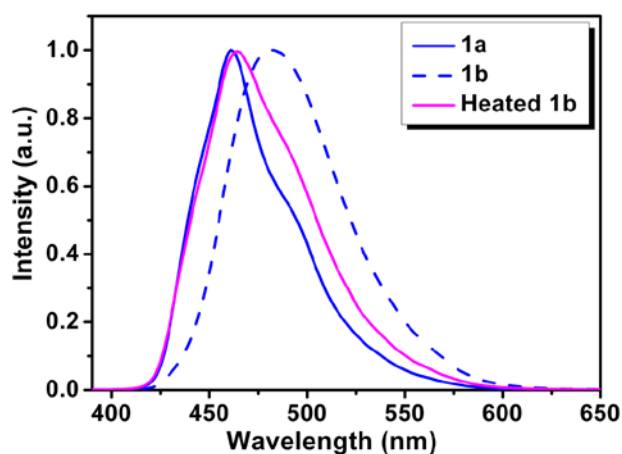
**Fig. S1** Crystal structure of complex **1** with thermal ellipsoids drawn at the 30% probability level. The  $\text{PF}_6^-$  counter anions are omitted for clarity.



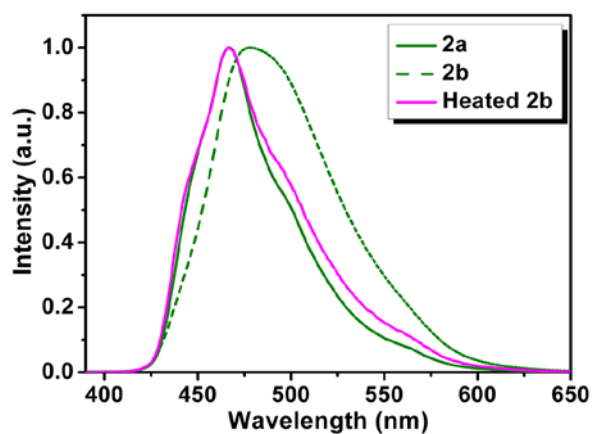
**Fig. S2** TEM images of aggregates of complexes **2**(a) and **3** (b) and ED patterns (**2** for c and **3** for d) formed in water/acetone mixtures with water content of 90%, respectively.



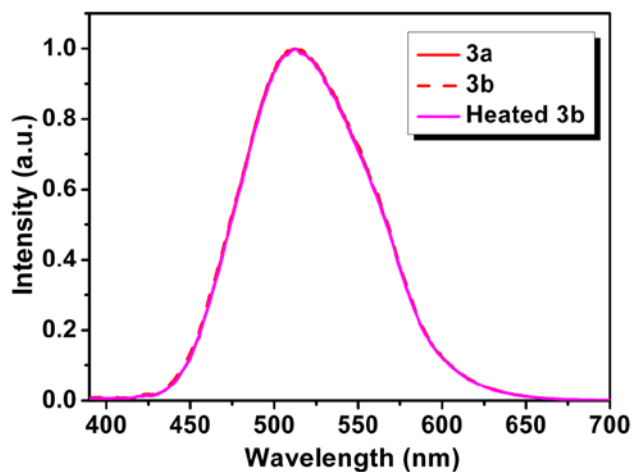
**Fig. S3** Solid-state absorption spectra of complexes **1** and **2** before (**1a** and **2a**) and after (**1b** and **2b**) grinding.



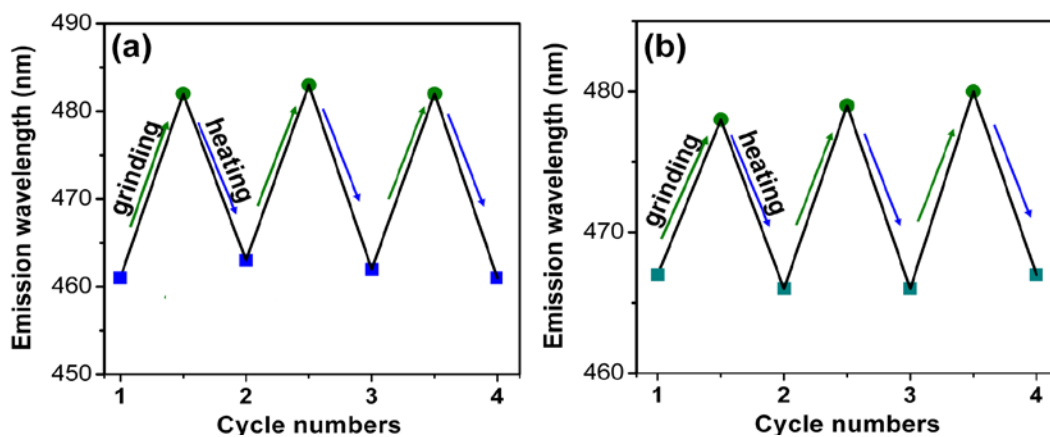
**Fig. S4** Emission spectra of **1** in different states at room temperature.



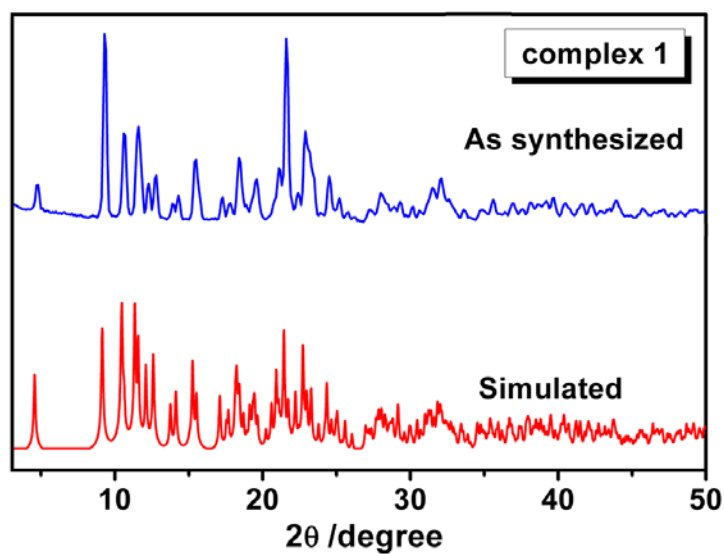
**Fig. S5** Emission spectra of **2** in different states at room temperature.



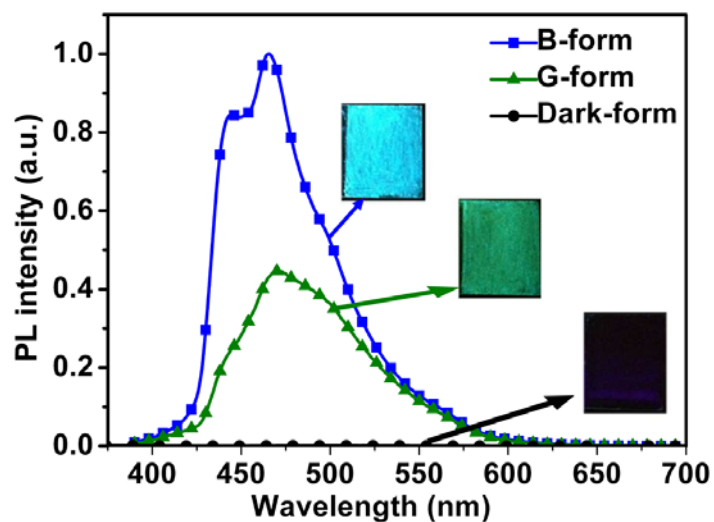
**Fig. S6** Emission spectra of **3** in different states at room temperature.



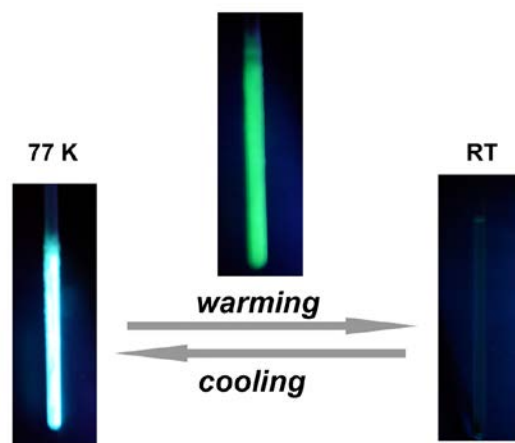
**Fig. S7** Reversible switching of emission of **1** (a) and **2** (b) by repeated grinding-heating cycle.



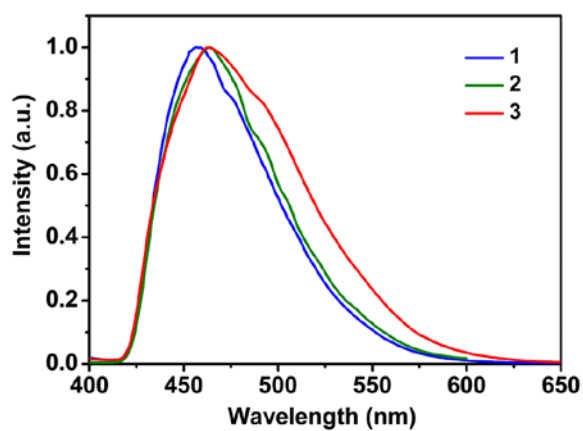
**Fig. S8** Experimental and simulated Powder X-ray diffraction patterns.



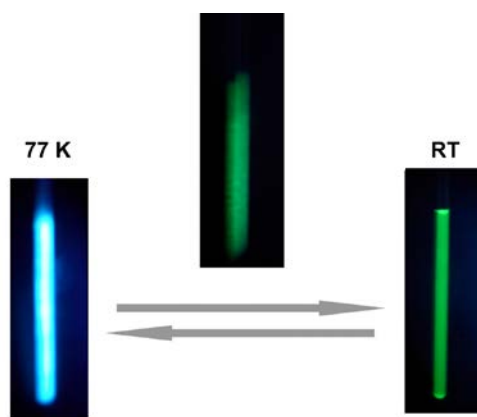
**Fig. S9** Emission spectra of B-form, G-form and dark-form at room temperature.



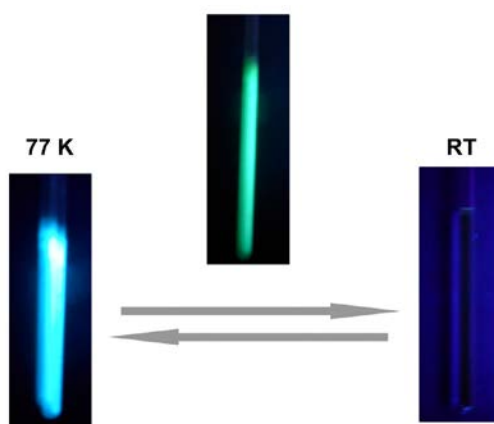
**Fig. S10** Luminescence images of  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  solution of complex **2** in a quartz tube at different temperature. RT = room temperature



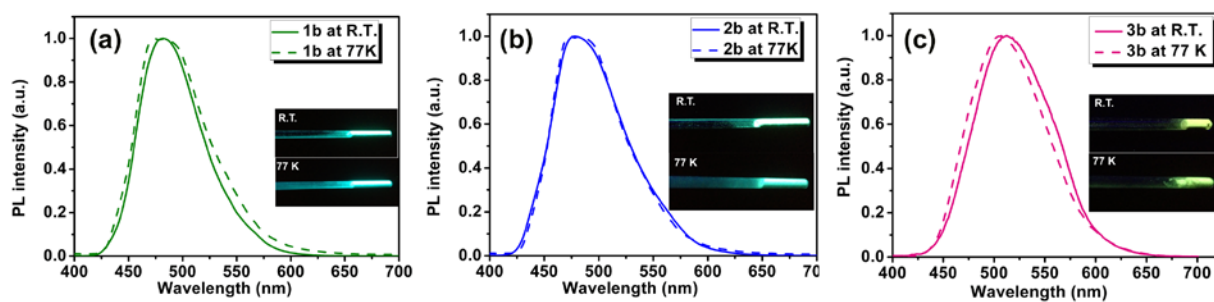
**Fig. S11** Emission spectra of complex **1**, **2** and **3** in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  solutions with concentration of  $1 \times 10^{-5}$  M at 77 K.



**Fig. S12** Photographic images of complex **1** in different temperature with concentration of  $1 \times 10^{-5}$  M.

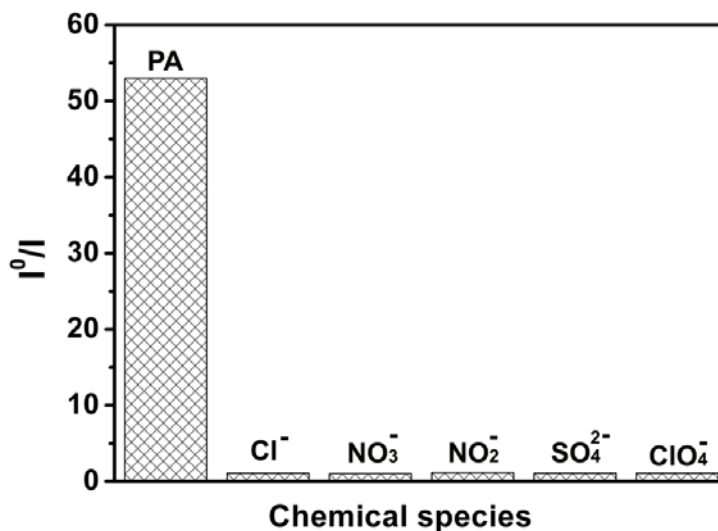


**Fig. S13** Photographic images of complex **3** in different temperature with concentration of  $1 \times 10^{-5}$  M.



**Fig. S14** Emission spectra and photographic images of ground samples **1b**, **2b** and **3b** at room temperature and 77 K.





**Fig. S15** Luminescent responses of complex **2** in acetone/water (v:v=1:9) mixture to different chemical species with concentration of 10 ppm. Bars represent the ratio of  $I_0/I$  of luminescent intensity at 483 nm. Herein,  $I_0$ =PL intensity without chemical species.

## References

- [1] M. J. Frisch, G. W. Trucks, H. B. Schlegel, G. E. Scuseria, M. A. Robb, J. R. Cheeseman, G. Scalmani, V. Barone, B. Mennucci, G. A. Petersson, H. Nakatsuji, M. Caricato, X. Li, H. P. Hratchian, A. F. Izmaylov, J. Bloino, G. Zheng, J. L. Sonnenberg, M. Hada, M. Ehara, K. Toyota, R. Fukuda, J. Hasegawa, M. Ishida, T. Nakajima, Y. Honda, O. Kitao, H. Nakai, T. Vreven, J. A. Montgomery, Jr., J. E. Peralta, F. Ogliaro, M. Bearpark, J. J. Heyd, E. Brothers, K. N. Kudin, V. N. Staroverov, R. Kobayashi, J. Normand, K. Raghavachari, A. Rendell, J. C. Burant, S. S. Iyengar, J. Tomasi, M. Cossi, N. Rega, J. M. Millam, M. Klene, J. E. Knox, J. B. Cross, V. Bakken, C. Adamo, J. Jaramillo, R. Gomperts, R. E. Stratmann, O. Yazyev, A. J. Austin, R. Cammi, C. Pomelli, J. W. Ochterski, R. L. Martin, K. Morokuma, V. G. Zakrzewski, G. A. Voth, P. Salvador, J. J. Dannenberg, S. Dapprich, A. D. Daniels, O. Farkas, J. B. Foresman, J. V. Ortiz, J. Cioslowski and D. J. Fox, Gaussian 09W, Revision A.02; Gaussian, Inc., Wallingford CT, 2009.