

Supporting Information

Tuning the Ground State and Excited State Properties of Monocationic Iridium(III) Complexes by Varying the Site of Benzannulation on Diimine Ligand

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Table S1. Natural transition orbitals (NTOs) representing singlet transitions contributing to the low-energy absorption bands of **1-6** in CH_2Cl_2 .

	S_n	Hole	Electron		S_n	Hole	Electron
1	S_1			4	S_1		
	527 nm $f = 0.001$				S_2		
	494 nm $f = 0.002$				S_3		
2	S_1			5	S_1		
	501 nm $f = 0.005$				S_2		
	466 nm $f = 0.007$				S_3		
	420 nm $f = 0.010$				S_4		
3	S_1			6	S_1		
	570 nm $f = 0.010$				612 nm $f = 0.012$		

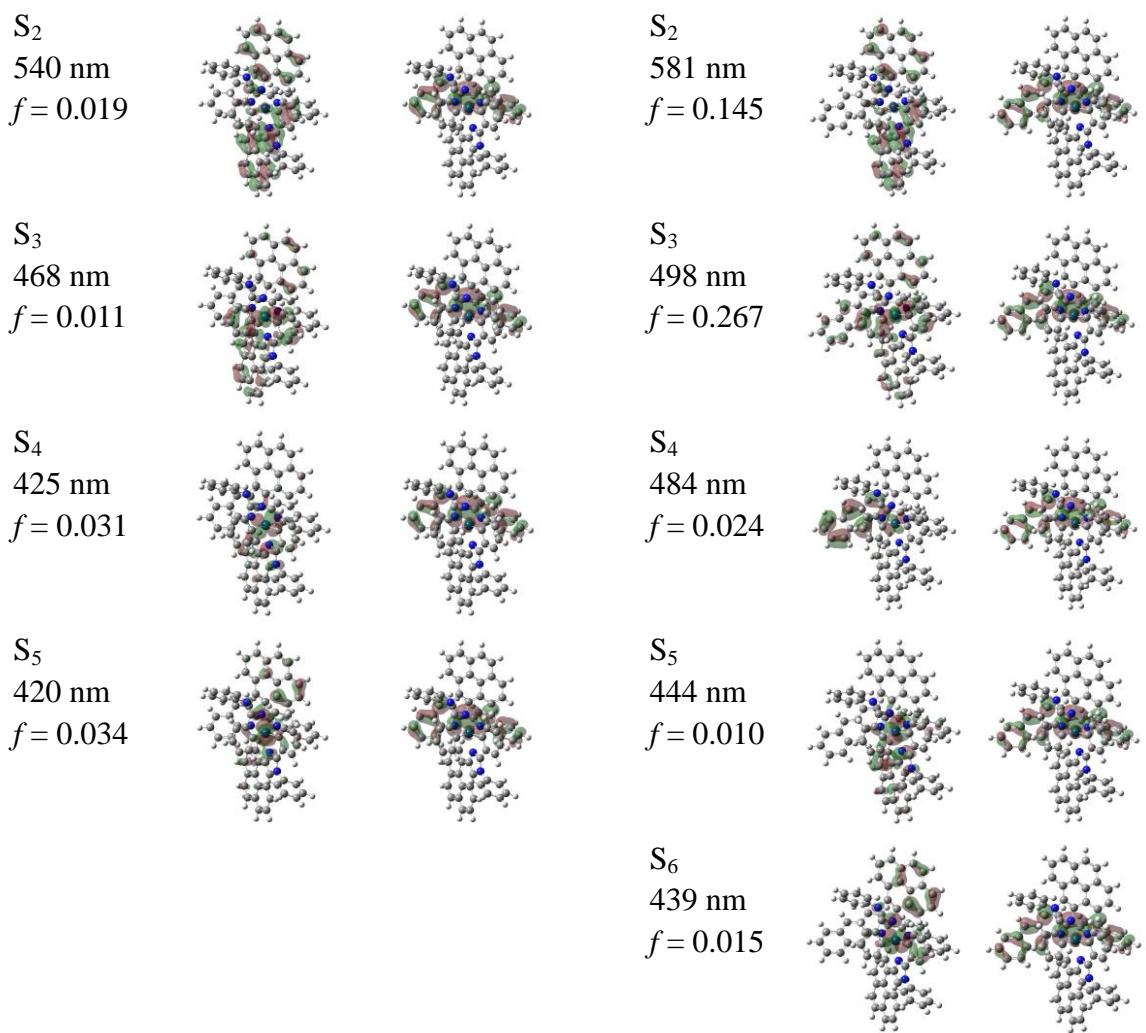


Table S2. Characterization of molecular orbitals for the first five HOMOs and LUMOs of **1-6** in CH₂Cl₂

	1	2	3	4
LUMO+4	$\pi^*(C^N)$	$\pi^*(C^N)/d(\text{Ir})$	$\pi^{*\dagger}$	$\pi^{*\dagger}$
LUMO+3	$\pi^*(C^N-N^N)$	$\pi^*(C^N)$	$\pi^*(C^N)$	$\pi^*(N)$
LUMO+2	$\pi^*(C^N)$	$\pi^*(\text{pyr})$	$\pi^*(C^N)$	$\pi^{*\dagger}$
LUMO+1	$\pi^*(C^N)$	$\pi^{*\dagger}$	$\pi^*(N^N)$	$\pi^*(N^N)/\pi^*(\text{Ph})$
LUMO	$\pi^*(N^N)$	$\pi^*(N^N)$	$\pi^*(N^N)/ d(\text{Ir})$	$\pi^*(N^N)$
HOMO	$d(\text{Ir})/\pi(C^N)$	$d(\text{Ir})/\pi(C^N)$	$d(\text{Ir})/\pi(C^N)$	$d(\text{Ir})/\pi(C^N)$
HOMO-1	$\pi(C^N)/d(\text{Ir})$	$\pi(C^N)$	$\pi(C^N)$	$\pi(C^N)$
HOMO-2	$d(\text{Ir})/\pi(C^N)$	π^\dagger	$d(\text{Ir})/\pi(C^N)$	$d(\text{Ir})/\pi(C^N)$
HOMO-3	$d(\text{Ir})/\pi(C^N)$	π^\dagger	$d(\text{Ir})/\pi(C^N)$	π^\dagger
HOMO-4	$d(\text{Ir})/\pi(C^N)$	π^\dagger	$d(\text{Ir})/\pi(C^N)$	$d(\text{Ir})/\pi(C^N)$
	5	6		
LUMO+4	$\pi^*(C^N)$	$\pi^*(N^N) / d(\text{Ir})$		
LUMO+3	$\pi^*(C^N)$	$\pi^*(C^N)$		
LUMO+2	$\pi^*(C^N)$	$\pi^*(C^N)$		
LUMO+1	$\pi^*(C^N-N^N)$	$\pi^*(N^N)$		
LUMO	$\pi^*(N^N) / d(\text{Ir})$	$\pi^*(N^N) / d(\text{Ir})$		
HOMO	$d(\text{Ir})/\pi(C^N)$	$\pi(C^N)/d(\text{Ir})$		
HOMO-1	$\pi(C^N) / d(\text{Ir})$	$\pi(C^N)$		
HOMO-2	$d(\text{Ir})/\pi(C^N)$	$\pi(N)/d(\text{Ir})/\pi(C^N)$		
HOMO-3	$\pi(C^N) / d(\text{Ir})$	$d(\text{Ir})/\pi(C^N)/\pi(N)$		
HOMO-4	$\pi(C^N) / d(\text{Ir})$	$d(\text{Ir})/\pi(C^N)/\pi(N)$		

Table S3. HOMOs and LUMOs of **1-6** in CH_2Cl_2

	HOMO	LUMO	HOMO	LUMO	
1			2		
					H-L^{a}
1			3		
					L-L^{b}
1			5		
					L-L^{b}
5			6		
					L-L^{b}
3			6		
					L-L^{b}
2			4		
					L-L^{b}
3			4		
					H-L^{a}

^a H-L indicates the interactions between the HOMOs of **1** or **3** with the LUMO of 1,3-butadiene to give the LUMOs of **2** and **4**. ^b L-L indicates the interactions between the LUMOs of **1**, **3** or **5** with the LUMO of 1,3-butadiene to give the LUMOs of **3**, **5** and **6**.

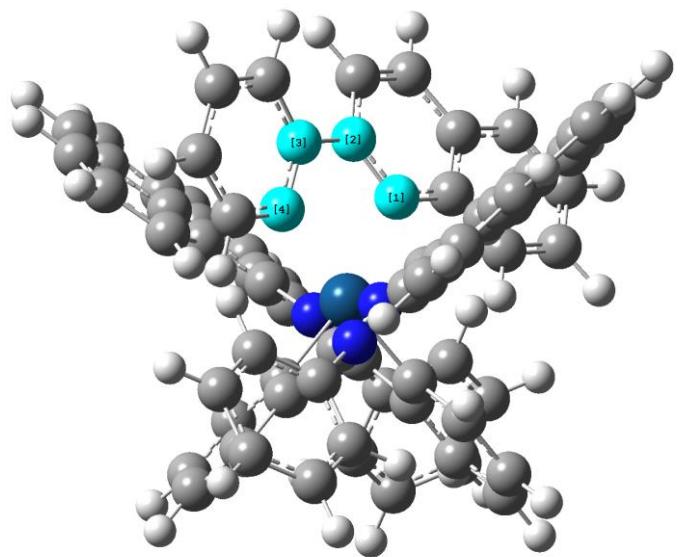


Table S4. Dihedral angle on the N⁴⁺N ligand obtained from the optimized ground-state geometry of **1–6** in CH₂Cl₂

Torque angle	
1	19.9°
2	27.9°
3	18.9°
4	29.1°
5	19.8°
6	18.7°

Table S5. Percentage of HOMO-LUMO transition contributing to S_1 of **1-6** calculated in CH_2Cl_2 solvent.

Percent HOMO-LUMO	
1	67%
2	68%
3	64%
4	68%
5	67%
6	64%

Table S6. NTOs representing transitions corresponding to the triplet emission of **1–6** in CH₂Cl₂ calculated by the second method, TDDFT-based ΔSCF. Energies obtained from the first method, ΔSCF, are shown in parenthesis.

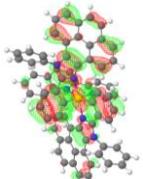
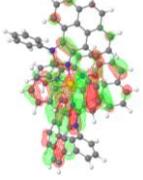
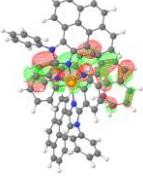
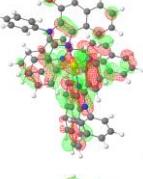
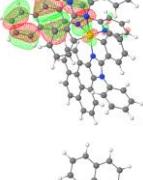
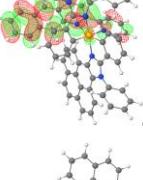
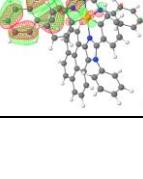
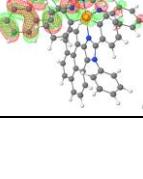
Complexes	T ₁ / nm	Hole	Electron
1	671 (656)		
2	645 (638)		
3	733 (714)		
4	735 (702)		
5	1356 (765)		
6	1398 (804)		

Table S7. Emission characteristics of complexes **1–6** in different solvents at room temperature^a

$\lambda_{\text{em}}/\text{nm}$ ($\tau_{\text{em}}/\mu\text{s}$); Φ_{em}				
	CH ₃ CN	THF	CH ₂ Cl ₂	Toluene (with 10% CH ₂ Cl ₂)
1	628 (0.68); 0.06	624 (0.84); 0.13	625 (0.94); 0.13	622 (0.47); 0.08
2	600 (-) ^b ; 0.0089	600 (-) ^b ; 0.0097	593 (0.15); 0.017	598 (-) ^b ; 0.0096
3	663 (0.45); 0.049	657 (0.58); 0.057	657 (0.93); 0.12	672 (0.20); 0.020
4	- ^b	645 (1.29); 0.041	645 (1.34); 0.085	645 (0.36); 0.030
5	735 (2.11); 0.0028	739 (1.95); 0.0039	740 (2.21); 0.0049	731 (2.01); 0.0045
6	766 (0.71); 0.0024	765 (0.87); 0.0032	766 (0.86); 0.0039	765 (0.37); 0.0025

^a Ru(bpy)₃Cl₂ in CH₃CN was used as the reference ($\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 436 \text{ nm}$, $\Phi_{\text{em}} = 0.097$) for the emission quantum yield measurements. The quantum yields for **5** and **6** are just for the emission in the region of 700–850 nm detected by the Hamamatsu photomultiplier tube (PMT) R928. ^b Signal was too weak to be detected.

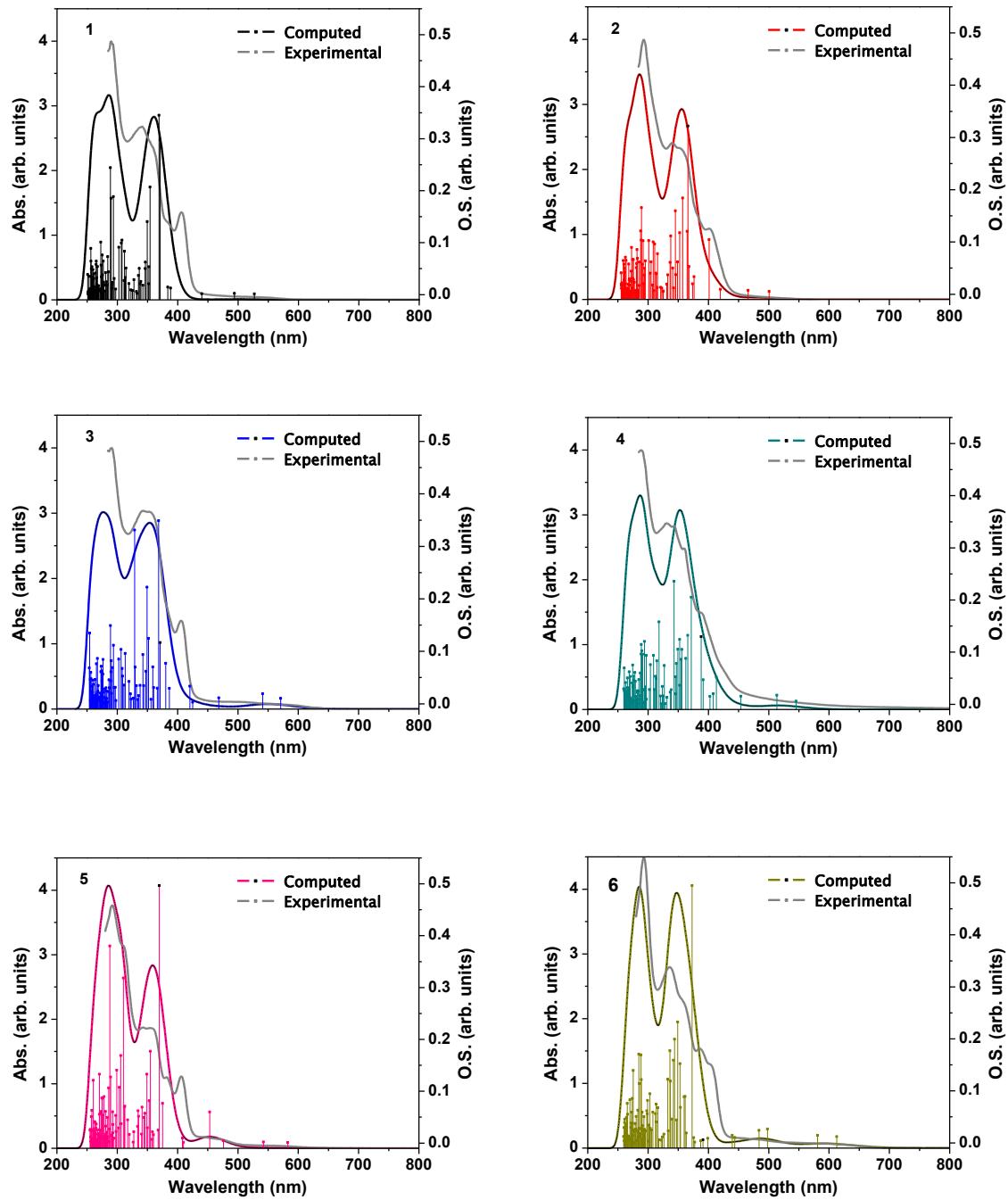


Figure S1. Comparison of the computed and experimental absorption spectra of **1-6** in CH_2Cl_2

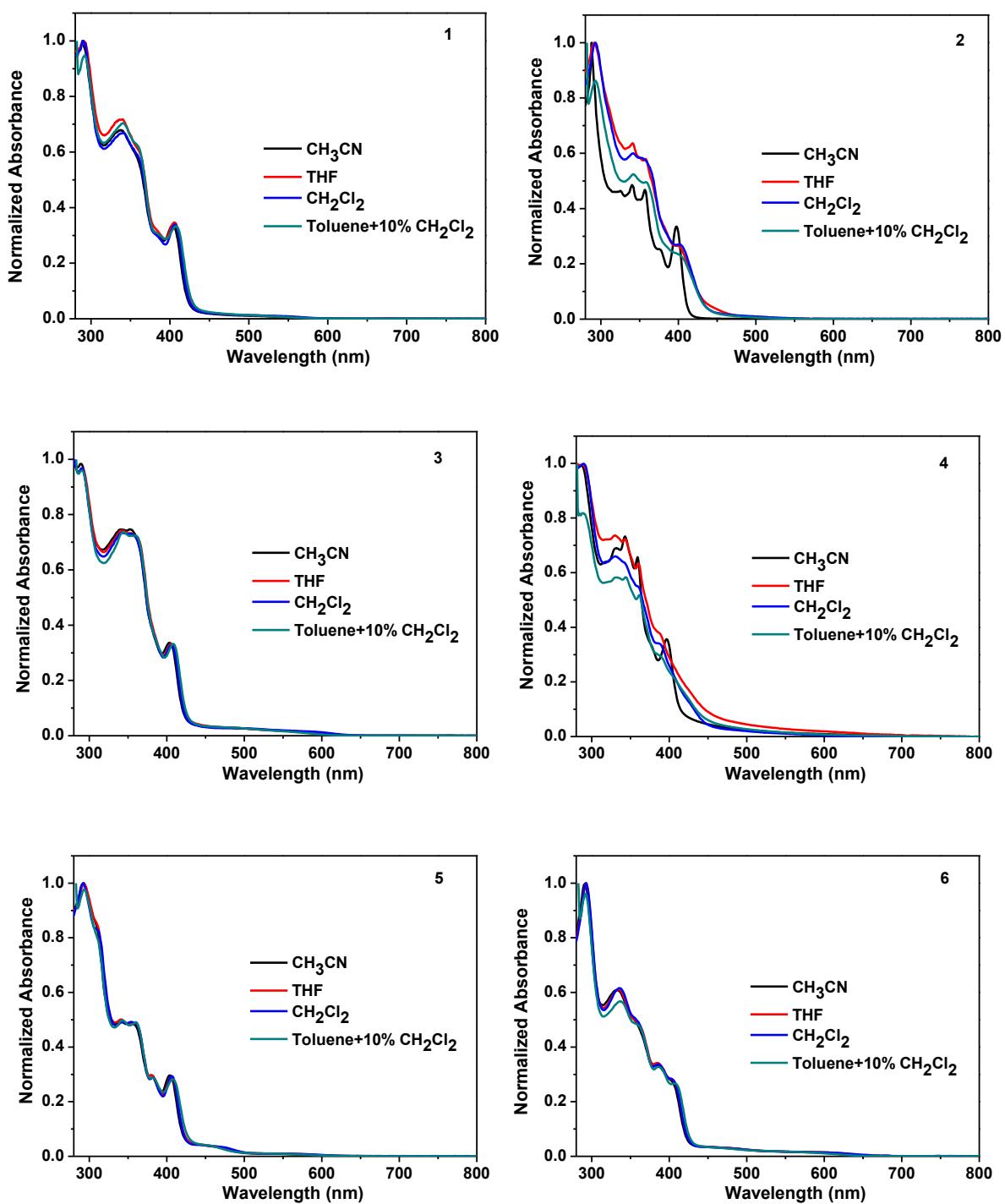
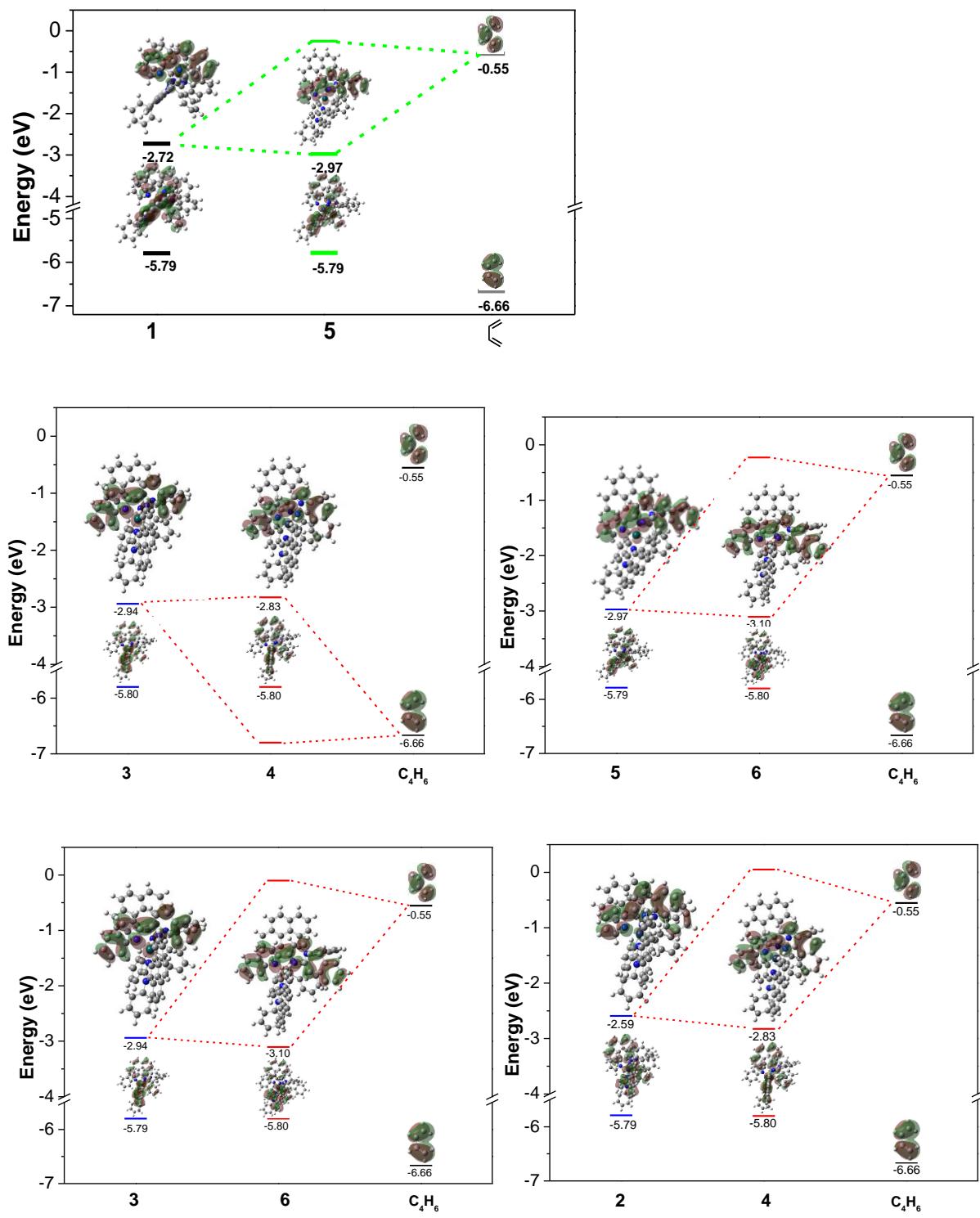


Figure S2. Normalized experimental absorption spectra of **1-6** in different solvents.



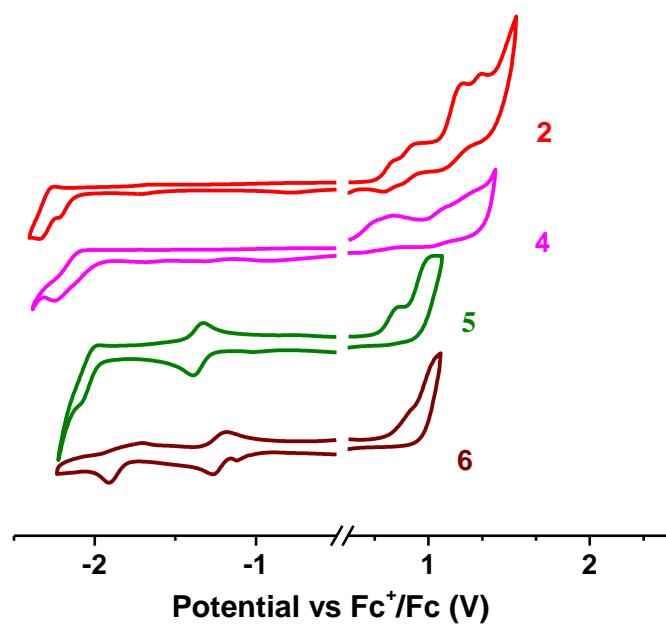


Figure S4. Cyclic voltammograms of complexes **2**, **4**, **5** and **6** in degassed anhydrous CH_3CN solutions (1×10^{-3} M) in the presence of 0.1 M tetrabutylammonium hexafluorophosphate as the supporting electrolyte and ferrocenium/ferrocene (Fc^+/Fc) couple as the internal standard. The potentials were recorded against an Ag/AgCl reference electrode, but are plotted vs the Fc^+/Fc couple.

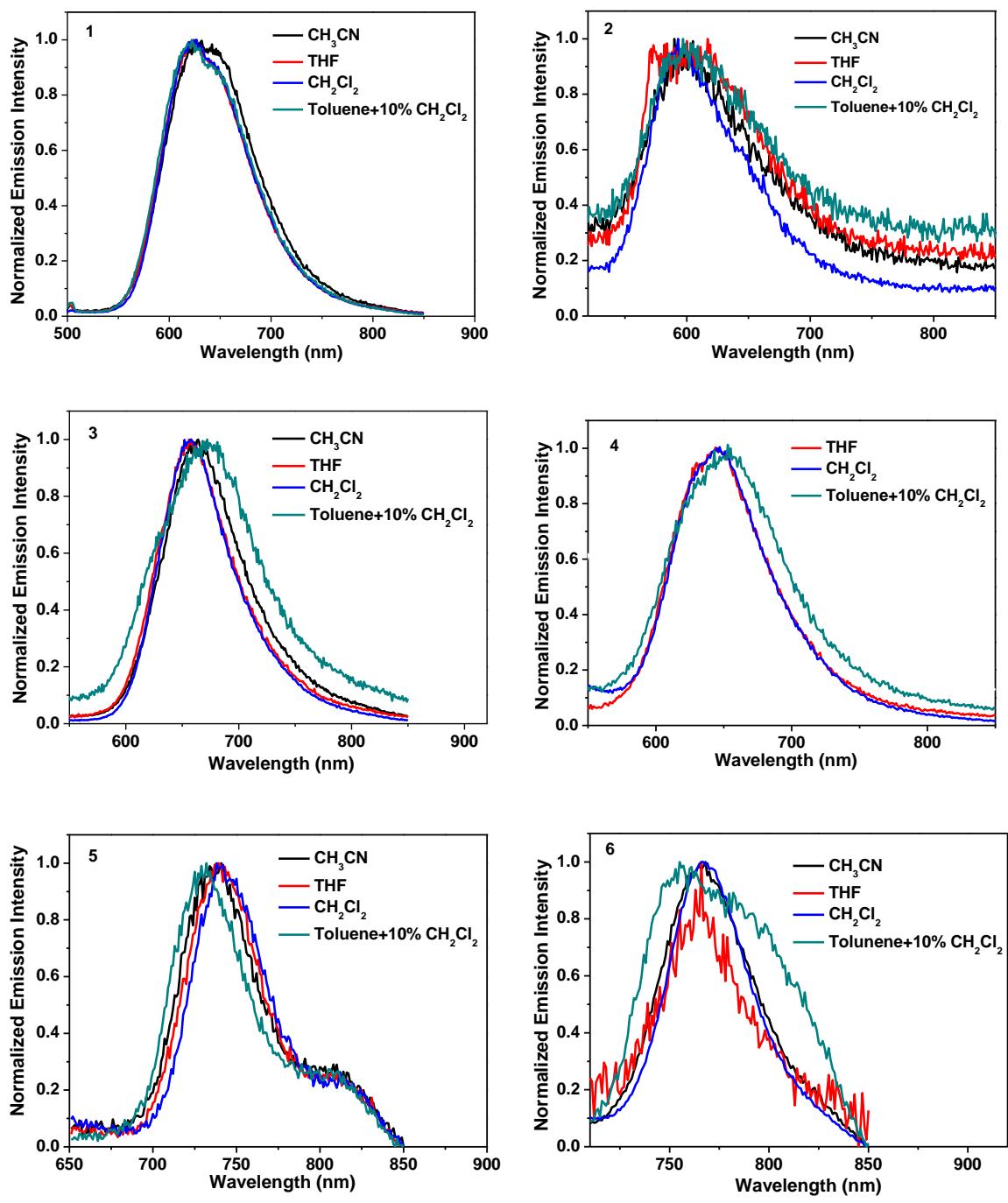


Figure S5. Normalized experimental emission spectra of **1–6** at room temperature in different solvents. Hamamatsu R928 PMT was used as the detector for these measurements.

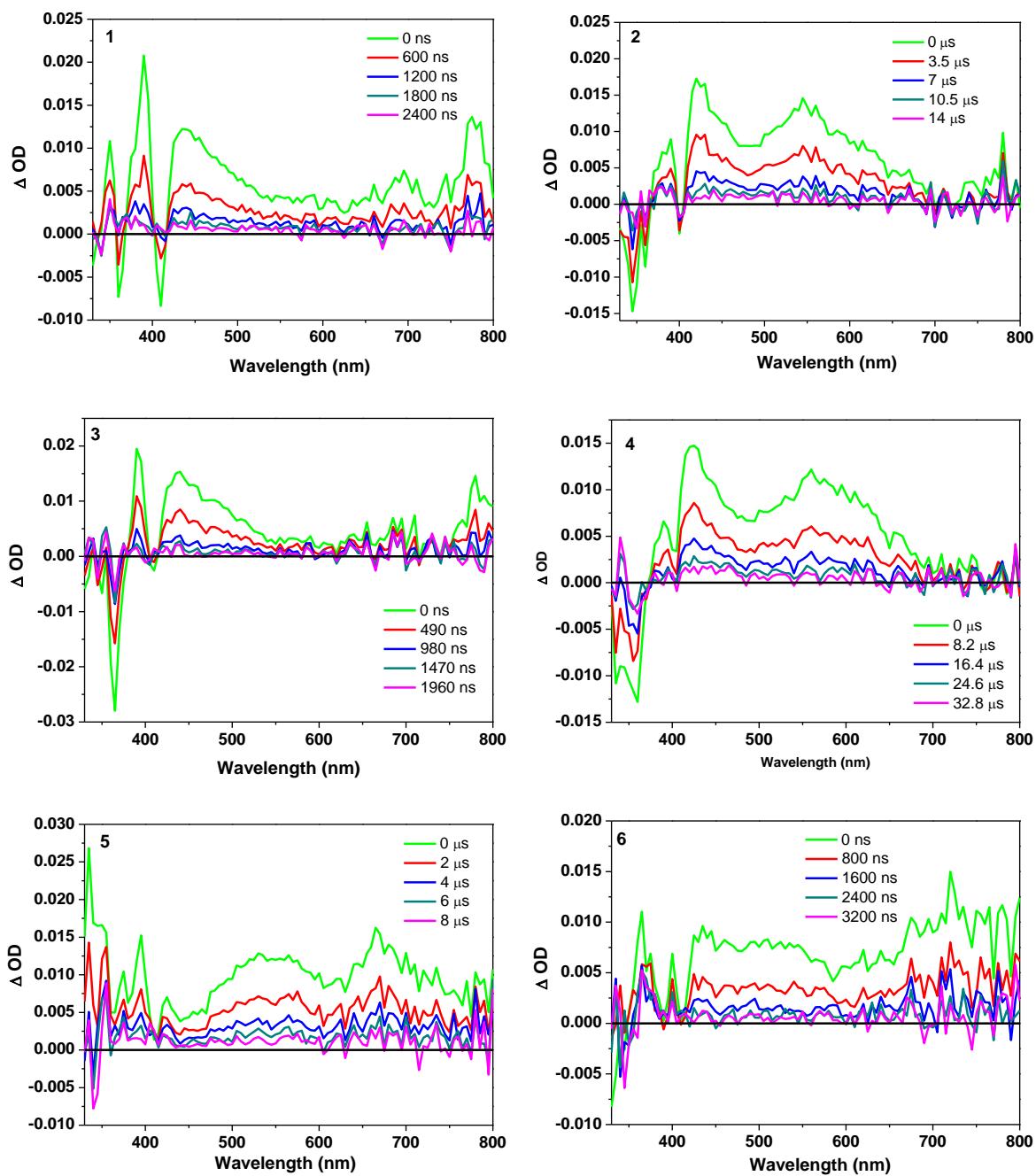


Figure S6. Nanosecond time-resolved transient differential absorption spectra of **1–6** in acetonitrile. $\lambda_{ex} = 355$ nm, $A_{355} = 0.4$ in a 1-cm cuvette.

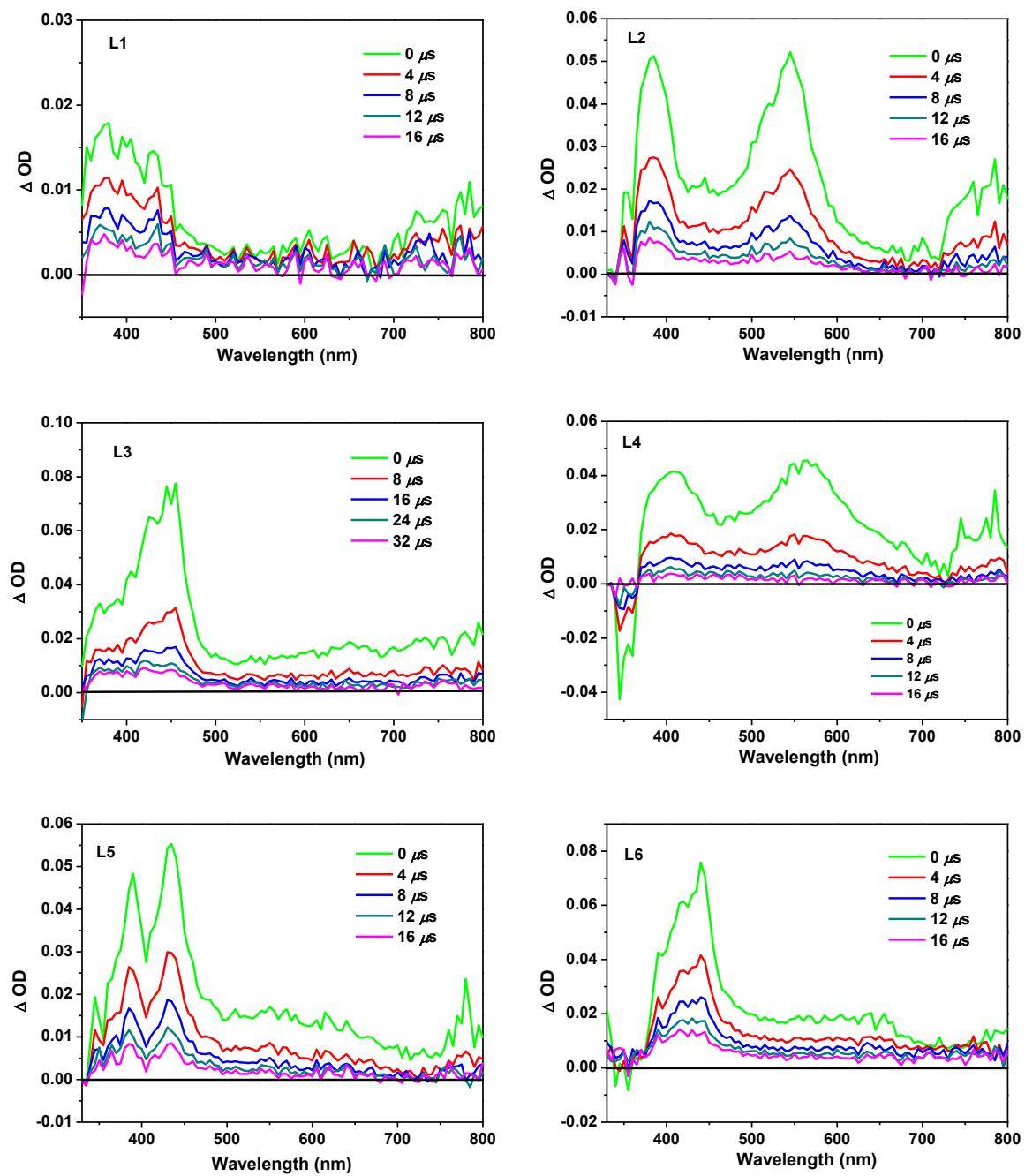


Figure S7. Nanosecond time-resolved transient differential absorption spectra of **L1–L6** in acetonitrile. $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 355 \text{ nm}$, $A_{355} = 0.4$ in a 1-cm cuvette.

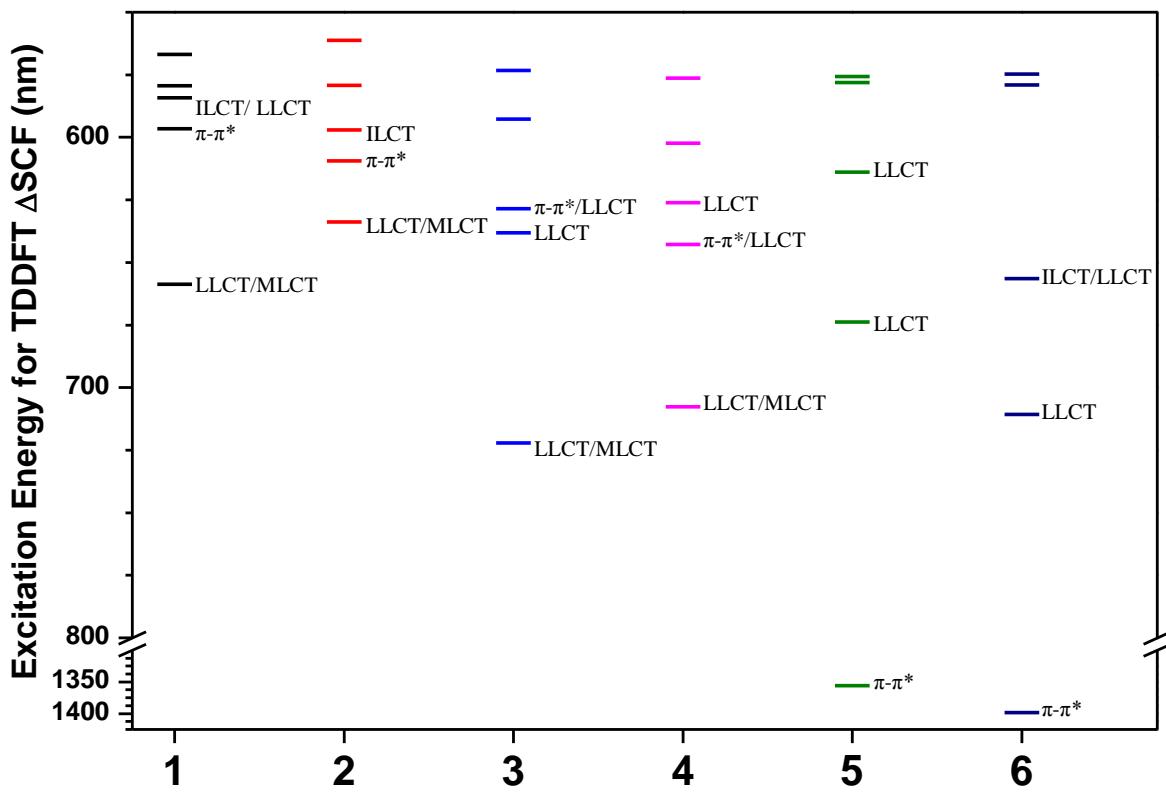


Figure S8. Calculated triplet excited state energy diagram for **1**-**6** in CH_3CN using the triplet state geometries from the ground state optimization.