

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### Double Intramolecular Hydrogen Transfer Assisted Dual Emission in Carbazole-embedded Porphyrin-like Macrocycle

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## 1. General Information:

The reagents and materials for the synthesis were used as obtained from Sigma-Aldrich chemical suppliers. All solvents were purified and dried by standard methods prior to use. Silica gel column chromatography was performed on Wakogel C-200 and C-300. Alumina column chromatography was performed on Active alumina (basic). Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out on aluminum sheets coated with silica gel 60 F254 (Merck 5554). Recrystallized samples of porphyrinoids were utilized for all the spectroscopic measurements.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz) and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz) spectra were recorded on INOVA 500 (Varian) spectrometer, and chemical shifts were reported as the delta scale in ppm relative to  $\text{CHCl}_3$  as an internal reference for  $^1\text{H}$  ( $\delta = 7.26$  ppm) and for  $^{13}\text{C}$  ( $\delta = 77.0$  ppm). High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on Q-exactive Orbitrap mass spectrometer based on the electrospray ionization method.

Cyclic and differential-pulse voltammetric measurements were performed on a PC-controlled electrochemical analyzer (CH instruments model CHI620C) using a conventional three-electrode cell for samples (1 mM) dissolved in dry  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  containing 0.1 M  $n\text{-Bu}_4\text{NPF}_6$  (TBAPF<sub>6</sub>) as the supporting electrolyte. Measurements were carried out under an Argon atmosphere. A Glassy carbon working electrode, a calomel reference electrode and platinum wire counter electrode were used in all electrochemical experiments. The potentials were calibrated using the ferrocenium/ferrocene couple. The optical absorption spectra were recorded on a Shimadzu (Model UV-3600) spectrophotometer. Concentrations of solutions are *ca.* to be  $1 \times 10^{-6}$  M (porphyrin Soret band) and  $5 \times 10^{-5}$  M (porphyrin Q-bands).

### X-ray Crystal Structure Analysis:

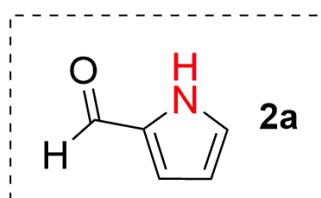
Single crystal X-ray intensity data were collected on a Bruker KAPPA APEXII diffractometer in omega and phi scan mode,  $\text{MoK}\alpha = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$  at 298 K.

**Computational Details:** All calculations were carried out using the Gaussian 16 program.<sup>[S1]</sup> Initial geometries were obtained from X-ray structures. Calculations were performed using the density functional theory (DFT) method at B3LYP (Becke's three-parameter hybrid exchange

functionals and the Lee-Yang-Parr correlation functional) level, employing a 6-31G(d) basis set. Vertical electronic excitations based on B3LYP optimized geometries were computed using the time-dependent density functional theory (TDDFT) formalism at the same level of theory. NICS (0) values were calculated using NMR keyword with GIAO method. Further, we have performed NICS XY-scan for a grid of 0.5 Å along x and y-axes by placing the ghost atoms (Bq) at a distance of 0.1 Å to generate a grid of 11x11 points. Next, we have plotted AICD plots to observe the ring current using NMR keyword with CSGT method.<sup>[S2]</sup>

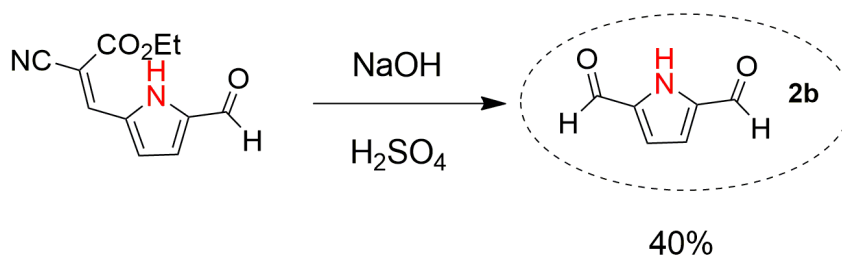
## 2. Synthetic Procedures and Compound Data:

### Precursors:

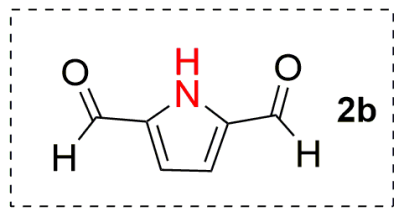


Commercially available **2a** was recrystallized using  $\text{CHCl}_3/n$ -hexane and subjected to  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR characterization.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 298 K)  $\delta$  = 10.58 (br s, 1H, NH), 9.49 (d,  $J$  = 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (s, 1H), 7.00 (t,  $J$  = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.34 (t,  $J$  = 3.6 Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  = 179.5, 132.8, 127.1, 122.0, 111.3.

### pyrrole-2,5-dicarboxaldehyde (**2b**):



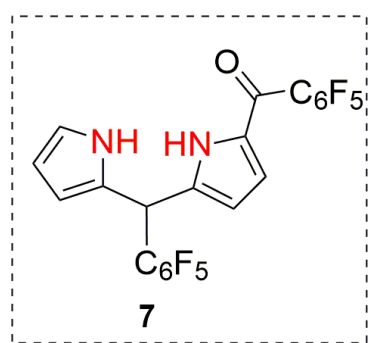
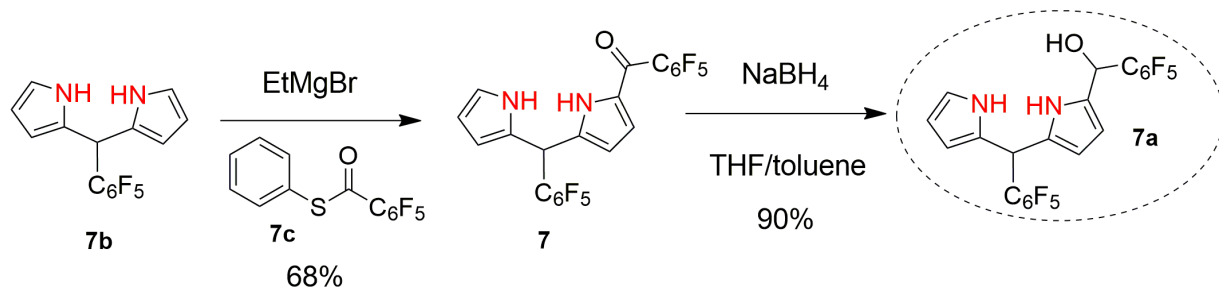
By slightly modified literature method,<sup>[S3]</sup> the aldehyde is deprotected *via* alkaline hydrolysis, Ethyl  $\alpha$ -cyano-5-formyl-2-pyrroleacrylate (1 g, 4.58 mmol) was added to a 4 M aqueous solution of sodium hydroxide (15 mL) and refluxed for 3 h. The mixture was then cooled below 20 °C and acidified with conc. sulfuric acid before passing through a filter, removing a black powdery byproduct. The product was extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic extract was washed with water, dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and concentrated in vacuo. This crude material was further purified by flash





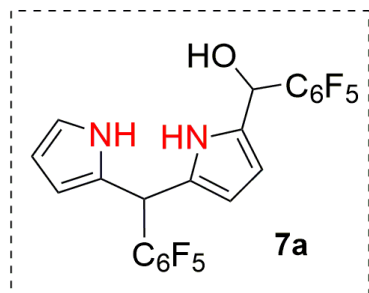
concentrated in vacuo to afford **6a**<sup>[S7]</sup> as a colorless solid (295 mg, 97%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 8.66 (br s, 1H, NH), 6.82 (d,  $J$  = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.22 (s, 1H), 6.14 (d,  $J$  = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 5.96 (s, 1H), 2.91 (br s, 1H, OH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 129.9, 119.0, 108.6, 106.9, 62.3; mp = 130 °C

### 1-(Pentafluorobenzoyl)-5-(pentafluorophenyl)dipyrromethane (**7a**):



A slightly modified literature method,<sup>[S5]</sup> a solution of EtMgBr (8.0 mL, 8.0 mmol, 1.0 M in THF) was added slowly to a tap water cooled flask containing a solution of 5-(Pentafluorophenyl)dipyrromethane (**7b**) (1.0 g, 3.2 mmol) in THF (10 mL) under Ar. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 min and then cooled to -78 °C. A solution of (pentafluorobenzoyl)pyridyl thioester (**7c**) (0.98 g, 3.2 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was then added over 10 min. The solution was maintained at -78 °C for 10 min, and then the cooling bath was removed. TLC [silica; CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/*n*-hexane (3:2)] showed complete consumption of the pyridyl thioester after 15 min, so the reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl. The mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature, poured into CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, washed with water, and then dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and the solvent removed to afford a dark foam. Purification by flash column chromatography [silica; CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/*n*-hexane (3:2)] afforded a pale brown solid **7** (1.10 g, 68%). Analytical data were identical to those previously reported.<sup>[S5]</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K)  $\delta$ /ppm: 9.40 (br s, 1H, NH), 8.26 (br s, 1H, NH), 6.83-6.81 (m, 1H), 6.64 (s, 1H), 6.22-6.20 (m, 2H), 6.08 (t,  $J$  = 6.25 Hz, 1H), 5.92 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 172.1, 140.6, 131.2, 125.6, 122.4, 119.1, 111.2, 109.0, 109.0; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : [M-H]<sup>-</sup> Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>7</sub>F<sub>10</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O 505.0398; Found 505.0405; mp = 160 °C.

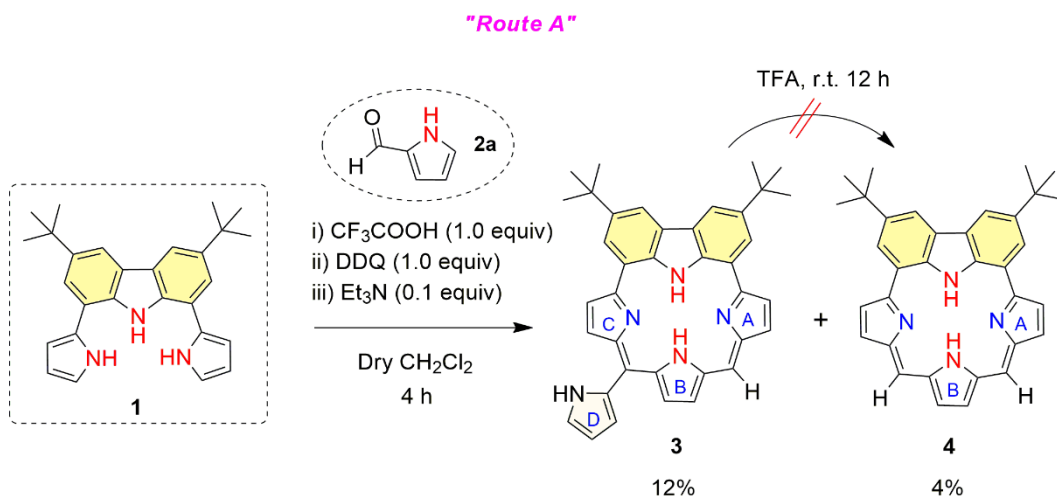
**Reduction of 7:** A sample of mono acyl dipyrromethane **7** (0.1g, 0.19 mmol) was dissolved in Dry THF/Methanol (11mL, 10:1) at room temperature stirred in



Dry THF/Methanol (11mL, 10:1) at room temperature stirred in 25 mL two neck round bottom flask fitted with a vented rubber septum and flouted with argon. The septum was removed as needed to add NaBH<sub>4</sub> (0.15 g, 3.9 mmol). The progress of the reduction was monitored by TLC analysis [CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>]. After the reaction was complete, the reaction mixture was poured into a mixture of saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (10 mL). The organic phase

was extracted by CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was removed under vacuum afforded DPM mono carbinol **7a** in 90%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K) δ/ppm: 8.65 (d, *J* = 28.2 Hz, 1H, NH) 8.34 (br s, 1H, NH), 6.70 (s, 1H), 6.18 (s, 1H), 6.11 (s, 1H), 6.06 (d, *J* = 15.25 Hz, 1H), 5.87 (s, 2H), 5.79 (s, 1H), 2.89 (br s, 1H, OH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ = 130.1, 129.7, 127.9, 127.7, 118.4, 108.6, 107.9, 107.7, 107.7, 107.0, 62.0; HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M-H]<sup>-</sup> Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>9</sub>F<sub>10</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O 507.0555; Found 507.0566; mp = 115 °C

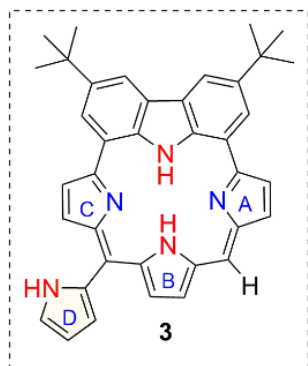
### Route A:



To a solution of 1,8-Di(-1*H*-pyrrole)-3,6- di-*tert*-butyl)-9*H* carbazole **1** (100 mg, 0.244 mmol) and 1*H*-pyrrole-2-carboxaldehyde **2a** (23.2 mg, 0.244 mmol) was dissolved in 50 mL of dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. To this, CF<sub>3</sub>COOH (27.9 μL, 0.244 mmol) was added under argon and the solution was stirred for 4 h at room temperature under dark. Then, the reaction was quenched with few drops of trimethylamine followed by the drop wise addition of DDQ (55.4 mg, 0.244 mmol) in 10 mL

CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The crude reaction mixture was passed through a short pad of basic alumina and the green fraction was collected and concentrated under vacuum. Further purification was done by silica gel column (240-400 mesh) chromatography.

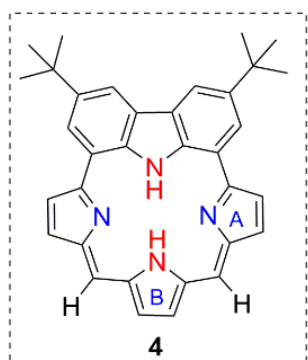
**Macrocycle 3** was isolated and precipitated using *n*-hexane to afford pure **3** in 12% yield. <sup>1</sup>H



NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K)  $\delta$  = 8.78 (br s, 1H, NH), 8.78 (s, 2H), 8.74 (s, 1H), 8.70 (br s, 1H, NH), 8.68 (s, 1H), 8.62 (br s, 1H, NH), 8.07-8.05 (m, 2H), 7.78 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (s, 1H), 7.30 (s, 1H), 7.28 (s, 1H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 6.72 (s, 1H), 6.47 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 1.70 (s, 9H), 1.69 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 168.1, 167.0, 152.2, 142.2, 138.0, 137.1, 136.3, 136.1, 135.4, 129.2, 124.8, 124.7, 124.6, 124.5, 124.4, 124.3, 123.9, 123.0,

122.5, 119.8, 119.6, 118.7, 115.1, 114.5, 109.4, 35.2, 32.3; UV/Vis/NIR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\lambda_{\max}/\text{nm}$  ( $\epsilon$  [mol<sup>-1</sup> dm<sup>3</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>]): 292 (11017), 329 (13058), 422 (17583), 580 (8643), 626 (9719). HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>38</sub>H<sub>36</sub>N<sub>5</sub> 562.2971; Found 562.2961; mp = 95 °C

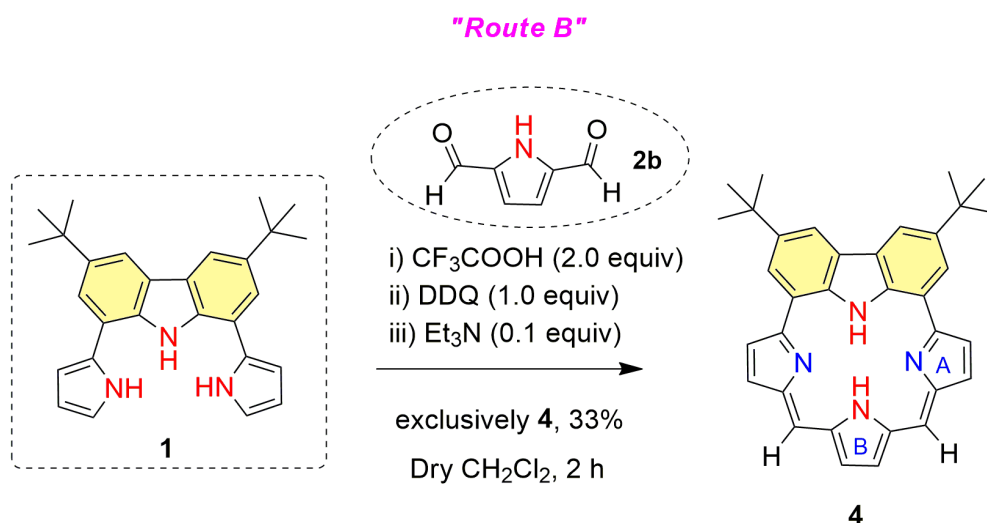
**Macrocycle 4** was isolated and precipitated using *n*-hexane to afford pure **4** in 4% yield. <sup>1</sup>H



NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K)  $\delta$  = 8.77 (s, 2H), 8.64 (s, 2H), 8.16 (br s, 1H, NH), 7.98 (br s, 1H, NH), 7.97 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (s, 2H), 7.19 (s, 2H), 1.72 (s, 18H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  = 167.5, 152.3, 141.8, 136.6, 136.1, 135.7, 124.6, 124.4, 124.2, 122.0, 119.6, 117.7, 113.9, 35.1, 32.4; UV/Vis/NIR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\lambda_{\max}/\text{nm}$  ( $\epsilon$  [mol<sup>-1</sup> dm<sup>3</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>]): 291 (42387), 329 (69822), 375 (81290), 572 (35274), 621 (50080). HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H]<sup>+</sup>

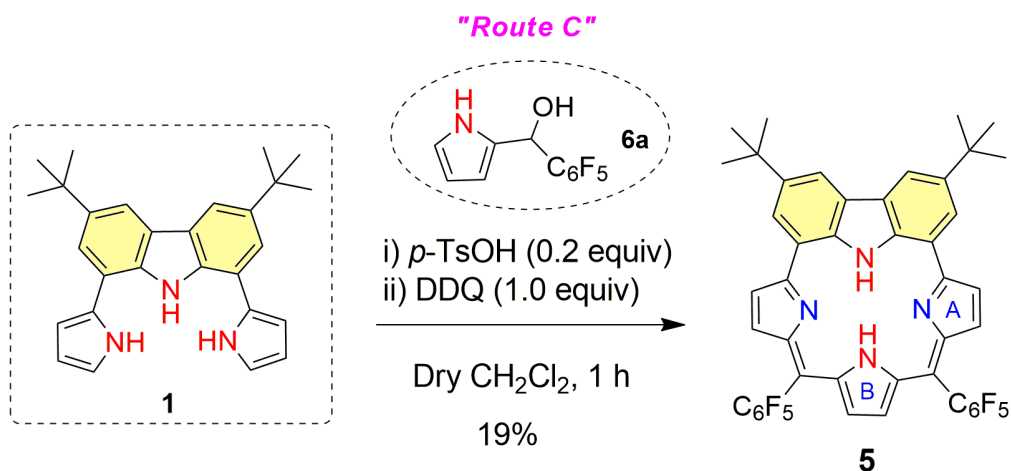
Calcd for C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>33</sub>N<sub>4</sub> 497.2705; Found 497.2709; mp = 120 °C

### Macrocycle 4 from Route B:

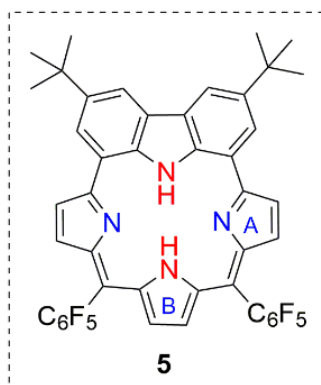


To a solution of **1** (100 mg, 0.244 mmol) and 1*H*-pyrrole-2,5-dicarboxaldehyde **2b** (30 mg, 0.244 mmol) was dissolved in 50 mL of dry  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . To this,  $\text{CF}_3\text{COOH}$  (55.8  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.488 mmol) was added under argon and the solution was stirred for 2 h at room temperature under dark. Then, the reaction was quenched with few drops of trimethylamine followed by the drop wise addition of DDQ (55.4 mg, 0.244 mmol) in 10 mL  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . The crude reaction mixture was passed through a short pad of basic alumina and the green fraction was collected and concentrated under vacuum. Further purification was done by silica gel column (240-400 mesh) chromatography. The green colored fraction was isolated and precipitated using *n*-hexane to afford pure **4** in 33% (40 mg) yield.

### Macrocycle 5 from Route C:



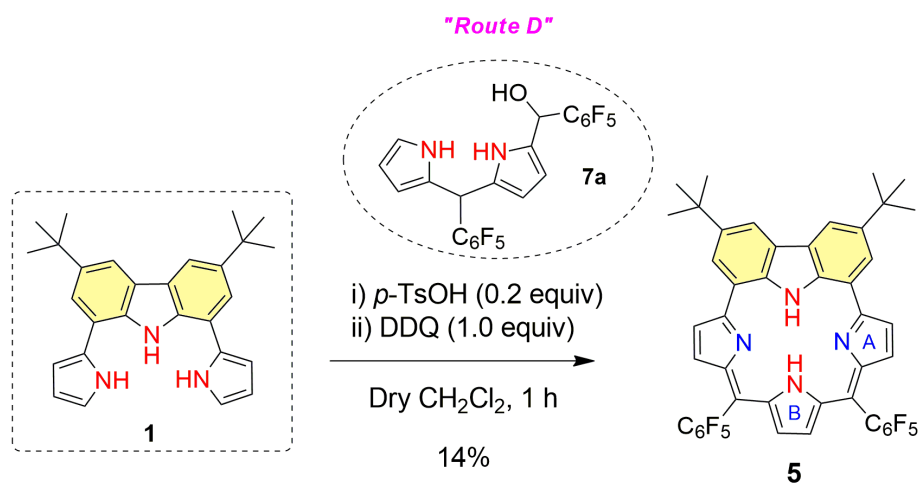




To a 250 mL round bottom flask containing compound **1** (0.1 g, 0.244 mmol) and (perfluorophenyl)(1*H*-pyrrol-2-yl)methanol **6a** (0.064 g, 0.244 mmol) was added in 100 ml of dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and stirred for 1 h under Ar atmosphere under dark. *Para*-toluenesulfonic acid (*p*-TsOH) (0.01 g, 0.0488 mmol) was added and the mixture was allowed to stir for 1 h. To the reaction mixture, 2,3-dichloro-5,6-dicyano-*p*-benzoquinone (DDQ) (0.056 g, 0.244 mmol) was added and allowed to stir for further 10 min at room temperature. The entire

reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of basic alumina and eluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> until the eluent was no longer dark. The resulting crude mixture was concentrated by rotary evaporator to give a dark solid. The crude solid was purified by basic alumina column followed by silica-gel chromatography (240-400 mesh). The violet fraction eluted with 10% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/*n*-hexane provided **5** as dark green solid in 19% (40 mg) yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 298 K): δ = 8.94 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 2H), 8.84 (s, 2H), 8.41 (br s, 1H, NH), 8.35 (br s, 1H, NH), 8.26 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 2H), 6.95 (s, 2H), 1.71 (s, 18H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ = 169.3, 153.3, 142.9, 136.3, 136.1, 134.9, 127.3, 125.0, 124.6, 121.5, 121.1, 114.5, 113.6, 35.3, 32.3; UV/Vis/NIR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): λ<sub>max</sub>/nm (ε [mol<sup>-1</sup> dm<sup>3</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>]): 291 (34106), 339 (46483), 385 (55887), 582 (24438), 632 (33438). HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> Calcd for C<sub>46</sub>H<sub>31</sub>F<sub>10</sub>N<sub>4</sub> 829.2389; Found 829.2374; mp = 135 °C

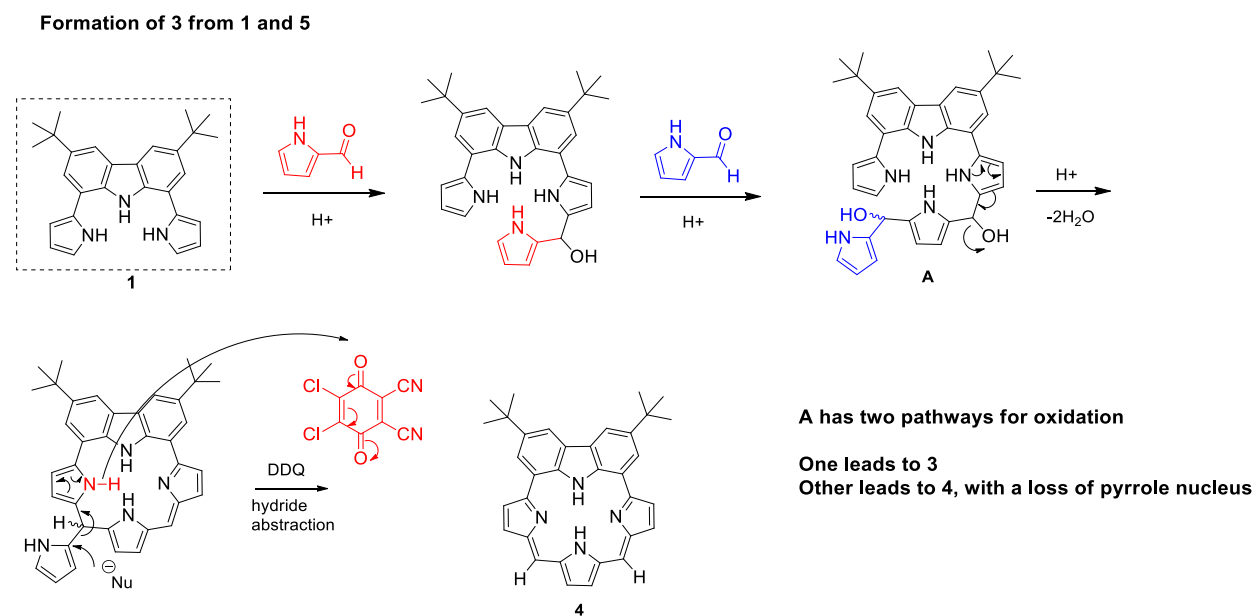
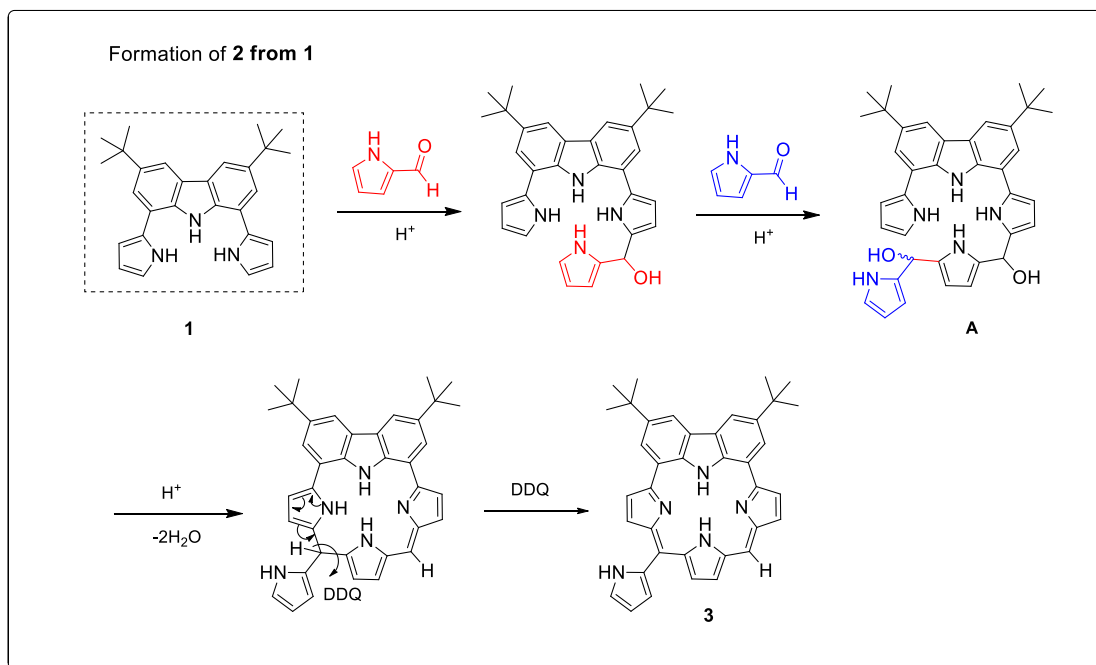
#### Macrocycle **5** from Route D:

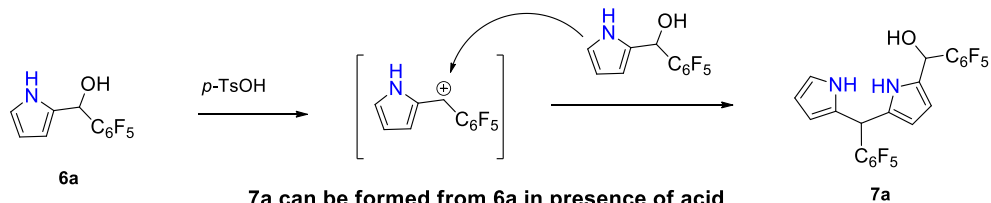


The above procedure was followed by using **1** (0.100 g, 0.244 mmol), and DPM mono carbinol **7a**<sup>[S8]</sup> (0.124 g, 0.244 mmol), *p*-TsOH (0.01 g, 0.0488 mmol) and DDQ (0.056 g, 2.88 mmol).

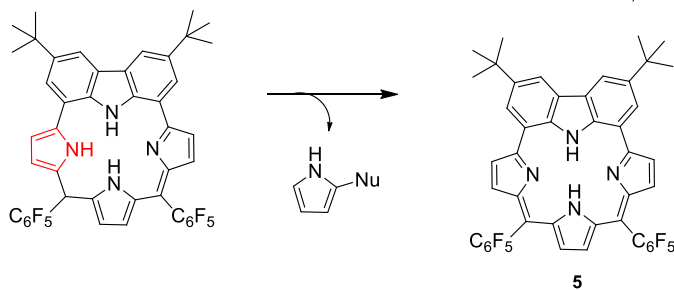
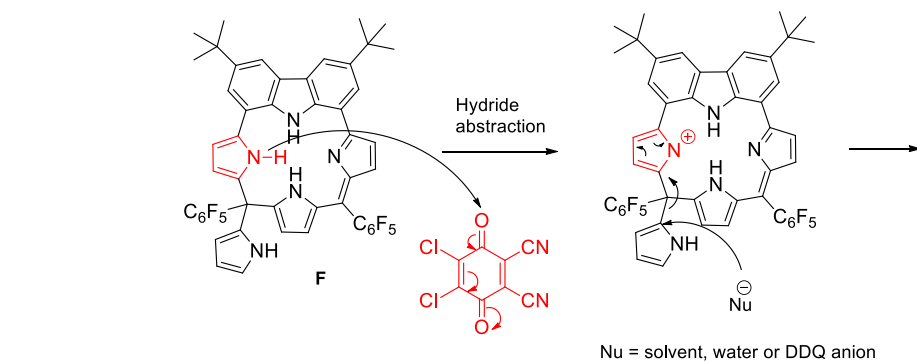
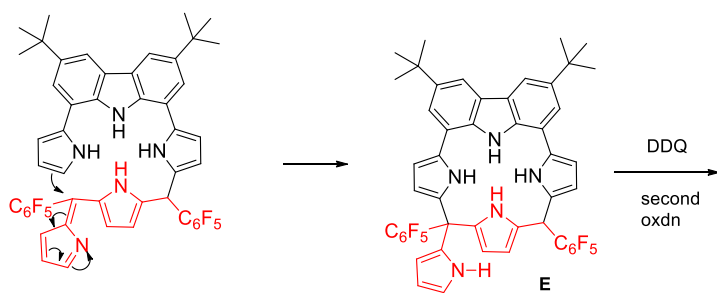
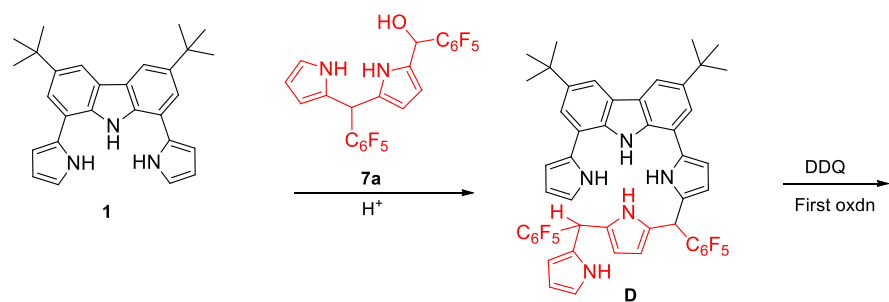
The green fraction was eluted with 5% *n*-hexane afforded **5** as dark green solid in 14% (29 mg) yield. Analytical data were identical to above method (**Route D**)

**Plausible Mechanisms for the formation of macrocycles 3-5 is shown below:**





7a can be formed from 6a in presence of acid  
 Probably this is faster than reaction of 5 with 1  
 Therefore, 7a will react further with 1 as shown below



The hydride loss in third oxidation may happen from any of the four NHs in F  
 Subsequent proton loss and double bond shifts will complete the oxidation

### 3. High-Resolution MS

D:\HR-MS DATA\...2,5-pyroledialdehyde

10/16/20 16:57:21

RA1

2,5-pyroledialdehyde #30-55 RT: 0.41-0.74 AV: 13 NL: 7.76E9  
T: FTMS - p ESI Full ms [100.0000-600.0000]

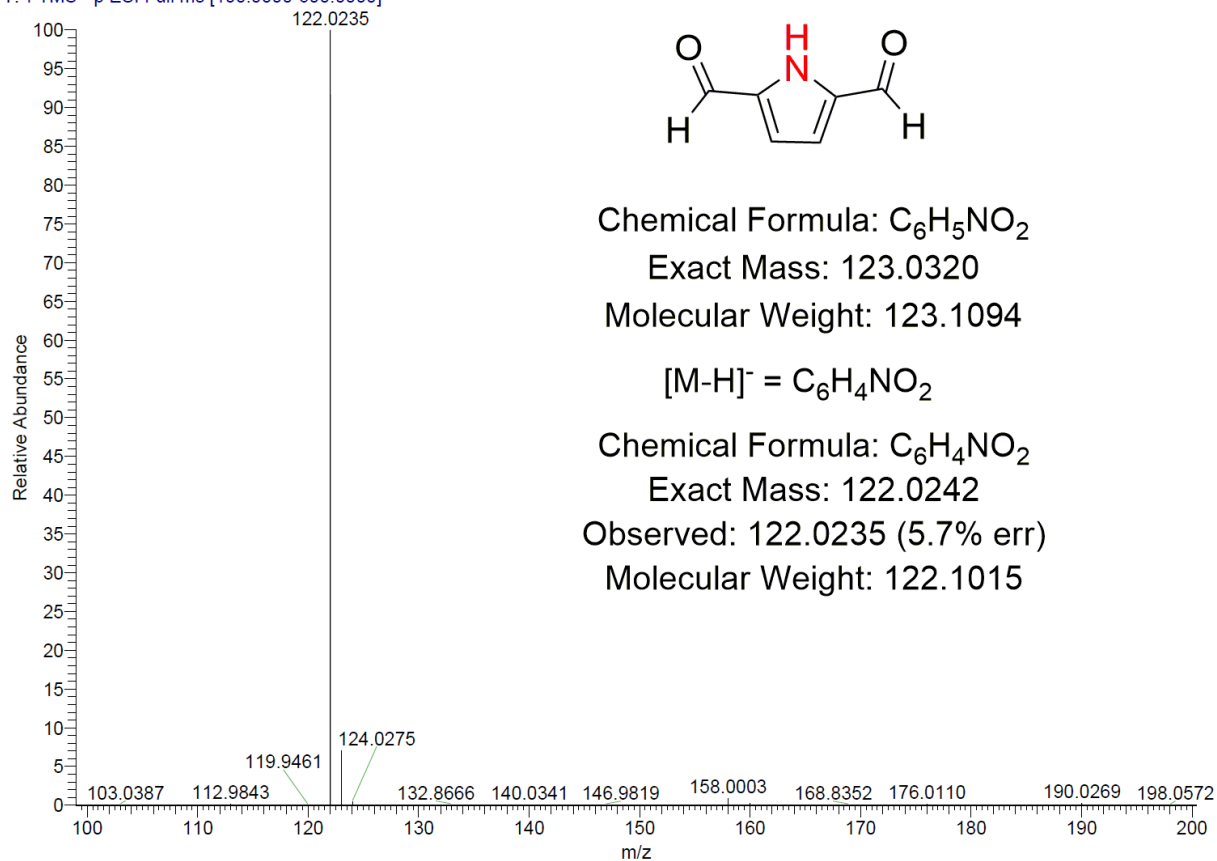
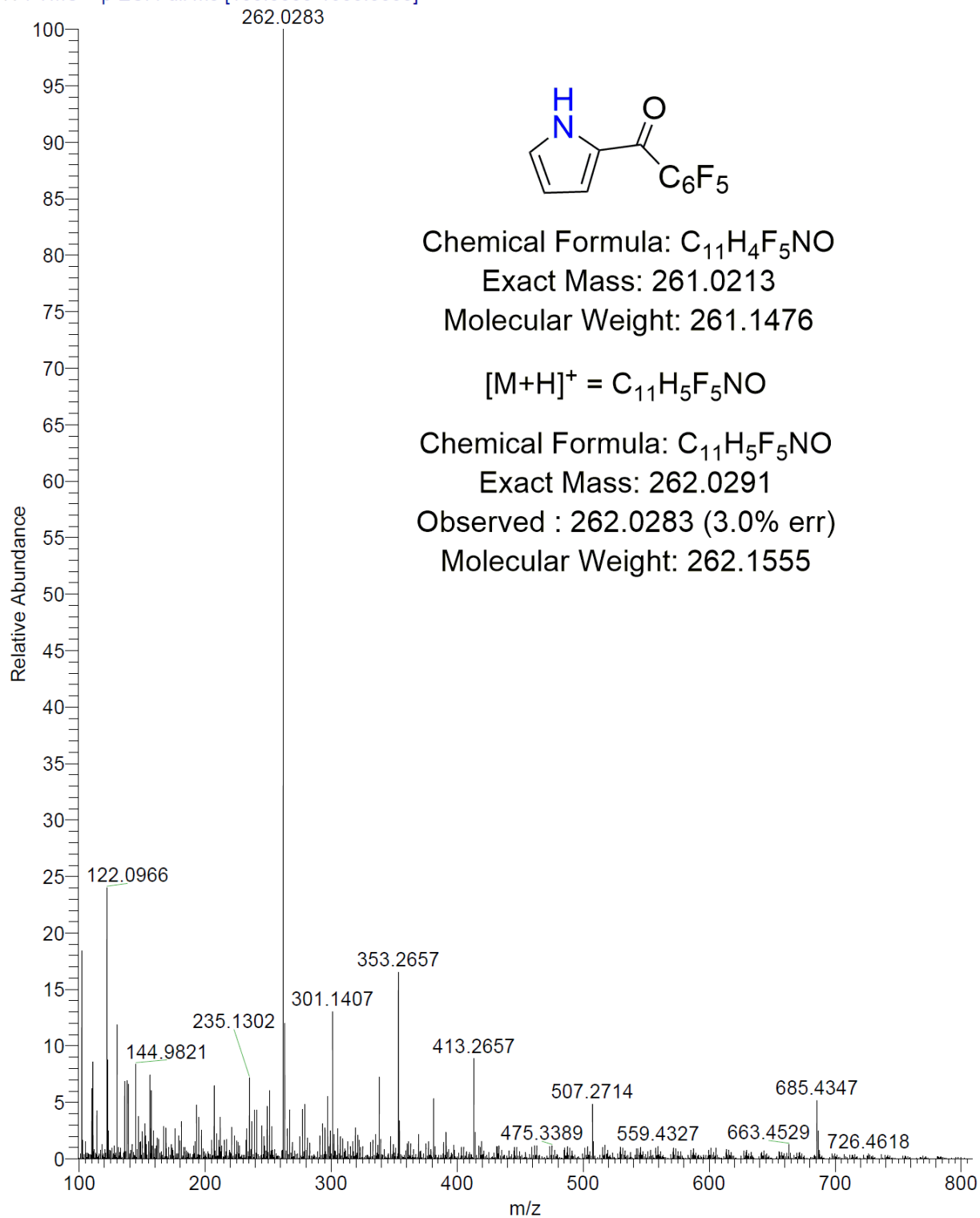


Figure S3.1. HR-MS (ESI) spectrum of 2b.

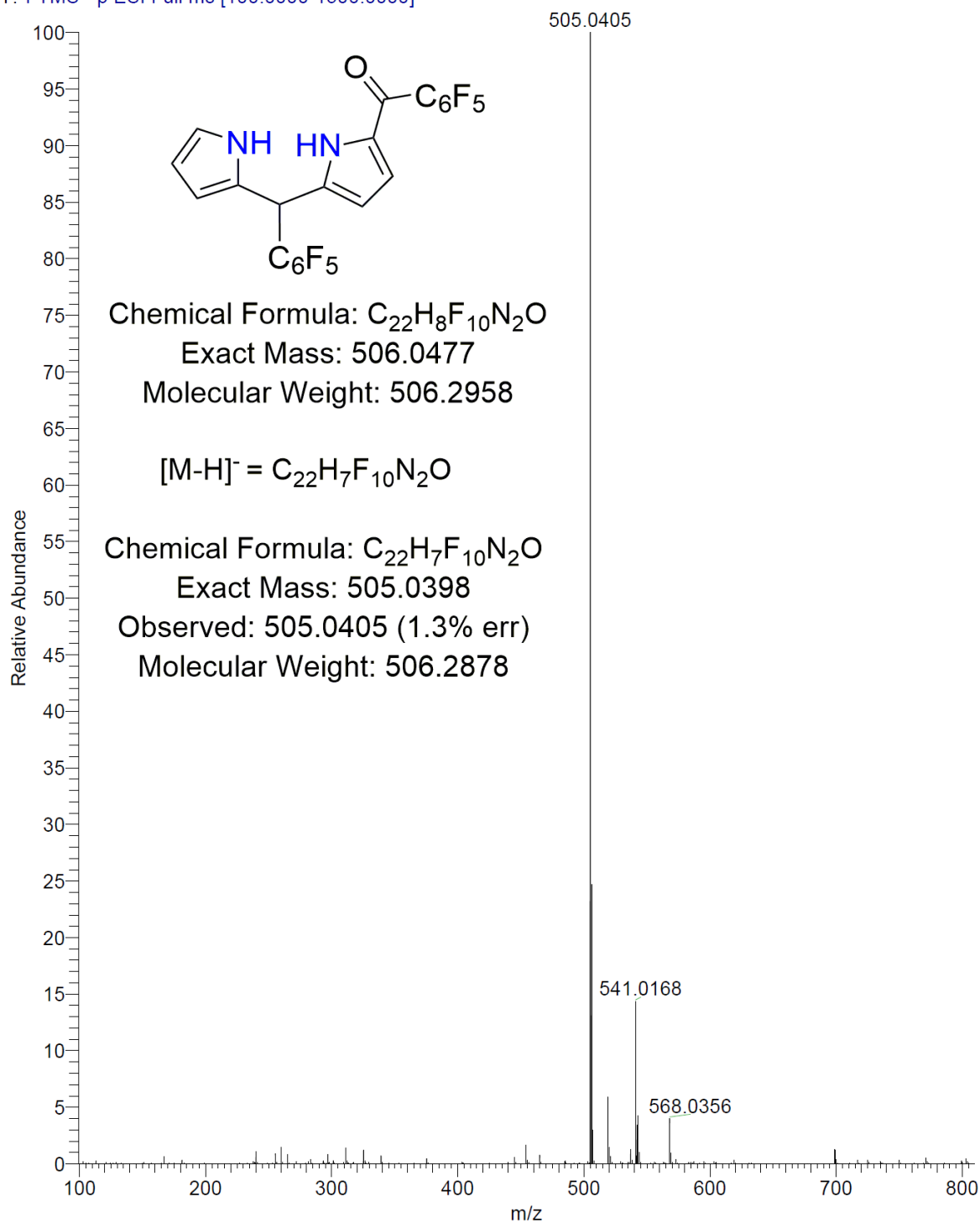
Pyrole-2-Acyl #41-67 RT: 0.39-0.64 AV: 14 NL: 1.59E8

T: FTMS + p ESI Full ms [100.0000-1500.0000]

**Figure S3.2.** HR-MS (ESI) spectrum of **6**.

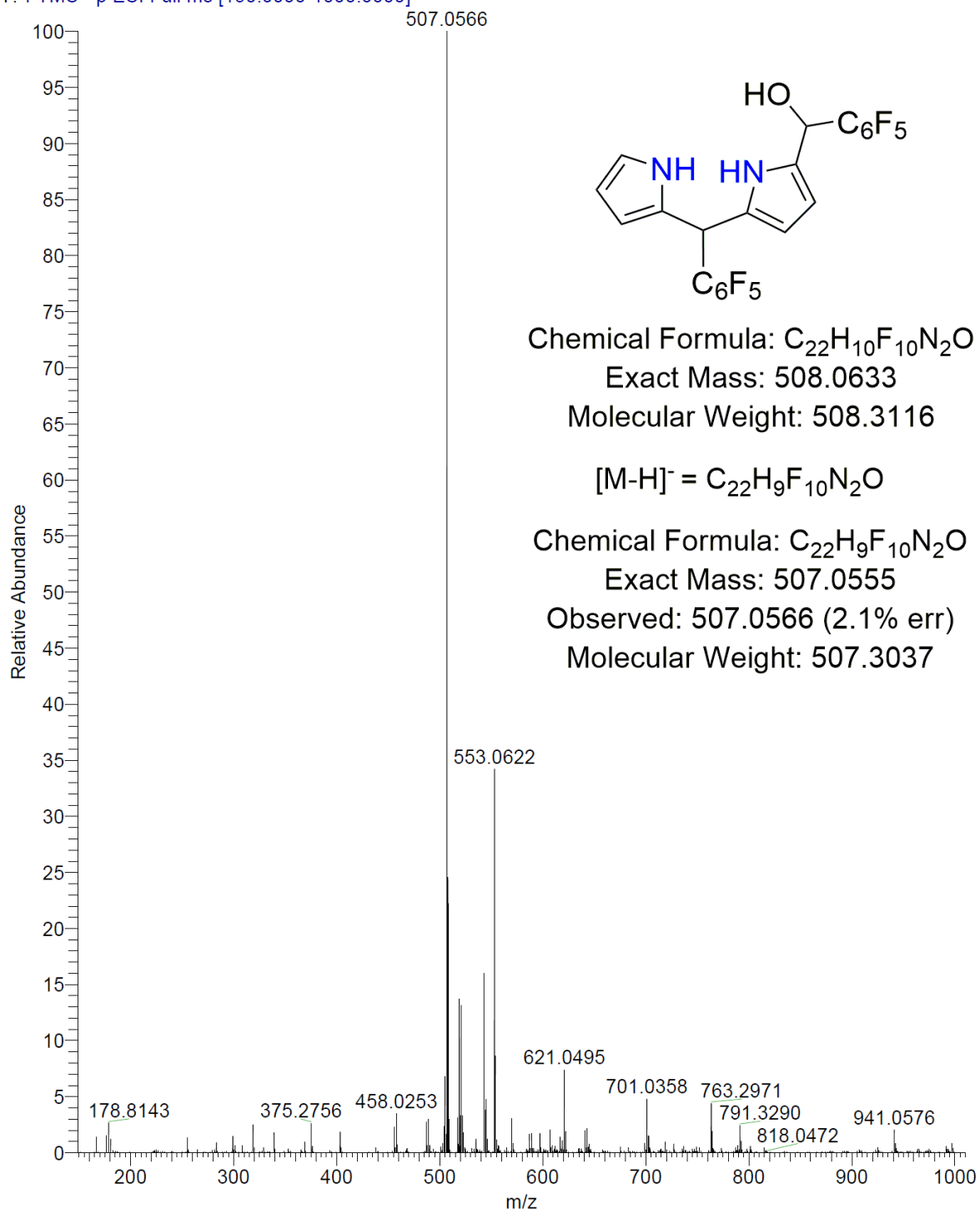
DPM-Mono-Acyl #37-86 RT: 0.36-0.82 AV: 25 NL: 1.68E9

T: FTMS - p ESI Full ms [100.0000-1500.0000]

**Figure S3.3.** HR-MS (ESI) spectrum of 7.

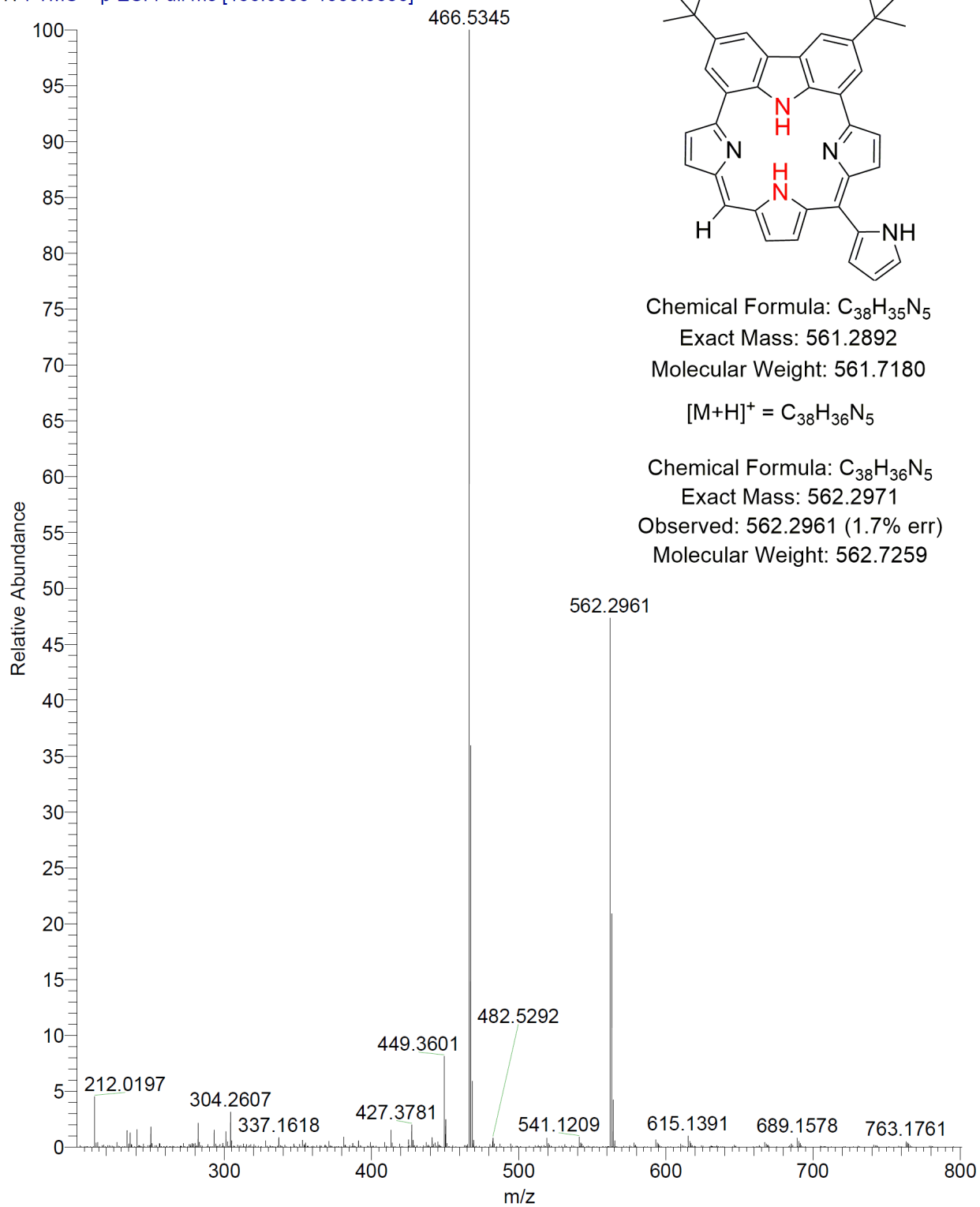
DPM-Mono-Carbinol #46-75 RT: 0.20-0.33 AV: 30 NL: 1.56E7

T: FTMS - p ESI Full ms [150.0000-1000.0000]

**Figure S3.4.** HR-MS (ESI) spectrum of **7a**.

3PCC #42-60 RT: 0.42-0.57 AV: 9 NL: 1.02E9

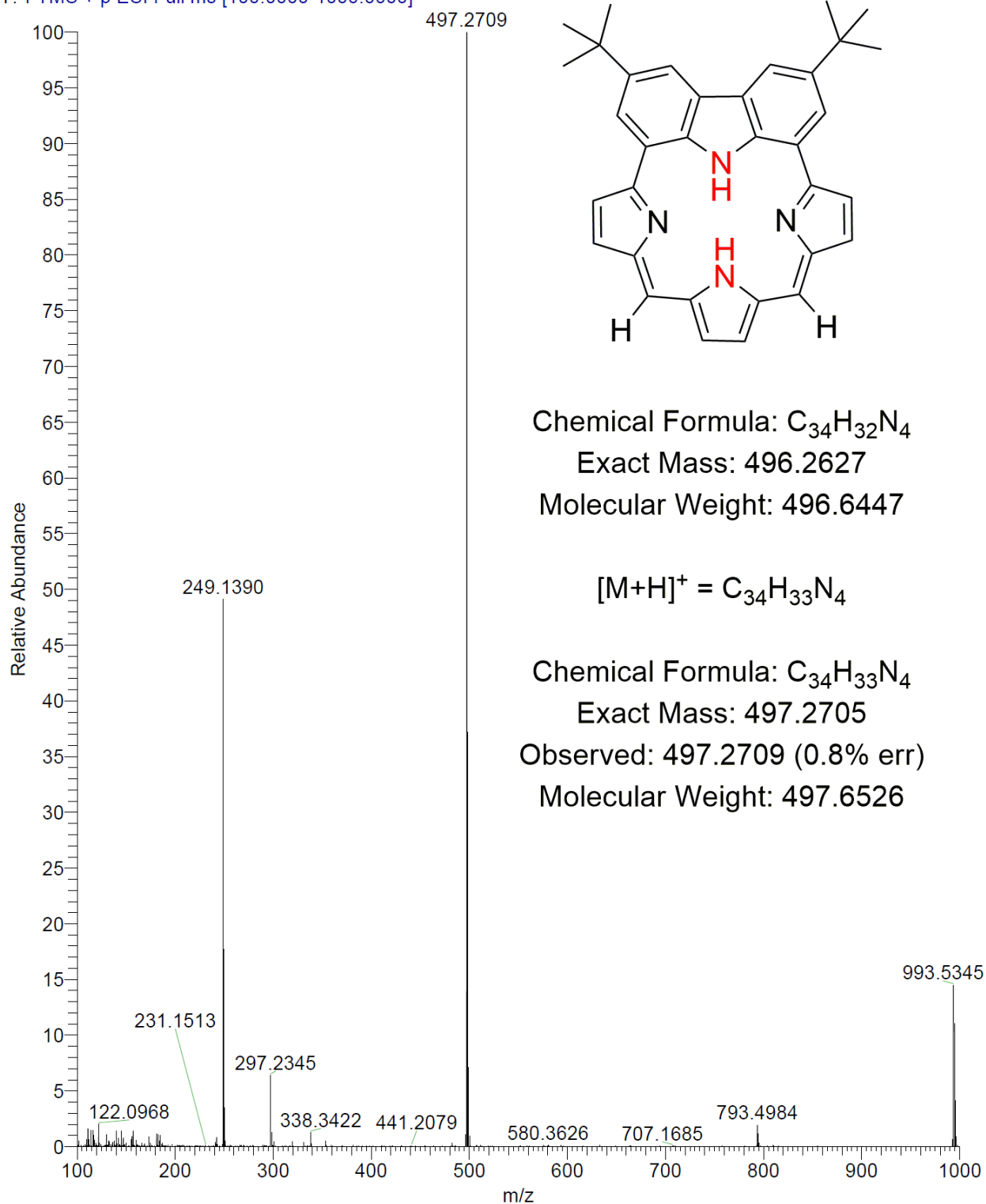
T: FTMS + p ESI Full ms [150.0000-1000.0000]

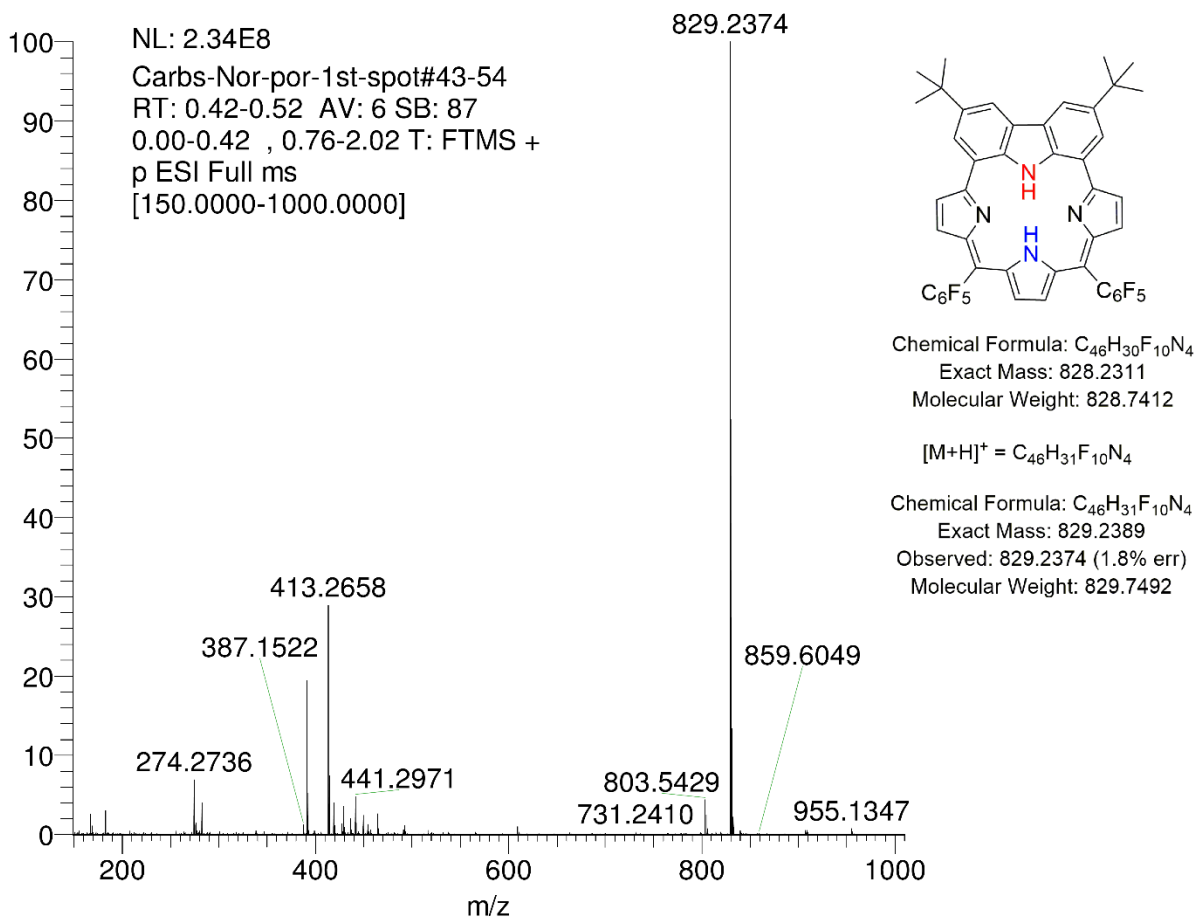
**Figure S3.5.** HR-MS (ESI) spectrum of **3**.



Bis-Meso-Free #130 RT: 0.58 AV: 1 NL: 9.52E8

T: FTMS + p ESI Full ms [100.0000-1000.0000]

**Figure S3.6.** HR-MS (ESI) spectrum of **4**.



**Figure S3.7.** HR-MS (ESI) spectrum of **5**.

2Pyrrole-After-4hrs-+ve-2 #12-22 RT: 0.05-0.10 AV: 11 NL: 6.06E6  
T: FTMS + p ESI Full ms [300.0000-1500.0000]

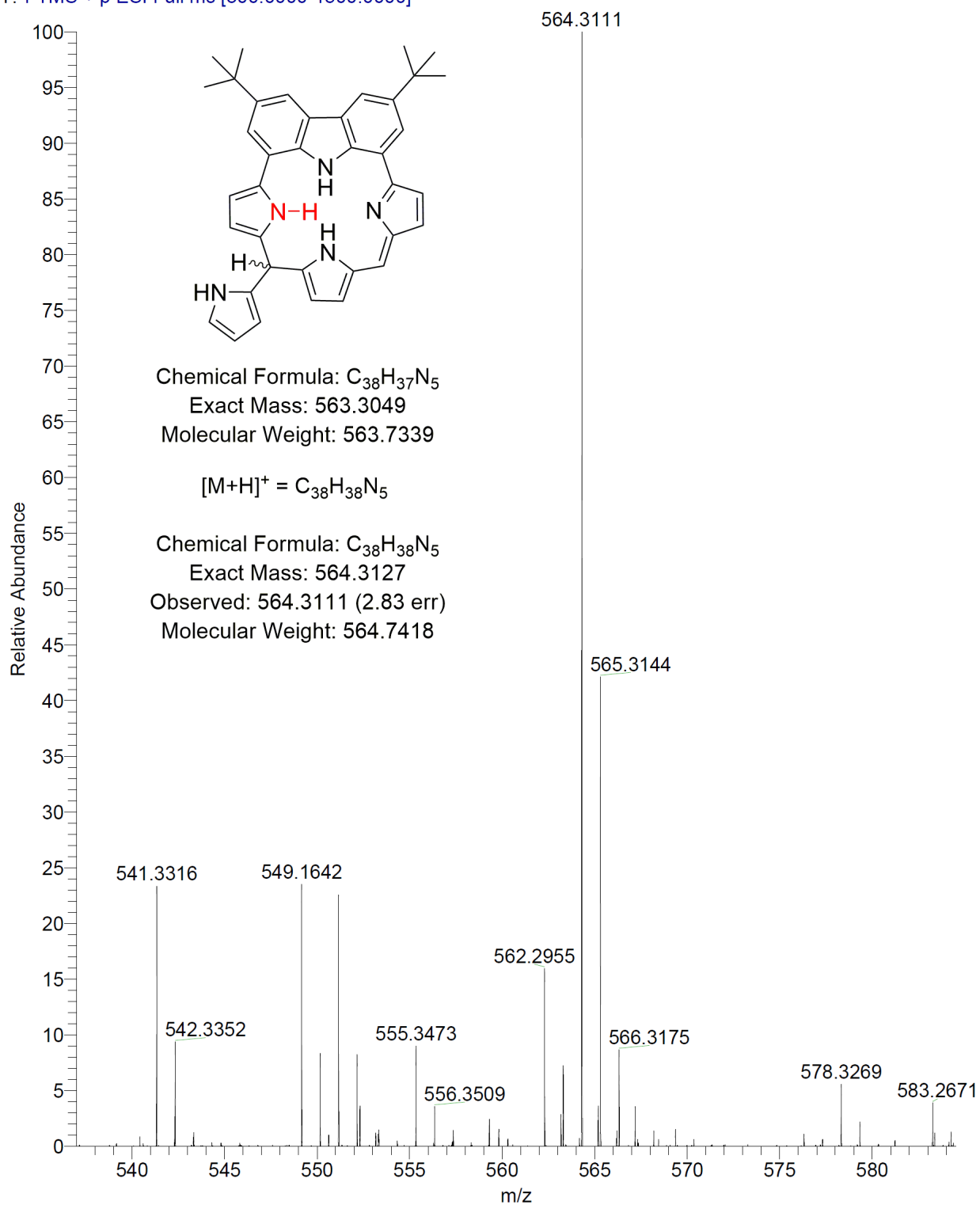


Figure S3.8. HR-MS (ESI) spectrum of “Route A” reaction intermediates.

Bis-C6F5-15min-Direct-pos #52 RT: 0.23 AV: 1 NL: 1.02E8

T: FTMS + p ESI Full ms [300.0000-1500.0000]

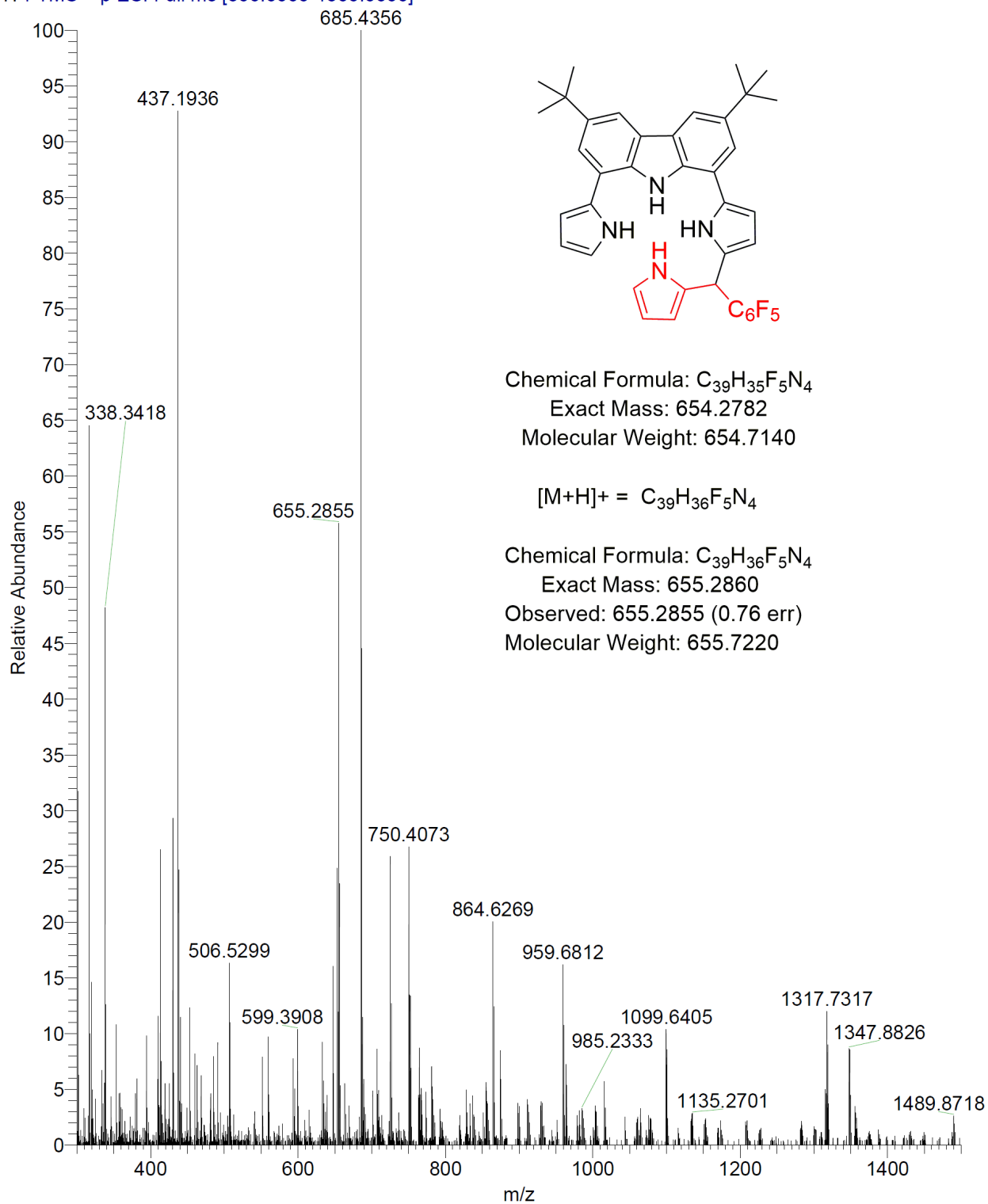


Figure S3.9. HR-MS (ESI) spectrum of "Route C" reaction intermediates

#### 4. $^1\text{H}$ and $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR Spectra

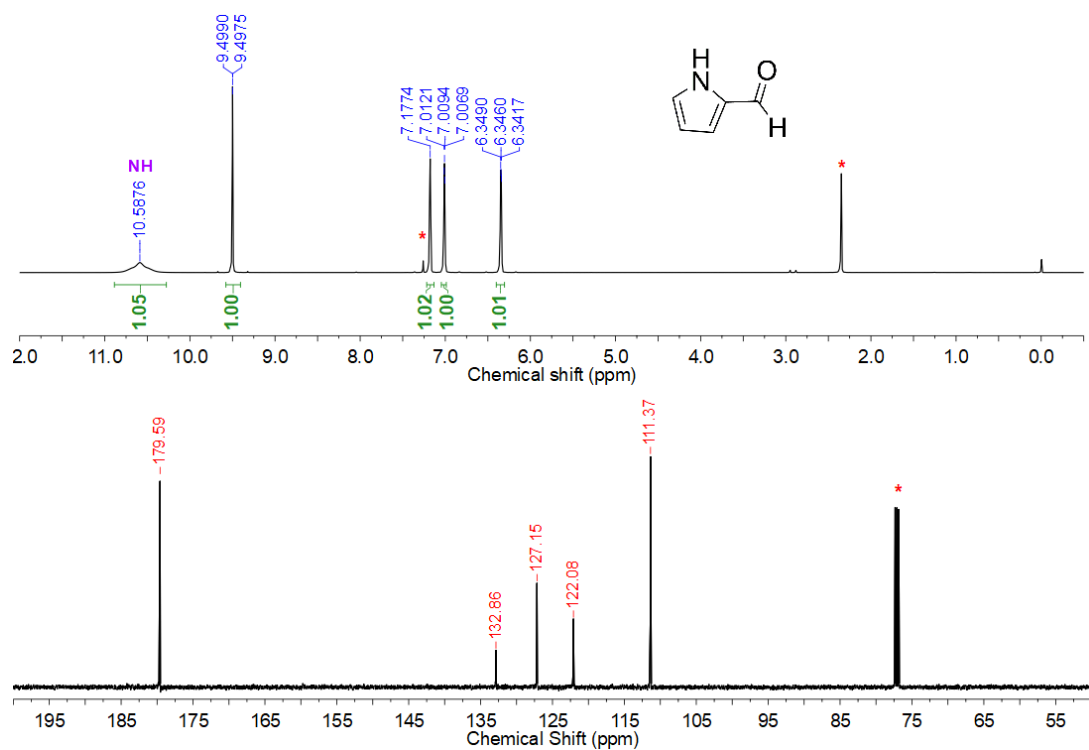


Figure S4.1.  $^1\text{H}$  (top) and  $^{13}\text{C}$  (bottom) NMR spectra of **2a** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at 298 K (500 MHz)

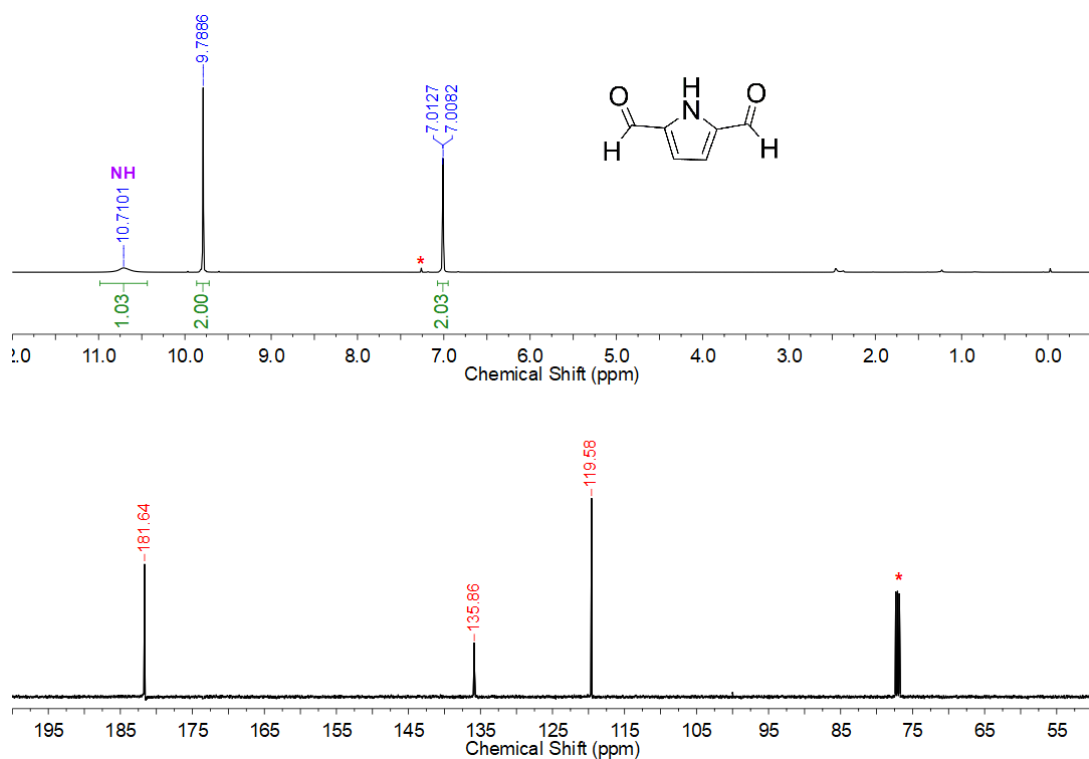
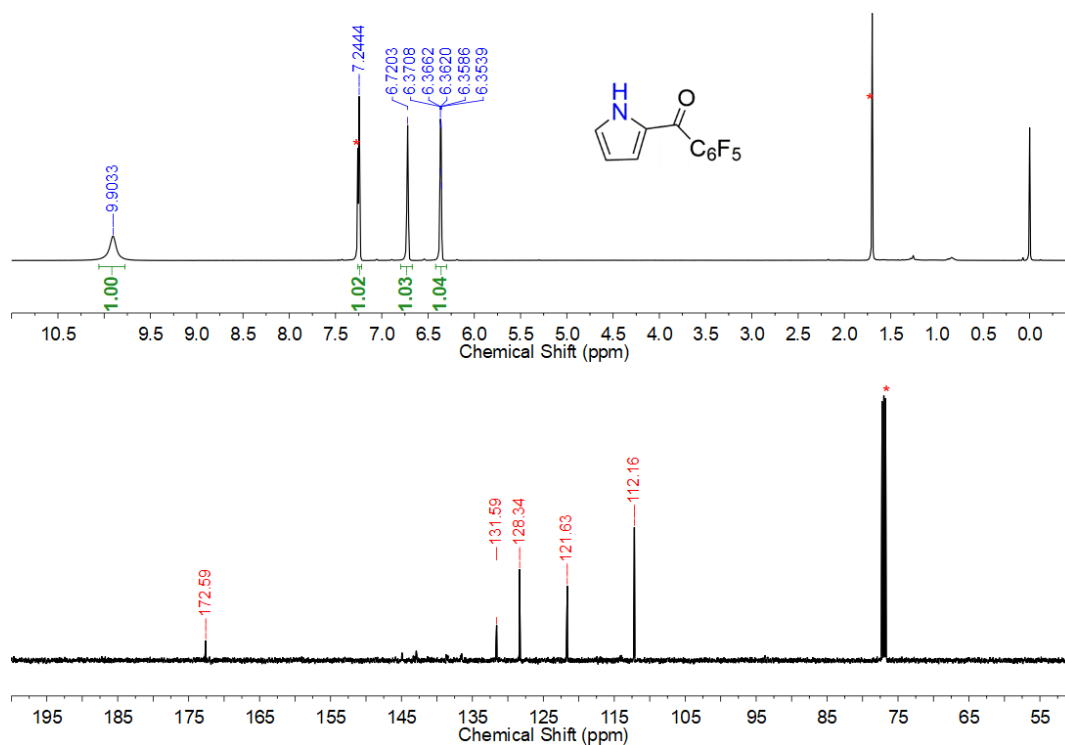
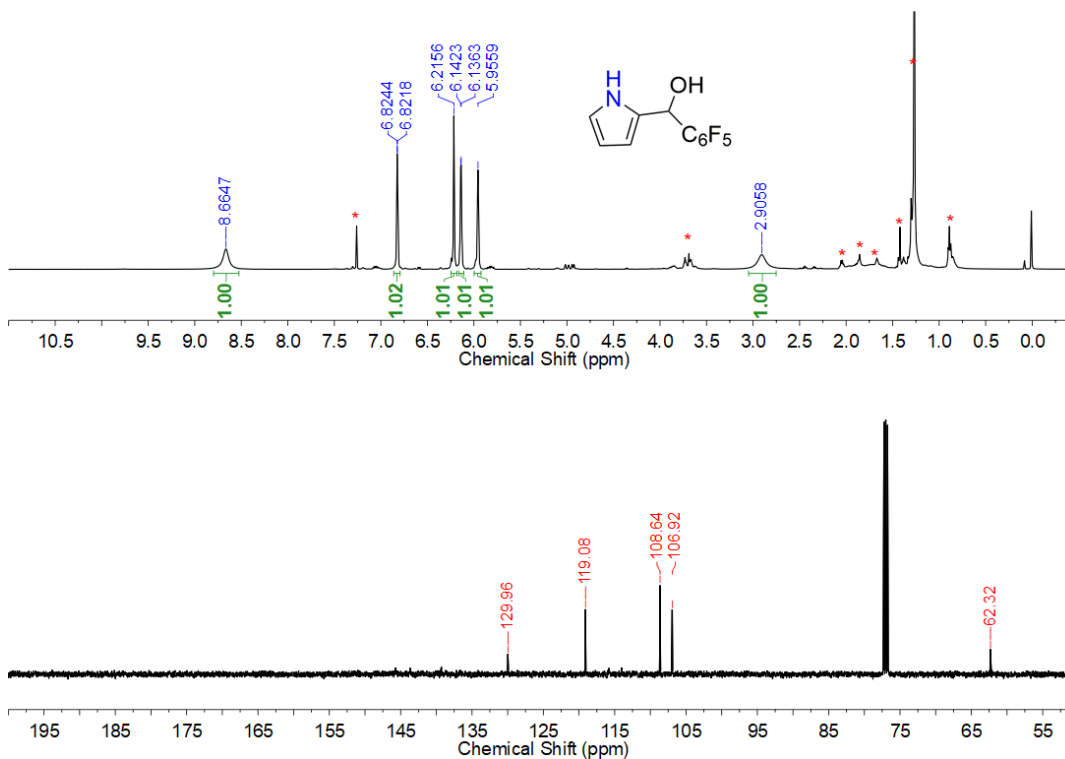


Figure S4.2.  $^1\text{H}$  (top) and  $^{13}\text{C}$  (bottom) NMR spectra of **2b** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at 298 K (500 MHz)



**Figure S4.3.**  $^1\text{H}$  (top) and  $^{13}\text{C}$  (bottom) NMR spectra of **6** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at 298 K (500 MHz)



**Figure S4.4.**  $^1\text{H}$  (top) and  $^{13}\text{C}$  (bottom) NMR spectra of **6a** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at 298 K (500 MHz)

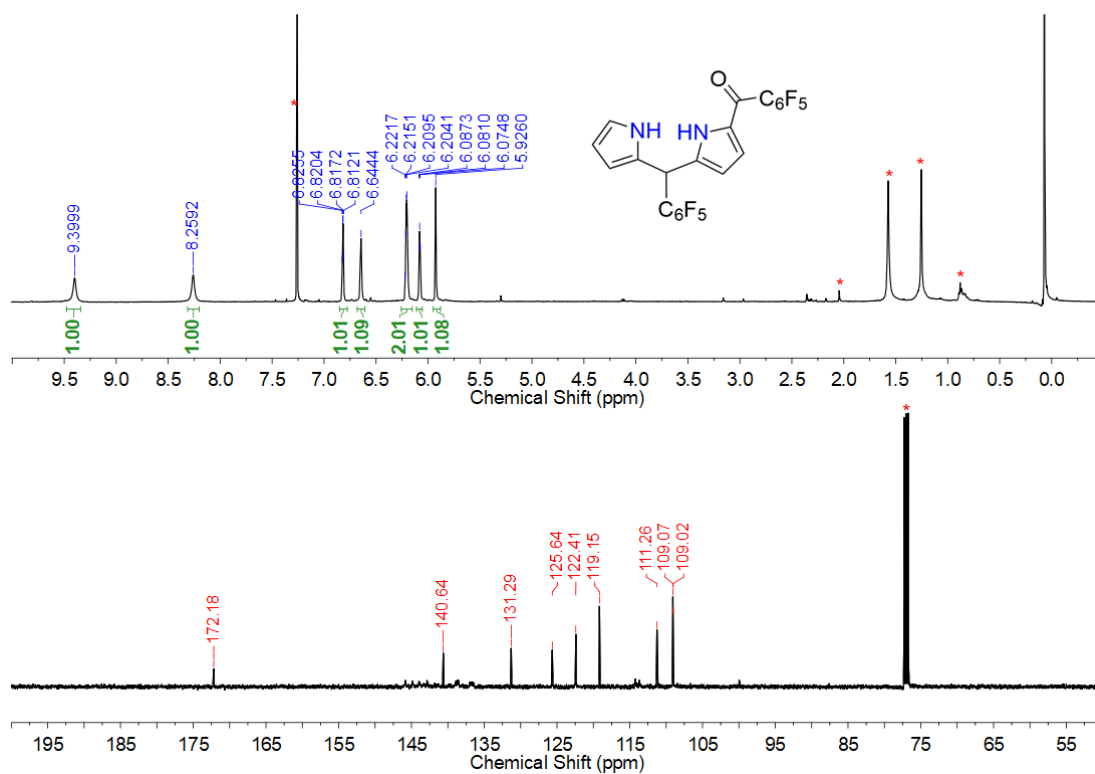


Figure S4.5.  $^1\text{H}$  (top) and  $^{13}\text{C}$  (bottom) NMR spectra of **7** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at 298 K (500 MHz)

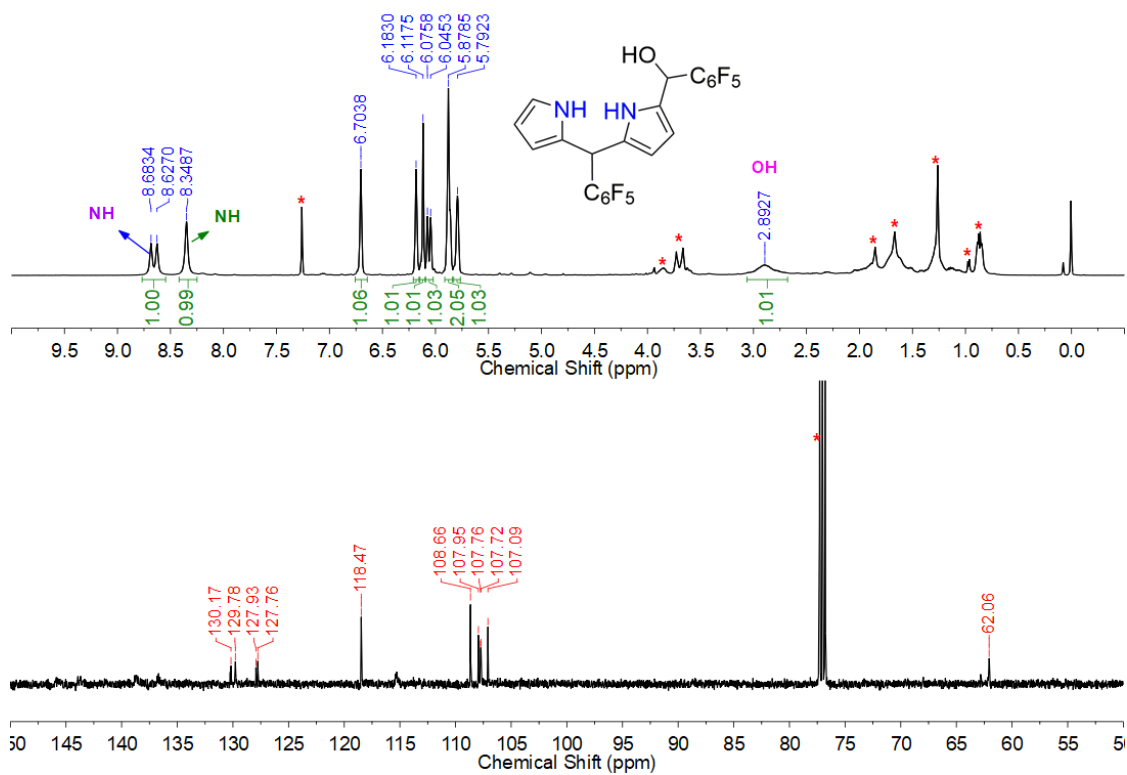


Figure S4.6.  $^1\text{H}$  (top) and  $^{13}\text{C}$  (bottom) NMR spectra of **7a** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at 298 K (500 MHz)

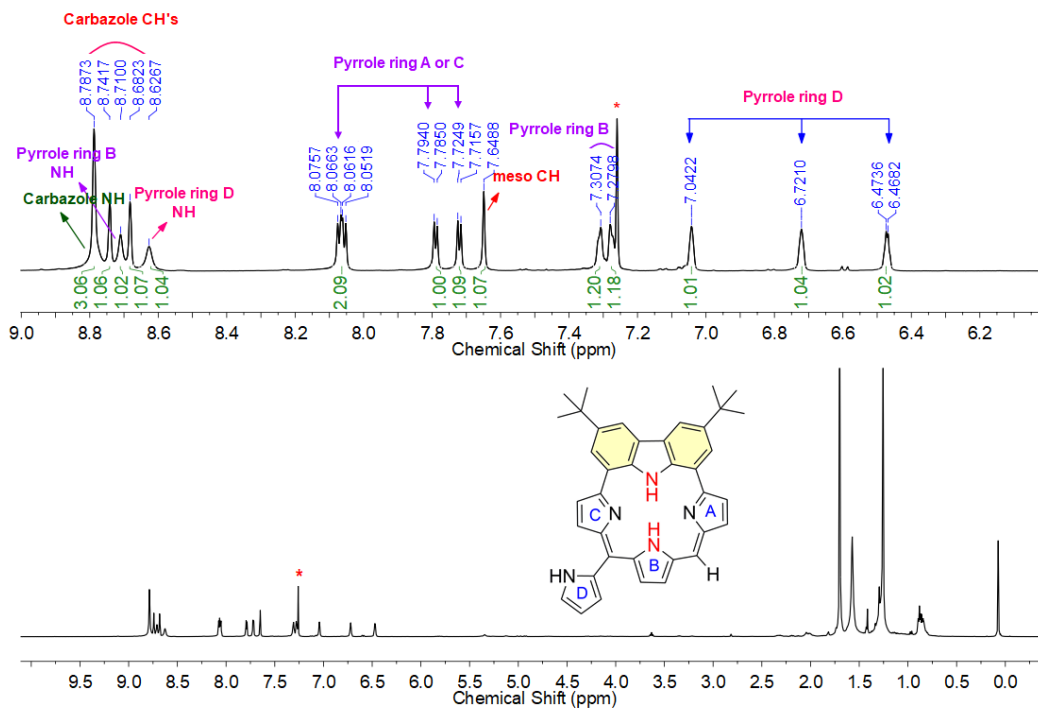


Figure S4.7.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of **3** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at 298 K. (500 MHz)

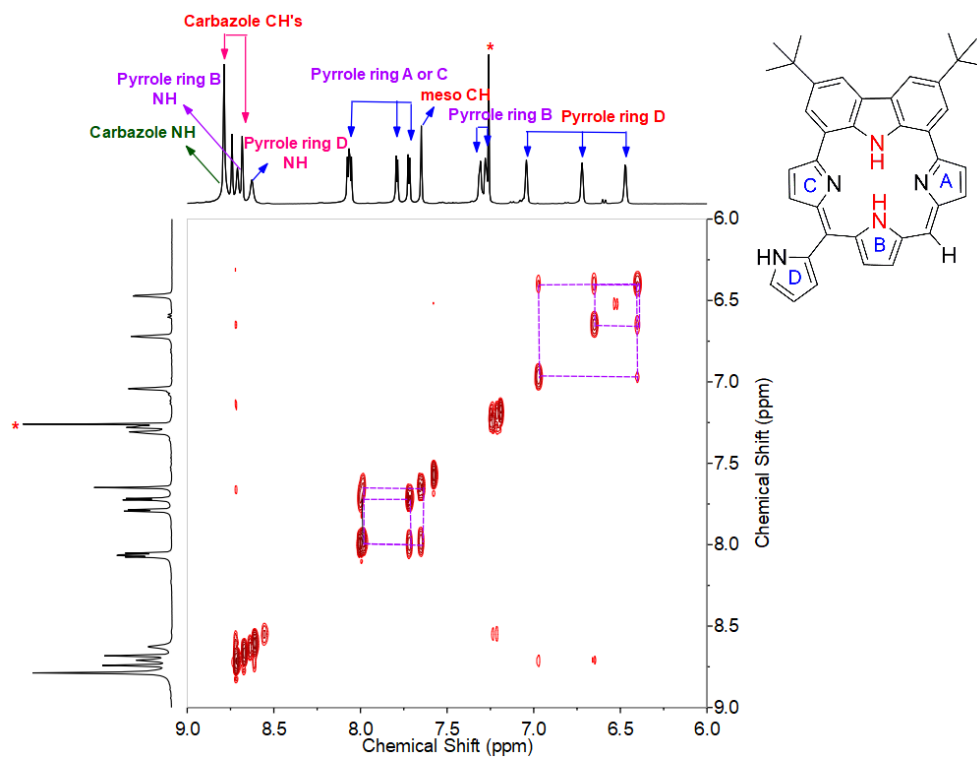
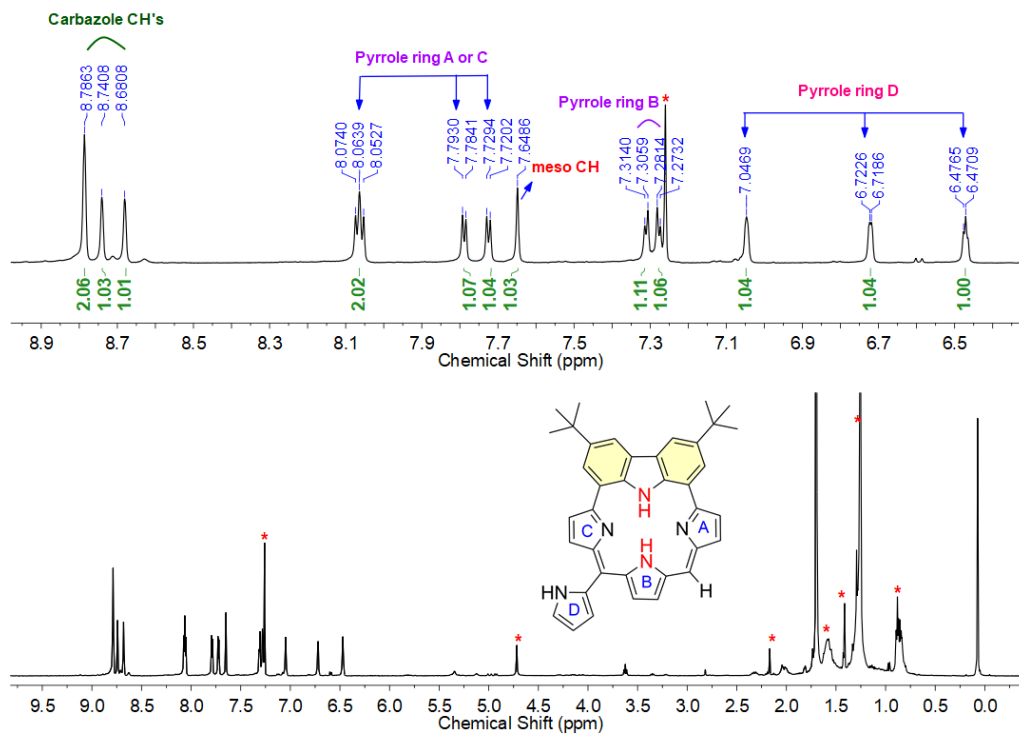
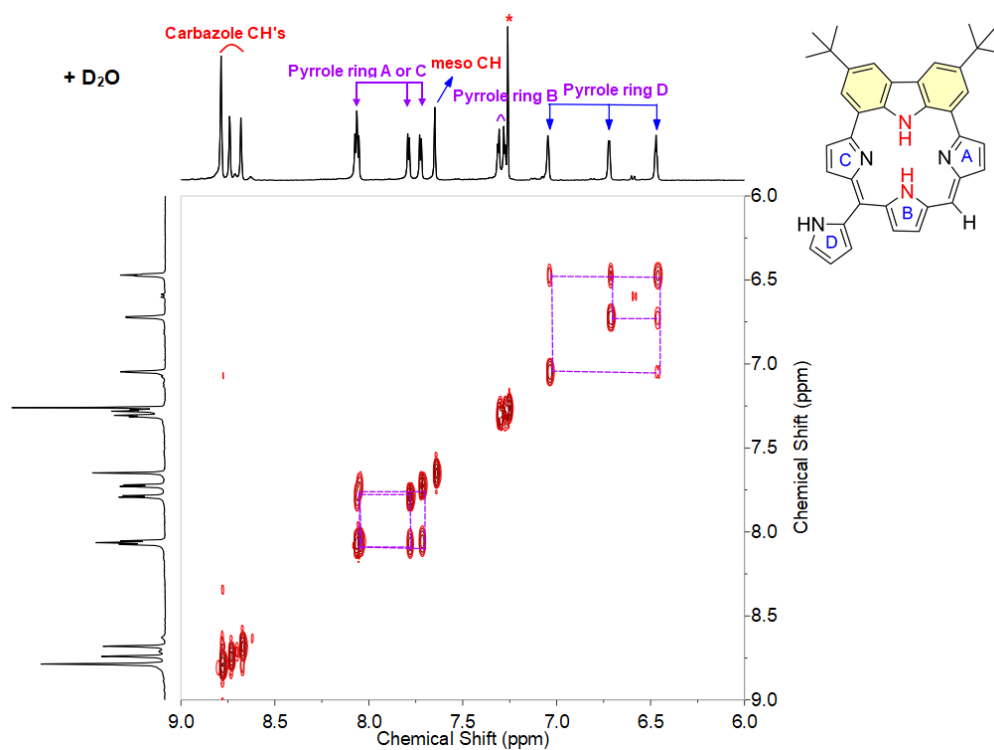


Figure S4.8.  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY spectrum of **3** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at 298 K. (500 MHz)

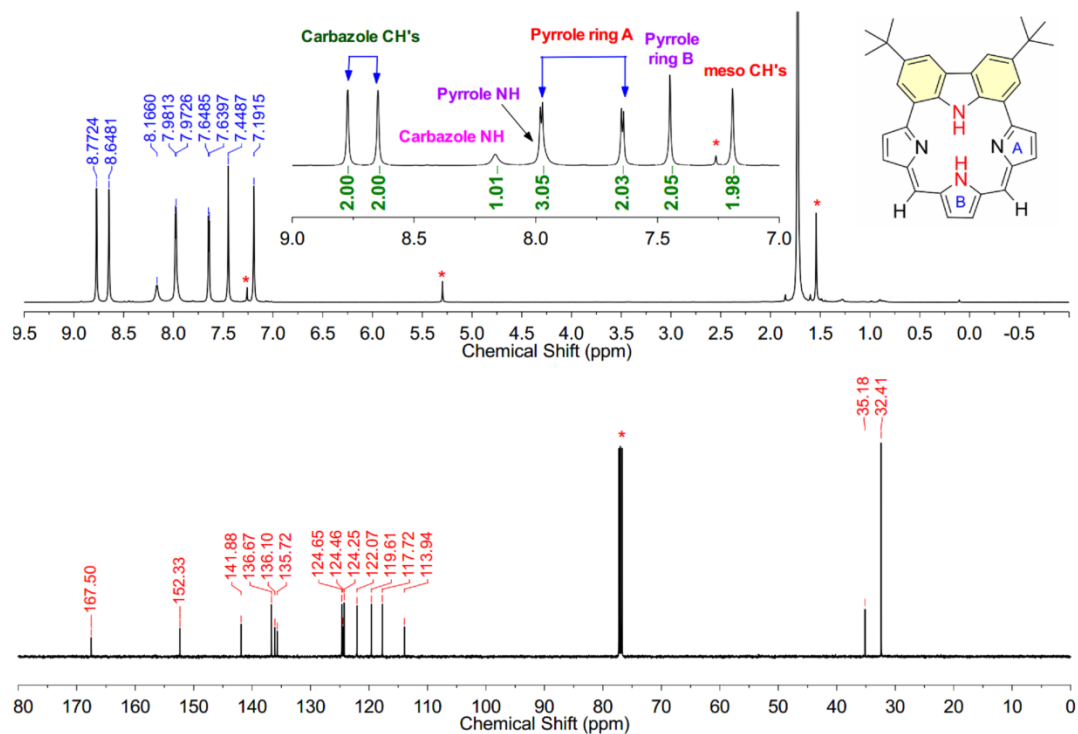




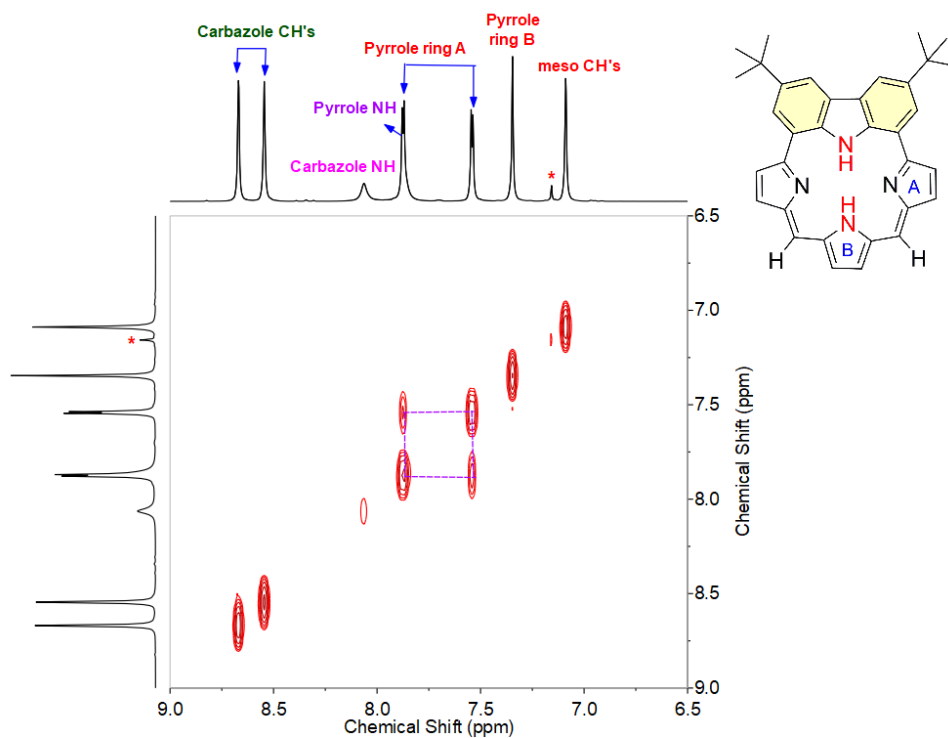
**Figure S4.9.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of **3** in  $\text{CDCl}_3 + \text{D}_2\text{O}$  at 298 K. (500 MHz)



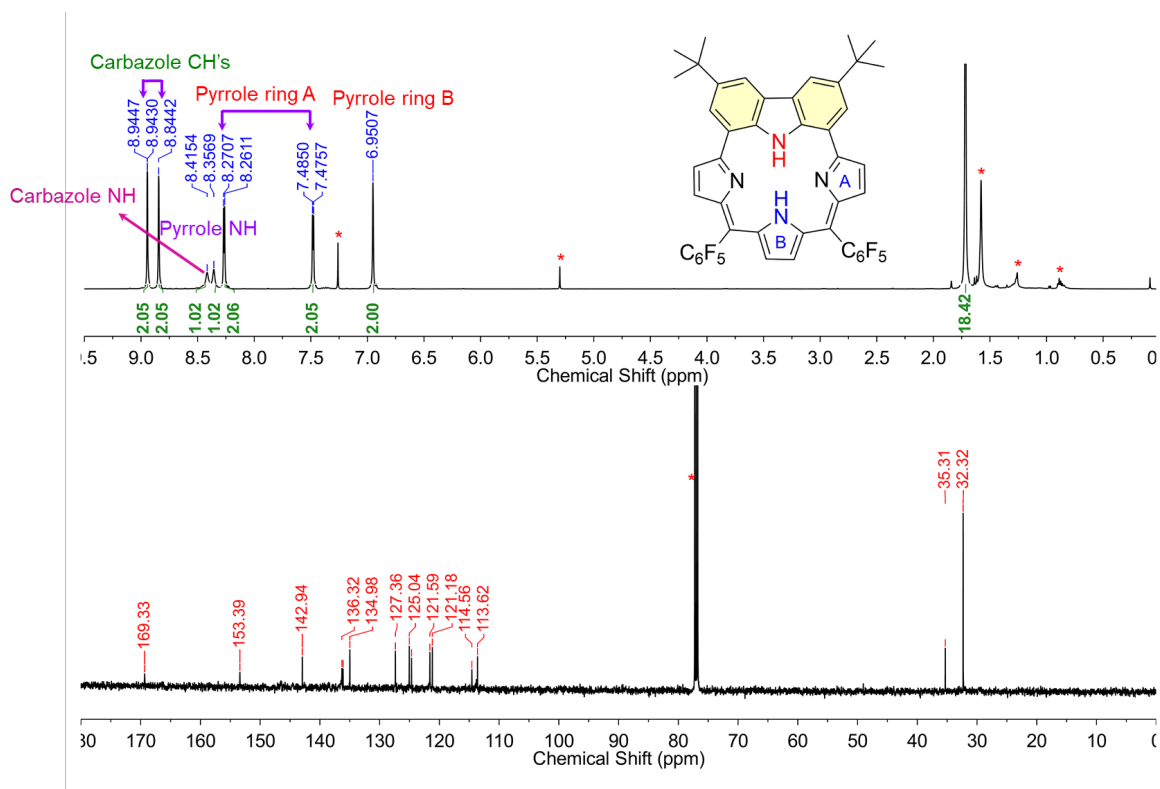
**Figure S4.10.**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY spectrum of **3** in  $\text{CDCl}_3 + \text{D}_2\text{O}$  at 298 K. (500 MHz)



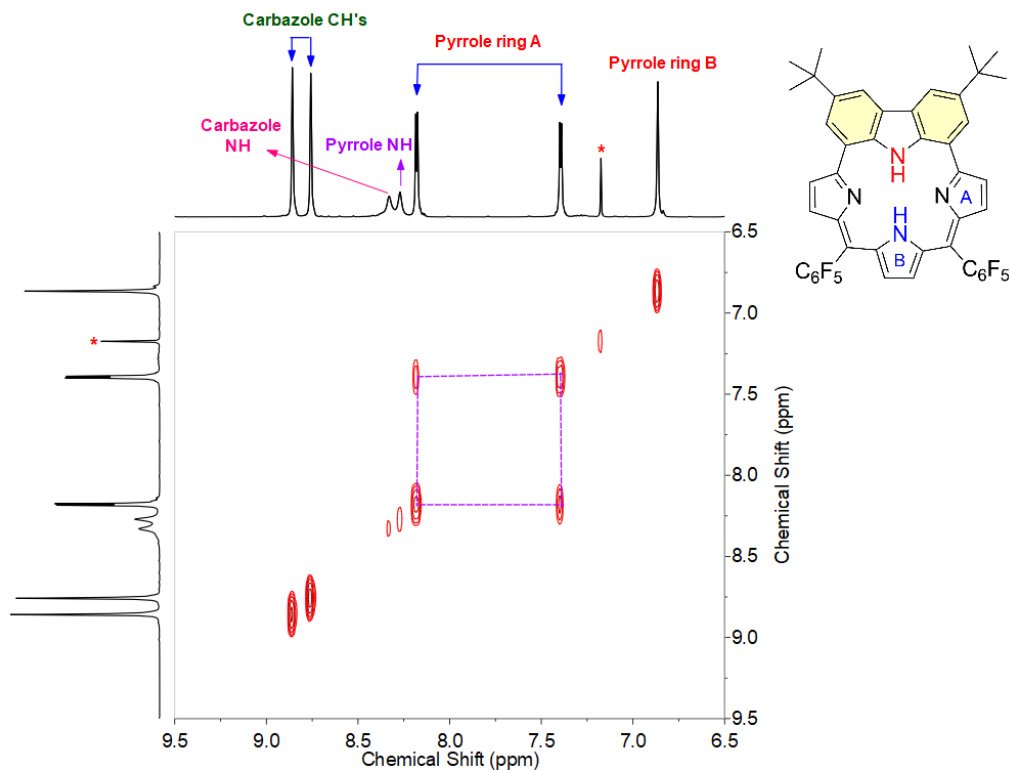
**Figure S4.11.**  $^1\text{H}$  (top) and  $^{13}\text{C}$  (bottom) NMR spectra of **4** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at 298 K. (500 MHz)



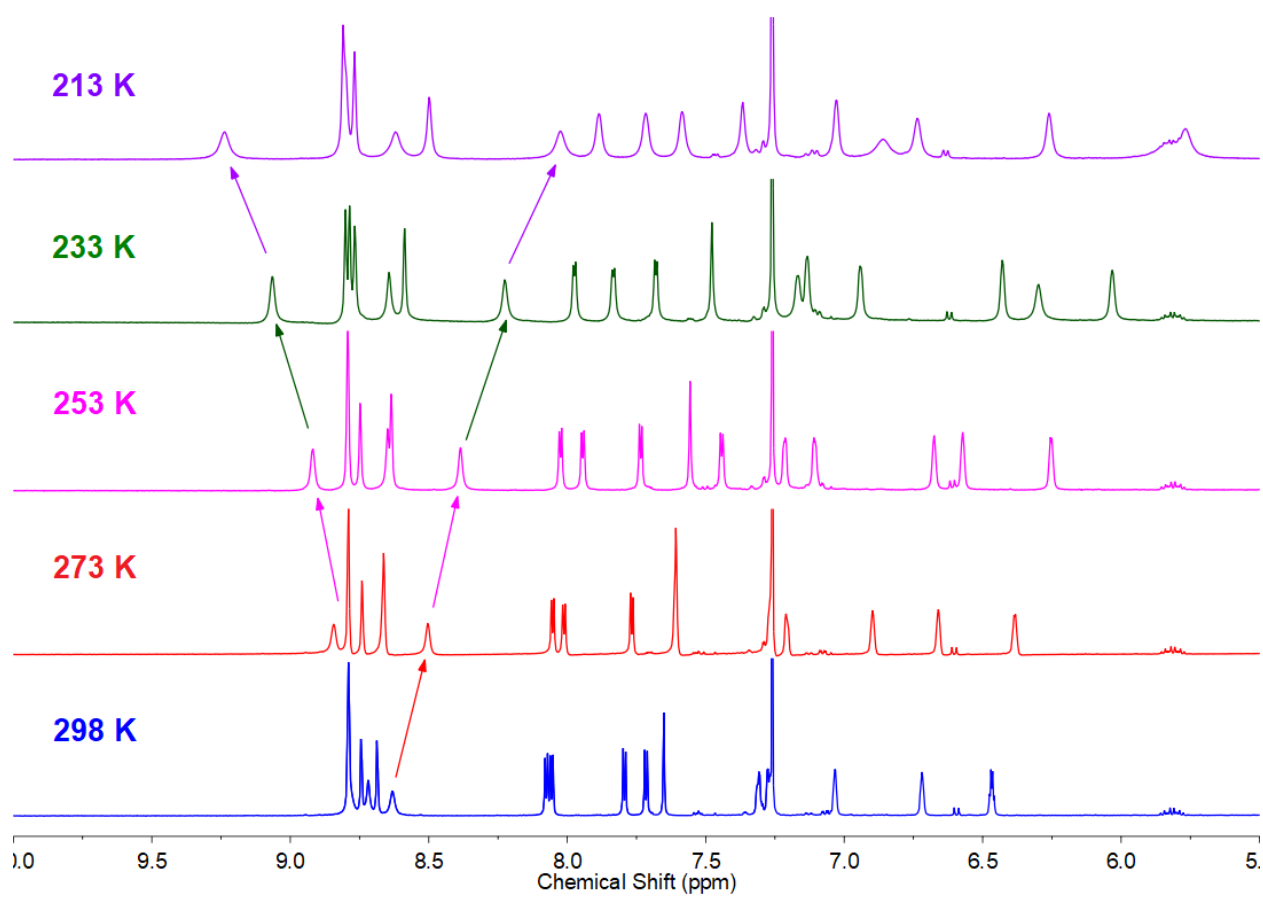
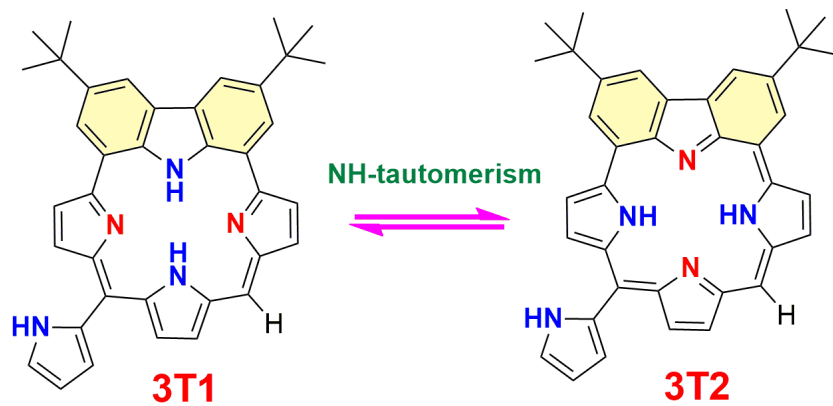
**Figure S4.12.**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY spectrum of **4** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at 298 K. (500 MHz)



**Figure S4.13.**  $^1\text{H}$  (top) and  $^{13}\text{C}$  (bottom) NMR spectra of **5** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at 298 K. (500 MHz)

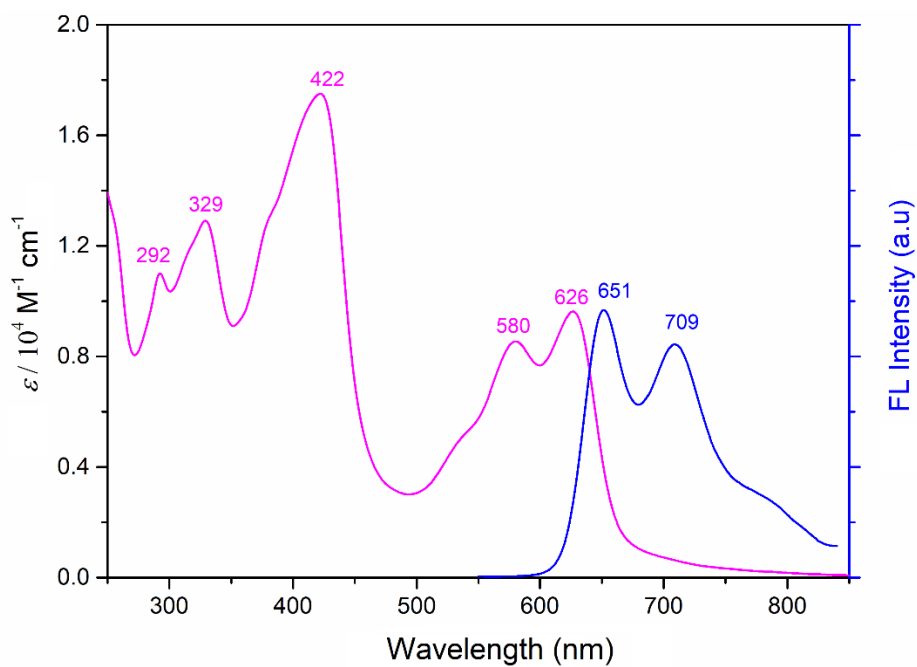


**Figure S4.14.**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY spectrum of **5** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at 298 K. (500 MHz)

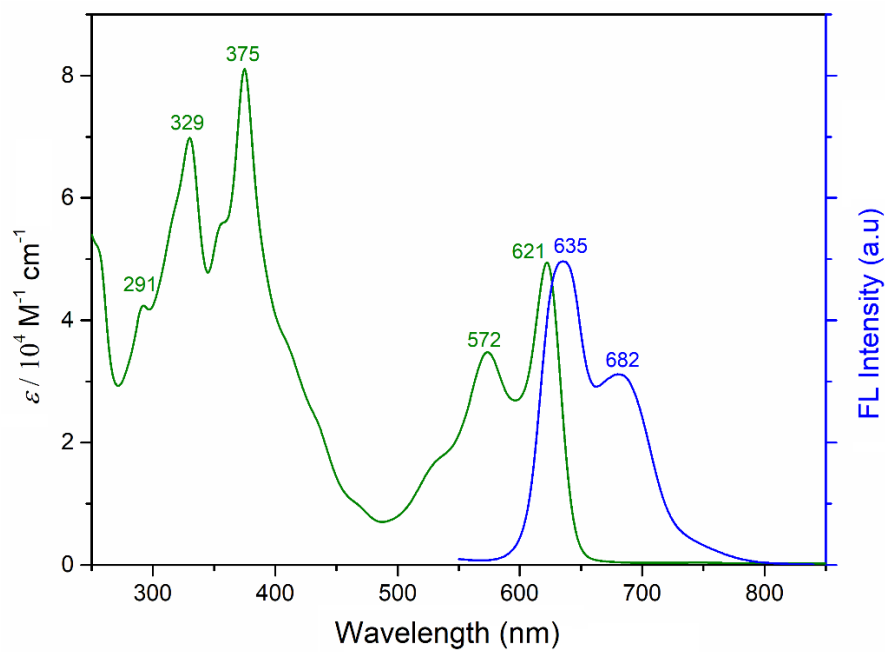


**Figure S4.15.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of **3** at various temperatures in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

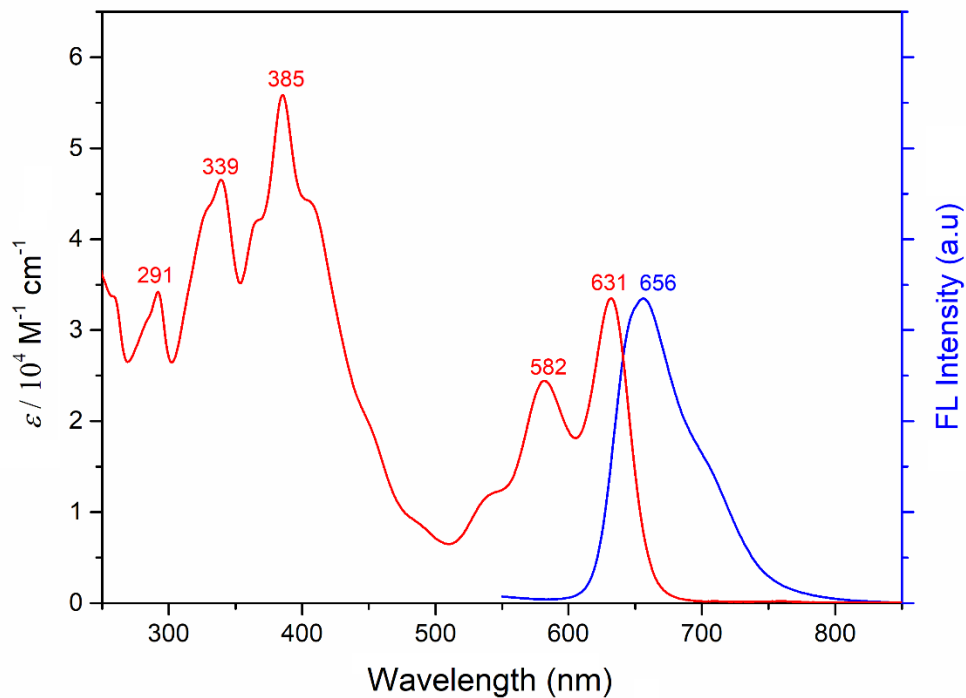
## 5. UV-Vis absorption and emission spectra



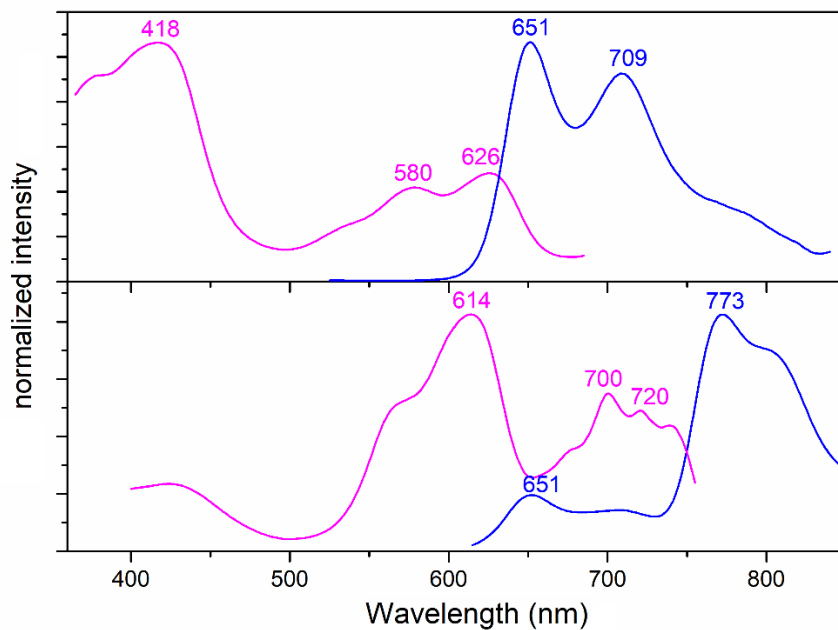
**Figure S5.1.** UV-Vis absorption spectrum and fluorescence spectrum of **3** recorded in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 440 \text{ nm}$ )



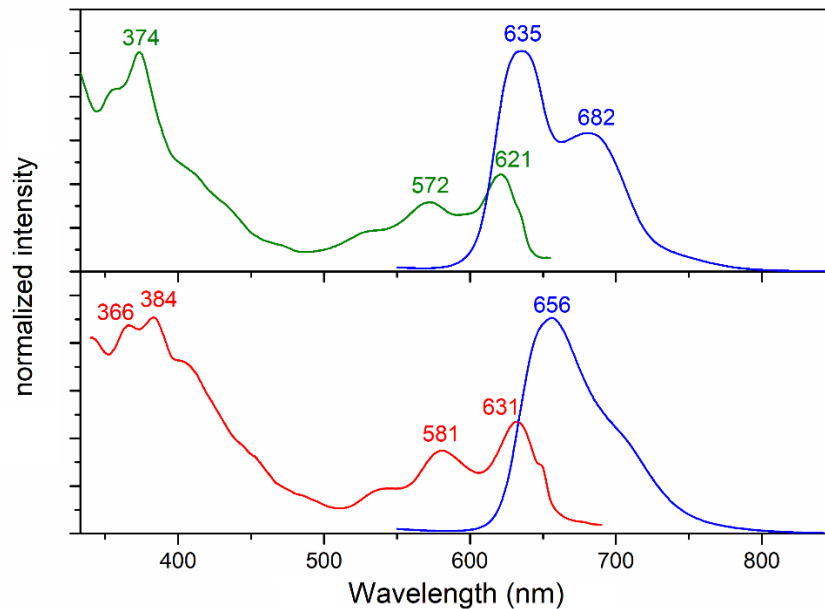
**Figure S5.2.** UV-Vis absorption spectrum and fluorescence spectrum of **4** recorded in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 440 \text{ nm}$ )



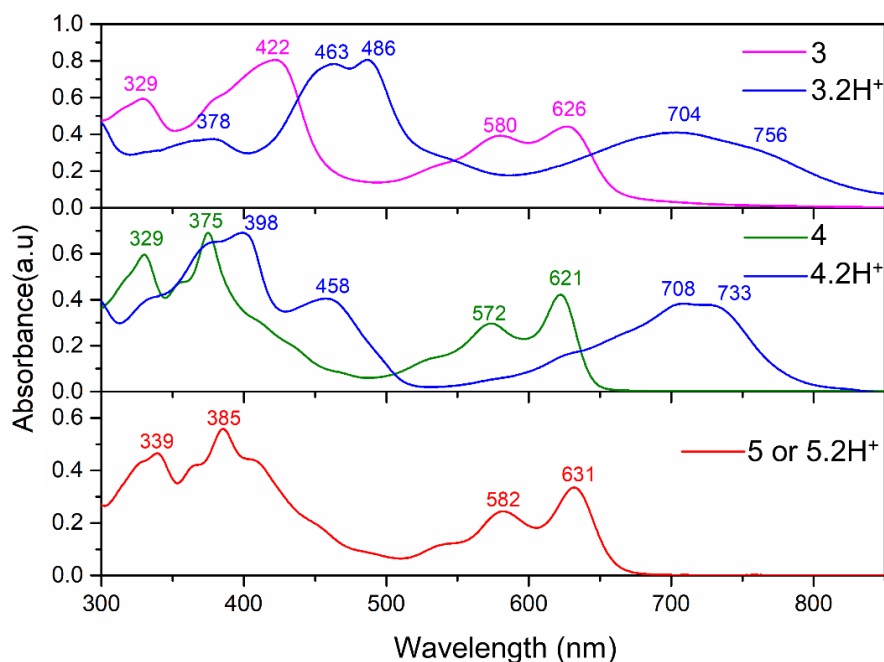
**Figure S5.3.** UV-Vis absorption spectrum and fluorescence spectrum of **5** recorded in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 440 \text{ nm}$ )



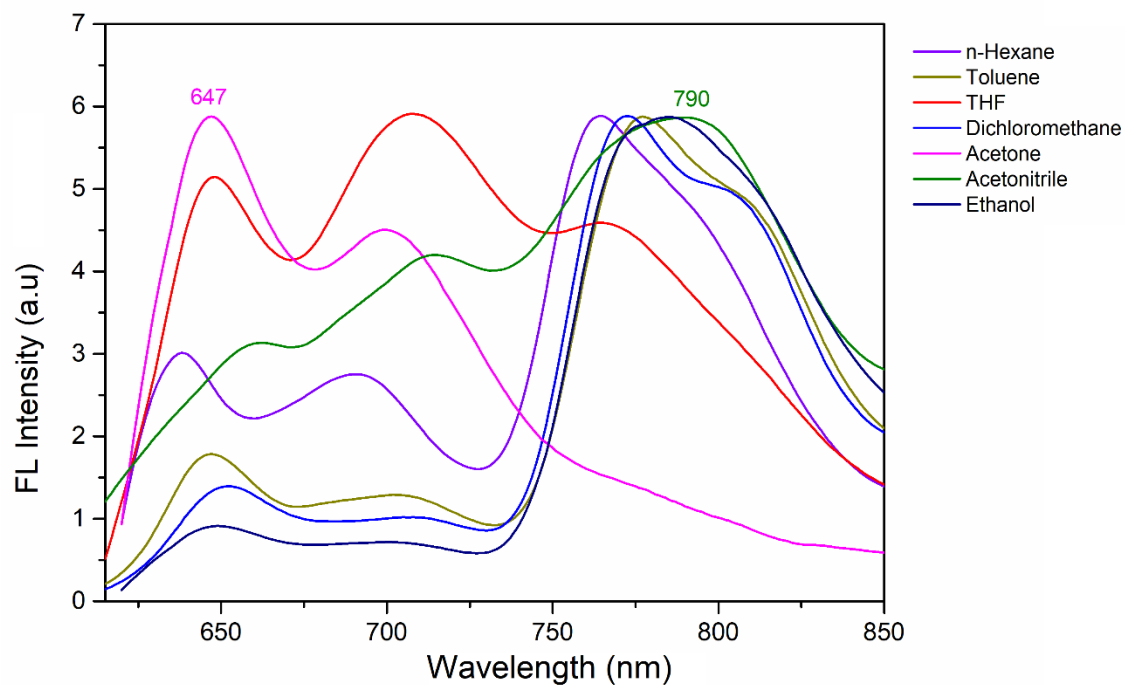
**Figure S5.4.** (a) Excitation spectra (magenta) of **3** detected at  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 651 \text{ nm}$  and fluorescence spectra (blue) of **3** excited at  $420 \text{ nm}$  (b) Excitation spectra (magenta) of **3** detected at  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 773 \text{ nm}$  and fluorescence spectrum (blue) of **3** excited at  $610 \text{ nm}$  in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .



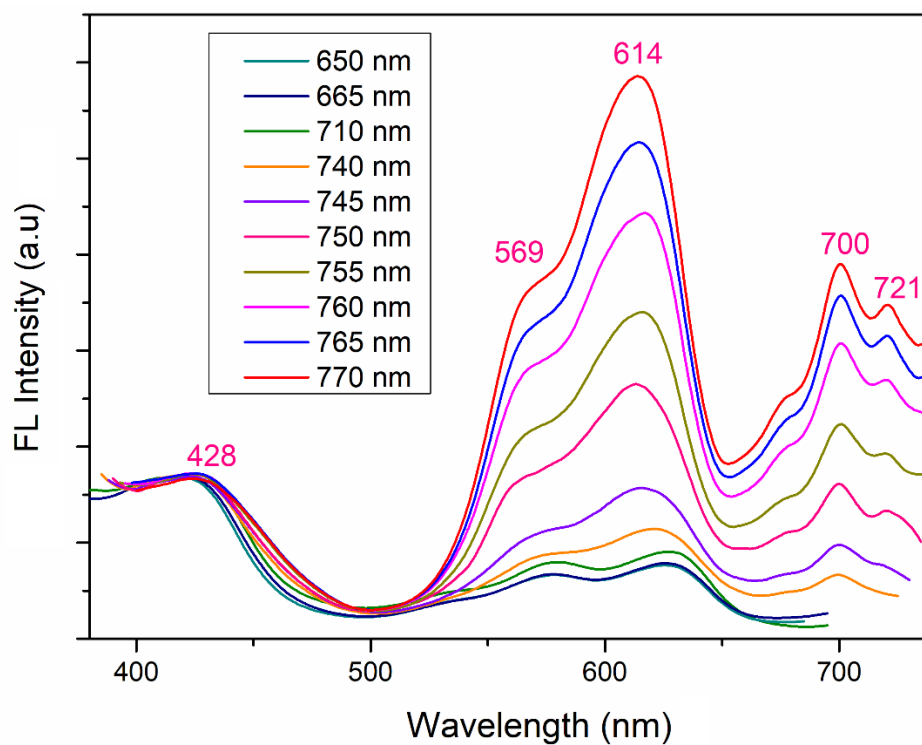
**Figure S5.5.** (a) Excitation spectra (green) of **4** detected at  $\lambda_{em} = 635$  or  $683$  nm and fluorescence spectra (blue) of **4** excited at  $440$  nm (b) Excitation spectra (red) of **5** detected at  $\lambda_{em} = 635$  and fluorescence spectrum (blue) of **5** excited at  $440$  nm in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .



**Figure S5.6.** Absorption spectra of **3**, **4** and **5** (from top) along with their protonated forms in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . Protonation was achieved by adding diluted  $\text{CF}_3\text{COOH}$  into the corresponding freebase in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . \*Spectral features remains same even after excess addition of  $\text{CF}_3\text{COOH}$  in **5**.

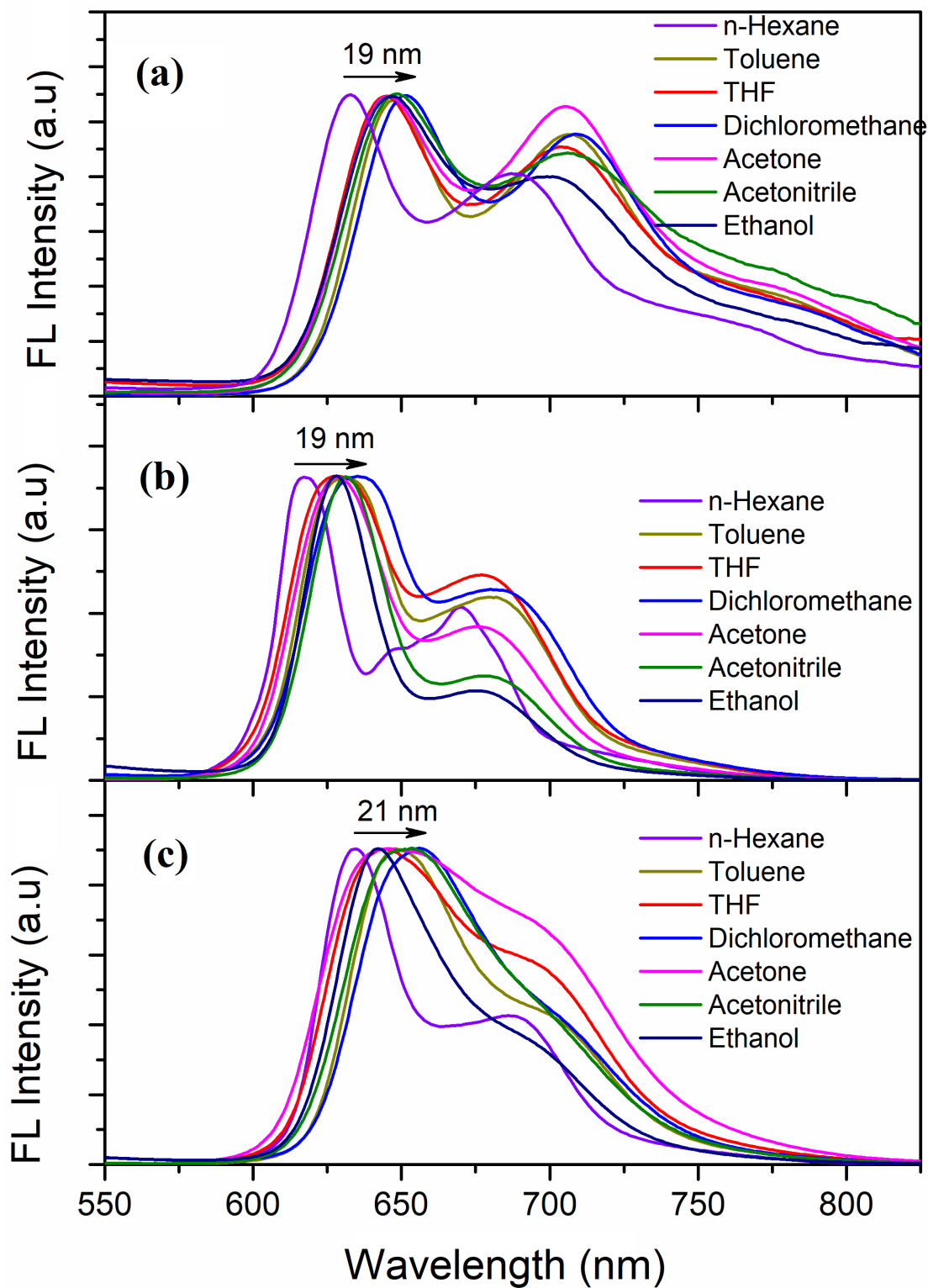


**Figure S5.7.** Emission spectra of **3** recorded in different solvents and excited at 600 nm.



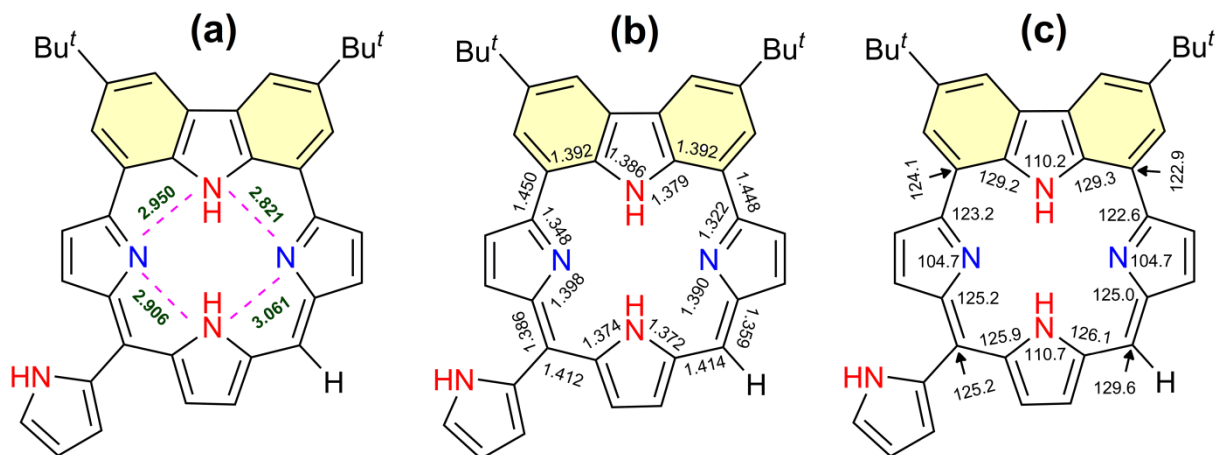
**Figure S5.8.** Excitation spectra of **3** detected at various emission wavelengths ( $\lambda_{em} = 650\text{-}770$  nm) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .



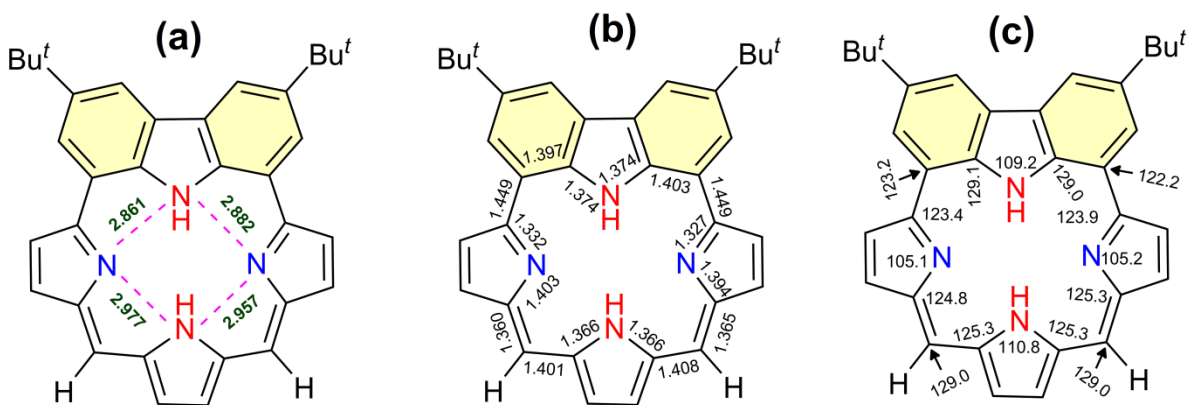


**Figure S5.9.** Emission spectra of (a) **3** (b) **4** and (c) **5** recorded in different solvents and excited at 440 nm.

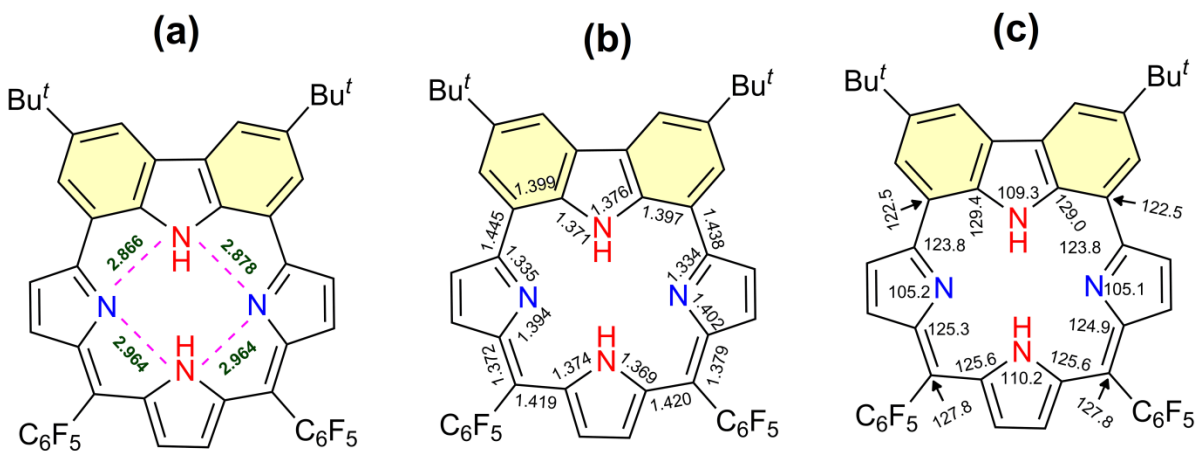
## 6. X-ray Crystallographic Details



**Figure S6.1.** (a) and (b) Selected bond lengths (Å) and (c) bond angles (°) of 3.



**Figure S6.2.** (a) and (b) Selected bond lengths (Å) and (b) bond angles (°) of 4.



**Figure S6.3.** (a) and (b) Selected bond lengths (Å) and (b) bond angles (°) of 5.

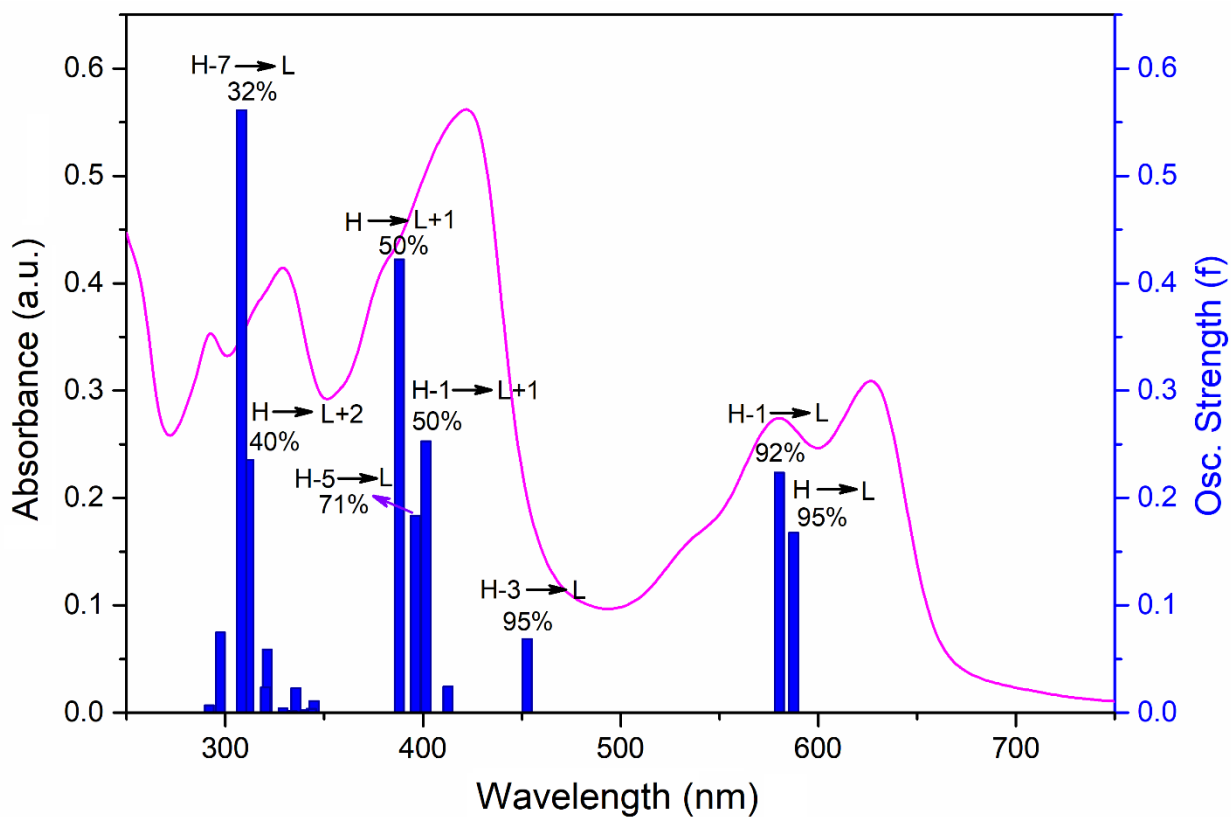
**Table S6.2. Crystal data and structure refinements for 3**

<b>Compound</b>	<b>3</b>
Formula	C <sub>152</sub> H <sub>139</sub> N <sub>20</sub>
<i>M<sub>w</sub></i>	2245.82
Temperature/K	296(2) K
Crystal system	Triclinic
Space group	P-1
<i>a</i> /Å	17.34(11)
<i>b</i> /Å	19.29(12)
<i>c</i> /Å	20.34(12)
$\alpha$ /°[deg]	78.751(2)
$\beta$ /°[deg]	86.794(2)
$\gamma$ /°[deg]	82.449(2)
Volume[Å <sup>3</sup> ]	6618.8(7)
<i>Z</i>	2
$\rho_{\text{calc}}$ [Mg/m <sup>3</sup> ]	1.127
$\mu$ /mm <sup>-1</sup>	0.067
F(000)	2382
Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>	0.240 x 0.200 x 0.150
Radiation	MoK $\alpha$ ( $\lambda$ = 0.71073)
2 $\Theta$ range for data collection/°	1.341 to 24.999
Reflections collected	156625
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.013
Final R indexes [ <i>I</i> ≥ 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> )]	R1 = 0.0668, wR2 = 0.1716
Final R indexes [all data]	R1 = 0.1637, wR2 = 0.2351
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup>	0.256/-0.221
Solvent System	Toluene/CH <sub>3</sub> OH
CCDC	2062803

**Table S6.3. Crystal data and structure refinements for 4 and 5**

<b>Compound</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
Formula	C <sub>34</sub> H <sub>32</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>46</sub> H <sub>30</sub> F <sub>10</sub> N <sub>4</sub>
<i>M<sub>w</sub></i>	496.63	828.74
Temperature/K	296(2) K	296(2)
Crystal system	monoclinic	monoclinic
Space group	P 2 <sub>1</sub> /n	P2 <sub>1</sub> /c
<i>a</i> /Å	15.32(10)	15.15(15)
<i>b</i> /Å	10.13(7)	11.59(11)
<i>c</i> /Å	17.75(11)	22.24(2)
$\alpha$ /°[deg]	90	90
$\beta$ /°[deg]	103.791(3)	99.375(3)
$\gamma$ /°[deg]	90	90
Volume[Å <sup>3</sup> ]	2679.5(3)	3857.7(7)
<i>Z</i>	4	4
$\rho_{\text{calc}}$ [Mg/m <sup>3</sup> ]	1.231	1.427
$\mu$ /mm <sup>-1</sup>	0.073	0.118
F(000)	1056	1696
Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>	0.250 x 0.230 x 0.180	0.200 x 0.200 x 0.120
Radiation	MoK $\alpha$ ( $\lambda$ = 0.71073)	MoK $\alpha$ ( $\lambda$ = 0.71073)
2 $\Theta$ range for data collection/°	2.330 to 26.000	2.321 to 25.999
Reflections collected	39985	45894
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.044	0.999
Final R indexes [ <i>I</i> ≥ 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> )]	R1 = 0.0517, wR2 = 0.1252	R1 = 0.0509, wR2 = 0.1067
Final R indexes [all data]	R1 = 0.1050, wR2 = 0.1613	R1 = 0.1284, wR2 = 0.1453
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup>	0.267/-0.189	0.195/-0.274
Solvent System	CHCl <sub>3</sub> /CH <sub>3</sub> OH	CHCl <sub>3</sub> /CH <sub>3</sub> OH
CCDC	2059574	2059575

## 7. Computational Studies<sup>[S1]</sup>

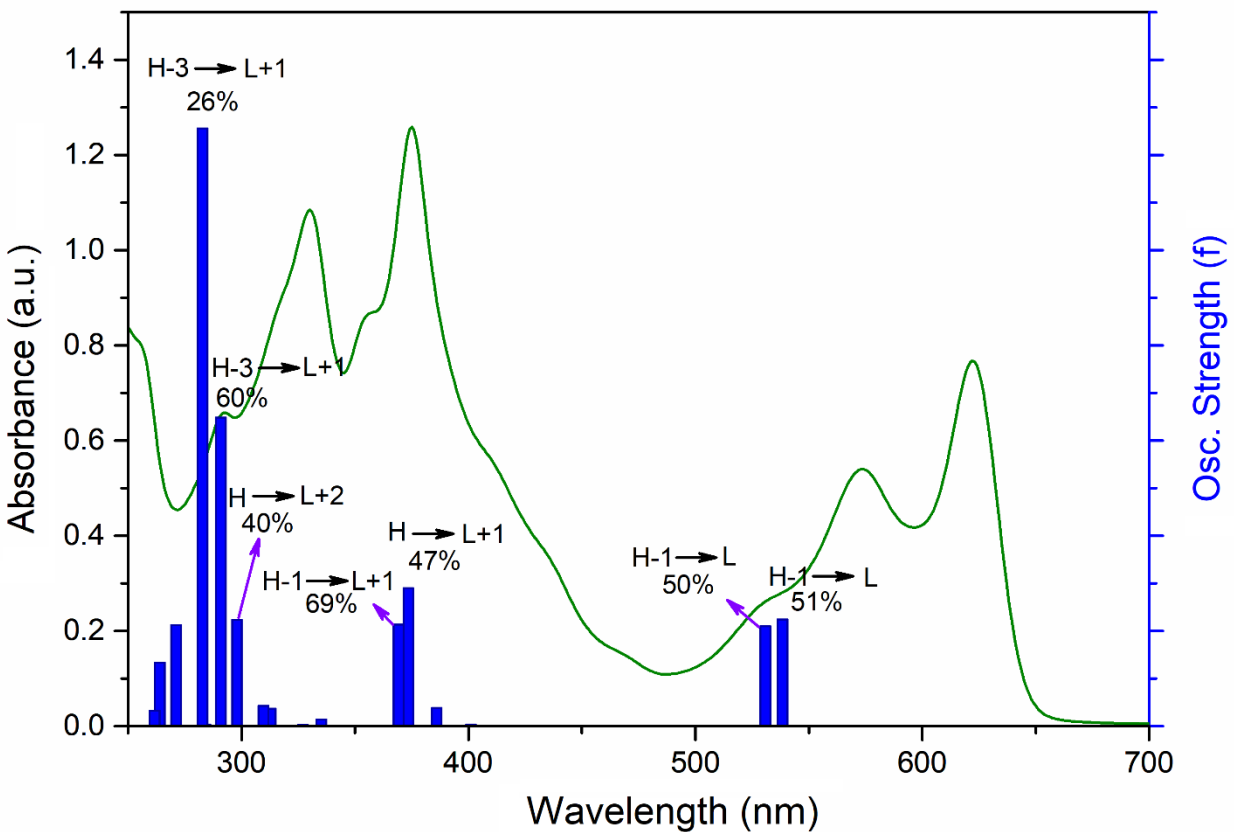


**Figure S7.1.** Calculated oscillator strength on the basis of optimized structure (bar) and observed absorption spectra (line) of **3**.

**Table S7.1:** Transition energies, oscillator strength and orbital contributions calculated for **3** from TDDFT analysis at (TD)B3LYP/6-31g(d) level of theory (H = HOMO, L= LUMO)

Transition	Wavelength (nm)	Oscillator Strength (f)	Major Contributions
$S_0 \rightarrow S_1$	587.45	0.1676	H → L (94.78%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_2$	580.27	0.2235	H-1 → L(91.84%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_3$	484.88	0.0004	H-2 → L (96.36%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_4$	452.58	0.0688	H-3 → L (94.91%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_5$	412.65	0.0244	H-4 → L (84.84%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_6$	401.43	0.2528	H-1 → L+1(50.53%) H-5 → L (22.01%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_7$	396.24	0.1837	H-5 → L (71.24%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_8$	387.90	0.4221	H → L+1 (50.65%) H-1 → L+1 (22.54%)

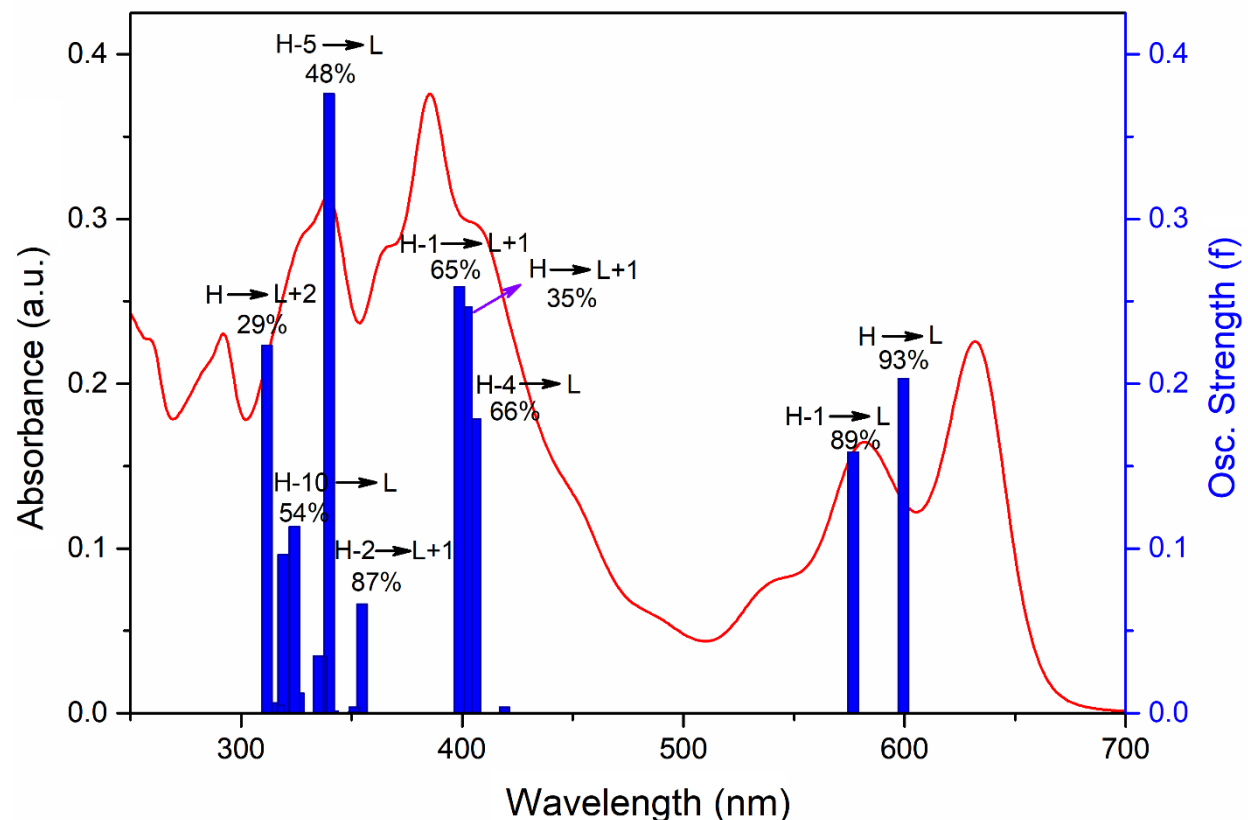
$S_0 \rightarrow S_9$	344.90	0.0111	H-6 $\rightarrow$ L (68.95%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{10}$	343.46	0.0037	H-2 $\rightarrow$ L+1 (66.99%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{11}$	339.51	0.0024	H-10 $\rightarrow$ L (59.19%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{12}$	335.63	0.0230	H-3 $\rightarrow$ L+1 (73.56%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{13}$	333.66	0.0016	H-11 $\rightarrow$ L (78.10%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{14}$	329.12	0.0042	H-8 $\rightarrow$ L (46.56%) H $\rightarrow$ L+2 (30.38%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{15}$	321.12	0.0588	H-1 $\rightarrow$ L+2 (68.73%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{16}$	320.22	0.0236	H-9 $\rightarrow$ L (61.39%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{17}$	311.85	0.2355	H $\rightarrow$ L+2 (40.33%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{18}$	308.09	0.5613	H-7 $\rightarrow$ L (32.16%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{19}$	297.49	0.0747	H-4 $\rightarrow$ L+1 (79.99%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{20}$	291.83	0.0069	H-5 $\rightarrow$ L+1 (87.11%)



**Figure S7.2.** Calculated oscillator strength on the basis of optimized structure (bar) and observed absorption spectra (line) of **4**.

**Table S7.2:** Transition energies, oscillator strength and orbital contributions calculated for 4 TD-DFT analysis at (TD) B3LYP/6-31g(d) level of theory (H = HOMO, L= LUMO)

Transition	Wavelength (nm)	Oscillator Strength (f)	Major Contributors
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>1</sub>	538.33	0.2242	H → L (51.44%) H-1 → L (34.16%)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>2</sub>	530.88	0.2101	H-1 → L (50.11%) H → L (33.68%)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>3</sub>	474.00	0.0003	H-2 → L (97.37%)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>4</sub>	401.08	0.0039	H-3 → L (86.84%)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>5</sub>	385.95	0.0386	H-4 → L (93.39%)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>6</sub>	373.47	0.2903	H → L+1 (47.16%) H-5 → L (38.92%)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>7</sub>	369.14	0.2135	H-1 → L+1 (69.01%)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>8</sub>	335.31	0.0006	H-8 → L (96.15%)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>9</sub>	335.07	0.0142	H-2 → L+1 (86.15%)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>10</sub>	331.35	0.0000	H-9 → L (95.52%)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>11</sub>	327.05	0.0025	H-6 → L (54.88%) H → L+2 (43.46%)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>12</sub>	312.77	0.0372	H-7 → L (50.37%) H-1 → L+2 (28.29%)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>13</sub>	309.64	0.0423	H-1 → L+2 (46.44%) H-7 → L (39.55%)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>14</sub>	297.93	0.2233	H-3 → L+1 (59.56%) H-5 → L (16.76%)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>15</sub>	290.85	0.6485	H-3 → L+1 (59.56%) H-5 → L (16.76%)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>16</sub>	283.93	0.0034	H-4 → L+1 (88.65%)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>17</sub>	282.69	1.2563	H-3 → L+1 (26.23%) H-5 → L (21.64%)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>18</sub>	271.17	0.2124	H-2 → L+2 (56.24%) H-1 → L+3 (24.02%)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>19</sub>	263.97	0.1333	H → L+3 (65.30%)
S <sub>0</sub> →S <sub>20</sub>	261.67	0.0325	H-5 → L+1 (57.58%)



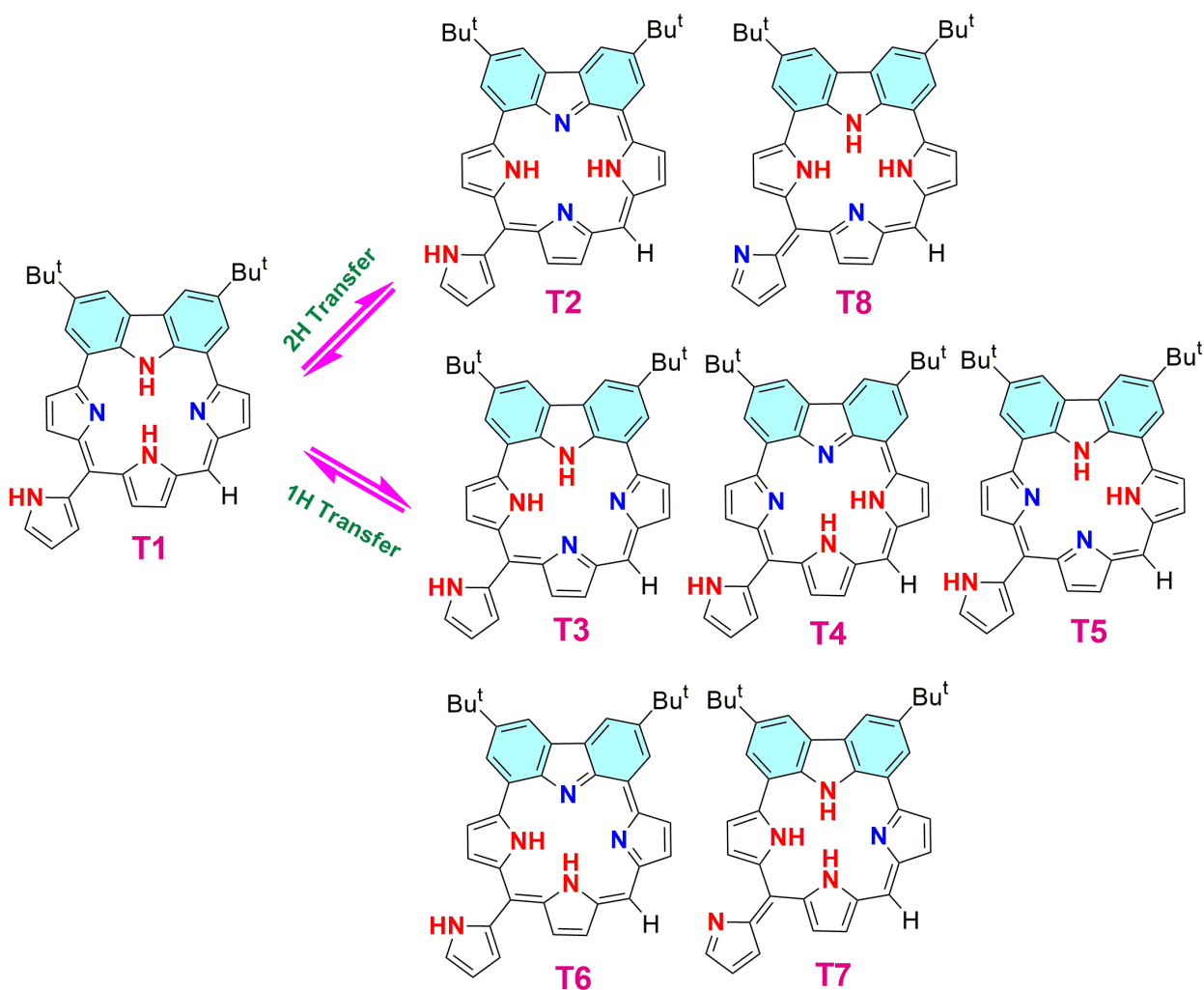
**Figure S7.3.** Calculated oscillator strength on the basis of optimized structure (bar) and observed absorption spectra (line) of **5**.

**Table S7.3:** Transition energies, oscillator strength and orbital contributions calculated for **5** from TDDFT analysis at (TD)B3LYP/6-31g(d) level of theory (H = HOMO, L= LUMO)

Transition	Wavelength (nm)	Oscillator Strength (f)	Major Contributors
$S_0 \rightarrow S_1$	599.39	0.2032	H $\rightarrow$ L (92.66%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_2$	576.74	0.1585	H-1 $\rightarrow$ L (89.08%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_3$	501.05	0.0003	H-2 $\rightarrow$ L (98.04%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_4$	419.07	0.0035	H-3 $\rightarrow$ L (86.60%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_5$	405.98	0.1785	H-4 $\rightarrow$ L (66.50%) H $\rightarrow$ L+1 (26.44%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_6$	401.91	0.2466	H $\rightarrow$ L+1 (35.55%) H-4 $\rightarrow$ L (25.30%)

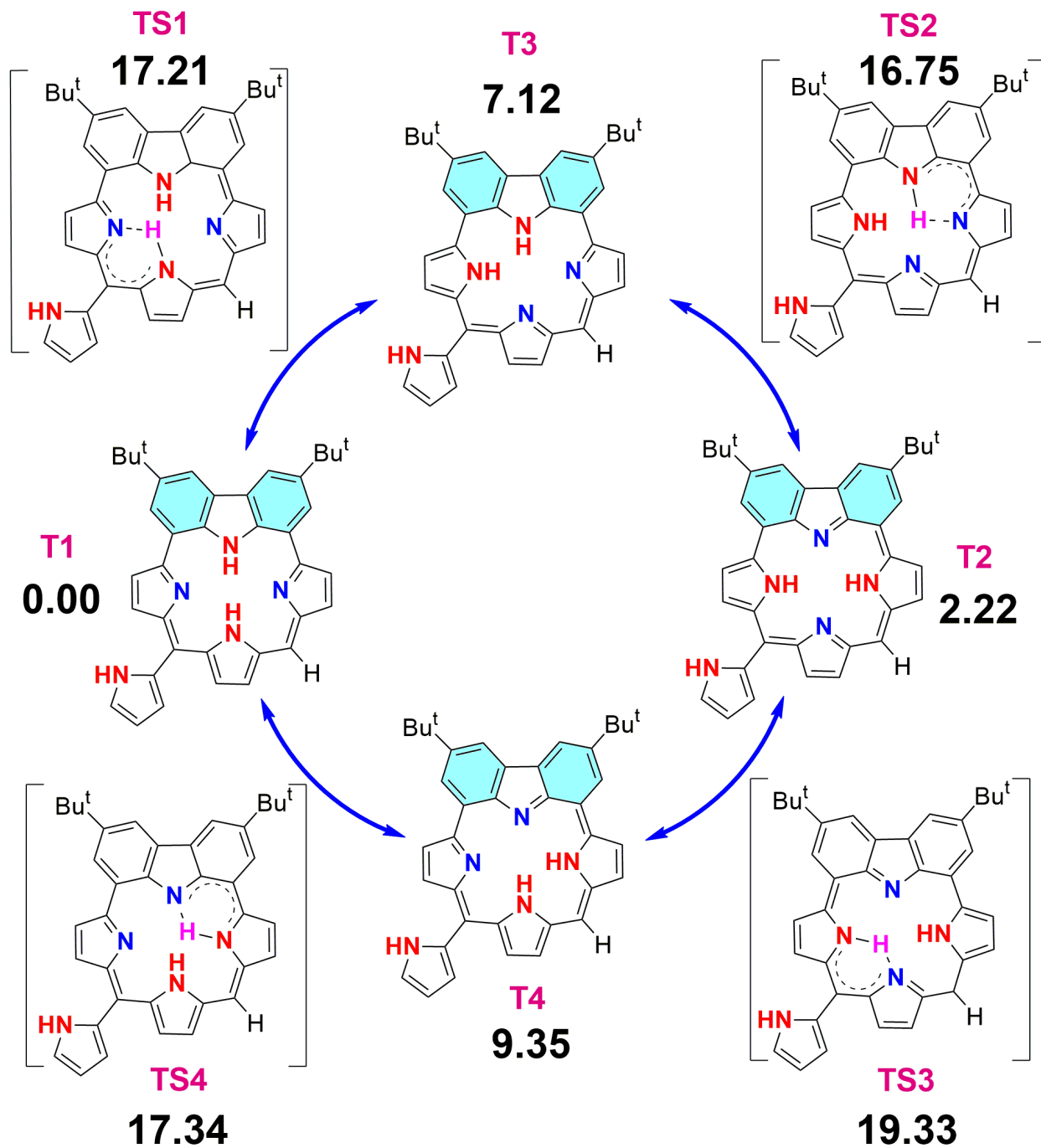


$S_0 \rightarrow S_7$	398.60	0.2588	H-1 $\rightarrow$ L+1 (64.99%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_8$	354.73	0.0662	H-2 $\rightarrow$ L+1 (87.27%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_9$	351.21	0.0037	H-6 $\rightarrow$ L (97.78%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{10}$	350.90	0.0007	H-7 $\rightarrow$ L (97.80%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{11}$	341.54	0.0012	H-12 $\rightarrow$ L (85.23%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{12}$	339.77	0.3760	H-5 $\rightarrow$ L (47.56%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{13}$	336.20	0.0346	H-13 $\rightarrow$ L (88.00%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{14}$	335.01	0.0346	H-8 $\rightarrow$ L (74.77%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{15}$	326.12	0.0120	H-9 $\rightarrow$ L (80.16%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{16}$	324.14	0.1131	H-10 $\rightarrow$ L (54.19%) H-11 $\rightarrow$ L (32.79%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{17}$	318.94	0.0961	H $\rightarrow$ L+3 (31.87%) H-1 $\rightarrow$ L+2 (28.18%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{18}$	317.09	0.0048	H-1 $\rightarrow$ L+2 (41.73%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{19}$	314.17	0.0063	H $\rightarrow$ L+4 (71.08%)
$S_0 \rightarrow S_{20}$	311.73	0.2232	H $\rightarrow$ L+2 (28.48%)

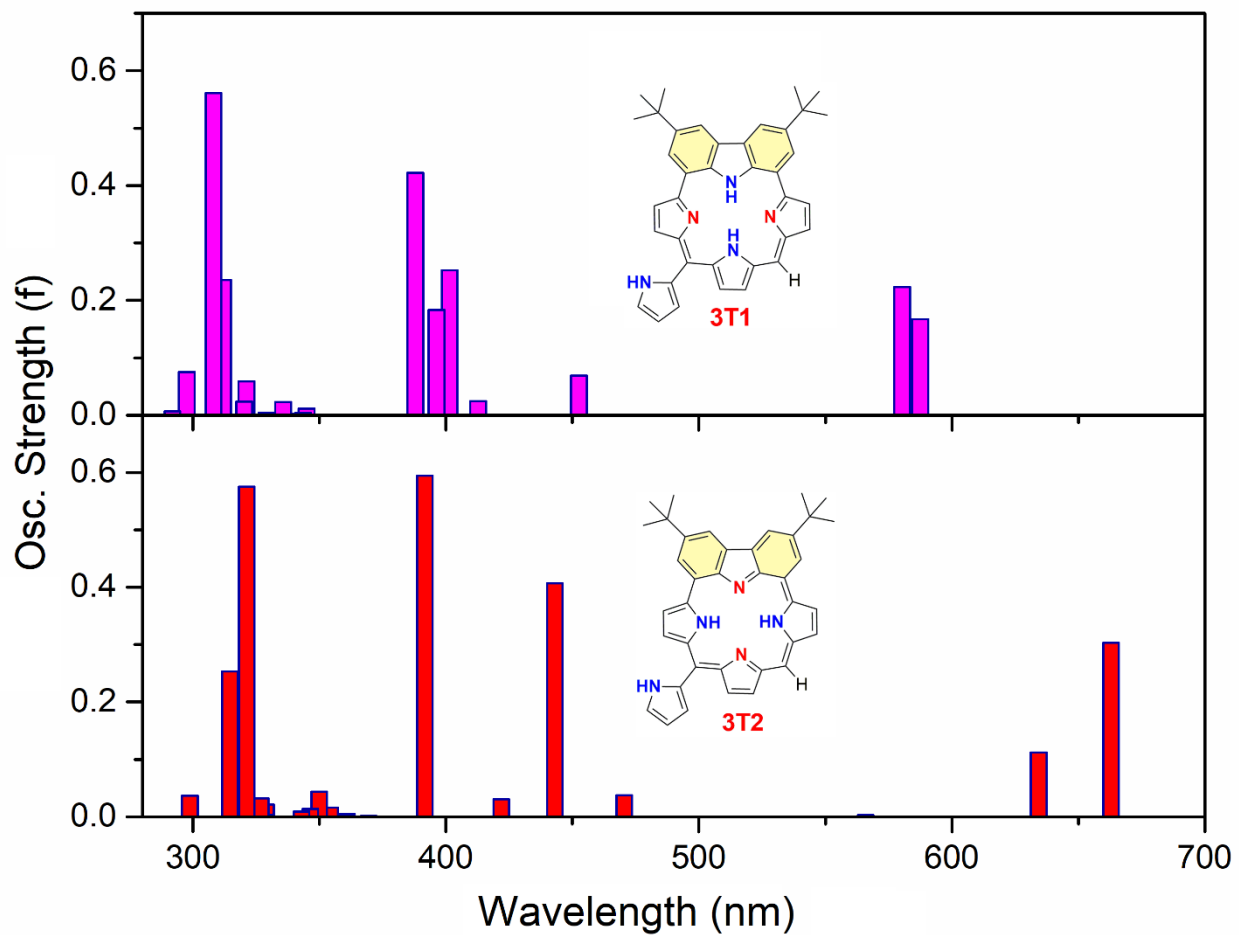


**Table S7.4:** Relative free energies of various tautomers (T1-T8) of **3**, calculated at the B3LYP/6-31g(d) level of theory. The solvent effect was accounted for using the polarizable continuum model (PCM).

Tautomers	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	T6	T7	T8
Rel. energy (kcal mol <sup>-1</sup> )	0	+2.22	+7.12	+9.35	+11.24	+12.58	+13.59	+18.69

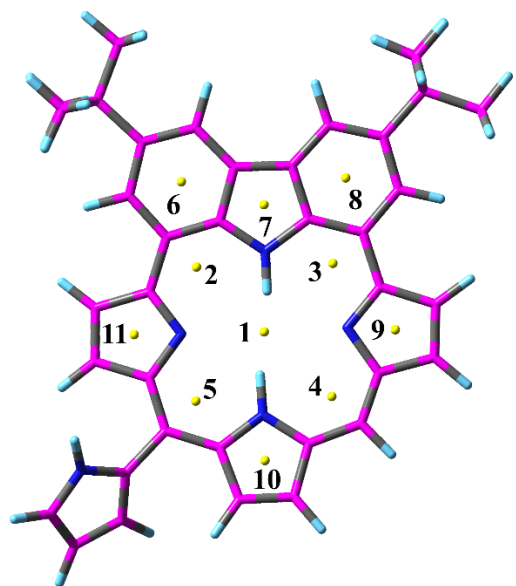


**Figure S7.3.** Various *cis*-tautomers for interconversion of T1↔T2 along with their transition-states. All the energies are given in kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>.



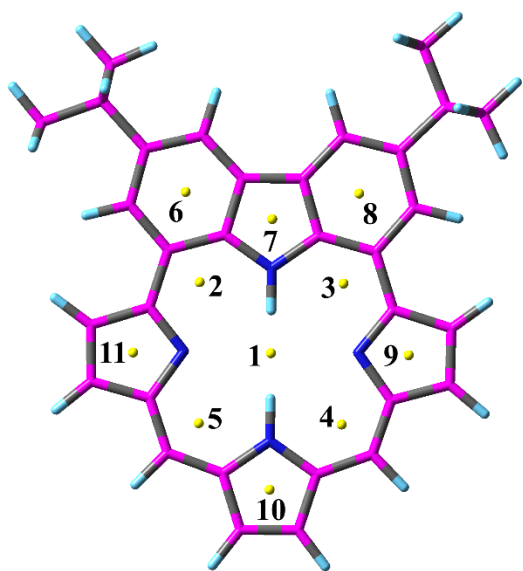
**Figure S7.4.** Simulated electronic absorption spectra of **3T1** (top) and **3T2** (bottom).

## 8. NICS Calculations



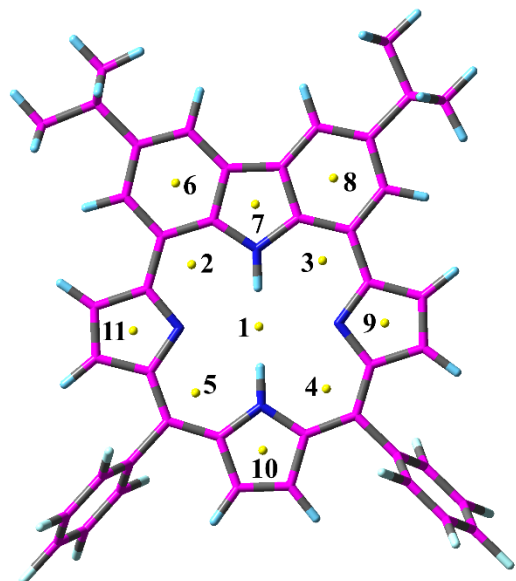
Position	NICS (ppm)	Position	NICS (ppm)
1	<b>-2.84</b>	7	-5.25
2	-5.36	8	-11.49
3	-5.09	9	-2.70
4	-6.81	10	-11.17
5	-5.62	11	-3.34
6	-11.51		

Figure S8.1. NICS(0) values at various positions of **3**.



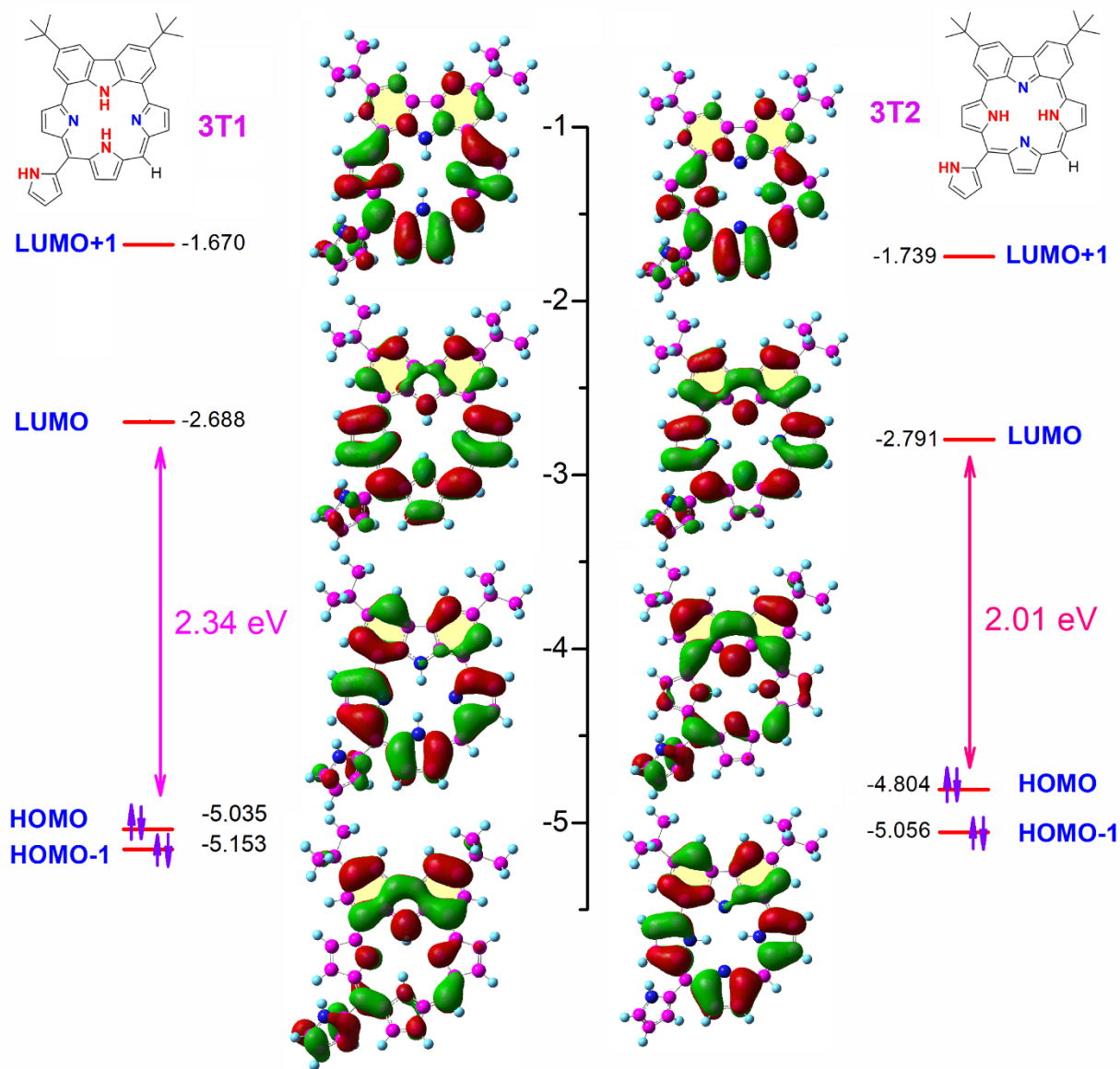
Position	NICS (ppm)	Position	NICS (ppm)
1	<b>-3.29</b>	7	-4.98
2	-5.72	8	-11.71
3	-5.67	9	-2.78
4	-6.98	10	-11.50
5	-7.00	11	-2.66
6	-11.59		

Figure S8.2. NICS(0) values at various positions of **4**.

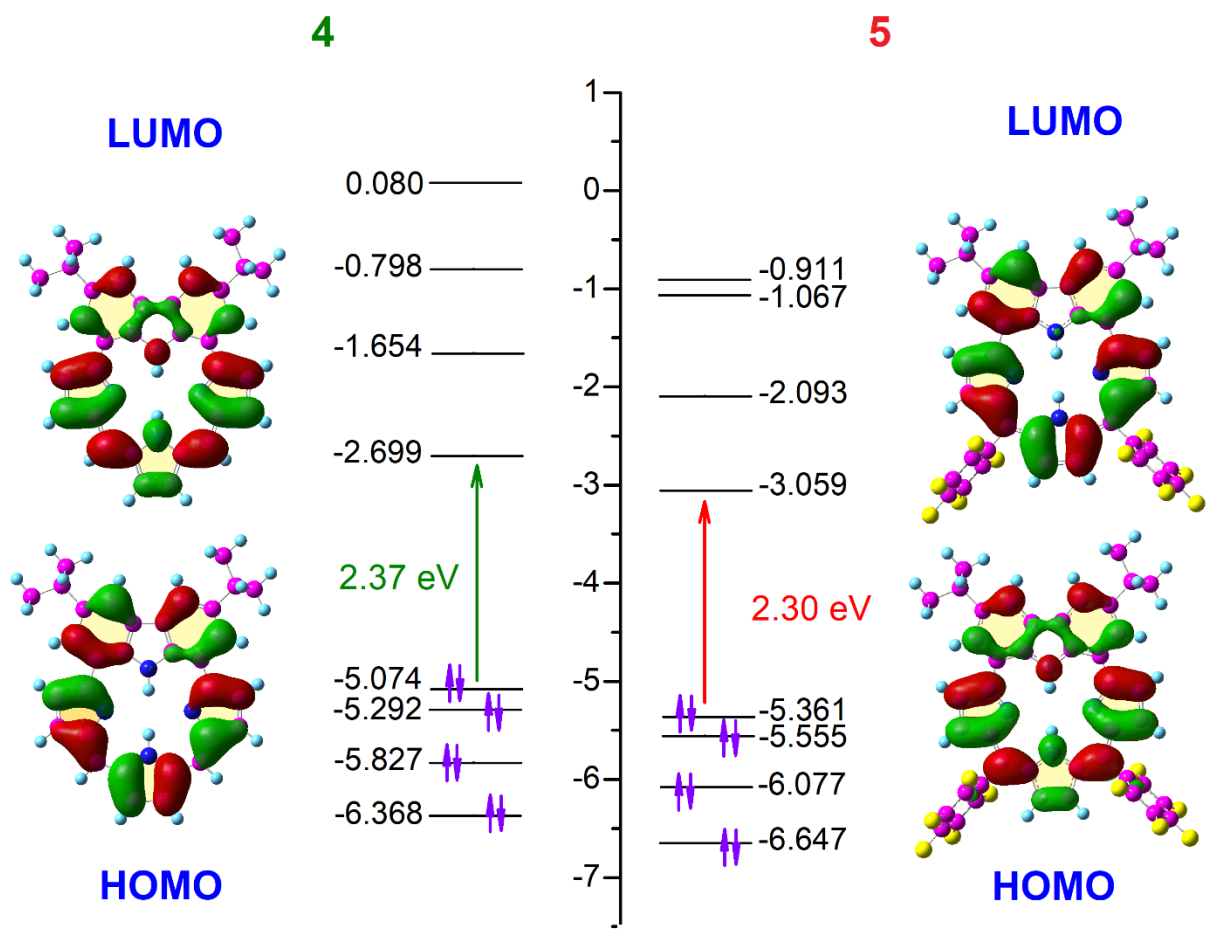


Position	NICS (ppm)	Position	NICS (ppm)
<b>1</b>	<b>-3.58</b>	7	-4.69
2	-6.22	<b>8</b>	-11.77
3	-6.17	9	-2.00
4	-6.58	<b>10</b>	-11.28
5	-6.61	<b>11</b>	-1.87
<b>6</b>	-11.61		

**Figure S8.3.** NICS(0) values at various positions of **5**.



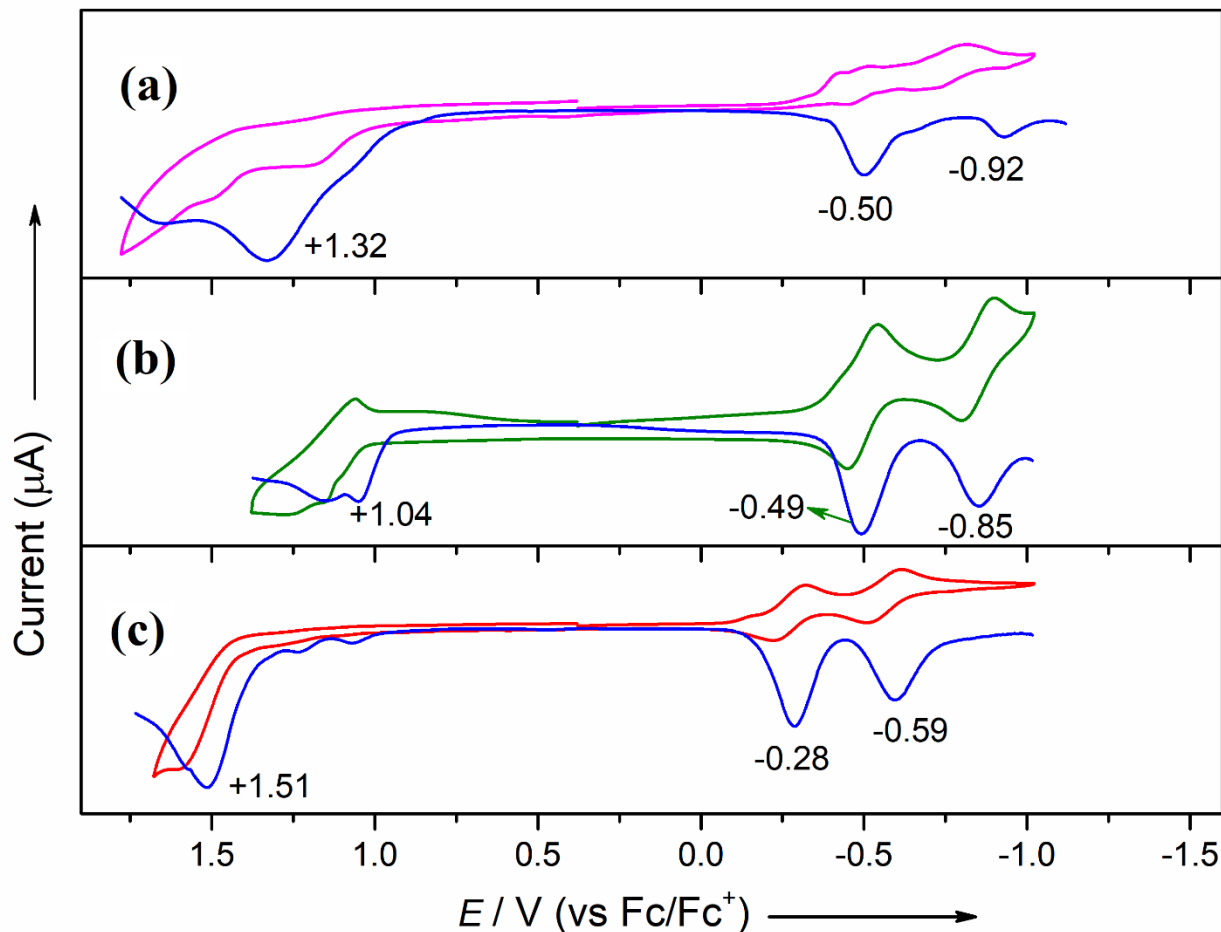
**Figure S8.5.** Energy level diagrams of 3T1 and 3T2 calculated at the B3LYP/6-31g(d) level.



**Figure S8.6.** Energy level diagrams of **4** and **5** calculated at the B3LYP/6-31g(d) level.



## 9. Cyclic voltammetry



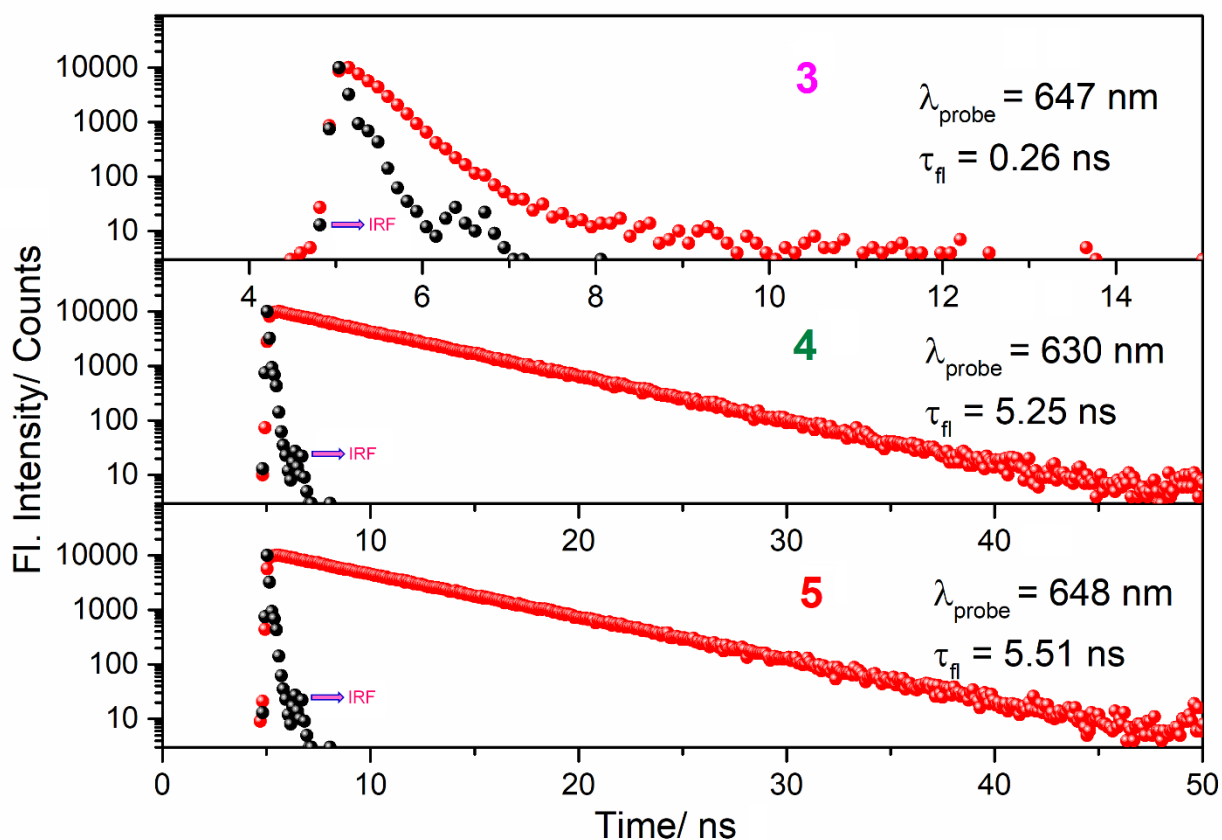
**Figure S9.1.** Cyclic Voltammetry and DPV for (a) **3** (b) **4** and (c) **5** recorded in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.

**Table S9.1.** Summary of the redox potentials.<sup>a</sup>

Macrocycles	$E^{1/2}_{\text{ox.1}}/\text{V}$	$E^{1/2}_{\text{red.1}}/\text{V}$	$E^{1/2}_{\text{red.2}}/\text{V}$	$\Delta E_{\text{cv}}/\text{eV}$	$\Delta E_{\text{opt}}/\text{eV}$	$\Delta E_{\text{DFT}}/\text{eV}$
<b>3</b>	1.32 <sup>b</sup>	-0.50	-0.92	1.82	1.98	2.34
<b>4</b>	1.04 <sup>b</sup>	-0.49 <sup>b</sup>	-0.85	1.53	2.00	2.37
<b>5</b>	1.51 <sup>b</sup>	-0.28	-0.59 <sup>b</sup>	1.79	1.97	2.30

<sup>a</sup>Potentials[V] vs ferrocene/ferrocenium ion. Scan rate 0.05 Vs<sup>-1</sup>; working electrode, glassy carbon; counter electrode, Pt wire; supporting electrolyte, 0.1 M <sup>n</sup>Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub>; reference electrode, saturated calomel electrode. <sup>b</sup>Determined by differential pulse voltammetry.

## 10. Decay profiles and AICD plots



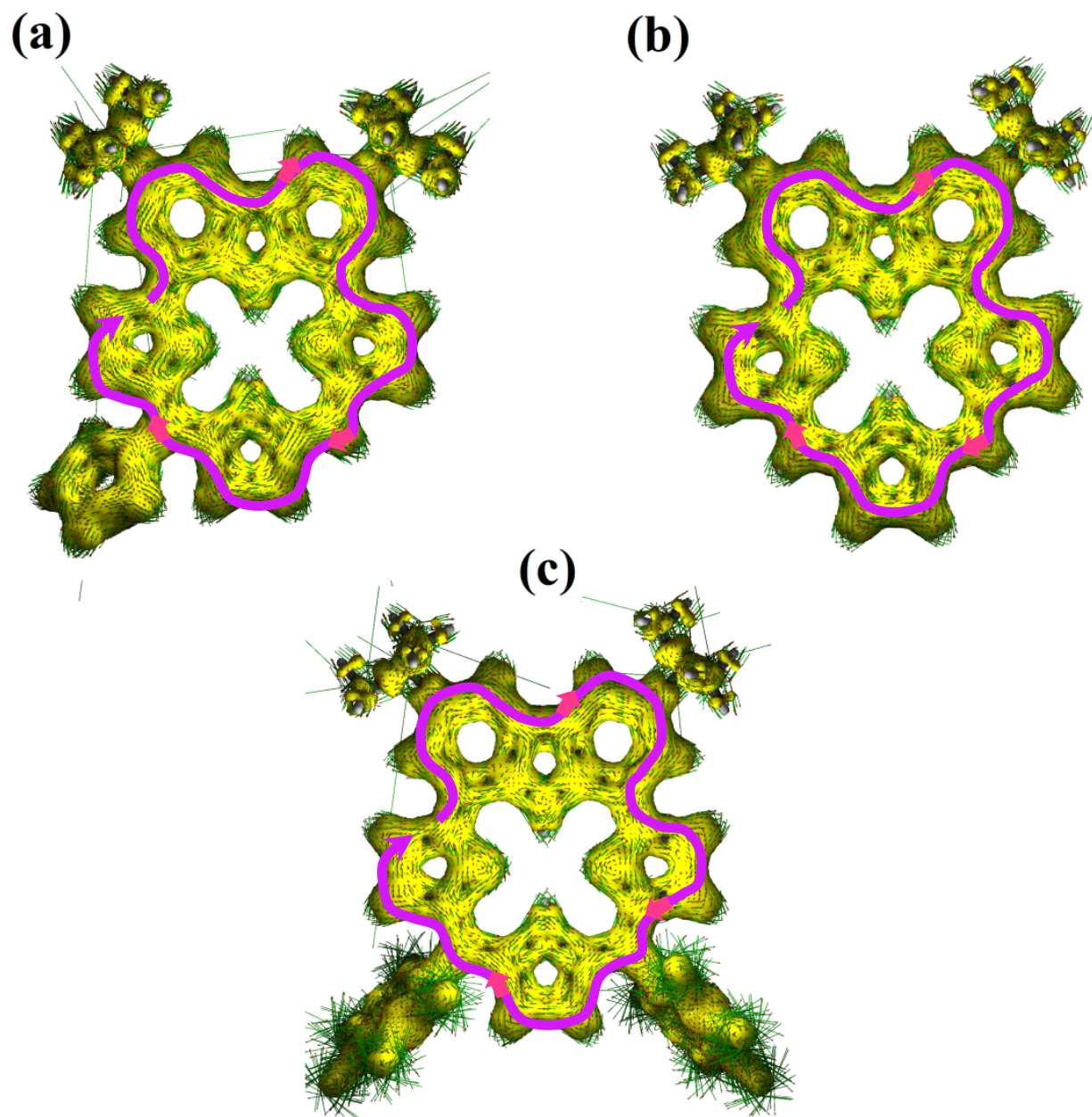
**Figure S10.1.** Time-correlated single photon counting (TCSPC) of **3** (*meso*-pyrrole), **4** (*bis meso*-free) and **5** (*bis-meso*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>) recorded in toluene at 298 K.  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 440$  nm.

**Table S10.1:** Photophysical data of **3-5**

macrocycles	$\lambda_{\text{ex}}$	$\Phi_{\text{F}}^{\text{a}}$ (%)	$\tau_{\text{F}}$ (ns)	$k_{\text{r}}^{\text{b}}$ ( $10^8 \text{ s}^{-1}$ )	$k_{\text{nr}}^{\text{b}}$ ( $10^8 \text{ s}^{-1}$ )
<b>3</b>	600	7.21	0.26	2.773	35.68
	440	3.30	0.26	1.269	37.19
<b>4</b>	600	30.93	5.25	0.589	1.315
<b>5</b>	600	26.10	5.51	0.473	1.341

<sup>a</sup>Using **NH-carbz**<sup>[S9]</sup> as reference ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 440$  and 600 nm,  $\Phi_{\text{F}} = 28.9\%$  in toluene).

<sup>b</sup> $k_{\text{r}} = \Phi_{\text{F}}/\tau_{\text{F}}$ ,  $k_{\text{nr}} = (1-\Phi_{\text{F}})/\tau_{\text{F}}$ , assuming that the emitting state is produced with unit quantum efficiency.



**Figure S10.2.** ACID plots for (a) **3** (*meso*-pyrrole) (b) **4** (*meso*-free porphyrin) and (c) **5** (Bis *meso*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>) Vectors moving clock-wise direction is indicated by the appropriate arrows.

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