# Supporting Information

# Crafting 1,4-Diaryl Spirobifluorene Hosts in OLEDs via Interannular C–H Arylation: Synergistic Effects of Molecular Linearity and Orthogonality

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# **Table of Contents**

I. General remarks	S3
II. OLED fabrication and characterization	S3
III. Synthesis of biphenyl-2-formaldehydes	S4
IV. Palladium-catalyzed interannular selective C-H arylation	S8
V. Synthesis of multi-aryl fluorenones	S29
VI. Synthesis of 1,4-diaryl 9,9'-spirobifluorenes	S34
VII. Single crystal X-ray structures of 1-pbp-4-p-SBF, 1-mtp-4-p	-SBF, and 1,4-
d(mbp)-SBF	S38
VIII. Photophysical properties	S42
IX. Thermal properties	S42
X. Charge transport properties	S43
XI. Phosphorescent OLED characteristics	S44
XII. References	S47
XIII. Copies of <sup>1</sup> H, <sup>13</sup> C NMR and <sup>19</sup> F NMR spectra	S48

#### I. General remarks

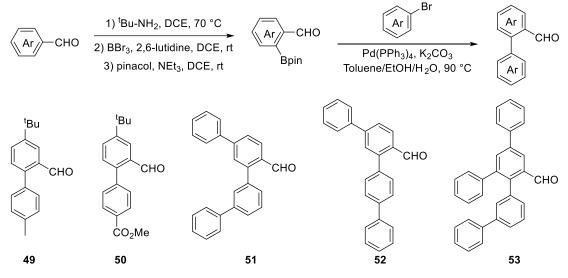
Unless otherwise noted, all reagents were obtained from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> was purchased from J&K Chemicals. The amino acids, iodobenzene, biphenyl-2-formaldehyde, silver trifluoroacetate, zinc carbonate and 2,2,2-trifluoroethanol were purchased from Shanghai Energy Chemical Co., Ltd and used without further purification. NMR spectra were recorded on an Agilent 400-MR DD2 spectrometer. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz) chemical shifts were measured relative to CDCl<sub>3</sub> as the internal reference (CDCl<sub>3</sub>:  $\delta$  = 7.26 ppm). The <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz) chemical shifts were given using CDCl<sub>3</sub> as the internal standard ( $\delta = 77.16$  ppm). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz) was recorded on Bruker AV II-400 MHz. High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were collected on Shimadzu LCMS-ITTOF (ESI). X-Ray singlecrystal diffraction data were collected on an Agilent Technologies Gemini single-crystal diffractometer. UV-visible absorption spectra experiments were conducted on a HITACHI U-2910 spectrometer. Fluorescence spectra were collected on a Horiba Jobin Yvon-Edison Fluoromax-4 fluorescence spectrometer with a calibrated integrating sphere system. Phosphorescence spectra were collected on a HITACHI F-7100 fluorescence spectrophotometer. Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) curves were carried out using DTG-60(H) at a rate of 10 °C/min under nitrogen atmosphere. Differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) thermograms were recorded on DSC 200PC equipment under nitrogen atmosphere at a rate of 10 °C/min. Cyclic voltammograms performed on LK2005A with a solution of tetrabutylammonium were hexafluorophosphate (NBu<sub>4</sub>PF<sub>6</sub>, 0.1 M) in DMF and in DCM as electrolyte and ferrocene/ferrocenium (Fc/Fc<sup>+</sup>) as standard, the sweep rate is 100 mV<sup>-1</sup>. Threeelectrode system (Ag/Ag<sup>+</sup>, platinum wire and glassy carbon electrode as reference, counter and work electrode respectively) was used in the CV measurement.

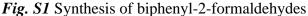
### **II. OLED fabrication and characterization**

ITO (indium tin oxide) glass substrates with a sheet resistance of 15  $\Omega$  per square were cleaned with alkaline detergent, boiled deionized water, and deionized water thoroughly

in ultrasonic bath and then treated with  $O_2$  plasma for 10 min. Organic layers, LiF and Al were deposited on ITO substrates by thermal evaporation in a high vacuum chamber below  $6 \times 10^{-6}$  mbar in an inert gas glovebox. The quartz crystal oscillators controlled the thicknesses of deposited films. The as-fabricated OLEDs were measured in the inert gas glovebox without any encapsulation. Current density of OLEDs was measured by Keithley B1500A. The luminance and EL spectra were collected with model DLM-100Z photometer and OPT2000 spectrophotometer, respectively.

#### III. Synthesis of biphenyl-2-formaldehydes

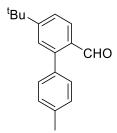




A Schlenk tube with a magnetic stir bar was charged with benzaldehyde derivative (2.0 mmol, 1 equiv), *tert*-butyl amine (8.0 mmol, 4 equiv), and DCE (1 mL) under a nitrogen atmosphere and the vial was placed in an oil bath at 70 °C for 4 h. The solvent and excess of *tert*-butyl amine were removed under vacuum and 2,6-lutidine (4.0 mmol, 2 equiv) and DCE (5 mL) were added. BBr<sub>3</sub> (4.0 mmol, 2 equiv; present as a 1 mol/L solution in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) was added dropwise to the reaction mixture while stirring and the reaction was continued for 4 h at room temperature. The reaction was quenched with pinacol (4.0 mmol, 2 equiv) and triethylamine (20.0 mmol, 10 equiv) and stirred for another 2 h at room temperature. After the reaction reached completion, the volatiles were removed under vacuum and the crude mixture was dissolved in ethyl acetate (20 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL). The aqueous layer was washed with ethyl acetate (3 x 20 mL)

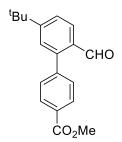
and the organic layers were collected and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and filtered. The filtrate was concentrated under vacuum and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/  $CH_2Cl_2 = 1/1$  to 100%  $CH_2Cl_2$ ) to provide the desired product.<sup>1</sup>

A Schlenk tube with a magnetic stir bar was charged with  $Pd(PPh_3)_4$  (72.5 mg, 5mol%), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (496.8 mg, 3.6 mmol, 2.0 equiv), pinacol phenylboronate (493.1 mg, 1.6 mmol, 1.1 equiv), bromobenzene (0.17 mL, 1.8 mmol, 1.1 equiv), toluene (3 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL) and EtOH (1 mL) under a nitrogen atmosphere. The resulting mixture was heated to 90 °C and stirred for 24 h. After cooling to room temperature, the organic layer was extracted with ethyl acetate and washed with brine. The combined organic extracts were dried over sodium sulfate and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ ethyl acetate = 30/1, v/v) to provide the desired product.<sup>2</sup>



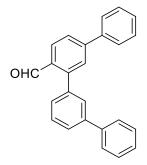
#### 5-(*tert*-Butyl)-4'-methyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (49)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **49** as colorless oil (379.2 mg, 94% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.95 (s, 1H), 7.96 (d, *J* = 8.0, 1H), 7.51 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub> = 8.4, *J*<sub>2</sub> = 1.2, 1H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 1.2, 1H), 7.29 (s, 4H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.37 (s, 9H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 192.50, 157.57, 146.06, 138.06, 135.58, 131.57, 130.22, 129.24, 127.88, 127.63, 125.02, 35.49, 31.23, 21.34 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NaO [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 275.1406, found: 275.1404.



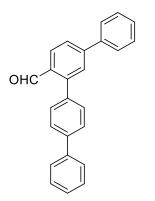
#### Methyl 5'-(*tert*-butyl)-2'-formyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-carboxylate (50)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **50** as colorless oil (371.2 mg, 92% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.91 (s, 1H), 8.14 (d, *J* = 8.4, 2H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 8.0, 1H), 7.58 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub> = 8.4, *J*<sub>2</sub> = 2.8, 1H), 7.47 (d, *J* = 8.4, 2H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 2.0, 1H), 3.97 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 9H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 191.68, 166.86, 157.84, 144.74, 143.21, 131.40, 130.28, 129.82, 129.72, 128.03, 127.65, 125.85, 52.47, 35.54, 31.19 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 319.1305, found: 319.1303.



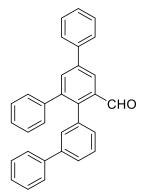
[1,1':3',1'':3'',1'''-Quaterphenyl]-4'-carbaldehyde (51)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **51** as a white solid (507.9 mg, 95% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 10.10$  (s, 1H), 8.15 (d, J = 8.4, 1H), 7.77-7.64 (m, 8H),7.58 (t, J = 7.6, 1H), 7.51-7.37 (m, 7H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 192.15, 146.56, 146.48, 141.75, 140.57, 139.74, 138.51, 132.70, 129.60, 129.17, 129.14, 129.06, 128.98, 128.67, 128.47, 127.86, 127.55, 127.40, 127.14, 126.72 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NaO [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 357.1250, found: 357.1246.$ 



# [1,1':3',1'':4'',1'''-Quaterphenyl]-4'-carbaldehyde (52)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **52** as a white solid (491.9 mg, 92% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 10.10$  (s, 1H), 8.14 (d, J = 8.4, 1H), 7.76-7.67 (m, 8H), 7.54-7.48 (m, 6H), 7.43-7.38 (m, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 192.20, 146.47, 146.24, 141.31, 140.44, 139.77, 136.88, 132.68, 130.71, 129.56, 129.17, 129.08, 128.66, 128.54, 127.84, 127.54, 127.34, 127.30, 126.66 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NaO [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 357.1250, found: 357.1248.$ 



5'-Phenyl-[1,1':2',1'':3'',1'''-quaterphenyl]-3'-carbaldehyde (53)

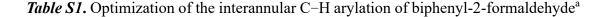
Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **53** as a white solid (610.8 mg, 93% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.98 (s, 1H), 8.32 (d, *J* = 1.6, 1H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 2.0, 1H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 7.6, 2H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.6, 3H), 7.44-7.32 (m, 8H), 7.25-7.23 (m, 3H), 7.19-7.15 (m, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 192.92, 143.40, 142.96, 140.97, 140.92, 140.61, 140.34, 139.55, 136.21, 135.22, 134.09, 130.46, 130.39, 130.00, 129.16, 128.89, 128.45, 128.21, 128.12, 127.65,

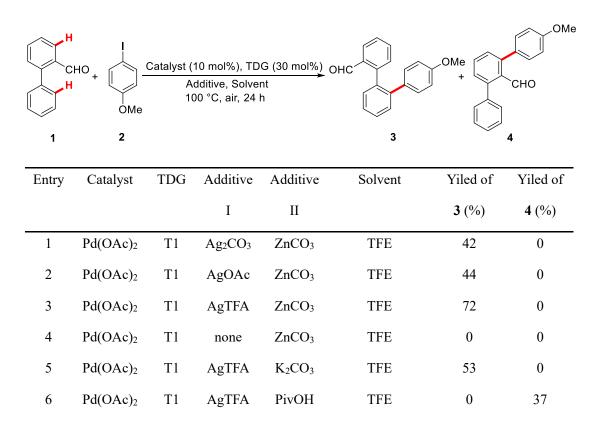
127.30, 127.25, 127.15, 126.57, 124.92 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for  $C_{31}H_{22}NaO$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 433.1563, found: 433.1558.

# IV. Palladium-catalyzed interannular selective C-H arylation

# i) Condition optimization

A Schlenk tube with a magnetic stir bar was charged with biphenyl-2-formaldehyde derivative (1, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv), 4-iodoanisole (2, 0.3 mmol, 1.5 equiv), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.02 mmol, 10.0 mol%), L-*tert*-leucine (0.06 mmol, 30 mol%), AgTFA (0.3 mmol, 1.5 equiv), ZnCO<sub>3</sub> (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and TFE (1.0 mL) under an air atmosphere. The reaction mixture was heated at 100 °C for 24 hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with 5 mL CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, filtered through a celite pad, and washed with 20-30 mL CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The filtrate was concentrated under vacuum and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ ethyl acetate = 20/1, v/v) to provide the desired product.





7	$Pd(OAc)_2$	T1	AgTFA	none	TFE	25	0		
8	Pd(TFA) <sub>2</sub>	T1	AgTFA	ZnCO <sub>3</sub>	TFE	65	0		
9	Pd(dba) <sub>2</sub>	T1	AgTFA	ZnCO <sub>3</sub>	TFE	trace	0		
10	$Pd(acac)_2$	T1	AgTFA	ZnCO <sub>3</sub>	TFE	60	0		
11	nono	T1	AgTFA	ZnCO <sub>3</sub>	TFE	0	0		
12	$Pd(OAc)_2$	T2	AgTFA	ZnCO <sub>3</sub>	TFE	60	0		
13	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	Т3	AgTFA	ZnCO <sub>3</sub>	TFE	65	0		
14	$Pd(OAc)_2$	T4	AgTFA	ZnCO <sub>3</sub>	TFE	0	48		
15	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	T5	AgTFA	ZnCO <sub>3</sub>	TFE	0	trace		
16	$Pd(OAc)_2$	T6	AgTFA	ZnCO <sub>3</sub>	TFE	0	35		
17	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	none	AgTFA	ZnCO <sub>3</sub>	TFE	0	0		
18	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	T1	AgTFA	ZnCO <sub>3</sub>	HFIP/AcOH (9:1)	12	38		
19	$Pd(OAc)_2$	T1	AgTFA	ZnCO <sub>3</sub>	TFE/TFA (9:1)	trace	47		
20	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	T1	AgTFA	ZnCO <sub>3</sub>	TFE/AcOH (9:1)	0	35		
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<sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions: biphenyl-2-formaldehyde 1 (0.20 mmol), 4-iodoanisole 2 (0.30 mmol), catalyst (10 mol %), TDG (30 mol %), additive I (0.30 mmol), additive II (0.20 mmol) and solvent (1mL) at 100 °C for 24 h under air. AcOH = glacial acetic acid.

Т4

Т5

Т6

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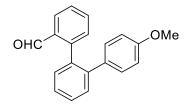
Т2

Τ1

# ii) General procedure for the interannular C-H arylation of bi(hetero)aryl aldehyde

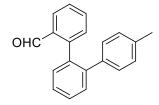
A Schlenk tube with a magnetic stir bar was charged with bi(hetero)aryl aldehyde (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv), iodobenzene (0.3 mmol, 1.5 equiv), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.02 mmol, 10 mol%), L-tert-leucine (0.06 mmol, 30 mol%), AgTFA (0.3 mmol, 1.5 equiv), ZnCO<sub>3</sub> (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and TFE (1.0 mL) under an air atmosphere. The reaction mixture was heated at 100 °C for 24 hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with 5 mL CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, filtered through a celite pad, and washed with 20-30 mL CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.

The filtrate was concentrated under vacuum and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ ethyl acetate = 20/1, v/v) to provide the desired product.



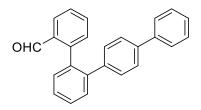
# 4"-Methoxy-[1,1':2',1"-terphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (3)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **3** as light yellow oil (41.5 mg, 72% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.75 (s, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 7.6, 1H), 7.55-7.36 (m, 6H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 7.6, 1H), 6.95 (d, *J* = 8.4, 2H), 6.69 (d, *J* = 8.8, 2H), 3.73 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 191.76, 158.66, 145.69, 141.70, 136.41, 133.63, 133.53, 132.71, 131.83, 131.44, 131.09, 130.21, 128.79, 127.68, 127.21, 127.17, 113.74, 55.25 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 311.1043, found: 311.1037.



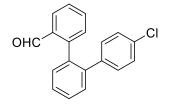
4"-Methyl-[1,1':2',1"-terphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (5)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **5** as colorless oil (29.9 mg, 55% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.76 (s, 1H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.0, 1H), 7.55-7.42 (m, 4H), 7.38 (t, *J* = 7.2, 2H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 7.6, 1H), 6.98-6.91 (m, 4H), 2.25 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 191.89, 145.69, 142.00, 137.37, 136.73, 136.36, 133.56, 133.52, 131.85, 131.46, 130.28, 129.82, 129.00, 128.78, 127.67, 127.30, 127.12, 21.22 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NaO [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 295.1093, found: 295.1088.



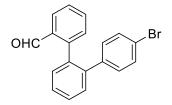
# [1,1':2',1'':4'',1'''-Quaterphenyl]-2-aldehyde (6)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **6** as a colorless solid (40.1 mg, 60% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.82 (s, 1H), 7.84 (dd,  $J_I$  = 7.6,  $J_2$  = 1.2, 1H), 7.55-7.51 (m, 5H), 7.49-7.45 (m, 1H), 7.42-7.38 (m, 6H), 7.33-7.30 (m, 2H), 7.12 (d, J = 8.4, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 191.84, 145.50, 141.57, 140.47, 139.62, 139.36, 136.44, 133.66, 133.57, 131.90, 131.60, 130.34, 130.29, 128.86, 127.79, 127.56, 127.48, 127.35, 127.10, 126.88 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NaO [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 357.1250, found: 357.1245.



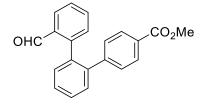
#### 4''-Chloro-[1,1':2',1''-terphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (7)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1, v/v) afforded the desired product 7 as colorless oil (29.2 mg, 50% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.76 (s, 1H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 9.2, 1H), 7.56-7.47 (m, 3H), 7.45-7.38 (m, 3H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 7.6, 1H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 8.4, 2H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 8.4, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 191.57, 144.98, 140.76, 139.45, 136.45, 133.73, 133.59, 131.82, 131.57, 131.47, 131.42, 130.11, 128.91, 127.97, 127.87, 127.63, 121.46 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>13</sub>ClNaO [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 315.0547, 317.0518, found: 315.0542, 317.0520.



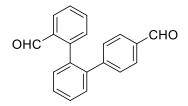
# 4''-Bromo-[1,1':2',1''-terphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (8)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **8** as colorless oil (35.6 mg, 53% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.76 (s, 1H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 8.0, 1H), 7.55-7.47 (m, 3H), 7.45-7.37 (m, 3H), 7.30-7.25 (m, 3H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.4, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 191.57, 144.98, 140.76, 139.45, 136.45, 133.73, 133.59, 131.82, 131.57, 131.47, 131.42, 130.11, 128.91, 127.97, 127.87, 127.63, 121.46 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>13</sub>BrNaO [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 359.0042, 361.0022, found: 359.0042, 361.0020.



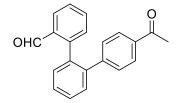
Methyl 2"-formyl-[1,1':2',1"-terphenyl]-4-carboxylate (9)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **9** as a colorless solid (37.9 mg, 60% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.79 (s, 1H), 7.83 (t, *J* = 8.4, 3H), 7.57-7.49 (m, 4H), 7.42-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 2.8, 1H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 8.0, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 191.51, 166.91, 145.25, 144.85, 140.99, 136.58, 133.77, 133.56, 131.84, 131.59, 130.15, 129.91, 129.51, 128.89, 128.70, 128.15, 128.01, 127.63, 52.20 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 339.0992, found: 339.0992.



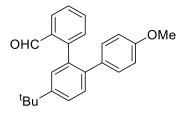
# [1,1':2',1''-Terphenyl]-2,4''-dicarbaldehyde (10)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **10** as colorless oil (31.5 mg, 55% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.92 (s, 1H), 9.78 (s, 1H), 7.81 (dd,  $J_1$  = 7.6,  $J_2$  = 1.2, 1H), 7.68 (d, J = 8.0, 2H), 7.58-7.48 (m, 4H), 7.4-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.28 (d, J = 7.6, 1H), 7.21 (d, J = 8.4, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 192.02, 191.50, 146.85, 144.65, 140.70, 136.58, 134.77, 133.70, 133.68, 131.83, 131.64, 130.56, 130.11, 129.63, 128.98, 128.43, 128.13, 127.73 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 309.0886, found: 309.0885.



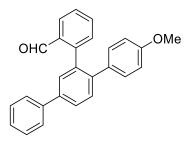
#### 4"-Acetyl-[1,1':2',1"-terphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (11)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **11** as a colorless solid (34.8 mg, 58% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.77 (s, 1H), 7.81 (dd,  $J_I$  = 7.6,  $J_2$  = 1.2, 1H), 7.75 (d, J = 8.4, 2H), 7.57-7.47 (m, 4H), 7.42-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.28 (d, J = 7.6, 1H), 7.14 (d, J = 8.4, 2H), 2.54 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 197.85, 191.57, 145.40, 144.83, 140.85, 136.51, 135.45, 133.66, 131.82, 131.61, 130.13, 130.10, 128.93, 128.29, 128.23, 128.05, 127.61, 26.74 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 323.1043, found: 323.1042.



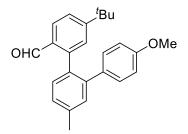
# 5'-(*tert*-Butyl)-4''-methoxy-[1,1':2',1''-terphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (12)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **12** as a colorless oil (48.2 mg, 70% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.76 (s, 1H), 7.84 (dd,  $J_1$  = 7.6,  $J_2$  = 1.2, 1H), 7.56-7.51 (m, 2H), 7.40-7.36 (m, 3H), 7.32 (d, J = 8.4, 1H), 6.94 (d, J = 8.8, 2H), 6.69 (d, J = 8.8, 2H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 1.39 (s, 9H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 192.02, 158.45, 150.19, 146.32, 138.78, 135.78, 133.64, 133.53, 132.60, 131.91, 131.07, 129.88, 128.59, 127.56, 127.04, 125.82, 113.67, 55.23, 34.73, 31.50 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 367.1669, found: 367.1667.



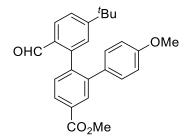
# 4''-Methoxy-5'-phenyl-[1,1':2',1''-terphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (13)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **13** as light yellow oil (47.3 mg, 65% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.82 (s, 1H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 8.0, 1H), 7.74 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub> = 8.0, *J*<sub>2</sub> = 2.0, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 7.2, 2H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 2.0, 1H), 7.59-7.53 (m, 2H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.2, 2H), 7.43-7.36 (m, 3H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.8, 2H), 6.72 (d, *J* = 8.8, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 191.75, 158.68, 145.61, 140.62, 140.19, 140.06, 136.76, 133.68, 133.59, 132.23, 131.84, 131.09, 130.68, 130.13, 129.05, 127.82, 127.78, 127.39, 127.25, 127.23, 113.78, 55.26 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 387.1356, found: 387.1351.



5-(*tert*-Butyl)-4''-methoxy-4'-methyl-[1,1':2',1''-terphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (14)

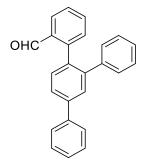
Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **14** as light yellow oil (47.3 mg, 66% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.81 (s, 1H), 7.78 (d, J = 8.4, 1H), 7.37 (dd, J = 8.4,  $J_2$  = 1.2, 1H), 7.28-7.23 (m, 3H), 7.16 (d, J = 1.6, 1H), 6.93 (d, J = 8.8, 2H), 6.69 (d, J = 8.8, 2H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 1.21 (s, 9H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 191.95, 158.53, 157.04, 145.34, 141.56, 138.47, 133.93, 133.13, 131.69, 131.50, 131.03, 130.97, 129.68, 127.75, 127.16, 124.42, 113.60, 55.33, 35.21, 31.02, 21.37 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 381.1825, found: 381.1820.



Methy 5-(*tert*-butyl)-2-formyl-4''-methoxy-[1,1':2',1''-terphenyl]-4'-carboxylate (15)

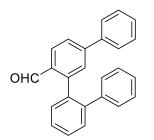
Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **15** as a light yellow solid (33.0 mg, 41% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.75 (s, 1H), 8.15 (d, *J* = 1.6, 1H), 8.01 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub> = 8.0, *J*<sub>2</sub> = 2.0, 1H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 8.4, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.0, 1H), 7.42-7.40 (m, 1H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 1.6, 1H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 8.8, 2H), 6.70 (d, *J* = 8.8, 2H), 3.97 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 1.23 (s, 9H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  =

191.12, 166.89, 158.87, 157.37, 144.10, 141.97, 141.66, 132.03, 131.72, 131.35, 131.25, 130.97, 130.33, 129.15, 127.96, 127.75, 125.12, 113.76, 55.35, 52.45, 35.29, 31.01 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NaO<sub>4</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 425.1723, found: 415.1718.



# 4'-Phenyl-[1,1':2',1''-terphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (16)

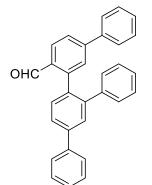
Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **16** as light yellow oil (37.4 mg, 56% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.85 (s, 1H), 7.84 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1H), 7.73-7.69 (m, 4H), 7.56-7.47 (m, 4H), 7.42-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.4, 1H), 7.20-7.19 (m, 3H), 7.12-7.09 (m, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 191.73, 145.13, 142.49, 141.69, 140.33, 135.40, 133.72, 133.53, 132.02, 131.92, 130.00, 129.06, 128.30, 127.88, 127.80, 127.32, 127.28, 127.18, 126.14 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>19</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 335.1430, found: 335.1428.



#### [1,1':2',1'':3'',1'''-Quaterphenyl]-6''-carbaldehyde (17)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **17** as a light yellow solid (36.8 mg, 55% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.81 (s, 1H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 8.0, 1H), 7.61 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub> = 8.0, *J*<sub>2</sub> = 1.2, 1H), 7.54-7.39 (m, 10H), 7.21-7.17 (m,

3H), 7.11-7.09 (m, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 191.42, 145.93, 145.87, 142.10, 140.41, 139.64, 136.43, 132.45, 131.51, 130.60, 130.33, 130.01, 129.06, 128.89, 128.54, 128.30, 127.85, 127.57, 127.40, 127.11, 126.36 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>19</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 335.1430, found: 335.1431.



5'-Phenyl-[1,1':2',1'':3'',1'''-quaterphenyl]-6''-carbaldehyde (18)

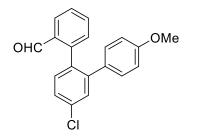
Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **18** as a light yellow solid (45.1 mg, 55% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.90 (s, 1H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 8.0, 1H), 7.76-7.71 (m, 4H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.0, 1H), 7.55-7.39 (m, 10H), 7.23-7.16 (m, 5H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 191.31, 145.99, 145.56, 142.61, 141.81, 140.50, 140.38, 139.71, 135.48, 132.67, 132.08, 130.68, 130.06, 129.13, 129.08, 128.55, 128.38, 128.01, 127.91, 127.42, 127.35, 127.26, 126.42, 126.17 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NaO [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 433.1563, found: 433.1559.



# 4'-Fluoro-4''-methoxy-[1,1':2',1''-terphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (19)

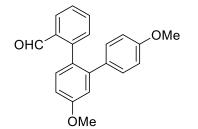
Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **19** as light yellow oil (37.3 mg, 61% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.72 (s, 1H), 7.81

(dd,  $J_1 = 8.0$ ,  $J_2 = 1.6$ , 1H), 7.56-7.52 (m, 1H), 7.39 (t, J = 8.0, 1H), 7.36-7.32 (m, 1H), 7.28 (d, J = 8.4, 1H), 7.18-7.10 (m, 2H), 6.93 (d, J = 8.4, 2H), 6.79 (d, J = 8.4, 2H), 3.73 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 191.38$ , 162.72 (d, J = 247.0 Hz), 158.80, 144.44, 143.60 (d, J = 8.0 Hz), 133.56, 133.50, 132.81 (d, J = 8.0 Hz), 132.20 (d, J = 3.0 Hz), 131.80, 131.45 (d, J = 2.0 Hz), 130.83, 127.75, 127.33, 116.73 (d, J =21.0 Hz), 113.96 (d, J = 21.0 Hz), 113.69, 55.14 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>15</sub>FNaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 329.0948, found: 329.0943.



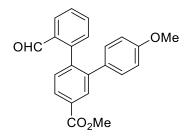
4'-Chloro-4''-methoxy-[1,1':2',1''-terphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (20)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **20** as light yellow oil (43.8 mg, 68% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.72 (s, 1H), 7.81 (d, J = 8.4, 1H), 7.54 (t, J = 8.4, 1H), 7.45 (d, J = 2.0, 1H), 7.40 (t, J = 8.0, 2H), 7.31-7.26 (m, 2H), 6.92 (d, J = 8.4, 2H), 6.69 (d, J = 8.8, 2H), 3.73 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 191.30, 159.00, 144.31, 143.28, 134.92, 134.63, 133.69, 133.56, 132.55, 131.75, 131.38, 130.97, 130.07, 128.02, 127.60, 127.22, 113.86, 55.28 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>15</sub>ClNaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 345.0653, 347.0623, found: 345.0650, 347.0620.



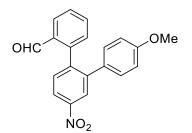
4',4''-Dimethoxy-[1,1':2',1''-terphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (21)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **21** as light yellow oil (42.6 mg, 67% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.75 (s, 1H), 7.79 (dd,  $J_1$  = 8.0,  $J_2$  = 2.0, 1H), 7.53-7.49 (m, 1H), 7.35 (t, J = 7.6,1H), 7.30-7.26 (m, 2H), 6.98-6.94 (m, 4H), 6.69 (d, J = 8.8, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 192.00, 159.86, 158.71, 145.49, 142.99, 133.81, 133.52, 132.66, 132.10, 131.04, 128.76, 127.40, 127.16, 115.51, 113.72, 112.73, 55.58, 55.26 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 341.1148, found: 341.1146.



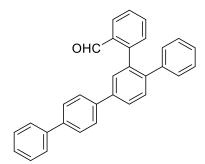
#### Methyl 2-formyl-4"-methoxy-[1,1':2',1"-terphenyl]-4'-carboxylate (22)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **22** as light yellow oil (31.2 mg, 45% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.70 (s, 1H), 8.13 (s, 1H), 8.08 (dd,  $J_1$  = 8.0,  $J_2$  = 8.0, 1H), 7.82 (d, J = 7.6, 1H), 7.59-7.55 (m, 1H), 7.47-7.40 (m, 2H), 7.30 (d, J = 6.8, 1H), 6.96 (d, J = 8.8, 2H), 6.70 (d, J = 8.8, 2H), 3.97 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 191.15, 166.87, 158.90, 144.46, 141.94, 141.13, 133.74, 133.34, 131.65, 131.54, 131.50, 131.29, 131.09, 130.53, 128.23, 128.14, 127.68, 113.84, 55.29, 52.49 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NaO<sub>4</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 369.1097, found: 369.1095.



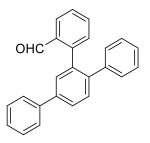
#### 4"-Methoxy-4'-nitro-[1,1':2',1"-terphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (23)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **23** as a yellow solid (26.6 mg, 40% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.69 (s, 1H), 8.32-8.25 (m, 2H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 7.6, 1H), 7.60 (t, *J* = 7.6, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.4, 1H), 7.48 (t, *J* = 8.0, 1H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 7.6, 1H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 8.8, 2H), 6.72 (d, *J* = 7.6, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 190.58, 159.35, 148.05, 143.50, 143.12, 142.76, 133.91, 133.30, 132.12, 131.37, 130.99, 130.42, 128.80, 128.74, 124.89, 121.86, 114.05, 55.32 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 356.0893, found: 356.0889.



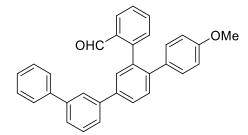
# 6'-Phenyl-[1,1':3',1'':4'',1'''-quaterphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (24)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 40/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **24** as a light yellow solid (52.5 mg, 64% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.85 (s, 1H), 7.85-7.80 (m, 2H), 7.77-7.65 (m, 7H), 7.60-7.55 (m, 2H), 7.48 (t, *J* = 7.2, 2H), 7.43-7.38 (m, 3H), 7.20-7.18 (m, 3H), 7.10-7.08 (m, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 191.72, 145.35, 141.03, 140.69, 140.63, 139.93, 139.89, 138.96, 136.95, 133.66, 133.63, 131.90, 130.84, 130.00, 129.95, 128.99, 128.31, 127.91, 127.78, 127.61, 127.27, 127.19, 127.14 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NaO [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 433.1563, found: 433.1563.



#### 5'-Phenyl-[1,1':2',1''-terphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (25)

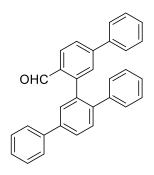
Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **25** as light yellow oil (41.4 mg, 62% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.84 (s, 1H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 8.0, 1H), 7.76 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub> = 8.4, *J*<sub>2</sub> = 2.0, 1H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 7.2, 2H), 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.58-7.53 (m, 2H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.6, 2H), 7.42-7.36 (m, 3H), 7.19-7.17 (m, 3H), 7.09-7.07 (m, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 191.70, 145.39, 140.99, 140.45, 140.15, 140.00, 136.93, 133.74, 133.57, 131.92, 130.79, 130.16, 129.96, 129.07, 128.30, 127.88, 127.86, 127.41, 127.28, 127.12 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NaO [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 357.1250, found: 357.1249.



#### 6'-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-[1,1':3',1'':3'',1'''-quaterphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (26)

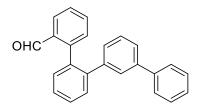
Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **26** as a light yellow solid (59.9 mg, 68% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.82 (s, 1H), 7.87-7.83 (m, 2H), 7.79 (dd,  $J_1$  = 8.0,  $J_2$  = 2.0, 1H), 7.67-7.64 (m, 4H), 7.62-7.52 (m, 4H), 7.49-7.36 (m, 5H), 7.00 (d, J = 8.4, 2H), 6.72 (d, J = 8.4, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 191.70, 158.74, 145.56, 142.16, 141.19, 140.81, 140.77, 140.03, 136.88, 133.70, 133.61, 132.22, 131.85, 131.11, 130.71, 130.17, 129.49,

128.97, 127.87, 127.63, 127.50, 127.42, 127.30, 126.66, 126.19, 113.81, 55.28 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 463.1669, found: 463.1669.



# 4'-Phenyl-[1,1':2',1'':3'',1'''-quaterphenyl]-6''-carbaldehyde (27)

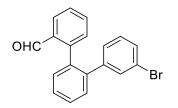
Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **27** as a light yellow solid (45.9 mg, 56% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.89 (s, 1H), 7.78 (dd,  $J_1$  = 2.0,  $J_2$  = 2.0, 1H), 7.70-7.68 (m, 3H), 7.64 (d, J = 9.2, 1H), 7.61-7.59 (m, 2H), 7.56-7.54 (m, 2H), 7.50-7.37 (m, 6H), 7.22-7.19 (m, 3H), 7.16-7.13 (m, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 191.27, 146.08, 145.82, 141.08, 140.55, 140.17, 140.11, 139.68, 136.99, 132.62, 130.84, 130.63, 130.19, 130.01, 129.09, 128.58, 128.37, 127.98, 127.89, 127.48, 127.44, 127.30, 127.20, 126.49 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NaO [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 433.1563, found: 433.1566.



# [1,1':2',1'':3'',1'''-Quaterphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (28)

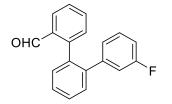
Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **28** as light yellow oil (37.4 mg, 56% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.81 (s, 1H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 7.2, 1H), 7.59-7.52 (m, 3H), 7.50-7.46 (m, 1H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.8, 2H), 7.38-7.34 (m, 4H), 7.31-7.26 (m, 4H), 7.24-7.22 (m, 1H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 7.6, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 191.66, 145.54, 141.92, 141.13, 140.96, 140.74, 136.61, 133.81,

133.52, 131.99, 131.47, 130.22, 129.12, 128.88, 128.77, 128.75, 127.82, 127.67, 127.41, 127.40, 127.22, 125.91 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NaO [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 357.1250, found: 357.1245.



# 3''-Bromo-[1,1':2',1''-terphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (29)

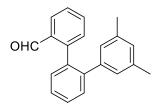
Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **29** as light yellow oil (30.9 mg, 46% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.77 (s, 1H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 7.6, 1H), 7.56-7.45 (m, 4H), 7.43-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.29-7.26 (m, 2H), 7.22 (s, 1H), 7.01 (t, *J* = 8.0, 1H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 6.4, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 191.55, 144.82, 142.55, 140.44, 136.59, 133.78, 133.56, 132.84, 131.87, 131.53, 130.15, 130.12, 129.67, 128.91, 128.54, 128.04, 128.02, 127.61, 122.26 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>13</sub>BrNaO [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 359.0042, 361.0022, found: 359.0042, 361.0017.



#### 3''-Fluoro-[1,1':2',1''-terphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (30)

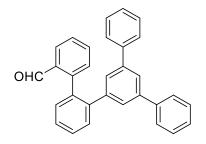
Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **30** as light yellow oil (28.7 mg, 52% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.77 (s, 1H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 8.0, 1H), 7.55-7.46 (m, 4H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 7.6, 2H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 7.6, 1H), 7.15-7.10 (m, 1H), 6.88-6.81 (m, 2H), 6.74 (d, *J* = 10.0, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 191.45, 144.79, 140.59, 139.33, 134.96 (d, *J* = 279.0 Hz), 133.45, 131.65, 131.39, 130.00, 129.58 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 128.73, 127.83, 127.35, 125.54 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz),

116.77, 116.55, 113.98, 113.77 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>13</sub>FNaO [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 299.0843, found: 299.0843.



# 3",5"-Dimethyl-[1,1':2',1"-terphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (31)

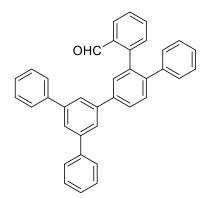
Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 50/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **31** as colorless oil (33.2 mg, 58% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.75 (s, 1H), 7.82 (dd,  $J_I$  = 7.6,  $J_2$  = 1.2, 1H), 7.54-7.46 (m, 3H), 7.46-7.41 (m, 1H), 7.39-7.35 (m, 2H), 7.30 (d, J = 7.2, 1H), 2.13 (s, 6H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 191.83, 145.76, 142.27, 140.20, 137.59, 136.48, 133.71, 133.32, 131.87, 131.31, 130.15, 128.68, 128.63, 127.88, 127.59, 127.29, 127.02, 21.27 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NaO [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 309.1250, found: 309.1250.



5"-Phenyl-[1,1':2',1":3",1"'-quaterphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (32)

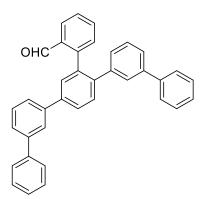
Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 40/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **32** as light yellow oil (50.0 mg, 61% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.85 (s, 1H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 8.0, 1H), 7.64-7.60 (m, 2H), 7.58-7.49 (m, 3H), 7.47-7.30 (m, 14H ), 7.26 (s, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 191.69, 145.58, 141.74, 141.72, 141.07, 140.90, 136.62, 133.76, 133.63, 132.04, 131.47, 130.16, 128.96, 128.83, 127.91, 127.87, 127.80, 127.56, 127.50, 127.32, 124.95 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for

 $C_{31}H_{22}NaO [M+Na]^+ 433.1563$ , found: 433.1561.



# 5'',6'-Diphenyl-[1,1':3',1'':3'',1'''-quaterphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (33)

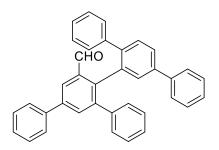
Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 40/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **33** as a light yellow solid (58.3 mg, 60% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.86 (s, 1H), 7.89-7.83 (m, 5H), 7.76-7.72 (m, 5H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.0, 1H), 7.57 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub> = 7.6, *J*<sub>2</sub> = 1.2, 1H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.2, 4H), 7.44-7.39 (m, 4H), 7.21-7.19 (m, 3H), 7.12-7.10 (m, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 191.53, 145.15, 142.60, 141.17, 141.15, 140.98, 140.24, 139.79, 136.95, 133.56, 133.52, 131.79, 130.73, 130.11, 129.86, 128.91, 128.22, 127.85, 127.68, 127.50, 127.40, 127.19, 127.07, 125.66, 125.11 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>37</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NaO [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 509.1876, found: 509.1874.



# 2-[2,5-Bis(3-phenylphenyl]benzene-1-carbaldehyde (34)

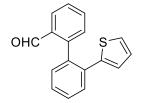
Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 40/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **34** as a light yellow solid (59.3 mg, 61% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.90 (s, 1H), 7.90-

7.83 (m, 3H), 7.73 (s, 1H), 7.69-7.54 (m, 7H), 7.50-7.44 (m, 4H), 7.41-7.28 (m, 9H), 7.14 (d, J = 7.6, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 191.45$ , 145.26, 142.04, 141.03, 141.00, 140.82, 140.75, 140.54, 140.39, 140.14, 136.95, 133.61, 133.55, 131.86, 130.60, 130.04, 129.39, 128.95, 128.84, 128.72, 128.65, 128.59, 127.84, 127.52, 127.44, 127.33, 127.30, 127.28, 127.07, 126.62, 126.09, 125.88 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>37</sub>H<sub>27</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 487.2056, found: 487.2051.



5',5''-Diphenyl-[1,1':2',1'':2'',1'''-quaterphenyl]-3'-carbaldehyde (35)

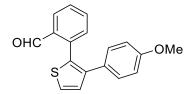
Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 40/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **35** as a colorless solid (52.5 mg, 54% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 10.10 (s, 1H), 8.26 (d, *J* = 2.0, 1H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 2.0, 1H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 7.2, 2H), 7.67 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub> = 8.0, *J*<sub>2</sub> = 2.0, 1H), 7.59-7.55 (m, 3H), 7.49-7.43 (m, 4H), 7.41-7.35 (m, 3H), 7.20-7.06 (m, 6H), 6.79-6.74 (m, 4H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  =192.69, 143.25, 142.35, 141.17, 140.81, 140.07, 139.98, 139.86, 139.66, 139.42, 135.57, 134.48, 134.19, 131.97, 130.91, 129.67, 129.39, 129.11, 129.03, 128.17, 128.01, 127.84, 127.81, 127.38, 127.19, 127.17, 126.89, 126.85, 124.81 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>37</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NaO [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 509.1876, found: 509.1872.



# 2'-(Thiophen-2-yl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-carbaldehyde (36)

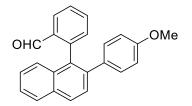
Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography

(petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **36** as colorless oil (19.5 mg, 37% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.77 (s, 1H), 7.91 (d, *J* = 7.6, 1H), 7.64-7.58 (m, 2H), 7.47 (t, *J* = 7.2, 2H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 7.6, 1H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 7.6, 2H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 4.8, 1H), 6.83 (t, *J* = 3.6, 1H), 6.63 (d, *J* = 3.6, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 191.68, 133.78, 131.71, 131.52, 130.07, 128.86, 128.27, 127.75, 127.35, 127.25, 126.58 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>12</sub>NaOS [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 287.0501, found: 287.0500.



### 2-(3-(4-Methoxyphenyl)thiophen-2-yl)benzaldehyde (37)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **37** as colorless oil (25.3mg, 43% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 9.82$  (s, 1H), 7.88 (d, J = 7.6, 1H), 7.63-7.59 (m, 1H), 7.52-7.45 (m, 3H), 7.23 (d, J = 5.2, 1H), 7.04 (d, J = 8.4, 2H), 6.74 (d, J = 8.8, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 191.41$ , 158.83, 141.42, 138.08, 134.15, 133.88, 132.46, 132.25, 130.19, 129.45, 128.68, 127.74, 127.53, 126.09, 114.22, 55.29 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 317.0607, found: 317.0605.



#### 2-(2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)naphthalen-1-yl)benzaldehyde (38)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 30/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **38** as colorless oil (52.7 mg, 78% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 9.57 (s, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 8.8, 1H), 7.93 (t, *J* = 7.6, 2H), 7.61-7.57 (m, 2H), 7.52-7.40 (m, 4H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 7.6, 2H)

1H), 7.00 (d, J = 8.8, 2H), 6.70 (d, J = 8.8, 2H), 3.74 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 191.91, 158.47, 143.36, 139.51, 134.96, 133.54, 133.51, 133.30, 133.13, 132.81, 132.63, 131.06, 128.79, 128.25, 128.06, 127.31, 127.01, 126.49, 126.05, 113.62, 55.27 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 361.1199, found: 361.1195.$ 

#### iii) Scale-up synthesis

A 120 mL Schlenk tube with a magnetic stir bar was charged with bi(hetero)aryl aldehyde (4.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), iodobenzene (6.0 mmol, 1.5 equiv), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (90.6 mg, 10 mol%), L-*tert*-leucine (135.8 mg, 30 mol%), AgTFA (1.3 g, 1.5 equiv), ZnCO<sub>3</sub> 501.6 mg, 1.0 equiv) and TFE (10 mL) under an air atmosphere. The reaction mixture was heated at 100 °C for 24 hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with 20 mL CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, filtered through a celite pad, and washed with 40-50 mL CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The filtrate was concentrated under vacuum and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1, v/v) to provide the desired product.

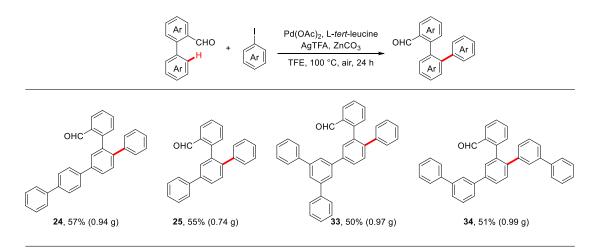
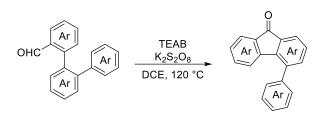
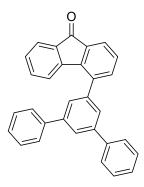


Fig. S2 Scale-up synthesis

#### V. Synthesis of multi-aryl fluorenones

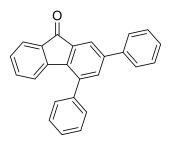


To a 100 mL Schlenk tube was added TEAB (42 mg, 10 mol %),  $K_2S_2O_8$  (1.08 g, 2.0 equiv) and the tube was purged with Ar for three times, followed by addition of biphenyl-2-formaldehyde (364 mg, 2.0 mmol) and DCE (10 mL). The formed mixture was stirred at 120 °C under N<sub>2</sub> for 36 h. The solution was then cooled to rt, and DCE was removed under vaccum directly. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> = 3/1, v/v) to provide the desired product.<sup>3</sup>



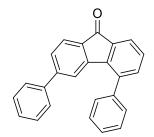
#### 4-(3,5-Diphenyl)phenyl-9*H*-fluoren-9-one (39)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> = 3/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **39** as a yellow solid (538.8 mg, 66% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 7.95$  (s, 1H), 7.74-7.66 (m, 8H), 7.50-7.45 (m, 5H), 7.42-7.35 (m, 3H), 7.23-7.19 (m, 2H), 7.00-6.97 (m, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 193.97$ , 144.67, 142.33, 141.27, 140.62, 140.55, 138.10, 136.87, 134.91, 134.71, 134.59, 129.09, 128.98, 128.95, 127.93, 127.36, 126.60, 125.87, 124.43, 123.62, 123.27 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O, [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 409.1587, found: 409.1582.



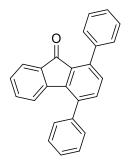
### 2,4-Diphenyl-9*H*-fluoren-9-one (40)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> = 3/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **40** as a yellow solid (431.8 g, 65% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.95 (d, *J* = 7.6, 1H), 7.69-7.65 (m, 3H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 1.6, 1H), 7.52 (s, 5H), 7.46 (t, *J* = 8.0, 2H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 7.6, 1H), 7.22-7.19 (m, 2H), 6.80-6.78 (m, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 193.96, 144.53, 141.93, 139.99, 139.57, 139.55, 138.67, 135.66, 135.25, 134.88, 134.67, 129.09, 128.97, 128.93, 128.77, 128.39, 128.18, 126.95, 124.39, 123.21, 121.96 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>17</sub>O, [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 333.1274, found: 333.1275.



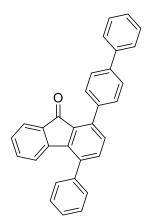
### 3,5-Diphenyl-9*H*-fluoren-9-one (41)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> = 3/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **41** as a yellow solid (395.6 g, 60% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 7.72-7.70$  (m, 2H), 7.55-7.49 (m, 5H), 7.45 (dd,  $J_1 = 7.6$ ,  $J_2 = 1.2$ , 1H), 7.38-7.32 (m, 7H), 6.98 (s, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 193.62$ , 147.10, 145.41, 140.95, 140.02, 139.58, 138.39, 136.58, 135.36, 133.39, 129.01, 128.98, 128.87, 128.39, 127.38, 126.98, 124.72, 123.37, 122.15 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>17</sub>O, [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 333.1274, found: 333.1273.



## 1,4-Diphenyl-9*H*-fluoren-9-one (42)

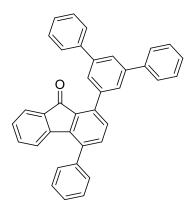
Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> = 3/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **42** as a yellow solid (411.8 g, 62% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.59-7.44 (m, 11H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 8.0, 1H), 7.24-7.14 (m, 3H), 6.71-6.69 (m, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 193.09, 143.69, 142.14, 141.35, 139.67, 137.66, 137.34, 136.30, 134.68, 134.24, 131.42, 131.40, 130.23, 129.29, 129.01, 128.94, 128.88, 128.30, 128.01, 124.05, 123.20 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>17</sub>O, [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 333.1274, found: 333.1273.



#### 1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)-4-phenyl-9*H*-fluoren-9-one (43)

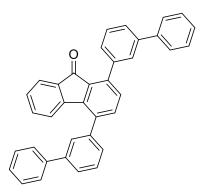
Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> = 3/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **43** as a yellow solid (522.4 mg, 64% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.70 (t, *J* = 8.0, 4H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 8.4, 2H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 8.0, 1H), 7.53-7.46 (m, 7H), 7.40-7.36 (m, 2H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.0, 1H), 7.22-7.16 (m, 2H), 6.71 (d, *J* = 6.4, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 193.20, 143.69, 142.26, 141.12, 141.01, 140.96, 139.64, 137.40, 136.59, 136.40, 134.68, 134.30, 131.41, 130.23, 129.81, 129.01, 128.96, 128.91, 128.33 ppm. HRMS

 $(ESI^{+})$ : calcd for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NaO,  $[M+Na]^{+}$  431.1406, found: 431.1404.



# 1-(3,5-Diphenyl)phenyl-4-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-one (44)

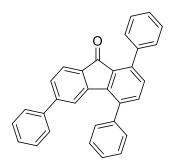
Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> = 3/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **44** as a yellow solid (581.0 mg, 60% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.89-7.88 (m, 1H), 7.80-7.74 (m, 6H), 7.63 (d, *J* = 6.0, 1H), 7.53-7.47 (m, 9H), 7.40-7.35 (m, 4H), 7.23-7.16 (m, 2H), 6.71 (d, *J* = 7.6, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 193.08, 143.67, 142.33, 141.50, 141.33, 141.07, 139.66, 138.39, 137.57, 136.41, 134.72, 134.28, 131.50, 130.36, 129.02, 128.97, 128.92, 128.36, 127.60, 127.53, 127.39, 126.14, 124.17, 123.25 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>37</sub>H<sub>25</sub>O, [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 485.1900, found: 485.1901.



# 1,4-Di([1,1'-biphenyl]-3-yl)-9*H*-fluoren-9-one (45)

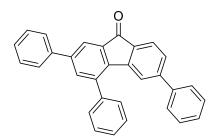
Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> = 2/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **45** as a yellow solid (590.7 mg, 61% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.82 (s, 1H), 7.77-7.75 (m, 2H), 7.71-7.67 (m, 5H), 7.64-7.60 (m, 2H), 7.57-7.56 (m, 2H), 7.50-7.42 (m, 6H), 7.41-

7.35 (m, 2H), 7.32 (d, J = 7.6, 1H), 7.23-7.17 (m, 2H), 6.84-6.82 (m, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 193.05$ , 143.68, 142.29, 141.77, 141.32, 141.30, 140.99, 140.62, 140.13, 137.99, 137.31, 136.37, 134.71, 134.36, 131.52, 130.33, 129.46, 129.05, 128.97, 128.88, 128.42, 128.34, 128.28, 127.85, 127.79, 127.77, 127.49, 127.40, 127.27, 127.15, 127.02, 124.17, 123.22 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>37</sub>H<sub>25</sub>O, [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 485.1900, found: 485.1900.



#### 1,4,7-Triphenyl-9*H*-fluoren-9-one (46)

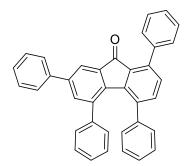
Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> = 3/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **46** as a yellow solid (489.8 mg, 60% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.64 (d, *J* = 7.6, 1H), 7.59-7.53 (m, 7H), 7.51-7.31 (m, 11H), 7.27-7.25 (m, 1H), 6.93 (s, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 192.66, 146.79, 144.45, 141.98, 141.37, 140.13, 139.74, 137.71, 137.40, 136.00, 133.60, 131.56, 130.82, 129.35, 129.12, 128.96, 128.40, 128.31, 128.03, 127.44, 126.99, 124.47, 122.13 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NaO, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 431.1406, found: 431.1404.



# 2,4,7-Triphenyl-9*H*-fluoren-9-one (47)

Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography

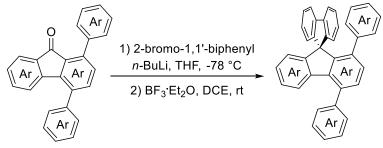
(petroleum ether/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> = 3/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **47** as a yellow solid (514.3 mg, 63% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.97 (s, 1H), 7.74-7.76 (m, 5H), 7.56-7.36 (m, 13H), 7.03 (s, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  =193.45, 147.26, 145.30, 142.13, 140.07, 139.79, 139.64, 139.62, 138.72, 136.26, 134.96, 133.77, 129.11, 129.07, 129.00, 128.92, 128.50, 128.42, 128.20, 127.33, 127.01, 124.79, 122.07, 121.92 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O, [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 409.1587, found: 409.1585



# 2,4,7-Tetraphenyl-9H-fluoren-9-one (48)

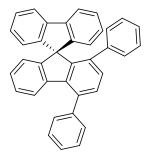
Following the general procedure, purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> = 3/1, v/v) afforded the desired product **48** as a yellow solid (590.7 mg, 61% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.90 (d, *J* = 1.6, 1H), 7.64-7.60 (m, 4H), 7.53-7.42 (m, 6H), 7.38-7.34 (m, 1H), 7.25-7.20 (m, 2H), 7.07-6.90 (m, 10H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 192.07, 143.88, 141.87, 141.08, 141.03, 140.88, 140.79, 139.60, 139.42, 138.29, 138.18, 137.75, 137.52, 136.12, 133.18, 131.11, 129.48, 129.05, 128.58, 128.53, 128.40, 128.36, 128.32, 128.10, 127.01, 126.93, 121.17 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>37</sub>H<sub>25</sub>O, [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 485.1900, found: 485.1900.

#### VI. Synthesis of 1,4-diaryl 9,9'-spirobifluorenes



S34

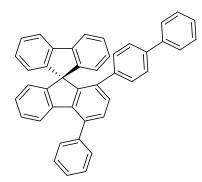
2-Bromobiphenyl (1.1 equiv) was dissolved in dry THF (40 mL) and cooled down to -78 °C. A 2.5 M pentane solution of *n*-BuLi (1.0 equiv) was then added dropwise to the solution at -78 °C. The resulting mixture was stirred at the same temperature for one hour and the fluorenone (1.0 equiv) dissolved in dry THF (20 mL) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm up to 75 °C and stirred for 24 h. After cooling to room temperature, a saturated solution of ammonium chloride was added. The organic layer was extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extracts were dried over sodium sulfate, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in DCE (50-100 mL) before trifluoroboron etherate (5.0 equiv) was added slowly and the solution was stirred for 3 h at room temperature. The residue was purified by column chromatography (petroleum ether/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> = 6/1, v/v) to give the desired product.



# 1,4-Diphenyl-9,9'-spirobifluorene (1,4-dp-SBF)

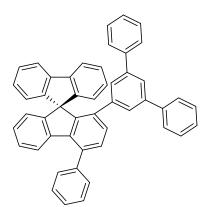
Prepared according to general procedure from 1,4-diphenyl-9*H*-fluoren-9-one (**42**, 996.4 mg, 3 mmol), purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> = 6/1, v/v) afforded the desired product 1,4-dp-SBF as a white solid (1.12 g, 80% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.69 (d, *J* = 7.6, 2H), 7.62-7.52 (m, 3H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 7.6, 2H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 7.6, 1H), 7.22 (t, *J* = 7.2, 2H), 7.08 (t, *J* = 7.6, 2H), 7.00-6.96 (m, 4H), 6.90 (t, *J* = 7.2, 1H), 6.84 (d, *J* = 7.6, 2H), 6.68 (t, *J* = 7.6, 2H), 6.56 (d, *J* = 7.2, 1H), 6.17 (d, *J* = 8.0, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 149.63, 148.51, 145.83, 142.10, 141.03, 139.68, 139.24, 138.60, 136.84, 129.73, 129.37, 128.84, 128.63, 128.44, 127.69, 127.52, 127.25, 127.21, 126.94, 126.42,

125.61, 123.80, 123.61, 123.00, 119.85, 65.49 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>37</sub>H<sub>25</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 469.1951, found: 469.1953.



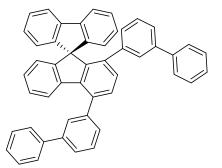
# 1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)-4-phenyl-9,9'-spirobifluorene (1-pbp-4-p-SBF)

Prepared according to general procedure from 1-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)-4-phenyl-9*H*-fluoren-9-one (**43**, 1.22 g, 3 mmol), purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> = 6/1, v/v) afforded the desired product 1-pbp-4-p-SBF as a white solid (1.32 g, 81% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.70-7.68 (m, 2H), 7.62-7.54 (m, 3H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 4.4, 4H), 7.39-7.29 (m, 4H), 7.22 (t, *J* = 7.6, 2H), 7.10 (t, *J* = 7.2, 2H), 7.05-6.95 (m, 4H), 6.86 (t, *J* = 8.4, 4H), 6.56 (d, *J* = 7.2, 1H), 6.21 (d, *J* = 8.0, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 149.64, 148.61, 146.43, 142.31, 141.67, 141.20, 141.12, 139.40, 139.35, 138.54, 137.78, 137.06, 129.89, 129.48, 128.93, 128.80, 128.76, 128.71, 127.82, 127.67, 127.41, 127.37, 127.16, 127.10, 125.32, 123.97, 123.77, 123.14, 119.93, 65.62 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>43</sub>H<sub>28</sub>Na, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 567.2083, found: 567.2080.



1-(3,5-Diphenyl) phenyl-4-phenyl-9,9'-spirobifluorene (1-mtp-4-p-SBF)

Prepared according to general procedure from 1-(3,5-diphenyl) phenyl-4-phenyl-9*H*-fluoren-9-one (**44**, 1.45 g, 3 mmol), purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> = 5/1, v/v) afforded the desired product 1-mtp-4-p-SBF as a white solid (1.45 g, 78% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.70 (d, *J* = 6.8, 2H), 7.61-7.55 (m, 3H), 7.42-7.28 (m, 12H), 7.22-7.20 (m, 2H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 7.6, 1H), 7.04-7.00 (m, 4H), 6.97-6.93 (m, 1H), 6.91-6.87 (m, 4H), 6.52 (d, *J* = 7.2, 1H), 6.44 (d, *J* = 2.0, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 149.77, 148.23, 145.92, 141.95, 140.98, 140.96, 140.06, 139.49, 139.35, 139.32, 137.07, 129.85, 129.36, 128.76, 128.66, 128.38, 127.74, 127.57, 127.45, 127.26, 127.16, 127.01, 126.97, 126.81, 123.70, 123.58, 123.57, 123.04, 119.71, 65.60 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>49</sub>H<sub>33</sub>, [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 621.2577, found: 621.2579.

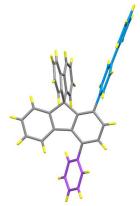


#### 1,4-Di([1,1'-biphenyl]-3-yl)-9,9'-spirobifluorene (1,4-d(mbp)-SBF)

Prepared according to general procedure from 1,4-di([1,1'-biphenyl]-3-yl)-9*H*-fluoren-9-one (**45**, 1.45 g, 3 mmol), purification via silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> = 5/1, v/v) afforded the desired product 1,4-d(mbp)-SBF as a white solid (1.43 g, 77% yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.79-7.74 (m, 3H), 7.67 (d, *J* = 4.8, 2H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.6, 2H), 7.42-7.29 (m, 7H), 7.23-7.12 (m, 4H), 7.07-7.01 (m, 6H), 6.96 (t, *J* = 7.6, 1H), 6.89 (s, 2H), 6.76 (t, *J* = 7.6, 1H), 6.54 (d, *J* = 8.4, 1H), 6.47 (s, 1H), 6.16 (d, *J* = 7.6, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 149.75, 148.37, 145.96, 142.05, 141.47, 141.03, 140.99, 140.97, 139.64, 139.51, 139.34, 139.03, 136.82, 129.81, 129.10, 128.86, 128.29, 128.24, 128.18, 127.59, 127.57, 127.49, 127.34, 127.27, 127.21, 127.17, 127.03, 126.87, 126.82, 126.44, 124.51, 123.76, 123.63, 123.02, 119.79, 65.59 ppm. HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>): calcd for C<sub>49</sub>H<sub>32</sub>Na, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 643.2396, found: 643.2397.

# VII. Crystallographic data

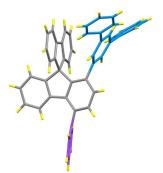
Table S2 Crystal data and structure refinement for 1-pbp-4-p-SBF



Identification code	1-pbp-4-p-SBF
Empirical formula	$C_{43}H_{28}$
Formula weight	544.65
Temperature/K	150.0
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group	P-1
a/Å	10.0916(4)
b/Å	10.7661(4)
c/Å	13.9350(5)
α/°	74.8680(10)
β/°	84.9120(10)
$\gamma/^{\circ}$	78.065(2)
Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	1428.94(9)
Z	2
$\rho_{calc}g/cm^3$	1.266
$\mu/mm^{-1}$	0.072
F(000)	572.0
Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>	0.4  imes 0.2  imes 0.1
Radiation	MoKα ( $\lambda$ = 0.71073)
$2\Theta$ range for data collection/°	3.992 to 55.034
Index ranges	$-13 \le h \le 13, -13 \le k \le 13, -18 \le l \le 16$

Reflections collected	22766
Independent reflections	6535 [ $R_{int} = 0.0449$ , $R_{sigma} = 0.0422$ ]
Data/restraints/parameters	6535/0/388
Goodness-of-fit on F2	1.026
Final R indexes [I>= $2\sigma$ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0453, wR_2 = 0.1029$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0632, wR_2 = 0.1174$
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup>	0.22/-0.24

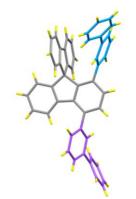
Table S3 Crystal data and structure refinement for 1-mtp-4-p-SBF



<b>.</b>	
Identification code	1-mtp-4-p-SBF
Empirical formula	$C_{49}H_{32}$
Formula weight	620.74
Temperature/K	302.0
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group	P-1
a/Å	10.5749(4)
b/Å	12.4865(5)
c/Å	12.8313(5)
$\alpha/^{\circ}$	90.4010(10)
β/°	90.1470(10)
$\gamma/^{\circ}$	99.5750(10)
Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	1670.63(11)
Z	2
$\rho_{calc}g/cm^3$	1.234
$\mu/\text{mm}^{-1}$	0.070
c	20

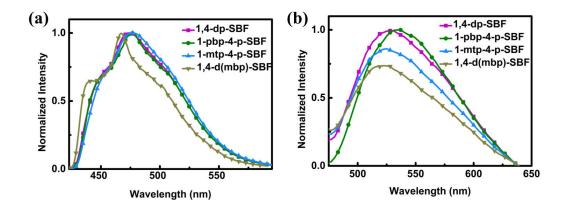
F(000)	652.0	
Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>	$0.42 \times 0.3 \times 0.13$	
Radiation	MoKa ( $\lambda = 0.71073$ )	
$2\Theta$ range for data collection/°	3.906 to 55.032	
Index ranges	$-11 \le h \le 13, -16 \le k \le 16, -16 \le l \le 16$	
Reflections collected	28738	
Independent reflections	7628 [ $R_{int} = 0.0912$ , $R_{sigma} = 0.0818$ ]	
Data/restraints/parameters	7628/0/442	
Goodness-of-fit on F2	1.023	
Final R indexes [I>= $2\sigma$ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0582, wR_2 = 0.1395$	
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.1014, wR_2 = 0.1653$	
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup>	0.19/-0.21	

Table S4 Crystal data and structure refinement for 1,4-d(mbp)-SBF



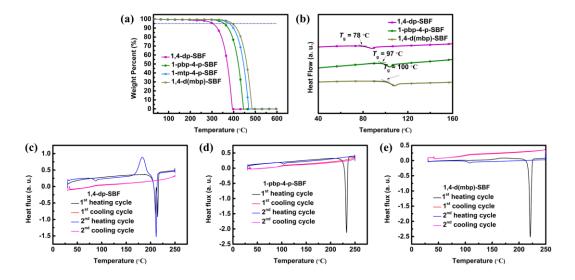
Identification code	1,4-d(mbp)-SBF
Empirical formula	C49H32
Formula weight	620.74
Temperature/K	280.0
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group	P-1
a/Å	9.9178(5)
b/Å	13.3016(8)
c/Å	14.7232(9)
α/°	68.269(2)
	S40

β/°	83.486(2)	
γ/°	69.787(2)	
Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	1692.94(17)	
Z	2	
$\rho_{calc}g/cm^3$	1.218	
$\mu/mm^{-1}$	0.069	
F(000)	652.0	
Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>	$0.4 \times 0.34 \times 0.18$	
Radiation	MoKa ( $\lambda = 0.71073$ )	
$2\Theta$ range for data collection/°	4.614 to 55.052	
Index ranges	$-12 \le h \le 12, -17 \le k \le 17, -19 \le l \le 19$	
Reflections collected	40814	
Independent reflections	7781 [ $R_{int} = 0.0995$ , $R_{sigma} = 0.0732$ ]	
Data/restraints/parameters	7781/0/442	
Goodness-of-fit on F2	1.036	
Final R indexes [I>= $2\sigma$ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0603, wR_2 = 0.1433$	
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.1127, wR_2 = 0.1720$	
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup>	0.31/-0.28	



*Fig. S3* (a) Phosphorescence spectra at 77 K in toluene, and (b) in thin film of **1,4-dp-SBF**, **1-pbp-4-p-SBF**, **1-mtp-4-p-SBF**, and **1,4-d(mbp)-SBF** 

# **IX.** Thermal properties

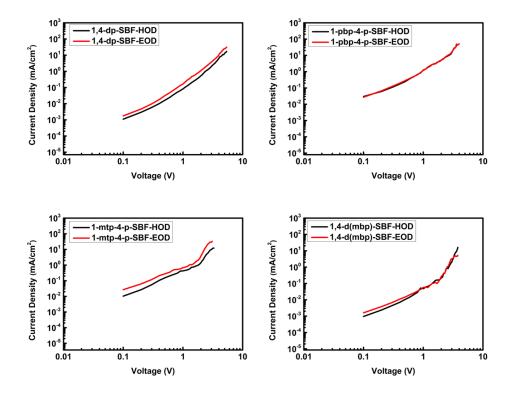


*Fig. S4* TGA curves and DSC curves. (a) TGA curves of **1,4-dp-SBF**, **1-pbp-4-p-SBF**, **1-mtp-4-p-SBF** and **1,4-d(mbp)-SBF**. (b) DSC curves of **1,4-dp-SBF**, **1-pbp-4-p-SBF** and **1,4-d(mbp)-SBF**. (c) DSC curves with two heating cycles and two cooling cycles of **1,4-dp-SBF** (d) DSC curves with two heating cycles and two cooling cycles of **1-pbp-4-p-SBF**, (e) DSC curves with two heating cycles and two cooling cycles of **1,4-dp-SBF**, (e) DSC curves with two heating cycles and two cooling cycles of **1,4-dp-SBF**, (e) DSC curves with two heating cycles and two cooling cycles of **1,4-dp-SBF**, (e) DSC curves with two heating cycles and two cooling cycles of **1,4-dp-SBF**.

## X. Charge transport properties

## Space-charged limited current (SCLC) diodes

The hole-only device (HOD) has a configuration of ITO/HAT-CN (10 nm)/host (60 nm)/HAT-CN (10 nm)/ Al (100 nm), and the electron-only device (EOD) is ITO/LiF (0.8 nm)/host (60 nm)/LiF (0.8 nm)/Al (100 nm).



*Fig. S5* The *J-V* curves of hole-only (HOD) and electron-only (EOD) devices using **1,4-dp-SBF**, **1-pbp-4-p-SBF**, **1-mtp-4-p-SBF**, and **1,4-d(mbp)-SBF** 

The J-V curves of charge-only devices show the charge transport ability of the compounds. Based on the Schottky thermionic region and space-charge-limited current (SCLC) model, the curves can be divided into two parts under low bias. We assign the second region of the J-V curve as assigned as the SCLC region, which then can be described by an equation:

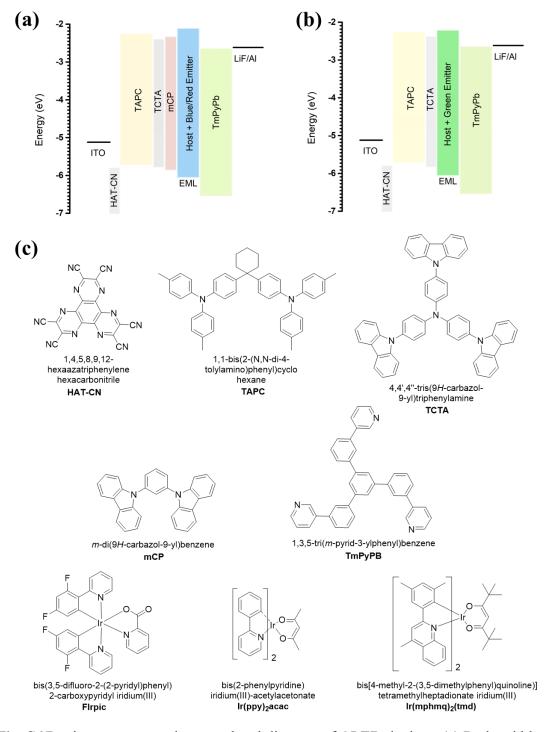
$$J = \frac{9}{8} \varepsilon \varepsilon_0 \mu_0 exp^{[m]} (\beta \sqrt{\frac{V}{L}}) \frac{V^2}{L^3}$$

in which V is the driving voltage, L is the thickness of the thin layer,  $\varepsilon_0$  the permittivity of the free space,  $\varepsilon$  is the relative dielectric constant (estimated to be 3.0 here),  $\mu_0$  is the zero-field mobility and  $\beta$  is Poole-Frenkel factor. The thickness L equals to 60 nm, and the zero-field mobility of the compounds was calculated and summarized in Table 2.

#### **XI. Phosphorescent OLED characteristics**

The device configuration of blue PhOLEDs is ITO/HAT-CN (10 nm)/TAPC (30 nm for 1,4-dp-SBF, 1-pbp-4-p-SBF, 1-mtp-4-p-SBF and 35 nm for 1,4-d(mbp)-SBF) /TCTA (8 nm)/mCP (10 nm)/host: 15 wt% Flrpic (20 nm)/TmPyPB (40 nm)/LiF (0.8 nm)/Al (100 nm). In the PhOLED devices, LiF and 1,4,5,8,9,12-hexaazatriphenylene hexacarbonitrile (HAT-CN) act as the electron- and hole-injecting materials, respectively. 1,3,5-Tri(*m*-pyrid-3-ylphenyl)benzene (TmPyPB) and 1,1-bis(2-(*N*,*N*-di-4-tolylamino)phenyl)cyclohexane (TAPC) serve as the electron- and hole-transporting materials, respectively. 4,4',4"-Tris(9H-carbazol-9-yl)triphenylamine (TCTA) and mdi(9H-carbazol-9-yl)benzene (mCP) constitute exciton-blocking layers together. The device configuration of green PhOLEDs is ITO/ HAT-CN (10 nm)/TAPC (45 nm for 1,4-dp-SBF, 35 nm for 1-pbp-4-p-SBF and 40 nm for 1-mtp-4-p-SBF, 1,4-d(mbp)-SBF)/TCTA (10 nm)/host: 14 wt% Ir(ppy)2acac (20 nm)/TmPyPB (45 nm for 1,4dp-SBF, 40 nm for 1-pbp-4-p-SBF, 1-mtp-4-p-SBF, 1,4-d(mbp)-SBF)/LiF (0.8 nm)/A1 (100 nm). The device configuration of red PhOLEDs is ITO/HAT-CN (10 nm)/TAPC (40 nm for 1,4-dp-SBF, 1-mtp-4-p-SBF, 1,4-d(mbp)-SBF, 30 nm for 1pbp-4-p-SBF)/TCTA (10 nm)/mCP (10 nm)/host: 3 wt% Ir(mphmq)2tmd (20 nm)/TmPyPB (50 nm for 1,4-dp-SBF, 1-pbp-4-p-SBF, 1,4-d(mbp)-SBF, 40 nm for 1-mtp-4-p-SBF)/LiF (0.8 nm)/Al (100 nm).

# i) Device structure and energy-level diagram of OLED devices



*Fig. S6* Device structure and energy-level diagram of OLED devices. (a) Red and blue OLED devices structure with corresponding energy levels. (b) green OLED devices structure with corresponding energy levels. (c) Molecular structures of the materials used in OLEDs

## ii) Optimized device structures

Red:

ITO/HAT-CN (10 nm)/TAPC (40 nm)/TCTA (10 nm)/mCP (10 nm)/ 1,4-dp-SBF: 3 wt% Ir(mphmq)2tmd (20 nm)/TmPyPB (50 nm)/LiF (0.8 nm)/Al (100 nm).

ITO/HAT-CN (10 nm)/TAPC (30 nm)/TCTA (10 nm)/mCP (10 nm)/1-pbp-4-p-SBF: 3 wt% Ir(mphmq)2tmd (20 nm)/TmPyPB (50 nm)/LiF (0.8 nm)/Al (100 nm).

ITO/HAT-CN (10 nm)/TAPC (40 nm)/TCTA (10 nm)/mCP (10 nm)/1-mtp-4-p-SBF: 3 wt% Ir(mphmq)<sub>2</sub>tmd (20 nm)/TmPyPB (40 nm)/LiF (0.8 nm)/Al (100 nm).

ITO/HAT-CN (10 nm)/TAPC (40 nm)/TCTA (10 nm)/mCP (10 nm)/1,4-d(mbp)-SBF: 3 wt% Ir(mphmq)2tmd (20 nm)/TmPyPB (50 nm)/LiF (0.8 nm)/Al (100 nm).

### Green:

ITO/HAT-CN (10 nm)/TAPC (45 nm)/TCTA (10 nm)/ 1,4-dp-SBF: 14 wt% Ir(ppy)<sub>2</sub>acac (20 nm)/TmPyPB (45 nm)/LiF (0.8 nm)/Al (100 nm).

ITO/HAT-CN (10 nm)/TAPC (35 nm)/TCTA (10 nm)/1-pbp-4-p-SBF: 14 wt% Ir(ppy)2acac (20 nm)/TmPyPB (40 nm)/LiF (0.8 nm)/Al (100 nm).

ITO/HAT-CN (10 nm)/TAPC (40 nm)/TCTA (10 nm)/1-mtp-4-p-SBF: 14 wt% Ir(ppy)2acac (20 nm)/TmPyPB (40 nm)/LiF (0.8 nm)/Al (100 nm).

ITO/HAT-CN (10 nm)/TAPC (40 nm)/TCTA (10 nm)/1,4-d(mbp)-SBF: 14 wt% Ir(ppy)<sub>2</sub>acac (20 nm)/TmPyPB (40 nm)/LiF (0.8 nm)/Al (100 nm).

**Blue:** 

ITO/HAT-CN (10 nm)/TAPC (30 nm)/TCTA (8 nm)/mCP (10 nm)/1,4-dp-SBF: 15 wt% Flrpic (20 nm)/TmPyPB (40 nm)/LiF (0.8 nm)/Al (100 nm).

ITO/HAT-CN (10 nm)/TAPC (30 nm)/TCTA (8 nm)/mCP (10 nm)/1-pbp-4-p-SBF: 15 wt% Flrpic (20 nm)/TmPyPB (40 nm)/LiF (0.8 nm)/Al (100 nm).

ITO/HAT-CN (10 nm)/TAPC (30 nm)/TCTA (8 nm)/mCP (10 nm)/1-mtp-4-p-SBF: 15 wt% Flrpic (20 nm)/TmPyPB (40 nm)/LiF (0.8 nm)/Al (100 nm).

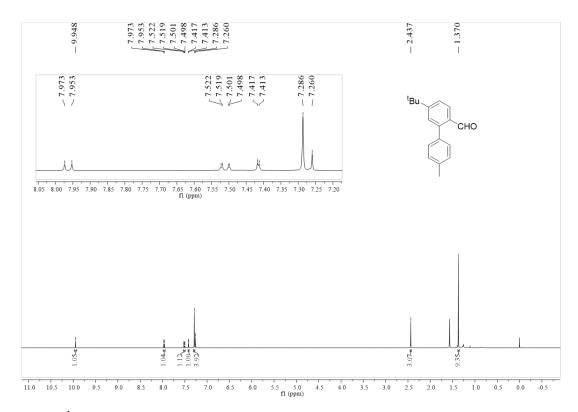
ITO/HAT-CN (10 nm)/TAPC (35 nm)/TCTA (8 nm)/mCP (10 nm)/1,4-d(mbp)-SBF: 15 wt% Flrpic (20 nm)/TmPyPB (40 nm)/LiF (0.8 nm)/Al (100 nm).

*Table S5* EQE and power efficiency for green PhOLED devices at the luminance of  $5000 \text{ cd m}^{-2}$ 

Emitter	Host	EQE [%]	PE [lm W <sup>-1</sup> ]
Ir(ppy)2acac	1,4-dp-SBF	17.9	41.5
	1-pbp-4-p-SBF	23.0	56.8
	1-mtp-4-p-SBF	20.4	52.2
	1,4-d(mbp)-SBF	17.0	34.1

# **XII. References**

- 1. S. Rej and N. Chatani, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2021, 143, 2920-2929.
- 2. J. Zhao, D. Yue, M. A. Campo and R. C. Larock, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2007, 129, 5288-5295.
- 3. Z. Shi and F. Glorius, Chem. Sci. 2013, 4, 829-833.



XIII. Copies of <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C NMR and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra

Fig. S7<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 49 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

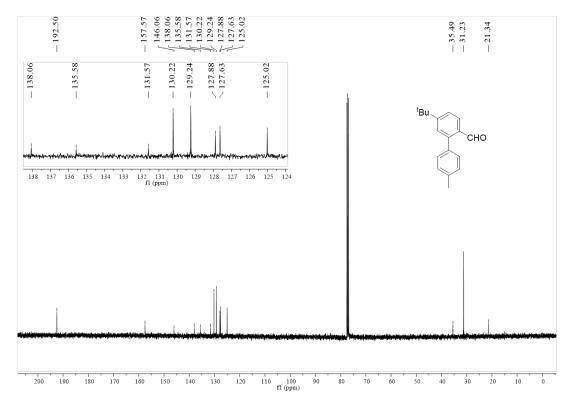


Fig. S8<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 49 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

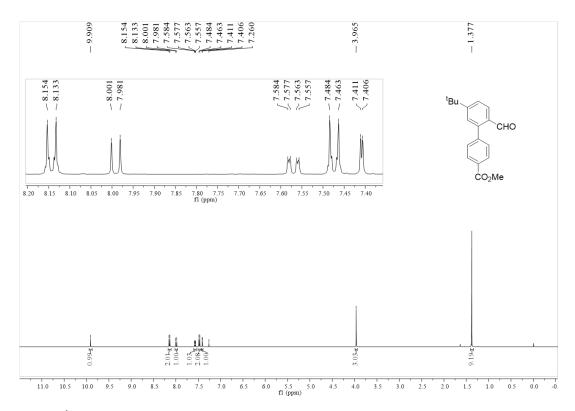


Fig. S9 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 50 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

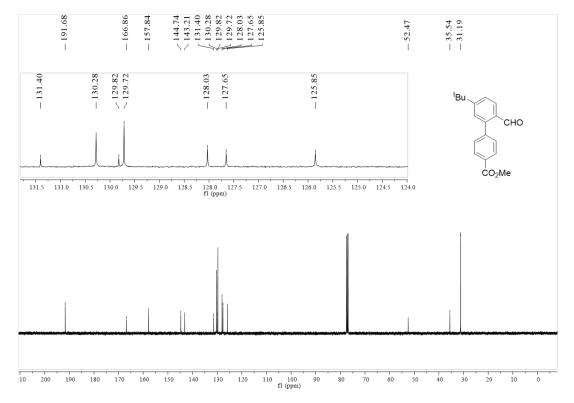


Fig. S10<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 50 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

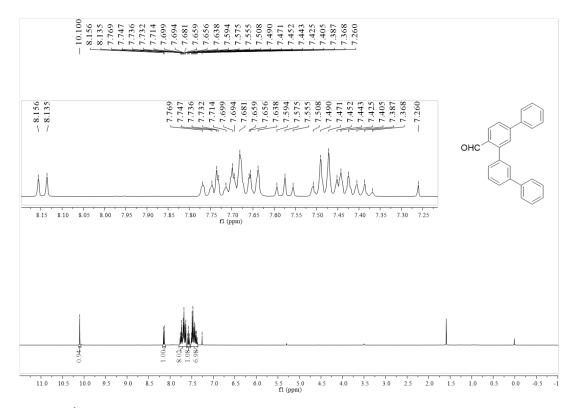


Fig. S11 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 51 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

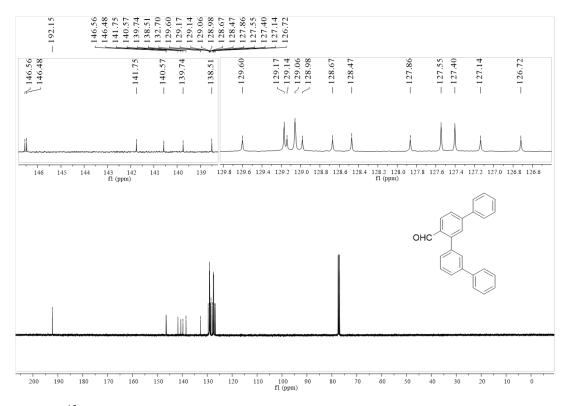


Fig. S12<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 51 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

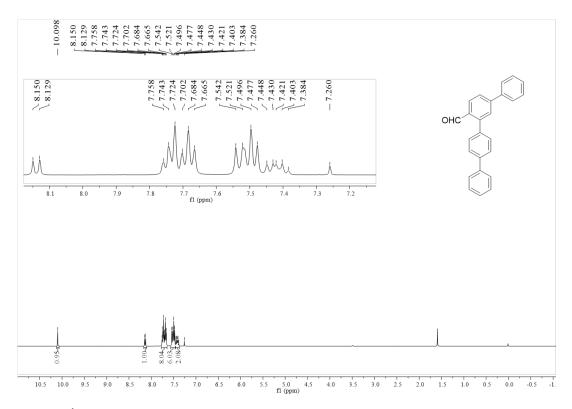


Fig. S13 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 52 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

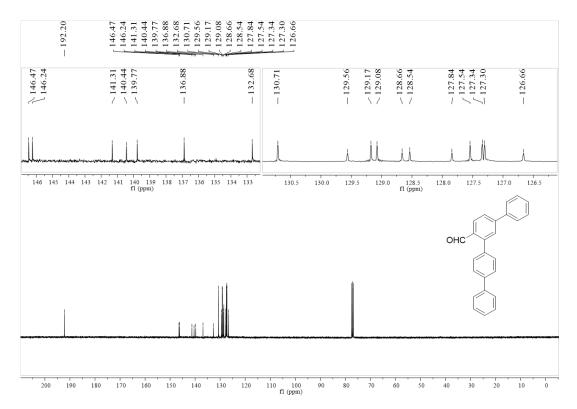


Fig. S14<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 52 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

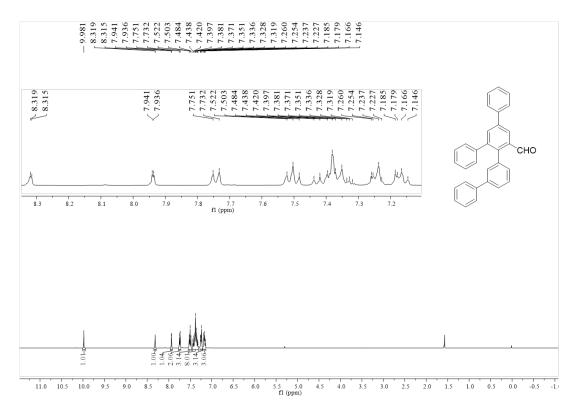


Fig. S15 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 53 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

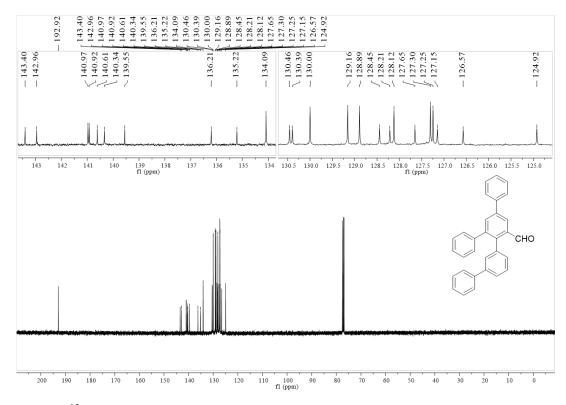


Fig. S16<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 53 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

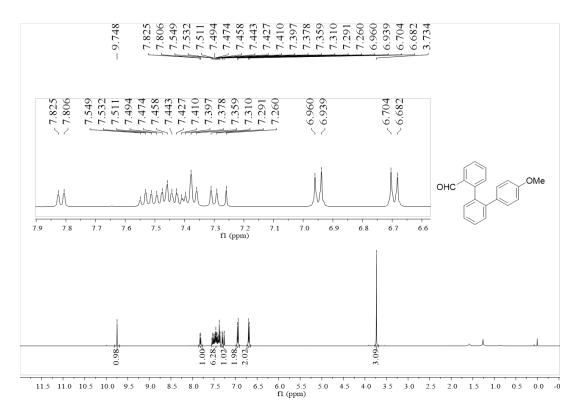


Fig. S17 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 3 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

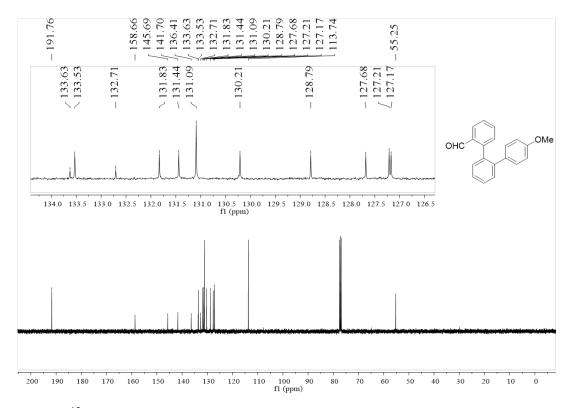


Fig. S18<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 3 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

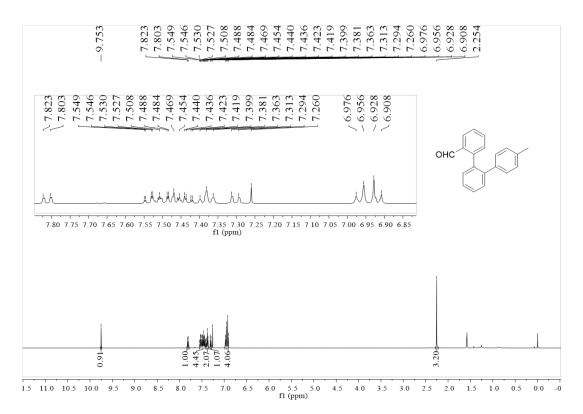


Fig. S19<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 5 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

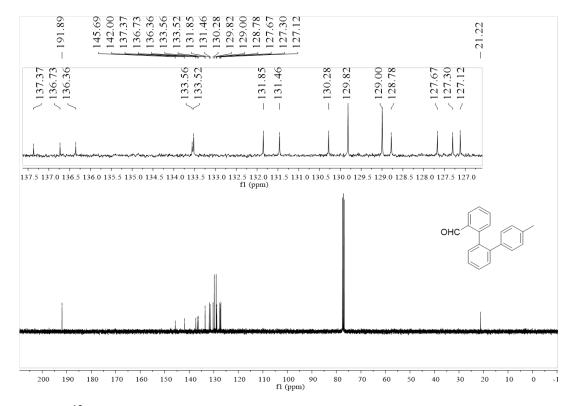


Fig. S20<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 5 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

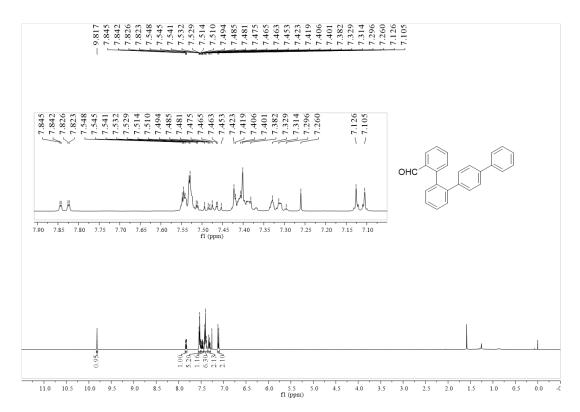


Fig. S21 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 6 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

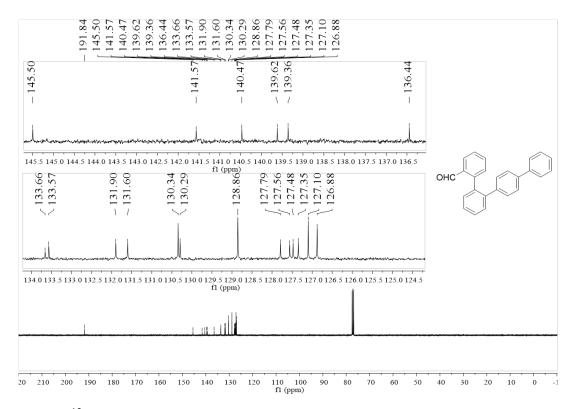


Fig. S22 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 6 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

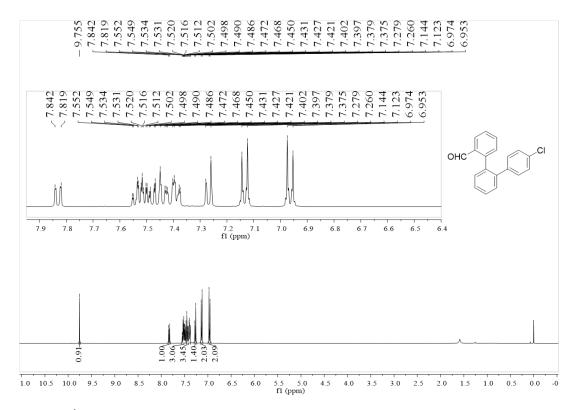


Fig. S23 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 7 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

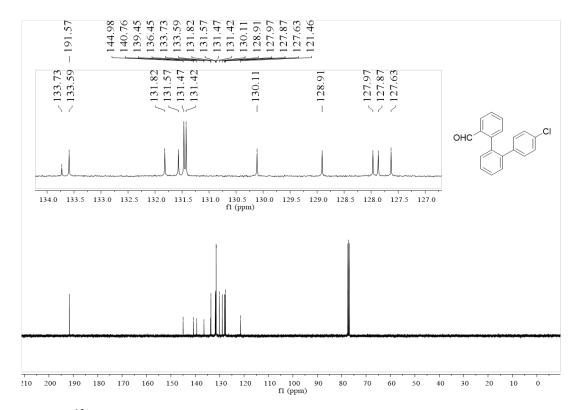
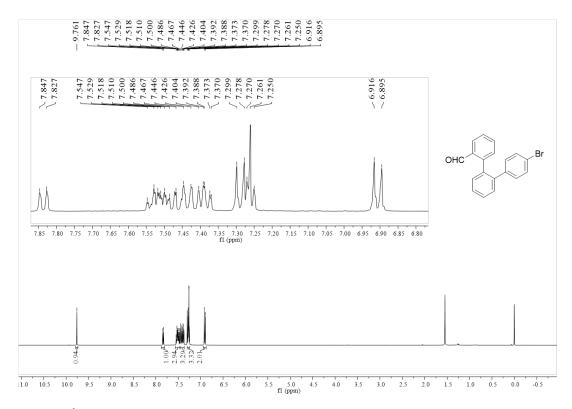


Fig. S24<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 7 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



*Fig. S25* <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **8** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

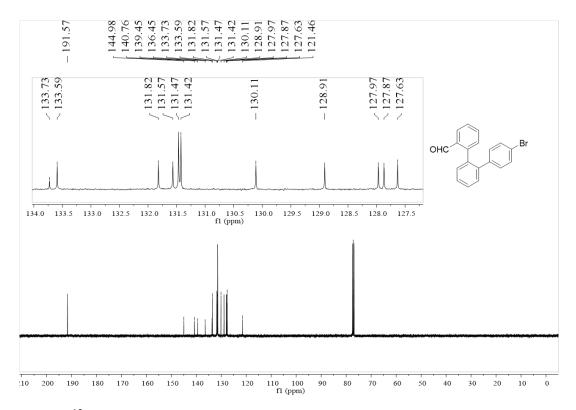


Fig. S26<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 8 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

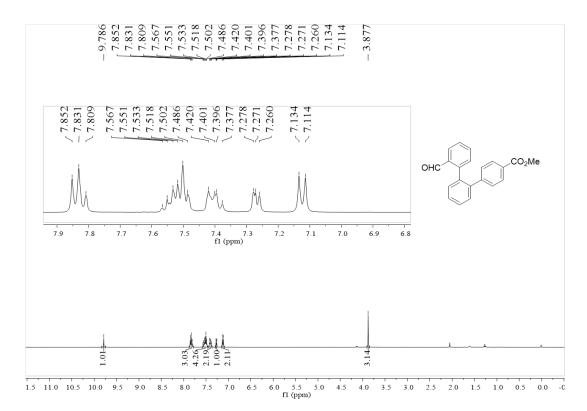


Fig. S27<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 9 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

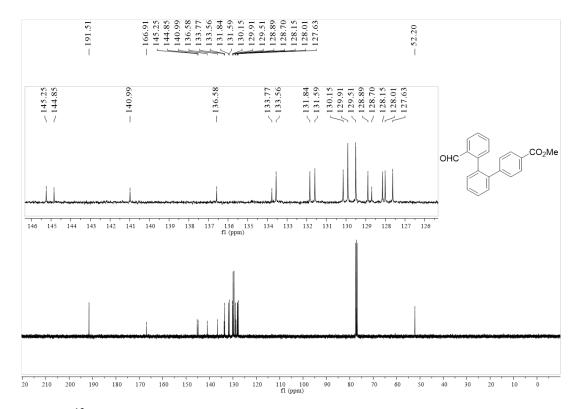
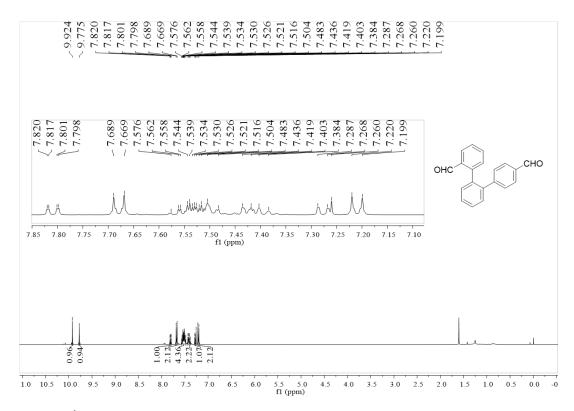


Fig. S28<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 9 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



*Fig. S29* <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **10** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

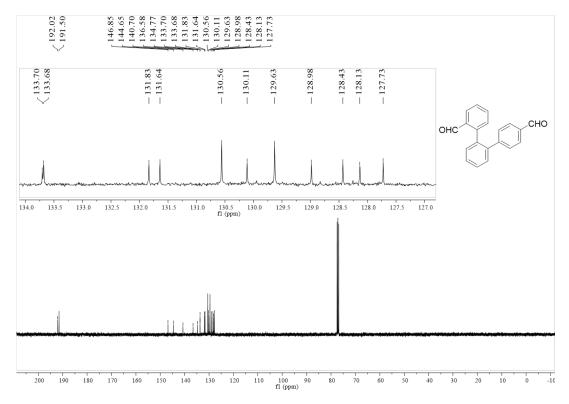


Fig. S30<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 10 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

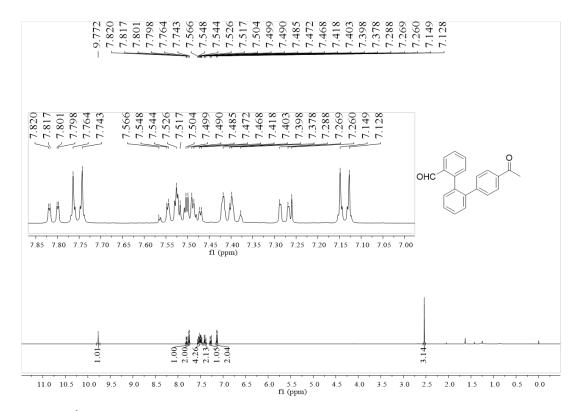


Fig. S31 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 11 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

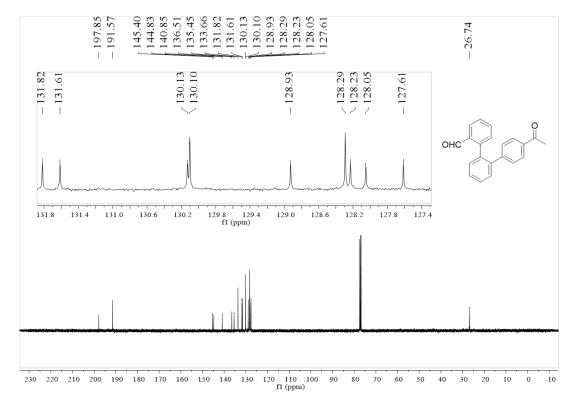


Fig. S32 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 11 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

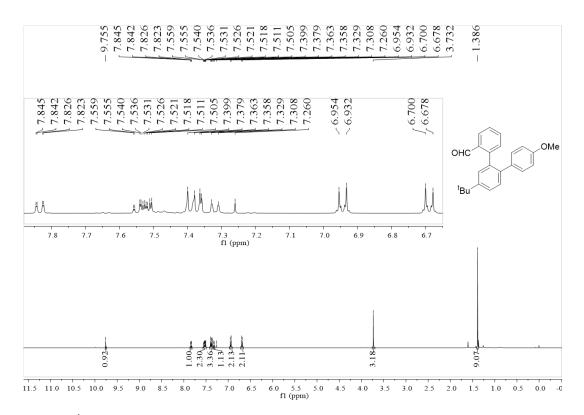


Fig. S33 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 12 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

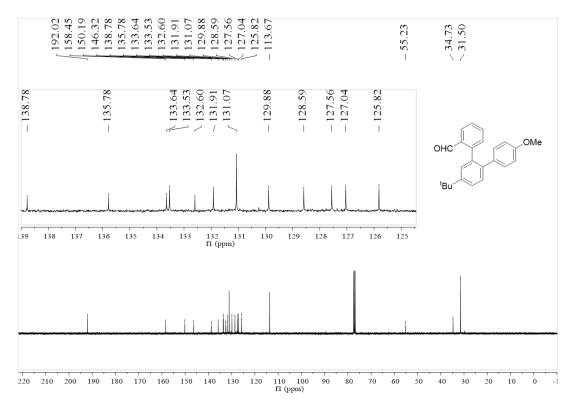


Fig. S34<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **12** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

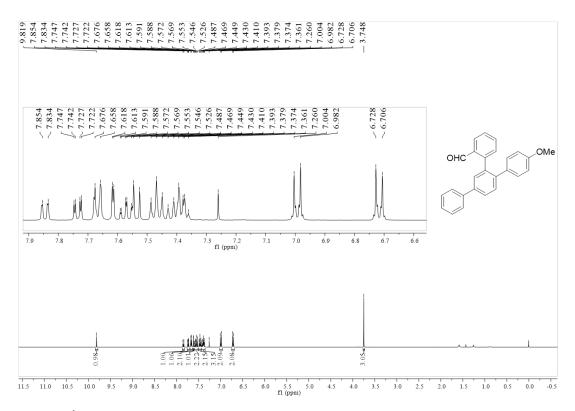


Fig. S35 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 13 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

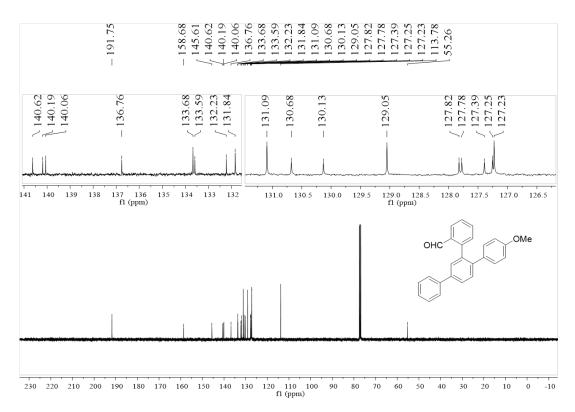


Fig. S36<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 13 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

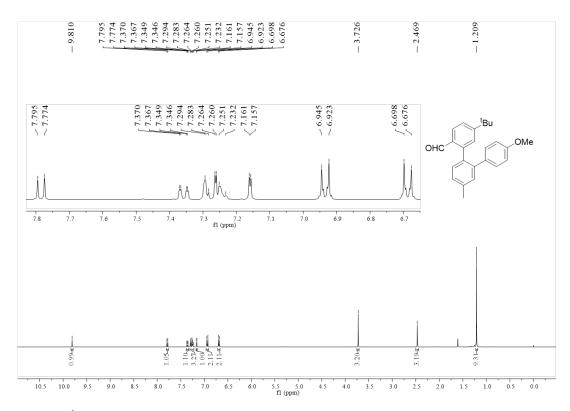


Fig. S37<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 14 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

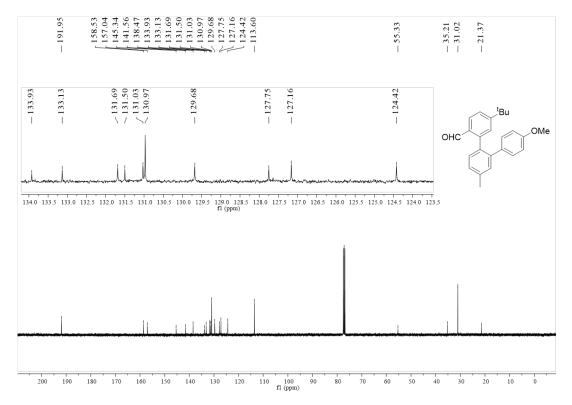
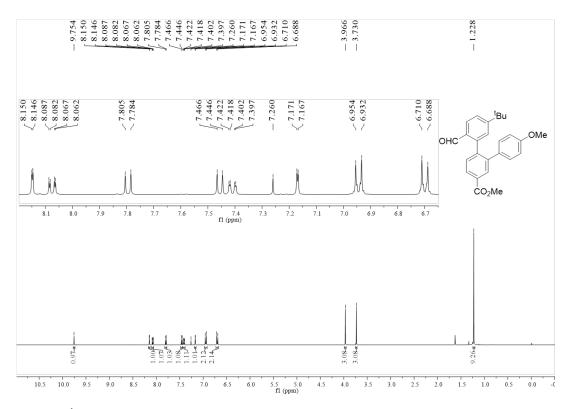


Fig. S38<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 14 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



*Fig. S39* <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **15** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

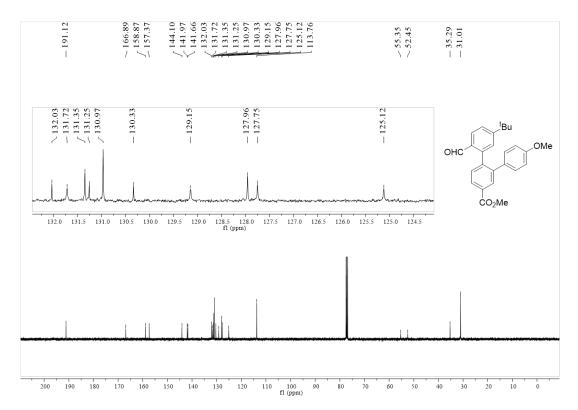


Fig. S40<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 15 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

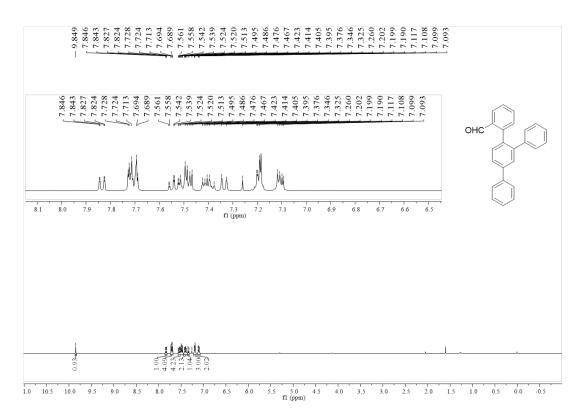


Fig. S41 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 16 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

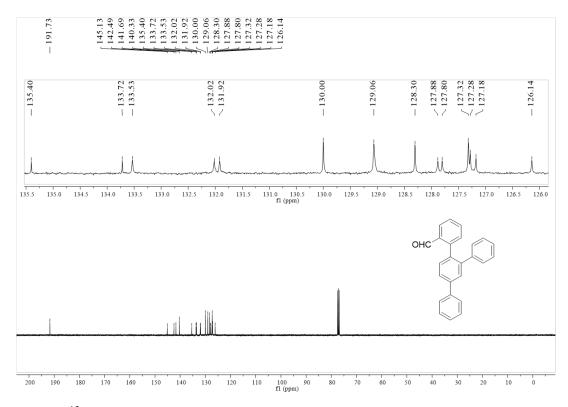


Fig. S42 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 16 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

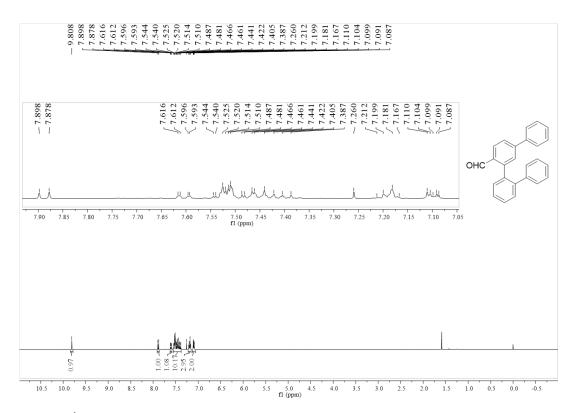


Fig. S43 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 17 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

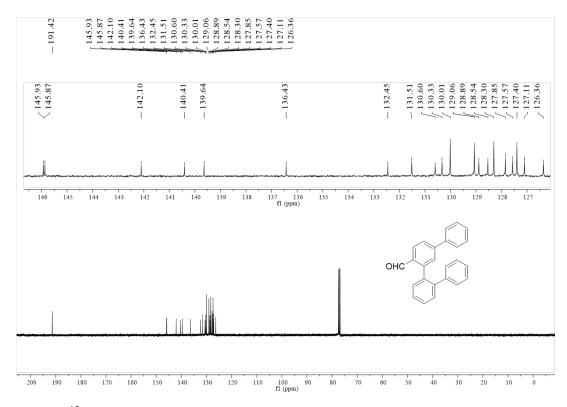


Fig. S44 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **17** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

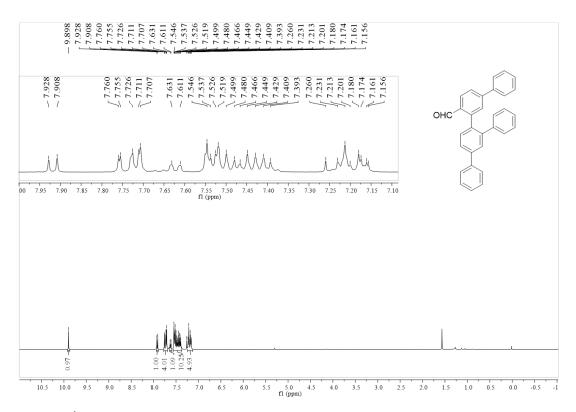


Fig. S45 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 18 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

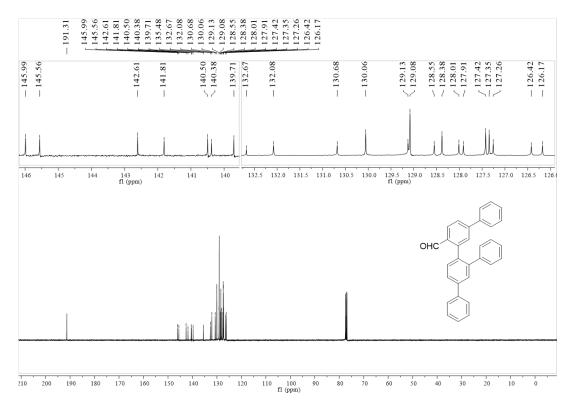


Fig. S46<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 18 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

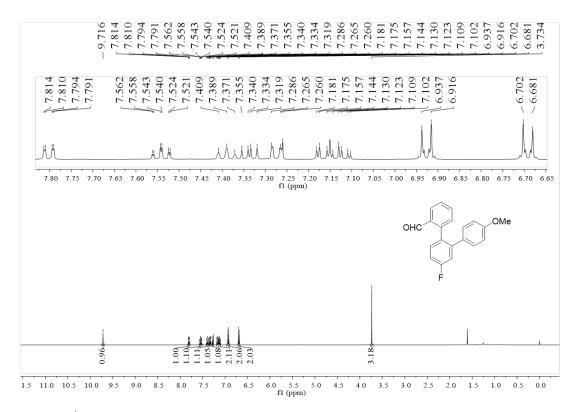


Fig. S47 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 19 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

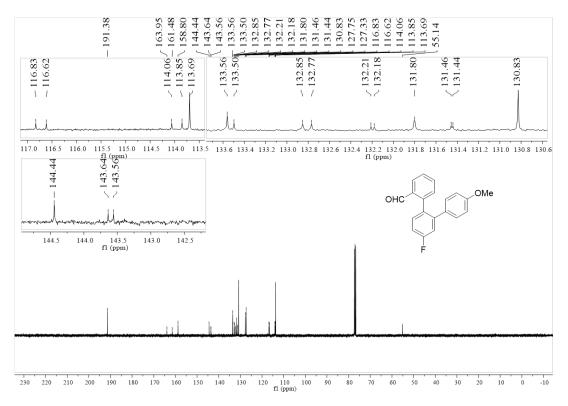


Fig. S48 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 19 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

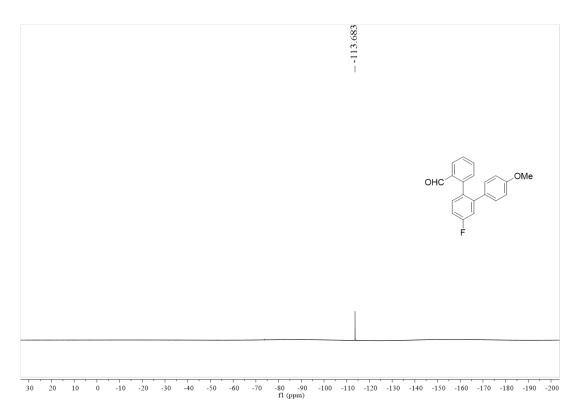


Fig. S49<sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of **19** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

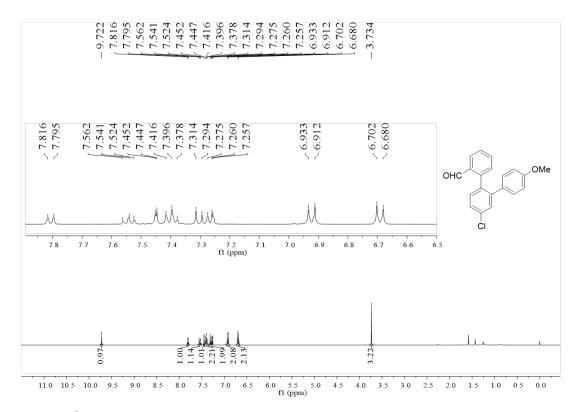


Fig. S50 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 20 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

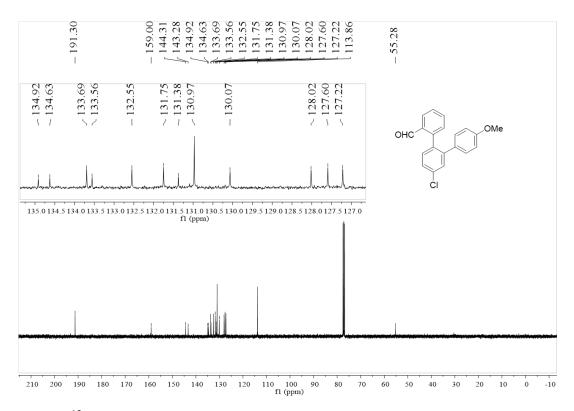


Fig. S51 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 20 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

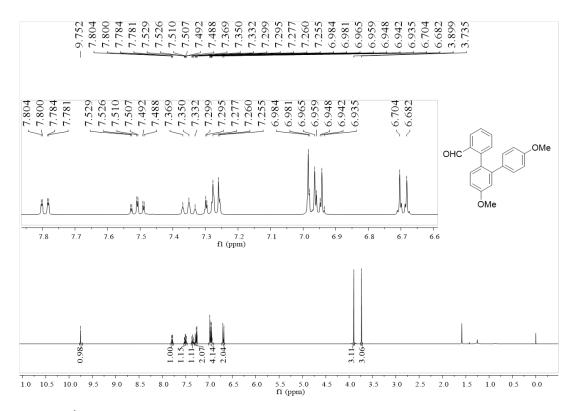


Fig. S52 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 21 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

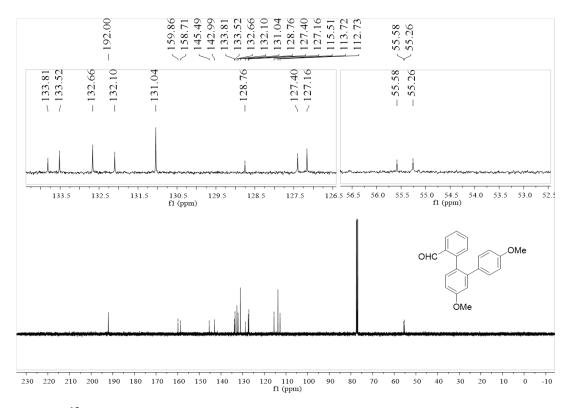


Fig. S53 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 21 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

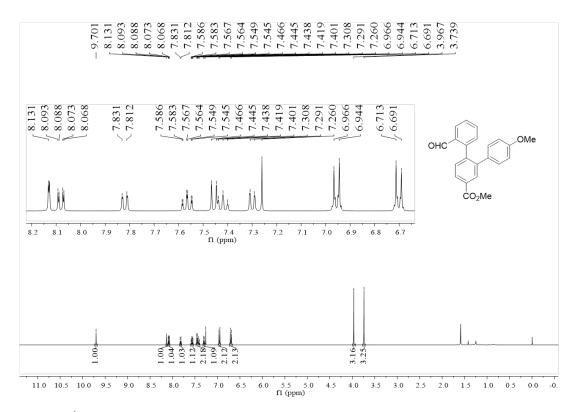


Fig. S54 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 22 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

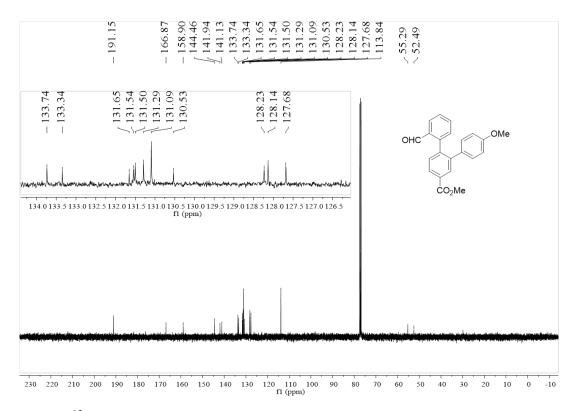


Fig. S55 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 22 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

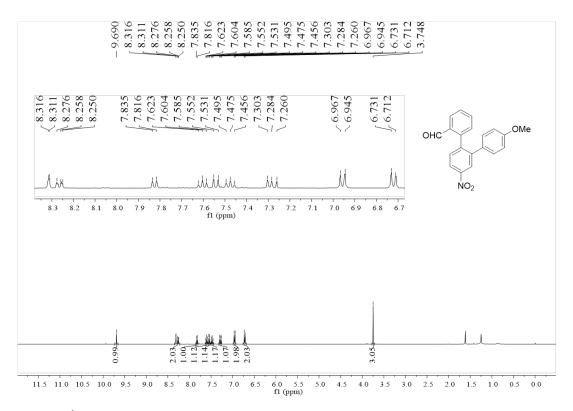


Fig. S56<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 23 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

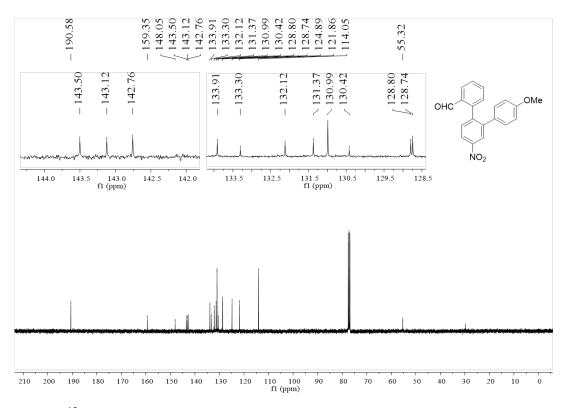


Fig. S57<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 23 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

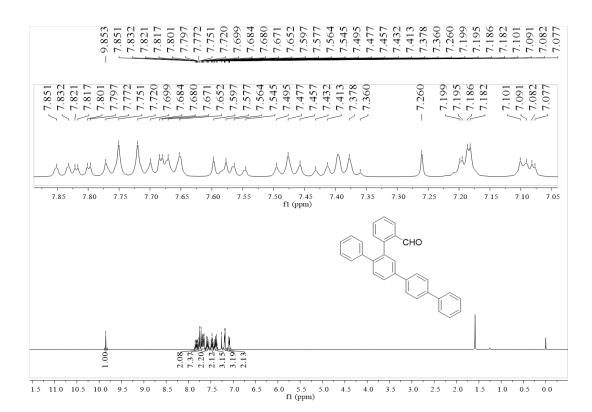
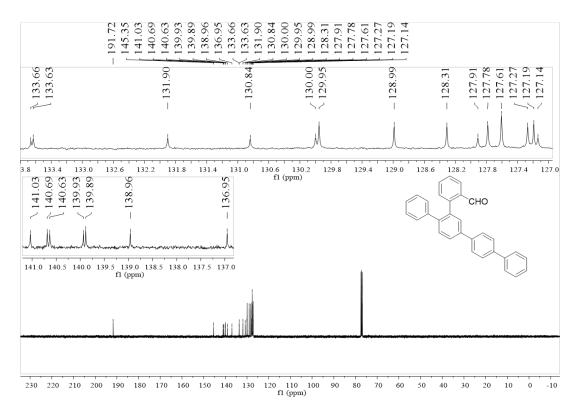


Fig. S58 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 24 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



*Fig. S59*<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **24** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

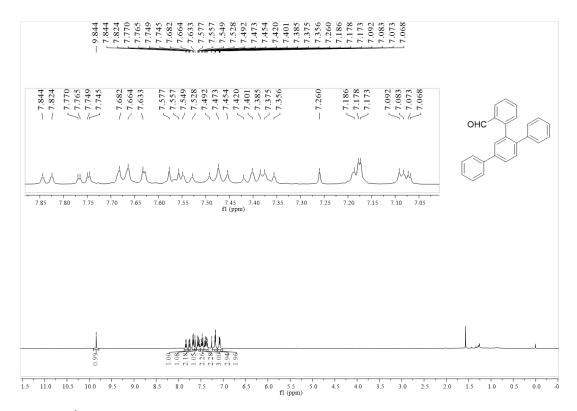


Fig. S60 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 25 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

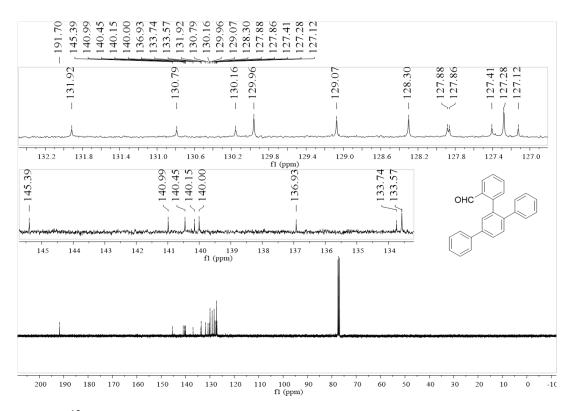


Fig. S61 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 25 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

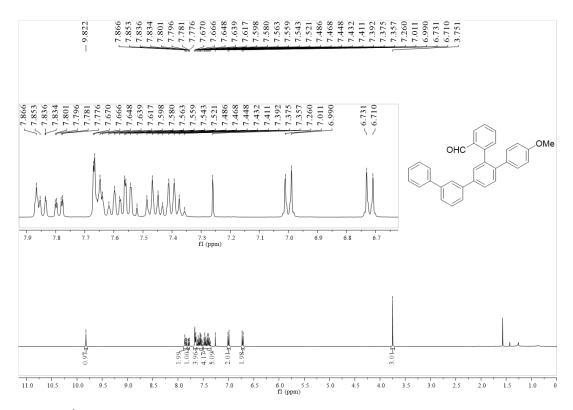
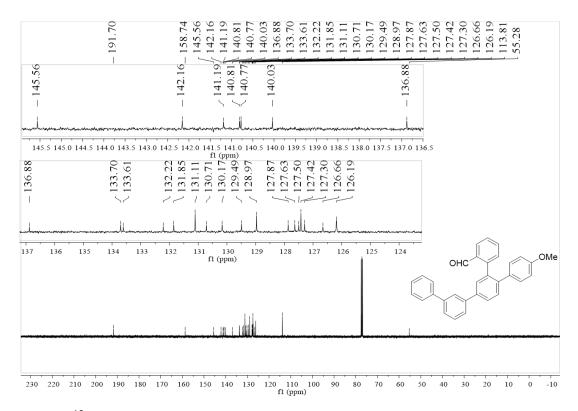


Fig. S62 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 26 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



*Fig. S63* <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **26** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

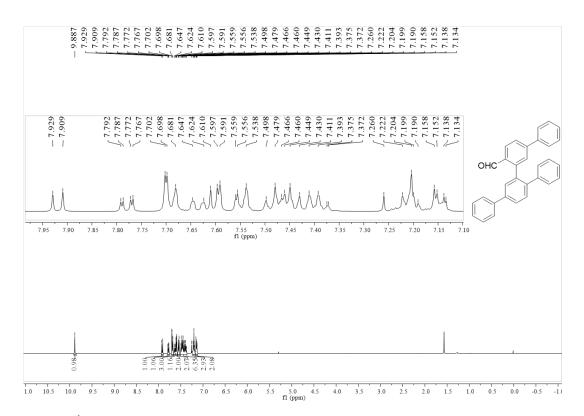


Fig. S64 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 27 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

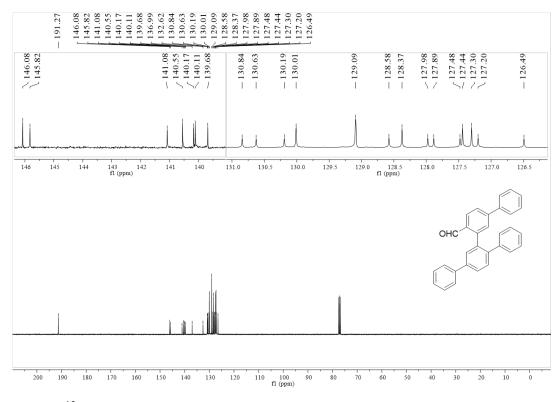


Fig. S65 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 27 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

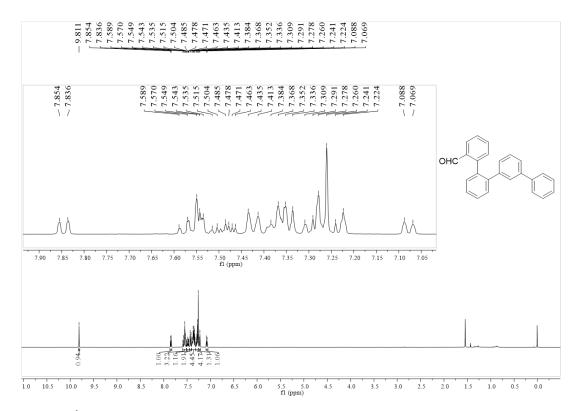


Fig. S66 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 28 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

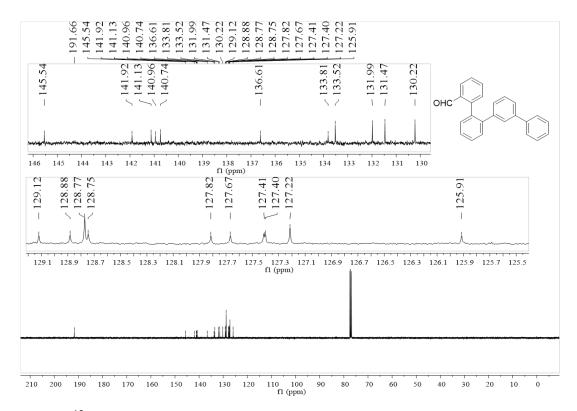


Fig. S67<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 28 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

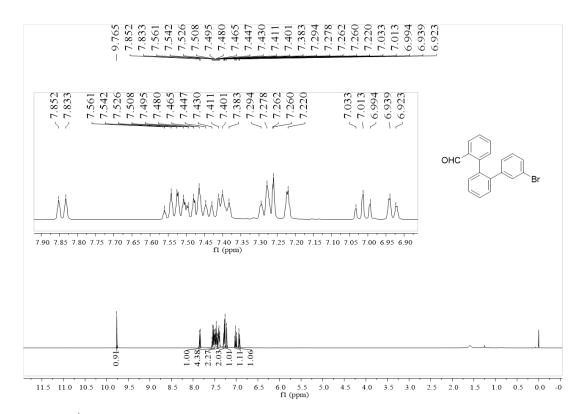


Fig. S68 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 29 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

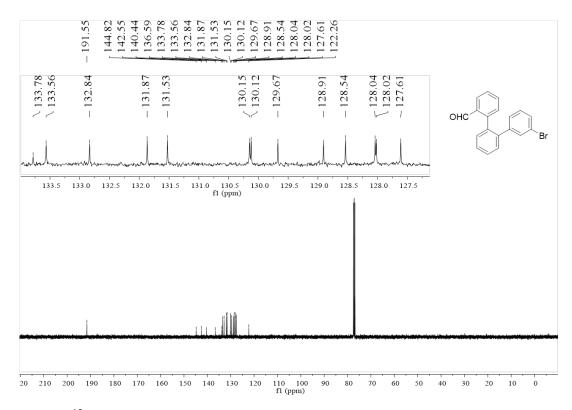


Fig. S69<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 29 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

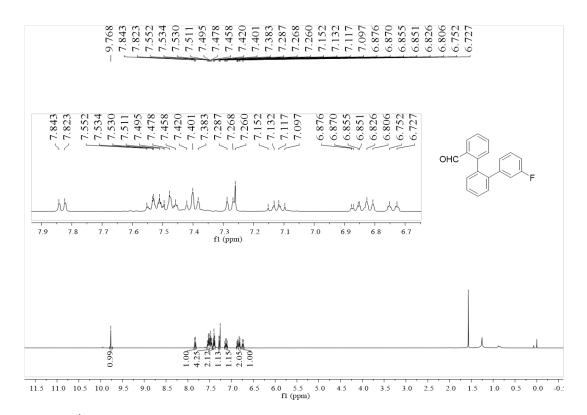
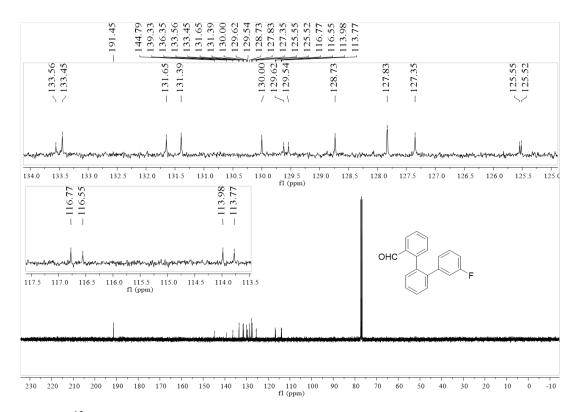


Fig. S70<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 30 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



*Fig. S71* <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **30** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

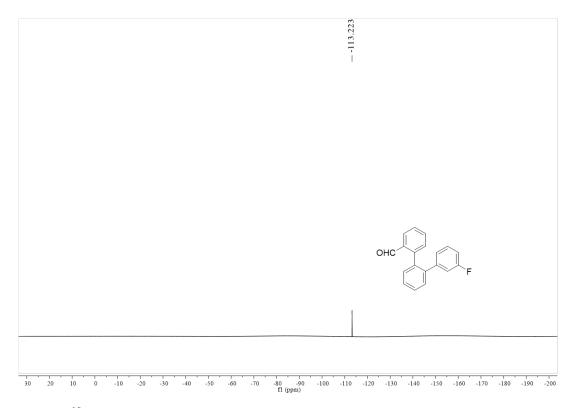


Fig. S72 <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of 30 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

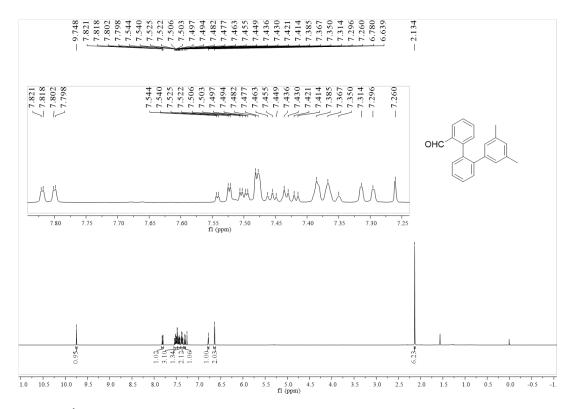
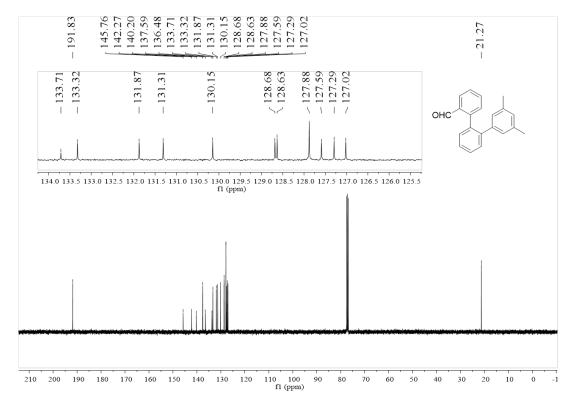


Fig. S73 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 31 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



*Fig. S74*  $^{13}$ C NMR spectrum of **31** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

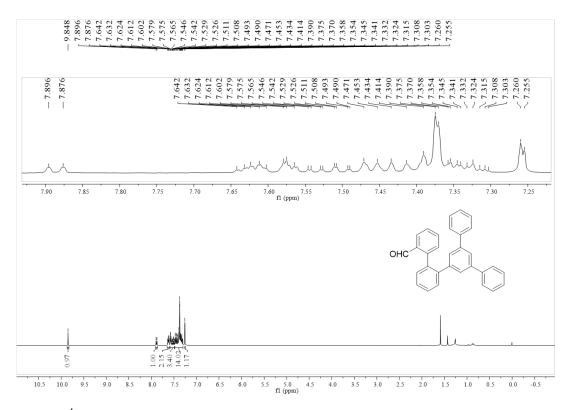


Fig. S75 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 32 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

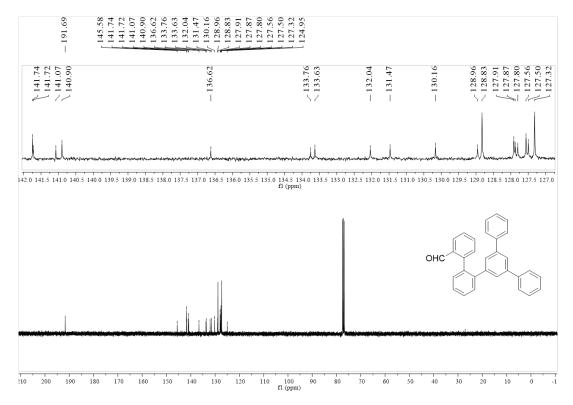


Fig. S76<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 32 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

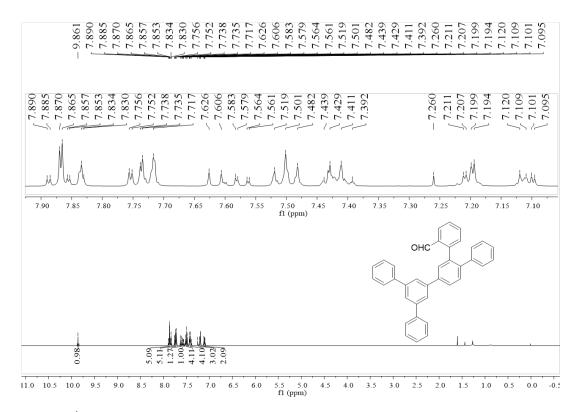


Fig. S77<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 33 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

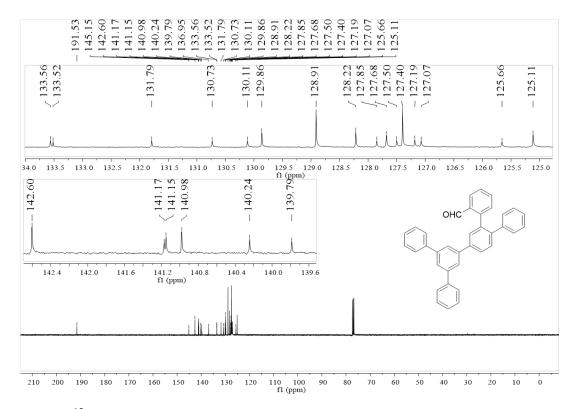


Fig. S78<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 33 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

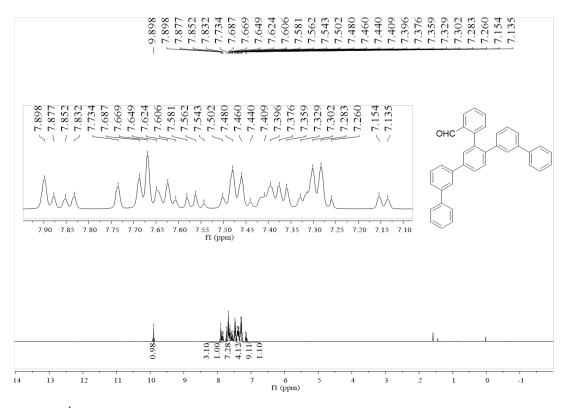


Fig. S79 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 34 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

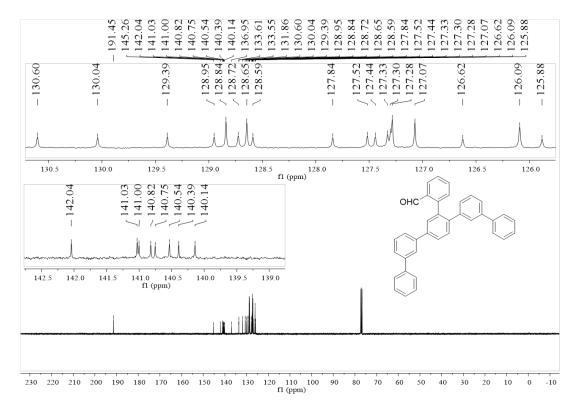


Fig. S80<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 34 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

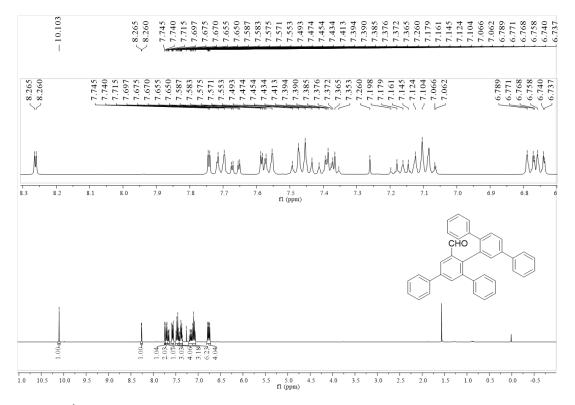


Fig. S81 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 35 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

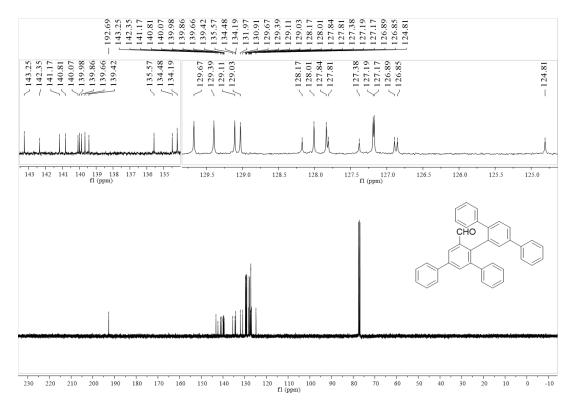


Fig. S82 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 35 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

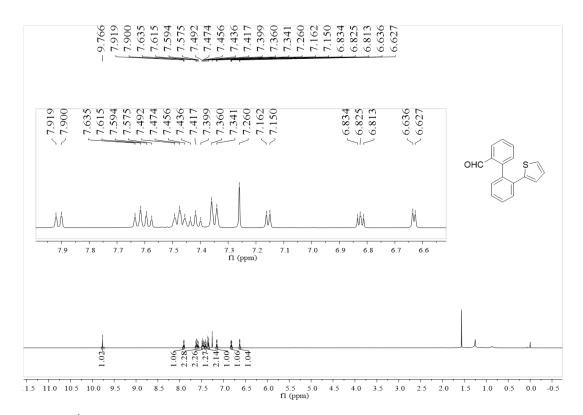


Fig. S83 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 36 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

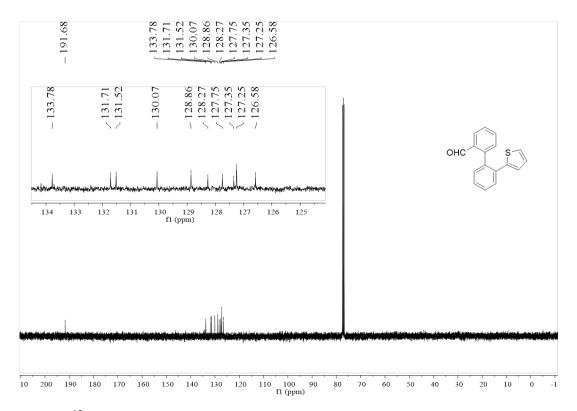


Fig. S84 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 36 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

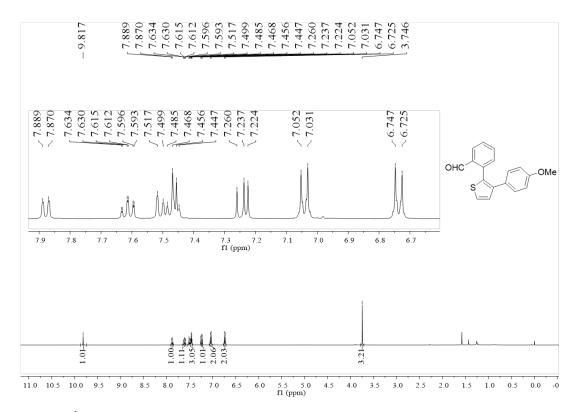


Fig. S85 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 37 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

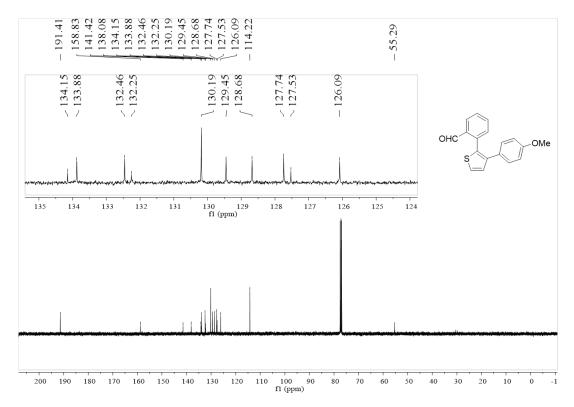


Fig. S86<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **37** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

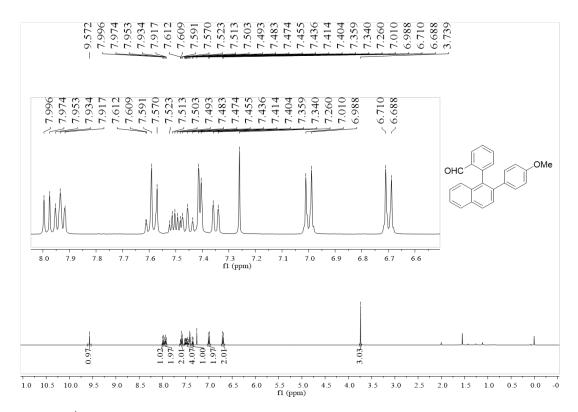


Fig. S87 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 38 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

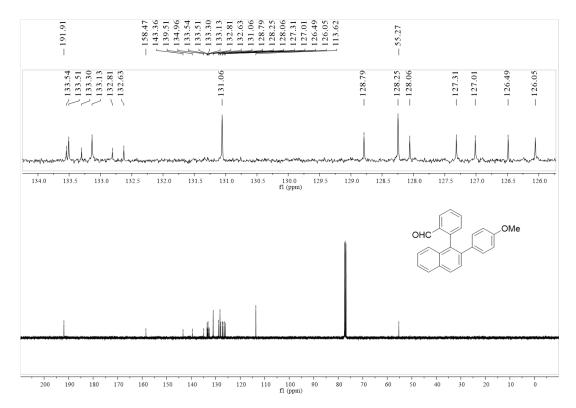


Fig. S88 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 38 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

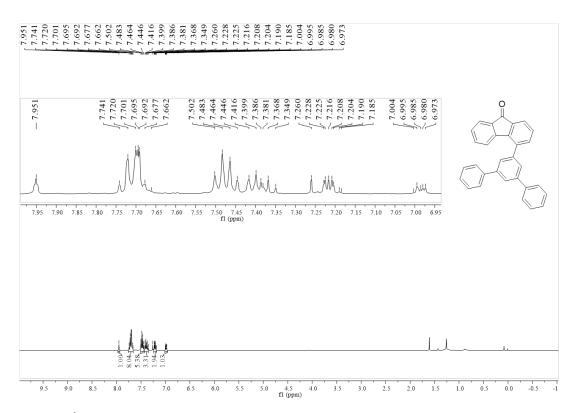


Fig. S89 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 39 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

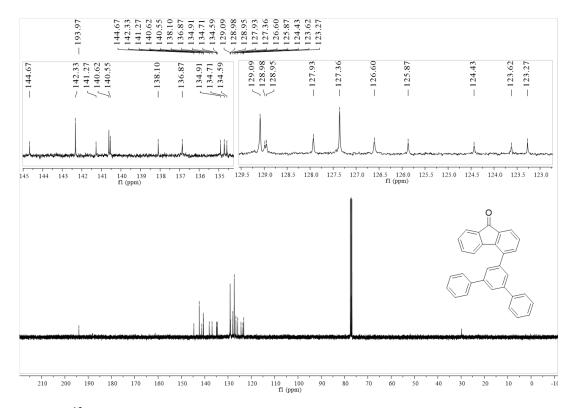


Fig. S90 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **39** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

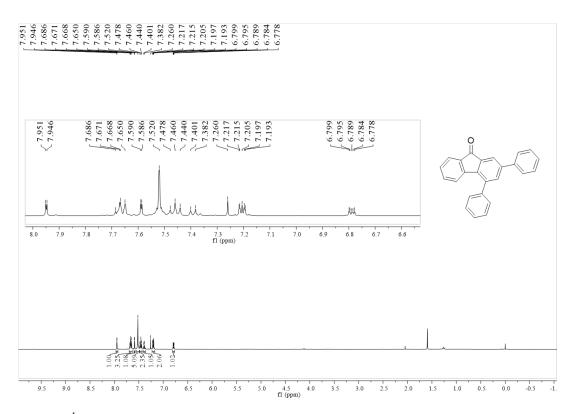


Fig. S91 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 40 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

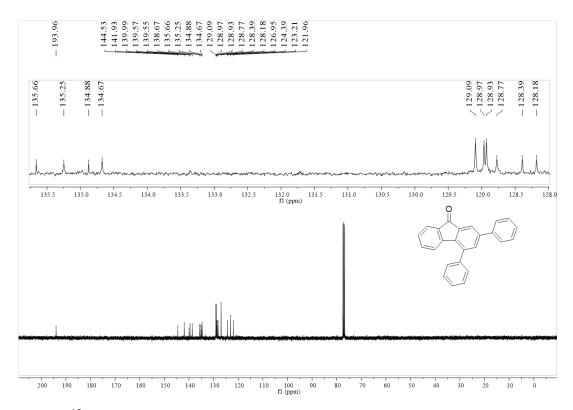


Fig. S92 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 40 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

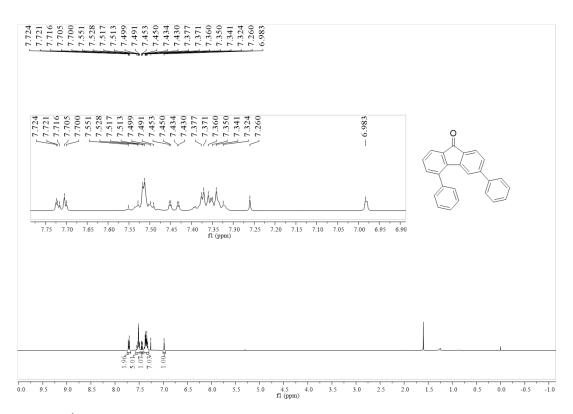


Fig. S93 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 41 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

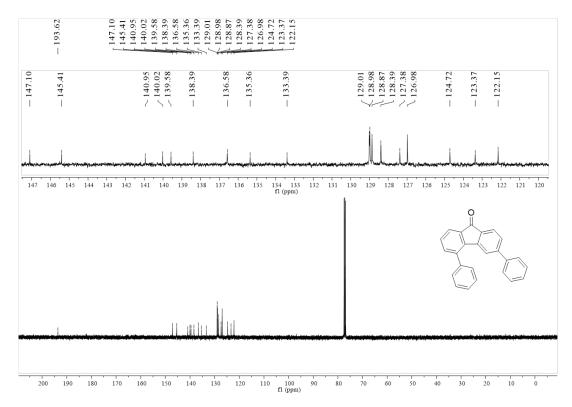


Fig. S94 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 41 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

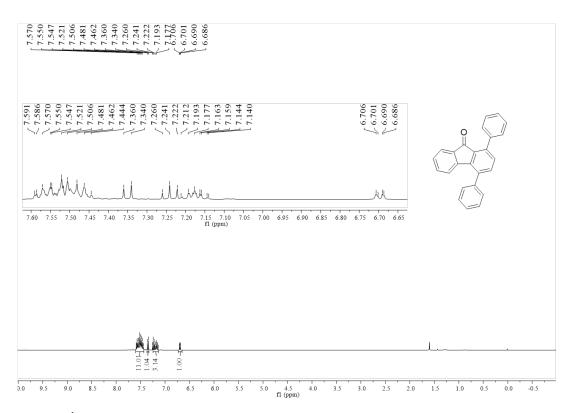


Fig. S95 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 42 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

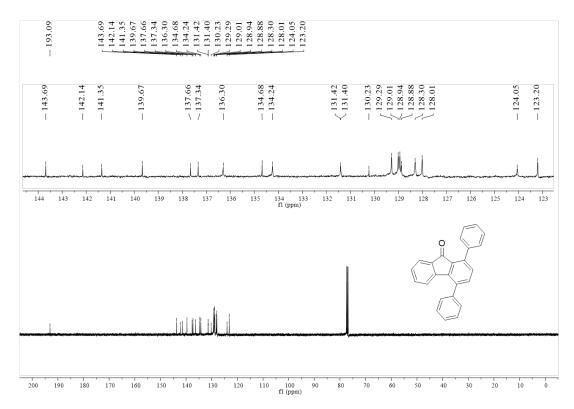


Fig. S96<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 42 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

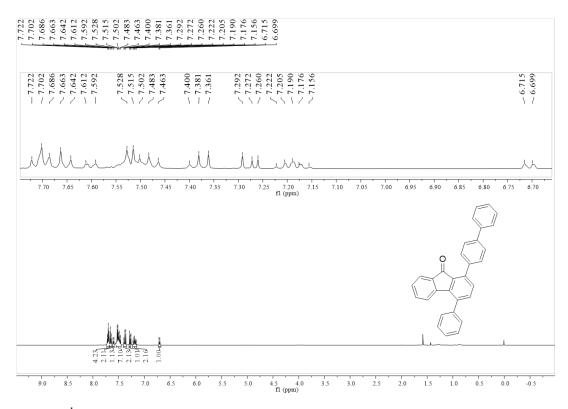


Fig. S97 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 43 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

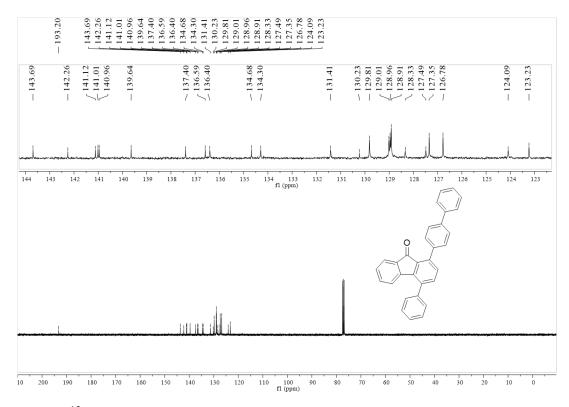


Fig. S98 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 43 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

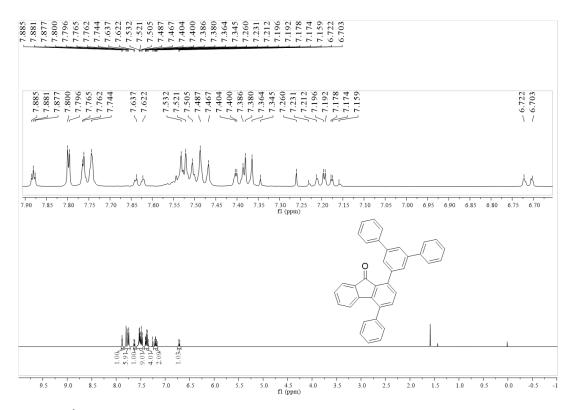


Fig. S99 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 44 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

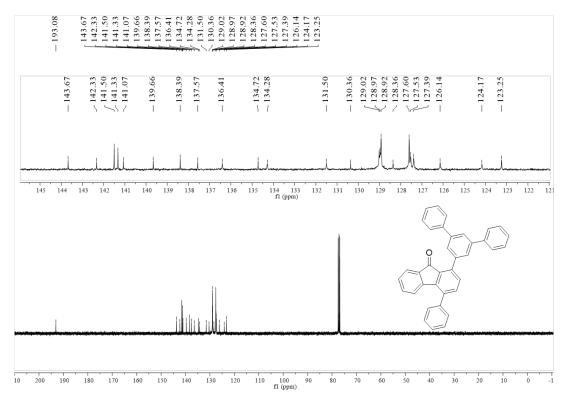


Fig. S100. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 44 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

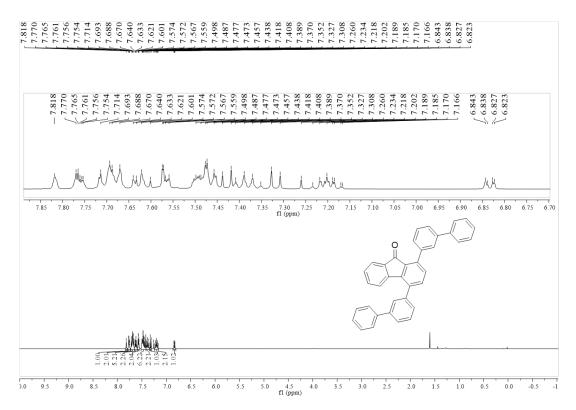


Fig. S101 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 45 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

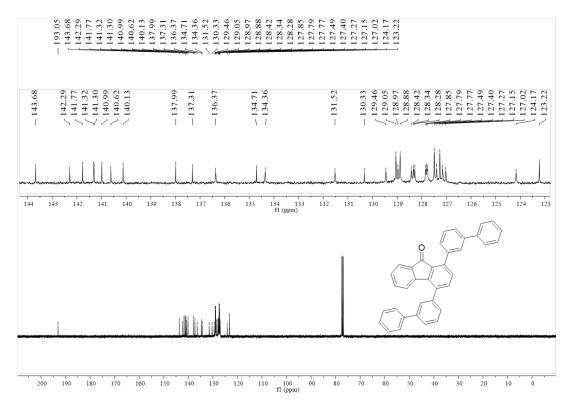


Fig. S102 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 45 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

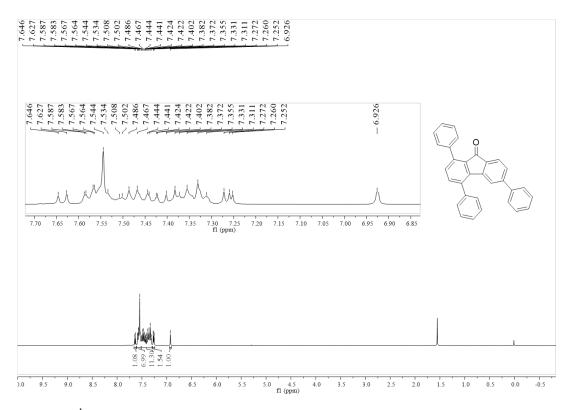


Fig. S103 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 46 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

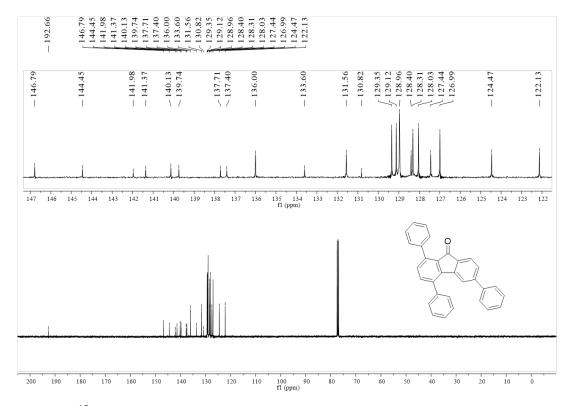


Fig. S104<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 46 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

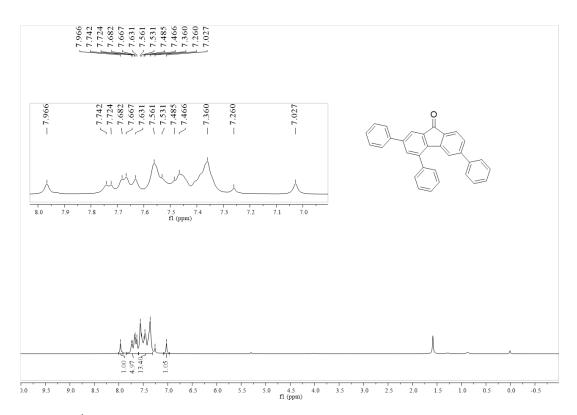


Fig. S105<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 47 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

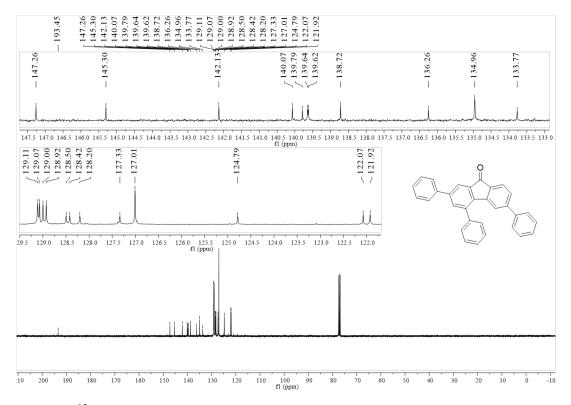


Fig. S106<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 47 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

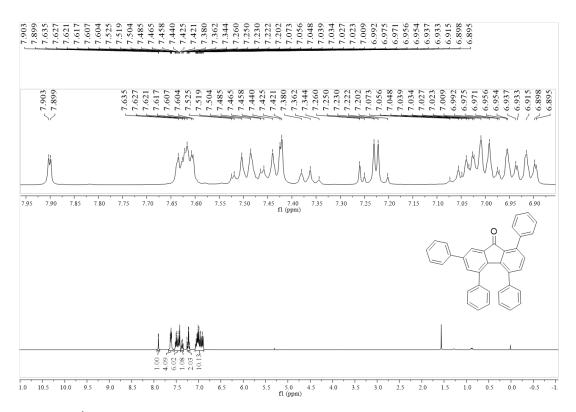


Fig. S107 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 48 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

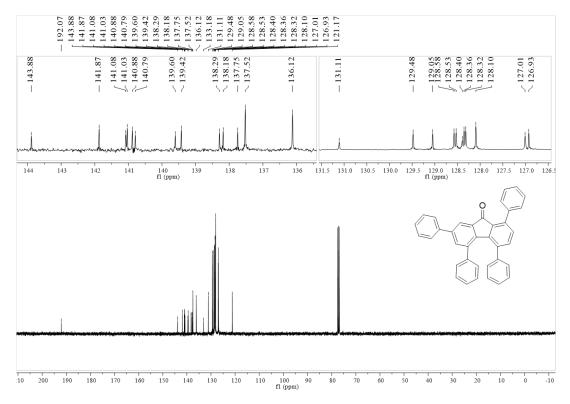


Fig. S108 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 48 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

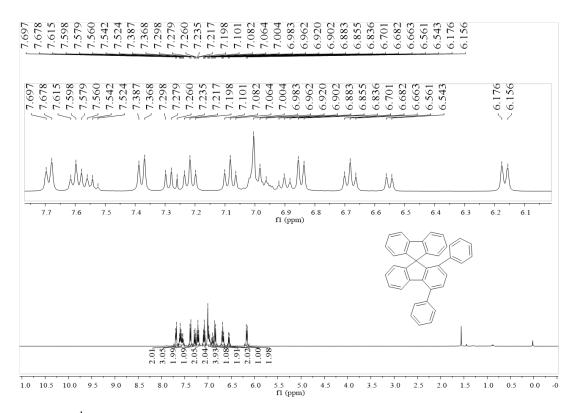


Fig. S109<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 1,4-dp-SBF in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

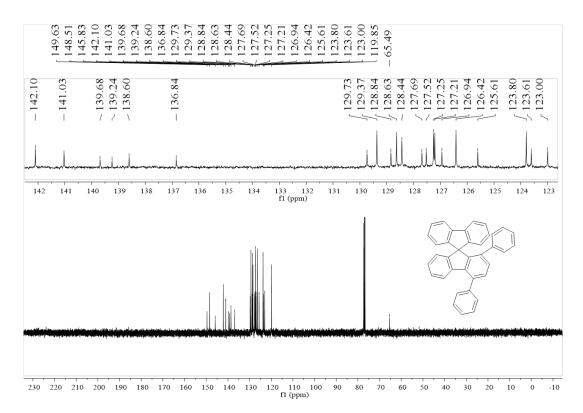


Fig. S110<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 1,4-dp-SBF in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

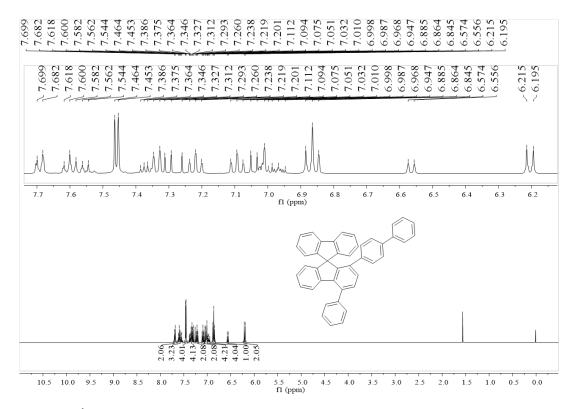


Fig. S111 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 1-pbp-4-p-SBF in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

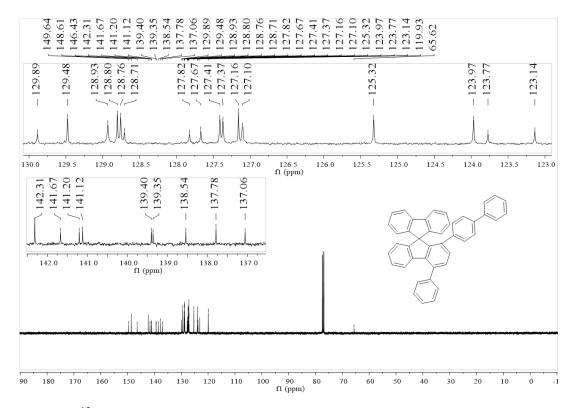


Fig. S112 <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 1-pbp-4-p-SBF in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

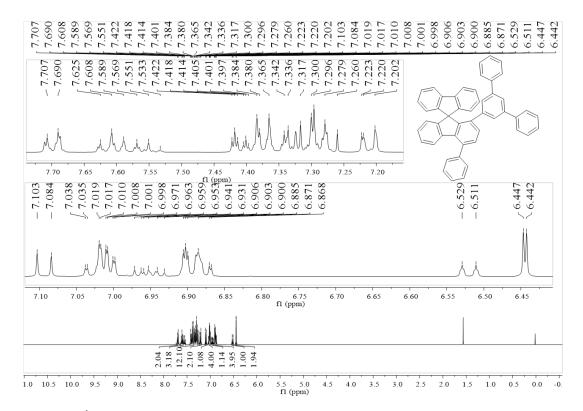


Fig. S113 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 1-mtp-4-p-SBF in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

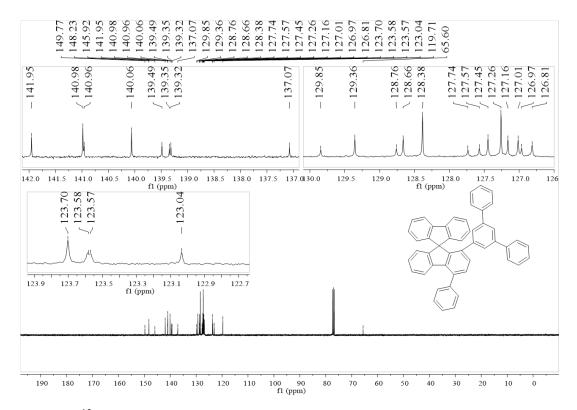


Fig. S114<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 1-mtp-4-p-SBF in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

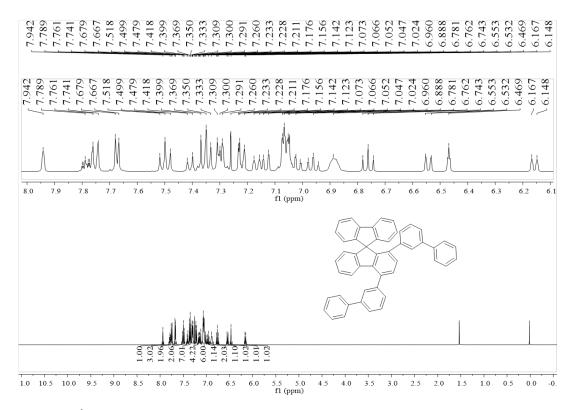


Fig. S115 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 1,4-d(mbp)-SBF in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

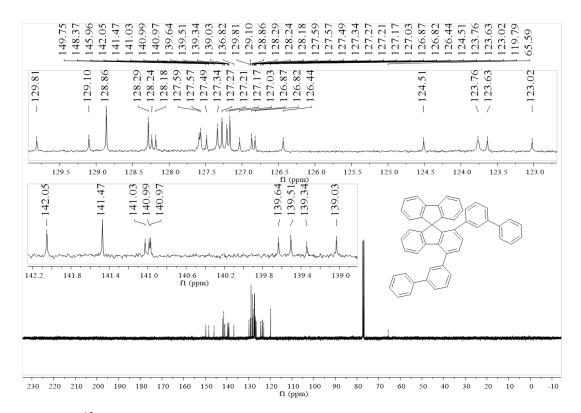


Fig. S116<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 1,4-d(mbp)-SBF in CDCl<sub>3</sub>