

Supporting Information

BODIPY-phenylacetylene macrocycle dye motifs for enhanced
light-harvesting and energy transfer applications

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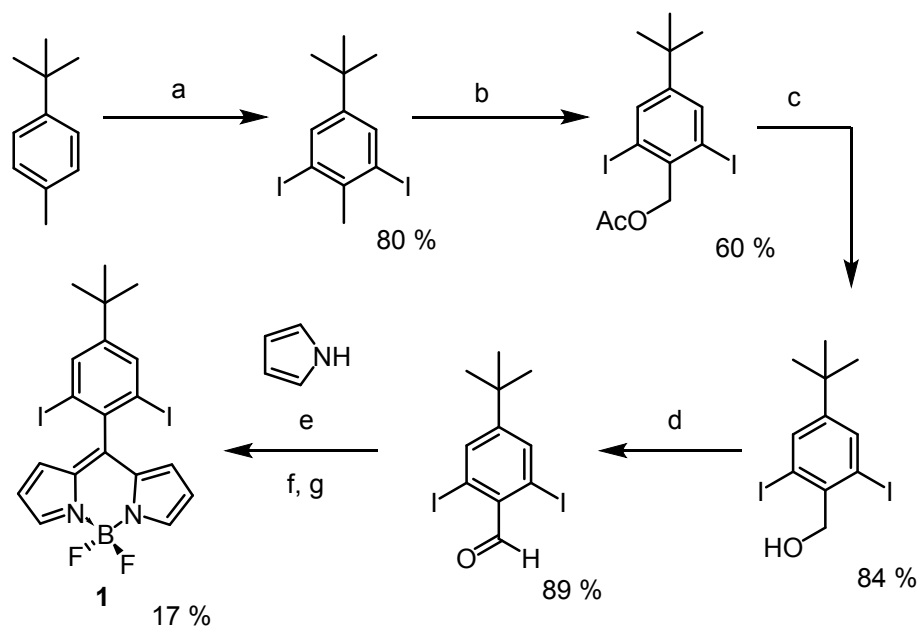
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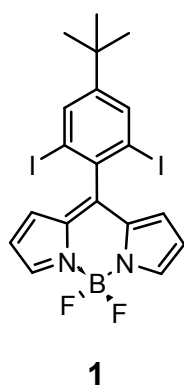
General Considerations

All reagents were purchased from Aldrich except PdCl₂ (Pressure Chemical Co., Pittsburg, PA). PdCl₂ was reacted with PPh₃ to make catalyst PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂. Purification by column chromatography was carried out using silica (Silicycle: ultrapure flash silica P60). Analytical thin-layer chromatography was performed on aluminum-backed sheets precoated with silica 60 F254 adsorbent (0.25 mm thick; Silicycle) and visualized under UV light. RT refers to room temperature. Routine ¹H, ¹³C, ¹¹B {¹H} and ¹⁹F NMR spectra were recorded at 400, 100, 128 and 376 MHz, respectively, on a Bruker AV 400 instrument at ambient temperature. Chemical shifts (δ) are reported in parts per million (ppm) from low to high field and referenced to a residual non-deuterated solvent (CHCl₃) for ¹H and ¹³C nuclei and BF₃•OEt₂ (¹¹B nucleus; δ = 0 ppm) C₆F₆ (¹⁹F nucleus; δ = 0 ppm). Standard abbreviations indicating multiplicity are used as follows: s = singlet; d = doublet; q = quartet and br = broad. High resolution mass spectroscopy (HRMS) results were obtained from Queen University, Kingston Ontario. Electron impact (EI) mass spectrometry and Electrospray ionization (ESI) techniques were used for the ionization; time of flight (TOF) was used for analysis. UV-Vis data was taken using Cary Series UV-Vis-NIR Spectrophotometer from Agilent Technologies and dichloromethane (having the onset peak at 230 nm) was used as a solvent. The GAUSSIAN 09 computational package¹ was used to perform ground-state geometry optimization calculations employing Becke's three-parameter hybrid exchange functional and the Lee–Yang–Parr non-local correlation functional B3LYP² and 6-311G* basis set was used for all the atoms. Time-dependent density functional theory calculations were also performed using this methodology, and the first 200 singlet excited states were calculated. Calculations by the first-principles method were used to obtain accurate excitation energies and oscillator strengths. Solvent was modelled with the polarizable continuum model using acetonitrile as the solvent.³

Synthesis

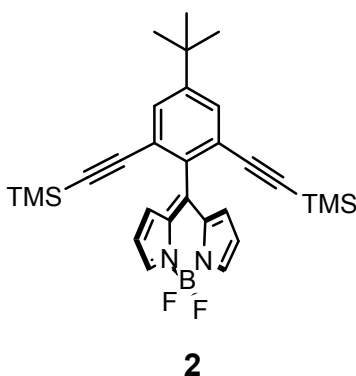


Scheme 1 – Synthesis of BODIPY **1**. Reaction conditions: a) KIO_4 , I_2 , CHCl_3 , AcOH , H_2SO_4 , H_2O , 90°C , 24 h.⁴ b) KMnO_4 , Ac_2O , AcOH , H_2SO_4 , 40°C , 24 h.² c) K_2CO_3 , MeOH , 25°C , 3 h.⁵ d) PCC, 1, 2-dichloromethane, 25°C , 12 h.⁵ e) TFA, 25°C , 12 h. f) DDQ, 25°C , 3 h. g) DiPEA, BF_3OEt_2 , 25°C , 6 h.



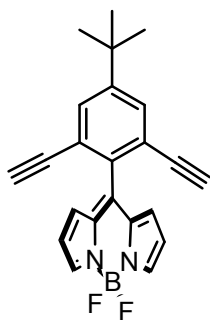
Synthesis of BODIPY (1). 2,6-diiodo-4-*tert*-butylbenzaldehyde (1.0 g, 2.42 mmol, 1 eq) was added to a solution of pyrrole (0.36 g, 5.3 mmol, 2.2 eq) in dry DCM (100 mL); followed by a catalytic amount of trifluoroacetic acid (TFA). After stirring overnight 2,3-

dichloro-5,6-dicyanobenzoquinone (0.82 g, 1.5 eq) was added to the resulting reddish solution, and the mixture was stirred for an additional 3 hours. Once TLC analysis revealed the completion of oxidation, *N,N*-diisopropylethylamine (DIPEA, 3 mL) and boron trifluoride diethyletherate (BF₃OEt₂, 3.5 mL) were added. After stirring for 6 hours, the mixture was concentrated in *vacuo*, redissolved in EtOAc and washed with water. The water layer was extracted with EtOAc and the combined organic layers were dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification by column chromatography (toluene, *R_f* = 0.42) yielded the product as orange powder (237 mg, 17 %). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ = 7.96 (s, 2H), 7.95 (s, 2H), 6.71 (d, *J*=4.0 Hz, 2H), 6.52 (d, *J*=4.0 Hz, 2H), 1.36 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ = 156.1, 150.1, 145.2, 138.7, 136.6, 134.5, 130.0, 119.1, 96.1, 34.7, 31.0. ¹⁹F NMR (CDCl₃, 376.5 MHz): δ = -145.85 (q). ¹¹B NMR (CDCl₃, 128 MHz): δ = 0.43 (t, *J_{FB}* = 28 Hz). HRMS (ESI-TOF): *m/z* 556.95364 ([*M*-F]⁻), calcd for C₁₉H₁₇BF₂N₂: *m/z* 556.95527.



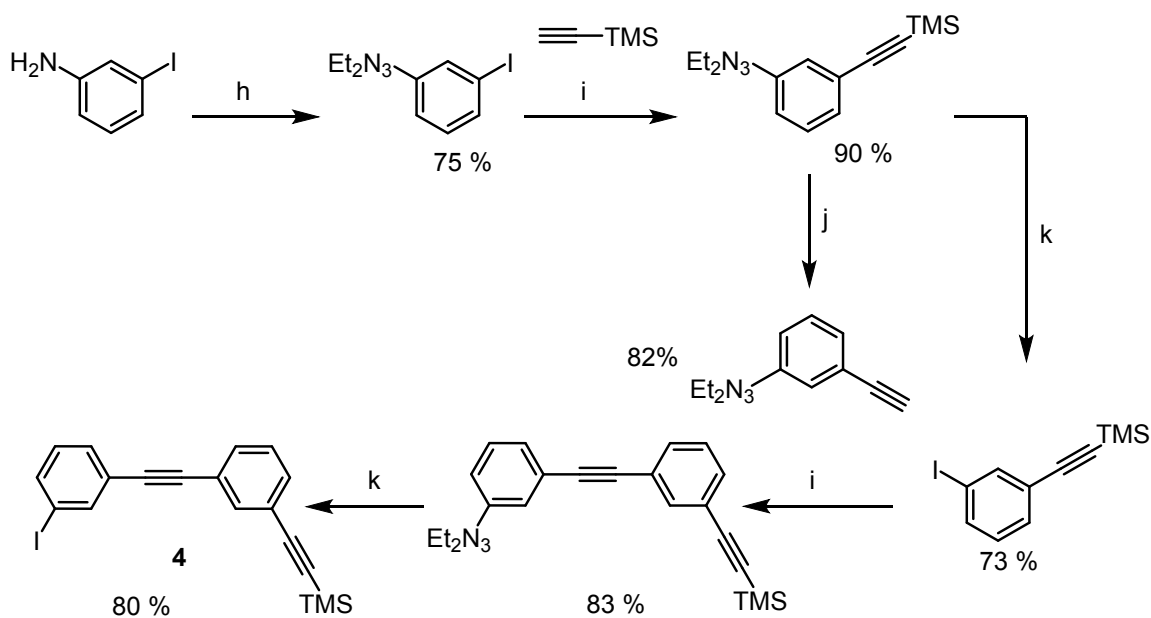
Synthesis of 2. In a 250 mL flask, BODIPY derivative **1** (440 mg, 0.700 mmol) was dissolved in THF:NEt₃ (4.5 mL, 2:1), followed by the addition of PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (48 mg, 0.070 mmol) and CuI (27 mg, 0.140 mmol) and TMS-acetylene (175 mg, 1.72 mmol). The mixture was stirred overnight at RT. The solution was filtered, the solvent removed, redissolved in EtOAc, and washed with NH₄Cl solution. The extract was then washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, and refiltered. The solvent was evaporated in *vacuo*, and the residue was chromatographed using hex:DCM (2:1, *R_f* = 0.40) to yield the product as a greenish solid (282 mg, 78%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ = 7.90 (s, 2H), 7.56 (s,

2H), 6.78 (d, $J=4.0$ Hz, 2H), 6.46 (d, $J=4.0$ Hz, 2H), 1.36 (s, 9H), -0.04 (s, 18H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): $\delta = 152.6, 144.9, 144.0, 136.4, 135.6, 131.0, 129.2, 123.6, 118.0, 118.0, 102.4, 100.5, 34.8, 31.0, -0.6$. ^{19}F NMR (CDCl_3 , 376.5 MHz): $\delta = -145.45$ (q). ^{11}B NMR (CDCl_3 , 128 MHz): $\delta = 0.45$ (t, $J_{\text{FB}} = 28$ Hz). HRMS (EI-TOF): m/z 516.2411 ($[\text{MH}]^+$), calcd for $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{35}\text{BF}_2\text{N}_2\text{Si}_2$: m/z 516.2400.

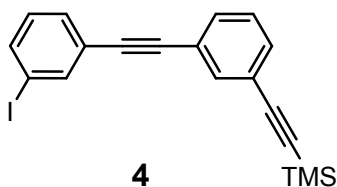


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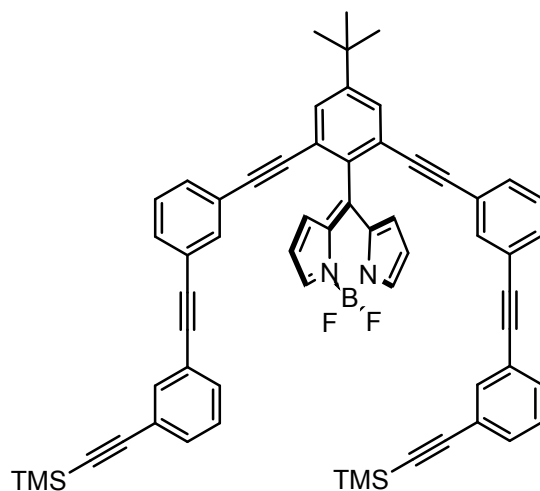
Synthesis of 3. BODIPY derivative **2** (0.16 g, 0.30 mmol) was dissolved in MeOH:THF (8 mL, 1:1) and stirred with excess KF (0.09 g, 5 eq). The reaction was left to stir overnight at RT. The reaction mixture was poured into water and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was dried over MgSO_4 , filtered and the solvent evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was chromatographed using hex:DCM (2:1, $R_f = 0.29$) as eluent to give product as a red solid (82 mg, 73%). ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): $\delta = 7.92$ (s, 2H), 7.65 (s, 2H), 6.75 (d, $J=4.0$ Hz, 2H), 6.48 (d, $J=4.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.99 (s, 2H), 1.38 (s, 9H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz): $\delta = 152.8, 144.6, 143.9, 135.6, 130.7, 130.5, 122.7, 118.5, 82.1, 80.7, 34.8, 31.0$. ^{19}F NMR (CDCl_3 , 376.5 MHz): $\delta = -145.71$ (q). ^{11}B NMR (CDCl_3 , 128 MHz): $\delta = 0.48$ (t, $J_{\text{FB}} = 28$ Hz). HRMS (EI-TOF): m/z 372.1605 ($[\text{MH}]^+$), calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{19}\text{BF}_2\text{N}_2$: m/z 372.1609.



Scheme 2 – Synthesis of **4**. Reaction conditions. h) NaNO₂, HCl, K₂CO₃, HNEt₂, 0°C, 30 min, 25°C, 1h.⁶ i) CuI, PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂, THF, NEt₃, 25°C, 16 h.⁶ j) KF, THF, MeOH, 25°C, 12 h. k) MeI, 120°C, 6 h.⁶⁻⁷

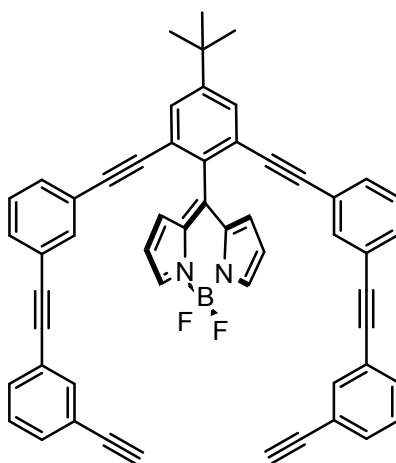


Synthesis of 4.⁶ 1-[3-[2-(Trimethylsilyl)ethynyl]phenyl]-3,3-diethyltriazene (1.0 g, 2.68 mmol) and methyl iodide (5 mL) were sealed in a microwave tube under nitrogen and heated to 120°C for 12 hours. The reaction mixture was quenched with water; extracted with dichloromethane, dried with MgSO₄ and filtered. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the pure product was isolated by column chromatography using pure hexanes (*R_f* = 0.40). The product was a yellow viscous liquid (858 mg, 80%). Spectroscopic data of **4** agreed with the previously reported literature. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ = 7.88 (t, 1H), 7.68-7.64 (m, 2H), 7.48-7.42 (m, 3H), 7.31-7.27 (m, 1H), 7.10-7.06 (m, 1H), 0.27 (s, 9H).



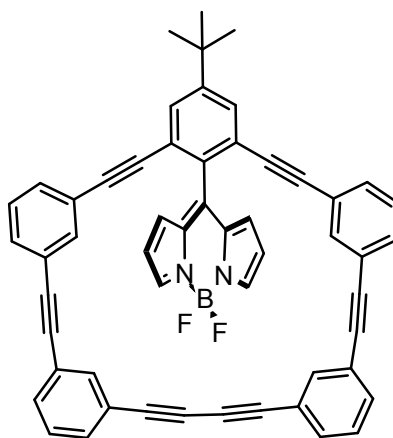
5

Synthesis of 5. To a solution of BODIPY derivative **3** (100 mg, 0.258 mmol) in THF:NEt₃ (30 mL; 2:1), PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (18 mg, 0.0258 mmol) and CuI (10 mg, 0.052 mmol) were added as catalysts followed by the addition of **4** (208 mg, 0.516 mmol). The mixture was stirred at RT overnight. The solution was filtered, the solvent removed from the filtrate, and dissolved in EtOAc and washed with NH₄Cl solution. The extract was then washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, and filtered again. The solvent was evaporated in *vacuo*, and the residue was chromatographed using hex:DCM (1:1, *R_f* = 0.26) to give the product as a red solid (196 mg, 83%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ = 7.98 (s, 2H), 7.71-7.64 (m, 4H), 7.48-7.37 (m, 8H), 7.31-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.24-7.20 (m, 2H), 7.09-7.06 (m, 2H), 6.92-6.91 (d, *J*=4.0 Hz, 2H), 6.51-6.50 (d, *J*=4.0 Hz, 2H), 1.45 (s, 9H), 0.26 (s, 18H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ = 153.0, 144.5, 135.6, 135.1, 134.7, 134.4, 131.7, 131.6, 131.5, 131.1, 129.3, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 123.7, 123.5, 123.5, 123.3, 123.3, 122.7, 118.5, 104.1, 95.0, 93.9, 89.1, 89.0, 87.8, 34.9, 31.1, -0.1. ¹⁹F NMR (CDCl₃, 376.5 MHz): δ = -145.48 (q). ¹¹B NMR (CDCl₃, 128 MHz): δ = 0.65 (t, *J_{FB}* = 28 Hz). HRMS (ESI-TOF): *m/z* 897.3664 ([M-F]⁻), calcd for C₆₁H₅₁BFN₂Si₂: *m/z* 897.3662.



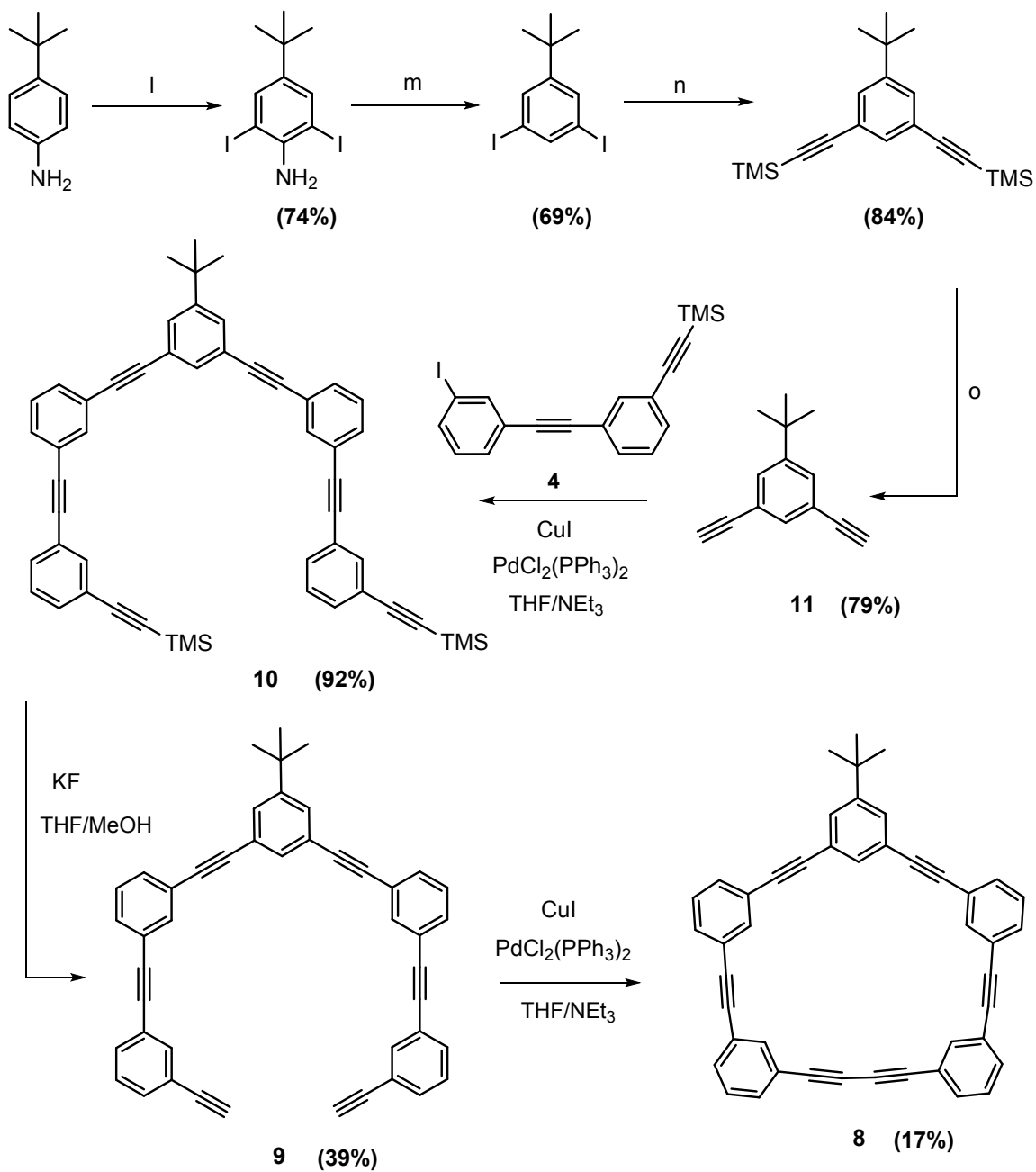
6

Synthesis of 6. Compound **5** (150 mg, 0.161 mmol) was dissolved in MeOH:THF (50 mL; 1:1) and reacted with excess KF (50 mg, 0.803 mmol). The reaction was left to stir overnight at RT. The reaction mixture was poured into water and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, filtered and the solvent evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was chromatographed using hex: DCM (1:1, $R_f = 0.33$) as an eluent to give product as a red viscous liquid (88 mg, 71%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): $\delta = 7.99$ (s, 2H), 7.69-7.66 (m, 4H), 7.53-7.45 (m, 4H), 7.41-7.38 (m, 4H), 7.34-7.30 (m, 2H), 7.25-7.21 (m, 2H), 7.10-7.08 (m, 2H), 6.92-6.91 (d, $J=4.0$ Hz, 2H), 6.51-6.50 (d, $J=4.0$ Hz, 2H), 3.11 (s, 2H), 1.45 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): $\delta = 153.0, 144.5, 135.6, 135.1, 134.5, 132.0, 131.6, 131.1, 129.2, 128.6, 128.5, 128.5, 123.7, 123.5, 123.4, 123.2, 122.7, 122.5, 93.9, 89.1, 89.0, 87.9, 82.8, 77.9, 35.0, 31.1$. ¹⁹F NMR (CDCl₃, 376.5 MHz): $\delta = -145.44$ (q). ¹¹B NMR (CDCl₃, 128 MHz): $\delta = 0.66$ (t, $J_{FB} = 28$ Hz). HRMS (EI-TOF): m/z 772.2881 ([MH]⁺), calcd for C₅₅H₃₅BF₂N₂: m/z 772.2861.

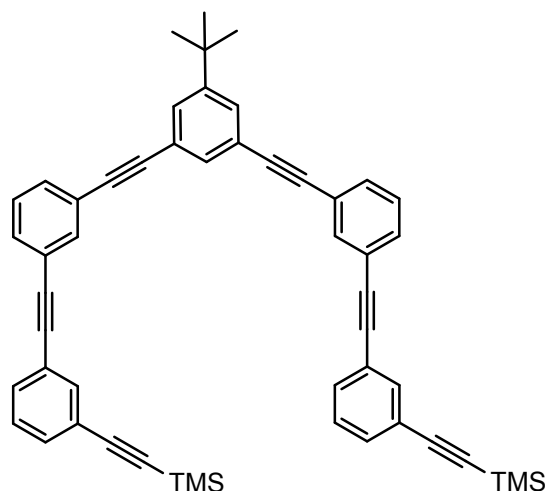


7

Synthesis of 7. BODIPY pre-macrocycle **6** (93 mg, 0.118 mmol) was dissolved in THF:NEt₃ (120 mL, 2:1) and sparged with N₂ for 15 minutes. PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (8.3 mg, 0.012 mmol) and CuI (4.5 mg, 0.024 mmol) were added as catalysts and the mixture was stirred at RT overnight. The solution was filtered, the solvent removed from the filtrate, dissolved in EtOAc, and washed with NH₄Cl solution. The extract was then washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, and filtered. The solvent was evaporated in *vacuo*, and the residue was chromatographed using hex:DCM (2:1, *R_f* = 0.30) to give the product as a dark red solid (14 mg, 15%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ = 8.15 (s, 2H), 8.12 (s, 2H), 7.69 (s, 2H), 7.44- 7.39 (m, 4H), 7.36-7.29 (m, 6H), 7.24-7.22 (m, 2H), 7.14 (s, 2H), 6.95-6.94 (d, *J*=4.0 Hz, 2H), 6.50-6.49 (d, *J*=4.0 Hz, 2H), 1.46 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ = 152.9, 144.7, 140.2, 137.4, 135.6, 131.1, 130.3, 130.2, 130.0, 129.7, 129.1, 128.4, 128.2, 123.8, 123.8, 123.6, 122.8, 122.7, 118.6, 118.6, 93.9, 89.8, 89.7, 88.2, 82.4, 75.3, 34.9, 31.1. ¹⁹F NMR (CDCl₃, 376.5 MHz): δ = -145.86 (q). ¹¹B NMR (CDCl₃, 128 MHz): δ = 0.83 (t, *J_{FB}* = 28 Hz). HRMS (EI-TOF): *m/z* 770.2701 ([MH]⁺), calcd for C₅₅H₃₃BF₂N₂: *m/z* 770.2705.

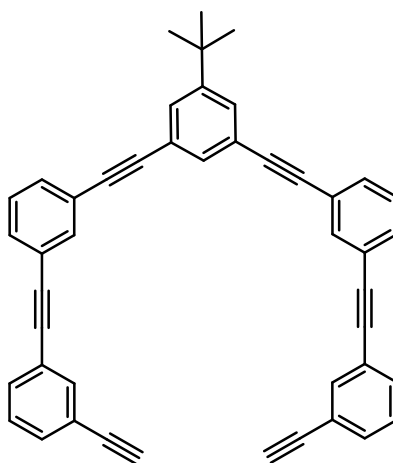


Scheme 4 – Synthesis of controlled macrocycle **8**. Reaction conditions. l) KI, H₂O₂, H₂SO₄, MeOH, 25°C, 12 h.⁸ m) NaNO₂, H₂SO₄, EtOH, Reflux, 8 h.⁹ n) Ethynyltrimethylsilane, CuI, PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂, THF/NEt₃ (2:1), 25°C, 12 h.⁹ o) KF, THF/MeOH (1:1), 25°C, 12 h.⁹



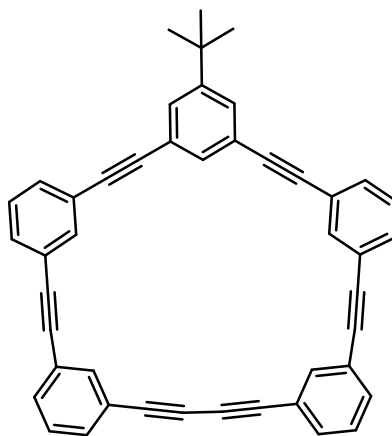
10

Synthesis of 10. To a solution of **11** (0.307 g, 1.684 mmol) in THF:NEt₃ (20 mL; 2:1), PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (18 mg, 0.0258 mmol) and CuI (10 mg, 0.052 mmol) were added, followed by the addition of **4** (1.30 g, 3.536 mmol). The mixture was stirred at RT overnight. The solution was filtered, the solvent removed from the filtrate, and dissolved in EtOAc and washed with NH₄Cl solution. The extract was then washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, and filtered. The solvent was evaporated *in vacuo*, and the residue was chromatographed using hex:EtOAc (19:1, *R_f* = 0.6) to give the product as a light-yellow solid (1.144 g, 93%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ = 7.73 (t, *J*=1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (t, *J*=1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.55-7.43 (m, 11H), 7.37-7.33 (t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.32-7.28 (t, *J*=7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.37 (s, 9H), 0.27 (s, 18H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ = 151.7, 134.7, 131.8, 131.7, 131.5, 131.5, 131.4, 129.0, 128.5, 128.4, 123.6, 123.6, 123.5, 123.3, 123.0, 104.1, 95.1, 89.7, 89.1, 89.1, 88.5, 34.7, 31.1, -0.1. HRMS (ESI-TOF): *m/z* 727.3257 ([M+H]⁺), calcd for C₅₂H₄₇Si₂: *m/z* 727.3222.



9

Synthesis of 9. Compound **10** (1.144 g, 1.573 mmol) was dissolved in MeOH:THF (20, mL, 1:1) and reacted with excess KF (0.75 g, 7.866 mmol). The reaction was left to stir overnight at RT. The reaction mixture was poured into water and extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄, filtered and the solvent evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was chromatographed using hex: EtOAc (15:1, *R_f* = 0.4) as an eluent to give product as an off-white solid (232 mg, 25%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ = 7.73 (s, 2H), 7.68 (s, 2H), 7.55-7.46 (m, 11H), 7.37-7.30 (m, 4H), 3.11 (s, 2H), 1.37 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ = 151.8, 135.2, 134.7, 132.0, 131.9, 131.9, 131.5, 131.4, 129.0, 128.6, 128.5, 123.6, 123.4, 123.4, 123.0, 122.6, 89.8, 89.2, 89.0, 88.5, 82.7, 77.9, 34.8, 31.1. HRMS (ESI-TOF): *m/z* 583.2454 ([M+H]⁺), calcd for C₄₆H₃₁: *m/z* 583.2426.



8

Synthesis of 8. Pre-macrocyclic **9** (78 mg, 0.134 mmol) was dissolved in THF:NEt₃ (130 mL, 2:1) and sparged with N₂ for 15 minutes. PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (9.0 mg, 0.013 mmol) and CuI (5.0 mg, 0.027 mmol) were added as catalysts and the mixture was stirred at RT overnight. The solution was filtered, the solvent removed from the filtrate, dissolved in EtOAc, and washed with NH₄Cl solution. The extract was then washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, and filtered. The solvent was evaporated *in vacuo*, and the residue was chromatographed using hex:Et₂O (9:1, *R_f* = 0.63) to give the product as a pink solid (13.5 mg, 17%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ = 7.97 (s, 2H), 7.85 (s, 2H), 7.69 (s, 1H), 7.54-7.44 (m, 8H), 7.37-7.30 (m, 6H), 1.37 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ = 151.8, 139.5, 136.8, 133.0, 130.8, 130.6, 130.1, 129.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 123.8, 123.7, 123.3, 123.1, 122.3, 90.2, 90.0, 89.4, 88.6, 82.5, 75.2, 34.8, 31.2. HRMS (EI-TOF): *m/z* 580.2187 ([MH]⁺), calcd for C₄₆H₂₈: *m/z* 580.2191.

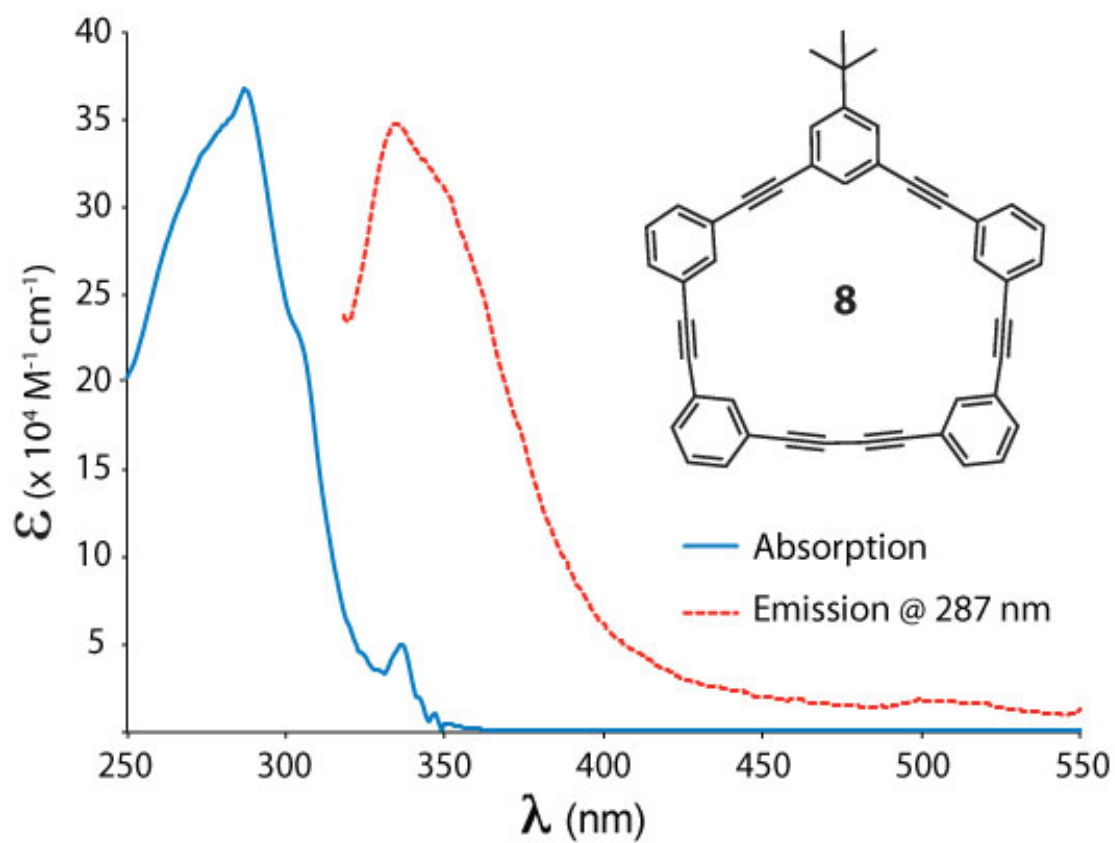


Figure S1. Absorption and emission of controlled macrocycle **8**.

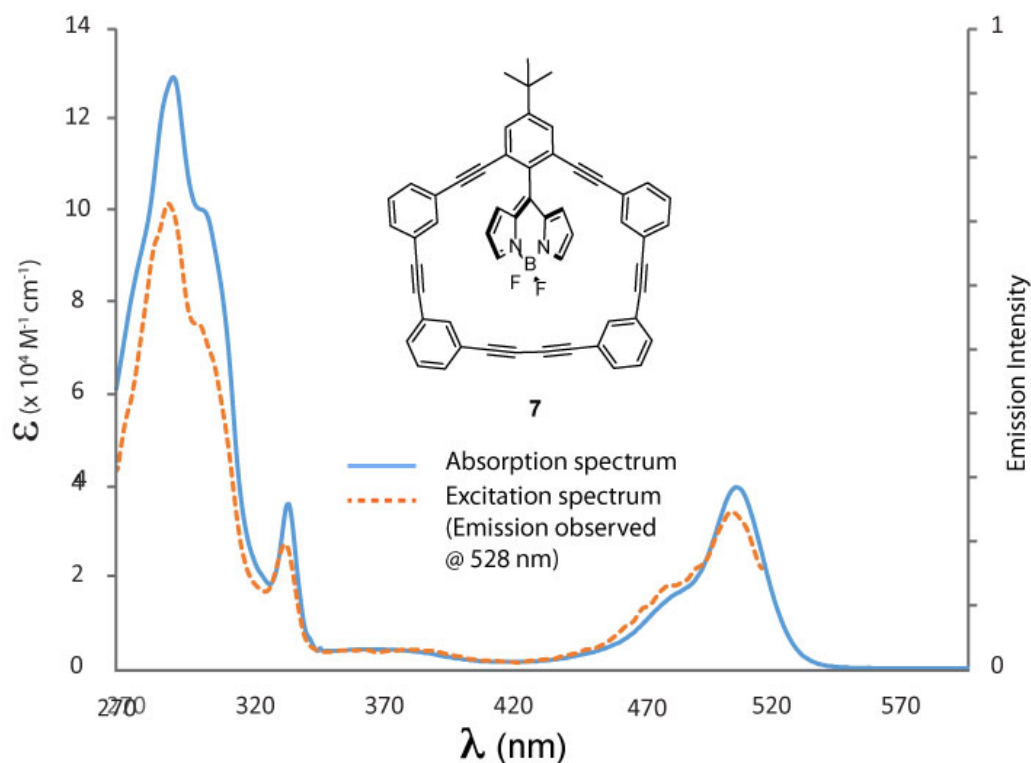


Figure S2. Absorption and excitation (emission observed @ 528nm) spectra of **7** in DCM.

Table S1. Absorption and Emission Data for the BODIPY fluorophore in benchmark molecule **1** and macrocycle derivative **7**.

Compound	Absorption ^a		Fluorescence ^b	
	λ_{max} (nm)	$(\epsilon \times 10^4 M^{-1} cm^{-1})$	λ_{em} (nm)	Quantum Yield ^c
1	515	3.5	533	0.12
7	510	4.0	528	0.89

^a Low energy absorptions of BODIPY in DCM from UV-Vis. ^b Measurements were made in DCM (dichloromethane). ^c Quantum yield for BODIPY (**1**) and BODIPY-macrocycle (**7**), were determined at 22°C relative to Rhodamine 6G in ethanol (QY = 0.95) using a Luminescence Spectrophotometer LS50B (Perkin Elmer).

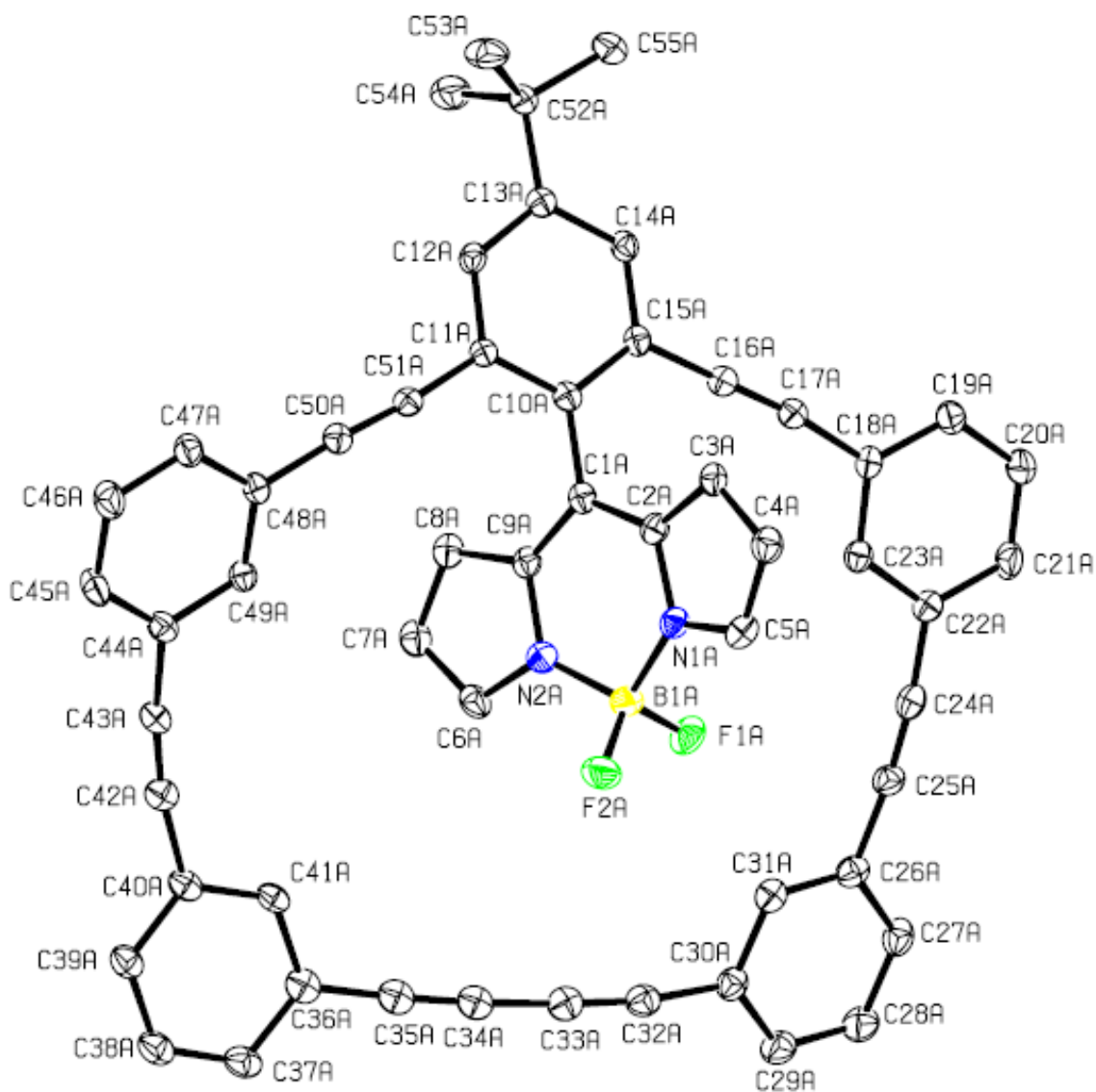
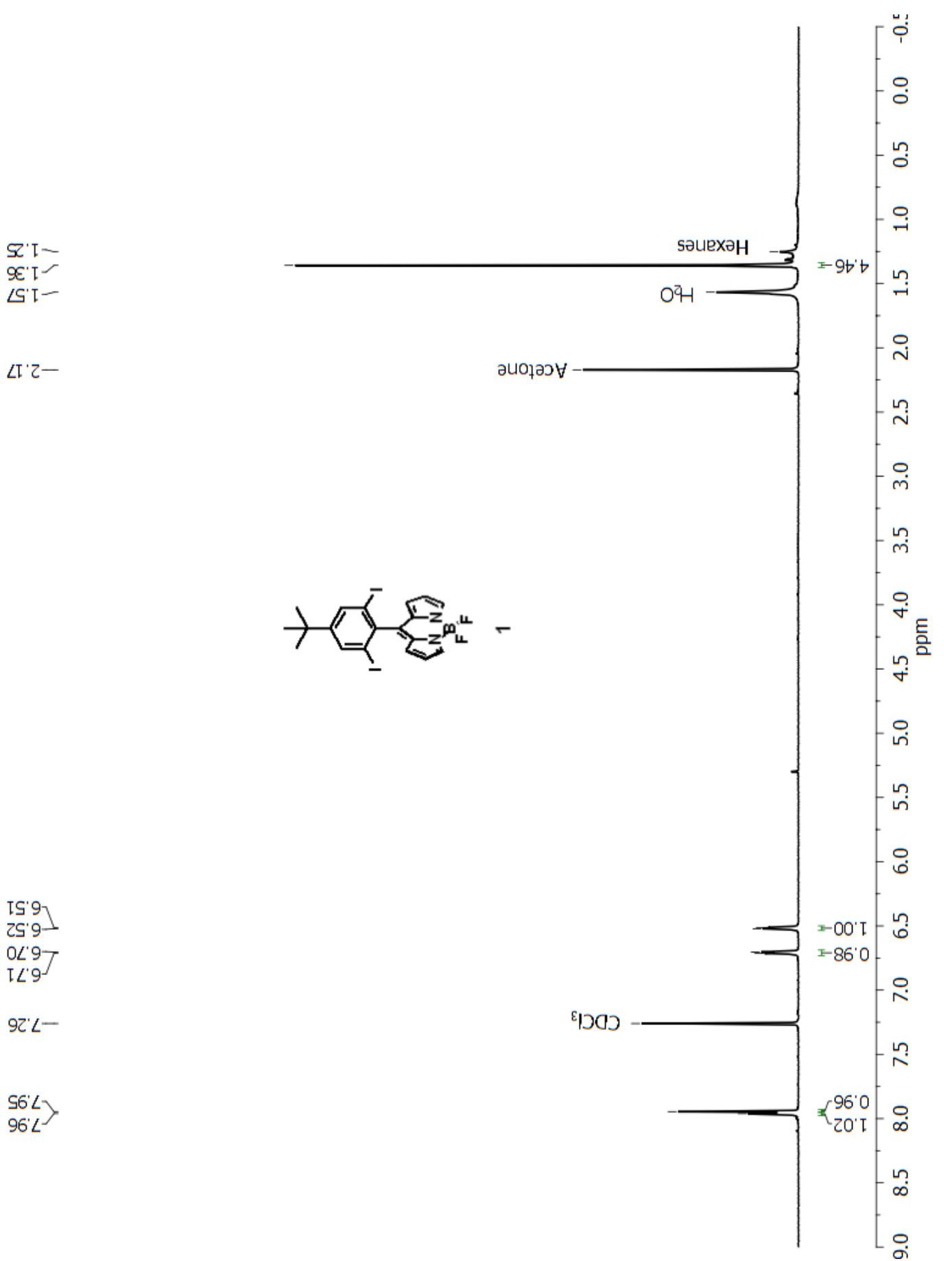
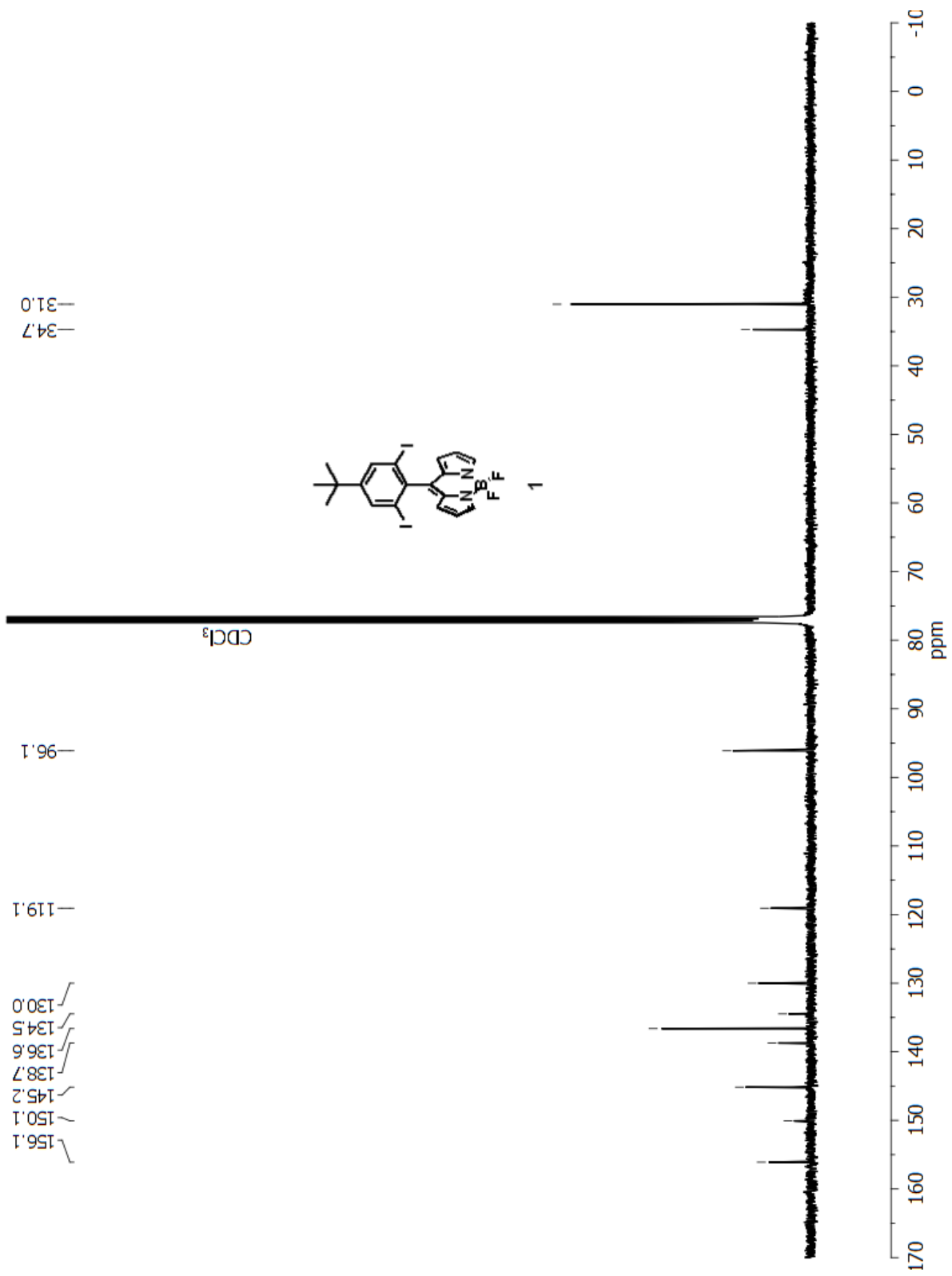
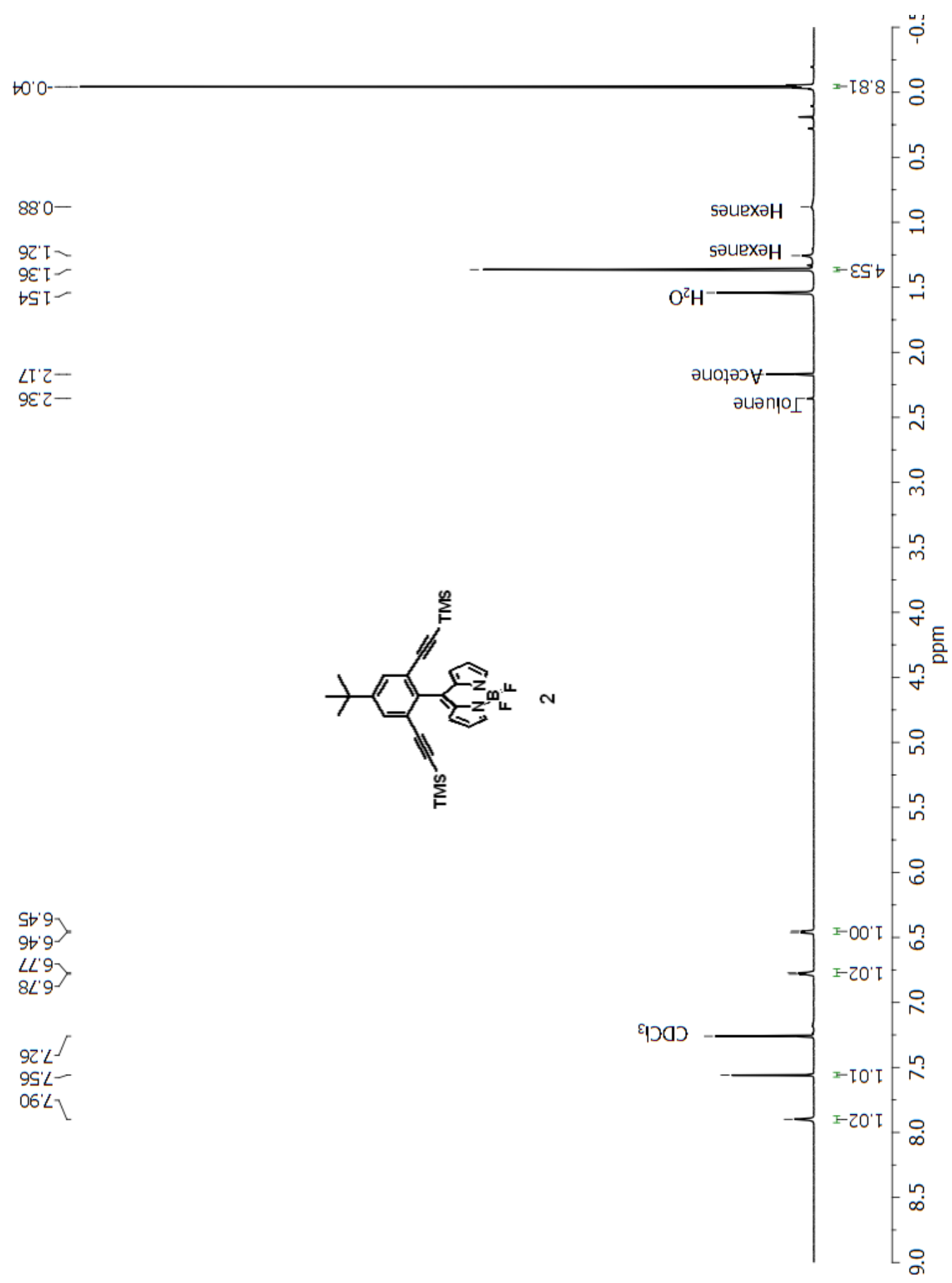
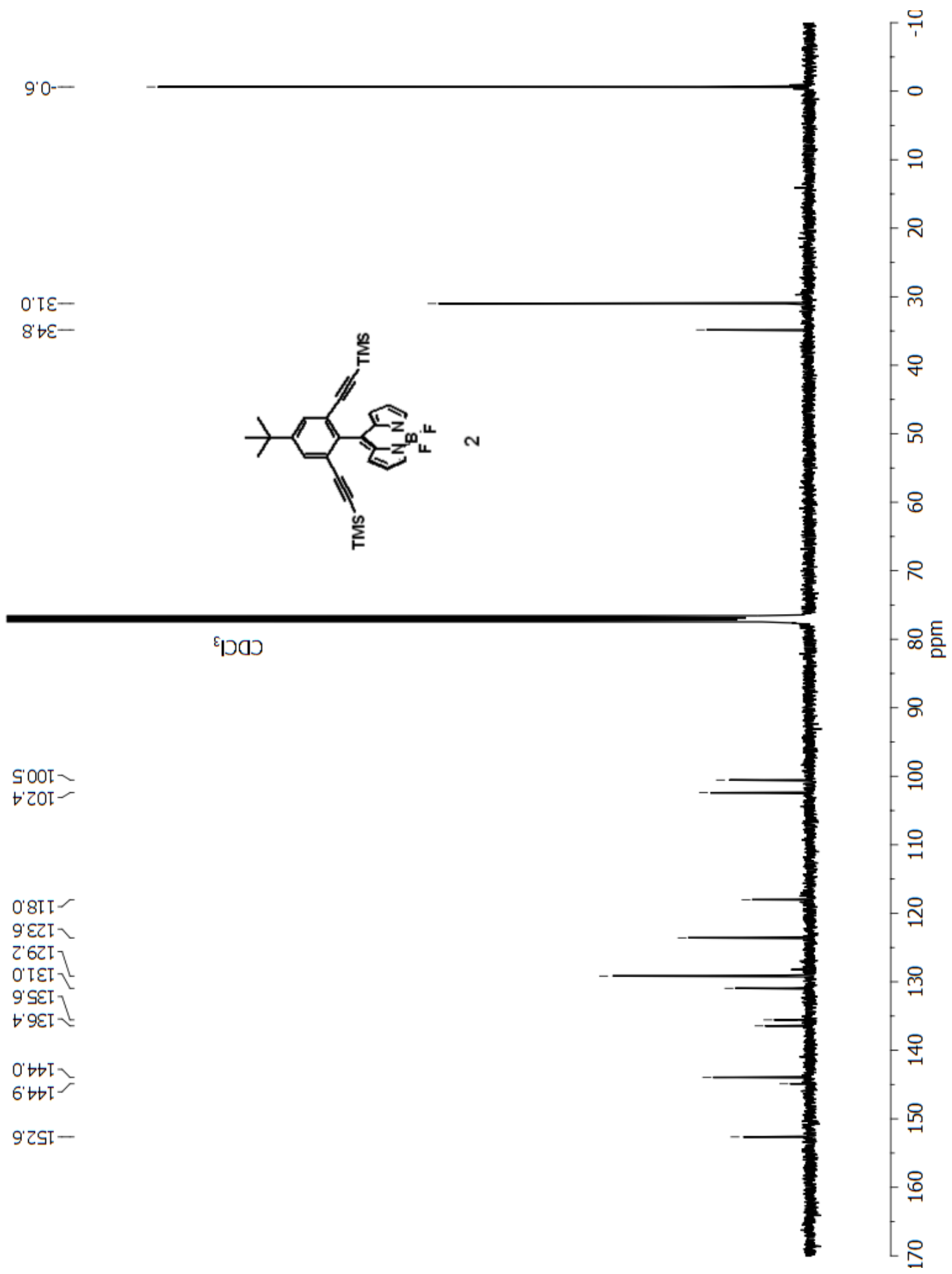


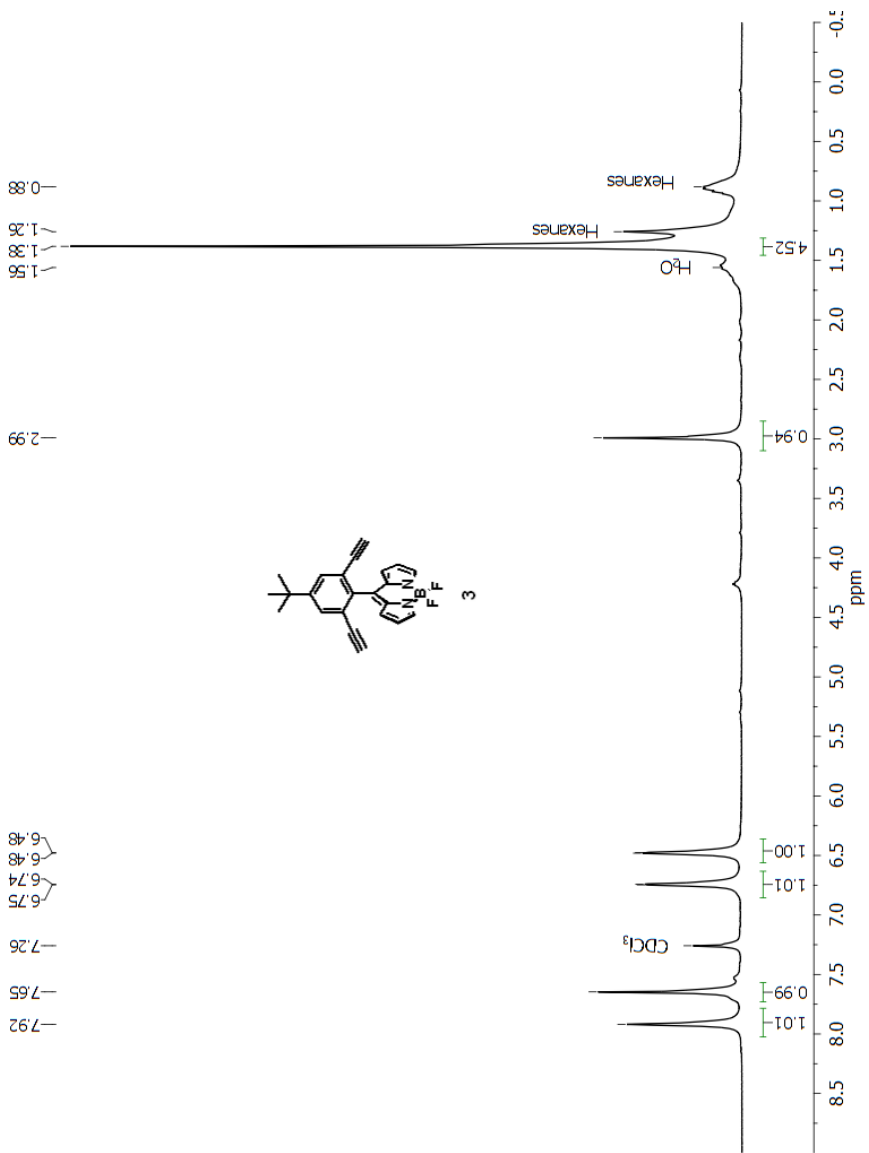
Figure S3. Crystal structure of BODIPY-macrocyclic 7.

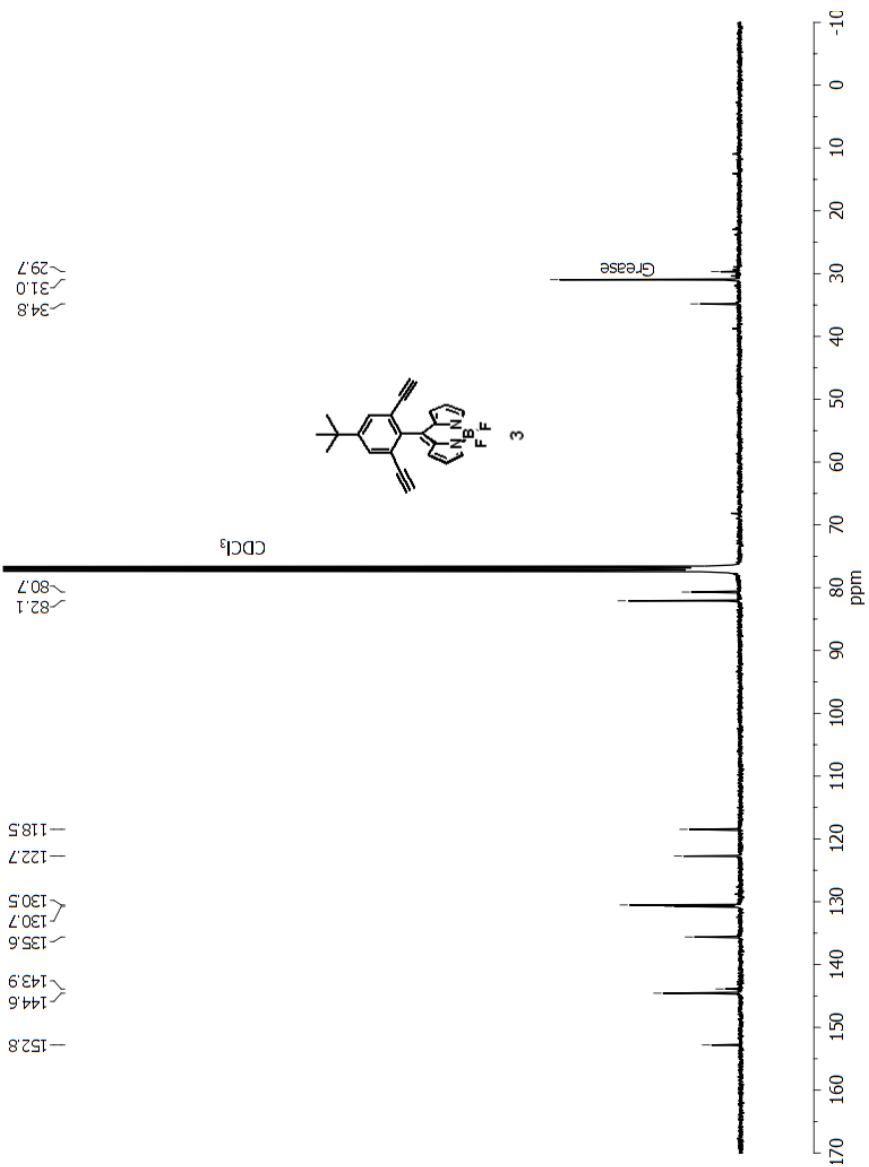


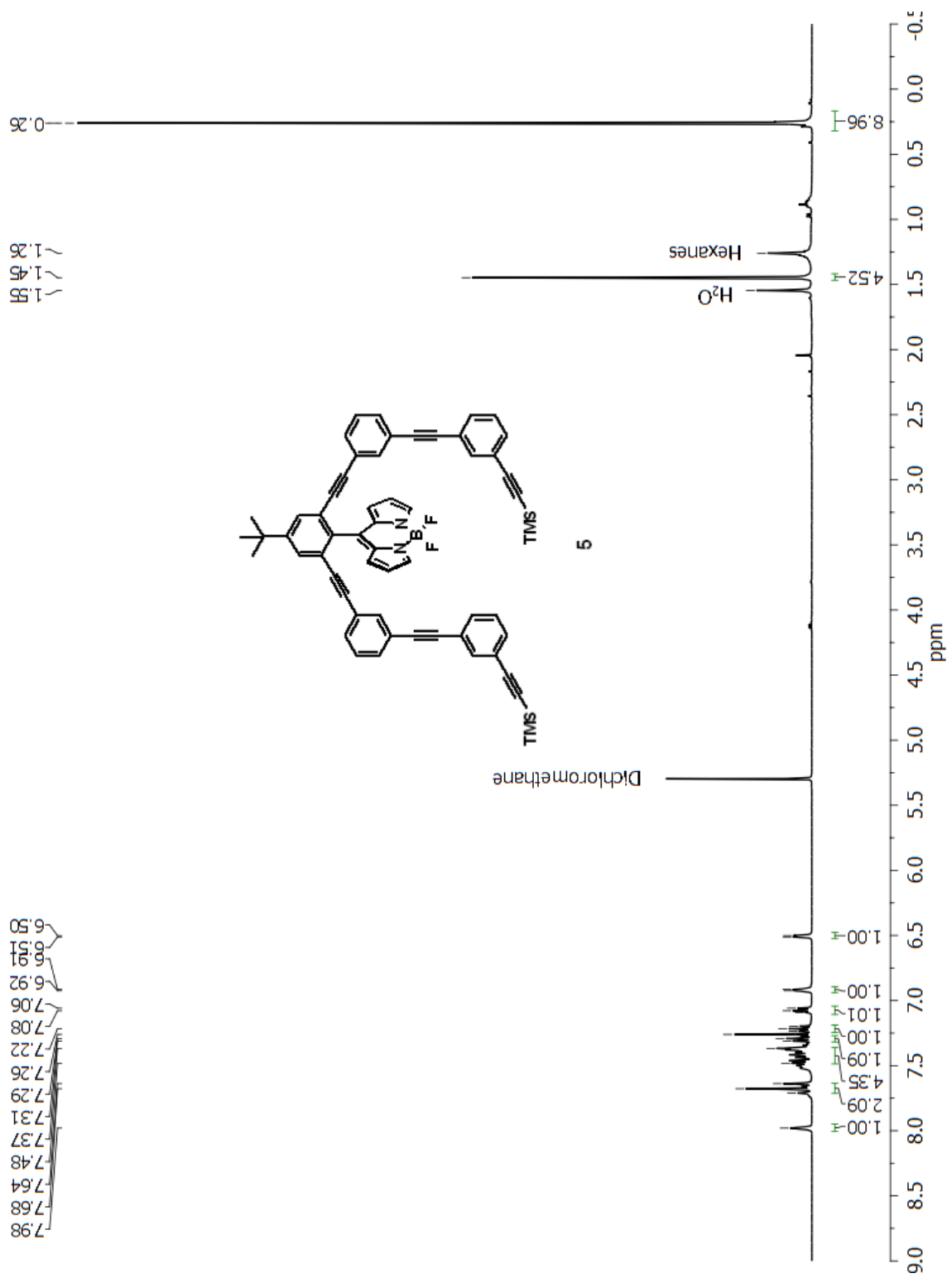


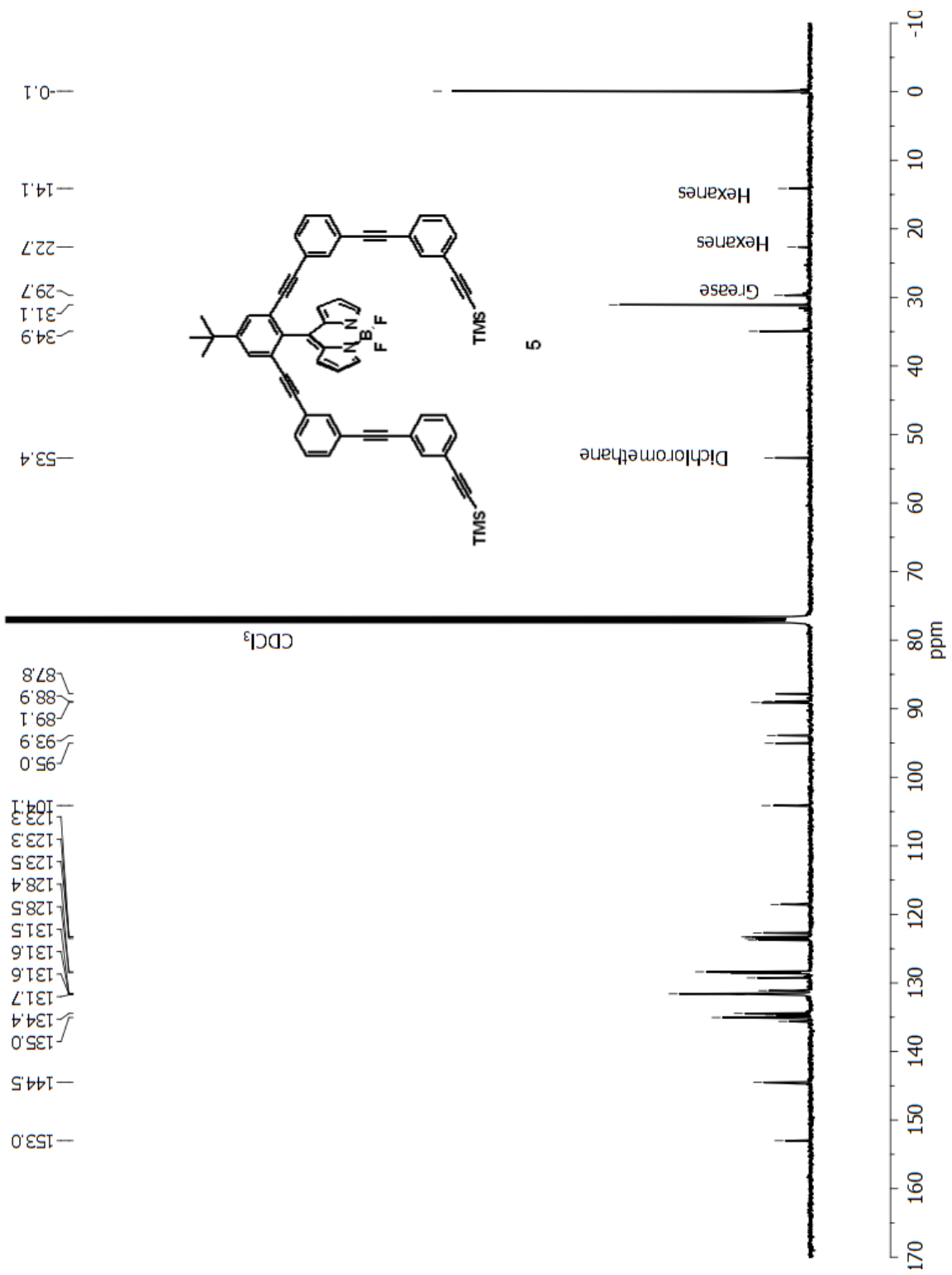


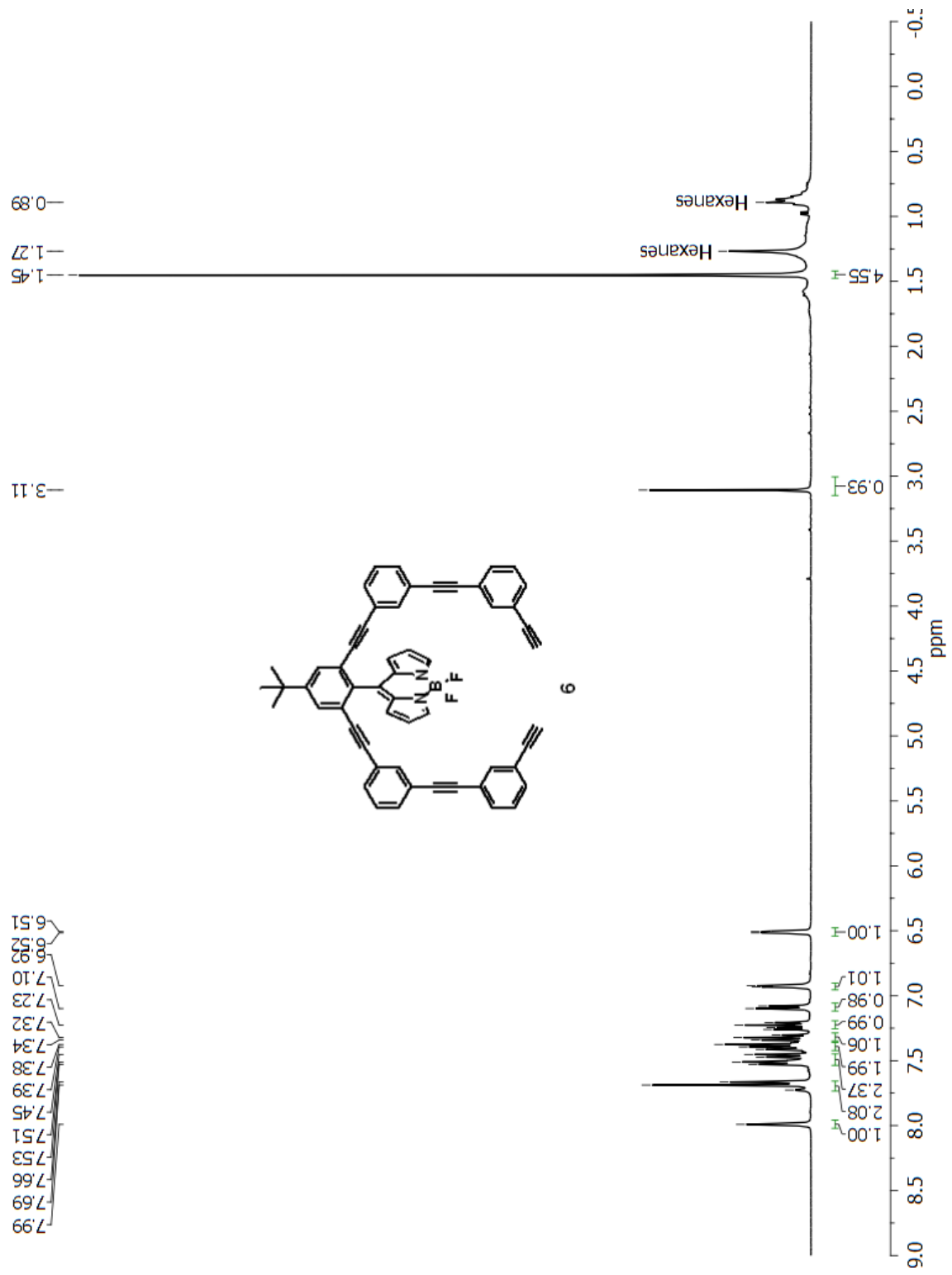


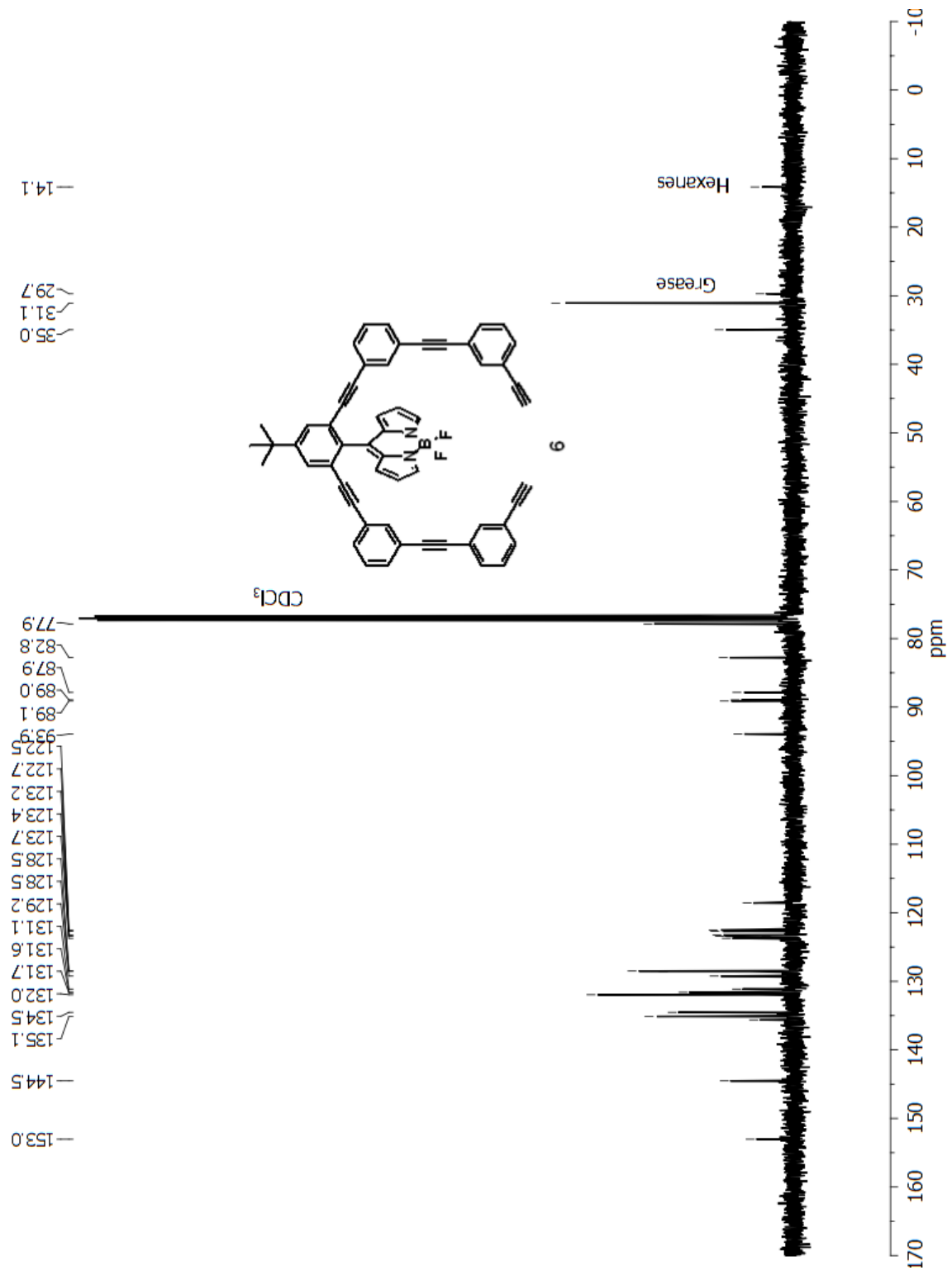


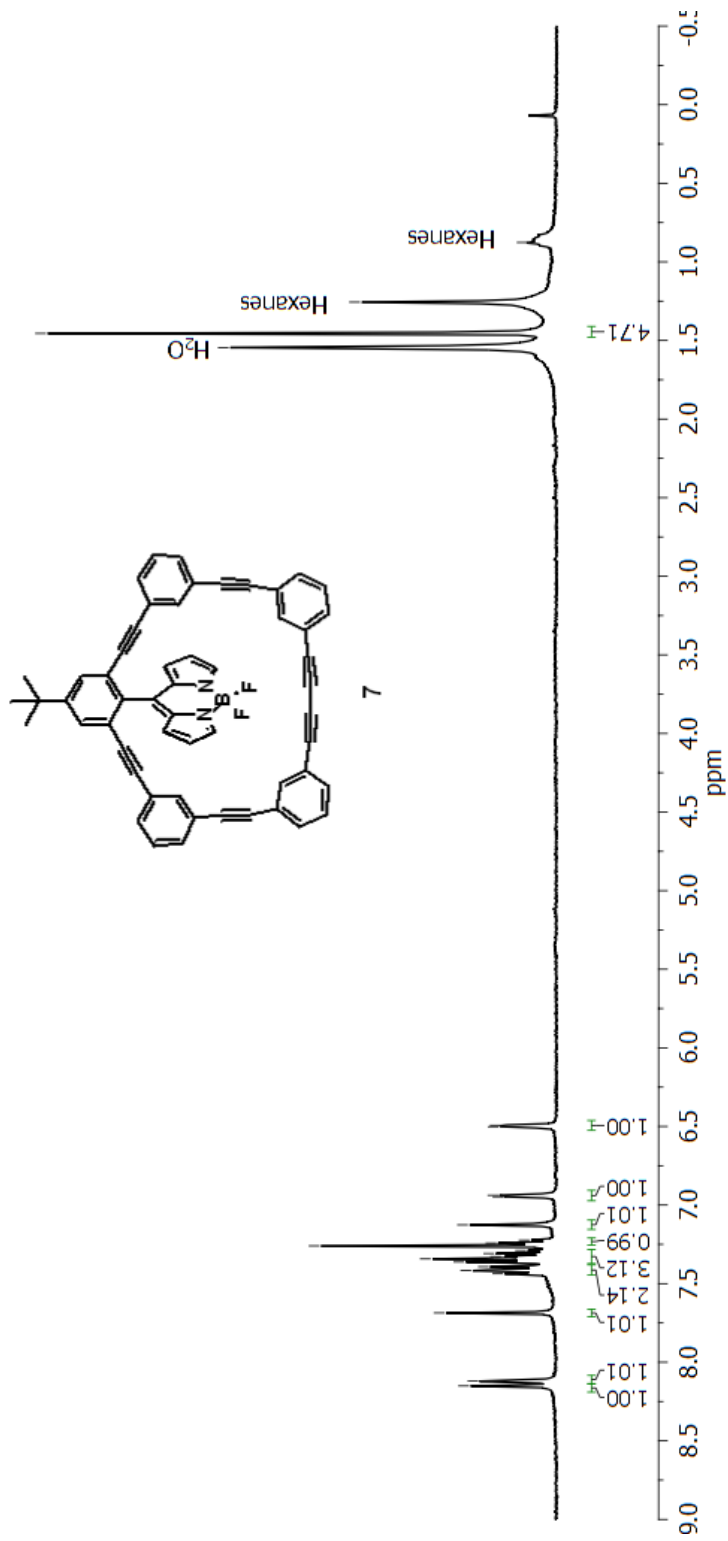






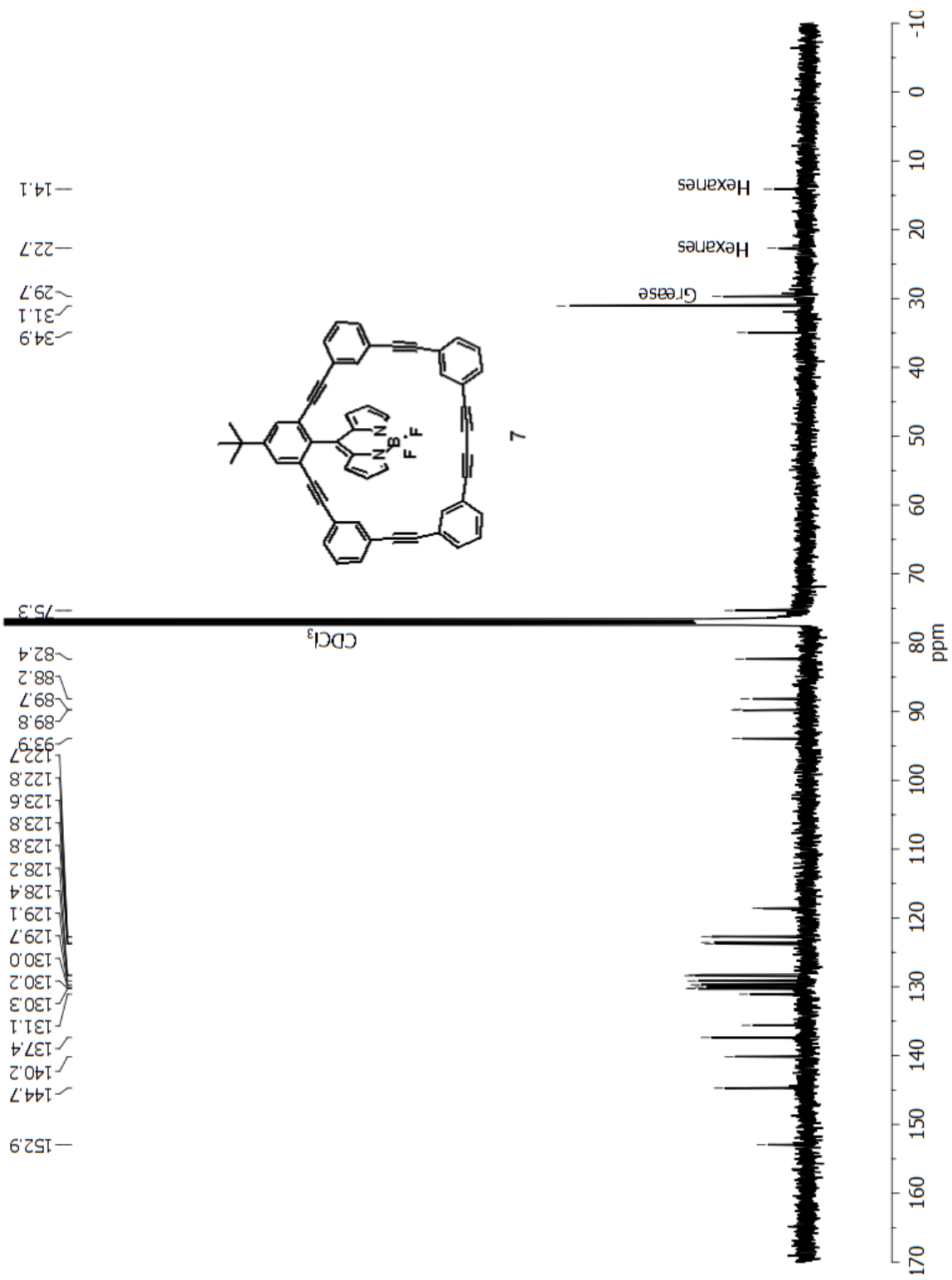


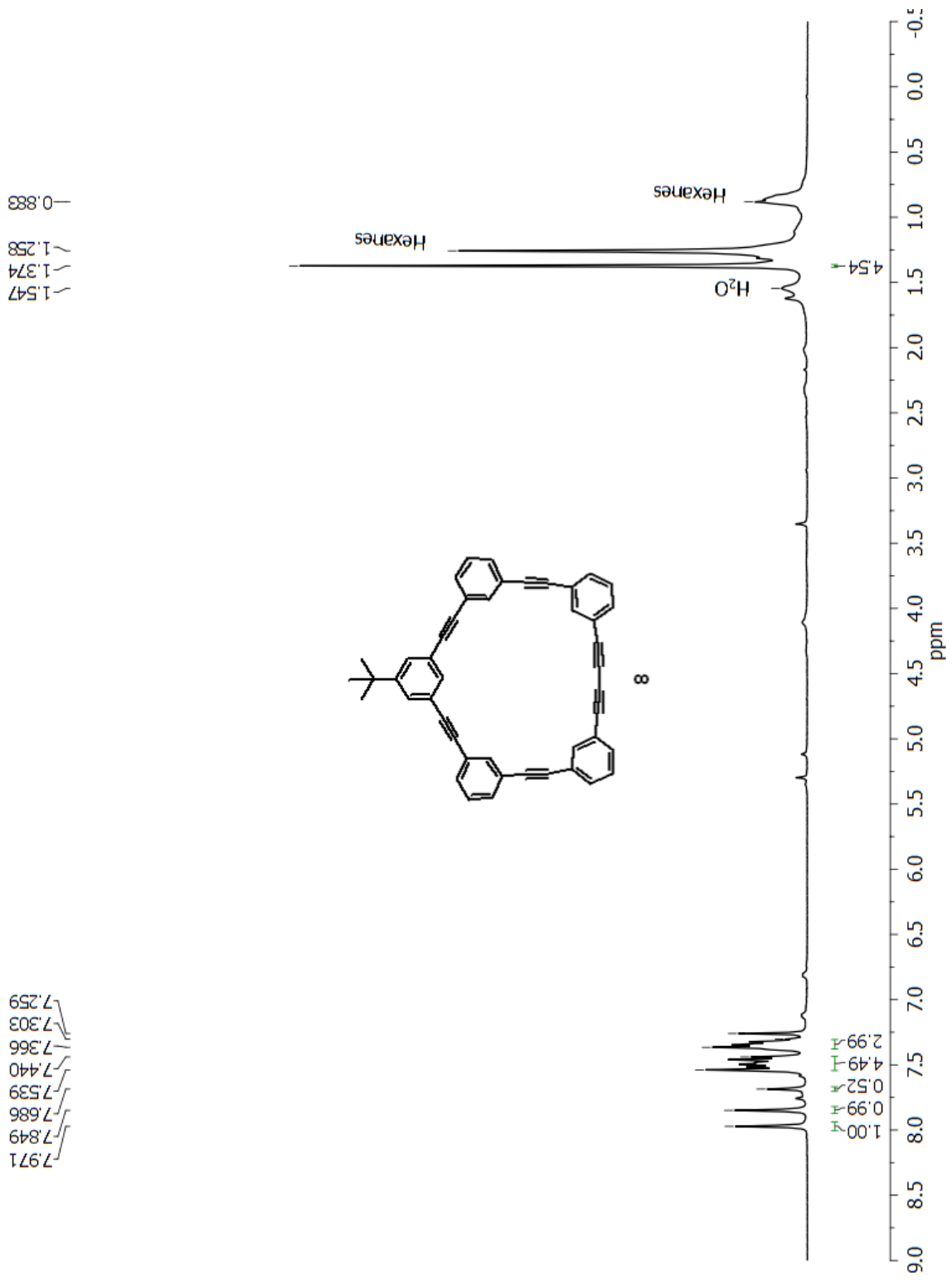


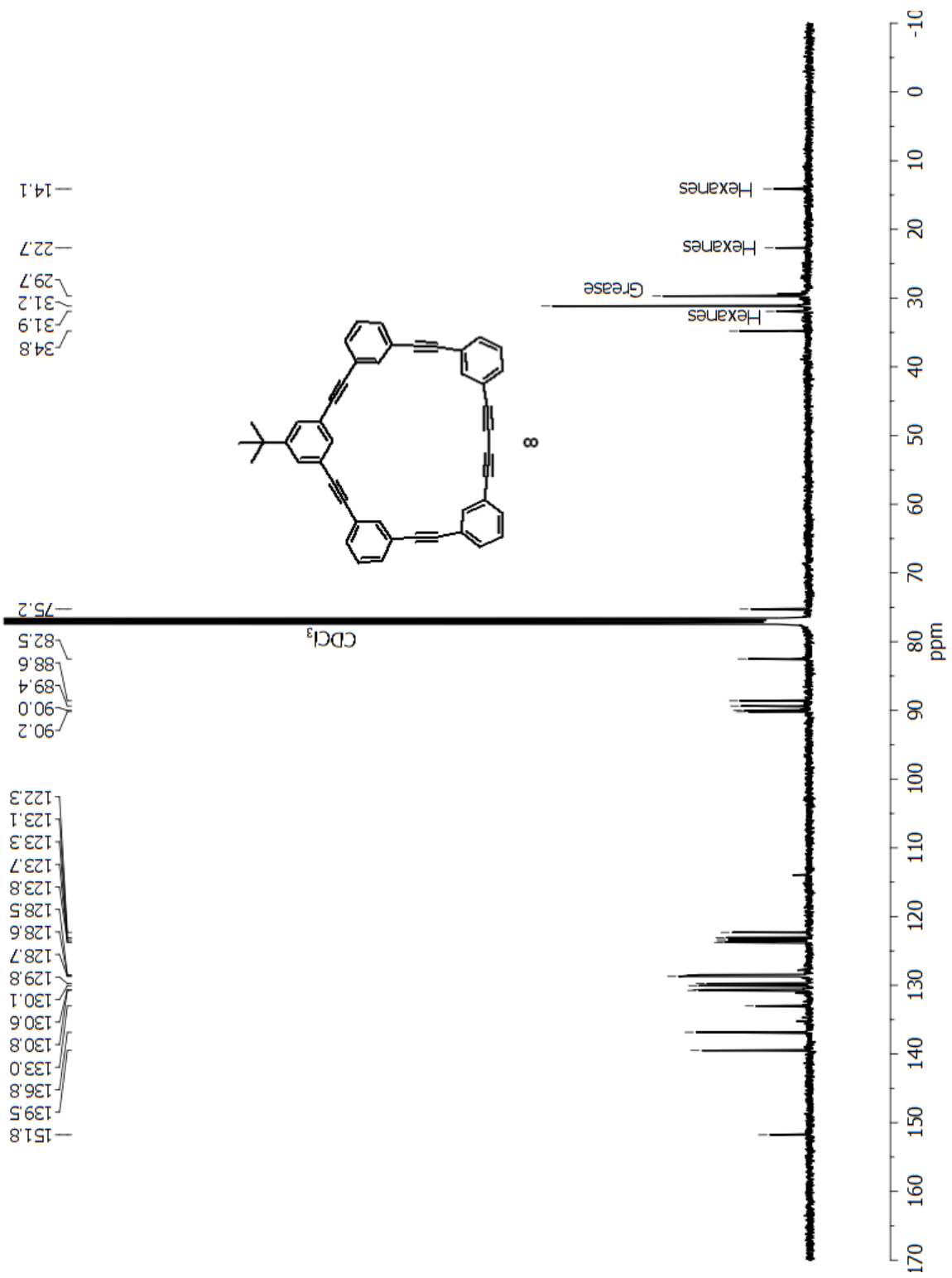


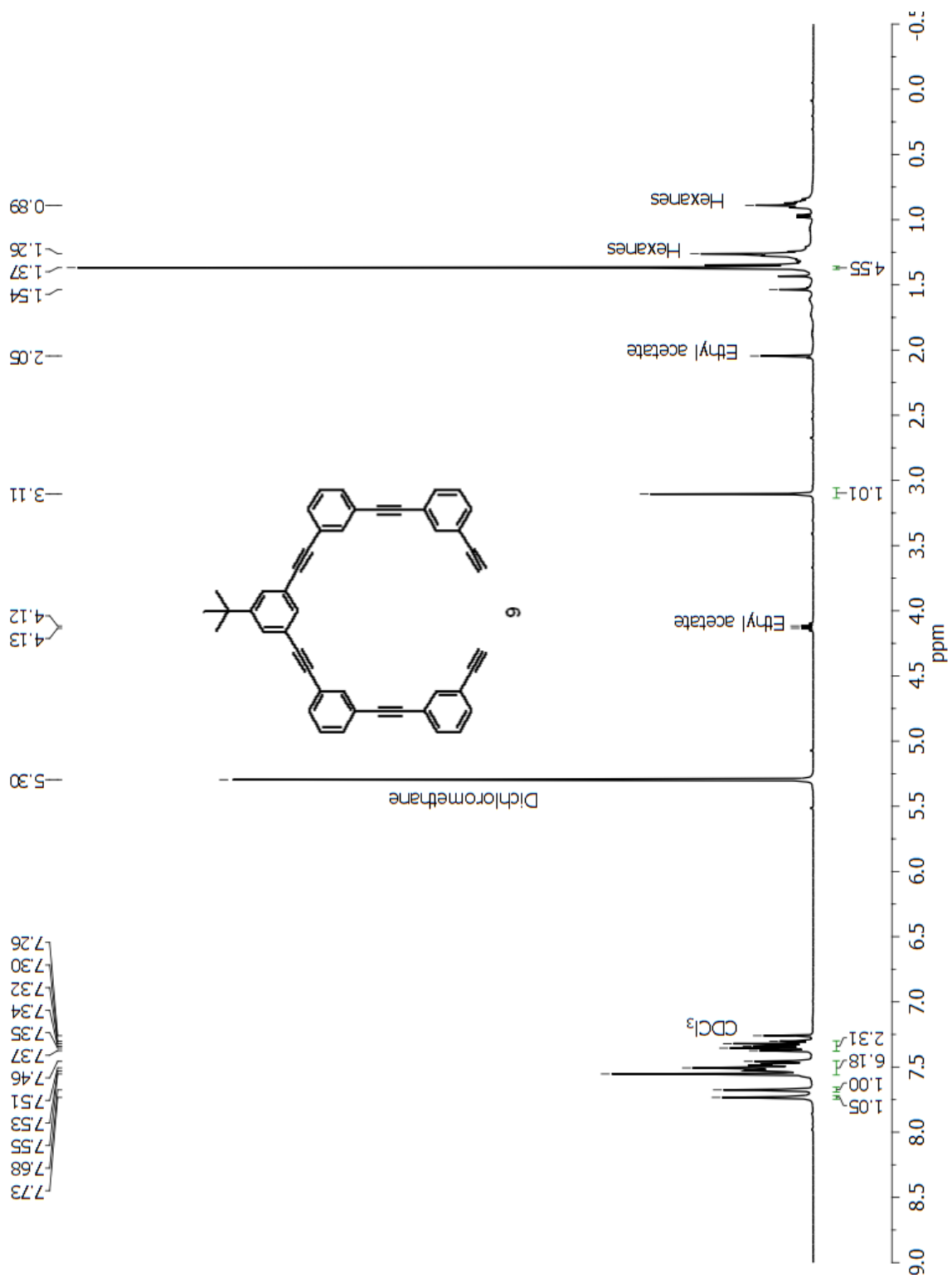
0.88
1.26
1.46
1.55

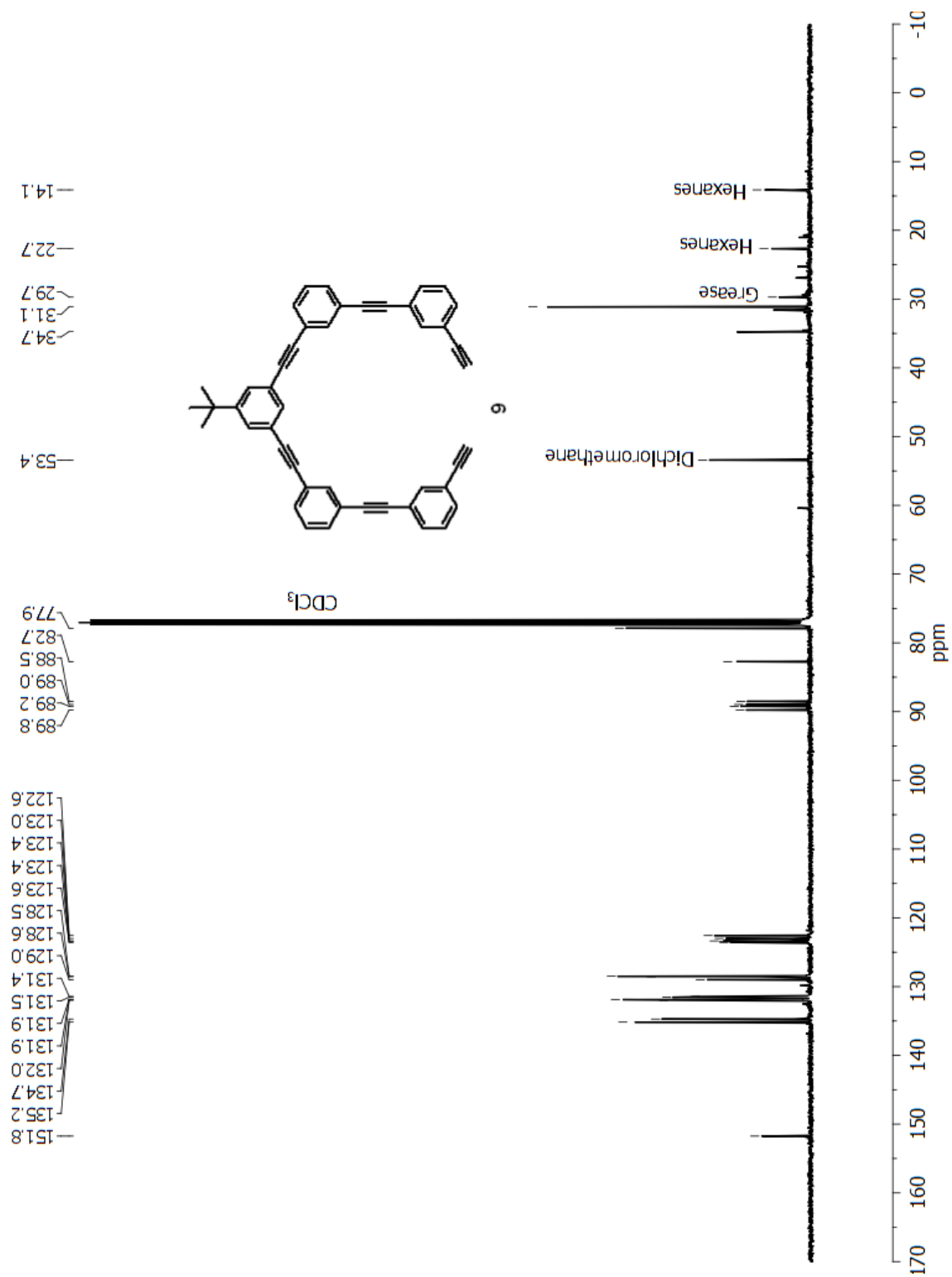
6.49
6.50
7.13
7.26
7.34
7.36
7.39
7.42
7.69
8.12
8.15

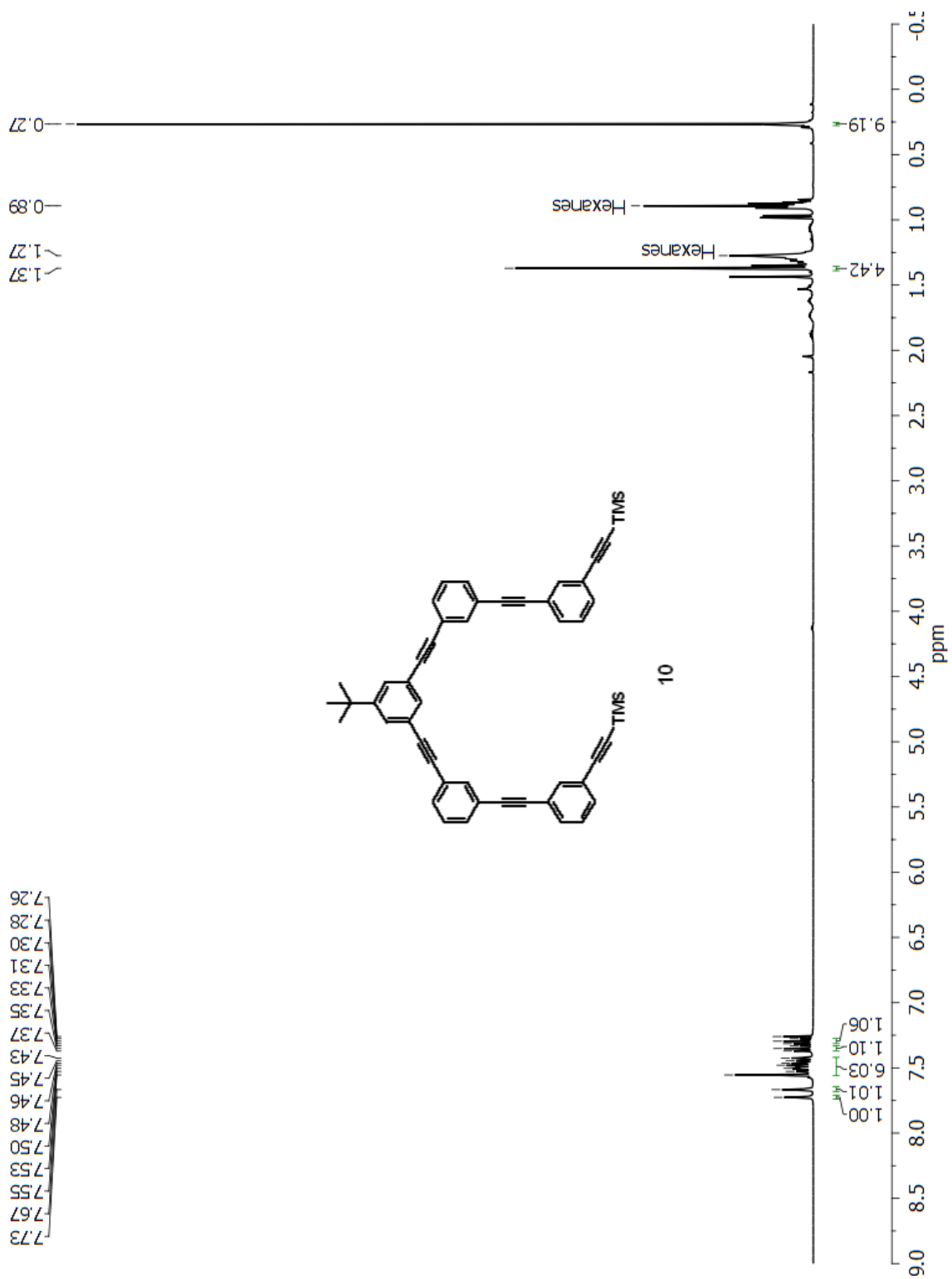


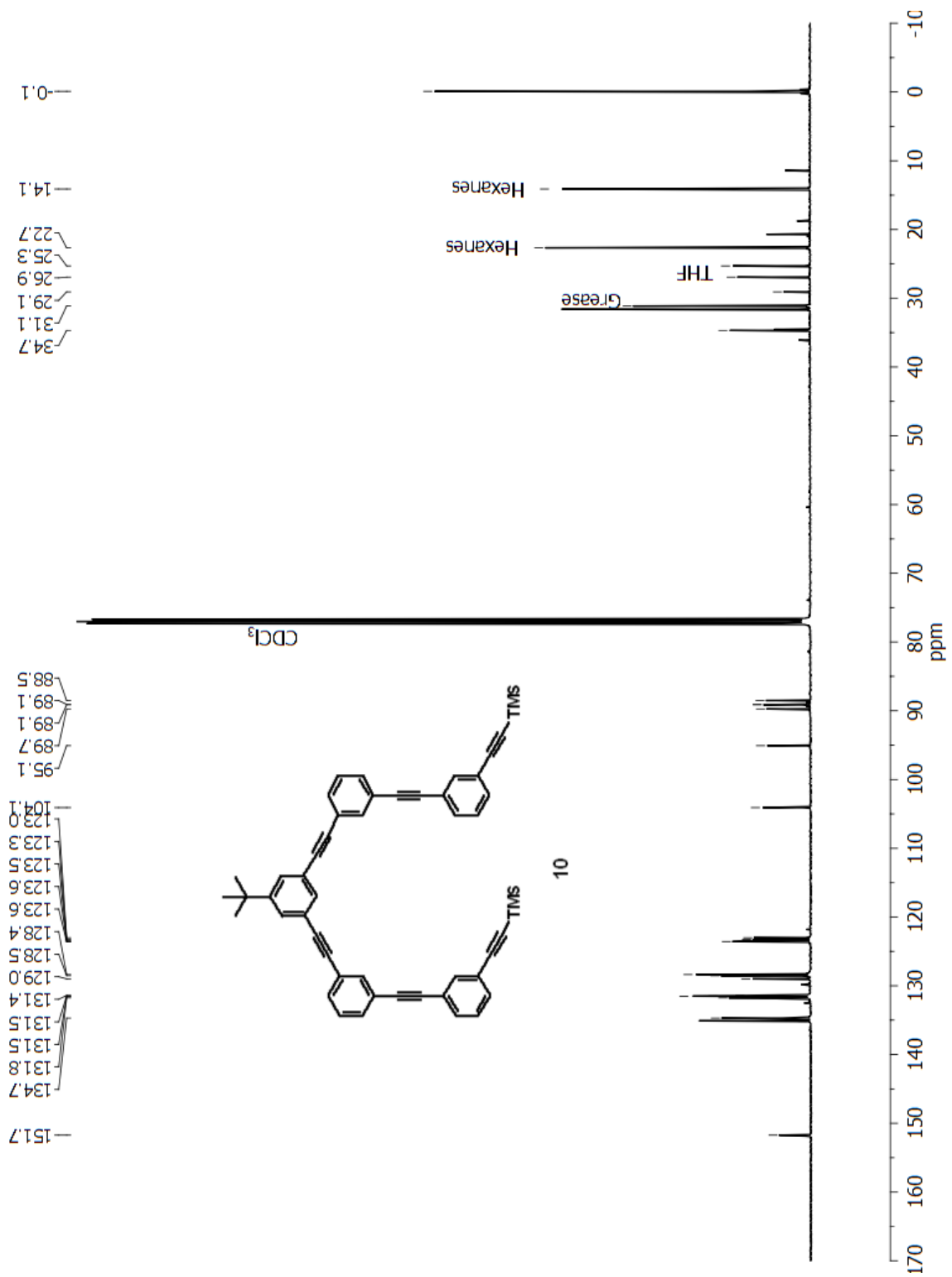












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