

Electronic Supplementary Information

Pyrazino[2,3-g]Quinoxaline Dyes for Solar Cell

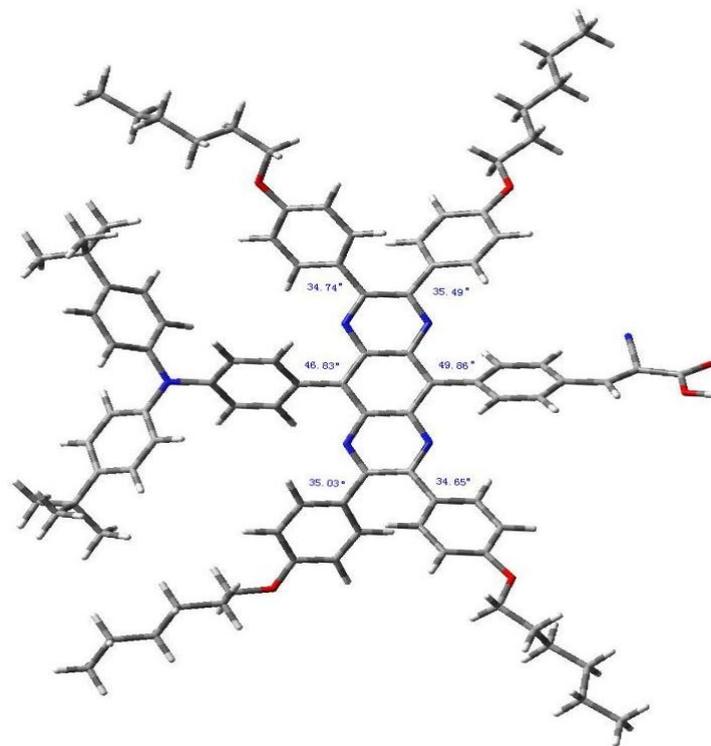
Applications

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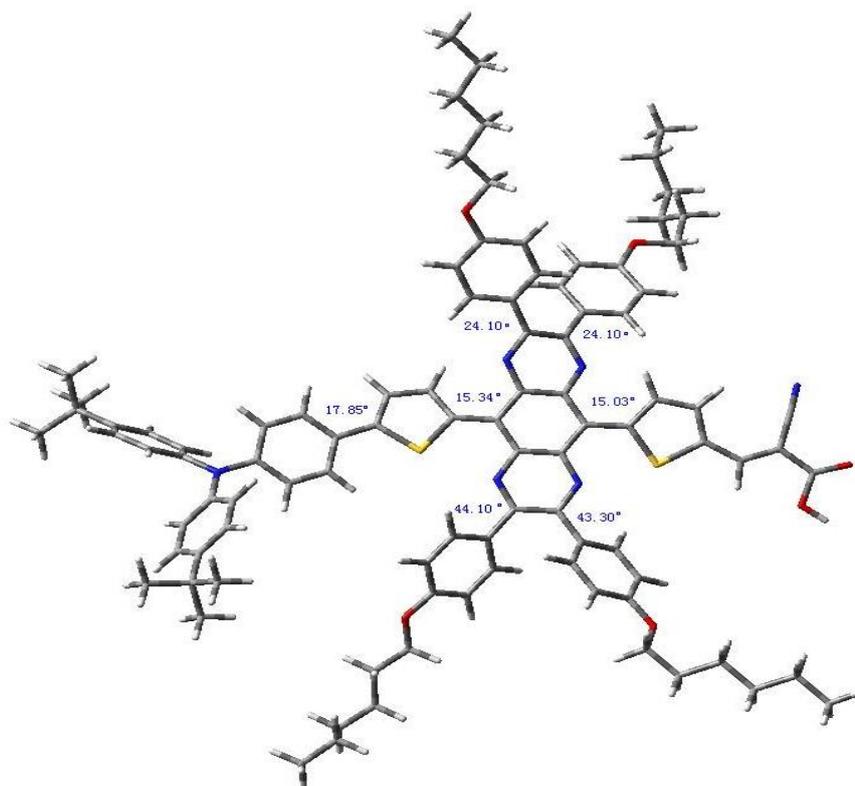
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The optimized ground state molecular structures and the corresponding dihedral angles of PQ-1 and PQ-2



PQ-1



PQ-2

The fluorescence spectra of PQ-1 and PQ-2

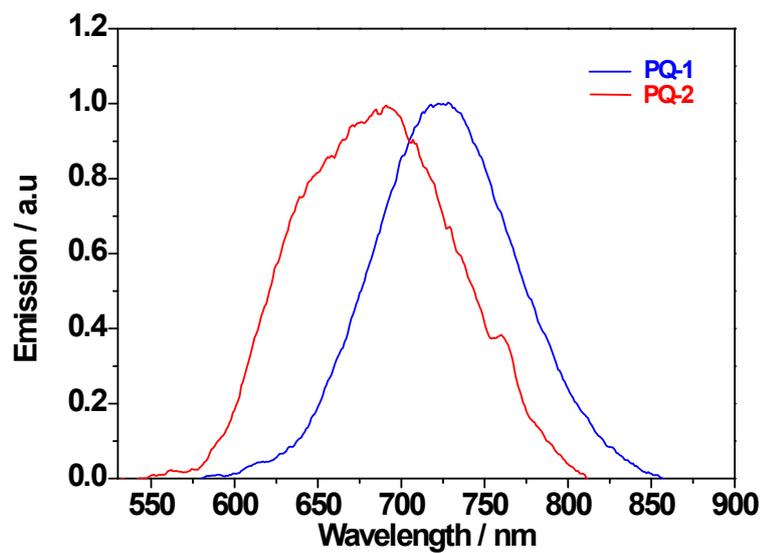
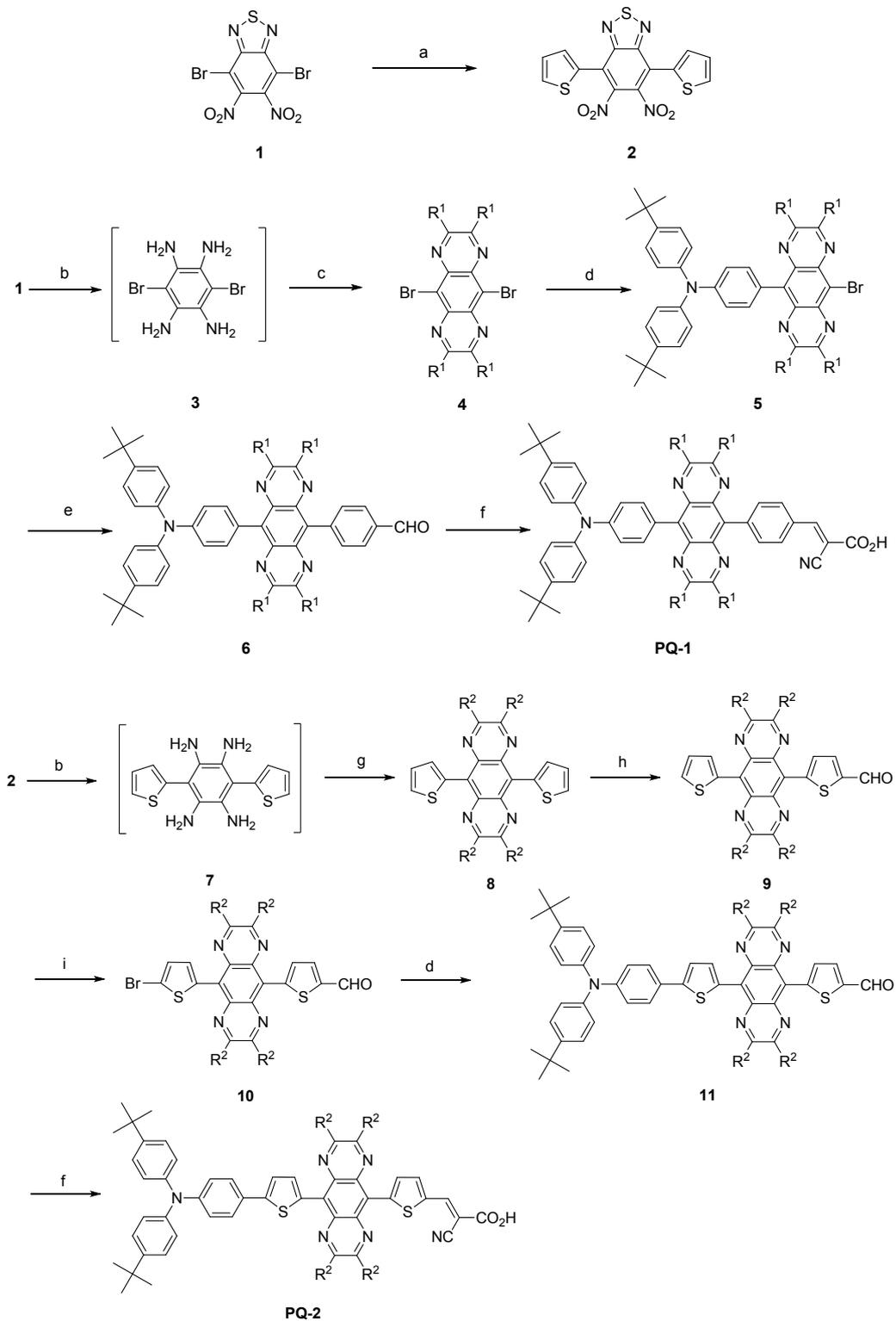


Fig.S1. Emission spectra of **PQ-1**(excited at 560 nm) and **PQ-2** (excited at 512 nm) in diluted CH_2Cl_2 .

Synthetic procedures and characterization data

Scheme S1. Synthetic routes to **PQ-1** and **PQ-2** dyes



Reagents and conditions: (a) 2-tributylstannylthiophene, Pd(PPh₃)₄, THF, reflux; (b) Zn, HOAc; (c) 4,4'-(hexyloxy)benzil, HOAc; (d) 4-(bis(4-*tert*-butylphenyl)amino)phenylboronic acid, Pd(PPh₃)₄, K₂CO₃, PhMe, reflux; (e) 4-formyl-phenylboronic acid, Pd(PPh₃)₄, K₂CO₃, PhMe, reflux; (f) cyanoacetic acid, piperidine, THF, reflux; (g) 4,4'-[(2-ethylhexyl)oxy]benzil, HOAc; (h) POCl₃, DMF, 1,2-dichloroethane; (i) NBS, THF.

5,6-Dinitro-4,7-di(thiophen-2-yl)benzo[c][1,2,5]thiadiazole (2). A mixture of 4,7-dibromo-5,6-dinitrobenzo[c][1,2,5]thiadiazole (**1**) (1.92 g, 5.0 mmol), 2-tributylstannylthiophene (4.48 g, 12.0 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.17 g, 0.15 mmol) and dry THF (50 mL) was refluxed for 15 h under a nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was concentrated under a reduced pressure and purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluting with dichloromethane/petroleum ether, 50/50, v/v) to afford compound **2** (1.60 g, 82%) as a brown solid. ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 400 MHz): δ 7.32 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 3.8 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (dd, *J* = 4.0, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 8.06 (dd, *J* = 5.2, 1.2 Hz, 2H); HR-MS (EI): *m/z* [M]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₆N₄O₄S₃, 389.9551; found, 389.9556.

2,3,7,8-Tetra(*p*-hexyloxyphenyl)-5,10-dibromopyrazino[2,3-*g*]quinoxaline (4). The compound **1** (0.60 g, 1.6 mmol) was dissolved in glacial acetic acid (30 mL), followed by adding activated zinc powder (2.4 g) in one portion. After stirring at 70 °C for 1 h, the mixture solution including the intermediate 3,6-dibromo-1,2,4,5-benzenetetramine **3** which was extremely sensitive to air was filtered to remove the unreactive zinc powder. To the filtrate was added 4,4'-(hexyloxy)benzil (1.3 g, 3.2 mmol) and the mixture was stirred at 100 °C for another 20 h. After removal of the solvent, the residue was dissolved in dichloromethane (100 mL), washed with saturated NaHCO₃ solution (100 mL), water (100 mL), and brine (100 mL), respectively. The organic phase was dried over anhydrous MgSO₄, concentrated in vacuum and purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluting with dichloromethane/petroleum ether, 20/50, v/v) to afford the quinoxaline product **4** (0.33 g, 20%) as an orange solid. M.p. 175-177 °C ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 0.92 (t, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 12H), 1.26-1.54 (m, 24H), 1.78-1.84 (m, 8H), 4.00 (t, *J* = 12.9 Hz, 8H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 8H), 7.77 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 8H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 160.86, 154.37, 138.17, 131.91, 130.44, 114.41, 68.16, 31.59, 29.17, 25.71, 22.61, 14.05. HR-MS (MALDI): *m/z* [M]⁺ calcd for C₅₈H₆₈Br₂N₄O₄, 1042.3607; found, 1042.3602.

2,3,7,8-Tetra(*p*-hexyloxyphenyl)-5-[*p*-(bis(*p*-*tert*-butylphenyl)amino)phenyl]-10-bromopyrazino[2,3-*g*]quinoxaline (5). A mixture of the compound **4** (150 mg, 0.14 mmol), 4-(bis(4-*tert*-butylphenyl)amino)phenylboronic acid (70 mg, 0.17 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (25 mg, 15 mol% relative to the compound **4**), K₂CO₃ (83 mg, 0.6 mmol) in toluene (20 mL) and H₂O (3 mL) was refluxed for 15 h under a nitrogen atmosphere. After removal of the solvents, the residue was dissolved in dichloromethane (50 mL), washed with brine (50 mL), and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. After removal of the solvent, the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluting with dichloromethane/petroleum ether 20/50, v/v) to afford a mixture of compound **5** and the double cross-coupling compound. The mixed products were difficult to separate and thus the crude compound **5** was directly used in the next reaction.

2,3,7,8-Tetra(*p*-hexyloxyphenyl)-5-[*p*-(bis(*p*-*tert*-butylphenyl)amino)phenyl]-10-(4''-formylphenyl)pyrazino[2,3-*g*]quinoxaline (6). A mixture of the crude compound **5** (150 mg), 4-formylphenylboronic acid (25 mg, 0.17 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (20 mg, 15%mol), K₂CO₃ (69 mg, 0.5 mmol) in toluene (20 mL) and H₂O (3 mL) was refluxed for 15 h under a nitrogen atmosphere. After removal of the solvents, the residue was dissolved in dichloromethane (50 mL), washed with brine (50 mL) and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. After removal of the solvent, the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluting with dichloromethane/petroleum ether 20/50, v/v) to afford the crude compound **6** (95 mg, 62%) as a brown solid which was unpurified and directly used in the next reaction.

3-{*p*-[2,3,7,8-Tetra(*p*-hexyloxyphenyl)-5-[*p*-(bis(*p*-*tert*-butylphenyl)amino)phenyl]pyrazino[2,3-*g*](quinoxalin-10-yl)]phenyl}-2-cyanoacrylic acid (PQ-1). To a solution of the crude compound **6** (95 mg), cyanoacetic acid (10 mg, 0.12 mmol) and tetrahydrofuran (15 mL) was added a few drops of piperidine and then the reaction mixture was refluxed for 8 h under a nitrogen atmosphere. After the completion of the reaction, acetic acid (2 mL) was added into the mixture, and the solvents were removed under a reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in dichloromethane (50 mL), washed with water (30 mL) and brine (30 mL), respectively. The organic phase was dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. After removal of the solvents, the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluting with methanol–dichloromethane 10/100, v/v) to afford the dye **PQ-1** (56 mg, 56%) as a deep brown solid. M.p. >220 °C ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 0.87–0.93 (m, 12H), 1.25–1.45 (m, 44H), 1.76–1.80 (m, 8 H), 3.94–3.97 (t, *J* = 11.6 Hz, 8 H), 6.74 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 6.81 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.24–7.34 (m, 10H), 7.57–7.59 (m, 8H), 7.95 (br. s, 2H), 8.17 (br. s, 2H), 8.50 (br. s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 160.35, 160.22, 151.41, 150.90, 147.59, 145.73, 145.10, 136.76, 136.31, 135.54, 135.29, 132.24, 132.16, 131.65, 131.50, 131.08, 130.80, 130.39, 129.90, 129.73, 128.65, 128.56, 127.21, 125.98, 124.65, 120.15, 114.36, 114.21, 68.08, 34.36, 33.71, 31.92, 31.62, 31.59, 31.55, 29.78, 29.69, 29.65, 29.60, 29.46, 29.33, 29.26, 29.21, 29.10, 27.22, 25.74, 25.72, 24.77, 22.68, 14.10; IR(KBr) ν 3026, 2969, 2854, 2230, 1716, 1683, 1651, 1558, 1540, 1507 cm⁻¹; HR-MS (MALDI): *m/z* [M]⁺ cacl'd for C₉₄H₁₀₄N₆O₆, 1412.8017; found, 1412.8012.

2,3,7,8-Tetra[*p*-(2-ethylhexyloxy)phenyl]-5,10-dithienylpyrazino[2,3-*g*]quinoxaline (8). The compound **2** (0.50g, 1.3 mmol) was dissolved in glacial acetic acid (30 mL) followed by addition of activated zinc powder (2.0 g) in one portion. After being stirred at 70 °C for 1 h, the solution mixture including the intermediate 3,6-dithienyl-1,2,4,5-benzenetetramine **7**, which was extremely sensitive to air, was filtered to remove the unreactive zinc powder. To the filtrate was added 4,4'-[(2-ethylhexyl)oxy]benzil (1.21 g, 2.6 mmol) and then the mixture was stirred at 100 °C for 20 h. After removal of the solvent, the residue was dissolved in dichloromethane (100 mL), washed with saturated NaHCO₃ solution (100 mL), water (100 mL) and brine (100 mL), respectively. The organic phase was dried over anhydrous MgSO₄, concentrated in vacuum and purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluting

with dichloromethane/petroleum ether 20/50, v/v) to afford the quinoxaline **8** (0.64 g, 42%) as a deep brown solid. M.p. 124–126 °C ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 0.90–0.96 (m, 24H), 1.33–1.40 (m, 18H), 1.40–1.49 (m, 14H), 1.72–1.78 (m, 4H), 3.89 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 8H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 8H), 7.36 (t, *J* = 4.1 Hz, 2H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 2H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 8H), 8.45 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 2H); HR-MS (MALDI): *m/z* [M]⁺ calcd for C₇₄H₉₀N₄O₄S₂, 1162.6404; found, 1162.6400.

2,3,7,8-Tetra[*p*-(2-ethylhexyloxy)phenyl]-5-(5-formylthienyl)-10-thienylpyrazino[2,3-*g*]quinoxaline (9). To a mixture of the quinoxaline **8** (0.70 g, 0.6 mmol), anhydrous DMF (88 mg, 1.2 mmol) and 1,2-dichloroethane (40 mL) was added POCl₃ (110 mg, 0.72 mmol) dropwise through a syringe at 0 °C under a nitrogen atmosphere. Then the mixture was stirred at 70 °C for 5 h before being poured into water. The organic phase was separated and washed with saturated NaHCO₃ solution (30 mL), water (30 mL) and brine (30 mL) respectively. The organic phase was dried over anhydrous MgSO₄, concentrated in vacuum and purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluting with dichloromethane) to afford the compound **9** (0.58 g, 81%) as a deep red solid. M.p. 128–130 °C ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 0.90–0.97 (m, 24H), 1.25–1.35 (m, 18H), 1.35–1.55 (m, 14H), 1.71–1.77 (m, 4H), 3.90 (d, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 8H), 6.92 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 2.7 Hz, 8H), 7.36 (t, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 7.74–7.81 (m, 9H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 8.49 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 2H), 10.08 (s, 1H); HR-MS (MALDI): *m/z* [M]⁺ calcd for C₇₄H₉₀N₄O₄S₂, 1190.6353; found, 1190.6347.

2,3,7,8-Tetra[*p*-(2-ethylhexyloxy)phenyl]-5-(5-formylthienyl)-10-(5-bromothieryl)pyrazino[2,3-*g*]quinoxaline (10). To a solution of the compound **9** (0.50 g, 0.42 mmol) in tetrahydrofuran (40 mL) was added dropwise a solution of *N*-bromosuccinimide (90 mg, 0.50 mmol) in tetrahydrofuran (5 mL) in dark at 0 °C. Then the mixture was stirred at room temperature for additional 8 h before being poured into water. Dichloromethane (100 mL) was added into the resulting mixture, and the organic phase was separated, washed with brine (50 mL) and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. After removal of the solvent, the residue was purified by flash silica gel column chromatography (eluting with dichloromethane/petroleum ether 20/50, v/v) to afford the brominated compound **10** (0.43 g, 83%) as a deep red solid. M.p. 126–128 °C ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 0.90–0.97 (m, 24H), 1.30–1.40 (m, 18H), 1.40–1.59 (m, 14H), 1.75–1.77 (m, 4H), 3.89 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 8H), 6.92 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 6.4 Hz, 8H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 3.2 Hz, 8H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 8.47 (t, *J* = 3.8 Hz, 2H), 10.06 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 183.62, 160.87, 160.78, 152.50, 152.12, 145.25, 144.87, 136.65, 136.42, 135.64, 135.09, 134.90, 134.51, 131.90, 130.64, 130.53, 130.45, 129.15, 128.14, 125.47, 119.32, 114.48, 70.70, 39.40, 30.55, 29.13, 23.88, 23.07, 14.12, 11.16; HR-MS (MALDI): *m/z* [M]⁺ calcd for C₇₅H₈₉BrN₄O₅S₂, 1268.5458; found, 1268.5452.

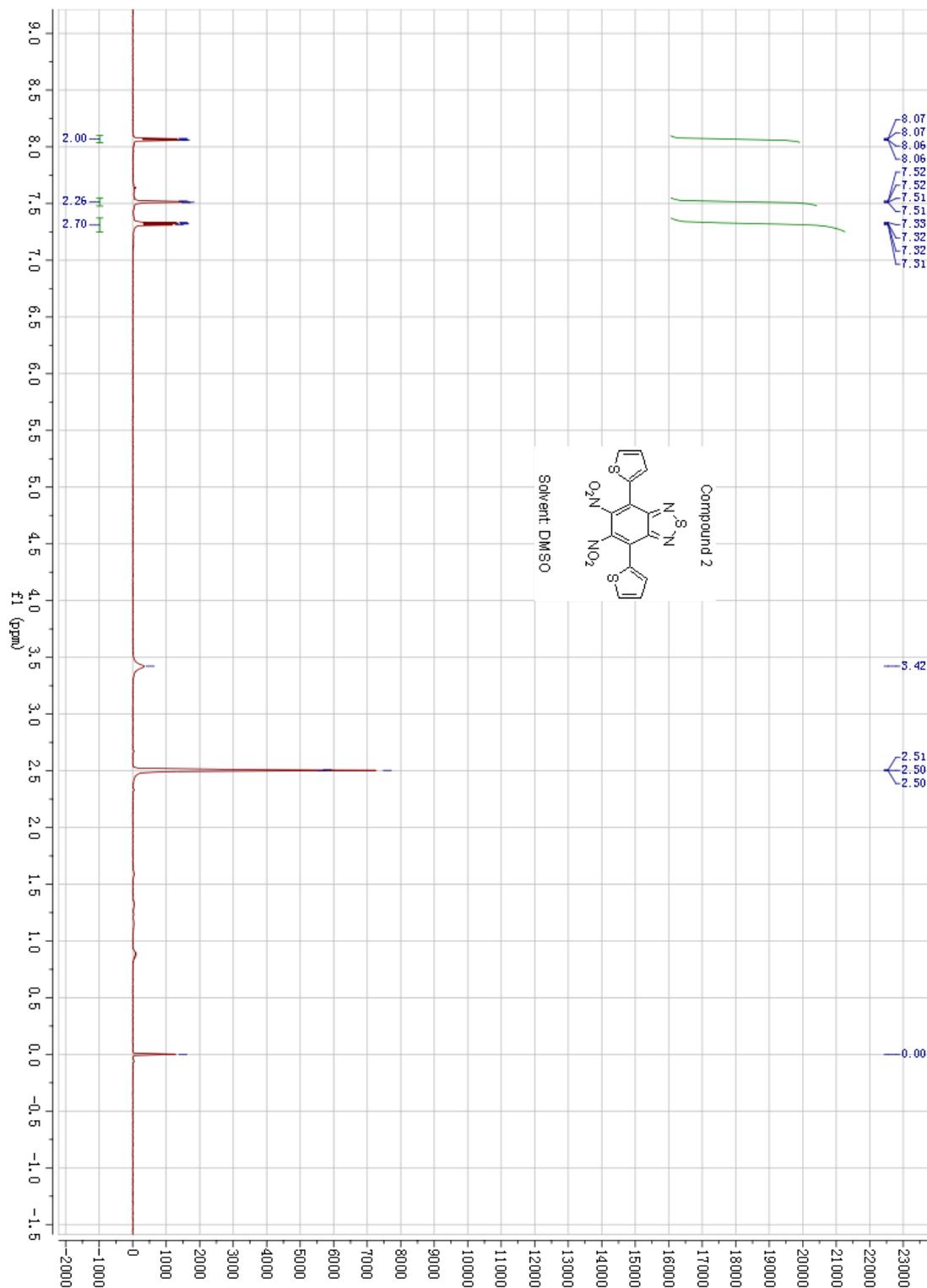
2,3,7,8-Tetra[*p*-(2-ethylhexyloxy)phenyl]-5-(5-formylthienyl)-10-[5-[*p*-(bis(*tert*-butylphenyl)amino)phenyl]thien-2-yl]pyrazino[2,3-*g*]quinoxaline (11). A mixture of the compound **10** (380 mg, 0.30 mmol), 4-[bis(4-*tert*-butylphenyl)amino]phenylboronic acid (144 mg, 0.36 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (25 mg, 5

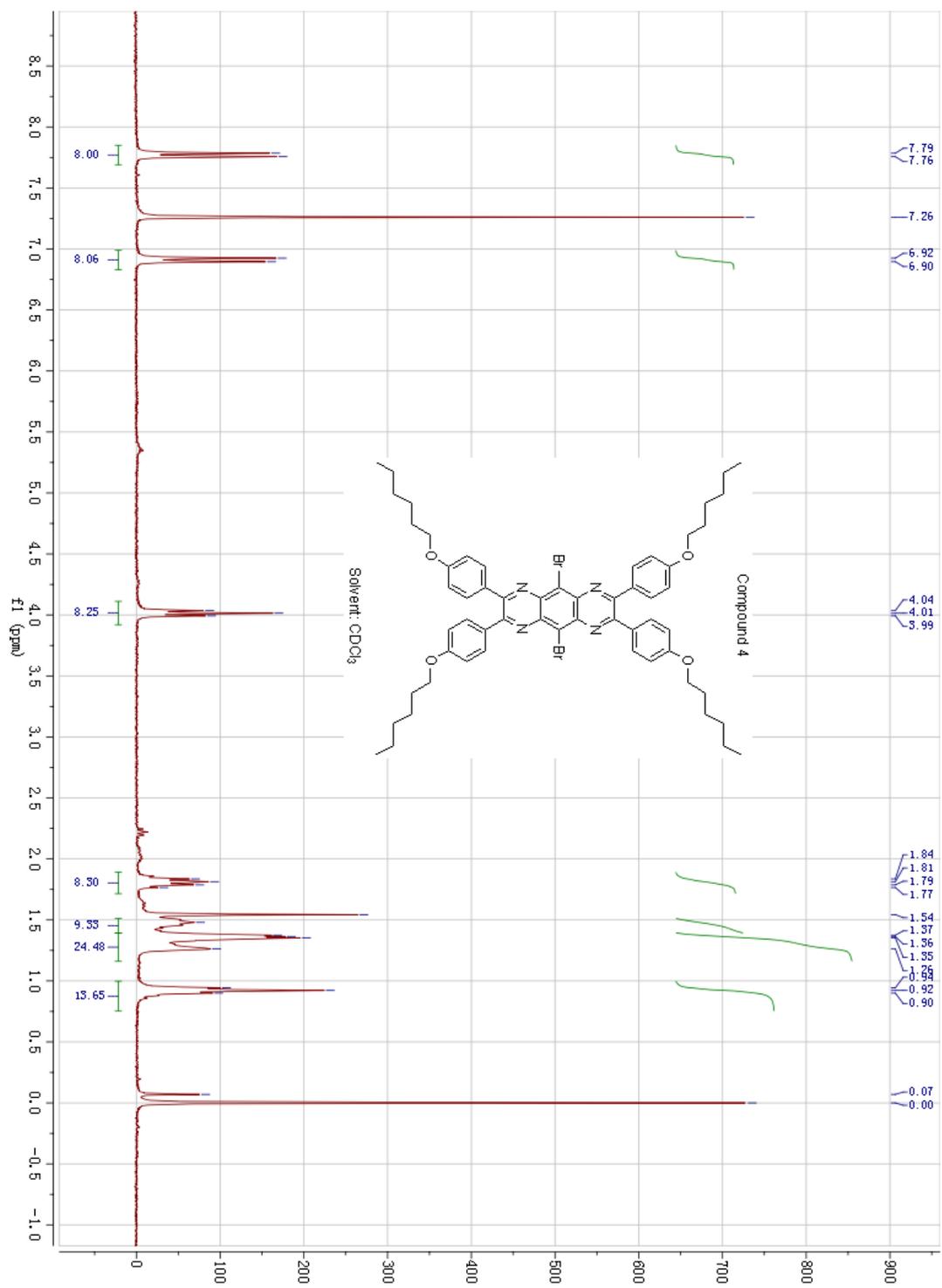
mol% relative to the compound **6**), K₂CO₃ (165 mg, 1.2 mmol) in toluene (20 mL) and H₂O (3 mL) was refluxed for 15 h under a nitrogen atmosphere. After removal of the solvents, the residue was dissolved in dichloromethane (50 mL), washed with brine (50 mL) and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. After removal of the solvent, the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluting with dichloromethane/petroleum ether 20/50, v/v) to afford the compound **11** (0.34 g, 75%). M.p. 178-180 °C ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 0.93–0.97 (m, 26H), 1.34 (s, 18H), 1.40–1.55 (m, 32H), 1.73–1.77 (m, 4H), 3.88–3.91 (m, 8H), 6.93 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 3.2 Hz, 8H), 7.10–7.14 (m, 5H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 4H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 4H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 8.51 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 8.57 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 10.08 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 183.58, 160.80, 160.64, 152.29, 152.59, 149.59, 147.84, 146.06, 145.26, 145.00, 144.79, 136.78, 135.82, 134.93, 134.25, 133.38, 131.91, 131.86, 130.79, 130.64, 129.56, 128.13, 126.58, 126.15, 124.29, 122.74, 114.50, 114.42, 70.70, 39.39, 34.35, 31.46, 30.54, 29.10, 23.87, 23.06, 14.10, 11.14; HR-MS (MALDI): *m/z* [M]⁺ cauld for C₁₀₁H₁₁₉N₅O₅S₂, 1545.8653; found, 1545.8649.

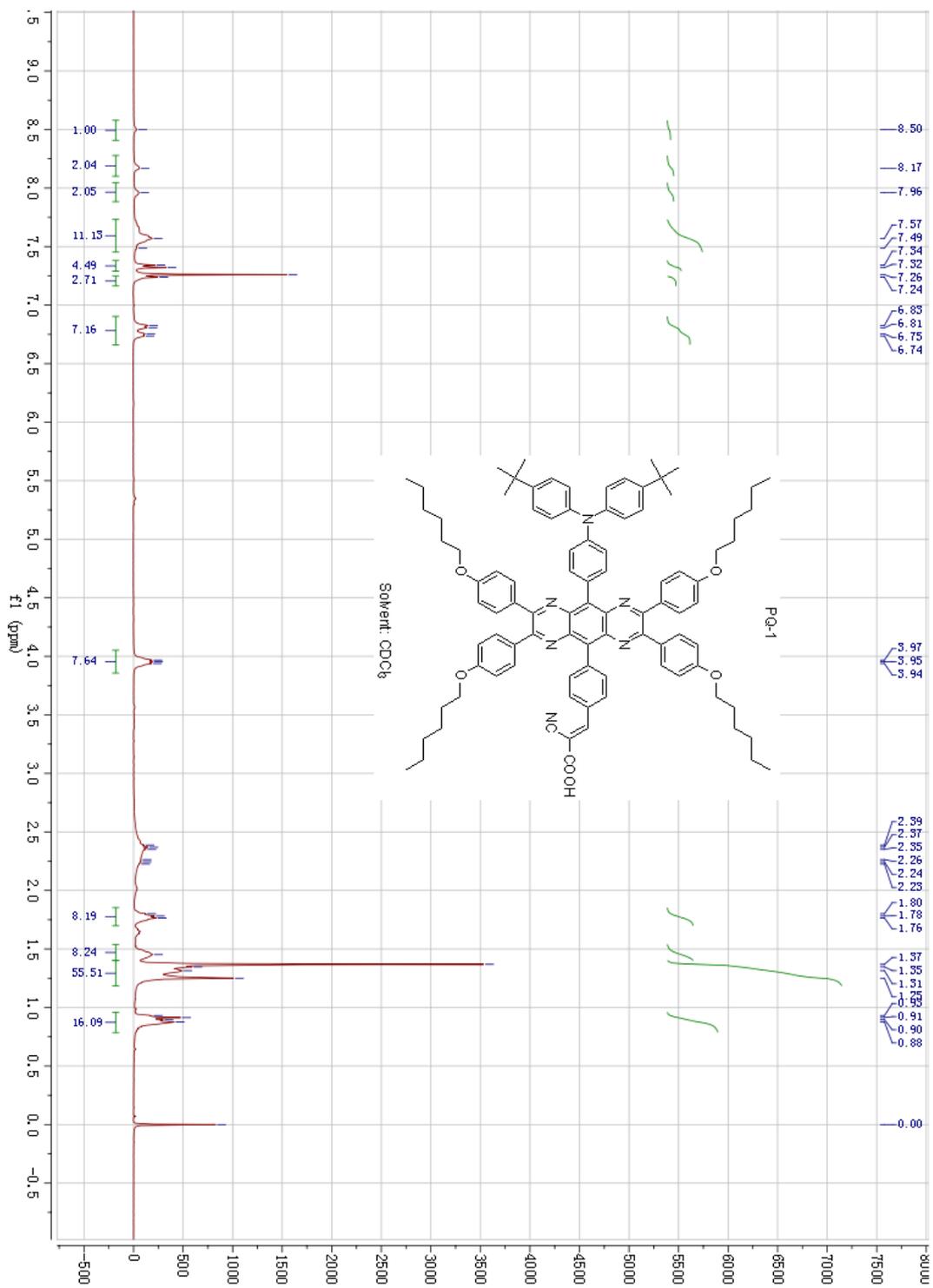
3-*p*-[2,3,7,8-Tetra(*p*-(2-ethylhexyloxy)phenyl)]-5-[(*p*-(bis(*p*-*tert*-butylphenyl)amino)phenyl)thien-2-yl]pyrazino[2,3-*g*](quinoxalin-10-yl)]thien-2-yl}-2-cyano acrylic acid (PQ-2). To a solution of the compound **7** (200 mg, 0.13 mmol), cyanoacetic acid (20 mg, 0.24 mmol) in tetrahydrofuran (30 mL) was added a few drops of piperdine, followed by refluxing for 8 h under a nitrogen atmosphere. Then, acetic acid (2 mL) was added into the mixture and the solvent removed under a reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in dichloromethane (50 mL), washed with water (30 mL) and brine (30 mL), respectively. The organic phase was dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. After removal of the solvent, the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluting with methanol–dichloromethane 10/100, v/v) to afford the dye **PQ-2** (136 mg, 65%) as a dark red solid. M.p. >230 °C ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 0.93–0.97 (m, 26H), 1.34 (s, 18H), 1.35–1.55 (m, 32H), 1.73–1.77 (m, 4H), 3.88–3.91 (m, 8H), 6.93 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.10–7.14 (m, 5H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.78–7.84 (m, 8H), 7.84 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 2.1 Hz, 8H), 8.51 (s, 1H), 8.68 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 8.78 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 160.84, 160.64, 152.55, 152.02, 151.59, 149.91, 147.87, 147.31, 146.08, 144.79, 138.23, 137.31, 136.76, 135.72, 135.10, 133.41, 131.97, 130.70, 130.52, 129.82, 128.09, 126.59, 126.17, 124.32, 123.69, 122.71, 122.07, 116.47, 114.69, 114.39, 96.28, 70.69, 39.44, 39.38, 34.36, 31.95, 31.49, 30.55, 29.72, 29.48, 29.38, 29.28, 29.15, 29.12, 24.73, 23.89, 23.08, 14.10; IR(KBr) *v* 3032, 2943, 2895, 2850, 2218, 1698, 1684, 1603, 1572, 1519, 1457 cm⁻¹; HR-MS (MALDI): *m/z* [M]⁺ cauld for C₁₀₄H₁₂₀N₆O₆S₂, 1612.8711; found, 1612.8705.

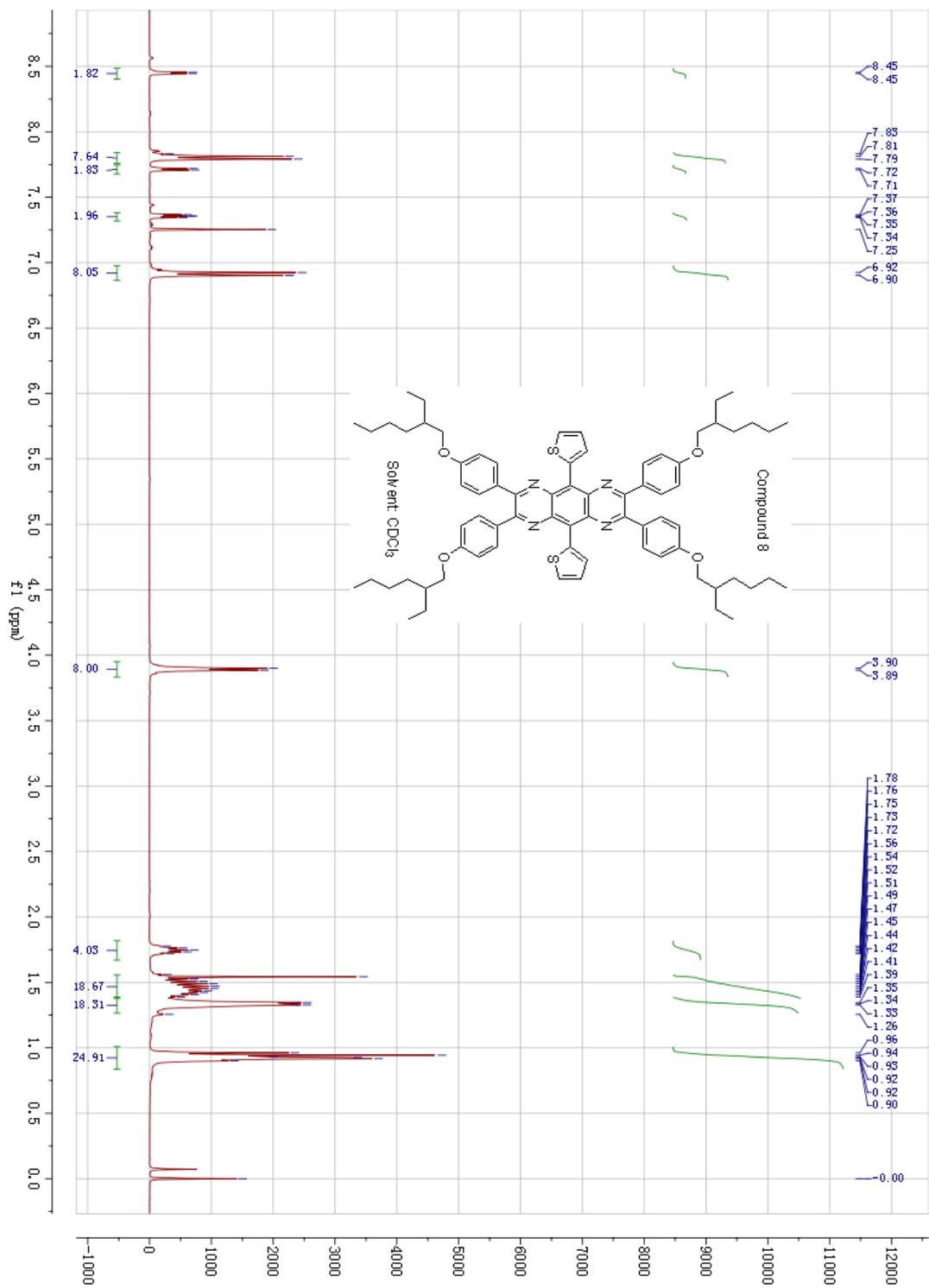
^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of the compounds

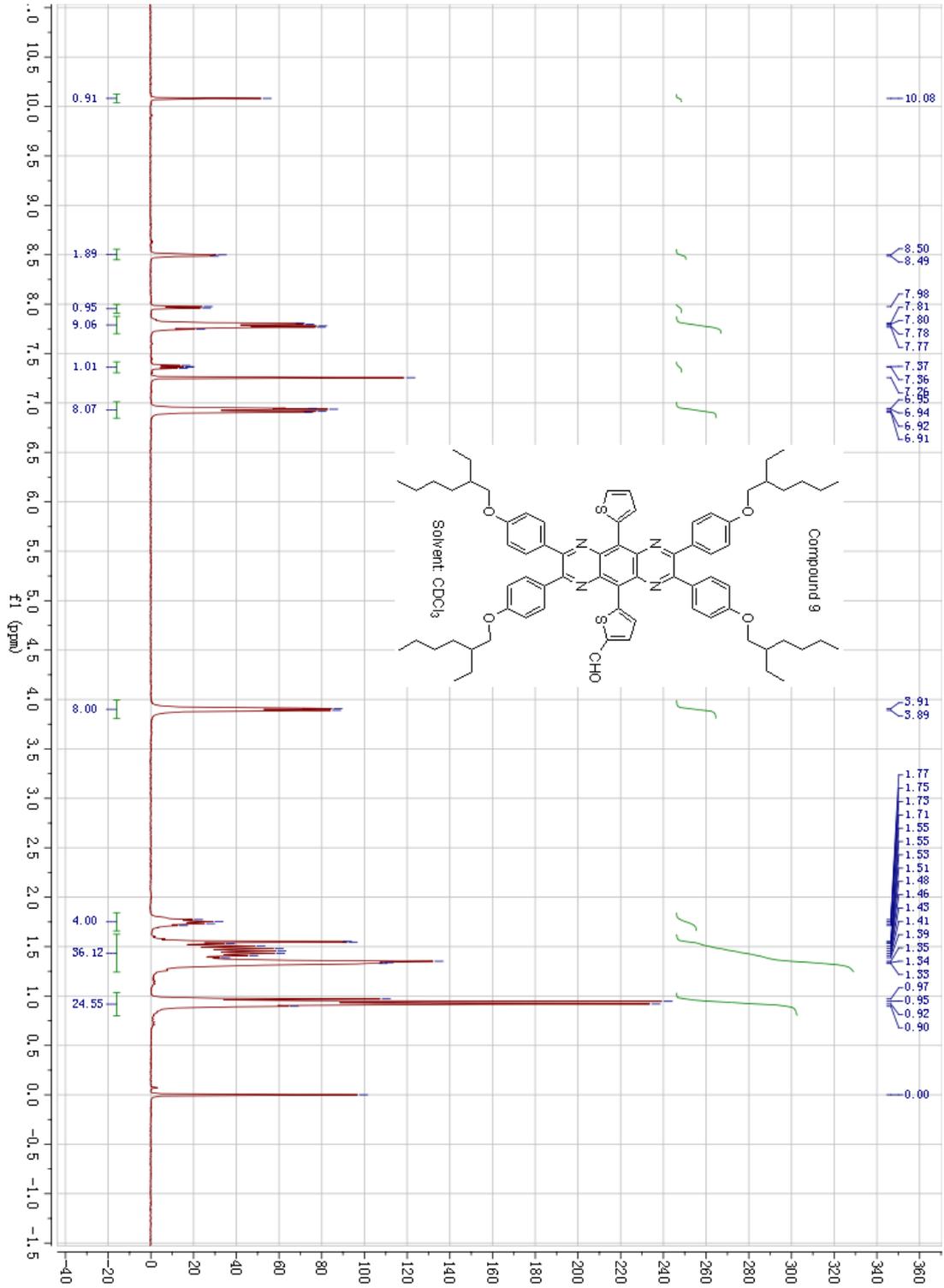
^1H NMR spectra of the compounds

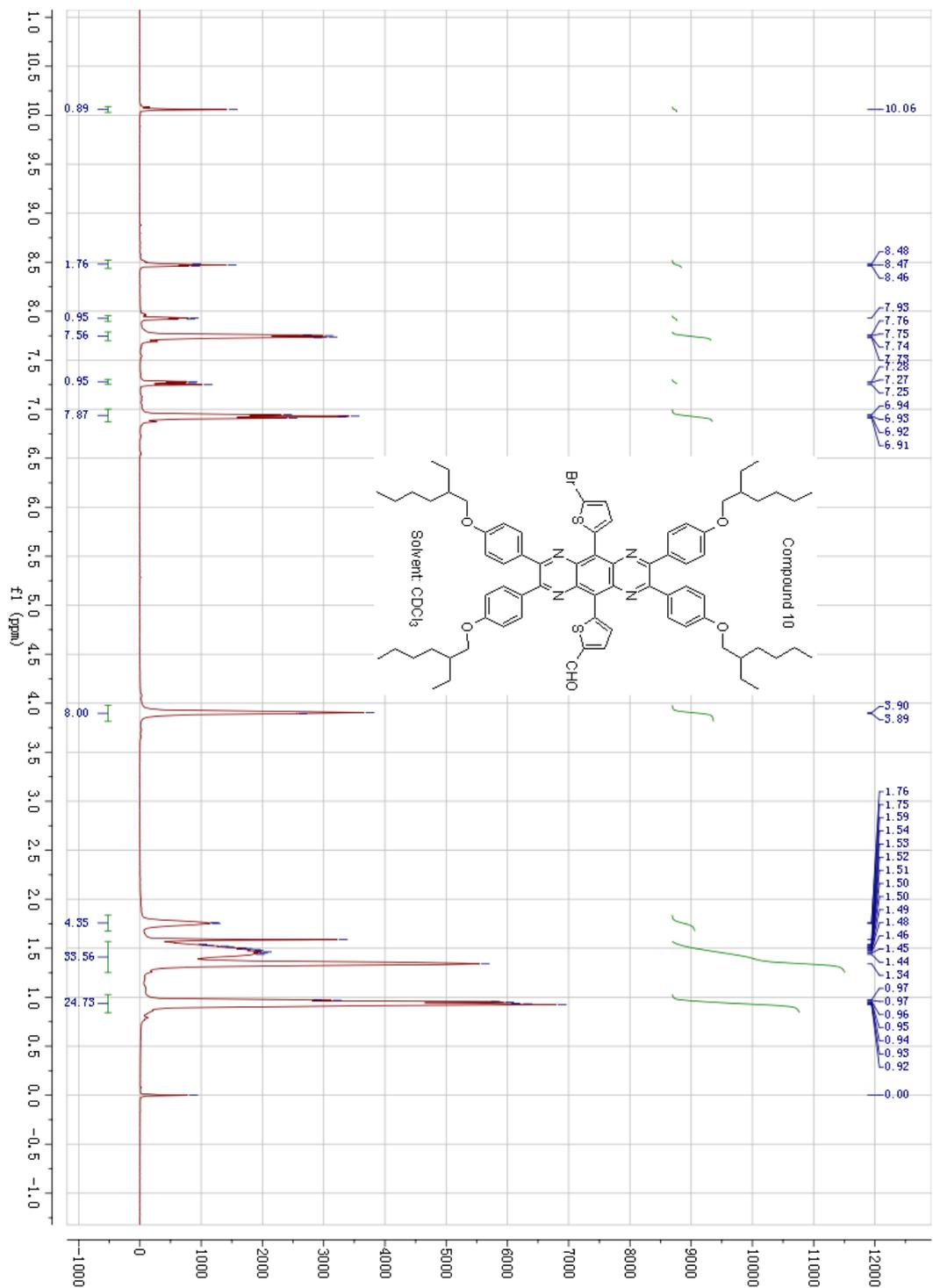


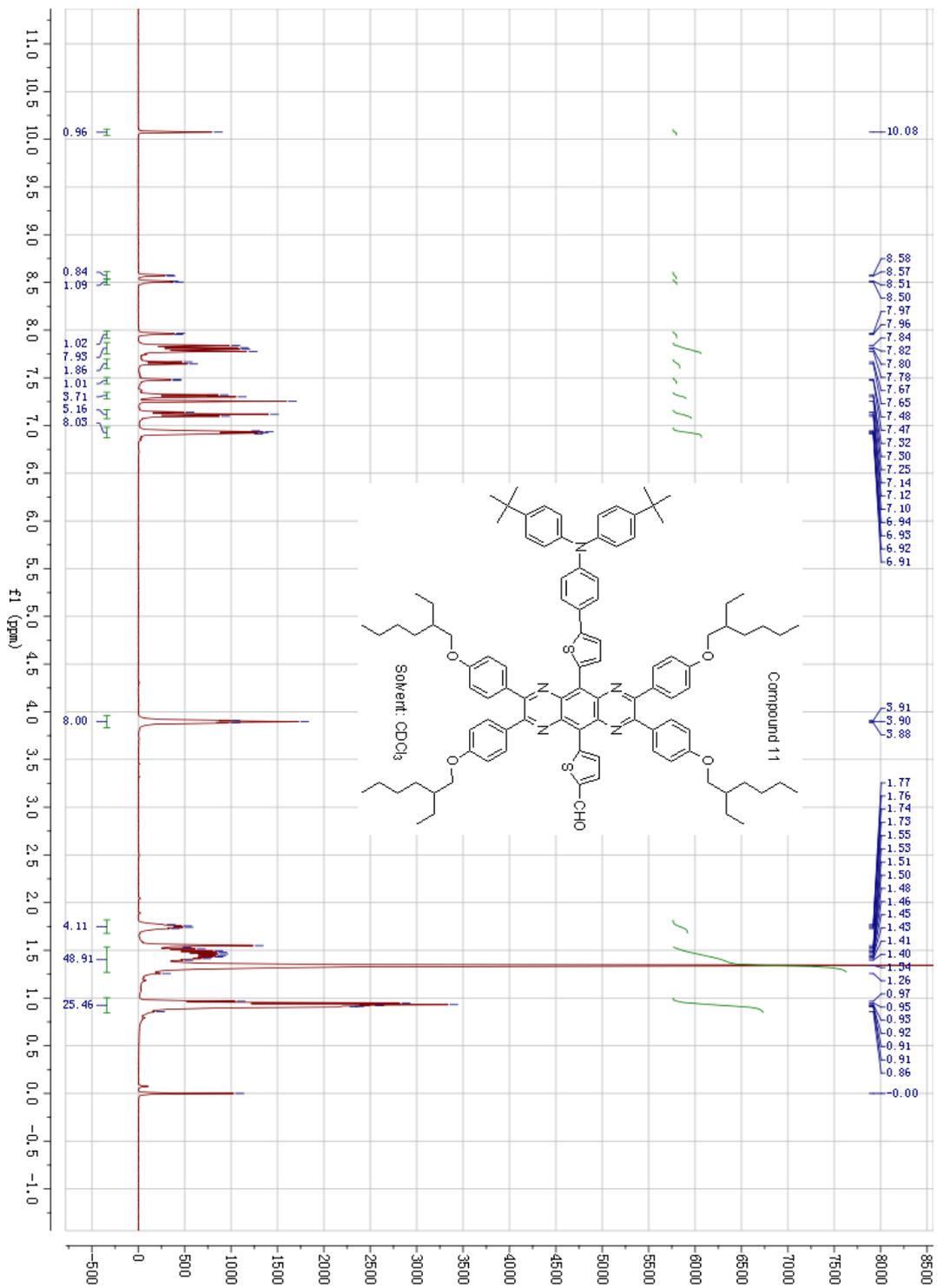


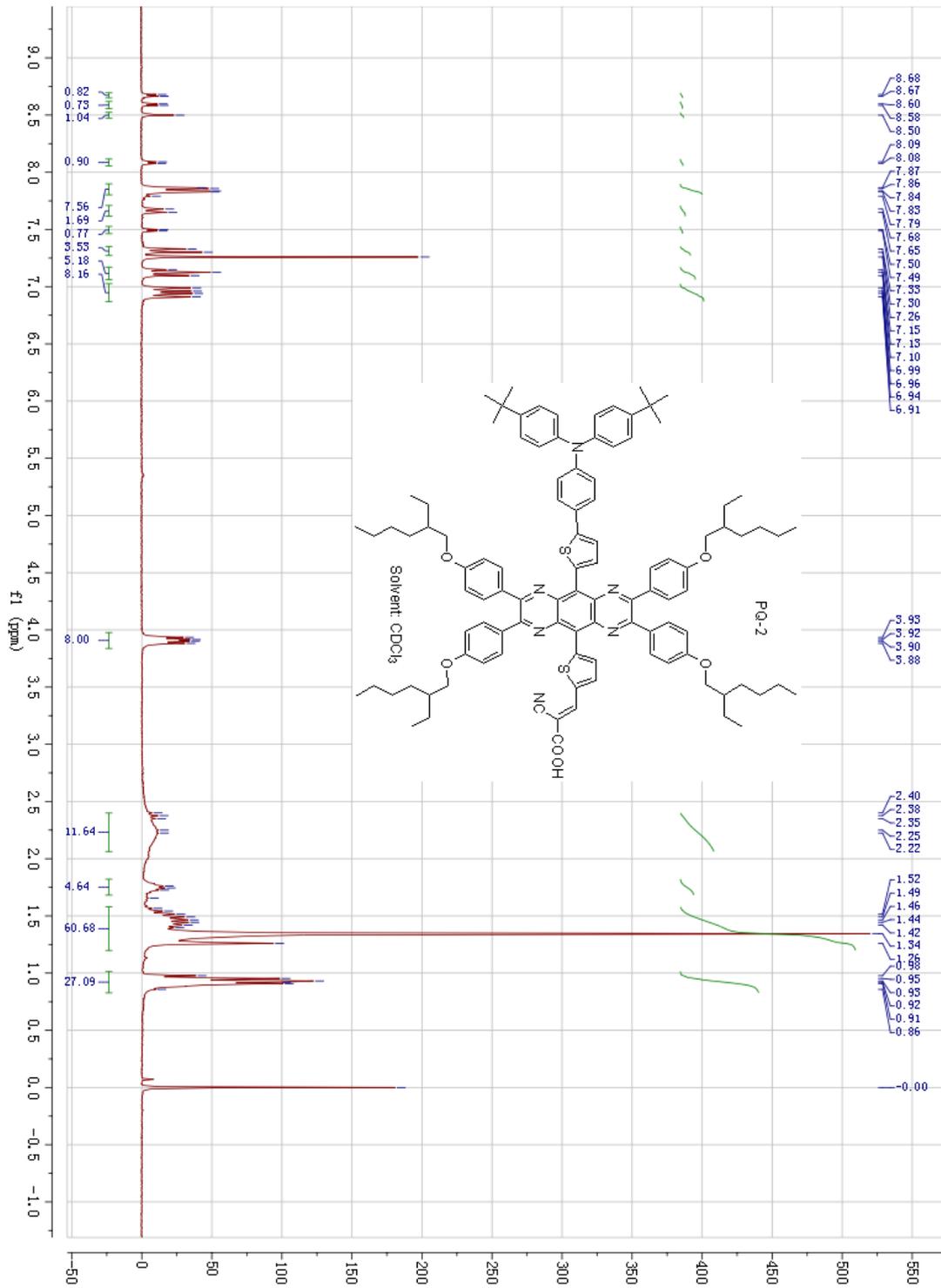












^{13}C NMR spectra of the compounds

