

*RSC Advances*

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*Supporting information*

A New Detection Mechanism Involving Keto-Enol Tautomerization:  
Selective Fluorescence Detection of Al(III) by Dehydration of  
Secondary Alcohols in Mixed DMSO/Aqueous Media

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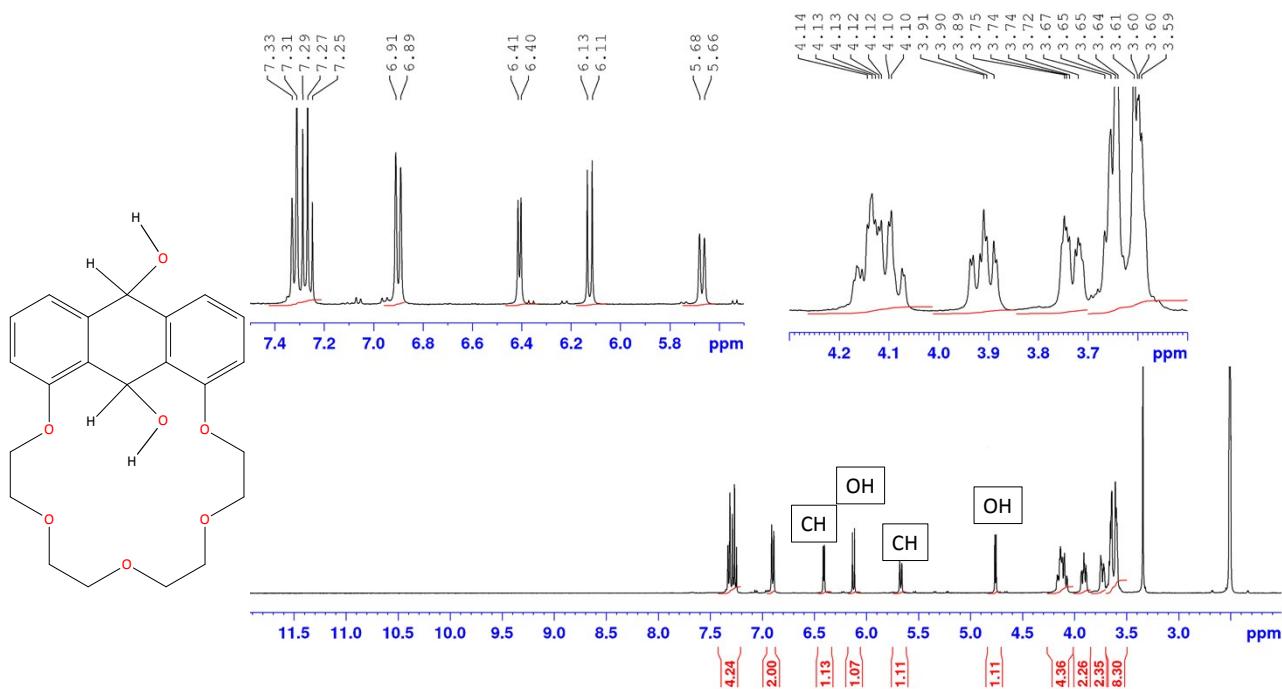


Figure S 1:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound **2** in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ .

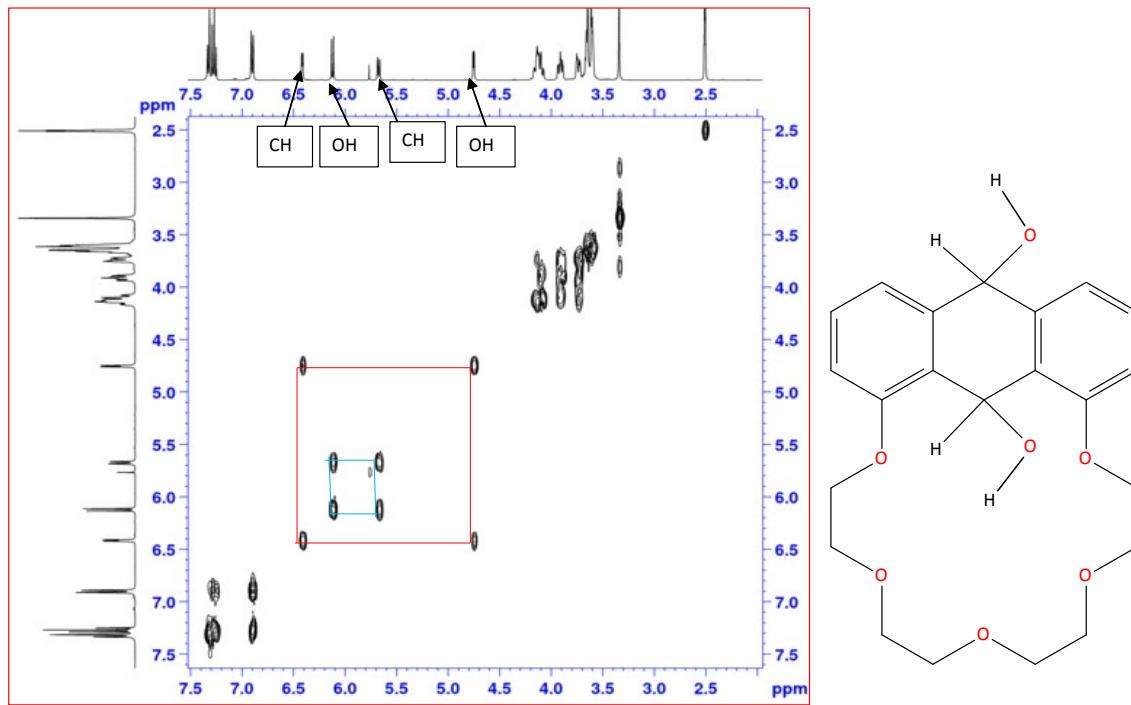


Figure S2: COSY spectrum of compound **2** in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ .

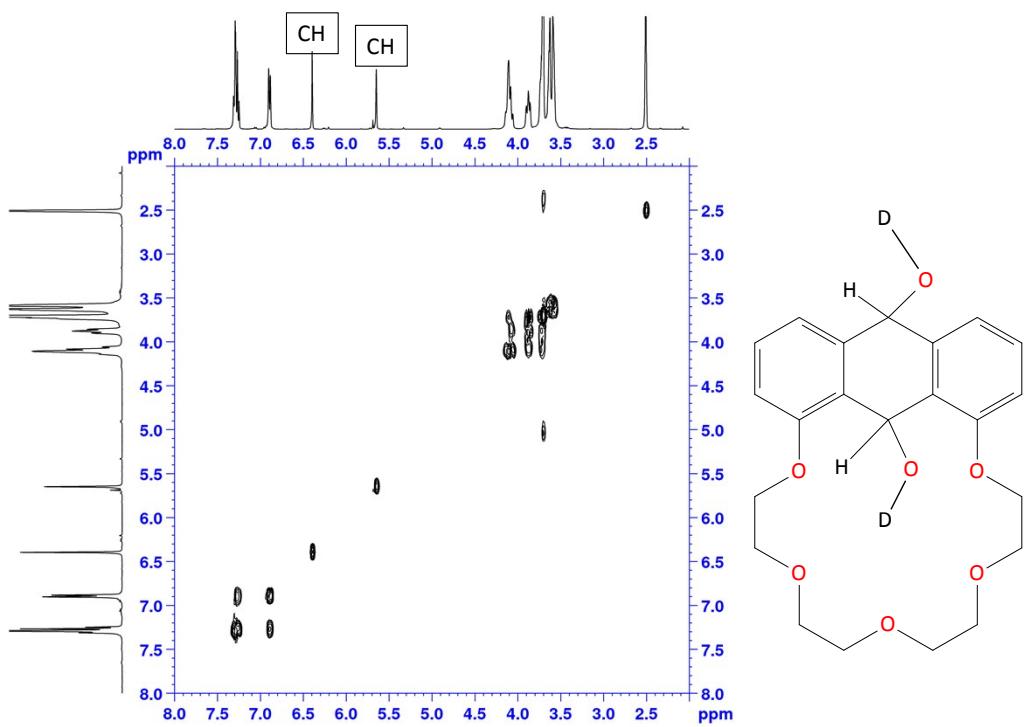


Figure S3: COSY spectrum of compound **2** in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$   $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  exchange.

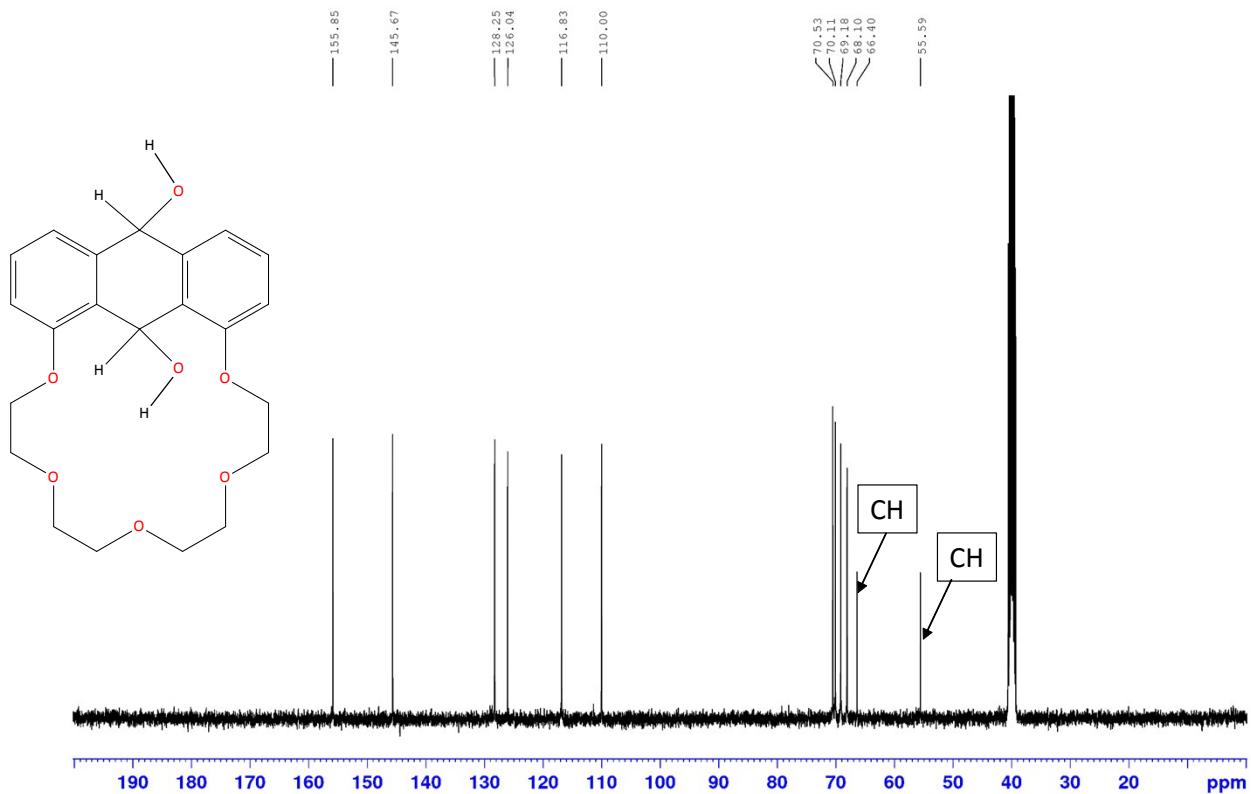


Figure S4:  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of compound **2** in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ .

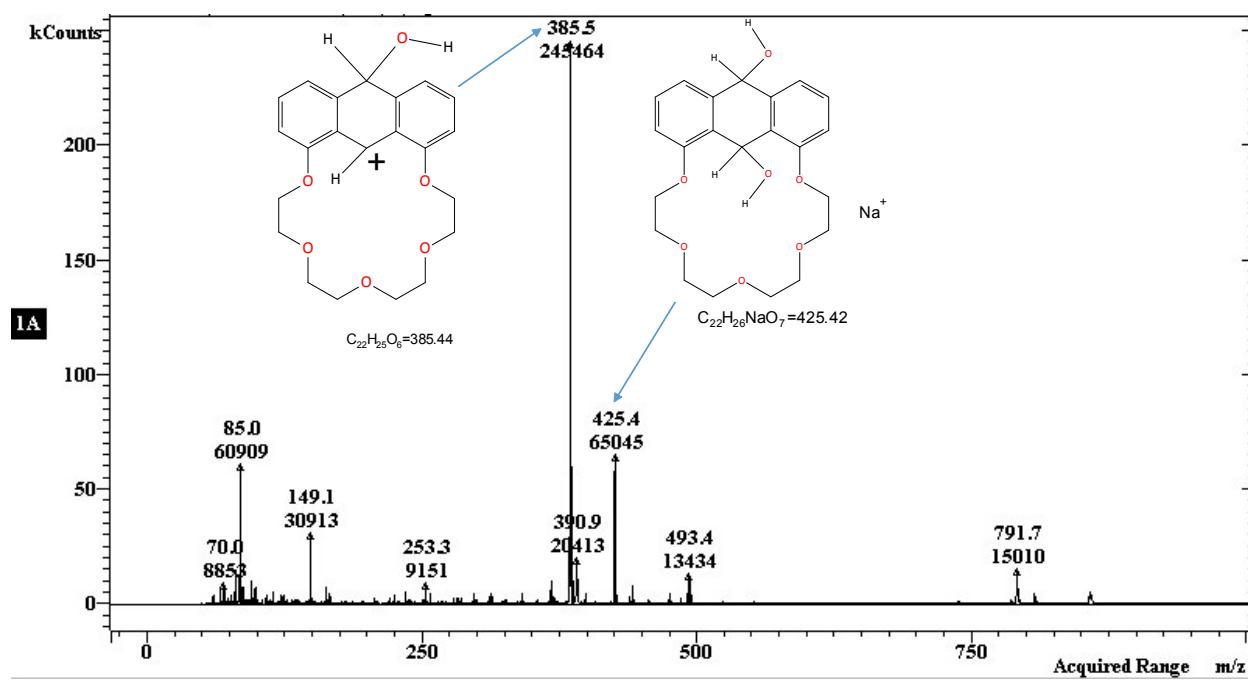


Figure S5: ESI-MS spectrum of compound **2**.

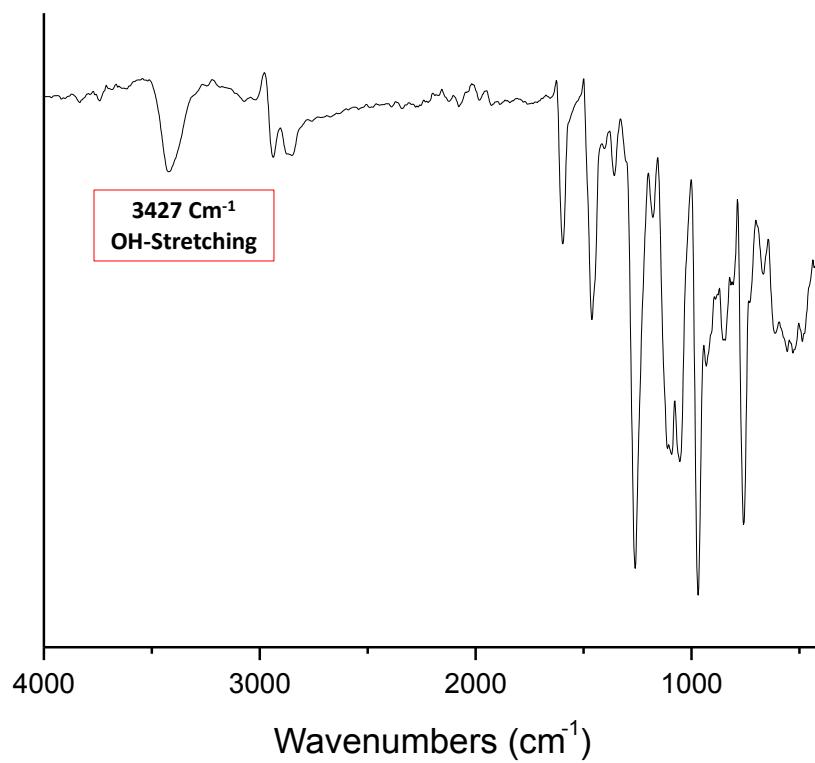


Figure S6: IR spectrum of compound **2**.

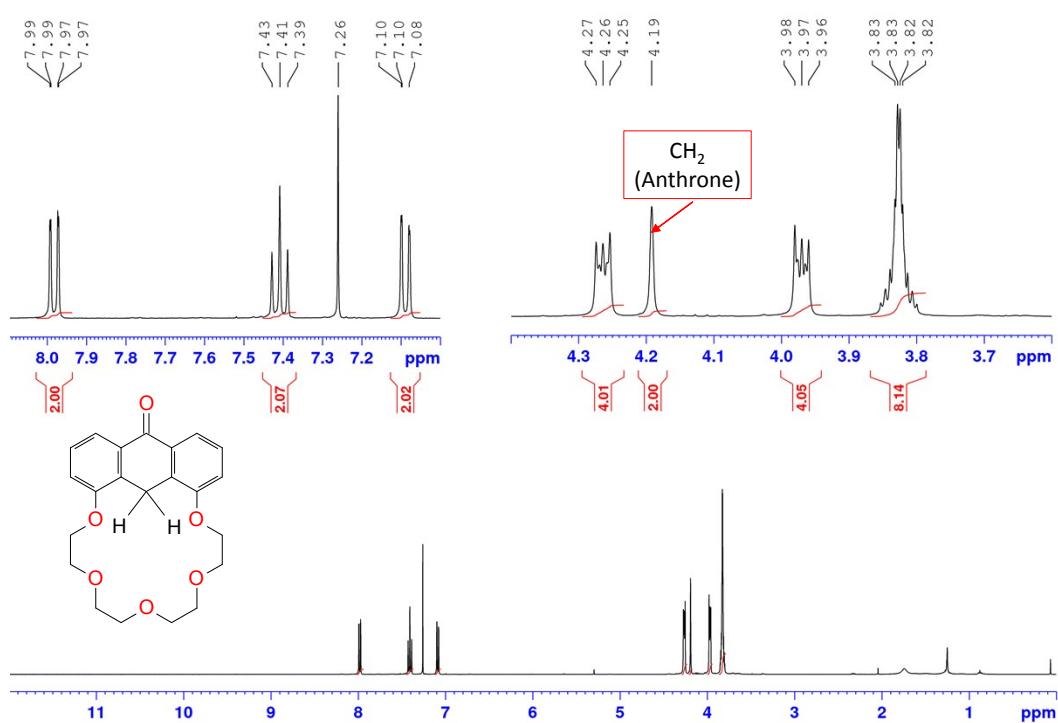


Figure S7:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound **4** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

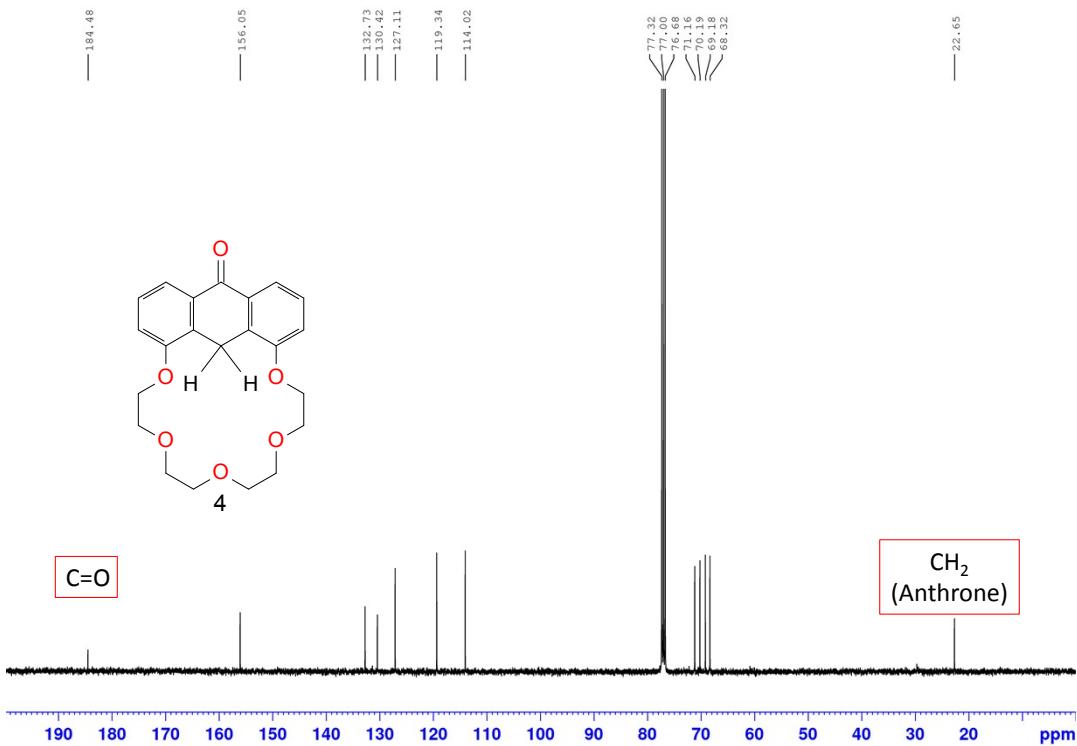


Figure S8:  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of compound **4** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

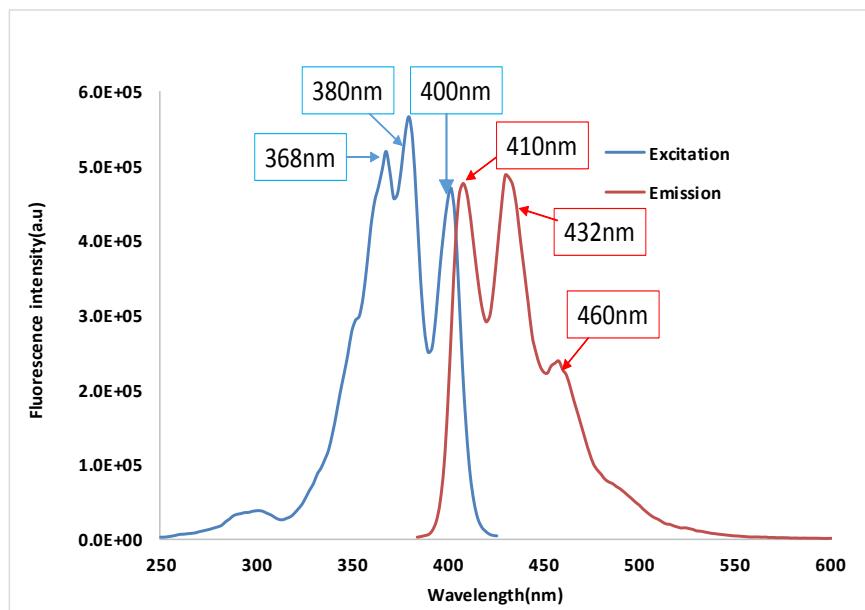


Figure S9: Excitation and Emission spectrum of 3.0 mL of 100 $\mu$ M compound **2** in DMSO + pH = 7 buffer (10%).  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 365$  nm.

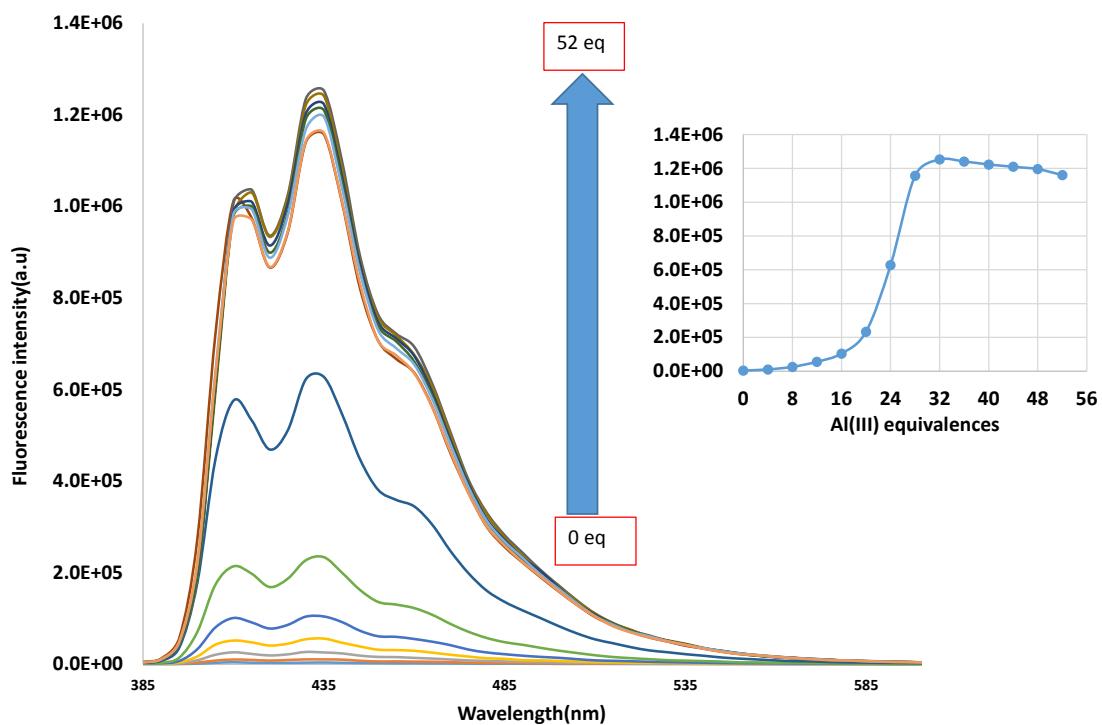


Figure S10: Fluorescence spectrum of  $10^{-4}$  M compound **2** in DMSO (90%) + pH = 7 buffer (10%) with added 10 - 130  $\mu$ L of  $1.2 \times 10^{-1}$  M Al(III) ( $\text{ClO}_4$ )<sub>3</sub> in water (0-52eq).  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 365$  nm.

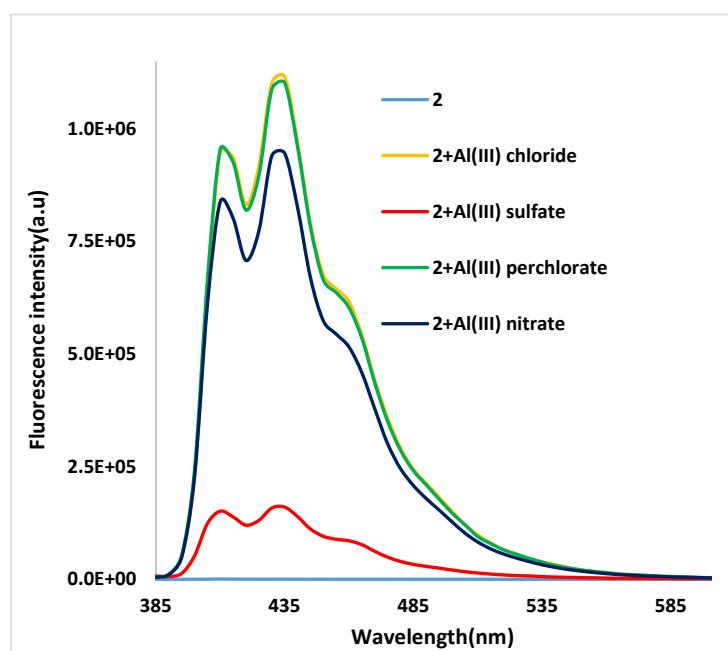


Figure S11: Fluorescence spectrum of 3.0 mL of 100 $\mu$ M compound **2** in DMSO + pH = 7 buffer (10%) with added 30 eq of  $1.2 \times 10^{-1}$  M Al(III) salts (Chloride, perchlorate, nitrate, sulfate) in water  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 365\text{nm}$ .

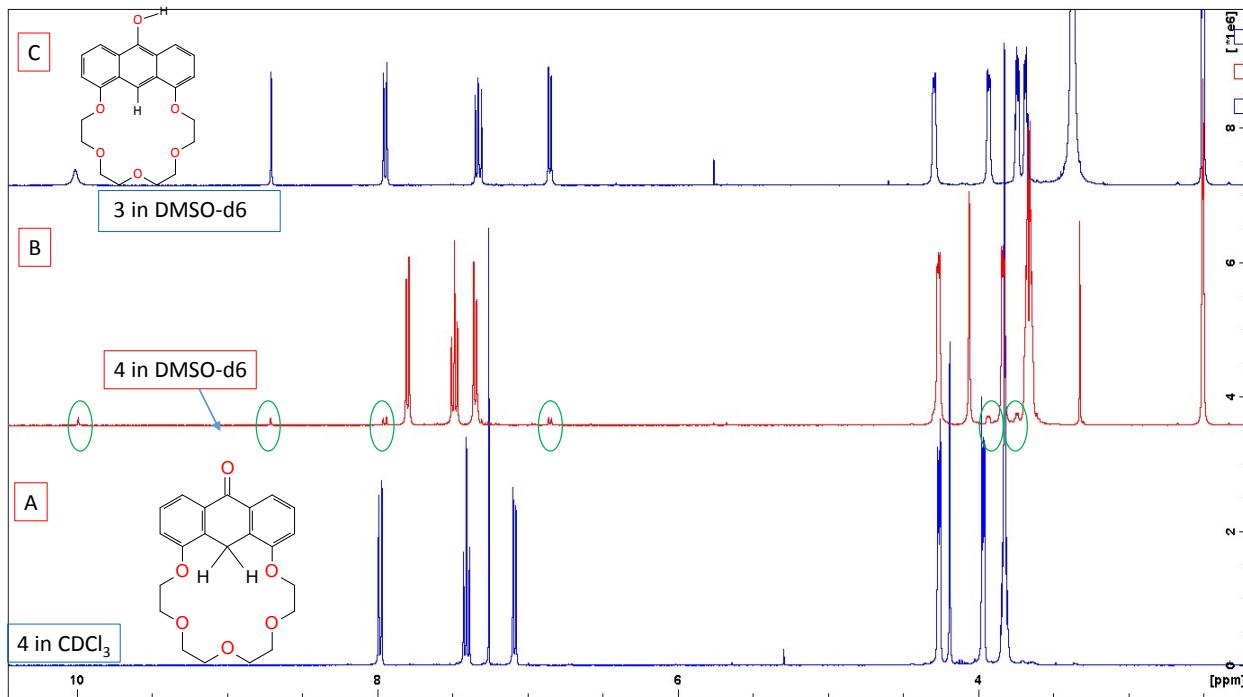


Figure S12: (A)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound **4** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , (B)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound **4** in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$  and (C)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound **3** in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ .

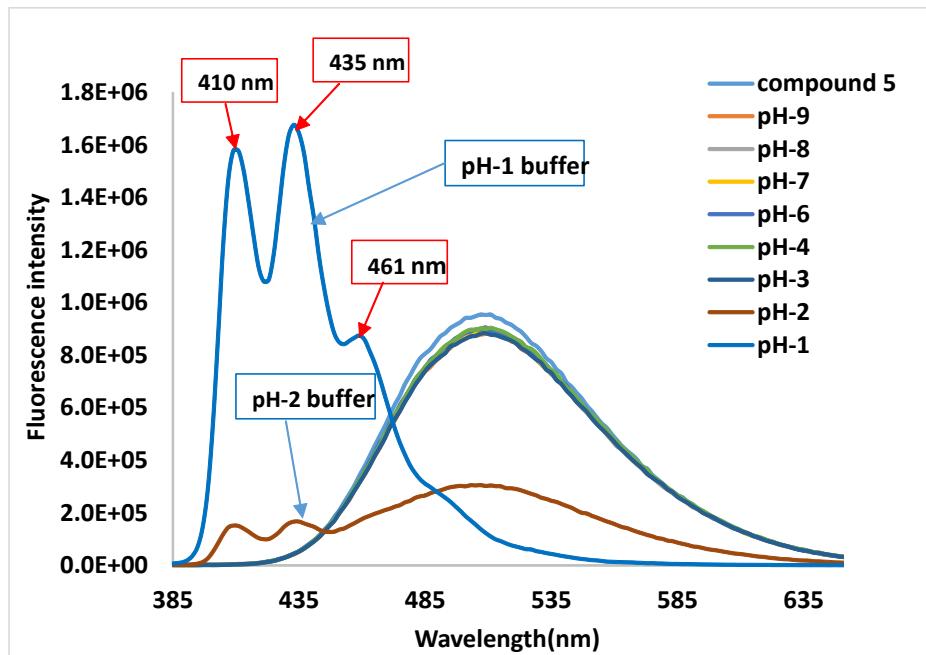


Figure S13: Fluorescence spectrum of 3.0 mL of 100 $\mu\text{M}$  compound **5** in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  with added 50 $\mu\text{l}$  of pH = 1 buffer.  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 365 \text{ nm}$ .

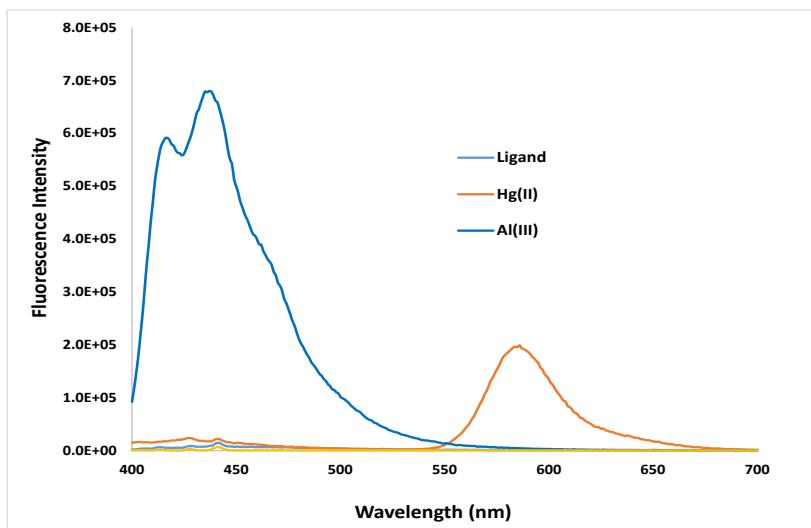


Figure S14: Emission spectra of  $4.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}$  **7** in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  with 5.0 equivalents of added Al(III) or Hg(II).  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 390 \text{ nm}$ .

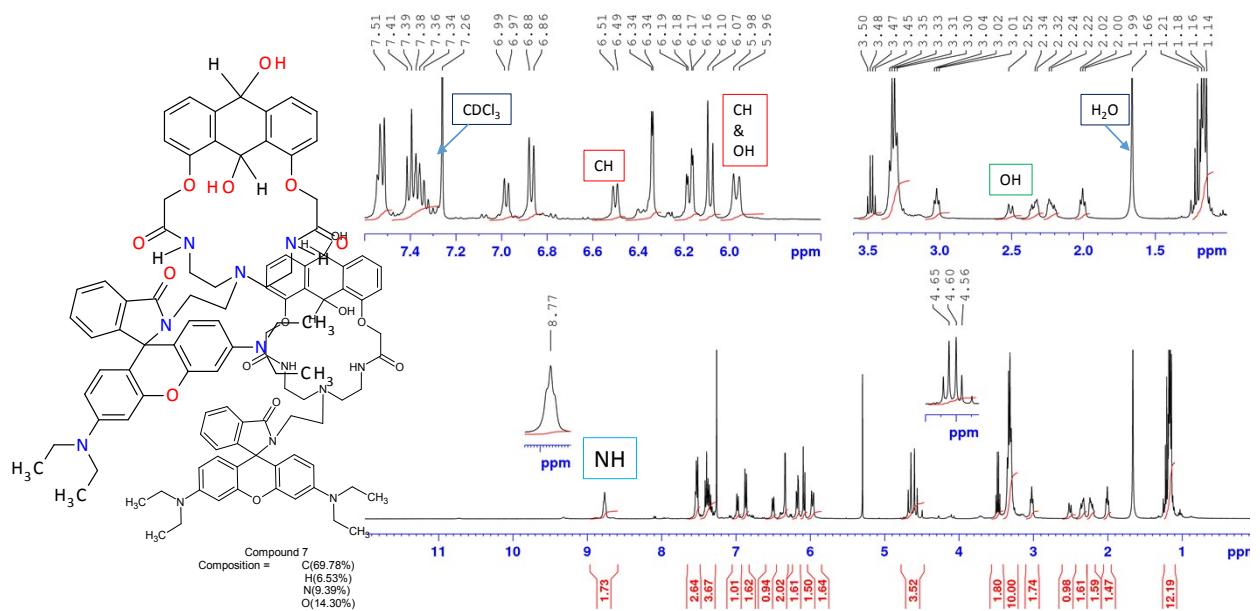


Figure S15:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound 7 in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

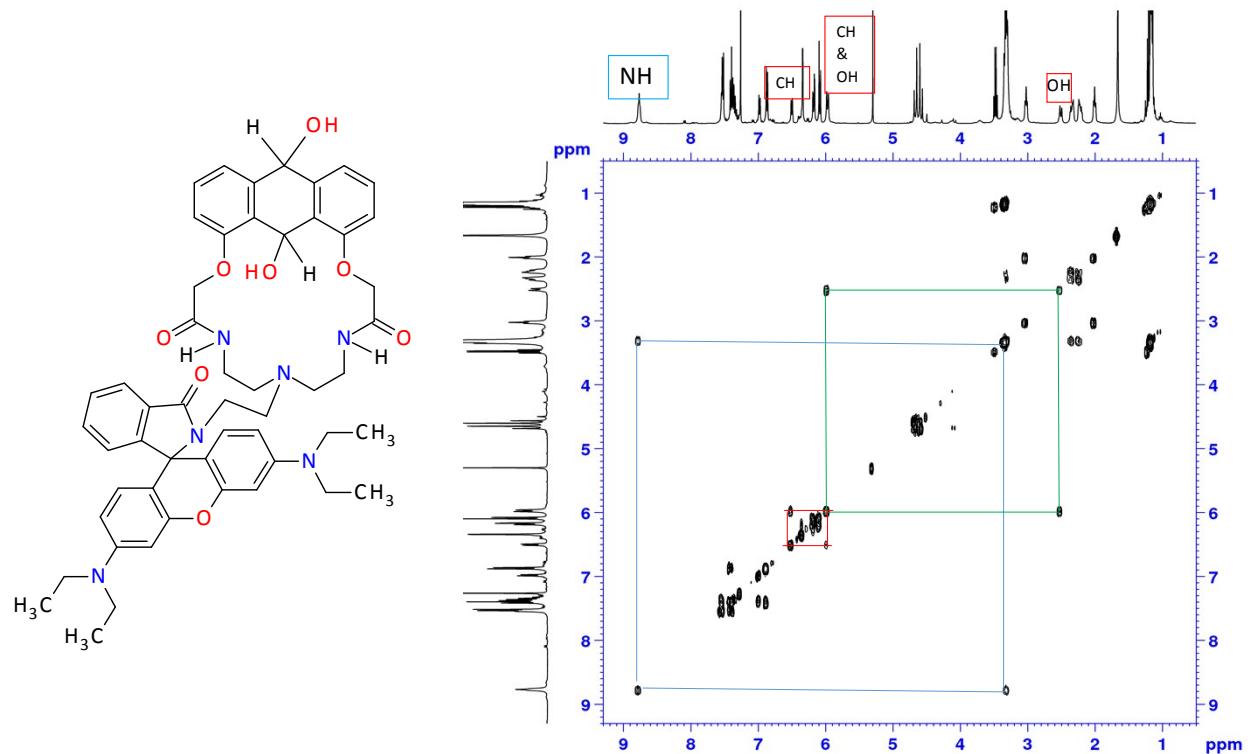


Figure S16: COSY spectrum of compound 7 in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

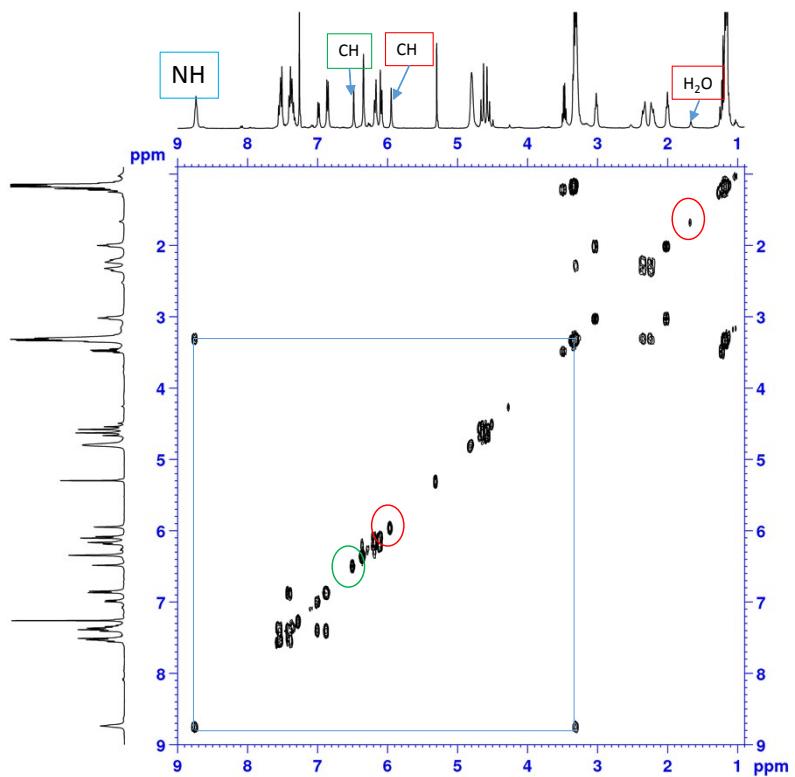


Figure S17: COSY spectrum of compound **7** in  $\text{CDCl}_3\text{D}_2\text{O}$  exchange.

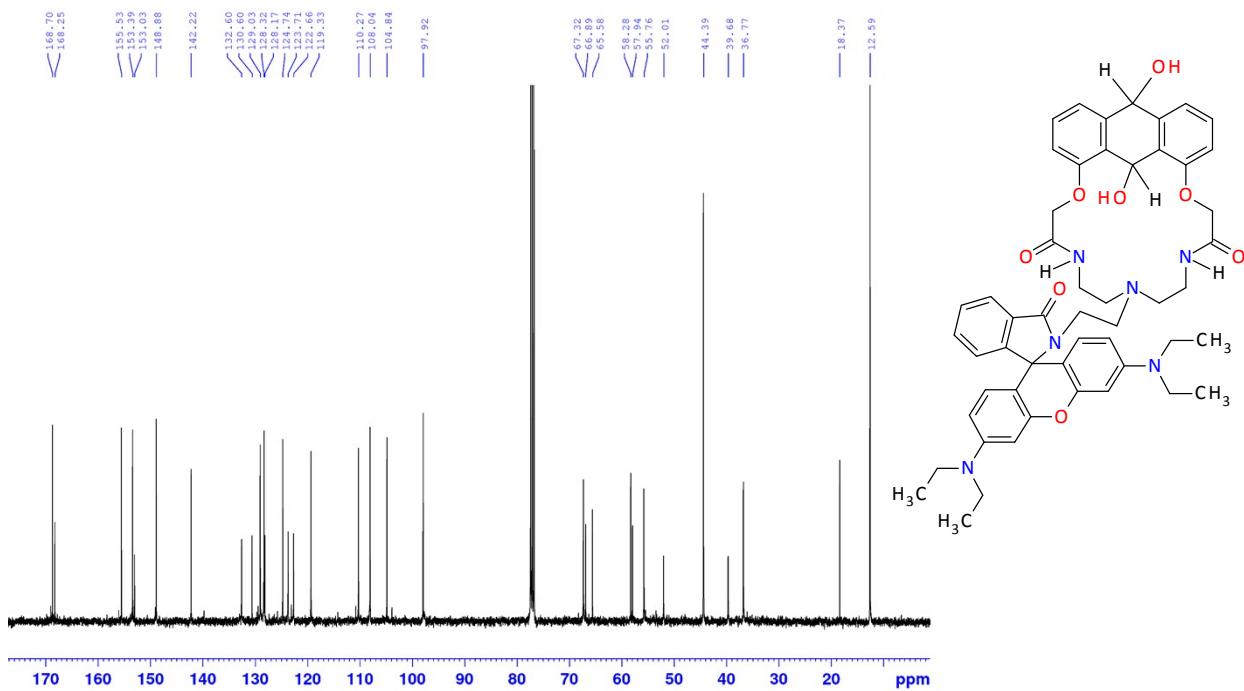


Figure S18:  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of compound **7** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

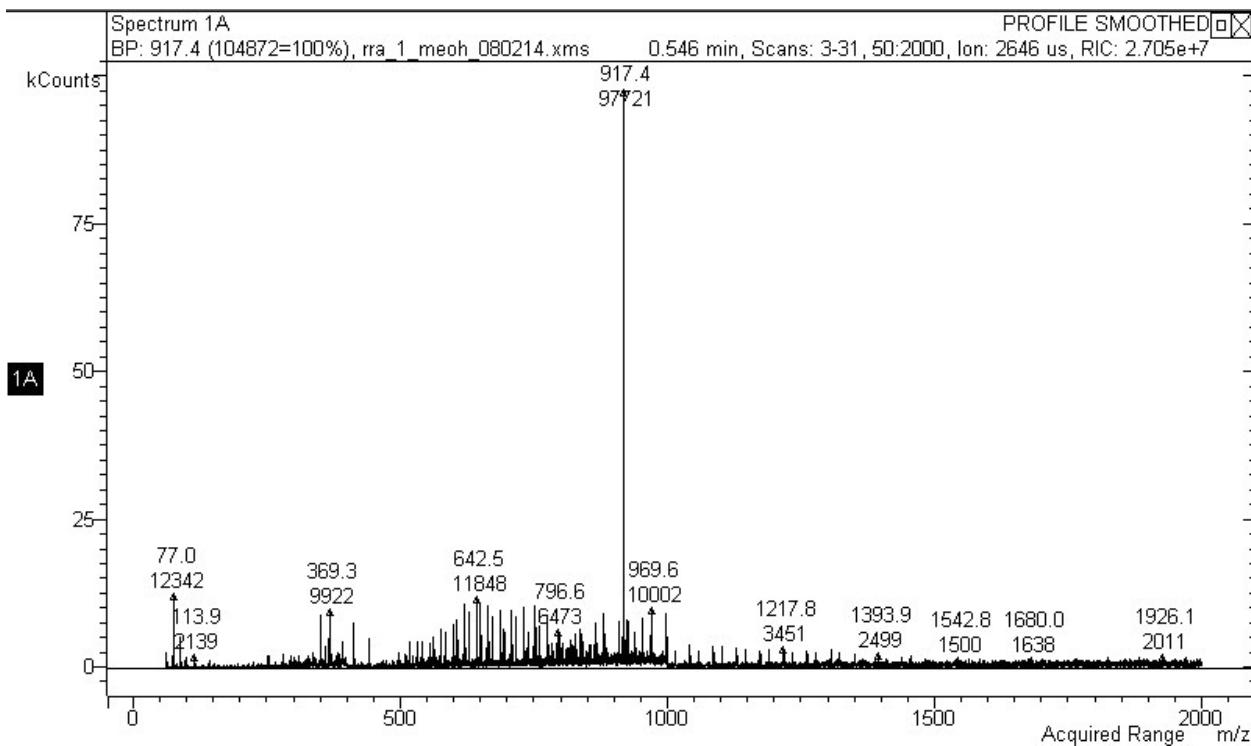


Figure S19: Mass spectrum of compound 7.

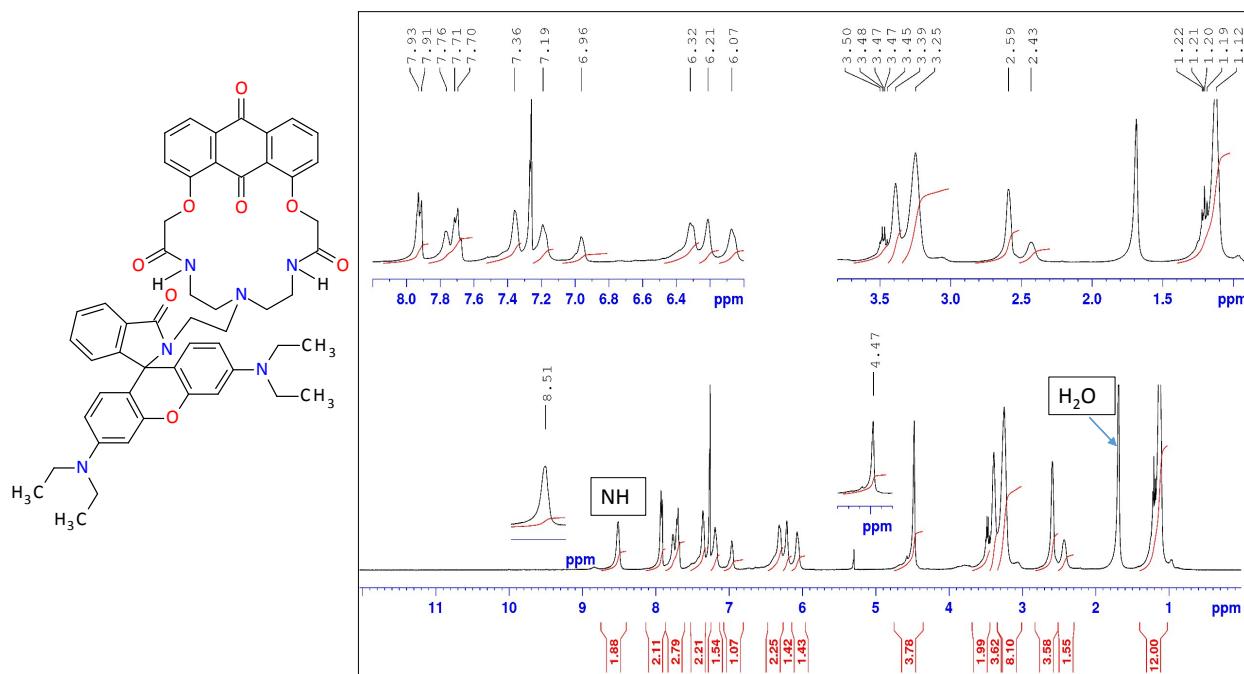


Figure S20:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound 6 in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

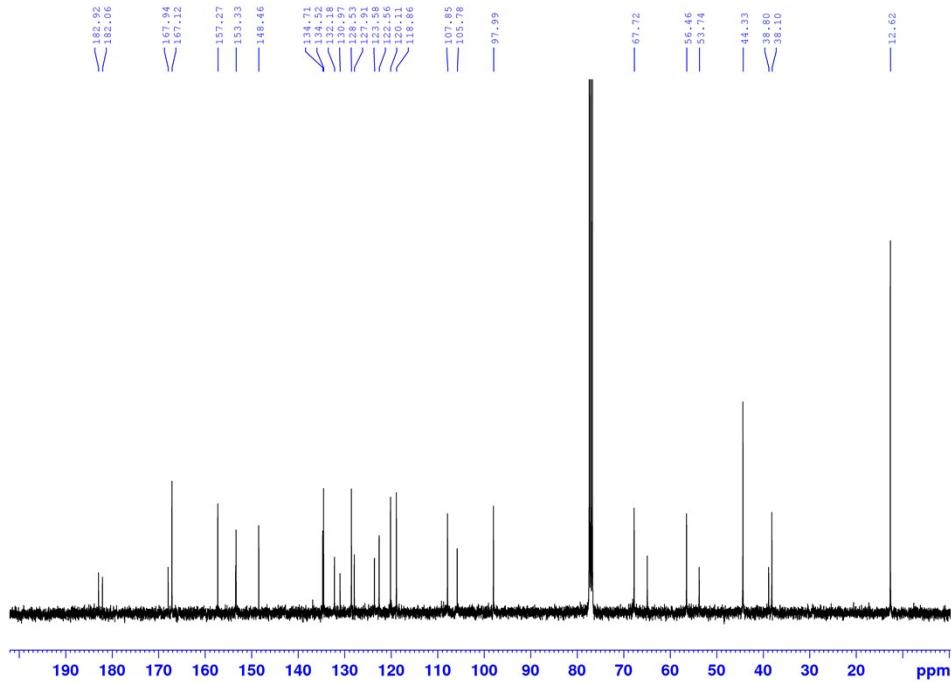


Figure S21:  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of compound **6** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

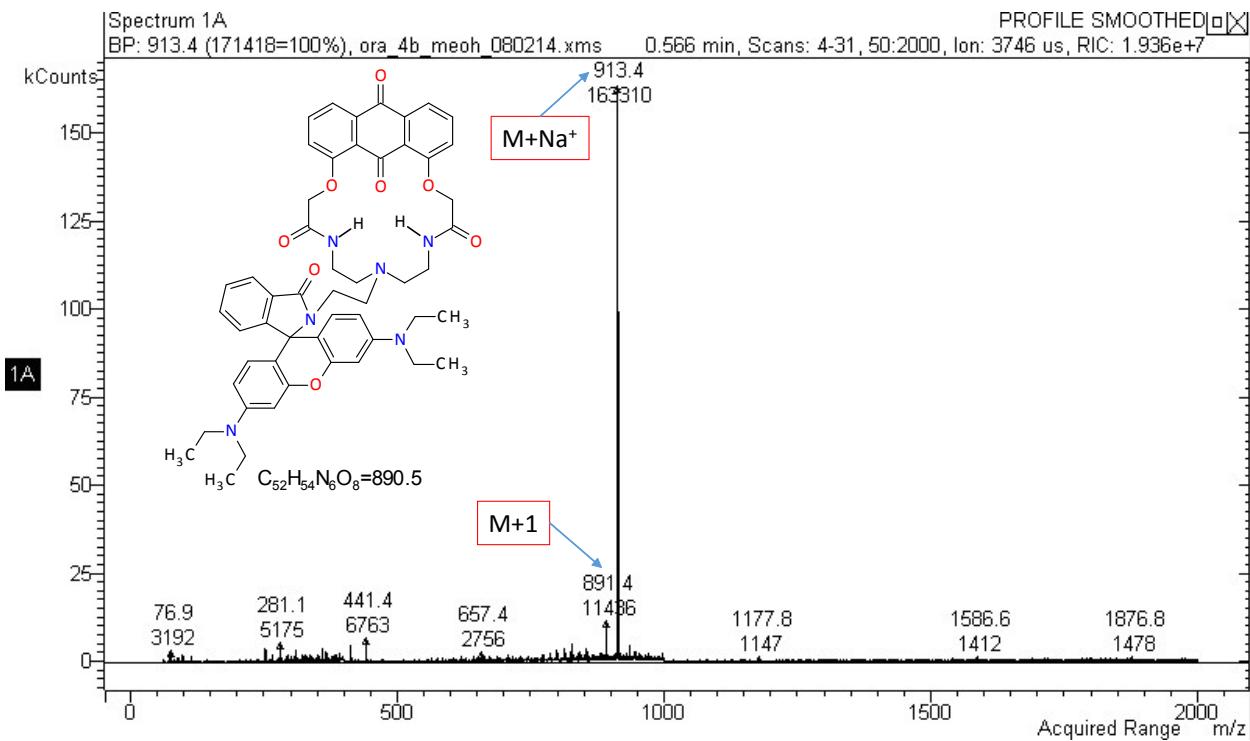
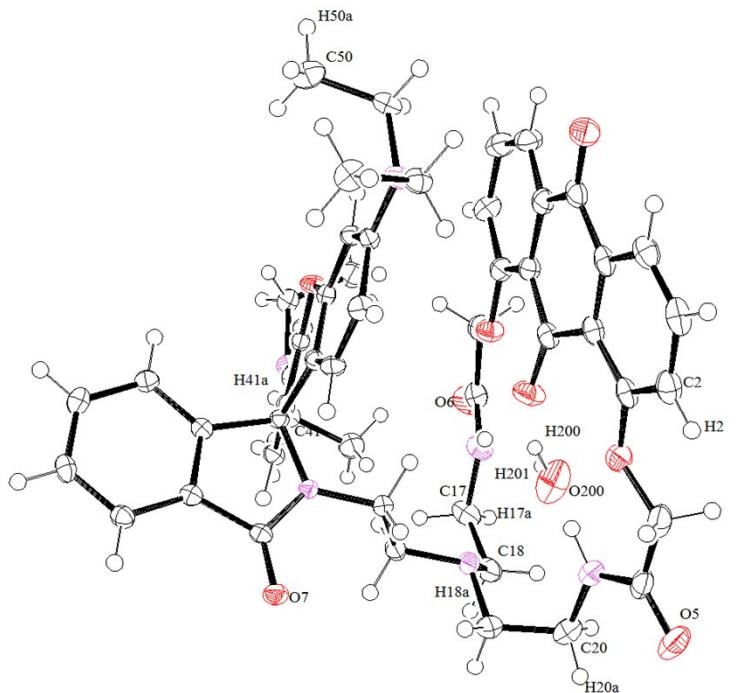


Figure S22: Mass spectrum of compound **6**.



| Donor | Acceptor | Distance(A) |
|-------|----------|-------------|
| O200  | O6       | 2.832(3)    |
| O200  | O5       | 2.770(3)    |
| C2    | O200     | 3.220(3)    |
| C17   | O200     | 3.487(3)    |
| C18   | O7       | 3.555(3)    |
| C20   | O5       | 2.757(3)    |
| C41   | O7       | 3.465(2)    |
| C50   | O7       | 3.462(3)    |

Figure S23: Thermal Ellipsoid diagram (30%) of compound **6** with one water molecule; hydrogen bond distances between donor and acceptor.

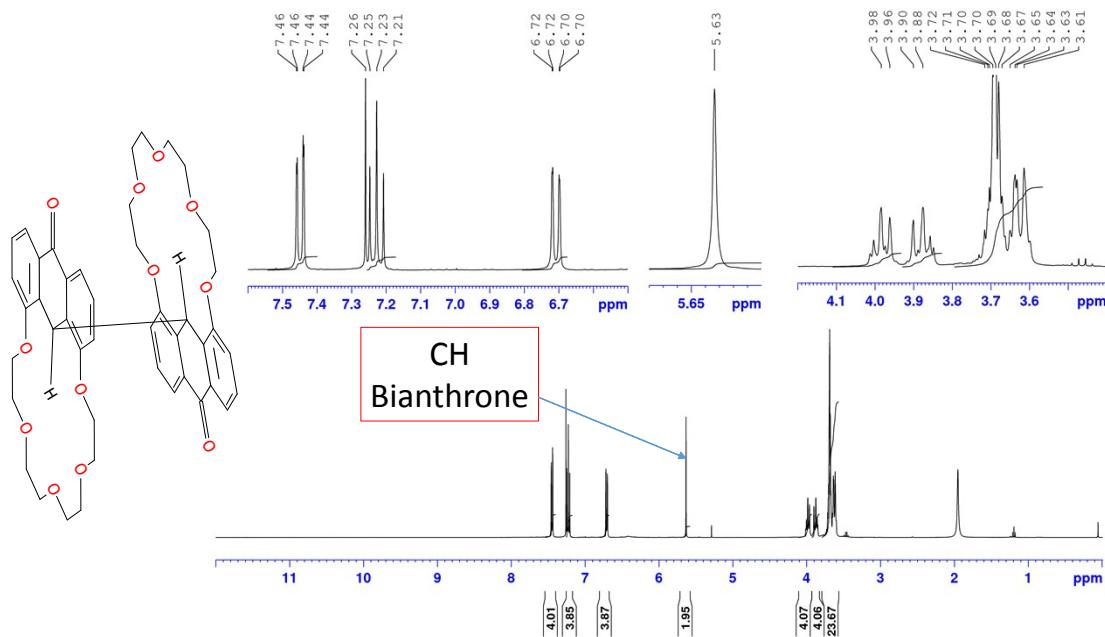


Figure S24:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **11** in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ .

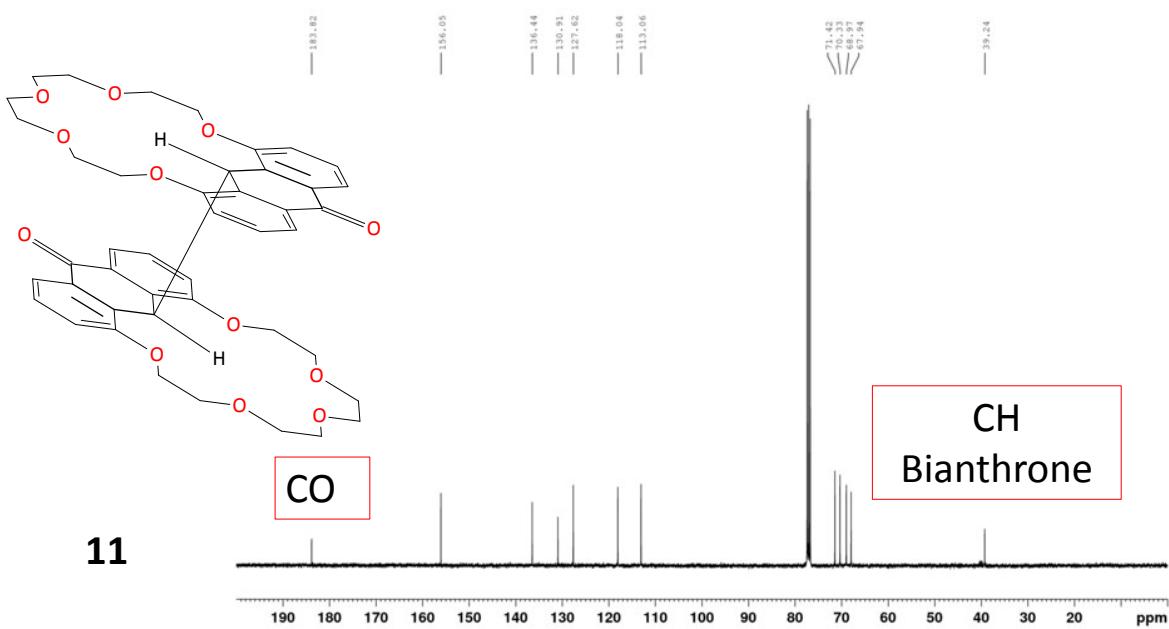


Figure S25:  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of compound **11** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

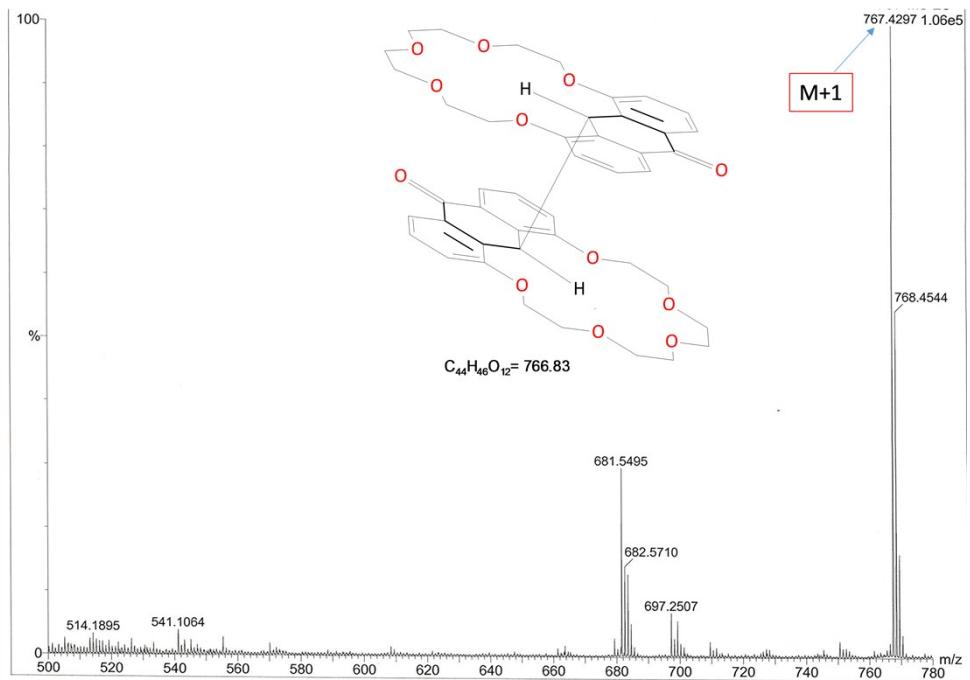


Figure S26: Mass spectroscopy of compound **11**.

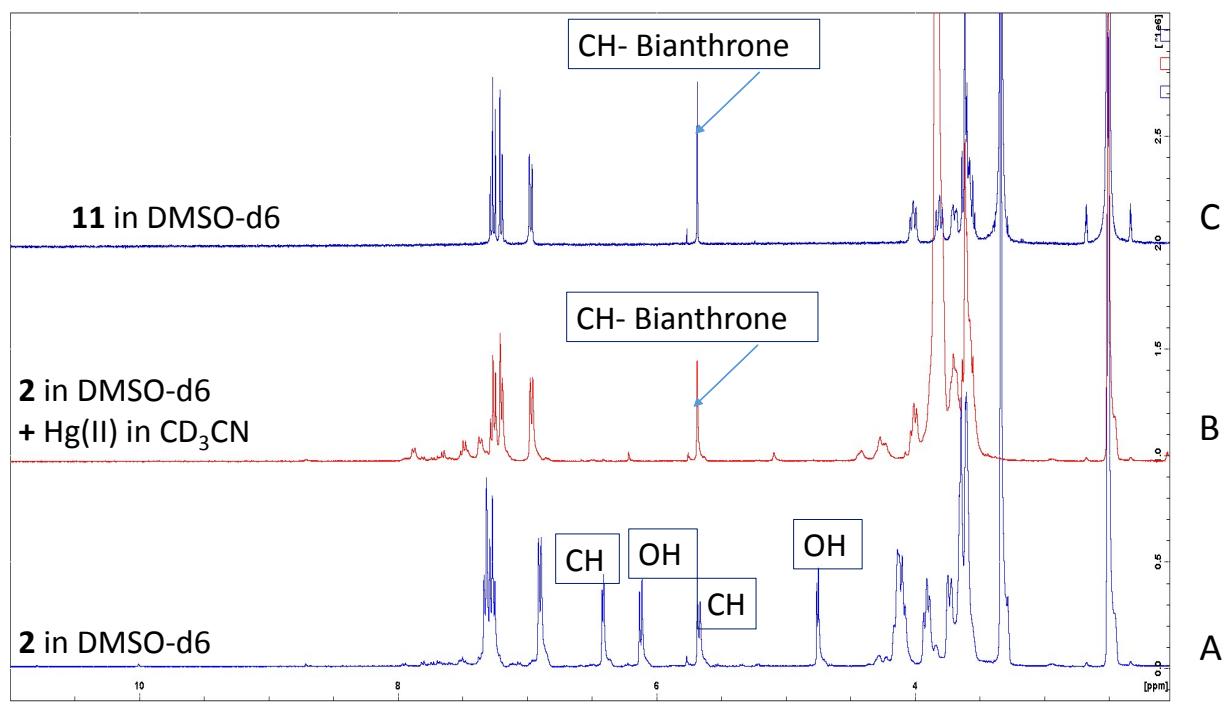


Figure S27: (A)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **2** in DMSO-d6. (B) **2** in DMSO-d6 + Hg(II) in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$  after 30 min. (C) **11** in DMSO-d6.

Table S1: Crystallographic data of compounds **2**, **4**, **6** and **11**.

|                                  | <b>2</b>                                       | <b>4</b>                                       | <b>6.H<sub>2</sub>O</b>   | <b>11</b>                                       |
|----------------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| Empirical formula                | C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>26</sub> O <sub>7</sub> | C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>24</sub> O <sub>6</sub> | C <sub>52</sub> H <sub>54</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>8</sub> .H <sub>2</sub> O | C <sub>44</sub> H <sub>46</sub> O <sub>12</sub> |
| Formula weight                   | 402.43   | 384.40   | 909.02  | 766.8   |
| Wavelength                       | MoK <sub>α</sub> 0.71073                       | MoK <sub>α</sub> 0.71073                       | MoK <sub>α</sub> 0.71073  | MoK <sub>β</sub> 0.71073                        |
| System                           | SMART APEII                                    | SMART APEII                                    | SMART APEXII  | SMART APEXII                                    |
| Temperature, K                   | 100(2)   | 100(2)   | 100(2)  | 295(2)  |
| Crystal system                   | Monoclinic                                     | Monoclinic                                     | Monoclinic  | Monoclinic                                      |
| Space group                      | P21/c  | P21/n  | P21/h   | P21/c   |
| <i>a</i> , Å                     | 7.7175(6)                                      | 12.2726(5)                                     | 11.6503(6)  | 12.537(1)                                       |
| <i>b</i> , Å                     | 13.5383(11)                                    | 13.7003(6)                                     | 26.3127(13)   | 11.121(1)                                       |
| <i>c</i> , Å                     | 18.6624(15)                                    | 22.4713(10)                                    | 14.6567(7)  | 13.500(1)                                       |
| α, °                             | 90   | 90   | 90  | 90  |
| β, °                             | 90.12(1)                                       | 96.75(10)                                      | 96.09(10)   | 92.734(1)                                       |
| γ, °                             | 90   | 90   | 90  | 90  |
| Volume, Å <sup>3</sup>           | 1949.9(3)                                      | 3752.1(3)                                      | 4467.7(4)   | 1880.0(3)                                       |
| Z                                | 4  | 8  | 4   | 2   |
| Density (calc)g.cm <sup>-3</sup> | 1.371  | 1.361  | 1.351   | 1.355   |
| Absorb. coef. mm <sup>-1</sup>   | 0.102  | 0.099  | 0.093   | 0.098   |
| <i>F</i> (000)                   | 1632   | 1632   | 1928  | 812   |
| θ range                          | 2.64-25.42                                     | 2.24-28.79                                     | 1.55-26.50  | 1.7- 25.5                                       |
| Index ranges (h,k,l)             | ±9,±16,±23                                     | ±16;±18;±30                                    | ±14;-32+33;±18  | ±15;±13;±16                                     |
| Independent reflections          | 4020   | 9382   | 9256  | 19077   |
| Observed reflections             | 3843   | 7974   | 6993  | 3488  |
| Max/Min trans.                   | 0.903/0.970                                    | 0.991/0.995                                    | 0.987/0.993   | 0.976/0.995                                     |
| Data/restr./ param.              | 4220/0/270                                     | 9382/0/505                                     | 9256/2/620  | 3488/7/261                                      |
| Goodness-of-fit                  | 1.079  | 1.016  | 1.026   | 1.049   |
| Final R indices[>2σ( <i>I</i> )] | 0.0401   | 0.0381   | 0.0451  | 0.0894  |
| R indices (all data)             | 0.0412   | 0.0467   | 0.0664  | 0.1219  |
| Peak/ hole                       | 0.468, -0.313                                  | 0.357, -0.266                                  | 0.362, -0.306   | 0.78/-0.74                                      |
| CCDC #                           | 1436743  | 1436744  | 1436745   | 1444688   |