

Supporting Information

Aqueous Platinum(II)-Cage-Based Light-Harvesting System for Photocatalytic Cross-Coupling Hydrogen Evolution Reaction

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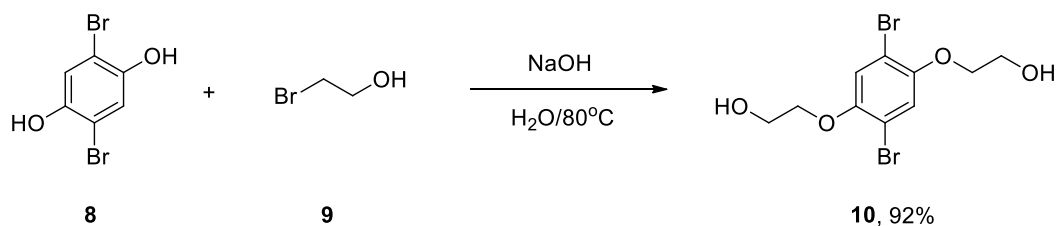
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1. Materials and methods

All reagents and deuterated solvents were commercially available and used without further purification. Compounds **1**^{S1} and **3**^{S2} were prepared according to the published procedure. NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance 400 MHz or 600 MHz spectrometer. ¹H and ¹³C NMR chemical shifts are recorded relative to residual solvent signals. ³¹P{¹H} NMR chemical shifts are referenced to an external unlocked sample of 85% H₃PO₄ (δ 0.0). Mass spectra were recorded on a Micromass Quattro II triple-quadrupole mass spectrometer using electrospray ionization with a MassLynx operating system. The UV-vis experiments were conducted on a Lambda 950 absorption spectrophotometer. The fluorescent experiments were conducted on a Edinburgh FLS9 fluorescence spectrophotometer. Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) investigations were carried out on a JEOL JEM-F200(HR) instrument. Confocal laser scanning microscopy (CLSM) was performed with a Zeiss LSM 710 Confocal Microscope using a 63× objective. Dynamic light scattering experiments were performed using a Malvern Nano-ZS instrument with a He-Ne laser (633 nm) and 173° collecting optics. The 300 W xenon lamp was used for photoreaction and the optical power meter was supplied by Beijing Perfect Light Co. Ltd. The light power is 150 mW/cm².

2. Synthetic Procedures and Characterization Data

2.1 Synthesis of compound **10**



NaOH (1.20 g, 30 mmol) was added to a suspension of 2,5-dibromobenzene-1,4-diol (compound **8**, 2.67 g, 10 mmol) in water. The solution was heated at reflux for 2 h under nitrogen. Then 2-bromoethanol (compound **9**, 3.75 g, 30 mmol) was added dropwise to the system. The resulting solution was refluxed for another 3h. After cooling down to room temperature, off white precipitate was formed. The mixture was filtered and the filter cake was washed with portions of water for 4 times to give compound **10** (3.27 g, 92%) as an off-white solid. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 7.38 (s, 2H), 4.86 (t, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 4.03 (t, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 4H), 3.70 (m, 4H). The ¹H NMR spectra of **10** matches well with reported results.^{S3}

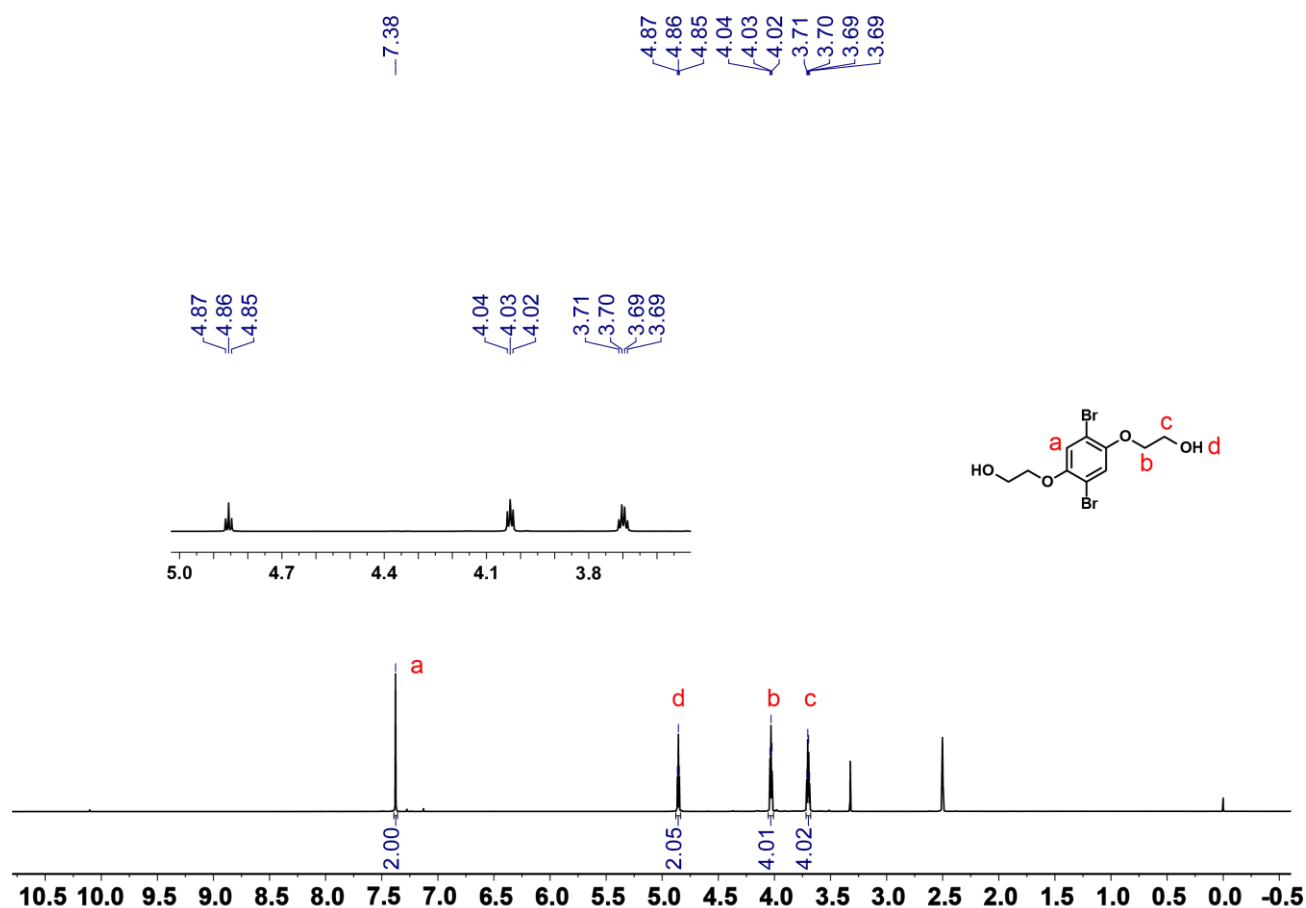
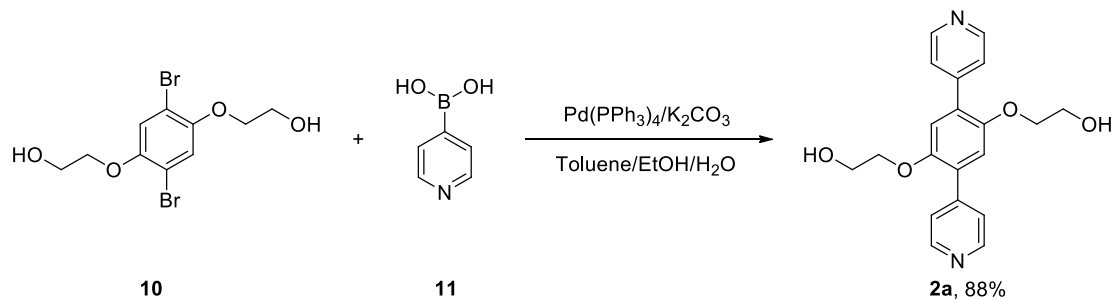


Figure S1. ¹H NMR spectrum (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, 295 K) recorded for **10**.

2.2 Synthesis of compound **2a**



Compound **10** (356 mg, 1.00 mmol), 4-pyridylboronic acid (compound **11**, 369 mg, 3.00 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (116 mg, 0.1 mmol) and K₂CO₃ (553 mg, 4 mmol) were dissolved in toluene/ethanol/water (*v/v/v* = 4:1:1, 40 mL) in a 100 mL Schlenk flask. Then the mixture was cooled by liquid nitrogen, degassed and purged with nitrogen for three times. The reaction mixture was stirred at 90 °C for 40 h under nitrogen. After cooling, the product was concentrated to give a crude product which was further purified by washing with ethanol (15 mL × 3) to afford compound **2a** (310 mg, 88%) as an off-white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 8.63 (dd, *J* = 4.5, 1.6 Hz, 4H), 7.72 (dd, *J* = 4.5, 1.6 Hz, 4H), 7.23 (s, 2H), 4.87 (t, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 2H), 4.11 (t, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 4H), 3.69 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 150.48, 149.88, 145.36, 128.55, 124.58, 116.11, 71.37, 60.01. ESI-HR-MS: *m/z* 353.1492 [**2a** + H]⁺, calcd. for [C₂₀H₂₁N₂O₄]⁺, 353.1496.

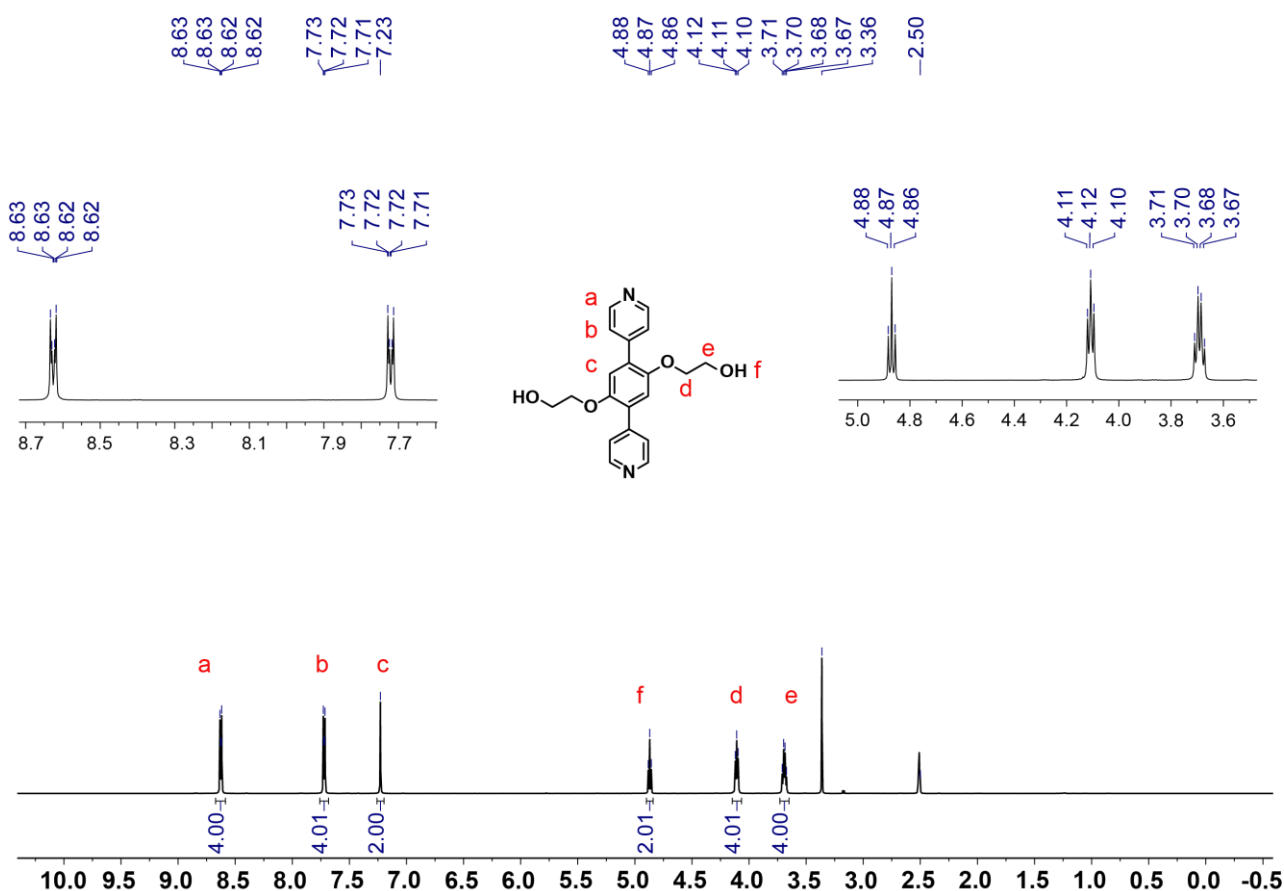


Figure S2. ¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, 295 K) recorded for **2a**.

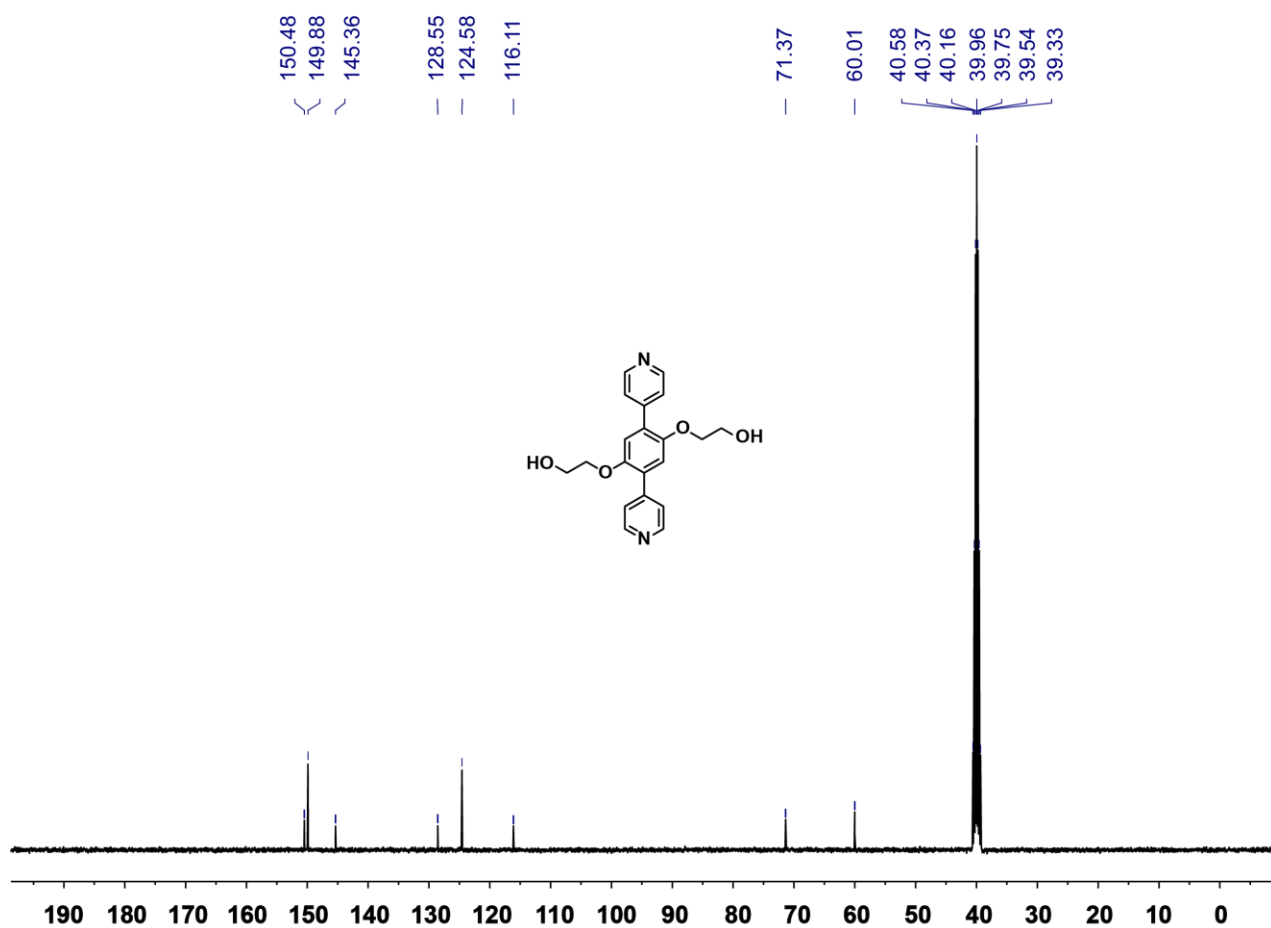


Figure S3. ^{13}C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, $\text{DMSO-}d_6$, 295 K) recorded for 2a.

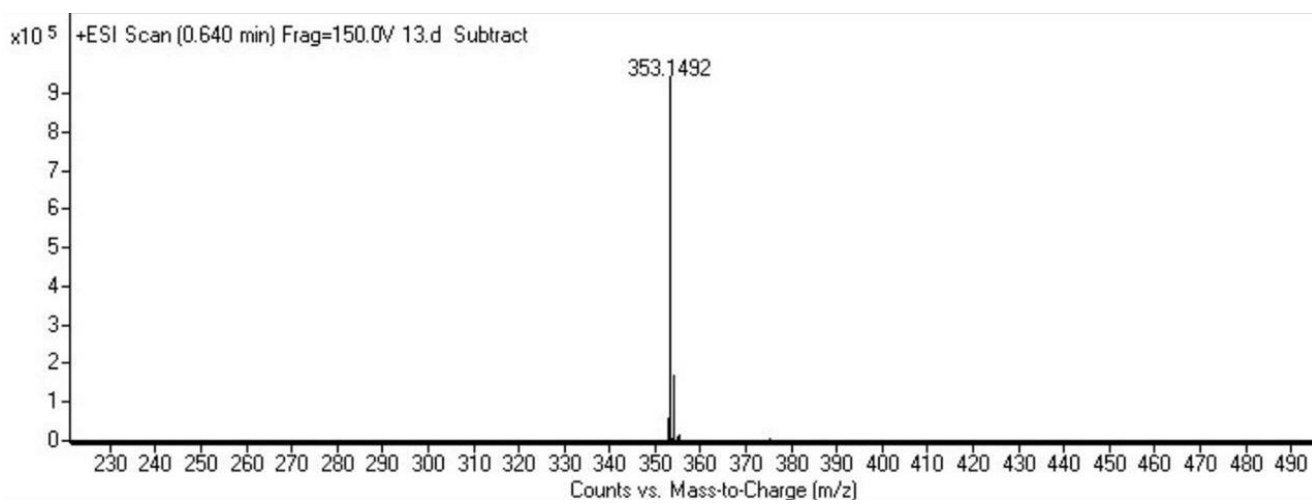
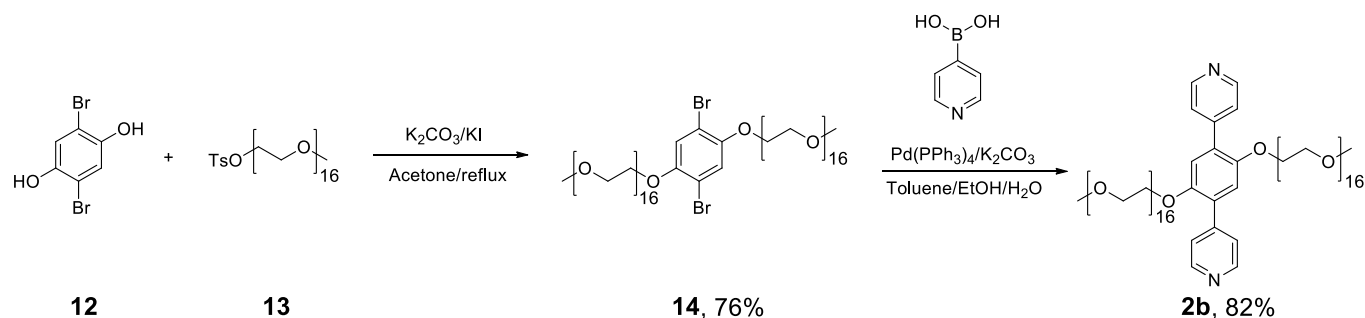


Figure S4. ESI-HR-MS spectrum of 2a.

2.3 Synthesis of compound **2b**



Compound **12** (535 mg, 2.00 mmol), tosylated PEG-750 (4.073 g, 6.00 mmol), K_2CO_3 (1.10 g, 8.00 mmol) and KI (17 mg, 0.1 mmol) were dissolved in acetone (750 mL) and the reaction mixture was heated at reflux for 15 h under nitrogen. Then the system was cooled down and the solvent was removed. H_2O (100 mL) was added and the mixture was extracted by dichloromethane (50 mL \times 3). The organic phase was collected, dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and then concentrated. The residue (2.687 g, 76%) was directly used for next step. Compound **14** (1.764 g, 1.00 mmol), 4-pyridylboronic acid (compound **11**, 369 mg, 3.00 mmol), $Pd(PPh_3)_4$ (116 mg, 0.1 mmol) and K_2CO_3 (553 mg, 4 mmol) were dissolved in toluene/ethanol/water ($v/v/v = 4:1:1$, 40 mL) in a 100 mL Schlenk flask. Then the mixture was cooled by liquid nitrogen, degassed and purged with nitrogen for three times. The reaction mixture was stirred at 90 °C for 40 h under nitrogen. After cooling, the solvent was removed. H_2O (100 mL) was added and the mixture was extracted by dichloromethane (50 mL \times 3). The organic phase was collected, dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and then concentrated to give a crude product which was purified by flash column chromatography with $CH_2Cl_2:CH_3OH$ (15:1 to 10:1, v/v) as the eluent to afford compound **2b** (1.443 g, 82%) as a pale-yellow oil. 1H NMR (400 MHz, $DMSO-d_6$, 295 K): 8.63 (d, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 4H), 7.72 (d, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 4H), 7.25 (s, 2H), 4.26–4.18 (m, 4H), 3.74–3.69 (m, 4H), 3.58–3.40 (m, 122H), 3.24 (s, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $DMSO-d_6$, 295 K) δ 150.38, 149.82, 145.24, 128.54, 124.57, 116.01, 71.75, 70.56–69.92 (m), 69.38, 68.98, 58.50, 40.58, 40.37, 40.16, 39.95, 39.75, 39.54, 39.33.

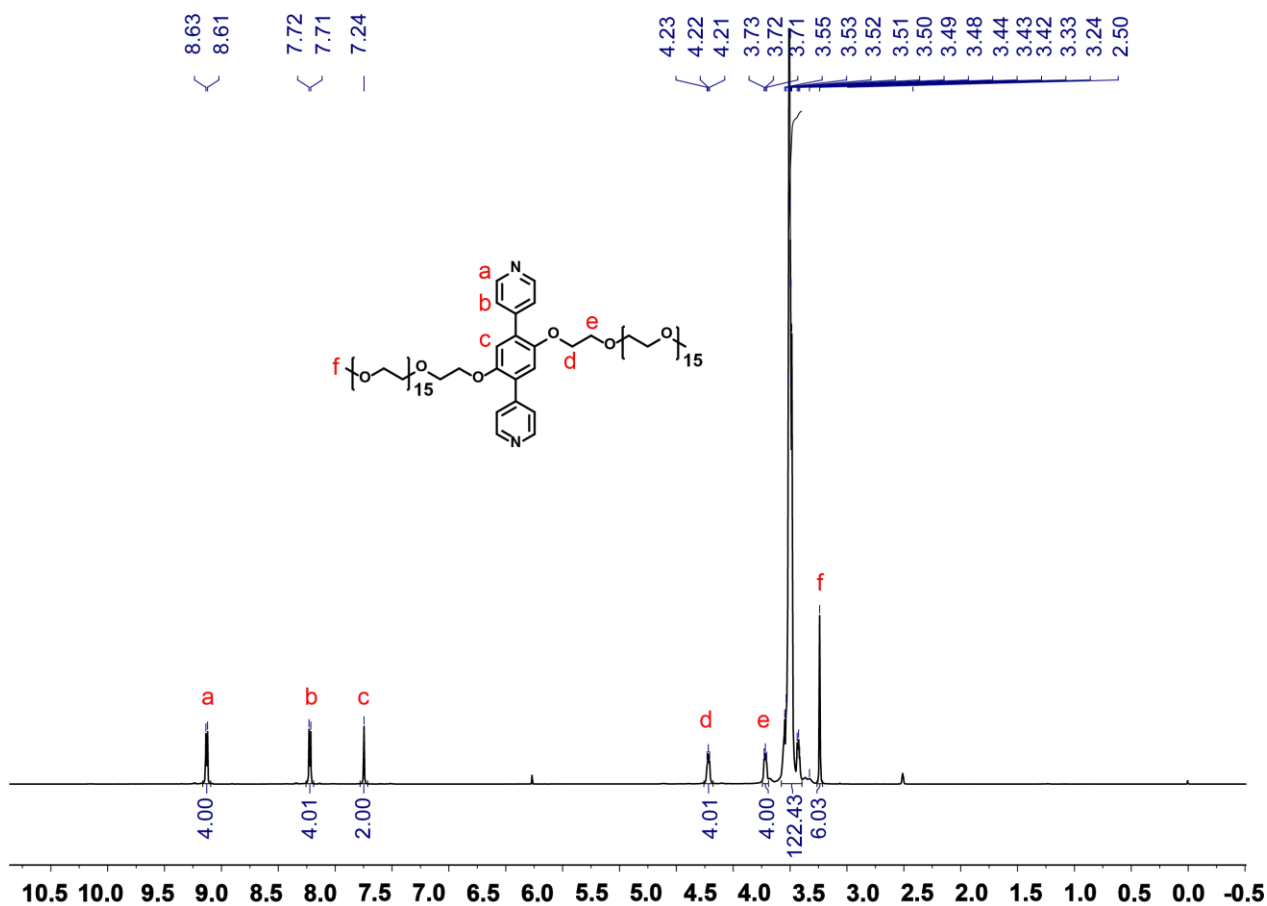


Figure S5. ¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, 295 K) recorded for **2b**.

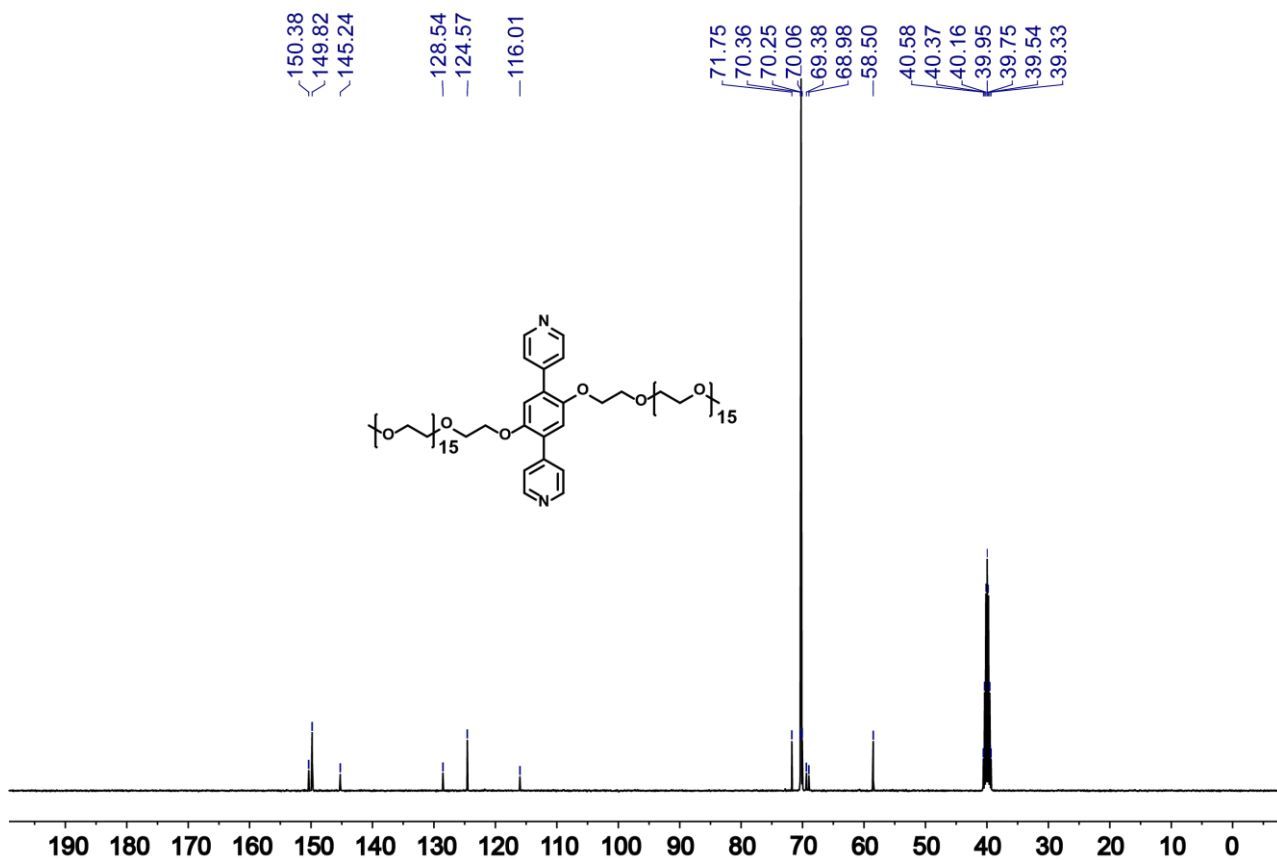
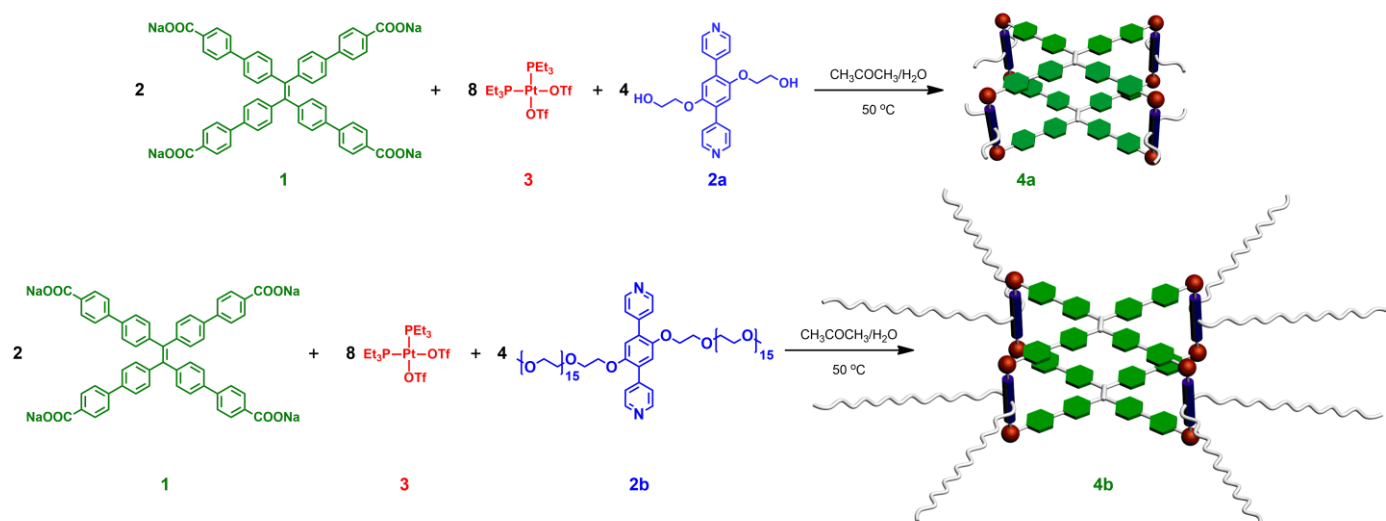


Figure S6. ¹³C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, 295 K) recorded for **2b**.

2.4 Synthesis of compound **4a** and **4b**



1 (2.25 mg, 2.50 μmol), **2** (10.0 μmol) and **3** (3.05 mg, 5.00 μmol) were mixed in a 1:4:2 molar ratio and dissolved in acetone/water (1.0 mL, 4:1, v/v). The whole reaction mixture was heated at 50°C for 12 h and then cooled to room temperature. The solvent was removed by nitrogen flow. The residue was redissolved in acetone (1.0 mL), filtered and the filtrate was poured into ethyl ether (10.0 mL) to give a precipitate, which was collected by centrifugation to give cage **4a** (8.82 mg, 92%) as a pale yellow solid or **4b** (14.51 mg, 88%) as a dark green oil.

4a: ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CD_3COCD_3 , 295 K): 8.82–8.73 (m, 16H), 7.92 (d, $J = 5.9$ Hz, 16H), 7.59 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 16H), 7.36 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 16H), 7.29 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 16H), 7.13 (s, 8H), 7.00 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 16H), 3.93–3.86 (m, 16H), 3.83 (t, $J = 5.6$ Hz, 8H), 3.61 (dd, $J = 9.7, 5.3$ Hz, 16H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3COCD_3 , 295 K): 170.83, 151.18, 151.12, 149.55, 148.60, 143.21, 142.15, 140.73, 138.10, 135.05, 134.99, 131.71, 129.55, 127.74, 126.14, 125.70, 124.12, 123.11, 119.91, 116.18, 71.64, 60.27, 15.54, 15.16, 14.52, 14.14, 7.55, 7.51, 7.46, 7.42. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (121.4 MHz, CD_3COCD_3 , 295 K): 5.54 ppm (d, $^2J_{\text{P-P}} = 15.8$ Hz, ^{195}Pt satellites, $^1J_{\text{Pt-P}} = 2507$ Hz), 0.32 ppm (d, $^2J_{\text{P-P}} = 15.8$ Hz, ^{195}Pt satellites, $^1J_{\text{Pt-P}} = 2507$ Hz). ESI-TOF-MS: m/z 809.5500 [**4a** – 8OTf] $^{8+}$, 1129.1058 [**4a** – 6OTf] $^{6+}$, 1385.1743 [**4a** – 5OTf] $^{5+}$, 1768.7821 [**4a** – 4OTf] $^{4+}$, 2407.7954 [**4a** – 3OTf] $^{3+}$.

4b: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3COCD_3 , 295 K): 8.93 (d, $J = 6.2$ Hz, 16H), 8.08 (d, $J = 6.2$ Hz, 16H), 7.76 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 17H), 7.55 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 16H), 7.48 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 16H), 7.29 (s, 8H), 7.18 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 16H), 4.08 (s, 16H), 3.70–3.47 (m, 657H), 3.34–3.28 (m, 31H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3COCD_3 , 295 K): 170.67, 151.17, 150.91, 148.71, 143.29, 142.08, 140.72, 138.07, 135.14, 131.78, 129.62, 127.85, 126.41, 126.21, 125.75, 123.08, 119.88, 116.42, 71.52, 70.38, 70.33, 70.25, 70.18, 70.11, 70.07, 69.96, 69.89, 69.81, 69.75, 69.71, 69.63, 69.21, 57.99, 15.56, 15.17, 14.56, 14.18, 7.59, 7.55, 7.52, 7.49. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (121.4 MHz, CD_3COCD_3 , 295 K): 5.45 ppm (d, $^2J_{\text{P-P}} = 15.8$ Hz, ^{195}Pt satellites, $^1J_{\text{Pt-P}} = 2507$ Hz), 0.31 ppm (d, $^2J_{\text{P-P}} = 15.8$ Hz, ^{195}Pt satellites, $^1J_{\text{Pt-P}} = 2507$ Hz).

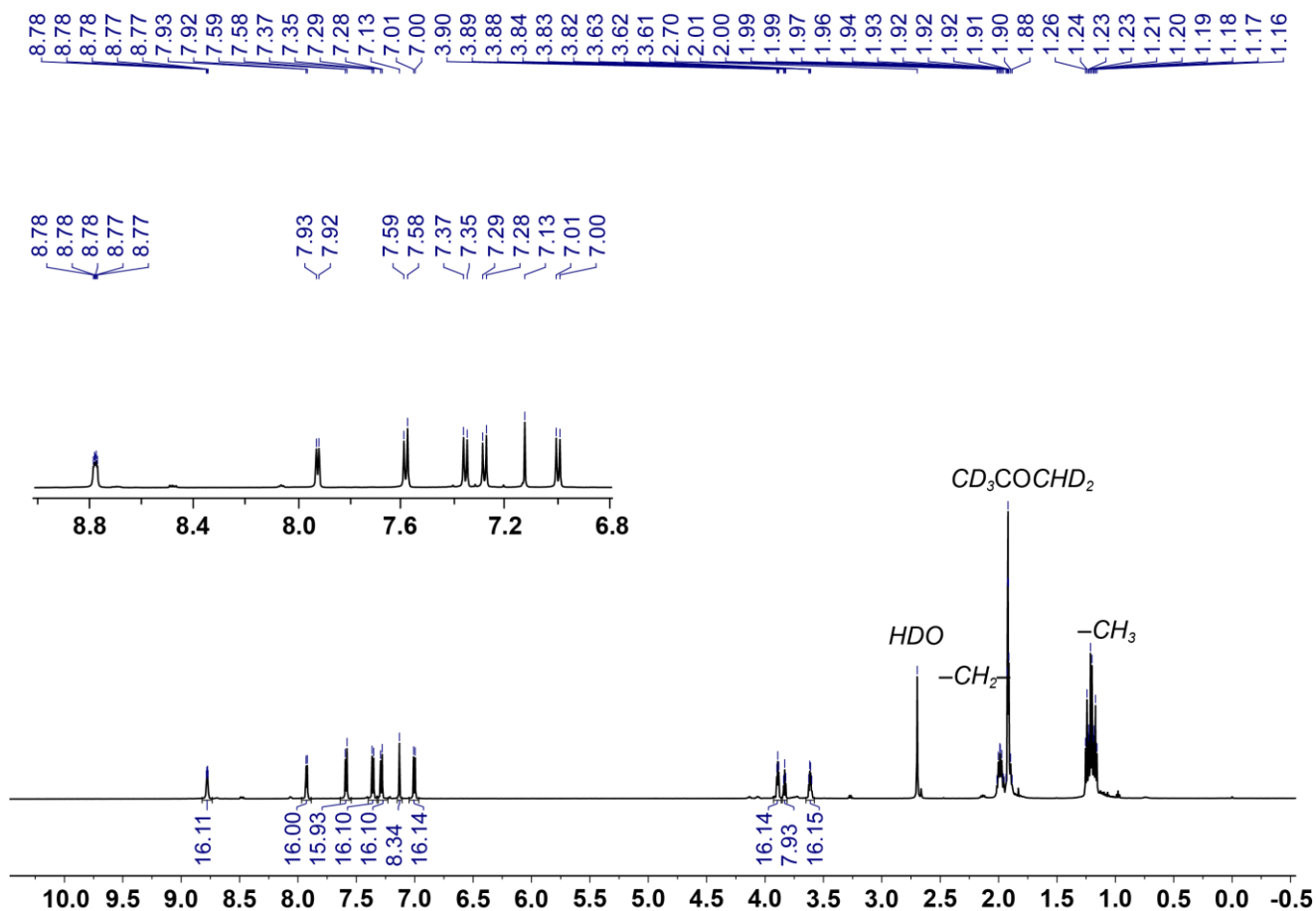


Figure S7. 1H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CD_3COCD_3 , 295 K) recorded for **4a**.

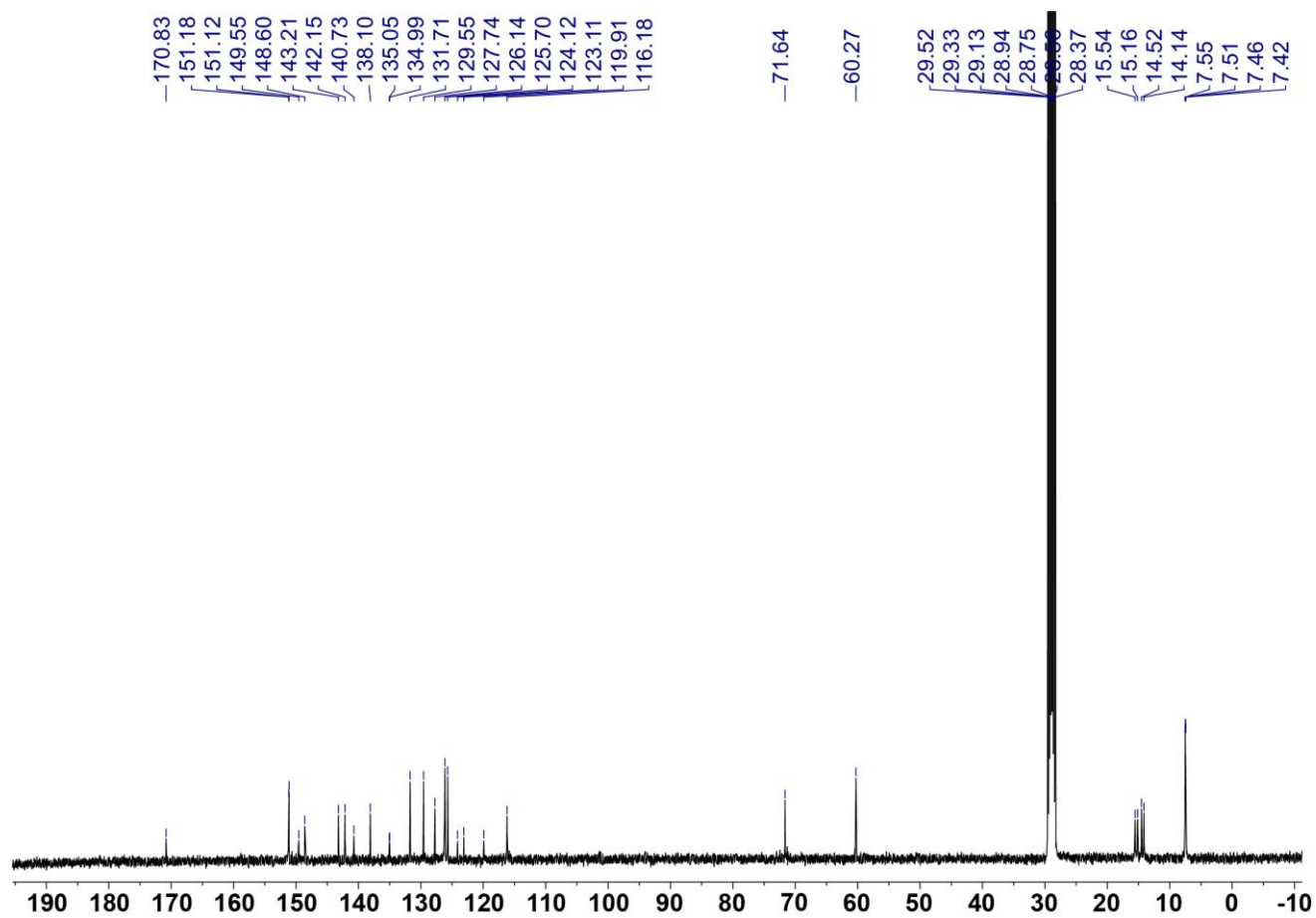


Figure S8. ^{13}C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, CD_3COCD_3 , 295 K) recorded for **4a**.

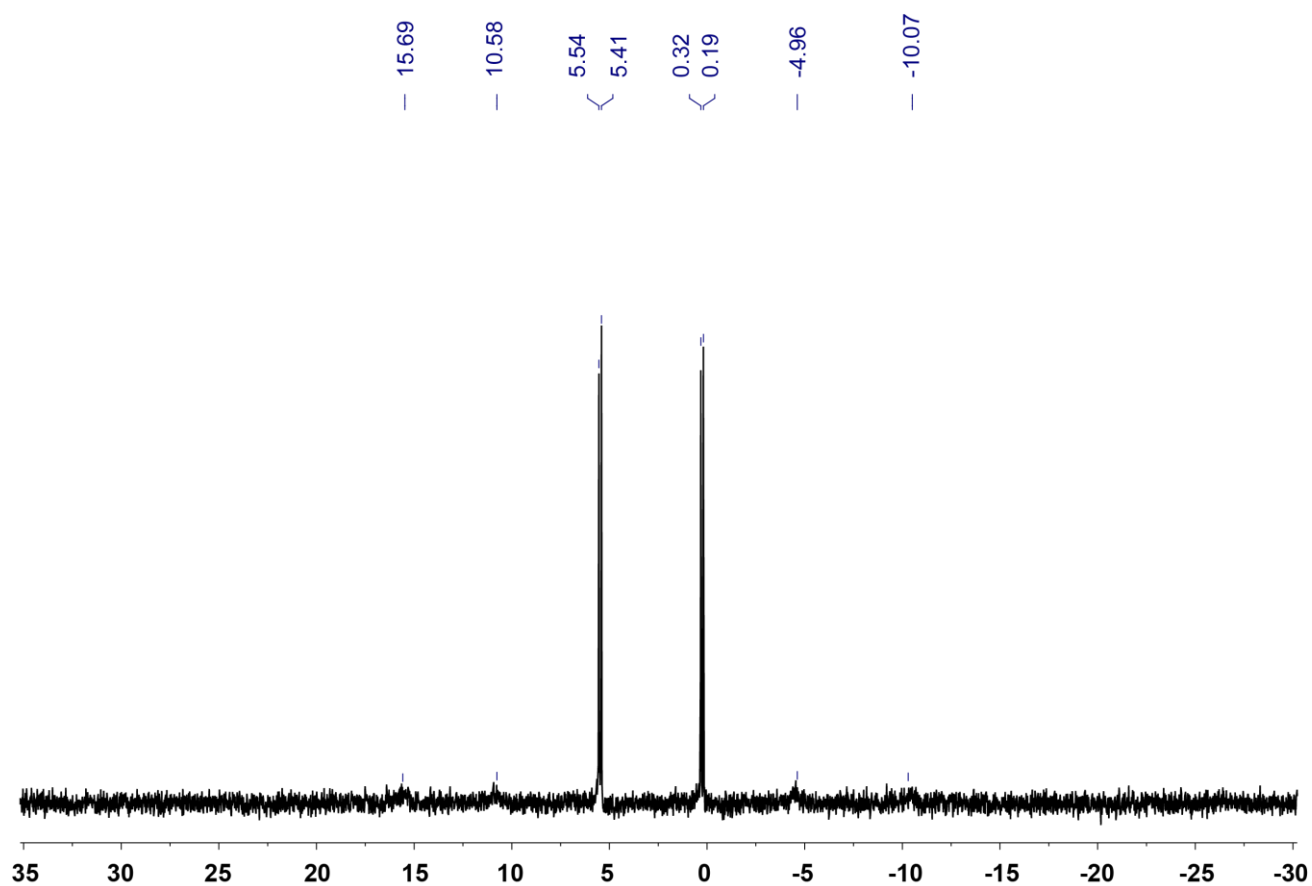


Figure S9. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum (121.4 MHz, CD_3COCD_3 , 295 K) recorded for **4a**.

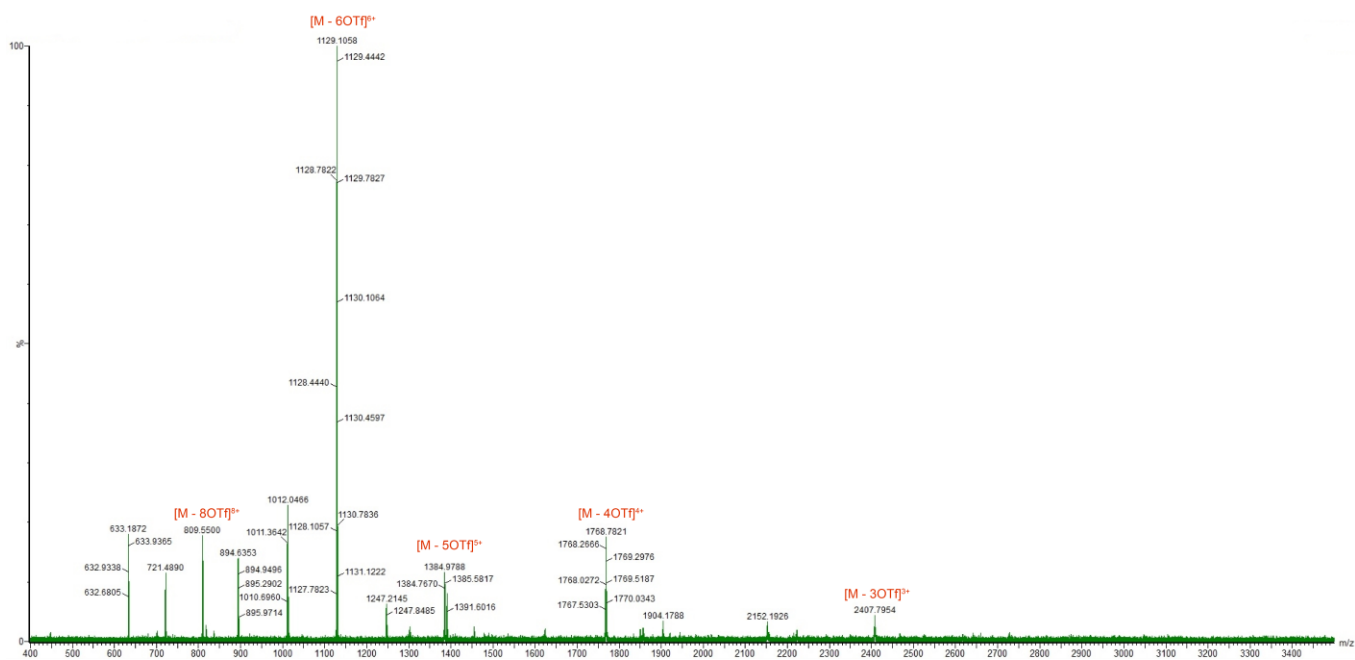


Figure S10. ESI-TOF-MS spectrum of cage **4a**.

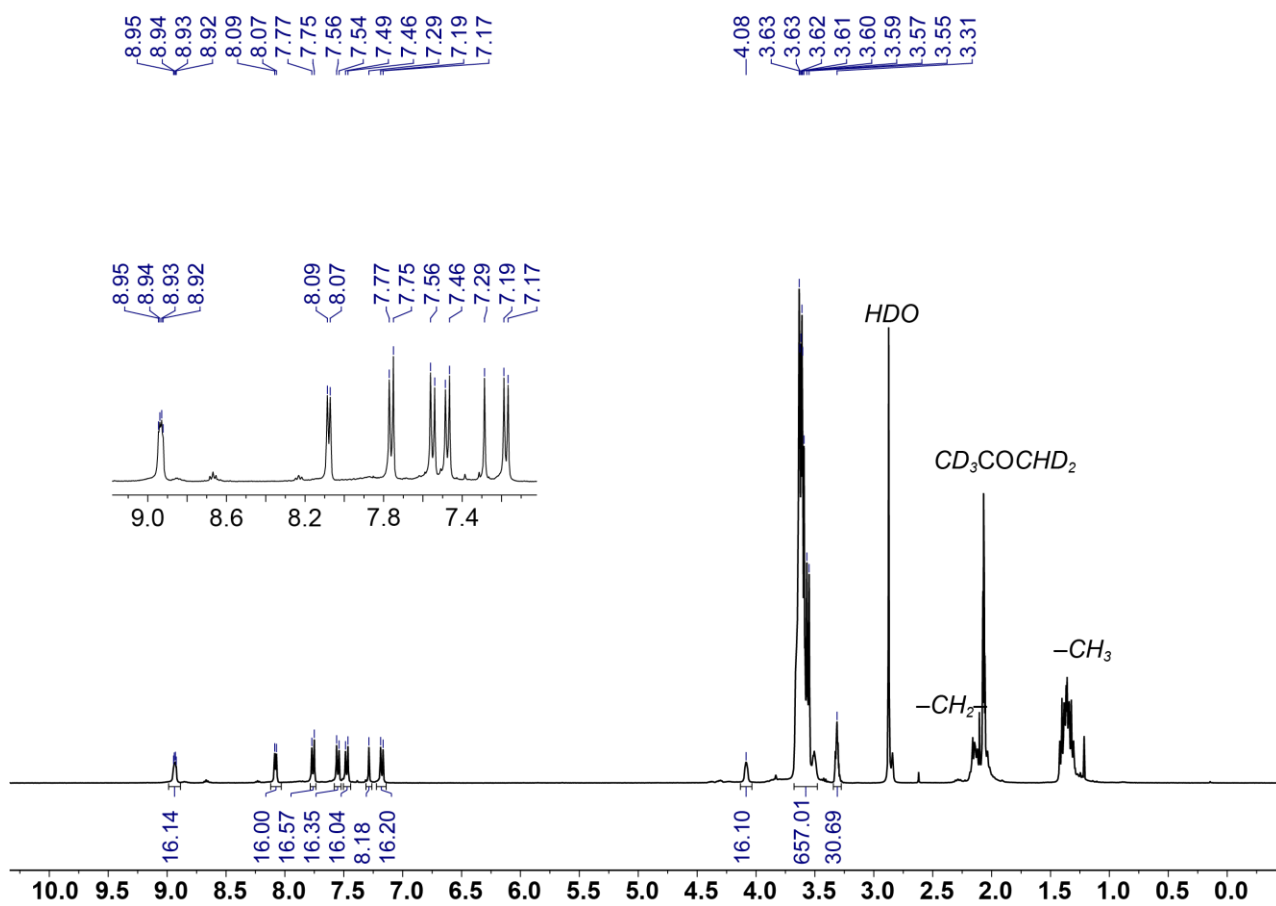


Figure S11. ¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CD₃COCD₃, 295 K) recorded for **4b**.

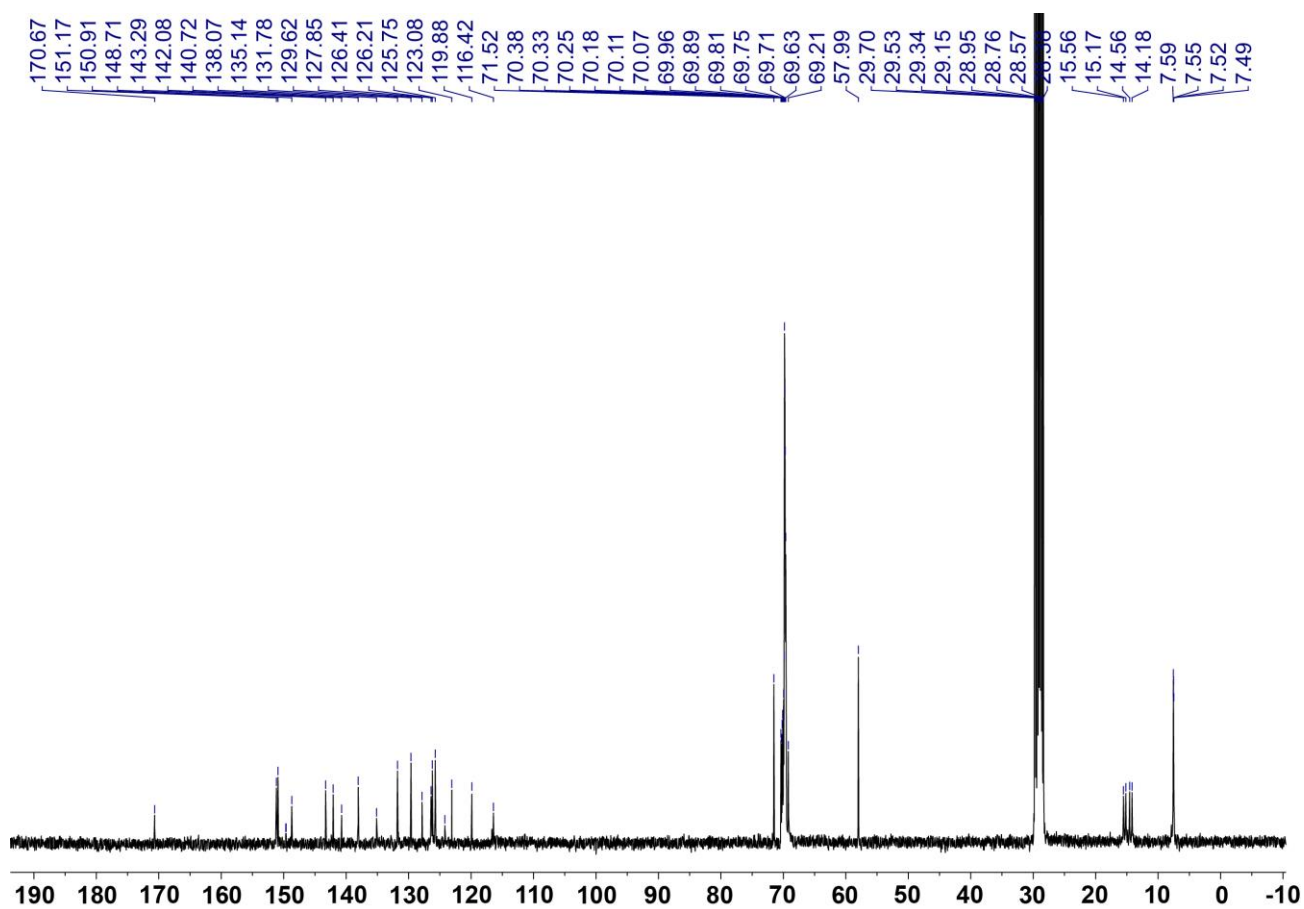


Figure S12. ¹³C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, CD₃COCD₃, 295 K) recorded for **4a**.

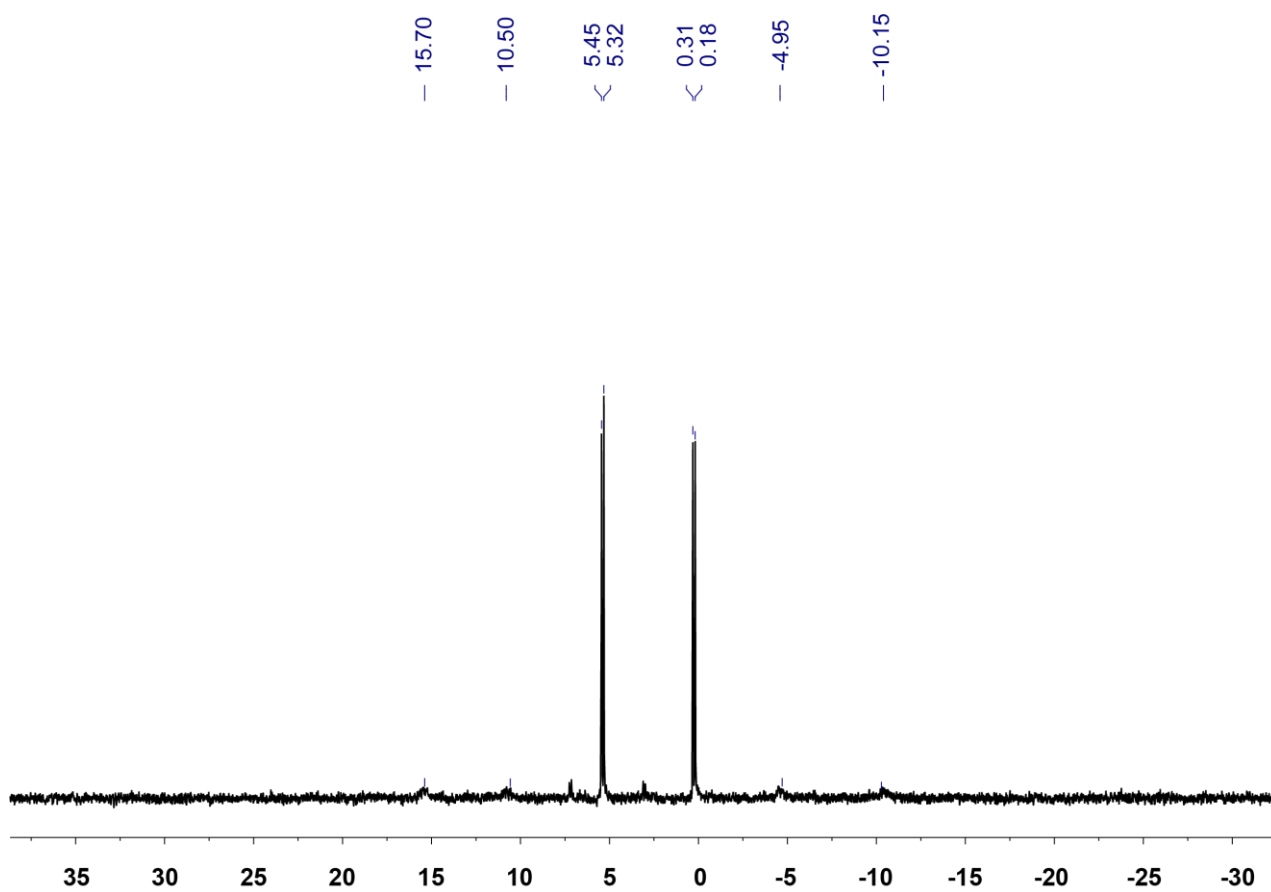


Figure S13. $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR spectrum (121.4 MHz, CD_3COCD_3 , 295 K) recorded for **4b**.

3. UV/vis absorption and fluorescence spectra of **4a** and **4b**

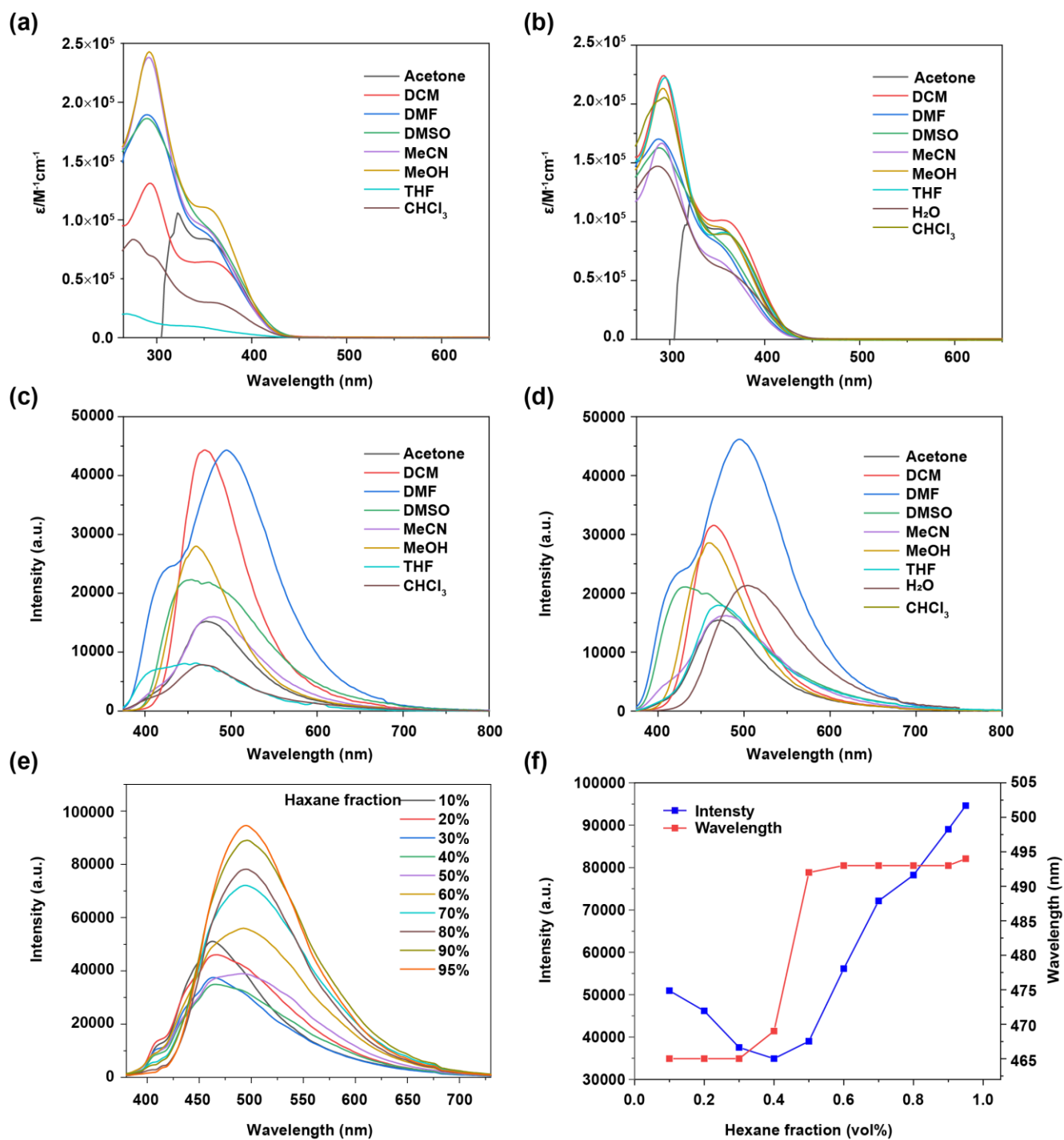


Figure S14. (a, b) UV/vis absorption and (c, d) fluorescence spectra of **4a** (a, c) and **4b** (b, d) in different solvents ($\lambda_{ex} = 365$ nm, $c = 10.0$ μ M). (e) Fluorescence spectra and (f) plots of maximum emission intensity and wavelength of **4b** versus hexane fraction in CH₂Cl₂/hexane mixtures ($\lambda_{ex} = 365$ nm, $c = 10.0$ μ M).

4. DLS and CAC data of cage **4b** in water

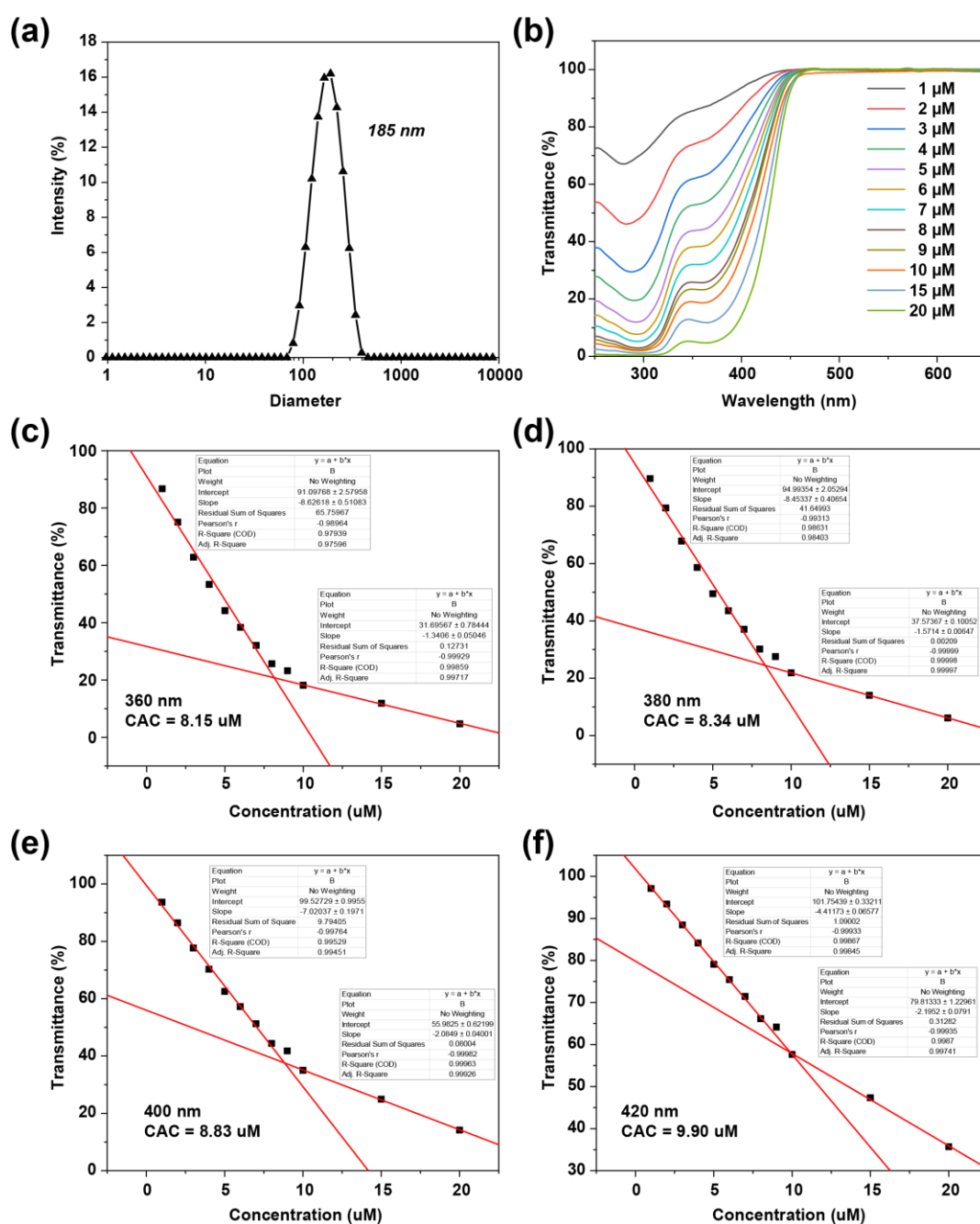


Figure S15. (a) DLS data of cage **4b** in water; (b) optical transmittance of different concentrations of **4b** in water; (c) Dependence of the optical transmittance at 360 nm versus the concentration of **4b** in water; (d) Dependence of the optical transmittance at 380 nm versus the concentration of **4b** in water; (e) Dependence of the optical transmittance at 400 nm versus the concentration of **4b** in water; (f) Dependence of the optical transmittance at 420 nm versus the concentration of **4b** in water.

5. Fluorescent images of **4b** with difference concentrations of eosin Y

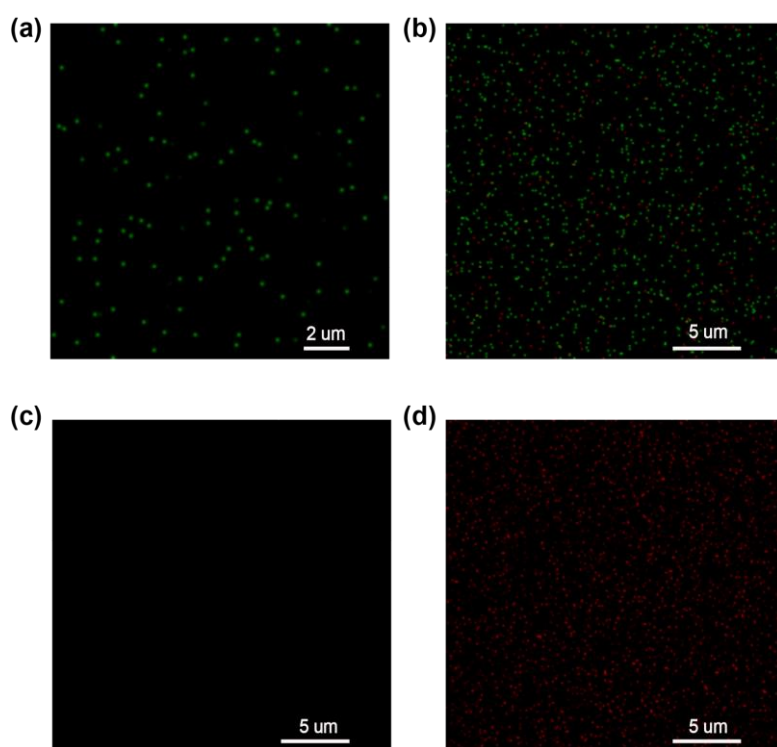


Figure S16. Fluorescent images of (a) metallacage **4b** (c = 10.0 μM) in water (λ_{ex} = 405 nm); (b) metallacage **4b** (c = 10.0 μM) with the addition of eosin Y (c = 5.0 μM) in water (λ_{ex} = 405 nm); (c) eosin Y (c = 5.0 μM) in water (λ_{ex} = 405 nm); (d) eosin Y (c = 5.0 μM) in water (λ_{ex} = 510 nm).

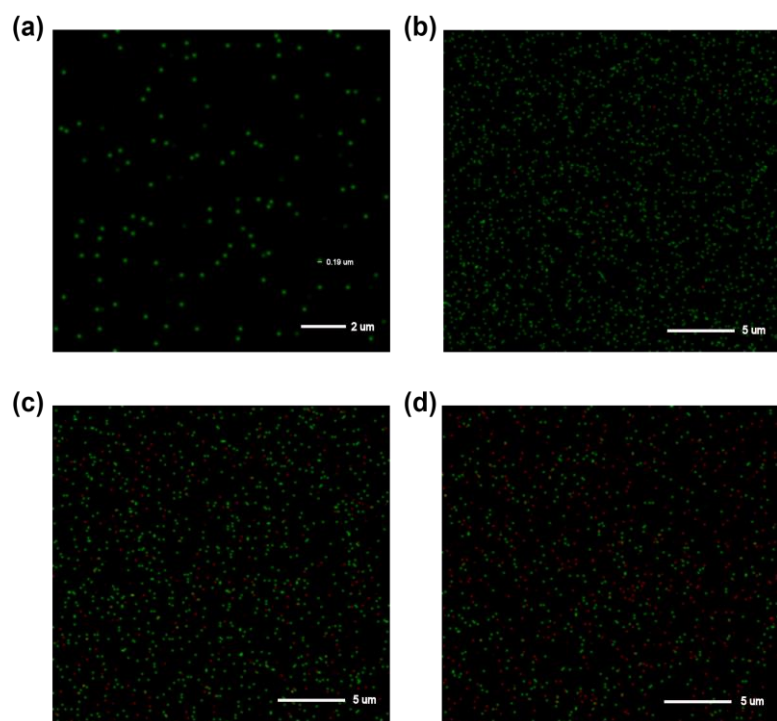


Figure S17. Fluorescent images of (a) **4b** (c = 10.0 μM) in water (λ_{ex} = 405 nm); (b) **4b** (c = 10.0 μM) with the addition of eosin Y (c = 0.2 μM) in water (λ_{ex} = 405 nm); (c) **4b** (c = 10.0 μM) with the addition of eosin Y (c = 5.0 μM) in water (λ_{ex} = 405 nm); (d) **4b** (c = 10.0 μM) with the addition of eosin Y (c = 10.0 μM) in water (λ_{ex} = 405 nm).

6. Antenna effect of the light-harvesting system

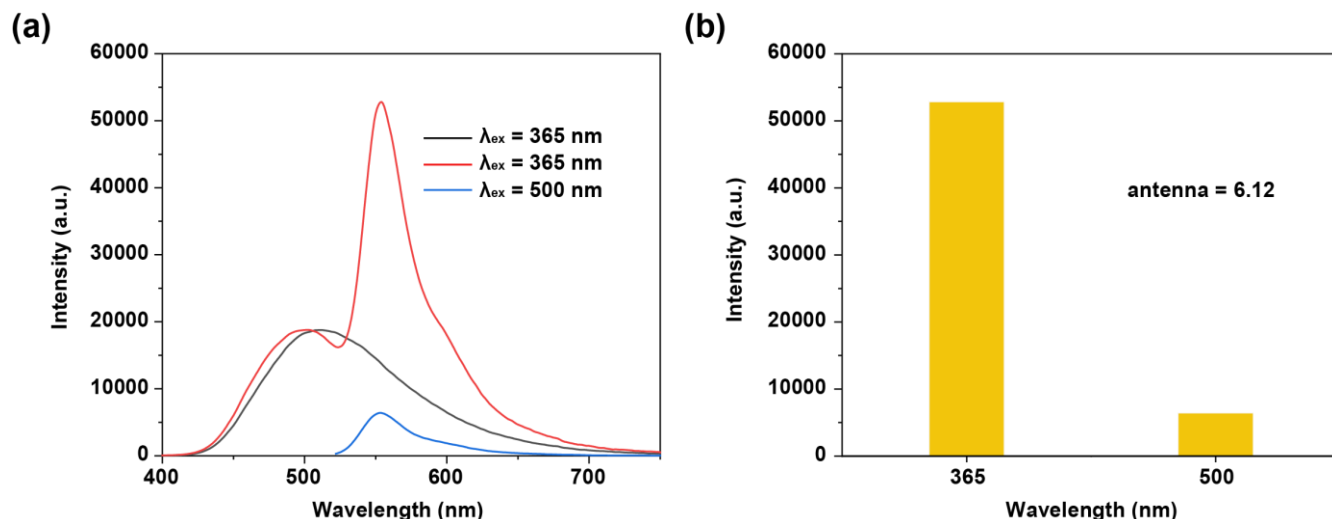


Figure S18. (a) Fluorescence spectra of **4b**/eosin Y (30/1.6 μM) in water, red trace (donor emission, $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 365$ nm), blue trace (acceptor emission, $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 500$ nm). The black trace represents the fluorescence spectrum ($\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 365$ nm) of **4b** (30 μM), which was normalized according to the fluorescence intensity at 500 nm of the black trace; (b) The histogram of the eosin Y emission intensities at 554 nm (**4b**/ eosin Y = 30/1.6 μM) in water on excitation of the donor ($\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 365$ nm) and acceptor ($\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 500$ nm).

7. UV/vis absorption of the light-harvesting system

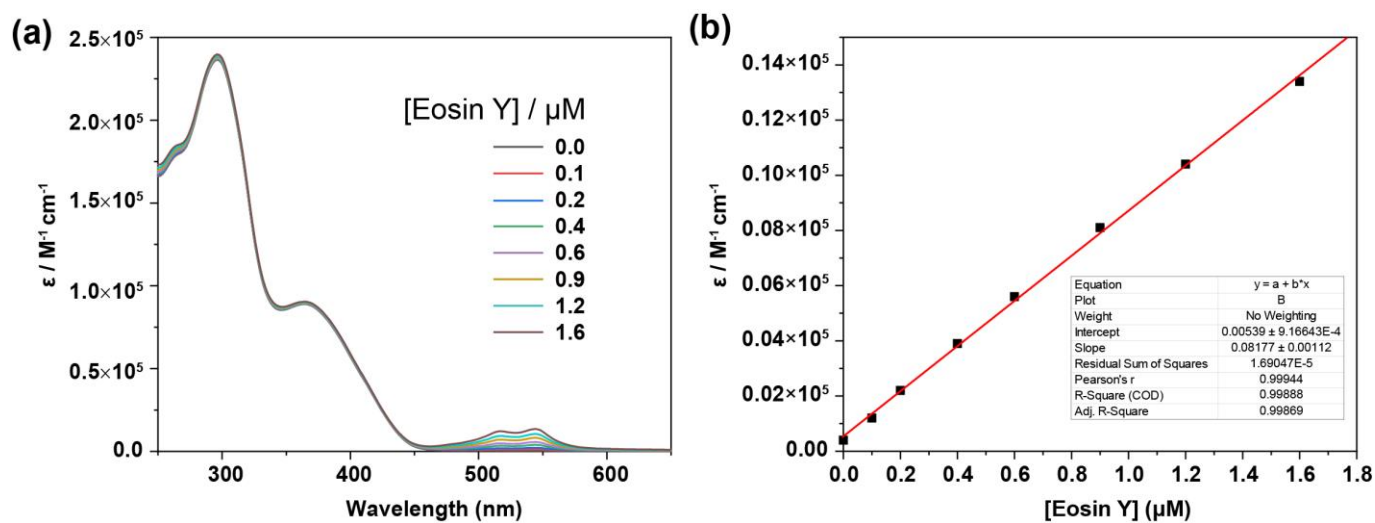


Figure S19. (a) UV/vis absorption of **4b** ($c = 30.0$ μM) in water with different concentrations of eosin Y. (b) Dependence of the absorption at 546 nm versus the concentration of eosin Y in water.

8. Absolute fluorescence quantum yield of cage **4b** in water.

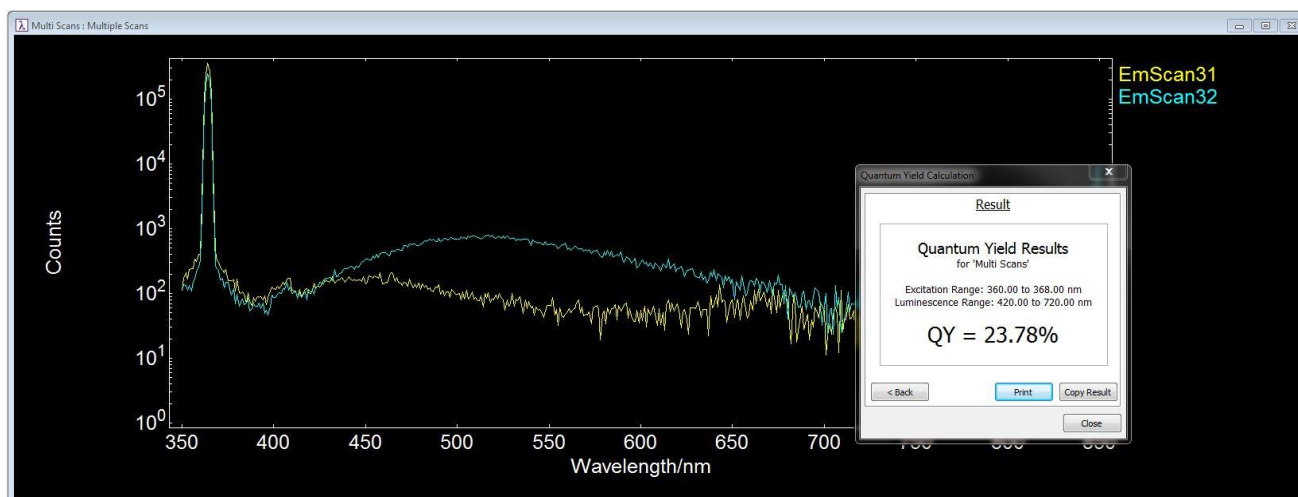


Figure S20. Absolute fluorescence quantum yield of cage **4b** in water.

9. Fluorescence decay traces and fluorescence lifetime of **4b**

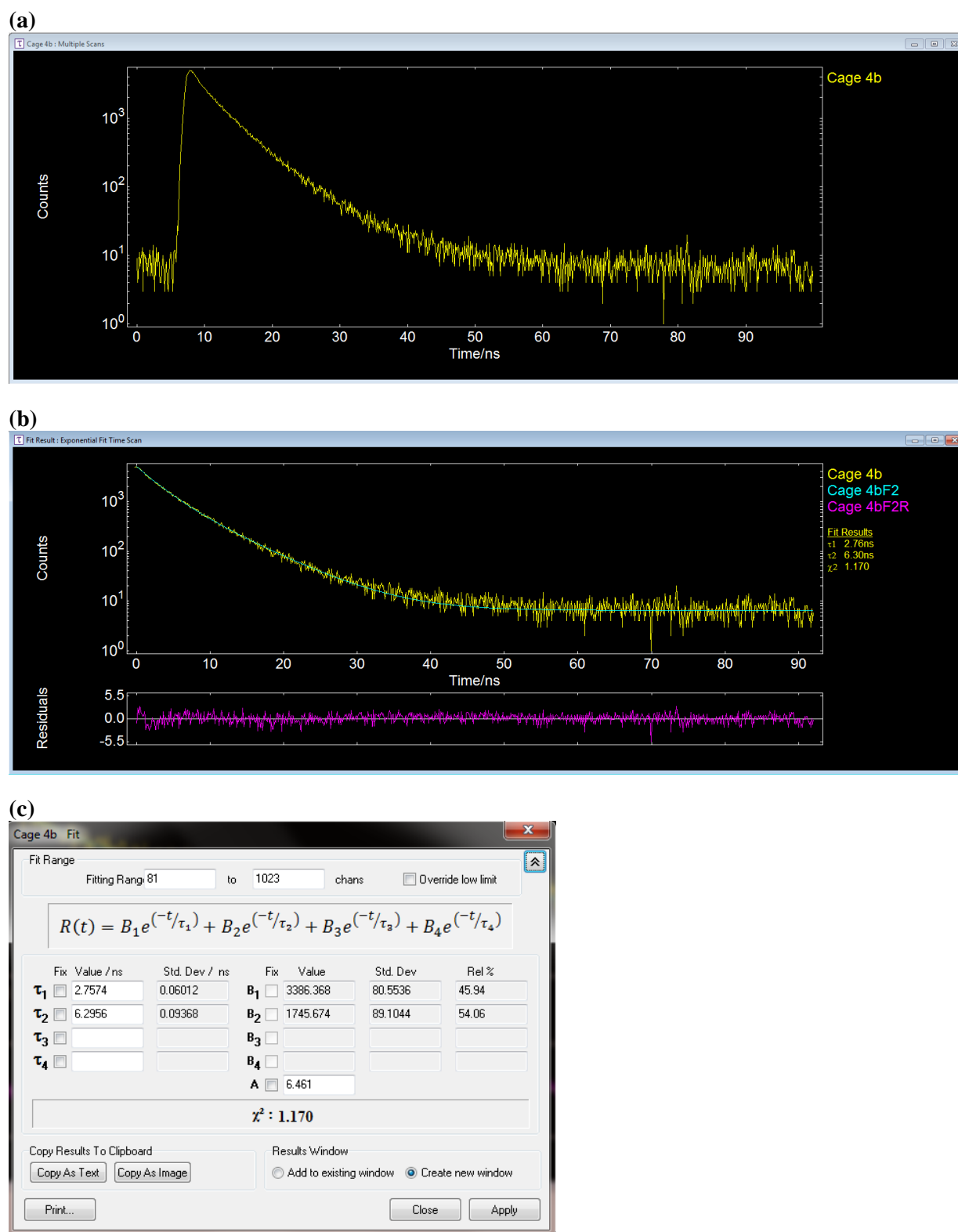


Figure S21. Fluorescence decay traces (a and b) and fluorescence lifetime (c) of **4b**.

10. Fluorescence decay traces and fluorescence lifetime of the light-harvesting system

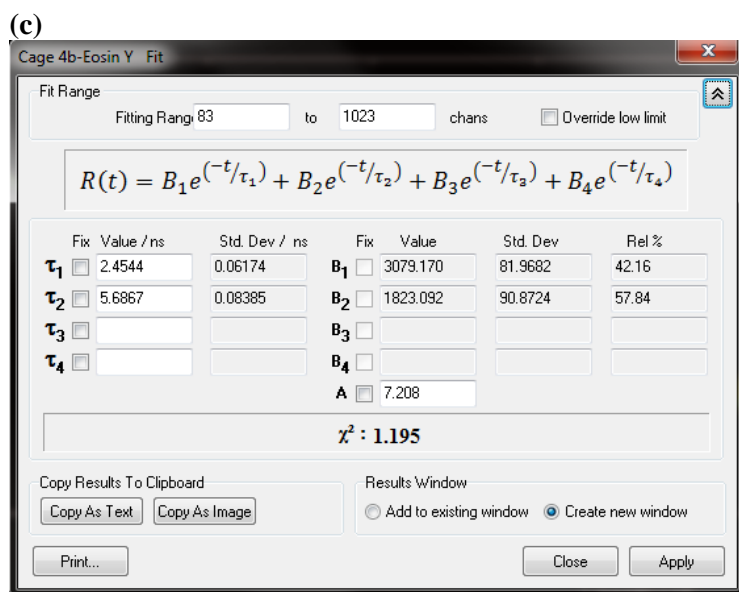
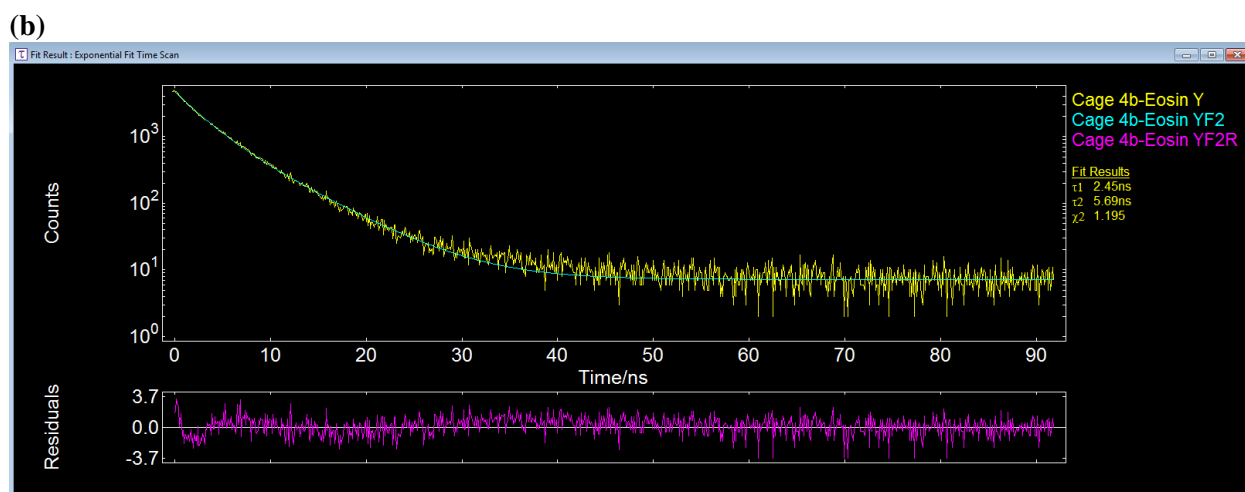
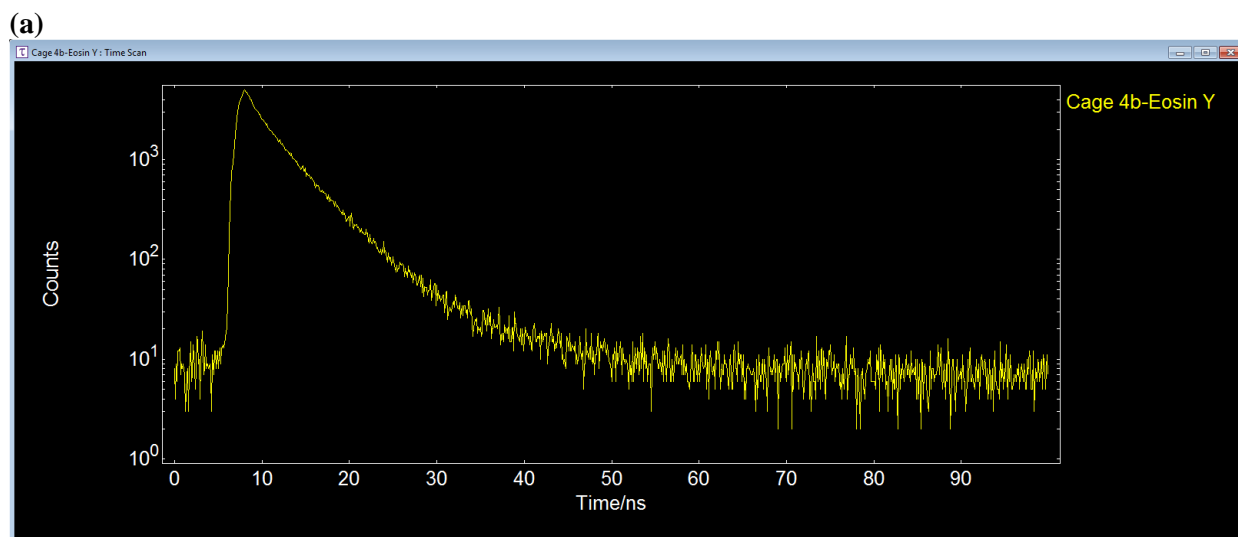
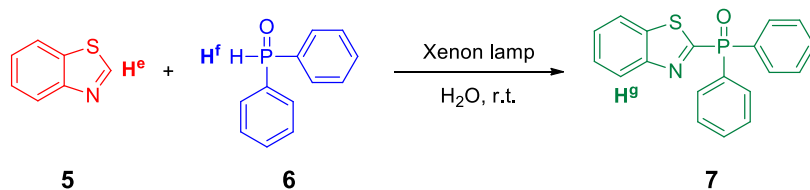


Figure S22. Fluorescence decay traces (a and b) and fluorescence lifetime (c) of light-harvesting system based on 4b and eosin Y.

11. Study of the catalytic activities of free eosin Y and the light-harvesting system



Benzothiazole **5** (50 μmol , 1 equiv.), diphenylphosphine oxide **6** (150 μmol , 3 equiv.), eosin Y (5 μmol , 5 mol%) or cage **4b**/eosin Y (5 μmol , 5 mol%) were dissolved in water (1.5 mL) to a 25 mL Schlenk tube. The mixture was cooled by liquid nitrogen, degassed and purged with nitrogen for six times, and then stirred and irradiated by Xenon lamp (150 mW/cm^2) at room temperature for corresponding time. After that, 20 mL ethyl acetate was added to the resulting mixture. The organic layer was collected and concentrated after washed with saturated NaHCO_3 solution and brine. The solvents removed *in vacuo* give light orange oil. The residue was collected and dissolved in deuterated chloroform (0.8 mL) using 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene (62.5 mM) as the reference to calculate the conversions and yields of the reaction based on the integrals.

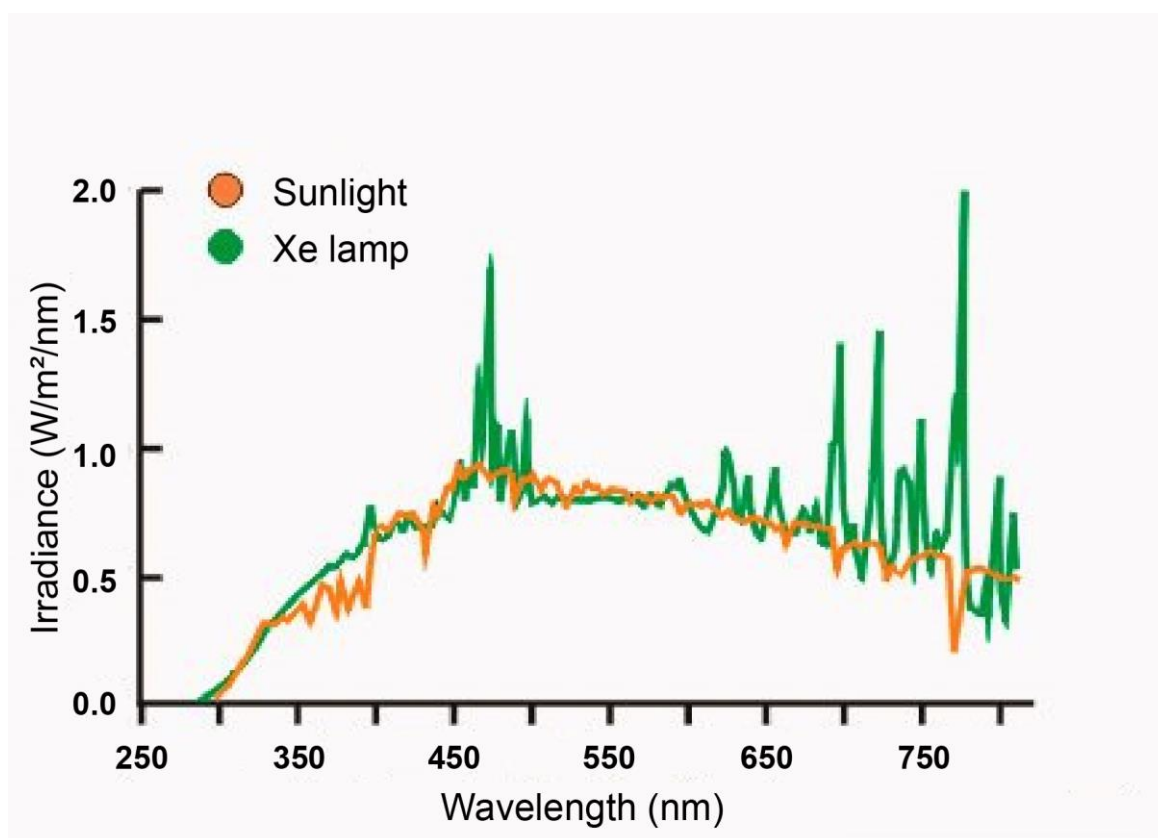


Figure S23. The spectrum of the sunlight and Xe lamp.

Table S1. Optimization of reaction conditions for the synthesis of **7**.

Entry	Additive	Time (h)	Conversion of 5	Yield of 7
1	eosin Y	4	20%	15%
2	eosin Y	8	33%	26%
3	eosin Y	12	40%	33%
4	eosin Y	16	46%	38%
5	eosin Y	24	60%	46%
6	eosin Y + cage 4b	4	25%	21%
7	eosin Y + cage 4b	6	45%	37%
8	eosin Y + cage 4b	8	66%	54%
9	eosin Y + cage 4b	10	83%	59%
10	eosin Y + cage 4b	12	88%	65%
11	cage 4b	12	1%	0%

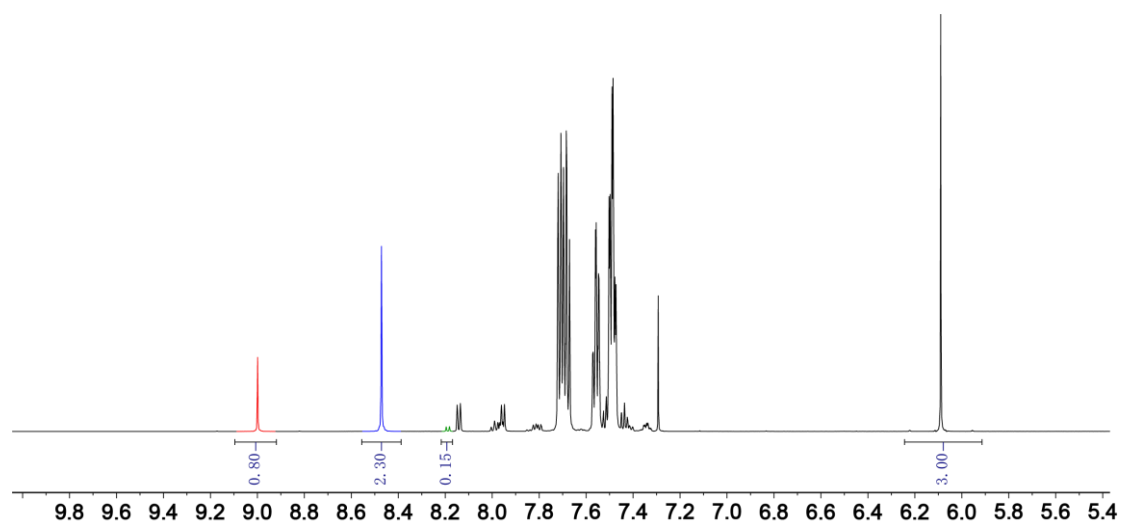


Figure S24. Partial ^1H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CDCl_3 , 295 K) of the reaction using eosin Y as the photocatalyst at 4 h.

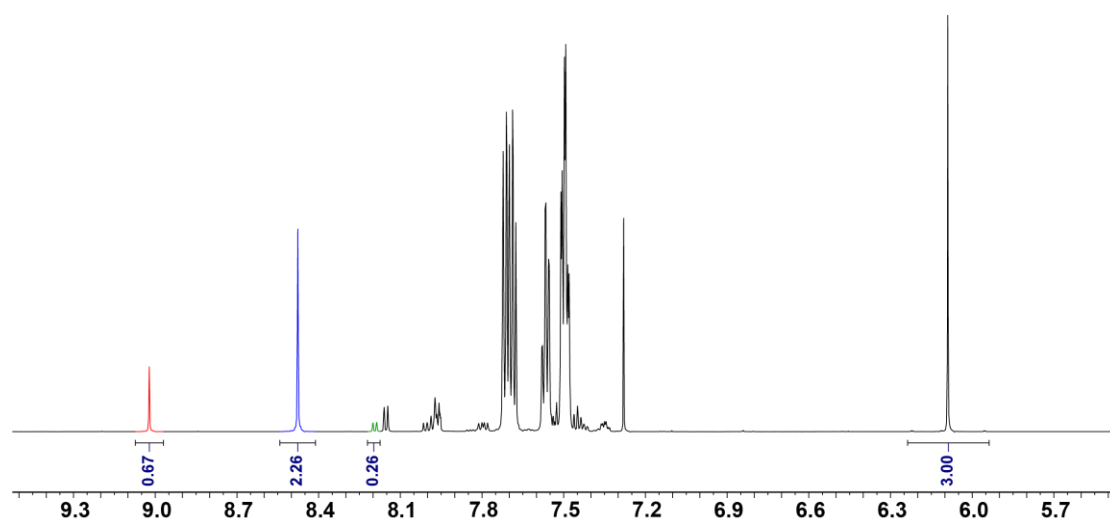


Figure S25. Partial ^1H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CDCl_3 , 295 K) of the reaction using eosin Y as the photocatalyst at 8 h.

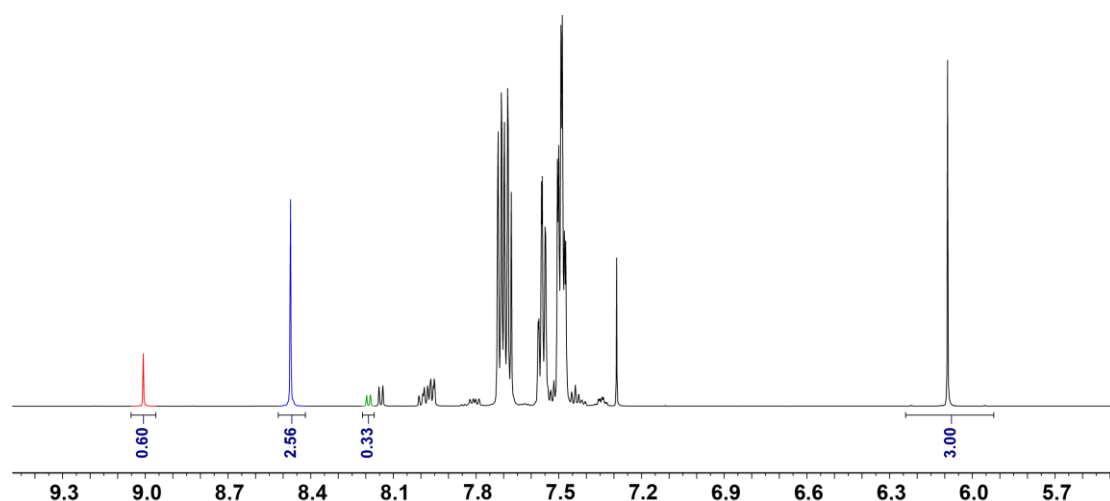


Figure S26. Partial ^1H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CDCl_3 , 295 K) of the reaction using eosin Y as the photocatalyst at 12 h.

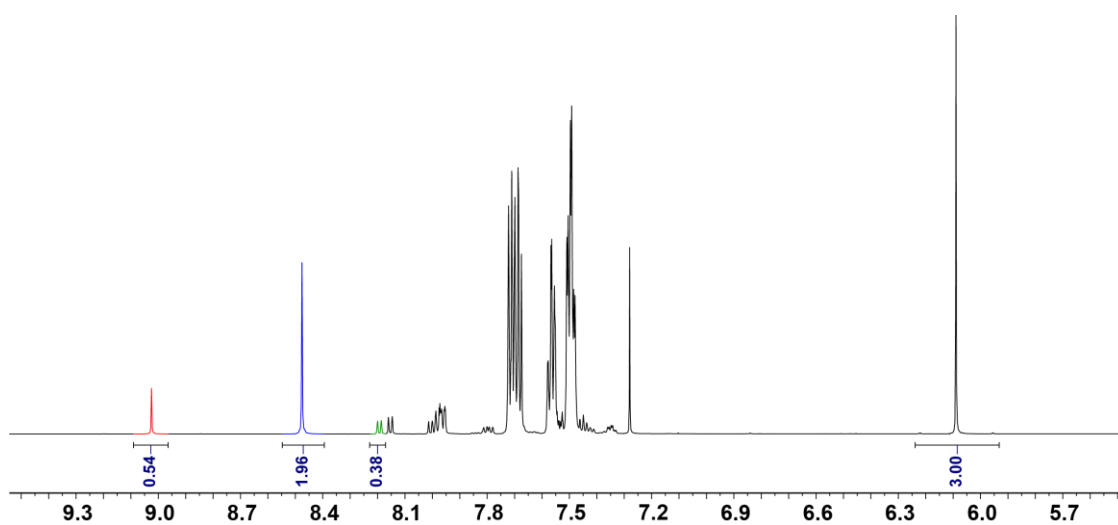


Figure S27. Partial ^1H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CDCl_3 , 295 K) of the reaction using eosin Y as the photocatalyst at 16 h.

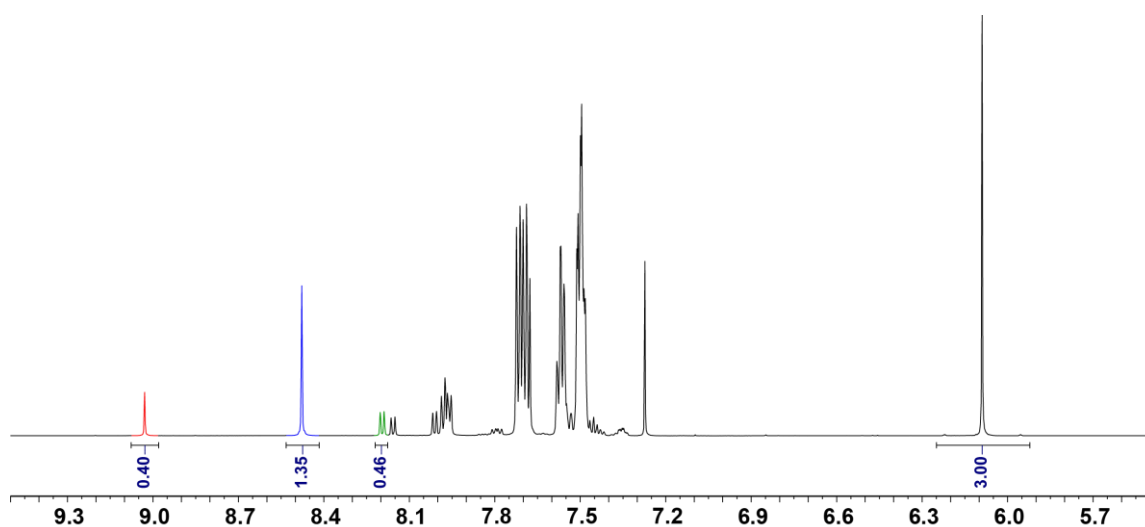


Figure S28. Partial ^1H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CDCl_3 , 295 K) of the reaction using eosin Y as the photocatalyst at 24 h.

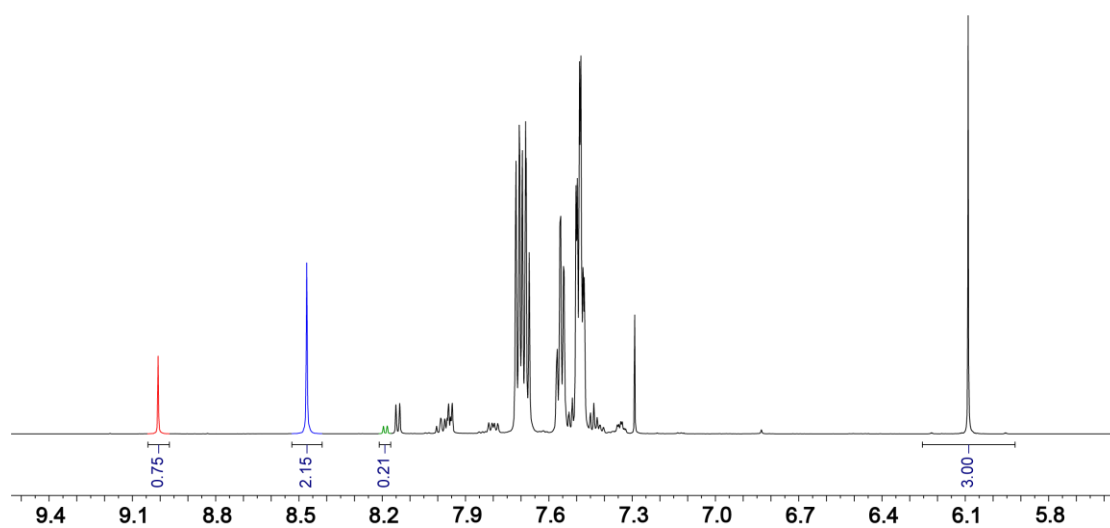


Figure S29. Partial ^1H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CDCl_3 , 295 K) of the reaction using eosin Y and cage **4b** as the photocatalyst at 4 h.

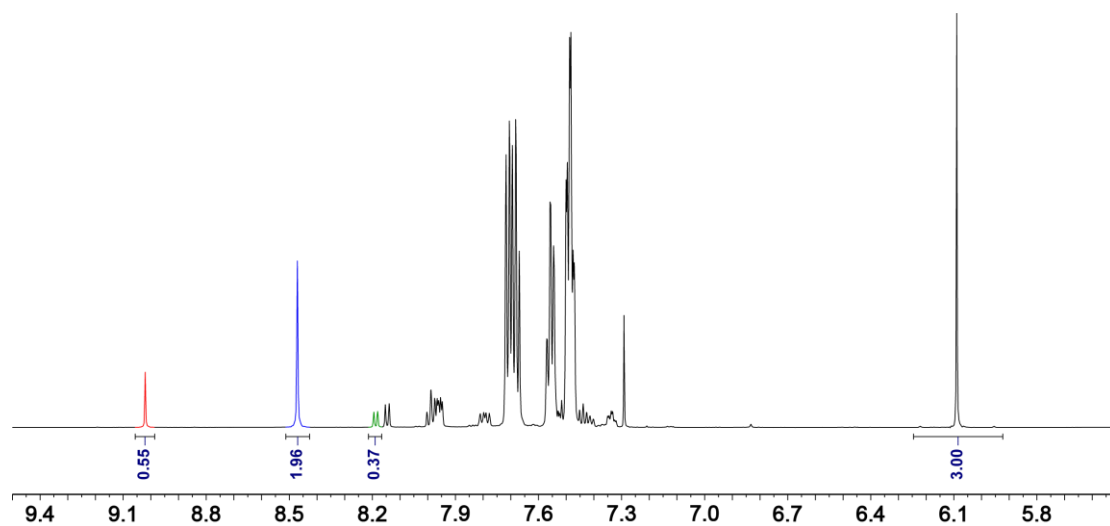


Figure S30. Partial ^1H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CDCl_3 , 295 K) of the reaction using eosin Y and cage **4b** as photocatalyst at 6 h.

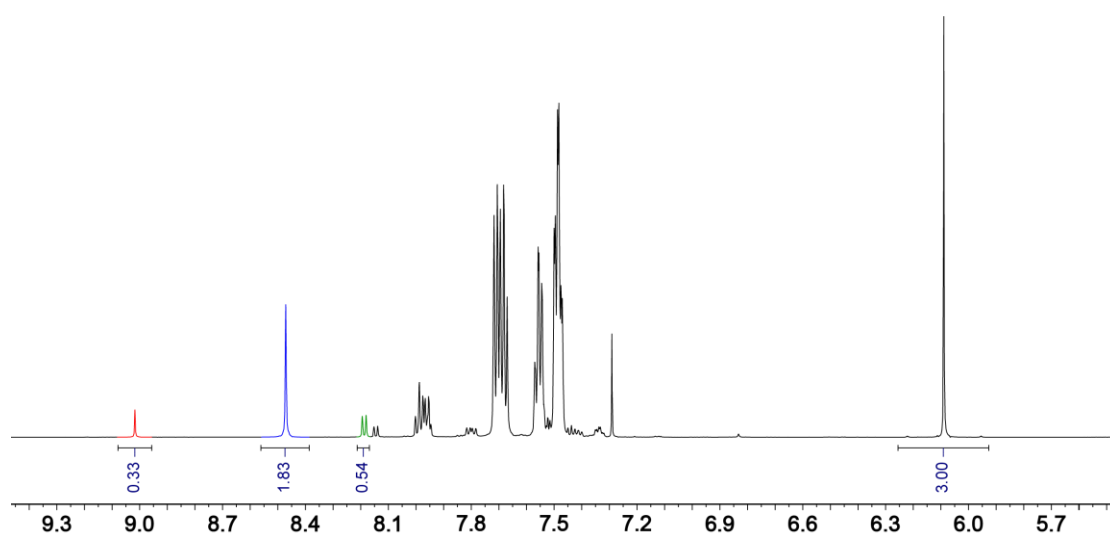


Figure S31. Partial ^1H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CDCl_3 , 295 K) of the reaction using eosin Y and cage **4b** as photocatalyst at 8 h.

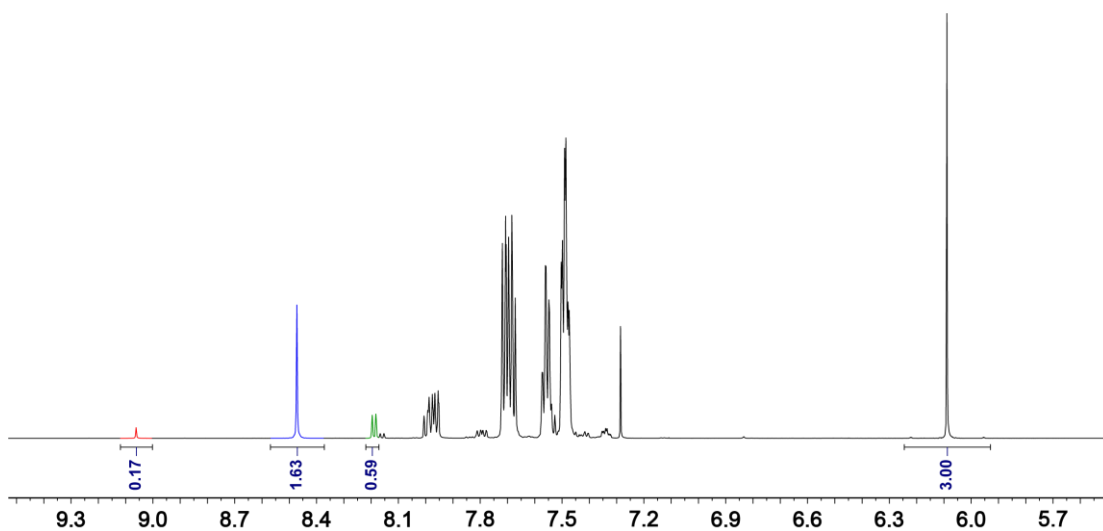


Figure S32. Partial ¹H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CDCl₃, 295 K) of the reaction using eosin Y and cage **4b** as photocatalyst at 10 h.

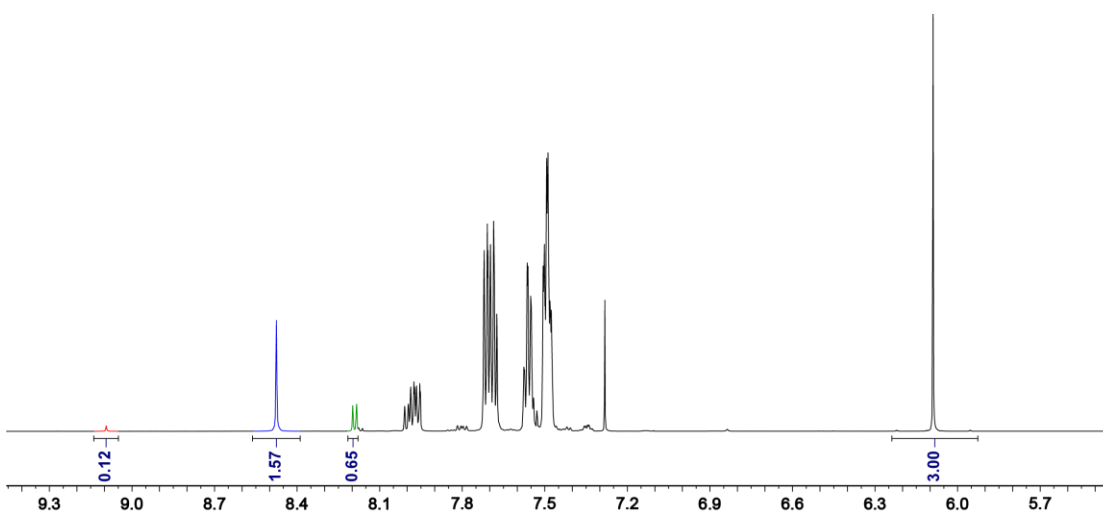


Figure S33. Partial ¹H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CDCl₃, 295 K) of the reaction using eosin Y and cage **4b** as photocatalyst at 12 h.

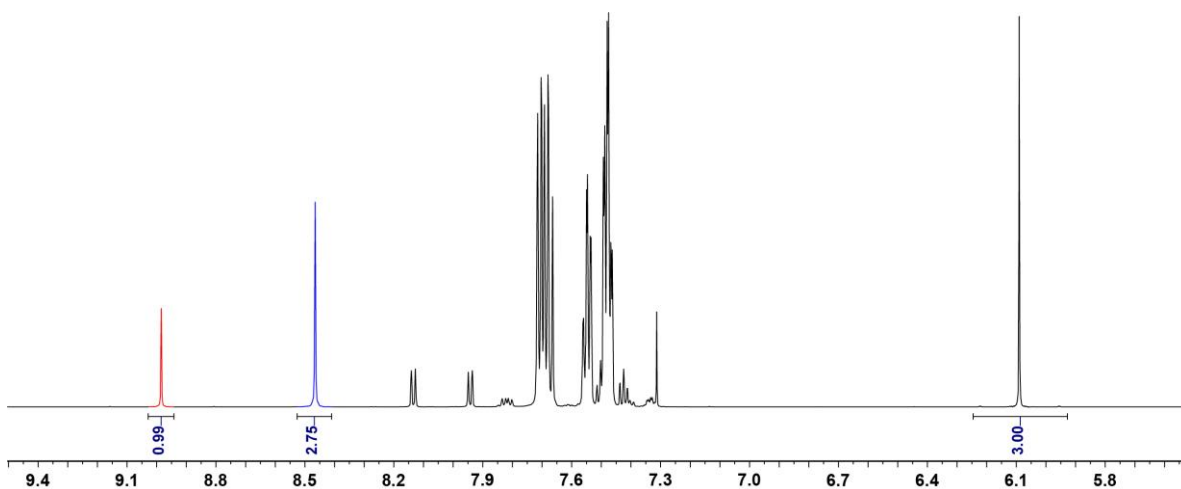


Figure S34. Partial ¹H NMR spectra (600 MHz, CDCl₃, 295 K) of the reaction using cage **4b** as photocatalyst at 12 h.

12. Reference

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