

## Supporting Information

### Molecular engineering of pyrene carbazole dyes with a single bond and double bond as the mode of linkage

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**Scheme S1** Synthetic route of intermediate (**3**) and (**6**) and reference dye (**PC0**).

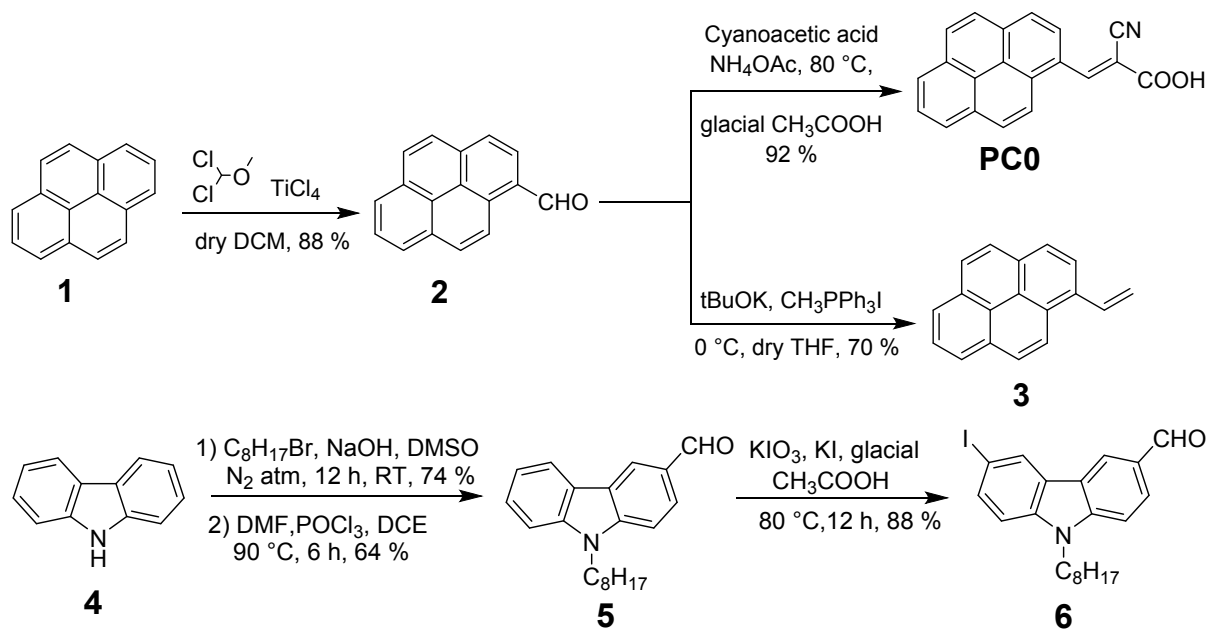
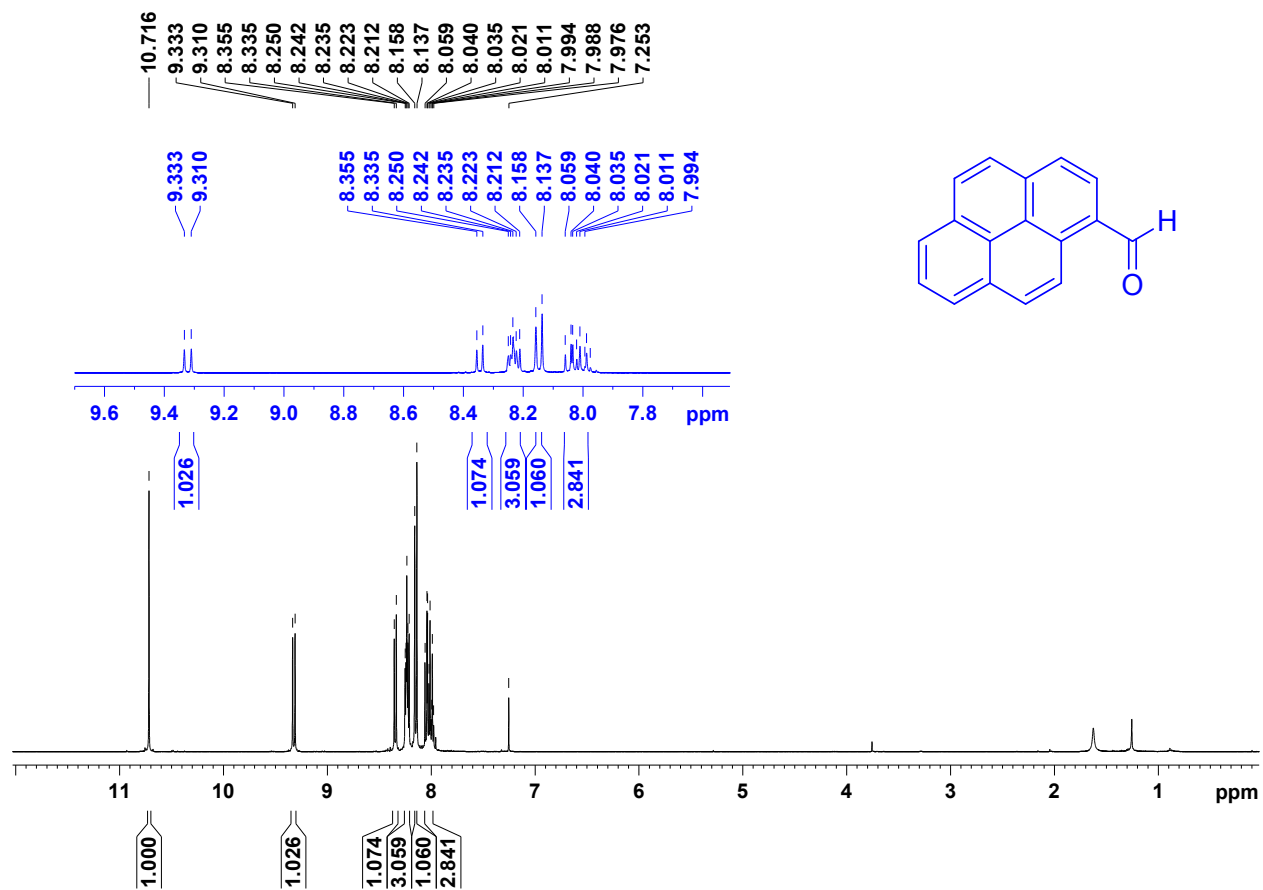
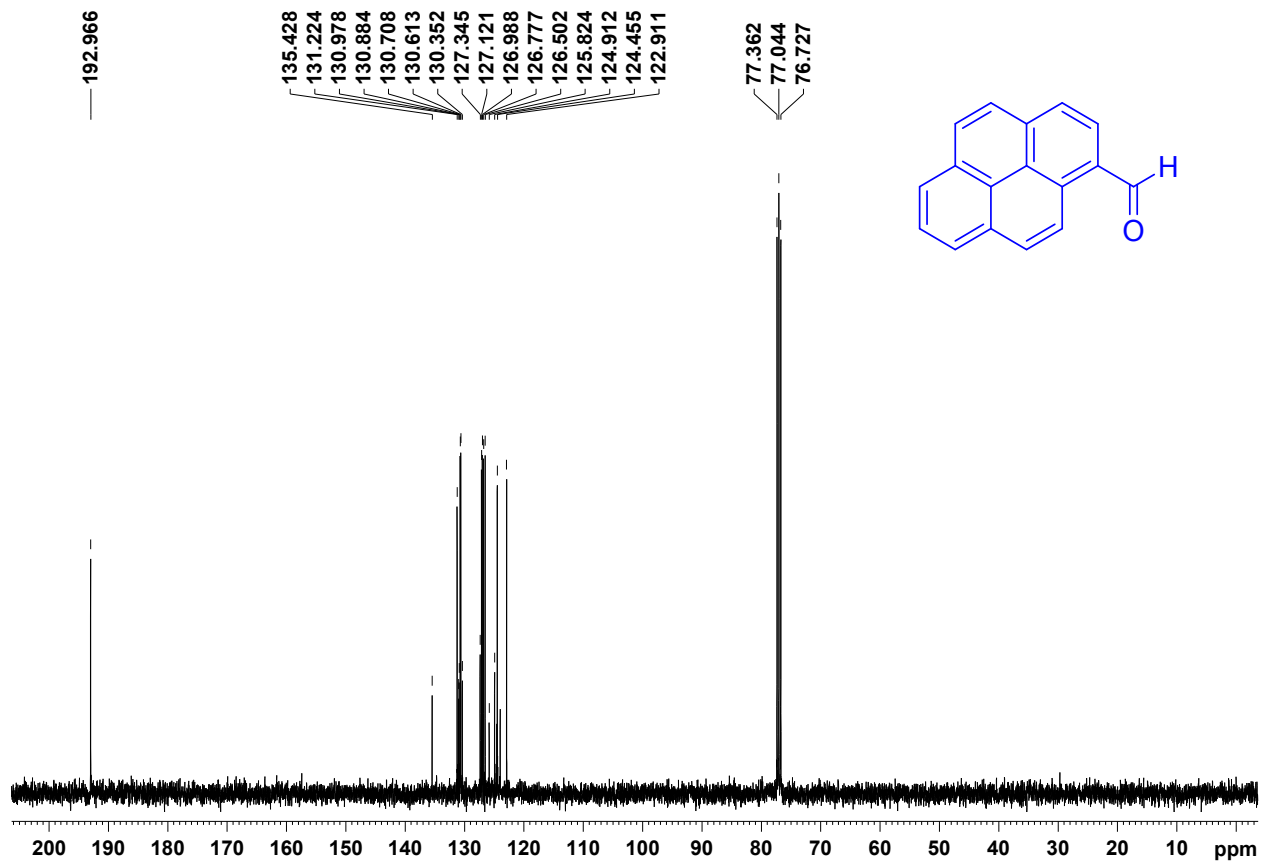


Fig. S1  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  and Mass spectrum of intermediate (2).





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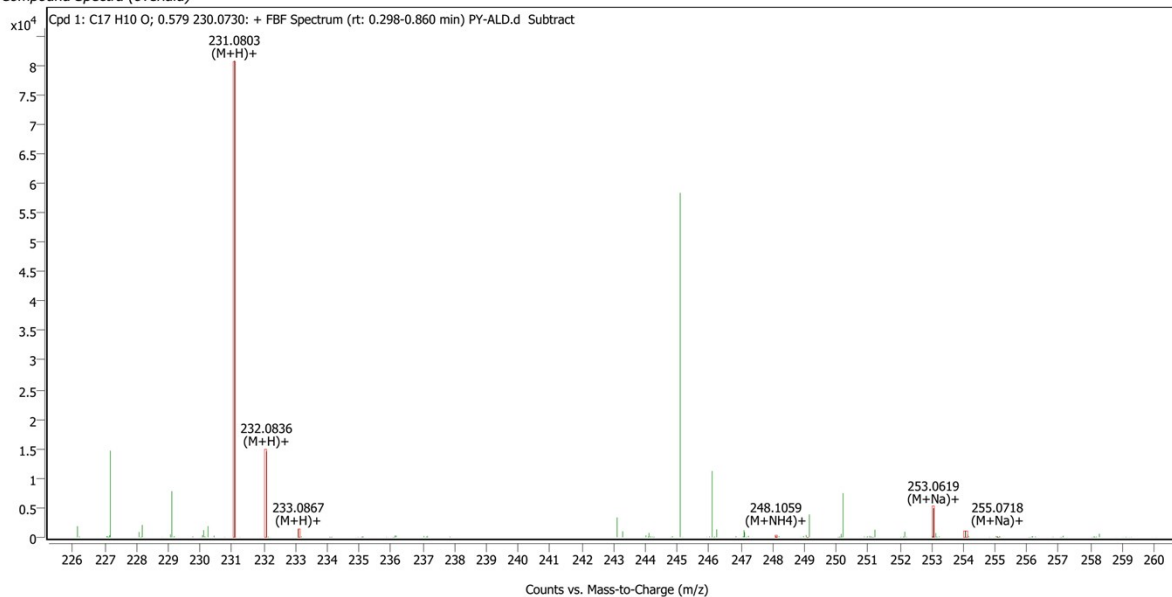
## ESI Mass Report

<b>Name</b>	241019-22-KRR-PY-ALD	<b>Data File Path</b>	D:\MassHunter\Data\2019\OCT-2019\KRR\PY-ALD.d
<b>Sample ID</b>		<b>Acq. Time (Local)</b>	24-10-2019 12:16:01 (UTC+05:30)
<b>Instrument</b>	Instrument 1	<b>Method Path (Acq)</b>	D:\MassHunter-Methods\Direct Infusion_HPLC.m
<b>MS Type</b>	QTOF	<b>Version (Acq SW)</b>	6200 series TOF/6500 series Q-TOF B.08.00 (B8058.0)
<b>Inj. Vol. (ul)</b>	5	<b>IRM Status</b>	Success
<b>Position</b>	P1-B11	<b>Method Path (DA)</b>	D:\MassHunter-Methods\10.0\IIT-Target Screening_1.m
<b>Plate Pos.</b>		<b>Target Source Path</b>	
<b>Operator</b>		<b>Result Summary</b>	1 qualified (1 targets)

## Compound Details

### Cpd. 1: C17 H10 O

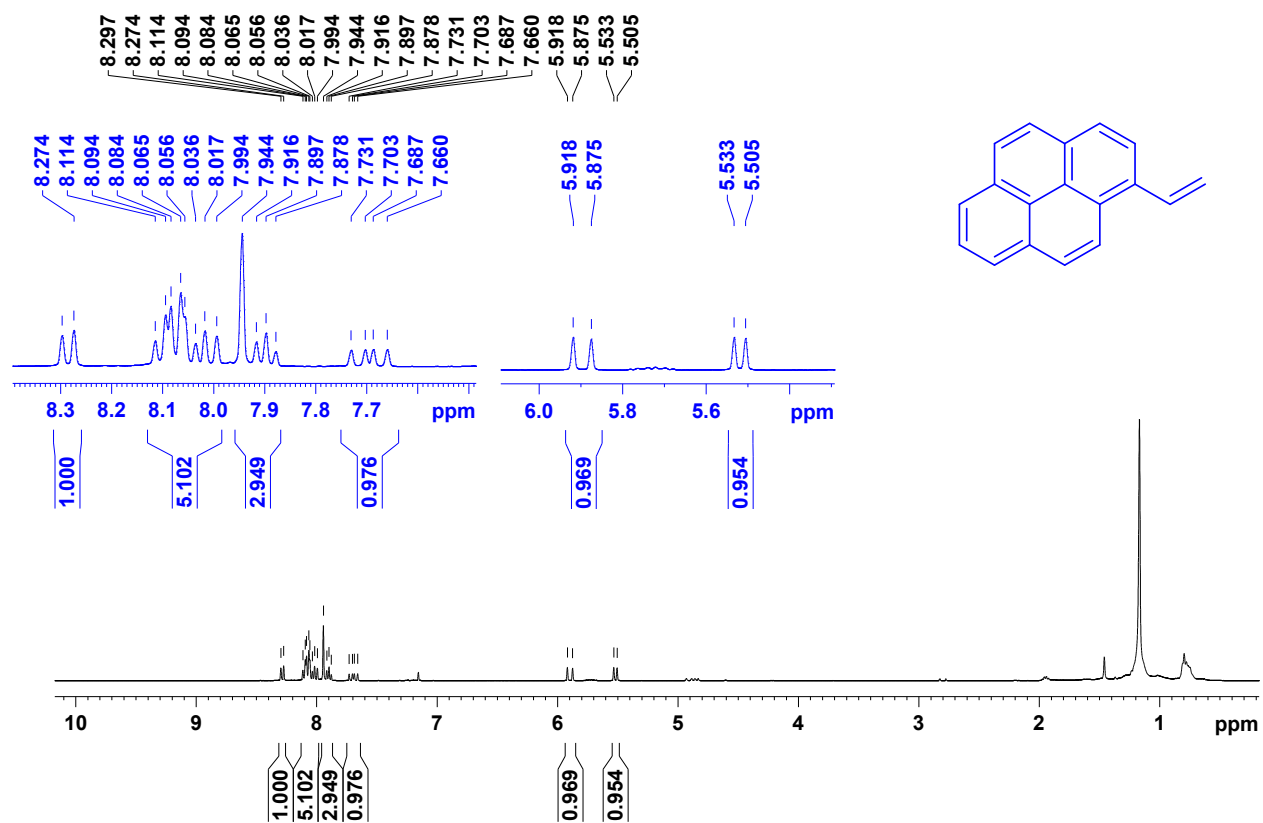
Compound Spectra (overlaid)

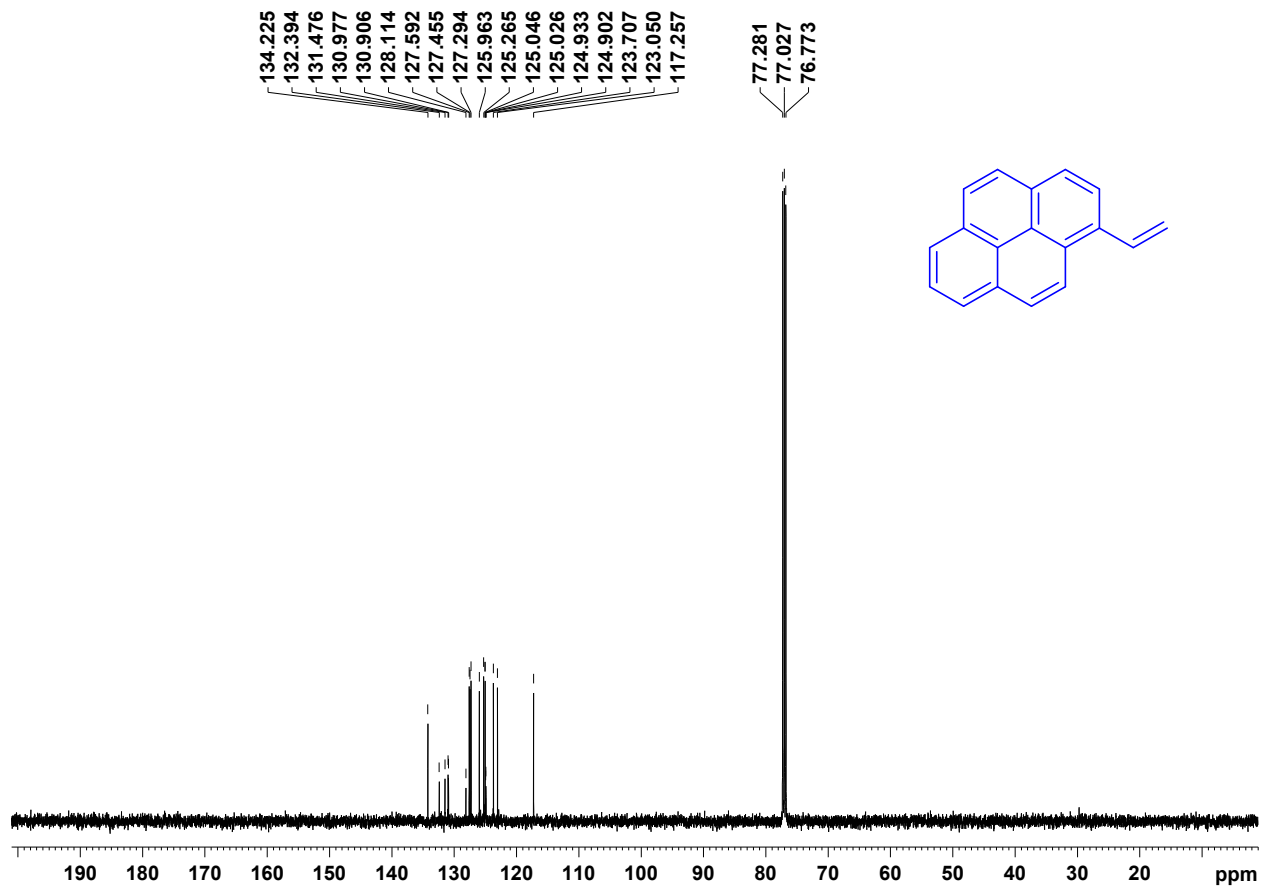


### Compound ID Table

Cpd	Formula	Mass (Tgt)	Calc. Mass	Mass	Species	Diff(Tgt.ppm)	mDa
1	C17 H10 O	230.0732	230.0730	231.0803	(M+H) <sup>+</sup>	-0.74	-0.17
				248.1059	(M+NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sup>+</sup>		
				253.0619	(M+Na) <sup>+</sup>		

Fig. S2  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  and Mass spectrum of intermediate (3).







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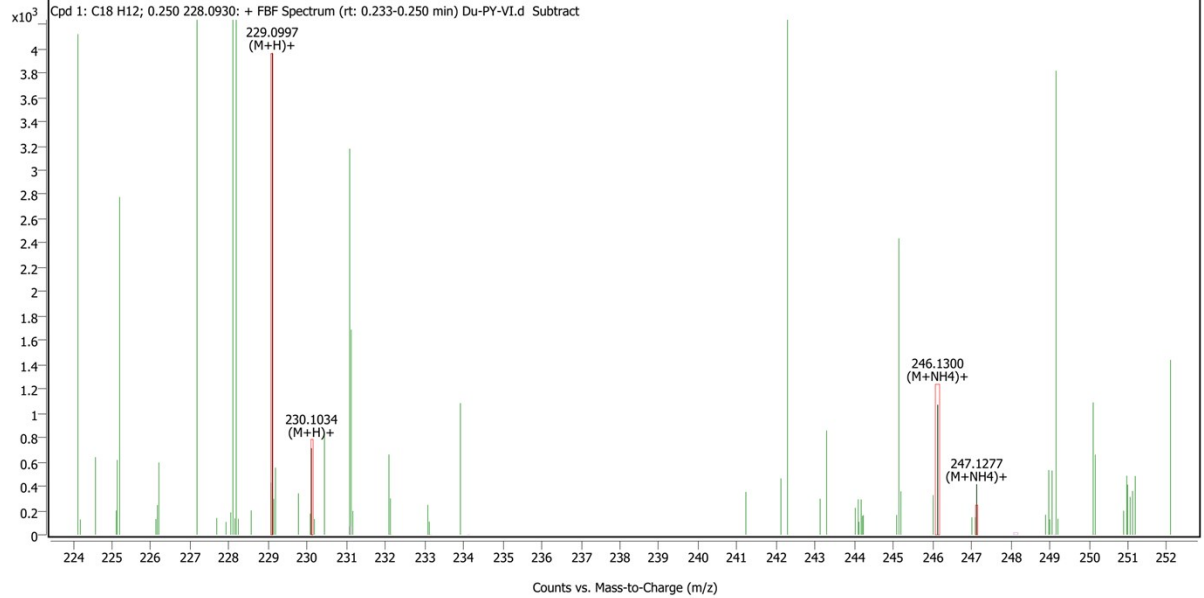
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<b>Name</b>	060919-4-KRR-Du-PY-VI	<b>Data File Path</b>	D:\MassHunter\Data\2019\SEP-2019\KRR\Du-PY-VI.d
<b>Sample ID</b>		<b>Acq. Time (Local)</b>	06-09-2019 09:23:02 (UTC+05:30)
<b>Instrument</b>	Instrument 1	<b>Method Path (Acq)</b>	D:\MassHunter\Methods\Direct Infusion_HPLC.m
<b>MS Type</b>	QTOF	<b>Version (Acq SW)</b>	6200 series TOF/6500 series Q-TOF B.08.00 (B8058.0)
<b>Inj. Vol. (ul)</b>	5	<b>IRM Status</b>	Success
<b>Position</b>	P2-D4	<b>Method Path (DA)</b>	D:\MassHunter\Methods\10.0\IIT-Target Screening_1.m
<b>Plate Pos.</b>		<b>Target Source Path</b>	
<b>Operator</b>		<b>Result Summary</b>	1 qualified (1 targets)

## Compound Details

### Cpd. 1: C18 H12

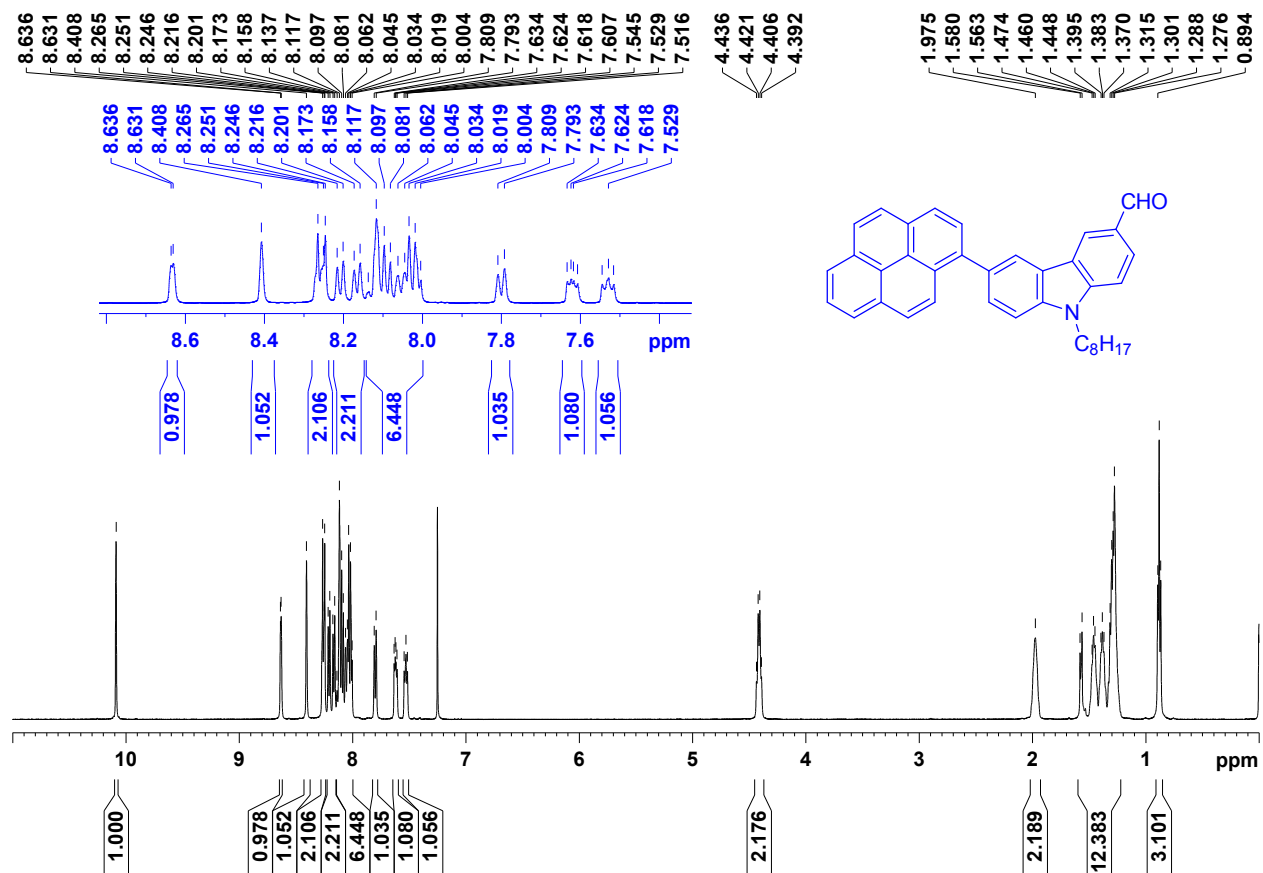
#### Compound Spectra (overlaid)

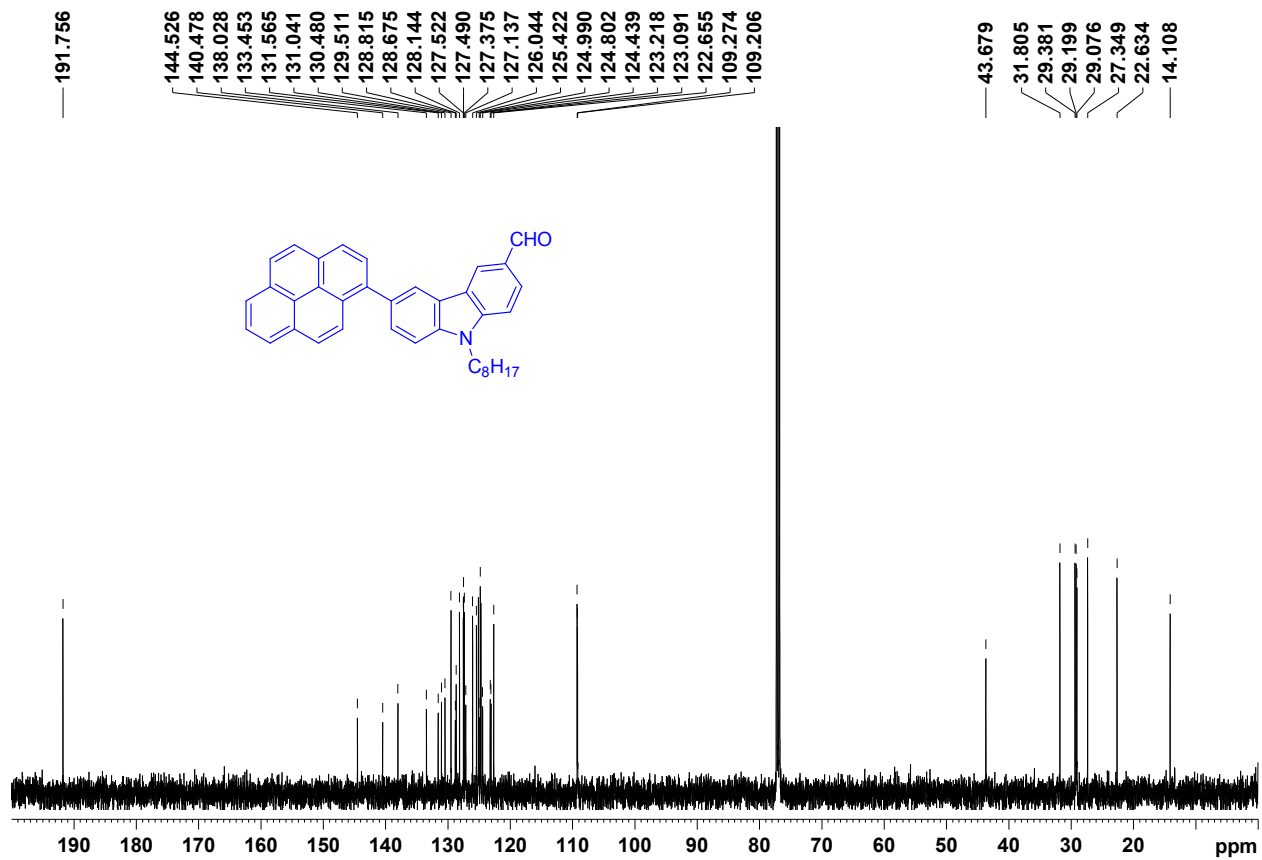


#### Compound ID Table

Cpd	Formula	Mass (Tgt)	Calc. Mass	Mass	Species	Diff(Tgt.ppm)	mDa
1	C18 H12	228.0939	228.0930	229.0997 246.1300	(M+H) <sup>+</sup> (M+NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sup>+</sup>	-3.97	-0.91

Fig. S3  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  and Mass spectrum of intermediate (8).





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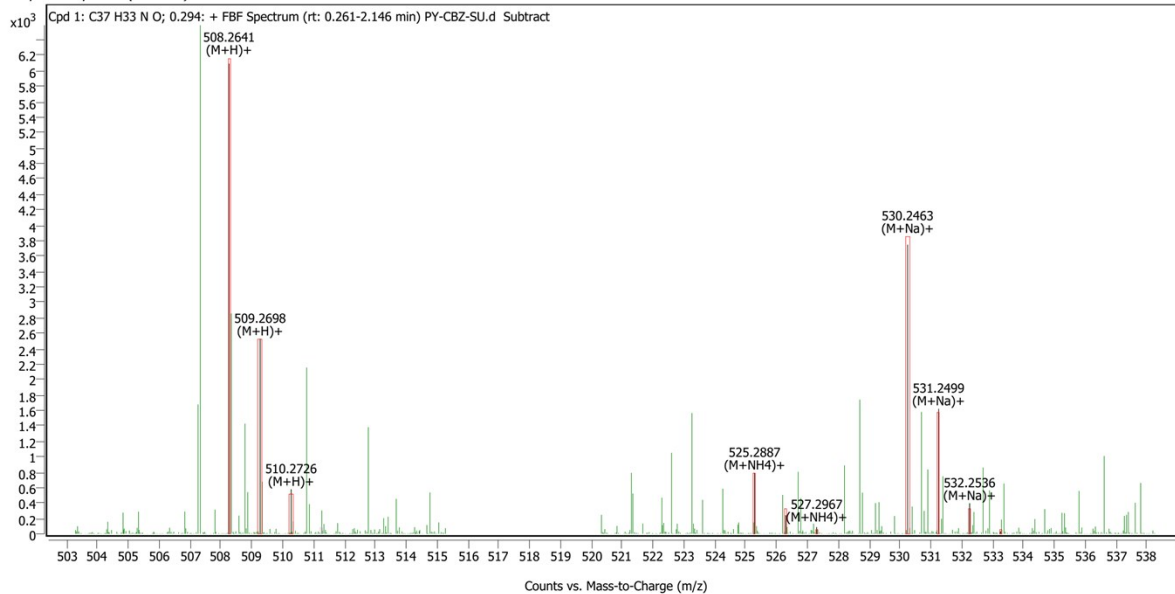
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<b>Sample ID</b>		<b>Acq. Time (Local)</b>	14-02-2020 18:20:44 (UTC+05:30)
<b>Instrument</b>	Instrument 1	<b>Method Path (Acq)</b>	D:\MassHunter\Methods\Direct Infusion_HPLC.m
<b>MS Type</b>	QTOF	<b>Version (Acq SW)</b>	6200 series TOF/6500 series Q-TOF 10.1 (48.0)
<b>Inj. Vol. (ul)</b>	2	<b>IRM Status</b>	Success
<b>Position</b>	P1-E11	<b>Method Path (DA)</b>	D:\MassHunter\Methods\10.0\Default.m
<b>Plate Pos.</b>		<b>Target Source Path</b>	
<b>Operator</b>		<b>Result Summary</b>	1 qualified (1 targets)

## Compound Details

**Cpd. 1: C<sub>37</sub> H<sub>33</sub> N O**

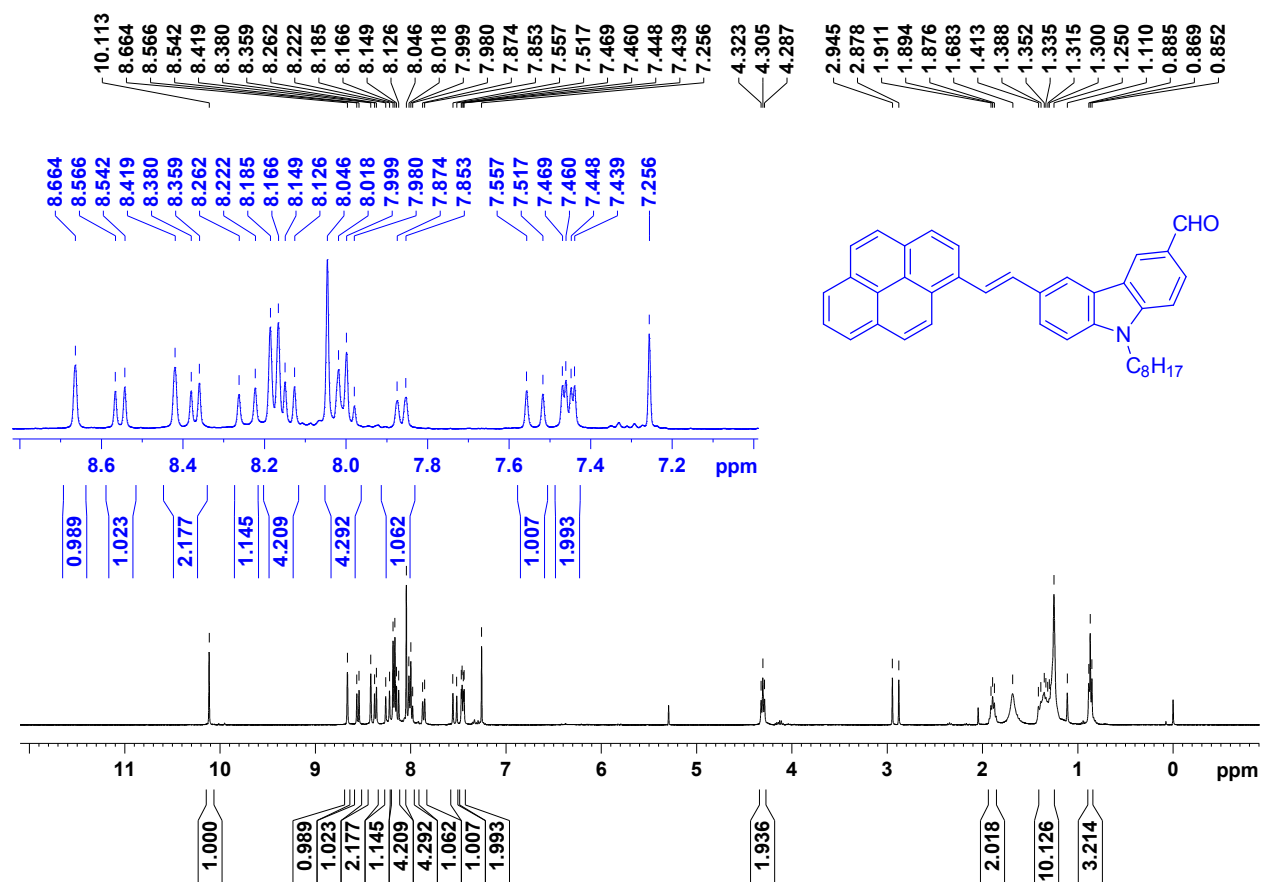
Compound Spectra (overlaid)

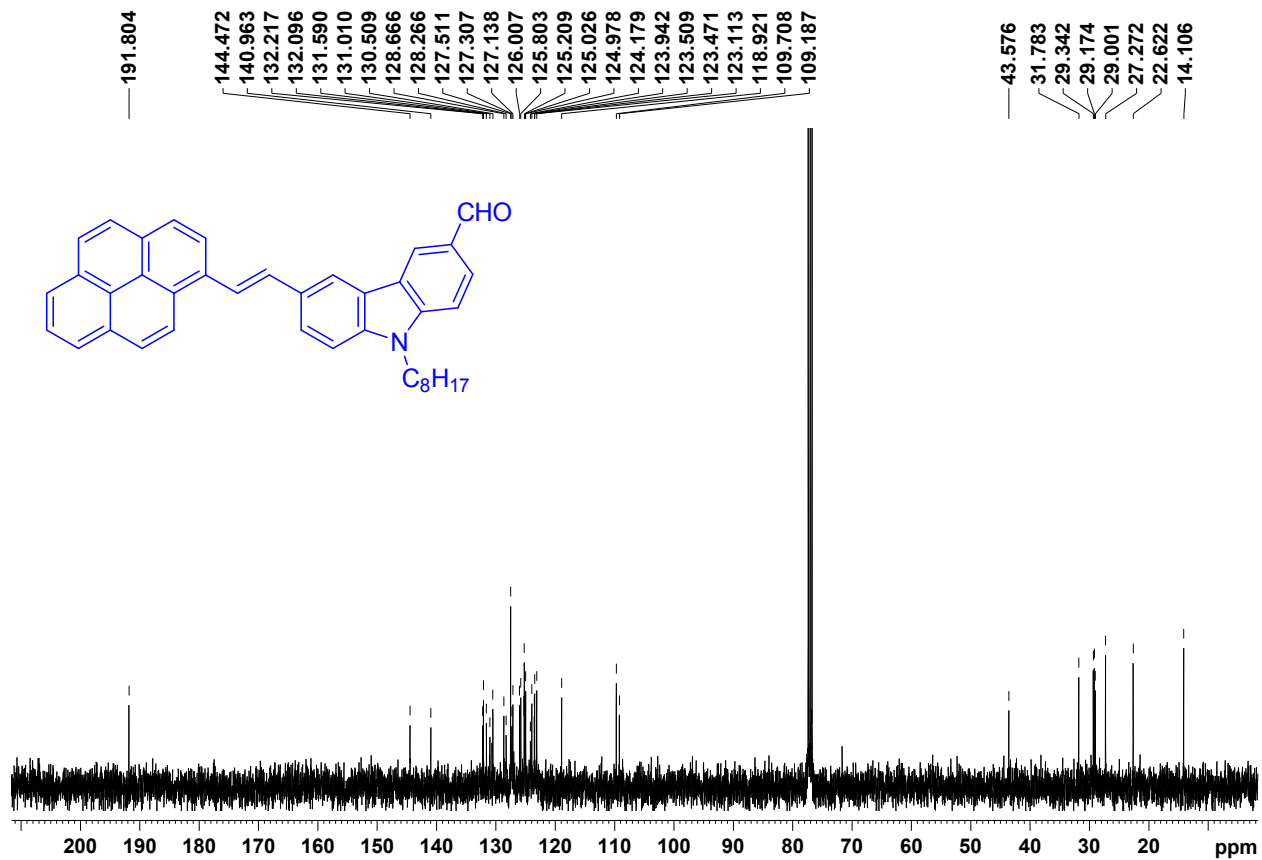


Compound ID Table

Cpd	Formula	Mass (Tgt)	Calc. Mass	Mass	Species	Diff(Tgt.ppm)	mDa
1	C <sub>37</sub> H <sub>33</sub> N O	507.2562	507.2573	508.2641	(M+H) <sup>+</sup>	2.17	1.10
				525.2887	(M+NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sup>+</sup>		
				530.2463	(M+Na) <sup>+</sup>		

Fig. S4  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  and Mass spectrum of intermediate (9).





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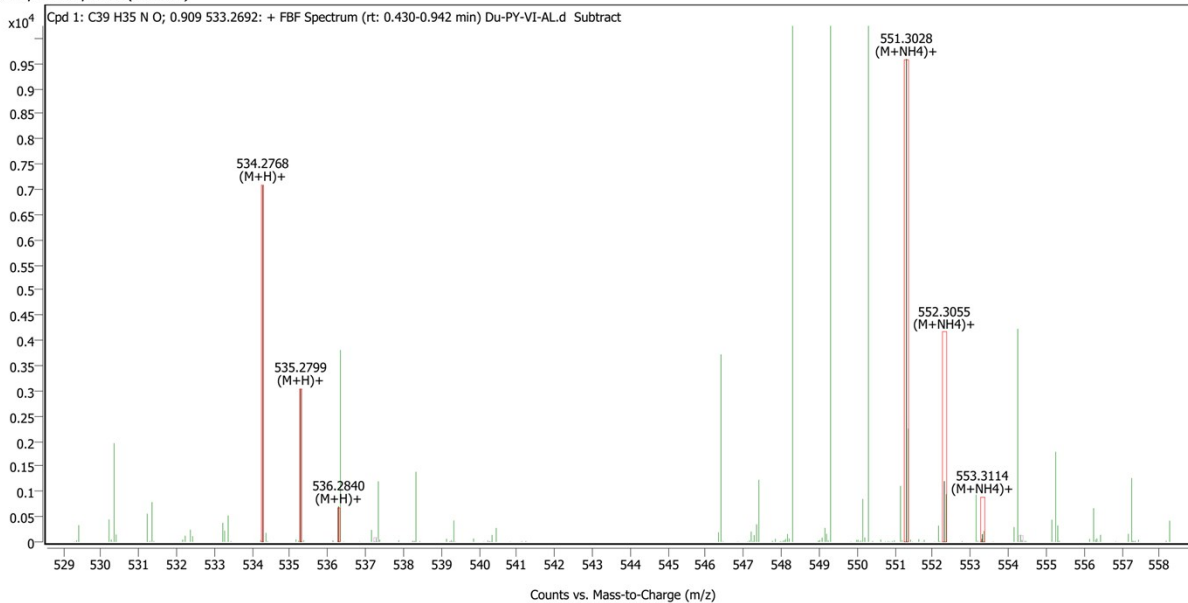
## ESI Mass Report

<b>Name</b>	160919-4-KRR-Du-PY-VI-AL	<b>Data File Path</b>	D:\MassHunter\Data\2019\SEP-2019\KRR\Du-PY-VI-AL.d
<b>Sample ID</b>		<b>Acq. Time (Local)</b>	16-09-2019 09:20:01 (UTC+05:30)
<b>Instrument</b>	Instrument 1	<b>Method Path (Acq)</b>	D:\MassHunter\Methods\Direct Infusion_HPLC.m
<b>MS Type</b>	QTOF	<b>Version (Acq SW)</b>	6200 series TOF/6500 series Q-TOF B.08.00 (B8058.0)
<b>Inj. Vol. (ul)</b>	5	<b>IRM Status</b>	Success
<b>Position</b>	P2-D4	<b>Method Path (DA)</b>	D:\MassHunter\Methods\10.0\IIT-Target Screening_1.m
<b>Plate Pos.</b>		<b>Target Source Path</b>	
<b>Operator</b>		<b>Result Summary</b>	1 qualified (1 targets)

## Compound Details

### Cpd. 1: C39 H35 N O

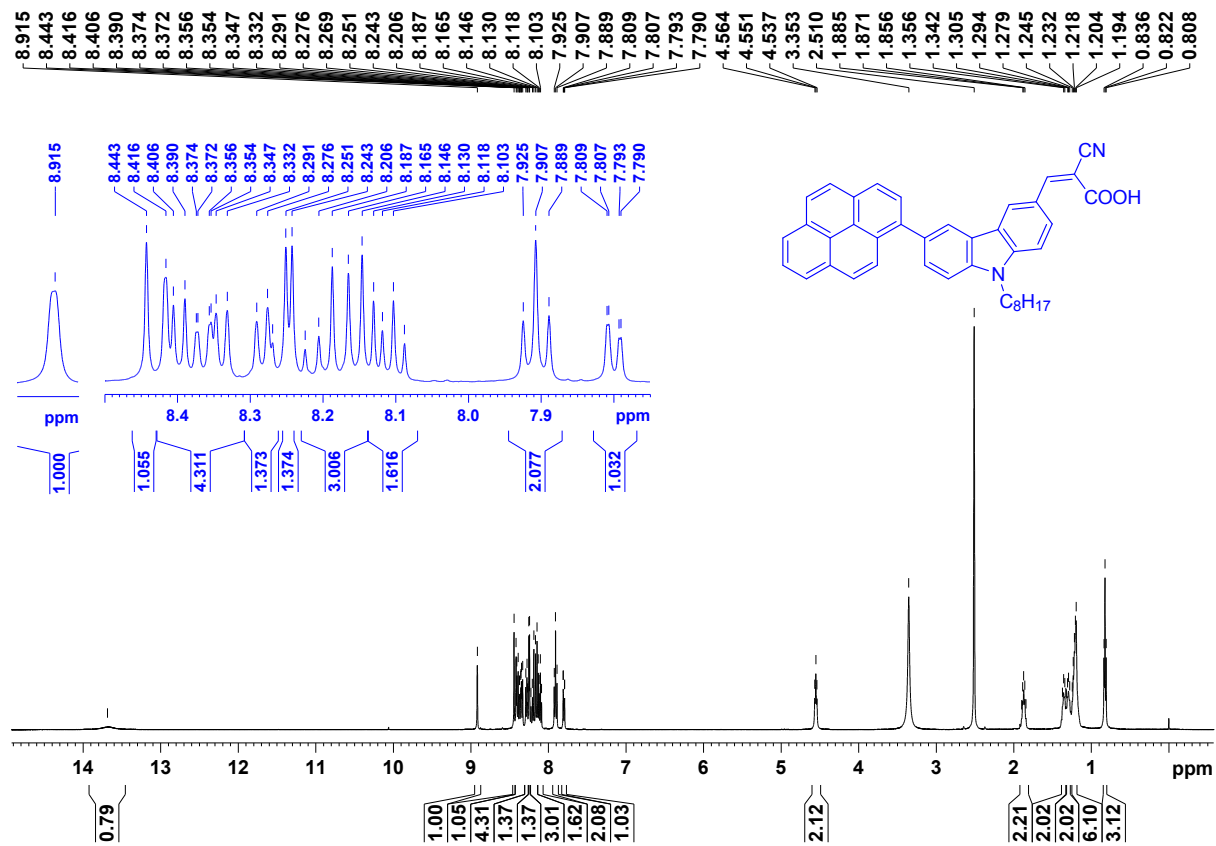
Compound Spectra (overlaid)



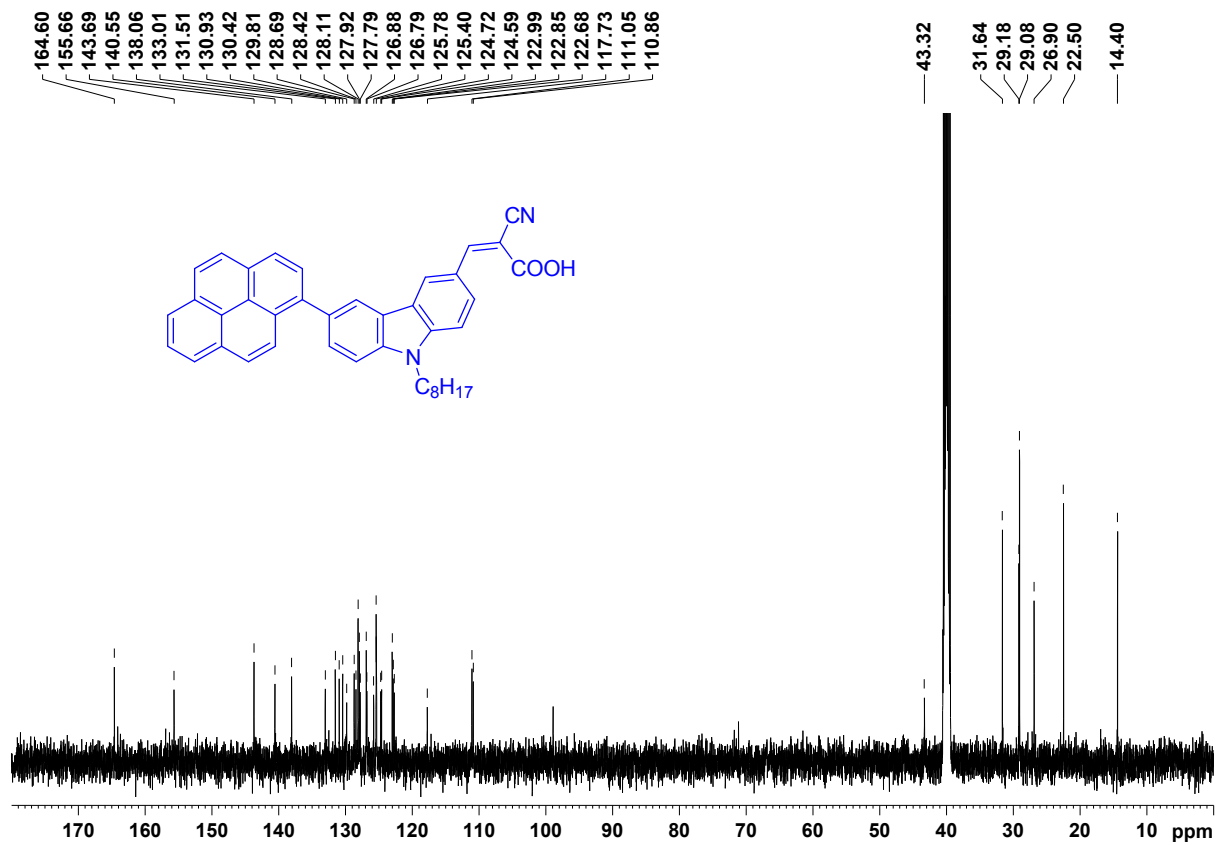
### Compound ID Table

Cpd	Formula	Mass (Tgt)	Calc. Mass	Mass	Species	Diff(Tgt.ppm)	mDa
1	C39 H35 N O	533.2719	533.2692	534.2768 551.3028	(M+H) <sup>+</sup> (M+NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sup>+</sup>	-4.92	-2.62

Fig. S5  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  and Mass spectrum of PC1 dye.







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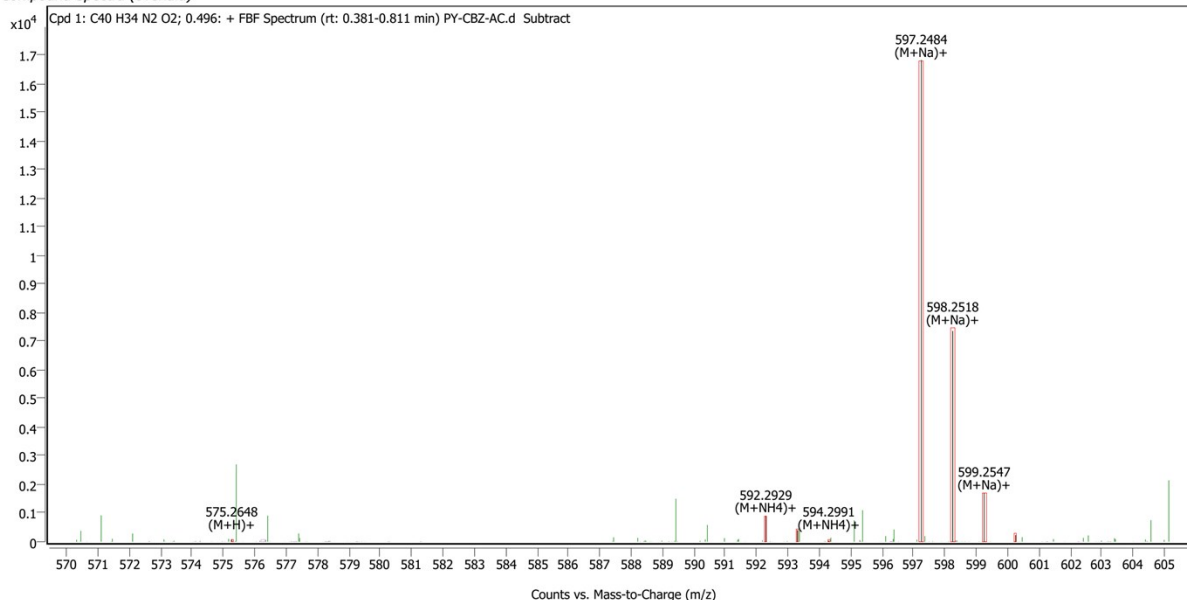
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<b>Sample ID</b>		<b>Acq. Time (Local)</b>	11-12-2019 10:32:42 (UTC+05:30)
<b>Instrument</b>	Instrument 1	<b>Method Path (Acq)</b>	D:\MassHunter\Methods\Direct Infusion_HPLC-NEW.m
<b>MS Type</b>	QTOF	<b>Version (Acq SW)</b>	6200 series TOF/6500 series Q-TOF B.08.00 (B8058.0)
<b>Inj. Vol. (ul)</b>	2	<b>IRM Status</b>	All ions missed
<b>Position</b>	P1-B5	<b>Method Path (DA)</b>	D:\MassHunter\Methods\10.0\Default.m
<b>Plate Pos.</b>		<b>Target Source Path</b>	
<b>Operator</b>		<b>Result Summary</b>	1 qualified (1 targets)

## Compound Details

**Cpd. 1: C40 H34 N2 O2**

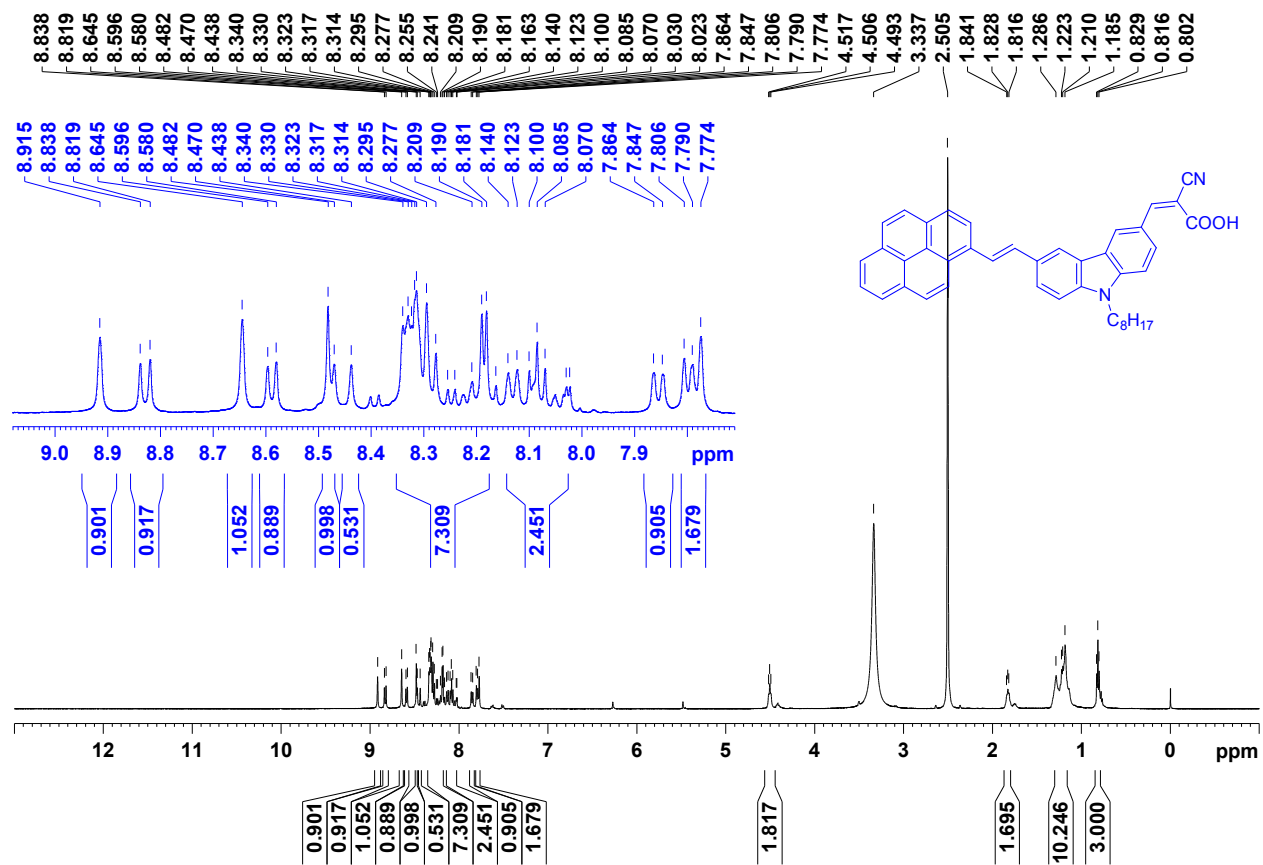
*Compound Spectra (overlaid)*

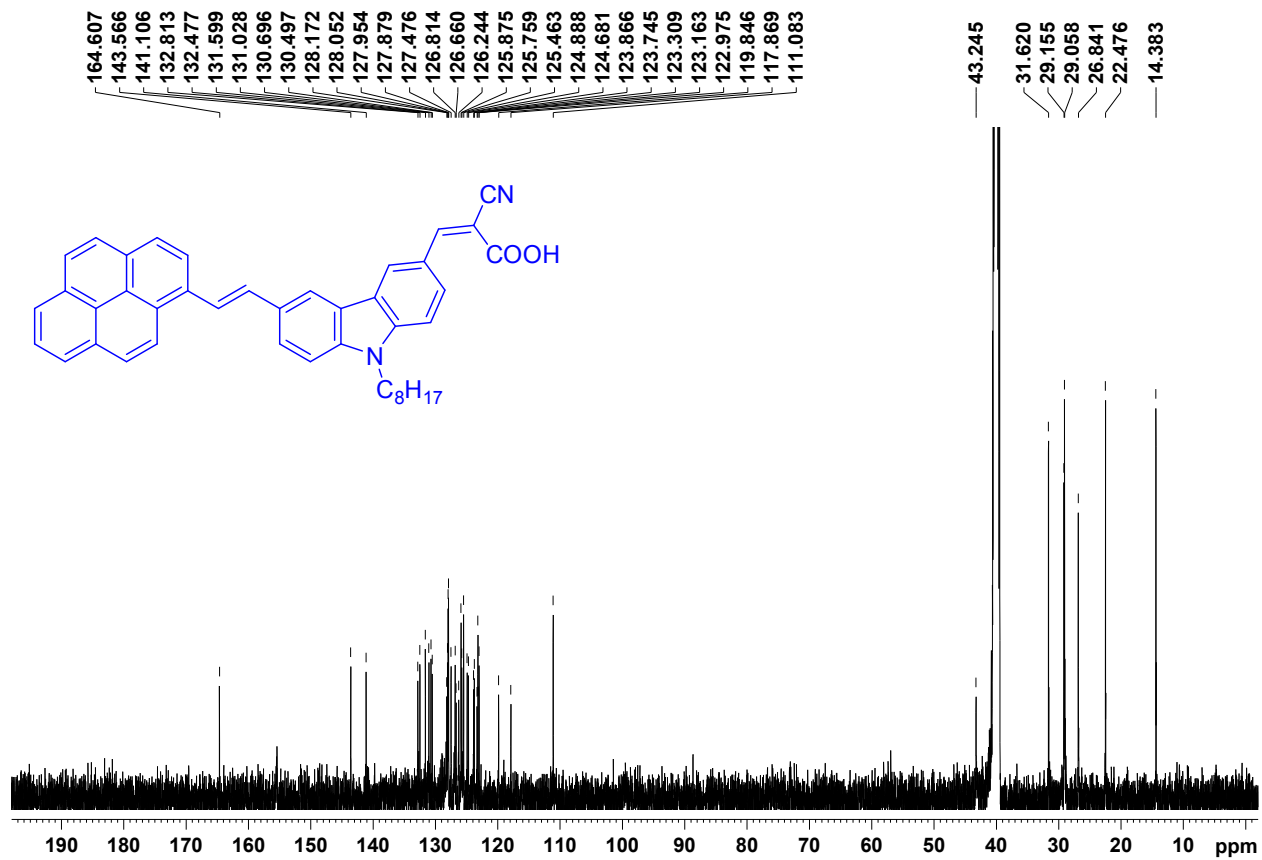


*Compound ID Table*

Cpd	Formula	Mass (Tgt)	Calc. Mass	Mass	Species	Diff(Tgt.ppm)	mDa
1	C40 H34 N2 O2	574.2620	574.2592	575.2648	(M+H)+	-4.91	-2.82
				592.2929	(M+NH4)+		
				597.2484	(M+Na)+		

Fig. S6  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  and Mass spectrum of PC2 dye.





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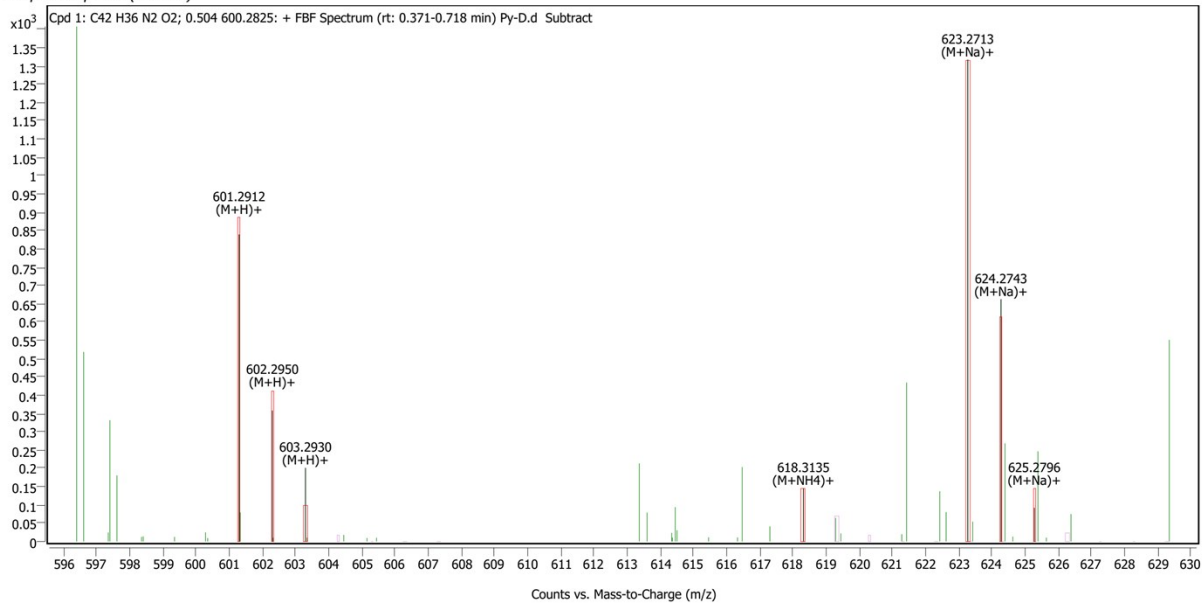
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<b>Sample ID</b>		<b>Acq. Time (Local)</b>	03-10-2019 11:51:09 (UTC+05:30)
<b>Instrument</b>	Instrument 1	<b>Method Path (Acq)</b>	D:\MassHunter\Methods\Direct Infusion_HPLC.m
<b>MS Type</b>	QTOF	<b>Version (Acq SW)</b>	6200 series TOF/6500 series Q-TOF B.08.00 (B8058.0)
<b>Inj. Vol. (ul)</b>	5	<b>IRM Status</b>	Success
<b>Position</b>	P1-C1	<b>Method Path (DA)</b>	D:\MassHunter\Methods\10.0\IIT-Target Screening_1.m
<b>Plate Pos.</b>		<b>Target Source Path</b>	
<b>Operator</b>		<b>Result Summary</b>	1 qualified (1 targets)

## Compound Details

**Cpd. 1: C42 H36 N2 O2**

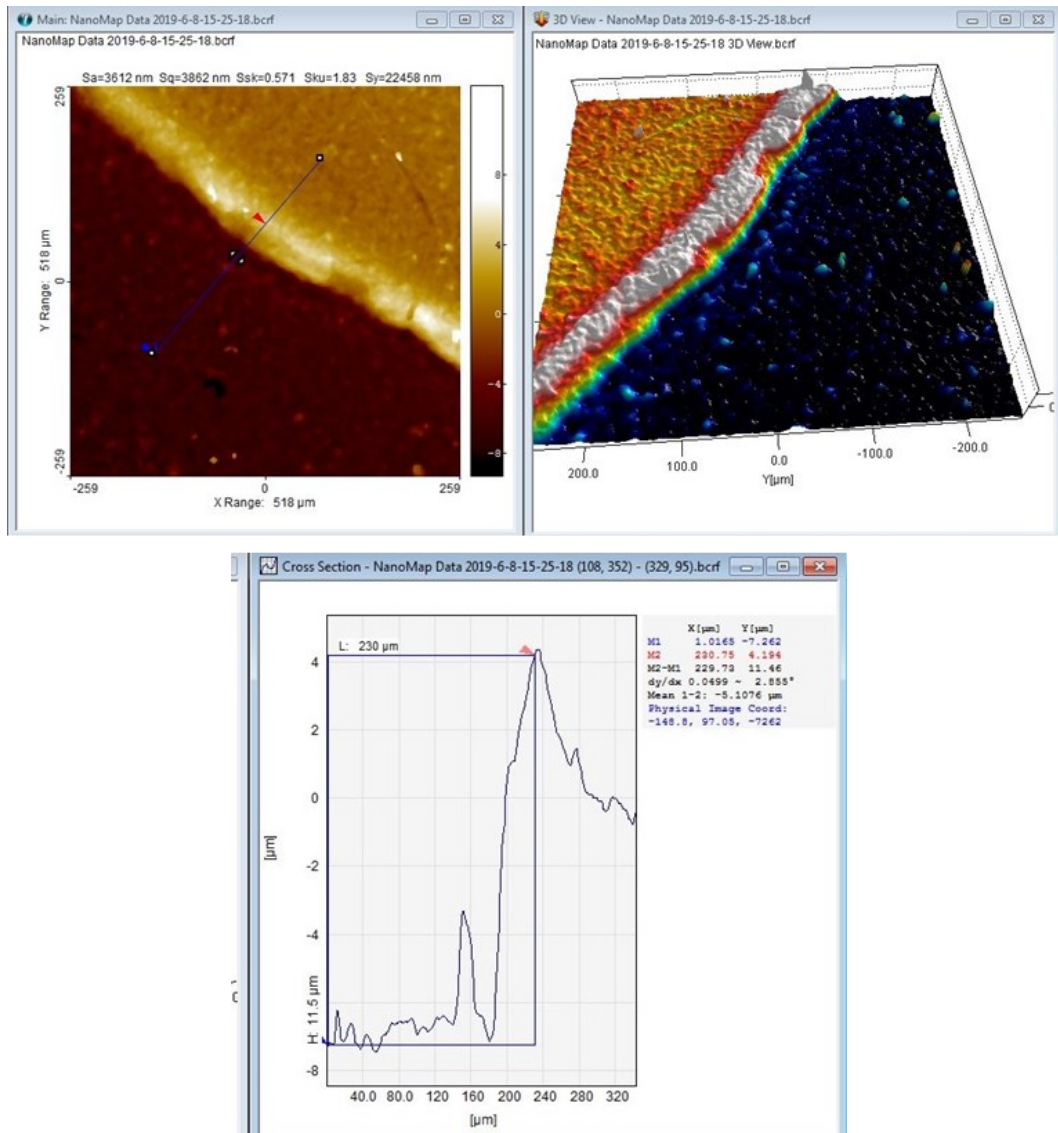
Compound Spectra (overlaid)



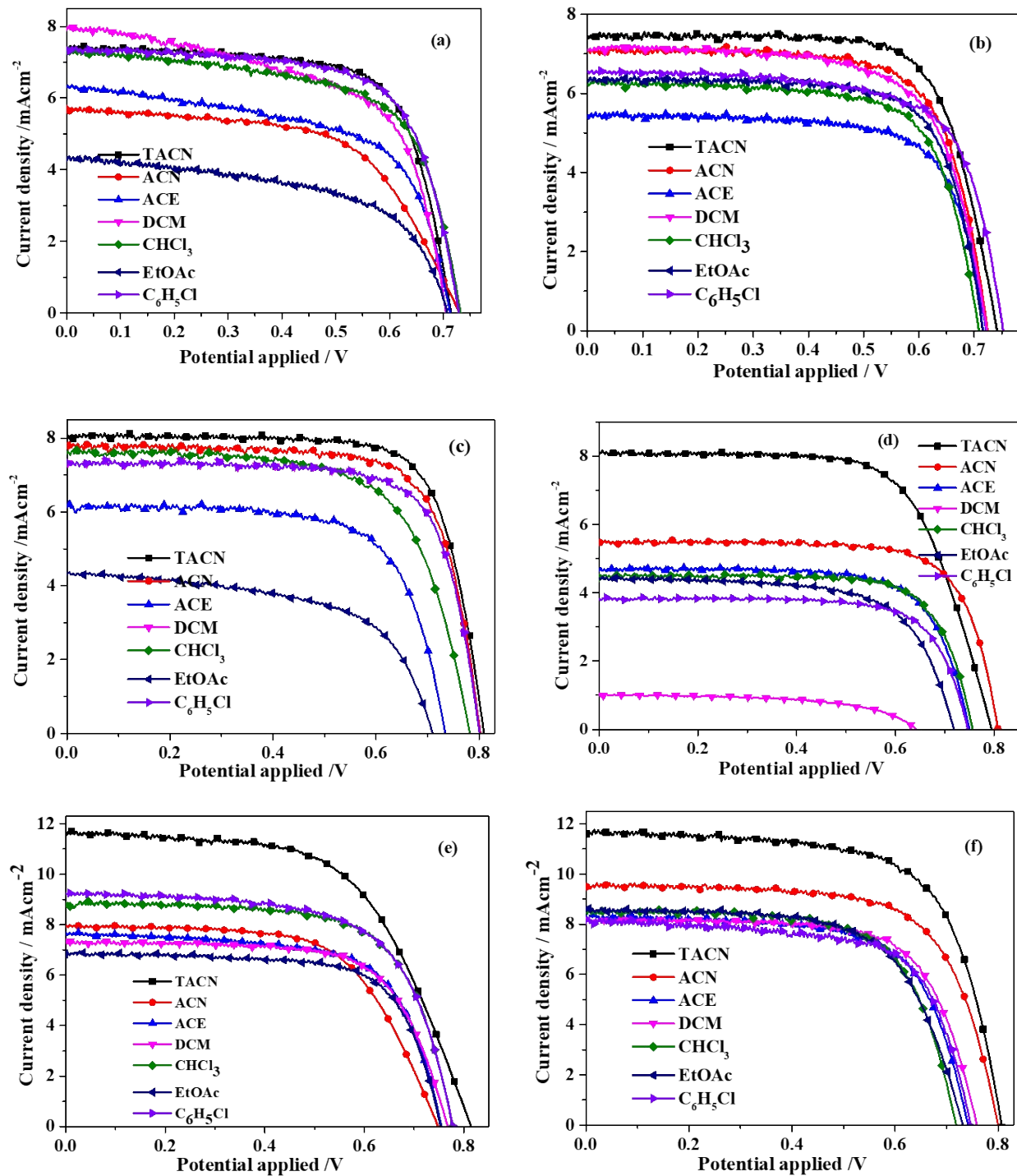
Compound ID Table

Cpd	Formula	Mass (Tgt)	Calc. Mass	Mass	Species	Diff(Tgt.ppm)	mDa
1	C42 H36 N2 O2	600.2777	600.2825	601.2912	(M+H) <sup>+</sup>	8.00	4.80
				618.3135	(M+NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sup>+</sup>		
				623.2713	(M+Na) <sup>+</sup>		

**Fig. S7** Thickness of mesoporous TiO<sub>2</sub> coated on FTO plate measured using Nanomap Profilometer.



**Fig. S8** *J-V* characteristics of devices sensitized with different solvents in without and with CDCA **PC0** (a, b) **PC1** (c, d) **PC2** (e, f) under one sun illumination ( $100 \text{ mWcm}^{-2}$ ).



**Table S1** HOMO, LUMO, calculated using B3LYP, CAM-B3LYP, M06, M06-2X, PBE1PBE, WB97XD/ 6-31G(d,p) method.

Name of the Dye	B3LYP		CAM-B3LYP		M06		M062X		PBE1PBE		WB97XD	
	E <sub>HOMO</sub> (eV)	E <sub>LUMO</sub> (eV)	E <sub>HOMO</sub> (eV)	E <sub>LUMO</sub> (eV)	E <sub>HOMO</sub> (eV)	E <sub>LUMO</sub> (eV)	E <sub>HOMO</sub> (eV)	E <sub>LUMO</sub> (eV)	E <sub>HOMO</sub> (eV)	E <sub>LUMO</sub> (eV)	E <sub>HOMO</sub> (eV)	E <sub>LUMO</sub> (eV)
<b>PC0</b>	-5.67	-2.65	-6.82	-1.39	-5.93	-2.51	-6.83	-1.76	-5.93	-2.58	-7.42	-0.86
<b>PC1</b>	-5.32	-2.22	-6.51	-1.14	-5.59	-2.21	-6.5	-1.49	-5.59	-2.27	-7.12	-0.64
<b>PC2</b>	-5.12	-2.37	-6.3	-1.17	-5.39	-2.24	-6.32	-1.53	-5.8	-2.3	-6.9	-0.68

**Table S2** The projected density of states (PDOS) analysis of three dyes obtained using the B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) method.

Dye	MO	Acceptor	Linker	Donor
<b>PC0</b>	LUMO	56	NA	44
	HOMO	8	NA	92
<b>PC1</b>	LUMO	65	NA	35
	HOMO	1	NA	99
<b>PC2</b>	LUMO	62	2	36
	HOMO	1	15	84



**Table S3** Optimization of solvents for **PC0** dye.

Solvents for <b>PC0</b> dye	$V_{oc}$ (V) without/ with CDCA	$J_{sc}$ (mA cm <sup>-2</sup> ) without/ with CDCA	FF without/ with CDCA	$\eta$ (%) without/ with CDCA
<b>TACN</b>	0.71/0.74	7.40/7.39	0.70/0.73	3.70/3.99
<b>ACN</b>	0.73/0.72	5.73/7.02	0.59/0.72	2.47/3.64
<b>ACE</b>	0.71/0.72	6.33/5.40	0.60/0.72	2.70/2.79
<b>DCM</b>	0.70/0.72	7.97/7.07	0.59/0.68	3.33/3.46
<b>CHCl<sub>3</sub></b>	0.73/0.70	7.30/6.22	0.64/0.72	3.41/3.13
<b>EtOAc</b>	0.71/0.72	4.28/6.32	0.56/0.73	1.68/3.32
<b>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>Cl</b>	0.73/0.75	7.33/6.52	0.68/0.69	3.64/3.37

**Table S4** Optimization of solvents for **PC1** dye.

Solvents for <b>PC1</b> dye	$V_{oc}$ (V) without/ with CDCA	$J_{sc}$ (mA cm <sup>-2</sup> ) without/ with CDCA	FF without/ with CDCA	$\eta$ (%) without/ with CDCA
<b>TACN</b>	0.80/ 0.79	8.07/ 8.08	0.76/ 0.68	4.90/ 4.34
<b>ACN</b>	0.80/0.81	7.78/5.48)	0.74/0.74	4.60/3.27
<b>ACE</b>	0.73/0.75	6.12/4.64	0.69/0.72	3.08/2.50
<b>DCM</b>	0.79/0.64	7.27/1.0	0.75/0.57	4.32/0.36
<b>CHCl<sub>3</sub></b>	0.78/0.76	7.59/4.47	0.67/0.75	3.97/2.55
<b>EtOAc</b>	0.71/0.72	4.32/4.40	0.59/0.66	1.80/2.09
<b>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>Cl</b>	0.80/0.75	7.29/3.79	0.74/0.73	4.34/2.07

**Table S5** Optimization of solvents for **PC2** dye.

Solvents for <b>PC2</b> dye	$V_{oc}$ (V) without/ with CDCA	$J_{sc}$ (mA cm <sup>-2</sup> ) without/ with CDCA	FF without/ with CDCA	$\eta$ (%) without/ with CDCA
<b>TACN</b>	0.81/0.80	11.57/11.59	0.60/0.68	5.57/6.30
<b>ACN</b>	0.75/0.79	7.95/9.49	0.62/0.69	3.69/5.17
<b>ACE</b>	0.75/0.74	7.61/8.28	0.66/0.67	3.77/4.10
<b>DCM</b>	0.77/0.76	7.24/8.13	0.68/0.69	3.79/4.27
<b>CHCl<sub>3</sub></b>	0.71/0.72	6.15/8.42	0.65/0.70	2.84/4.12
<b>EtOAc</b>	0.75/0.73	6.82/8.56	0.69/0.65	3.53/4.06
<b>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>Cl</b>	0.75/0.74	7.38/8.12	0.64/0.67	3.54/4.03