

Electronic Supplementary Information

Design and synthesis of highly twisted phenanthroimidazole substituted blue-emitting truxene based fluorescent chromophores

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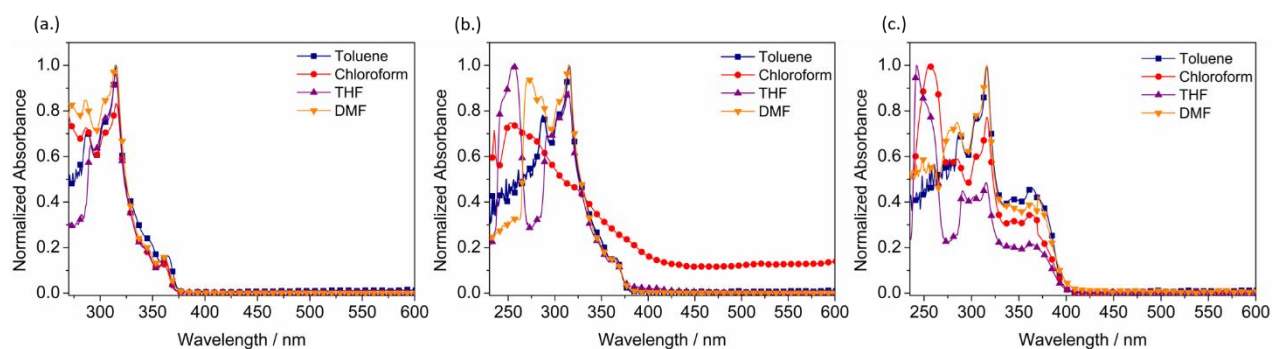


Figure S1. The absorption spectra of the compounds in different solvents (a.) PT₁ (b.) PT₂ and (c.) PT₃

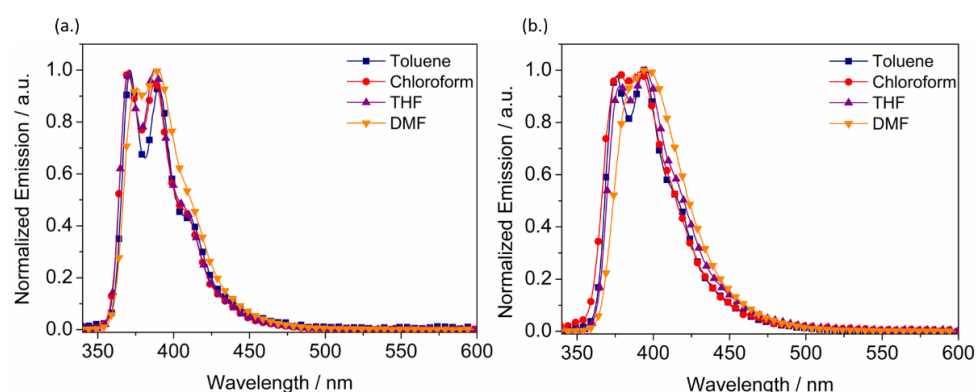


Figure S2. The emission spectra of the compounds in different solvents (a.) PT₁ and (b.) PT₂

Table S1. The absorption properties of the compounds in solvents of different polarities

Compound	Toluene	Chloroform	THF	DMF
PT ₁	289, 314, 364	262, 316, 360	256, 315, 364	286, 314, 360
PT ₂	286, 312, 364	252, 319, 362	258, 315, 368	274, 315, 365
PT ₃	288, 315, 364	258, 316, 367	243, 316, 371	255, 316, 367

Table S2. The emission properties of the compounds in solvents of different polarities

Compound	Toluene	Chloroform	THF	DMF
PT ₁	386	388	386	389
PT ₂	394	396	396	398
PT ₃	415	418	421	434

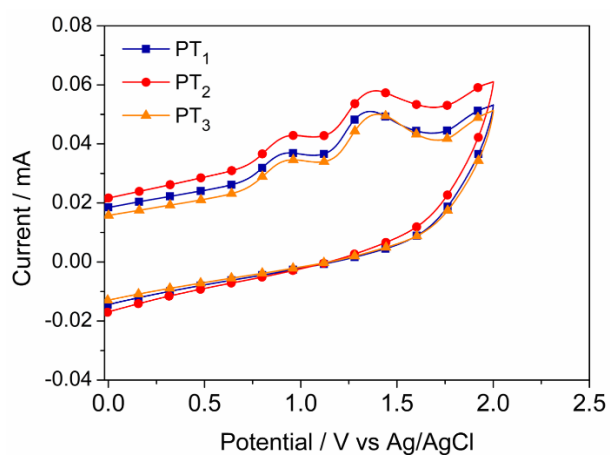
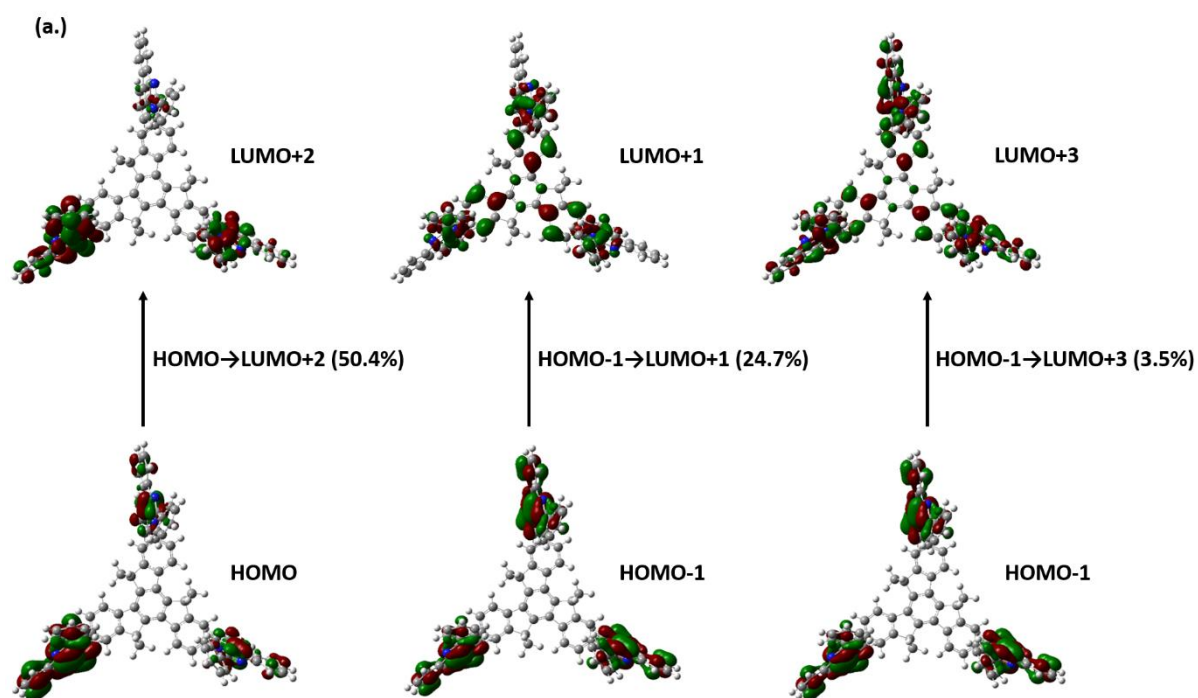


Figure S3. Cyclic voltammogram of the synthesized target molecules at 100 mV/s scan rate in 0.1 M tetrabutylammonium perchlorate solution in DCM.



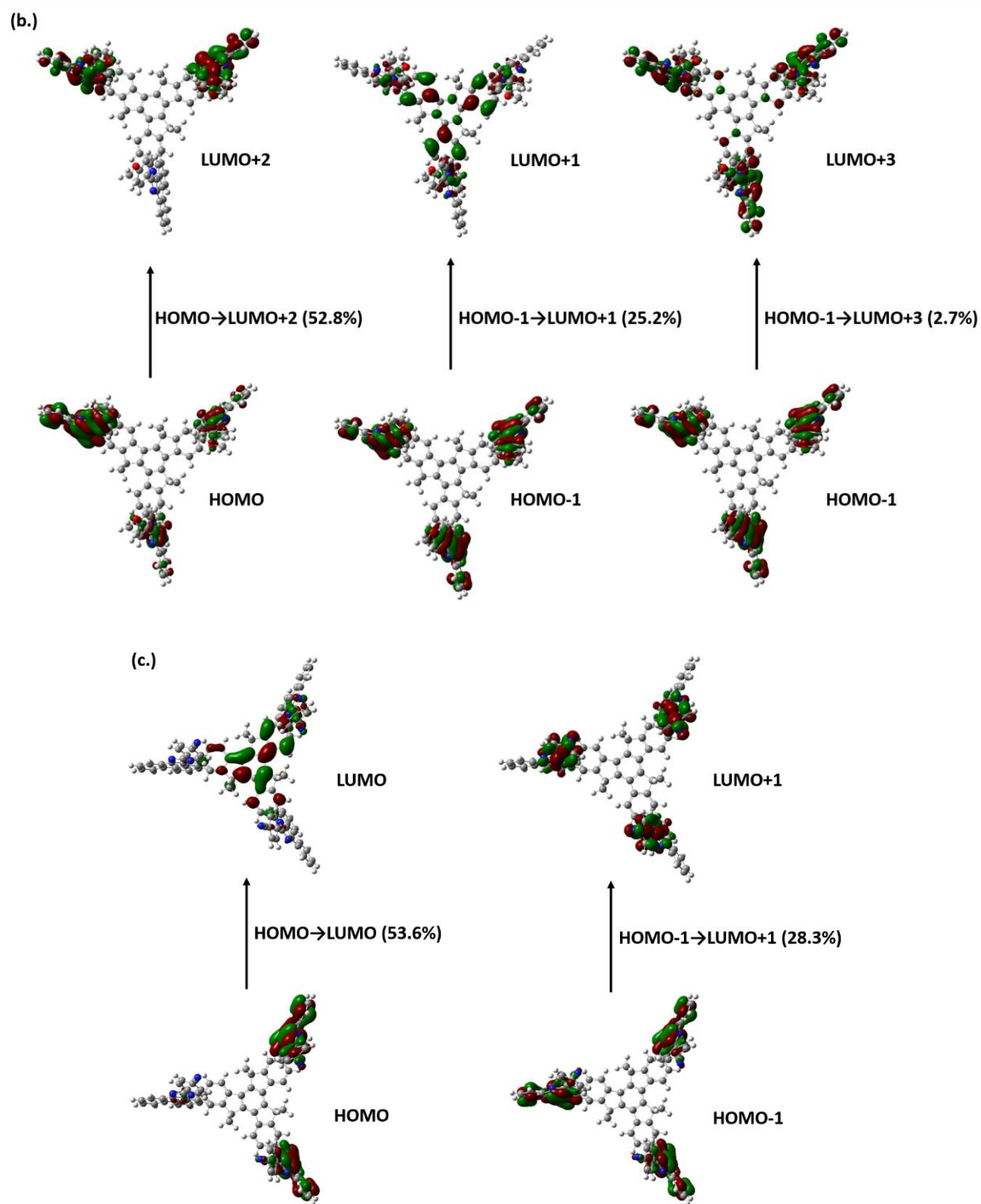
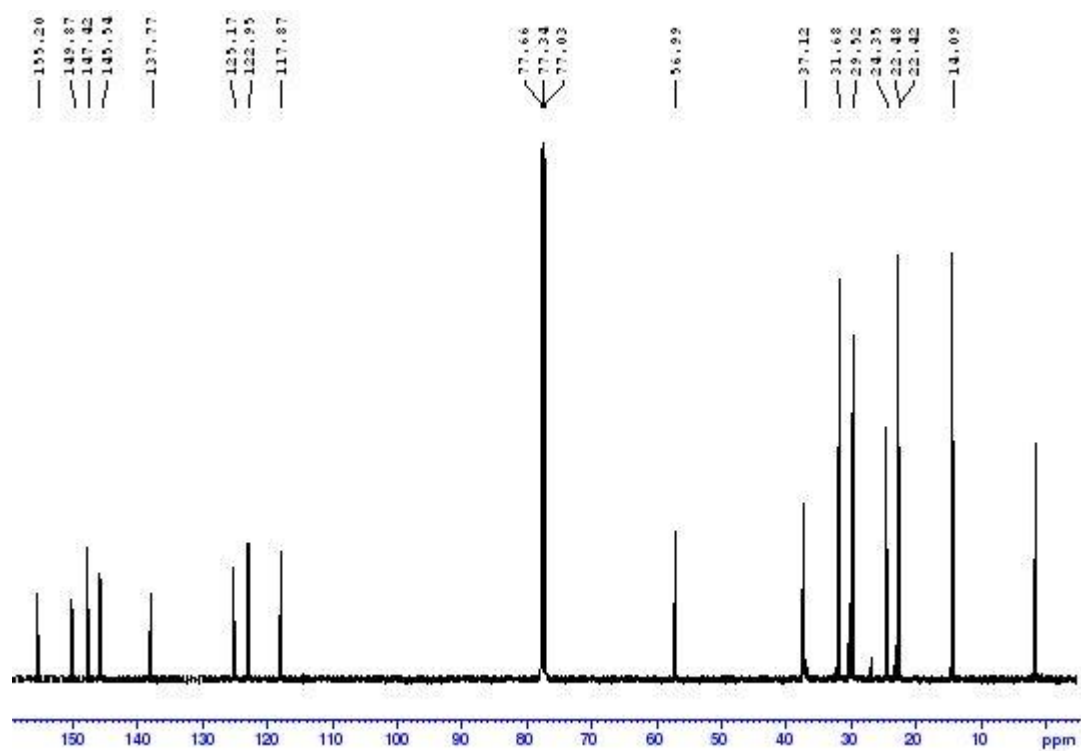
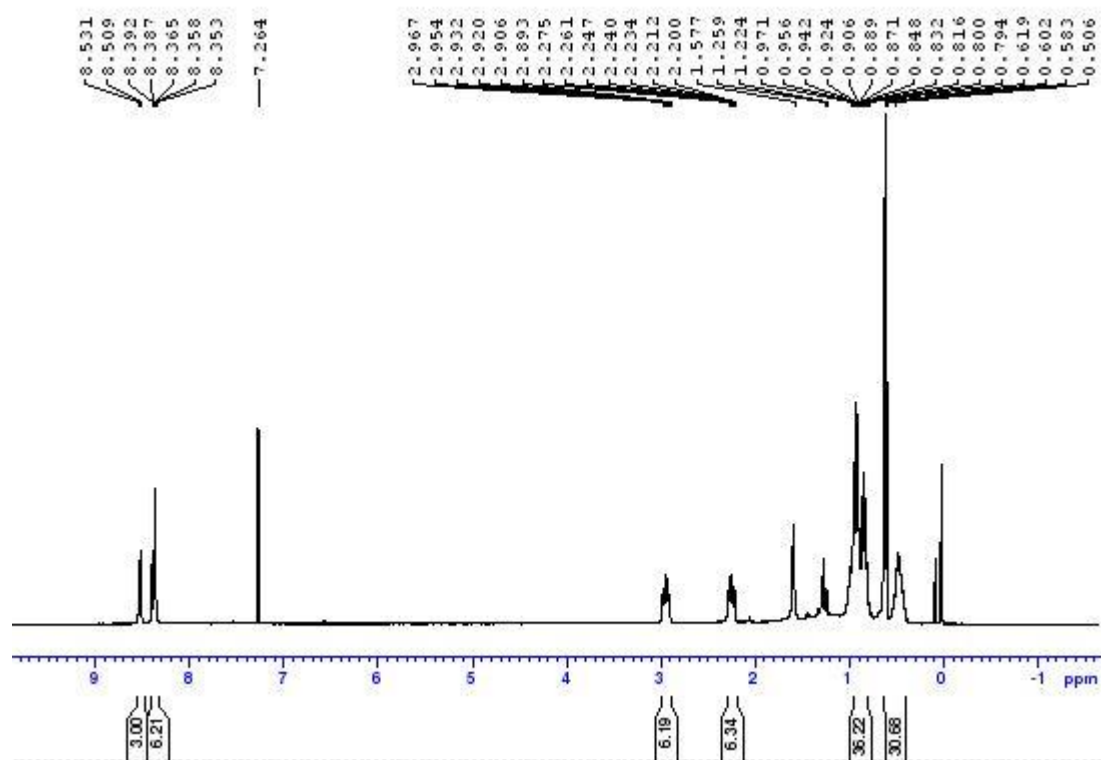


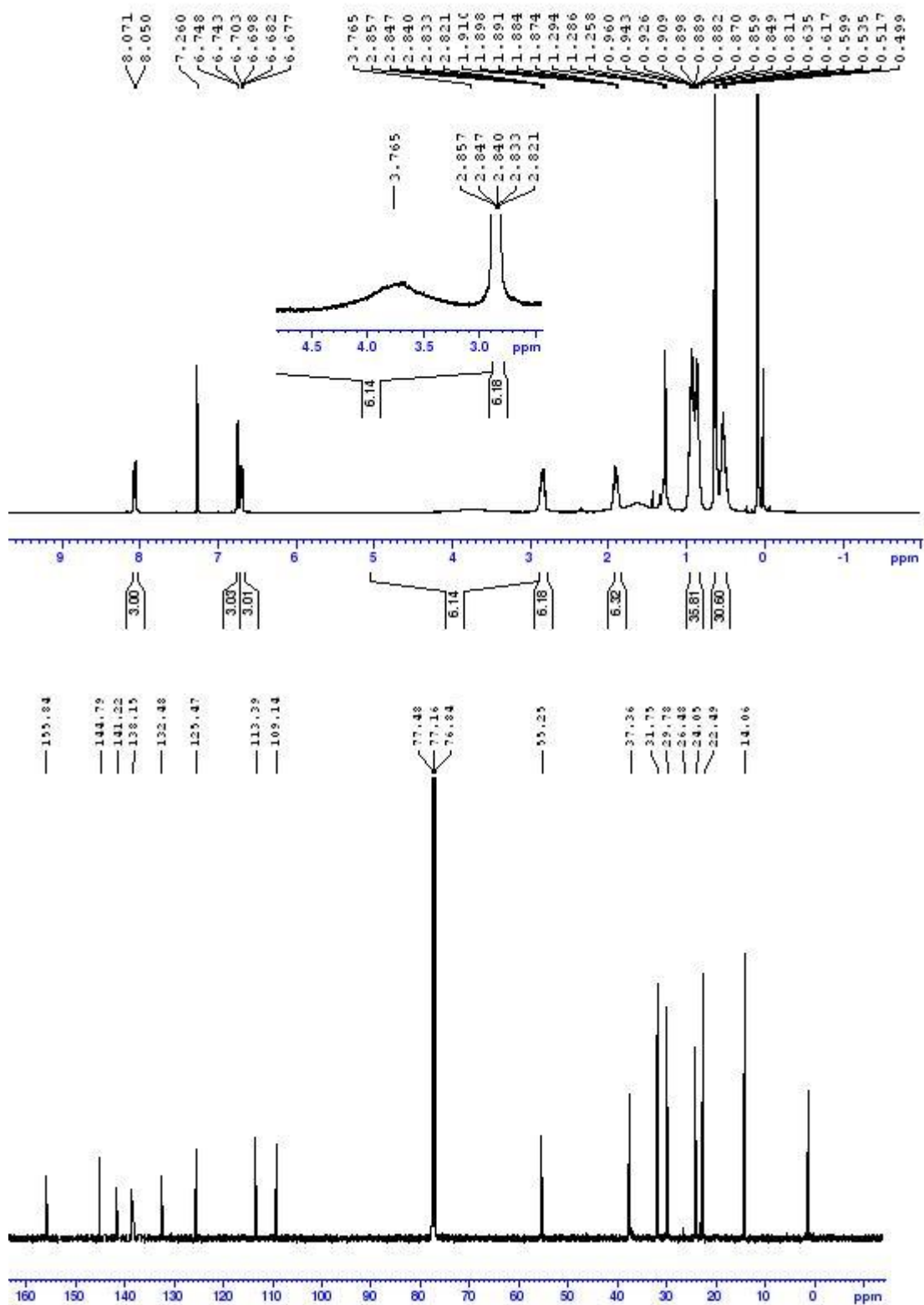
Figure S4. The major transitions in (a.) PT₁ (b.) PT₂ and (c.) PT₃

Copies of ^1H NMR, ^{13}C NMR and HRMS of the compounds

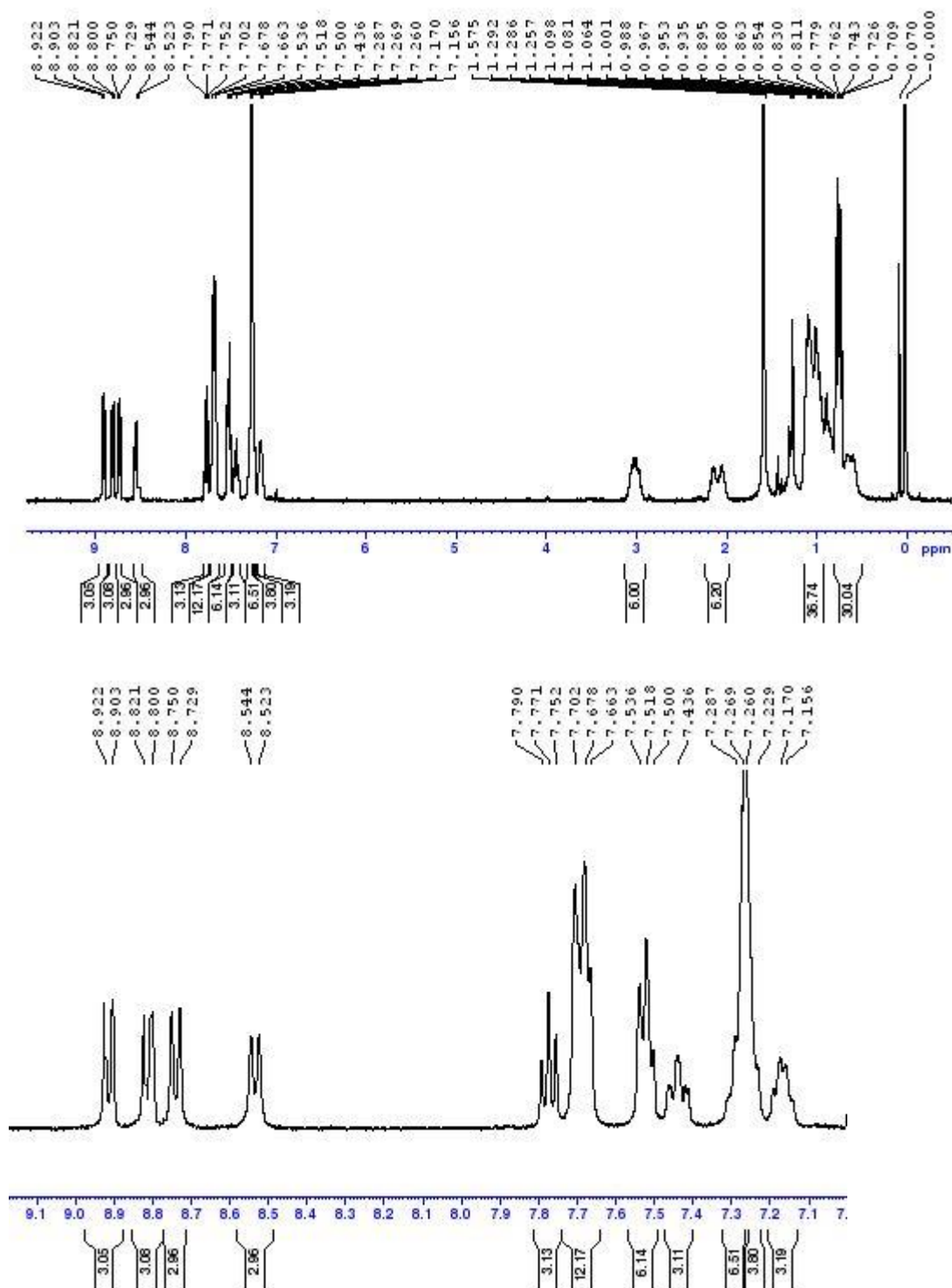
a.) ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR of 3

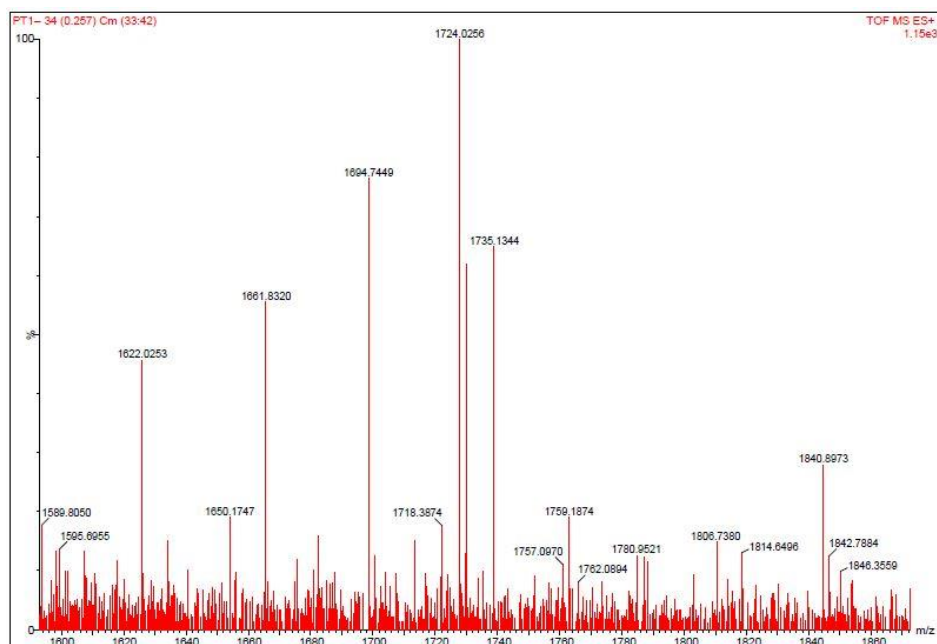
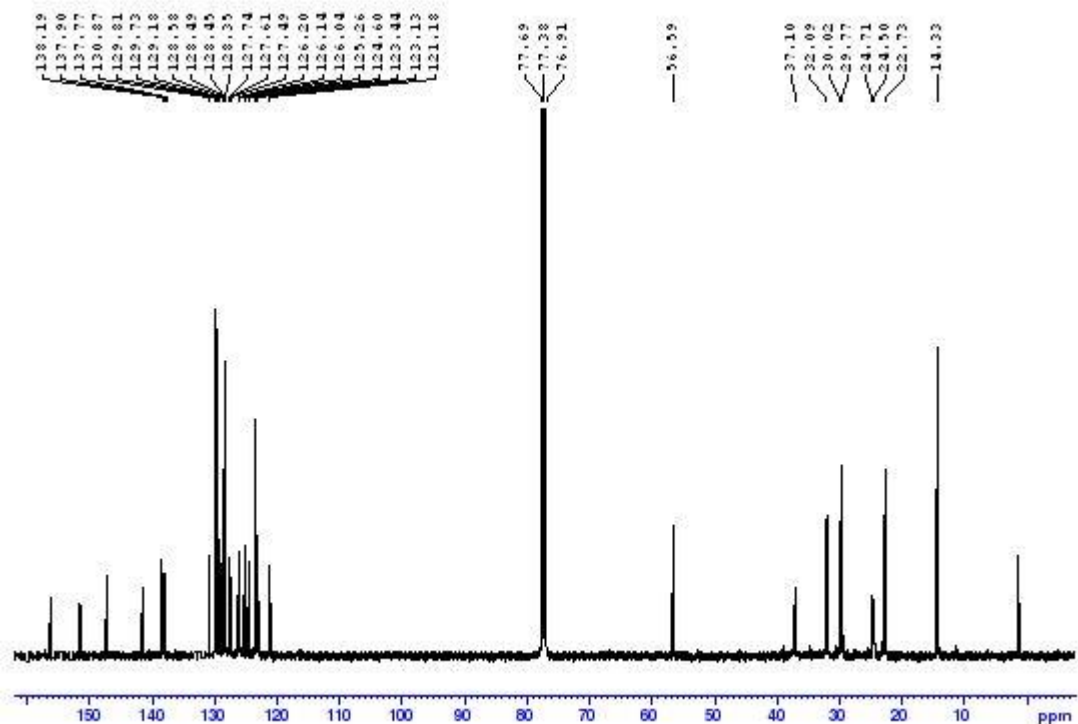


b.) ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR of 4

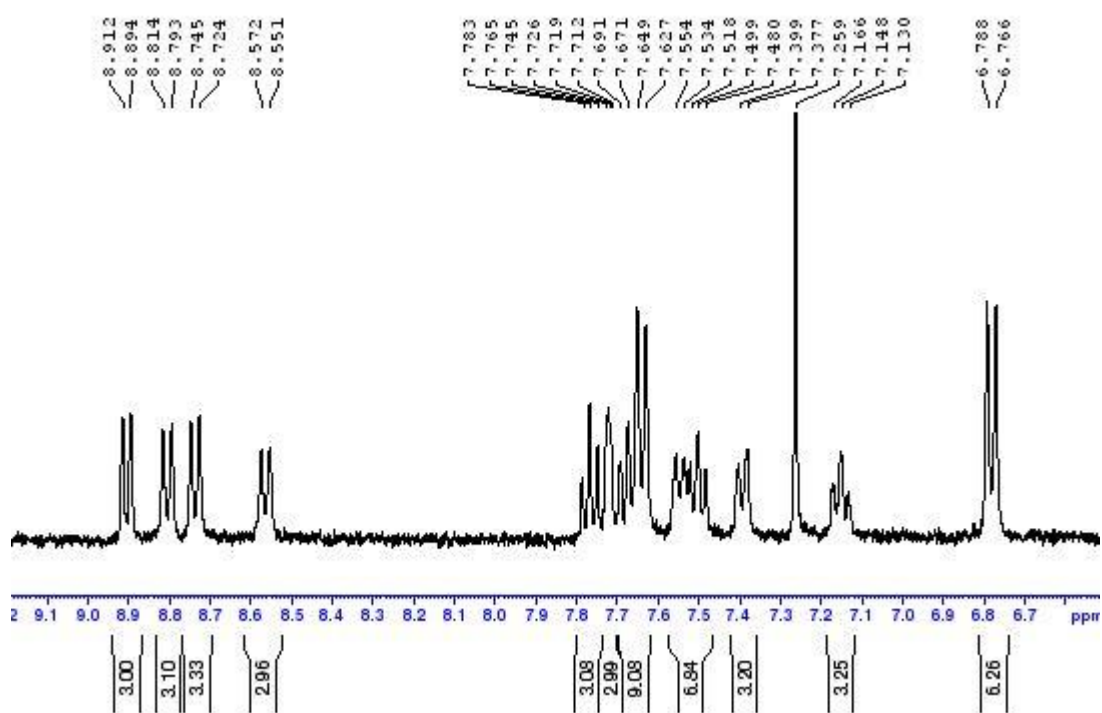
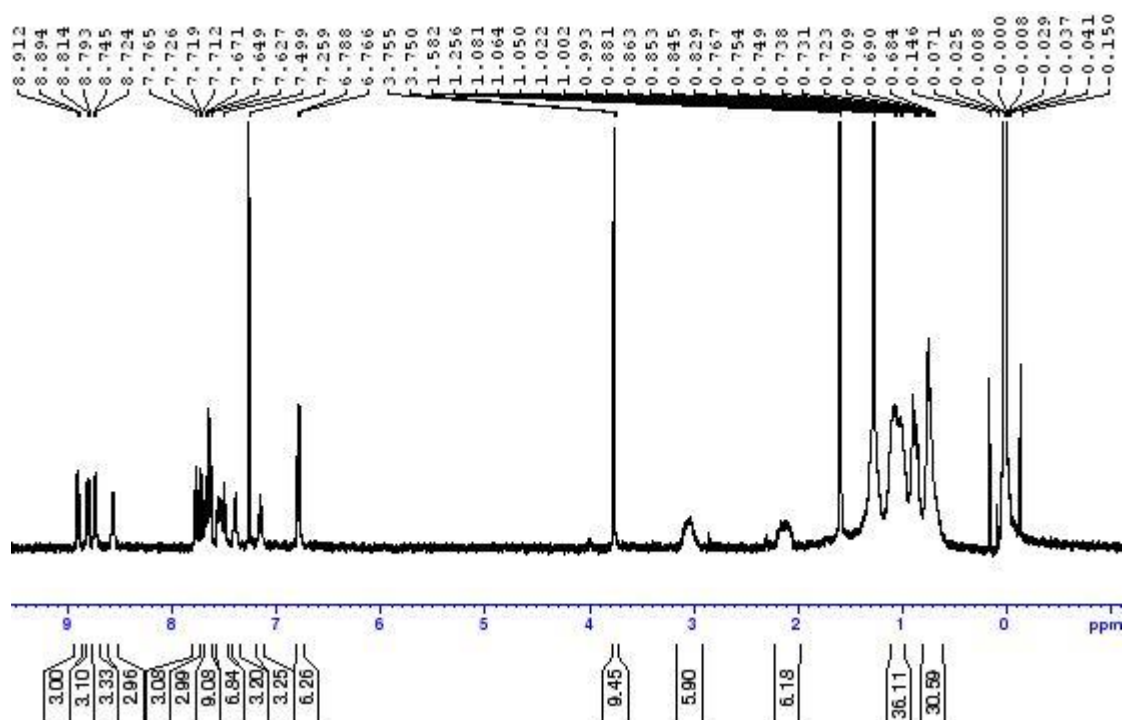


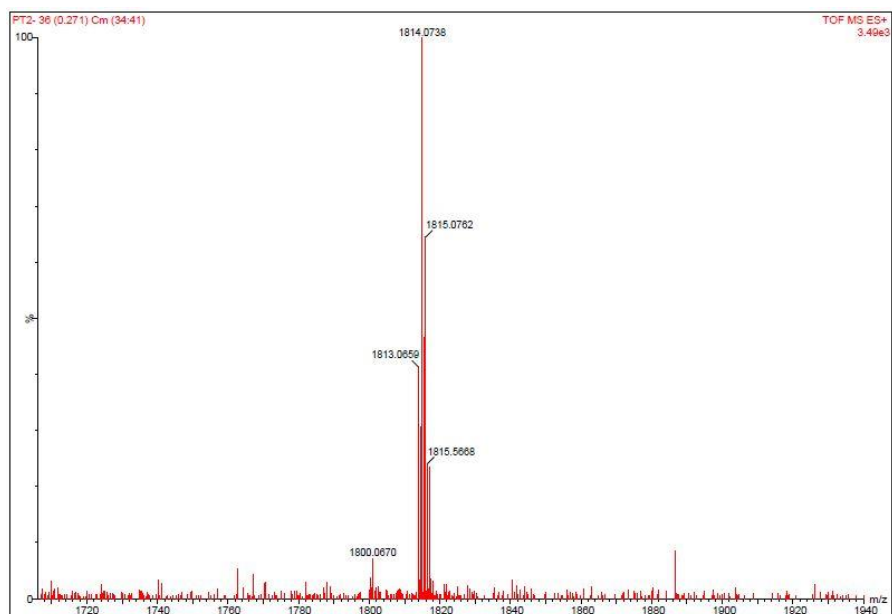
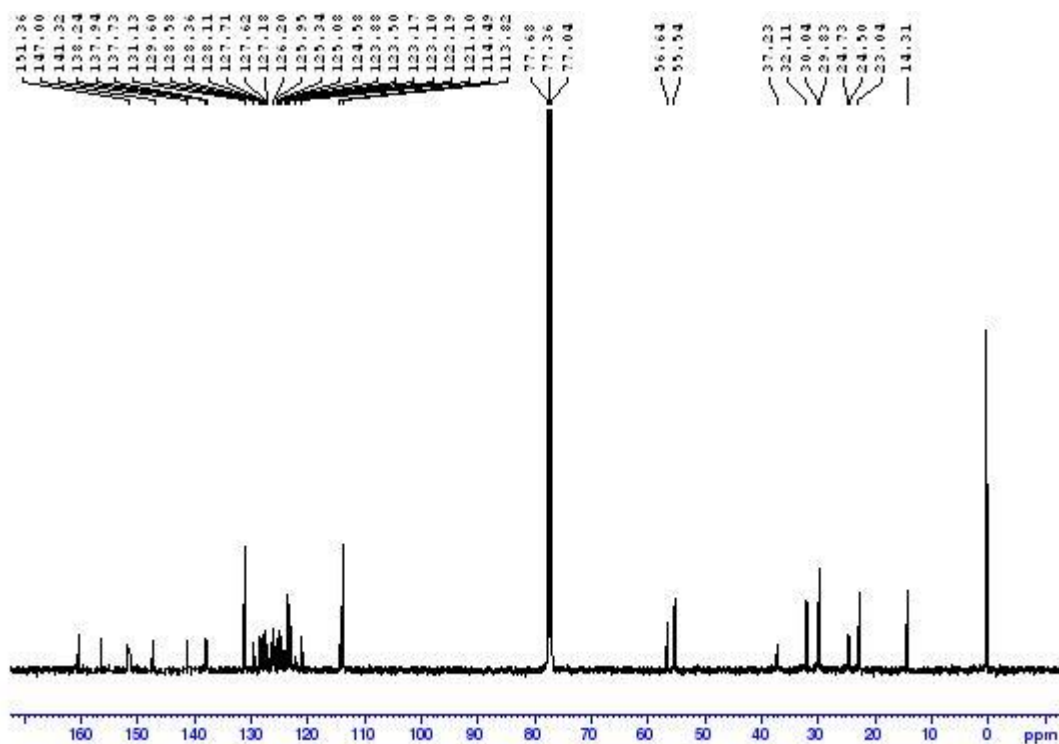
c.) ^1H NMR, ^{13}C NMR and HRMS of PT₁



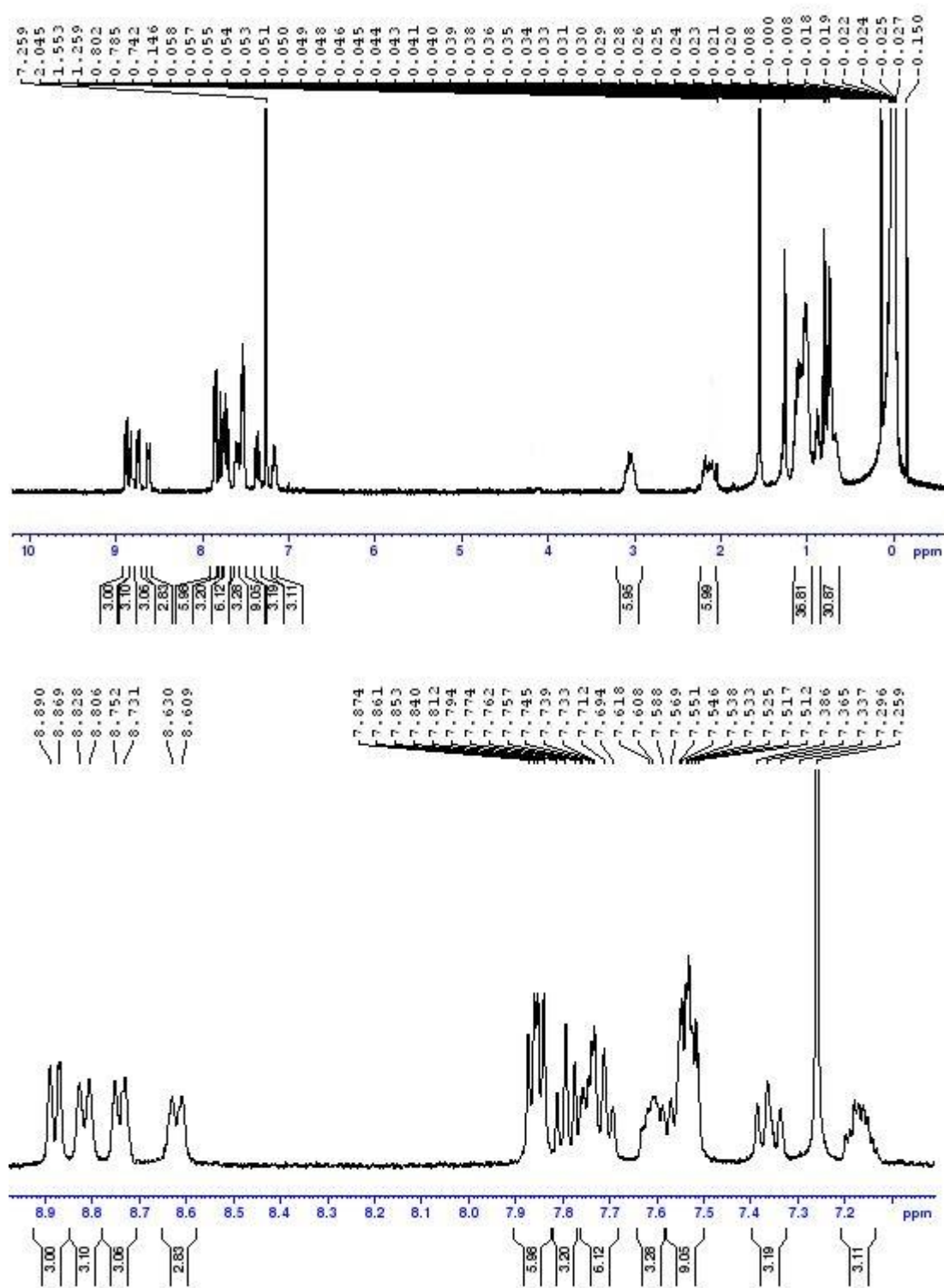


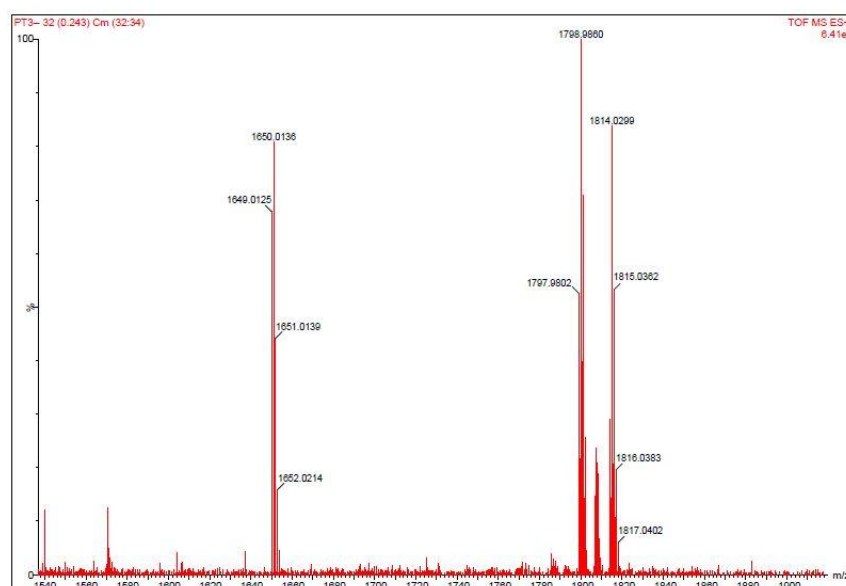
d.) ^1H NMR, ^{13}C NMR and HRMS of PT_2





e.) ^1H NMR, ^{13}C NMR and HRMS of PT_3





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157	1	0	10.225544	-4.512538	-4.176394
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164	6	0	-9.244339	-6.426221	-3.130242
165	6	0	-10.354544	-7.048981	-2.586039
166	1	0	-11.558733	-7.350026	-0.812143
167	1	0	-9.020745	-6.599312	-4.176394
168	1	0	-10.970448	-7.688523	-3.211515

PT₂

Standard orientation:

Center	Atomic	Atomic	Coordinates (Angstroms)		
Number	Number	Type	X	Y	Z

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4	6	0	-0.952384	1.044660	-0.139353
5	6	0	0.417213	1.349425	-0.138758
6	6	0	1.380894	0.302458	-0.139353
7	6	0	1.106853	2.718521	-0.133552
8	6	0	2.572170	2.321175	-0.128931
9	6	0	2.731787	0.921892	-0.136338
10	6	0	-2.907735	-0.400698	-0.133552
11	6	0	-3.296282	1.066977	-0.128931
12	6	0	-2.164275	1.904851	-0.136338
13	6	0	1.800882	-2.317823	-0.133552
14	6	0	0.724111	-3.388153	-0.128931
15	6	0	-0.567512	-2.826743	-0.136338
16	6	0	3.662035	3.181506	-0.116259
17	6	0	4.954461	2.645142	-0.119601
18	6	0	5.134573	1.261230	-0.133809
19	6	0	4.034958	0.402792	-0.139476
20	6	0	-4.586283	1.580662	-0.116259
21	6	0	-4.767991	2.968118	-0.119601
22	6	0	-3.659544	3.816055	-0.133809
23	6	0	-2.366307	3.292980	-0.139476
24	6	0	0.924248	-4.762168	-0.116259
25	6	0	-0.186470	-5.613261	-0.119601
26	6	0	-1.475029	-5.077285	-0.133809
27	6	0	-1.668651	-3.695772	-0.139476
28	1	0	3.533450	4.259359	-0.107744
29	1	0	6.141389	0.857769	-0.137891

30	1	0	4.226091	-0.658988	-0.148319
31	1	0	-5.455438	0.930378	-0.107744
32	1	0	-3.813544	4.889715	-0.137891
33	1	0	-1.542345	3.989396	-0.148319
34	1	0	1.921988	-5.189737	-0.107744
35	1	0	-2.327845	-5.747483	-0.137891
36	1	0	-2.683746	-3.330408	-0.148319
37	6	0	2.643797	-2.463520	1.159002
38	1	0	1.988231	-2.479749	2.034350
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40	1	0	3.353768	-1.648488	1.297190
41	6	0	0.824604	3.524800	-1.427145
42	1	0	-0.235648	3.726814	-1.577516
43	1	0	1.351821	4.483717	-1.400684
44	1	0	1.180695	2.970341	-2.299993
45	6	0	0.811572	3.521356	1.159002
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53	6	0	-3.455369	-1.057836	1.159002
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57	6	0	2.640265	-2.476528	-1.427145
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59	1	0	3.207102	-3.412570	-1.400684
60	1	0	1.982043	-2.507683	-2.299993
61	6	0	-0.196214	-7.876249	0.999550
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64	6	0	-6.722925	4.108051	0.999550
65	6	0	-6.985724	3.608580	-1.168635
66	6	0	-8.105113	4.239875	-0.640301
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74	7	0	-7.928734	4.543470	0.683762
75	7	0	7.899127	4.594750	0.683762
76	6	0	-0.628749	-7.466003	2.345245
77	6	0	-0.336081	-6.224203	2.941126
78	6	0	-1.341993	-8.405647	3.106789
79	6	0	-0.757538	-5.934276	4.230922
80	1	0	0.241528	-5.481019	2.406482
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85	6	0	-6.151374	4.277515	2.345245
86	6	0	-5.222277	3.403156	2.941126
87	6	0	-6.608507	5.365023	3.106789
88	6	0	-4.760465	3.623186	4.230922
89	1	0	-4.867466	2.531340	2.406482
90	6	0	-6.152507	5.594520	4.402135
91	1	0	-7.339302	6.032745	2.664724
92	1	0	-4.049610	2.946315	4.692996
93	1	0	-6.527936	6.449378	4.951663
94	6	0	6.780123	3.188489	2.345245
95	6	0	5.558358	2.821047	2.941126
96	6	0	7.950500	3.040624	3.106789
97	6	0	5.518003	2.311091	4.230922

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100	1	0	8.894162	3.339650	2.664724
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107	1	0	0.264123	-5.453851	-2.557721
108	6	0	1.299674	-8.474229	-4.725412
109	6	0	1.225396	-7.211829	-5.286751
110	1	0	0.772967	-5.126401	-4.929245
111	1	0	1.579387	-9.303485	-5.363996
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116	6	0	-5.723143	2.324559	-4.494121
117	1	0	-4.855236	2.498188	-2.557721
118	6	0	-7.988734	3.111564	-4.725412
119	6	0	-6.858325	2.544690	-5.286751
120	1	0	-4.826077	1.893791	-4.929245
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123	6	0	6.241990	4.353445	-2.553295
124	6	0	5.176965	3.641465	-3.153459
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126	6	0	4.874698	3.794108	-4.494121
127	1	0	4.591112	2.955663	-2.557721
128	6	0	6.689061	5.362665	-4.725412
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137	1	0	0.516043	-11.691357	0.171813
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139	6	0	1.476290	-12.466648	-3.001839
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145	6	0	-9.254329	4.102526	-2.796610
146	6	0	-11.534205	5.343651	-1.650990
147	1	0	-10.383034	5.398772	0.171813
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152	1	0	-12.412987	5.128374	-3.616592
153	6	0	8.533122	5.782755	-1.429829
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160	1	0	11.243943	7.839502	-1.220037
161	1	0	8.748645	7.027974	-4.602124
162	1	0	10.647795	8.185775	-3.616592
163	6	0	-5.216064	4.722432	4.972104
164	6	0	-1.481714	-6.878460	4.972104
165	6	0	6.697778	2.156028	4.972104

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167	8	0	-1.852351	-6.491960	6.225787
168	8	0	6.548378	1.641797	6.225787
169	6	0	-5.136259	5.934819	7.029610
170	1	0	-4.605177	5.840984	7.977758
171	1	0	-4.891555	6.902367	6.573453
172	1	0	-6.216755	5.888621	7.214645
173	6	0	-2.571575	-7.415541	7.029610
174	1	0	-2.755852	-6.908692	7.977758
175	1	0	-3.531848	-7.687394	6.573453
176	1	0	-1.991317	-8.328178	7.214645
177	6	0	7.707834	1.480721	7.029610
178	1	0	7.361029	1.067708	7.977758
179	1	0	8.423403	0.785027	6.573453
180	1	0	8.208073	2.439558	7.214645

PT₃

Standard orientation:

Center Number	Atomic Number	Atomic Type	Coordinates (Angstroms)		
			X	Y	Z
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2	6	0	-1.308459	0.534719	0.007812
3	6	0	-0.202127	1.398234	0.008199
4	6	0	1.117310	0.865799	0.007812
5	6	0	1.311970	-0.524070	0.008199
6	6	0	0.191149	-1.400518	0.007812
7	6	0	2.621780	-1.320779	0.008535
8	6	0	2.108364	-2.749487	0.009029
9	6	0	0.700555	-2.796637	0.006789
10	6	0	-0.167062	2.930917	0.008535
11	6	0	1.326943	3.200641	0.009029

12	6	0	2.071681	2.005017	0.006789
13	6	0	-2.454718	-1.610139	0.008535
14	6	0	-3.435308	-0.451154	0.009029
15	6	0	-2.772237	0.791620	0.006789
16	6	0	2.877990	-3.905576	0.010857
17	6	0	2.237445	-5.149523	0.002112
18	6	0	0.843583	-5.218970	-0.004146
19	6	0	0.077263	-4.053327	0.001278
20	6	0	1.943334	4.445200	0.010857
21	6	0	3.340895	4.512446	0.002112
22	6	0	4.097969	3.340049	-0.004146
23	6	0	3.471652	2.093575	0.001278
24	6	0	-4.821323	-0.539624	0.010857
25	6	0	-5.578340	0.637077	0.002112
26	6	0	-4.941552	1.878921	-0.004146
27	6	0	-3.548915	1.959751	0.001278
28	1	0	3.962785	-3.865648	0.013822
29	1	0	0.360068	-6.189982	-0.013251
30	1	0	-0.996397	-4.157808	-0.001398
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32	1	0	5.180648	3.406819	-0.013251
33	1	0	4.098966	1.215998	-0.001398
34	1	0	-5.329142	-1.499048	0.013822
35	1	0	-5.540715	2.783163	-0.013251
36	1	0	-3.102568	2.941809	-0.001398
37	6	0	-2.673239	-2.438632	1.300386
38	1	0	-2.642159	-1.784171	2.176184
39	1	0	-3.652749	-2.926966	1.277651
40	1	0	-1.917360	-3.210428	1.443201
41	6	0	3.444857	-1.099992	-1.286611
42	1	0	3.735603	-0.059914	-1.432061
43	1	0	4.356194	-1.705953	-1.266354
44	1	0	2.859767	-1.402677	-2.159677
45	6	0	3.448537	-1.095776	1.300386

46	1	0	2.866216	-1.396091	2.176184
47	1	0	4.361202	-1.699891	1.277651
48	1	0	3.738992	-0.055268	1.443201
49	6	0	-0.769807	3.533329	-1.286611
50	1	0	-1.815915	3.265084	-1.432061
51	1	0	-0.700698	4.625551	-1.266354
52	1	0	-0.215130	3.177970	-2.159677
53	6	0	-0.775298	3.534409	1.300386
54	1	0	-0.224058	3.180262	2.176184
55	1	0	-0.708452	4.626857	1.277651
56	1	0	-1.821633	3.265696	1.443201
57	6	0	-2.675049	-2.433337	-1.286611
58	1	0	-1.919688	-3.205171	-1.432061
59	1	0	-3.655496	-2.919598	-1.266354
60	1	0	-2.644637	-1.775293	-2.159677
61	6	0	-7.851263	0.814548	1.093545
62	6	0	-7.841755	0.299697	-1.083132
63	6	0	-9.133984	0.386490	-0.574759
64	6	0	4.631051	6.392120	1.093545
65	6	0	4.180423	6.641311	-1.083132
66	6	0	4.901702	7.717017	-0.574759
67	6	0	3.220212	-7.206667	1.093545
68	6	0	3.661332	-6.941008	-1.083132
69	6	0	4.232281	-8.103507	-0.574759
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73	7	0	-9.123421	0.709853	0.753502
74	7	0	5.176462	7.546188	0.753502
75	7	0	3.946959	-8.256041	0.753502
76	6	0	-7.441431	1.169292	2.461355
77	6	0	-6.213322	0.815278	3.047962
78	6	0	-8.377888	1.877650	3.241809
79	6	0	-5.921863	1.175021	4.358998

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83	6	0	-6.854766	1.895236	5.120737
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85	1	0	-8.820536	2.789234	5.136106
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90	1	0	2.950025	4.629061	2.493548
91	6	0	5.984972	5.889954	4.549512
92	1	0	6.512876	7.015289	2.795993
93	6	0	5.068706	4.988783	5.120737
94	1	0	3.259018	3.860921	4.802233
95	1	0	6.825815	6.244192	5.136106
96	6	0	2.708079	-7.029115	2.461355
97	6	0	2.400610	-5.788534	3.047962
98	6	0	2.562851	-8.194289	3.241809
99	6	0	1.943334	-5.715995	4.358998
100	1	0	2.533872	-4.869327	2.493548
101	6	0	2.108364	-8.128115	4.549512
102	1	0	2.818980	-9.147960	2.795993
103	6	0	1.786060	-6.884019	5.120737
104	1	0	1.714147	-4.752853	4.802233
105	1	0	1.994721	-9.033425	5.136106
106	6	0	-7.571950	0.027128	-2.471103
107	6	0	-6.281506	0.012661	-3.049508
108	6	0	-8.715994	-0.221307	-3.303271
109	6	0	-6.099519	-0.256188	-4.393826
110	1	0	-5.417902	0.225032	-2.435047
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112	6	0	-7.208469	-0.518623	-5.209716
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117	6	0	3.151717	5.433613	-3.049508
118	6	0	4.166340	7.658926	-3.303271
119	6	0	2.827894	5.410432	-4.393826
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121	6	0	3.812032	7.593144	-4.668696
122	6	0	3.155094	6.502028	-5.209716
123	1	0	2.325449	4.543753	-4.813152
124	1	0	4.065090	8.416372	-5.325637
125	1	0	2.903328	6.492192	-6.265889
126	6	0	3.762481	-6.571065	-2.471103
127	6	0	3.129788	-5.446274	-3.049508
128	6	0	4.549654	-7.437619	-3.303271
129	6	0	3.271624	-5.154244	-4.393826
130	1	0	2.514067	-4.804557	-2.435047
131	6	0	4.669840	-7.097889	-4.668696
132	6	0	4.053375	-5.983405	-5.209716
133	1	0	2.772281	-4.285775	-4.813152
134	1	0	5.256247	-7.728657	-5.325637
135	1	0	4.170739	-5.760452	-6.265889
136	6	0	-10.290999	0.144860	-1.389164
137	6	0	-11.592802	0.212267	-0.855023
138	6	0	-10.080418	-0.175238	-2.759025
139	6	0	-12.690891	-0.037038	-1.656570
140	1	0	-11.704449	0.459097	0.195417
141	6	0	-11.227560	-0.427543	-3.546516
142	6	0	-12.502637	-0.360728	-3.011031
143	1	0	-13.693476	0.013845	-1.242440
144	1	0	-11.124688	-0.681887	-4.594780
145	1	0	-13.361078	-0.561018	-3.645379
146	6	0	5.270952	8.839837	-1.389164
147	6	0	5.980230	9.933528	-0.855023

148	6	0	4.888449	8.817517	-2.759025
149	6	0	6.313370	11.009153	-1.656570
150	1	0	6.249815	9.906802	0.195417
151	6	0	5.243517	9.937124	-3.546516
152	6	0	5.938919	11.007965	-3.011031
153	1	0	6.858728	11.851976	-1.242440
154	1	0	4.971812	9.975206	-4.594780
155	1	0	6.194683	11.851542	-3.645379
156	6	0	5.020047	-8.984697	-1.389164
157	6	0	5.612572	-10.145795	-0.855023
158	6	0	5.191969	-8.642280	-2.759025
159	6	0	6.377521	-10.972115	-1.656570
160	1	0	5.454635	-10.365899	0.195417
161	6	0	5.984043	-9.509581	-3.546516
162	6	0	6.563718	-10.647238	-3.011031
163	1	0	6.834748	-11.865820	-1.242440
164	1	0	6.152876	-9.293319	-4.594780
165	1	0	7.166395	-11.290524	-3.645379
166	6	0	-6.548130	2.273965	6.467941
167	7	0	-6.296745	2.584633	7.561007
168	6	0	5.243376	4.533864	6.467941
169	7	0	5.386730	4.160825	7.561007
170	6	0	1.304754	-6.807829	6.467941
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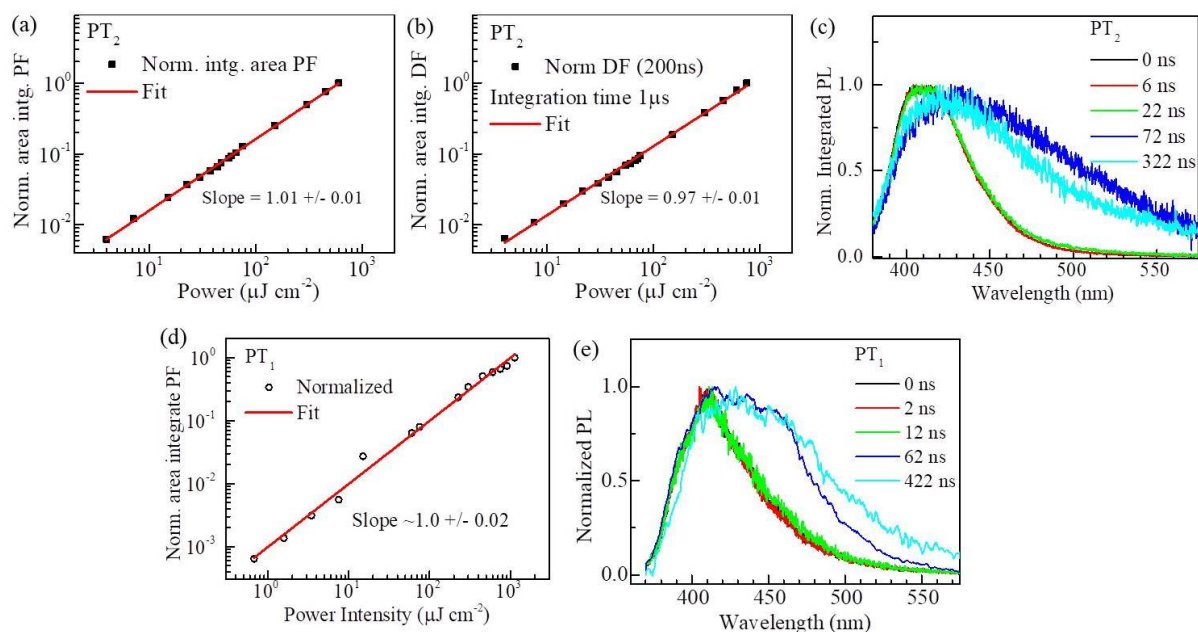


Figure S5. (a)- (c) Fluence and spectral shift in PT₂ (d)- (e) Fluence and spectral shift in PT₁

Spectral relaxation was observed in PT₁₋₂ but not in PT₃. The spectral relaxation in these small molecule system can be attributed to solvent-solute interaction that involve (1) exciplex formation or (2) dipolar interactions between the reorientation of the solvent molecules around the complex that is formed because of the excitation of the solute.¹ The presence/absence of the spectral shift also serves as a comparison of the relaxation lifetime of the solute with fluorescence lifetime. Since relaxation (e.g. torsion) time for star-shaped molecules is in 10's ps while fluorescence lifetime is in nanosecond (prompt), the longer lifetime governs the spectral shift process.²

1. W. R. Ware, S. K. Lee, G. J. Brant and P. P. Chow, *J. Chem. Phys.*, 1971, **54**, 4729-4737.
2. M. Fujitsuka, D. W. Cho, H.-H. Huang, J.-S. Yang and T. Majima, *J. Phys. Chem. B*, 2011, **115**, 13502-13507.