

Electronic Supplementary Information

Synthesis of a multifunctional poly(*p*-phenylene ethynylene) scaffold with clickable azide-containing side chains for (bio)sensor applications

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1. MALDI-TOF mass spectrum of copolymer P2a

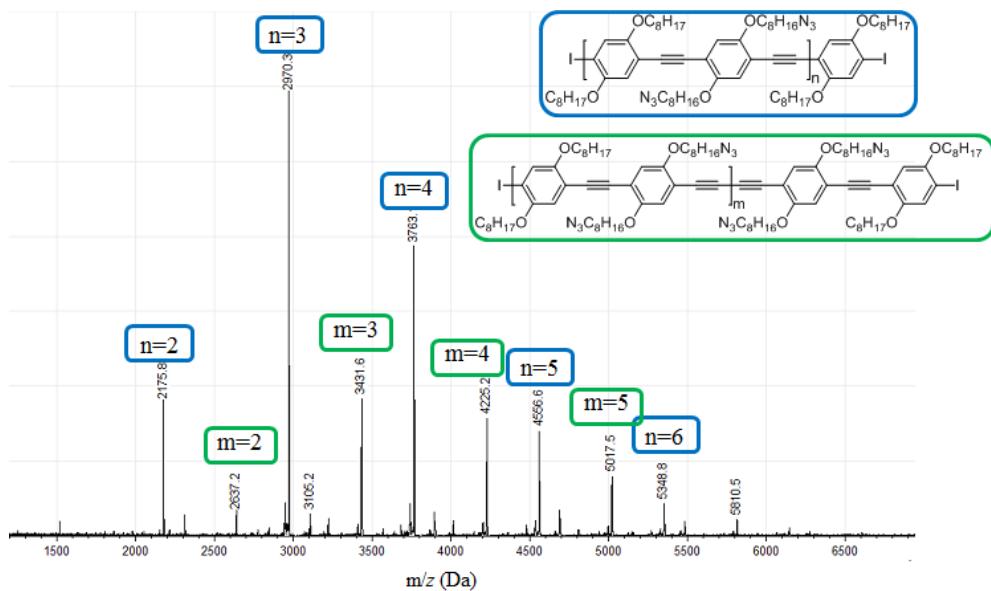


Figure S1. MALDI-TOF mass spectrum of (non-end-capped) copolymer **P2a** ($M_n = 14$ kg/mol, $D = 2.1$). The majority of the polymer chains is defect-free, whereas a smaller part contains one homo-coupling somewhere along the polymer backbone.

2. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of monomers and polymers (in CDCl_3)

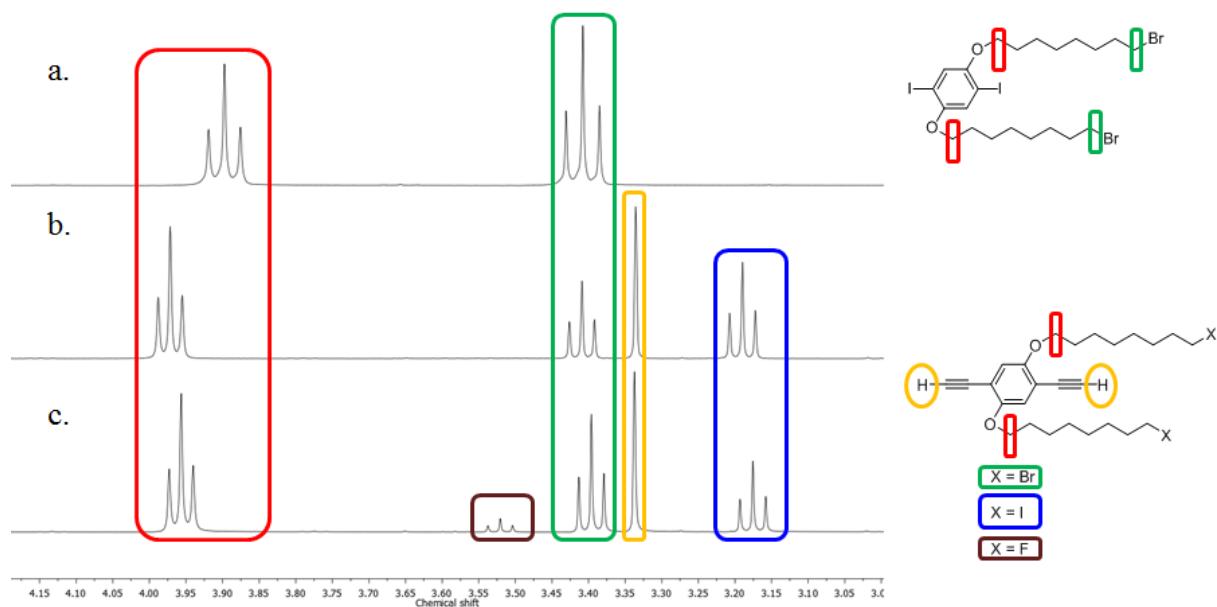
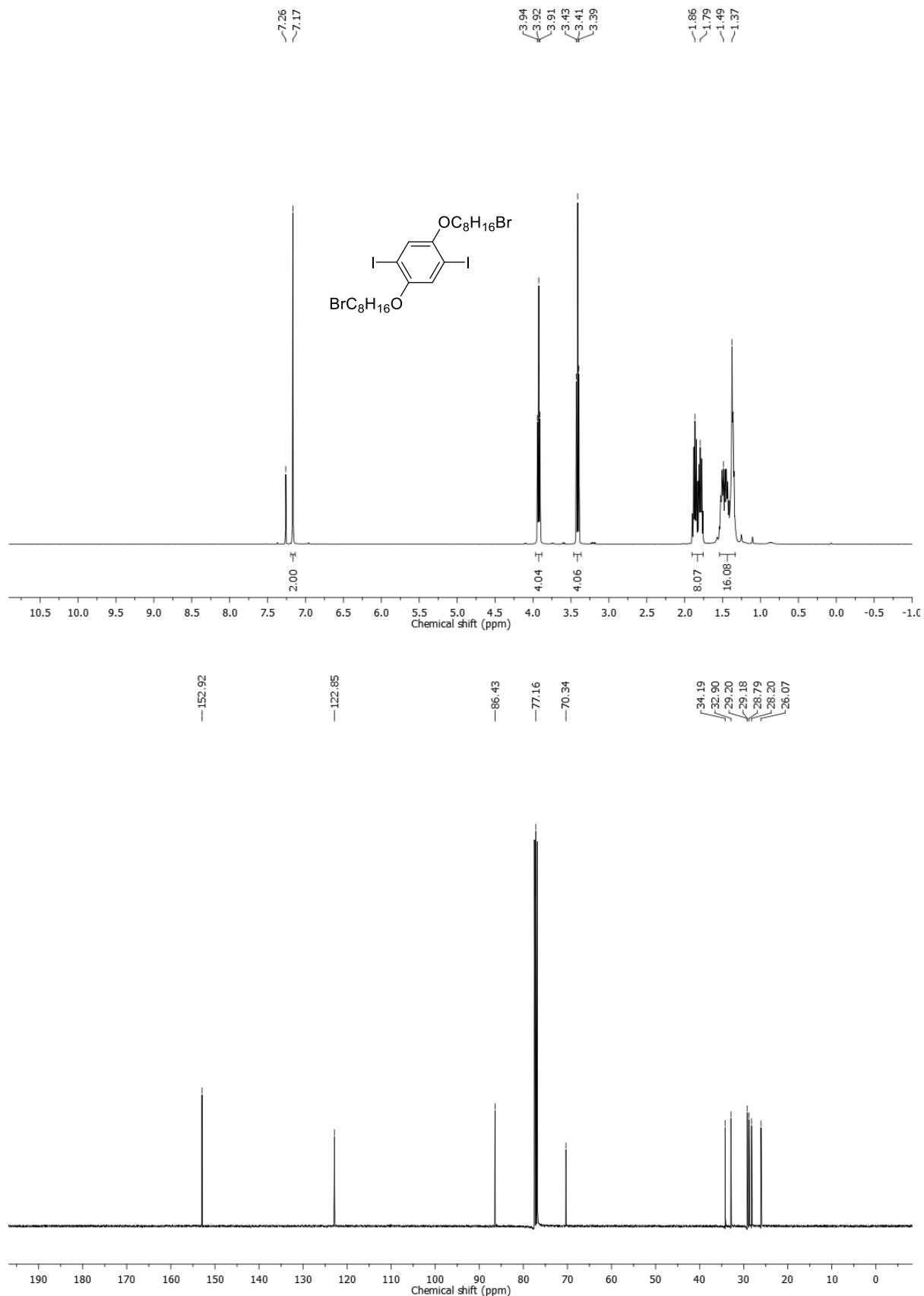
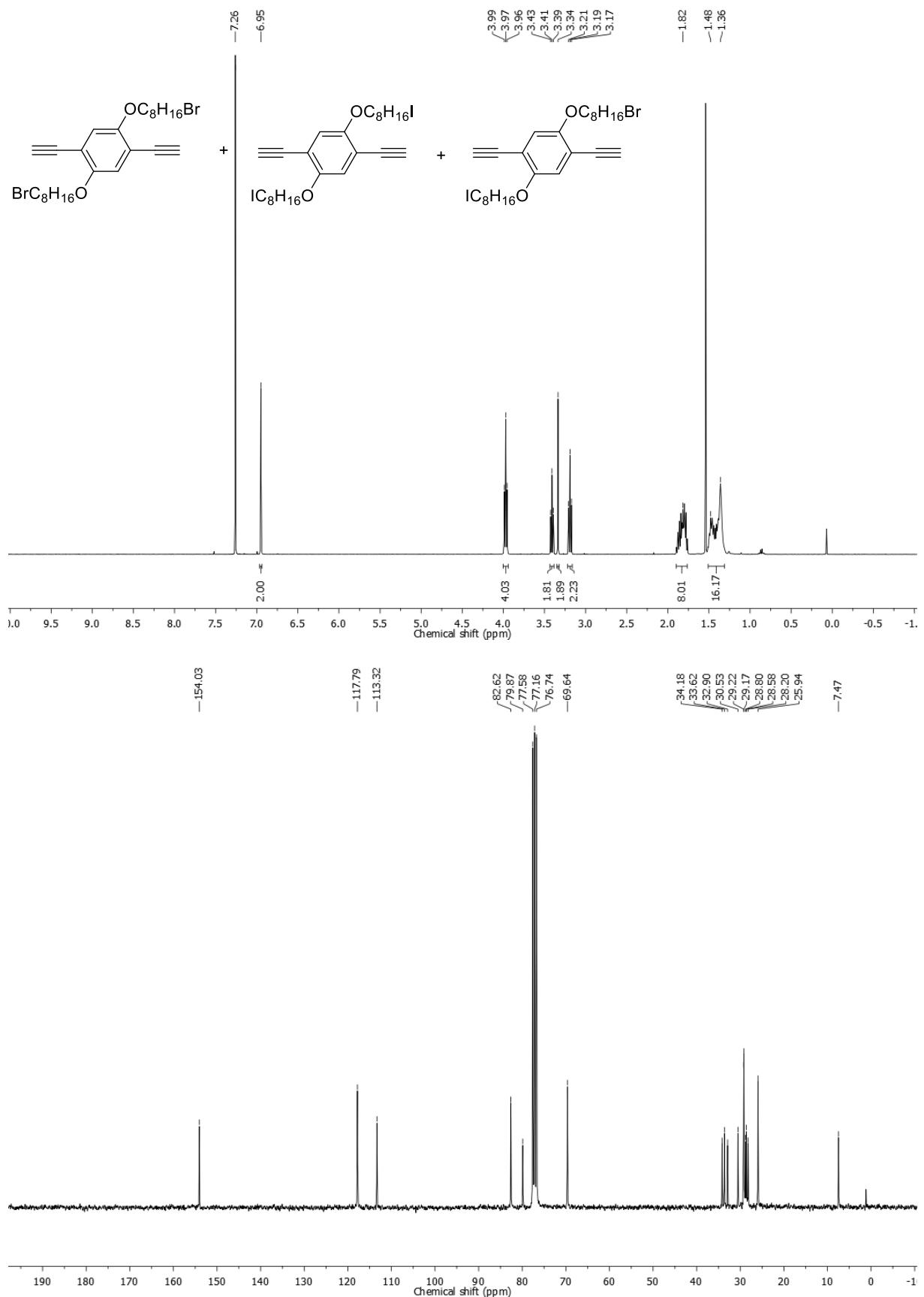


Figure S2. ^1H NMR spectra (zoom from 3.0 to 4.2 ppm) illustrating the different products formed upon performing the Sonogashira reaction with TMSA on diiodobenzene precursor **3** and subsequent deprotection: a) Precursor **3** (the triplets of the CH_2 groups next to the O and Br atoms are indicated in red and green, respectively), b) after Sonogashira coupling and deprotection with K_2CO_3 (a new triplet at 3.19 ppm from the CH_2 group next to I appears), c) after Sonogashira coupling and deprotection with TBAF (a new triplet at 3.52 ppm from the CH_2 group next to F appears).

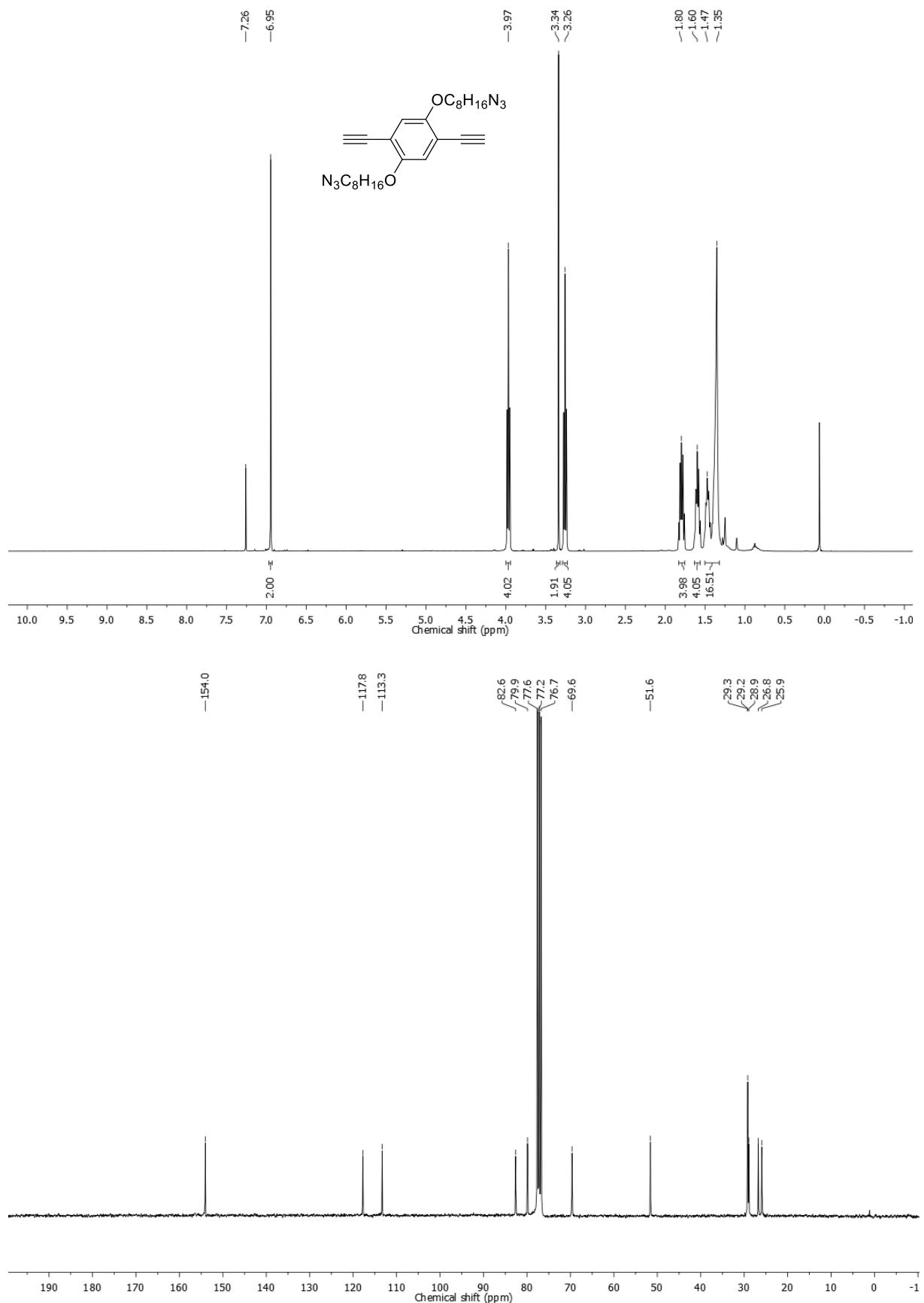
1,4-Bis(8-bromooctyloxy)-2,5-diiodobenzene (3)



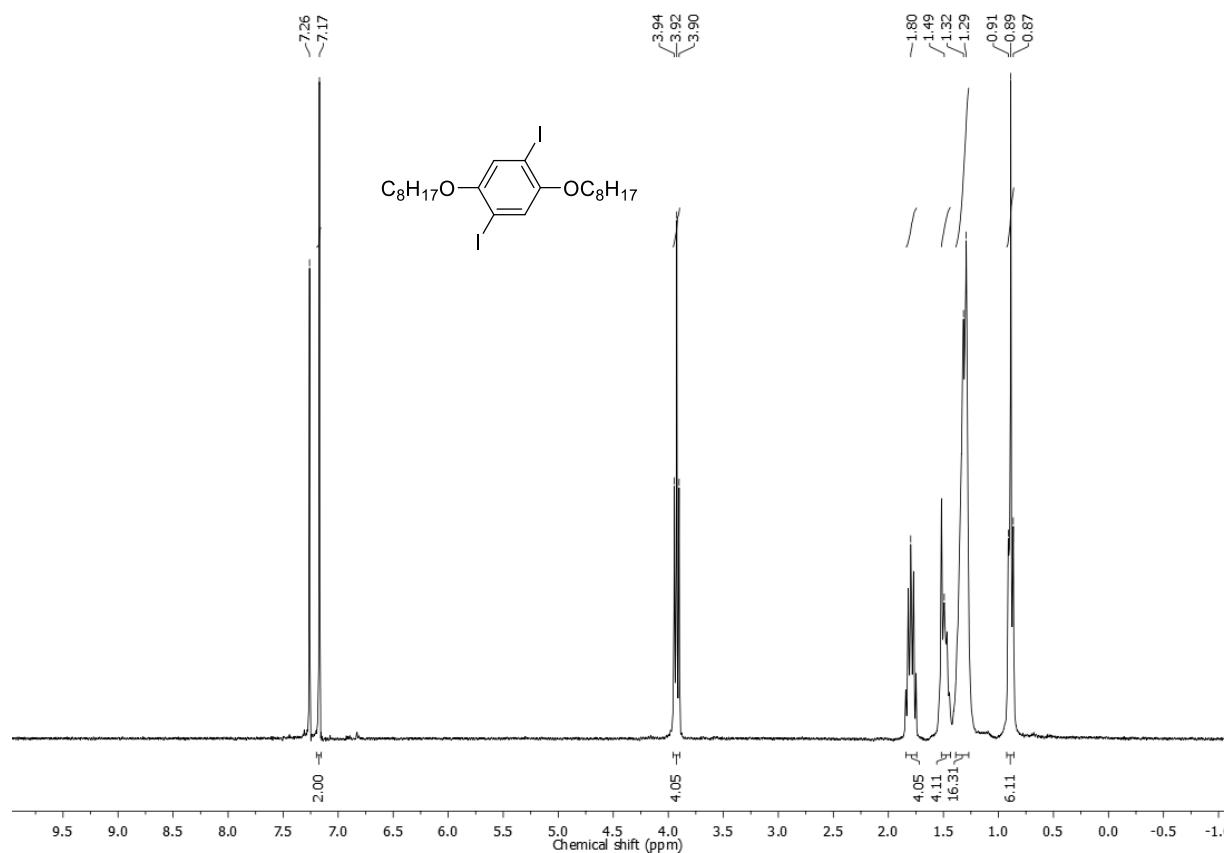
1,4-Bis(8-bromoctyloxy)-2,5-diethynylbenzene (4).



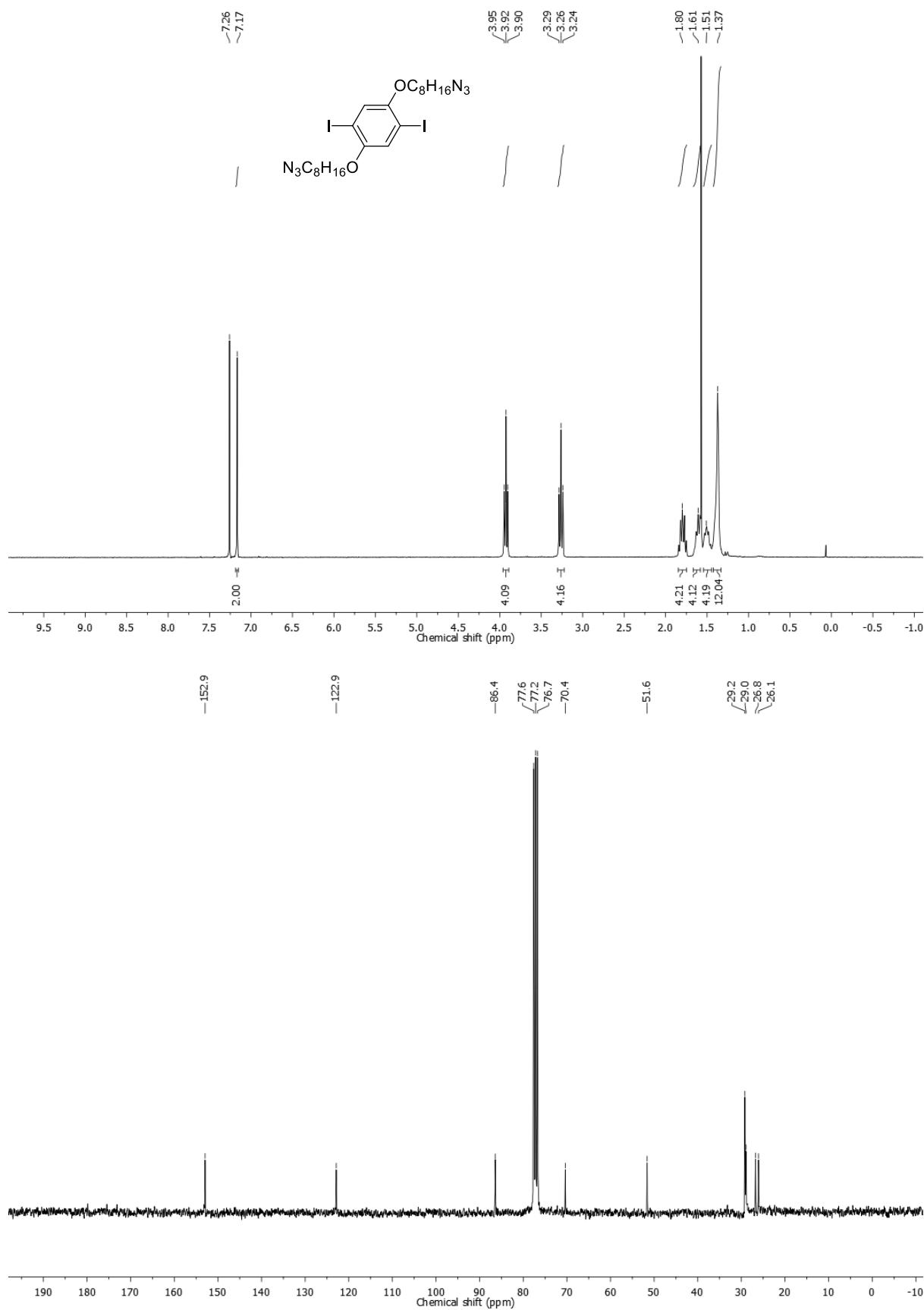
1,4-Bis(8-azidoctyloxy)-2,5-diethynylbenzene (5**)**



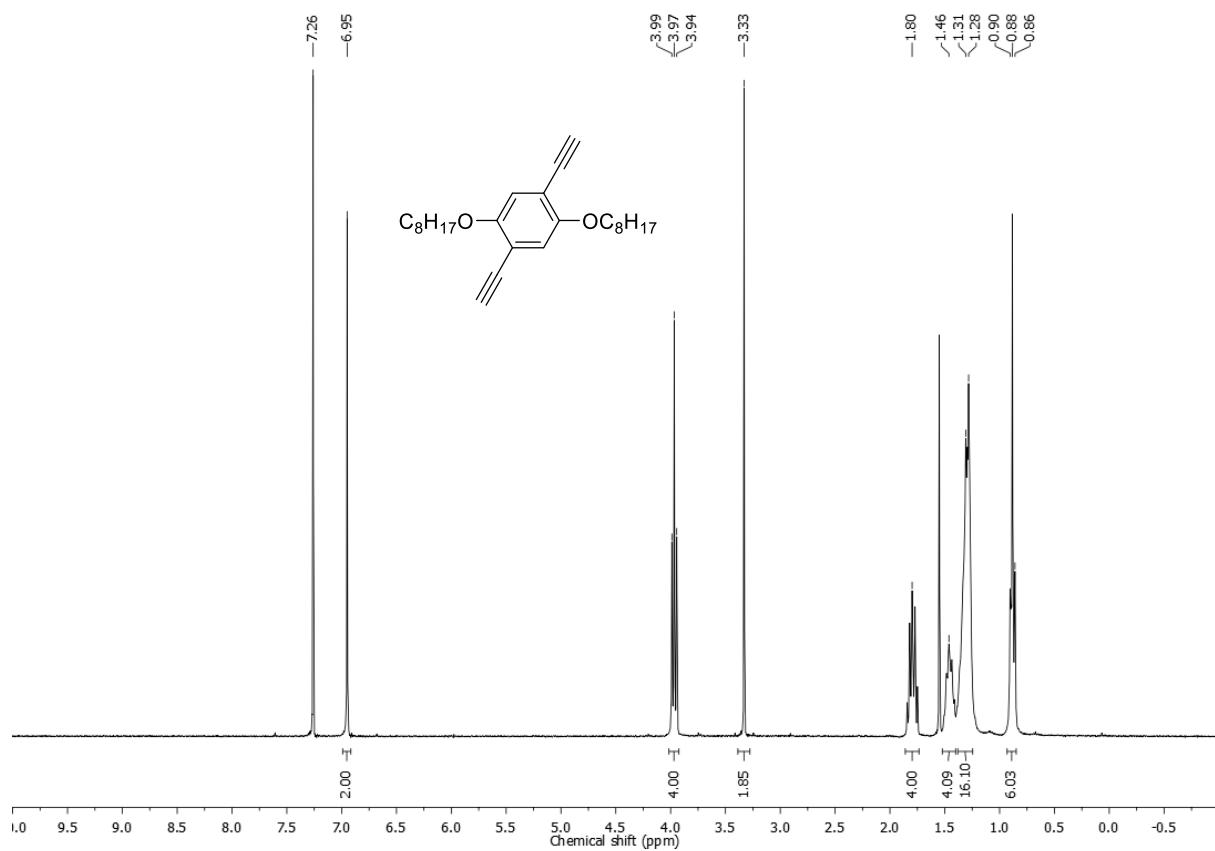
1,4-Diiodo-2,5-bis(octyloxy)benzene (7)



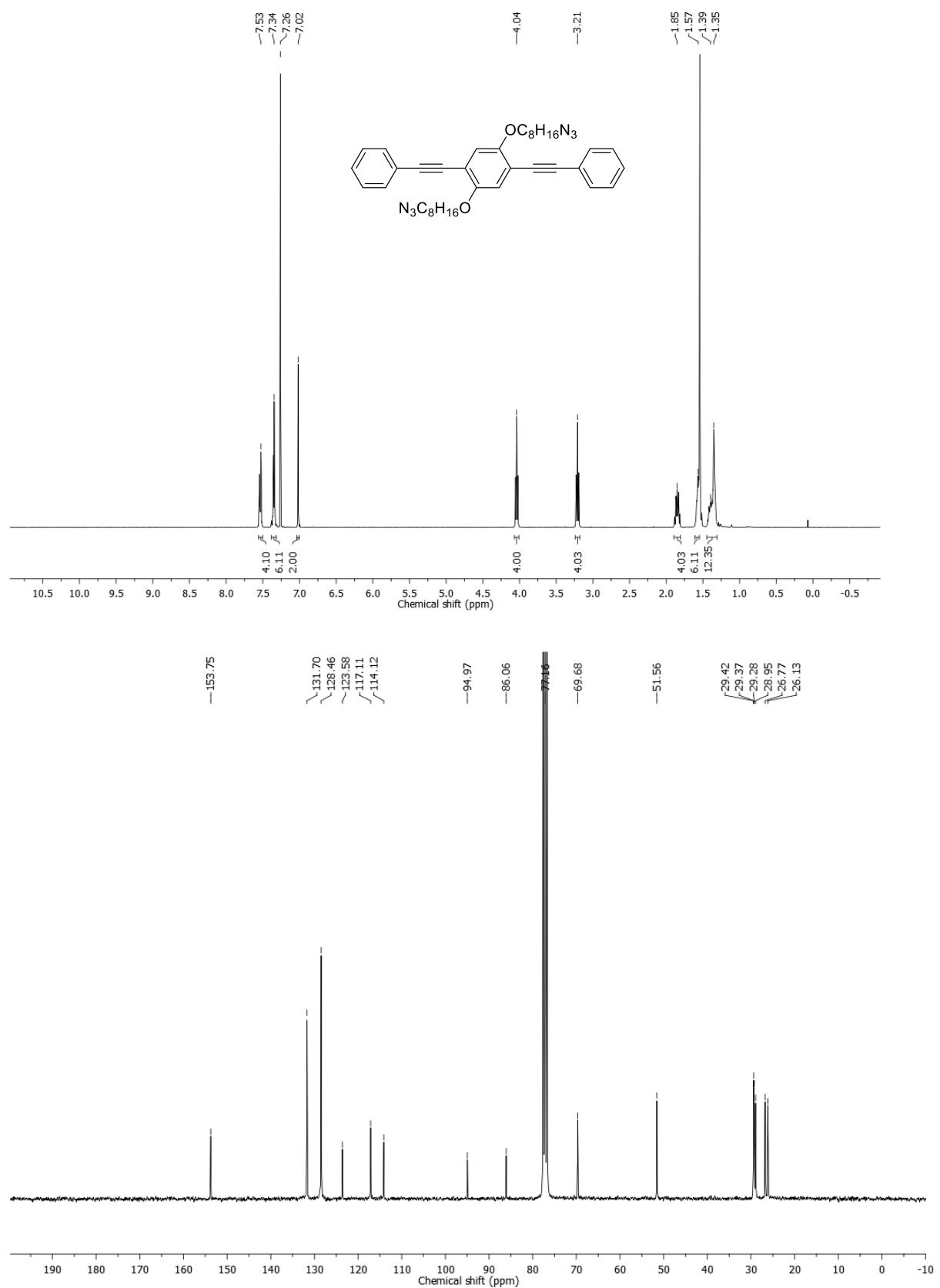
1,4-Bis(8-azidoctyloxy)-2,5-diiodobenzene (8)



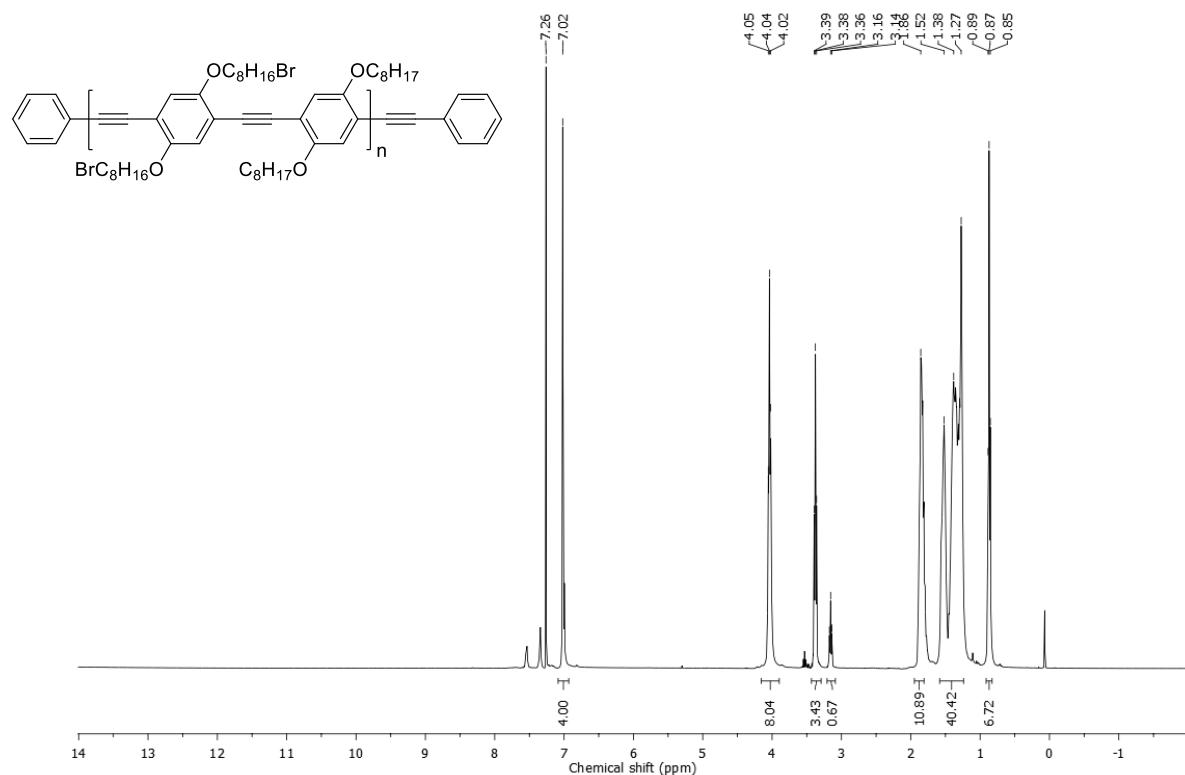
1,4-Diethynyl-2,5-bis(octyloxy)benzene (9)



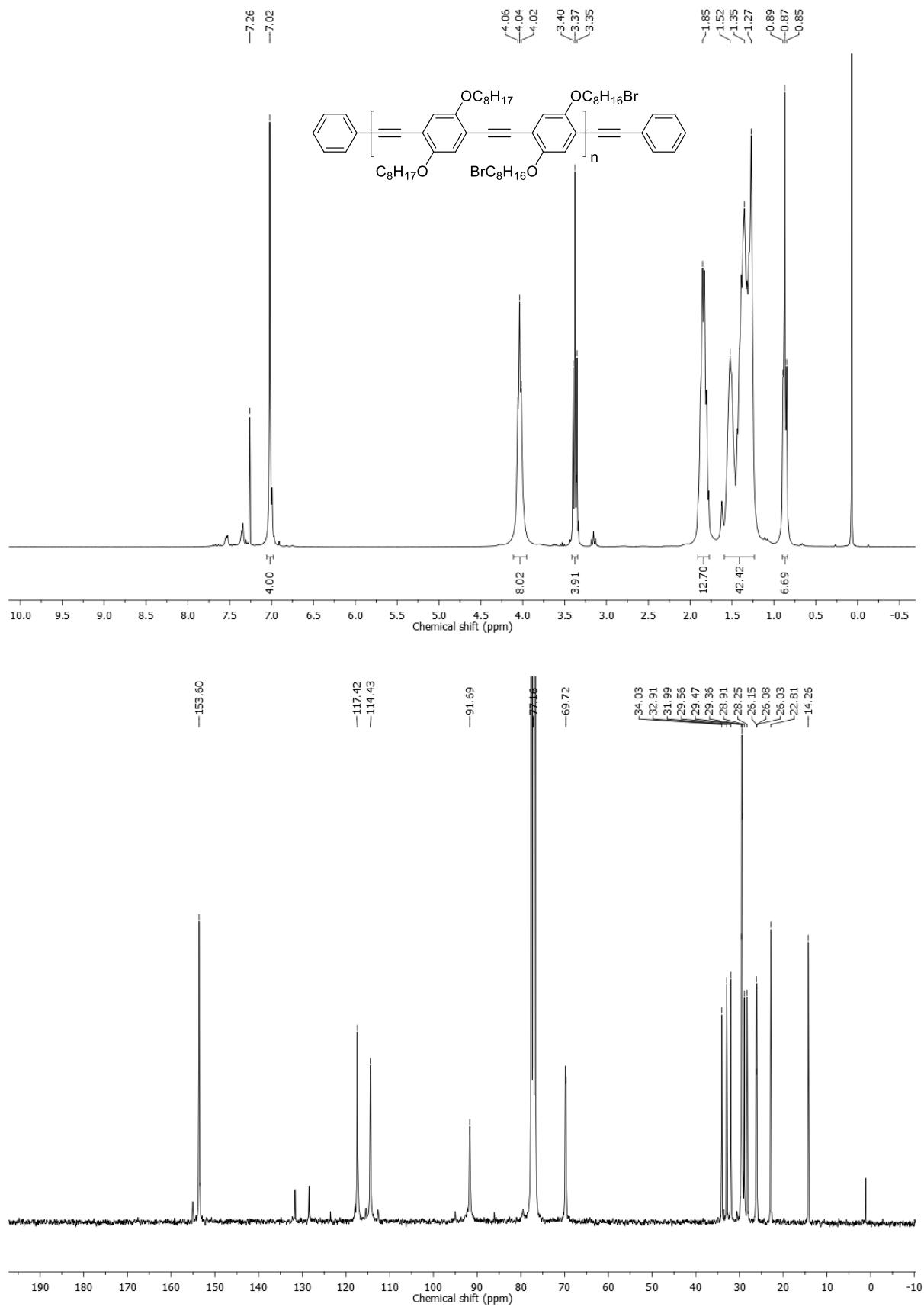
{[2,5-Bis(8-azidoctyloxy)-1,4-phenylene]bis(ethyne-2,1-diyl)}dibenzene (model compound)



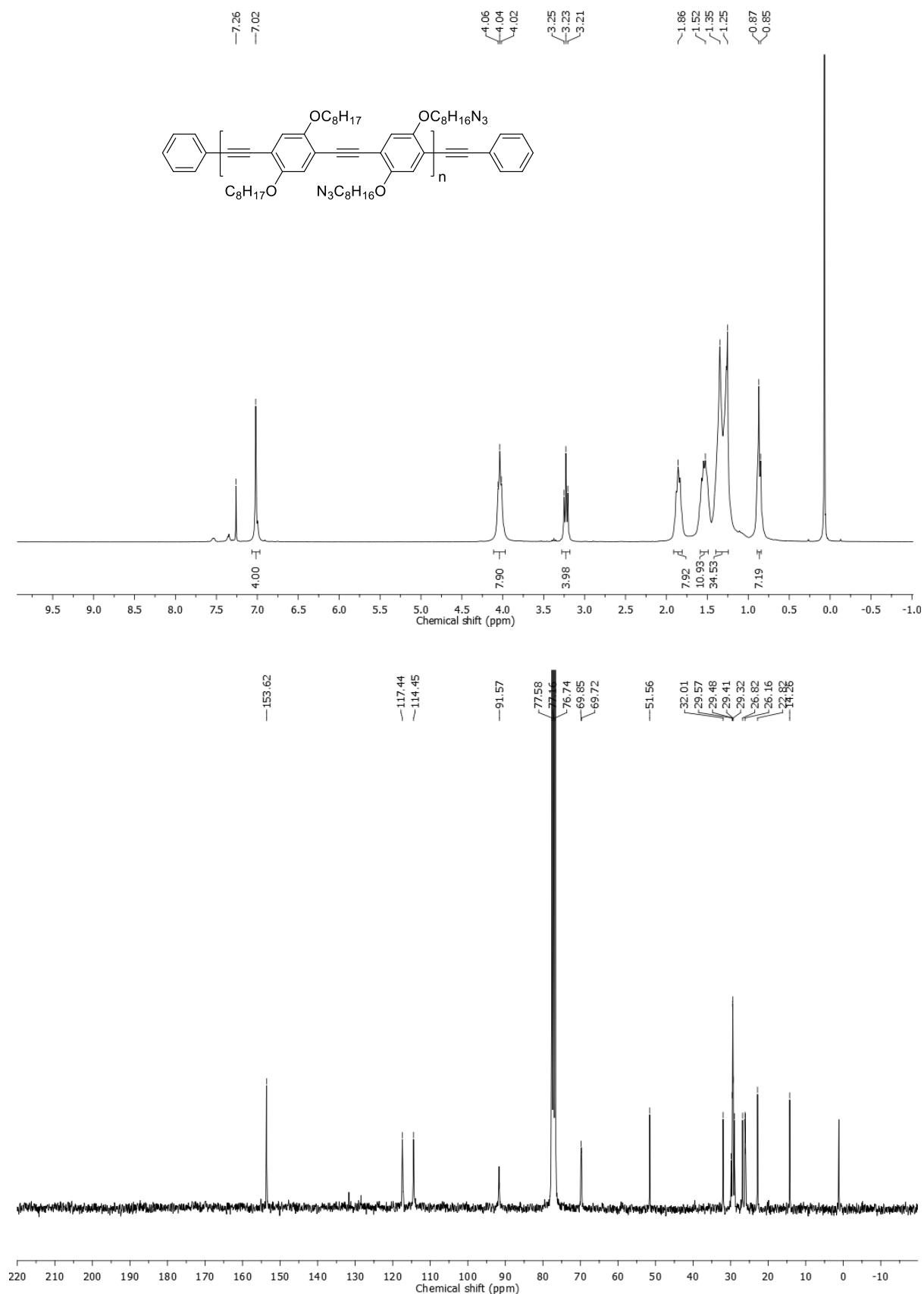
PPE copolymer **P1a'**



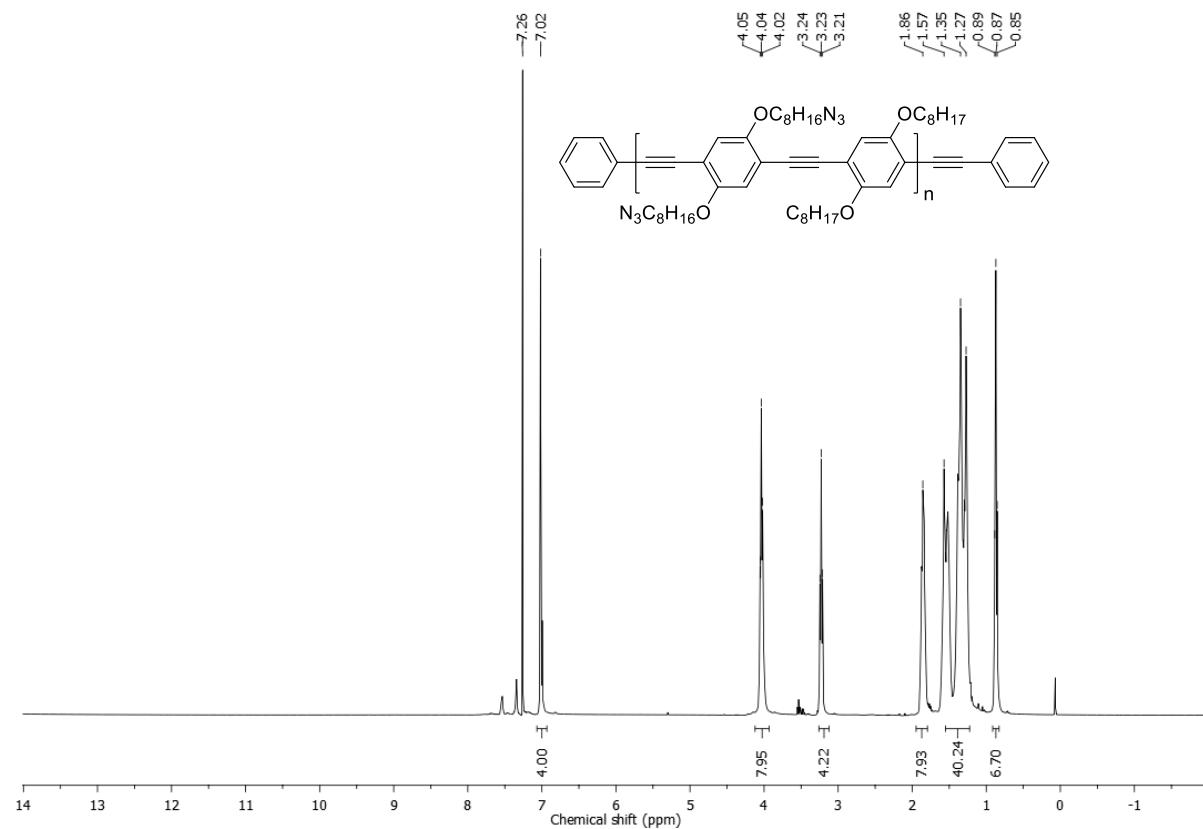
PPE copolymer **P1b**



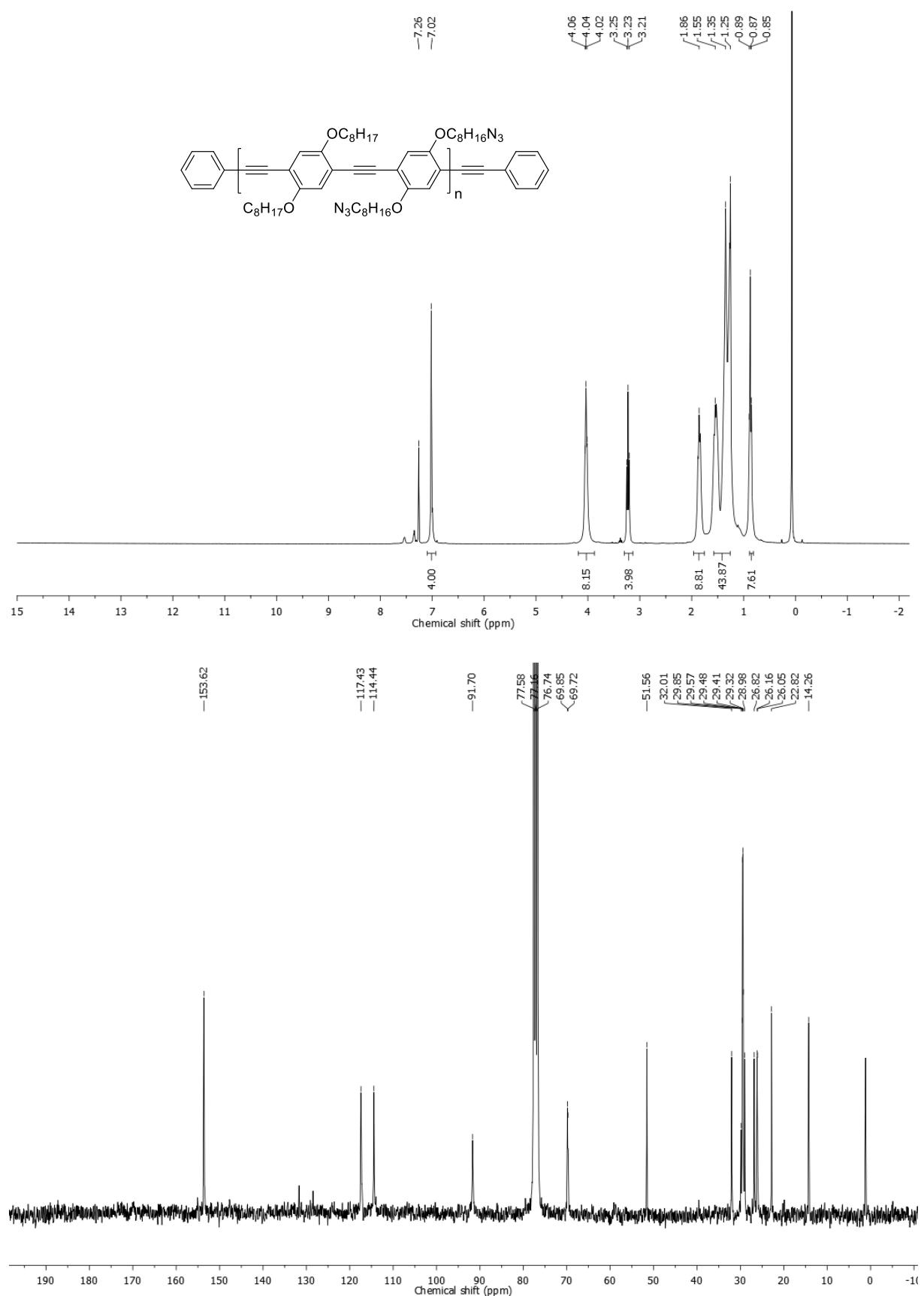
PPE copolymer **P1b'** after post-polymerization functionalization with NaN₃



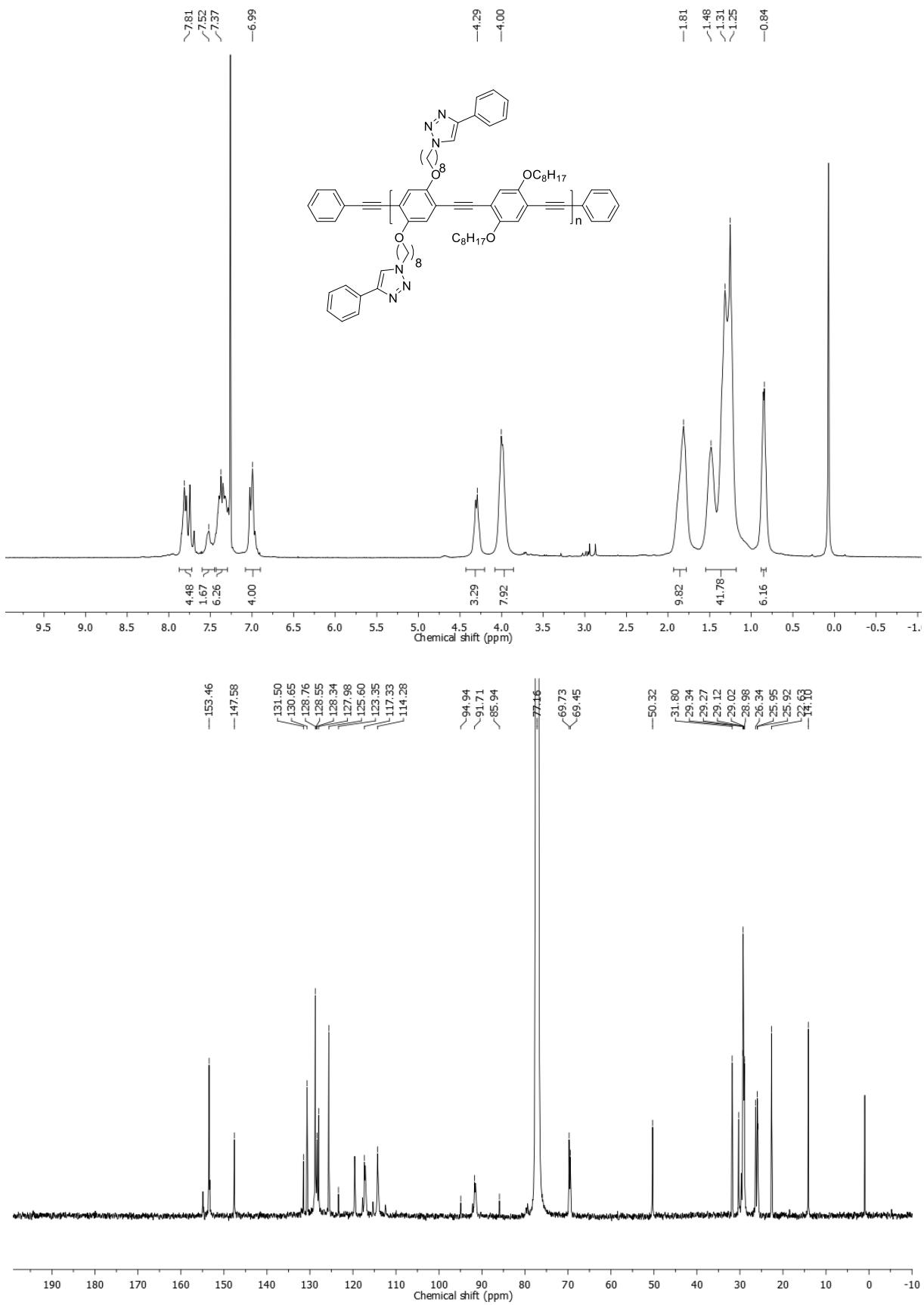
PPE copolymer **P2a'**



PPE copolymer **P2b'**



PPE copolymer **P3'**



3. Cyclic voltammograms

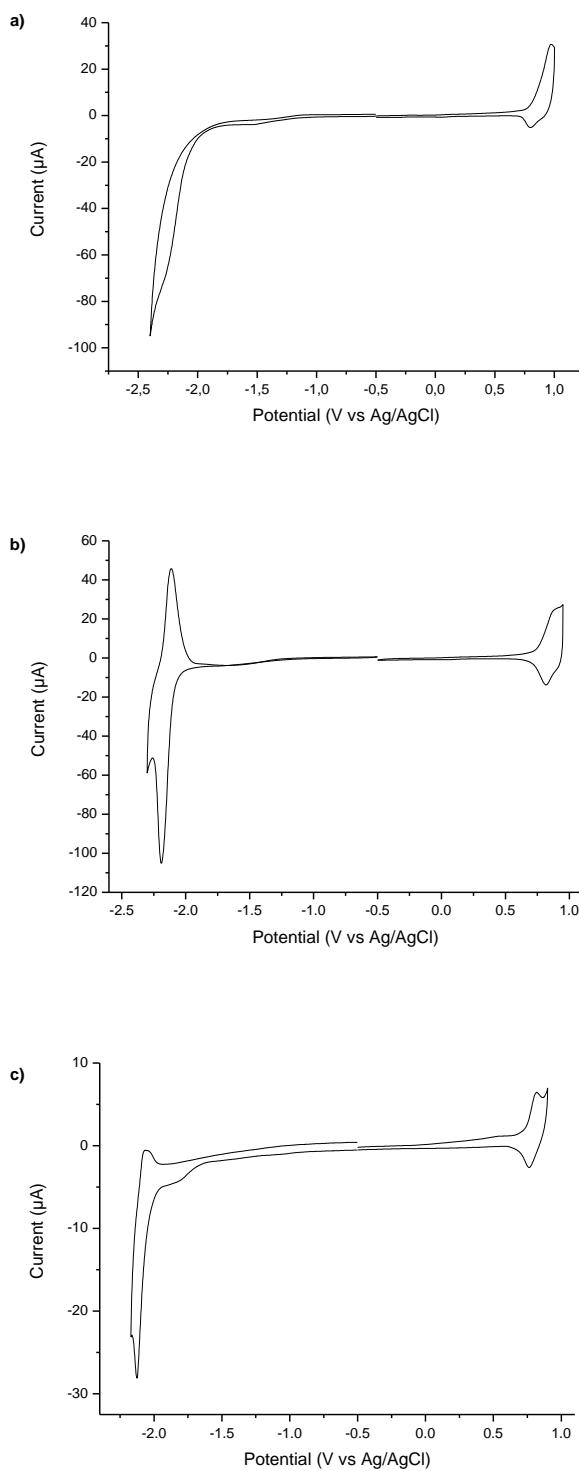


Figure S3. Cyclic voltammograms of a) $\mathbf{P1b}'$, b) $\mathbf{P2b}'$ and c) $\mathbf{P3}'$ (in film).

4. FT-IR spectra

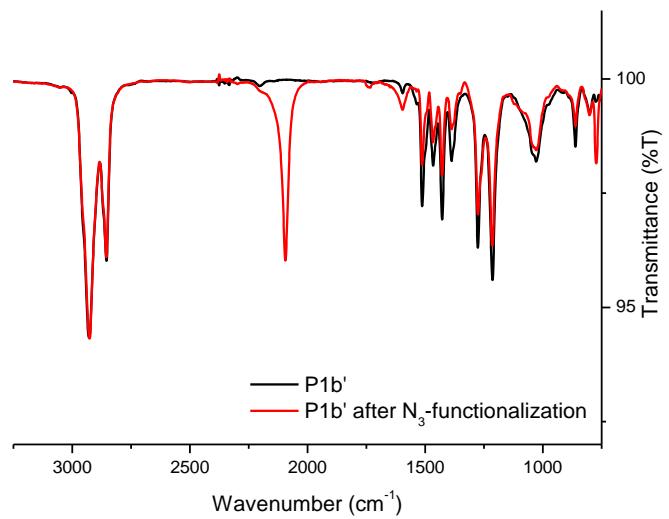


Figure S4. FT-IR spectra of copolymer **P1b'** before (black) and after (red) post-polymerization functionalization with azide moieties.