

Benzoquinone-imidazole hybrids as selective colorimetric sensors for cyanide in aqueous, solid and gas phases

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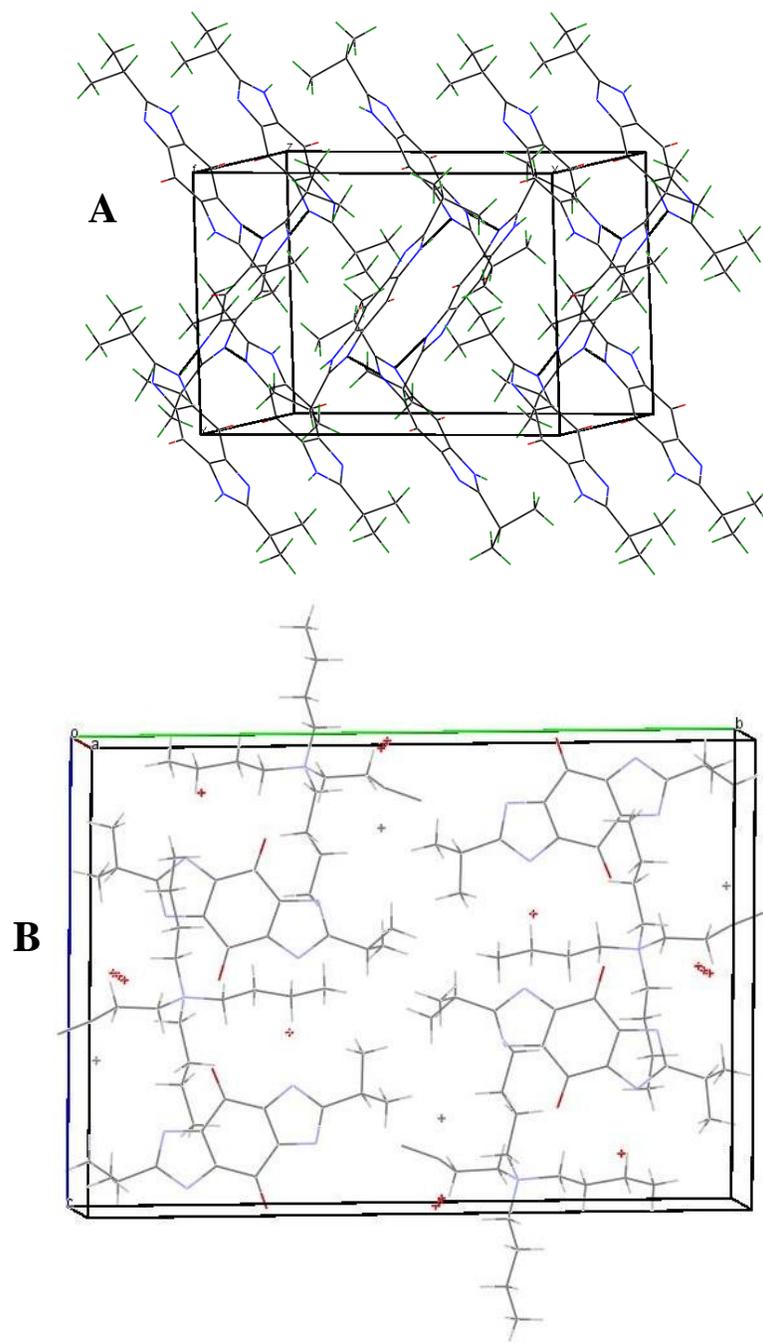


Figure S1. The packing diagram of (A) **R5** and (B) **R5-CN**.



Figure S2. Color changes observed in DMF solution of **R1-R4** (6.25×10^{-4} M) upon addition of various anions.

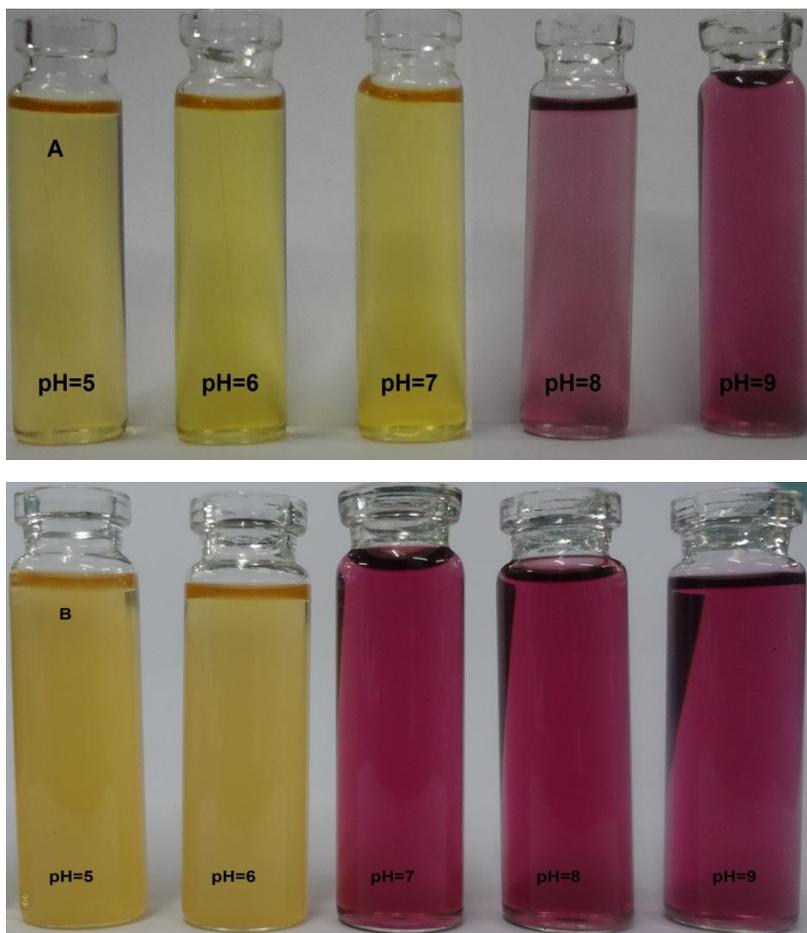


Figure S3. Color changes observed for **R5** at different pH values: A) free **R5** and B) after the addition of cyanide ion.

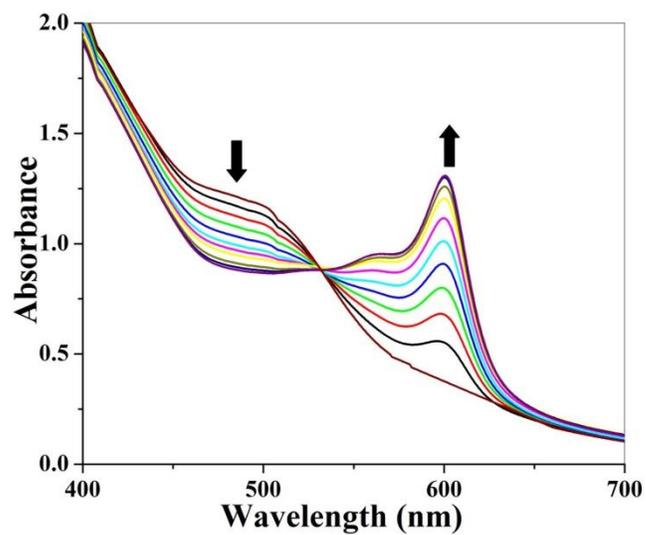


Figure S4. UV-Vis spectra of **R1** (6.25×10^{-4} M) with the incremental addition of TBACN (0 - 6.25×10^{-7} M) in aq. HEPES buffer-DMF (9:1 v/v) medium (pH = 7.26).

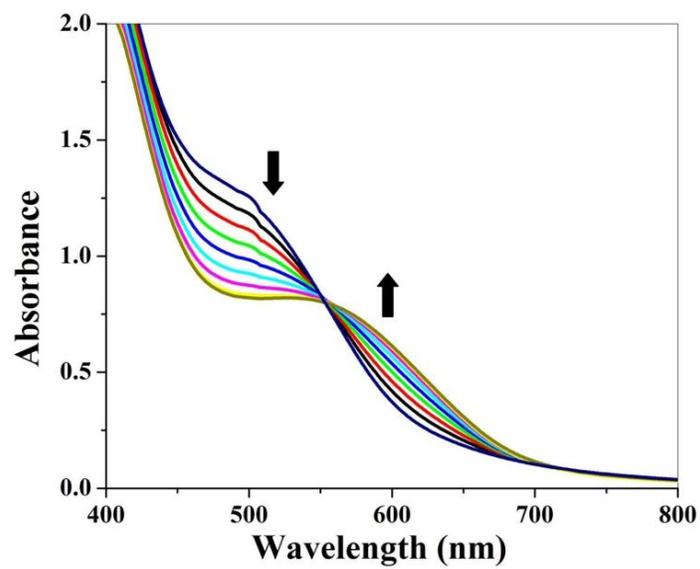


Figure S5. UV-Vis spectra of **R2** (6.25×10^{-4} M) with the incremental addition of TBACN (0 - 6.25×10^{-6} M) in aq. HEPES buffer-DMF (9:1 v/v) medium (pH = 7.26).

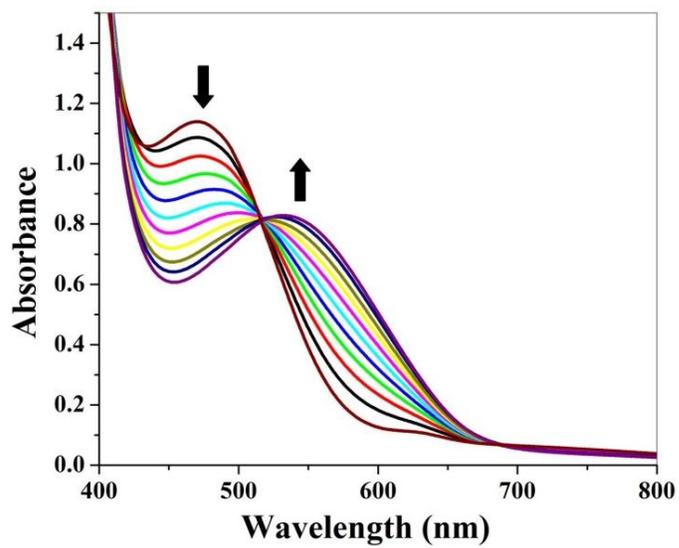


Figure S6. UV-Vis spectra of **R3** (6.25×10^{-4} M) with the incremental addition of TBACN ($0 - 6.25 \times 10^{-6}$ M) in aq. HEPES buffer-DMF (9:1 v/v) medium (pH = 7.26).

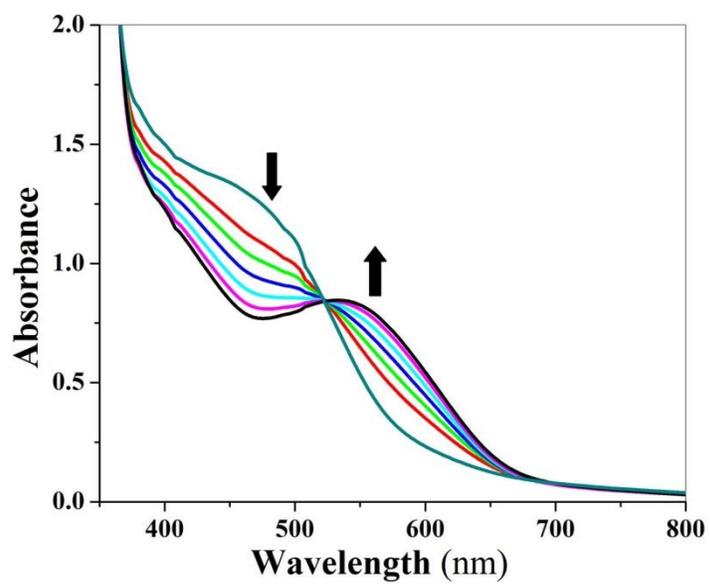


Figure S7. UV-Vis spectra of **R4** (6.25×10^{-4} M) with the incremental addition of TBACN (0 - 6.25×10^{-6} M) in aq. HEPES buffer-DMF (9:1 v/v) medium (pH = 7.26).

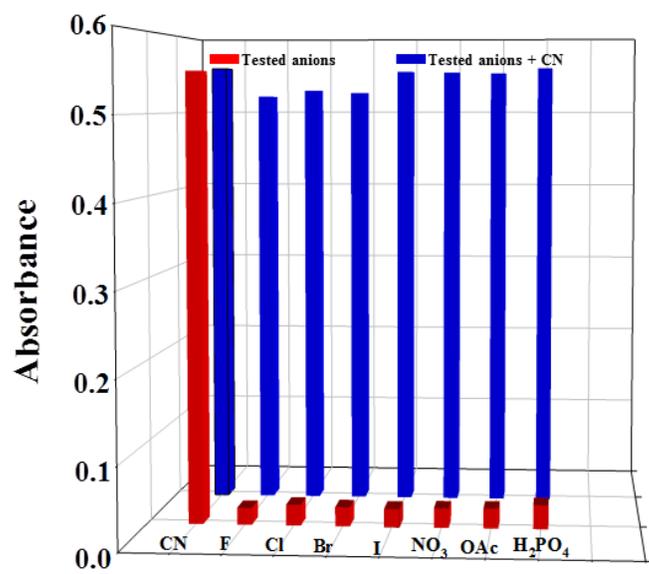


Figure S8. UV-Vis absorption changes of **R5** with cyanide ion in presence of other anions.

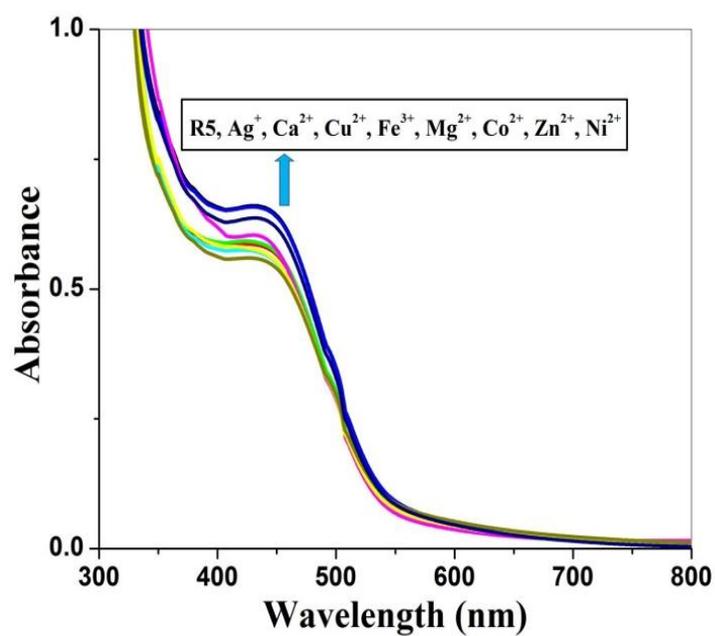


Figure S9. UV-Vis absorption changes of **R5** (6.25×10^{-4} M) upon addition of 1 eqv. of Ag^+ , Ca^{2+} , Cu^{2+} , Fe^{3+} , Mg^{2+} , Co^{2+} , Zn^{2+} and Ni^{2+} .

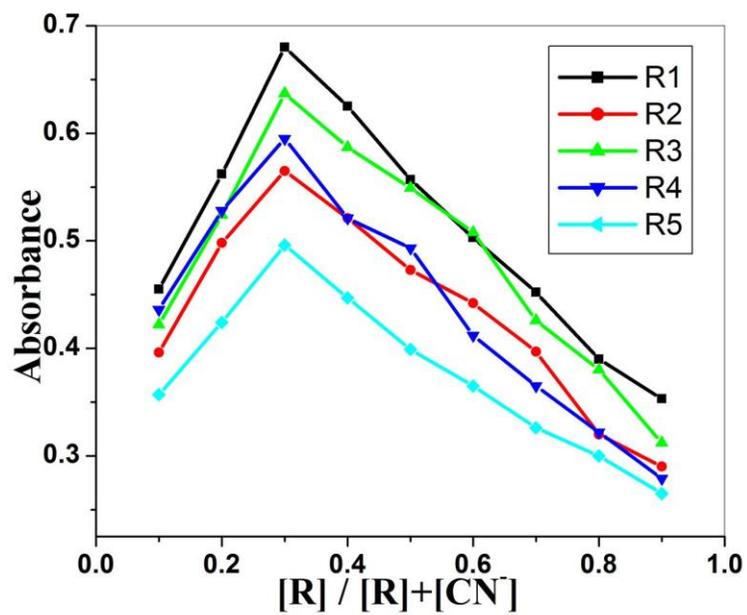


Figure 10. Job's plots for the receptor-cyanide complexes.

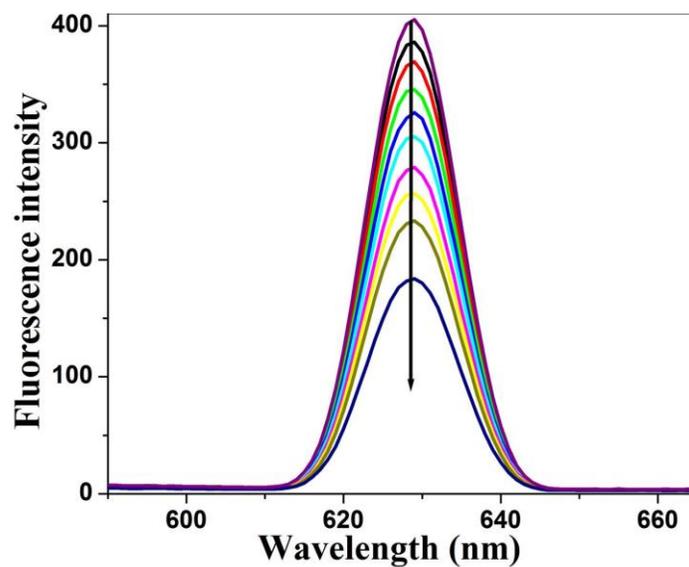


Figure S11. Fluorescence emission spectra of **R1** (6.25×10^{-4} M) with incremental addition of TBACN (0 - 6.25×10^{-6} M) in aq. HEPES buffer-DMF (9:1 v/v) medium (pH = 7.26).

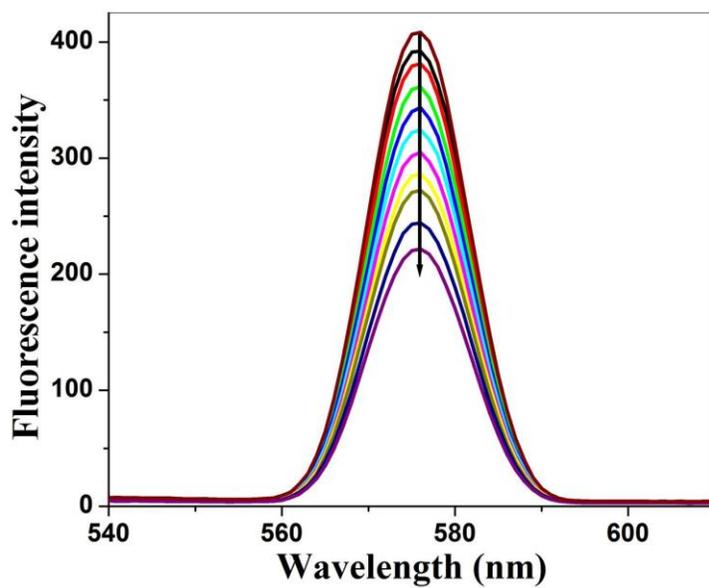


Figure S12. Fluorescence emission spectra of **R2** (6.25×10^{-4} M) with incremental addition of TBACN (0 - 6.25×10^{-6} M) in aq. HEPES buffer-DMF (9:1 v/v) medium (pH = 7.26).

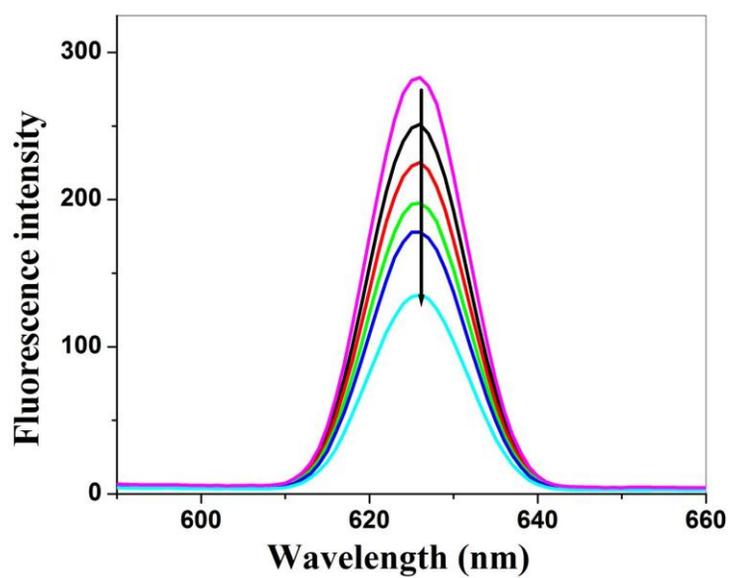


Figure S13. Fluorescence emission spectra of **R3** (6.25×10^{-4} M) with incremental addition of TBACN (0 - 6.25×10^{-6} M) in aq. HEPES buffer-DMF (9:1 v/v) medium (pH = 7.26).

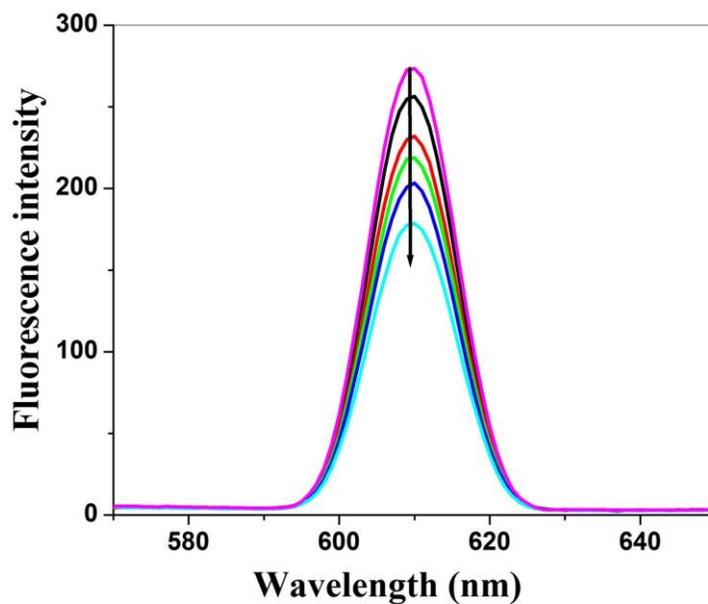


Figure S14. Fluorescence emission spectra of **R4** (6.25×10^{-4} M) with incremental addition of TBACN (0 - 6.25×10^{-6} M) in aq. HEPES buffer-DMF (9:1 v/v) medium (pH = 7.26).

Table S1. ^1H NMR spectral data for the interaction of the receptors with CN^-

Receptor	$\delta_{\text{N-H}}$ in free receptor	$\delta_{\text{N-H}}$ in complex*	$\Delta\delta$ (ppm)
R1	14.324	14.466	0.142
R2	14.276	14.379	0.103
R3	14.213	14.316	0.103
R4	14.132	14.245	0.113
R5	13.400	13.534	0.134

* After the addition of 0.5 equivalents of CN^- ion.

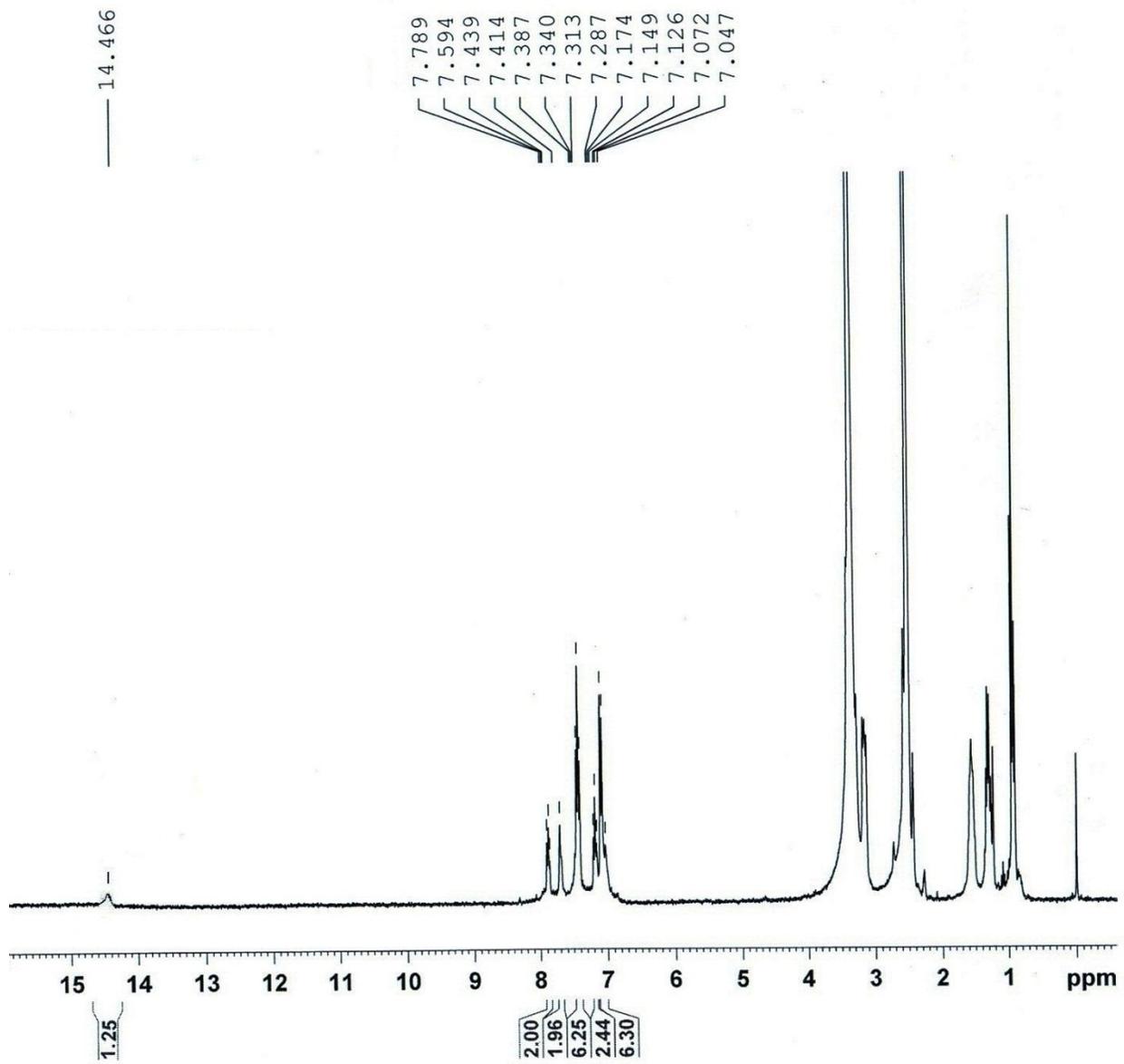


Figure S15. ^1H NMR spectrum of **R1** with addition of 0.5 eqv. of CN^- ion in DMSO-d_6 .

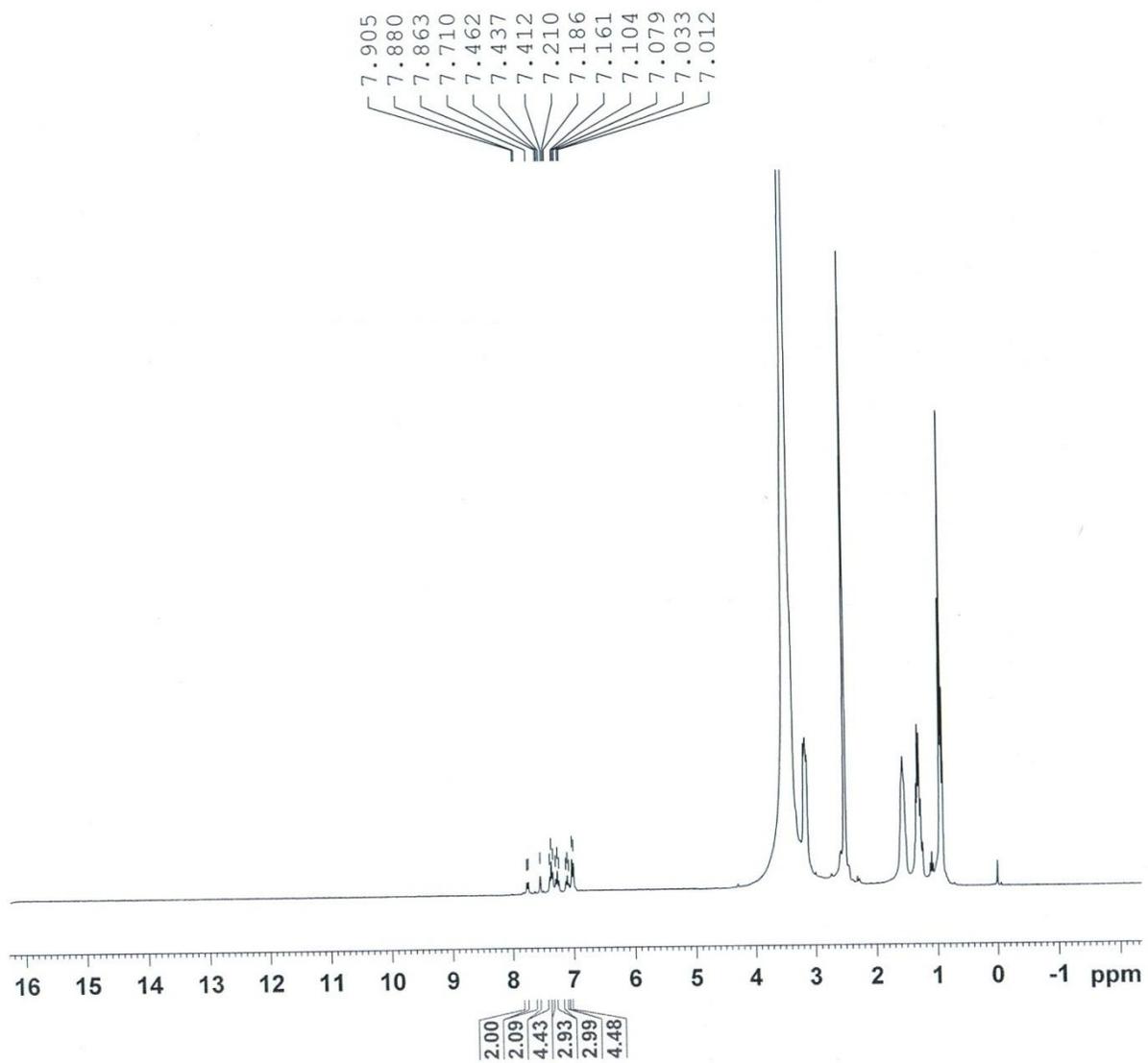


Figure S16. ^1H NMR spectrum of **R1** with addition of 2.0 eqv. of CN^- ion in DMSO-d_6 .

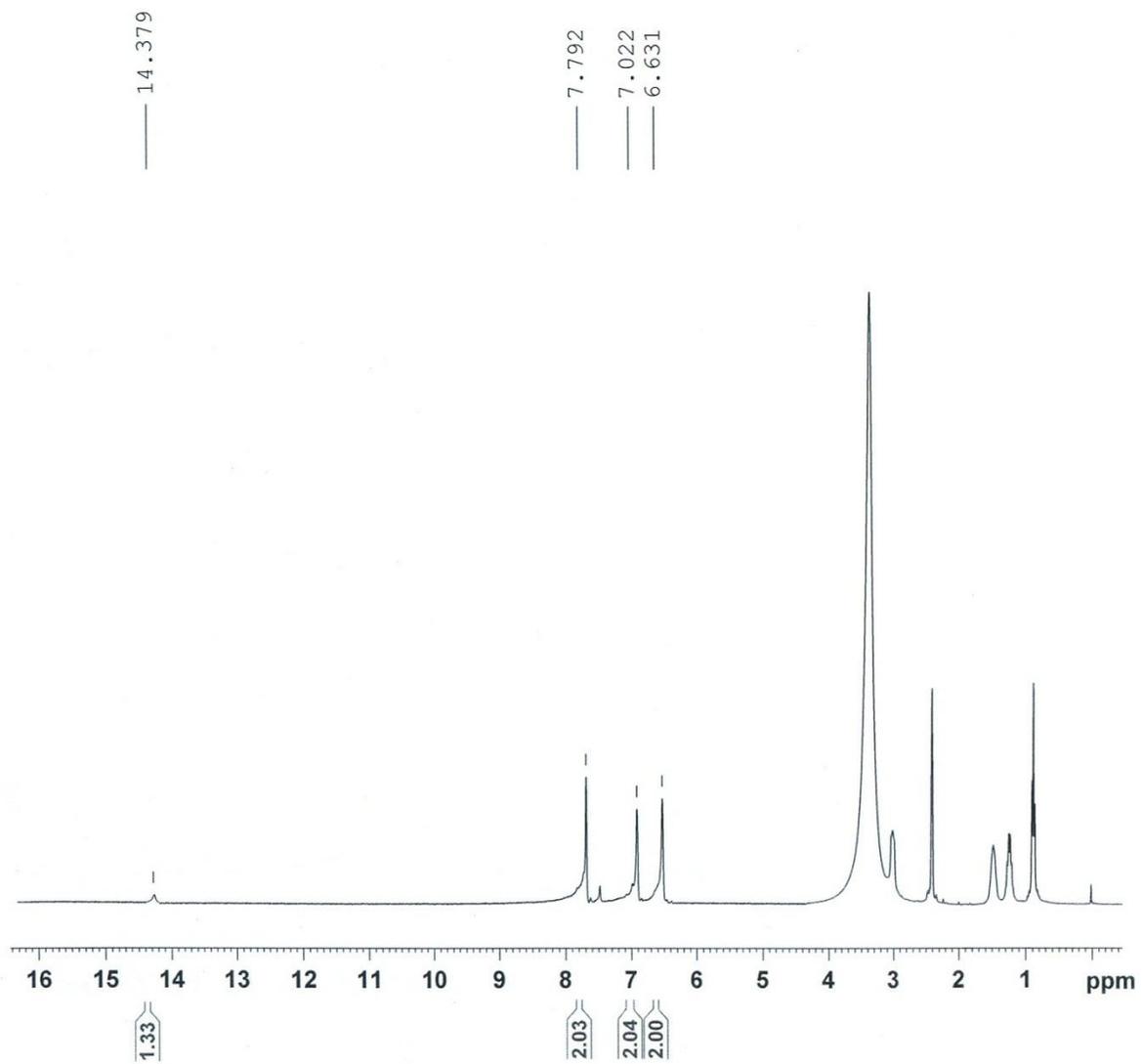


Figure S17. ^1H NMR spectrum of **R2** with addition of 0.5 eq. of CN^- ion in DMSO-d_6 .

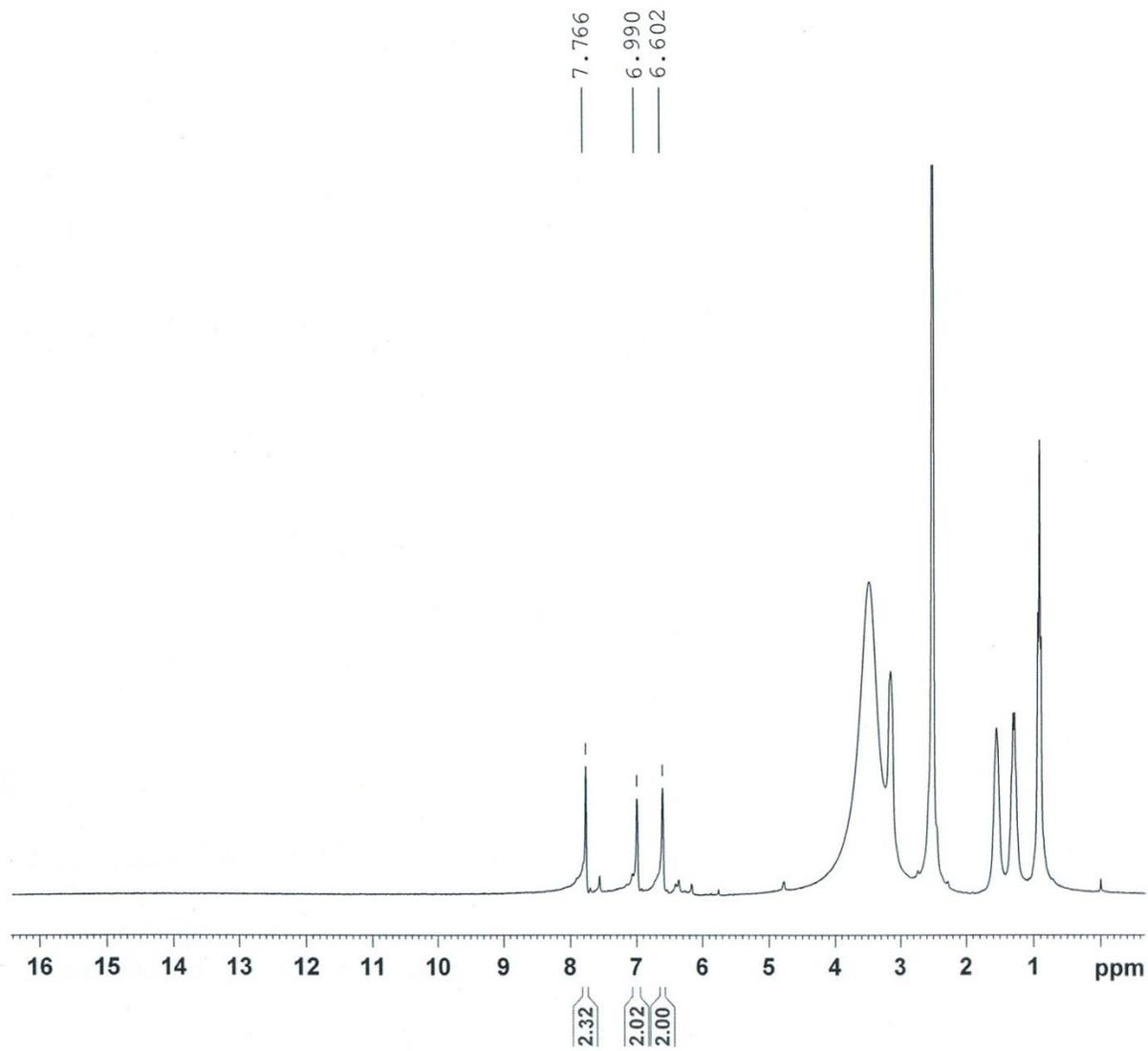


Figure S18. ¹H NMR spectrum of **R2** with addition of 2.0 eqv. of CN⁻ ion in DMSO-d₆.

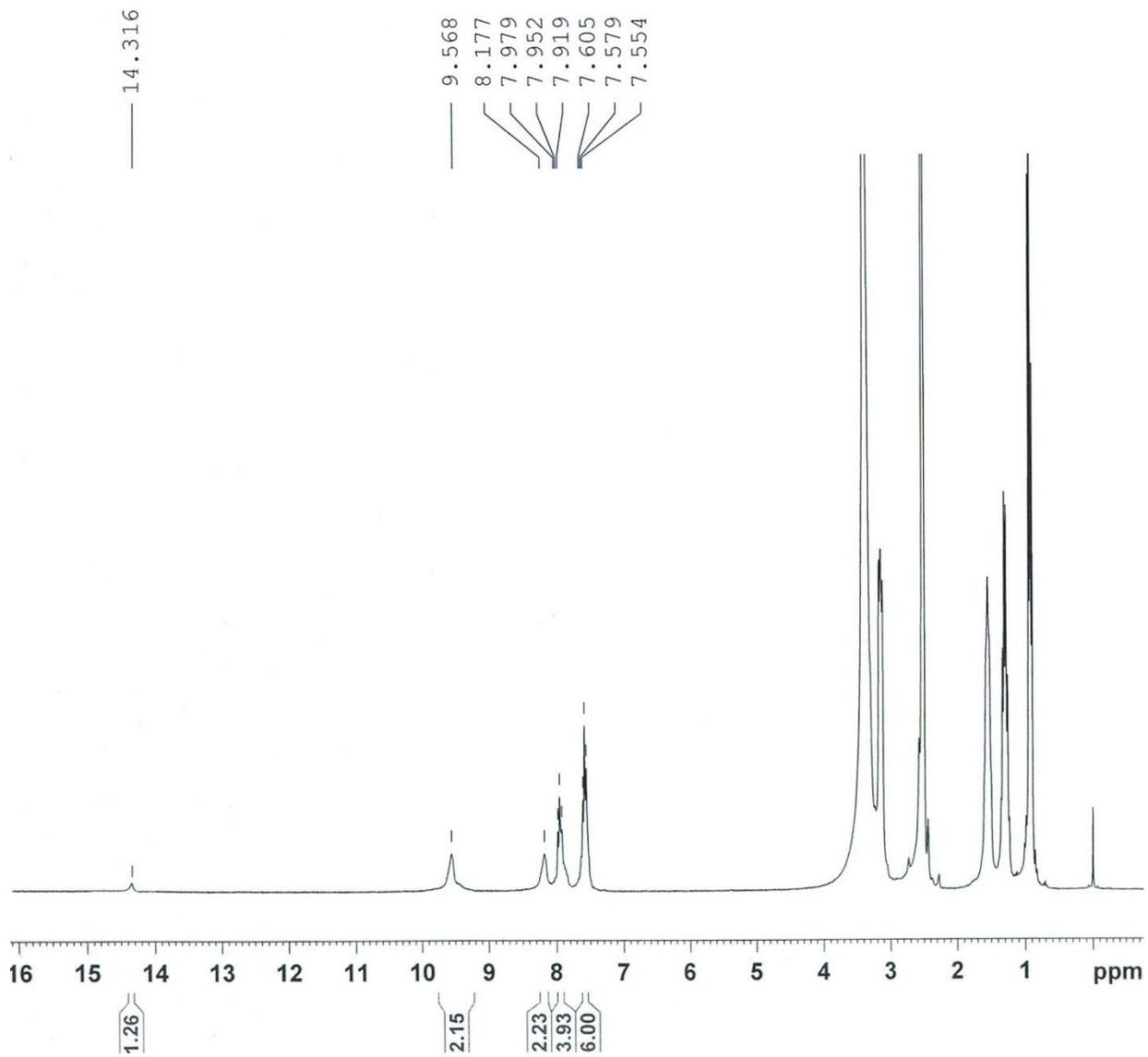


Figure S19. ^1H NMR spectrum of **R3** with addition of 0.5 eqv. of CN^- ion in DMSO-d_6 .

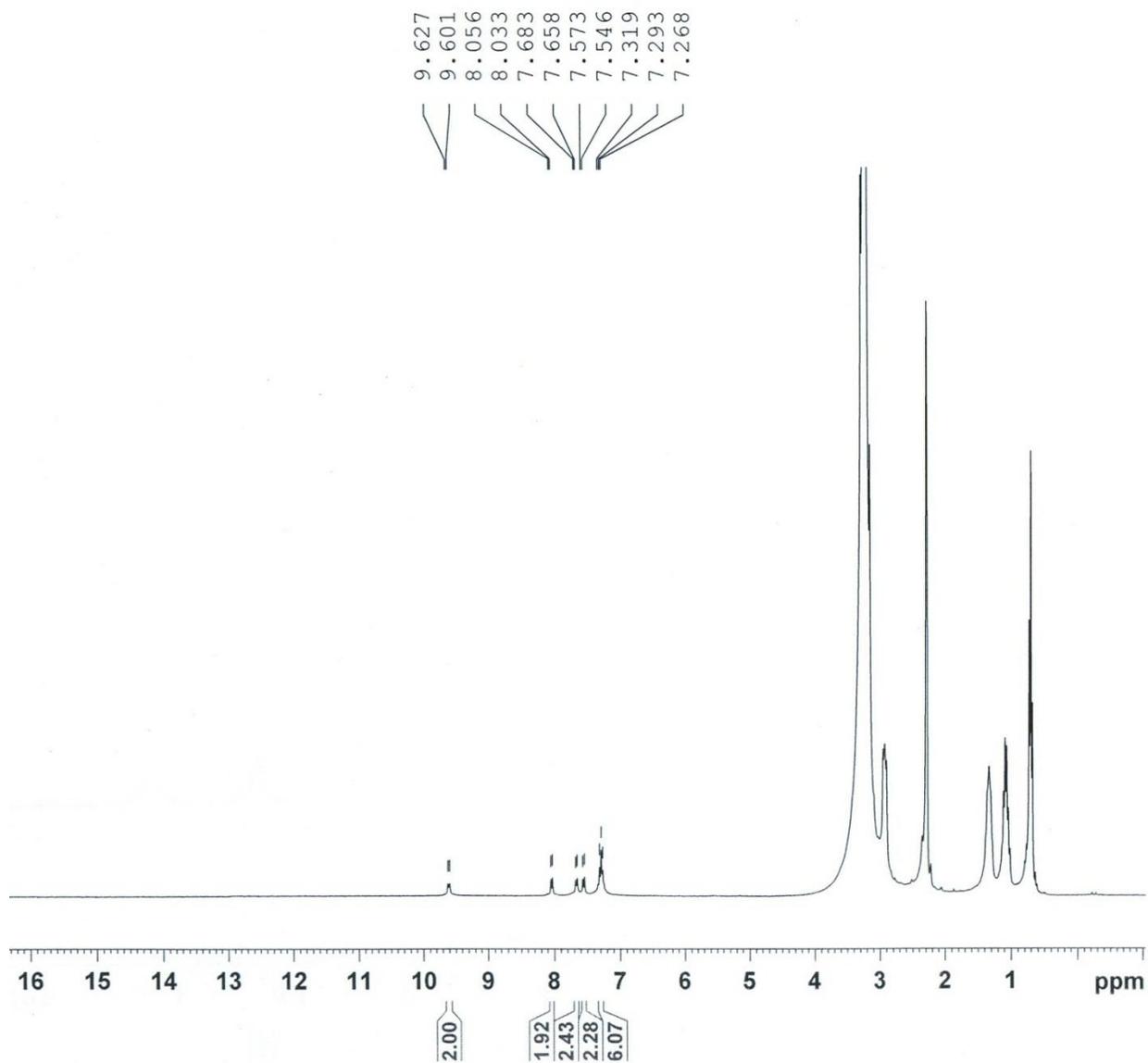


Figure S20. ^1H NMR spectrum of **R3** with addition of 2.0 eqv. of CN^- ion in DMSO-d_6 .

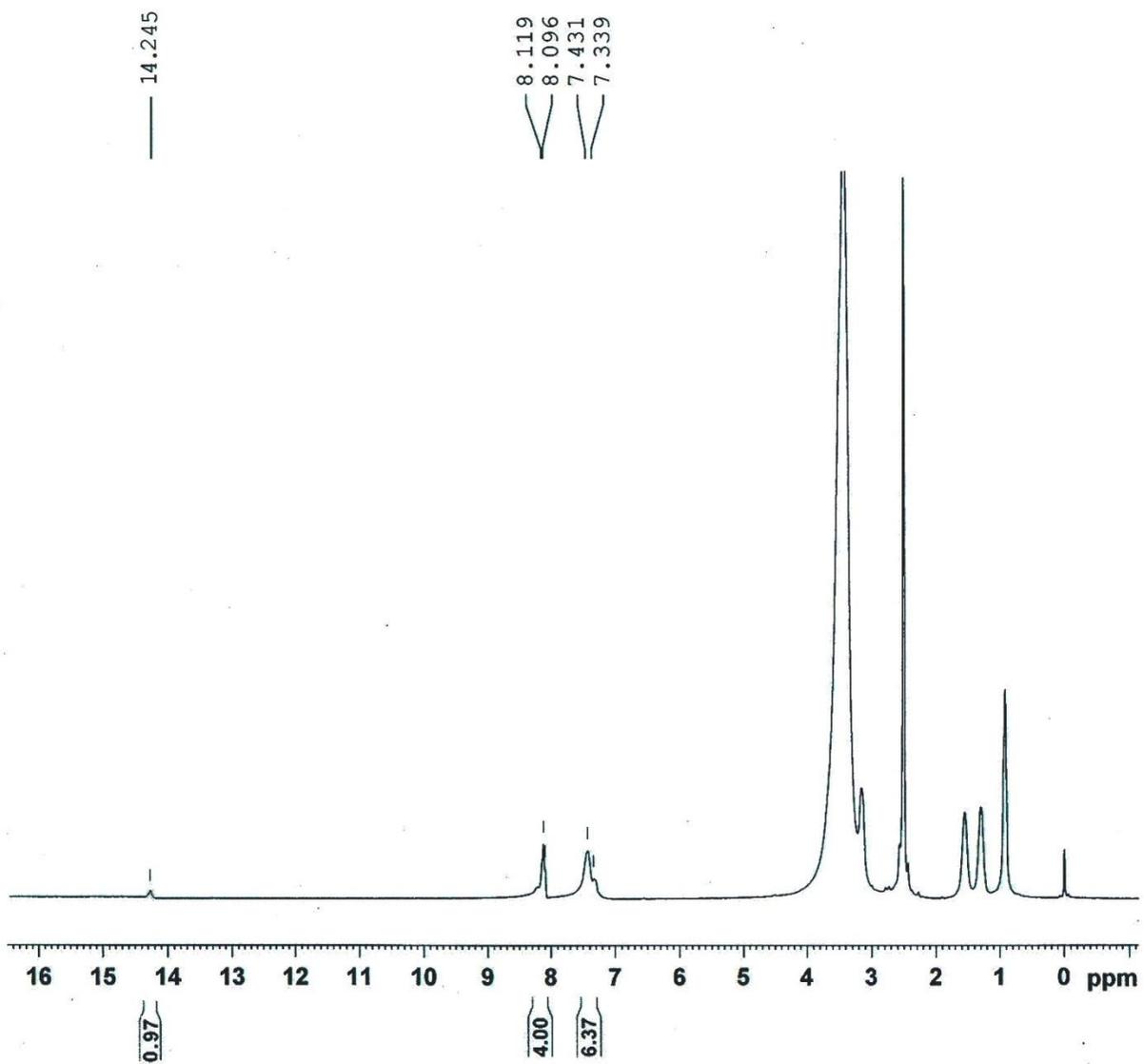


Figure S21. ^1H NMR spectrum of **R4** with addition of 0.5 eqv. of CN^- ion in DMSO-d_6 .

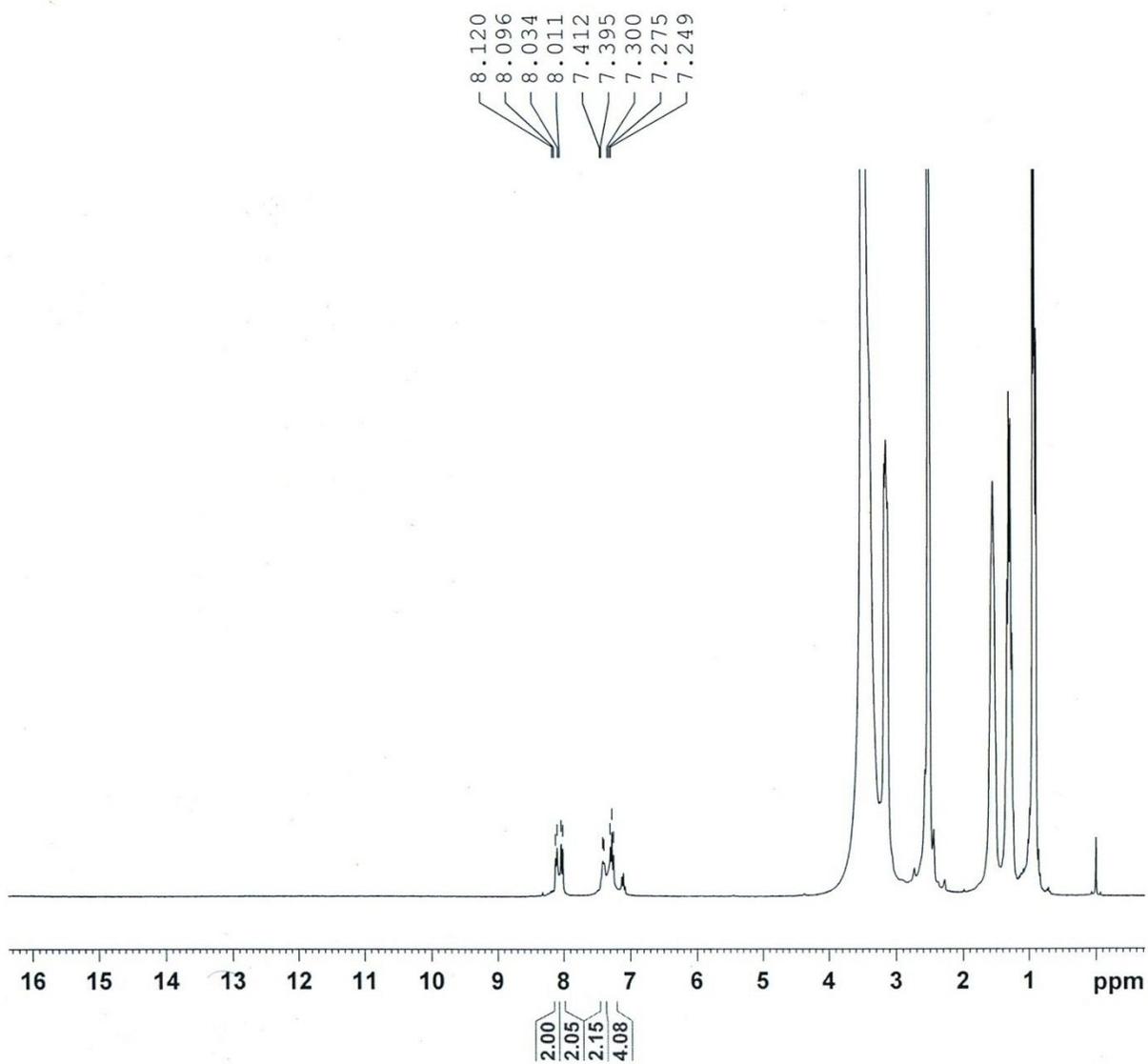


Figure S22. ^1H NMR spectrum of **R4** with addition of 2.0 eq. of CN^- ion in DMSO-d_6 .

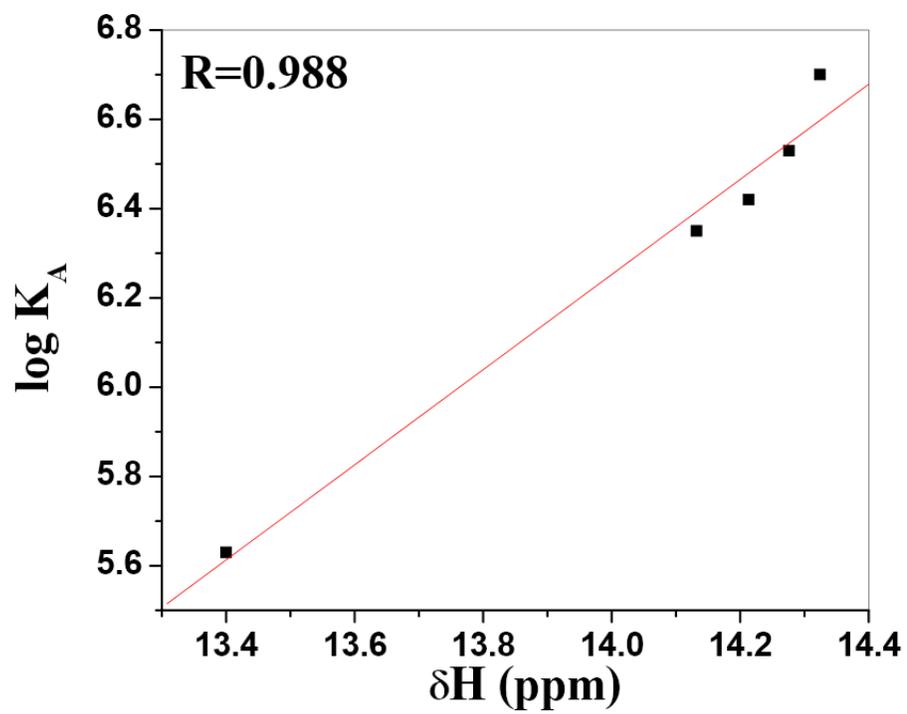


Figure S23. Correlation between association constant (K_A) and chemical shift (δ_H).

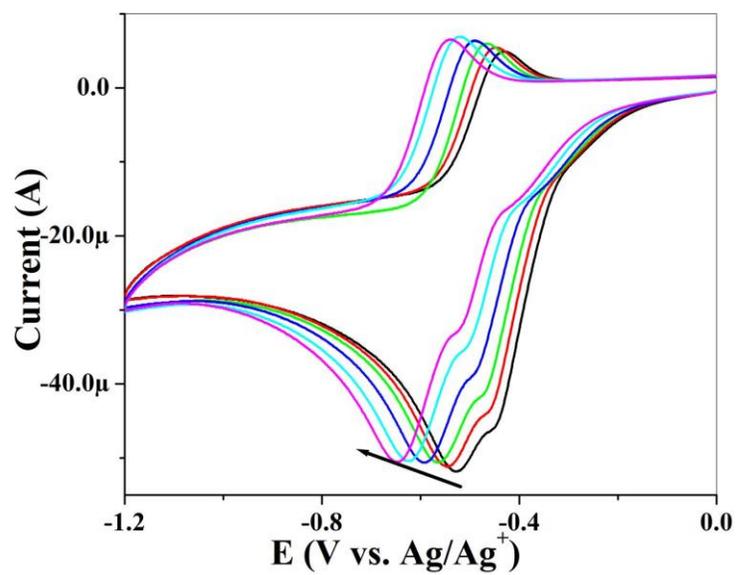


Figure S24. CV response of receptor **R1** with CN⁻ ion.

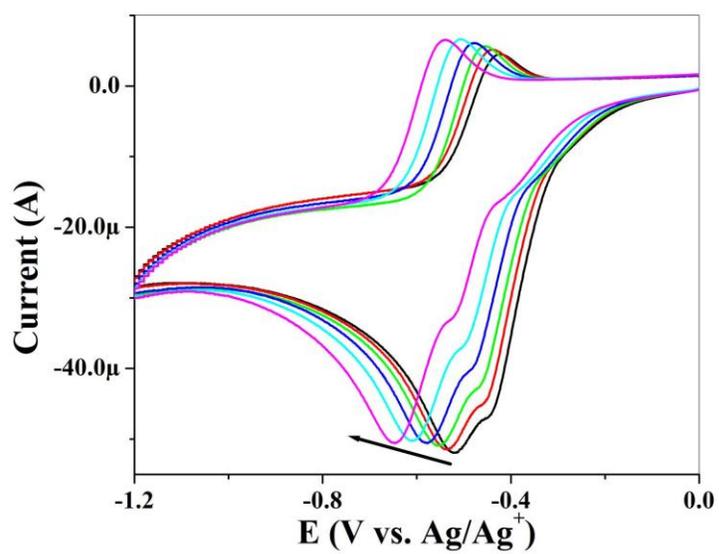


Figure S25. CV response of receptor **R2** with CN⁻ ion.

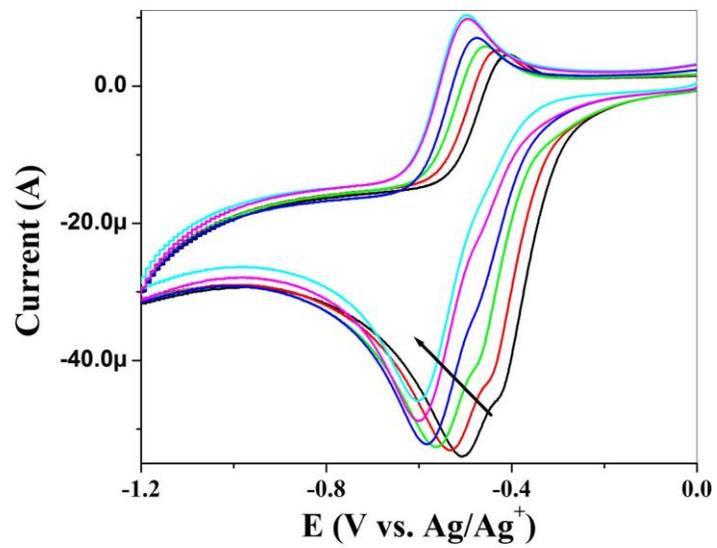


Figure S26. CV response of receptor **R3** with CN⁻ ion.

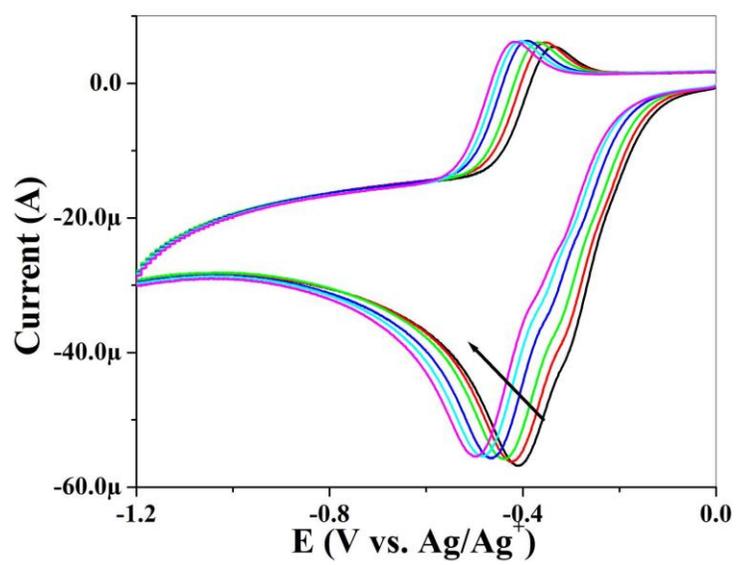


Figure S27. CV response of receptor **R4** with CN⁻ ion.

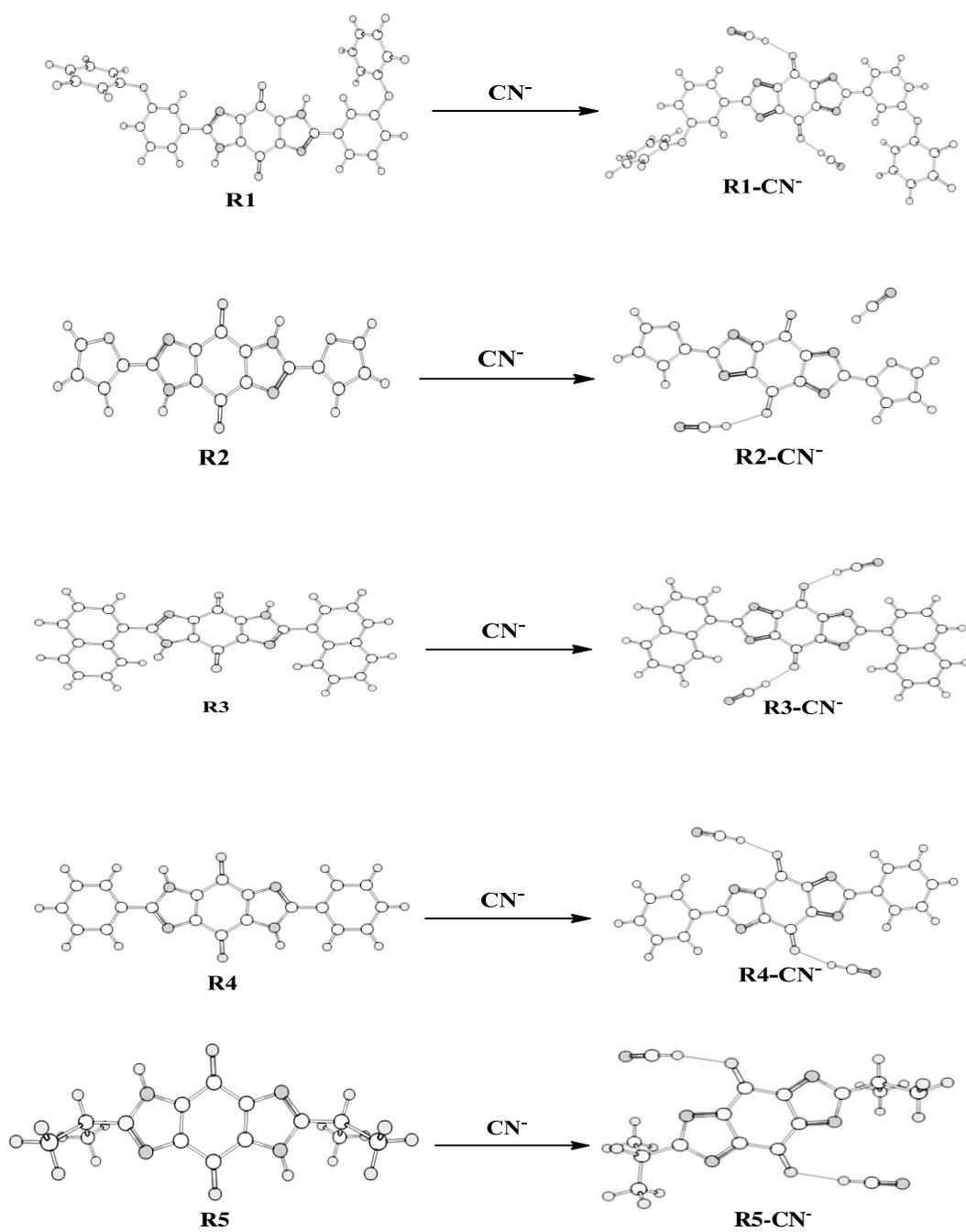


Figure S28. Optimized structure for receptors **R1-R5** and its Cyanide complexes.

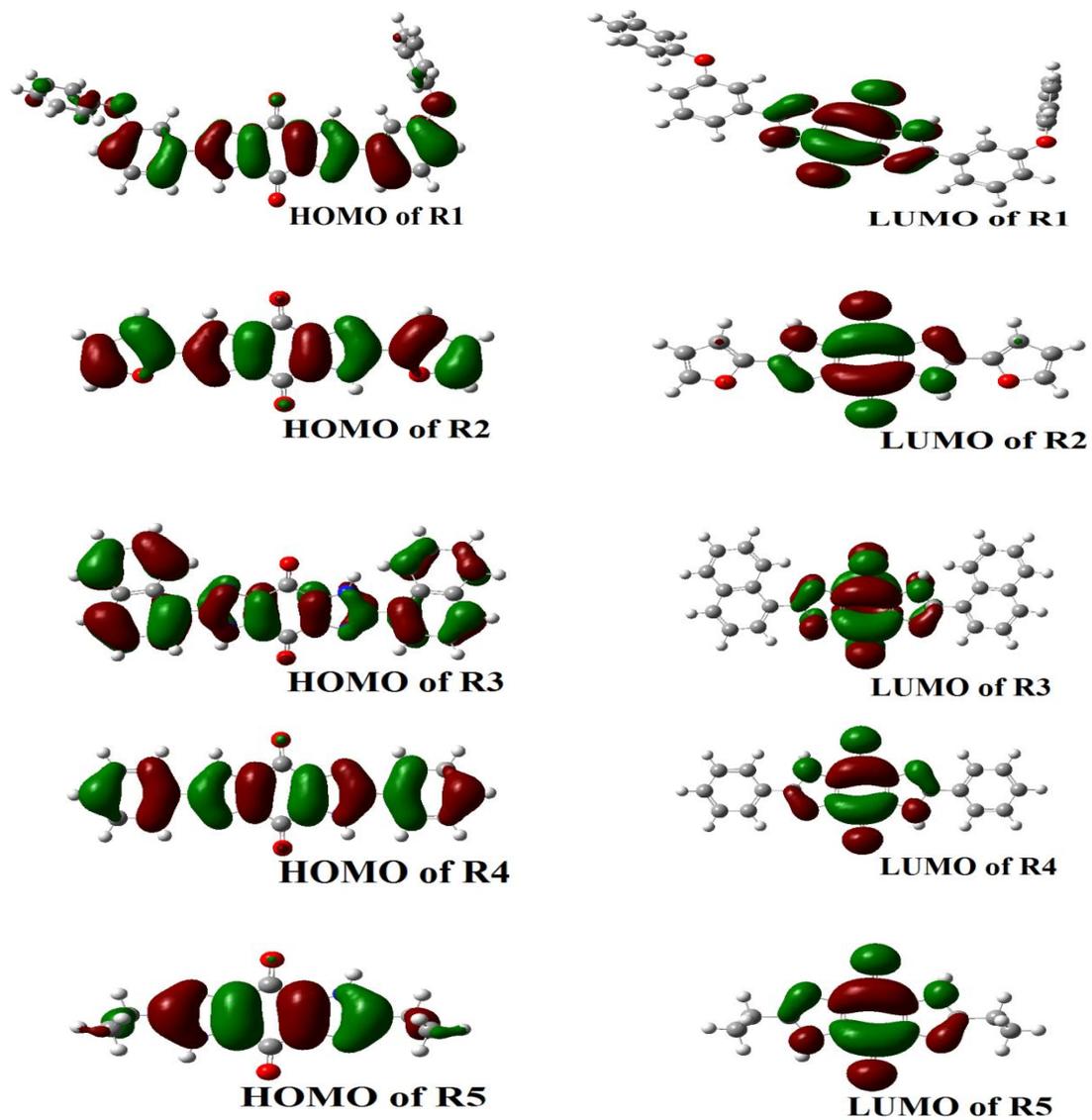


Figure S29. Molecular orbitals (HOMO–LUMO) of receptors **R1–R5**.

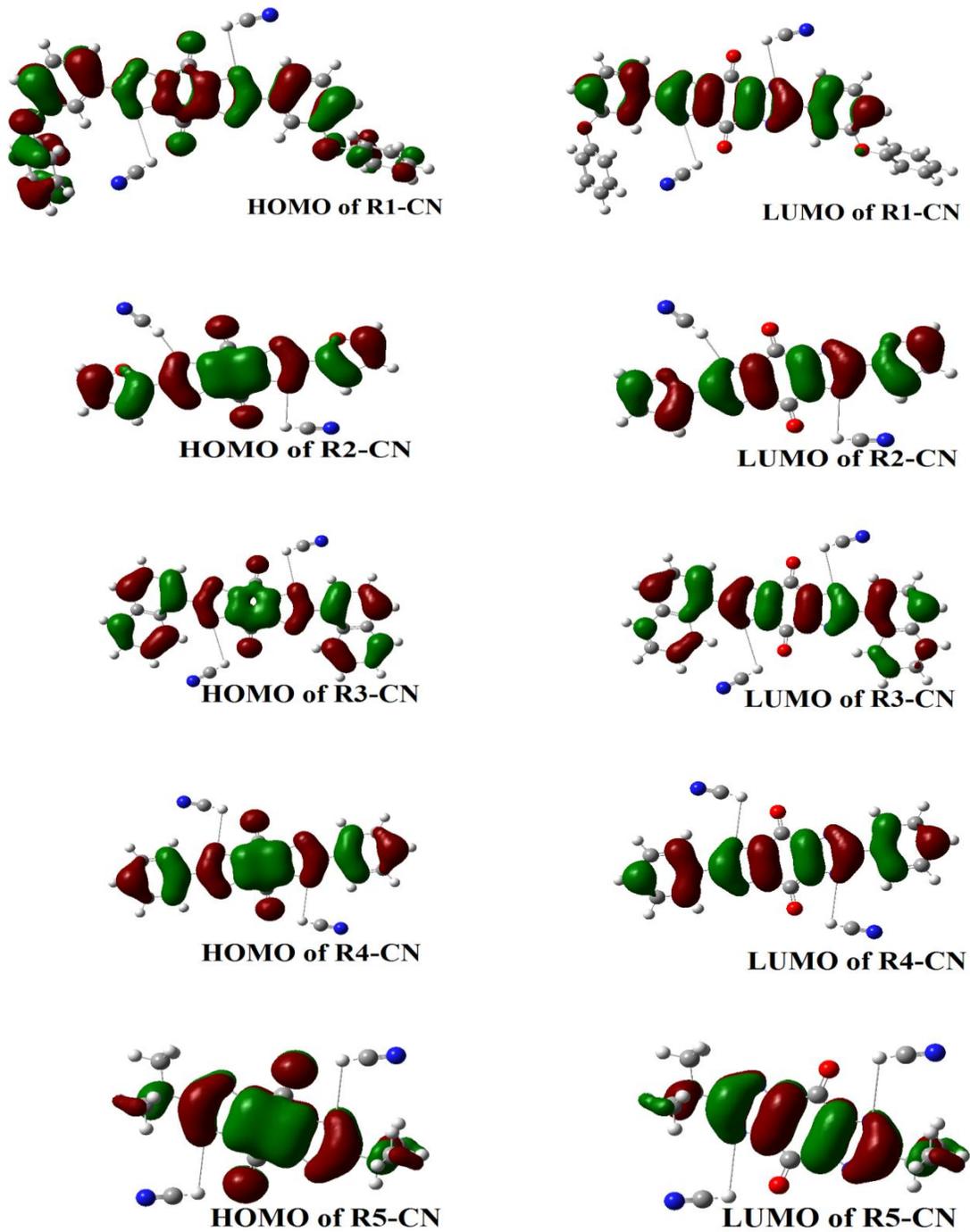


Figure S30. Molecular orbitals (HOMO –LUMO) of receptors–CN⁻ complexes.

Table S2. Energies (in eV) of the MOs in free receptors and in receptor-CN⁻ complexes

Receptor	Free receptor			Receptor-CN ⁻ complex		
	E _{HOMO}	E _{LUMO}	ΔE	E _{HOMO}	E _{LUMO}	ΔE
R1	-6.3305	-3.3908	2.9397	-6.720	-5.6951	1.0569
R2	-6.2472	-3.3932	2.8540	-6.8257	-5.7136	1.1121
R3	-6.0975	-3.3818	2.7157	-6.3136	-5.3343	0.9793
R4	-6.3990	-3.3897	3.0093	-6.9245	-5.7152	1.2093
R5	-6.8004	-3.2738	3.5266	-7.9955	-6.4872	1.5083

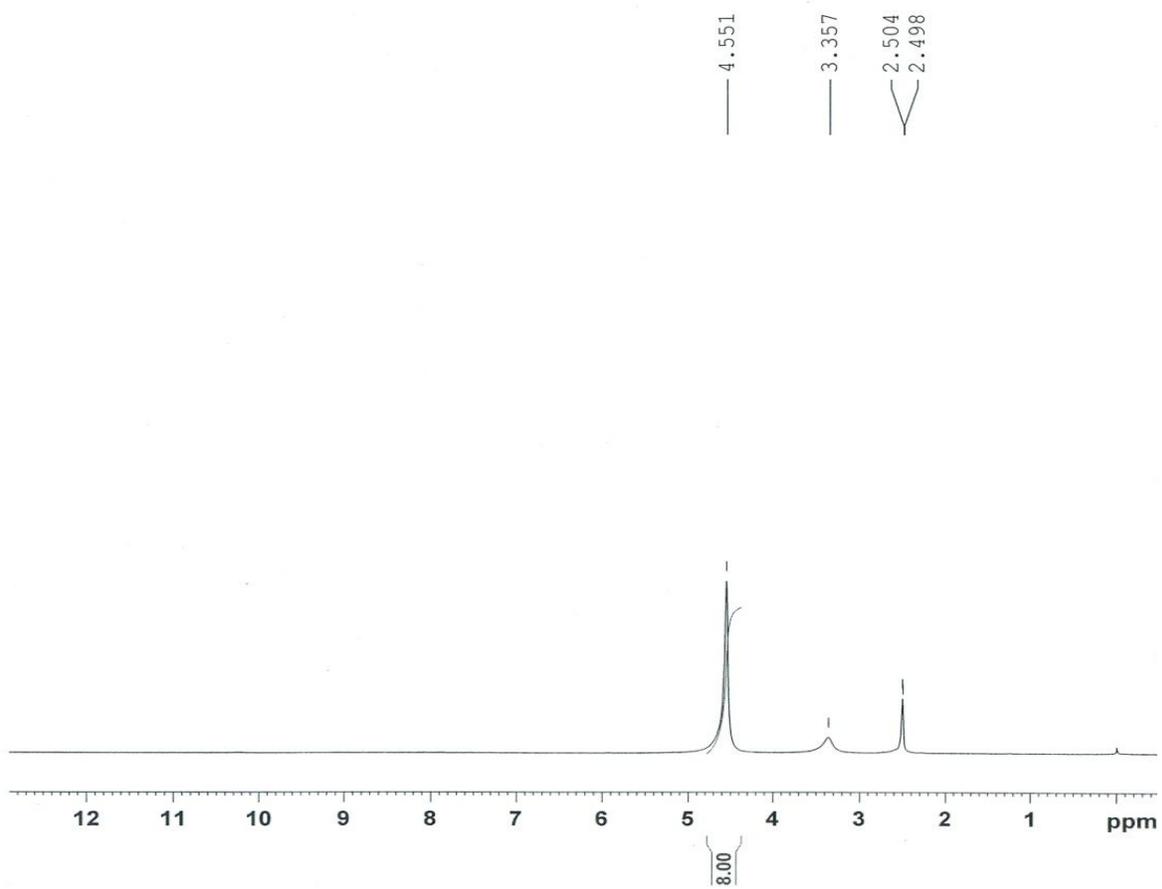


Figure S31. ^1H NMR spectrum of **1**

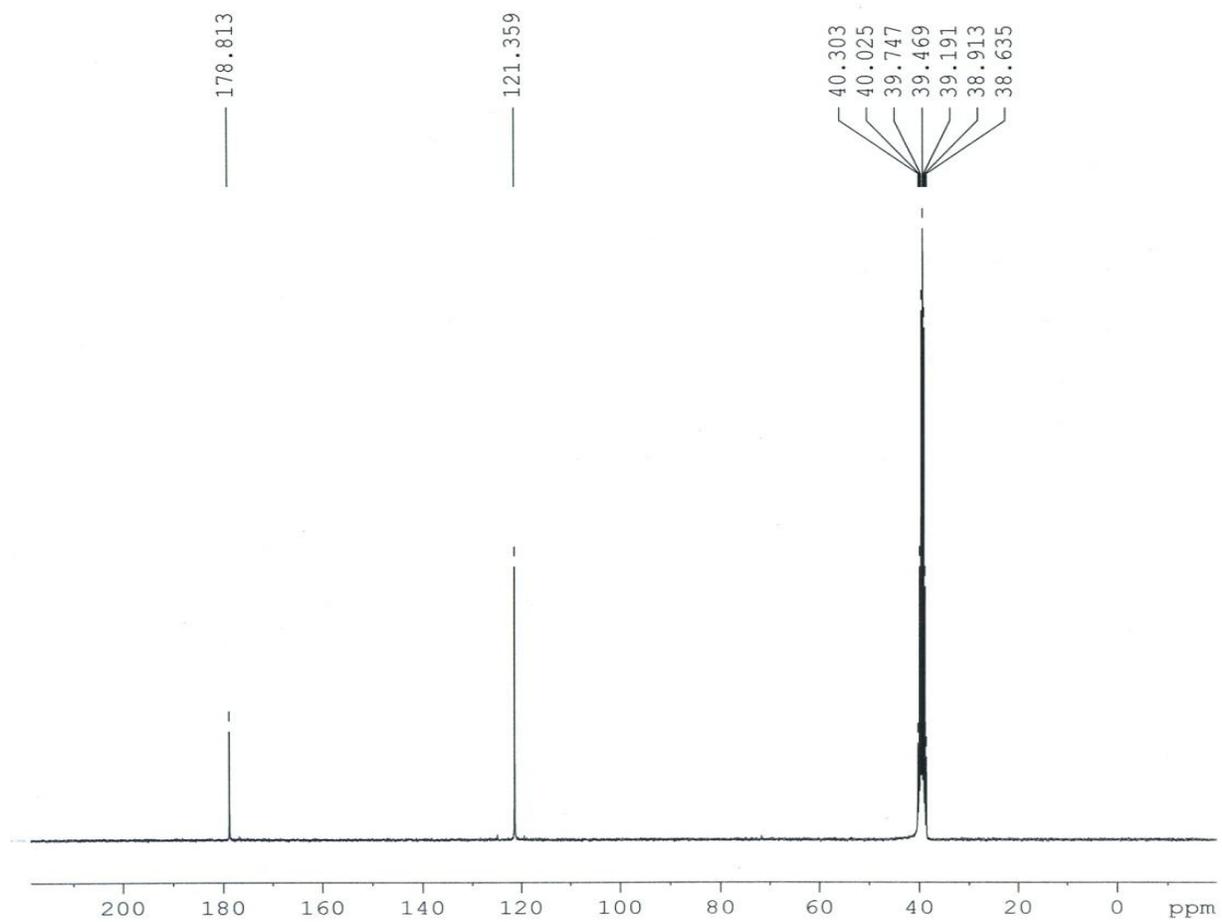


Figure S32. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of **1**

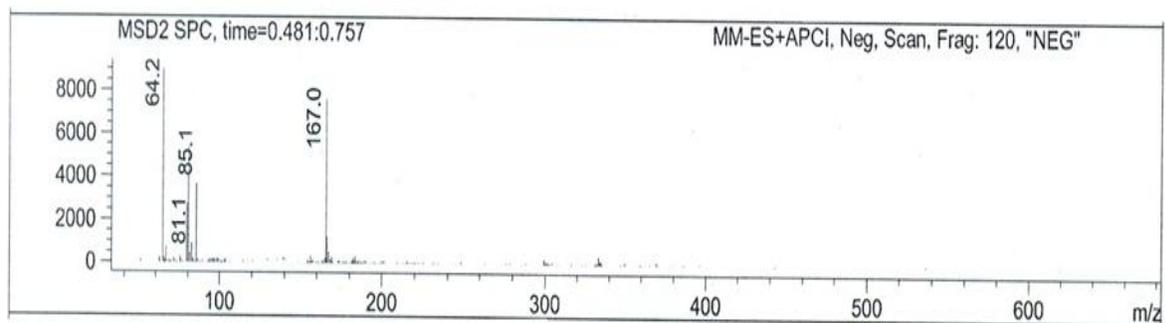


Figure S33. LCMS spectrum of **1**

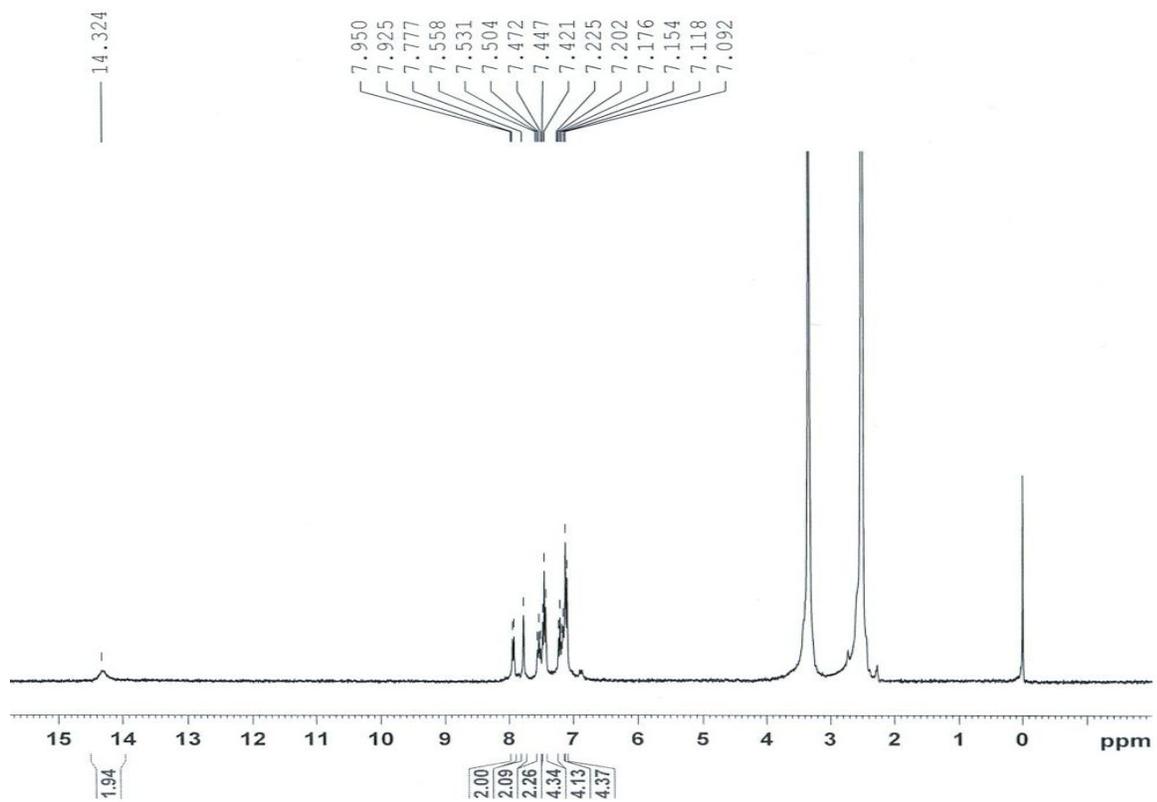


Figure S34. ^1H NMR spectrum of **R1**.

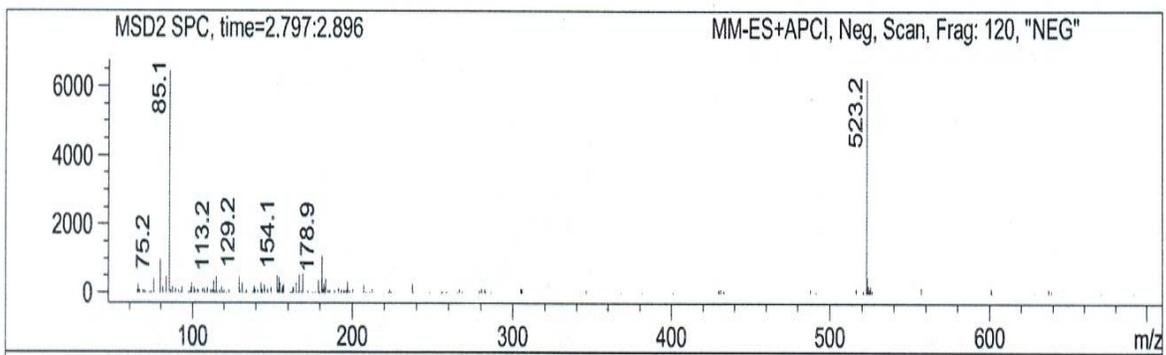


Figure S35. LCMS spectrum of **R1**.

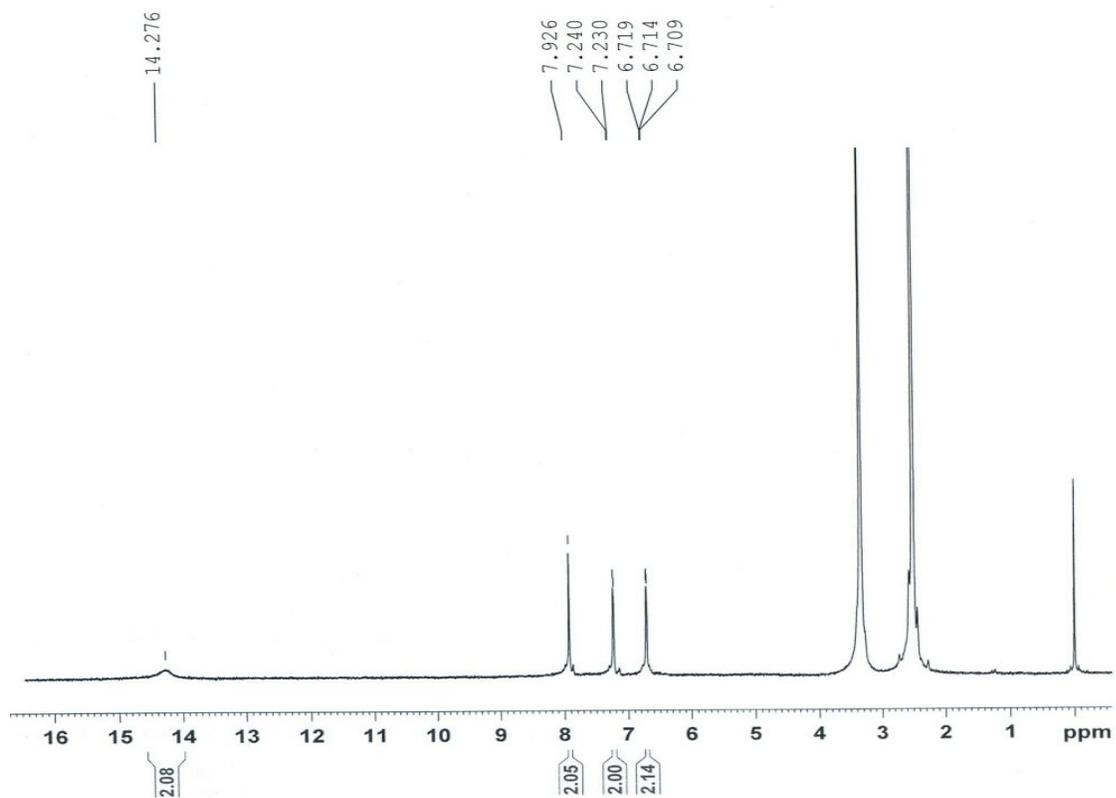


Figure S36. ^1H NMR spectrum of R2.

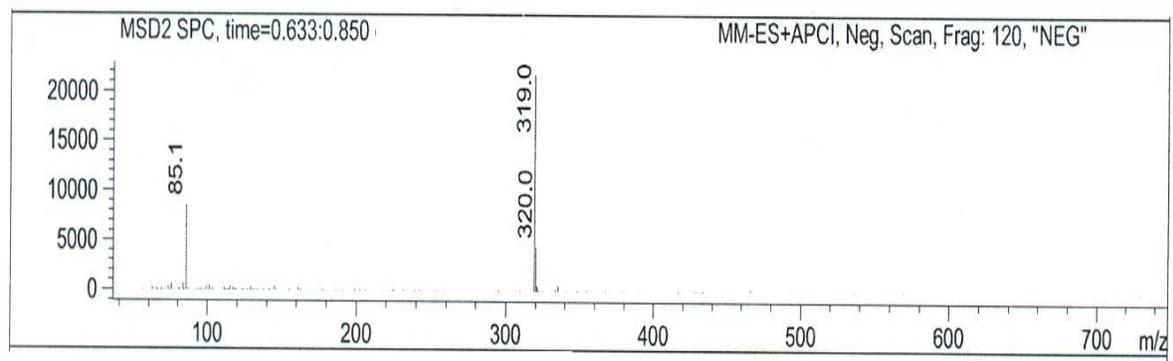


Figure S37. LCMS spectrum of **R2**.

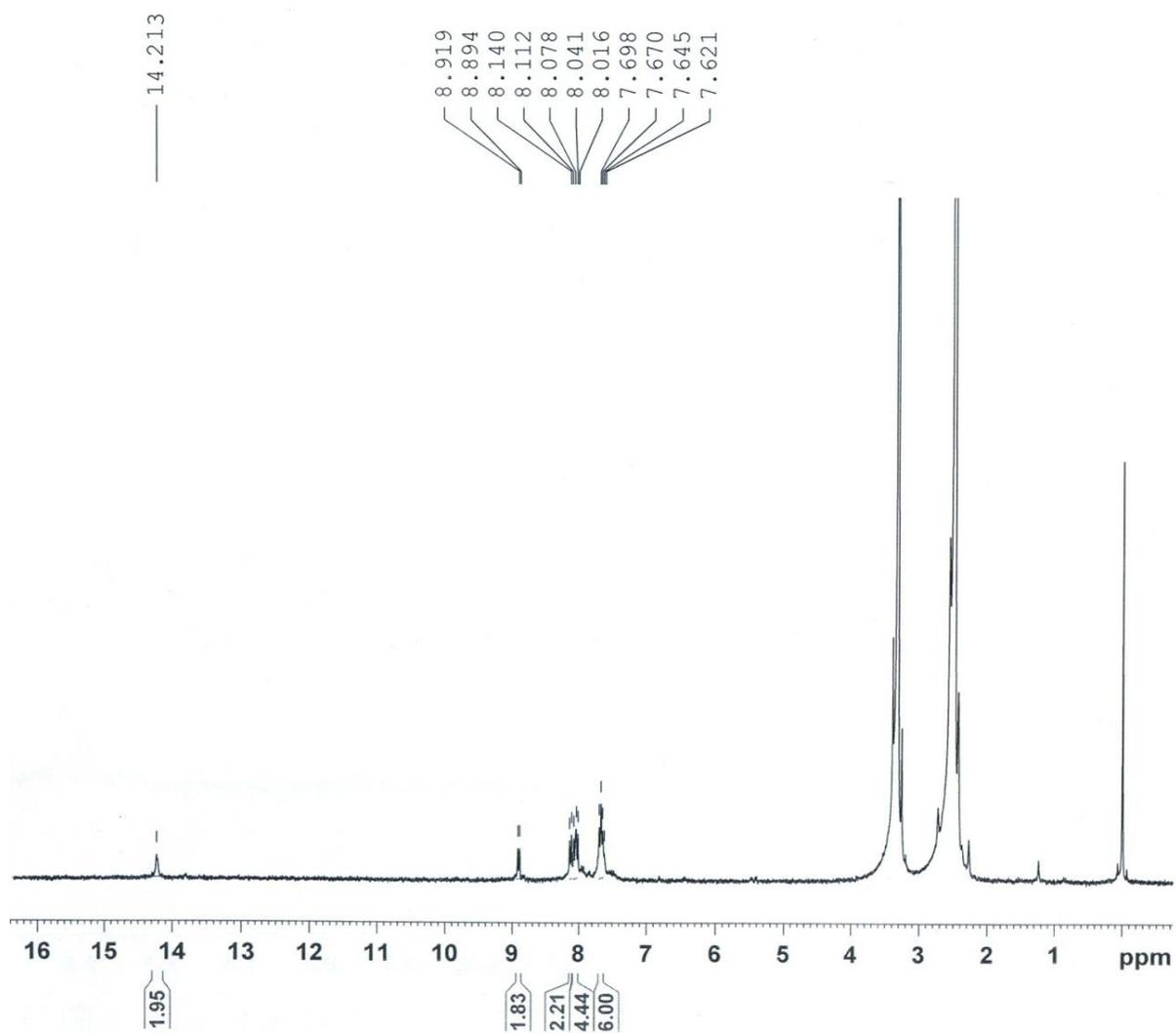


Figure S38. ^1H NMR spectrum of **R3**.

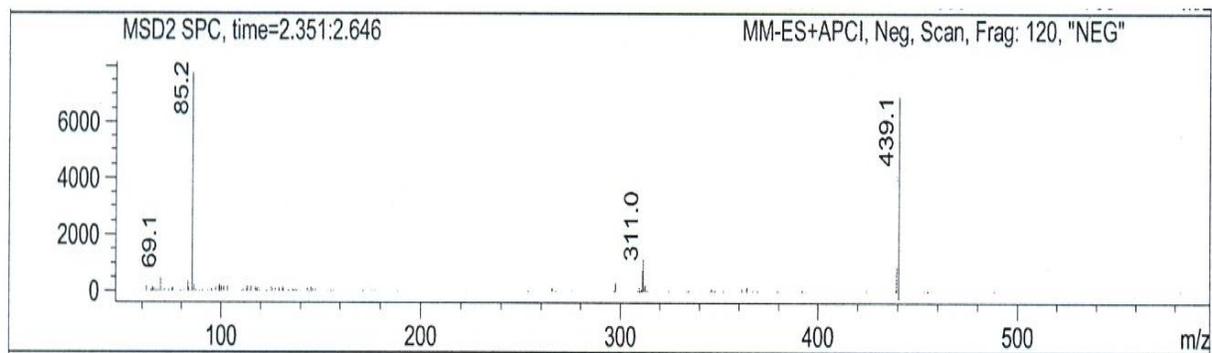


Figure S39. LCMS spectrum of **R3**.

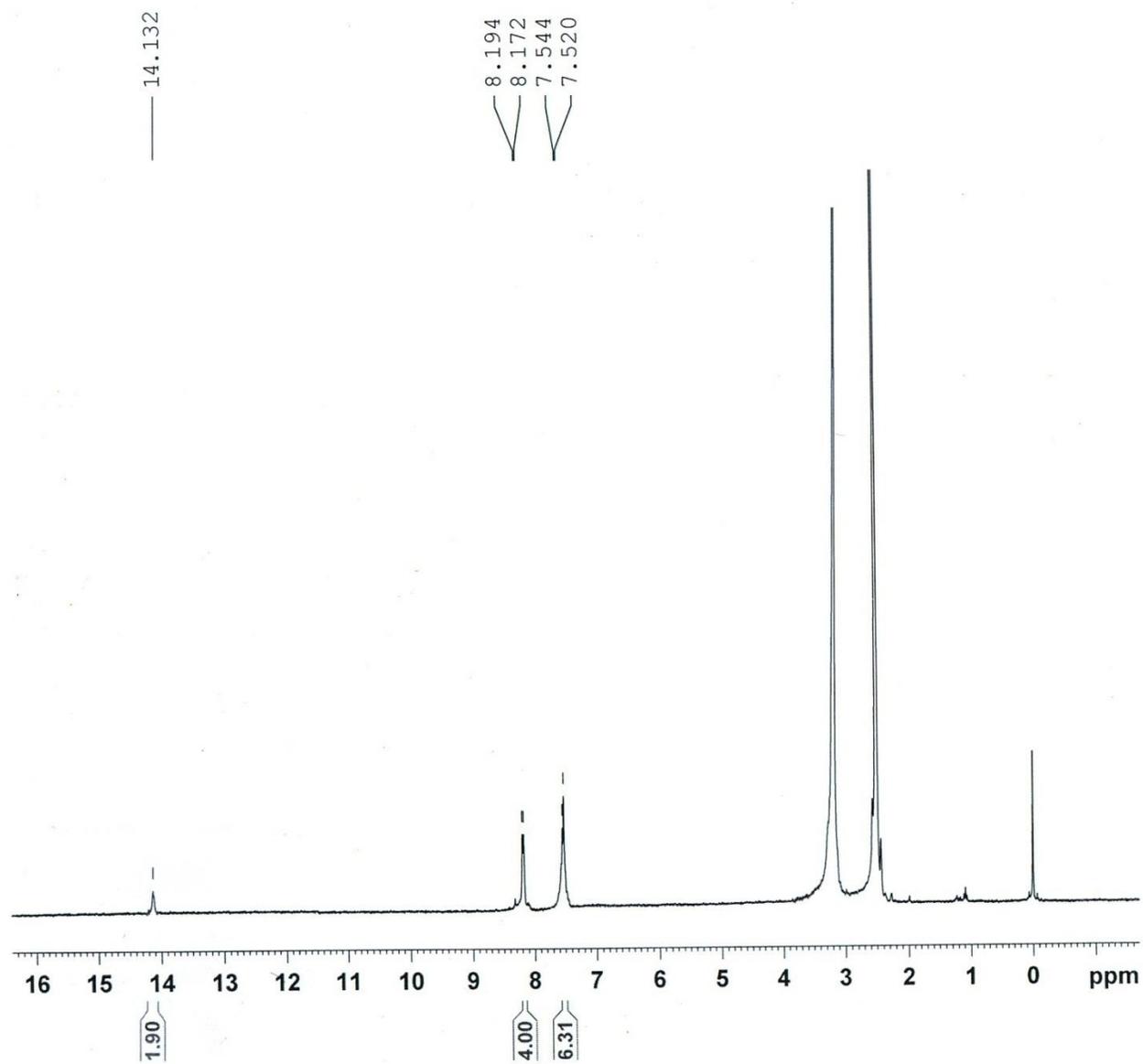


Figure S40. ^1H NMR spectrum of **R4**.

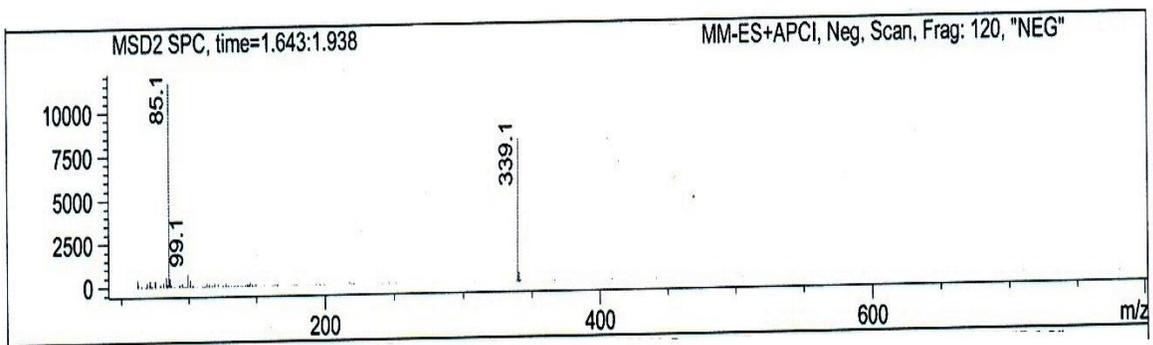


Figure S41. LCMS spectrum of **R4**.

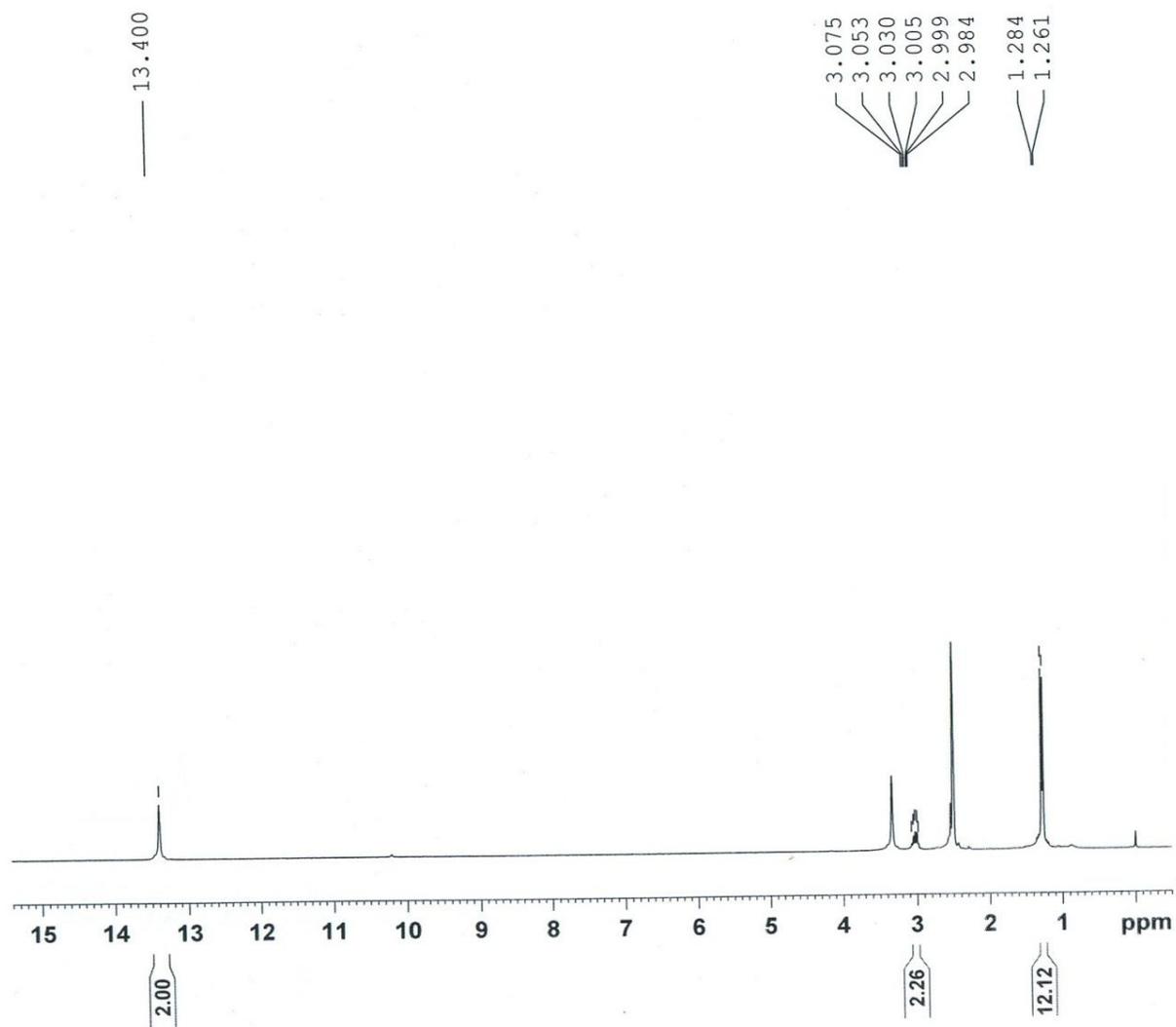


Figure S42. ^1H NMR spectrum of R5.

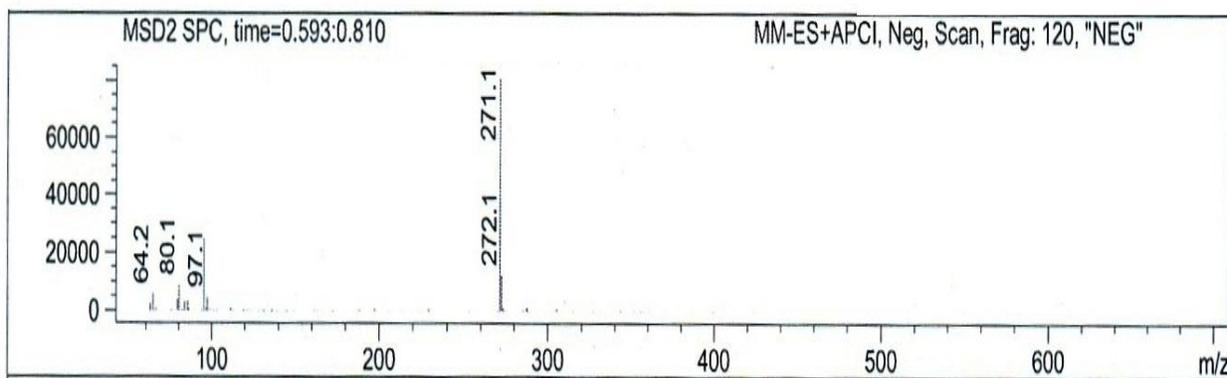


Figure S43. LCMS spectrum of **R5**.