

## Supporting Information

### Self-reversible mechanofluorochromism of AIE-active C6-unsubstituted tetrahydropyrimidine derivatives

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## 1. Characterization data for THP 2

The crystals of **2** were prepared by recrystallization from dichloromethane/n-hexane solution. The characterization data for **2** is shown as below.

THP **2** (Dimethyl 1,2,3-tris(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyrimidine-4,5-dicarboxylate): 35% yield, white solid, m.p. 189-190 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ : 7.74 (s, 4H), 7.51 (m, 4H), 7.02 (m, 4H), 6.29 (s, 1H), 4.39 (d, *J* = 18.2 Hz, 1H), 3.66 (m, 7H) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 164.9, 164.2, 151.1, 146.9, 142.5, 140.8, 127.1, 126.8, 126.5, 122.3, 117.2, 105.9, 77.5, 53.0, 51.8, 43.0 ppm; IR (KBr) ν (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2921, 2851, 1703, 1627, 1517, 1425, 1322, 1239, 1167, 1069, 918, 837, 753, 698; HRMS-ESI (*m/z*): calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O<sub>4</sub>N<sub>2</sub>F<sub>9</sub>Na, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> : 655.1250; found, 655.1248.

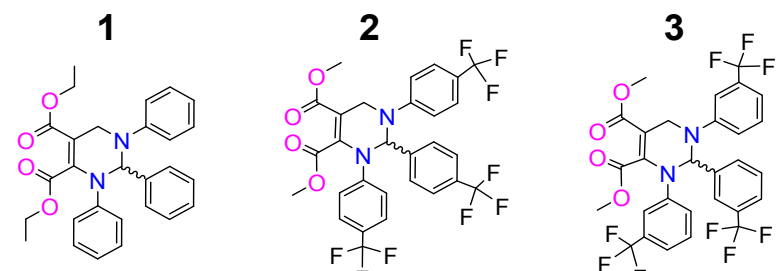
## 2. Crystallographic data for THPs 2 and 3

**Table S1** Crystallographic data for THPs **2** and **3**

| THP  | <b>2</b>     | <b>3</b>       |
|--|--------------|----------------|
| <i>T</i> [K]                                   | 149.99       | 187.49         |
| crystal system                                 | Orthorhombic | Monoclinic     |
| space group                                    | <i>Pbca</i>  | <i>P121/n1</i> |
| <i>a</i> [Å]                                   | 11.6160(4)   | 14.2291(17)    |
| <i>b</i> [Å]                                   | 20.6335(7)   | 11.4539(14)    |
| <i>c</i> [Å]                                   | 23.3007(7)   | 17.931(2)      |
| $\alpha$ [Å]                                   | 90           | 90             |
| $\beta$ [deg]                                  | 90           | 105.852(2)     |
| $\gamma$ [deg]                                 | 90           | 90             |
| <i>V</i> [Å <sup>3</sup> ]                     | 5584.7(3)    | 2811.2(6)      |
| <i>Z</i>                                       | 8            | 4              |
| <i>D</i> <sub>calcu</sub> [mg/m <sup>3</sup> ] | 1.504        | 1.494          |
| <i>R</i>                                       | 0.0842       | 0.0731         |
| <i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub>                         | 0.2085       | 0.1120         |

### 3. Intra- and intermolecular interactions in THPs 1-3

Table S2 Intra- and Intermolecular short-ring interactions and hydrogen bonds in THPs 1-3

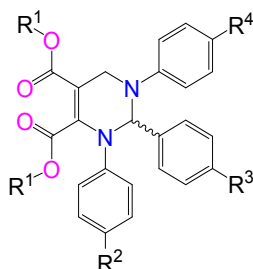


| THP | polymorph | Intermolecular short ring-interactions <sup>[a]</sup>                                     | Intramolecular short ring-interactions <sup>[a]</sup> | Intermolecular hydrogen bonds  | Intramolecular hydrogen bonds                            |
|-----|-----------|---|---|--|--|
| 1   | 1b        | A-B', 5.035 Å<br>A-C', 5.122 Å<br>B-C', 4.938 Å   | A-C, 5.805 Å  | 2 × C-H...O, 2.487 Å<br>6 × C-H...π, 2.930 Å; 2.837 Å;<br>2.971 Å                              | C-H...N, 2.505 Å<br>C-H...O, 2.578 Å                     |
|     | 1c        | A-B'' and A'-B, 5.293 Å<br>B-C' and B''-C, 4.257 Å  | A-C, 5.039 Å  | 4 × C-H...O, 2.434 Å; 2.579 Å<br>2 × C-H...π, 2.634 Å  | C-H...N, 2.511 Å   |
| 2   |           | A'-B, 5.476 Å<br>B-C', 4.754 Å  | A-C, 5.098 Å  | 2 × C-H...O, 2.453 Å; 2.321 Å<br>C-H...F, 2.550 Å<br>3 × C-F...π, 3.236 Å; 3.517 Å;<br>3.477 Å | C-H...N, 2.501 Å   |
| 3   |           | C-B', 4.103 Å,<br>C-A'', 5.408 Å<br>A-B', 4.800 Å<br>B'-A'', 5.928 Å<br>C''-A''', 5.874 Å | A-C, 5.199 Å  | C-H...π, 2.847 Å<br>C-H...O, 2.432 Å<br>C-H...F, 2.459 Å                                       | C-H...N, 2.469 Å<br>C-H...O, 2.583 Å<br>C-H...F, 2.411 Å |

[a] The lengths are the distances ( $d_{ring}$ ) between ring centroids.

## 4. Molecular packing modes of the polymorphs of THPs with different R<sup>1</sup>–R<sup>4</sup> in single crystals and their emissions

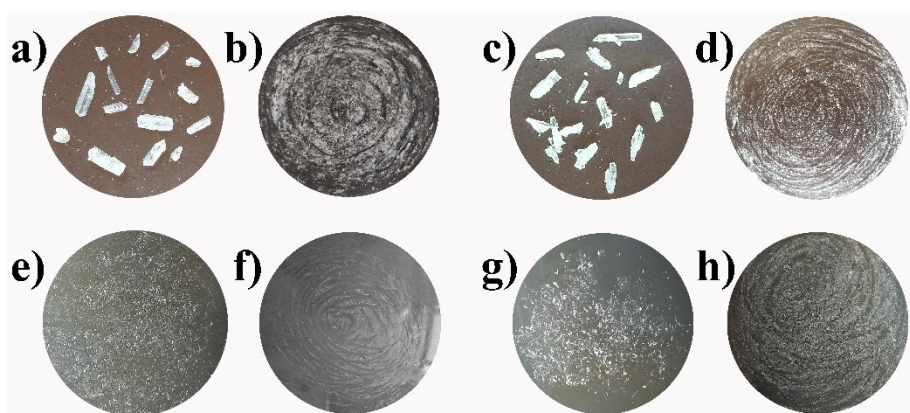
Table S3 MPMs of the polymorphs of THPs with different R<sup>1</sup>–R<sup>4</sup> in single crystals and their emissions



| entry | THP                      | R <sup>1</sup> | R <sup>2</sup> | R <sup>4</sup> | R <sup>3</sup> | MPM <sup>[a]</sup>       | $\lambda_{em}^{[b]}$ /nm |
|-------|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1     | <b>1b</b>                | Et             | Ph             | Ph             | Ph             | <i>RS</i> -paired        | 434                      |
| 2     | <b>1c</b>                | Et             | Ph             | Ph             | Ph             | <i>RR/SS</i> -overlapped | 484                      |
| 3     | <b>4c</b>                | Me             | Ph             | Ph             | Ph             | <i>RS</i> -paired        | 469                      |
| 4     | <b>4c'</b>               | Me             | Ph             | Ph             | Ph             | <i>RR/SS</i> -overlapped | 484                      |
| 5     | <b>5p</b> <sup>[c]</sup> | Me             | 4Br-Ph         | 4Br-Ph         | Ph             | <i>RS</i> -paired        | 425                      |
| 6     | <b>5b</b>                | Me             | 4Br-Ph         | 4Br-Ph         | Ph             | <i>RR/SS</i> -paired     | 445                      |
| 7     | <b>5c</b>                | Me             | 4Br-Ph         | 4Br-Ph         | Ph             | <i>RR/SS</i> -overlapped | 468                      |
| 8     | <b>6c</b>                | Me             | Ph             | Ph             | 4Br-Ph         | <i>RS</i> -overlapped    | 459                      |
| 9     | <b>6c'</b>               | Me             | Ph             | Ph             | 4Br-Ph         | <i>RR/SS</i> -overlapped | 488                      |
| 10    | <b>7c</b>                | Me             | 4F-Ph          | 4F-Ph          | Ph             | <i>RS</i> -paired        | 465                      |
| 11    | <b>7c'</b>               | Me             | 4F-Ph          | 4F-Ph          | Ph             | <i>RR/SS</i> -overlapped | 486                      |

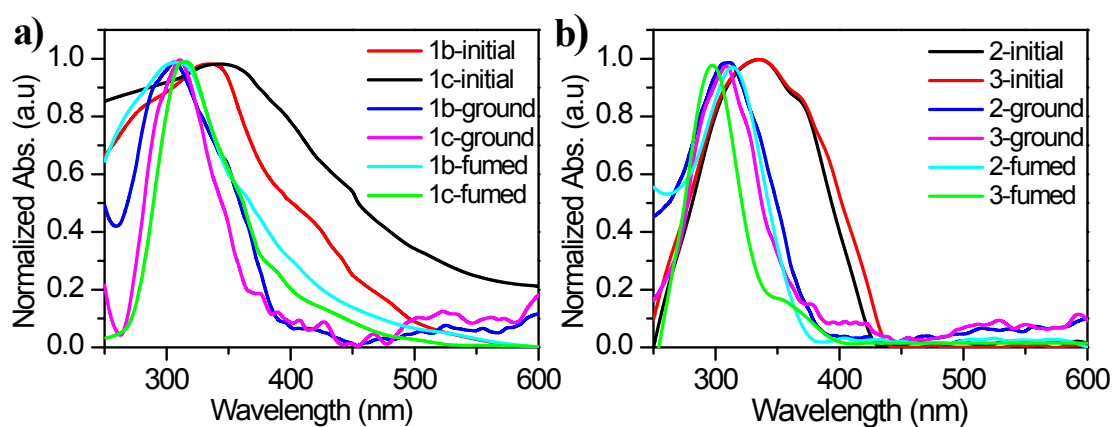
[a] Molecular packing modes. [b] Maximum emission wavelength. [c] purple fluorescence.

**5. The photos of the as-synthesized 1b, 1c, 2, 3 and their corresponding ground powder taken under natural light**



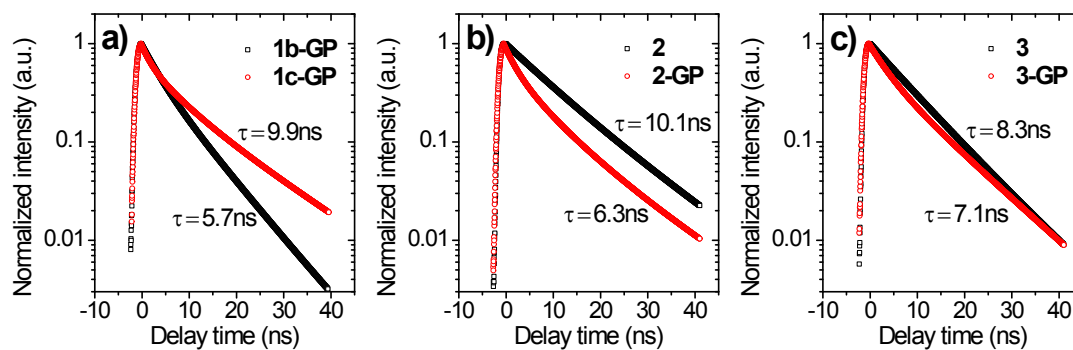
**Fig. S1** The photos of the as-synthesized (a) **1b**, (c) **1c**, (e) **2**, (g) **3** and their corresponding ground powder of (b) **1b**, (d) **1c**, (f) **2** and (h) **3** taken under natural light.

**6. The absorption spectra of the as-synthesized 1b, 1c, 2, 3 and their corresponding ground powder and fumed solids**



**Fig. S2** The absorption spectra of the as-synthesized (a) **1b**, **1c**, (b) **2**, **3** and their corresponding ground powder and fumed solids.

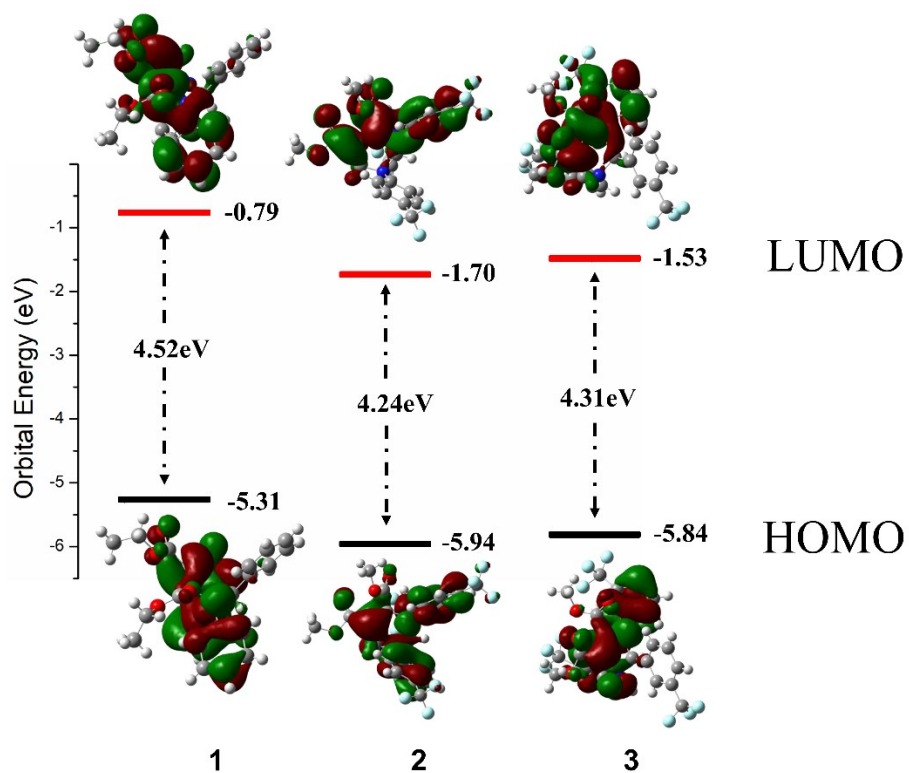
## 7. The Fluorescence decay profiles of the as-synthesized **2**, **3** and the ground powder of **1b**, **1c**, **2** and **3**



**Fig. S3** Fluorescence decay profiles of (a) the ground powder (indicated as GP) of **1b** and **1c**, (b) the as-synthesized **2** and its ground powder, and (c) the as-synthesized **3** and its ground powder.

Excited at 360 nm.

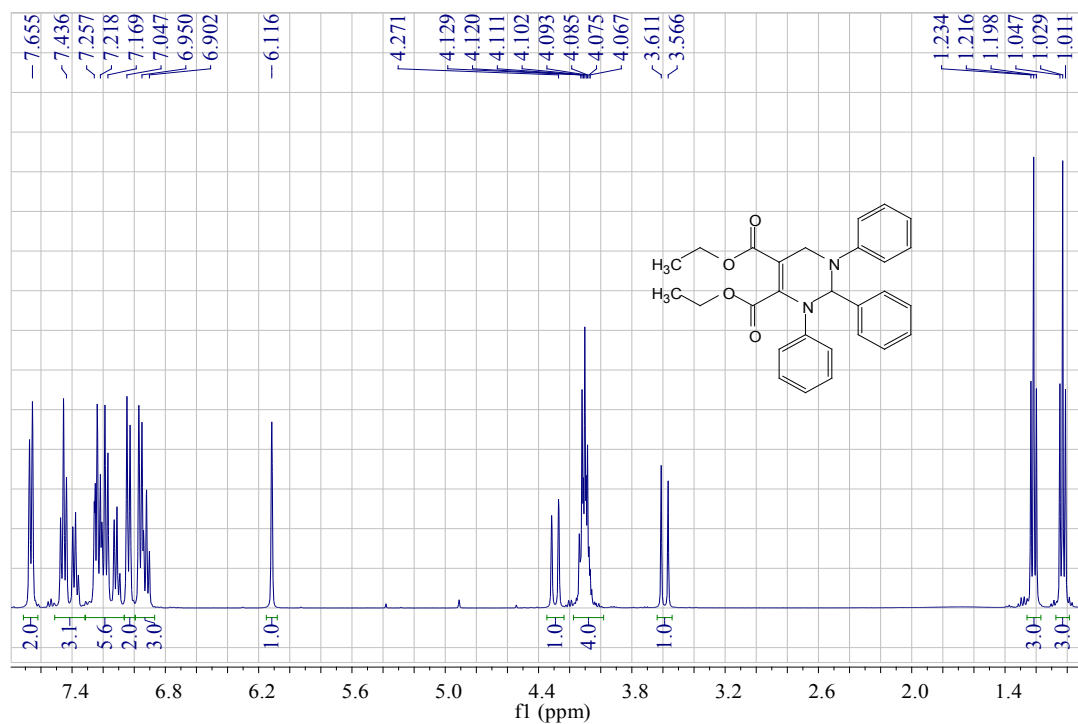
## 8. Calculated HOMOs and LUMOs of THPs 1-3



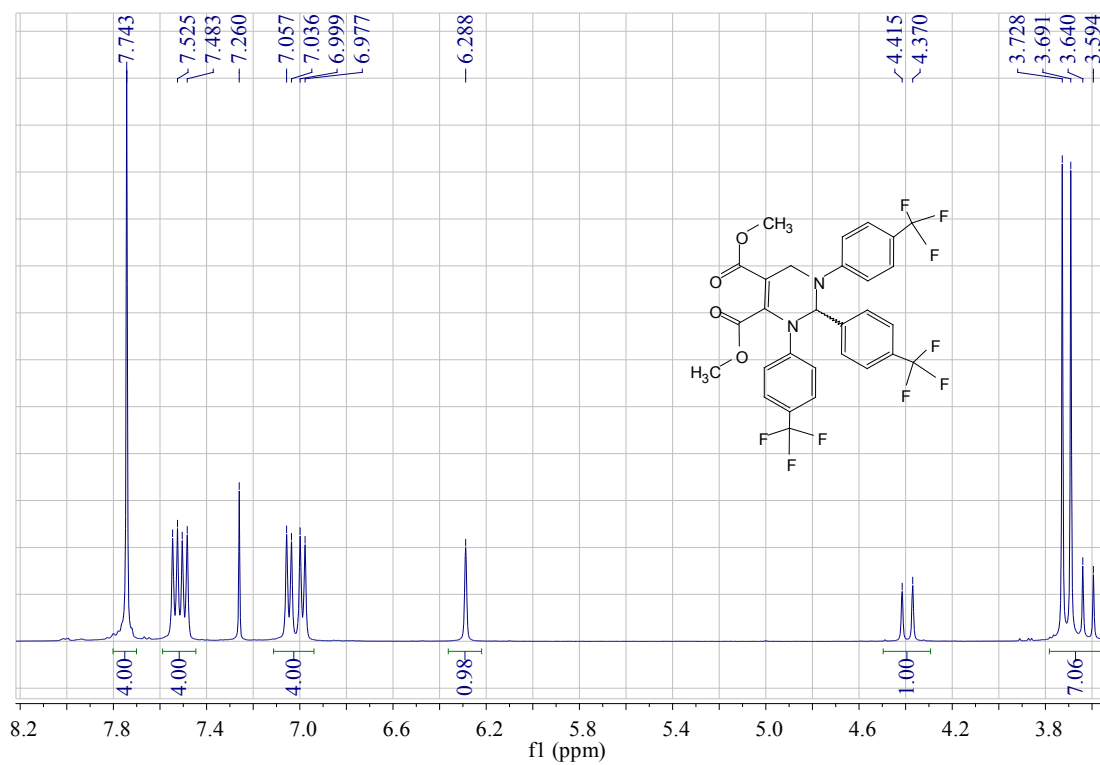
**Fig. S4** Calculated HOMOs and LUMOs of THPs 1-3 using DFT/B3LYP/6-31G method.

## 9. The $^1\text{H}$ NMR and $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectra of THP 1-3

Listed below are the  $^1\text{H}$ NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectra of THP 2, and the  $^1\text{H}$ NMR spectra of THP 1 and 3, which are the same as we reported previously.<sup>[1,2]</sup>



**Fig. S5** The  $^1\text{H}$ NMR spectrum of THP 1.



**Fig. S6** The  $^1\text{H}$ NMR spectrum of THP 2.



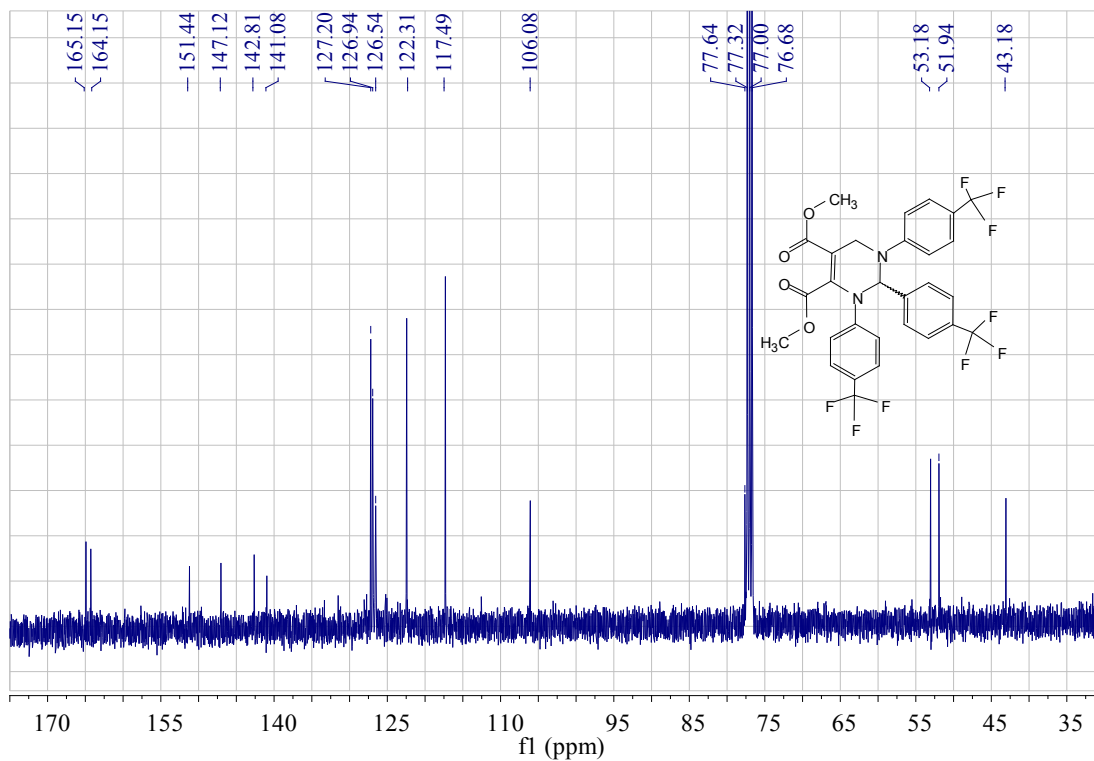
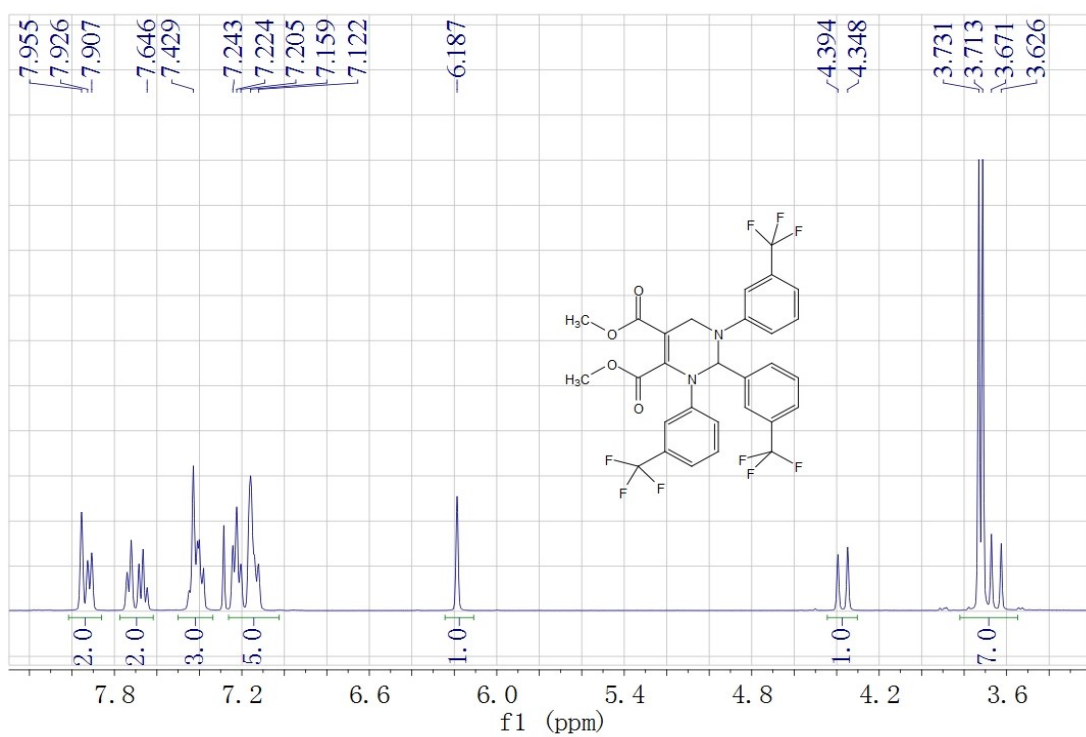


Fig. S7 The  $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectrum of THP 2.



**Fig. S8** The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of THP **3**.

## References

- 1 Q. Zhu, L. Huang, Z. Chen, S. Zheng, L. Lv, Z. Zhu, D. Cao, H. Jiang and S. Liu, *Chem. Eur. J.*, 2013, **19**, 1268-1280.
- 2 Q. Zhu, S. Wu, S. Zheng, Z. Ye, C. Huang and Y. Liu, *Dyes Pigments*, 2019, **162**, 543-551.