

Supporting information for:

## Controlling ring-chain tautomerism through steric hindrance

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**Table S1.** Diffraction data for  $E\text{-H}_2\text{L}^1_{\text{SB}}$  and  $rac\text{-H}_2\text{L}^2_{\text{TQ}}$  and  $rac\text{-H}_2\text{L}^2_{\text{TQ}}\cdot\text{HCCl}_3$ 

|                                                  | $E\text{-H}_2\text{L}^1_{\text{SB}}$                               | $rac\text{-H}_2\text{L}^2_{\text{TQ}}$                             | $rac\text{-H}_2\text{L}^2_{\text{TQ}}\cdot\text{HCCl}_3$                   |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Formula                                          | $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}$           | $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_4\text{O}_3\text{S}$           | $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_4\text{O}_3\text{S}\cdot\text{CHCl}_3$ |
| Molecular weight                                 | 396.45                                                             | 464.57                                                             | 583.94                                                                     |
| Crystal system                                   | Triclinic                                                          | Triclinic                                                          | Triclinic                                                                  |
| Space group                                      | $P\bar{1}$                                                         | $P\bar{1}$                                                         | $P\bar{1}$                                                                 |
| $a$ (Å)                                          | 8.979 (4)                                                          | 8.7401 (12)                                                        | 10.0744 (8)                                                                |
| $b$ (Å)                                          | 10.358 (5)                                                         | 10.3466 (13)                                                       | 11.5179 (8)                                                                |
| $c$ (Å)                                          | 12.109 (6)                                                         | 12.7780 (18)                                                       | 13.2903 (9)                                                                |
| $\alpha$ (°)                                     | 68.918 (5)                                                         | 91.204 (6)                                                         | 64.902 (4)                                                                 |
| $\beta$ (°)                                      | 67.153 (4)                                                         | 91.180 (6)                                                         | 84.007 (5)                                                                 |
| $\gamma$ (°)                                     | 88.425 (6)                                                         | 91.168 (5)                                                         | 87.326 (5)                                                                 |
| $Z$                                              | 2                                                                  | 2                                                                  | 2                                                                          |
| Volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )                         | 960.1 (8)                                                          | 1154.8 (3)                                                         | 1388.91(18)                                                                |
| Temperature                                      | 293(1)                                                             | 100(2)                                                             | 100(2)                                                                     |
| Density (calculated, Mg/m <sup>3</sup> )         | 1.371                                                              | 1.336                                                              | 1.396                                                                      |
| Radiation type, wavelength                       | Cu $K\alpha$ , $\lambda = 1.54184$ Å                               | Mo $K\alpha$ , $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å                               | Mo $K\alpha$ , $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å                                       |
| Absorption coefficient (mm <sup>-1</sup> )       | 1.76                                                               | 0.962                                                              | 1.051                                                                      |
| $F(000)$                                         | 416                                                                | 492                                                                | 608                                                                        |
| Habit, colour                                    | Prism, orange                                                      | Plate, colourless                                                  | Prism, colourless                                                          |
| Crystal size (mm <sup>3</sup> )                  | $0.39 \times 0.28 \times 0.11$                                     | $0.28 \times 0.25 \times 0.08$                                     | $0.33 \times 0.28 \times 0.11$                                             |
| $\theta$ range for data collection               | 4.3 to 74.1                                                        | 1.6 to 23.35°                                                      | 1.7 to 26.0                                                                |
| Index ranges                                     | $0 \leq h \leq 11$<br>$-12 \leq k \leq 12$<br>$-13 \leq l \leq 15$ | $-10 \leq h \leq 10$<br>$-12 \leq k \leq 12$<br>$0 \leq l \leq 16$ | $-12 \leq h \leq 12$<br>$-12 \leq k \leq 12$<br>$0 \leq l \leq 16$         |
| Reflections collected                            | 4133                                                               | 16285                                                              | 29871                                                                      |
| Independent reflections                          | 3877 ( $R_{\text{int}} = 0.017$ )                                  | 4138 ( $R_{\text{int}} = 0.090$ )                                  | 5483 ( $R_{\text{int}} = 0.043$ )                                          |
| Data / restraints / parameters                   | 3877 / 0 / 272                                                     | 4138 / 0 / 310                                                     | 5483 / 0 / 543                                                             |
| Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$                         | 1.068                                                              | 1.047                                                              | 1.058                                                                      |
| Final $R$ indices [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ]           | $R_1 = 0.0459$ , $wR_2 = 0.0594$                                   | $R_1 = 0.0692$ , $wR_2 = 0.1155$                                   | $R_1 = 0.0451$ , $wR_2 = 0.0694$                                           |
| $R$ indices (all data)                           | $R_1 = 0.1280$ , $wR_2 = 0.1375$                                   | $R_1 = 0.1565$ , $wR_2 = 0.1831$                                   | $R_1 = 0.1058$ , $wR_2 = 0.1197$                                           |
| Largest diff. peak and hole (e.Å <sup>-3</sup> ) | 0.400 and -0.296                                                   | 0.389 and -0.527                                                   | 0.568 and -0.501                                                           |

**Table S2.** Selected bond lengths and angles for H<sub>2</sub>L<sup>1</sup><sub>SB</sub>

| Atoms  | Distances  | Atoms      | Angles     |
|--------|------------|------------|------------|
| C1-S1  | 1.761(2)   | N1-S1-C1   | 106.65(8)  |
| S1-O2  | 1.4278(15) | C7-N1-S1   | 117.00(13) |
| S1-O1  | 1.4355(14) | N1-C7-C8   | 114.60(14) |
| S1-N1  | 1.6177(19) | C12-C13-N2 | 122.05(16) |
| N1-C7  | 1.474(2)   | C8-C13-N2  | 117.61(14) |
| C13-N2 | 1.420(2)   | N2-C14-C15 | 121.38(14) |
| C14-N2 | 1.284(2)   | O3-C20-C15 | 122.23(15) |
| C20-O3 | 1.3312(19) | O4-C19-C18 | 119.64(16) |
| C19-O4 | 1.353(2)   |            |            |

*H bond scheme*

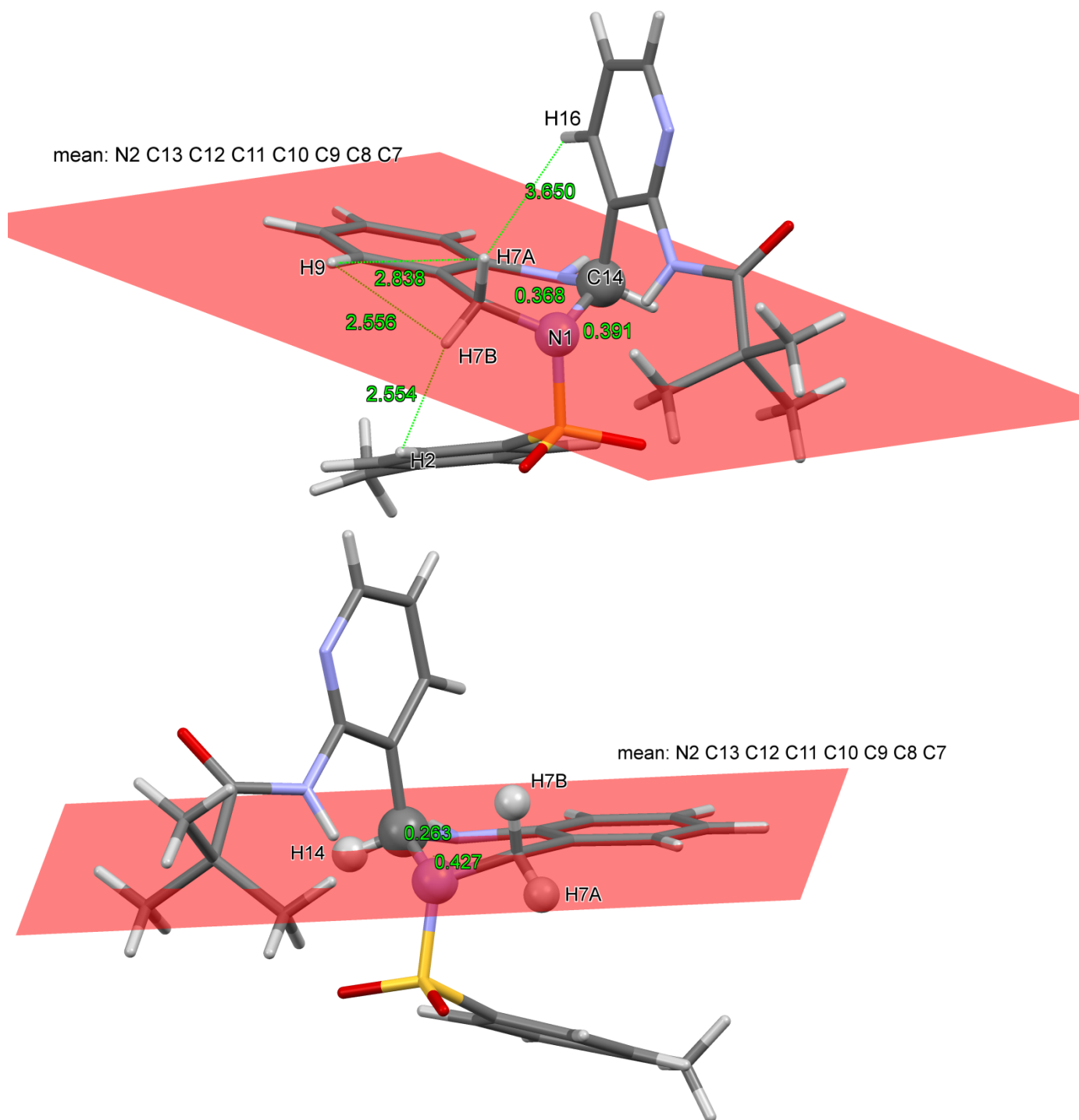
| <i>D</i> -H $\cdots$ <i>A</i>      | <i>D</i> —H | H $\cdots$ <i>A</i> | <i>D</i> $\cdots$ <i>A</i> |
|------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| N1-H1A $\cdots$ O1 <sup>i</sup>    | 0.84 (3)    | 2.28 (3)            | 3.107 (2)                  |
| O4-H4P $\cdots$ O3 <sup>ii</sup>   | 0.85 (4)    | 1.98 (4)            | 2.747 (2)                  |
| O3-H3P $\cdots$ N2                 | 0.92 (7)    | 1.68(7)             | 2.561(2)                   |
| N2-H3P' $\cdots$ O3                | 0.76 (6)    | 1.93(7)             | 2.561(2)                   |
| C14-H14 $\cdots$ O2 <sup>iii</sup> | 0.93        | 2.59                | 3.492 (2)                  |
| C18-H18 $\cdots$ O1 <sup>iv</sup>  | 0.93        | 2.61                | 3.464 (3)                  |

(i) -x+2, -y-1, -z+1; (ii) -x+2, -y, - (iii) -x+1, -y, -z+1; (iv)

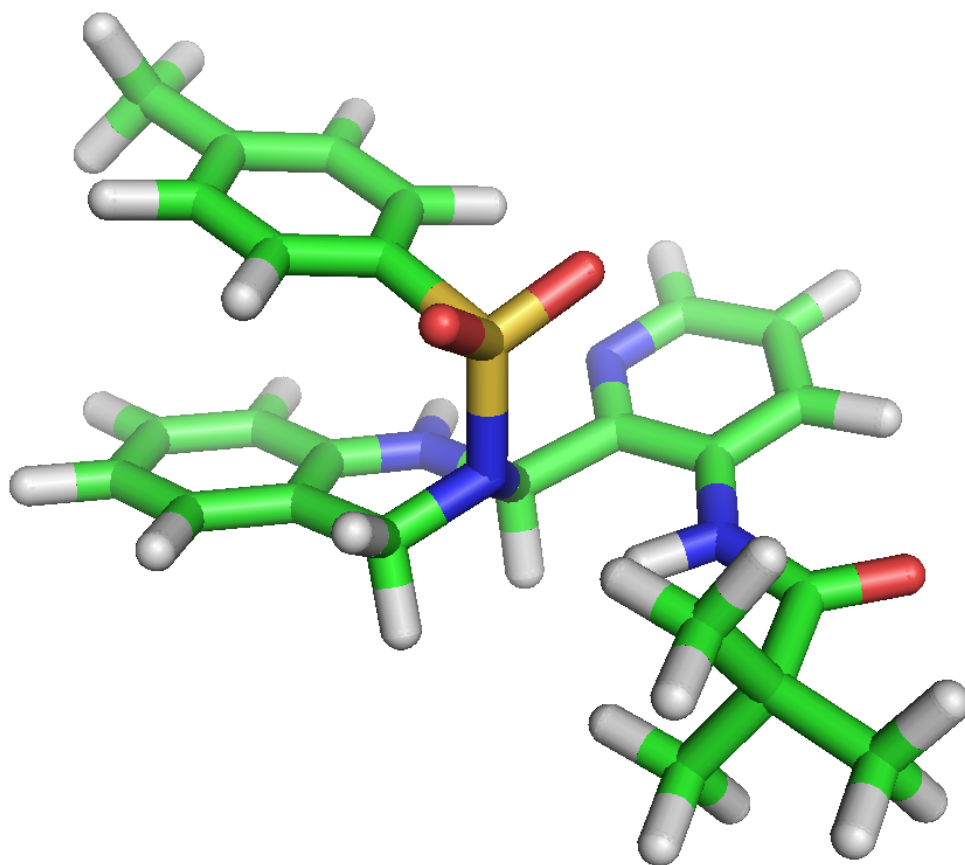
**Table S3.** Selected bond lengths and angles for *rac*-H<sub>2</sub>L<sup>2</sup><sub>TQ</sub> and *rac*-H<sub>2</sub>L<sup>2</sup><sub>TQ</sub>·HCCl<sub>3</sub>

| Atoms                                                                                    | Distance <sup>[a]</sup>                     |                                                                | Atoms        | Angle <sup>[b]</sup>                        |                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                          | H <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> <sub>TQ</sub> | H <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> <sub>TQ</sub> ·HCCl <sub>3</sub> |              | H <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> <sub>TQ</sub> | H <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> <sub>TQ</sub> ·HCCl <sub>3</sub> |
| S1-O1                                                                                    | 1.430 (3)                                   | 1.4340 (18)                                                    | O1-S1-O2     | 120.12 (15)                                 | 119.76 (11)                                                    |
| S1-O2                                                                                    | 1.435 (3)                                   | 1.4330 (17)                                                    | N1-S1-C1     | 107.08 (16)                                 | 108.33 (10)                                                    |
| S1-N1                                                                                    | 1.666 (3)                                   | 1.669 (2)                                                      | C7-N1-S1     | 115.4 (2)                                   | 116.24 (15)                                                    |
| N1-C7                                                                                    | 1.491 (4)                                   | 1.486 (3)                                                      | C7-N1-C14    | 111.3 (3)                                   | 110.91 (18)                                                    |
| N1-C14                                                                                   | 1.479 (5)                                   | 1.492 (3)                                                      | C14-N1-S1    | 117.5 (2)                                   | 115.49 (15)                                                    |
| C13-N2                                                                                   | 1.392 (5)                                   | 1.391 (3)                                                      | C13-N2-C14   | 118.1 (3)                                   | 118.33 (19)                                                    |
| N2-C14                                                                                   | 1.447 (4)                                   | 1.432 (3)                                                      | N2-C14-N1    | 110.2 (3)                                   | 109.22 (18)                                                    |
| C18-N3                                                                                   | 1.347 (4)                                   | 1.339 (3)                                                      | C18-N3-C19   | 117.4 (3)                                   | 117.6 (2)                                                      |
| N3-C19                                                                                   | 1.320 (5)                                   | 1.335 (3)                                                      | N3-C19-N4    | 116.2 (3)                                   | 116.9 (2)                                                      |
| C19-N4                                                                                   | 1.427 (4)                                   | 1.404 (3)                                                      | C19-N4-C20   | 126.0 (3)                                   | 127.0 (2)                                                      |
| N4-C20                                                                                   | 1.367 (5)                                   | 1.366 (3)                                                      | N4-C20-O3    | 122.8 (3)                                   | 122.1 (2)                                                      |
| C20-O3                                                                                   | 1.224 (4)                                   | 1.228 (3)                                                      |              |                                             |                                                                |
| <i>Hydrogen bond scheme for H<sub>2</sub>L<sup>2</sup><sub>TQ</sub></i>                  |                                             |                                                                |              |                                             |                                                                |
| <i>D—H···A</i>                                                                           | <i>D—H</i>                                  | <i>H···A</i>                                                   | <i>D···A</i> | <i>D—H···A</i>                              |                                                                |
| N2—H2 <i>A</i> ···O3 <sup>iii</sup>                                                      | 0.92 (4)                                    | 2.02 (4)                                                       | 2.887 (4)    | 155 (3)                                     |                                                                |
| N4—H4 <i>A</i> ···N1                                                                     | 0.88 (4)                                    | 2.26 (4)                                                       | 2.892 (4)    | 128 (3)                                     |                                                                |
| C7—H7 <i>A</i> ···O2 <sup>i</sup>                                                        | 0.99                                        | 2.47                                                           | 3.282 (4)    | 139                                         |                                                                |
| C18—H18···O3 <sup>ii</sup>                                                               | 0.95                                        | 2.57                                                           | 3.461 (4)    | 156                                         |                                                                |
| C18—H18···N3 <sup>ii</sup>                                                               | 0.95                                        | 2.70                                                           | 3.393 (5)    | 130                                         |                                                                |
| <i>Hydrogen bond scheme for H<sub>2</sub>L<sup>2</sup><sub>TQ</sub>·HCCl<sub>3</sub></i> |                                             |                                                                |              |                                             |                                                                |
| <i>D—H···A</i>                                                                           | <i>D—H</i>                                  | <i>H···A</i>                                                   | <i>D···A</i> | <i>D—H···A</i>                              |                                                                |
| N2—H2 <i>A</i> ···O3 <sup>iv</sup>                                                       | 0.80 (3)                                    | 2.12 (3)                                                       | 2.904 (3)    | 167 (3)                                     |                                                                |
| C2—H2···O2 <sup>v</sup>                                                                  | 0.95                                        | 2.46                                                           | 3.406 (3)    | 179                                         |                                                                |
| C7—H7 <i>A</i> ···Cl2                                                                    | 0.99                                        | 2.99                                                           | 3.965 (2)    | 170                                         |                                                                |
| C1 <i>S</i> —H1 <i>S</i> ···O3 <sup>vi</sup>                                             | 1.00                                        | 2.20                                                           | 3.092 (3)    | 147                                         |                                                                |

[a] in Å. [b] in °. (i) -x, -y, -z+1; (ii) -x-1, -y, -z+2; (iii) -x, -y, -z+2. (iv) -x+1, -y, -z+2; (v) -x+1, -y+1, -z+1; (vi) -x+1, -y+1, -z+2



**Fig. S1.** Balls and sticks diagrams for *C(R),N(R)*-H<sub>2</sub>L<sup>2</sup><sub>TQ</sub>·HCCl<sub>3</sub> (top) and *C(S),N(S)*-H<sub>2</sub>L<sup>2</sup><sub>TQ</sub> (bottom). The semi-chair conformation of the tetrahydroquinazoline rings with the corresponding distances between calculated planes and aliphatic atoms is shown. Some distances related to H···H couplings for NMR discussion are also indicated in the top figure.



**Fig. S2.** Lowest energy conformation obtained using molecular mechanics modelling for C(*R*),N(*S*)-H<sub>2</sub>L<sup>2</sup><sub>TQ</sub>.

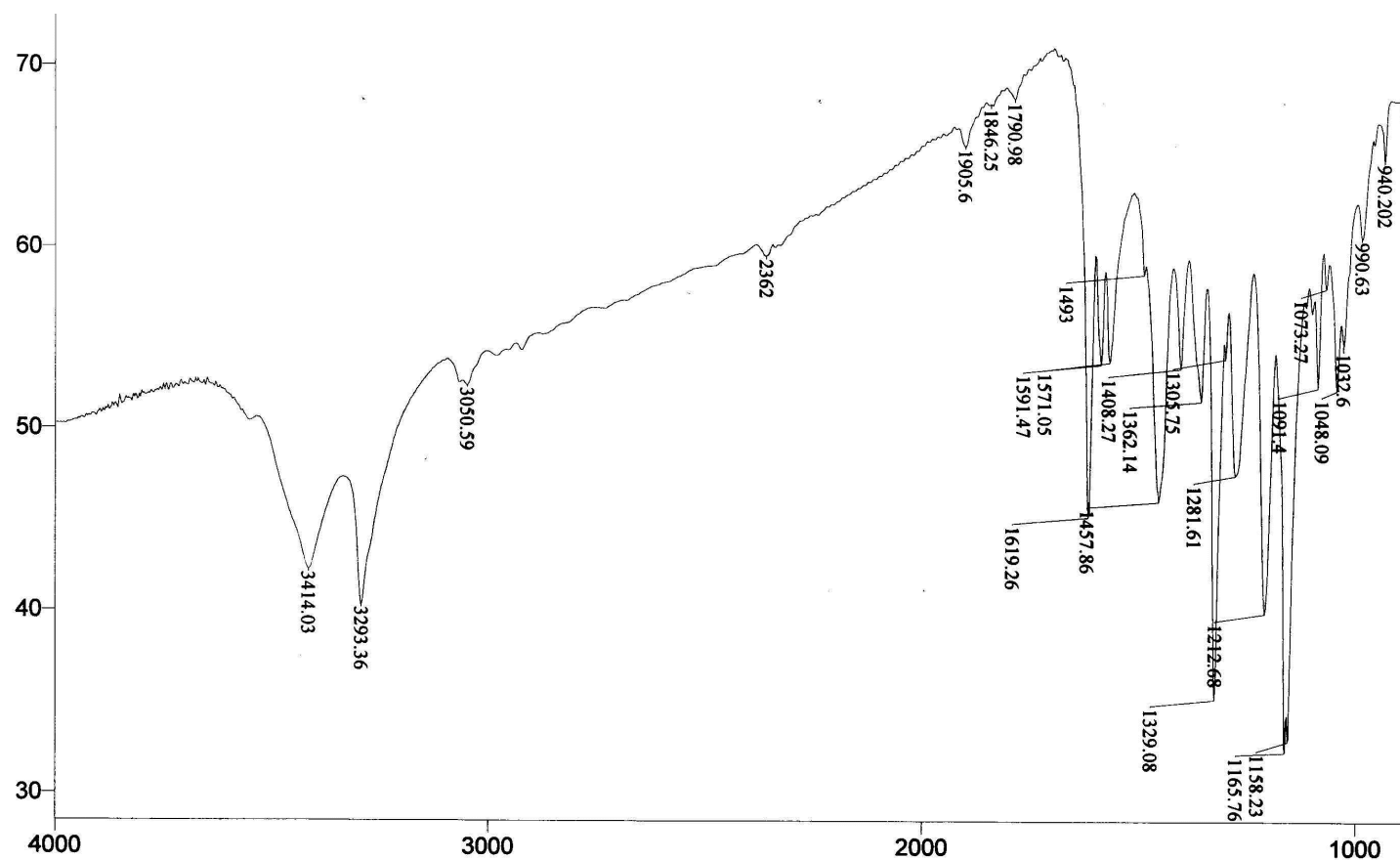
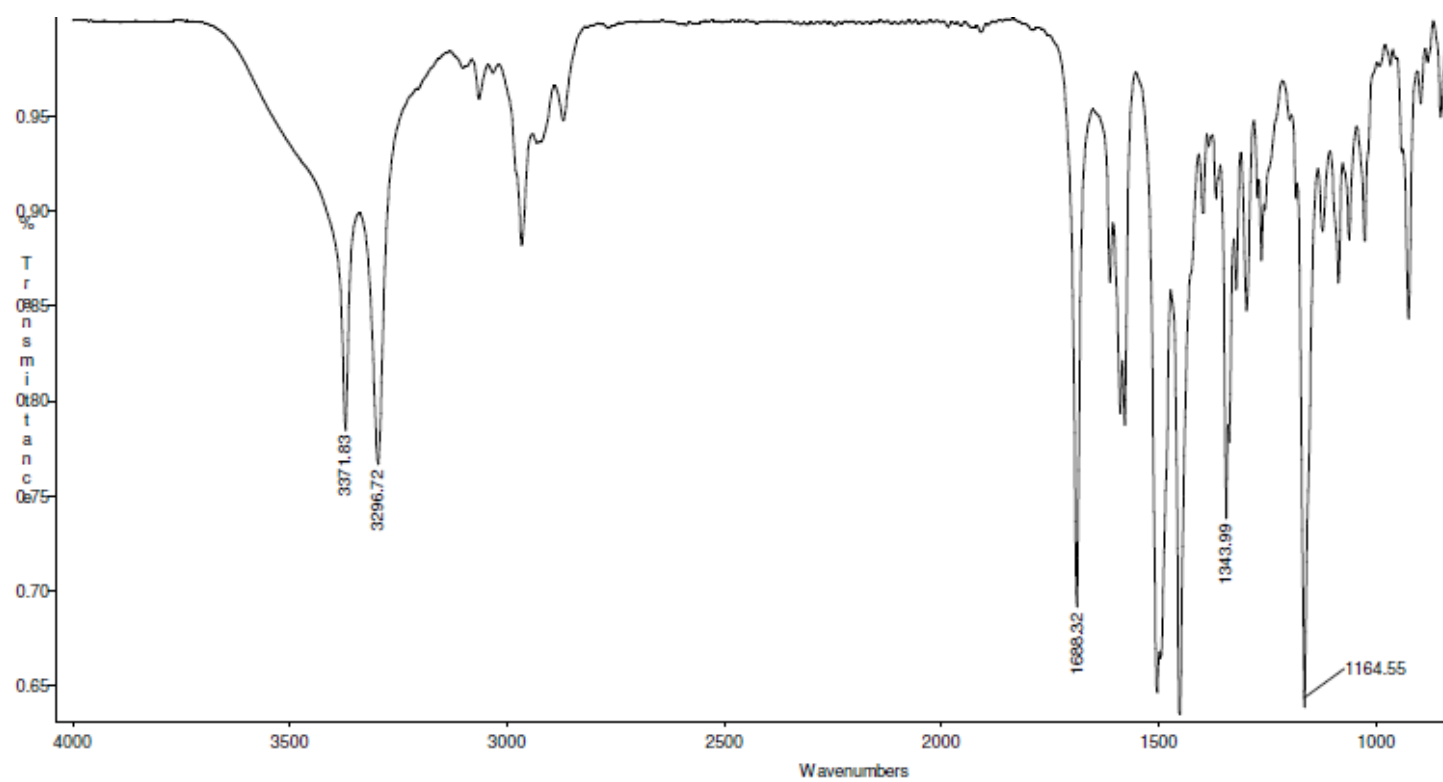
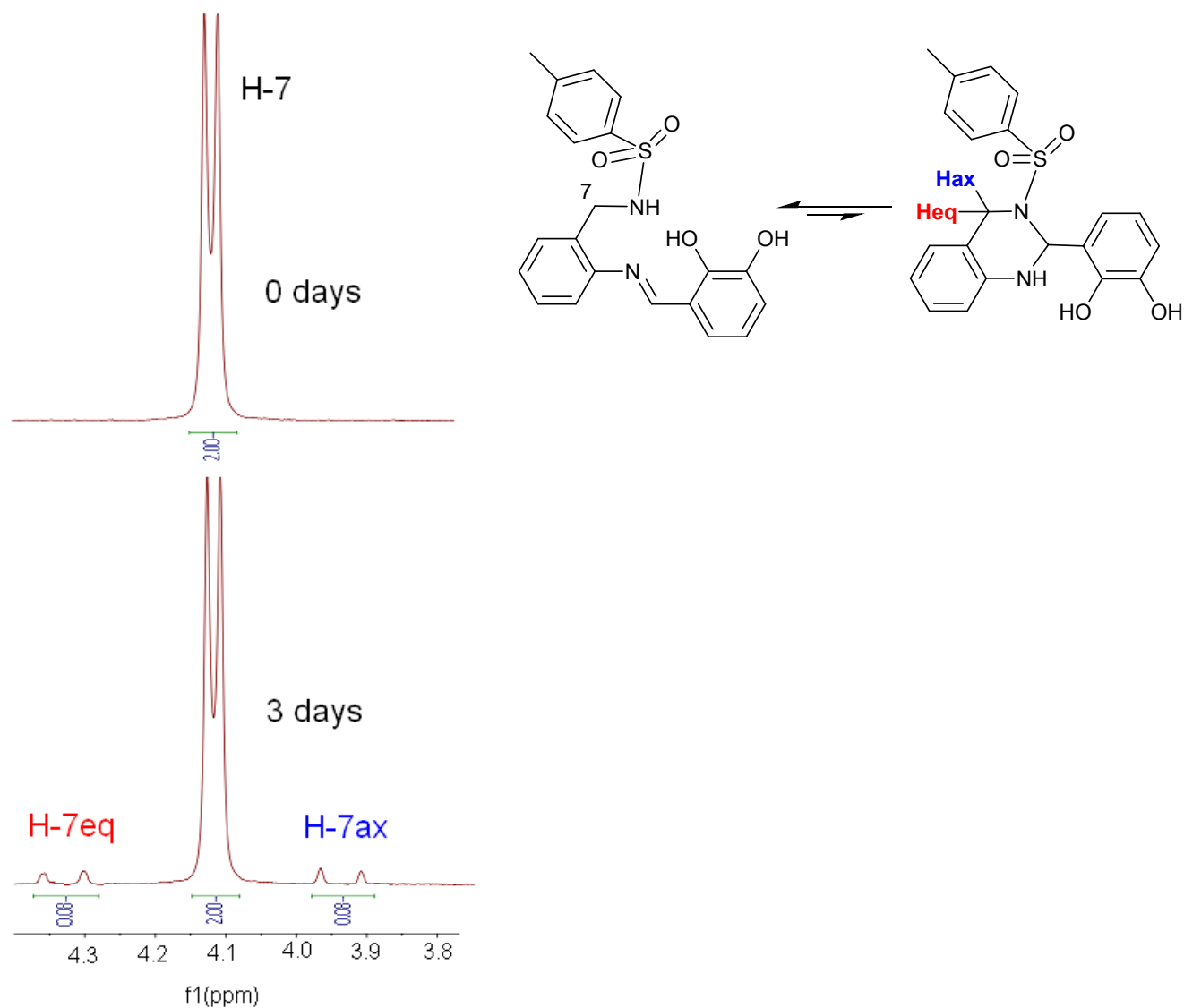


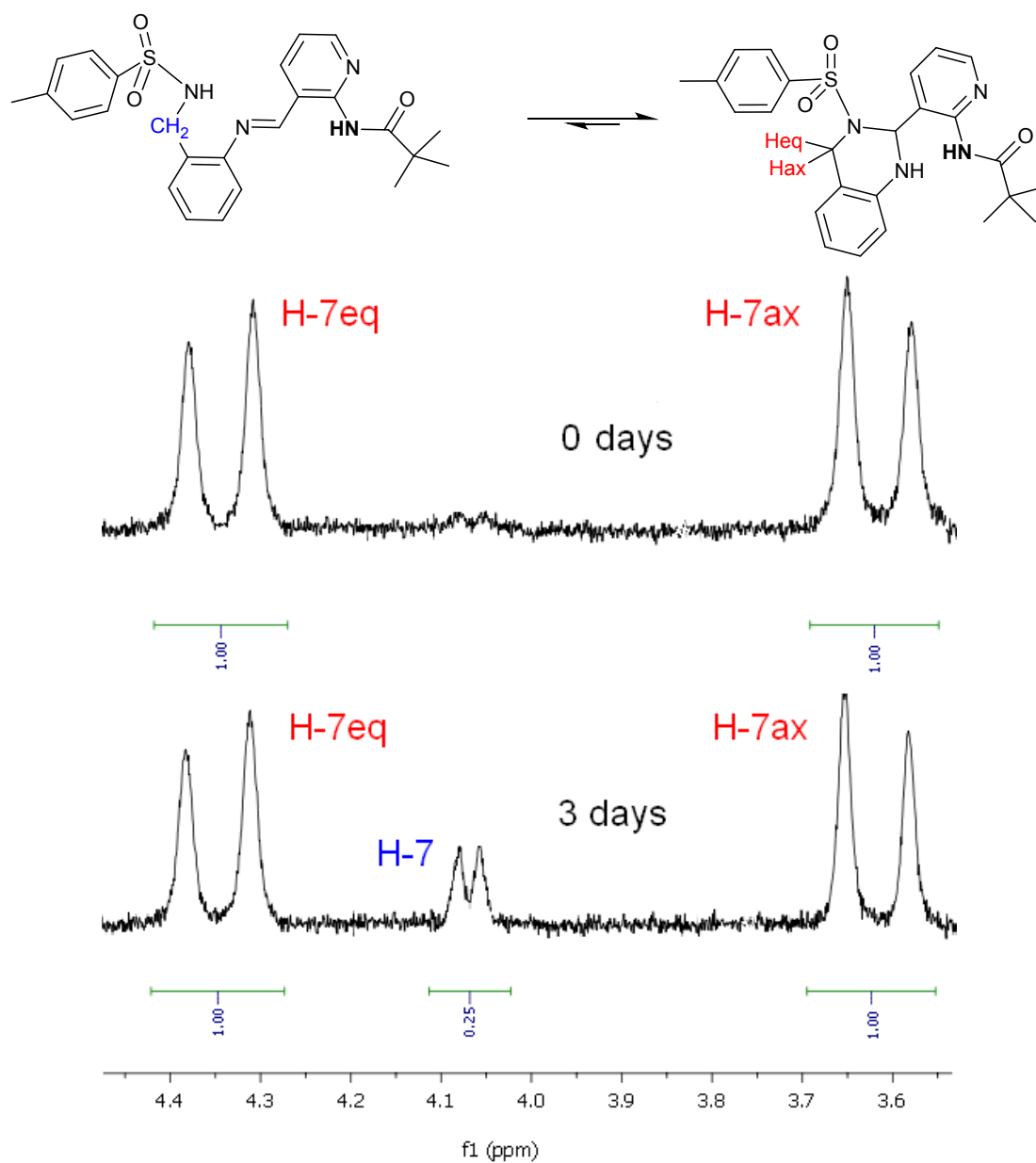
Fig. S3. Partial view of the IR spectrum  $\text{H}_2\text{L}^1_{\text{SB}}$



**Fig. S4.** Partial view of the IR spectrum of  $H_2L^2_{TQ}$



**Fig S5.** Initial and final spectra of the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR monitoring of  $H_2L^1_{SB}$  based on the changes with time observed in methylene signals. The central doublet corresponds to H-7 of  $H_2L^1_{SB}$ , while both H-7eq and H-7ax correspond to  $H_2L^1_{TQ}$ . Integration values are written above each peak.



**Fig S6.** Initial and final spectra of the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR monitoring of  $\text{H}_2\text{L}^2_{\text{TQ}}$  based on the changes with time observed in methylene signals. The central doublet corresponds to H-7 of  $\text{H}_2\text{L}^2_{\text{SB}}$ , while H-7eq (left) and H-7ax (right) correspond to  $\text{H}_2\text{L}^2_{\text{TQ}}$ . Integration values are written above each peak.