

Supplementary Information

for

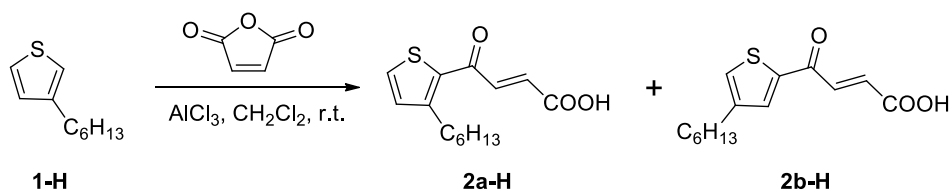
Lactone-Fused Electron-Deficient Building Blocks for *n*-Type Polymer Field-Effect Transistors: Synthesis, Properties, and Impact of Alkyl Substitution Positions

Xiao-Ye Wang, Meng-Wen Zhang, Fang-Dong Zhuang, Jie-Yu Wang,* and Jian Pei*

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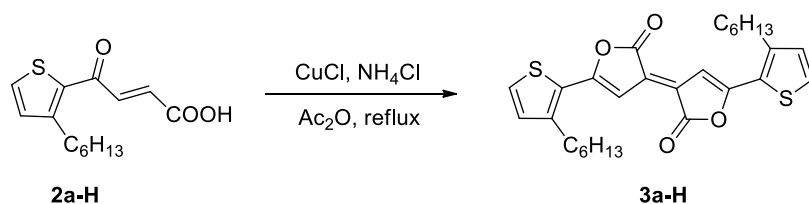
1. Synthetic Procedures.



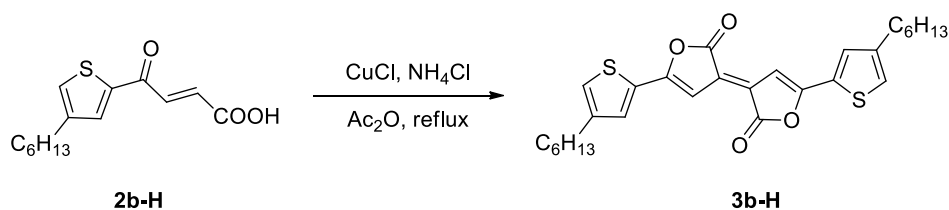
(*E*)-4-(3-hexylthiophen-2-yl)-4-oxobut-2-enoic acid (**2a-H**) and (*E*)-4-(4-hexylthiophen-2-yl)-4-oxobut-2-enoic acid (**2b-H**). 3-Hexylthiophene (**1-H**) (10.0 g, 59.4 mmol) and maleic anhydride (5.83 g, 59.4 mmol) were dissolved in dichloromethane (150 mL) and the mixture was cooled in an ice bath. AlCl_3 (11.9 g, 89.1 mmol) was added portion-wise and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. Then the mixture was poured into ice-cooled 10% aqueous HCl (200 mL) and stirred for 30 min. The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with dichloromethane for 3 times. The combined organic layers were washed with water and saturated aqueous NaCl successively and dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 . The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was subjected to column chromatography (80 g normal phase silica gel cartridge, eluent: petroleum ether/dichloromethane/acetic acid = 50 : 50 : 1) to afford 3.13 g (20 %) of compound **2a-H**, which eluted first, as a light yellow solid and 2.43 g (15 %) of compound **2b-H**, which followed, as a light yellow solid.

Compound **2a-H**: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , 298 K, ppm): δ 7.79 (d, J = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (d, J = 15.2 Hz, 1H), 3.06 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 1.69 – 1.58 (m, 2H), 1.44 – 1.26 (m, 6H), 0.89 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3 , 298 K, ppm): δ 181.1, 170.4, 153.4, 140.8, 134.8, 132.2, 131.8, 130.3, 31.6, 30.7, 30.2, 29.2, 22.6, 14.0; HRMS (ESI) m/z : Calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{19}\text{O}_3\text{S}$: 267.1049; Found: 267.1049 $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$.

Compound **2b-H**: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , 298 K, ppm): δ 7.85 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (s, 1H), 7.40 (s, 1H), 6.94 (d, J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 2.65 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.70 – 1.59 (m, 2H), 1.40 – 1.26 (m, 6H), 0.89 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3 , 298 K, ppm): δ 180.6, 170.5, 145.3, 143.6, 138.0, 134.7, 131.4, 130.8, 31.6, 30.4, 30.2, 28.8, 22.5, 14.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z : Calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{19}\text{O}_3\text{S}$: 267.1049; Found: 267.1049 $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$.

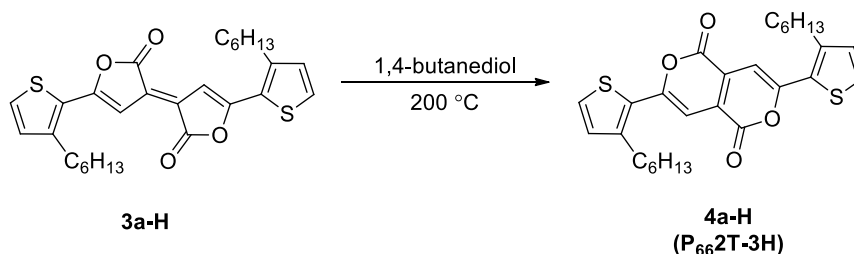


(E)-5,5'-(3-hexylthiophen-2-yl)-3,3'-bifuranylidene-2,2'-dione (3a-H). A 50 mL round bottomed flask was charged with **2a-H** (0.90 g, 3.8 mmol), CuCl (0.14 g, 1.4 mmol), NH₄Cl (0.15 g, 2.8 mmol) and acetic anhydride (8 mL). The mixture was heated to reflux for 2 h after a dark purple color appeared. Then the mixture was cooled thoroughly, whereupon dark purple solids precipitated. The precipitate was filtrated and washed with acetic acid and ethanol successively and was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (eluent: petroleum ether/CH₂Cl₂ = 4 : 1) to give 0.30 g (36 %) of compound **3a-H** as a dark purple solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K, ppm): δ 7.47 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (s, 2H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 2.90 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 1.75 – 1.65 (m, 4H), 1.49 – 1.29 (m, 12H), 0.90 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K, ppm): δ 166.9, 154.8, 147.6, 131.6, 129.9, 125.3, 124.8, 103.8, 31.6, 30.4, 29.8, 29.2, 22.6, 14.0; HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: Calcd for C₂₈H₃₃O₄S₂: 497.1815; Found: 497.1801 [M + H]⁺.

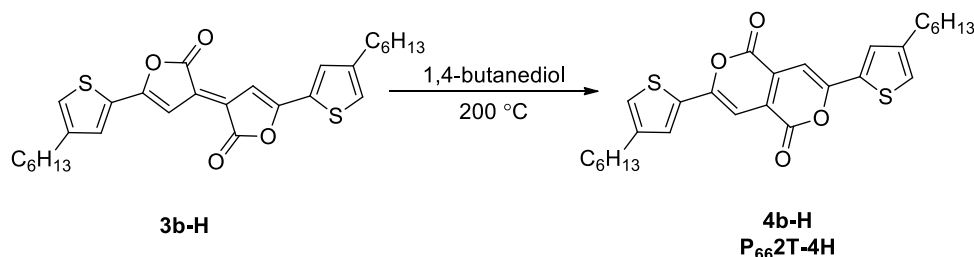


(E)-5,5'-(4-hexylthiophen-2-yl)-3,3'-bifuranylidene-2,2'-dione (3b-H). A 50 mL round bottomed flask was charged with **2b-H** (640 mg, 2.4 mmol), CuCl (88 mg, 0.9 mmol), NH₄Cl (94 mg, 1.8 mmol) and acetic anhydride (4 mL). The mixture was heated to reflux for 2 h after a dark purple color appeared. Then the mixture was cooled thoroughly and subjected to ultrasonication to give a dark purple precipitate. The precipitate was filtrated and washed with acetic acid and ethanol successively. The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (eluent: petroleum ether/CH₂Cl₂ = 4 : 1) to give 85 mg (14 %) of compound **3b-H** as a dark purple solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K, ppm): δ 7.46 (s, 2H), 7.31 (s, 2H), 7.18 (s, 2H), 2.63 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 4H), 1.69 – 1.58 (m, 4H), 1.40 – 1.24 (m, 12H), 0.89

(t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3 , 298 K, ppm): δ 167.2, 154.6, 145.5, 130.7, 130.4, 126.5, 124.9, 102.8, 31.6, 30.3, 30.2, 28.8, 22.6, 14.1; HRMS (ESI) m/z : Calcd for $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{32}\text{O}_4\text{S}_2$: 496.1736; Found: 496.1725 $[\text{M}]^+$.



3,7-bis(3-hexylthiophen-2-yl)pyrano[4,3-c]pyran-1,5-dione (4a-H). Compound **3a-H** (330 mg, 0.66 mmol) was suspended in 1,4-butanediol (20 mL) and the mixture was heated to 200 °C under nitrogen for 1 h and then cooled down to room temperature. 20 mL of methanol and 40 mL of saturated aqueous NaCl were added. The mixture was extracted with chloroform for 3 times and the combined organic layers were washed with water and saturated aqueous NaCl successively and dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 . The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was subjected to column chromatography over silica gel (eluent: petroleum ether/ $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2 = 4 : 1$ to $2 : 1$) to give 100 mg (30 %) of compound **4a-H** as an orange solid. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , 298 K, ppm): δ 7.39 (d, $J = 5.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.00 (s, 2H), 6.98 (s, 2H), 2.92 (t, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 4H), 1.75 – 1.65 (m, 4H), 1.47 – 1.29 (m, 12H), 0.89 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3 , 298 K, ppm): δ 159.2, 154.2, 145.2, 131.3, 128.3, 127.9, 126.5, 98.8, 31.6, 30.22, 30.19, 29.2, 22.6, 14.04; HRMS (ESI) m/z : Calcd for $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{33}\text{O}_4\text{S}_2$: 497.1815; Found: 497.1819 $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$.



3,7-bis(4-hexylthiophen-2-yl)pyrano[4,3-c]pyran-1,5-dione (4b-H). Compound **3b-H** (155 mg, 0.31 mmol) was suspended in 1,4-butanediol (30 mL) and the mixture was heated to 200 °C under nitrogen for 0.5 h and then cooled down to room temperature. 20 mL of methanol and 40 mL of saturated aqueous NaCl was added.

The mixture was extracted with chloroform for 3 times and the combined organic layers were washed with water and saturated aqueous NaCl successively and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue was subjected to column chromatography over silica gel (eluent: petroleum ether/CH₂Cl₂ = 4 : 1 to 2 : 1) to give 78 mg (50 %) of compound **4b-H** as an orange solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K, ppm): δ 7.49 (s, 2H), 7.08 (s, 2H), 7.07 (s, 2H), 2.62 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 1.67 – 1.58 (m, 4H), 1.40 – 1.25 (m, 12H), 0.90 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K, ppm): δ 159.2, 153.6, 145.0, 134.3, 128.8, 126.7, 124.5, 96.7, 31.6, 30.34, 30.30, 28.9, 22.6, 14.1; HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: Calcd for C₂₈H₃₃O₄S₂: 497.1815; Found: 497.1828 [M + H]⁺.

2. Thermal Properties (TGA and DSC)

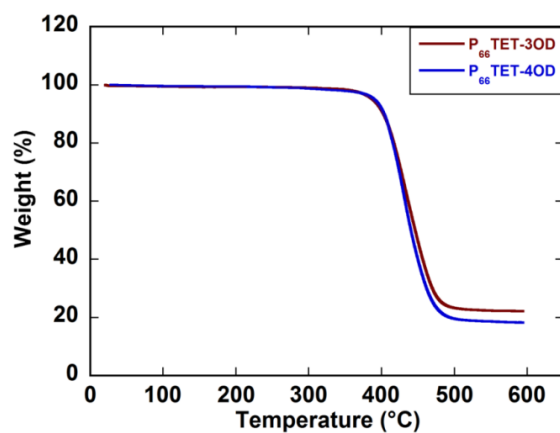


Fig. S1 TGA curves of **P₆₆TET-3OD** and **P₆₆TET-4OD**. T_d with 5% weight loss: 389 °C (**P₆₆TET-3OD**), 391 °C (**P₆₆TET-4OD**).

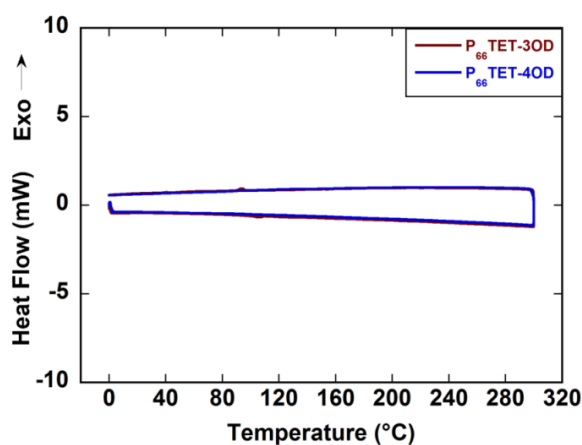


Fig. S2 DSC traces of polymers **P₆₆TET-3OD** and **P₆₆TET-4OD**.

3. Photoelectron Spectroscopy (PES)

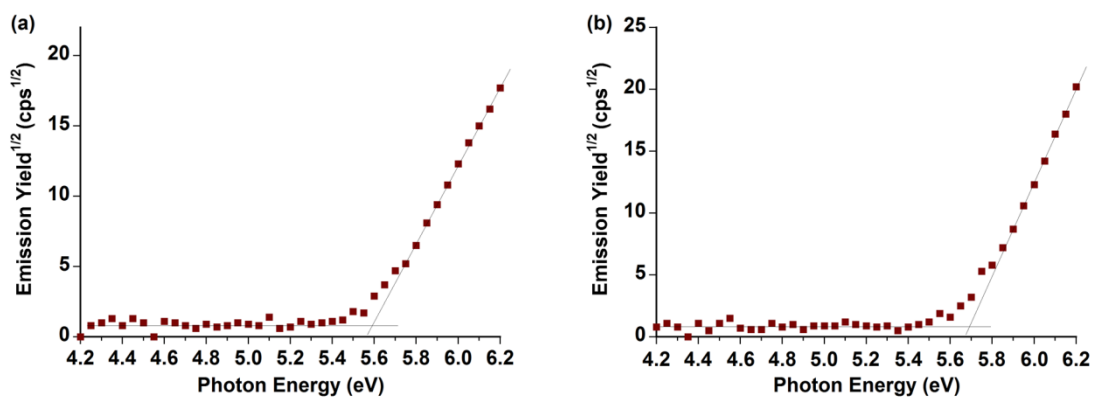


Fig. S3 PES spectra of (a) **P₆₆TET-3OD** and (b) **P₆₆TET-4OD** in thin films (work function: **P₆₆TET-3OD**, 5.59 eV; **P₆₆TET-4OD**, 5.69 eV).

4. X-Ray Diffraction (XRD)

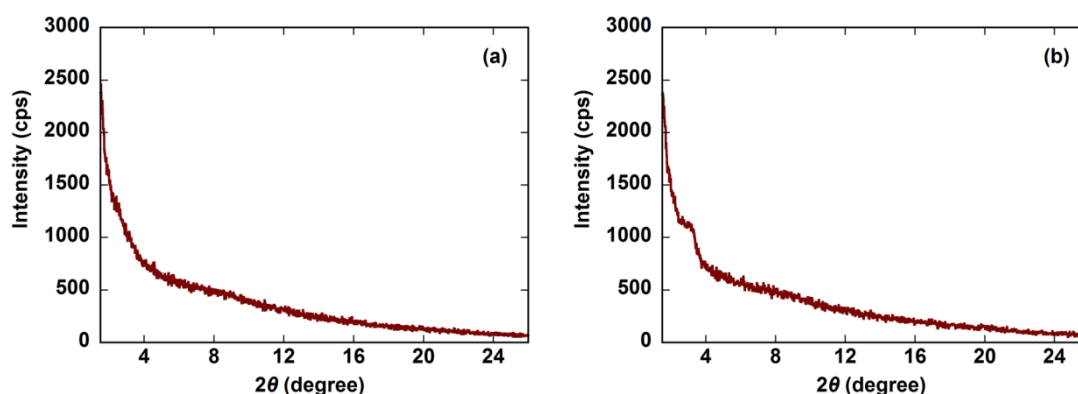


Fig. S4 Out-of-plane XRD patterns of (a) $P_{66}TET-3OD$ and (b) $P_{66}TET-4OD$ films.

5. Single-Crystal X-Ray Analysis

Table S1. Crystal data and structure refinement for $P_{66}2T-3H$.

Empirical formula	$C_{28}H_{32}O_4S_2$
Formula weight	496.65
Temperature/K	180.01(10)
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group	P-1
$a/\text{\AA}$	6.0485(7)
$b/\text{\AA}$	6.9813(4)
$c/\text{\AA}$	15.2806(16)
$\alpha/^\circ$	94.625(6)
$\beta/^\circ$	94.955(9)
$\gamma/^\circ$	95.942(7)
Volume/ $\text{\AA}^3$	636.77(10)
Z	1
$\rho_{\text{calc}}/\text{mg/mm}^3$	1.295
m/mm^{-1}	0.241
$F(000)$	264.0
Crystal size/ mm^3	$0.2 \times 0.1 \times 0.1$
2θ range for data collection	5.892 to 52.042 $^\circ$
Index ranges	$-6 \leq h \leq 7$, $-8 \leq k \leq 8$, $-18 \leq l \leq 18$
Reflections collected	4143
Independent reflections	2507[R(int) = 0.0364]
Data/restraints/parameters	2507/0/155
Goodness-of-fit on F^2	1.025

Final R indexes [$I > 2\sigma(I)$] $R_1 = 0.0745$, $wR_2 = 0.1791$

Final R indexes [all data] $R_1 = 0.1171$, $wR_2 = 0.2069$

Largest diff. peak/hole / $e \text{ \AA}^{-3}$ 0.83/-0.37

6. Computational Details

DFT calculations were performed using the Gaussian 09 software package.¹ The geometries and energies were calculated at the B3LYP/DGDZVP level.

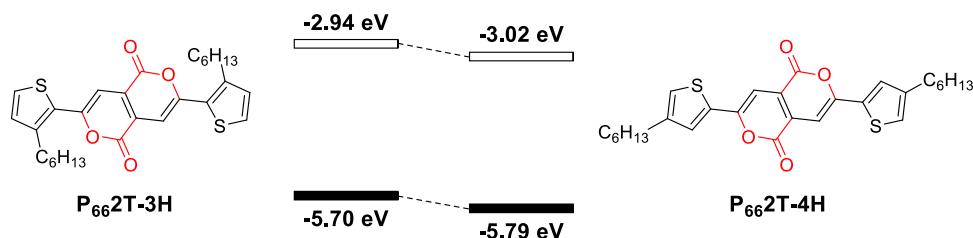


Fig. S5 DFT-calculated HOMO and LUMO energy levels of **P_{662T-3H}** and **P_{662T-4H}**. Hexyl chains were replaced with methyl groups during the calculation.

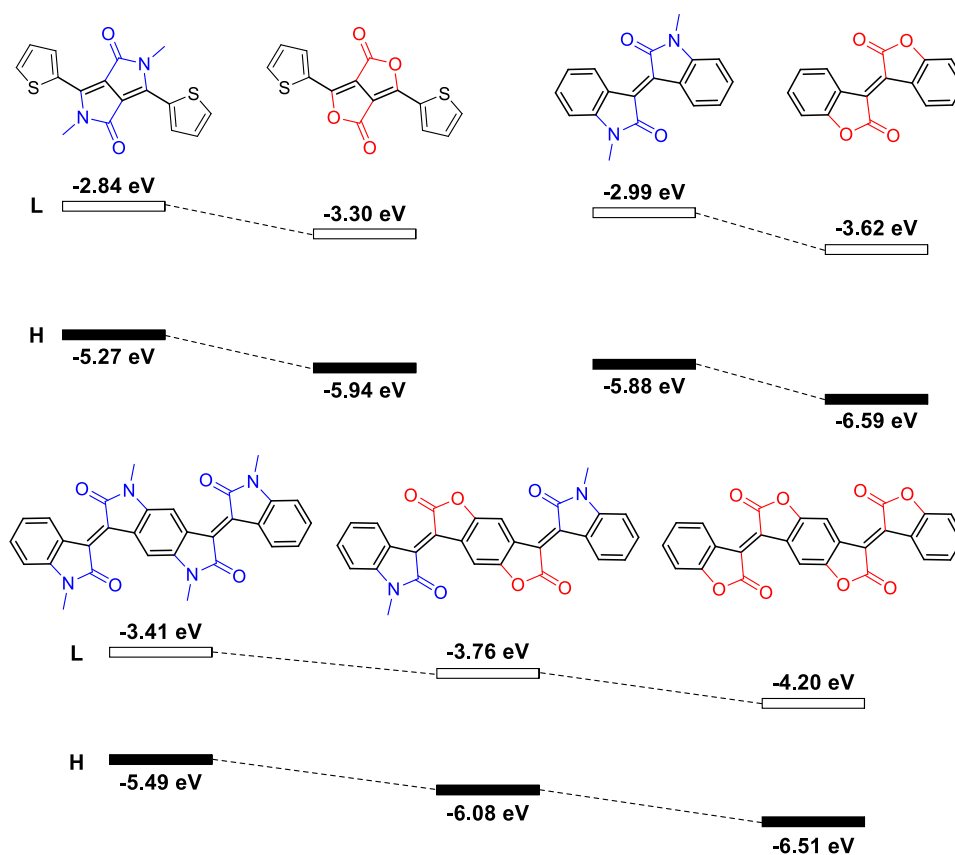


Fig. S6 DFT-calculated HOMO (H) and LUMO (L) energy levels of DPP, isoindigo, and their corresponding lactone-based counterparts (top) and OPV derivatives fused with lactams and/or lactones (bottom).

Reference:

1. Gaussian 09, Revision D.01, M. J. Frisch, G. W. Trucks, H. B. Schlegel, G. E. Scuseria, M. A. Robb, J. R. Cheeseman, G. Scalmani, V. Barone, B. Mennucci, G. A. Petersson, H. Nakatsuji, M. Caricato, X. Li, H. P. Hratchian, A. F. Izmaylov, J. Bloino, G. Zheng, J. L. Sonnenberg, M. Hada, M. Ehara, K. Toyota, R. Fukuda, J. Hasegawa, M. Ishida, T. Nakajima, Y. Honda, O. Kitao, H. Nakai, T. Vreven, J. A. Montgomery, Jr., J. E. Peralta, F. Ogliaro, M. Bearpark, J. J. Heyd, E. Brothers, K. N. Kudin, V. N. Staroverov, T. Keith, R. Kobayashi, J. Normand, K. Raghavachari, A. Rendell, J. C. Burant, S. S. Iyengar, J. Tomasi, M. Cossi, N. Rega, J. M. Millam, M. Klene, J. E. Knox, J. B. Cross, V. Bakken, C. Adamo, J. Jaramillo, R. Gomperts, R. E. Stratmann, O. Yazyev, A. J. Austin, R. Cammi, C. Pomelli, J. W. Ochterski, R. L. Martin, K. Morokuma, V. G. Zakrzewski, G. A. Voth, P. Salvador, J. J. Dannenberg, S. Dapprich, A. D. Daniels, O. Farkas, J. B. Foresman, J. V. Ortiz, J. Cioslowski, and D. J. Fox, Gaussian, Inc., Wallingford CT, 2013.

7. NMR Spectra

