

## Supporting Information

### Rosindone Revisited: A Computational and Photophysical Study of 7-Phenylbenzo[a]phenazine-5(7H)-one (PBP)

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Benniston

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**Table S2.** Bond order (NBO) for C-C bonds calculated using Pauling's expression  $D = D_1 - 0.70 \log \text{NBO}$  and where  $D$  is the observed bond length and  $D_1$  is the expected bond length (1.504 Å).

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**S13.** Excitation spectrum (black) and emission spectrum (red) recorded for **PBP** in an ethanol glass at 80K.

**S14.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (700 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of **PBP**.

**S15.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (175 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of **PBP**.

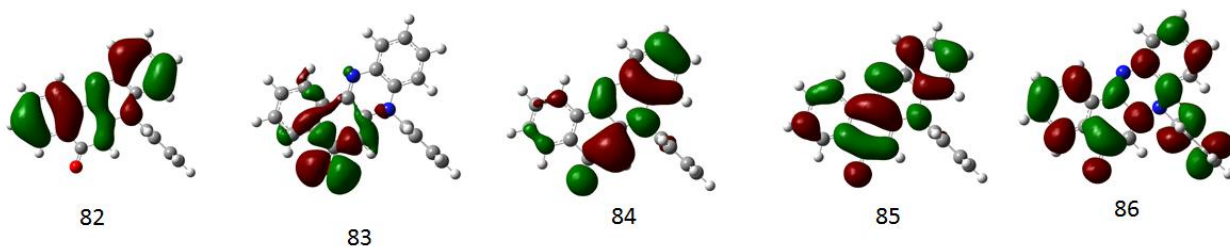
**Table S1.** DFT calculated dipole moments and wavelength maximum values for **PBP** in a selection of solvents with different polarity.

Solvent	Dipole Moment / D	$\lambda_{\max}$ / nm <sup>b,c</sup>	Molecular Orbitals <sup>d,e</sup>
Gas-phase	5.55	463 (0.187)	82-85 (0.017) 84-85 (0.462) 84-86 (0.011)
MeCN	8.95	475 (0.281)	83-85 (0.012) 84-85 (0.473)
CHEX <sup>f</sup>	6.70	475 (0.285)	82-85 (0.011) 84-85 (0.474)
DMSO <sup>g</sup>	9.00	477 (0.296)	83-85 (0.011) 84-85 (0.474)
THF <sup>h</sup>	8.23	476 (0.289)	83-85 (0.011) 84-85 (0.474)
DCM <sup>i</sup>	8.37	477 (0.293)	83-85 (0.011) 84-85 (0.474)
Toluene	6.95	476 (0.298)	84-85 (0.476)
MeOH	8.93	475 (0.277)	83-85 (0.012) 84-85 (0.472)

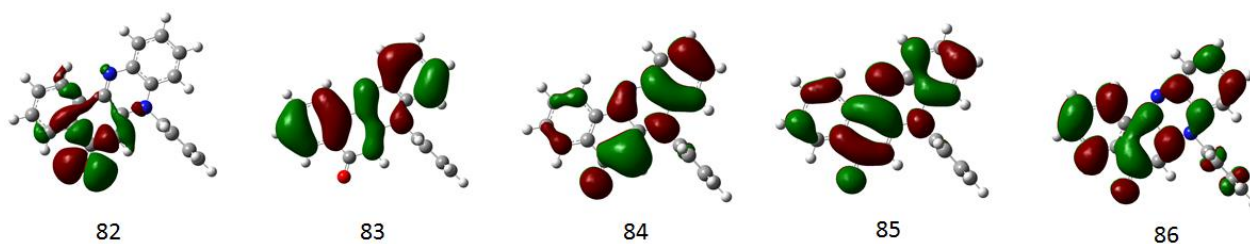
<sup>a</sup> DFT calculated parameters using B3LYP and 6-311G+(d) basis set and IEFPCM in Gaussian 09. <sup>b</sup>Calculated using TD-DFT and IEFPCM in Gaussian 09. <sup>c</sup>Calculated oscillator strength, <sup>d</sup> numbering of molecular orbitals involved in the absorption envelope, <sup>e</sup> square of molecular orbital coefficient, <sup>f</sup>cyclohexane, <sup>g</sup>dimethylsulfoxide, <sup>h</sup>tetrahydrofuran, <sup>i</sup> dichloromethane

### Selected Kohn-Sham Frontier Molecular Orbitals

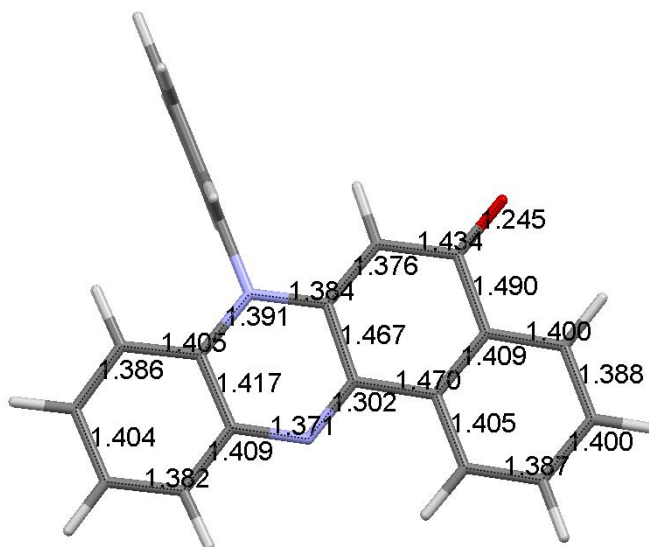
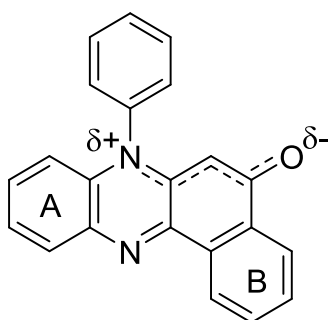
Gas Phase + Cyclohexane



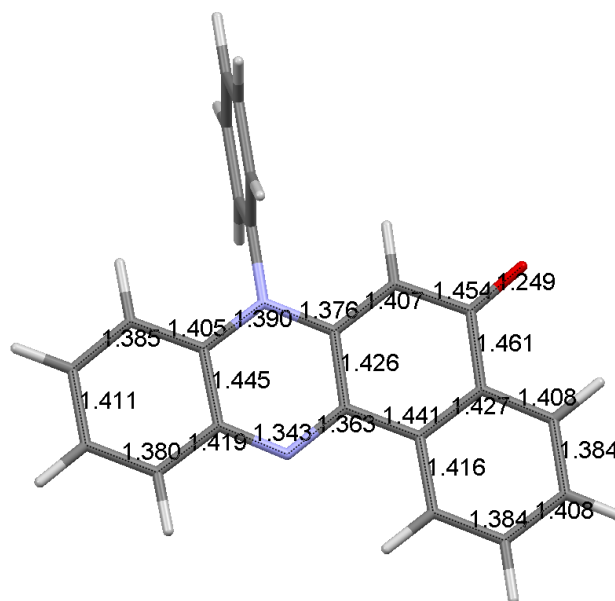
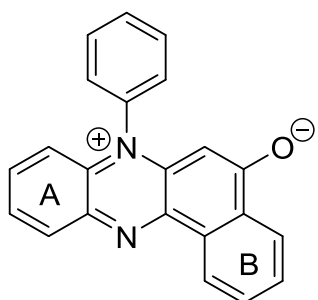
MeCN, Toluene, THF, DCM, MeOH, DMSO



**Ground State (Dipole Moment = 8.95D)**



**First Excited Singlet State (Dipole Moment = 9.71D)**

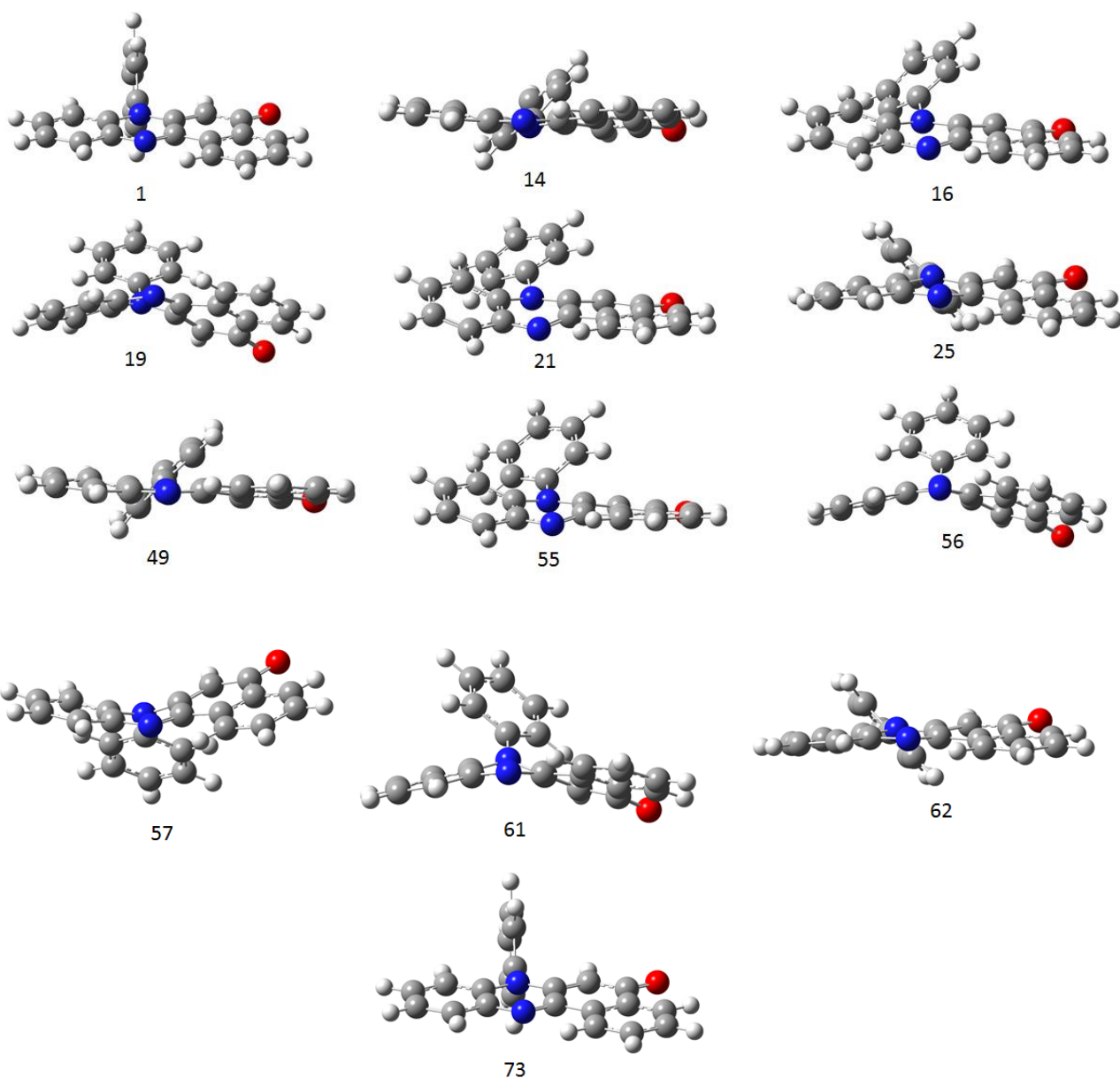


**S1.** Comparison of TD-DFT calculated bond lengths for the ground and first-excited singlet state structures for **PBP** in a MeCN solvent bath. Note the changes in the bond orders are collected in Table 1.

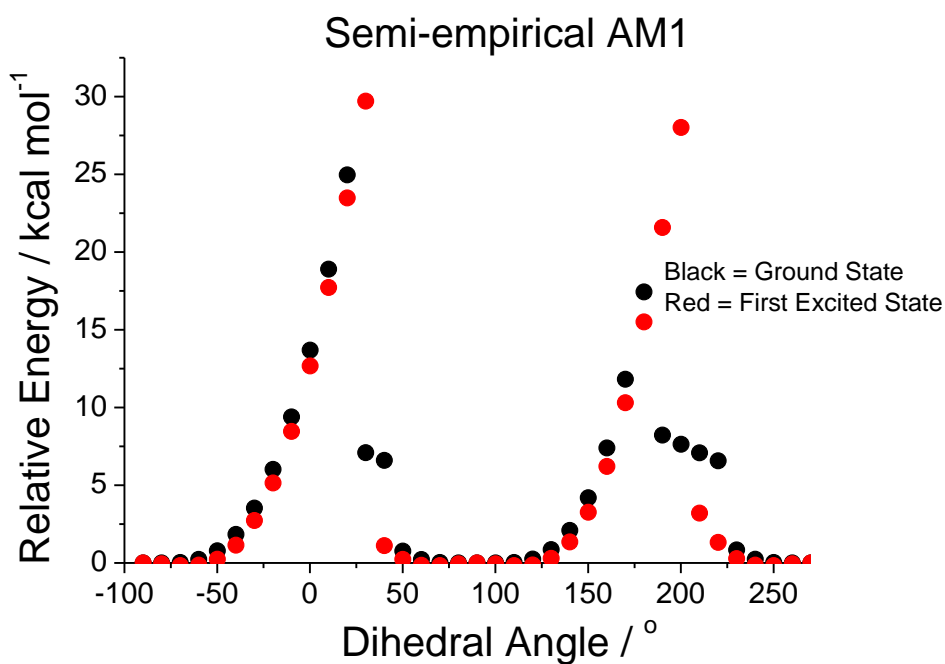
**Table S2.** Bond order (NBO) for C-C bonds calculated using Pauling's expression  $D = D_1 - 0.70 \log \text{NBO}$  and where  $D$  is the observed bond length and  $D_1$  is the expected bond length (1.504 Å).

Ground State		Excited State			
D / Å	N <sub>BO</sub>	D / Å	N <sub>BO</sub>	Δ N <sub>BO</sub>	% Change
1.376	1.52	1.407	1.38	-0.14	-9.2
1.434	1.26	1.454	1.18	-0.08	-6.3
1.490	1.05	1.461	1.15	0.1	9.5
1.400	1.41	1.408	1.37	-0.04	-2.8
1.388	1.47	1.384	1.48	0.01	0.68
1.400	1.41	1.408	1.37	-0.04	-2.8
1.387	1.47	1.384	1.48	0.01	0.68
1.405	1.39	1.416	1.34	-0.05	-3.6
1.409	1.37	1.427	1.29	-0.08	-5.8
1.470	1.12	1.441	1.23	0.11	9.8
1.467	1.13	1.426	1.29	0.16	14.1
1.405	1.39	1.405	1.39	0	0
1.386	1.47	1.385	1.48	0.01	0.68
1.404	1.39	1.411	1.36	-0.03	-2.2
1.382	1.49	1.380	1.50	0.01	0.67
1.409	1.37	1.419	1.32	-0.05	-3.6
1.417	1.33	1.445	1.21	-0.12	-9.0

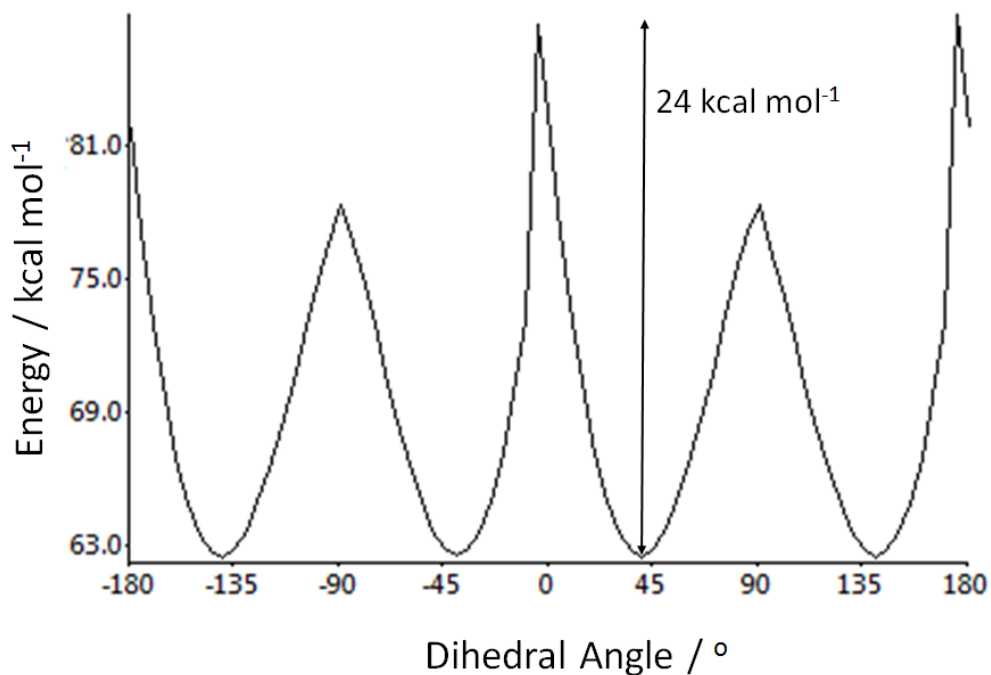
Overall change -9.19%



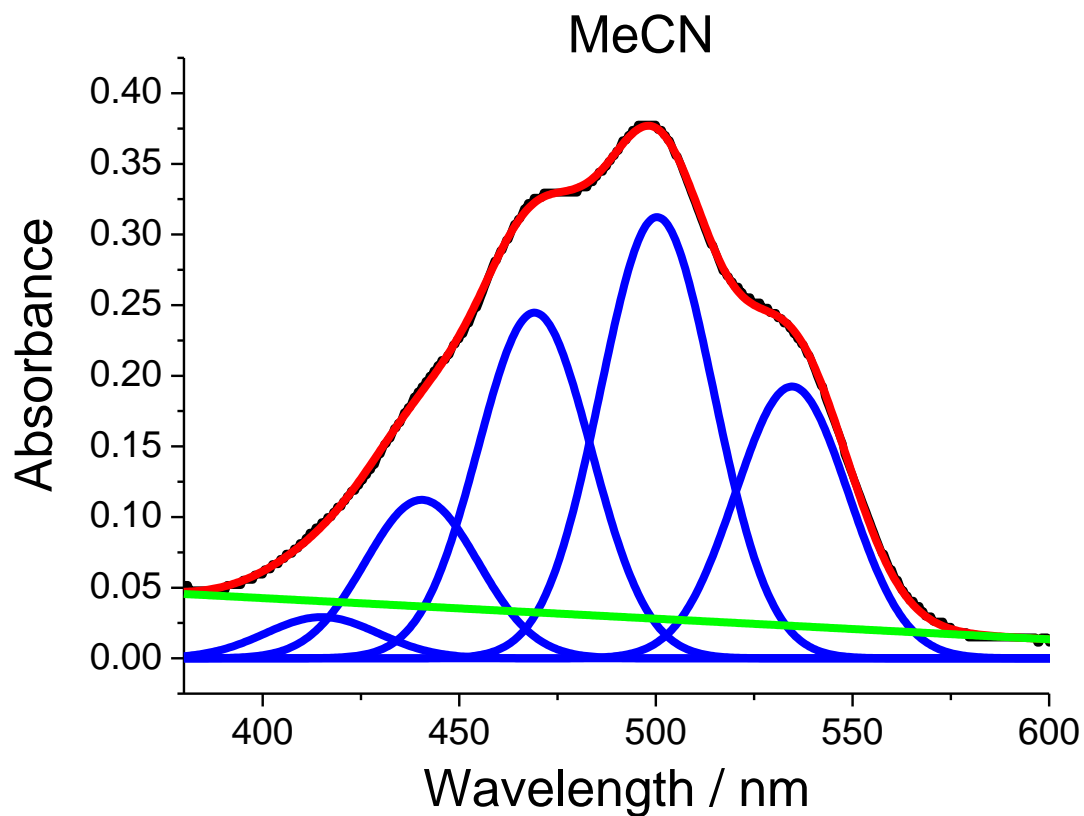
**S2.** DFT B3LYP, 6-311G+(d) calculated molecular geometries of **PBB** in the gas phase as the phenyl group is rotated through 360° at 5° intervals starting at step 1.



**S3.** Relative energies of **PBP** in the ground state (black) and first-excited state (red) versus the dihedral angle at the *N*-phenyl subunit calculated using a semi-empirical (AM1) method. Each point represents a change in angle of 10°.



**S4.** MM<sup>+</sup> single angle calculation results for **PBP** as the phenyl group is rotated using the program Chem3D.

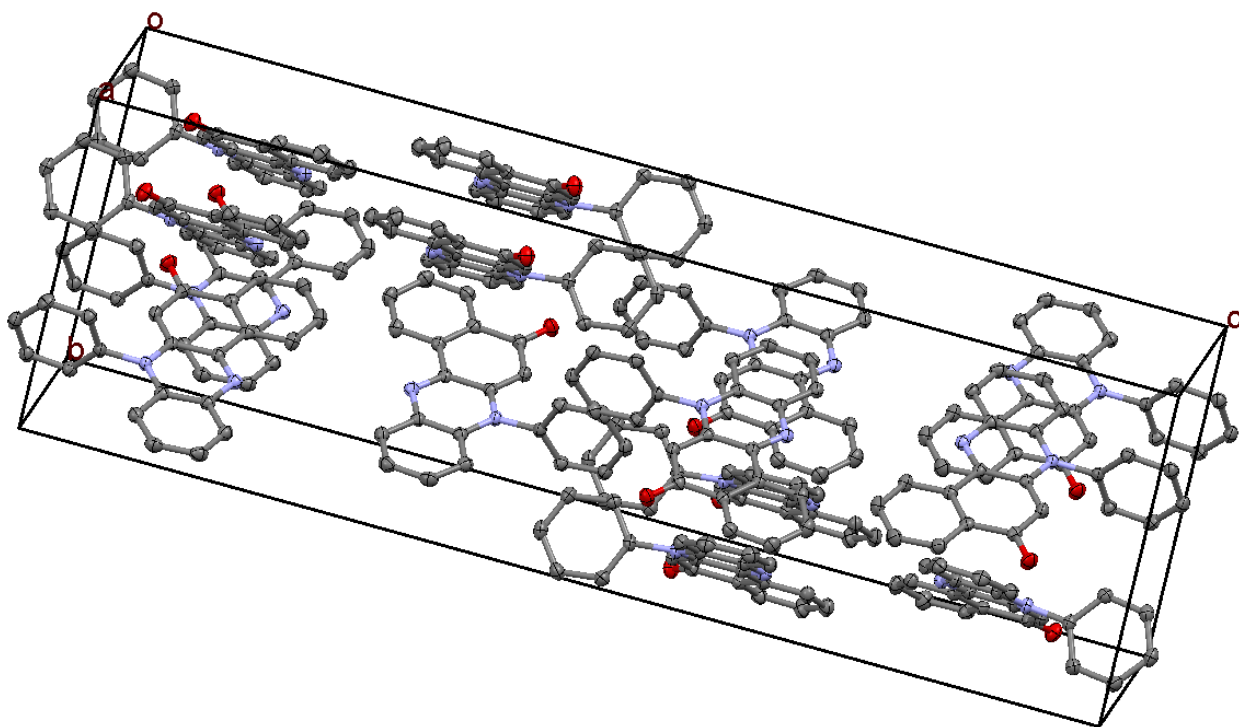


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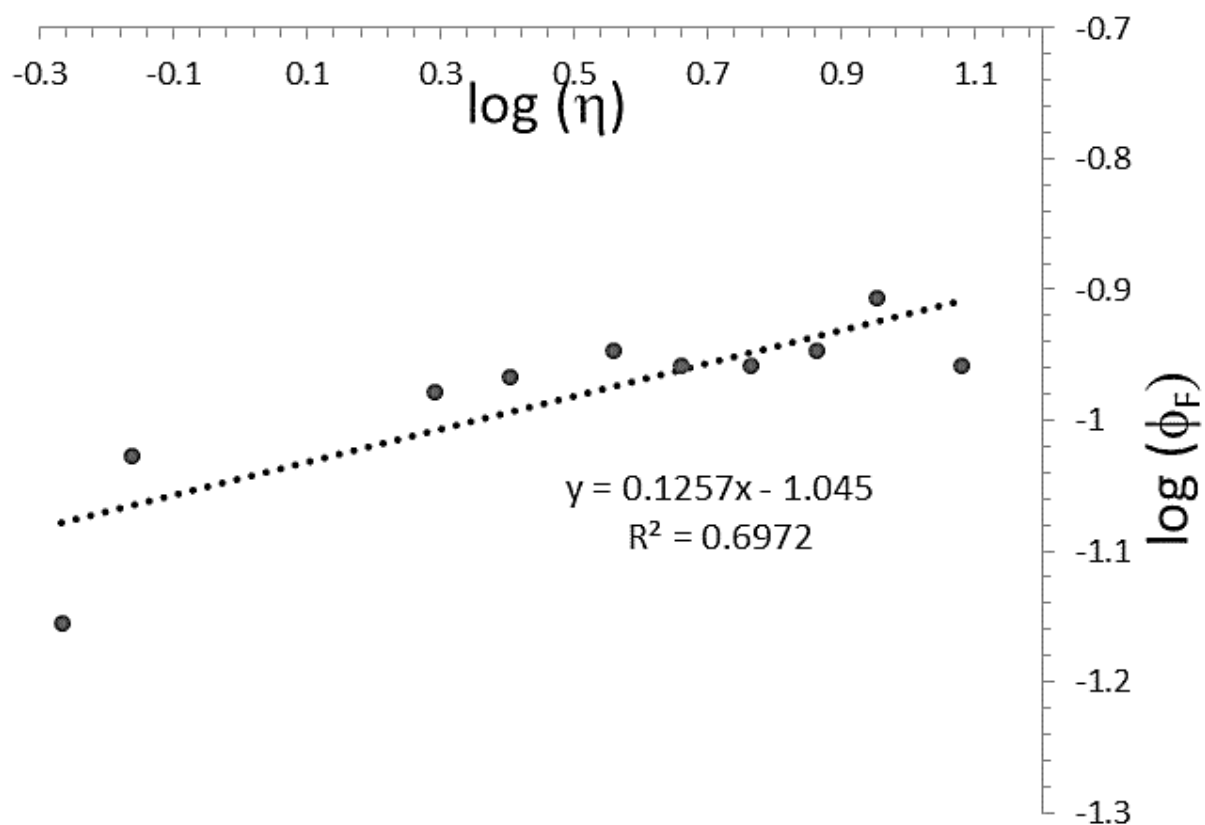


**Table S3.** Crystal data and structure refinement for **PBP**

Empirical formula	C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>14</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O
Formula weight	322.35
Temperature/K	150.0(2)
Crystal system	orthorhombic
Space group	Pbca
a/Å	8.23403(10)
b/Å	10.88902(13)
c/Å	34.4570(5)
$\alpha$ /°	90
$\beta$ /°	90
$\gamma$ /°	90
Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	3089.43(7)
Z	8
$\rho_{\text{calc}}$ /cm <sup>3</sup>	1.386
$\mu$ /mm <sup>-1</sup>	0.683
F(000)	1344.0
Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>	0.21 × 0.12 × 0.06
Radiation	CuK $\alpha$ ( $\lambda$ = 1.54184)
2 $\Theta$ range for data collection/°	10.268 to 133.618
Index ranges	-9 ≤ h ≤ 6, -10 ≤ k ≤ 12, -41 ≤ l ≤ 39
Reflections collected	18745
Independent reflections	2720 [ $R_{\text{int}}$ = 0.0319, $R_{\text{sigma}}$ = 0.0176]
Data/restraints/parameters	2720/0/226
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.045
Final R indexes [ $I \geq 2\sigma(I)$ ]	$R_1$ = 0.0338, $wR_2$ = 0.0851
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1$ = 0.0411, $wR_2$ = 0.0905
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup>	0.14/-0.22

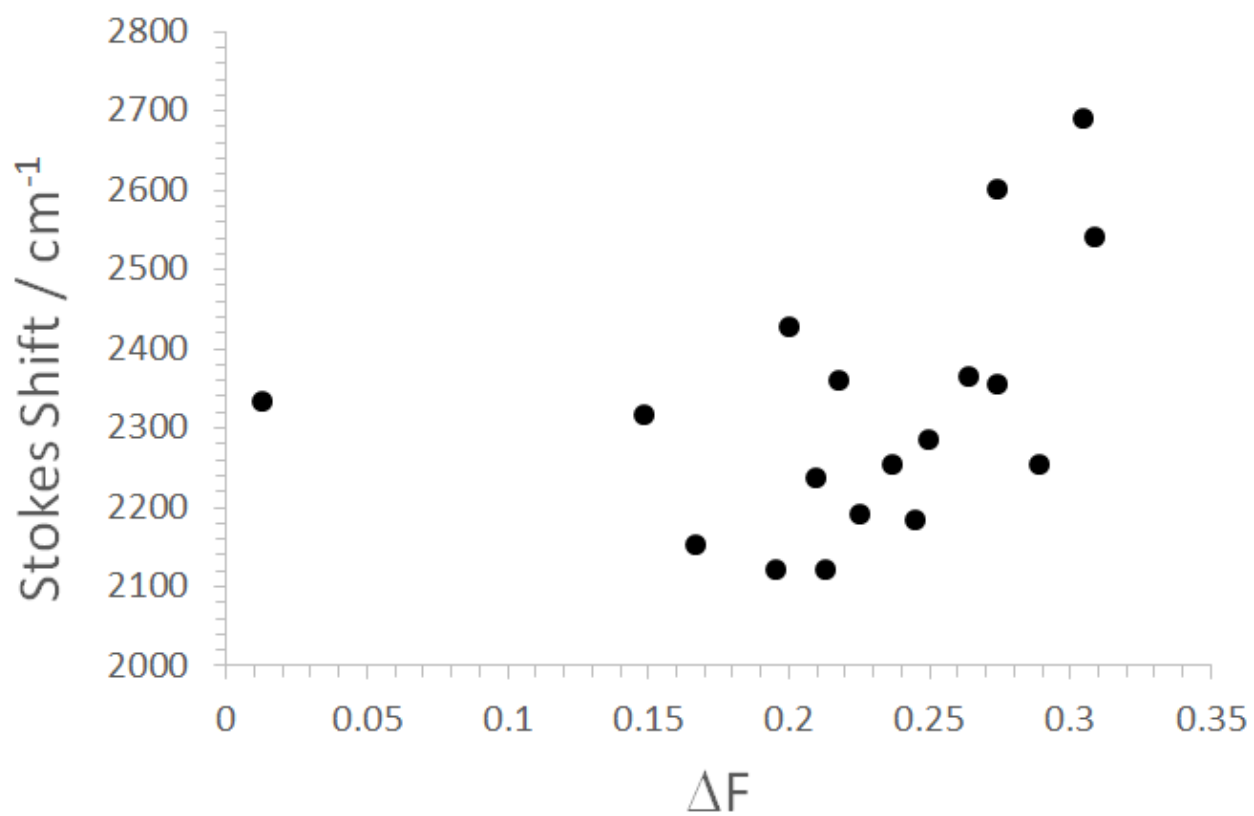


**S6.** Crystal packing diagram for **PBP**.

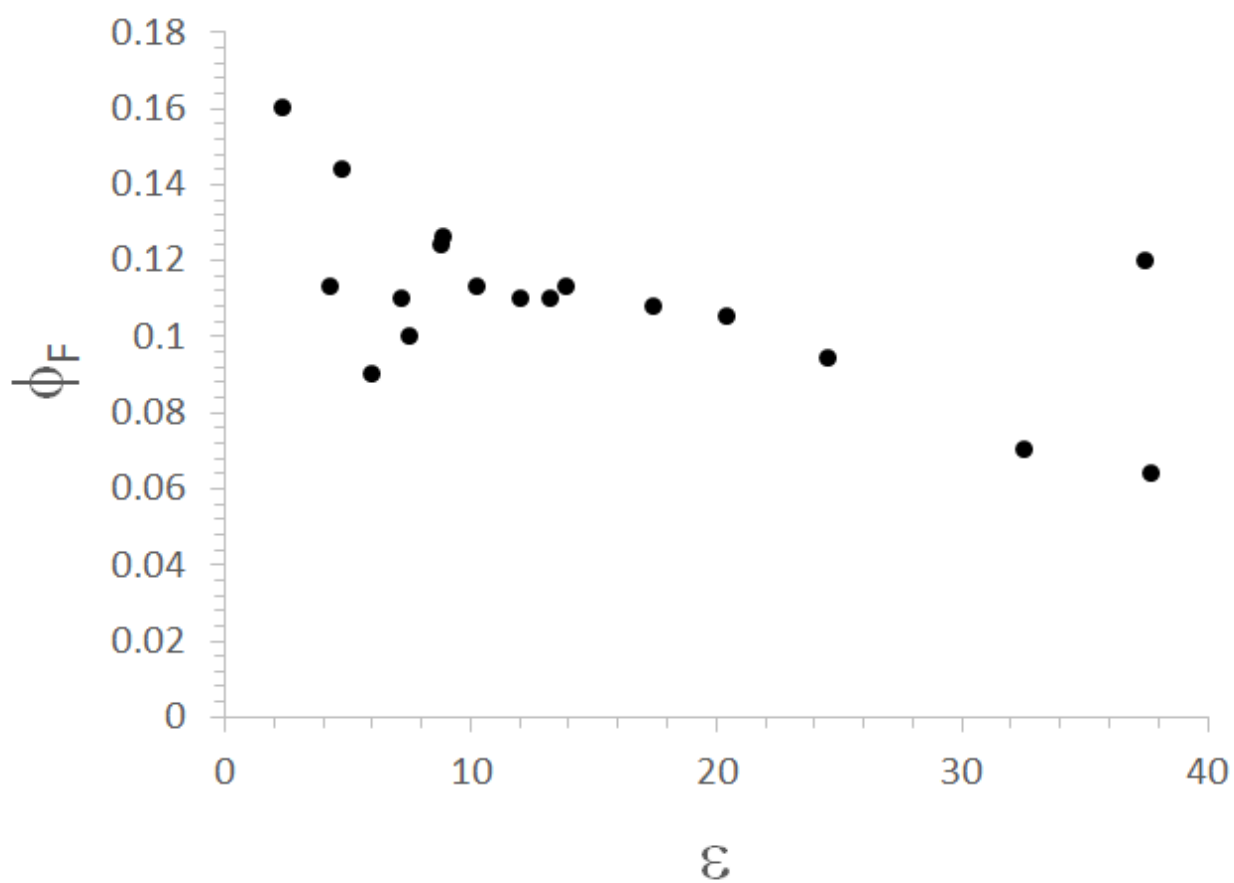


$$\log \phi_{\text{FLU}} = \alpha \log \eta + C \text{ (Eq. 1)}$$

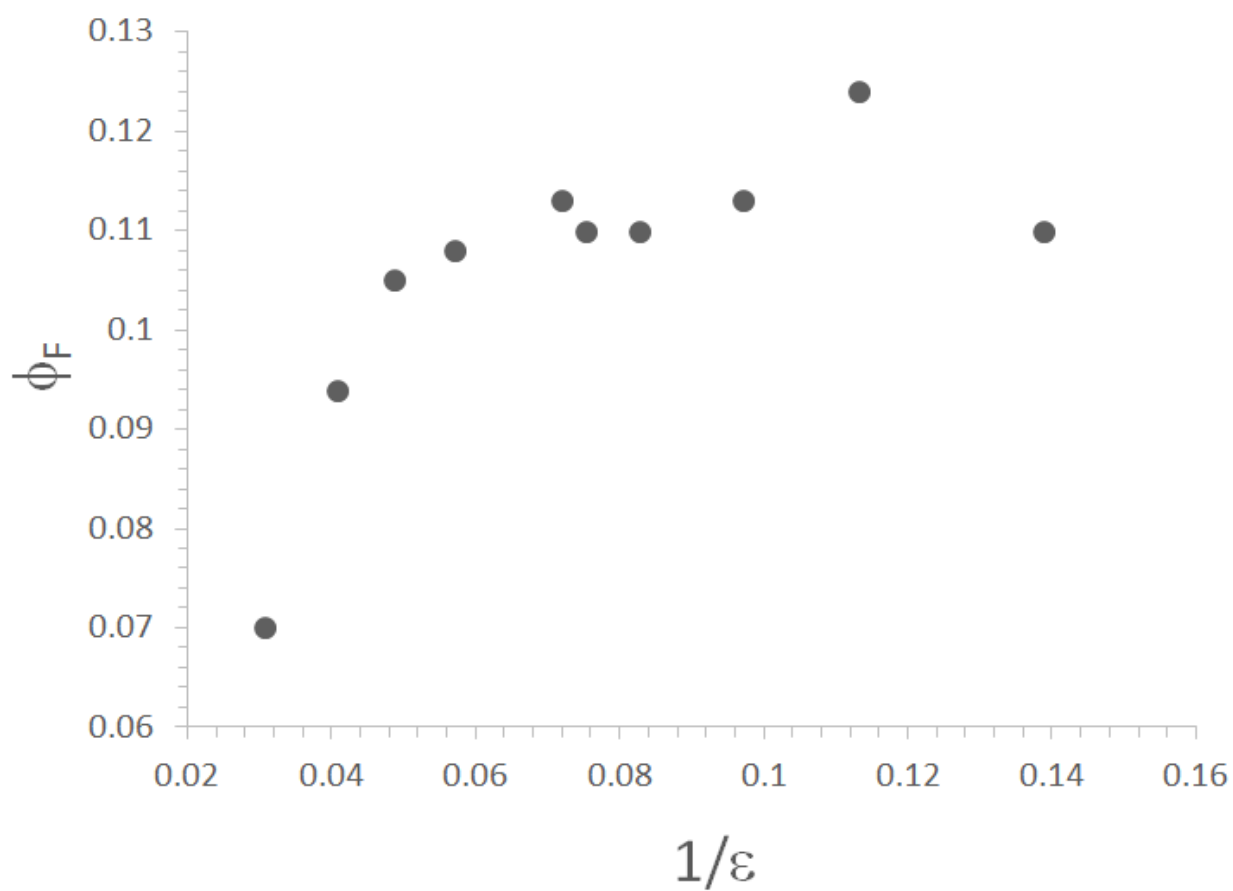
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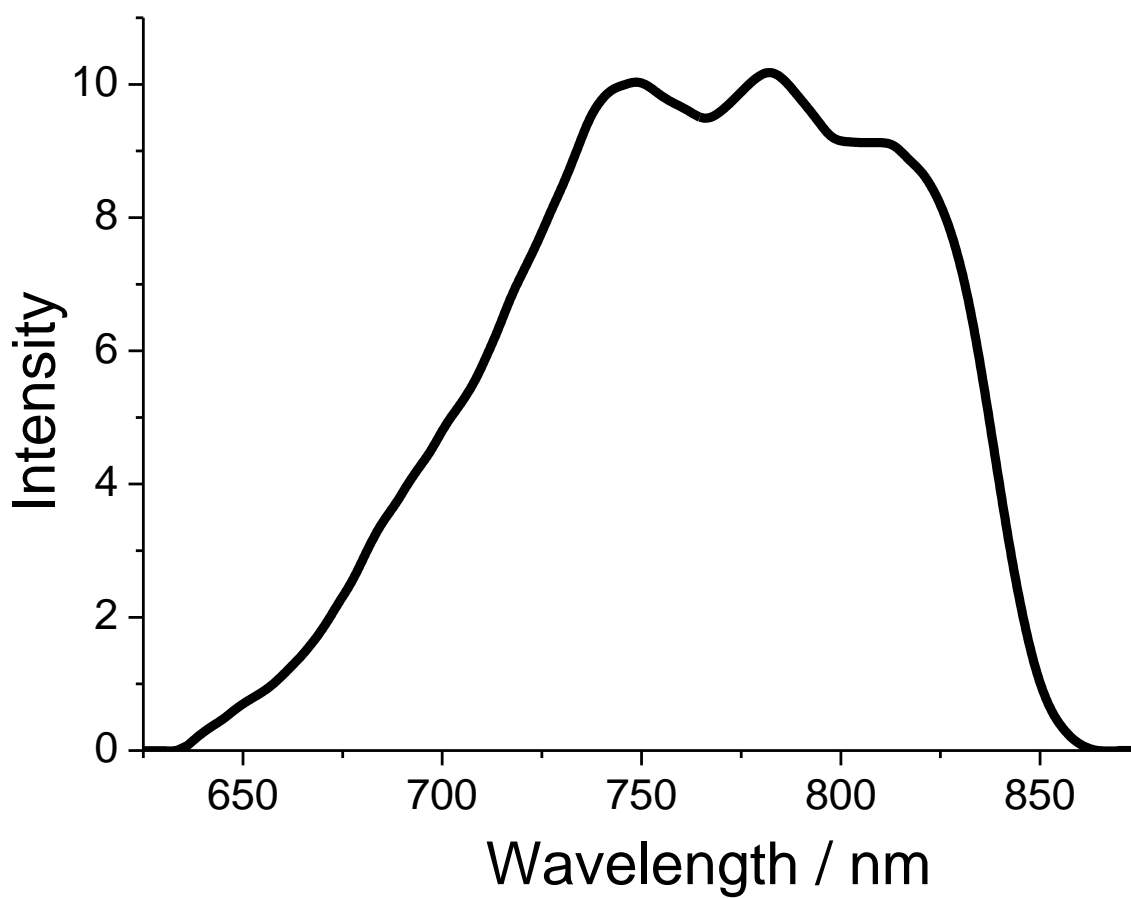
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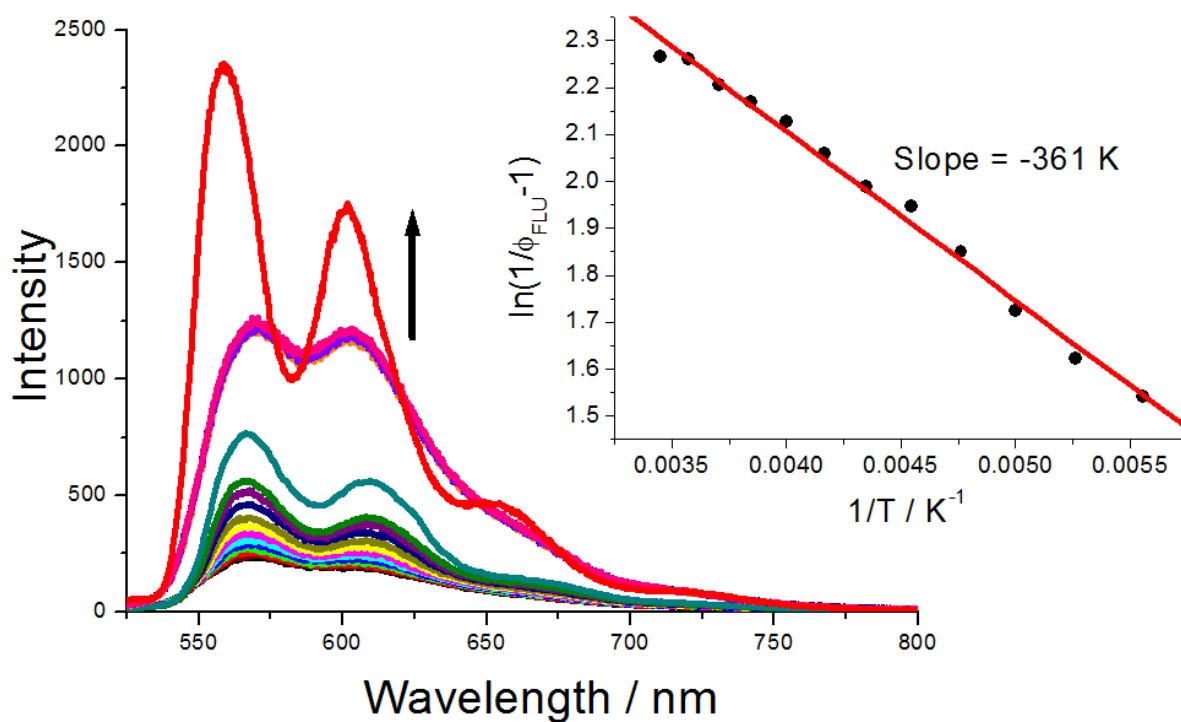
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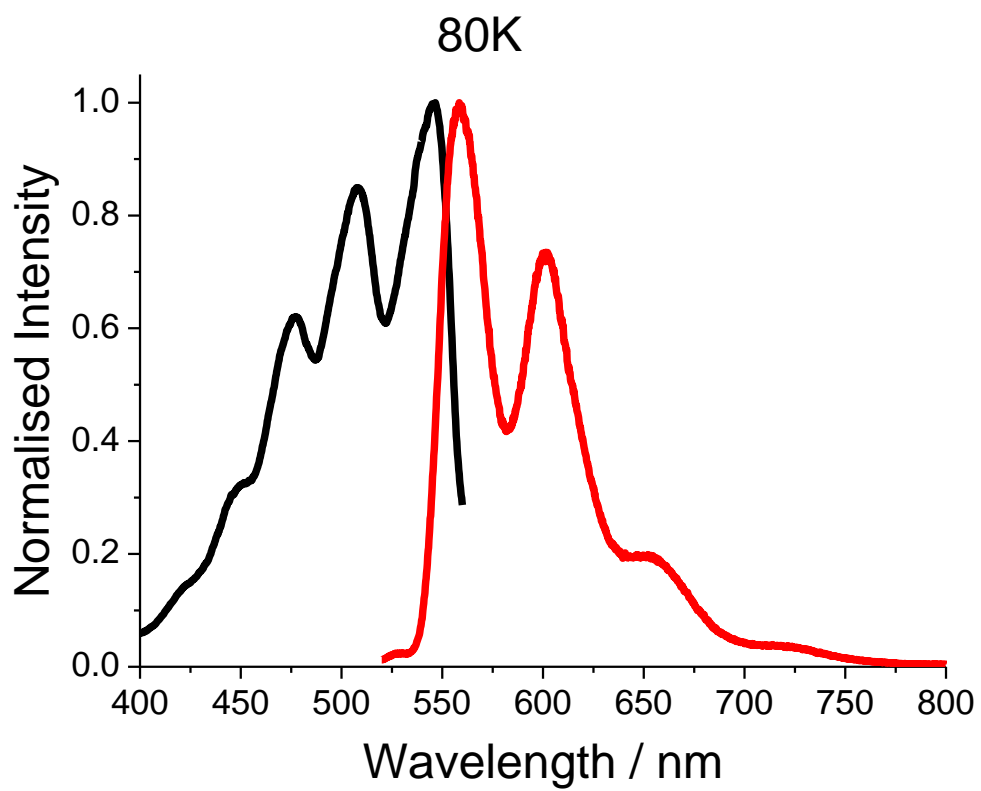
Given that  $k_{NR} = k_{RAD}((1/\phi_{FLU})-1)$  and assuming  $k_{RAD}$  remains constant with temperature then a plot of  $\ln((1/\phi_{FLU})-1)$  vs  $1/T$  will provide a slope =  $-\Delta E/R$ .

$k_{NR}$  = non-radiative rate,  $k_{RAD}$  = radiative rate,  $\Delta E$  = activation energy and  $R$  = gas constant.

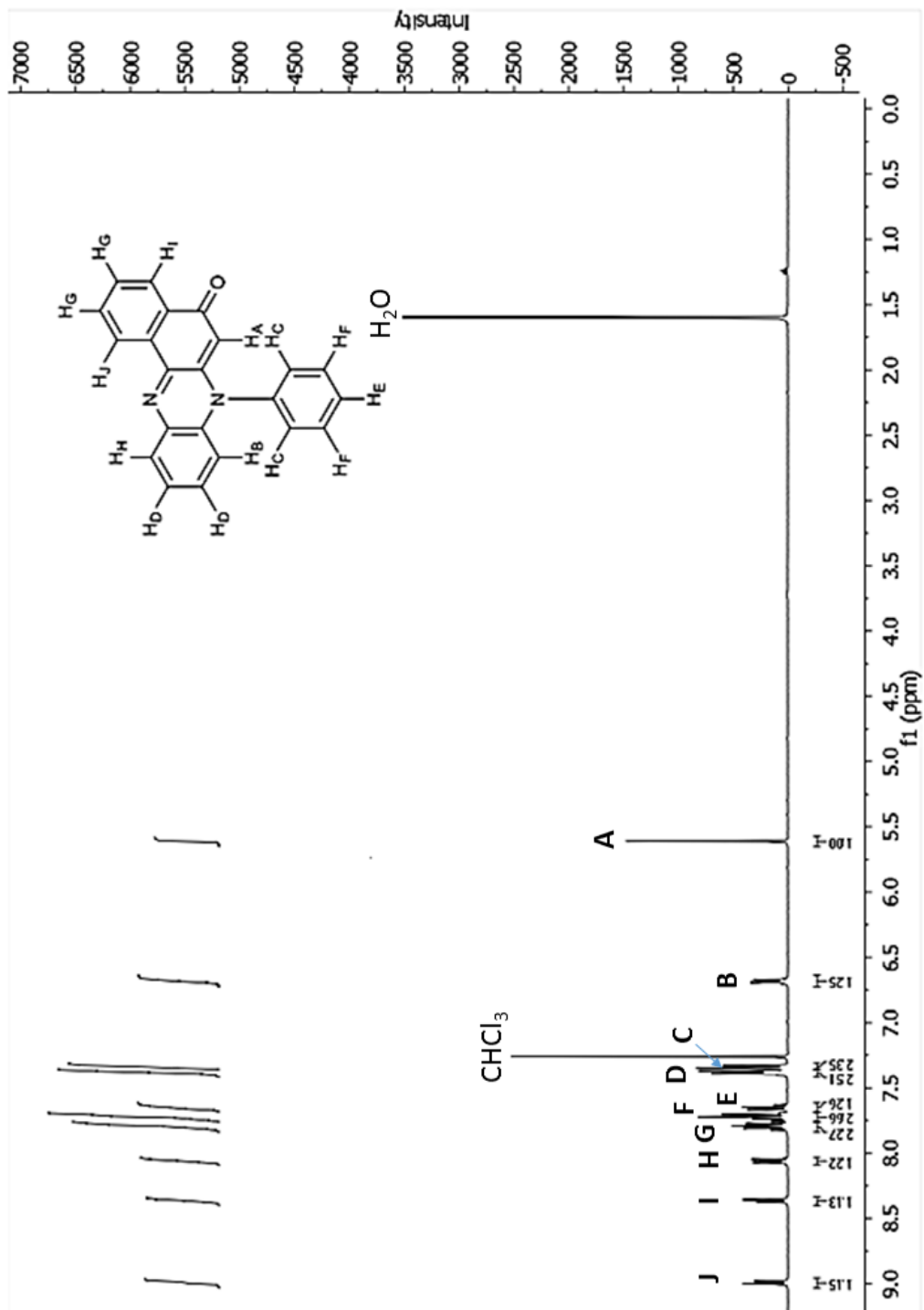


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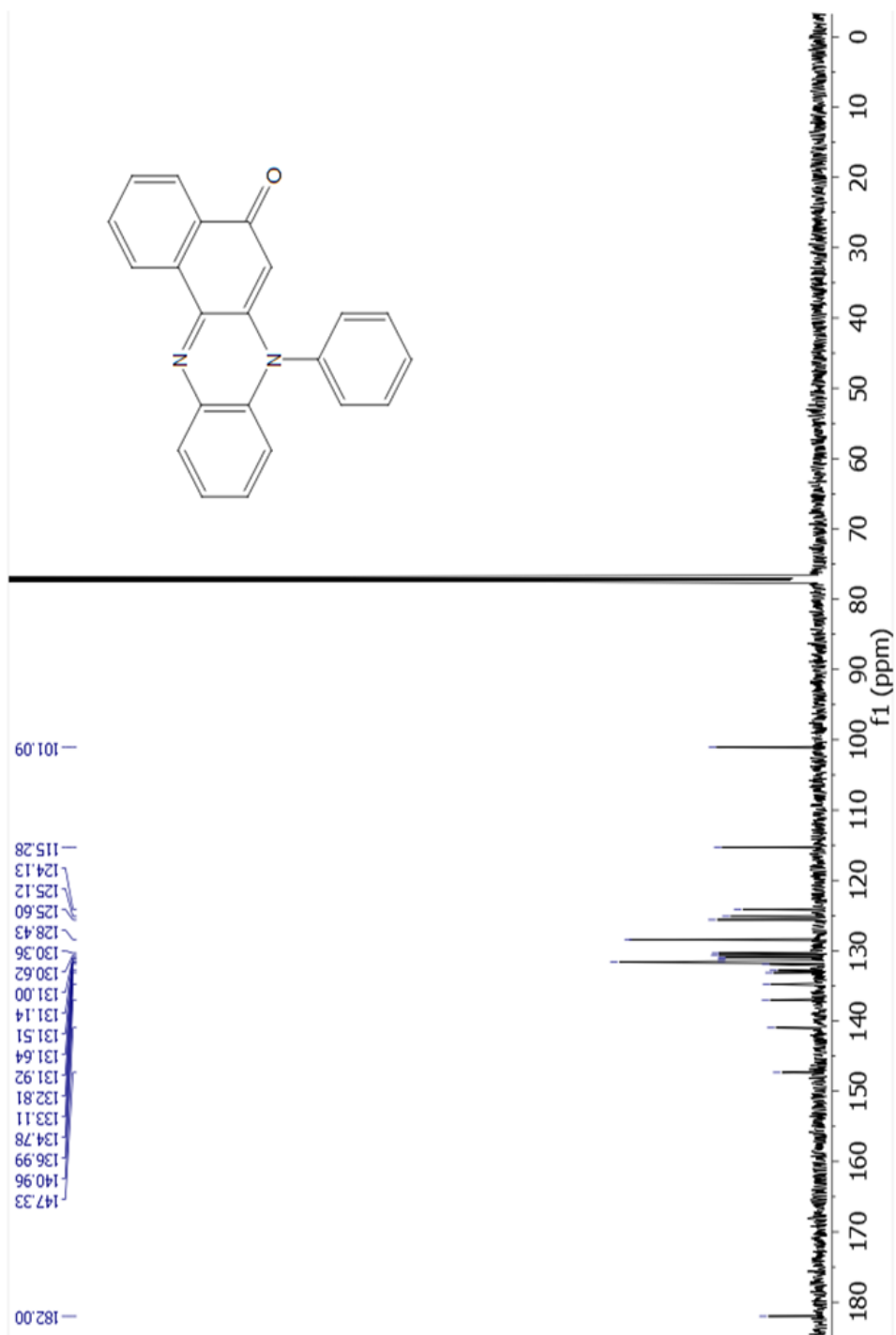




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