

ORGANIC & BIOMOLECULAR CHEMISTRY

ELECTRONIC SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR

**Cycloaddition reactions of polyenic Donor- $\pi$ -Acceptor systems with an electron-rich alkyne: access to new chromophores with second-order optical nonlinearities**

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## 1. General Experimental Methods

Infrared measurements were carried out in nujol mulls using a Perkin-Elmer Fourier Transform Infrared 1600 spectrometer. Melting points were obtained on a Gallenkamp apparatus in open capillaries and are uncorrected. Elemental analysis was performed with a Perkin-Elmer 240C microanalyzer.  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker ARX300 or a Bruker AV400 at 300 or 400 MHz and 75 or 100 MHz respectively;  $\delta$  values are given in ppm (relative to TMS) and  $J$  values in Hz. The apparent resonance multiplicity is described as a s (singlet), br s (broad singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet) and m (multiplet).  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY experiments were recorded at 400 MHz in order to establish peaks assignment and spatial relationships. Selective ge-1D NOESY experiments (mixing time: 0.6-1.2 s; selective 180 pulse: 20-40 ms) were recorded at 300 MHz for compound **5b**, in order to determine the regio- and torquoselectivity of the reaction and the conformation of TCF moiety. Electrospray mass spectra were recorded on a Bruker Q-ToF spectrometer; accurate mass measurements were achieved using sodium formate as external reference. Electronic spectra were recorded with an UV-Vis UNICAM UV4 spectrophotometer. The spectra were measured in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  and in dioxane. The absorption wavelengths are reported in nm with  $\log \epsilon$  in parenthesis; shoulders are indicated as sh. Cyclic voltammetry measurements were performed with a  $\mu$ -Autolab ECO-Chemie potentiostat, using a glassy carbon working electrode, Pt counter electrode, and Ag/AgCl reference electrode. The experiments were carried out under argon, in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , with  $\text{Bu}_4\text{NPF}_6$  as supporting electrolyte ( $0.1 \text{ mol L}^{-1}$ ). Scan rate was  $100 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$ .

X-Ray data collection were carried out on a diffractometer equipped with a graphite monochromator utilizing Mo  $\text{K}\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$ ). The diffraction frames (compounds **7c** and **10**) were integrated and corrected for absorption using the CrysAlis RED package.<sup>1</sup> For compound **5a** the CrysAlis RED package<sup>2</sup> was used. The structures were solved by direct methods.<sup>3</sup> All refinements were carried out using SHELXL-97<sup>4</sup> against the  $F^2$  data

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(1) CrysAlisPro, Oxford Diffraction Ltd., Version 1.171.34.44 (release 25-10-2010 CrysAlis171. NET) (compiled Oct 25 2010,18:11:34).

(2) CrysAlisPro, Oxford Diffraction Ltd., Version 1.171.32.19 (release 28-02-2008 CrysAlis171. NET) (compiled Feb 28 2008,12:10:31).

(3) (a) Altomare, A.; Cascarano, G.; Giacovazzo, C.; Guagliardi, A. *J. Appl. Crystallogr.* **1993**, *26*, 343–350. (b) Palatinus, L.; Chapuis, G. *J. Appl. Crystallogr.* **2007**, *40*, 786–790.

(4) Sheldrick, G. M. *Acta Crystallogr., Sect. A* **2008**, *64*, 112–122.

using full-matrix least squares methods. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic displacement parameters. All hydrogen atoms were placed at idealized positions and assigned isotropic displacement parameters 1.2 times the  $U_{\text{iso}}$  value of the corresponding bonding partner (1.5 times for methyl hydrogen atoms, except C22 and C23 (1.2 times) in **5a**).

All theoretical calculations were performed by using the Gaussian 09<sup>5</sup> program. The molecular geometries were optimized using the B3P86<sup>6</sup> functional and the 6-31G\*<sup>7</sup> basis set. Solvent effect was studied by placing the solute in a cavity within the solvent reaction field and using the Polarizable Continuum Model (PCM).<sup>8</sup>

For NLO measurements, see Section 7, page S53.

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(5) Gaussian 09, Revision A.02, Frisch, M. J.; Trucks, G. W.; Schlegel, H. B.; Scuseria, G. E.; Robb, M. A.; Cheeseman, J. R.; Scalmani, G.; Barone, V.; Mennucci, B.; Petersson, G. A.; Nakatsuji, H.; Caricato, M.; Li, X.; Hratchian, H. P.; Izmaylov, A. F.; Bloino, J.; Zheng, G.; Sonnenberg, J. L.; Hada, M.; Ehara, M.; Toyota, K.; Fukuda, R.; Hasegawa, J.; Ishida, M.; Nakajima, T.; Honda, Y.; Kitao, O.; Nakai, H.; Vreven, T.; Montgomery, Jr., J. A.; Peralta, J. E.; Ogliaro, F.; Bearpark, M.; Heyd, J. J.; Brothers, E.; Kudin, K. N.; Staroverov, V. N.; Kobayashi, R.; Normand, J.; Raghavachari, K.; Rendell, A.; Burant, J. C.; Iyengar, S. S.; Tomasi, J.; Cossi, M.; Rega, N.; Millam, N. J.; Klene, M.; Knox, J. E.; Cross, J. B.; Bakken, V.; Adamo, C.; Jaramillo, J.; Gomperts, R.; Stratmann, R. E.; Yazyev, O.; Austin, A. J.; Cammi, R.; Pomelli, C.; Ochterski, J. W.; Martin, R. L.; Morokuma, K.; Zakrzewski, V. G.; Voth, G. A.; Salvador, P.; Dannenberg, J. J.; Dapprich, S.; Daniels, A. D.; Farkas, Ö.; Foresman, J. B.; Ortiz, J. V.; Cioslowski, J.; Fox, D. J. Gaussian, Inc., Wallingford CT, 2009.

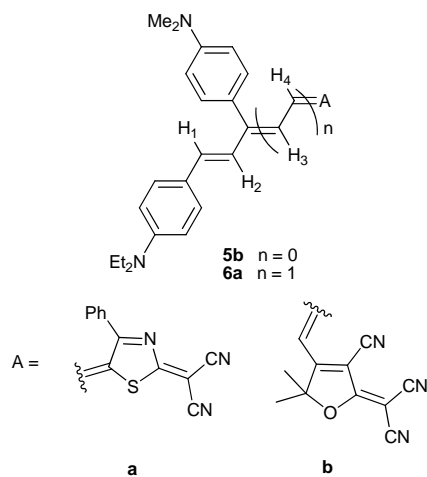
(6) The B3P86 Functional consists of Becke's three parameter hybrid functional (Becke, A.D. *J. Chem. Phys.* **1993**, *98*, 5648–5652) with the nonlocal correlation provided by the Perdew 86 expression: Perdew, J. P. *Phys. Rev. B* **1986**, *33*, 8822–8824.

(7) Hariharan, P. C.; Pople, J. A. *Theor. Chim. Acta* **1973**, *28*, 213–222.

(8) Tomasi, J.; Mennucci, B.; Cammi, R. *Chem. Rev.* **2005**, *105*, 2999–3093.

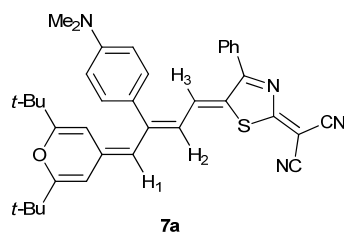
## 2. NMR studies

### 2.1. Analysis of the $^3J_{\text{HH}}$ in the study of the structure of compounds **5b**, **6a**, **7a**



Compd	$\delta(^3J_{\text{HH}})$			
	H <sub>1</sub>	H <sub>2</sub>	H <sub>3</sub>	H <sub>4</sub>
<b>5b</b>	7.01 (15.3 Hz)	7.14 (15.3 Hz)	-	-
<b>6a</b>	7.13 (15.3 Hz)	6.99 (15.3 Hz)	6.62 (12.8 Hz)	7.63 (12.8 Hz)

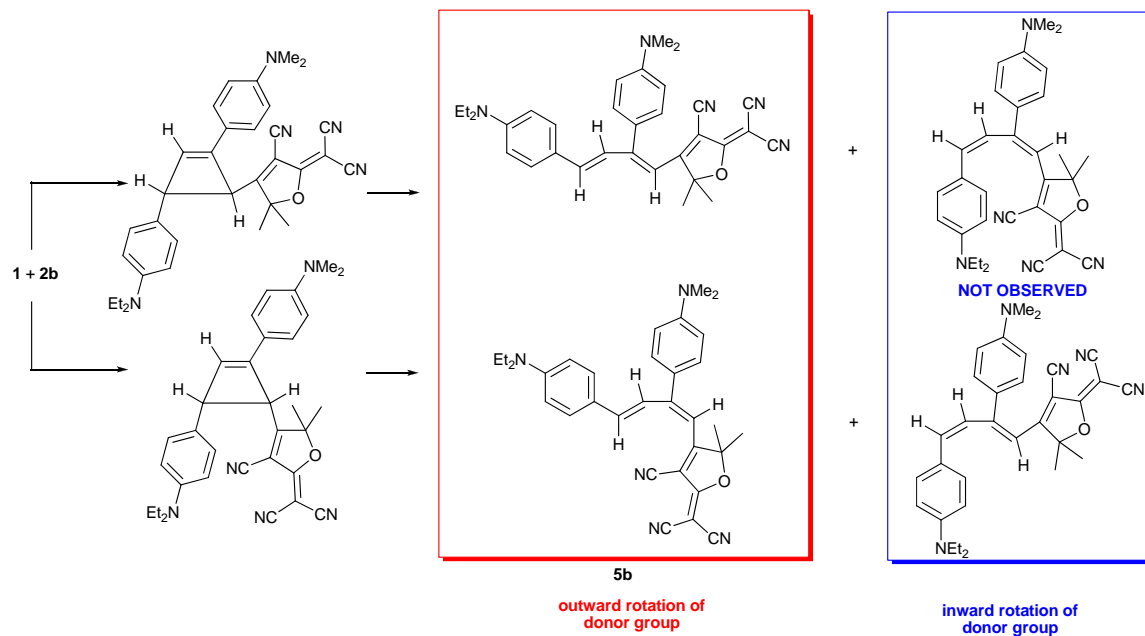
**Figure S1:** Chemical shift ( $\delta$ , ppm) and  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  (Hz) for compounds **5b** and **6a** (Spectra recorded in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  at 400 MHz).



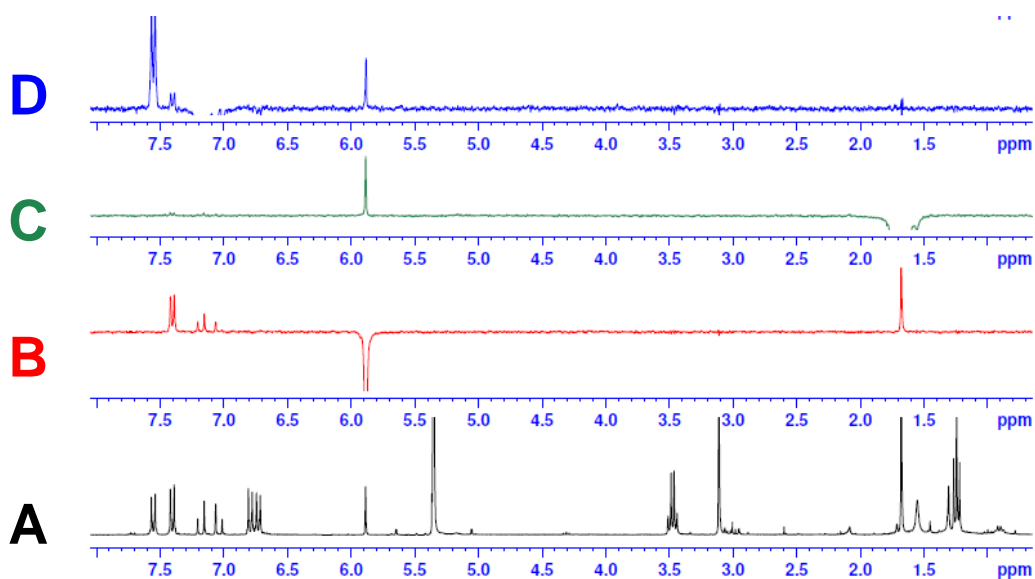
Compd	$\delta(^3J_{\text{HH}})$		
	H <sub>1</sub>	H <sub>2</sub>	H <sub>3</sub>
<b>7a</b>	6.10	6.58 (13.3 Hz)	7.46 (13.3 Hz)

**Figure S2:** Chemical shift ( $\delta$ , ppm) and  $^3J_{\text{HH}}$  (Hz) for compound **7a** (Spectrum recorded in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  at 300 MHz).

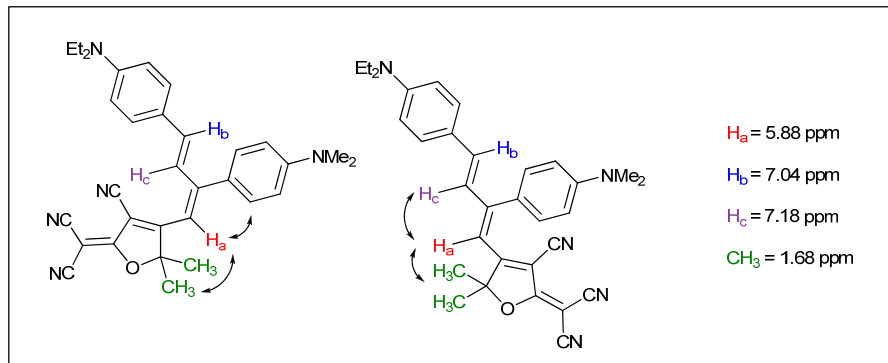
## 2.2. Study of the torquoselectivity in the formation of compound 5b



**Figure S3:** Torquoselective formation of **5b**.



**Figure S4:** Selective NOE experiments for compound **5b** (300 MHz, 298 K, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>).



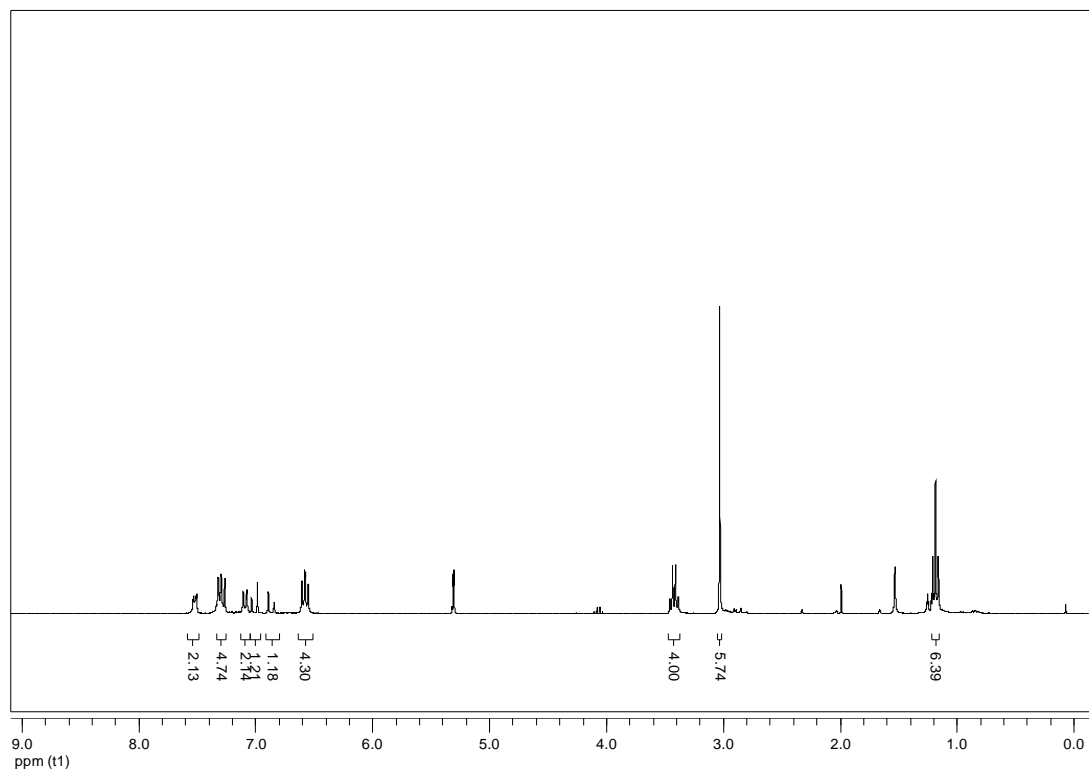
A) <sup>1</sup>H spectrum.

B) Spectrum after saturation of  $H_a$  ( $\delta = 5.88$  ppm) (mixing time: 1.1 s).

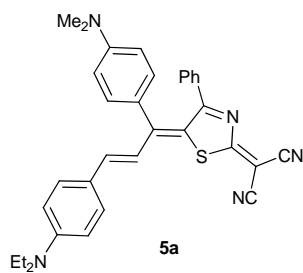
C) Spectrum after saturation of  $CH_3$  ( $\delta = 1.68$  ppm) (mixing time: 0.6 s).

D) Spectrum after saturation of  $H_c$  ( $\delta = 7.18$  ppm) (mixing time: 1.2 s)

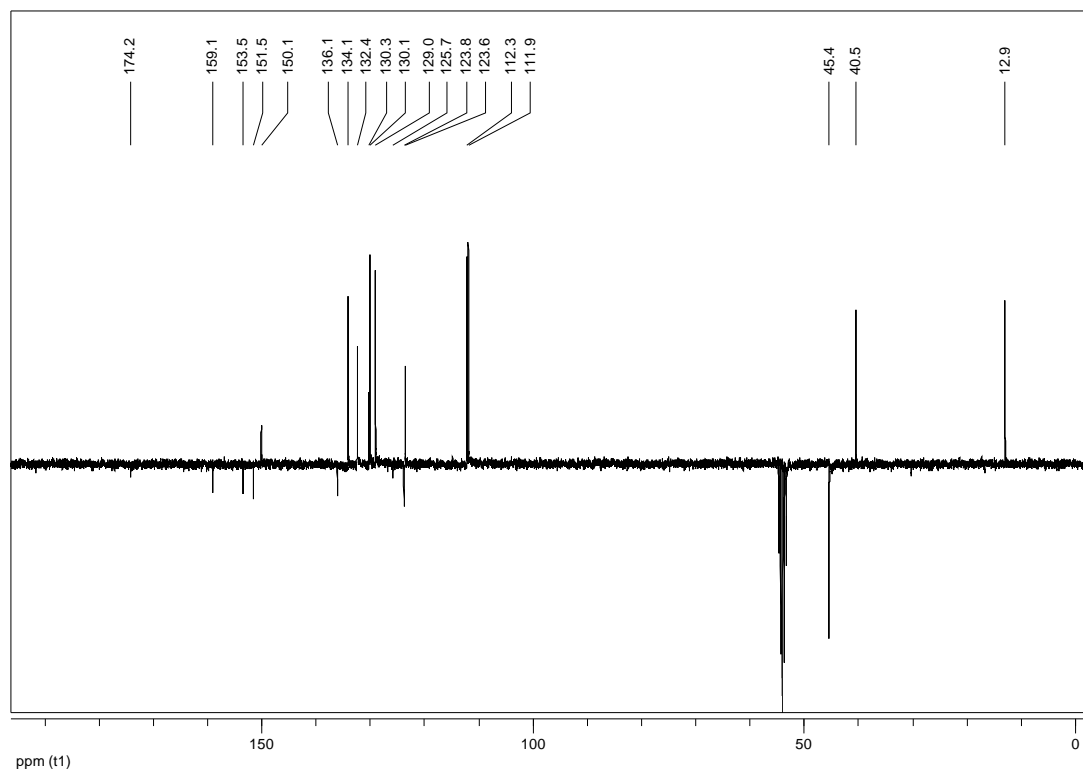
### 2.3. NMR spectra for new compounds



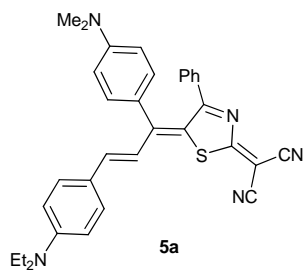
**Figure S5:** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of compound **5a** (300 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>).

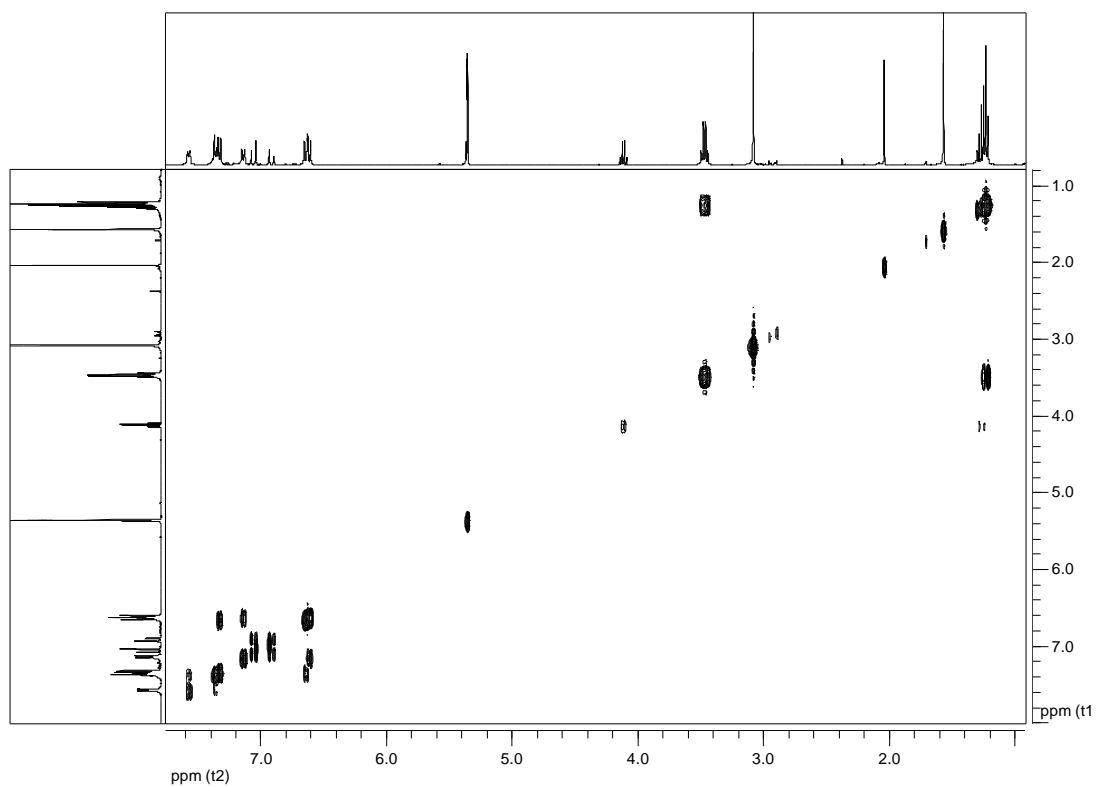




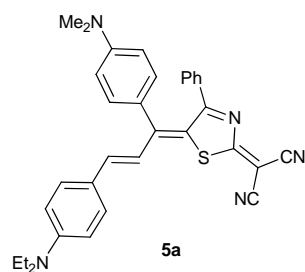


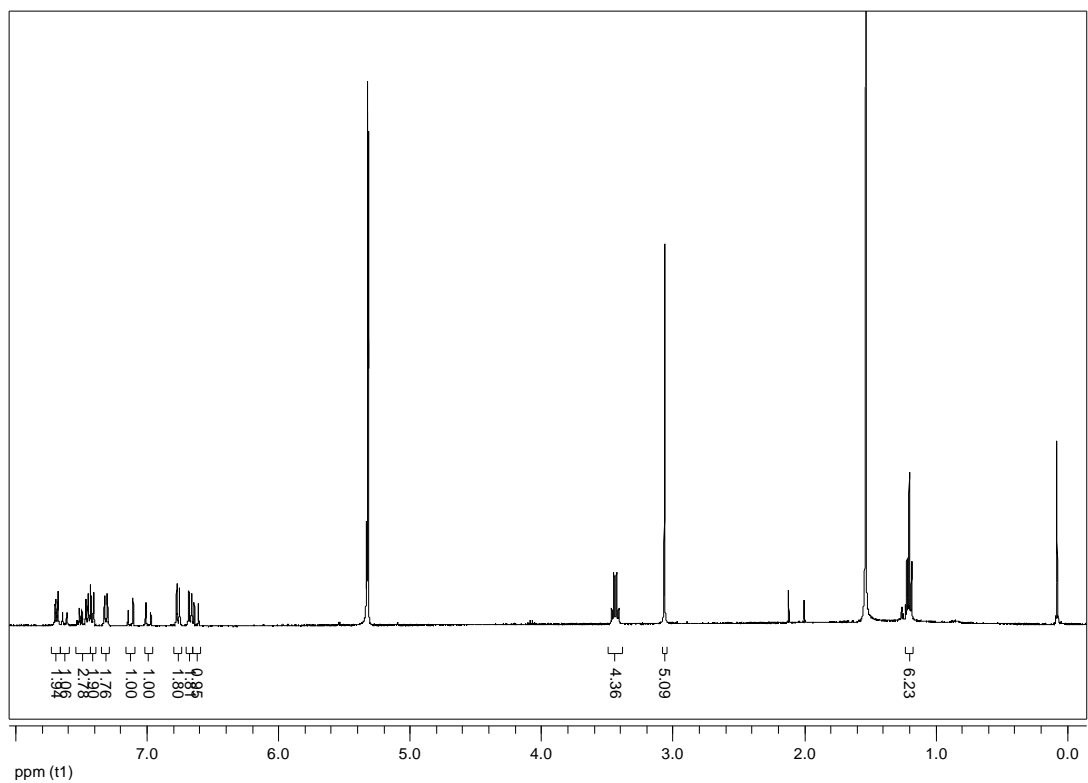
**Figure S6:**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (APT) spectrum of compound **5a** (75 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ).



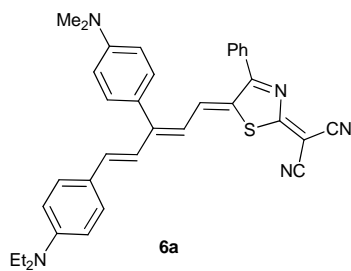


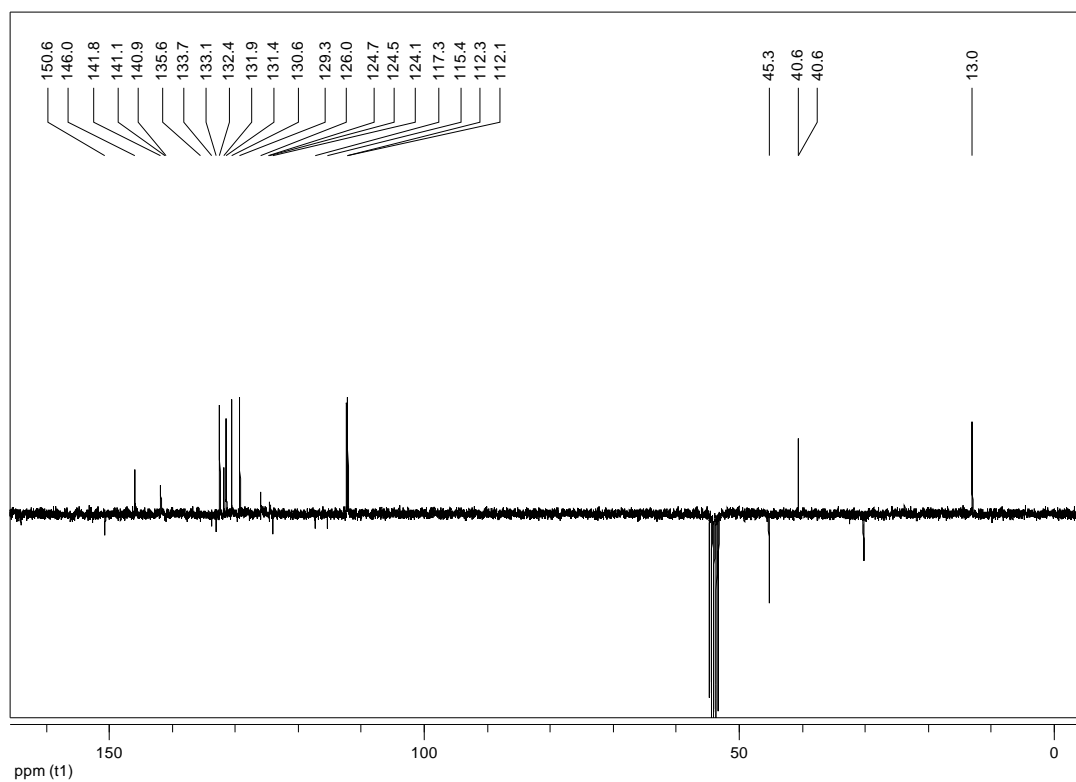
**Figure S7:**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY spectrum of compound **5a** (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ).



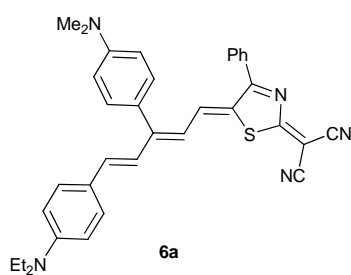


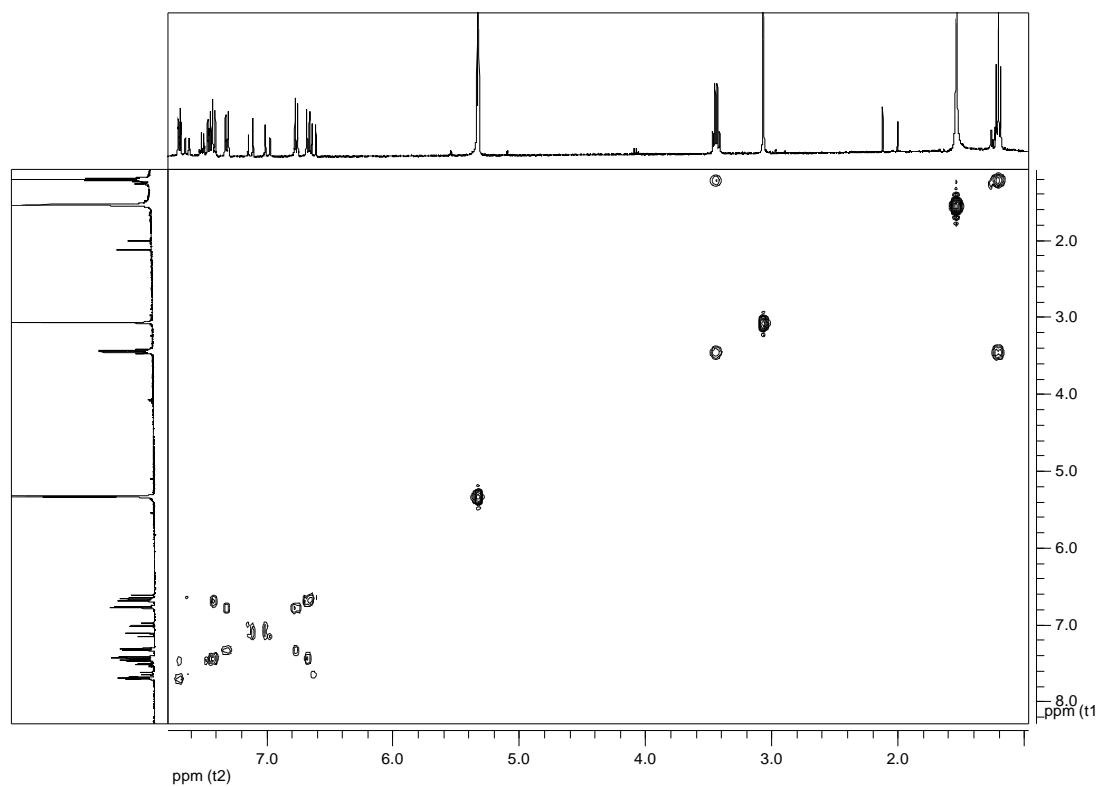
**Figure S8:**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **6a** (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ).



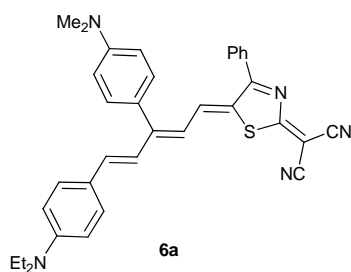


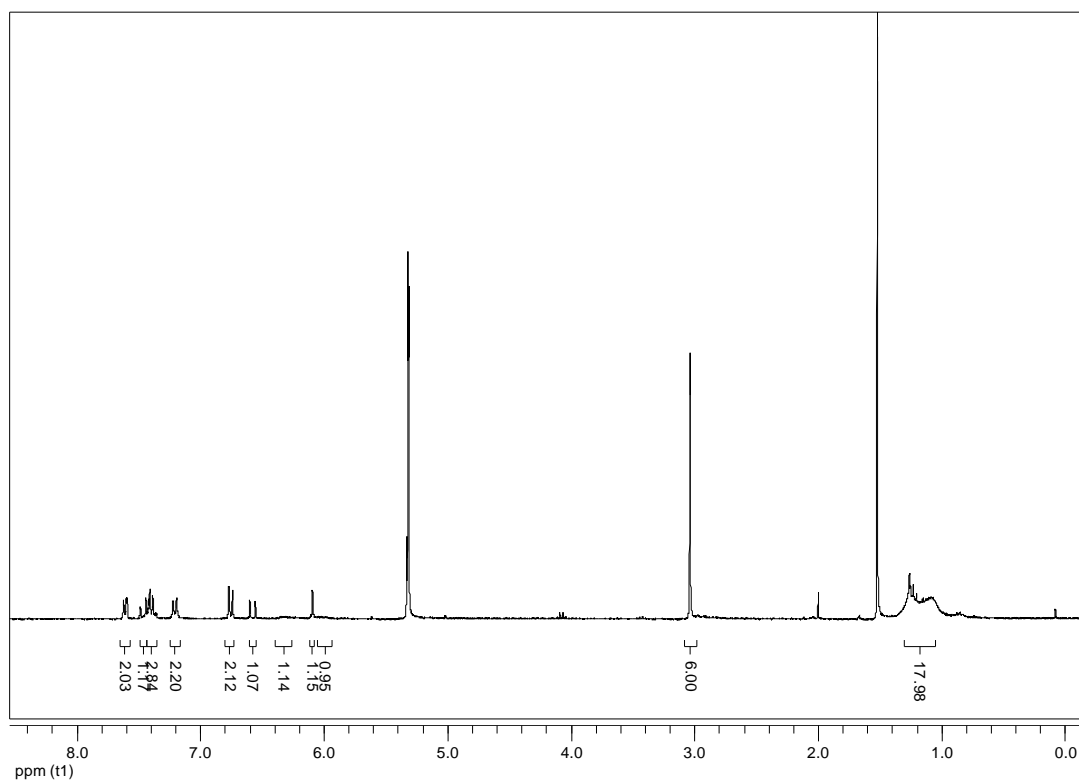
**Figure S9:**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (APT) spectrum of compound **6a** (75 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ).



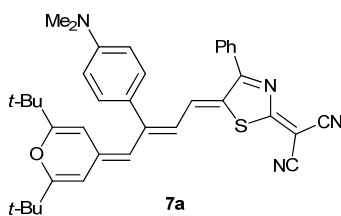


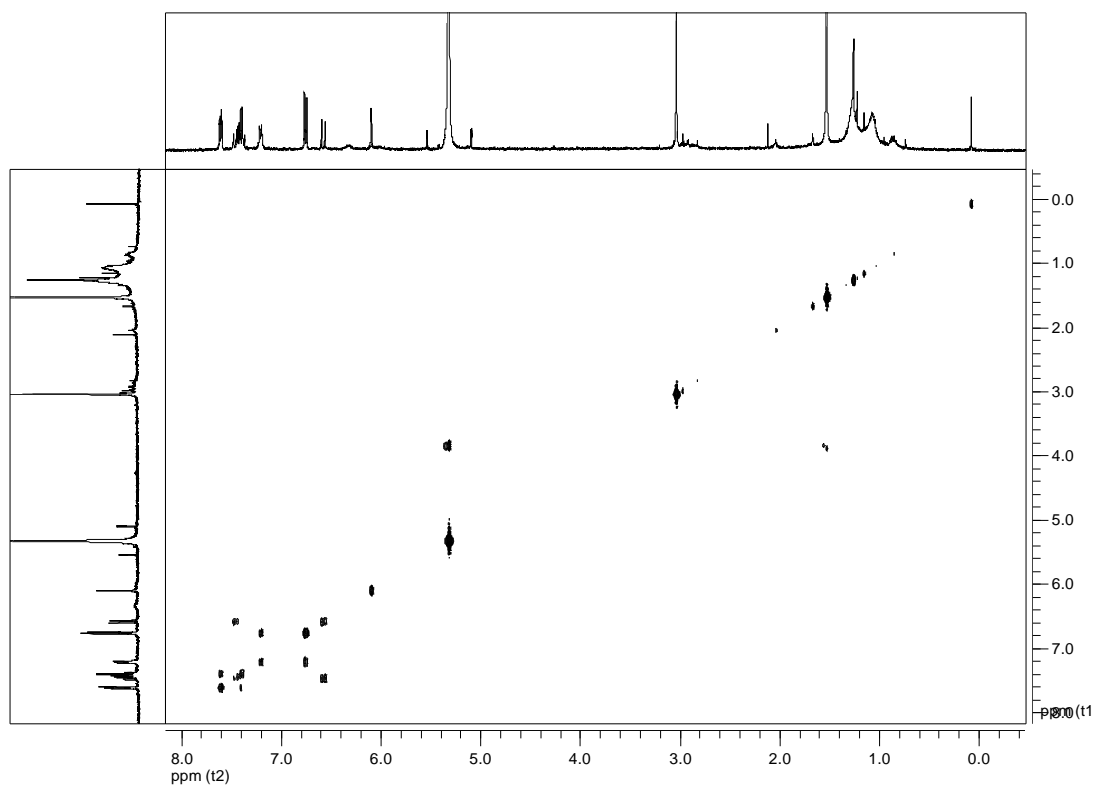
**Figure S10:**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY spectrum of compound **6a** (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ).



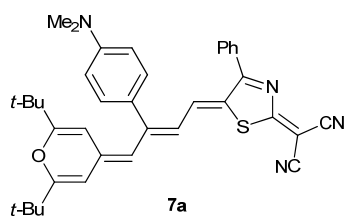


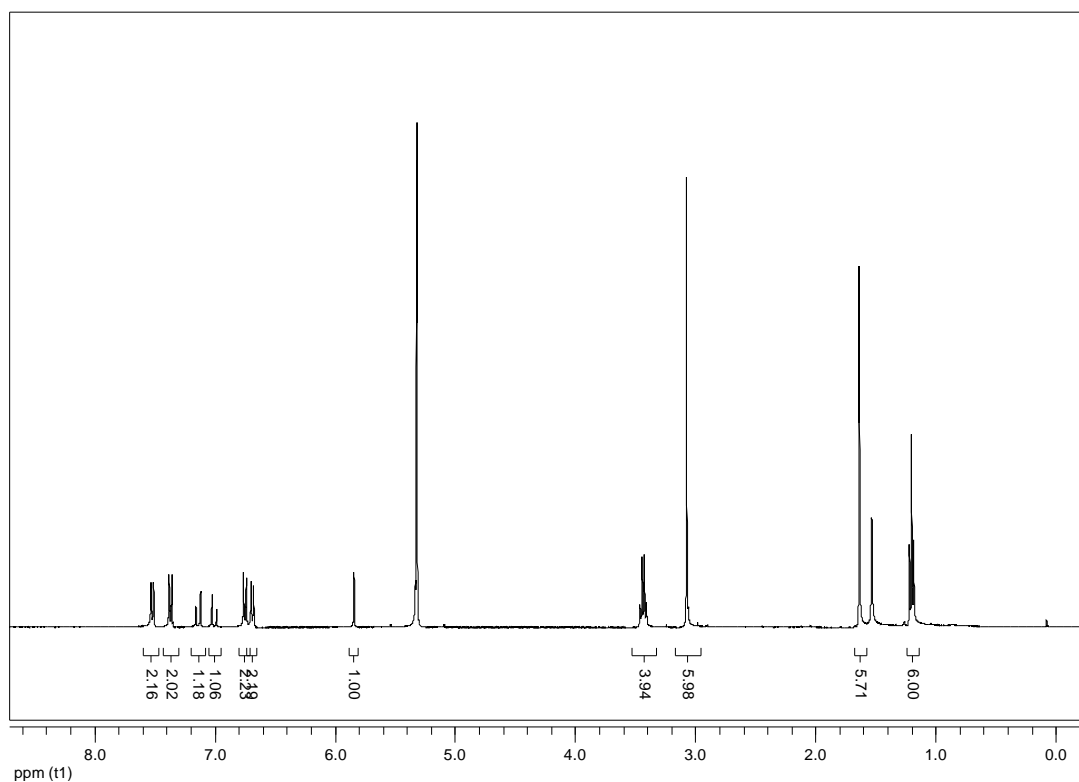
**Figure S11:** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of compound **7a** (300 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>).



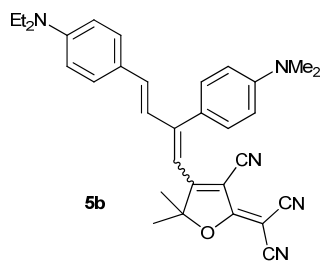


**Figure S12:**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY spectrum of compound **7a** (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ).

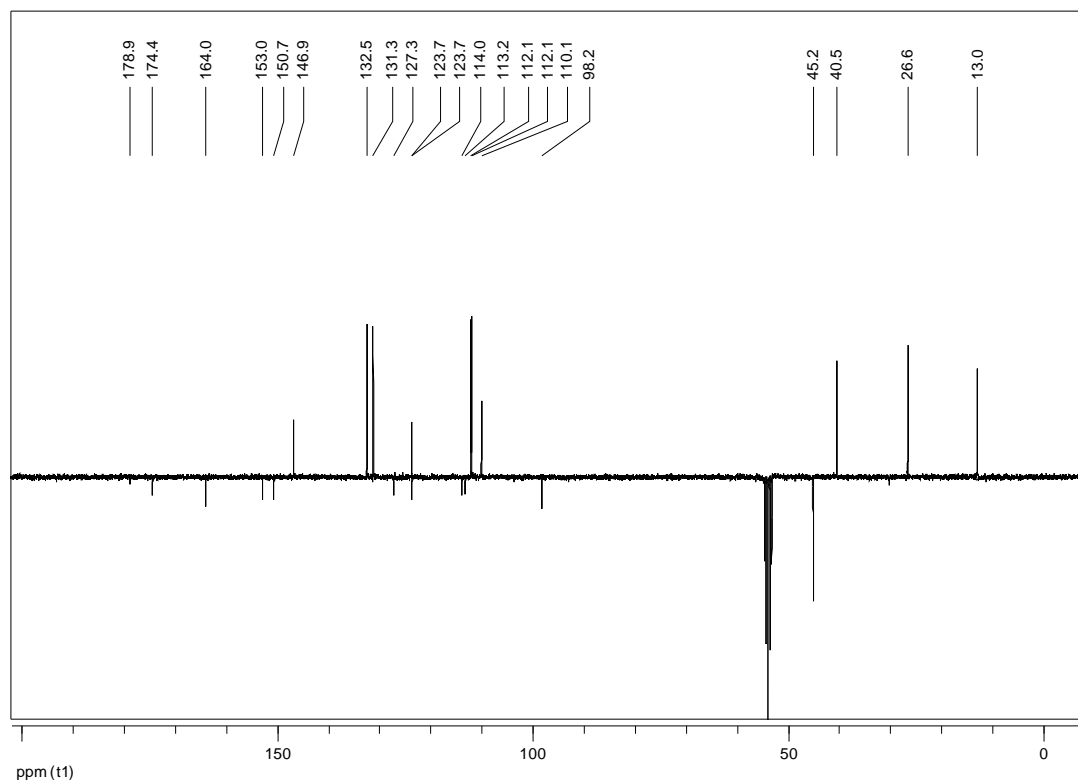




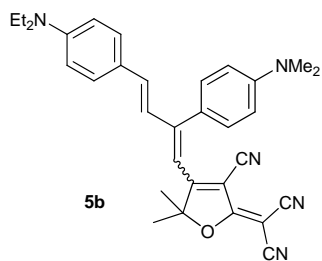
**Figure S13:** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of compound **5b** (400 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>).

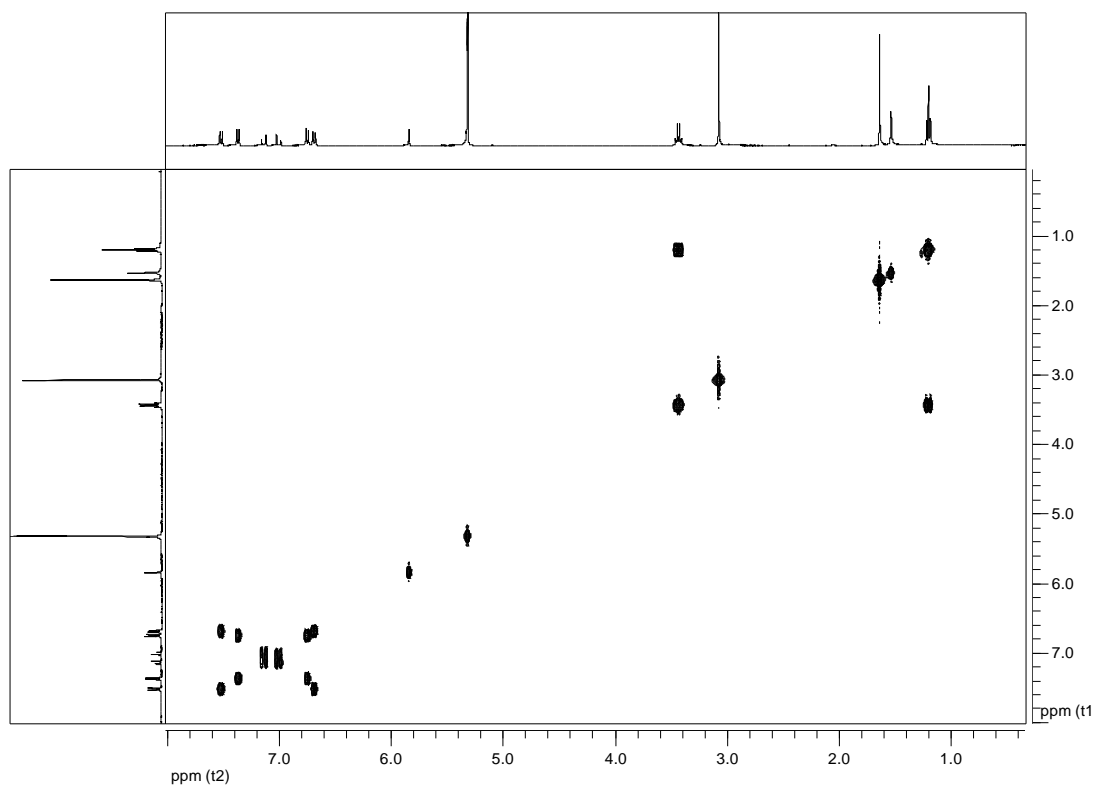




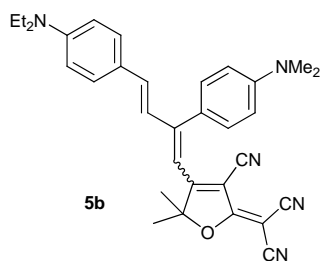


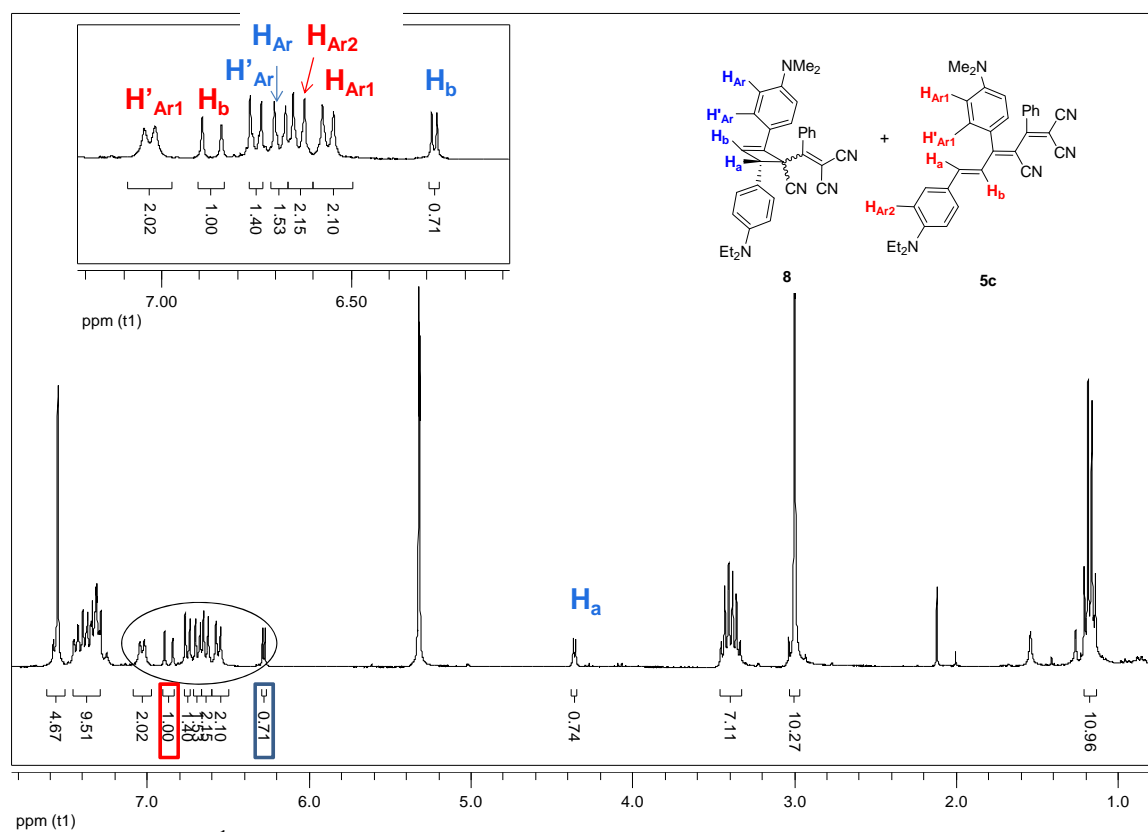
**Figure S14:**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (APT) spectrum of compound **5b** (75 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ).



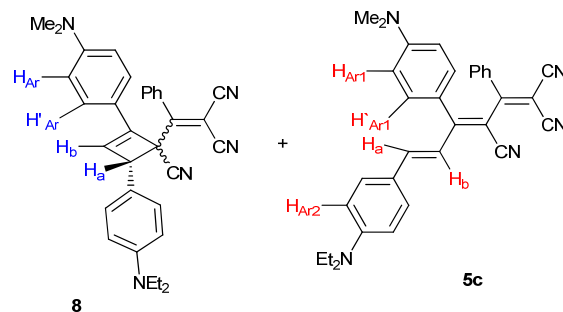


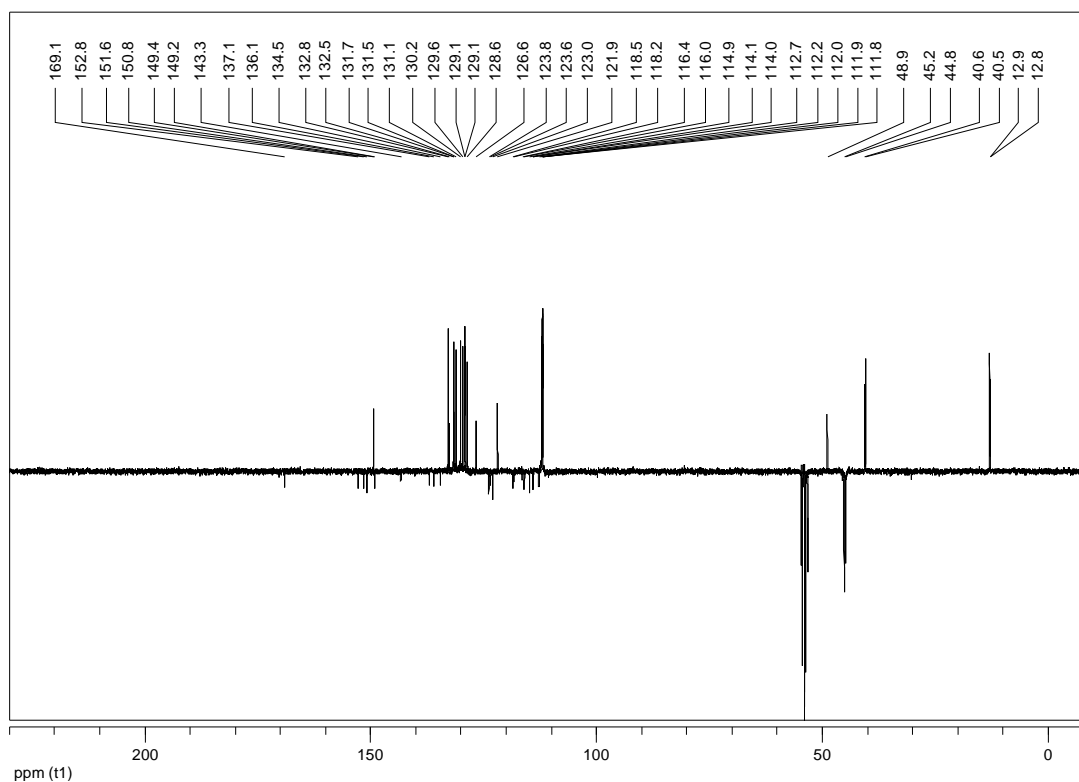
**Figure S15:**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY spectrum of compound **5b** (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ).



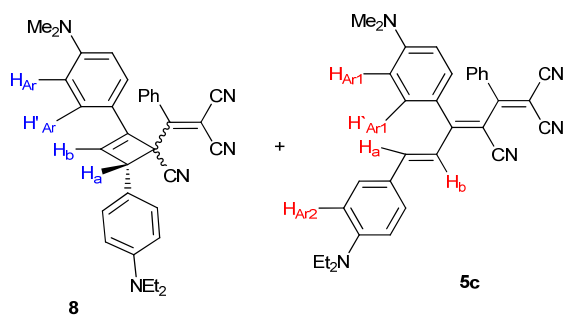


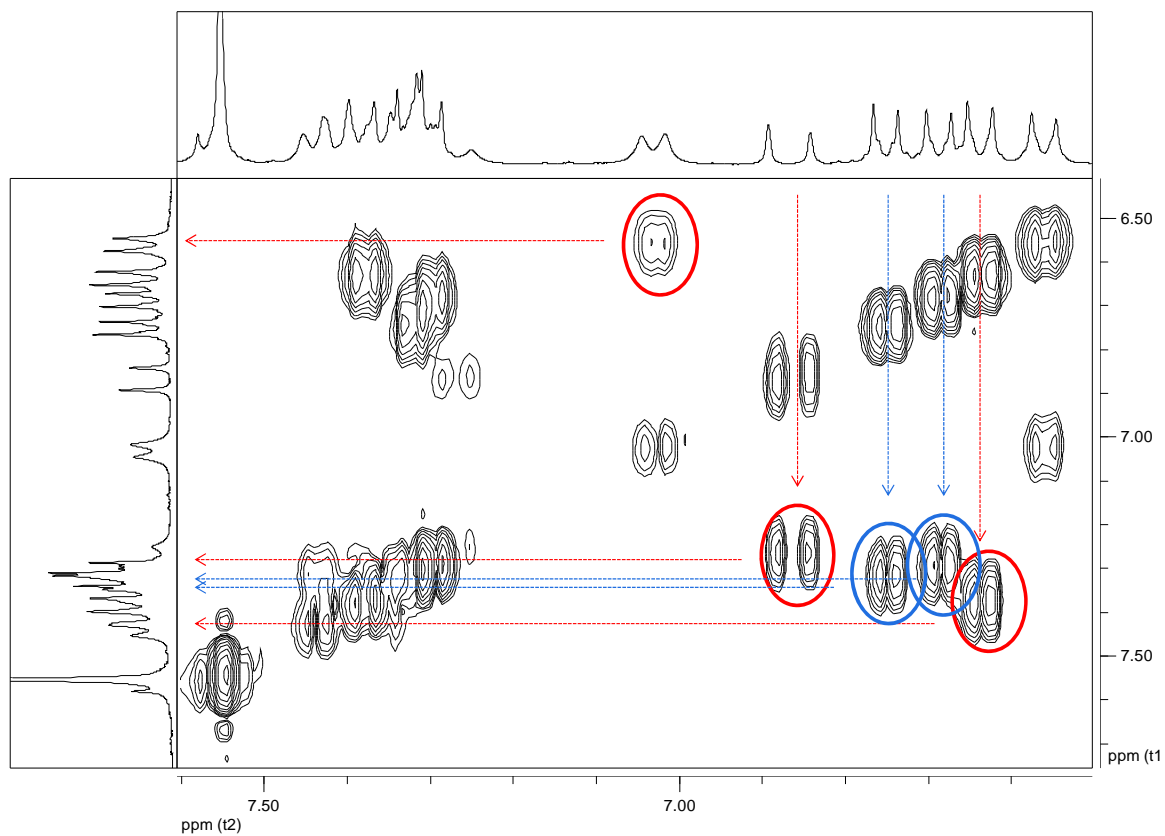
**Figure S16:** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of mixture **5c**+**8** (ratio 10/7) (300 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>).



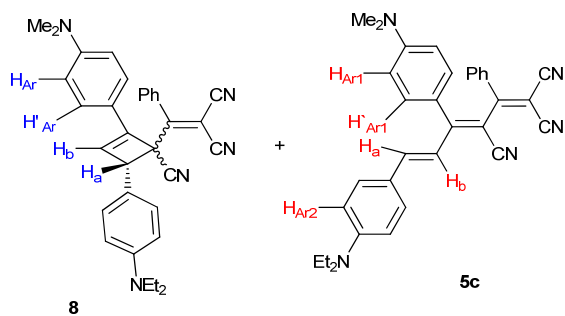


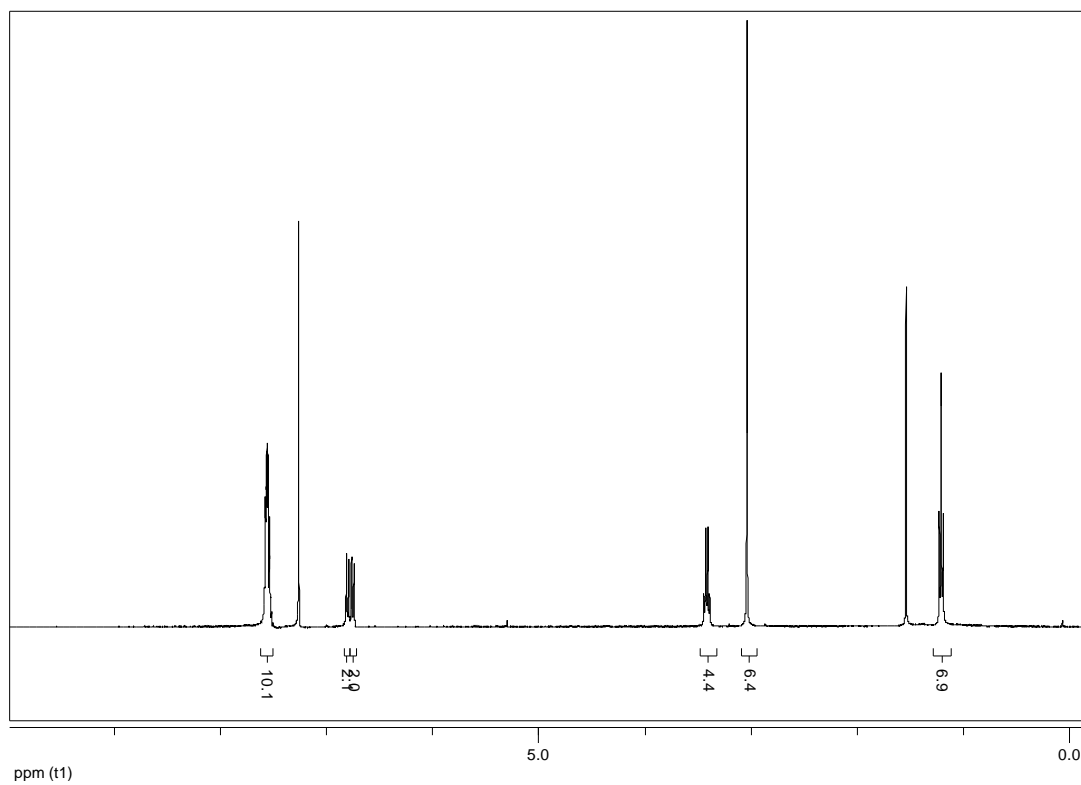
**Figure S17:**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (APT) spectrum of mixture **5c**+**8** (ratio 10/7) (75 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ).



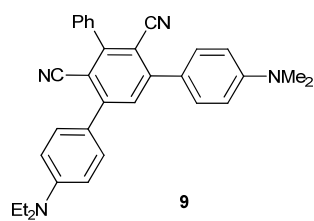


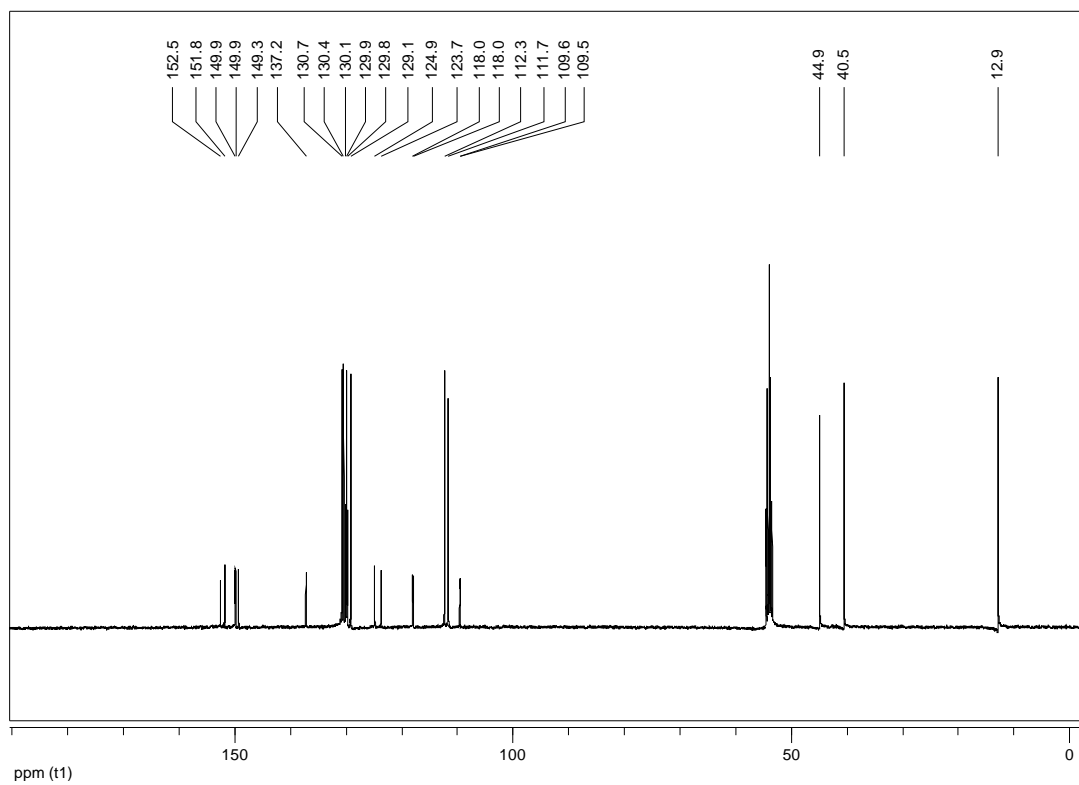
**Figure S18:**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY spectrum of mixture **5c**+**8** (ratio 10/7) (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ).



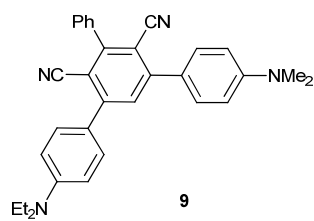


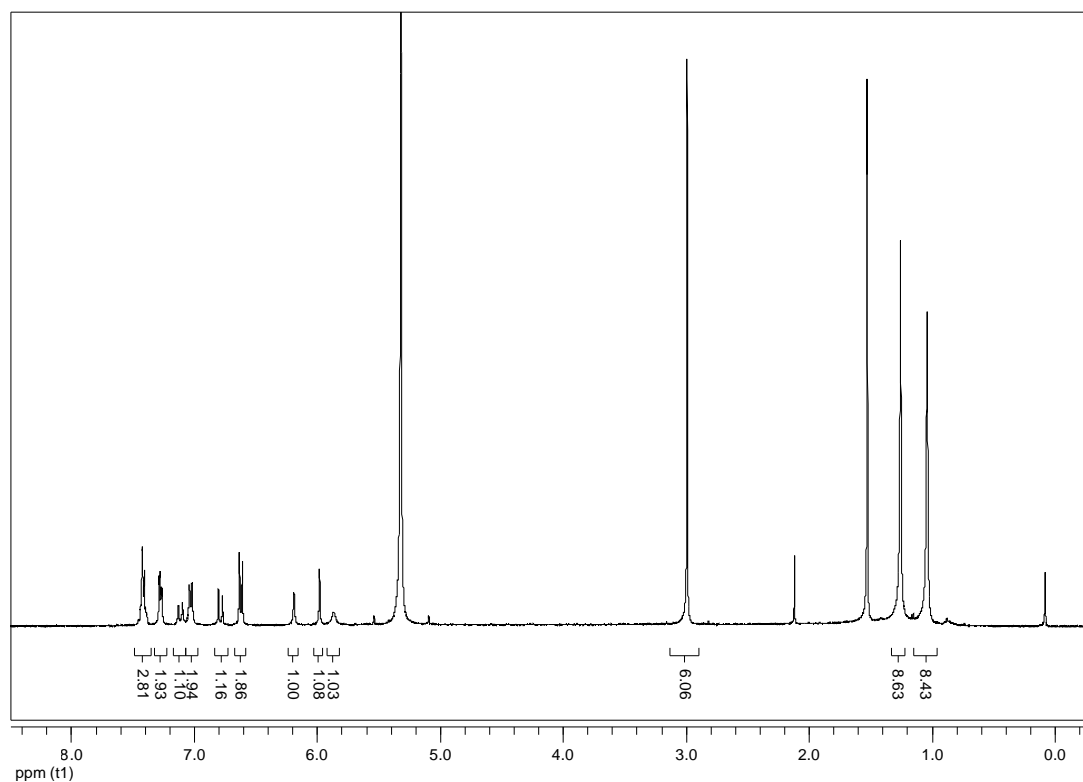
**Figure S19:**  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectrum of compound **9** (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ).



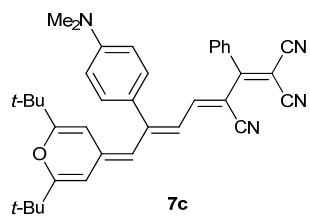


**Figure S20:**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **9** (100 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ).

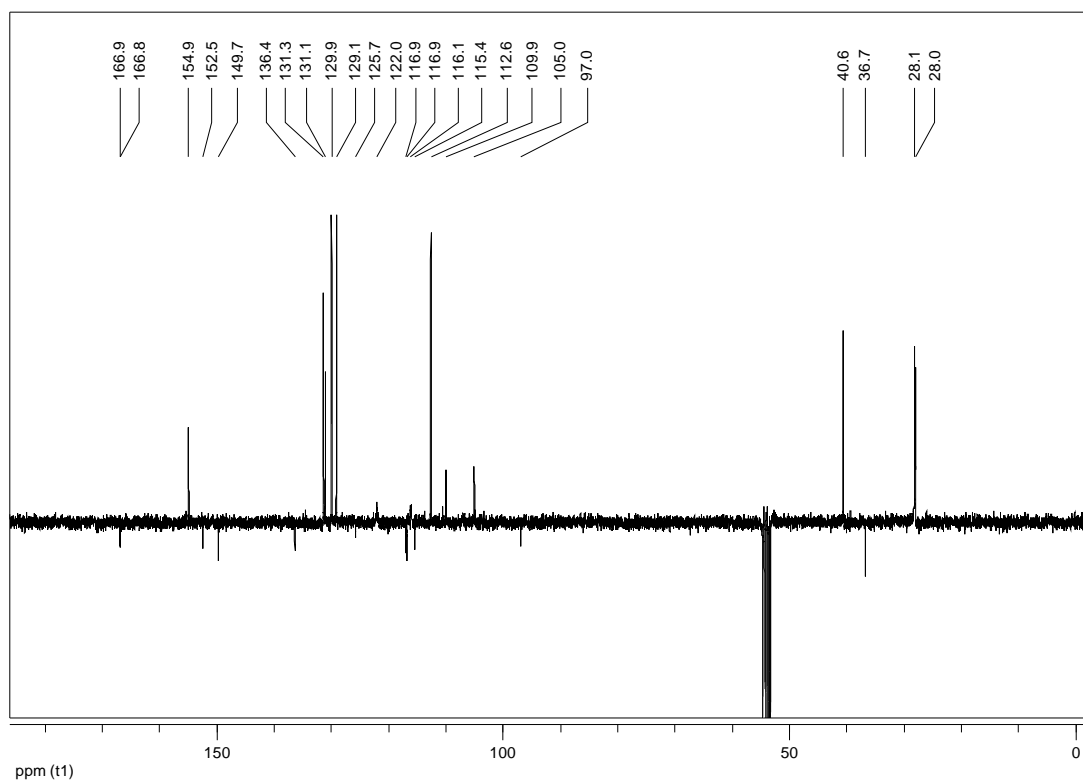




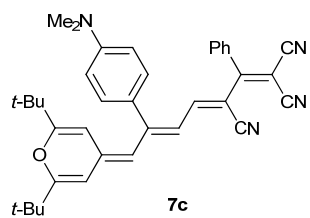
**Figure S21:** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of compound **7c** (400 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>).

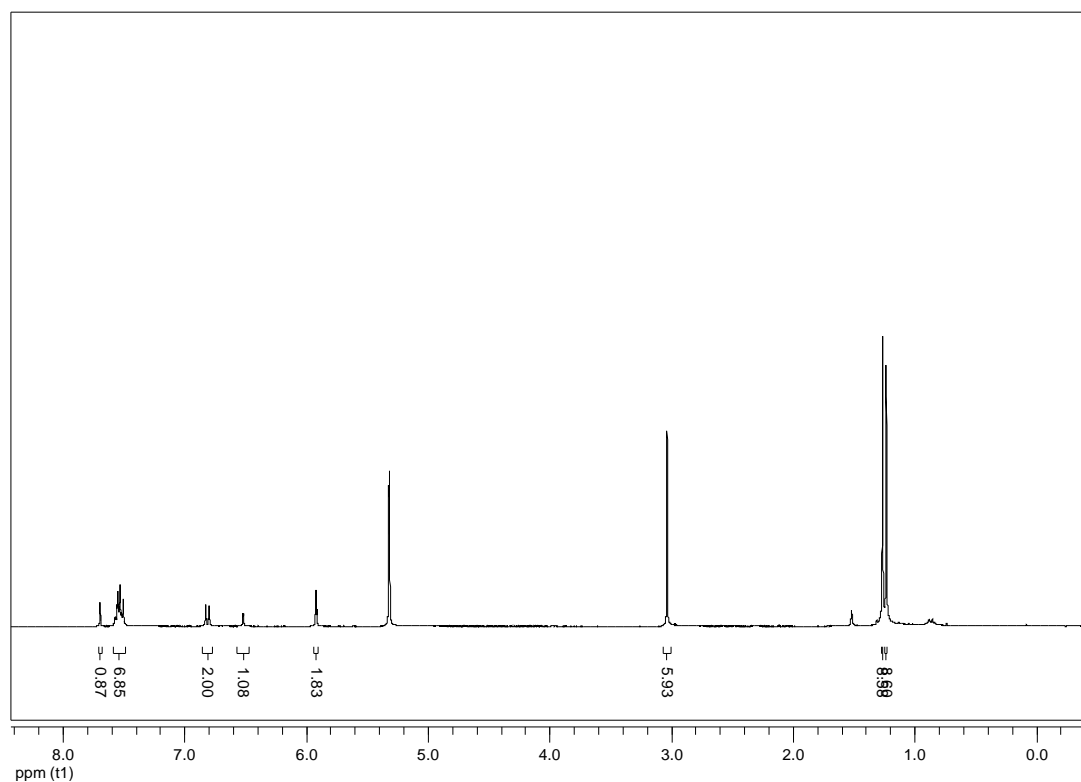




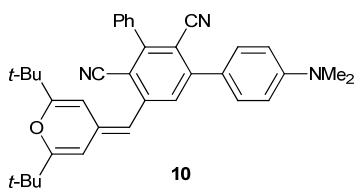


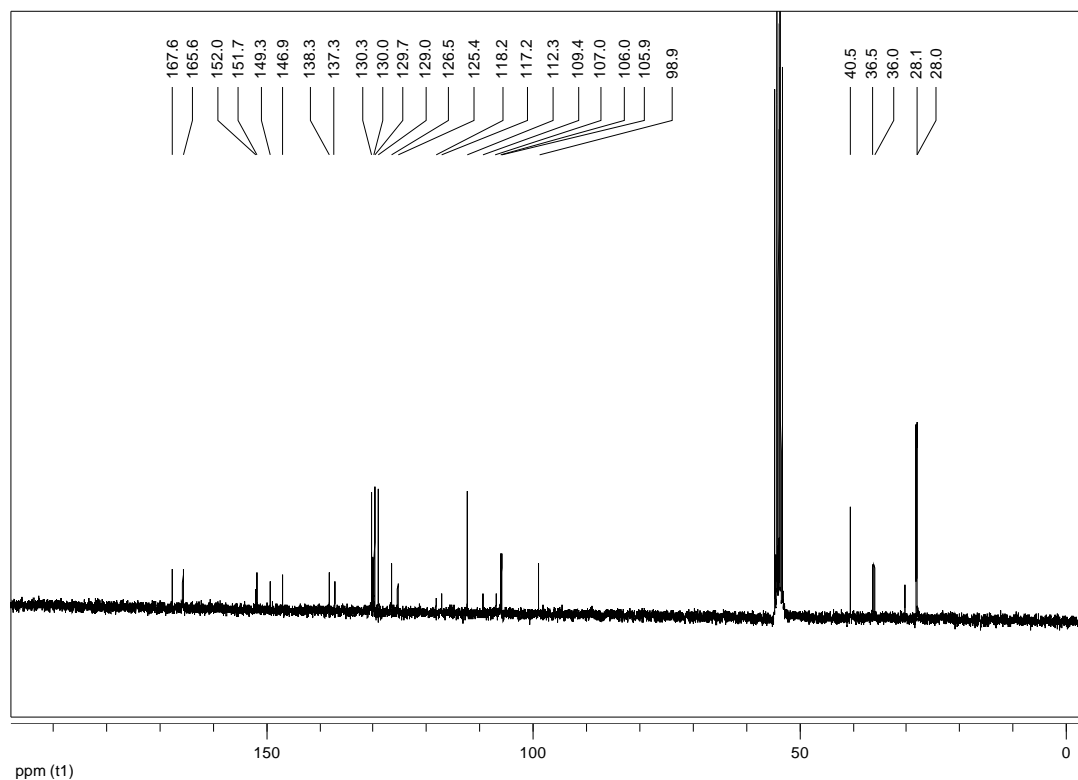
**Figure S22:**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (APT) spectrum of compound **7c** (75 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ).



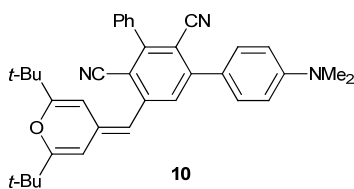


**Figure S23:** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of compound **10** (300 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>).

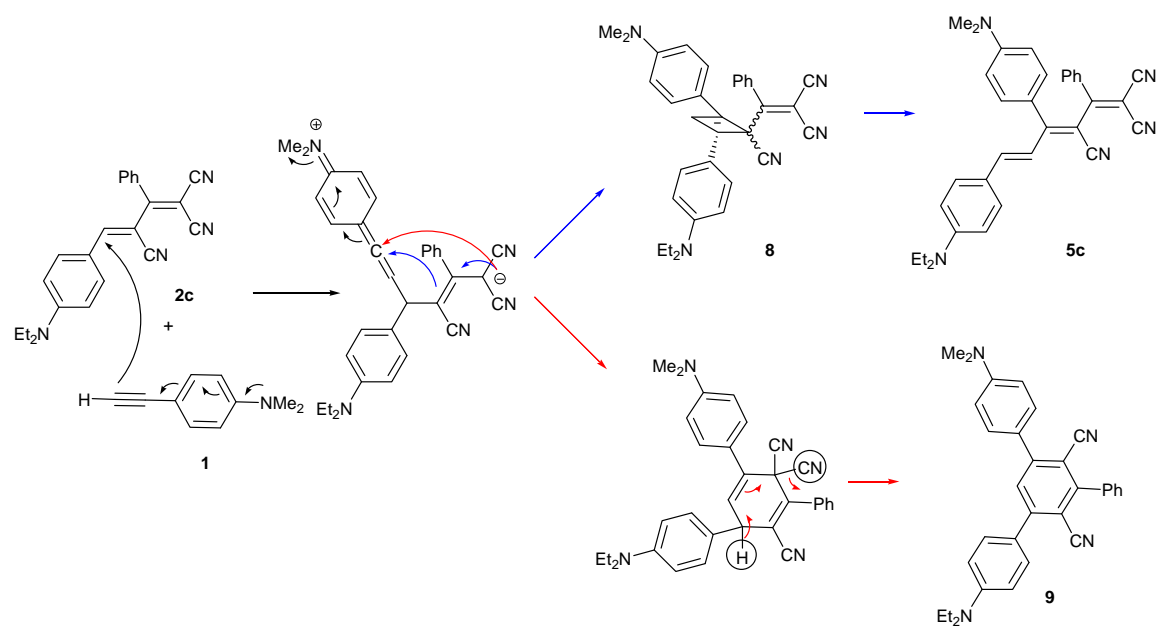




**Figure S24:**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **10** (75 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ).



### 3. Non-concerted dipolar mechanisms



**Figure S25:** Non-concerted dipolar mechanism for the [2+2] (blue line) and [4+2] (red line) cycloaddition of **1** with **2c** in formation of a mixture of **5c** and **8** and **9** respectively.

## 4.- X-ray Diffraction

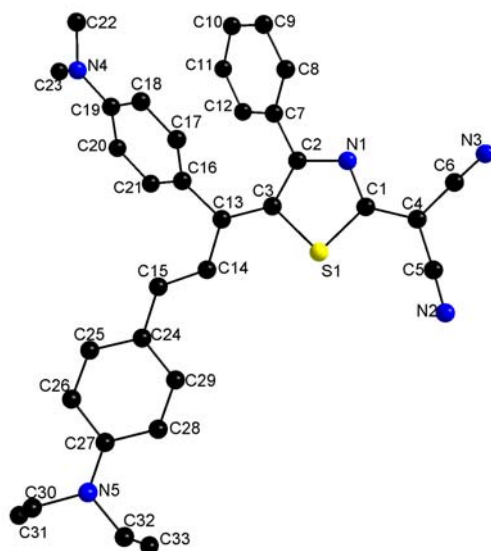
### Crystal data for 5a:

Single crystals were obtained by slow diffusion of hexane into a solution of the chromophore in AcOEt at room temperature: C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>31</sub>N<sub>5</sub>S, M<sub>r</sub> = 529.69, crystal dimensions 0.37 x 0.12 x 0.06 mm, triclinic space group P-1 (no. 2),  $\rho_{\text{calcd}} = 1.248 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ , Z = 2, a = 8.5856(3), b = 13.3808(10), c = 13.8389(9) Å,  $\alpha = 66.612(7)$ ,  $\beta = 77.281(4)$ ,  $\gamma = 77.711(5)$ , V = 1409.37(15) Å<sup>3</sup> at 298(1) K. Number of measured and unique reflections 23380 and 4939, respectively ( $R_{\text{int}}=0.0973$ ). Final  $R(F)=0.0419$ ,  $wR(F^2)=0.0365$  for 354 parameters and 1804 reflections with  $I > 4\sigma(I)$  (corresponding R-values based on all 4939 reflections 0.1598 and 0.0424).

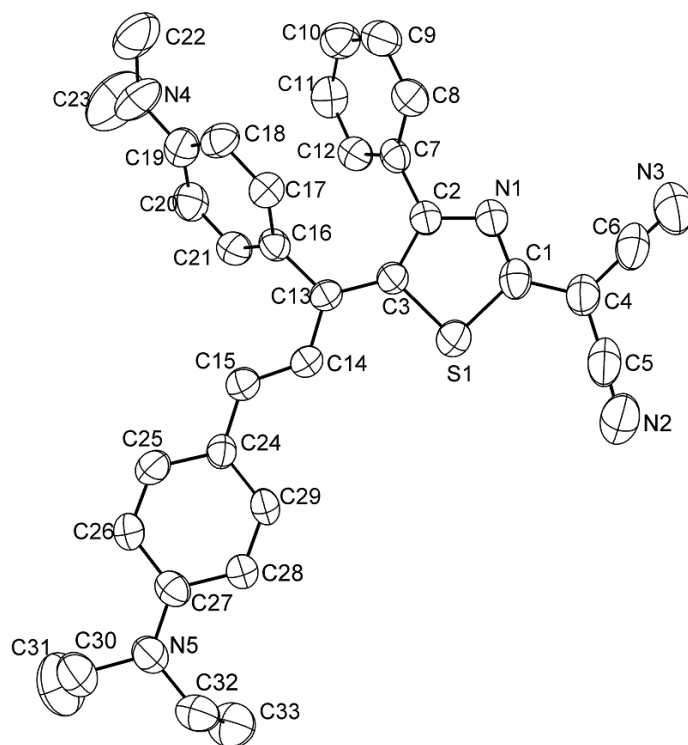
### Crystal data and structure refinement for 5a.

Identification code	5a
Empirical formula	C33 H31 N5 S
Formula weight	529.69
Temperature	298(1) K
Wavelength	0.71073 Å
Crystal system, space group	triclinic, P-1
Unit cell dimensions	a = 8.5856(3) Å    alpha = 66.612(7) deg. b = 13.3808(10) Å    beta = 77.281(4) deg. c = 13.8389(9) Å    gamma = 77.711(5) deg.
Volume	1409.37(15) Å <sup>3</sup>
Z, Calculated density	2, 1.248 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Absorption coefficient	0.146 mm <sup>-1</sup>

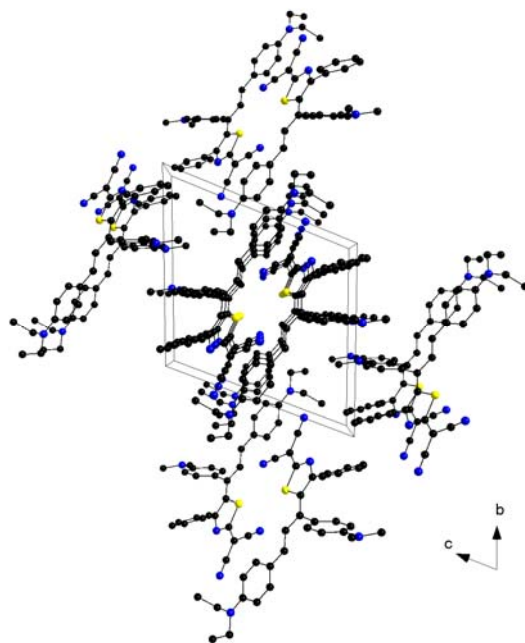
F(000)	560
Crystal size	0.37 x 0.12 x 0.06 mm
Theta range for data collection	2.67 to 25.00 deg.
Limiting indices	-6<=h<=10, -15<=k<=15, -16<=l<=16
Reflections collected / unique	23380 / 4939 [R(int) = 0.0973]
Completeness to theta = 25.00	99.3 %
Max. and min. transmission	0.9913 and 0.9480
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	4939 / 0 / 354
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	0.805
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0419, wR2 = 0.0365
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.1598, wR2 = 0.0424
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.130 and -0.146 e.A <sup>-3</sup>



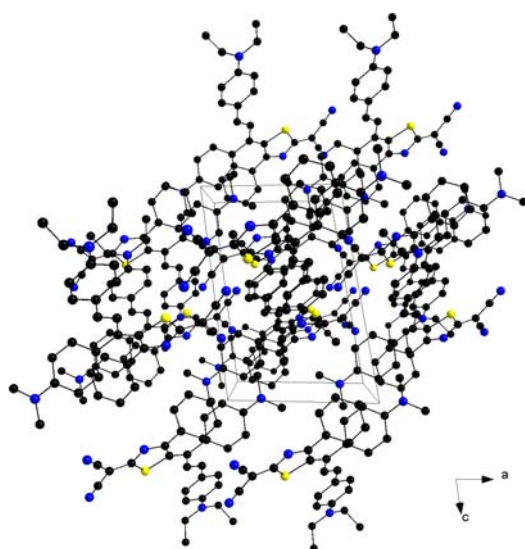
**Figure S26:** Molecular structure of compound **5a**.



**Figure S27:** ORTEP view of **5a**

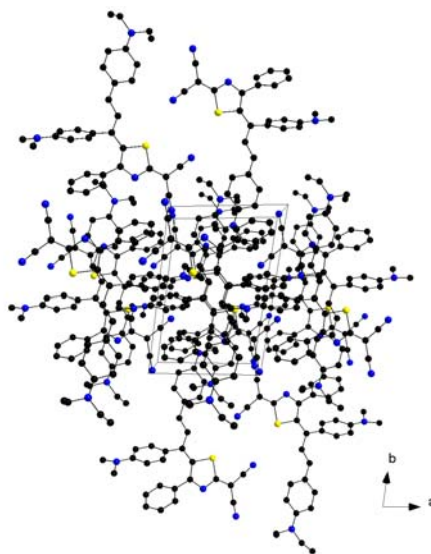


**Figure S28:** Crystal packing of **5a** viewed along the [100] direction.



**Figure S29:** Crystal packing of **5a** viewed along the [010] direction.





**Figure S30:** Crystal packing of **5a** viewed along the [001] direction.

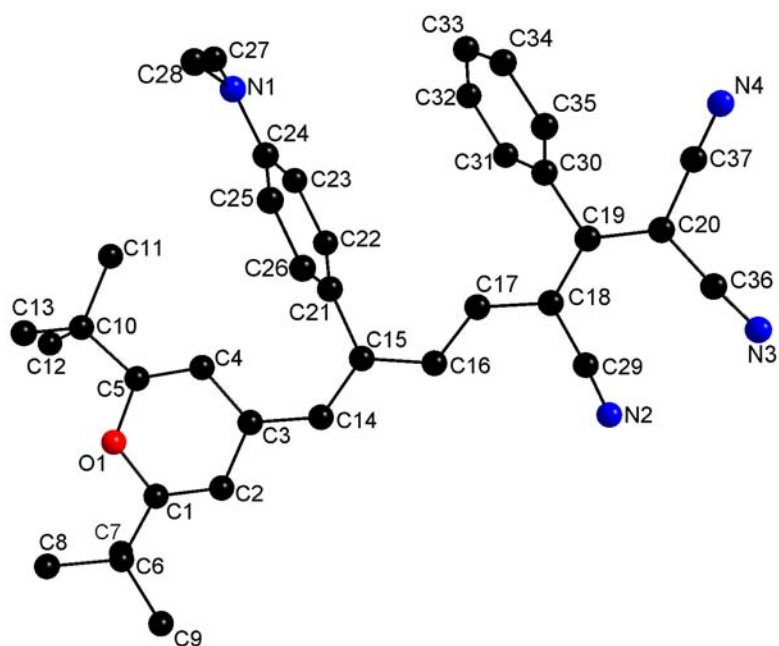
### Crystal data for 7c:

Single crystals were obtained by slow diffusion of hexane into a concentrated solution of the chromophore in  $\text{CHCl}_3$  at room temperature:  $\text{C}_{37}\text{H}_{38}\text{N}_4\text{O}$ ,  $M_r = 554.71$ , crystal dimensions  $0.29 \times 0.24 \times 0.04$  mm, monoclinic space group  $P2_1/c$  (no. 14),  $\rho_{\text{calcd}} = 1.170 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ ,  $Z = 4$ ,  $a = 9.8471(5)$ ,  $b = 28.4321(15)$ ,  $c = 11.7509(8) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\beta = 106.763(6)$ ,  $V = 3150.1(3) \text{ \AA}^3$  at  $150(1) \text{ K}$ . Number of measured and unique reflections 24720 and 7462, respectively ( $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0914$ ). Final  $R(F) = 0.0685$ ,  $wR(F^2) = 0.0916$  for 387 parameters and 3573 reflections with  $I > 4\sigma(I)$  (corresponding R-values based on all 7462 reflections 0.1690 and 0.1209).

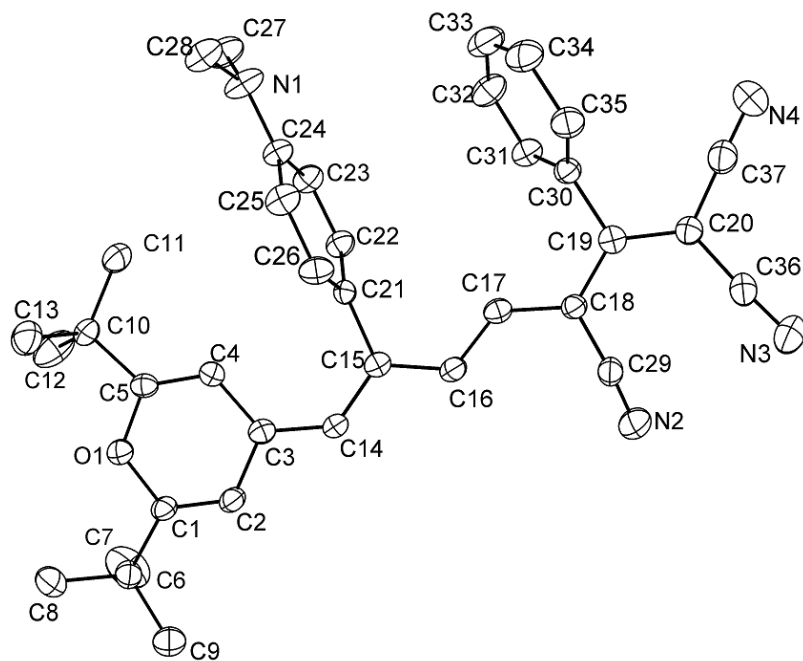
### Crystal data and structure refinement for 7c.

Identification code	7c
Empirical formula	C <sub>37</sub> H <sub>38</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O
Formula weight	554.71
Temperature	150(1) K
Wavelength	0.71073 Å
Crystal system, space group	Monoclinic, $P2_1/c$
Unit cell dimensions	$a = 9.8471(5) \text{ \AA}$ $\alpha = 90 \text{ deg.}$ $b = 28.4321(15) \text{ \AA}$ $\beta = 106.763(6)$ $c = 11.7509(8) \text{ \AA}$ $\gamma = 90 \text{ deg.}$
Volume	$3150.1(3) \text{ \AA}^3$
Z, Calculated density	4, $1.170 \text{ Mg/m}^3$
Absorption coefficient	$0.071 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$F(000)$	1184

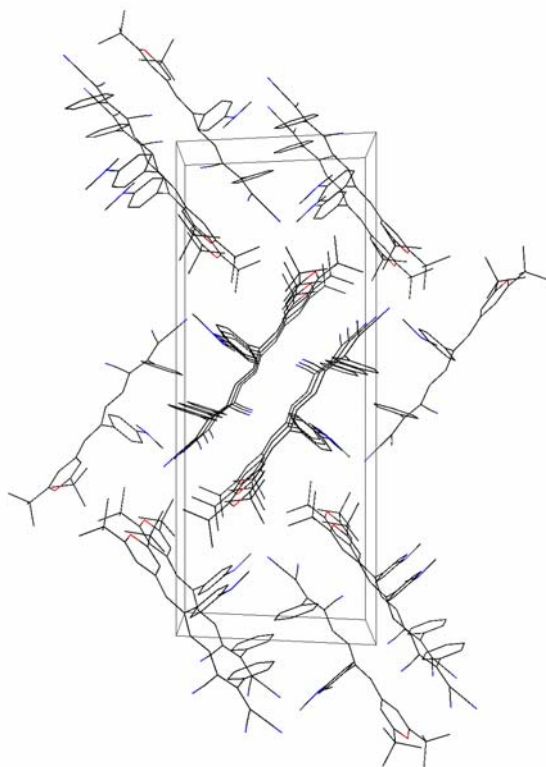
Crystal size	0.29 x 0.24 x 0.04 mm
Theta range for data collection	3.05 to 28.87 deg.
Limiting indices	-12<=h<=12, -38<=k<=36, -15<=l<=15
Reflections collected / unique	24720 / 7462 [R(int) = 0.0914]
Completeness to theta = 27.50	98.2 %
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.9972 and 0.9797
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	7462 / 0 / 387
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	0.984
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0685, wR2 = 0.0916
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.1690, wR2 = 0.1209
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.218 and -0.221 e.A <sup>-3</sup>



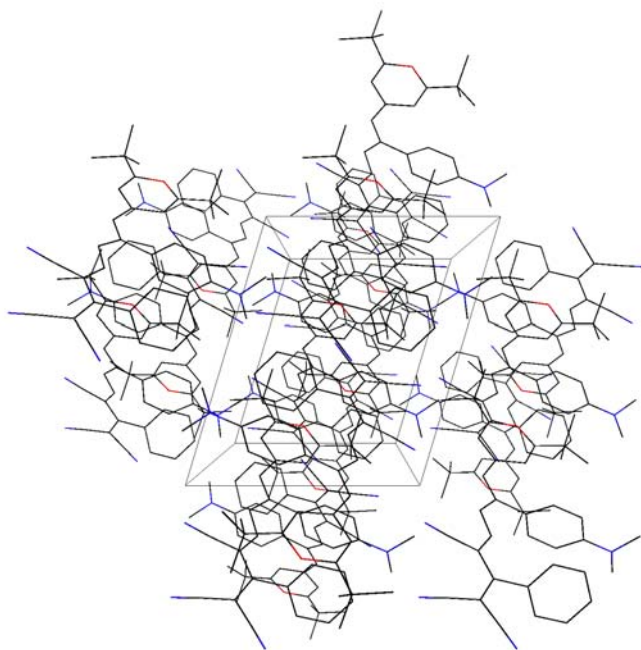
**Figure S31:** Molecular structure of compound **7c**.



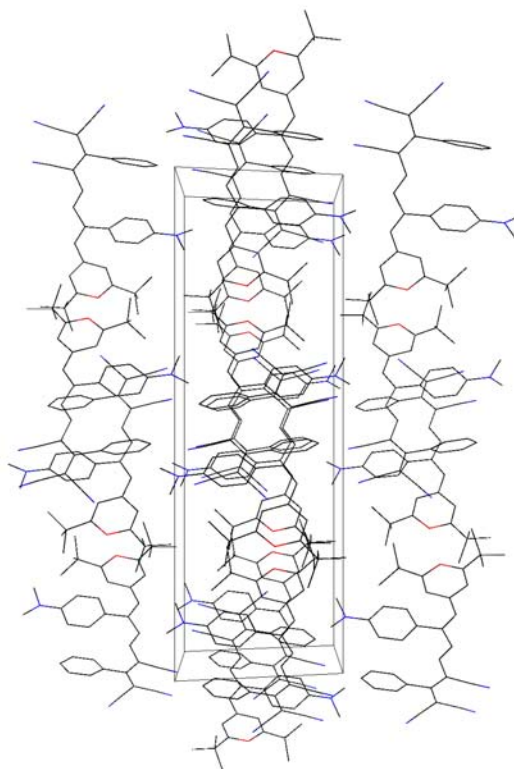
**Figure S32:** ORTEP view of **7c**.



**Figure S33:** Crystal packing of **7c** viewed along the [100] direction.



**Figure S34:** Crystal packing of **7c** viewed along the [010] direction.



**Figure S35:** Crystal packing of **7c** viewed along the [001] direction.

Crystal data for 10:

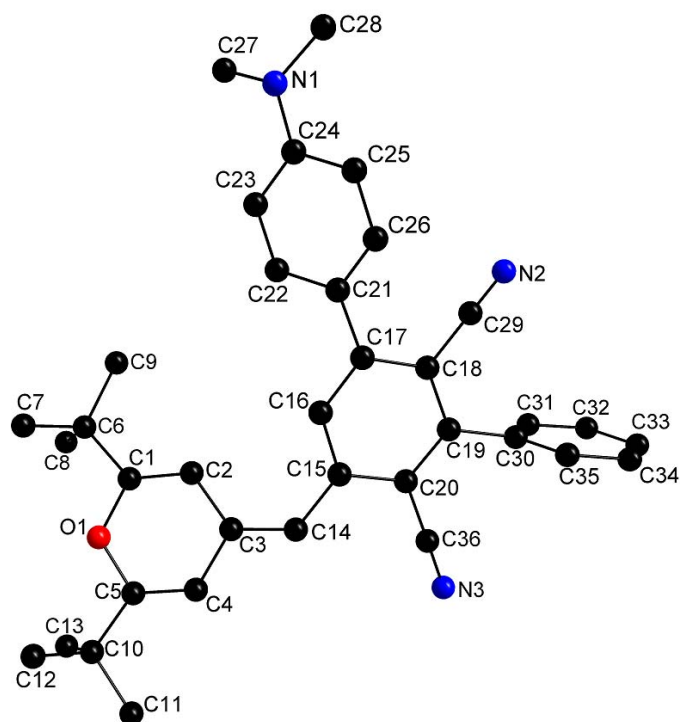
Single crystals were obtained by slow diffusion of hexane into a concentrated solution of the chromophore in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at room temperature: C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>37</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O, M<sub>r</sub> = 527.69, crystal dimensions 0.34 x 0.05 x 0.04 mm, triclinic space group P-1 (no. 2),  $\rho_{\text{calcd}} = 1.152 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ , Z = 2, a = 5.9702(5), b = 12.9502(14), c = 20.426(2) Å,  $\alpha = 104.108(9)$ ,  $\beta = 92.797(8)$ ,  $\gamma = 95.045(8)$ , V = 1521.6(3) Å<sup>3</sup> at 150(1) K. Number of measured and unique reflections 9971 and 5343, respectively ( $R_{\text{int}}=0.0851$ ). Final  $R(F)=0.0804$ ,  $wR(F^2)=0.0971$  for 361 parameters and 2142 reflections with  $I > 4\sigma(I)$  (corresponding R-values based on all 5343 reflections 0.0804 and 0.1405).

Crystal data and structure refinement for 10.

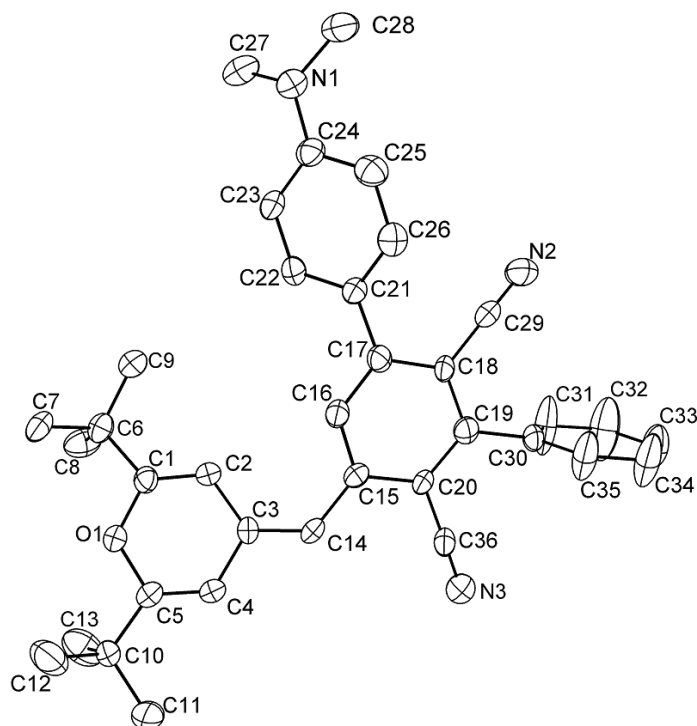
Identification code	10
Empirical formula	C36 H37 N3 O
Formula weight	527.69
Temperature	150(2) K
Wavelength	0.71073 Å
Crystal system, space group	Triclinic, P-1
Unit cell dimensions	a = 5.9702(5) Å    alpha = 104.108(9) deg. b = 12.9502(14) Å    beta = 92.797(8) deg. c = 20.426(2) Å    gamma = 95.045(8) deg.
Volume	1521.6(3) Å <sup>3</sup>
Z, Calculated density	2, 1.152 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Absorption coefficient	0.069 mm <sup>-1</sup>
F(000)	564

Crystal size	0.34 x 0.05 x 0.04 mm
Theta range for data collection	2.93 to 25.00 deg.
Limiting indices	-7<=h<=7, -15<=k<=11, -23<=l<=24
Reflections collected / unique	9971 / 5343 [R(int) = 0.0851]
Completeness to theta = 25.00	99.9 %
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.9972 and 0.9768
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	5343 / 0 / 361
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	0.968
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0804, wR2 = 0.0971
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.2233, wR2 = 0.1405
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.194 and -0.207 e.A <sup>-3</sup>

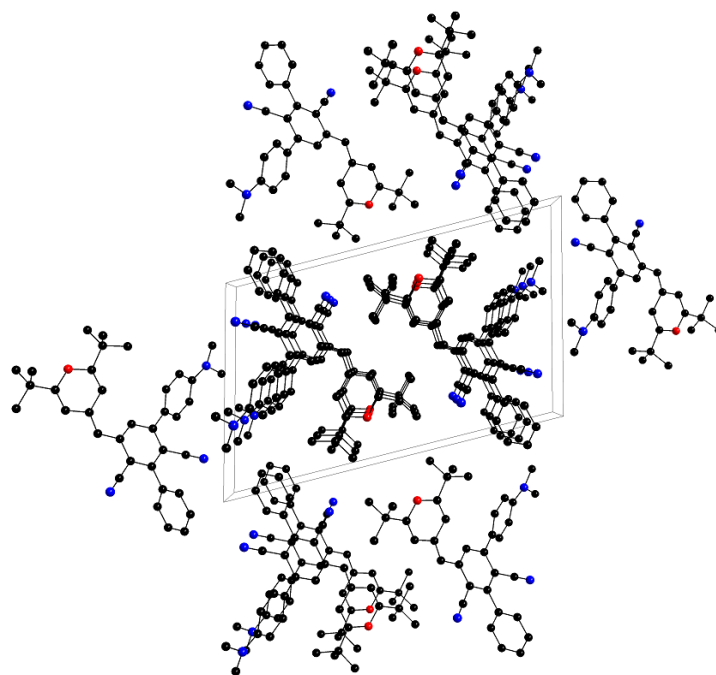




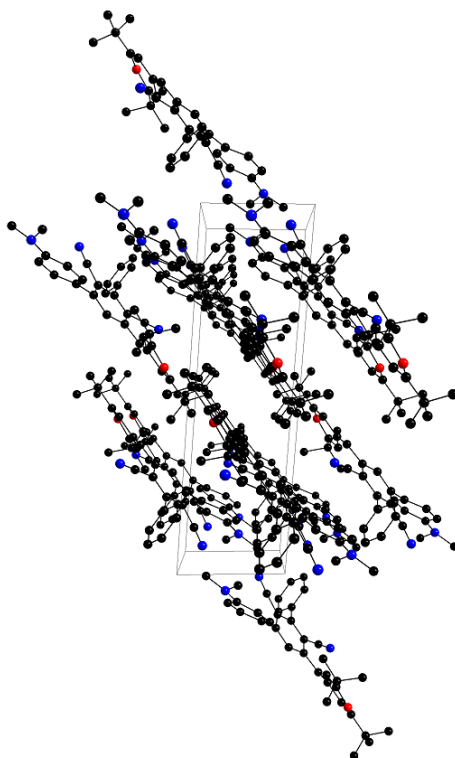
**Figure S36:** Molecular structure of compound **10**.



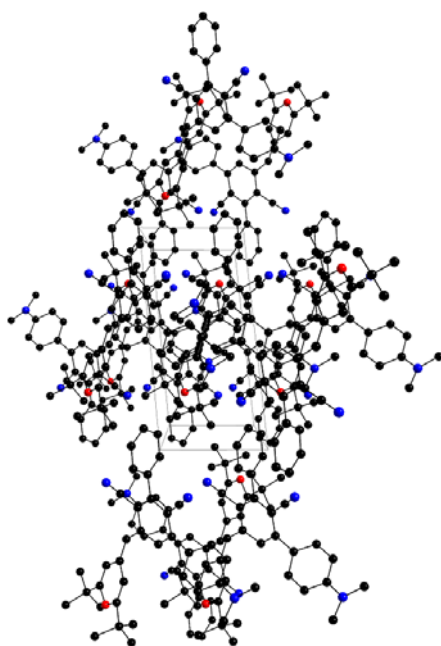
**Figure S37:** ORTEP view of **10**.



**Figure S38:** Crystal packing of **10** viewed along the [100] direction.

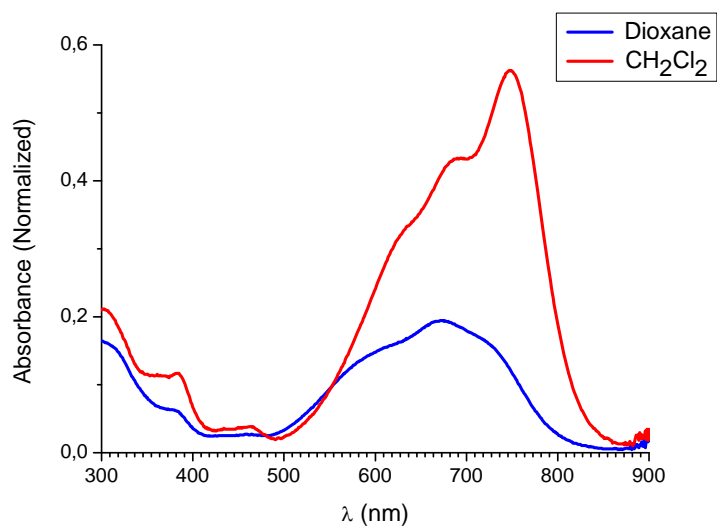


**Figure S39:** Crystal packing of **10** viewed along the [010] direction.

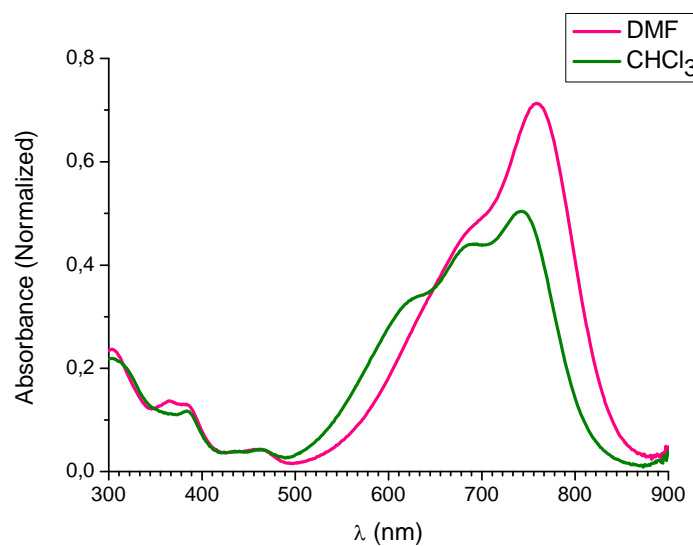


**Figure S40:** Crystal packing of **10** viewed along the [001] direction.

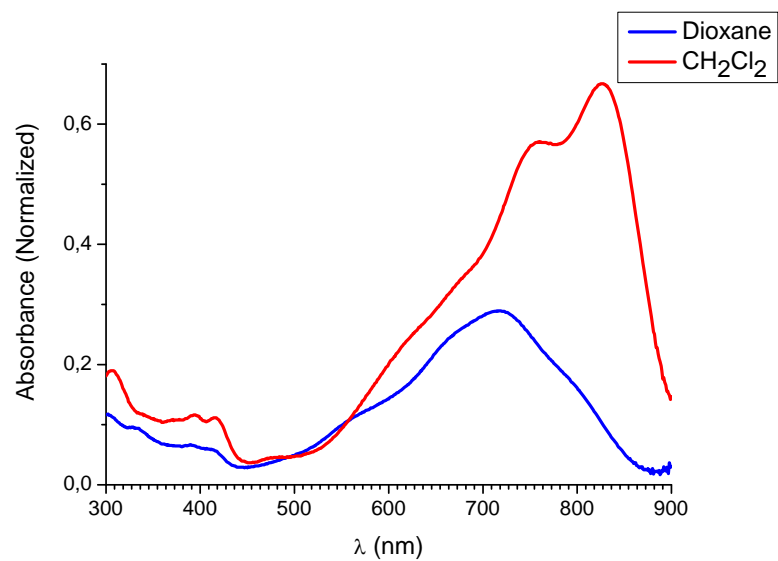
## 5. UV-vis spectra



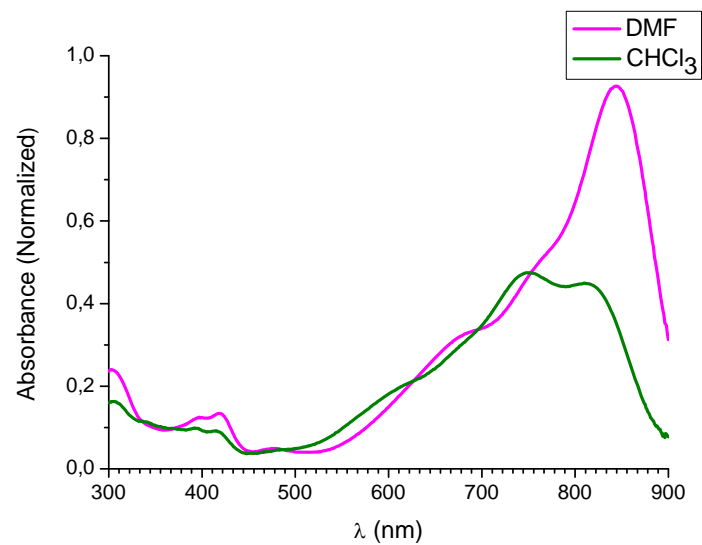
**Figure S41:** Normalized UV-vis absorption of compound **5a** ( $10^{-5}$  M) in dioxane and in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .



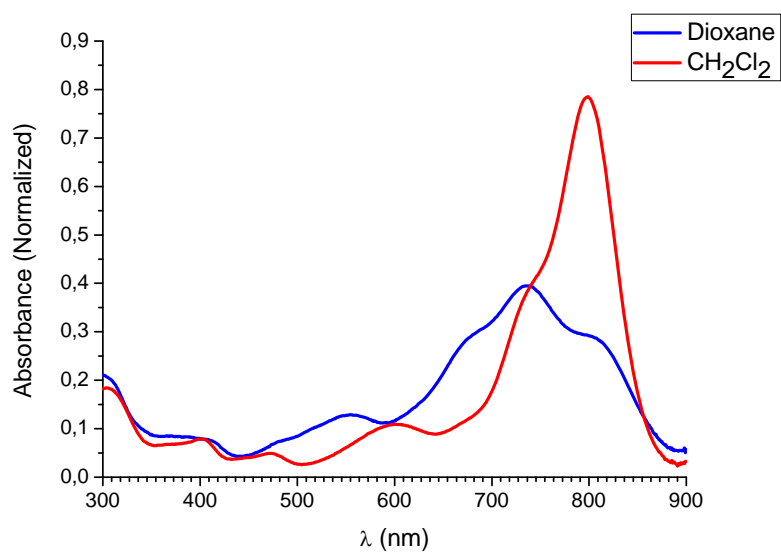
**Figure S42:** Normalized UV-vis absorption of compound **5a** ( $10^{-5}$  M) in DMF and in  $\text{CHCl}_3$ .



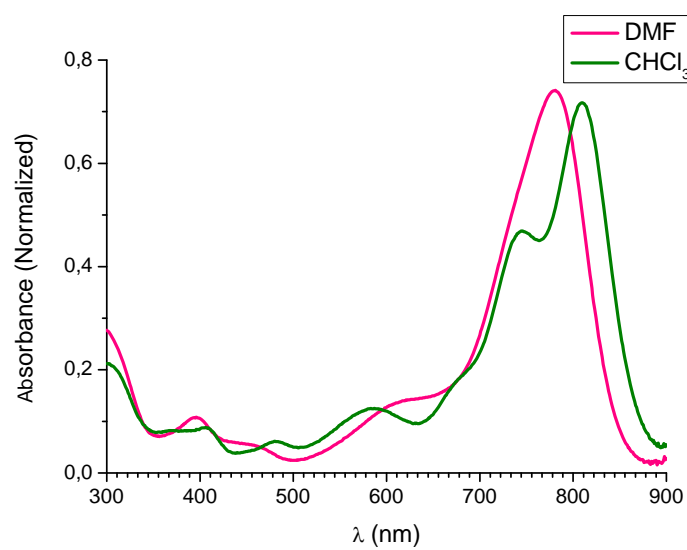
**Figure S43:** Normalized UV-vis absorption of compound **6a** ( $10^{-5}$  M) in dioxane and in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .



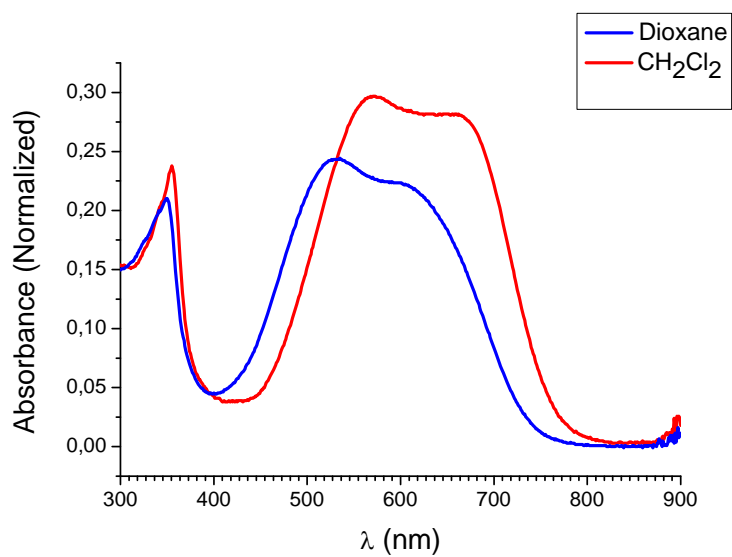
**Figure S44:** Normalized UV-vis absorption of compound **6a** ( $10^{-5}$  M) in DMF and in  $\text{CHCl}_3$ .



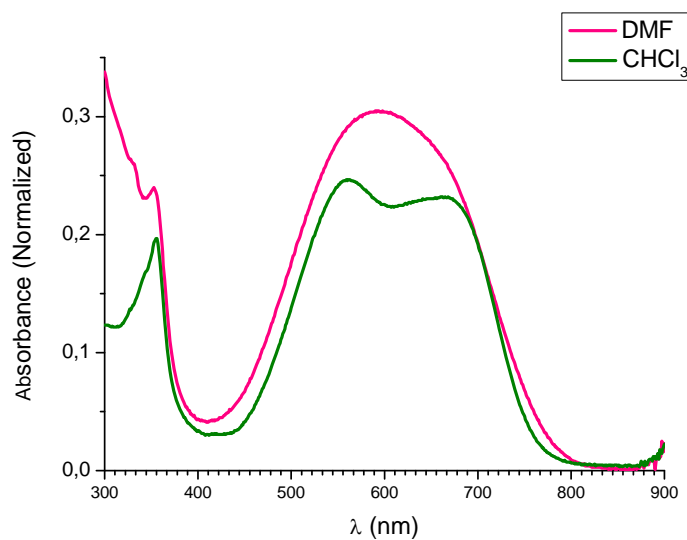
**Figure S45:** Normalized UV-vis absorption of compound **7a** (10<sup>-5</sup> M) in dioxane and in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.



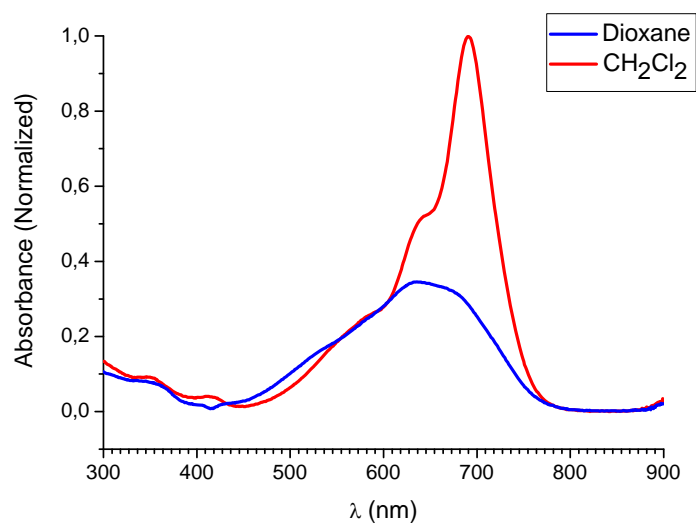
**Figure S46:** Normalized UV-vis absorption of compound **7a** (10<sup>-5</sup> M) in DMF and in CHCl<sub>3</sub>.



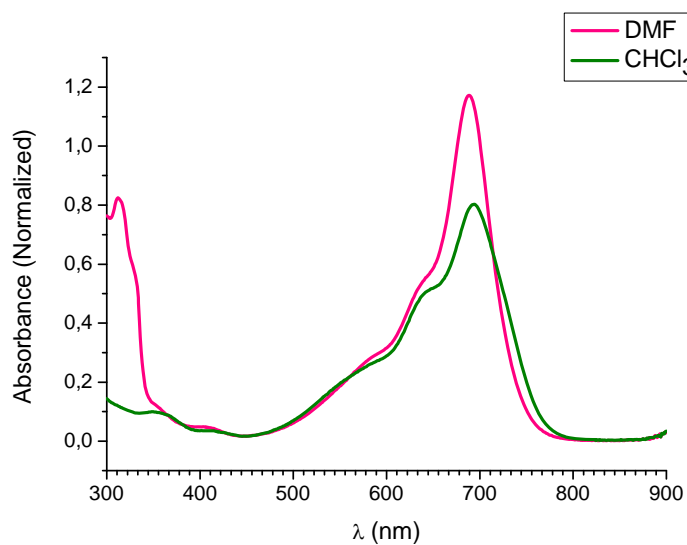
**Figure S47:** Normalized UV-vis absorption of compound **5b** ( $10^{-5}$  M) in dioxane and in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .



**Figure S48:** Normalized UV-vis absorption of compound **5b** ( $10^{-5}$  M) in DMF and in  $\text{CHCl}_3$ .

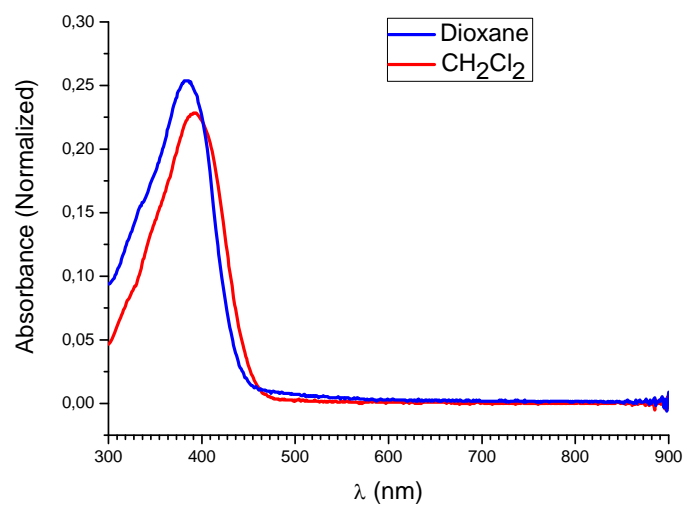


**Figure S49:** Normalized UV-vis absorption of compound **7c** ( $10^{-5}$  M) in dioxane and in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.

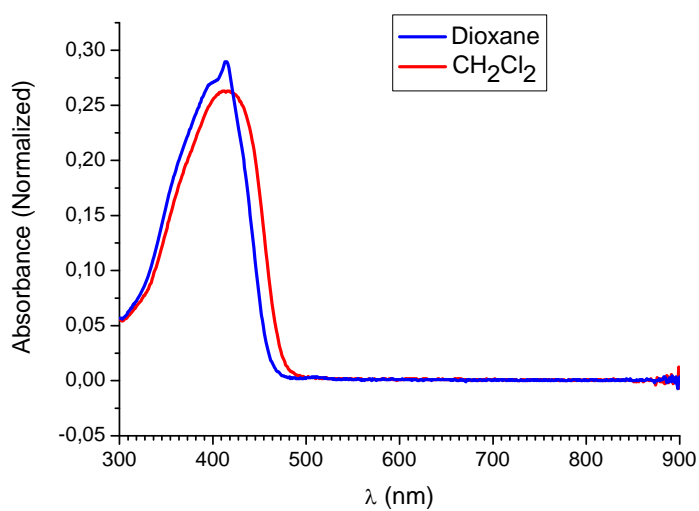


**Figure S50:** Normalized UV-vis absorption of compound **7c** ( $10^{-5}$  M) in DMF and in CHCl<sub>3</sub>.





**Figure S51:** Normalized UV-vis absorption of compound **9** ( $10^{-5}$  M) in dioxane and in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .



**Figure S52:** Normalized UV-vis absorption of compound **10** ( $10^{-5}$  M) in dioxane and in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .

## 6. Theoretical calculations

Cartesian coordinates and energies of optimized geometries used in theoretical calculations (PCM (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)-B3P86/6-31G\*)

### 5a

Standard orientation:

Center Number	Atomic Number	Atomic Type	Coordinates (Angstroms)		
			X	Y	Z
1	6	0	1.625079	1.174890	0.029025
2	6	0	3.010345	1.260550	0.327005
3	16	0	1.070279	2.784891	-0.442226
4	6	0	2.711832	3.379263	-0.285735
5	6	0	3.061411	4.710617	-0.571368
6	7	0	3.584427	2.456012	0.131027
7	6	0	4.403100	5.135703	-0.456208
8	7	0	5.506529	5.506810	-0.367747
9	6	0	2.087583	5.643722	-0.981422
10	7	0	1.263661	6.400718	-1.318742
11	6	0	3.855883	0.215604	0.936461
12	6	0	5.198488	0.117218	0.549267
13	6	0	3.377808	-0.618084	1.954814
14	6	0	6.036012	-0.820251	1.143423
15	1	0	5.574312	0.782485	-0.221395
16	6	0	4.220083	-1.547806	2.554069
17	1	0	2.350090	-0.522744	2.289453
18	6	0	5.549031	-1.656958	2.146298
19	1	0	7.072516	-0.893290	0.826969
20	1	0	3.839818	-2.182383	3.349286
21	1	0	6.204703	-2.385043	2.615301
22	6	0	0.722394	0.084733	0.005954
23	6	0	-3.082892	-0.288862	-0.102059
24	6	0	-3.661919	0.789180	0.608017
25	6	0	-3.977956	-1.210307	-0.691266
26	6	0	-5.023397	0.940349	0.715001
27	1	0	-3.024940	1.527272	1.086245
28	6	0	-5.343756	-1.075196	-0.594959
29	1	0	-3.572505	-2.058925	-1.237031
30	6	0	-5.921938	0.012889	0.113606
31	1	0	-5.406633	1.796780	1.255895
32	1	0	-5.973854	-1.826915	-1.054054
33	7	0	-7.268766	0.162333	0.215702

34	6	0	-7.874792	1.209146	1.031896
35	1	0	-8.841552	0.826916	1.374711
36	1	0	-7.274678	1.358914	1.933759
37	6	0	-8.198655	-0.710979	-0.492546
38	1	0	-7.781308	-0.965528	-1.470975
39	1	0	-9.099713	-0.122862	-0.693435
40	6	0	-1.677583	-0.488610	-0.250783
41	6	0	-0.670194	0.350652	0.158788
42	1	0	-1.389644	-1.396752	-0.777660
43	1	0	-0.935237	1.312891	0.591881
44	6	0	-8.562255	-1.967870	0.290550
45	1	0	-9.281758	-2.569069	-0.274578
46	1	0	-7.679507	-2.583837	0.487001
47	1	0	-9.016600	-1.710233	1.252792
48	6	0	-8.070255	2.521906	0.281251
49	1	0	-8.554065	3.258877	0.930269
50	1	0	-7.114090	2.934958	-0.054282
51	1	0	-8.704113	2.376935	-0.599560
52	6	0	1.202962	-1.267358	-0.235792
53	6	0	2.238658	-1.518288	-1.158299
54	6	0	0.655049	-2.382154	0.431057
55	6	0	2.694563	-2.793576	-1.411439
56	1	0	2.664264	-0.687528	-1.712913
57	6	0	1.116368	-3.662940	0.208733
58	1	0	-0.116478	-2.225446	1.179063
59	6	0	2.151242	-3.912180	-0.728490
60	1	0	3.470690	-2.932702	-2.154117
61	1	0	0.685672	-4.479364	0.775763
62	7	0	2.604055	-5.173672	-0.964624
63	6	0	3.699121	-5.395224	-1.889311
64	1	0	4.601224	-4.852268	-1.582082
65	1	0	3.437635	-5.082078	-2.907918
66	6	0	2.014048	-6.302061	-0.271178
67	1	0	0.936319	-6.370095	-0.462424
68	1	0	2.168623	-6.238812	0.813682
69	1	0	2.478395	-7.221572	-0.626341
70	1	0	3.935813	-6.458547	-1.913164

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E(RB3P86) = -1953.15647132 A.U.

6a

Standard orientation:

Center Number	Atomic Number	Atomic Type	Coordinates (Angstroms)		
			X	Y	Z
1	6	0	-3.174070	-1.196665	0.153822
2	6	0	-4.546351	-0.875213	0.333743
3	16	0	-3.051602	-2.910670	-0.230184
4	6	0	-4.807117	-3.020711	-0.170023
5	6	0	-5.488886	-4.223225	-0.410888
6	7	0	-5.418366	-1.869350	0.134488
7	6	0	-6.899839	-4.267651	-0.351289
8	7	0	-8.064759	-4.325937	-0.307842
9	6	0	-4.787034	-5.407281	-0.718386
10	7	0	-4.186723	-6.377268	-0.970623
11	6	0	-5.063925	0.450659	0.702704
12	6	0	-6.266072	0.893459	0.130181
13	6	0	-4.416415	1.267123	1.641339
14	6	0	-6.786919	2.137559	0.461984
15	1	0	-6.777127	0.251396	-0.579926
16	6	0	-4.945671	2.509990	1.975664
17	1	0	-3.521977	0.911665	2.142982
18	6	0	-6.126057	2.951712	1.382389
19	1	0	-7.712499	2.473151	0.003506
20	1	0	-4.439800	3.128001	2.711486
21	1	0	-6.537181	3.922287	1.644419
22	6	0	0.334461	0.202569	-0.036666
23	6	0	4.144892	-0.187780	-0.079903
24	6	0	4.472109	-1.466299	0.427757
25	6	0	5.226448	0.621475	-0.492854
26	6	0	5.772680	-1.904660	0.511054
27	1	0	3.683786	-2.133743	0.762997
28	6	0	6.535005	0.200626	-0.415199
29	1	0	5.018736	1.615891	-0.881002
30	6	0	6.859571	-1.085975	0.092033
31	1	0	5.957507	-2.901821	0.891474
32	1	0	7.317903	0.879754	-0.729661
33	7	0	8.147253	-1.517038	0.176672
34	6	0	8.500865	-2.785100	0.804981
35	1	0	9.507542	-2.667544	1.218733
36	1	0	7.843432	-2.960919	1.661239
37	6	0	9.259234	-0.732307	-0.347687
38	1	0	8.947564	-0.235589	-1.271054
39	1	0	10.042954	-1.439622	-0.637203
40	6	0	2.811684	0.317086	-0.191042
41	6	0	1.644720	-0.347941	0.084959

42	1	0	2.732189	1.338457	-0.559236
43	1	0	1.691502	-1.395715	0.374798
44	6	0	9.812812	0.275287	0.654471
45	1	0	10.657339	0.817736	0.217383
46	1	0	9.050777	1.003781	0.947536
47	1	0	10.164990	-0.229056	1.560210
48	6	0	8.469422	-3.966952	-0.158140
49	1	0	8.771461	-4.883370	0.359089
50	1	0	7.466539	-4.119193	-0.568750
51	1	0	9.156999	-3.806521	-0.994880
52	6	0	0.129683	1.642676	-0.214233
53	6	0	-0.750406	2.145840	-1.190979
54	6	0	0.801729	2.587198	0.584403
55	6	0	-0.944798	3.502280	-1.371287
56	1	0	-1.260996	1.452221	-1.852935
57	6	0	0.599976	3.946013	0.434887
58	1	0	1.467535	2.239980	1.369249
59	6	0	-0.278941	4.449222	-0.555713
60	1	0	-1.612942	3.832089	-2.157905
61	1	0	1.121759	4.625708	1.098093
62	7	0	-0.474226	5.790083	-0.717883
63	6	0	-1.393490	6.273424	-1.727791
64	1	0	-2.413068	5.905104	-1.556524
65	1	0	-1.084196	5.970035	-2.736396
66	6	0	0.229851	6.734661	0.124838
67	1	0	1.318014	6.642549	0.014905
68	1	0	-0.020355	6.597862	1.184925
69	1	0	-0.053609	7.747713	-0.160034
70	1	0	-1.417884	7.362504	-1.696731
71	6	0	-0.749407	-0.690189	0.020093
72	6	0	-2.085972	-0.326574	0.147059
73	1	0	-0.505736	-1.751865	0.019529
74	1	0	-2.320413	0.728358	0.261258

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SCF Done: E(RB3P86) = -2030.82324677 A.U.

## 7a

Standard orientation:

Center Number	Atomic Number	Atomic Type	Coordinates (Angstroms)		
			X	Y	Z
1	6	0	<b>-4.758444</b>	<b>-0.219084</b>	<b>0.574540</b>
2	6	0	<b>-3.413464</b>	<b>-0.225513</b>	<b>0.400057</b>

3	6	0	-2.753392	-1.324531	-0.240647
4	6	0	-3.618957	-2.398569	-0.632049
5	6	0	-4.961190	-2.337944	-0.452146
6	1	0	-2.840719	0.609336	0.773852
7	1	0	-3.191289	-3.276688	-1.099585
8	6	0	3.461386	-0.867481	-0.158343
9	6	0	4.685239	-0.159213	-0.214791
10	16	0	3.813416	-2.555945	0.194824
11	6	0	5.525066	-2.153573	0.280272
12	6	0	6.505850	-3.121871	0.560304
13	7	0	5.795115	-0.867082	0.044867
14	6	0	7.869125	-2.758594	0.614615
15	7	0	9.001419	-2.477956	0.665295
16	6	0	6.153370	-4.466375	0.793240
17	7	0	5.839393	-5.576231	0.982262
18	6	0	4.825728	1.274204	-0.514978
19	6	0	5.796122	2.017953	0.173330
20	6	0	4.051724	1.911098	-1.495417
21	6	0	5.962462	3.372018	-0.088096
22	1	0	6.409778	1.519097	0.916391
23	6	0	4.226010	3.266723	-1.758779
24	1	0	3.342579	1.336208	-2.082619
25	6	0	5.174895	4.001998	-1.052033
26	1	0	6.710578	3.938003	0.459316
27	1	0	3.626703	3.744851	-2.527971
28	1	0	5.309308	5.059733	-1.259165
29	8	0	-5.522410	-1.250247	0.133108
30	6	0	-1.375366	-1.468514	-0.447853
31	6	0	2.162293	-0.353869	-0.237899
32	1	0	-1.073359	-2.463221	-0.771673
33	1	0	2.084736	0.726438	-0.325824
34	6	0	-0.317173	-0.559994	-0.242742
35	6	0	0.992612	-1.093826	-0.210623
36	1	0	1.071106	-2.180261	-0.204334
37	6	0	-5.592434	0.854064	1.233622
38	6	0	-4.710549	1.992369	1.750144
39	6	0	-6.587398	1.409591	0.198044
40	6	0	-6.366390	0.234153	2.410755
41	1	0	-4.002847	1.644849	2.510191
42	1	0	-4.145769	2.469004	0.941950
43	1	0	-5.345231	2.756130	2.210182
44	1	0	-7.244052	0.624354	-0.187005
45	1	0	-7.211450	2.176363	0.668609
46	1	0	-6.062013	1.867104	-0.646901
47	1	0	-6.984094	1.003447	2.885648
48	1	0	-7.025340	-0.572389	2.077112
49	1	0	-5.682480	-0.167967	3.165609
50	6	0	-5.994704	-3.368690	-0.838734

51	6	0	-6.747993	-3.816543	0.426937
52	6	0	-6.985527	-2.728955	-1.828238
53	6	0	-5.336524	-4.584094	-1.494490
54	1	0	-6.067034	-4.277490	1.150086
55	1	0	-7.250283	-2.974951	0.912243
56	1	0	-7.508138	-4.556071	0.154620
57	1	0	-6.477956	-2.412532	-2.745599
58	1	0	-7.753634	-3.461035	-2.098053
59	1	0	-7.482804	-1.859237	-1.389698
60	1	0	-6.111747	-5.308349	-1.762870
61	1	0	-4.803069	-4.312339	-2.411347
62	1	0	-4.635842	-5.082319	-0.816388
63	6	0	-0.529861	0.891037	-0.132132
64	6	0	0.043392	1.655657	0.898067
65	6	0	-1.303369	1.576015	-1.084997
66	6	0	-0.151188	3.023218	0.986213
67	1	0	0.627872	1.158774	1.667370
68	6	0	-1.489305	2.944504	-1.026664
69	1	0	-1.750032	1.017759	-1.903252
70	6	0	-0.917129	3.714208	0.017295
71	1	0	0.294972	3.560518	1.814398
72	1	0	-2.071196	3.426359	-1.803486
73	7	0	-1.096963	5.066228	0.083490
74	6	0	-0.484878	5.828541	1.152112
75	1	0	-0.848874	5.510397	2.137806
76	1	0	0.608501	5.732378	1.143824
77	1	0	-0.732016	6.882501	1.025729
78	6	0	-1.888659	5.743391	-0.922391
79	1	0	-1.459747	5.623880	-1.925986
80	1	0	-2.920705	5.370039	-0.945180
81	1	0	-1.920826	6.808653	-0.694469

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E(RB3P86) = -2130.85208279 A.U. after 6 cycles

### 7c

Standard orientation:

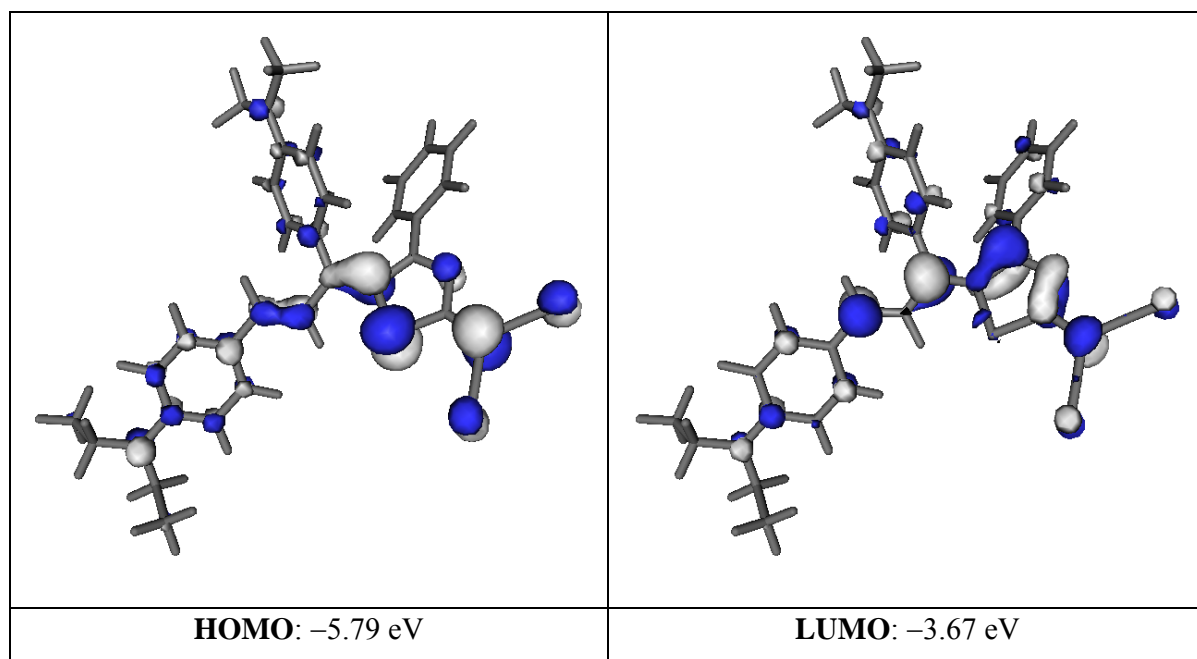
Center Number	Atomic Number	Atomic Type	Coordinates (Angstroms)		
			X	Y	Z
1	6	0	-4.396512	0.260922	-0.519077
2	8	0	-5.328731	-0.629755	-0.095481
3	6	0	-3.072518	-0.000868	-0.387124
4	6	0	-2.612418	-1.230278	0.190084
5	6	0	-3.654428	-2.137724	0.575579

6	6	0	-4.965363	-1.823692	0.437203
7	6	0	-1.282726	-1.641641	0.340254
8	6	0	-0.074680	-0.951244	0.108139
9	6	0	1.100246	-1.730417	0.000325
10	6	0	2.390761	-1.230393	-0.008981
11	6	0	3.569359	-1.992693	-0.170508
12	6	0	4.870305	-1.410410	-0.106078
13	6	0	6.022565	-2.012229	-0.625785
14	6	0	7.325065	-1.536446	-0.313646
15	7	0	8.416833	-1.199713	-0.077709
16	6	0	6.013303	-3.112425	-1.523530
17	7	0	6.068361	-3.982212	-2.298802
18	6	0	5.021094	-0.093337	0.557844
19	6	0	4.539799	0.102275	1.860249
20	6	0	4.704290	1.329333	2.493692
21	6	0	5.334694	2.380266	1.829508
22	6	0	5.806650	2.198249	0.530909
23	6	0	5.658174	0.967436	-0.099538
24	6	0	3.411286	-3.391873	-0.379627
25	7	0	3.206334	-4.534518	-0.490084
26	1	0	-2.364428	0.730069	-0.746430
27	1	0	-3.387327	-3.097318	1.000600
28	1	0	-1.167349	-2.685985	0.625793
29	1	0	0.968502	-2.809866	-0.045765
30	1	0	2.526363	-0.159865	0.112163
31	1	0	4.053969	-0.718805	2.378938
32	1	0	4.340394	1.464301	3.507903
33	1	0	5.457466	3.339827	2.323314
34	1	0	6.291362	3.016144	0.006228
35	1	0	6.019007	0.828771	-1.114257
36	6	0	-5.033089	1.495819	-1.111733
37	6	0	-5.914530	2.159972	-0.038160
38	6	0	-3.968165	2.490790	-1.577400
39	6	0	-5.903617	1.081350	-2.311628
40	1	0	-6.699049	1.483423	0.312471
41	1	0	-5.316739	2.472894	0.824567
42	1	0	-6.395066	3.048804	-0.460073
43	1	0	-3.338316	2.070801	-2.368577
44	1	0	-4.461597	3.380178	-1.981564
45	1	0	-3.322598	2.810394	-0.752573
46	1	0	-6.379560	1.969228	-2.740653
47	1	0	-5.298581	0.607754	-3.091973
48	1	0	-6.690723	0.383078	-2.013512
49	6	0	-0.004125	0.515890	0.031350
50	6	0	0.656263	1.174973	-1.019241
51	6	0	-0.578600	1.318624	1.031268
52	6	0	0.729484	2.555719	-1.083397
53	1	0	1.092518	0.588840	-1.823304

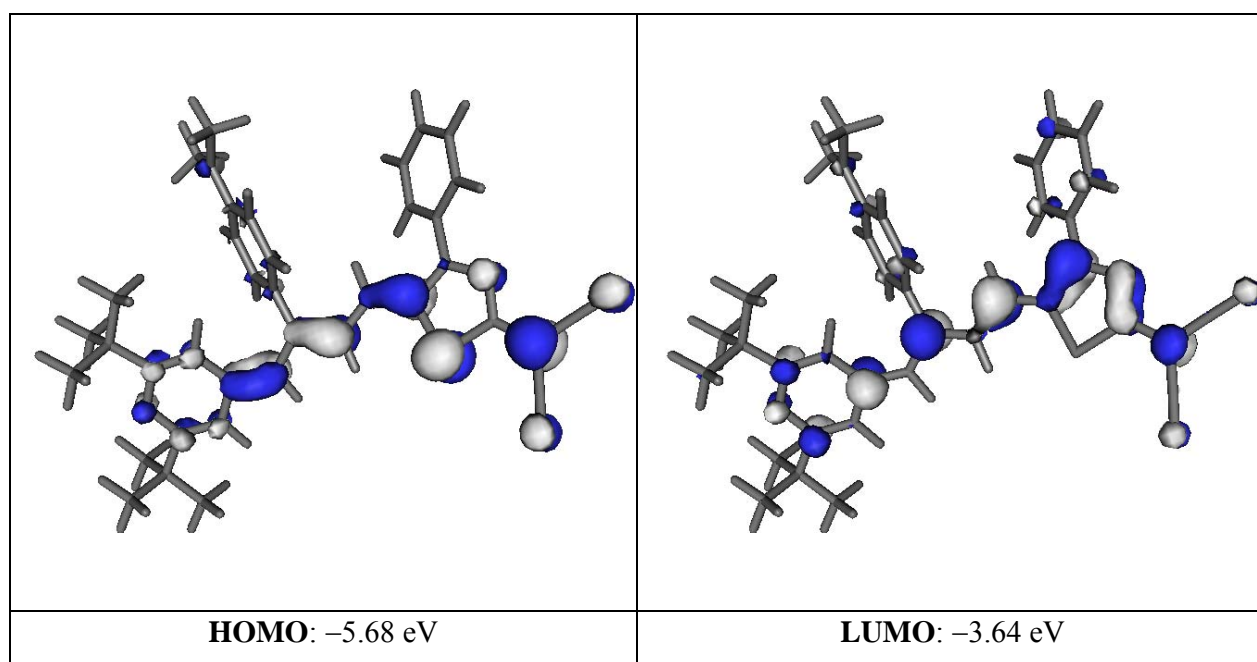


54	6	0	-0.493724	2.698116	0.997316
55	1	0	-1.084257	0.842155	1.866780
56	6	0	0.164092	3.362864	-0.067924
57	1	0	1.228439	3.011963	-1.930105
58	1	0	-0.927797	3.267758	1.810524
59	7	0	0.247793	4.725374	-0.111282
60	6	0	-0.364085	5.524935	0.929387
61	1	0	0.077208	5.320069	1.913698
62	1	0	-0.211198	6.580472	0.705020
63	1	0	-1.445110	5.345559	0.995267
64	6	0	0.946419	5.374636	-1.201096
65	1	0	1.994650	5.054425	-1.256126
66	1	0	0.473736	5.166404	-2.170135
67	1	0	0.931421	6.452944	-1.043317
68	6	0	-6.162431	-2.661962	0.815412
69	6	0	-7.015294	-1.880816	1.831437
70	6	0	-6.992708	-2.940016	-0.451015
71	6	0	-5.724948	-3.990411	1.436000
72	1	0	-6.446808	-1.667989	2.742972
73	1	0	-7.367350	-0.933098	1.414517
74	1	0	-7.890596	-2.477938	2.107472
75	1	0	-6.410196	-3.502634	-1.188170
76	1	0	-7.873454	-3.534468	-0.186636
77	1	0	-7.335611	-2.012007	-0.917127
78	1	0	-6.613452	-4.571888	1.700043
79	1	0	-5.130924	-4.589385	0.737756
80	1	0	-5.141653	-3.839251	2.350462

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SCF Done: E(RB3P86) = -1732.32226053 A.U.



**Figure S53:** HOMO and LUMO contour plots (PCM-B3P86/6-31G\*\*/B3P86-31G\* in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) for compound **5a**.



**Figure S54:** HOMO and LUMO contour plots (PCM-B3P86/6-31G\*\*/B3P86-31G\* in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) for compound **7a**.

## 7. NLO measurements

Electric field induced second harmonic generation (EFISH) measurements have been performed using as the fundamental radiation the 1.9  $\mu\text{m}$  output of a  $\text{H}_2$  Raman shifter pumped by a Q-switched Nd:YAG laser. This laser operates at 1064 nm, with a repetition rate of 10 Hz and pulse width of 8 ns. A computer controlled NLO spectrometer completes the SHG experimental set-up. The 1.9  $\mu\text{m}$  incident light is split in two beams. The less intense one is directed to a *N*-(4-nitrophenyl)-(L)-prolinol (NPP) powder sample whose SH signal is used as a reference in order to reduce the effects of laser fluctuations. The other beam is passed through a linear polarizer and focused into the EFISH wedge shaped liquid cell. Voltage pulses of 5 kV and 3  $\mu\text{s}$  are applied across the cell (2 mm gap between the electrodes) synchronously with the laser pulses. The harmonic signals from both the EFISH cell and the NPP reference are measured with two photomultipliers. Interference filters are used to remove the residual excitation light beyond the sample and the reference.

The molecular  $\mu\beta$  values have been determined in dichloromethane for all compounds. As a rule, three solutions of concentration in the range ( $1 \times 10^{-4}\text{M}$ – $8 \times 10^{-4}\text{M}$ ) were measured. The effect of absorption at harmonic wavelength (953 nm) of compound **6a** has been corrected following ref.<sup>9</sup>.  $\mu\beta_0$  values were extrapolated using a two-level dispersion model.<sup>10</sup> Under the same experimental conditions  $\mu\beta_0$  deduced for DR1 was  $480 \times 10^{-48}$  esu, quite close to the value reported in the same solvent by Dirk et al.<sup>11</sup>

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(9) Oudar, J. L. *J. Chem. Phys.* **1977**, *67*, 446–457.

(10) Oudar, J. L.; Chemla, D. S. *J. Chem. Phys.* **1977**, *66*, 2664–2668.

(11) Dirk, C. W.; Katz, H. E.; Schilling, M. L.; King, L. A. *Chem. Mater.* **1990**, *2*, 700–705.