

## Supplementary data for the article entitled

# Novel formation of diimidazo[1,2-*a*:2',1'-*c*]quinoxaline derivatives and their optical properties

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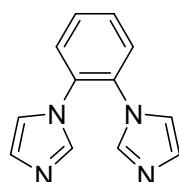
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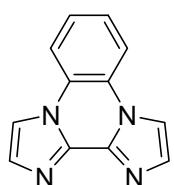
### Table of Contents

1. Experimental procedure and characterization data for 1,2-di(1 <i>H</i> -imidazol-1-yl)benzene, <b>3</b> , and <b>4a-f</b>	.....S2
2. <sup>1</sup> H and <sup>13</sup> C NMR spectra of <b>3</b> and <b>4a-f</b>	.....S6
3. Fabrication and Characterization of OLEDs.	.....S13
4. Energy level diagram of OLEDs of <b>4a</b> and <b>4e</b> in Device A and B.	.....S14
5. Voltage dependence of luminescence of <b>4e</b> in Device B.	.....S14
6. References	.....S14

**Generals:** Melting points were determined with Yanaco MP-J3 and values were uncorrected.  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR measurements were performed on a Varian GEMINI 2000 (300 MHz) spectrometer. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR were expressed in parts per million downfield from tetramethylsilane as an internal standard ( $\delta = 0$ ). Multiplicities are indicated as s (singlet), d (doublet), m (multiplet), and coupling constants ( $J$ ) are reported in Hz unit. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) of  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz) were expressed in parts per million downfield or upfield from  $\text{CDCl}_3$  as an internal standard ( $\delta = 77.0$ ). IR spectra were recorded on a JASCO FT/IR-460 plus spectrometer in KBr disk. UV-Vis spectra were measured on a JASCO V570 spectrophotometer. Fluorescence spectra were measured on a JASCO FP-6600 spectrofluorometer. Elemental analyses (EA) were carried out on a Perkin-Elmer 2400CHN in Analytical Chemical Center of Chiba University. Mass spectra were carried out on a JEOL JMS-AX500, a JMS-HX110, or THERMO Scientific Exactive in Analytical Chemical Center of Chiba University. Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on glass plates pre-coated with silica gel (layer thickness 0.25 mm). Column chromatography was performed on 70-230 mesh silica gel. Preparative GPC was performed on JAIGEL-1H and 2H with a LC-908 (Japan Analytical Industry, Co. Ltd.). The materials not to synthesize in this experimental section were commercially available (Aldrich Chemical Co., Tokyo Kasei Chemical Industry Co., Wako Pure Chemical Co., Kanto Chemical Co., and Nacalai Tesque Inc.). Tetrahydrofuran (THF) was distilled from sodium benzophenone ketyl immediately prior to use. *N,N*-Dimethylformamide (DMF) was distilled from  $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$  under reduced pressure. The reactions were performed under nitrogen atmosphere otherwise noted.



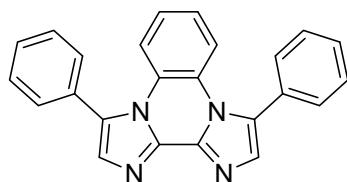
**1,2-Di(1*H*-imidazol-1-yl)benzene:**<sup>1</sup> In a test tube with a screw cap was added 1,2-dibromobenzene (0.238 g, 1.01 mol), imidazole (0.173 g, 2.54 mmol),  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  (0.284 g, 2.04 mmol),  $\text{Cu}_2\text{O}$  (7.8 mg, 0.0055 mmol), and DMSO (1.5 mL). The mixture was stirred at 150 °C for 48 h. The resultant mixture was cooled to room temperature. The mixture was filtered off through Celite with EtOAc. To the organic solution was added  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (20 mL). The combined mixture was extracted with EtOAc (total 30 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . Evaporation in vacuo and column chromatography (silica gel;  $\text{CHCl}_3 : \text{MeOH} = 10 : 1$ ) provided 1,2-di(1*H*-imidazol-1-yl)benzene (0.182 g, 0.866 mmol) in 87% yield as a colorless solid: mp 133.1–134.9 °C (lit.<sup>1</sup> 134.3°C);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300 MHz)  $\delta$  6.74 (s, 2H), 7.11 (s, 2H), 7.44 (s, 2H), 7.48–7.52 (m, 2H), 7.54–7.58 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75 MHz)  $\delta$  119.4, 127.1, 129.6, 130.5, 132.1, 136.7; IR (KBr) 3101, 3030, 2360, 1681, 1593, 1520, 1495, 1247, 1176, 1111, 1089, 1065, 1054, 1039, 964, 740  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . MS (FAB):  $m/z$  211 ([M+H]<sup>+</sup>).



**Diimidazo[1,2-a:2',1'-c]quinoxaline (3)**

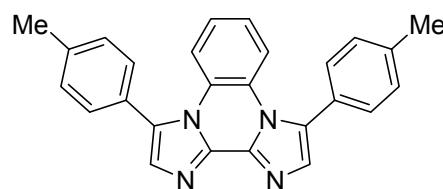
**I<sub>2</sub>-Mediated Reaction (Method A):** To a solution of 1,2-di(imidazol-1-yl)benzene (0.211 g, 1.0 mmol) in THF (5 mL) was added a solution of *n*-BuLi (1.67 M in hexane) (1.44 mL, 2.4 mmol) at -78 °C. After being stirred for 1 h at that temperature, the reaction mixture was added to a solution of I<sub>2</sub> (0.269 g, 1.06 mmol) in THF (4 mL) at -78 °C. The mixture was gradually warmed to 45 °C and stirred for 19 h. To the resultant mixture was added brine (20 mL) and was extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> (total 40 mL). The organic layer was dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration and evaporation, the residue was subjected to column chromatography on silica-gel (CHCl<sub>3</sub> : MeOH = 10 : 1) to give **3** (0.147 g, 0.71 mmol) in 71% yield as a white solid. To utilize for measuring optical properties, the solid was further purified by recrystallization from hexane and CHCl<sub>3</sub> to give colorless plate crystals: mp 260.9–261.4 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 7.53 (dd, 2H, *J* = 3.3 and 6.2 Hz), 7.62 (d, 2H, *J* = 1.2 Hz), 7.87 (dd, 2H, *J* = 3.4 and 6.3 Hz), 7.88 (d, 2H, *J* = 1.5 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 112.3, 116.7, 124.4, 126.5, 132.7, 135.7; IR (KBr) 1630, 1510, 1413, 1324, 1121, 931, 755, 686, 468, 442, 425, 407 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>9</sub>N<sub>4</sub> ([M+H]<sup>+</sup>): 209.0822. Found: 209.0819.

**Pd-catalyzed Coupling Reaction (Method B):** To a solution of 1,2-di(1*H*-imidazol-1-yl)benzene (0.210 g, 1.0 mmol) in THF (5 mL) was added a solution of *n*-BuLi (1.57 M in hexane) (1.53 mL, 2.4 mmol) at -78 °C. After being stirred for 1 h at that temperature, the reaction mixture was added to a solution of Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (22.7 mg, 0.024 mmol) in THF (2 mL) at -78 °C. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to 45 °C and stirred for 19 h. To the reaction mixture was added brine (20 mL) and was extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> (total 40 mL). The organic layer was dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration and evaporation, the residue was subjected to column chromatography on silica-gel (CHCl<sub>3</sub> : MeOH = 10 : 1) to give **3** (0.147 g, 0.71 mmol) in 71% yield as a white solid.

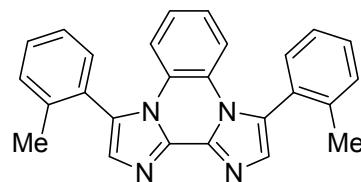


**3,10-Diphenyldiimidazo[1,2-a:2',1'-c]quinoxaline (4a):** In a test tube with a screw cap was added K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.279 g, 1.95 mmol), pre-heated at 150 °C for 2 h with glass tube oven to remove adventitious water, **3** (0.104 g, 0.499 mol), bromobenzene (0.386 g, 2.46 mmol), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (12.4 mg, 0.055 mmol), PPh<sub>3</sub> (26.4 mg, 0.10 mmol), and DMF (2.5 mL). The mixture was stirred at 140 °C for 48 h. The resultant mixture was cooled down to room temperature. The mixture was filtered off through Celite with CHCl<sub>3</sub>. To the organic solution was added brine (20 mL). The combined mixture was extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> (total 60 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over

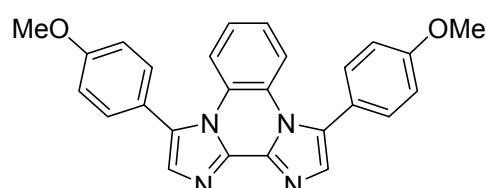
Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Evaporation in vacuo, column chromatography (silica gel; EtOAc), and preparative GPC provided **4a** (99.1 mg, 0.275 mmol) in 55% yield as a colorless solid: mp 203.1–203.9 °C (hexane and CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 7.04 (dd, 2H, *J* = 3.5 and 6.5 Hz), 7.48–7.57 (m, 14H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) δ 118.7, 125.3, 126.2, 129.1, 129.2, 129.7, 130.2, 130.8, 133.8, 137.4; IR (KBr) 1624, 1571, 1463, 1476, 1376, 1347, 1160, 954, 851, 762, 704, 645, 567, 506, 485, 450, 439, 409 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>4</sub> ([M+H]<sup>+</sup>): 361.1448. Found: 361.1433.



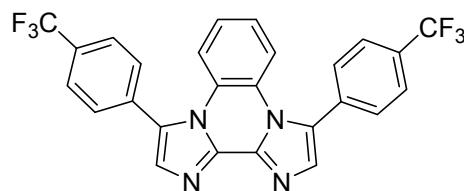
**3,10-Di(4-methylphenyl)diimidazo[1,2-a:2',1'-c]quinoxaline (4b):** The titled compound was prepared in 44% yield according to a procedure similar to that mentioned in **4a**: colorless solid, mp 215.7–216.0 °C (hexane and CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 2.48 (s, 6H), 7.04 (dd, 2H, *J* = 3.4 and 6.4 Hz), 7.32 (d, 4H, *J* = 7.9 Hz), 7.43 (d, 4H, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 7.45 (s, 2H), 7.53 (dd, 2H, *J* = 3.5 and 6.4 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) δ 21.4, 118.4, 125.0, 126.1, 127.7, 129.5, 129.7, 130.1, 133.4, 137.2, 139.0; IR (KBr) 1622, 1570, 1493, 1474, 1374, 1346, 1287, 1163, 1079, 1021, 972, 818, 772, 630, 558 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>4</sub>Na ([M+Na]<sup>+</sup>): 411.1580. Found: 411.1575.



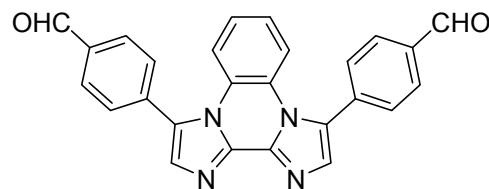
**3,10-Di(2-methylphenyl)diimidazo[1,2-a:2',1'-c]quinoxaline (4c):** The titled compound was prepared in 39% yield according to a procedure similar to that mentioned in **4a**: colorless solid, mp 234.9–235.7 °C (hexane and CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 2.12 (s, 6H), 7.00 (dd, 2H, *J* = 3.5 and 6.4 Hz), 7.46 (s, 2H), 7.34–7.53 (m, 10H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) δ 20.01, 20.03, 116.66, 116.71, 125.54, 125.58, 126.05, 126.08, 126.45, 126.49, 128.7, 128.8, 128.96, 129.04, 129.8 (high intensity), 130.5 (high intensity), 131.18, 131.23, 132.96, 133.01, 136.65, 136.71, 138.7, 138.8 (mixture of atropisomers); IR (KBr) 3053, 1625, 1572, 1495, 1473, 1373, 1288, 1159, 1121, 952, 845, 772, 751, 674 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>4</sub> ([M+H]<sup>+</sup>): 389.1761. Found: 389.1753.



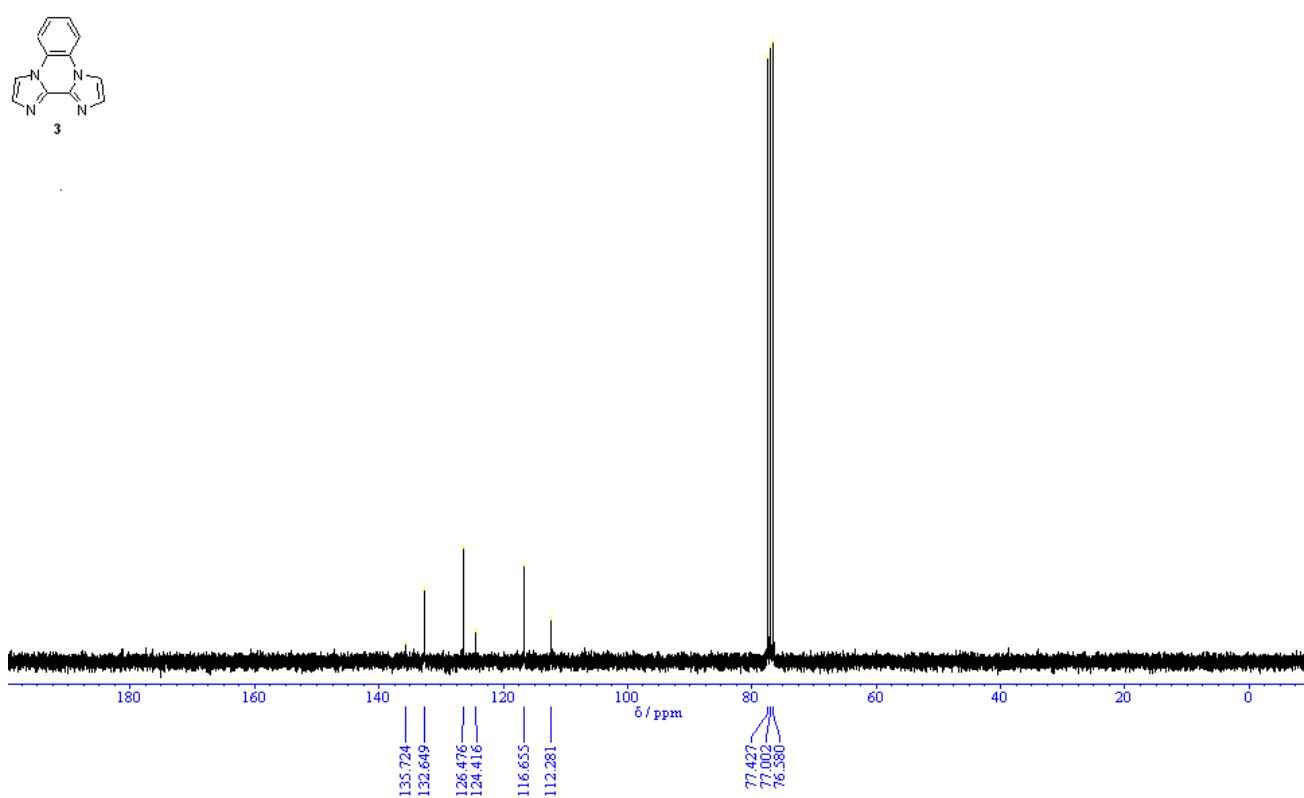
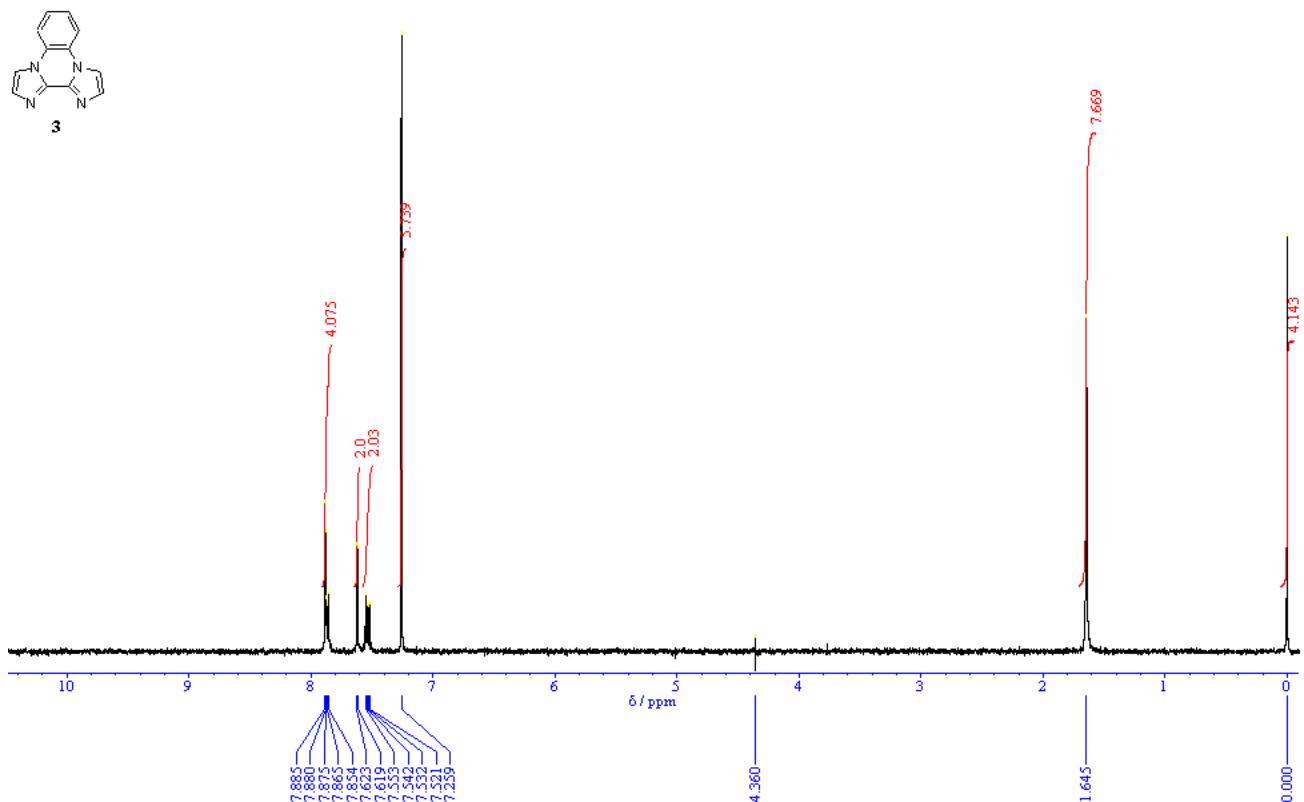
**3,10-Di(4-methoxyphenyl)diimidazo[1,2-*a*:2',1'-*c*]quinoxaline (4d):** The titled compound was prepared in 34% yield according to a procedure similar to that mentioned in **4a**: colorless solid, mp 219.3–220.1 °C (hexane and CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 3.92 (s, 6H), 7.03–7.06 (m, 2H), 7.05 (d, 4H, *J* = 8.9 Hz), 7.44 (s, 2H), 7.45 (d, 4H, *J* = 8.7 Hz), 7.52 (dd, 2H, *J* = 3.5 and 6.4 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) δ 55.4, 114.4, 118.2, 122.8, 125.0, 126.2, 129.8, 131.0, 133.3, 137.0, 160.2; IR (KBr) 2840, 1611, 1571, 1505, 1376, 1285, 1249, 1177, 1026, 833, 754, 680, 598 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N<sub>4</sub> ([M+H]<sup>+</sup>): 421.1659. Found: 421.1651.

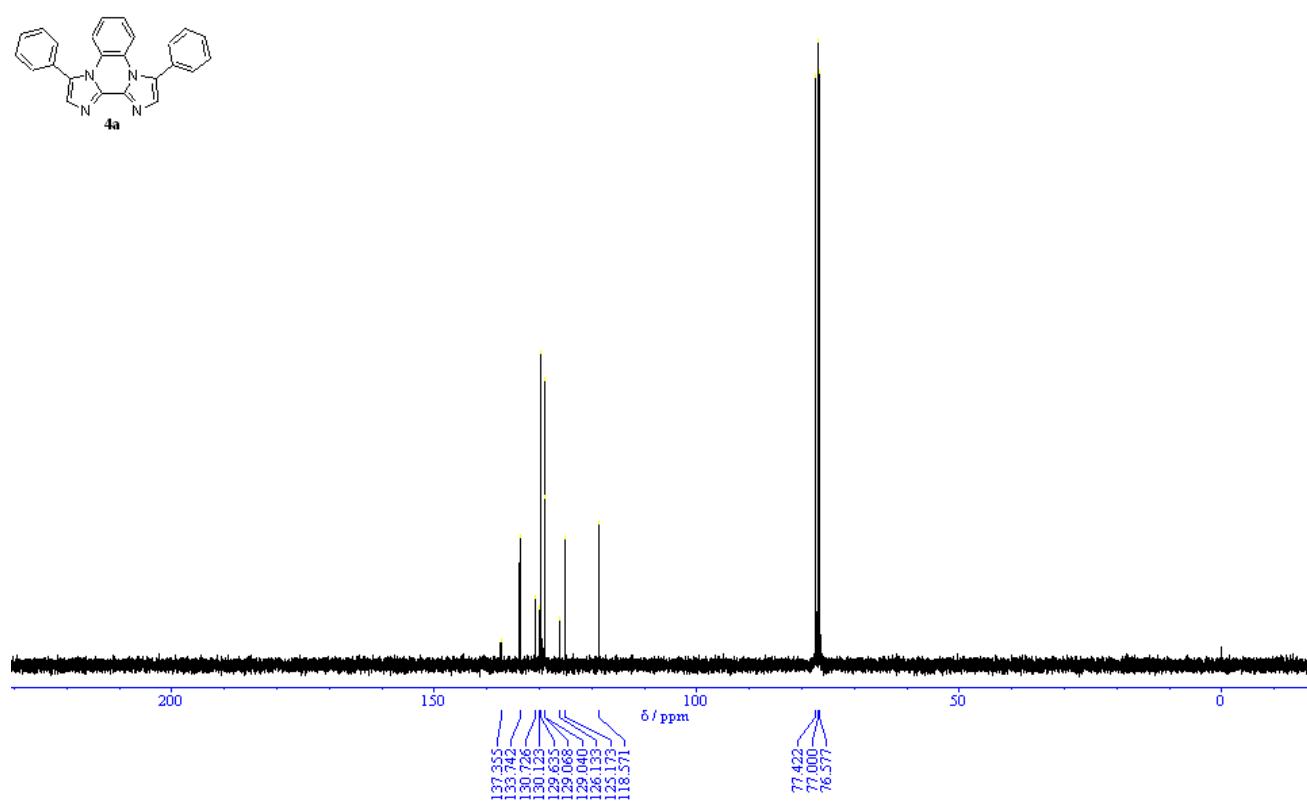
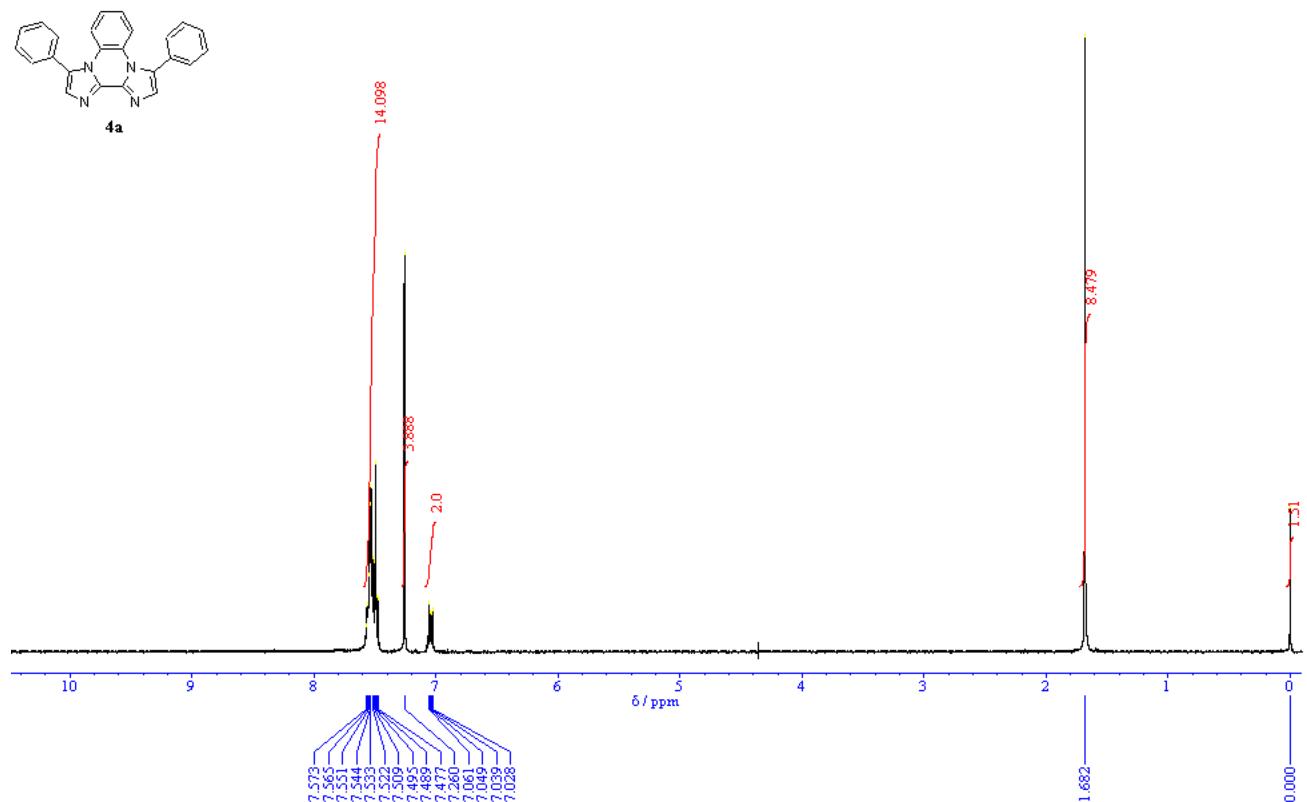


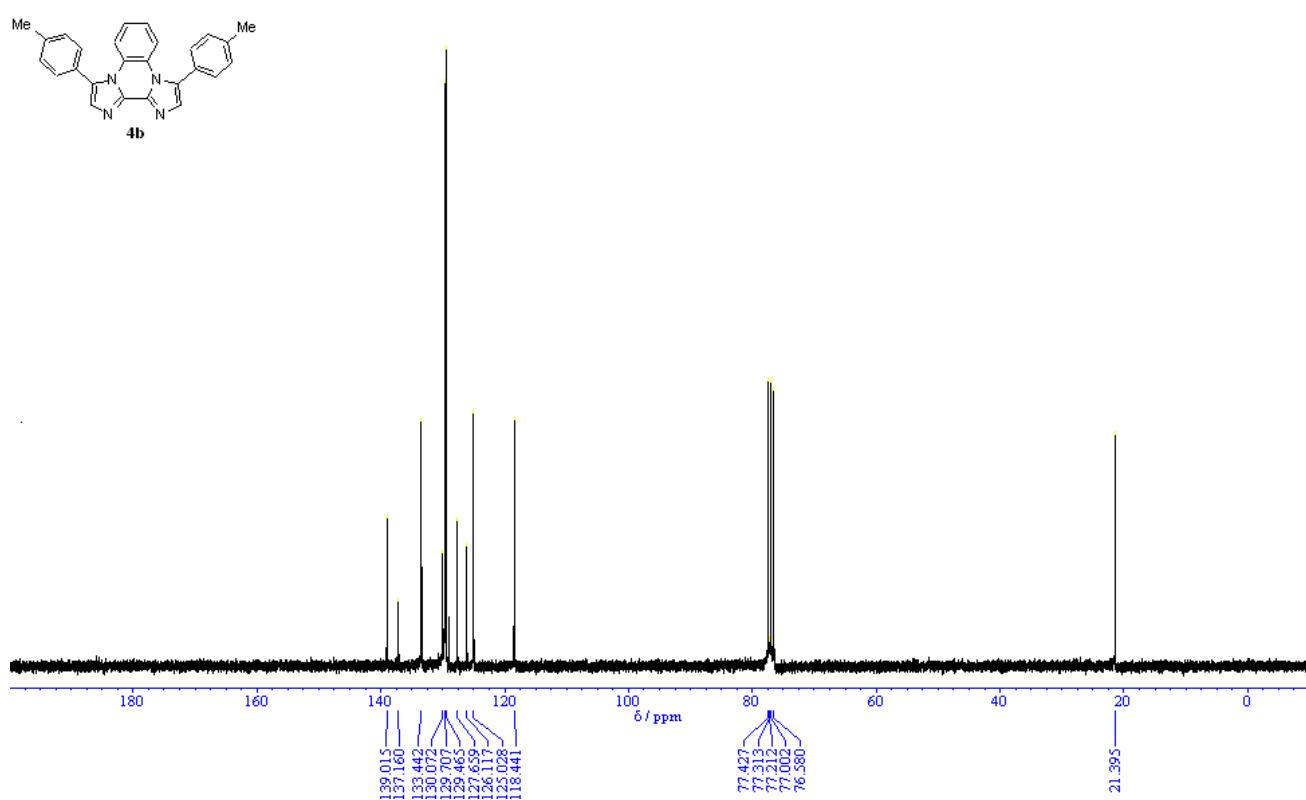
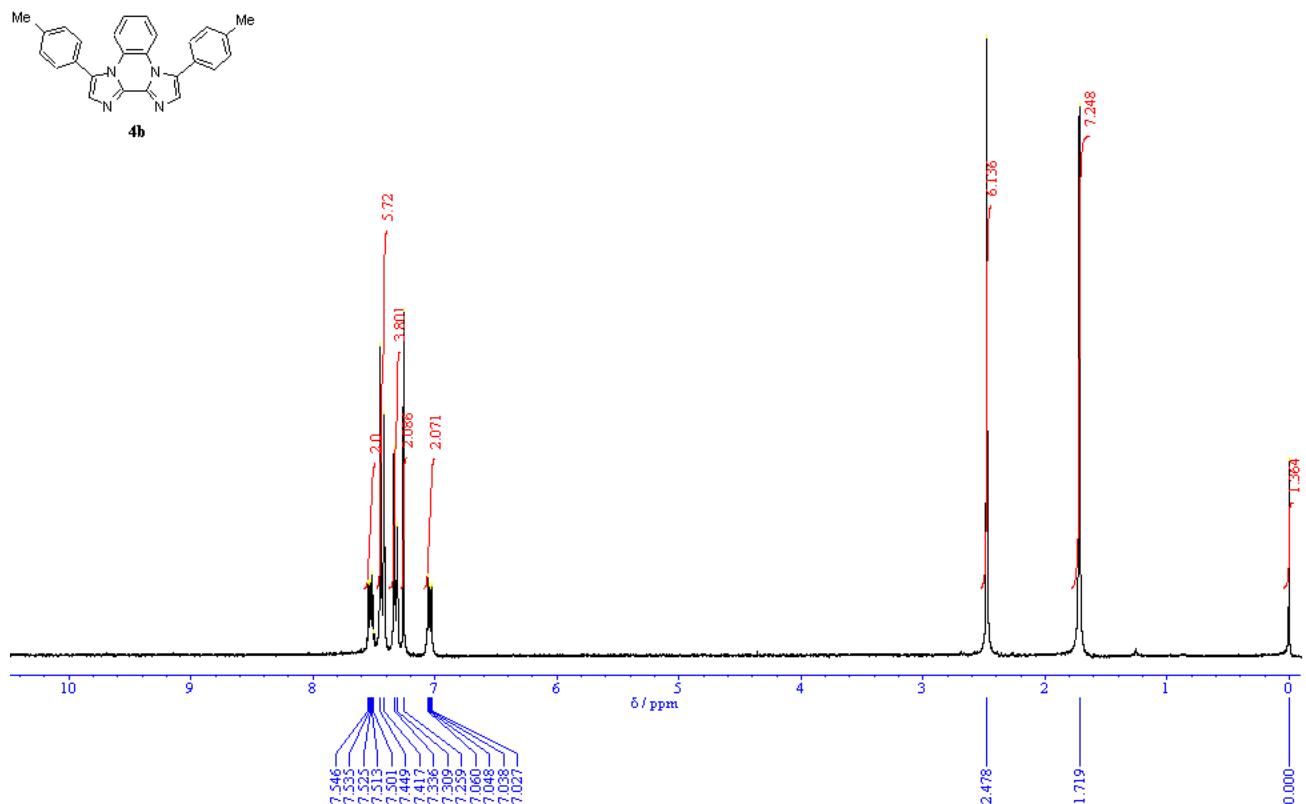
**3,10-Di(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)diimidazo[1,2-*a*:2',1'-*c*]quinoxaline (4e):** The titled compound was prepared in 47% yield according to a procedure similar to that mentioned in **4a**: colorless solid, mp 287.5–287.9 °C (hexane and CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 7.16 (dd, 2H, *J* = 3.3 and 6.4 Hz), 7.47 (dd, 2H, *J* = 3.4 and 6.3 Hz), 7.58 (s, 2H), 7.71 (d, 4H, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 7.81 (d, 4H, *J* = 8.3 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) δ 118.8, 123.9 (*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 272.4 Hz), 125.7, 125.8, 126.1 (*J*<sub>C-C-F</sub> = 3.9 Hz), 128.8, 129.5, 131.0 (*J*<sub>C-C-F</sub> = 32.8 Hz), 134.1, 134.8, 137.9; IR (KBr) 1618, 1573, 1496, 1376, 1327, 1255, 1167, 1122, 1073, 1017, 955, 841, 754, 606, 440 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>14</sub>F<sub>6</sub>N<sub>4</sub>: C, 62.91; H, 2.84; N, 11.29%. Found: C, 62.89, H, 2.48; N, 11.18%.

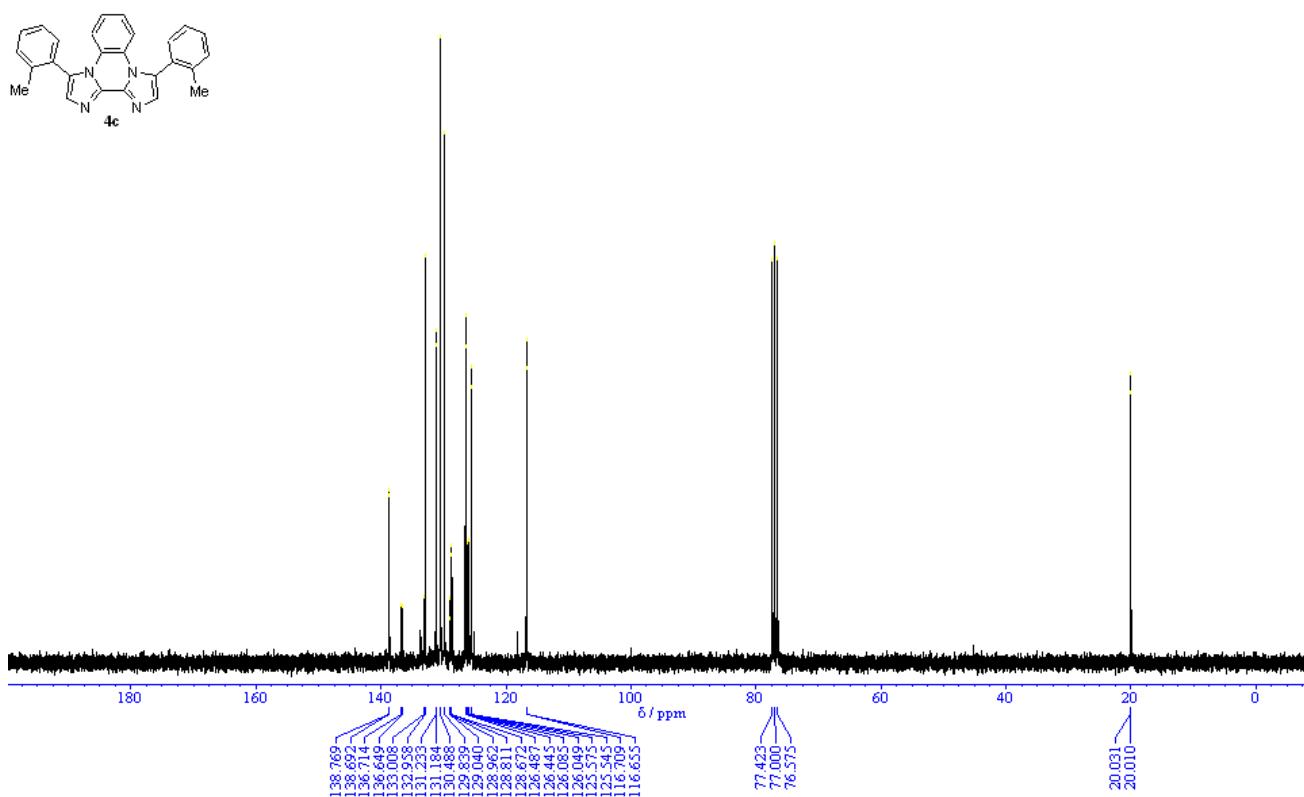
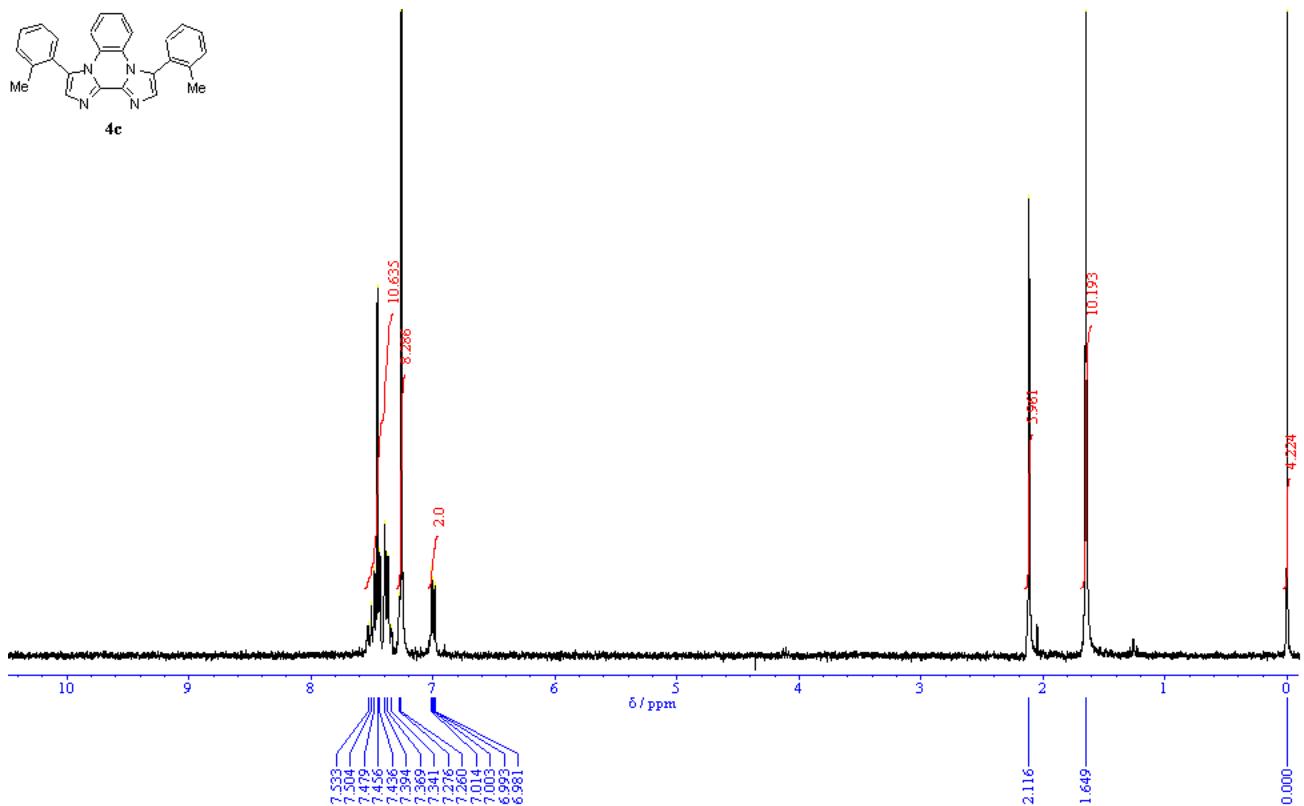


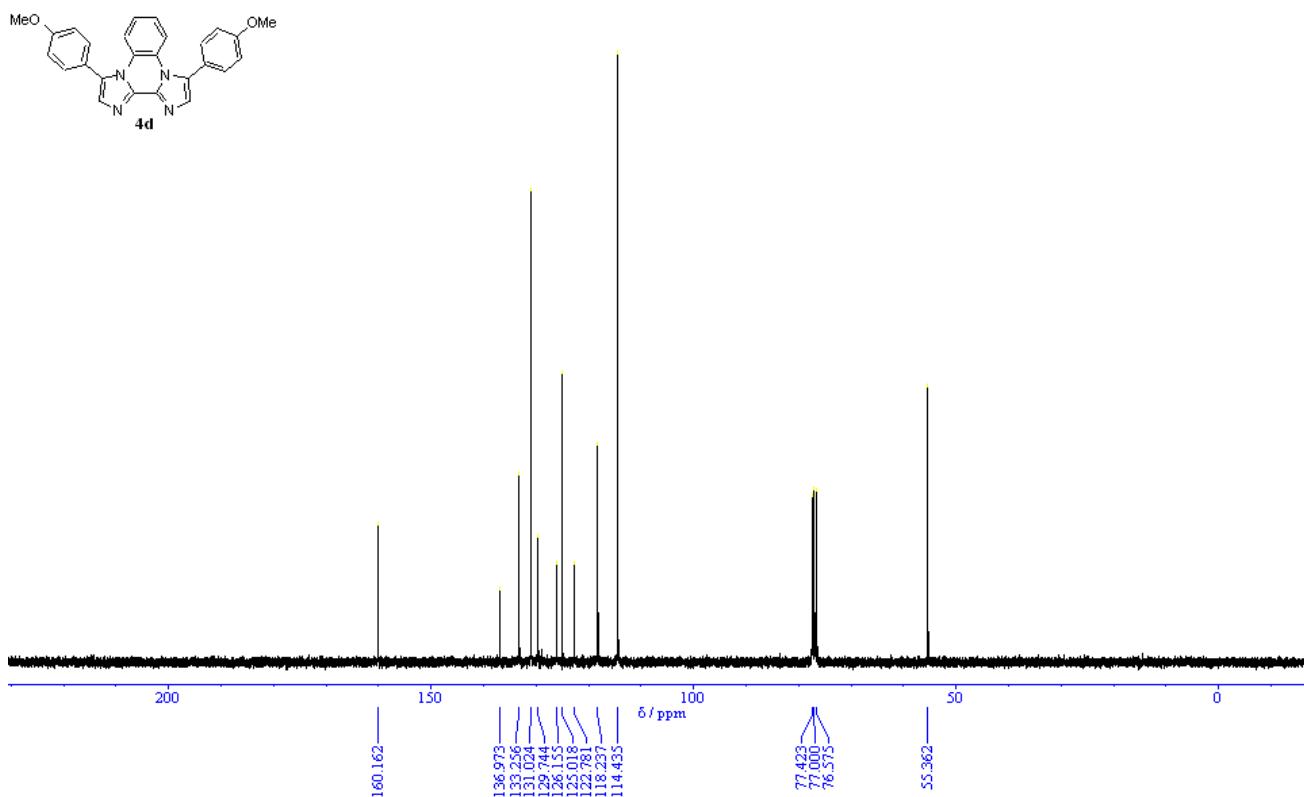
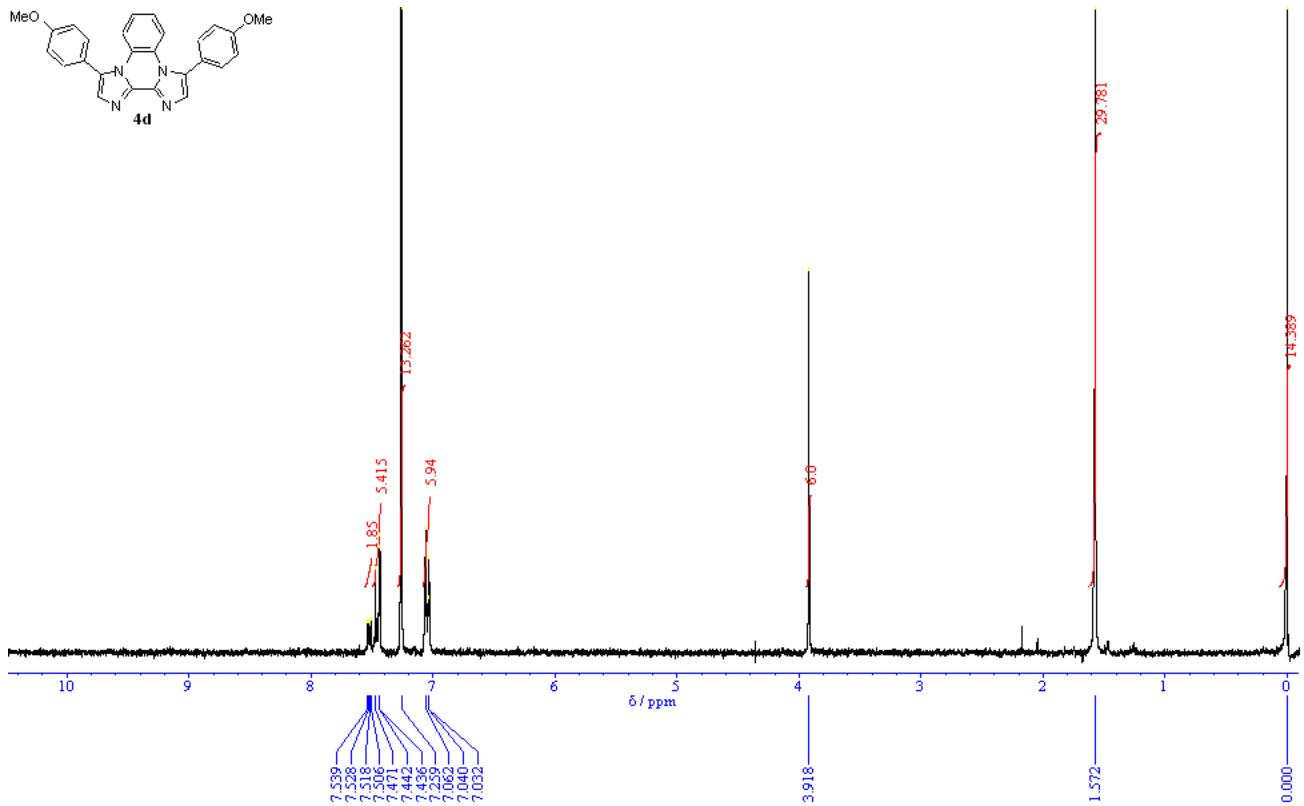
**3,10-Di(4-formylphenyl)diimidazo[1,2-*a*:2',1'-*c*]quinoxaline (4f):** The titled compound was prepared in 47% yield according to a procedure similar to that mentioned in **4a**: yellow solid, mp 282.2–282.7 °C (hexane and CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) δ 7.14 (dd, 2H, *J* = 3.4 and 6.5 Hz), 7.50 (dd, 2H, *J* = 3.5 and 6.3 Hz), 7.64 (s, 2H), 7.77 (d, 4H, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 8.06 (d, 4H, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 10.14 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) δ 119.0, 125.8, 129.2, 129.4 (includes two types of C), 130.3, 135.1, 136.1, 136.2, 138.1, 191.3; IR (KBr) 3087, 2734, 1993, 1698, 1569, 1209, 1287, 1137, 1082, 1058, 905, 835, 756, 660, 531 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N<sub>4</sub>Na ([M+Na]<sup>+</sup>): 439.1165. Found: 439.1158.

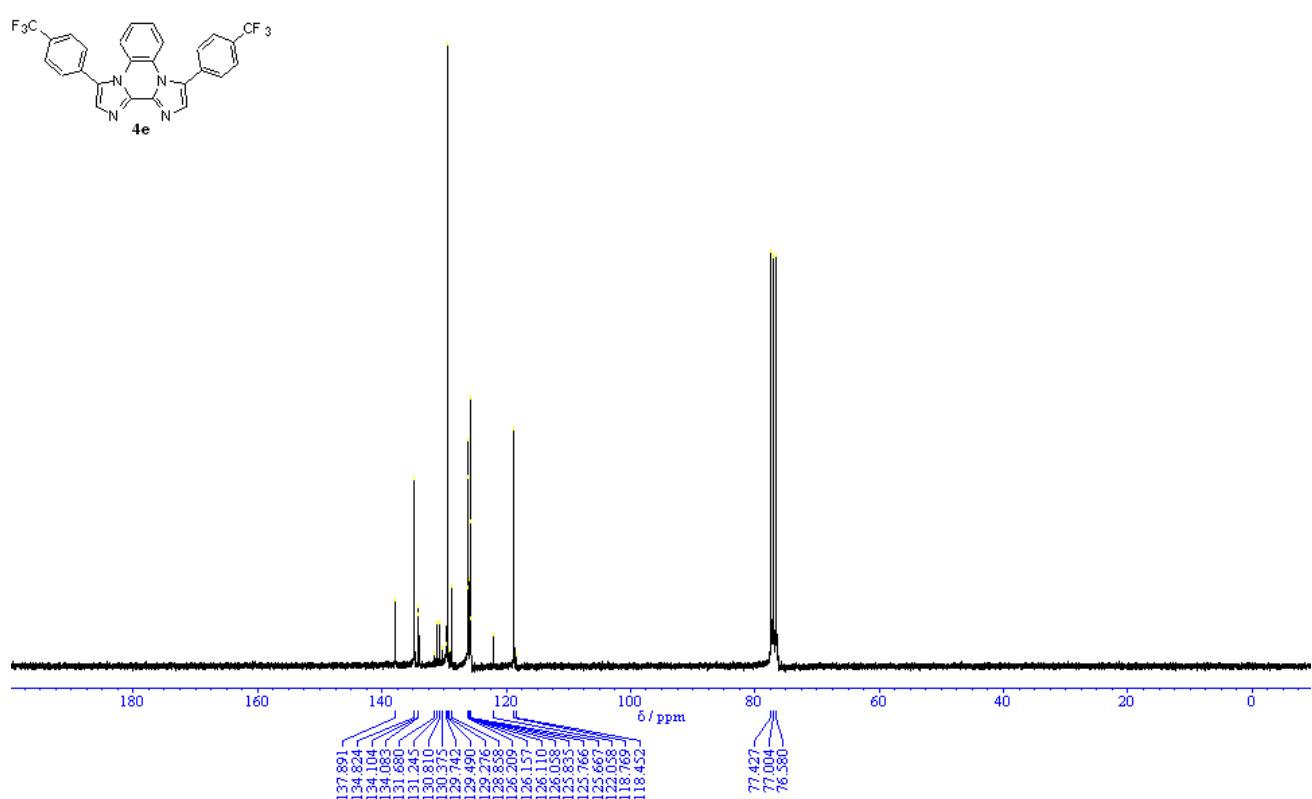
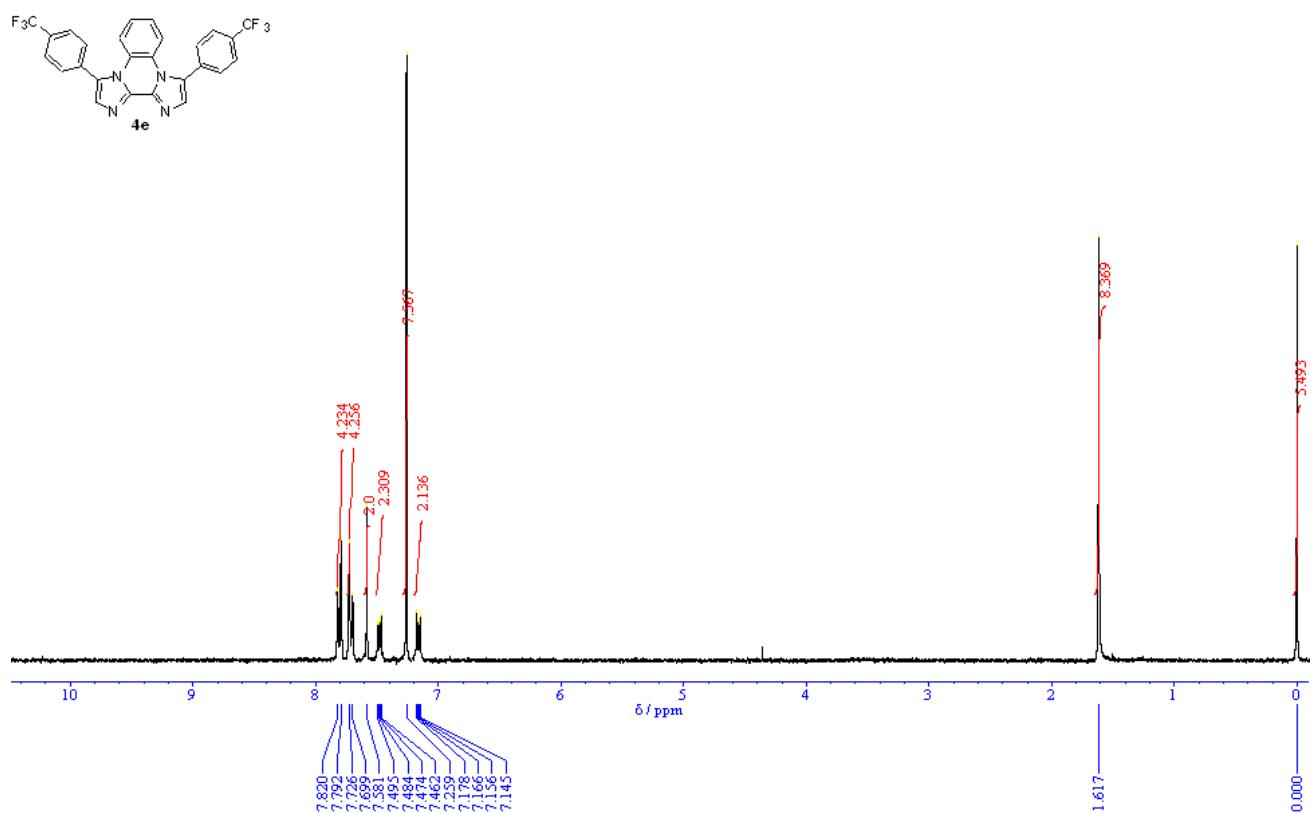


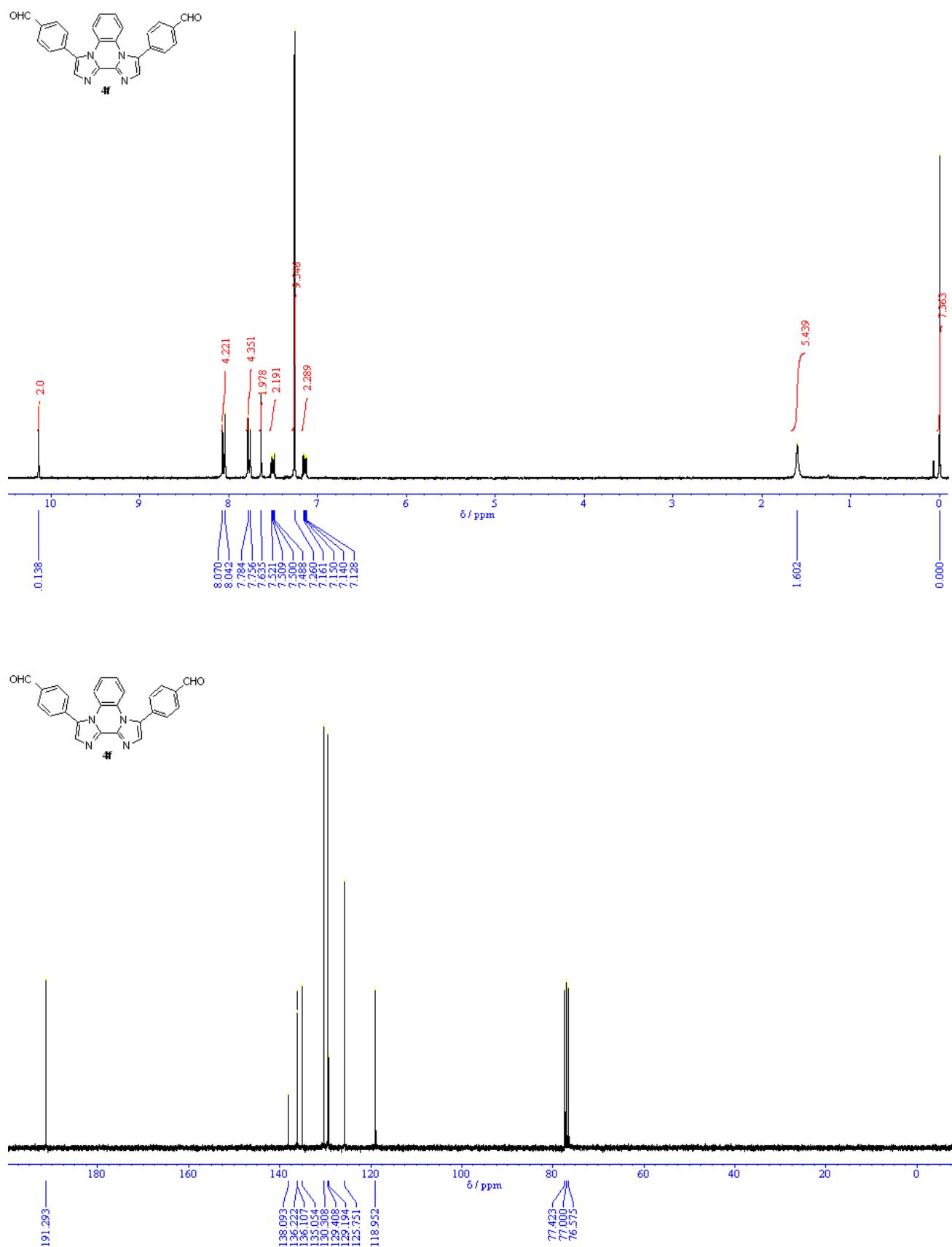










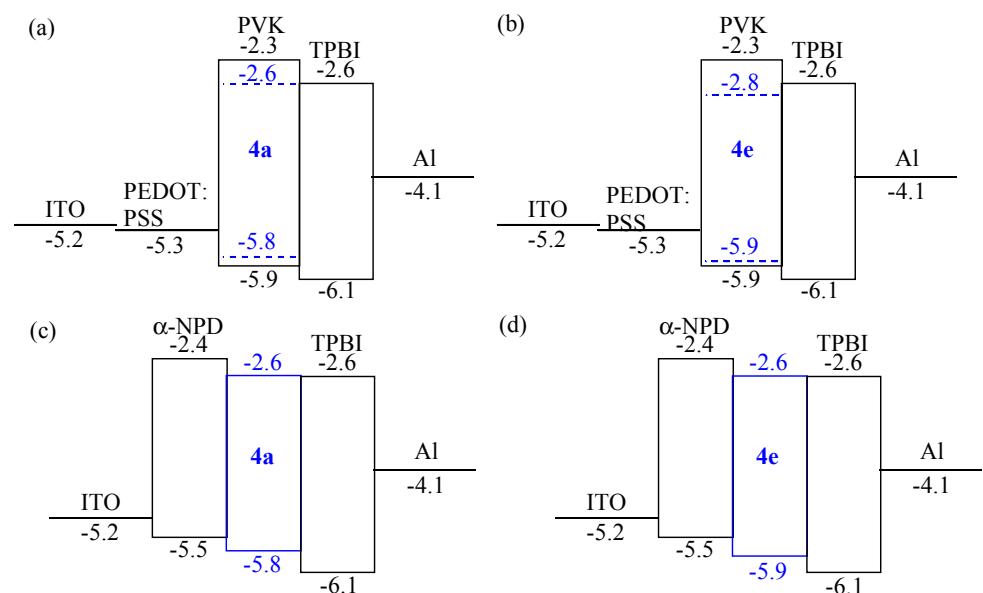


### Fabrication and Characterization of OLEDs.

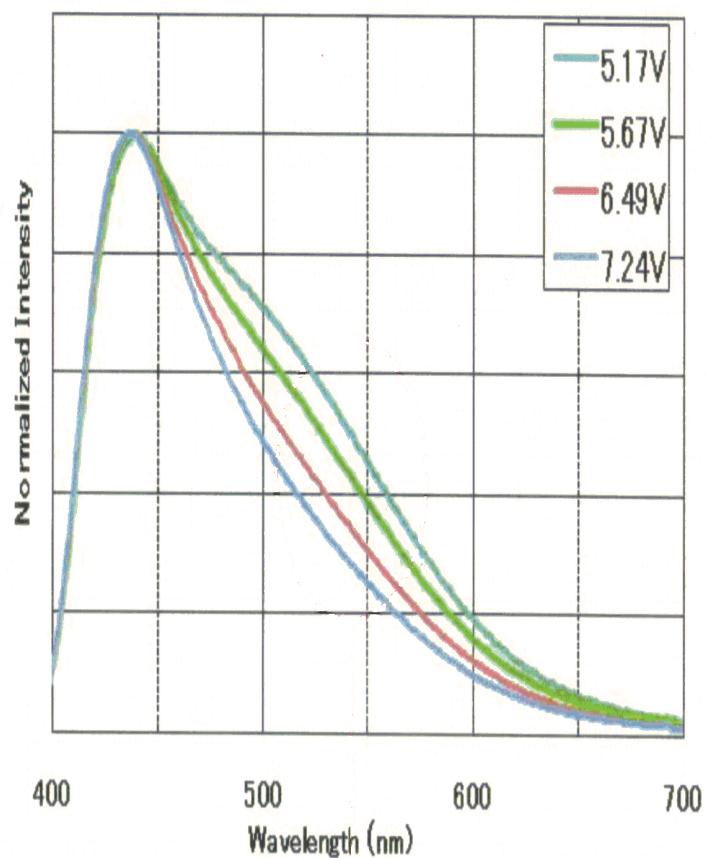
**Device A (Spin-coating method):** A 50 wt% solution of commercially available PEDOT:PSS (Clevios P VPCH 8000 (H. C. Starck)) in 2-propanol was spin-coated on ITO-coated glass (sheet resistance: < 10 Ω/sq., EL Grade of Sanyo Vacuum Industries Co., Ltd.) and dried at 200 °C for 30 min under atmospheric pressure. Light-emitting layer was spin-coated at 1000 rpm (60 s) from a 2.0 wt% solution of mixture of compound (4), PVK and PBD (3 : 65 : 32 ratio in weight)<sup>2</sup> in toluene. The film was then dried at 100 °C for 60 min under a vacuum. The thickness was measured on a ULVAK DEKTAK 6M surface profiler. A film of TPBI was obtained on the top of the light-emitting layer by evaporation from heated quartz crucibles in a vacuum evaporator (custom-made equipment, Seed Lab., Corporation) below  $1.0 \times 10^{-4}$  Pa. And LiF and aluminum layer were sequentially deposited through a shadow mask to form active diode areas of 4 mm<sup>2</sup> below  $5.0 \times 10^{-4}$  Pa. Thickness was measured on a ULVAC CRTM-9000 quartz crystal deposition controller.

**Device B (Vacuum deposition method):** A film of α-NPD was obtained on ITO-coated glass by evaporation from heated quartz crucibles in a vacuum evaporator below  $1.0 \times 10^{-4}$  Pa. And films of compound (4) and TPBI were sequentially obtained by evaporation under the same conditions. And LiF and aluminum layer were sequentially deposited through a shadow mask to form active diode areas of 4 mm<sup>2</sup> below  $5.0 \times 10^{-4}$  Pa.

Electroluminescence spectra were measured by using a Konica Minolta CS-1000A spectroradiometer with ADVANTEST R6243 DC voltage current source/monitor. Current-voltage-luminance characteristics of OLEDs were measured by using a Keithly Model 6485 picoammeter. The luminescence (brightness) was measured by using a Konica Minolta CS-100A spectroradiometer. The current-voltage and luminance-voltage curves were recorded simultaneously under an air.



**Fig. S1** Schematic energy level (ins eV) diagram of the OLEDs using (a) 4a and (b) 4e as the emitter fabricated by spin-coating method (device A), and using (c) 4a and (d) 4e as the emitter fabricated by vacuum deposition method (device B).



**Fig. S2** Voltage dependence of EL spectrum of **4e** in device B.

## References

- 1 Y.-H. So, *Macromolecules*, 1992, **25**, 516-520.
- 2 C. Jiang, W. Yang, J. Peng, S. Xiao, Y. Cao, *Adv. Mater.*, 2004, **16**, 537-541.