Simple Route to Synthesize Fully Conjugated Ladder Isomer Copolymers with Carbazole Units

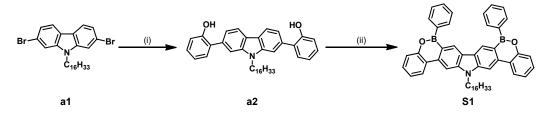
Shuang Chen¹, Feng Liu^{1,2,*}, Chao Wang¹, Jinghui Shen¹, Yonggang Wu^{1,*}

- ¹ College of Chemistry and Environmental Science, Hebei University, Baoding, 071002, P.R. China. E-mail: wuyonggang@hbu.edu.cn
- ² College of Physics Science and Technology, Hebei University, Baoding 071002, P. R. China. Postdoctoral of Hebei University. E-mail: <u>hiufeng@hbu.edu.cn</u>
- * Correspondence: liufeng@hbu.edu.cn; wuyonggang@hbu.edu.cn; Tel.: +86-158-3121-6174

Materials and Instruments

Commercial chemicals were used without further purification. Tetrahydrofuran (THF), and dichloromethane (DCM) were distilled by a standard process before using. The reactions were monitored by thin layer chromatography (TLC) with silica gel 60 F254 (Merck, 0.2 mm). ¹H and ¹³C NMR data were acquired on a Bruker AV600 spectrometer. The electrochemical behavior was recorded by cyclic voltammetry (Holland, Ivium Plus II) with a standard three-electrode electrochemical cell. A glassy carbon working electrode, a Pt wire counter electrode, and an Ag/Ag⁺ (0.01 M in CH₃CN) reference electrode. UV-visible absorption spectra were obtained on a Shimadzu UV-visible spectrometer model UV-2550. Fluorescence spectra were investigated by a Shimadzu RF-5301PC fluorescence spectrophotometer. MALDI-TOF analyses were obtained by Bruker Daltonics Inc Autoflex III. Thermal gravimetric analysis (TGA) and differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) measurements were carried out under nitrogen on Perkin-Elmer Pyris 6 TGA (heating rate of 10 °C/min) and Perkin-Elmer Diamond DSC instruments (scanning rate of 10 °C/min), respectively, to record TGA and DSC curves.

Experimental Section



Scheme S1. The synthetic routes to compound S1. (i) NaHCO₃, THF/H₂O, Pd(PPh₃)₄, reflux, 12h. (ii) TEA, *o*-DCB, reflux, 12h.

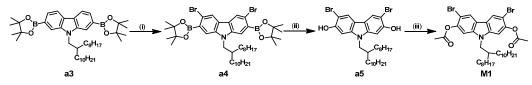
Compound a2

A mixture of compound a1 (0.30 g, 0.55 mmol), 2-hydroxyphenylboronic acid (0.60 g, 0.93 mmol), NaHCO₃ (0.35 g), THF (25 mL) and H₂O (4 mL) was degassed, Pd(PPh₃)₄ (12 mg, 0.01 mmol) was added under a nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was heated at reflux and stirred under nitrogen for 12 h. After cooling, water and CH₂Cl₂ (200 mL) were added, the organic layer was separated and dried over Na₂SO₄. After removal of the solvent, the residue was chromatographically purified on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/dichloromethane (v/v=1/3) to afford compound a3 (0.26 g, 83 %). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ = 8.15 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (s, 2H), 7.31 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.25 (td, J = 7.9,

1.5 Hz, 2H), 6.98 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 4H), 5.41 (s, 2H),4.25 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.84 – 1.78 (m, 2H), 1.33 – 1.28 (m, 2H), 1.25 –1.20 (m, 4H), 1.15 (d, J = 17.8 Hz, 21H), 0.80 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ = 151.60, 140.52, 133.70, 129.43, 128.16, 127.86, 121.18, 120.38, 119.79, 118.95, 114.77, 108.37,42.29, 30.90, 28.77, 28.23, 27.98, 26.33, 21.66, 13.09; MS (MALDI-FTICR): m/z: calcd for C₄₀H₄₉NO₂ : 575.8200 [M]⁺; found: 576.3757.

Compound S1

A mixture of compound a2 (0.20g, 0.35mmol), phenylboron dichloride (0.17g, 1.05mmol), Triethylamine (8 drops) and 1,2-dichlorobenzene (10 mL) were heated at reflux and stirred under nitrogen for 6 h. After removal of the solvent, the residue was chromatographically purified on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/dichloromethane (v/v=1/1) to afford compound S1 (0.25 g, 96%). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ = 9.03 (s, 2H), 8.33 (d, J =7.8 Hz, 2H), 8.14 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 4H), 8.11 (s, 2H), 7.60 (d, J = 5.9 Hz, 6H), 7.55 (d, J = 8.0Hz, 2H), 7.46 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 4.40 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 2.02~1.95(m, 2H), 1.50~1.45 (m, 2H), 1.42~1.38 (m, 2H), 1.26 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 8H), 1.22 (d, J = 11.0 Hz, 14H), 0.87 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ = 151.51, 145.06, 138.03, 134.53, 130.32, 130.05, 128.91, 128.16, 123.65, 123.41, 123.18, 123.08, 120.66,100.74, 43.08, 31.93, 29.66, 29.54, 29.40, 29.36, 28.66, 27.30, 22.70, 14.12; MS (MALDI-FTICR): m/z: calcd for C₅₂H₅₅B₂NO₂ : 747.6200; found: 747.4420.



Scheme S2. The synthetic routes to compound M1. (i) NBS, DMF, 110 °, 30 min. (ii) acetone, H₂O₂, NaOH. (iii) DCC, DMAP, THF/CH₃COOH, 45 °C, 12h.

Compound a4

A mixture of compound a3 (0.70 g, 1.00 mmol), NBS (0.39 g, 2.20 mmol) and 25 mL DMF was heated at 110 °C and stirred under nitrogen for 30 min. After cooling, water and CH₂Cl₂ (200 mL) were added, the organic layer was separated and dried over Na₂SO₄. After removal of the solvent, the residue was chromatographically purified on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/dichloromethane (v/v=1/1) to afford compound a4 (0.68 g, 80 %). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ = 8.18 (s, 2H), 7.66 (s,2H), 4.16 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.06 (s, 1H), 1.32 (d, J = 62.5 Hz, 56H), 0.87 (q, J = 5.1, 4.6 Hz,6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ =139.76, 124.77, 124.67, 117.21, 116.90, 84.30,37.95, 31.92, 31.88, 31.85, 29.89, 29.62, 29.53, 29.34, 29.27, 26.52, 24.84, 22.68, 22.66, 14.11; MS (MALDI-TOF): m/z: calcd for C₄₄H₆₉B₂Br₂NO₄: 857.5 [M]⁺; found: 856.9.

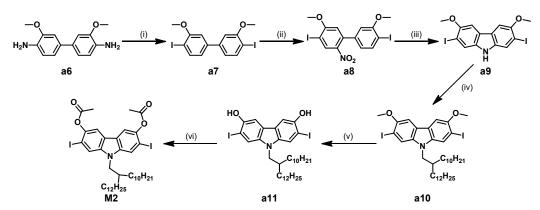
Compound a5

Compound a4 (0.50 g, 0.58 mmol) was dissolved in acetone (15 ml) and H_2O_2 (1.5 mL) was added in the mixture. Then NaOH aqueous solution (1.7 M, 1.5 mL) was added and stirred at room temperature for 15 min. After that, water and CH₂Cl₂ (200 mL) were added, the organic layer was separated and dried over Na₂SO₄. After removal of the solvent, the residue was chromatographically purified on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/dichloromethane (v/v=1/1)

to afford compound a5 (0.32 g, 86 %). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ = 7.94 (s,2H), 6.94 (s, 2H), 5.63 (s, 2H), 3.92 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.03 (s, 1H), 1.22 (d, J = 18.0 Hz,32H), 0.87 (dt, J = 6.8, 3.0 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ = 150.16, 142.15,122.27, 117.22, 102.10, 95.99, 95.97, 48.23, 37.43, 31.92, 31.85, 31.82, 29.91, 29.59, 29.58,29.50, 29.45, 29.32, 29.23, 26.54, 22.69, 22.65, 14.12; MS (MALDI-TOF): m/z: calcd forC₃₂H₄₇Br₂NO₂: 637.5 [M]⁺; found: 636.8.

Compound M1

Compound a5 was dissolved in THF (25 mL) with 0.1 mL of CH₃COOH. DCC (0.26 g, 1.26 mmol) and DMAP (0.06 g, 0.50 mmol) were added in batches. Then the mixture was heated at 45 °C for 12 hours. After cooling, removal of the solvent, the residue was chromatographically purified on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/dichloromethane (v/v=1/3) to afford compound M1 (0.26 g, 83 %). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ = 8.14 (s, 2H), 7.09 (s, 2H), 3.95 (s, 2H),2.42 (s, 6H), 1.99 (s, 1H), 1.20 (s, 32H), 0.88 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ =168.88, 146.32, 140.93, 124.30, 120.81, 106.81, 104.46, 104.43, 37.65, 31.92, 31.87, 31.73,29.86, 29.62, 29.57, 29.54, 29.48, 29.33, 29.22, 26.42, 22.70, 22.65, 20.96, 20.92, 14.12; MS(MALDI- FTICR): m/z: calcd for C₃₆H₅₁Br₂NO₄: 721.6000 [M]⁺; found: 721.2158.



Scheme S3. The synthetic routes to compound M2. (i) HCl, NaNO₂, rt, 30 min, KI, rt, 12h. (ii) HNO₃, CH₂Cl₂, 70 °C. (iii) triethyl phosphite, *o*-DCB (6 mL), reflux, 12h. (iv) NaH, DMF, 30 °C, 4 h. (v) BBr₃, CH₂Cl₂, 30 °C, 2 h. (vi) DCC, DMAP, THF/CH₃COOH, 45 °C, 12h.

Compound a7

Compound a6 was dissolved in HCl aqueous solution and NaNO₂ (6.20 g, 89.86 mmol) was slowly added into the mixture. If some suspended matter were occurred in the solution, more HCl aqueous solution was needed to make the solution clarification. Then the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min. KI (17.00 g, 0.10 mol) was added and stirred at room temperature for 12 hours. After cooling, water and CH₂Cl₂ (200 mL) were added, the organic layer was separated and dried over Na₂SO₄. After removal of the solvent, the residue was chromatographically purified on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether to afford compound a7 (2.50 g, 26 %). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ =7.82 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.96 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 2H), 6.90 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.7 Hz, 2H), 3.95 (s, 6H);13C NMR (150 MHz,CDCl₃, ppm): δ = 158.55, 142.42, 139.78, 121.30, 109.83, 85.43, 56.47.

Compound a8

Compound (2.50 g, 5.36 mmol) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL). Dilute HNO₃ solution was

added and the reaction was heated at 70 °C. The reaction was detected by TCL until the reaction finished. After cooling, water and CH₂Cl₂ (200 mL) were added, the organic layer was separated and dried over Na₂SO₄. After removal of the solvent, the residue was chromatographically purified on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/dichloromethane (v/v=3/1) to afford compound a8 (2.20 g, 81 %). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ = 8.44 (s, 1H), 7.81 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.69 (d, J = 2.7 Hz,2H), 6.65 (dd, J = 7.9, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (d, J = 56.4 Hz, 6H);¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ = 161.20, 158.23, 142.06, 139.70, 139.32, 138.47, 135.96, 121.73, 112.59, 110.43,86.36, 84.16, 57.16, 56.49.

Compound a9

A mixture of compound a8 (0.50 g, 0.98 mmol), triethyl phosphite (1.6 mL) and *o*-DCB (6 mL) was degassed. The mixture was heated at reflux and stirred under nitrogen overnight. After cooling, water and CH₂Cl₂ (200 mL) were added, the organic layer was separated and dried over Na₂SO₄. After removal of the solvent, the residue was chromatographically purified on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/dichloromethane (v/v=10/9) to afford compound a9 (0.10 g, 21 %). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ = 7.84 (s, 2H), 7.71 (s, 1H), 7.43 (s, 2H),3.99 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ = 152.09, 135.91, 123.77, 121.58, 101.61,85.08, 57.12.

Compound a10

A mixture of compound a9 (0.10 g, 0.21 mmol), 11-(bromomethyl)tricosane (0.17g, 0.42mmol) and NaH (0.07 g) were dissolved in DMF (25 mL). The mixture was heated at 30 °C and stirred under nitrogen for 4 h. After cooling, water and CH₂Cl₂ (200 mL) were added, the organic layer was separated and dried over Na₂SO₄. After removal of the solvent, the residue was chromatographically purified on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether to afford compound a10 (0.16 g, 94 %). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ = 7.75 (s, 2H), 7.45 (s, 2H),3.99 (s, 8H), 2.05 (s, 1H), 1.24 (d, J = 11.5 Hz, 40H), 0.88 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ = 151.42, 137.18, 122.68, 119.96, 101.58, 84.92, 57.13, 47.83, 37.74,31.96, 31.95, 31.60, 29.96, 29.71, 29.69, 29.66, 29.62, 29.40, 29.37, 26.36, 22.73, 14.17; MS(MALDI-FTICR): m/z: calcd for C₃₆H₅₁I₂NO₄: 815.6000 [M]⁺; found: 815.2624.

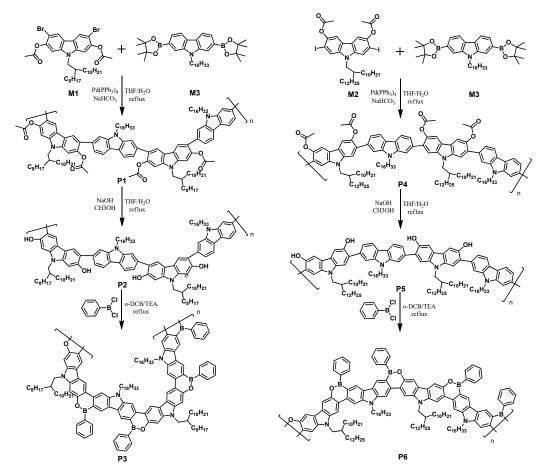
Compound all

A mixture of compound a10 (0.14 g, 0.17 mmol) and BBr₃ (1.5 mL) were dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL). The mixture was heated at 30 °C and stirred for 2 h. After cooling, water and CH₂Cl₂ (200 mL) were added, the organic layer was separated and dried over Na₂SO₄. After removal of the solvent, the residue was chromatographically purified on silica gel eluting with dichloromethane to afford compound a11 (0.10 g, 74 %). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ = 7.59(d, J = 2.0 Hz, 4H), 5.08 (s, 2H), 3.96 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.02 (s, 1H), 1.24 (d, J = 10.5 Hz, 40H), 0.88 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ = 147.54, 137.53, 123.69,118.04, 84.80, 47.94, 37.59, 31.95, 31.93, 31.65, 29.94, 29.69, 29.67, 29.65, 29.60, 29.38,29.35, 26.38, 22.71, 14.14; MS (MALDI- FTICR): m/z: calcd for C₃₆H₅₅I₂NO₂: 787.6400 [M]⁺; found: 786.2234.

Compound M2

Compound all (0.09 g, 0.11 mmol) was dissolved in THF (25 mL) with 0.1 mL of

CH₃COOH. DCC (0.14 g, 0.68 mmol) and DMAP (0.03 g, 0.27 mmol) were added in batches. Then the mixture was heated at 45 °C for 12 hours. After cooling, removal of the solvent, the residue was chromatographically purified on silica gel eluting with petroleum ether/dichloromethane (v/v=1/1) to afford compound M2 (0.09 g, 96 %). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ = 7.77 (s, 2H), 7.71 (s, 2H), 4.03 (d, J =7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.42 (s, 6H), 2.04 (s, 1H), 1.25 (s, 40H), 0.88 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ = 169.59, 143.63, 140.21, 122.83, 119.46, 113.98, 88.26, 53.45, 48.06,37.73, 31.95, 31.55, 29.96, 29.66, 29.40, 29.38, 26.37, 22.73, 21.37, 14.16; MS (MALDI-FTICR):m/z: calcd for C₄₀H₅₉I₂NO₄: 871.7100 [M]⁺; found: 870.2445.



Scheme S4. The synthetic routes to polymer P3 and P6

Polymer P1

A mixture of compound M1 (0.25 g , 0.35 mmol), 2,7-bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)-9-hexadecyl-9H-carbazole M3 (0.23 g, 0.35 mmol), NaHCO₃ (0.35 g), THF (25 mL) and H₂O (4 mL) was degassed, Pd(PPh₃)₄ (12.80 mg, 0.01 mmol) was added under a nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was heated by microwave reactor at reflux and stirred under nitrogen for 4 h. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, precipitated in methanol, and filtered. The solids were washed three times with methanol and

petroleum ether, respectively. Then dried to yield the polymer product P1 (0.31 g, 95%).

Polymer P2

A mixture of polymer P1 (0.25 g), NaOH (0.50 g), H_2O (2 mL), CH₃OH (3 mL) and THF (20 mL) were heated at reflux and stirred under nitrogen for 3 h. After cooling to the room temperature, the PH of solution was adjusted to 4~5. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, precipitated in methanol, and filtered. The solids were washed three times with methanol and petroleum ether, respectively. Then dried to yield the polymer product P2 (0.23 g, 96%).

Polymer P3

A mixture of polymer P2 (0.12 g), Phenylboron dichloride (0.1 mL), Triethylamine (5 drops) and 1,2-dichlorobenzene (10 mL) was heated at reflux and stirred under nitrogen for 3 h. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, precipitated in methanol, and filtered. The solids were washed three times with methanol and petroleum ether, respectively. Then dried to yield the final polymer product P3: browm soild (0.13 g, 92%)

Polymer P4

A of compound M2 (0.075)0.086 mmol), mixture g 2,7-bis(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)-9-hexadecyl-9H-carbazole M3 (0.065 g, 0.086 mmol), NaHCO₃ (0.35 g), THF (25 mL) and H₂O (4 mL) was degassed, Pd(PPh₃)₄ (5 mg, 0.0043 mmol) was added under a nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was heated by microwave reactor at reflux and stirred under nitrogen for 4 h. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, precipitated in methanol, and filtered. The solids were washed three times with methanol and petroleum ether, respectively. Then dried to yield the polymer product P4 (0.091 g, 93%).

Polymer P5

A mixture of polymer P4 (0.08 g), NaOH (0.50 g), H_2O (2 mL), CH₃OH (3 mL) and THF (20 mL) were heated at reflux and stirred under nitrogen for 3 h. After cooling to the room temperature, the PH of solution was adjusted to 4~5. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, precipitated in methanol, and filtered. The solids were washed three times with methanol and petroleum ether, respectively. Then dried to yield the polymer product P5 (0.07 g, 96%).

Polymer P6

A mixture of polymer P5 (0.05 g), Phenylboron dichloride (0.1 mL), Triethylamine (5 drops) and 1,2-dichlorobenzene (10 mL) was heated at reflux and stirred under nitrogen for 3 h. The solution was then cooled to room temperature, precipitated in methanol, and filtered. The solids were washed three times with methanol and petroleum ether, respectively. Then dried to yield the final polymer product P6: browm soild (0.06 g, 95%).

FTIR Spectra of Compounds

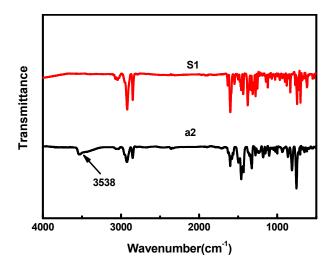


Figure S1. The FTIR spectra of compound a2 and S1



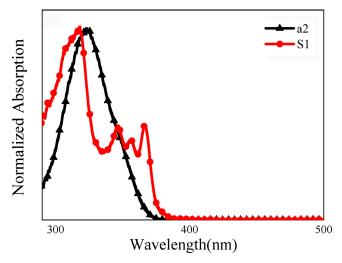


Figure S2. The UV-vis absorption spectra of compound a2 and S1

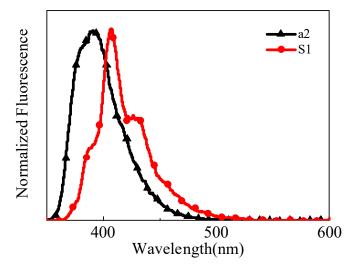


Figure S3. The fluorescence emission spectra of compound a2 and S1

Electrochemical Properties of Compounds and Polymers

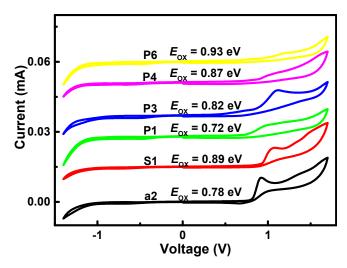
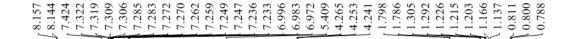


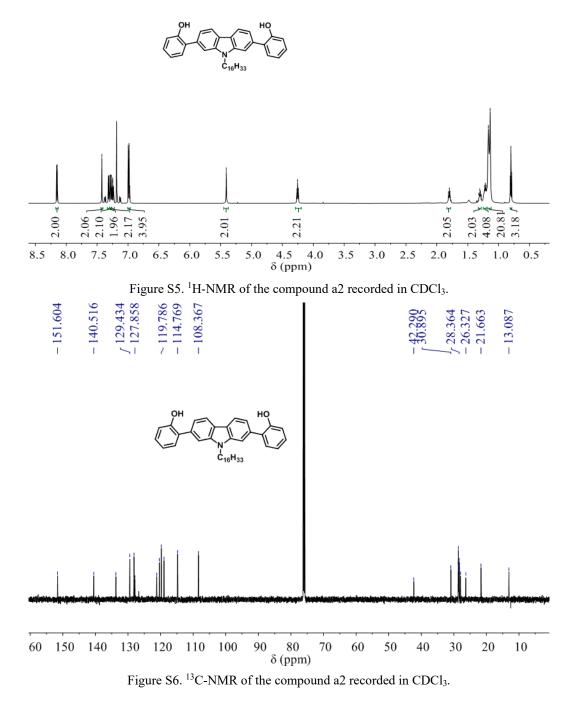
Figure S4. The cyclic voltammograms of compounds and polymers

	HOMO/eV	LUMO/eV	Band gap/eV
a2	-5.58	-2.19	3.39
S 1	-5.69	-2.39	3.30
P1	-5.52	-2.38	3.14
Р3	-5.62	-2.76	2.86
P4	-5.60	-2.60	3.00
P6	-5.68	-3.02	2.66

Table S1. the CV date of compounds and polymers

The NMR spectra and MALDI-TOF spectra





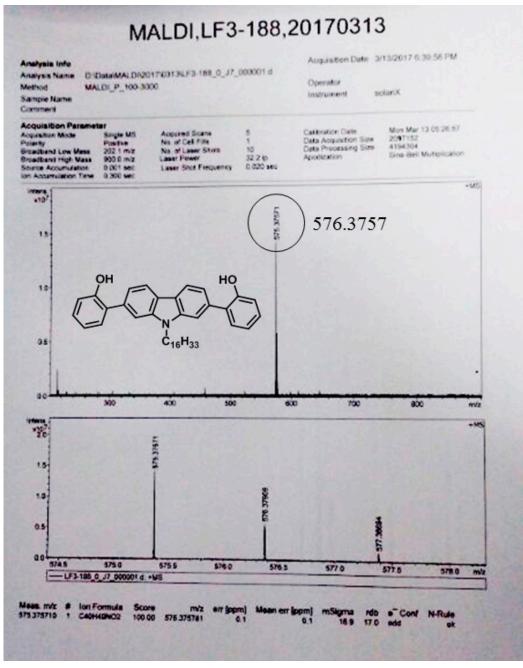
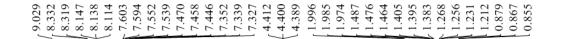
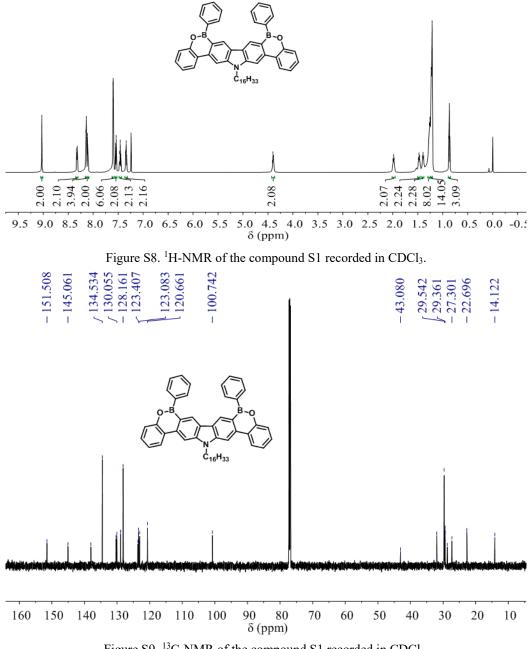


Figure S7. High resolution MALDI-TOF spectra of the a2.







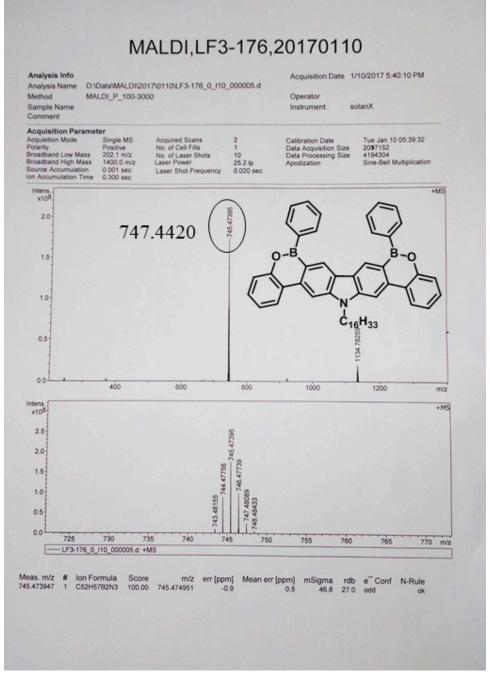
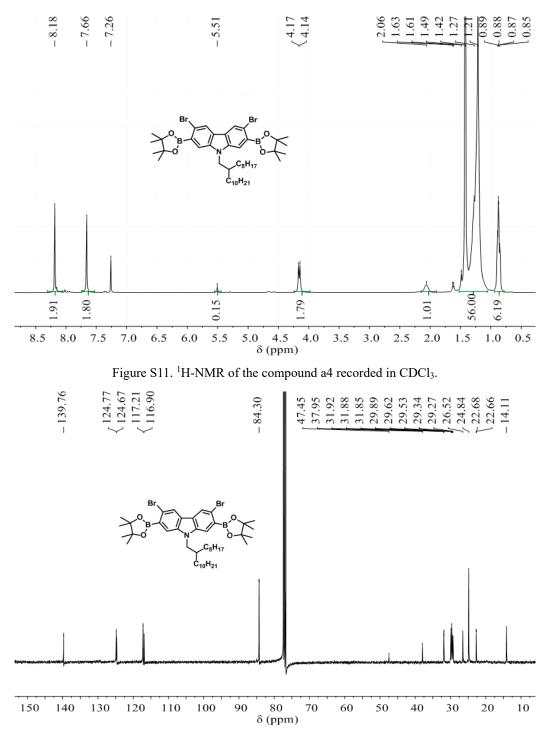
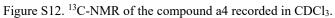


Figure S10. High resolution MALDI-TOF spectra of the S1.





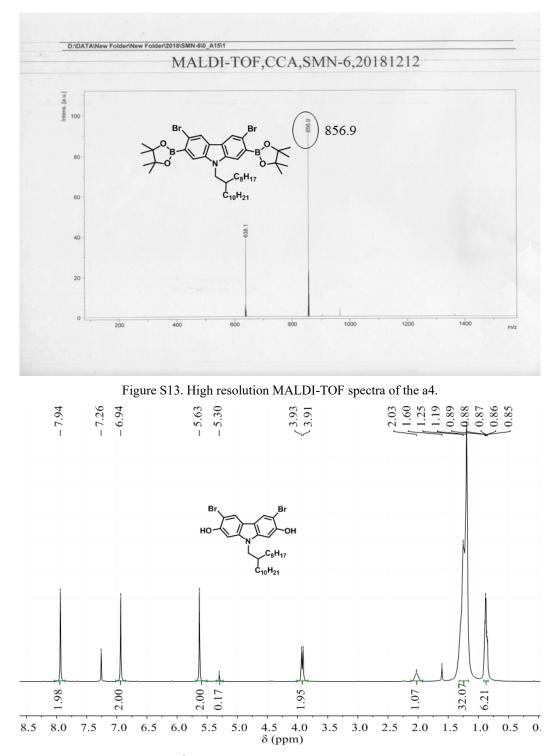
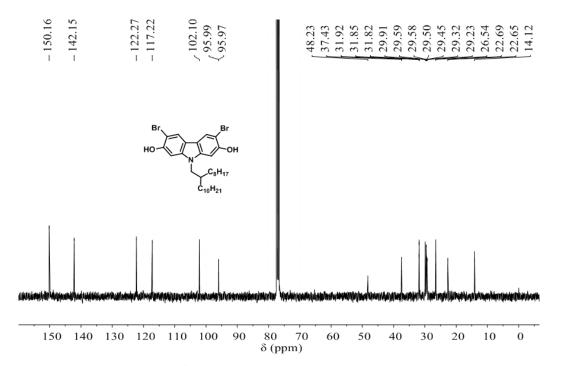
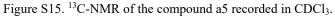


Figure S14. ¹H-NMR of the compound a5 recorded in CDCl₃.





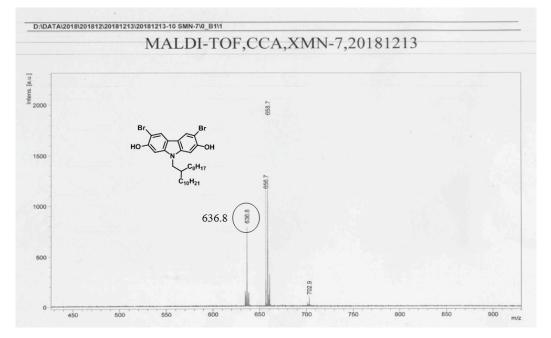


Figure S16. High resolution MALDI-TOF spectra of the a5.

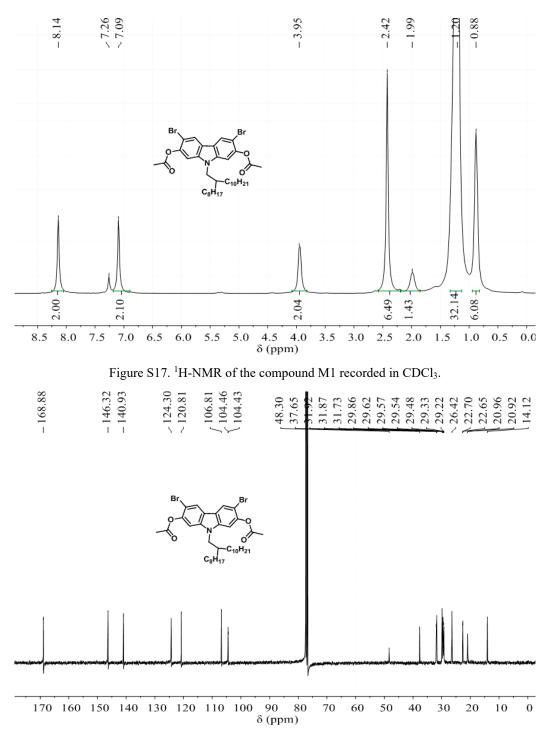


Figure S18. ¹³C-NMR of the compound M1 recorded in CDCl₃.

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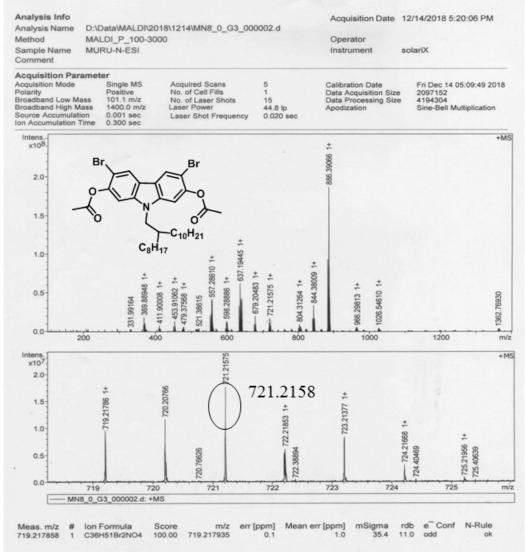
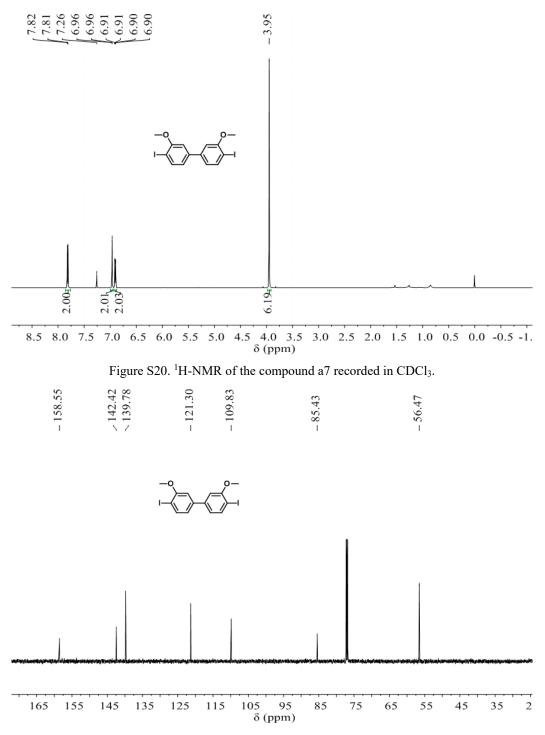
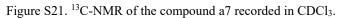


Figure S19. High resolution MALDI-TOF spectra of the M1.





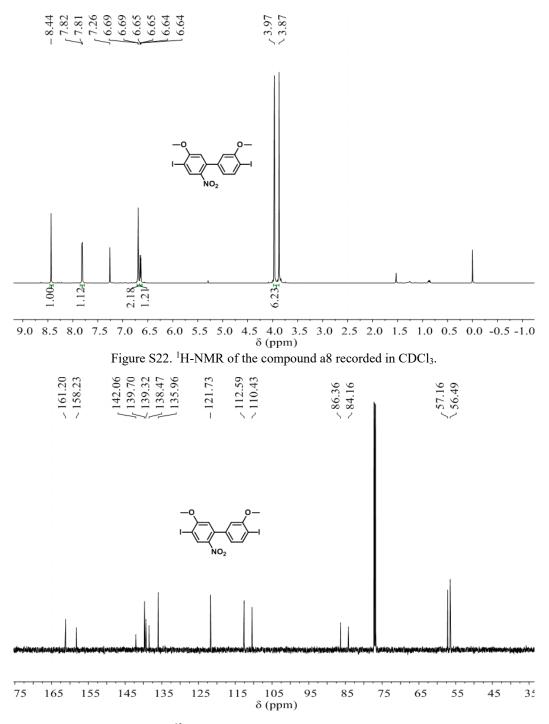


Figure S23. $^{\rm 13}\text{C-NMR}$ of the compound a8 recorded in CDCl3.

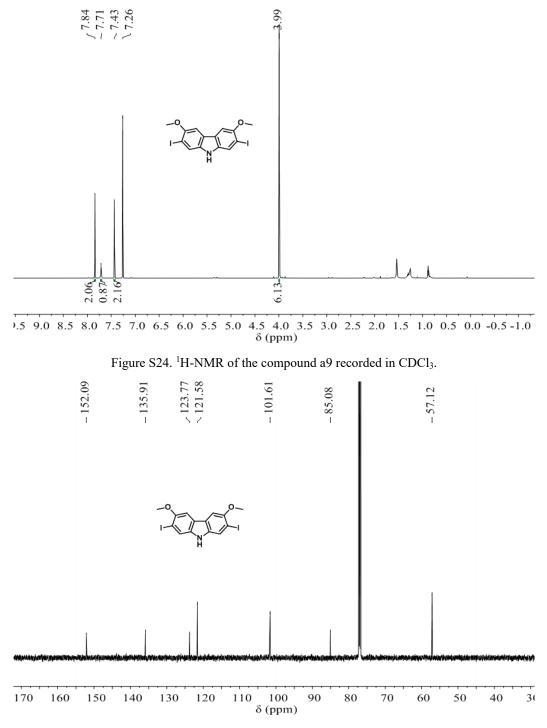


Figure S25. ¹³C-NMR of the compound a9 recorded in CDCl₃.

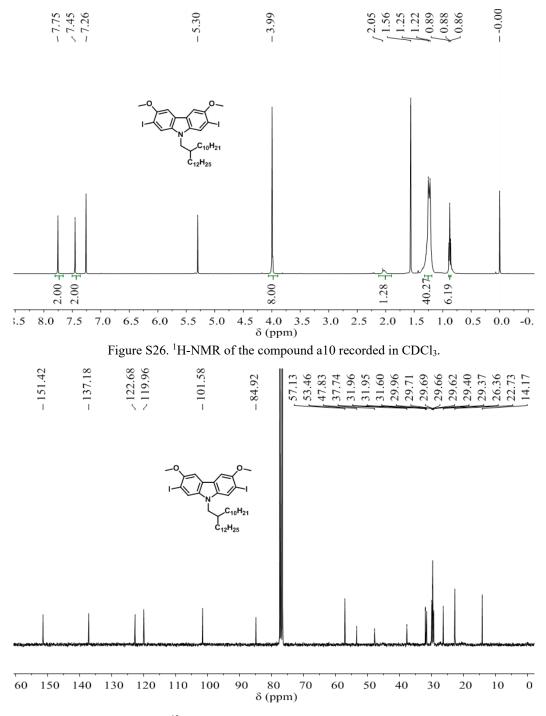


Figure S27. ¹³C-NMR of the compound a10 recorded in CDCl₃.

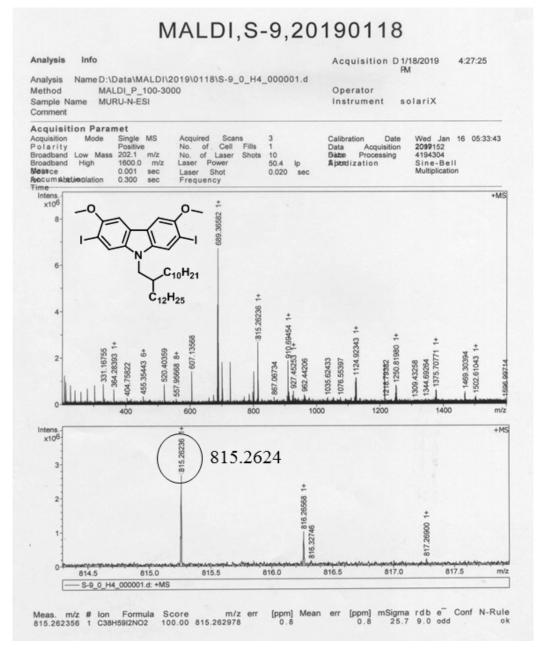


Figure S28. High resolution MALDI-TOF spectra of the a10.



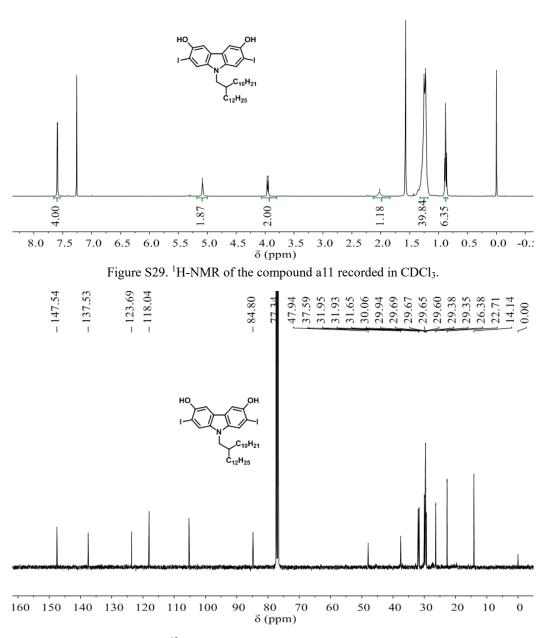


Figure S30. ¹³C-NMR of the compound all recorded in CDCl₃.

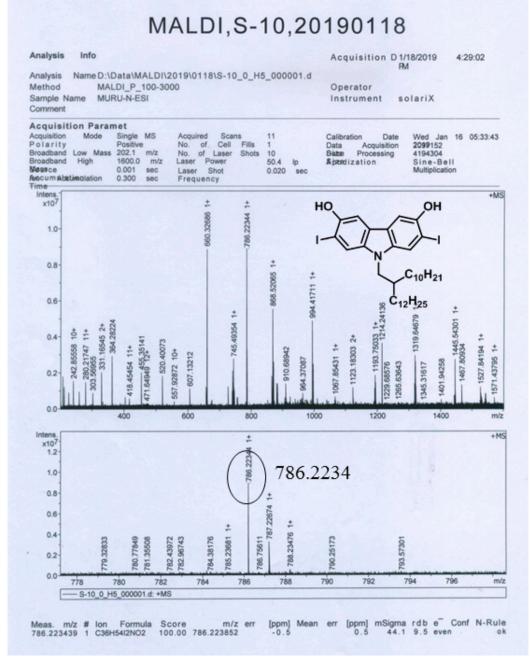


Figure S31. High resolution MALDI-TOF spectra of the all.

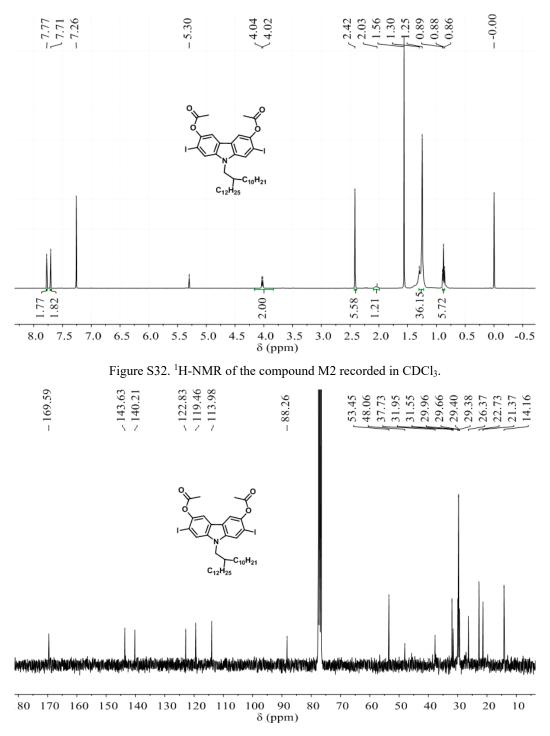


Figure S33. ¹³C-NMR of the compound M2 recorded in CDCl₃.

