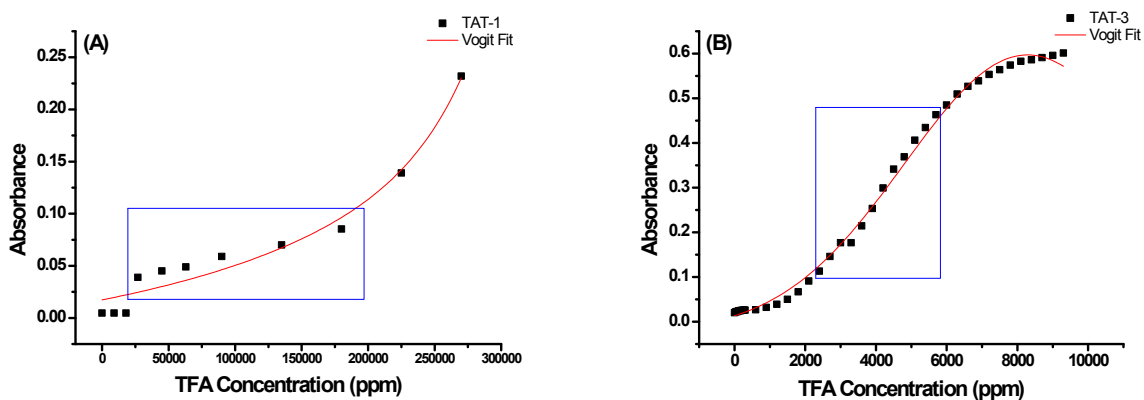


## Supporting Information

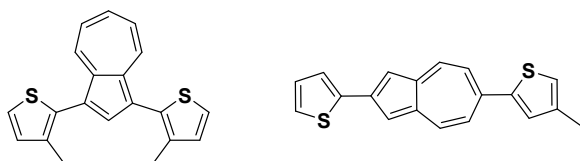
### Configurations dependent optical properties and acid susceptibility of azulene compounds

Tao Tang,<sup>a,b</sup> Tingting Lin,<sup>b</sup> Fuat Erden,<sup>a,b</sup> Fuke Wang,<sup>\*b</sup> and Chaobin He<sup>\*a, b</sup>



**Figure S1.** UV-vis-NIR spectra at the fixed wavelength of the TAT-1 (A: 513 nm) and TAT-3 (B: 546 nm) in chloroform solution as a function of TFA concentration.

**Table S1.** Excitation energies and oscillator strengths from the ground-state structures ( $S_0$ ) of TAT-1 and TAT-3 in neutral and protonated states.



TAT-1

TAT-3

Model compound

#### TAT-1

Excited State 1: Singlet-A 2.0958 eV 591.60 nm  $f=0.0074$   $\langle S^{*2} \rangle=0.000$

84 -> 85 0.70213

Excited State 2: Singlet-A 3.1154 eV 397.97 nm  $f=0.0737$   $\langle S^{*2} \rangle=0.000$

83 -> 85 -0.47240

84 -> 86 0.52238

Excited State 3: Singlet-A 3.3850 eV **366.28** nm f=**0.2159** <S\*\*2>=0.000

80 -> 85 -0.18553

81 -> 85 0.15430

83 -> 85 0.50176

84 -> 86 0.43200

Excited State 4: Singlet-A 3.7770 eV 328.26 nm f=0.0303 <S\*\*2>=0.000

79 -> 85 -0.21199

82 -> 85 0.52282

83 -> 86 -0.41115

Excited State 5: Singlet-A 3.8707 eV 320.32 nm f=0.0600 <S\*\*2>=0.000

82 -> 85 0.44286

83 -> 86 0.51134

84 -> 87 0.18491

Excited State 6: Singlet-A 3.9023 eV 317.72 nm f=0.0322 <S\*\*2>=0.000

80 -> 85 0.20814

81 -> 85 0.66459

Excited State 7: Singlet-A 4.0371 eV **307.12** nm f=**0.1952** <S\*\*2>=0.000

79 -> 85 -0.43820

82 -> 85 -0.14459

84 -> 87 0.52992

Excited State 8: Singlet-A 4.0566 eV **305.64** nm f=**0.3087** <S\*\*2>=0.000

79 -> 85 0.48672

83 -> 86 -0.24484

84 -> 87 0.41774

Excited State 9: Singlet-A 4.2431 eV **292.20** nm f=**0.2788** <S\*\*2>=0.000

80 -> 85 0.48447

84 -> 86 0.11559

84 -> 88 -0.47511

### Protonated TAT-1

Excited State 1: Singlet-A 2.1490 eV 576.93 nm f=0.0054 <S\*\*2>=0.000

84 -> 85 0.69340

Excited State 2: Singlet-A 2.3048 eV 537.94 nm f=0.0146 <S\*\*2>=0.000

84 -> 86 0.69706

Excited State 3: Singlet-A 2.4692 eV 502.12 nm f=0.0073 <S\*\*2>=0.000

83 -> 85 0.69732

Excited State 4: Singlet-A 2.6211 eV 473.02 nm f=0.0077 <S\*\*2>=0.000

83 -> 86 0.70513

Excited State 5: Singlet-A 2.7169 eV 456.34 nm f=0.0016 <S\*\*2>=0.000

81 -> 85 -0.13531

82 -> 85 0.69260

Excited State 6: Singlet-A 2.7850 eV 445.19 nm f=0.0038 <S\*\*2>=0.000

81 -> 85 0.69119

82 -> 85 0.13313

Excited State 7: Singlet-A 2.8892 eV 429.13 nm f=0.0085 <S\*\*2>=0.000

82 -> 86 0.70018

Excited State 8: Singlet-A 2.9429 eV 421.30 nm f=0.0029 <S\*\*2>=0.000

81 -> 86 0.69983

Excited State 9: Singlet-A 3.8317 eV **323.58** nm f=**0.1070** <S\*\*2>=0.000

79 -> 86 0.10052

80 -> 85 0.53048

80 -> 86 0.44005

Excited State 10: Singlet-A 3.9307 eV **315.43** nm f=**0.1735** <S\*\*2>=0.000

79 -> 86 -0.14506

80 -> 85 -0.41171

80 -> 86 0.52432

84 -> 87 -0.11576

### TAT-3

Excited State 1: Singlet-A 2.2499 eV 551.07 nm f=0.0083 <S\*\*2>=0.000

79 -> 81 0.68689

80 -> 81 -0.11683

80 -> 82 -0.10393

Excited State 2: Singlet-A 2.7318 eV **453.86** nm f=**1.0576** <S\*\*2>=0.000

79 -> 81 0.11549

79 -> 82 0.15118

80 -> 81 0.68091

Excited State 3: Singlet-A 3.5829 eV 346.04 nm f=0.0799 <S\*\*2>=0.000

78 -> 81 0.67812

79 -> 82 -0.11085

80 -> 83 -0.12542

Excited State 4: Singlet-A 3.7694 eV 328.92 nm f=0.0457 <S\*\*2>=0.000

74 -> 81 0.11692

79 -> 81 0.10006

80 -> 82 0.67674

Excited State 5: Singlet-A 3.9477 eV 314.07 nm f=0.0243 <S\*\*2>=0.000

77 -> 81 0.69608

Excited State 6: Singlet-A 4.0829 eV **303.67** nm f=**1.0351** <S\*\*2>=0.000

75 -> 81 0.19670

76 -> 81 0.24907

78 -> 81 0.11477

79 -> 82 0.58655

80 -> 81 -0.12910

80 -> 84 -0.10531

Excited State 7: Singlet-A 4.1339 eV **299.92** nm f=**0.1691** <S\*\*2>=0.000

76 -> 81 0.65554

79 -> 82 -0.21034

### Protonated TAT-3

Excited State 1: Singlet-A 2.4538 eV **505.28** nm f=**1.1928** <S\*\*2>=0.000

80 -> 81 0.69615

Excited State 2: Singlet-A 2.5623 eV 483.88 nm f=0.0774 <S\*\*2>=0.000

80 -> 82 0.69305

Excited State 3: Singlet-A 3.0906 eV **401.17** nm f=**0.2085** <S\*\*2>=0.000

79 -> 81 0.52656

79 -> 82 -0.45750

Excited State 4: Singlet-A 3.1790 eV 390.01 nm f=0.0390 <S\*\*2>=0.000

78 -> 81 -0.19486

78 -> 82 -0.10296

79 -> 81 0.41619

79 -> 82 0.51583

Excited State 5: Singlet-A 3.3339 eV 371.89 nm f=0.0009 <S\*\*2>=0.000

78 -> 81 0.66768

78 -> 82 -0.13668

79 -> 81 0.12381

79 -> 82 0.11488

Excited State 6: Singlet-A 3.5160 eV 352.63 nm f=0.0153 <S\*\*2>=0.000

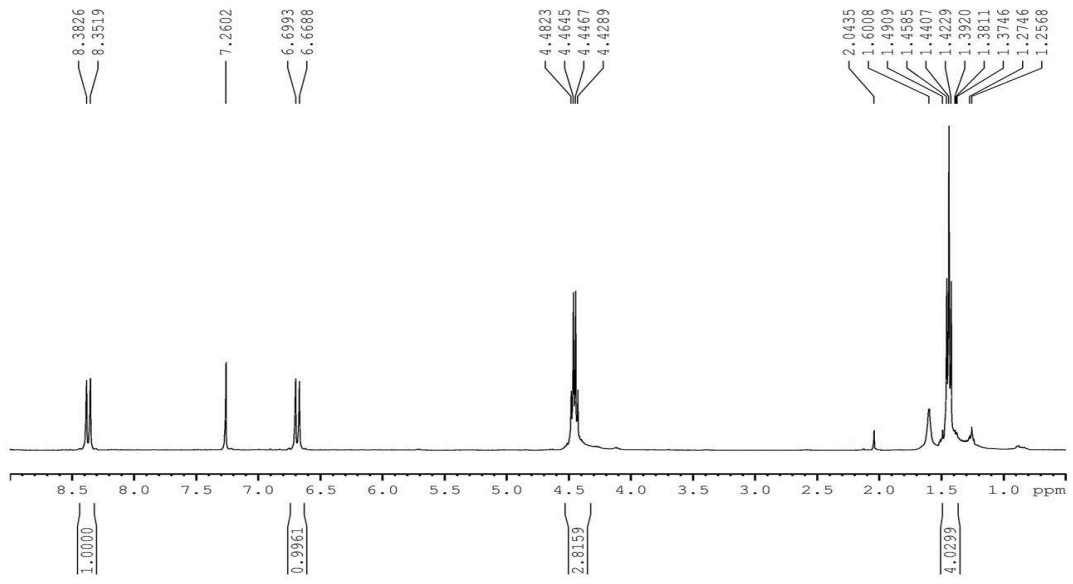
77 -> 81 0.69758

Excited State 7: Singlet-A 3.5427 eV **349.97** nm f=**0.1435** <S\*\*2>=0.000

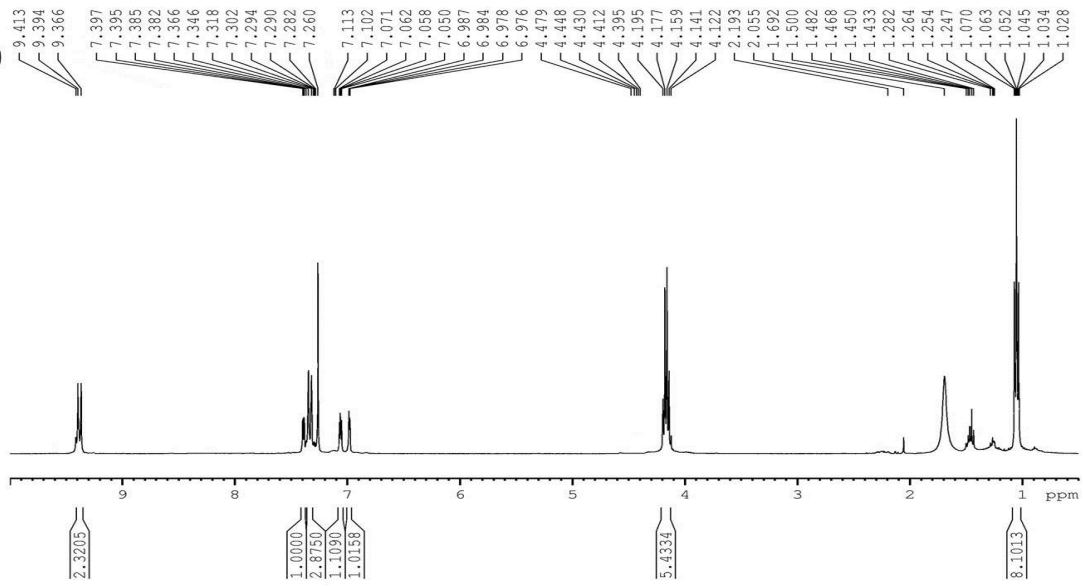
78 -> 82 0.67732

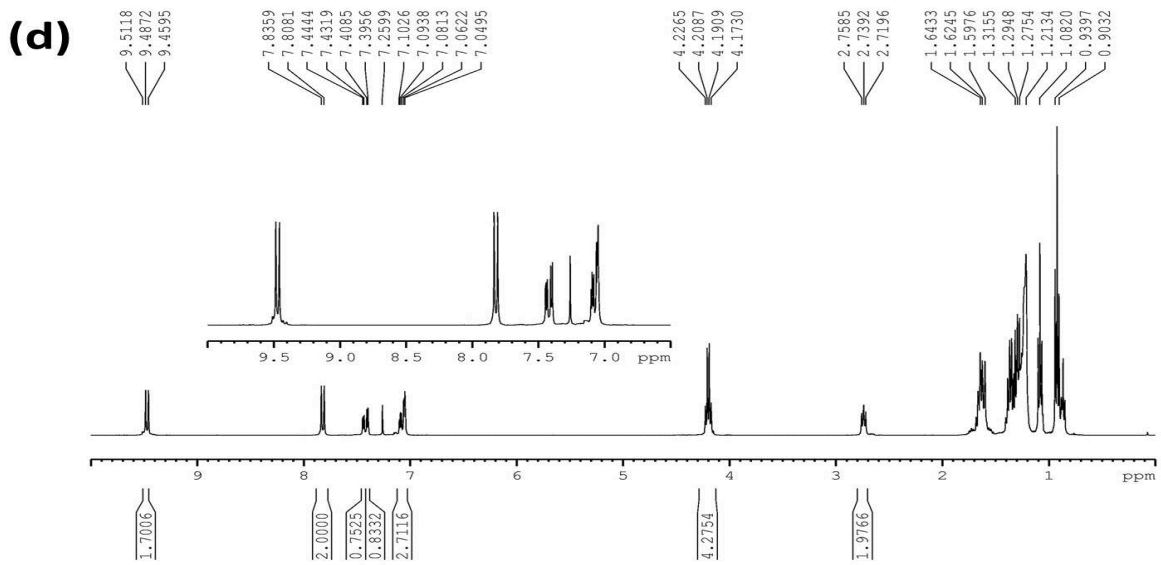
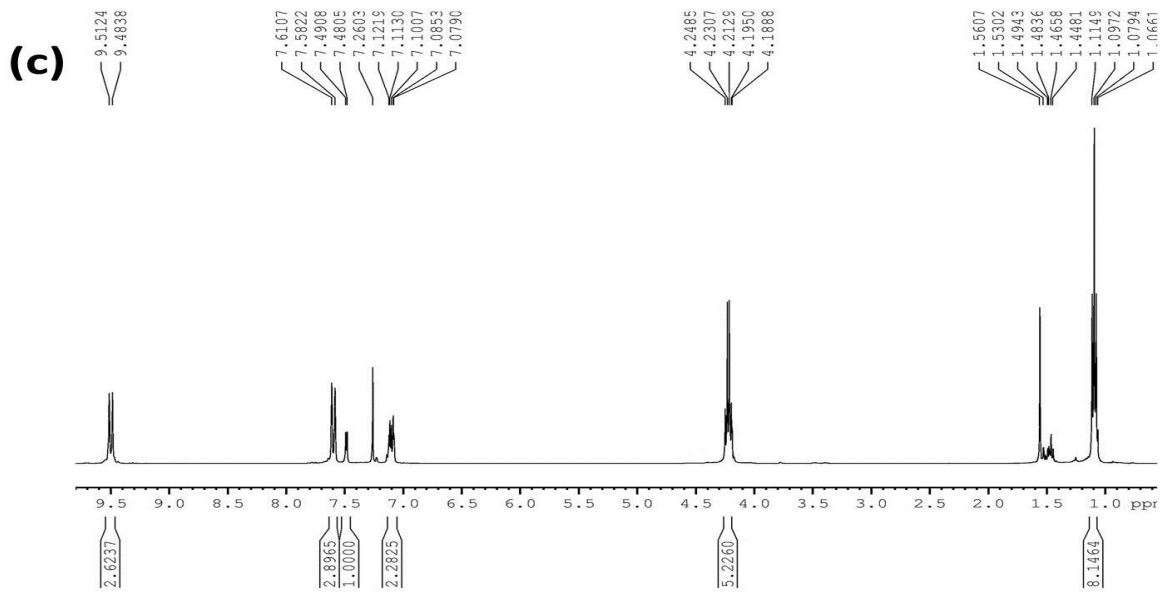
79 -> 81 0.12585

**(a)**

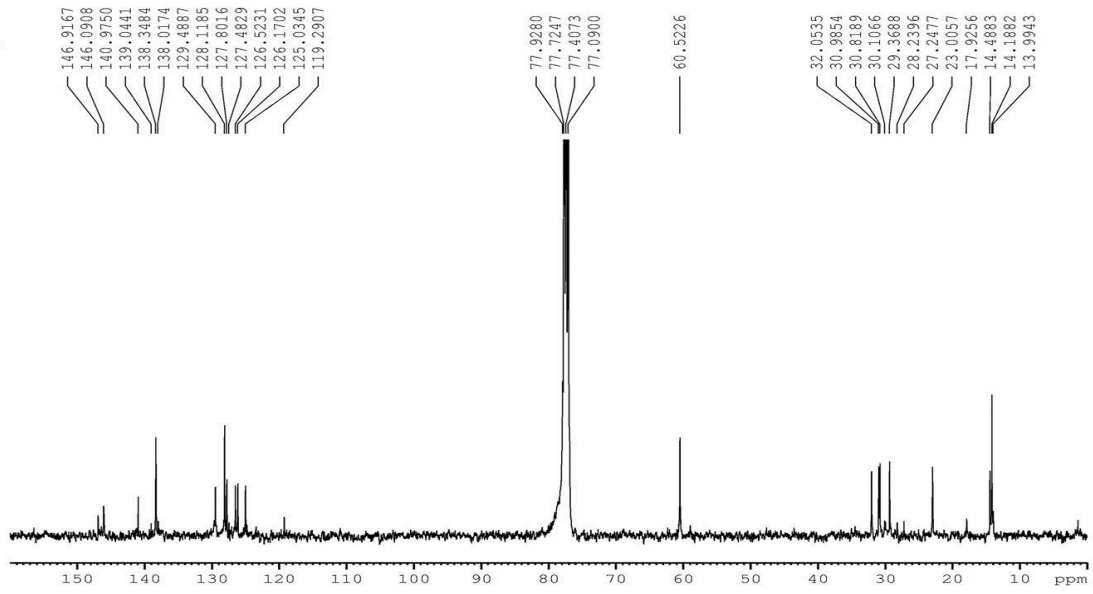


**(b)**

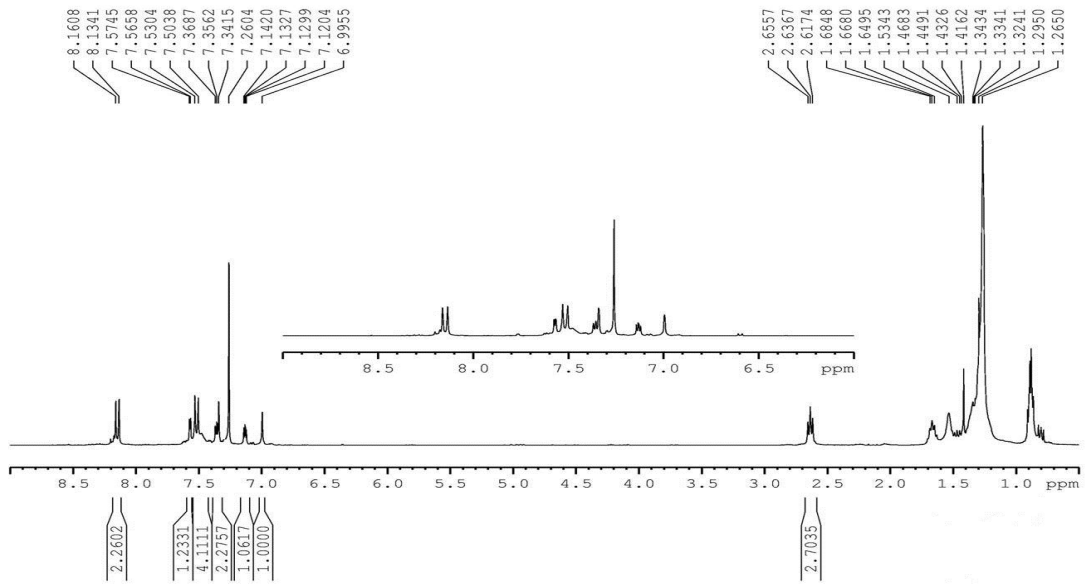




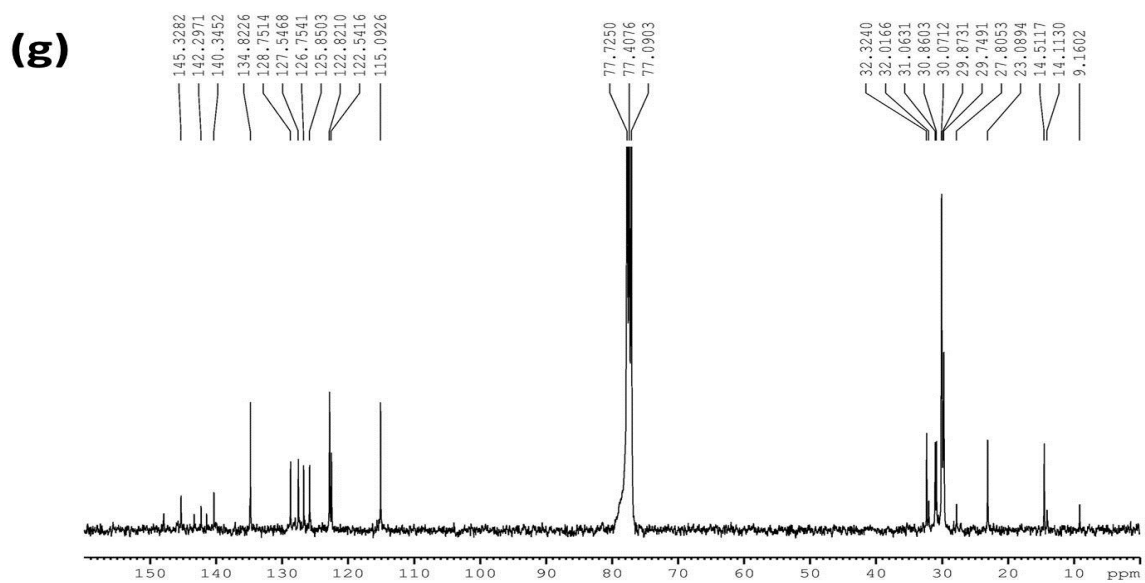
(e)



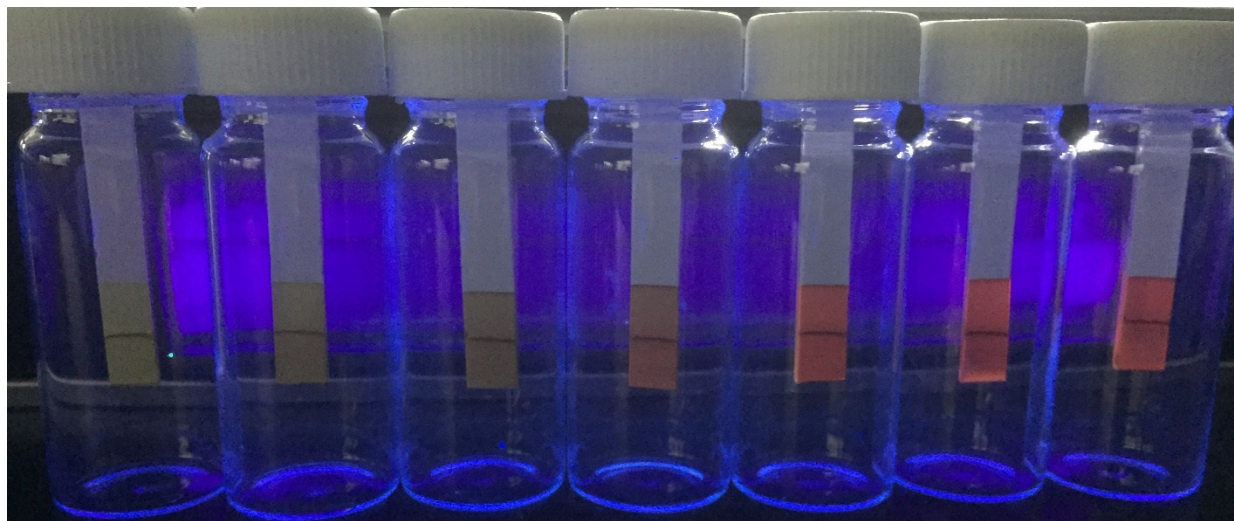
(f)







**Figure S2.** NMR spectra of synthesized compounds.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ : (a) compound **5**; (b) compound **6** and (c) compound **7**; (d) and (e),  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  and  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  spectra of **TAT-2** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ; (f) and (g),  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  and  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  spectra of **TAT-3** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ;



**Figure S3.** Fluorescence change of **TAT-3** film when exposure to various TFA concentration.