

*Electronic Supplementary Information for*

# Dicyanopyrazine Capped with Tetraphenylethylene: Polymorphs with High Contrast Luminescence as Organic Volatile Sensor

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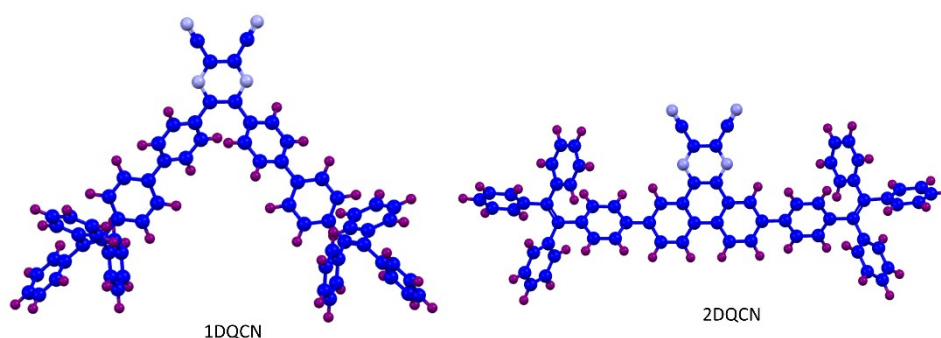
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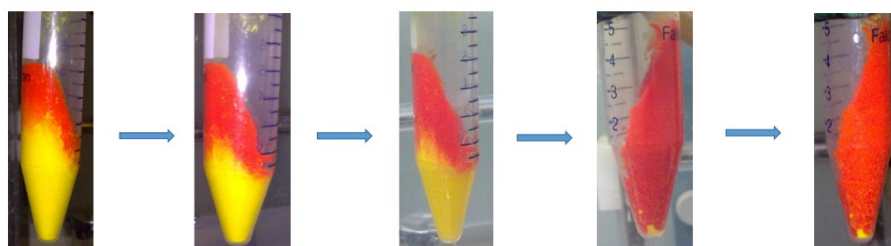
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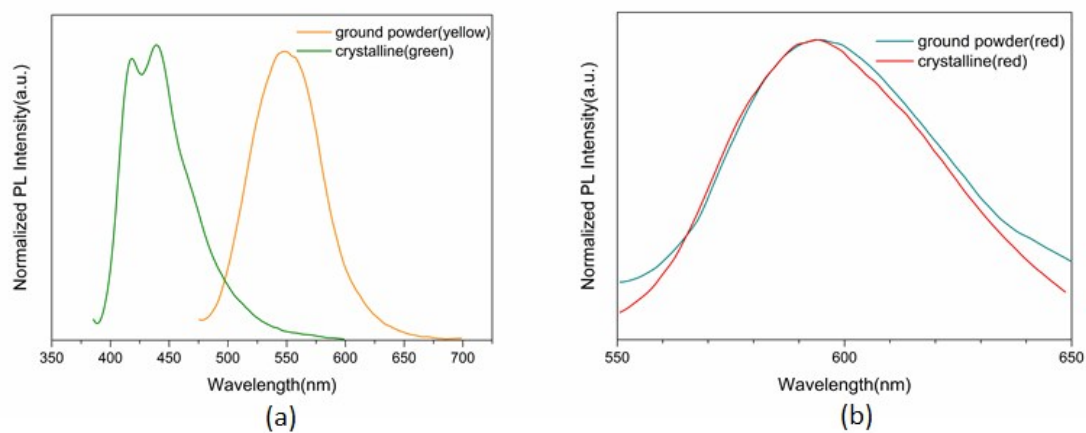
**Fig. S1** The geometry-optimized molecular structure plots (optimized by using density functional theory calculation at the DFT/B3LYP/6-31G(d) level).



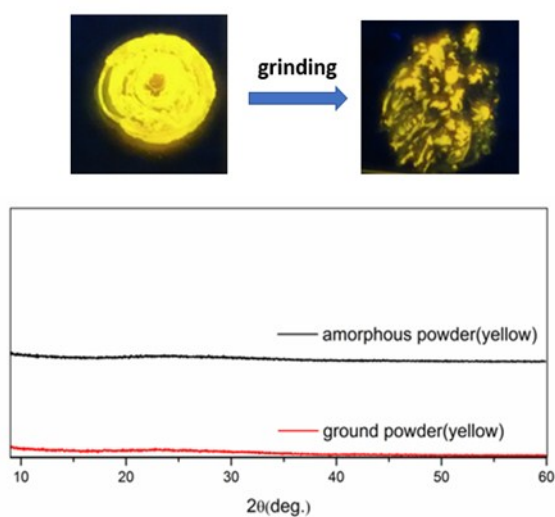
**Fig. S2** The whole transformation process of **2DQCN** from yellow to red in the



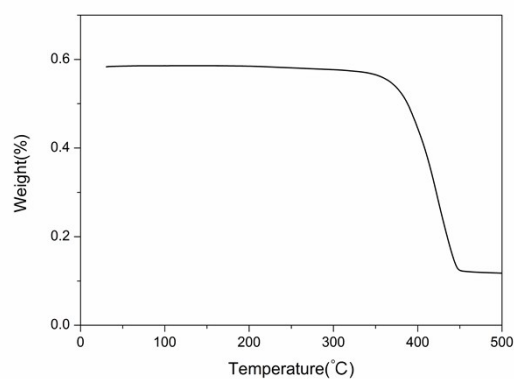
centrifuge tube.



**Fig. S3** Fluorescence spectra of (a) 1DQCN and (b) 2DQCN before and after grinding.

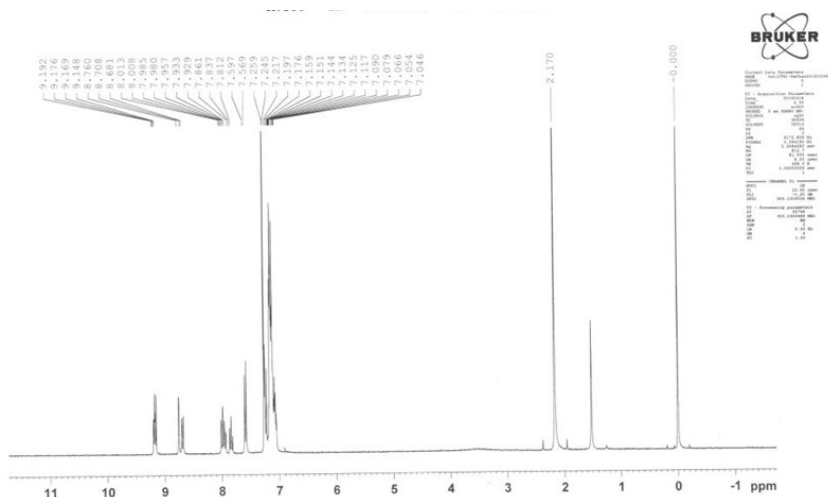


**Fig. S4** The fluorescence images and PXRD patterns of 2DQCN amorphous state before and after grinding.

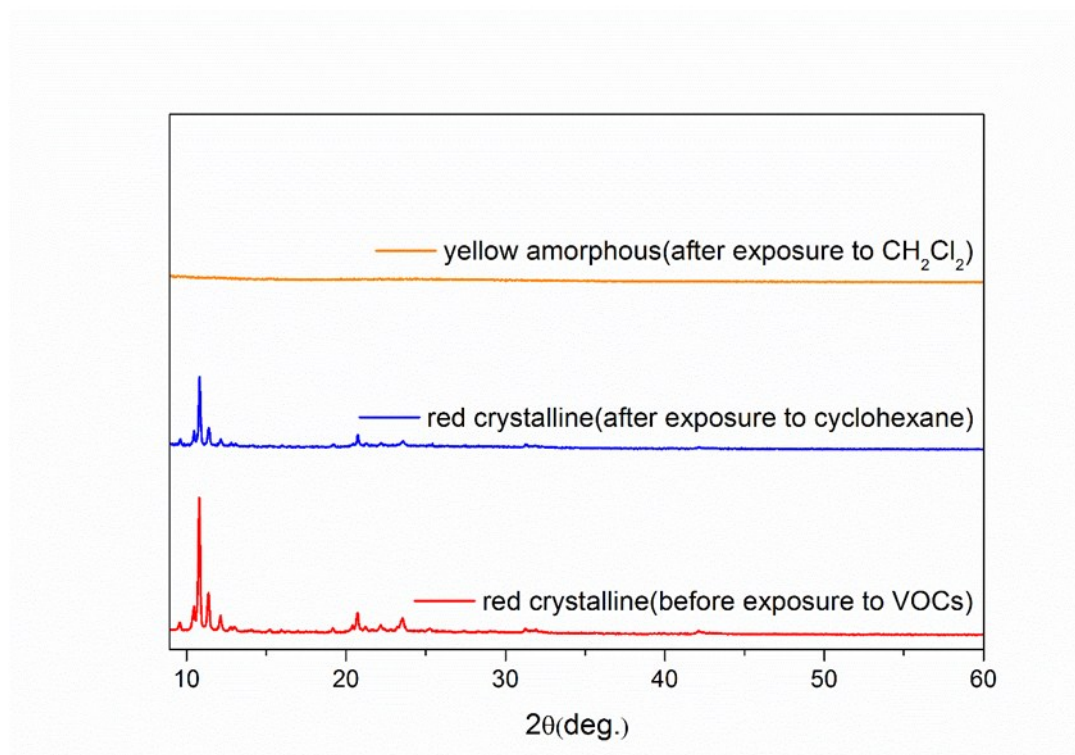




**Fig. S5** TGA thermogram of **2DQCN** recorded under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere at a heating rate of 10 °C/min.



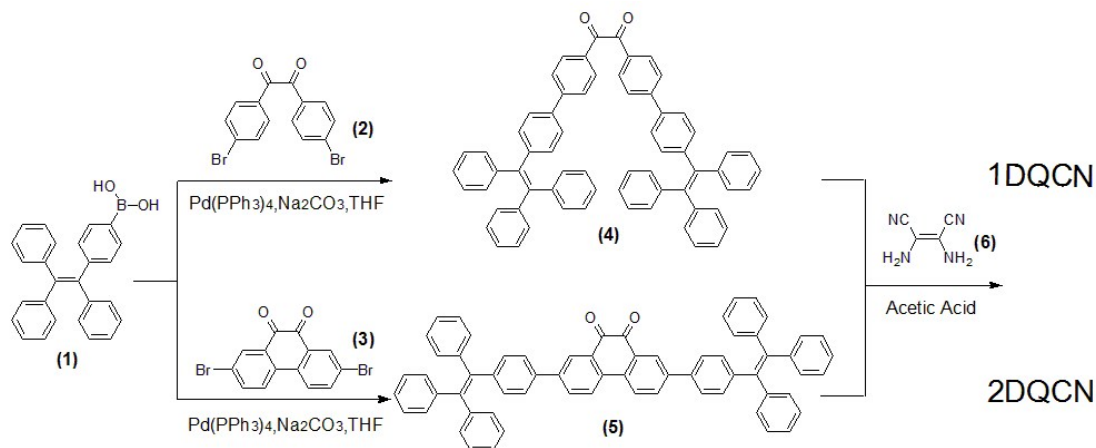
**Fig. S6** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of **2DQCN** in chloroform-*d* after annealing at 260 °C for more than ten minutes.



**Fig. S7** The XRD patterns of **2DQCN** crystalline films before and after exposure to CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and cyclohexane solvents.



## 8. Synthesis



**Scheme 2** Synthetic Routes to **1DQCN** and **2DQCN**.

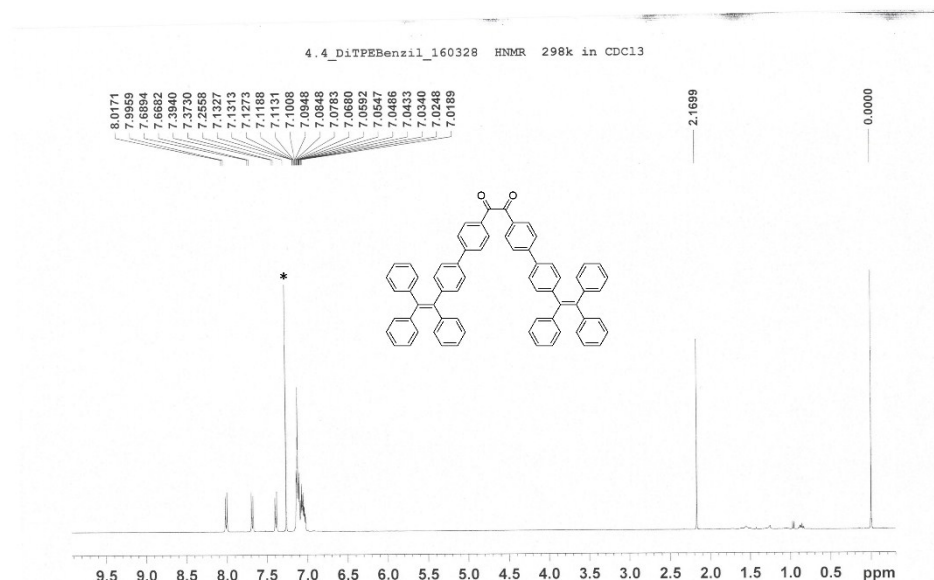
**1DQCN** and **2DQCN** are efficiently prepared by a facile two-step approach and the synthetic routes to the two compounds are depicted in **Scheme 2**. 4-(1,2,2-triphenylvinyl)phenylboronic acid (**1**) was prepared by lithiation of 1-(2-(4-bromophenyl)-1,2-diphenylvinyl)benzene, followed by treatment with trimethyl borate and hydrolysis catalyzed by acid according to ref [1]. 1,2-bis(4-bromophenyl)ethane-1,2-dione (**2**), and 2,7-dibromophenanthrene-9,10-dione (**3**) were prepared according to published methods, [2], [3] and [4]. The other typical procedures for their syntheses are shown below.

**1,2-bis(4'-(1,2,2-triphenylvinyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)ethane-1,2-dione (4) and 2,7-bis(4-(1,2,2-triphenylvinyl)phenyl)phenanthrene-9,10-dione (5):** Into a stirred mixture of 0.736 g (2 mmol) of (**2**) (0.732 g (2 mmol) of (**3**)), 1.504 g (4 mmol) of (**1**), and 12 mL of 2 M  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  solution in 30 mL THF was added 0.02 g of  $\text{Pd(PPh}_3)_4$  under nitrogen. The mixture was heated to  $80^\circ\text{C}$  for 12 h. After being cooled to room temperature, the solution was extracted with 50 mL of  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  twice, washed with water, and dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . After filtration and solvent evaporation under reduced pressure, the product was purified by silica-gel column chromatography using hexane/dichloromethane as eluent. The pale yellow solid of (**4**) and orange solid of (**5**) were obtained in 63.3% yield (1.10 g) and 66.2% yield (1.15g), respectively. (**4**)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ),  $\delta$  (TMS, ppm): 7.99-8.01 (d, 4H), 7.67-7.69 (d, 4H), 7.37-7.39 (d, 4H), 7.02-7.13 (m, 34H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ),  $\delta$  (TMS, ppm): 147.10, 144.43, 143.57, 143.55, 143.51, 141.76, 140.16, 137.10, 132.07, 131.61, 131.40, 131.35, 131.33, 130.50, 127.86, 127.81, 127.70, 127.34, 126.71, 126.64, 126.61, 126.56. (**5**)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ),  $\delta$  (TMS, ppm): 8.19-8.22 (m, 4H), 8.15 (s, 2H), 8.07-8.09 (d, 2H), 7.70-7.74 (t, 2H), 7.61-7.63 (d, 2H), 7.45-7.50 (m, 6H), 7.04-7.19 (m, 26H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ),  $\delta$  (TMS, ppm): 148.34, 144.97, 143.53, 143.49, 143.46, 141.98, 140.04, 137.05, 136.21, 135.92, 135.83, 132.21, 131.40, 131.39, 131.33, 131.25, 131.22, 130.55, 129.68, 129.64, 127.98, 127.93, 127.86, 127.74, 126.77, 126.72, 126.69, 126.54, 123.98, 122.40.



**5,6-bis(4'-(1,2,2-triphenylvinyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)pyrazine-2,3-dicarbonitrile (1DQCN) and 6,11-bis(4-(1,2,2-triphenylvinyl)phenyl)dibenzo[f,h]quinoxaline-2,3-dicarbonitrile (2DQCN):** A suspension of (4) (0.871 g, 1 mmol) (0.869 g, 1 mmol of (5)) and 2,3-diaminomaleonitrile (0.130 g, 1.2 mmol) in acetic acid (10 ml) was heated to reflux for 6h, during which time a yellow precipitate of **1DQCN** (a red precipitate of **2DQCN**) formed. After filtration, the resulting solid was purified by silica-gel column chromatography using hexane/dichloromethane as eluent. **1DQCN** was formed in a 95.3% yield (0.899 g) and **2DQCN** was formed in a 93.6% yield (0.880 g). **1DQCN**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ),  $\delta$  (TMS, ppm): 7.61-7.63 (d, 4H), 7.55-7.57 (d, 4H), 7.35-7.38 (d, 4H), 7.02-7.13 (m, 34H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ),  $\delta$  (TMS, ppm): 144.07, 143.63, 143.57, 143.54, 143.49, 141.66, 140.24, 137.05, 133.92, 132.03, 131.38, 131.36, 131.31, 130.29, 129.50, 127.82, 127.77, 127.69, 127.18, 126.62, 126.59, 126.25. HRMS (MALDI-TOF):  $m/z$  942.299 ( $\text{M}^+$ , calcd 942.372). Anal. Calcd For  $\text{C}_{70}\text{H}_{46}\text{N}_4$ : C, 89.14; H, 4.92; N, 5.94. Found: C, 88.96; H, 5.08; N, 5.75. **2DQCN**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ),  $\delta$  (TMS, ppm): 9.15-9.19 (q, 4H), 8.76 (s, 2H), 8.68-8.70 (d, 2H), 7.93-8.01 (q, 4H), 7.81-7.86 (t, 2H), 7.57-7.60 (d, 4H), 7.05-7.24 (m, 26H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ),  $\delta$  (TMS, ppm): 145.17, 144.57, 143.61, 143.54, 142.78, 141.90, 140.15, 137.54, 133.54, 133.24, 132.70, 132.27, 131.41, 131.33, 130.28, 129.01, 127.91, 127.84, 127.73, 127.61, 127.57, 127.19, 126.83, 126.73, 126.69, 126.07, 123.25, 121.25, 113.91, 113.87. HRMS:  $m/z$  941.61 ( $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , calcd 941.36). Anal. Calcd For  $\text{C}_{70}\text{H}_{44}\text{N}_4$ : C, 89.33; H, 4.71.; N, 5.95. Found: C, 89.02; H, 4.94; N, 5.80.

## 9. NMR Spectra of Compound (4), (5), 1DQCN, 2DQCN.

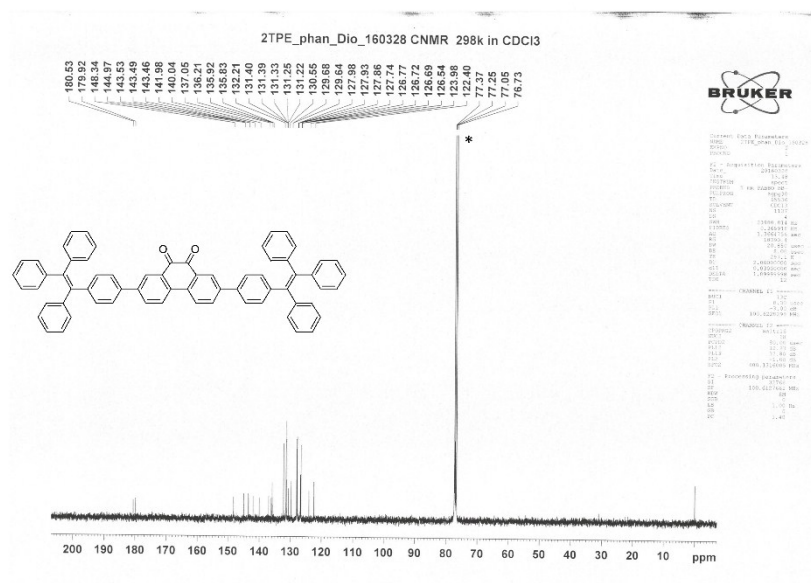


**Fig. S8**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of (4) in chloroform-*d*. The solvent peaks are marked with asterisks.

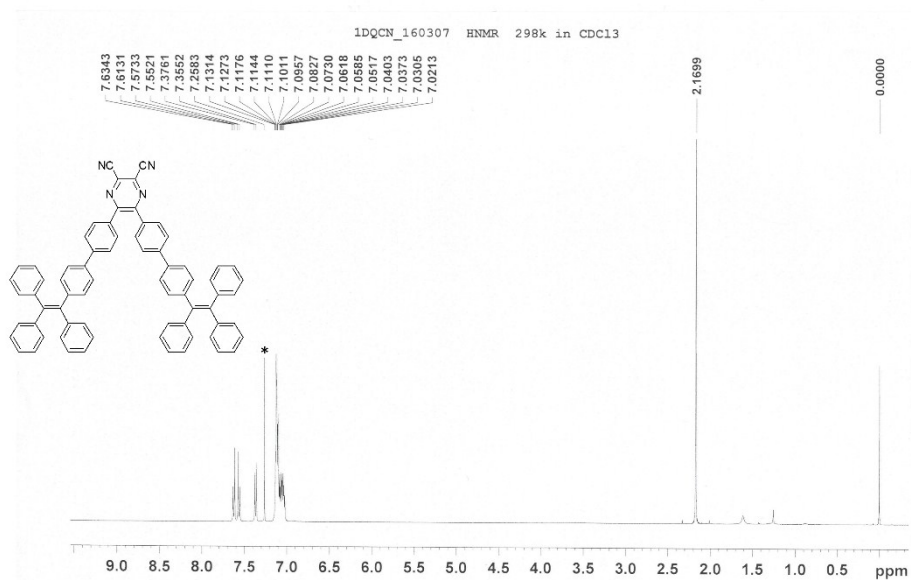






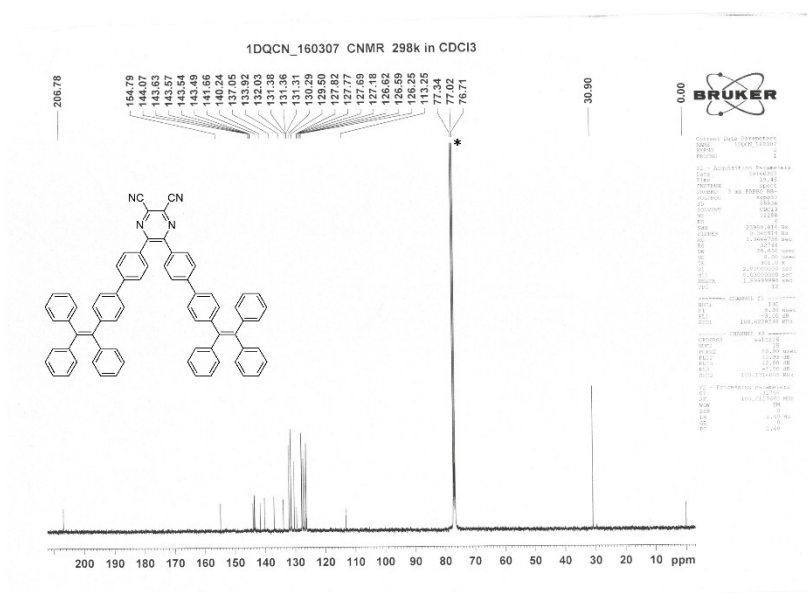


**Fig. S11** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of (5) in chloroform-*d*. The solvent peaks are marked with asterisks.

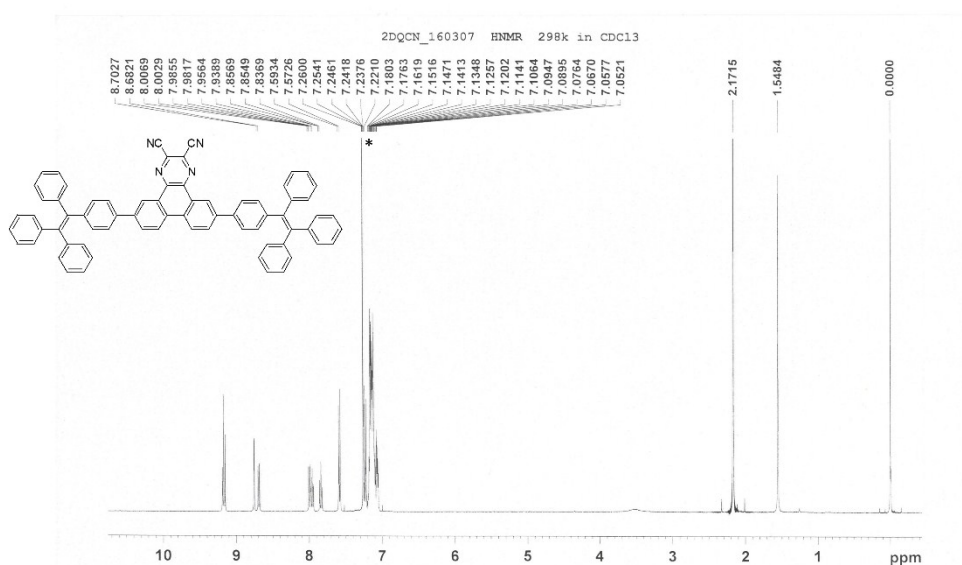


**Fig. S12** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 1DQCN in chloroform-*d*. The solvent peaks are marked with asterisks.



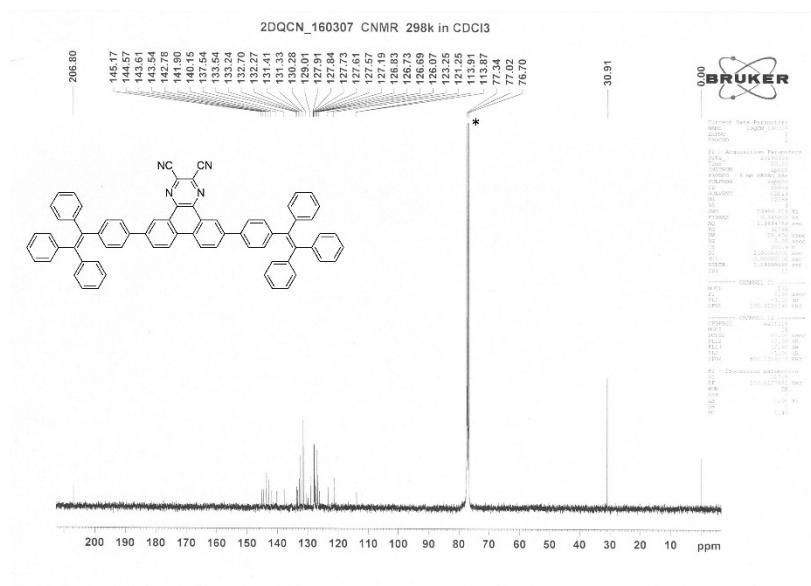


**Fig. S13**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **1DQCN** in chloroform-*d*. The solvent peaks are marked with asterisks.



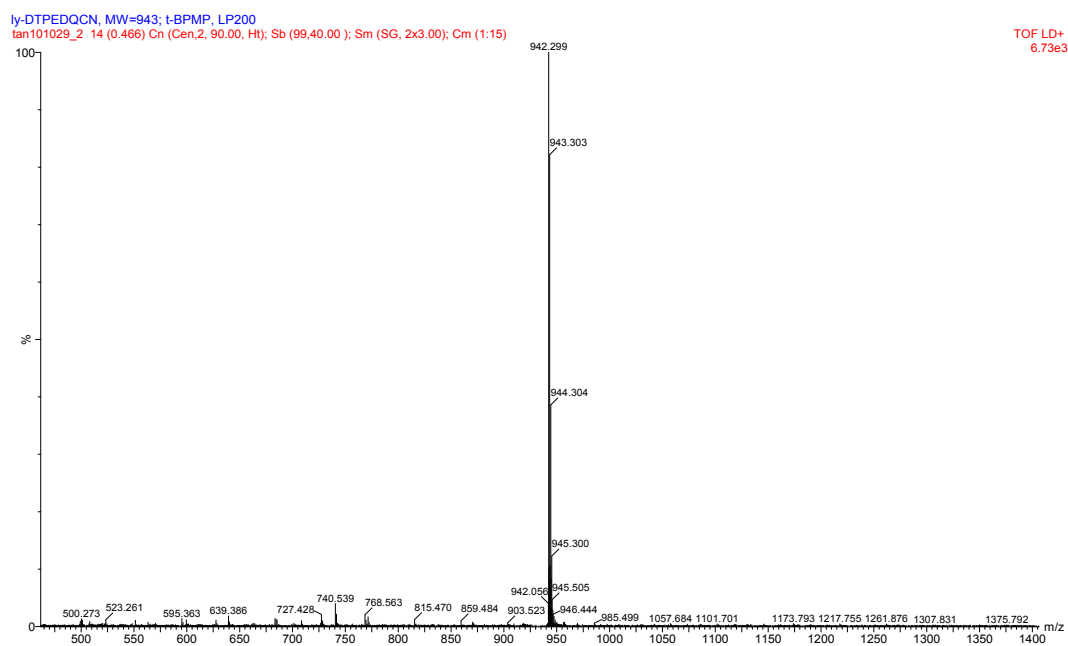
**Fig. S14**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **2DQCN** in chloroform-*d*. The solvent peaks are marked with asterisks.





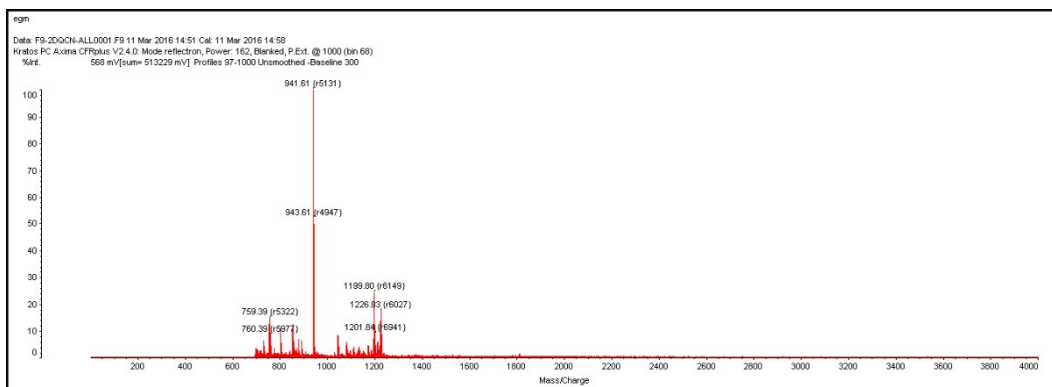
**Fig. S15**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **2DQCN** in chloroform-*d*. The solvent peaks are marked with asterisks.

## 10. High Resolution Mass Spectra of 1DQCN and 2DQCN.



**Fig. S16** High resolution mass spectrum of **1DQCN**.





**Fig. S17** High resolution mass spectrum of **2DQCN**.

## 11. Reference

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