



## Supporting Information

for

### **Naphthalonitriles featuring efficient emission in solution and in the solid state**

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### **Experimental procedures, NMR and EM-ESI-MS spectra**

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## Section S1: Materials and methods

Chemicals were purchased from Sigma Aldrich or from TCI Chemicals and used without further purification. Reactions were carried out using dried solvents and under an atmosphere of argon. Reactions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC), which was performed on 0.2 mm Macherey-Nagel ALUGRAM precoated silica gel aluminum sheets. Spots were visualized by an UV-handlamp (254 and 365 nm). Silica gel 60 (0.063–0.200 mm) for column chromatography was purchased from Merck (mentioned as silica) was used for column chromatography, if not otherwise stated.

NMR spectra were obtained at the Institut für Anorganische und Analytische Chemie (WWU), using an Agilent DD2 500 or a Bruker Avance II 400. All measurements were performed at room temperature unless mentioned otherwise. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR chemical shifts (δ) of the signals are given in parts per million and are referenced to the residual proton signal in the deuterated solvent DCM-*d*<sub>2</sub> (<sup>1</sup>H: 5.32 ppm / <sup>13</sup>C: 54.0 ppm) or tetrahydrofuran-*d*<sub>8</sub> (<sup>1</sup>H: 3.58 ppm, 1.73 ppm / <sup>13</sup>C: 67.57 ppm, 25.37 ppm). The signal multiplicities are abbreviated as follows: s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; q, quartet; m, multiplet.

Exact mass (EM) determination by mass spectrometry (MS) was carried out at the Organisch-Chemisches Institut in Münster (WWU) using a LTQ Orbitrap LTQ XL (Thermo-Fisher Scientific, Bremen) with electron spray injection (ESI).

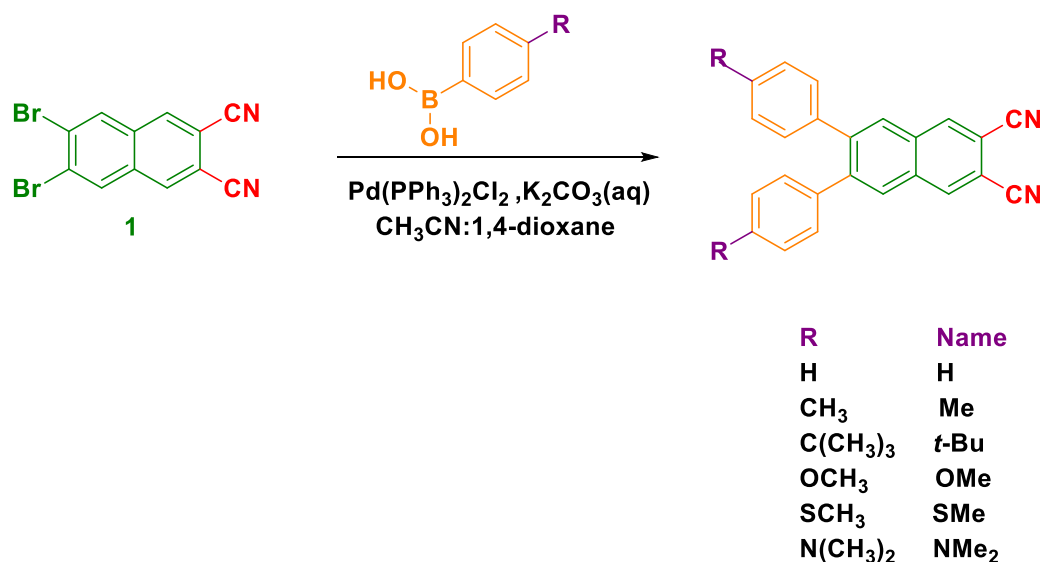
Absorption spectra were measured on a Varian Cary 100 double-beam UV–vis-NIR spectrometer and baseline-corrected. Steady-state excitation and emission spectra were recorded on a FluoTime300 spectrometer from PicoQuant equipped with a 300 W ozone-free Xe lamp (250–900 nm), a 10 W Xe flash-lamp (250–900 nm, pulse width <10  $\mu$ s) with repetition rates of 0.1–300 Hz, an excitation monochromator (Czerny–Turner 2.7 nm/mm dispersion, 1200 grooves/mm, blazed at 300 nm), diode lasers (pulse width <80 ps) operated by a computer-controlled laser driver PDL-820 (repetition rate up to 80 MHz, burst mode for slow and weak decays), two emission monochromators (Czerny–Turner, selectable gratings blazed at 500 nm with 2.7 nm/mm dispersion and 1200 grooves/mm, or blazed at 1250 nm with 5.4 nm/mm dispersion and 600 grooves/mm), Glan–Thompson polarizers for excitation (Xe-lamps) and emission, a Peltier-thermostatized sample holder from Quantum Northwest (–40 °C–105 °C), and two detectors, namely a PMA Hybrid 40 (transit time spread FWHM < 120 ps, 300–720 nm) and a R5509-42 NIR-photomultiplier tube (transit time spread FWHM 1.5 ns, 300–1400 nm) with external cooling (–80 °C) from Hamamatsu. Steady-state and fluorescence lifetimes were recorded in TCSPC mode by a PicoHarp 300 (minimum base resolution 4 ps). Emission and excitation spectra were corrected for source intensity (lamp and grating) by standard correction curves. Lifetime analysis was performed using the commercial FluoFit software. The quality of the fit was assessed by minimizing the reduced chi squared function ( $\chi^2$ ) and visual inspection of the weighted residuals and their autocorrelation. Luminescence quantum yields were measured with a Hamamatsu Photonics absolute PL quantum yield measurement system (C9920-02) equipped with a L9799-01 CW Xenon light source (150 W), monochromator, C7473 photonic multi-channel analyzer, integrating sphere and employing U6039-05 PLQY measurement software (Hamamatsu Photonics, Ltd., Shizuoka, Japan). All solvents used were of spectrometric grade (Uvasol®).

Dynamic Light Scattering (DLS) measurements were performed in a Zetasizer Ultra® with XS Explorer® software (Malvern Panalytical). Measurements were performed in Forward Scattering mode (173 °) Samples were measured in 1 cm optic path quartz cuvettes at 25 °C with a stabilization time of 2 min. All sample were measured in triplicate.

## Section S2: Synthesis and characterization of *p*-phenyl substituted 2,3-dicyano-6,7-diphenylnaphthalenes

### General Procedure:

6,7-dibromonaphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**1**) was synthesized according to the published procedure [1–3]. The *p*-phenyl-2,3-disubstituted-6,7-diphenylnaphthalenes were synthesized by the Suzuki-Miyaura reaction from 6,7-dibromo-2,3-dicyanonaphthalene (**1**) with the corresponding boronic acids (Scheme 1). A mixture of **1** (1 equiv), the corresponding *p*-substituted-phenylboronic acid (4 equiv.) and a saturated aqueous solution of K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (5 mL) were stirred in 50 mL of boiling mixture 1,4-dioxane:acetonitrile (8:3 v/v) under argon. The dichloro-bis(triphenylphosphine) palladium (0.01 equiv) was added to the boiling mixture. The reaction was carried out for 6 h (TLC control: Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, F<sub>254</sub>, ethyl acetate/hexane 1:4). Water was added into the reaction mixture when it was reached room temperature. The product was collected by extraction with dichloromethane and the organic layer was dried with anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The residue was treated by flash chromatography in silica (ethyl acetate/hexane 1:2) to remove gross impurities. The resulting compound was additionally purified by chromatography on a column with silica using DCM as the eluent to obtain the corresponding *p*-phenyl-6,7-disubstituted naphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile.

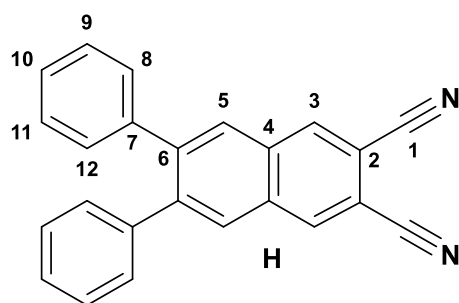


**Scheme 1:** Synthesis of *p*-phenyl-6,7-disubstituted naphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile.



## Synthesis:

### Synthesis of 6,7-diphenylnaphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**H**):



**H** was synthesized according to a modified literature procedure [3] using 6,7-dibromonaphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (50 mg, 0.15 mmol) and phenylboronic acid (72 mg, 0.6 mmol). Molecular formula: C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub> (pale yellow solid); yield: 61 % (30 mg, 0.09 mmol).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, THF-d<sub>8</sub>), δ (ppm) = 8.62 (s, 2H, 3-H), 8.13 (s, 2H, 5-H), 7.27 – 7.24 (m, 6H, 9/10/11-H), 7.26 – 7.19 (m, 4H, 8/12-H).

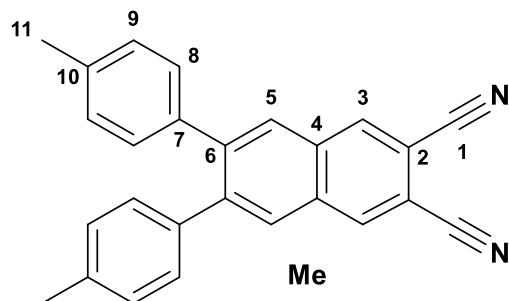
<sup>13</sup>C-{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (126 MHz, THF-d<sub>8</sub>), δ (ppm) = 144.90(C-6), 140.97(C-7), 136.69(C-4), 133.55(C-3), 130.98(C-5), 130.65(C-10), 128.97(C-8), 128.31(C-9), 116.70(C-1), 111.20(C-2).

**MS-ESI-EM** (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, M = C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>)

m/z (%) calcd.: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> = 353.10492.

m/z (%) found: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> = 353.10485.

### Synthesis of 6,7-di-*p*-tolyl naphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**Me**):



**Me** was synthesized according to the general procedure using 6,7-dibromonaphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (50 mg, 0.15 mmol) and *p*-tolylboronic acid (81 mg, 0.6 mmol). Molecular formula: C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub> (pale yellow solid); yield: 58% (31 mg, 0.08 mmol).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, THF-d<sub>8</sub>), δ (ppm) = 8.57 (s, 2H, H<sub>3</sub>), 8.05 (s, 2H, 5-H), 7.08 (q, J = 8.1 Hz, 8H, 8/9-H), 2.29 (s, 6H, 11-H).

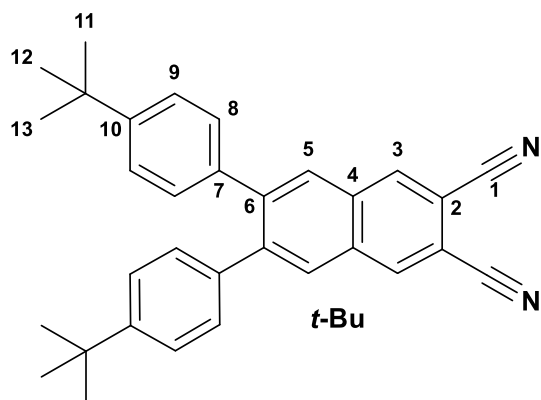
<sup>13</sup>C-{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (126 MHz, THF-d<sub>8</sub>), δ (ppm) = 144.91(C-6), 138.16 (C-7), 138.10 (C-10), 136.61(C-3), 133.46(C-4), 130.84(C-5), 130.50(C-8), 129.66(C-9), 116.74(C-1), 110.96(C-2), 21.17(C-11).

**MS-ESI-EM** (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, M = C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>)

m/z (%) calcd.: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> = 381.13622.

m/z (%) found: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> = 381.13614.

### Synthesis of 6,7-bis(4-(*tert*-butyl)phenyl)naphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (*t*-Bu):



***t*-Bu** was synthesized according to a modified literature procedure [2] using 6,7-dibromonaphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (50 mg, 0.15 mmol) and (4-(*tert*-butyl)phenyl)boronic acid (106 mg, 0.6 mmol). Molecular formula: C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>2</sub> (pale yellow solid); yield: 59% (38 mg, 0.08 mmol).

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (500 MHz, DCM-d<sub>2</sub>), δ (ppm) = 8.39 (s, 2H, 3-H), 8.00 (s, 2H, 5-H), 7.31 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 4H, 8-H), 7.15 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 4H, 9-H), 1.31 (s, 18H, 12/13/14-H).

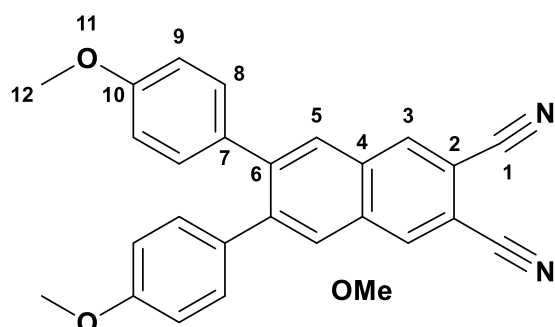
**<sup>13</sup>C-{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR** (126 MHz, DCM-d<sub>2</sub>), δ (ppm) = 151.44(C-10), 144.99(C-7), 137.42(C-6), 136.26(C-3), 132.92(C-4), 130.46(C-5), 129.94(C-8), 125.65(C-9), 116.84(C-1), 110.43(C-2), 35.01(C-11), 31.56(C-12,13,14).

**MS-ESI-EM** (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, M = C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>2</sub>)

m/z (%) calcd.: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> = 465.23012.

m/z (%) found: [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> = 465.22998.

### Synthesis of 6,7-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)naphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (OMe):



**OMe** was synthesized according to the general procedure using 6,7-dibromonaphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (50 mg, 0.15 mmol) and (4-methoxyphenyl)boronic acid (91 mg, 0.6 mmol). Molecular formula: C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (pale yellow solid); yield: 51% (29 mg, 0.07 mmol).

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (500 MHz, DCM-d<sub>2</sub>), δ (ppm) = 8.37 (s, 2H, 3-H), 7.96 (s, 2H, 5-H), 7.18 – 7.12 (m, 4H, 8-H), 6.86 – 6.82 (m, 4H, 9-H), 3.80 (s, 6H, 12-H).

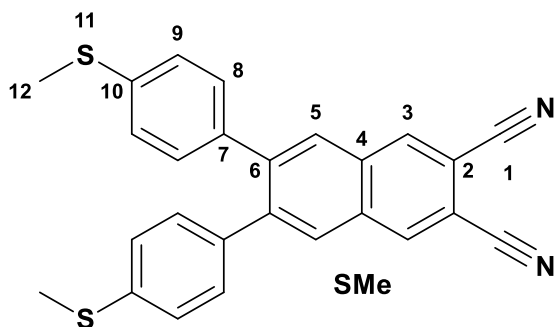
**<sup>13</sup>C-{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR** (126 MHz, DCM-d<sub>2</sub>), δ (ppm) = 159.76(C-10), 144.47(C-6), 136.01(C-3), 132.72(C-4), 132.54(C-7), 131.34(C-8), 130.13(C-5), 116.69(C-1), 114.09(C-9), 110.16(C-2), 55.65(C-12).

**MS-ESI-EM** (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, M = C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>)

m/z (%) calcd.: [M] = 390.13628.

m/z (%) found: [M] = 390.13624.

### Synthesis of 6,7-bis(4-(methylthio)phenyl)naphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (SMe):



**SMe** was synthesized according to the general procedure using 6,7-dibromonaphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (50 mg, 0.15 mmol) and (4-(methylthio)phenyl)boronic acid (100 mg, 0.6 mmol). Molecular formula:  $C_{26}H_{18}N_2S_2$  (pale yellow solid); yield: 56% (35 mg, 0.08 mmol).

$^1H$  NMR (400 MHz, THF- $d_8$ ),  $\delta$  (ppm) = 8.61 (s, 2H, 3-H), 8.10 (s, 2H, 5-H), 7.20-7.15 (m, 8H, 9/8-H), 2.46 (s, 6H, 12-H).

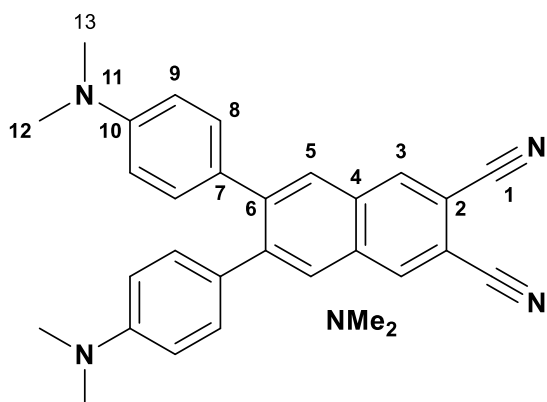
$^{13}C$ - $\{^1H\}$ -NMR (101 MHz, THF- $d_8$ ),  $\delta$  (ppm) = 144.39(C-6), 140.20(C-10), 137.37(C-7), 136.80(C-3), 133.69(C-4), 131.14 (C-5), 131.11 (C-8), 126.68(C-9), 116.88(C-1), 111.29(C-2), 15.18(C-12).

**MS-ESI-EM** ( $CH_2Cl_2$ ,  $M = C_{26}H_{18}N_2S_2$ )

$m/z$  (%) calcd.:  $[M + Na]^+ = 445.08036$ .

$m/z$  (%) found:  $[M + Na]^+ = 445.08025$ .

### Synthesis of 6,7-bis(4-(dimethylamino)phenyl)naphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (NMe<sub>2</sub>):



**NMe<sub>2</sub>** was synthesized according to the general procedure using 6,7-dibromonaphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (50 mg, 0.15 mmol) and (4-(dimethylamino)phenyl)boronic acid (98 mg, 0.6 mmol). Molecular formula:  $C_{28}H_{24}N_4$  (yellow solid); yield: 63% (39 mg, 0.09 mmol).

$^1H$  NMR (400 MHz, DCM- $d_2$ ),  $\delta$  (ppm) = 8.30 (s, 2H, 3-H), 7.88 (s, 2H, 5-H), 7.15 – 7.09 (m, 4H, 8-H), 6.69 – 6.61 (m, 4H, 9-H), 2.96 (s, 12H, 12-H).

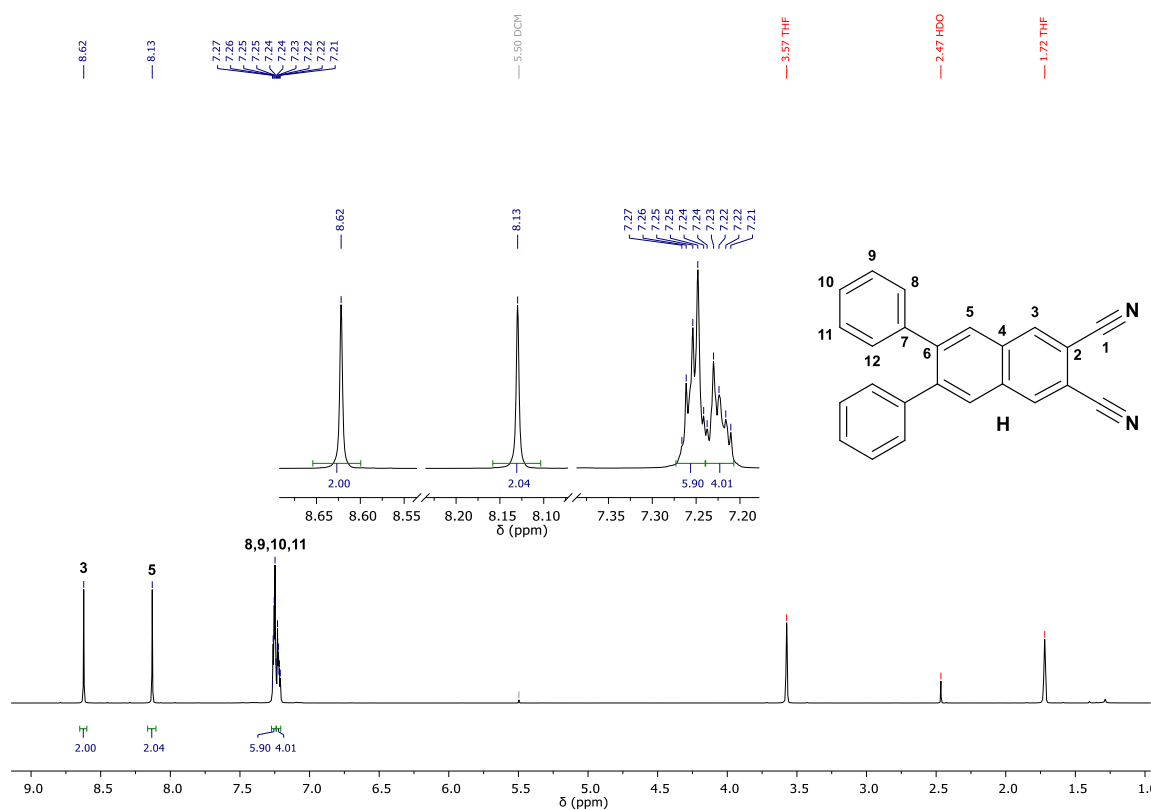
$^{13}C$ - $\{^1H\}$ -NMR (101 MHz, DCM- $d_2$ ),  $\delta$  (ppm) = 150.36(C-10), 145.08(C-6), 135.81(C-3), 132.55(C-4), 130.88(C-8), 129.70(C-5), 128.09(C-7), 116.90(C-1), 112.19(C-9), 109.49(C-2), 40.49(C-12).

**MS-ESI-EM** ( $CH_2Cl_2$ ,  $M = C_{28}H_{24}N_4$ )

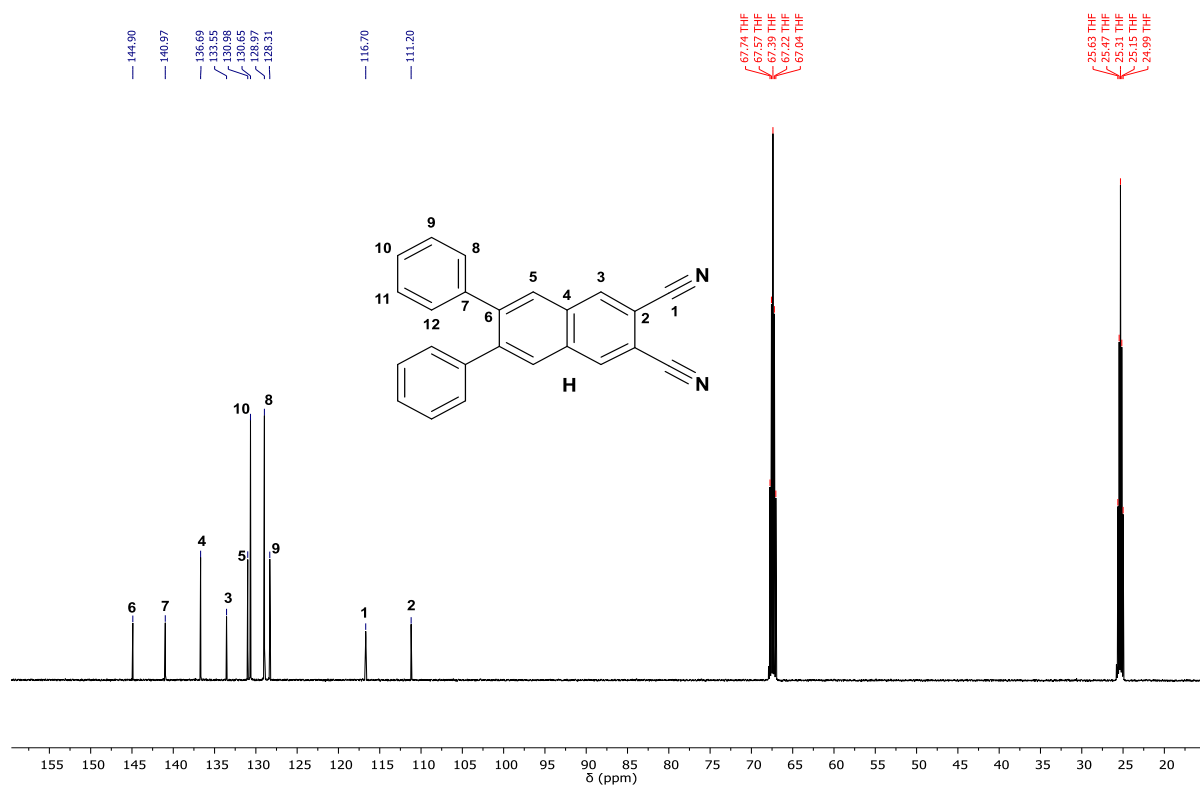
$m/z$  (%) calcd.:  $[M + H]^+ = 417.20737$ .

$m/z$  (%) found:  $[M + H]^+ = 417.20710$ .

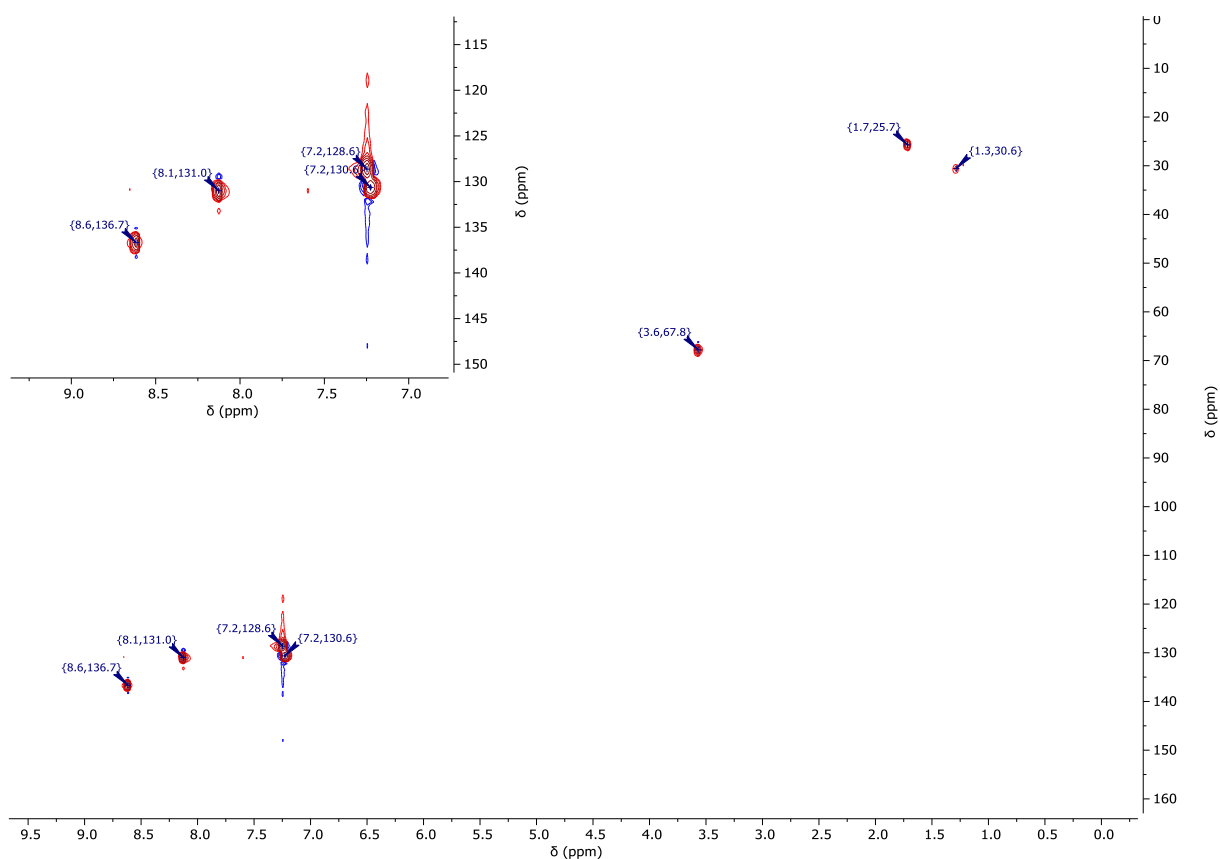
## Section S3: NMR spectra of H, Me, *t*-Bu, OMe, SMe & NMe<sub>2</sub>



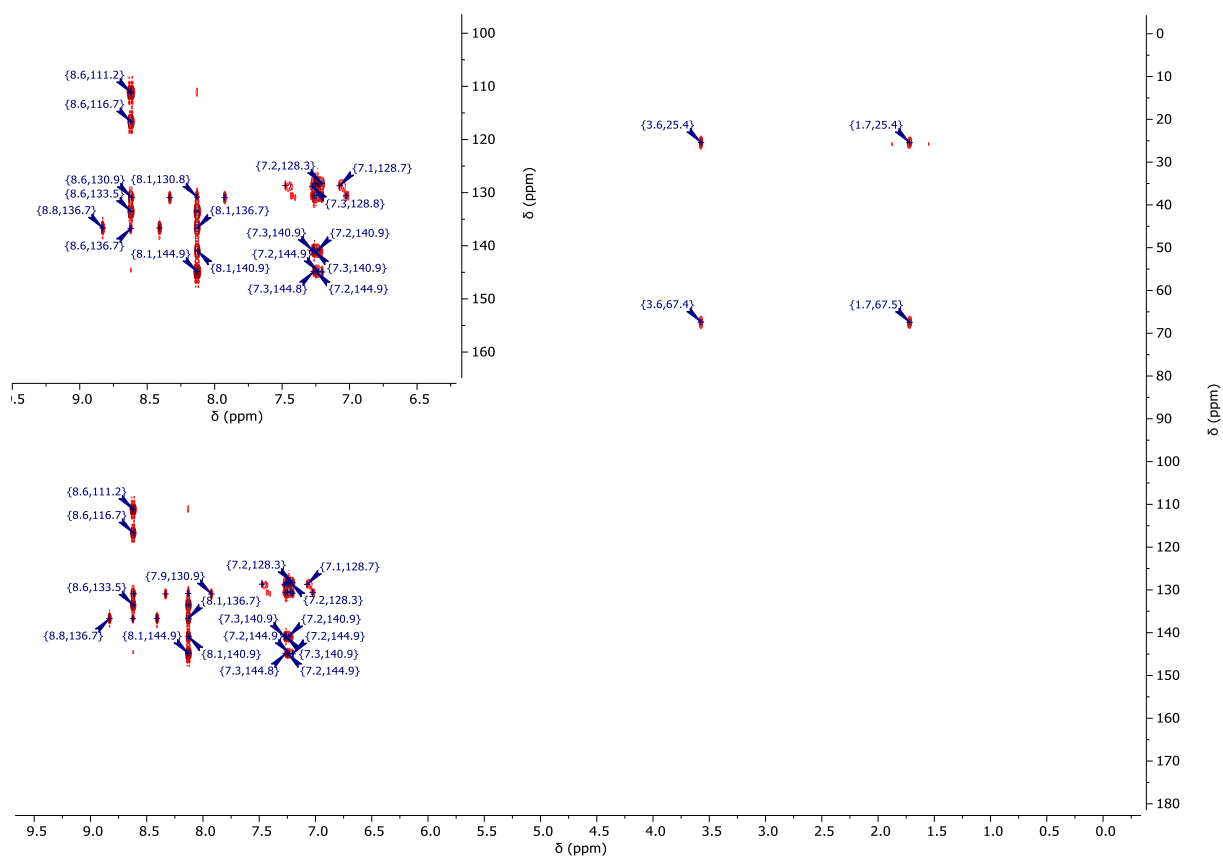
**Figure S1:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (500 MHz, THF-*d*<sub>8</sub>) of 6,7-diphenylnaphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**H**).



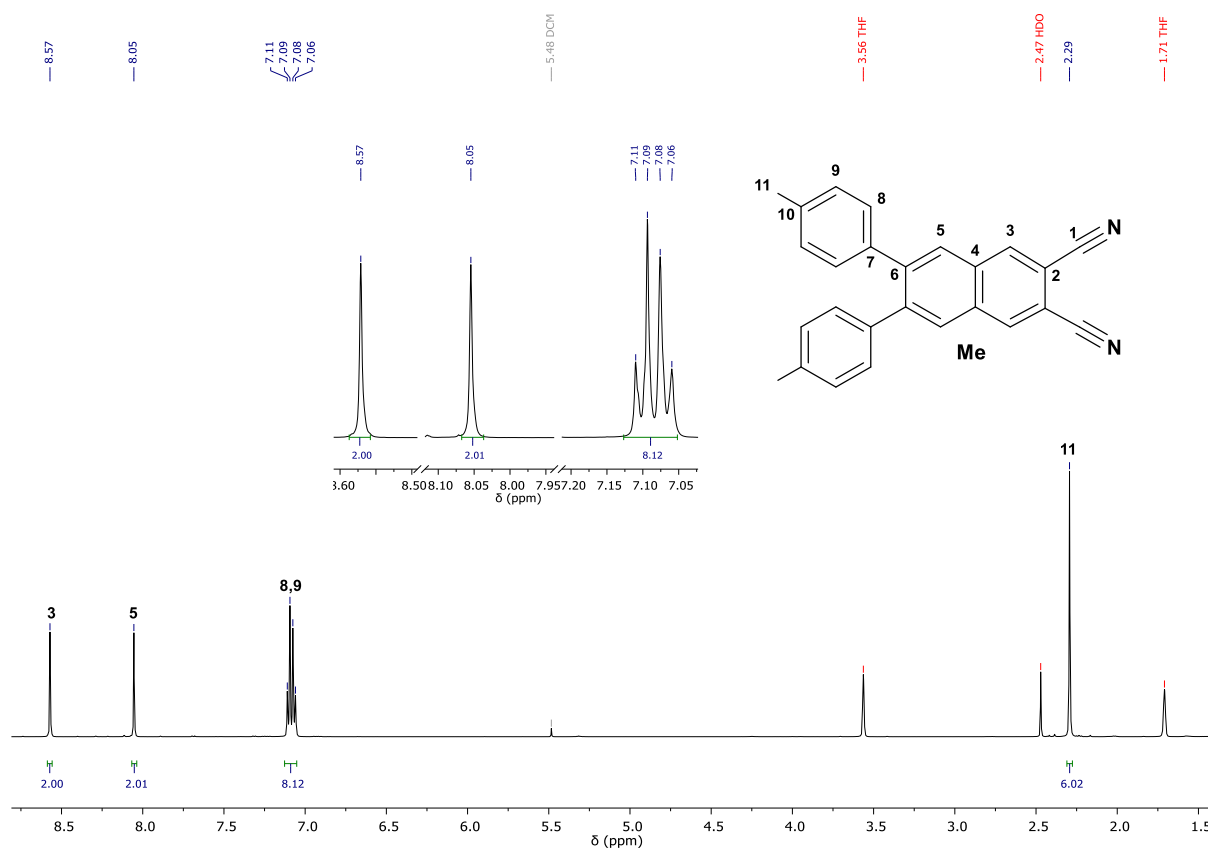
**Figure S2:** <sup>13</sup>C {<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum (126 MHz, THF-*d*<sub>8</sub>) of 6,7-diphenylnaphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**H**).



**Figure S3:**  $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$  gHSQC NMR spectrum (400 MHz/101 MHz,  $\text{THF-d}_8$ ) of 6,7-diphenylnaphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**H**).



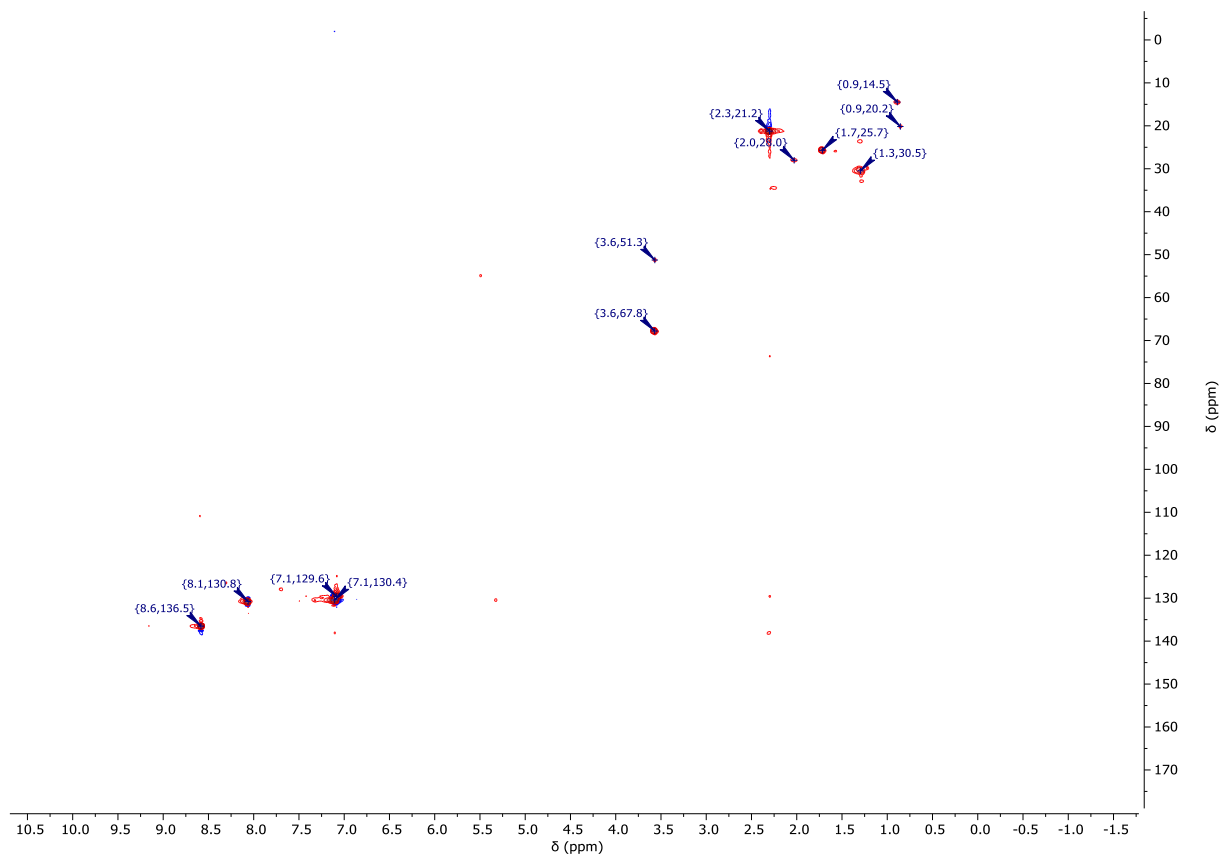
**Figure S4:**  $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$  gHMBC NMR spectrum (400 MHz/101 MHz,  $\text{THF-d}_8$ ) of 6,7-diphenylnaphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**H**).



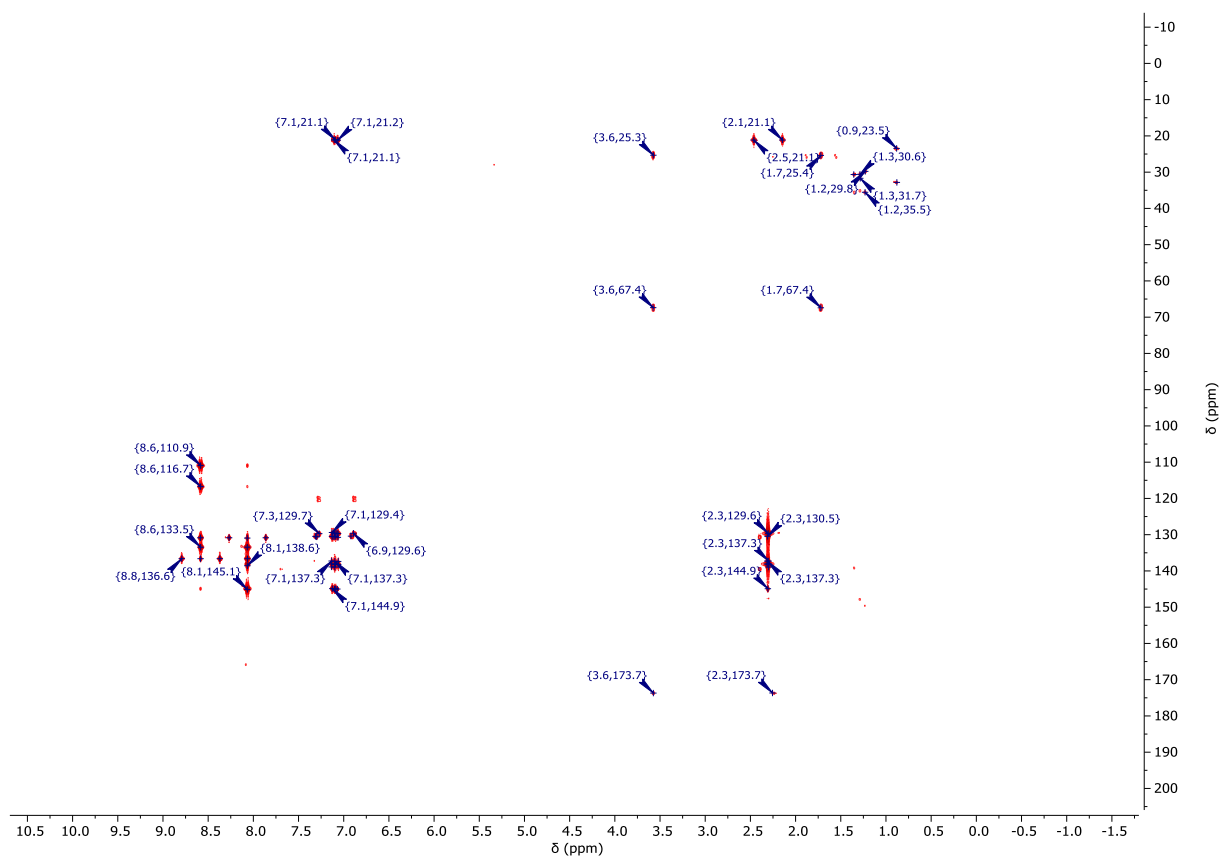
**Figure S5:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (500 MHz,  $\text{THF-d}_8$ ) of 6,7-di-*p*-tolynaphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**Me**).



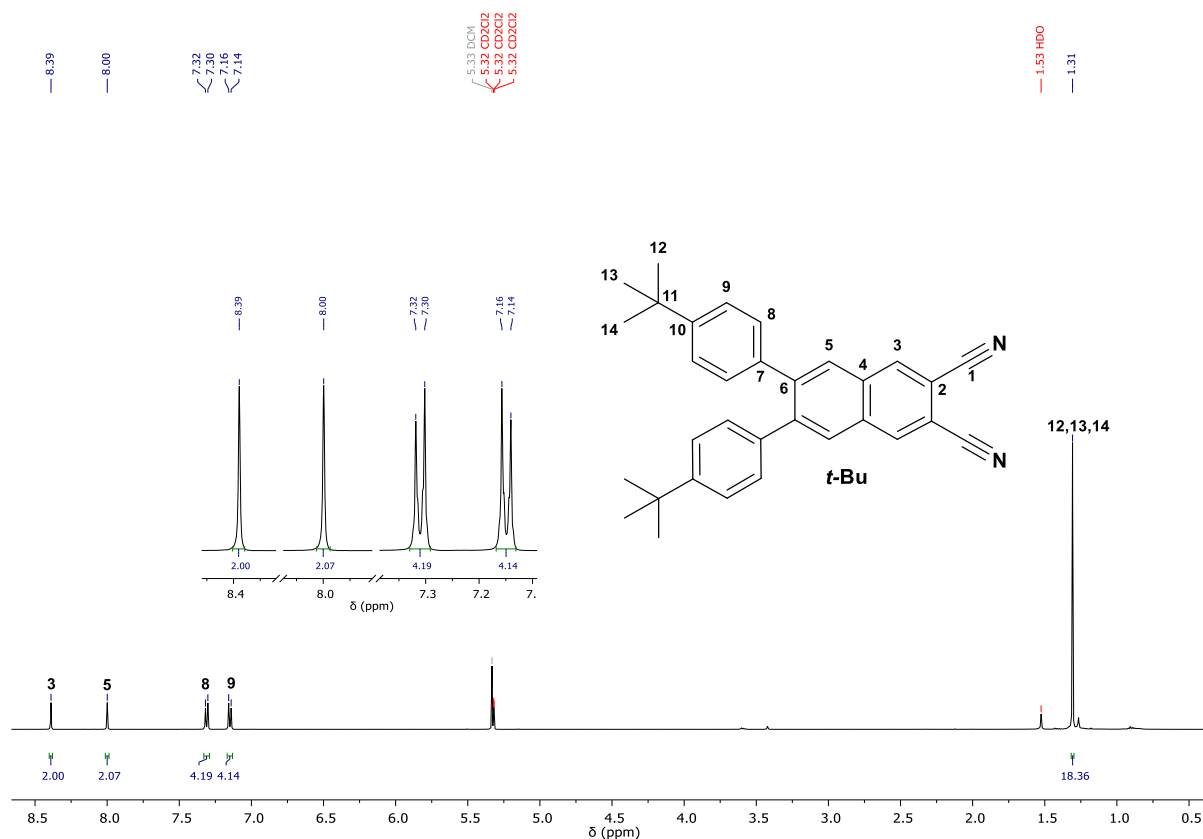
**Figure S6:**  $^{13}\text{C}$   $\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum (126 MHz,  $\text{THF-d}_8$ ) of 6,7-di-*p*-tolynaphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**Me**).



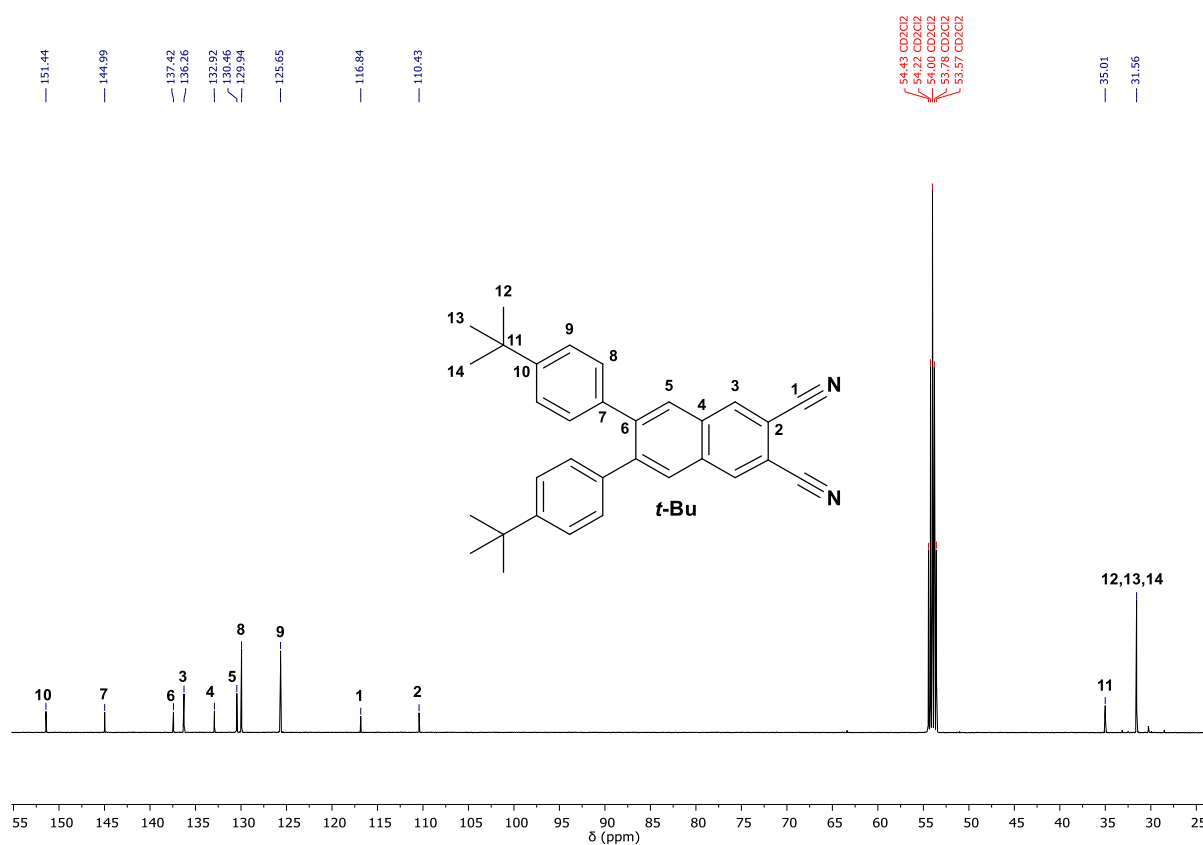
**Figure S7:**  $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$  gHSQC NMR spectrum (400 MHz/101 MHz,  $\text{THF-d}_8$ ) of 6,7-di-*p*-tolynaphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**Me**).



**Figure S8:**  $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$  gHMBC NMR spectrum (400 MHz/101 MHz,  $\text{THF-d}_8$ ) of 6,7-di-*p*-tolynaphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**Me**).

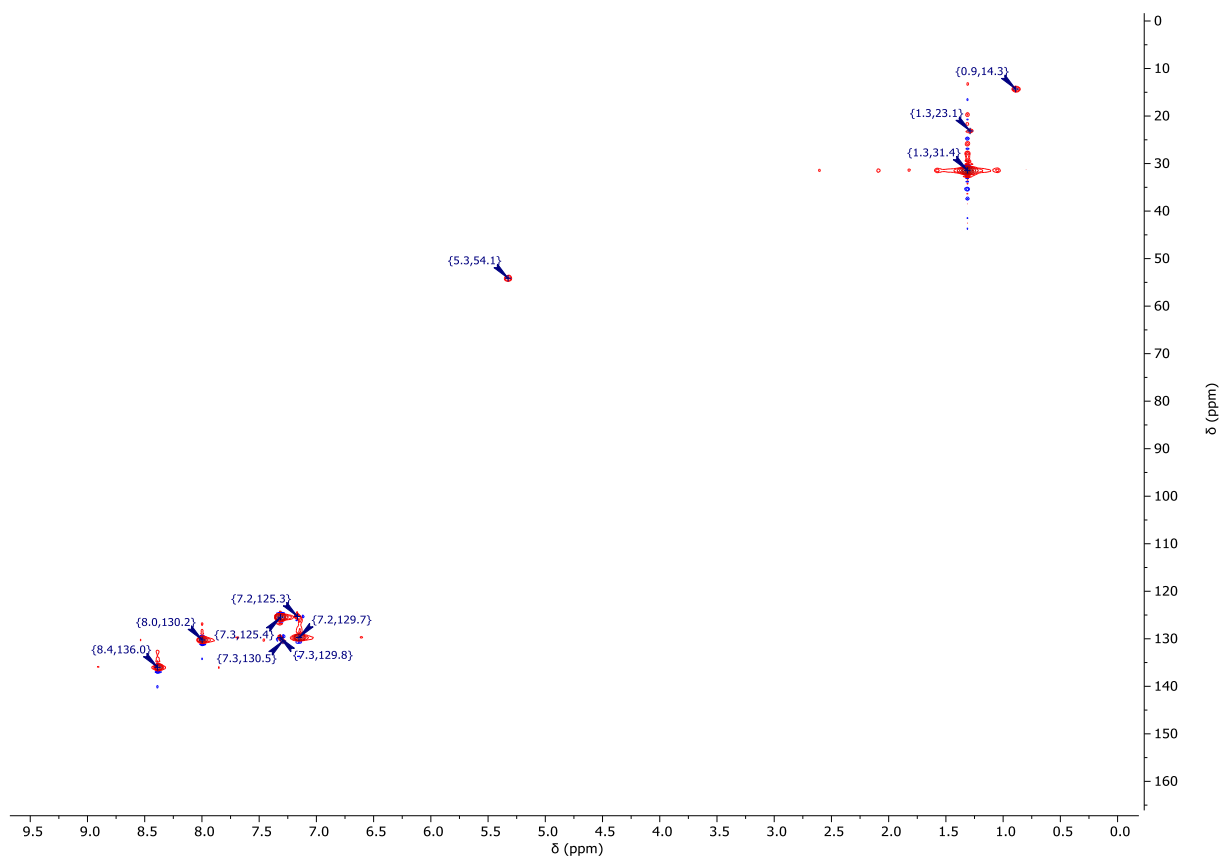


**Figure S9:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (500 MHz,  $\text{DCM-d}_2$ ) of 6,7-bis(4-(*tert*-butyl)phenyl)naphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**t-Bu**).

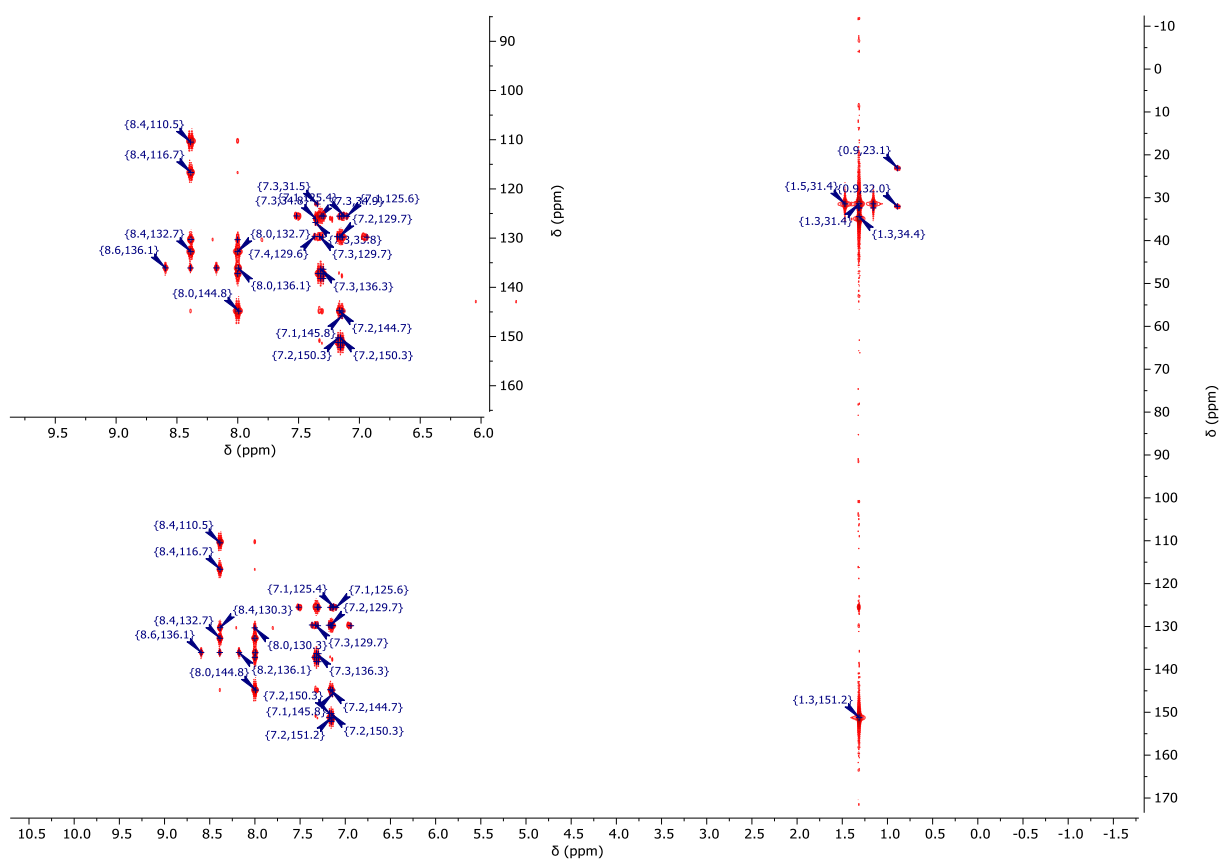


**Figure S10:**  $^{13}\text{C}$   $\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum (126 MHz,  $\text{DCM-d}_2$ ) of 6,7-bis(4-(*tert*-butyl)phenyl)naphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**t-Bu**).

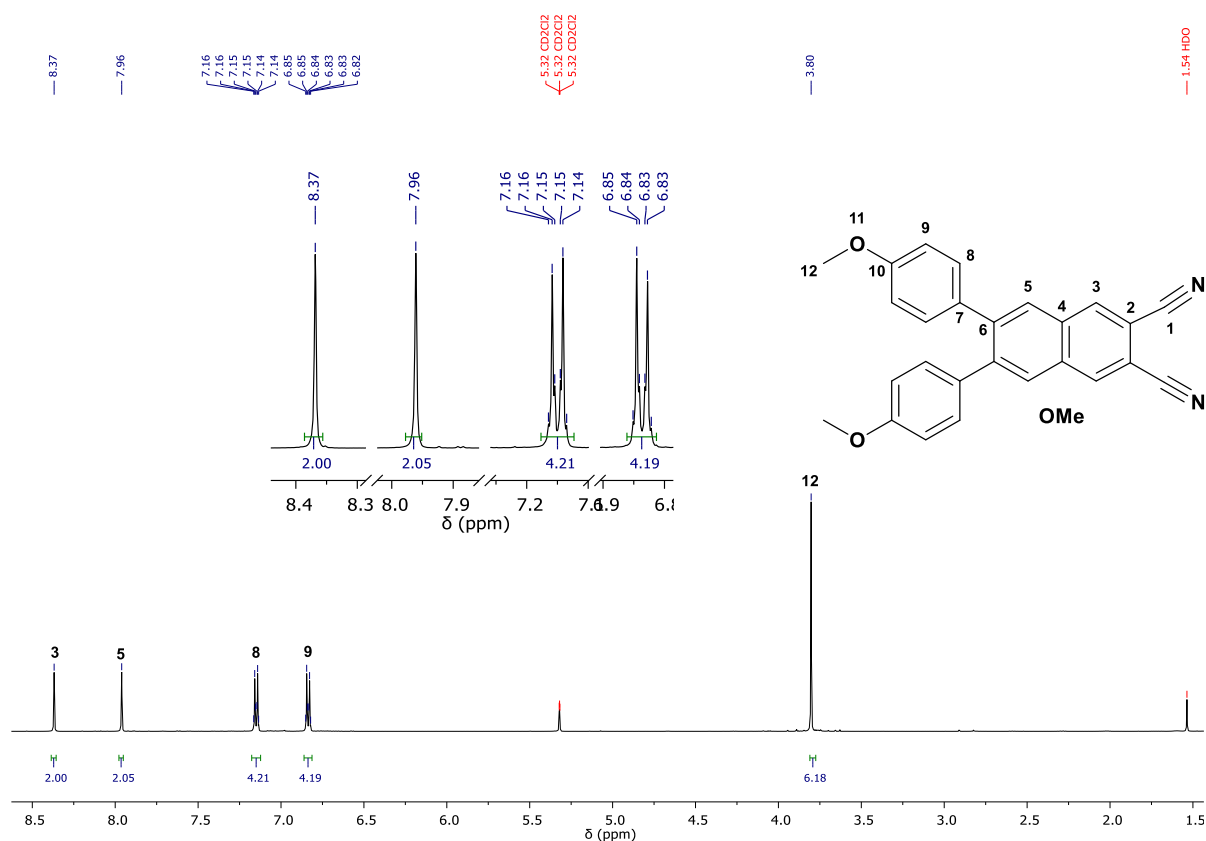




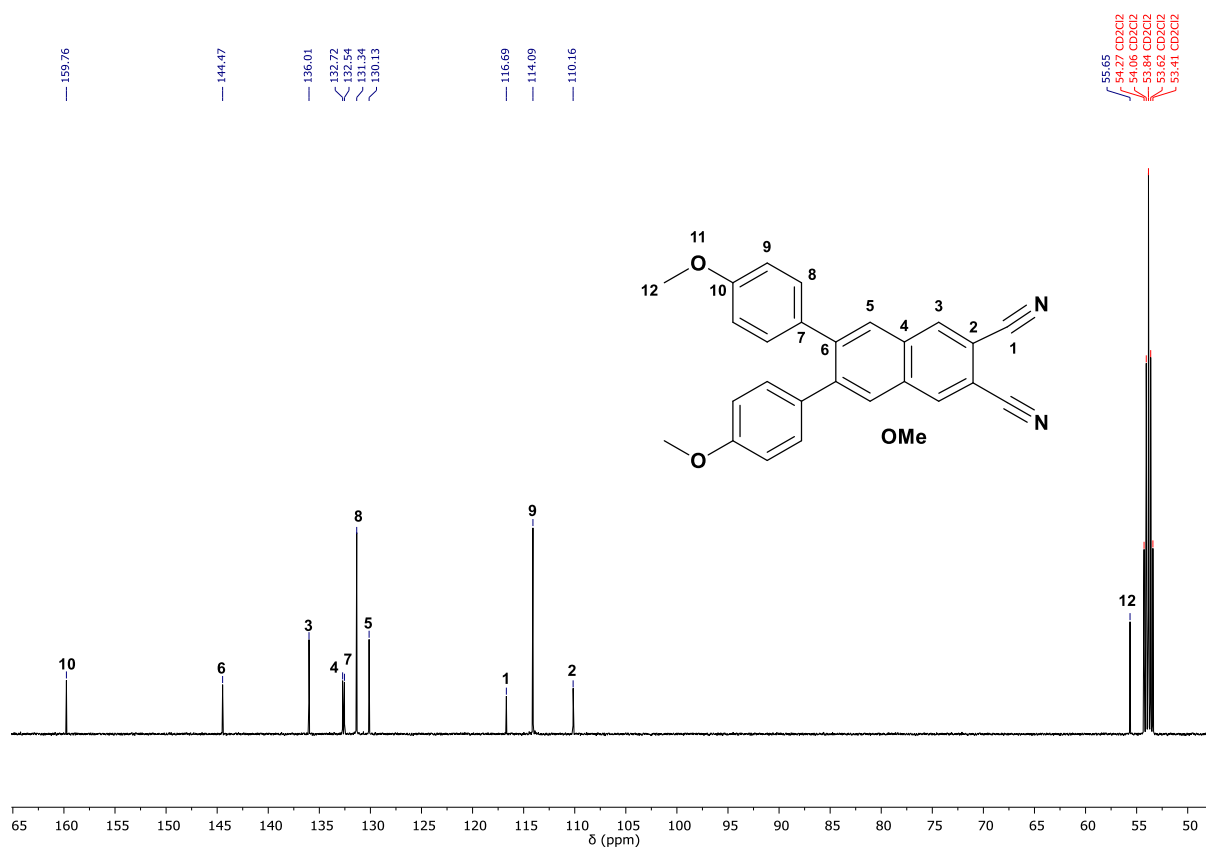
**Figure S11:**  $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$  gHSQC NMR spectrum (400 MHz/101 MHz,  $\text{DCM}-d_2$ ) of 6,7-bis(4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)naphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**t-Bu**).



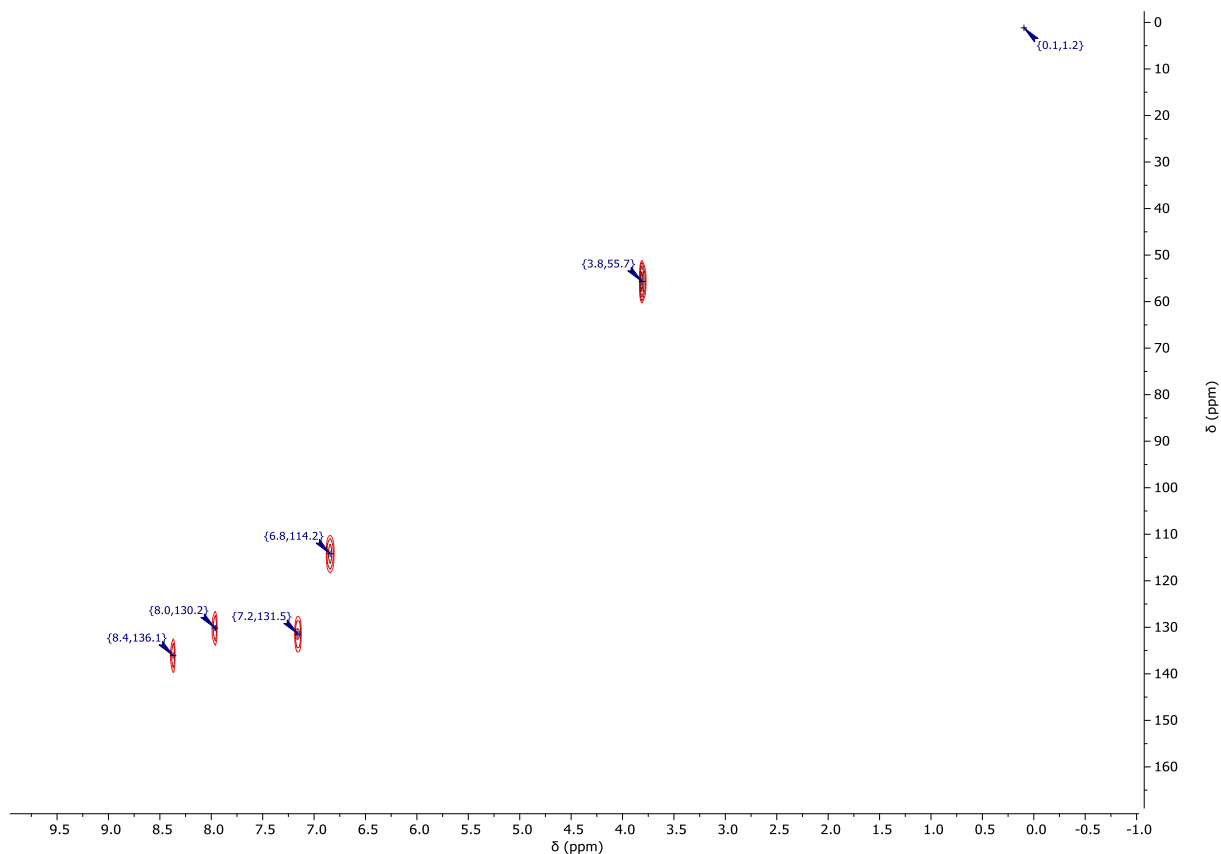
**Figure S12:**  $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$  gHMBC NMR spectrum (400 MHz/101 MHz,  $\text{DCM}-d_2$ ) of 6,7-bis(4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)naphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**t-Bu**).



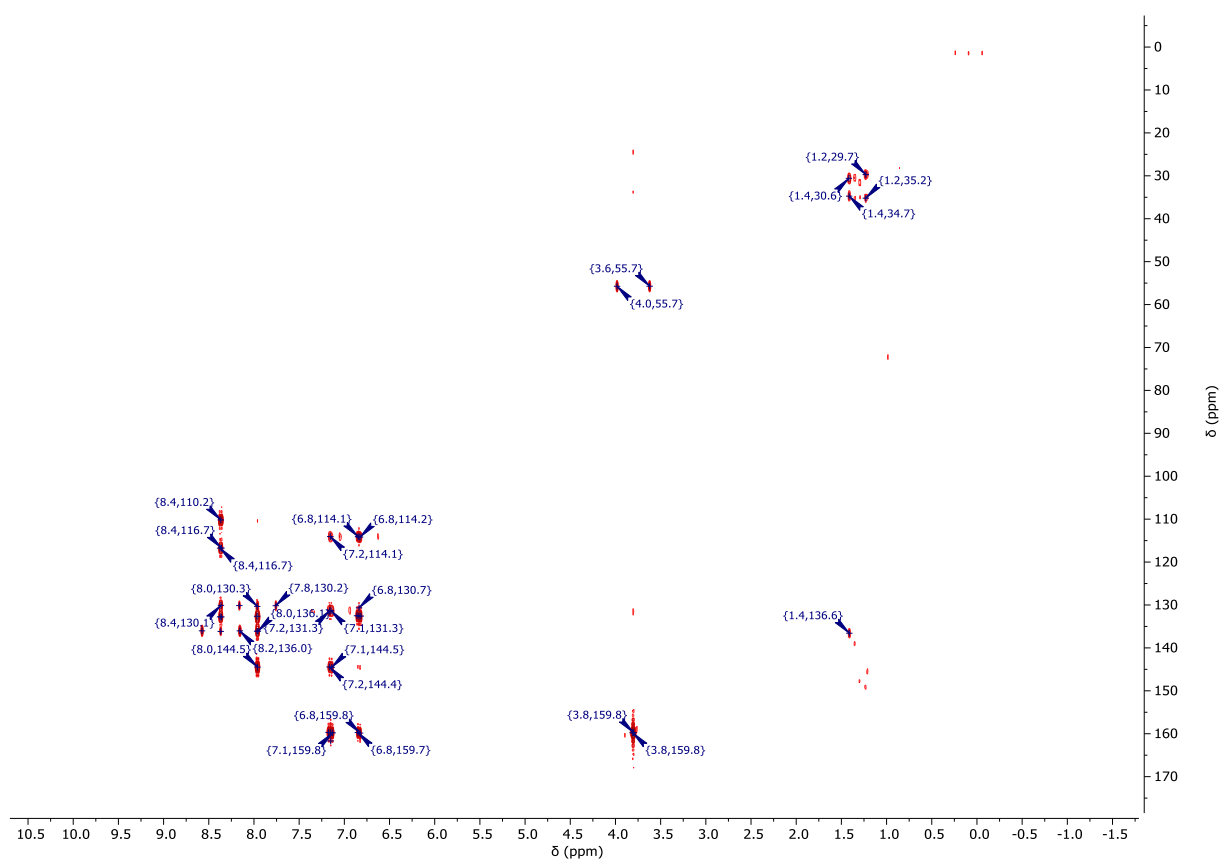
**Figure S13:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (500 MHz,  $\text{DCM-d}_2$ ) of 6,7-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)naphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**OMe**).



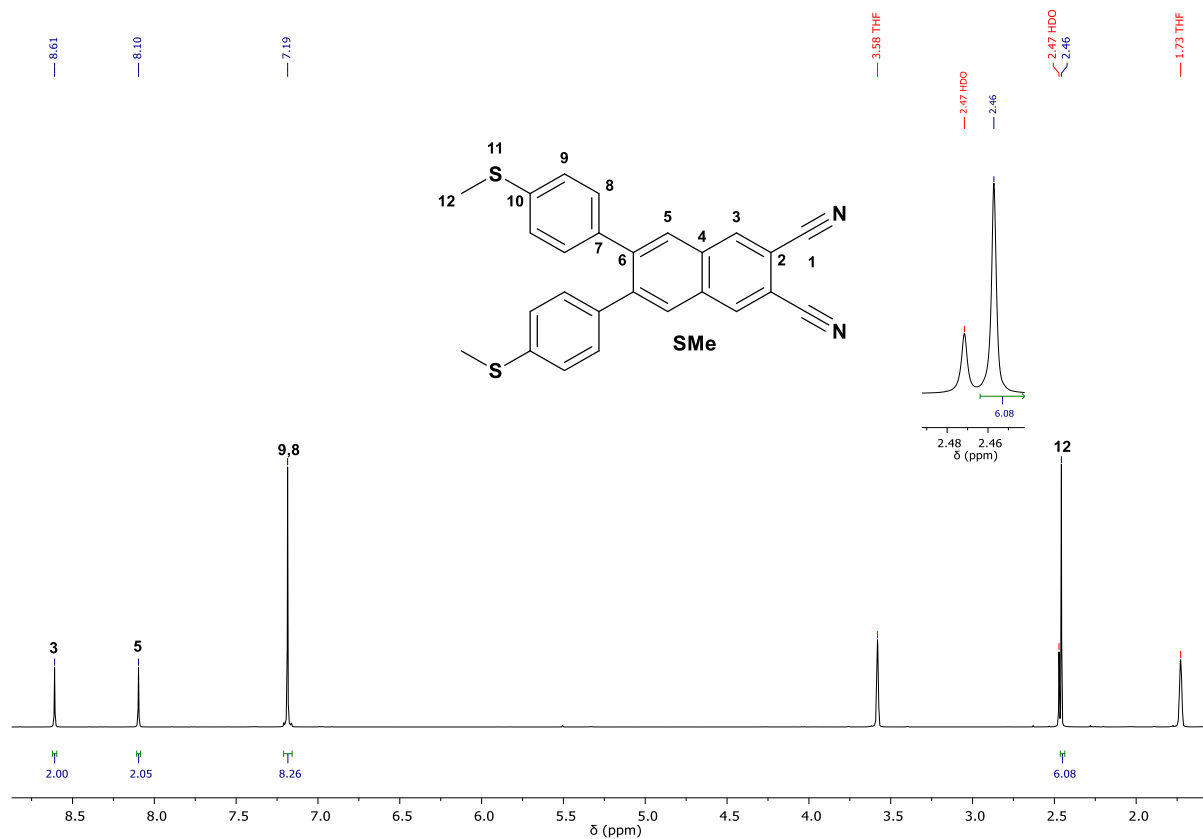
**Figure S14:**  $^{13}\text{C}$   $\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum (126 MHz,  $\text{DCM-d}_2$ ) of 6,7-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)naphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**OMe**).



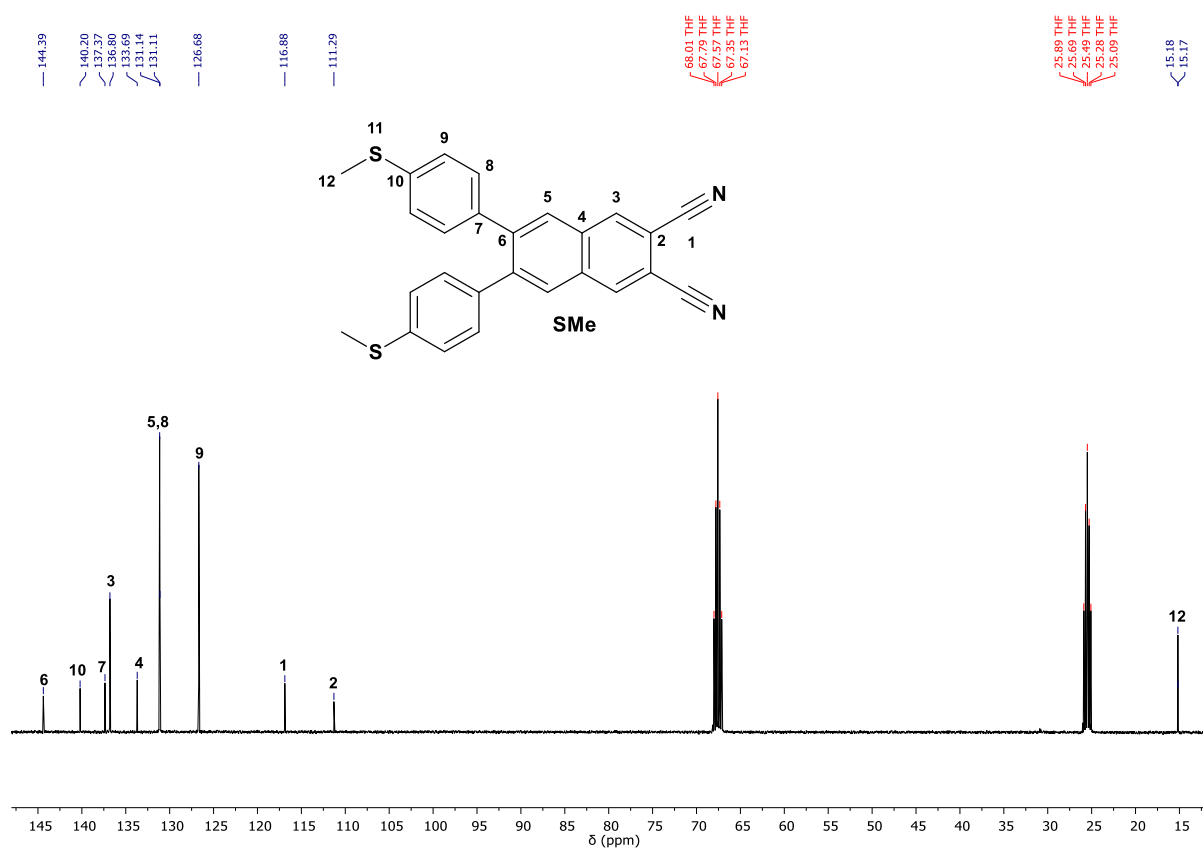
**Figure S15:**  $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$  gHSQC NMR spectrum (400 MHz/101 MHz,  $\text{DCM}-d_2$ ) 6,7-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)naphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**OMe**).



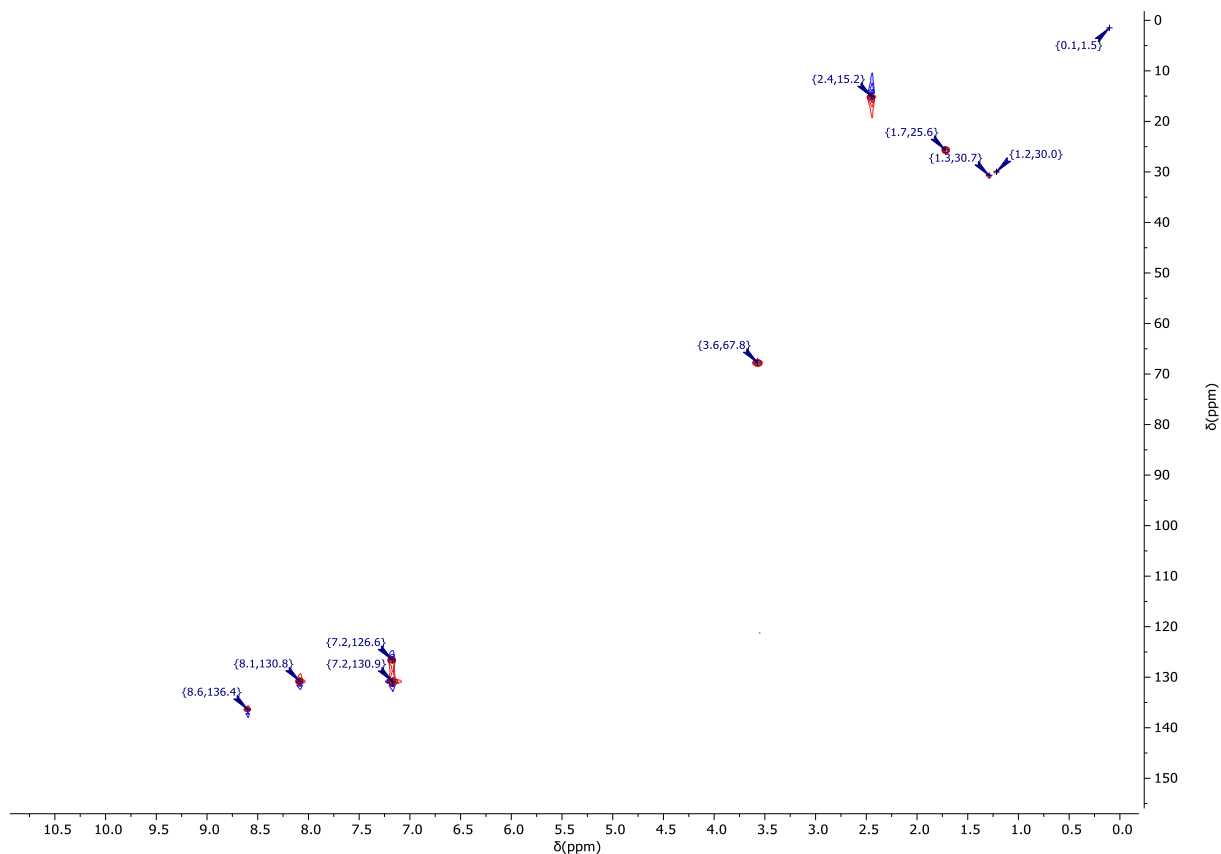
**Figure S16:**  $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$  gHMBC NMR spectrum (400 MHz/101 MHz,  $\text{DCM}-d_2$ ) of ) 6,7-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)naphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**OMe**).



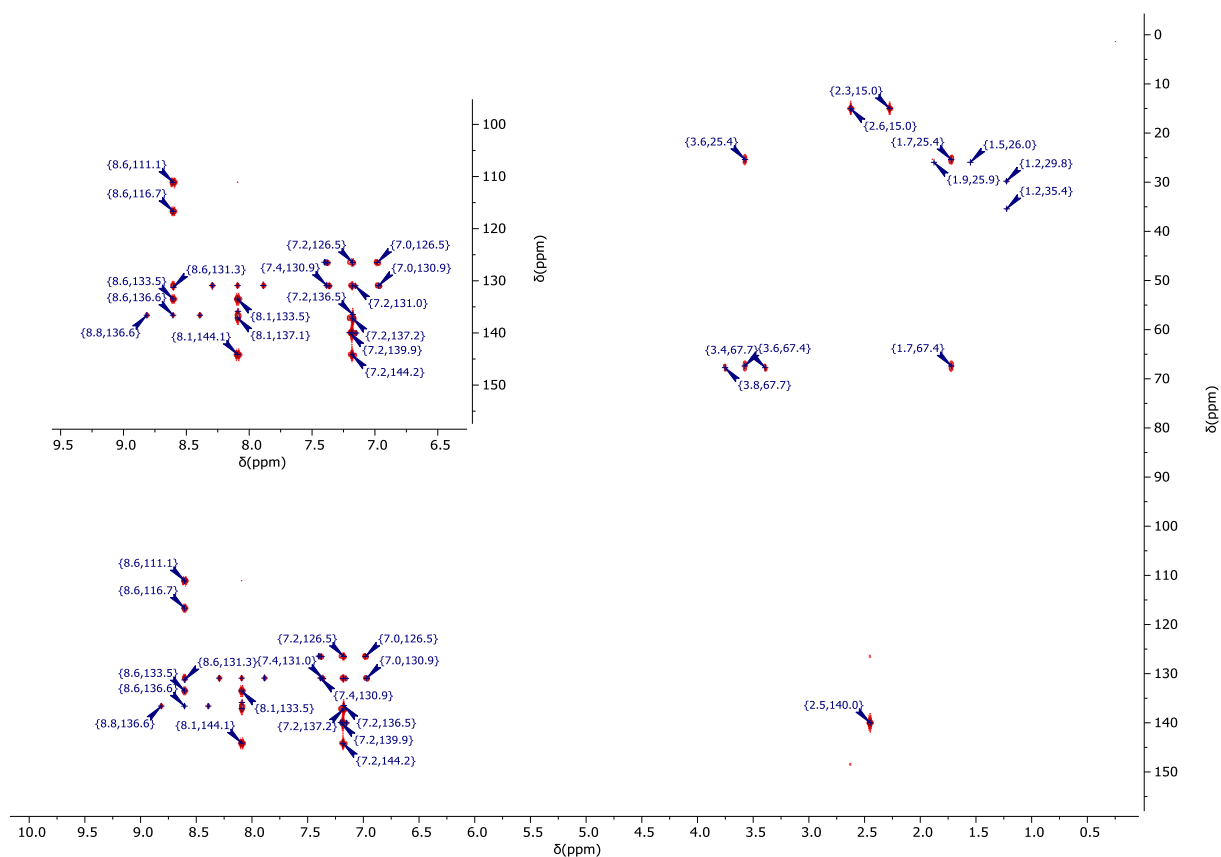
**Figure S17:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (500 MHz,  $\text{THF-d}_8$ ) of 6,7-bis(4-(methylthio)phenyl)naphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**SMe**).



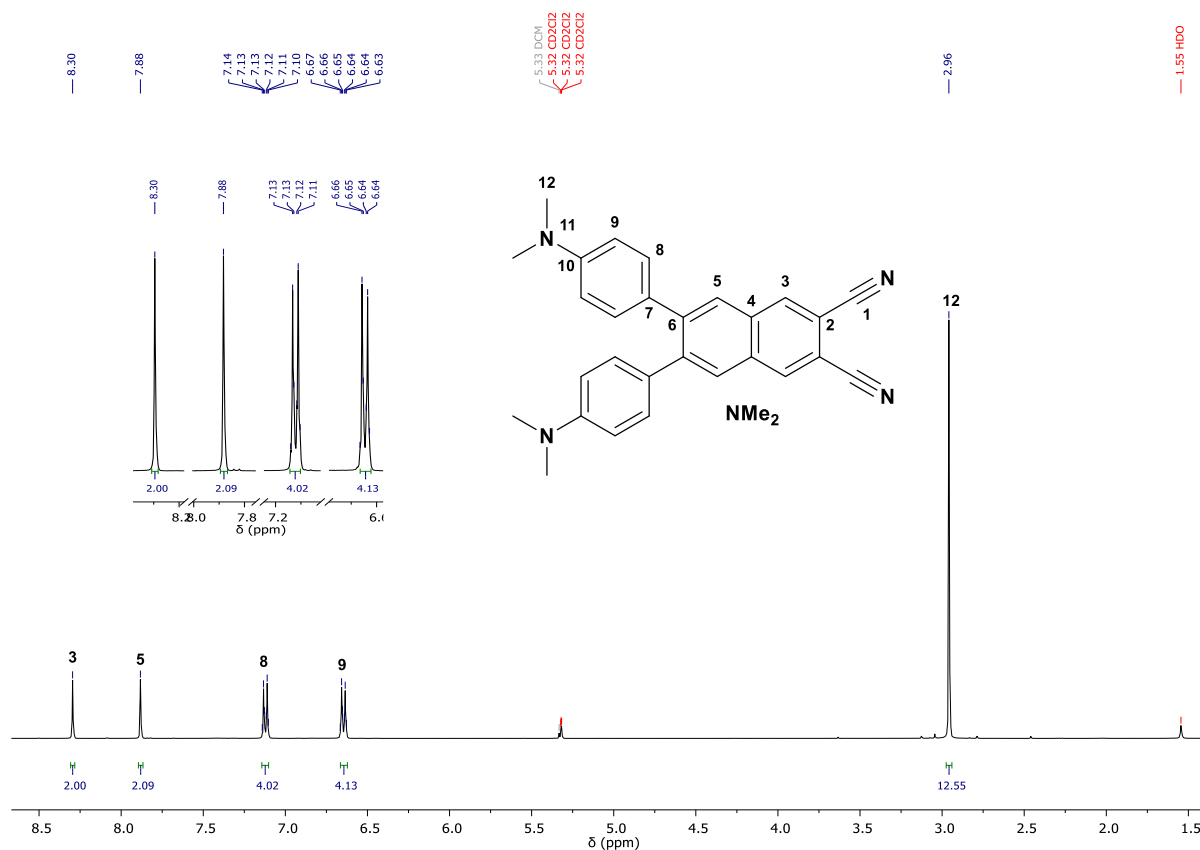
**Figure S18:**  $^{13}\text{C}$   $\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum (126 MHz,  $\text{THF-d}_8$ ) of 6,7-bis(4-(methylthio)phenyl)naphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**SMe**).



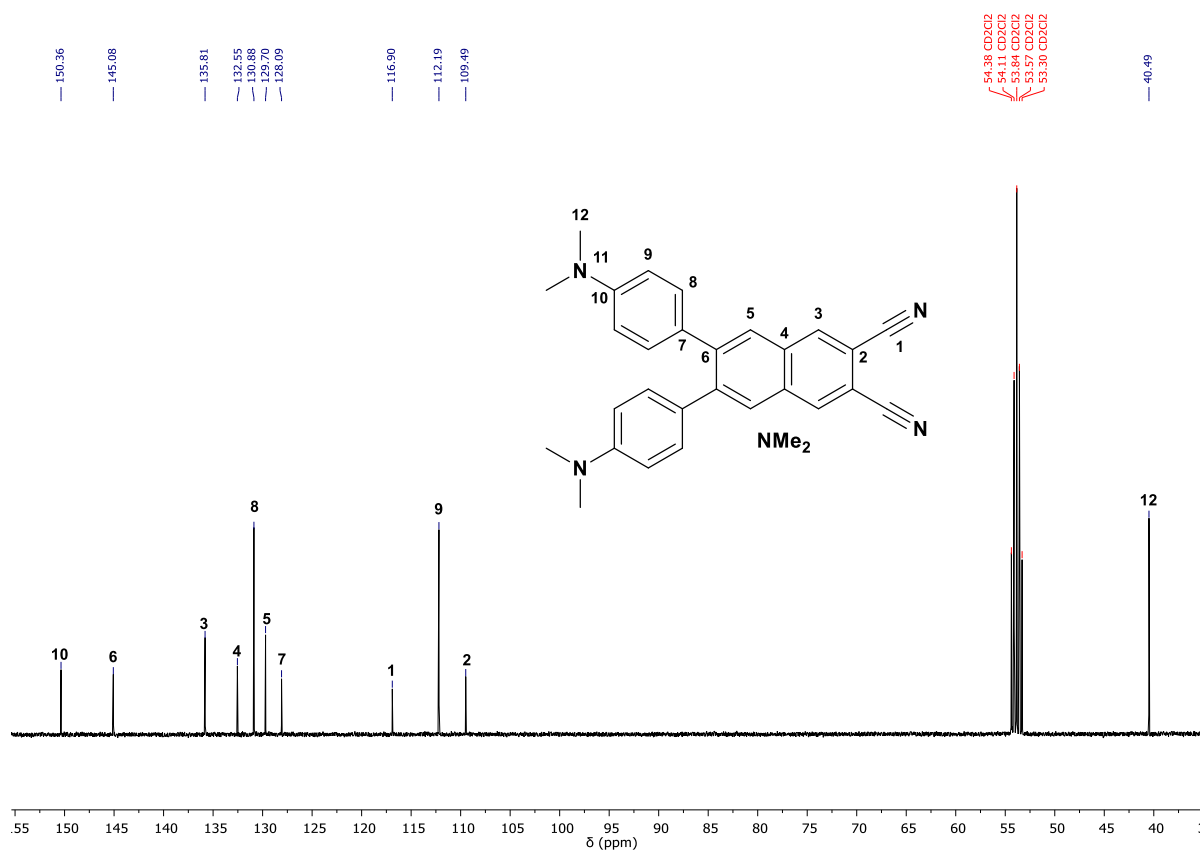
**Figure S19:**  $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$  gHSQC NMR spectrum (400 MHz/101 MHz,  $\text{THF-}d_8$ ) of 6,7-bis(4-(methylthio)phenyl)naphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**SMe**).



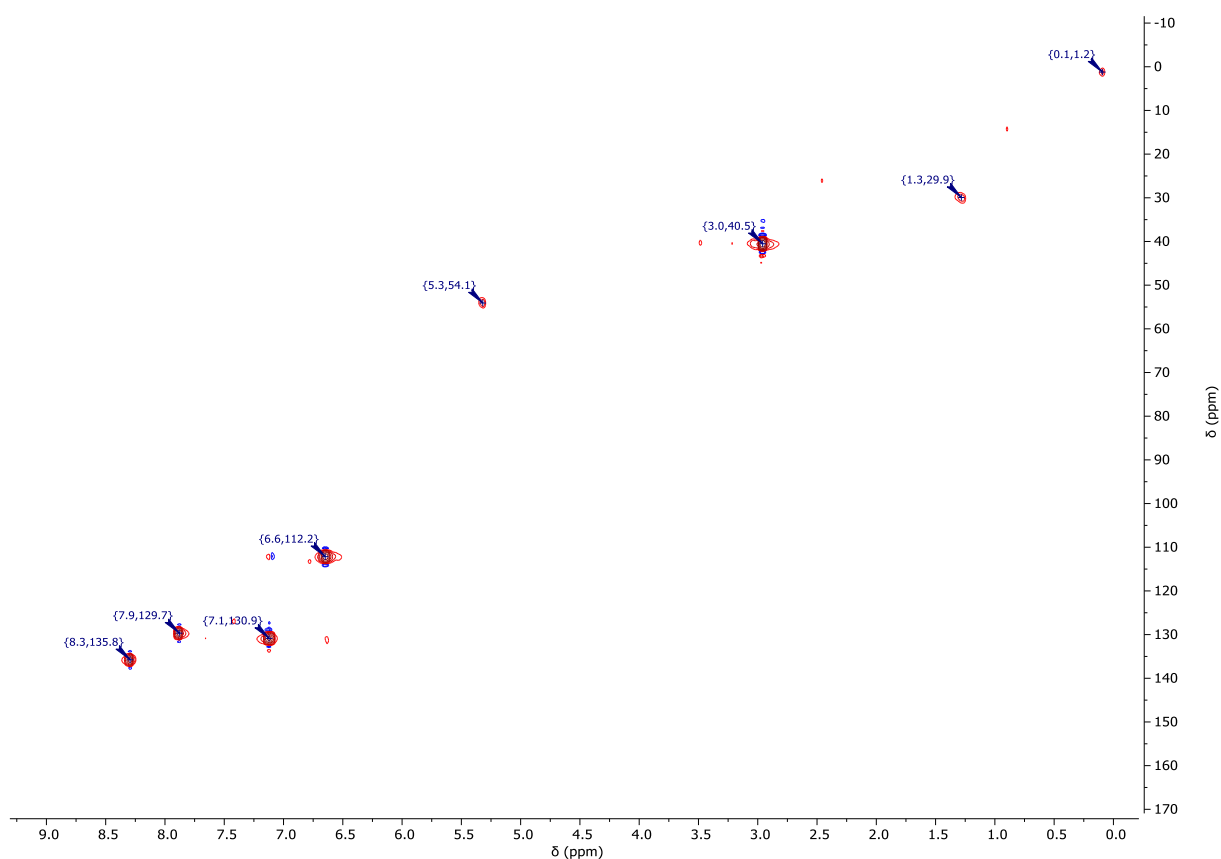
**Figure S20:**  $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$  gHMBC NMR spectrum (400 MHz/101 MHz,  $\text{THF-}d_8$ ) of 6,7-bis(4-(methylthio)phenyl)naphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**SMe**).



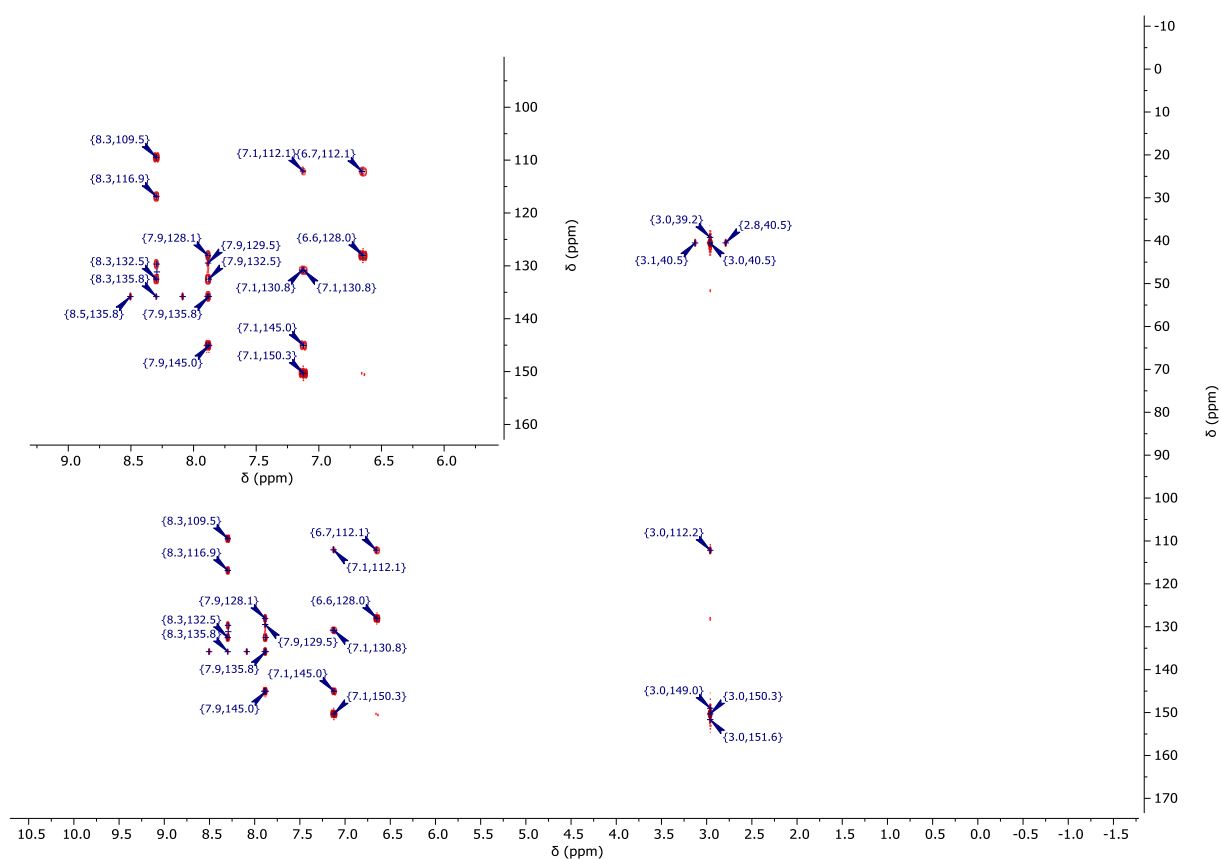
**Figure S21:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (500 MHz,  $\text{DCM-d}_2$ ) of 6,7-bis(4-(dimethylamino)phenyl)naphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**NMe<sub>2</sub>**).



**Figure S22:**  $^{13}\text{C}$  { $^1\text{H}$ } NMR spectrum (126 MHz,  $\text{DCM-d}_2$ ) of 6,7-bis(4-(dimethylamino)phenyl)naphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**NMe<sub>2</sub>**).



**Figure S23:**  $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$  gHSQC NMR spectrum (400 MHz/101 MHz,  $\text{DCM}-d_2$ ) of 6,7-bis(4-(dimethylamino)phenyl)naphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**NMe<sub>2</sub>**).



**Figure S24:**  $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$  gHMBC NMR spectrum (400 MHz/101 MHz,  $\text{DCM}-d_2$ ) of 6,7-bis(4-(dimethylamino)phenyl)naphthalene-2,3-dicarbonitrile (**NMe<sub>2</sub>**).

## Section S4: Mass spectra of H, Me, *t*-Bu, OMe, SMe & NMe<sub>2</sub>

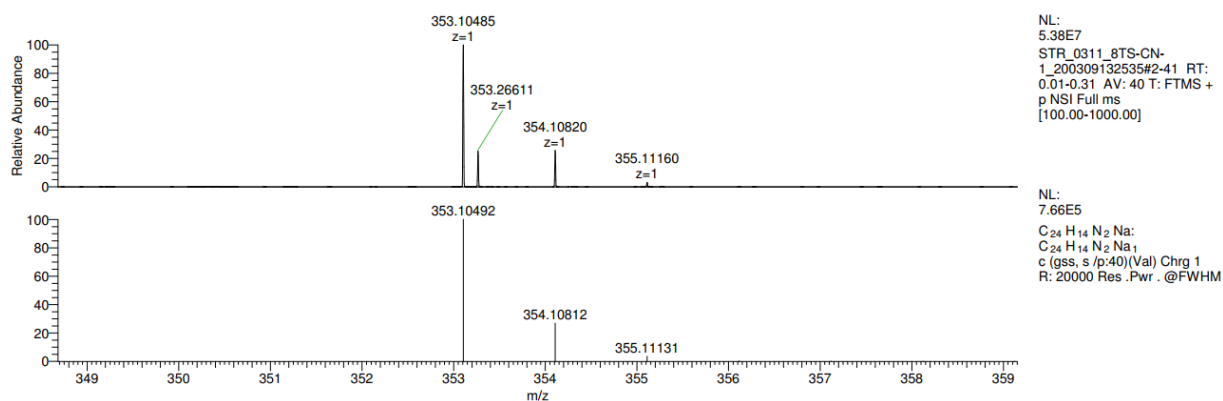


Figure S25: EM-ESI-MS spectrum of **H**.

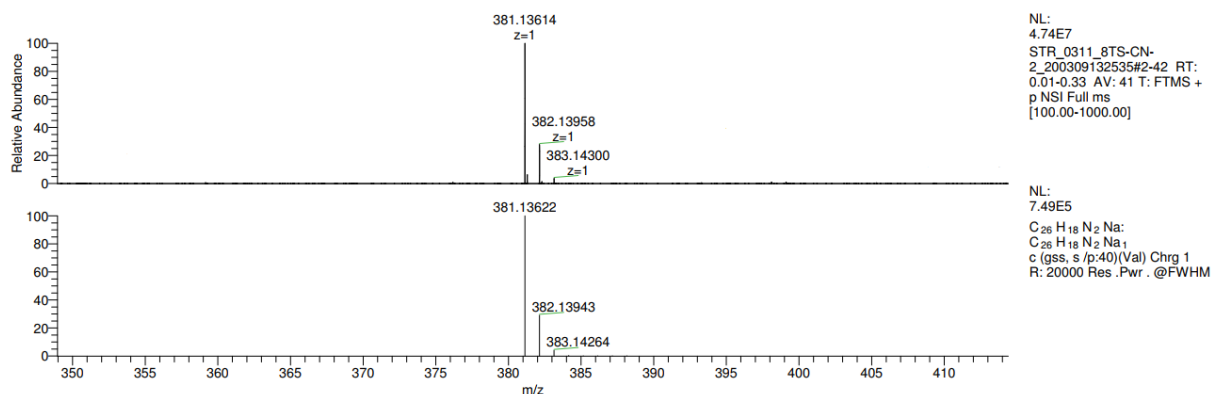


Figure S26: EM-ESI-MS spectrum of **Me**.

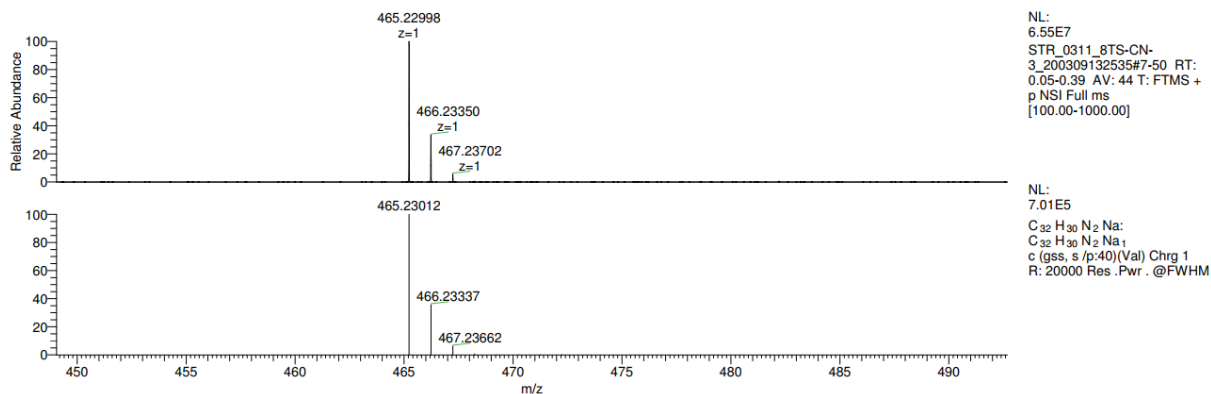
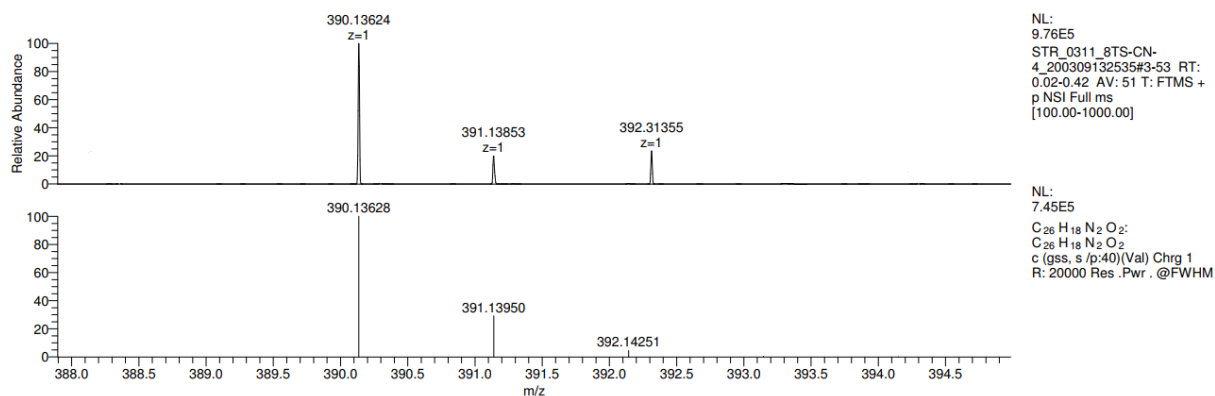
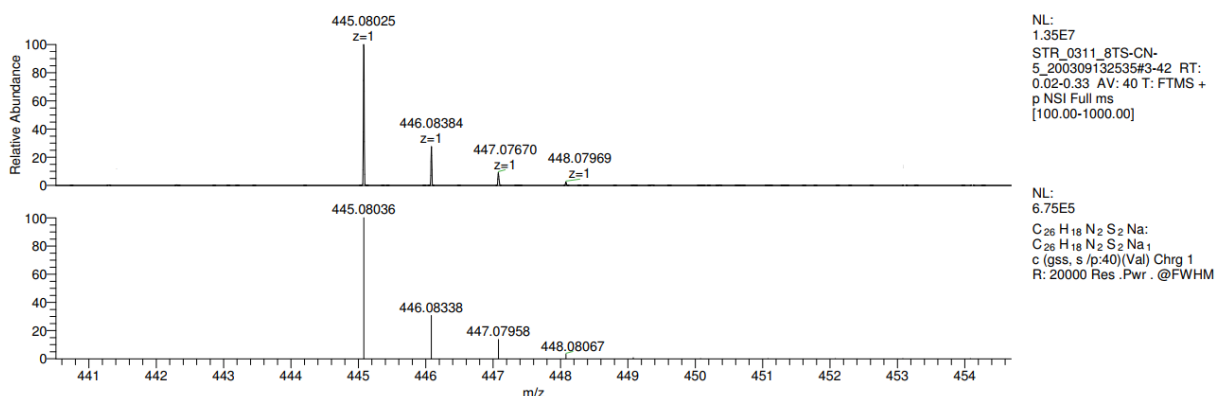


Figure S27: EM-ESI-MS spectrum of ***t*-Bu**.

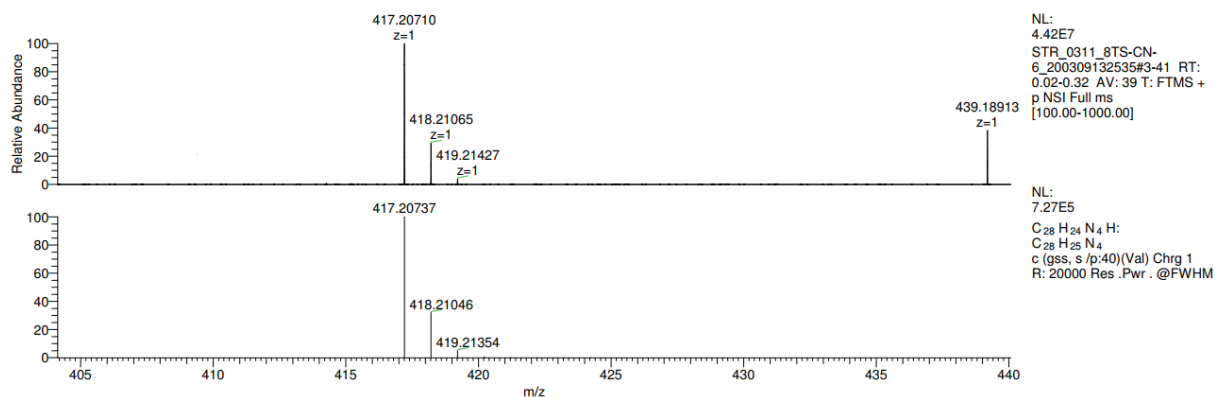




**Figure S28:** EM-ESI-MS spectrum of **OMe**.



**Figure S29:** EM-ESI-MS spectrum of **SMe**.



**Figure S30:** EM-ESI-MS spectrum of **NMe<sub>2</sub>**.

## Section S5: Single crystal X-ray diffraction analysis of Me

The crystals were mounted on nylon loops in inert oil. Data were collected on a Bruker AXS D8 Kappa diffractometer with APEX2 detector (mono-chromated MoK $\alpha$  radiation,  $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$ ) at 100(2) K. The structures were solved by Direct Methods (SHELXS-97)[4] and refined anisotropically by full-matrix least-squares on F<sup>2</sup> (SHELXL-2014)[5–7]. Absorption corrections were performed semi-empirically from equivalent reflections on basis of multi-scans (Bruker AXS APEX2). Hydrogen atoms were refined using a riding model or rigid methyl groups. The crystallographic data (without structure factors) was deposited as CCDC-2021602 at the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre.

Identification code	Me
Empirical formula	C <sub>26</sub> H <sub>18</sub> N <sub>2</sub>
Formula weight	358.42
Temperature/K	100(2)
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	C2/c
a/ $\text{\AA}$	21.1827(9)
b/ $\text{\AA}$	12.0049(5)
c/ $\text{\AA}$	15.2487(7)
$\alpha/^\circ$	90
$\beta/^\circ$	94.9610(10)
$\gamma/^\circ$	90
Volume/ $\text{\AA}^3$	3863.2(3)
Z	8
$\rho_{\text{calc}}/\text{g cm}^{-3}$	1.233
$\mu/\text{mm}^{-1}$	0.072
F(000)	1504.0
Crystal size/ $\text{mm}^3$	0.583 $\times$ 0.501 $\times$ 0.243
Radiation	MoK $\alpha$ ( $\lambda = 0.71073$ )
2 $\theta$ range for data collection/ $^\circ$	3.904 to 55.75
Index ranges	$-27 \leq h \leq 27$ , $-15 \leq k \leq 15$ , $-20 \leq l \leq 20$
Reflections collected	24261
Independent reflections	4606 [ $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0327$ , $R_{\text{sigma}} = 0.0276$ ]
Data/restraints/parameters	4606/0/255
Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$	1.034
Final R indexes [ $ I  > 2\sigma(I)$ ]	$R_1 = 0.0470$ , $wR_2 = 0.1317$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0517$ , $wR_2 = 0.1357$
Largest diff. peak/hole / $e \text{ \AA}^{-3}$	0.28/-0.27

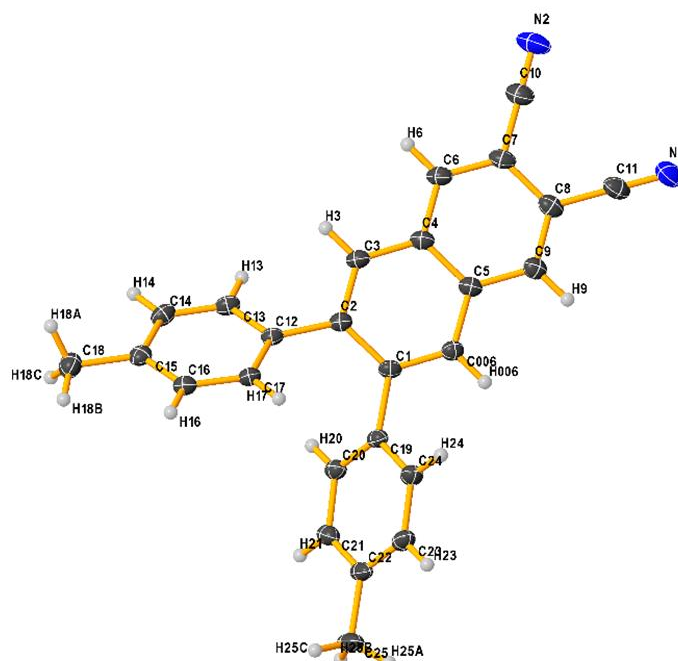
**Table S1:** Crystal data and structure refinement for Me.

Atom	Atom	Length/Å		Atom	Atom	Length/Å
C1	C006	1.3763(16)		C12	C13	1.3991(16)
C1	C2	1.4387(16)		C12	C17	1.4000(15)
C1	C19	1.4907(15)		C13	C14	1.3845(18)
C2	C3	1.3824(15)		C14	C15	1.3944(18)
C2	C12	1.4852(16)		C15	C16	1.3940(16)
N2	C10	1.1455(18)		C15	C18	1.5046(17)
C4	C3	1.4133(17)		C16	C17	1.3858(16)
C4	C6	1.4168(15)		C19	C20	1.3927(17)
C4	C5	1.4193(17)		C19	C24	1.3965(16)
C5	C006	1.4121(15)		C20	C21	1.3887(15)
C5	C9	1.4135(17)		C21	C22	1.3931(18)
C6	C7	1.3713(18)		C22	C23	1.3890(19)
C7	C8	1.4304(18)		C22	C25	1.5118(16)
C7	C10	1.4414(16)		C23	C24	1.3898(16)
C8	C9	1.3730(16)		C19	C24	1.3965(16)
C8	C11	1.4361(18)		C20	C21	1.3887(15)

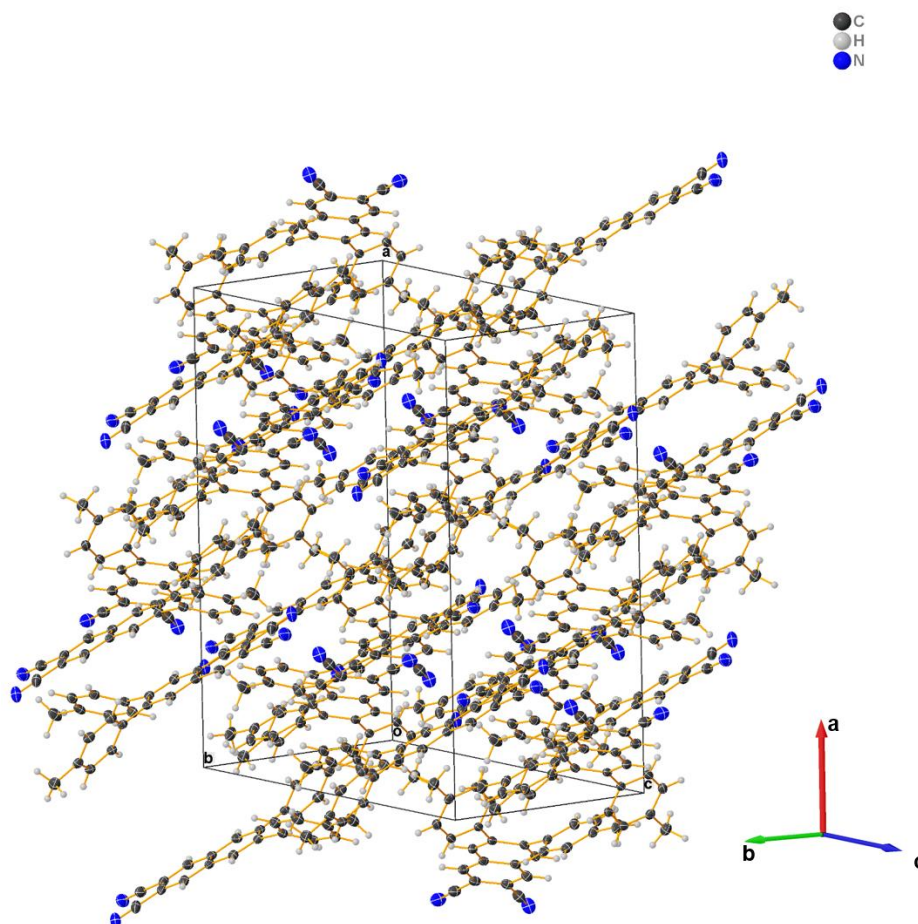
**Table S2:** Bond Lengths for **Me**.

Atom	Atom	Atom	Angle/°		Atom	Atom	Atom	Angle/°
C006	C1	C2	119.44(10)		N2	C10	C7	178.74(15)
C006	C1	C19	116.68(10)		N1	C11	C8	179.41(15)
C2	C1	C19	123.82(10)		C13	C12	C17	117.84(11)
C3	C2	C1	118.74(11)		C13	C12	C2	119.77(10)
C3	C2	C12	117.78(10)		C17	C12	C2	122.21(10)
C1	C2	C12	123.44(10)		C14	C13	C12	121.05(10)
C3	C4	C6	122.03(11)		C13	C14	C15	121.26(11)
C3	C4	C5	118.82(10)		C16	C15	C14	117.59(11)
C6	C4	C5	119.14(11)		C16	C15	C18	121.29(11)
C2	C3	C4	122.13(11)		C14	C15	C18	121.11(11)
C006	C5	C4	118.76(11)		C17	C16	C15	121.65(10)
C9	C5	C4	119.69(10)		C16	C17	C12	120.59(10)
C1	C006	C5	122.05(11)		C20	C19	C24	118.13(10)
C7	C6	C4	120.48(11)		C20	C19	C1	121.72(10)
C6	C7	C8	120.26(11)		C24	C19	C1	119.97(10)
C6	C7	C10	120.40(12)		C21	C20	C19	120.78(11)
C8	C7	C10	119.31(12)		C20	C21	C22	121.19(12)
C9	C8	C7	120.07(11)		C23	C22	C21	117.95(11)
C9	C8	C11	119.94(12)		C21	C22	C25	121.08(12)
C7	C8	C11	119.99(11)		C22	C23	C24	121.20(12)
C8	C9	C5	120.36(11)		C23	C24	C19	120.73(12)

**Table S3:** Bond Angles for **Me**.

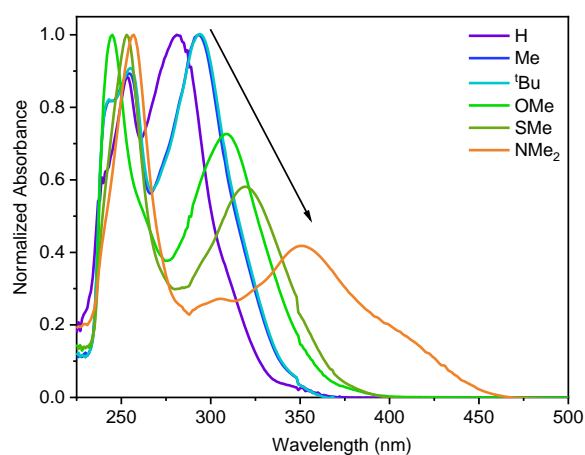


**Figure S31:** Molecular structure in the crystal of **Me** as obtained by X-ray diffractometric analysis. Thermal displacement ellipsoids are shown with 50% probability. Color code: black = carbon, grey = hydrogen and blue = nitrogen.

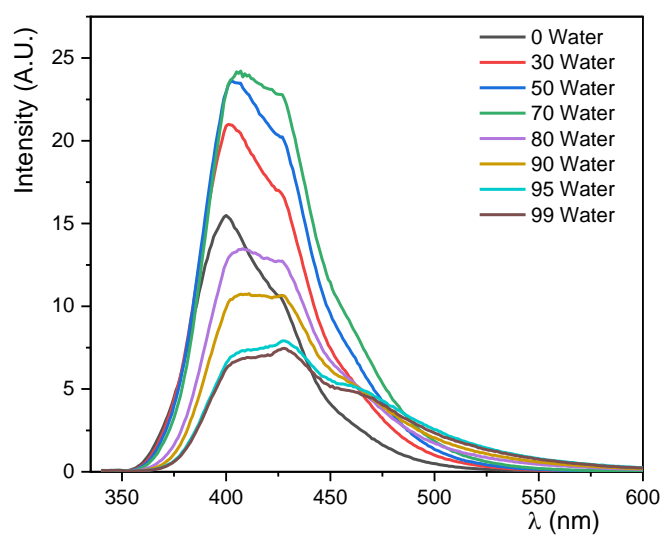


**Figure S32:** Unit cell of **Me**. Color code: black = carbon, grey = hydrogen and blue = nitrogen.

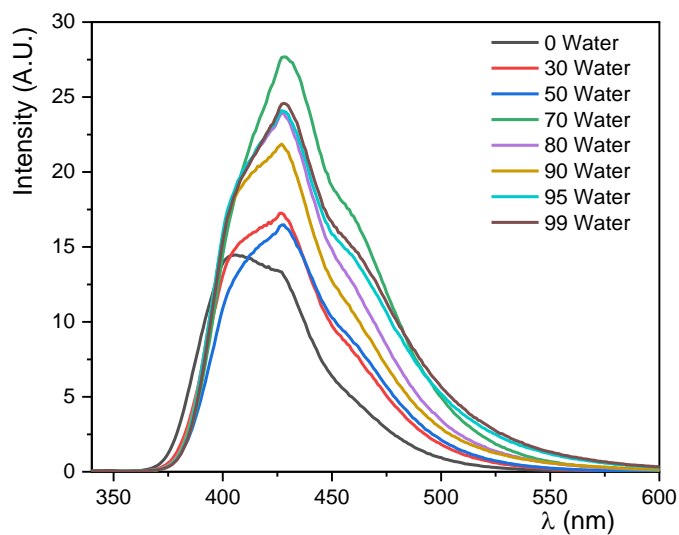
## Section S6: Photophysical characterization of H, Me, *t*-Bu, OMe, SMe & NMe<sub>2</sub> and aggregation studies



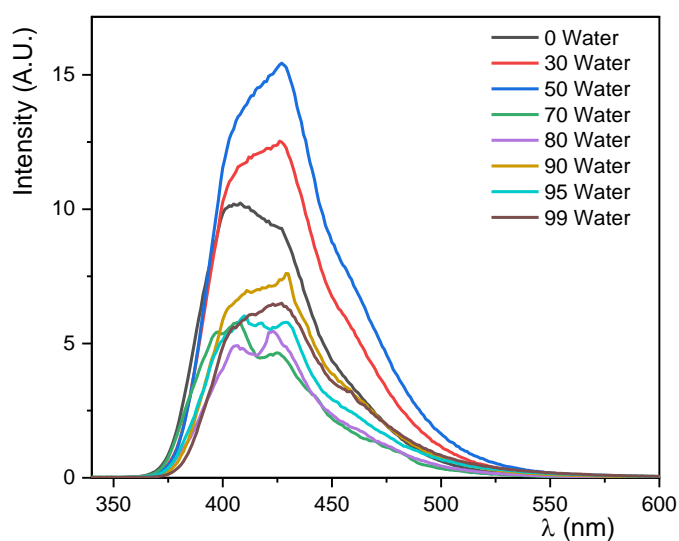
**Figure S33:** Normalized UV-vis absorption spectra of all the naphthalonitriles in THF at 298 K.



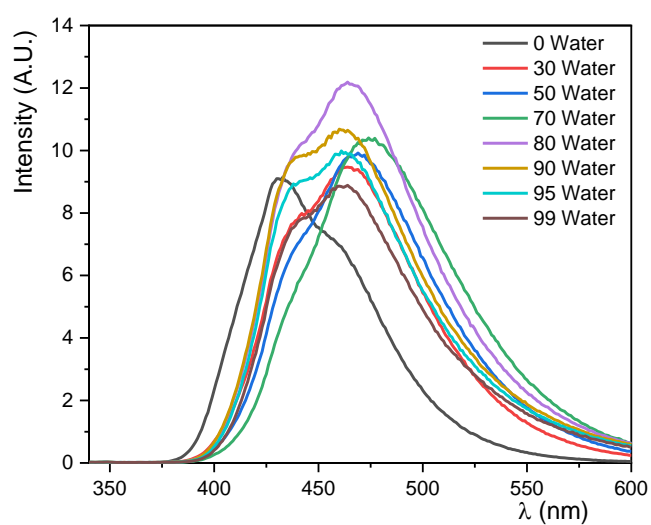
**Figure S34:** Emission spectra of **H** in different THF/water mixtures ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 320$  nm).



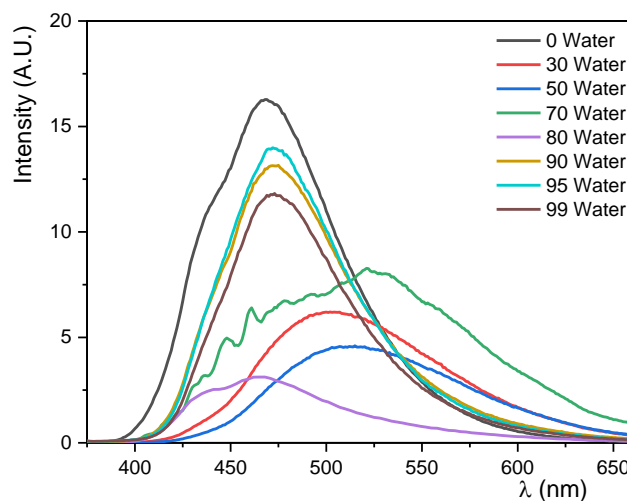
**Figure S35:** Emission spectra of **Me** in different THF/water mixtures ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 320$  nm).



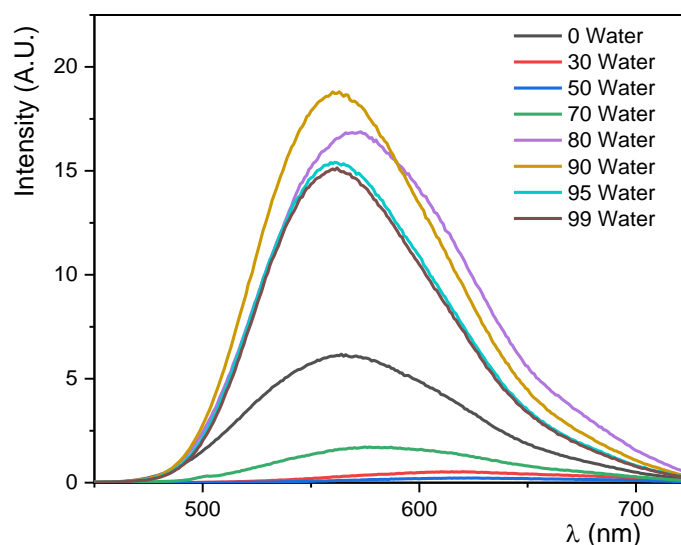
**Figure S36:** Emission spectra of **t-Bu** in different THF/water mixtures ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 320$  nm).



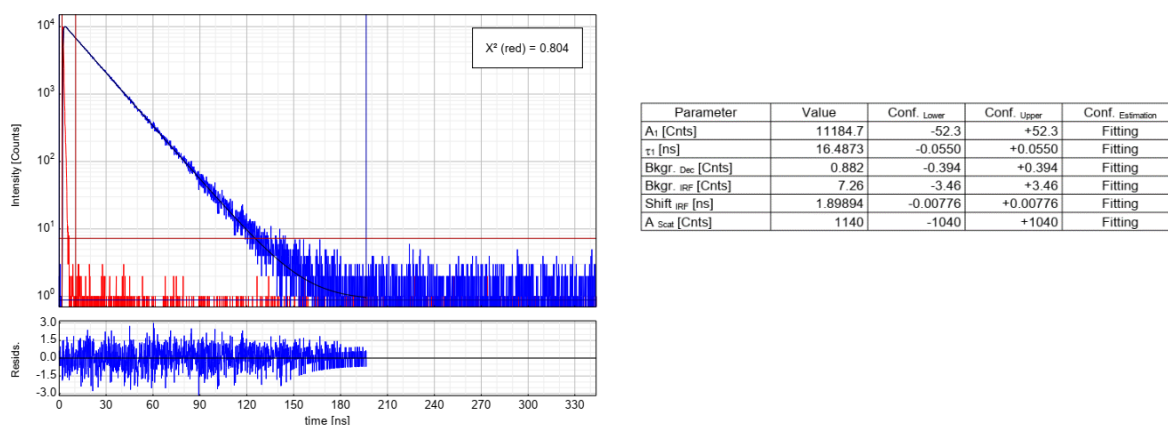
**Figure S37:** Emission spectra of **OMe** in different THF/water mixtures ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 340$  nm).



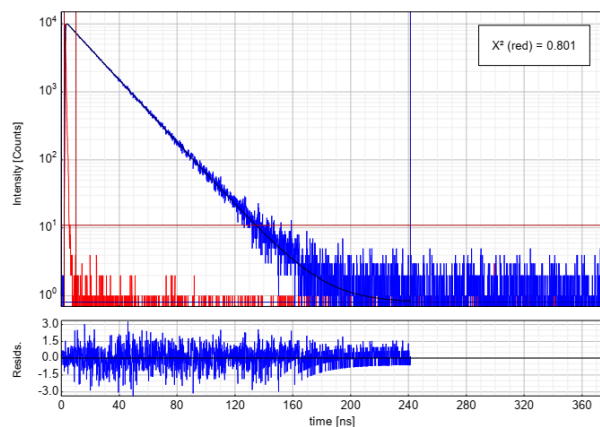
**Figure S38:** Emission spectra of **SMe** in different THF/water mixtures ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 350$  nm).



**Figure S39:** Emission spectra of **NMe<sub>2</sub>** in different THF/water mixtures ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 350$  nm).

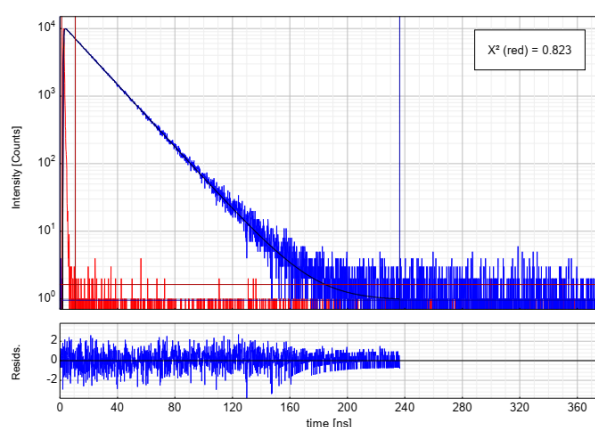


**Figure S40:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **H** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF solution, including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 325$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 420$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



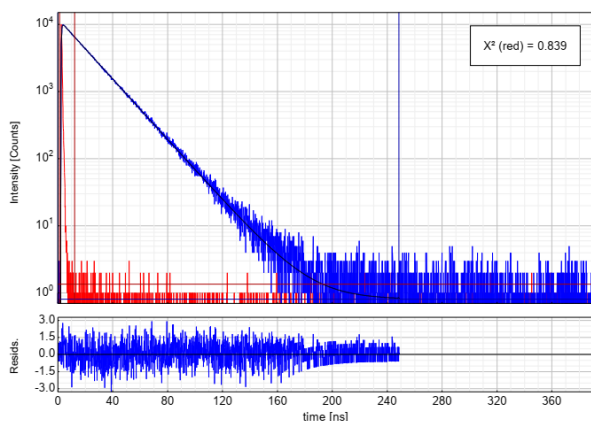
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
$A_1$ [Cnts]	11046.8	-53.8	+53.8	Fitting
$\tau_1$ [ns]	18.9155	-0.0660	+0.0660	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	0.809	-0.363	+0.363	Fitting
Bkgr. IRF [Cnts]	10.94	-4.00	+4.00	Fitting
Shift IRF [ns]	2.01551	-0.00936	+0.00936	Fitting
A Scat [Cnts]	3410	-1220	+1220	Fitting

**Figure S41:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **H** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (70/30), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 325$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 420$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
$A_1$ [Cnts]	10921.6	-53.5	+53.5	Fitting
$\tau_1$ [ns]	18.8005	-0.0662	+0.0662	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	0.952	-0.379	+0.379	Fitting
Bkgr. IRF [Cnts]	1.63	-2.56	+2.56	Fitting
Shift IRF [ns]	0.99214	-0.00929	+0.00929	Fitting
A Scat [Cnts]	2150	-1170	+1170	Fitting

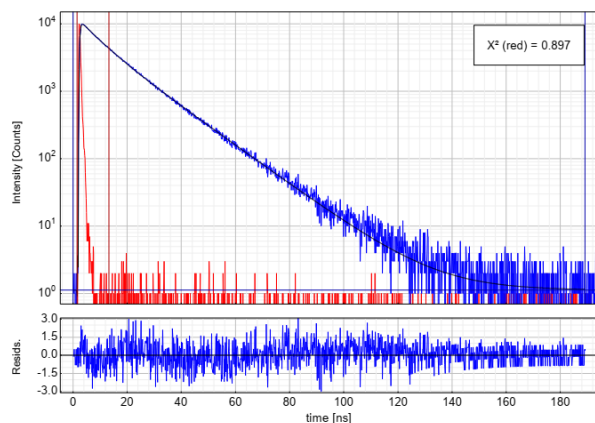
**Figure S42:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **H** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (50/50), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 325$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 420$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
$A_1$ [Cnts]	10750.7	-54.3	+54.3	Fitting
$\tau_1$ [ns]	19.2629	-0.0698	+0.0698	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	0.810	-0.366	+0.366	Fitting
Bkgr. IRF [Cnts]	1.35	-2.38	+2.38	Fitting
Shift IRF [ns]	0.09477	-0.00982	+0.00982	Fitting
A Scat [Cnts]	2190	-1210	+1210	Fitting

**Figure S43:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **H** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (30/70), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 325$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 420$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.





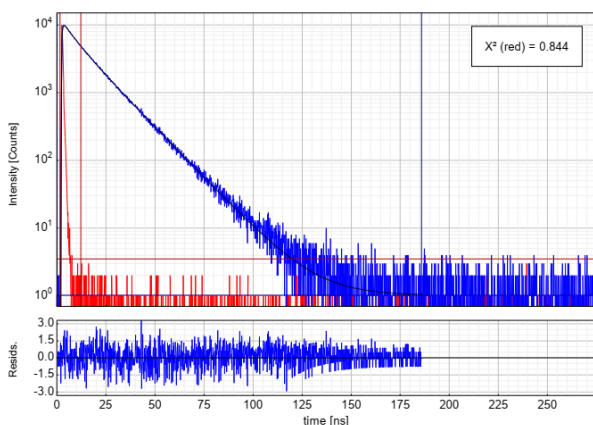
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	7121.9	-49.0	+49.0	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	15.0513	-0.0693	+0.0693	Fitting
A <sub>2</sub> [Cnts]	4414	-101	+101	Fitting
τ <sub>2</sub> [ns]	6.244	-0.153	+0.153	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	1.129	-0.386	+0.386	Fitting
Bkgr. RF [Cnts]	-10.32	-2.98	+2.98	Fitting
Shift RF [ns]	1.47184	-0.00994	+0.00994	Fitting
A <sub>Scat</sub> [Cnts]	-12462	-455	+455	Fitting

Average Lifetime:

$$\tau_{Av,1} = 13.2500 \text{ ns (intensity weighted)}$$

$$\tau_{Av,2} = 11.6814 \text{ ns (amplitude weighted)}$$

**Figure S44:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **H** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (20/80), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 325 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{em} = 420 \text{ nm}$ ) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



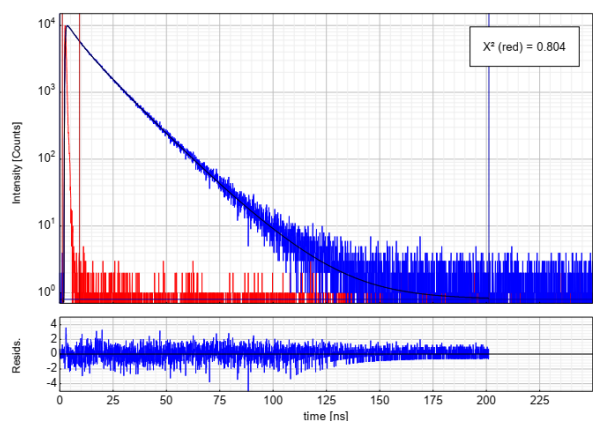
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	8165.5	-50.8	+50.8	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	14.5009	-0.0610	+0.0610	Fitting
A <sub>2</sub> [Cnts]	3167	-103	+103	Fitting
τ <sub>2</sub> [ns]	6.217	-0.211	+0.211	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	1.026	-0.369	+0.369	Fitting
Bkgr. RF [Cnts]	3.51	-3.08	+3.08	Fitting
Shift RF [ns]	1.63493	-0.00812	+0.00812	Fitting
A <sub>Scat</sub> [Cnts]	3180	-1100	+1100	Fitting

Average Lifetime:

$$\tau_{Av,1} = 13.3199 \text{ ns (intensity weighted)}$$

$$\tau_{Av,2} = 12.1860 \text{ ns (amplitude weighted)}$$

**Figure S45:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **H** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (10/90), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 325 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{em} = 420 \text{ nm}$ ) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



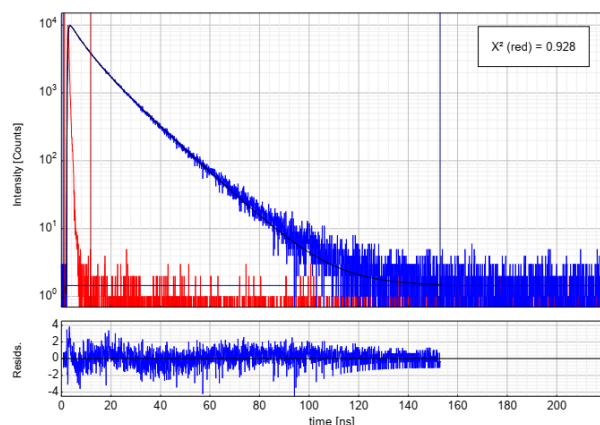
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	589.8	-30.9	+30.9	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	20.189	-0.529	+0.529	Fitting
A <sub>2</sub> [Cnts]	7757.3	-56.1	+56.1	Fitting
τ <sub>2</sub> [ns]	12.7070	-0.0658	+0.0658	Fitting
A <sub>3</sub> [Cnts]	3222	-125	+125	Fitting
τ <sub>3</sub> [ns]	4.630	-0.196	+0.196	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	0.804	-0.333	+0.333	Fitting
Bkgr. RF [Cnts]	0.170	-2.30	+2.30	Fitting
Shift RF [ns]	0.12157	-0.00828	+0.00828	Fitting
A <sub>Scat</sub> [Cnts]	5640	-2060	+2060	Fitting

Average Lifetime:

$$\tau_{Av,1} = 12.457 \text{ ns (intensity weighted)}$$

$$\tau_{Av,2} = 10.839 \text{ ns (amplitude weighted)}$$

**Figure S46:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **H** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (5/95), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 325 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{em} = 420 \text{ nm}$ ) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



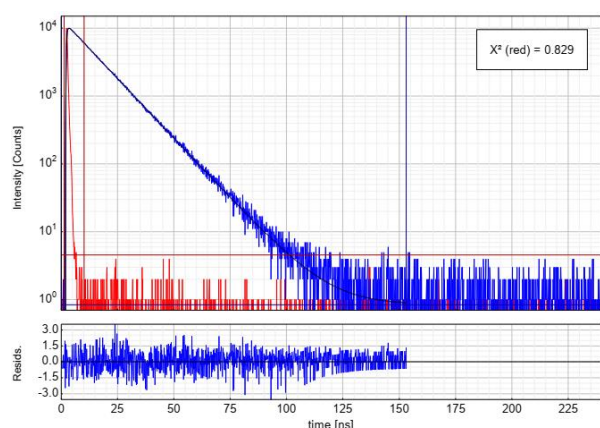
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	5752.4	-46.3	+46.3	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	12.8762	-0.0664	+0.0664	Fitting
A <sub>2</sub> [Cnts]	5801	-105	+105	Fitting
τ <sub>2</sub> [ns]	5.1528	-0.0934	+0.0934	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	1.455	-0.424	+0.424	Fitting
Bkgr. IRF [Cnts]	0.412	-2.89	+2.89	Fitting
Shift IRF [ns]	1.03339	-0.00941	+0.00941	Fitting
A <sub>Scat</sub> [Cnts]	11740	-2040	+2040	Fitting

Average Lifetime:

$$\tau_{Av,1} = 10.6555 \text{ ns (intensity weighted)}$$

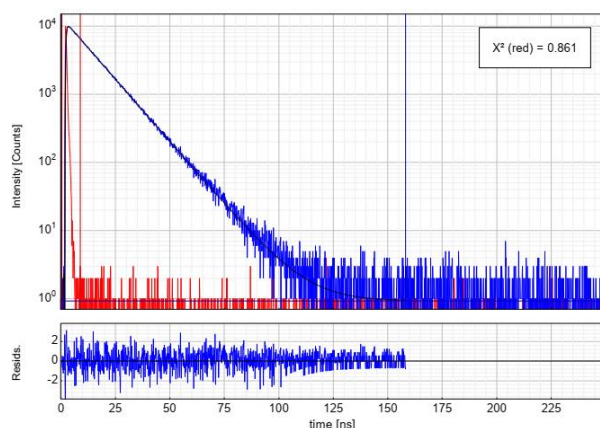
$$\tau_{Av,2} = 8.9982 \text{ ns (amplitude weighted)}$$

**Figure S47:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **H** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (1/99), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 325 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{em} = 420 \text{ nm}$ ) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



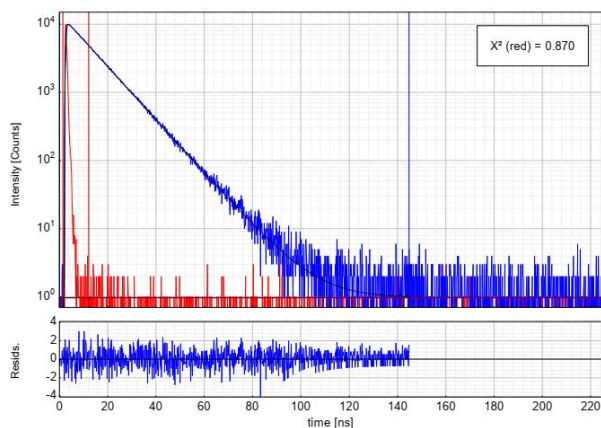
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	11418.3	-54.7	+54.7	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	12.3311	-0.0421	+0.0421	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	0.842	-0.386	+0.386	Fitting
Bkgr. IRF [Cnts]	4.56	-3.12	+3.12	Fitting
Shift IRF [ns]	0.35496	-0.00713	+0.00713	Fitting
A <sub>Scat</sub> [Cnts]	4400	-1020	+1020	Fitting

**Figure S48:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **Me** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF solution, including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 325 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{em} = 430 \text{ nm}$ ) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



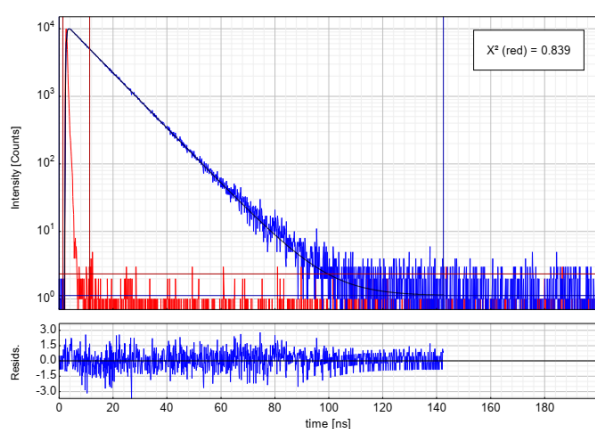
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	11433.4	-56.6	+56.6	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	11.8373	-0.0426	+0.0426	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	0.927	-0.370	+0.370	Fitting
Bkgr. IRF [Cnts]	-0.88	-2.32	+2.32	Fitting
Shift IRF [ns]	-0.09104	-0.00972	+0.00972	Fitting
A <sub>Scat</sub> [Cnts]	-12413	-419	+419	Fitting

**Figure S49:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **Me** at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (70/30), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 325 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{em} = 430 \text{ nm}$ ) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



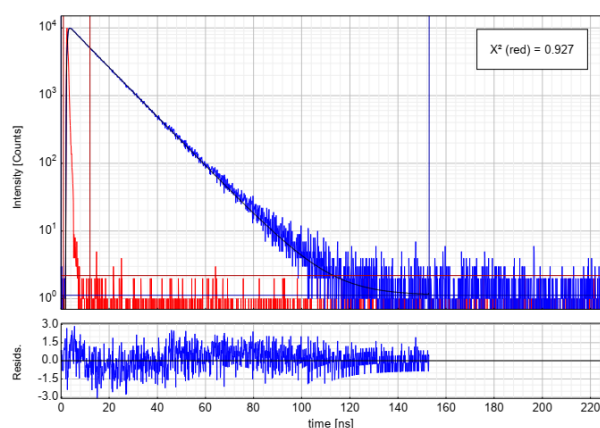
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
$A_1$ [Cnts]	11401.7	-57.2	+57.2	Fitting
$\tau_1$ [ns]	11.1308	-0.0398	+0.0398	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	0.972	-0.383	+0.383	Fitting
Bkgr. IRF [Cnts]	0.97	-2.13	+2.13	Fitting
Shift IRF [ns]	0.08398	-0.00785	+0.00785	Fitting
$A_{Scale}$ [Cnts]	3405	-994	+994	Fitting

**Figure S50:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **Me** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (50/50), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 325$  nm,  $\lambda_{em} = 430$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



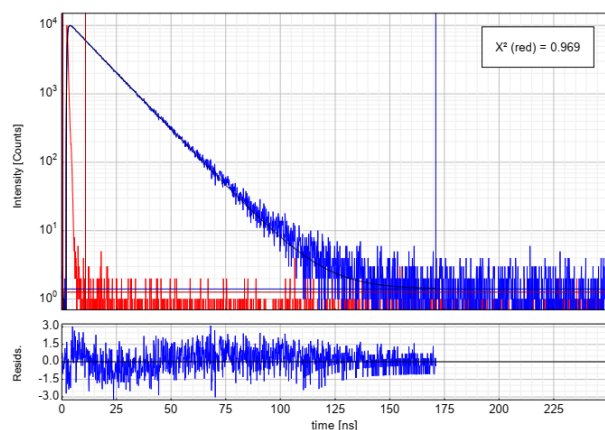
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
$A_1$ [Cnts]	11426.4	-57.2	+57.2	Fitting
$\tau_1$ [ns]	10.6199	-0.0379	+0.0379	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	1.124	-0.372	+0.372	Fitting
Bkgr. IRF [Cnts]	2.36	-2.46	+2.46	Fitting
Shift IRF [ns]	0.73661	-0.00700	+0.00700	Fitting
$A_{Scale}$ [Cnts]	3923	-969	+969	Fitting

**Figure S51:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **Me** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (30/70), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 325$  nm,  $\lambda_{em} = 430$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



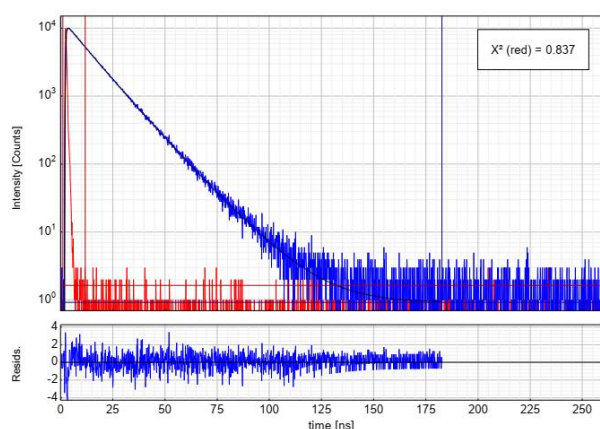
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
$A_1$ [Cnts]	11257.7	-58.1	+58.1	Fitting
$\tau_1$ [ns]	11.9624	-0.0444	+0.0444	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	1.129	-0.401	+0.401	Fitting
Bkgr. IRF [Cnts]	2.19	-2.28	+2.28	Fitting
Shift IRF [ns]	0.98656	-0.00827	+0.00827	Fitting
$A_{Scale}$ [Cnts]	268	-978	+978	Fitting

**Figure S52:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **Me** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (20/80), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 325$  nm,  $\lambda_{em} = 430$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
$A_1$ [Cnts]	11515.2	-60.5	+60.5	Fitting
$\tau_1$ [ns]	13.1154	-0.0497	+0.0497	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	1.413	-0.420	+0.420	Fitting
Bkgr. IRF [Cnts]	1.27	-1.93	+1.93	Fitting
Shift IRF [ns]	0.0073	-0.0121	+0.0121	Fitting
$A_{\text{Scale}}$ [Cnts]	-7379	-834	+834	Fitting

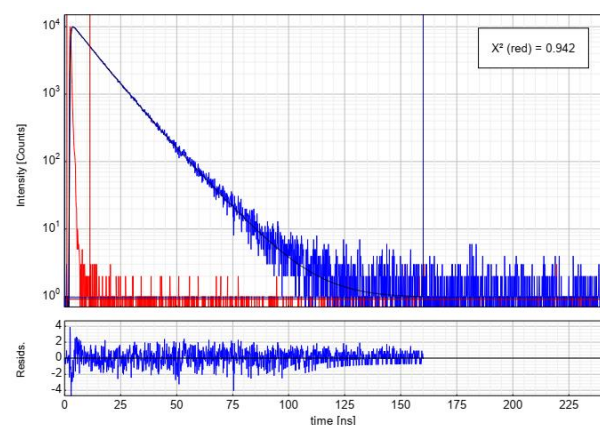
**Figure S53:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **Me** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (10/90), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 325$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 430$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
$A_1$ [Cnts]	1962.5	-44.0	+44.0	Fitting
$\tau_1$ [ns]	16.119	-0.205	+0.205	Fitting
$A_2$ [Cnts]	9639.8	-64.8	+64.8	Fitting
$\tau_2$ [ns]	11.3205	-0.0586	+0.0586	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	0.925	-0.355	+0.355	Fitting
Bkgr. IRF [Cnts]	1.65	-2.53	+2.53	Fitting
Shift IRF [ns]	1.0812	-0.0100	+0.0100	Fitting
$A_{\text{Scale}}$ [Cnts]	-5202	-899	+899	Fitting

Average Lifetime:  
 $\tau_{\text{Av},1} = 12.399$  ns (intensity weighted)  
 $\tau_{\text{Av},2} = 12.132$  ns (amplitude weighted)

**Figure S54:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **Me** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (5/95), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 325$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 430$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.

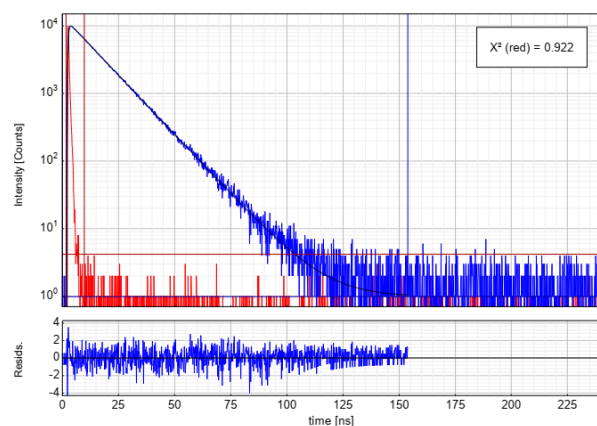


Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
$A_1$ [Cnts]	4001.3	-50.7	+50.7	Fitting
$\tau_1$ [ns]	13.322	-0.103	+0.103	Fitting
$A_2$ [Cnts]	7694.9	-72.7	+72.7	Fitting
$\tau_2$ [ns]	9.3223	-0.0720	+0.0720	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	0.962	-0.383	+0.383	Fitting
Bkgr. IRF [Cnts]	0.91	-2.56	+2.56	Fitting
Shift IRF [ns]	0.5413	-0.0108	+0.0108	Fitting
$A_{\text{Scale}}$ [Cnts]	-7616	-794	+794	Fitting

Average Lifetime:  
 $\tau_{\text{Av},1} = 11.027$  ns (intensity weighted)  
 $\tau_{\text{Av},2} = 10.691$  ns (amplitude weighted)

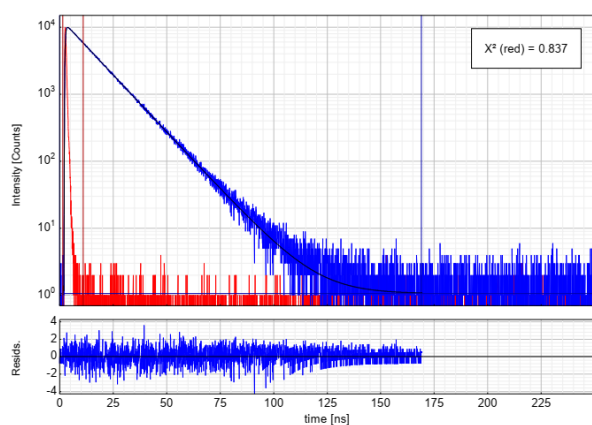
**Figure S55:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **Me** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (1/99), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 325$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 430$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.





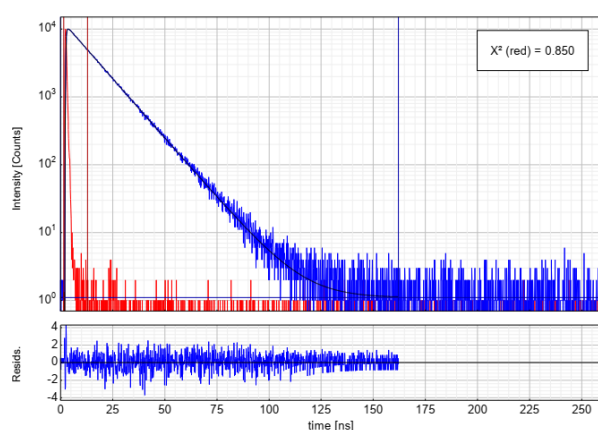
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	11549.6	-57.2	+57.2	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	12.3499	-0.0443	+0.0443	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	0.988	-0.414	+0.414	Fitting
Bkgr. <sub>IRF</sub> [Cnts]	4.17	-4.39	+4.39	Fitting
Shift <sub>IRF</sub> [ns]	1.71938	-0.00937	+0.00937	Fitting
A <sub>Scat</sub> [Cnts]	-12122	-485	+485	Fitting

**Figure S56:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **t-Bu** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF solution, including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 325$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 430$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



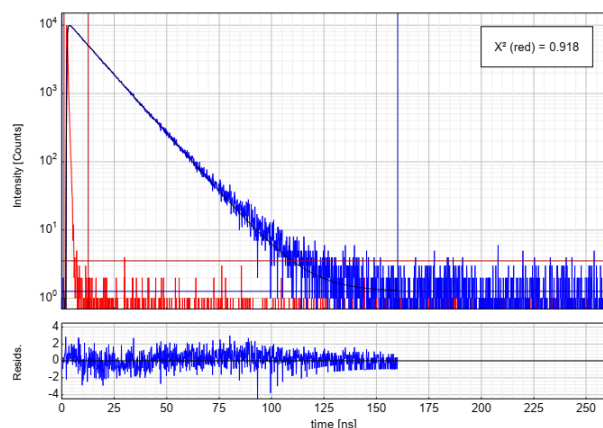
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	11178.0	-56.1	+56.1	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	12.7456	-0.0456	+0.0456	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	1.060	-0.370	+0.370	Fitting
Bkgr. <sub>IRF</sub> [Cnts]	0.092	-2.69	+2.69	Fitting
Shift <sub>IRF</sub> [ns]	0.19404	-0.00985	+0.00985	Fitting
A <sub>Scat</sub> [Cnts]	12200	-2060	+2060	Fitting

**Figure S57:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **t-Bu** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (70/30), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 325$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 430$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



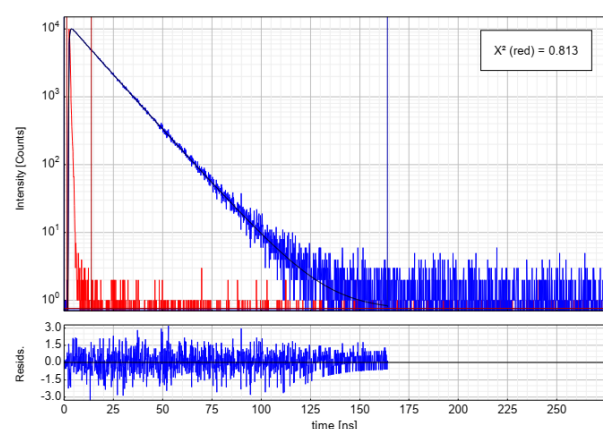
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	11472.0	-55.8	+55.8	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	12.3871	-0.0438	+0.0438	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	1.102	-0.381	+0.381	Fitting
Bkgr. <sub>IRF</sub> [Cnts]	-0.75	-3.83	+3.83	Fitting
Shift <sub>IRF</sub> [ns]	1.47423	-0.00879	+0.00879	Fitting
A <sub>Scat</sub> [Cnts]	-12674	-411	+411	Fitting

**Figure S58:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **t-Bu** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (50/50), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 325$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 430$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	11357.2	-57.2	+57.2	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	12.6262	-0.0461	+0.0461	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	1.267	-0.412	+0.412	Fitting
Bkgr. IRF [Cnts]	3.53	-2.23	+2.23	Fitting
Shift IRF [ns]	0.21559	-0.00848	+0.00848	Fitting
A <sub>Scale</sub> [Cnts]	-11509	-537	+537	Fitting

**Figure S59:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **t-Bu** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (30/70), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 325$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 430$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



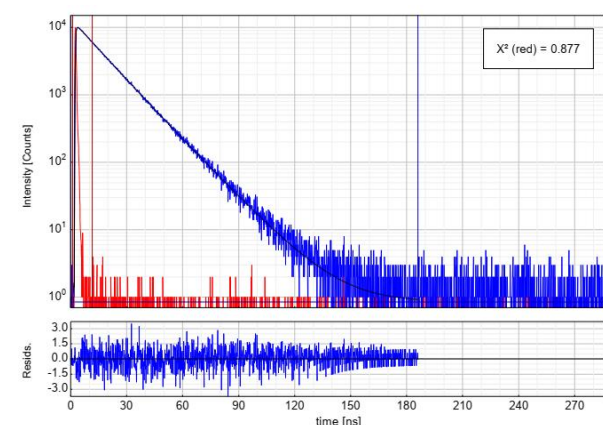
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	10320.9	-54.7	+54.7	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	13.0530	-0.0505	+0.0505	Fitting
A <sub>2</sub> [Cnts]	1018.3	-41.4	+41.4	Fitting
τ <sub>2</sub> [ns]	16.745	-0.410	+0.410	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	0.725	-0.390	+0.390	Fitting
Bkgr. IRF [Cnts]	0.77	-2.39	+2.39	Fitting
Shift IRF [ns]	1.12133	-0.00773	+0.00773	Fitting
A <sub>Scale</sub> [Cnts]	282	-955	+955	Fitting

Average Lifetime:

$$\tau_{\text{Av},1} = 13.4677 \text{ ns (intensity weighted)}$$

$$\tau_{\text{Av},2} = 13.3845 \text{ ns (amplitude weighted)}$$

**Figure S60:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **t-Bu** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (20/80), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 325$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 430$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



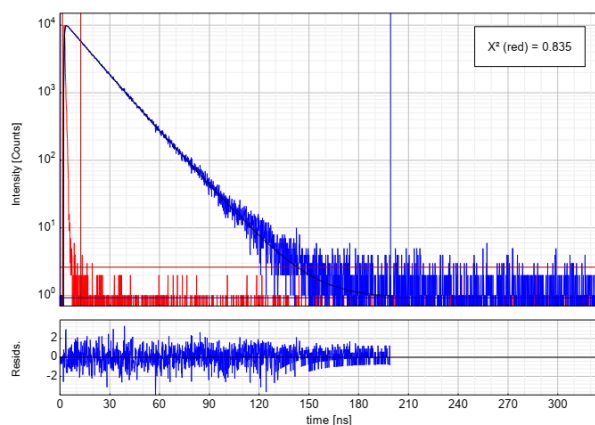
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	4121.2	-48.8	+48.8	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	16.618	-0.126	+0.126	Fitting
A <sub>2</sub> [Cnts]	7287.8	-61.2	+61.2	Fitting
τ <sub>2</sub> [ns]	13.2304	-0.0872	+0.0872	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	0.854	-0.396	+0.396	Fitting
Bkgr. IRF [Cnts]	-0.61	-2.72	+2.72	Fitting
Shift IRF [ns]	0.09467	-0.00874	+0.00874	Fitting
A <sub>Scale</sub> [Cnts]	-11840	-554	+554	Fitting

Average Lifetime:

$$\tau_{\text{Av},1} = 14.637 \text{ ns (intensity weighted)}$$

$$\tau_{\text{Av},2} = 14.454 \text{ ns (amplitude weighted)}$$

**Figure S61:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **t-Bu** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (10/90), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 325$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 430$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



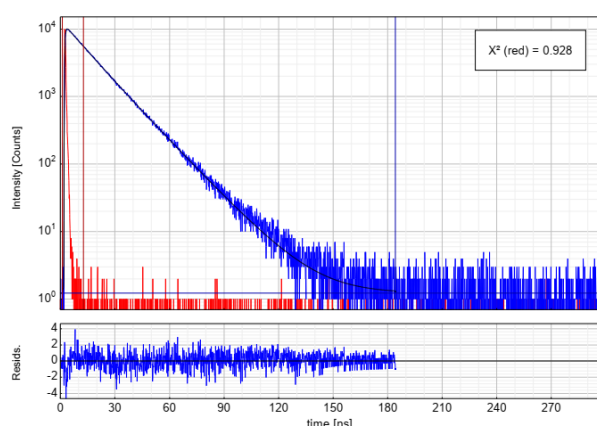
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	7332.2	-51.0	+51.0	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	16.7067	-0.0727	+0.0727	Fitting
A <sub>2</sub> [Cnts]	3799.8	-67.2	+67.2	Fitting
τ <sub>2</sub> [ns]	12.726	-0.216	+0.216	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	0.931	-0.386	+0.386	Fitting
Bkgr. IRF [Cnts]	2.61	-3.00	+3.00	Fitting
Shift IRF [ns]	1.62137	-0.00946	+0.00946	Fitting
A <sub>Scale</sub> [Cnts]	376	-1070	+1070	Fitting

Average Lifetime:

$$\tau_{Av,1} = 15.5801 \text{ ns (intensity weighted)}$$

$$\tau_{Av,2} = 15.3480 \text{ ns (amplitude weighted)}$$

**Figure S62:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **t-Bu** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (5/95), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 325 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{em} = 430 \text{ nm}$ ) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



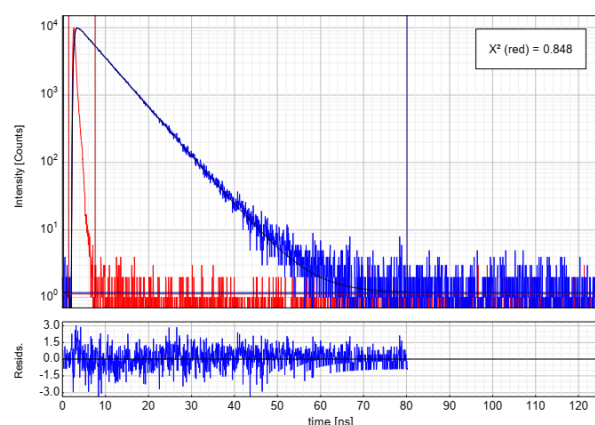
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	6524.5	-51.5	+51.5	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	16.2286	-0.0849	+0.0849	Fitting
A <sub>2</sub> [Cnts]	4827.0	-68.5	+68.5	Fitting
τ <sub>2</sub> [ns]	12.033	-0.142	+0.142	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	1.232	-0.438	+0.438	Fitting
Bkgr. IRF [Cnts]	-0.272	-3.02	+3.02	Fitting
Shift IRF [ns]	-0.04721	-0.00982	+0.00982	Fitting
A <sub>Scale</sub> [Cnts]	-3513	-986	+986	Fitting

Average Lifetime:

$$\tau_{Av,1} = 14.7424 \text{ ns (intensity weighted)}$$

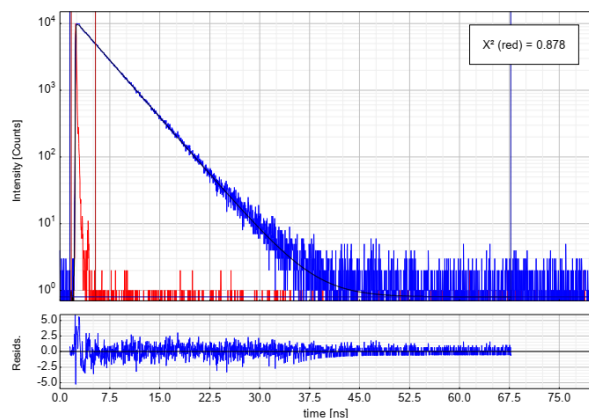
$$\tau_{Av,2} = 14.4446 \text{ ns (amplitude weighted)}$$

**Figure S63:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **t-Bu** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (1/99), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 325 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{em} = 430 \text{ nm}$ ) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



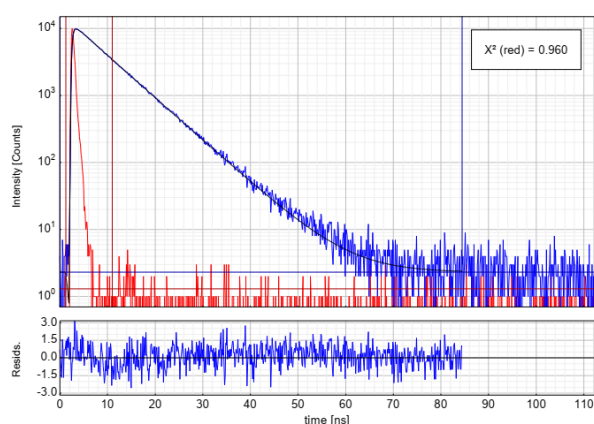
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	12022.6	-59.0	+59.0	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	5.9599	-0.0209	+0.0209	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	1.183	-0.381	+0.381	Fitting
Bkgr. IRF [Cnts]	1.12	-3.02	+3.02	Fitting
Shift IRF [ns]	0.95002	-0.00536	+0.00536	Fitting
A <sub>Scale</sub> [Cnts]	8350	-1390	+1390	Fitting

**Figure S64:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **OMe** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF solution, including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 325 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{em} = 450 \text{ nm}$ ) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



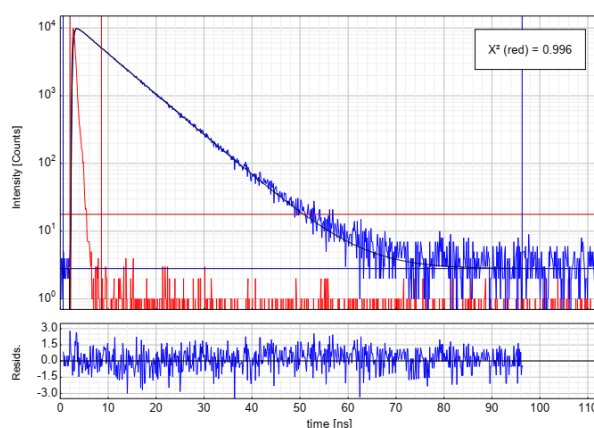
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	6478.4	-42.9	+42.9	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	6.5363	-0.0319	+0.0319	Fitting
Bkgr. dec [Cnts]	1.402	-0.357	+0.357	Fitting

**Figure S65:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **OMe** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (70/30), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 325$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 450$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	11651.8	-59.3	+59.3	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	6.8569	-0.0250	+0.0250	Fitting
Bkgr. dec [Cnts]	2.308	-0.500	+0.500	Fitting
Bkgr. spf [Cnts]	1.30	-2.41	+2.41	Fitting
Shift spf [ns]	1.01164	-0.00487	+0.00487	Fitting
A <sub>scale</sub> [Cnts]	6430	-828	+828	Fitting

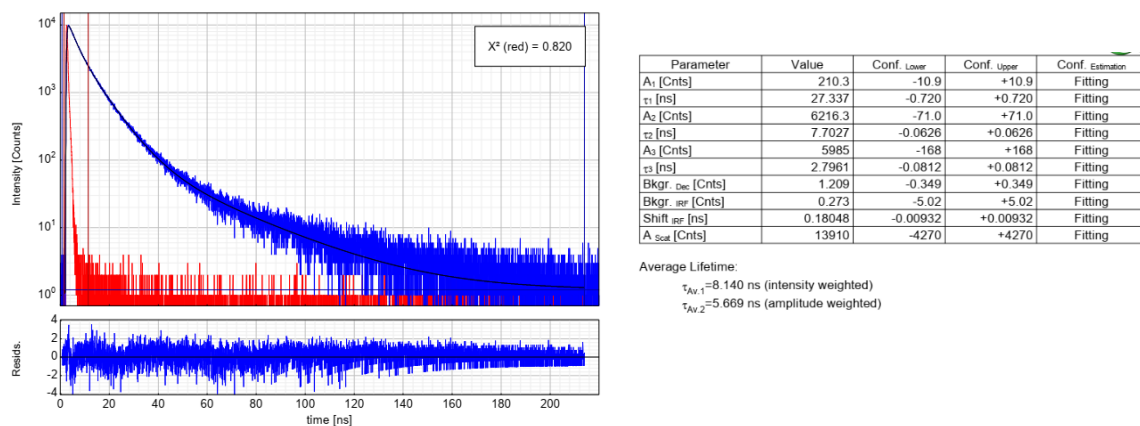
**Figure S66:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **OMe** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (50/50), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 325$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 450$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



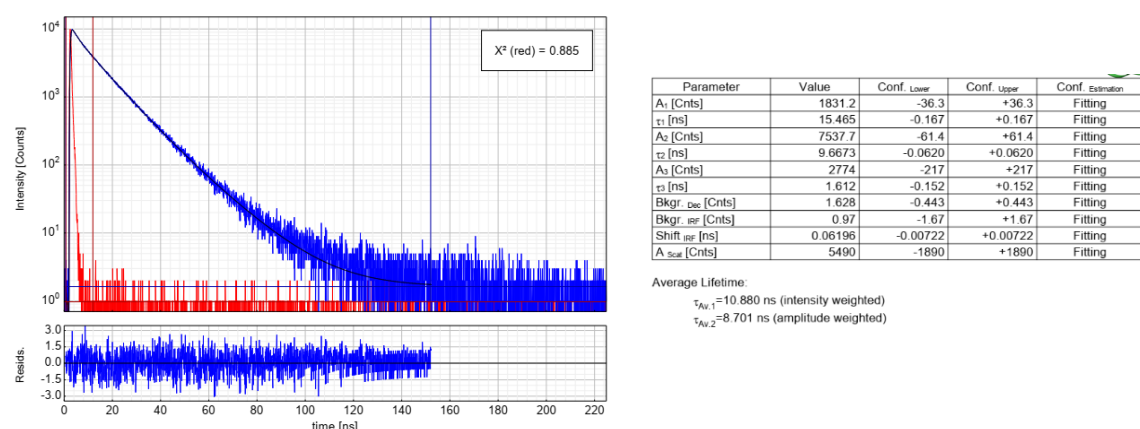
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	11560.4	-62.7	+62.7	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	7.2467	-0.0281	+0.0281	Fitting
Bkgr. dec [Cnts]	2.797	-0.508	+0.508	Fitting
Bkgr. spf [Cnts]	17.84	-5.08	+5.08	Fitting
Shift spf [ns]	2.02270	-0.00579	+0.00579	Fitting
A <sub>scale</sub> [Cnts]	6577	-901	+901	Fitting

**Figure S67:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **OMe** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (30/70), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 325$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 450$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.

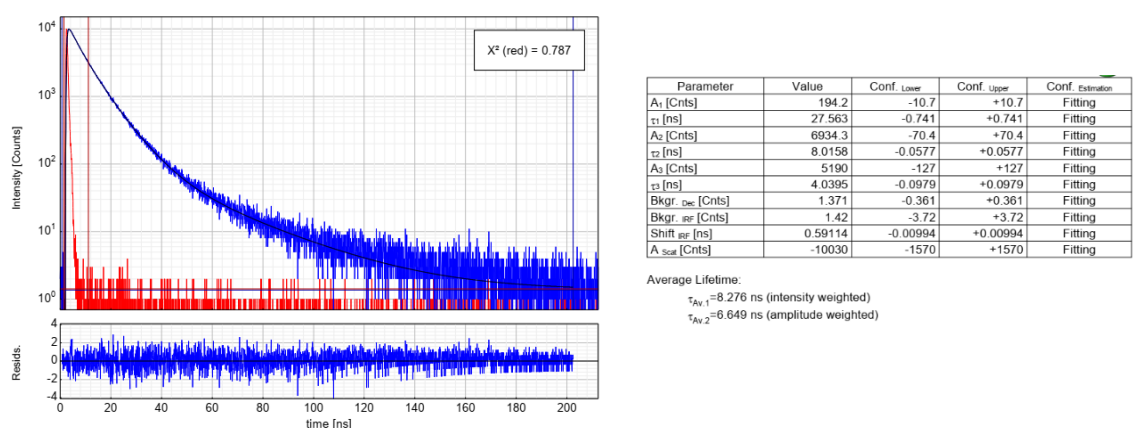




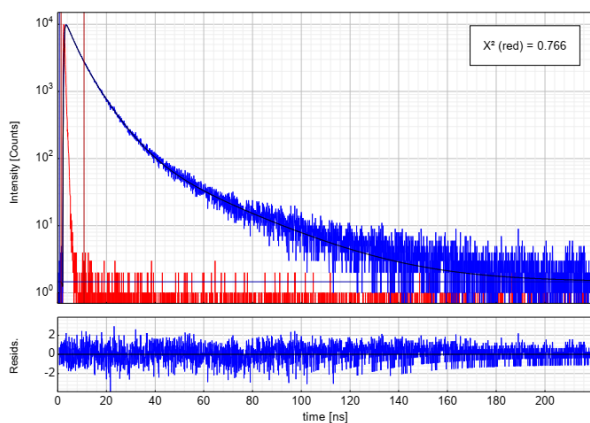
**Figure S68:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **OMe** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (20/80), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 325$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 450$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



**Figure S69:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **OMe** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (10/90), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 325$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 450$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



**Figure S70:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **OMe** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (5/95), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 325$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 450$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



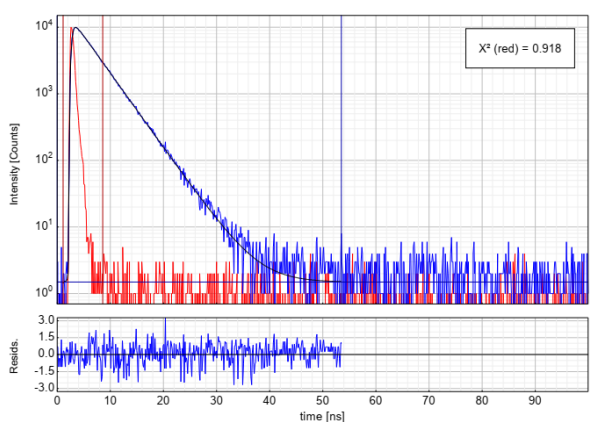
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
$A_1$ [Cnts]	249.7	-11.5	+11.5	Fitting
$\tau_1$ [ns]	26.621	-0.625	+0.625	Fitting
$A_2$ [Cnts]	6041.0	-72.5	+72.5	Fitting
$\tau_2$ [ns]	7.4839	-0.0638	+0.0638	Fitting
$A_3$ [Cnts]	6271	-145	+145	Fitting
$\tau_3$ [ns]	3.3172	-0.0782	+0.0782	Fitting
Bkgr. dec [Cnts]	1.463	-0.345	+0.345	Fitting
Bkgr. rrf [Cnts]	0.53	-3.59	+3.59	Fitting
Shift rrf [ns]	-0.01686	-0.00903	+0.00903	Fitting
$A_{Scale}$ [Cnts]	-13100	-1490	+1490	Fitting

Average Lifetime:

$$\tau_{Av,1} = 8.042 \text{ ns (intensity weighted)}$$

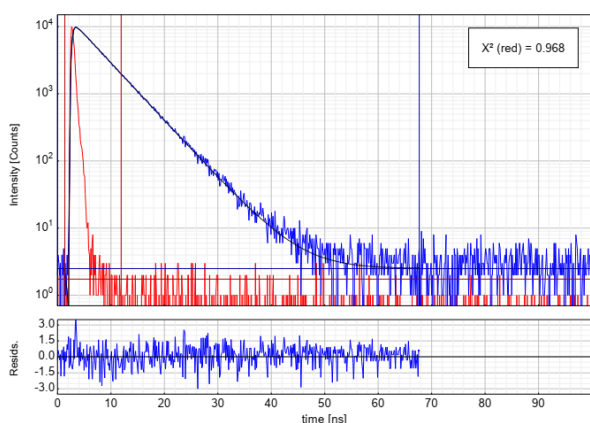
$$\tau_{Av,2} = 5.784 \text{ ns (amplitude weighted)}$$

**Figure S71:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **OMe** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (1/99), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 325 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{em} = 450 \text{ nm}$ ) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



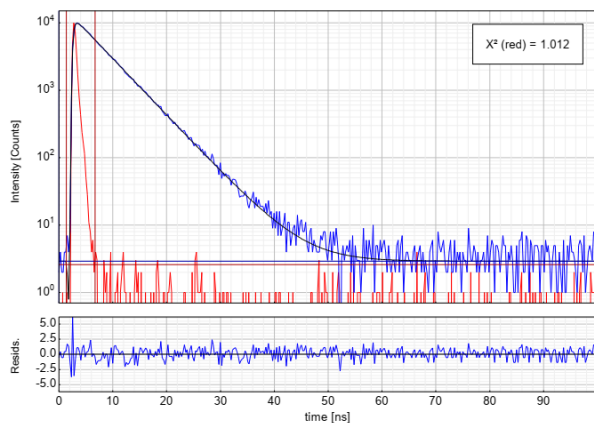
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
$A_1$ [Cnts]	13141.5	-64.9	+64.9	Fitting
$\tau_1$ [ns]	3.8873	-0.0137	+0.0137	Fitting
Bkgr. dec [Cnts]	1.488	-0.416	+0.416	Fitting
Bkgr. rrf [Cnts]	0.257	-1.79	+1.79	Fitting
Shift rrf [ns]	0.05507	-0.00536	+0.00536	Fitting
$A_{Scale}$ [Cnts]	676	-618	+618	Fitting

**Figure S72:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **SMe** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF solution, including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 325 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{em} = 485 \text{ nm}$ ) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



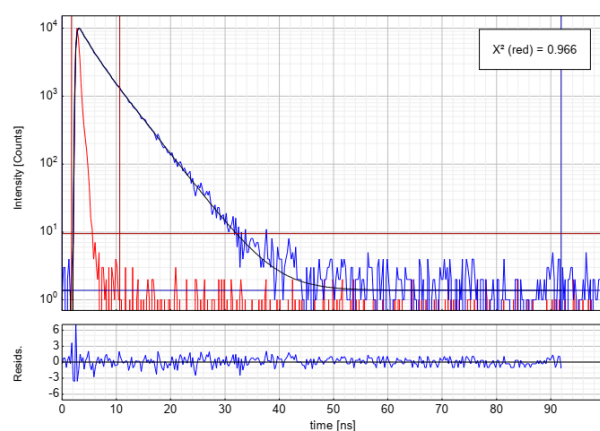
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
$A_1$ [Cnts]	12010.8	-63.0	+63.0	Fitting
$\tau_1$ [ns]	5.0691	-0.0190	+0.0190	Fitting
Bkgr. dec [Cnts]	2.499	-0.487	+0.487	Fitting
Bkgr. rrf [Cnts]	1.74	-2.21	+2.21	Fitting
Shift rrf [ns]	0.33362	-0.00565	+0.00565	Fitting
$A_{Scale}$ [Cnts]	4839	-737	+737	Fitting

**Figure S73:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **SMe** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (70/30), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 325 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{em} = 485 \text{ nm}$ ) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
$A_1$ [Cnts]	12134.5	-78.3	+78.3	Fitting
$\tau_1$ [ns]	5.1773	-0.0236	+0.0236	Fitting
Bkgr. dec [Cnts]	2.915	-0.430	+0.430	Fitting
Bkgr. irf [Cnts]	2.60	-4.51	+4.51	Fitting
Shift irf [ns]	0.68325	-0.00673	+0.00673	Fitting
$A_{\text{Scat}}$ [Cnts]	4431	-544	+544	Fitting

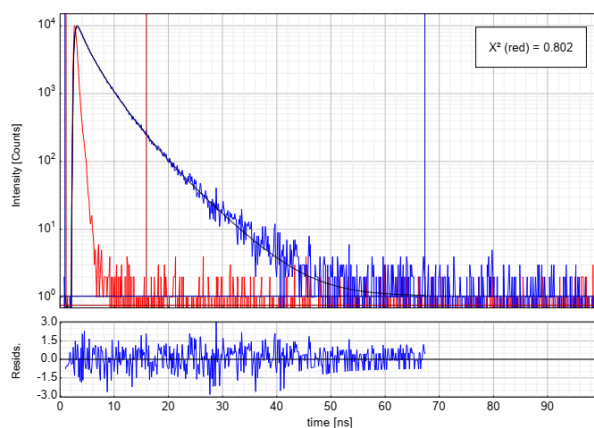
**Figure S74:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **SMe** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (50/50), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 325$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 485$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
$A_1$ [Cnts]	8467.4	-73.8	+73.8	Fitting
$\tau_1$ [ns]	4.2465	-0.0243	+0.0243	Fitting
$A_2$ [Cnts]	4191	-184	+184	Fitting
$\tau_2$ [ns]	1.5654	-0.0664	+0.0664	Fitting
Bkgr. dec [Cnts]	1.389	-0.319	+0.319	Fitting
Bkgr. irf [Cnts]	9.50	-3.46	+3.46	Fitting
Shift irf [ns]	1.71487	-0.00550	+0.00550	Fitting
$A_{\text{Scat}}$ [Cnts]	9014	-548	+548	Fitting

Average Lifetime:  
 $\tau_{\text{Av},1} = 3.8328$  ns (intensity weighted)  
 $\tau_{\text{Av},2} = 3.3588$  ns (amplitude weighted)

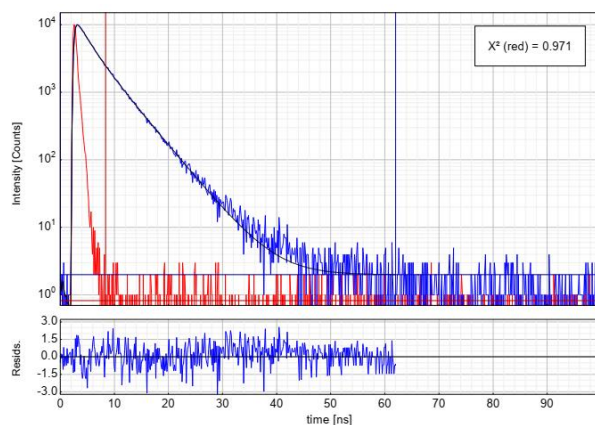
**Figure S75:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **SMe** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (30/70), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 325$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 485$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
$A_1$ [Cnts]	7270.1	-76.8	+76.8	Fitting
$\tau_1$ [ns]	2.8373	-0.0233	+0.0233	Fitting
$A_2$ [Cnts]	6522	-214	+214	Fitting
$\tau_2$ [ns]	0.8458	-0.0284	+0.0284	Fitting
$A_3$ [Cnts]	1677.3	-32.3	+32.3	Fitting
$\tau_3$ [ns]	5.8104	-0.0590	+0.0590	Fitting
Bkgr. dec [Cnts]	1.042	-0.336	+0.336	Fitting
Bkgr. irf [Cnts]	0.77	-1.03	+1.03	Fitting
Shift irf [ns]	0.85480	-0.00444	+0.00444	Fitting
$A_{\text{Scat}}$ [Cnts]	8091	-736	+736	Fitting

Average Lifetime:  
 $\tau_{\text{Av},1} = 3.3386$  ns (intensity weighted)  
 $\tau_{\text{Av},2} = 2.3201$  ns (amplitude weighted)

**Figure S76:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **SMe** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (20/80), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 325$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 485$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



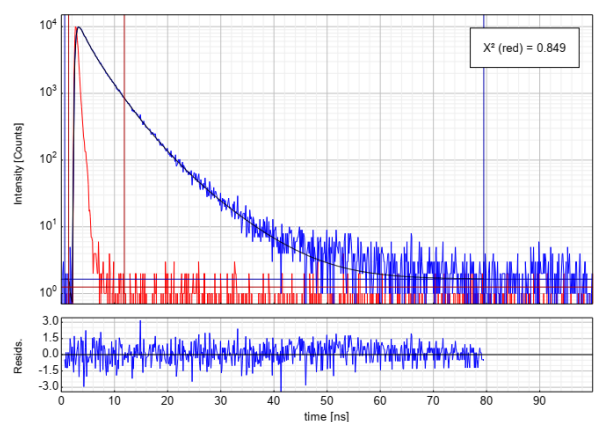
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	7663.9	-57.7	+57.7	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	4.5051	-0.0220	+0.0220	Fitting
A <sub>2</sub> [Cnts]	5904	-129	+129	Fitting
τ <sub>2</sub> [ns]	1.8536	-0.0400	+0.0400	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	1.990	-0.422	+0.422	Fitting
Bkgr. IRR [Cnts]	0.828	-0.678	+0.678	Fitting
Shift IRR [ns]	0.46862	-0.00427	+0.00427	Fitting
A <sub>Scat</sub> [Cnts]	7317	-762	+762	Fitting

Average Lifetime:

$$\tau_{Av,1} = 3.8669 \text{ ns (intensity weighted)}$$

$$\tau_{Av,2} = 3.3512 \text{ ns (amplitude weighted)}$$

**Figure S77:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **SMe** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (10/90), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 325 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{em} = 485 \text{ nm}$ ) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



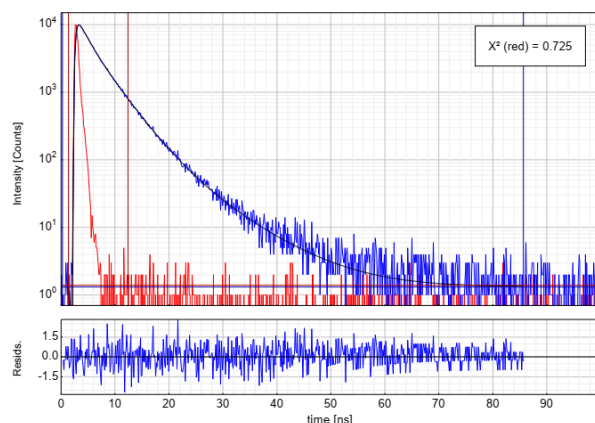
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	8498.6	-76.7	+76.7	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	3.4012	-0.0230	+0.0230	Fitting
A <sub>2</sub> [Cnts]	5167	-196	+196	Fitting
τ <sub>2</sub> [ns]	1.0950	-0.0437	+0.0437	Fitting
A <sub>3</sub> [Cnts]	884.3	-28.7	+28.7	Fitting
τ <sub>3</sub> [ns]	7.193	-0.116	+0.116	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	1.641	-0.365	+0.365	Fitting
Bkgr. IRR [Cnts]	1.26	-1.88	+1.88	Fitting
Shift IRR [ns]	0.99309	-0.00488	+0.00488	Fitting
A <sub>Scat</sub> [Cnts]	4024	-767	+767	Fitting

Average Lifetime:

$$\tau_{Av,1} = 3.6718 \text{ ns (intensity weighted)}$$

$$\tau_{Av,2} = 2.8127 \text{ ns (amplitude weighted)}$$

**Figure S78:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **SMe** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (5/95), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 325 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{em} = 485 \text{ nm}$ ) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	8585.7	-69.7	+69.7	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	3.6937	-0.0216	+0.0216	Fitting
A <sub>2</sub> [Cnts]	5235	-164	+164	Fitting
τ <sub>2</sub> [ns]	1.3558	-0.0437	+0.0437	Fitting
A <sub>3</sub> [Cnts]	465.9	-21.4	+21.4	Fitting
τ <sub>3</sub> [ns]	8.474	-0.177	+0.177	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	1.317	-0.315	+0.315	Fitting
Bkgr. IRR [Cnts]	1.40	-1.76	+1.76	Fitting
Shift IRR [ns]	0.22652	-0.00459	+0.00459	Fitting
A <sub>Scat</sub> [Cnts]	5600	-761	+761	Fitting

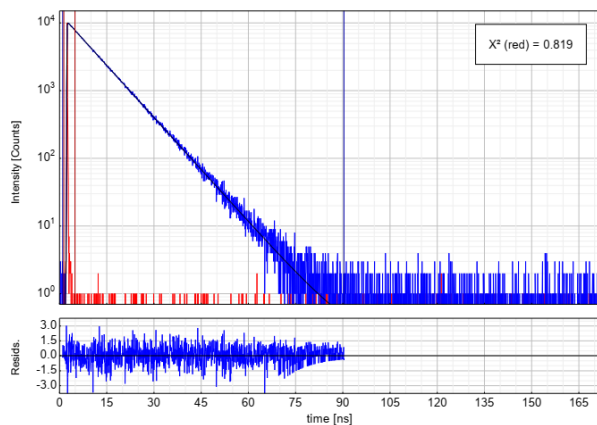
Average Lifetime:

$$\tau_{Av,1} = 3.7470 \text{ ns (intensity weighted)}$$

$$\tau_{Av,2} = 2.9929 \text{ ns (amplitude weighted)}$$

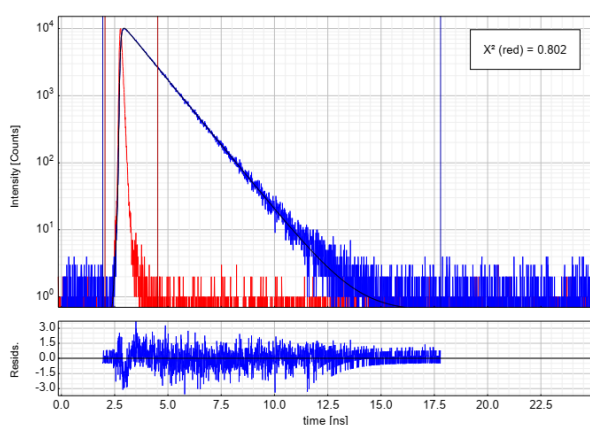
**Figure S79:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **SMe** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (1/99), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 325 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{em} = 485 \text{ nm}$ ) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.





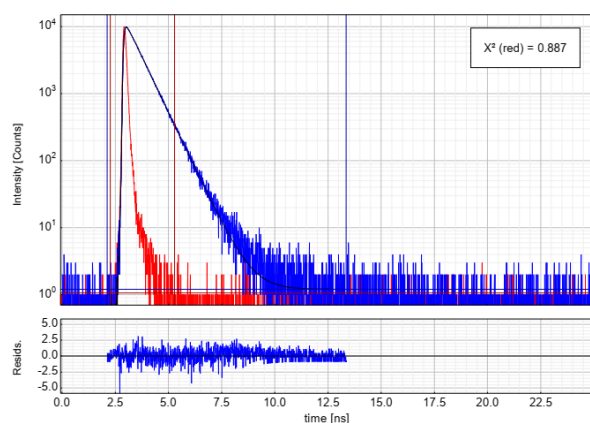
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	10579.3	-47.9	+47.9	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	8.4617	-0.0274	+0.0274	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	0.160	-0.428	+0.428	Fitting
Bkgr. IRR [Cnts]	-0.158	-0.597	+0.597	Fitting
Shift IRR [ns]	1.23908	-0.00407	+0.00407	Fitting
A <sub>Scat</sub> [Cnts]	-2335	-716	+716	Fitting

**Figure S80:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **NMe<sub>2</sub>** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF solution, including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 376$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 565$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



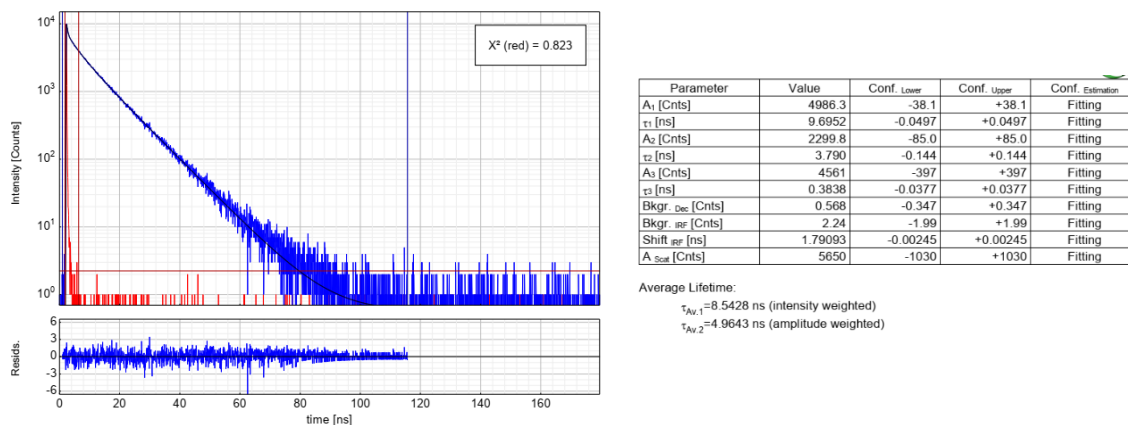
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	12234.0	-58.9	+58.9	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	1.12371	-0.00387	+0.00387	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	0.611	-0.334	+0.334	Fitting
Bkgr. IRR [Cnts]	0.140	-0.560	+0.560	Fitting
Shift IRR [ns]	-0.14965	-0.00130	+0.00130	Fitting
A <sub>Scat</sub> [Cnts]	-3710	-1920	+1920	Fitting

**Figure S81:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **NMe<sub>2</sub>** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (70/30), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 376$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 565$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.

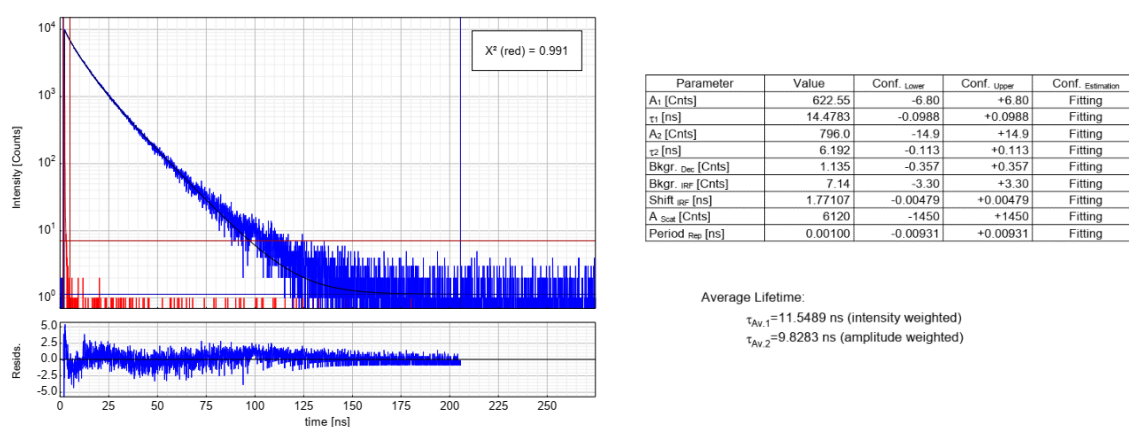


Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	12198.2	-70.0	+70.0	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	0.65186	-0.00263	+0.00263	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	1.207	-0.337	+0.337	Fitting
Bkgr. IRR [Cnts]	1.063	-0.674	+0.674	Fitting
Shift IRR [ns]	-0.07080	-0.00111	+0.00111	Fitting
A <sub>Scat</sub> [Cnts]	56510	-2410	+2410	Fitting

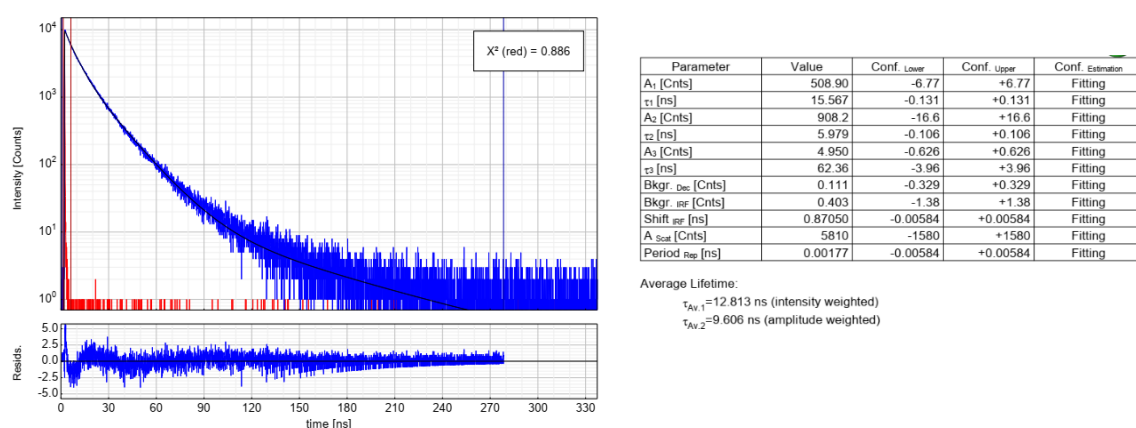
**Figure S82:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **NMe<sub>2</sub>** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (50/50), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 376$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 565$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



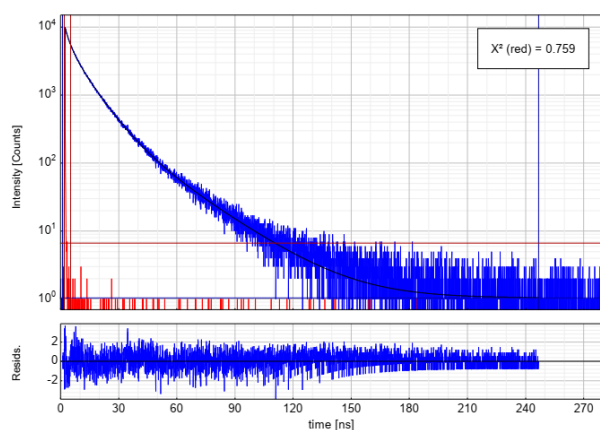
**Figure S83:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **NMe<sub>2</sub>** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (30/70), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 376$  nm,  $\lambda_{em} = 565$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



**Figure S84:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **NMe<sub>2</sub>** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (20/80), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 376$  nm,  $\lambda_{em} = 565$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



**Figure S85:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **NMe<sub>2</sub>** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (10/90), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 376$  nm,  $\lambda_{em} = 565$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



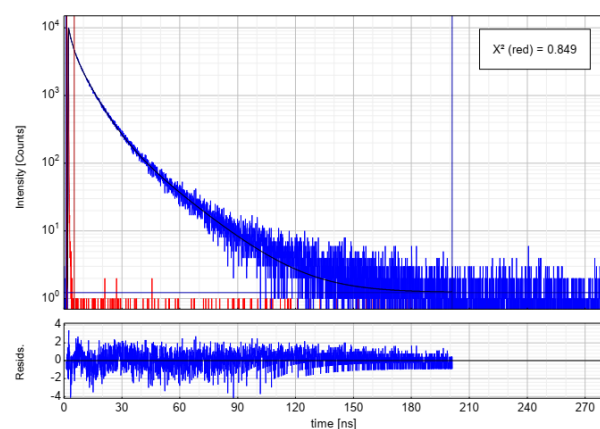
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
$A_1$ [Cnts]	96.39	-2.88	+2.88	Fitting
$\tau_1$ [ns]	22.730	-0.354	+0.354	Fitting
$A_2$ [Cnts]	776.43	-9.25	+9.25	Fitting
$\tau_2$ [ns]	8.9484	-0.0838	+0.0838	Fitting
$A_3$ [Cnts]	602.3	-25.9	+25.9	Fitting
$\tau_3$ [ns]	2.350	-0.112	+0.112	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	1.039	-0.308	+0.308	Fitting
Bkgr. sep [Cnts]	6.69	-3.53	+3.53	Fitting
Shift sep [ns]	1.92359	-0.00519	+0.00519	Fitting
$A_{scat}$ [Cnts]	9170	-1320	+1320	Fitting
Period sep [ns]	0.01142	-0.00222	+0.00222	Fitting

Average Lifetime:

$$\tau_{Av,1} = 10.924 \text{ ns (intensity weighted)}$$

$$\tau_{Av,2} = 7.155 \text{ ns (amplitude weighted)}$$

**Figure S86:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **NMe<sub>2</sub>** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (5/95), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 376$  nm,  $\lambda_{em} = 565$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
$A_1$ [Cnts]	100.31	-2.88	+2.88	Fitting
$\tau_1$ [ns]	19.144	-0.292	+0.292	Fitting
$A_2$ [Cnts]	731.82	-9.75	+9.75	Fitting
$\tau_2$ [ns]	7.0801	-0.0751	+0.0751	Fitting
$A_3$ [Cnts]	671.0	-29.3	+29.3	Fitting
$\tau_3$ [ns]	1.7091	-0.0824	+0.0824	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	1.233	-0.343	+0.343	Fitting
Bkgr. sep [Cnts]	-0.086	-1.91	+1.91	Fitting
Shift sep [ns]	0.19269	-0.00515	+0.00515	Fitting
$A_{scat}$ [Cnts]	8820	-1320	+1320	Fitting
Period sep [ns]	0.00873	-0.00238	+0.00238	Fitting

Average Lifetime:

$$\tau_{Av,1} = 9.142 \text{ ns (intensity weighted)}$$

$$\tau_{Av,2} = 5.487 \text{ ns (amplitude weighted)}$$

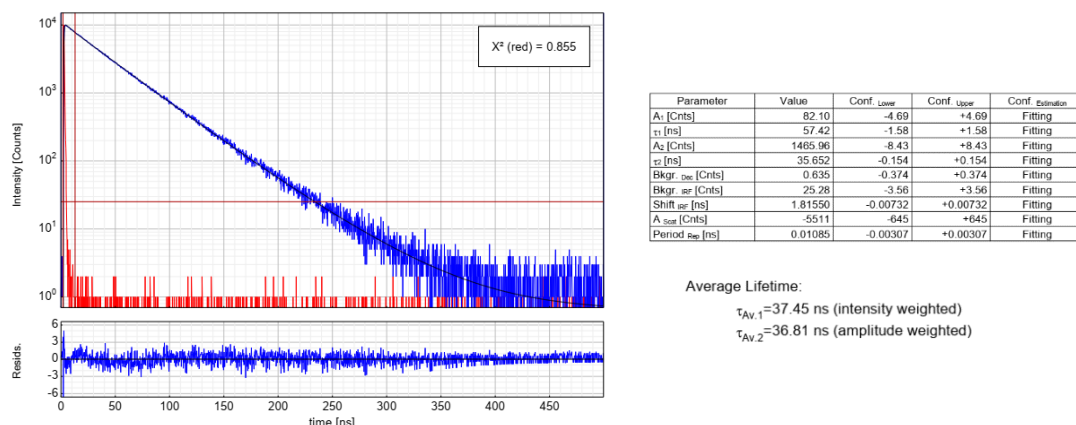
**Figure S87:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **NMe<sub>2</sub>** (blue) at 298 K (air-equilibrated) in a THF/water mixture (1/99), including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 376$  nm,  $\lambda_{em} = 565$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.

H <sub>2</sub> O content (%)	[H] $\phi_F \pm 2$ (%)	[Me] $\phi_F \pm 2$ (%)	[t-Bu] $\phi_F \pm 2$ (%)	[OMe] $\phi_F \pm 2$ (%)	[SMe] $\phi_F \pm 2$ (%)	[NMe <sub>2</sub> ] $\phi_F \pm 2$ (%)
0	15	22	24	35	28	36
30	29	38	38	50	24	3
50	27	34	36	43	26	2
70	27	36	31	39	24	4
80	18	36	35	30	24	26
90	14	32	32	25	19	26
95	13	34	30	24	19	21
99	11	32	29	20	15	20

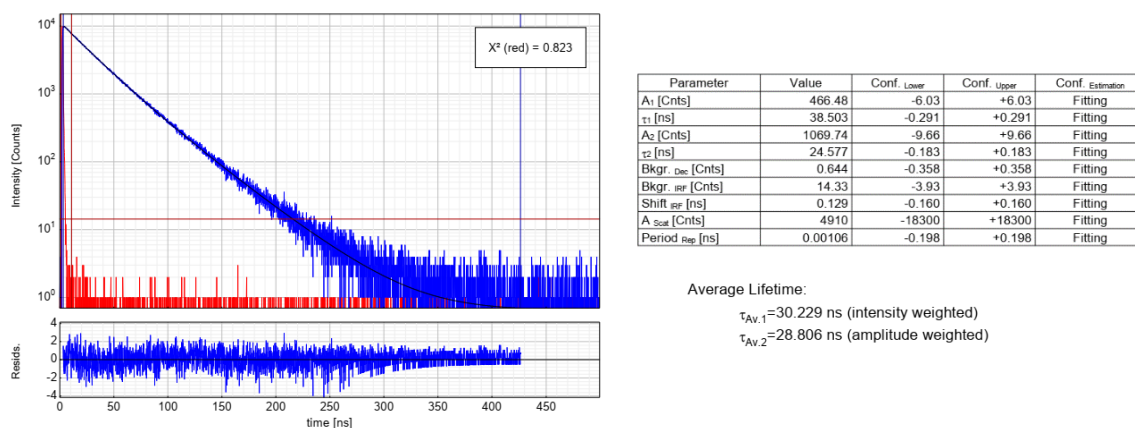
**Table S4:** Photoluminescence quantum yields ( $\phi_F$ ) at room temperature of the naphtalonitriles in different THF/water mixtures.

Sample	$\phi_F \pm 4$ (%)	$\tau_{(77\text{ K})} / \text{ns}$
<b>H</b>	78	$36.8 \pm 0.8$
<b>Me</b>	83	$28.8 \pm 0.9$
<b>Tert-butyl</b>	63	$28.1 \pm 1.0$
<b>OMe</b>	96	$11.2 \pm 0.4$
<b>SMe</b>	96	$7.4 \pm 0.2$
<b>NMe<sub>2</sub></b>	96	$8.11 \pm 0.03$

**Table S5:** Photoluminescence quantum yields ( $\phi_F$ ) and lifetimes at 77 K in a 2-methyl THF glassy matrix of the naphthalonitriles.

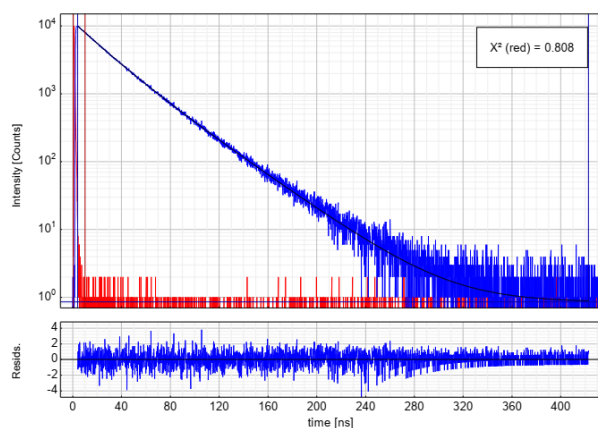


**Figure S88:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **H** (blue) at 77 K in a 2-Methyl THF glassy matrix, including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 325 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 420 \text{ nm}$ ) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



**Figure S89:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **Me** (blue) at 77 K in a 2-Methyl THF glassy matrix, including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 325 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 430 \text{ nm}$ ) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.





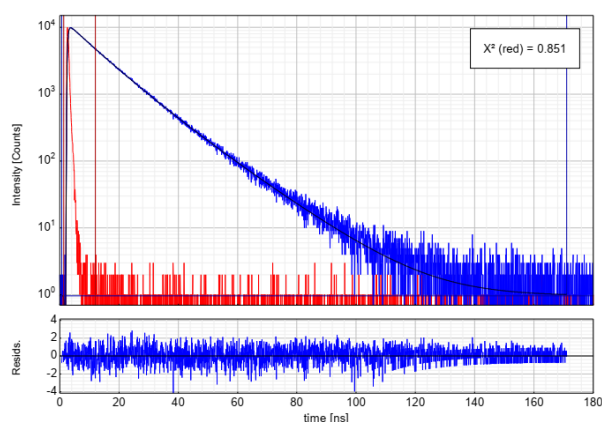
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	768.60	-6.67	+6.67	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	35.397	-0.189	+0.189	Fitting
A <sub>2</sub> [Cnts]	824.7	-11.4	+11.4	Fitting
τ <sub>2</sub> [ns]	21.199	-0.243	+0.243	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	0.855	-0.359	+0.359	Fitting
Bkgr. IRF [Cnts]	-6.27	-4.01	+4.01	Fitting
Shift IRF [ns]	0.511	-0.162	+0.162	Fitting
A <sub>Scat</sub> [Cnts]	159000	-807000	+807000	Fitting
Period Rep [ns]	0.232	-0.786	+0.786	Fitting

Average Lifetime:

$$\tau_{AV,1} = 29.842 \text{ ns (intensity weighted)}$$

$$\tau_{AV,2} = 28.048 \text{ ns (amplitude weighted)}$$

**Figure S90:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **t-Bu** (blue) at 77 K in a 2-Methyl THF glassy matrix, including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 325 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{em} = 430 \text{ nm}$ ) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



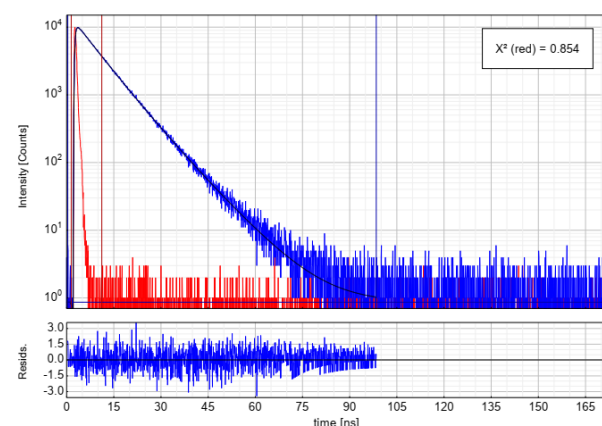
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	522.73	-6.31	+6.31	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	14.892	-0.106	+0.106	Fitting
A <sub>2</sub> [Cnts]	1083.2	-10.2	+10.2	Fitting
τ <sub>2</sub> [ns]	9.3441	-0.0737	+0.0737	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	0.963	-0.375	+0.375	Fitting
Bkgr. IRF [Cnts]	0.62	-2.75	+2.75	Fitting
Shift IRF [ns]	0.20374	-0.00876	+0.00876	Fitting
A <sub>Scat</sub> [Cnts]	5970	-1830	+1830	Fitting
Period Rep [ns]	0.00726	-0.00851	+0.00851	Fitting

Average Lifetime:

$$\tau_{AV,1} = 11.756 \text{ ns (intensity weighted)}$$

$$\tau_{AV,2} = 11.150 \text{ ns (amplitude weighted)}$$

**Figure S91:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **OMe** (blue) at 77 K in a 2-Methyl THF glassy matrix, including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 325 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{em} = 450 \text{ nm}$ ) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



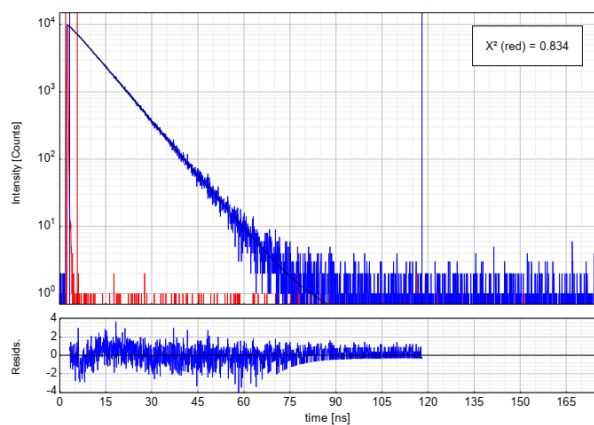
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
A <sub>1</sub> [Cnts]	442.76	-6.21	+6.21	Fitting
τ <sub>1</sub> [ns]	9.6825	-0.0757	+0.0757	Fitting
A <sub>2</sub> [Cnts]	1224.98	-9.24	+9.24	Fitting
τ <sub>2</sub> [ns]	6.6143	-0.0405	+0.0405	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	0.870	-0.415	+0.415	Fitting
Bkgr. IRF [Cnts]	0.52	-1.91	+1.91	Fitting
Shift IRF [ns]	0.11135	-0.00651	+0.00651	Fitting
A <sub>Scat</sub> [Cnts]	13280	-1470	+1470	Fitting
Period Rep [ns]	0.01706	-0.00384	+0.00384	Fitting

Average Lifetime:

$$\tau_{AV,1} = 7.6760 \text{ ns (intensity weighted)}$$

$$\tau_{AV,2} = 7.4289 \text{ ns (amplitude weighted)}$$

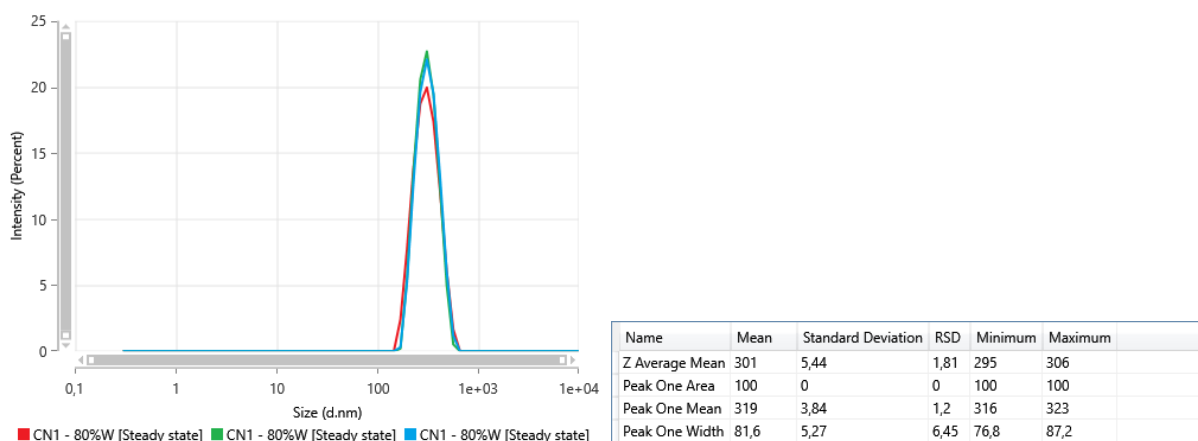
**Figure S92:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **SMe** (blue) at 77 K in a 2-Methyl THF glassy matrix, including the residuals ( $\lambda_{exc} = 325 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\lambda_{em} = 480 \text{ nm}$ ) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.



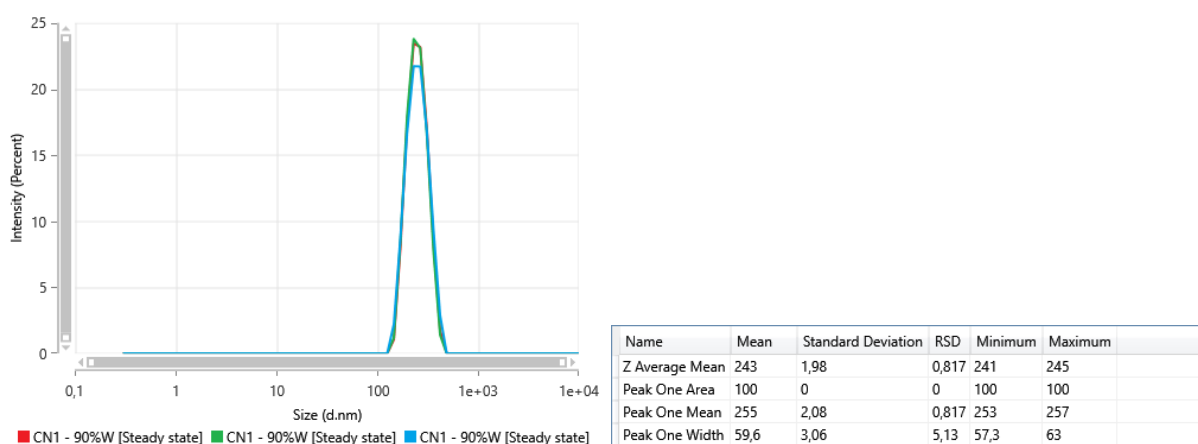
Parameter	Value	Conf. Lower	Conf. Upper	Conf. Estimation
$A_1$ [Cnts]	1463.52	-7.96	+7.96	Fitting
$\tau_1$ [ns]	8.1142	-0.0304	+0.0304	Fitting
Bkgr. Dec [Cnts]	0.393	-0.320	+0.320	Fitting
Bkgr. IRF [Cnts]	-21.58	-2.86	+2.86	Fitting
Shift IRF [ns]	0.4306	-0.0464	+0.0464	Fitting
$A_{\text{scat}}$ [Cnts]	-239000	-101000	+101000	Fitting
Period Rep [ns]	0.157	-0.109	+0.109	Fitting

**Figure S93:** Left: Time-resolved photoluminescence decay of **NMe<sub>2</sub>** (blue) at 77 K in a 2-Methyl THF glassy matrix, including the residuals ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 375$  nm,  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 560$  nm) and the instrument response function (red). Right: Fitting parameters including pre-exponential factors and confidence limits.

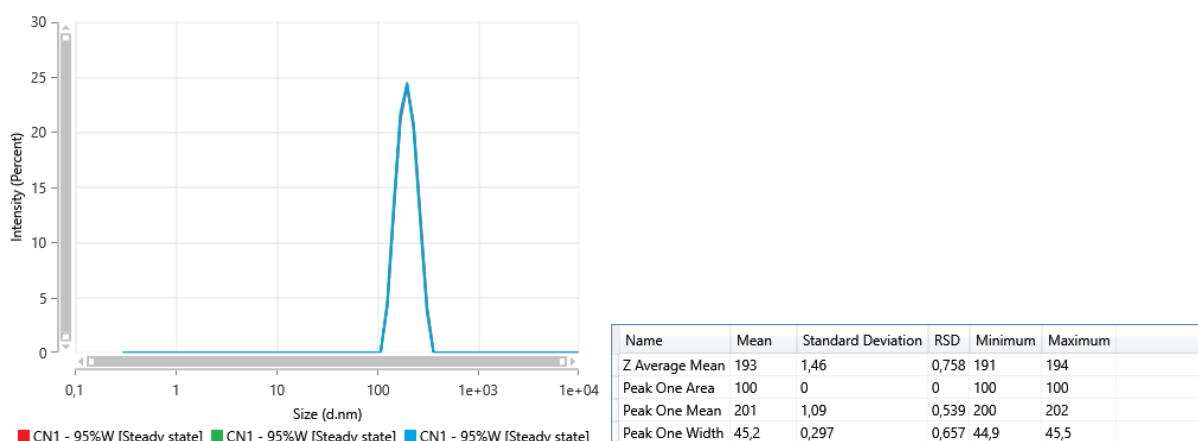
## Section S7: Dynamic light scattering measurements



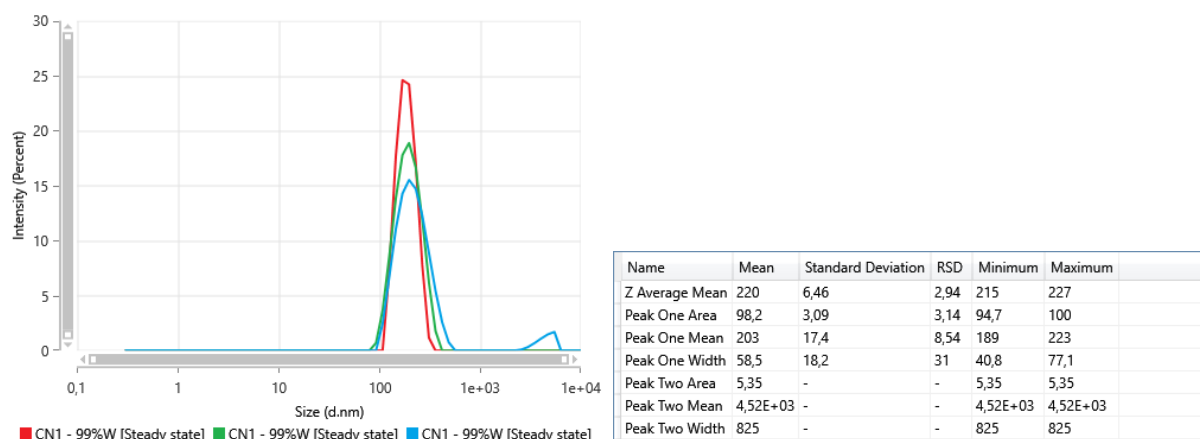
**Figure S94:** Left: Size distribution of H as aggregates in 80% H<sub>2</sub>O/20% THF. Right: Statistical data for the size distribution.



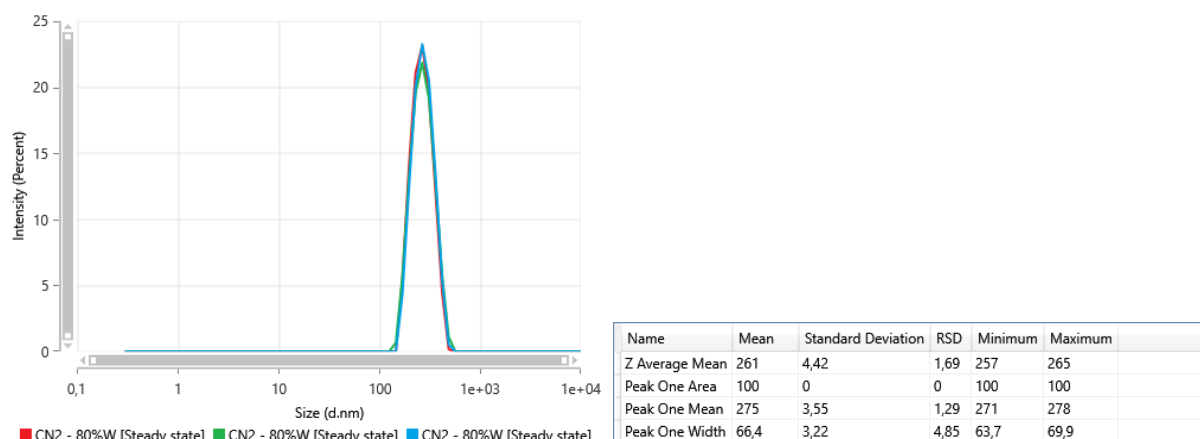
**Figure S95:** Left: Size distribution of H as aggregates in 90% H<sub>2</sub>O/10% THF. Right: Statistical data for the size distribution.



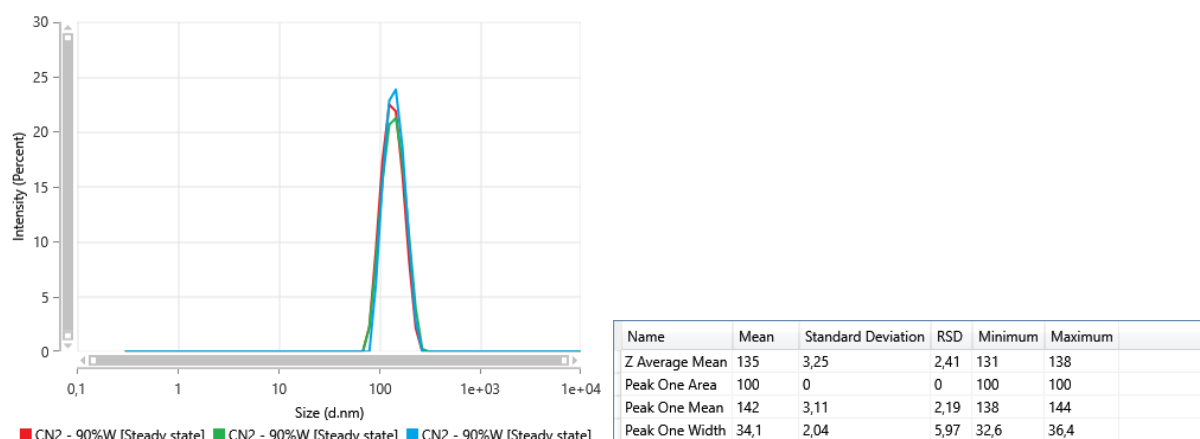
**Figure S96:** Left: Size distribution of H as aggregates in 95% H<sub>2</sub>O/5% THF. Right: Statistical data for the size distribution.



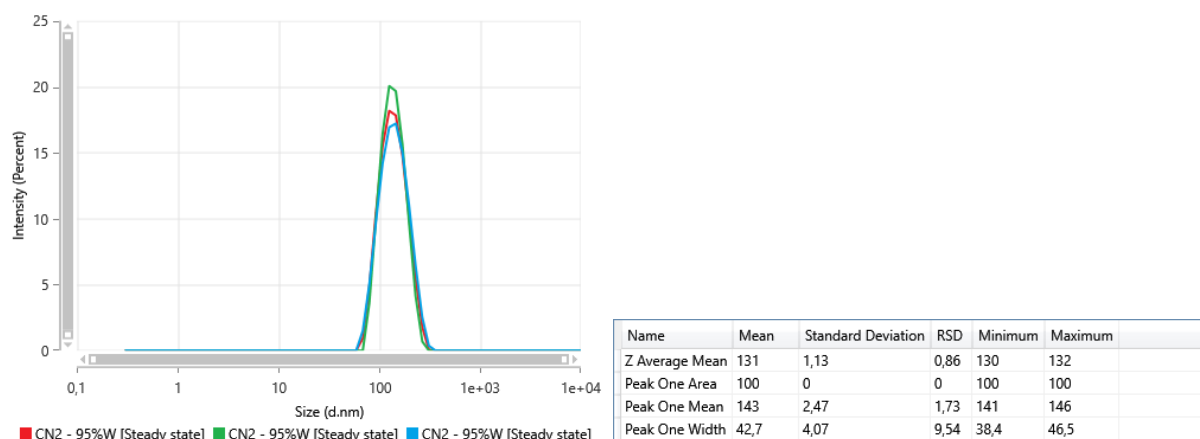
**Figure S97:** Left: Size distribution of **H** as aggregates in 99% H<sub>2</sub>O/1% THF. Right: Statistical data for the size distribution.



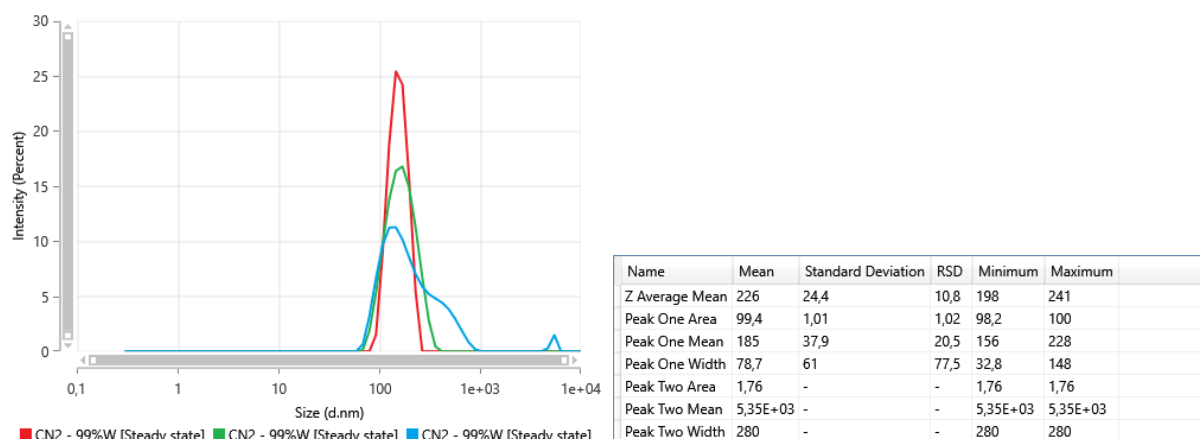
**Figure S98:** Left: Size distribution of **Me** as aggregates in 80% H<sub>2</sub>O/20% THF. Right: Statistical data for the size distribution.



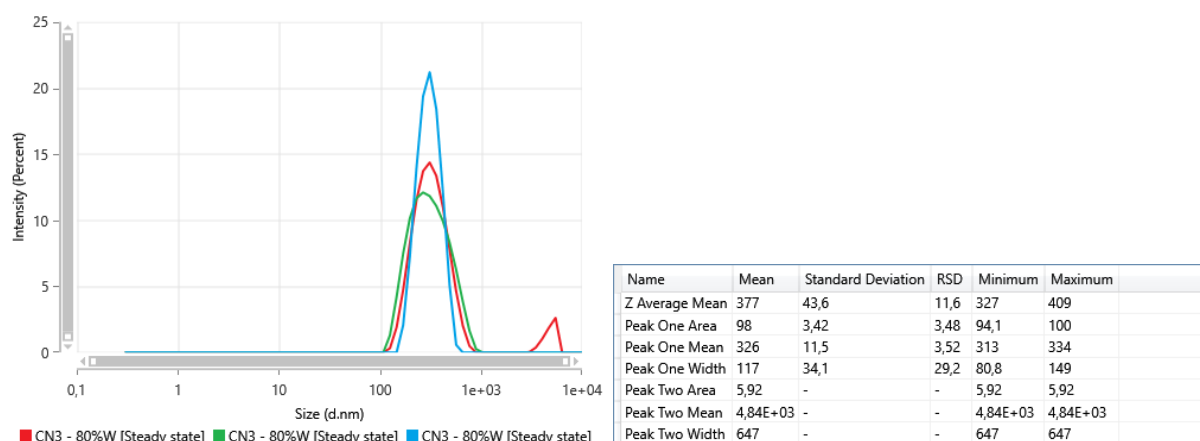
**Figure S99:** Left: Size distribution of **Me** as aggregates in 90% H<sub>2</sub>O/10% THF. Right: Statistical data for the size distribution.



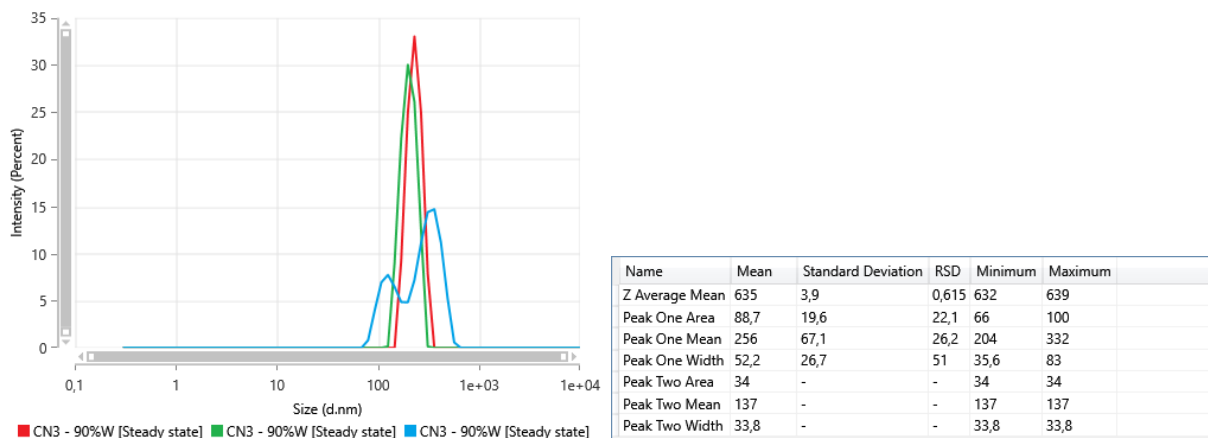
**Figure S100:** Left: Size distribution of **Me** as aggregates in 95% H<sub>2</sub>O/5% THF. Right: Statistical data for the size distribution.



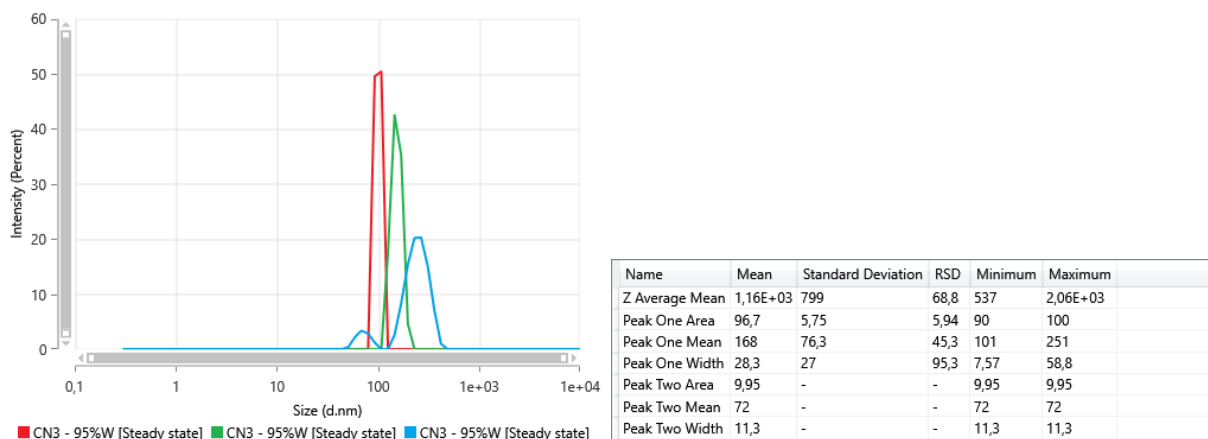
**Figure S101:** Left: Size distribution of **Me** as aggregates in 99% H<sub>2</sub>O/1% THF. Right: Statistical data for the size distribution.



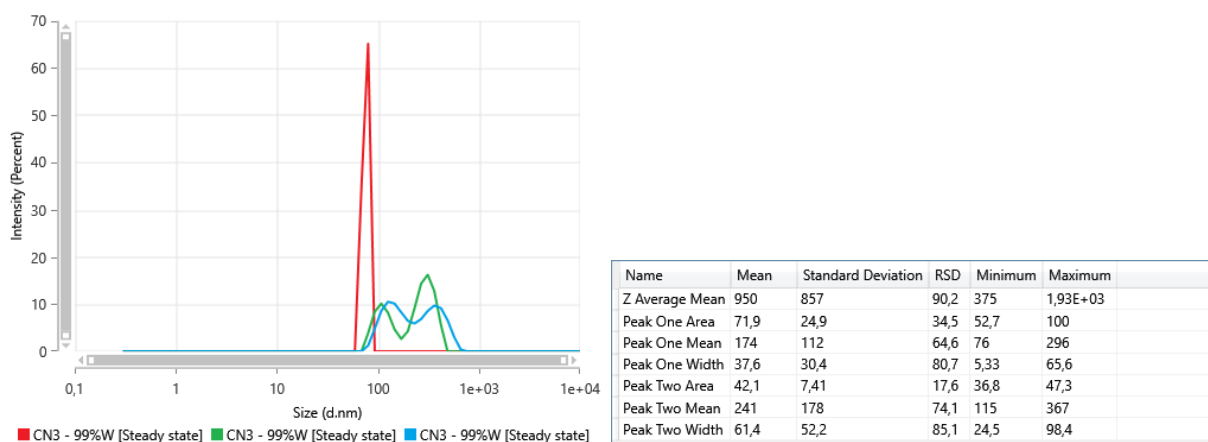
**Figure S102:** Left: Size distribution of **t-Bu** as aggregates in 80% H<sub>2</sub>O/20% THF. Right: Statistical data for the size distribution.



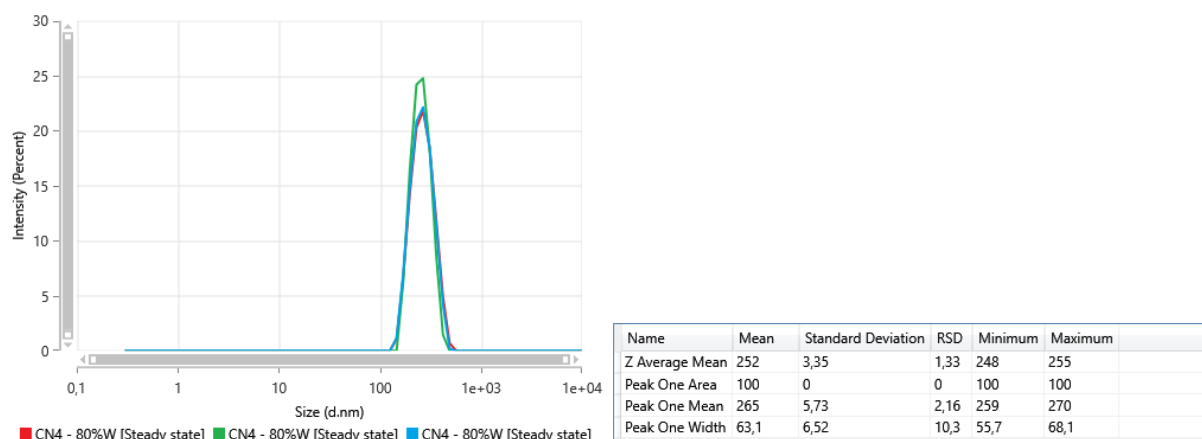
**Figure S103:** Left: Size distribution of **t-Buas** aggregates in 90% H<sub>2</sub>O/10% THF. Right: Statistical data for the size distribution.



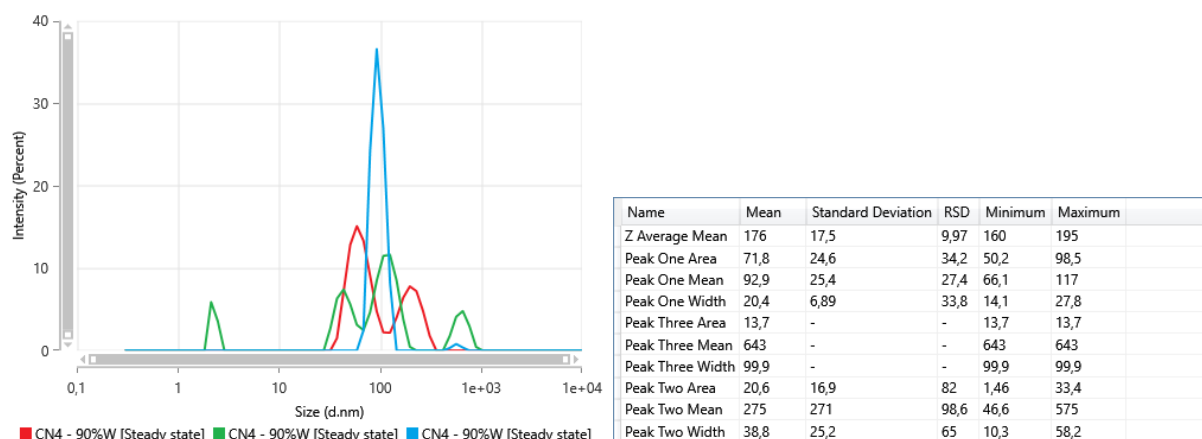
**Figure S104:** Left: Size distribution of **t-Bu** as aggregates in 95% H<sub>2</sub>O/5% THF. Right: Statistical data for the size distribution.



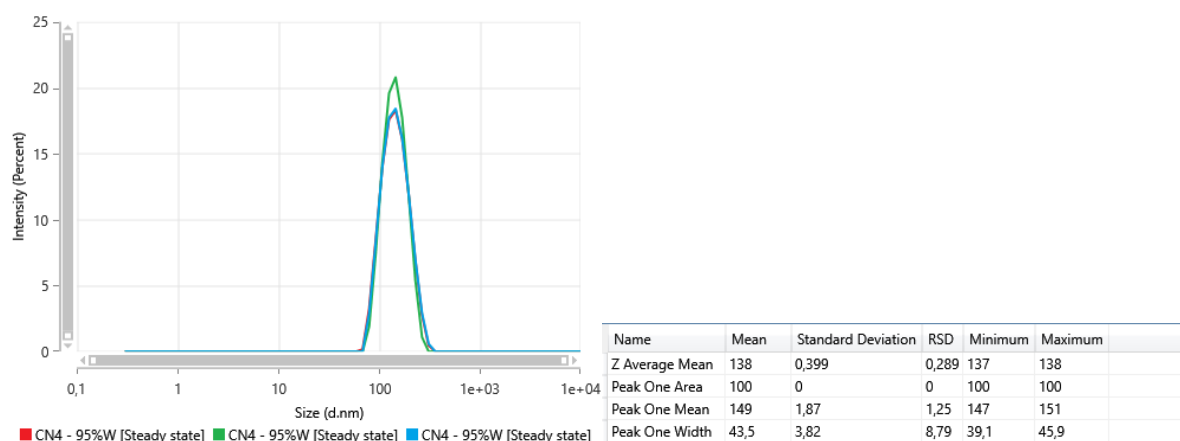
**Figure S105:** Left: Size distribution of **t-Bu** as aggregates in 99% H<sub>2</sub>O/1% THF. Right: Statistical data for the size distribution.



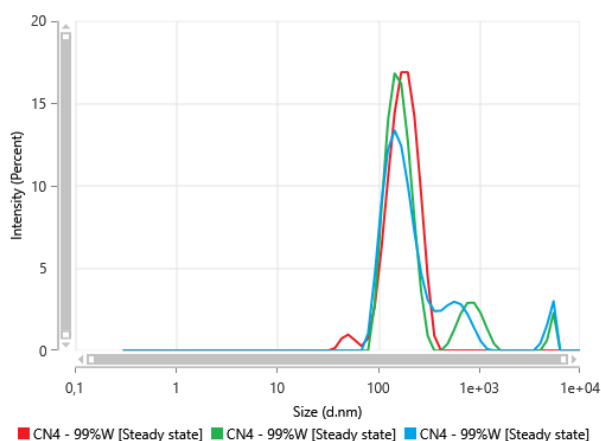
**Figure S106:** Left: Size distribution of **OMe** as aggregates in 80% H<sub>2</sub>O/20% THF. Right: Statistical data for the size distribution.



**Figure S107:** Left: Size distribution of **OMe** as aggregates in 90% H<sub>2</sub>O/10% THF. Right: Statistical data for the size distribution.

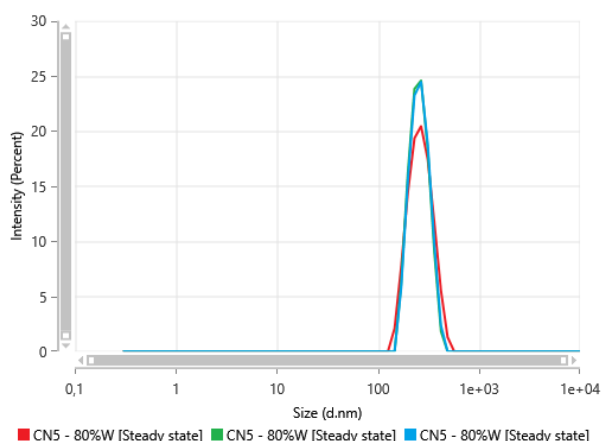


**Figure S108:** Left: Size distribution of **OMe** as aggregates in 95% H<sub>2</sub>O/5% THF. Right: Statistical data for the size distribution.



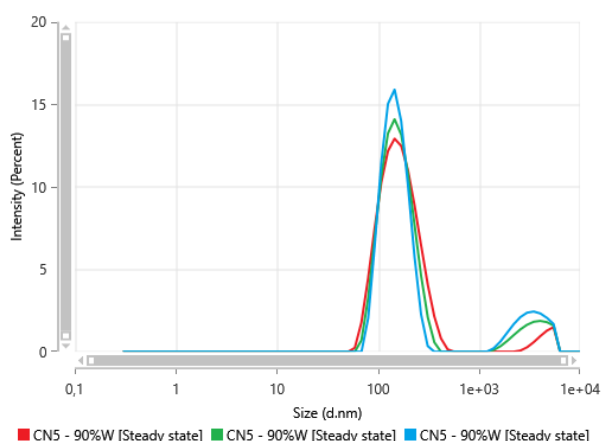
Name	Mean	Standard Deviation	RSD	Minimum	Maximum
Z Average Mean	234	37,9	16,2	210	277
Peak One Area	86,2	9,93	11,5	78	97,2
Peak One Mean	174	10,8	6,21	164	186
Peak One Width	55,9	9,34	16,7	45,7	64
Peak Three Area	3,86	1,37	35,6	2,89	4,84
Peak Three Mean	5,21E+03	140	2,68	5,11E+03	5,31E+03
Peak Three Width	395	116	29,4	313	477
Peak Two Area	11,2	7,52	67,1	2,76	17,2
Peak Two Mean	500	410	82	51,8	857
Peak Two Width	135	111	82,2	8,35	215

**Figure S109:** Left: Size distribution of **OMe** as aggregates in 99% H<sub>2</sub>O/1% THF. Right: Statistical data for the size distribution.



Name	Mean	Standard Deviation	RSD	Minimum	Maximum
Z Average Mean	251	1,77	0,706	249	252
Peak One Area	100	0	0	100	100
Peak One Mean	264	4,92	1,86	260	270
Peak One Width	62,6	8,86	14,2	56,8	72,8

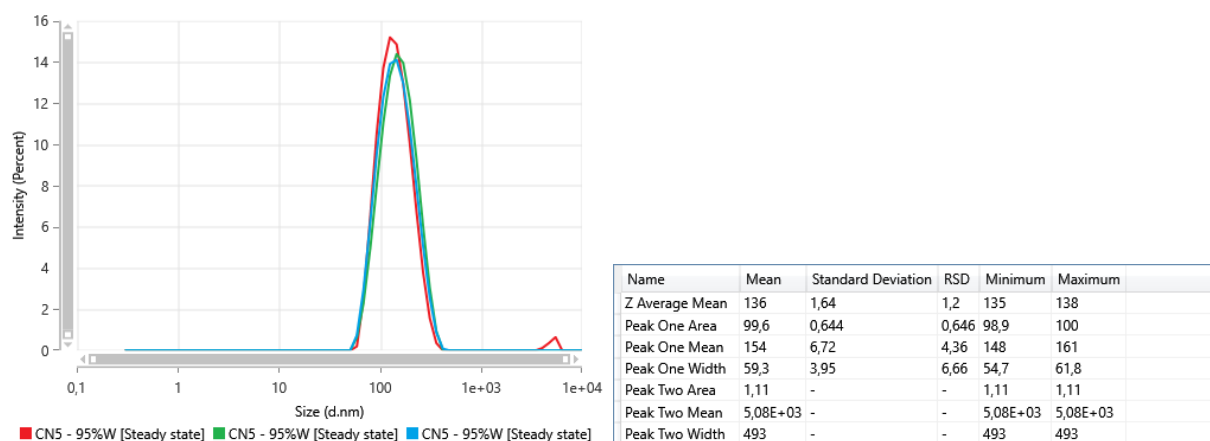
**Figure S110:** Left: Size distribution of **SMe** as aggregates in 80% H<sub>2</sub>O/20% THF. Right: Statistical data for the size distribution.



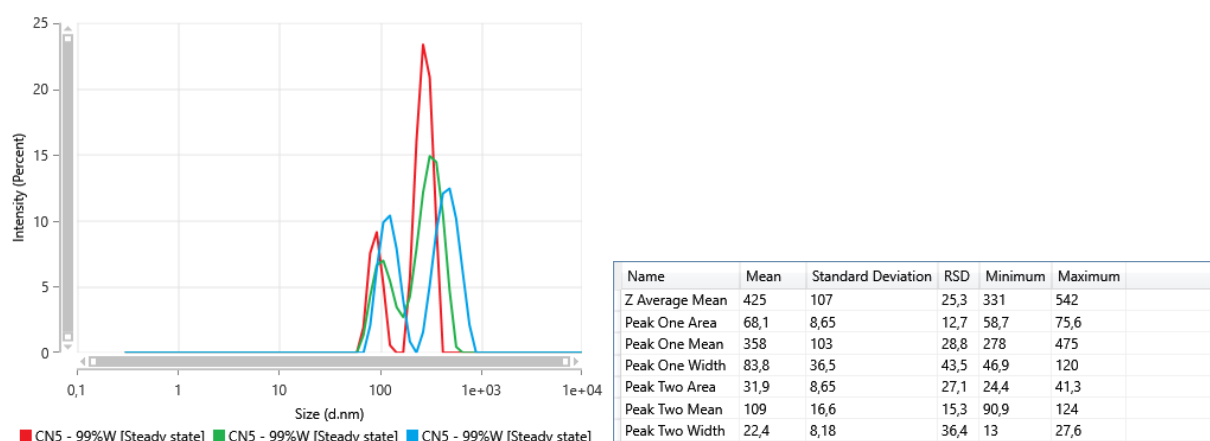
Name	Mean	Standard Deviation	RSD	Minimum	Maximum
Z Average Mean	164	5,74	3,5	158	169
Peak One Area	88,9	6,07	6,84	83,4	95,4
Peak One Mean	161	9,38	5,84	151	170
Peak One Width	57,8	13,9	24	44,5	72,3
Peak Two Area	11,1	6,07	54,5	4,62	16,6
Peak Two Mean	3,83E+03	612	16	3,39E+03	4,53E+03
Peak Two Width	1,03E+03	183	17,8	820	1,14E+03

**Figure S111:** Left: Size distribution of **SMe** as aggregates in 90% H<sub>2</sub>O/10% THF. Right: Statistical data for the size distribution.

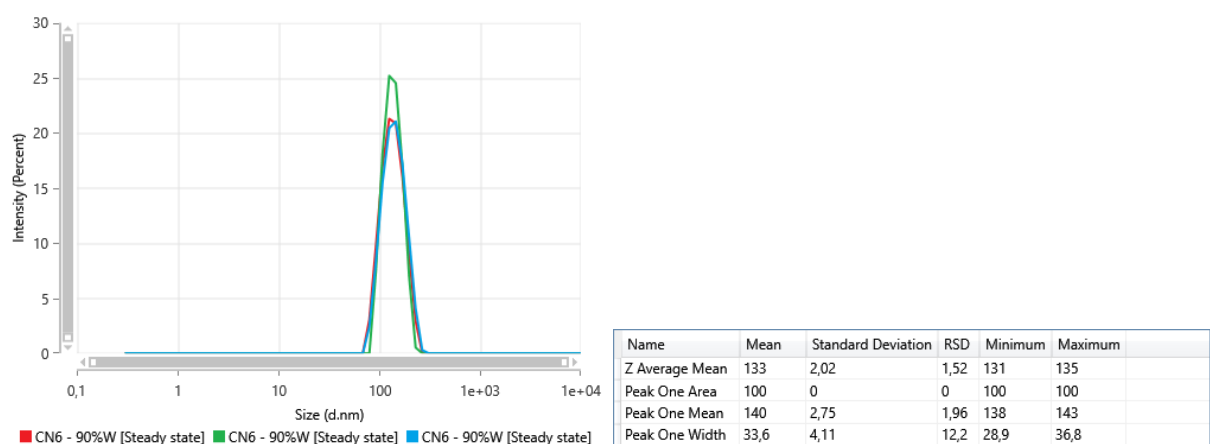




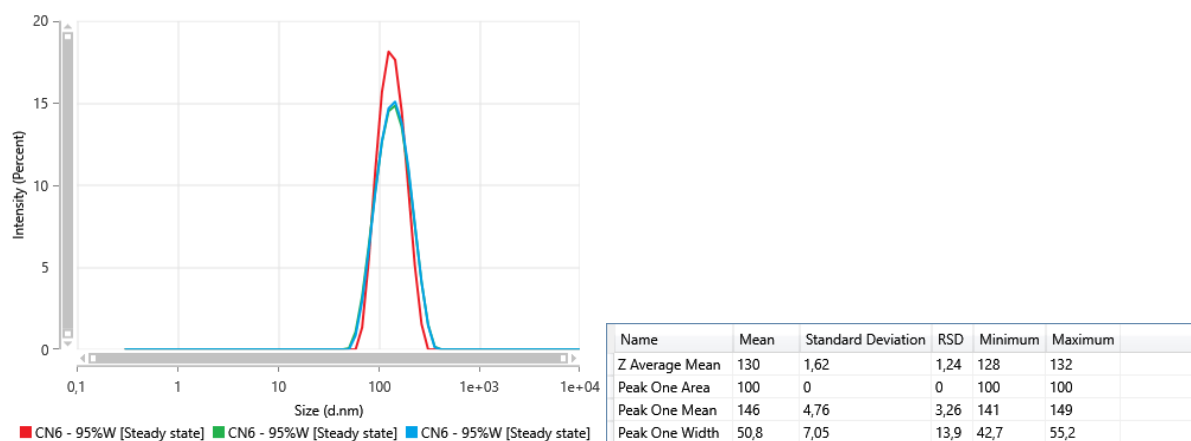
**Figure S112:** Left: Size distribution of **SMe** as aggregates in 95% H<sub>2</sub>O/5% THF. Right: Statistical data for the size distribution.



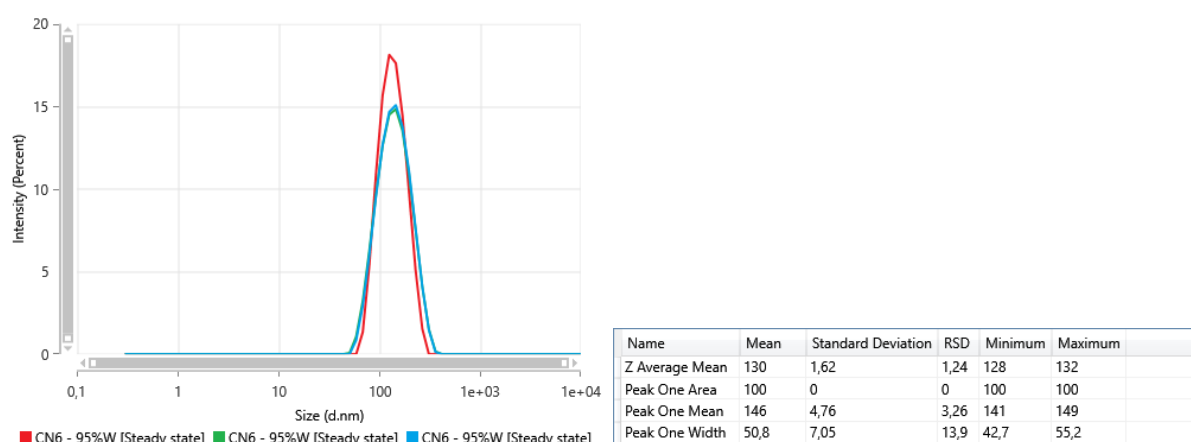
**Figure S113:** Left: Size distribution of **SMe** as aggregates in 99% H<sub>2</sub>O/1% THF. Right: Statistical data for the size distribution.



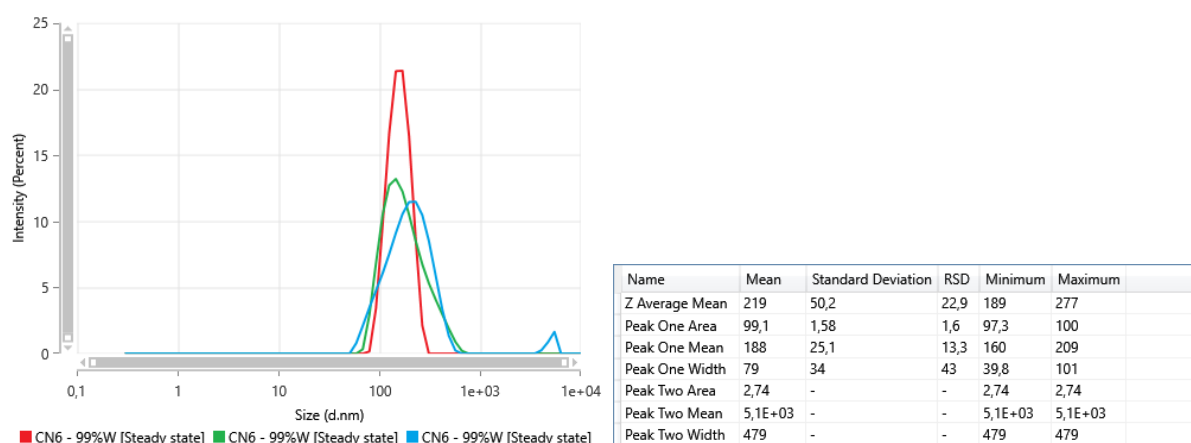
**Figure S114:** Left: Size distribution of **NMe<sub>2</sub>** as aggregates in 80% H<sub>2</sub>O/20% THF. Right: Statistical data for the size distribution.



**Figure S115:** Left: Size distribution of **NMe<sub>2</sub>** as aggregates in 90% H<sub>2</sub>O/10% THF. Right: Statistical data for the size distribution.

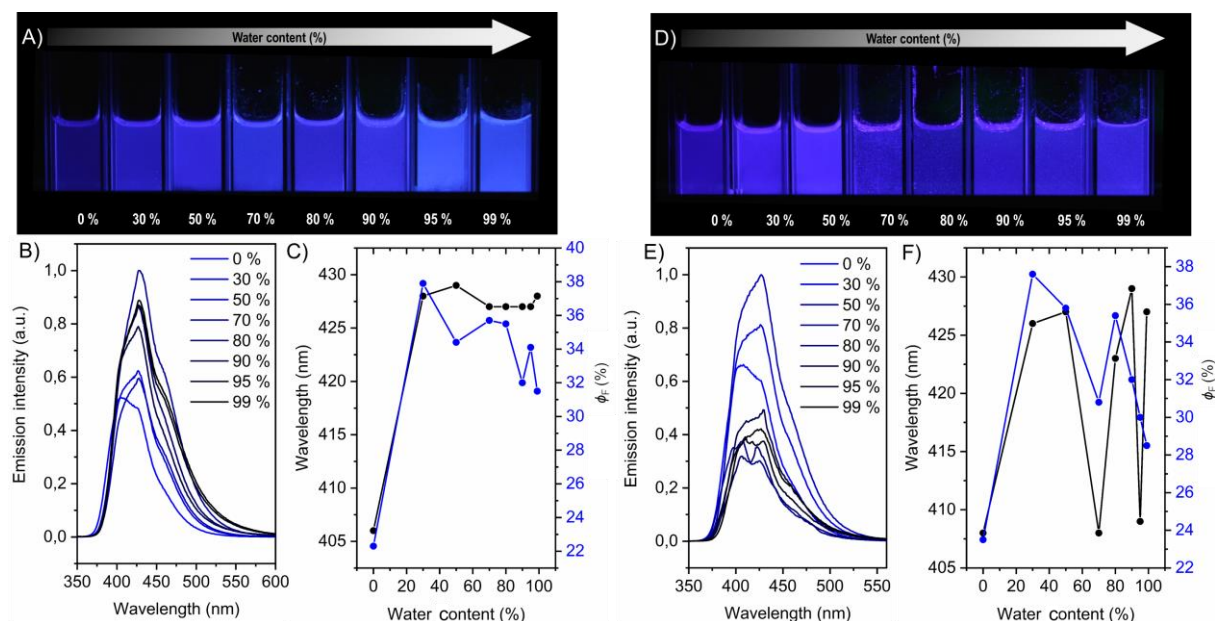


**Figure S116:** Left: Size distribution of **NMe<sub>2</sub>** as aggregates in 95% H<sub>2</sub>O/5% THF. Right: Statistical data for the size distribution.

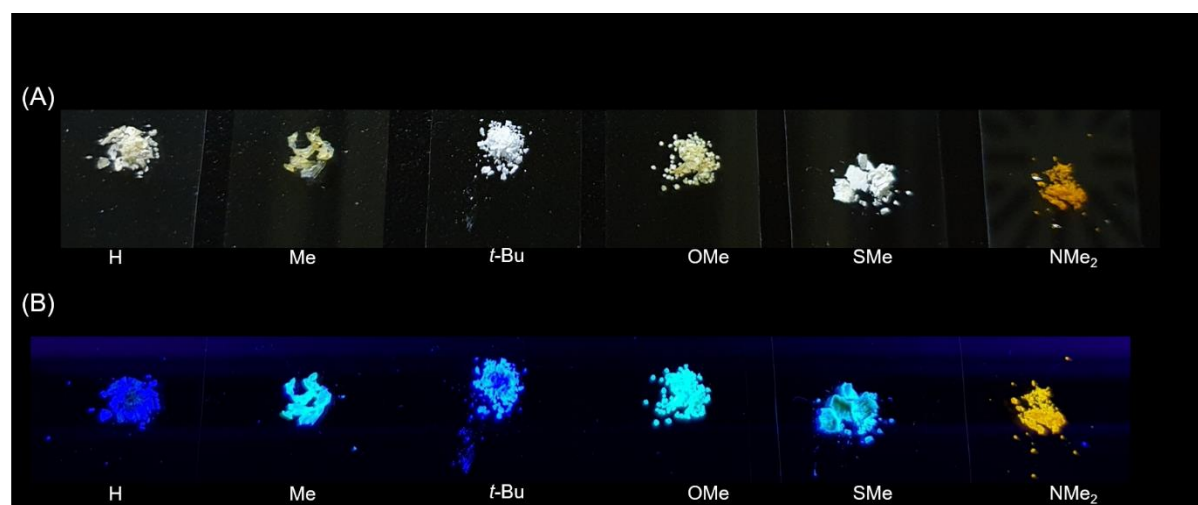


**Figure S117:** Left: Size distribution of **NMe<sub>2</sub>** as aggregates in 99% H<sub>2</sub>O/1% THF. Right: Statistical data for the size distribution.

## Section S8: Aggregation studies



**Figure S118:** A) Photographs of **Me** at different THF-H<sub>2</sub>O ratios under UV excitation (λ = 365 nm). B) Photoluminescence spectra of **Me** at different THF-water ratios. C) Emission wavelength and φ<sub>F</sub> vs water content for **Me**. D) Photographs of **t-Bu** at different THF-H<sub>2</sub>O ratios under UV excitation (λ = 365 nm). E) Photoluminescence spectra of **t-Bu** at different THF-water ratios. F) Emission wavelength and φ<sub>F</sub> vs. water content for **t-Bu**. Concentration in all cases: 10 μM.



**Figure S119:** A) Photographs of the pure solid samples under normal light. B) Photographs of the pure solid samples under UV excitation (λ = 365 nm).

## Section S9: References

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- (4) Sheldrick, G. M. *Acta Crystallogr. Sect. A* **1990**, 46 (6), 467–473. doi:10.1107/S0108767390000277
- (5) Sheldrick, G. M. *Acta Crystallogr. Sect. A* **2008**, 64 (1), 112–122. doi:10.1107/S0108767307043930
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- (7) Dolomanov, O. V.; Bourhis, L. J.; Gildea, R. J.; Howard, J. A. K.; Puschmann, H. *J. Appl. Crystallogr.* **2009**, 42 (2), 339–341. doi:10.1107/S0021889808042726