

Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Organic & Biomolecular Chemistry  
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## Supporting Information for

# Dithienylethene-Based Rotaxanes: Synthesis, Characterization and Properties

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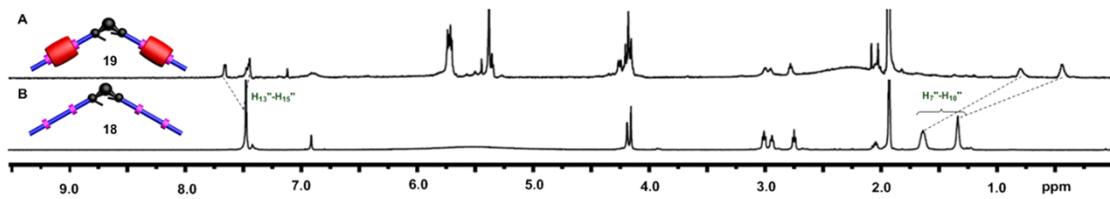
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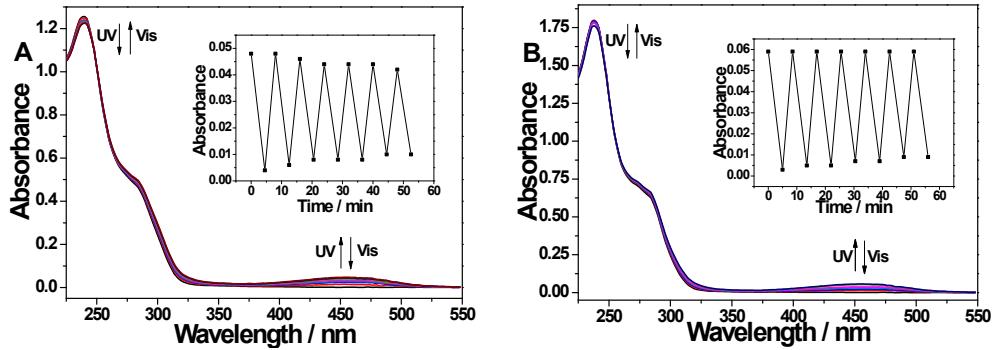
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## 1. Partial $^1\text{H}$ NMR spectra of dithienylethene-based rotaxanes

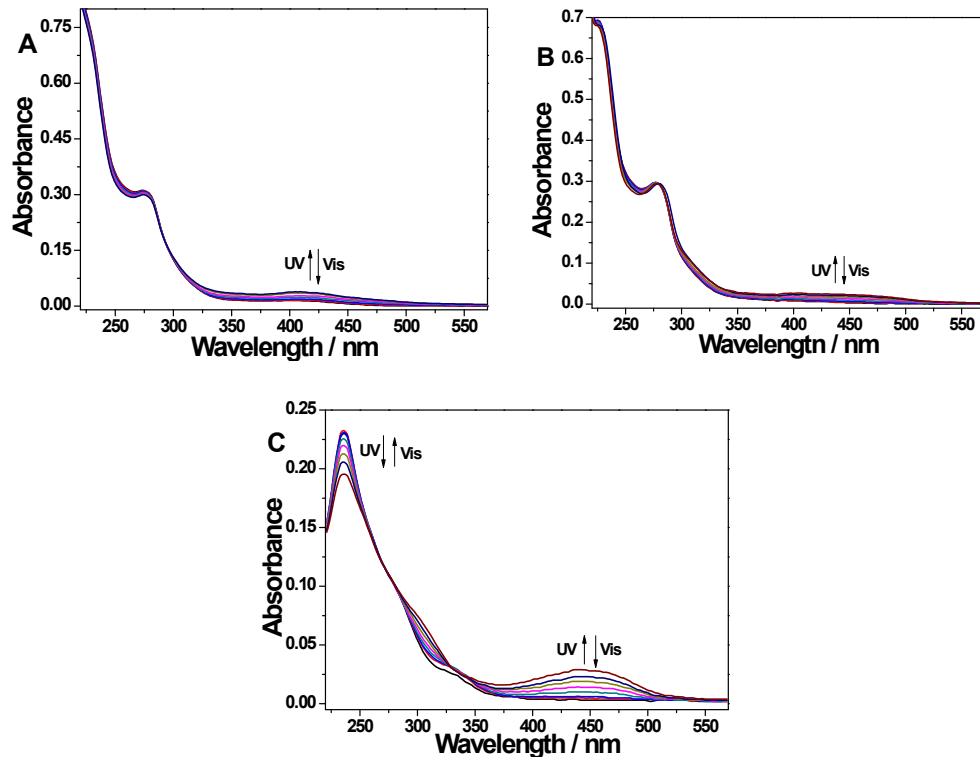


**Figure S1:** Partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (400 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , 298 K) of **16** (A), **15** (B).

## 2. Details of UV-Vis Absorbtion Spectra.



**Figure S2.** Absorption spectral changes of dithienylethene-based [2]rotaxane **12** (A) and **13** (B) by photoirradiation in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  ( $2.0 \times 10^{-5}$  mol/L). The inset shows the fatigue resistance of dithienylethene-based [n] rotaxanes.



**Figure S3.** Absorption spectral changes of dithienylethene-based [n] ammoniums **4** (A), **9** (B), **18** (C) by photoirradiation in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  ( $2.0 \times 10^{-5}$  mol/L) at room temperature.

### 3. The photochromic parameters.

**Table S1.** Absorption characteristics and photochromic quantum yields of dithienylethene-based [n] rotaxanes **12**, **13**, **19** and their corresponding ammoniums **4**, **9**, **18** in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (2.0 × 10<sup>-5</sup> mol/L).

Compound	$\lambda_{\max}^{\text{Abs}} / \text{nm}$ <sup>a</sup>	$\lambda_{\max}^{\text{Abs}} / \text{nm}$ <sup>b</sup>	$\Phi$ <sup>c</sup>	
	( $\varepsilon \times 10^{-4}$ ) (Open)	( $\varepsilon \times 10^{-4}$ ) (PSS)	$\varphi_{\text{o-c}} (\lambda / \text{nm})$	$\varphi_{\text{c-o}} (\lambda / \text{nm})$
<b>4</b>	274(1.29)	448(0.21)	0.153(448)	0.014(274)
<b>9</b>	276(1.25)	439(0.16)	0.160(439)	0.016(276)
<b>12</b>	240(6.31)	458(0.24)	0.155(458)	0.019(240)
<b>13</b>	238(9.06)	454(0.28)	0.161(454)	0.017(238)
<b>18</b>	237(0.98)	445(0.19)	0.169(445)	0.019(237)
<b>19</b>	237(4.82)	454(0.24)	0.231(454)	0.043(237)

<sup>a</sup> Absorption maxima of open-ring isomers.

<sup>b</sup> Absorption maxima of closed-ring isomers.

<sup>c</sup> Quantum yields of open-ring ( $\varphi_{\text{c-o}}$ ) and closed-ring isomers ( $\varphi_{\text{o-c}}$ ), respectively.

Data were analyzed by a method adapted from a previously described one. (Ref.: H. Rau, G. Greiner, G. Gauglitz and H. Meier, *J. Phys. Chem.* 1990, **94**, 6523.)

### 4. The data of single crystal.

**Table S2.** Crystal data and structure refinement for [3]rotaxane **12**.

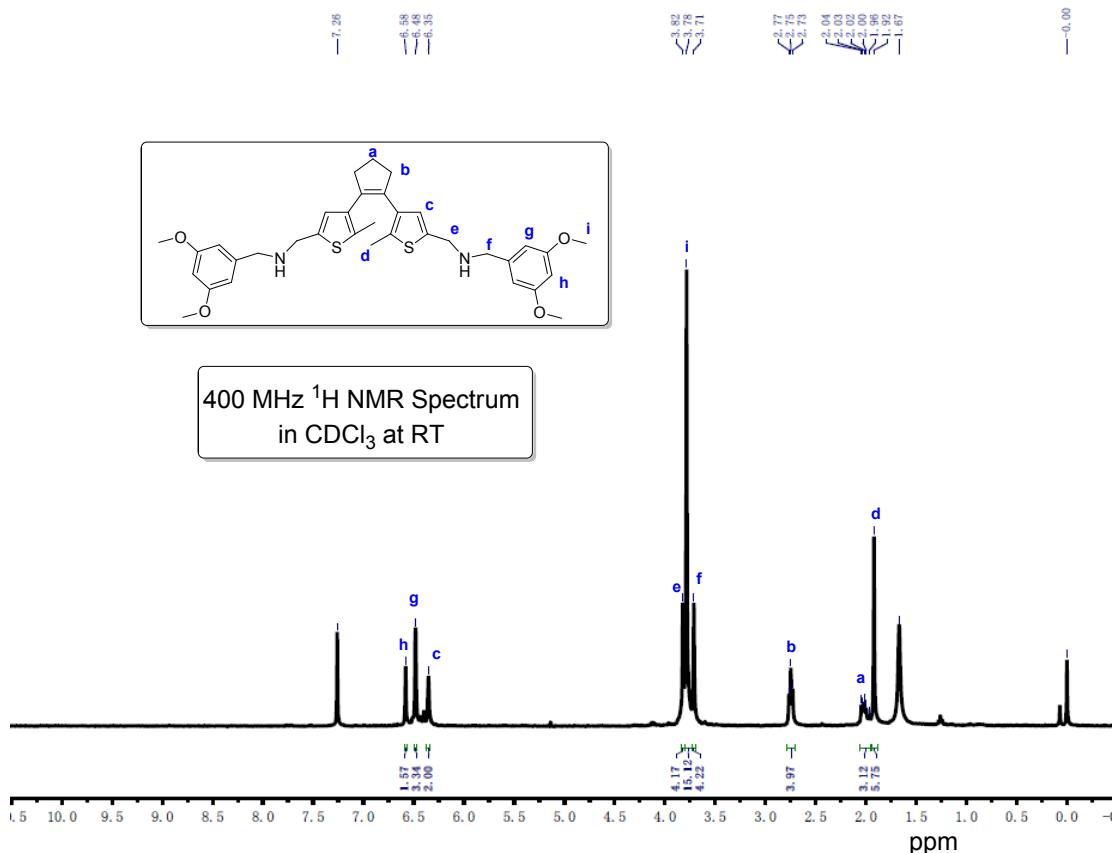
Compound reference	[3]rotaxane <b>12</b>				
Chemical formula	C <sub>89</sub> H <sub>107</sub> F <sub>12</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O <sub>14</sub> P <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub>				
Formula weight	1866.89				
Temperature	298(2) K				
Wavelength	0.71073 Å				
Crystal system	Triclinic				
Space group	P-1				
Unit cell dimensions	a = 15.769(3) Å	$\alpha = 102.985(3)$			
	b = 18.047(3) Å	$\beta = 91.397(2)$			
	c = 18.752(3) Å	$\gamma = 91.223(3)$			
Volume	5196.5(14) Å <sup>3</sup>				
Z	2				
Density (calculated)	1.193 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>				

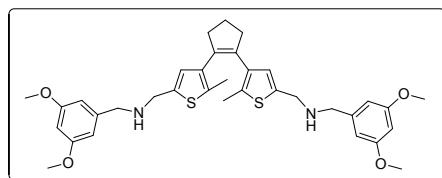
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Absorption coefficient	0.162 mm <sup>-1</sup>
F(000)	1958
Crystal size	0.12 x 0.10 x 0.10 mm <sup>3</sup>
Theta range for data collection	1.11 to 25.50°.
Index ranges	-19<=h<=19, -21<=k<=21, 0<=l<=22
Reflections collected	19176
Independent reflections	19176 [R(int) = 0.0000]
Completeness to theta = 25.50	99.2 %
Absorption correction	None
Max. and min. transmission	0.9840 and 0.9808
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	19176 / 0 / 1147
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	0.926
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0698, wR2 = 0.1945
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.1290, wR2 = 0.2242
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.667 and -0.404 e. Å <sup>-3</sup>

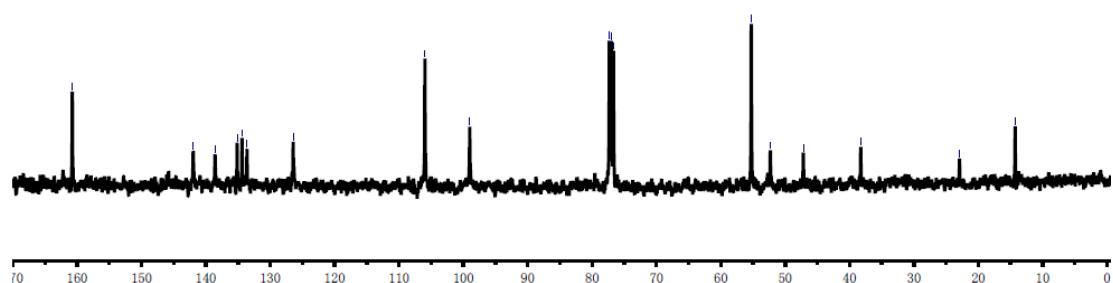
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## 5. Appendix: NMR and Mass spectra

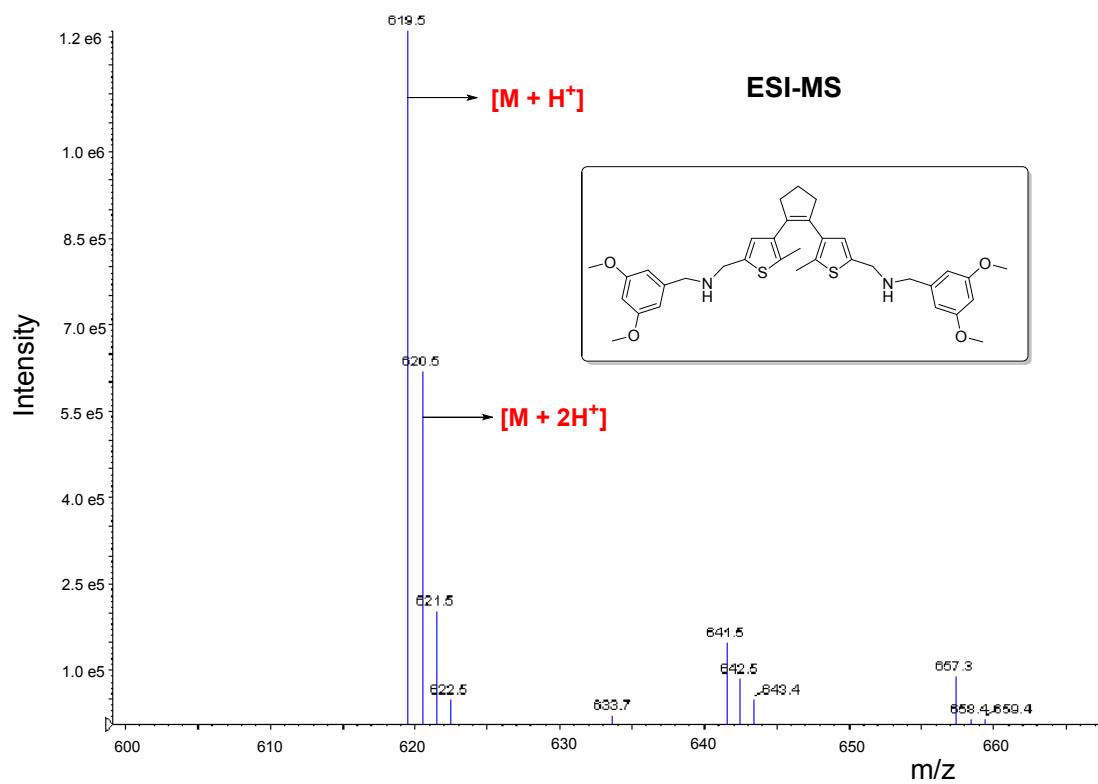


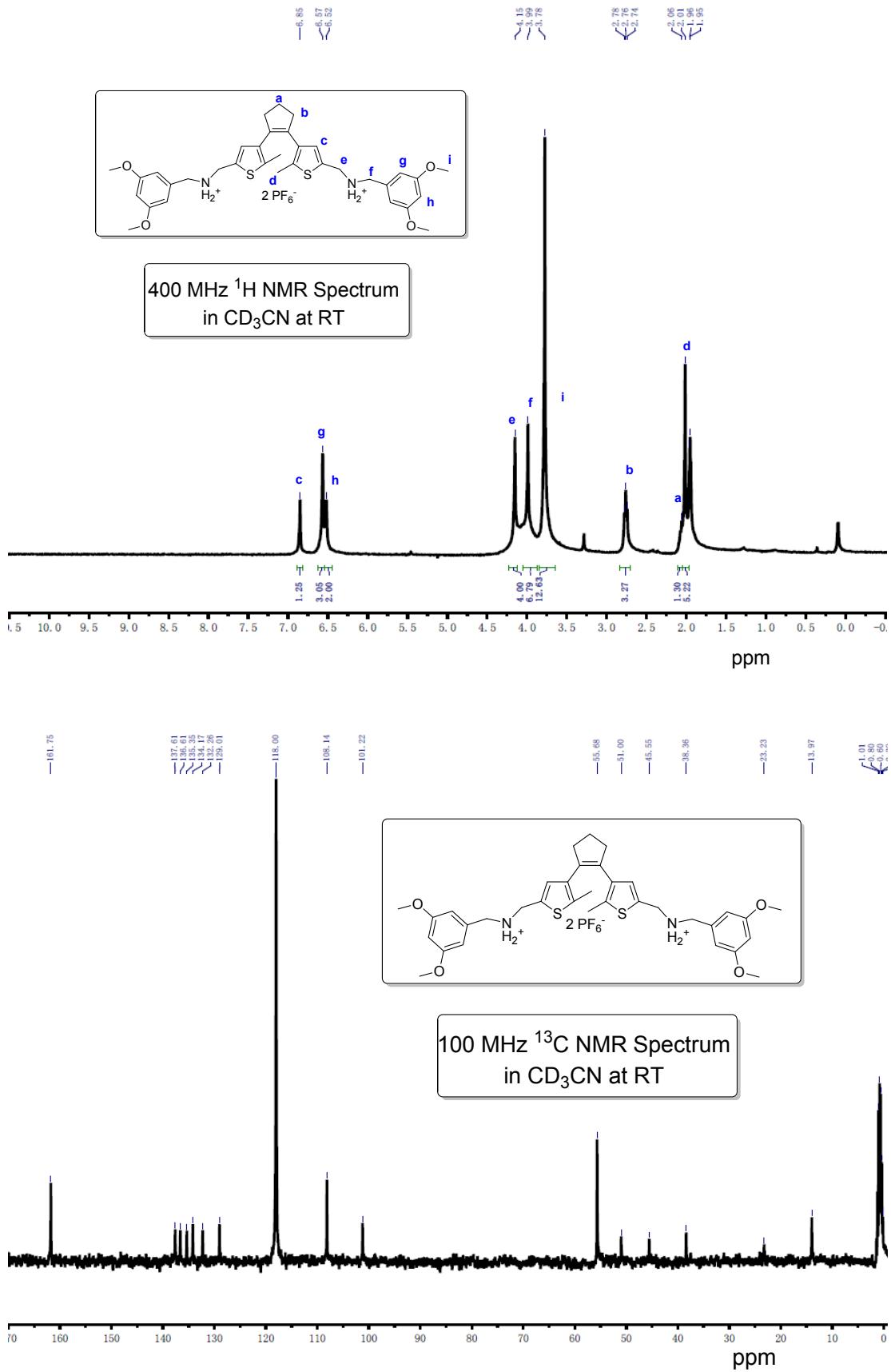


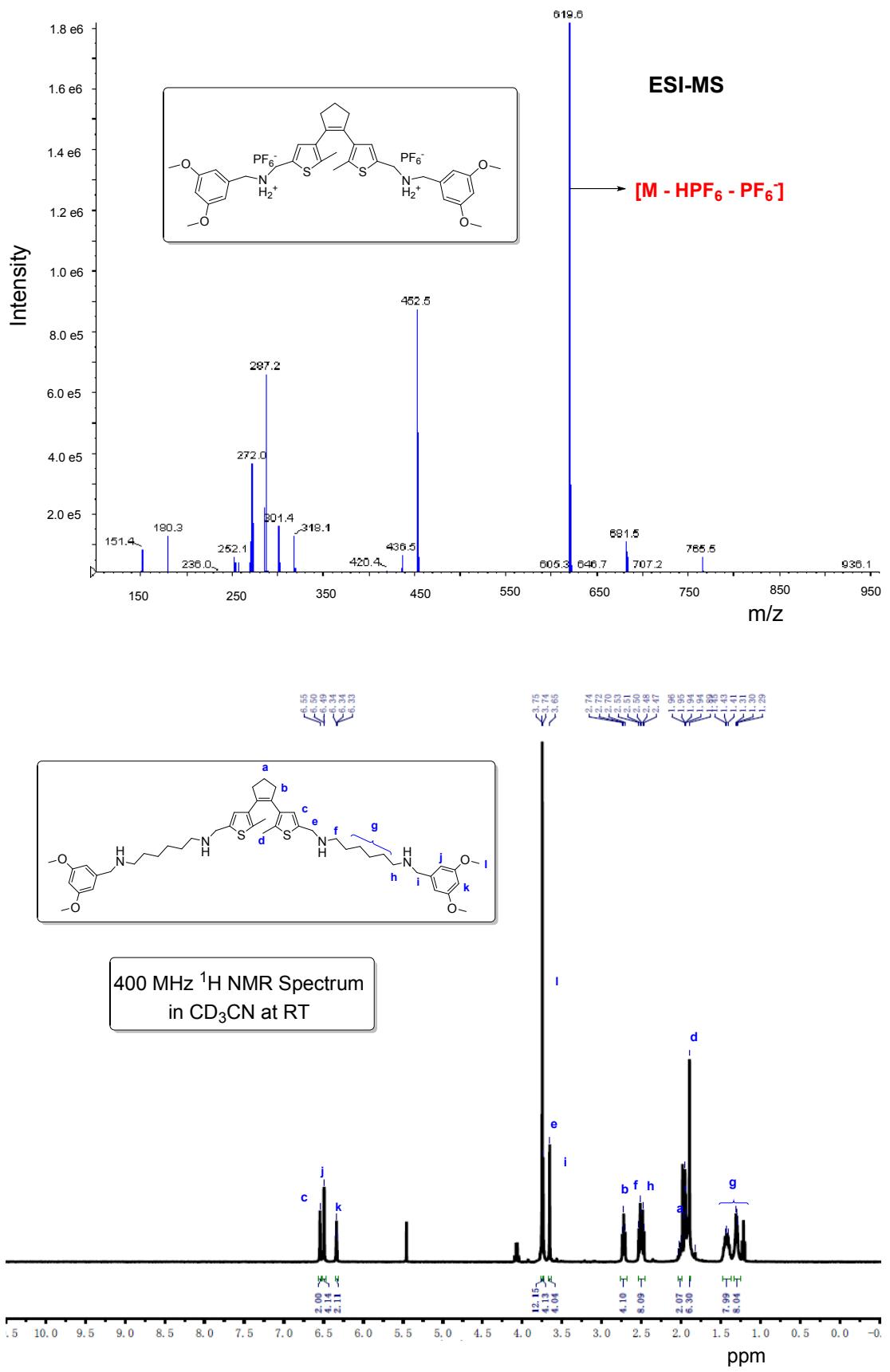
100 MHz  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR Spectrum  
in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at RT

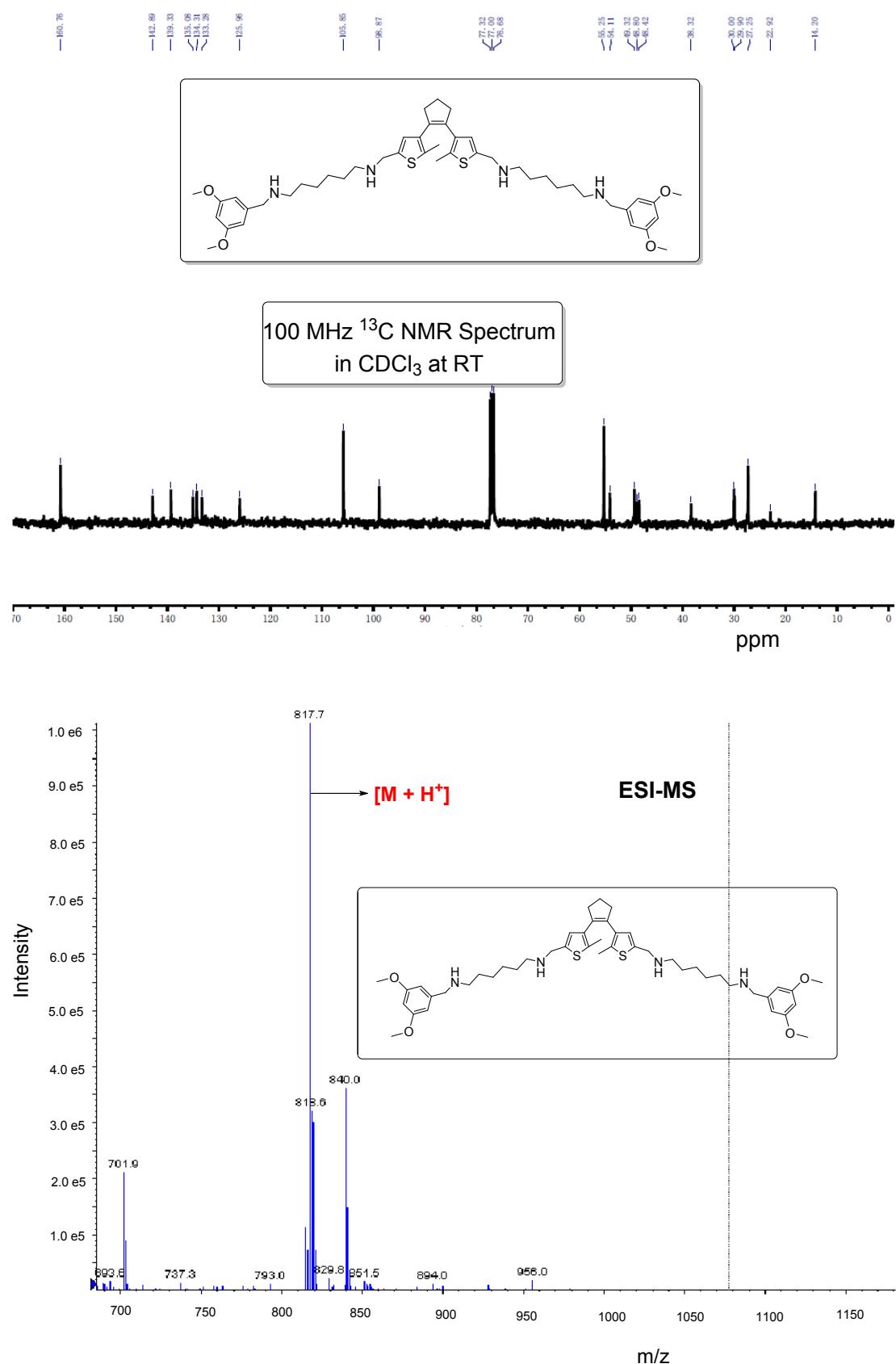


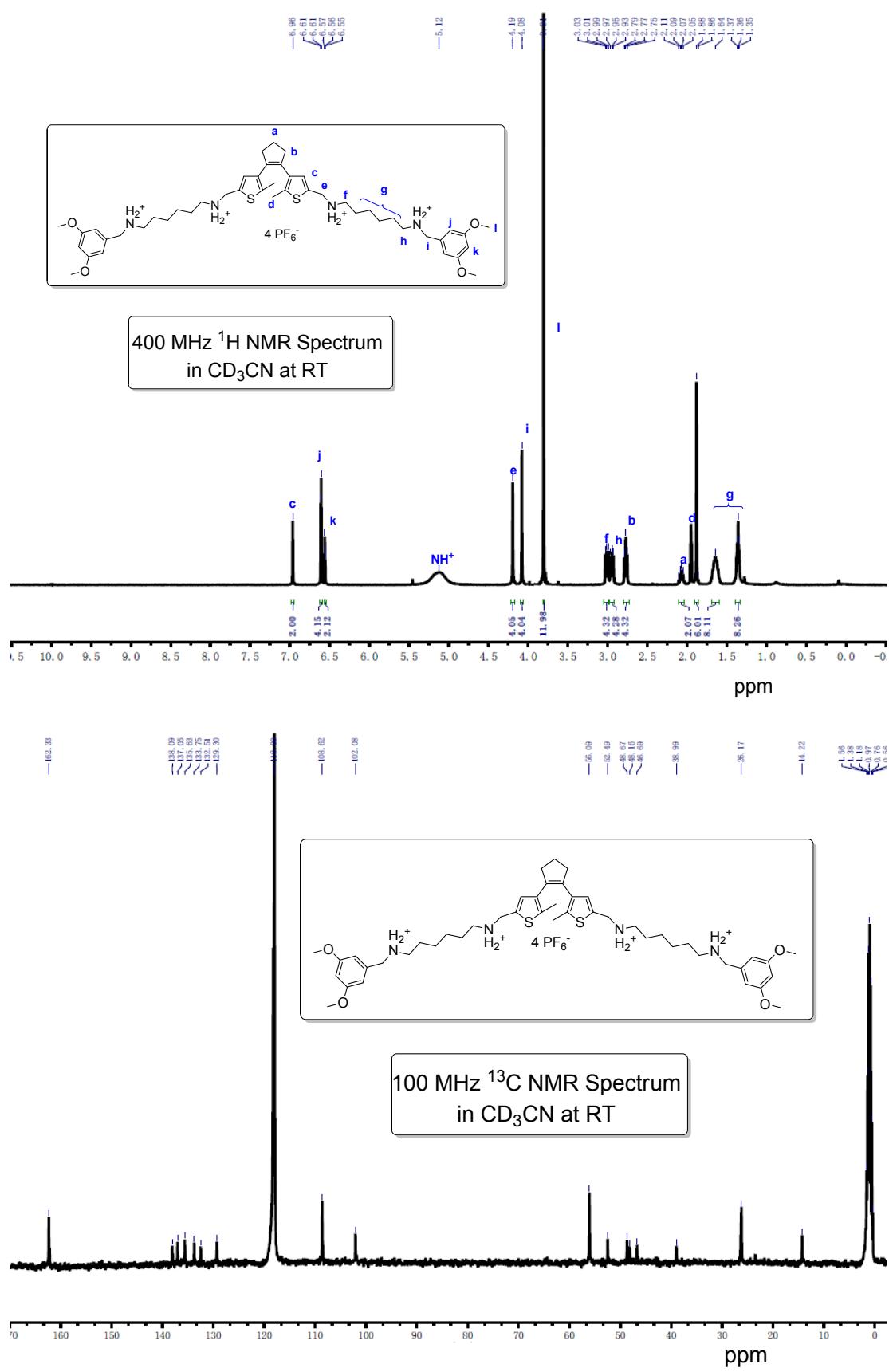
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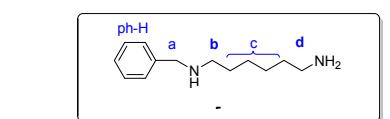
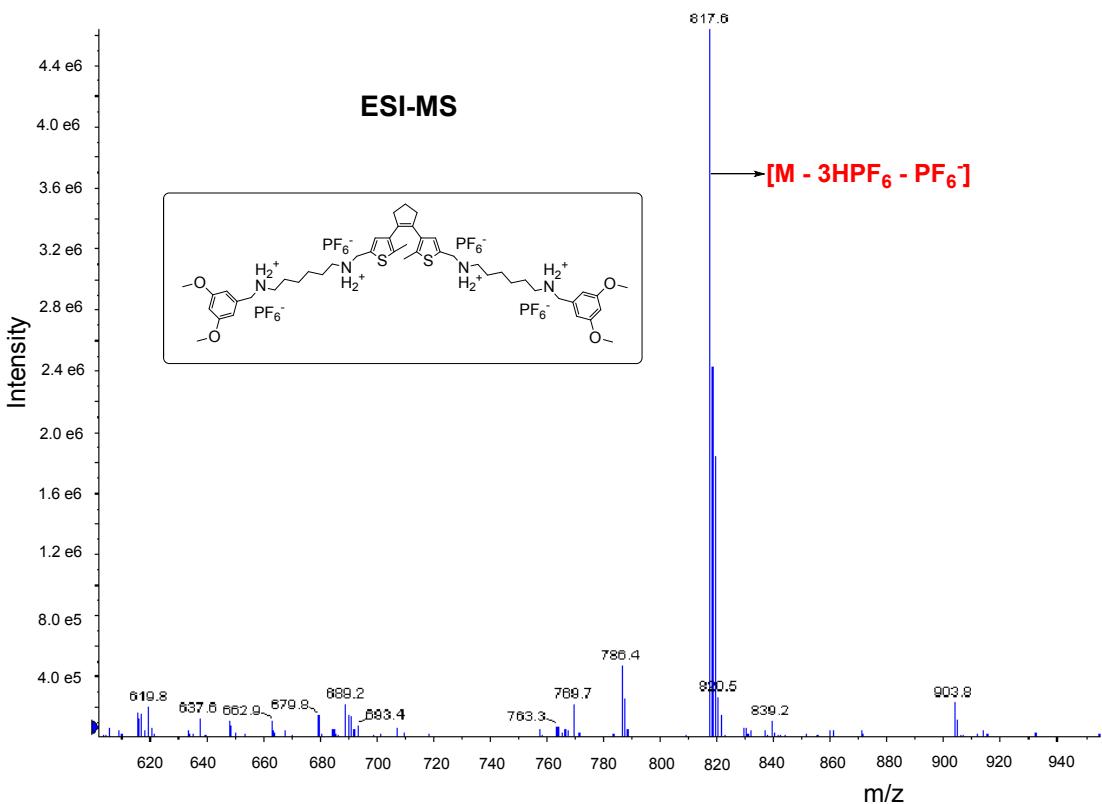




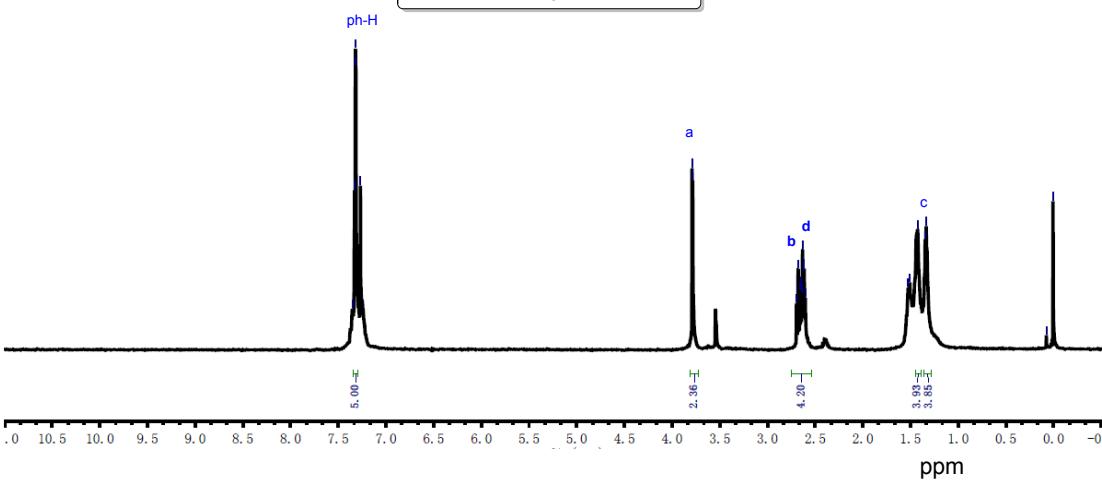


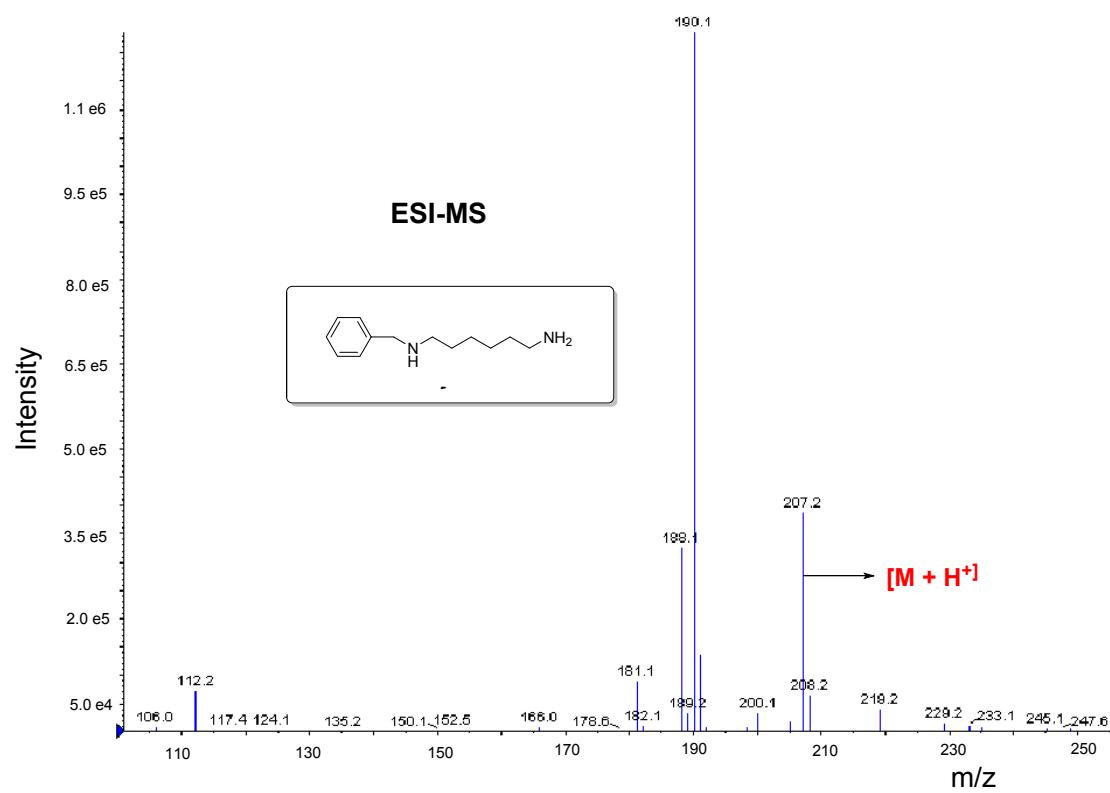
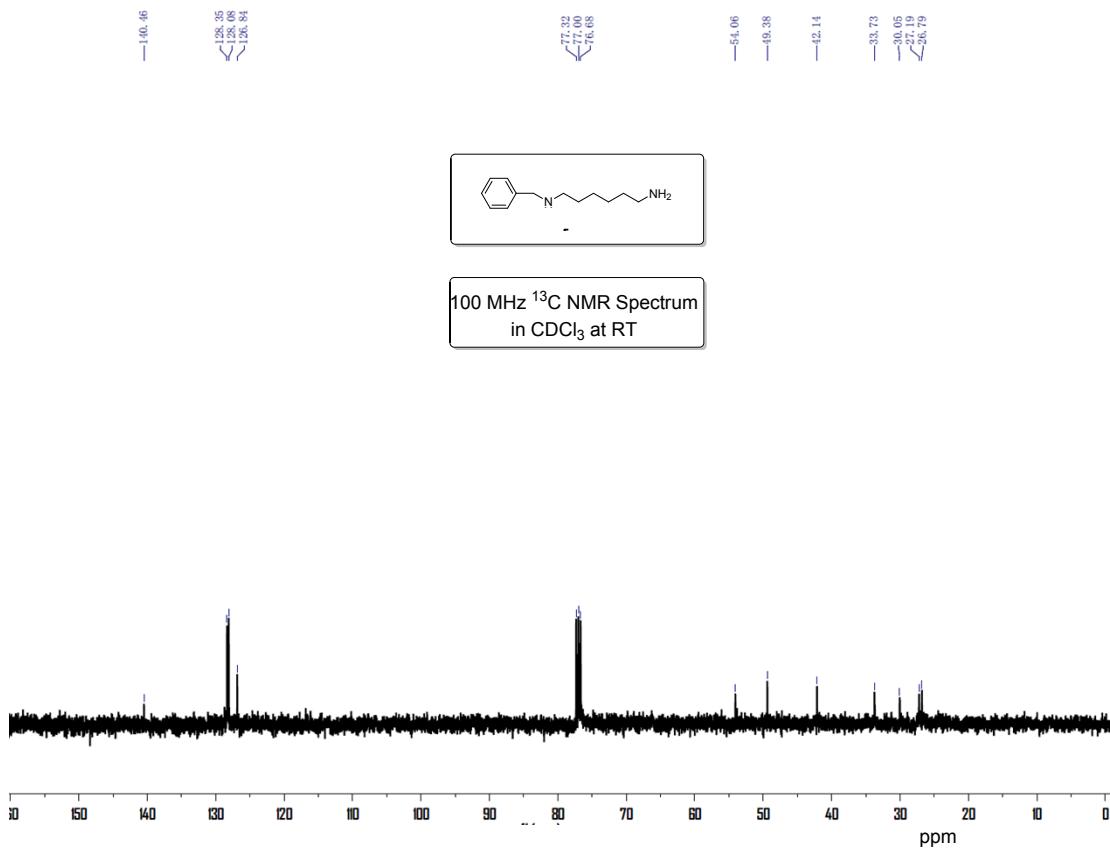


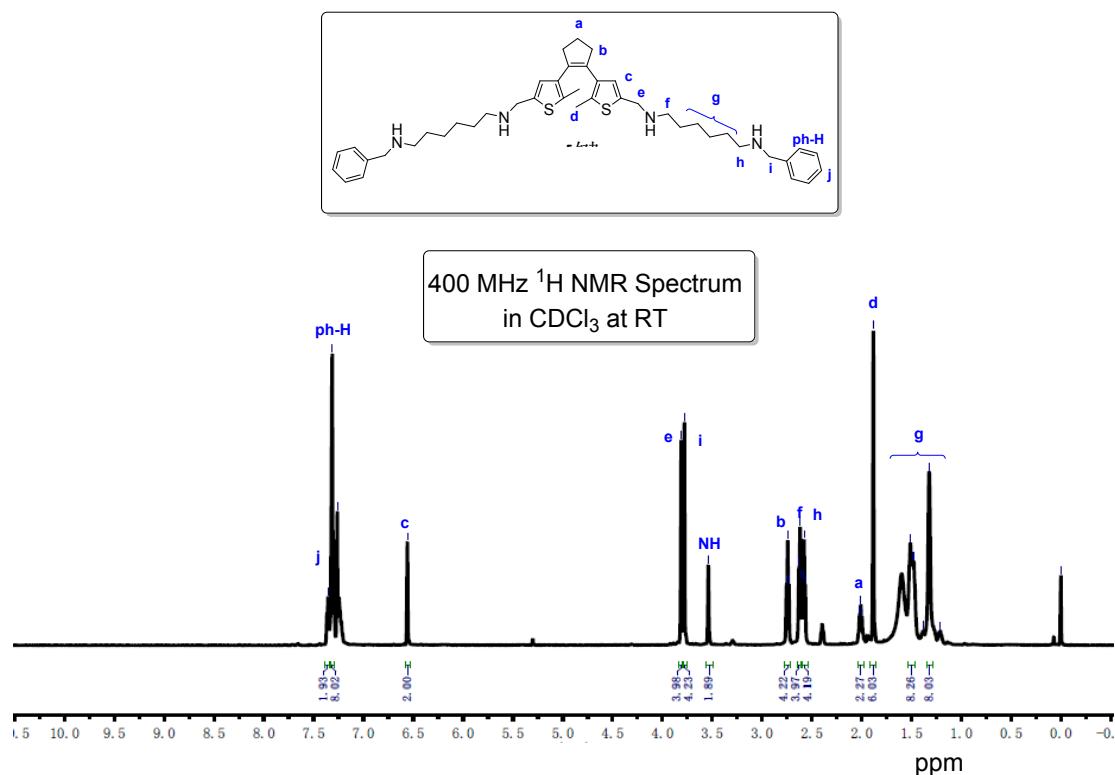




400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR Spectrum  
in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at RT







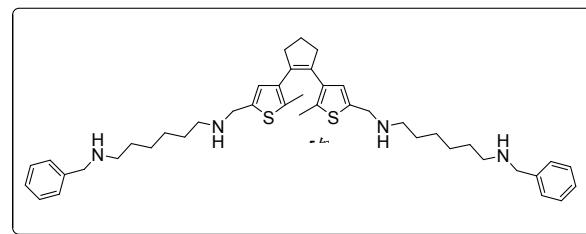
140.42  
 < 139.99  
 < 135.93  
 < 134.23  
 < 133.30  
 128.70  
 128.32  
 128.05  
 128.05  
 128.05  
 128.64  
 125.97

< 77.32  
 76.68

-58.25  
 -54.04  
 < 49.37  
 49.30  
 49.43

-36.34  
 30.90  
 > 27.25  
 -22.93

-14.22



**100 MHz <sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at RT**

