

## Supporting Information

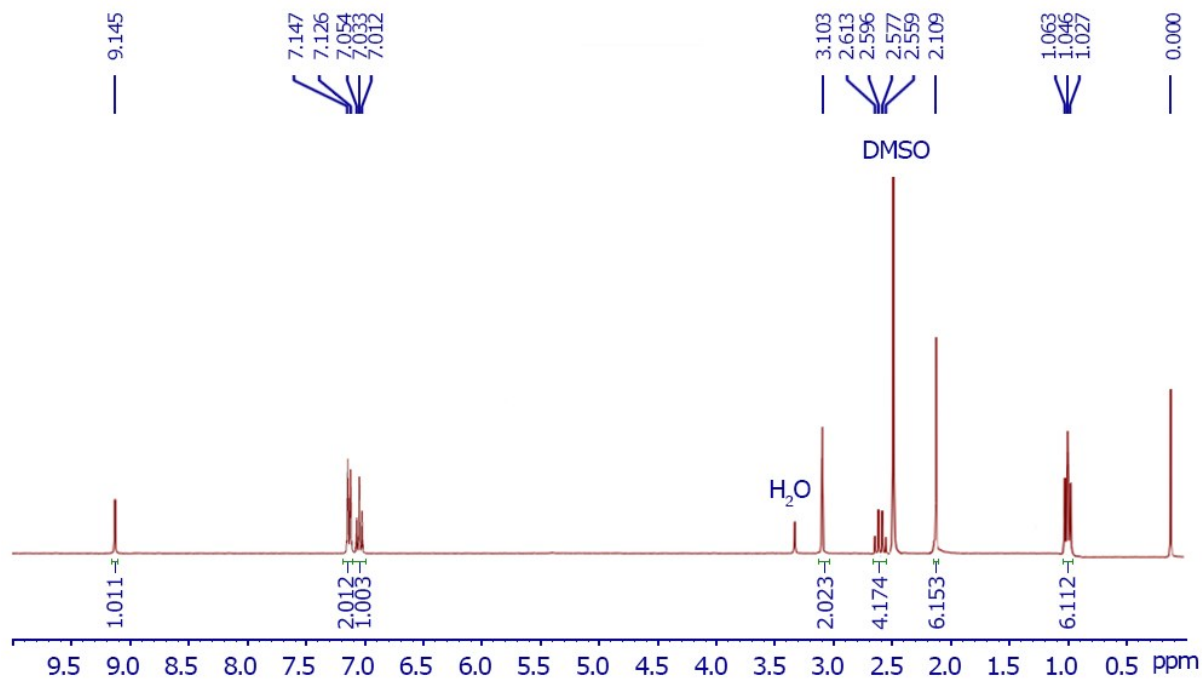
### **Discovery of half-sandwich Iridium complexes containing lidocaine and (Pyren-1-yl)ethynyl derivatives of phenylcyanamide ligands for photodynamic therapy**

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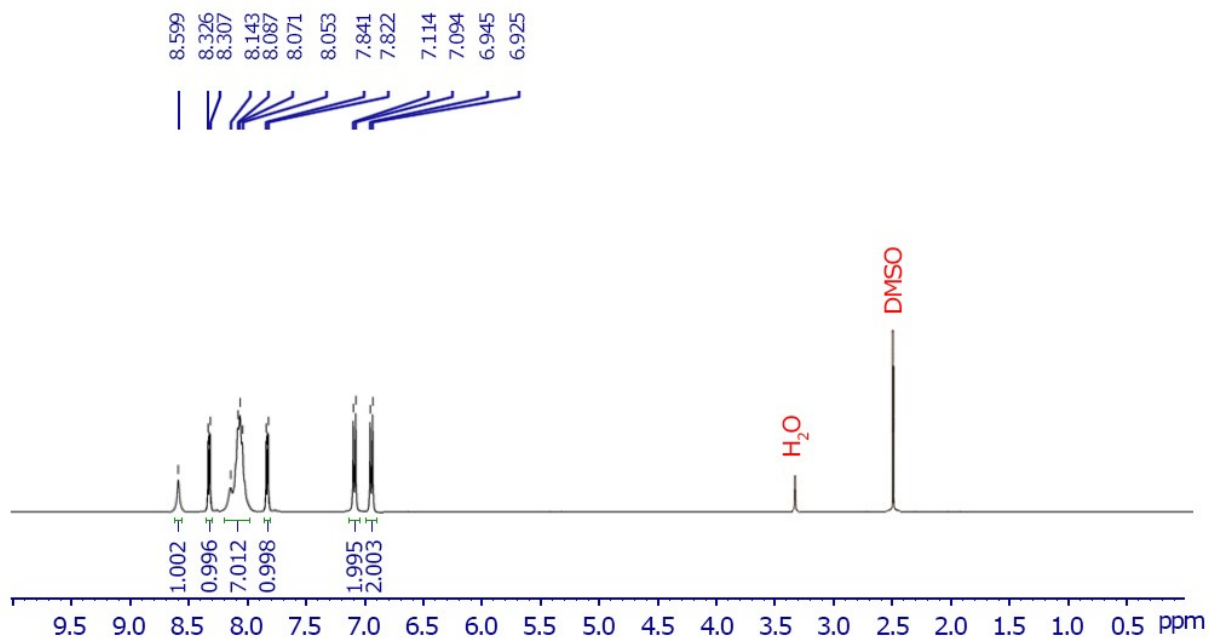
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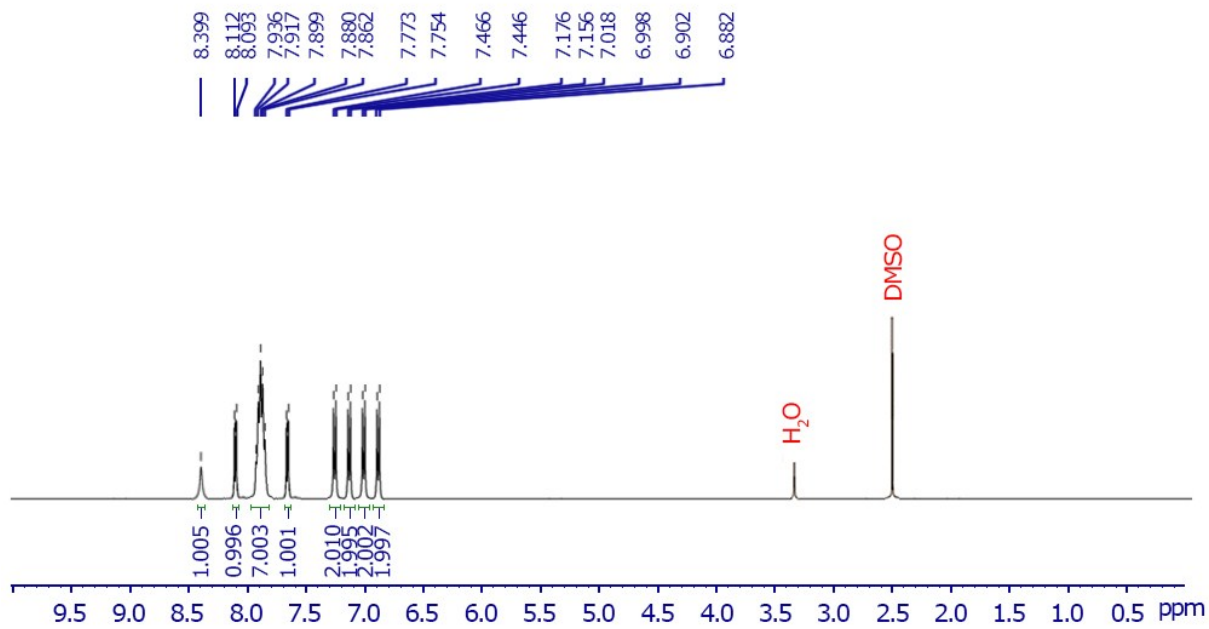
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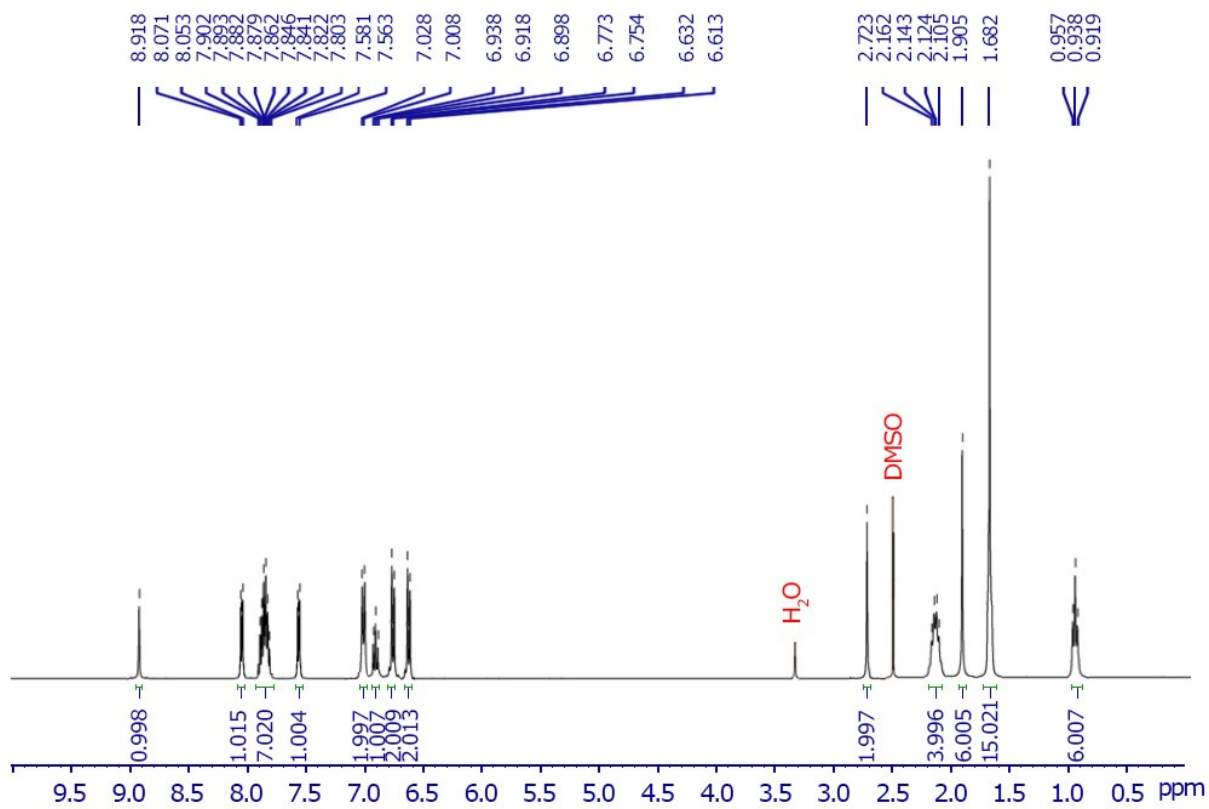
**Fig. S1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of ligand LC ( $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ ).



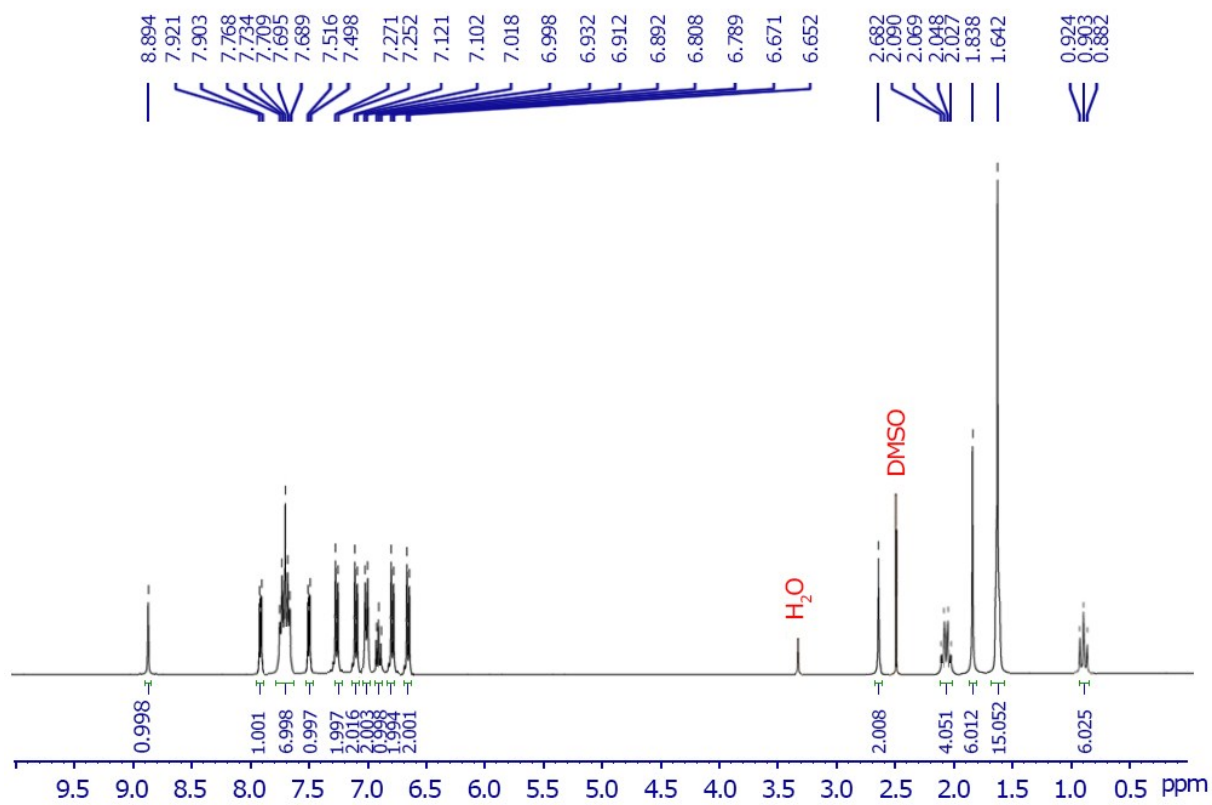
**Fig. S2.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of ligand L1 ( $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ ).



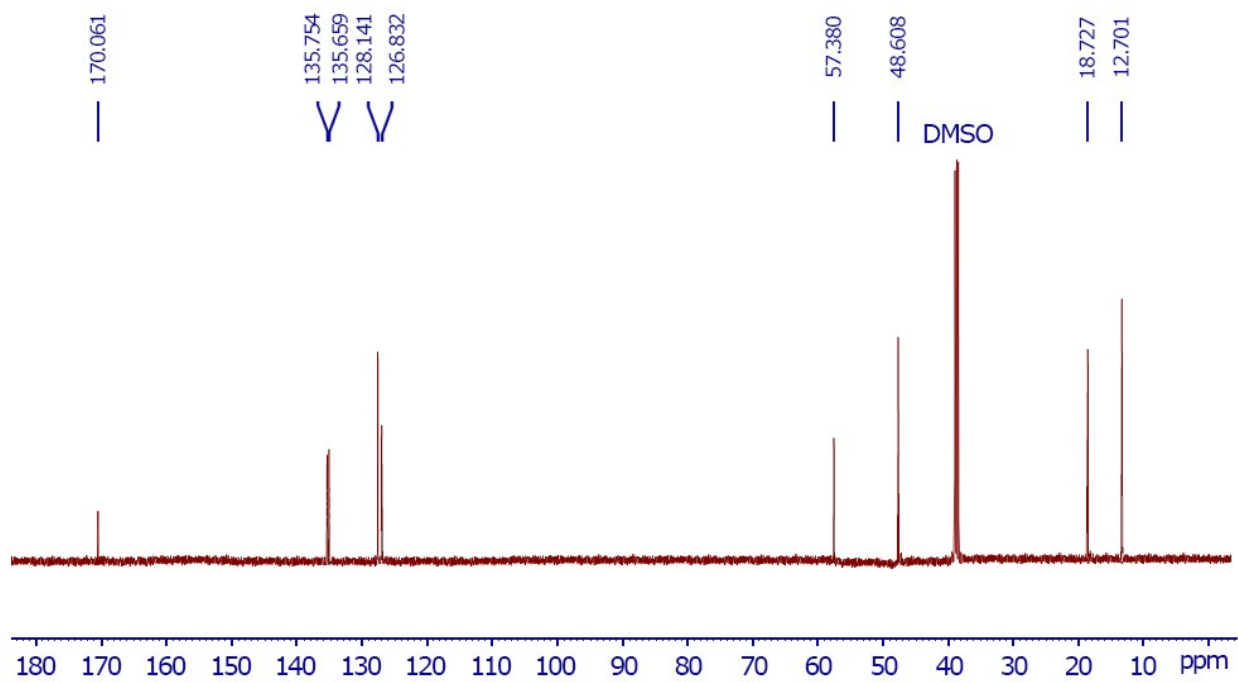
**Fig. S3.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of ligand L2 ( $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ ).



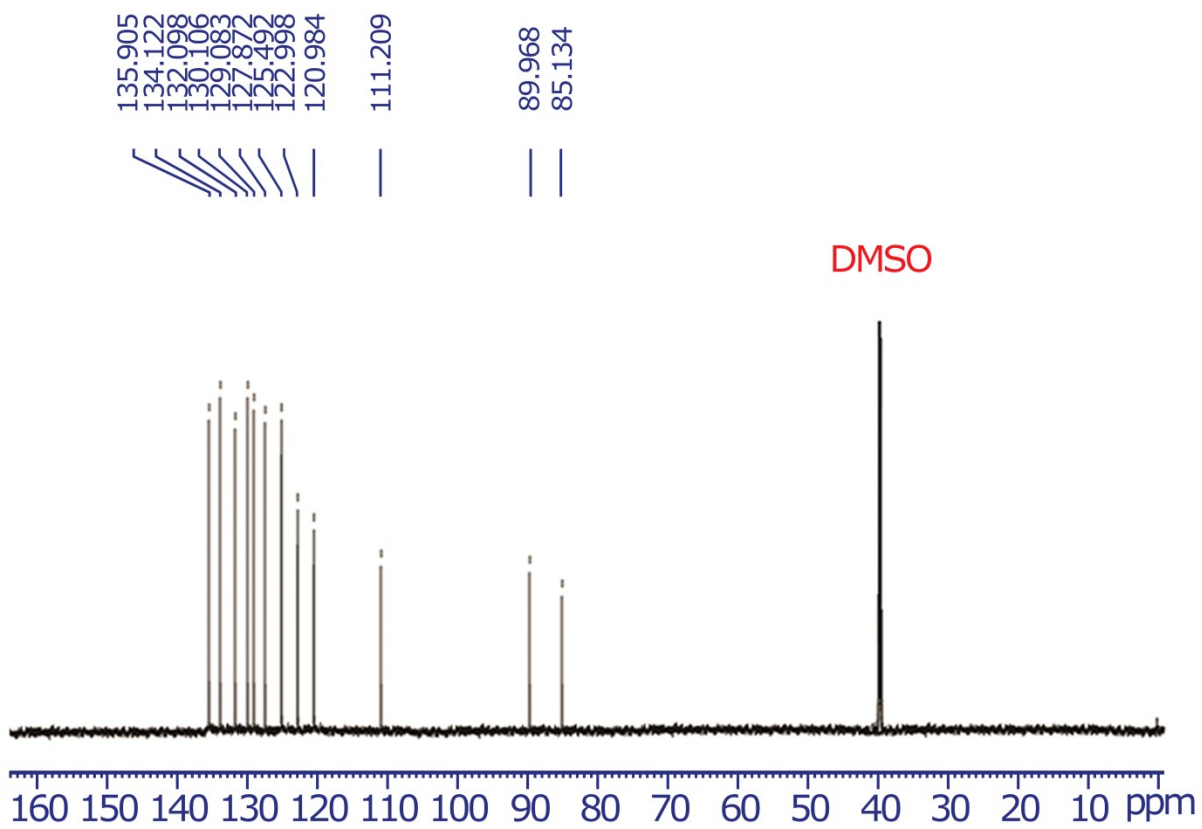
**Fig. S4.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of complex **1** ( $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ ).



**Fig. S5.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex **2** (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>).

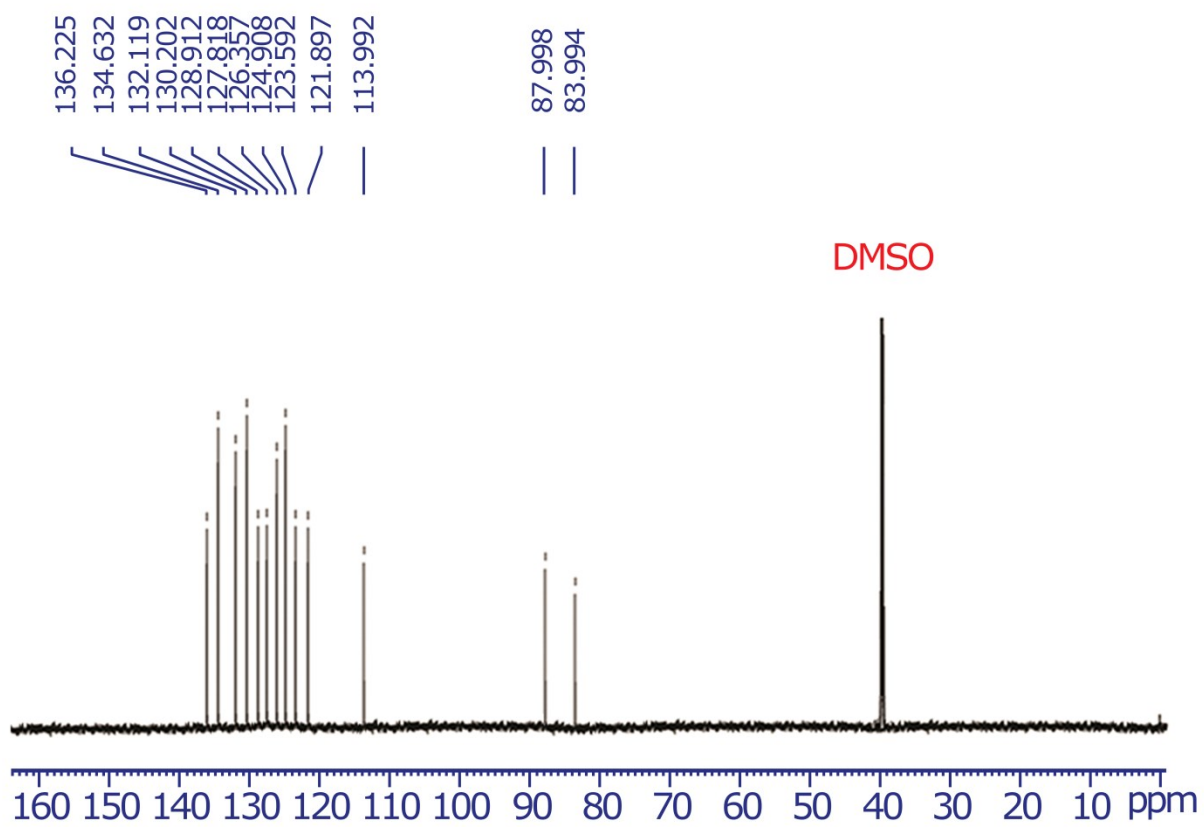


**Fig. S6.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of ligand LC ( $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ ).

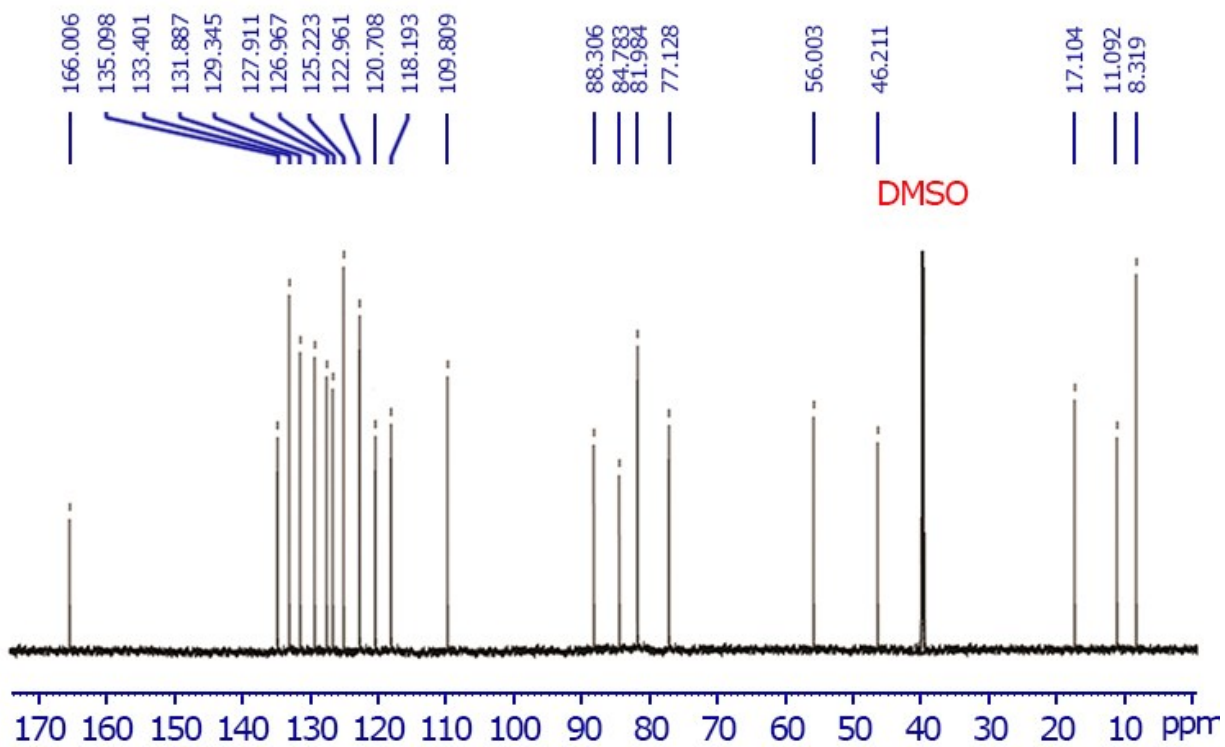


**Fig. S7.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of ligand L1 ( $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ ).

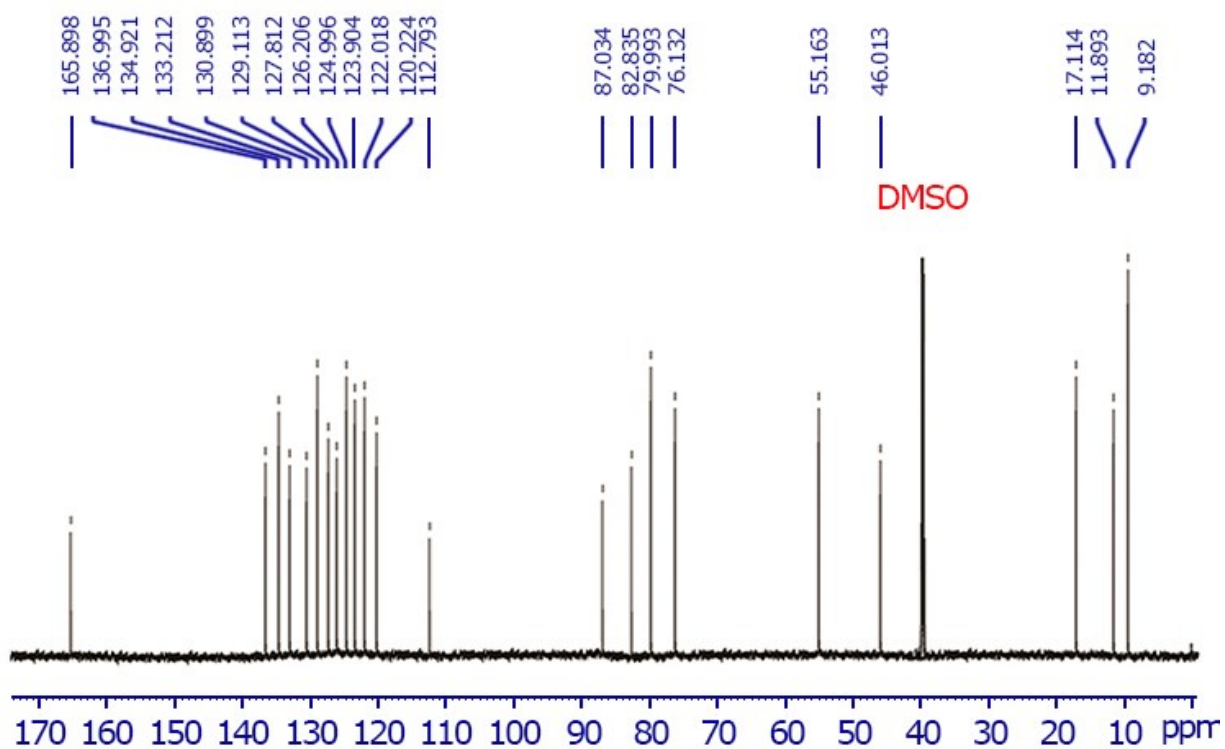




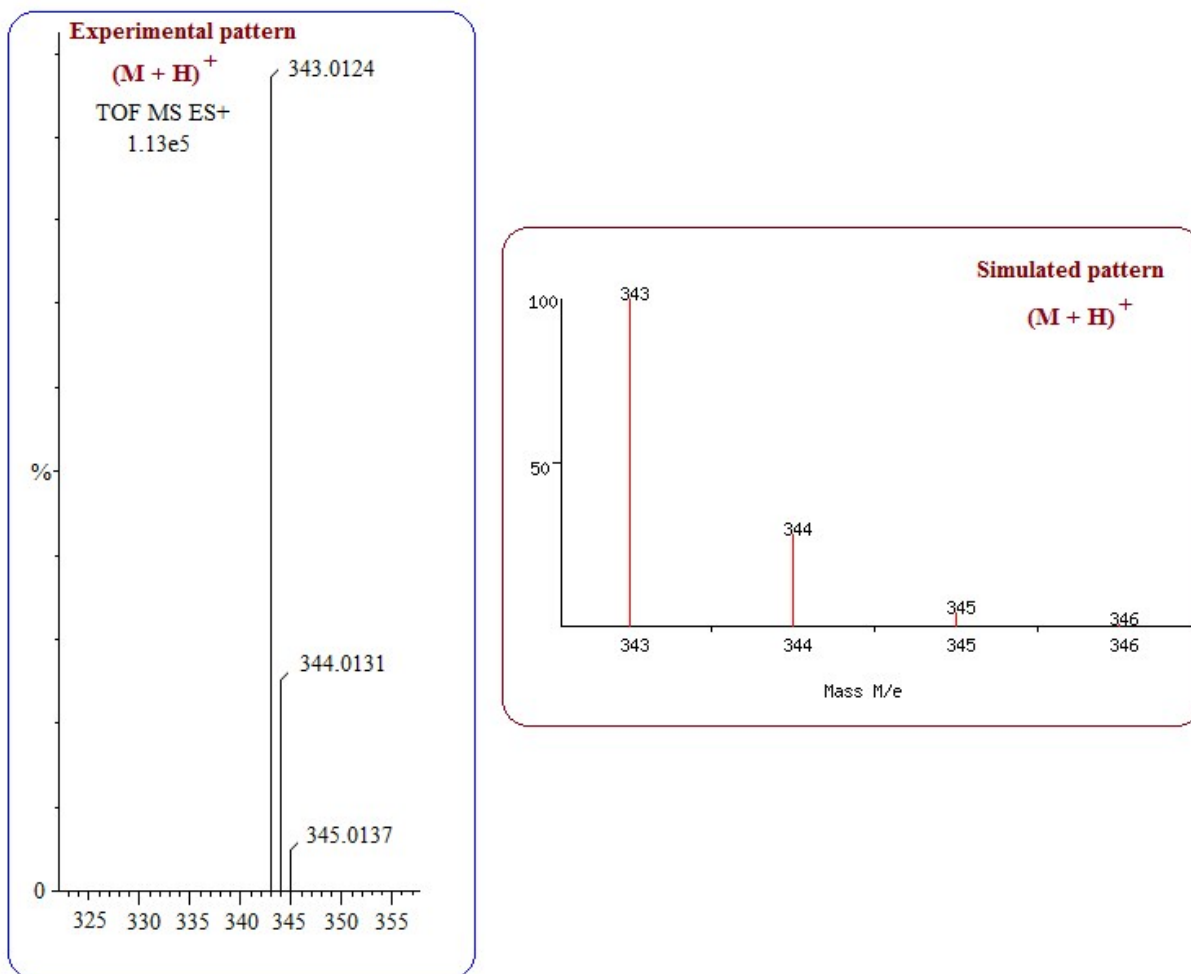
**Fig. S8.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of ligand L2 (DMSO- $d_6$ ).



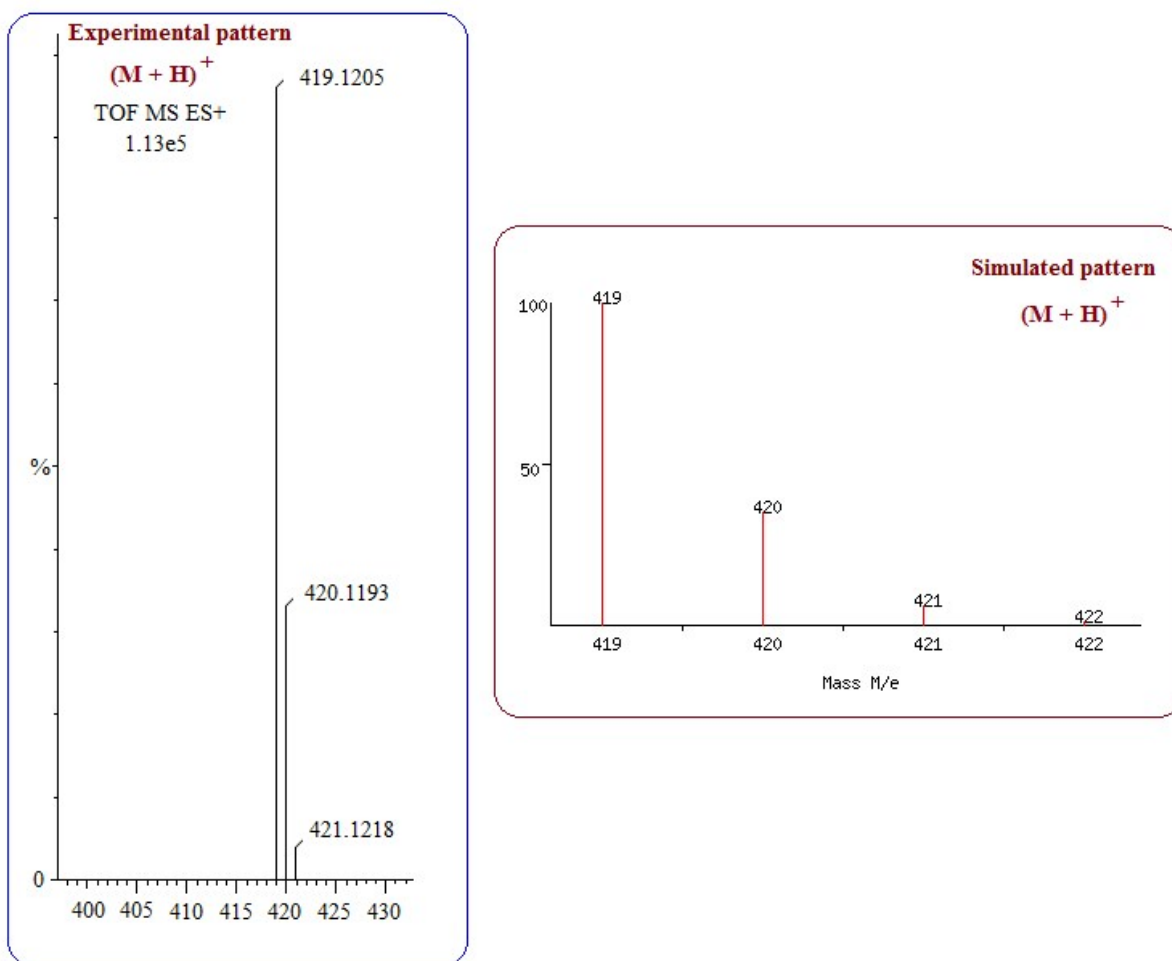
**Fig. S9.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of complex **1** ( $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ ).



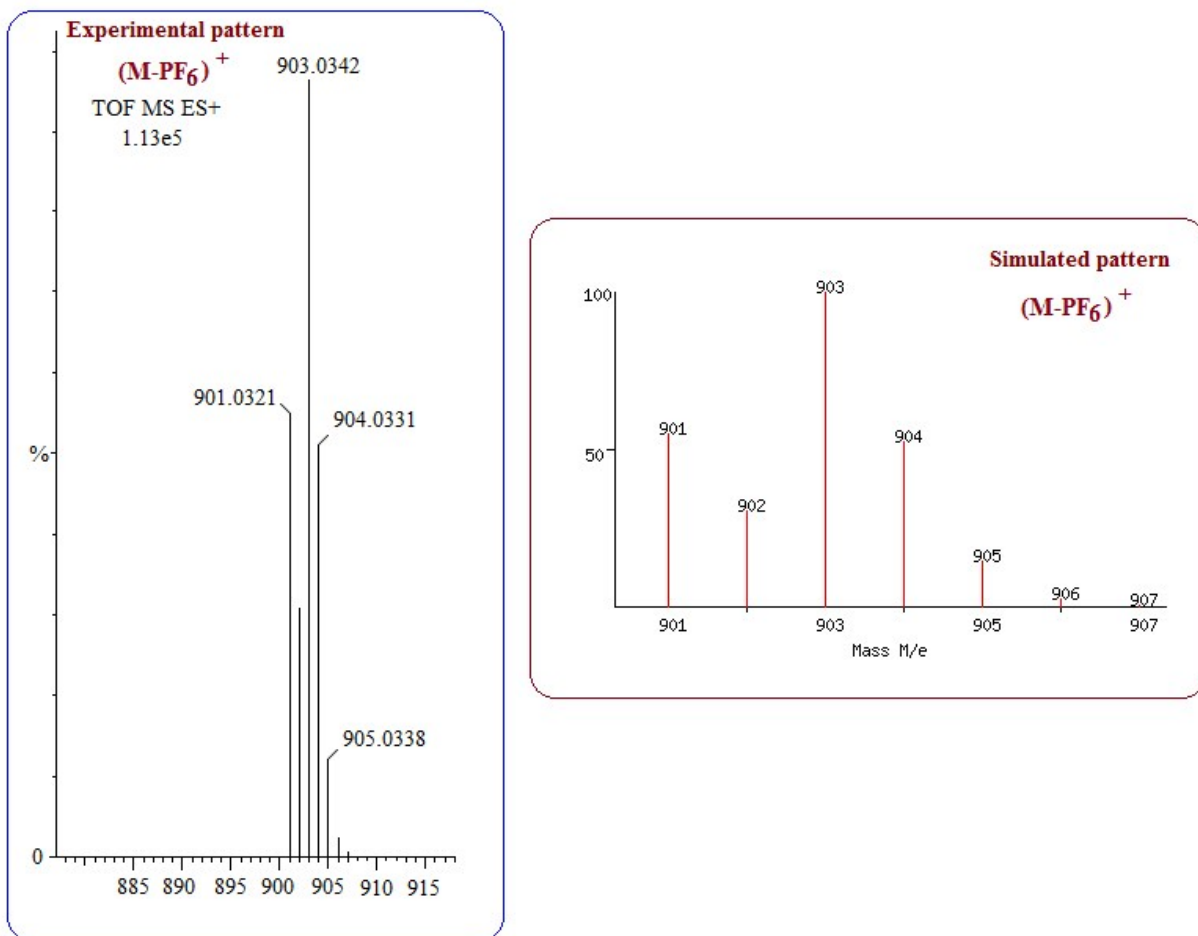
**Fig. S10.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of complex 2 (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>).



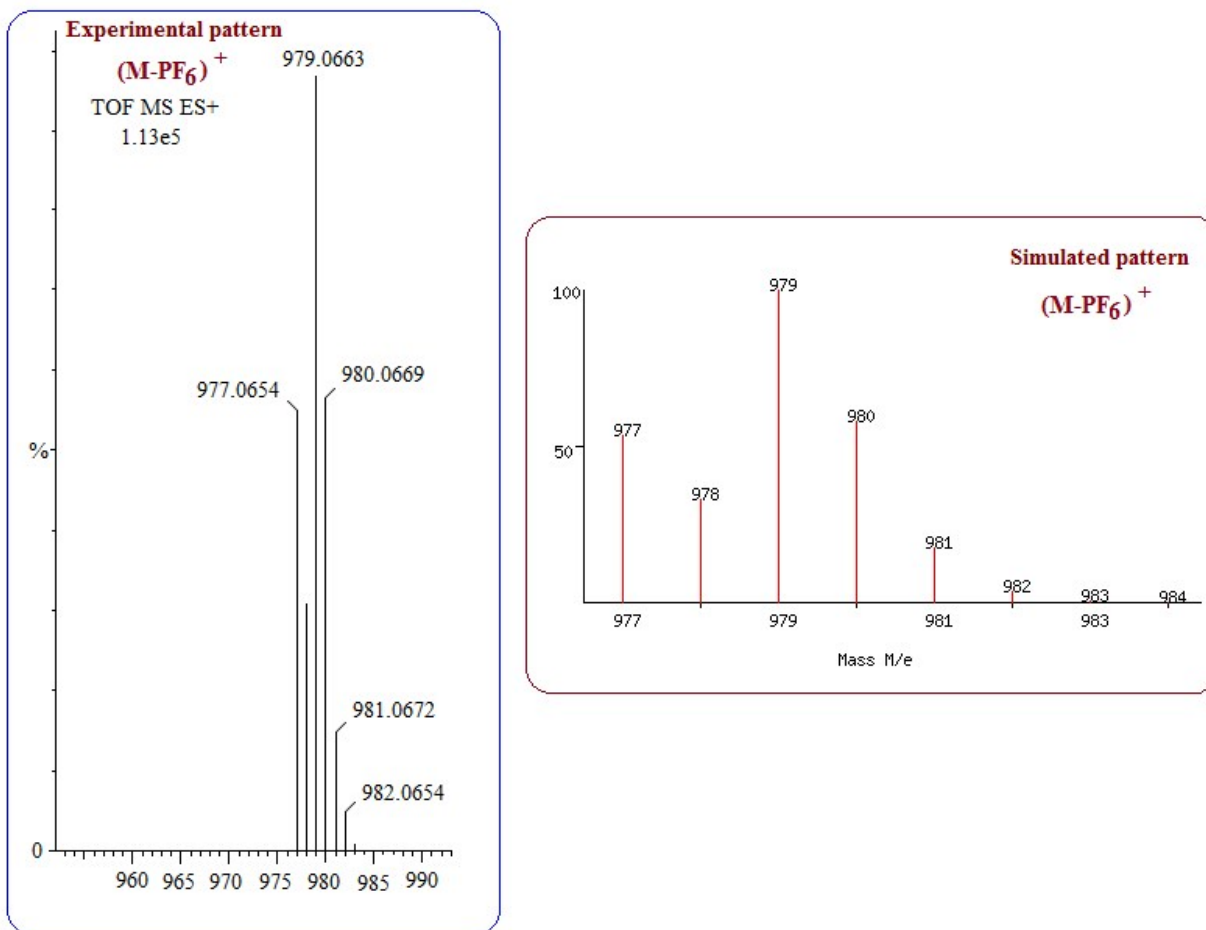
**Fig. S11.** TOF MS spectrum of ligand L1.



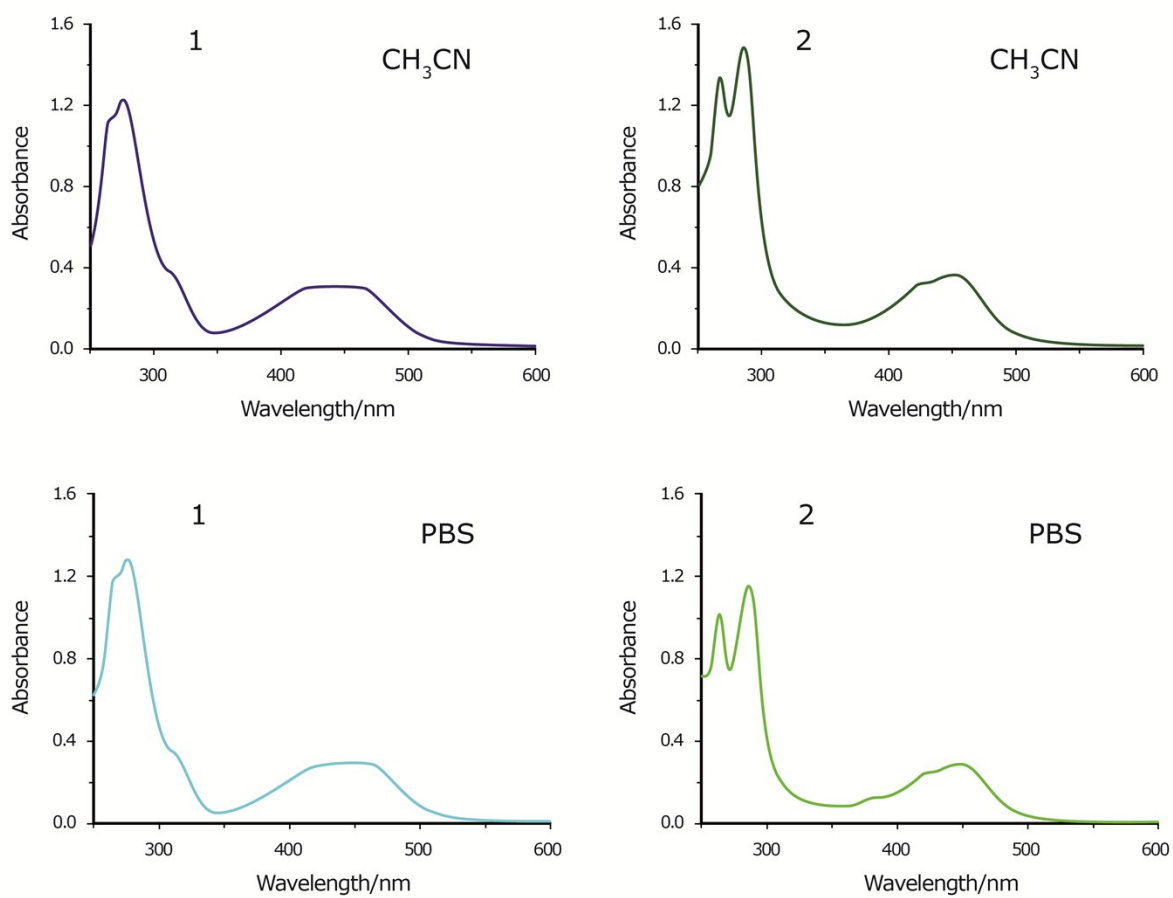
**Fig. S12.** TOF MS spectrum of ligand L2.



**Fig. S13.** TOF MS spectrum of complex 1.

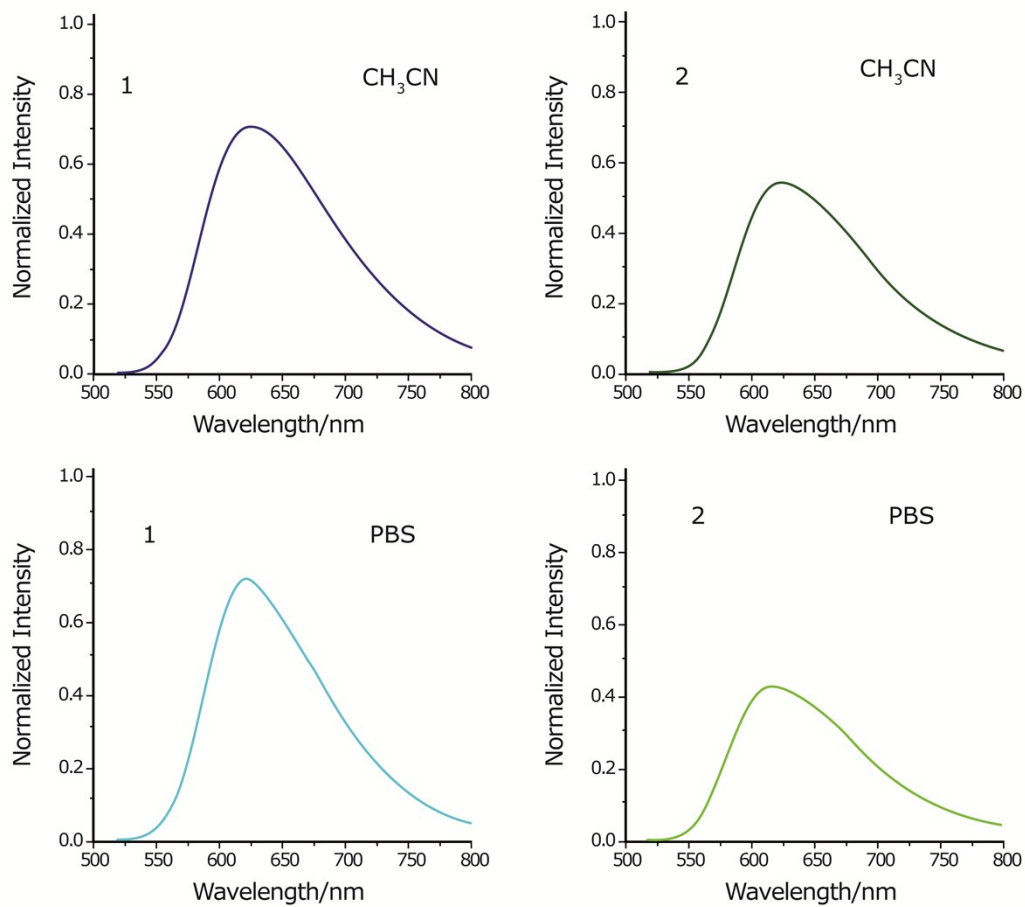


**Fig. S14.** TOF MS spectrum of complex 2.

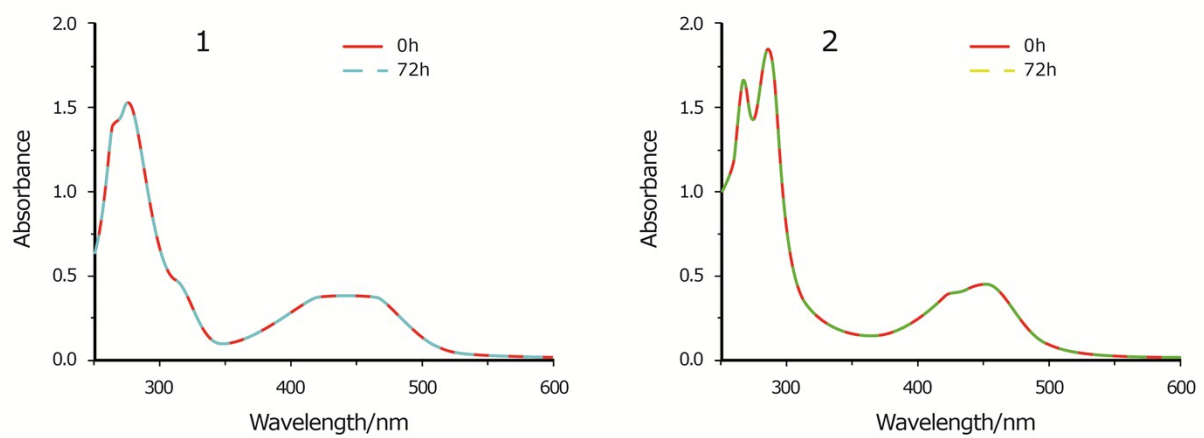


**Fig. S15.** UV/Vis spectra of complexes **1** and **2** in CH<sub>3</sub>CN and PBS at 298 K.

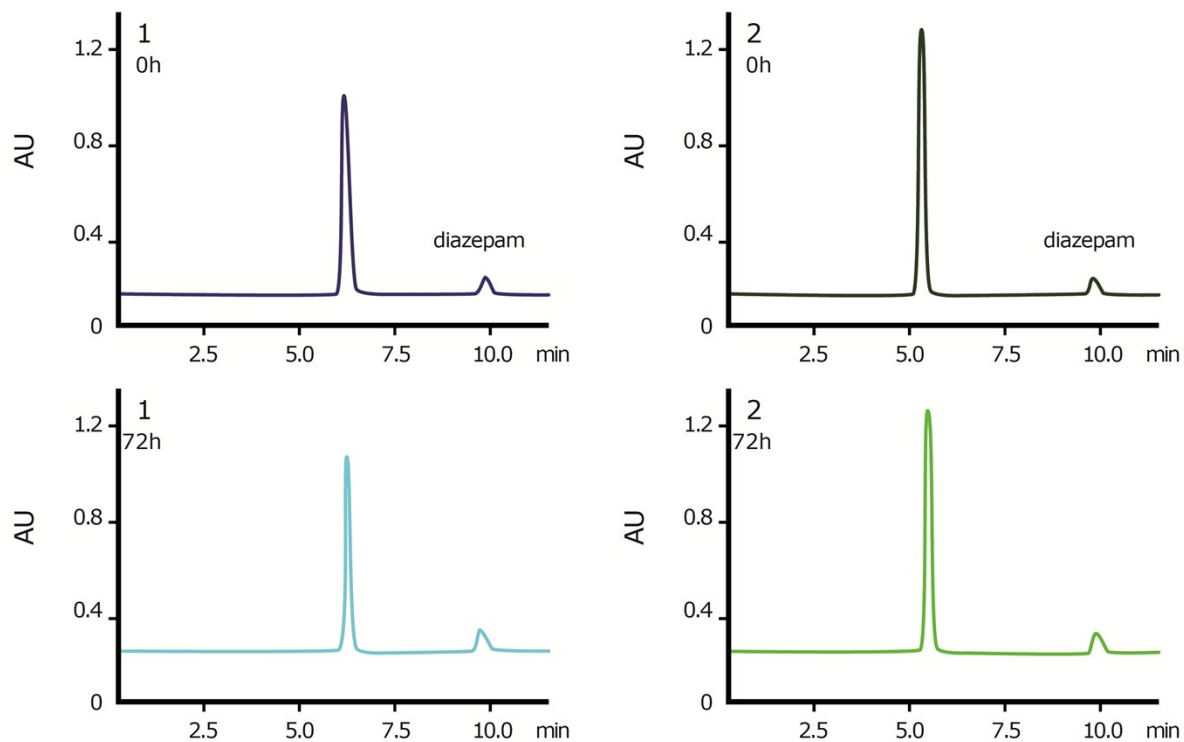




**Fig. S16.** Emission spectra of complexes **1** and **2** in CH<sub>3</sub>CN and PBS at 298 K.



**Fig. S17.** Photostability of **1** and **2** (10  $\mu$ M) detected by UV-Vis spectra in Tris-HCl buffer (5 mM Tris, 50 mM NaCl, pH = 7.4).



**Fig. S18.** LC-UV traces of plasma incubated with complexes **1** and **2** (20  $\mu$ M, 37  $^{\circ}$ C) at  $t = 0$  and 72 h. (Diazepam was used as internal standard).

**Table S1.** Photophysical data of complexes **1** and **2**.

Complex	UV/Vis $\lambda$ [nm]	Emission <sup>[a]</sup> $\lambda$ [nm]	$(\Phi_{em})$ <sup>[b]</sup>	Lifetimes [ns] <sup>[c]</sup>
<b>1</b>	ACN: 265 sh, 279, 435	ACN: 623	0.93	910
	PBS: 269 sh, 282, 450	PBS: 626		
<b>2</b>	ACN: 262, 283, 449	ACN: 612	1.05	985
	PBS: 265, 286, 453	PBS: 624		

[a] Emission spectra recorded in ACN (acetonitrile).

[b]  $\Phi_{em}$  refers to the luminescence quantum yield and were calculated according to literature procedures.<sup>1</sup>

[c] Lifetimes evaluated ACN (acetonitrile).

**Table S2.** Singlet oxygen quantum yields upon irradiation at 450 nm.

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
PBS (indirect)	3%	5%
ACN (direct)	85%	97%
ACN (indirect)	73%	92%

**Table S3.** Ratio of peak areas of complex/diazepam

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
t = 0 h	9.22	8.98
t = 72 h	9.18	8.92

## References

1. G. A. Crosby and J. N. Demas, *J. Phys. Chem.*, 1971, **75**, 991-1024.