

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### Phosphonic anchoring groups in organic dyes for solid-state solar cells

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**KEYWORDS.** Organic dyes, solid-state dye-sensitized solar cells, phosphonic acid anchoring group

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## Computational details

### Pyt-COOH

Optimized ground state geometry in DMF (CPCM-6-31G\*/M06-2x)

Standard orientation:

| Center<br>Number | Atomic<br>Number | Atomic<br>Type | Coordinates (Angstroms) |           |           |
|------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
|                  |                  |                | X                       | Y         | Z         |
| 1                | 6                | 0              | 1.798066                | 0.896518  | -0.087146 |
| 2                | 6                | 0              | 0.778068                | 0.010224  | -0.176956 |
| 3                | 6                | 0              | 1.016905                | -1.412104 | -0.122982 |
| 4                | 6                | 0              | 2.414575                | -1.772091 | -0.055259 |
| 5                | 6                | 0              | 3.386909                | -0.836087 | 0.004973  |
| 6                | 1                | 0              | -0.211007               | 0.414028  | -0.331489 |
| 7                | 1                | 0              | 2.688304                | -2.819961 | -0.021334 |
| 8                | 6                | 0              | 4.835748                | -1.083030 | 0.091937  |
| 9                | 6                | 0              | 5.686691                | -0.096104 | 0.604711  |
| 10               | 6                | 0              | 5.375101                | -2.303168 | -0.334330 |
| 11               | 6                | 0              | 7.053315                | -0.335684 | 0.702961  |
| 12               | 1                | 0              | 5.274381                | 0.850981  | 0.936301  |
| 13               | 6                | 0              | 6.741035                | -2.536941 | -0.232821 |
| 14               | 1                | 0              | 4.731503                | -3.062483 | -0.767141 |
| 15               | 6                | 0              | 7.583591                | -1.555281 | 0.287732  |
| 16               | 1                | 0              | 7.705186                | 0.432023  | 1.107188  |
| 17               | 1                | 0              | 7.149406                | -3.483499 | -0.571726 |
| 18               | 1                | 0              | 8.650553                | -1.739145 | 0.363847  |
| 19               | 6                | 0              | 1.670209                | 2.363773  | -0.120227 |
| 20               | 6                | 0              | 2.779781                | 3.154575  | -0.444305 |
| 21               | 6                | 0              | 0.446296                | 2.980971  | 0.169163  |
| 22               | 6                | 0              | 2.660295                | 4.539334  | -0.492417 |
| 23               | 1                | 0              | 3.730015                | 2.681353  | -0.667162 |
| 24               | 6                | 0              | 0.332727                | 4.364774  | 0.117097  |
| 25               | 1                | 0              | -0.416036               | 2.387227  | 0.456925  |
| 26               | 6                | 0              | 1.438097                | 5.147587  | -0.214824 |
| 27               | 1                | 0              | 3.524168                | 5.143149  | -0.750568 |
| 28               | 1                | 0              | -0.619096               | 4.833265  | 0.345344  |
| 29               | 1                | 0              | 1.346824                | 6.228450  | -0.252112 |
| 30               | 8                | 0              | 3.085274                | 0.491457  | 0.021018  |
| 31               | 6                | 0              | 0.066277                | -2.407322 | -0.135815 |
| 32               | 1                | 0              | 0.417411                | -3.434997 | -0.134441 |
| 33               | 6                | 0              | -1.354783               | -2.315800 | -0.129041 |
| 34               | 16               | 0              | -2.288528               | -0.835714 | -0.015273 |
| 35               | 6                | 0              | -3.414521               | -3.113500 | -0.136886 |
| 36               | 6                | 0              | -3.759226               | -1.773365 | -0.046403 |
| 37               | 1                | 0              | -4.154107               | -3.908028 | -0.174168 |
| 38               | 6                | 0              | -5.094579               | -1.298314 | 0.002358  |
| 39               | 6                | 0              | -5.559298               | -0.018510 | 0.096203  |
| 40               | 1                | 0              | -5.851427               | -2.078371 | -0.042441 |
| 41               | 6                | 0              | -4.694579               | 1.117634  | 0.169629  |
| 42               | 7                | 0              | -3.986024               | 2.033478  | 0.230287  |
| 43               | 6                | 0              | -7.001980               | 0.299376  | 0.133098  |
| 44               | 8                | 0              | -7.443200               | 1.424029  | 0.222946  |
| 45               | 8                | 0              | -7.777989               | -0.791248 | 0.055873  |
| 46               | 1                | 0              | -8.704245               | -0.492263 | 0.089567  |
| 47               | 7                | 0              | -2.109174               | -3.416192 | -0.179376 |

## Pyt-COOH

Optimized first excited state geometry in DMF (CPCM-TD-6-31G\*/M06-2x)

Standard orientation:

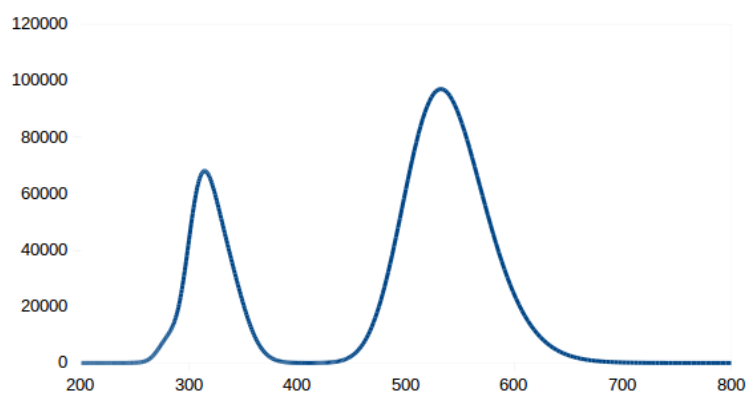
| Center<br>Number | Atomic<br>Number | Atomic<br>Type | Coordinates (Angstroms) |           |           |
|------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
|                  |                  |                | X                       | Y         | Z         |
| 1                | 6                | 0              | 1.782775                | 0.908636  | -0.216962 |
| 2                | 6                | 0              | 0.774282                | 0.004616  | -0.390528 |
| 3                | 6                | 0              | 1.030083                | -1.392966 | -0.319898 |
| 4                | 6                | 0              | 2.390973                | -1.773053 | -0.141575 |
| 5                | 6                | 0              | 3.372093                | -0.834610 | -0.001541 |
| 6                | 1                | 0              | -0.205806               | 0.386426  | -0.640504 |
| 7                | 1                | 0              | 2.651148                | -2.823435 | -0.087684 |
| 8                | 6                | 0              | 4.798696                | -1.083071 | 0.197692  |
| 9                | 6                | 0              | 5.631002                | -0.058442 | 0.674925  |
| 10               | 6                | 0              | 5.353190                | -2.341684 | -0.085427 |
| 11               | 6                | 0              | 6.985602                | -0.295443 | 0.874935  |
| 12               | 1                | 0              | 5.210220                | 0.915451  | 0.900069  |
| 13               | 6                | 0              | 6.707181                | -2.569648 | 0.116694  |
| 14               | 1                | 0              | 4.733403                | -3.137122 | -0.486102 |
| 15               | 6                | 0              | 7.527964                | -1.549160 | 0.598489  |
| 16               | 1                | 0              | 7.619401                | 0.501626  | 1.249915  |
| 17               | 1                | 0              | 7.125998                | -3.544730 | -0.109875 |
| 18               | 1                | 0              | 8.586538                | -1.730961 | 0.754078  |
| 19               | 6                | 0              | 1.651997                | 2.363603  | -0.259477 |
| 20               | 6                | 0              | 2.787426                | 3.167138  | -0.445210 |
| 21               | 6                | 0              | 0.394786                | 2.973261  | -0.114351 |
| 22               | 6                | 0              | 2.662588                | 4.549836  | -0.499797 |
| 23               | 1                | 0              | 3.760768                | 2.703321  | -0.562251 |
| 24               | 6                | 0              | 0.279110                | 4.355140  | -0.172014 |
| 25               | 1                | 0              | -0.491923               | 2.374202  | 0.070381  |
| 26               | 6                | 0              | 1.410533                | 5.148209  | -0.366315 |
| 27               | 1                | 0              | 3.545899                | 5.161923  | -0.651360 |
| 28               | 1                | 0              | -0.696440               | 4.815253  | -0.053530 |
| 29               | 1                | 0              | 1.316138                | 6.228553  | -0.408635 |
| 30               | 8                | 0              | 3.056791                | 0.488599  | -0.007585 |
| 31               | 6                | 0              | 0.043739                | -2.414063 | -0.431489 |
| 32               | 1                | 0              | 0.409357                | -3.430870 | -0.552342 |
| 33               | 6                | 0              | -1.338987               | -2.322306 | -0.377978 |
| 34               | 16               | 0              | -2.271488               | -0.850852 | -0.018615 |
| 35               | 6                | 0              | -3.399797               | -3.127907 | -0.434798 |
| 36               | 6                | 0              | -3.746541               | -1.771077 | -0.145031 |
| 37               | 1                | 0              | -4.156449               | -3.898049 | -0.552038 |
| 38               | 6                | 0              | -5.055686               | -1.305399 | 0.000381  |
| 39               | 6                | 0              | -5.501960               | -0.011930 | 0.261050  |
| 40               | 1                | 0              | -5.828849               | -2.061094 | -0.110713 |
| 41               | 6                | 0              | -4.626493               | 1.096796  | 0.415156  |
| 42               | 7                | 0              | -3.911134               | 2.005725  | 0.538821  |
| 43               | 6                | 0              | -6.923805               | 0.315528  | 0.384456  |
| 44               | 8                | 0              | -7.362417               | 1.430554  | 0.600549  |
| 45               | 8                | 0              | -7.726489               | -0.756769 | 0.231656  |
| 46               | 1                | 0              | -8.642047               | -0.440114 | 0.326434  |
| 47               | 7                | 0              | -2.129031               | -3.419702 | -0.555002 |

## Pyt-COOH

Calculated Absorption Spectrum in DMF

(CPCM-TD-M06-2x/6-311+G(2d,p)//CPCM-M06-2x/6-31G\*):

| No. | Energy (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) | Wavelength (nm) | <i>f</i> | Major contribs   |
|-----|----------------------------|-----------------|----------|--|
| 1   | 18800.10704                | 531.911865115   | 1.3394   | HOMO->LUMO (97%)   |
| 2   | 29513.64352                | 338.826346304   | 0.305    | HOMO->L+1 (60%), HOMO->L+2 (25%) H-1->LUMO (6%)                    |
| 3   | 31308.23952                | 319.404736686   | 0.4342   | HOMO->L+1 (28%), HOMO->L+2 (47%) H-2->LUMO (9%),<br>H-1->LUMO (9%) |
| 4   | 32570.50592                | 307.026240997   | 0.5679   | H-1->LUMO (69%), HOMO->L+2 (14%) H-2->LUMO (3%),<br>H-1->L+1 (7%)  |
| 5   | 35591.07312                | 280.969330885   | 0.1103   | H-2->LUMO (76%) H-5->LUMO (5%), HOMO->L+1 (7%),<br>HOMO->L+2 (7%)  |
| 6   | 38543.08272                | 259.44992705    | 0.0021   | H-7->LUMO (90%) H-7->L+7 (3%)                                      |



# Pyt-PO(OH)<sub>2</sub>

Optimized ground state geometry in DMF (CPCM-6-31G\*/M06-2x)

Standard orientation:

| Center Number | Atomic Number | Atomic Type | Coordinates (Angstroms) |           |           |
|---------------|---------------|-------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
|               |               |             | X                       | Y         | Z         |
| 1             | 6             | 0           | 2.369167                | 0.895625  | -0.072787 |
| 2             | 6             | 0           | 1.366329                | -0.010068 | -0.156846 |
| 3             | 6             | 0           | 1.633057                | -1.428463 | -0.107874 |
| 4             | 6             | 0           | 3.038776                | -1.759968 | -0.044378 |
| 5             | 6             | 0           | 3.992624                | -0.805401 | 0.009150  |
| 6             | 1             | 0           | 0.368024                | 0.375252  | -0.298388 |
| 7             | 1             | 0           | 3.333488                | -2.802157 | -0.010755 |
| 8             | 6             | 0           | 5.446806                | -1.023173 | 0.088518  |
| 9             | 6             | 0           | 6.280621                | -0.016879 | 0.591577  |
| 10            | 6             | 0           | 6.008971                | -2.233663 | -0.335786 |
| 11            | 6             | 0           | 7.652630                | -0.227238 | 0.681734  |
| 12            | 1             | 0           | 5.851223                | 0.923104  | 0.921681  |
| 13            | 6             | 0           | 7.380175                | -2.438406 | -0.242151 |
| 14            | 1             | 0           | 5.379018                | -3.008450 | -0.761261 |
| 15            | 6             | 0           | 8.205672                | -1.437248 | 0.268316  |
| 16            | 1             | 0           | 8.290646                | 0.556060  | 1.078165  |
| 17            | 1             | 0           | 7.805835                | -3.377925 | -0.579487 |
| 18            | 1             | 0           | 9.276722                | -1.598562 | 0.337971  |
| 19            | 6             | 0           | 2.212900                | 2.360562  | -0.099989 |
| 20            | 6             | 0           | 3.305944                | 3.173080  | -0.426221 |
| 21            | 6             | 0           | 0.979639                | 2.954290  | 0.198531  |
| 22            | 6             | 0           | 3.161586                | 4.555748  | -0.466639 |
| 23            | 1             | 0           | 4.263436                | 2.718312  | -0.656274 |
| 24            | 6             | 0           | 0.841125                | 4.336161  | 0.154256  |
| 25            | 1             | 0           | 0.129627                | 2.343619  | 0.487543  |
| 26            | 6             | 0           | 1.930367                | 5.140598  | -0.179159 |
| 27            | 1             | 0           | 4.013305                | 5.176032  | -0.726204 |
| 28            | 1             | 0           | -0.117747               | 4.786296  | 0.389992  |
| 29            | 1             | 0           | 1.819427                | 6.219816  | -0.209910 |
| 30            | 8             | 0           | 3.665703                | 0.516490  | 0.024292  |
| 31            | 6             | 0           | 0.704732                | -2.442906 | -0.119094 |
| 32            | 1             | 0           | 1.078338                | -3.462651 | -0.111351 |
| 33            | 6             | 0           | -0.719907               | -2.385306 | -0.118765 |
| 34            | 16            | 0           | -1.689461               | -0.925456 | -0.042195 |
| 35            | 6             | 0           | -2.761641               | -3.229767 | -0.122259 |
| 36            | 6             | 0           | -3.136288               | -1.898658 | -0.061797 |
| 37            | 1             | 0           | -3.481261               | -4.042742 | -0.146376 |
| 38            | 6             | 0           | -4.483455               | -1.445288 | -0.028176 |
| 39            | 6             | 0           | -4.970428               | -0.173661 | 0.024999  |
| 40            | 6             | 0           | -4.141584               | 0.985755  | 0.062614  |
| 41            | 7             | 0           | -3.490724               | 1.946093  | 0.096587  |
| 42            | 15            | 0           | -6.742215               | 0.066897  | 0.078019  |
| 43            | 8             | 0           | -7.494155               | -1.206501 | 0.068398  |
| 44            | 8             | 0           | -6.956034               | 1.086534  | -1.136667 |
| 45            | 1             | 0           | -7.840678               | 1.492827  | -1.151024 |
| 46            | 8             | 0           | -7.056681               | 1.032093  | 1.326352  |
| 47            | 1             | 0           | -7.268358               | 0.533700  | 2.134035  |
| 48            | 1             | 0           | -5.230098               | -2.238605 | -0.049074 |
| 49            | 7             | 0           | -1.446978               | -3.502289 | -0.152312 |

Pyt-PO(OH)<sub>2</sub>

Optimized first excited state geometry in DMF (CPCM-TD-6-31G\*/M06-2x)

Standard orientation:

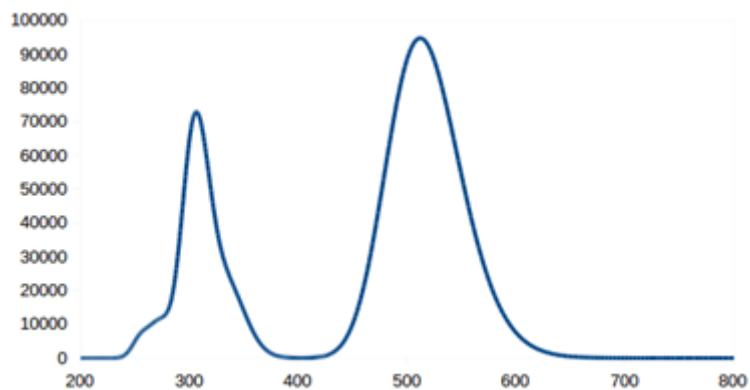
| Center<br>Number | Atomic<br>Number | Atomic<br>Type | Coordinates (Angstroms) |           |           |
|------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
|                  |                  |                | X                       | Y         | Z         |
| 1                | 6                | 0              | 2.333299                | 0.899767  | -0.297492 |
| 2                | 6                | 0              | 1.358901                | -0.029517 | -0.525680 |
| 3                | 6                | 0              | 1.645965                | -1.419464 | -0.439393 |
| 4                | 6                | 0              | 3.004094                | -1.767493 | -0.191129 |
| 5                | 6                | 0              | 3.952914                | -0.805275 | 0.003508  |
| 6                | 1                | 0              | 0.384327                | 0.325804  | -0.831458 |
| 7                | 1                | 0              | 3.285842                | -2.811600 | -0.124435 |
| 8                | 6                | 0              | 5.371640                | -1.014925 | 0.284396  |
| 9                | 6                | 0              | 6.151531                | 0.042386  | 0.779028  |
| 10               | 6                | 0              | 5.972635                | -2.265761 | 0.066782  |
| 11               | 6                | 0              | 7.498527                | -0.152793 | 1.058162  |
| 12               | 1                | 0              | 5.695361                | 1.010061  | 0.955523  |
| 13               | 6                | 0              | 7.318650                | -2.452152 | 0.348615  |
| 14               | 1                | 0              | 5.396629                | -3.088818 | -0.343454 |
| 15               | 6                | 0              | 8.086717                | -1.398491 | 0.845958  |
| 16               | 1                | 0              | 8.090044                | 0.670804  | 1.444900  |
| 17               | 1                | 0              | 7.773000                | -3.421736 | 0.172868  |
| 18               | 1                | 0              | 9.139356                | -1.548701 | 1.063191  |
| 19               | 6                | 0              | 2.168966                | 2.350572  | -0.341580 |
| 20               | 6                | 0              | 3.292898                | 3.182842  | -0.460580 |
| 21               | 6                | 0              | 0.891341                | 2.929133  | -0.260214 |
| 22               | 6                | 0              | 3.137763                | 4.562486  | -0.511715 |
| 23               | 1                | 0              | 4.282069                | 2.743520  | -0.529185 |
| 24               | 6                | 0              | 0.745574                | 4.308290  | -0.314368 |
| 25               | 1                | 0              | 0.011419                | 2.306511  | -0.127464 |
| 26               | 6                | 0              | 1.866317                | 5.129861  | -0.441602 |
| 27               | 1                | 0              | 4.012873                | 5.196900  | -0.609125 |
| 28               | 1                | 0              | -0.245671               | 4.744278  | -0.244395 |
| 29               | 1                | 0              | 1.748125                | 6.207985  | -0.480266 |
| 30               | 8                | 0              | 3.604914                | 0.510016  | -0.020790 |
| 31               | 6                | 0              | 0.686196                | -2.462853 | -0.596674 |
| 32               | 1                | 0              | 1.076876                | -3.468003 | -0.735941 |
| 33               | 6                | 0              | -0.697339               | -2.398703 | -0.556354 |
| 34               | 16               | 0              | -1.654204               | -0.953520 | -0.152953 |
| 35               | 6                | 0              | -2.745251               | -3.235221 | -0.638635 |
| 36               | 6                | 0              | -3.111730               | -1.896441 | -0.303425 |
| 37               | 1                | 0              | -3.489701               | -4.013601 | -0.778277 |
| 38               | 6                | 0              | -4.426004               | -1.449474 | -0.129023 |
| 39               | 6                | 0              | -4.881718               | -0.172574 | 0.177041  |
| 40               | 6                | 0              | -4.038864               | 0.950688  | 0.356233  |
| 41               | 7                | 0              | -3.379031               | 1.898569  | 0.510073  |
| 42               | 15               | 0              | -6.629058               | 0.084926  | 0.374715  |
| 43               | 8                | 0              | -7.423189               | -1.154821 | 0.210739  |
| 44               | 8                | 0              | -6.915527               | 1.293619  | -0.641475 |
| 45               | 1                | 0              | -7.781420               | 1.714566  | -0.496138 |
| 46               | 8                | 0              | -6.870324               | 0.852677  | 1.774156  |
| 47               | 1                | 0              | -7.000598               | 0.233896  | 2.512603  |
| 48               | 1                | 0              | -5.197336               | -2.207762 | -0.251738 |
| 49               | 7                | 0              | -1.469996               | -3.503274 | -0.770482 |

## Pyt-PO(OH)<sub>2</sub>

Calculated Absorption Spectrum in DMF

(CPCM-TD-M06-2x/6-311+G(2d,p)//CPCM-M06-2x/6-31G\*):

| No. | Energy (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) | Wavelength (nm) | <i>f</i> | Major contribs  |
|-----|----------------------------|-----------------|----------|---|
| 1   | 19541.33568                | 511.735746407   | 1.309    | HOMO->LUMO (97%)  |
| 2   | 29548.3256                 | 338.428651944   | 0.2418   | HOMO->L+1 (79%) H-1->LUMO (5%), HOMO->L+2 (7%)  |
| 3   | 32050.27472                | 312.009806074   | 0.3965   | H-1->LUMO (12%), HOMO->L+1 (11%), HOMO->L+2 (63%)<br>H-2->LUMO (6%)   |
| 4   | 33035.89104                | 302.701083131   | 0.6678   | H-1->LUMO (68%), HOMO->L+2 (14%) H-2->LUMO (3%),<br>H-1->L+1 (4%), H-1->L+2 (4%)  |
| 5   | 36524.26304                | 273.790602949   | 0.1353   | H-2->LUMO (78%) H-5->LUMO (6%), HOMO->L+2 (9%)  |
| 6   | 39059.28112                | 256.02109699    | 0.0884   | H-4->LUMO (41%), H-4->L+1 (23%) H-7->LUMO (3%),<br>H-3->LUMO (4%), H-1->L+1 (4%), H-1->L+4 (3%),<br>H-1->L+5 (2%), HOMO->L+4 (3%), HOMO->L+5 (3%) |





# Pyt-PO(OEt)OH

Optimized ground state geometry in DMF (CPCM-6-31G\*/M06-2x)

Standard orientation:

| Center Number | Atomic Number | Atomic Type | Coordinates (Angstroms) |           |           |
|---------------|---------------|-------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
|               |               |             | X                       | Y         | Z         |
| 1             | 6             | 0           | 2.808704                | 0.887389  | -0.171869 |
| 2             | 6             | 0           | 1.833806                | -0.045755 | -0.281242 |
| 3             | 6             | 0           | 2.128050                | -1.452988 | -0.144687 |
| 4             | 6             | 0           | 3.532918                | -1.746421 | 0.030628  |
| 5             | 6             | 0           | 4.459278                | -0.766851 | 0.107359  |
| 6             | 1             | 0           | 0.840307                | 0.306534  | -0.515050 |
| 7             | 1             | 0           | 3.847157                | -2.778319 | 0.133425  |
| 8             | 6             | 0           | 5.908523                | -0.940398 | 0.302506  |
| 9             | 6             | 0           | 6.678224                | 0.116908  | 0.803034  |
| 10            | 6             | 0           | 6.529953                | -2.156507 | -0.007375 |
| 11            | 6             | 0           | 8.044736                | -0.047142 | 1.003479  |
| 12            | 1             | 0           | 6.202160                | 1.061678  | 1.042811  |
| 13            | 6             | 0           | 7.895447                | -2.314900 | 0.196380  |
| 14            | 1             | 0           | 5.952983                | -2.973283 | -0.429675 |
| 15            | 6             | 0           | 8.656422                | -1.262315 | 0.703511  |
| 16            | 1             | 0           | 8.631693                | 0.776801  | 1.396568  |
| 17            | 1             | 0           | 8.368566                | -3.259753 | -0.050757 |
| 18            | 1             | 0           | 9.723201                | -1.388441 | 0.858956  |
| 19            | 6             | 0           | 2.625397                | 2.344697  | -0.285507 |
| 20            | 6             | 0           | 3.719920                | 3.163103  | -0.590989 |
| 21            | 6             | 0           | 1.364993                | 2.924896  | -0.091264 |
| 22            | 6             | 0           | 3.551349                | 4.537908  | -0.714189 |
| 23            | 1             | 0           | 4.697712                | 2.718373  | -0.741192 |
| 24            | 6             | 0           | 1.202607                | 4.299106  | -0.217591 |
| 25            | 1             | 0           | 0.512615                | 2.309658  | 0.180795  |
| 26            | 6             | 0           | 2.293885                | 5.109121  | -0.530164 |
| 27            | 1             | 0           | 4.404316                | 5.162975  | -0.957759 |
| 28            | 1             | 0           | 0.223161                | 4.739530  | -0.062015 |
| 29            | 1             | 0           | 2.164064                | 6.182525  | -0.625344 |
| 30            | 8             | 0           | 4.102363                | 0.545198  | 0.036789  |
| 31            | 6             | 0           | 1.225879                | -2.490729 | -0.170155 |
| 32            | 1             | 0           | 1.622221                | -3.498881 | -0.092617 |
| 33            | 6             | 0           | -0.196742               | -2.470339 | -0.259267 |
| 34            | 16            | 0           | -1.203532               | -1.034397 | -0.289462 |
| 35            | 6             | 0           | -2.213407               | -3.367864 | -0.344385 |
| 36            | 6             | 0           | -2.623443               | -2.045576 | -0.353764 |
| 37            | 1             | 0           | -2.910753               | -4.199574 | -0.377764 |
| 38            | 6             | 0           | -3.981031               | -1.628192 | -0.411877 |
| 39            | 6             | 0           | -4.503462               | -0.369037 | -0.429342 |
| 40            | 6             | 0           | -3.707233               | 0.812760  | -0.377916 |
| 41            | 7             | 0           | -3.083349               | 1.790518  | -0.333073 |
| 42            | 15            | 0           | -6.281645               | -0.170222 | -0.481769 |
| 43            | 8             | 0           | -7.004659               | -1.461566 | -0.458622 |
| 44            | 8             | 0           | -6.470676               | 0.768338  | -1.764408 |
| 45            | 1             | 0           | -7.386686               | 1.073504  | -1.889246 |
| 46            | 8             | 0           | -6.655613               | 0.848827  | 0.696340  |
| 47            | 1             | 0           | -4.704805               | -2.442034 | -0.448073 |
| 48            | 7             | 0           | -0.893457               | -3.606797 | -0.291987 |
| 49            | 6             | 0           | -6.687659               | 0.337102  | 2.048979  |
| 50            | 6             | 0           | -6.947792               | 1.504606  | 2.972971  |
| 51            | 1             | 0           | -5.723908               | -0.136882 | 2.269202  |
| 52            | 1             | 0           | -7.474010               | -0.419455 | 2.116282  |
| 53            | 1             | 0           | -6.978515               | 1.155982  | 4.008316  |
| 54            | 1             | 0           | -6.154704               | 2.250338  | 2.877842  |
| 55            | 1             | 0           | -7.905217               | 1.974491  | 2.734274  |

# Pyt-PO(OEt)OH

Optimized first excited state geometry in DMF (CPCM-TD-6-31G\*/M06-2x)

Standard orientation:

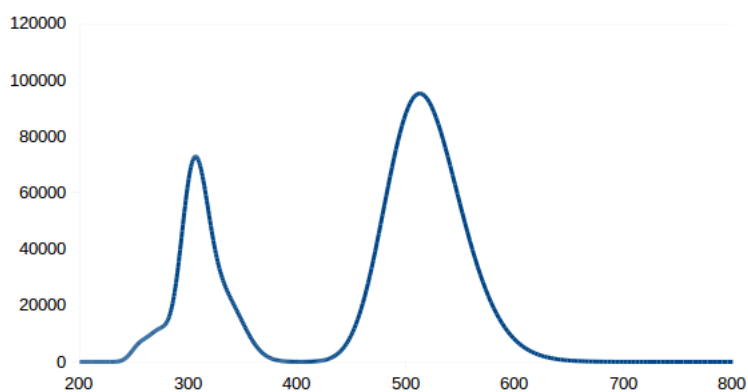
| Center<br>Number | Atomic<br>Number | Atomic<br>Type | Coordinates (Angstroms) |           |           |
|------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
|                  |                  |                | X                       | Y         | Z         |
| 1                | 6                | 0              | 2.786587                | 0.890434  | -0.359773 |
| 2                | 6                | 0              | 1.841766                | -0.061833 | -0.616938 |
| 3                | 6                | 0              | 2.142155                | -1.443161 | -0.465850 |
| 4                | 6                | 0              | 3.486055                | -1.761393 | -0.119208 |
| 5                | 6                | 0              | 4.406207                | -0.777982 | 0.104176  |
| 6                | 1                | 0              | 0.883322                | 0.266353  | -0.995569 |
| 7                | 1                | 0              | 3.777749                | -2.798076 | -0.000060 |
| 8                | 6                | 0              | 5.806467                | -0.955795 | 0.482707  |
| 9                | 6                | 0              | 6.537983                | 0.126860  | 0.995800  |
| 10               | 6                | 0              | 6.437045                | -2.202773 | 0.340875  |
| 11               | 6                | 0              | 7.865996                | -0.040388 | 1.368356  |
| 12               | 1                | 0              | 6.058480                | 1.092047  | 1.115027  |
| 13               | 6                | 0              | 7.763882                | -2.361145 | 0.715381  |
| 14               | 1                | 0              | 5.900346                | -3.045179 | -0.083159 |
| 15               | 6                | 0              | 8.483294                | -1.282581 | 1.231610  |
| 16               | 1                | 0              | 8.419654                | 0.802407  | 1.769636  |
| 17               | 1                | 0              | 8.241304                | -3.328166 | 0.595778  |
| 18               | 1                | 0              | 9.521208                | -1.410296 | 1.521958  |
| 19               | 6                | 0              | 2.608598                | 2.335884  | -0.472873 |
| 20               | 6                | 0              | 3.729056                | 3.179574  | -0.532061 |
| 21               | 6                | 0              | 1.322304                | 2.898840  | -0.523738 |
| 22               | 6                | 0              | 3.563505                | 4.553356  | -0.655880 |
| 23               | 1                | 0              | 4.725396                | 2.752846  | -0.496712 |
| 24               | 6                | 0              | 1.166405                | 4.272069  | -0.649939 |
| 25               | 1                | 0              | 0.440572                | 2.270289  | -0.441531 |
| 26               | 6                | 0              | 2.284570                | 5.104346  | -0.717982 |
| 27               | 1                | 0              | 4.436768                | 5.195565  | -0.706397 |
| 28               | 1                | 0              | 0.168006                | 4.695755  | -0.685294 |
| 29               | 1                | 0              | 2.157839                | 6.177951  | -0.814075 |
| 30               | 8                | 0              | 4.042254                | 0.530126  | 0.013065  |
| 31               | 6                | 0              | 1.210300                | -2.505889 | -0.657573 |
| 32               | 1                | 0              | 1.624007                | -3.507060 | -0.751863 |
| 33               | 6                | 0              | -0.173702               | -2.462925 | -0.708497 |
| 34               | 16               | 0              | -1.176209               | -1.026651 | -0.387933 |
| 35               | 6                | 0              | -2.199094               | -3.327935 | -0.928540 |
| 36               | 6                | 0              | -2.605691               | -1.989638 | -0.641735 |
| 37               | 1                | 0              | -2.921773               | -4.117888 | -1.111420 |
| 38               | 6                | 0              | -3.934489               | -1.555453 | -0.585900 |
| 39               | 6                | 0              | -4.428799               | -0.280811 | -0.333629 |
| 40               | 6                | 0              | -3.616265               | 0.849920  | -0.074821 |
| 41               | 7                | 0              | -2.981542               | 1.801880  | 0.145044  |
| 42               | 15               | 0              | -6.190091               | -0.032858 | -0.313108 |
| 43               | 8                | 0              | -6.957571               | -1.285530 | -0.512796 |
| 44               | 8                | 0              | -6.399641               | 1.136023  | -1.393812 |
| 45               | 1                | 0              | -7.293048               | 1.522224  | -1.366839 |
| 46               | 8                | 0              | -6.546372               | 0.769368  | 1.033346  |
| 47               | 1                | 0              | -4.685107               | -2.322802 | -0.767831 |
| 48               | 7                | 0              | -0.914399               | -3.580638 | -0.962002 |
| 49               | 6                | 0              | -6.581572               | 0.026217  | 2.271062  |
| 50               | 6                | 0              | -6.872508               | 1.004559  | 3.386401  |
| 51               | 1                | 0              | -5.611444               | -0.463465 | 2.415329  |
| 52               | 1                | 0              | -7.354173               | -0.743937 | 2.194603  |
| 53               | 1                | 0              | -6.909169               | 0.475323  | 4.342061  |
| 54               | 1                | 0              | -6.092006               | 1.767697  | 3.439325  |
| 55               | 1                | 0              | -7.835341               | 1.494944  | 3.222256  |

## Pyt-PO(OEt)OH

Calculated Absorption Spectrum in DMF

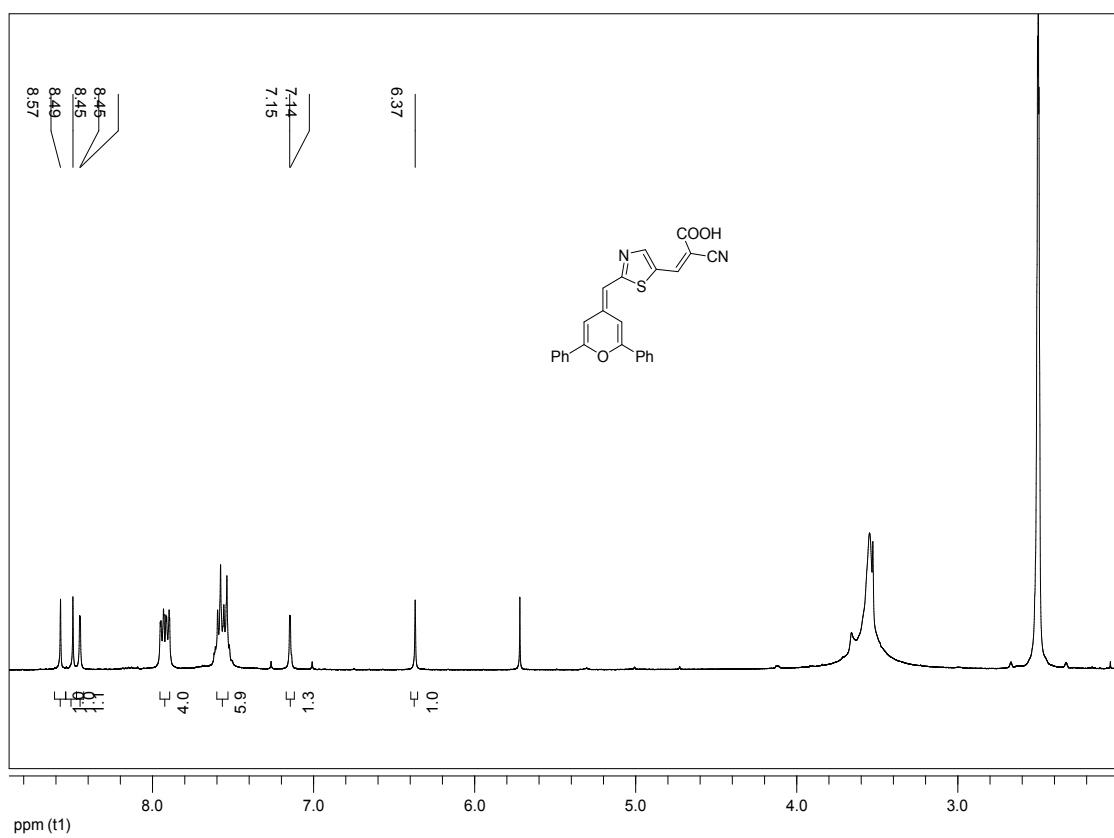
(CPCM-TD-M06-2x/6-311+G(2d,p)//CPCM-M06-2x/6-31G\*):

| No. | Energy (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) | Wavelength (nm) | <i>f</i> | Major contribs   |
|-----|----------------------------|-----------------|----------|--|
| 1   | 19519.55856                | 512.306667657   | 1.3148   | HOMO->LUMO (97%)   |
| 2   | 29541.06656                | 338.511813028   | 0.2377   | HOMO->L+1 (80%) H-1->LUMO (5%), HOMO->L+2 (7%)   |
| 3   | 32034.95008                | 312.159062993   | 0.3998   | H-1->LUMO (12%), HOMO->L+1 (11%),HOMO->L+2 (64%)<br>H-2->LUMO (6%)   |
| 4   | 33024.5992                 | 302.804583318   | 0.664    | H-1->LUMO (68%), HOMO->L+2 (14%), H-2->LUMO (3%),<br>H-1->L+1 (4%), H-1->L+2 (4%)  |
| 5   | 36491.19408                | 274.038716795   | 0.1375   | H-2->LUMO (78%), H-5->LUMO (6%),HOMO->L+2 (9%)   |
| 6   | 39071.37952                | 255.941820403   | 0.0822   | H-7->LUMO (15%), H-4->LUMO (34%), H-4->L+1 (19%)<br>H-3->LUMO (4%),H-1->L+1 (4%), H-1->L+4 (3%),<br>HOMO->L+4 (3%), HOMO->L+5 (2%) |

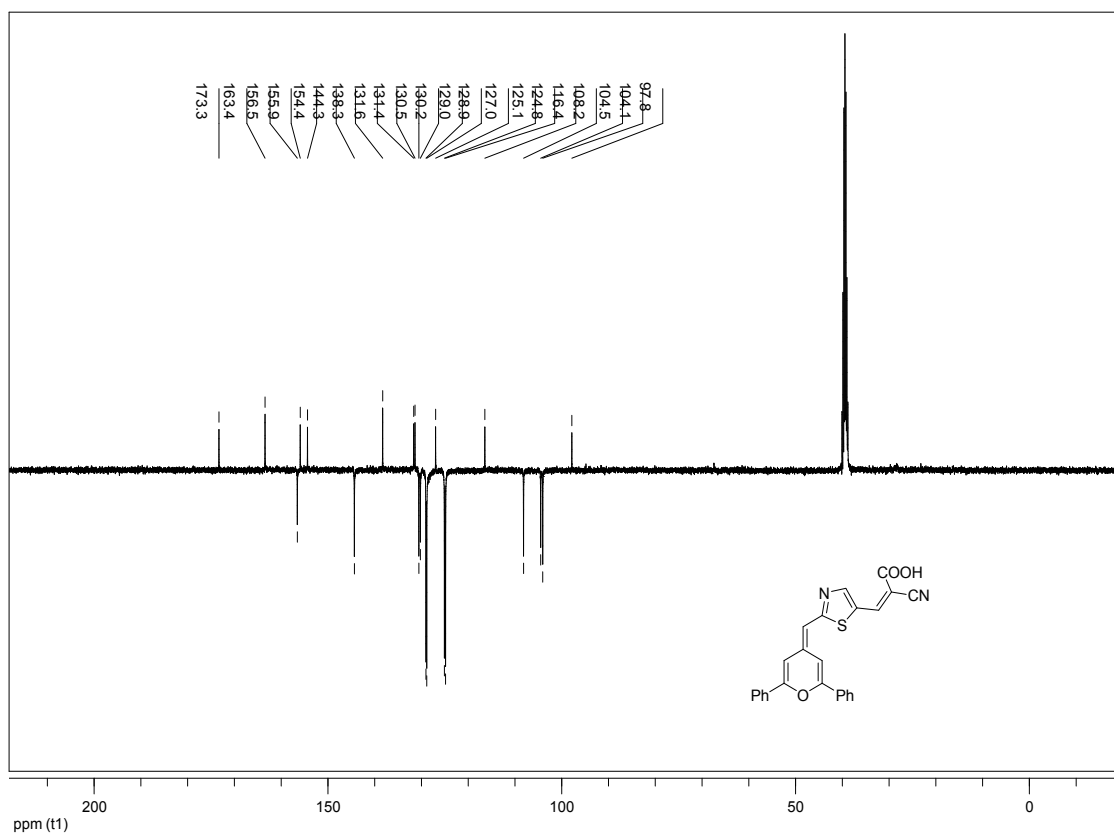


## NMR spectra

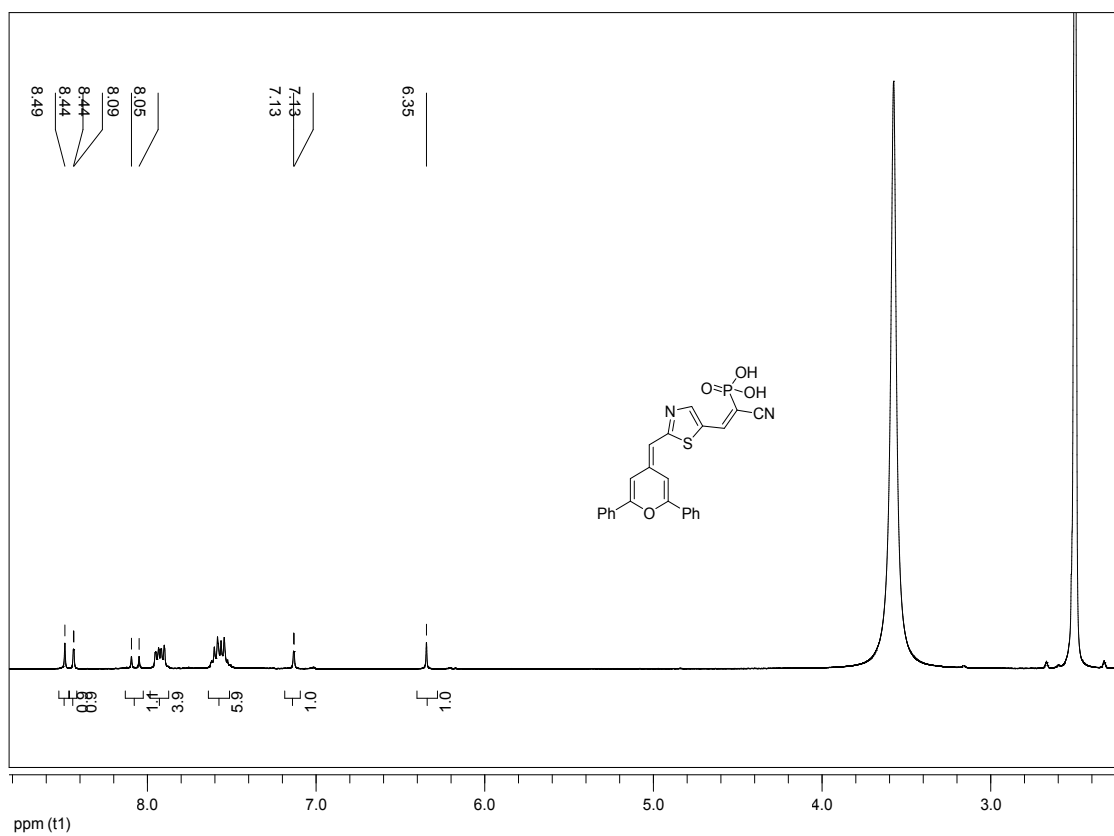
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound pyt-COOH (400 MHz, dms<sub>o</sub>-d<sub>6</sub>).



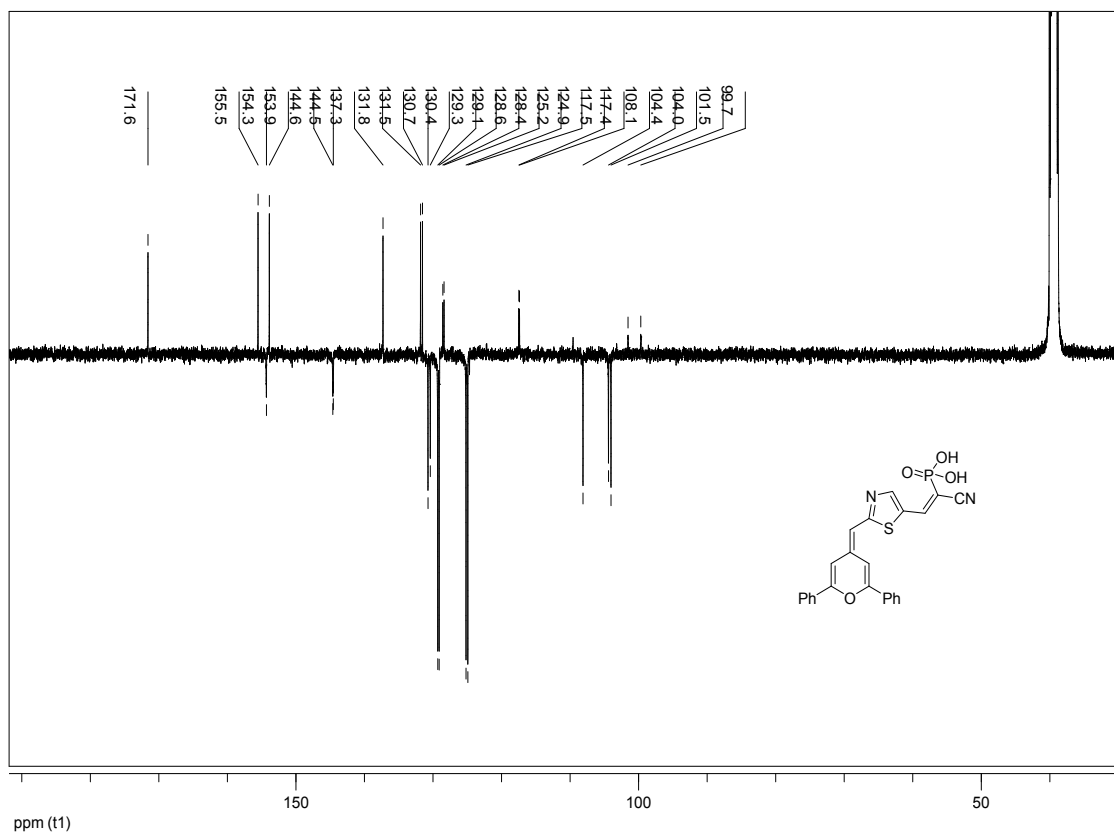
**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (APT) spectrum of compound pyt-COOH (100 MHz,  $\text{dms}\text{-d}_6$ )**



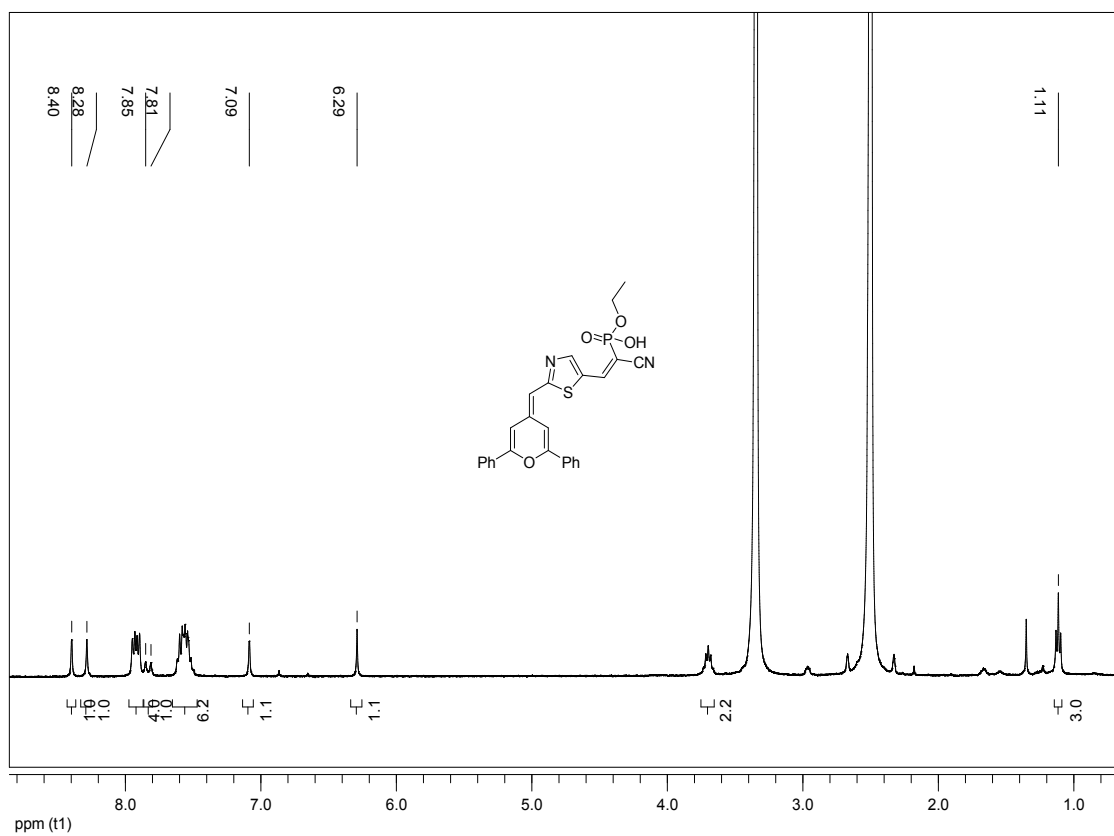
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound pyt-PO(OH)<sub>2</sub> (400 MHz, dms<sup>o</sup>-d<sup>6</sup>)**



**$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (APT) spectrum of compound pyt- $\text{PO}(\text{OH})_2$  (100 MHz,  $\text{dms}\text{-d}^6$ )**

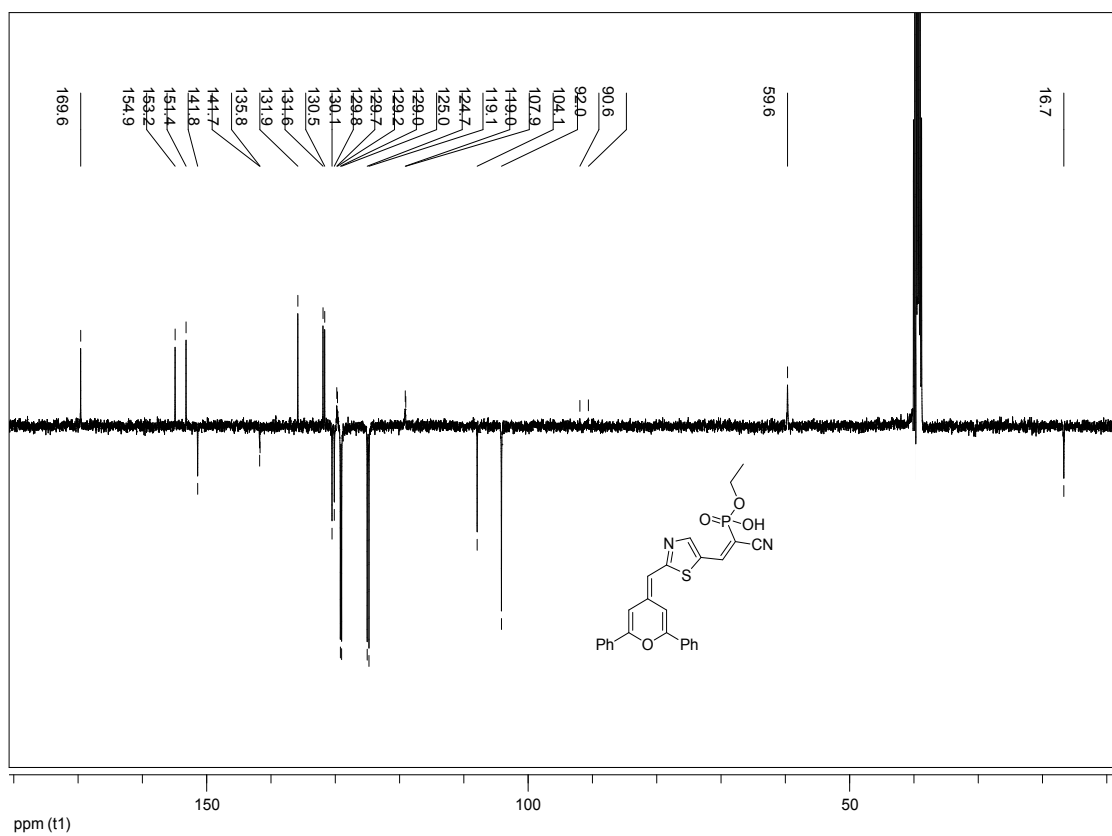


**<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound pyt-PO(OEt)OH (400 MHz, dms<sup>o</sup>-d<sup>6</sup>)**



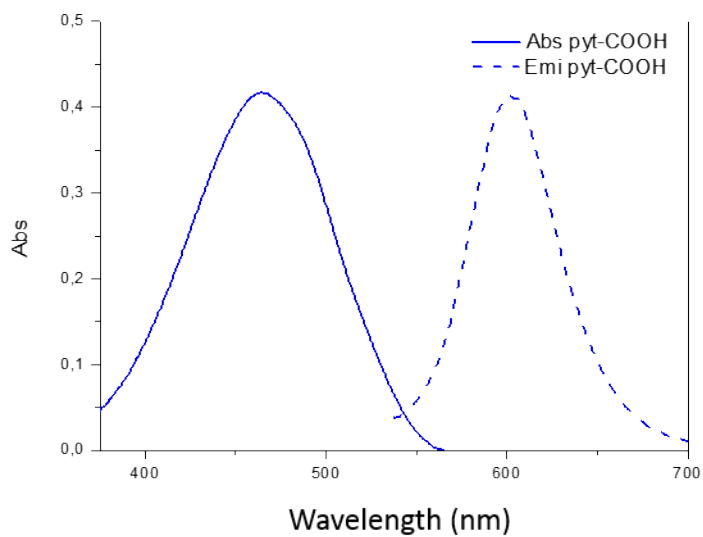


**<sup>13</sup>C NMR (APT) spectrum of compound pyt-PO(OEt)OH (100 MHz, dms<sub>o</sub>-d<sub>6</sub>)**

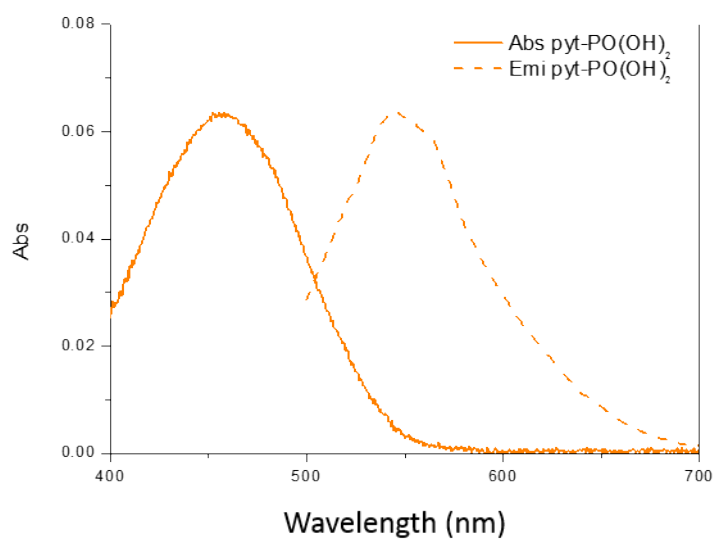


## Absorption and emission spectra in <sup>t</sup>BuOH:CH<sub>3</sub>CN (1:1)

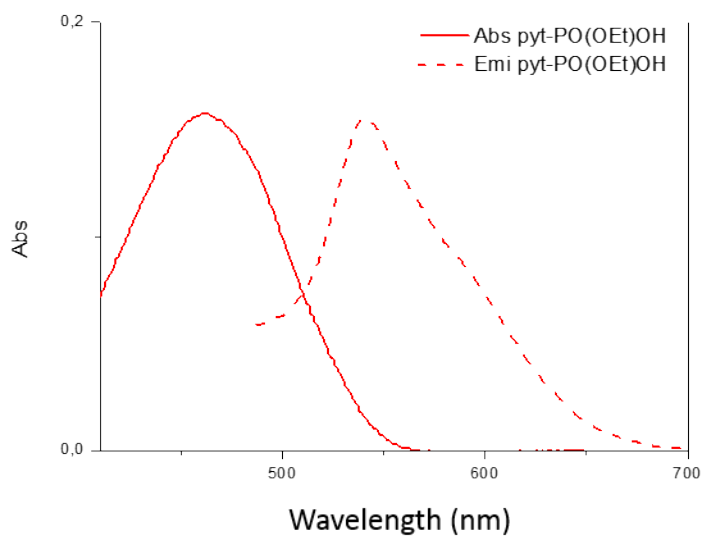
### Absorption-Emission spectra 10<sup>-5</sup>M in <sup>t</sup>BuOH:CH<sub>3</sub>CN (1:1) pyt-COOH



### Absorption-Emission spectra 10<sup>-5</sup>M in <sup>t</sup>BuOH:CH<sub>3</sub>CN (1:1) pyt-PO(OH)<sub>2</sub>

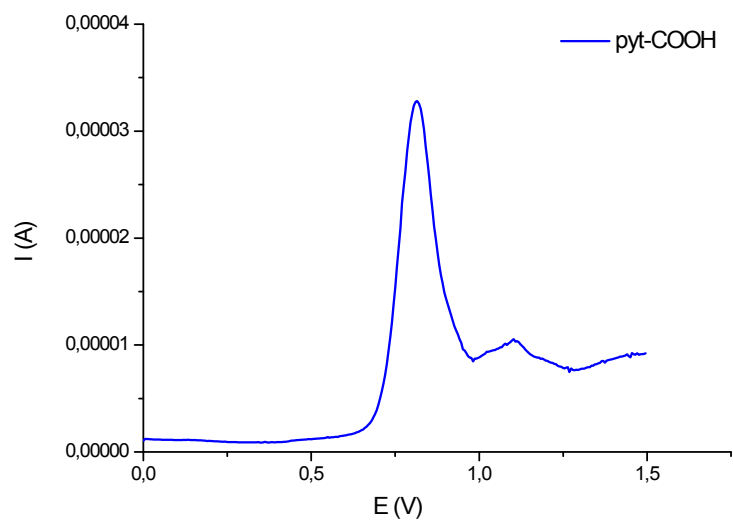


**Absorption-Emission spectra  $10^{-5}\text{M}$  in  $t\text{BuOH}:\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  (1:1) pyt-PO(OEt)OH**

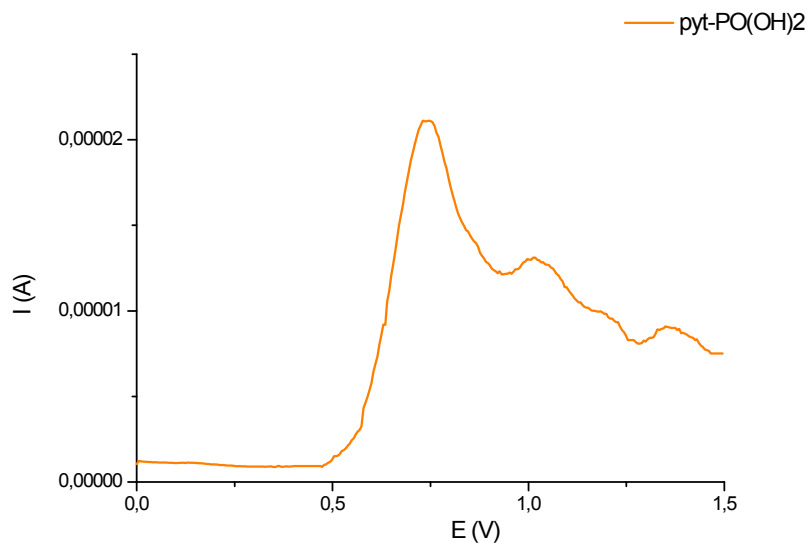


## Electrochemical characterization

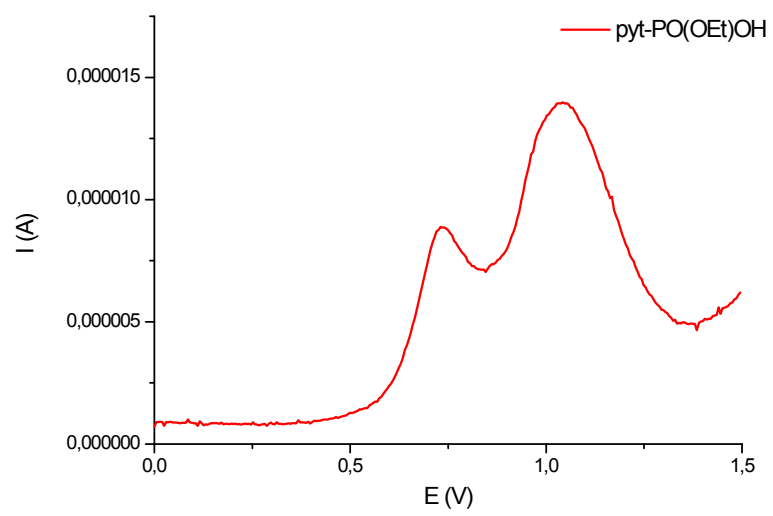
### Differential pulse voltammetry (DPV) pyt-COOH in DMF



### Differential pulse voltammetry (DPV) pyt-PO(OH)<sub>2</sub> in DMF



## Differential pulse voltammetry (DPV) pyt-PO(OEt)OH in DMF



### **Relative dye concentration on the TiO<sub>2</sub> surface**

To estimate the dye surface concentration on TiO<sub>2</sub> surface, we prepared three identical mesoporous TiO<sub>2</sub> films (thickness of the TiO<sub>2</sub> films 3 μm, area 0.36 cm<sup>2</sup>) and about 0.1 mM dyeing solutions in 1:1 mixture of acetonitrile and *tert*-butyl alcohol of pyt-COOH and pyt-PO(OEt)OH. Then we measured the absorption of the dyeing solutions before and after soaking for 3 hours the TiO<sub>2</sub> films and made use of dye calibration curves (see next paragraph) to calculate the number of dye molecules left in solution and thus to estimate the relative dye concentration on TiO<sub>2</sub>. All the details of the calculation are reported in the table below. As discussed in the main text pyt-PO(OH)<sub>2</sub> is not stable in the dyeing solution, therefore we could not extract the relative dye concentration for this dye.

|  | <b>pyt-COOH</b> |               | <b>pyt-PO(OEt)OH</b> |               |
|--|-----------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|
|  | before soaking  | after soaking | before soaking       | after soaking |
| Absorption maximum                             | 1.74            | 1.59          | 1.75                 | 1.62          |
| Molarity (M)                                   | 1.02E-4         | 9.37E-5       | 9.87E-5              | 9.34E-5       |
| Moles in solution                              | 3.56E-7         | 3.28E-7       | 3.45E-7              | 3.27E-7       |
| Moles adsorbed on TiO <sub>2</sub> film        | 2.8E-8          |               | 1,9E-8               |               |
| Relative dye concentration on TiO <sub>2</sub> | 1               |               | 0.7                  |               |

## Dye solution calibration curves

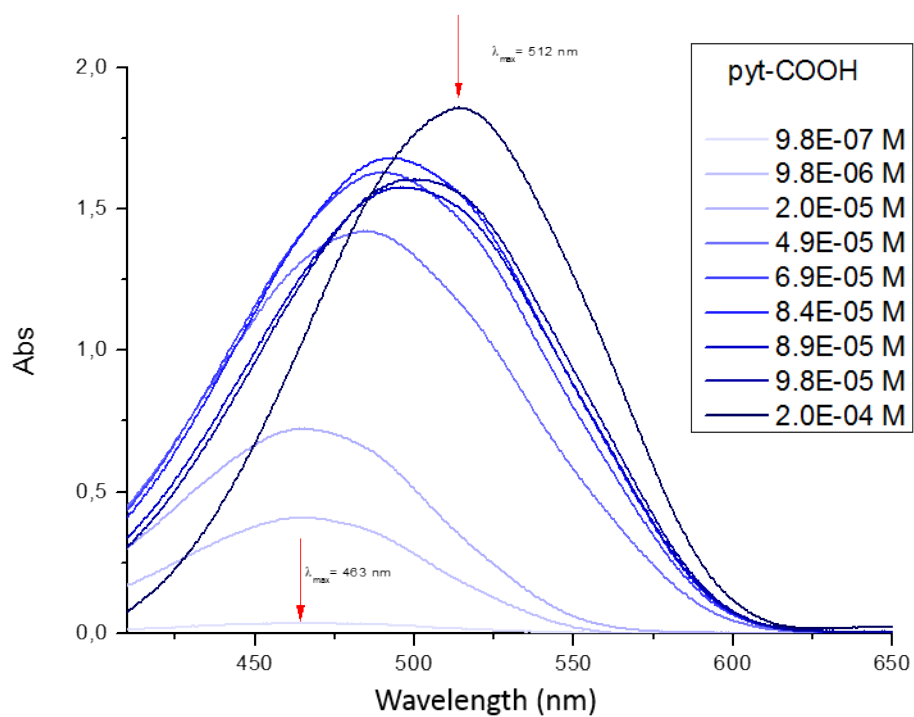


Figure 1

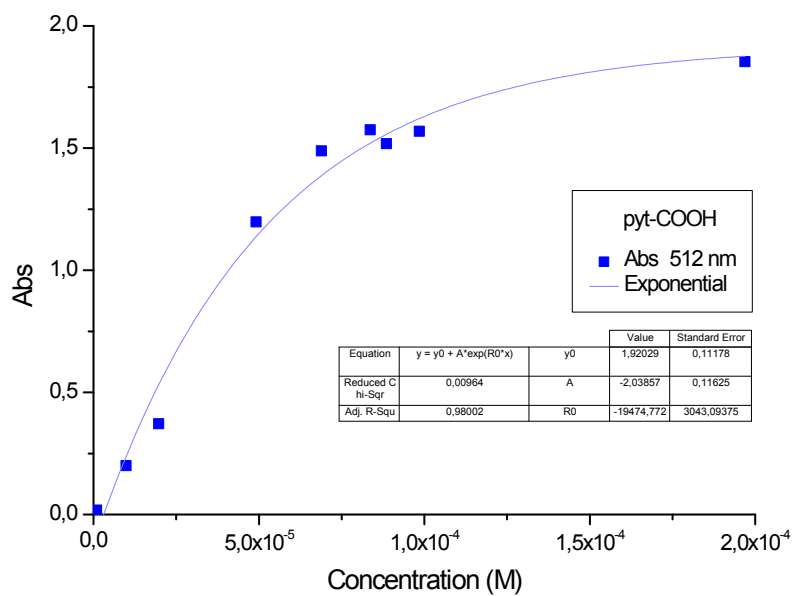


Figure 2

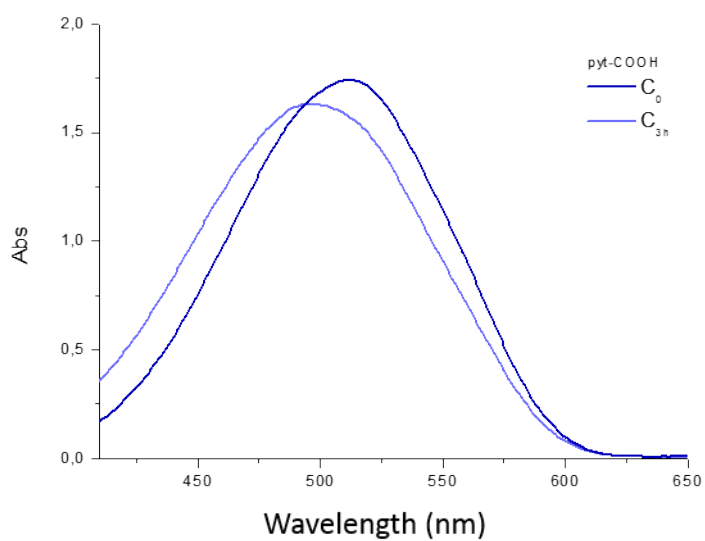


Figure 3

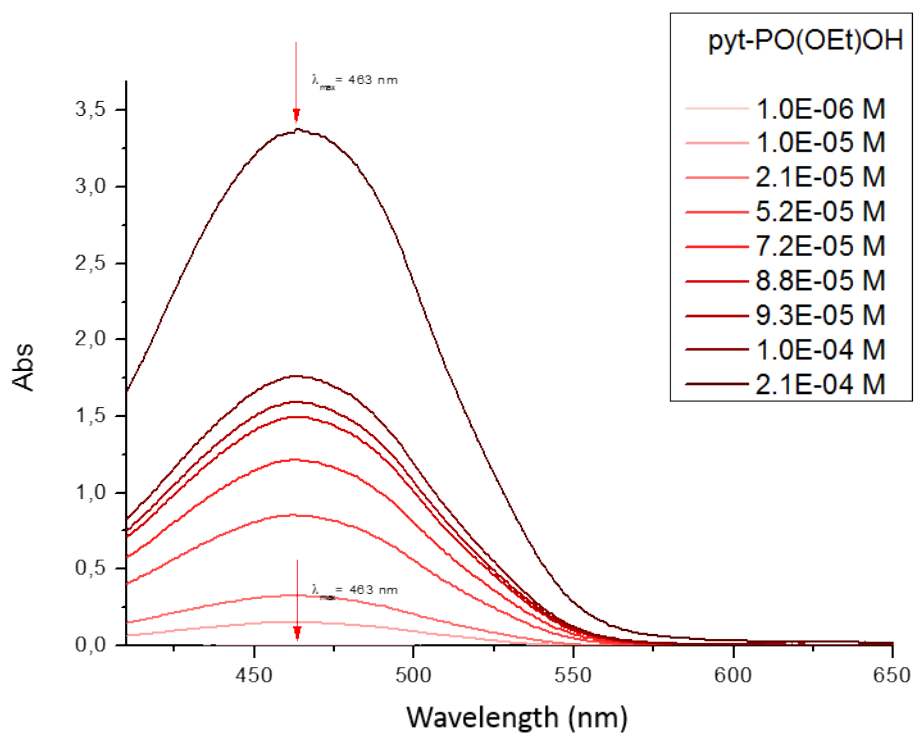


Figure 4



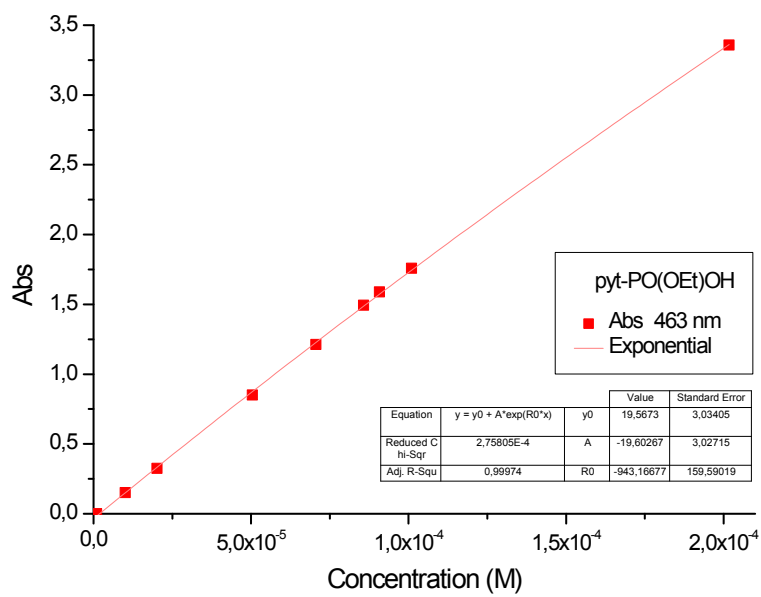


Figure 5

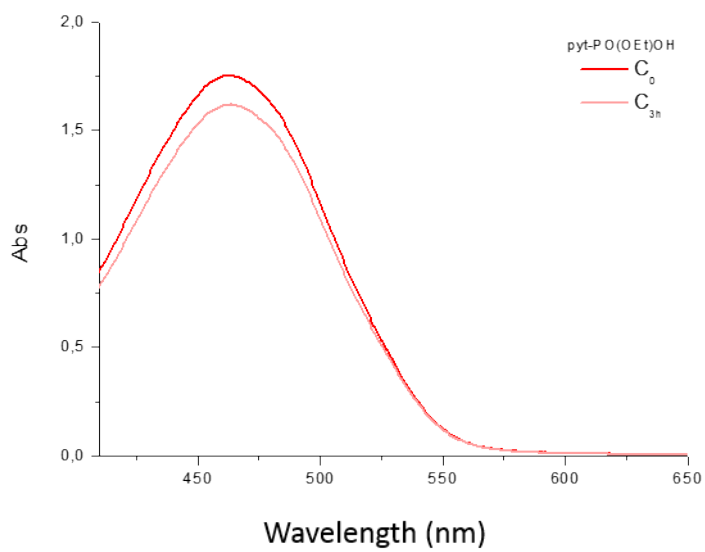


Figure 6

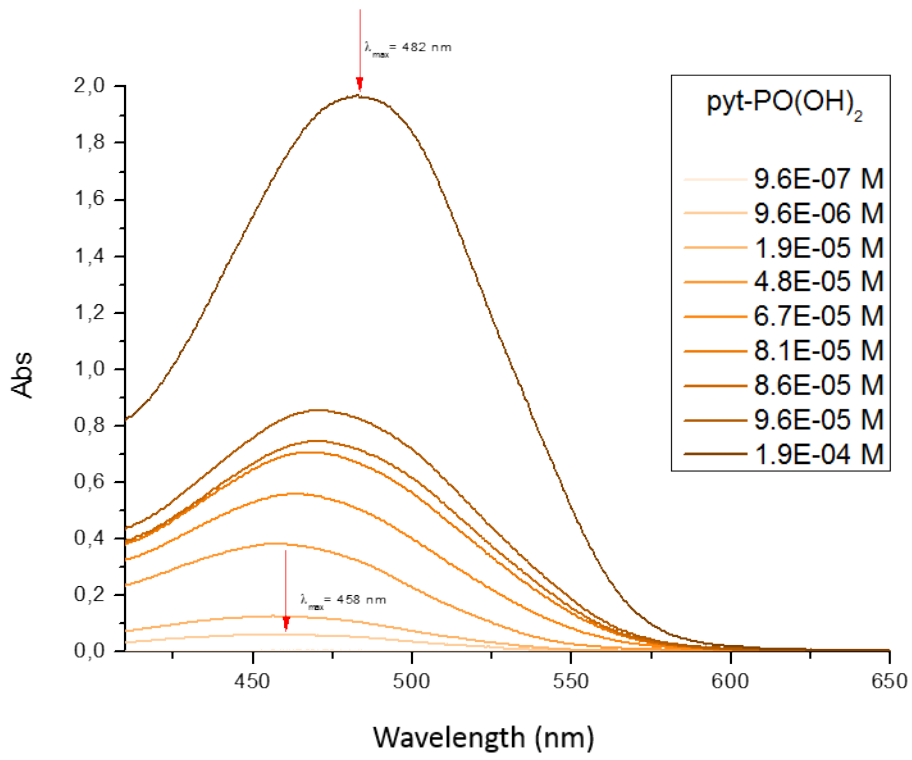


Figure 7

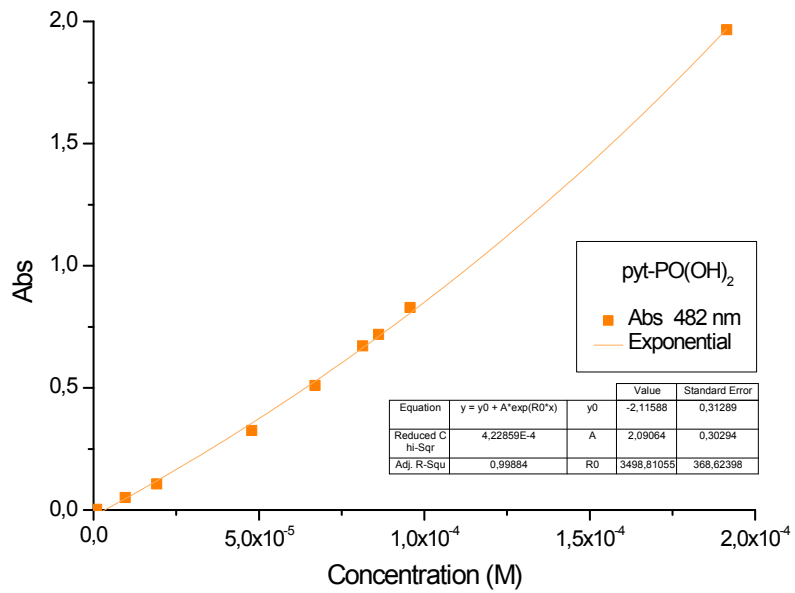


Figure 8

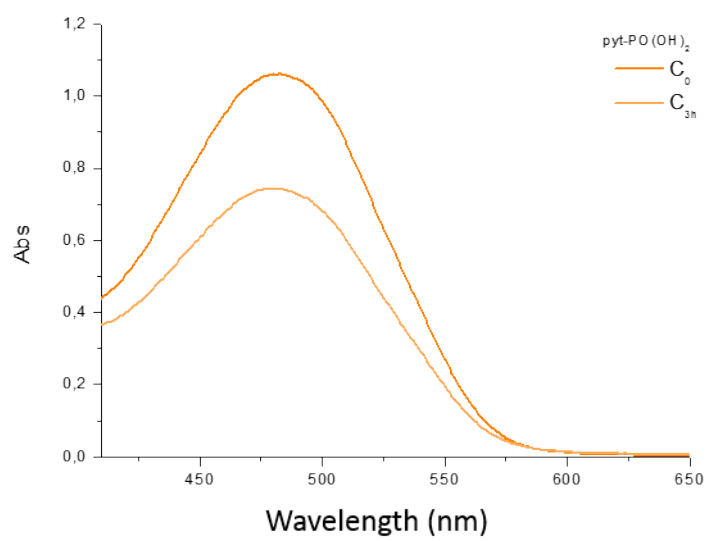
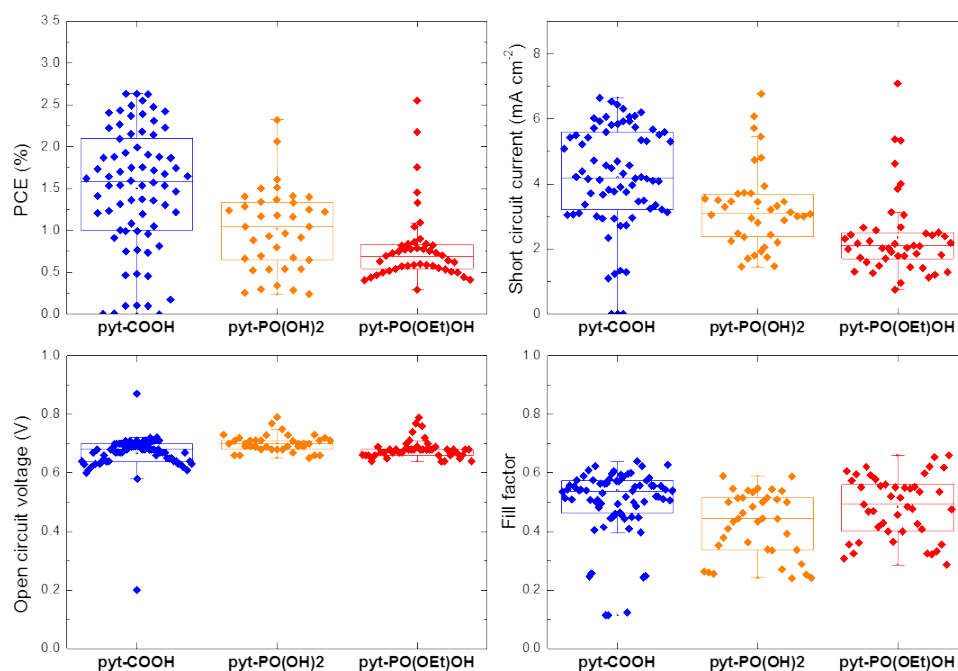


Figure 9

## Device performance parameters collected over 6 months of experiments



Box plot of the device performance parameters extracted from the current voltage curves collected under AM 1.5 simulated sunlight of  $100 \text{ mW cm}^{-2}$  equivalent solar irradiance, for over 40 devices prepared for each dye over a period of 6 months in several different experiments. We did plot the device performance parameters of all the devices in a single graph, which showed a relative narrow and a significant more spread data distribution for pyt-COOH and pyt-PO(OEt)OH respectively. The origin of such large data distribution is due to the fact that the device preparation procedure was constantly changed to optimize the performances. The best performance was achieved after tuning the concentration dyeing solution, the soaking time in the dyeing solution, the mesoporous  $\text{TiO}_2$  thickness, the Spiro-OMeTAD concentration and additive composition. We kept track of all these change and we reported the optimized procedure in the Experimental section.