

## Supporting Information

# One-pot synthesis of conjugated triphenylamine macrocycles and their complexation with fullerenes

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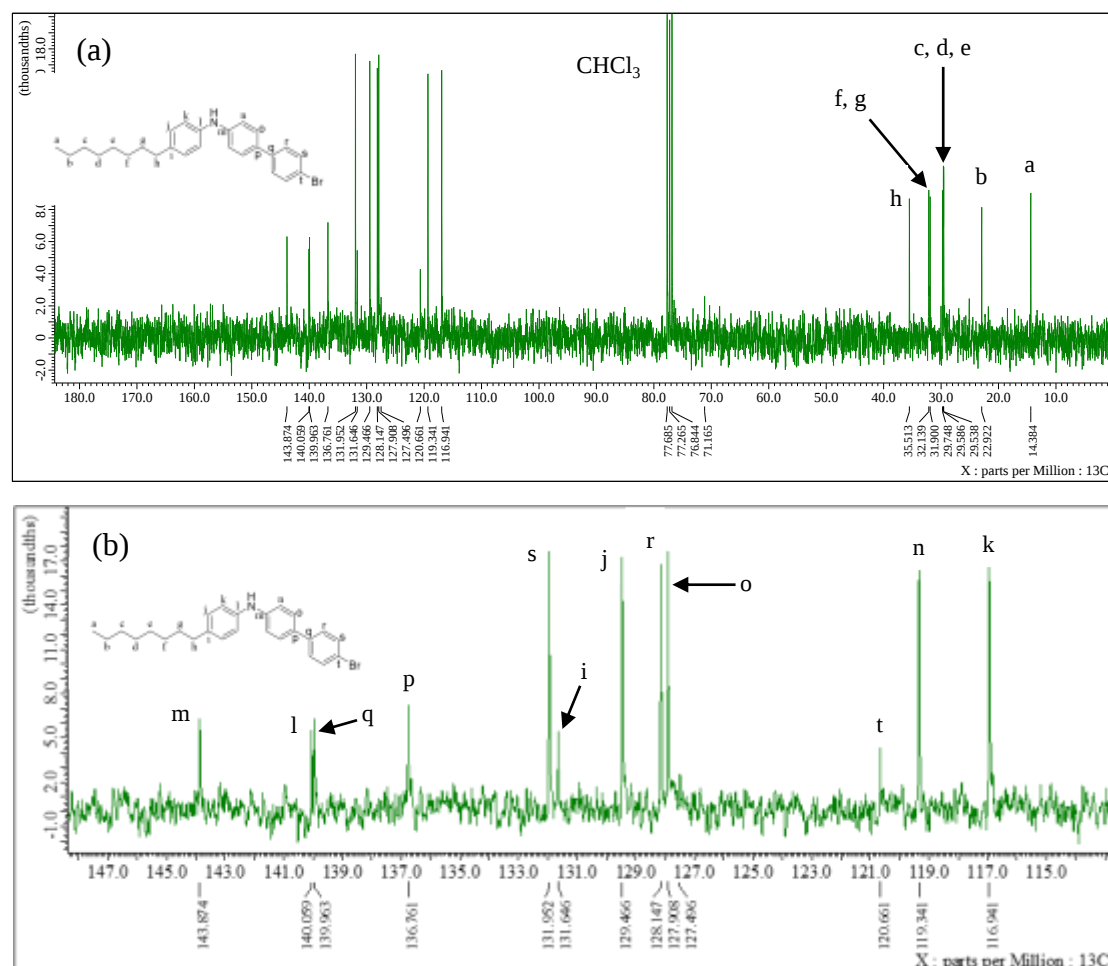
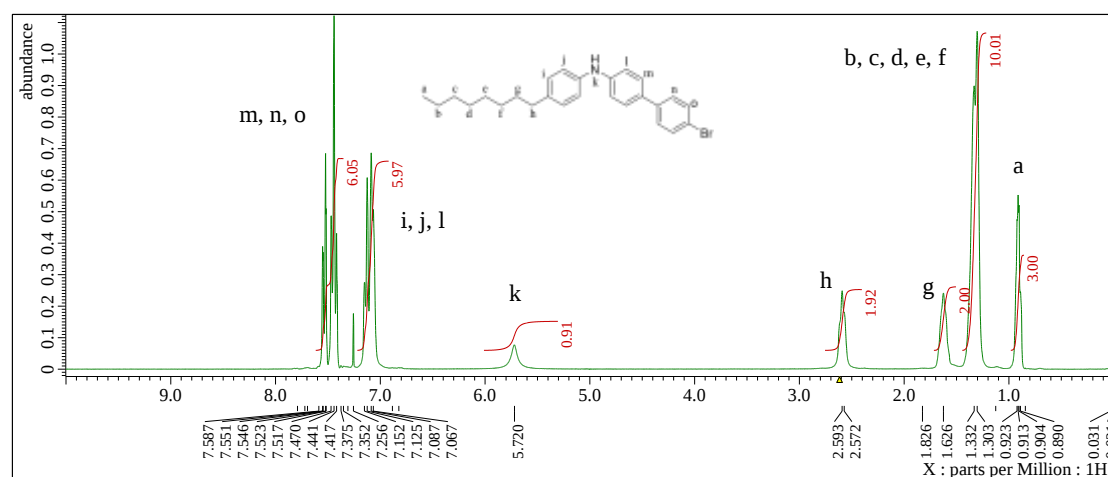
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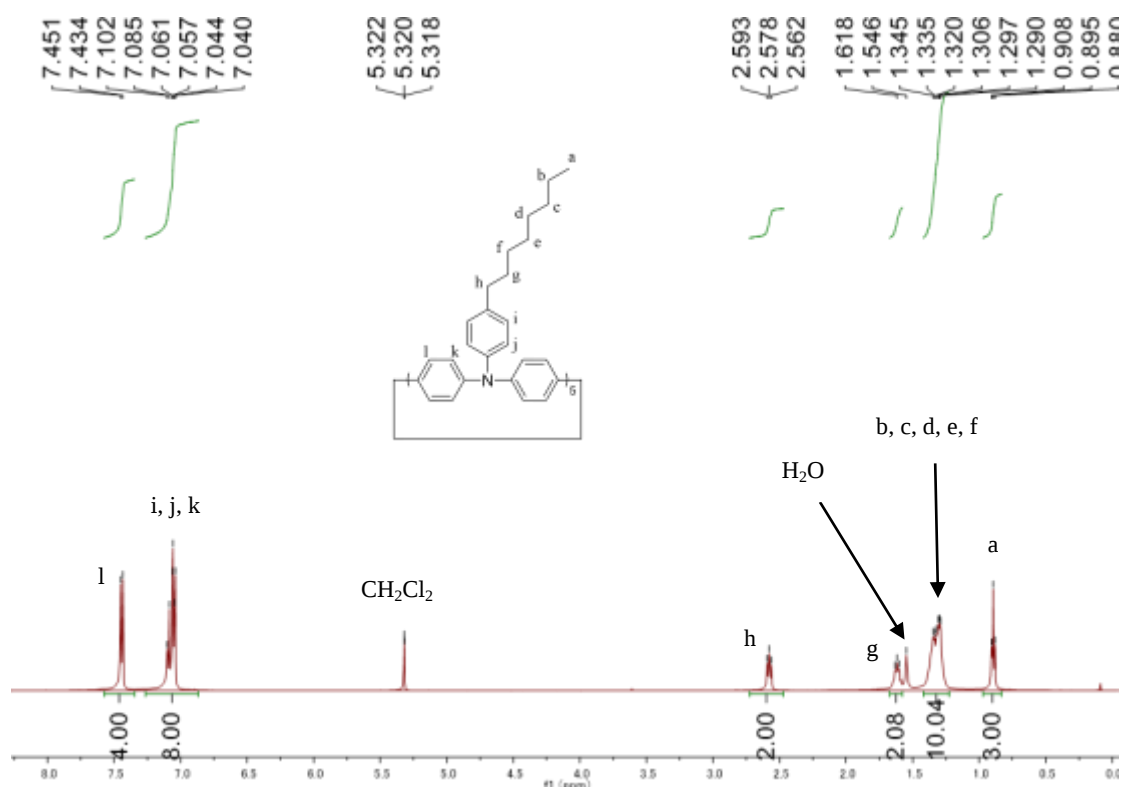
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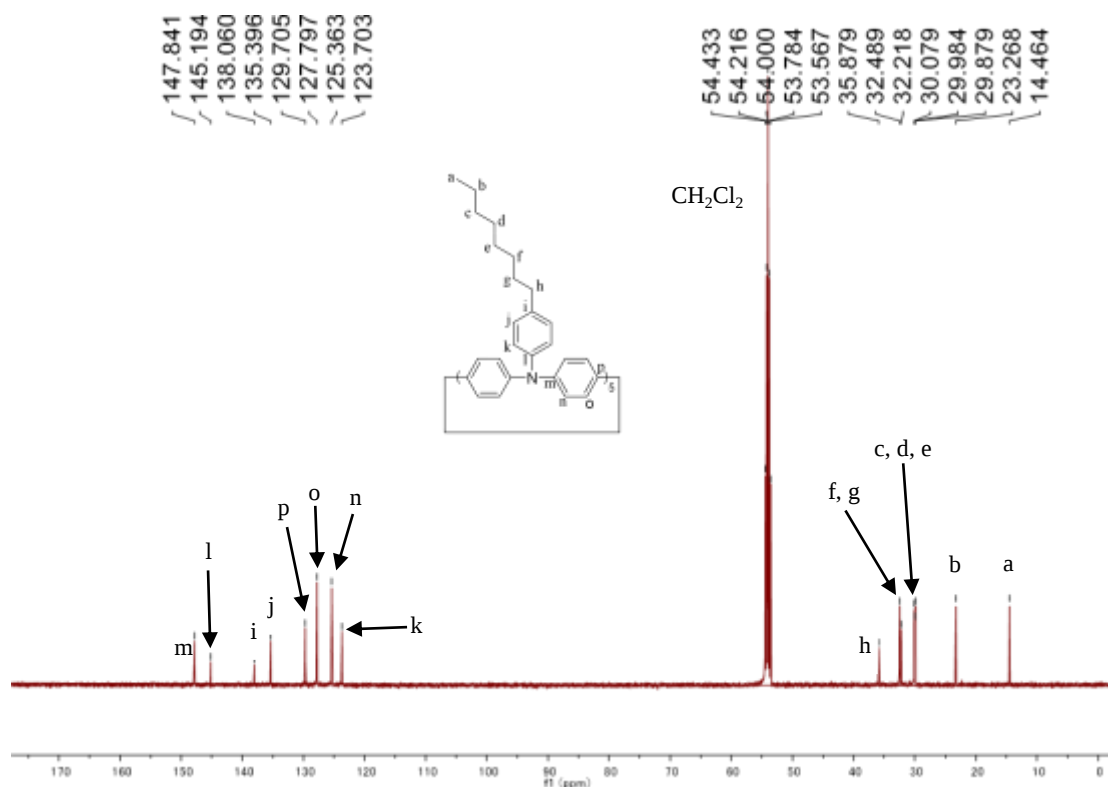
# 1. NMR and MS spectra



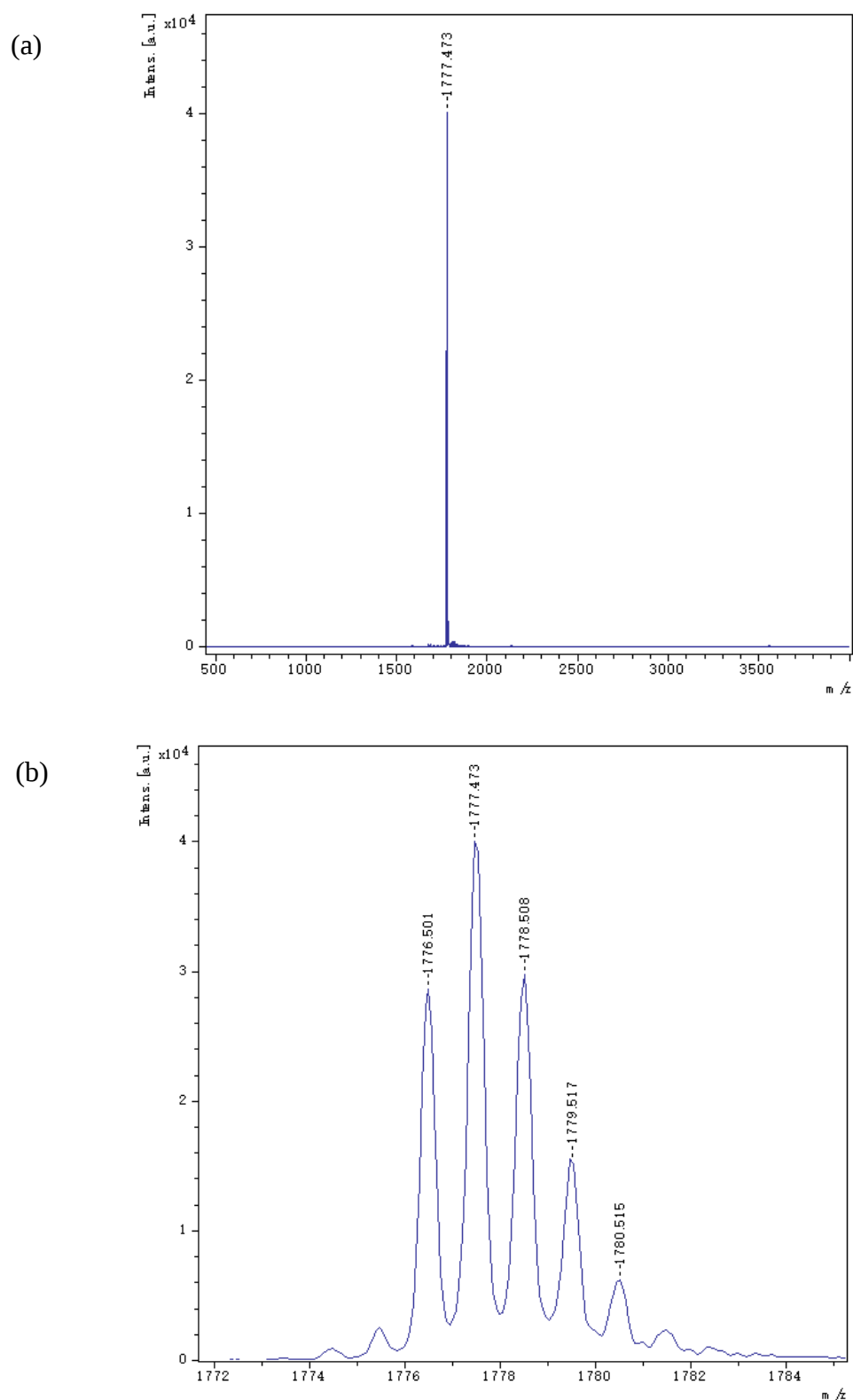
**Fig. S2** (a)  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of monomer 1; and (b) enlarged  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of monomer 1.



**Fig. S3** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) spectrum of COTPA [5].



**Fig. S4** <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) spectrum of COTPA [5].



**Fig. S5** (a) MALDI-TOF-MS spectrum of **COTPA [5]**, and (b) its enlarged spectrum (matrix: *trans*-2-[3-(4-*tert*-butylphenyl)-2-methyl-2-propenylidene]malononitrile).

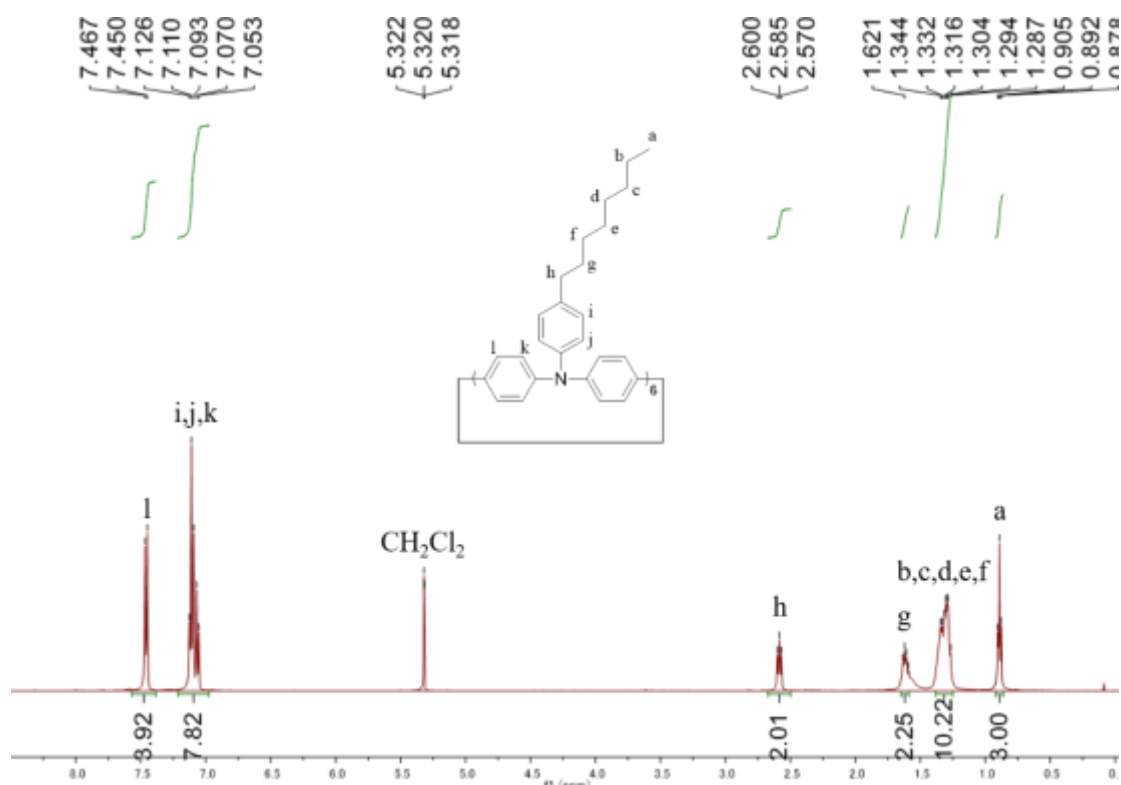


Fig. S6 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) spectrum of COTPA [6].

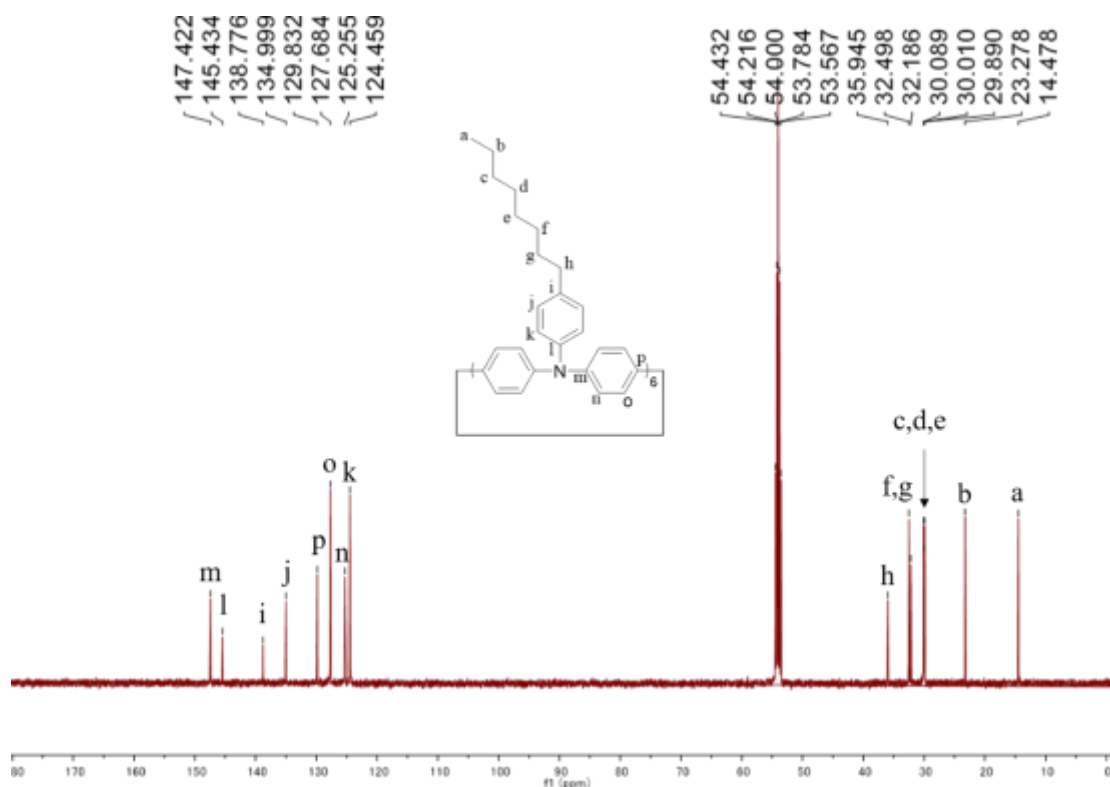
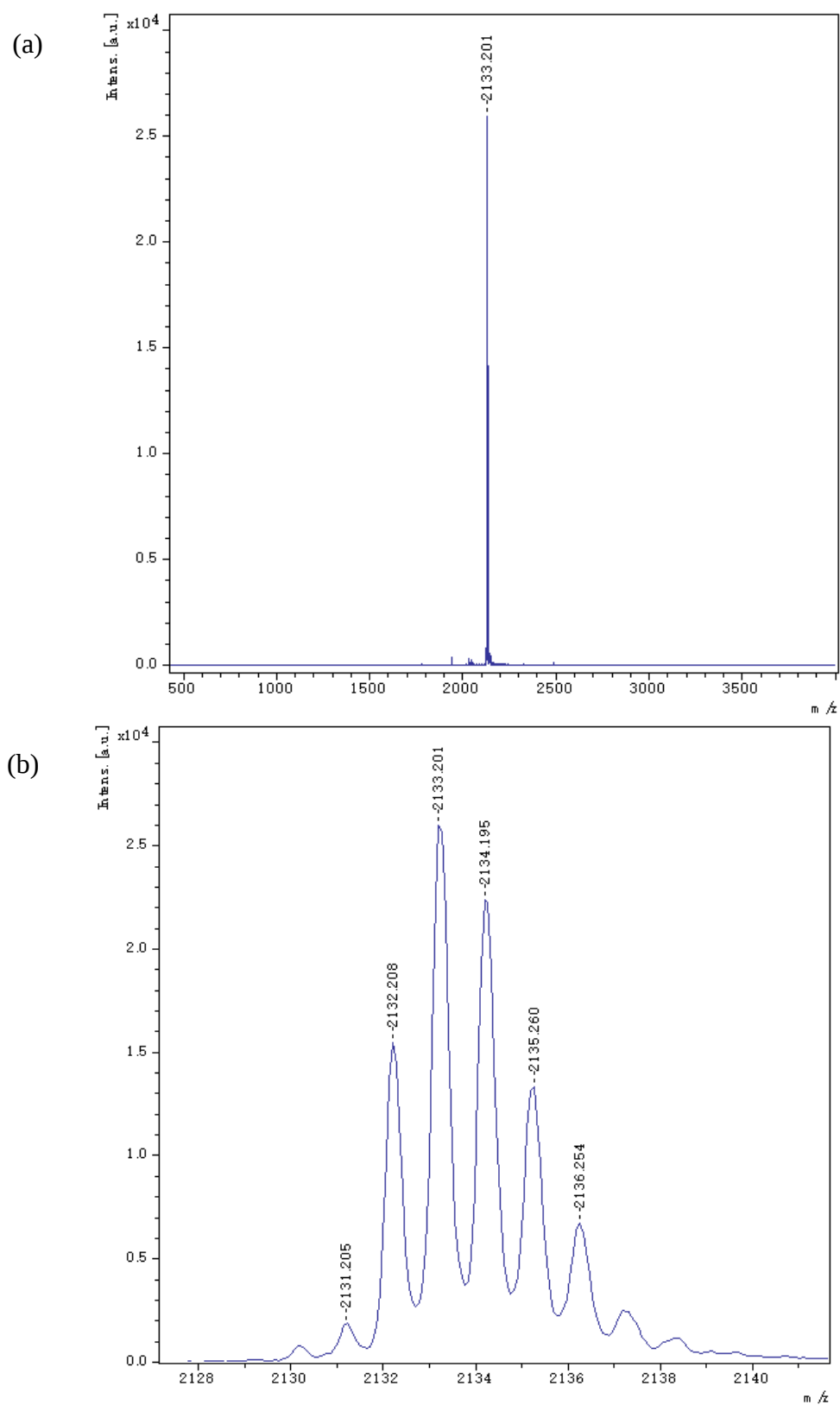
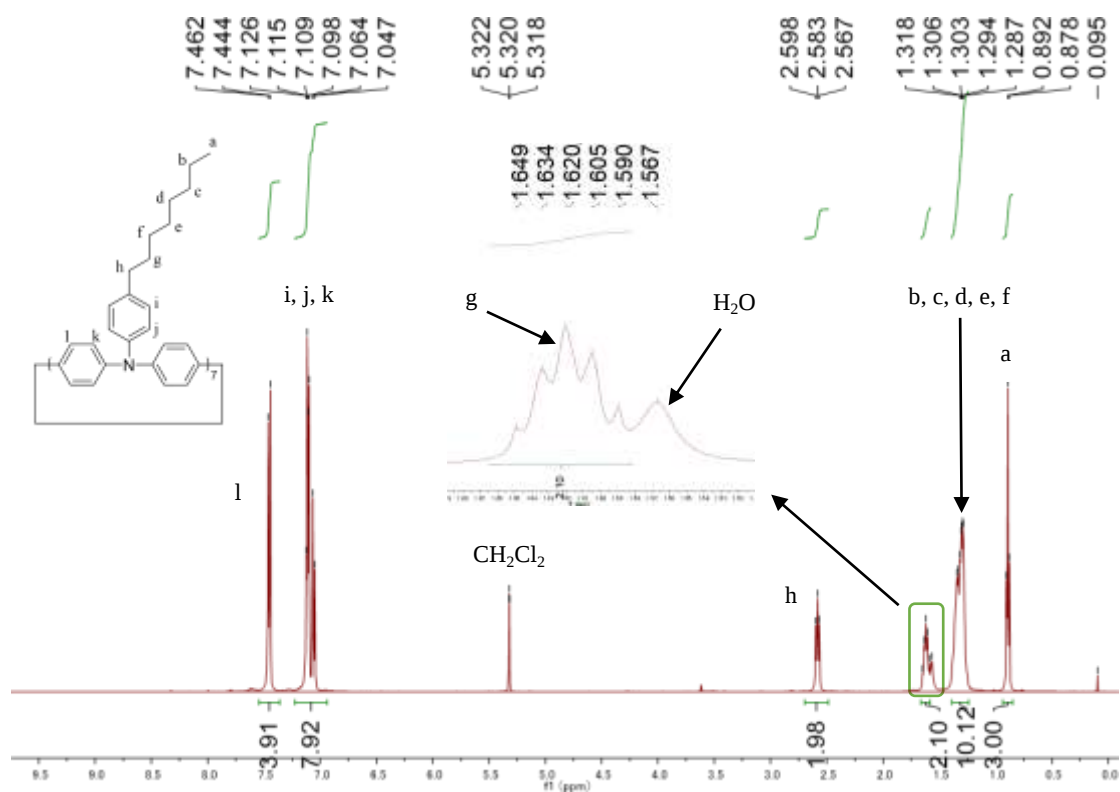


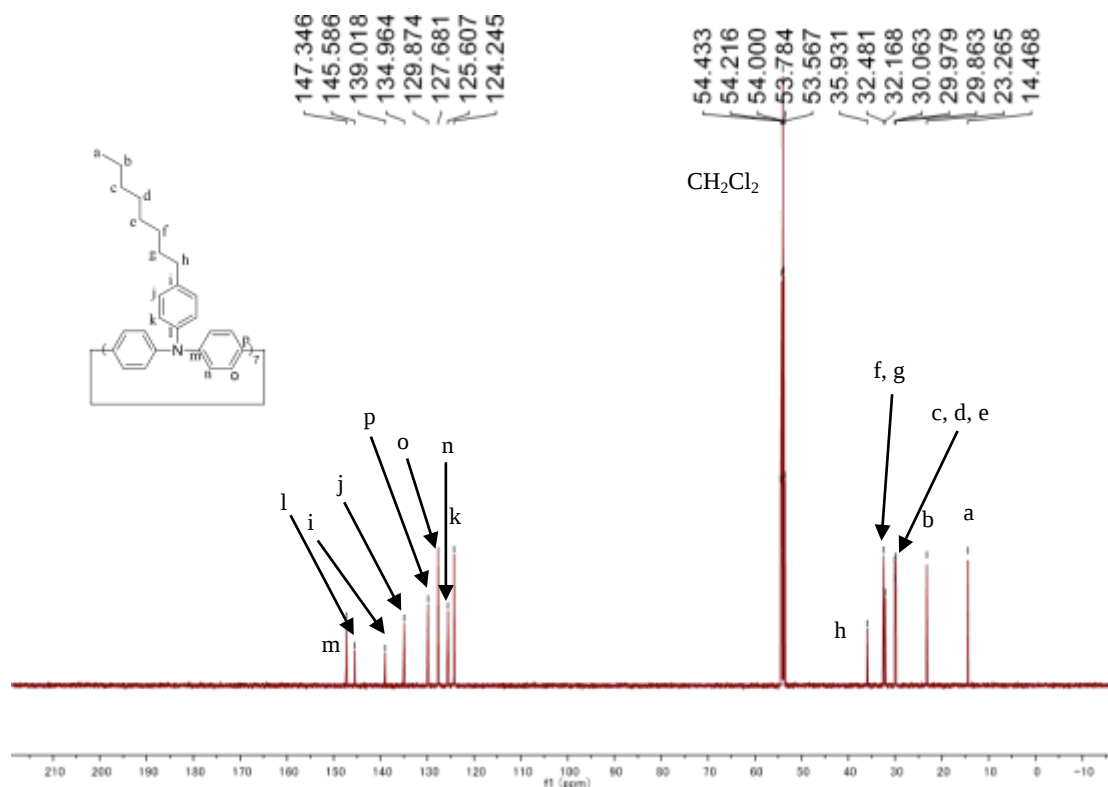
Fig. S7 <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) spectrum of COTPA [6].



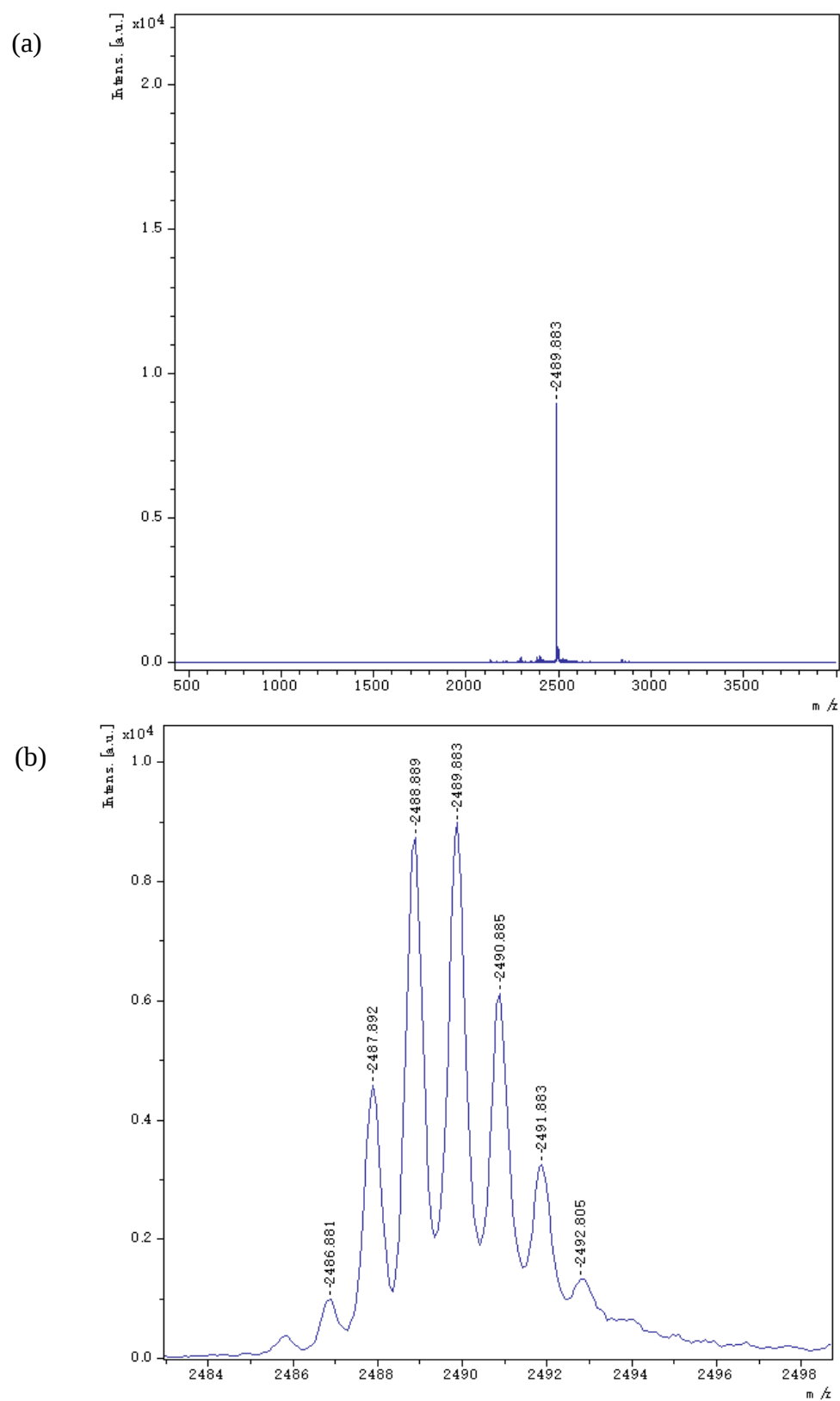
**Fig. S8** (a) MALDI-TOF-MS spectrum of **COTPA** [6], and (b) its enlarged spectrum (matrix: *trans*-2-[3-(4-*tert*-Butylphenyl)-2-methyl-2-propenylidene]malononitrile).



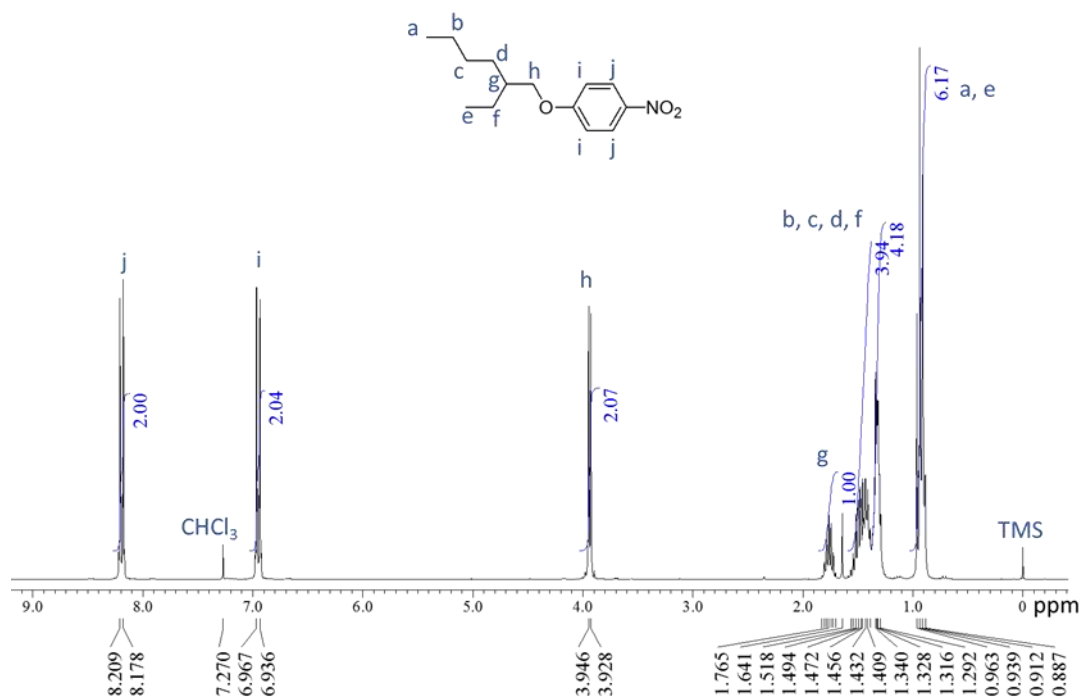
**Fig. S9** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) spectrum of COTPA [7].



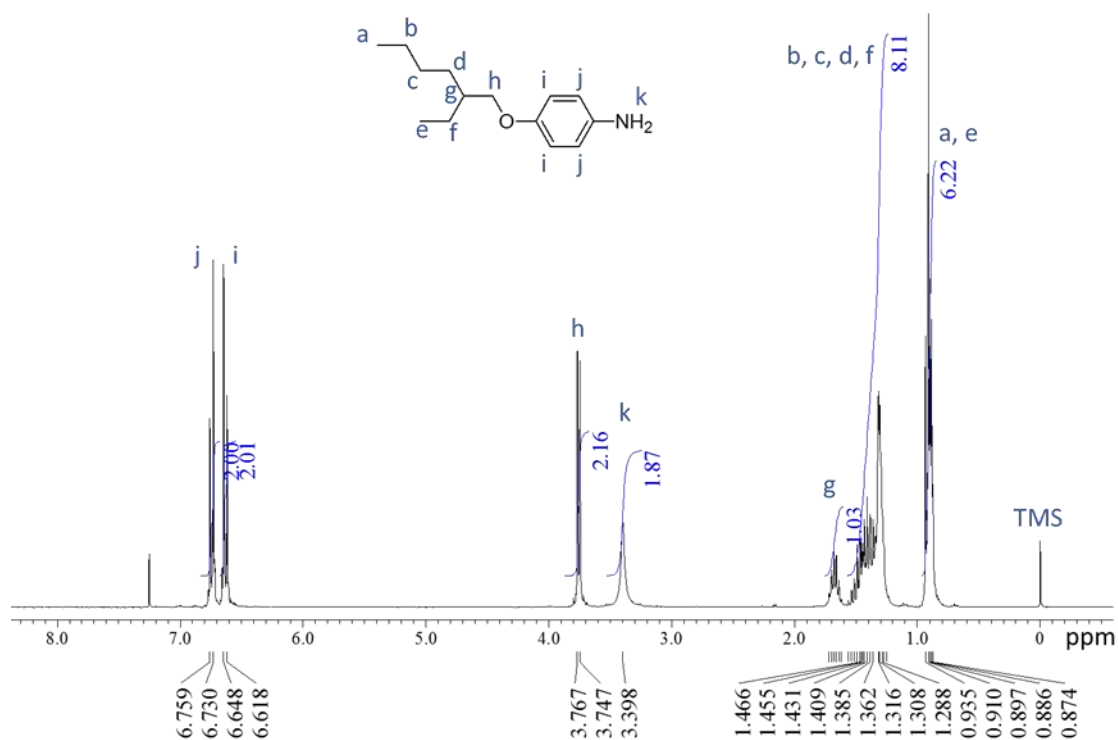
**Fig. S10** <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) spectrum of COTPA [7].



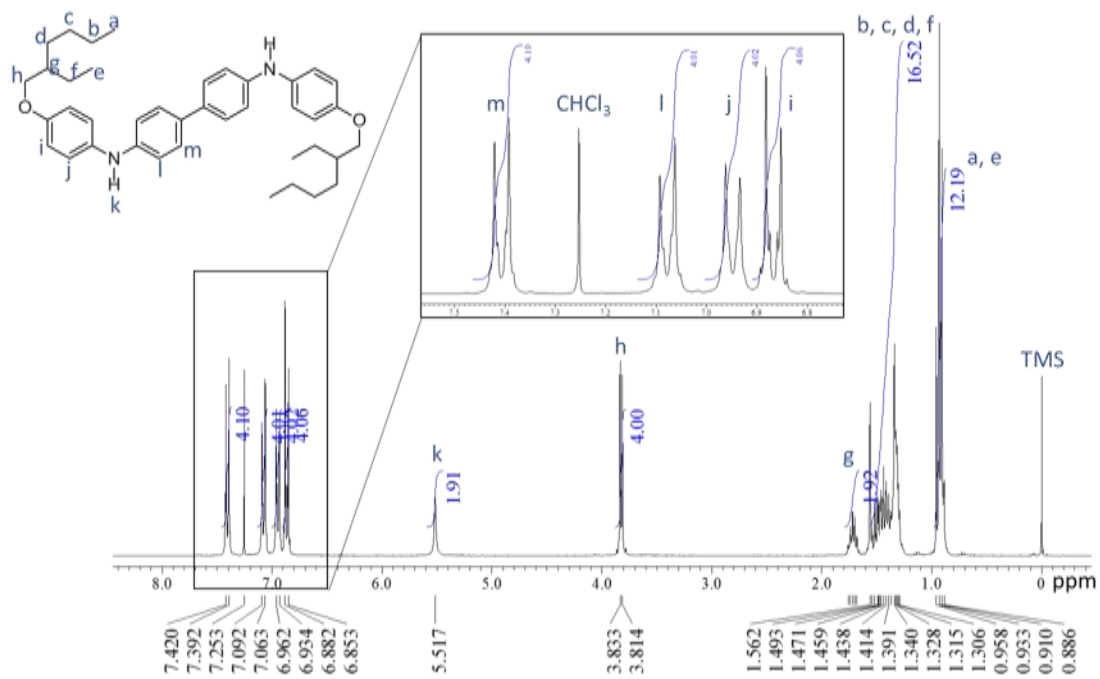
**Fig. S11** (a) MALDI-TOF-MS spectrum of **COTPA [7]**, and (b) its enlarged spectrum (matrix: *trans*-2-[3-(4-*tert*-Butylphenyl)-2-methyl-2-propenylidene]malononitrile).



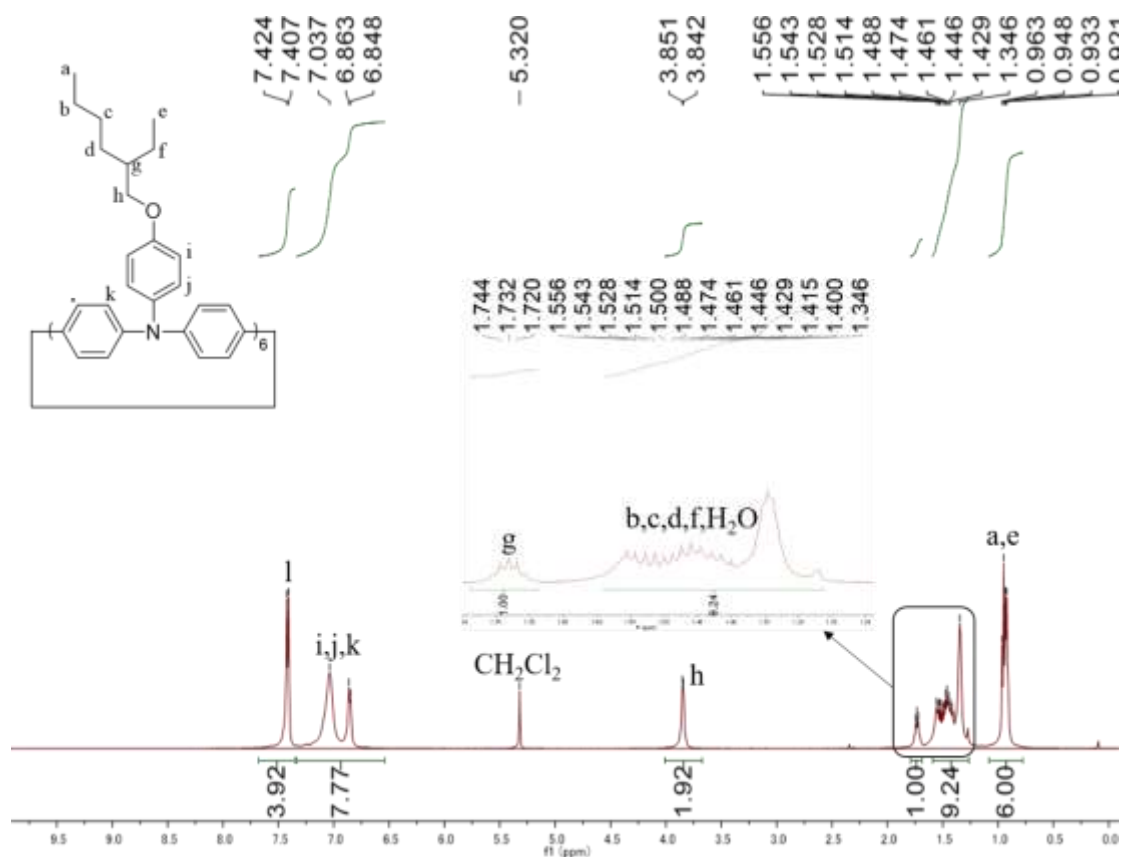
**Fig. S12** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 4-[(2-ethylhexyl)oxy]nitrobenzene.



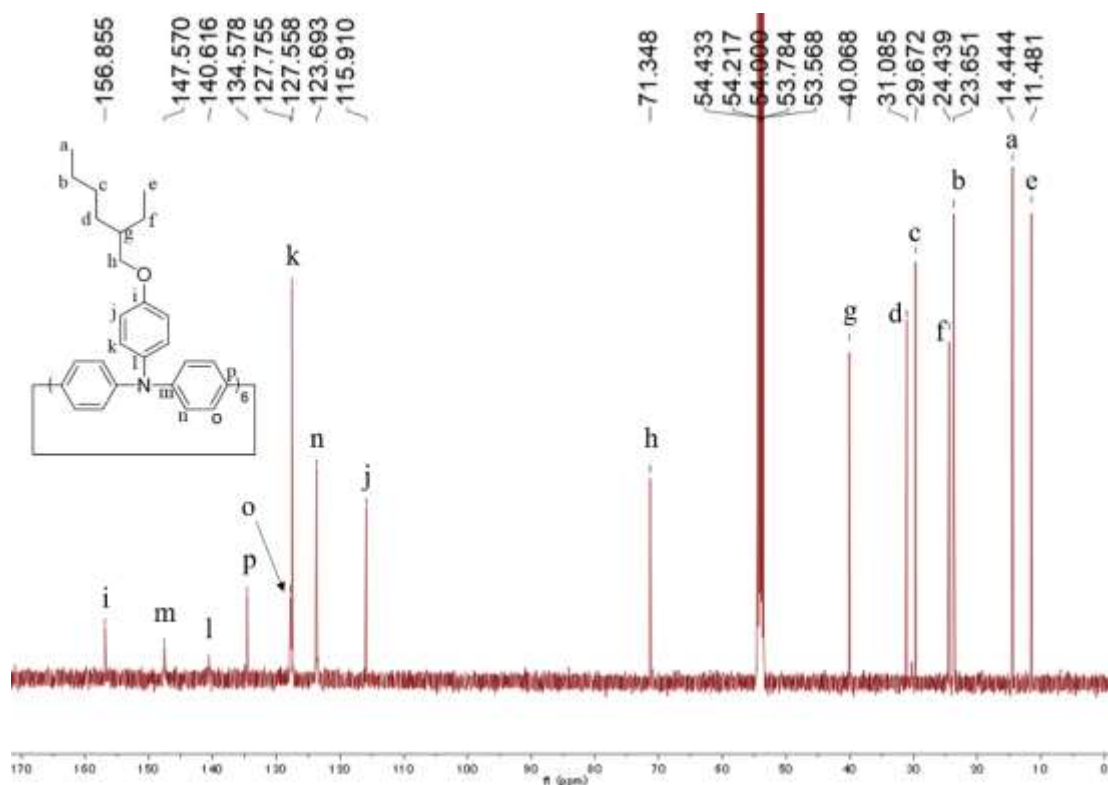
**Fig S13.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of 4-[(2-ethylhexyl)oxy]aniline.



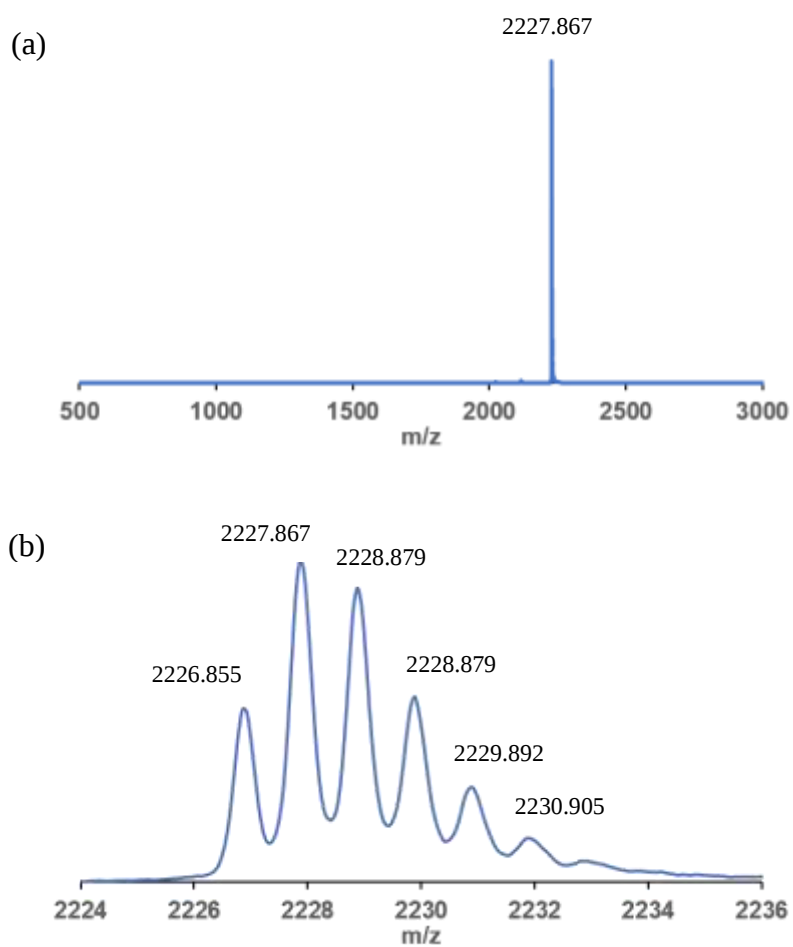
**Fig S14.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of monomer 2.



**Fig. S15** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) spectrum of CETPA [6].



**Fig. S16** <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) spectrum of CETPA [6].



**Fig. S17** (a) MALDI-TOF-MS spectrum of **CETPA [6]**, and (b) its enlarged spectrum (matrix: *trans*-2-[3-(4-*tert*-Butylphenyl)-2-methyl-2-propenylidene]malononitrile).

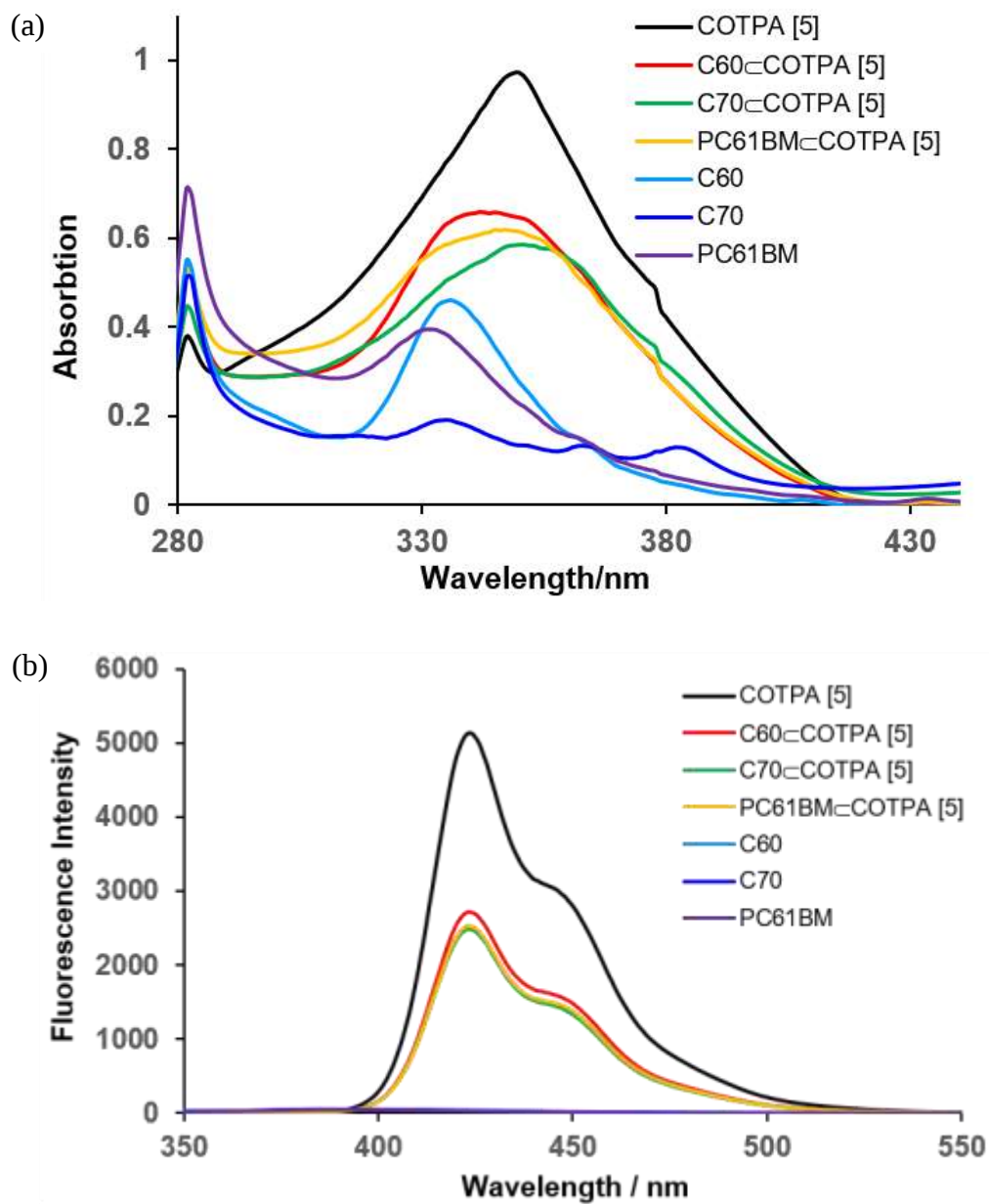
## 2. Solubility of COTPA<sub>s</sub>

**Table S1.** Solubility of COTPA<sub>s</sub> in toluene, chlorobenzene and chloroform.

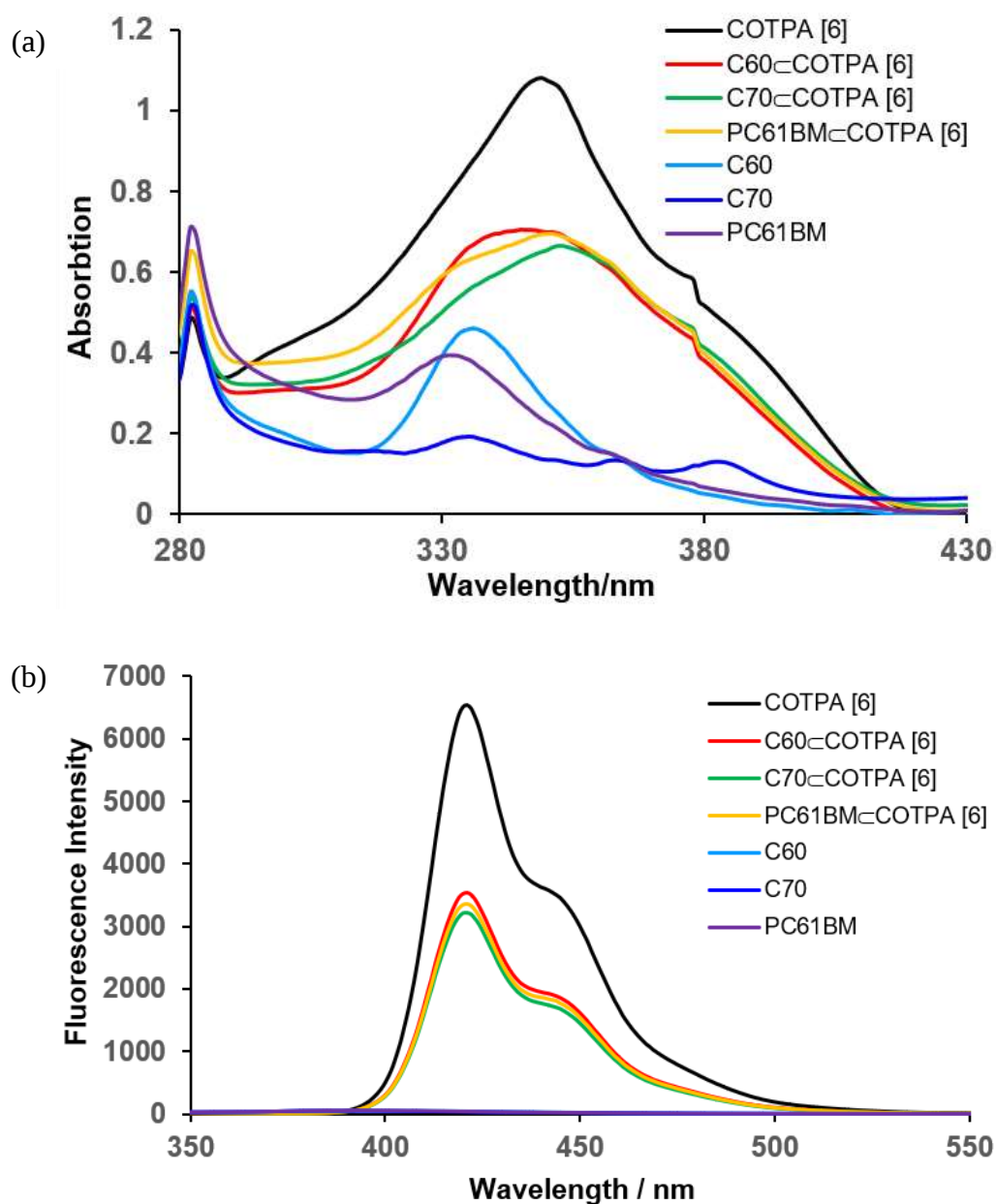
|               | COTPA [5] | COTPA [6] | COTPA [7] |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| toluene       | O         | X         | O         |
| chlorobenzene | O         | Δ         | O         |
| chloroform    | O         | O         | O         |

X: less than 10 mg/mL  
Δ: from 10 to 20 mg/mL  
O: more than 20 mg/mL

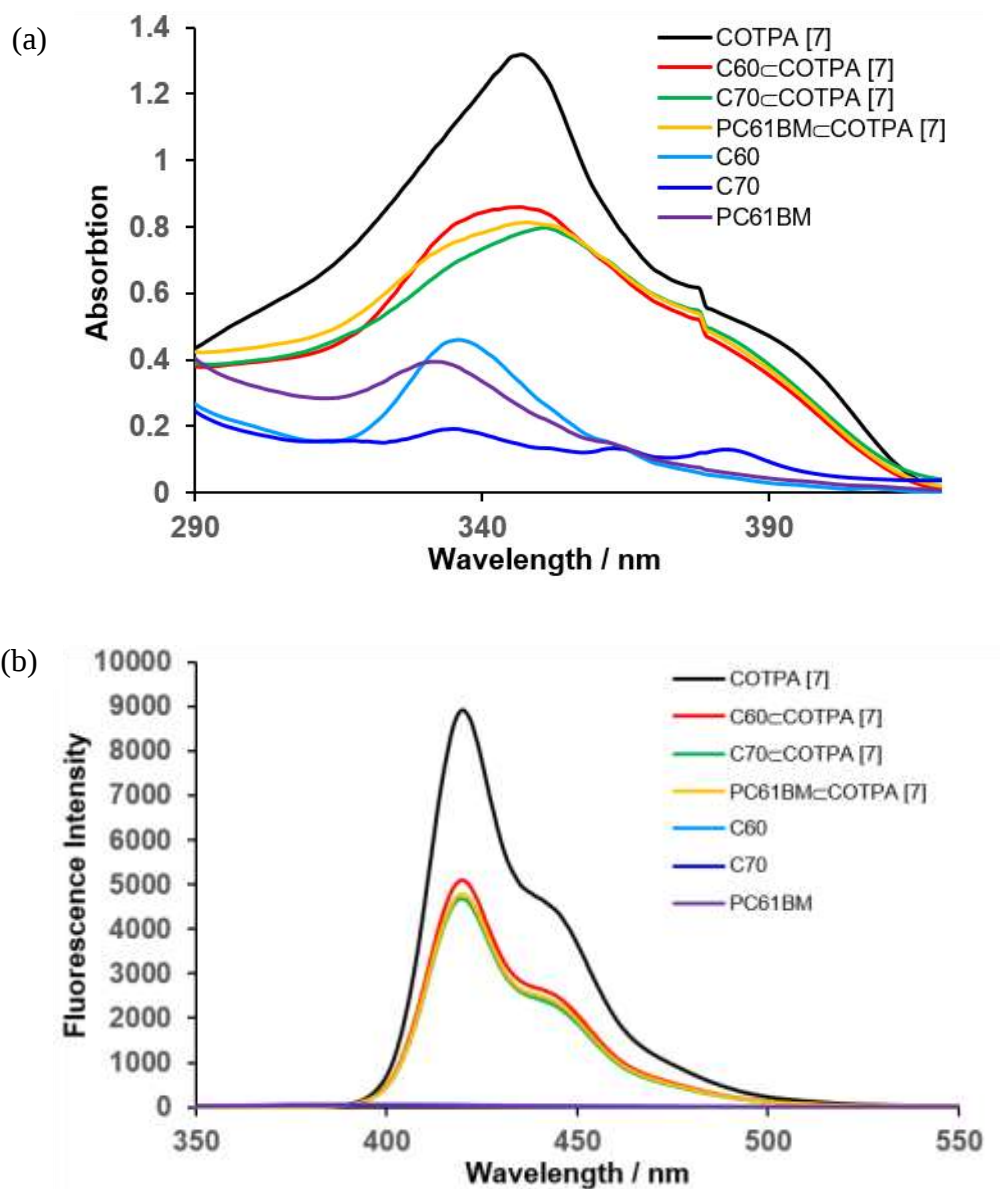
### 3. UV-vis and fluorescence spectra



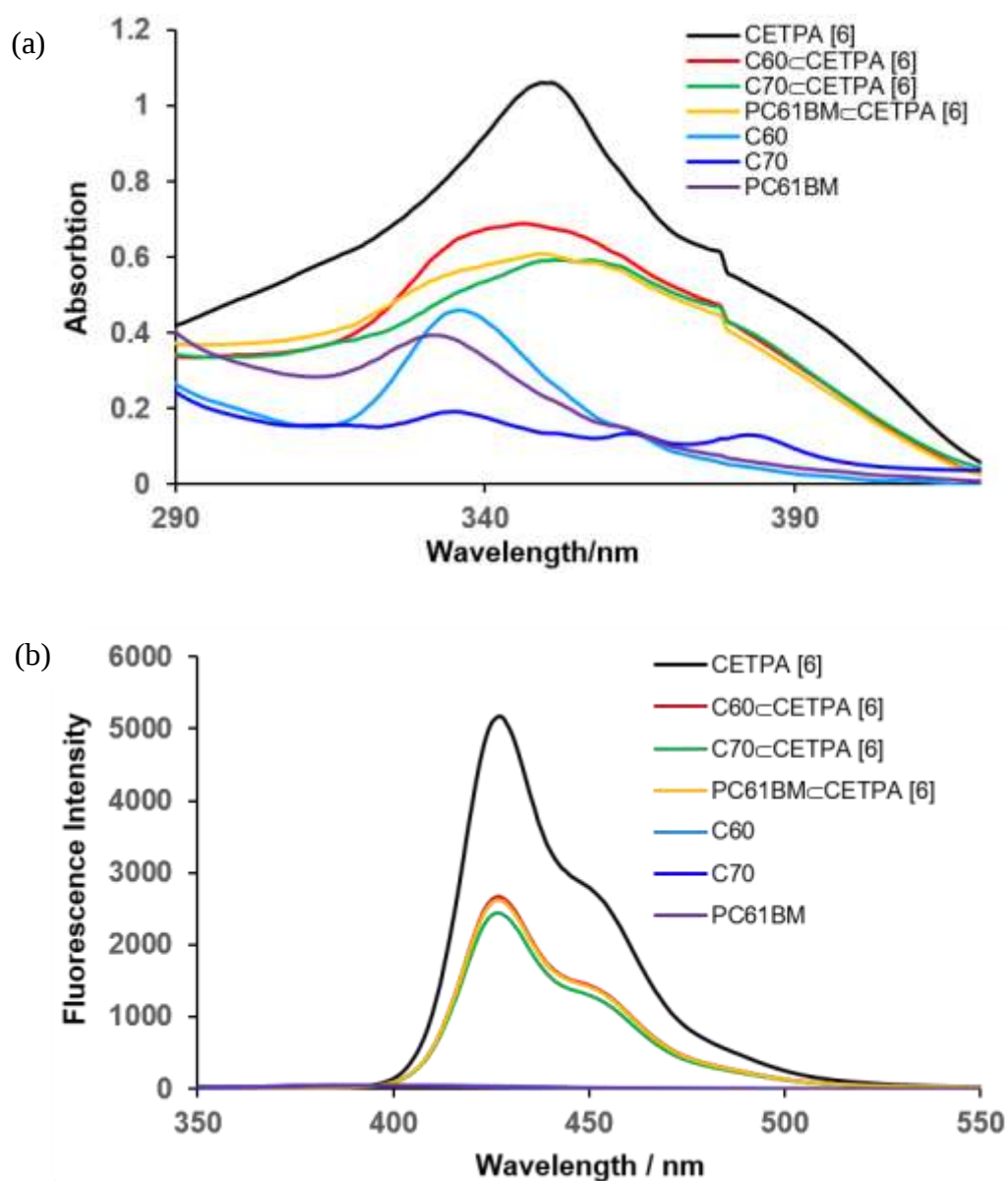
**Fig. S18** (a) UV-vis and (b) fluorescence ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 300$  nm in toluene,  $5 \times 10^{-6}$  M, 298 K) spectra of COTPA [5], C<sub>60</sub>-COTPA [5], C<sub>70</sub>-COTPA [5], PC<sub>61</sub>BM-COTPA [5], C<sub>60</sub>, C<sub>70</sub> and PC<sub>61</sub>BM.



**Fig. S19** (a) UV-vis and (b) fluorescence ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 300$  nm in toluene,  $5 \times 10^{-6}$  M, 298 K) spectra of COTPA [6], C<sub>60</sub>-COTPA [6], C<sub>70</sub>-COTPA [6], PC<sub>61</sub>BM-COTPA [6], C<sub>60</sub>, C<sub>70</sub> and PC<sub>61</sub>BM.

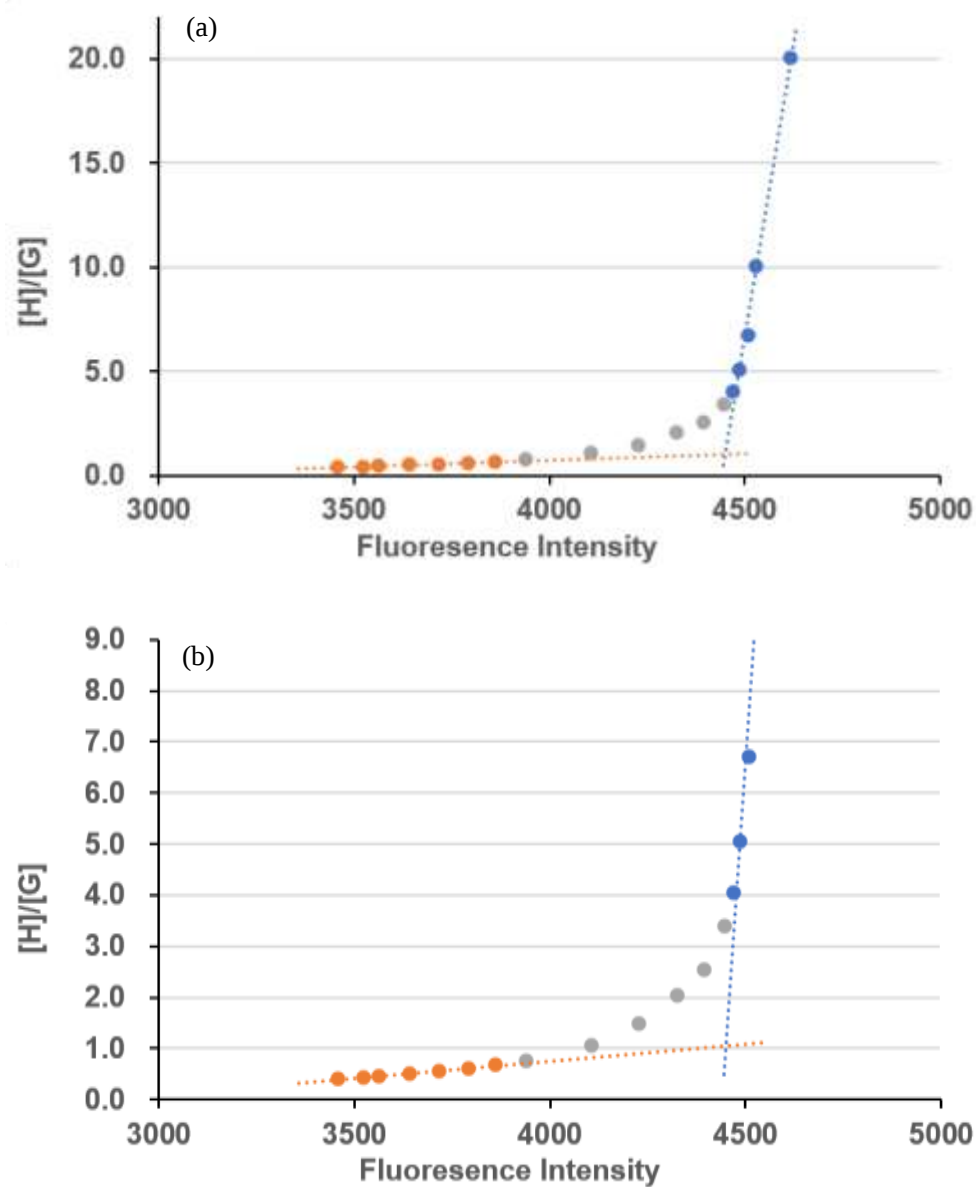


**Fig. S20** (a) UV-vis and (b) fluorescence ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 300$  nm in toluene,  $5 \times 10^{-6}$  M, 298 K) spectra of COTPA [7], C<sub>60</sub>-COTPA [7], C<sub>70</sub>-COTPA [7], PC<sub>61</sub>BM-COTPA [7], C<sub>60</sub>, C<sub>70</sub> and PC<sub>61</sub>BM.

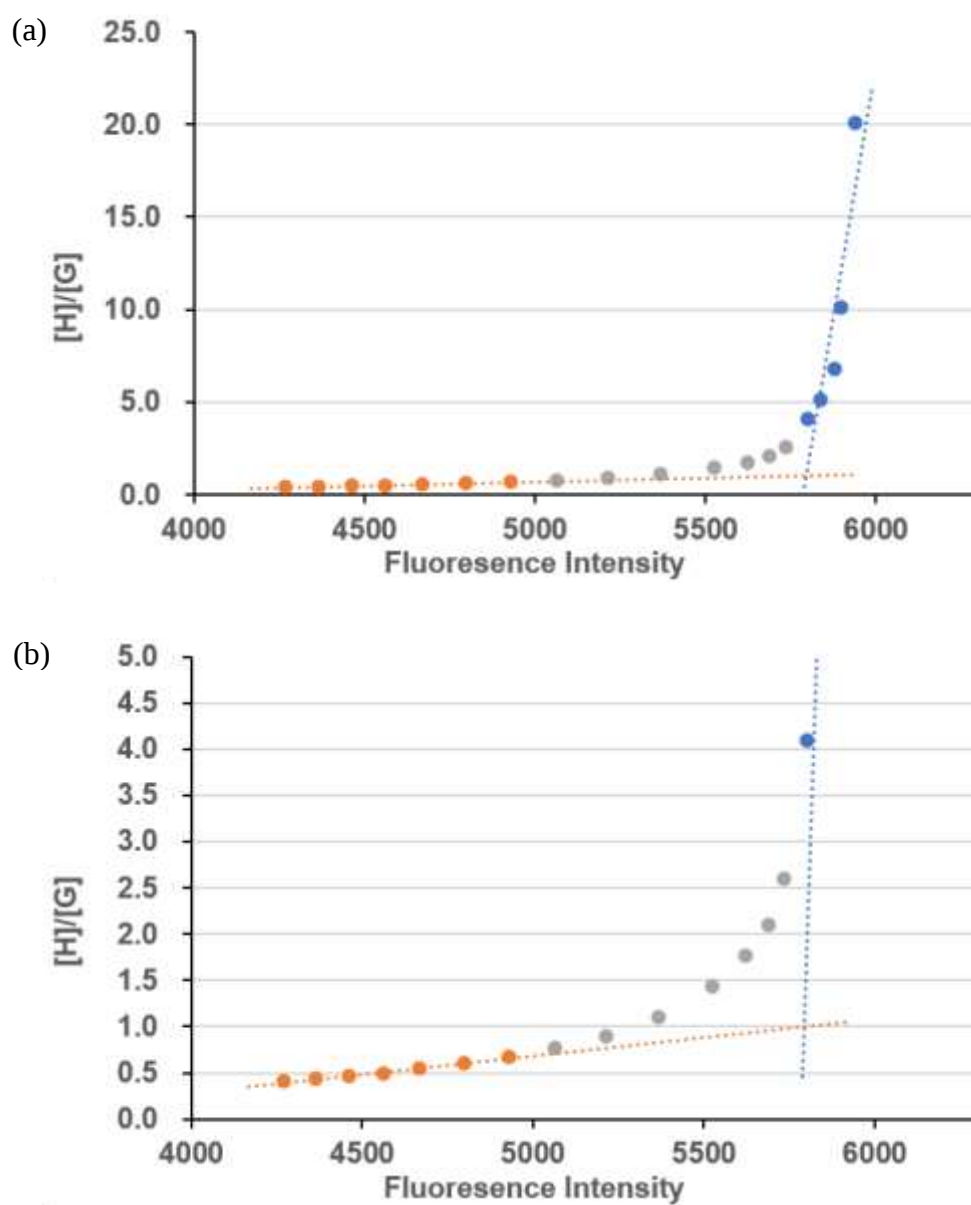


**Fig. S21** (a) UV-vis and (b) fluorescence ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 300$  nm in toluene,  $5 \times 10^{-6}$  M, 298 K) spectra of CETPA [6], C<sub>60</sub>-CETPA [6], C<sub>70</sub>-CETPA [6], PC<sub>61</sub>BM-CETPA [6], C<sub>60</sub>, C<sub>70</sub> and PC<sub>61</sub>BM.

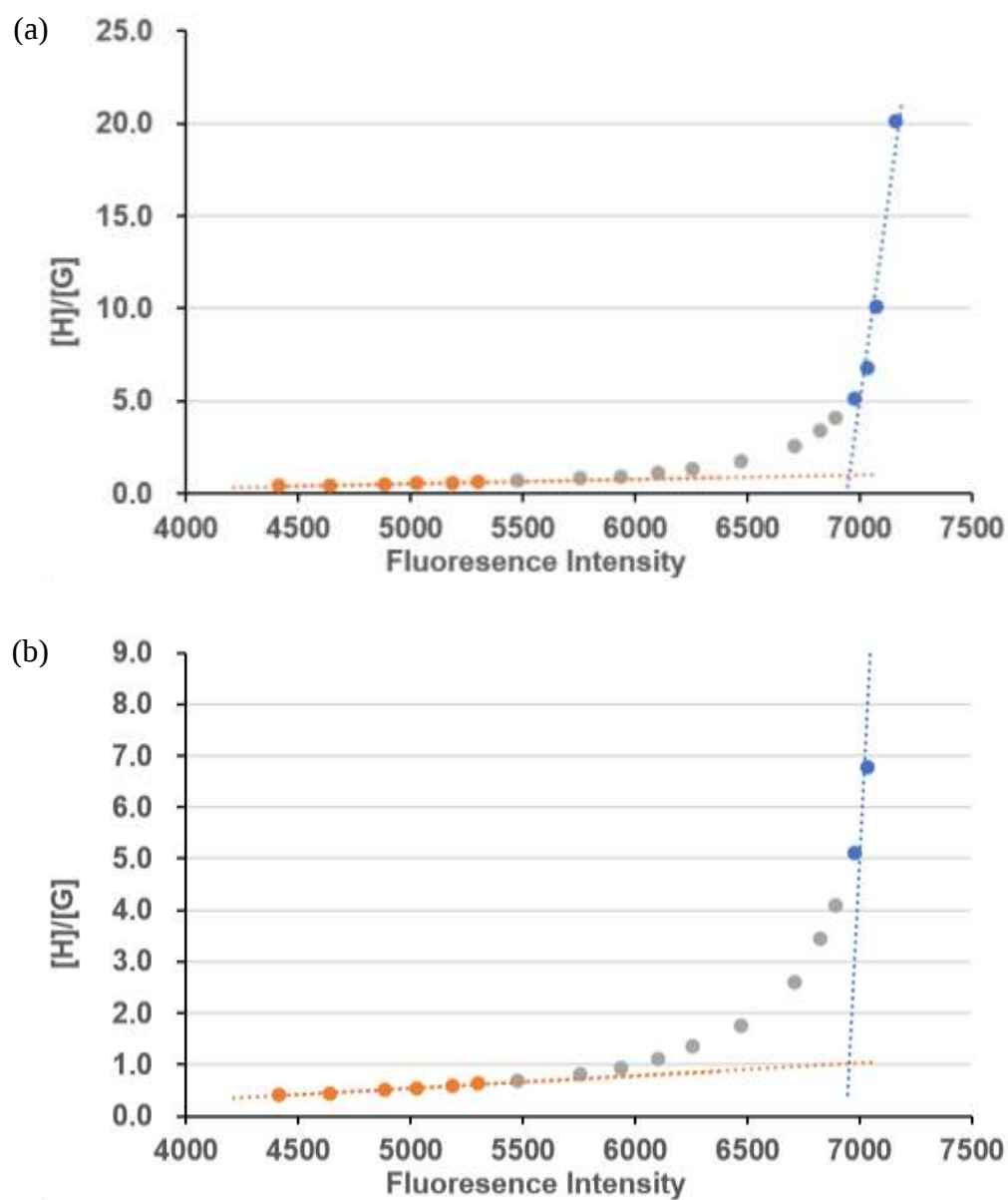
#### 4. Determination of binding stoichiometries



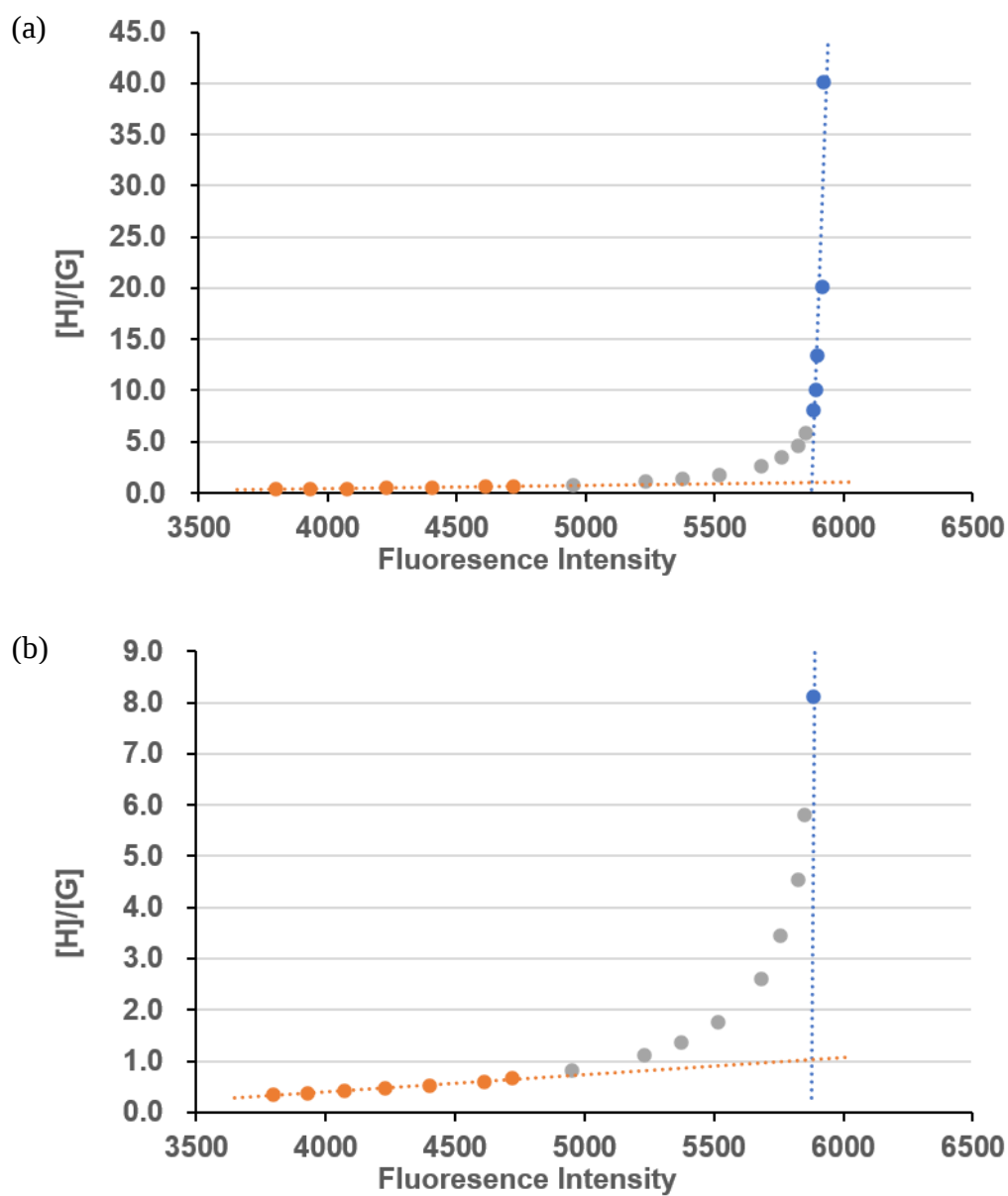
**Fig. S22** (a) Mole ratio plot for the complexation between COTPA [5] and C<sub>60</sub>, indicating a 1:1 stoichiometry; and (b) the enlarged plot of (a).



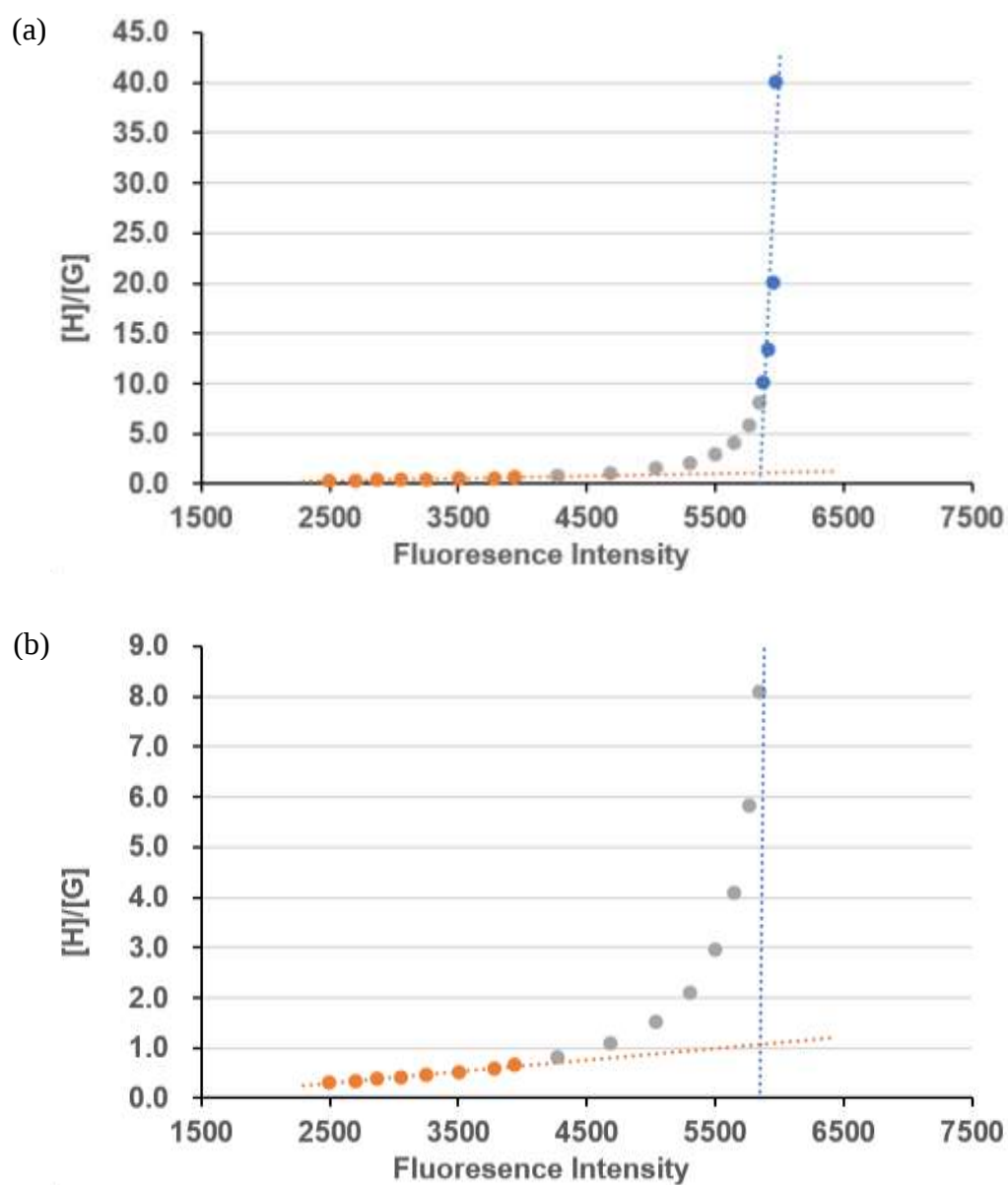
**Fig. S23** (a) Mole ratio plot for the complexation between **COTPA [6]** and  $C_{60}$ , indicating a 1:1 stoichiometry, and (b) the enlarged plot of (a).



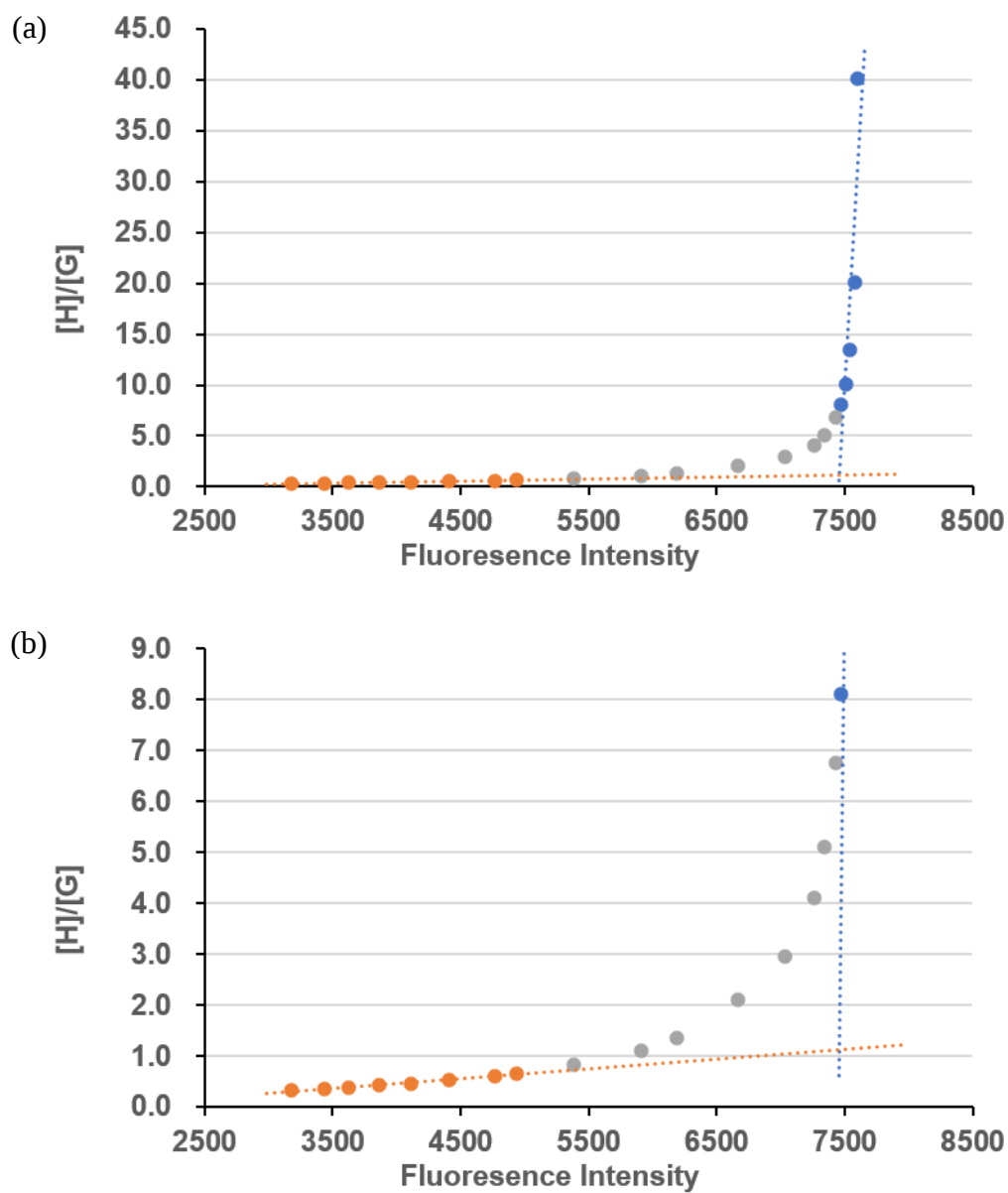
**Fig. S24** (a) Mole ratio plot for the complexation between **COTPA [7]** and **C<sub>60</sub>**, indicating a 1:1 stoichiometry, and (b) the enlarged plot of (a).



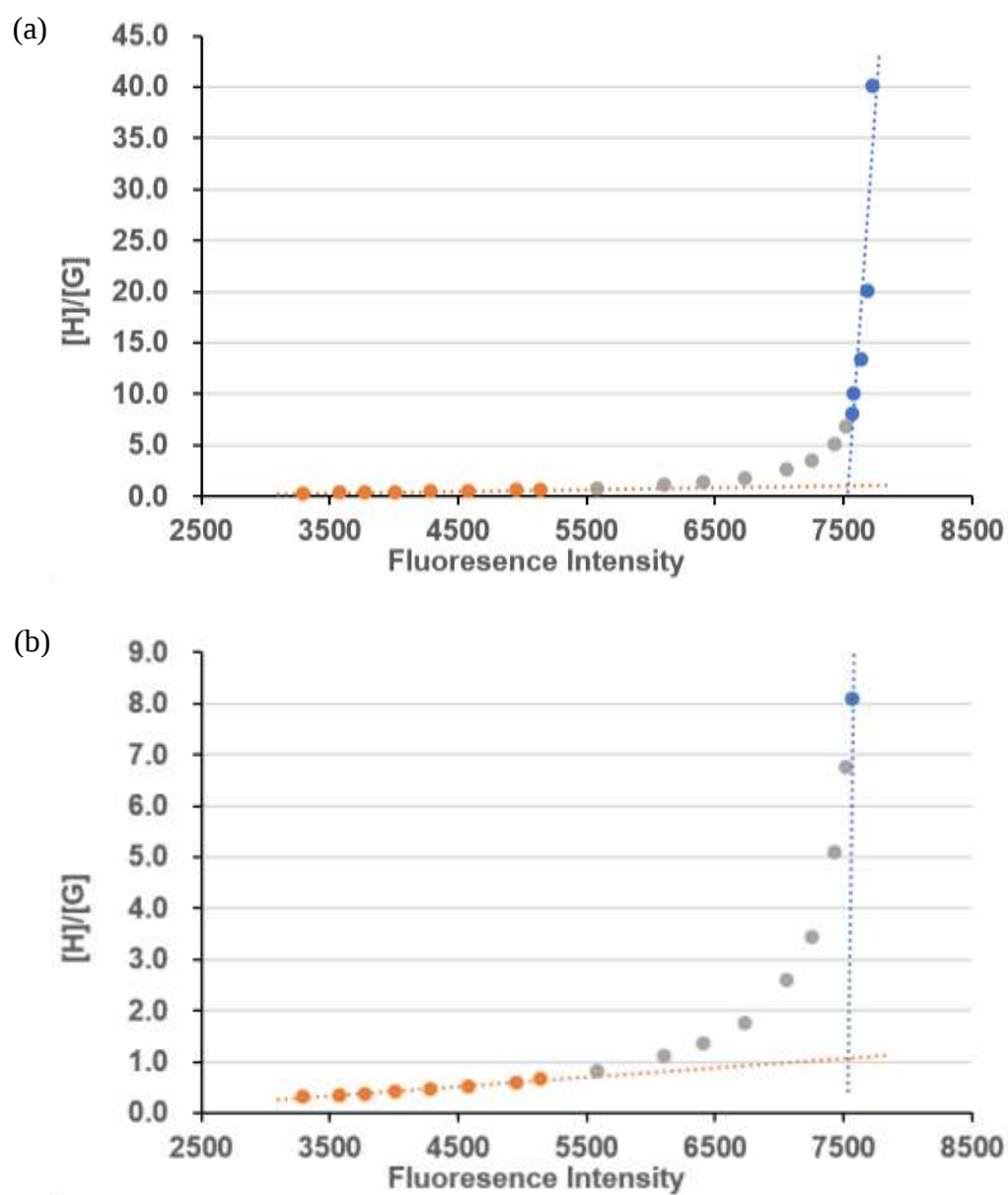
**Fig. S25** (a) Mole ratio plot for the complexation between **CETPA [6]** and  $C_{60}$ , indicating a 1:1 stoichiometry, and (b) the enlarged plot of (a).



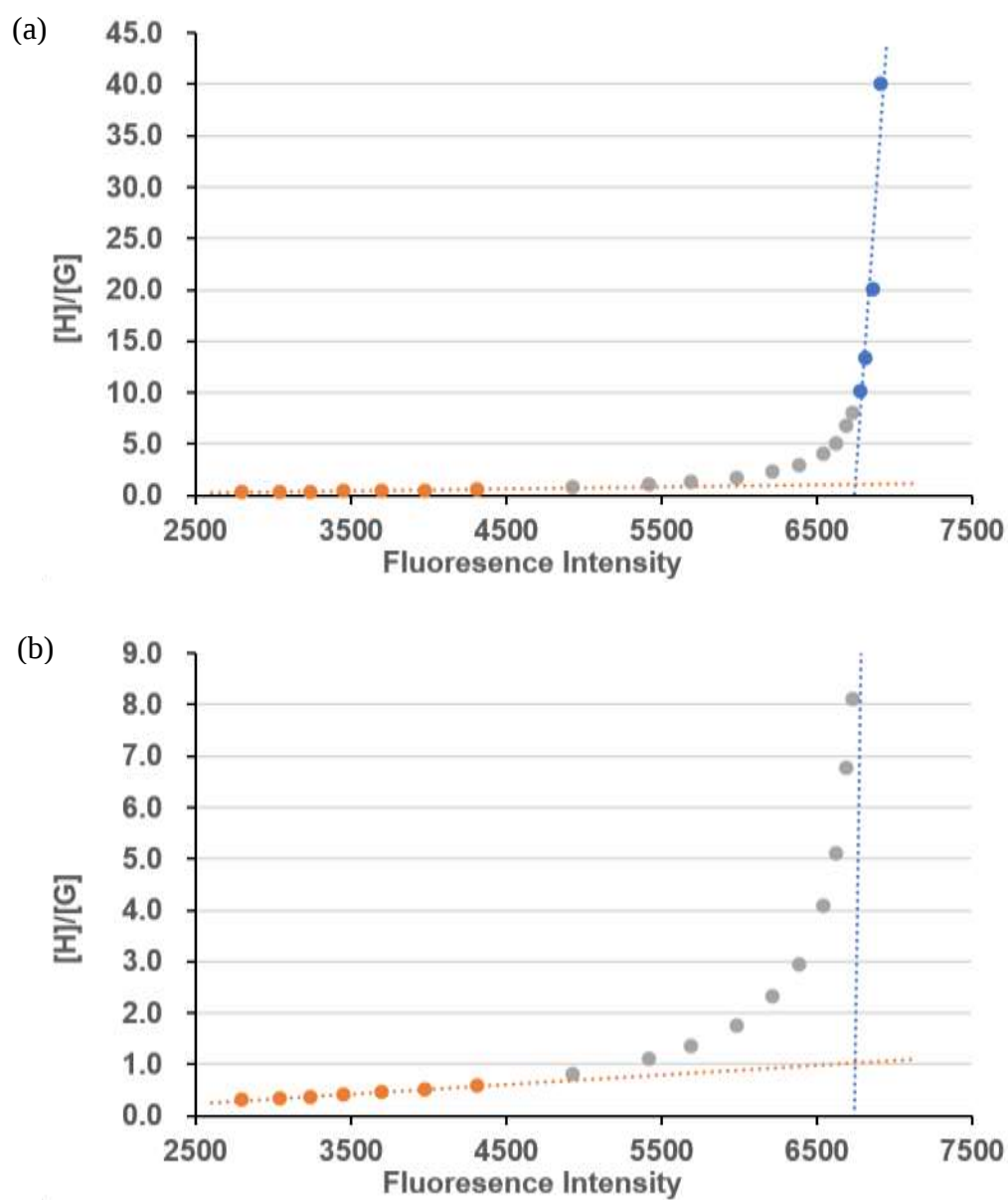
**Fig. S26** (a) Mole ratio plot for the complexation between **COTPA [5]** and  $C_{70}$ , indicating a 1:1 stoichiometry, and (b) the enlarged plot of (a).



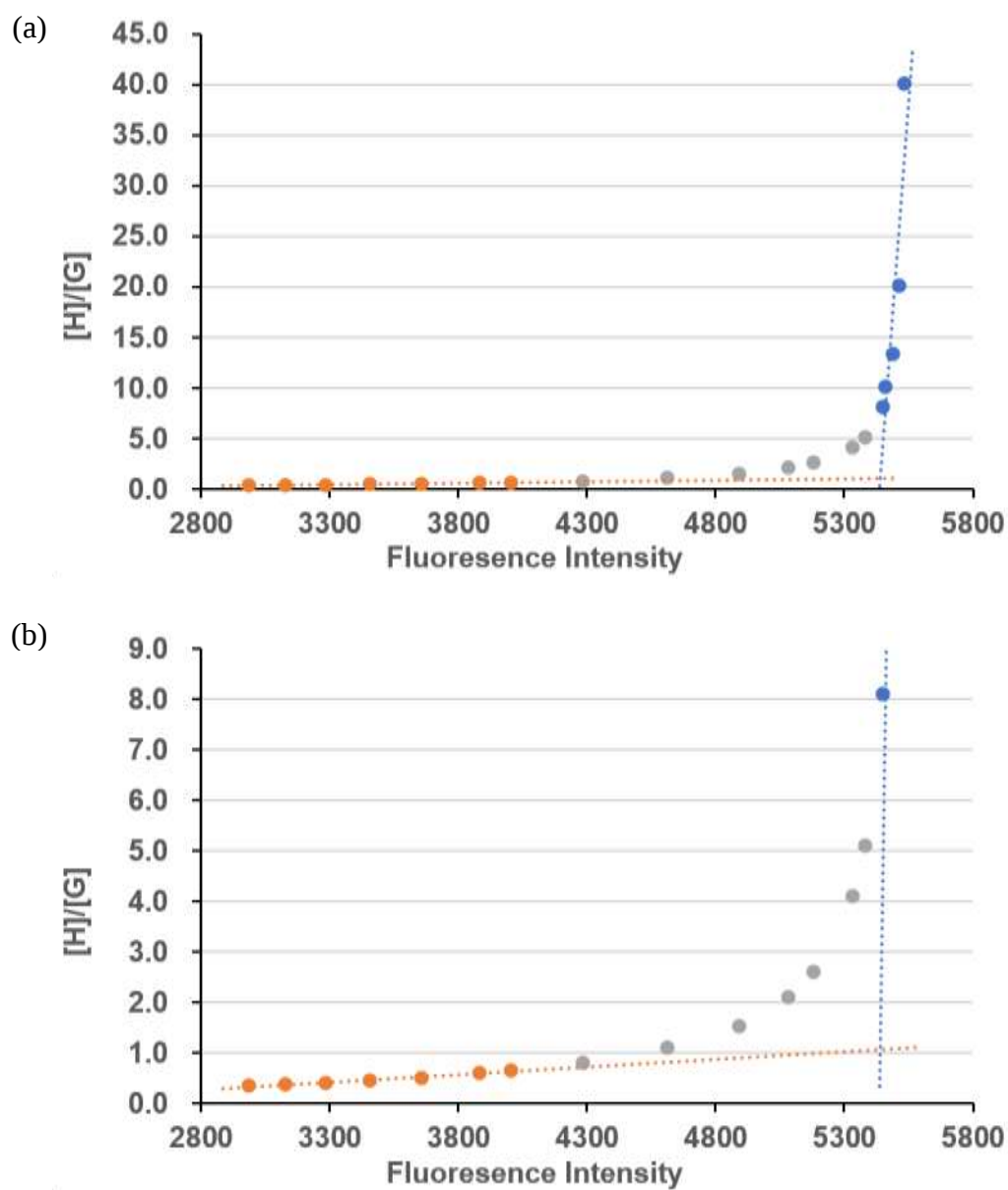
**Fig. S27** (a) Mole ratio plot for the complexation between COTPA [6] and  $C_{70}$ , indicating a 1:1 stoichiometry, and (b) the enlarged plot of (a).



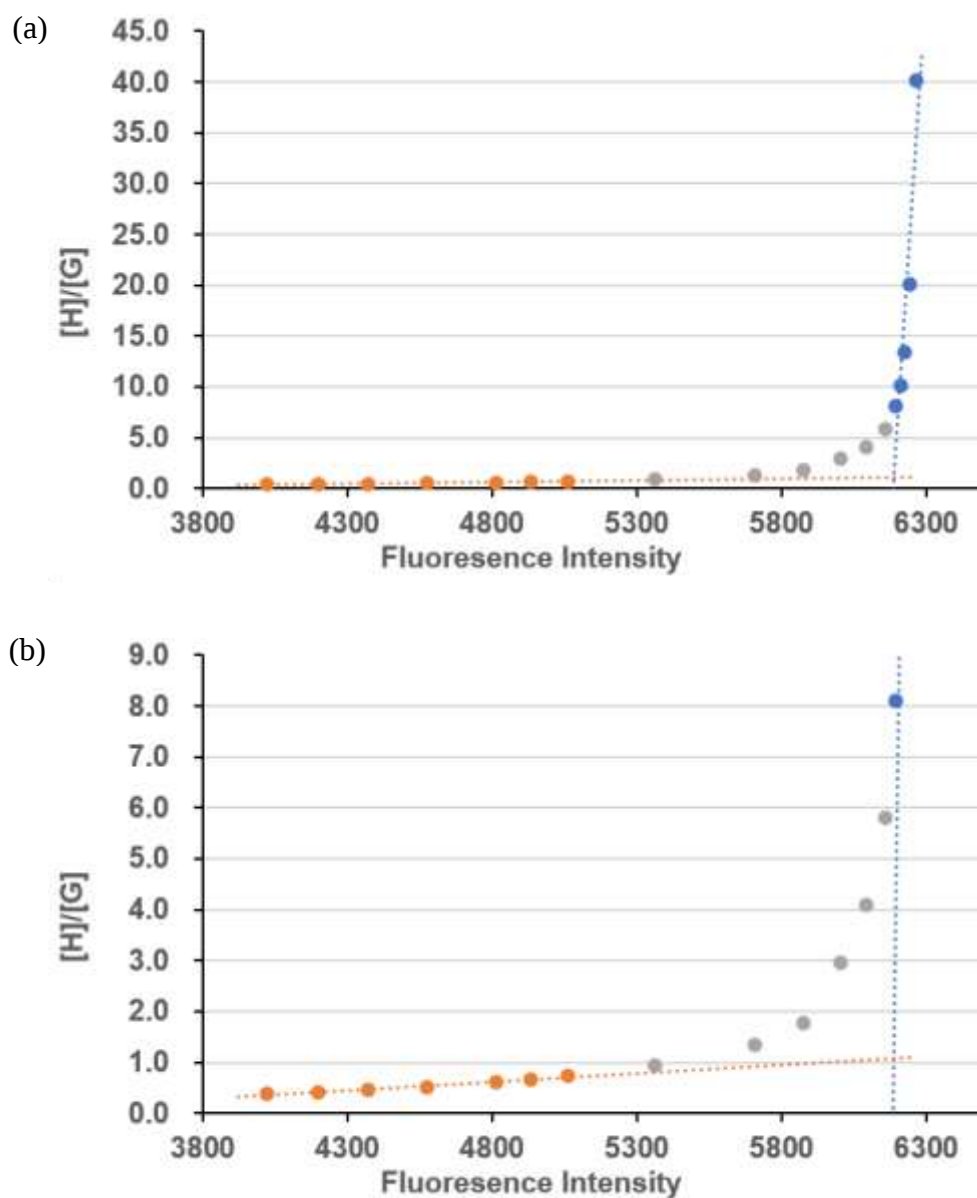
**Fig. S28** (a) Mole ratio plot for the complexation between **COTPA [7]** and **C<sub>70</sub>**, indicating a 1:1 stoichiometry, and (b) the enlarged plot of (a).



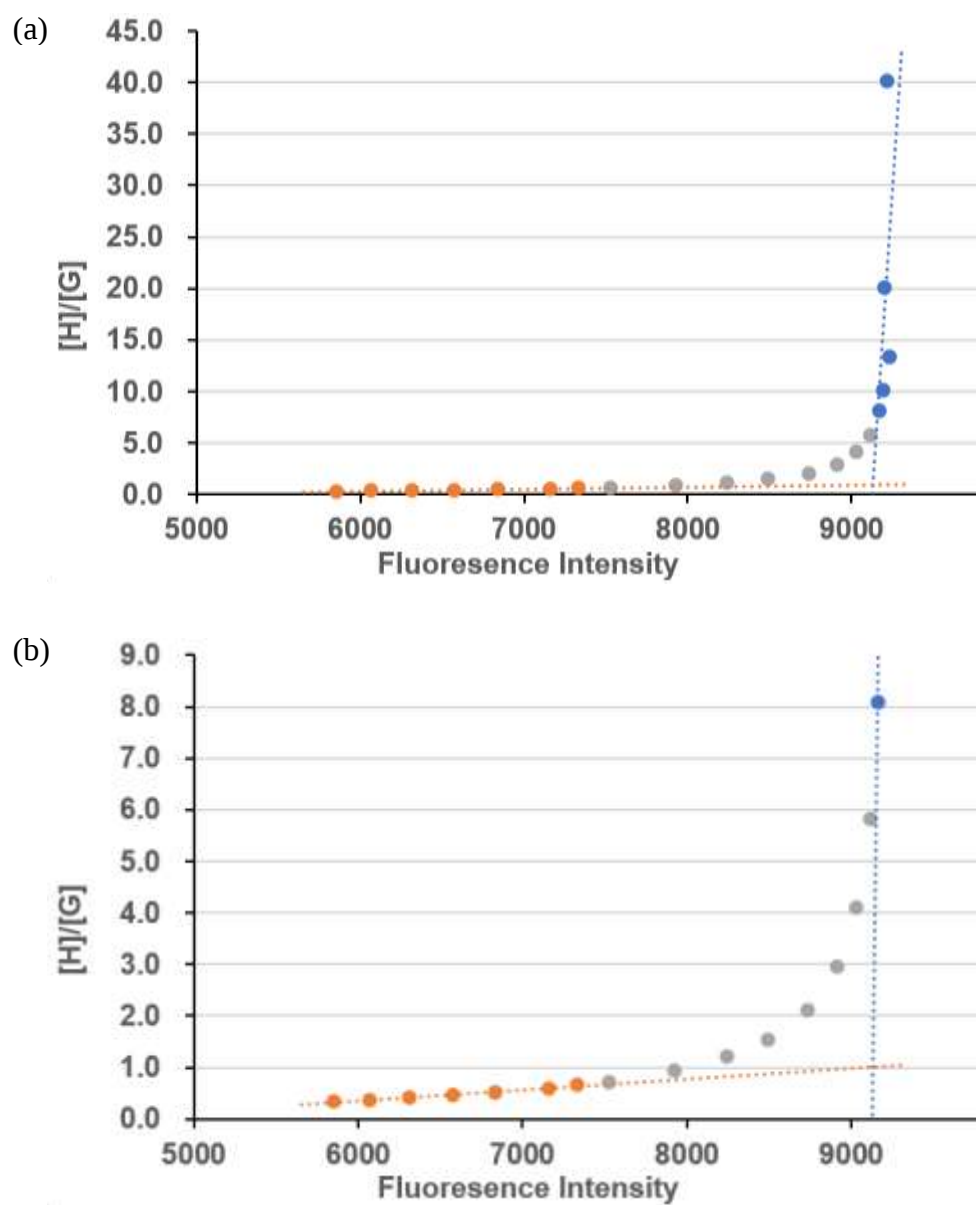
**Fig. S29** (a) Mole ratio plot for the complexation between **CETPA [6]** and  $C_{70}$ , indicating a 1:1 stoichiometry, and (b) the enlarged plot of (a).



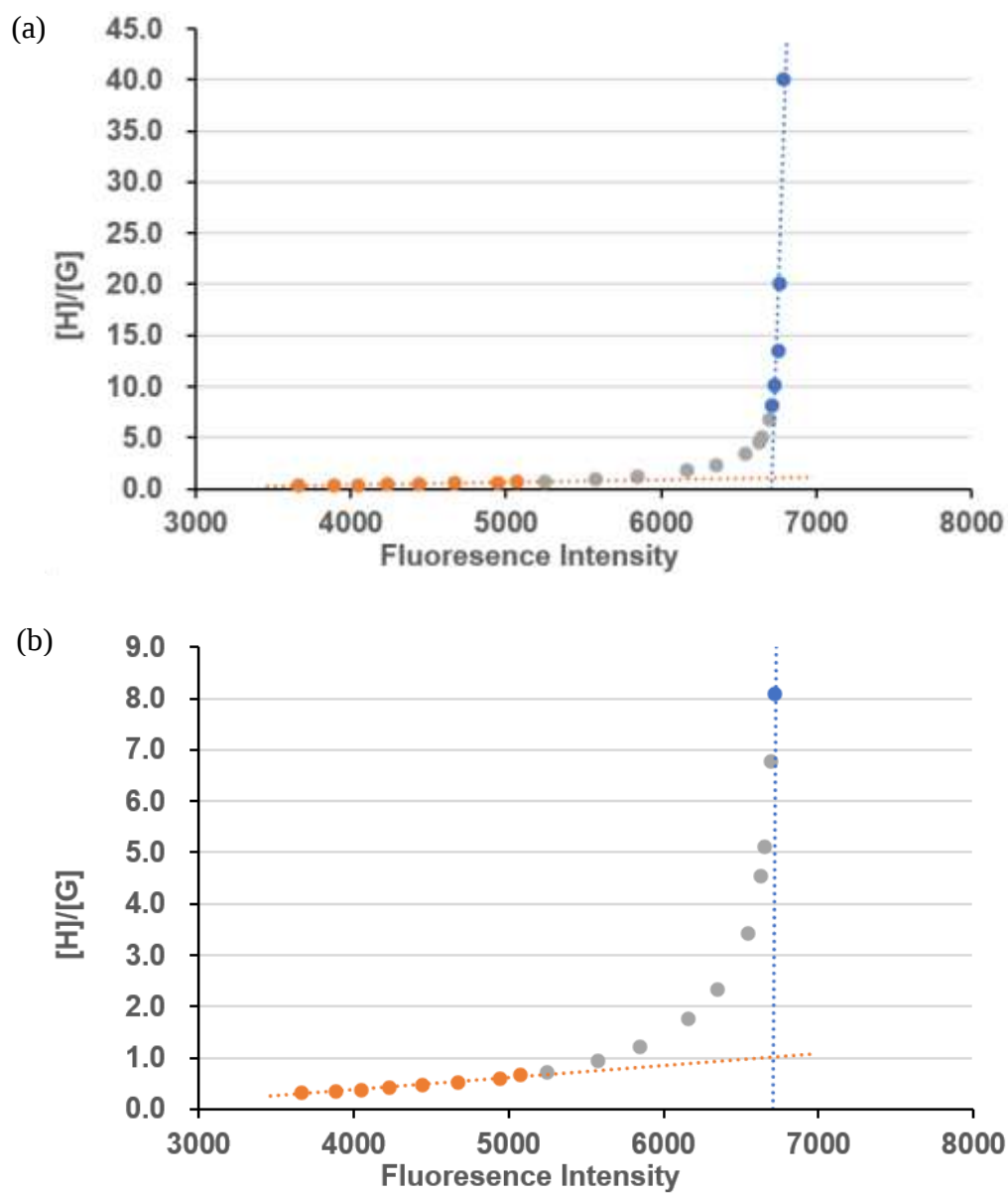
**Fig. S30** (a) Mole ratio plot for the complexation between **COTPA [5]** and **PC<sub>61</sub>BM**, indicating a 1:1 stoichiometry, and (b) the enlarged plot of (a).



**Fig. S31** (a) Mole ratio plot for the complexation between **COTPA [6]** and PC<sub>61</sub>BM, indicating a 1:1 stoichiometry, and (b) the enlarged plot of (a).

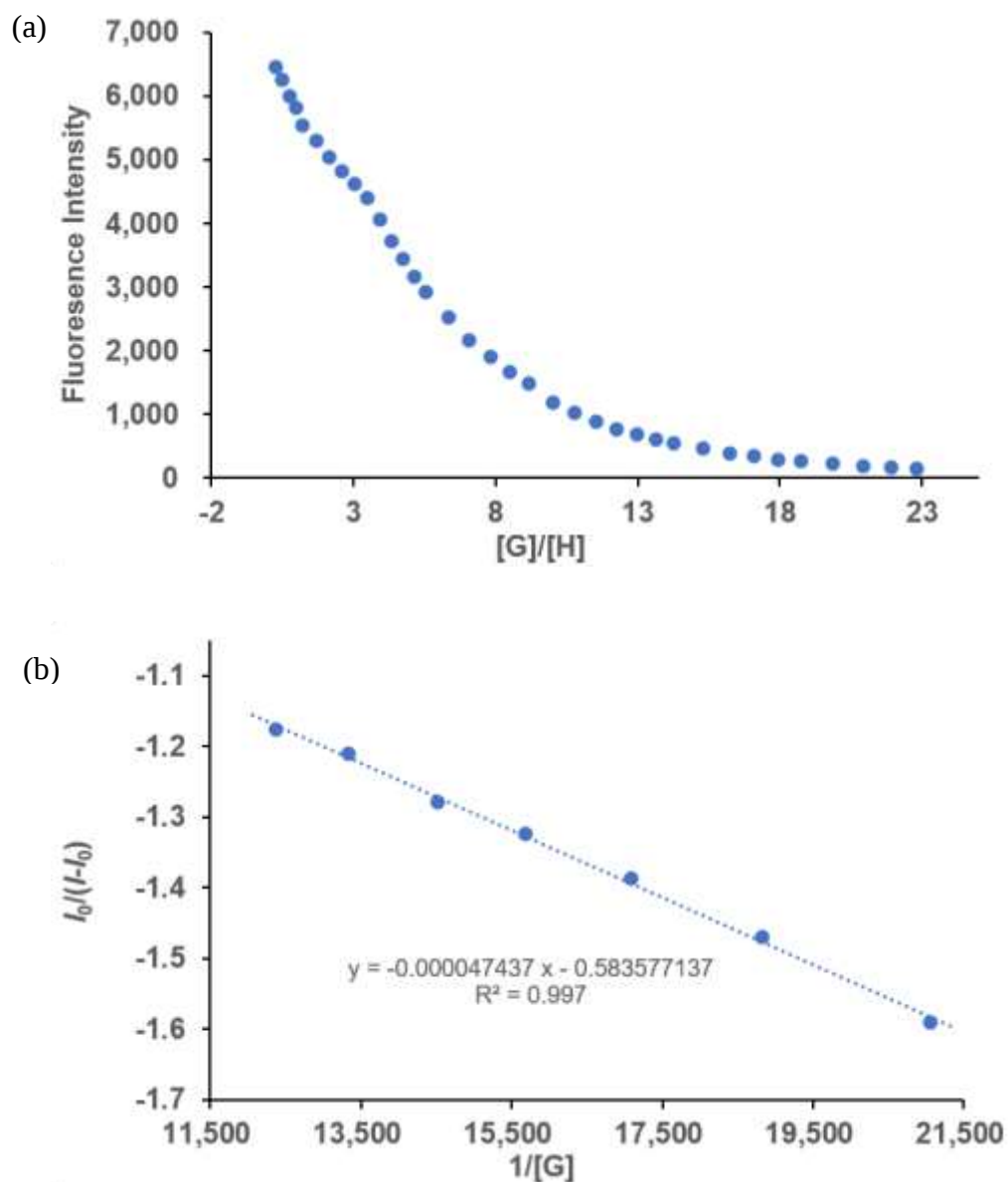


**Fig. S32** (a) Mole ratio plot for the complexation between **COTPA [7]** and **PC<sub>61</sub>BM**, indicating a 1:1 stoichiometry, and (b) the enlarged plot of (a).

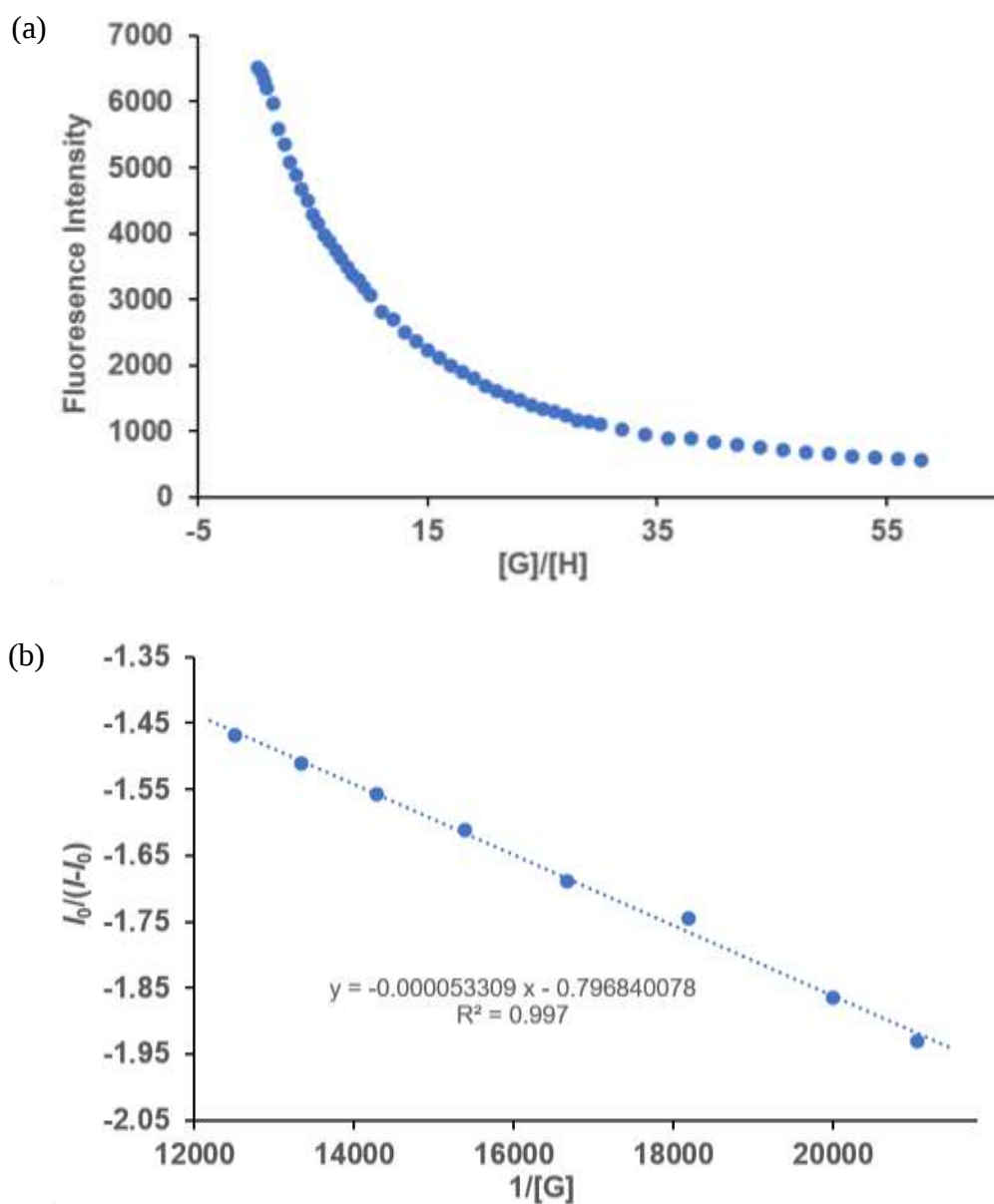


**Fig. S33** (a) Mole ratio plot for the complexation between **CETPA [6]** and **PC<sub>61</sub>BM**, indicating a 1:1 stoichiometry, and (b) the enlarged plot of (a).

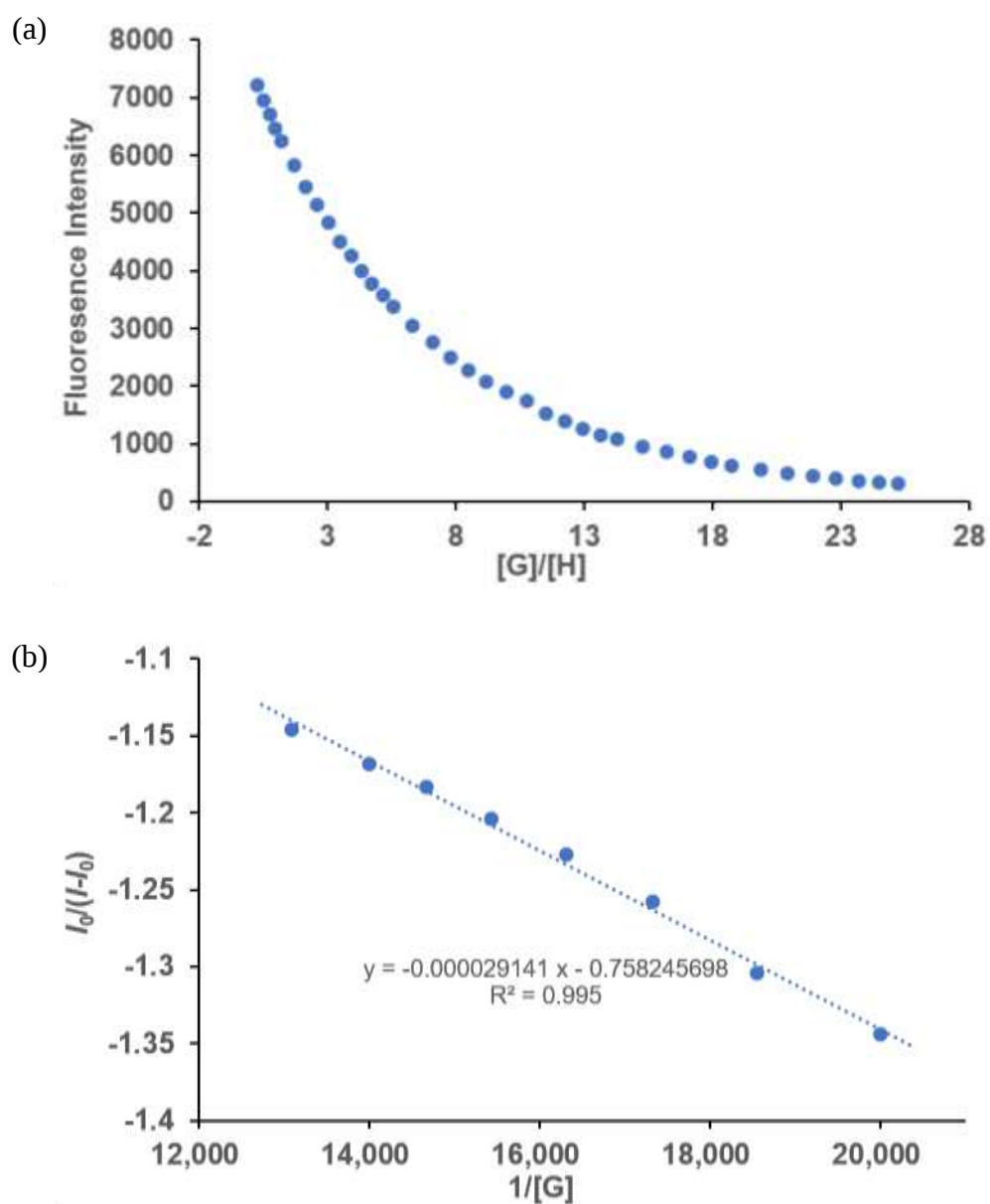
## 5. Measurement of binding constants ( $K_a$ )



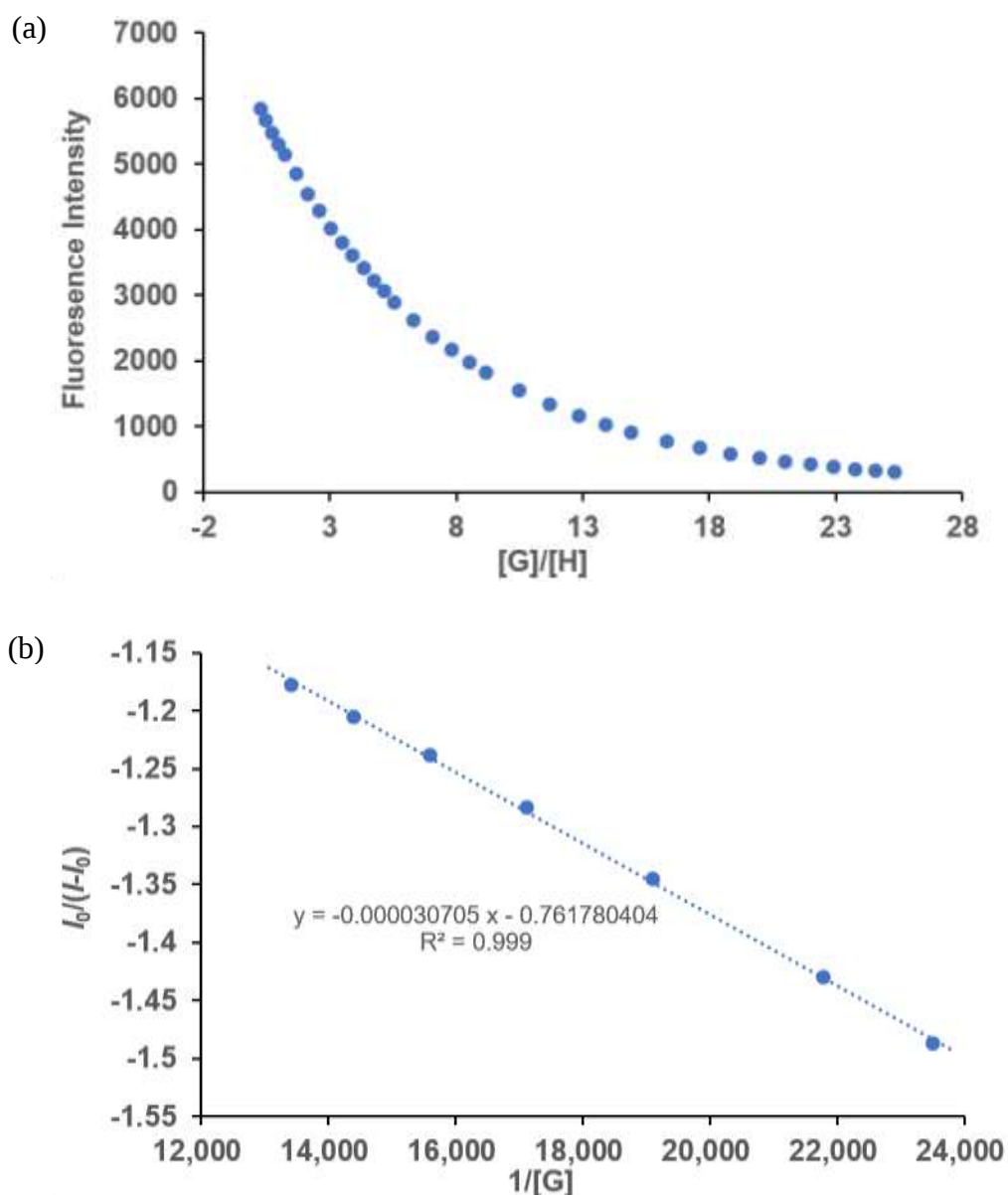
**Fig. S34** (a) The fluorescence intensity of **COTPA** [5] ( $5 \times 10^{-6}$  M,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 300$  nm) upon addition of  $C_{60}$  in toluene at 298 K; and (b) relationship between  $I_0/(I - I_0)$  and  $1/[G]_0$  for the complexation between **COTPA** [5] and  $C_{60}$  in toluene at 298 K, wherein  $I$  and  $I_0$  are the emission intensity at 423 nm in 298 K with concentration of  $[G]_0$  and 0, respectively.



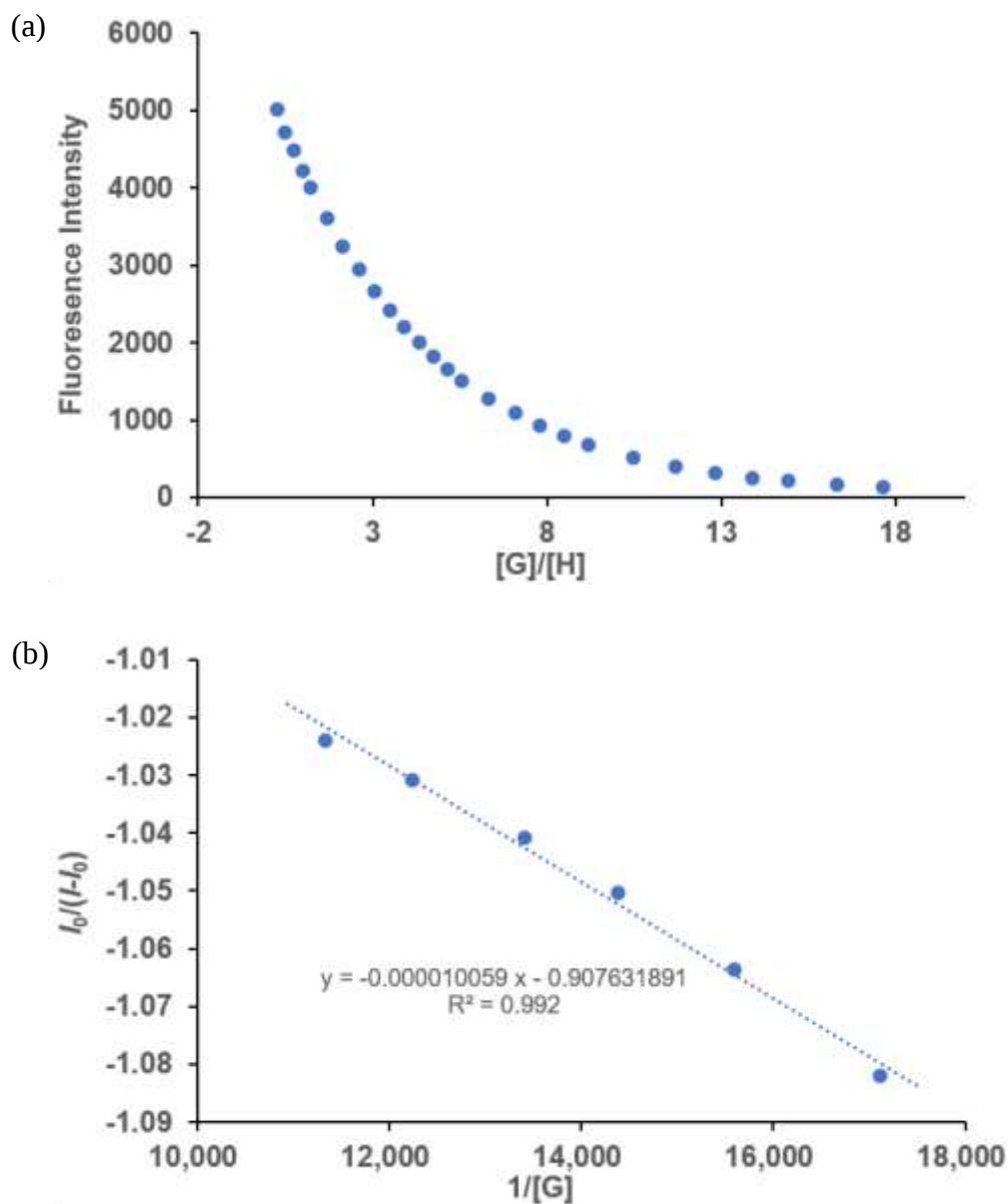
**Fig. S35** (a) The fluorescence intensity of **COTPA [6]** ( $5 \times 10^{-6}$  M,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 300$  nm) upon addition of  $\text{C}_{60}$  in toluene at 298 K; and (b) relationship between  $I_0/(I - I_0)$  and  $1/[G]_0$  for the complexation between **COTPA [6]** and  $\text{C}_{60}$  in toluene at 298 K, wherein  $I$  and  $I_0$  are the emission intensity at 421 nm in 298 K with concentration of  $[G]_0$  and 0, respectively.



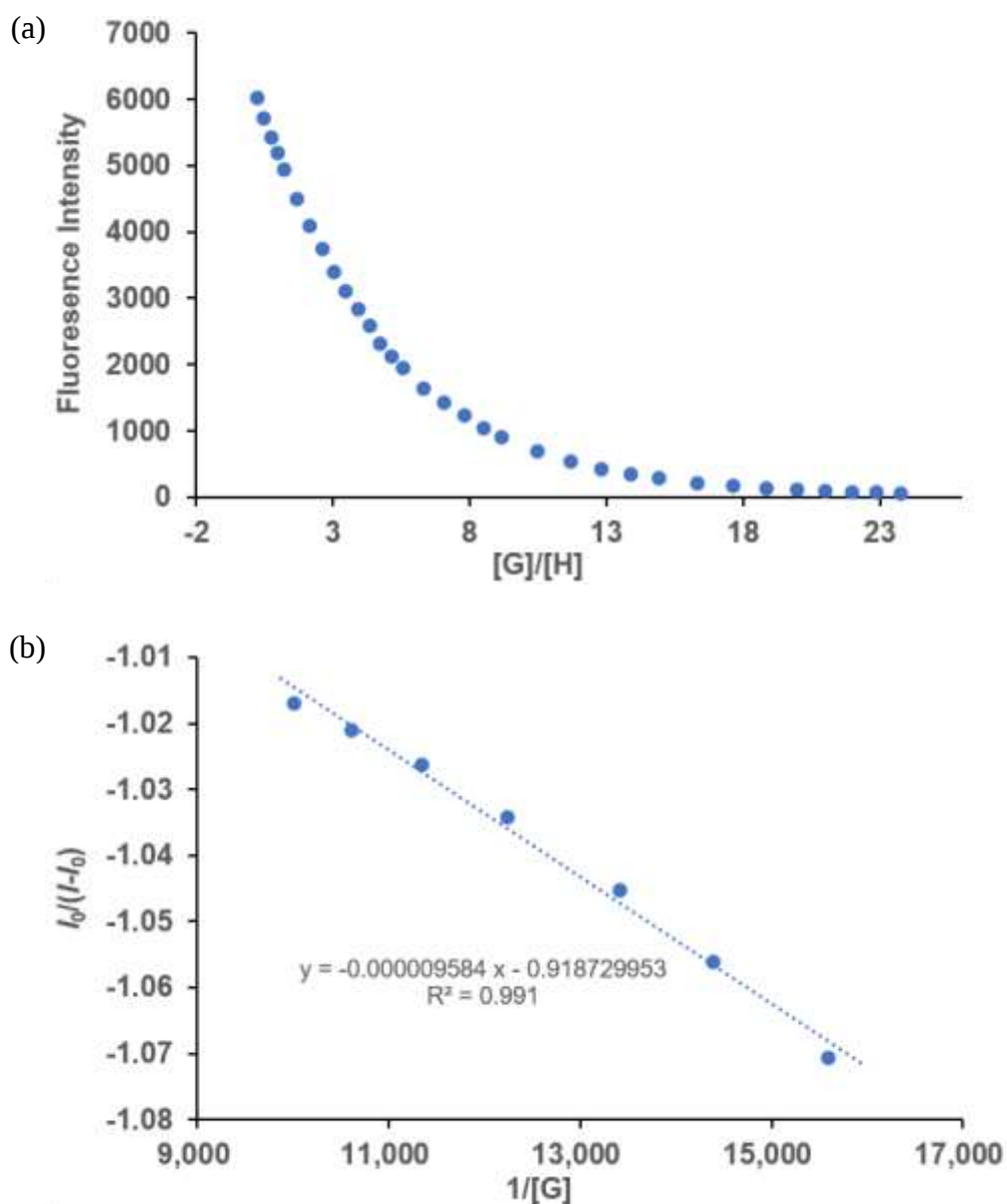
**Fig. S36** (a) The fluorescence intensity of **COTPA [7]** ( $5 \times 10^{-6}$  M,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 300$  nm) upon addition of  $\text{C}_{60}$  in toluene at 298 K; and (b) relationship between  $I_0/(I - I_0)$  and  $1/[G]_0$  for the complexation between **COTPA [7]** and  $\text{C}_{60}$  in toluene at 298 K, wherein  $I$  and  $I_0$  are the emission intensity at 420 nm in 298 K with concentration of  $[G]_0$  and 0, respectively.



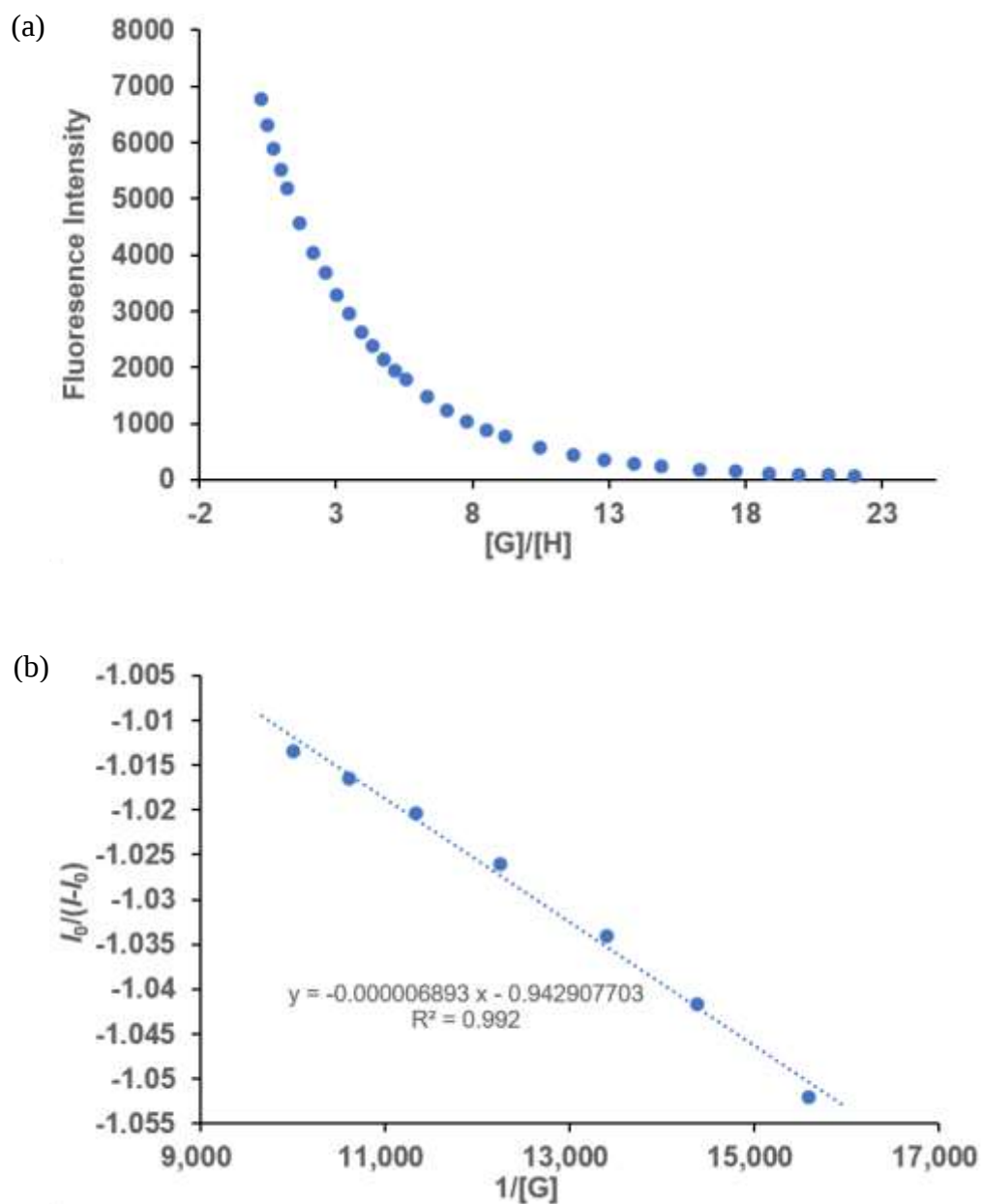
**Fig. S37** (a) The fluorescence intensity of **CETPA [6]** ( $5 \times 10^{-6}$  M,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 300$  nm) upon addition of  $\text{C}_{60}$  in toluene at 298 K; and (b) relationship between  $I_0/(I - I_0)$  and  $1/[G]_0$  for the complexation between **CETPA [6]** and  $\text{C}_{60}$  in toluene at 298 K, wherein  $I$  and  $I_0$  are the emission intensity at 427 nm in 298 K with concentration of  $[G]_0$  and 0, respectively.



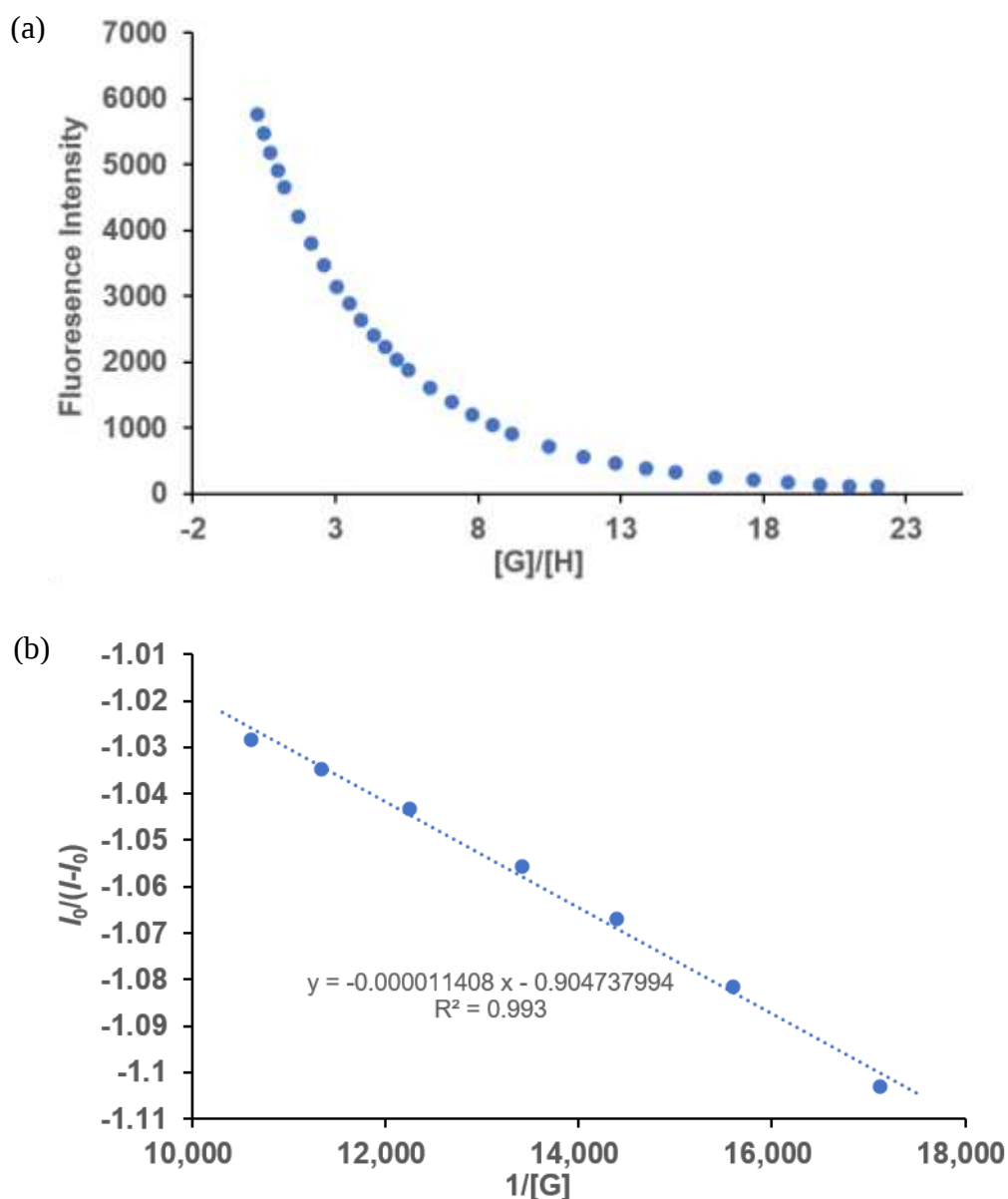
**Fig. S38** (a) The fluorescence intensity of **COTPA [5]** ( $5 \times 10^{-6}$  M,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 300$  nm) upon addition of PC<sub>61</sub>BM in toluene at 298 K; and (b) relationship between  $I_0/(I - I_0)$  and  $1/[G]_0$  for the complexation between **COTPA [5]** and PC<sub>61</sub>BM in toluene at 298 K, wherein  $I$  and  $I_0$  are the emission intensity at 423 nm in 298 K with concentration of  $[G]_0$  and 0, respectively.



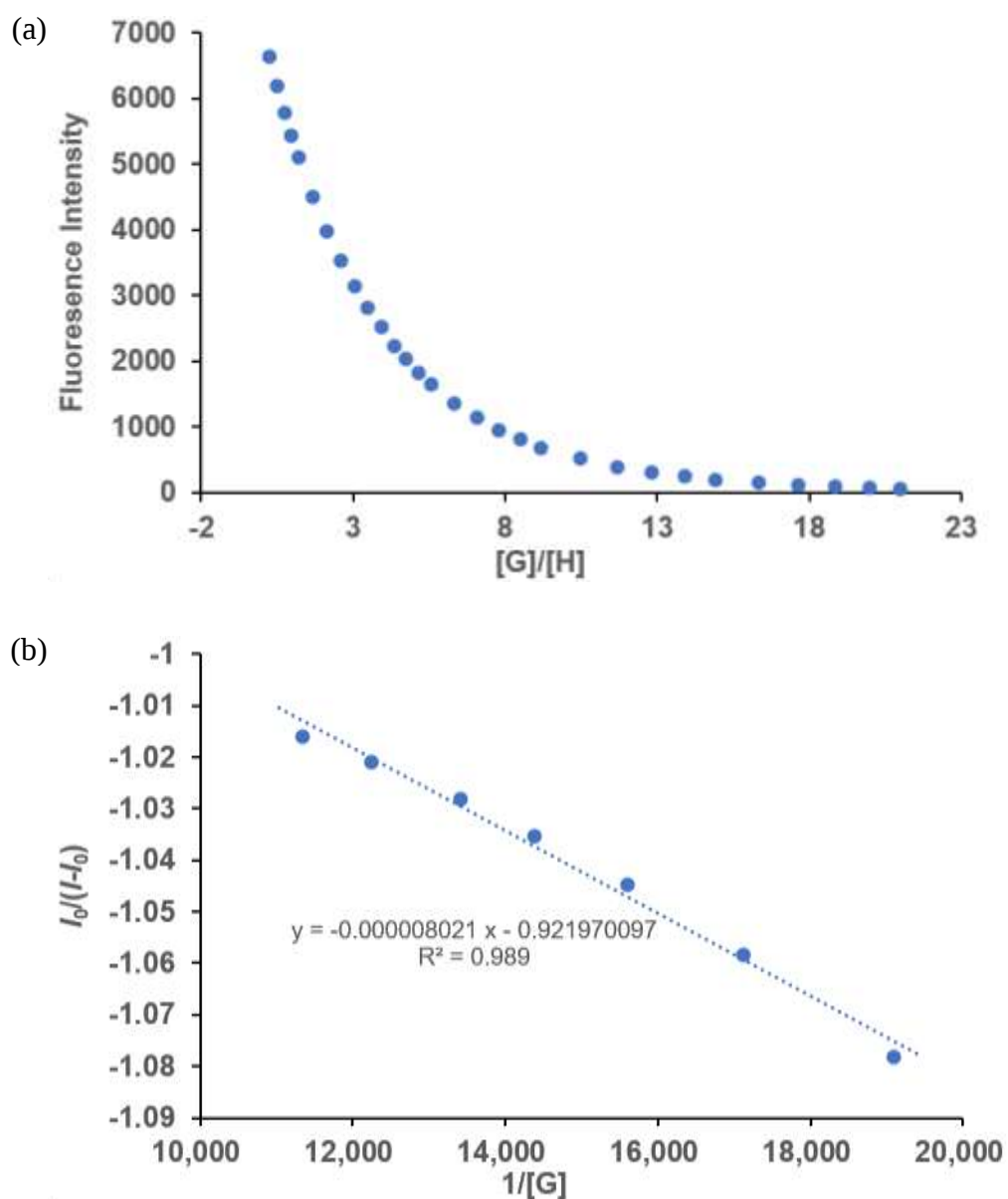
**Fig. S39** (a) The fluorescence intensity of **COTPA [6]** ( $5 \times 10^{-6}$  M,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 300$  nm) upon addition of PC<sub>61</sub>BM in toluene at 298 K; and (b) relationship between  $I_0/(I - I_0)$  and  $1/[G]_0$  for the complexation between **COTPA [6]** and PC<sub>61</sub>BM in toluene at 298 K, wherein  $I$  and  $I_0$  are the emission intensity at 421 nm in 298 K with concentration of  $[G]_0$  and 0, respectively.



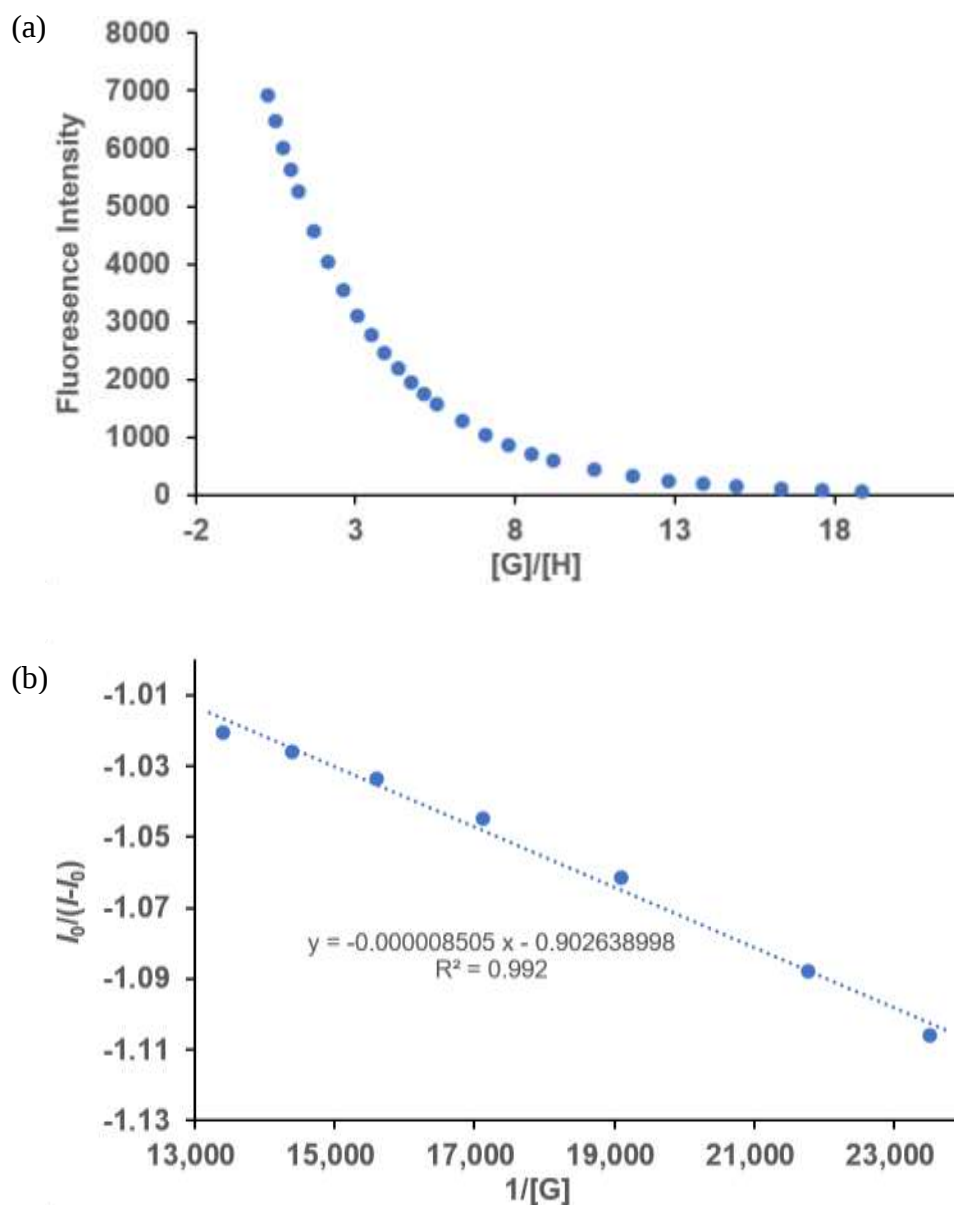
**Fig. S40** (a) The fluorescence intensity of **COTPA** [7] ( $5 \times 10^{-6}$  M,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 300$  nm) upon addition of PC<sub>61</sub>BM in toluene at 298 K; and (b) relationship between  $I_0/(I - I_0)$  and  $1/[G]_0$  for the complexation between **COTPA** [7] and PC<sub>61</sub>BM in toluene at 298 K, wherein  $I$  and  $I_0$  are the emission intensity at 420 nm in 298 K with concentration of  $[G]_0$  and 0, respectively.



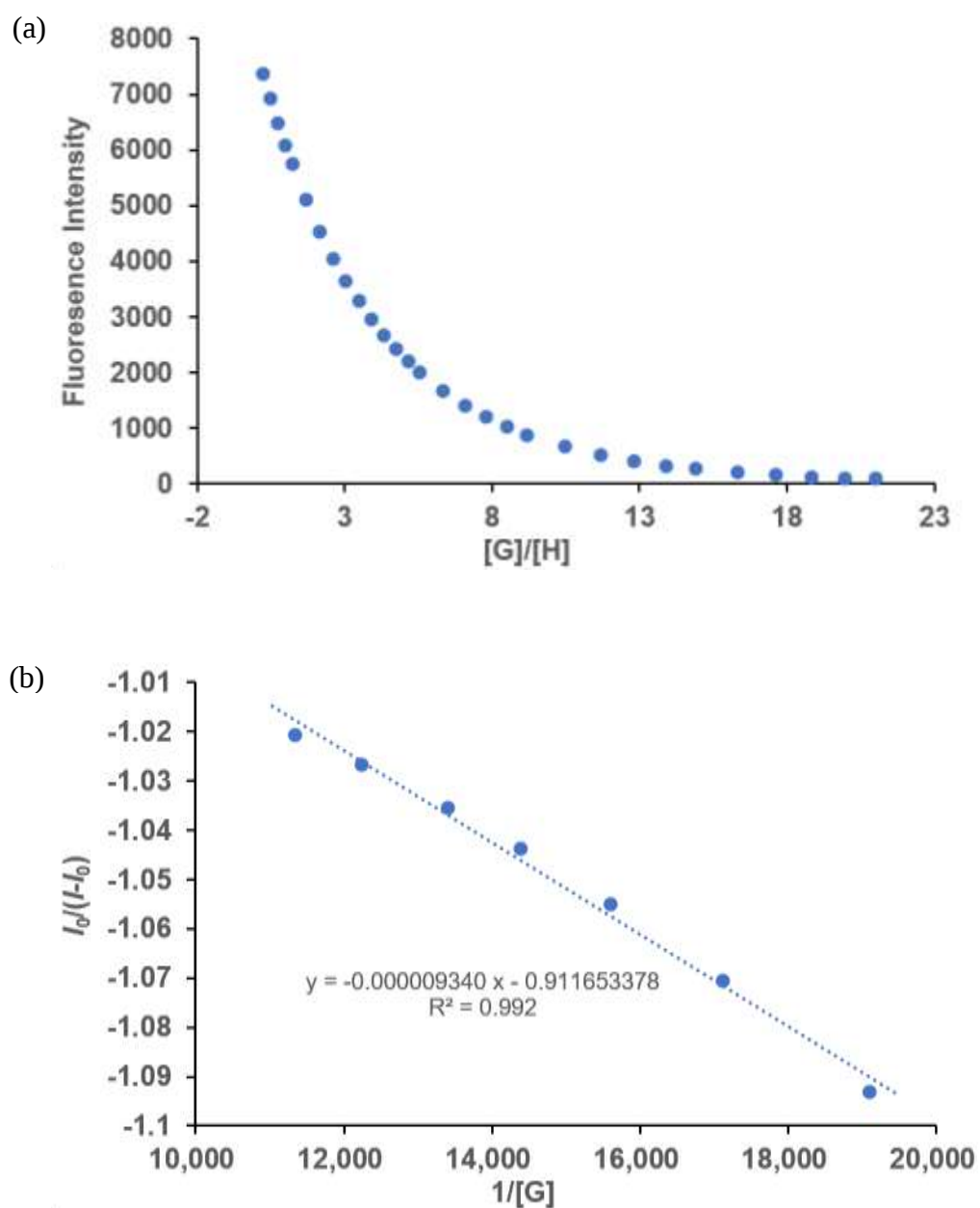
**Fig. S41** (a) The fluorescence intensity of **CETPA [6]** ( $5 \times 10^{-6}$  M,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 300$  nm) upon addition of PC<sub>61</sub>BM in toluene at 298 K; and (b) relationship between  $I_0/(I - I_0)$  and  $1/[G]_0$  for the complexation between **CETPA [6]** and PC<sub>61</sub>BM in toluene at 298 K, wherein  $I$  and  $I_0$  are the emission intensity at 427 nm in 298 K with concentration of  $[G]_0$  and 0, respectively.



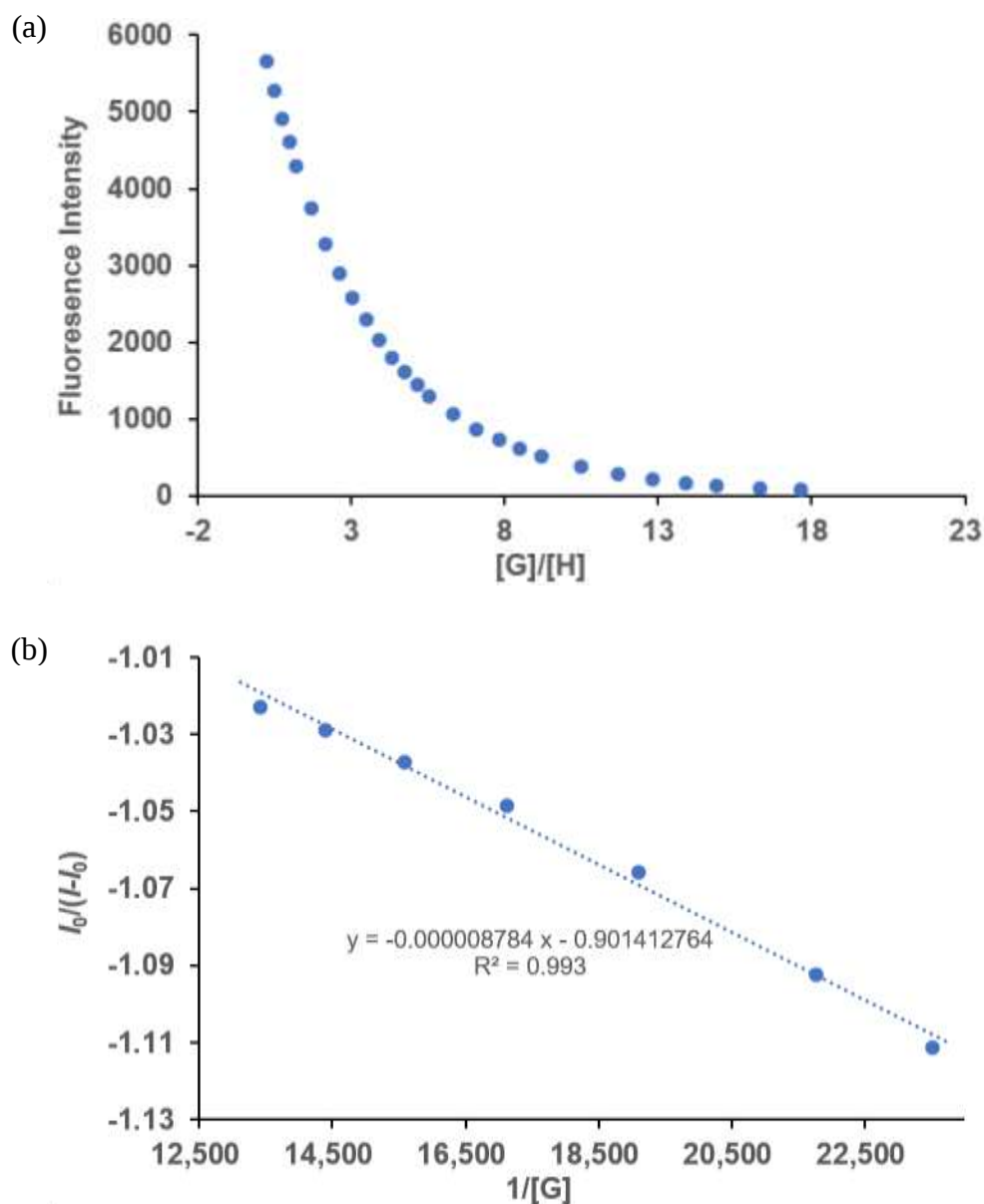
**Fig. S42** (a) The fluorescence intensity of **COTPA [5]** ( $5 \times 10^{-6}$  M,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 300$  nm) upon addition of **C<sub>70</sub>** in toluene at 298 K; and (b) relationship between  $I_0/(I - I_0)$  and  $1/[G]_0$  for the complexation between **COTPA [5]** and **C<sub>70</sub>** in toluene at 298 K, wherein  $I$  and  $I_0$  are the emission intensity at 423 nm in 298 K with concentration of  $[G]_0$  and 0, respectively.



**Fig. S43** (a) The fluorescence intensity of **COTPA [6]** ( $5 \times 10^{-6}$  M,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 300$  nm) upon addition of **C<sub>70</sub>** in toluene at 298 K; and (b) relationship between  $I_0/(I - I_0)$  and  $1/[G]_0$  for the complexation between **COTPA [6]** and **C<sub>70</sub>** in toluene at 298 K, wherein  $I$  and  $I_0$  are the emission intensity at 421 nm in 298 K with concentration of  $[G]_0$  and 0, respectively.

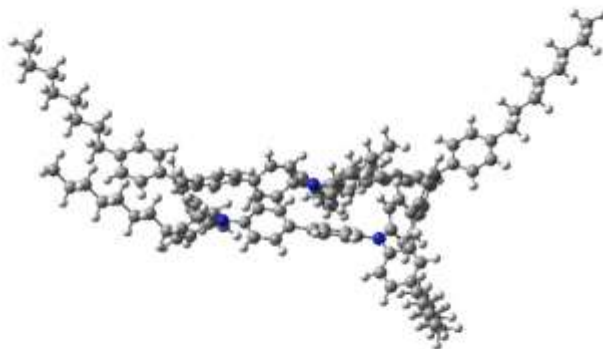


**Fig. S44** (a) The fluorescence intensity of **COTPA** [7] ( $5 \times 10^{-6}$  M,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 300$  nm) upon addition of **C**<sub>70</sub> in toluene at 298 K; and (b) relationship between  $I_0/(I - I_0)$  and  $1/[G]_0$  for the complexation between **COTPA** [7] and **C**<sub>70</sub> in toluene at 298 K, wherein  $I$  and  $I_0$  are the emission intensity at 420 nm in 298 K with concentration of  $[G]_0$  and 0, respectively.

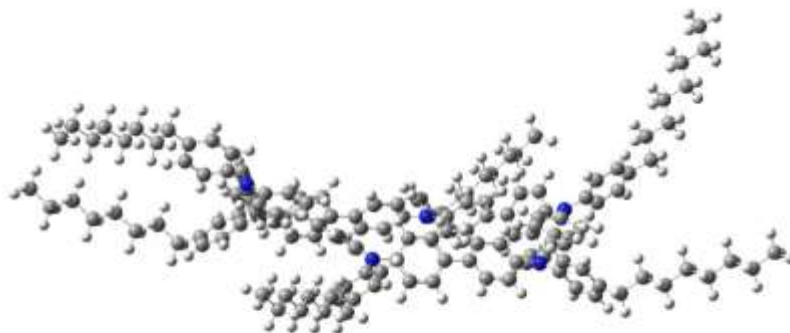


## 6. Side view of DFT optimized structures

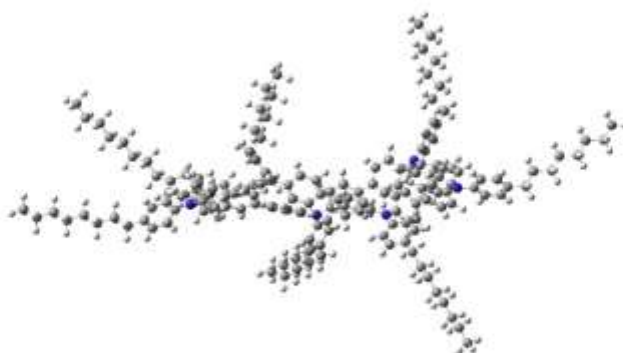
(a)



(b)



(c)



**Fig. S46** The side view of DFT optimized structure of (a) COTPA [5], (b) COTPA [6], and (c) COTPA [7].