

# New Journal of Chemistry

## Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

### Structural dependence of the optical properties of narrow band gap thiophene-thiadiazoloquinoxaline derivatives and their application in organic photovoltaic cells

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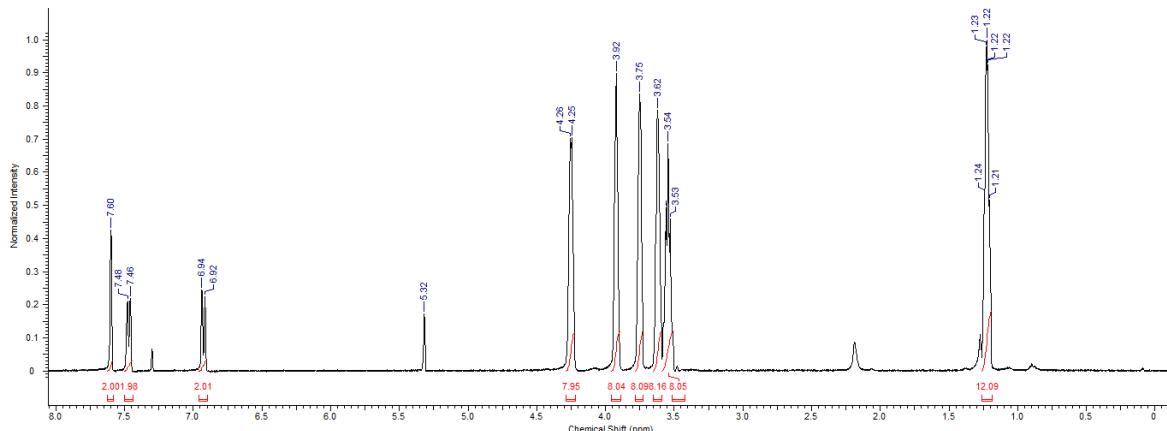
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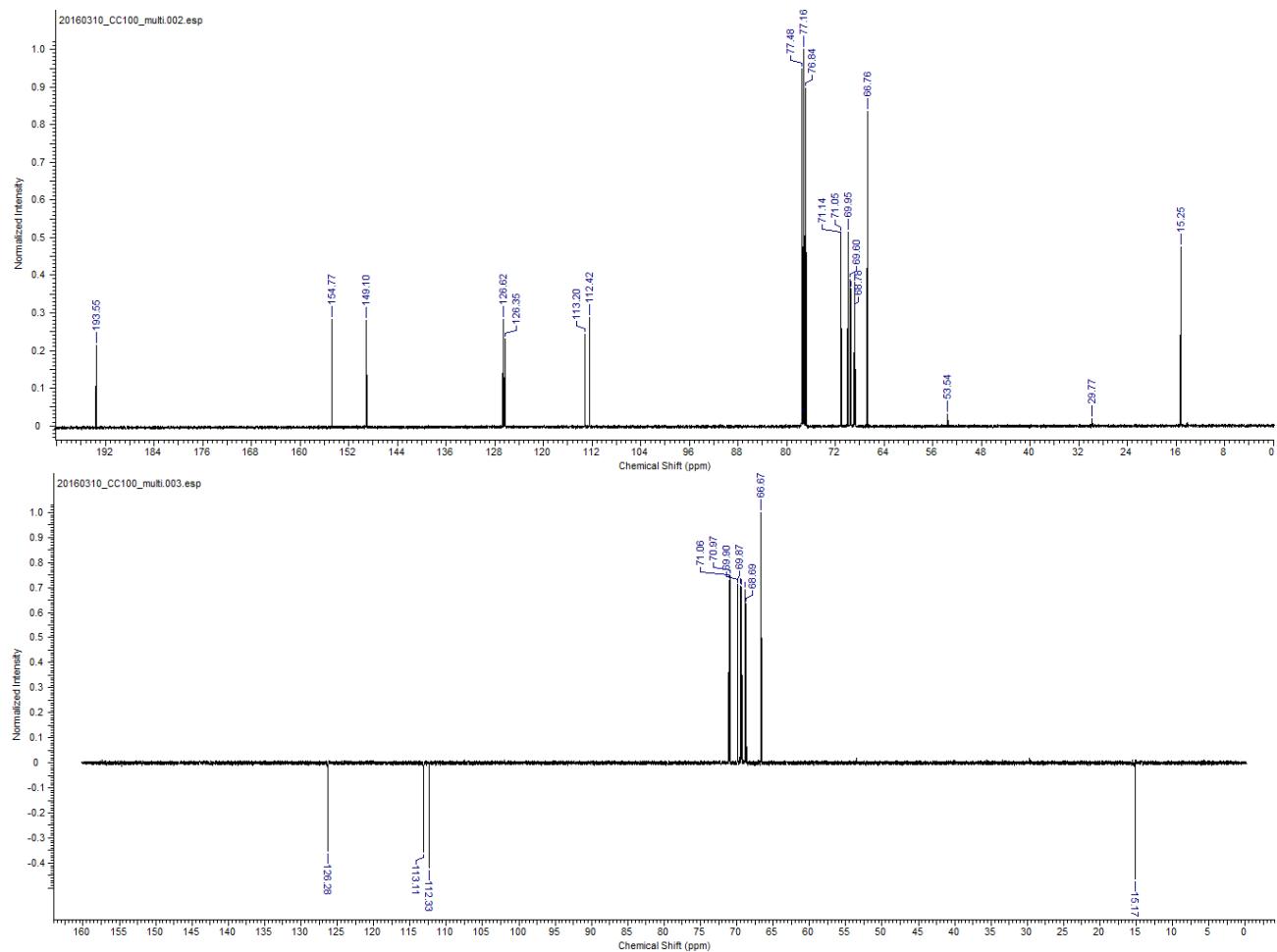
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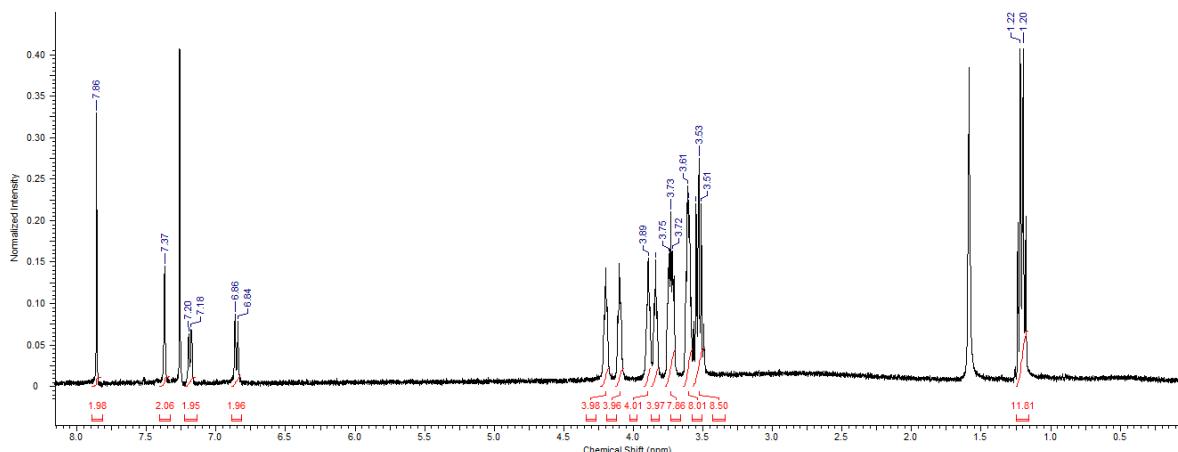
**Table S1** Performance parameters of the solar cells fabricated with TQT1, TQT2, PQTQ, and PQT under 82 mW.cm<sup>-2</sup> .. 12



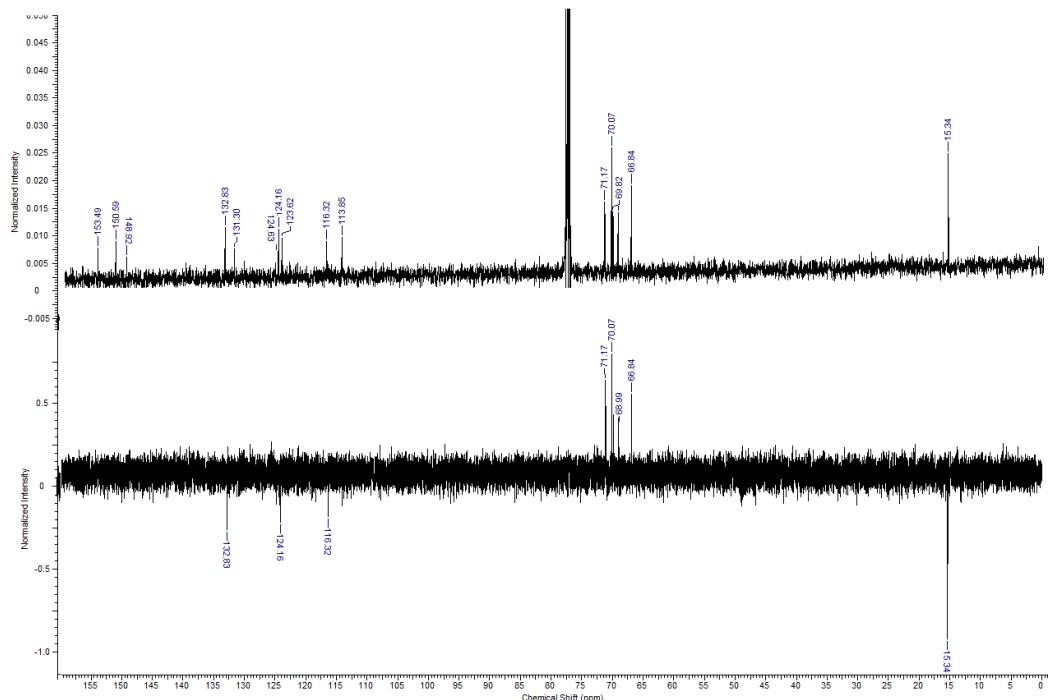
**Figure S1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1,2-bis(3,4-bis(2-(2-ethoxyethoxy)ethoxy)phenyl)ethane-1,2-dione (3) in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .



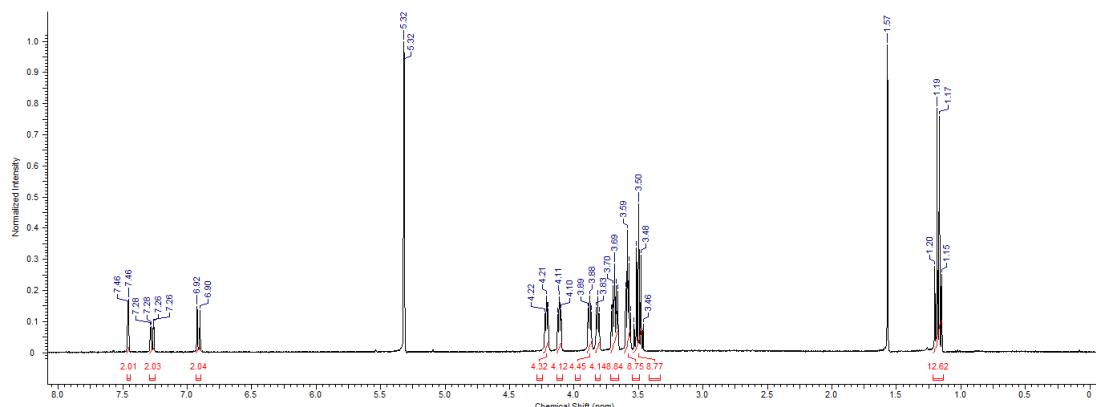
**Figure S2.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  (100 MHz) (top) and DEPT 135 ( $\text{CH}$  and  $\text{CH}_3$ 's appearing negative and  $\text{CH}_2$ 's appearing positive) NMR spectrum (bottom) of 1,2-bis(3,4-bis(2-(2-ethoxyethoxy)ethoxy)phenyl)ethane-1,2-dione (3) in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



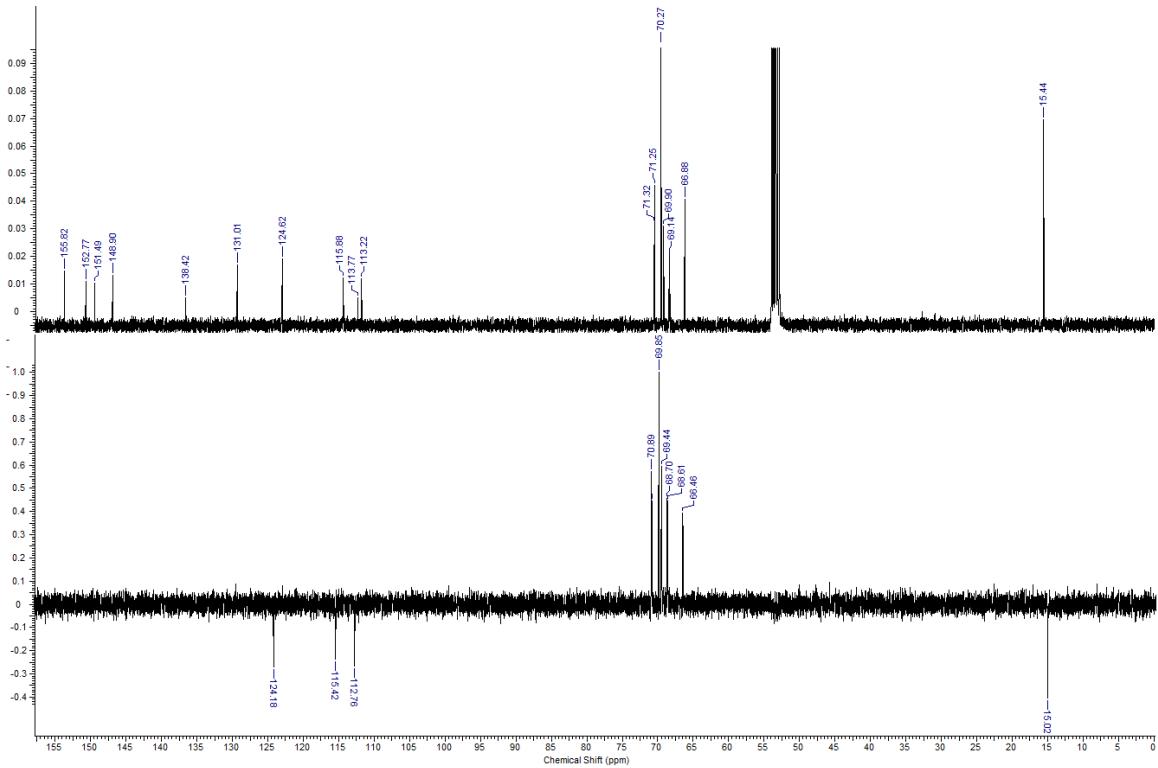
**Figure S3.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 2,3-bis(3,4-bis(2-(2-ethoxyethoxy)ethoxy)phenyl)-5,8-dibromoquinoxaline (6) in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



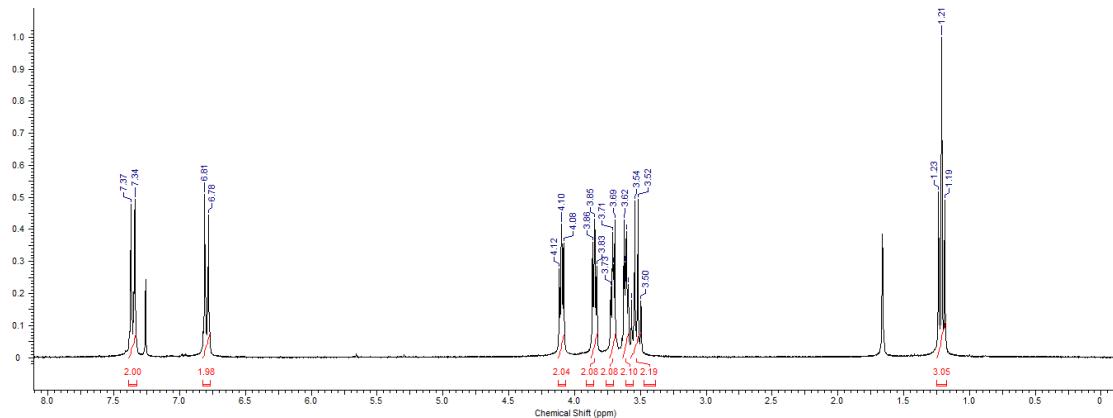
**Figure S4.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  (100 MHz) (top) and DEPT 135 (CH and CH<sub>3</sub>'s appearing negative and CH<sub>2</sub>'s appearing positive) (bottom) NMR spectra of 2,3-bis(3,4-bis(2-(2-ethoxyethoxy)ethoxy)phenyl)-5,8-dibromoquinoxaline (6) in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



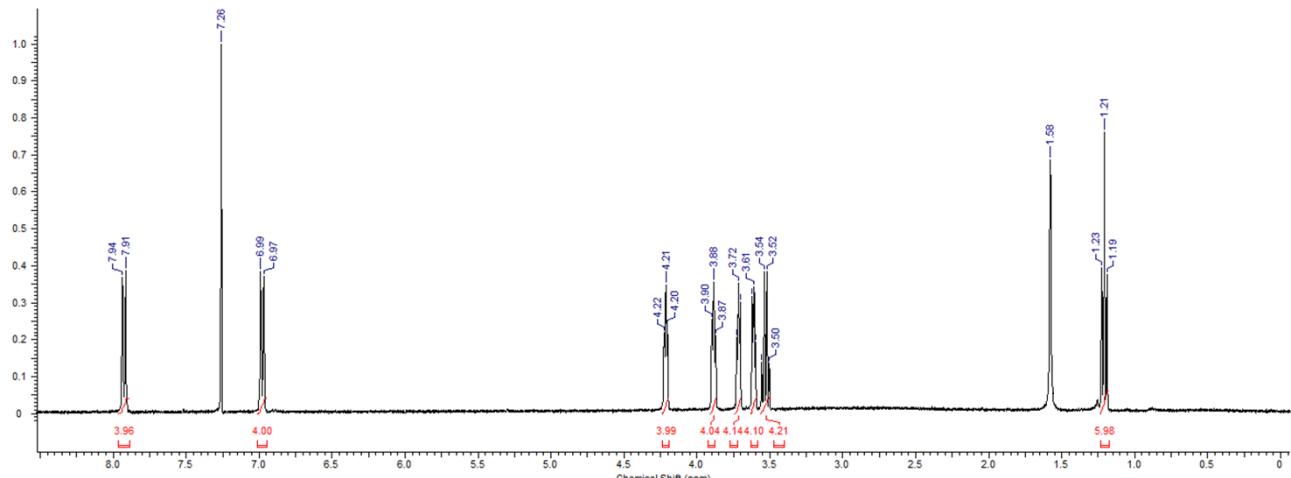
**Figure S5.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 6,7-bis(3,4-bis(2-(2-ethoxyethoxy)ethoxy)phenyl)-4,9-dibromo-[1,2,5]thiadiazolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline (7) in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .



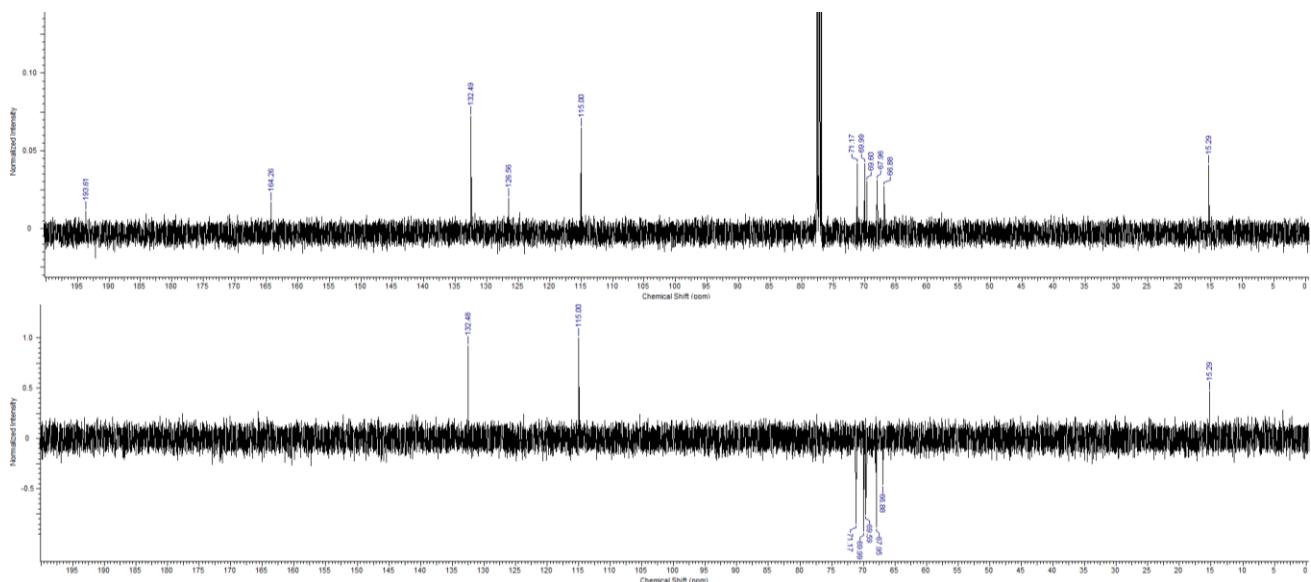
**Figure S6.** <sup>13</sup>C (100 MHz) (top) and DEPT 135 (CH and CH<sub>3</sub>'s appearing negative and CH<sub>2</sub>'s appearing positive) (bottom) NMR spectra of 6,7-bis(3,4-bis(2-(2-ethoxyethoxy)ethoxy)phenyl)-4,9-dibromo-[1,2,5]thiadiazolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline (7) in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.



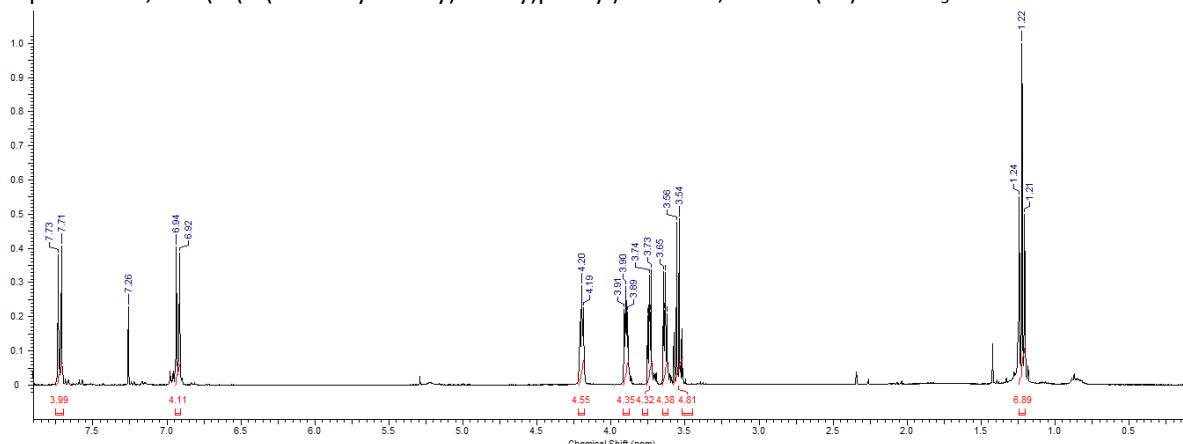
**Figure S7.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1-bromo-4-[2-(2-ethoxyethoxy)ethoxy]benzene (8) in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



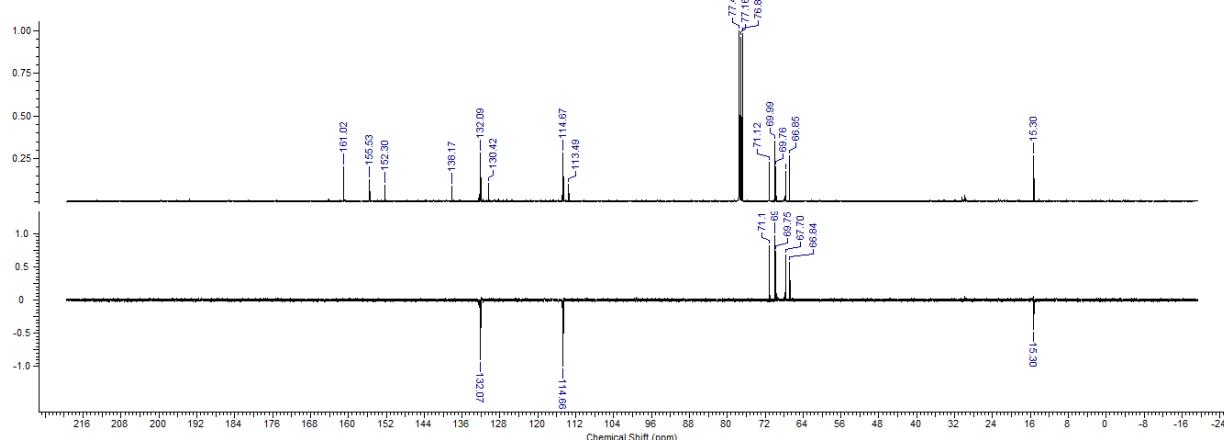
**Figure S8.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 1,2-bis(4-(2-(2-ethoxylethoxy)ethoxy)phenyl)ethane-1,2-dione (10) in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



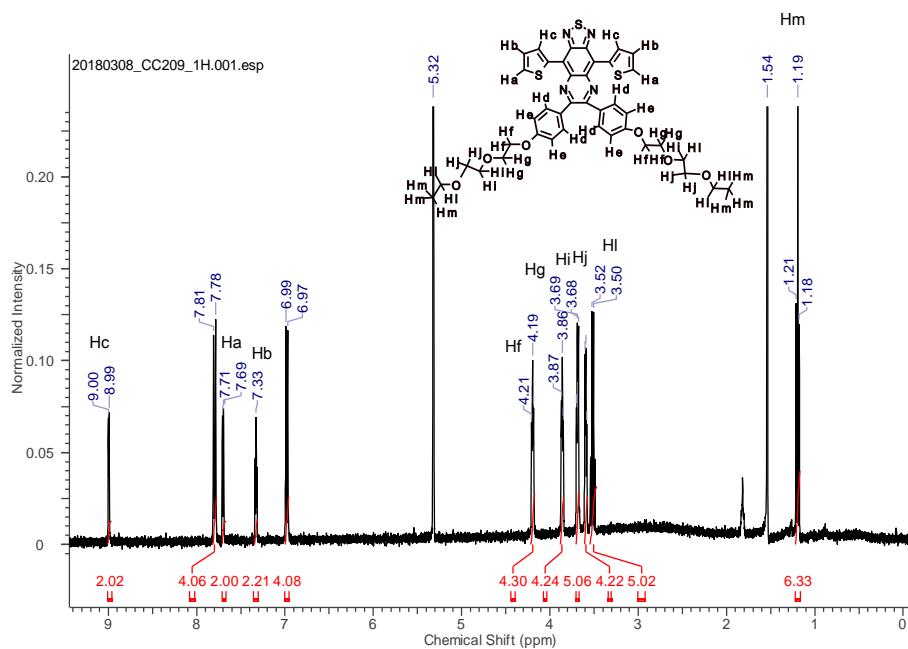
**Figure S9.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  (100 MHz) (top) and DEPT 135 (CH and CH<sub>3</sub>'s appearing positive and CH<sub>2</sub>'s appearing negative) (bottom) NMR spectra of 1,2-bis(4-(2-(2-ethoxylethoxy)ethoxy)phenyl)ethane-1,2-dione (10) in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



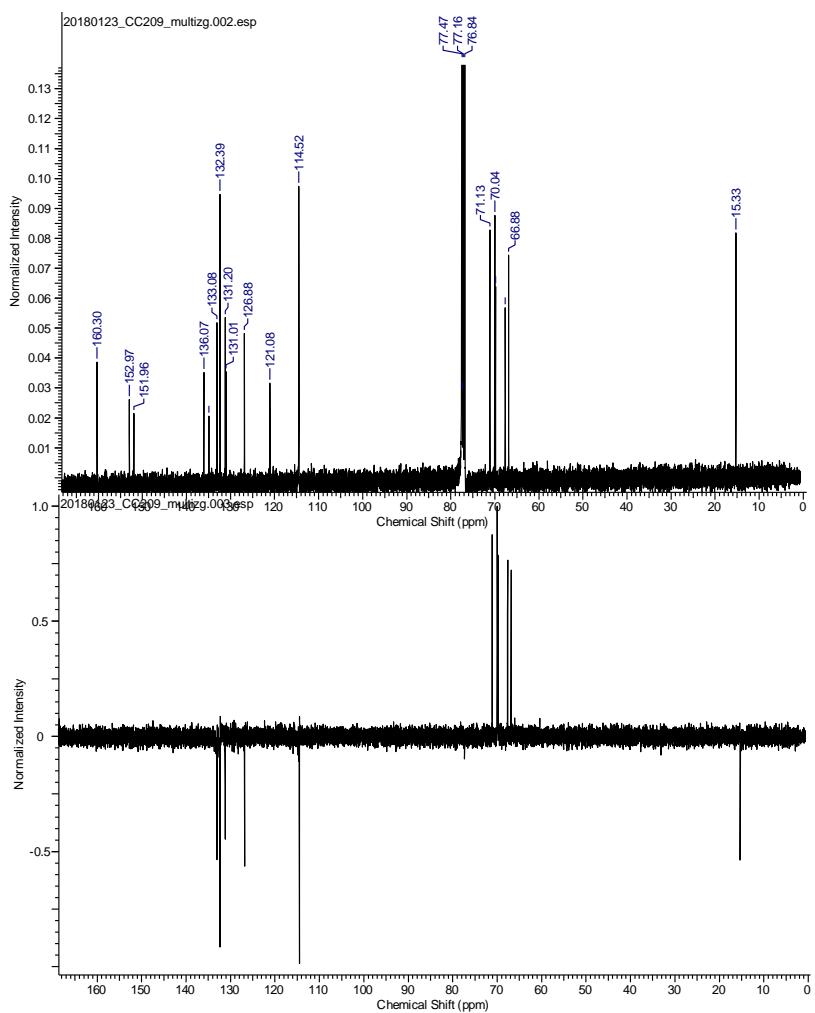
**Figure S10.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of 4,9-dibromo-6,7-bis(4-(2-(2-ethoxylethoxy)ethoxy)phenyl)-[1,2,5]thiadiazolo[3,4-g]quinoxaline (11) in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



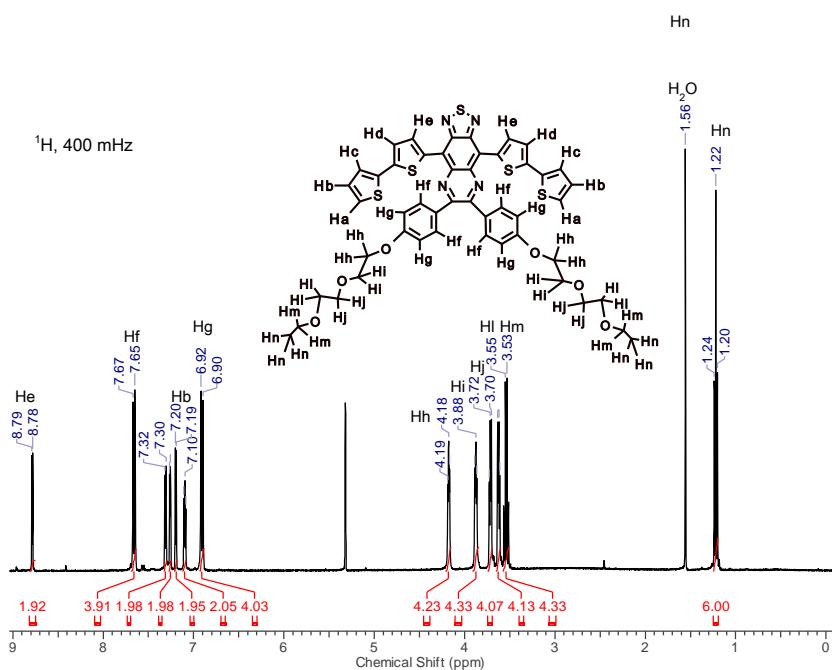
**Figure S11.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  (100 MHz) (top) and DEPT 135 (CH and CH<sub>3</sub>'s appearing negative and CH<sub>2</sub>'s appearing positive) (bottom) NMR spectra of 4,9-dibromo-6,7-bis(4-(2-(2-ethoxylethoxy)ethoxy)phenyl)-[1,2,5]thiadiazolo[3,4-*g*]quinoxaline (**11**) in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



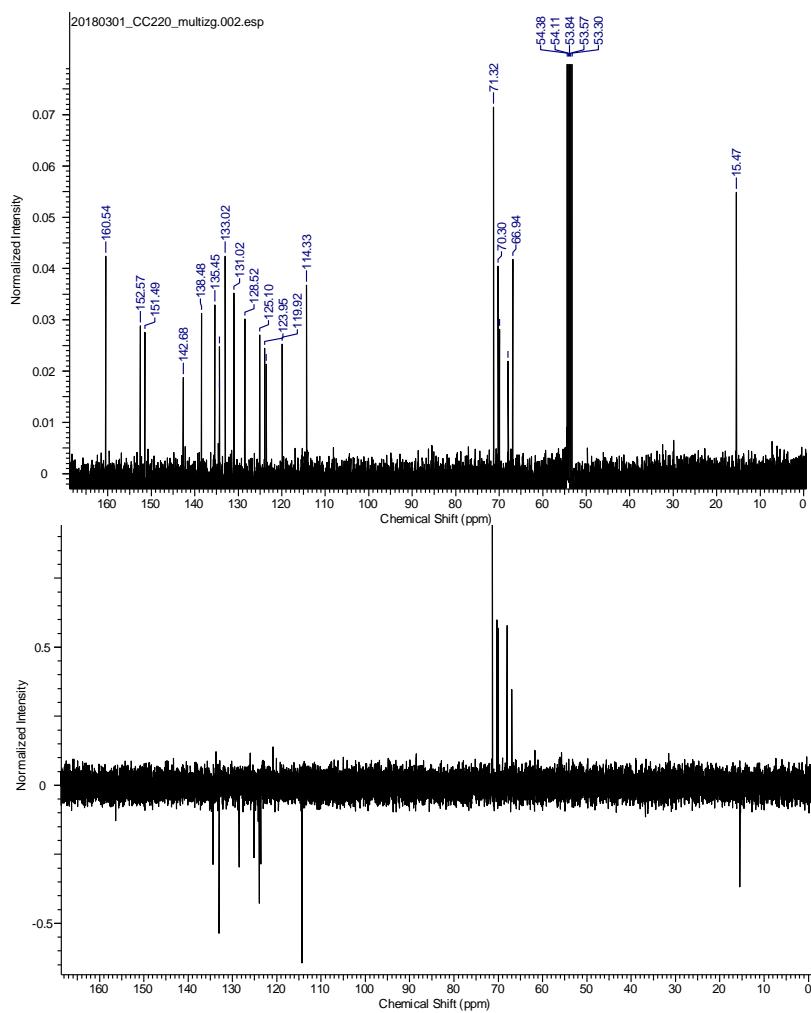
**Figure S12.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of TQT1 in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .



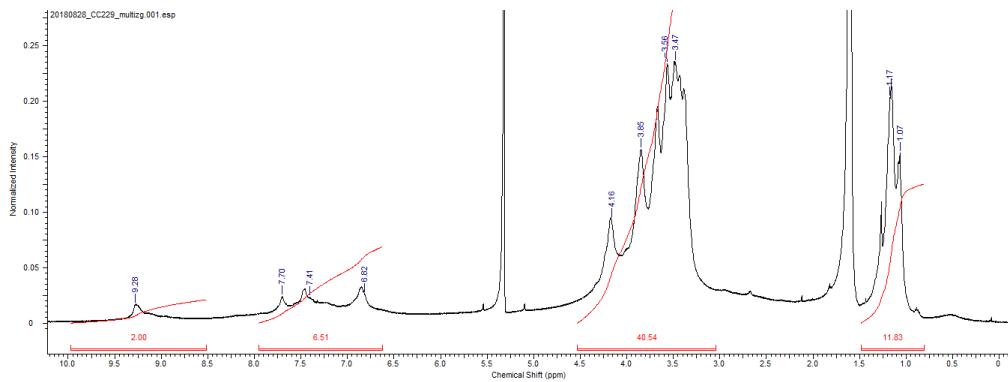
**Figure S13.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  (100 MHz) (top) and DEPT 135 (CH and CH<sub>3</sub>'s appearing negative and CH<sub>2</sub>'s appearing positive) (bottom) NMR spectra of TQT1 in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



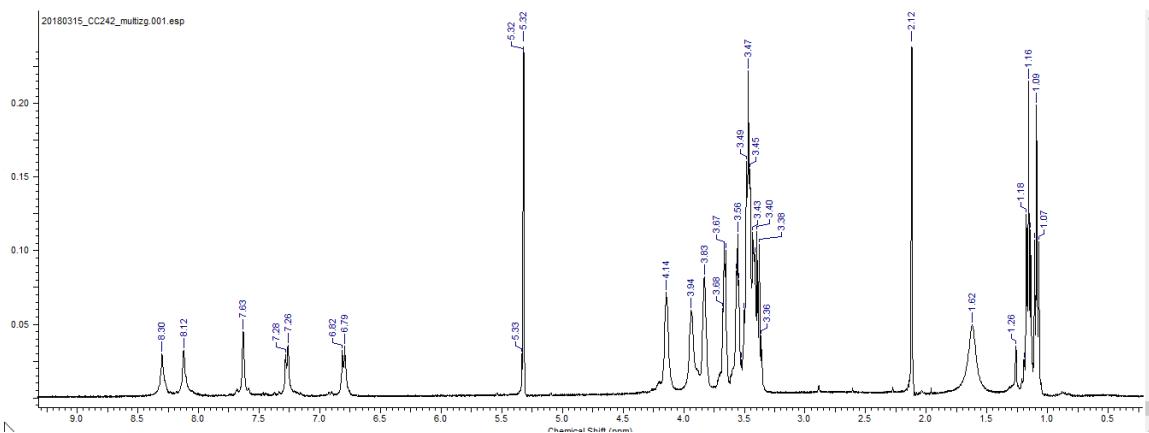
**Figure S14.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of TQT2 in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .



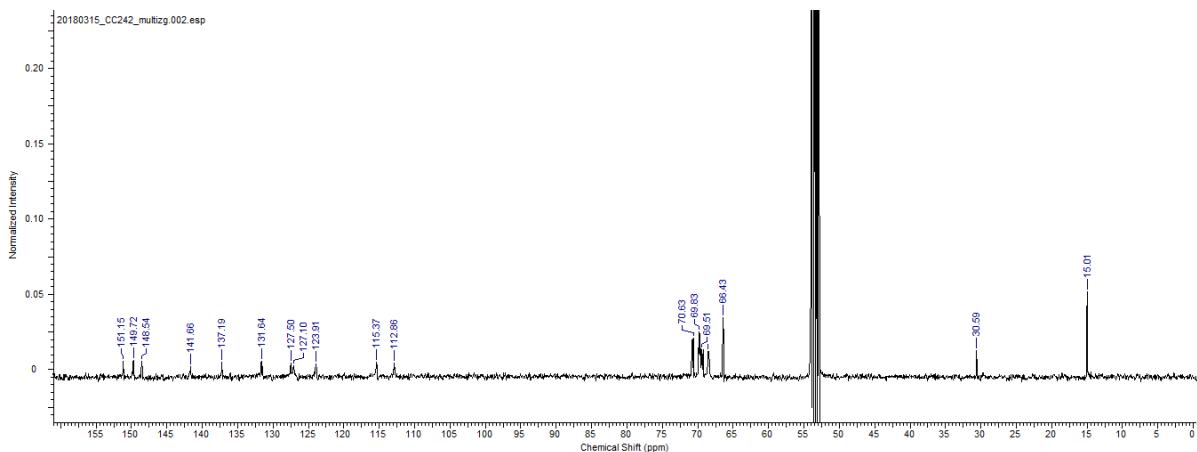
**Figure S15.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  (100 MHz) (top) and DEPT 135 (CH and CH<sub>3</sub>'s appearing negative and CH<sub>2</sub>'s appearing positive) (bottom) NMR spectrum of TQT2 in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .



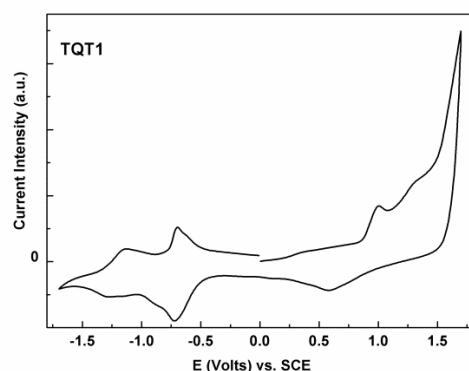
**Figure S16.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of PTQT in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .



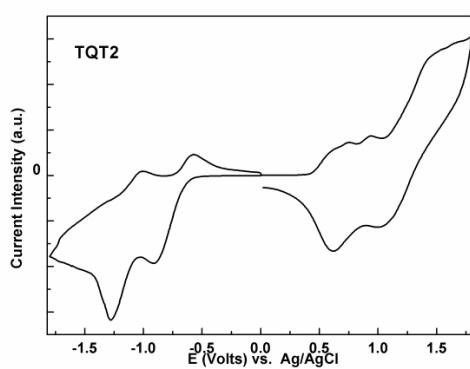
**Figure S17.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz) spectrum of PQT in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .



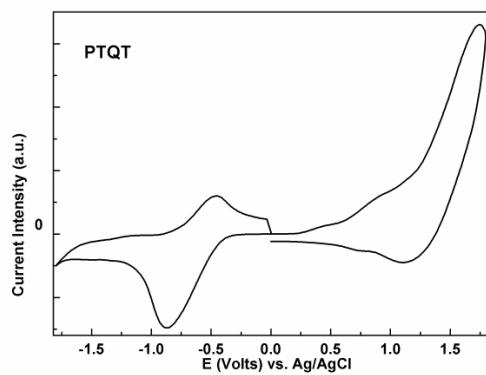
**Figure S18.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz) spectrum of PQT in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .



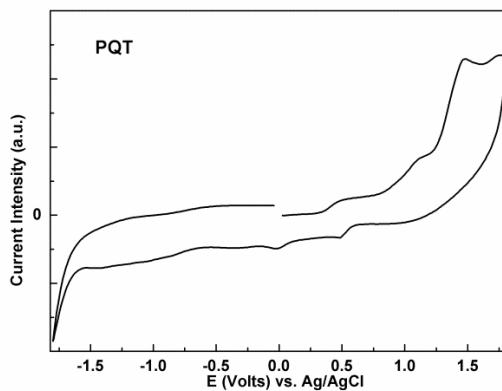
**Figure S19.** Cyclic voltammogram of TQT1 obtained at the scan rate of 50 mV/s.



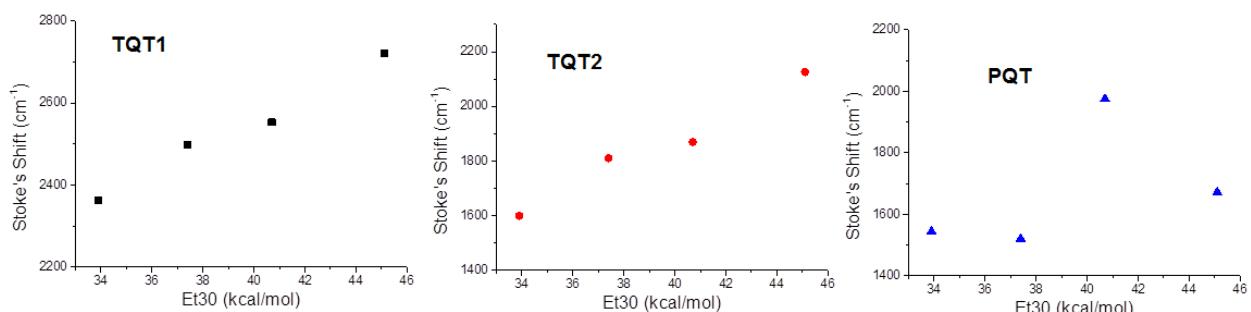
**Figure S20.** Cyclic voltammogram of TQT2 obtained at the scan rate of 50 mV/s.



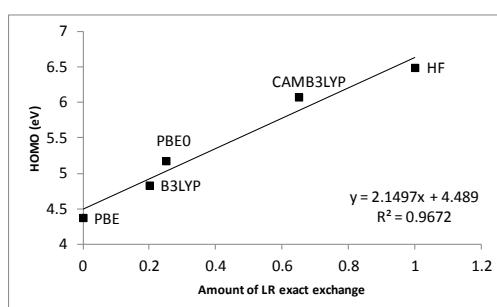
**Figure S21.** Cyclic voltamogram of PTQT obtained at the scan rate of 50 mV/s.



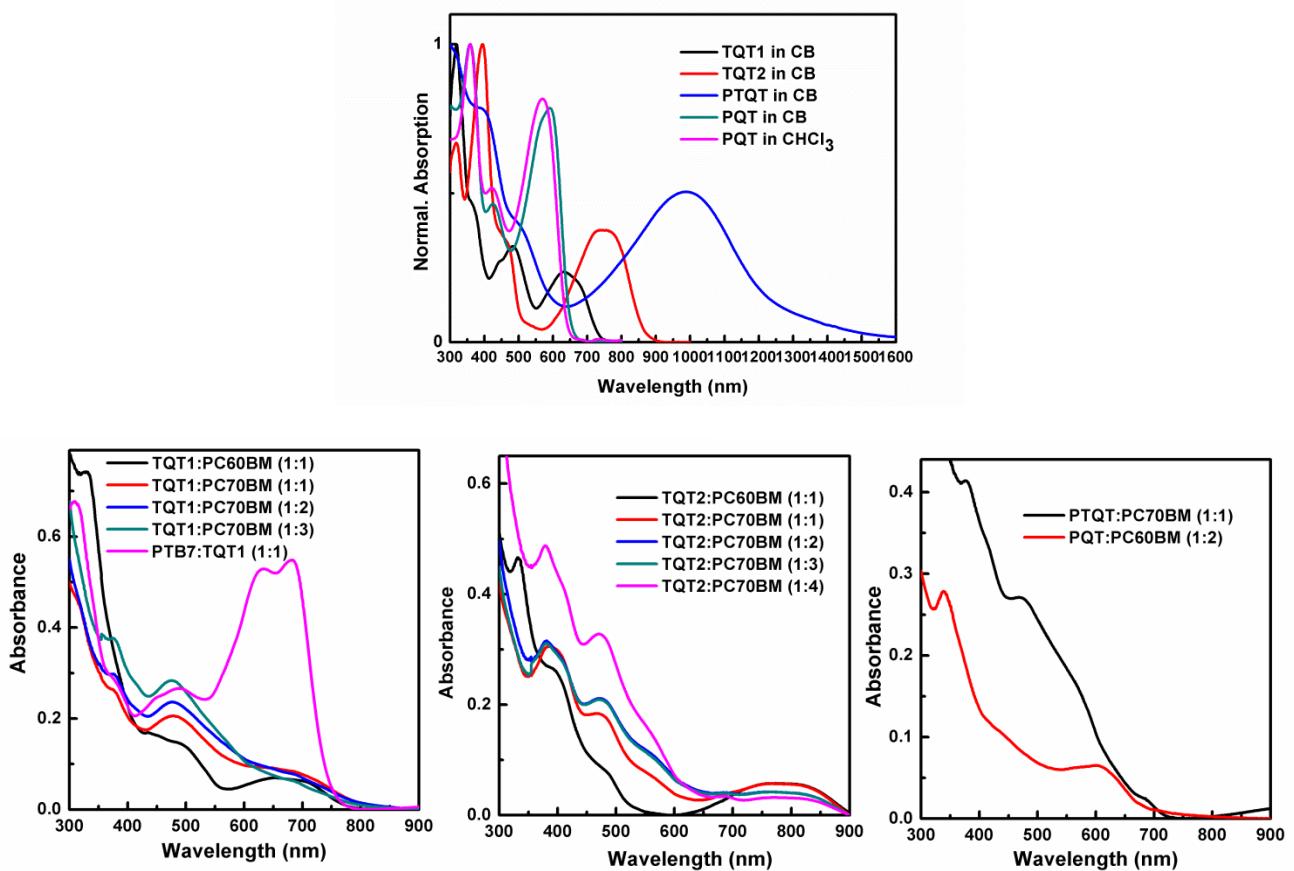
**Figure S22.** Cyclic voltammogram of PQT obtained at the scan rate of 50 mV/s



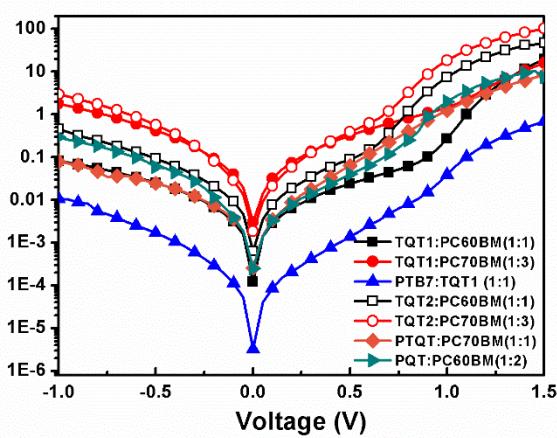
**Figure S23.** Stoke's shifts as a function of the solvent polarity parameter Et30 for TQT1, TQT2 and PQT.



**Figure S24.** Dependence of the HOMO level on the amount of LR exact Exchange for TQT1



**Figure S25.** Top: UV-Visible absorption spectra (300-900 nm) of the pure compounds (TQT1, TQT2, PTQT, PQT) in the solvents used for preparing the active blends (chlorobenzene or chloroform) and (bottom) of active blends of the fabricated OSCs.

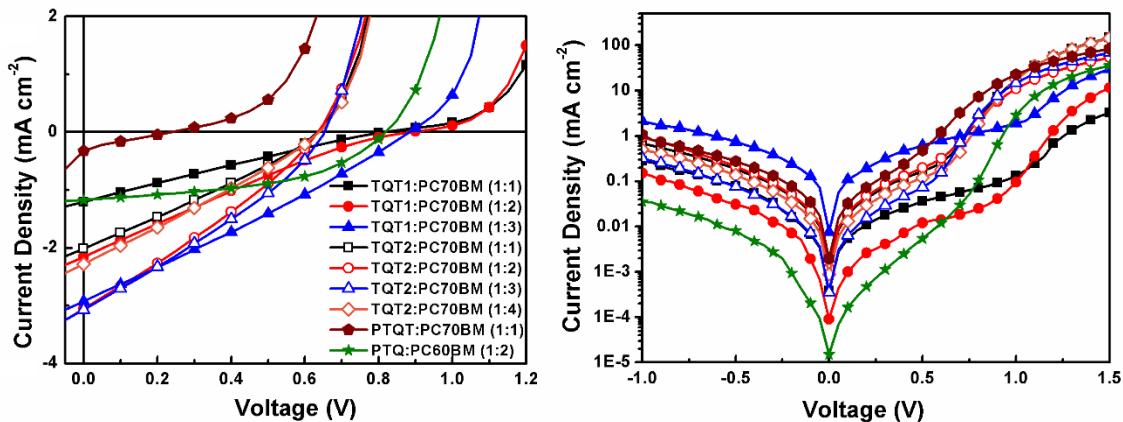


**Figure S26.** *J-V* curves in a semilogarithmic representation for the best performing OSCs for each D:A pair in the dark.

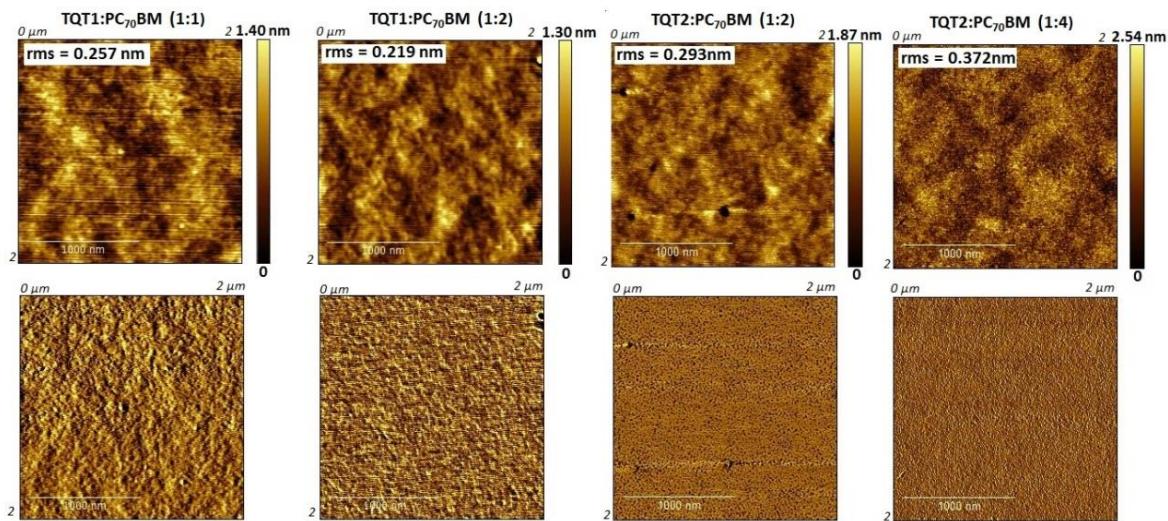
**Table S1.** Performance parameters of the solar cells fabricated with TQT1, TQT2, PQTQ, and PQT (under  $82 \text{ mW.cm}^{-2}$ ).

Active layer	Ratio (D:A)	$J_{SC}$ ( $\text{mA/cm}^2$ )	$V_{OC}$ (V)	FF	PCE (%) best/ave <sup>a</sup>	Thickn (nm)
TQT1:PC <sub>70</sub> BM	1:1	-1.20	0.81	0.23	0.29/0.24	90
	1:2	-2.16	0.88	0.21	0.51/0.46	85
	1:3	-2.93	0.88	0.27	0.88/0.70	90
TQT2:PC <sub>70</sub> BM	1:1	-2.02	0.64	0.28	0.42/0.36	120
	1:2	-3.05	0.64	0.29	0.66/0.55	100
	1:3	-3.07	0.65	0.30	0.71/0.63	80
	1:4	-2.28	0.64	0.27	0.49/0.45	105
PTQT:PC <sub>70</sub> BM	1:1	-0.33	0.24	0.21	0.02/0.02	150
PQT:PC <sub>60</sub> BM	1:2	-1.17	0.82	0.48	0.61/0.54	95

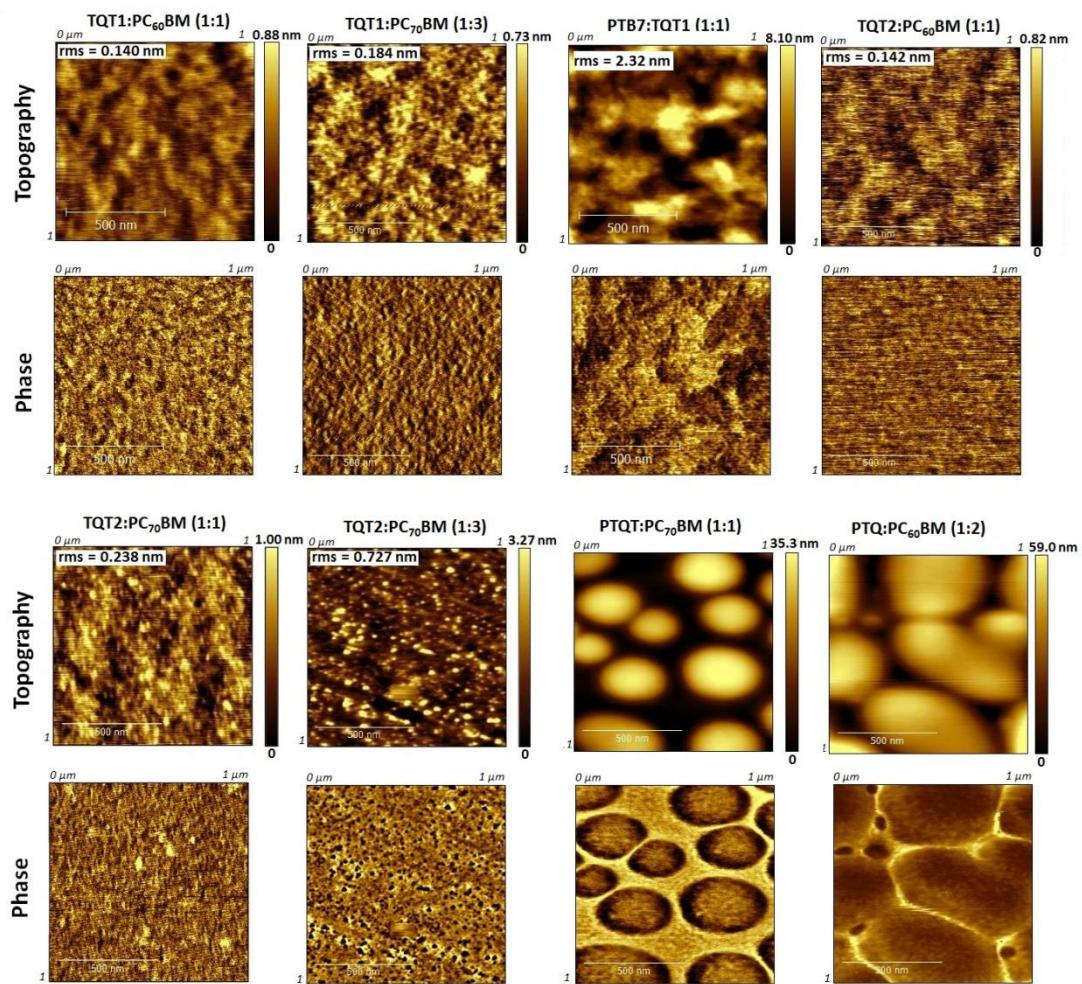
<sup>a</sup> Best values followed by the averages calculated from at least 8 devices.



**Figure S27.**  $J$ - $V$  characteristics for the OSCs under AM1.5G ( $82 \text{ mW/cm}^2$ ) illumination (left) and in dark conditions (semilogarithmic scale) (right).



**Figure S28.** Phase AFM images of the active layers shown in Figure 6 of the main manuscript.



**Figure S29.** AFM images of active layers of the fabricated cells.