**Supporting Information for:** 

# Molecular Wire Behavior in $\pi$ -Stacked Donor-Bridge-Acceptor Tertiary Arylureas

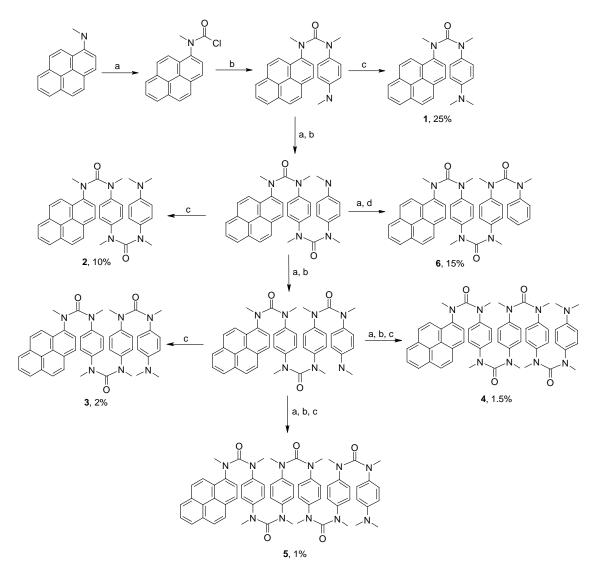
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# **Synthesis**

**Materials**. Phosgene (20% solution in toluene), triethylamine, 1-aminopyrene, Nmethylaniline, *p*-phenylenediamine, sodium hydride and methyl iodide are commercially available and used as received. All solvents used for spectroscopy were spectrograde. The preparation of N,N'-diemthyl-*p*-phenylenediamine dihydrochloride has been previously described.<sup>1</sup>



Reagents: a) Phosgene, Et<sub>3</sub>N, toluene, reflux. b) N,N'-dimethyl-phenylenediamine Dihydrochlorid, Et<sub>3</sub>N, toluene, reflux. c) NaH, MeI, DMF. d) N-methylaniline, Et<sub>3</sub>N, toluene, reflux

### **GENERAL SYNTHETIC PROCEDURES**

**Reaction of Secondary Amine with Phosgene.** The secondary amine was dissolved in dry toluene with triethylamine. The mixture was added dropwise to a stirring solution of 2.5 equiv. of phosgene (20% in toluene) under nitrogen over 10 min. The solution was refluxed for 2 hrs. The reaction mixture was evaporated to dryness and the resulting residue was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic solution was washed with H<sub>2</sub>O and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed under vacuo and the residue was used for the following step without further purification.

Addition of N,N'-Diemthyl-*p*-phenylenediamine Dihydrochloride or N-Methylaniline. The acyl chloride was dissolved in dry toluene with triethylamine. The mixture was added slowly to a refluxing solution of N,N'-diemthylphenylenediamine dihydrochloride (or N-methylaniline) with triethylamine in toluene over 1 hr. The reaction was refluxed for another 10 min. The reaction mixture was evaporated to dryness and the resulting residue was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic solution was washed with H<sub>2</sub>O and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed under vacuo and the residue was used for the following step without further purification.

**Methylation.** The urea was dissolved in dry DMF under nitrogen. NaH was washed with hexanes before usage. A suspension of NaH in dry DMF was added in portions to the urea solution followed with addition of MeI with every portion over 20 min. The mixture was left stirring under nitrogen for another 3 hrs. Water was added to the reaction mixture to precipitate the product. The off-white solid was filtered, dissolved in  $CH_2Cl_2$  and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed under vacuo.

#### **EXPERIMENTAL SECTION**

**General.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were measured at 400 or 500 MHz in CDCl<sub>3</sub> solution with TMS as internal standard. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are quoted in parts per million. *J* values are given in hertz. UV–VIS spectra were measured on a diode array spectrometer using a 1 cm path length quartz cell. Emission spectra are uncorrected, and the estimated error for the quantum yields is ± 10%.

Ground state structures were optimized with the AM1 method implemented in MOPAC as implemented in CAChe 6.1.10.<sup>2</sup> Electronic structure calculations were performed on a PC with the ZINDO Hamiltonian (26 occupied and 26 unoccupied orbitals) as implemented in CAChe 6.1.10. All data-fitting procedures were carried out by using Origin (version 6.1).<sup>3</sup>

**Materials.** Phosgene (20% solution in toluene), triethylamine, 1-aminopyrene, p-phenylenediamine, sodium hydride and methyl iodide are commercially available and used as received. All solvents used for spectroscopy were spectrograde. The preparation of *N*,*N*'-diemthyl-*p*-phenylenediamine dihydrochloride has been previously described.<sup>1</sup>

**1-(4-Dimethylamino-phenyl)-1,3-dimethyl-3-pyren-1-yl-urea (1).** 25% overall-yield. mp 141-143 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 8.10 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.99-7.83 (m, 6H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.15 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 5.64 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 3.43 (s, 3H), 3.14 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup> C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):δ 162.7, 148.1, 140.1, 134.1, 131.2, 131.1, 129.9, 127.3, 127.2, 127.1, 126.1, 125.9, 125.4, 125.2, 112.6, 40.6, 40.4, 40.3. HRMS (EI) calcd for C27H25O1N3: 407.1992; found 407.1993.

1-(4-Dimethylamino-phenyl)-3-[4-(1,3-dimethyl-3-pyren-1-yl-ureido)-phenyl]-1,3dimethyl-urea (2). 10% overall-yield. mp 186-190 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz): δ 8.12-7.82 (m, 7H), 7.75 (d, J = 8.8, 1H), 7.45 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.26 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.17 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.07 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.80 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.42 (s, 3H), 3.10 (s, 3H), 2.86 (s, 3H), 2.73 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup> C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):δ 162.1, 161.3, 148.3, 142.8, 141.5, 139.4, 135.0, 131.1, 130.9, 129.9, 127.5, 127.2, 126.4, 126.2, 125.9, 125.6, 125.4, 125.2, 125.0, 124.5, 122.7, 112.5, 40.9, 40.4, 40.1, 39.8, 38.5. HRMS (EI) calcd for C36H35O2N5: 569.2785; found 569.2789.

**Urea 3.** 2% overall-yield. mp 188-193 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 8.10 (dd, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.96 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.91-7.83 (m, 3H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.46 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.43 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.30 (m, 2H), 6.17-6.06 (m, 6H), 6.80 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H) 3.40 (s, 3H), 3.03 (s, 6H), 2.91 (s, 3H), 2.80 (s, 3H), 2.76 (s, 3H), 2.66 (s, 3H), 1.88 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup> C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):δ 162.7, 142.9, 142,4, 142.0, 139.3.1, 131.1, 131.0, 130.8, 129.8, 129.0, 127.5, 127.3, 127.1, 127.0, 126.6, 126.4, 126.1, 125.8, 125.6, 125.4, 125.0, 124.4, 122.6, 112.3, 40.4, 40.3, 40.2, 39.9, 39.6, 39.0, 38.7, 38.4. HRMS (EI) calcd for C45H45O3N7: 731.3578; found 731.3579.

**Urea 4.** 1.5% overall-yield. mp 190-194 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 8.11-7.83 (m, 7H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.53 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.45 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.43-6.09 (m, 12H), 6.77 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.39 (s, 3H), 3.05 (m, 6H), 3.01 (s, 3H), 2.93 (s, 3H), 2.90 (s, 3H), 2.78 (s, 3H), 2.69 (s, 3H), 2.68 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup> C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):δ 161.9, 161.5, 160.9, 160.6, 143.1, 142.4, 142.3, 142.1, 141.8, 139.3, 131.1, 130.8, 129.9, 127.5, 127.3, 127.1, 127.0, 126.8, 126.6, 126.5, 126.1, 126.0, 125.9, 125.8, 125.7, 125.6, 125.5, 125.2, 125.0, 124.4, 122.6, 112.9, 112.5, 41.0, 40.5, 125.9, 125.8, 125.7, 125.6, 125.5, 125.2, 125.0, 124.4, 122.6, 112.9, 112.5, 41.0, 40.5, 125.9, 125.8, 125.7, 125.6, 125.5, 125.2, 125.0, 124.4, 122.6, 112.9, 112.5, 41.0, 40.5, 125.9, 125.8, 125.7, 125.6, 125.5, 125.2, 125.0, 124.4, 122.6, 112.9, 112.5, 41.0, 40.5, 125.9, 125.8, 125.7, 125.6, 125.5, 125.2, 125.0, 124.4, 122.6, 112.9, 112.5, 41.0, 40.5, 125.9, 125.8, 125.7, 125.8, 125.8, 125.7, 125.8, 125.

40.2, 40.1, 40.0, 39.6, 39.5, 39.2, 38.4, 31.1. HRMS (EI) calcd for C54H55O4N9: 893.4372; found 893.4347.

**Urea 5.** 1% overall-yield. mp 108-111 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 8.10-7.81 (m, 7H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 6.54-6.07 (m, 18H), 5.76 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.38 (s, 3H), 3.05-2.89 (m, 21H), 2.78 (s, 3H), 2.67 (s, 3H), 1.87 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup> C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):δ 161.9, 161.5, 160.9, 160.8, 160.5, 143.1, 142.5, 142.4, 142.3, 142.1, 141.8, 139.3, 135. 8, 131.1, 130.8, 129.8, 127.5, 127.3, 127.1, 127.0, 126.8, 126.6, 126.5, 126.0, 125.9, 125.9, 125.8, 125.7, 125.5, 125.2, 125.0, 124.4, 122.6, 112.6, 41.2, 40.5, 40.2, 40.1, 40.0, 39.5, 39.4, 39.2, 38.4, 31.2. MS (EI) for C63H65O5N11: found 1055.2.

**Urea 6.** 15% overall-yield. mp 232-236 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 8.10-7.82 (m, 7H); 7.73 (d, J = 9 Hz, 1H); 7.44 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H); 6.94-6.84 (m, 3H), 6.65 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 6.28 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 6.13 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.08 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.78 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 3.39 (s, 3H), 3.08 (s, 3H), 3.04 (s, 3H), 2.96 (s, 3H), 2.74 (s, 3H), 1.89 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup> C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):δ 161.9, 161.1, 160.6, 145.6, 142.4, 142.3, 142.2, 141.8, 139.4, 131.1, 130.8, 129.8, 128.8, 127.5, 126.8, 126.6, 126.0, 125.9, 125.8, 125.2, 125.1, 124.4, 40.5, 40.2, 39.6, 39.5, 39.2, 39.4. HRMS (EI) calcd for C43H40O3N6: 688.3150; found 688.3156.

**Femtosecond broadband pump-probe spectroscopy.** A detailed description of our experimental setup has been given elsewhere.<sup>4</sup> The pump wavelength was set to 355 nm for all ureas. The changes in optical density were probed by a femtosecond white-light continuum (WLC) generated by tight focusing of a small fraction of the output of a commercial Ti:Sp based pump laser (CPA-2010, Clark-MXR) into a 3 mm calcium

fluoride (CaF<sub>2</sub>) plate. The WLC provides a usable probe source between 300 and 750 nm. The WLC was split into two beams (probe and reference) and focused into the sample using reflective optics. After passing through the sample both probe and reference beams were spectrally dispersed and simultaneously detected on a CCD sensor. The pump pulse (1 kHz, 400 nJ) was generated by frequency doubling of the compressed output of a home-built NOPA system (from 666 nm to 708 nm respectively, 7 µJ, 40 fs). To compensate for group velocity dispersion in the UV-pulse an additional prism compressor was used. The overall time resolution of the setup is determined by the cross correlation function between pump and probe pulses which is typically 100-120 fs (fwhm, assuming a Gaussian lineshape). A spectral resolution of 5-7 nm was obtained. All measurements were performed with magic angle (54.7°) setting for the polarization of pump with respect to the polarization of the probe pulse. A sample cell with 1.25 mm fused silica windows and an optical path of 1 mm was used for all measurements. A wire stirrer was used to ensure fresh sample volume was continuously used during the measurement.

# **Absorption Spectra**

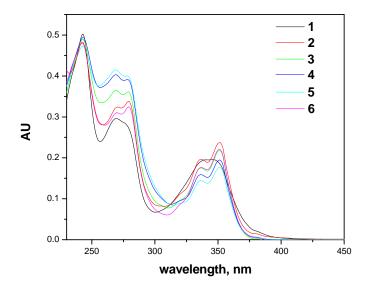
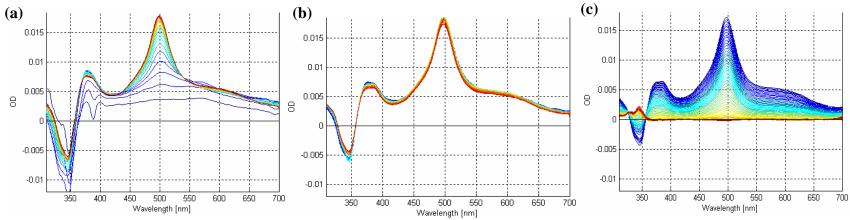
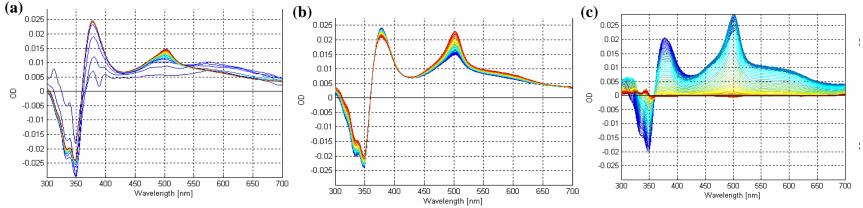


Figure A. Absorption spectra of ureas 1-6 in acetonitrile.

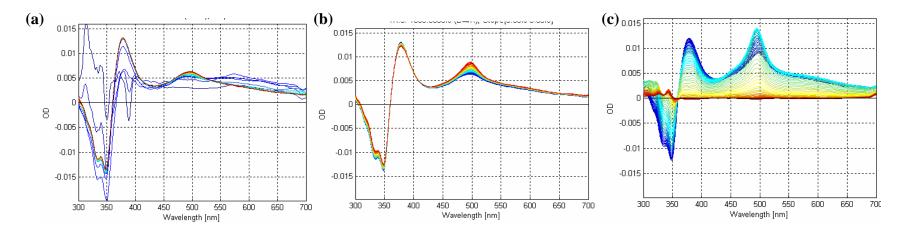
### **Transient Spectra**



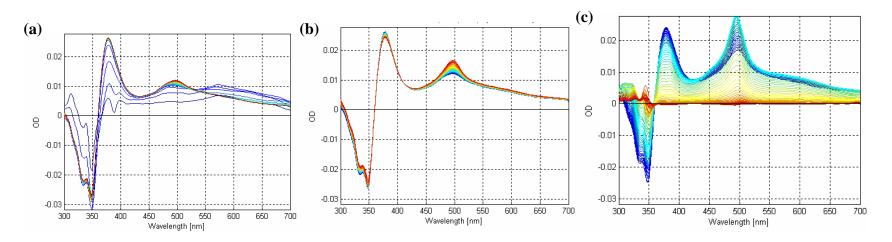
**Figure B.** Temporal evolution of the pump-probe spectra of urea **1** (a) 0-1 ps, (b) 1-5 ps, (c) 5-2000 ps in the indicated time range following 347 nm excitation in Acetonitrile. Early spectra are shown in blue/green colors and late spectra in orange/red colors.



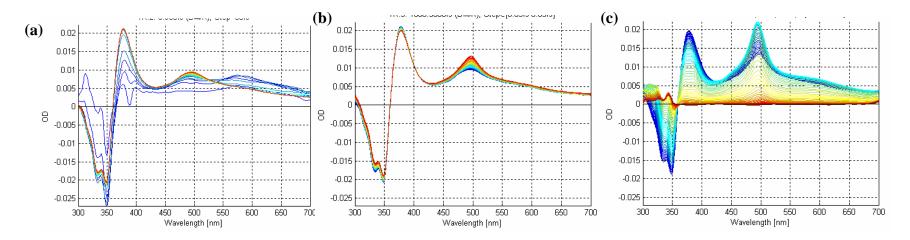
**Figure C.** Temporal evolution of the pump-probe spectra of urea **2** (a) 0-1 ps, (b) 1-5 ps, (c) 5-2000 ps in the indicated time range following 347 nm excitation in Acetonitrile. Early spectra are shown in blue/green colors and late spectra in orange/red colors.



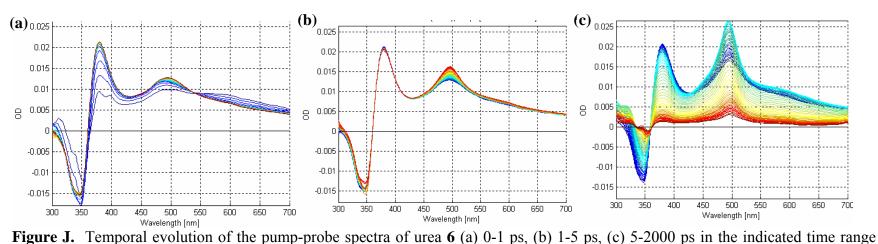
**Figure D.** Temporal evolution of the pump-probe spectra of urea **3** (a) 0-1 ps, (b) 1-5 ps, (c) 5-2000 ps in the indicated time range following 347 nm excitation in Acetonitrile. Early spectra are shown in blue/green colors and late spectra in orange/red colors.



**Figure E.** Temporal evolution of the pump-probe spectra of urea **4** (a) 0-1 ps, (b) 1-5 ps, (c) 5-2000 ps in the indicated time range following 347 nm excitation in Acetonitrile. Early spectra are shown in blue/green colors and late spectra in orange/red colors.

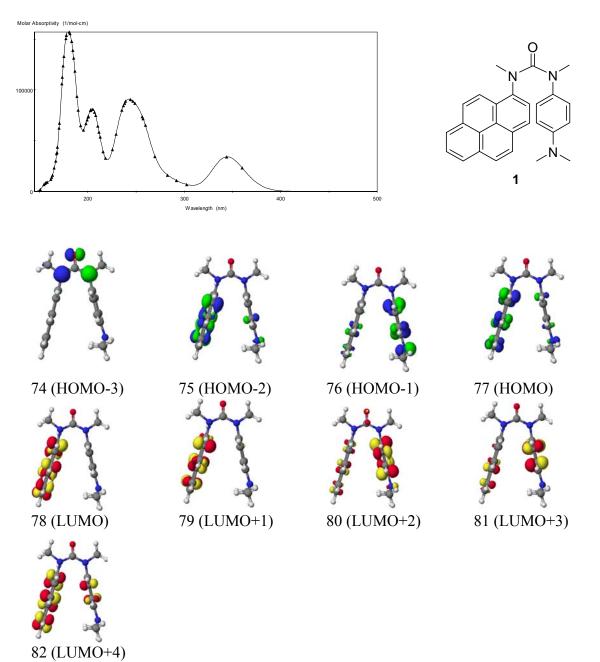


**Figure F.** Temporal evolution of the pump-probe spectra of urea **5** (a) 0-1 ps, (b) 1-5 ps, (c) 5-2000 ps in the indicated time range following 347 nm excitation in Acetonitrile. Early spectra are shown in blue/green colors and late spectra in orange/red colors.

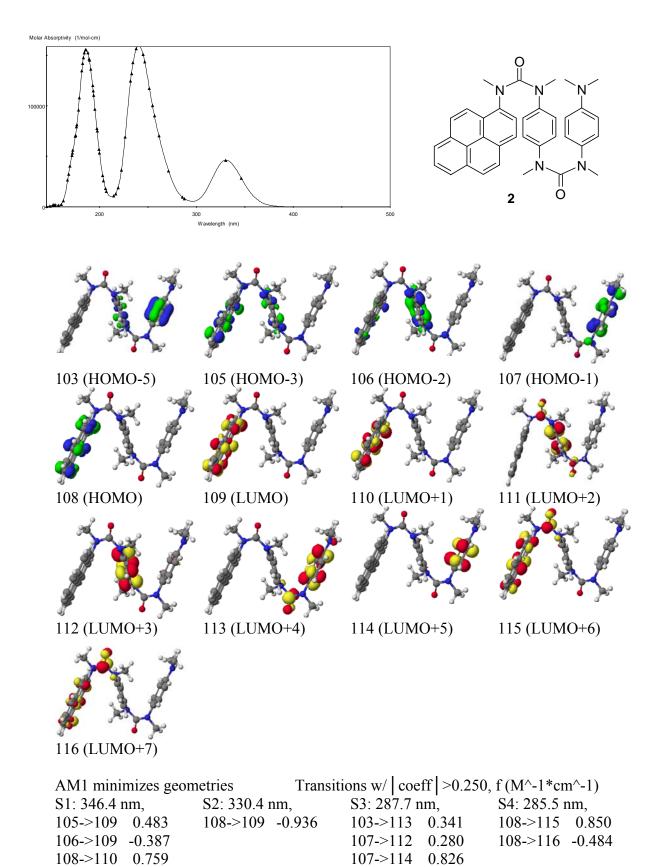


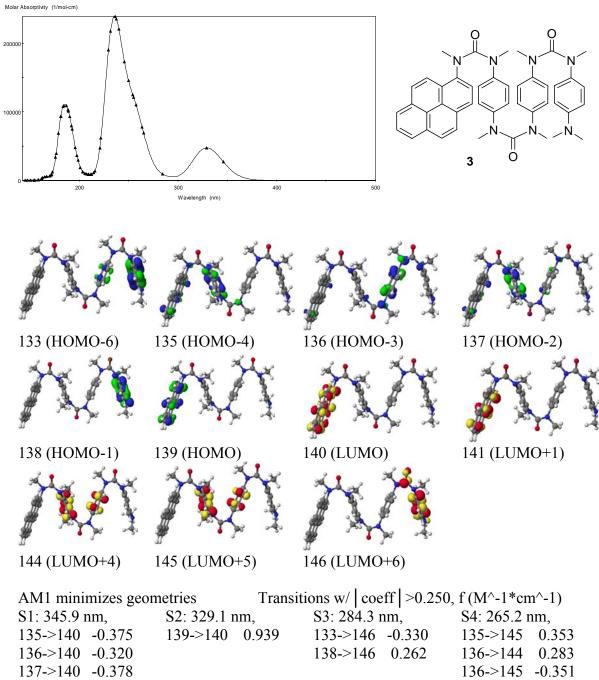
following 347 nm excitation in Acetonitrile. Early spectra are shown in blue/green colors and late spectra in orange/red colors.

# **ZINDO** Calculations



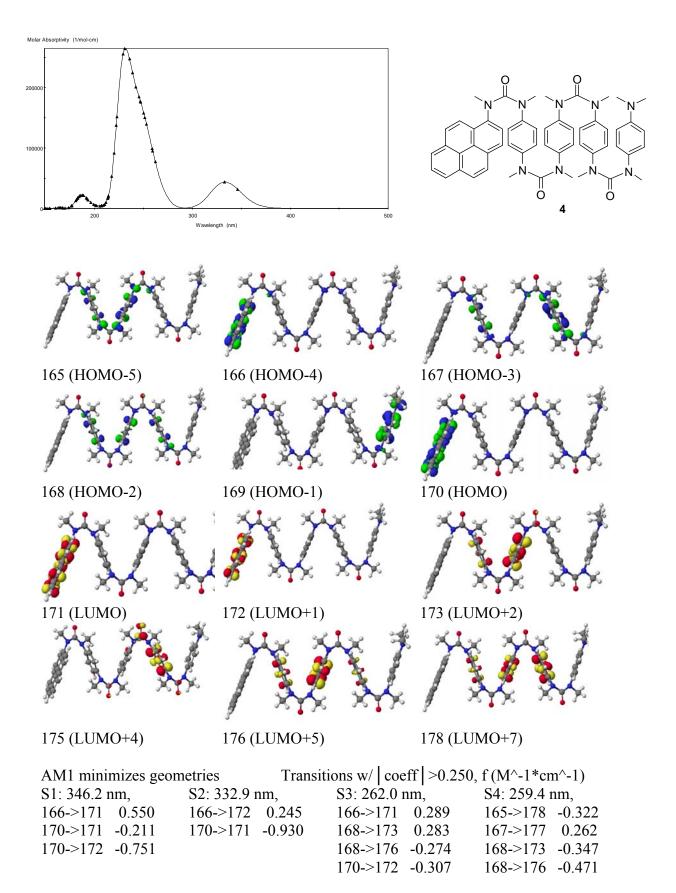
AM1 mir	nimizes geo	metries	Trans	itions w/   co	oeff   >0.25	0, f (M^-1*c	cm^-1)
S1:360.0 nm,		S2: 344.0 nm,		S3: 302.4 nm,		S4: 292.2 nm,	
75->78	-0.553	77->78	-0.914	76->81	0.466	76->81	0.314
77->78	-0.272	77->79	0.714	76->83	-0.307	77->80	-0.261
77->79	0.714			77->81	-0.583	77->81	0.256
						77->82	0.816

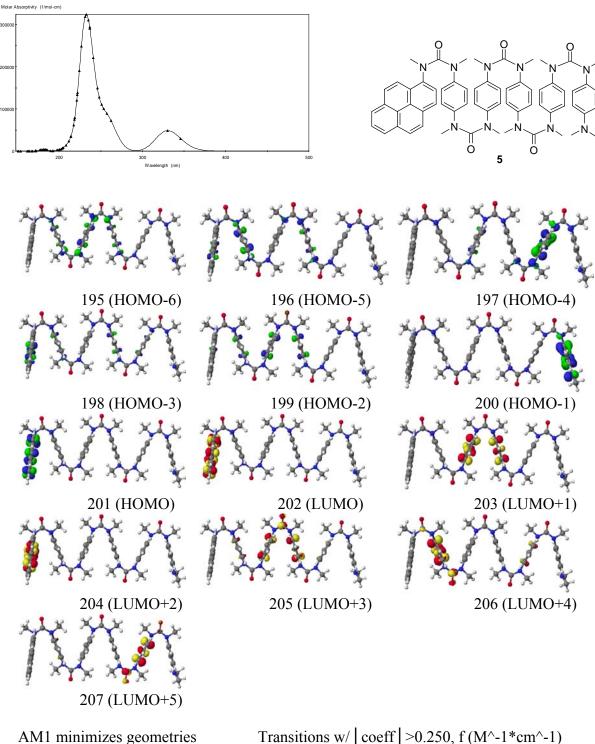




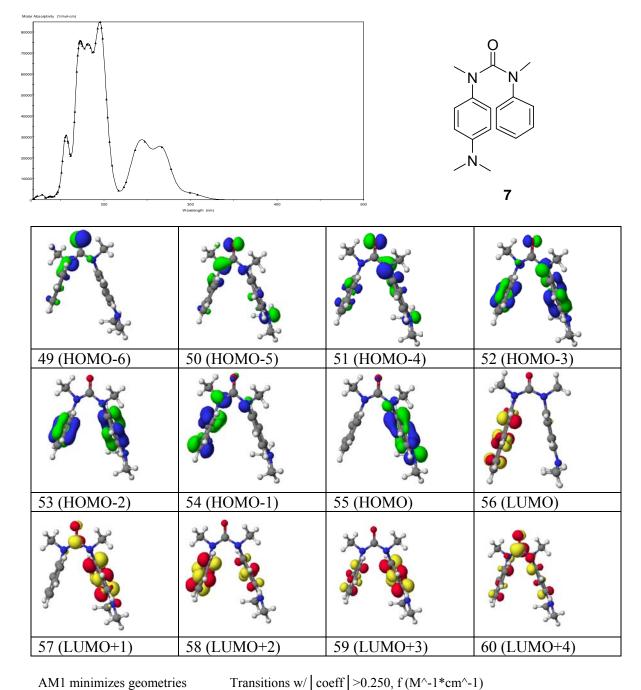
139->141 0.760

137->144 -0.522





AM1 minimizes geor	netries Transi	tions w/   coeff   >0.250	, f (M^-1*cm^-1)
S1: 345.9 nm,	S2: 330.0 nm,	S3: 262.1 nm,	S4: 257.4 nm,
196->202 0.308	201->202 0.937	195->206 0.270	197->207 0.304
198->202 0.409		196->205 -0.264	198->202 -0.329
199->202 0.269		199->203 0.412	201->206 0.254
201->204 0.764		201->206 -0.307	



AM1 minimizes geometries					
S1:360.0 nm,		S1:360.0 nm,			
49->57	-0.238	77->78	-0.914		
49->60	0.387	77->79	0.714		
50->56	0.264				
50->57	-0.264				
50->60	-0.264				
51->56	-0.264				

- 51->57 -0.264
- 51->60 -0.264

S1:360.0 nm,

S1:360.0 nm,

76->81 0.466

76->83 -0.307

77->81 -0.583

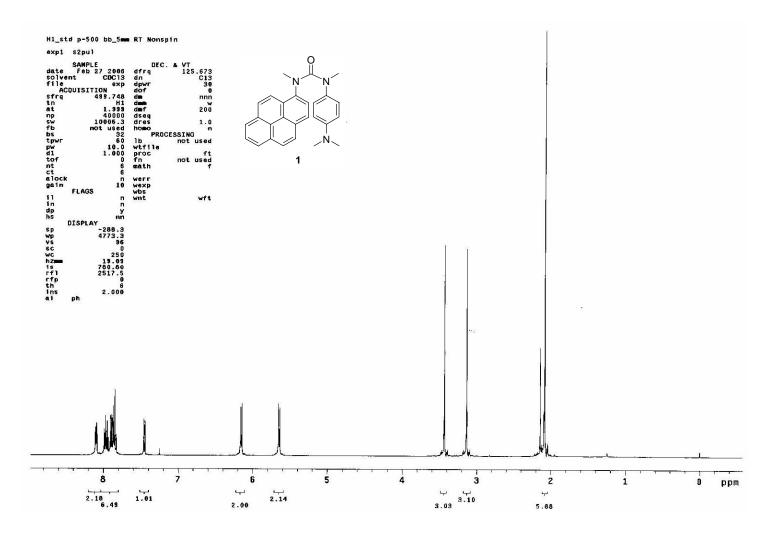
S1:360.0 nm, 76->81 0.314

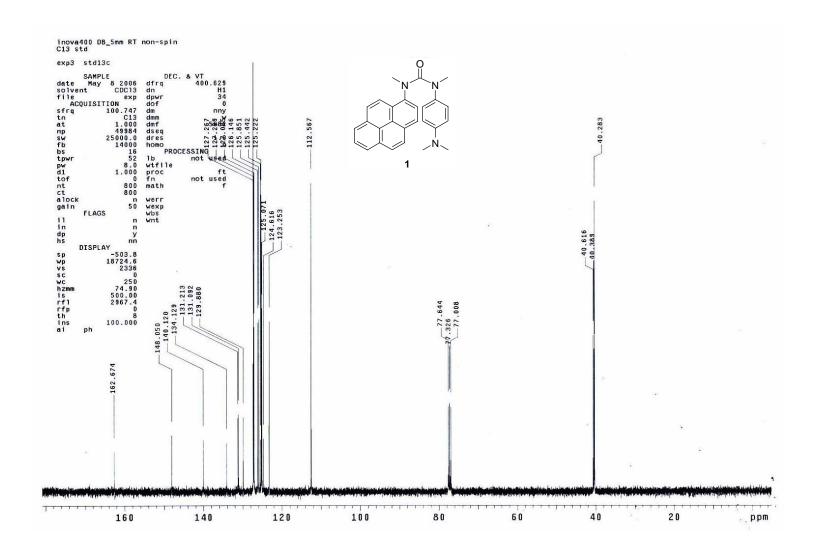
77->80 -0.261

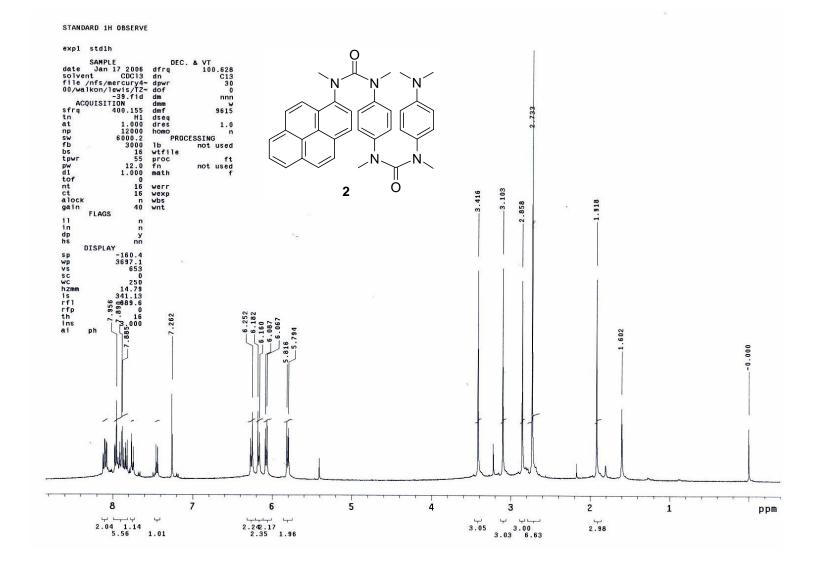
77->81 0.256

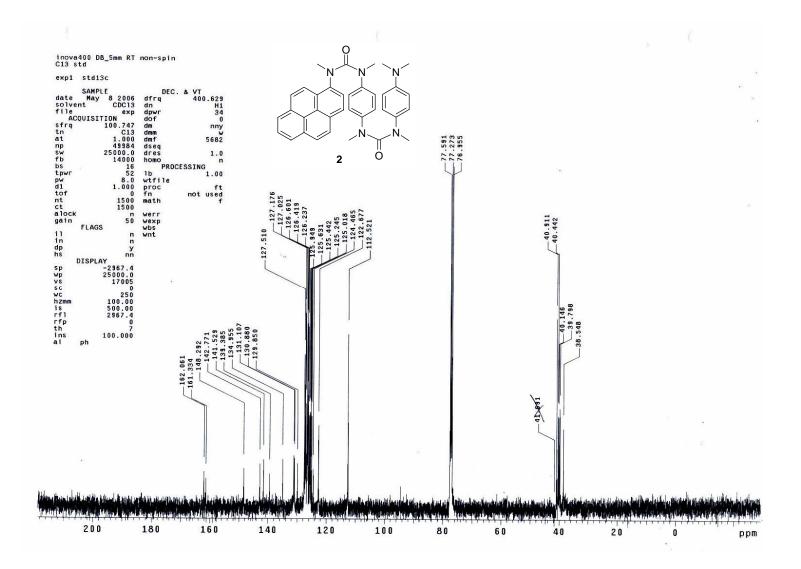
S1:360.0 nm,

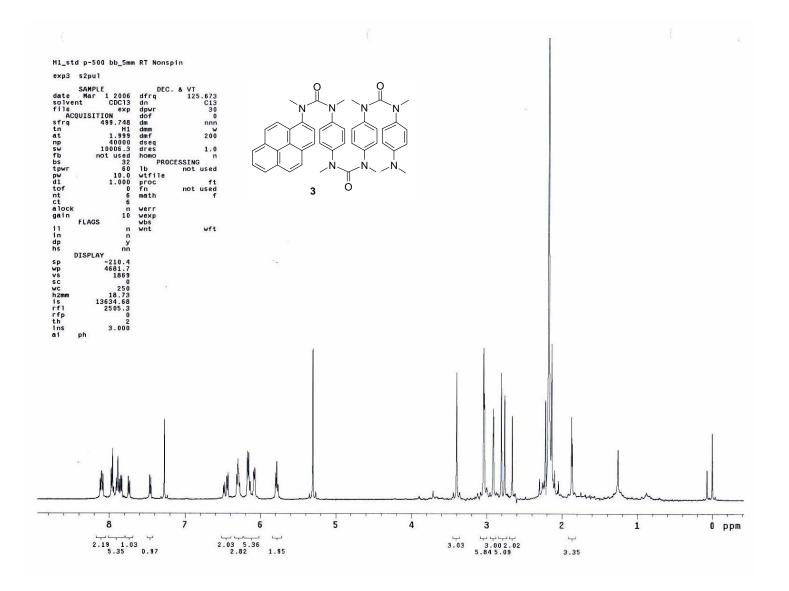


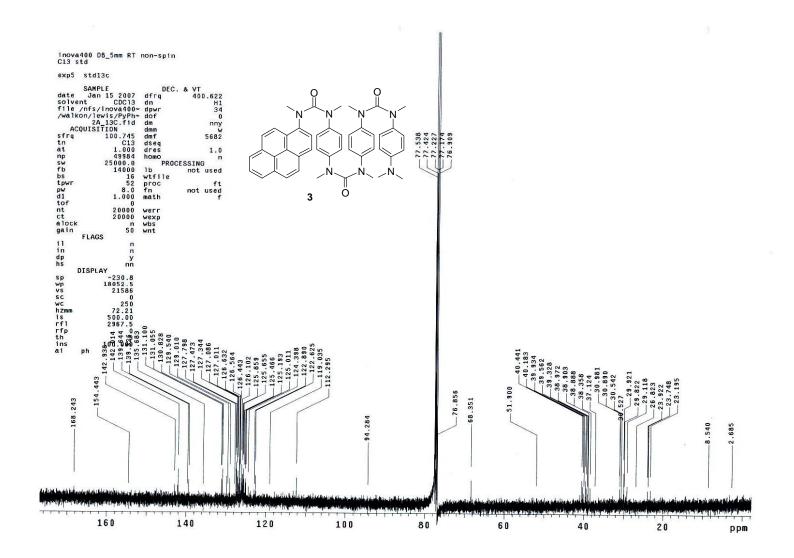


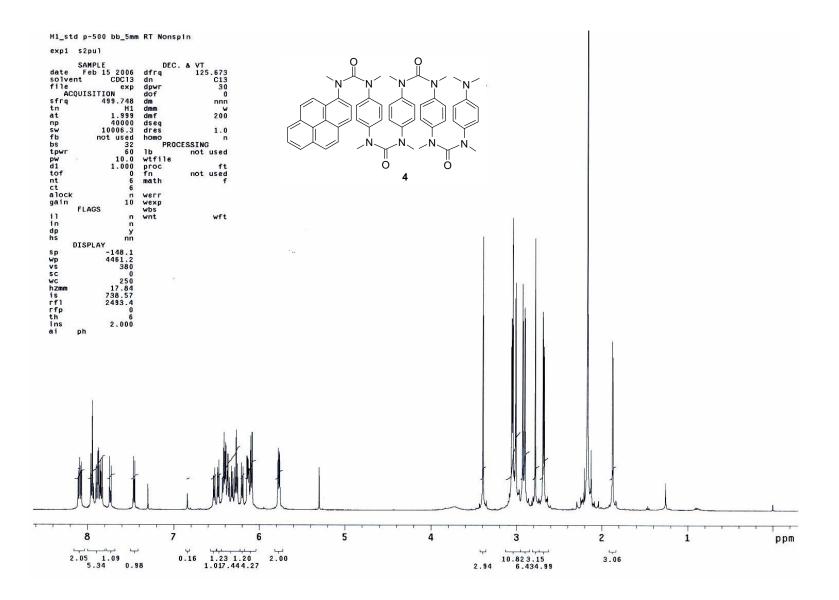


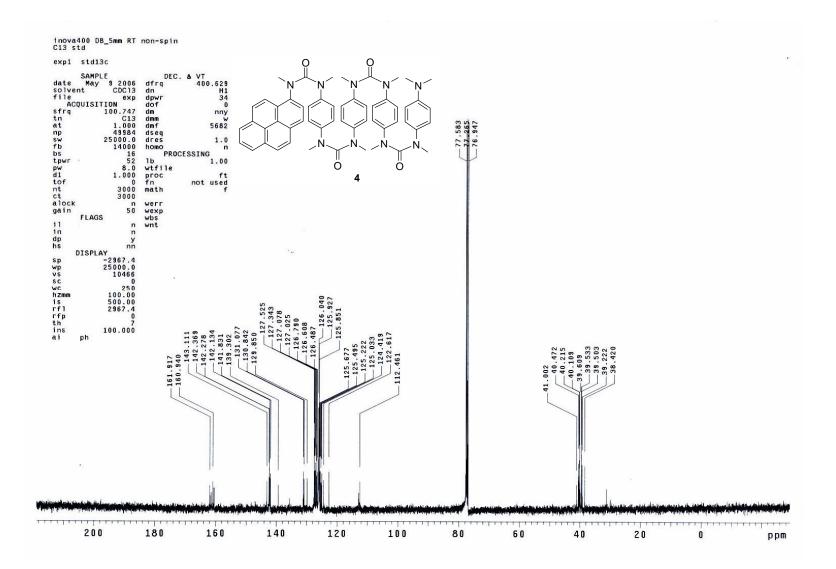


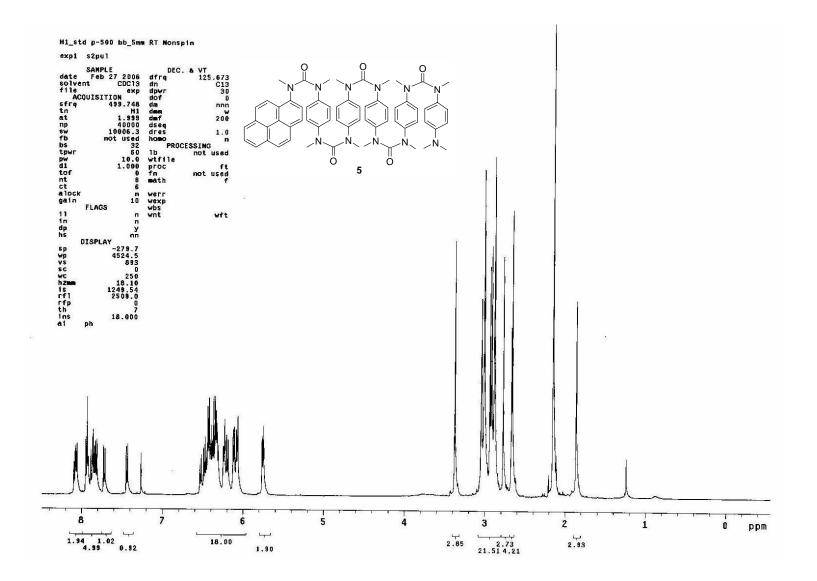


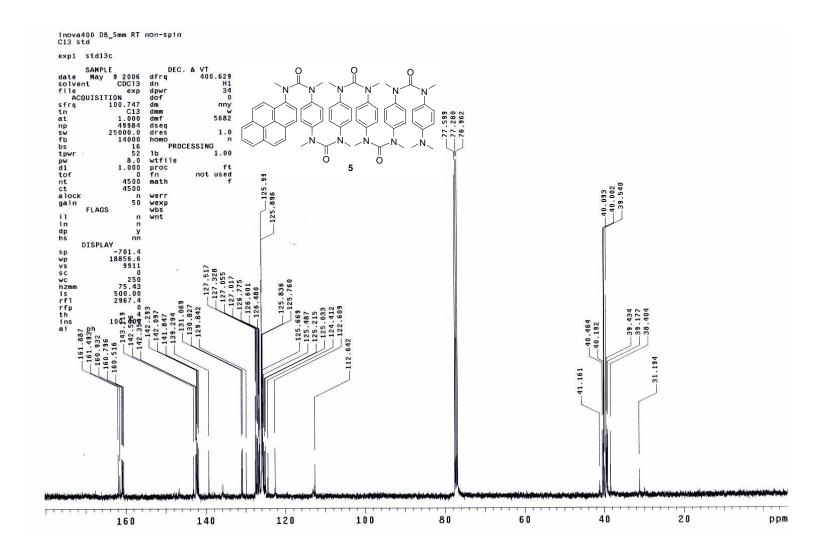


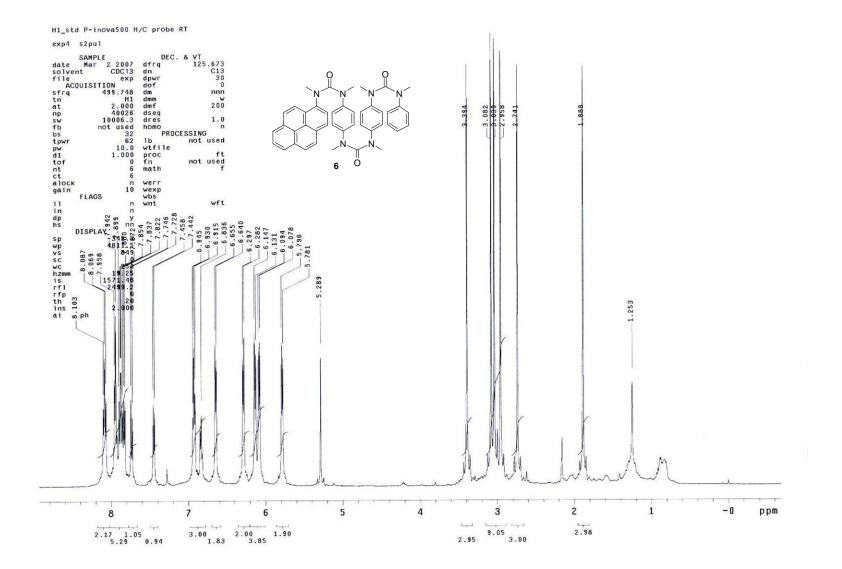


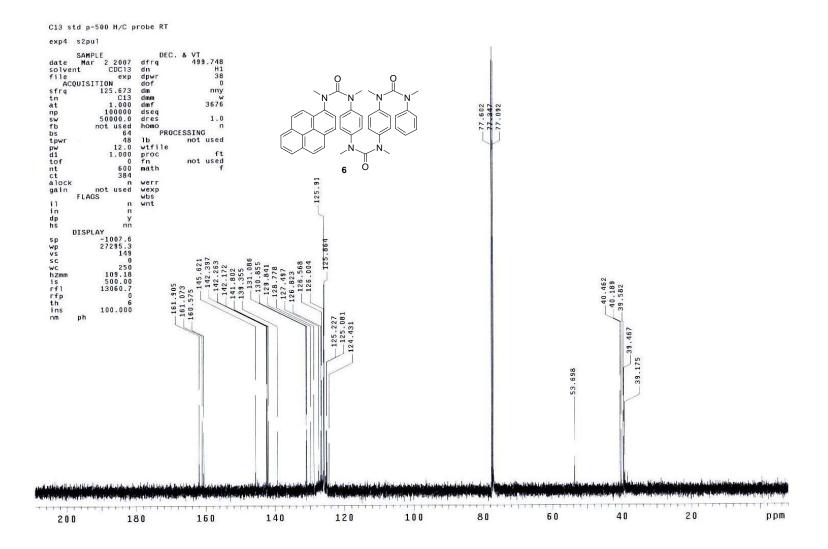












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