

*Supporting information*

Phenyleneethynylene and  
Thienyleneethynylene-based  $\pi$ -Conjugated Polymers  
with Imidazolium Units in the Main Chain

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- (1)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of polymers and model compounds (Figure S1-S8)
- (2) X-ray crystal structure of **M1**
- (3) Absorption and fluorescence spectra of **M2** in pyridine and chloroform
- (4) Results of DFT calculations

(1) NMR Spectra (× are due to solvent impurities)

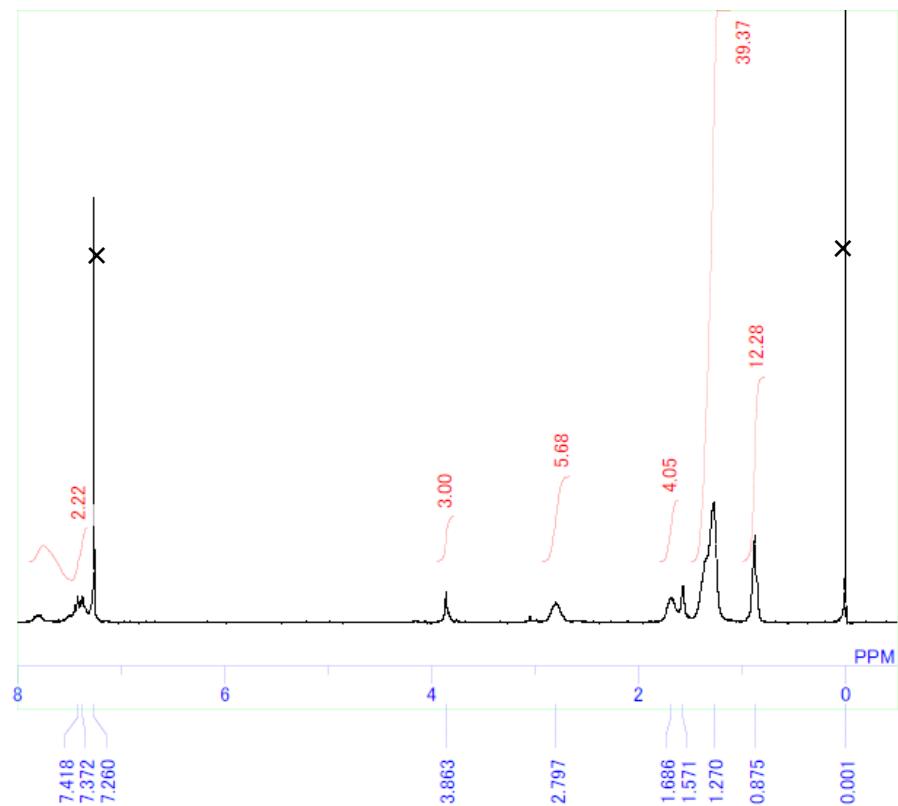


Figure S1. <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **P1** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$

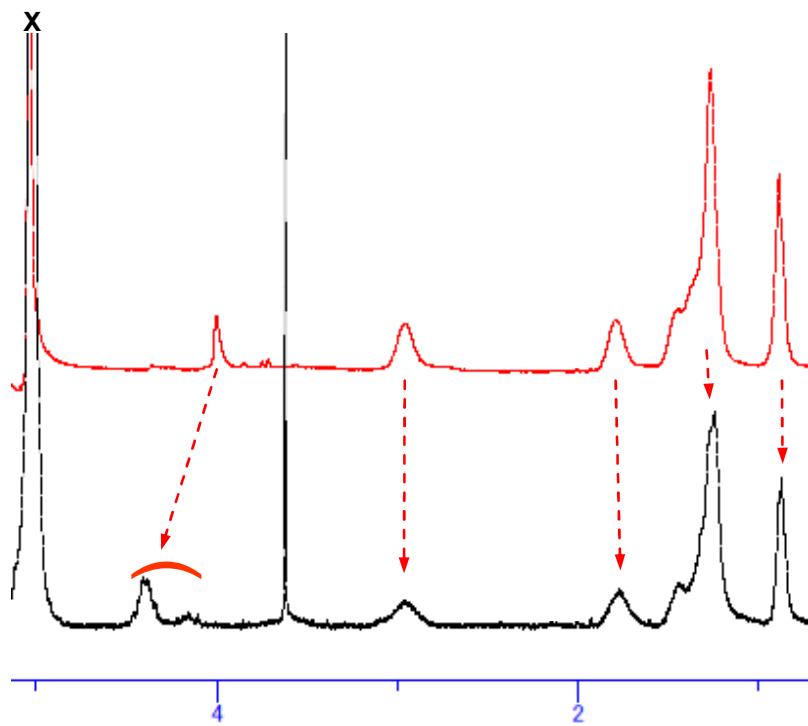


Figure S2. <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **P1** (top) and **P2** (bottom) in pyridine- $d_5$ .

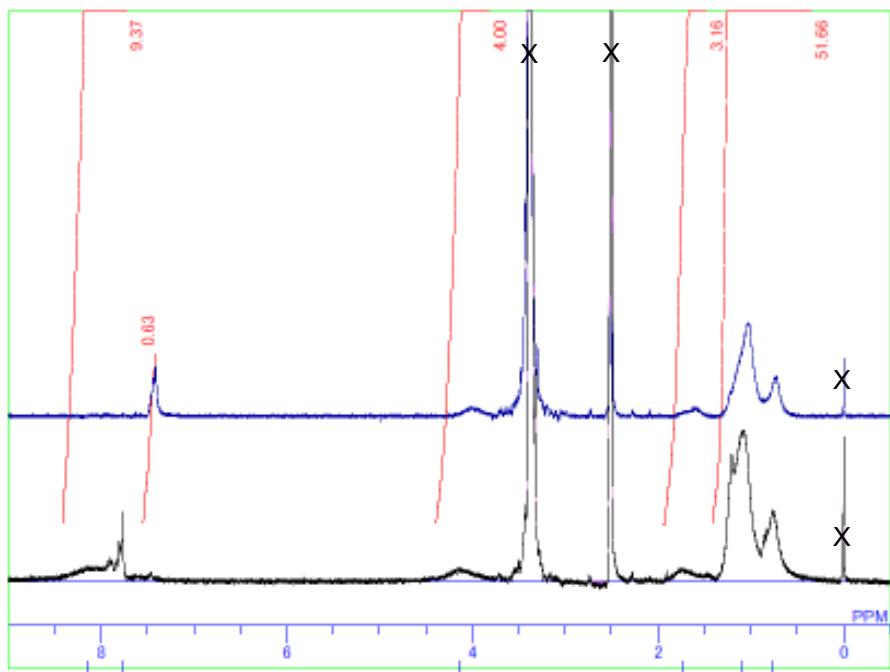


Figure S3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **P4** (top) and **P5** (bottom) in pyridine-*d*<sub>5</sub>.

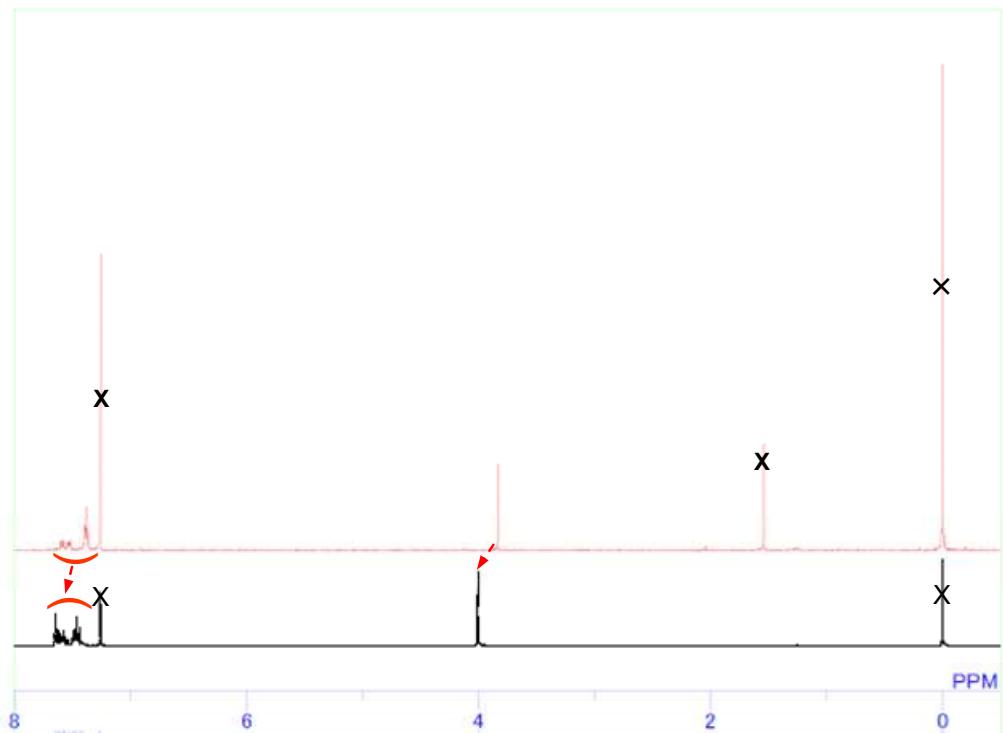


Figure S3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **M1** adding TFA before (red) and after (black) in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

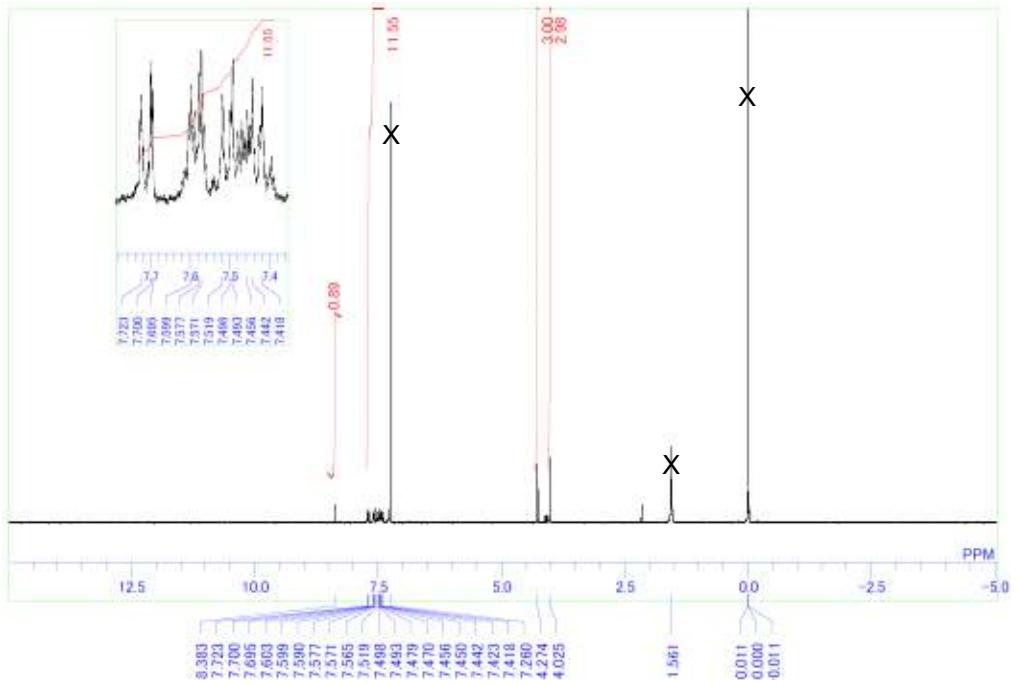


Figure S4.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of **M2** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

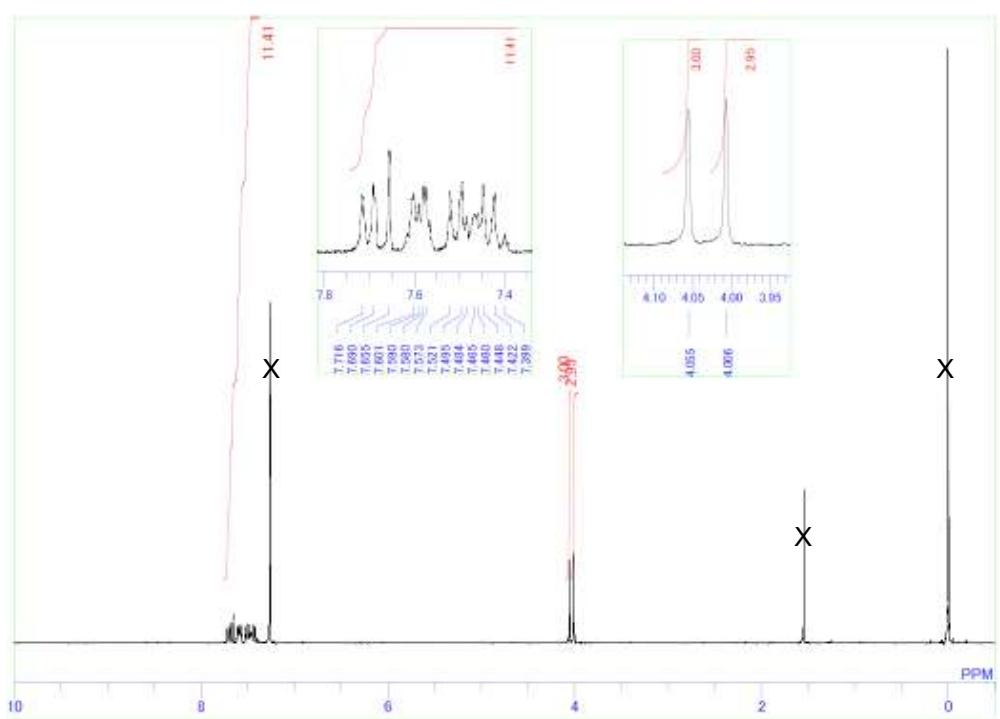
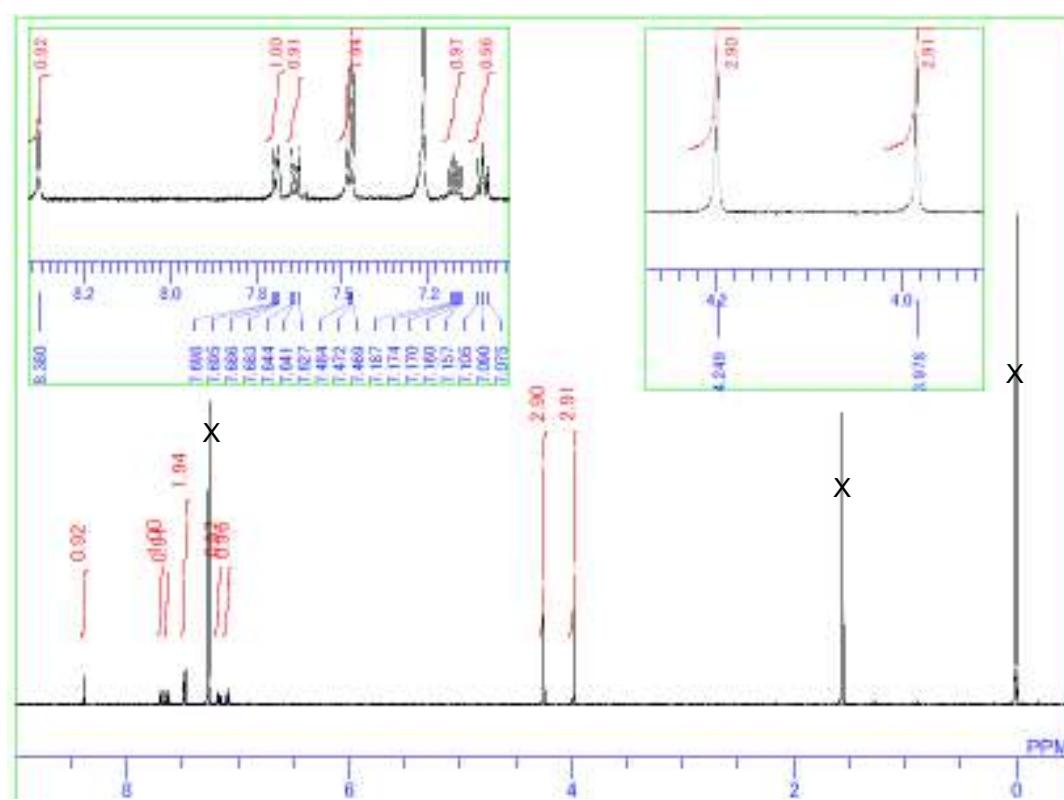
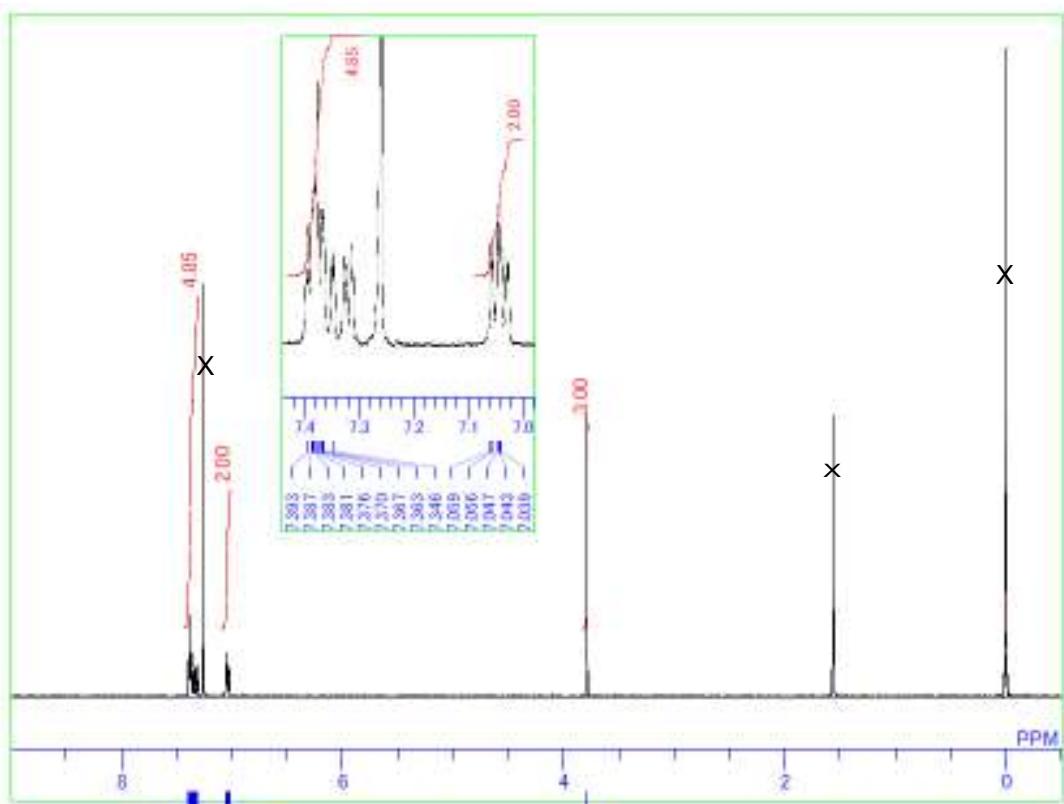


Figure S5.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of **M3** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



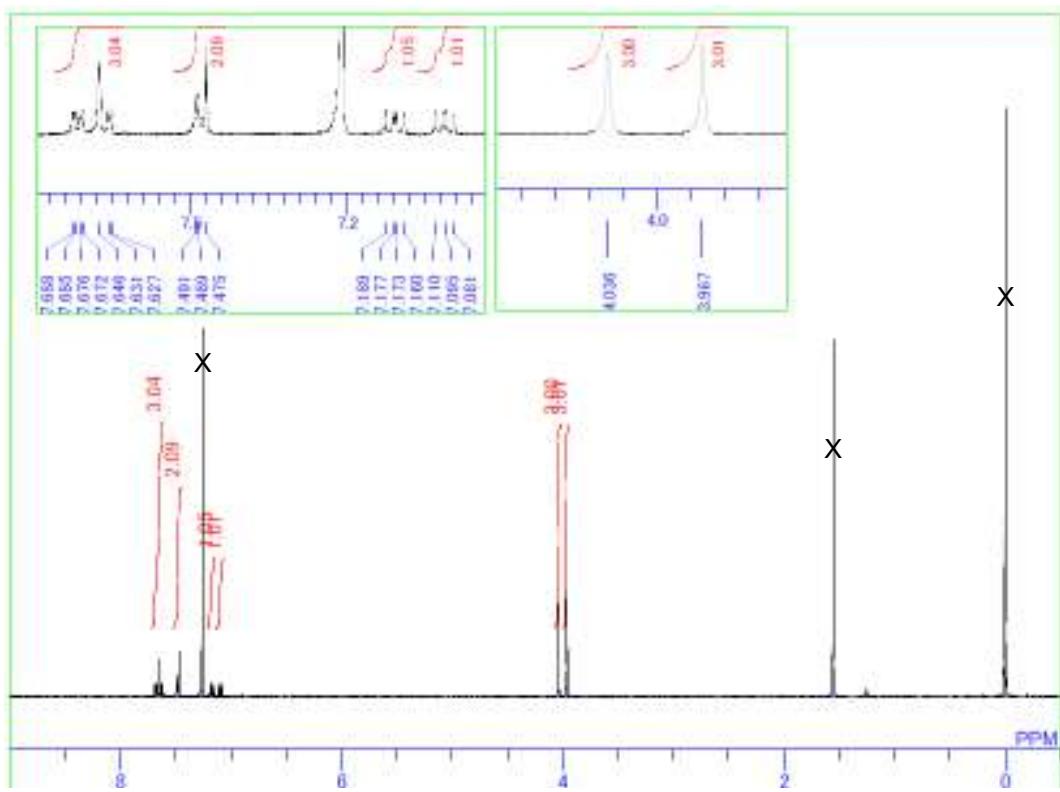
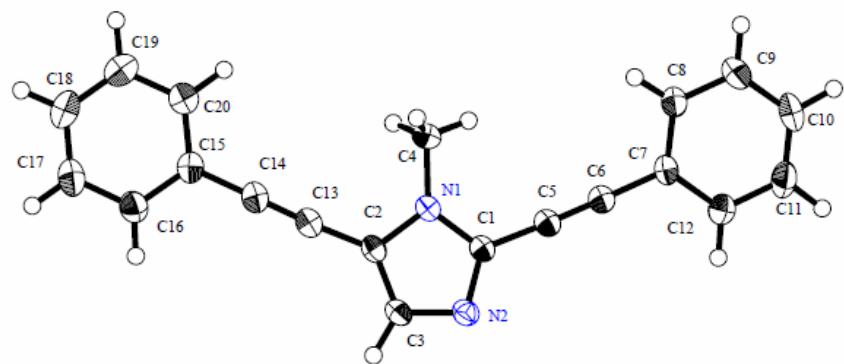
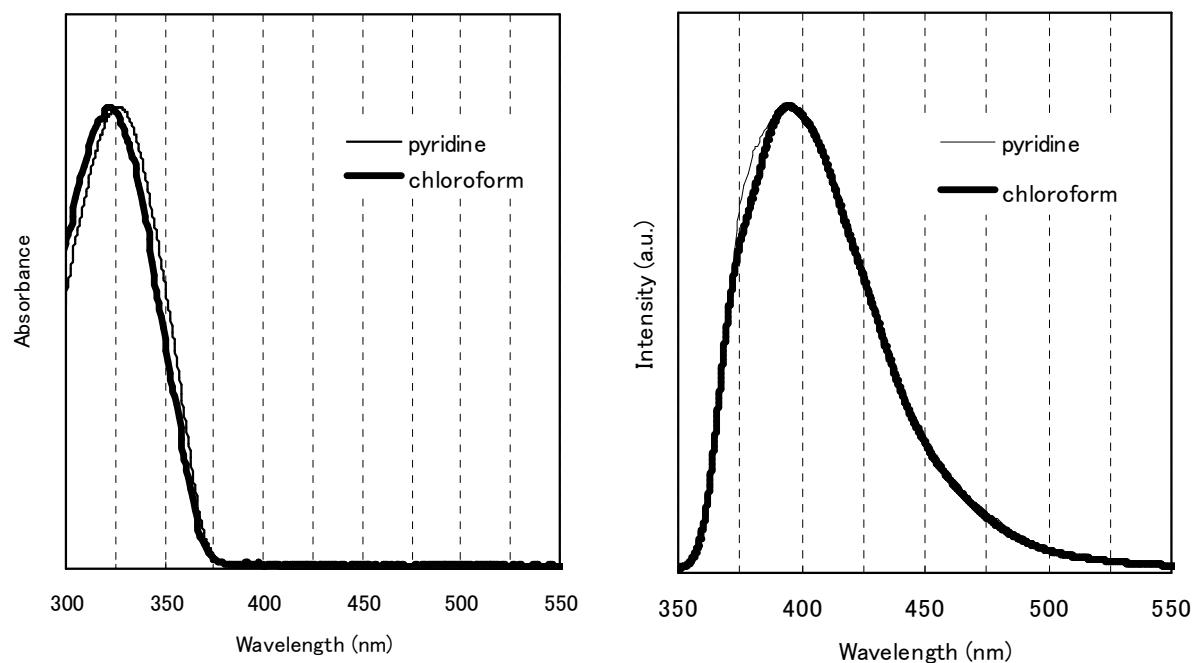


Figure S8.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of **M6** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

## (2) X-ray Crystal Structure of **M1**



(3) Absorption and fluorescence spectra of **M2** in pyridine and chloroform



(4) DFT Calculations

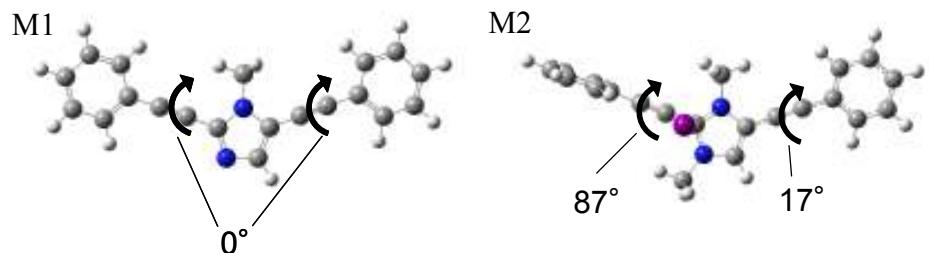


Figure S9. DFT-based optimized structures of **M1-M2** and dihedral angles between phenyl rings and imidazole ring or phenyl rings and imidazolium ring.

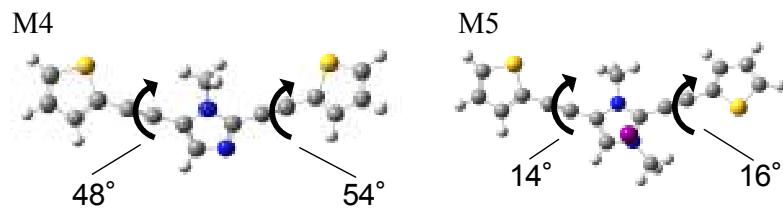


Figure S10. DFT-based optimized structures of **M4-M5** and dihedral angles between phenyl rings and imidazole ring or phenyl rings and imidazolium ring.

Table S1. Calculated UV-vis Absorption Wavelength and Oscillator Strength of Model Compounds and Methylated Model Compounds with Counter Anion

Compounds	UV-vis calcd. ( $\lambda_{\text{calcd.}}$ , nm)	Oscillator strength
<b>M1</b>	370	1.5770
<b>M2 (Iodide)</b>	317	1.0843
<b>M4</b>	361	0.9131
<b>M5 (Iodide)</b>	393	1.4184

**Full text of reference 15.**

(15) *Gaussian 03*, Revision D.01: Frisch, M. J.; Trucks, G. W.; Schlegel, H. B.; Scuseria, G. E.; Robb, M. A.; Cheeseman, J. R.; Montgomery, J. A. Jr., Vreven, T.; Kudin, K. N.; Burant, J. C.; Millam, J. M.; Iyengar, S. S.; Tomasi, J.; Barone, V.; Mennucci, B.; Cossi, M.; Scalmani, G.; Rega, N.; Petersson, G. A.; Nakatsuji, H. ; Hada, M.; Ehara, M.; Toyota, K.; Fukuda, R.; Hasegawa, J.; Ishida, M.; Nakajima, T.; Honda, Y.; Kitao, O.; Nakai, H.; Klene, M.; Li, X.; Knox, J. E.; Hratchian, H. P.; Cross, J. B.; Bakken, V., Adamo, C., Jaramillo, J.; Gomperts, R.; Stratmann, R. E., Yazyev, O.; Austin, A. J.; Cammi, R.; Pomelli, C.; Ochterski, J. W.; Ayala, P. Y.; Morokuma, K.; Voth, G. A.; Dannenberg, P. Salvador, J. J.; Zakrzewski, V. G.; Dapprich, S.; Daniels, A. D.; Strain, M. C.; Farkas, O.; Malick, D. K.; Rabuck, A. D.; Raghavachari, K.; Foresman, J. B.; Ortiz, J. V.; Cui, Q.; Baboul, A. G.; Clifford, S.; Cioslowski, J.; Stefanov, B. B.; Liu, G.; Liashenko, A.; Piskorz, P.; Komaromi, I.; Martin, R. L.; Fox, D. J.; Keith, T.; Al-Laham, M. A.; Peng, C. Y.; Nanayakkara, A.; Challacombe, M.; Gill, P. M. W.; Johnson, B.; Chen, W.; Wong, M. W.; Gonzalez, C.; Pople, J. A.; Gaussian 03, version 6.1; Gaussian, Inc., Pittsburgh, PA, 2003.