

## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

# **Determination of association constants and FRET in hydrazide-based molecular duplex strands**

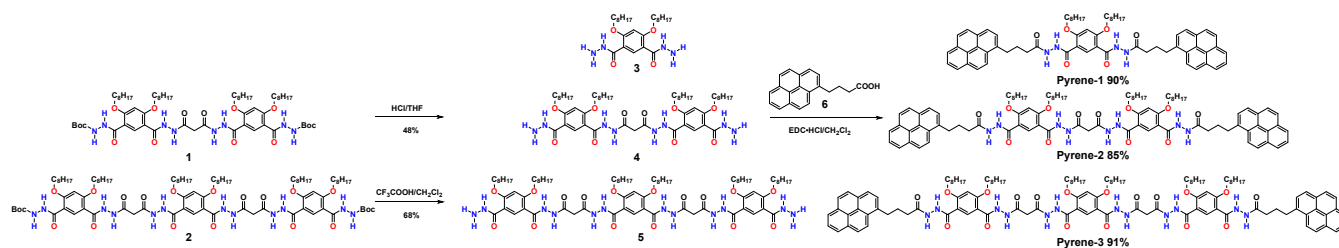
Shi-Chang Gao, Kang Wan, Xu Fang, Yong-Xue Li, Min Xue, and Yong Yang\*

School of Science, Zhejiang Sci-Tech University, Hangzhou 310018, China.

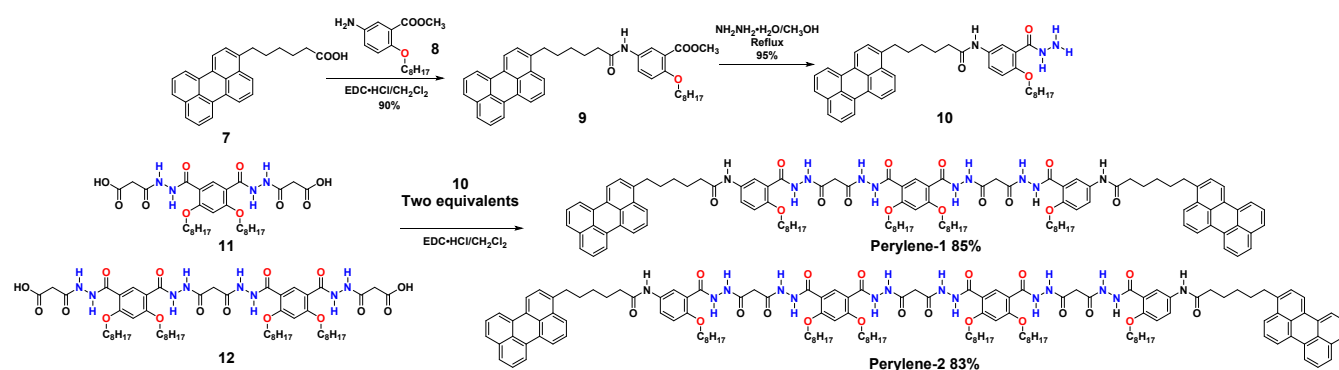
Email: yangyong@zstu.edu.cn

# General Information for Synthesis and Characterization of New Compounds

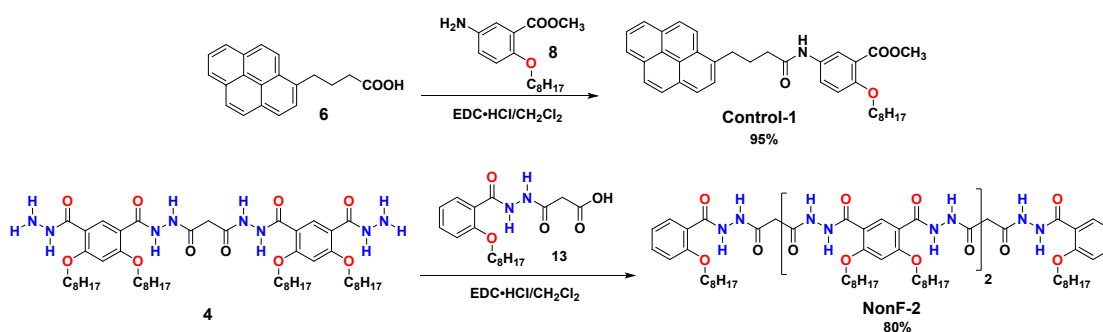
All solvents for reactions and column chromatography were used directly as received.  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AV 400 MHz or 300 MHz instruments. Chemical shifts were expressed in parts per million ( $\delta$ : ppm) using residual solvent protons or TMS as internal standards. Chloroform ( $\delta = 7.26$  ppm) was used as an internal standard for chloroform-*d*. DMSO ( $\delta = 2.50$  ppm) was used as an internal standard for DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>. Coupling constants (*J* values) were given in hertz (Hz). HRMS analysis was performed using a MALDI-TOF or ESI or APCI mass spectrometer.



**Scheme 1** Synthetic route for pyrene labelled oligomers **Pyrene-1** ~ **Pyrene-3**.

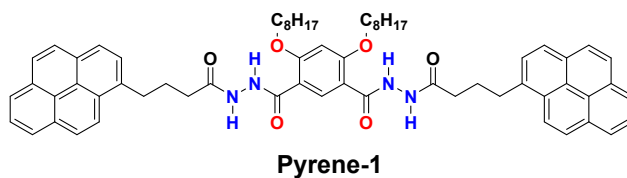


**Scheme 2** Synthetic route for perylene labelled oligomers **Perylene-1** and **Perylene-2**.



**Scheme S3** Synthetic routes for **Control-1** and **NonF-2**.

Compounds **1**<sup>S1</sup>, **2**<sup>S1</sup>, **3**<sup>S2</sup>, **11**<sup>S1</sup>, **12**<sup>S1</sup>, **13**<sup>S2</sup>, and **NonF-1**<sup>S3</sup> were synthesized previously in our group. Compound **6** is commercially available. Compound **7**<sup>S4</sup> and compound **8**<sup>S5</sup> were prepared according to reported literature procedures. Compound **8** was used directly for the next step without characterization after efficient catalytic hydrogenation reaction.



**Pyrene-1:** A mixture of compound **3**<sup>S2</sup> (67.5 mg, 0.15 mmol), 1-pyrenebutyric acid **6** (115 mg, 0.4 mmol), and EDC-HCl (192 mg, 1 mmol) in 10 mL CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> was stirred at room temperature for 8 hours. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was triturated with hot acetonitrile to give the pure product (134 mg, 90%) as a grey solid.

m. p.: 185.3-187.0 °C.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> & CF<sub>3</sub>COOH, TMS, 298 K, ppm): δ 10.75 (s, 2H, NH<sup>c</sup>), 10.41 (s, 2H, NH<sup>d</sup>), 8.51 (s, 1H, ArH<sup>b</sup>), 8.24-7.83 (m, 18H, Pyrene-H), 6.15 (s, 1H, ArH<sup>a</sup>), 4.00 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 4H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.44 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 4H, Pyrene-CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.67 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 4H, COCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.38 (m, 4H, COCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.97 (m, 4H, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.46 (br, 20H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.87 (br, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> & CF<sub>3</sub>COOH, TMS, 298 K, ppm): δ 169.4, 161.0, 159.7, 135.0, 129.4, 127.4, 116.2, 110.4, 95.6, 70.4, 31.74, 29.3, 29.1, 25.9, 22.6, 14.1.

HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd. for [C<sub>64</sub>H<sub>70</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>6</sub> + Na]<sup>+</sup> 1013.5188, found: 1013.5168.

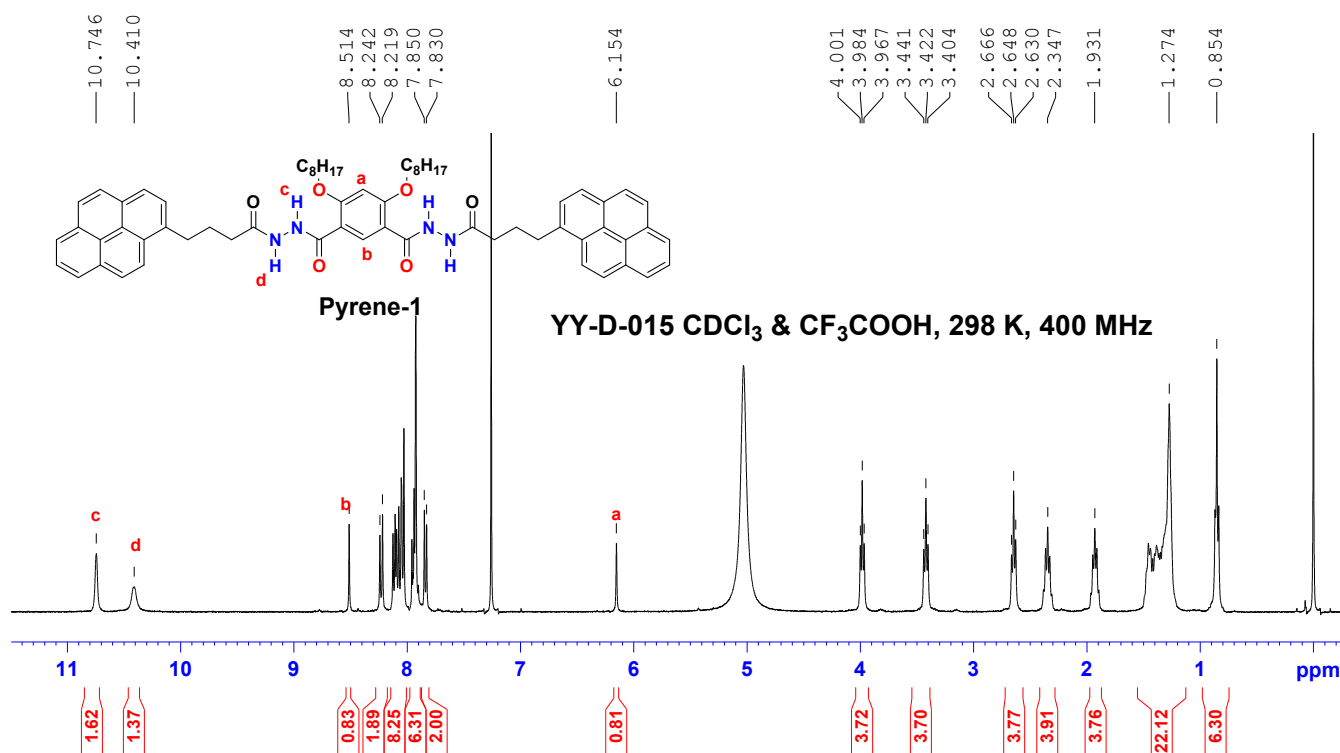


Figure S1 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum for **Pyrene-1**, in CDCl<sub>3</sub> with a little CF<sub>3</sub>COOH, 298 K, 400 MHz.

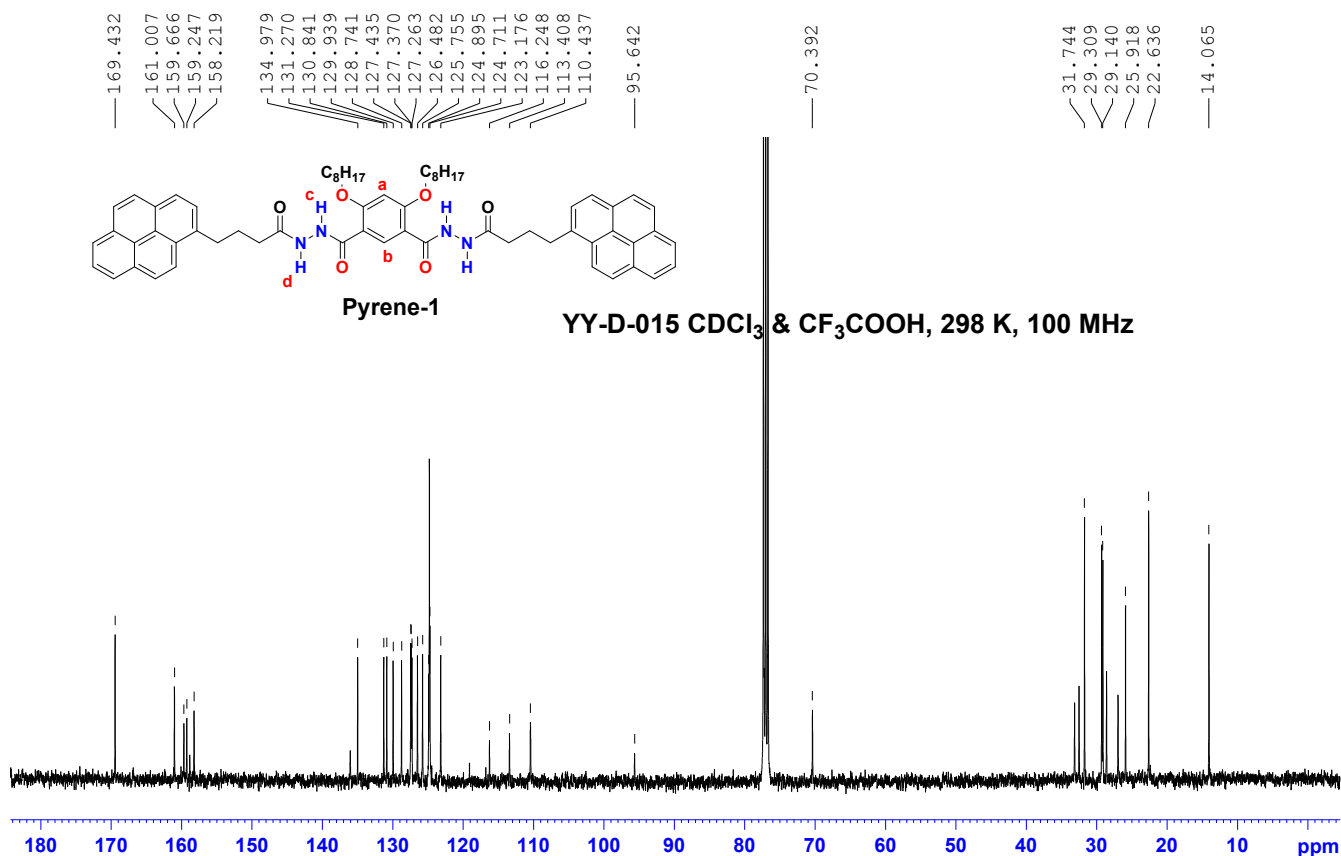
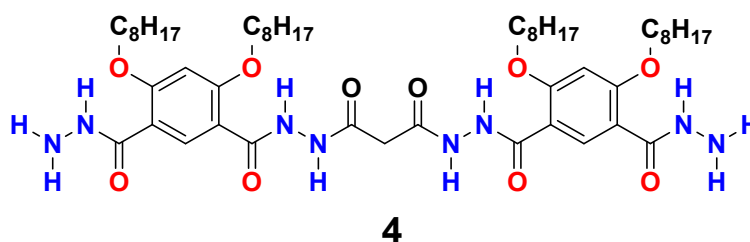


Figure S2  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum for **Pyrene-1**, in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  with a little  $\text{CF}_3\text{COOH}$ , 298 K, 100 MHz.



Compound **4**: Into a solution of compound **1**<sup>S1</sup> (200 mg) in 5 mL THF was added dropwise a mixture of 5 mL THF and 5 mL HCl. Then the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 7 hours. After completion of the reaction, the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was neutralized with saturated  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  solution. The aqueous phase was extracted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  three times. The combined organic phase was washed with brine and water successively and then dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . After evaporation of  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , the residue was recrystallized from hot methanol to give the pure product (75 mg, 48%) as a white solid.

m. p.: 164.2-165.3 °C.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , TMS, 298 K, ppm):  $\delta$  11.5 (br, 2H, NH), 10.73 (s, 2H, NH), 8.99 (s, 2H, NH), 8.77 (s, 2H, ArH<sup>c</sup>), 6.45 (s, 2H, ArH<sup>b</sup>), 4.33 (br, 4H, NH), 4.16 (br, 8H,  $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 3.95 (s, 2H,  $\text{COCH}_2^a$ ), 2.07 (m, 4H,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.94 (m, 4H,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.37 (br, 40H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 0.89 (br, 12H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , TMS, 298 K, ppm):  $\delta$  165.7, 161.3, 160.7, 160.5, 136.8, 113.4, 112.3, 96.3, 70.1, 69.8, 31.75, 29.2, 26.0, 22.6, 14.1.

HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd. for  $[\text{C}_{51}\text{H}_{84}\text{N}_8\text{O}_{10} + \text{Na}]^+$  991.6203, found: 991.6187.

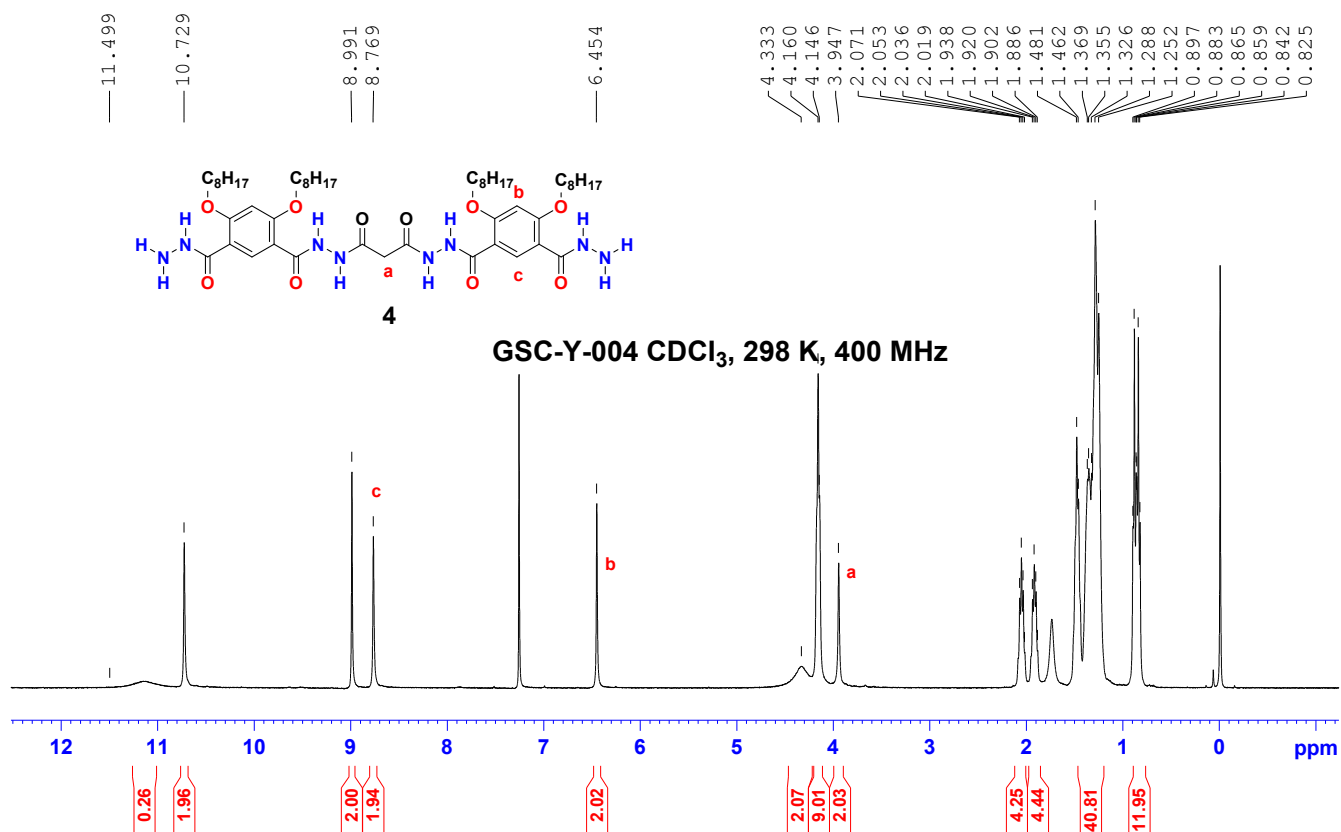


Figure S3 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum for compound 4, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K, 400 MHz.

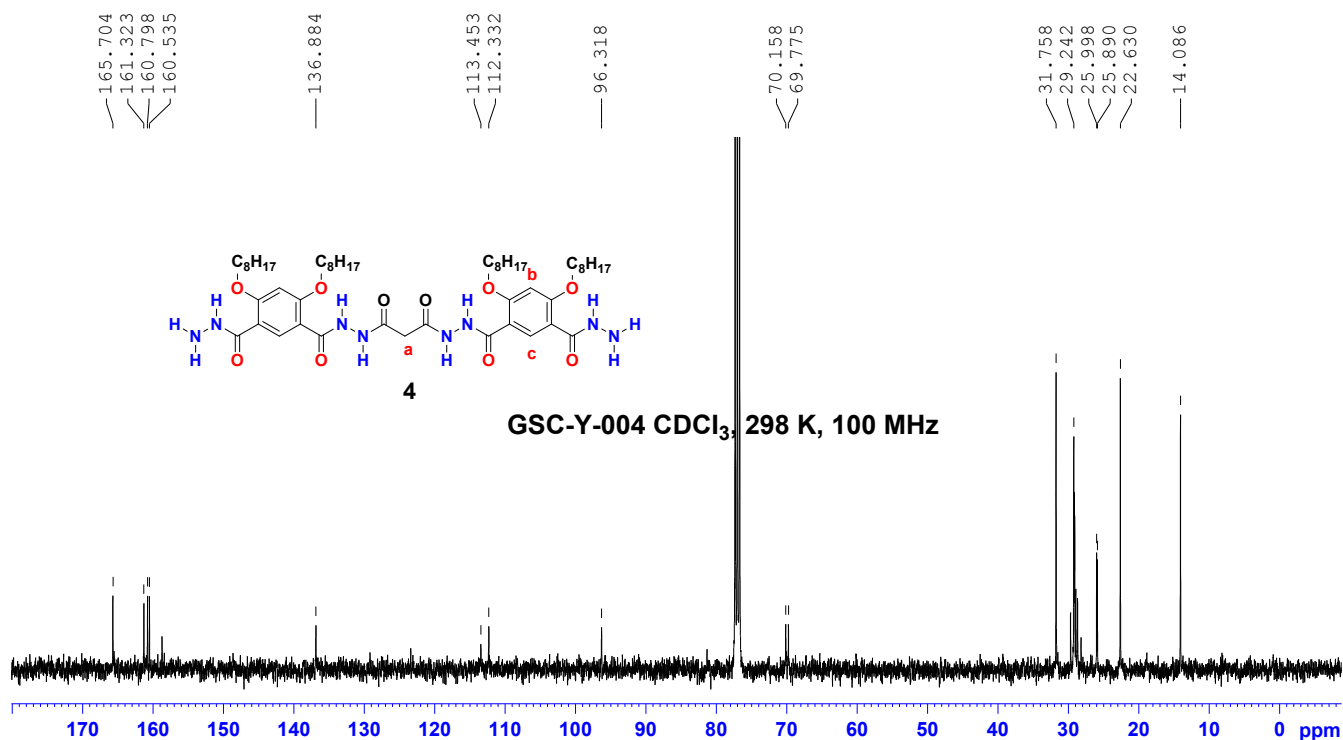
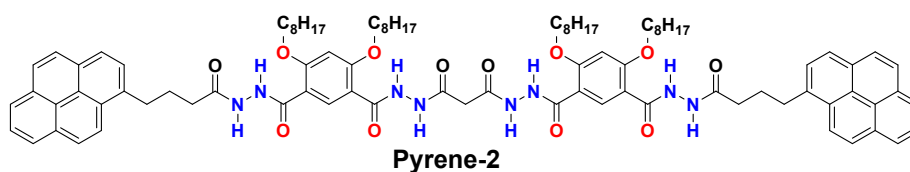


Figure S4 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum for compound 4, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K, 100 MHz.



**Pyrene-2:** This compound was synthesized from coupling reaction of compound **4** and compound **6** according to a similar procedure as described for **Pyrene-1**.

Yield: 85%.

m. p.: 179.6-180.8 °C.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $d_6$ -DMSO, TMS, 298 K, ppm):  $\delta$  10.89 (d,  $J = 4.5$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{NH}^d$ ), 10.56 (d,  $J = 4$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{NH}^e$ ), 10.19 (d,  $J = 4.8$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{NH}^b$ ), 9.99 (d,  $J = 4$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{NH}^a$ ), 8.46-8.02 (m, 20H,  $\text{ArH}^f$  & Pyrene- $\text{H}$ ), 6.87 (s, 2H,  $\text{ArH}^e$ ), 4.26 (br, 8H,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 3.37 (br, 6H,  $\text{COCH}_2\text{CO}$  & Pyrene- $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.41 (br, 4H,  $\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.13 (br, 4H, Pyrene- $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.88 (br, 8H,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.26 (br, 40H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 0.85 (dt,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 12H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ).

HRMS (ESI $^+$ ) calcd. for  $[\text{C}_{91}\text{H}_{112}\text{N}_8\text{O}_{12} + \text{H}]^+$  1509.8472, found: 1509.8412, calcd. for  $[\text{C}_{91}\text{H}_{112}\text{N}_8\text{O}_{12} + \text{Na}]^+$  1531.8292, found: 1531.8655.

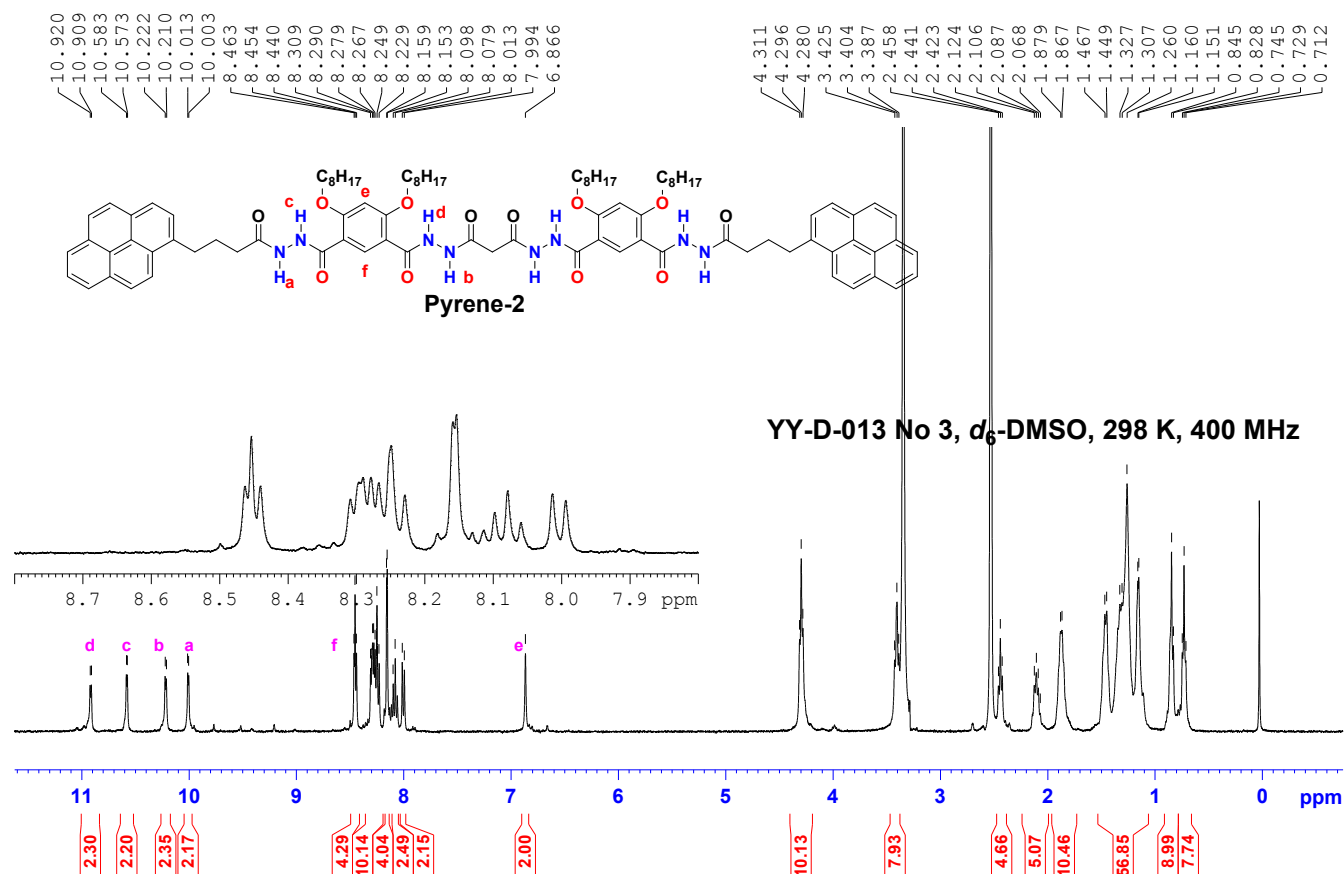
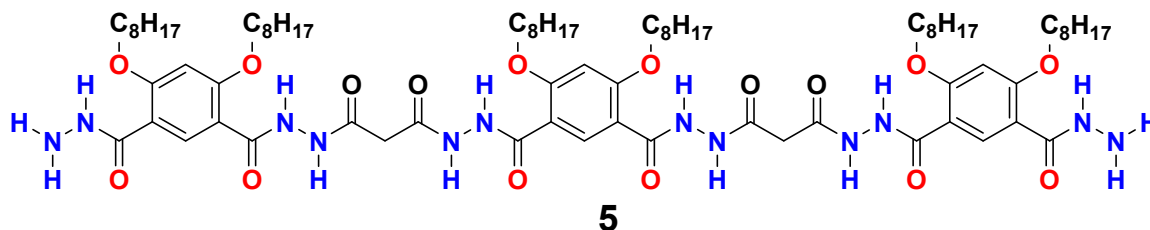


Figure S5  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum for **Pyrene-2**,  $d_6$ -DMSO, 298 K, 400 MHz.



**Compound 5:** Into a solution of compound **2**<sup>SI</sup> (100 mg) in 2 mL of  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  was added 1.5 mL  $\text{CF}_3\text{COOH}$  cooling in an ice-water bath. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3 hours. After completion of the reaction, the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was neutralized with saturated  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  solution. The aqueous phase was extracted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  three times. The combined organic phase was washed with brine and water successively and then dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . After evaporation of  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , the crude product was recrystallized from hot methanol to give the pure product (60 mg, 68%) as a pink solid.

m. p.: 117.6-118.3 °C.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $d_6$ -DMSO, TMS, 298 K, ppm):  $\delta$  10.92 (br, 4H,  $\text{NH}^e$ ), 10.22 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 4H,  $\text{NH}^f$ ), 8.97 (br, 2H,  $\text{NH}^i$ ), 8.45 (s, 1H,  $\text{ArH}^d$ ), 8.39 (s, 2H,  $\text{ArH}^c$ ), 6.88 (s, 1H,  $\text{ArH}^a$ ), 6.82 (s, 2H,  $\text{ArH}^b$ ), 4.59 (br, 4H,  $\text{NH}$ ), 4.30 (br, 16H,  $\text{OCH}_2$  &  $\text{COCH}_2\text{CO}$ ), 1.88 (m, 12H,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.46 (br, 60H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 0.89 (br, 18H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $d_6$ -DMSO, TMS, 298 K, ppm):  $\delta$  164.5, 163.4, 161.3, 160.8, 160.6, 160.2, 134.4, 114.9, 113.4, 112.8, 98.4, 70.2, 69.6, 31.7, 29.1, 25.9, 22.6, 14.4.

HRMS (ESI $^+$ ) calcd. for  $[\text{C}_{78}\text{H}_{126}\text{N}_{12}\text{O}_{16} + \text{H}]^+$  1487.9488, found: 1487.9410.

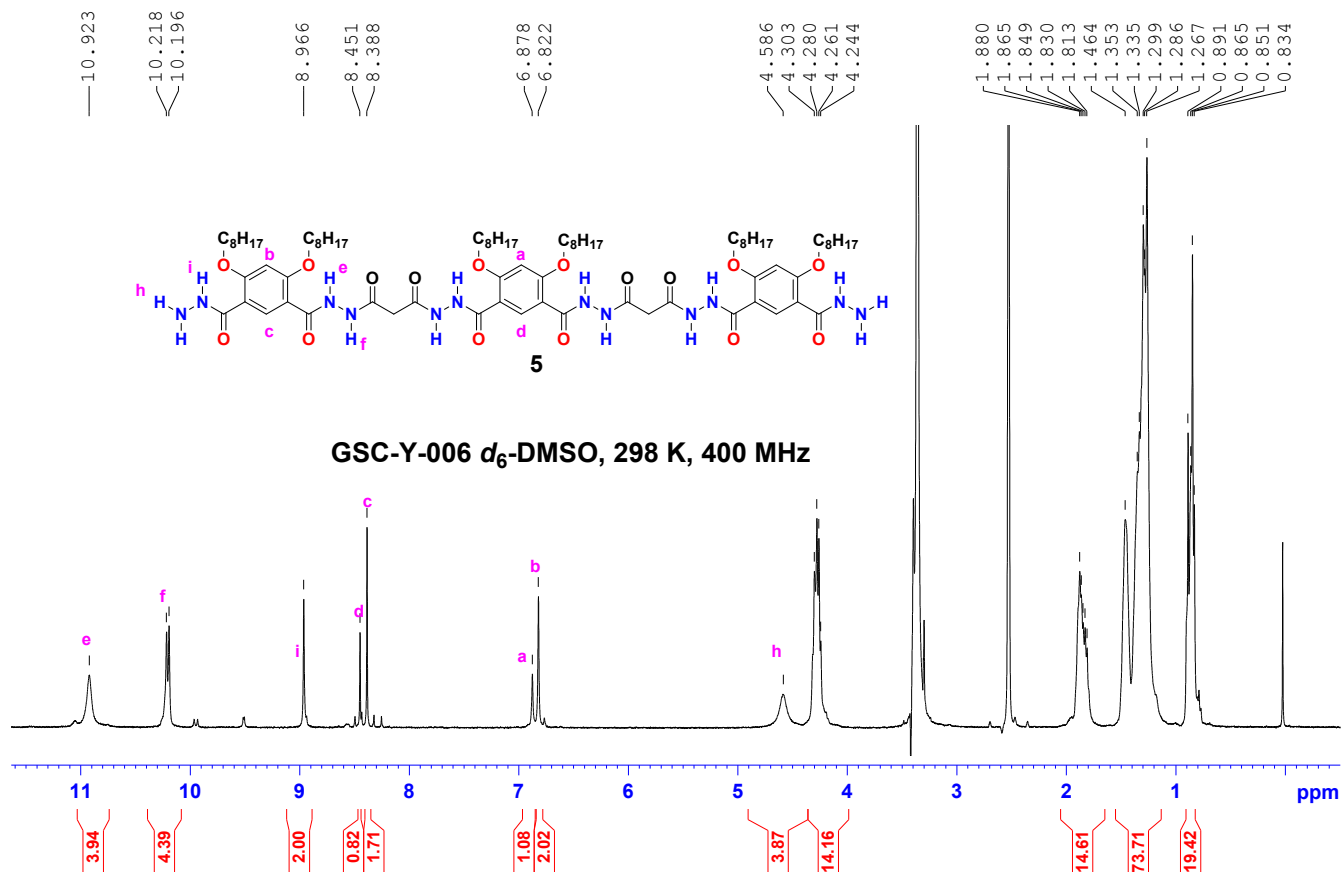


Figure S6  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum for compound 5,  $d_6$ -DMSO, 298 K, 400 MHz.

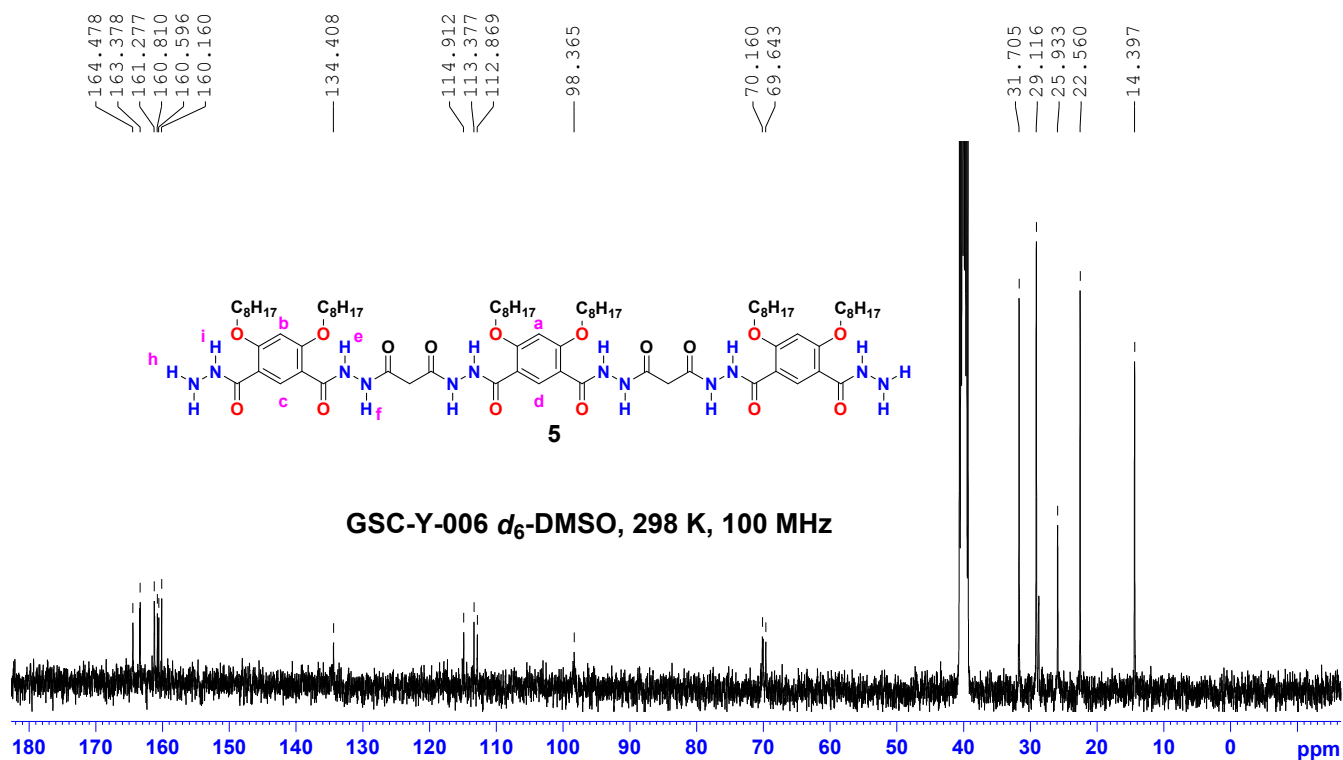
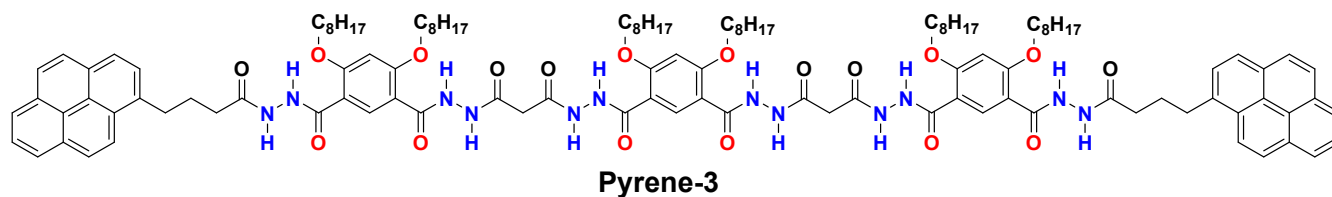


Figure S7  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum for compound **5**,  $d_6$ -DMSO, 298 K, 100 MHz.



**Pyrene-3:** This compound was synthesized from compound **5** and compound **6** according to a similar procedure as described for compound **Pyrene-1**.

Yield: 91%.

m. p.: 208.7-210.2 °C.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $d_6$ -DMSO, TMS, 298 K, ppm):  $\delta$  10.92 (br, 4H,  $\text{NH}^d$ ), 10.59 (br, 2H,  $\text{NH}^e$ ), 10.22 (br, 4H,  $\text{NH}^b$ ), 10.01 (br, 2H,  $\text{NH}^a$ ), 8.57-7.94 (m, 21H,  $\text{ArH}^h \& i$  & Pyrene- $H$ ), 6.87 (s, 3H,  $\text{ArH}^c \& f$ ), 4.30 (m, 12H,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 3.43 (br, 8H,  $\text{COCH}_2\text{CO}$  & Pyrene- $\text{CH}_2$  in the water peak), 2.44 (br, 4H,  $\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.17 (m, 4H, Pyrene- $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.88 (m, 12H,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.47 (br, 60H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 0.85 (br, 18H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ).

HRMS (ESI $^+$ ) calcd. for  $[\text{C}_{118}\text{H}_{154}\text{N}_{12}\text{O}_{18} + \text{H}]^+$  2028.1577, found: 2028.1854.



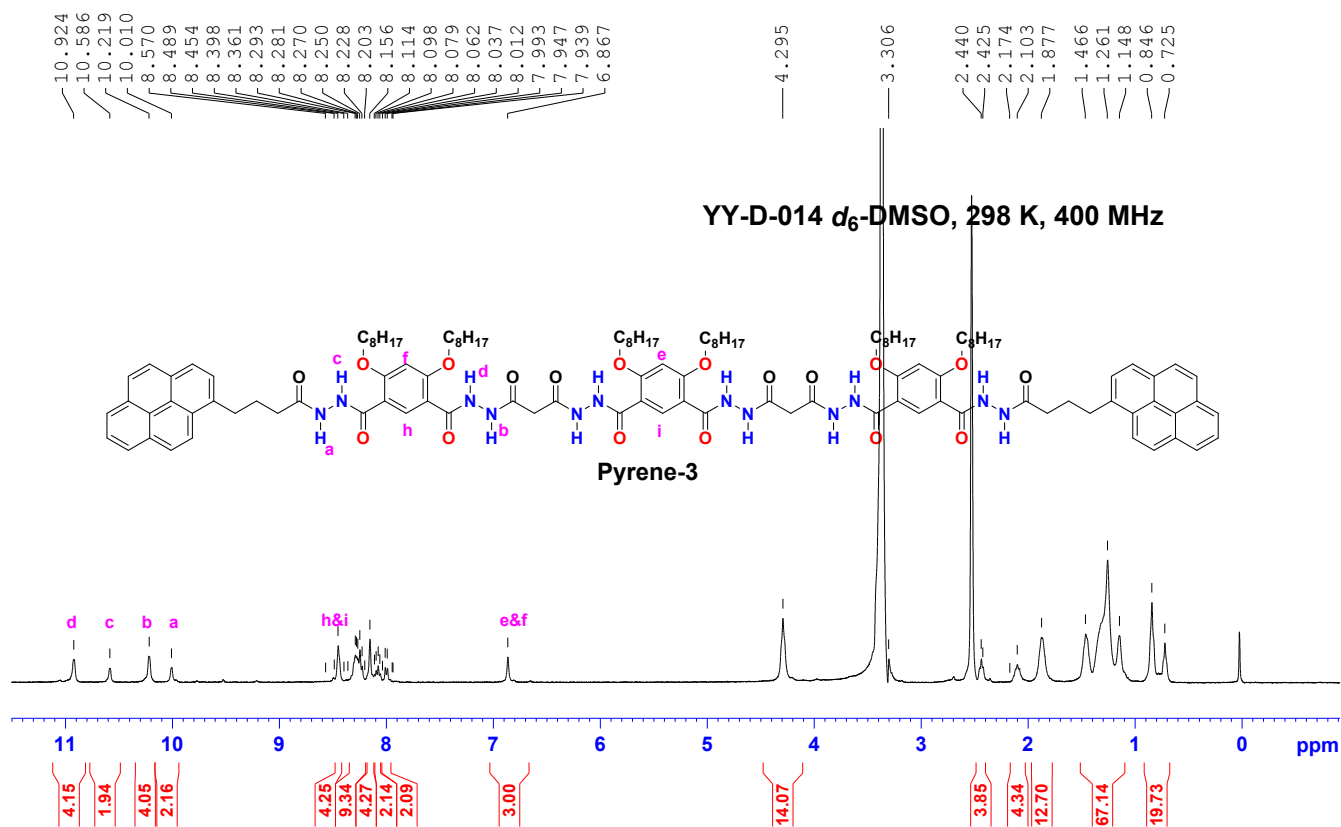
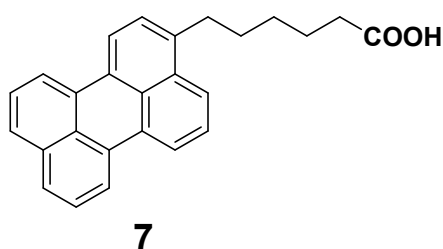


Figure S8 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum for **Pyrene-3**, *d*<sub>6</sub>-DMSO, 298 K, 400 MHz.



Compound **7**: This compound was prepared according to a previously reported literature procedure.<sup>S4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, *d*<sub>6</sub>-DMSO, ppm): δ 12.0 (br, 1H, COOH<sup>a</sup>), 8.39-7.41 (m, 11H, Perylene-*H*), 3.09 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H, Perylene-CH<sub>2</sub><sup>b</sup>), 2.53 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, COCH<sub>2</sub><sup>c</sup>), 1.71-1.44 (m, 6H, CH<sub>2</sub>).

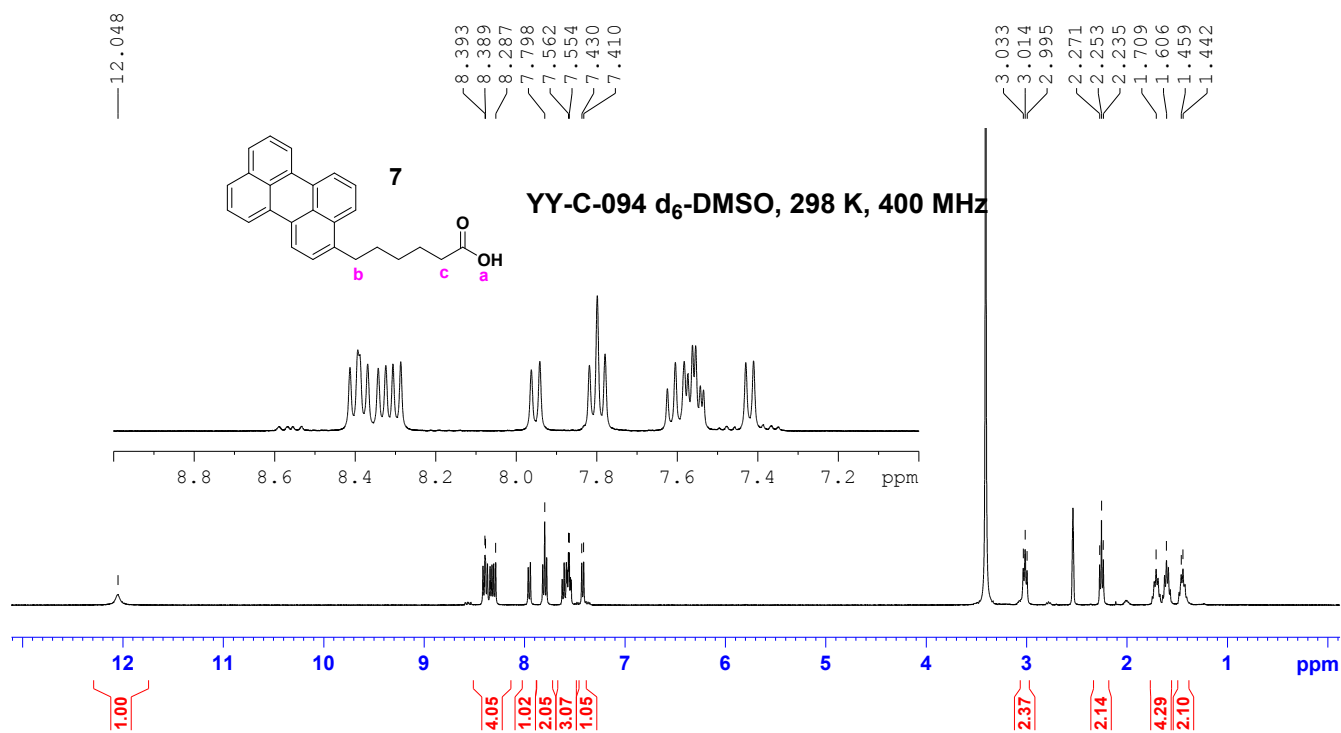
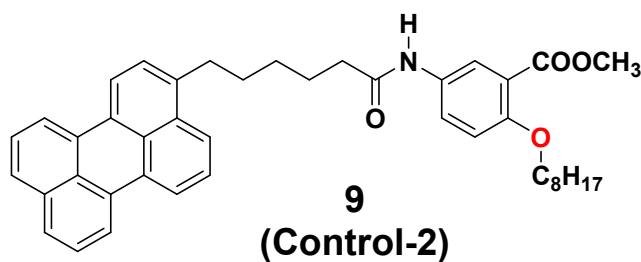


Figure S9 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum for compound **7**, d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO, 298 K, 400 MHz.



Compound **9** (**Control-2**): This compound was synthesized from compound **7** and compound **8**<sup>SS</sup> according to a similar procedure as described for **Pyrene-1**.

Yield: 90%.

m. p.: 131.6-132.0 °C.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS, 298 K, ppm): δ 8.21-7.44 (m, 12H, Perylene-*H* & Ar*H*), 7.34 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H, Ar*H*<sup>b</sup>), 7.06 (s, 1H, NH), 6.87 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H, Ar*H*<sup>a</sup>), 3.96 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.86 (s, 3H, COOCH<sub>3</sub><sup>c</sup>), 3.04 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H, Perylene-CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.33 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H, COCH<sub>2</sub>), 1.81 (m, 6H, COCH<sub>2</sub>C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>6</sub>), 1.52 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.28 (br, 10H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.88 (br, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS, 298 K, ppm): δ 171.2, 166.4, 155.5, 138.5, 123.8, 120.1, 114.0, 69.4, 52.0, 37.4, 29.2, 25.9, 22.7, 14.1.

HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd. for [C<sub>42</sub>H<sub>45</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> + Na]<sup>+</sup> 650.3241, found: 650.3246.

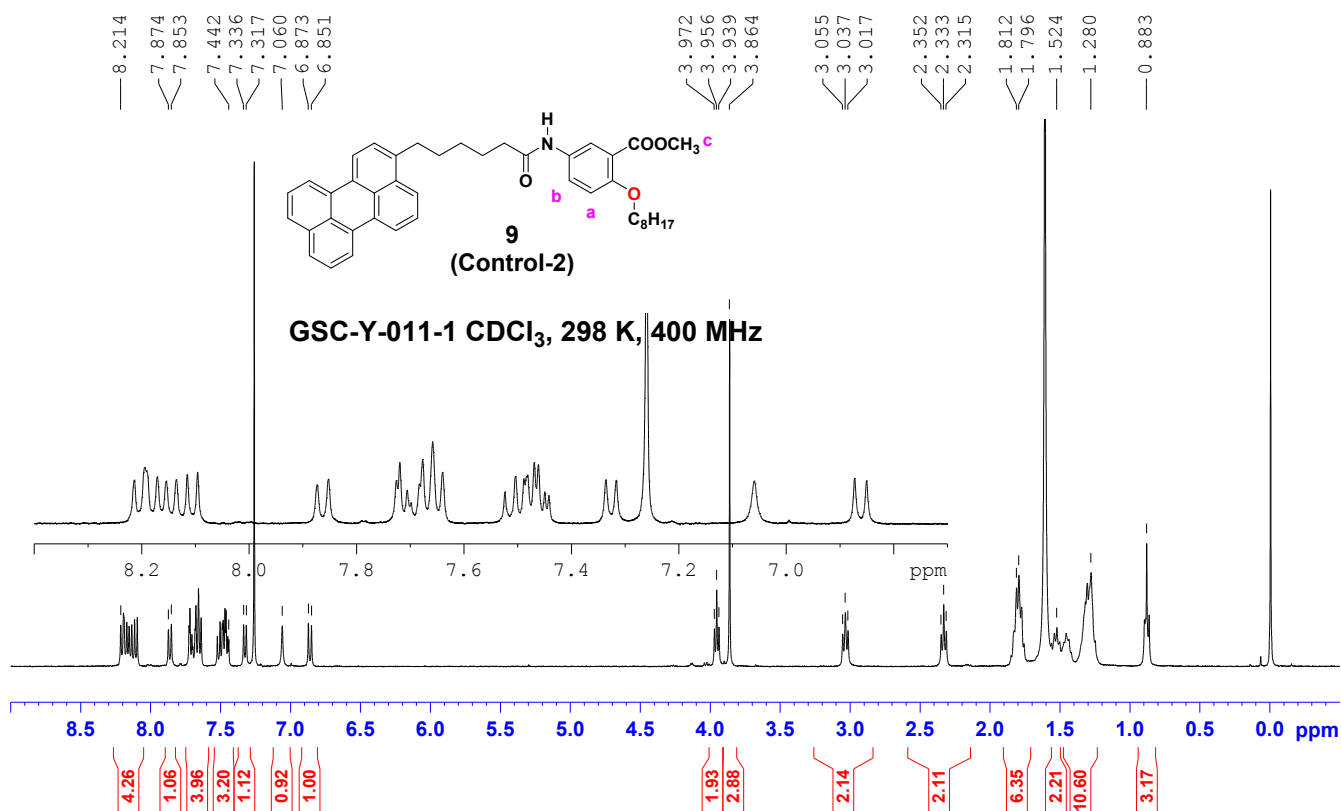


Figure S10 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum for compound **9 (Control-2)** CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K, 400 MHz.

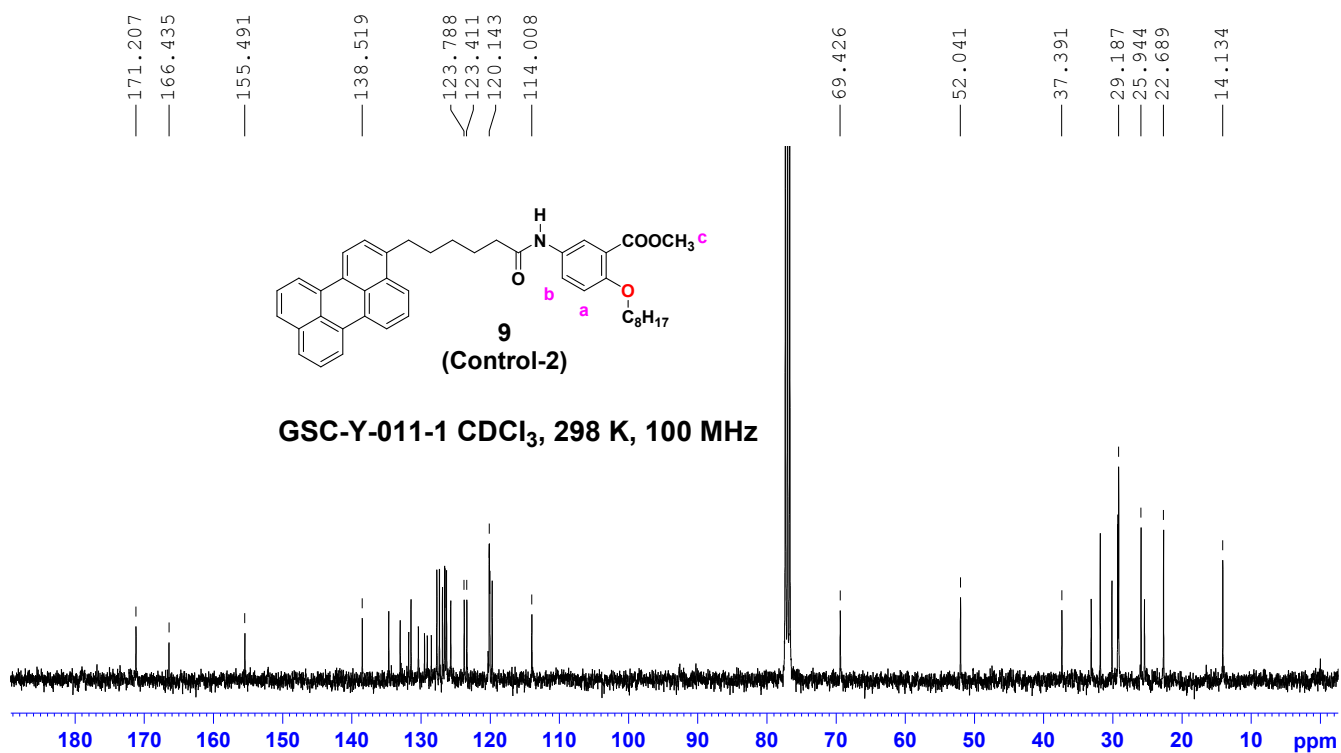
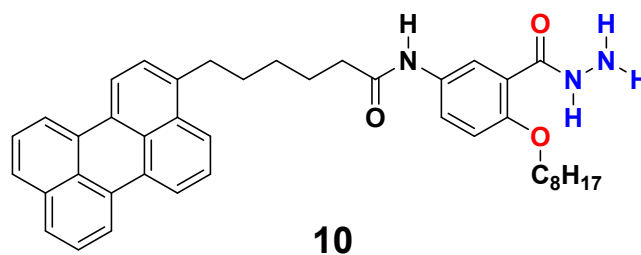


Figure S11 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum for compound **9 (Control-2)**, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K, 100 MHz.



Compound **10**: A mixture of compound **9** (100 mg) and 0.5 mL of  $\text{NH}_2\text{NH}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$  (80%) in 10 mL  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  was heated to reflux for 8 hours. After completion of the reaction, a yellow solid precipitated from the solution and was collected by filtration. After washing with  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ , a light yellow solid (95 mg, 95%) was obtained.

m. p.: 155.2-156.4 °C.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , TMS, 298 K, ppm):  $\delta$  9.09 (br, 1H, NH), 8.22-7.69 (m, 12H, Perylene-H & ArH), 7.37 (br, 2H, ArH<sup>b</sup> & NH), 6.84 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 1H, ArH<sup>c</sup>), 4.18 (br, 2H, NH<sub>2</sub><sup>a</sup>), 4.06 (t,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.07 (t,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H, Perylene-CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.39 (t,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H, COCH<sub>2</sub>), 1.85 (m, 6H, COCH<sub>2</sub>C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>6</sub>), 1.56 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.33 (br, 10H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.94 (br, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , TMS, 298 K, ppm):  $\delta$  171.3, 166.0, 153.4, 138.5, 120.1, 113.0, 69.5, 37.4, 33.1, 30.1, 26.0, 25.4, 22.6, 14.1.

HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd. for  $[\text{C}_{41}\text{H}_{45}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3 + \text{H}]^+$  628.3534, found: 628.3527.

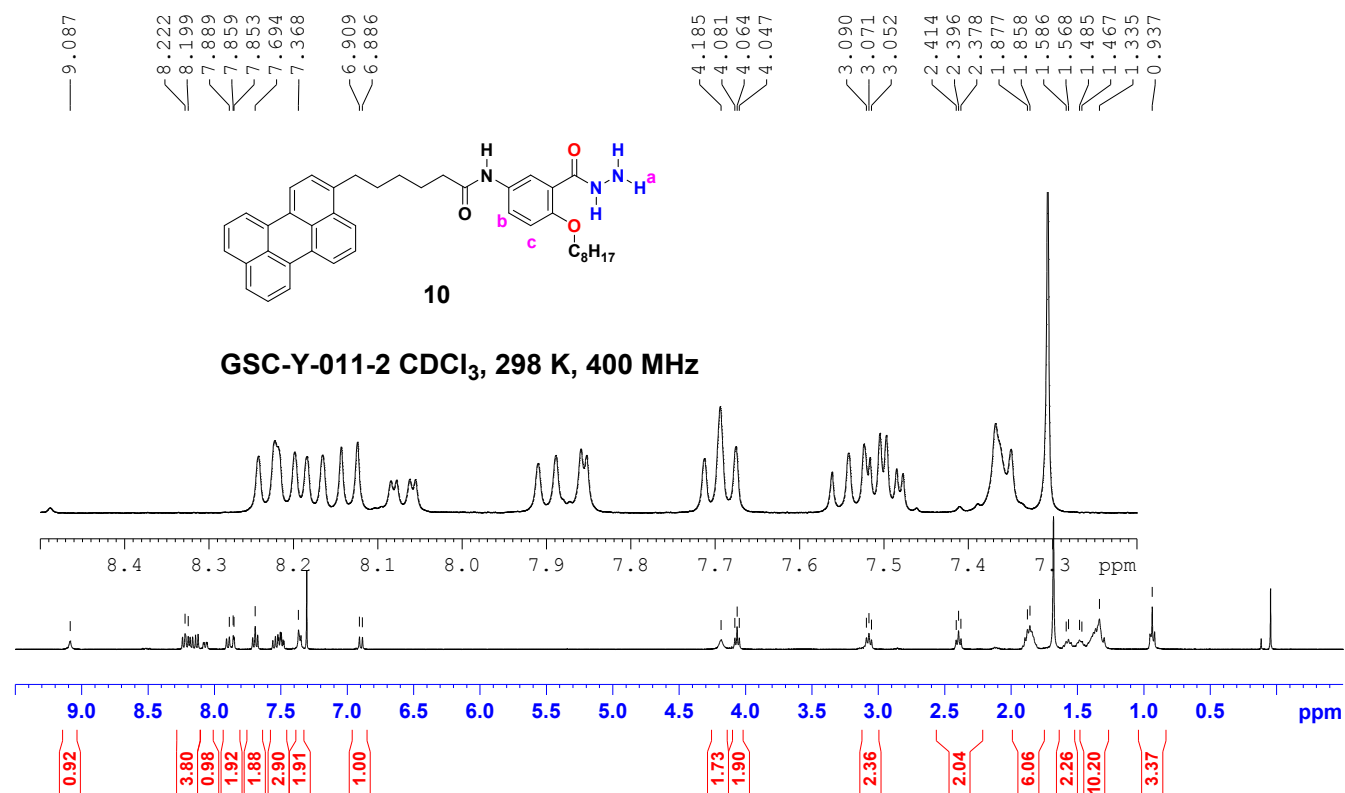


Figure S12  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum for compound **10**,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K, 400 MHz.

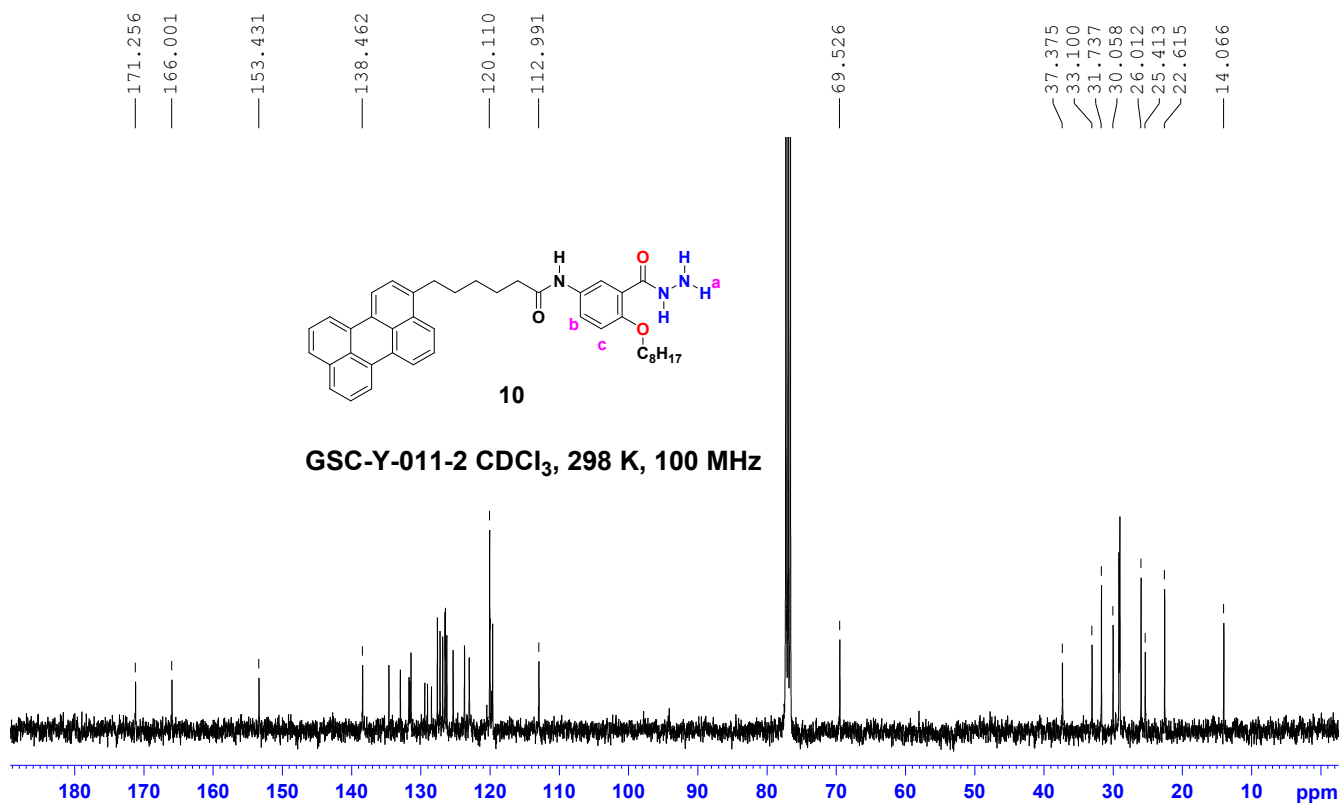
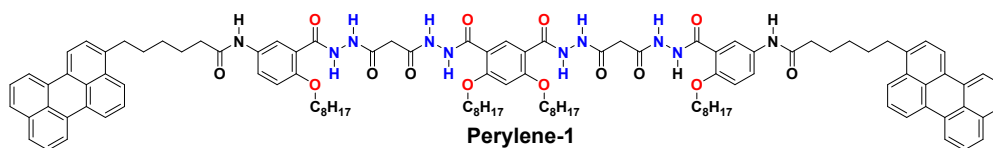


Figure S13 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum for compound **10**, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K, 100 MHz.



**Perylene-1:** This compound was synthesized from compound **10** and compound **11**<sup>S1</sup> according to a similar procedure as described for **Pyrene-1**.

Yield: 85%.

m. p.: 174.8-176.1 °C.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, *d*<sub>6</sub>-DMSO, TMS, 298 K, ppm): δ 10.80 (br, 4H, NH<sup>e</sup>), 10.33 (br, 2H, NH<sup>m</sup>), 10.13 (br, 2H, NH<sup>n</sup>), 9.82 (s, 2H, NH<sup>i</sup>), 8.44 (s, 1H, ArH<sup>b</sup>), 8.33-7.52 (m, 24H, Perylene-*H* & ArH), 7.41 (br, 2H, ArH<sup>f</sup>), 7.11 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, ArH<sup>e</sup>), 6.83 (s, 1H, ArH<sup>c</sup>), 4.26 (br, 4H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.08 (br, 4H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.39 (s, 4H, COCH<sub>2</sub><sup>a</sup>CO), 3.01 (br, 4H, Perylene-CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.30 (br, 4H, COCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.80 (m, 16H, COCH<sub>2</sub>C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>6</sub> & OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.43 (m, 4H, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.23 (br, 40H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.82 (br, 12H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, *d*<sub>6</sub>-DMSO, TMS, 298 K, ppm): δ 171.5, 163.5, 161.7, 160.8, 152.6, 139.1, 134.8, 127.2, 124.4, 120.6, 113.3, 111.0, 71.4, 68.4, 31.7, 29.1, 26.2, 25.9, 22.5, 14.4.

HRMS (MALDI<sup>+</sup>) calcd. for [C<sub>112</sub>H<sub>132</sub>N<sub>10</sub>O<sub>14</sub> + H]<sup>+</sup> 1841.9997, found: 1841.9914.

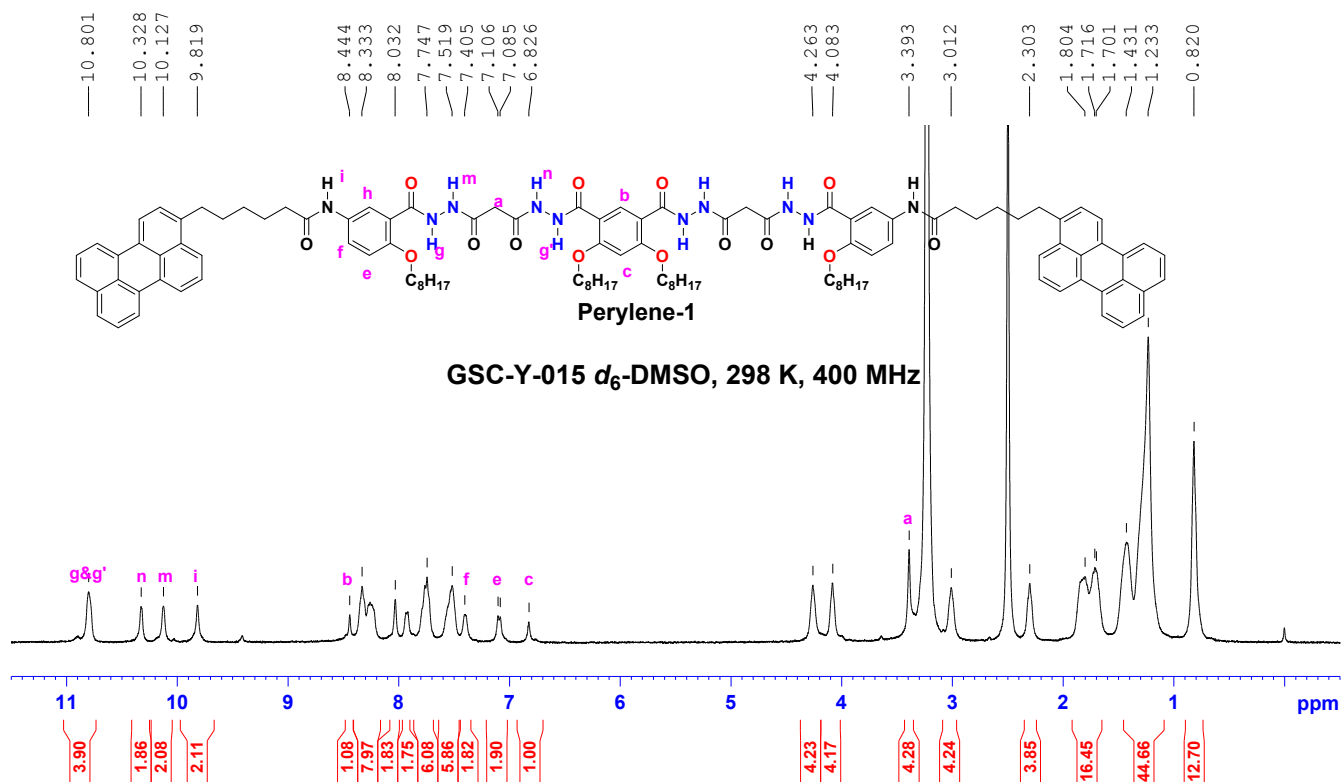


Figure S14  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum for **Perylene-1**,  $d_6$ -DMSO, 298 K, 400 MHz

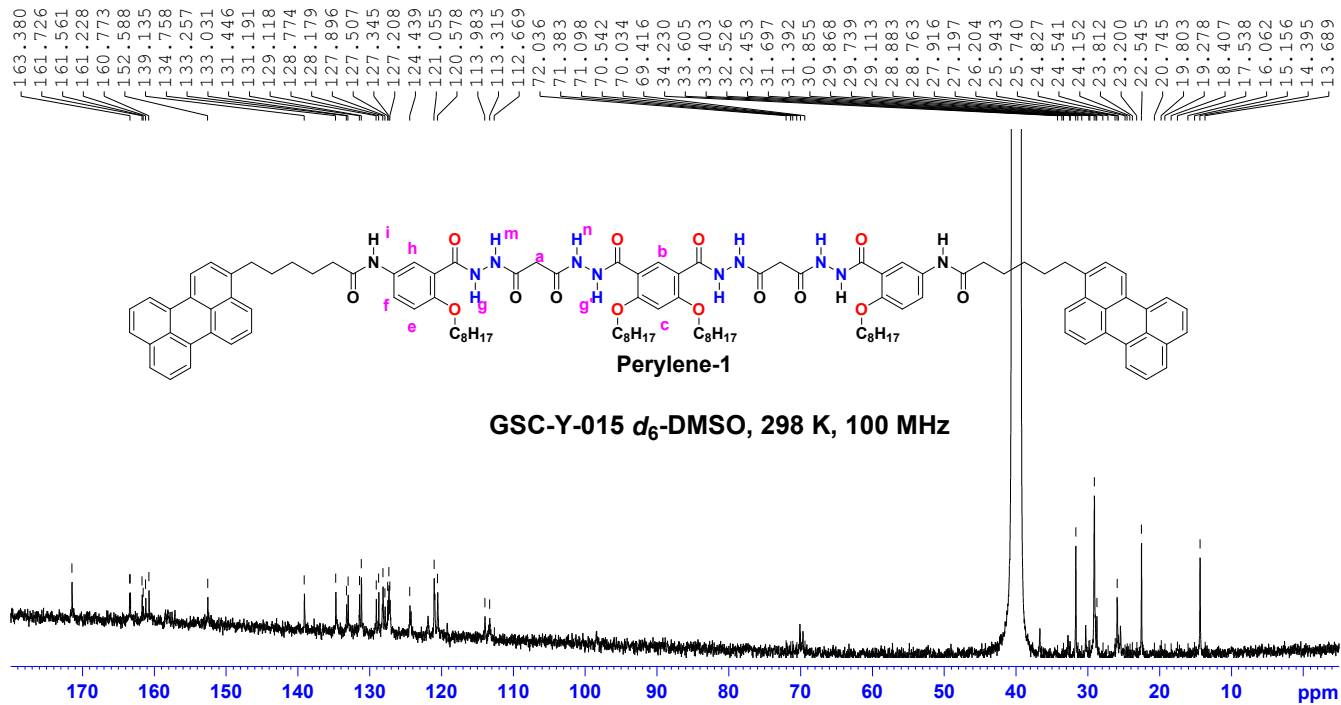
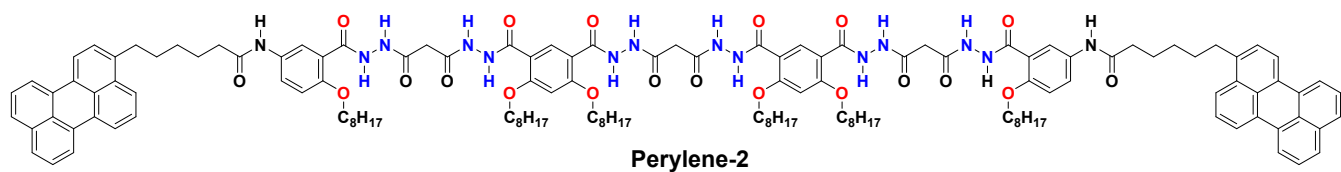


Figure S15  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum for **Perylene-1**,  $d_6$ -DMSO, 298 K, 100 MHz



**Perylene-2**: This compound was synthesized from compound **10** and compound **12**<sup>S1</sup> according to a similar procedure as described for **Pyrene-1**.

Yield: 83%.

m. p.: 211.9-213.0 °C.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $d_6$ -DMSO, TMS, 298 K, ppm):  $\delta$  10.93 (br, 6H,  $\text{NH}^{i\&i''}$ ), 10.39 (br, 2H,  $\text{NH}^{f'}$ ), 10.19 (br, 4H,  $\text{NH}^{f\&f'}$ ), 9.92 (s, 2H,  $\text{NH}^e$ ), 8.42 (s, 2H,  $\text{ArH}^d$ ), 8.32-7.51 (m, 24H, Perylene- $H$  &  $\text{ArH}$ ), 7.40 (d,  $J = 6.7$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{ArH}^c$ ), 7.10 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{ArH}^b$ ), 6.81 (s, 2H,  $\text{ArH}^a$ ), 4.24 (br, 8H,  $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 4.06 (br, 4H,  $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 3.39 (s, 4H,  $\text{COCH}_2\text{CO}$  in the water peak), 3.00 (br, 4H, Perylene- $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.29 (br, 4H,  $\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.83 (m, 16H,  $\text{COCH}_2\text{C}_3\text{H}_6$ ), 1.69 (m, 8H,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.67 (m, 4H,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.21 (br, 60H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 0.80 (br, 18H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $d_6$ -DMSO, TMS, 298 K, ppm):  $\delta$  171.5, 163.4, 160.7, 139.1, 134.7, 121.0, 113.3, 98.4, 70.1, 31.7, 29.1, 22.6, 14.4.

HRMS (MALDI $^+$ ) calcd. for  $[\text{C}_{139}\text{H}_{174}\text{N}_{14}\text{O}_{20} + \text{H}]^+$  2360.3102, found: 2360.2982.

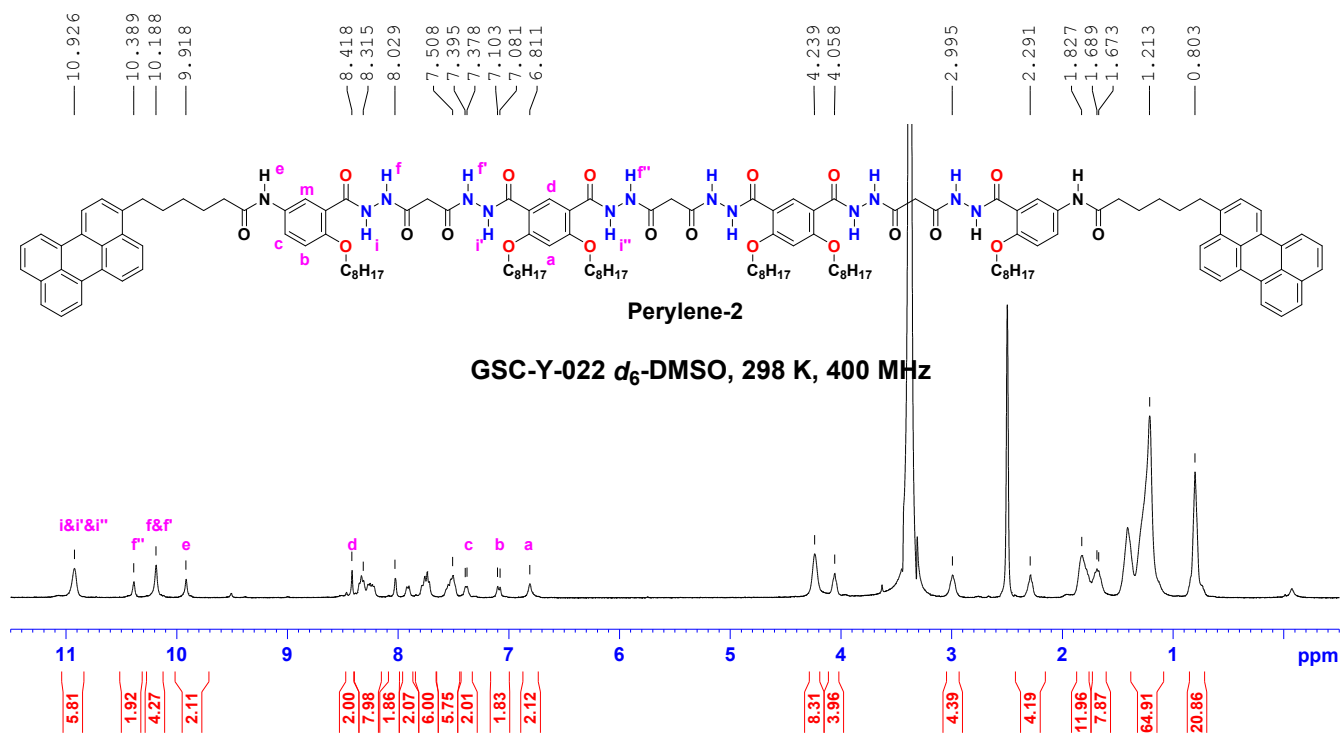


Figure S16  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum for **Perylene-2**,  $d_6$ -DMSO, 298 K, 400 MHz.

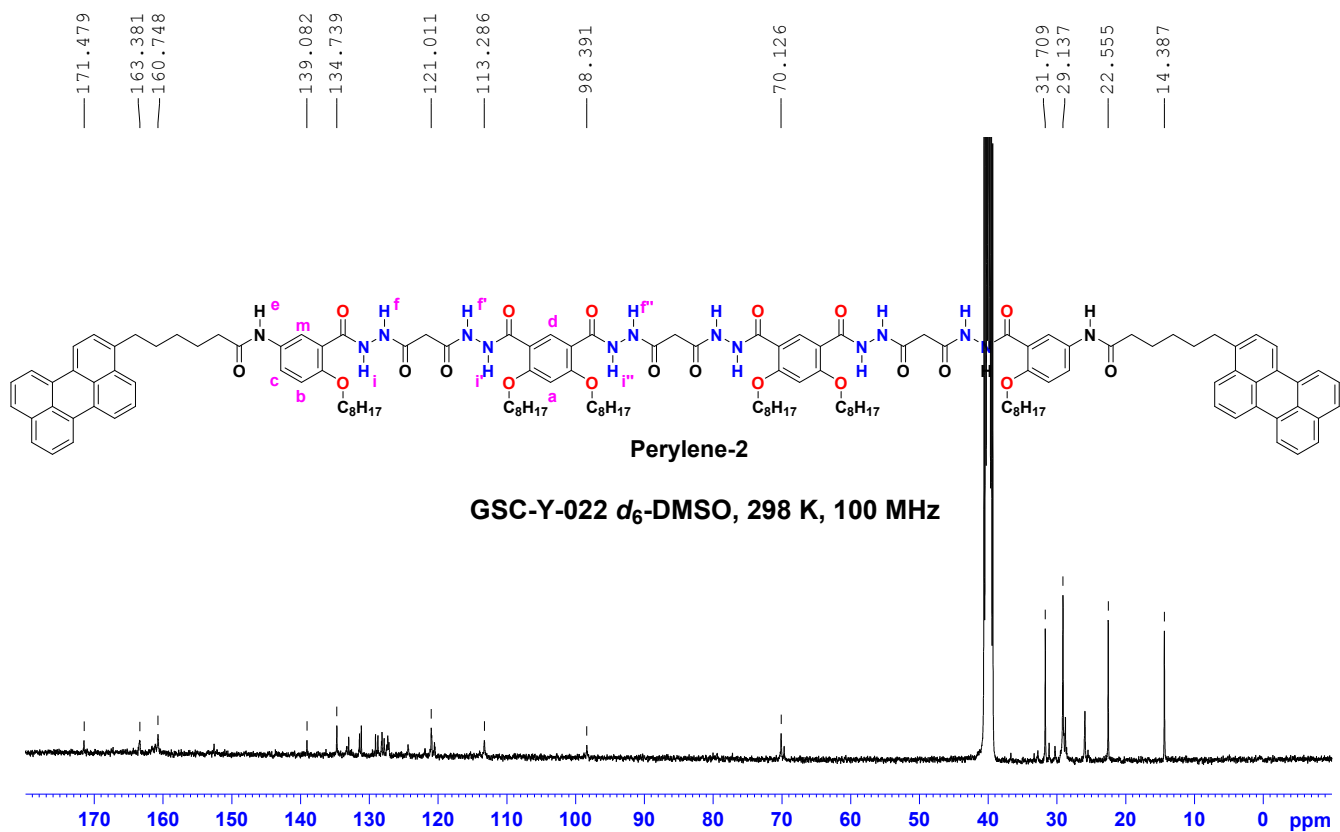
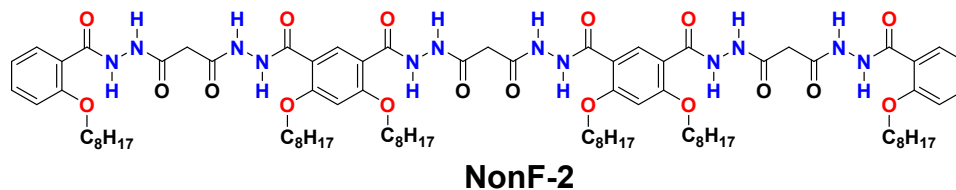


Figure S17  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum for **Perylene-2**,  $d_6$ -DMSO, 298 K, 100 MHz.



**NonF-2**: This compound was synthesized from compound **4** and compound **13**<sup>S2</sup> according to a similar procedure as described for **Pyrene-1**.

Yield: 80%.

m. p.: 156.3-157.1 °C.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $d_6$ -DMSO, TMS, 298 K, ppm):  $\delta$  10.92 (d,  $J = 3.5$  Hz, 4H,  $\text{NH}^{\text{f}\&\text{g}}$ ), 10.84 (d,  $J = 3.5$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{NH}^{\text{e}}$ ), 10.32 (d,  $J = 4.2$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{NH}^{\text{d}}$ ), 10.21 (d,  $J = 4.1$  Hz, 4H,  $\text{NH}^{\text{c}\&\text{e}'}$ ), 8.43 (s, 2H,  $\text{ArH}^{\text{b}}$ ), 7.85 (d,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{ArH}^{\text{g}}$ ), 7.54 (t,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{ArH}^{\text{i}}$ ), 7.20 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{ArH}^{\text{h}}$ ), 7.10 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{ArH}^{\text{j}}$ ), 6.86 (s, 2H,  $\text{ArH}^{\text{a}}$ ), 4.28 (br, 8H,  $\text{OCH}_2^{\text{m}\&\text{m}'}$ ), 4.16 (t,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 4H,  $\text{OCH}_2^{\text{n}}$ ), 3.38 (s, 6H,  $\text{COCH}_2\text{CO}$ ), 1.86 (m, 12H,  $\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.24 (br, 60H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 0.824 (br, 18H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $d_6$ -DMSO, TMS, 298 K, ppm):  $\delta$  162.9, 162.8, 161.6, 160.5, 160.3, 156.5, 133.0, 133.6, 120.6, 120.3, 113.1, 112.8, 98.0, 69.7, 68.9, 31.2, 28.6, 25.4, 22.0, 13.8.

HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd. for  $[\text{C}_{87}\text{H}_{132}\text{N}_{12}\text{O}_{18} + \text{Na}]^+$  1655.9675, found: 1655.9607.



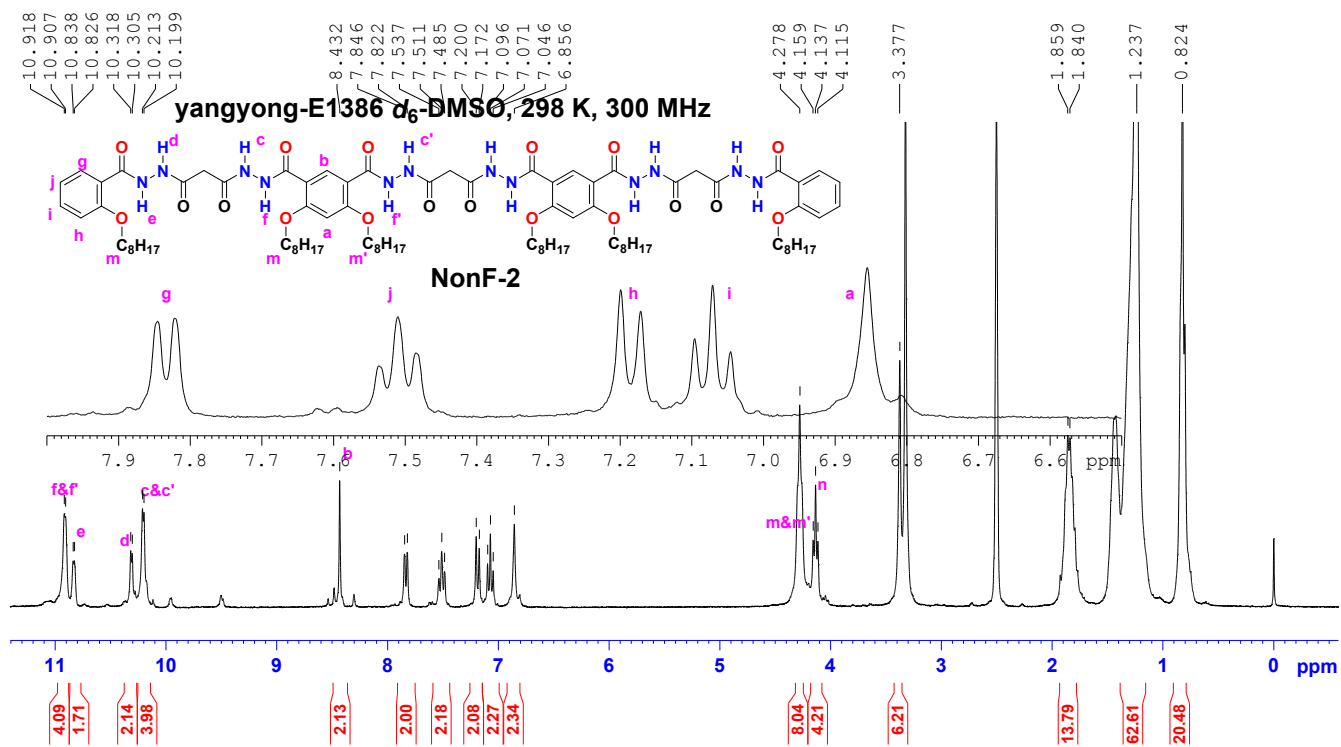


Figure S18  $^1H$  NMR spectrum for **NonF-2**,  $d_6$ -DMSO, 298 K, 300 MHz.

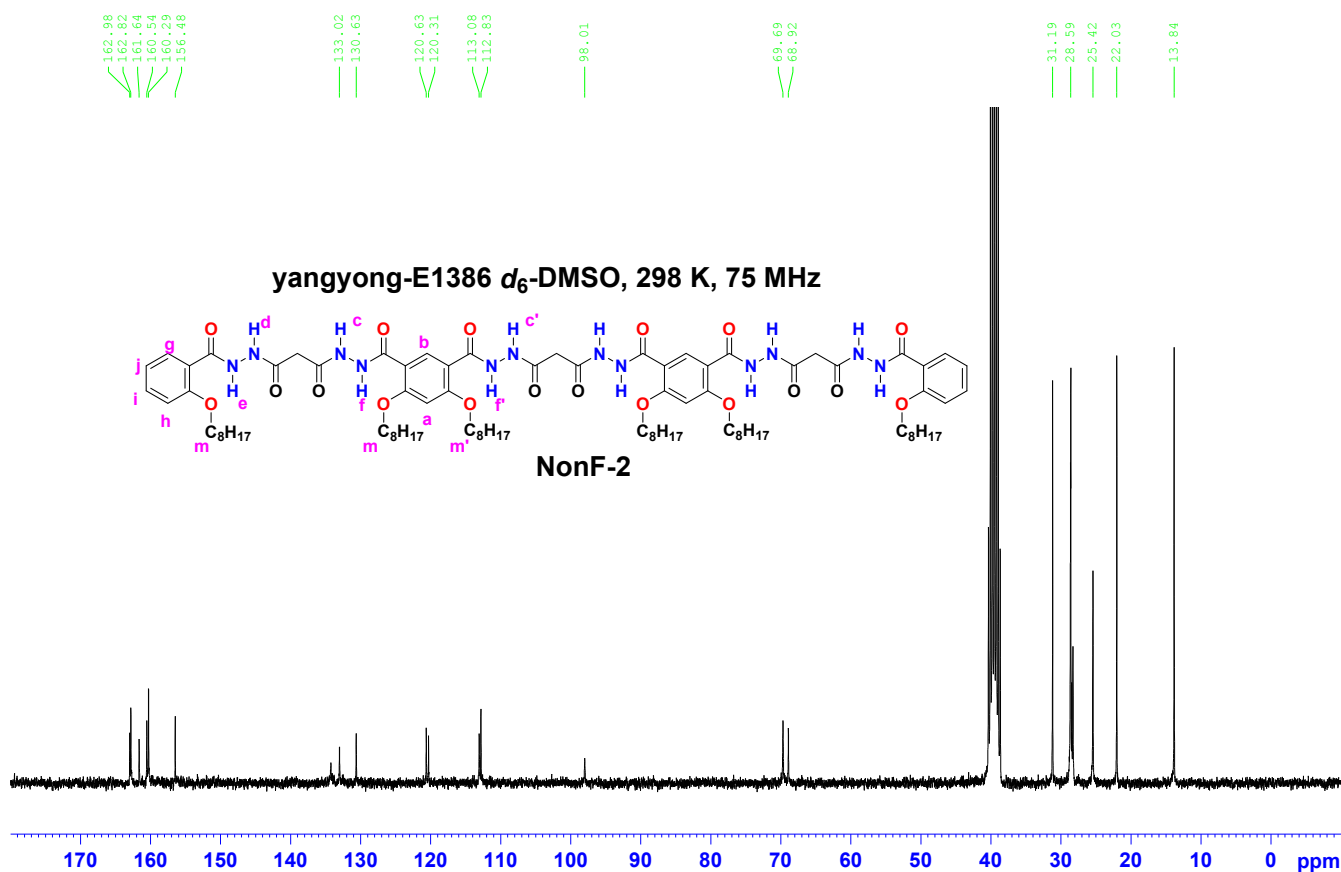
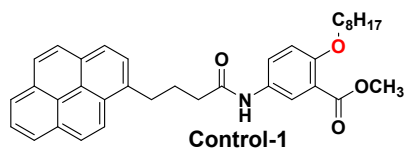


Figure S19  $^{13}C$  NMR spectrum for **NonF-2**,  $d_6$ -DMSO, 298 K, 75 MHz.



**Control-1:** This compound was synthesized from compound **8** and compound **6** according to a similar procedure as described for **Pyrene-1**.

Yield: 95%.

m. p.: 126.0-127.3 °C.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , TMS, 298 K, ppm):  $\delta$  8.31-7.69 (m, 11H, Pyrene-*H* & Ar*H* & NH), 7.02 (d,  $J = 10.4$  Hz, 1H, Ar*H*<sup>b</sup>), 6.90 (d,  $J = 9.2$  Hz, 1H, Ar*H*<sup>a</sup>), 4.00 (t,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 3.86 (s, 3H,  $\text{COOCH}_3$ <sup>c</sup>), 3.47 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H, Pyrene- $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.40 (t,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.30 (m, 2H,  $\text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.82 (m, 2H,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.28 (br, 10H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 0.88 (t,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , TMS, 298 K, ppm):  $\delta$  170.8, 166.3, 161.6, 155.4, 160.3, 135.4, 123.3, 114.1, 69.5, 52.0, 32.5, 31.8, 29.3, 27.1, 25.9, 22.6, 14.1.

HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd. for  $[\text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{39}\text{NO}_4 + \text{H}]^+$  550.2952, found: 550.2950.

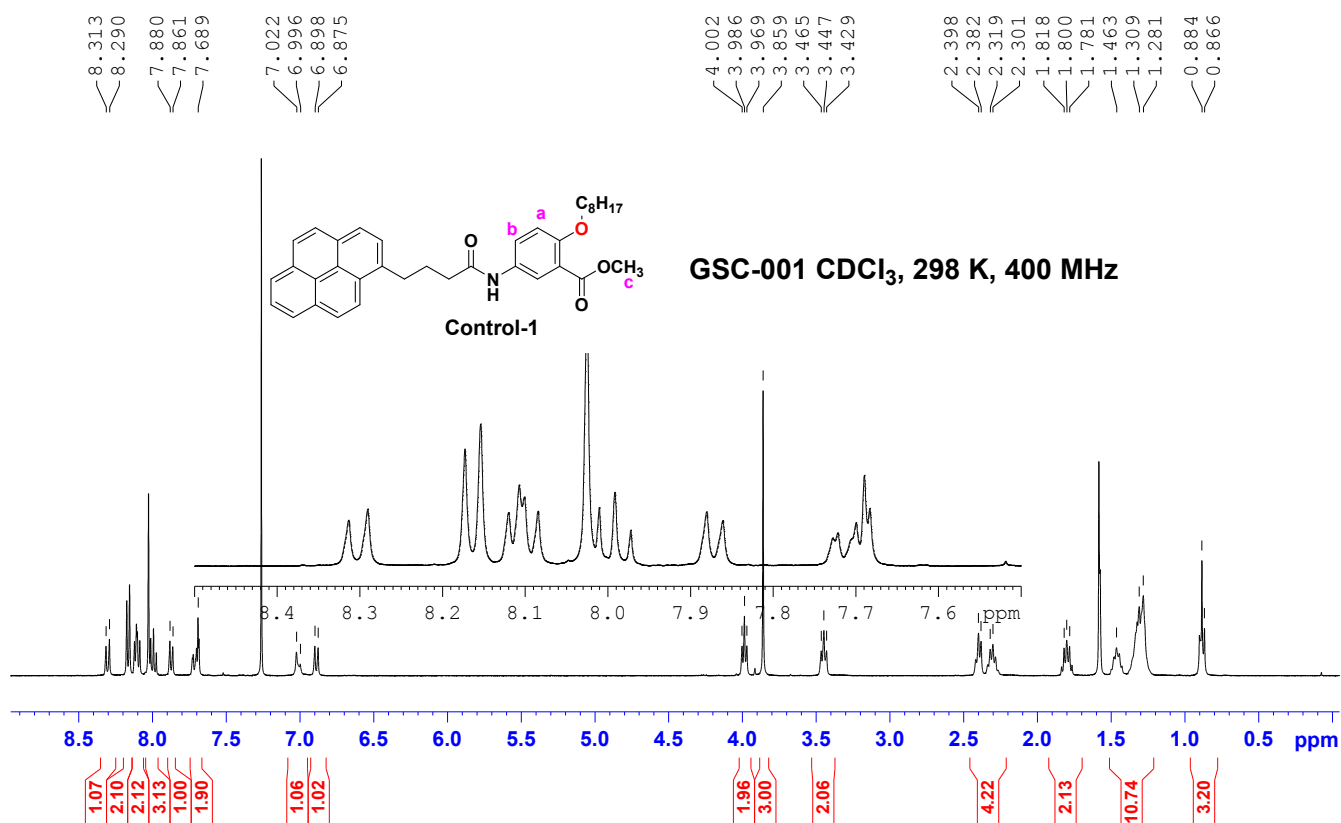


Figure S20  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum for **Control-1**,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K, 400 MHz.

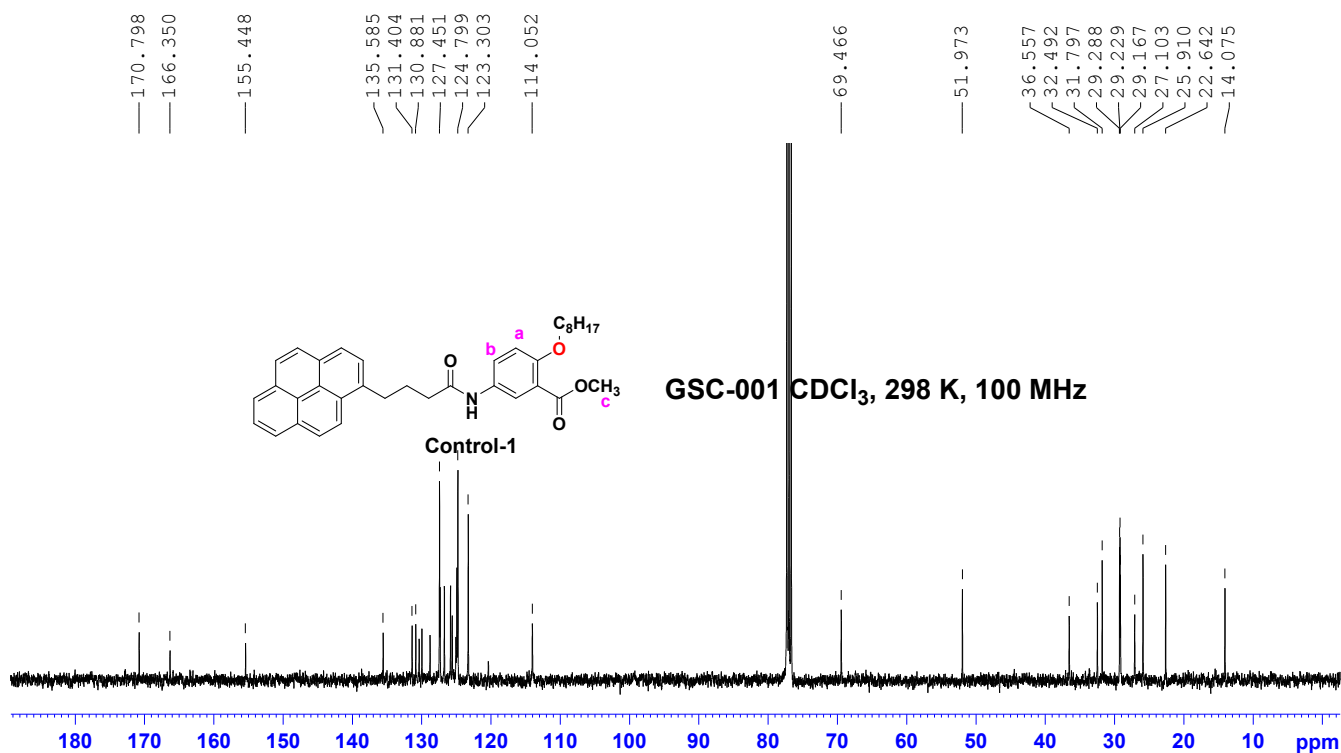


Figure S21 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum for **Control-1**, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K, 100 MHz.

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- S2 Y. Yang, Z. Y. Yang, Y. P. Yi, J. F. Xiang, C. F. Chen, L. J. Wan and Z. G. Shuai, Helical molecular duplex strands: Multiple hydrogen-bond-mediated assembly of self-complementary oligomeric hydrazide derivatives, *J. Org. Chem.*, 2007, **72**, 4936-4946.
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- S4 P. Schlichting, U. Rohr and K. Müllen, *Liebigs Ann. Recl.*, 1997, 395-407.
- S5 J. Zeng, W. Wang, P. Deng, W. Feng, J. Zhou, Y. Yang, L. Yuan, K. Yamato and B. Gong, Interplay of olefin metathesis and multiple hydrogen bonding interactions: Covalently cross-linked zippers, *Org. Lett.*, 2011, **13**, 3798-3801.