

Supporting Information

Oligoarylenes End-Capped with Carbazol-*N*-yl-Carbazole as Color Tunable Light-Emitting and Hole-Transporting Materials for Solution-Processed OLEDs

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Synthesis and characterization of 1-5

6-Bromo-3-(3',6'-di-*tert*-butylcarbazol-*N'*-yl)-*N*-dodecylcarbazole (1)

A mixture of dodecylcarbazole (31.44 g, 63.48 mmol), 3,6-di-*tert*-butylcarbazole (4.43 g, 15.87 mmol), CuI (1.51 g, 7.94 mmol), K₃PO₄ (8.42 g, 39.68 mmol) and \pm *trans*-1,2-diaminocyclohexane (0.90 g, 7.94 mmol) in toluene (200 ml) was stirred at refluxed under N₂ atmosphere for 48 h. Water (50 ml) was added and the mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (50 ml x 2). The combined organic phase was washed with water (50 ml x 2) and brine solution (100 ml), dried over anh. Na₂SO₄, filtered and the solvents were removed to dryness. Purification by column chromatography over silica gel eluting with a mixture of CH₂Cl₂ and hexane (1:5) followed by recrystallization with a mixture of CH₂Cl₂ and methanol afforded the product (8.43 g, 77%) as a white solid (mp 176 °C). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.18-8.15 (m, 4H), 7.57-7.45 (m, 3H), 7.44 (d, 2H, *J* = 1.13 Hz), 7.32-7.27 (m, 3H), 4.38 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.20 Hz), 1.96 (t, 2H, *J* = 6.90 Hz), 1.65-1.25 (m, 36H), 0.93 (t, 3H, *J* = 6.30 Hz) ppm. ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 139.29, 129.54, 128.42, 123.45, 123.42, 123.24, 111.95, 111.89, 111.31, 111.19, 111.10, 110.60, 109.54, 43.36, 31.93, 30.70, 29.95, 29.58, 29.35, 28.84, 28.28, 28.01, 12.74, 27.22, 22.71, 14.82 ppm. HRMS: *m/z* calcd. for C₄₄H₅₅BrN₂, 690.3549; found, 692.3601 [MH₂⁺].

6-(Thiophen-2-yl)-3-(3',6'-di-*tert*-butylcarbazol-*N'*-yl)-*N*-dodecylcarbazole (2)

A mixture of **1** (1.00 g, 1.44 mmol), 2-thiophene boronic acid (0.09 g, 1.21 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.02 g, 0.02 mmol) and 2 M Na₂CO₃ solution (15 ml) in THF (20 ml) was degassed with N₂ for 3 min. The mixture was heated at reflux under N₂ atmosphere for 48 h. After cooling, water (50 ml) was added and the mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (50 ml x 2). The combined organic phase was washed with water (50 ml x 2) and brine solution (50 ml), dried over anh. Na₂SO₄, filtered and the solvents were removed to dryness. Purification by column chromatography over silica gel eluting with a mixture of CH₂Cl₂ and hexane (1:6) gave the product (0.85 g, 86%) as a white pearl solid (mp. 132 °C). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.28 (d, 2H, *J* = 4.80 Hz), 8.20 (s, 2H), 7.79 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.40 Hz), 7.59 (q, 2H), 7.48 (m, 3H), 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.24 (s, 2H), 7.10 (t, 1H, *J* = 4.50 Hz), 4.39 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.20 Hz), 1.97 (t, 2H, *J* = 6.90 Hz), 1.56-1.27 (m, 36H), 0.87 (t, 3H, *J* = 6.90 Hz) ppm. ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 145.51, 142.44, 140.61, 140.31, 139.81, 129.64, 128.01, 126.09, 125.35, 124.88, 123.80, 123.68, 123.50, 123.07, 122.97, 122.14, 119.37, 118.05, 116.20, 109.77, 109.34, 109.19, 43.53, 34.76, 32.09, 31.93, 29.64, 29.55, 29.45, 29.36, 29.13, 27.37, 22.70, 14.13 ppm. HRMS: *m/z* calcd. for C₄₈H₅₈N₂S, 694.4321; found, 695.4405 [MH⁺].

6-(5-Bromothiophen-2-yl)-3-(3',6'-di-*tert*-butylcarbazol-*N'*-yl)-*N*-dodecylcarbazole (3)

To a stirred solution of **2** (3.30 g, 4.75 mmol) in THF (70 ml) NBS (0.87 g, 4.98 mmol) was added in small portions. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3 h. Water (20 ml) was added and the mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (50 ml x 3). The combined organic phase was washed with water (50 ml), and brine solution (50 ml), dried over anh. Na₂SO₄, filtered and the solvents were removed to dryness. The. Purification by column chromatography over silica gel eluting with a mixture of CH₂Cl₂ and hexane (1:3) followed by recrystallization with a mixture of CH₂Cl₂ and methanol afforded the product (3.33 g, 91%) as a green solid (mp. 174 °C). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.26 (s, 2H), 8.21 (s, 2H), 7.69 (d, 3H, *J* = 8.40 Hz), 7.61 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.90 Hz), 7.50-7.46 (m, 3H), 7.35 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.70 Hz), 7.08-7.04 (q, 2H), 4.40 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.20 Hz), 1.98 (t, 2H, *J* = 6.90 Hz), 1.57-1.27 (m, 36H), 0.89 (t, 3H, *J* = 6.90 Hz) ppm. ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 147.02, 142.48, 140.76, 140.26, 139.81, 130.82, 129.79, 125.50, 125.30, 124.49, 123.54, 123.50, 123.08, 123.00, 122.23, 119.34, 117.80, 116.21, 110.03, 109.85, 109.47, 109.15, 43.55, 34.75, 32.08, 31.92, 29.63, 29.60, 29.53, 29.43, 29.35, 29.10, 27.35, 22.69, 14.12 ppm. HRMS: *m/z* calcd. for C₄₈H₅₇BrN₂S, 772.3426; found, 773.3482 [MH⁺].

6-(2,2'-Bithiophen-5-yl)-3-(3',6'-di-*tert*-butylcarbazol-*N'*-yl)-*N*-dodecylcarbazole (4)

Compound **4** (1.35 g, 80%) was synthesized in similar manner to **2** from **3** and obtained as a pale yellow solid (mp. 142 °C). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.27 (s, 2H), 8.20 (s, 2H), 7.78 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.40 Hz), 7.60 (q, 2H), 7.49-7.46 (m, 3H), 7.36 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.27-7.16 (m, 3H), 7.03 (t, 1H, *J* = 3.9 Hz), 4.39 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.20 Hz), 1.97 (t, 2H, *J* = 6.90 Hz), 1.50-1.27 (m, 36H), 0.89 (t, 3H, *J* = 6.90 Hz) ppm. ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 144.35, 142.46, 140.68, 140.28, 139.81, 137.73, 135.62, 129.74, 127.81, 125.71, 125.39, 124.68, 124.50, 124.02, 123.64, 123.50, 123.29, 123.08, 123.03, 122.66, 119.34, 117.73, 116.19, 109.81, 109.41, 109.19, 43.55, 34.75, 32.08, 31.92, 29.63, 29.60, 29.54, 29.43, 29.35, 29.12, 27.36, 22.69, 14.12 ppm. HRMS: *m/z* calcd. for C₅₂H₆₀N₂S₂, 776.4198; found, 777.4290 [MH⁺].

6-(5'-Bromo-2,2'-bithiophen-5-yl)-3-(3',6'-di-*tert*-butylcarbazol-*N'*-yl)-*N*-dodecylcarbazole (5)

Compound **5** (93%) was synthesized in similar manner to **3** from **4** and obtained as a green solid (mp. 234 °C). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.24 (s, 2H), 8.17 (s, 2H), 7.74 (d, 1H, *J* = 5.58 Hz), 7.59-7.57 (m, 2H), 7.47 (d, 3H, *J* = 8.60 Hz), 7.33 (d, 3H, *J* = 8.60 Hz), 7.21 (d, 1H, *J* = 3.72 Hz), 7.10 (d, 1H, *J* = 3.72 Hz), 6.97-6.90 (q, 2H), 4.37 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.20 Hz), 1.98 (t, 2H, *J* = 6.90 Hz), 1.57-1.27 (m, 36H), 0.85 (t, 3H, *J* = 6.90 Hz) ppm. ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 144.90, 142.48, 140.75, 140.26, 139.81, 139.22, 134.50, 130.64, 129.78, 125.45, 124.95, 124.50, 123.59, 123.50, 123.30, 123.08, 122.69, 119.34, 117.79, 116.21, 110.48, 109.85, 109.45, 109.17, 43.55, 34.75, 32.08, 31.92, 30.92, 29.63, 29.60, 29.54, 29.43, 29.35, 29.11, 27.36, 22.70, 14.12 ppm. HRMS: *m/z* calcd. for C₅₂H₅₉BrN₂S₂, 854.3303; found, 855.3364 [MH⁺].

Quantum chemical calculation

- All calculations were performed by Gaussian 09 code
- Geometry optimizations were done by B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) method
- Ground to excited state excitation energies were calculated by TD-B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) in CH_2Cl_2 solvent

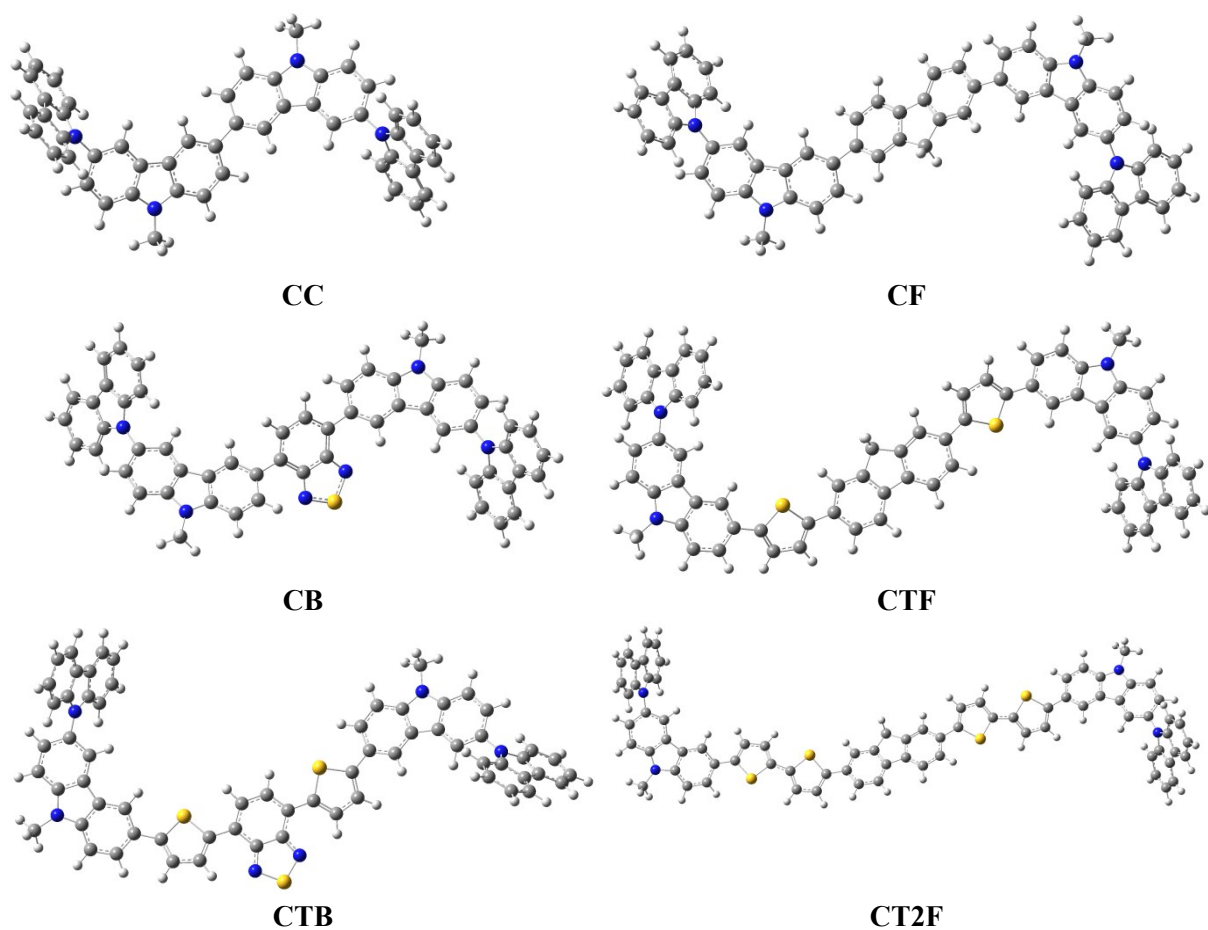
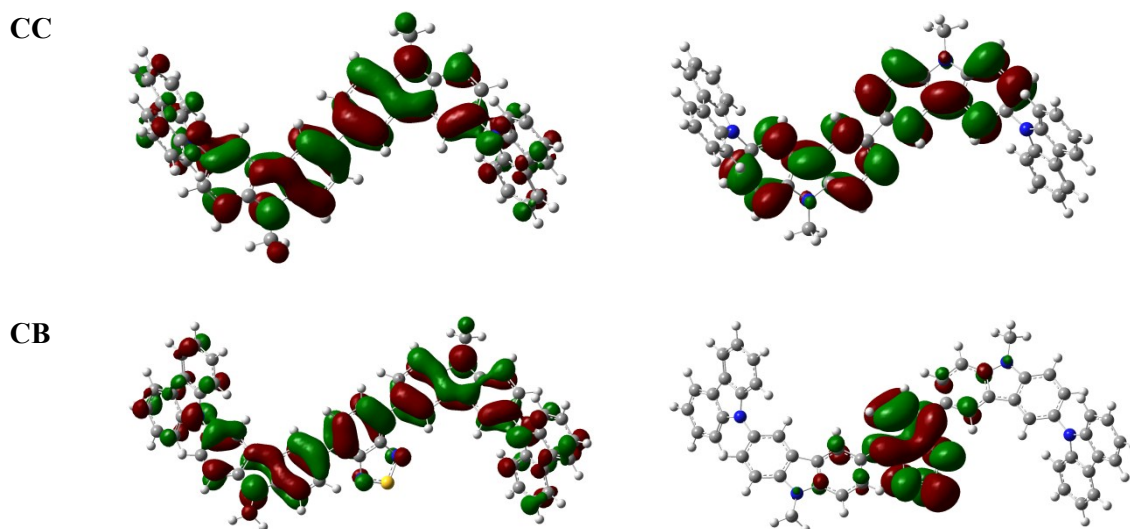


Figure S1. The optimized structure of the compounds calculated by B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) in CH_2Cl_2 .



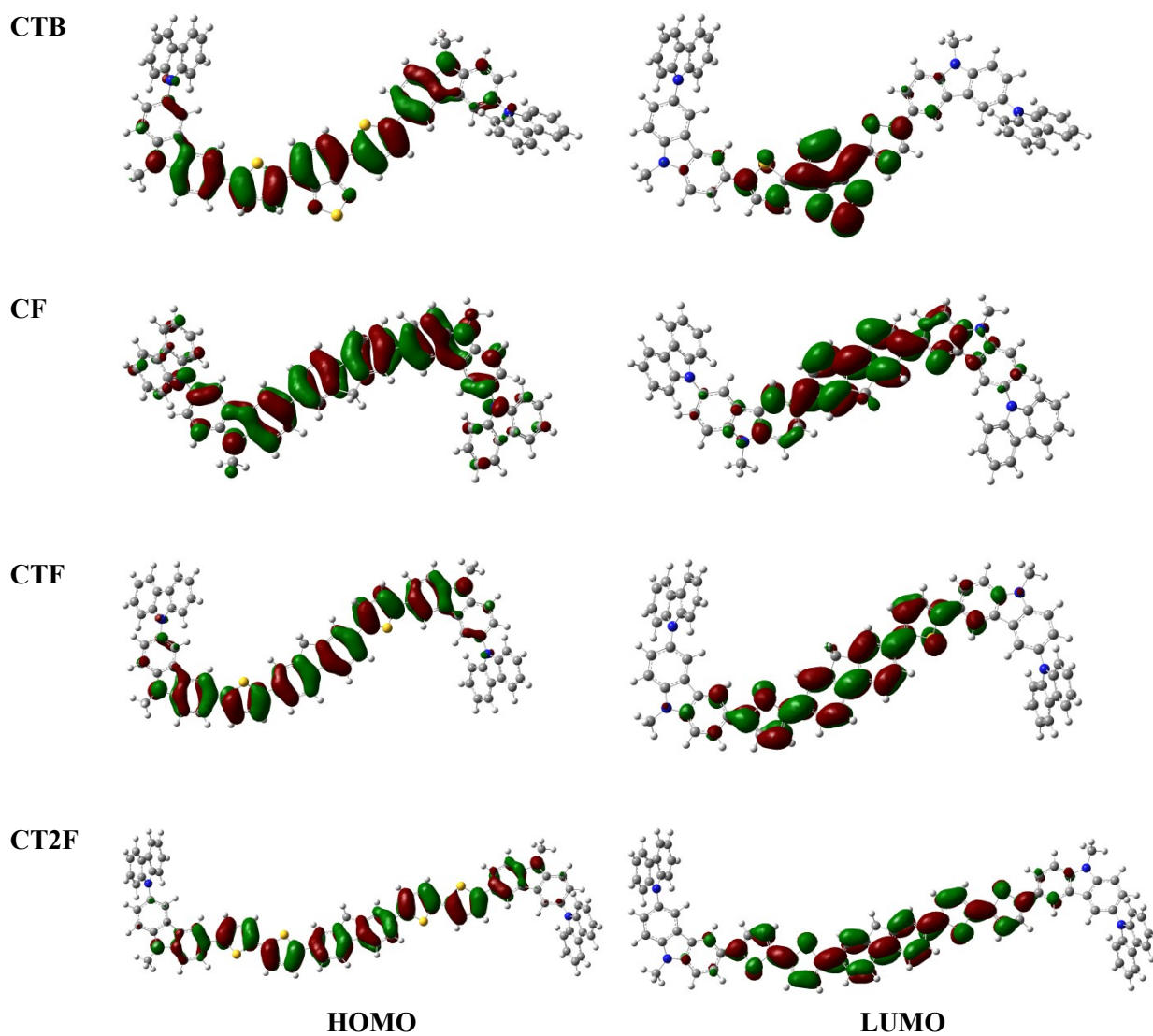


Figure S2. HOMO and LUMO of the compounds calculated by B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) in CH₂Cl₂.

Table S1. The calculated HOMO, LUMO and HOMO-LUMO energy gap (Δ_{H-L}) of the compounds by B3LYP/6-31G(d,p).

| Compounds | HOMO (eV) | LUMO (eV) | Δ_{H-L} (eV) | E_{ex}^a (eV/nm) |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|--------------------|
| CC | -5.16 | -1.05 | 4.11 | 3.47 (357) |
| CB | -5.21 | -2.39 | 2.83 | 2.37 (522) |
| CTB | -4.98 | -2.67 | 2.30 | 1.91 (647) |
| CF | -5.15 | -1.23 | 3.92 | 3.35 (370) |
| CTF | -4.98 | -1.74 | 3.24 | 2.81 (441) |
| CT2F | -4.90 | -1.99 | 2.91 | 2.50 (496) |

^a excitation energies from ground to excited states are calculated by TD-B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) in CH₂Cl₂ solvent

Table S2. The three lowest excitations of from ground to excited states are calculated by TD-B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) in CH₂Cl₂ solvent

| Compounds | | E _{ex} ^a (eV/nm) | Oscillator strength (f) | Transition |
|-------------|--------------------------------|---|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| CC | S ₀ →S ₁ | 3.57 (347) | 0.0038 | H→L (67%) |
| | S ₀ →S ₂ | 3.62 (342) | 0.0409 | H→L+1 (67%) |
| | S ₀ →S ₃ | 3.86 (321) | 0.1714 | H-1→L (54%) + H-2→L (35%) |
| CB | S ₀ →S ₁ | 2.37 (522) | 0.3894 | H→L (69%) |
| | S ₀ →S ₂ | 2.63 (471) | 0.0023 | H-1→L (70%) |
| | S ₀ →S ₃ | 2.77 (447) | 0.0575 | H-2→L (68%) |
| CTB | S ₀ →S ₁ | 1.91 (647) | 0.9203 | H→L (70%) |
| | S ₀ →S ₂ | 2.38 (521) | 0.0363 | H-1→L (69%) |
| | S ₀ →S ₃ | 2.50 (496) | 0.0131 | H-2→L (70%) |
| CF | S ₀ →S ₁ | 3.45 (359) | 1.8677 | H→L (69%) |
| | S ₀ →S ₂ | 3.60 (344) | 0.0031 | H→L+1 (59%) |
| | S ₀ →S ₃ | 3.61 (344) | 0.1441 | H→L+2 (59%) |
| CTF | S ₀ →S ₁ | 2.81 (441) | 2.4444 | H→L (69%) |
| | S ₀ →S ₂ | 3.20 (387) | 0.0286 | H-1→L (69%) |
| | S ₀ →S ₃ | 3.41 (364) | 0.0705 | H-2→L (68%) |
| CT2F | S ₀ →S ₁ | 2.50 (496) | 3.3319 | H→L (69%) |
| | S ₀ →S ₂ | 2.49 (439) | 0.0684 | H-1→L+1 (67%) |
| | S ₀ →S ₃ | 2.97 (417) | 0.0276 | H→L+1 (67%) |

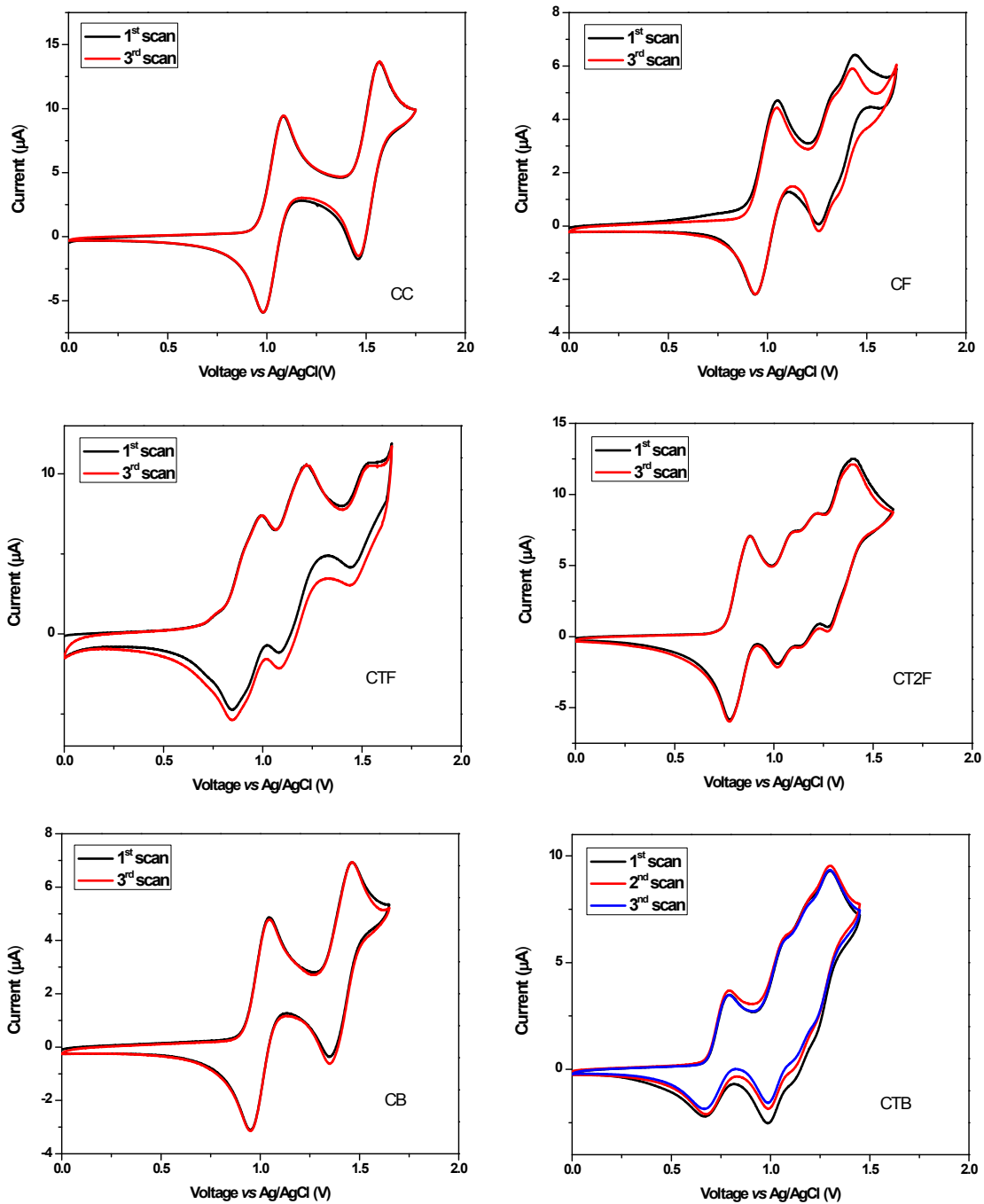


Figure S3. Multiple scan CV traces.

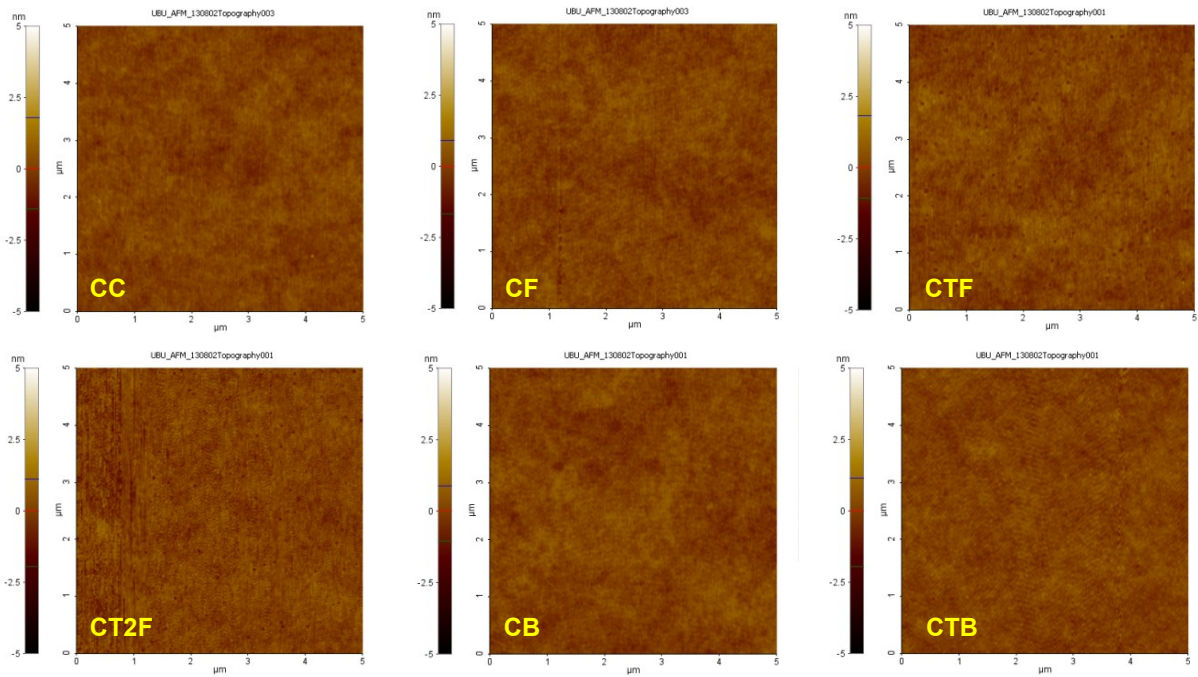
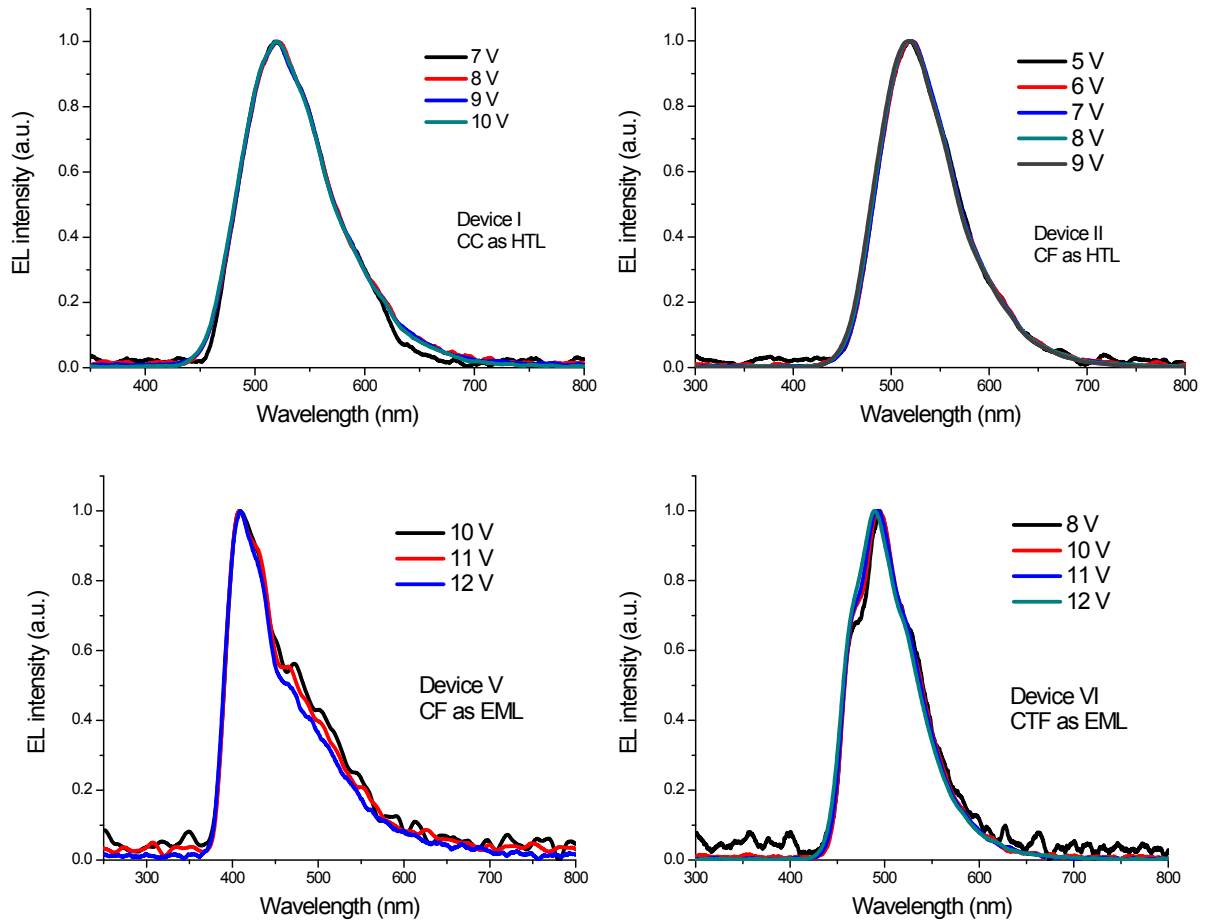


Figure S4. Tapping mode AFM images of the spin-coated thin films.



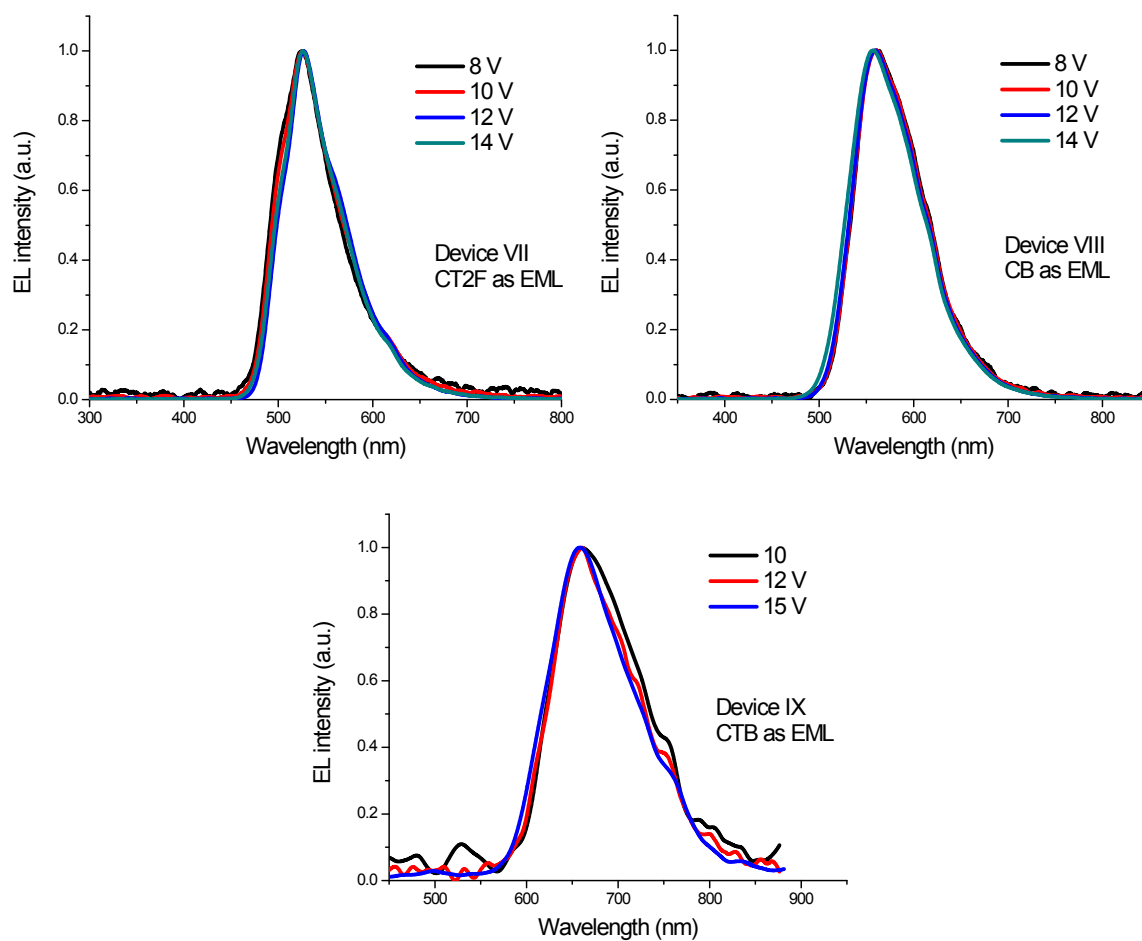
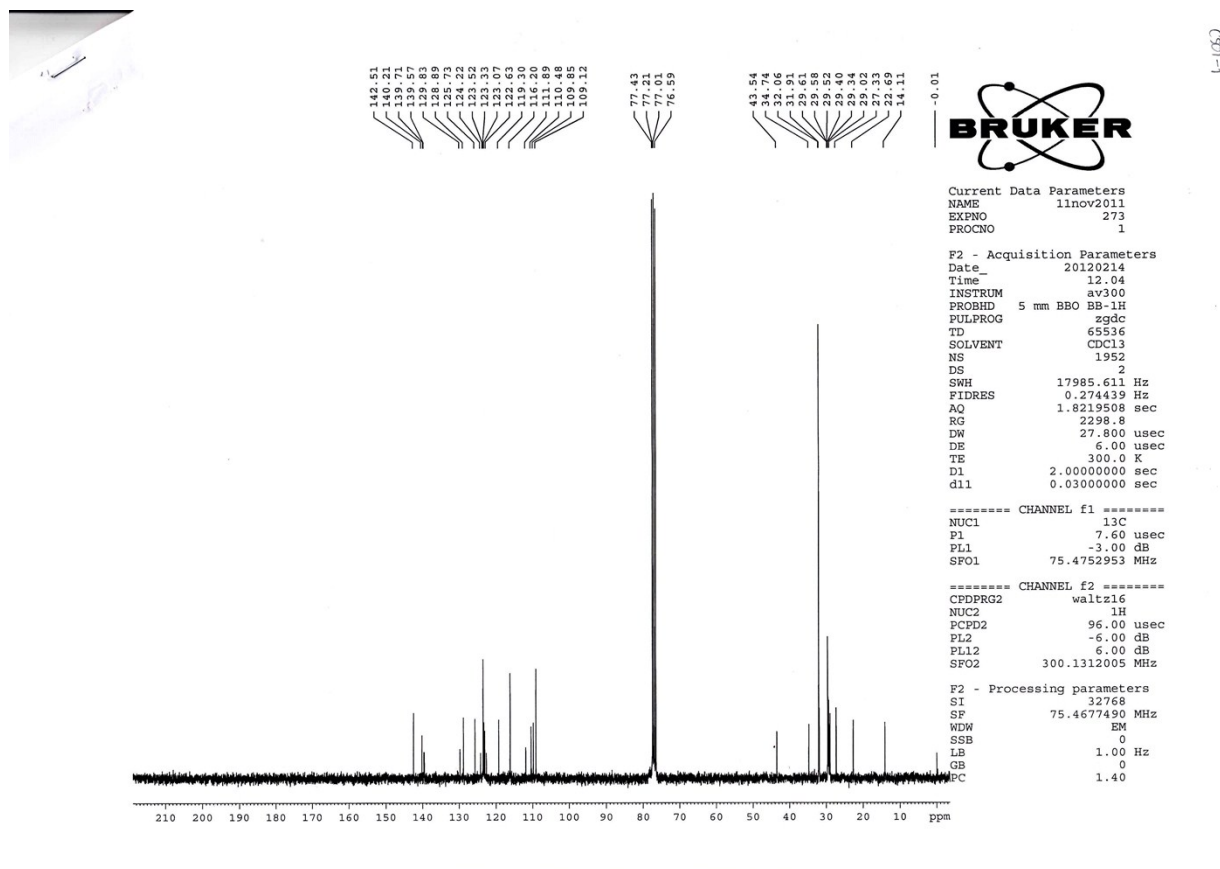
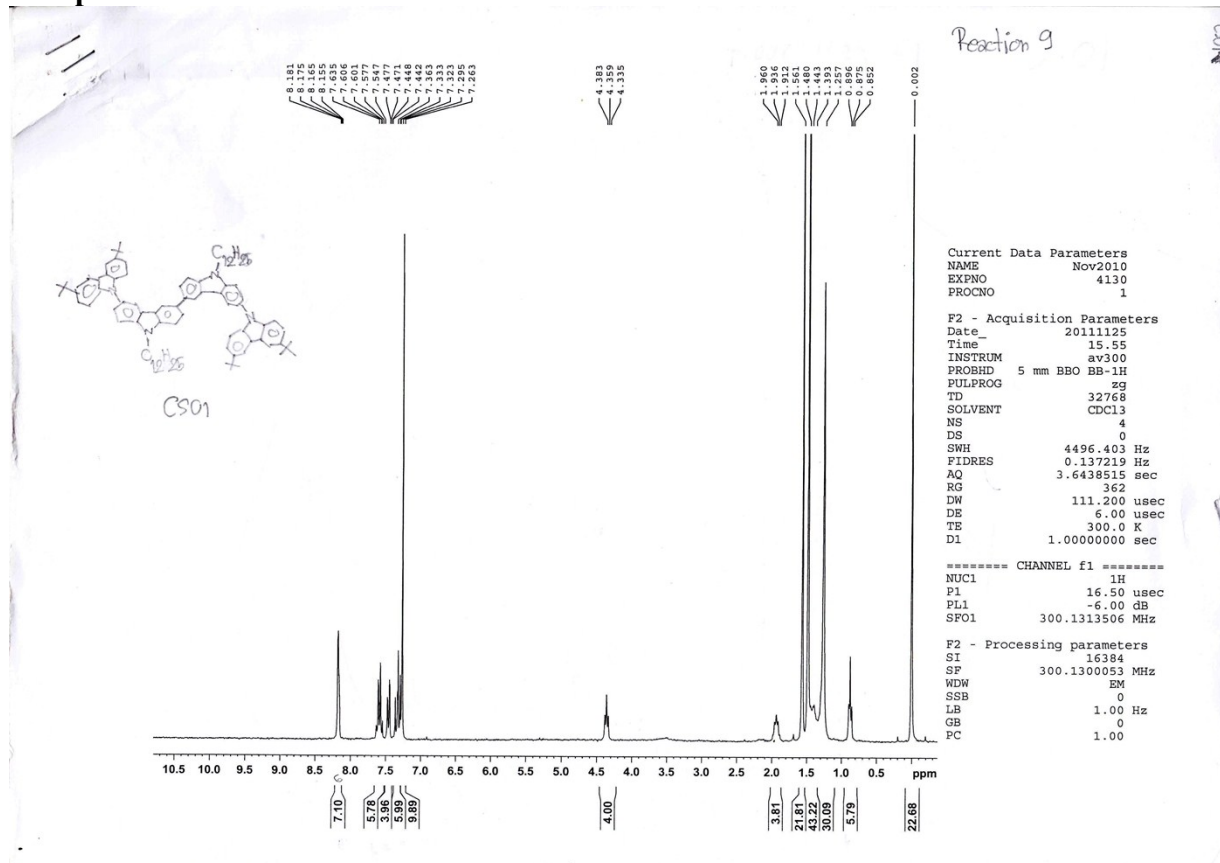
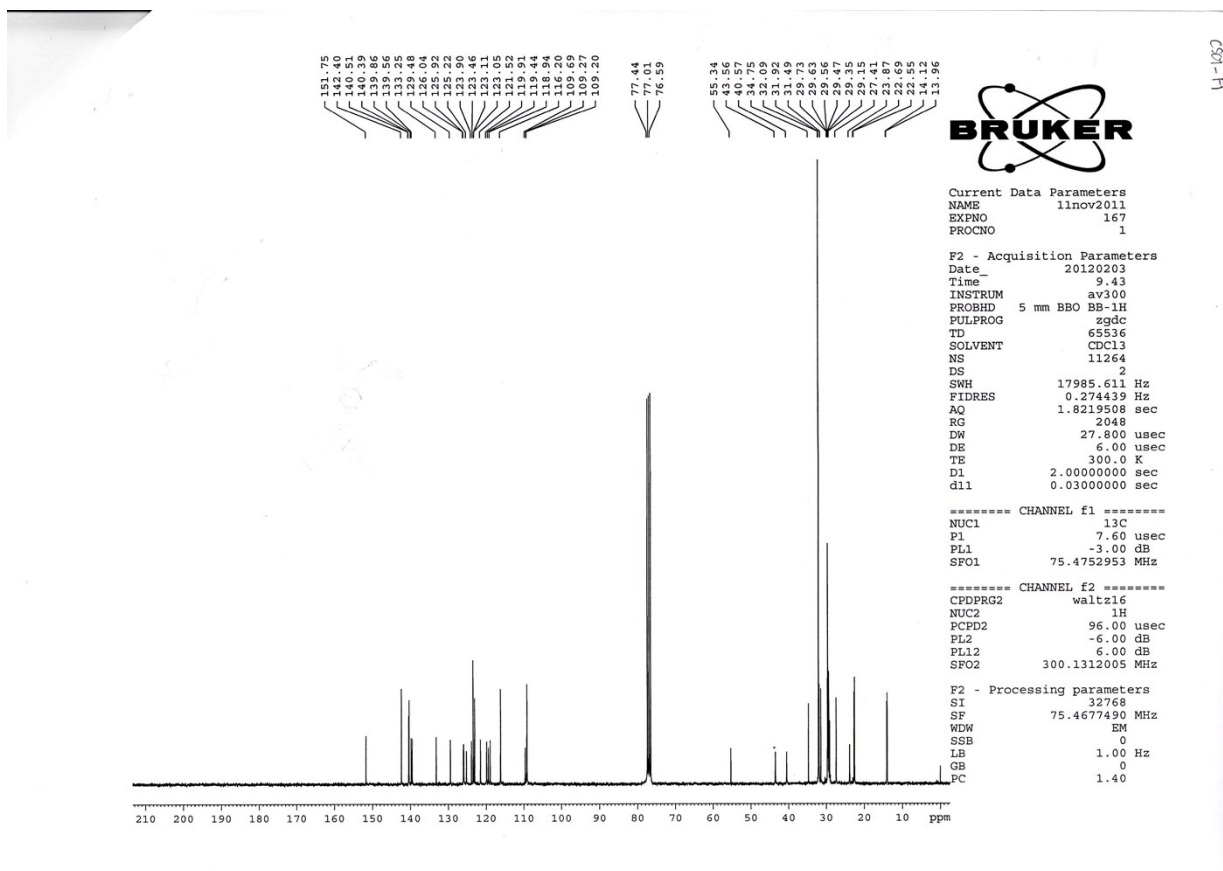
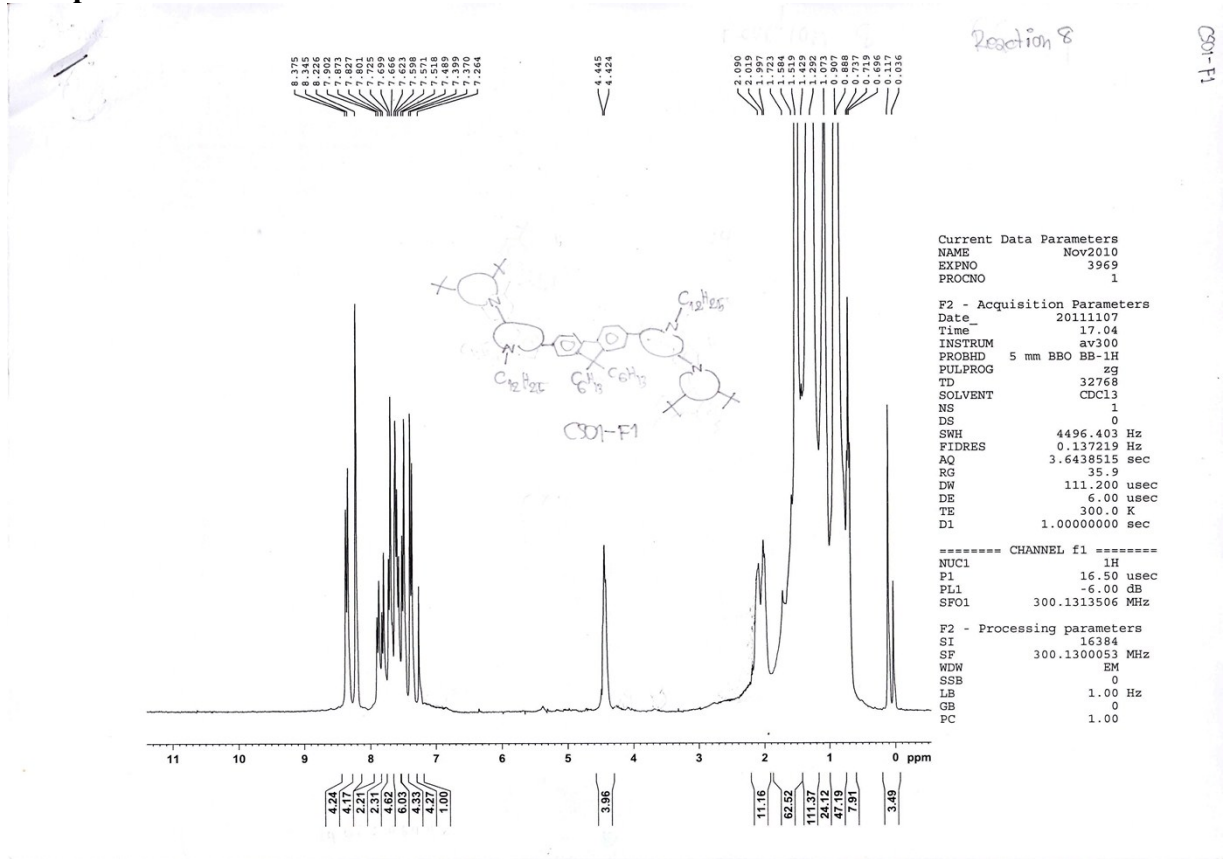


Figure S5. EL spectra of the OELDs at different applied voltages.

¹H-NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra Compound CC

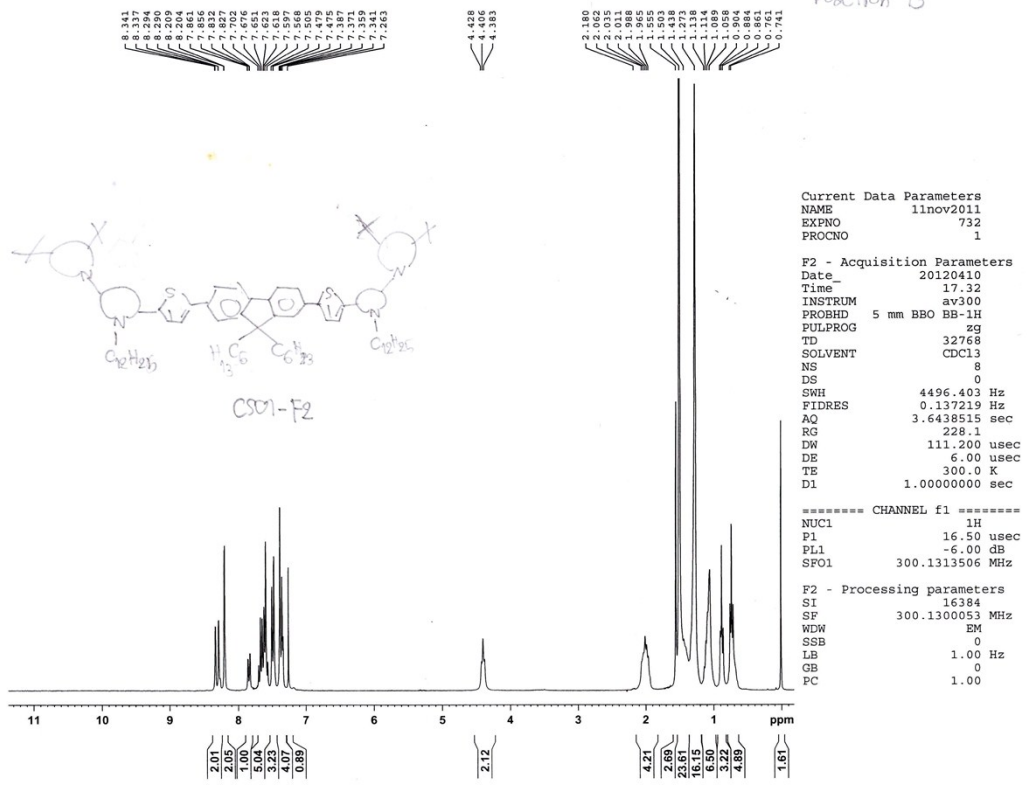


Compound CF

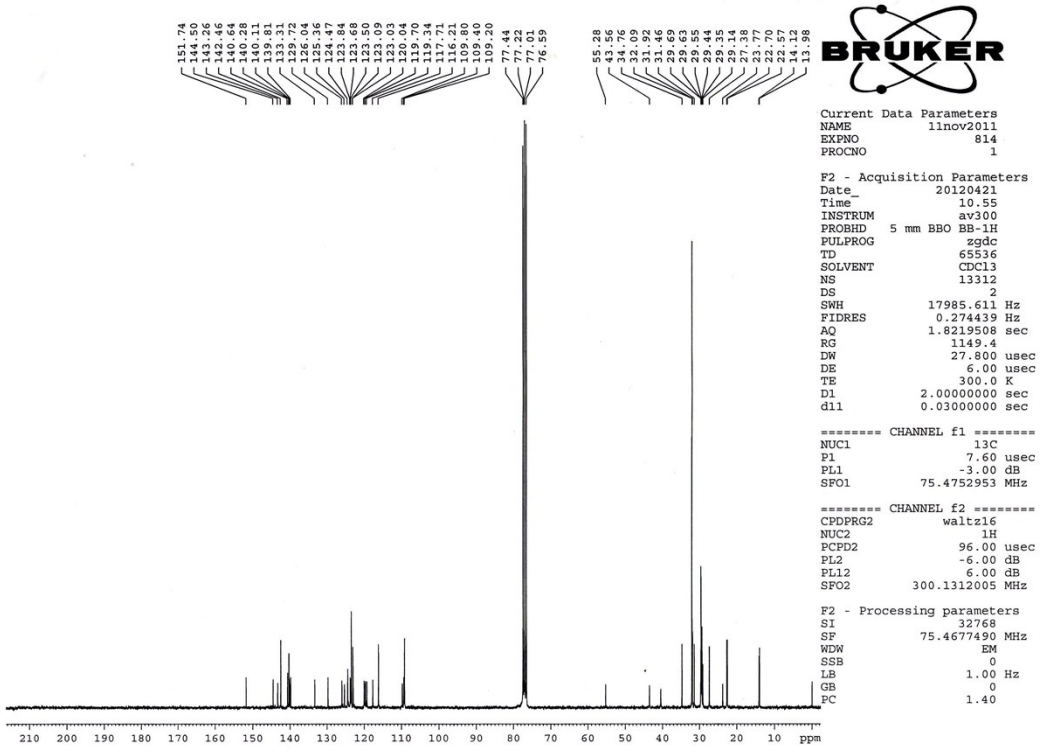


Compound CTF

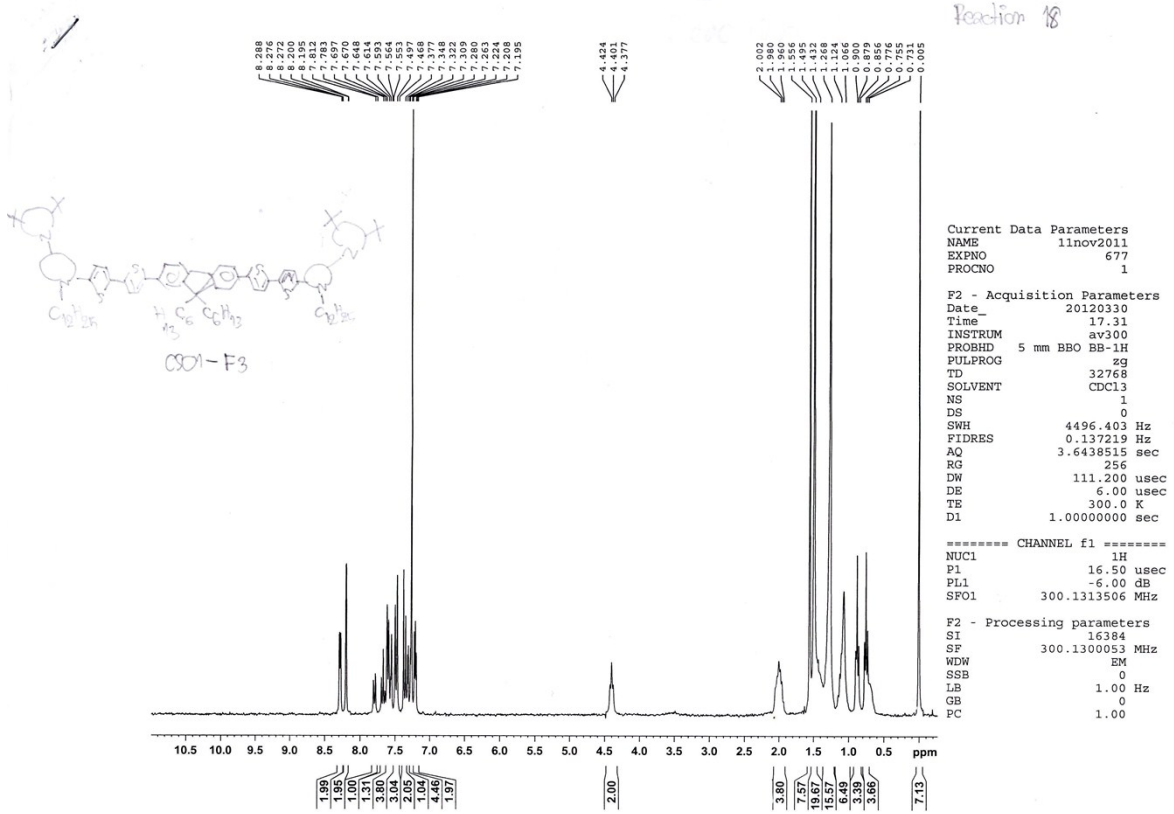
C01-F2



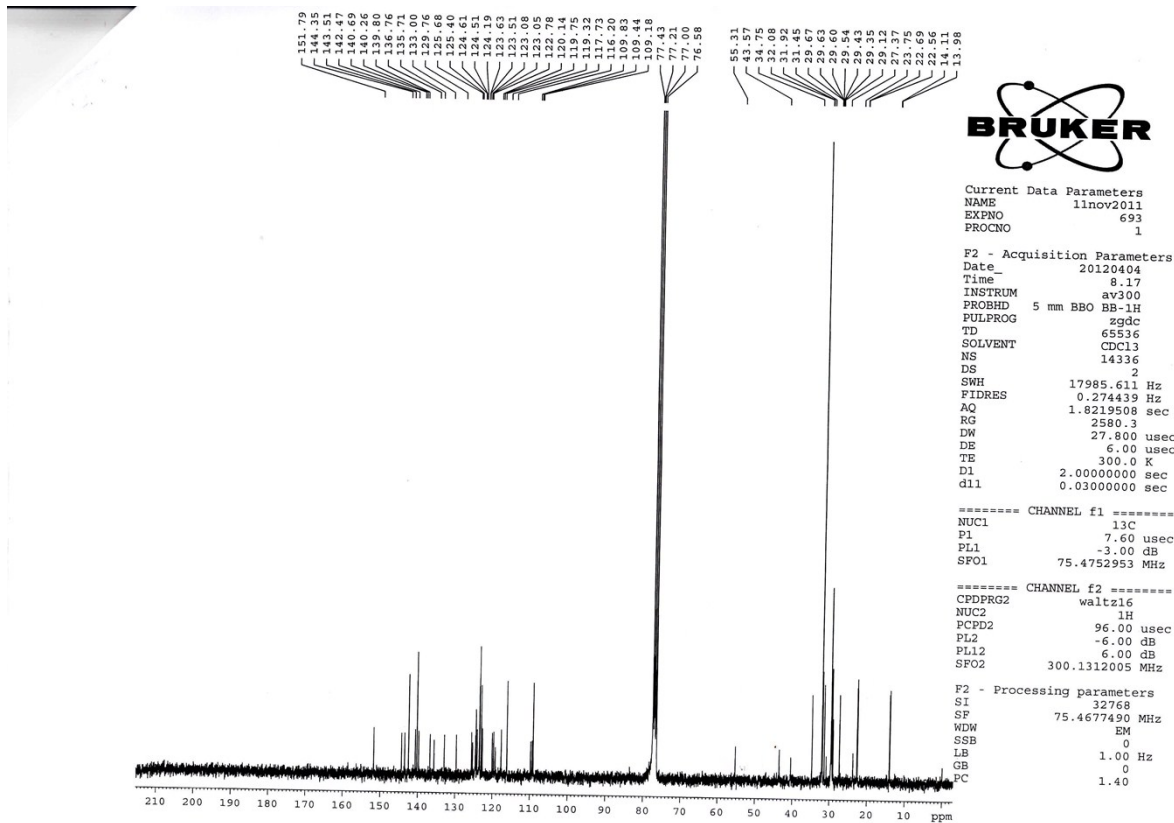
C01-F2



Compound CT2F

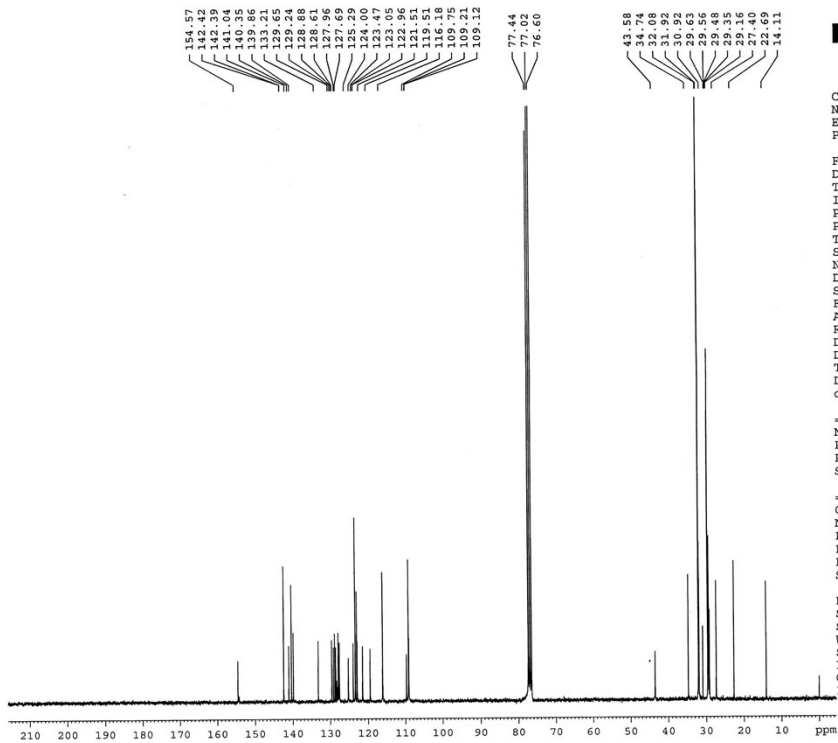
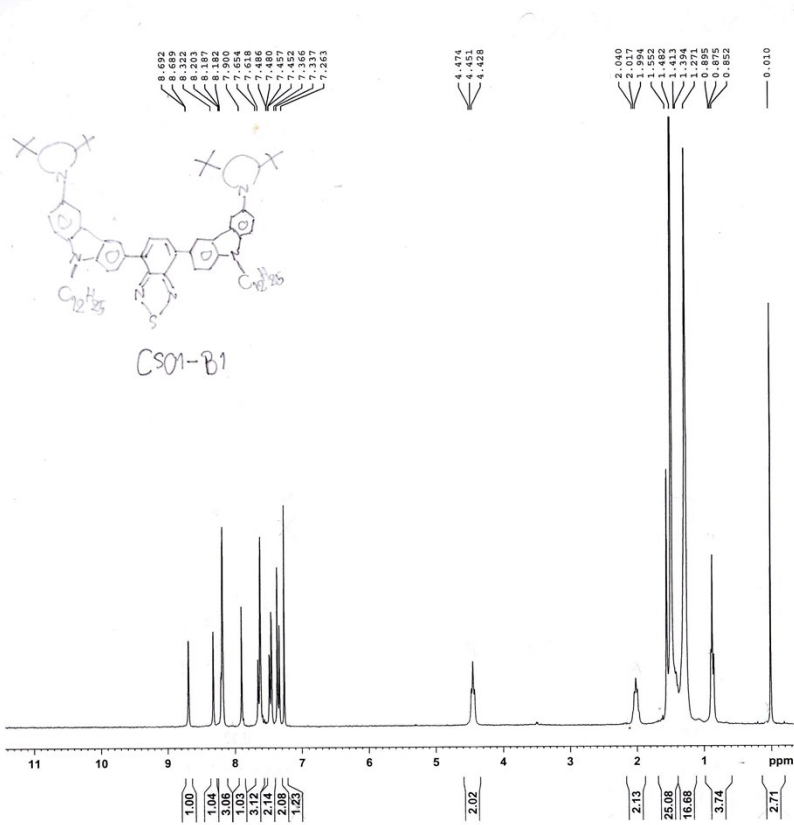


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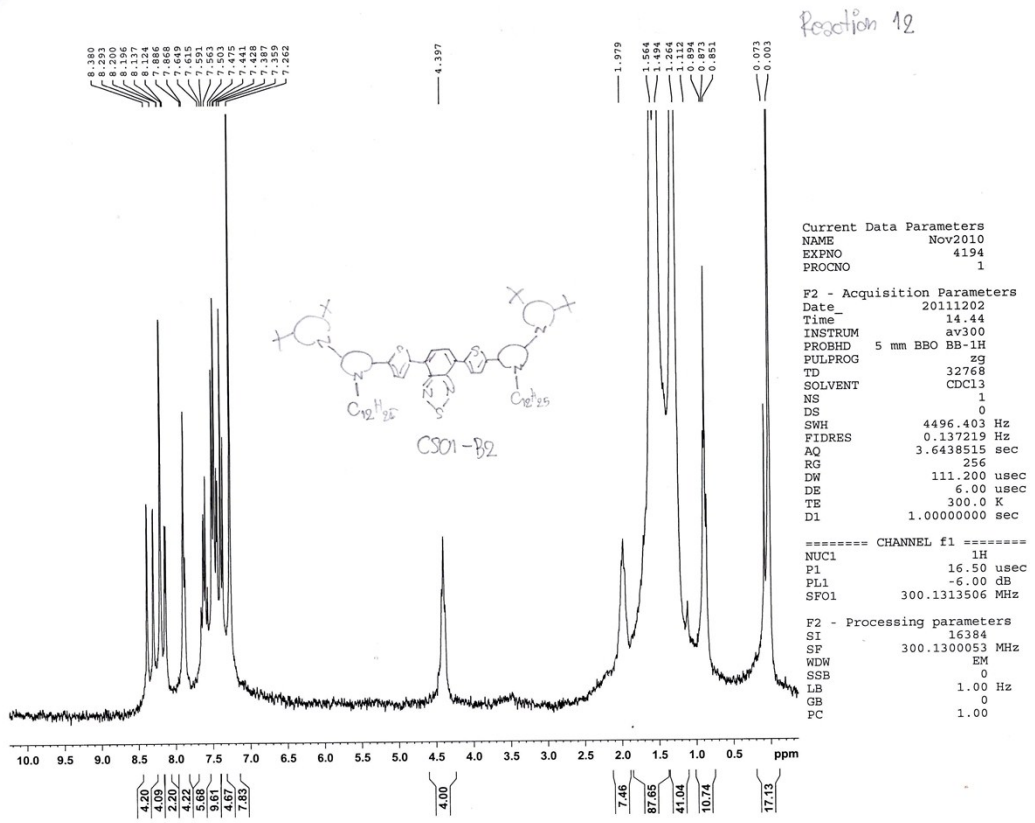


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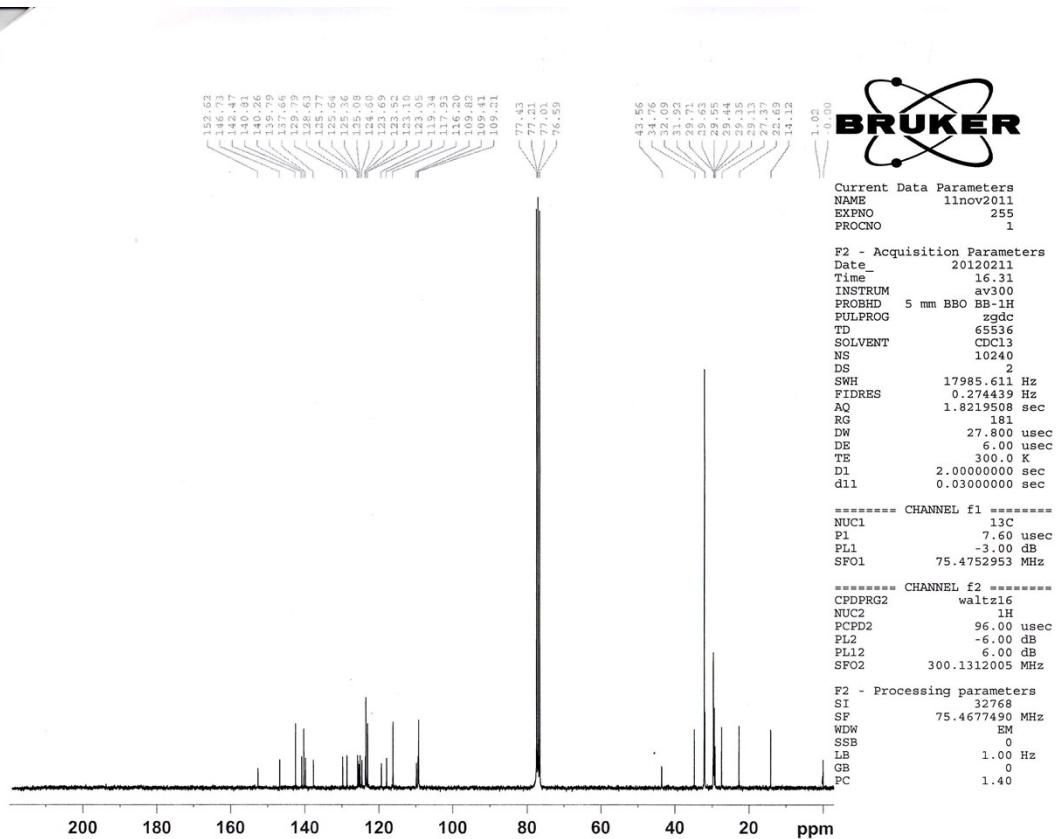
Compound CB



Compound CTB

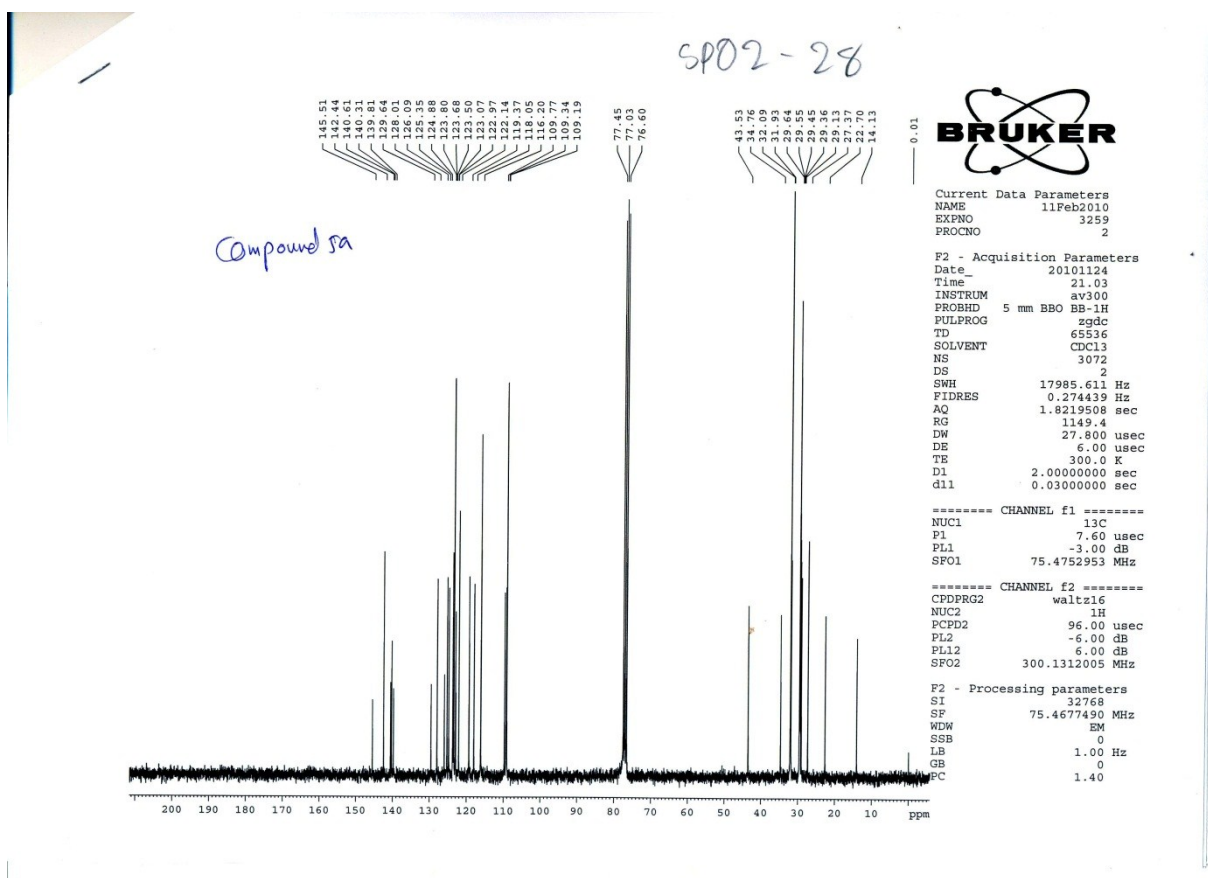
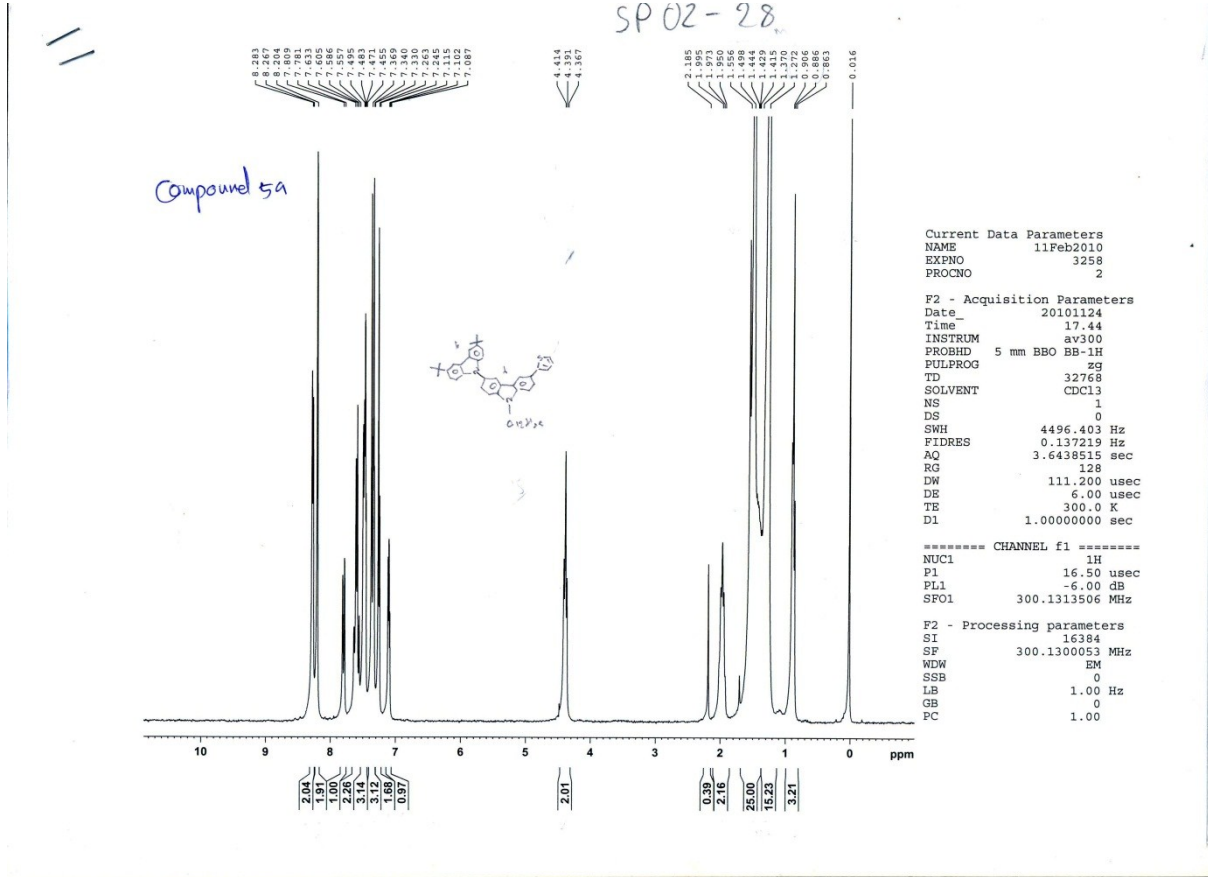


CS01-B2

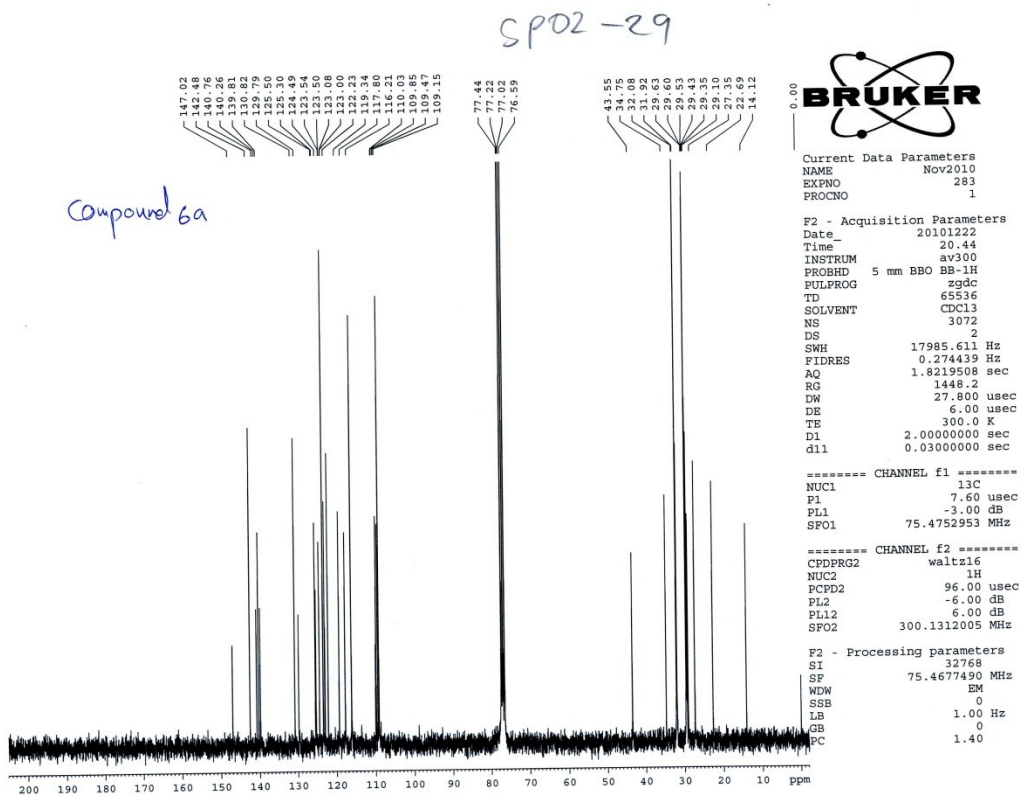
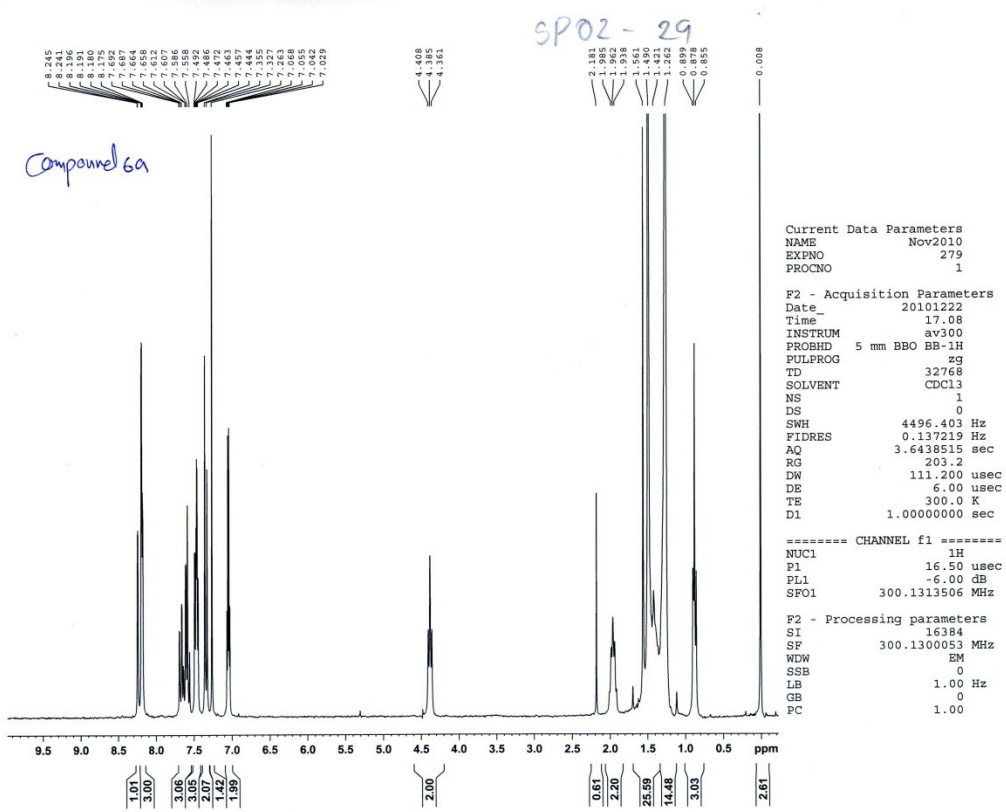


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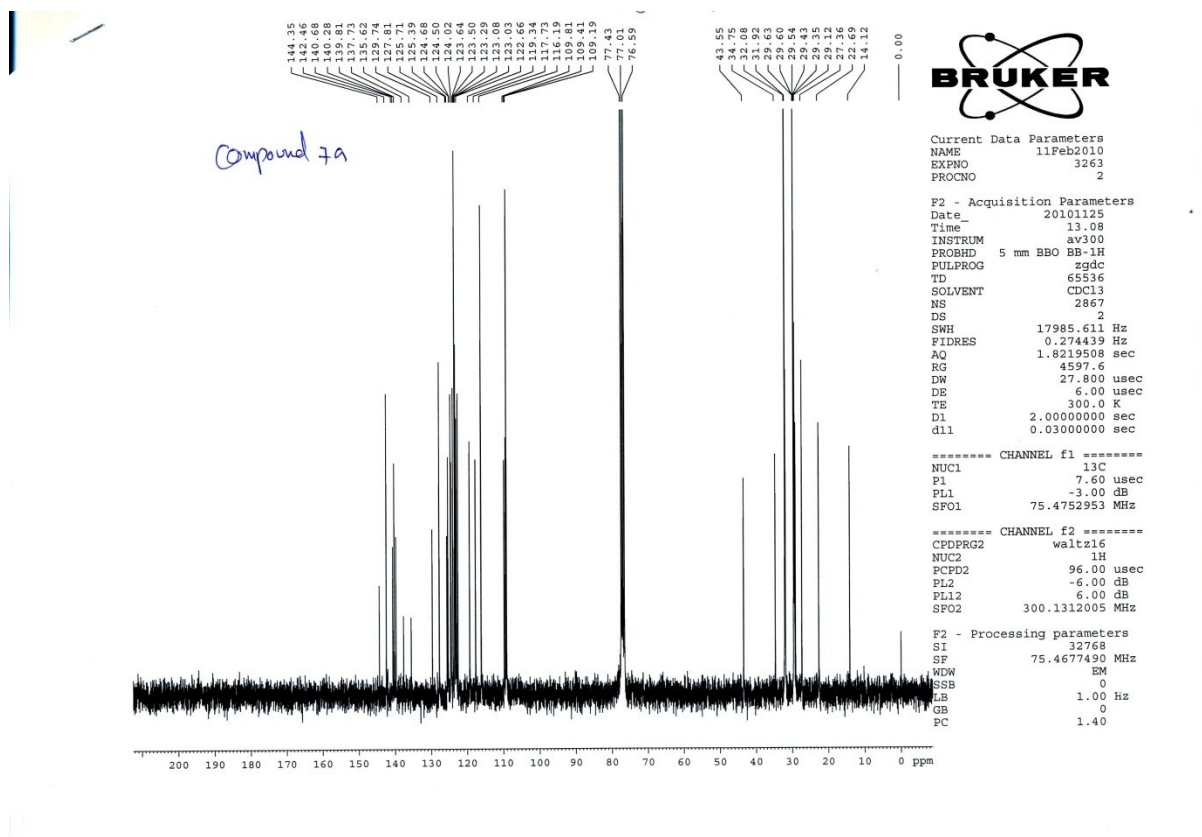
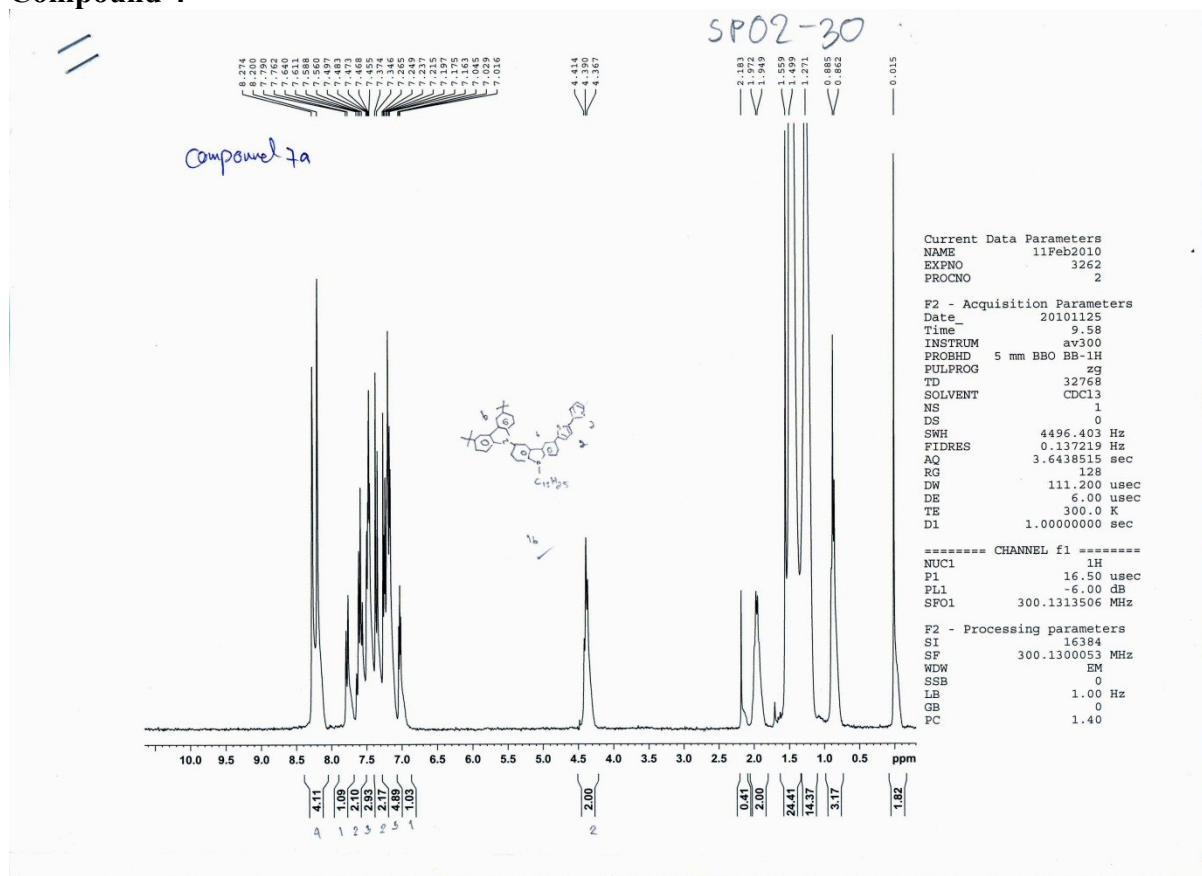
Compound 2



Compound 3



Compound 4



Compound 5

