

# Establishing linear-free-energy relationships for the quadricyclane-to-norbornadiene reaction

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## ELECTRONIC SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

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# NMR Spectra

## Compound NBD12

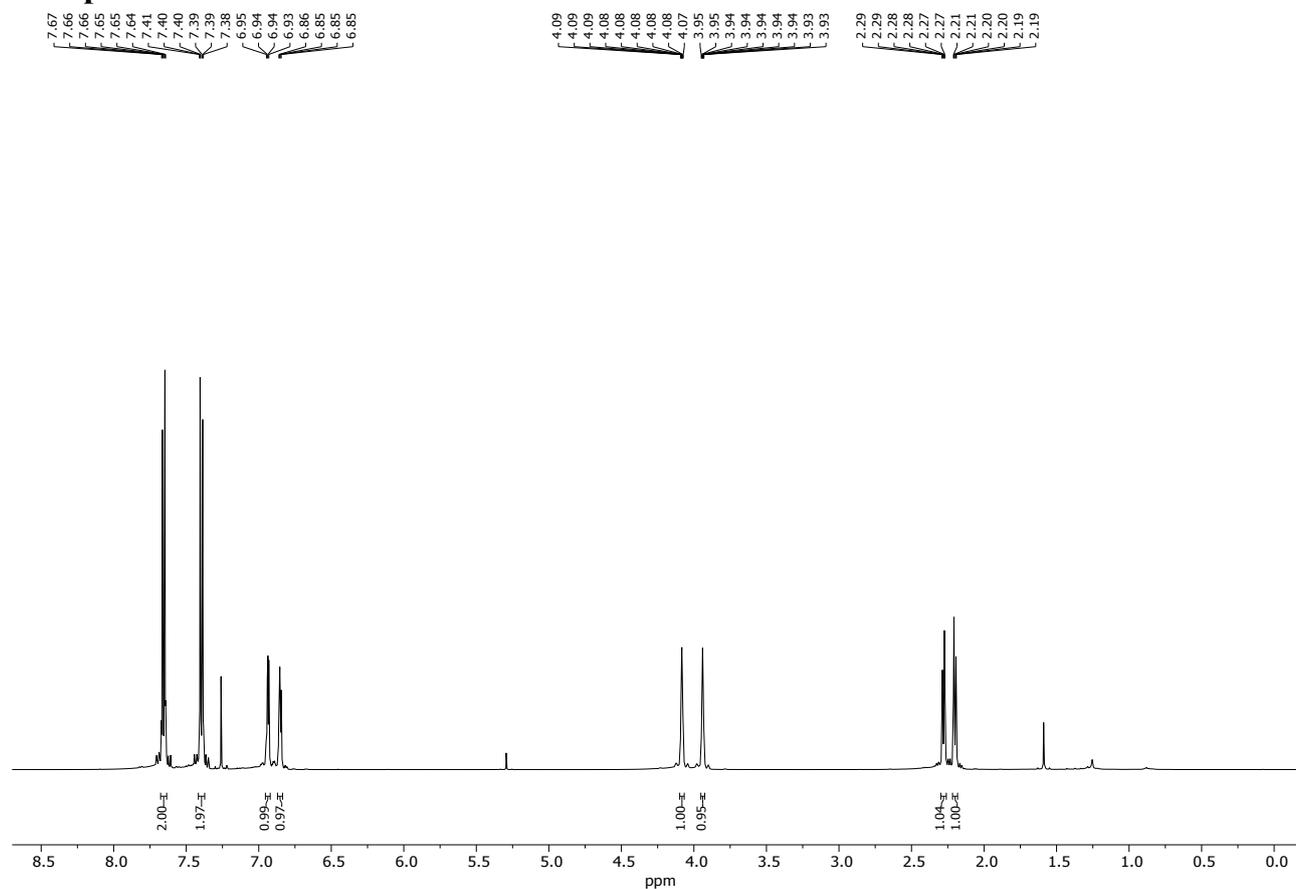
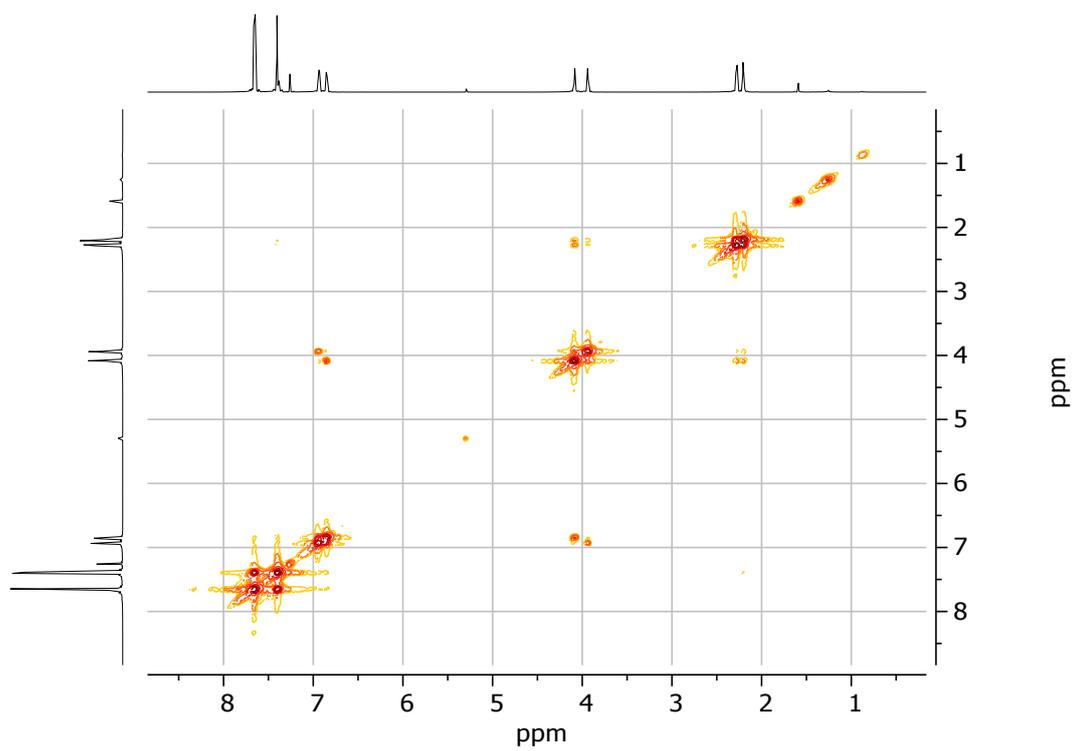
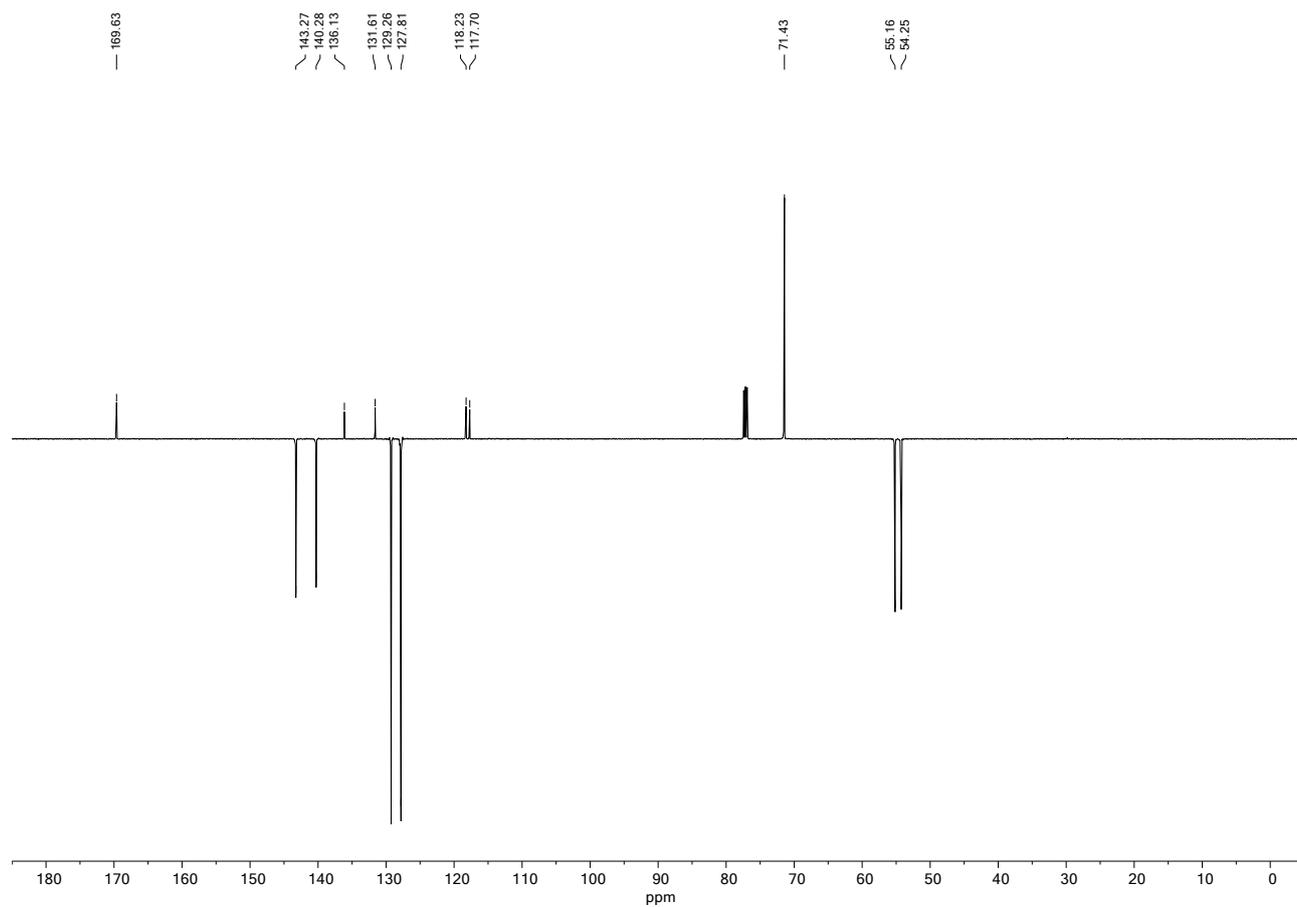


Figure S1: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz) of NBD12 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



**Figure S2:** COSY NMR (500 MHz) of **NBD12** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



**Figure S3:**  $^{13}\text{C}$  APT NMR (126 MHz) of **NBD12** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

# Compound NBD13

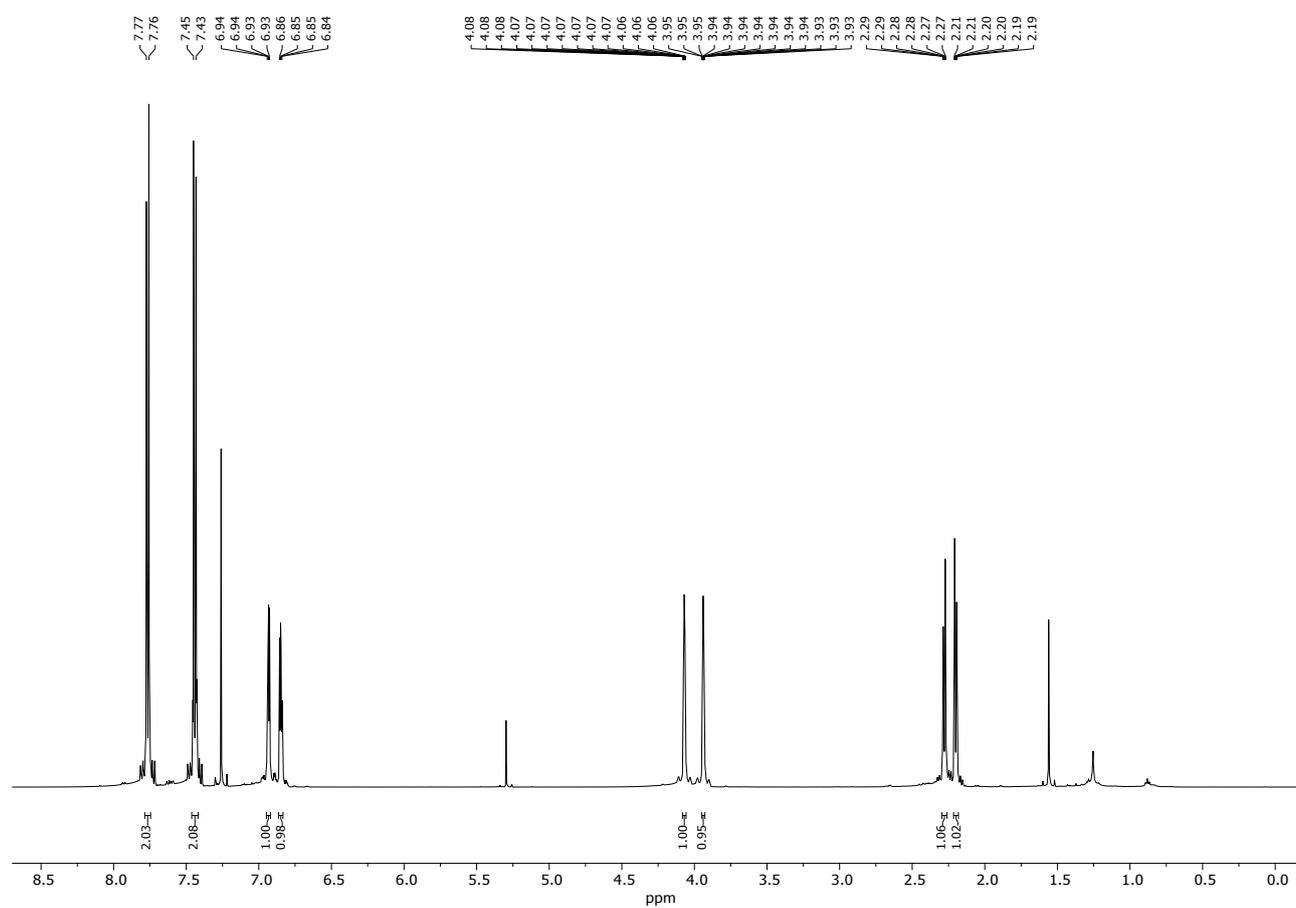
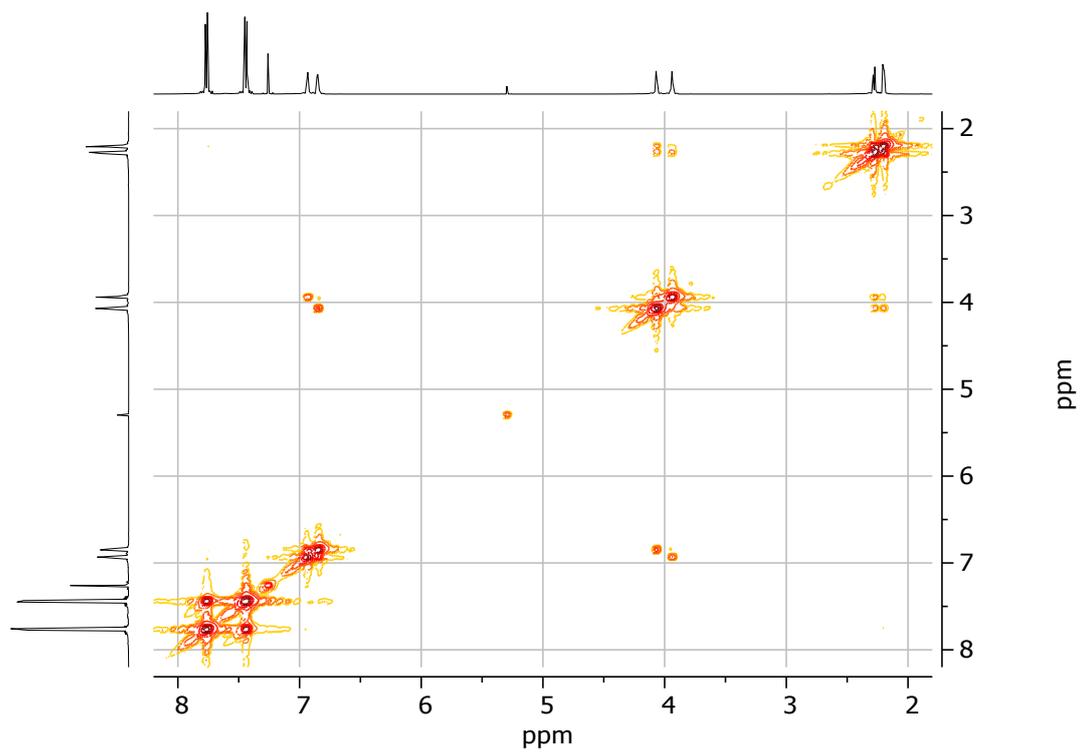
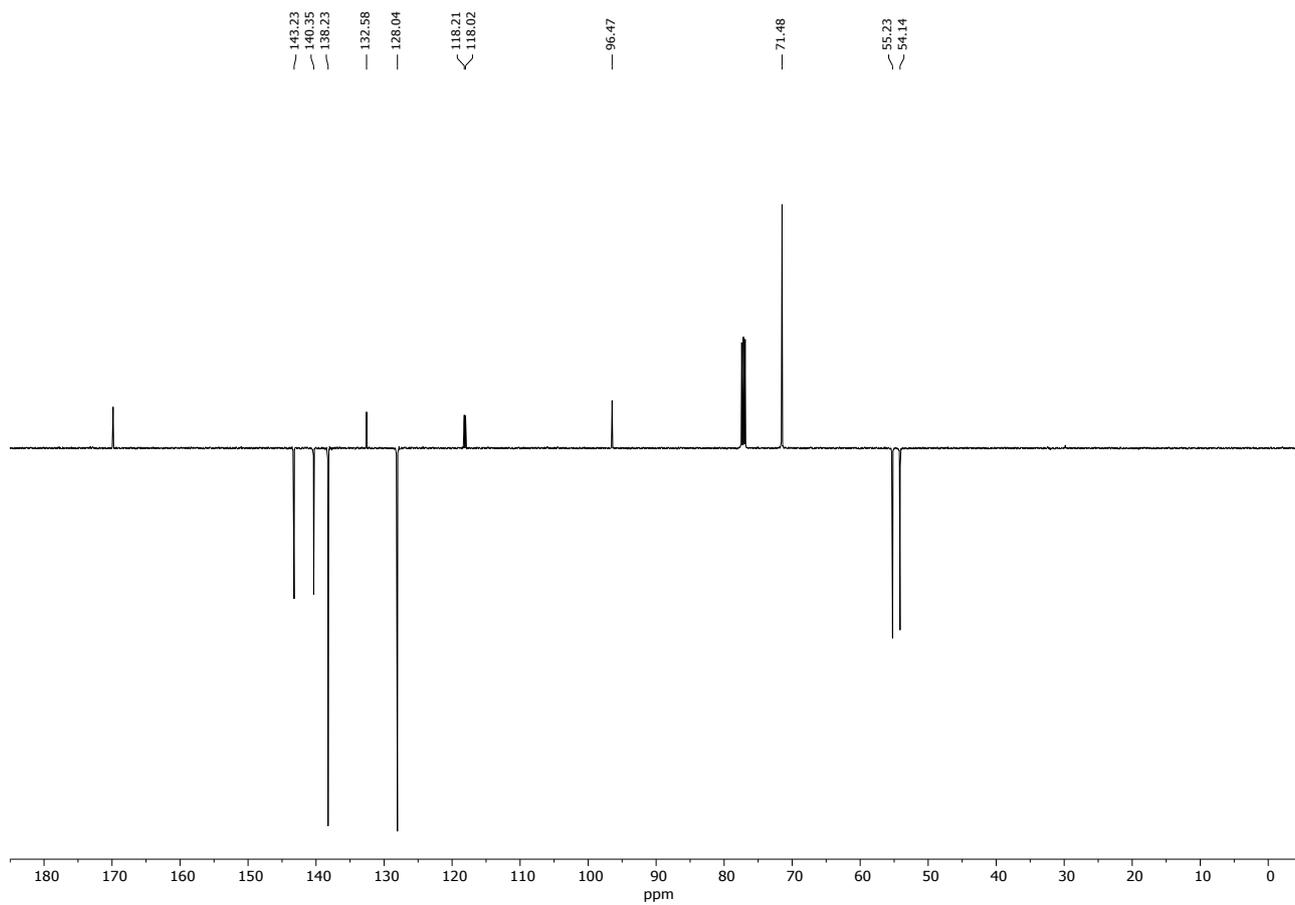


Figure S4: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz) of NBD13 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



**Figure S5:** COSY NMR (500 MHz) of **NBD13** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



**Figure S6:**  $^{13}\text{C}$  APT NMR (126 MHz) of **NBD13** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

# Compound NBD14

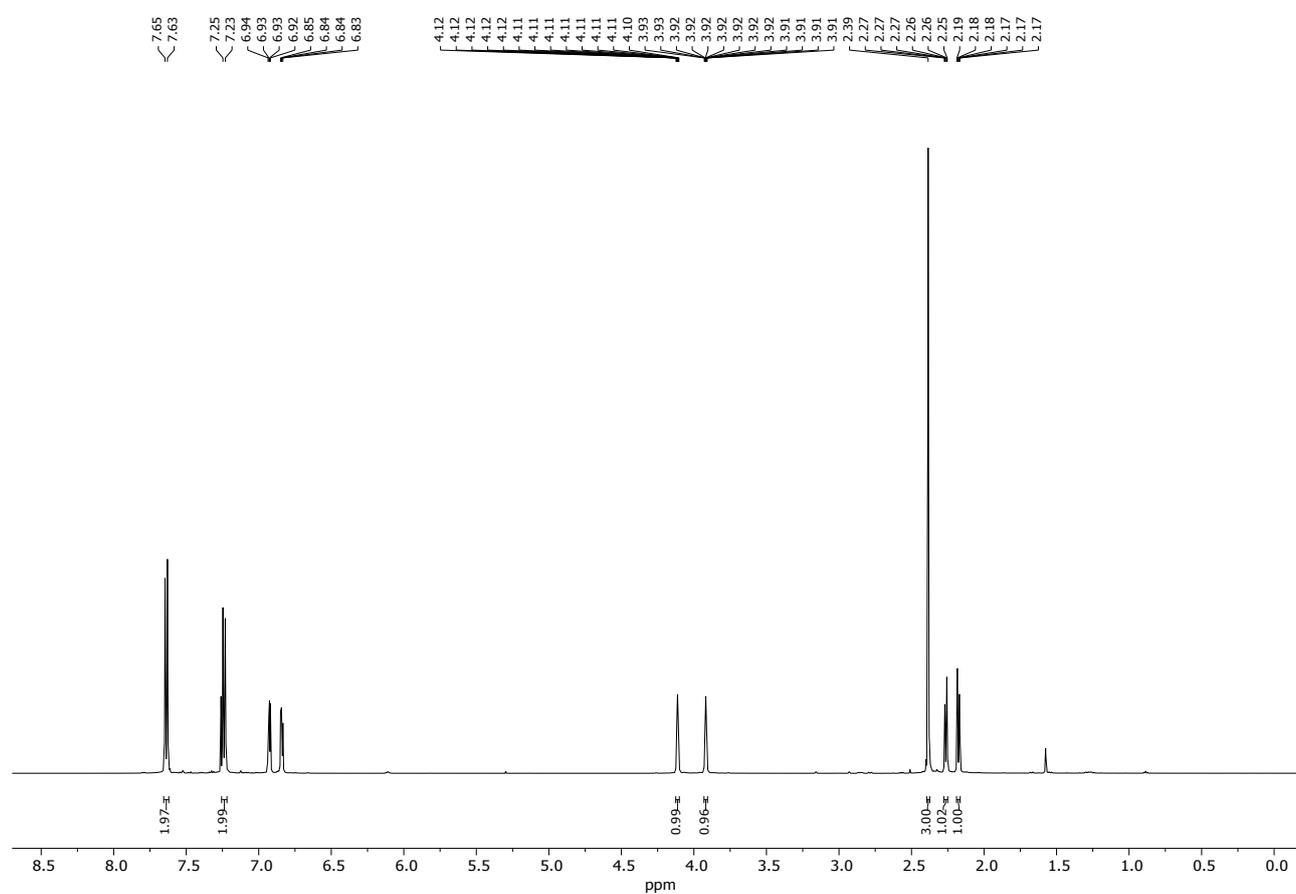
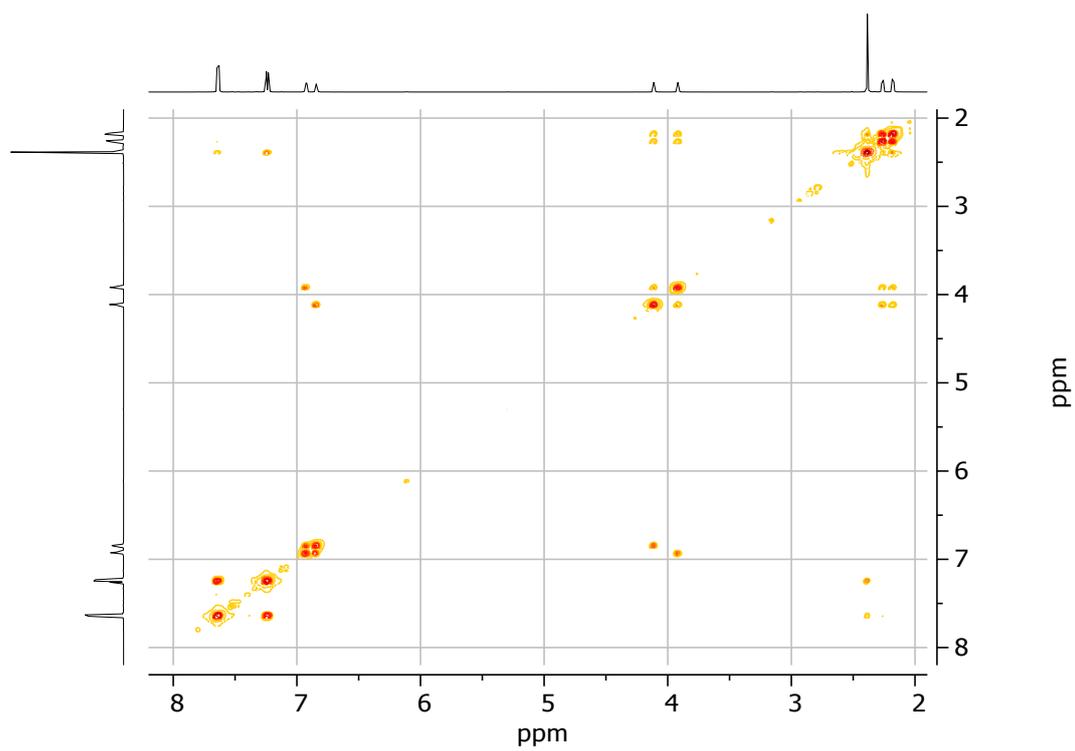
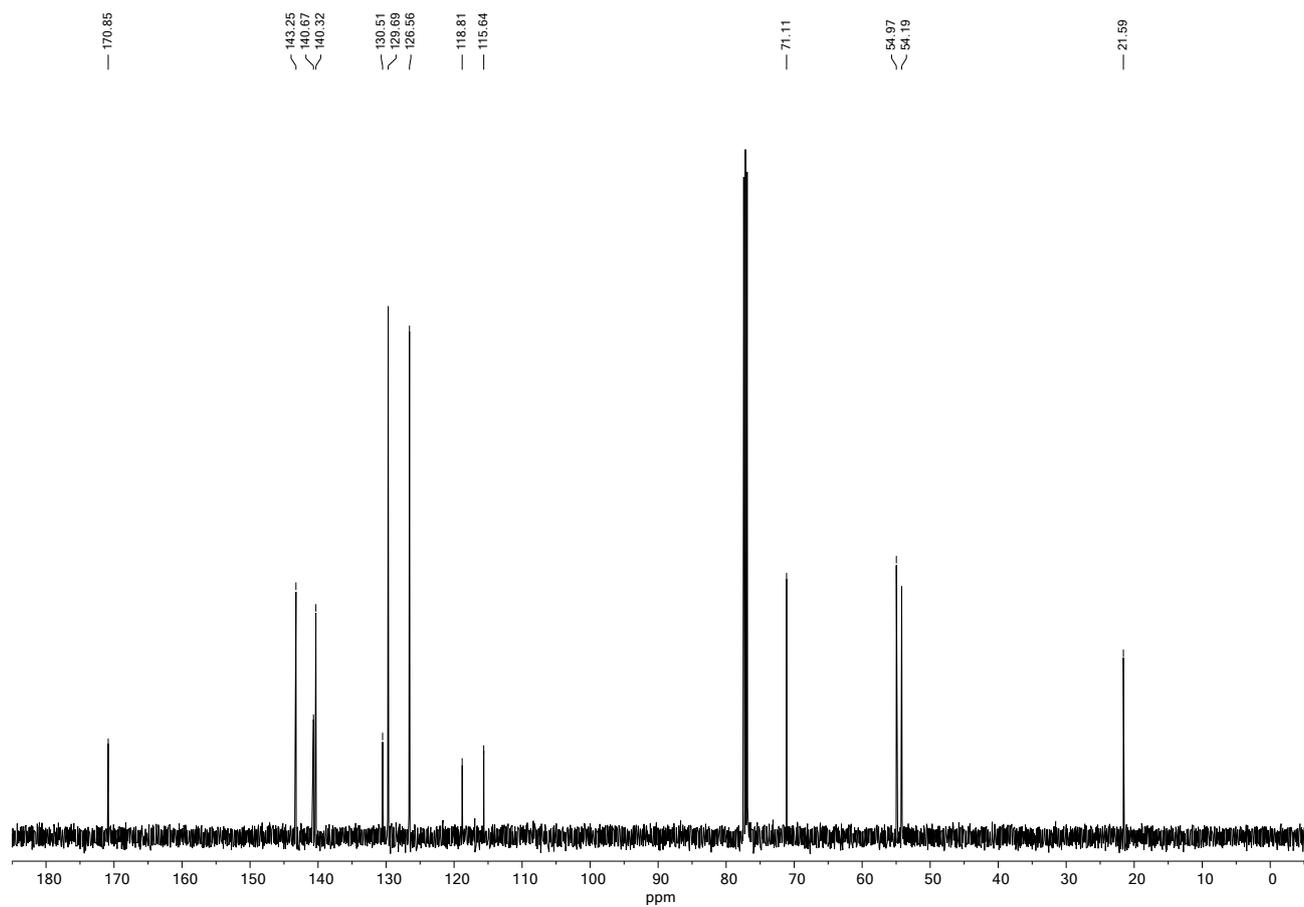


Figure S7:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz) of NBD14 in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

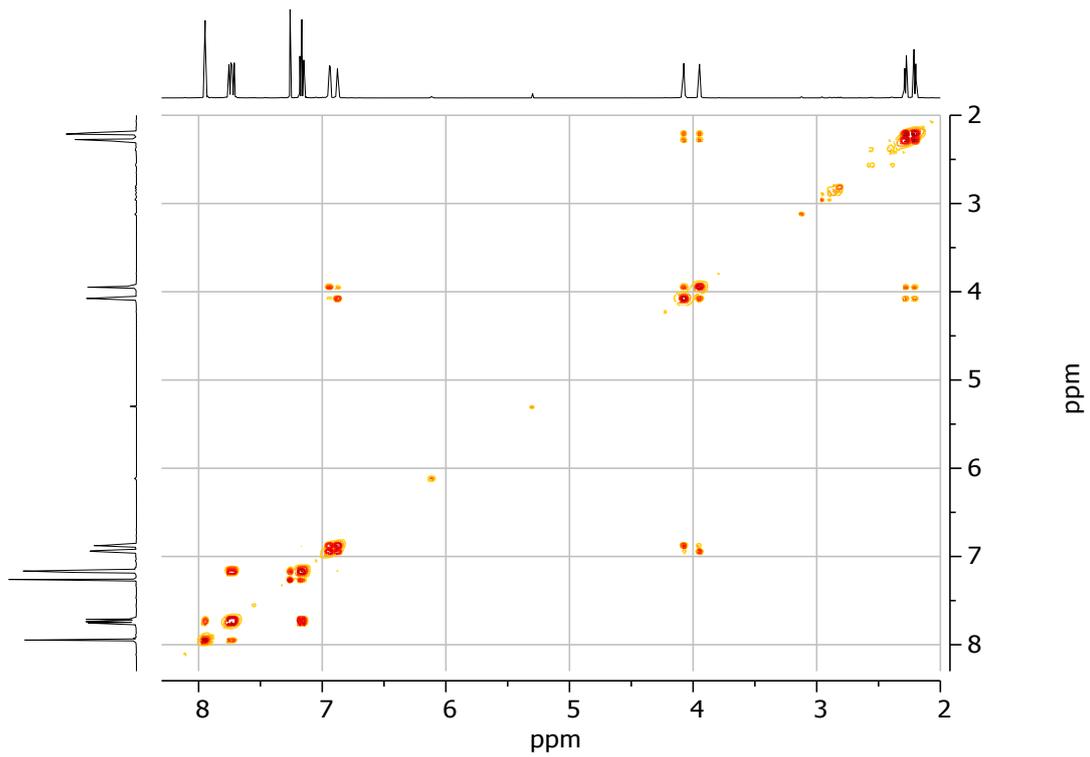


**Figure S8:** COSY NMR (500 MHz) of **NBD14** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

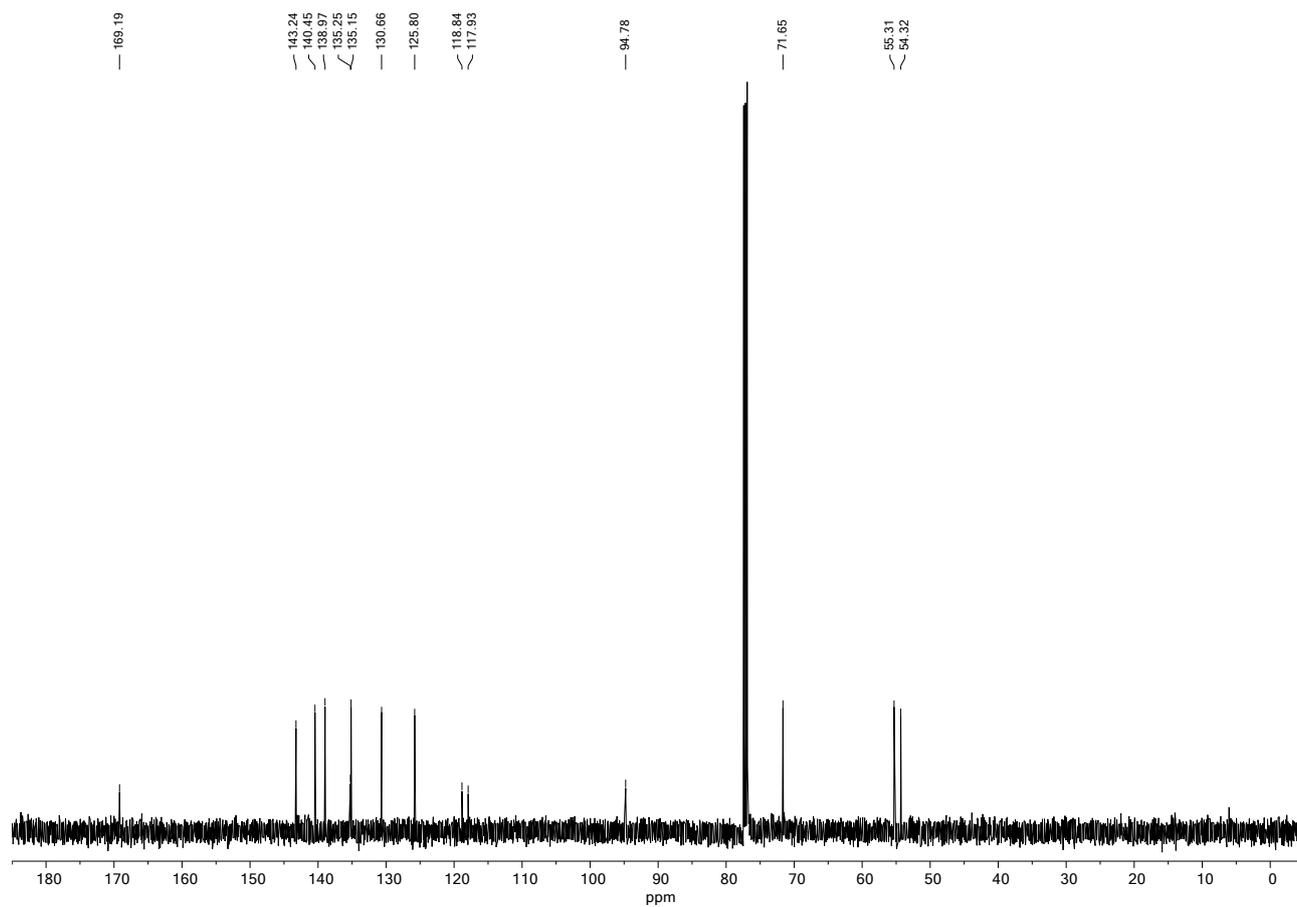


**Figure S9:**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz) of NBD14 in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .





**Figure S11:** COSY NMR (500 MHz) of NBD15 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



**Figure S12:**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (126 MHz) of **NBD15** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

# Compound NBD16

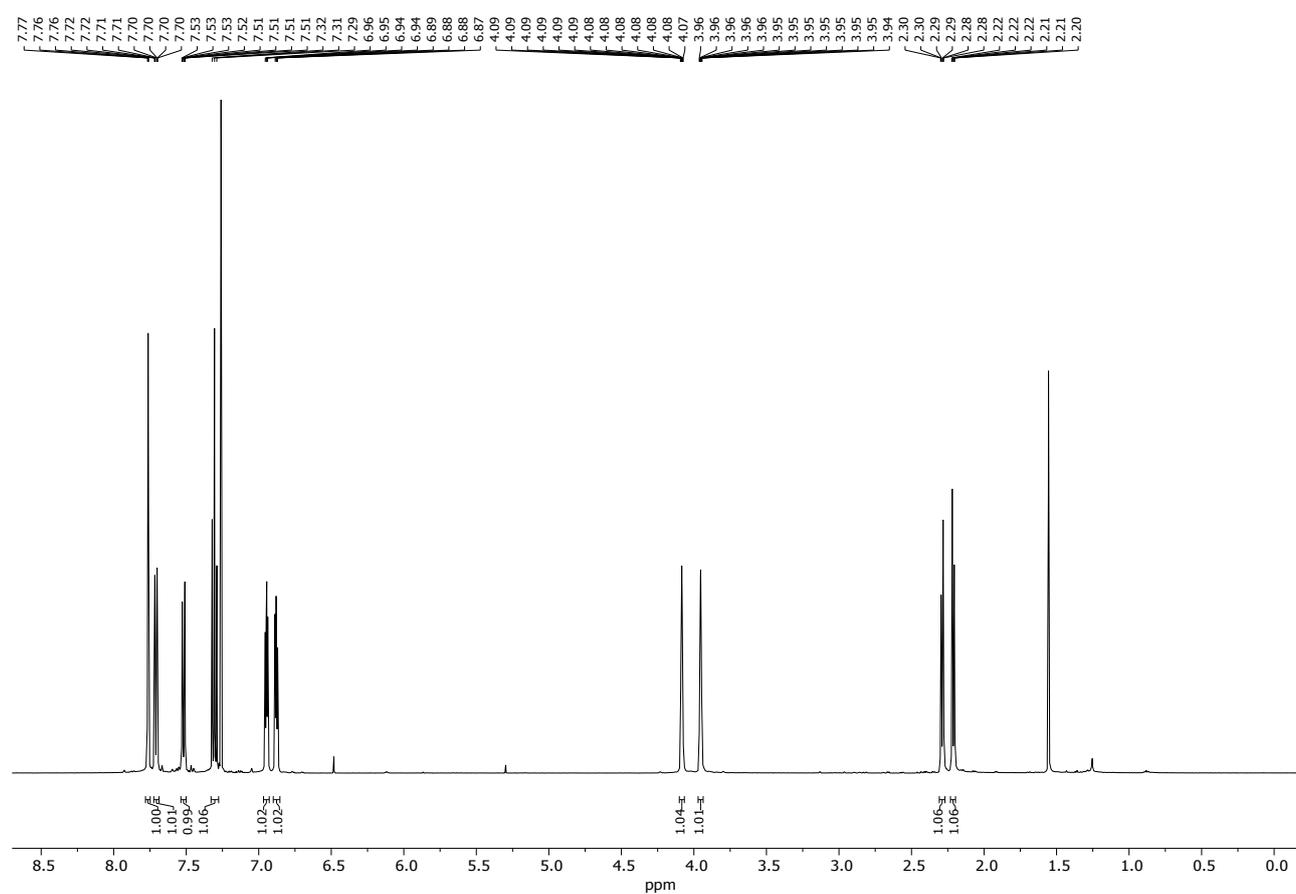
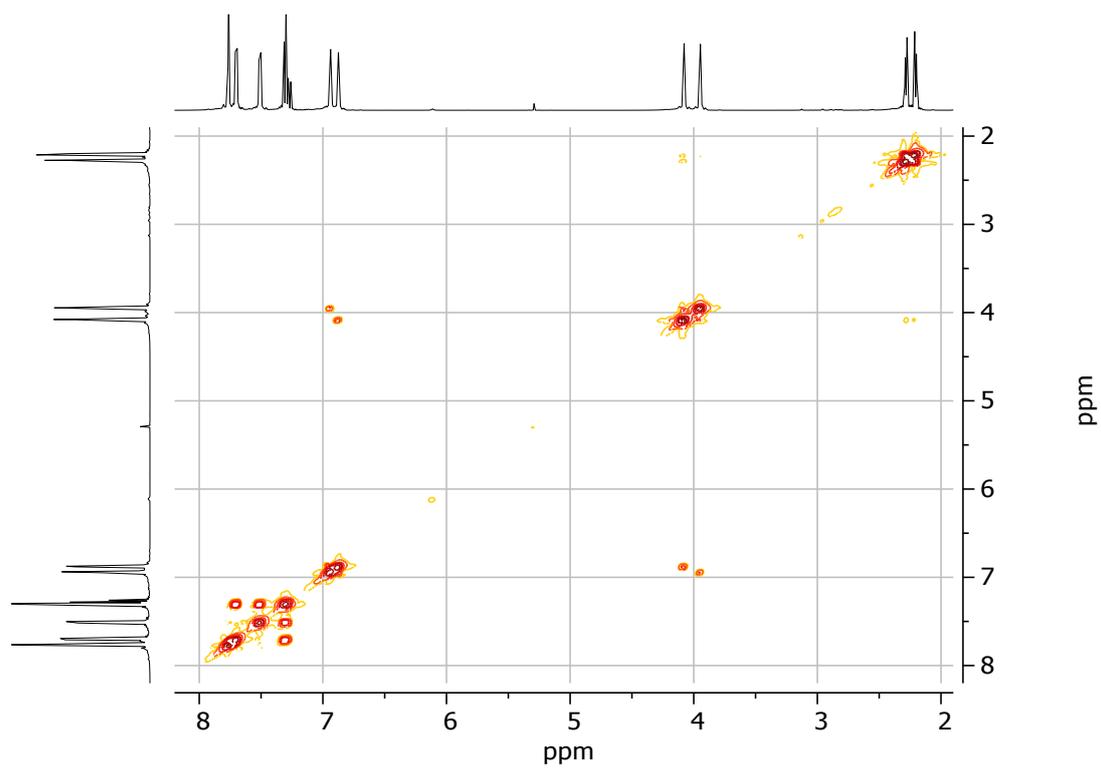
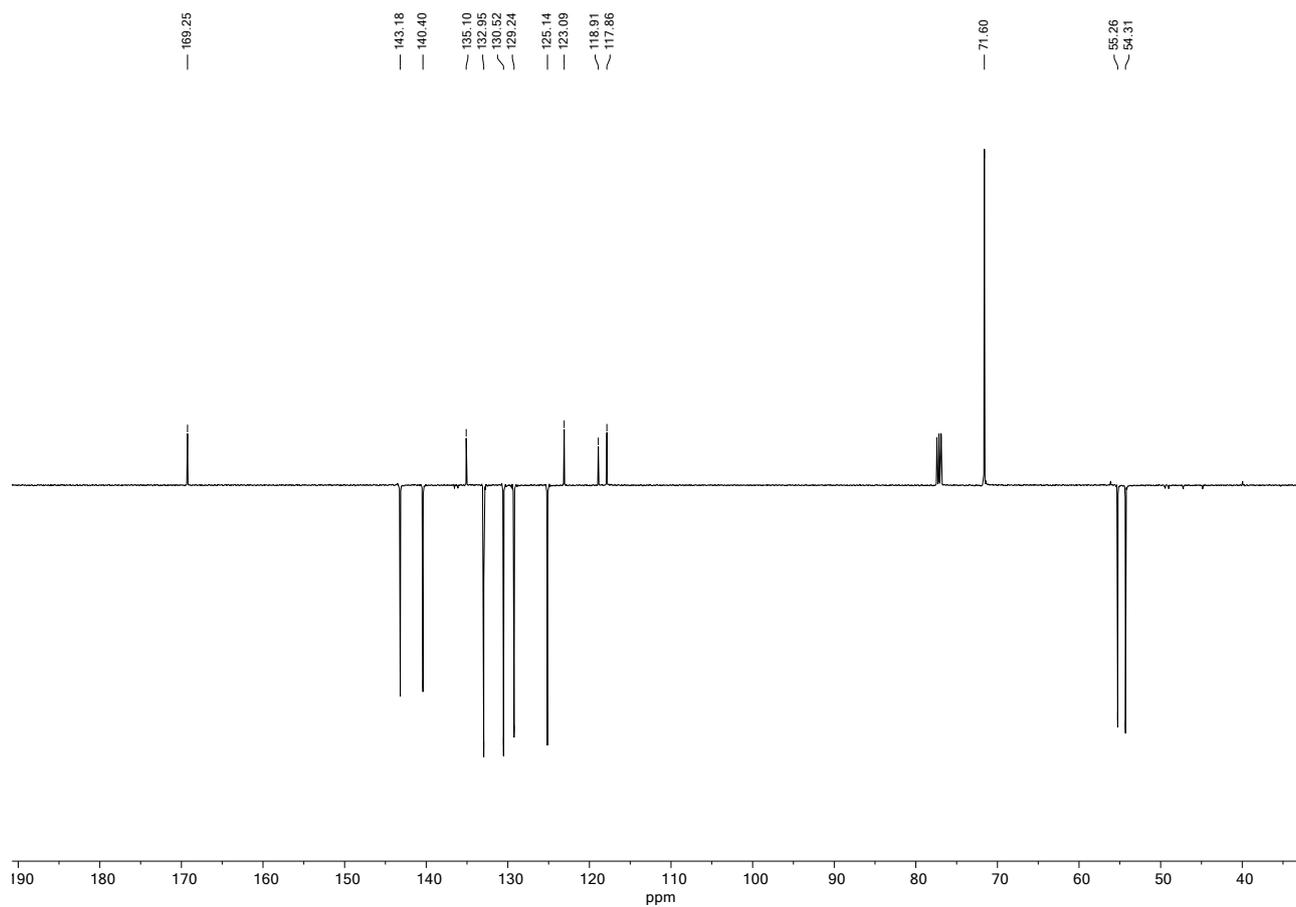


Figure S13: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz) of NBD16 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



**Figure S14:** COSY NMR (500 MHz) of **NBD16** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



**Figure S15:**  $^{13}\text{C}$  APT NMR (126 MHz) of **NBD16** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

# Compound NBD17

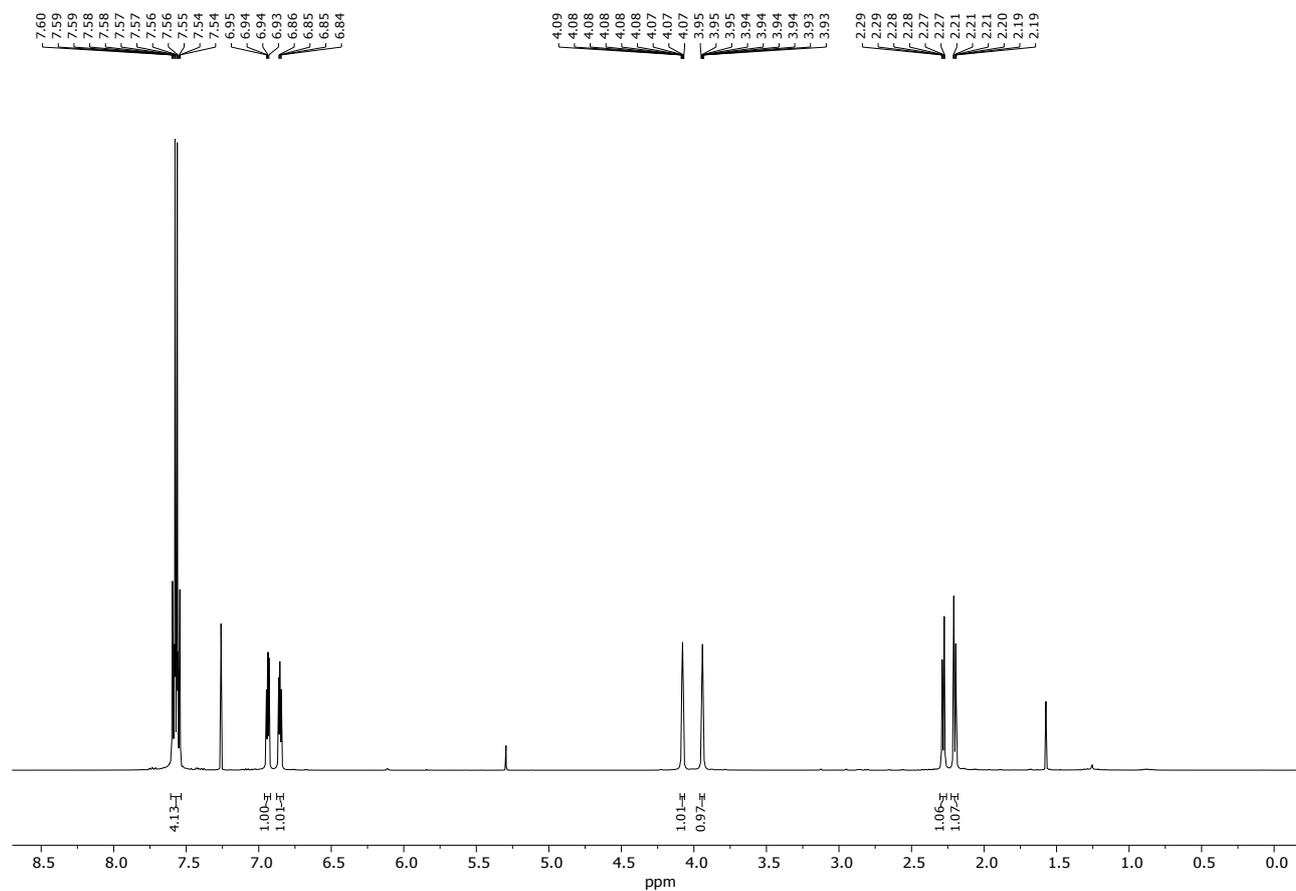
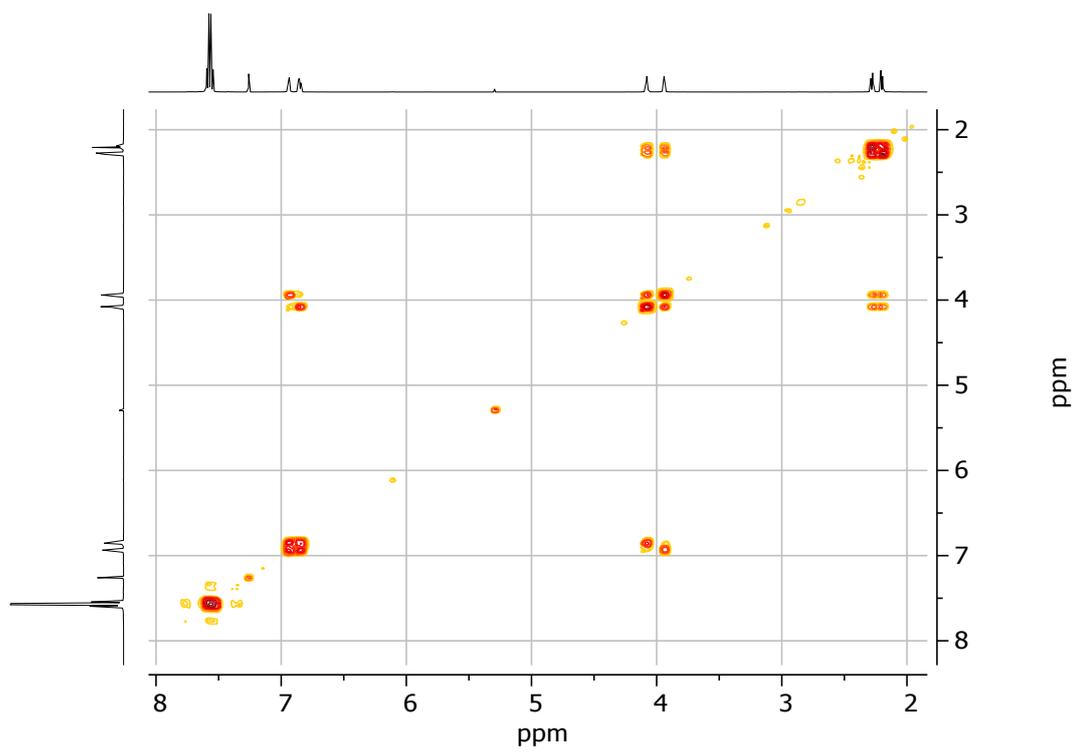
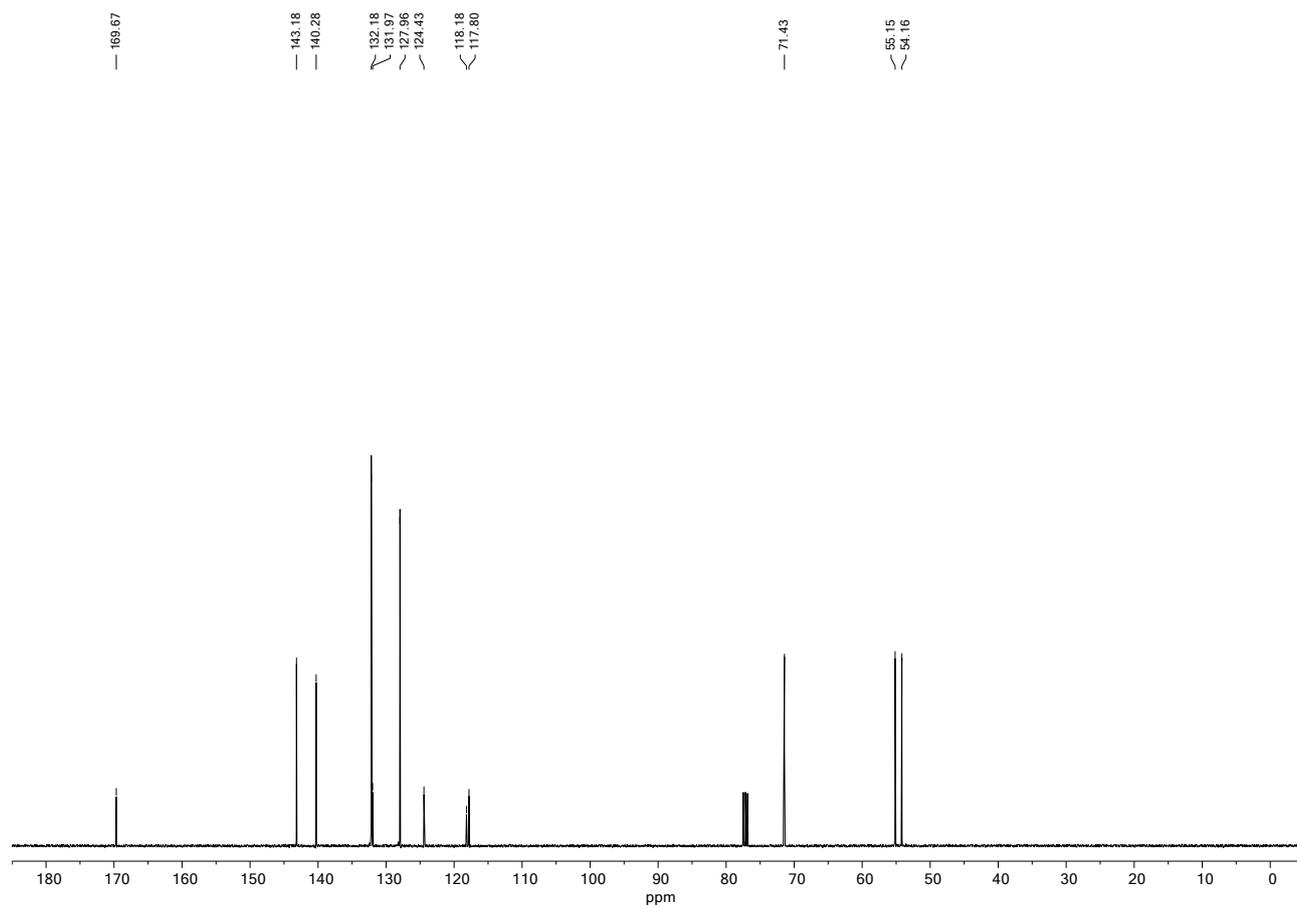


Figure S16:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz) of NBD17 in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



**Figure S17:** COSY NMR (400 MHz) of **NBD17** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



**Figure S18:**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz) of **NBD17** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

# Compound NBD18

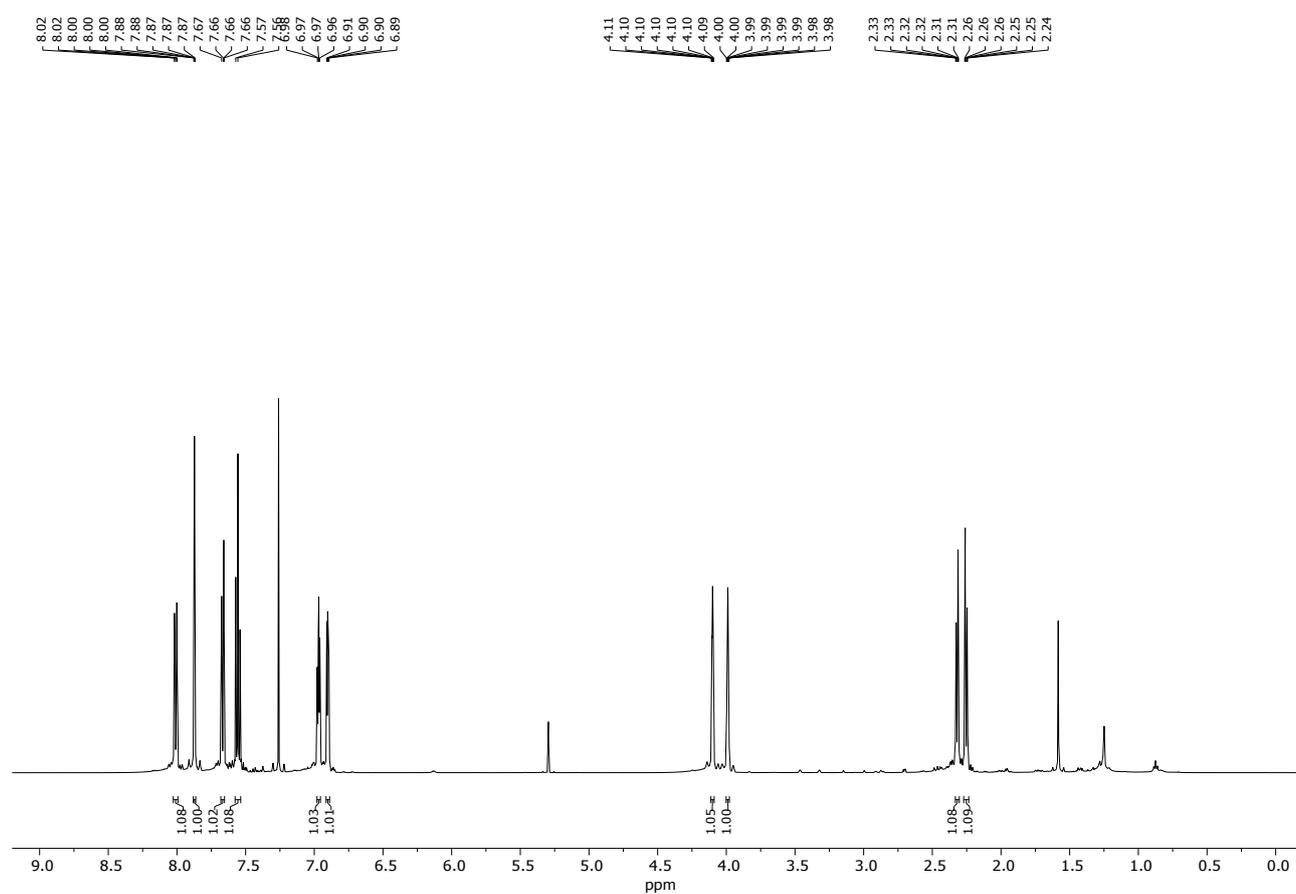
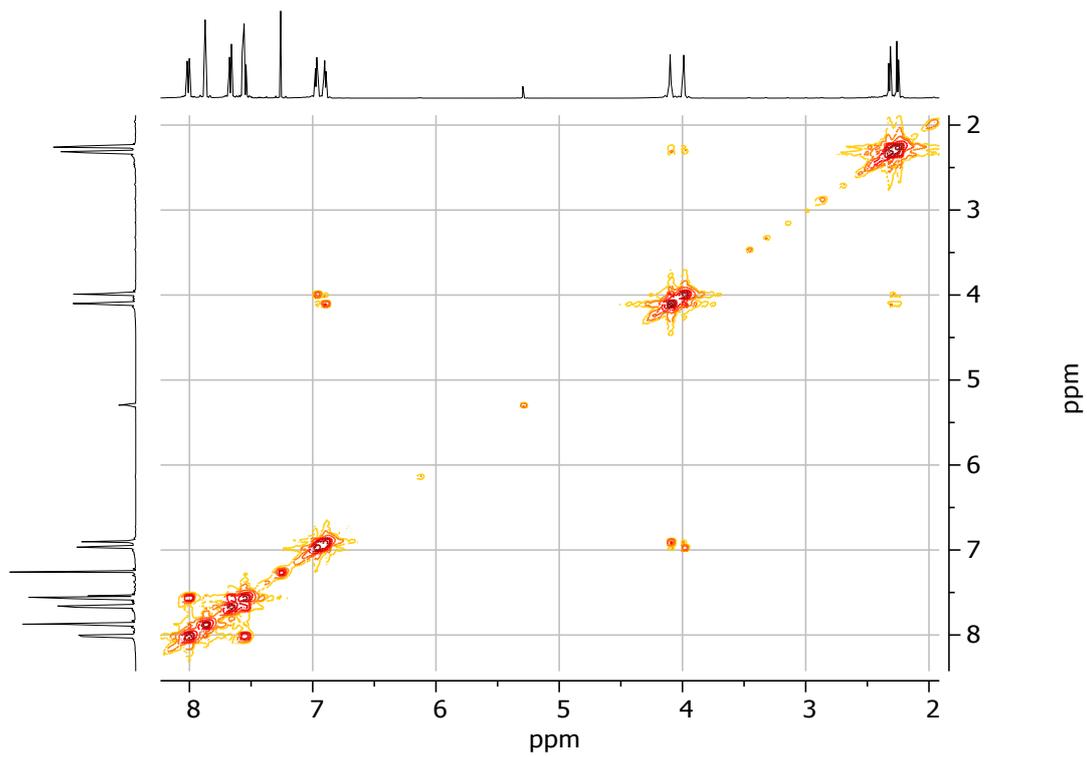
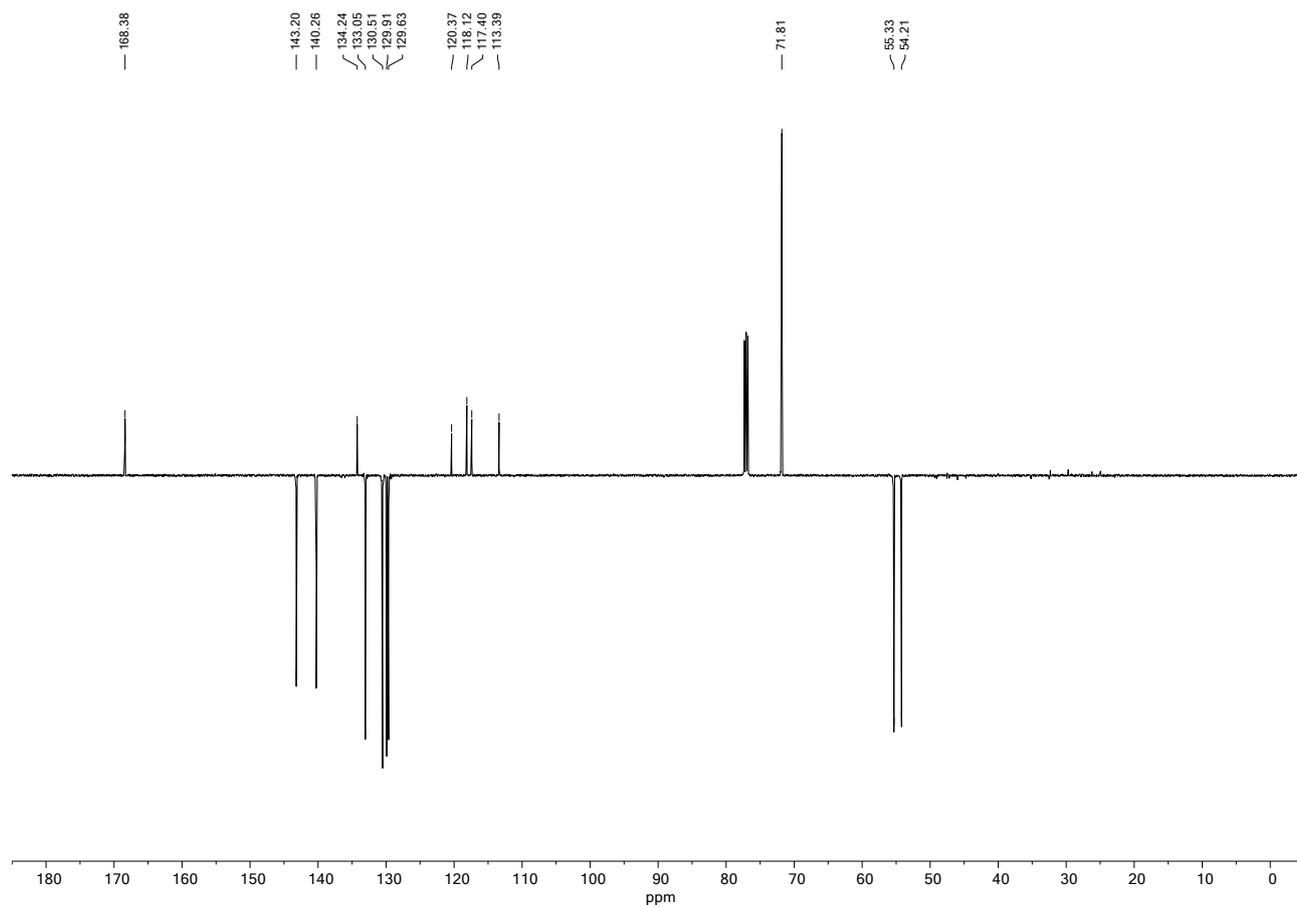


Figure S19:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz) of NBD18 in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



**Figure S20:** COSY NMR (500 MHz) of **NBD18** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.



**Figure S21:**  $^{13}\text{C}$  APT NMR (126 MHz) of **NBD18** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

## UV-Vis Absorption and Switching Studies (solvent: toluene)

### Compound 12

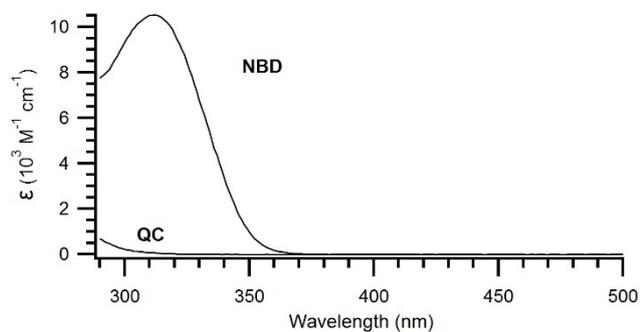


Figure S1: UV-Vis spectra of 12 and 12<sub>QC</sub>.

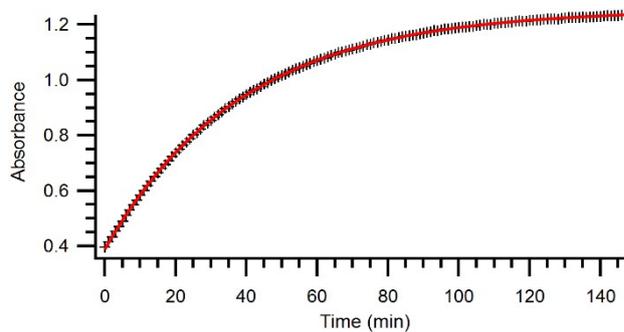


Figure S2: Increase in absorbance at 312 nm of 12 at 85 °C during the thermal backreaction.

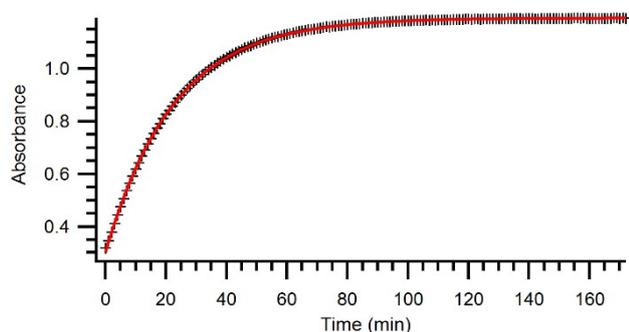


Figure S3: Increase in absorbance at 312 nm of 12 at 90 °C during the thermal backreaction.

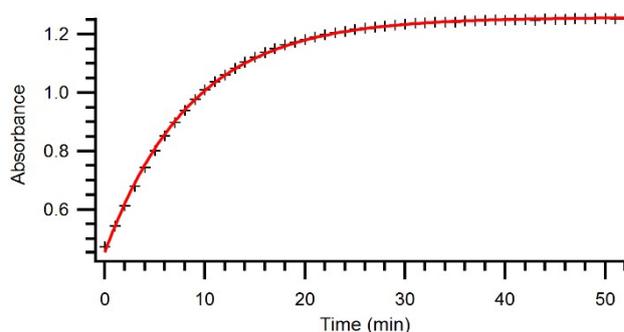


Figure S4: Increase in absorbance at 312 nm of 12 at 100 °C during the thermal backreaction.

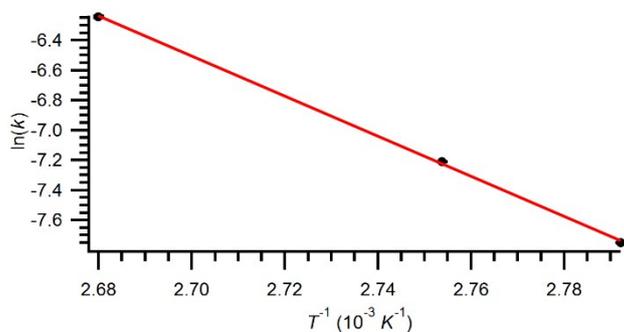


Figure S5: Arrhenius plot for 12 giving the values  $A = 7.00 \times 10^{12} \text{ s}^{-1}$  and  $E_a = 111.1 \text{ kJ/mol}$ .

## Compound 13

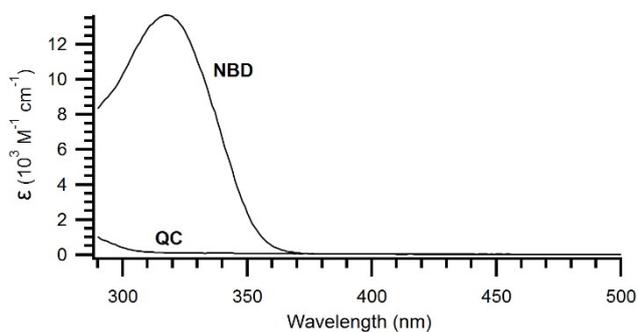


Figure S6: UV-Vis spectra of **13** and **13<sub>QC</sub>**.

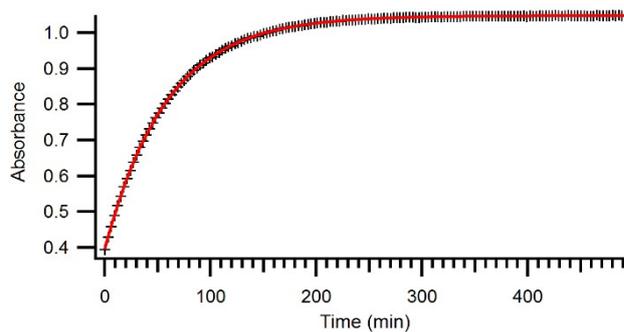


Figure S7: Increase in absorbance at 318 nm of **13** at 80 °C during the thermal backreaction.

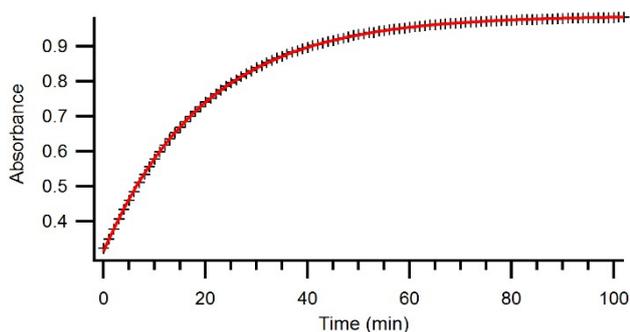


Figure S8: Increase in absorbance at 318 nm of **13** at 90 °C during the thermal backreaction.

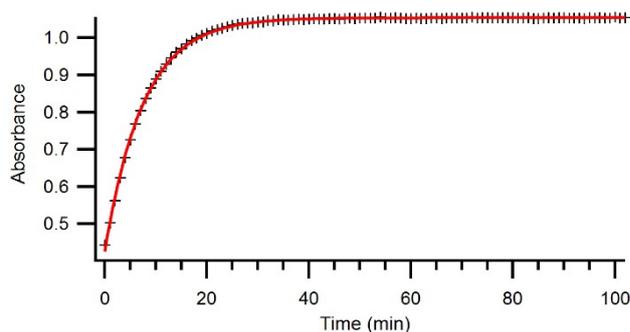


Figure S9: Increase in absorbance at 318 nm of **13** at 100 °C during the thermal backreaction.

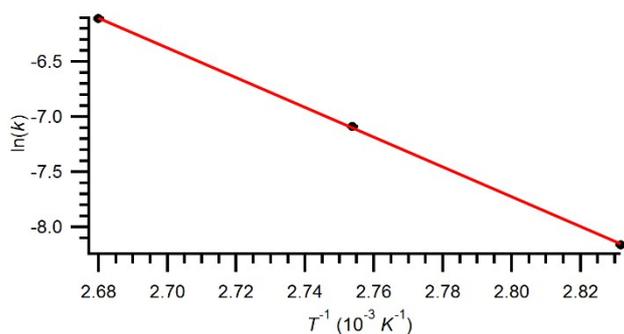


Figure S10: Arrhenius plot for **13** giving the values  $A = 1.13 \times 10^{13} \text{ s}^{-1}$  and  $E_a = 112.2 \text{ kJ/mol}$ .

## Compound 14

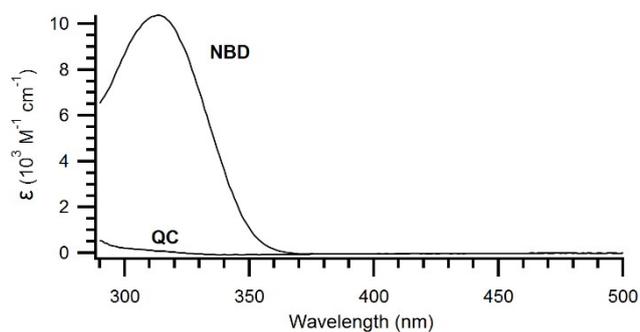


Figure S11: UV-Vis spectra of **14** and **14**<sub>QC</sub>.

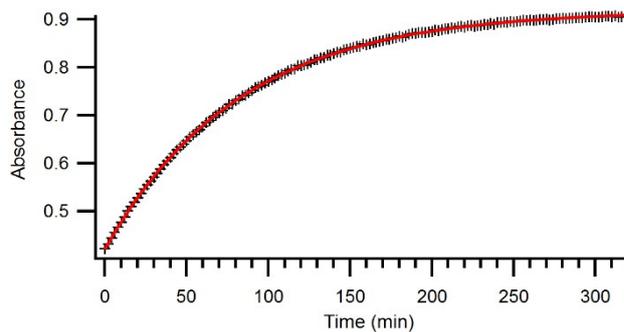


Figure S12: Increase in absorbance at 313 nm of **14** at 80 °C during the thermal backreaction.

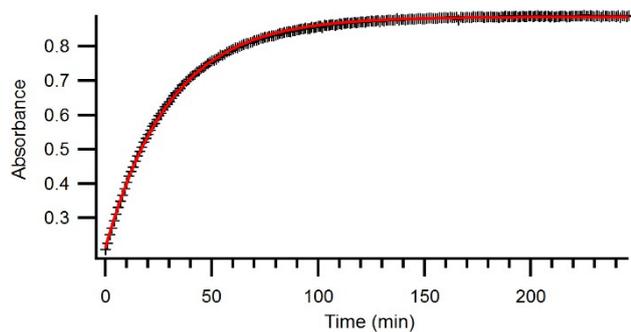


Figure S13: Increase in absorbance at 313 nm of **14** at 90 °C during the thermal backreaction.

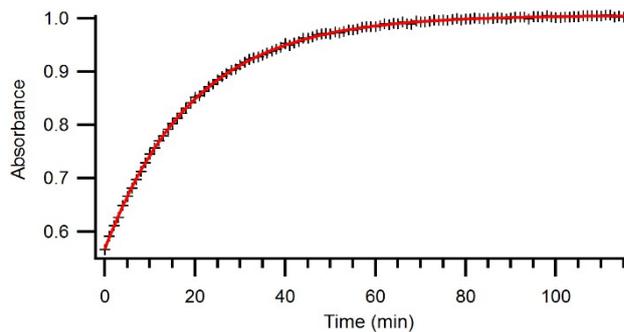


Figure S14: Increase in absorbance at 313 nm of **14** at 95 °C during the thermal backreaction.

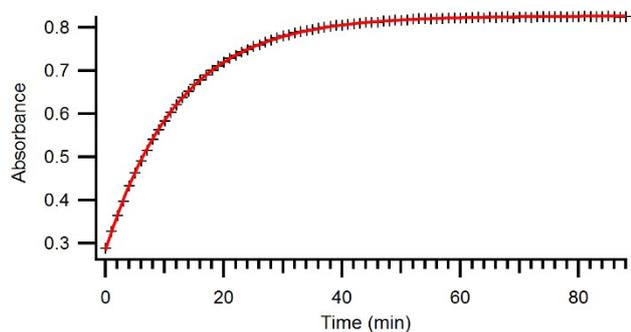


Figure S15: Increase in absorbance at 313 nm of **14** at 100 °C during the thermal backreaction.

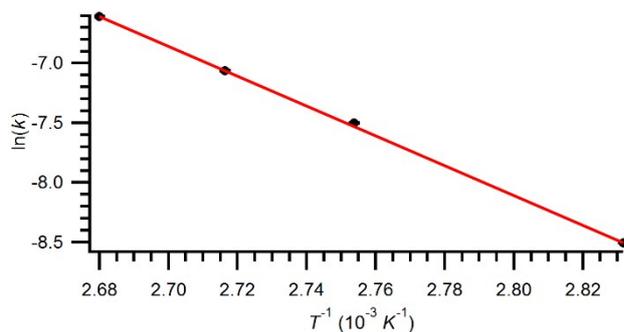


Figure S16: Arrhenius plot for **14** giving the values  $A = 4.62 \times 10^{11} \text{ s}^{-1}$  and  $E_a = 103.8 \text{ kJ/mol}$ .

## Compound 15

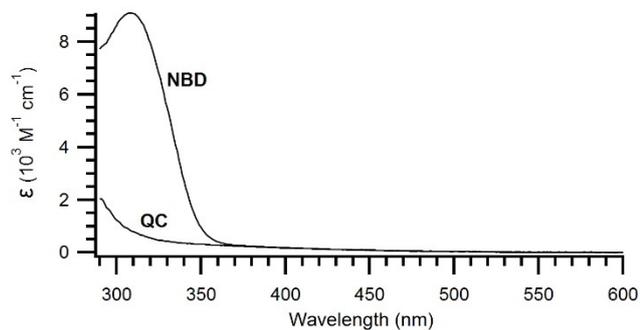


Figure S17: UV-Vis spectra of **15** and **15**<sub>QC</sub>.

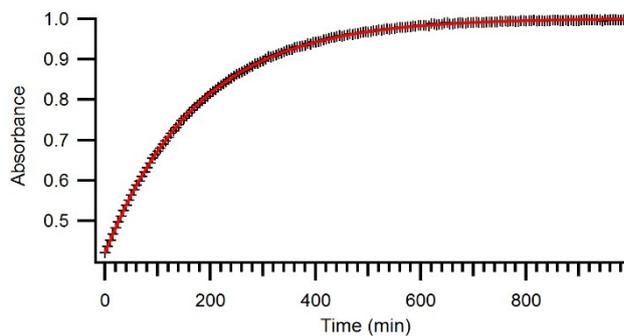


Figure S18: Increase in absorbance at 309 nm of **15** at 75 °C during the thermal backreaction-.

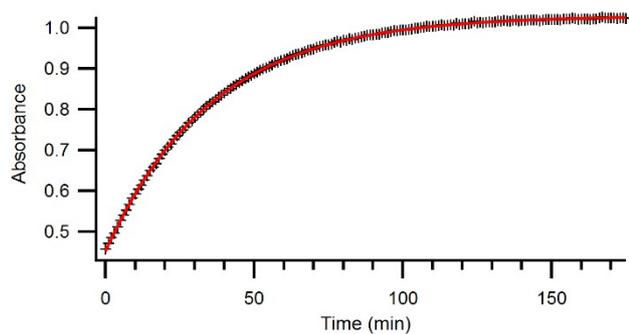


Figure S19: Increase in absorbance at 309 nm of **15** at 90 °C during the thermal backreaction-.

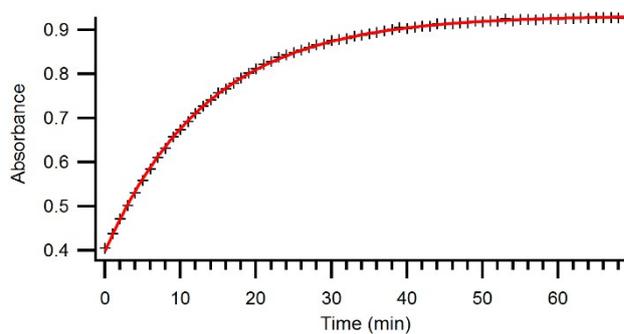


Figure S20: Increase in absorbance at 309 nm of **15** at 100 °C during the thermal backreaction-.

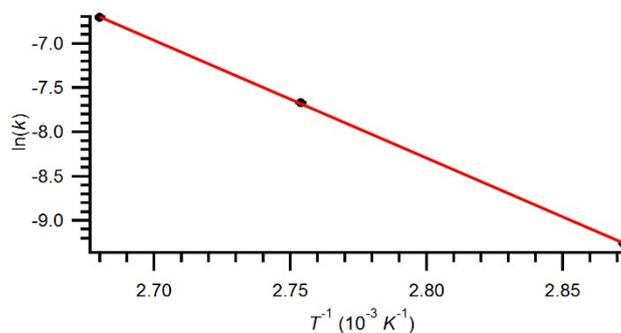


Figure S21: Arrhenius plot for **15** giving the values  $A = 3.55 \times 10^{12} \text{ s}^{-1}$  and  $E_a = 110.4 \text{ kJ/mol}$ .

## Compound 16

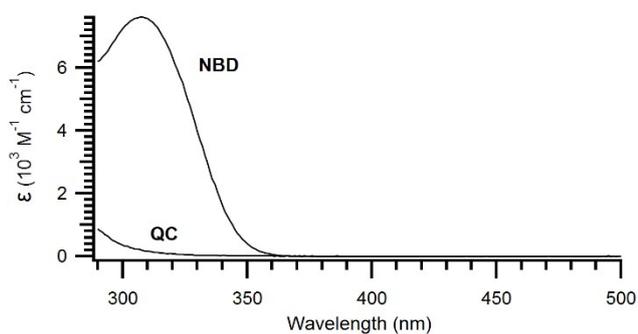


Figure S22: UV-Vis spectra of 16 and 16<sub>QC</sub>.

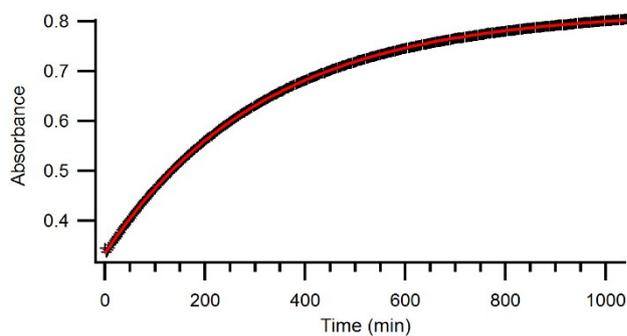


Figure S23: Increase in absorbance at 308 nm of 16 at 70 °C during the thermal backreaction.

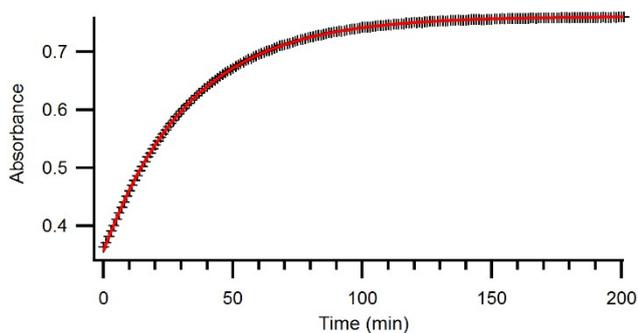


Figure S24: Increase in absorbance at 308 nm of 16 at 90 °C during the thermal backreaction.

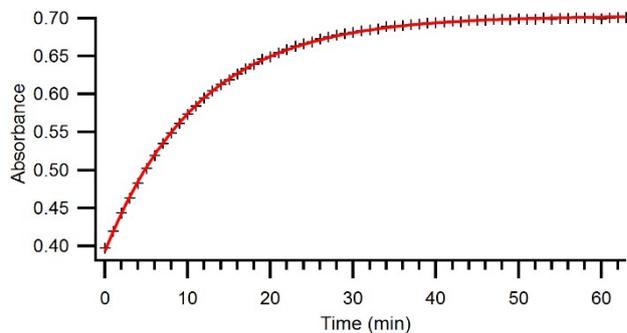


Figure S25: Increase in absorbance at 308 nm of 16 at 100 °C during the thermal backreaction.

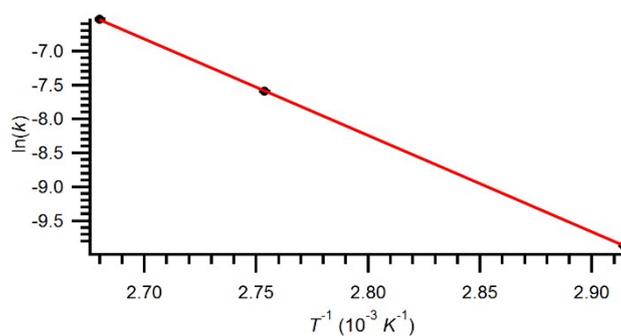
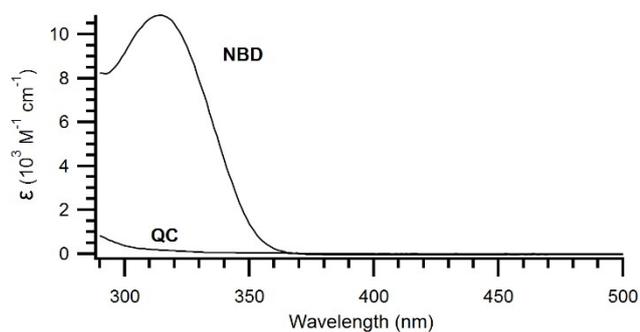
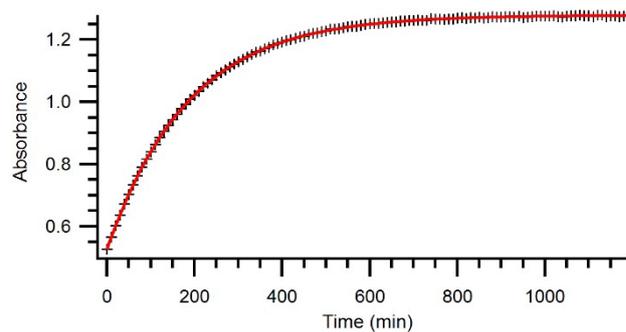


Figure S26: Arrhenius plot for 16 giving the values  $A = 5.12 \times 10^{13} \text{ s}^{-1}$  and  $E_a = 118.2 \text{ kJ/mol}$ .

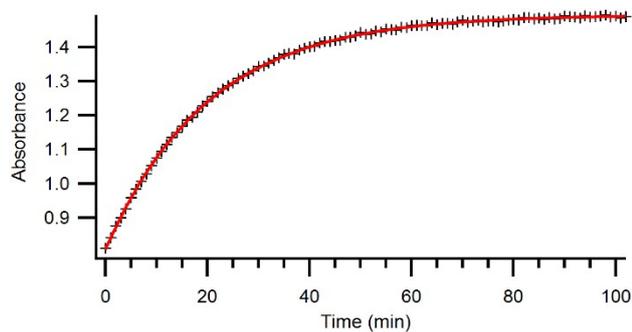
## Compound 17



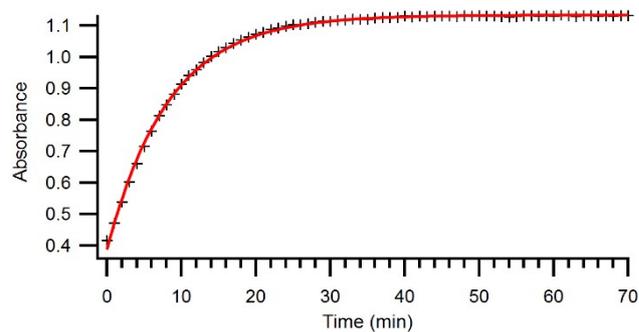
**Figure S27:** UV-Vis spectra of **17** and **17<sub>QC</sub>**.



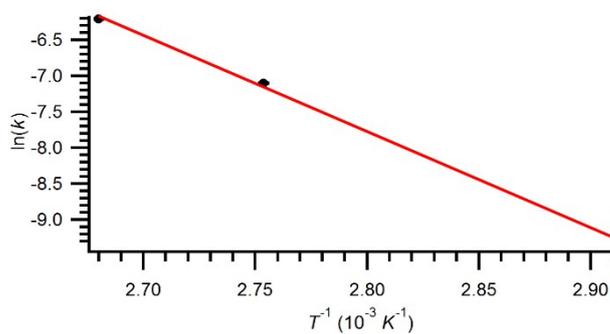
**Figure S28:** Increase in absorbance at 314 nm of **17** at 70 °C during the thermal backreaction.



**Figure S29:** Increase in absorbance at 314 nm of **17** at 90 °C during the thermal backreaction.



**Figure S30:** Increase in absorbance at 314 nm of **17** at 100 °C during the thermal backreaction.



**Figure S31:** Arrhenius plot for **17** giving the values  $A = 7.58 \times 10^{12} \text{ s}^{-1}$  and  $E_a = 111.1 \text{ kJ/mol}$ .

## Compound 18

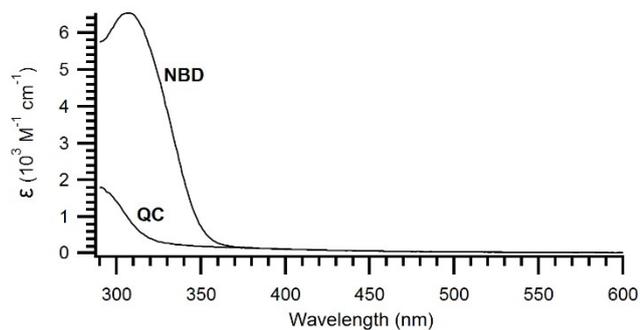


Figure S32: UV-Vis spectra of **18** and **18**<sub>QC</sub>.

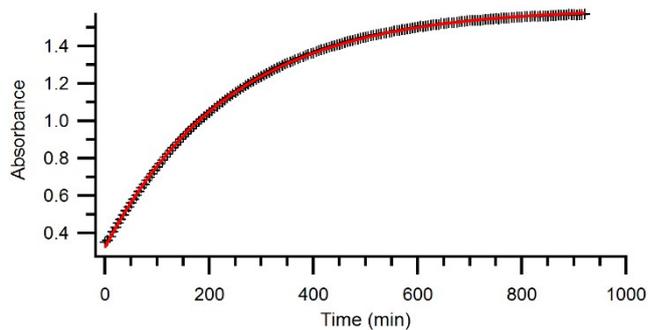


Figure S33: Increase in absorbance at 306 nm of **18** at 75 °C during the thermal backreaction.

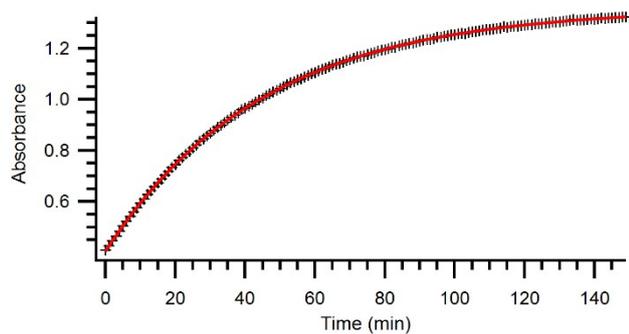


Figure S34: Increase in absorbance at 306 nm of **18** at 90 °C during the thermal backreaction.

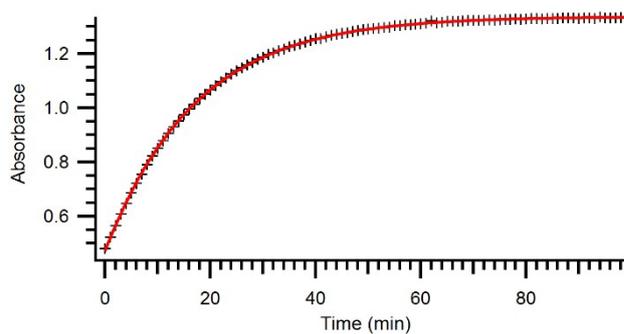


Figure S35: Increase in absorbance at 306 nm of **18** at 100 °C during the thermal backreaction.

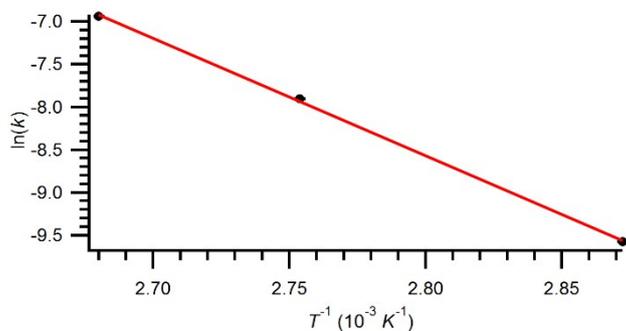


Figure S36: Arrhenius plot for **18** giving the values  $A = 9.41 \times 10^{12} \text{ s}^{-1}$  and  $E_a = 114.1 \text{ kJ/mol}$ .

## Compound 19

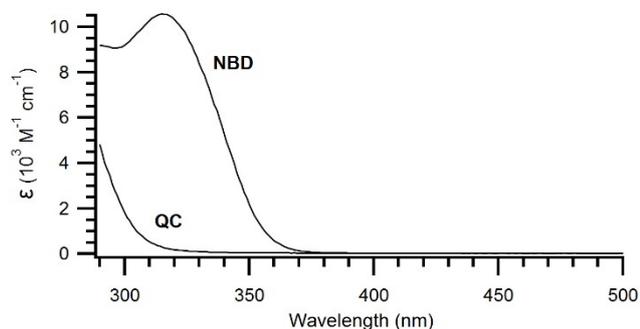


Figure S37: UV-Vis spectra of 19 and 19<sub>QC</sub>.

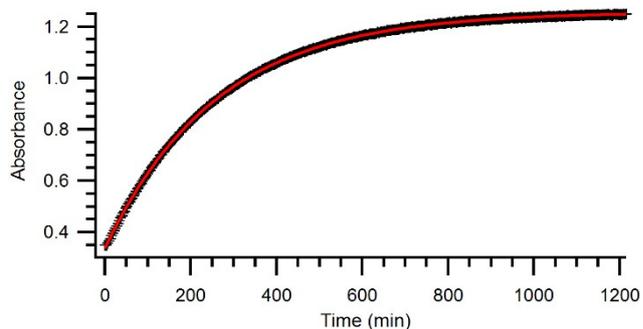


Figure S38: Increase in absorbance at 315 nm of 19 at 60 °C during the thermal backreaction.

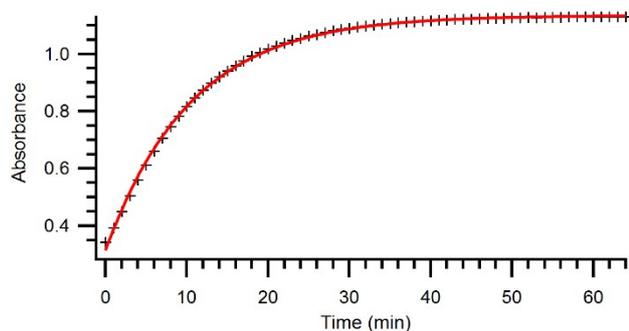


Figure S39: Increase in absorbance at 315 nm of 19 at 90 °C during the thermal backreaction.

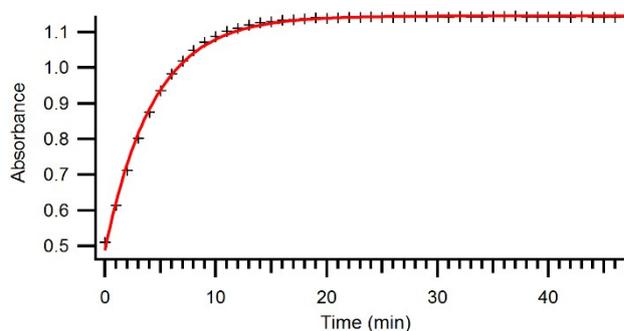


Figure S40: Increase in absorbance at 315 nm of 19 at 100 °C during the thermal backreaction.

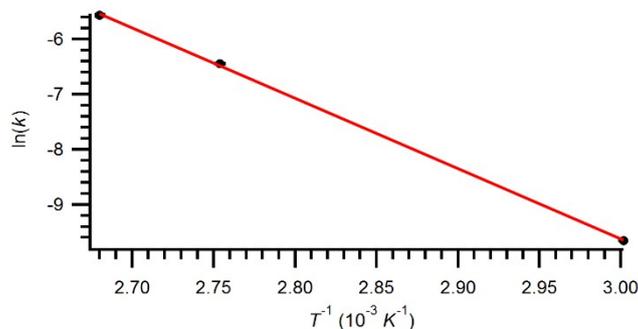
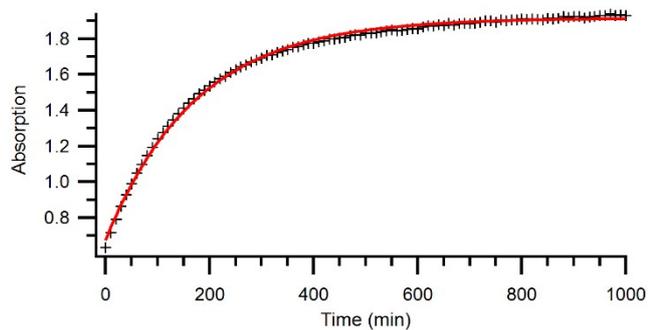
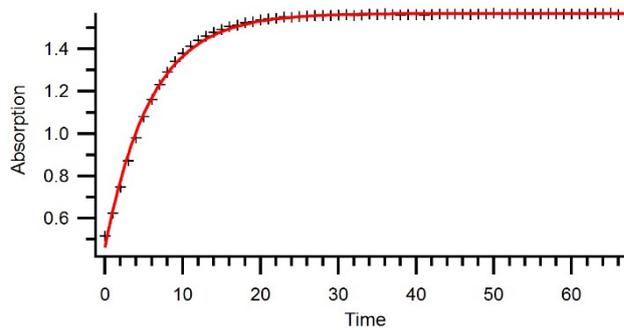


Figure S41: Arrhenius plot for 19 giving the values  $A = 2.90 \times 10^{12} \text{ s}^{-1}$  and  $E_a = 106.2 \text{ kJ/mol}$ .

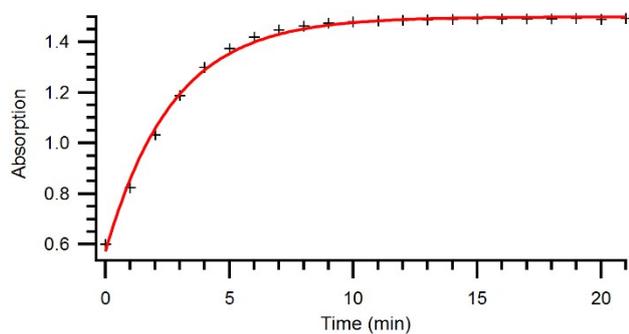
## Compound 20



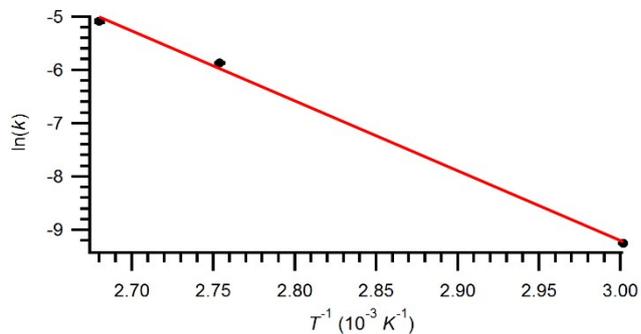
**Figure S42:** Increase in absorbance at 327 nm of **20** at 60 °C during the thermal backreaction.



**Figure S43:** Increase in absorbance at 327 nm of **20** at 90 °C during the thermal backreaction.

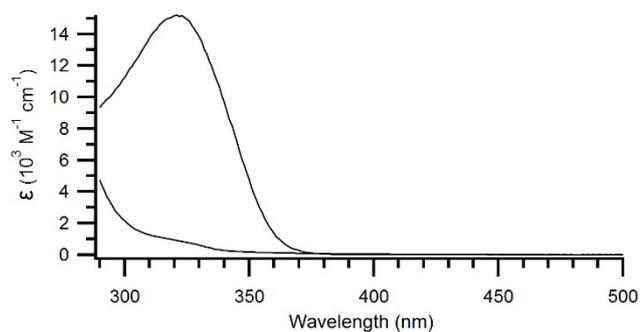


**Figure S44:** Increase in absorbance at 327 nm of **20** at 100 °C during the thermal backreaction.

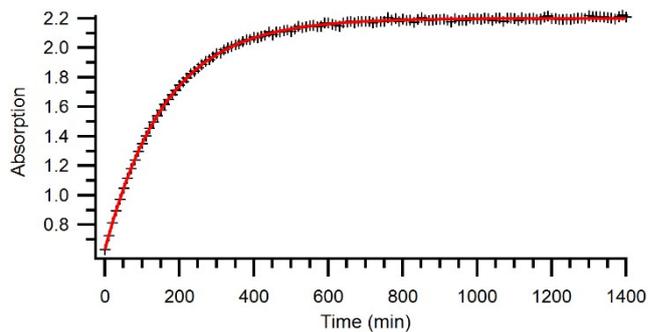


**Figure S45:** Arrhenius plot of **20** giving the values  $A = 1.21 \times 10^{13} \text{ s}^{-1}$  and  $E_a = 111.1 \text{ kJ/mol}$ .

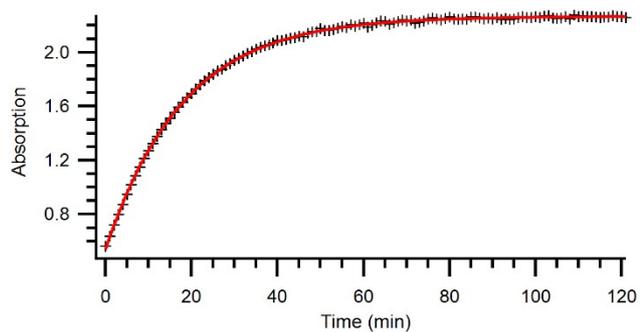
## Compound 21



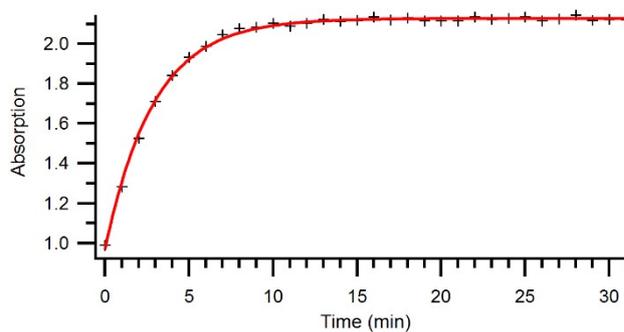
**Figure S46:** UV-Vis spectra of **21** and **21<sub>QC</sub>**.



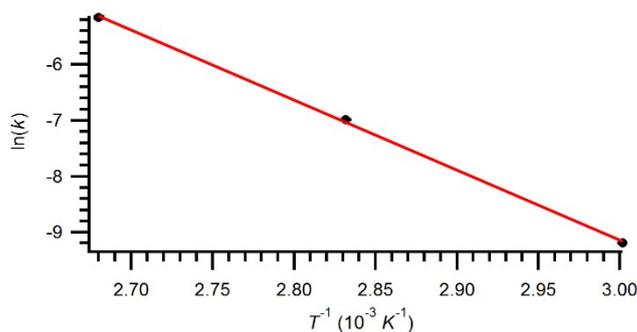
**Figure S47:** Increase in absorbance at 321 nm of **21** at 60 °C during the thermal backreaction.



**Figure S48:** Increase in absorbance at 321 nm of **21** at 80 °C during the thermal backreaction.



**Figure S49:** Increase in absorbance at 321 nm of **21** at 100 °C during the thermal backreaction.



**Figure S50:** Arrhenius plot for **21** giving the values  $A = 2.23 \times 10^{12} \text{ s}^{-1}$  and  $E_a = 104.1 \text{ kJ/mol}$