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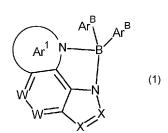
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(54) Title: ORGANOBORON COMPLEXES FOR ORGANIC ELECTROLUMINESCENT DEVICES



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to compounds of the formula (1) which are suitable for use in electronic devices, in particular organic electroluminescent devices, and to electronic devices which comprise these compounds.

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## ORGANOBORON COMPLEXES FOR ORGANIC ELECTROLUMINESCENT DEVICES

The present invention relates to a compound of the formula (1), to the use of the compound in an electronic device, and to an electronic device comprising a compound of the formula (1). The present invention furthermore relates to a process for the preparation of a compound of the formula (1) and to a formulation comprising one or more compounds of the formula (1).

The structure of organic electroluminescent devices (OLEDs) in which organic semiconductors are employed as functional materials is described, for example, in US 4539507. The emitting materials employed here are very often organometallic complexes which exhibit phosphorescence. For quantum-mechanical reasons, an up to four-fold increase in efficiency is possible using phosphorescent instead of fluorescent emitters. In general, however, there is still a need for improvement in the case of OLEDs, in particular also in the case of OLEDs which exhibit triplet emission (phosphorescence), for example with respect to efficiency, operating voltage and lifetime.

The properties of phosphorescent OLEDs are not only determined by the triplet emitters employed but also by the other materials used together with triplet emitters in OLEDs, such as matrix materials, also called host materials. Improvements in these materials and their charge-transport properties can thus also result in significant improvements in the OLED properties.

Thus, the choice of the matrix material in an emission layer comprising a phosphorescent emitter has a great influence on OLEDs properties, especially in terms of efficiency. The matrix material limits the quenching of excited states of emitter molecules by energy transfer.

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The object of the present invention is the provision of compounds, which are suitable for use in an OLED, in particular as matrix material for phosphorescent emitters. A further object of the present invention is to provide further organic semiconductors for organic electroluminescent devices to provide the person skilled in the art with a greater possible choice of materials for the production of OLEDs.

Organoboron complexes are known from the prior art for their optical properties (for example in Más-Montoya et al., J. Org. Chem. 2016, 81, 3296-3302 and in Liu et al., Adv. Funct. Mater. 2005, 15, No. 1, January, 143-154).

Surprisingly, it has been found that certain organoboron complexes described in greater detail below are highly suitable for use in OLEDs, in particular as matrix material for phosphorescent emitters. When employed as matrix materials, these compounds lead to OLEDs exhibiting very good properties in terms of lifetime and/or efficiency and/or electroluminescent emission. In addition, these compounds have a high glass transition temperature and a good thermal stability, which is an important property for OLED materials, especially when the materials are vapor-deposited via a vacuum process.

- The present invention therefore relates to these compounds and to electronic devices, in particular organic electroluminescent devices, which comprise compounds of this type.
- The present invention relates to a compound of the formula (1):

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formula (1)

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where the following applies to the symbols and indices used:

- Ar<sup>1</sup> is a heteroaryl group comprising at least one nitrogen which is represented in formula (1), having 5 to 30 aromatic ring atoms, which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>1</sup>;
  - X stands, on each occurrence, identically or differently, for CR<sup>2</sup> or N; or two adjacent groups X form together a ring condensed on the structure of formula (1), wherein the condensed ring is selected from an aryl or heteroaryl group having 5 to 30 aromatic ring atoms, which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>2</sup>;
- 25 Ar<sup>B</sup> is, on each occurrence, identically or differently, an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring system having 5 to 60 aromatic ring atoms, which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>3</sup>;
- W is on each occurrence, identically or differently, CR¹ or N; or two adjacent groups W stand for a group of formula (W-1) or (W-2),

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Formula (W-1)
$$\begin{bmatrix}
E^1 \\
Z \\
Z
\end{bmatrix}$$
Formula (W-2)

where the dashed bonds indicate the bonding to the groups of formula (1);

Z is on each occurrence, identically or differently, CR1 or N;

 $E^1$ ,  $E^2$  are, on each occurrence, identically or differently, selected from a single bond,  $B(R^0)$ ,  $C(R^0)_2$ ,  $Si(R^0)_2$ , C=O,  $C=NR^0$ ,  $C=C(R^0)_2$ , O, S, S=O,  $SO_2$ ,  $N(R^0)$ ,  $P(R^0)$  and  $P(=O)R^0$ , where at least one of the groups  $E^1$  and  $E^2$ , present in the same ring, is not a single bond;

R<sup>0</sup> stands on each occurrence, identically or differently, for H, D, F, Cl, Br, I, 20 CN, a straight-chain alkyl, alkoxy or thioalkyl groups having 1 to 40 C atoms or branched or a cyclic alkyl, alkoxy or thioalkyl groups having 3 to 40 C atoms, each of which may be substituted by one or more radicals R4, where in each case one or more non-adjacent CH<sub>2</sub> groups may be replaced by  $R^4C=CR^4$ , C=C,  $Si(R^4)_2$ ,  $Ge(R^4)_2$ ,  $Sn(R^4)_2$ , C=O, C=S, C=Se,  $P(=O)(R^4)$ , SO, 25 SO<sub>2</sub>, O, S or CONR<sup>4</sup> and where one or more H atoms may be replaced by D, F, Cl, Br, I, CN or NO<sub>2</sub>, an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring systems having 5 to 60 aromatic ring atoms, which may in each case be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>, or an aryloxy groups having 5 to 60 aromatic 30 ring atoms, which may be substituted by one or more radicals R4, where two adjacent substituents R<sup>0</sup> may form an aliphatic or aromatic ring system together, which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>;

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 $R^{1}$ ,  $R^{2}$ ,  $R^{3}$ stand on each occurrence, identically or differently, for H, D, F, Cl, Br, I, CHO, CN,  $C(=O)Ar^3$ ,  $P(=O)(Ar^3)_2$ ,  $S(=O)Ar^3$ ,  $S(=O)_2Ar^3$ , N(Ar<sup>3</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, Si(R<sup>4</sup>)<sub>3</sub>, B(OR<sup>4</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, OSO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>4</sup>, a straight-chain alkyl, alkoxy or thioalkyl groups having 1 to 40 C atoms or branched or a cyclic alkyl, alkoxy or thioalkyl groups having 3 to 40 C atoms, each of which may be substituted by one or more radicals R4, where in each case one or more non-adjacent CH<sub>2</sub> groups may be replaced by  $R^4C=CR^4$ , C=C,  $Si(R^4)_2$ , Ge(R<sup>4</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, Sn(R<sup>4</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, C=O, C=S, C=Se, P(=O)(R<sup>4</sup>), SO, SO<sub>2</sub>, O, S or CONR<sup>4</sup> and where one or more H atoms may be replaced by D, F, Cl, Br, I, CN or NO<sub>2</sub>, an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring systems having 5 to 60 aromatic ring atoms, which may in each case be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>, or an aryloxy groups having 5 to 60 aromatic ring atoms, which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>; where two adjacent substituents R<sup>1</sup>, two adjacent substituents R<sup>2</sup> and/or two adjacent substituents R<sup>3</sup> may form an aliphatic or aromatic ring system together, which may be substituted by one or more radicals R4;

Ar<sup>3</sup> is, on each occurrence, identically or differently, an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring system having 5 to 60 aromatic ring atoms, which may in each case also be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>;

R<sup>4</sup> stands on each occurrence, identically or differently, for H, D, F, Cl, Br, I, CN, a straight-chain alkyl, alkoxy or thioalkyl groups having 1 to 20 C atoms or branched or cyclic alkyl, alkoxy or thioalkyl groups having 3 to 20 C atoms, where in each case one or more non-adjacent CH<sub>2</sub> groups may be replaced by SO, SO<sub>2</sub>, O, S and where one or more H atoms may be replaced by D, F, Cl, Br or I, or an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring system having 5 to 24 C atoms.

Adjacent substituents in the sense of the present invention are substituents which are bonded to carbon atoms which are linked directly to one another or which are bonded to the same carbon atom.

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Furthermore, the following definitions of chemical groups apply for the purposes of the present application:

An aryl group in the sense of this invention contains 6 to 60 aromatic ring atoms; a heteroaryl group in the sense of this invention contains 5 to 60 aromatic ring atoms, at least one of which is a heteroatom. The hetero atoms are preferably selected from N, O and S. This represents the basic definition. If other preferences are indicated in the description of the present invention, for example with respect to the number of aromatic ring atoms or the heteroatoms present, these apply.

An aryl group or heteroaryl group here is taken to mean either a simple aromatic ring, i.e. benzene, or a simple heteroaromatic ring, for example pyridine, pyrimidine or thiophene, or a condensed (annellated) aromatic or heteroaromatic polycycle, for example naphthalene, phenanthrene, quinoline or carbazole. A condensed (annellated) aromatic or heteroaromatic polycycle in the sense of the present application consists of two or more simple aromatic or heteroaromatic rings condensed with one another.

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An aryl or heteroaryl group, which may in each case be substituted by the above-mentioned radicals and which may be linked to the aromatic or heteroaromatic ring system via any desired positions, is taken to mean, in particular, groups derived from benzene, naphthalene, anthracene, phenanthrene, pyrene, dihydropyrene, chrysene, perylene, fluoranthene, benzanthracene, benzophenanthrene, tetracene, pentacene, benzopyrene, furan, benzofuran, isobenzofuran, dibenzofuran, thiophene, benzothiophene, isobenzothiophene, dibenzothiophene, pyrrole, indole, isoindole, carbazole, pyridine, quinoline, isoquinoline, acridine, phenanthridine, benzo-5,6-quinoline, benzo-6,7-quinoline, benzo-7,8-quinoline, phenothiazine,

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phenoxazine, pyrazole, indazole, imidazole, benzimidazole, naphthimidazole, phenanthrimidazole, pyridimidazole, pyrazinimidazole, quinoxalinimidazole, oxazole, benzoxazole, naphthoxazole, anthroxazole, phenanthroxazole, isoxazole, 1,2-thiazole, 1,3-thiazole, benzothiazole, pyridazine, benzopyridazine, pyrimidine, benzopyrimidine, quinoxaline, pyrazine, phenazine, naphthyridine, azacarbazole, benzocarboline, phenanthroline, 1,2,3-triazole, 1,2,4-triazole, benzotriazole, 1,2,3-oxadiazole, 1,2,4-oxadiazole, 1,2,5-oxadiazole, 1,3,4-oxadiazole, 1,2,3-thiadiazole, 1,2,4-triazine, 1,2,3-triazine, tetrazole, 1,2,4,5-tetrazine, 1,2,3,4-tetrazine, 1,2,3,5-tetrazine, purine, pteridine, indolizine and benzothiadiazole.

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An aryloxy group in accordance with the definition of the present invention is taken to mean an aryl group, as defined above, which is bonded via an oxygen atom. An analogous definition applies to heteroaryloxy groups.

An aromatic ring system in the sense of this invention contains 6 to 60 C atoms in the ring system. A heteroaromatic ring system in the sense of this invention contains 5 to 60 aromatic ring atoms, at least one of which is a heteroatom. The heteroatoms are preferably selected from N, O and/or S. An aromatic or heteroaromatic ring system in the sense of this invention is intended to be taken to mean a system which does not necessarily contain only aryl or heteroaryl groups, but instead in which, in addition, a plurality of aryl or heteroaryl groups may be connected by a non-aromatic unit (preferably less than 10% of the atoms other than H), such as, for example, an sp<sup>3</sup>-hybridised C, Si, N or O atom, an sp<sup>2</sup>-hybridised C or N atom or an sp-hybridised C atom. Thus, for example, systems such as 9,9'-spirobifluorene, 9,9'-diarylfluorene, triarylamine, diaryl ether, stilbene, etc., are also intended to be taken to be aromatic ring systems in the sense of this invention, as are systems in which two or more aryl groups are connected, for example, by a linear or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl group or by a silyl group. Furthermore, systems in which two or more aryl or heteroaryl groups

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are linked to one another via single bonds are also taken to be aromatic or heteroaromatic ring systems in the sense of this invention, such as, for example, systems such as biphenyl, terphenyl or diphenyltriazine.

An aromatic or heteroaromatic ring system having 5 - 60 aromatic ring 5 atoms, which may in each case also be substituted by radicals as defined above and which may be linked to the aromatic or heteroaromatic group via any desired positions, is taken to mean, in particular, groups derived from benzene, naphthalene, anthracene, benzanthracene, phenanthrene, 10 benzophenanthrene, pyrene, chrysene, perylene, fluoranthene, naphthacene, pentacene, benzopyrene, biphenyl, biphenylene, terphenyl, terphenylene, quaterphenyl, fluorene, spirobifluorene, dihydrophenanthrene, dihydropyrene, tetrahydropyrene, cis- or trans-indenofluorene, truxene, isotruxene, 15 spirotruxene, spiroisotruxene, furan, benzofuran, isobenzofuran, dibenzofuran, thiophene, benzothiophene, isobenzothiophene, dibenzothiophene, pyrrole, indole, isoindole, carbazole, indolocarbazole, indenocarbazole, pyridine, quinoline, isoquinoline, acridine, phenanthridine, benzo-5,6-quinoline, benzo-6,7-quinoline, benzo-7,8-quinoline, phenothiazine, phenoxazine, 20 pyrazole, indazole, imidazole, benzimidazole, naphthimidazole, phenanthrimidazole, pyridimidazole, pyrazinimidazole, quinoxalinimidazole, oxazole, benzoxazole, naphthoxazole, anthroxazole, phenanthroxazole, isoxazole, 1,2-thiazole, 1,3-thiazole, benzothiazole, pyridazine, benzopyridazine, 25 pyrimidine, benzopyrimidine, quinoxaline, 1,5-diazaanthracene, 2,7-diazapyrene, 2,3-diazapyrene, 1,6-diazapyrene, 1,8-diazapyrene, 4,5-diazapyrene, 4,5,9,10-tetraazaperylene, pyrazine, phenazine, phenoxazine, phenothiazine, fluorubin, naphthyridine, azacarbazole, benzocarboline, 30 phenanthroline, 1,2,3-triazole, 1,2,4-triazole, benzotriazole, 1,2,3-oxadiazole, 1,2,4-oxadiazole, 1,2,5-oxadiazole, 1,3,4-oxadiazole, 1,2,3-thiadiazole, 1,2,4-thiadiazole, 1,2,5-thiadiazole, 1,3,4-thiadiazole, 1,3,5-triazine, 1,2,4triazine, 1,2,3-triazine, tetrazole, 1,2,4,5-tetrazine, 1,2,3,4-tetrazine, 1,2,3,5tetrazine, purine, pteridine, indolizine and benzothiadiazole, or combinations 35 of these groups.

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For the purposes of the present invention, a straight-chain alkyl group having 1 to 40 C atoms or a branched or cyclic alkyl group having 3 to 40 C atoms or an alkenyl or alkynyl group having 2 to 40 C atoms, in which, in addition, individual H atoms or CH<sub>2</sub> groups may be substituted by the groups mentioned above under the definition of the radicals, is preferably taken to mean the radicals methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, i-propyl, n-butyl, i-butyl, s-butyl, t-butyl, 2-methylbutyl, n-pentyl, s-pentyl, cyclopentyl, neopentyl, n-hexyl, cyclohexyl, neohexyl, n-heptyl, cycloheptyl, n-octyl, cyclooctyl, 2-ethylhexyl, trifluoromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl, ethenyl, propenyl, butenyl, pentenyl, cyclopentenyl, hexenyl, cyclohexenyl, heptenyl, cycloheptenyl, octenyl, cyclooctenyl, ethynyl, propynyl, butynyl, pentynyl, hexynyl or octynyl. An alkoxy or thioalkyl group having 1 to 40 C atoms is preferably taken to mean methoxy, trifluoromethoxy, ethoxy, n-propoxy, i-propoxy, n-butoxy, i-butoxy, s-butoxy, t-butoxy, n-pentoxy, s-pentoxy, 2-methylbutoxy, n-hexoxy, cyclohexyloxy, n-heptoxy, cycloheptyloxy, n-octyloxy, cyclooctyloxy, 2-ethylhexyloxy, pentafluoroethoxy, 2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy, methylthio, ethylthio, n-propylthio, i-propylthio, n-butylthio, i-butylthio, s-butylthio, t-butylthio, n-pentylthio, s-pentylthio, n-hexylthio, cyclohexylthio, n-heptylthio, cycloheptylthio, n-octylthio, cyclooctylthio, 2-ethylhexylthio, trifluoromethylthio, pentafluoroethylthio, 2,2,2-trifluoroethylthio, ethenylthio, propenylthio, butenylthio, pentenylthio, cyclopentenylthio, hexenylthio, cyclohexenylthio, heptenylthio, cycloheptenylthio, octenylthio, cyclooctenylthio, ethynylthio, propynylthio, butynylthio, pentynylthio, hexynylthio, heptynylthio or octynylthio.

The formulation that two radicals may form a ring with one another is, for the purposes of the present application, intended to be taken to mean, inter alia, that the two radicals are linked to one another by a chemical bond. This is illustrated by the following schemes:

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$$= \bigoplus_{\mathsf{CH}_3} \mathsf{ring formation}$$

$$\mathsf{R: -CH_3}$$

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Furthermore, the above-mentioned formulation is also intended to be taken to mean that, in the case where one of the two radicals represents hydrogen, the second radical is bonded at the position to which the hydrogen atom was bonded, with formation of a ring. This is illustrated by the following scheme:

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$$R: -H, -CH_3$$
  $R: -H, -CH_3$ 

In accordance with a preferred embodiment of the invention, the group Ar<sup>1</sup> is a heteroaryl group having 5 to 18 aromatic ring atoms. More preferably, the group Ar<sup>1</sup> is selected from the groups of formulae (Ar1-1) or (Ar1-2),

Formula (Ar1-1)

Formula (Ar1-2)

where the sign \* indicates the position of the coordination to the Boron and the sign ^ indicates the bonds to the adjacent 6-membered ring, as depicted in formula (1), and the symbol W has the same meaning as above.

In accordance with a preferred embodiment of the invention, E<sup>1</sup>, E<sup>2</sup> are, on each occurrence, identically or differently, selected from a single bond, C(R<sup>0</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, C=O, O, S, S=O, SO<sub>2</sub> and N(R<sup>0</sup>), where at least one of the groups E<sup>1</sup> and E<sup>2</sup>, present in the same ring, is not a single bond. Very preferably, one of the groups E<sup>1</sup> and E<sup>2</sup> is a single bond and the other one is C(R<sup>0</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, C=O, O, S, S=O, SO<sub>2</sub> or N(R<sup>0</sup>). Particularly preferably, one of the groups E<sup>1</sup> and E<sup>2</sup> is a single bond and the other one is C(R<sup>0</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, O, S, or N(R<sup>0</sup>).

Preferably, R<sup>0</sup> stands on each occurrence, identically or differently, for H, D, F, a straight-chain alkyl group having 1 to 10 C atoms or branched or a cyclic alkyl group having 3 to 10 C atoms, each of which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>, where one or more H atoms may be replaced by D or F, an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring systems having 5 to 18 aromatic ring atoms, which may in each case be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>, where two adjacent substituents R<sup>0</sup> may form an aliphatic or aromatic ring system together, which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>.

In accordance with a preferred embodiment of the invention, X stands, on each occurrence, identically or differently, for CR<sup>2</sup> or N; or two adjacent groups X form together a ring condensed on the structure of formula (1), wherein the condensed ring is selected from formulae (X-1) and (X-2),

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where the dashed bonds indicate the bonding of the corresponding adjacent groups X to the structure of formula (1);

V is on each occurrence, identically or differently, CR<sup>2</sup> or N; or two adjacent groups V form together a ring condensed on the structure of formula (X-1) or formula (X-2), wherein the condensed ring is selected from formulae (V-1) and (V-2),

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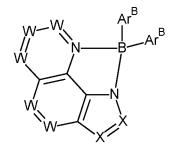
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where the dashed bonds indicate the bonding of the corresponding adjacent groups V to the structures of formulae (X-1) and (X-2);

U is on each occurrence, identically or differently,  $CR^2$  or N; and  $E^1$ ,  $E^2$  and  $R^2$  have the same meaning as above.

In accordance with a preferred embodiment, the compound of formula (1) is selected from the compounds of formula (2),



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Formula (2)

where the symbols Ar<sup>B</sup>, X and W have the same meaning as above.

In accordance with a preferred embodiment, the compounds of formula (1) or (2) are selected from the compounds of formulae (3) to (6),

where the symbols Ar<sup>B</sup>, W, V, E<sup>1</sup>, E<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> have the same meaning as above.

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Preferably, there is maximum one group X in the 5-membered ring as depicted in formula (1) which stands for N, there are maximum two groups W per 6-membered ring, which stand for N, there are maximum two groups V per 6-membered ring, which stand for N, there are maximum two groups Z

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per 6-membered ring, which stand for N and there are maximum two groups T per 6-membered ring, which stand for N.

In accordance with a preferred embodiment, the compounds of formula (1) to (6) are selected from the compounds of formulae (3-1) to (6-2),

$$R^{1}$$
 $R^{1}$ 
 $R^{1}$ 
 $R^{2}$ 
 $R^{2}$ 
 $R^{2}$ 
 $R^{2}$ 
 $R^{2}$ 
 $R^{2}$ 
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$$R^{1}$$
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 $R^{3}$ 

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where the symbols Ar<sup>B</sup>, R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> have the same meaning as above and where E<sup>1</sup> in formula (6-1) is B(R<sup>0</sup>), C(R<sup>0</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, Si(R<sup>0</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, C=O, C=NR<sup>0</sup>, C=C(R<sup>0</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, O, S, S=O, SO<sub>2</sub>, N(R<sup>0</sup>), P(R<sup>0</sup>) or P(=O)R<sup>0</sup>.

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In accordance with a preferred embodiment, the group Ar<sup>B</sup> is, on each occurrence, identically or differently, an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring system having 5 to 30 aromatic ring atoms, more preferably 5 to 18 aromatic ring atoms, which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>3</sup>. It is very preferably that Ar<sup>B</sup> is, on each occurrence, identically or differently, an aromatic ring system having 6 to 18 aromatic ring atoms, more preferably 6 to 12 aromatic ring atoms, which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>3</sup>. Examples of very suitable groups for Ar<sup>B</sup> are phenyl, biphenyl and naphthyl groups, which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>3</sup>.

Preferably, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> stand on each occurrence, identically or differently, for H, D, F, CN, N(Ar<sup>3</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, a straight-chain alkyl group having 1 to 20 C atoms or branched or a cyclic alkyl group having 3 to 20 C atoms, each of which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>, where in each case one or more

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non-adjacent CH<sub>2</sub> groups may be replaced by R<sup>4</sup>C=CR<sup>4</sup>, C=O, O or S and where one or more H atoms may be replaced by D or F, an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring systems having 5 to 40 aromatic ring atoms, preferably 5 to 25 aromatic ring atoms, which may in each case be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>; where two adjacent substituents R<sup>1</sup> and/or two adjacent substituents R<sup>2</sup> may form an aliphatic or aromatic ring system together, which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>.

Preferably, R<sup>3</sup> stands on each occurrence, identically or differently, for H, D, F, CN, N(Ar<sup>3</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, a straight-chain alkyl group having 1 to 20 C atoms or branched or a cyclic alkyl group having 3 to 20 C atoms, each of which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>, where in each case one or more non-adjacent CH<sub>2</sub> groups may be replaced by R<sup>4</sup>C=CR<sup>4</sup>, C=O, O or S and where one or more H atoms may be replaced by D or F, an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring systems having 5 to 40 aromatic ring atoms, preferably 5 to 25 aromatic ring atoms, which may in each case be substituted by one or more radicals R4; where two adjacent substituents R3 may form an aliphatic or aromatic ring system together, which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>. Very preferably, R<sup>3</sup> stands on each occurrence, identically or differently, for H, D, F, a straight-chain alkyl group having 1 to 10 C atoms or branched or a cyclic alkyl group having 3 to 10 C atoms, each of which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>, where one or more H atoms may be replaced by D or F, an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring systems having 5 to 40 aromatic ring atoms, preferably 5 to 25 aromatic ring atoms, very preferably 5 to 18 aromatic ring atoms, which may in each case be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>.

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In accordance with a preferred embodiment, the compounds of formulae (1), (2), (3) to (6) and (3-1) to (6-2) comprise at least one group R<sup>1</sup> or R<sup>2</sup> selected from aromatic or heteroaromatic ring systems having 5 to 60 aromatic ring atoms, which may in each case be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>.

More preferably, the compounds of formulae (1), (2), (3) to (6) and (3-1) to (6-2) comprise at least one group  $R^1$  or  $R^2$  selected from the groups of formulae (R-1) to (R-15),

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$$(R-13) \qquad (R-14) \qquad (R-15)$$

where:

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the dashed bond indicates the bonding to the structure of formulae (1), (2), (3) to (6) and (3-1) to (6-2) and the symbol V has the same meaning as above, with the proviso that V is a C atom when the dashed bond is bonded to V, and where:

are on each occurrence, identically or differently, H, D, F, Cl, Br, I, 15 CHO,  $N(Ar^3)_2$ ,  $C(=O)Ar^3$ ,  $P(=O)(Ar^3)_2$ ,  $S(=O)Ar^3$ ,  $S(=O)_2Ar^3$ ,  $(R)C=C(R)Ar^3$ , CN, NO<sub>2</sub>, Si(R<sup>4</sup>)<sub>3</sub>, B(OR<sup>4</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, B(R<sup>4</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, B(N(R<sup>4</sup>)<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, OSO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>4</sup>, a straight-chain alkyl, alkoxy or thioalkoxy group having 1 to 40 C atoms or a straight-chain alkenyl or alkynyl group having 2 to 40 C atoms or a branched or cyclic 20 alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkoxy or thioalkoxy group having 3 to 40 C atoms, each of which may be substituted by one or more radicals R4, where one or more, preferably non-adjacent CH<sub>2</sub> groups may be replaced by (R<sup>4</sup>)C=C(R<sup>4</sup>), C=C,  $Si(R^4)_2$ ,  $Ge(R^4)_2$ ,  $Sn(R^4)_2$ , C=O, C=S, C=Se,  $P(=O)(R^4)$ , SO,  $SO_2$ , 25 N(R<sup>4</sup>), O, S or CON(R<sup>4</sup>) and where one or more H atoms may be replaced by D, F, Cl, Br, I, CN or NO<sub>2</sub>, or an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring system having 5 to 60 aromatic ring atoms, which may in each case be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>, or an aryloxy or heteroaryloxy group having 5 to 60 aromatic ring atoms, which may be substituted by one or more radicals 30 R<sup>4</sup>, where optionally two adjacent substituents R<sup>C</sup> can form a mono- or polycyclic, aliphatic, aromatic or heteroaromatic ring system with one another; where Ar<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> have the same definitions as above; and

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T stands, on each occurrence, identically or differently, for CR<sup>4</sup> or N, with the proviso that T is a C atom when the dashed bond is bonded to T; or two adjacent groups T stand for a group of formula (T-1) or (T-2),

5 Formula (T-1) Formula (T-2)

where the dashed bonds in formulae (T-1) and (T-2) indicate the bonding to the groups of formulae (R-1) to (R-5);

G is on each occurrence, identically or differently, CR<sup>4</sup> or N; where R<sup>4</sup> has the same meaning as above;

L is an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring system having 5 to 30 aromatic ring atoms, which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>;

n is 0 or 1, preferably 0.

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L is preferably an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring system having 5 to 18 aromatic atoms, which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>. L is very preferably an aromatic ring system having 6 to 12 aromatic atoms, which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>. L is particularly preferably a phenyl group, which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>.

Examples of suitable groups R<sup>1</sup> or R<sup>2</sup> of formulae (R-1) to (R-15) are groups of formulae (R-16) to (R-129),

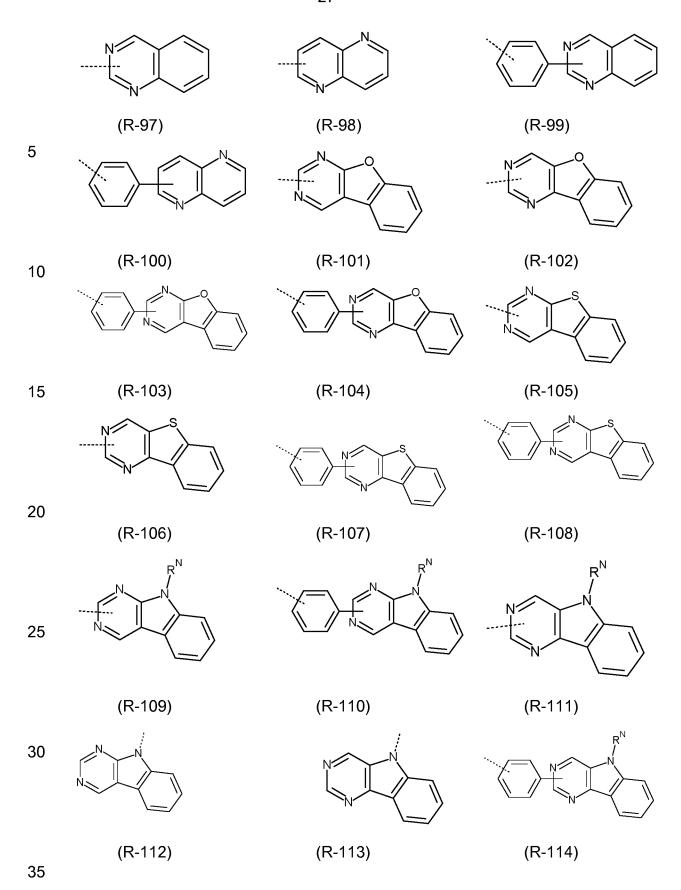
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where

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the dashed bond indicates the bonding to the group of formulae (1), (2), (3) to (6) or (3-1) to (6-2);

E, R<sup>N</sup> and R<sup>C</sup> have the same meaning as above; and the groups of formulae (R-16) to (R-129) are optionally substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup> at any free positions.

Among formulae (R-1) to (R-15), formulae (R-1), (R-2), (R-4), (R-5) and (R-8) to (R-12) are preferred.

25 Among formulae (R-16) to (R-129), formulae (R-16), (R-19), (R-22) to (R-33), (R-42), (R-44), (R-55), (R-56), (R-68), (R-71), (R-72), (R-76) to (R-78), (R-93), (R-94), (R-96), (R-101) to (R-108), (R-120), (R-123), (R-125), (R-126), (R-128) and (R-129) are preferred.

The group R<sup>C</sup> according to the present invention is preferably selected on each occurrence, identically or differently, from the group consisting of H, D, F, CN, Si(R<sup>4</sup>)<sub>3</sub>, a straight-chain alkyl group having 1 to 10 C atoms or a branched or cyclic alkyl group having 3 to 10 C atoms, each of which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>, an aromatic or heteroaromatic

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group having 5 to 25 aromatic ring atoms, each of which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>, where two adjacent substituents R<sup>C</sup> may optionally form a mono- or polycyclic, aliphatic ring system or aromatic ring system, each of which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>. More preferably, R<sup>C</sup> is selected on each occurrence, identically or differently, from the group consisting of H, a straight-chain alkyl group having 1 to 5 C atoms or a branched or cyclic alkyl group having 3 to 5 C atoms, each of which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>, an aryl or heteroaryl group having 5 to 18 aromatic ring atoms, each of which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>.

The group  $\mathsf{R}^\mathsf{N}$  according to the invention is preferably selected on each occurrence, identically or differently, from the group consisting of a straight-chain alkyl group having 1 to 10 C atoms or a branched or cyclic alkyl group having 3 to 10 C atoms, each of which may be substituted by one or more radicals  $\mathsf{R}^4$ , an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring system having 5 to 25 aromatic ring atoms, each of which may be substituted by one or more radicals  $\mathsf{R}^4$ . More preferably,  $\mathsf{R}^\mathsf{N}$  is an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring system having 5 to 25 aromatic ring atoms, preferably 6 to 18 aromatic ring atoms, more preferably 6 to 13 aromatic ring atoms. The group  $\mathsf{R}^\mathsf{N}$  is particularly preferably selected from the group consisting of phenyl, biphenyl, terphenyl, pyridine, quinoline, isoquinoline, pyridazine, benzopyridazine, pyrimidine, benzopyrimidine, benzimidazole, quinoxaline, pyrazine, 1,3,5-triazine, 1,2,4-triazine or 1,2,3-triazine, each of which may be substituted by one or more radicals  $\mathsf{R}^4$ .

30 Examples of suitable compounds according to the invention are the structures shown in the table below:

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5	N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N	F P P P P P P P P P P P P P P P P P P P	N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N
10	N B N	N-B N-B	N-B N-B
15			
20	N-B N	N-BN	N B
25	N—B N—N	B Z Z	N B
30			

5	N B N	N-B-N	N-B-N
10	O B Z Z	B Z	N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N
20	N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N	A B Z	N-B N-B
25 30	N-B N	N B N	N B N

5	N-B-N	N-B N	N-B-N-N-N-N-N-N-N-N-N-N-N-N-N-N-N-N-N-N
10	N-B-X	B Z	B Z
20	N-B-N		N N O
25	N-B N	B N	N-B N

5	N-B-N-N	N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N	Z B Z Z
10	N-B N-B	N-B	N-B N
20	N B N	B B Z	N B N
25	N-BNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNNN	A B Z	N B N
30			

5	N B N	N.B.	N, B
10	N-B N-B		N-B-F
20	N-B N-B	N B Z	N-B N-B
30	N-B NC	N-B N-B	N-B N

The compounds according to the invention can be prepared by synthesis steps known to the person skilled in the art, such as, for example, bromination, Suzuki coupling, Ullmann coupling, Hartwig-Buchwald coupling, etc. Suitable synthesis processes are depicted in general terms in Scheme 1 below.

#### Scheme 1

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$$Ar^{1}N$$
  $B(Ar^{B})_{3}$   $Ar^{1}N$   $B$   $Ar^{B}$   $Ar^$ 

The present invention therefore furthermore relates to a process for the synthesis of the compounds according to the invention, wherein a compound of formula (Int) reacts with a triarylborane B(Ar<sup>B</sup>)<sub>3</sub> so that a compound of formula (1) is obtained as depicted in scheme 1 above, and where the symbols Ar<sup>1</sup>, Ar<sup>B</sup>, W and X have the same meaning as above.

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For the processing of the compounds according to the invention from the liquid phase, for example by spin coating or by printing processes, formulations of the compounds according to the invention are necessary. These formulations can be, for example, solutions, dispersions or emulsions. It may be preferred to use mixtures of two or more solvents for this purpose. Suitable and preferred solvents are, for example, toluene, anisole, o-, m- or p-xylene, methyl benzoate, mesitylene, tetralin, veratrol, THF, methyl-THF, THP, chlorobenzene, dioxane, phenoxytoluene, in particular 3phenoxytoluene, (-)-fenchone, 1,2,3,5-tetramethylbenzene, 1,2,4,5-tetramethylbenzene, 1-methylnaphthalene, 2-methylbenzothiazole, 2-phenoxyethanol, 2-pyrrolidinone, 3-methylanisole, 4-methylanisole, 3,4-dimethylanisole, 3,5-dimethylanisole, acetophenone,  $\alpha$ -terpineol, benzothiazole, butyl benzoate, cumene, cyclohexanol, cyclohexanone, cyclohexylbenzene. decalin, dodecylbenzene, ethyl benzoate, indane, methyl benzoate, NMP, p-cymene, phenetole, 1,4-diisopropylbenzene, dibenzyl ether, diethylene glycol butyl methyl ether, triethylene glycol butyl methyl ether, diethylene glycol dibutyl ether, triethylene glycol dimethyl ether, diethylene glycol monobutyl ether, tripropylene glycol dimethyl ether, tetraethylene glycol dimethyl ether, 2-isopropylnaphthalene, pentylbenzene, hexylbenzene, heptylbenzene, octylbenzene, 1,1-bis(3,4-dimethylphenyl)ethane or mixtures of these solvents.

The present invention therefore furthermore relates to a formulation comprising a compound according to the invention and at least one further compound. The further compound may be, for example, a solvent, in particular one of the above-mentioned solvents or a mixture of these solvents.

However, the further compound may also be at least one further organic or inorganic compound which is likewise employed in the electronic device, for example an emitting compound, in particular a phosphorescent dopant, and/or a further matrix material. Suitable emitting compounds and further matrix materials are indicated below in connection with the organic electroluminescent device. This further compound may also be polymeric.

The compounds and mixtures according to the invention are suitable for use in an electronic device. An electronic device here is taken to mean a device which comprises at least one layer which comprises at least one organic compound. However, the component here may also comprise inorganic materials or also layers built up entirely from inorganic materials.

The present invention therefore furthermore relates to the use of the compounds or mixtures according to the invention in an electronic device, in particular in an organic electroluminescent device.

The present invention again furthermore relates to an electronic device comprising at least one of the compounds or mixtures according to the invention mentioned above. The preferences stated above for the compound also apply to the electronic devices.

The electronic device is preferably selected from the group consisting of organic electroluminescent devices (OLEDs, PLEDs), organic integrated circuits (O-ICs), organic field-effect transistors (O-FETs), organic thin-film transistors (O-TFTs), organic light-emitting transistors (O-LETs), organic solar cells (O-SCs), organic dye-sensitised solar cells, organic optical detectors, organic photoreceptors, organic field-quench devices (O-FQDs), light-emitting electrochemical cells (LECs), organic laser diodes (O-lasers) and "organic plasmon emitting devices" (D. M. Koller *et al.*, *Nature Photonics* **2008**, 1-4), preferably organic electroluminescent devices (OLEDs, PLEDs), in particular phosphorescent OLEDs.

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The organic electroluminescent device comprises a cathode, an anode and at least one emitting layer. Apart from these layers, it may also comprise further layers, for example in each case one or more hole-injection layers, hole-transport layers, hole-blocking layers, electron-transport layers, electron-injection layers, exciton-blocking layers, electron-blocking layers

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and/or charge-generation layers. It is likewise possible for interlayers, which have, for example, an exciton-blocking function, to be introduced between two emitting layers. However, it should be pointed out that each of these layers does not necessarily have to be present. The organic electroluminescent device here may comprise one emitting layer or a plurality of emitting layers. If a plurality of emission layers are present, these preferably have in total a plurality of emission maxima between 380 nm and 750 nm, resulting overall in white emission, i.e. various emitting compounds which are able to fluoresce or phosphoresce are used in the emitting layers. Particular preference is given to systems having three emitting layers, where the three layers exhibit blue, green and orange or red emission (for the basic structure see, for example, WO 2005/011013). These can be fluorescent or phosphorescent emission layers or hybrid systems, in which fluorescent and phosphorescent emission layers are combined with one another.

The compound according to the invention in accordance with the embodiments indicated above can be employed in various layers, depending on the precise structure. Preference is given to an organic electroluminescent device comprising a compound of the formula (1) or in accordance with the preferred embodiments as matrix material for fluorescent emitters, phosphorescent emitters or emitters showing TADF (Thermally Activated Delayed Fluorescence), in particular for phosphorescent emitters, and/or in an electron-transport layer and/or in an electron-blocking or exciton-blocking layer and/or in a hole-transport layer, depending on the precise substitution. The preferred embodiments indicated above also apply to the use of the materials in organic electronic devices.

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In a preferred embodiment of the invention, the compound of the formula (1) or in accordance with the preferred embodiments is employed as matrix material for a fluorescent or phosphorescent compound, in particular for a phosphorescent compound, in an emitting layer. The organic electrolumi-

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nescent device here may comprise one emitting layer or a plurality of emitting layers, where at least one emitting layer comprises at least one compound according to the invention as matrix material.

If the compound of the formula (1) or in accordance with the preferred embodiments is employed as matrix material for an emitting compound in an emitting layer, it is preferably employed in combination with one or more phosphorescent materials (triplet emitters). Phosphorescence in the sense of this invention is taken to mean the luminescence from an excited state 10 having spin multiplicity > 1, in particular from an excited triplet state. For the purposes of this application, all luminescent transition-metal complexes and luminescent lanthanide complexes, in particular all iridium, platinum and copper complexes, are to be regarded as phosphorescent compounds.

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Preferably, when the compounds of the formula (1) or in accordance with the preferred embodiments are employed as matrix materials for an emitting compound in an emitting layer, they are preferably employed in combination with one or more phosphorescent material (triplet emitters), where the phosphorescent material has an emission wavelength comprised between 550 nm to 680 nm, which corresponds to the red emission field.

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The mixture comprising the compound of the formula (1) or in accordance with the preferred embodiments and the emitting compound comprises between 99 and 1% by vol., preferably between 98 and 10% by vol., particularly preferably between 97 and 60% by vol., in particular between 95 and 80% by vol., of the compound of the formula (1) or in accordance with the preferred embodiments, based on the entire mixture comprising emitter and matrix material. Correspondingly, the mixture comprises between 1 and 99% by vol., preferably between 2 and 90% by vol., particularly preferably between 3 and 40% by vol., in particular between 5 and 20% by vol., of the emitter, based on the entire mixture comprising emitter and matrix material.

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A further preferred embodiment of the present invention is the use of the compound of the formula (1) or in accordance with the preferred embodiments as matrix material for a phosphorescent emitter in combination with a further matrix material. Particularly suitable matrix materials which can be employed in combination with the compounds of the formula (1) or in accordance with the preferred embodiments are aromatic ketones, aromatic phosphine oxides or aromatic sulfoxides or sulfones, for example in accordance with WO 2004/013080, WO 2004/093207, WO 2006/005627 or WO 2010/006680, triarylamines, carbazole derivatives, for example CBP (N,N-biscarbazolylbiphenyl) or the carbazole derivatives disclosed in WO 2005/039246, US 2005/0069729, JP 2004/288381, EP 1205527 or WO 2008/086851, indolocarbazole derivatives, for example in accordance with WO 2007/063754 or WO 2008/056746, indenocarbazole derivatives, for example in accordance with WO 2010/136109 and WO 2011/000455, azacarbazole derivatives, for example in accordance with EP 1617710, EP 1617711, EP 1731584, JP 2005/347160, bipolar matrix materials, for example in accordance with WO 2007/137725, silanes, for example in accordance with WO 005/111172, azaboroles or boronic esters, for example in accordance with WO 2006/117052, triazine derivatives, for example in accordance with WO 2010/015306, WO 2007/063754 or WO 2008/056746, zinc complexes, for example in accordance with EP 652273 or WO 2009/062578, diazasilole or tetraazasilole derivatives, for example in accordance with WO 2010/054729, diazaphosphole derivatives, for example in accordance with WO 2010/054730, bridged carbazole derivatives, for example in accordance with US 2009/0136779, WO 2010/050778, WO 2011/042107, WO 2011/088877 or in accordance with EP 11003232.3, triphenylene derivatives, for example in accordance with WO 2012/048781, or lactams, for example in accordance with WO 2011/116865 or WO 2011/137951. A further phosphorescent emitter which emits at shorter wavelength than the actual emitter may likewise be present in the mixture as co-host.

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Preferred co-host materials are triarylamine derivatives, in particular monoamines, lactams, carbazole derivatives and indenocarbazole derivatives.

Suitable phosphorescent compounds (= triplet emitters) are, in particular, compounds which emit light, preferably in the visible region, on suitable excitation and in addition contain at least one atom having an atomic number greater than 20, preferably greater than 38 and less than 84, particularly preferably greater than 56 and less than 80, in particular a metal having this atomic number. The phosphorescent emitters used are preferably compounds which contain copper, molybdenum, tungsten, rhenium, ruthenium, osmium, rhodium, iridium, palladium, platinum, silver, gold or europium, in particular compounds which contain iridium or platinum. For the purposes of the present invention, all luminescent compounds which contain the above-mentioned metals are regarded as phosphorescent compounds.

Examples of the emitters described above are revealed by the applications WO 00/70655, WO 2001/41512, WO 2002/02714, WO 2002/15645, EP 1191613, EP 1191612, EP 1191614, WO 05/033244, WO 05/019373, US 2005/0258742, WO 2009/146770, WO 2010/015307, WO 2010/031485, WO 2010/054731, WO 2010/054728, WO 2010/086089, WO 2010/099852, WO 2010/102709, WO 2011/032626, WO 2011/066898, WO 2011/157339, WO 2012/007086, WO 2014/008982, WO 2014/023377, WO 2014/094962, WO 2014/094961, WO 2014/094960 or WO 2016/124304. In general, all phosphorescent complexes as used in accordance with the prior art for phosphorescent OLEDs and as are known to the person skilled in the art in the area of organic electroluminescence are suitable, and the person skilled in the art will be able to use further phosphorescent complexes without inventive step.

Suitable phosphorescent materials (= triplet emitters) that can be advantageously combined with the compounds of formula (1) are, as mentioned above, compounds which emit a red light on suitable excitation.

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which means phosphorescent materials having an excited triplet state level (T1) comprised between 550 and 680 nm.

In a further embodiment of the invention, the organic electroluminescent device according to the invention does not comprise a separate hole-injection layer and/or hole-transport layer and/or hole-blocking layer and/or electron-transport layer, i.e. the emitting layer is directly adjacent to the hole-injection layer or the anode, and/or the emitting layer is directly adjacent to the electron-transport layer or the electron-injection layer or the cathode, as described, for example, in WO 2005/053051. It is furthermore possible to use a metal complex which is identical or similar to the metal complex in the emitting layer as hole-transport or hole-injection material directly adjacent to the emitting layer, as described, for example, in WO 2009/030981.

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It is furthermore possible to employ the compounds according to the invention in a hole-blocking or electron-transport layer. This applies, in particular, to compounds according to the invention which do not have a carbazole structure. These may preferably also be substituted by one or more further electron-transporting groups, for example benzimidazole groups.

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In the further layers of the organic electroluminescent device according to the invention, it is possible to use all materials as usually employed in accordance with the prior art. The person skilled in the art will therefore be able, without inventive step, to employ all materials known for organic electroluminescent devices in combination with the compounds of the formula (1) or in accordance with the preferred embodiments.

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Preference is furthermore given to an organic electroluminescent device, characterised in that one or more layers are applied by means of a sublimation process, in which the materials are vapour-deposited in vacuum sublimation units at an initial pressure of less than 10<sup>-5</sup> mbar, preferably less than

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 $10^{-6}$  mbar. However, it is also possible for the initial pressure to be even lower or higher, for example less than  $10^{-7}$  mbar.

Preference is likewise given to an organic electroluminescent device, characterised in that one or more layers are applied by means of the OVPD (organic vapour phase deposition) process or with the aid of carrier-gas sublimation, in which the materials are applied at a pressure between 10<sup>-5</sup> mbar and 1 bar. A special case of this process is the OVJP (organic vapour jet printing) process, in which the materials are applied directly through a nozzle and thus structured (for example M. S. Arnold *et al.*, *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **2008**, 92, 053301).

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Preference is furthermore given to an organic electroluminescent device, characterised in that one or more layers are produced from solution, such as, for example, by spin coating, or by means of any desired printing process, such as, for example, ink-jet printing, LITI (light induced thermal imaging, thermal transfer printing), screen printing, flexographic printing, offset printing or nozzle printing. Soluble compounds, which are obtained, for example, by suitable substitution, are necessary for this purpose.

Also possible are hybrid processes, in which, for example, one or more layers are applied from solution and one or more further layers are applied by vapour deposition. Thus, it is possible, for example, to apply the emitting layer from solution and to apply the electron-transport layer by vapour deposition.

- These processes are generally known to the person skilled in the art and can be applied by him without inventive step to organic electroluminescent devices comprising the compounds according to the invention.
- The compounds according to the invention generally have very good properties on use in organic electroluminescent devices. In particular, the lifetime

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on use of the compounds according to the invention in organic electroluminescent devices is significantly better compared with similar compounds in accordance with the prior art. The other properties of the organic electroluminescent device, in particular the efficiency and the voltage, are likewise better or at least comparable. Furthermore, the compounds have a high glass transition temperature and high thermal stability.

The invention will now be explained in greater detail by the following examples, without wishing to restrict it thereby.

#### A) Syntheses Examples

The following syntheses are carried out, unless indicated otherwise, under a protective-gas atmosphere in dried solvents. The solvents and reagents can be purchased, for example, from Sigma-ALDRICH or ABCR. The corresponding CAS numbers are also indicated in each case from the compounds known from the literature.

# a) 2-(9-phenyl-9H-carbazol-3-yl)-1H-imidazo[4,5-f]quinoxaline

- 38 g (156 mmol) of 2-bromo-1H-imidazo[4,5-f]quinoxaline, 50 g (172 mmol) of N-phenylcarbazole-3-boronic acid and 36 g (340 mmol) of sodium carbonate are dissolved in 1000 ml of ethylene glycol dimethyl ether and 280 mL of water.
- 1,8 g (1,5 mmol) of tetrakies(triphenylphosphin)-palladium(0) are added to this suspension, and the reaction mixture is heated under refluxed for 16 h.

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After cooling, the organic phase is separated off, filtered over silica gel, washed three times with 200 mL of water and then concentrated to dryness. The product is purified by means of column chromatography on silica gel with toluene/heptane (1:2).

The yield is 41 g (100 mmol), corresponding to 66% of theory.

The following compounds are prepared anagously:

10		Educt 1	Educt 2	Product	Yield
15	a1	[1027365-31-6 ] CI	(162607-19-4)	N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N	76%
20	a2	CI N N [1393109-56-2]	B-OH HO [162607-19-4]	O N N	71%
25	а3	Br N N N [1799502-10-5]	J359012-63-8 ]	N N	73%
30				N N	

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## b) 1-diphenylboranyl-2,3-dimethyl-1H-pyrrolo[3,2-h]quinoline

42 g (216 mmol) of 2,3-dimethyl-1H-pyrrolo [3,2-h] quinoline and 78 g (320 mmol) of triphenylborane are dissolved in 3000 ml of dry toluene and boiled under reflux for 50 h under inert gaz. The solvent is distilled off under

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vacuum, purified by chromatography (acetylester/hexane, 1:5) and finally sublimed (purity 99.9%) in a high vacuum (p =  $5 \times 10^{-7}$  mbar). Yield: 48 g (133 mmol), 62% of the theory.

## The following compounds are prepared analogously:

		Educt 1	Educt 2	Product	Yield
	d1	N			62%
10			B	N-B N	
4.5			[960-71-4 ]		
15	d2	N N N	B	N-B N-B	64%
20		[101636-29-7 ]	[960-71-4 ]		
25	d3	[58457-42-4 ]	[7297-95-2 ]	N-B	58%
30	d4	[1802550-89-5]	[960-71-4 ]	N B	50%
35				I	<u> </u>

5	d5	N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N	[960-71-4 ]	N-B-NOO	56%
10	d6		[960-71-4 ]		61%
15	d7	[5969-00-6 ]	[960-71-4 ]	N-B N-S	50%
20	d8	[207-87-4]	[7297-95-2 ]	N-B N-B	49%
30	d9	[212-53-3 ]	[960-71-4 ]	N-B N	53%

5	d10	[169338-45-8 ]	[960-71-4 ]	N-B-N	48%
10	d11	[101325-37-5]	[960-71-4 ]	N-B N	46%
15	d12	[58457-39-9 ]	[960-71-4 ]	N-B N-B	55%
20	d13	Z	[960-71-4 ]	N-B	45%
25	-d111	N N			469/
30 35	d14	[239-67-8 ]	[960-71-4 ]	N-B N-B	46%

5	d15	[223-37-0 ]	[1050504-58-9 ]	N B B	65%
10	d16	[216-32-0 ]	[960-71-4 ]	N-B N-B	47%
15 20	d17	[169338-45-8 ]	[960-71-4 ]	N-B-N	53%
25	d19	[233-88-5]	[960-71-4 ]	N-B N	66%
30	d20	NC N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N	[960-71-4 ]	NC N-B	59%

5	d21	[172795-93-6 ]	[960-71-4 ]	N-B-N	57%
10	d22	[239-13-4]	[146355-09-1 ]	F F F N F	61%
15 20	d23		[960-71-4 ]	O N B N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N	66%
25	d24	[59943-50-9]	[960-71-4 ]	N N B N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N	61%
30	d25	[5969-00-6 ]	[960-71-4 ]	N-B N-B	50%

### **B)** Fabrication of OLEDs

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The following examples E1 to E13 (see Table 1) show data of various OLEDs.

Substrate pre-treatment of examples E1-E13: Glass plates with structured ITO (50 nm, indium tin oxide) form the substrates on which the OLEDs are processed. Before evaporation of the OLED materials, the substrates are pre-baked for 15 minutes at 250°C, followed by an O<sub>2</sub> and subsequent Argon plasma treatment.

- The OLEDs have in principle the following layer structure: substrate / hole-transport layer (HTL) / optional interlayer (IL) / electron-blocking layer (EBL) / emission layer (EML) / optional hole-blocking layer (HBL) / electron-transport layer (ETL) / optional electron-injection layer (EIL) and finally a cathode. The cathode is formed by an aluminium layer with a thickness of 100 nm. The exact layer structure is denoted in Table 1. The materials used for the OLED fabrication are presented in Table 2.
- All materials are applied by thermal vapour deposition in a vacuum chamber. The emission layer here always consists of at least one matrix material (host material) and an emitting dopant (emitter), which is admixed with the matrix material or matrix materials in a certain proportion by volume by co-evaporation. An expression such as IC1:M1:TEG1 (55%:35%:10%) here means that material IC1 is present in the layer in a proportion by

volume of 55%, M1 is present in the layer in a proportion of 35% and TEG1 is present in the layer in a proportion of 10%. Analogously, the electron-transport layer may also consist of a mixture of two materials.

- The OLEDs are characterised by standard methods. The electroluminescence (EL) spectra are recorded at a luminous density of 1000 cd/m² and the CIE 1931 x and y coordinates are then calculated from the EL spectrum.
- The examples E1-E13 show data of inventive OLEDs.

# Use of inventive compounds as host material in phosphorescent OLEDs

The use of the inventive materials EG1 to EG11 as host material in phosphorescent red OLEDs (experiments E1 to E11) results in an electroluminescent emission with the color coordinates CIEx = 0.67 and CIEy=0.33. This shows that the inventive materials are suitable for the use in OLEDs.

Table 1: OLED layer structure

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Table	. OLLD layer structure				
Bsp.	HIL	HTL	EBL	EML	ETL
	Dicke	Dicke	Dicke	Dicke	Dicke
E1	HATCN	SpMA	SpMA3	IC5:EG1:TER5	ST2:LiQ
	5nm	1	10nm	(45%:40%:5%)	(50%:50%) 35nm
		125n		40nm	,
		m			
E2	HATCN	SpMA	SpMA3	IC5:EG2:TER5	ST2:LiQ
	5nm	1	10nm	(45%:40%:5%)	(50%:50%) 35nm
		125n		40nm	
		m			
E3	HATCN	SpMA	SpMA3	IC5:EG3:TER5	ST2:LiQ
	5nm	1	10nm	(45%:40%:5%)	(50%:50%) 35nm
		125n		40nm	
		m			
E4	HATCN	SpMA	SpMA3	IC5:EG4:TER5	ST2:LiQ
	5nm	1	10nm	(45%:40%:5%)	(50%:50%) 35nm
		125n		40nm	
		m			

E	5	HATCN	SpMA	SpMA3	IC5:EG5:TER5	ST2:LiQ
		5nm	1	10nm	(45%:40%:5%)	(50%:50%) 35nm
			125n		40nm	
			m			
E	6	HATCN	SpMA	SpMA3	IC5:EG6:TER5	ST2:LiQ
		5nm	1	10nm	(45%:40%:5%)	(50%:50%) 35nm
			125n		40nm	
			m			
E	7	HATCN	SpMA	SpMA3	IC5:EG7:TER5	ST2:LiQ
		5nm	1	10nm	(45%:40%:5%)	(50%:50%) 35nm
			125n		40nm	
			m			
E	8	HATCN	SpMA	SpMA3	IC5:EG8:TER5	ST2:LiQ
		5nm	1	10nm	(45%:40%:5%)	(50%:50%) 35nm
			125n		40nm	
			m			
E	9	HATCN	SpMA	SpMA3	IC5:EG9:TER5	ST2:LiQ
		5nm	1	10nm	(45%:40%:5%)	(50%:50%) 35nm
			125n		40nm	
			m			
E	10	HATCN	SpMA	SpMA3	IC5:EG10:TER	ST2:LiQ
		5nm	1	10nm	5	(50%:50%) 35nm
			125n		(45%:40%:5%)	
			m		40nm	
E	11	HATCN	SpMA	SpMA3	IC5:EG11:TER	ST2:LiQ
		5nm	1	10nm	5	(50%:50%) 35nm
			125n		(45%:40%:5%)	
			m		40nm	

Table 2: Chemical structures of the OLED materials

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	ST2	TER5
10	N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N	N.—B
	IC5	EG1
15 20	NB	NB
	EC3	EC3
25	EG2	EG3
	EG4	EG5

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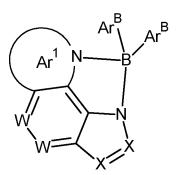
5	N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N	N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N
	EG6	EG7
10	O N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N	S N-B
15	EG8	EG9
20		F F F F F F F F F F F F F F F F F F F
	EG10	EG11

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#### **Patent Claims**

1. Compound of the formula (1),

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formula (1)

where the following applies to the symbols and indices used:

Ar<sup>1</sup> is a heteroaryl group comprising at least one nitrogen which is represented in formula (1), having 5 to 30 aromatic ring atoms, which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>1</sup>;

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X stands, on each occurrence, identically or differently, for CR<sup>2</sup> or N; or two adjacent groups X form together a ring condensed on the structure of formula (1), wherein the condensed ring is selected from an aryl or heteroaryl group having 5 to 30 aromatic ring atoms, which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>2</sup>;

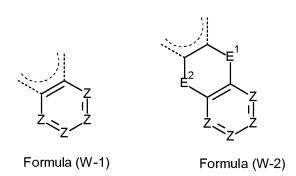
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Ar<sup>B</sup> is, on each occurrence, identically or differently, an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring system having 5 to 60 aromatic ring atoms, which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>3</sup>;

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W is on each occurrence, identically or differently, CR<sup>1</sup> or N; or two adjacent groups W stand for a group of formula (W-1) or (W-2),

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where the dashed bonds indicate the bonding to the groups of formula (1);

Z is on each occurrence, identically or differently, CR¹ or N;

 $E^1$ ,  $E^2$  are, on each occurrence, identically or differently, selected from a single bond,  $B(R^0)$ ,  $C(R^0)_2$ ,  $Si(R^0)_2$ , C=O,  $C=NR^0$ ,  $C=C(R^0)_2$ , O, S, S=O,  $SO_2$ ,  $N(R^0)$ ,  $P(R^0)$  and  $P(=O)R^0$ , where at least one of the groups  $E^1$  and  $E^2$ , present in the same ring, is not a single bond;

R<sup>0</sup> stands on each occurrence, identically or differently, for H, D, F, Cl, Br, I, CN, a straight-chain alkyl, alkoxy or thioalkyl groups having 1 to 40 C atoms or branched or a cyclic alkyl, alkoxy or thioalkyl groups having 3 to 40 C atoms, each of which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>, where in each case one or more non-adjacent CH<sub>2</sub> groups may be replaced by R<sup>4</sup>C=CR<sup>4</sup>, C≡C, Si(R<sup>4</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, Ge(R<sup>4</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, Sn(R<sup>4</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, C=O, C=S, C=Se, P(=O)(R<sup>4</sup>), SO, SO<sub>2</sub>, O, S or CONR<sup>4</sup> and where one or more H atoms may be replaced by D, F, Cl, Br, I, CN or NO<sub>2</sub>, an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring systems having 5 to 60 aromatic ring atoms, which may in each case be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>, or an aryloxy groups having 5 to 60 aromatic ring atoms, which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>, where two adjacent substituents R<sup>0</sup> may form an aliphatic or aromatic ring system together, which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>;

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- 60 -

 $R^{1}$ ,  $R^{2}$ ,  $R^{3}$ stand on each occurrence, identically or differently, for H, D, F, Cl, Br, I, CHO, CN,  $C(=O)Ar^3$ ,  $P(=O)(Ar^3)_2$ ,  $S(=O)Ar^3$ ,  $S(=O)_2Ar^3$ , N(Ar<sup>3</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, Si(R<sup>4</sup>)<sub>3</sub>, B(OR<sup>4</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, OSO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>4</sup>, a straight-chain alkyl, alkoxy or thioalkyl groups having 1 to 40 C atoms or branched or a cyclic alkyl, alkoxy or thioalkyl groups having 3 to 40 C atoms, each of which may be substituted by one or more radicals R4, where in each case one or more non-adjacent  $CH_2$  groups may be replaced by  $R^4C=CR^4$ , C=C,  $Si(R^4)_2$ , Ge(R<sup>4</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, Sn(R<sup>4</sup>)<sub>2</sub>, C=O, C=S, C=Se, P(=O)(R<sup>4</sup>), SO, SO<sub>2</sub>, O, S or CONR<sup>4</sup> and where one or more H atoms may be replaced by D, F, Cl, Br, I, CN or NO<sub>2</sub>, an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring systems having 5 to 60 aromatic ring atoms, which may in each case be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>, or an aryloxy groups having 5 to 60 aromatic ring atoms, which may be substituted by one or more radicals R4; where two adjacent substituents R<sup>1</sup>, two adjacent substituents R<sup>2</sup> and/or two adjacent substituents R<sup>3</sup> may form an aliphatic or aromatic ring system together, which may be substituted by one or more radicals R4;

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Ar<sup>3</sup> is, on each occurrence, identically or differently, an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring system having 5 to 60 aromatic ring atoms, which may in each case also be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>;

25 R<sup>4</sup> stands on each occurrence, identically or differently, for H, D, F, Cl, Br, I, CN, a straight-chain alkyl, alkoxy or thioalkyl groups having 1 to 20 C atoms or branched or cyclic alkyl, alkoxy or thioalkyl groups having 3 to 20 C atoms, where in each case one or more non-adjacent CH<sub>2</sub> groups may be replaced by SO, SO<sub>2</sub>, O, S and where one or more H atoms may be replaced by D, F, Cl, Br or I, or an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring system having 5 to 24 C atoms.

2. Compound according to claim 1, characterized in that the group Ar<sup>1</sup> is selected from the groups of formulae (Ar1-1) or (Ar1-2),

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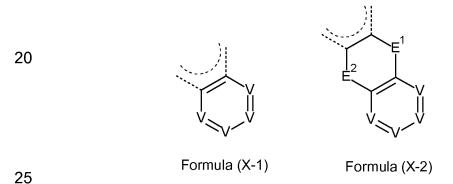
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where the sign \* indicates the position of the coordination to the Boron and the sign ^ indicates the bonds to the adjacent 6-membered ring, as depicted in formula (1), and the symbol W has the same meaning as in claim 1.

3. Compound according to claim 1, characterized in that X stands, on each occurrence, identically or differently, for CR<sup>2</sup> or N; or two adjacent groups X form together a ring condensed on the structure of formula (1), wherein the condensed ring is selected from formulae (X-1) to (X-2),



where the dashed bonds indicate the bonding of the corresponding adjacent groups X to the structure of formula (1);

V is on each occurrence, identically or differently, CR<sup>2</sup> or N; or two adjacent groups V form together a ring condensed on the structure of formula (X-1) or formula (X-2), wherein the condensed ring is selected from formulae (V-1) and (V-2),

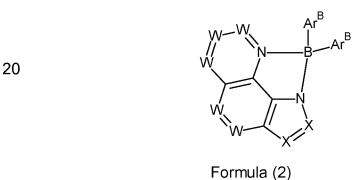
- 62 -

where:

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the dashed bonds indicate the bonding of the corresponding adjacent groups U to the structures of formulae (X-1) and (X-2);
U is on each occurrence, identically or differently, CR<sup>2</sup> or N;
E<sup>1</sup>, E<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> have the same meaning as in claim 1.

4. Compound according to one or more of the preceding claims, characterized in that it is selected from the compounds of formula (2),



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where the symbols  $Ar^{B_{\rm r}}X$  and W have the same meaning as in claim 1.

Compound according to one or more of the preceding claims,
 characterized in that it is selected from the compounds of formulae (3) to (6),

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where the symbols Ar<sup>B</sup>, W, E<sup>1</sup>, E<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> have the same meaning as in claim 1, and the symbol V has the same meaning as in claim 3.

6. Compound according to one or more of the preceding claims, characterized in that the compound is selected from the compounds of formulae (3-1) to (6-2),

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where the symbols  $Ar^B$ ,  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  have the same meaning as in claim 1 and where  $E^1$  in formula (6-1) is  $B(R^0)$ ,  $C(R^0)_2$ ,  $Si(R^0)_2$ , C=O,  $C=NR^0$ ,

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 $C=C(R^0)_2$ , O, S, S=O, SO<sub>2</sub>, N(R<sup>0</sup>), P(R<sup>0</sup>) or P(=O)R<sup>0</sup>, with R<sup>0</sup> having the same meaning as in claim 1.

- 7. Compound according to one or more of the preceding claims, characterized in that the group Ar<sup>B</sup> is selected from aromatic or heteroaromatic ring systems having 5 to 18 C atoms, each of which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>3</sup>.
- 8. Compounds according to one or more of the preceding claims,
  characterized in that the compound comprises at least one group R<sup>1</sup> or R<sup>2</sup>
  selected from aromatic or heteroaromatic ring systems having 5 to 60
  aromatic ring atoms, which may in each case be substituted by one or
  more radicals R<sup>4</sup>

9. Compound according to one or more of the preceding claims, characterized in that the compound comprises at least one group R<sup>1</sup> or R<sup>2</sup> selected from the groups of formulae (R-1) to (R15),

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$$(R-4)$$

$$(R-6)$$

$$R^{\circ}$$

$$R$$

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where:

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the dashed bond indicates the bonding to the structure of formula (1) and the symbol V has the same meaning as in claim 3, with the proviso that V is a C atom when the dashed bond is bonded to V, and where:

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 $R^N$ ,  $R^C$  are on each occurrence, identically or differently, H, D, F, Cl, Br, I, CHO, N(Ar³)<sub>2</sub>, C(=O)Ar³, P(=O)(Ar³)<sub>2</sub>, S(=O)Ar³, S(=O)<sub>2</sub>Ar³, (R)C=C(R)Ar³, CN, NO<sub>2</sub>, Si(R⁴)<sub>3</sub>, B(OR⁴)<sub>2</sub>, B(R⁴)<sub>2</sub>, B(N(R⁴)<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, OSO<sub>2</sub>R⁴, a straight-chain alkyl, alkoxy or thioalkoxy group having 1 to 40 C atoms or a straight-chain alkenyl or alkynyl group having 2 to 40 C atoms or a branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl, alkoxy or thioalkoxy group having 3 to 40 C atoms, each of which may be substituted by one or more radicals R⁴, where one or more, preferably non-adjacent CH<sub>2</sub> groups may be replaced by (R⁴)C=C(R⁴), C≡C, Si(R⁴)<sub>2</sub>, Ge(R⁴)<sub>2</sub>, Sn(R⁴)<sub>2</sub>, C=O, C=S, C=Se, P(=O)(R⁴), SO, SO<sub>2</sub>,

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 $N(R^4)$ , O, S or  $CON(R^4)$  and where one or more H atoms may be replaced by D, F, Cl, Br, I, CN or  $NO_2$ , or an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring system having 5 to 60 aromatic ring atoms, which may in each case be substituted by one or more radicals  $R^4$ , or an aryloxy or heteroaryloxy group having 5 to 60 aromatic ring atoms, which may be substituted by one or more radicals  $R^4$ , where optionally two adjacent substituents  $R^C$  can form a mono- or polycyclic, aliphatic, aromatic or heteroaromatic ring system with one another; where  $Ar^3$  and  $R^4$  have the same definitions as in claim 1; and

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T stands, on each occurrence, identically or differently, for CR<sup>4</sup> or N, with the proviso that T is a C atom when the dashed bond is bonded to T; or two adjacent groups T stand for a group of formula (T-1) or (T-2),

where the dashed bonds in formulae (T-1) and (T-2) indicate the bonding to the groups of formulae (R-1) to (R-5); and where

E<sup>1</sup>, E<sup>2</sup> have the same meaning as in claim 1;

G is on each occurrence, identically or differently, CR<sup>4</sup> or N; where R<sup>4</sup> has the same meaning as in claim 1;

L is an aromatic or heteroaromatic ring system having 5 to 30 aromatic ring atoms, which may be substituted by one or more radicals R<sup>4</sup>; and

35 n is 0 or 1.

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- 10. Formulation comprising at least one compound according to one or more of the claims 1 to 9 and at least one solvent.
- 11. Process for the preparation of a compound of formula (1), characterized in that a compound of formula (Int) reacts with a triarylborane B(Ar<sup>B</sup>)<sub>3</sub> so that a compound of formula (1) is obtained:

where the symbols Ar<sup>1</sup>, Ar<sup>B</sup>, W and X have the same meaning as in claim 1.

- 20 12. Electronic device comprising at least one compound according to one or more of claims 1 to 9.
- 13. Electronic device according to claim 12, characterized in that it is selected from the group consisting of organic electroluminescent devices, organic integrated circuits, organic field-effect transistors, organic thin-film transistors, organic light-emitting transistors, organic solar cells, dyesensitised organic solar cells, organic optical detectors, organic photoreceptors, organic field-quench devices, light-emitting electrochemical cells, organic laser diodes and organic plasmon emitting devices.
  - 14. Electronic device according to claim 12 or 13, which is an organic electroluminescent device, characterised in that the compound according to

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one or more of claims 1 to 9 is employed as a matrix material for emitters, a hole-transport-material or an electron-transport material.

- 15. Electronic device according to claim 13, characterized in that it is selected from organic electroluminescent devices comprising a cathode, an anode and at least one emitting layer arranged between the anode and the cathode, wherein the at least one emitting layer comprises at least one phosphorescent material as an emitter and at least one compound according to one or more of claims 1 to 9 as a matrix material.
- 16. Electronic device according to claim 15, characterized in that the phosphorescent material has an emission wavelength comprised between 550 nm to 680 nm.

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#### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No PCT/EP2018/061767

a. classification of subject matter INV. C07F5/02 C09K11/02 C09K11/06 H01L51/00 ADD. According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) C09K C07F H01L Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. Category\* WO 2013/039413 A1 (INST SUPERIOR TECNICO 1-16 Α [PT]; GOMES PEDRO MANUEL MACHADO TEIXEIRA [PT];) 21 March 2013 (2013-03-21) claims 1-9 abstract Х Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex. Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance earlier application or patent but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive filing date document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be special reason (as specified) considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other being obvious to a person skilled in the art document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 5 June 2018 03/07/2018 Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 Eberhard, Michael

#### **INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

Information on patent family members

International application No
PCT/EP2018/061767

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
WO 2013039413	A1	21-03-2013	PT WO	105885 2013039413	A A1	13-03-2013 21-03-2013