

**Electronic Supplementary Information**

**Molecular Engineering of New Phenothiazine-based**

**D-A- $\pi$ -A Dyes for Dye-Sensitized Solar Cells**

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### Synthesis and characterization of dyes.

(aq); (c) bis(pinacolato)diboron, Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, KOAc, toluene; (d) Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, DME/H<sub>2</sub>O; (e) NaH, n-BuBr, THF; (f) NBS, THF; (g) NBS, THF; (h) Pd<sub>2</sub>(dba)<sub>3</sub>, <sup>t</sup>Bu<sub>3</sub>P, <sup>t</sup>BuOK, diphenylamine, 1,4-dioxane; (i) NBS, DMF; (j) bis(pinacolato)diboron, Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, KOAc, toluene; (k) Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, DME/H<sub>2</sub>O; (l) n-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>13</sub>Br, K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, acetone; (m) bis(pinacolato)diboron, Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, KOAc, toluene; (n) Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, DME/H<sub>2</sub>O; (o) DMF, POCl<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>; (p) cyanoacetic acid, piperidine, CHCl<sub>3</sub>.

Dye of **T2-1**, compound **2, 3, 5, 6, 8, A-1, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15** and **16** were synthesized according to literatures.<sup>1-6</sup> Their <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were consistent with that in references. The synthetic procedures and NMR data for other intermediates and new dyes are detailed as follows.

#### ***Preparation of A-2~4***

**A-2<sup>4</sup>:** Under argon, 3,7-dibromo-10-butyl-10H-phenothiazine (compound **9**) (6.20 g, 15 mmol), Pd<sub>2</sub>(dba)<sub>3</sub> (41.2 mg, 0.045mmol), HP(<sup>t</sup>-Bu)<sub>3</sub>BF<sub>4</sub> (43.5 mg, 0.15mmol), and <sup>t</sup>BuOK (1.00 g, 9mmo) were dissolved in dry 1,4-dioxane (50 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at 70 °C for 5 minutes and then diphenylamine (0.51 g, 3 mmol) was added and the mixture was heated to 105 °C for 14 h. After cooling to room temperature, solvents were removed by rotary evaporation. The residue was purified using column chromatography to give a pale green solid (1.00 g, 66.8 %). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, Acetone-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 7.33 (dd, *J* = 6.9, 1.8 Hz, 1 H), 7.27 (m, 5 H), 7.00 (m, 7 H), 6.93 (2 H, m), 6.85 (1 H, d, *J* = 2.4 Hz), 3.91 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 1.77 (m, 2

H), 1.47 (m, 2 H), 0.93 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3 H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  147.82, 144.65, 143.09, 140.76, 130.03, 129.79, 129.36, 126.84, 125.22, 124.34, 124.21, 123.63, 122.55, 116.51, 116.09, 114.34, 47.39, 29.06, 20.35, 14.03.

**A-3:** Compound **12** (0.63 g, 1.7 mmol) was treated with **9** (2.81 g, 6.8 mmol) in the presence of  $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$  (0.10 g, 0.08 mmol), 1 N aqueous solution of  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  (2.5 mL) and 1,2-dimethoxyethane (22.5 mL). The mixture was degassed for three times and refluxed for 48 h. After cooling and addition of AcOEt (50 mL), the mixture was washed with water and dried on magnesium sulfate. Solvents were removed by rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography with petroleum ether:AcOEt (10:1, v:v) as eluent to give **A-3** as a pale yellow oil (0.64 g, 67.2%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, Acetone- $\text{d}_6$ ):  $\delta$  7.48 (dd,  $J = 6.9, 2.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.41 (dd,  $J = 8.1, 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d,  $J = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.27 (m, 6H), 7.03 (m, 9H), 6.88 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 1H), 3.88 (t,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 2H), 1.73 (m, 2H), 1.44 (m, 2H), 0.89 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz, Acetone- $\text{d}_6$ ):  $\delta$  148.57, 147.91, 145.42, 144.61, 135.89, 134.47, 130.95, 130.29, 130.04, 127.95, 127.62, 126.52, 125.75, 125.20, 125.10, 124.67, 123.97, 117.99, 117.03, 114.78, 47.67, 29.55, 20.63, 14.14.

**A-4:** Compound **12** (0.61 g, 2 mmol) was treated with **9** (4.13 g, 10 mmol) in the presence of  $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$  (115.6 mg, 0.1 mmol), 1 N aqueous solution of  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  (5 mL) and 1,2-dimethoxyethane (45 mL). The mixture was degassed for three times and refluxed for 48 h. After cooling and addition of AcOEt (80 mL), the mixture was washed with water and dried on magnesium sulfate. Solvents were removed by rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography with



petroleum ether:AcOEt (10:1, v:v) as eluent to give **A-4** as a pale yellow oil (0.69 g, 67.5%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, Acetone-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 7.54 (dd, *J* = 6.9, 2.4 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (m, 3H), 4.02 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 3.95 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 1.78 (m, 4H), 1.49 (m, 4H), 1.36 (m, 4H), 0.92 (m, 6H).

***General synthetic procedure for compounds B-n***<sup>7-8</sup>

A mixture of **A-n** (1.0 mmol), bis(pinacolato)diboron (0.31 g, 1.2 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (17.8 mg, 25 μmol) and KOAc (0.30 g, 3 mmol) in dry toluene (25 mL) was heated to 120 °C under argon for 12 h. After cooling, the solvents were evaporated in vacuum. The residue was chromatographed with petroleum ether:AcOEt (10:1, v:v) to give **B-n** as a pale green oil.

**B-1**: 0.36 g, yield 94.5%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (s, 1H), 7.20 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (m, 2H), 6.98 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 1.68 (m, 2H), 1.31 (s, 12 H), 0.92 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 3H).

**B-2**: 0.47 g, yield 86.7 %. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, Acetone-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 7.56 (dd, *J* = 1.2, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (m, 4H), 7.00 (m, 8H), 6.89 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, *J* = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 3.94 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 1.73 (m, 2H), 1.48 (m, 2H), 1.30 (s, 12 H), 0.93 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 147.95, 147.83, 142.94, 140.64, 134.34, 133.97, 129.29, 125.90, 124.24, 124.09, 123.59, 123.52, 122.41, 115.99, 114.64, 83.75, 47.27, 29.85, 29.08, 24.98, 20.31, 14.01. HRMS (EIS): *m/z* [M]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>37</sub>BN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S: 548.2335; found: 548.2358.

**B-3:** 0.46 g, yield 73.7 %.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  7.56 (d,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (m, 2H), 7.39 (d,  $J$  = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (m, 5H), 7.03 (m, 10H), 3.90 (t,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 1.68 (m, 2H), 1.41 (m, 2H), 1.27 (s, 12 H), 0.88 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  147.85, 147.03, 143.68, 135.30, 134.17, 134.00, 129.63, 129.44, 129.23, 127.30, 125.28, 124.69, 124.50, 124.33, 124.20, 123.69, 123.02, 115.71, 114.75, 83.86, 47.37, 29.07, 25.35, 25.03, 20.33, 14.04. HRMS (EIS):  $m/z$   $[\text{M}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{40}\text{H}_{41}\text{BN}_2\text{O}_2\text{S}$ : 624.2976; found: 624.2964.

**B-4:** 0.43 g, yield 77.4 %.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  7.55 (m, 3H), 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.36 (d,  $J$  = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (dd,  $J$  = 12.9, 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.98 (d,  $J$  = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 4.01 (m, 4H), 1.74 (m, 4H), 1.48 (m, 4H), 1.35 (m, 16H), 0.92 (m, 6H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  158.67, 147.88, 143.49, 135.58, 134.34, 133.99, 132.50, 127.63, 125.53, 125.43, 125.29, 123.75, 115.70, 114.94, 114.73, 83.84, 68.25, 47.33, 31.80, 29.91, 29.46, 29.09, 25.94, 25.02, 22.82, 20.32, 14.26, 14.02. HRMS (EIS):  $m/z$   $[\text{M}+1]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{44}\text{BNO}_3\text{S}$ : 558.3208; found: 558.3192.

#### ***General synthetic procedure for compounds C-n***

Compound **B-n** (0.5 mmol) was treated with **6** (0.6 mmol) in the presence of  $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$  (57.8 mg, 50  $\mu\text{mol}$ ), 1 N aqueous solution of  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  (3 mL) and 1,2-dimethoxyethane (22 mL). The mixture was degassed for three times and refluxed for 48 h. After cooling and addition of AcOEt (50 mL), the mixture was washed with water and dried on magnesium sulfate. Solvents were removed by rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography with petroleum ether:AcOEt (10:1, v:v) as eluent to give **C-n** as an orange solid.

**C-1:** 173.8 mg, yield 70.5 %.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, Acetone- $\text{d}_6$ ):  $\delta$  10.16 (s, 1H), 8.31 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 2H), 8.09 (m, 3H), 7.96 (m, 3H), 7.22 (m, 3H), 7.10 (d,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 1H), 6.99 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 4.06 (t,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 2H), 1.86 (m, 2H), 1.53 (m, 2H), 0.96 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  191.74, 153.62, 153.58, 145.46, 144.48, 143.10, 135.51, 132.93, 132.92, 130.80, 129.75, 129.59, 128.79, 128.22, 127.63, 127.35, 127.26, 126.53, 124.67, 124.00, 122.52, 115.33, 115.01, 47.16, 28.81, 20.12, 13.80. Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_3\text{OS}_2 \cdot 1/6 \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ : C, 68.99; H, 4.63; N, 8.28. Found: C, 69.15; H, 4.36; N, 8.07. HRMS (ESI): calcd for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_3\text{OS}_2$   $m/z$ : 493.1557, found: 493.1546.

**C-2:** 221.8 mg, yield 67.2 %.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $\text{d}_6$ ):  $\delta$  10.12 (s, 1H), 8.17 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 8.06 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.84 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.76 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.24 (m, 4H), 7.01 (m, 5H), 6.94 (m, 4H), 6.79 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 1H), 3.90 (t,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 2H), 1.87 (m, 2H), 1.54 (m, 2H), 0.91 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  191.92, 153.90, 153.83, 147.79, 143.36, 143.00, 140.45, 136.86, 135.76, 133.24, 132.41, 131.02, 130.00, 129.83, 129.30, 129.03, 128.94, 128.50, 127.90, 126.77, 125.18, 124.43, 124.24, 123.55, 122.47, 115.99, 115.10, 47.43, 29.83, 20.40, 14.04. HRMS (EIS):  $m/z$   $[\text{M}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{41}\text{H}_{32}\text{N}_4\text{OS}_2$ : 660.1794; found: 660.1814.

**C-3:** 264.2mg, yield 71.8 %.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $\text{d}_6$ ):  $\delta$  10.07 (s, 1H), 8.12 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 8.01 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.81 (m, 3H), 7.70 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H), 7.38 (m, 4H), 7.25 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 4H), 7.11 (m, 4H), 7.01 (dd,  $J = 7.2, 12.9$  Hz, 4H), 6.90 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 1H), 3.90 (t,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 2H), 1.76 (m, 2H), 1.51 (m, 2H), 0.90 (t,

$J = 7.2$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  192.05, 153.97, 153.91, 147.78, 147.07, 145.59, 143.52, 143.47, 135.82, 135.34, 133.95, 133.33, 131.17, 130.50, 130.09, 129.90, 129.43, 129.10, 128.57, 128.15, 127.96, 127.24, 126.88, 125.65, 125.50, 124.59, 124.51, 124.12, 123.05, 115.71, 115.25, 47.51, 29.08, 20.40, 14.06. HRMS (EIS):  $m/z$   $[\text{M}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{47}\text{H}_{36}\text{N}_4\text{OS}_2$ : 736.2325; found: 736.2313.

**C-4**: 205.0 mg, yield 61.3 %.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  10.06 (s, 1H), 8.10 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 8.00 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.74 (m, 4H), 7.43 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 2H), 7.31 (m, 2H), 6.93 (m, 4H), 3.96 (m, 4H), 1.79 (m, 4H), 1.45 (m, 8H), 0.97 (m, 6H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  192.12, 158.64, 153.91, 153.85, 147.08, 145.58, 143.44, 143.27, 135.73, 135.54, 133.26, 132.27, 131.07, 130.07, 129.86, 129.44, 129.09, 128.54, 127.91, 127.56, 126.84, 125.62, 125.49, 124.48, 115.67, 115.18, 114.88, 68.18, 47.43, 31.76, 29.40, 29.00, 25.90, 22.79, 20.37, 14.26, 14.05. HRMS (EIS):  $m/z$   $[\text{M}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{41}\text{H}_{39}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2\text{S}_2$ : 669.2478; found: 669.2467.

### ***Synthesis of compounds PZ-n***

A  $\text{CHCl}_3$  (10 mL) solution of compound **C-n** (0.3 mmol), cyanoacetic acid (123.2 mg, 1.5 mmol) and piperidine (0.19 mL, 1.9 mmol) were charged sequentially into a three-necked flask under a nitrogen atmosphere and heated to reflux till no starting material **C-n** was detected by the TLC plate. After cooling to 0 °C, 2M HCl (5mL) were added dropwisely into the flask and stirred for 1h. The mixture was washed with water and dried on anhydrous magnesium sulfate. Solvents were removed by rotary evaporation, and the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2:\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  (10:1, v:v) as eluent to afford the dye **PZ-n** as a dark purple solid.

**PZ-1:** 116.3 mg, yield 69.2 %. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 14.07 (br, 1H), 8.42 (s, 1H), 8.23 (m, 4H), 8.06 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (m, 2H), 7.31 (dd, *J* = 9.3, 40.5 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (m, 2H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (m, 1H), 3.95 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 1.72 (m, 2H), 1.45 (m, 2H), 0.91 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>-CD<sub>3</sub>OD): δ 164.06, 154.30, 153.80, 153.68, 145.64, 144.64, 143.86, 142.00, 133.16, 131.21, 130.97, 130.68, 129.77, 129.54, 128.86, 128.33, 127.72, 127.34, 126.80, 124.78, 124.11, 122.58, 116.55, 116.06, 115.45, 115.17, 47.20, 28.92, 20.14, 13.73. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> • 1/3 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> • 1/3 CH<sub>3</sub>OH: C, 65.43; H, 4.37; N, 9.34. Found: C, 65.23; H, 4.05; N, 9.28. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* [M+1]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> *m/z*: 561.1413, found: 560.1420.

**PZ-2:** 171.2 mg, yield 78.5 %. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 14.09 (br, 1H), 8.40 (s, 1H), 8.22 (m, 4H), 8.07 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (m, 1H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (m, 4H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (m, 9H), 3.92 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 1.74 (m, 2H), 1.44 (m, 2H), 0.93 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>-CD<sub>3</sub>OD): δ 164.48, 158.89, 154.12, 153.81, 153.70, 153.68, 147.74, 142.89, 142.54, 141.94, 141.92, 141.81, 141.63, 140.48, 131.20, 130.70, 129.77, 129.40, 129.18, 128.86, 128.45, 127.02, 126.75, 125.14, 124.19, 123.47, 122.35, 116.24, 116.04, 115.97, 47.32, 28.92, 20.24, 13.82. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>44</sub>H<sub>33</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> • 1/4 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: C, 70.95; H, 4.51; N, 9.35. Found: C, 70.72; H, 4.24; N, 9.41. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* [M]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>44</sub>H<sub>33</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> *m/z*: 727.2070, found: 727.2078.

**PZ-3:** 174.4 mg, yield 72.4 %. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ 14.05 (s, 1 H), 8.39 (s, 1H), 8.22 (dd, *J* = 18.3, 8.7 Hz, 4H), 8.06 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H),

7.98 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.91 (m, 2H), 7.58 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 2H), 7.49 (dd,  $J = 8.5, 2.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d,  $J = 2.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.32 (dd,  $J = 8.2, 7.5$  Hz, 4H), 7.20 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.11 (d,  $J = 8.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.04 (m, 8H), 3.97 (t,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 2H), 1.75 (m, 2H), 1.46 (m, 2H), 0.93 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3\text{-CD}_3\text{OD}$ ):  $\delta$  164.39, 153.96, 153.81, 153.68, 147.63, 146.91, 145.39, 143.38, 141.87, 135.12, 133.80, 133.11, 131.13, 131.00, 130.73, 129.75, 129.22, 128.84, 128.39, 127.89, 127.76, 127.03, 126.81, 126.00, 125.71, 125.44, 125.23, 124.42, 124.29, 123.91, 122.85, 116.22, 115.56, 115.11, 47.26, 28.88, 20.13, 13.71. Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{50}\text{H}_{37}\text{N}_5\text{O}_2\text{S}_2 \cdot \text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ : C, 73.27; H, 4.94; N, 8.38. Found: C, 73.19; H, 4.69; N, 8.39. HRMS (ESI):  $m/z$   $[\text{M}+1]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{50}\text{H}_{37}\text{N}_5\text{O}_2\text{S}_2$   $m/z$ : 804.2461, found: 804.2460.

**PZ-4**: 181.9 mg, yield 82.4 %.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ ):  $\delta$  14.09 (br, 1H), 8.39 (s, 1H), 8.24 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 8.20 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 8.06 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.91 (m, 2H), 7.56 (m,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 2H), 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.20 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.10 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 2H), 3.98 (m, 4H), 1.71 (m, 4H), 1.31 (m, 8H), 0.92 (m, 6H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3\text{-CD}_3\text{OD}$ ):  $\delta$  164.88, 158.36, 153.93, 153.68, 153.57, 145.29, 143.07, 141.76, 135.24, 132.93, 132.14, 131.03, 130.80, 130.51, 129.63, 128.75, 128.28, 127.62, 127.27, 126.66, 125.34, 125.11, 124.26, 124.20, 118.85, 116.20, 115.46, 114.95, 114.71, 106.01, 68.06, 47.17, 31.48, 29.13, 28.78, 25.60, 22.48, 20.05, 13.79, 13.61. Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{44}\text{H}_{40}\text{N}_4\text{O}_3\text{S}_{22} \cdot 1/3 \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ : C, 69.58; H, 5.36; N, 7.32. Found: C, 69.63; H, 5.22; N, 7.36. HRMS (ESI):  $m/z$   $[\text{M}+1]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{44}\text{H}_{40}\text{N}_4\text{O}_3\text{S}_2$   $m/z$ : 737.2615, found:

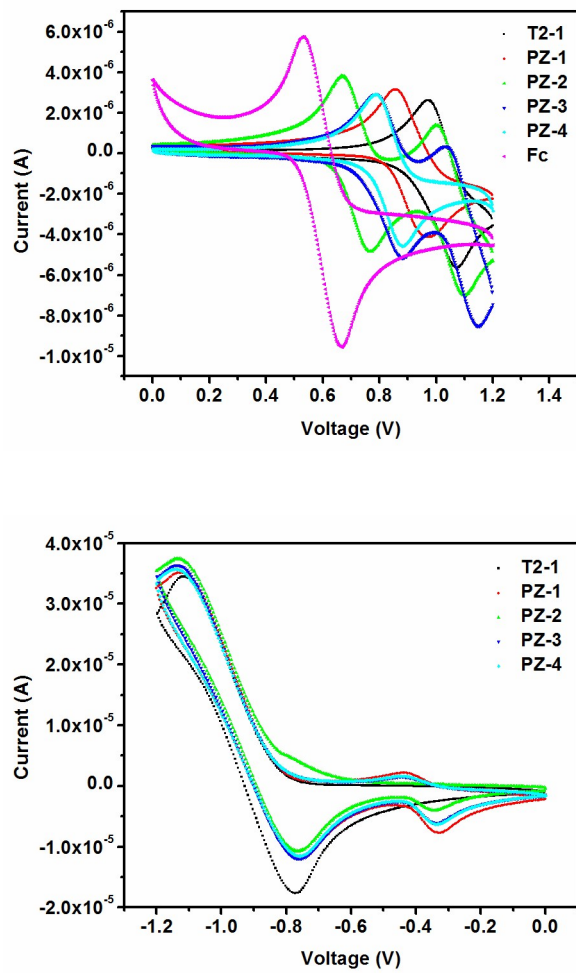
737.2609.

## References.

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## Results and discussion.

### Photophysical and electrochemical properties.

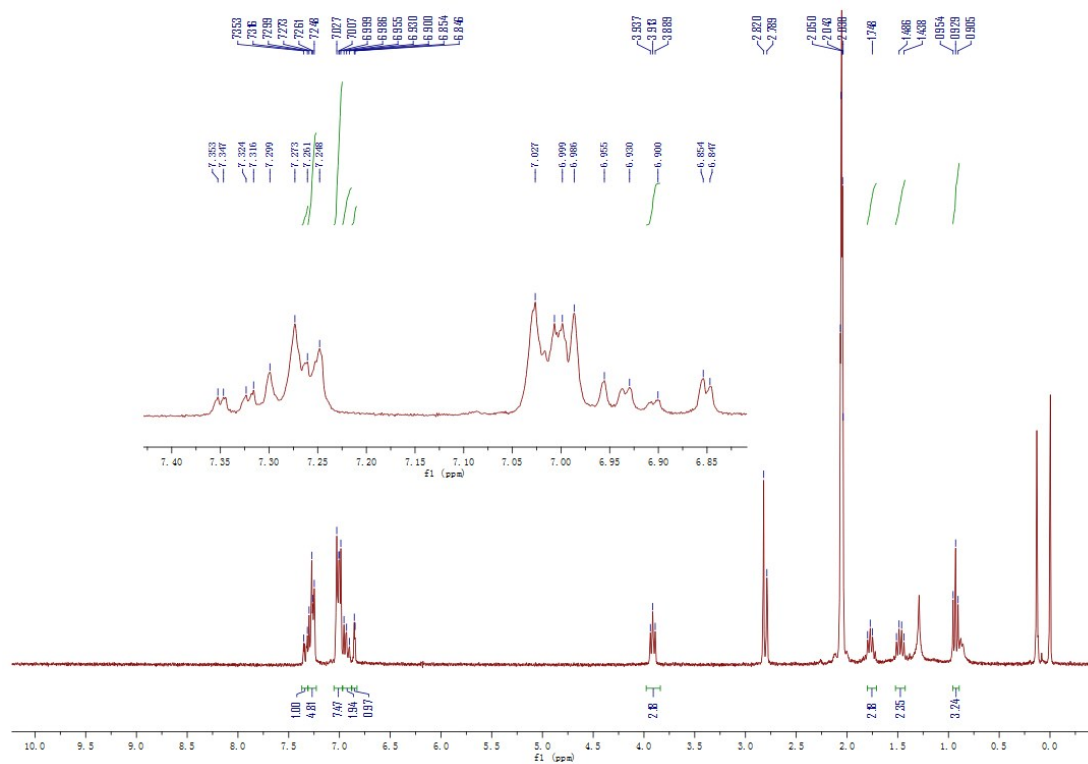


**Figure S2.** CV curves of organic dyes and Fc/Fc<sup>+</sup> in THF.

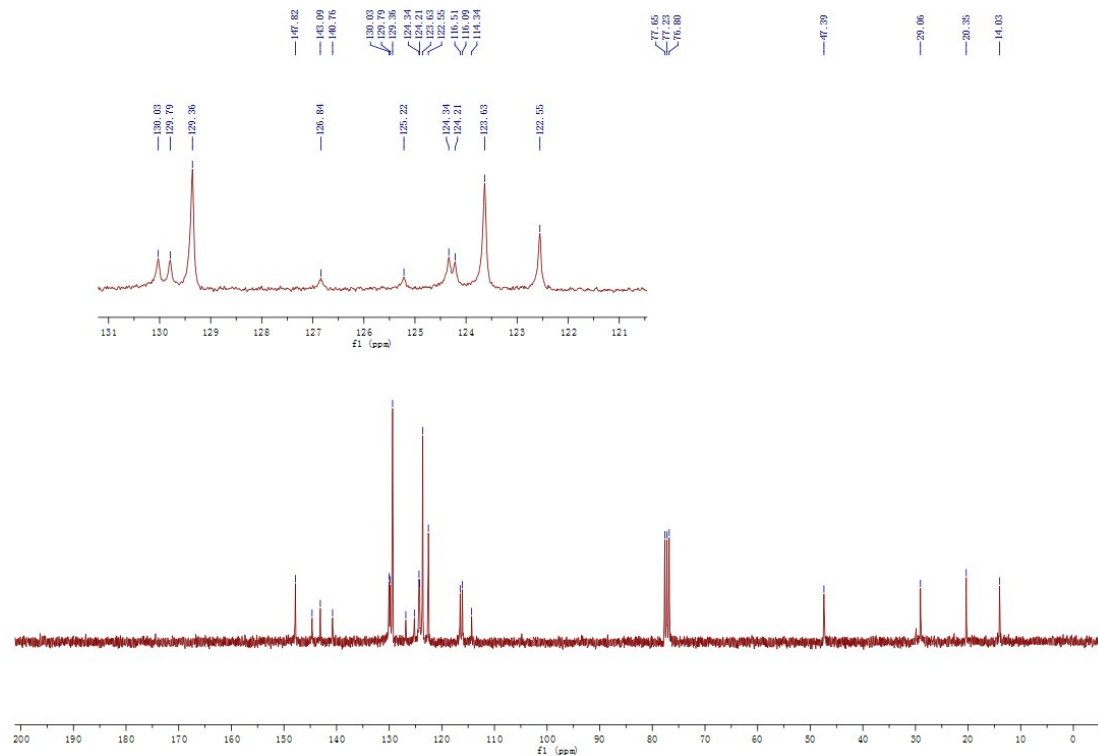


## NMR and HRMS spectra for our compounds.

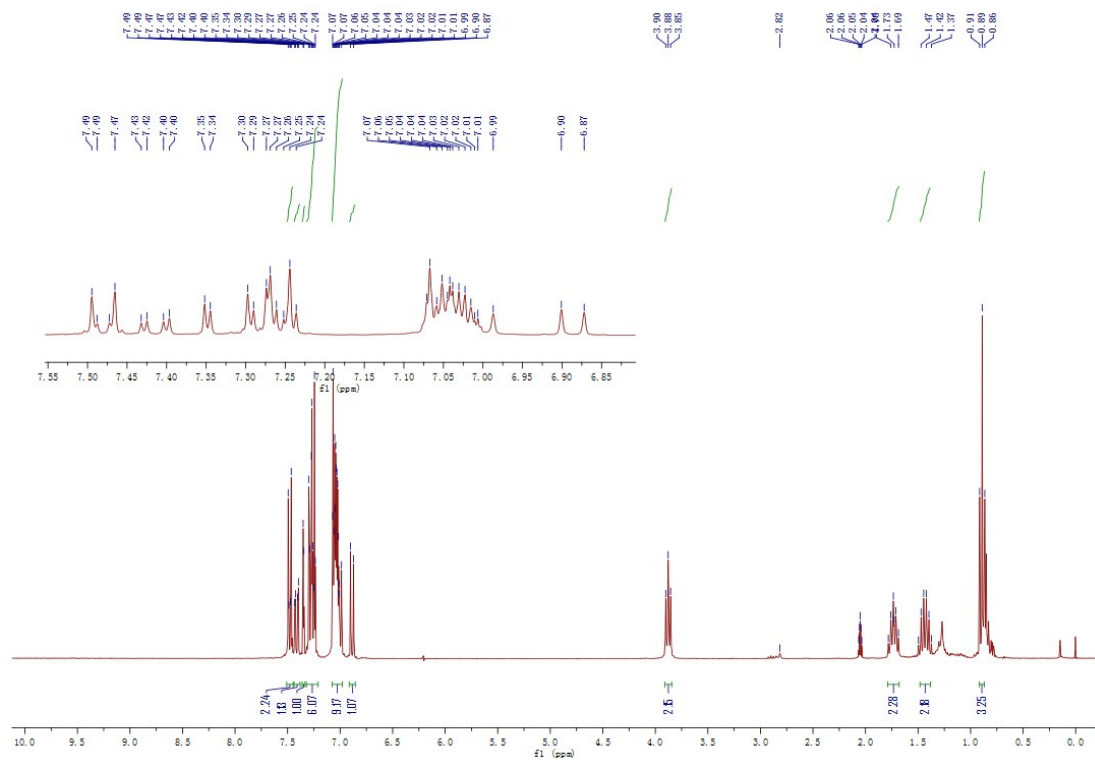
### A2-<sup>1</sup>H



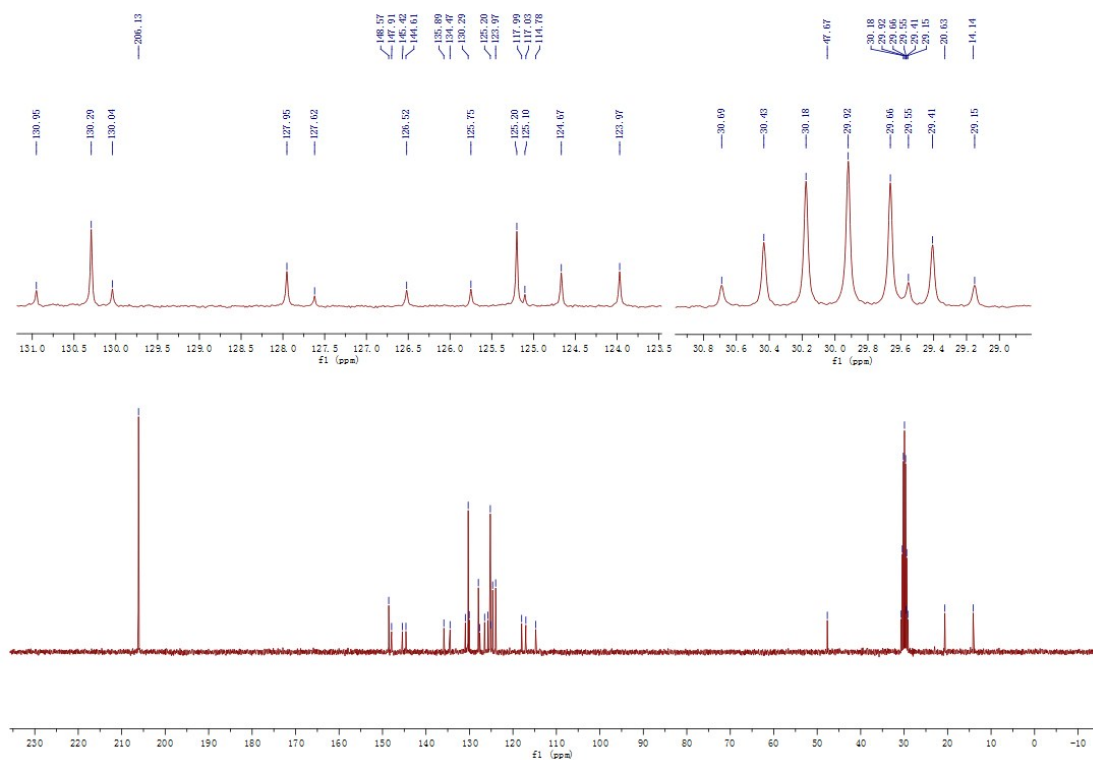
## A2-<sup>13</sup>C



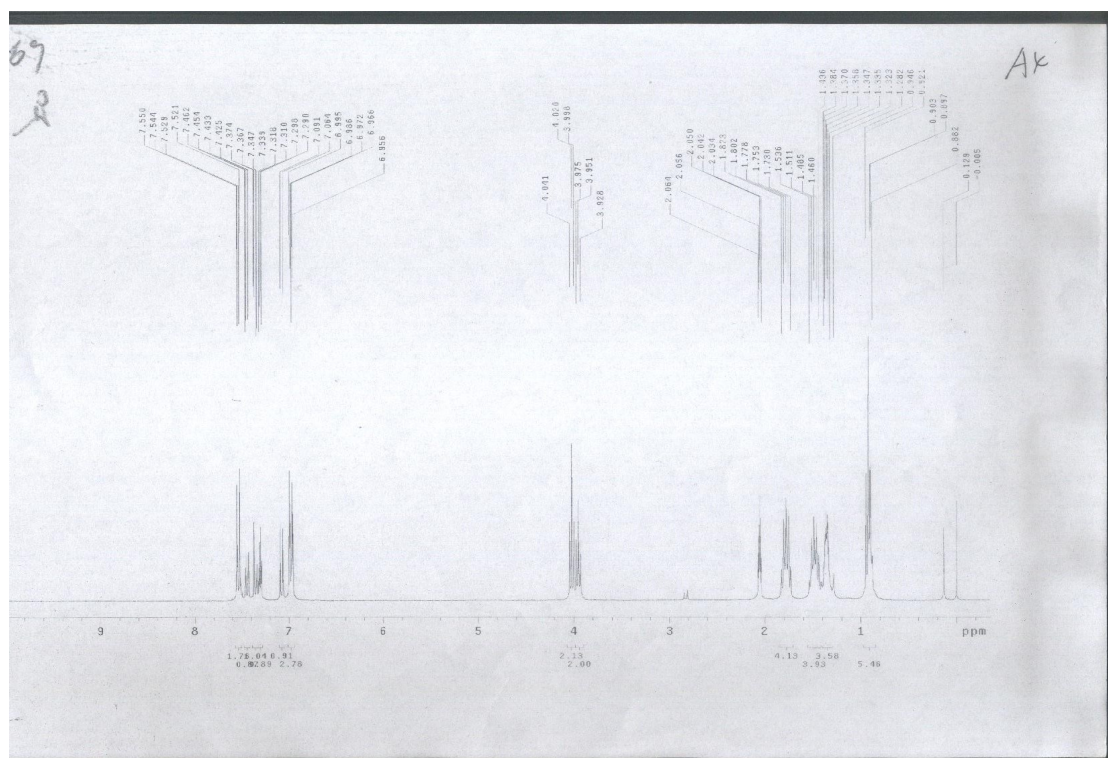
## A3-<sup>1</sup>H



# A3-<sup>13</sup>C

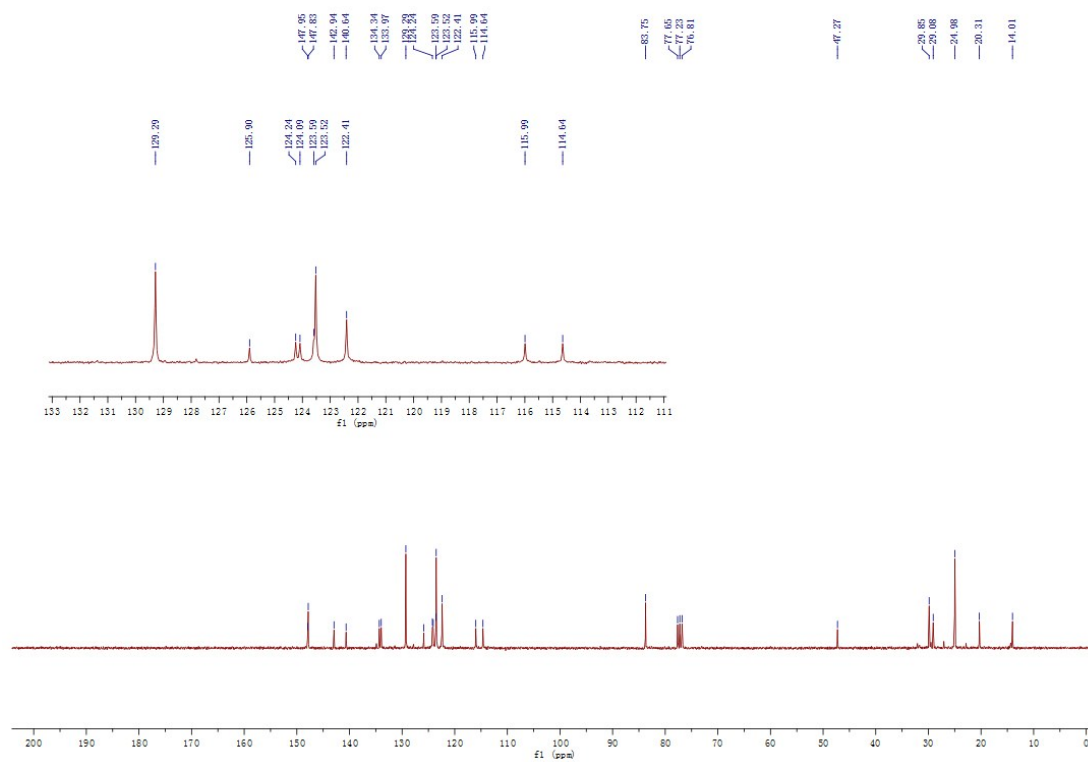


# A4-<sup>1</sup>H



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound 10b in CDCl<sub>3</sub>. The spectrum shows peaks from 0.0 to 10.0 ppm. Key peaks are labeled with chemical shifts: 7.575, 7.571, 7.568, 7.544, 7.415, 7.411, 7.291, 7.261, 7.237, 7.024, 6.991, 6.986, 6.964, 6.909, 6.872, 6.847, 6.838, 2.952, 2.940, 2.916, 2.822, 2.788, 2.650, 2.650, 2.643, 2.636, 1.783, 1.724, 1.697, 1.668, 0.955, 0.931, 0.900. Integration values are shown below the peaks: 0.88, 0.77, 4.04, 8.87, 1.6, 0.88, 2.00, 2.07, 2.11, 2.20, 3.14.

# B2-<sup>13</sup>C





# B2-HRMS

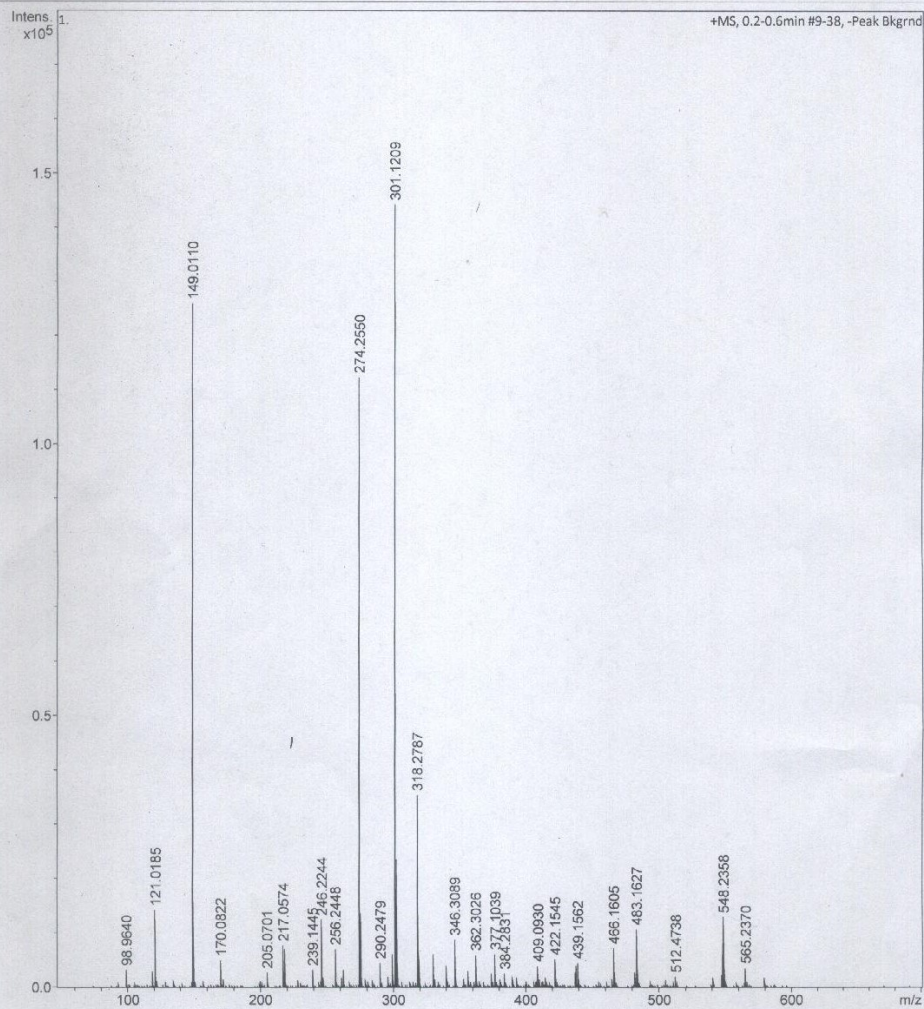
## Generic Display Report

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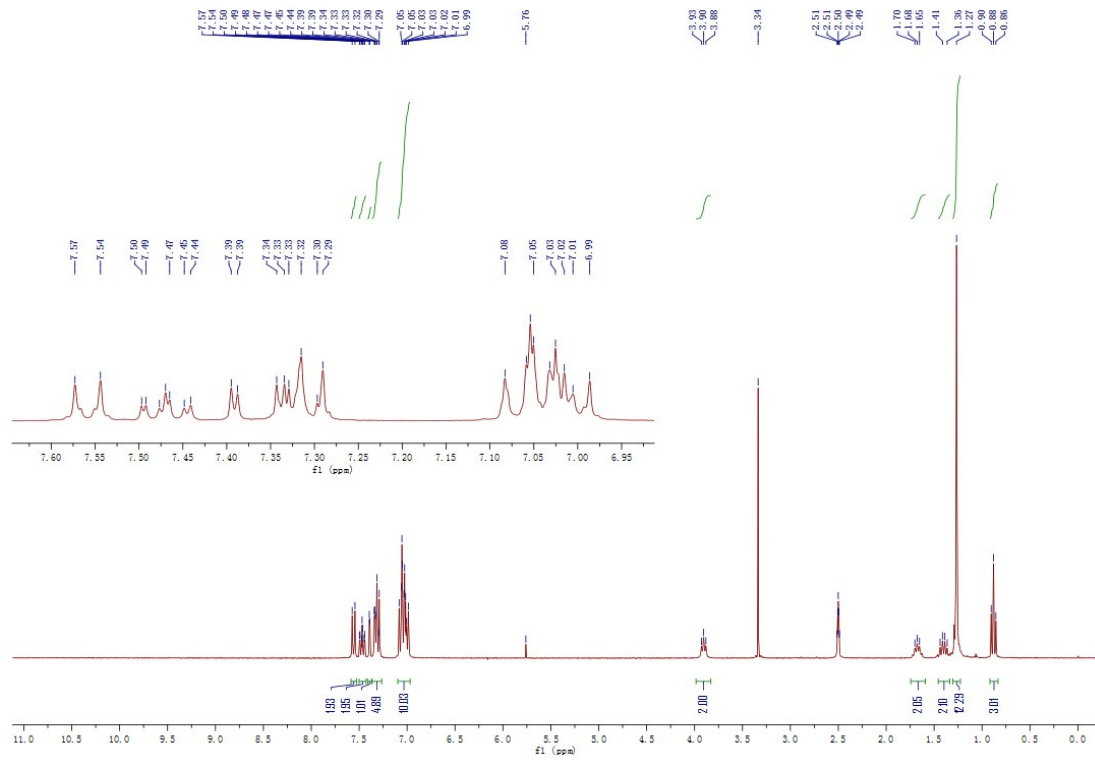
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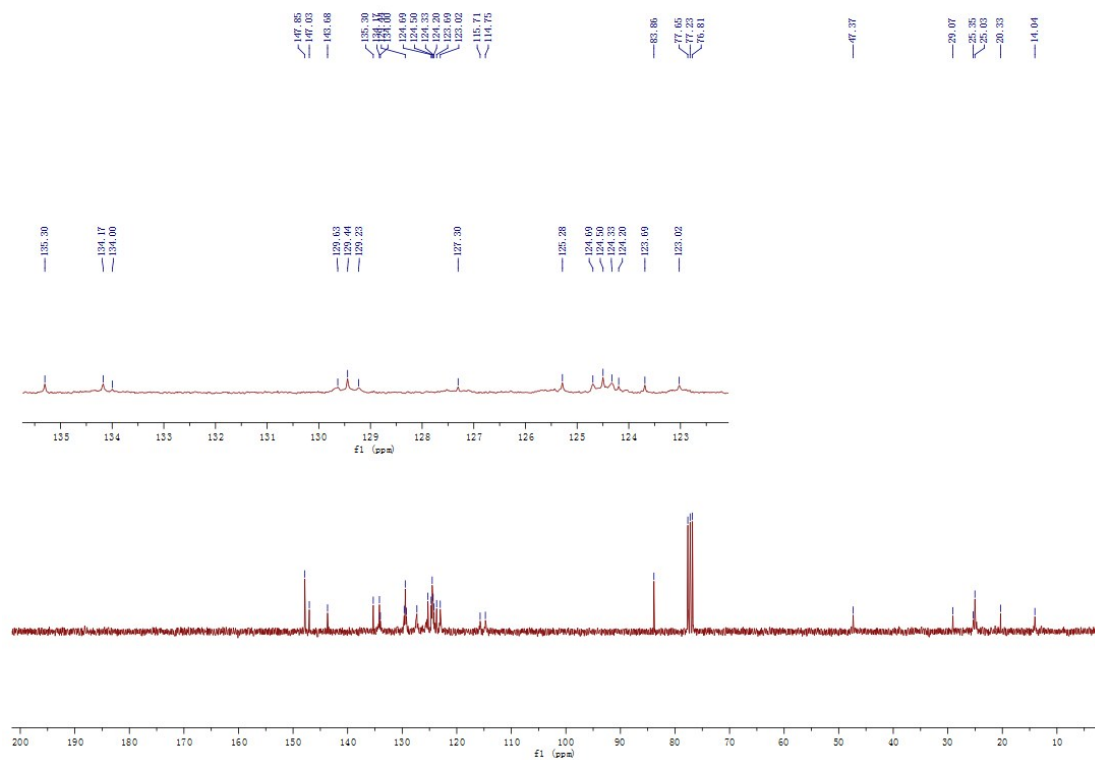
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Instrument micrOTOF



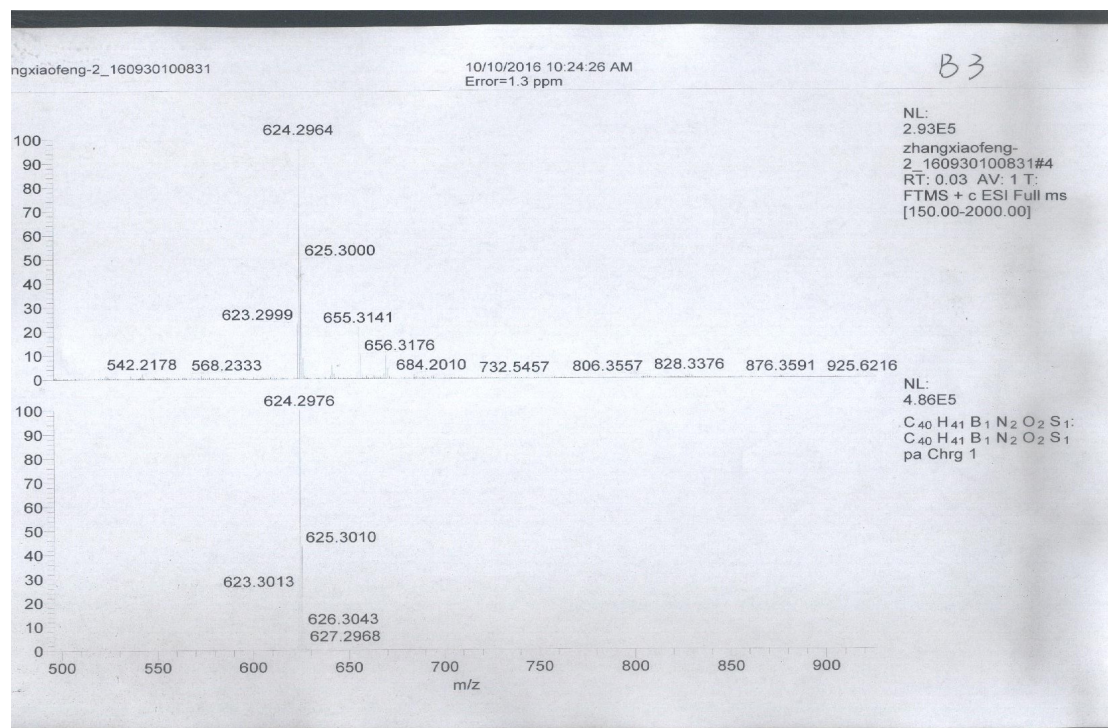
## B3-<sup>1</sup>H



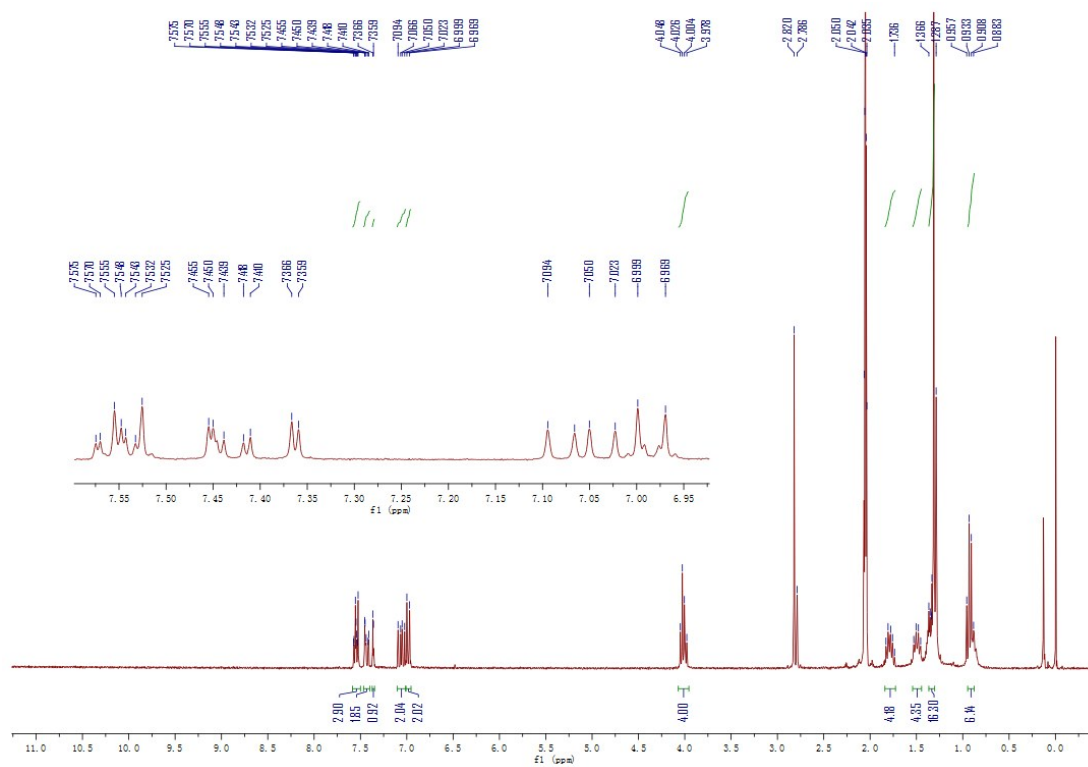
## B3-<sup>13</sup>C



## B3-HRMS

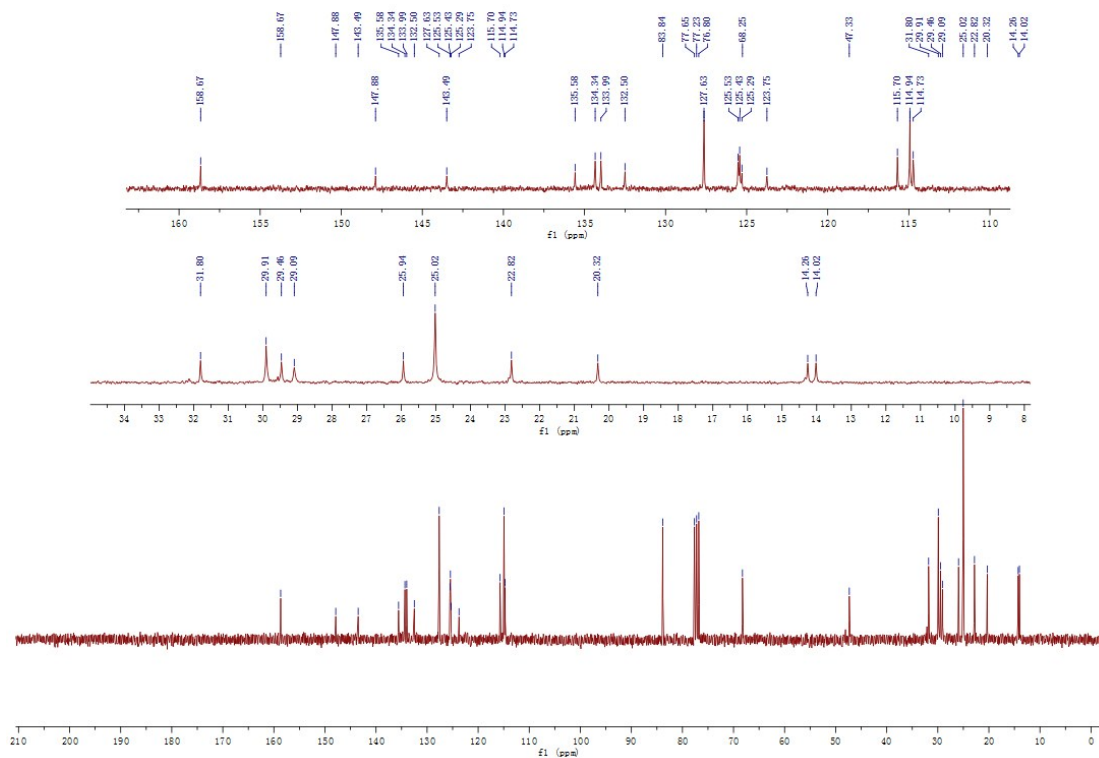


## B4-<sup>1</sup>H

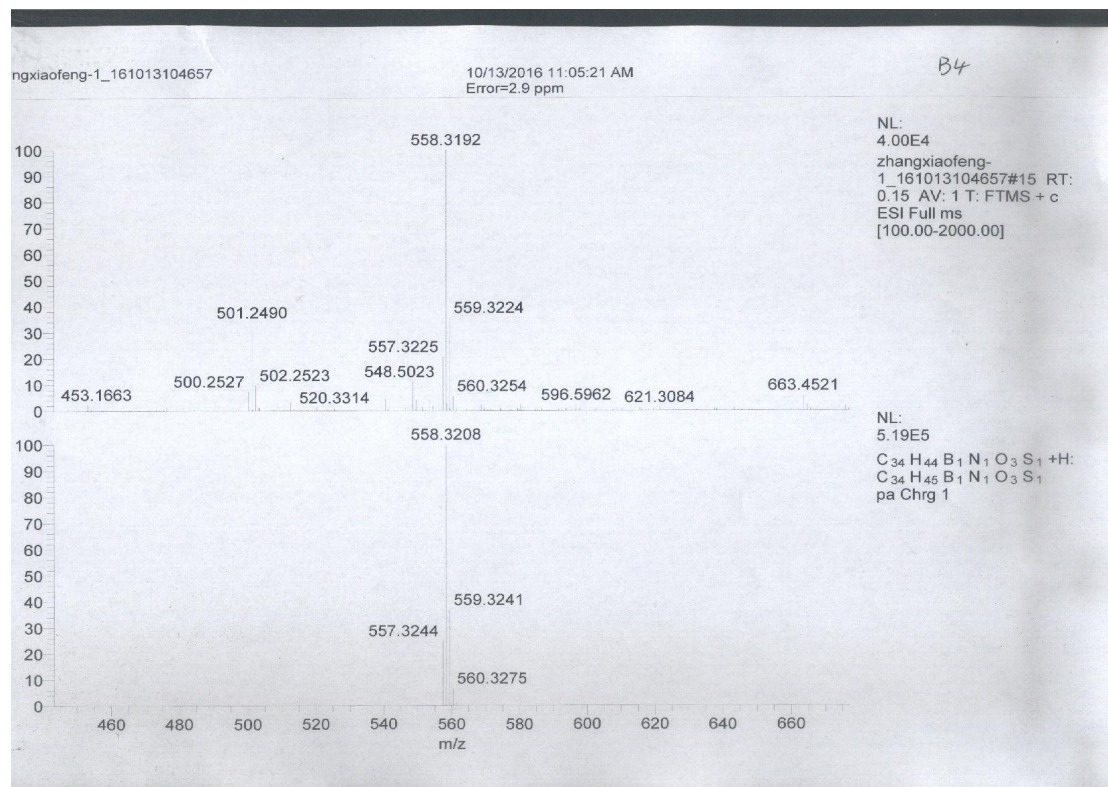




## B4-<sup>13</sup>C



## B4-HRMS



Handwritten notes: 840c, 11.20

<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of compound 11.20. The x-axis represents chemical shift in ppm, ranging from 0 to 14. The spectrum shows several peaks with corresponding integration values below the baseline.

Integration values (from left to right): 0.84, 2.1120, 3.10, 0.8, 1.20, 2.72, 3.10, 3.08, 3.68.

Chemical shift values (ppm) labeled above the peaks:

- ~0.8: 0.806, 0.804, 0.802, 0.800, 0.798, 0.796, 0.794, 0.792, 0.790, 0.788, 0.786, 0.784, 0.782, 0.780, 0.778, 0.776, 0.774, 0.772, 0.770, 0.768, 0.766, 0.764, 0.762, 0.760, 0.758, 0.756, 0.754, 0.752, 0.750, 0.748, 0.746, 0.744, 0.742, 0.740, 0.738, 0.736, 0.734, 0.732, 0.730, 0.728, 0.726, 0.724, 0.722, 0.720, 0.718, 0.716, 0.714, 0.712, 0.710, 0.708, 0.706, 0.704, 0.702, 0.700, 0.698, 0.696, 0.694, 0.692, 0.690, 0.688, 0.686, 0.684, 0.682, 0.680, 0.678, 0.676, 0.674, 0.672, 0.670, 0.668, 0.666, 0.664, 0.662, 0.660, 0.658, 0.656, 0.654, 0.652, 0.650, 0.648, 0.646, 0.644, 0.642, 0.640, 0.638, 0.636, 0.634, 0.632, 0.630, 0.628, 0.626, 0.624, 0.622, 0.620, 0.618, 0.616, 0.614, 0.612, 0.610, 0.608, 0.606, 0.604, 0.602, 0.600, 0.598, 0.596, 0.594, 0.592, 0.590, 0.588, 0.586, 0.584, 0.582, 0.580, 0.578, 0.576, 0.574, 0.572, 0.570, 0.568, 0.566, 0.564, 0.562, 0.560, 0.558, 0.556, 0.554, 0.552, 0.550, 0.548, 0.546, 0.544, 0.542, 0.540, 0.538, 0.536, 0.534, 0.532, 0.530, 0.528, 0.526, 0.524, 0.522, 0.520, 0.518, 0.516, 0.514, 0.512, 0.510, 0.508, 0.506, 0.504, 0.502, 0.500, 0.498, 0.496, 0.494, 0.492, 0.490, 0.488, 0.486, 0.484, 0.482, 0.480, 0.478, 0.476, 0.474, 0.472, 0.470, 0.468, 0.466, 0.464, 0.462, 0.460, 0.458, 0.456, 0.454, 0.452, 0.450, 0.448, 0.446, 0.444, 0.442, 0.440, 0.438, 0.436, 0.434, 0.432, 0.430, 0.428, 0.426, 0.424, 0.422, 0.420, 0.418, 0.416, 0.414, 0.412, 0.410, 0.408, 0.406, 0.404, 0.402, 0.400, 0.398, 0.396, 0.394, 0.392, 0.390, 0.388, 0.386, 0.384, 0.382, 0.380, 0.378, 0.376, 0.374, 0.372, 0.370, 0.368, 0.366, 0.364, 0.362, 0.360, 0.358, 0.356, 0.354, 0.352, 0.350, 0.348, 0.346, 0.344, 0.342, 0.340, 0.338, 0.336, 0.334, 0.332, 0.330, 0.328, 0.326, 0.324, 0.322, 0.320, 0.318, 0.316, 0.314, 0.312, 0.310, 0.308, 0.306, 0.304, 0.302, 0.300, 0.298, 0.296, 0.294, 0.292, 0.290, 0.288, 0.286, 0.284, 0.282, 0.280, 0.278, 0.276, 0.274, 0.272, 0.270, 0.268, 0.266, 0.264, 0.262, 0.260, 0.258, 0.256, 0.254, 0.252, 0.250, 0.248, 0.246, 0.244, 0.242, 0.240, 0.238, 0.236, 0.234, 0.232, 0.230, 0.228, 0.226, 0.224, 0.222, 0.220, 0.218, 0.216, 0.214, 0.212, 0.210, 0.208, 0.206, 0.204, 0.202, 0.200, 0.198, 0.196, 0.194, 0.192, 0.190, 0.188, 0.186, 0.184, 0.182, 0.180, 0.178, 0.176, 0.174, 0.172, 0.170, 0.168, 0.166, 0.164, 0.162, 0.160, 0.158, 0.156, 0.154, 0.152, 0.150, 0.148, 0.146, 0.144, 0.142, 0.140, 0.138, 0.136, 0.134, 0.132, 0.130, 0.128, 0.126, 0.124, 0.122, 0.120, 0.118, 0.116, 0.114, 0.112, 0.110, 0.108, 0.106, 0.104, 0.102, 0.100, 0.098, 0.096, 0.094, 0.092, 0.090, 0.088, 0.086, 0.084, 0.082, 0.080, 0.078, 0.076, 0.074, 0.072, 0.070, 0.068, 0.066, 0.064, 0.062, 0.060, 0.058, 0.056, 0.054, 0.052, 0.050, 0.048, 0.046, 0.044, 0.042, 0.040, 0.038, 0.036, 0.034, 0.032, 0.030, 0.028, 0.026, 0.024, 0.022, 0.020, 0.018, 0.016, 0.014, 0.012, 0.010, 0.008, 0.006, 0.004, 0.002, 0.000.
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13C NMR spectrum (top):

- 135.51
- 132.93
- 132.92
- 130.80
- 129.75
- 129.19
- 128.79
- 128.22
- 127.63
- 127.35
- 127.26
- 126.53
- 124.67
- 124.00
- 122.52

13C NMR spectrum (bottom):

- 191.74
- 153.62
- 153.58
- 145.46
- 144.48
- 143.10
- 135.51
- 129.75
- 128.79
- 128.22
- 127.63
- 127.35
- 127.26
- 126.53
- 124.67
- 124.00
- 122.52
- 77.48
- 77.06
- 76.63
- 47.16
- 28.81
- 20.12
- 13.80



# C1-HRMS

860 c DMSO M.493

C1

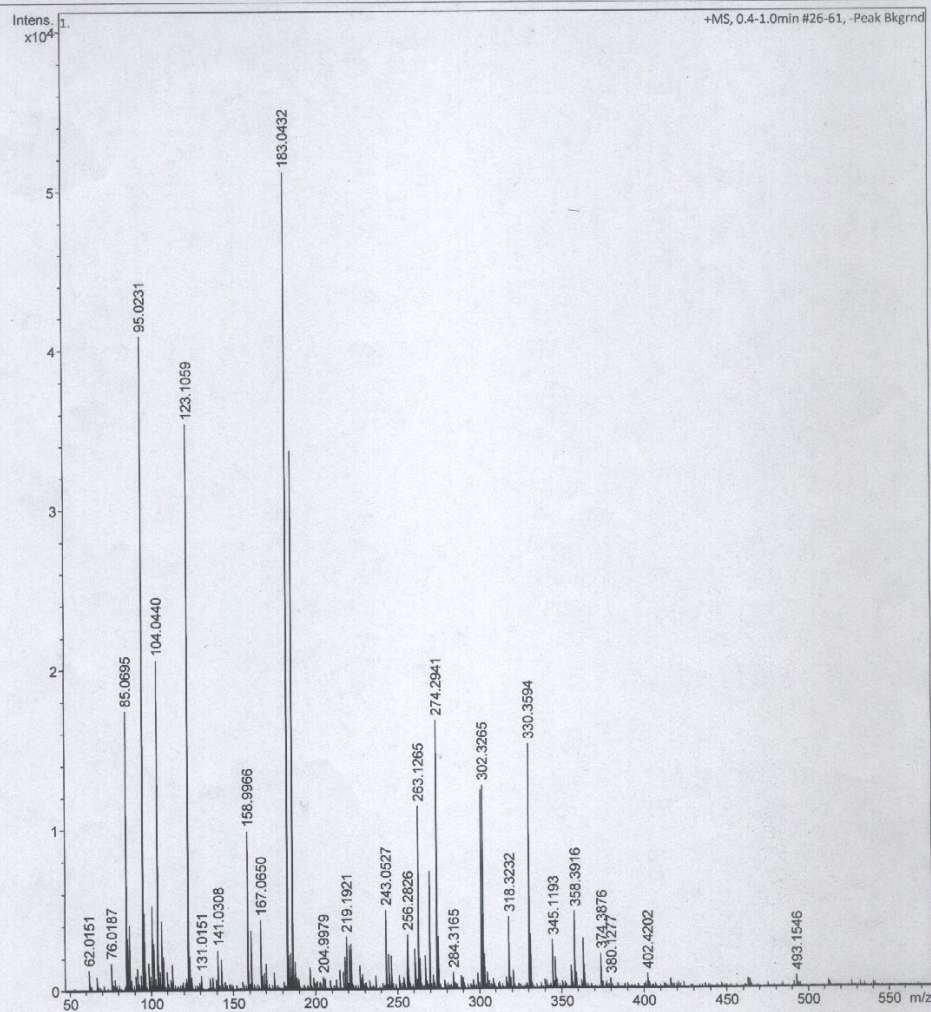
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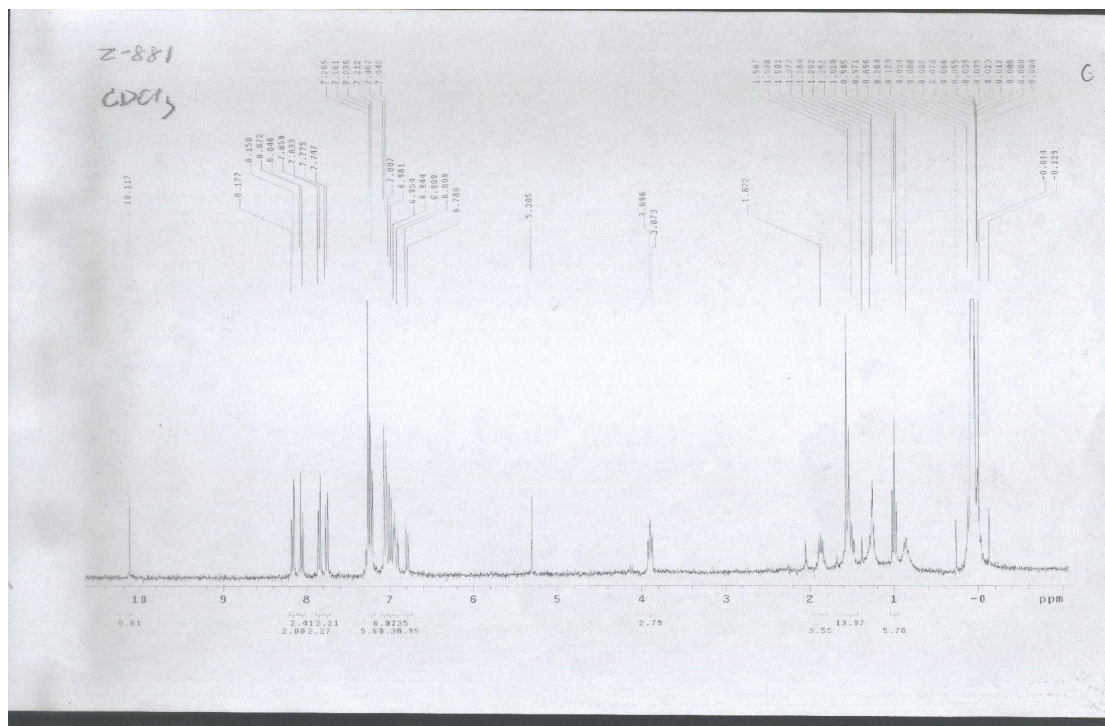
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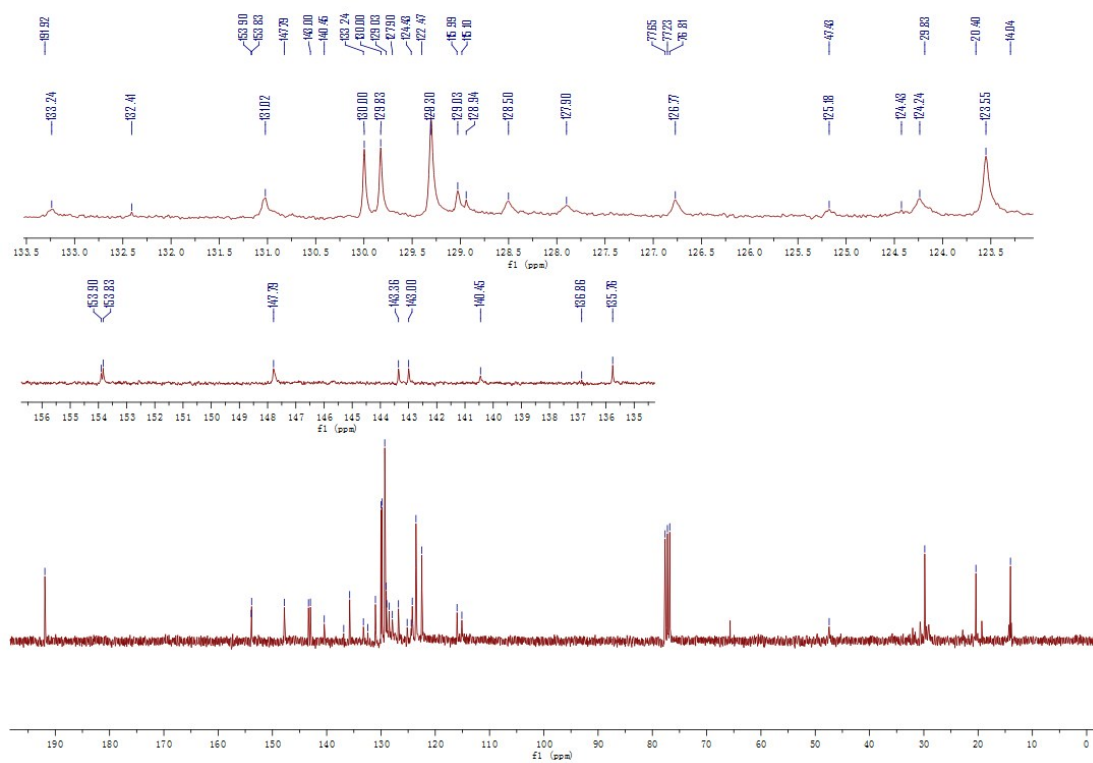
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**C2-<sup>1</sup>H**



**C2-<sup>13</sup>C**





# C2-HRMS

z-881

M. 660.

C2

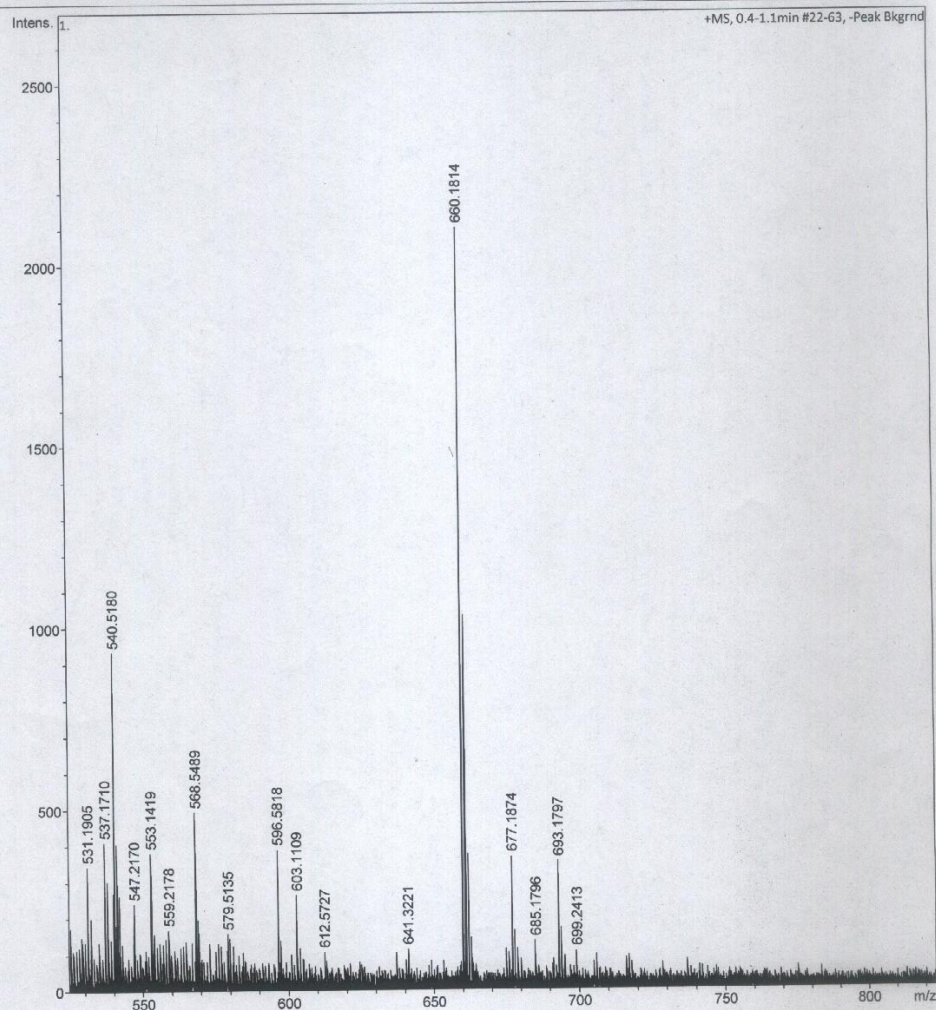
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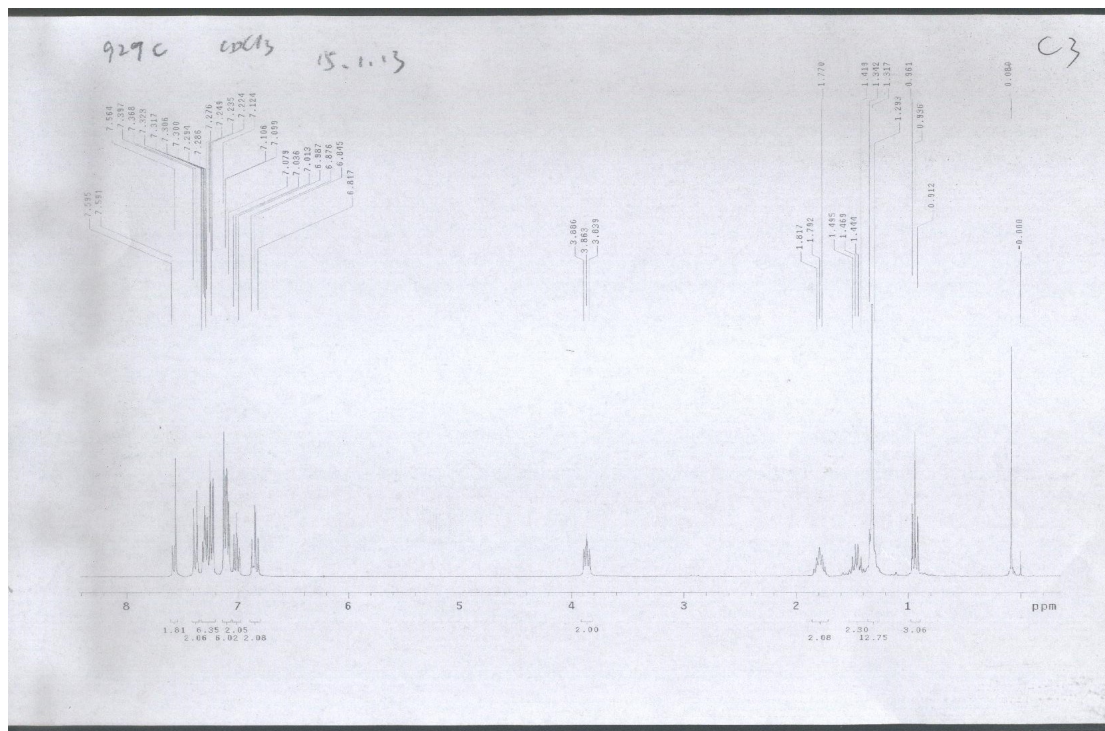
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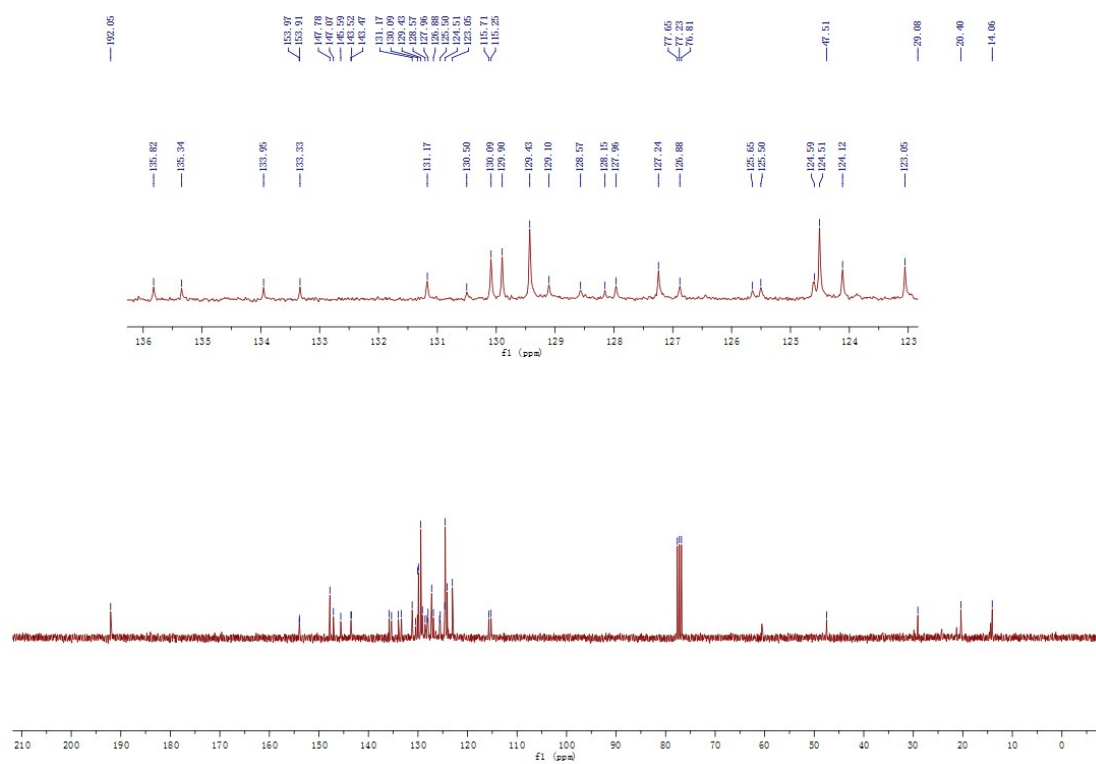
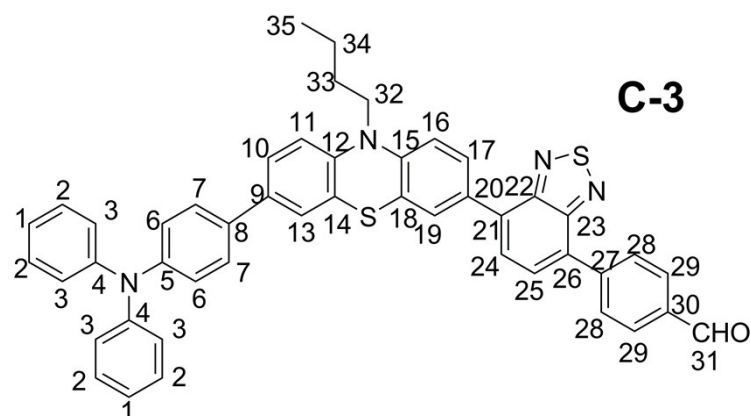
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# C3-<sup>1</sup>H

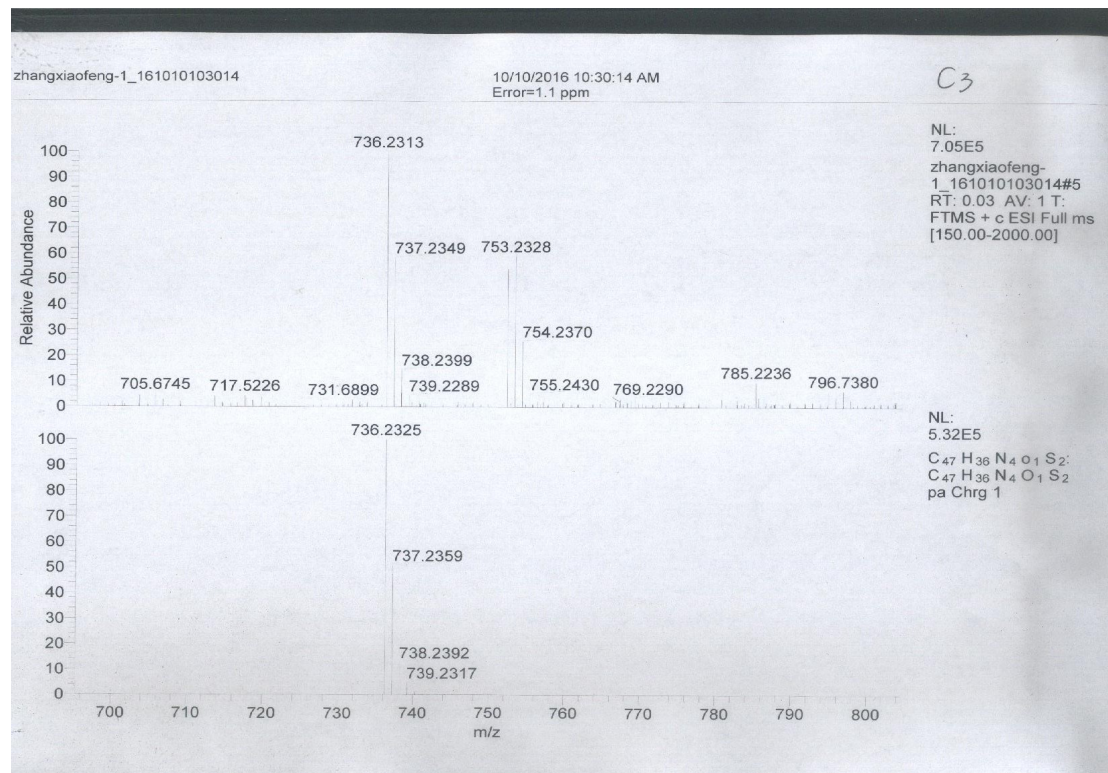


**C3-<sup>13</sup>C**

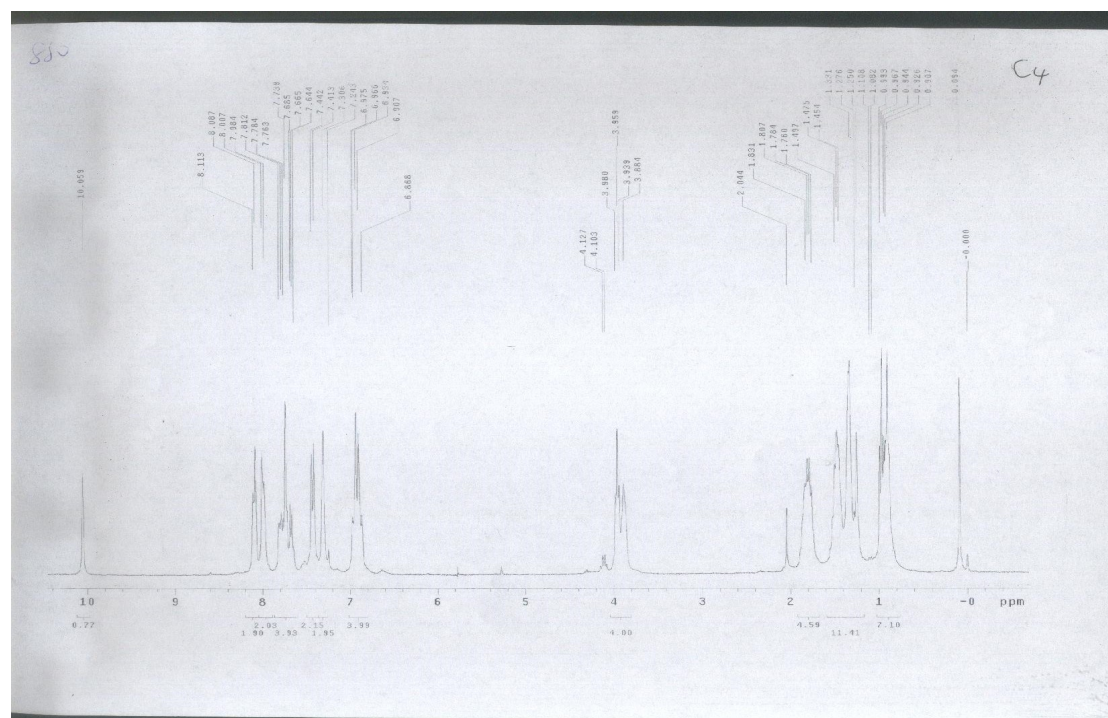




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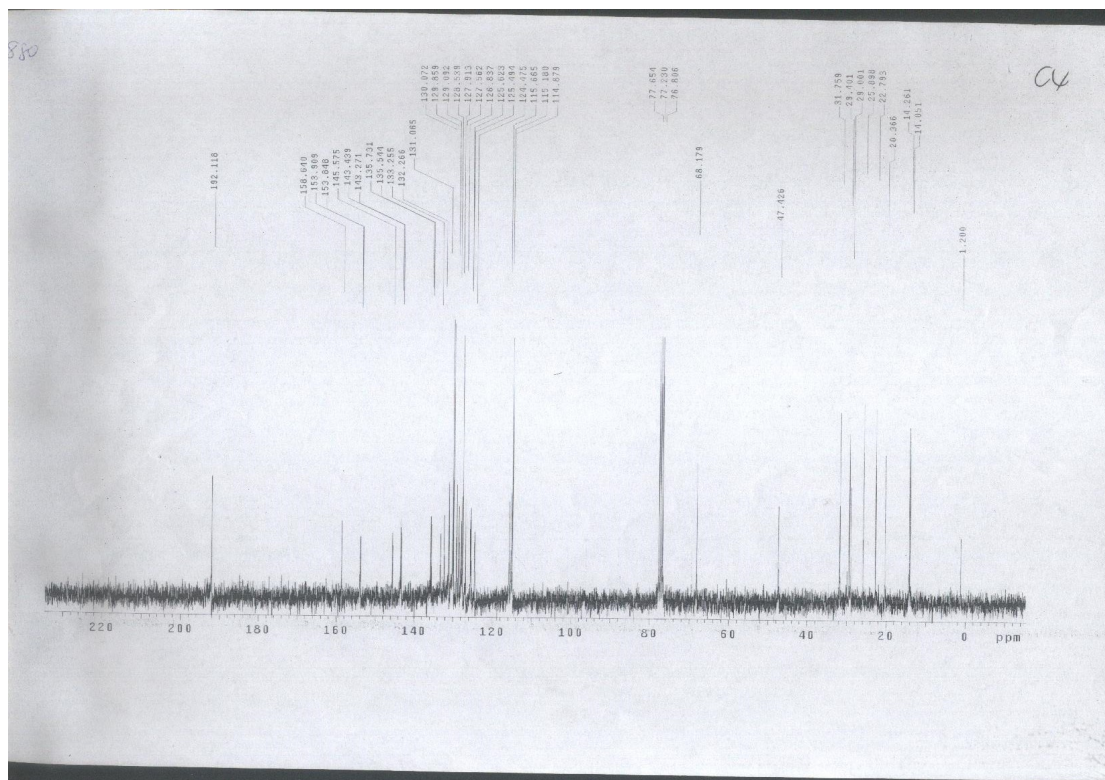


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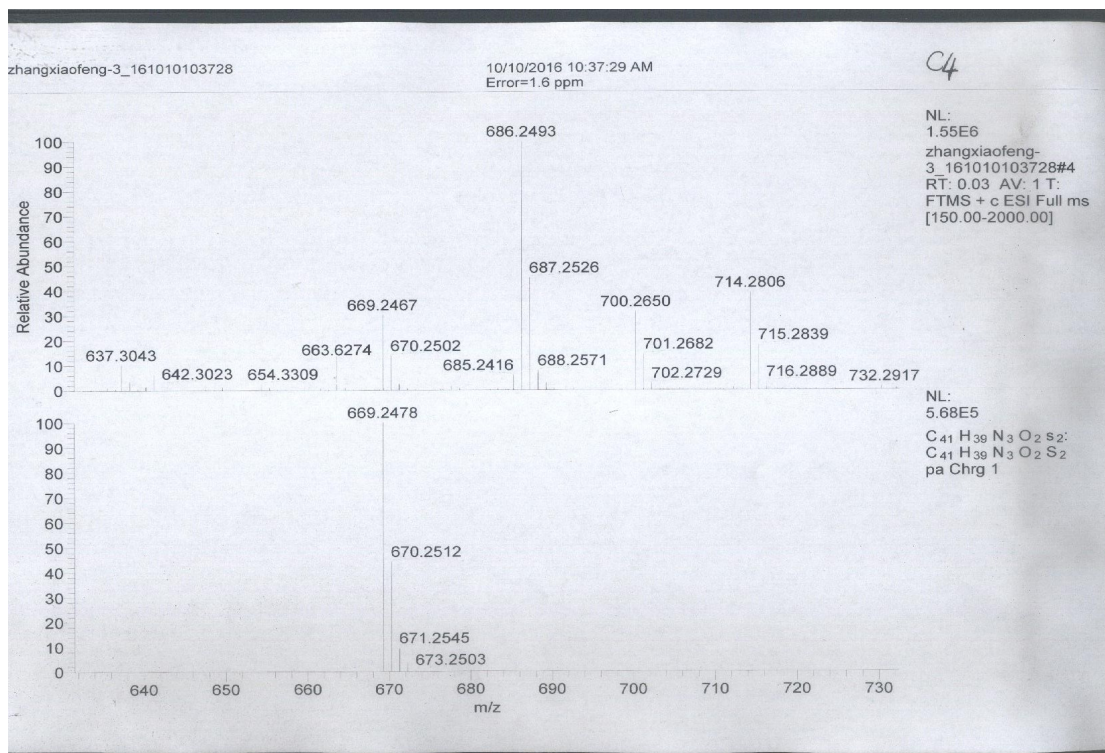




## C4-<sup>13</sup>C



## C4-HRMS



86  
DMSO

P21

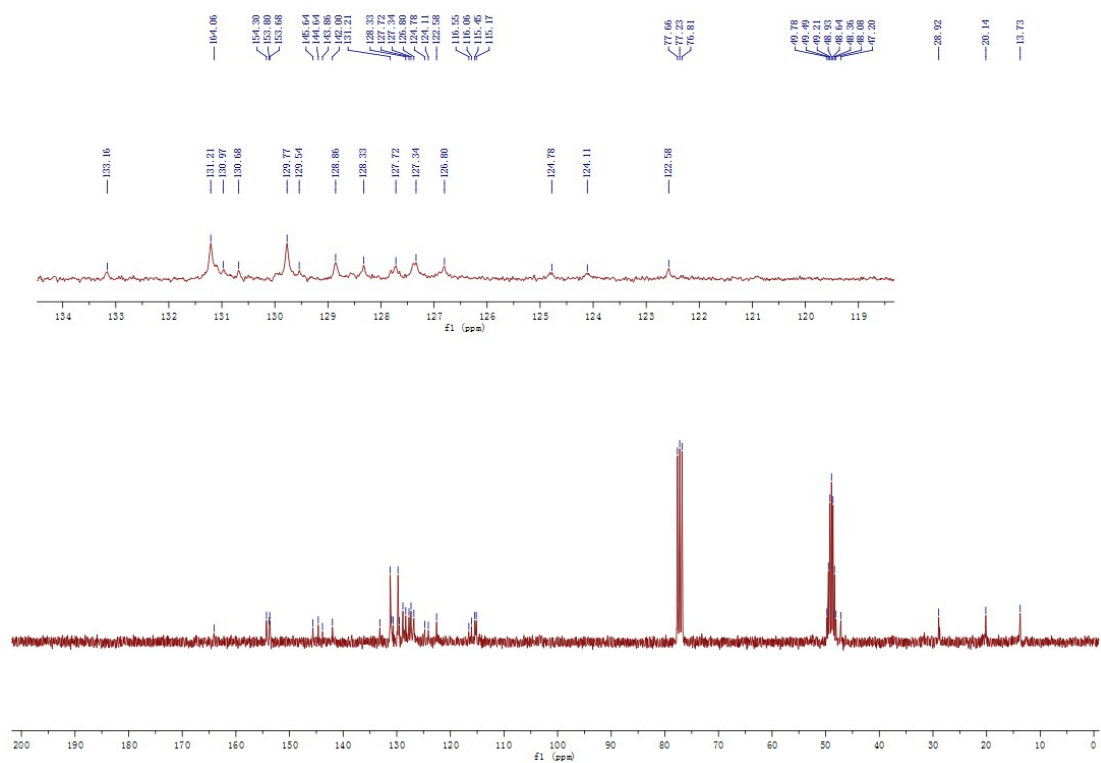
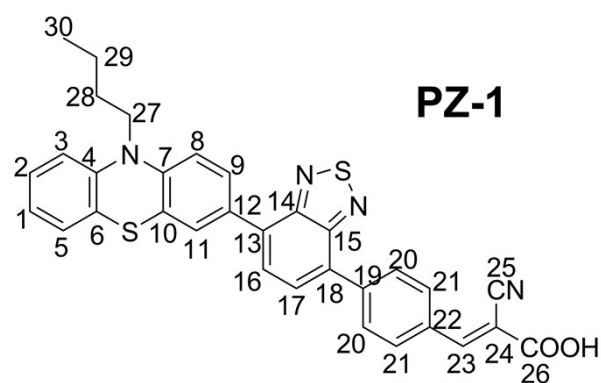
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4.023  
4.000  
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3.943  
3.913  
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3.853  
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3.613  
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3.193  
3.163  
3.133  
3.103  
3.073  
3.043  
3.013  
2.983  
2.953  
2.923  
2.893  
2.863  
2.833  
2.803  
2.773  
2.743  
2.713  
2.683  
2.653  
2.623  
2.593  
2.563  
2.533  
2.503  
2.473  
2.443  
2.413  
2.383  
2.353  
2.323  
2.293  
2.263  
2.233  
2.203  
2.173  
2.143  
2.113  
2.083  
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1.973  
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1.013  
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0.953  
0.923  
0.893  
0.863  
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0.803  
0.773  
0.743  
0.713  
0.683  
0.653  
0.623  
0.593  
0.563  
0.533  
0.503  
0.473  
0.443  
0.413  
0.383  
0.353  
0.323  
0.293  
0.263  
0.233  
0.203  
0.173  
0.143  
0.113  
0.083  
0.053  
0.023  
0.000

0.68  
2.00  
2.09  
2.17  
2.19

ppm

# PZ-1-<sup>13</sup>C





zhangxiaofeng-1\_150319103554

3/19/2015 11:03:09 AM  
Error=1.2 ppm

PZ-1

NL:  
9.21E4  
zhangxiaofeng-  
1\_150319103554#1  
RT: 0.01 AV: 1 T:  
FTMS + p ESI Full ms  
[100.00-2000.00]

Relative Abundance

541.5388 542.5416 546.4004 548.9007 551.5042 551.8955 555.8905 558.4374 561.1420 561.1413 562.1456 563.1486 568.5670 569.5703 575.9324 579.5353

100  
90  
80  
70  
60  
50  
40  
30  
20  
10  
0

545 550 555 560 565 570 575 580

m/z

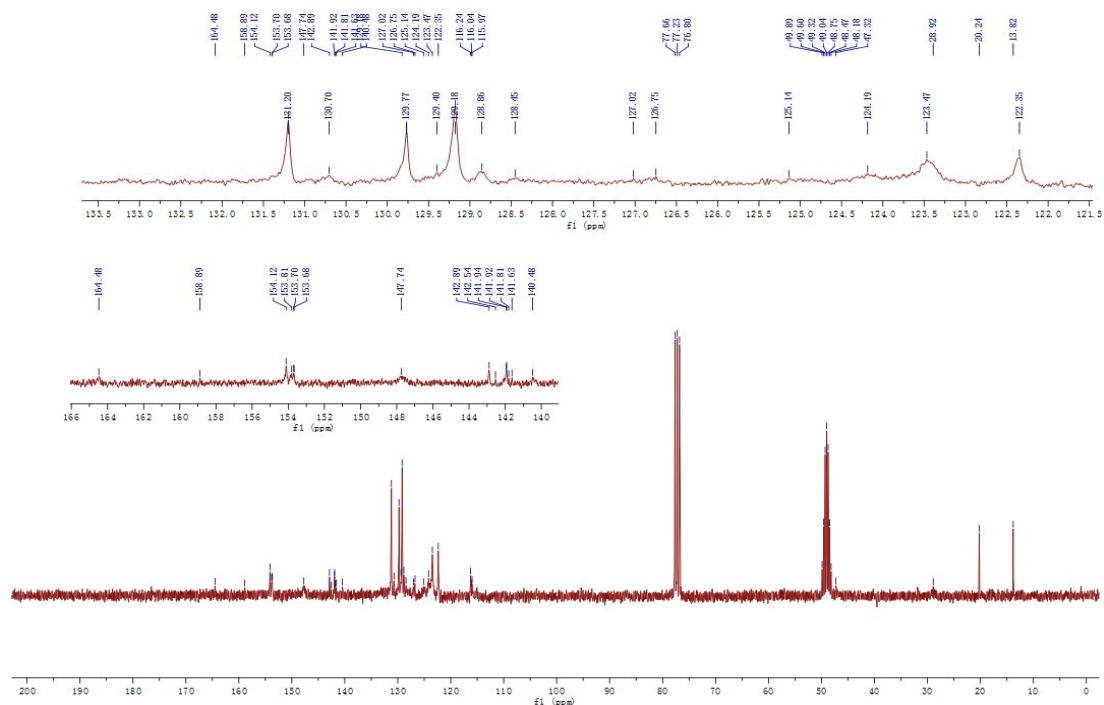
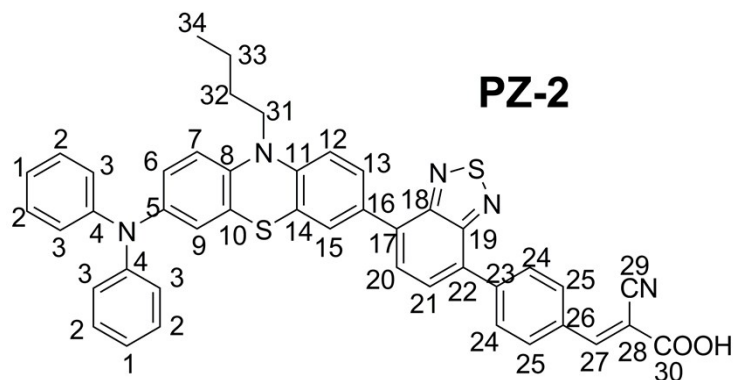
NL:  
6.25E5  
C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>+H:  
C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>  
pa Chrg 1

100  
90  
80  
70  
60  
50  
40  
30  
20  
10  
0

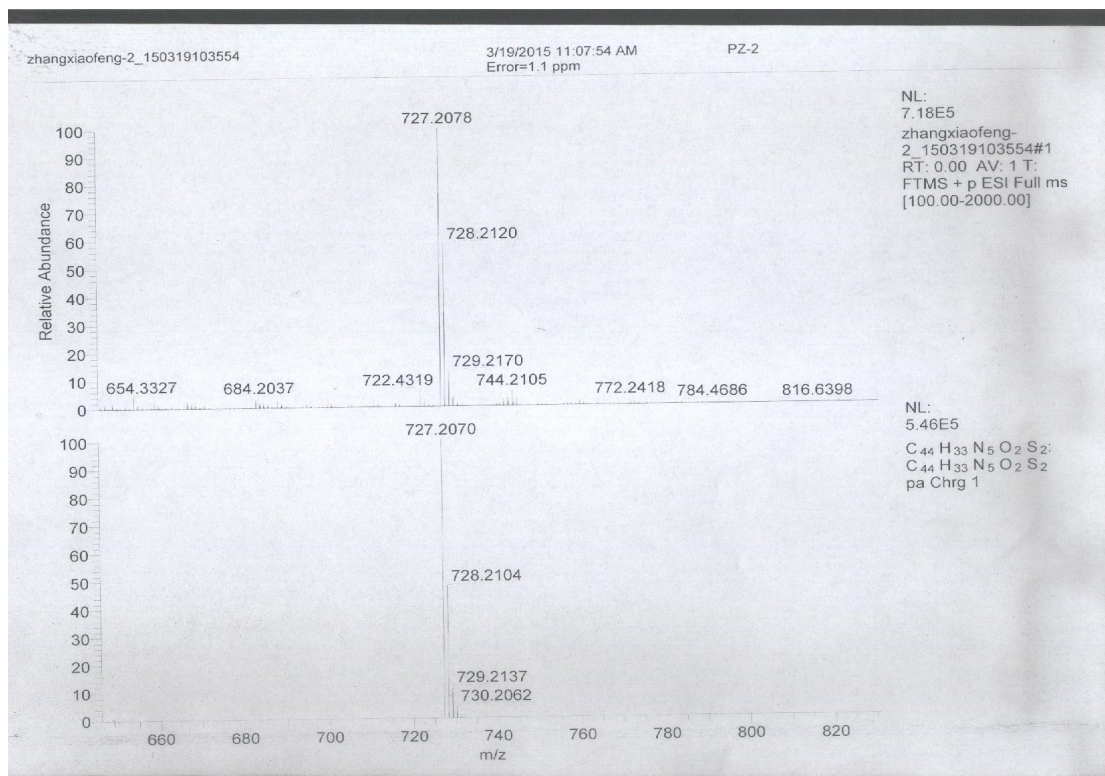
561.1413 562.1447 563.1371 565.1438 569.1389

[illegible]

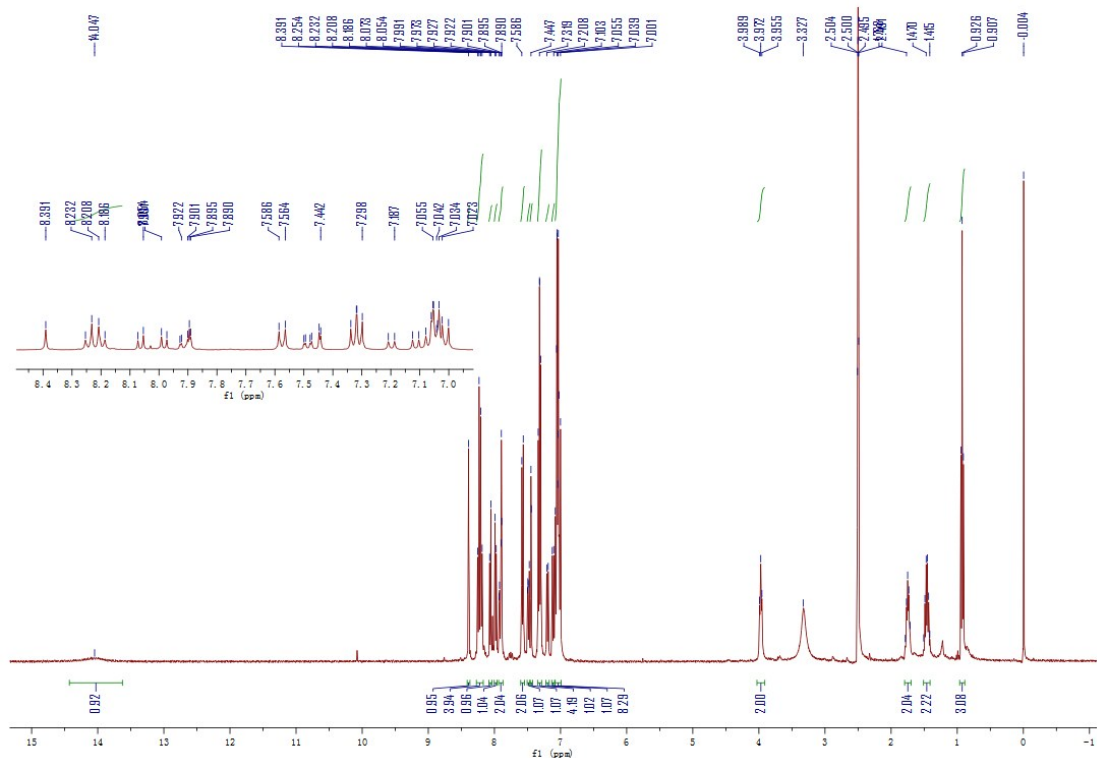
# PZ-2-<sup>13</sup>C



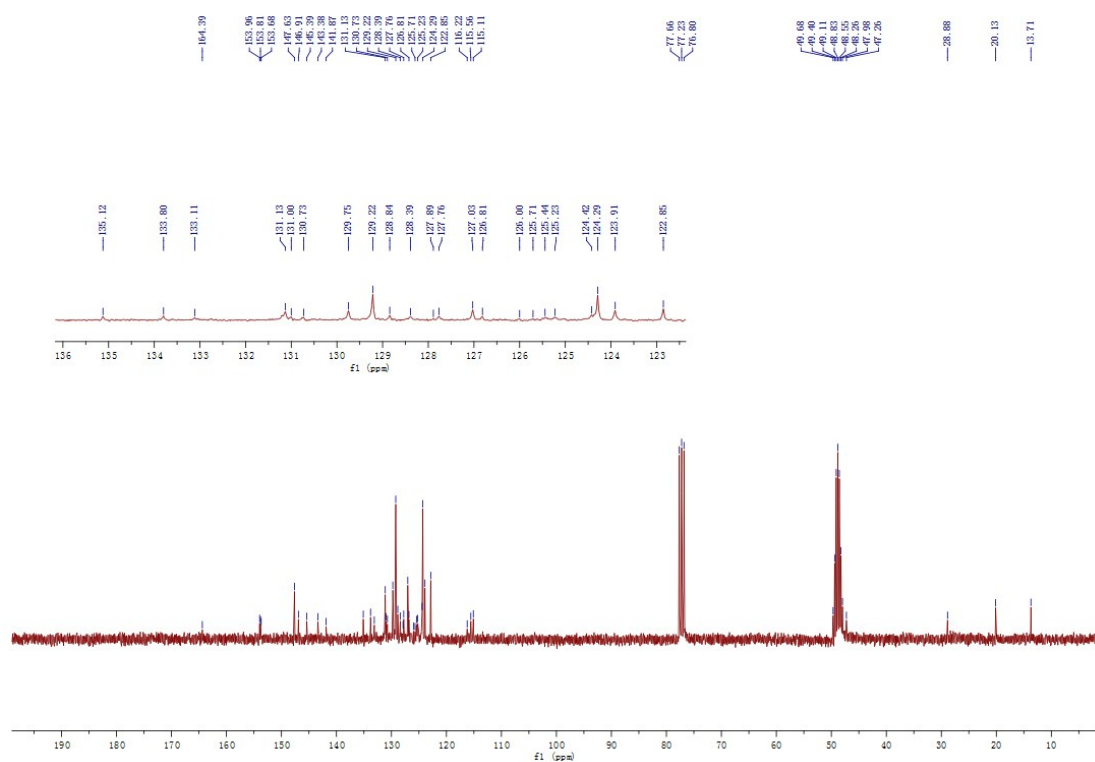
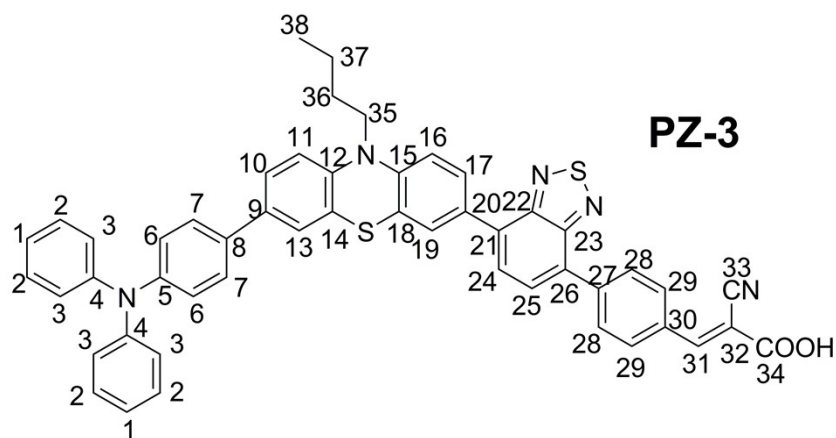
## PZ-2-HRMS



## PZ-3-<sup>1</sup>H

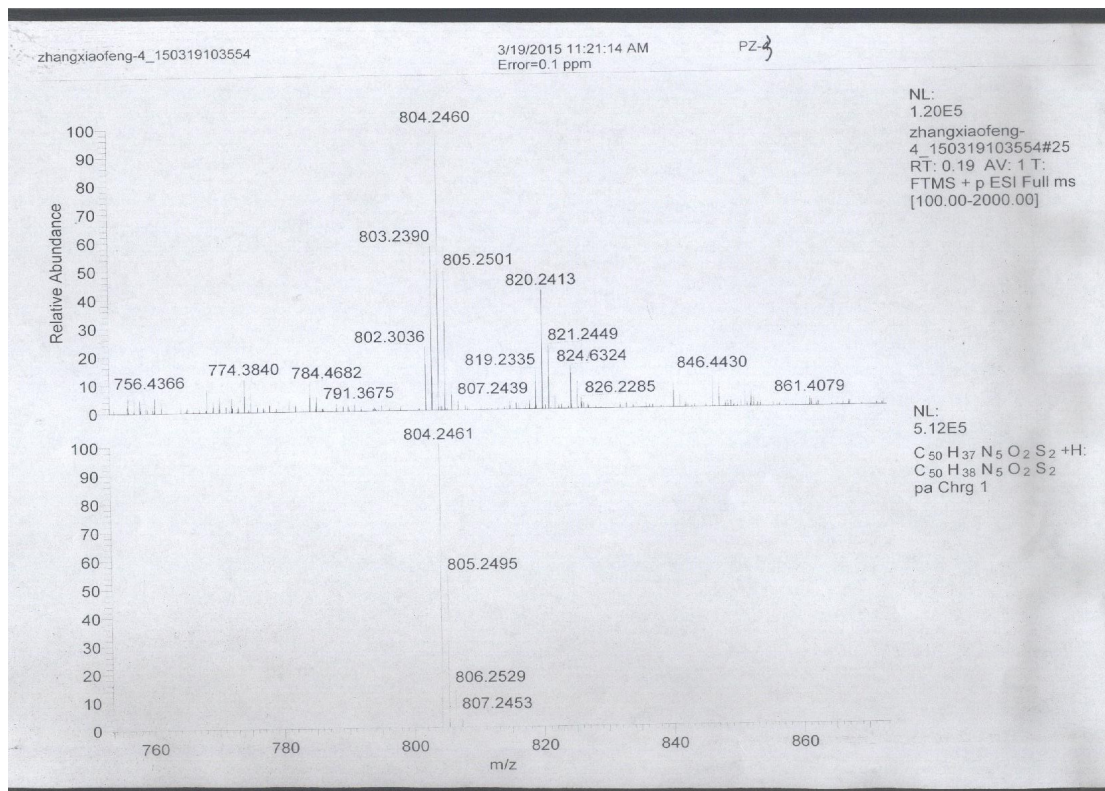


# PZ-3-<sup>13</sup>C

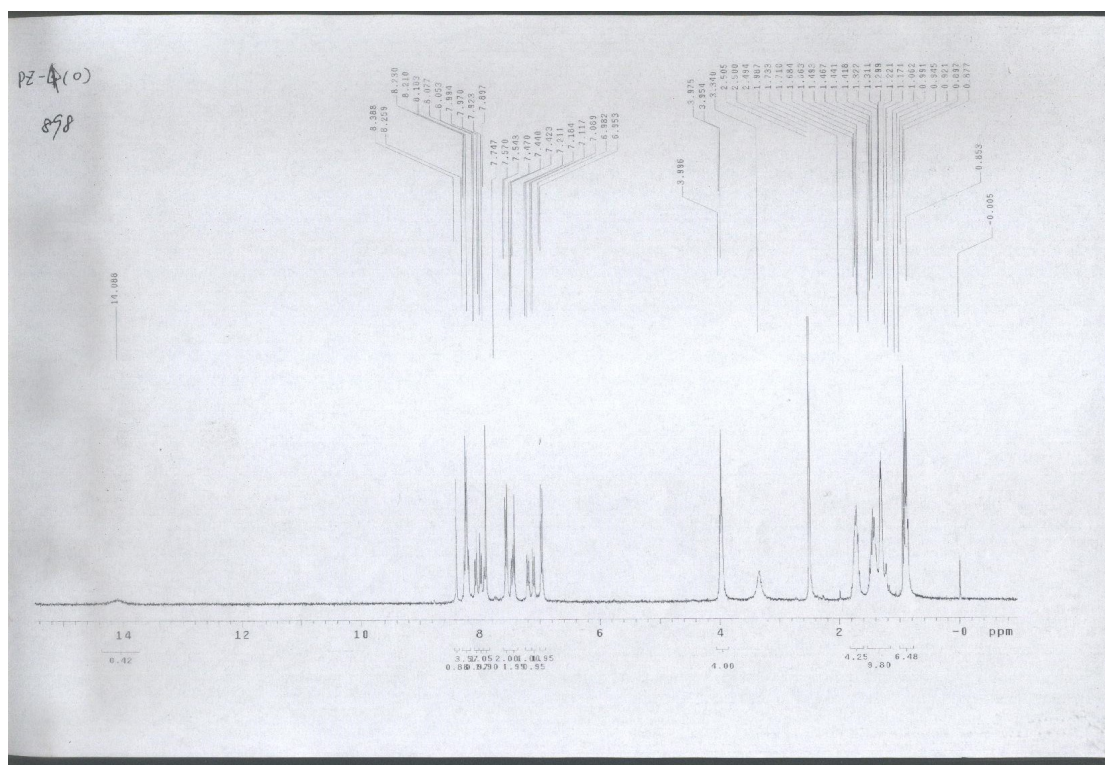




## PZ-3-HRMS

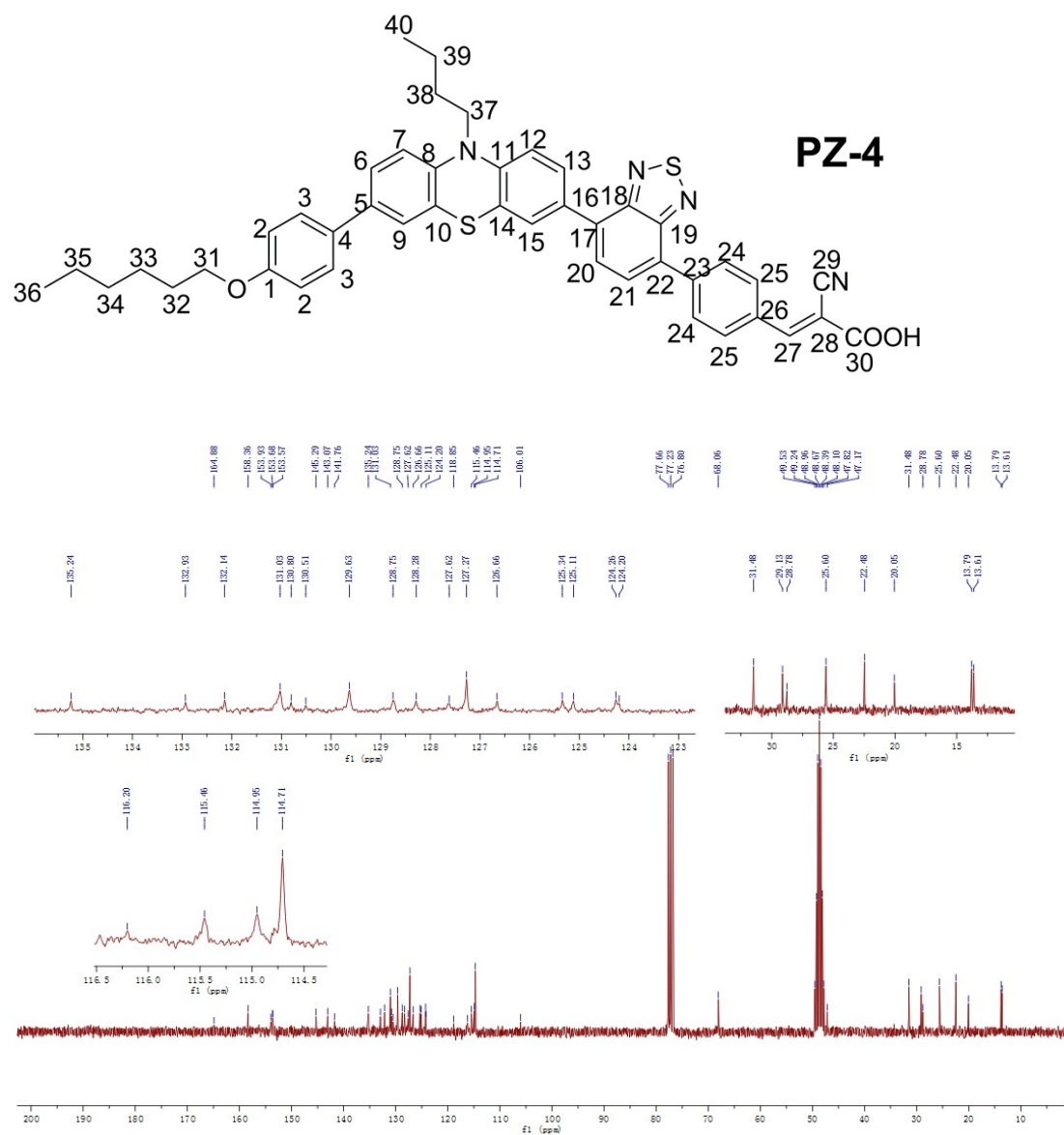


## PZ-4-<sup>1</sup>H





# PZ-4-<sup>13</sup>C



# PZ-4-HRMS

