

## Supporting Information

# Adjusted photovoltaic performance of big fused ring-based small molecules by tailoring with different modifications

Min Li <sup>ab\*</sup>, Manjun Xiao <sup>c</sup>, Zuojia Li <sup>a\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup>*Jiangxi Province Key Laboratory of Polymer Micro/Nano Manufacturing and Devices, School of Chemistry, Biology and Materials Science, East China University of Technology, Nanchang 330013, P. R. China*

<sup>b</sup>*School of Materials Science and Engineering, Jiangsu Engineering Laboratory of Light-Electricity-Heat Energy-Converting Materials and Applications, Jiangsu Collaborative Innovation Center of Photovoltaic Science and Engineering, National Experimental Demonstration Center for Materials Science and Engineering, Changzhou University, Changzhou 213164, China.*

<sup>c</sup>*College of Chemistry, Key Lab of Environment-Friendly Chemistry and Application in the Ministry of Education, Xiangtan University, Xiangtan 411105, China.*

Email addresses:

(M.L) limin20a@126.com

(M. X) xmj0704@163.com

(Z. L) lzjshihoren@126.com

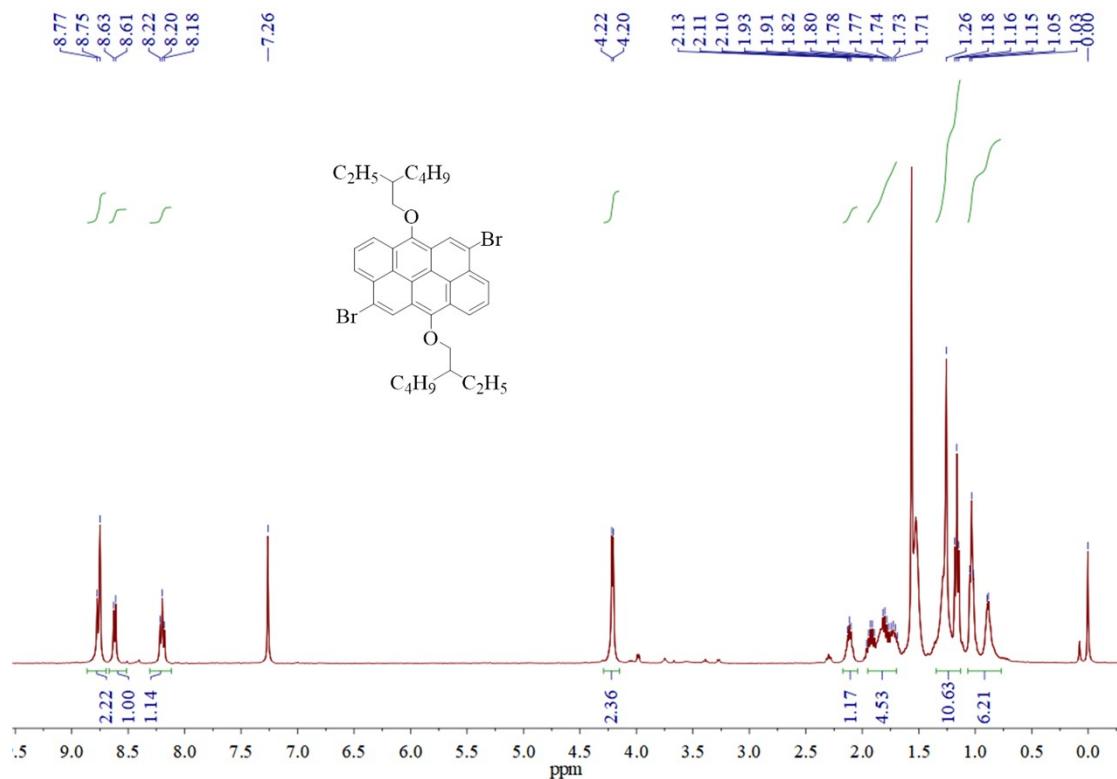
# Contents

1. Characterization and Measurement.
2.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR,  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR and MS Spectra.
3. The absorption molar coefficient in solution.
4. Fabrication and Characterization of Organic Solar Cells.
5. Photovoltaic properties of the AAN-DPP<sub>2</sub>/PC<sub>71</sub>BM-based OPV cells.
6. Photovoltaic properties of the AAN(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub>/PC<sub>71</sub>BM-based OPV cells.
7. Photovoltaic properties of the AANT(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub>/PC<sub>71</sub>BM-based OPV cells.
8. The PCE distribution of all devices at the optimized conditions.

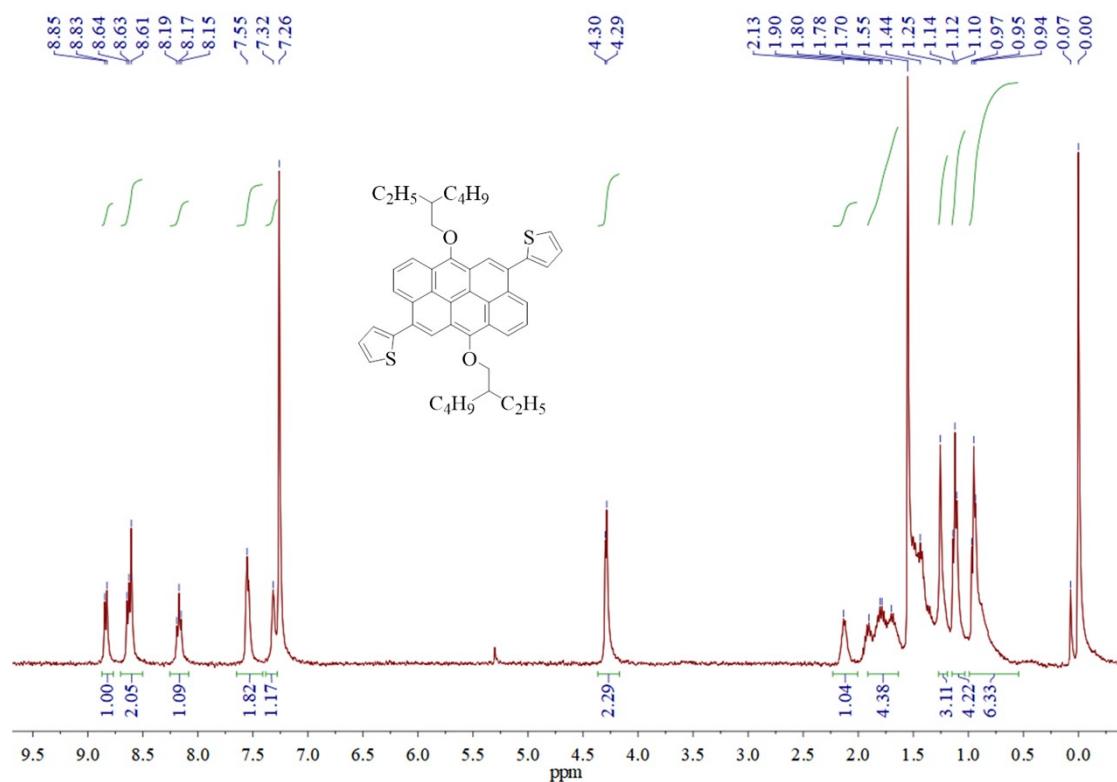
## **1. Characterization and Measurement**

Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were recorded on a Bruker AV-400 spectrometer using tetramethylsilane (TMS) as a reference in deuterated chloroform solution at 298 K. Mass spectrometric measurements were performed on Bruker Bifiex III MALDI-TOF. Thermogravimetric analyses (TGA) were conducted under a dry nitrogen gas flow at a heating rate of 20 °C min<sup>-1</sup> on a Perkin-Elmer TGA 7. Differential scan calorimetry (DSC) measurements were carried out with a Netzsch DSC-204 under N<sub>2</sub> flow at heating and cooling rates of 10 °C min<sup>-1</sup>. UV-Vis absorption spectra were recorded on a HP-8453 UV visible system. Cyclic voltammograms (CV) were carried out on a CHI660A electrochemical work station with a three electrode electrochemical cell in a 0.1 M tetrabutylammonium hexafluorophosphate (TBAPF<sub>6</sub>) acetonitrile solution with a scan 100 mV s<sup>-1</sup> at room temperature (RT) under argon atmosphere. In this three-electrode cell, a platinum rod, platinum wire and Ag/AgCl electrode were used as a working electrode, counter electrode and reference electrode, respectively. The HOMO and LUMO distributions of SMs were calculated by the density functional theory (DFT) (B3LYP; 6-31G\*) method.

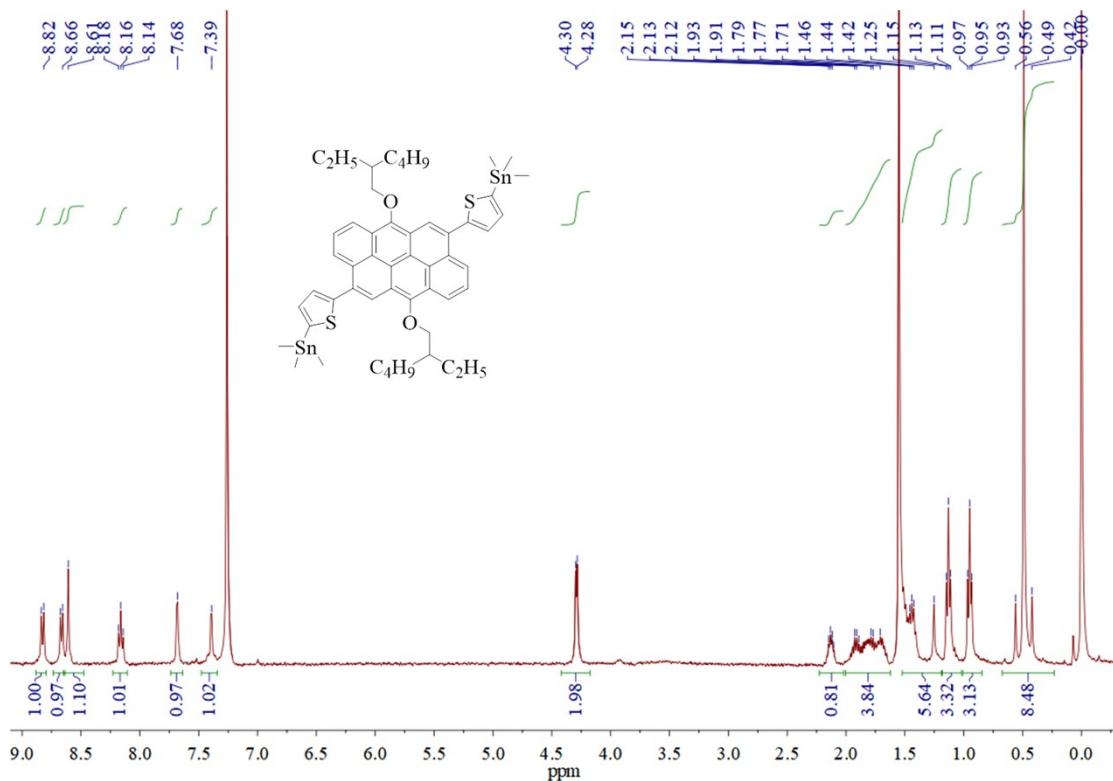
## 2. $^1\text{H}$ NMR and $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR Spectra



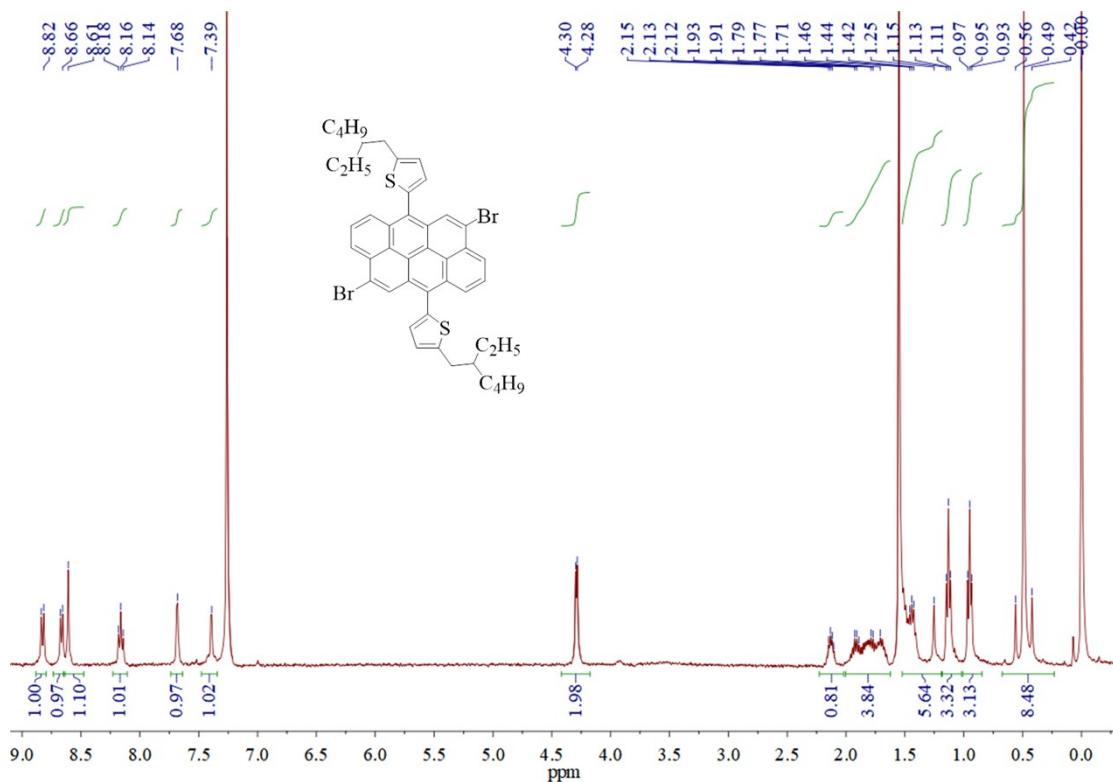
**Fig.S1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of AAN.



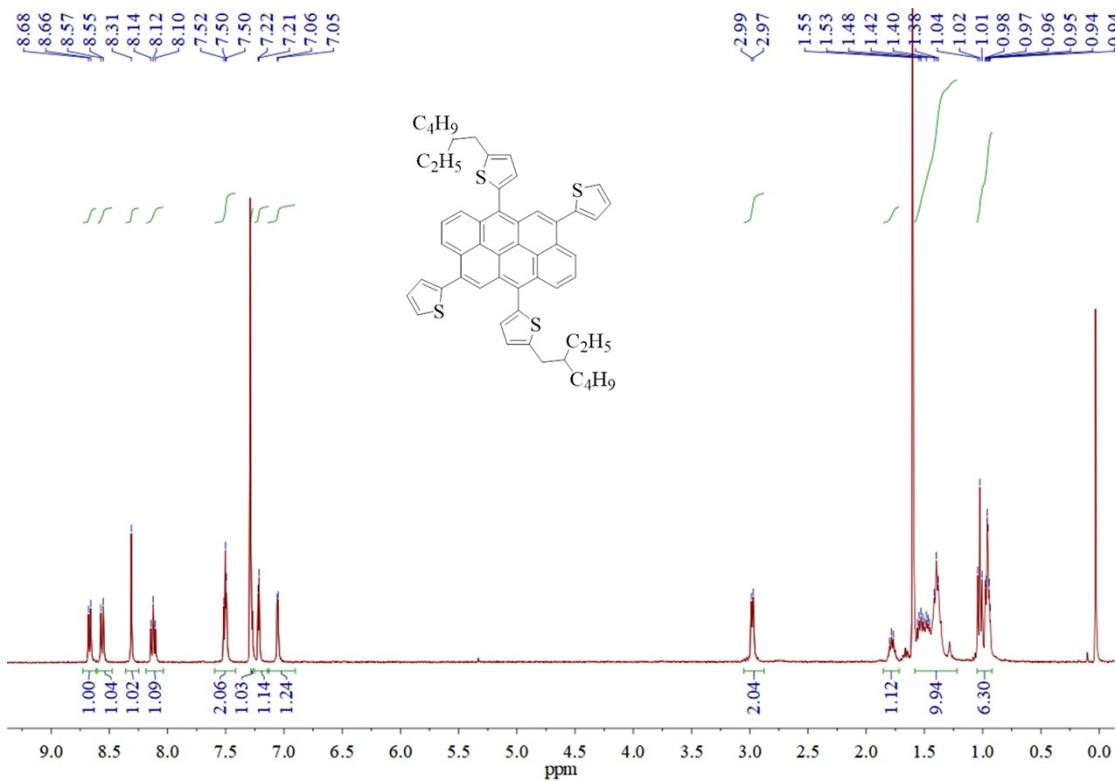
**Fig. S2.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of AAN-T.



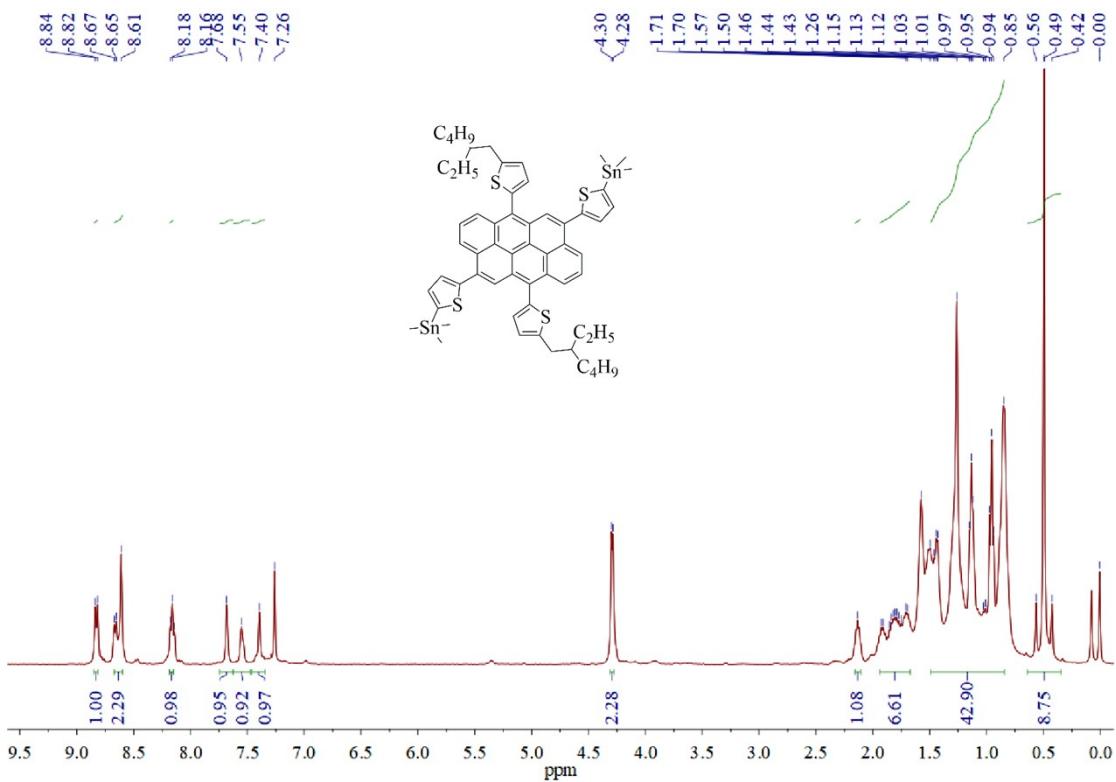
**Fig.S3.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of AAN-T-Sn.



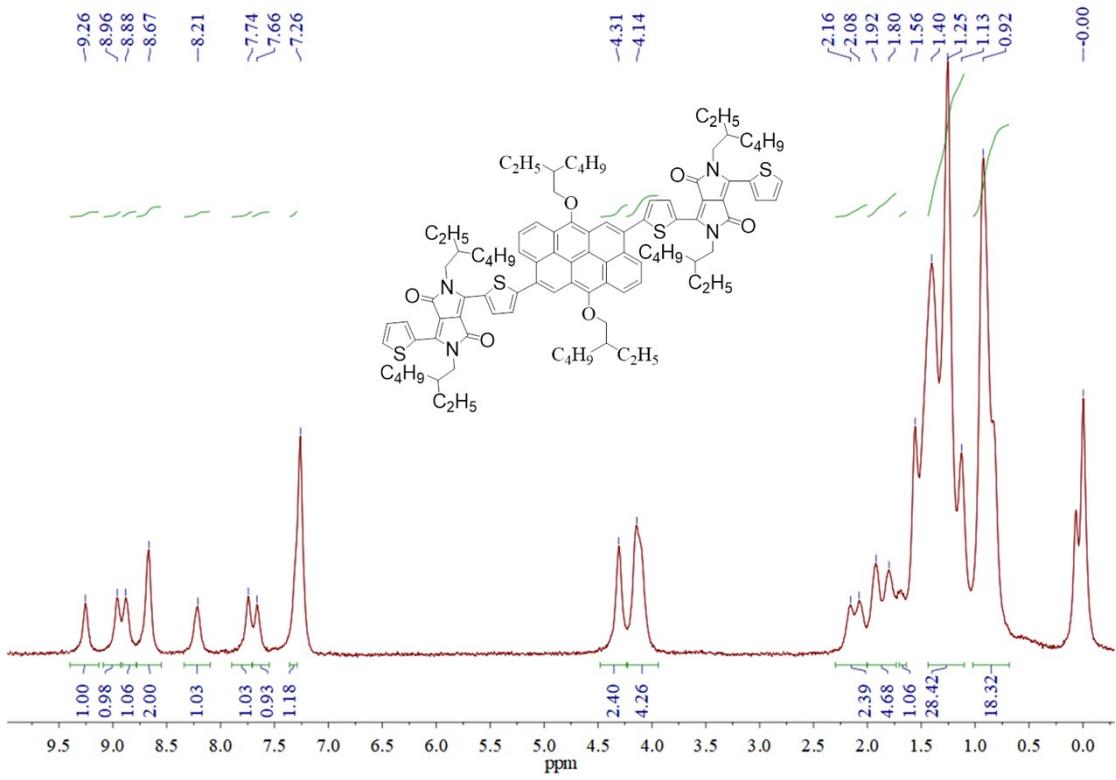
**Fig.S4.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of AANT.



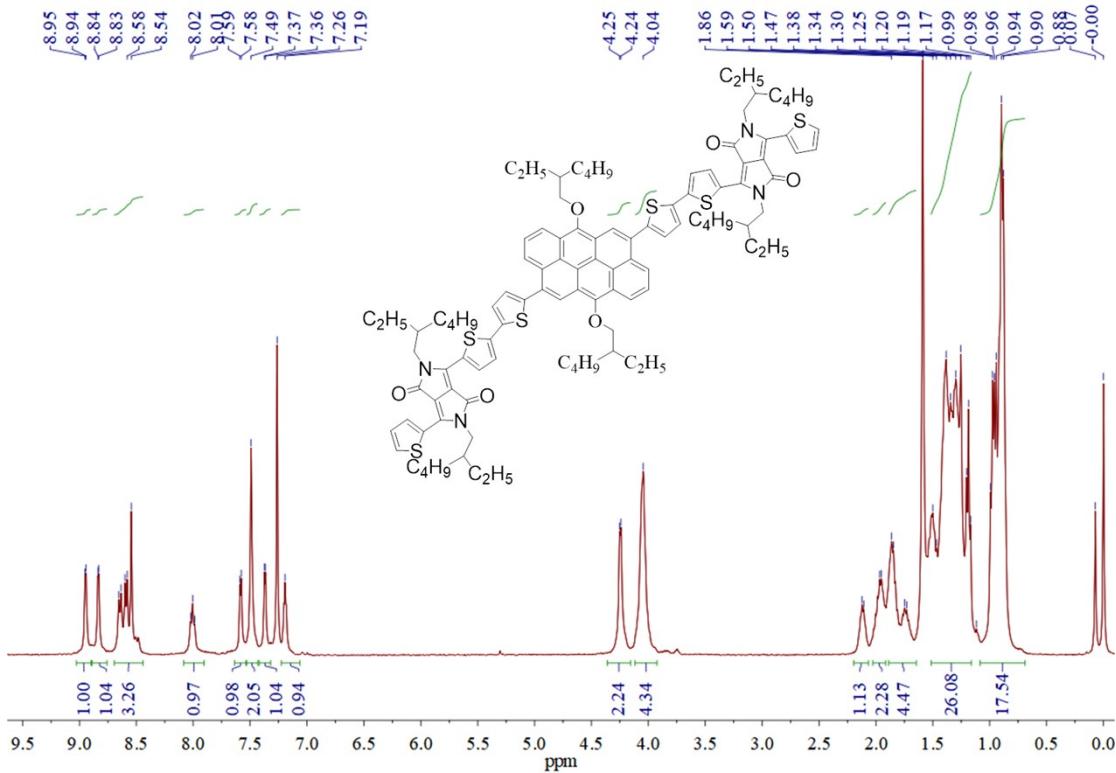
**Fig.S5.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of AANT-T.



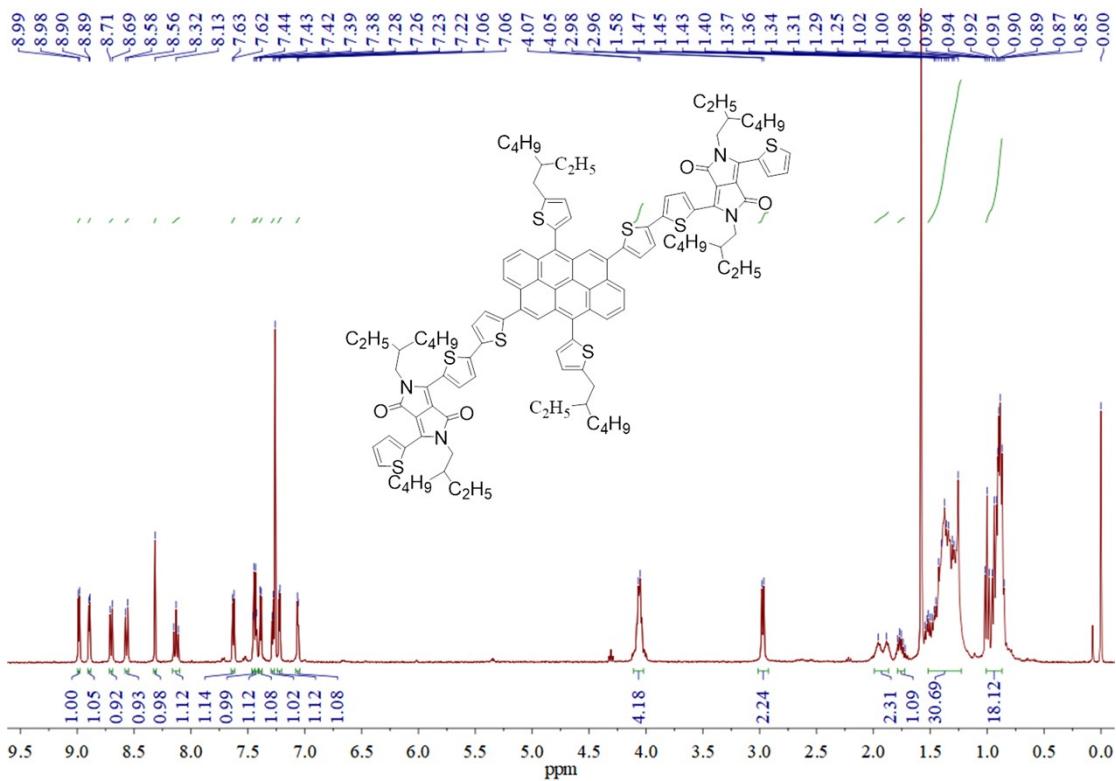
**Fig.S6.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of AANT-T-Sn.



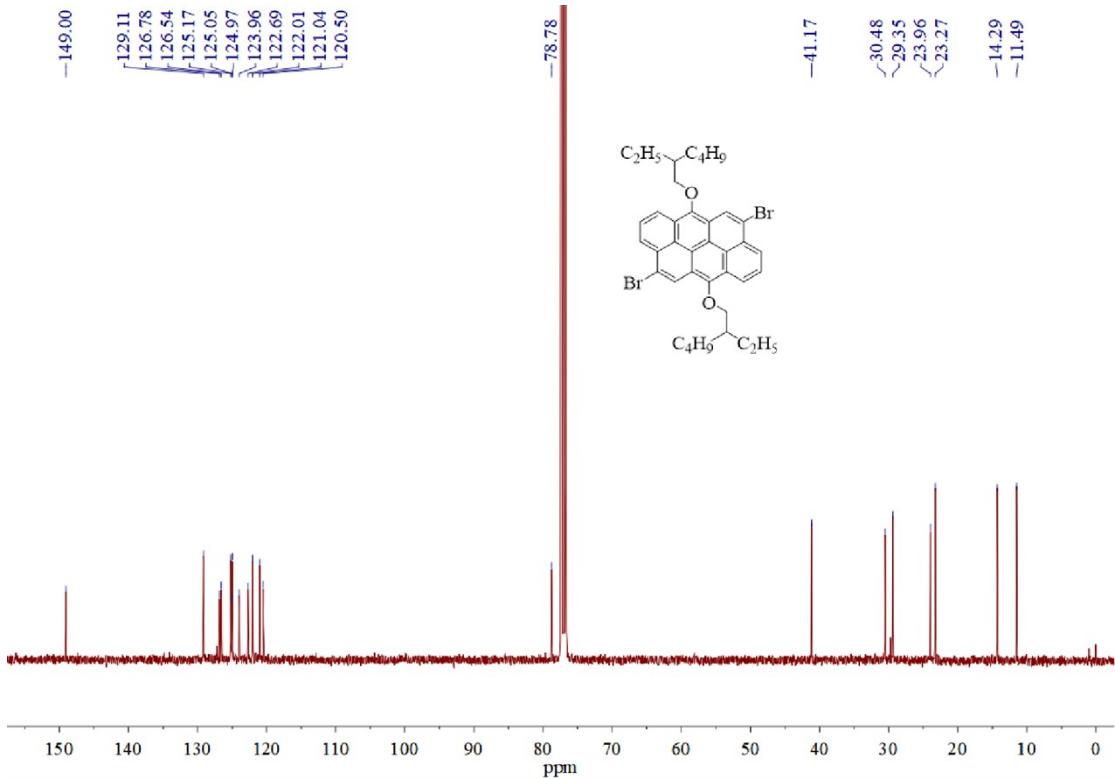
**Fig.S7.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of AAN-DPP<sub>2</sub>.



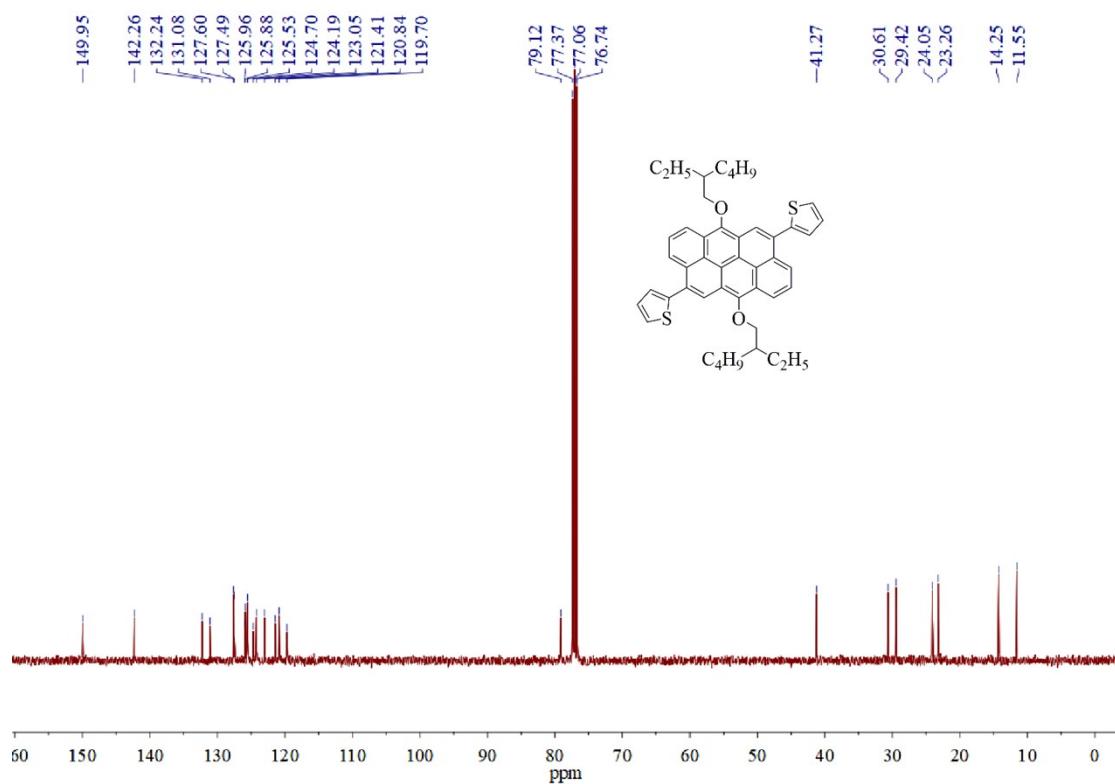
**Fig.S8.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of AAN(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub>.



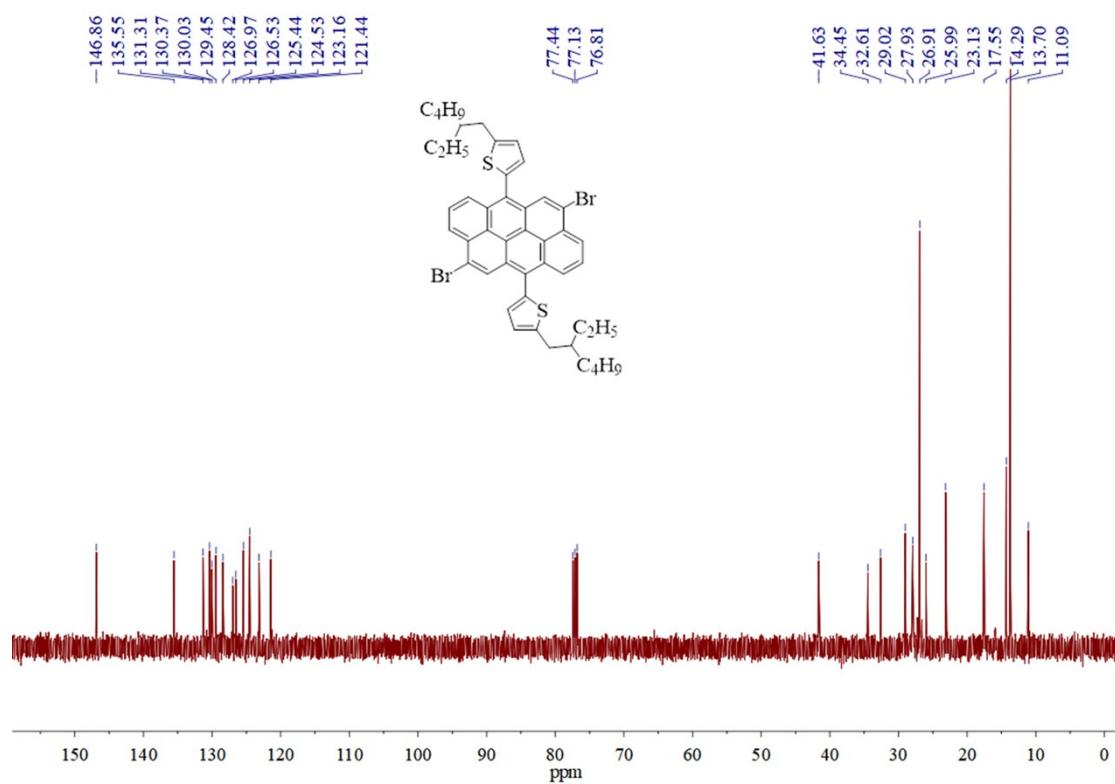
**Fig.S9.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of AANT(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub>.



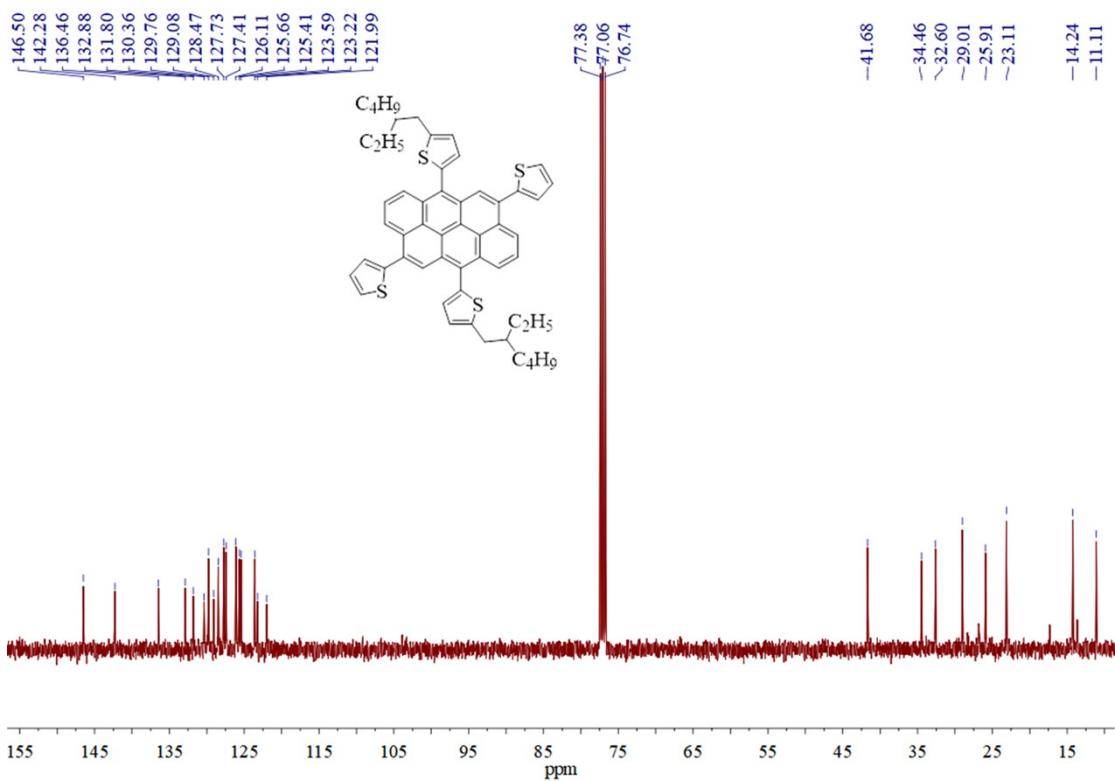
**Fig. S10.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of AAN.



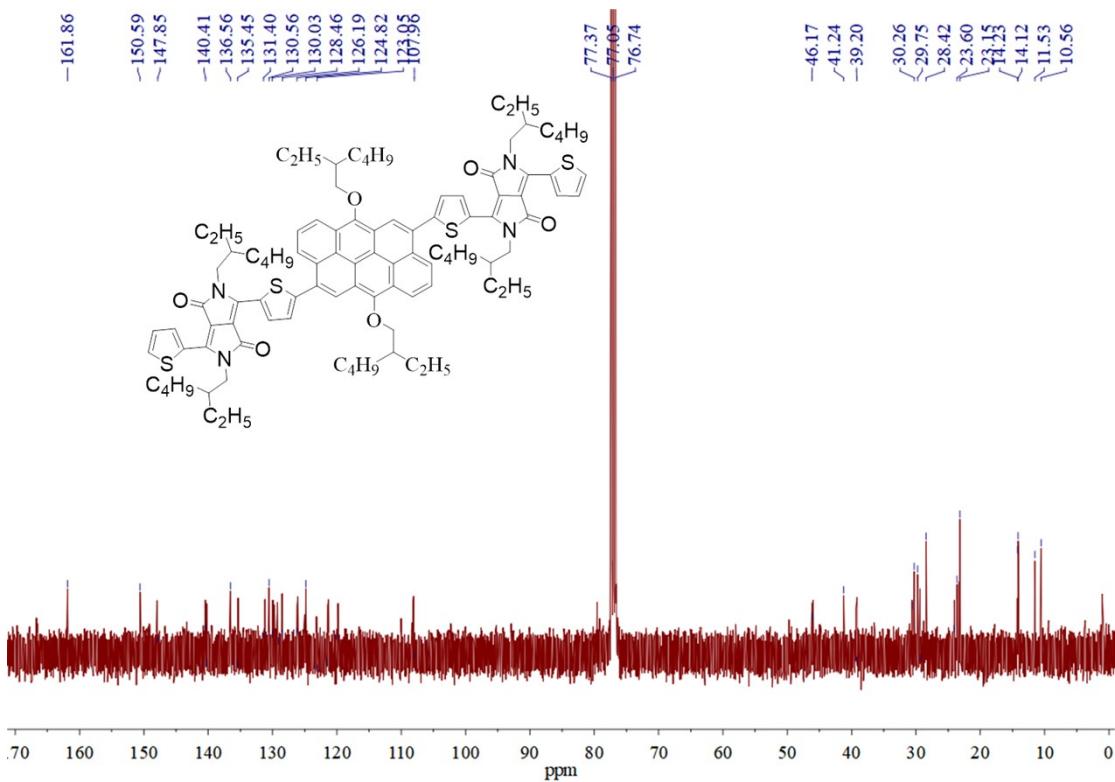
**Fig. S11.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of AAN-T.



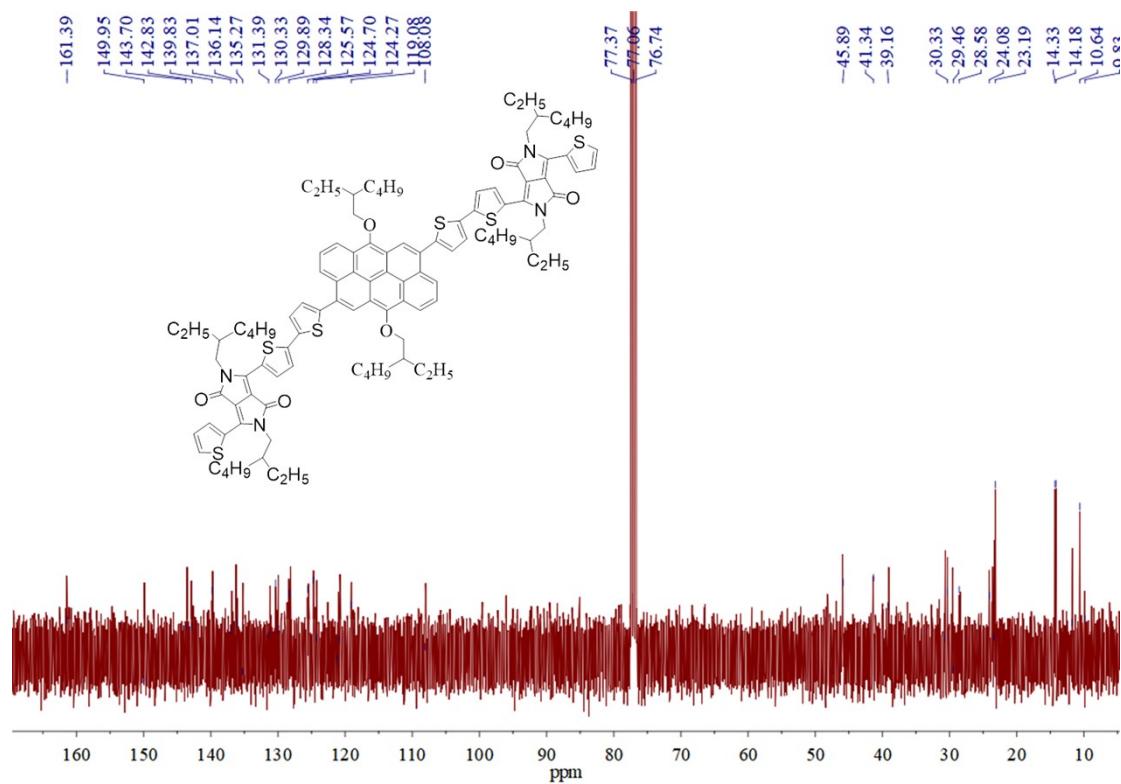
**Fig. S12.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of AANT.



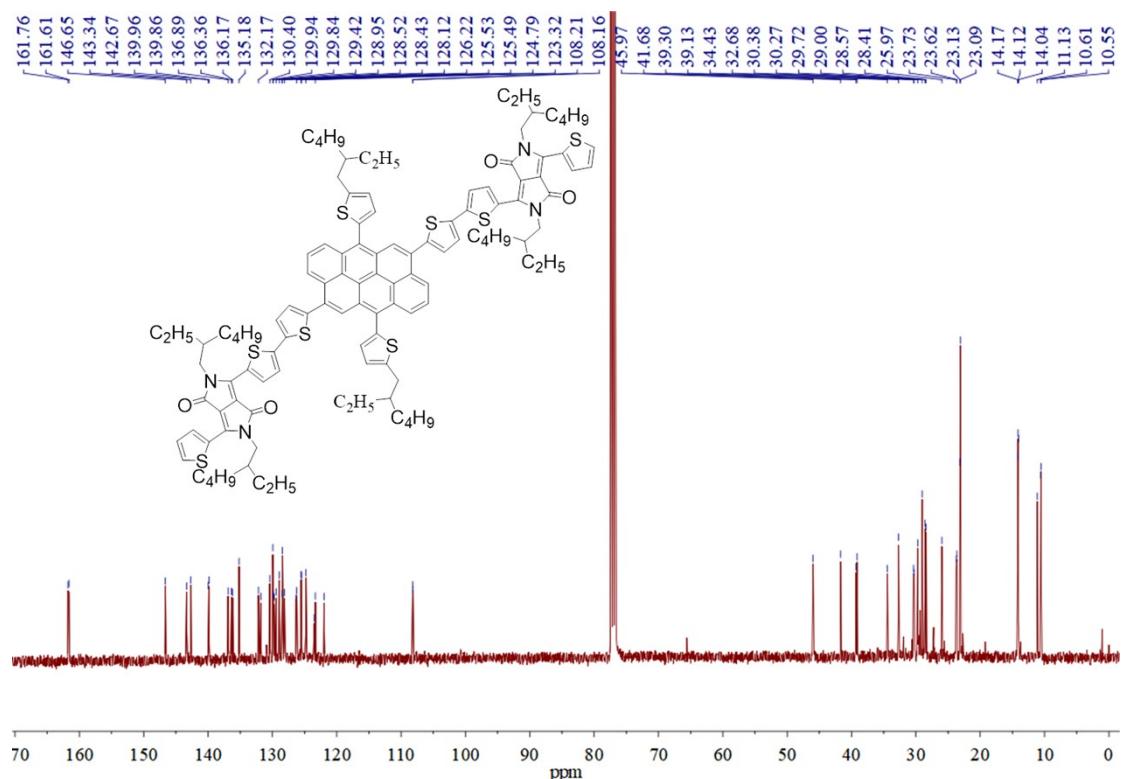
**Fig. S13.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of AANT-T.



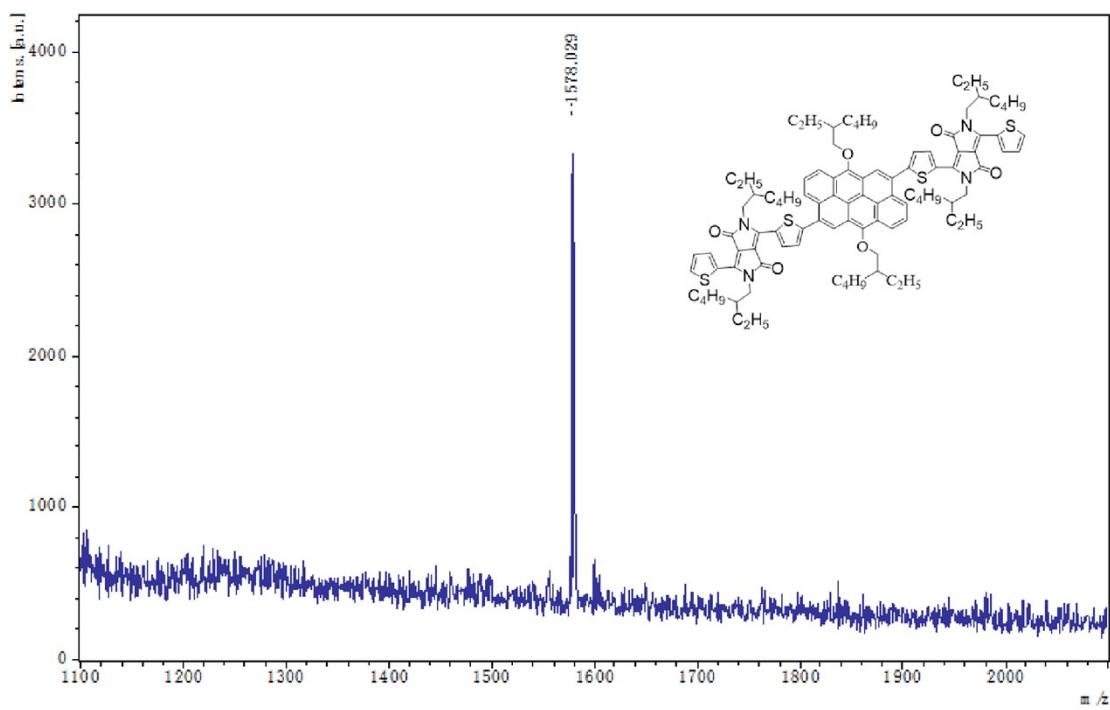
**Fig. S14.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of AAN-DPP<sub>2</sub>.



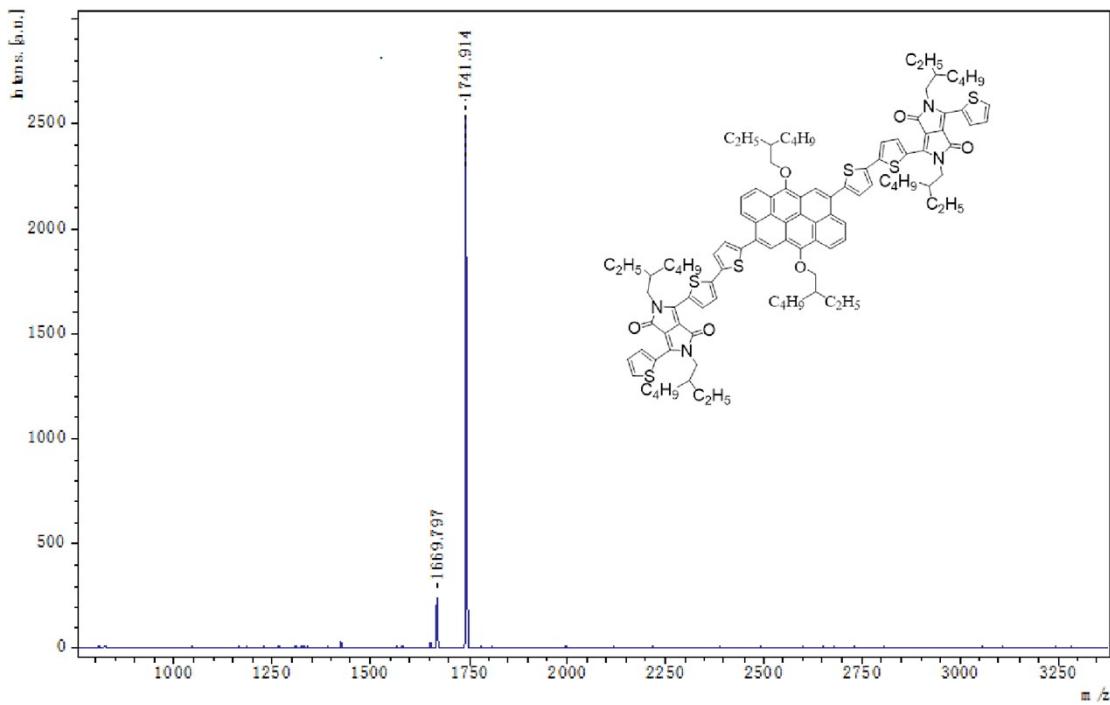
**Fig. S15.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of AAN(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub>.



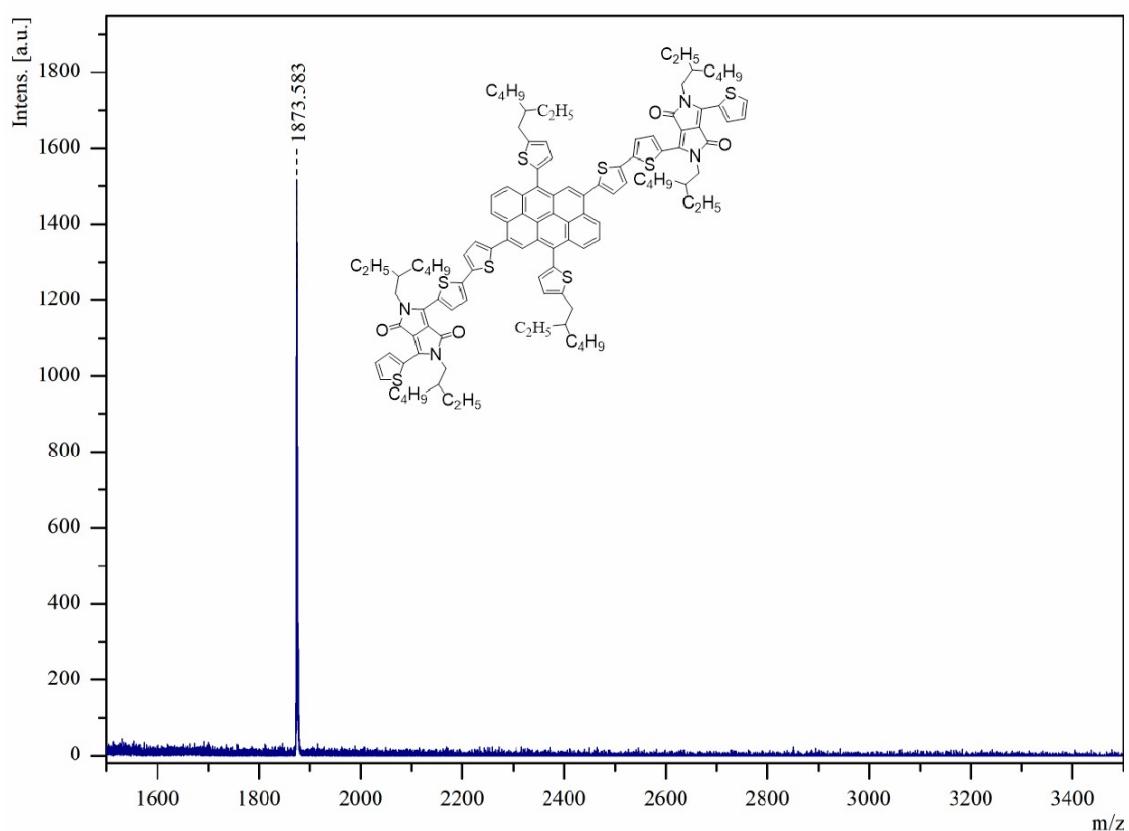
**Fig. S16.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of AANT(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub>.



**Fig. S17.** MALDI-TOF MS Spectrum of AAN-DPP<sub>2</sub>.

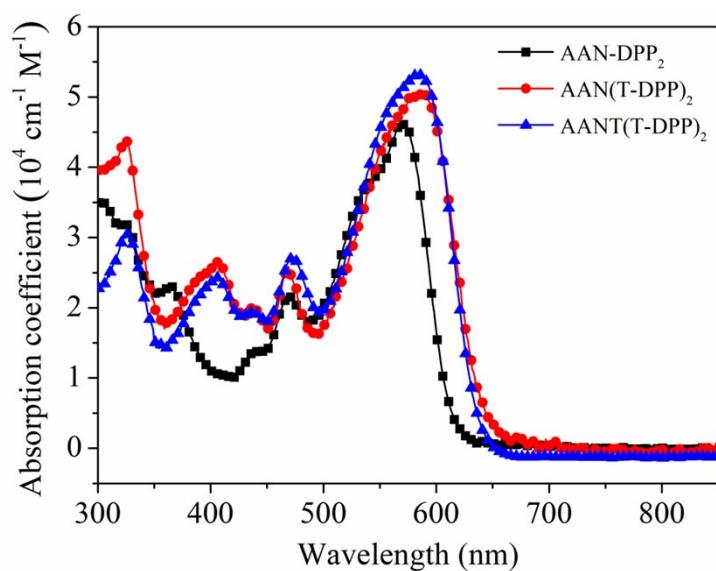


**Fig. S18.** MALDI-TOF MS Spectrum of AAN(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub>.



**Fig. S19.** MALDI-TOF MS Spectrum of AANT(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub>.

### 3.The absorption molar coefficient in solution.

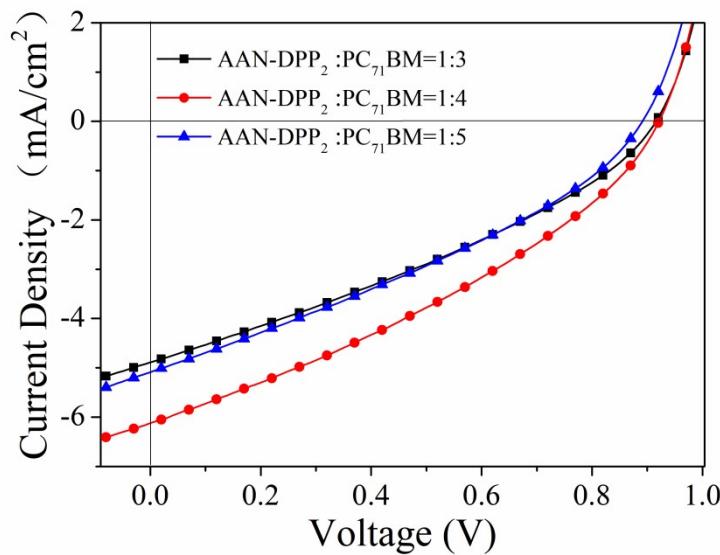


**Fig.S20.** Absorption spectra of SMs in dilute  $\text{CHCl}_3$ , respectively.

#### **4.Fabrication and Characterization of Organic Solar Cells**

A sandwich structure of: ITO/PEDOT:PSS(5000 rpm, 140 °C 30min)/SM:PC<sub>71</sub>BM /Ca (10 nm)/Al (100 nm), was used in the solar cells. The photosensitive layer was subsequently prepared by spin-coating rate of 5000 rpm, with a solution of the SM/PC<sub>71</sub>BM (1:4, w/w) for AAN-DPP<sub>2</sub>, (1:3, w/w) for AAN(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub> and (1:4, w/w) for AANT(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub>, respectively. Being dissolved in chloroform (CF) without additive on the PEDOT:PSS layer with a typical concentration of 12 mg mL<sup>-1</sup> for AAN-DPP<sub>2</sub>, AAN(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub>, and 10 mg mL<sup>-1</sup> for AANT(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub>. Furthermore, followed by annealing at 70 °C for 3 minutes. Ca (10 nm) and Al (100 nm) were successively deposited on the photosensitive layer in vacuum and used as top electrodes. The current-voltage (*I*-*V*) characterization of the devices was carried out on a computer-controlled Keithley source measurement system. A solar simulator was used as the light source and the light intensity was monitored by a standard Si solar cell. The active area was 0.1 cm<sup>2</sup> for each cell. The thicknesses of the spun-cast films were recorded by a profilometer (Alpha-Step 200, Tencor Instruments). The external quantum efficiency (*EQE*) was measured with a Stanford Research Systems model SR830 DSP lock-in amplifier coupled with WDG3 monochromator and a 150 W xenon lamp.

#### **5. Photovoltaic properties of the AAN-DPP<sub>2</sub>/PC<sub>71</sub>BM-based OPV cells.**



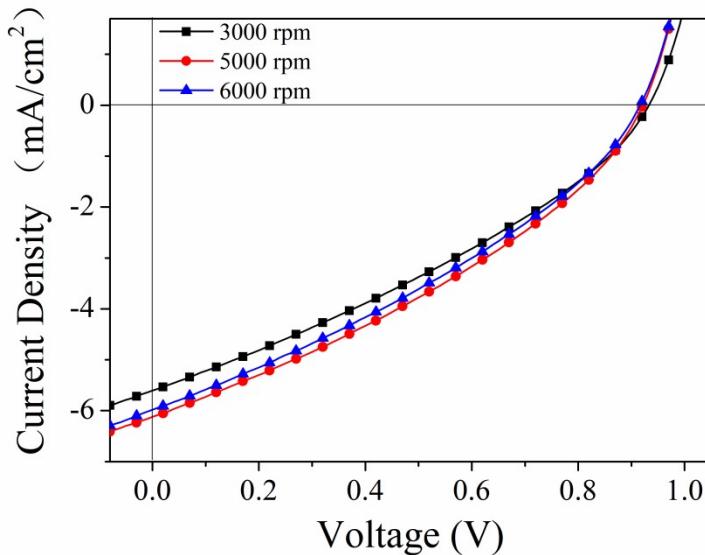
**Fig. S21.**  $J$ - $V$  curve of the AAN-DPP<sub>2</sub>/PC<sub>71</sub>BM-based OSCs under AM.1.5G illumination (100 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>) with SM/PC<sub>71</sub>BM weight ratios optimization.

**Table S1.** Photovoltaic parameters of the AAN-DPP<sub>2</sub>/PC<sub>71</sub>BM-based OSCs under AM.1.5G illumination (100 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>) with SM/PC<sub>71</sub>BM weight ratios optimization.

D/A	$V_{oc}$ (V)	$J_{sc}$ (mA/cm <sup>2</sup> )	FF(%)	PCE(%)
1:3	0.91	4.89	32.78	1.46
1:4	0.92	6.12	34.25	1.92
1:5	0.89	5.09	32.67	1.47

Device condition:

- (1) chloroform(CF);
- (2) concentration: 12 mg/mL of AAN-DPP<sub>2</sub> in CF;
- (3) Structure: ITO/PEDOT:PSS (5000 rpm, 140 °C, 30 min)/SM:PC<sub>71</sub>BM (5000 rpm)/Ca (10 nm)/Al (100 nm)
- (4) Spin-coating temperature: at room temperature.



**Fig. S22.**  $J$ - $V$  curve of the AAN-DPP<sub>2</sub>/PC<sub>71</sub>BM-based OSCs under AM.1.5G illumination (100 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>) with SM/PC<sub>71</sub>BM spin speed optimization.

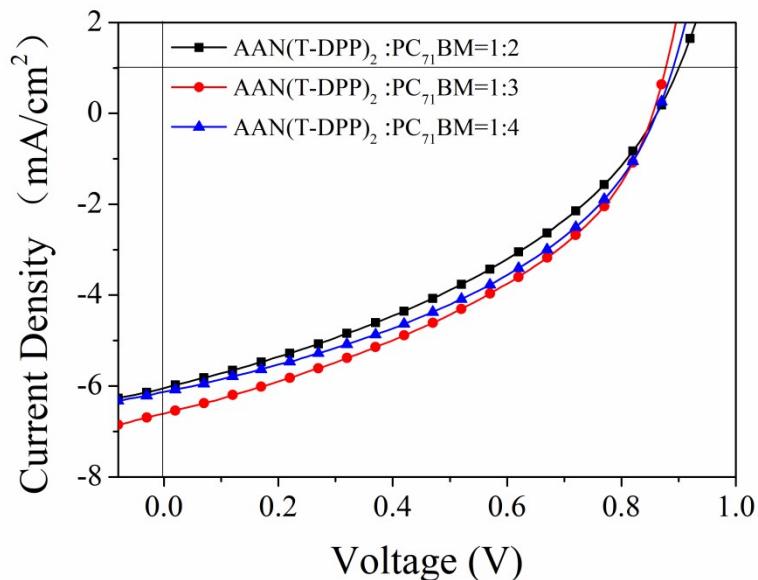
**Table. S2.** Photovoltaic parameters of the AAN-DPP<sub>2</sub>/PC<sub>71</sub>BM-based OSCs under AM.1.5G illumination (100 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>) with SM/PC<sub>71</sub>BM spin speed optimization.

Spin speed	$V_{oc}$ (V)	$J_{sc}$ (mA/cm <sup>2</sup> )	FF(%)	PCE(%)
3000 rpm	0.93	5.60	32.88	1.71
5000 rpm	0.92	6.12	34.25	1.92
6000 rpm	0.91	5.98	33.50	1.82

Device condition:

- (1) chloroform(CF);
- (2) concentration: 12 mg/mL of AAN-DPP<sub>2</sub> in CF;
- (3) Structure: ITO/PEDOT:PSS (5000 rpm, 140 °C, 30 min)/SM:PC<sub>71</sub>BM= 1:4/Ca (10 nm)/Al (100 nm)
- (4) Spin-coating temperature: at room temperature.

## 6. Photovoltaic properties of the AAN(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub>/PC<sub>71</sub>BM-based OPV cells.



**Fig. S23.** *J-V* curve of the AAN(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub>/PC<sub>71</sub>BM-based OSCs under AM.1.5G illumination (100 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>) with SM/PC<sub>71</sub>BM weight ratios optimization.

**Table. S3.** Photovoltaic parameters of the AAN(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub>/PC<sub>71</sub>BM-based OSCs under AM.1.5G illumination (100 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>) with SM/PC<sub>71</sub>BM weight ratios optimization.

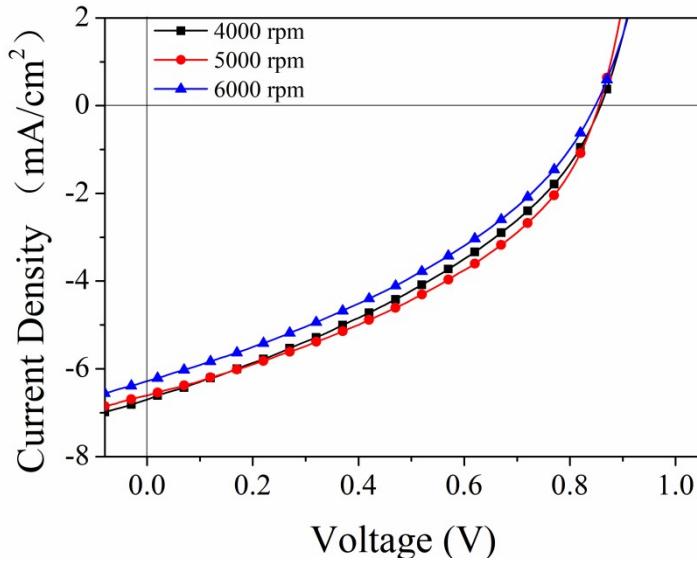
D/A	V <sub>oc</sub> (V)	J <sub>sc</sub> (mA/cm <sup>2</sup> )	FF(%)	PCE(%)
1:2	0.86	6.03	37.85	1.96
1:3	0.85	6.60	40.22	2.26
1:4	0.86	6.12	40.82	2.15

Device condition:

- (1) chloroform(CF);
- (2) concentration: 12 mg/mL of AAN(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub> in CF;
- (3) Structure: ITO/PEDOT:PSS (5000 rpm, 140 °C, 30 min)/SM:PC<sub>71</sub>BM (5000

rpm)/Ca (10 nm)/Al (100 nm)

(4) Spin-coating temperature: at room temperature.



**Fig. S24.**  $J$ - $V$  curve of the AAN(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub>/PC<sub>71</sub>BM-based OSCs under AM.1.5G illumination (100 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>) with SM/PC<sub>71</sub>BM spin speed optimization.

**Table. S4.** Photovoltaic parameters of the AAN(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub>/PC<sub>71</sub>BM-based OSCs under AM.1.5G illumination (100 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>) with SM/PC<sub>71</sub>BM spin speed optimization.

Spin speed	$V_{oc}$ (V)	$J_{sc}$ (mA/cm <sup>2</sup> )	FF(%)	PCE(%)
4000 rpm	0.85	6.69	37.29	2.13
5000 rpm	0.85	6.60	40.22	2.26
6000 rpm	0.84	6.27	37.10	1.97

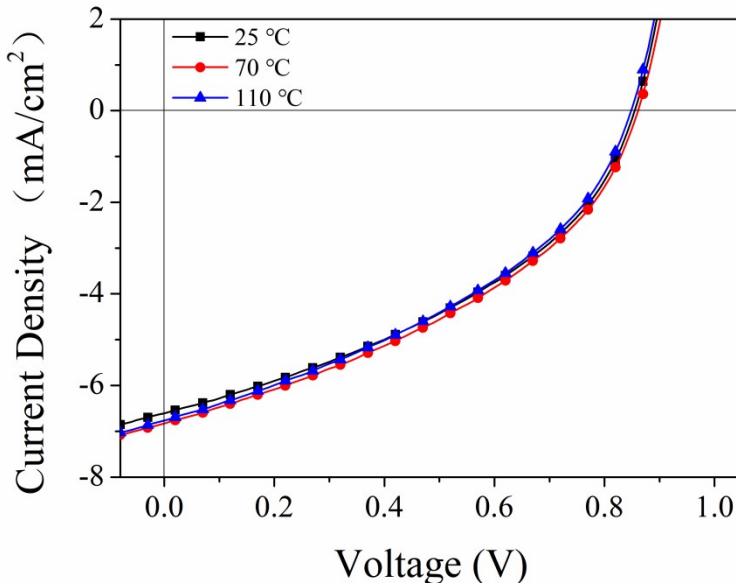
Device condition:

(1) chloroform(CF);

(2) concentration: 12 mg/mL of AAN(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub> in CF;

(3) Structure: ITO/PEDOT:PSS (5000 rpm, 140 °C, 30 min)/SM:PC<sub>71</sub>BM= 1:3/Ca (10 nm)/Al (100 nm)

(4) Spin-coating temperature: at room temperature.



**Fig. S25.**  $J$ - $V$  curve of the AAN(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub>/PC<sub>71</sub>BM-based OSCs under AM.1.5G illumination (100 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>) with annealing temperature optimization.

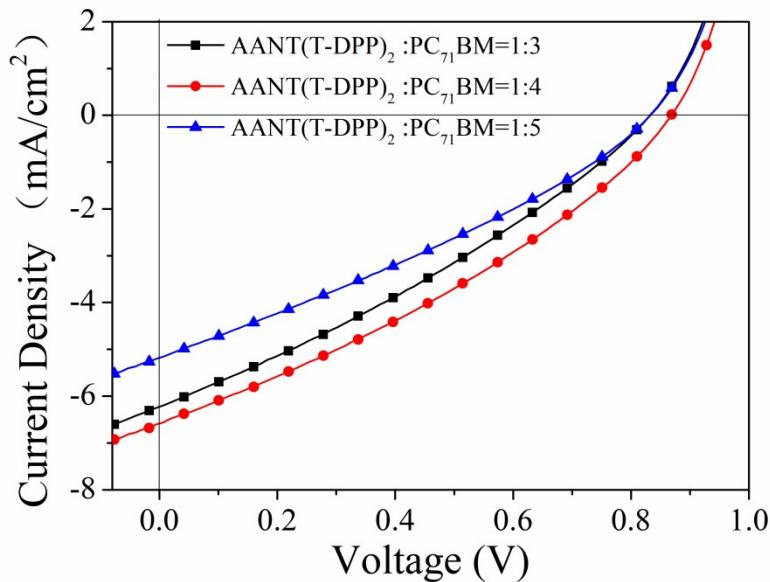
**Table. S5.** Photovoltaic parameters of the AAN(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub>/PC<sub>71</sub>BM-based OSCs under AM.1.5G illumination (100 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>) with annealing temperature optimization.

Temperature (°C)	V <sub>oc</sub> (V)	J <sub>sc</sub> (mA/cm <sup>2</sup> )	FF(%)	PCE(%)
25	0.85	6.60	40.22	2.26
70	0.86	6.82	39.80	2.33
110	0.85	6.76	39.15	2.24

Device condition:

- (1) chloroform(CF);
- (2) concentration: 12 mg/mL of AAN(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub> in CF;
- (3) Structure: ITO/PEDOT:PSS (5000 rpm, 140 °C, 30 min)/SM:PC<sub>71</sub>BM= 1:3, 5000 rpm/Ca (10 nm)/Al (100 nm)

## 7. Photovoltaic properties of the AANT(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub>/PC<sub>71</sub>BM-based OPV cells.



**Fig. S26.** *J-V* curve of the AANT(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub>/PC<sub>71</sub>BM-based OSCs under AM.1.5G illumination (100 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>) with SM/PC<sub>71</sub>BM weight ratios optimization.

**Table. S6.** Photovoltaic parameters of the AANT(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub>/PC<sub>71</sub>BM-based OSCs under AM.1.5G illumination (100 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>) with SM/PC<sub>71</sub>BM weight ratios optimization.

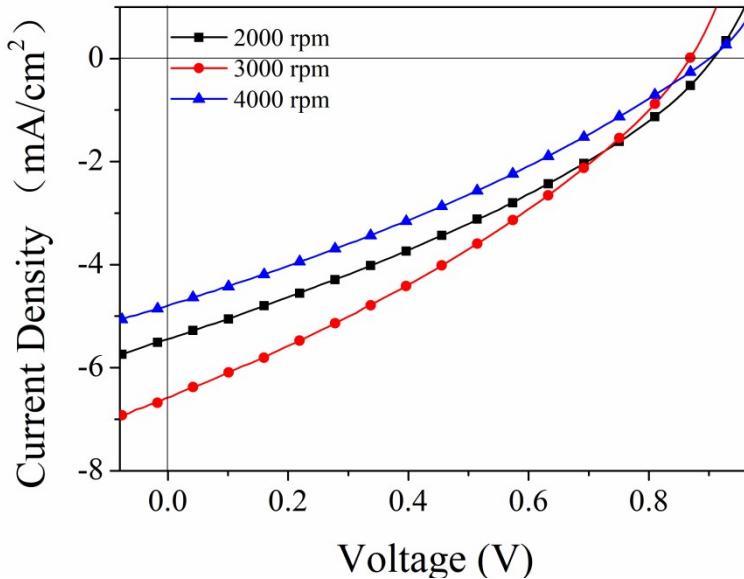
D/A	V <sub>oc</sub> (V)	J <sub>sc</sub> (mA/cm <sup>2</sup> )	FF(%)	PCE(%)
1:3	0.83	6.22	30.82	1.58
1:4	0.86	6.58	32.61	1.85
1:5	0.83	5.18	30.72	1.32

Device condition:

- (1) chloroform(CF);
- (2) concentration: 12 mg/mL of AANT(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub> in CF;
- (3) Structure: ITO/PEDOT:PSS (5000 rpm, 140 °C, 30 min)/SM:PC<sub>71</sub>BM (3000

rpm)/Ca (10 nm)/Al (100 nm)

(4) Spin-coating temperature: at room temperature.



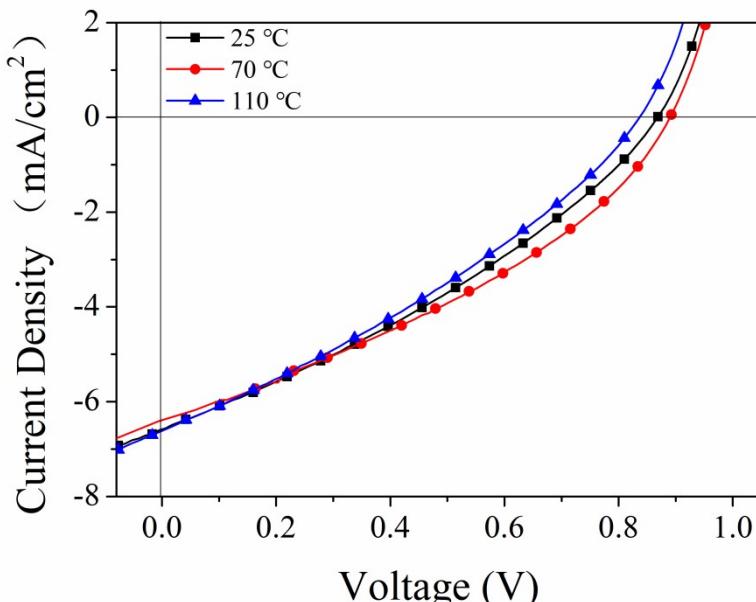
**Fig. S27.**  $J$ - $V$  curve of the AANT(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub>/PC<sub>71</sub>BM-based OSCs under AM.1.5G illumination (100 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>) with SM/PC<sub>71</sub>BM spin speed optimization.

**Table. S7.** Photovoltaic parameters of the AANT(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub>/PC<sub>71</sub>BM-based OSCs under AM.1.5G illumination (100 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>) with SM/PC<sub>71</sub>BM spin speed optimization.

Spin speed	$V_{oc}$ (V)	$J_{sc}$ (mA/cm <sup>2</sup> )	FF(%)	PCE(%)
2000 rpm	0.91	5.44	32.48	1.61
3000 rpm	0.86	6.58	32.61	1.85
4000 rpm	0.89	4.79	30.80	1.32

Device condition:

- (1) chloroform(CF);
- (2) concentration: 12 mg/mL of AANT(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub> in CF;
- (3) Structure: ITO/PEDOT:PSS (5000 rpm, 140 °C, 30 min)/SM:PC<sub>71</sub>BM= 1:4/Ca (10 nm)/Al (100 nm)
- (4) Spin-coating temperature: at room temperature.



**Fig. S28.**  $J$ - $V$  curve of the AANT(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub>/PC<sub>71</sub>BM-based OSCs under AM.1.5G illumination (100 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>) with annealing temperature optimization.

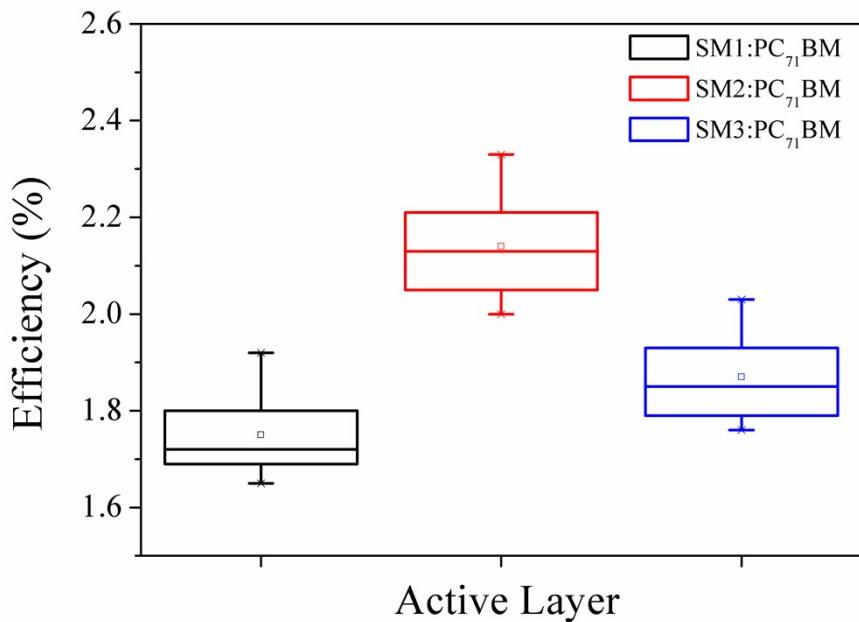
**Table. S8.** Photovoltaic parameters of the AANT(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub>/PC<sub>71</sub>BM-based OSCs under AM.1.5G illumination (100 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>) with annealing temperature optimization.

Temperature (°C)	V <sub>oc</sub> (V)	J <sub>sc</sub> (mA/cm <sup>2</sup> )	FF(%)	PCE(%)
25	0.86	6.58	32.61	1.85
70	0.90	6.25	36.12	2.03
110	0.83	6.61	31.87	1.75

Device condition:

- (1) chloroform(CF);
- (2) concentration: 10 mg/mL of AANT(T-DPP)<sub>2</sub> in CF;
- (3) Structure: ITO/PEDOT:PSS (5000 rpm, 140 °C, 30 min)/SM:PC<sub>71</sub>BM= 1:4, 3000 rpm/Ca (10 nm)/Al (100 nm)

## 8. The PCE distribution of all devices at the optimized conditions.



**Fig. S29.** Efficiency ranges of SM1:PC<sub>71</sub>BM, SM2:PC<sub>71</sub>BM and SM3:PC<sub>71</sub>BM, respectively. For 10 devices showing minimum, maximum and average efficiency values.