

## One-step rapid synthesis of $\pi$ -conjugated large oligomers *via* C–H activation coupling

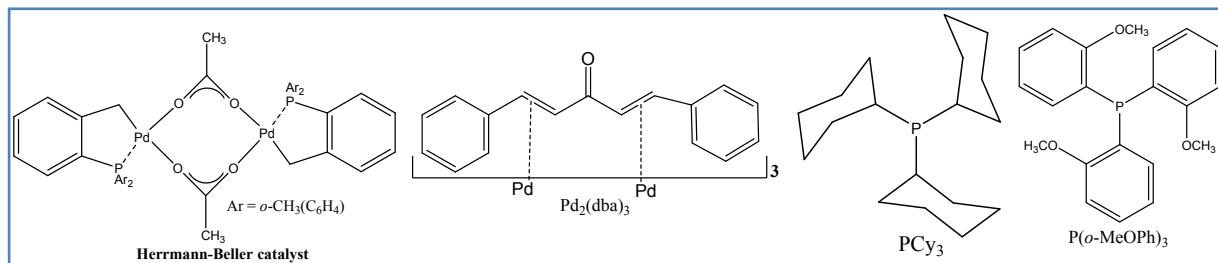
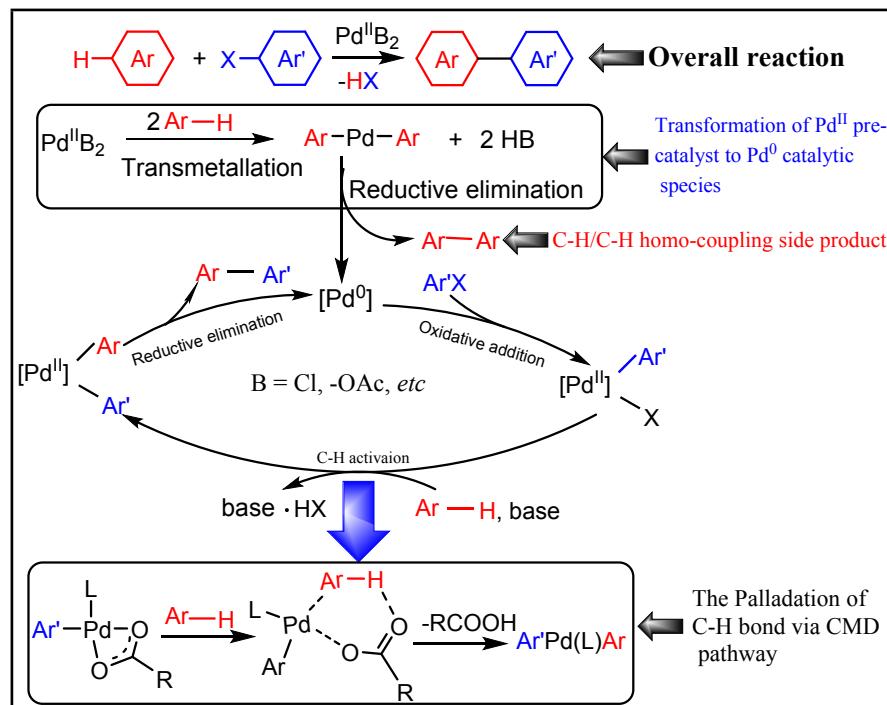
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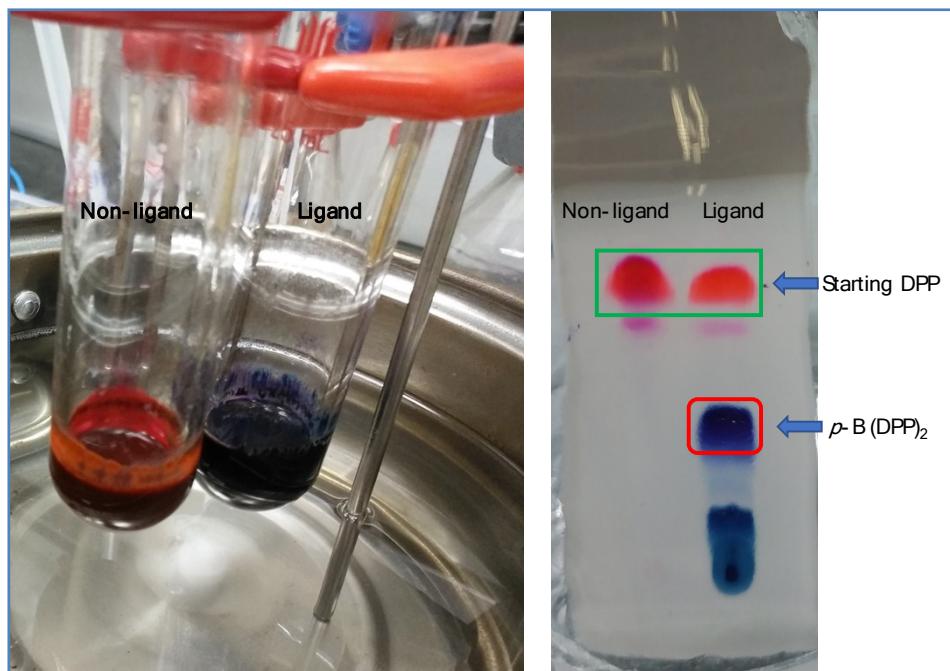
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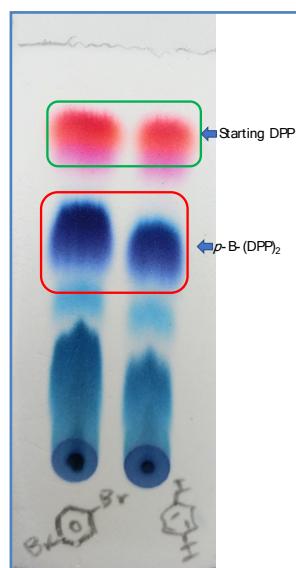
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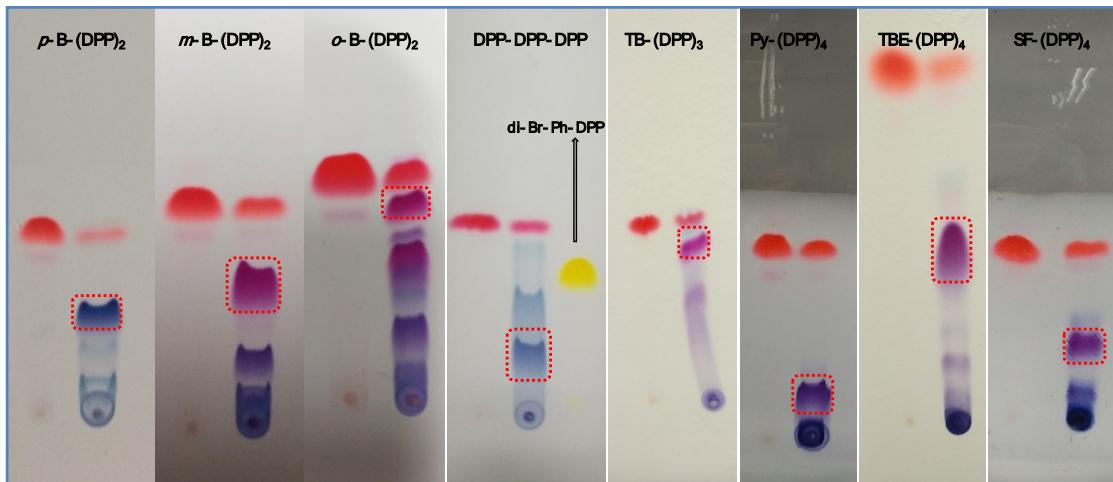
**Fig. S1** The molecular structures of Herrmann-Beller catalyst,  $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3$ ,  $\text{PCy}_3$  and  $\text{P}(\text{o-MeOPh})_3$ .**Scheme S1** The Pd-catalyzed DA reaction, the reduction of  $\text{Pd}^{\text{II}}$  pre-catalyst to  $\text{Pd}^0$  catalytic species, the catalytic cycle of the DA coupling, and the palladation of C-H bond.



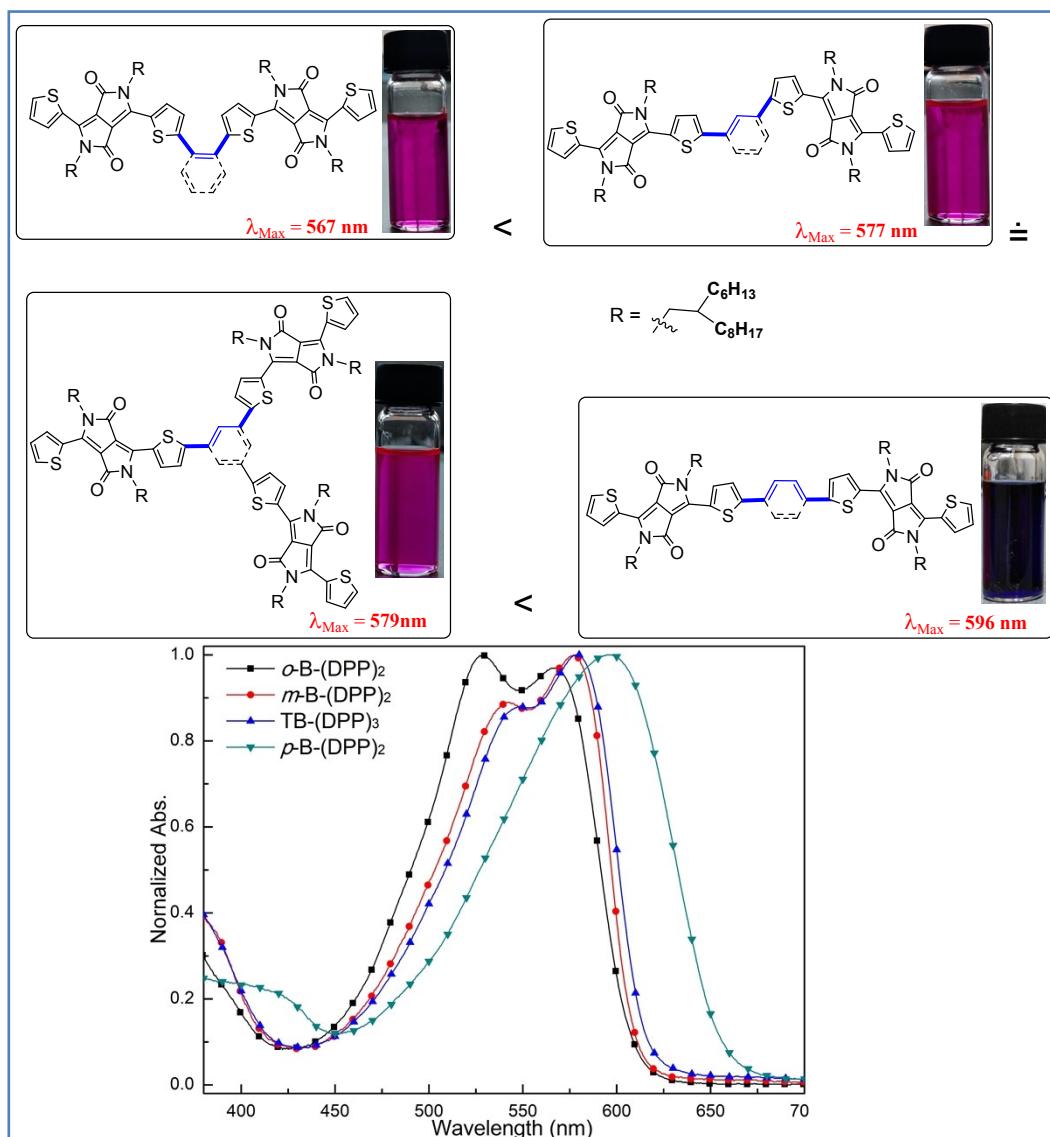
**Fig. S2** The reaction between DPP and *p*-dibromobenzene with and without ligand  $P(o\text{-MeOPh})_3$  using toluene as reaction medium (entries 10 and 11 in Table 1). Digital photos of (a) The reaction mixtures after reacting for 12 h and cooling to room temperature. (b) The TLC analysis of both reaction mixtures, using  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  : hexane (2:1, v/v) as eluent, and the spots marked with green and red frame are the reactant DPP and target product  $p\text{-B(DPP)}_2$ , respectively.



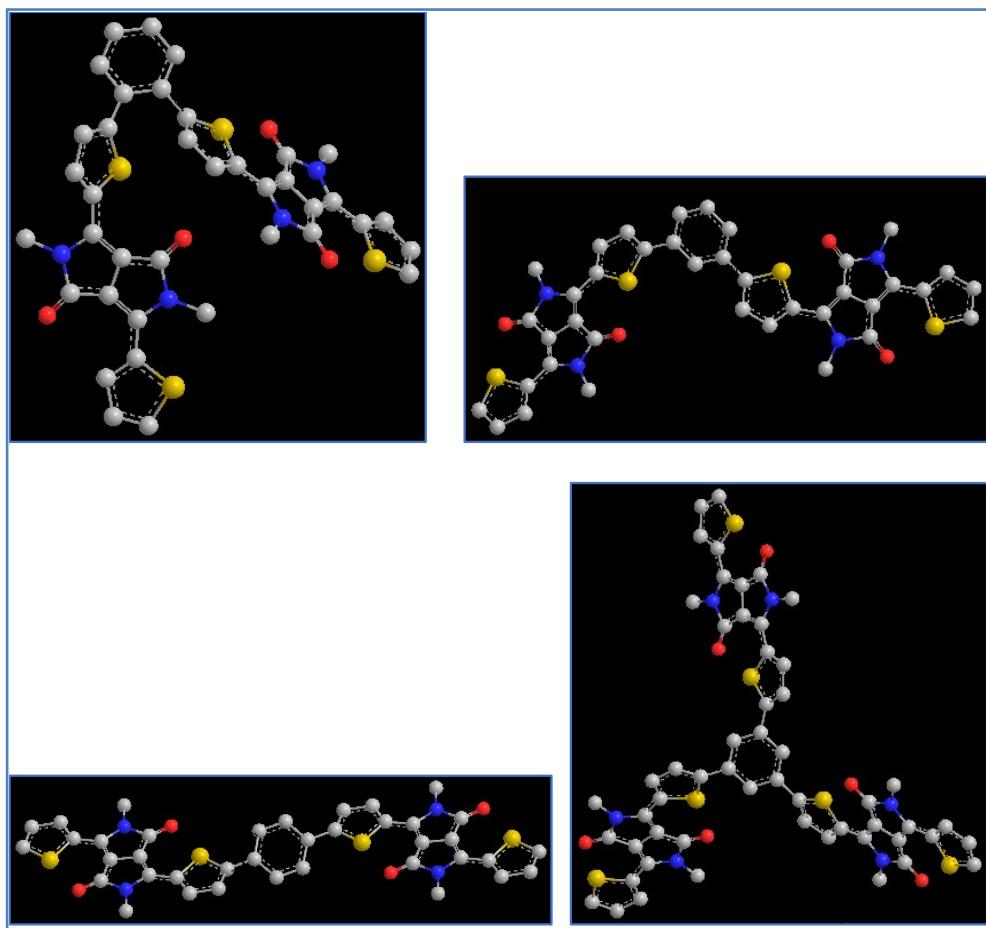
**Fig. S3** The TLC analysis of the reactions between DPP and *p*-dibromobenzene (left) or *p*-diiodobenzene (right). (see Entries 12 and 13 in Table 1). The spots marked with green and red frame are the reactant DPP and target product  $p\text{-B(DPP)}_2$ , respectively.



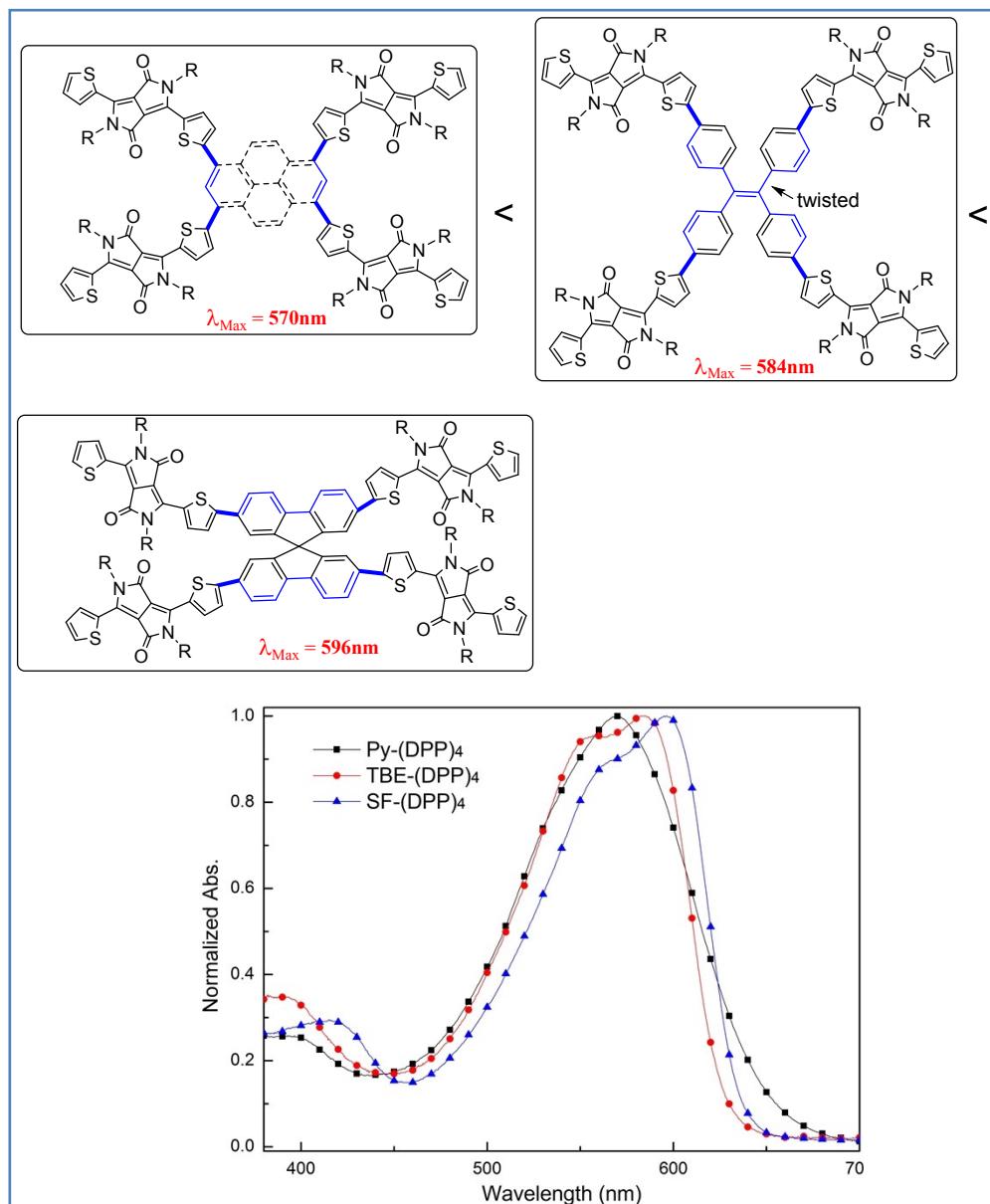
**Fig. S4** Digital photos of TLC analysis of the synthetic reactions for the eight oligomers. From left to right are respectively *p*-B-(DPP)<sub>2</sub>, *m*-B-(DPP)<sub>2</sub>, *o*-B-(DPP)<sub>2</sub>, DPP-DPP-DPP, TB-(DPP)<sub>3</sub>, Py-(DPP)<sub>4</sub>, TBE-(DPP)<sub>4</sub> and SF-(DPP)<sub>4</sub>. For all the TLC plates, the spots on the left are the starting DPP, and the spots marked with red dotted frames are the target oligomers.



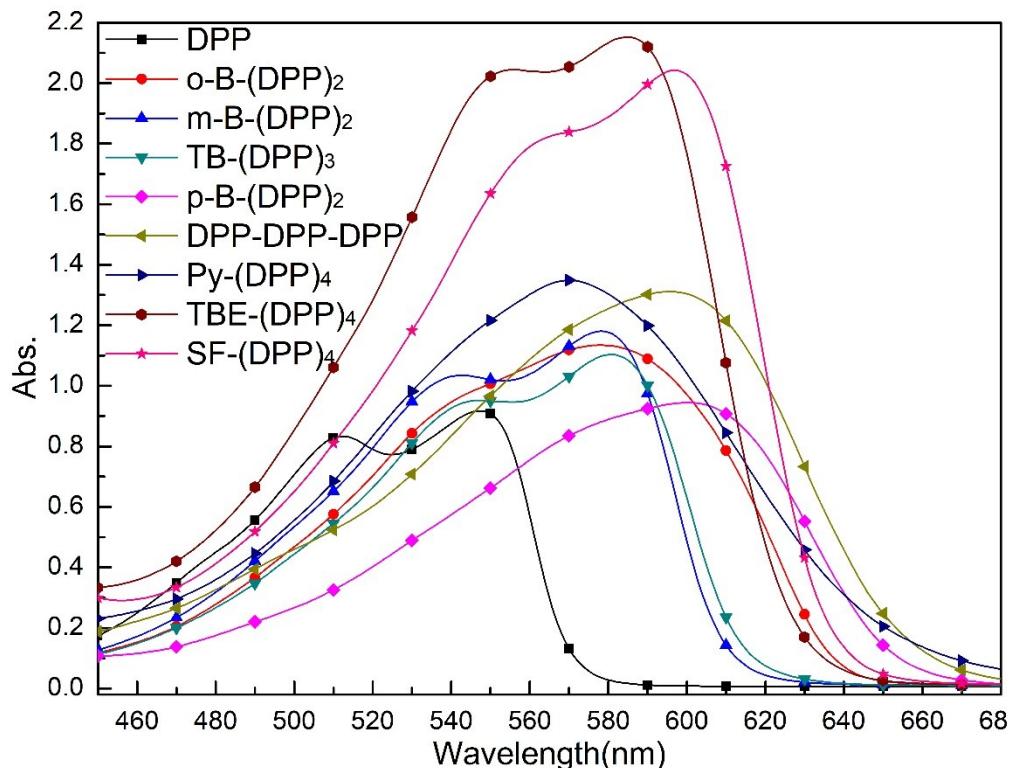
**Fig. S5** The shortest pathways of  $\pi$ -electron delocalization (marked with blue color) of the phenyl-cored DPP-based oligomers ***o***-B-(DPP)<sub>2</sub>, ***m***-B-(DPP)<sub>2</sub>, ***p***-B-(DPP)<sub>2</sub> and TB-(DPP)<sub>3</sub>, and the corresponding normalized Uv-vis spectra (below).



**Fig. S6** DFT optimized geometries of phenyl-cored DPP-based oligomers, *o*-B-(DPP)<sub>2</sub>, *m*-B-(DPP)<sub>2</sub>, *p*-B-(DPP)<sub>2</sub> and TB-(DPP)<sub>3</sub> (the alkyl chains replaced by methyl groups).



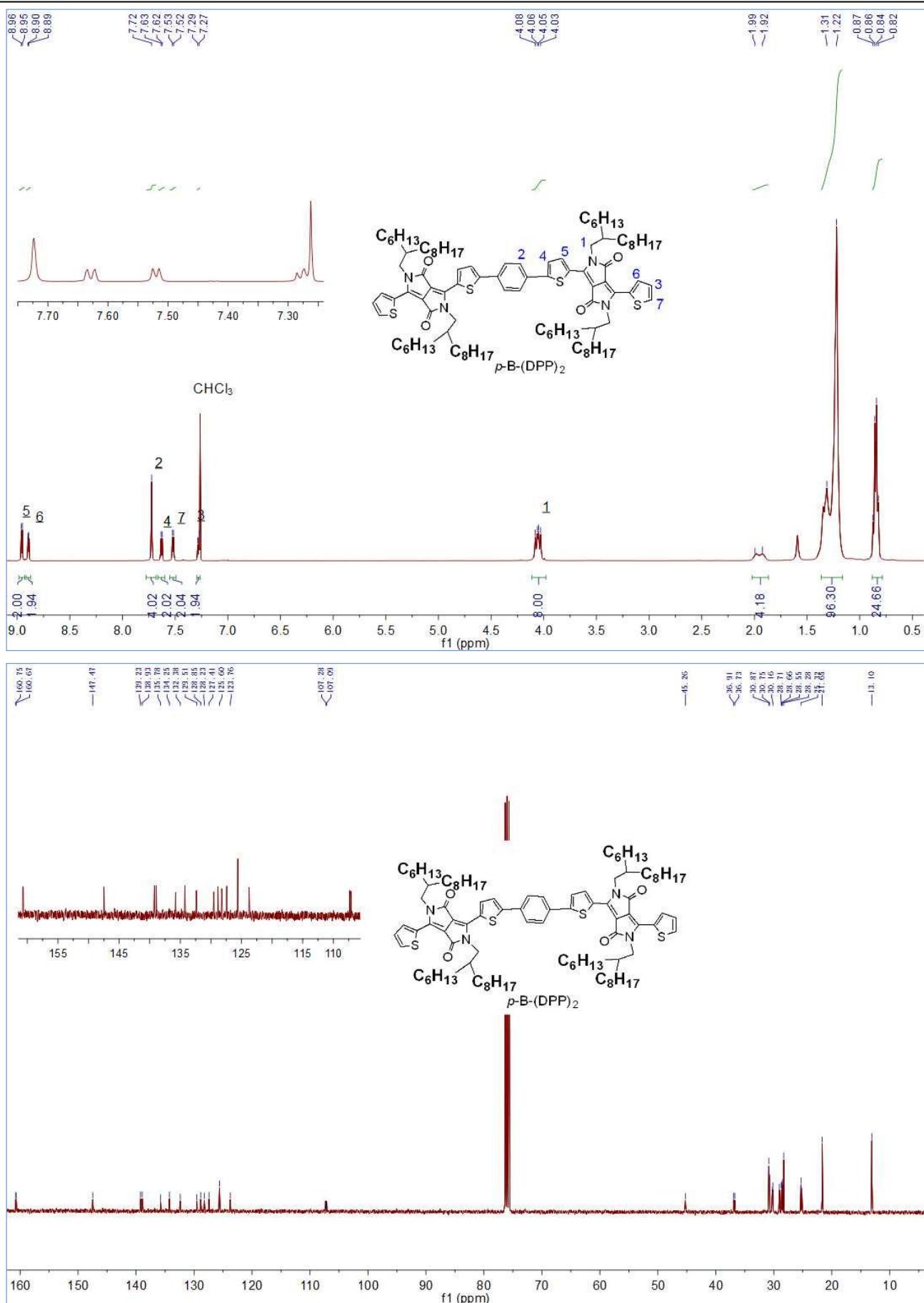
**Fig. S7** The shortest pathways of  $\pi$ -electron delocalization (marked with blue color) of the **Py-**, **TBE-** and **SF-(DPP)<sub>4</sub>** oligomers, and the corresponding normalized Uv-vis spectra (below).

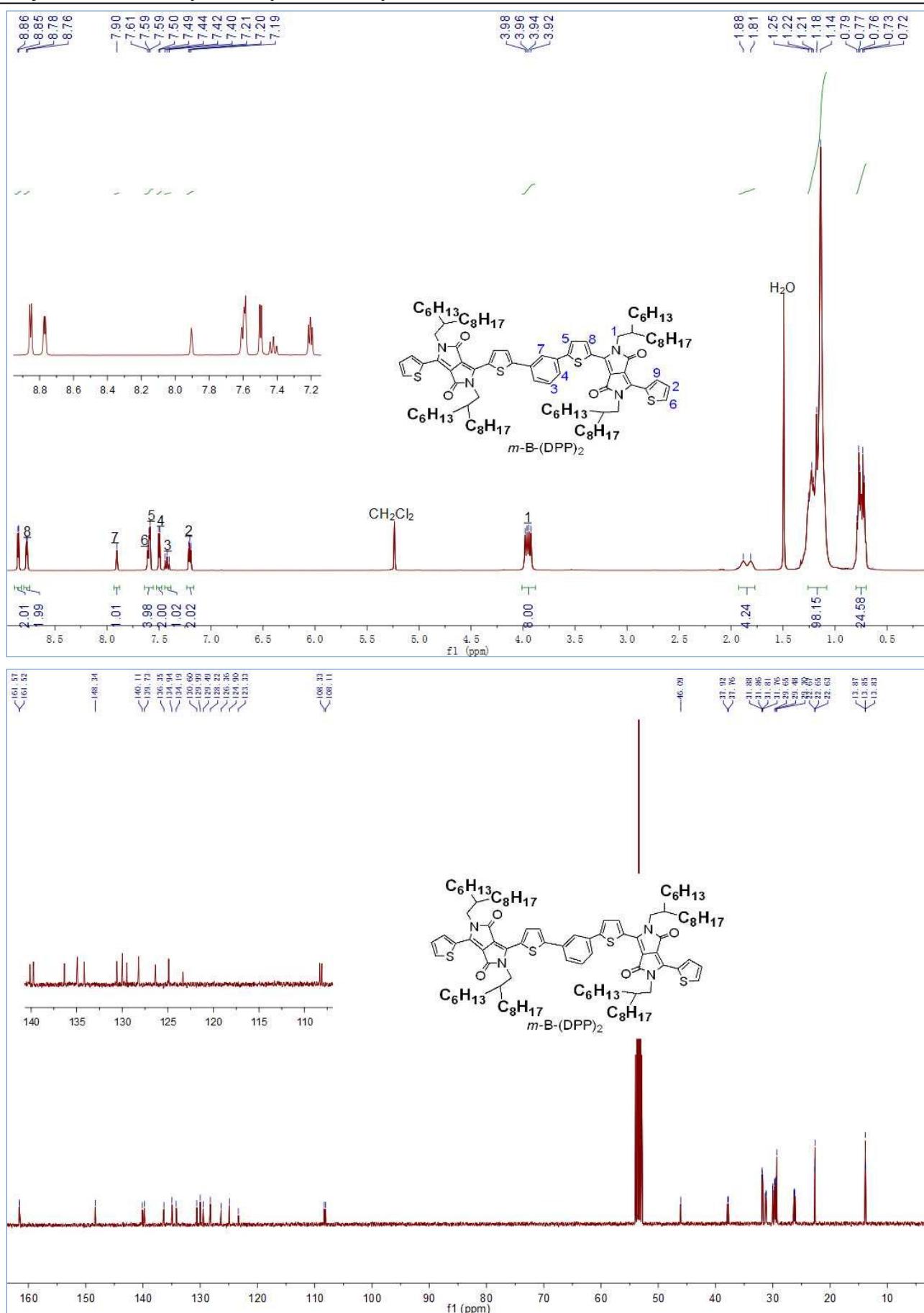


**Fig. S8** The Uv-vis spectra of the starting DPP, oligomers *o*-B-(DPP)<sub>2</sub>, *m*-B-(DPP)<sub>2</sub>, TB-(DPP)<sub>3</sub>, *p*-B-(DPP)<sub>2</sub>, Py-(DPP)<sub>4</sub>, TBE-(DPP)<sub>4</sub> and SF-(DPP)<sub>4</sub> in CHCl<sub>3</sub> at concentrations of 4.54, 2.54, 2.03, 1.55, 2.16, 1.89, 1.07, 1.69 and  $1.27 \times 10^{-5}$  mol/L.

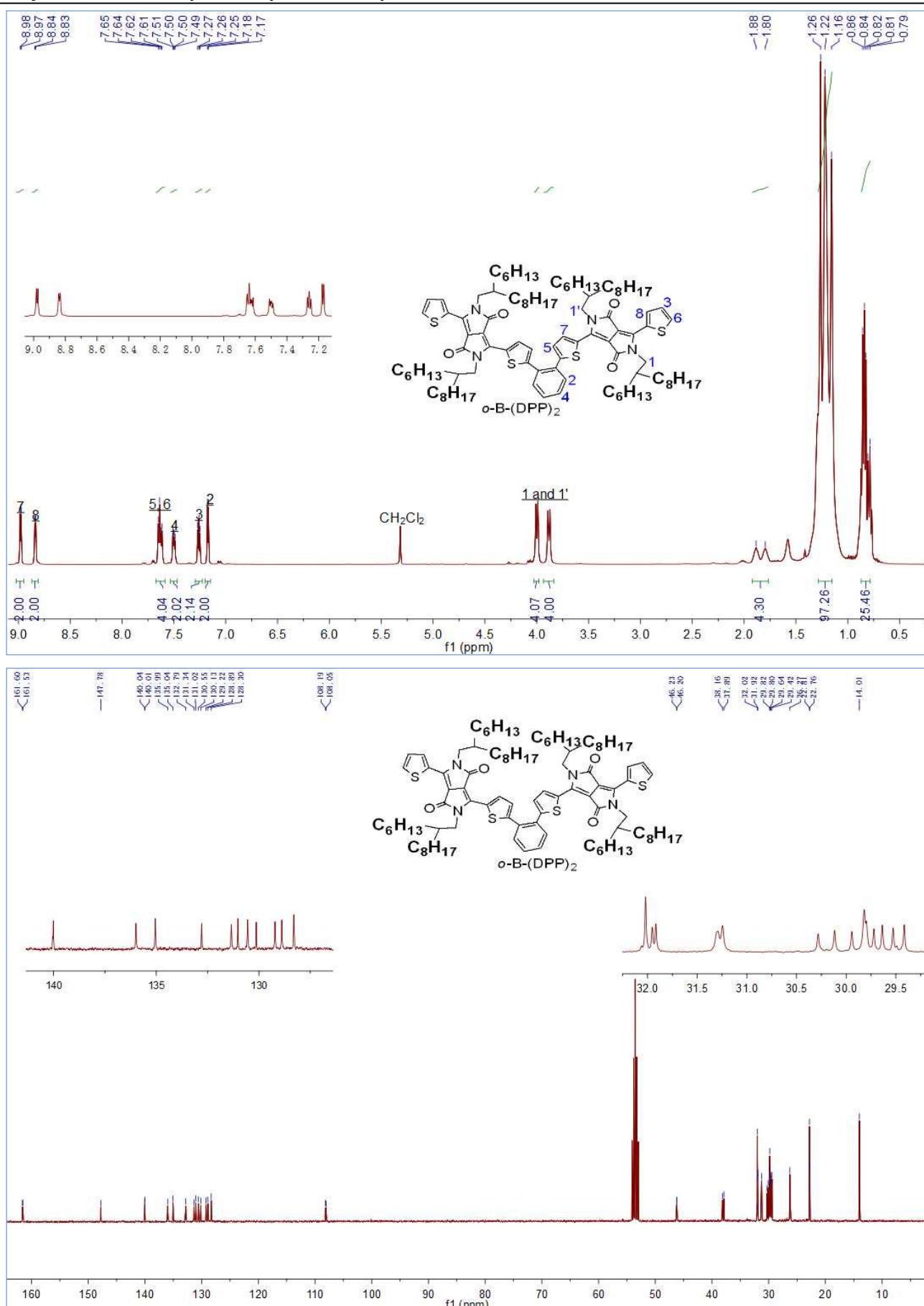
**Table S1** The extinction coefficients of the DPP materials at  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  ( $\times 10^4$  M<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>).

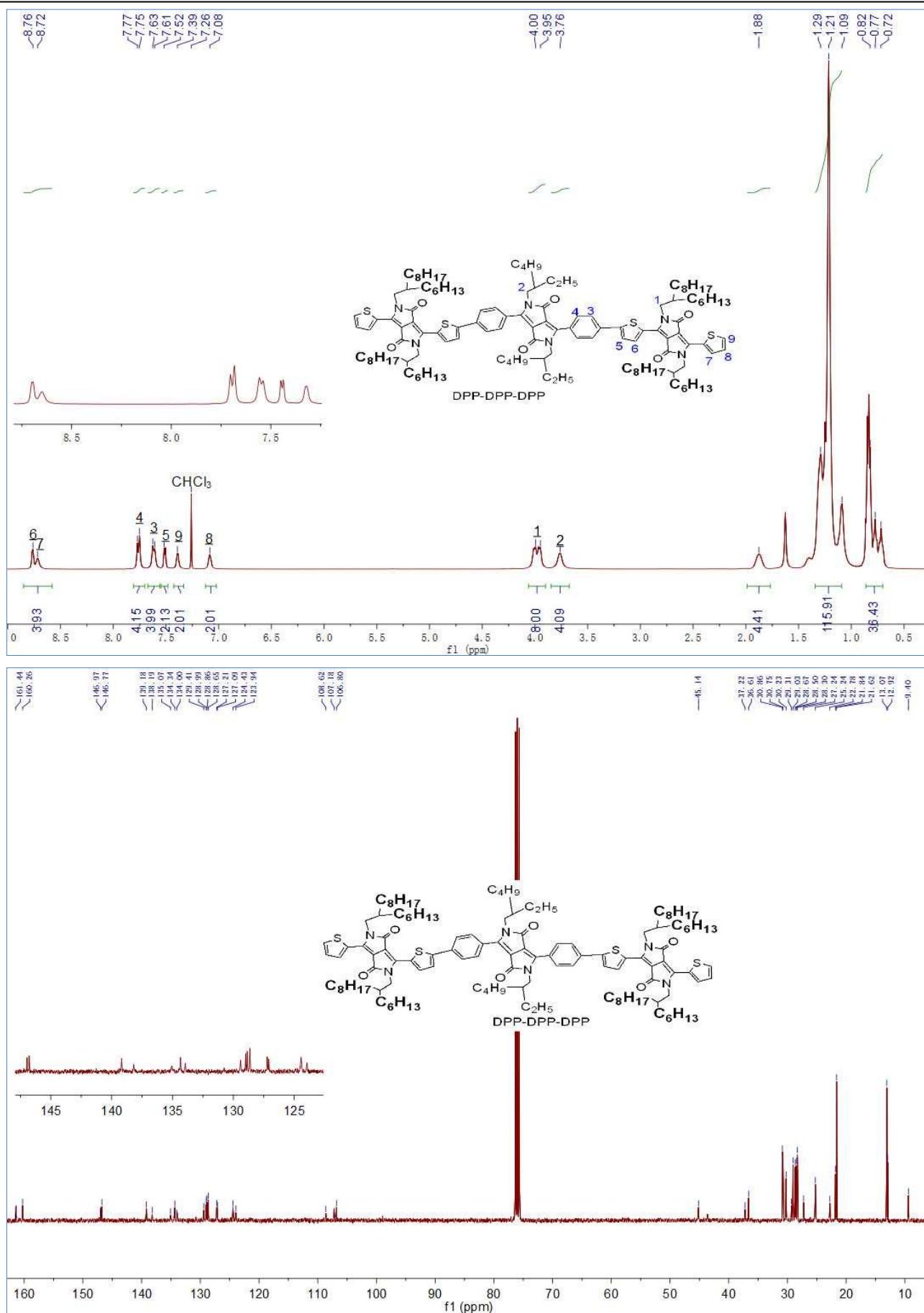
DPP	<i>o</i> -B-(DPP) <sub>2</sub>	<i>m</i> -B-(DPP) <sub>2</sub>	<i>p</i> -B-(DPP) <sub>2</sub>	TB-(DPP) <sub>3</sub>	DPP-DPP-DPP	Py-(DPP) <sub>4</sub>	TBE-(DPP) <sub>4</sub>	SF-(DPP) <sub>4</sub>
2.02	4.47	5.82	4.38	6.94	7.12	12.61	12.74	14.08

**Fig. S8** The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *p*-B-(DPP)<sub>2</sub> in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

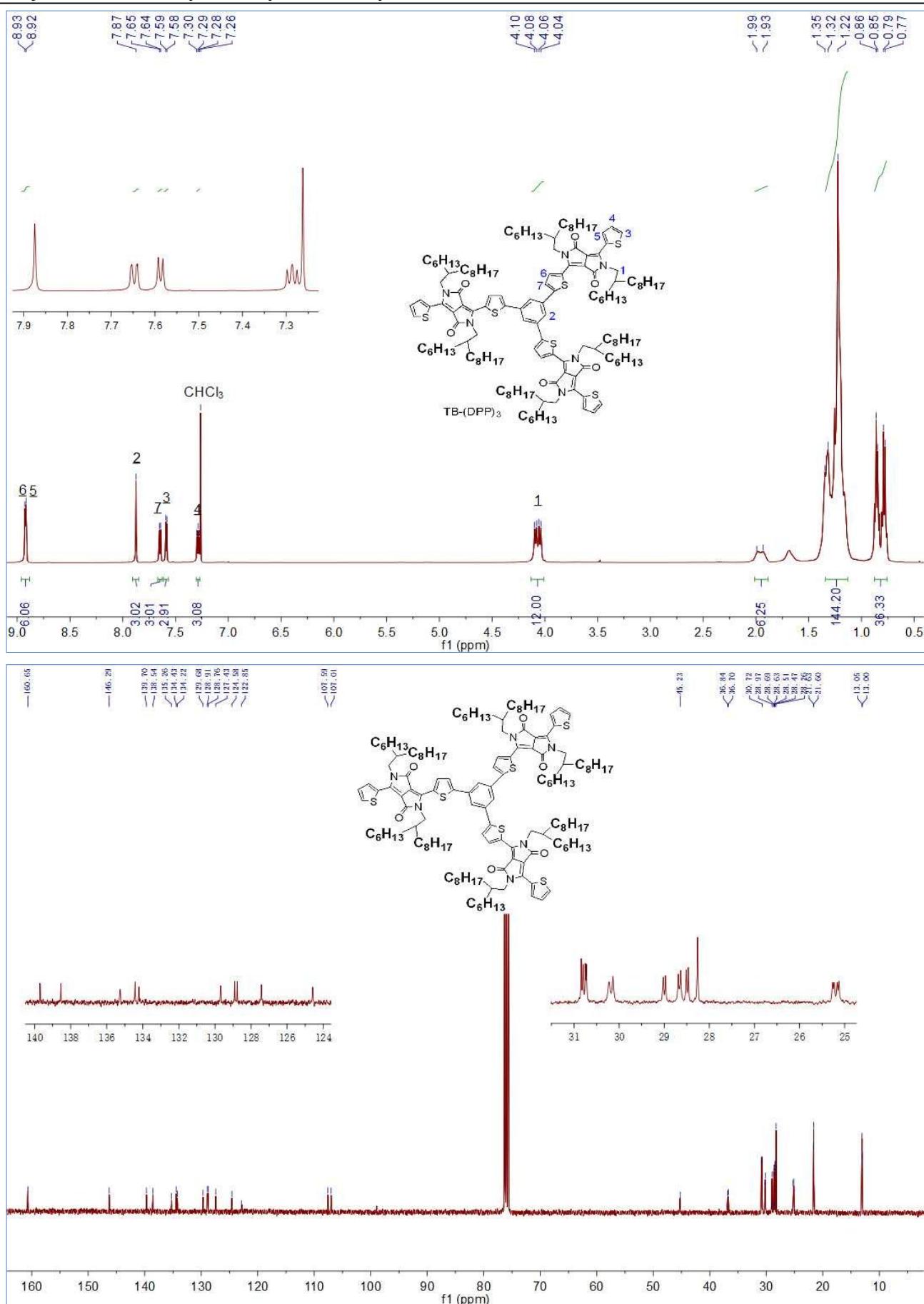


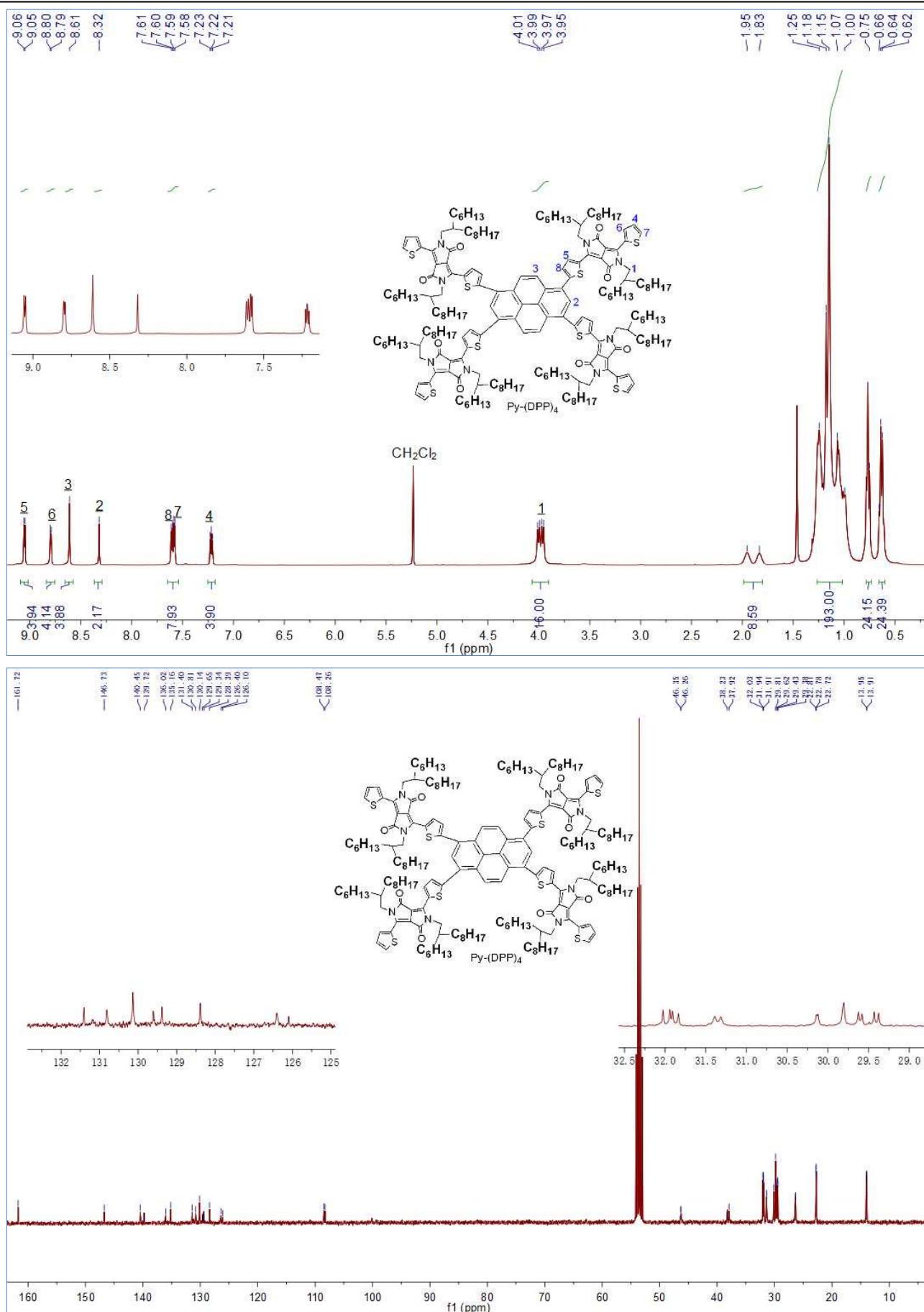
**Fig. S9** The  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of **m-B-(DPP)<sub>2</sub>** in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .

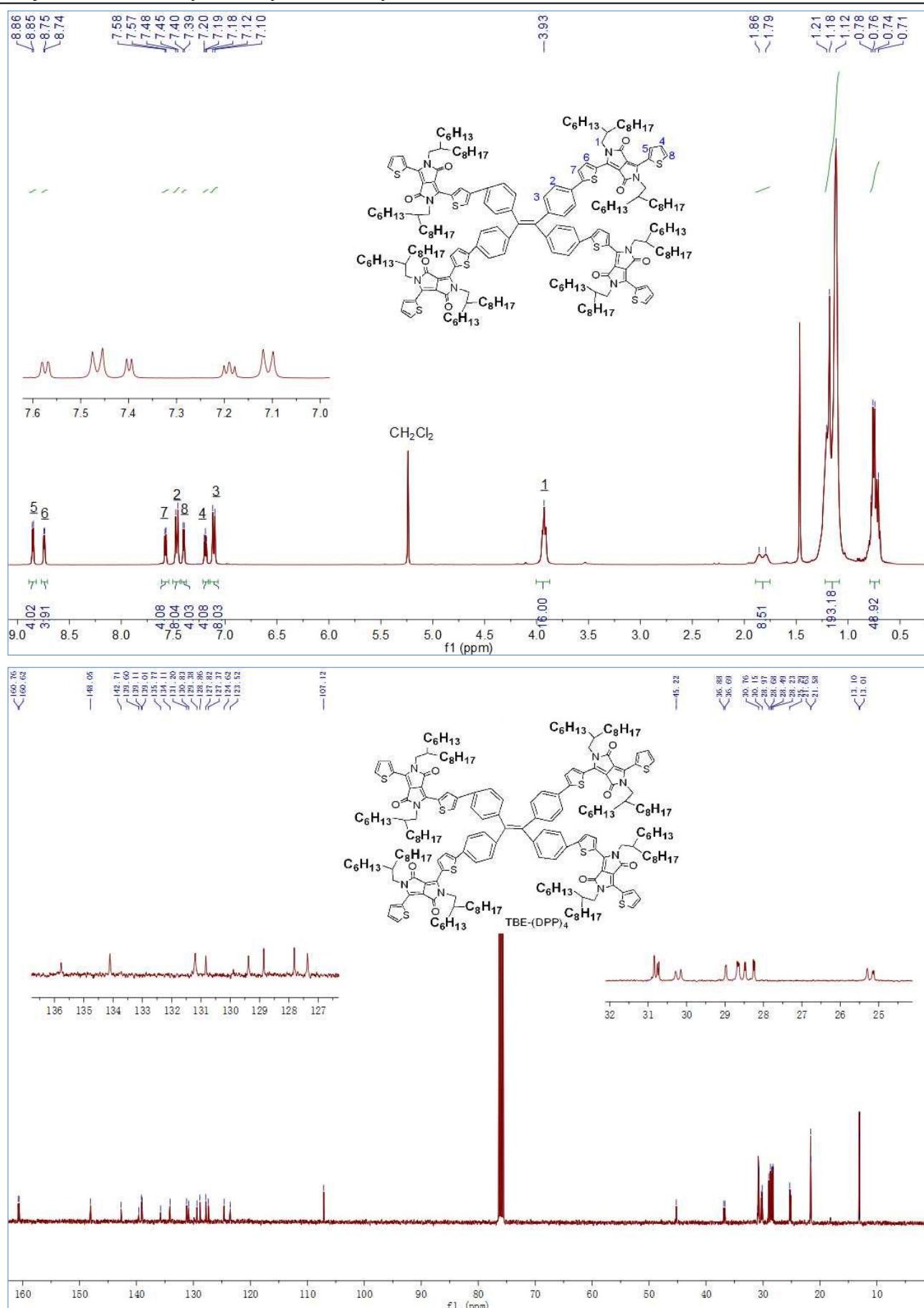
**Fig. S10** The  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of *o*-B-(DPP)<sub>2</sub> in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .

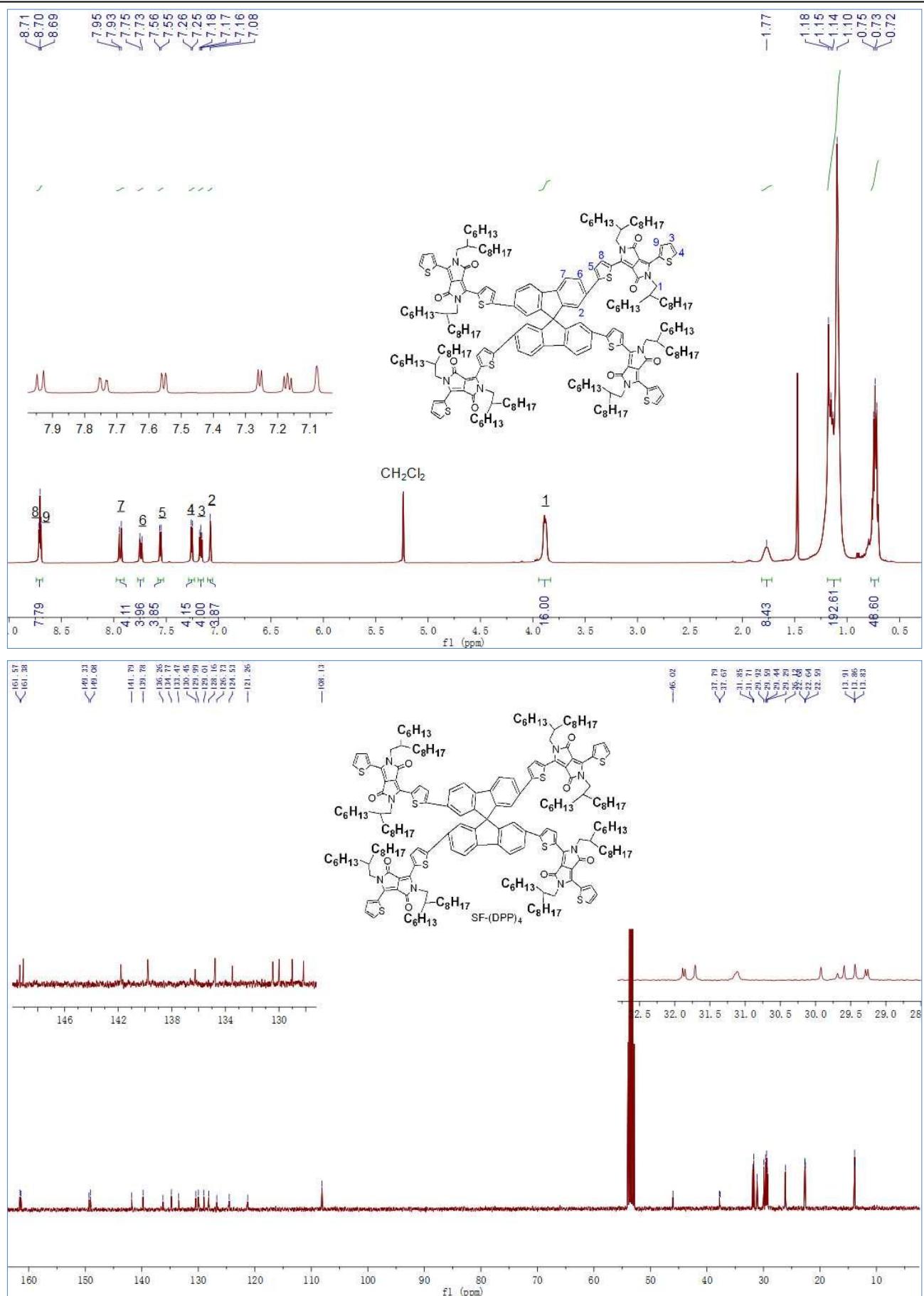


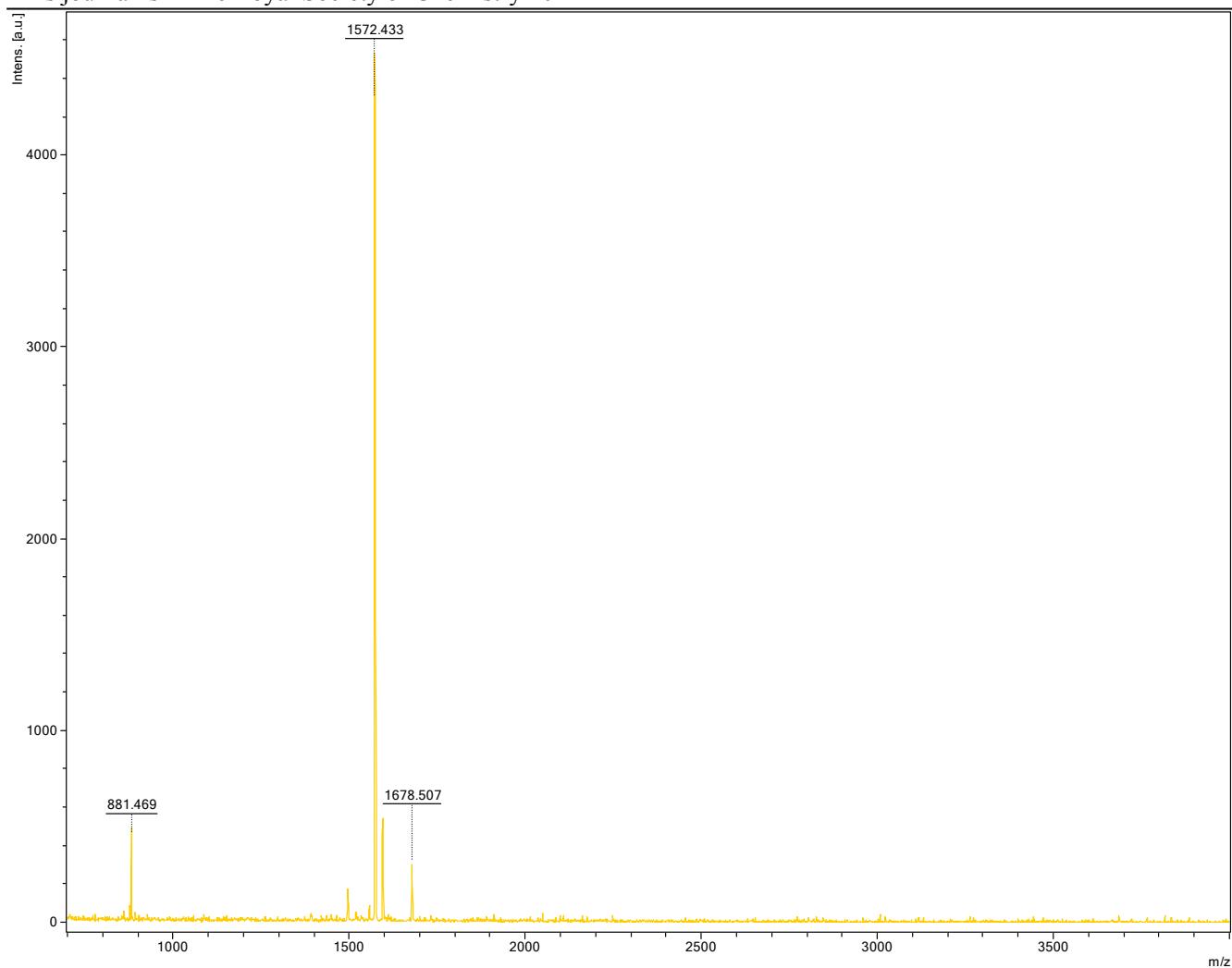
**Fig. S11** The  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of DPP-DPP-DPP in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

**Fig. S12** The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of TB-(DPP)<sub>3</sub> in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

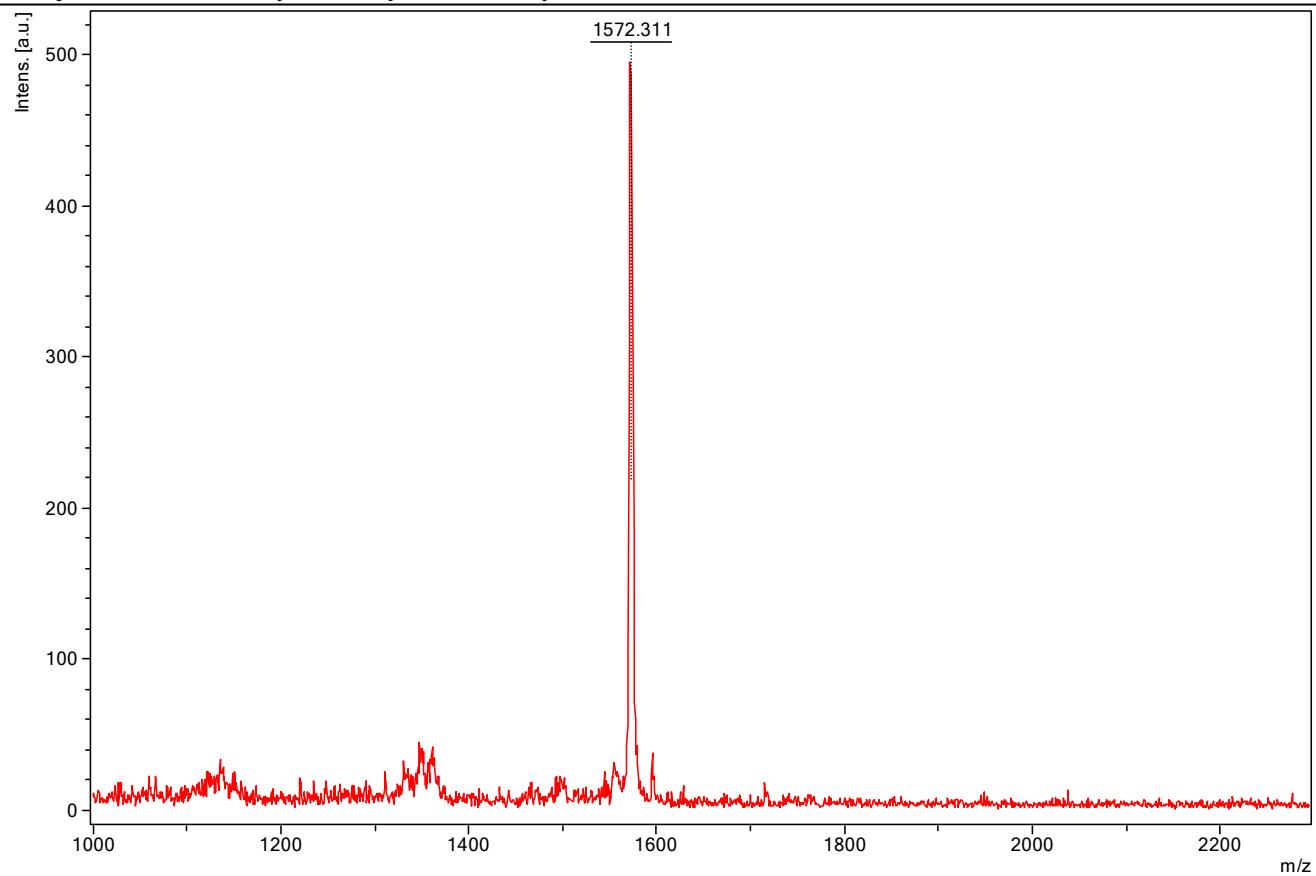
**Fig. S13** The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of Py-(DPP)<sub>4</sub> in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .

**Fig. S14** The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of TBE-(DPP)<sub>4</sub> in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and in CDCl<sub>3</sub>, respectively.

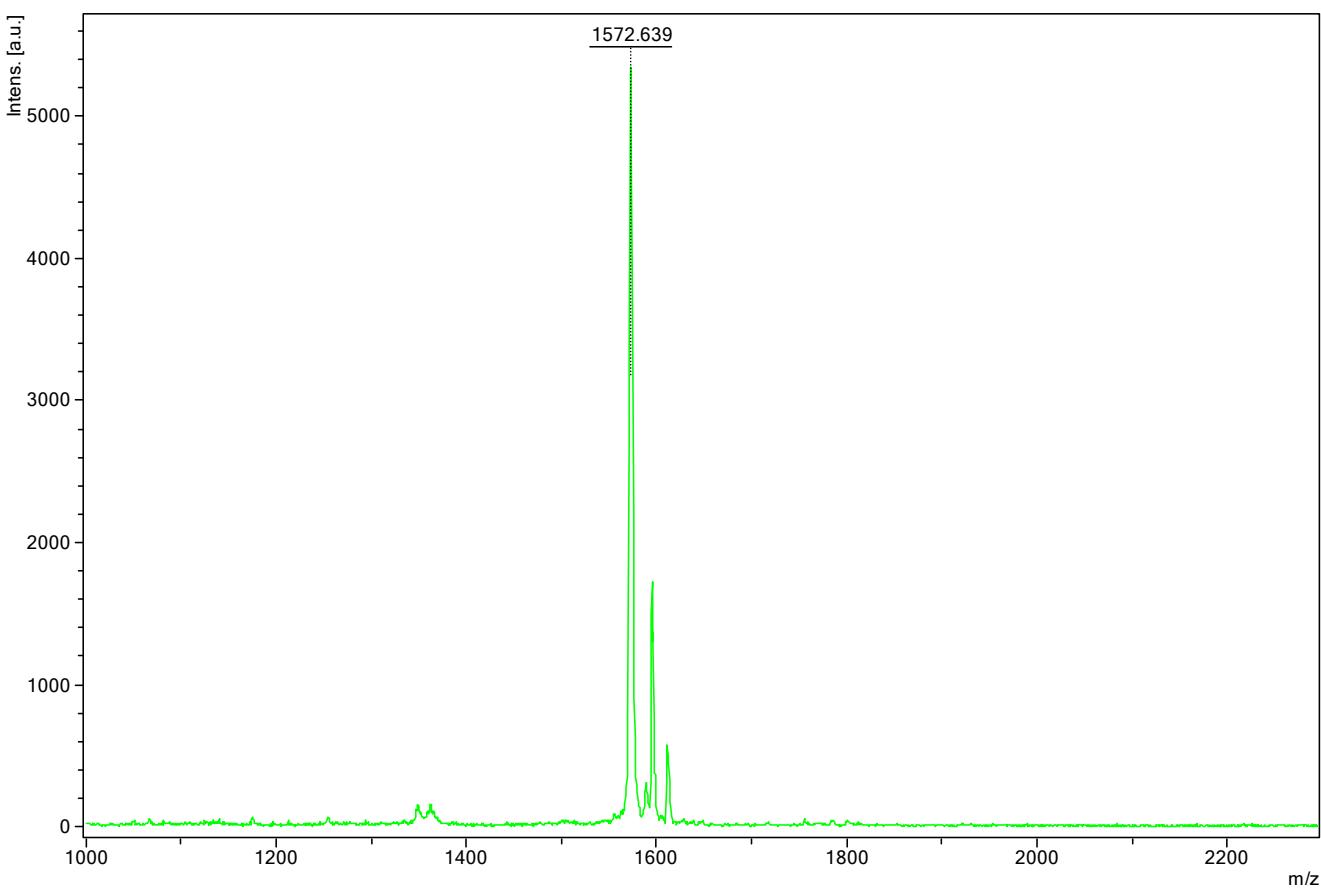
**Fig. S15** The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of SF-(DPP)<sub>4</sub> in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .



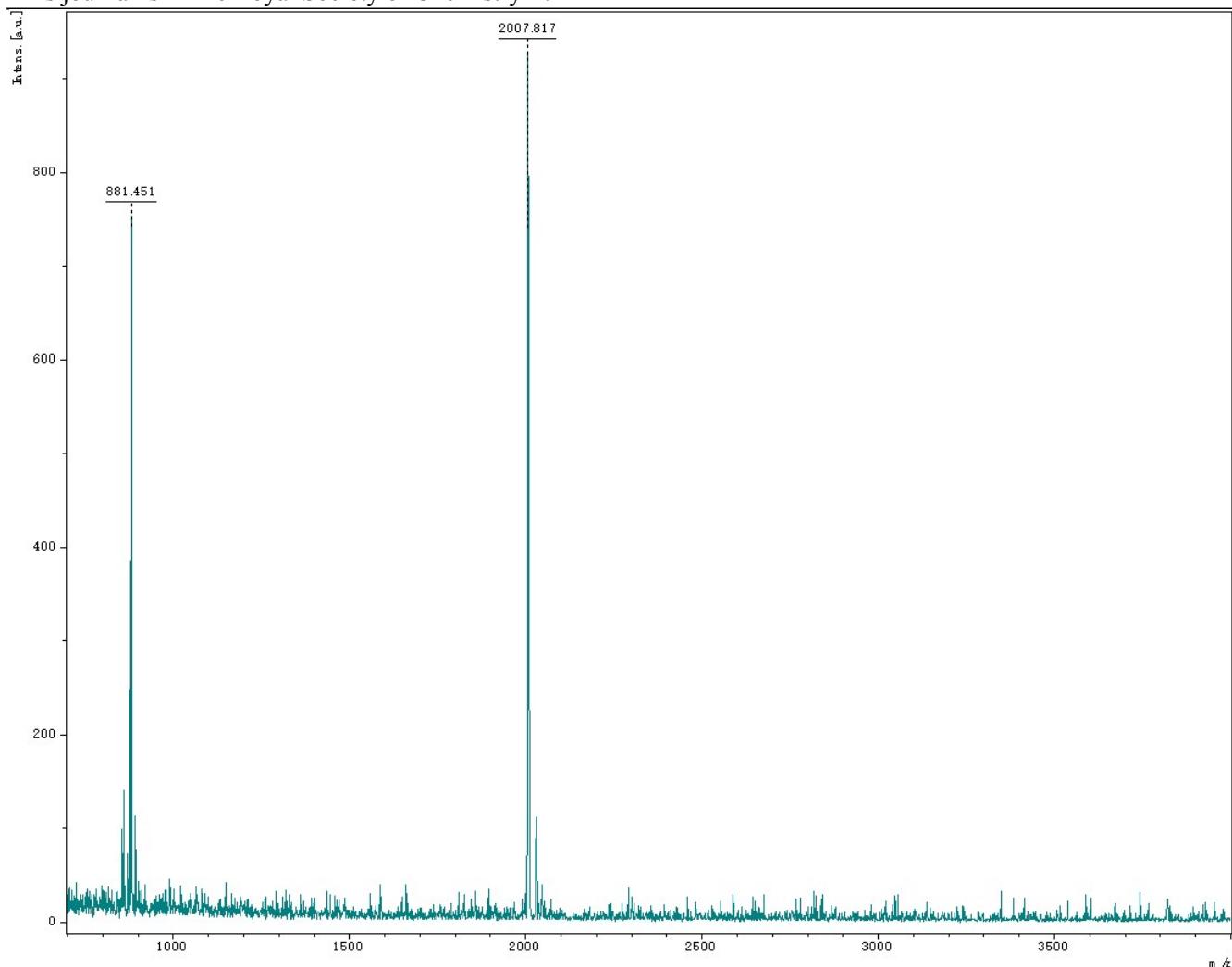
**Fig. S16** The MALDI-TOF MS spectrum of *p*-B-(DPP)<sub>2</sub>, calcd. 1572.51, found 1572.43.



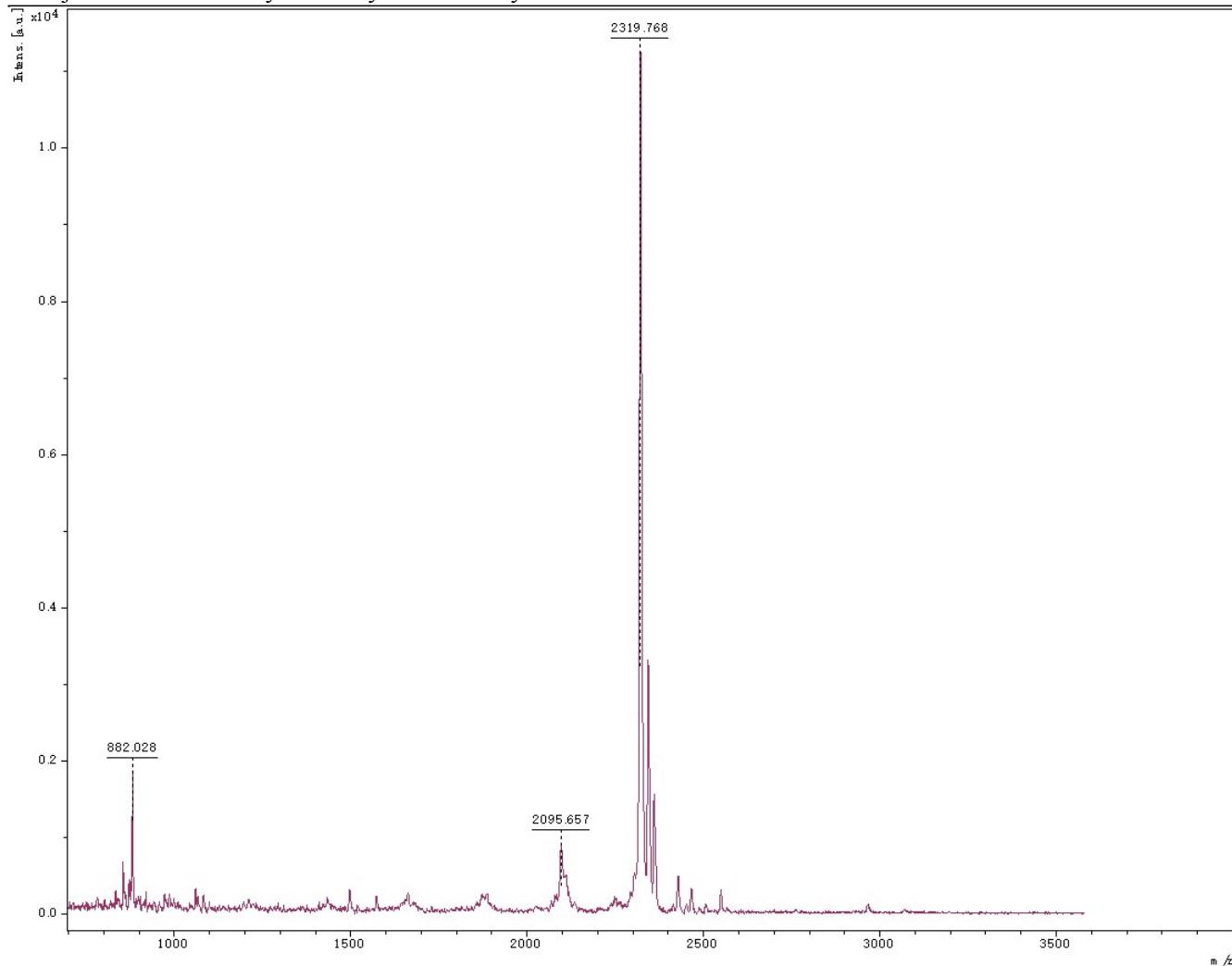
**Fig. S17** The MALDI-TOF MS spectrum of *m*-B-(DPP)<sub>2</sub>, calcd. 1572.51, found 1572.31.



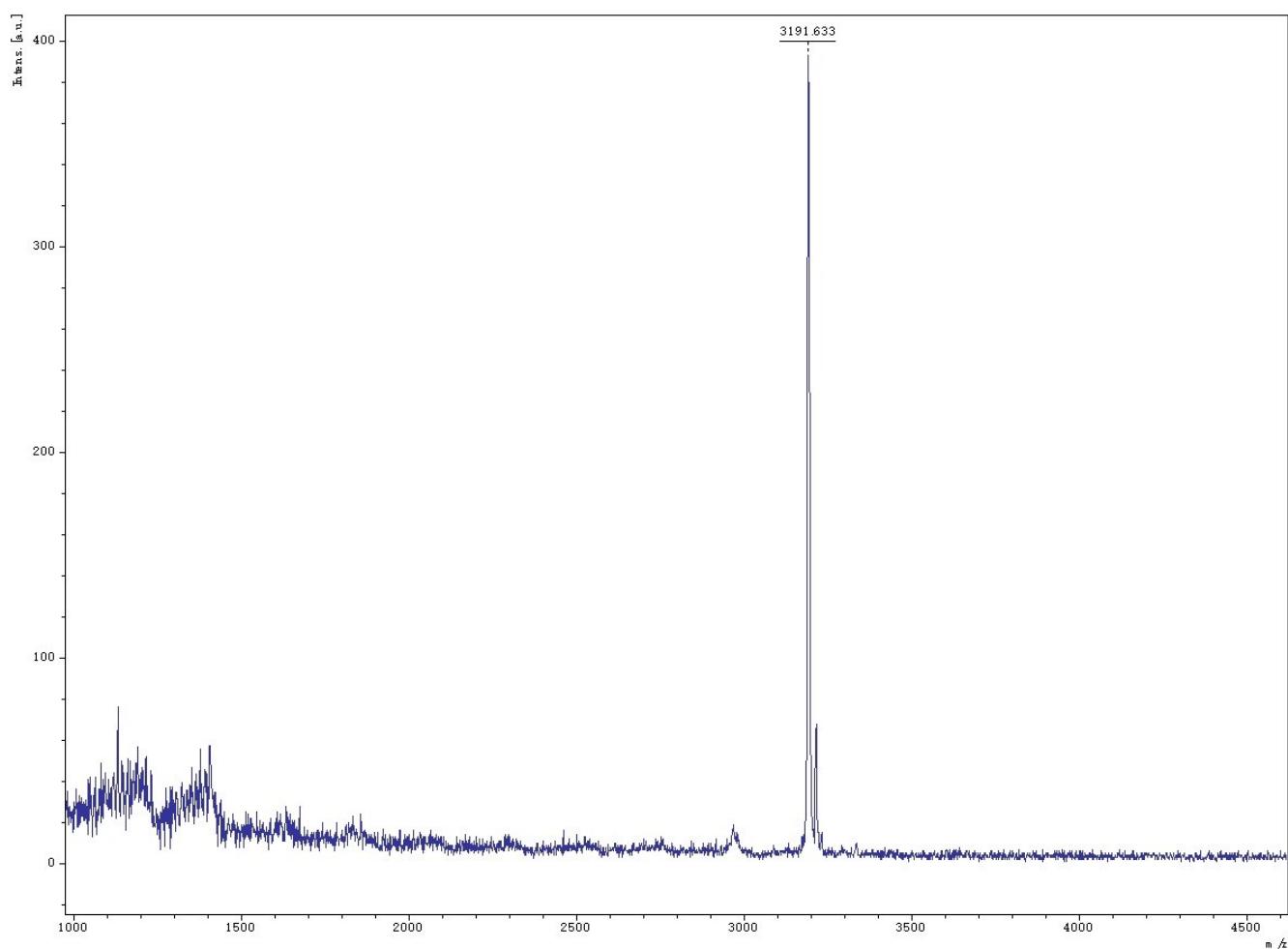
**Fig. S18** The MALDI-TOF MS spectrum of *o*-B-(DPP)<sub>2</sub>, calcd. 1572.51, found 1572.64.



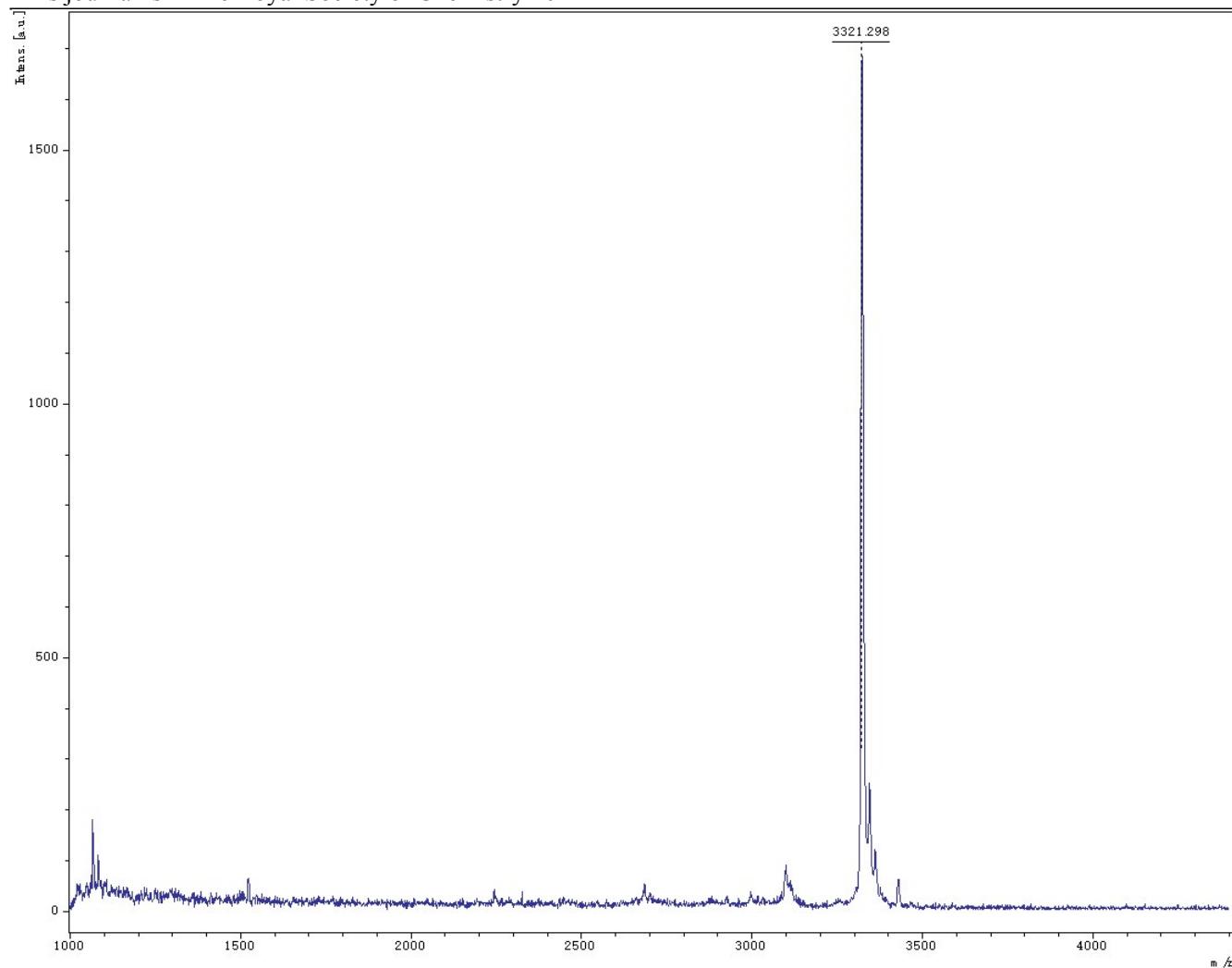
**Fig. S19** The MALDI-TOF MS spectrum of **DPP-DPP-DPP**, calcd. 2007.13, found 2007.82.



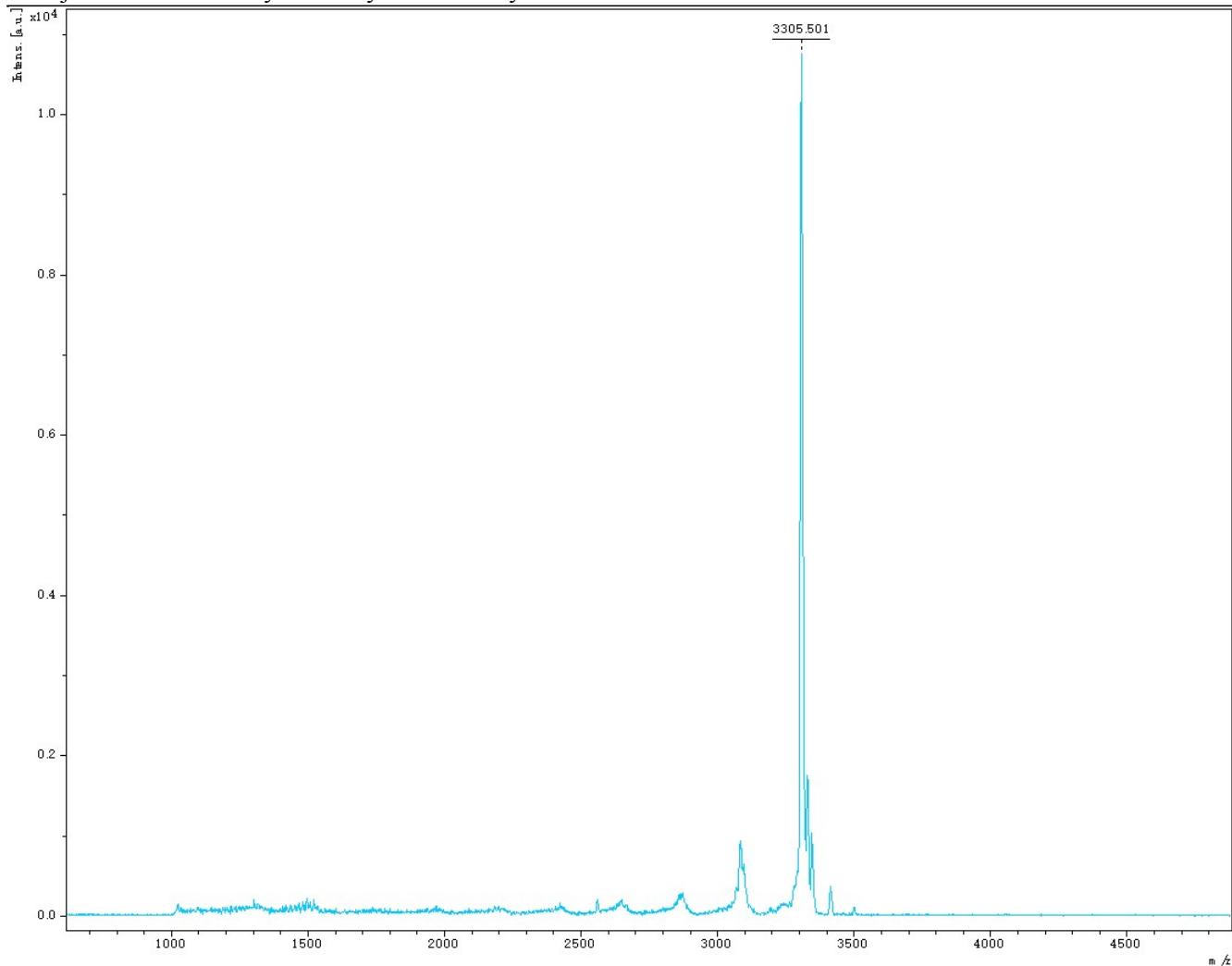
**Fig. S20** The MALDI-TOF MS spectrum of **TB-(DPP)<sub>3</sub>**, calcd. 2319.71, found 2319.77.



**Fig. S21** The MALDI-TOF MS spectrum of **Py-(DPP)<sub>4</sub>**, calcd. 3191.05, found 3191.63.



**Fig. S22** The MALDI-TOF MS spectrum of TBE-(DPP)<sub>4</sub>, calcd. 3321.34, found 3321.30.



**Fig. S23** The MALDI-TOF MS spectrum of SF-(DPP)<sub>4</sub>, calcd. 3305.20, found 3305.50.