

## **Supplementary Information**

### **Design and Synthesis of Extended Quinoxaline Derivatives and Their Charge Transport Properties**

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## Experimental Section

Chemicals and reagents were purchased from Aldrich or Sinopham Chemical Reagent Company unless specifically stated. 1,4-Diphenylethyne was purchased from Tokyo Chemical Industry. Dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO) used without purification was of high pressure liquid chromatography grade. All other commercial reagents were used without further purification.

$^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were measured on the Varian Mercury Plus 400 spectrometer in deuterated chloroform ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) and chemical shifts were reported in ppm units with tetramethylsilane (TMS;  $\delta=0$  ppm) as an internal standard. Matrix assisted laser desorption time of flight mass spectrometry (MALDI-TOF) measurement was carried out on the AB SCIEX TOF/TOF<sup>TM</sup> 5800 Analyzer (AB Sciex, Framingham, MA, USA). UV/Vis absorption spectra (UV) spectra were obtained on a Perkin-Elmer Lambda 750 UV-visible spectrophotometer was employed for UV spectra in  $\text{CHCl}_3$ . Fluorescence spectra (PL) were measured on an Edinburgh FLS920 spectrometer at room temperature. The PL quantum yields( $\Phi_F$ ) were estimated using quinine sulfate in 0.1 M  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  ( $\Phi_F=54\%$ ) as standard. Cyclic voltammetry (CV) was carried out on a CHI 600E electrochemical workstation. Using ferrocene (FOC) (4.8 eV under vacuum) as the internal standard, the measurements were performed in an electrolyte of 0.1 M tetrabutylammonium hexafluorophosphate ( $\text{TBAPF}_6$ ) in acetonitrile at a scan rate of  $100\text{ mV s}^{-1}$  at room temperature. Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) of the oligomers was evaluated on a PerkinElmer Pyris 1 TGA instrument under nitrogen at a heating rate of  $10^\circ\text{C/min}$ . The counter electrode was a platinum wire and an  $\text{Ag/AgNO}_3$  electrode was used as the reference electrode. The two dimensional grazing-incidence X-ray diffraction (2D-GIXRD) pattern was obtained at BL14B1 at Shanghai Synchrotron Radiation Facility (SSRF) ( $\lambda=1.24\text{ \AA}$ ). The incidence angle is  $0.25^\circ$  and the exposure time is 120 seconds. Sample were prepared on  $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Si}$  wafers after the volatilization of  $\text{CHCl}_3$  solutions at room temperature. X-ray crystallographic data were collected on a P4 Bruker diffractometer equipped with a Bruker SMART 1K CCD area detector (employing the program SMART) and a rotating anode utilizing graphite-monochromated Mo K radiation ( $\lambda=0.71073\text{ \AA}$ ). Data processing was carried out by use of the program SAINT, while the program SADABS was utilized for the scaling of diffraction data, the application of a decay correction and an empirical absorption correction based on redundant reflections. The structures were solved by using the direct-methods procedure in the Bruker SHELXL program library and refined by full-matrix least-squares methods on F2. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined using anisotropic thermal parameters, and hydrogen atoms were added as fixed contributors at calculated positions, with isotropic thermal parameters based on the carbon atom to which they are bonded.

### FET device fabrication

Some commercially available (300-nm-thick  $\text{SiO}_2/\text{p}^{++}\text{Si}$ ) substrates were washed by  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2/\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ , deionized water, acetone and methanol in turn. The compounds in  $\text{CHCl}_3$  solutions (1 mg/mL) were spin-coated on these clean  $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Si}$  wafers at the rotating speed of 6000 r/min. The obtained thin films were in a vacuum environment for 6h. Then, 50-nm-thick gold (Au) source and drain electrodes were vapor-deposited on the compound thin films ( $W=L=1000\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ ). For ion gel gate dielectric, composed of a triblock copolymer, poly(styreneblock-methyl methacrylate-block styrene) (PS-PMMA-PS; MPS = 4.3 kg/mol, MPMMA = 12.5 kg/mol, MW = 21.1 kg/mol) and 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium bis(trifluoromethylsulfonyl) imide ionic liquid

were dissolved in ethyl propionate solution at a 0.7: 9.3: 20 ratio (w/w) and then drop-cast to cover the surfaces of the compound films with an Au drain and source contact. The transistor channels were covered with a thin Aluminum foil (thickness of 0.03 mm) to form the top-gate electrode. The transistor characteristics were measured using a semiconductor parameter analyzer (Keithley 4200, Keithley Co.) at room temperature.

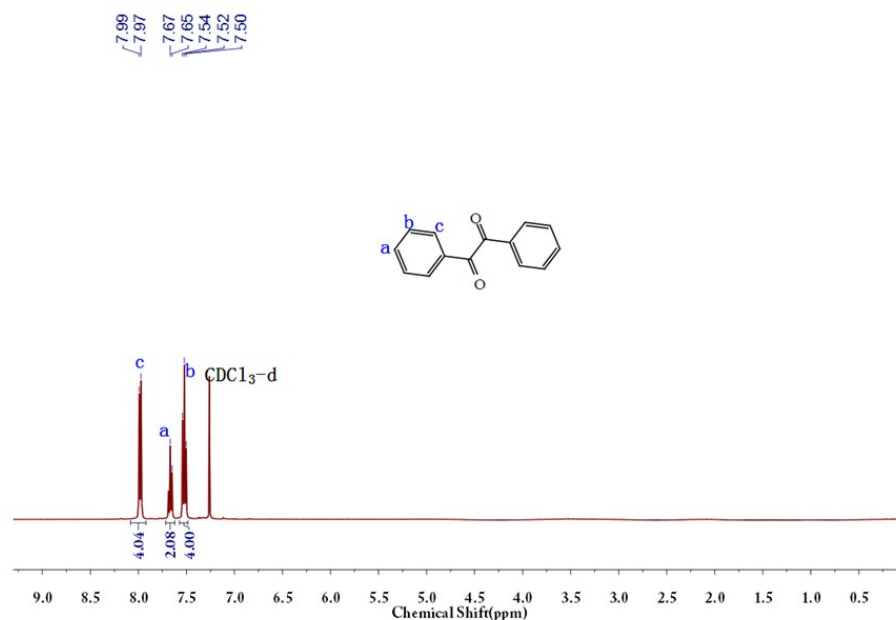
### Synthesis and Characterization

The phenylene-ethynylene arrays **1-4** were synthesized according to our previous published procedures.<sup>1</sup>

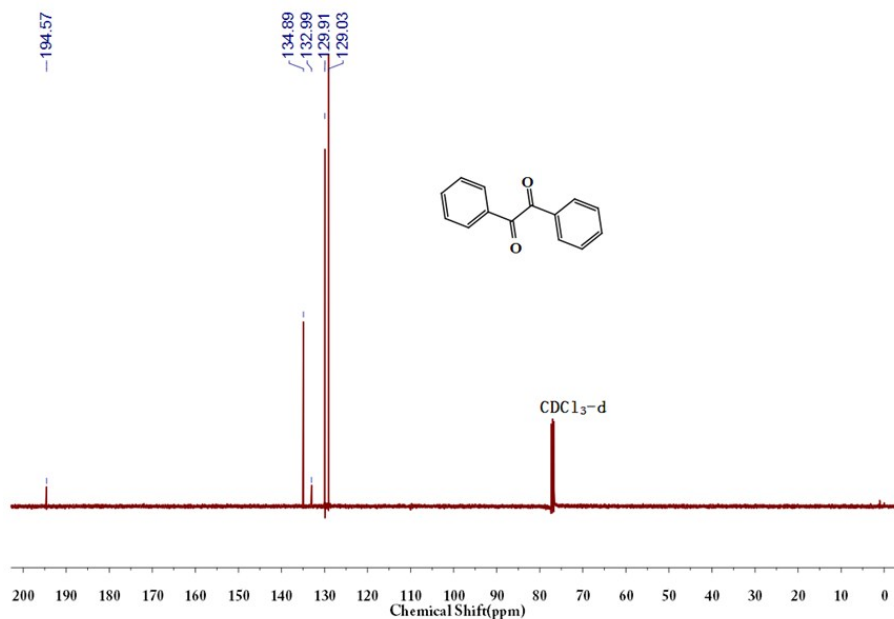
*Synthesis of the oligomers: benzil (5a).*

A 250 mL flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer and a reflux condenser was added 2.47 g (13.89 mmol) of **1a** and 2.49 mg (0.014 mmol) of PdCl<sub>2</sub>, followed by the addition of dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) (120 mL). After being stirred for 48 h at 140 °C, the mixture was placed to room temperature. The resultant precipitate was collected by filtration. The crude product was washed with C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH. After being dried, the product was obtained (2.65g, 91%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 7.98 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 7.66 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.52 (t, *J* = 7.2, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 194.57, 134.89, 132.99, 129.91, 129.03.



**Fig. S1** The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **5a**.

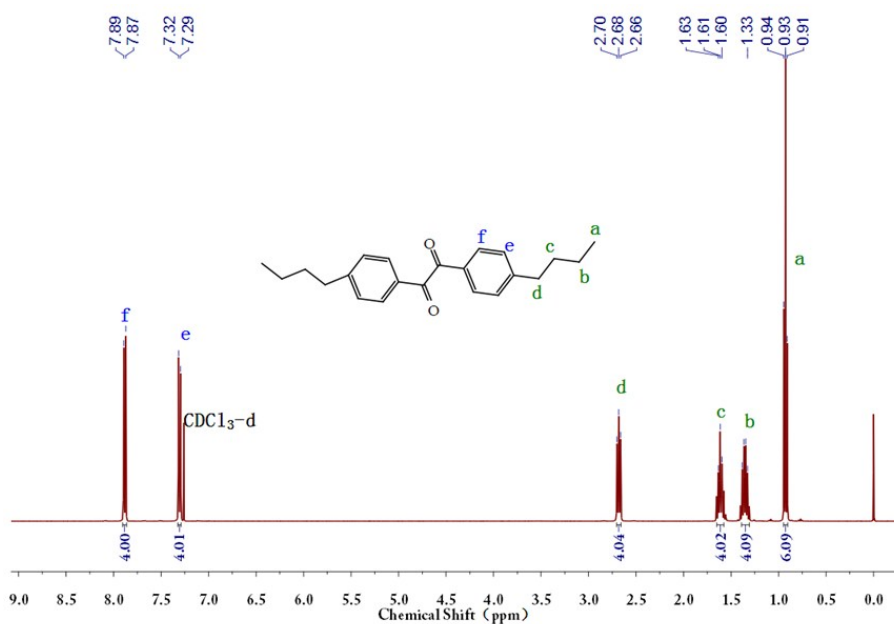


**Fig. S2** The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **5a**.

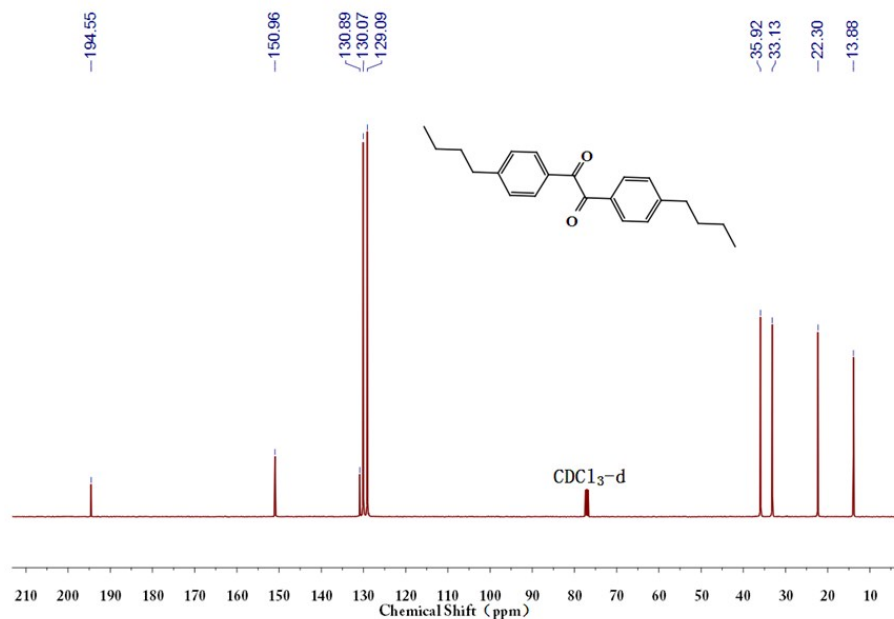
*1,2-bis(4-butylphenyl)ethane-1,2-dione (5b).*

A 250 mL flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer and a reflux condenser was added 2.90 g (10.00 mmol) of **1b** and 1.77 mg (0.01 mmol) of PdCl<sub>2</sub>, followed by the addition of dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) (120 mL). After being stirred for 48 h at 140 °C, the mixture was placed to room temperature. The resultant precipitate was collected by filtration. The crude product was washed with C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH. After being dried, the product was obtained (2.92g, 92%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 7.88 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 2.68 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 1.63-1.60 (m, 4H), 1.33 (m, 4H), 0.93 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 194.55, 150.96, 130.89, 130.07, 129.09, 35.92, 33.13, 22.30, 13.88.



**Fig. S3** The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **5b**.

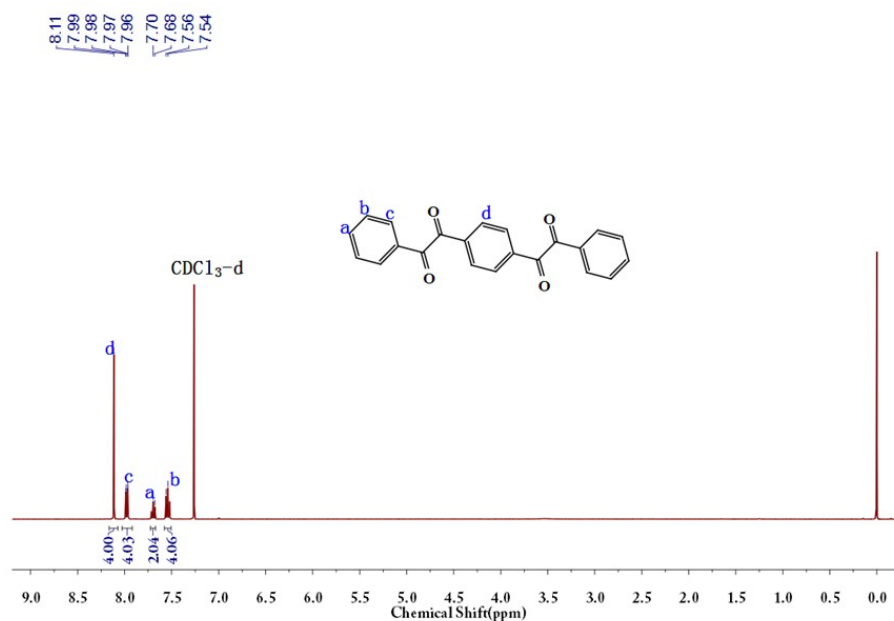


**Fig. S4** The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **5b**.

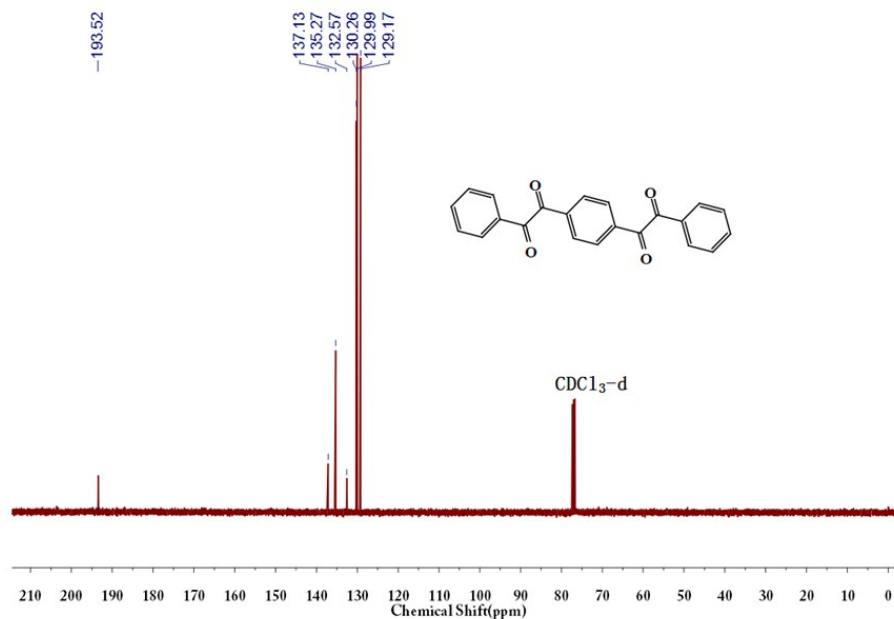
*2,2'-(1,4-phenylene)bis(1-phenylethane-1,2-dione) (6a).*

A 250 mL flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer and a reflux condenser was added 2.78 g (10.00 mmol) of **2a** and 1.77 mg (0.01 mmol) of  $\text{PdCl}_2$ , followed by the addition of dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) (120 mL). After being stirred for 48 h at 140  $^\circ\text{C}$ , the mixture was placed to room temperature. The resultant precipitate was collected by filtration. The crude product was washed with  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$ . After being dried, the product was obtained (3.15g, 92%).

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 8.11 (s, 4H), 7.98 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 4H), 7.69 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.56 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 193.52, 137.13, 135.27, 132.57, 130.26, 129.99, 129.17.



**Fig. S5** The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **6a**.

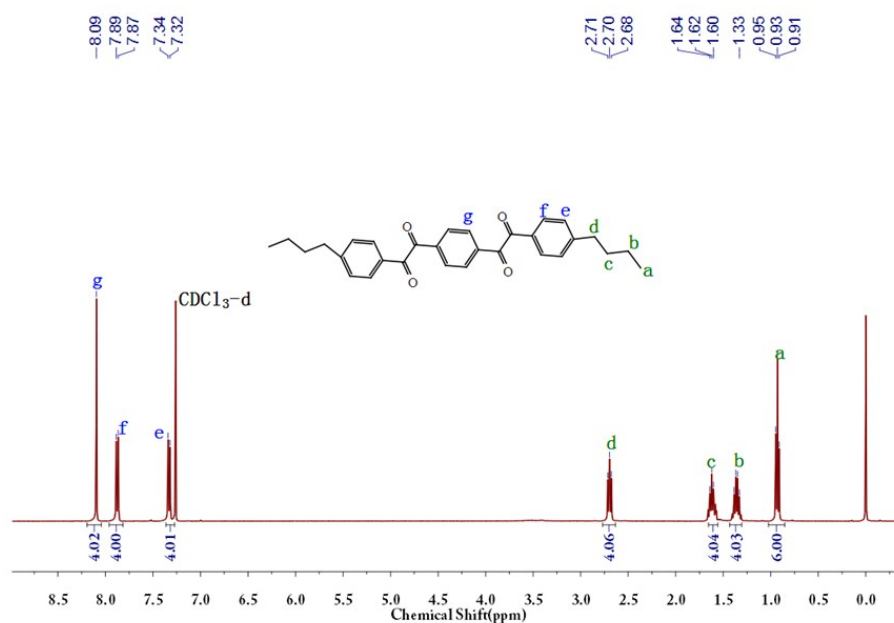


**Fig. S6** The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **6a**.

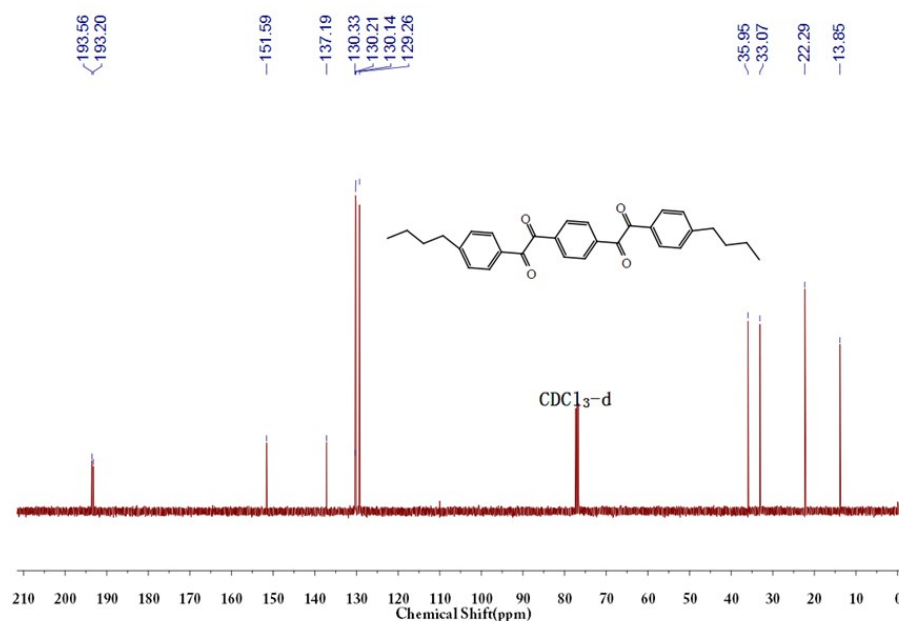
*2,2'-(1,4-phenylene)bis(1-(4-butylphenyl)ethane-1,2-dione) (6b).*

A 250 mL flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer and a reflux condenser was added 1.95 g (5.00 mmol) of **2a** and 0.86 mg (0.005 mmol) of PdCl<sub>2</sub>, followed by the addition of dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) (120 mL). After being stirred for 48 h at 140 °C, the mixture was placed to room temperature. The resultant precipitate was collected by filtration. The crude product was washed with C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH. After being dried, the product was obtained (2.07g, 91%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 8.09 (s, 4H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 2.70 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 1.64-1.60 (m, 4H), 1.33 (m, 4H), 0.93 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ (ppm): 193.56, 193.20, 151.59, 137.19, 130.33, 130.21, 130.14, 129.26, 35.95, 33.07, 22.29, 13.85.



**Fig. S7** The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **6b**.

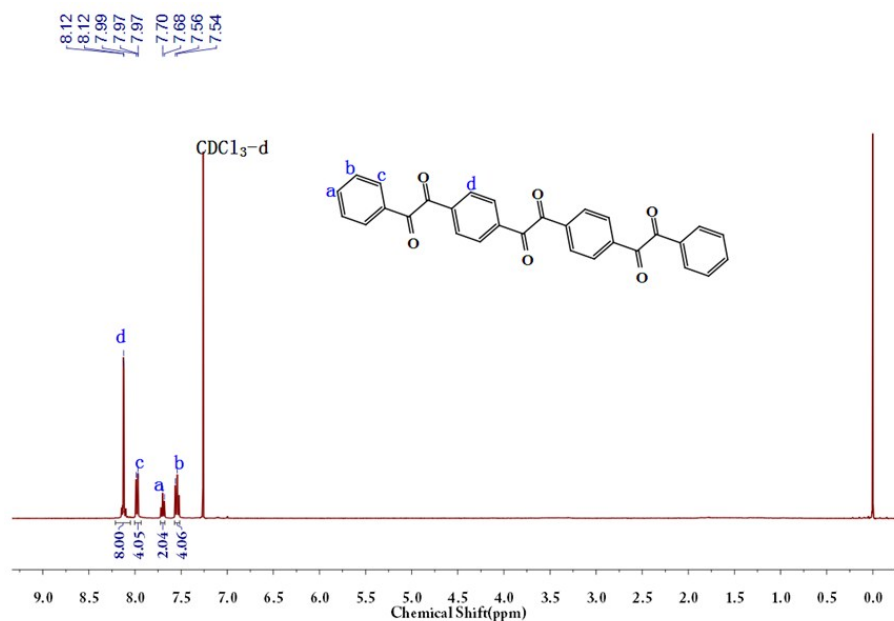


**Fig. S8** The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **6b**.

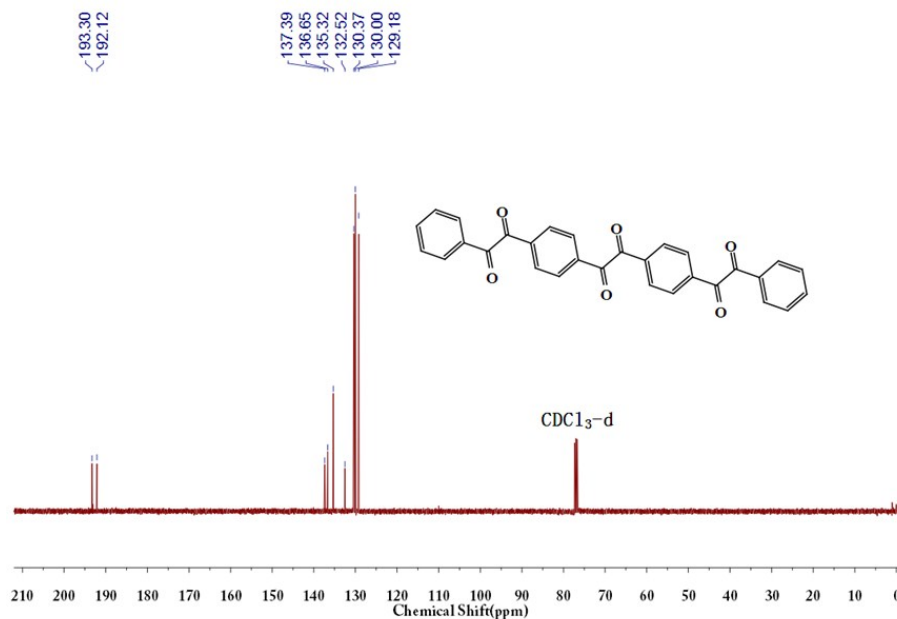
*2,2'-(oxalylbis(4,1-phenylene))bis(1-phenylethane-1,2-dione) (7a)*

A 250 mL flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer and a reflux condenser was added 1.89 g (5.00 mmol) of **3a** and 0.86 mg (0.005 mmol) of  $\text{PdCl}_2$ , followed by the addition of dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) (130 mL). After being stirred for 48 h at 140 °C, the mixture was placed to room temperature. The resultant precipitate was collected by filtration. The crude product was washed with  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$ . After being dried, the product was obtained (2.15g, 91%).

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 8.12 (s, 8H), 7.98 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 4H), 7.70 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.56 (t,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 193.30, 192.12, 137.39, 136.65, 135.32, 132.52, 130.37, 130.00, 129.18.



**Fig. S9** The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **7a**.

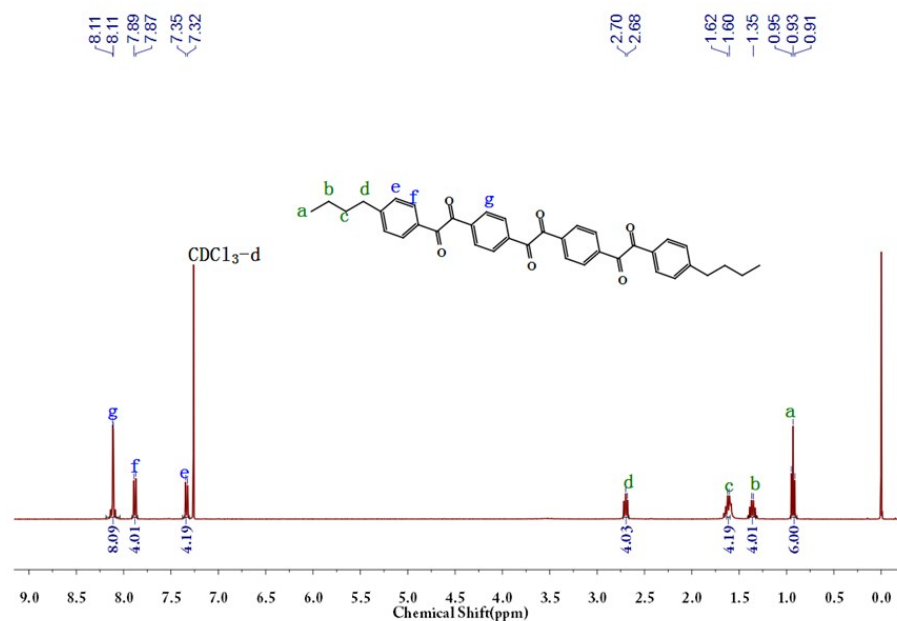


**Fig. S10** The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **7a**.

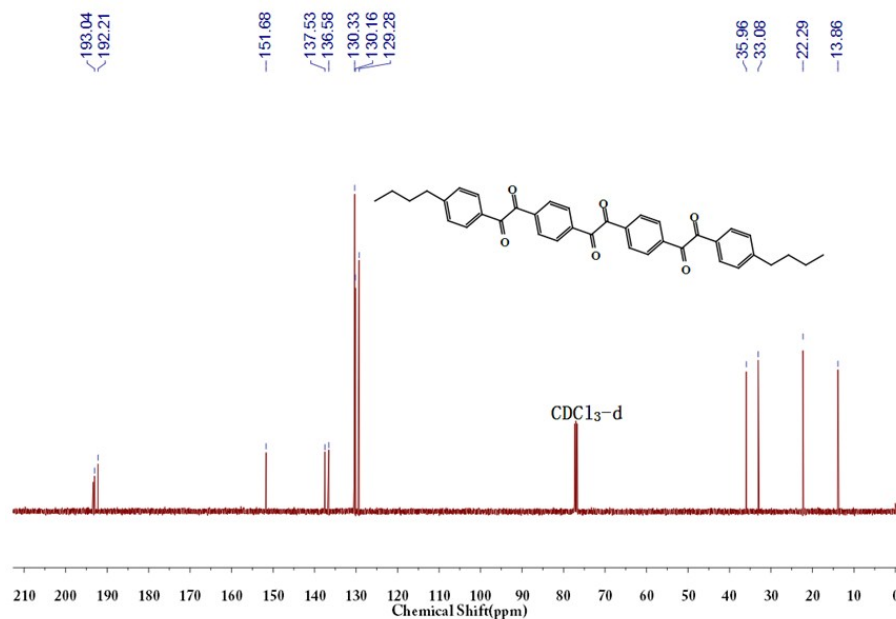
*2,2'-(oxalylbis(4,1-phenylene))bis(1-(4-butylphenyl)ethane-1,2-dione) (7b).*

A 250 mL flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer and a reflux condenser was added 2.45 g (5.00 mmol) of **3b** and 0.86 mg (0.005 mmol) of PdCl<sub>2</sub>, followed by the addition of dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) (130 mL). After being stirred for 48 h at 140 °C, the mixture was placed to room temperature. The resultant precipitate was collected by filtration. The crude product was washed with C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH. After being dried, the product was obtained (2.69g, 92%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 8.11 (s, 8H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 2.69 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 1.62-1.60 (m, 4H), 1.35 (m, 4H), 0.93 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 193.04, 192.21, 151.68, 137.53, 136.58, 130.33, 130.16, 129.28, 35.96, 33.08, 22.29, 13.86.



**Fig. S11** The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **7b**.

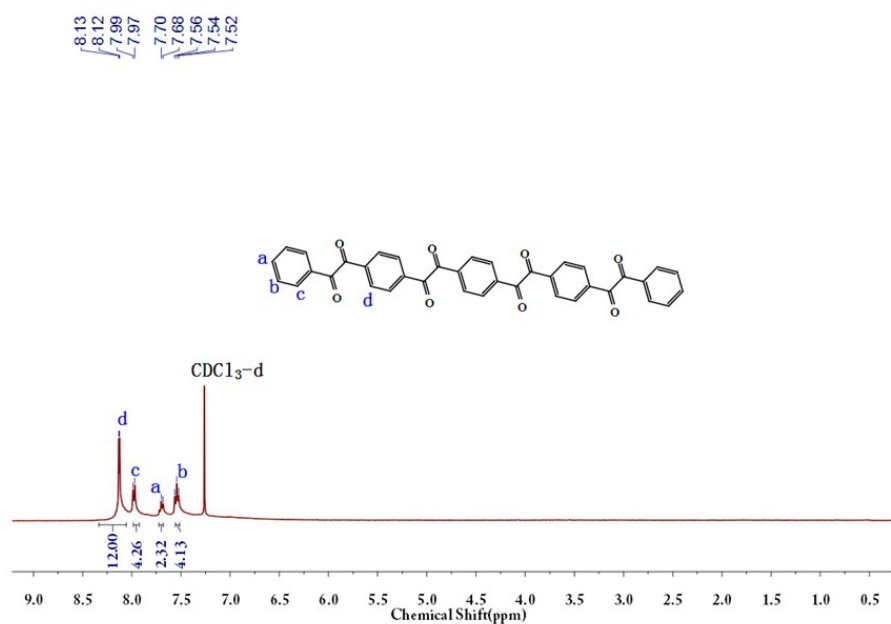


**Fig. S12** The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **7b**.

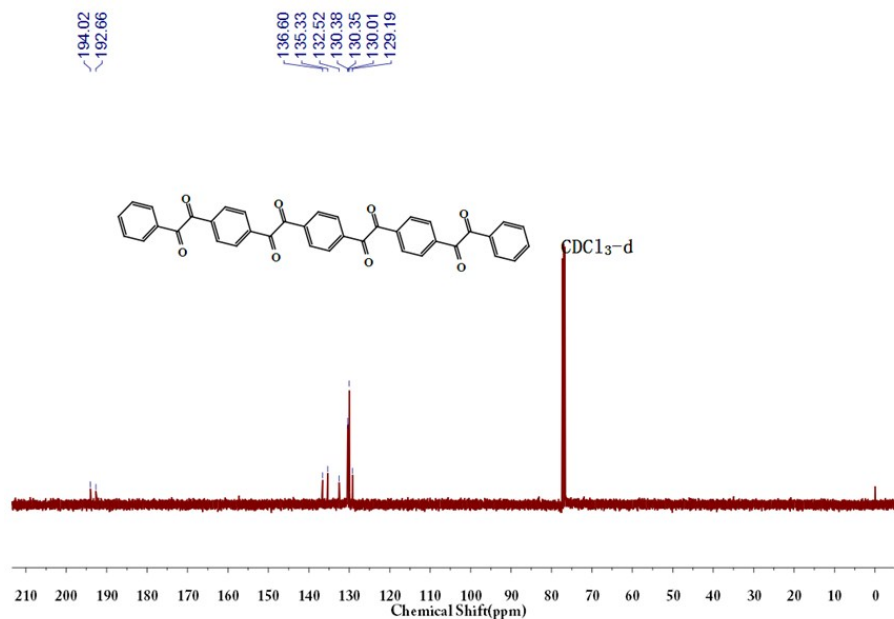
*2,2'-(1,4-phenylene)bis(1-(4-(2-oxo-2-phenylacetyl)phenyl)ethane-1,2-dione)* (**8a**).

A 250 mL flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer and a reflux condenser was added 2.39 g (5.00 mmol) of **4a** and 0.86 mg (0.005 mmol) of PdCl<sub>2</sub>, followed by the addition of dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) (140 mL). After being stirred for 48 h at 140 °C, the mixture was placed to room temperature. The resultant precipitate was collected by filtration. The crude product was washed with C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH. After being dried, the product was obtained (2.72g, 90%).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 8.13 (s, 12H), 7.98 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 7.70 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 194.02, 192.66, 136.60, 135.33, 132.52, 130.38, 130.35, 130.01, 129.19.



**Fig. S13** The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **8a**.

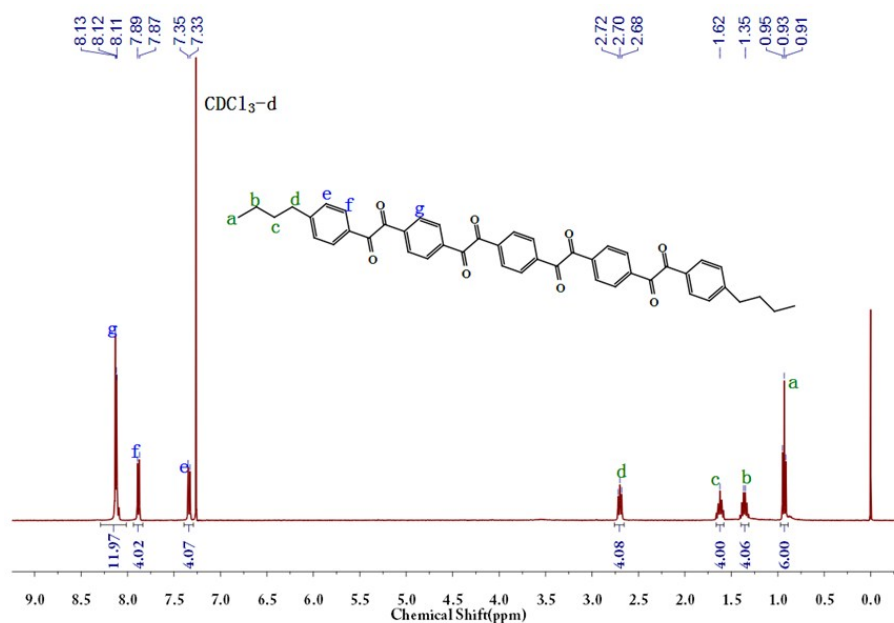


**Fig. S14** The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **8a**.

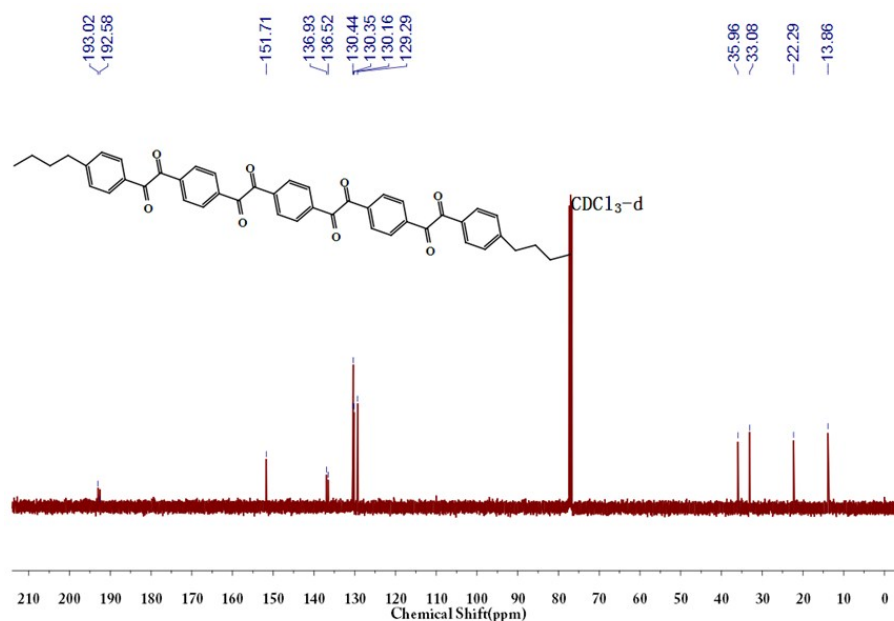
*2,2'-(1,4-phenylene)bis(1-(4-(2-(4-butylphenyl)-2-oxoacetyl)phenyl)ethane-1,2-dione) (8b).*

A 250 mL flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer and a reflux condenser was added 2.95 g (5.00 mmol) of **4b** and 0.86 mg (0.005 mmol) of  $\text{PdCl}_2$ , followed by the addition of dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) (160 mL). After being stirred for 48 h at 140 °C, the mixture was placed to room temperature. The resultant precipitate was collected by filtration. The crude product was washed with  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$ . After being dried, the product was obtained (3.26g, 91%).

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 8.12 (d,  $J = 6.5$  Hz, 12H), 7.88 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 4H), 7.34 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 4H), 2.70 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 4H), 1.62 (m, 4H), 1.35 (m, 4H), 0.93 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 193.02, 192.58, 151.71, 136.93, 136.52, 130.44, 130.35, 130.16, 129.29, 35.96, 33.08, 22.29, 13.86.



**Fig. S15** The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **8b**.



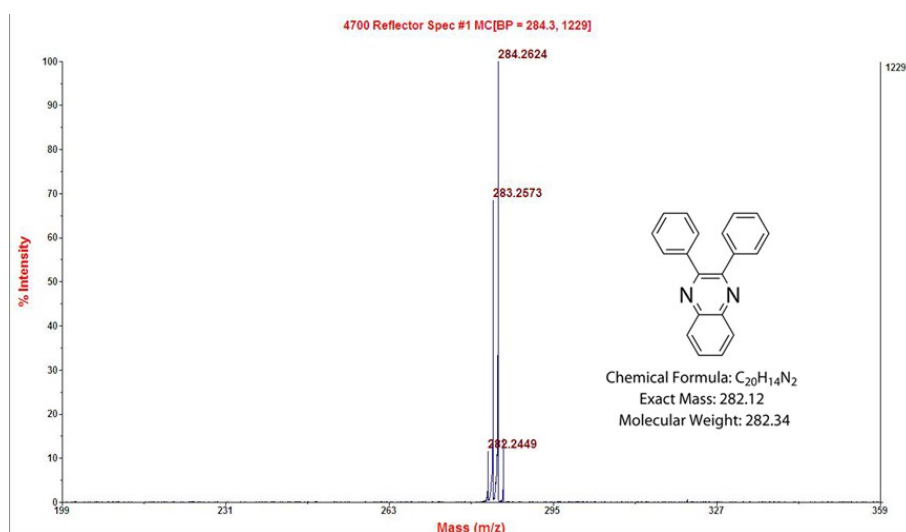
**Fig. S16** The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **8b**.

*2,3-diphenylquinoxaline (9a)*.

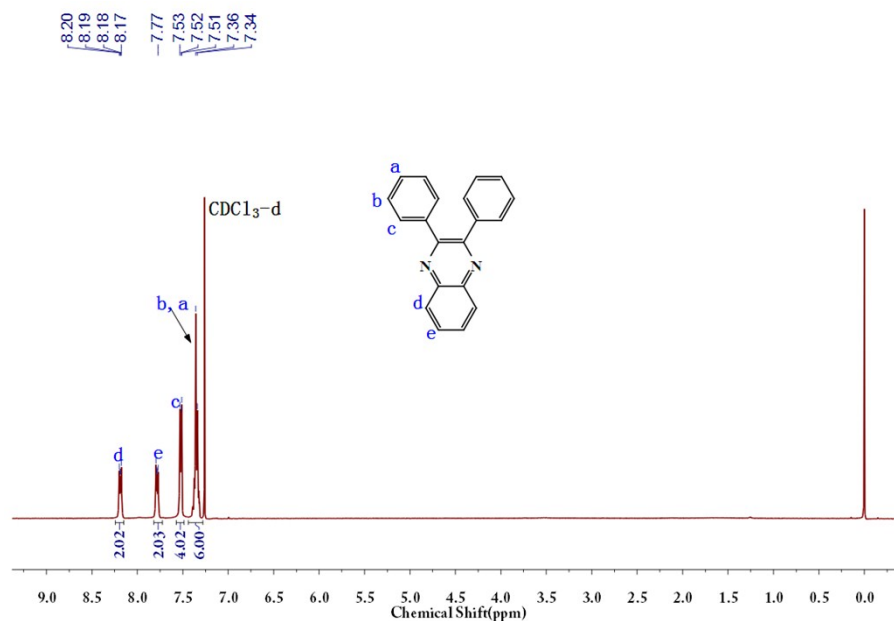
1,2-phenylenediamine (1.08 g, 10 mmol) and **5a** (2.10 g, 10 mmol) were added in a flask (250 mL) equipped with a reflux condenser, followed by the addition of acetic acid (120 mL). The mixture was stirred at  $100^\circ\text{C}$  for 12h until the complete consumption of starting materials as judged by TLC. After the mixture was evaporated, the residue was then purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **9a** (2.62 g, 92%).

MS (MALDI-TOF):  $m/z$  (%): 284.26 (100).

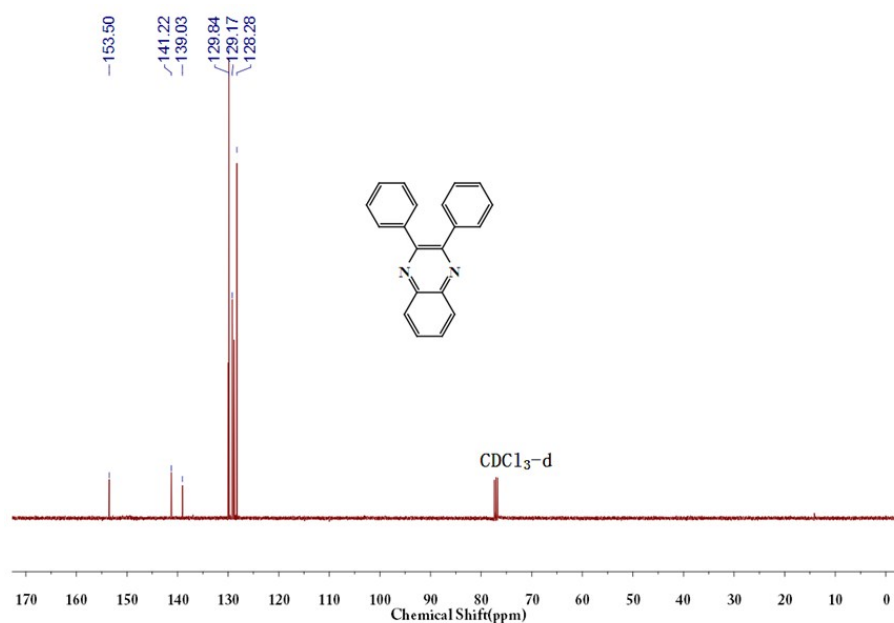
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 8.19 (dd,  $J = 6.4\text{Hz}$ , 3.2 Hz, 2H), 7.77 (dd,  $J = 6.4\text{Hz}$ , 3.2Hz, 2H), 7.52 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 4H), 7.36-7.34 (m, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 153.50, 141.22, 139.03, 129.84, 129.17, 128.28.



**Fig. S17** The MALDI-TOF spectrum of **9a**.



**Fig. S18** The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **9a**.



**Fig. S19** The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **9a**.

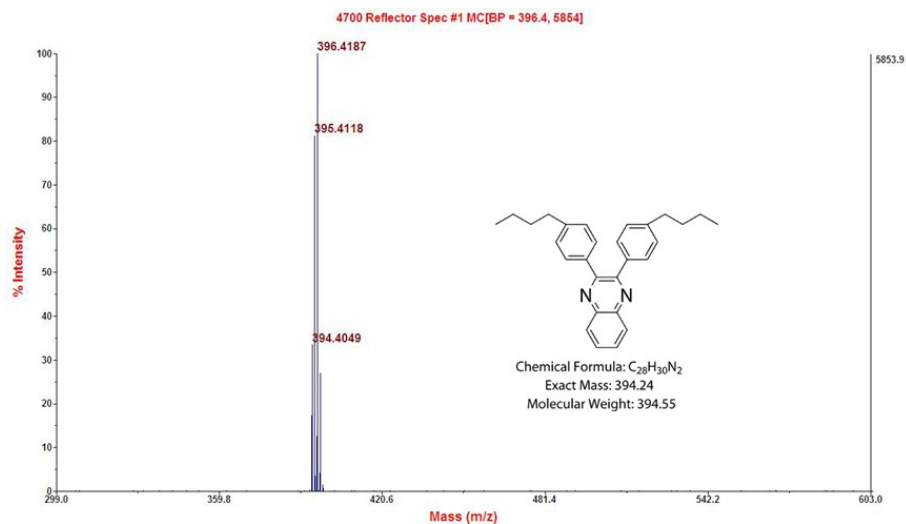
**2,3-bis(4-butylphenyl)quinoxaline (**9b**)**

1,2-phenylenediamine (0.95 g, 8.8 mmol) and **5b** (2.90 g, 8.8 mmol) were added in a flask (250 mL) equipped with a reflux condenser, followed by the addition of acetic acid (120 mL). The mixture was stirred at 100°C for 12h until the complete consumption of starting materials as judged by TLC. After the mixture was evaporated, the residue was then purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **9b** (3.24 g, 93%)

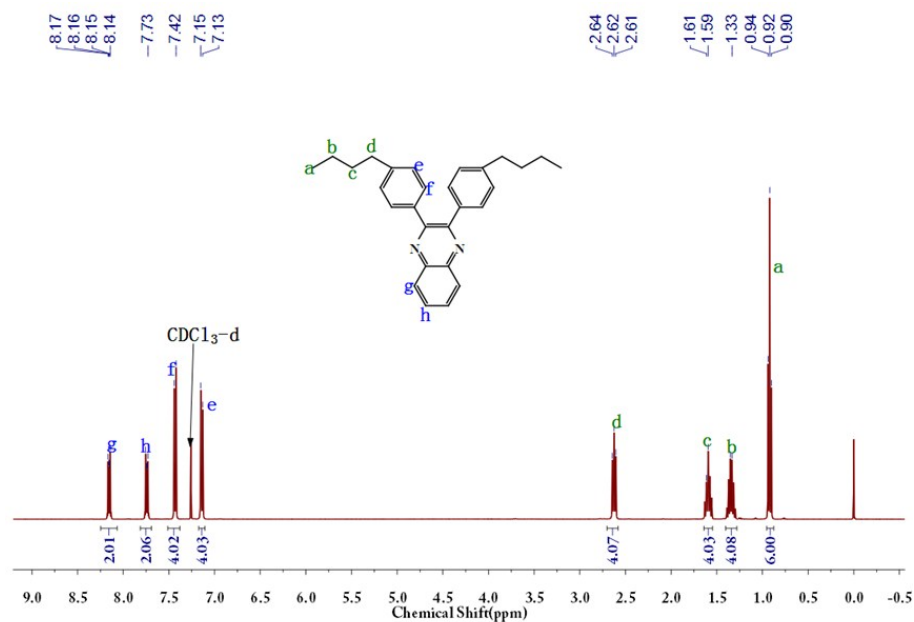
MS (MALDI-TOF): *m/z* (%): 396.42 (100).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 8.15 (dd, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3.2 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (dd, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3.2 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 2.62 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 1.61-1.59 (m,

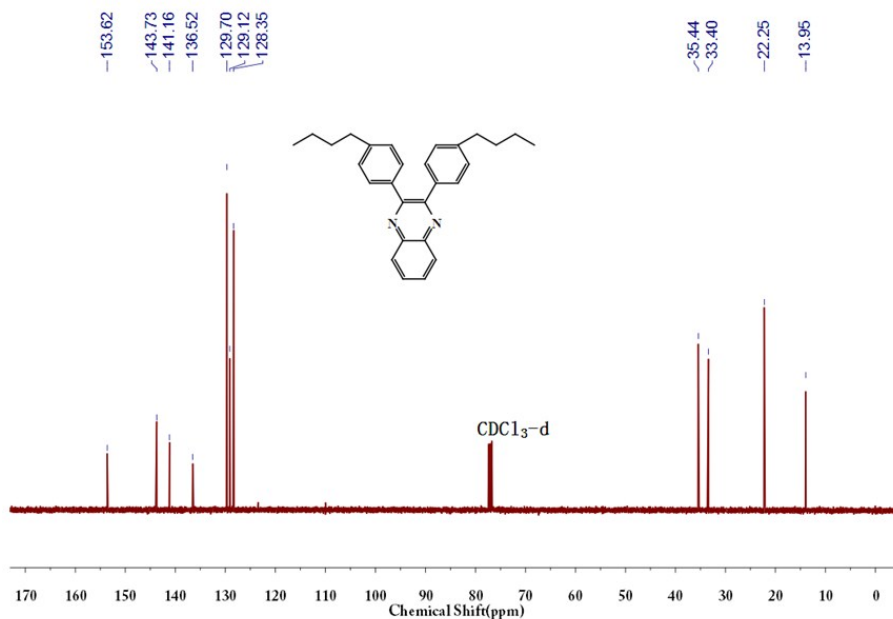
4H), 1.33 (m, 4H), 0.92 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 153.62, 143.73, 141.16, 136.52, 129.70, 129.12, 128.35, 35.44, 33.40, 22.25, 13.95.



**Fig. S20** The MALDI-TOF spectrum of **9b**.



**Fig. S21** The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **9b**.



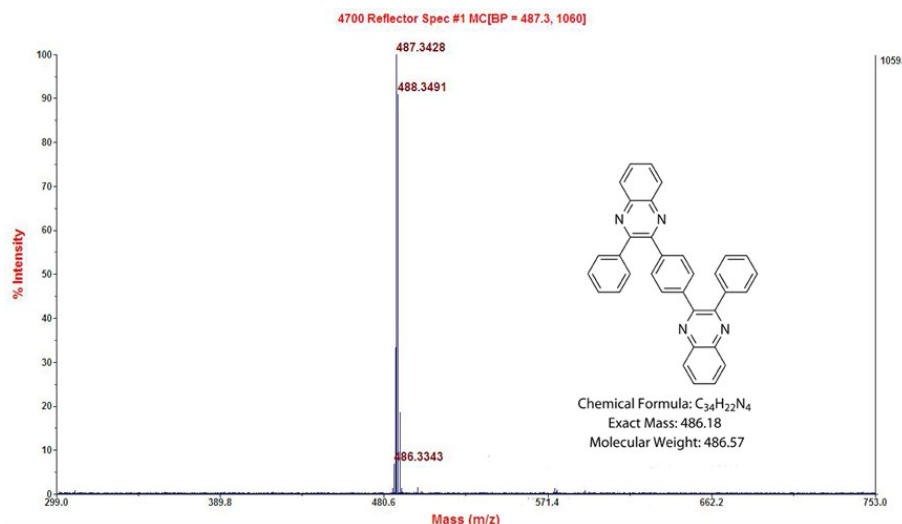
**Fig. S22** The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **9b**.

*1,4-bis(3-phenylquinoxalin-2-yl)benzene (10a)*

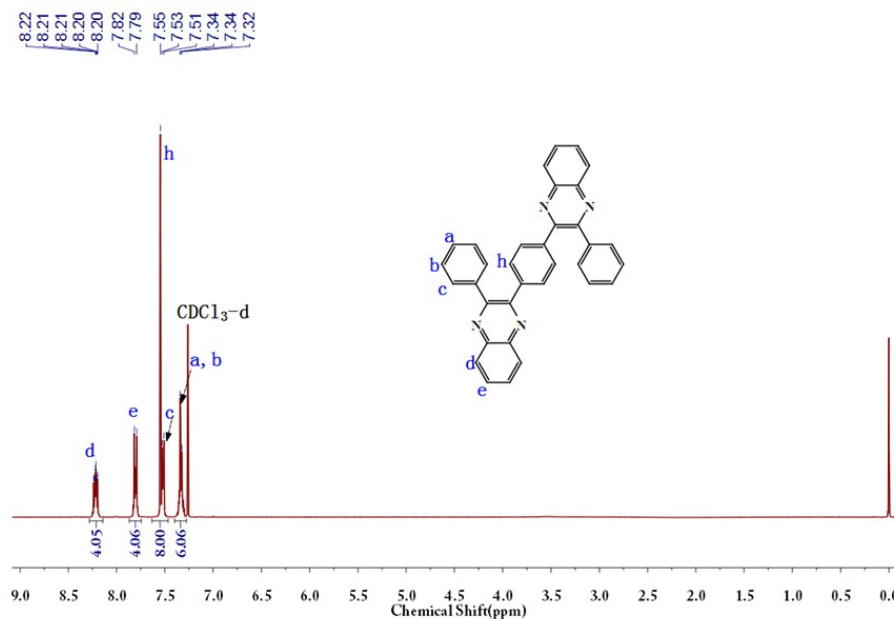
1,2-phenylenediamine (1.90 g, 17.6 mmol) and **6a** (3.00 g, 8.8 mmol) were added in a flask (250 mL) equipped with a reflux condenser, followed by the addition of acetic acid (120 mL). The mixture was stirred at 100°C for 12h until the complete consumption of starting materials as judged by TLC. After the mixture was evaporated, the residue was then purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **10a** (3.98 g, 93%)

MS (MALDI-TOF): *m/z* (%): 487.34 (100).

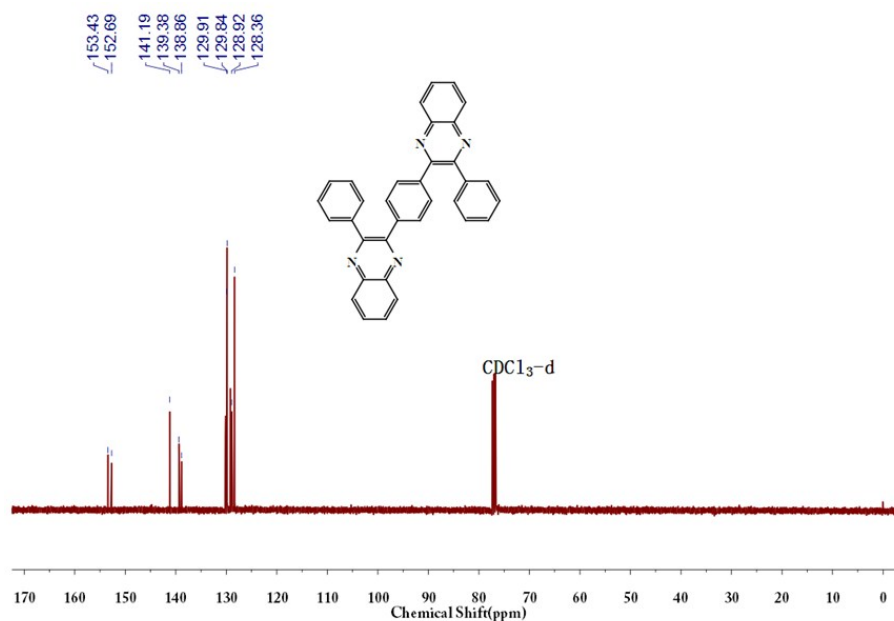
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 8.22-8.20 (m, 4H), 7.82-7.79 (m, 4H), 7.55-7.51 (m, 8H), 7.34-7.32 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 153.43, 152.69, 141.19, 139.38, 138.86, 129.91, 129.84, 128.92, 128.36.



**Fig. S23** The MALDI-TOF spectrum of **10a**.



**Fig. S24** The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **10a**.



**Fig. S25** The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **10a**.

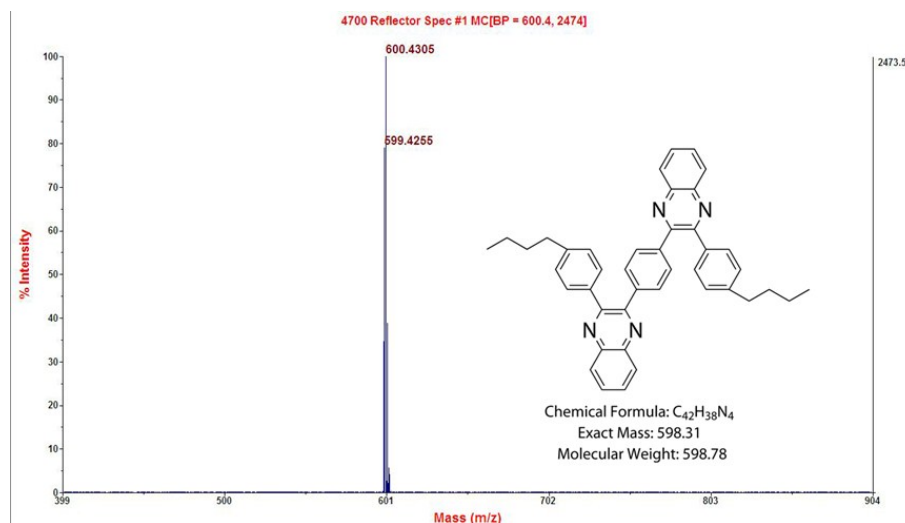
**1,4-bis(3-(4-butylphenyl)quinoxalin-2-yl)benzene (**10b**)**

1,2-phenylenediamine (0.95 g, 8.8 mmol) and **6b** (2.00 g, 4.4 mmol) were added in a flask (250 mL) equipped with a reflux condenser, followed by the addition of acetic acid (120 mL). The mixture was stirred at  $100^\circ\text{C}$  for 12h until the complete consumption of starting materials as judged by TLC. After cooling, the resultant precipitate was collected by filtration. The crude product was washed with  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$ . After being dried, the product was obtained (2.40 g, 91%).

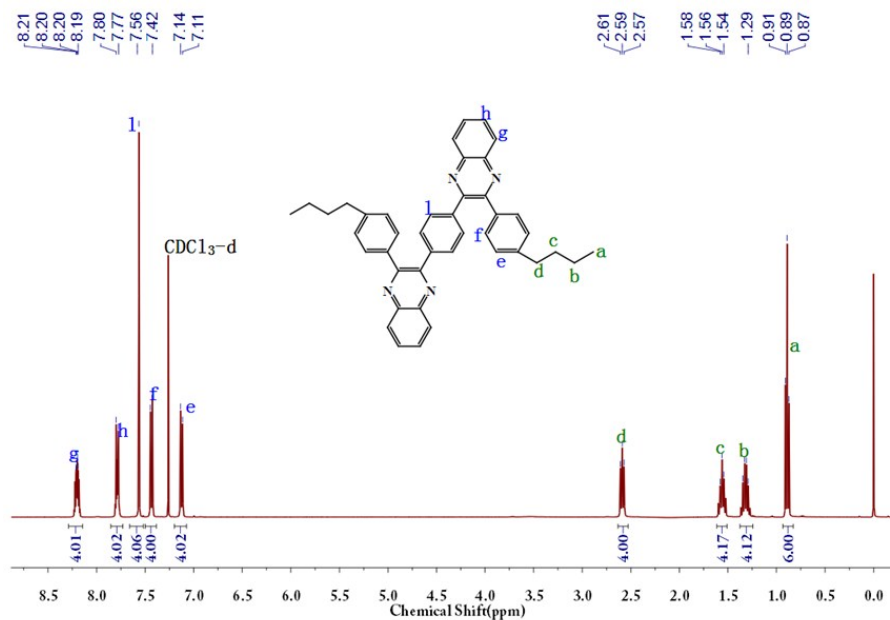
MS (MALDI-TOF):  $m/z$  (%): 600.43 (100).

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 8.21-8.19 (m, 4H), 7.79 (dd,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 3.2 Hz, 4H), 7.56 (s, 4H), 7.42 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 4H), 7.13 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 4H), 2.59 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 4H), 1.58-1.54 (m, 4H), 1.29 (m, 4H), 0.89 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 153.49, 152.76,

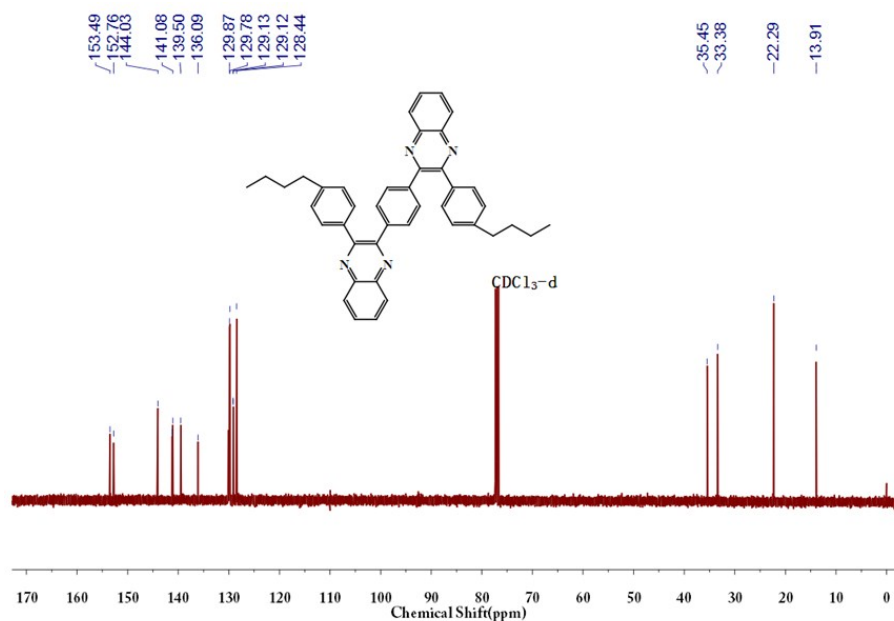
144.03, 141.08, 139.50, 136.09, 129.87, 129.78, 129.13, 129.12, 128.44, 35.43, 33.38, 22.29, 13.91.



**Fig. S26** The MALDI-TOF spectrum of **10b**.



**Fig. S27** The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **10b**.



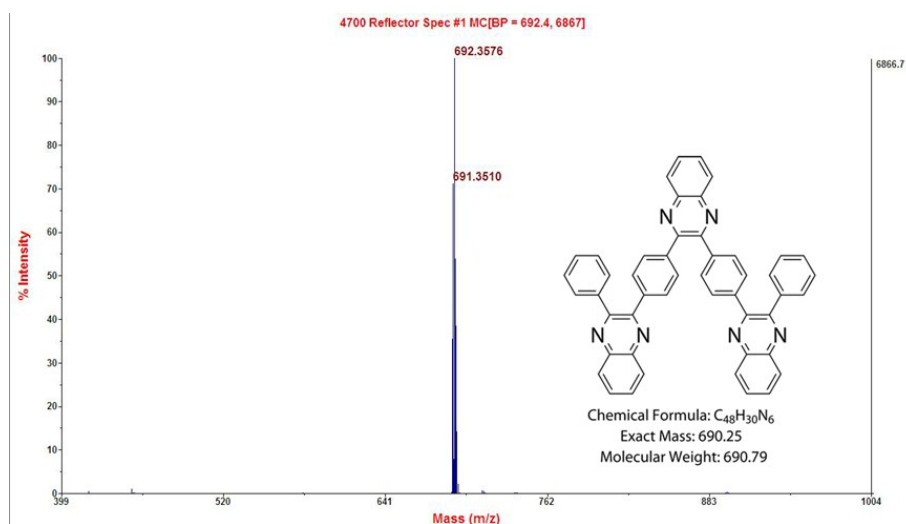
**Fig. S28** The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **10b**.

**2,3-bis(4-(3-phenylquinoxalin-2-yl)phenyl)quinoxaline (**11a**)**

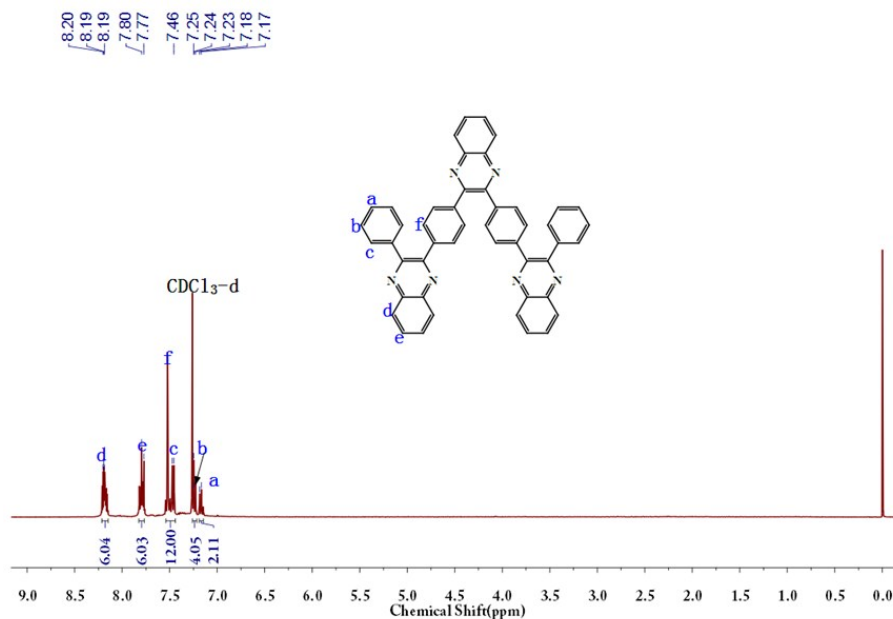
1,2-phenylenediamine (1.36 g, 12.6 mmol) and **7a** (2.00 g, 4.2 mmol) were added in a flask (250 mL) equipped with a reflux condenser, followed by the addition of acetic acid (140 mL). The mixture was stirred at 100°C for 12h until the complete consumption of starting materials as judged by TLC. After the mixture was evaporated, the residue was then purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give **11a**. (2.70 g, 93%).

MS (MALDI-TOF): *m/z* (%): 692.36 (100).

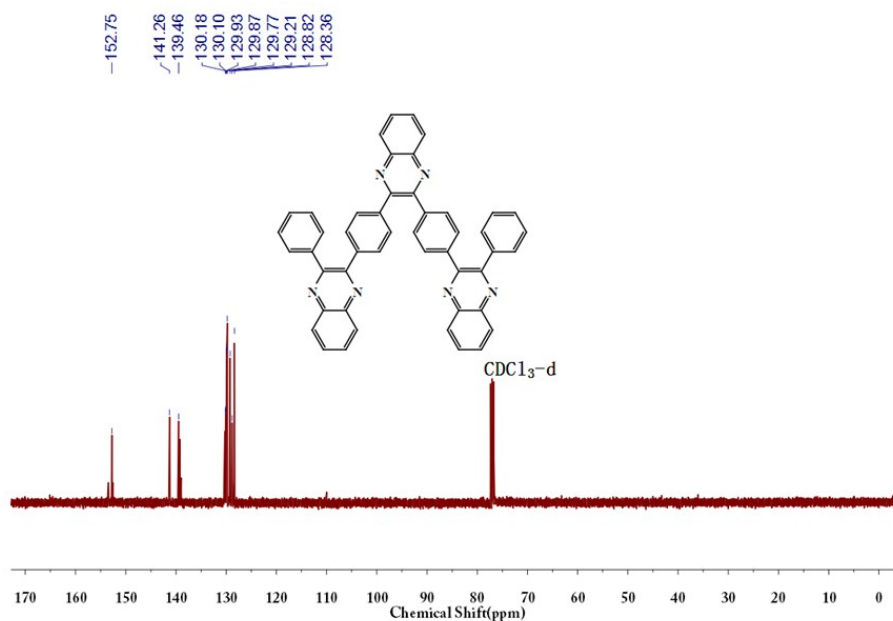
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 8.20-8.19 (m, 6H), 7.80-7.77 (m, 6H), 7.46 (br, 12H), 7.25-7.23 (m, 4H), 7.18-7.17 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm): 152.75, 141.26, 139.46, 130.18, 130.10, 129.93, 129.87, 129.77, 129.21, 128.82, 128.36.



**Fig. S29** The MALDI-TOF spectrum of **11a**.



**Fig. S30** The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **11a**.



**Fig. S31** The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **11a**.

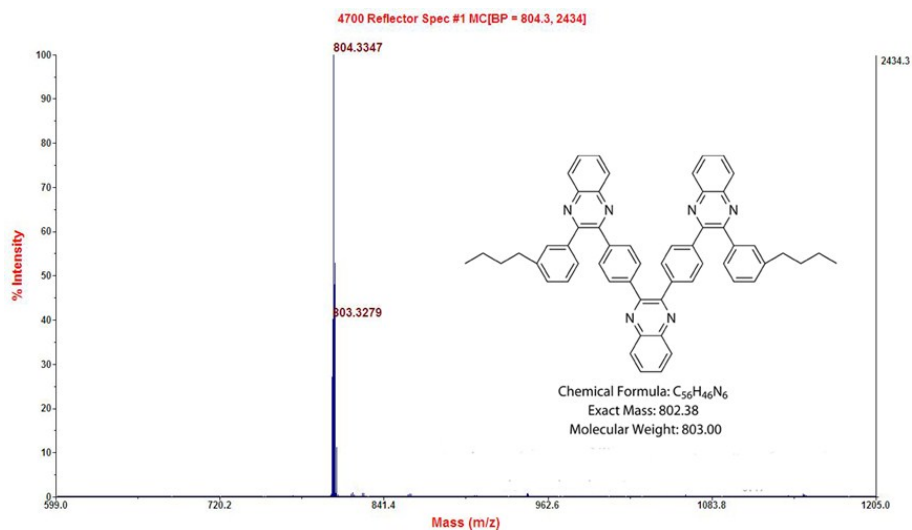
**2,3-bis(4-(3-(4-butylphenyl)quinoxalin-2-yl)phenyl)quinoxaline (**11b**)**

1,2-phenylenediamine (1.39 g, 12.9 mmol) and **7b** (2.50 g, 4.3 mmol) were added in a flask (250 mL) equipped with a reflux condenser, followed by the addition of acetic acid (140 mL). The mixture was stirred at  $100^\circ\text{C}$  for 12h until the complete consumption of starting materials as judged by TLC. After cooling, the resultant precipitate was collected by filtration. The crude product was washed with  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$ . After being dried, the product was obtained (3.15g, 91%).

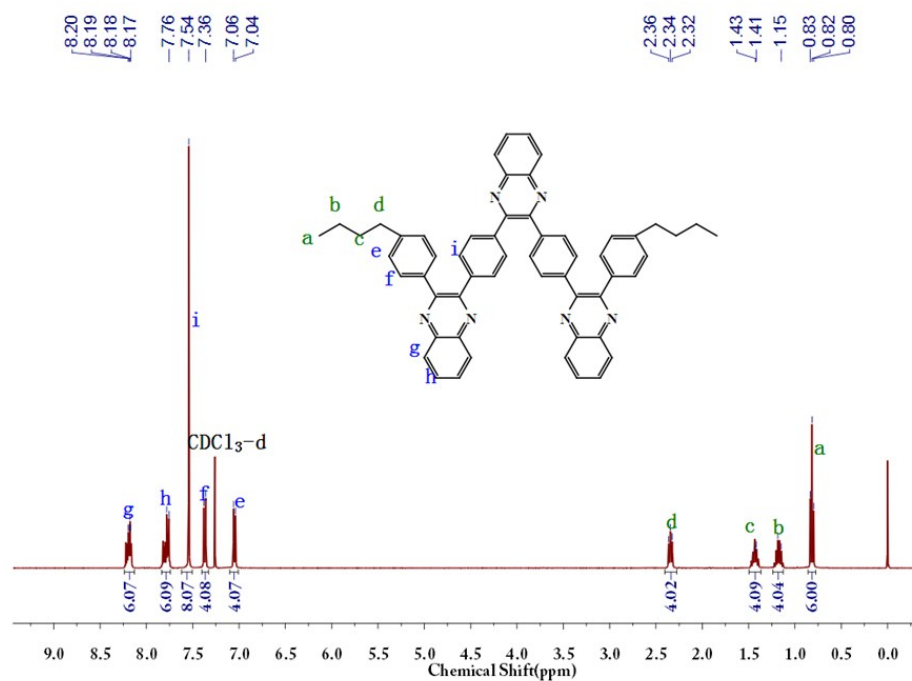
MS (MALDI-TOF):  $m/z$  (%): 804.33 (100).

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 8.20-8.17 (m, 6H), 7.76 (m, 6H), 7.54 (s, 8H), 7.36 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 4H), 7.05 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 4H), 2.34 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 4H), 1.43-1.41 (m, 4H), 1.15 (m, 4H),

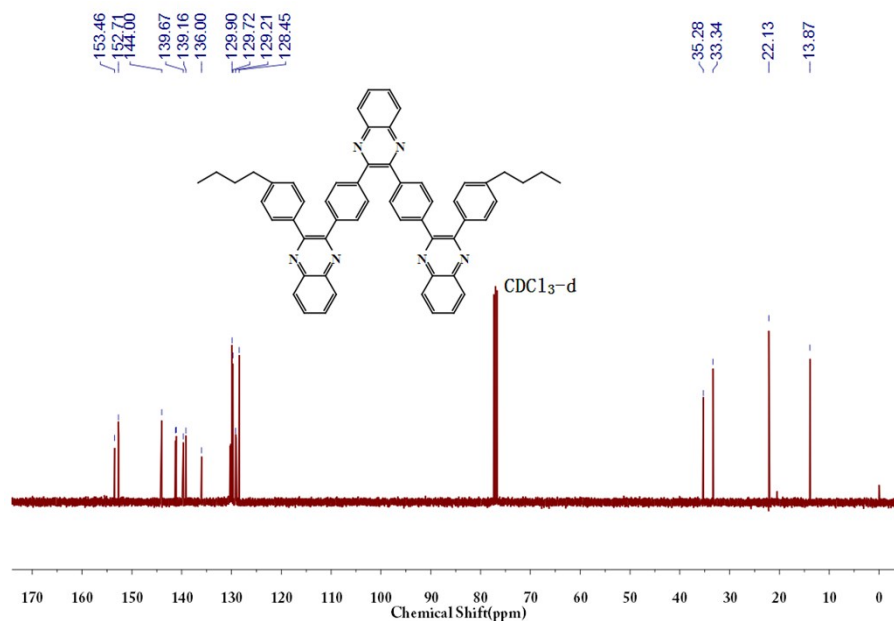
0.82 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 153.46, 152.71, 144.00, 139.67, 139.16, 136.00, 129.90, 129.72, 129.21, 128.45, 35.28, 33.34, 22.13, 13.87.



**Fig. S32** The MALDI-TOF spectrum of **11b**.



**Fig. S33** The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **11b**.



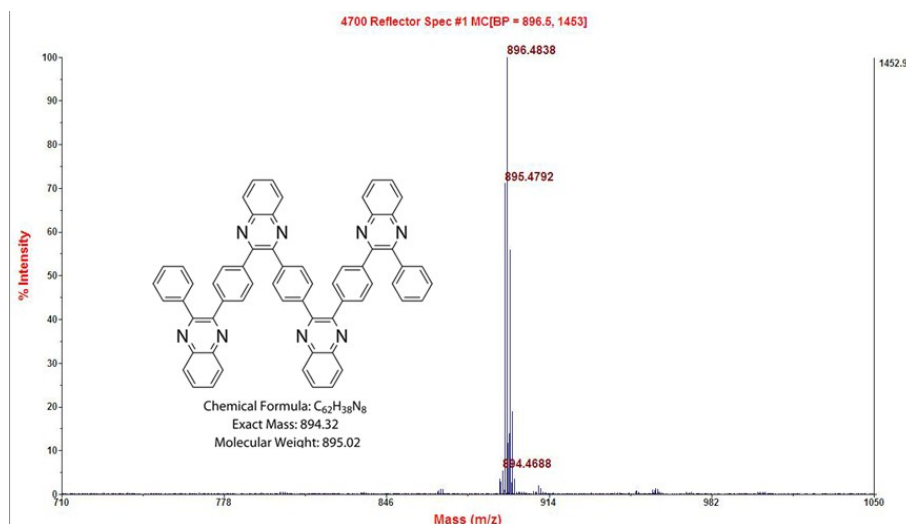
**Fig. S34** The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **11b**.

*1,4-bis(3-(4-(3-phenylquinoxalin-2-yl)phenyl)quinoxalin-2-yl)benzene (12a)*

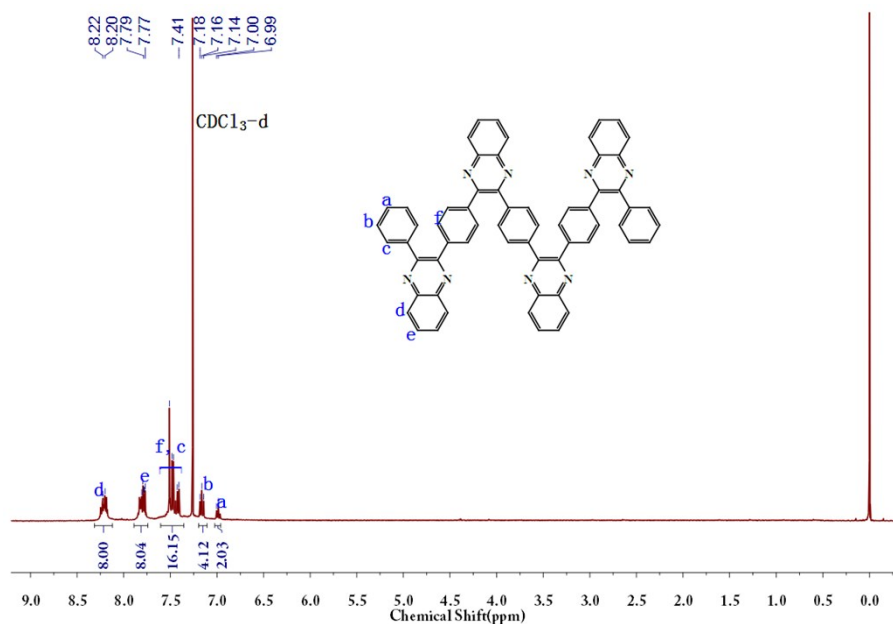
1,2-phenylenediamine (1.77 g, 16.4 mmol) and **8a** (2.50 g, 4.1 mmol) were added in a flask (250 mL) equipped with a reflux condenser, followed by the addition of acetic acid (140 mL). The mixture was stirred at 100°C for 12h until the complete consumption of starting materials as judged by TLC. After cooling, the resultant precipitate was collected by filtration. The crude product was washed with  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$ . After being dried, the product was obtained (3.34 g, 91%).

MS (MALDI-TOF):  $m/z$  (%): 896.48 (100).

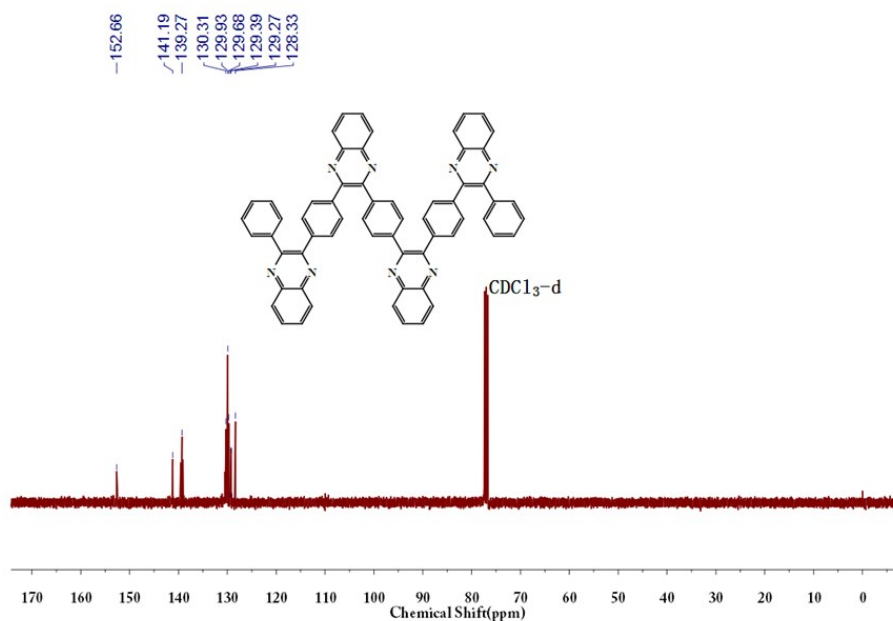
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 8.22-8.20 (m, 8H), 7.79-7.77 (m, 8H), 7.41 (br, 16H), 7.16 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 4H), 6.99 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 152.66, 141.19, 139.27, 130.31, 129.93, 129.68, 129.39, 129.27, 128.33.



**Fig. S35** The MALDI-TOF spectrum of **12a**.



**Fig. S36** The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **12a**.



**Fig. S37** The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **12a**.

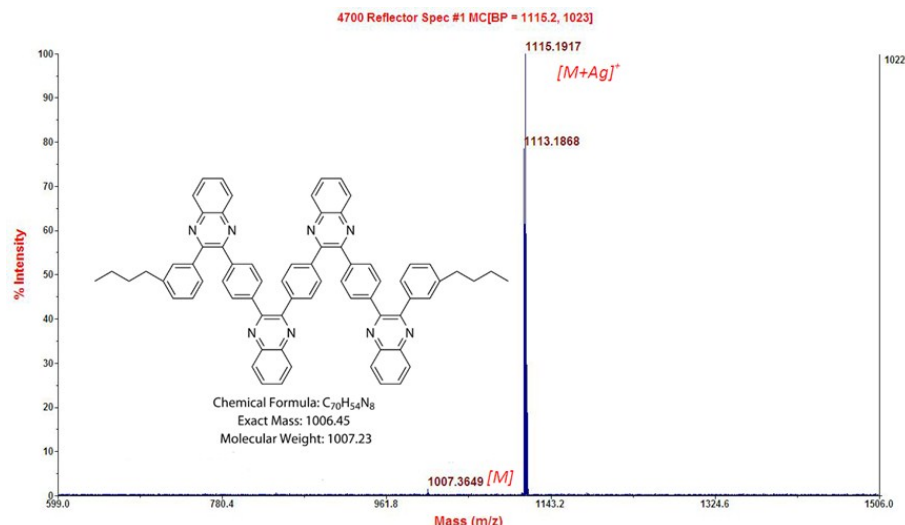
*1,4-bis(3-(4-(3-(4-butylphenyl)quinoxalin-2-yl)phenyl)quinoxalin-2-yl)benzene (12b)*

1,2-phenylenediamine (1.50 g, 13.9 mmol) and **8b** (2.50 g, 3.5 mmol) were added in a flask (250 mL) equipped with a reflux condenser, followed by the addition of acetic acid (140 mL). The mixture was stirred at 100°C for 12h until the complete consumption of starting materials as judged by TLC. After cooling, the resultant precipitate was collected by filtration. The crude product was washed with  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$ . After being dried, the product was obtained (3.59 g, 92%).

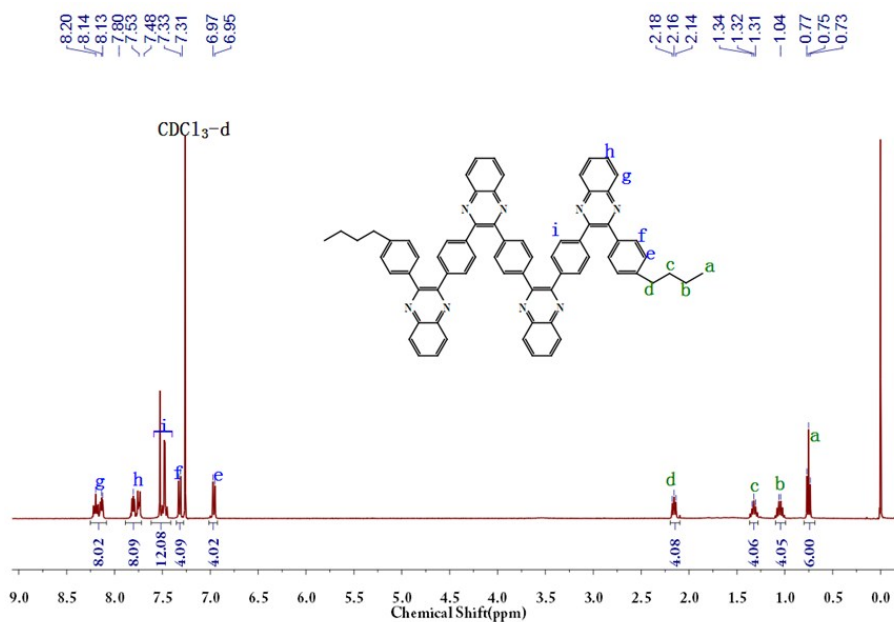
MS (MALDI-TOF):  $m/z$  (%): 1115.19 (100)  $[\text{M}+\text{Ag}]^+$ .

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 8.20-8.13 (m, 8H), 7.80 (m, 8H), 7.53-7.48 (m, 12H), 7.32 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 4H), 6.96 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 4H), 2.16 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 4H), 1.34-1.31 (m, 4H), 1.04 (m,

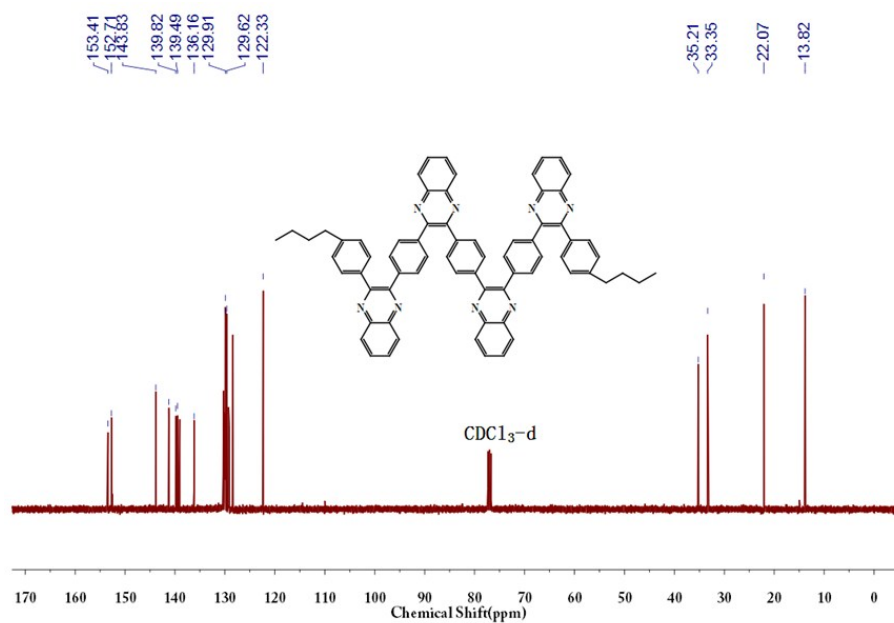
4H), 0.75 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 153.41, 152.71, 143.83, 139.82, 139.49, 136.16, 129.91, 129.62, 122.33, 35.21, 33.35, 22.07, 13.82.



**Fig. S38** The MALDI-TOF spectrum of **12b**.

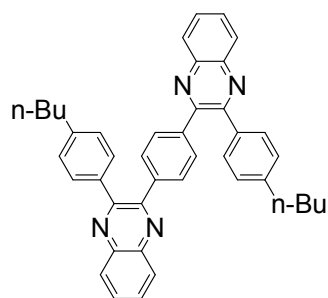


**Fig. S39** The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **12b**.

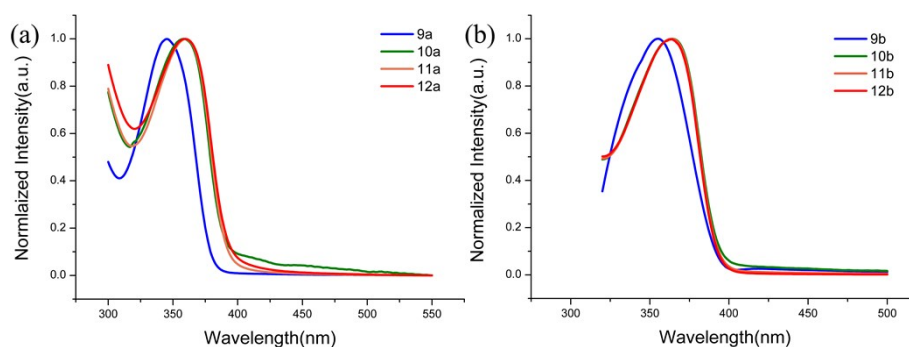


**Fig. S40** The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **12b**.

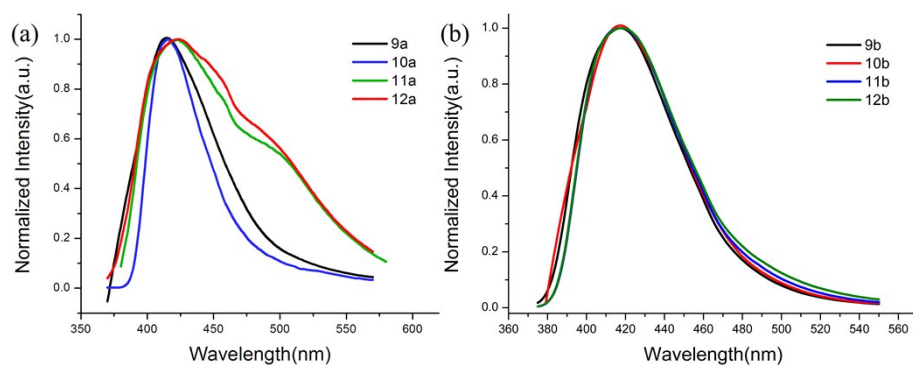
**Table S1.** Crystal data and reflection collection parameters for the molecules **10b**



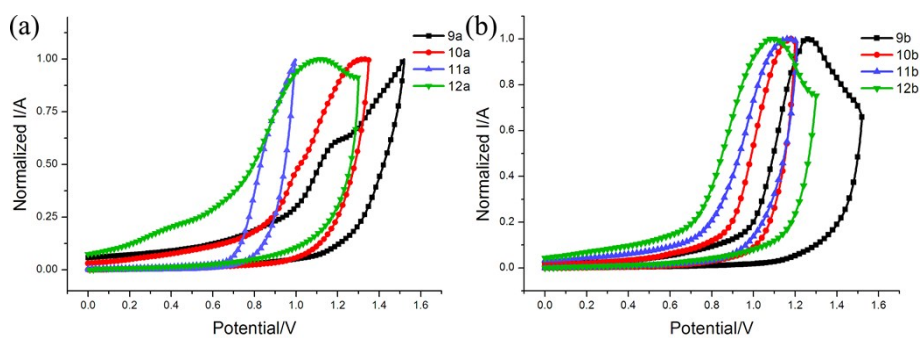
Empirical formula	C <sub>42</sub> H <sub>38</sub> N <sub>4</sub>
Formula weight	598.78
Crystal size, mm	0.26 x 0.21 x 0.19
Crystal system	Monoclinic, P2(1)/n
space group	P2(1)/n
a, Å	5.981(4)
b, Å	14.384(4)
c, Å	19.951(3)
a, deg	90
β, deg	92.31(3)
γ, deg	90
V, Å <sup>3</sup>	1714.9(12)
Z	2
Calculated density, Mg/m <sup>3</sup>	1.160
F(000)	636.0
Temperature, K	296(2)
Wavelength, Å	0.71073
μ(Mo Ka), mm <sup>-1</sup>	0.068
2θ <sub>max</sub> , deg (Completeness )	50.00(99.7 %)
no. of collected reflections	8379
no. of unique ref.(R <sub>int</sub> )	3006(0.0515)
Data/restraints/parameters	3006 / 20 / 209
R <sub>1</sub> , wR <sub>2</sub> [obs I>2σ (I)]	0.0621, 0.1459
R <sub>1</sub> , wR <sub>2</sub> (all data)	0.1107, 0.1596
residual peak/hole, e. Å <sup>-3</sup>	0.404/-0.272
transmission ratio	0.9872/0.9825
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.085



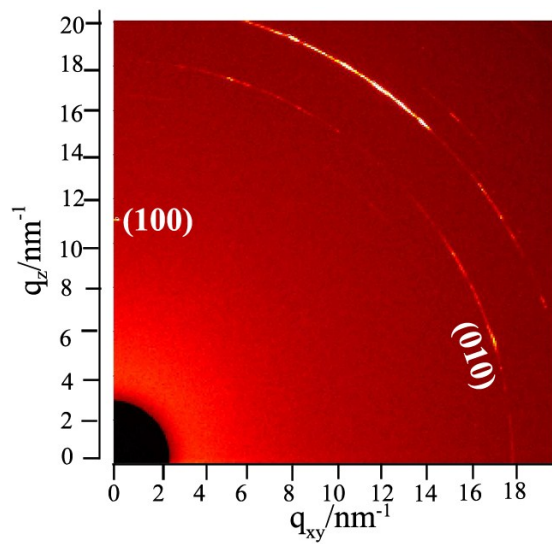
**Fig. S41** The normalized UV spectra of compounds (a) **9a-12a** and (b) **9b-12b** in CHCl<sub>3</sub> solutions.



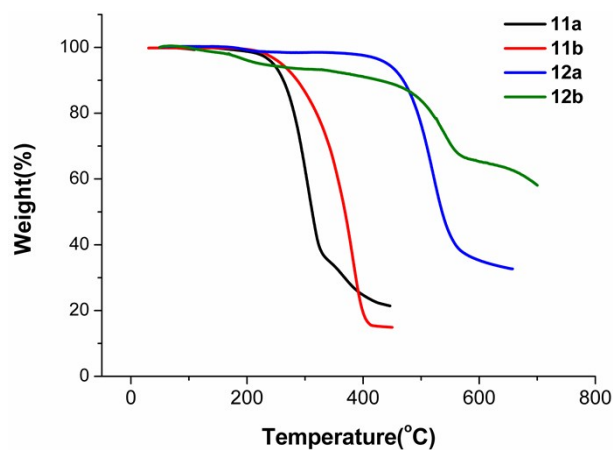
**Fig. S42** The normalized PL spectra of compounds (a) **9a-12a** and (b) **9b-12b** in  $\text{CHCl}_3$  solutions.



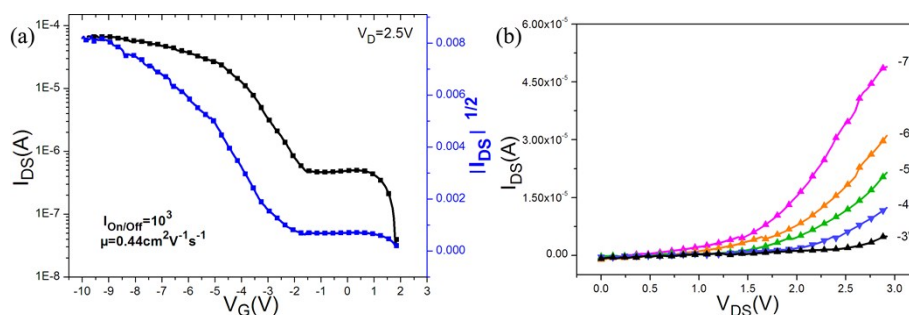
**Fig. S43** The CV curves of compounds (a) **9a-12a** and (b) **9b-12b**.



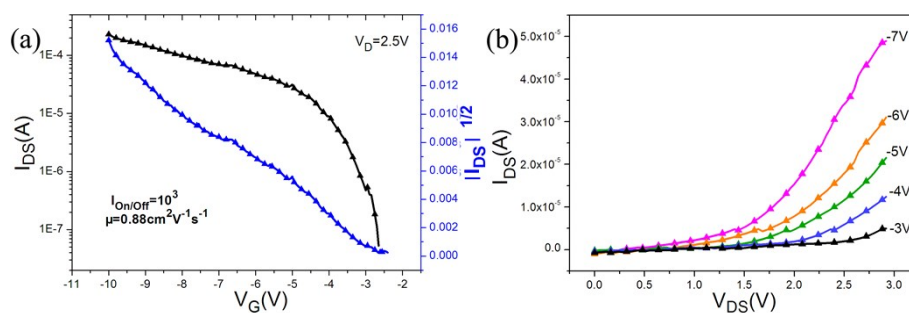
**Fig. S44** The 2D-GIXRD pattern of **11a**.



**Fig. S45** The TGA spectra of **11a-12a** and **11b-12b**.



**Fig. S46** (a) Transfer and (b) output characteristics of ion gel gated **11b** devices at a drain source voltage ( $V_{DS}$ ) = 2.5V.



**Fig. S47** (a) Transfer and (b) output characteristics of ion gel gated **12b** devices at a drain source voltage ( $V_{DS}$ ) = 2.5V.

Reference:

1. Yang, J.; Chen, M.; Ma, J.; Huang, W.; Zhu, H.; Huang, Y.; Wang, W. *J. Mater. Chem. C* **2015**, *3*, 10074.