

## Supporting Information

### **Phenanthroimidazole derivatives showing mild intramolecular charge transfer, high quantum yield and their applications in OLEDs**

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## Characterization and Spectroscopic data of **1**

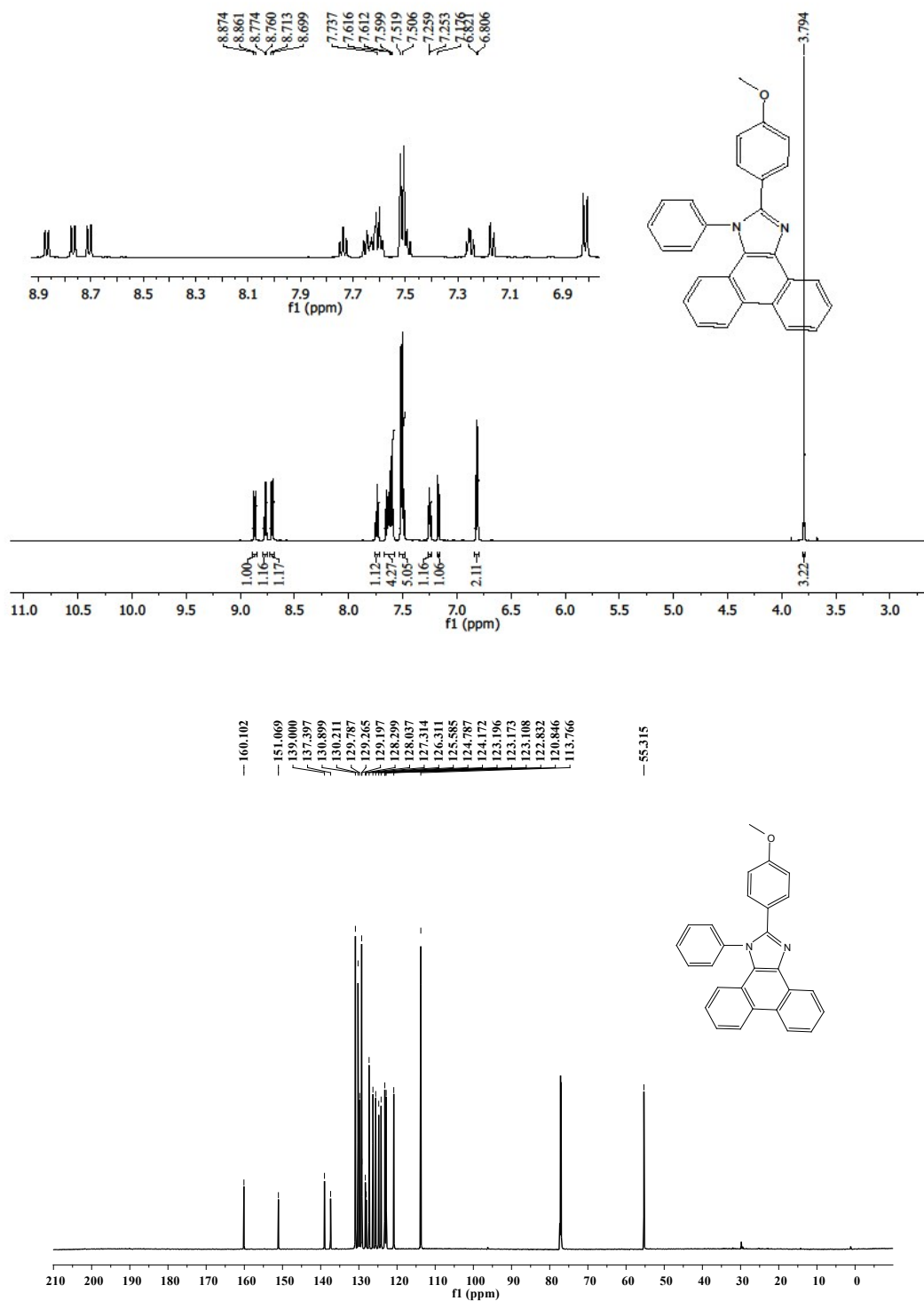


Figure SI 1:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (top) and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (bottom) spectra of **1** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$

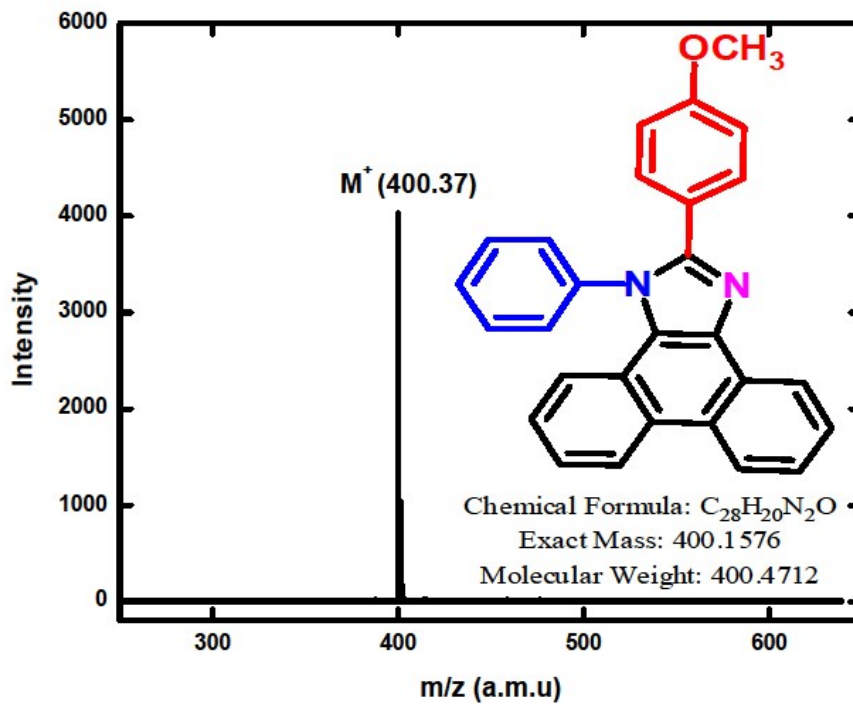


Figure SI 2: MALDI – TOF spectrum for 1

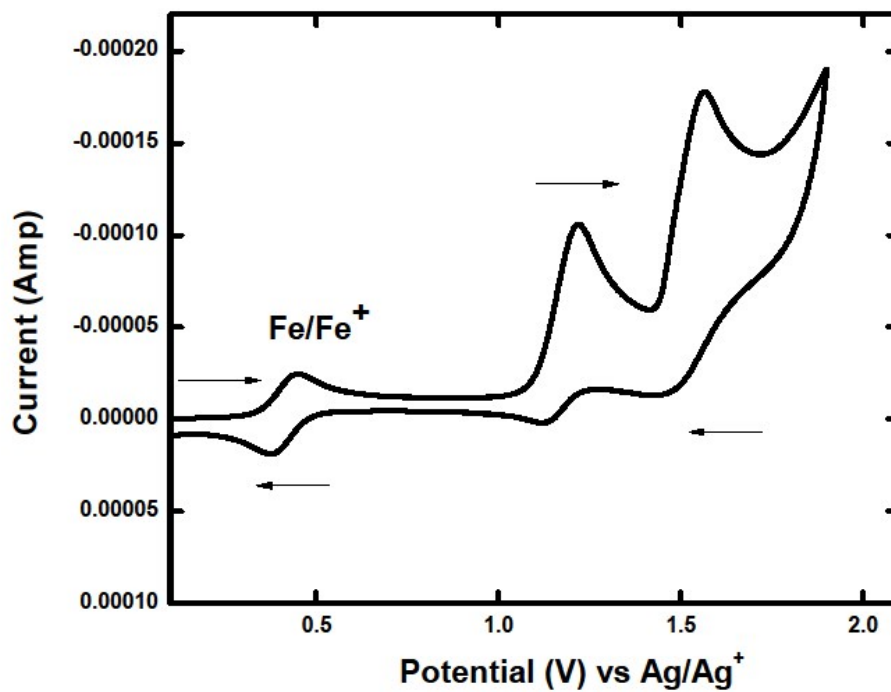


Figure SI 3: Cyclic voltammetry of 1.

Photophysical studies:

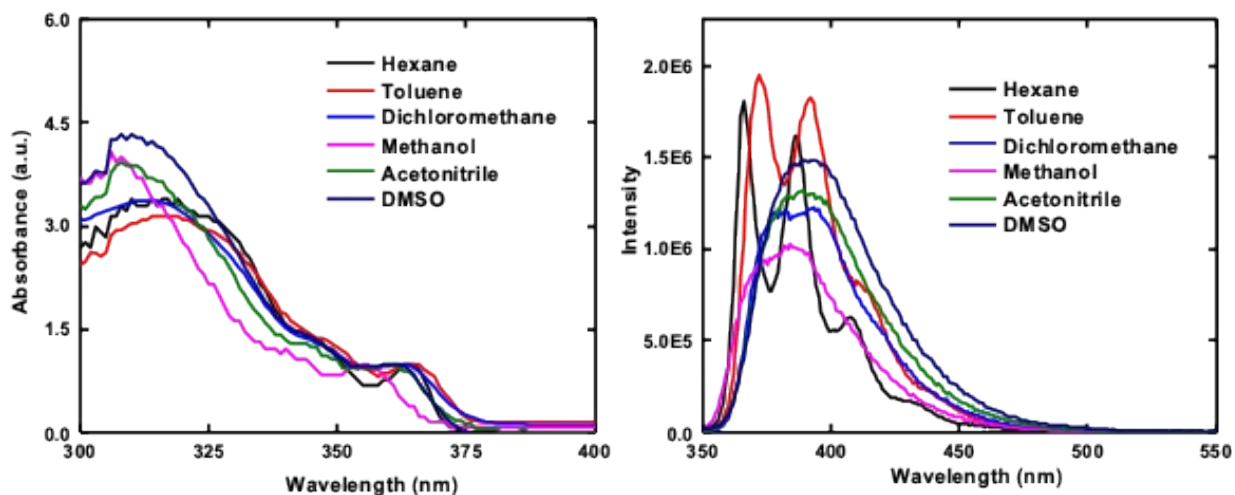
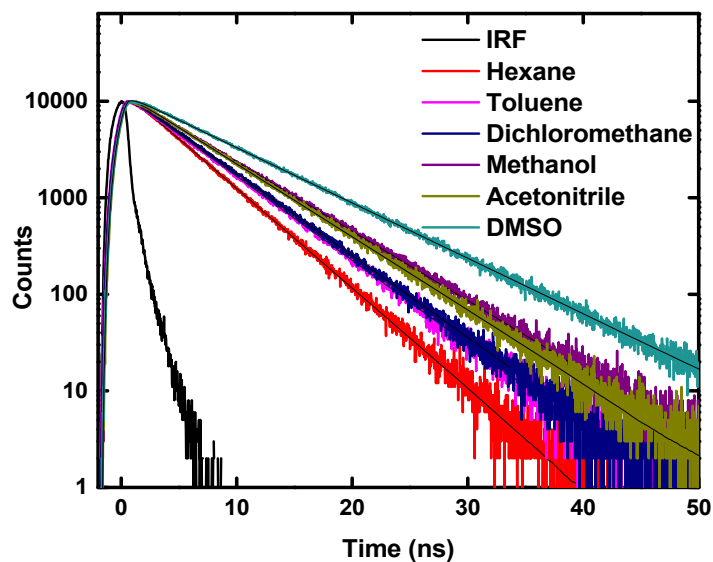


Figure SI 4: Absorption and emission spectra of **1** in different solvents

Table SI 1: Absorption and emission data of **1** in different solvents

Solvent	$\lambda_{\text{abs}}$ [nm], ( $\log \epsilon$ )	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$ (nm)	Stoke shift ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	$\Phi_{\text{F}}$	$E_{\text{g}}$ (eV)
Hexane	364 (3.64), 345 (3.78), 316 (4.15), 261 (4.60)	366, 386, 407	1570	33	3.43
Toluene	364(3.84), 318(4.33), 288(4.35)	372, 391	1900	41	3.40
DCM	363(4.48), 315(4.98), 263(5.43)	377, 392	2030	38	3.43
CH <sub>3</sub> OH	356(3.64), 308(4.23), 258(4.75)	381	1840	45	3.59
CH <sub>3</sub> CN	361(3.73), 309(4.33), 260(4.89)	387	1870	40	3.43
DMSO	362(4.06), 310(4.63), 262(5.21)	391	2050	53	3.47



**Figure SI 5:** Fluorescence decay spectra of **1** in different solvents

**Table SI 2:** Fluorescence decay data of **1** in different solvents

Solvent	$\lambda_{em}(nm)$	$\tau_1(ns)$	$\alpha$	Chi sq
Hexane	407	4.21	100	1.00
Toluene	391	4.99	100	1.15
DCM	392	5.11	100	1.20
CH <sub>3</sub> OH	381	6.05	100	1.07
CH <sub>3</sub> CN	387	5.76	100	1.00
DMSO	391	7.59	100	1.15

## Characterization and Spectroscopic data of 2

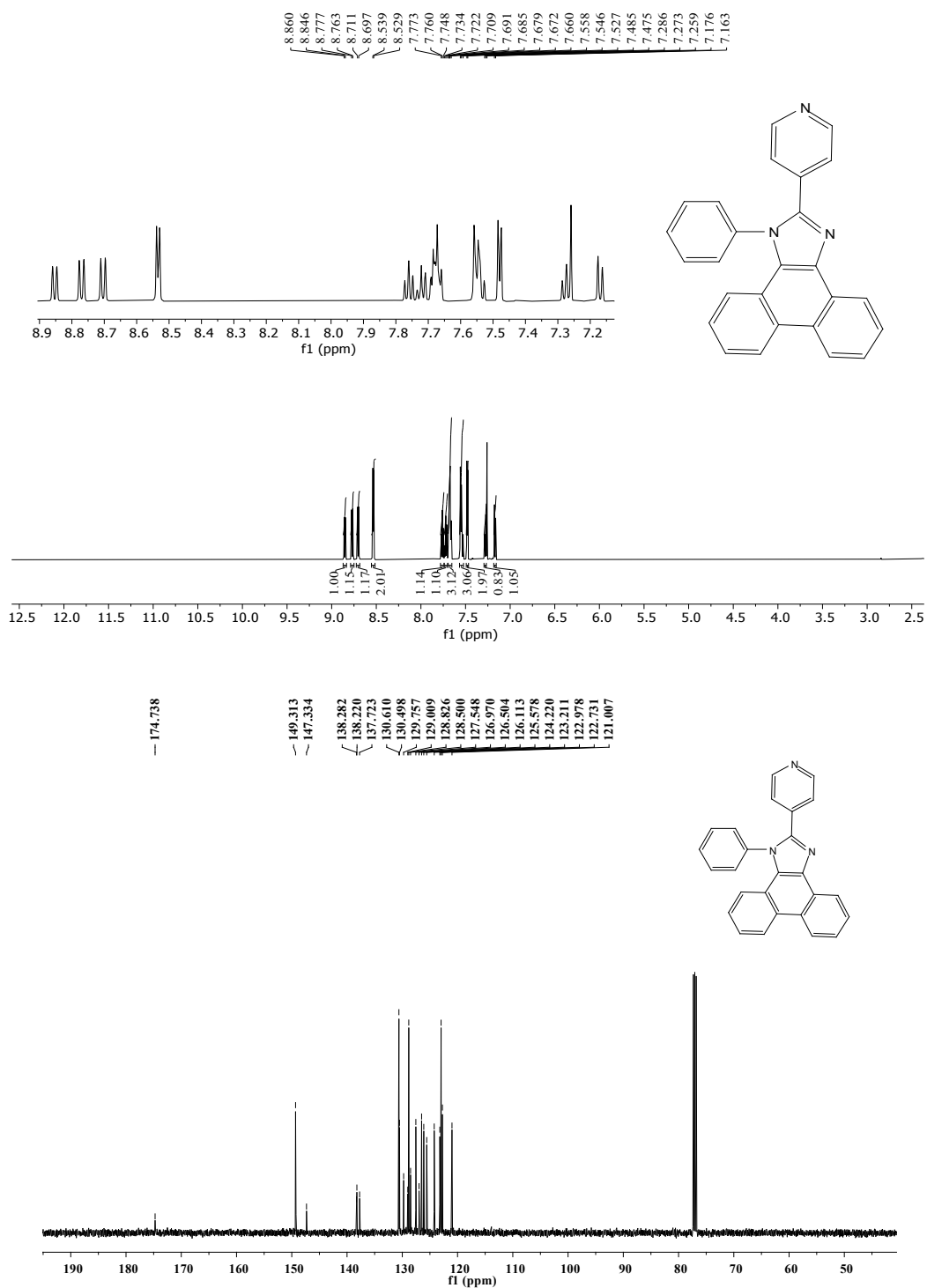


Figure SI 6:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (top) and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (bottom) spectra of **2** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY, I.I.T.(B)

Analysis Info  
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 Sample Name MR-NEERAJ-2  
 Comment C26H17N3  
 Acquisition Date 6/8/2021 4:21:08 PM  
 Operator sjg in  
 Instrument maXis impact 282001.00081

Acquisition Parameter  
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 Focus Not active Set Capillary 3700 V Set Dry Heater 180 °C  
 Scan Begin 50 m/z Set End Plate Offset -500 V Set Dry Gas 4.0 l/min  
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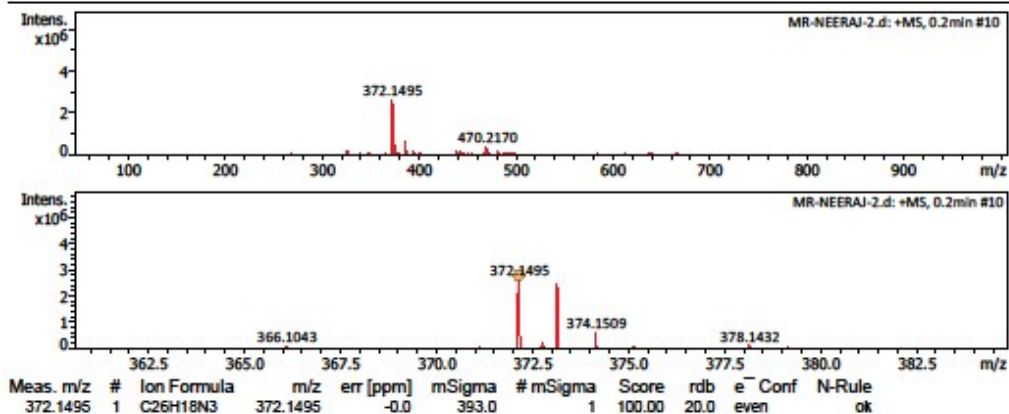


Figure SI 7: HRMS spectrum for 2.

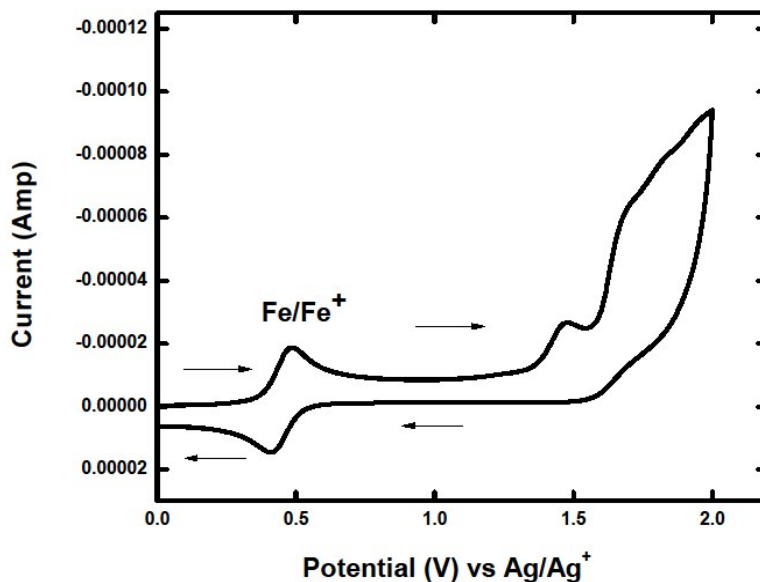
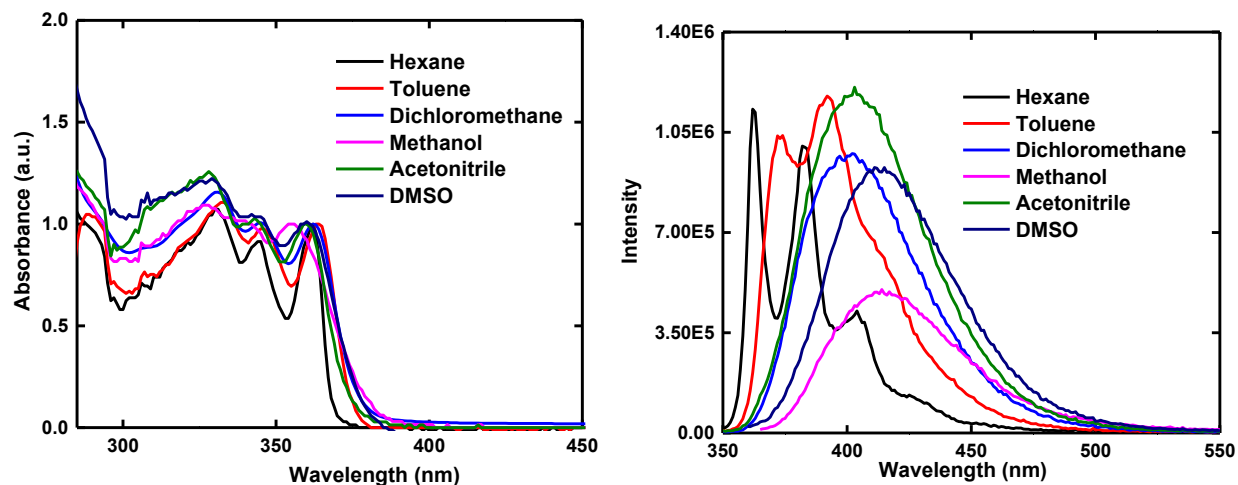


Figure SI 8: Cyclic voltammogram of 2



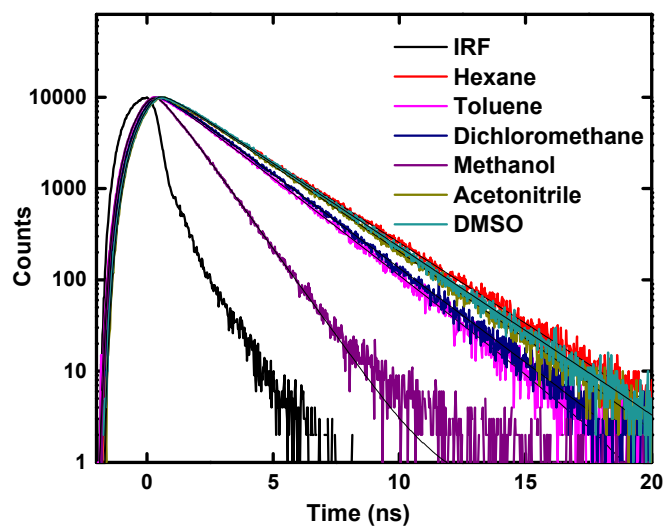
### Photophysical studies:



**Figure SI 9:** Absorption and emission spectra of **2** in different solvents

**Table SI 3:** Absorption and emission data of **2** in different solvents

Solvent	$\lambda_{\text{abs}}$ [nm], ( $\log \epsilon$ )	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$ (nm)	Stoke shift ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	$\Phi_{\text{F}}$	$E_{\text{g}}$ (eV)
Hexane	361(4.05), 344(4.01), 329(4.07), 259(4.55)	381, 402	2830	71	3.37
Toluene	363(4.14), 345(4.12), 332(4.18)	373, 391	1970	73	3.35
DCM	362(4.78), 345(3.82), 331(4.85)	396	2370	72	3.34
$\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$	355(4.02), 326(4.06), 257(4.68)	415	4070	83	3.32
$\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$	360(4.06), 345(4.06), 328(4.14), 258(4.71)	408	3270	84	3.35
DMSO	360(4.14), 342(4.15), 329(4.22)	414	3620	89	3.33



**Figure SI 10:** Fluorescence decay spectra of **2** in different solvents

**Table SI 4:** Fluorescence decay data of **2** in different solvents

Solvent	$\lambda_{em}(nm)$	$\tau(ns)$	$\alpha$	Chi sq.
Hexane	402	2.43,	100	1.00
Toluene	391	2.03	100	1.27
DCM	396	2.11	100	1.05
CH <sub>3</sub> OH	415	1.07	100	1.02
CH <sub>3</sub> CN	408	2.23	100	1.00
DMSO	414	2.37	100	1.12

## Characterization and Spectroscopic data of 3

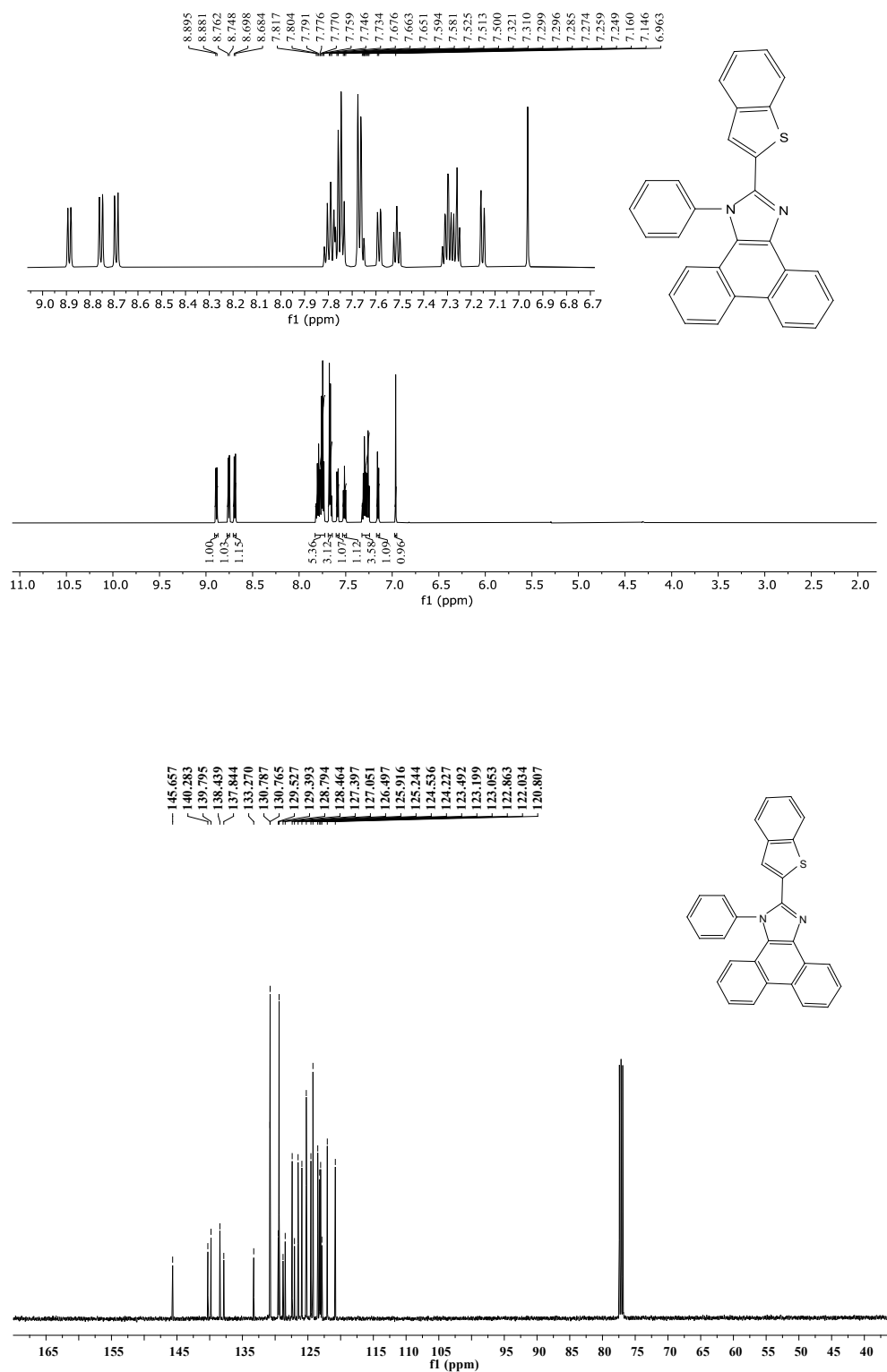


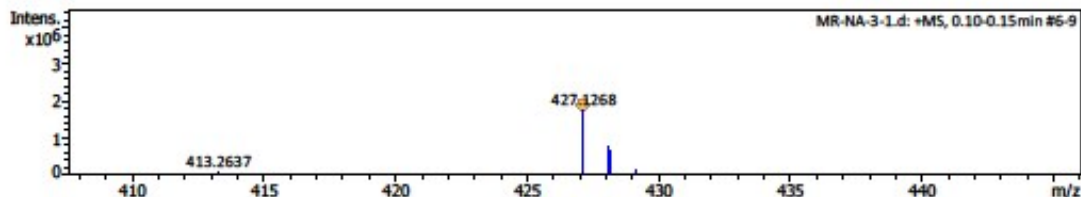
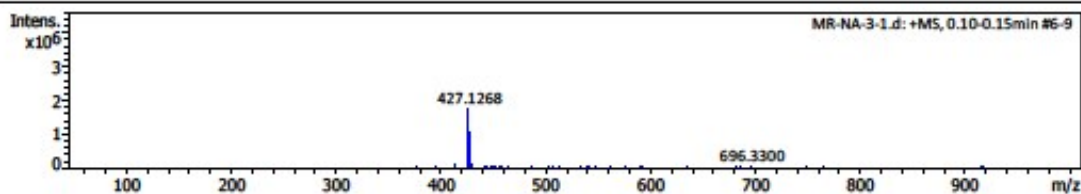
Figure SI 11:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (top) and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (bottom) spectra of **3** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$

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**Analysis Info**  
 Analysis Name D:\Data\JULY 2021\MR-NA-3-1.d  
 Method NaICSI\_pos\_1000-a.m  
 Sample Name MR-NA-3-1  
 Comment C29H18N2S  
 Acquisition Date 7/6/2021 7:11:30 PM  
 Operator SRK-IN  
 Instrument maXis impact 282001.00081

**Acquisition Parameter**

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Scan End	1000 m/z	Set Charging Voltage	2000 V	Set Divert Valve	Source
		Set Corona	0 nA	Set APCI Heater	0 °C



Meas. m/z	#	Ion Formula	m/z	err [ppm]	mSigma	# mSigma	Score	rdb	e <sup>-</sup> Conf	N-Rule
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Figure SI 12: HRMS spectrum of 3.

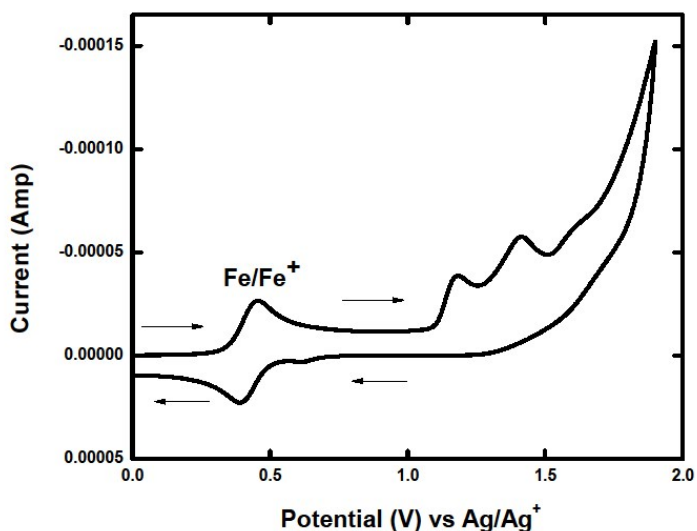
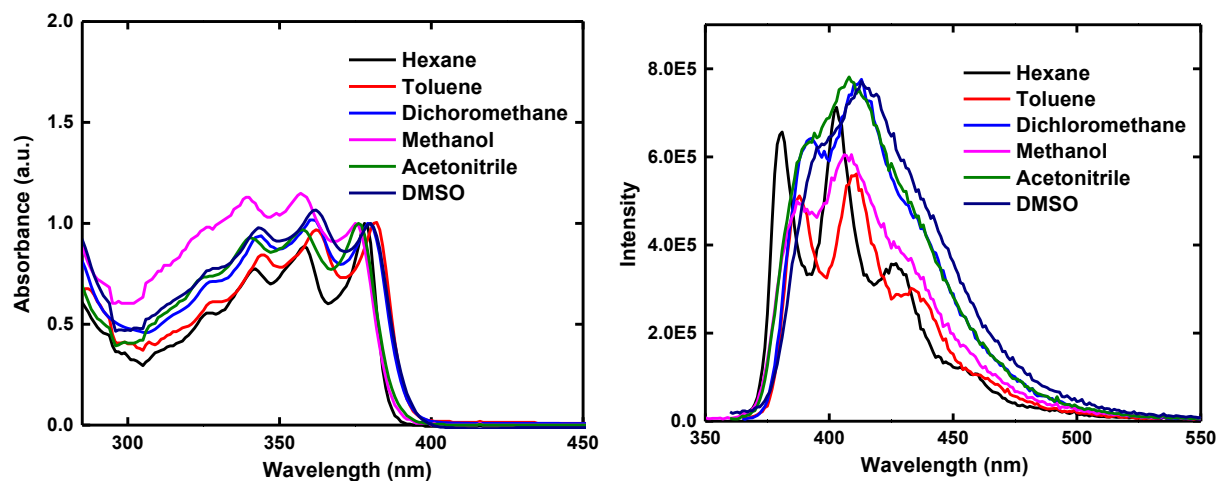


Figure SI 13: Cyclic voltammogram of 3

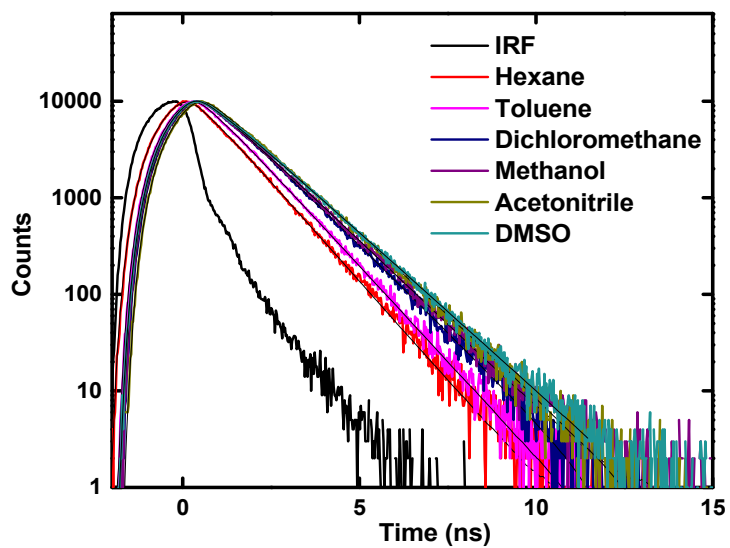
### Photophysical studies:



**Figure SI 14:** Absorption and emission spectra of **3** in different solvents

**Table SI 5:** Absorption and emission data of **3** in different solvents

Solvent	$\lambda_{\text{abs}}$ [nm], ( $\log \epsilon$ )	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$ (nm)	Stoke shift ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	$\Phi_{\text{F}}$	$E_{\text{g}}$ (eV)
Hexane	378(5.45), 358(5.41), 342(5.36) 325(5.20), 262(5.63)	381, 403, 427.	1640	55	3.26
Toluene	381(5.56), 362(5.54), 344(5.48), 286(5.38)	387, 410	1920	68	3.25
DCM	379(6.19), 361(6.20), 343(6.17), 263(6.33)	391, 411	2050	64	3.21
CH <sub>3</sub> OH	375(5.23), 357(5.29), 339(5.28), 259(5.58)	387, 407	2090	68	3.26
CH <sub>3</sub> CN	376(5.56), 357(5.54), 339(5.52), 325(5.42), 261(5.76)	407	2020	72	3.24
DMSO	379(5.73), 361(5.76), 343(5.71)	414	2230	73	3.33



**Figure SI 15:** Fluorescence decay spectra of **3** in different solvents

**Table SI 6:** Fluorescence decay data of **3** in different solvents

Solvent	$\lambda_{em}(nm)$	$\tau(ns)$	$\alpha$	Chi sq.
Hexane	427.	1.00	100	1.01
Toluene	410	1.06	100	1.07
DCM	411	1.18	100	1.05
CH <sub>3</sub> OH	407	1.22	100	1.00
CH <sub>3</sub> CN	407	1.26	100	1.08
DMSO	414	1.30	100	1.00

## Characterization and Spectroscopic data of 4

NMR:

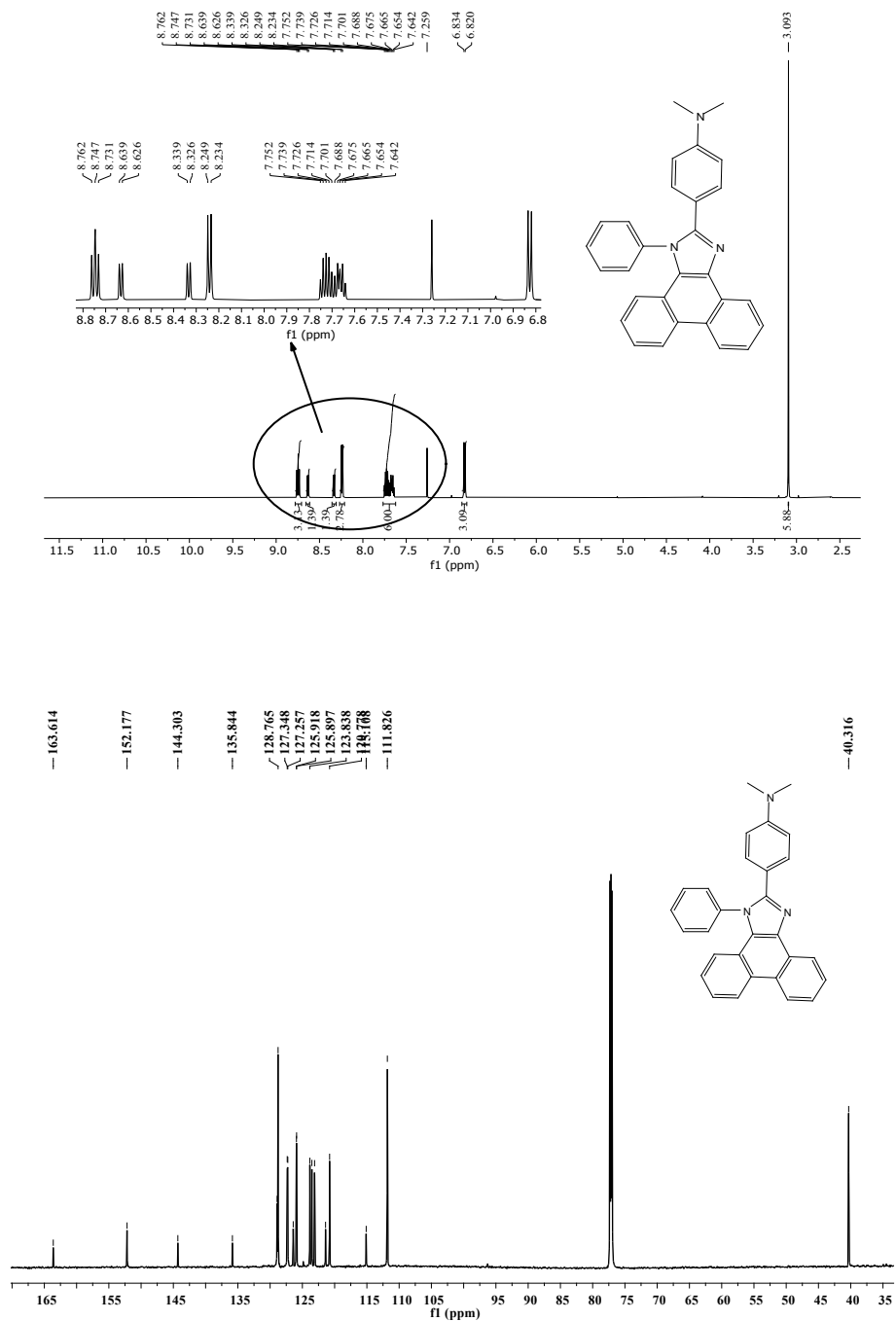


Figure SI 16:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (top) and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (bottom) spectra of **4** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$

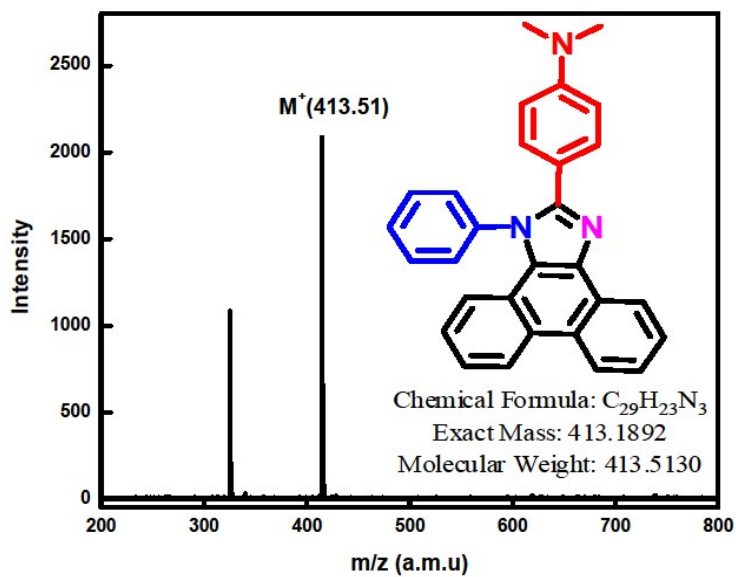


Figure SI 17: MALDI-TOF spectrum of 4

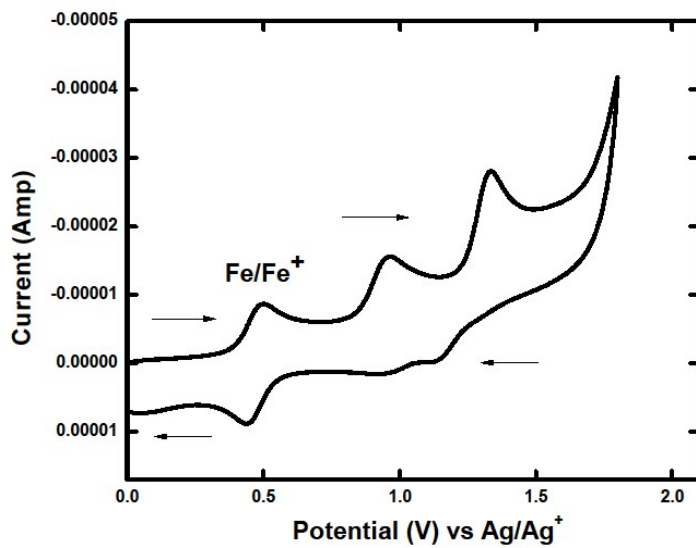


Figure SI 18: Cyclic voltammogram of 4.



Photophysical studies:

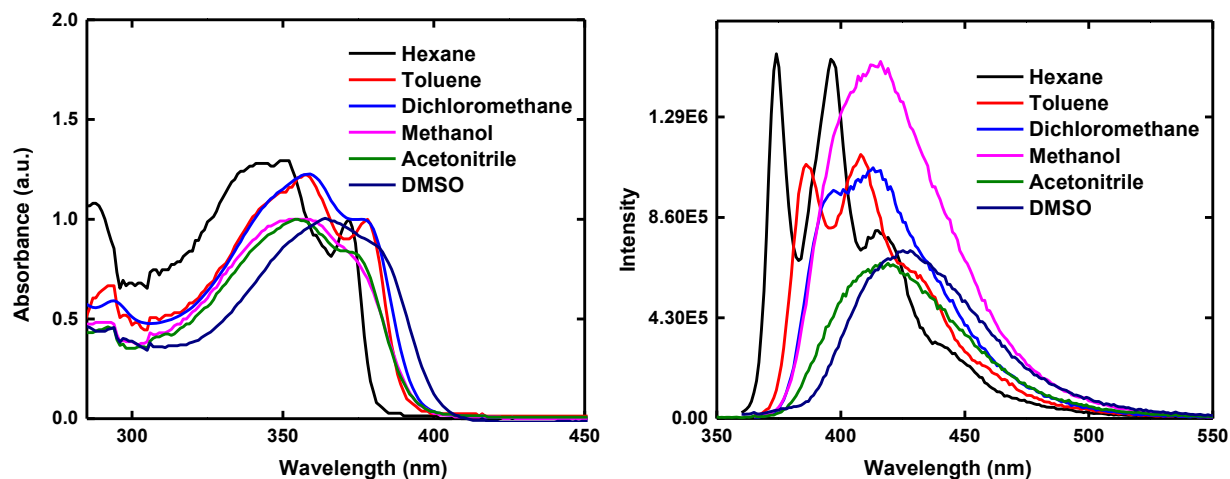
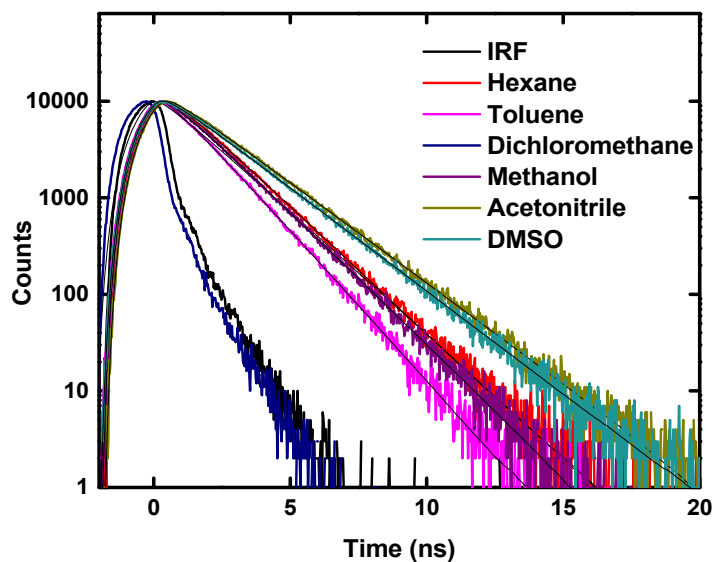


Figure SI 19: Absorption and emission spectra of **4** in different solvents

Table SI 7: Absorption and emission data of **4** in different solvents

Solvent	$\lambda_{\text{abs}}$ [nm], ( $\log \epsilon$ )	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$ (nm)	Stoke shift ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	$\Phi_{\text{F}}$	$E_{\text{g}}$ (eV)
Hexane	371(4.40), 346(4.51), 279(3.46), 257(4.65)	373, 396	1700	98	3.34
Toluene	378(4.45), 357(4.53), 292(4.27)	386, 407.	1880	86	3.31
DCM	379(4.29), 359(5.39), 261(5.40)	396, 411	2050	90	3.20
CH <sub>3</sub> OH	355(4.58), 258(4.63)	413	3950	94	3.20
CH <sub>3</sub> CN	355(4.67), 258(4.66)	417	4180	87	3.19
DMSO	369(4.89)	429	3790	93	3.35



**Figure SI 20:** Fluorescence decay spectra of **4** in different solvents

**Table SI 8:** Fluorescence decay data of **4** in different solvents

Solvent	$\lambda_{em}(nm)$	$\tau(ns)$	$\alpha$	Chi sq.
Hexane	396	1.63.	100.	1.00
Toluene	407.	1.37	100	1.09
DCM	411	1.58	100	1.05
CH <sub>3</sub> OH	413	1.59	100	1.02
CH <sub>3</sub> CN	417	2.08	100	1.04
DMSO	429	2.02	100	1.01

## Characterization and Spectroscopic data of 5

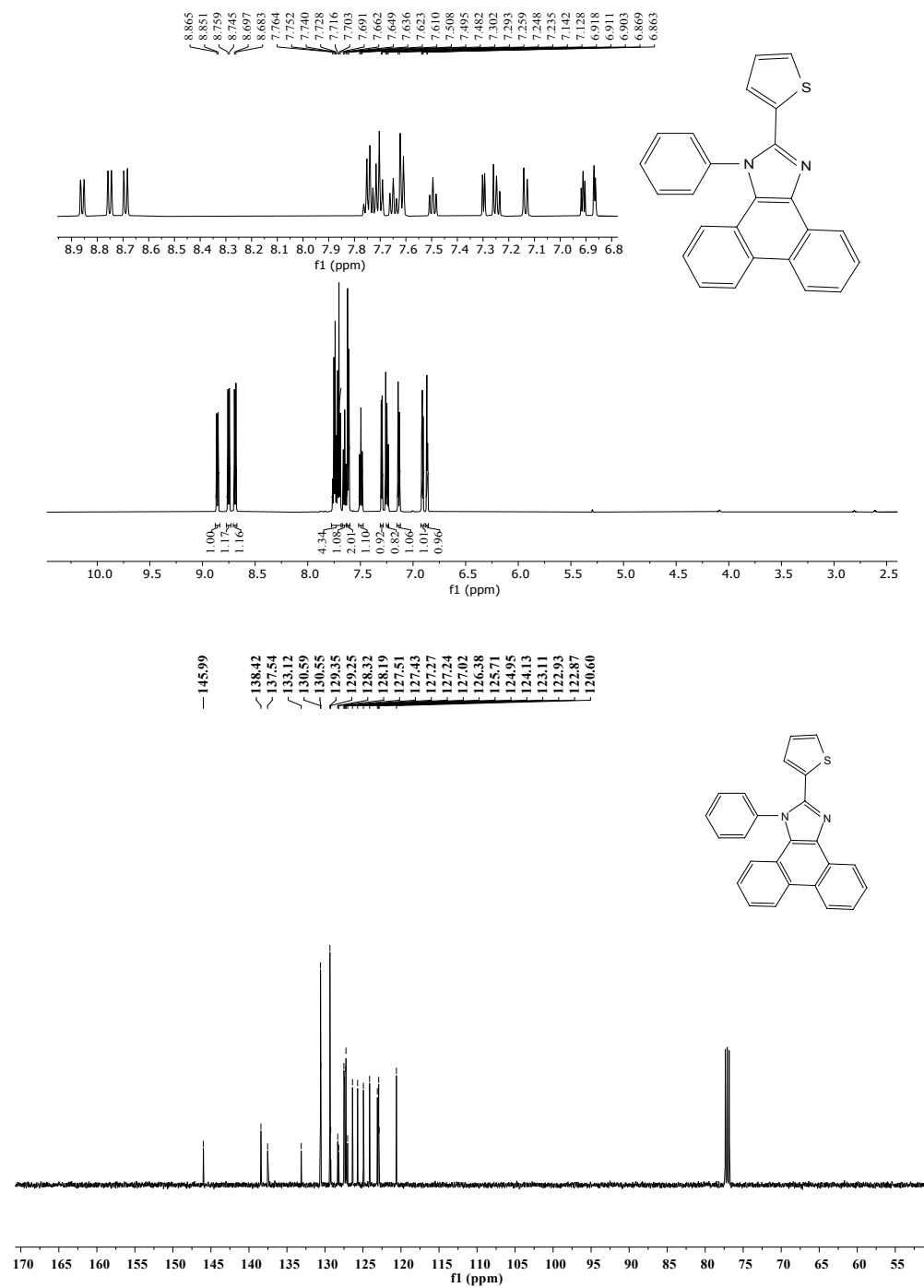


Figure SI 21: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (top) and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (bottom) spectra of 5 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

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Analysis Info		Acquisition Date 7/8/2021 7:03:23 PM	
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Sample Name	gkl-ls-ac-azo		
Comment	C25H18N2S		

Acquisition Parameter					
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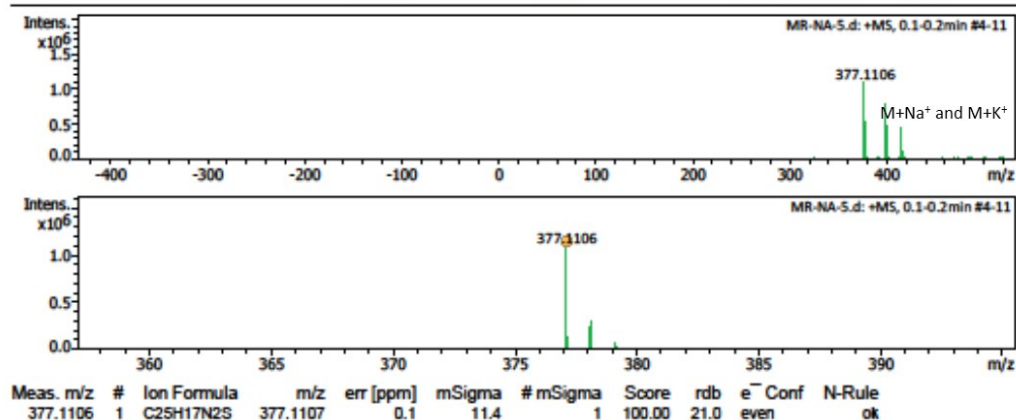


Figure SI 22: HRMS spectrum of 5.

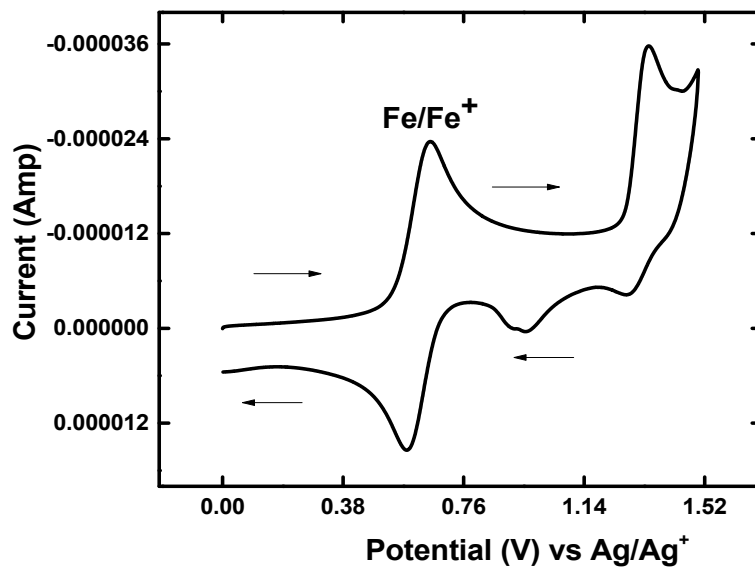


Figure SI 23: Cyclic voltammogram of 5.

Photophysical studies:

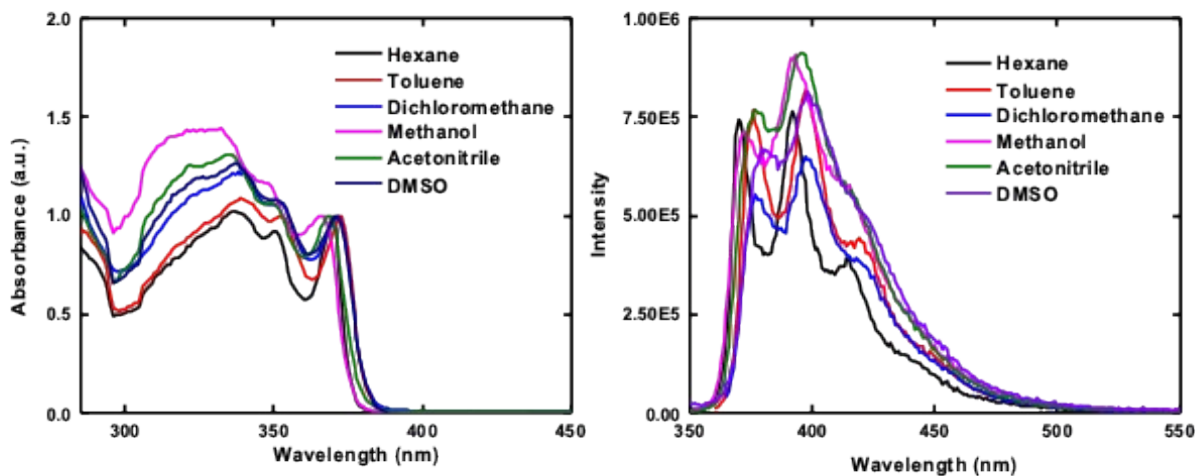
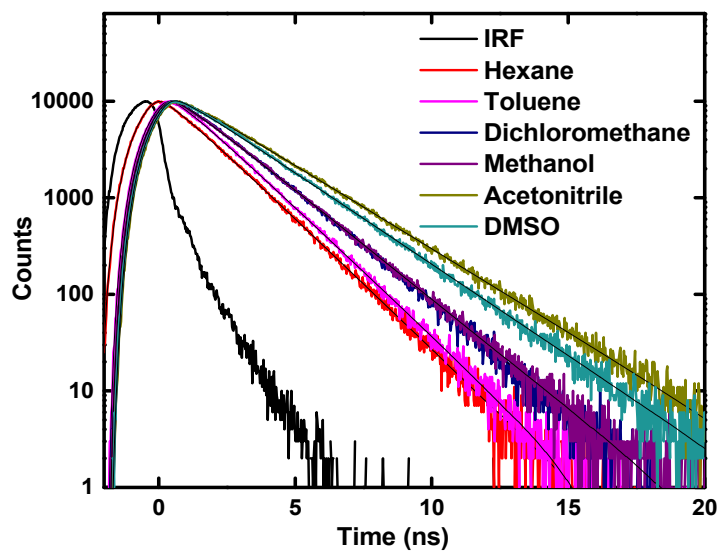


Figure SI 24: Absorption and emission spectra of **5** in different solvents

Table SI 9: Absorption and emission data of **5** in different solvents

Solvent	$\lambda_{\text{abs}}$ [nm], ( $\log \epsilon$ )	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$ (nm)	Stoke shift ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	$\Phi_F$	$E_g$ (eV)
Hexane	369(4.63), 350(4.60), 337(4.64), 263(4.99)	371, 392, 414.	1590	48	3.37
Toluene	372(3.98), 353(4.65), 339(4.69), 285(4.63)	376, 397	1700	58	3.30
DCM	371(5.25), 352(5.27), 338(5.34), 263(5.53)	376, 397	1770	53	3.30
CH <sub>3</sub> OH	366(4.31), 347(4.37), 325(4.46), 260(4.92)	372,393	1880	53	3.38
CH <sub>3</sub> CN	368(4.60), 349(4.63), 332(4.71), 261(5.10)	376, 395, 413	1860	53	3.35
DMSO	372(4.67), 353(4.70), 336(4.77), 264(5.20)	394	1500	57	3.35



**Figure SI 25:** Fluorescence decay spectra of **5** in different solvents

**Table SI 10:** Fluorescence decay data of **5** in different solvents

Solvent	$\lambda_{em}$ (nm)	$\tau$ (ns)	$\alpha$	Chi sq.
Hexane	392	1.60	100.	1.05
Toluene	397	1.62	100	1.05
DCM	397	1.90	100	1.05
CH <sub>3</sub> OH	393	1.91	100	1.08
CH <sub>3</sub> CN	395	2.52	100	1.09
DMSO	394	2.29	100	1.15

## Characterization and Spectroscopic data of 6

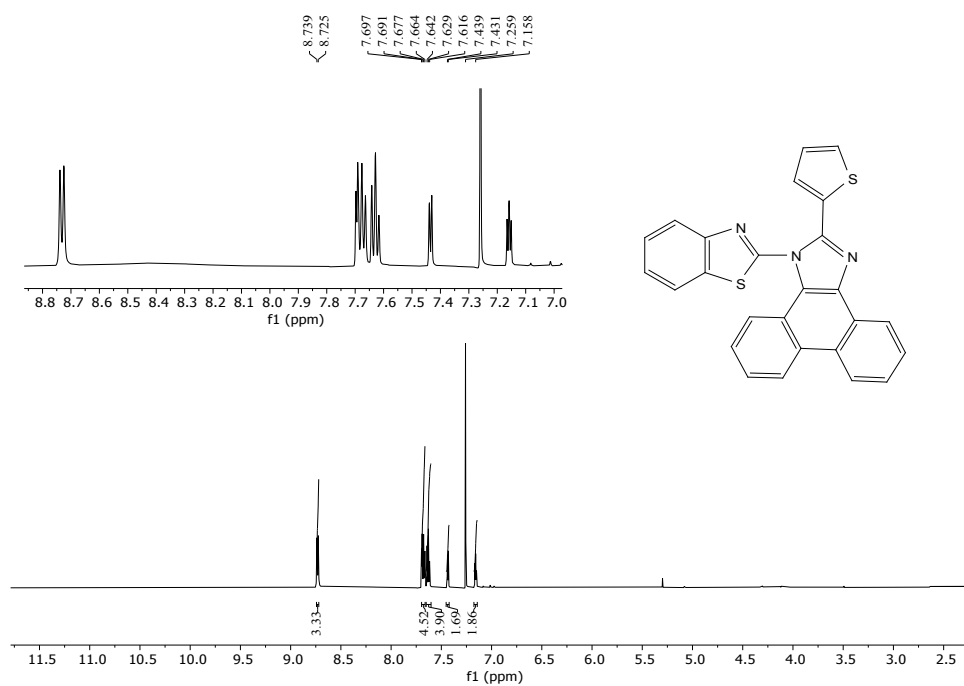


Figure SI 26:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of **6** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$

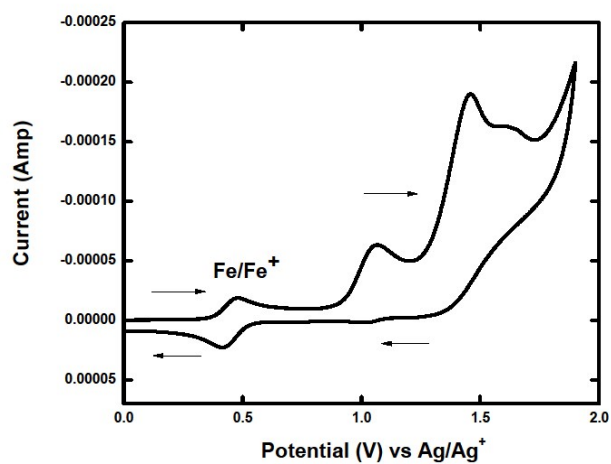


Figure SI 27: Cyclic voltammetry of **6**.

Photophysical studies:

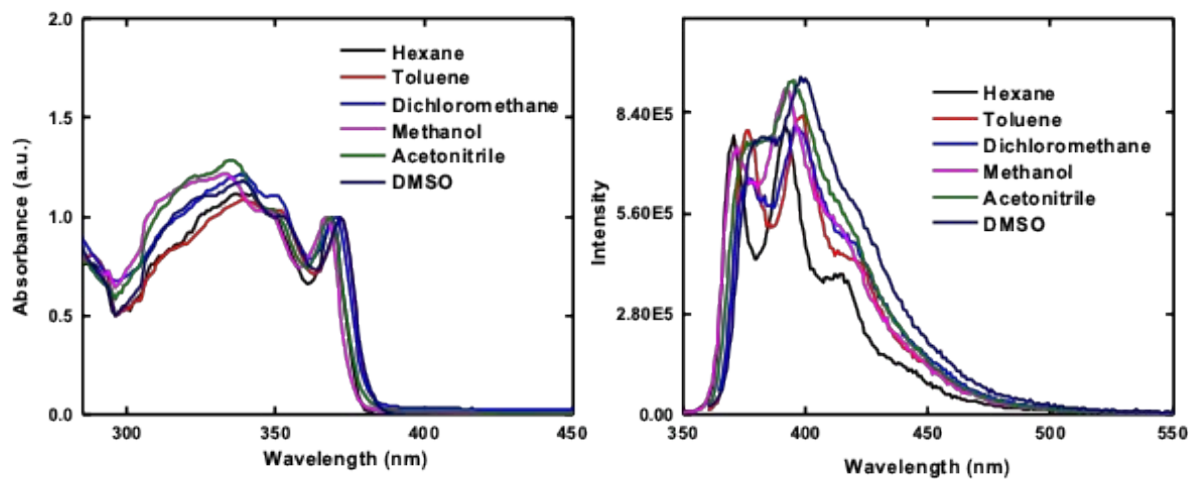
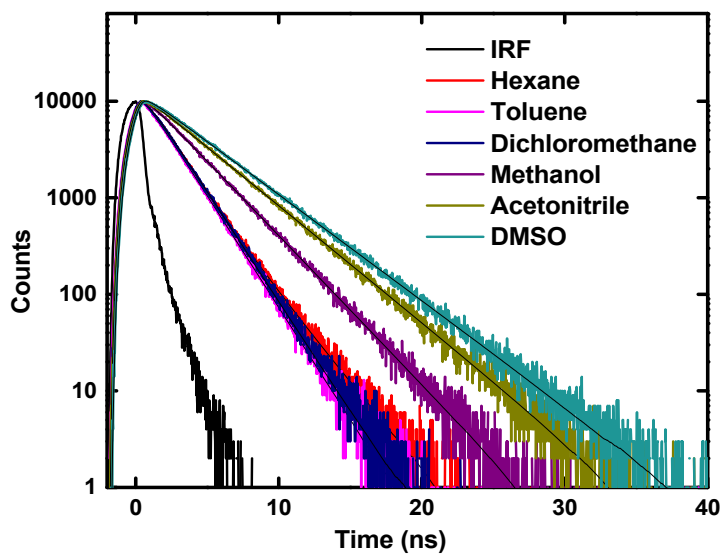


Figure SI 28: Absorption and emission spectra of **6** in different solvents

Table SI 11: Absorption and emission data of **6** in different solvents

Solvent	$\lambda_{\text{abs}}$ [nm], ( $\log \epsilon$ )	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$ (nm)	Stoke shift ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	$\Phi_{\text{F}}$	$E_{\text{g}}$ (eV)
Hexane	369(4.11), 337(5.16), 262(6.91)	371, 391, 414	1530	51	3.38
Toluene	372(5.63), 339(5.67), 288(5.54)	376, 397	1700	65	3.34
DCM	370(6.25), 338(6.34), 258(6.48)	376, 396	1770	54	3.31
CH <sub>3</sub> OH	367(5.62), 348(5.64), 331(6.13), 261(6.09)	373, 392	1730	66	3.38
CH <sub>3</sub> CN	368(5.45), 349(5.46), 325(5.56), 262(5.88), 255(5.82)	376, 395	1860	56	3.36
DMSO	372(5.85), 352(5.86), 338(5.92), 265(6.30)	396	1630	68	3.31





**Figure SI 29:** Fluorescence decay spectra of **6** in different solvents

**Table SI 12:** Fluorescence decay data of **6** in different solvents

Solvent	$\lambda_{em}$ (nm)	$\tau_1$ (ns)	$\alpha$	Chi sq
Hexane	414.	1.59	100	1.00
Toluene	397	1.87.	100	1.09
DCM	396	1.90	100	1.18
CH <sub>3</sub> OH	392	2.82	100	1.06
CH <sub>3</sub> CN	395	3.58	100	1.02
DMSO	396	3.95	100	1.09

## Characterization and Spectroscopic data of 7

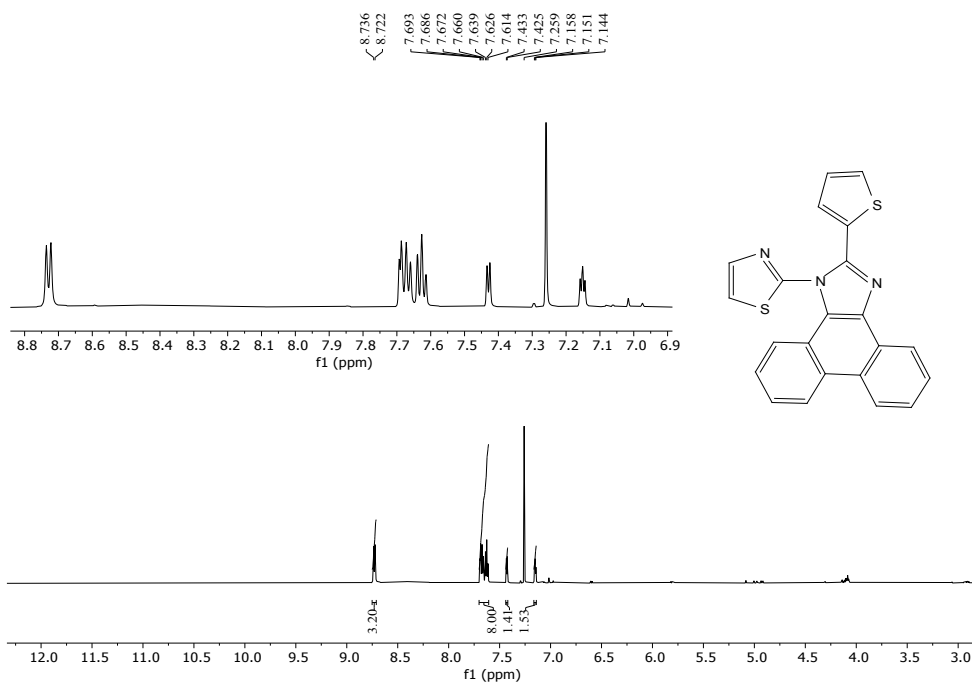


Figure SI 30: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 7 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

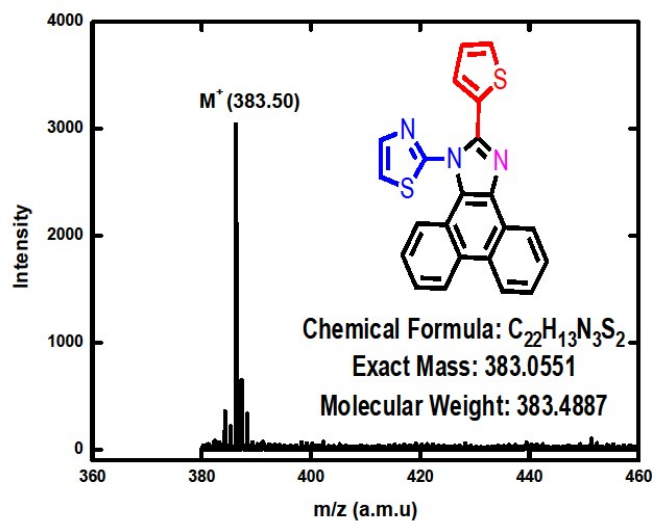


Figure SI 31: MALDI-TOF spectrum of 7.

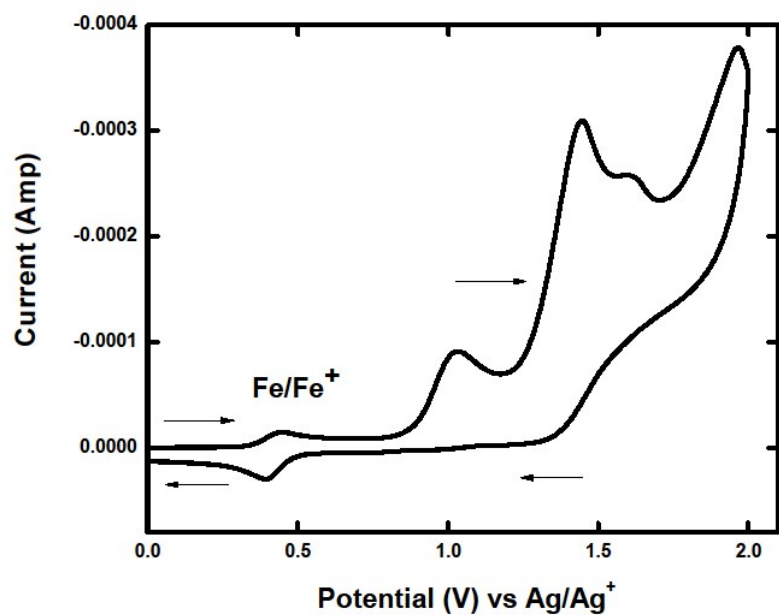


Figure SI 32: Cyclic voltammogram of 7.

Photophysical studies:

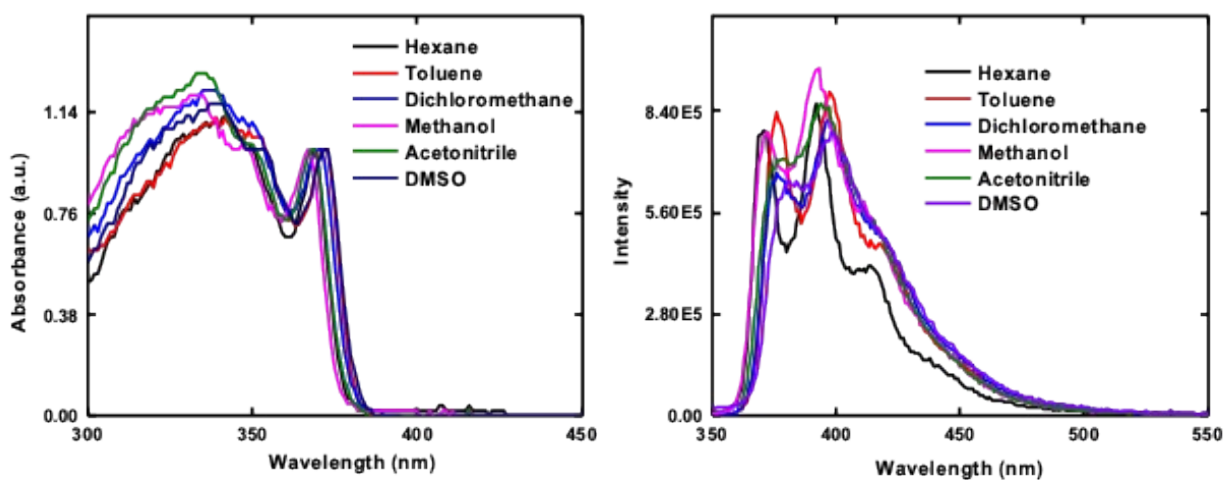
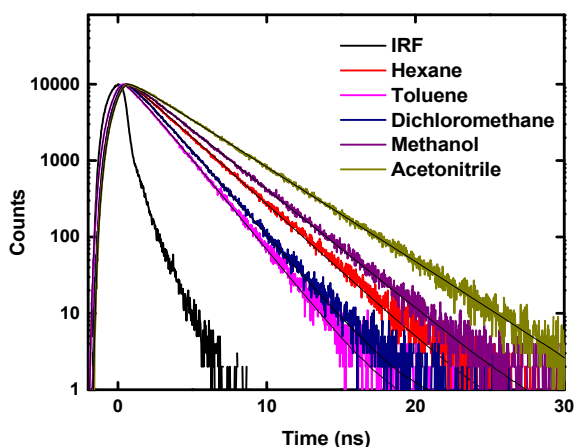


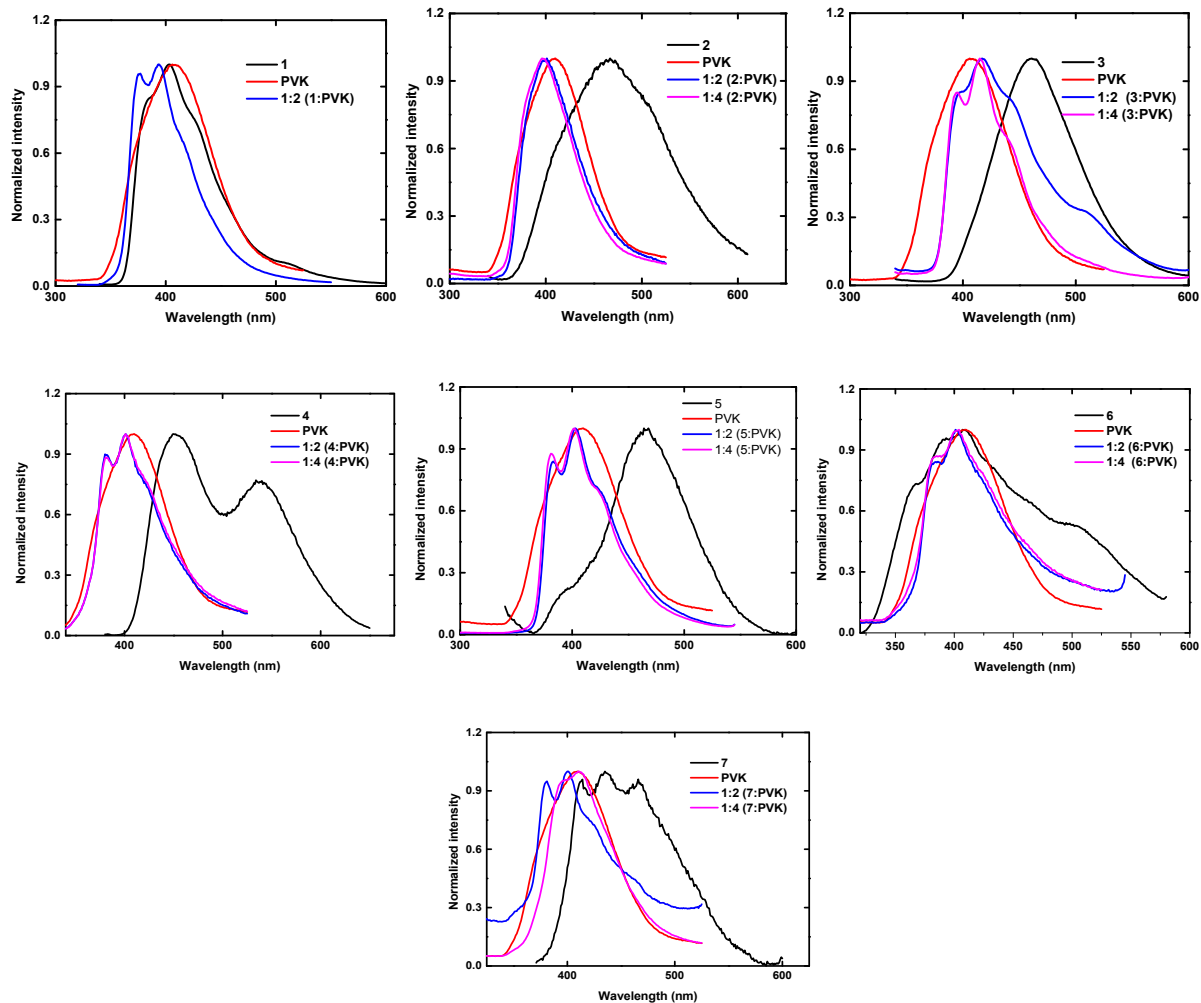
Figure SI 33: Absorption and emission spectra of 7 in different solvents

**Table SI 13:** Absorption and emission data of **7** in different solvents

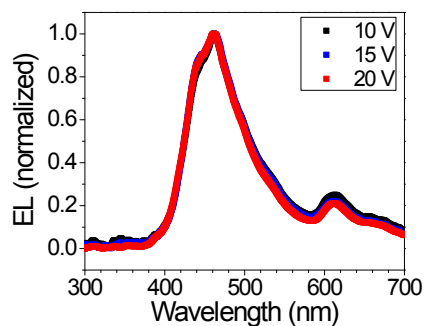
Solvent	$\lambda_{\text{abs}}$ [nm], ( $\log \epsilon$ )	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$ (nm)	Stoke shift ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	$\Phi_{\text{F}}$	$E_{\text{g}}$ (eV)
Hexane	372(4.93), 341(4.98), 286(5.23), 263(5.33)	373, 396, 416	1629	48	3.33
Toluene	372(5.08), 338(5.12), 291(5.02)	376, 396.	1629	62	3.31
DCM	370(5.95), 337(6.03), 264(6.41)	375, 396	1774	50	3.34
CH <sub>3</sub> OH	368(4.97), 327(5.07), 261(5.46)	371, 391	1598	61	3.37
CH <sub>3</sub> CN	368(4.90), 328(5.02), 262(5.47)	377, 394	1793	56	3.36
DMSO	372(5.29), 330(5.36)	394	1501	63	3.36

**Figure SI 34:** Fluorescence decay spectra of **7** in different solvents**Table SI 14:** Fluorescence decay data of **7** in different solvents

Solvent	$\lambda_{\text{em}}$ (nm)	$\tau_1$ (ns)	$\alpha$	Chi sq
Hexane	416	1.83	100	1.06
Toluene	396	1.96	100	1.20
DCM	396	1.83	100	1.07
CH <sub>3</sub> OH	391	2.79	100	1.00
CH <sub>3</sub> CN	394	3.51	100	1.01
DMSO	394		100	



**Figure SI 35:** Emission spectra in thin films of 1-7, PVK and their blends



**Figure SI 36:** Electroluminescence of OLEDs fabricated from 5 at different driving voltage