

## Supporting Information

### Pyrenoimidazole fused phenanthridine derivatives with intense red excimer fluorescence in solid-state

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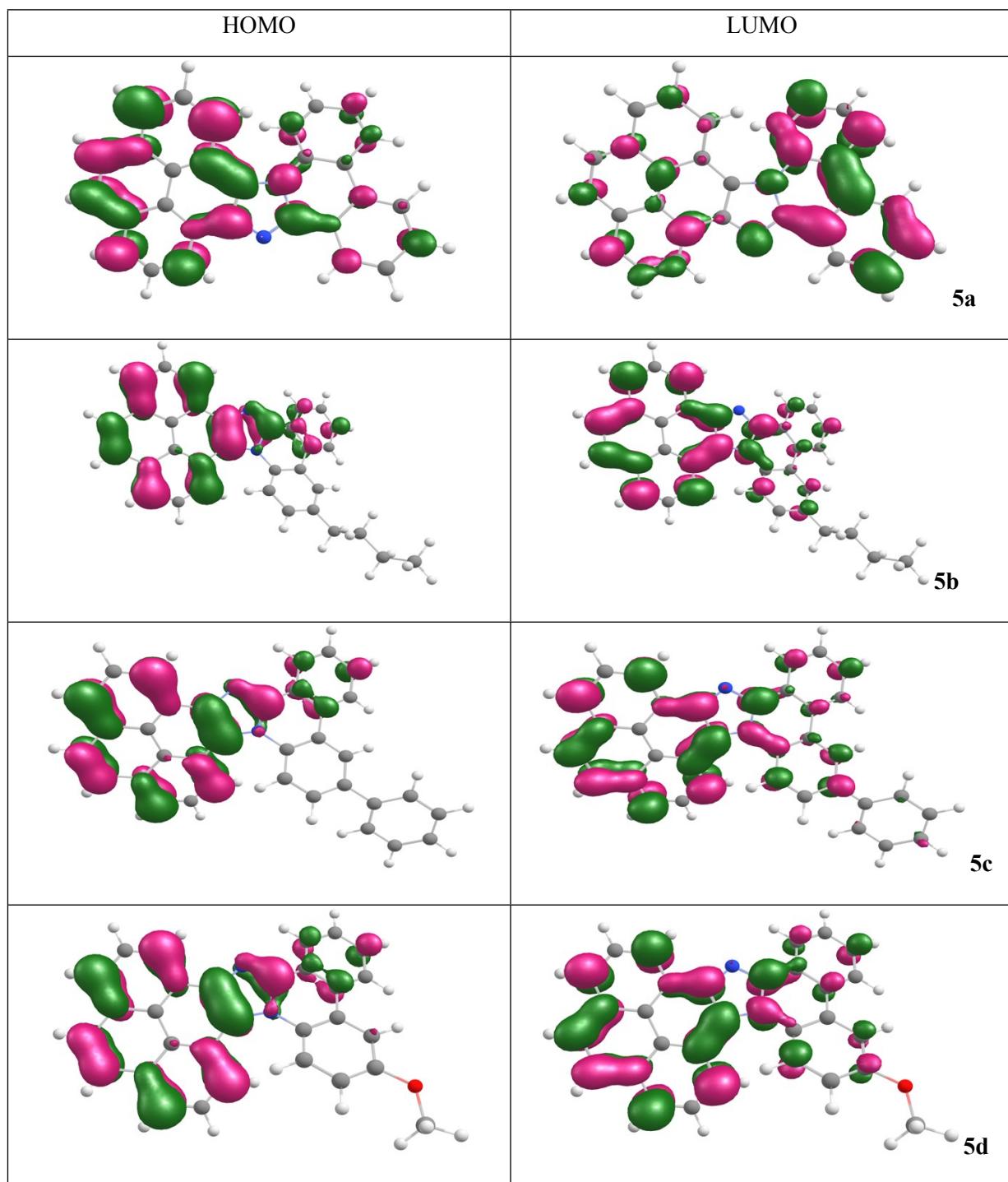
**Table S1** Photophysical properties of the compounds **5a-5f** in different solvents

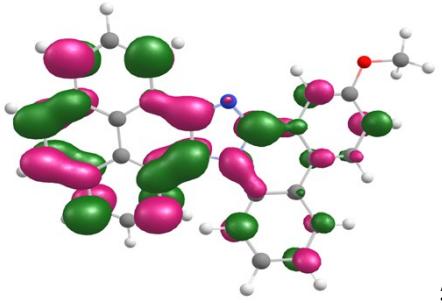
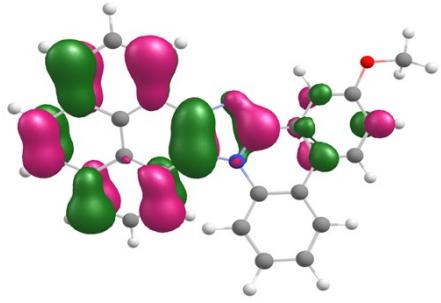
Solvent	Absorption	Fluorescence	Stoke's Shift (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Φ <sub>fl</sub>
<b>5a</b>				
Toluene	392	421	1757	0.66
CHCl <sub>3</sub>	391	421	1757	0.69
EA	391	418	1651	0.64
THF	390	417	1660	0.74
DCM	392	421	1757	0.68
<b>5b</b>				
Toluene	392	421	1757	0.59
CHCl <sub>3</sub>	392	421	1757	0.54
EA	391	418	1652	0.58
THF	390	417	1660	0.70
DCM	392	421	1757	0.63
<b>5c</b>				
Toluene	393	422	1748	0.66
CHCl <sub>3</sub>	391	423	1934	0.63
EA	391	418	1652	0.59
THF	390	420	1831	0.69
DCM	391	423	1934	0.68
<b>5d</b>				
Toluene	394	423	1740	0.54
CHCl <sub>3</sub>	392	423	1869	0.63
EA	392	418	1587	0.53
THF	391	420	1766	0.64
DCM	392	423	1869	0.67
<b>5e</b>				
Toluene	392	446	3089	0.61
CHCl <sub>3</sub>	392	420	1701	0.65
EA	390	448	2965	0.64
THF	390	439	2862	0.58
DCM	392	419	1643	0.68
<b>5f</b>				
Toluene	394	428	2016	0.59
CHCl <sub>3</sub>	392	430	2254	0.56
EA	392	428	2145	0.60
THF	391	433	2640	0.66
DCM	391	436	1757	0.61

**Table S2** Fluorescence life time values of **5a-5f** in thin film

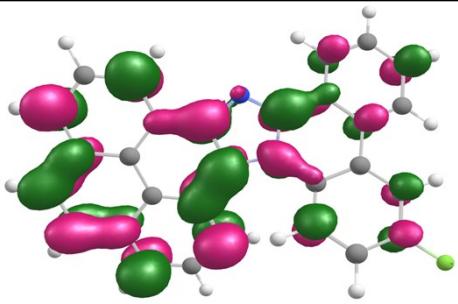
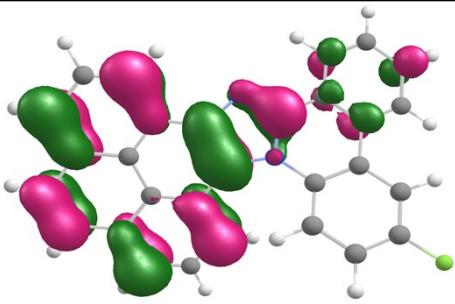
Compounds	$\tau_1$	A <sub>1</sub>	$\tau_2$	A <sub>2</sub>	$\tau_{\text{avg}}$	$\chi^2$
<b>5a</b>	1.89	19.97	9.33	80.03	7.84	1.12
<b>5b</b>	2.04	29.05	7.07	70.95	5.61	1.19
<b>5c</b>	2.44	28.61	8.67	71.39	6.89	1.11
<b>5d</b>	1.79	29.80	8.16	70.20	6.26	1.11
<b>5e</b>	2.05	28.26	8.01	71.74	6.32	1.13
<b>5f</b>	1.98	45.20	7.17	54.80	4.82	1.11

**Table S3.** Optimized geometries of **5a-5f** calculated at B3LYP/6-31G\*





5e



5f

**Table S4** Selected transitions obtained from TD-DFT calculations

<b>Compound</b>	<b>Wave length (nm)</b>	<b>Osc. Strength</b>	<b>Major contributions</b>
<b>5a</b>	373.71	0.1465	HOMO→LUMO (51%), HOMO→L+1 (37%)
	357.15	0.0849	H-1→LUMO (18%), HOMO→LUMO (27%), HOMO→L+1 (41%)
	320.69	0.226	H-1→LUMO (21%), HOMO→L+2 (25%), HOMO→L+3 (28%)
	309.15	0.2203	H-2→LUMO (12%), H-1→LUMO (30%), HOMO→L+3 (24%)
	300.33	0.1616	H-3→LUMO (10%), H-1→L+1 (59%)
	293.24	0.0942	H-2→LUMO (50%), H-1→L+1 (17%)
	291.03	0.0962	H-2→LUMO (12%), HOMO→L+3 (16%), HOMO→L+4 (51%)
	280.66	0.151	H-3→LUMO (40%), H-1→L+2 (32%)
	249.67	0.1425	H-3→L+1 (11%), H-3→L+2 (21%), H-2→L+2 (28%), HOMO→L+5 (10%)
	248.37	0.1649	H-3→L+2 (35%), H-1→L+3 (14%), H-6→LUMO (6%), H-6→L+1 (3%)

<b>Compound</b>	<b>Wavelength (nm)</b>	<b>Osc. Strength</b>	<b>Major contributions</b>
<b>5b</b>	372.61	0.1457	HOMO→LUMO (49%), HOMO→L+1 (39%)
	357.04	0.0803	H-1→LUMO (20%), HOMO→LUMO (28%), HOMO→L+1 (38%)
	321.71	0.3082	H-1→LUMO (28%), HOMO→L+2 (25%), HOMO→L+3 (19%)

	310.68	0.1707	H-3→LUMO (15%), H-1→LUMO (22%), HOMO→L+3 (35%)
	302.76	0.1545	H-2→LUMO (14%), H-1→L+1 (59%)
	294.39	0.1298	H-2→LUMO (59%), H-1→L+1 (17%)
	289.38	0.0992	HOMO→L+3 (15%), HOMO→L+4 (40%)
	281.86	0.1759	H-3→LUMO (32%), H-1→L+2 (19%), HOMO→L+4 (12%)
	246.01	0.1763	H-3→L+2 (13%), H-2→L+3 (10%), H-1→L+4 (51%)

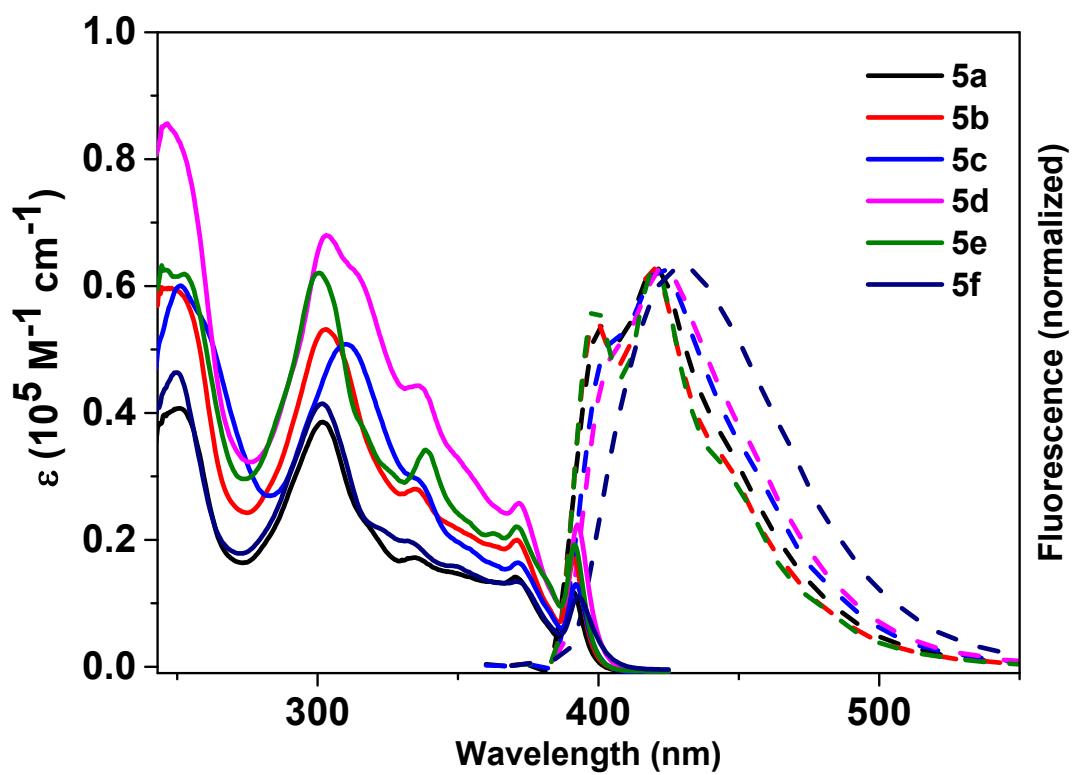
Compound	Wavelength (nm)	Osc. Strength	Major contributions
<b>5c</b>	375.47	0.1391	HOMO→LUMO (55%), HOMO→L+1 (32%)
	363.09	0.0548	H-1→LUMO (16%), HOMO→LUMO (23%), HOMO→L+1 (48%)
	326.76	0.2536	H-1→LUMO (19%), HOMO→L+2 (36%), HOMO→L+3 (15%)
	320.25	0.357	H-3→LUMO (11%), H-1→LUMO (28%), HOMO→L+3 (38%)
	308.73	0.1537	H-2→LUMO (20%), H-1→L+1 (59%)
	297.53	0.1915	H-2→LUMO (57%), H-1→L+1 (16%)
	286.52	0.2067	H-3→LUMO (24%), H-2→L+1 (16%), H-1→L+2 (22%)
	271.23	0.1092	H-3→L+1 (60%)
	267.51	0.1342	H-3→LUMO (12%), H-2→L+1 (27%)
	258.95	0.1352	H-3→L+2 (46%), H-2→L+3 (17%)

	254.15	0.1465	H-7→LUMO (15%), H-6→LUMO (11%), H-4→L+1 (14%), H-1→L+4 (12%)
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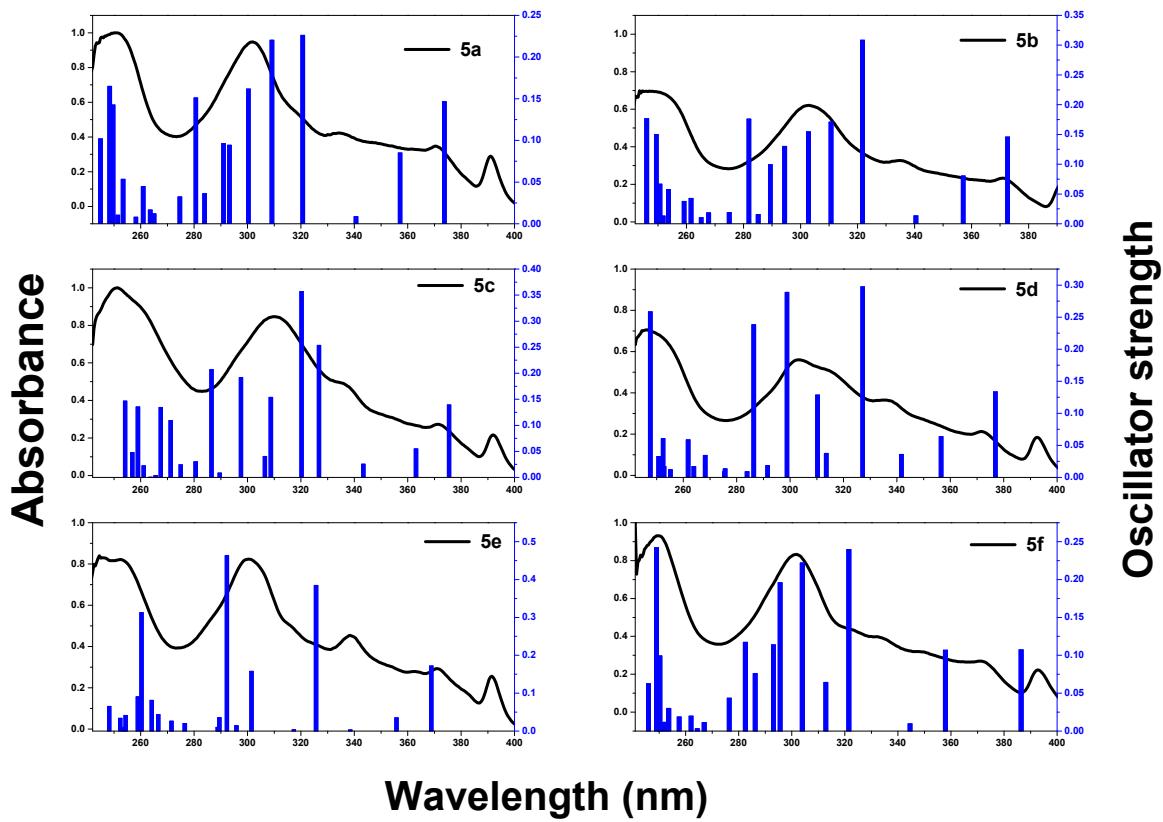
Compound	Wavelength (nm)	Osc. Strength	Major contributions
<b>5d</b>	376.88	0.1335	HOMO→LUMO (57%), HOMO→L+1 (32%)
	356.55	0.0637	H-1→LUMO (26%), HOMO→LUMO (21%), HOMO→L+1 (37%)
	327.16	0.2972	H-1→LUMO (40%), HOMO→L+2 (25%)
	310.26	0.1286	H-2→LUMO (17%), H-1→L+1 (55%)
	298.84	0.2885	H-2→LUMO (56%), H-1→L+1 (11%)
	286.37	0.238	H-3→LUMO (28%), H-2→L+1 (16%), H-1→L+2 (24%)
	247.65	0.2582	H-3→L+2 (21%), H-1→L+4 (48%)

Compound	Wavelength (nm)	Osc. Strength	Major contributions
<b>5e</b>	368.84	0.172	HOMO→LUMO (61%), HOMO→L+1 (24%)
	325.67	0.3846	H-1→LUMO (48%), HOMO→L+1 (23%)
	301.50	0.1576	H-3→LUMO (23%), H-1→L+1 (61%)
	292.28	0.4632	H-2→LUMO (46%), HOMO→L+3 (19%)
	260.31	0.3127	H-3→L+1 (34%), H-2→L+2 (11%), H-1→L+3 (11%), HOMO→L+5 (12%)
	248.19	0.0651	H-4→L+1 (18%), H-3→L+3 (13%), H-1→L+4 (19%), HOMO→L+5 (12%)

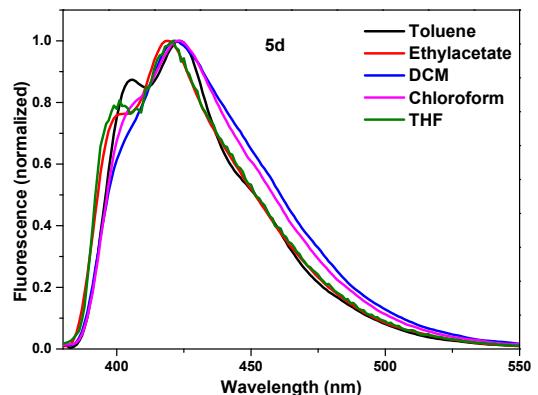
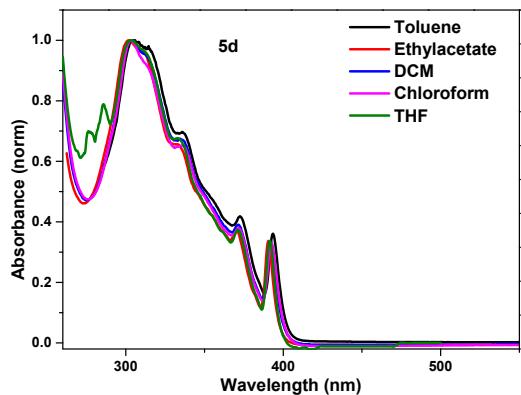
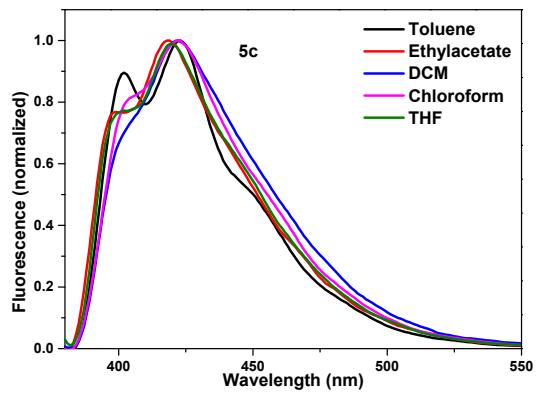
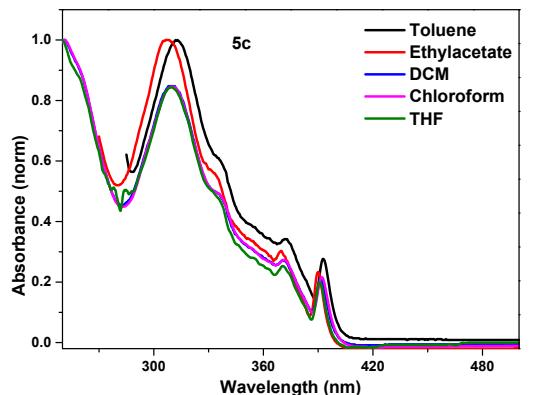
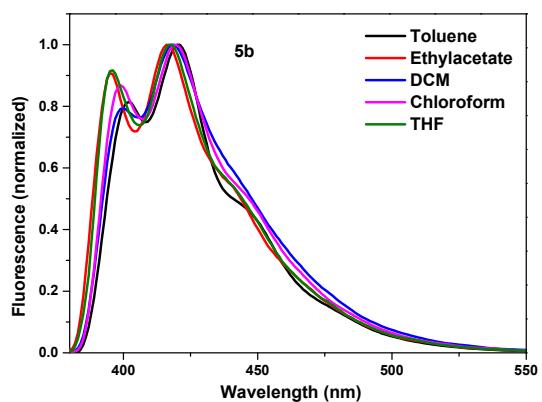
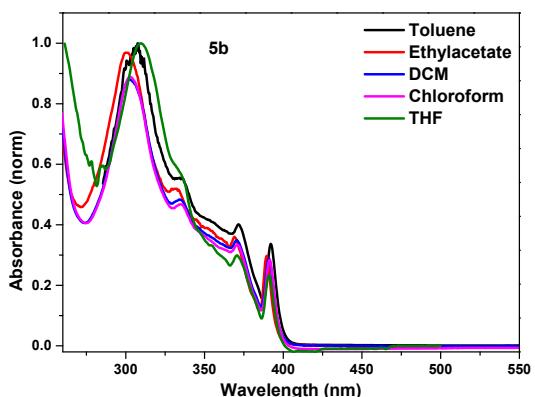
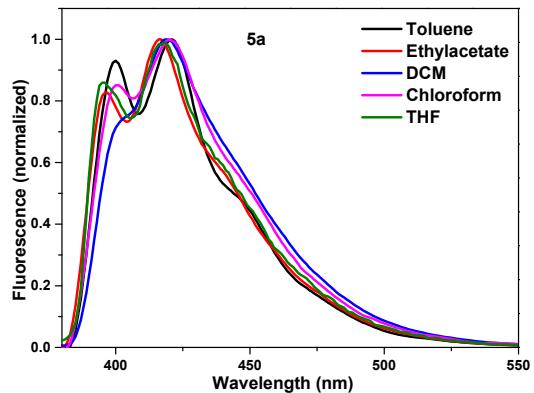
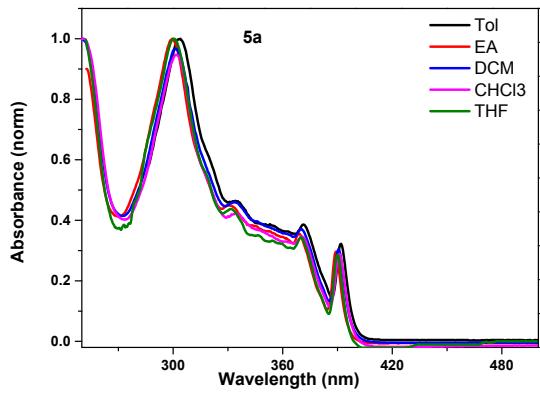
<b>Compound</b>	<b>Wavelength (nm)</b>	<b>Osc. Strength</b>	<b>Major contributions</b>
<b>5f</b>	386.44	0.1071	HOMO→LUMO (64%), HOMO→L+1 (29%)
	357.90	0.1068	H-1→LUMO (13%), HOMO→LUMO (20%), HOMO→L+1 (51%)
	321.51	0.2396	H-1→LUMO (28%), HOMO→L+2 (27%), HOMO→L+3 (20%)
	303.97	0.2219	H-3→LUMO (17%), H-1→L+1 (39%), HOMO→L+3 (13%)
	295.61	0.1958	H-2→LUMO (63%), H-1→L+1 (12%)
	293.08	0.1137	HOMO→L+3 (19%), HOMO→L+4 (46%)
	282.52	0.1172	H-3→LUMO (38%), H-1→L+2 (39%)
	249.02	0.2419	H-3→L+2 (18%), H-1→L+3 (20%), HOMO→L+5 (14%)

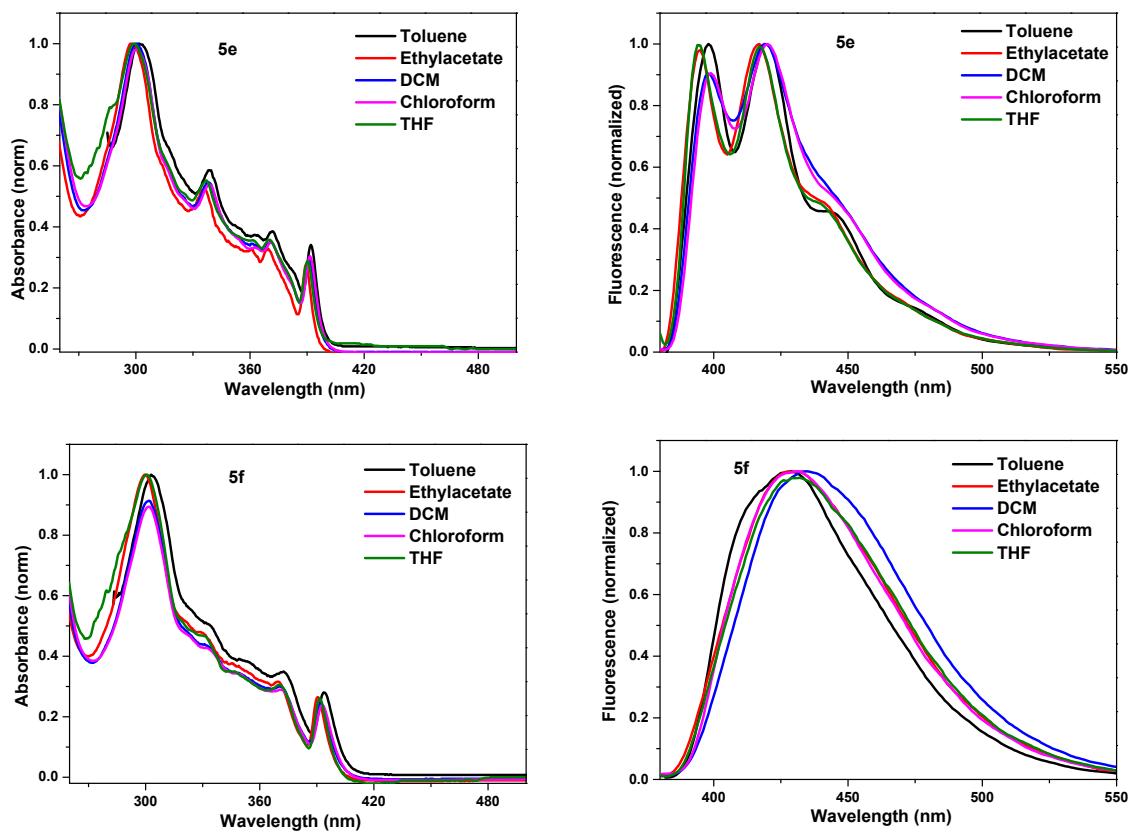


**Fig. S1** UV–Visible absorption (solid line) and fluorescence (dotted line) spectra of PyFPs in chloroform.

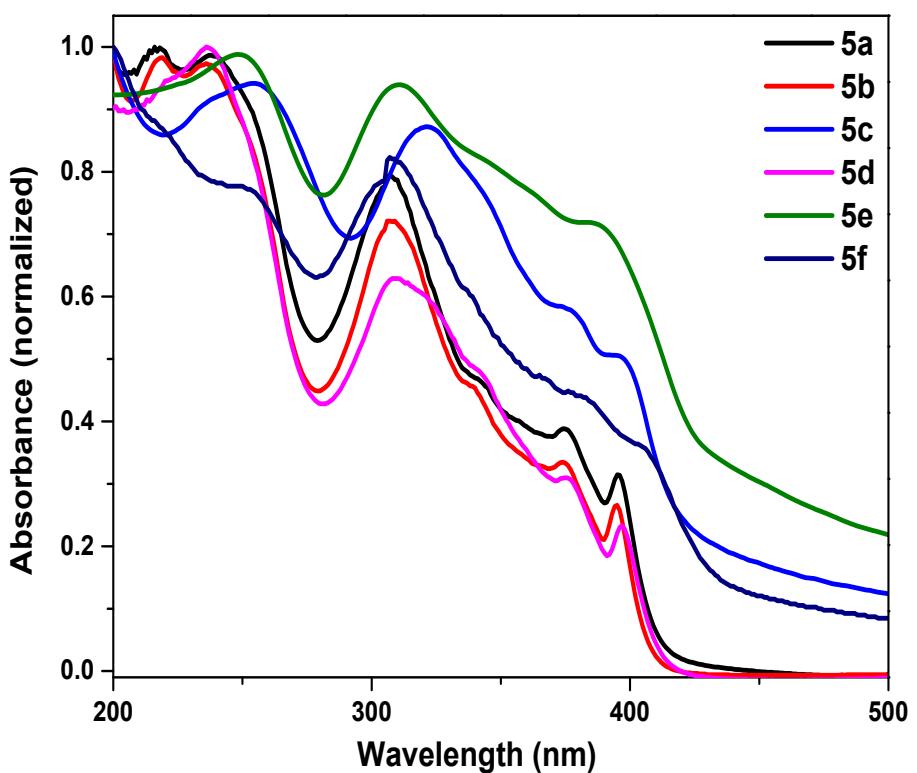


**Fig. S2** Calculated (blue) and experimental (black) absorption spectra of PyFPs **5a-5f** in chloroform. The calculations were carried at B3LYP/6-31G\*level of theory.

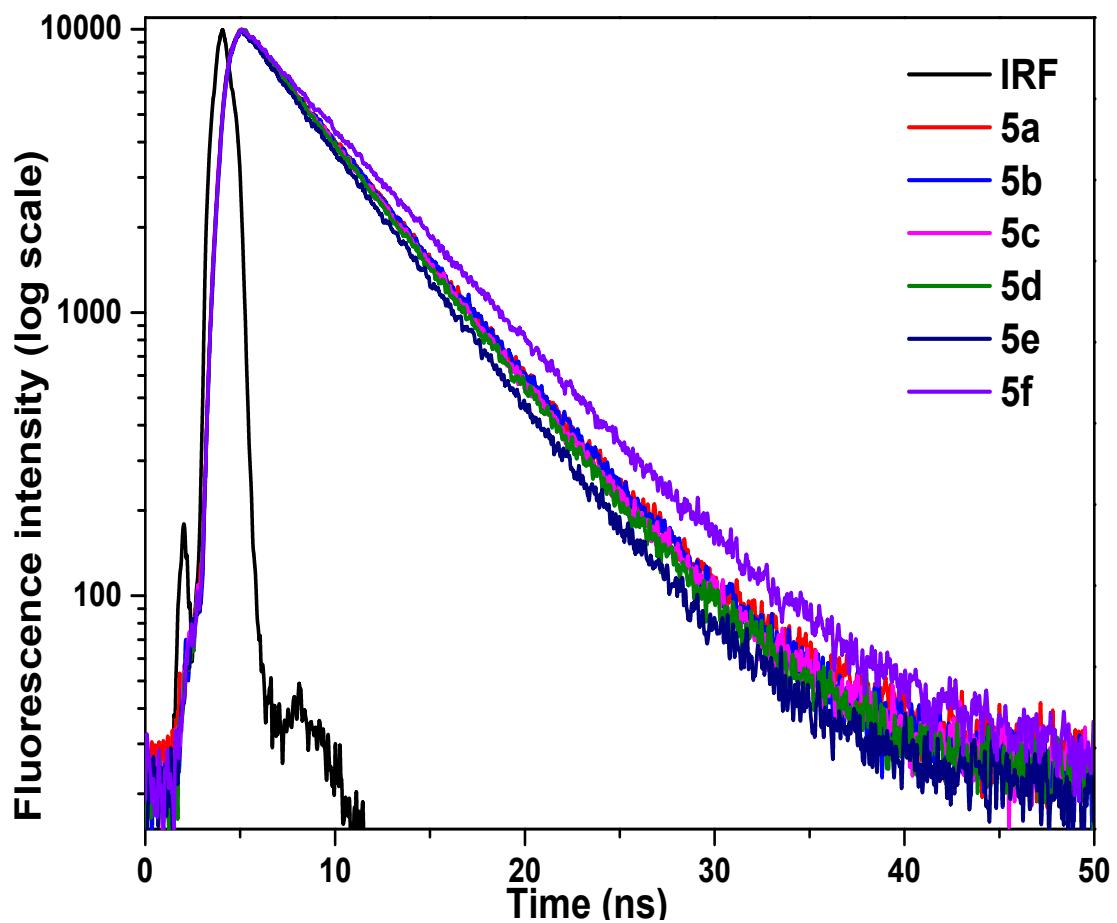




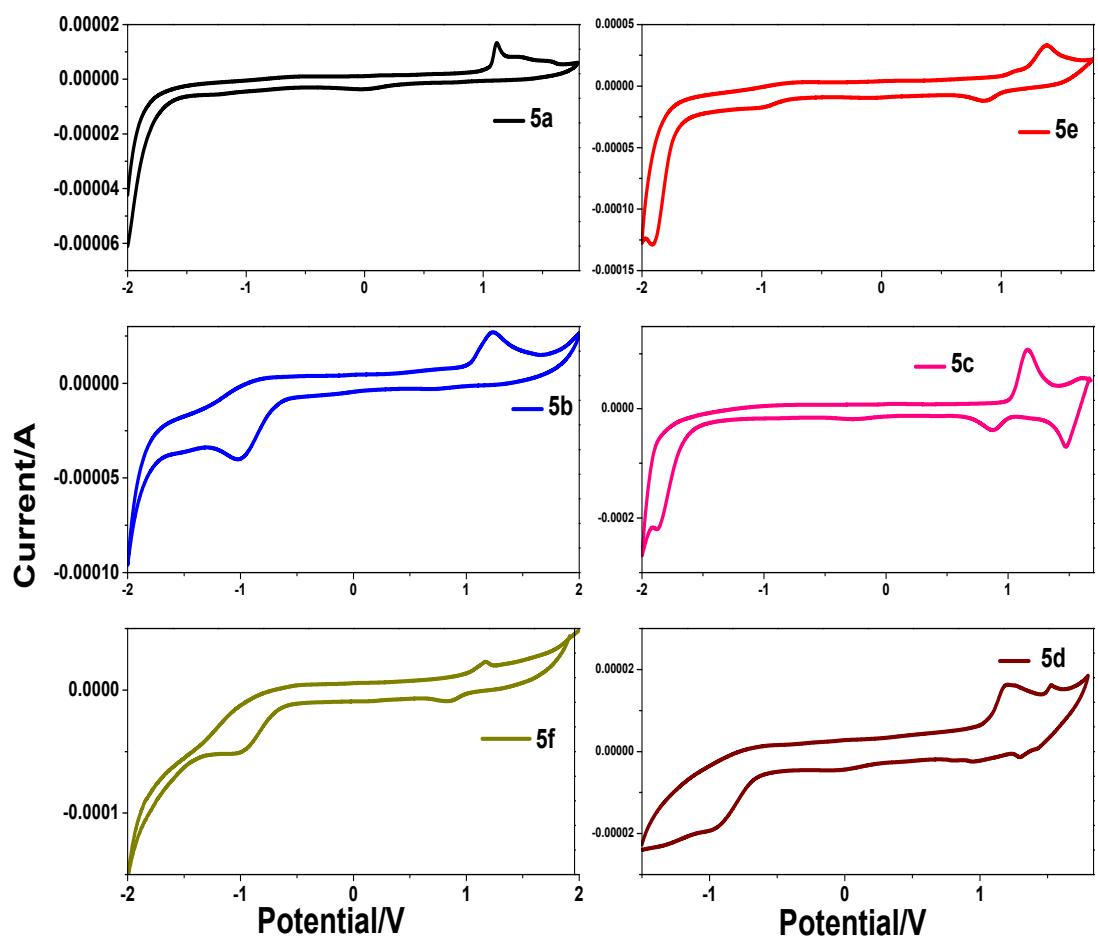
**Fig. S3** Absorption and emission spectra of **5a-5f** in different solvents



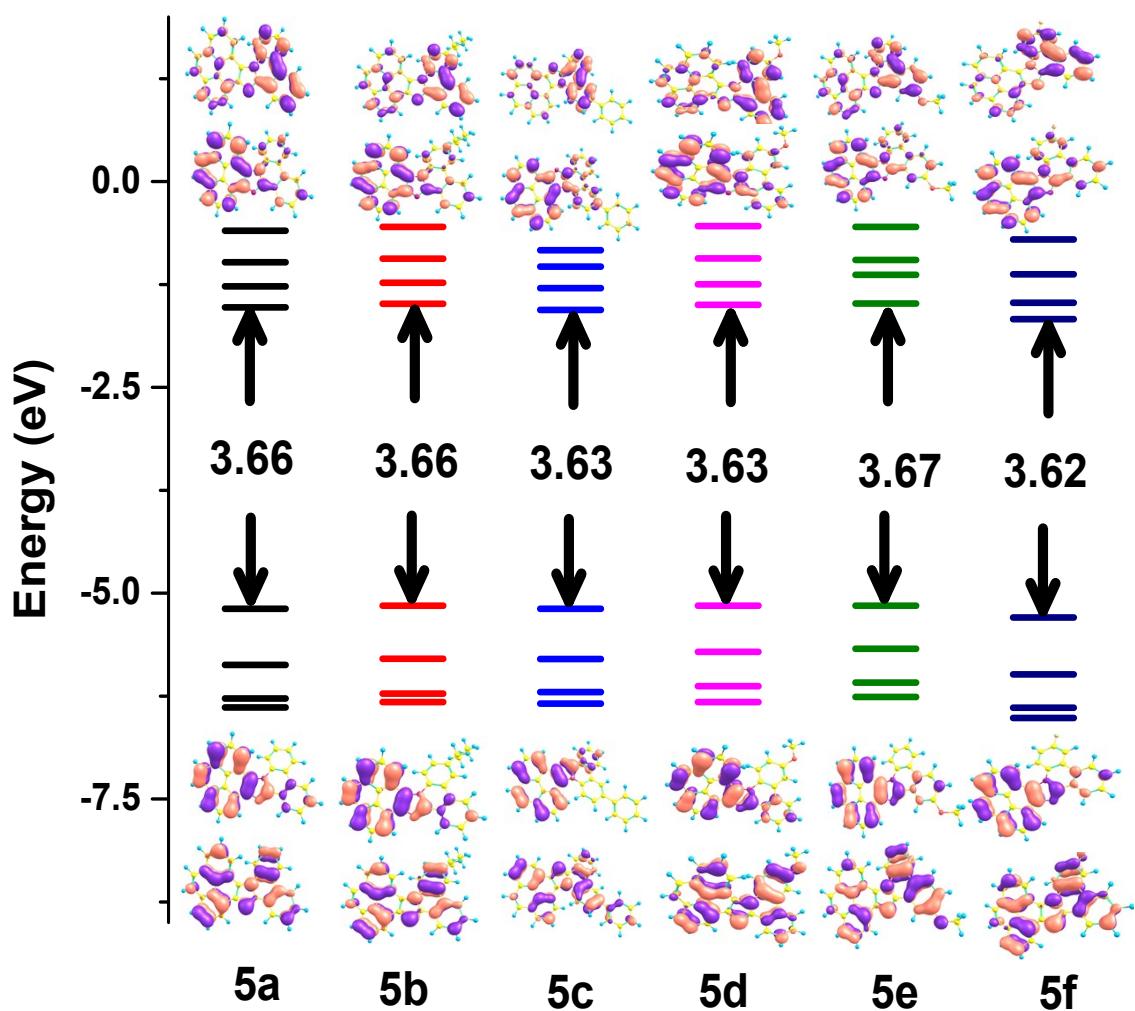
**Fig. S4** Absorption spectra of **5a-5f** in thin film.



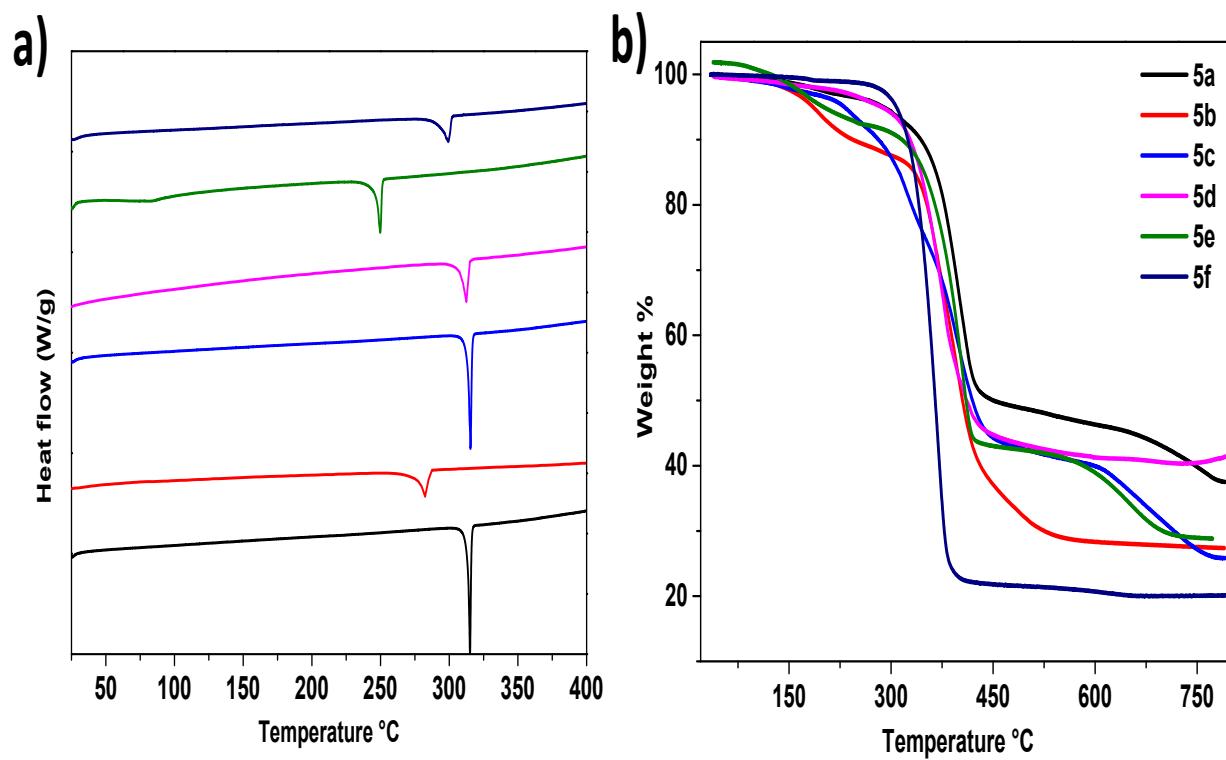
**Fig. S5** Fluorescence lifetime decay profiles of **5a–5f** in chloroform. The samples were excited at 371 nm and the decay profiles are monitored at respective  $\lambda_{em}$ .



**Fig. S6** Cyclic voltammogram of pyrenoimidazoles derivatives **5a-5f** ( $10^{-3}$  M solutions, scan rate of  $100 \text{ mVs}^{-1}$  vs  $\text{Ag}/\text{Ag}^+$ ) in  $0.1 \text{ M}$  solution of tetrabutylammonium hexafluorophosphate in acetonitrile solvent.

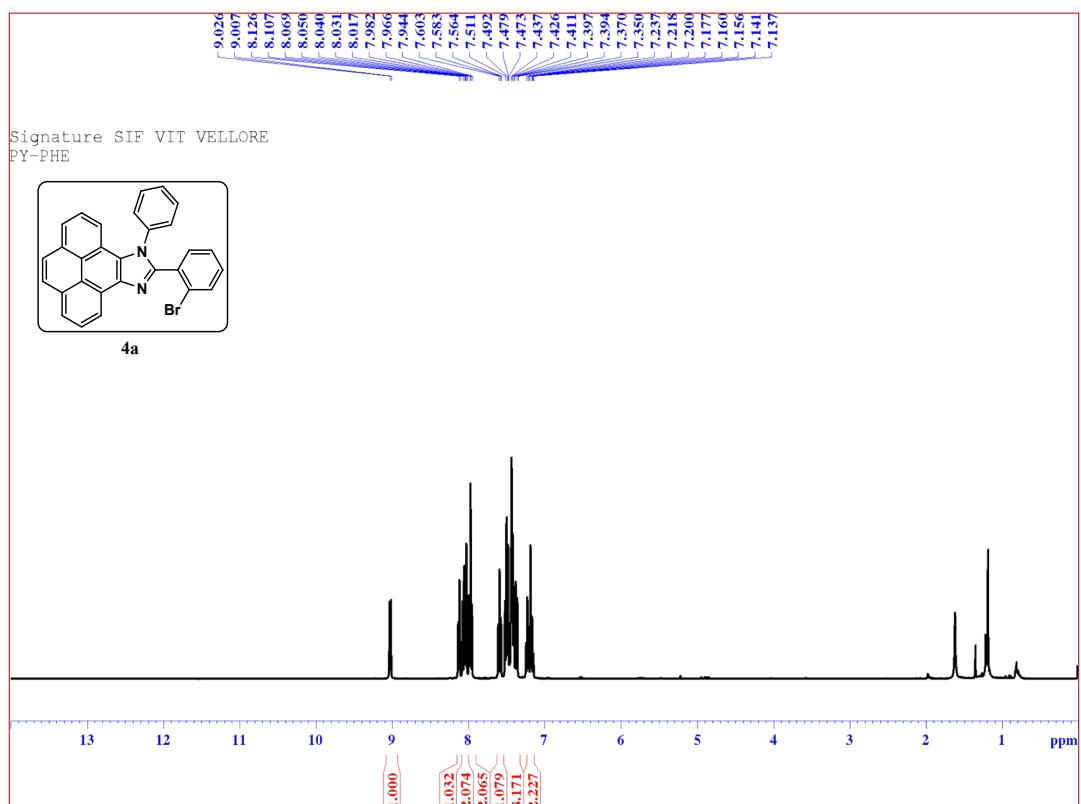


**Fig. S7** Molecular energy level diagram and frontier orbitals of **5a-5f** calculated at B3LYP/6-31G\* level of theory

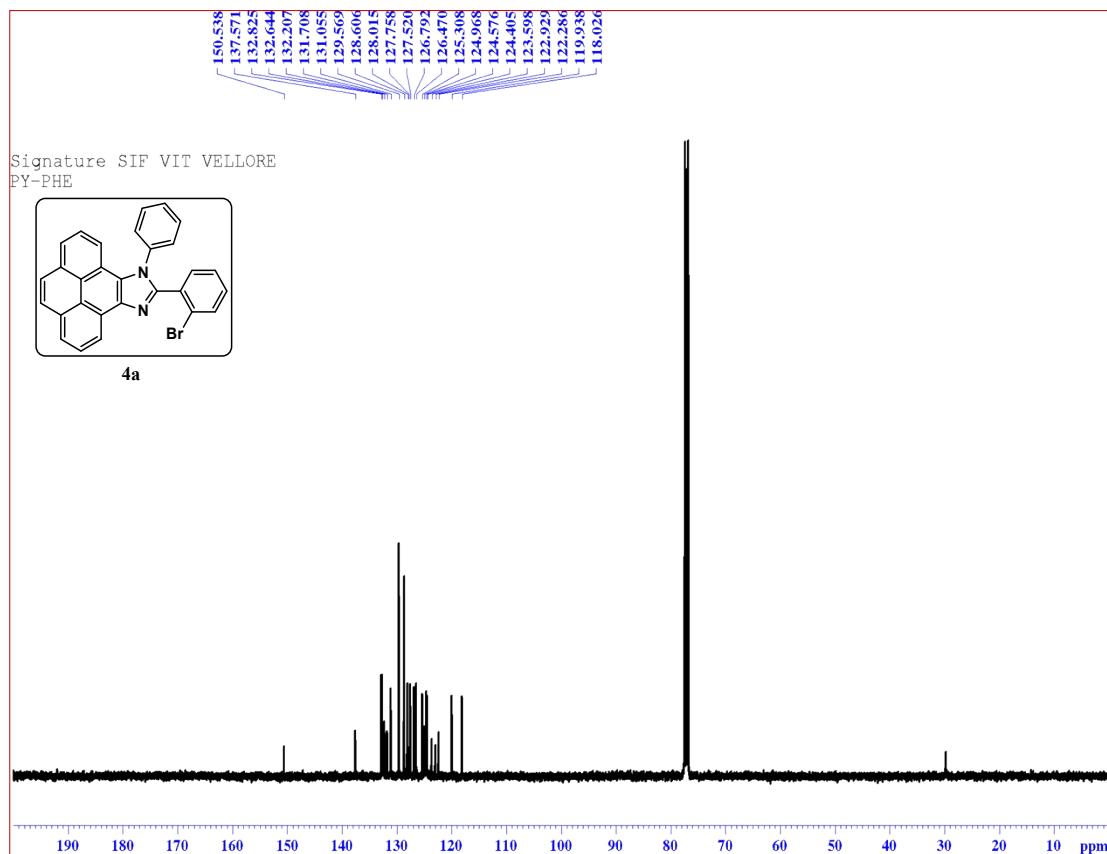


**Fig. S8** a) Determined by DSC, scan rate  $10\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C min}^{-1}$ , under a  $\text{N}_2$  atmosphere. b) TGA curve of **5a-5f** with a heating rate of  $10\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C min}^{-1}$  under an inert atmosphere

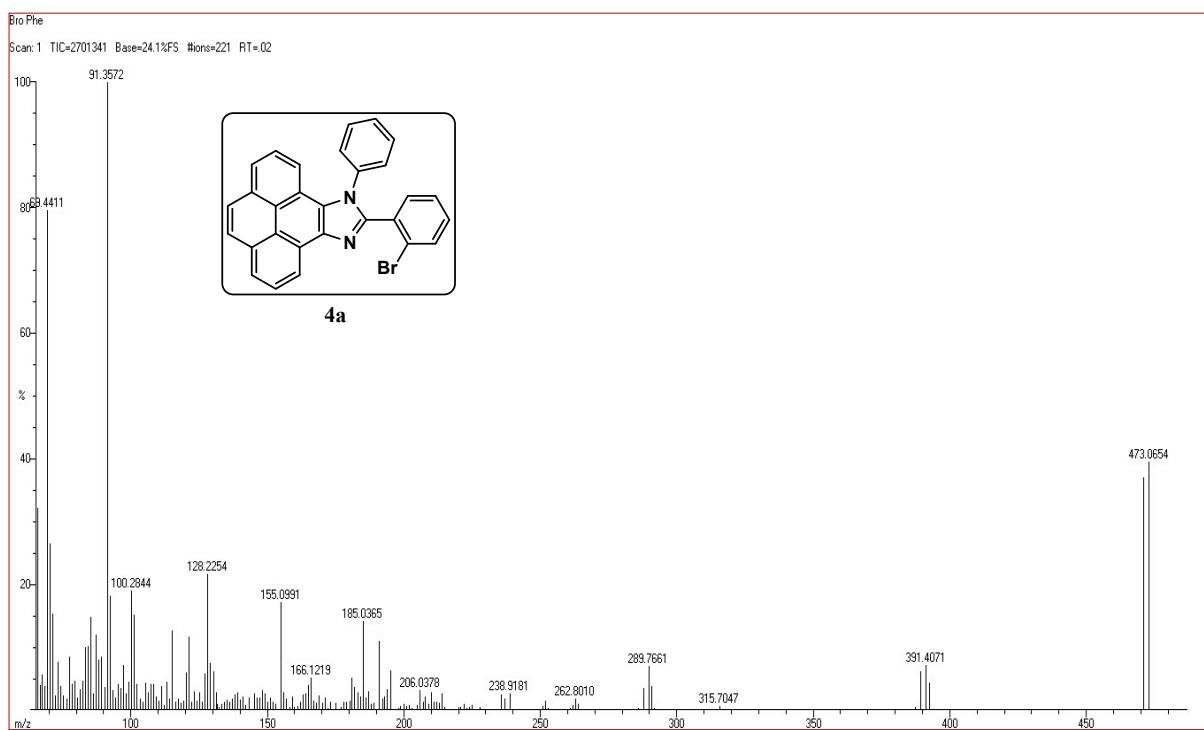
Copies of  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$ ,  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR and HRMS of **4a-4f** and **5a-5f**



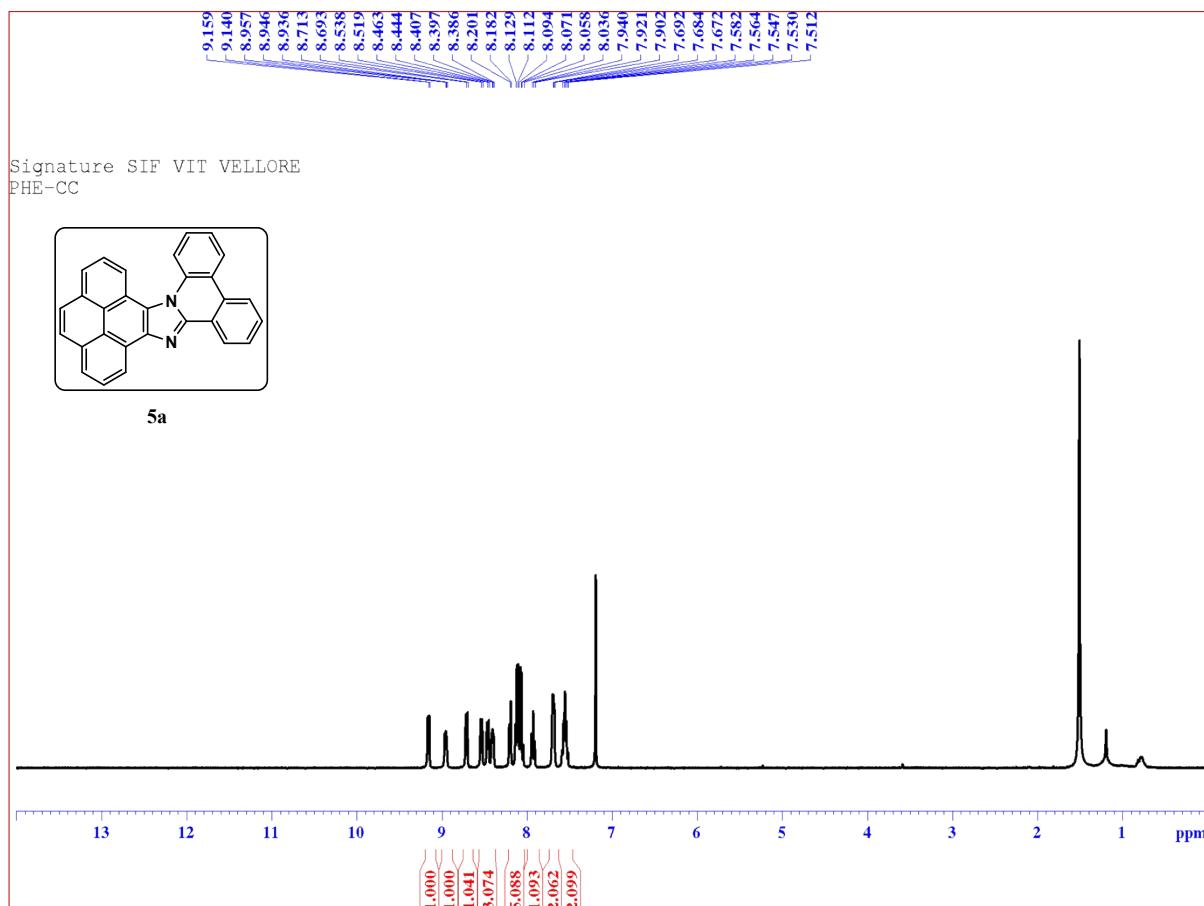
$^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **4a** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$



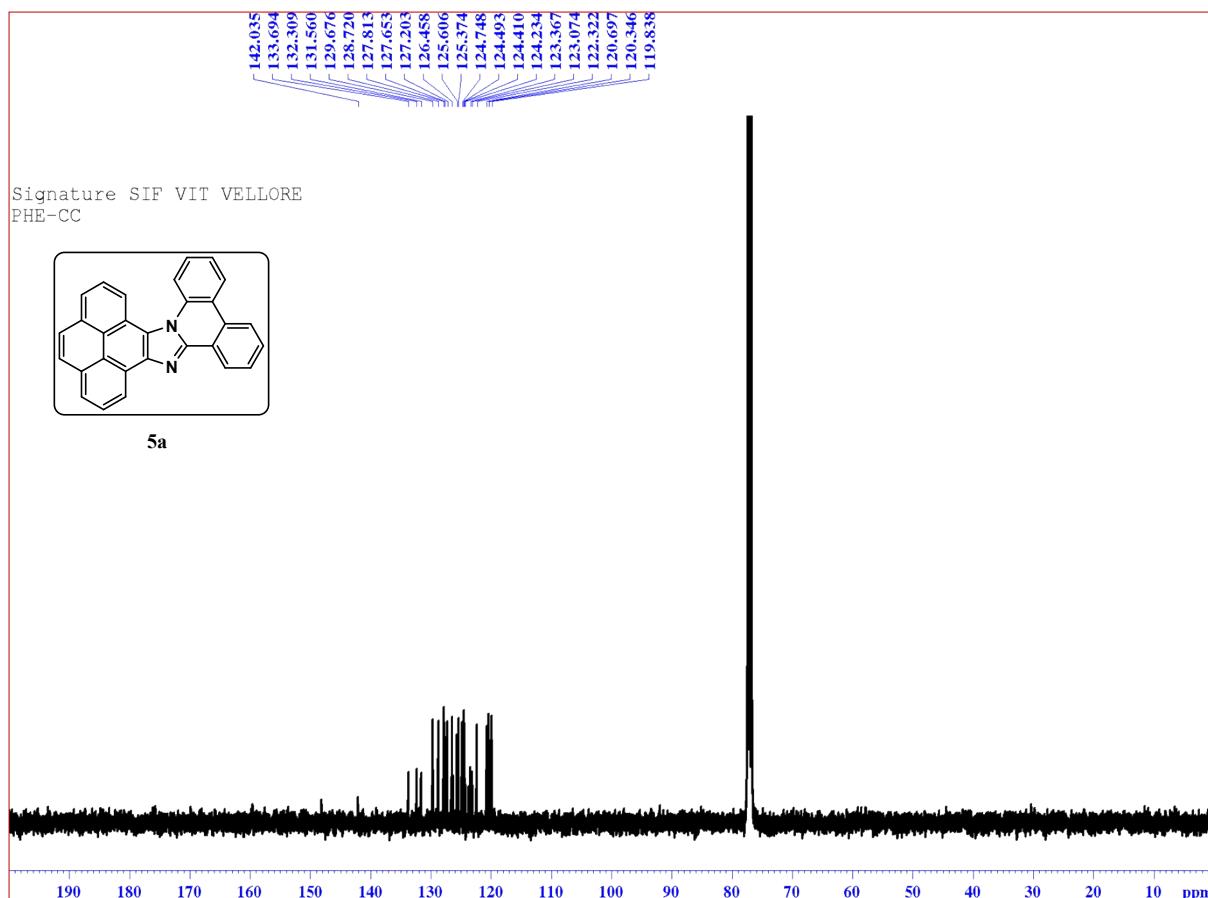
$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **4a** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$



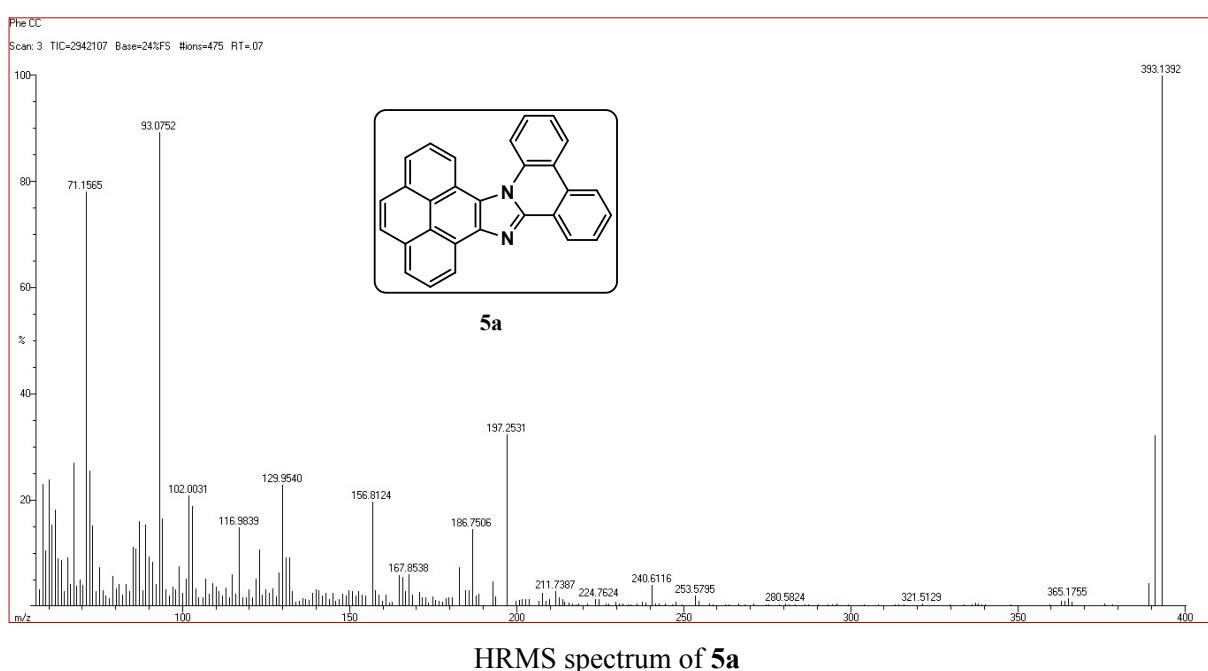
HRMS spectrum of **4a**



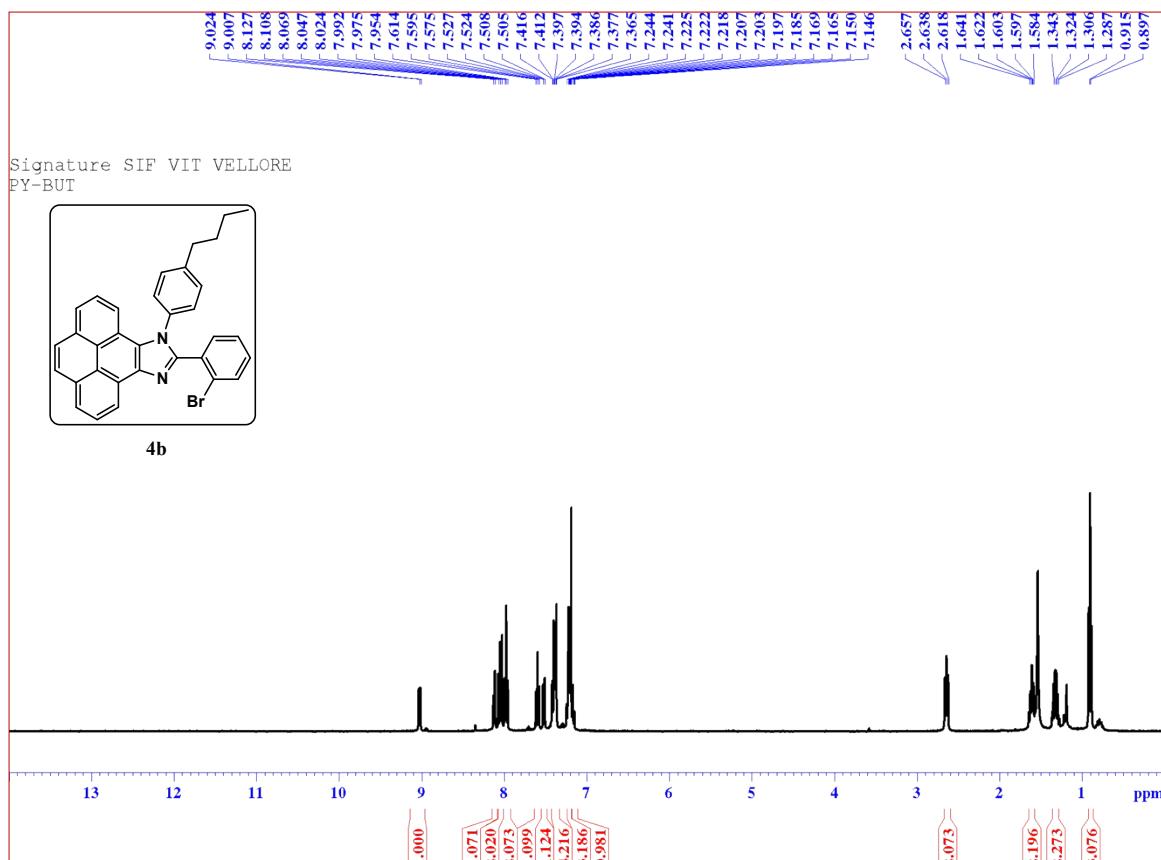
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **5a** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



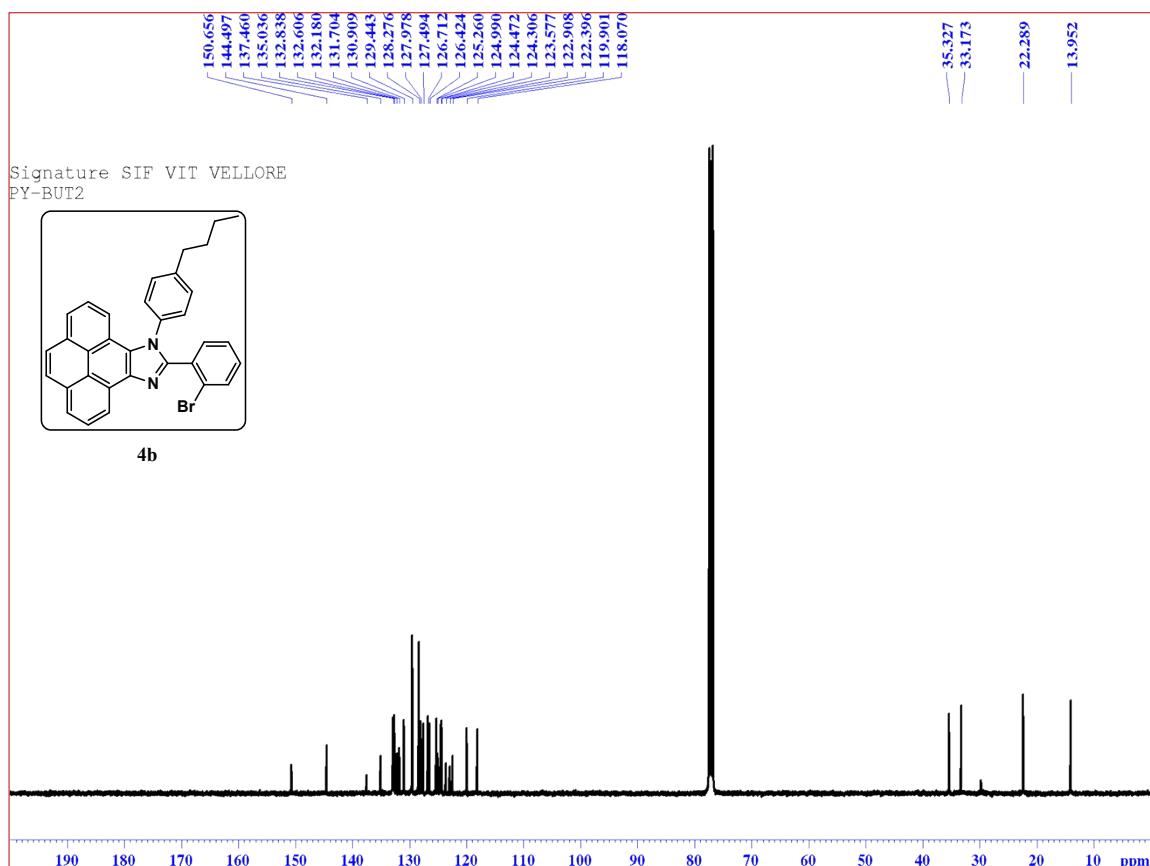
$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **5a** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$



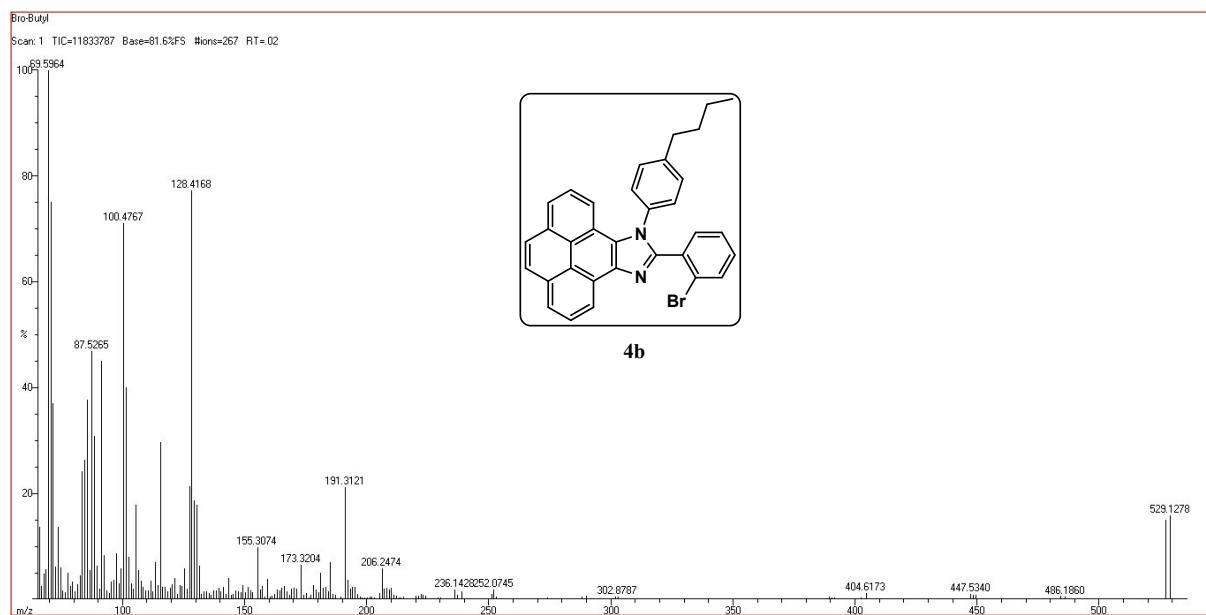
HRMS spectrum of **5a**



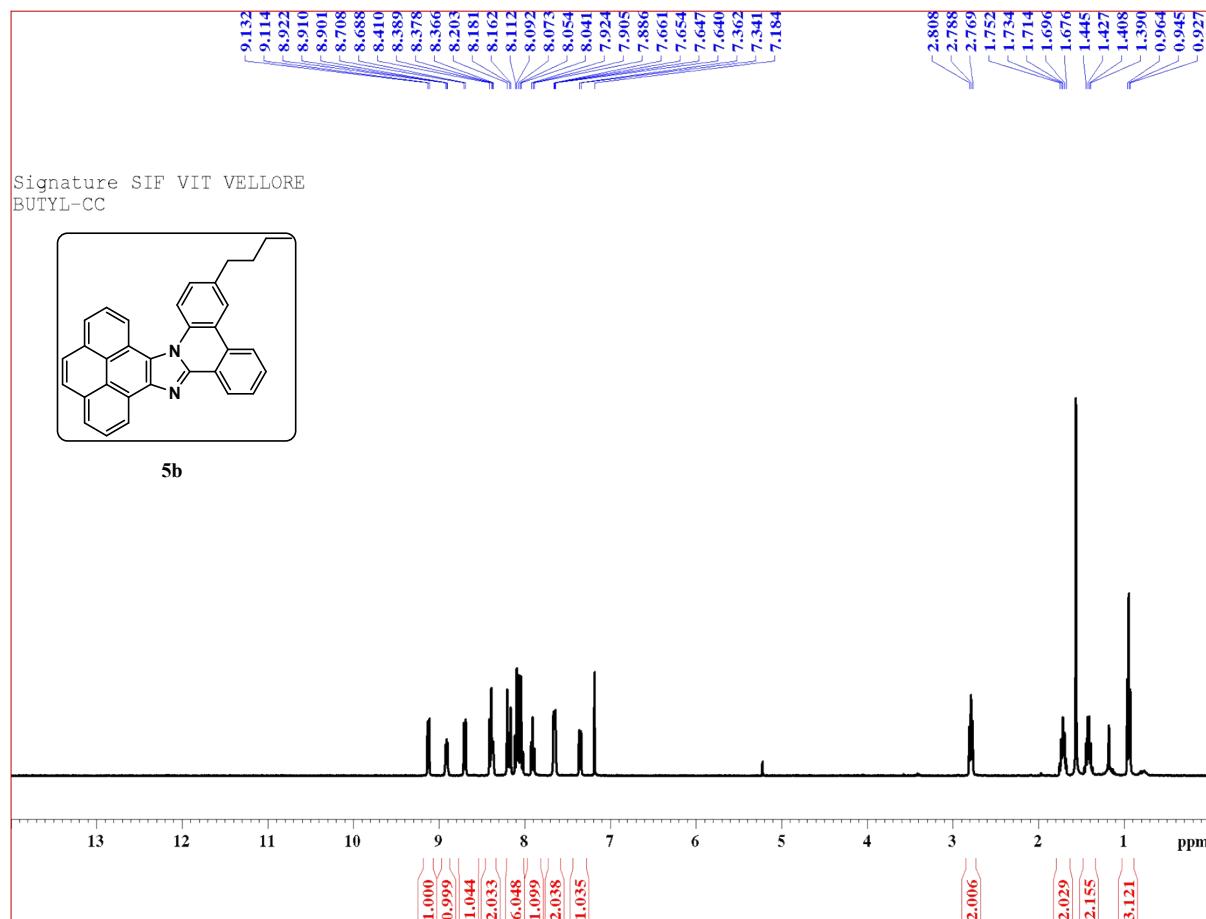
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **4b** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



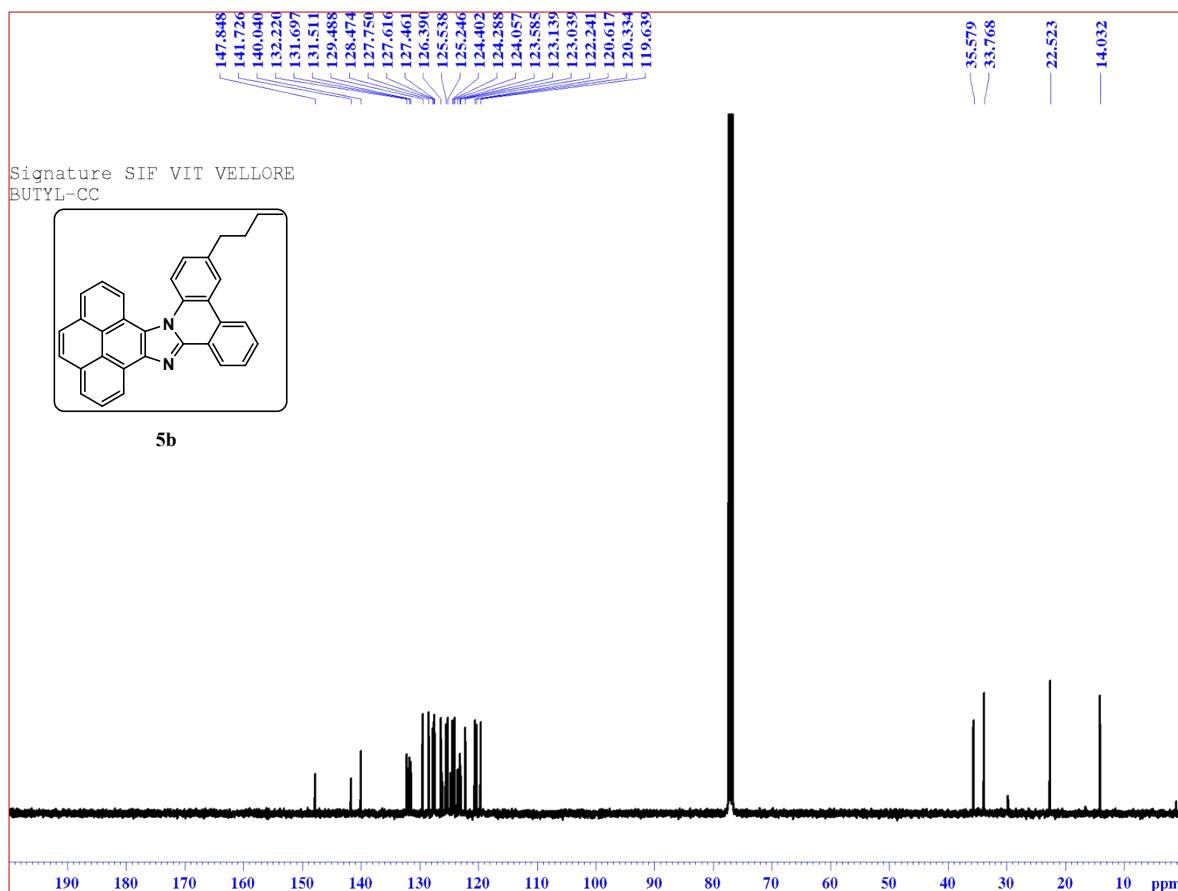
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **4b** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



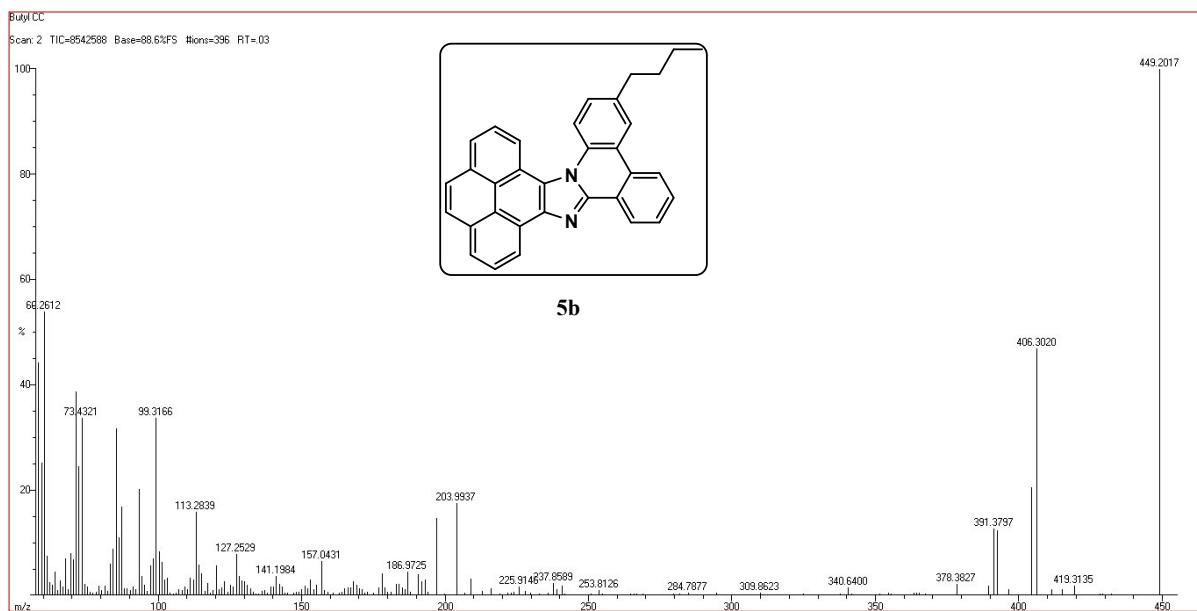
HRMS spectrum of **4b**



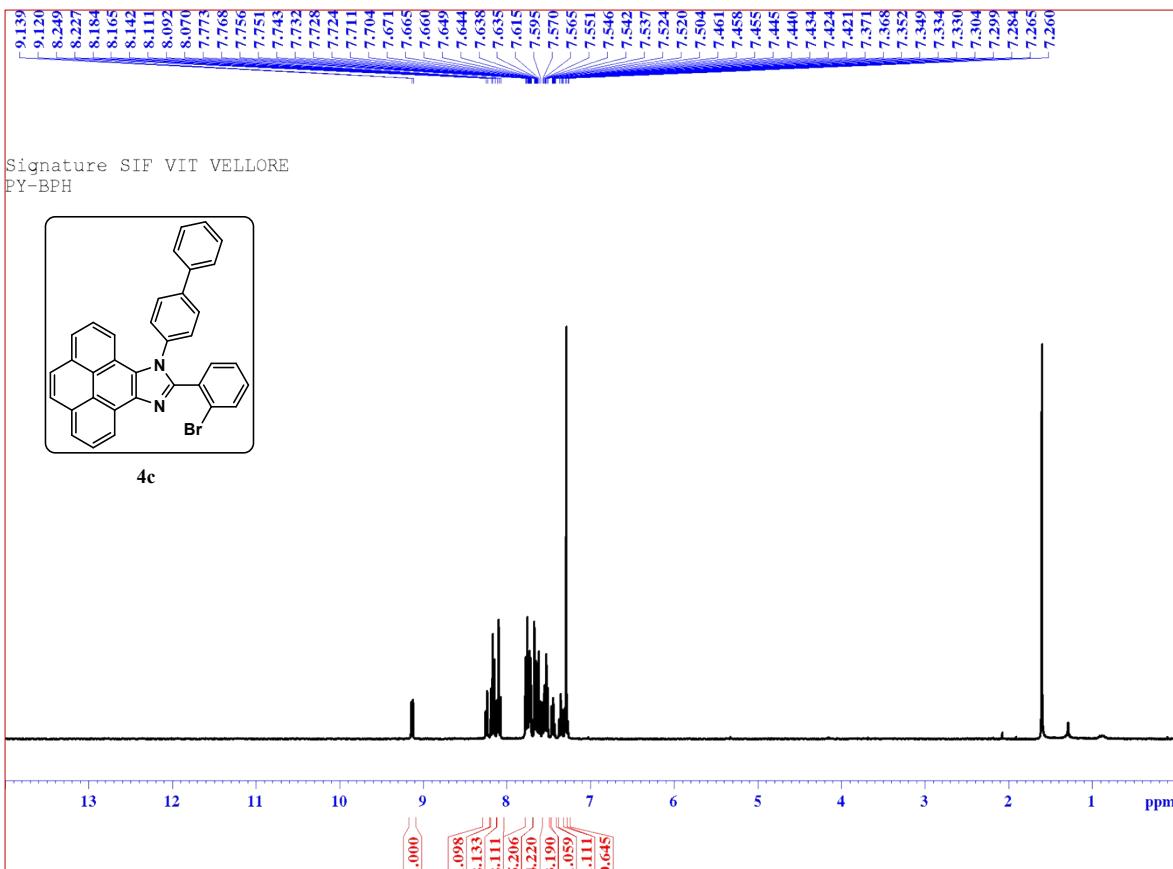
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **5b** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



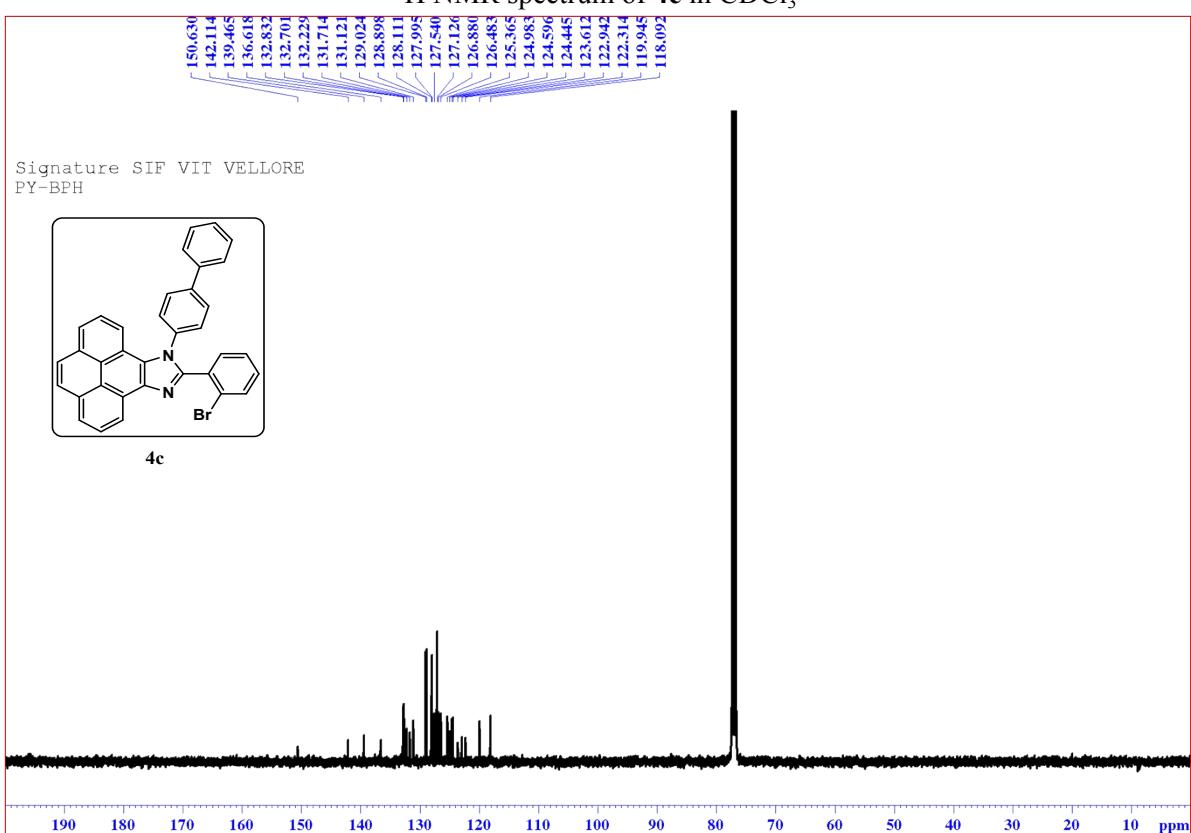
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **5b** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



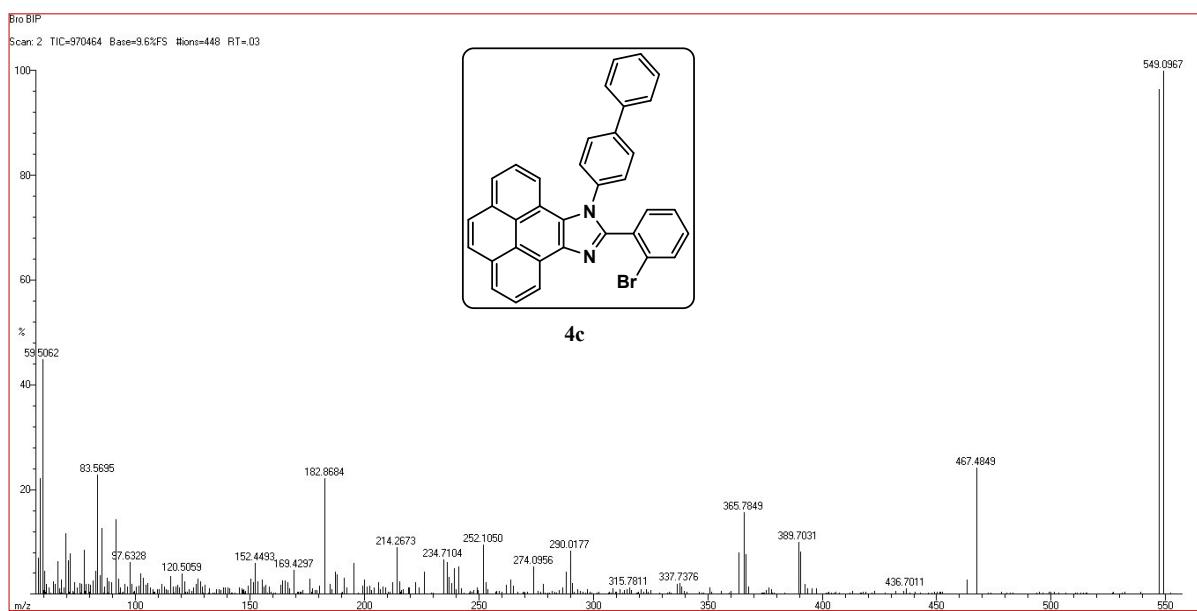
HRMS spectrum of **5b**



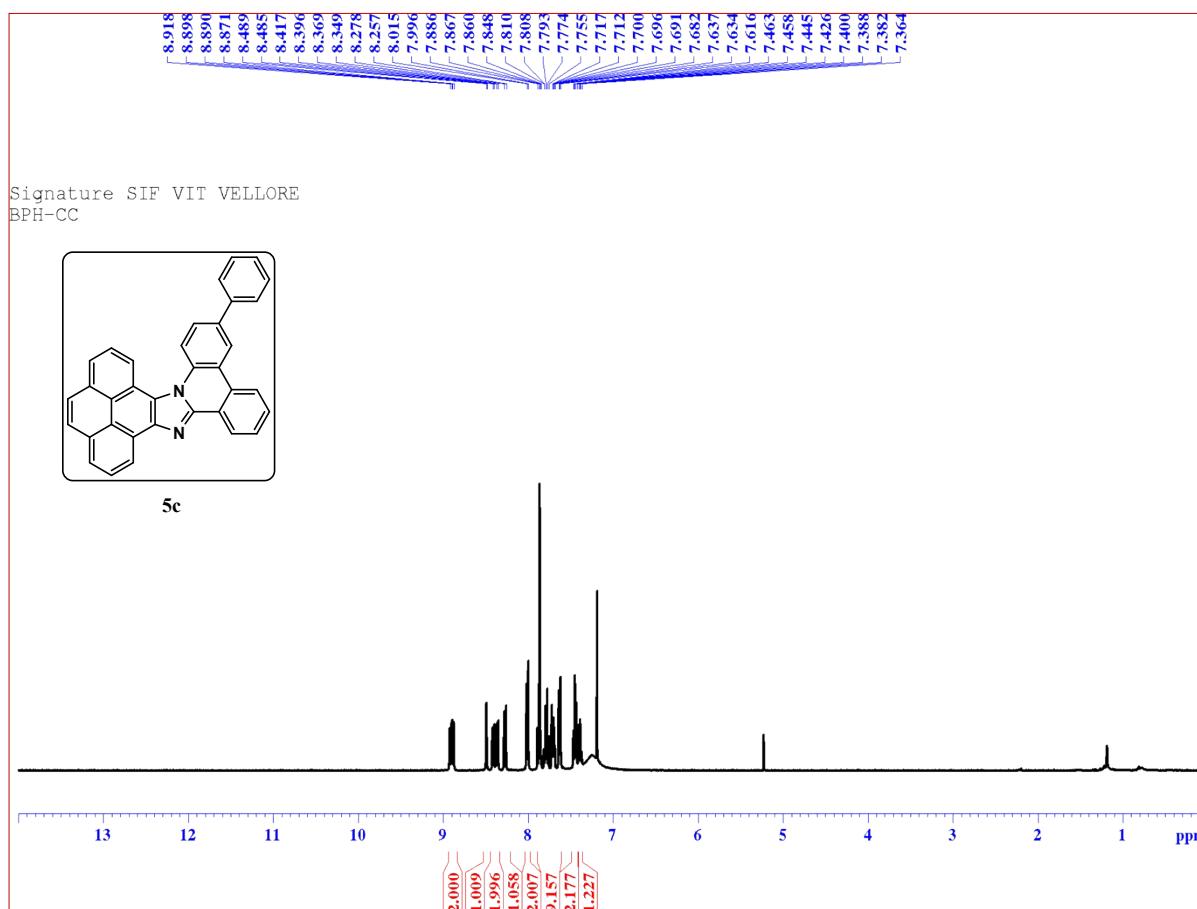
$^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **4c** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$



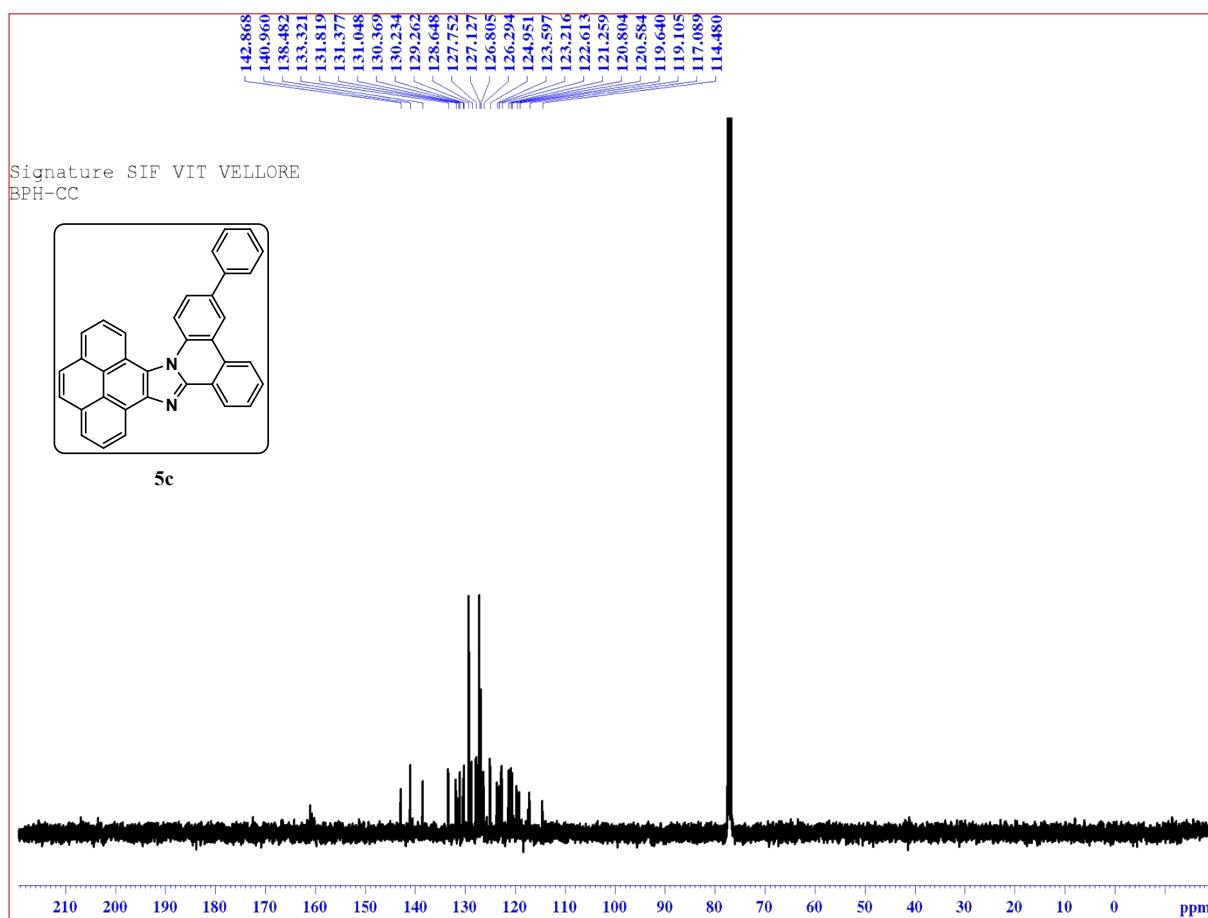
$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **4c** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$



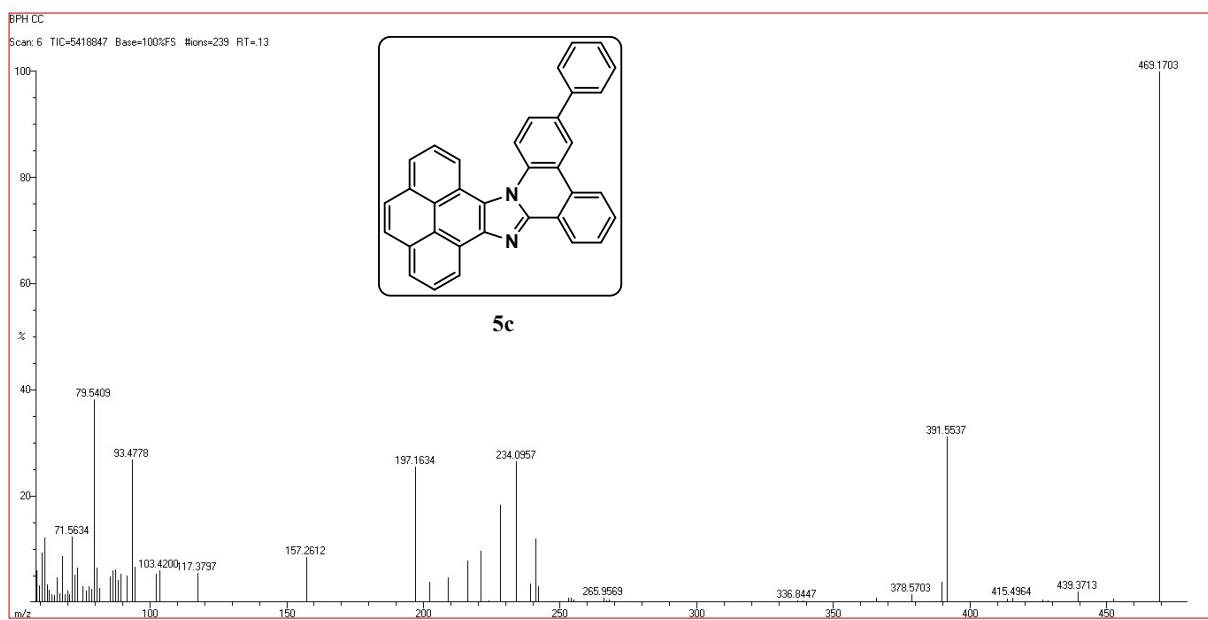
HRMS spectrum of **4c**



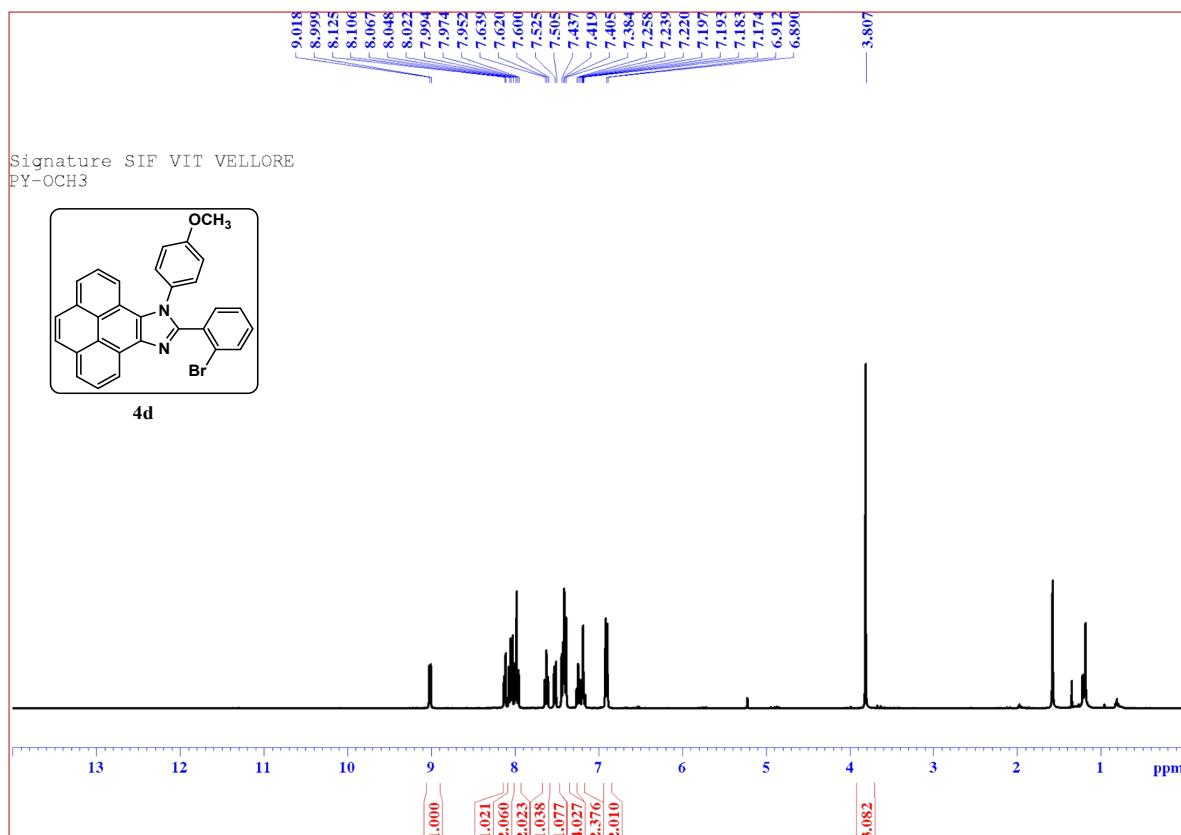
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **5c** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



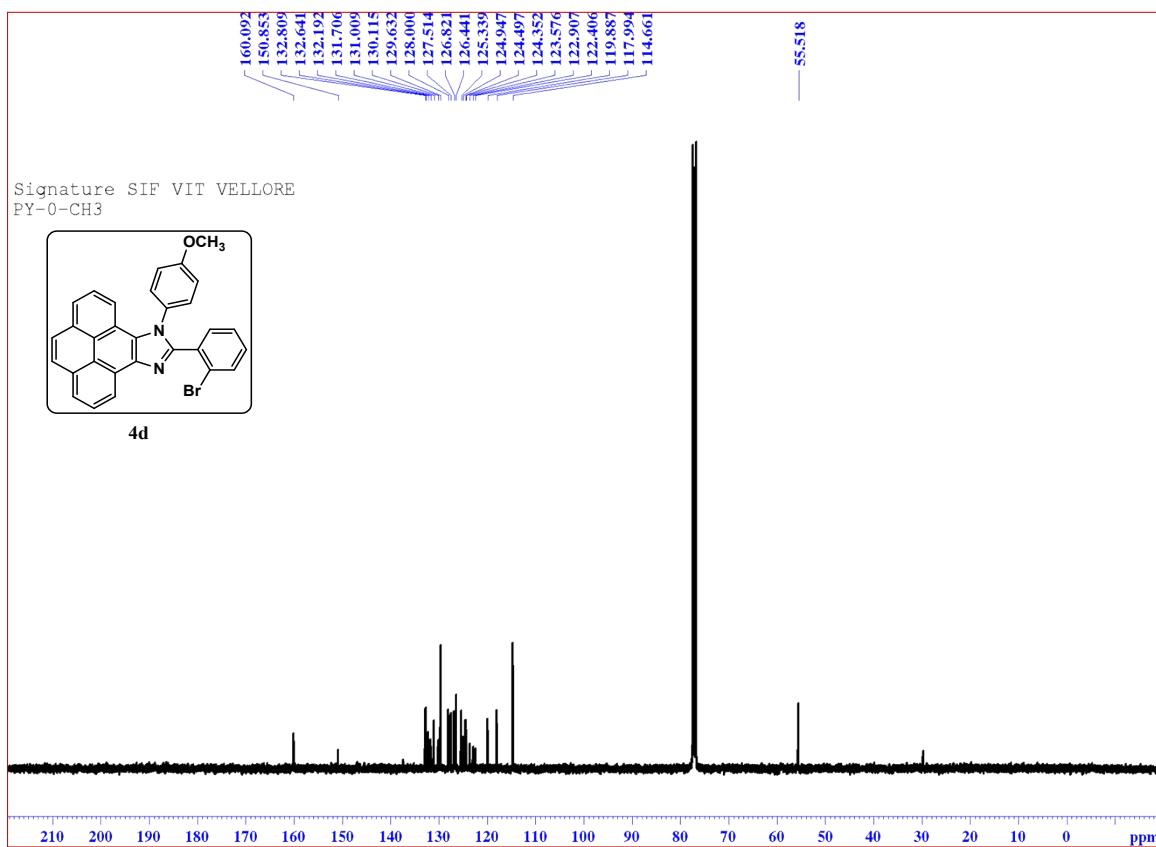
$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **5c** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$



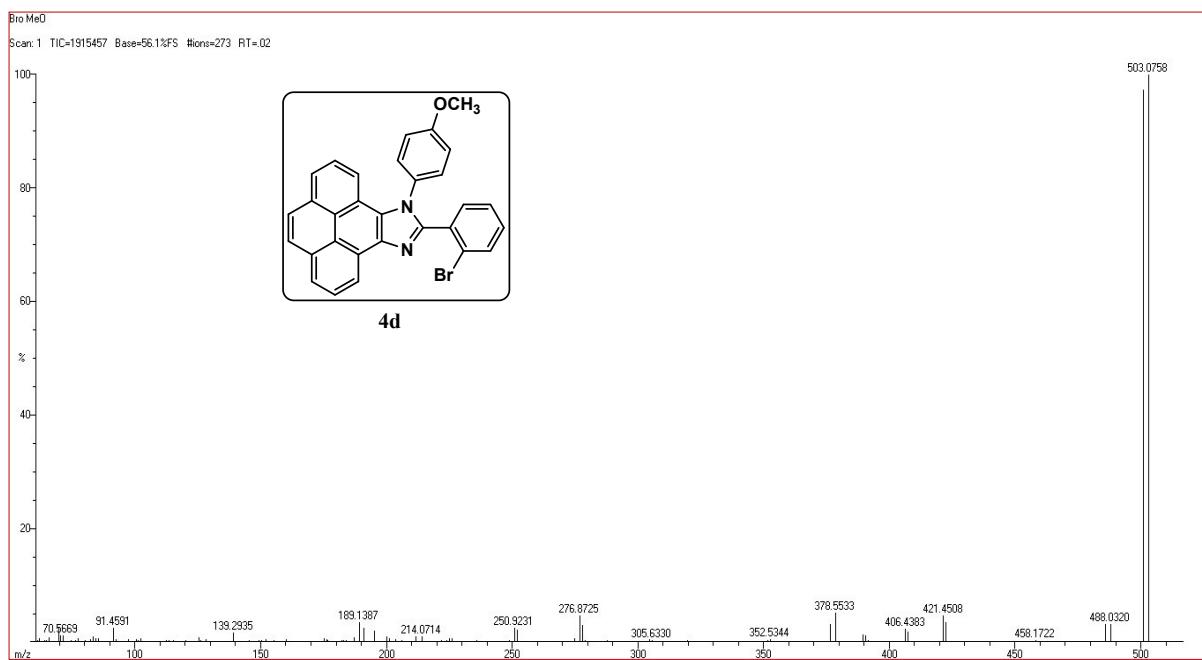
HRMS spectrum of **5c**



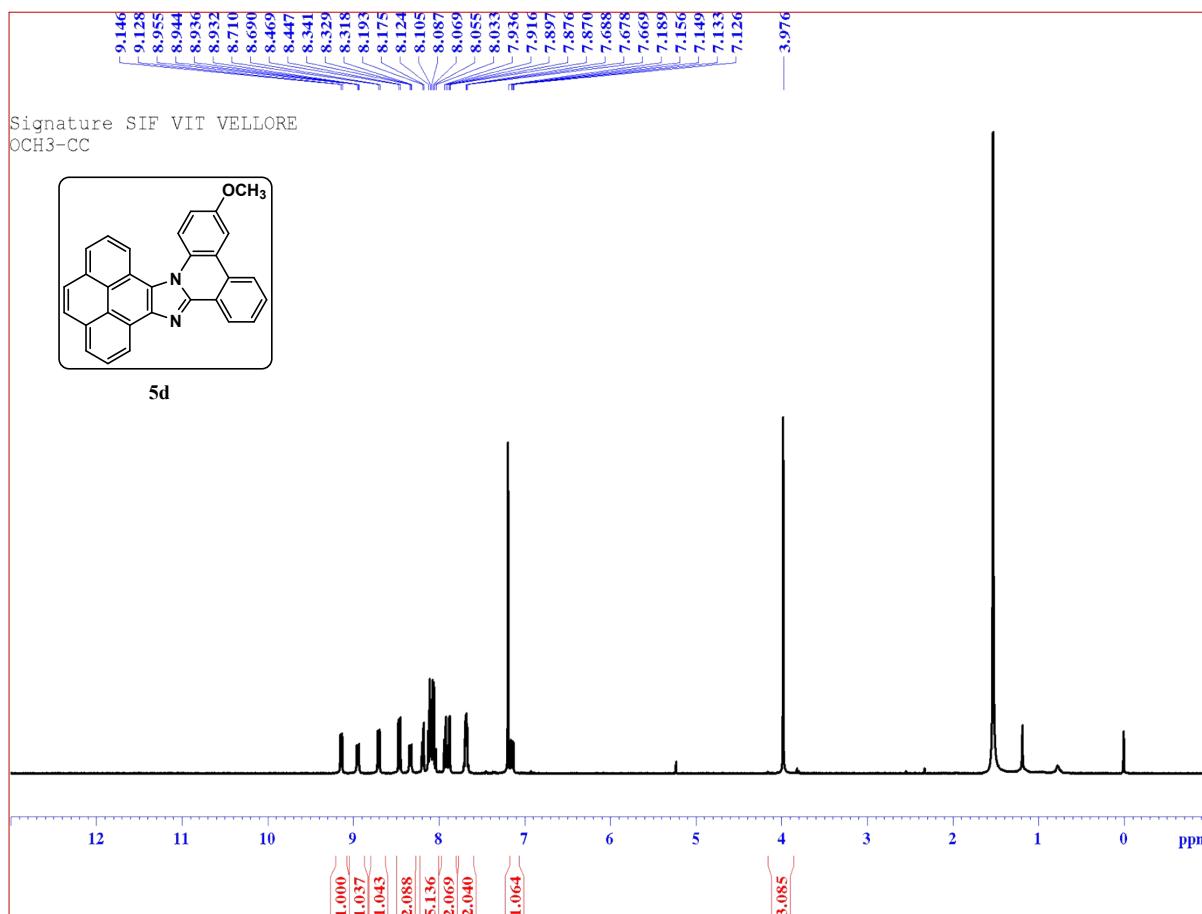
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **4d** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



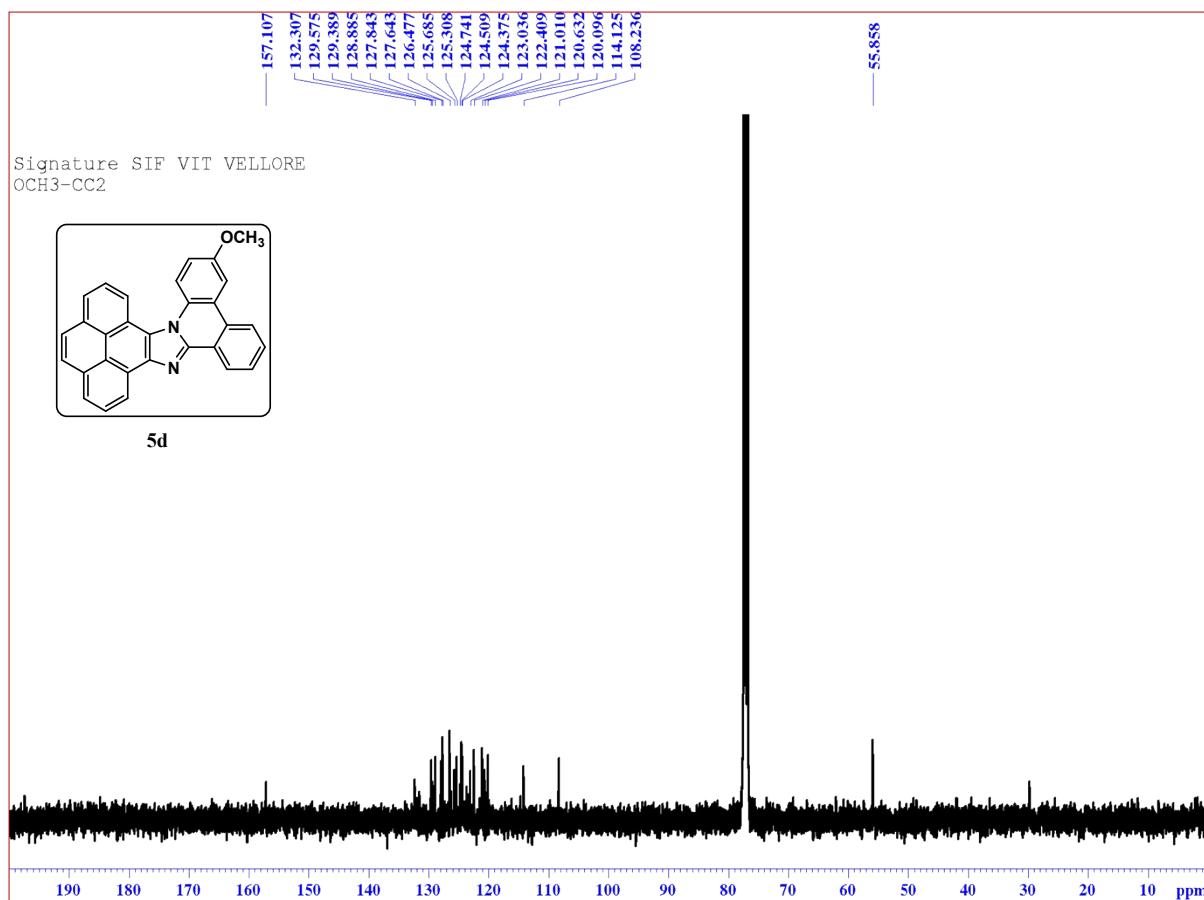
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **4d** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



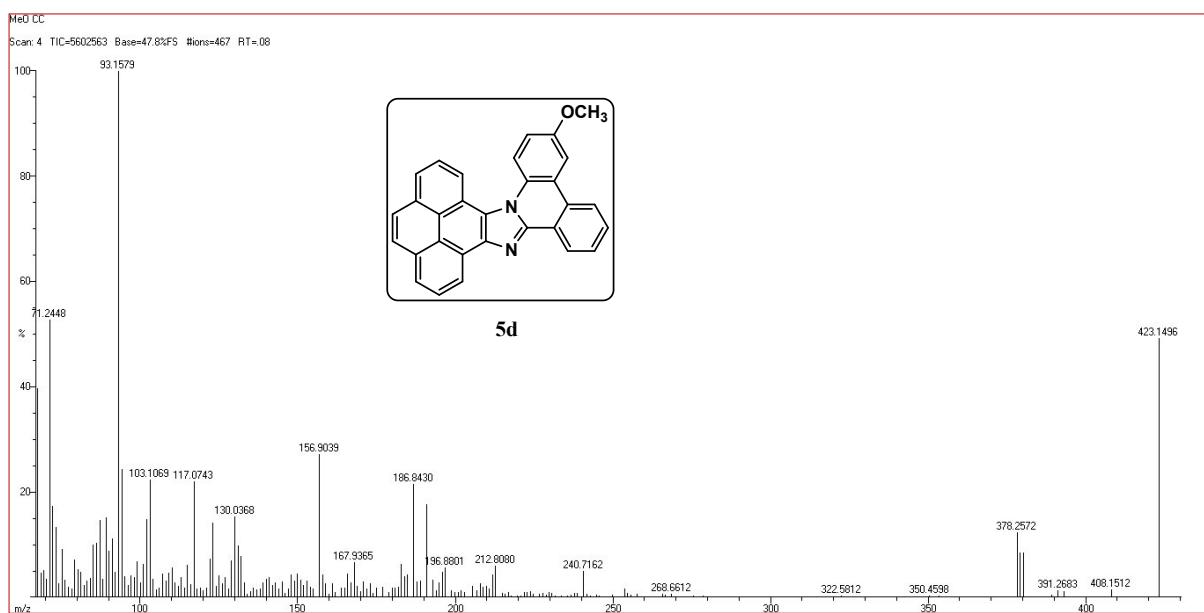
HRMS spectrum of **4d**



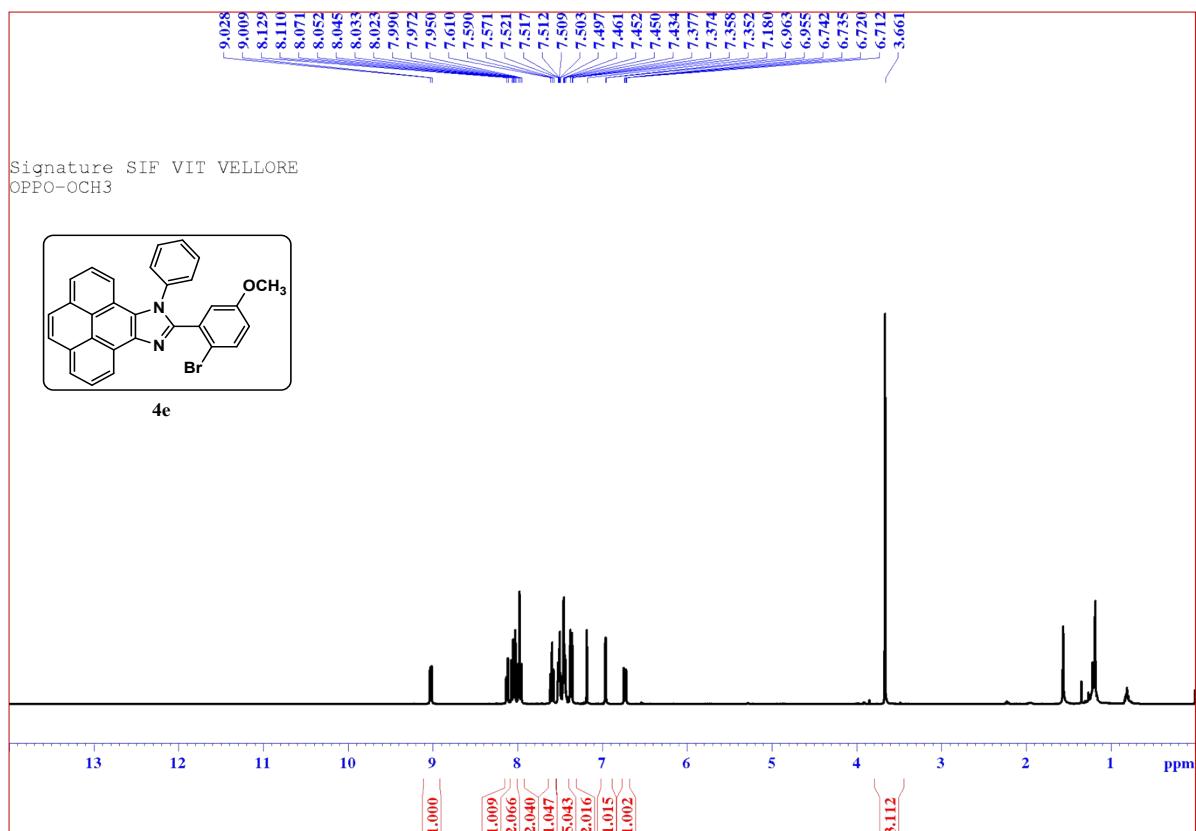
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **5d** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



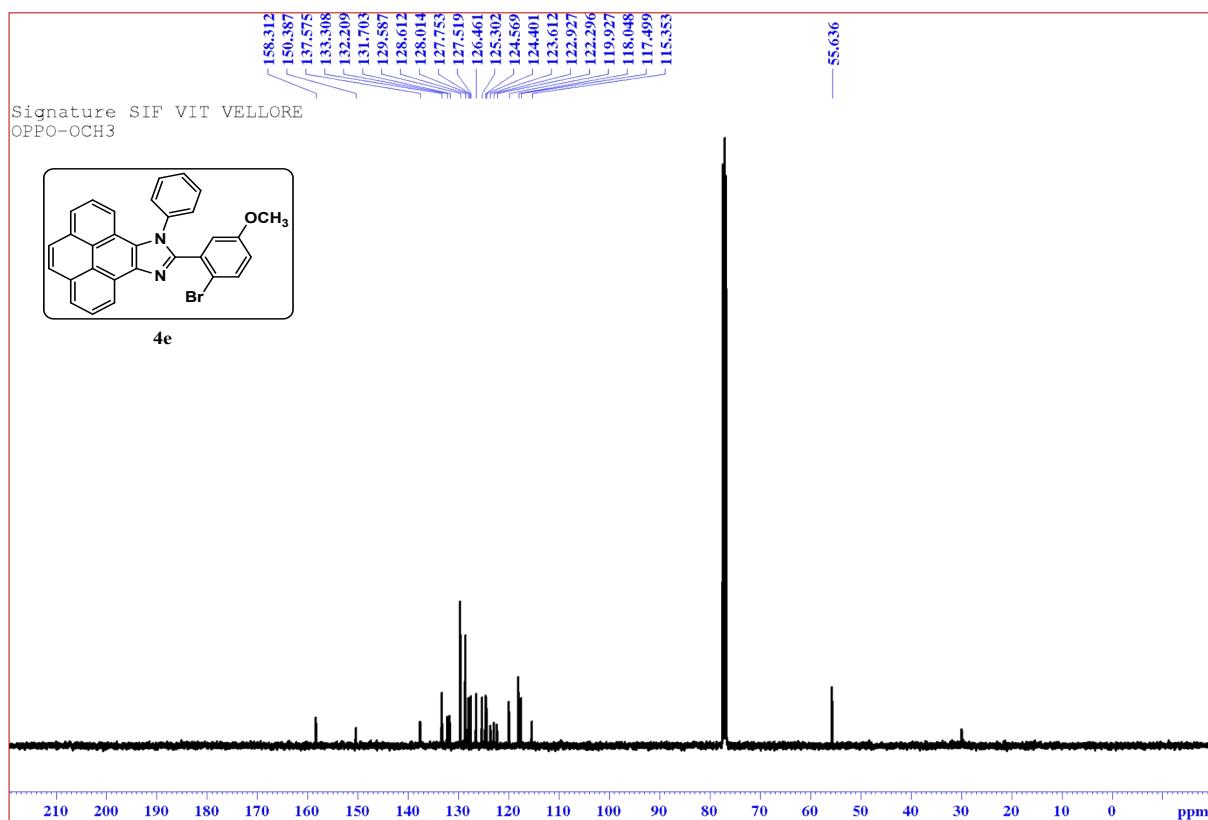
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **5d** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



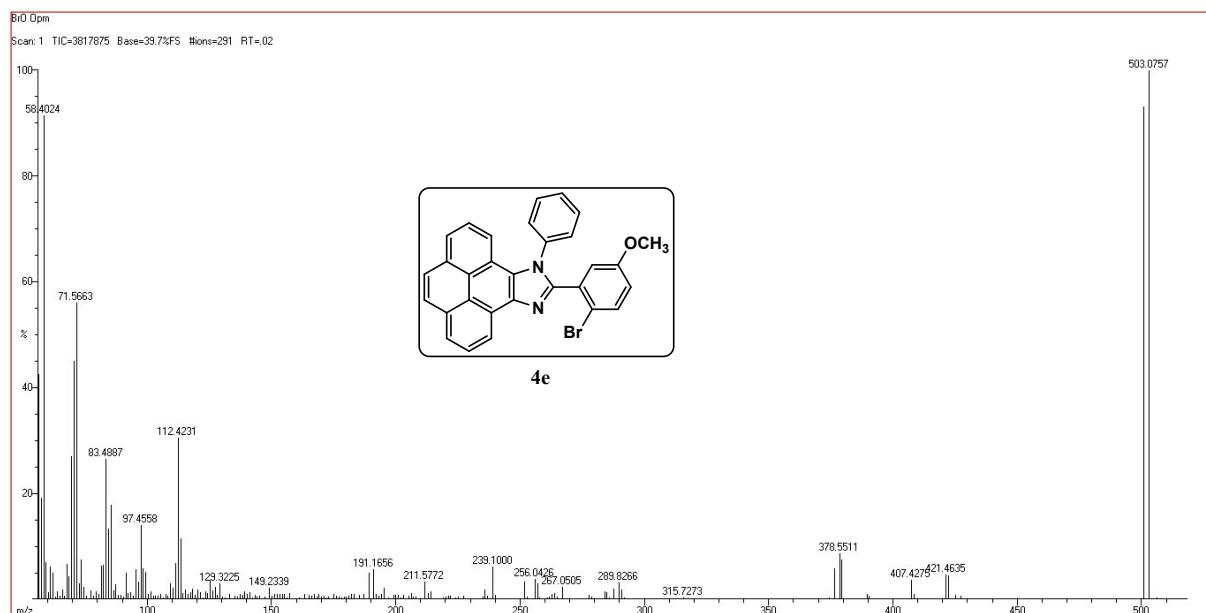
HRMS spectrum of **5d**



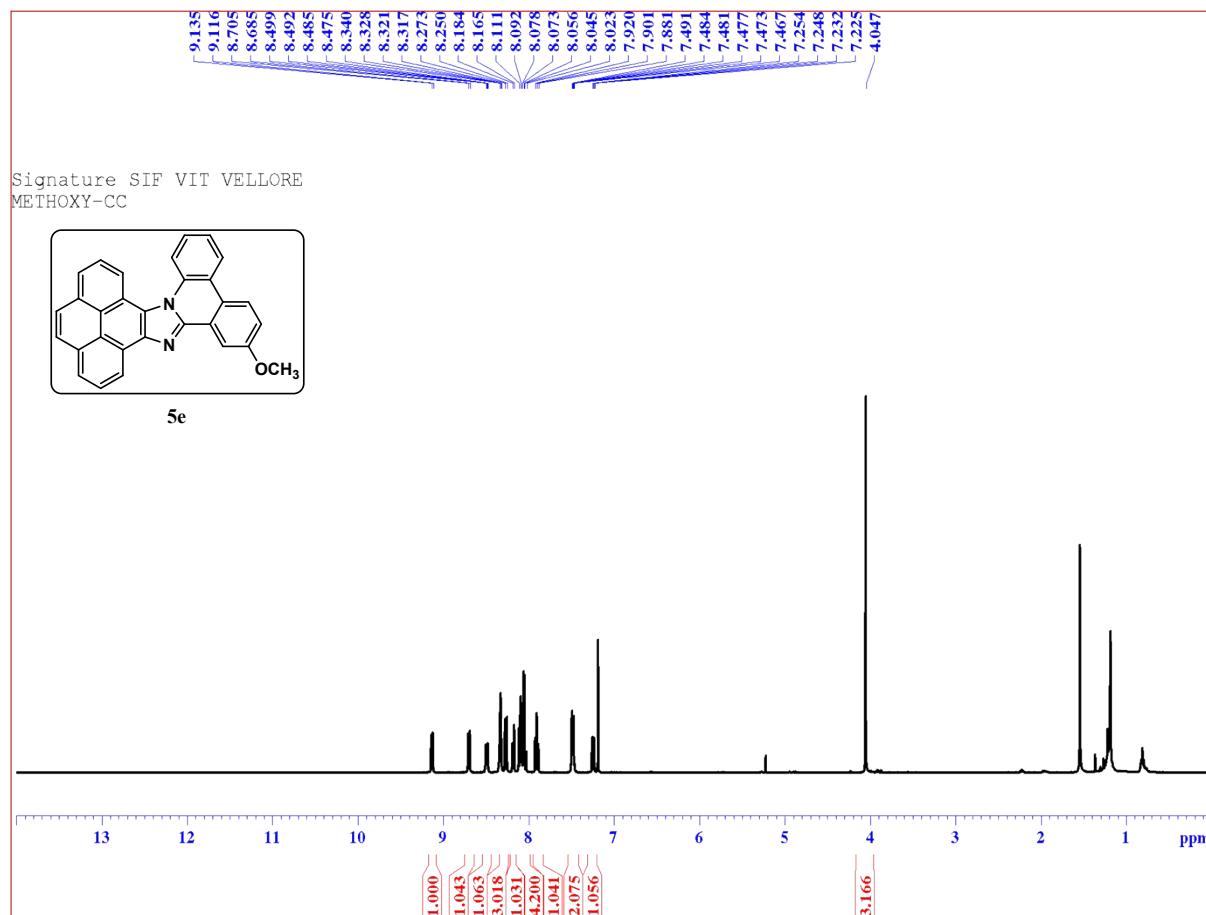
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **4e** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



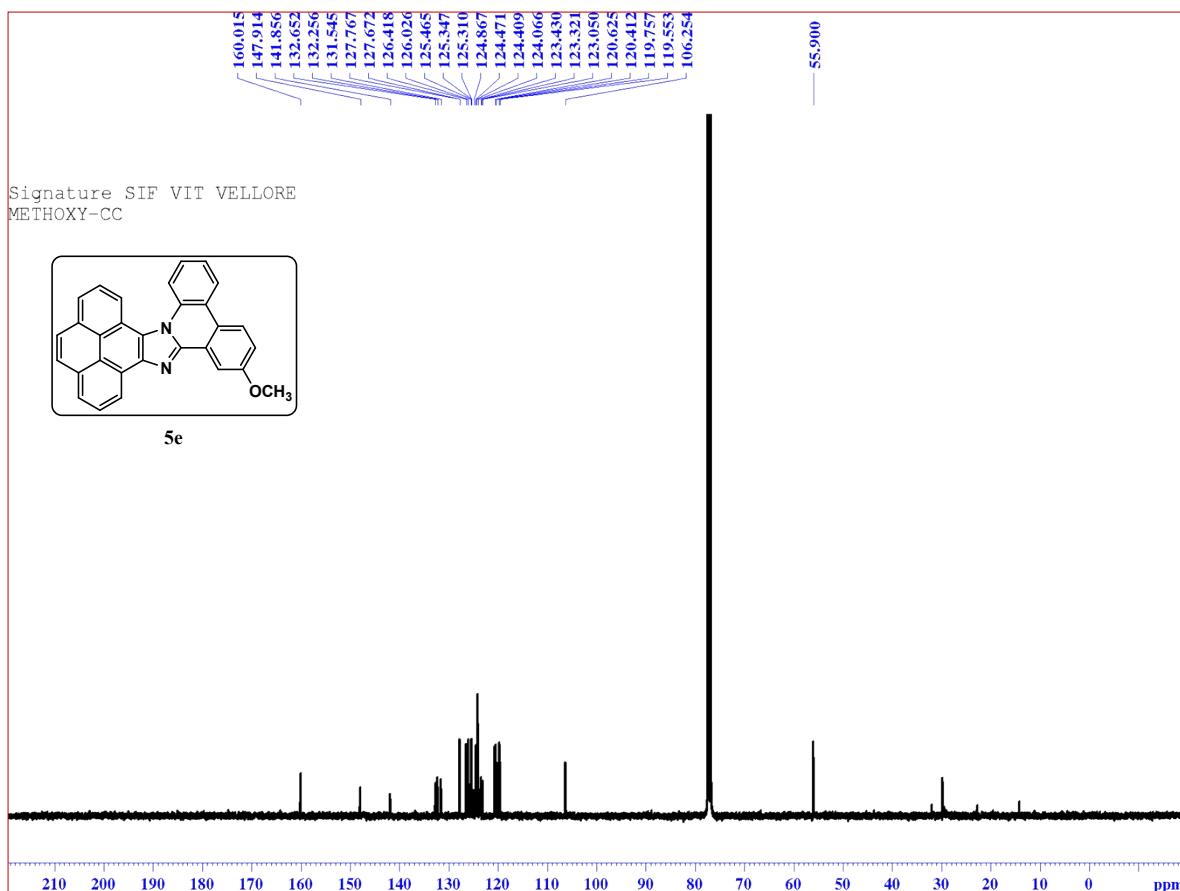
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **4e** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



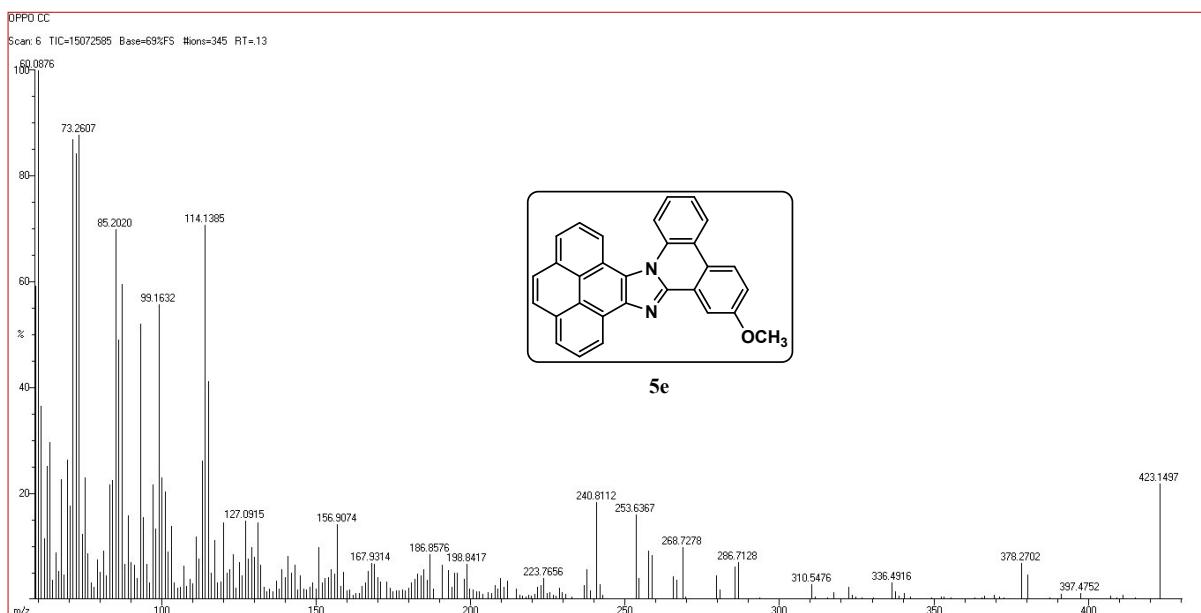
HRMS spectrum of **4e**



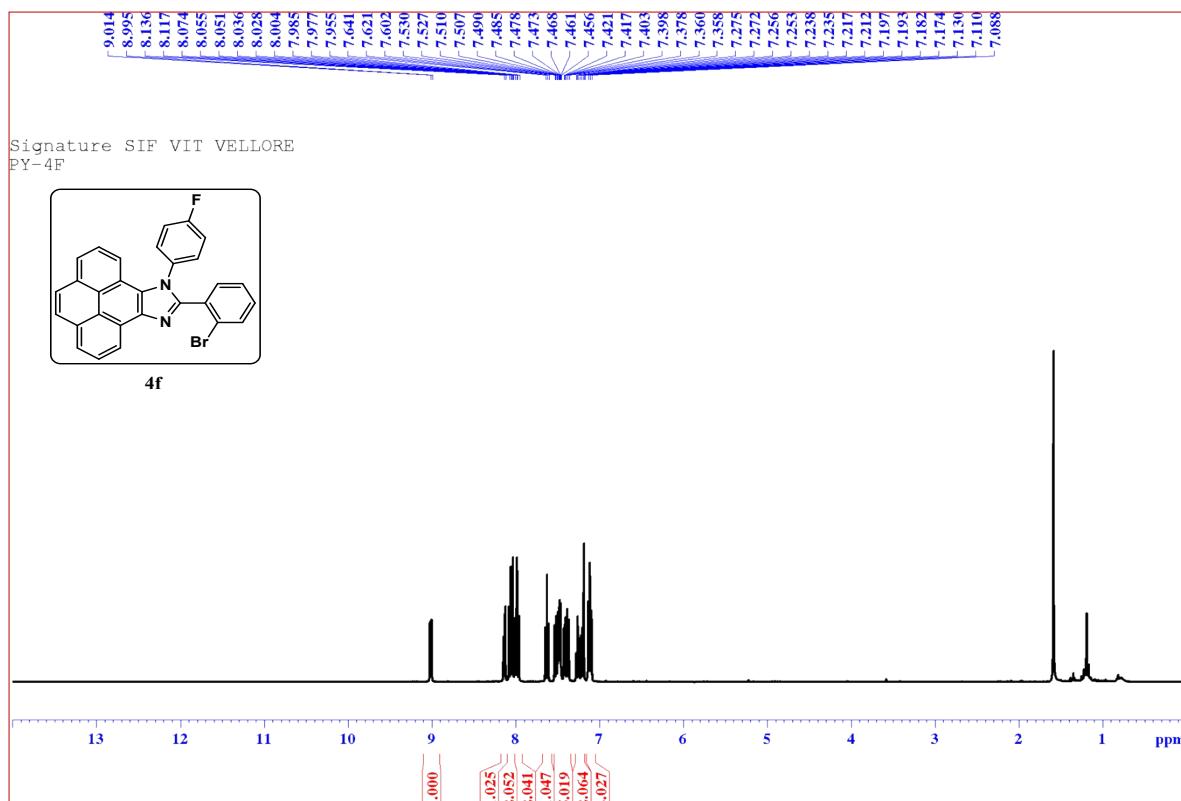
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **5e** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



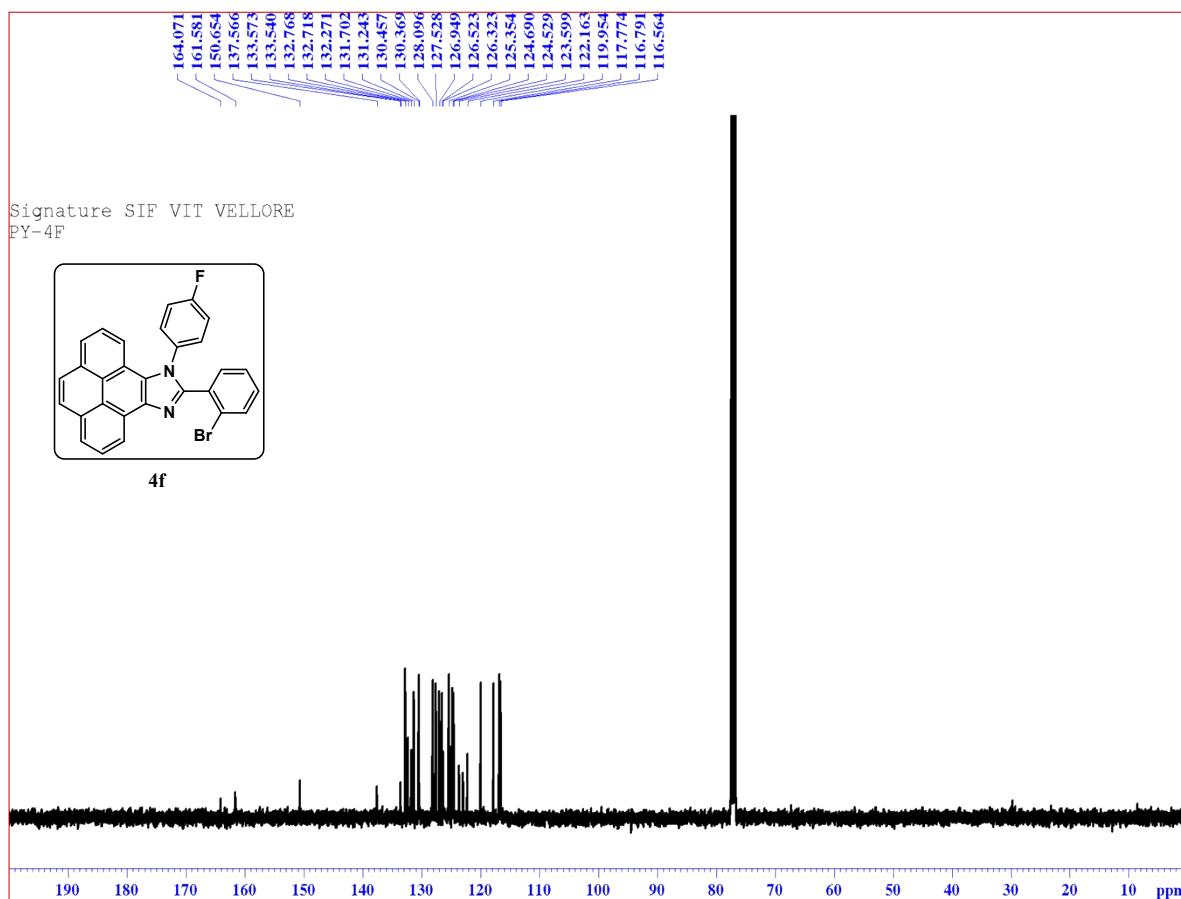
$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **5e** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$



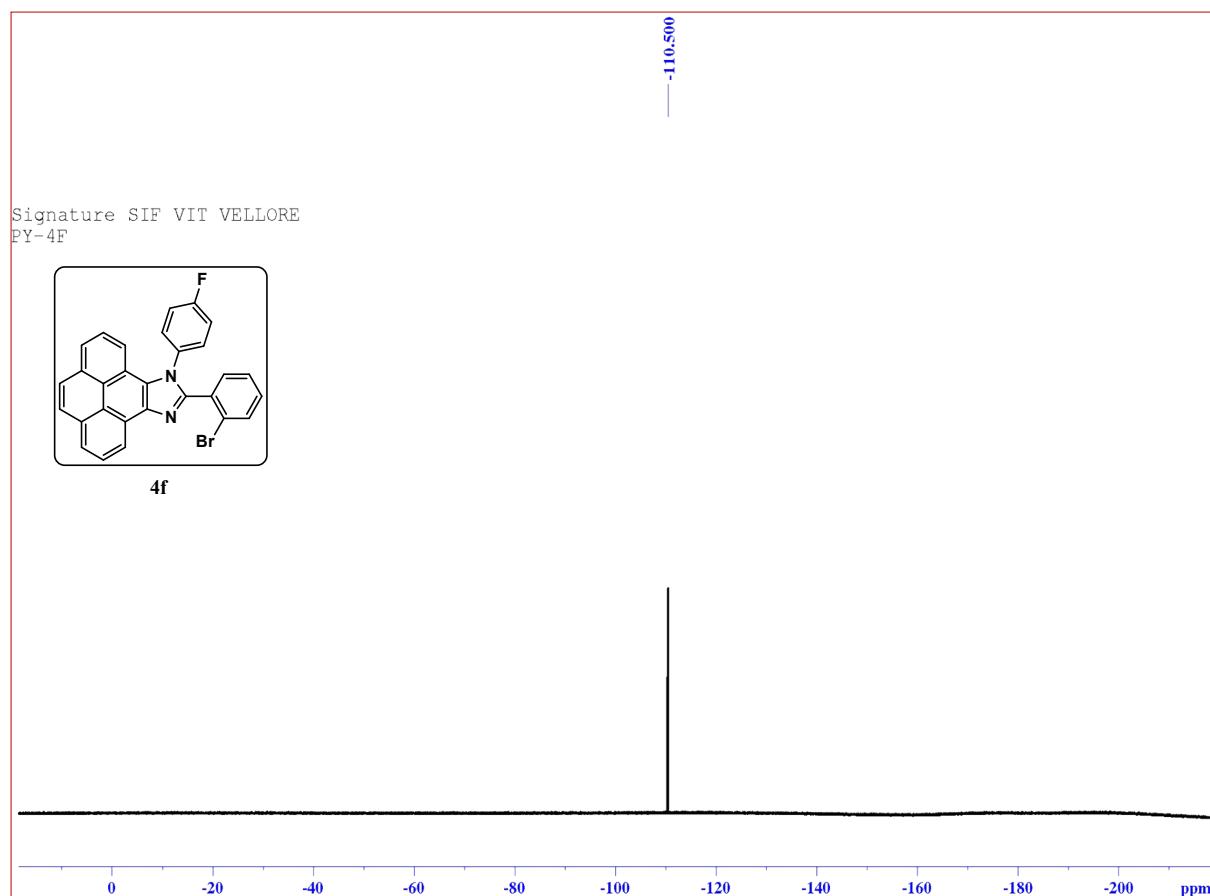
HRMS spectrum of **5e**



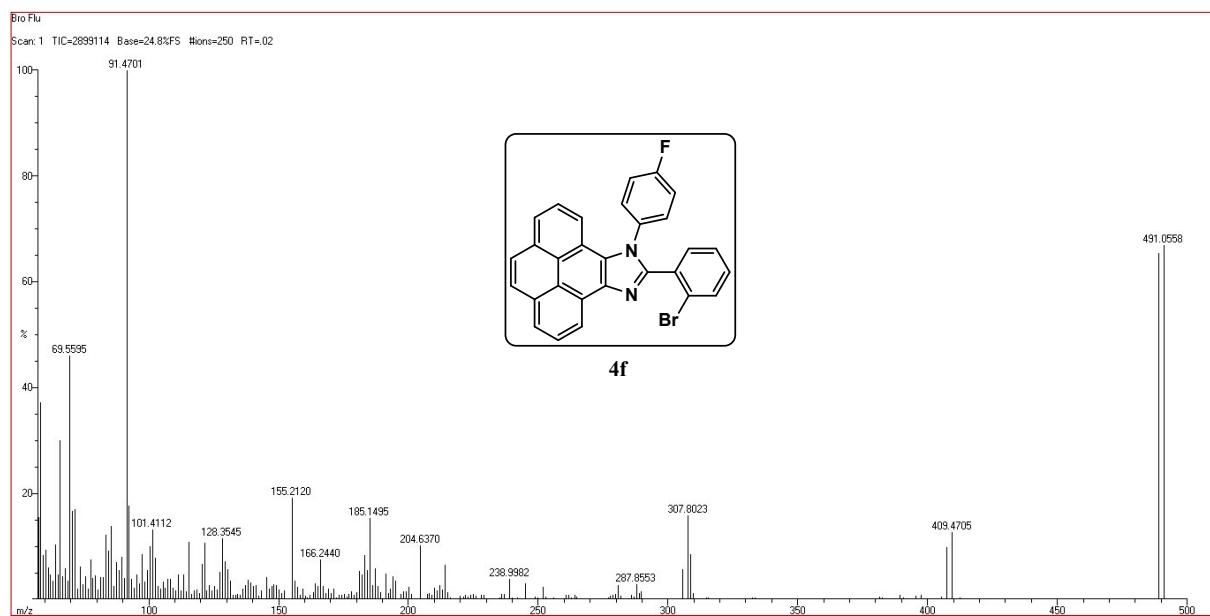
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **4f** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



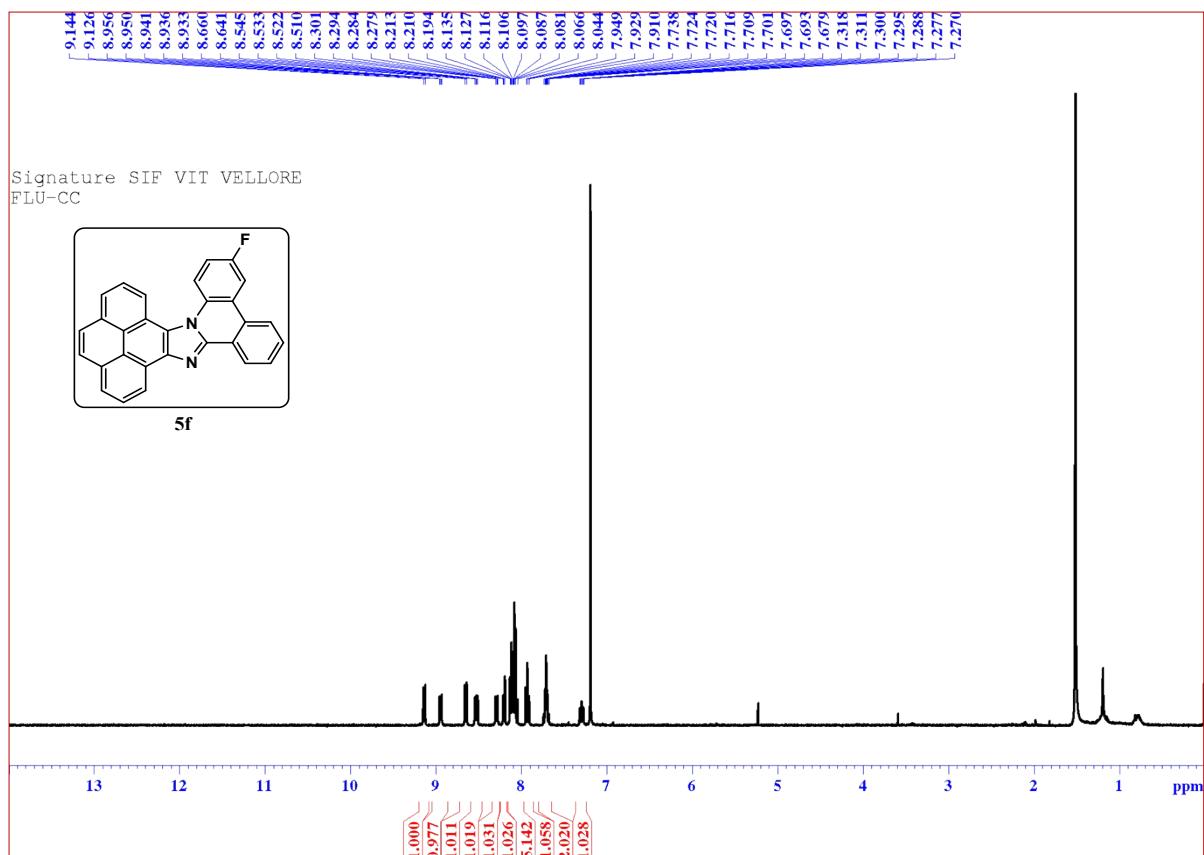
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **4f** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



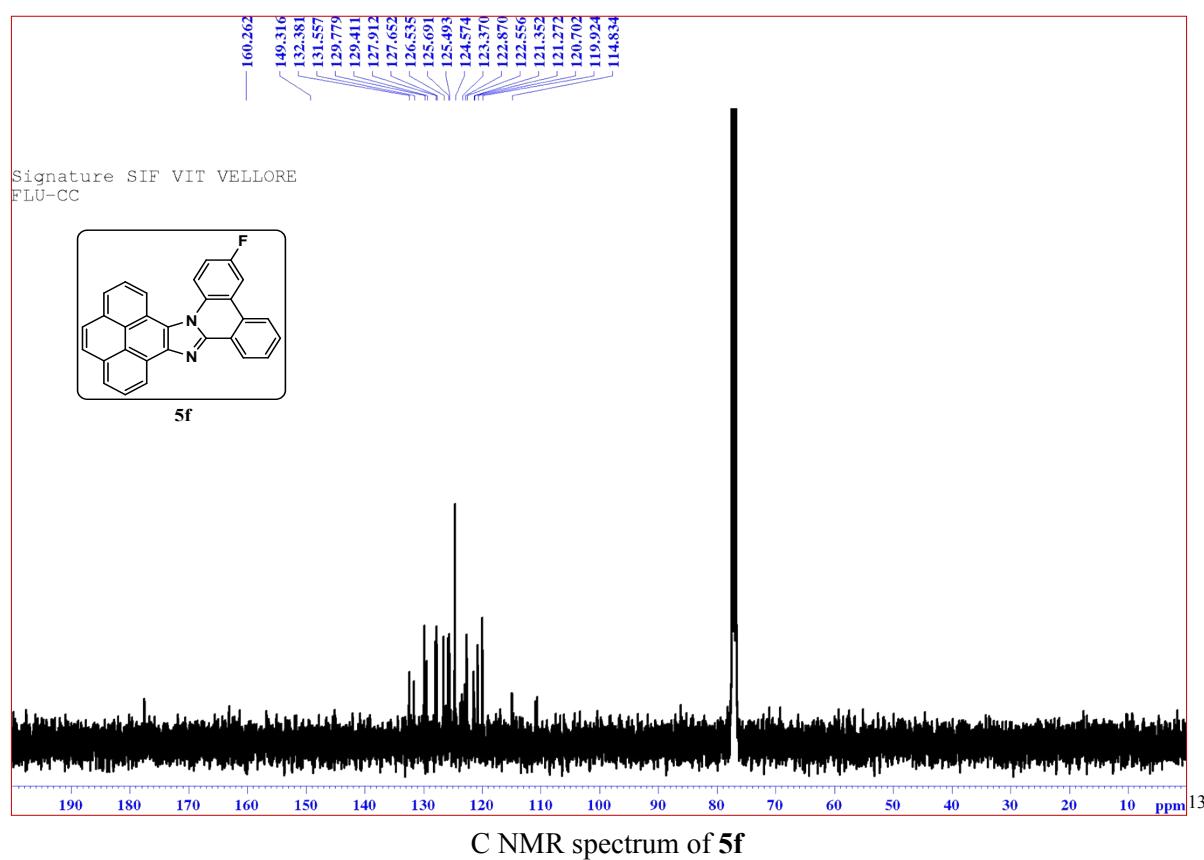
<sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of **4f** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



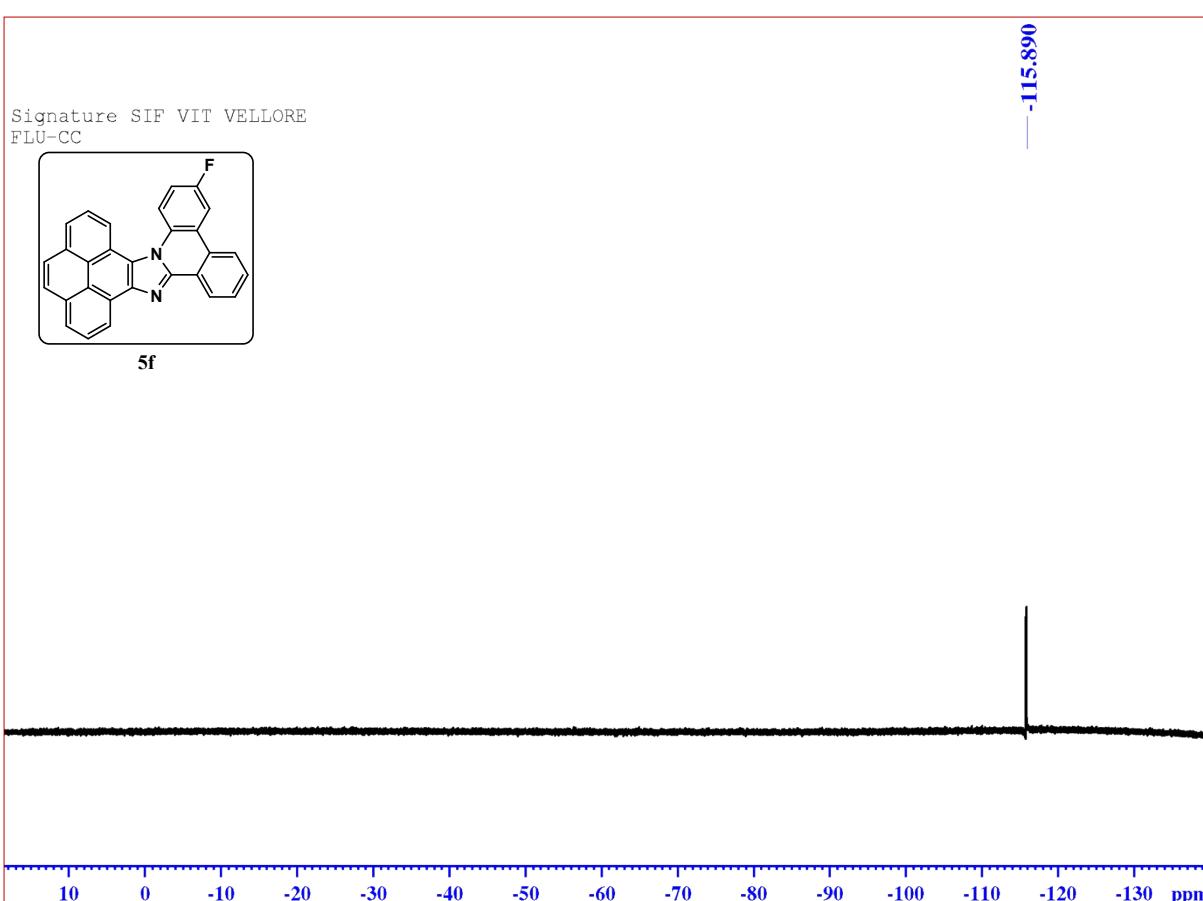
HRMS spectrum of **4f**



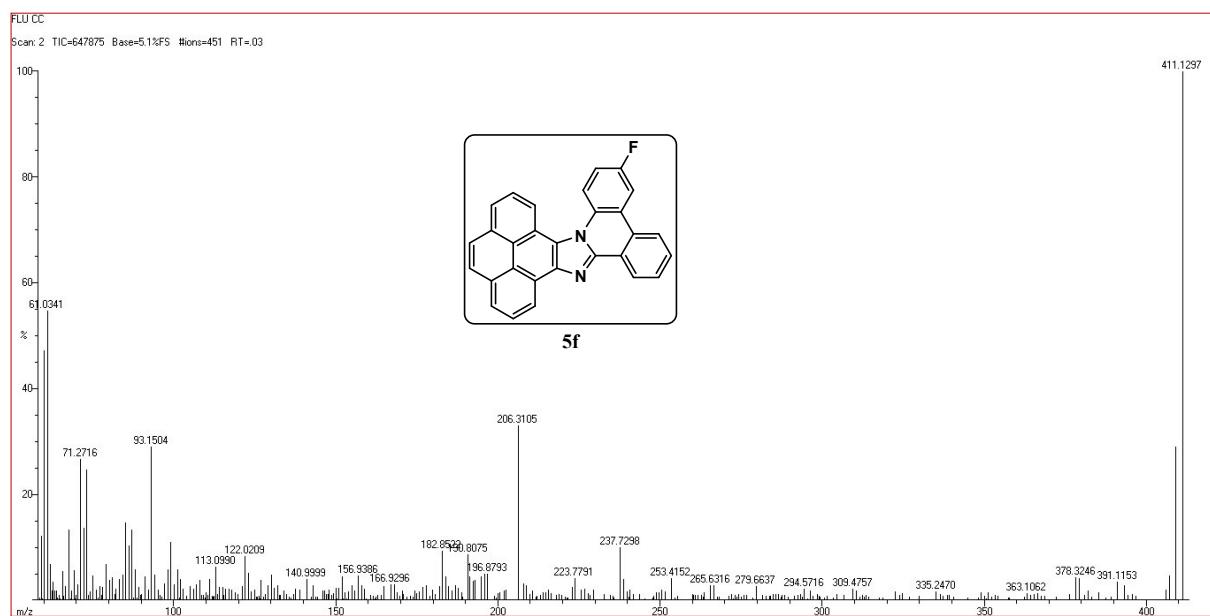
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **5f**



C NMR spectrum of **5f**



<sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of **5f**



HRMS spectrum of **5f**