# Supplementary Information for Ferroelectric Columnar Assemblies Arising from Bowl-to-Bowl Invertible Aromatic Cores

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# Table of contents

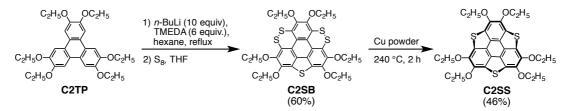
1.	General consideration for the synthesis and characterization	S2
2.	Synthetic procedures for all compounds	S3
3.	The optimized structures of triselenasumanene	S6
4.	PXRD analysis of <b>CnSS</b> derivatives	S7
5.	POM images of <b>CnSS</b> derivatives	S9
6.	SHG measurements of <b>C</b> <i>n</i> <b>SS</b> derivatives	S11
7.	Dielectric properties of CnSS derivatives	S12
8.	Properties of the reference compounds, C4SeS and C6TP	S15
9.	Theoretical calculations of motional freedom	S17
10.	NMR charts	S19

#### 1. General consideration for the synthesis and characterization

NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AVANCE500 spectrometer (<sup>1</sup>H NMR, 500 MHz; <sup>13</sup>C NMR, 126 MHz) and a Bruker AVANCE400 spectrometer (<sup>1</sup>H NMR, 400 MHz; <sup>13</sup>C NMR, 100 MHz). Chemical shifts for <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra are reported in parts per million (ppm,  $\delta$  scale) downfield from tetramethylsilane, and referenced internally to the residual proton in the solvent (CDCl<sub>3</sub>:  $\delta$  7.26). Chemical shifts for <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra are reported in parts per million (ppm,  $\delta$  scale) downfield from tetramethylsilane, and are referenced to the <sup>13</sup>C resonance of the NMR solvent (CDCl<sub>3</sub>:  $\delta$  77.00). The data are presented as follows: chemical shift, multiplicity (t = triplet, q = quartet, quint = quintet, m = multiplet and/or multiple resonances), coupling constant in hertz (Hz), and integration. Mass spectra were obtained with a Bruker AutoflexIII (MALDI-TOF) mass spectrometer. Melting points were measured by Yanaco MP-S3 instrument. Column chromatography was performed using Kanto silica gel 60N. Thin layer chromatography was performed using Merck Silica Gel 60 F254, TLC Plates.

#### 2. Synthetic procedures for all compounds

#### Synthesis of C2SS



N,N,N',N'-Tetramethylethylenediamine (14.5 mL, 97.3 mmol) was added to a suspension of 2,3,6,7,10,11-hexaethoxytriphenylene (**C2TP**) (8.02 g, 16.3 mmol) in hexane (380 mL). *n*-BuLi in hexane (2.66 M, 62 mL, 165 mmol) was added dropwise to the suspension for 5 min at room temperature, then the mixture was refluxed for 3.5 hours. After cooling to room temperature, volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. THF (300 mL) was added to the resulting solid and then cooled below -60 °C. To the mixture, sulfur powder (8.36 g, 261 mmol) was added in one portion and the mixture was stirred for 30 min at the same temperature. Then the mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 7 hours. After stirring, aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl was added to the mixture, and the reaction mixture was extracted with dichloromethane. The extract was dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate and concentrated under reduced pressure to give a crude product. The products were purified by silica gel column chromatography (hexane/chloroform) to give thienotriphenylenobis(dithiin) **C2SB** (6.31 g, 9.75 mmol, 60%) as a yellow solid.

Copper powder (11.9 g, 187 mmol) was added to **C2SB** (4.04 g, 6.24 mmol), then the mixture was stirred at 240 °C for 2 hours. After cooling to room temperature, dichloromethane was added to the reaction mixture. Insoluble solids were removed by filtration, then volatiles were removed under reduced pressure to obtain crude products. The products were purified by silica gel column chromatography (hexane/dichloromethane) to give **C2SS** (1.69 g, 2.90 mmol, 46%) as a pale yellow solid. Unreacted starting material **2** (1.57 g, 2.43 mmol, 39%) was also recovered.

#### **Compounds** data

**C2SB**: yellow solid, mp. 148–150 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.48–1.53 (m, 18 H), 4.32 (q, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 8H), 4.48 (q, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  15.90 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 15.92 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 16.10 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 69.19 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 70.32 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 70.62 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 122.10 (C), 122.48 (C), 124.32 (C), 126.30 (C), 128.49 (C), 129.05 (C), 146.59 (C), 147.07 (C), 148.66 (C); MS (MALDI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>6</sub>S<sub>5</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) 646.1, found: 646.0; elemental analysis calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>6</sub>S<sub>5</sub>: C, 55.70; H, 4.67, found: C, 55.79; H, 4.49.

C2SS: pale yellow solid, 204-205 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.55 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 18 H), 4.48

(q, J = 6.8 Hz, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  15.99 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 69.16 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 129.97 (C), 130.81 (C), 146.40 (C); MS (MALDI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>6</sub>S<sub>3</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) 582.1, found: 582.3; elemental analysis calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>6</sub>S<sub>3</sub>: C, 61.83; H, 5.19, found: C, 61.72; H, 5.03.

#### Synthesis of trithiasumanenes bearing long alkyl chains CnSS

**CnSS** derivatives (n = 6, 8, 10, and 16) were synthesized by the following general procedure described in the main text (see Methods section).

#### Synthesis of C6SS

For the dealkylation, **C2SS** (150 mg, 0.26 mmol) in dichloromethane (5 mL) was treated with boron tribromide in dichloromethane (1.0 mol L<sup>-1</sup>, 2.6 mL, 2.6 mmol). 1-Bromohexane (0.3 mL, 1.54 mmol), potassium carbonate (305 mg, 2.21 mmol) and DMF (3 mL) were used for the realkylation step. **C6SS** (166 mg, 0.18 mmol, 70%) was obtained as a pale yellow solid. mp. 121 °C, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.94 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 18H), 1.41 (br, 24H), 1.58 (quint, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 12H), 1.90 (quint, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 12H), 4.40 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  14.21 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.81 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 25.89 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 30.38 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.81 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 73.71 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 130.26 (C), 130.97 (C), 146.76 (C); MS (MALDI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>54</sub>H<sub>78</sub>O<sub>6</sub>S<sub>3</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) 918.5, found: 919.0; elemental analysis calcd for C<sub>66</sub>H<sub>102</sub>O<sub>6</sub>S<sub>3</sub>: C, 70.54; H, 8.55, found: C, 70.14; H, 8.55.

#### Synthesis of C8SS

For the dealkylation, **C2SS** (150 mg, 0.26 mmol) in dichloromethane (5 mL) was treated with boron tribromide in dichloromethane (1.0 mol L<sup>-1</sup>, 2.6 mL, 2.6 mmol). 1-Bromooctane (0.35 mL, 2.02 mmol), potassium carbonate (350 mg, 2.54 mmol) and DMF (3 mL) were used for the realkylation step. **C8SS** (117 mg, 0.11 mmol, 42%) was obtained as a pale yellow solid. mp. 92.5 °C, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.93 (t, 18H), 1.43 (br, 48H), 1.62 (quint, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 12H), 1.93 (quint, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 12H), 4.41 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 12H);<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  14.26 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.86 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.27 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.51 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.64 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 30.47 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 32.05 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 73.67 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 129.96 (C), 130.70 (C), 146.64 (C); MS (MALDI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>66</sub>H<sub>102</sub>O<sub>6</sub>S<sub>3</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) 1086.7, found: 1087.2; elemental analysis calcd for C<sub>66</sub>H<sub>102</sub>O<sub>6</sub>S<sub>3</sub>: C, 72.88; H, 9.45, found: C, 72.60; H, 9.70.

#### Synthesis of C10SS

For the dealkylation, **C2SS** (200 mg, 0.34 mmol) in dichloromethane (8 mL) was treated with boron tribromide in dichloromethane (1.0 mol L<sup>-1</sup>, 3.5 mL, 3.5 mmol). 1-Bromodecane (0.38 mL, 1.84 mmol), potassium carbonate (260 mg, 1.88 mmol) and DMF (5 mL) were used for the realkylation step. **C10SS** (165 mg, 0.13 mmol, 39%) was obtained as an off-white solid. mp. 83.0 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR

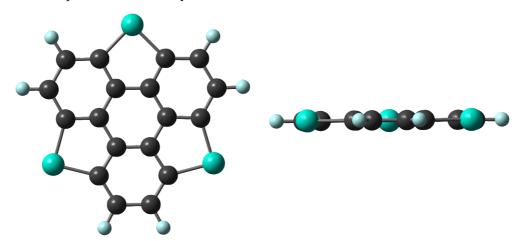
(500MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.89 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 18H), 1.29–1.45 (m, 72H), 1.59 (quint, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 12H), 1.91 (quint, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 12H), 4.39 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 12H);<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  14.26 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.86 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 26.28 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.55 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.69 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.82 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.87 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 30.48 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 32.11 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 73.64 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 129.99 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 130.72 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 146.66 (CH<sub>3</sub>); MS (MALDI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>78</sub>H<sub>126</sub>O<sub>6</sub>S<sub>3</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) 1254.9, found: 1255.5; elemental analysis calcd for C<sub>78</sub>H<sub>126</sub>O<sub>6</sub>S<sub>3</sub>: C, 74.59; H, 10.11, found: C, 74.46; H, 10.40.

#### Synthesis of C16SS

For the dealkylation, **C2SS** (194 mg, 0.33 mmol) in dichloromethane (8 mL) was treated with boron tribromide in dichloromethane (1.0 mol L<sup>-1</sup>, 3.5 mL, 3.5 mmol). 1-Bromohexadecane (0.47 mL, 1.54 mmol), potassium carbonate (186 mg, 1.35 mmol) and DMF (5 mL) were used for the realkylation step. **C16SS** (73 mg, 0.04 mmol, 12%) was obtained as a white solid. mp. 70.0 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.88 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 18H), 1.26–1.45 (m, 144 H), 1.57 (quint, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 12H), 1.90 (quint, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 12H), 4.39 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz; CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  14.26 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.68 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 23.02 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 26.27 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 26.42 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.54 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.68 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.87 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 29.91 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 30.46 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.93 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 32.10 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 32.27 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 73.67 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 130.14 (C), 130.85(C), 146.72 (C); MS (MALDI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>114</sub>H<sub>198</sub>O<sub>6</sub>S<sub>3</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) 1759.4, found: 1760.4; elemental analysis calcd for C<sub>114</sub>H<sub>198</sub>O<sub>6</sub>S<sub>3</sub>: C, 77.75; H, 11.33, found: C, 77.24; H, 11.40.

# 3. The optimized structures of triselenasumanene

The geometry optimization of triselenasumanene was performed using Gaussian 09 program<sup>1</sup> at the B3LYP/cc-pVDZ level of theory.

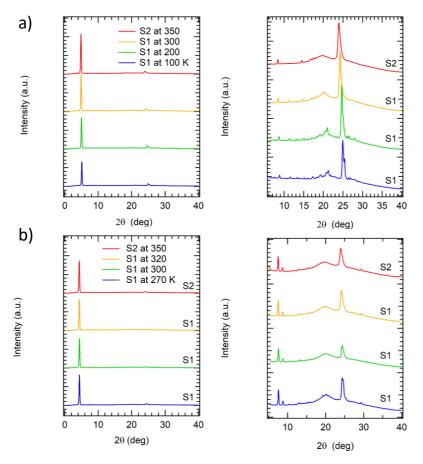


**Supplementary Figure 1.** The optimized structure of triselenasumanene: top view (left) and side view (right).

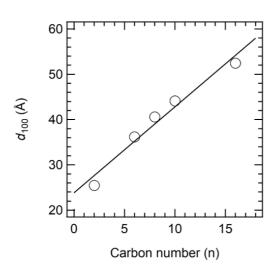
atom	x	У	Ζ	•	atom	x	у	Ζ
С	0.710683	3.612464	0		С	2.773144	-2.421702	0
С	-0.710683	3.612464	0		С	3.483828	-1.190763	0
С	-1.435544	2.405058	0		С	2.800613	0.040689	0
С	-0.697602	1.221221	0		С	1.406409	-0.00647	0
С	0.697602	1.221221	0		С	0.708808	-1.214751	0
С	1.435544	2.405058	0		С	1.365069	-2.445746	0
Se	3.329432	1.922249	0		Se	0	-3.844497	0
С	-3.483828	-1.190763	0		Н	3.353812	-3.34616	0
С	-2.773144	-2.421702	0		Н	4.574766	-1.231406	0
С	-1.365069	-2.445746	0		Н	1.220954	4.577566	0
С	-0.708808	-1.214751	0		Н	-1.220954	4.577566	0
С	-1.406409	-0.00647	0		Н	-4.574766	-1.231406	0
С	-2.800613	0.040689	0		Н	-3.353812	-3.34616	0
Se	-3.329432	1.922249	0	_				

Table S1. Theoretically optimized coordinates of triselenasumanene (Cartesian coordinates in Å)

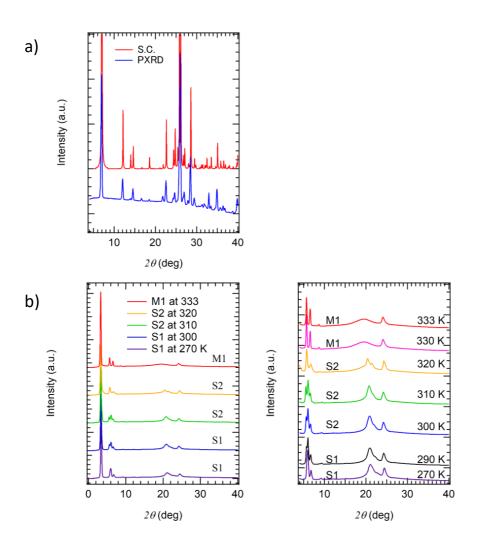
# 3. PXRD analysis of CnSS derivatives



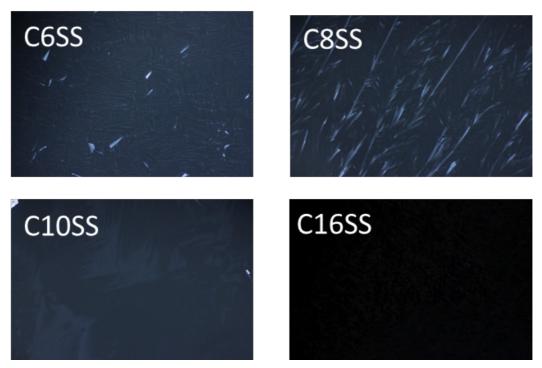
**Supplementary Figure 2.** Temperature-dependent PXRD patterns of a) C6SS and b) C8SS at S1 and S2 phases with the index assignments of 100, 110, 200, and 001 reflections. Right figure is expanded PXRD pattern at  $2\theta$  range from 5 to 40°.



**Supplementary Figure 3.** A linear relationship of and the number of carbon atoms of alkyl chains (n = 2, 6, 8, 10 and 16) and  $d_{100}$  spacing.



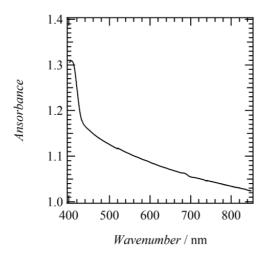
Supplementary Figure 4. Crystal structures of C2SS and C16SS. a) PXRD pattern (blue) and a simulated one (red) based on the single crystal X-ray crystal structural analysis of C2SS. b) Temperature dependent changes in the PXRD patterns at S1, S2 and M1 phases. Right figure shows the magnified diffraction patterns in the range of  $2\theta$  between 5° and 40°.



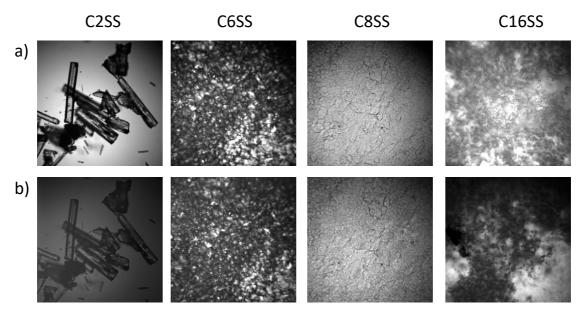
**Supplementary Figure 5.** POM images of S2 phase of C6SS, C8SS, C10SS, and C16SS. Dark images under the cross-Nicol optical arrangement were consistent with the homeotropic orientation of each column.

#### SHG measurements of CnSS.

The intensity of the SHG activity was measured using the Kurtz powder method. Powder samples were sandwiched between glass plates, with a 58  $\mu$ m gap, and the temperature-dependent SHG signal was measured five times by comparison with sucrose. Temperature–dependent powder SHG measurement was conducted on glass substrate equipped with temperature controller and the SHG intensity was relative magnitude with sucrose. Although the SHG intensity was not strong due to insufficient polar domain orientation in the absence of the application of electric filed and/or poling procedure, the SHG signal could be observed in the ferroelectric phase without the poling process through the phase transition from non-polar paraelectric to polar ferroelectric phase. A femtosecond pulsed beam (wavelength 1400 nm) from an optical parametric amplifier (Spectra-Physics, OPA-800C) pumped by a beam from a Ti:sapphire regenerative amplifier (Spectra-Physics, Spitfire) was used as the light source. The pulse duration was typically 150–200 fs, and the repetition rate was 1 kHz. The average incident power was 0.2 mW. The incident beam was focused by a plano-convex lens (f = 120 mm). The output SHG signals at wavelength of 700 nm were detected by a photomultiplier tube (Hamamatsu, Model SR250) and processed using a boxcar average (Stanford Research, Model SR250).

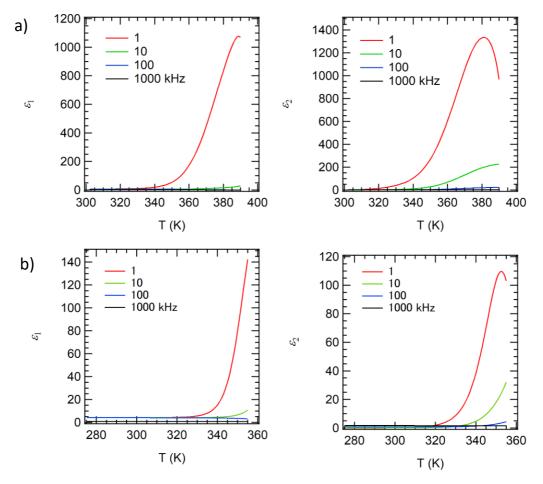


**Supplementary Figure 6.** Solid state diffuse scattering reflection spectra of C10SS at 298 K to examine the resonance energy region for SHG measurement.

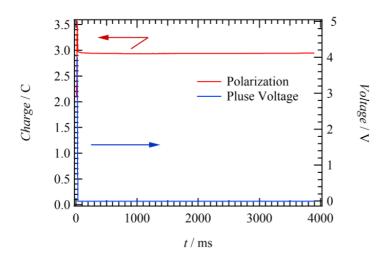


**Supplementary Figure 7.** POM images of **CnSS** crystals a) with polarizer and b) without polarizer. The SHG activity was clearly observed at **C2SS** with an intensity of sucrose.

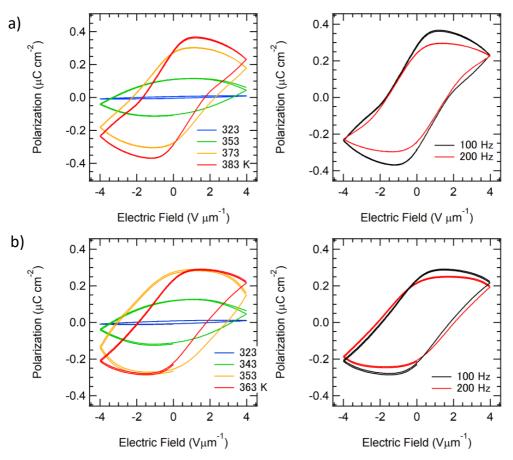




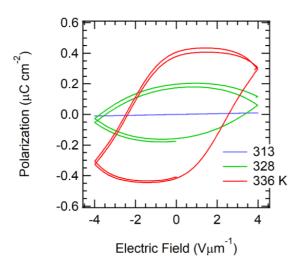
**Supplementary Figure 8.** Dielectric properties of a) C6SS and b) C8SS. *T*- and *f*-dependent real part  $\varepsilon_1$  (left) and imaginary part  $\varepsilon_2$  (right) dielectric constants in the heating process.



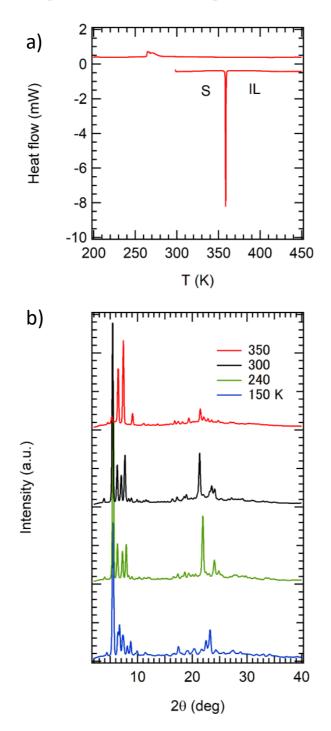
**Supplementary Figure 9.** Time-dependent polarization behavior of **C10SS** at 343K. The pulse voltage was applied at 4 V during 10 msec, then polarization change was monitored.



**Supplementary Figure 10.** *T*-dependent (left) and *f*-dependent (right) *P*-*E* hysteresis curves of a) C6SS and b) C8SS. The *T*-dependent curves were obtained at f = 100 Hz. The *f*-dependent curves were obtained at 383 K for C6SS and 363 K for C8SS.

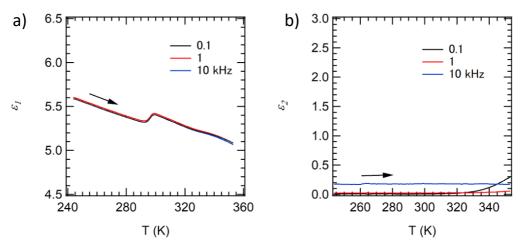


Supplementary Figure 11. *T*-dependent *P*-*E* hysteresis curves at f = 100 Hz of C16SS.

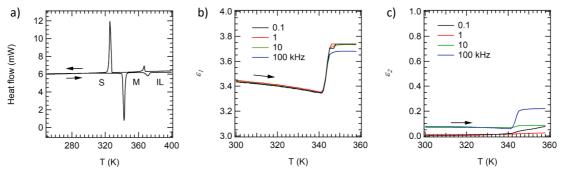


5. Properties of the reference compounds, C4SeS and C6TP

Supplementary Figure 12. Phase transition behavior and crystallinity of C4SeS. a) DSC chart in the first cycle and b) *T*-dependent PXRD pattern at T = 150, 240, 300, and 350 K.



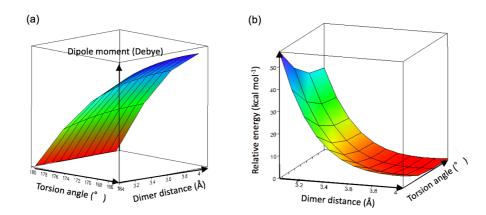
Supplementary Figure 13. Temperature and frequency dependent a) real part dielectric constant  $\varepsilon_1$  and b) imaginary part dielectric constant  $\varepsilon_2$  of C4SeS at f = 0.1, 1, and 10 kHz.



**Supplementary Figure 14.** Phase transition and dielectric behavior of C6TP. a) The S-M and M-IL phase transition in DSC chart. *T*- and *f*-dependent b) real part dielectric constant  $\varepsilon_1$  and c) imaginary part dielectric constant  $\varepsilon_2$  at f = 0.1, 1, 10, and 100 kHz.

#### Theoretical calculations of molecular dynamics.

Theoretical DFT calculation based on a basis function of B3LYP/6-31G(d) was utilized for each **CnSS** model calculations. Molecular structures was optimized by fixed angle at C-C-C-S (torsion angle), where the atomic coordinates of central benzene-ring were fixed at the result form the single crystal X-ray structural analysis and the torsion angle of six –OCH<sub>3</sub> groups to the benzene-ring was fixed at zero. The skew angel was obtained at **C1SS** dimer model with a fixed inter-dimer distance along the translational operation of the atomic coordinates, where the upper molecule was rotated and obtained the total energy. The energy minimum was defined as a zero for the relative energy scale at each figure.



**Supplementary Figure 15.** 3D diagram of stable molecular arrangement. (a) Torsion angle (x) – Dimer distance (y) - dipole moment (z) plot and (b) dimer distance (x) – torsion angle (y) – relative energy (z) plot.

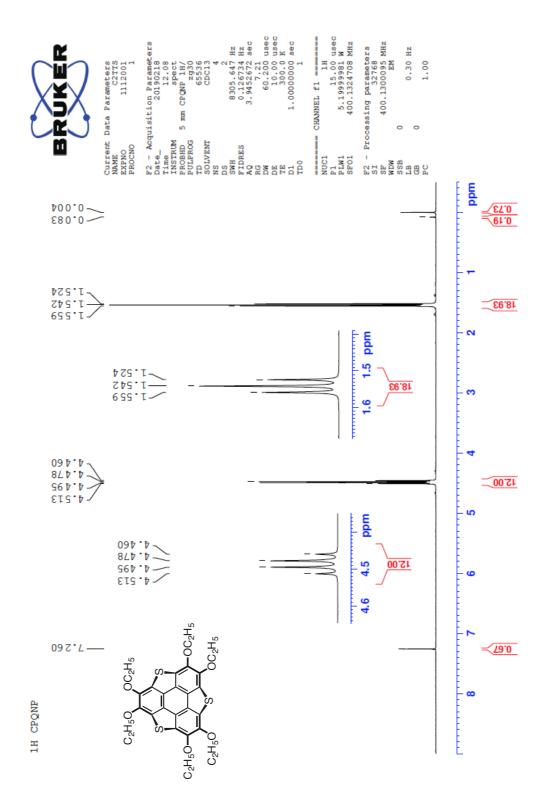
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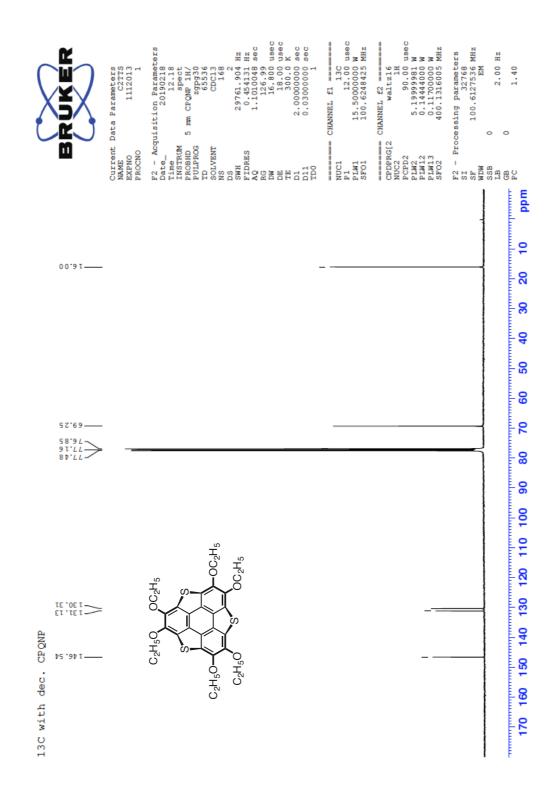
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## 7. NMR charts

# <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of C2SS in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

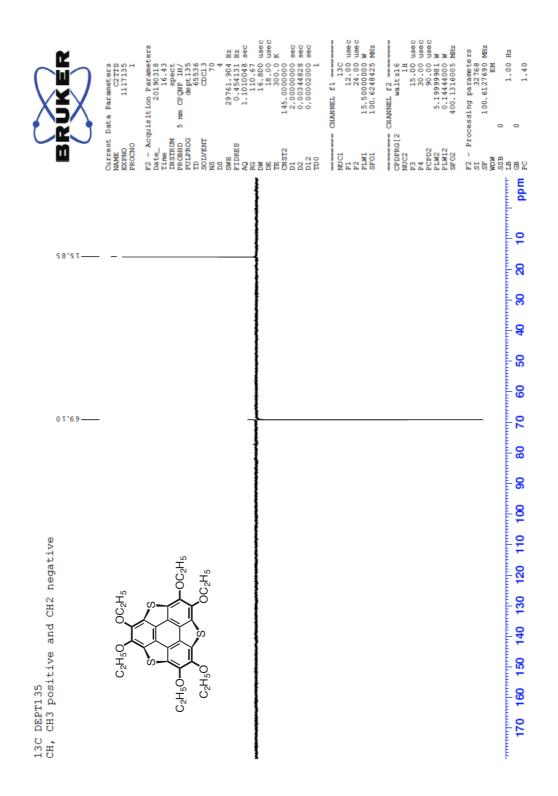


# <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of C2SS in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

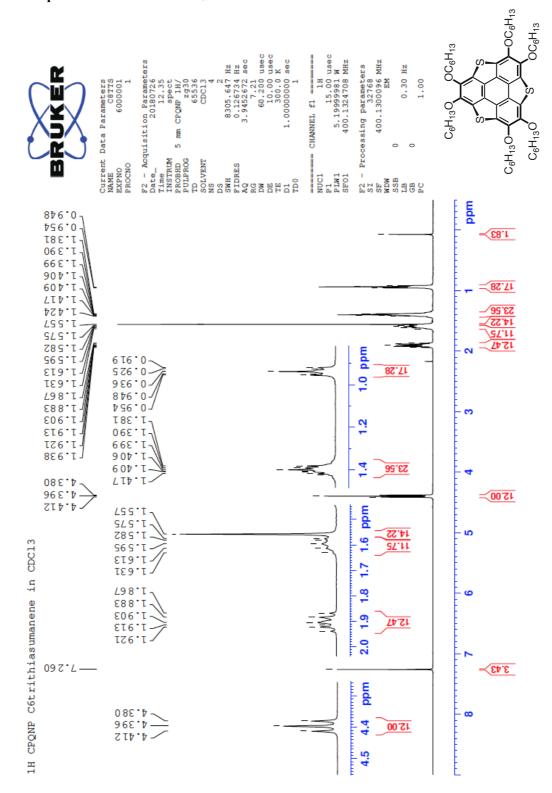


S20

# DEPT-135 of of C2SS in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

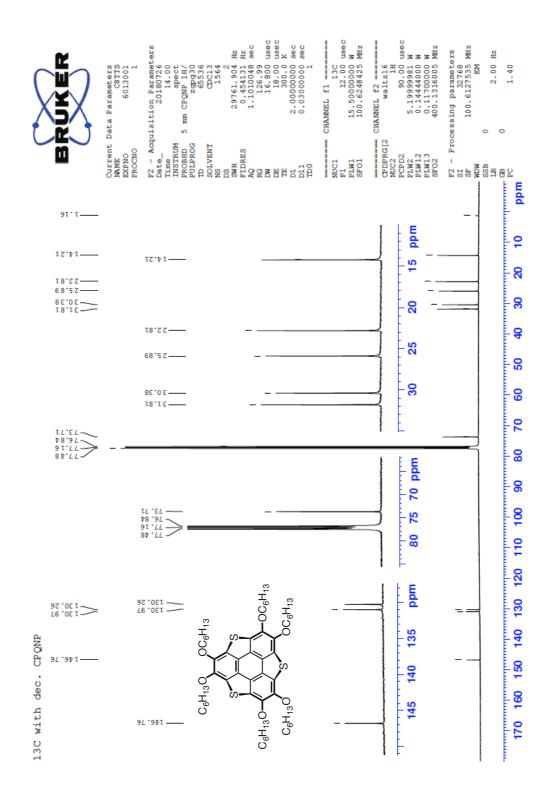


# <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of C6SS in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

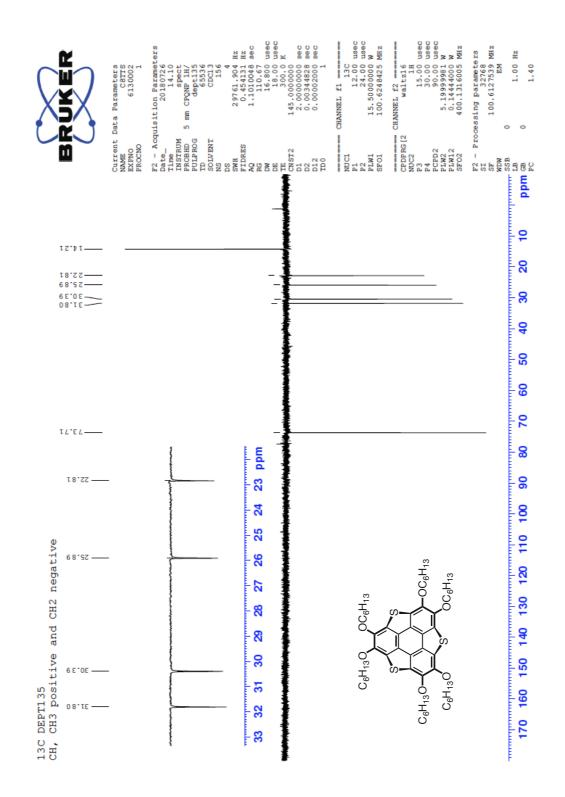


S22

# <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of C6SS in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

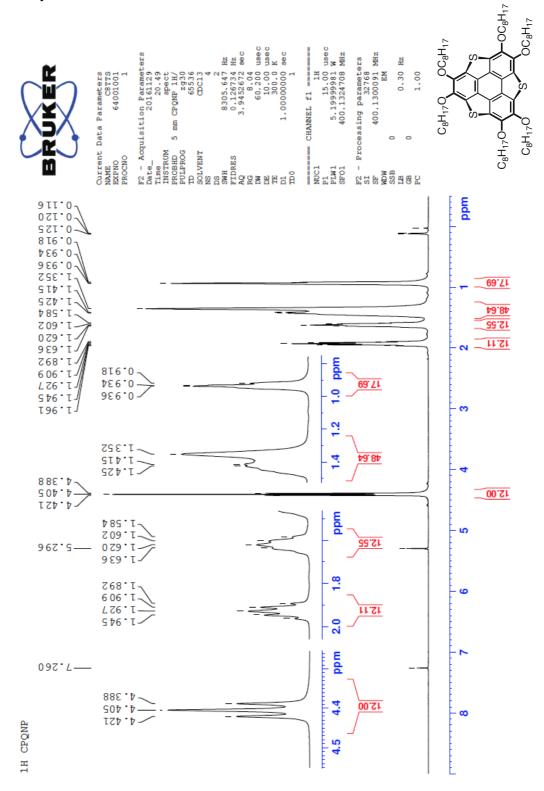


# DEPT-135 of of C6SS in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



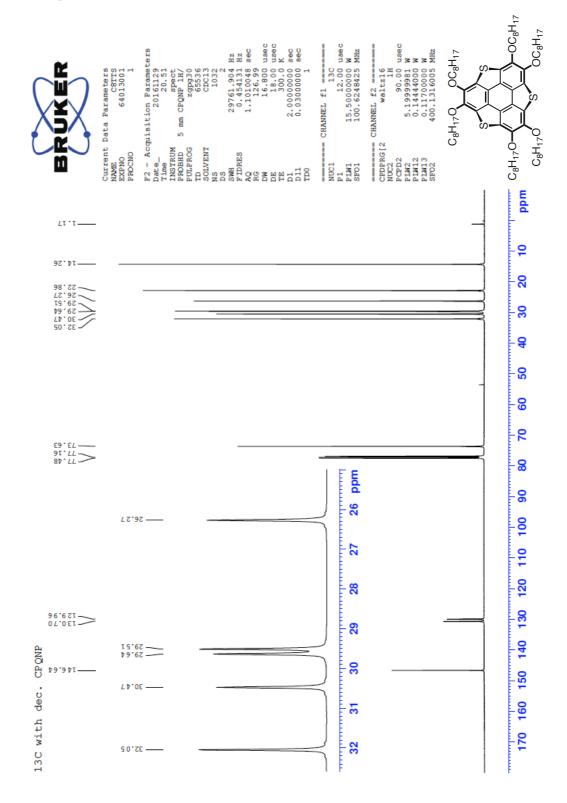
S24

# <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of C8SS in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

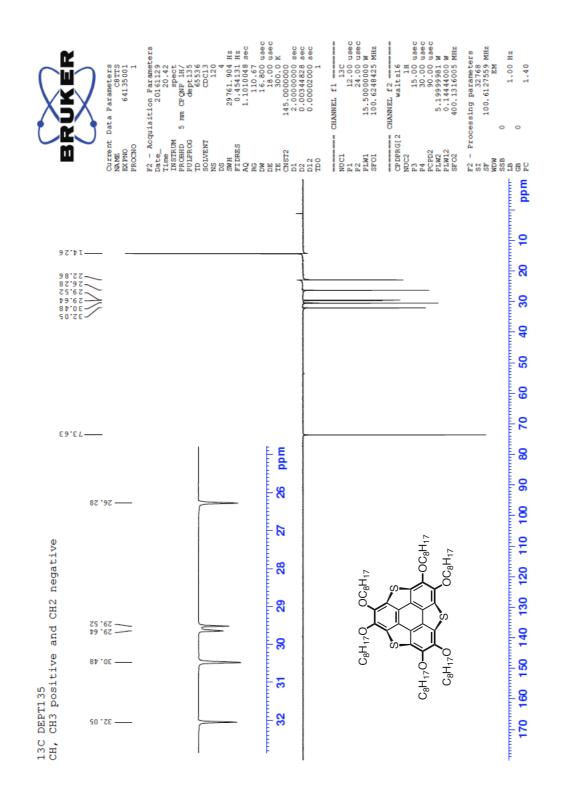


S25

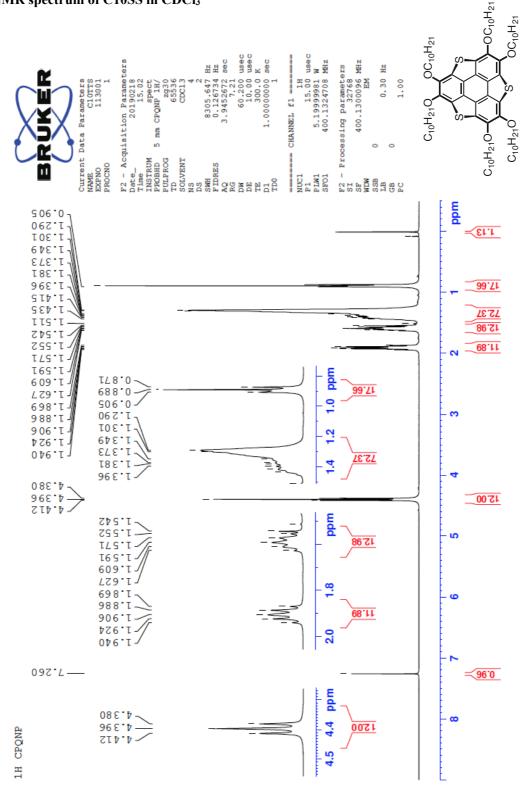
# <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of C8SS in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



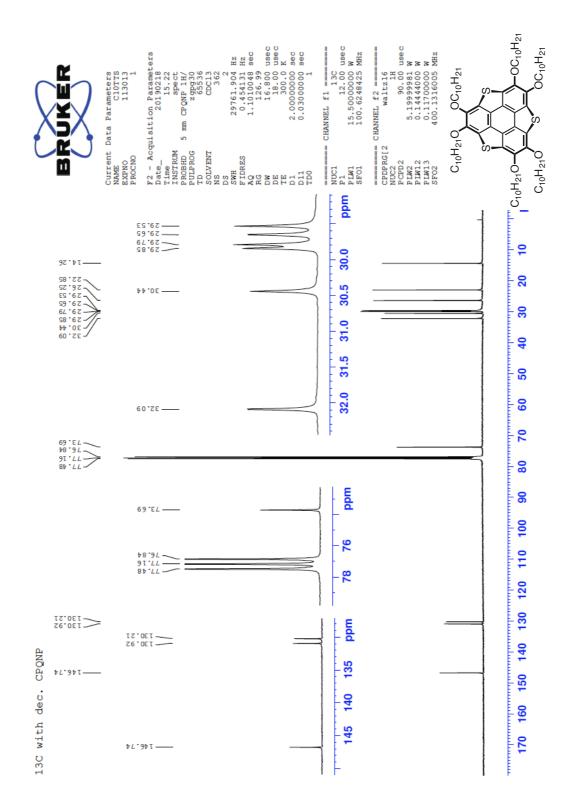
# DEPT-135 of C8SS in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



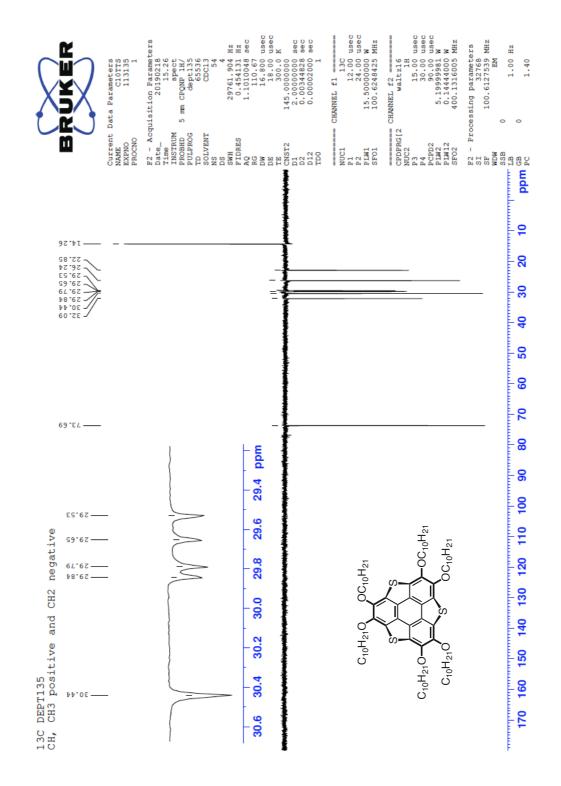
### <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of C10SS in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



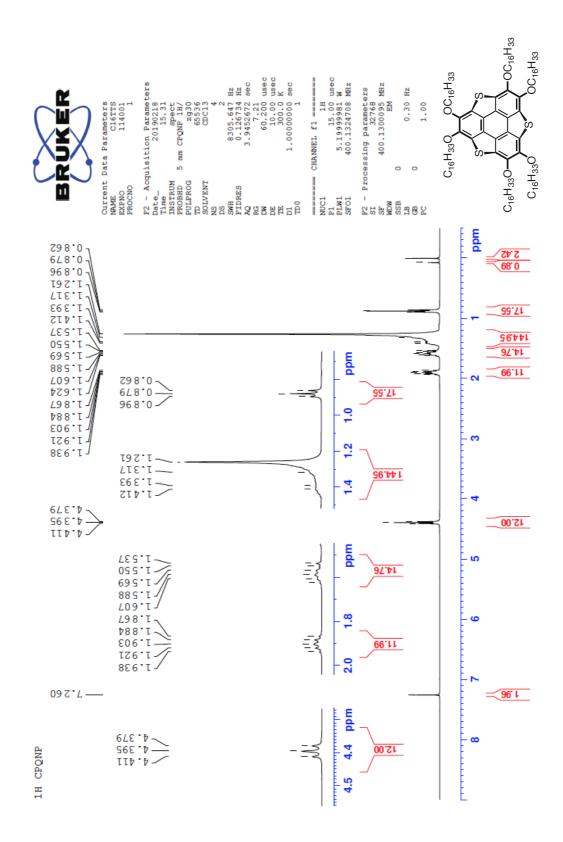
# <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of C10SS in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



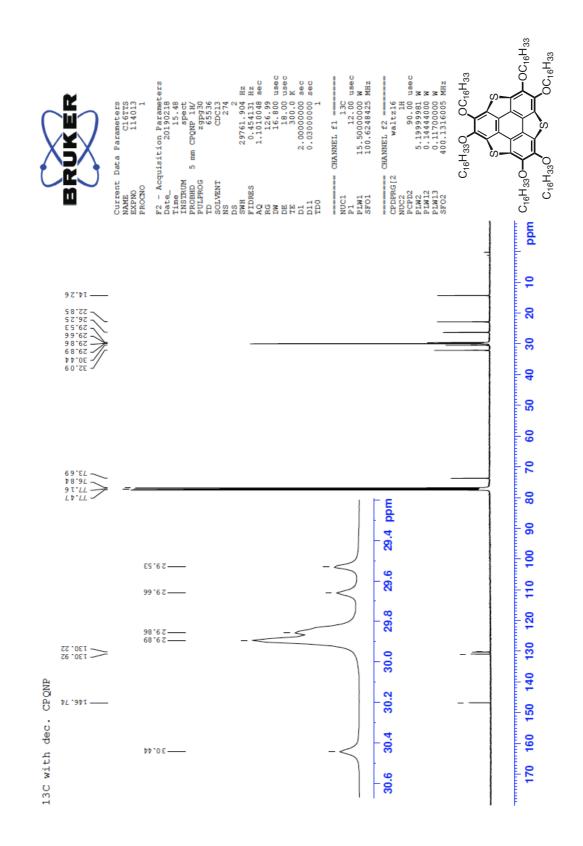
DEPT-135 of C10SS in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of C16SS in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of C16SS in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



DEPT-135 of C16SS in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

