

Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

**NLO-active Y-shaped ferrocene conjugated imidazole chromophores as precursors
for SHG polymeric films**

Selvam Prabu,^a Ezhumalai David,^a Thamodharan Viswanathan,^a Krishnan Thirumoorthy,^a Tamas Panda,^a Claudia Dragonetti,^{*b,c} Alessia Colombo,^{b,c} Daniele Marinotto,^{b,c} Stefania Righetto,^b Dominique Roberto^{b,c} and Nallasamy Palanisami^{a*}

- a. Department of Chemistry, School of Advanced Sciences, Vellore Institute of Technology, Vellore 632014, Tamilnadu, India.
- b. Department of Chemistry and Centro CIMAINA, University of Milan, INSTM-Research Unit, Via C. Golgi 19, 20133 Milan, Italy.
- c. ISTM-CNR via Golgi 19 Milan, Italy.

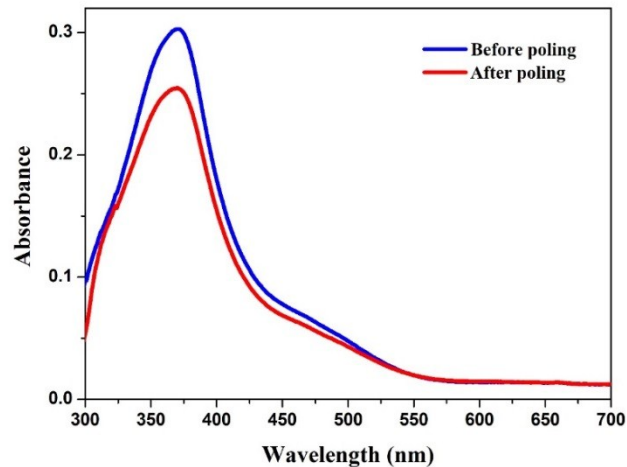


Figure S1. Absorption spectra of a PMMA film containing compound 3 before and after poling

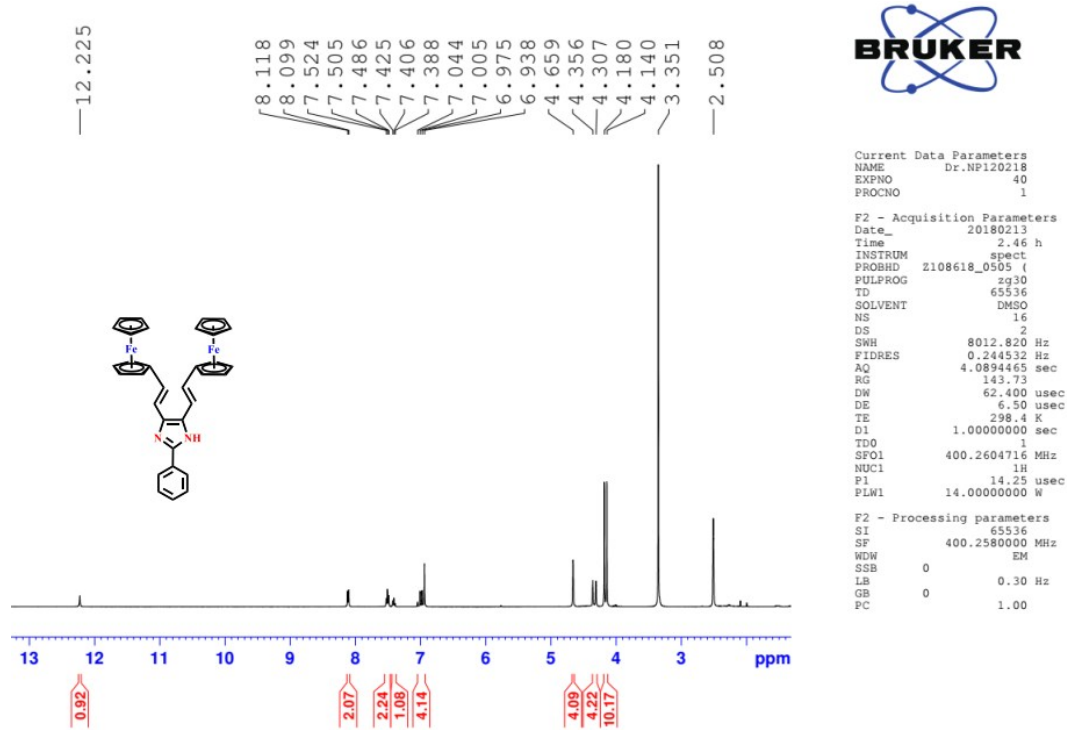


Figure S2. ¹H NMR spectrum of compound 1(H) in DMSO-d₆ at 25 °C

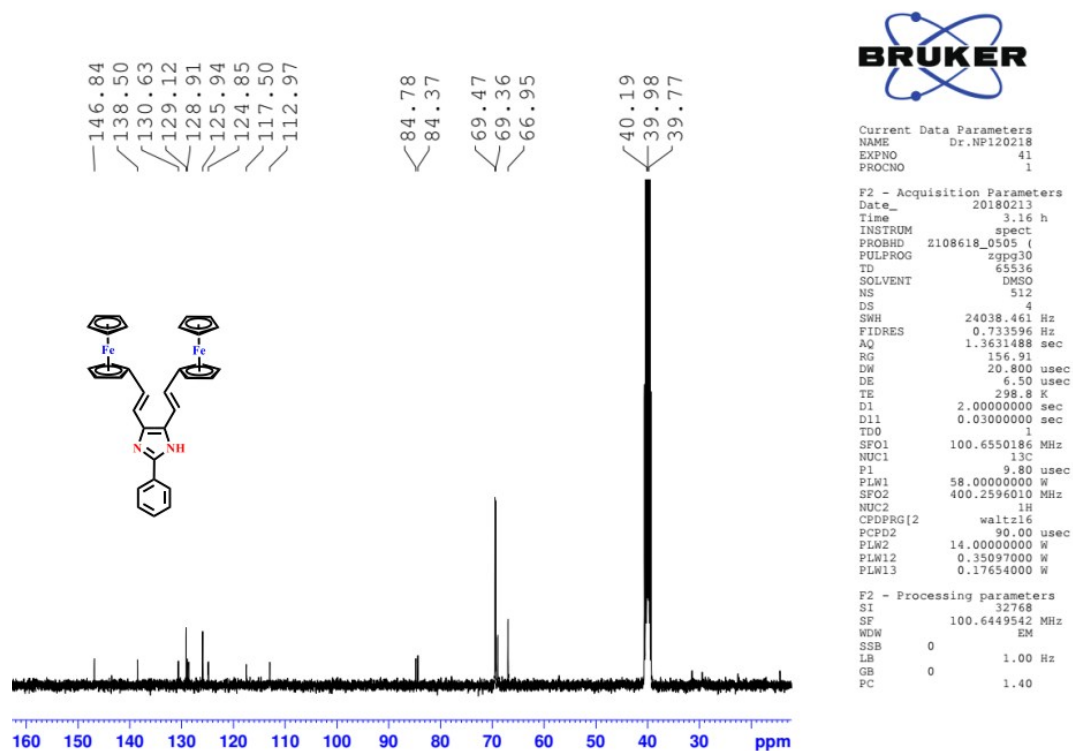


Figure S3. ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound 1(H) in DMSO-d₆ at 25 °C

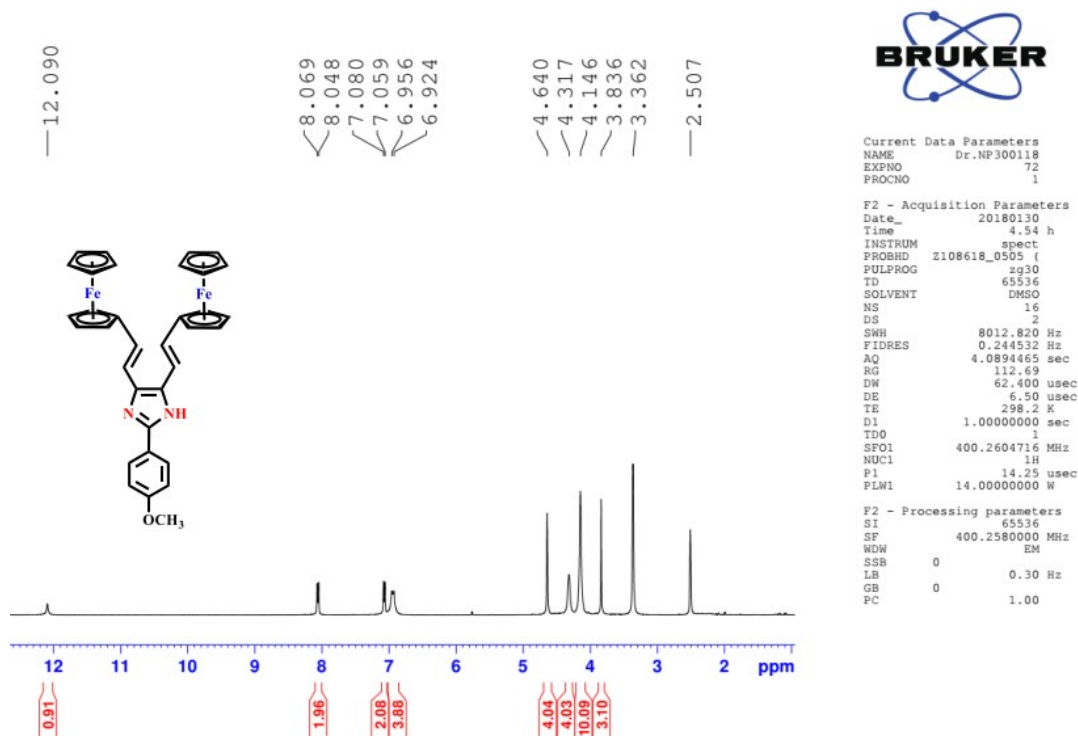


Figure S4. ¹H NMR spectrum of compound 2(OCH₃) in DMSO-d₆ at 25 °C

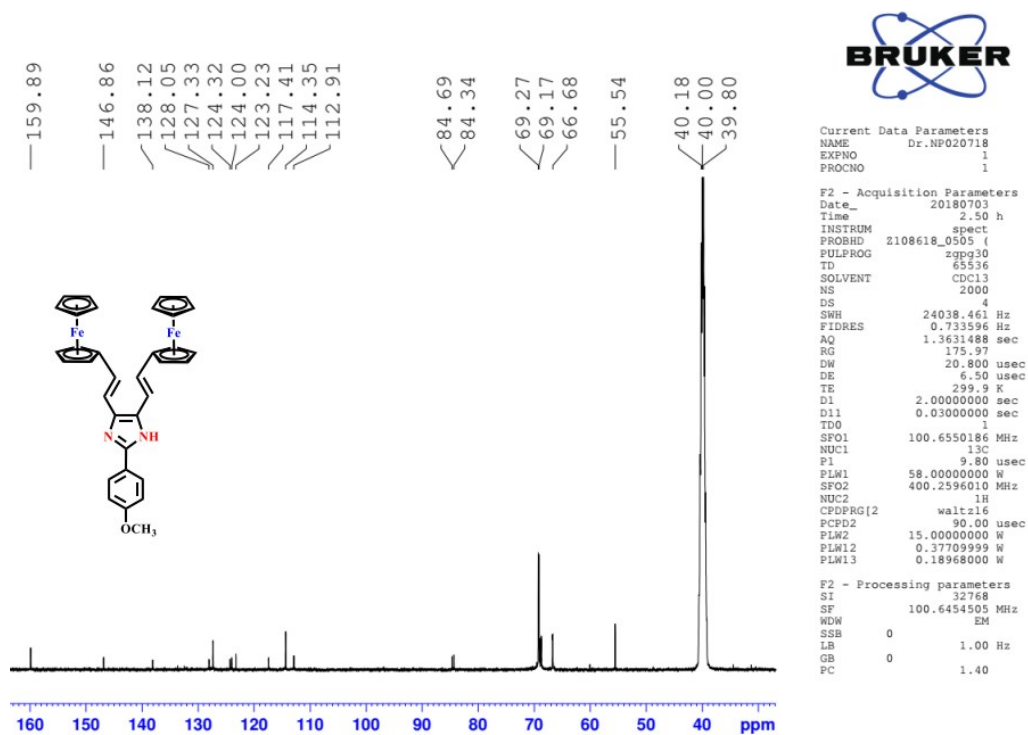


Figure S5. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of compound 2(OCH₃) in DMSO-d₆ at 25 °C

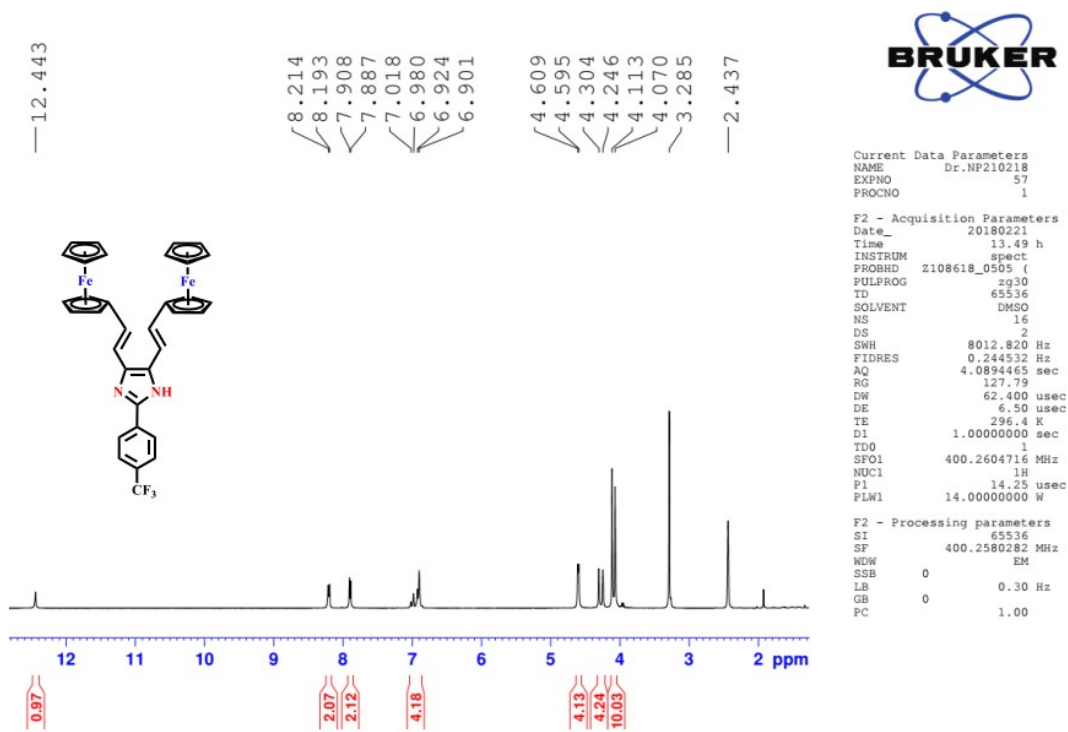


Figure S6. ^1H NMR spectrum of compound 3(CF₃) in DMSO-d₆ at 25 °C

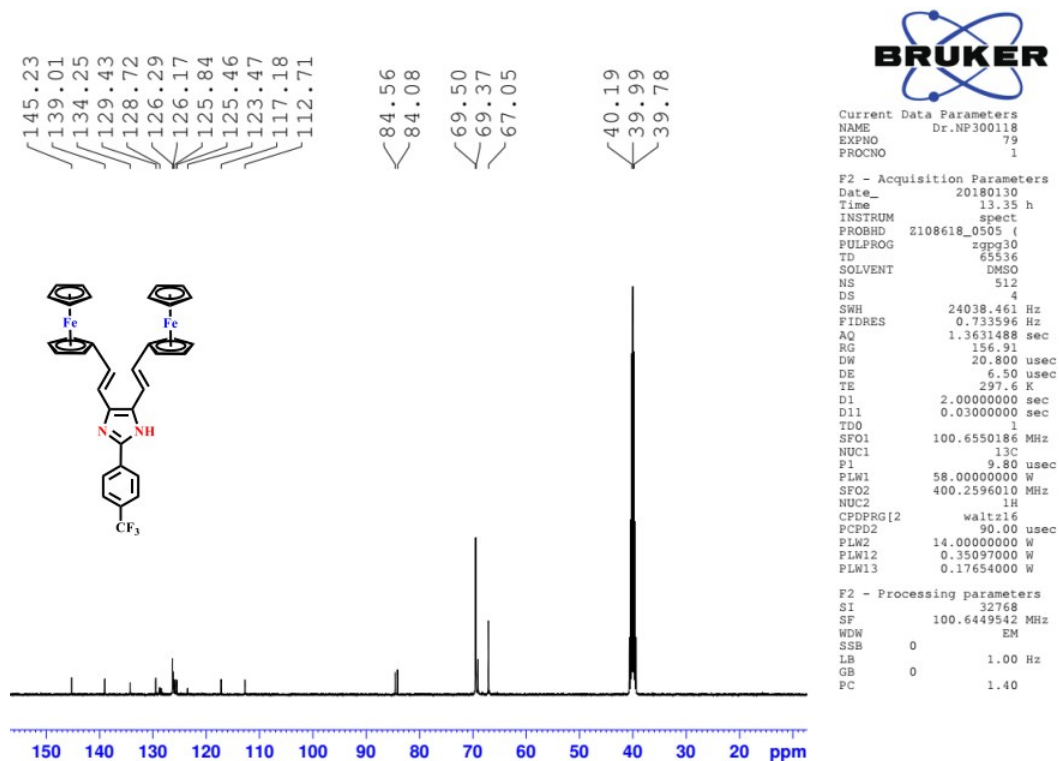


Figure S7. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of compound 3(CF₃) in DMSO-d₆ at 25 °C

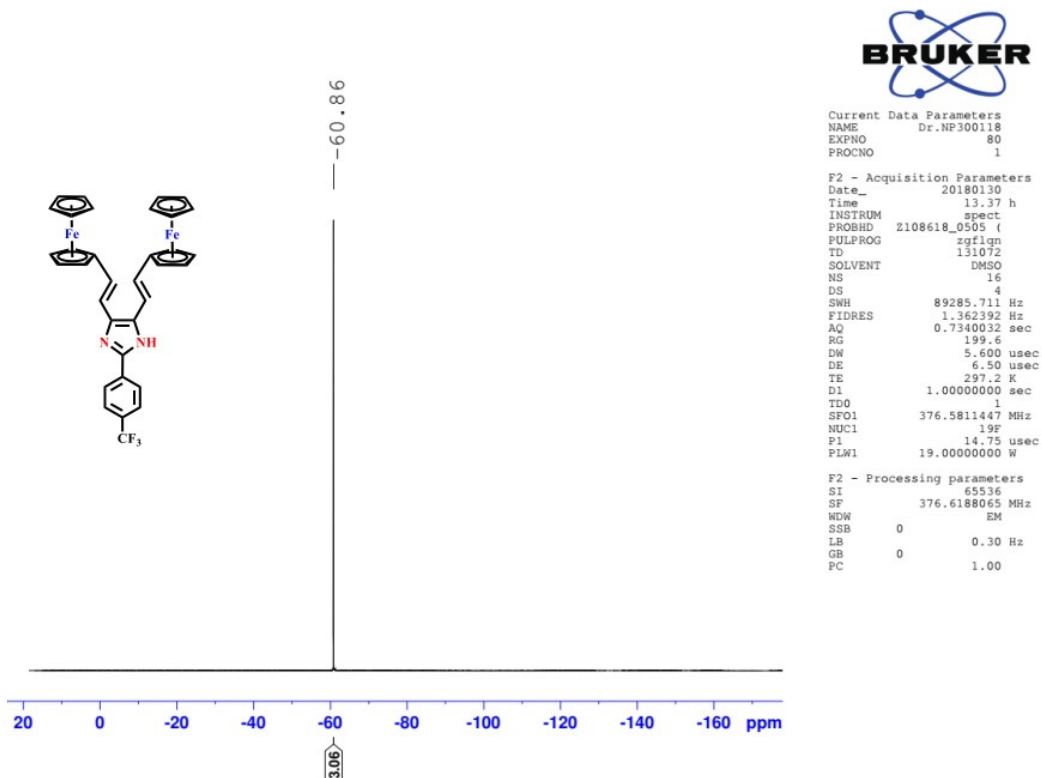
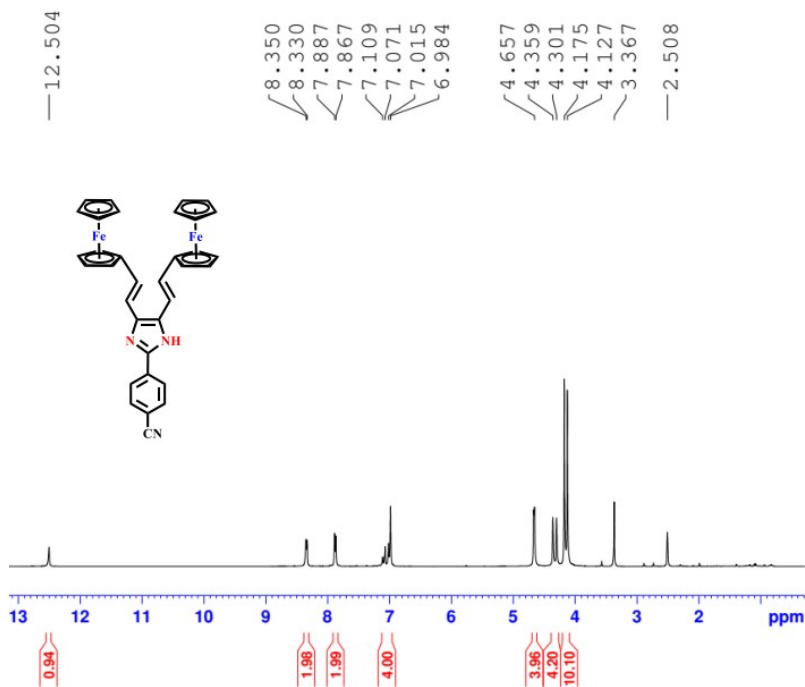


Figure S8. ^{19}F NMR spectrum of compound 3(CF₃) in DMSO-d₆ at 25 °C

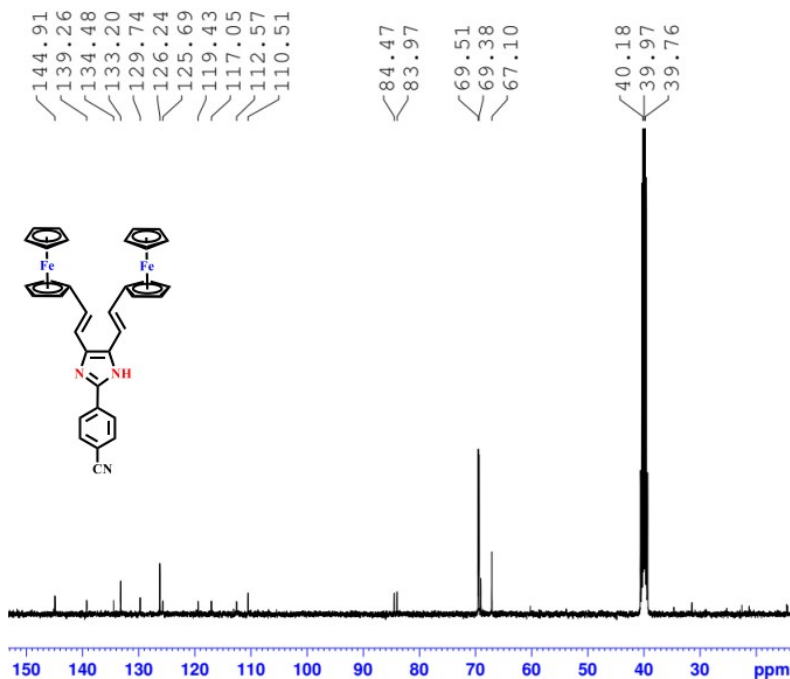


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 DE 6.50 usec
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 P1 14.25 usec
 PLW1 14.00000000 W

F2 - Processing parameters
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 PC 1.00

Figure S9. ¹H NMR spectrum of compound 4(CN) in DMSO-d₆ at 25 °C



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 PROCNO 1

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 D11 0.03000000 sec
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 NUC1 13C
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 PLW1 58.00000000 W
 SFO2 400.2596010 MHz
 NUC2 1H
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 PLW12 0.35097000 W
 PLW13 0.17654000 W

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Figure S10. ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound 4(CN) in DMSO-d₆ at 25 °C

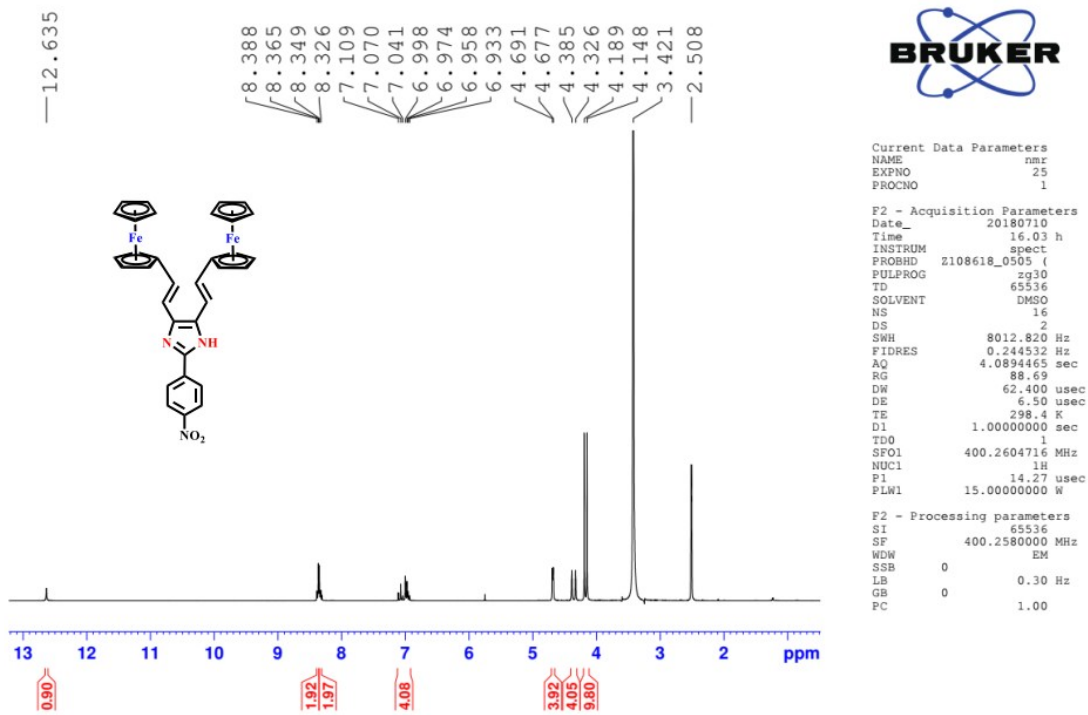


Figure S11. ¹H NMR spectrum of compound 5(NO₂) in DMSO-d₆ at 25 °C

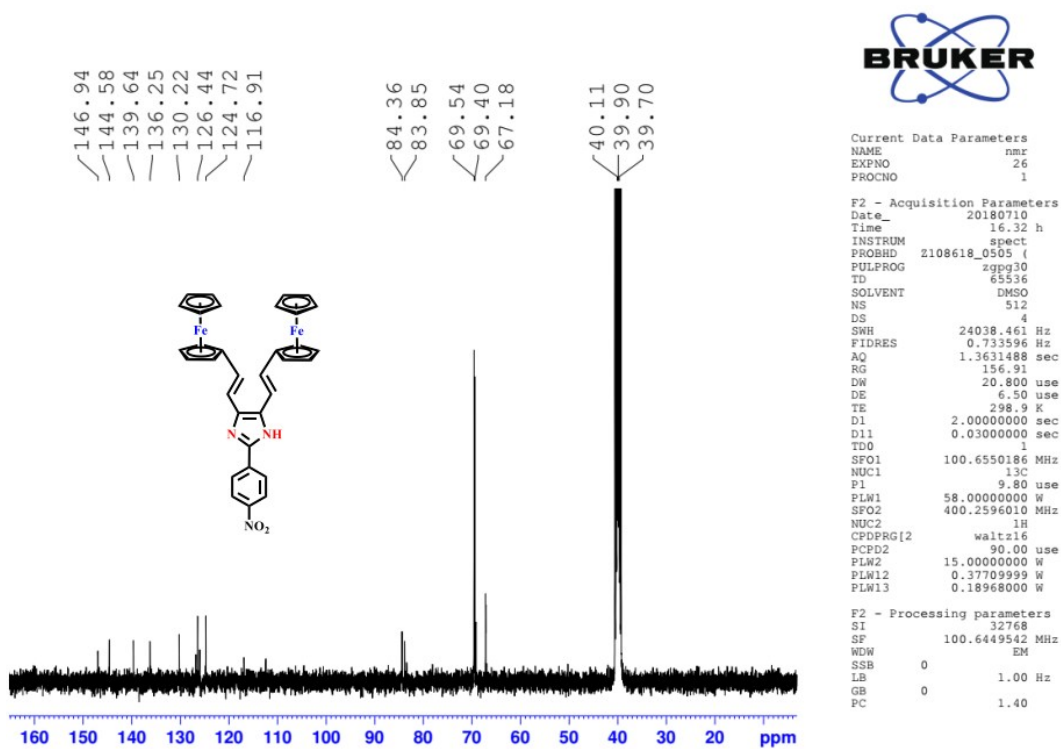


Figure S12. ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound 5(NO₂) in DMSO-d₆ at 25 °C

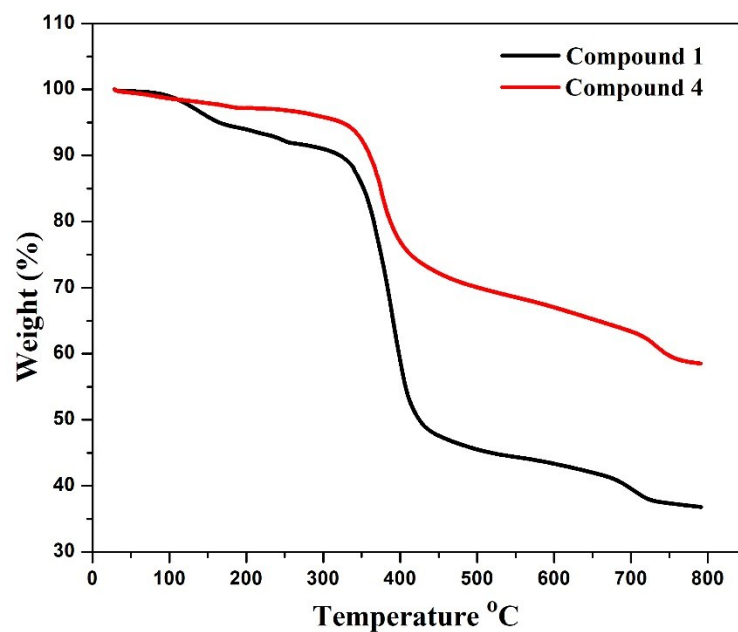


Figure S13. TGA curve of compounds 1(H) and 4(CN)

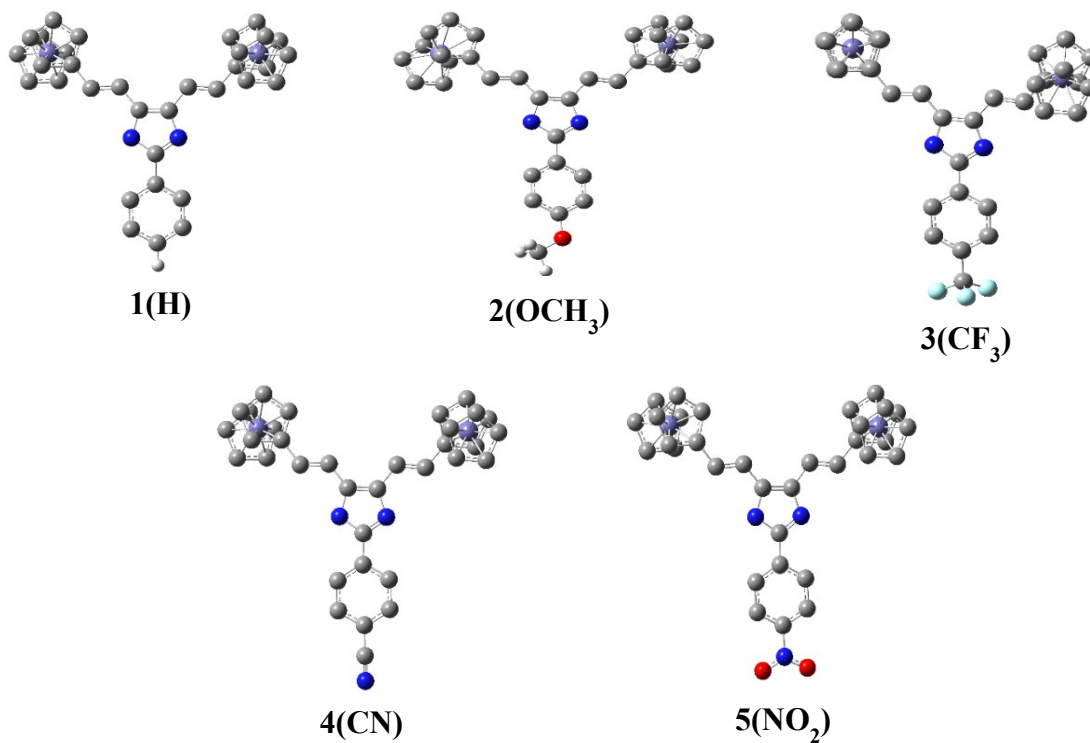


Figure S14. The optimized geometries of chromophores 1-5 obtained at B3LYP/6-31+G** level of theory

SMP-15

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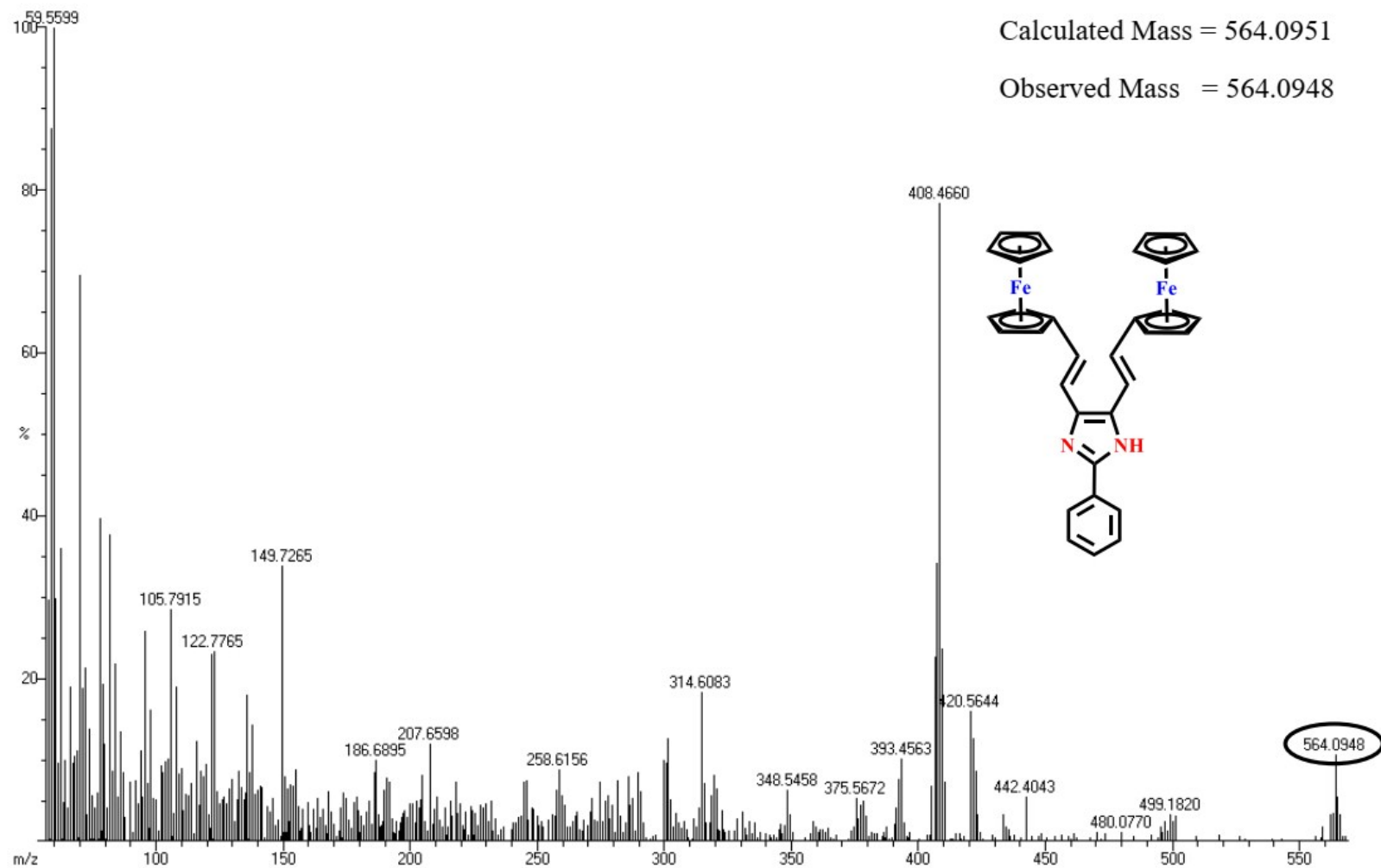


Figure S15. HRMS (EI) spectrum of compound 1(H)

SMP6

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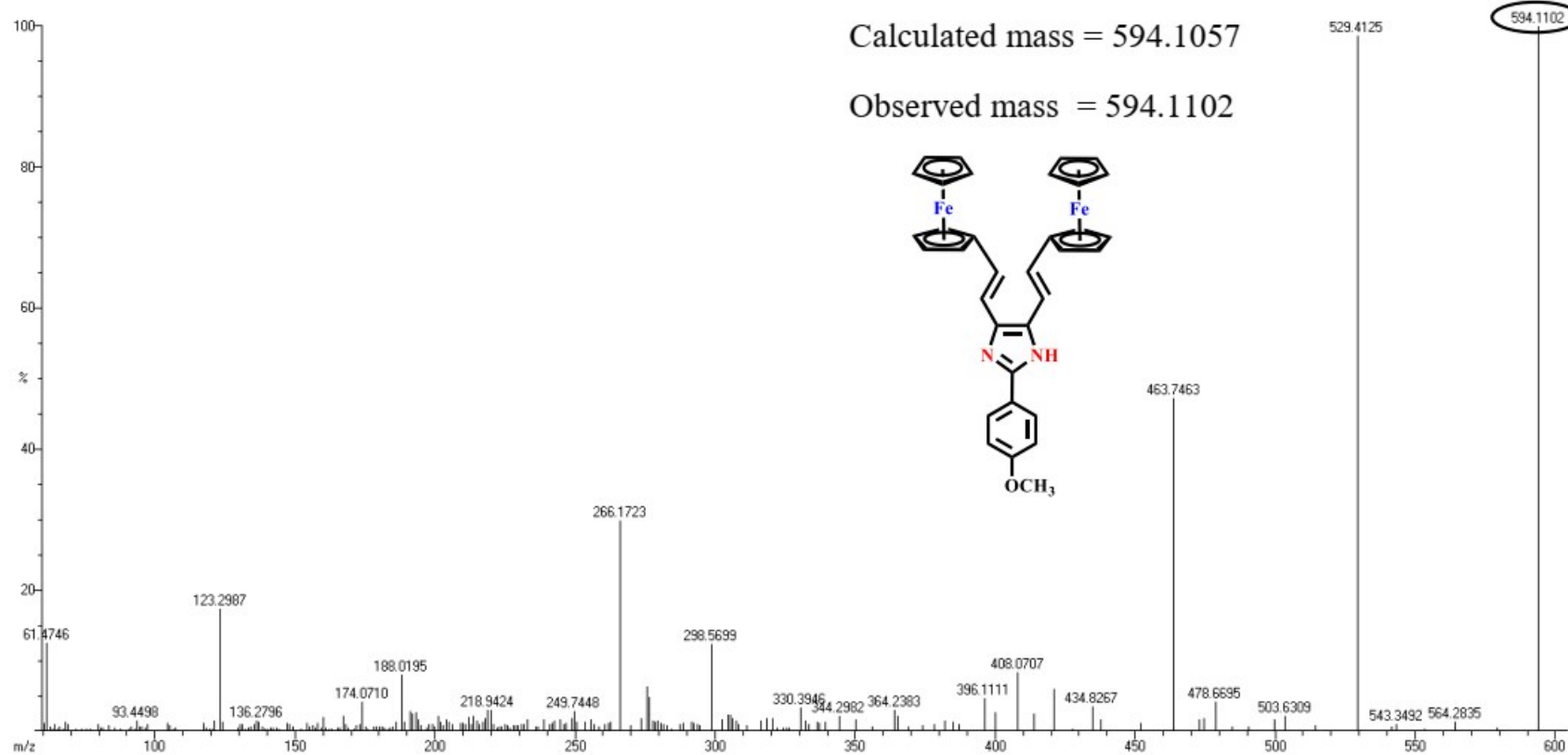


Figure S16. HRMS (EI) spectrum of compound 2(OCH₃)

SMP8

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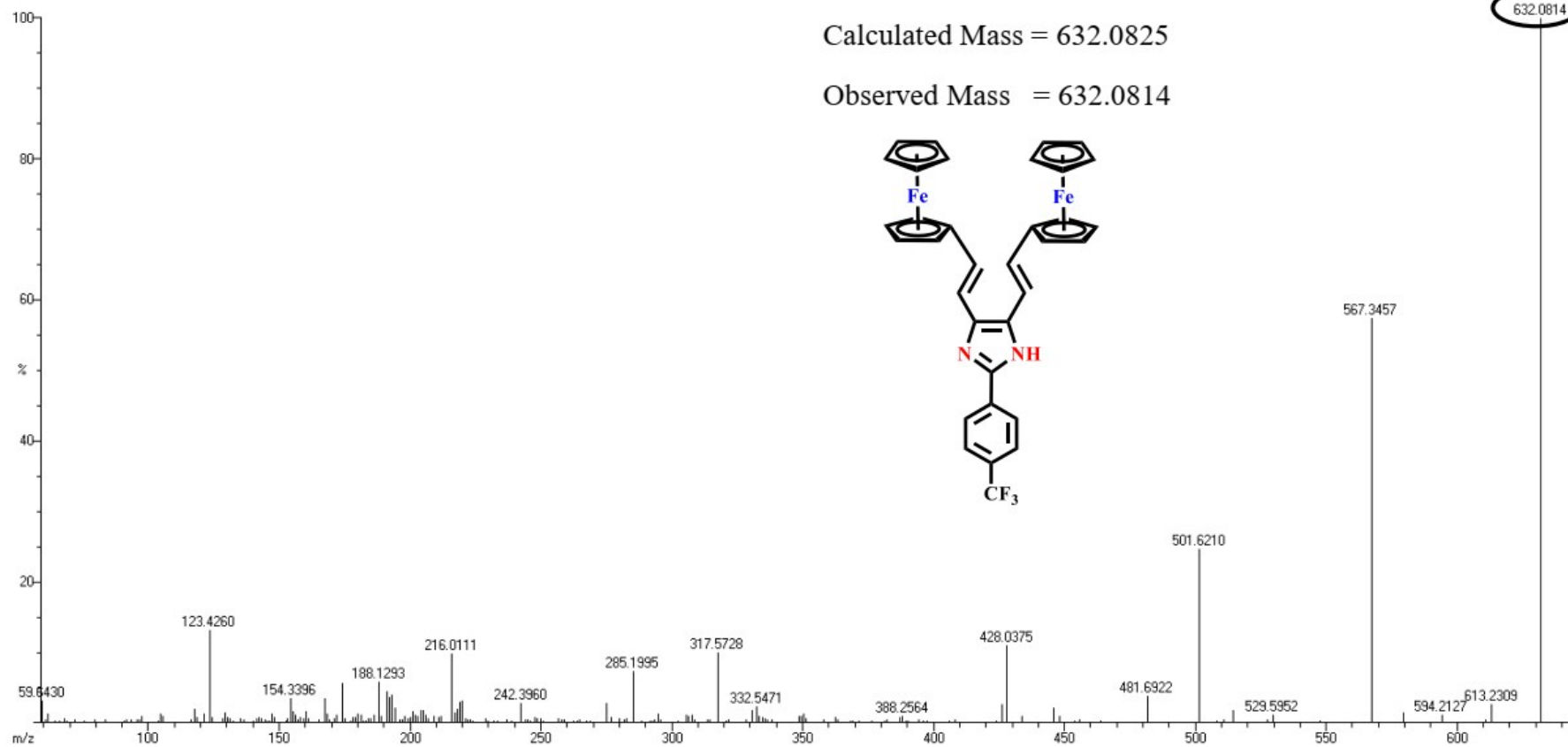


Figure S17. HRMS (EI) spectrum of compound 3(CF₃)

SMP9

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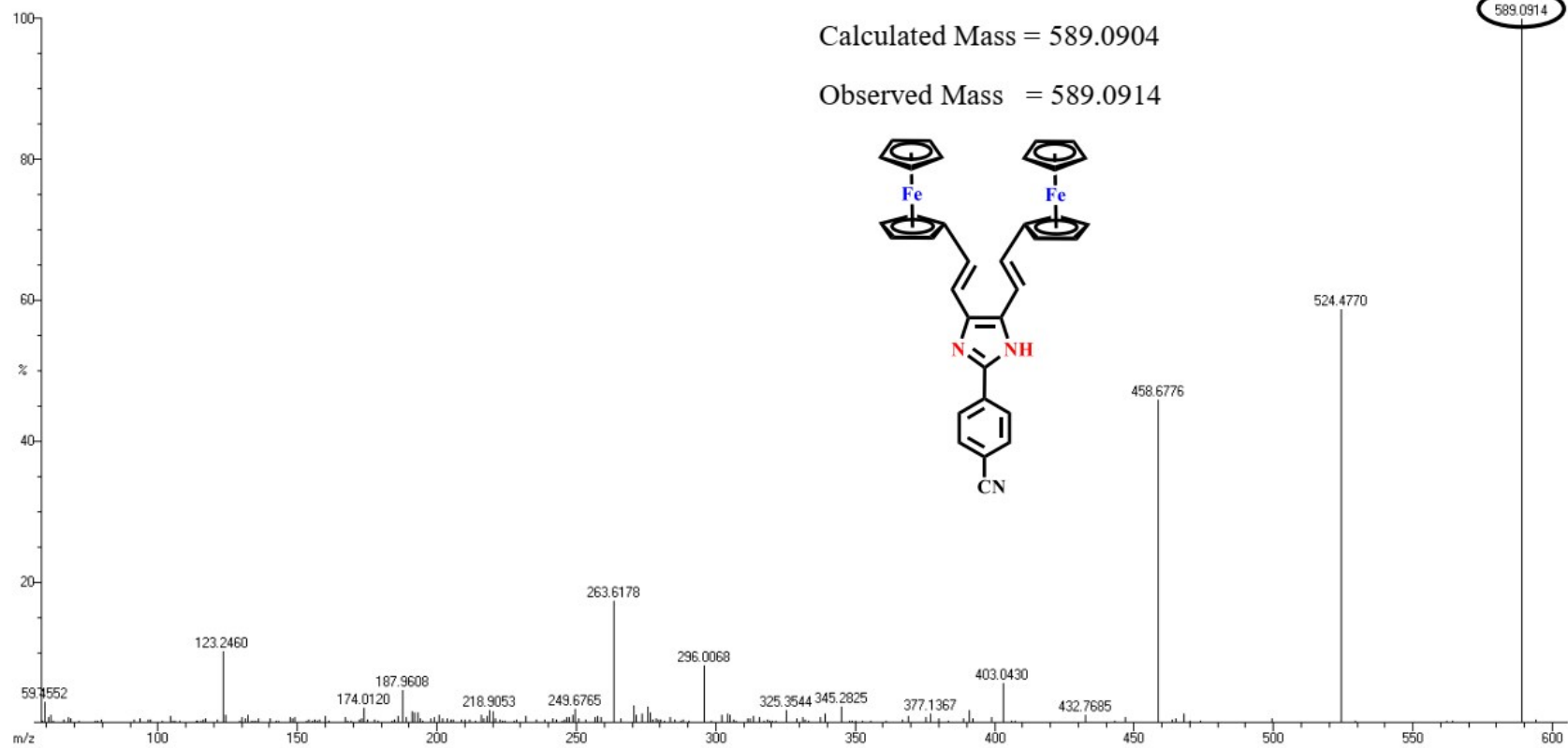


Figure S18. HRMS (EI) spectrum of compound 4(CN)

SMP7

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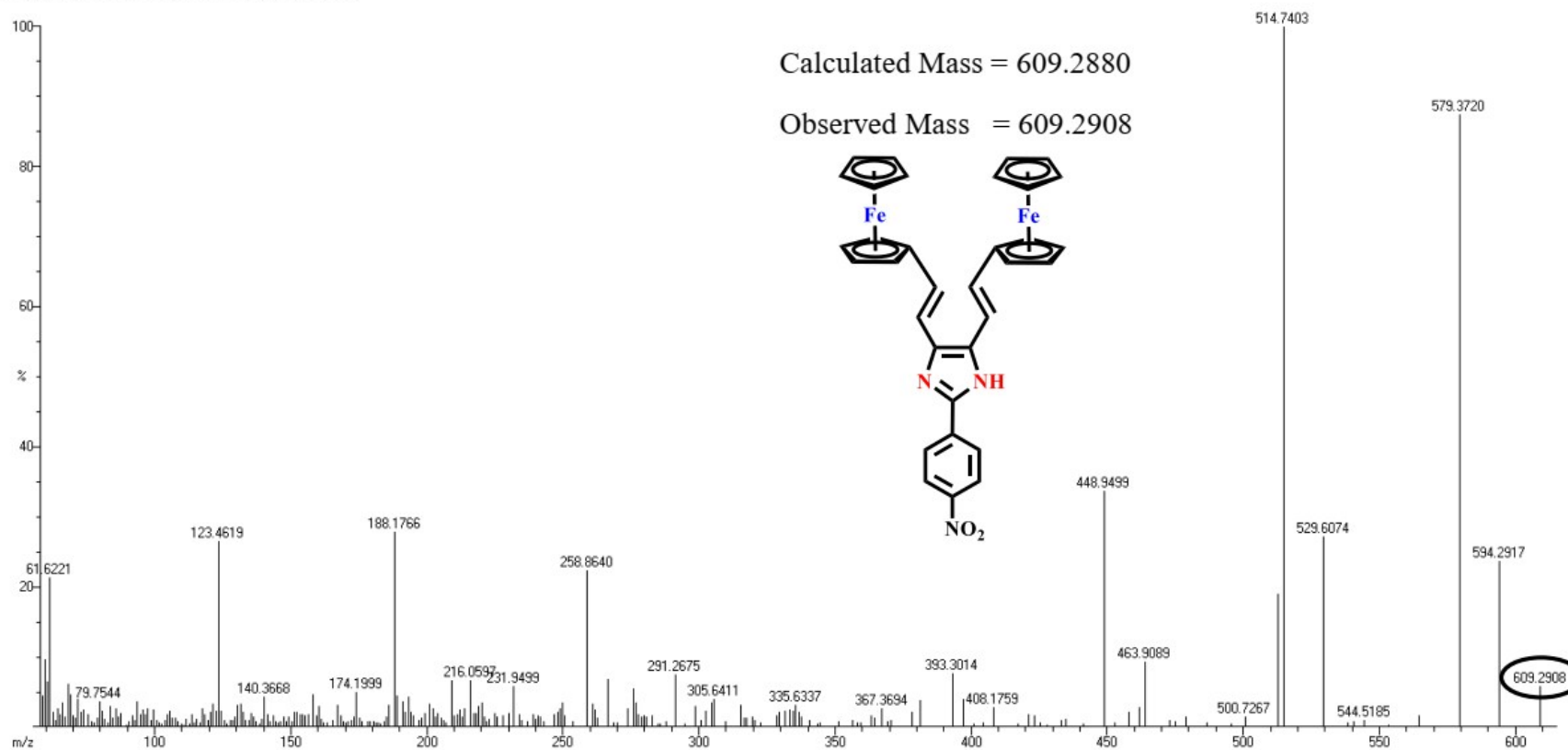


Figure S19. HRMS (EI) spectrum of compound 5(NO₂)

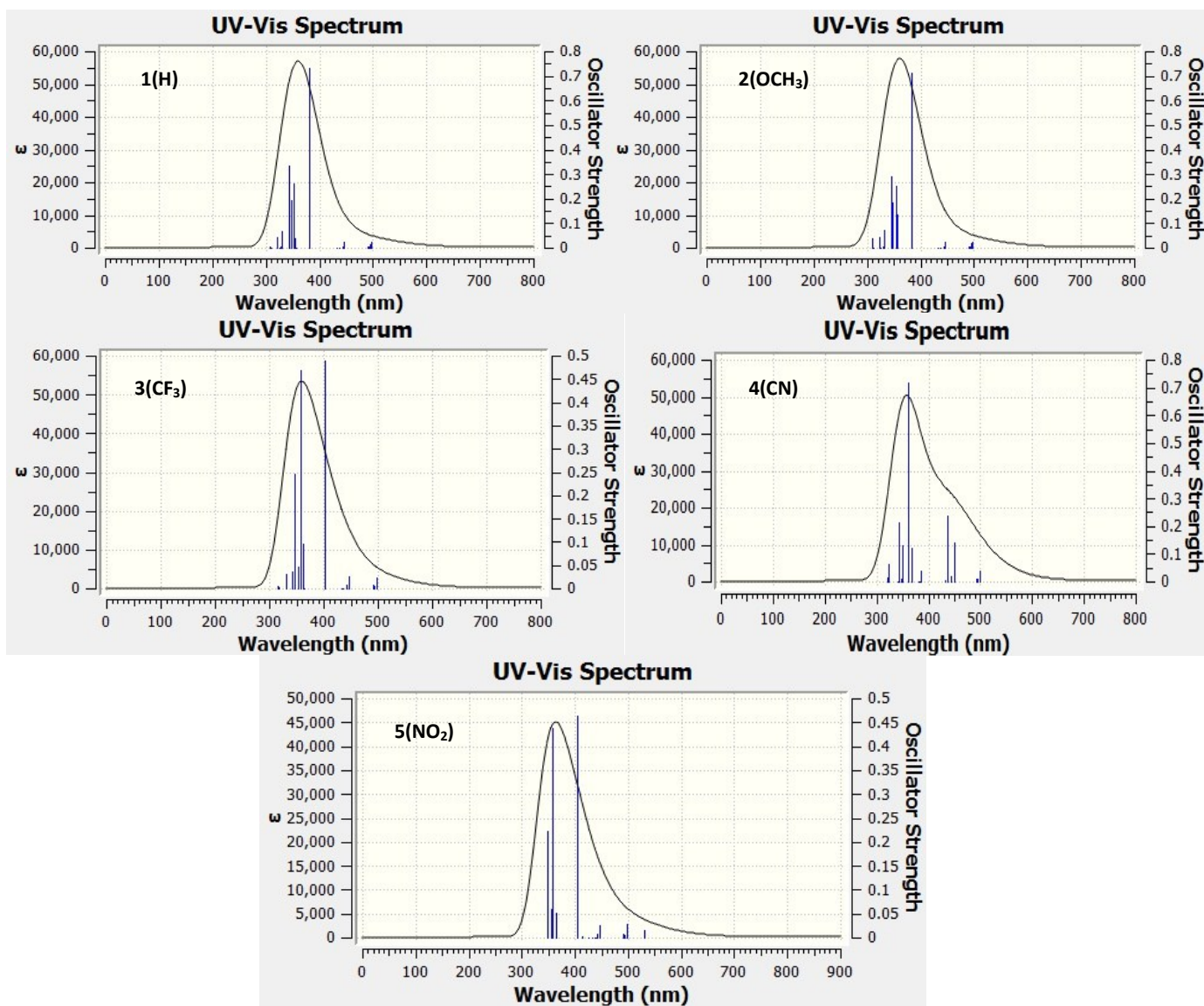


Figure S20. Theoretically calculated absorption spectra of chromophores 1-5. The absorption spectra were obtained by TD-DFT calculation with B3LYP/6-31+G** level of theory. The spectra were visualized in GaussView 5.0

Table S1. Crystallographic data and structure refinement parameters of compound **4**

| Identification code | Compound 4. Methanol |
|--|---|
| CCDC | 1885673 |
| Empirical formula | C ₃₅ H ₃₂ Fe ₂ N ₃ O ₁ |
| Formula weight | 621.33 |
| Temperature, K | 298 |
| Wavelength, Å | 0.71073 |
| Crystal System | Orthorhombic |
| Space group | Pbca |
| Unit cell dimensions | a = 21.827(2) Å b = 11.6814(10) Å c = 22.747(2) Å $\alpha = 90^\circ$ $\beta = 90^\circ$ $\gamma = 90^\circ$ |
| Volume | 5799.8(9) Å ³ |
| Z | 8 |
| Calculated density (Mg/m ³) | 1.425 |
| Absorption coefficient (mm ⁻¹) | 1.034 |
| F (000) | 2576.0 |
| Crystal size (mm ³) | 0.32 x 0.25 x 0.16 |
| Theta range for data collection (°) | 1.79 to 28.51 |
| Reflections collected | 45309 |
| Completeness to theta = 25.242 | 99.0 % |
| Max. and min. transmission | 0.741 and 0.848 |
| Goodness-of-fit on F ² | 0.863 |
| Refinement method | Full-matrix least-squares on F ² |
| Final R indices [$I > 2\sigma(I)$] | R ₁ = 0.0550, wR ₂ = 0.1634 |
| R indices (all data) | R ₁ = 0.1330, wR ₂ = 0.1884 |

Table S2. Cyclic voltammetry data and experimental HOMO, LUMO and optical band gap

| Chromophores | E_{pa} (mV) ^a | E_{pc} (mV) ^a | i_{pc}/i_{pa} | $E_{1/2}$ (mV) ^a | ΔE (mV) ^a | E_{HOMO} (eV) ^a | E_{LUMO} (eV) ^a | λ^{onset} (nm) ^b | $E_g^{optical}$ (eV) ^c |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Compound 1 | 578 | 439 | 1.3 | 797 | 139 | -5.07 | -1.81 | 380 | 3.26 |
| Compound 2 | 615 | 490 | 1.5 | 860 | 125 | -5.09 | -1.81 | 378 | 3.28 |
| Compound 3 | 570 | 420 | 1.2 | 780 | 150 | -5.05 | -1.85 | 387 | 3.20 |
| Compound 4 | 517 | 403 | 1.2 | 718 | 114 | -5.00 | -1.80 | 387 | 3.20 |
| Compound 5 | 491 | 408 | 0.8 | 685 | 083 | -4.97 | -1.89 | 402 | 3.08 |

^aCalculated as HOMO and LUMO level obtained from cyclic voltammetry using $E_{HOMO} = -e(E_{ox}^{onset} + 4.4)$. $E_{optical}$ onset values obtained from oxidation peak in cyclic voltogram. $E_{LUMO} = E_g^{optical} + E_{HOMO}$

^bCalculated as λ^{onset} values from absorption spectra in CH_2Cl_2 solvent.

^cCalculated as optical band gap calculated from absorption onset/edge using the equation $e(E_g^{optical}) = 1240/\lambda^{onset}$.

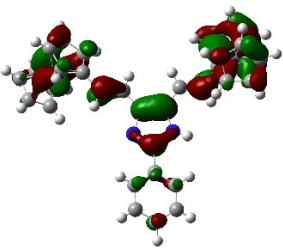
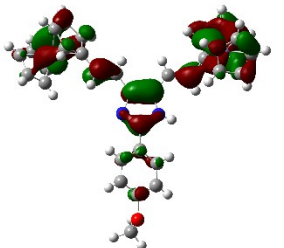
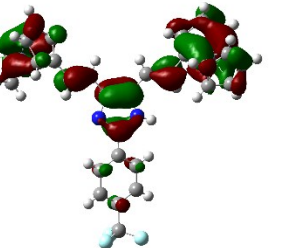
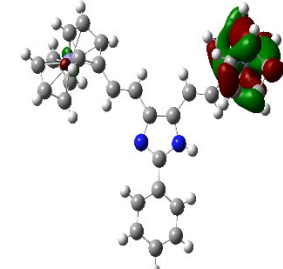
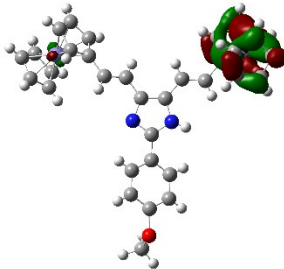
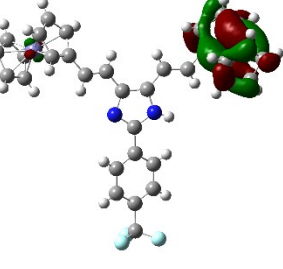
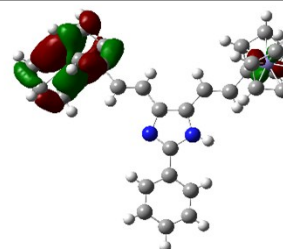
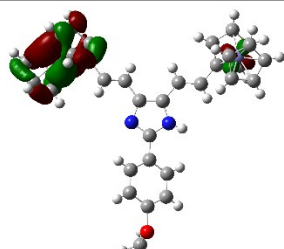
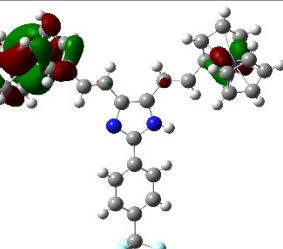
Table S3. Selected transitions obtained from TD-DFT calculation with B3LYP/6-31+G** level theory

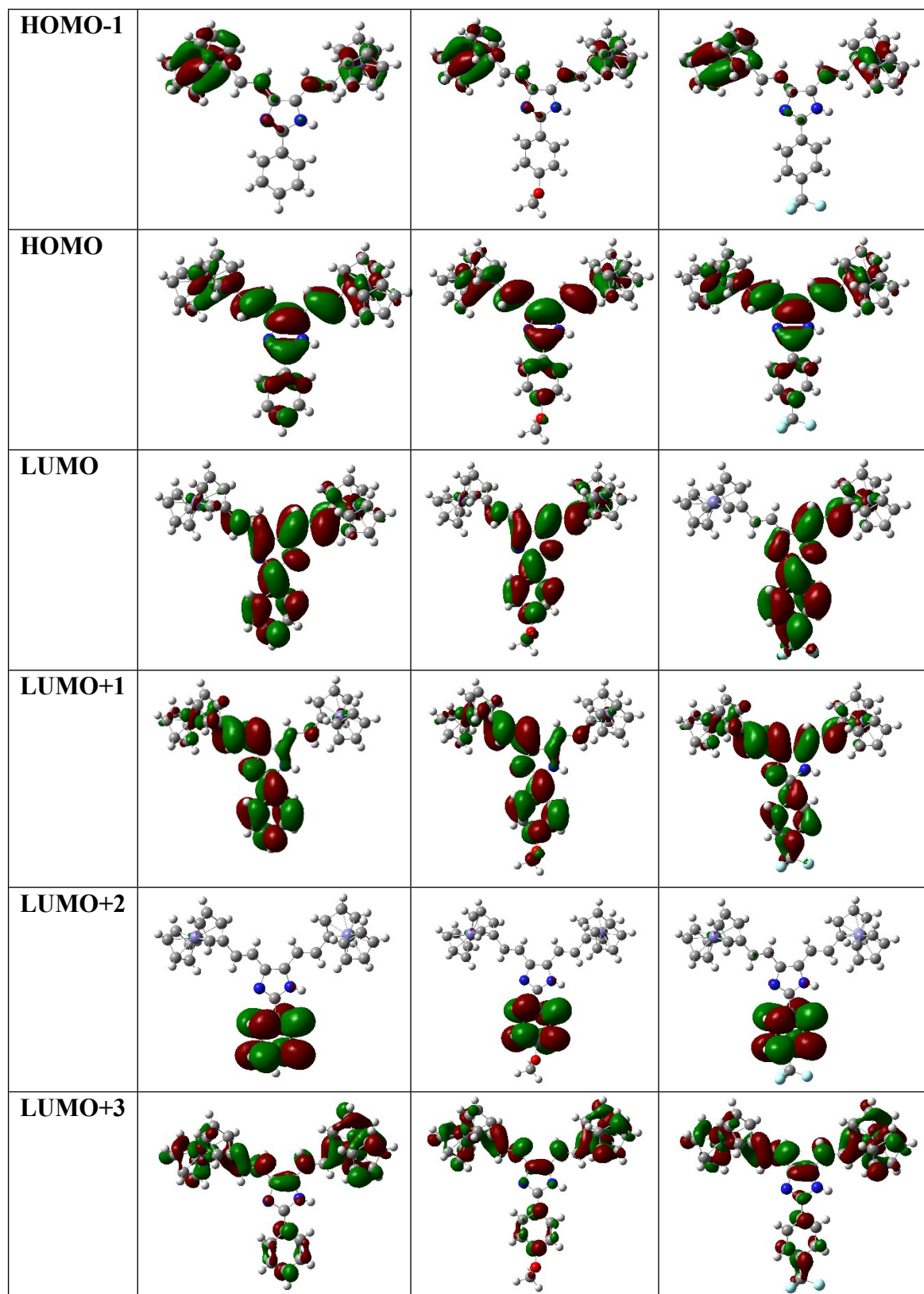
| Entry | λ (nm) | Oscillator strength, f | Energy (eV) | Selected Major Transitions ^a |
|----------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|----------------|---|
| 1 (H) | 380 | 0.7314 | 3.25 | H → L (85%) |
| | 352 | 0.2626 | 3.51 | H → L+1 (38%) |
| | 347 | 0.1952 | 3.56 | H-2 → L (24%), H → L+1 (18%), H-5 → L+6 (17%) |
| | 330 | 0.0679 | 3.74 | H-1 → L (53%) |
| | 321 | 0.0420 | 3.85 | H-4 → L (53%) |
| | 445 | 0.0222 | 2.71 | H-3 → L+5 (29%), H-6 → L+4 (14%) |
| 2 (OCH₃) | 382 | 0.7112 | 3.23 | H → L (85%) |
| | 344 | 0.2913 | 3.59 | H → L+2 (18%) |
| | 353 | 0.2518 | 3.50 | H → L+2 (30%) |
| | 347 | 0.1853 | 3.56 | H-2 → L (24%), H-5 → L+6 (16%), H → L+1 (15%) |
| | 332 | 0.0745 | 3.72 | H-1 → L (53%) |
| | 322 | 0.0450 | 3.84 | H-4 → L (52%) |
| | 310 | 0.0377 | 3.99 | H → L+2 (91%) |
| 3 (CF₃) | 401 | 0.4888 | 3.08 | H → L (89%) |
| | 357 | 0.4683 | 3.46 | H → L+1 (51%), H-1 → L (14%) |
| | 346 | 0.2454 | 3.57 | H-4 → L (32%), H-2 → L (25%) |
| | 362 | 0.0963 | 3.42 | H-1 → L (28%), H-3 → L+5 (13%) |
| | 352 | 0.0464 | 3.51 | H-2 → L (62%) |
| | 342 | 0.0375 | 3.61 | H-3 → L+1 (31%), H-5 → L+6 (15%) |
| | 331 | 0.0300 | 3.74 | H-4 → L (31%) |
| | 445 | 0.0260 | 2.78 | H-3 → L+5 (30%) |
| 4 (CN) | 360 | 0.7159 | 3.44 | H → L+1 (65%) |
| | 436 | 0.2386 | 2.84 | H → L (50%) |
| | 449 | 0.1413 | 2.76 | H-3 → L+5 (30%), H → L+1 (26%), H-6 → L+8 (12%) |
| | 350 | 0.1308 | 3.54 | H-1 → L+1 (31%), H-2 → L+6 (11%) |

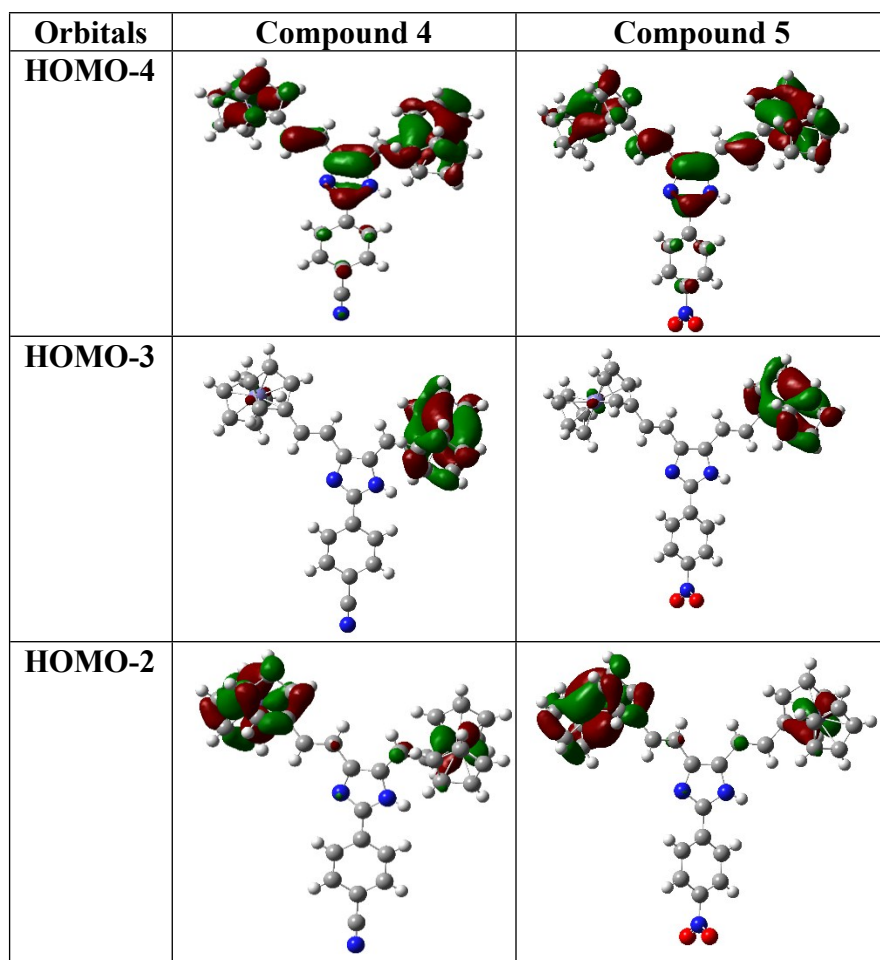
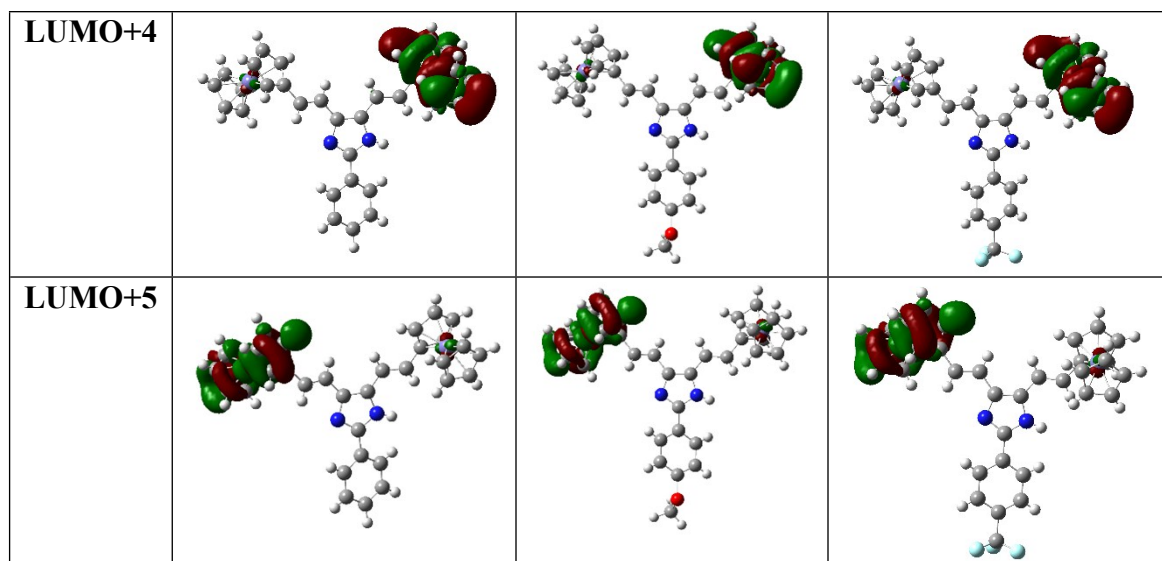
| | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|--------|------|-----------------------------------|
| | 368 | 0.1228 | 3.36 | H-4 → L (74%) |
| | 322 | 0.0619 | 3.84 | H → L+2 (93%) |
| | 498 | 0.0222 | 2.48 | H-3 → L+3 (40%) |
| | 321 | 0.0152 | 3.85 | H-1 → L+1 (40%) |
| 5 (NO₂) | 404 | 0.4633 | 3.06 | H → L+1 (89%) |
| | 358 | 0.4372 | 3.45 | H → L+2 (51%) |
| | 347 | 0.2233 | 3.56 | H-5 → L (32%) |
| | 349 | 0.1743 | 3.55 | H-4 → L+1 (31%) |
| | 355 | 0.0584 | 3.48 | H-2 → L+1 (64%) |
| | 497 | 0.0290 | 2.49 | H-3 → L+6 (30%) |
| | 446 | 0.0260 | 2.77 | H-3 → L+7 (30%), H-5 → L+10 (14%) |

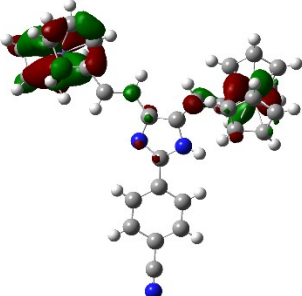
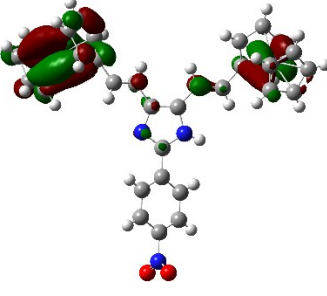
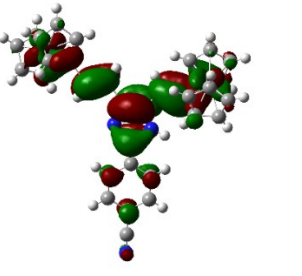
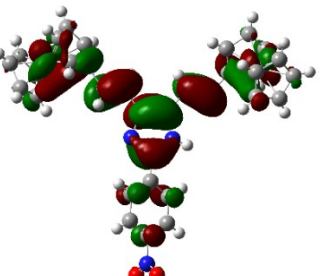
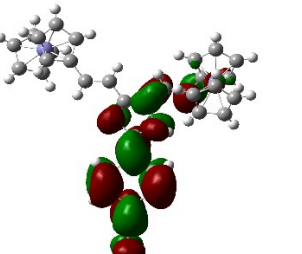
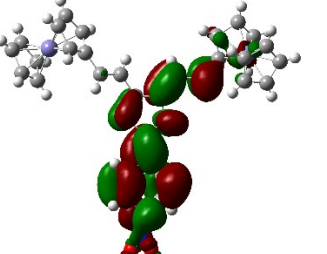
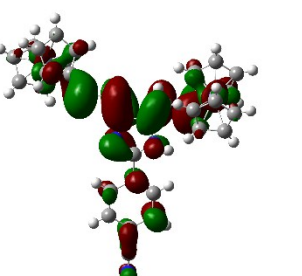
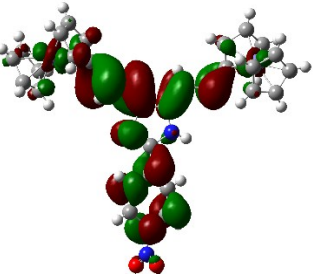
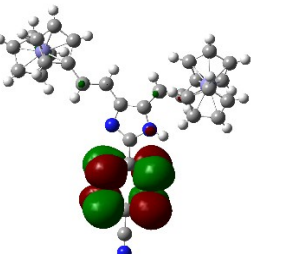
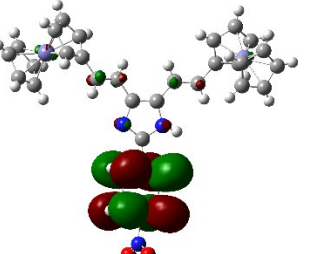
^a H = HOMO; L = LUMO; only contributions above 10% are included.

Table S4. Density surfaces of the frontier orbitals involved in electronic transitions of chromophores **1-5** which is derived from B3LYP/6-31+G** level of theory using isosurface value of 0.02 au.

| Orbitals | Compound 1 | Compound 2 | Compound 3 |
|----------|---|---|---|
| HOMO-4 |  |  |  |
| HOMO-3 |  |  |  |
| HOMO-2 |  |  |  |





| | | |
|--------|---|--|
| HOMO-1 |  |  |
| HOMO |  |  |
| LUMO |  |  |
| LUMO+1 |  |  |
| LUMO+2 |  |  |

