

## Supporting Information

### N-Heterotricyclic cationic carbene ligands. Synthesis, reactivity and coordination chemistry

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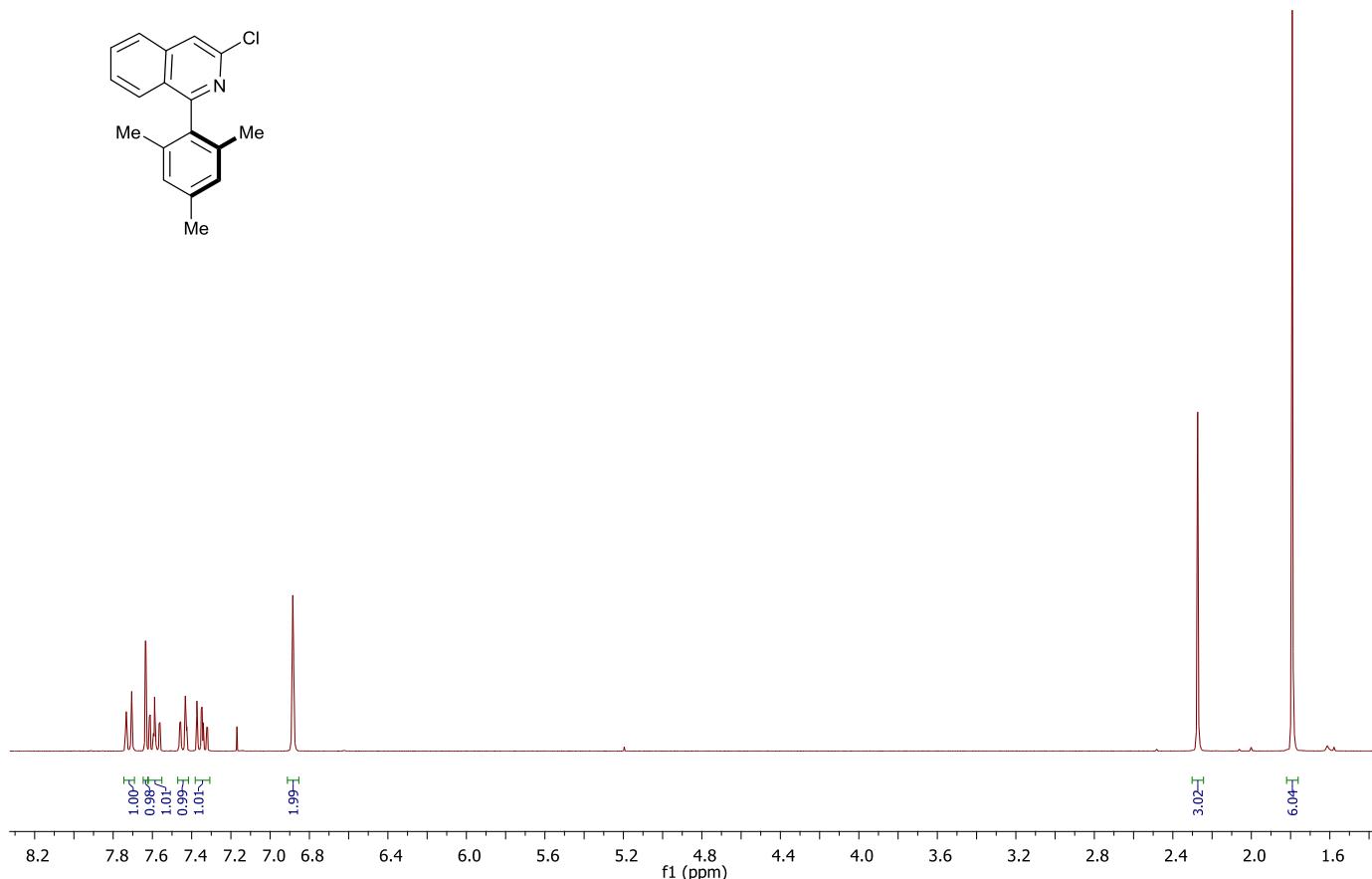
#### Contents:

**NMR Spectra** **S2-S19**

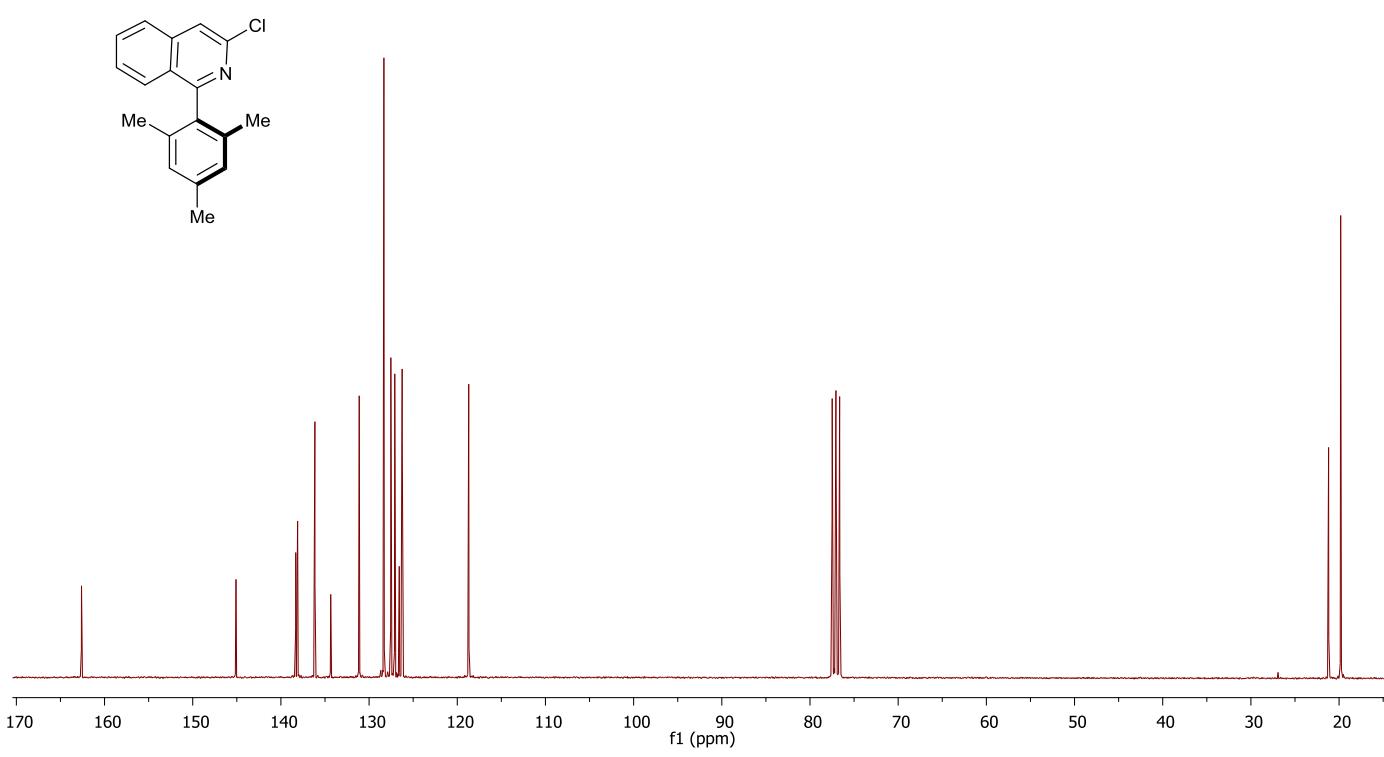
**X-Ray Crystallographic Data** **S20-S27**

## NMR Spectra of new compounds

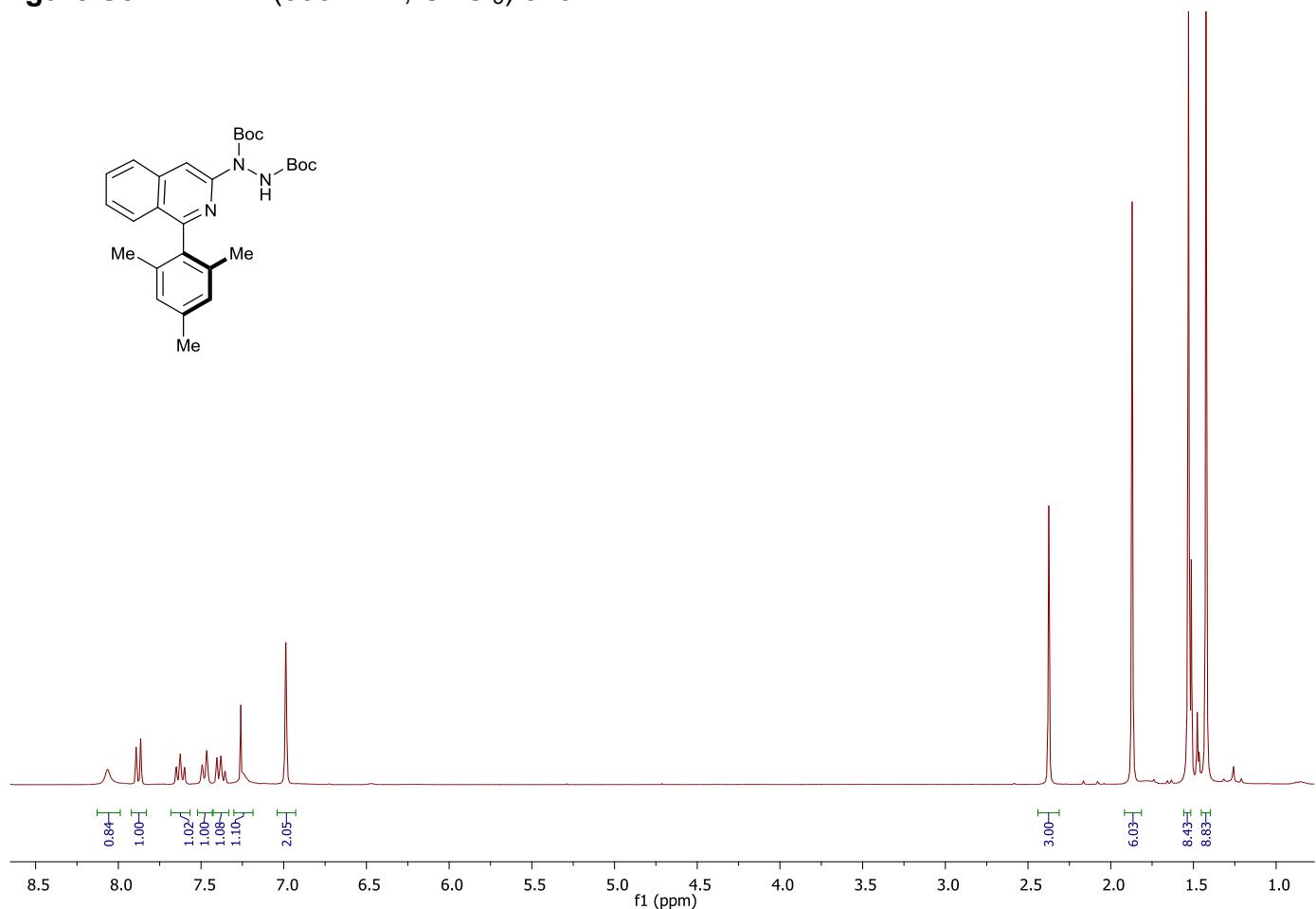
**Figure S1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **4**:



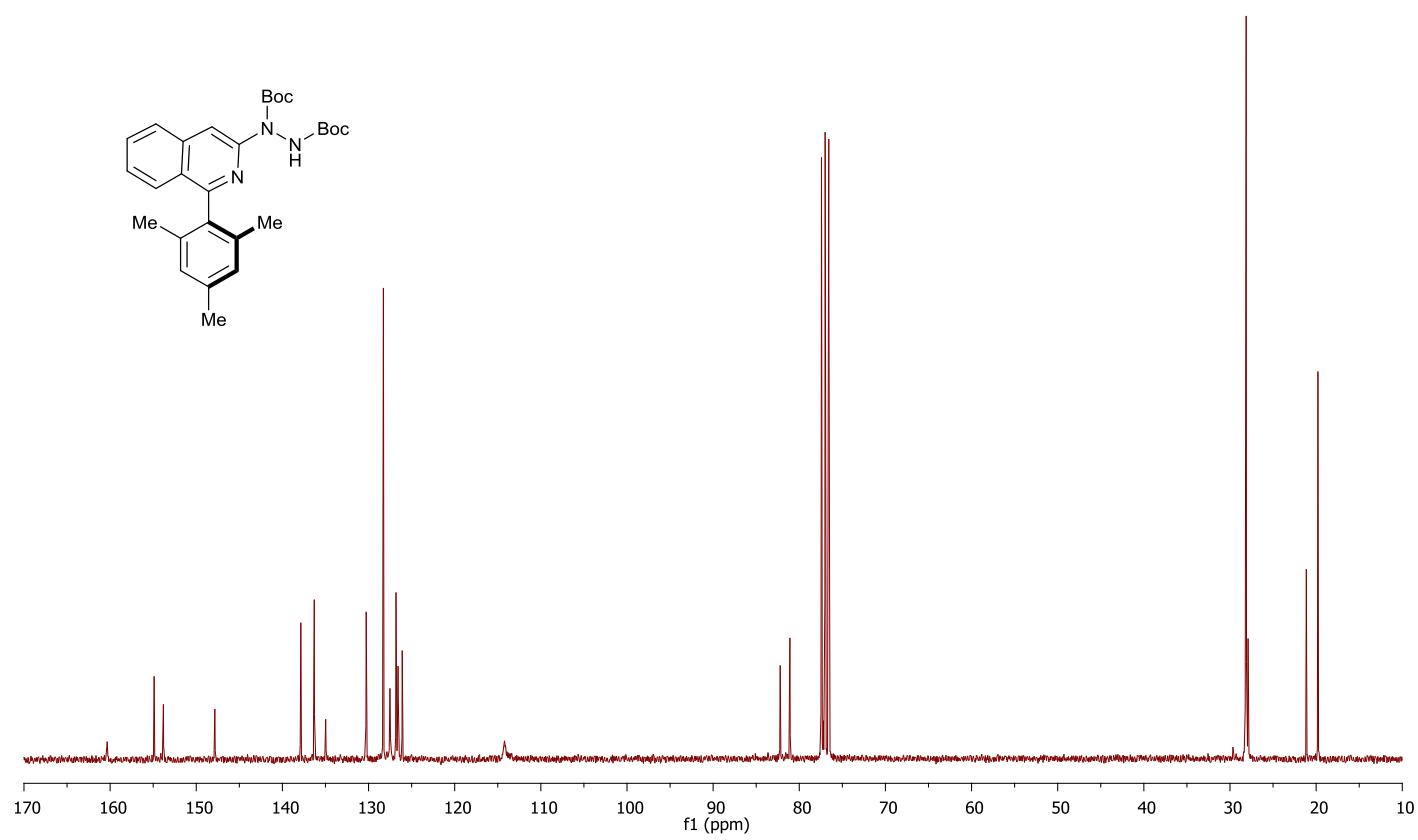
**Figure S2.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **4**:



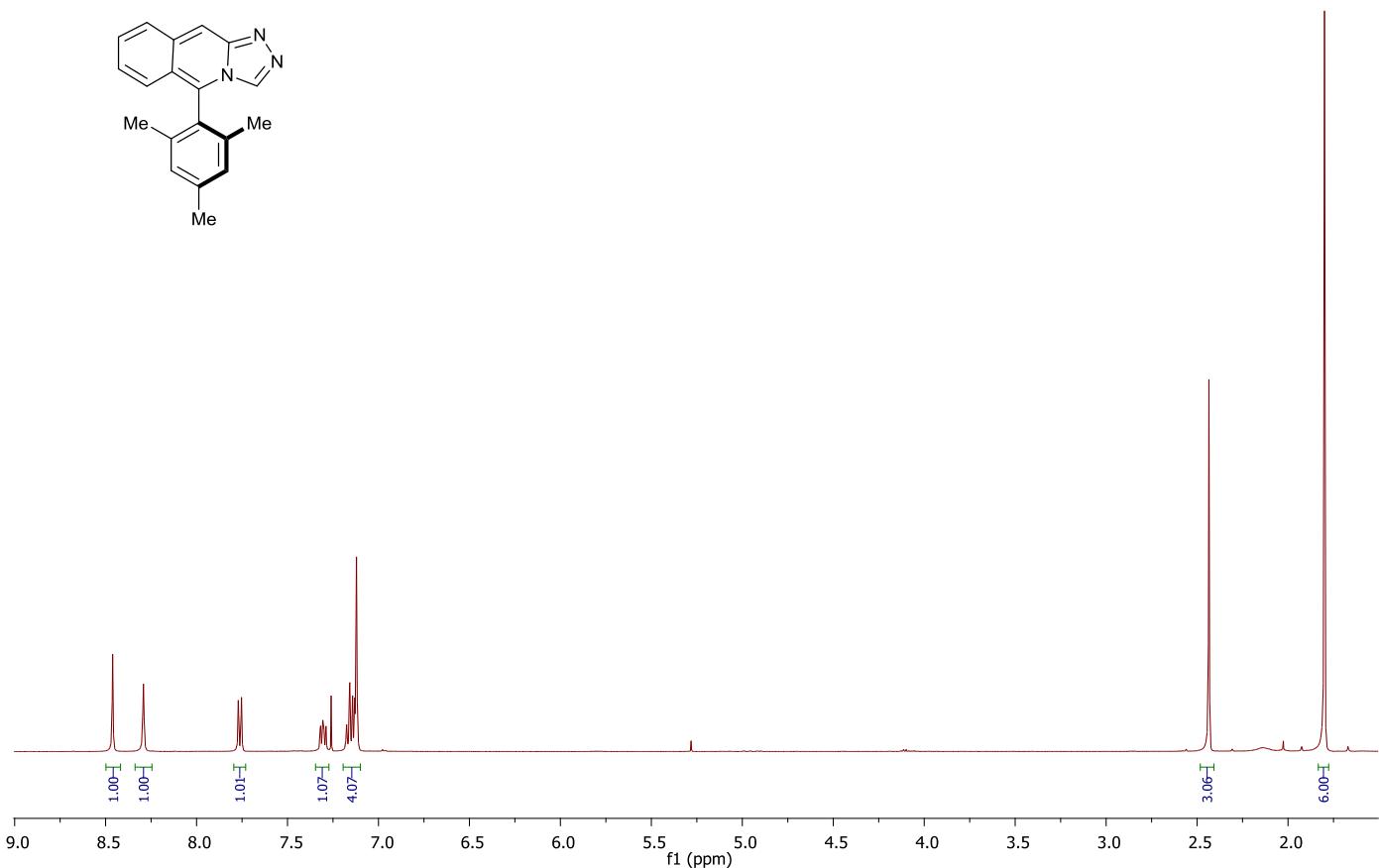
**Figure S3.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **5**:



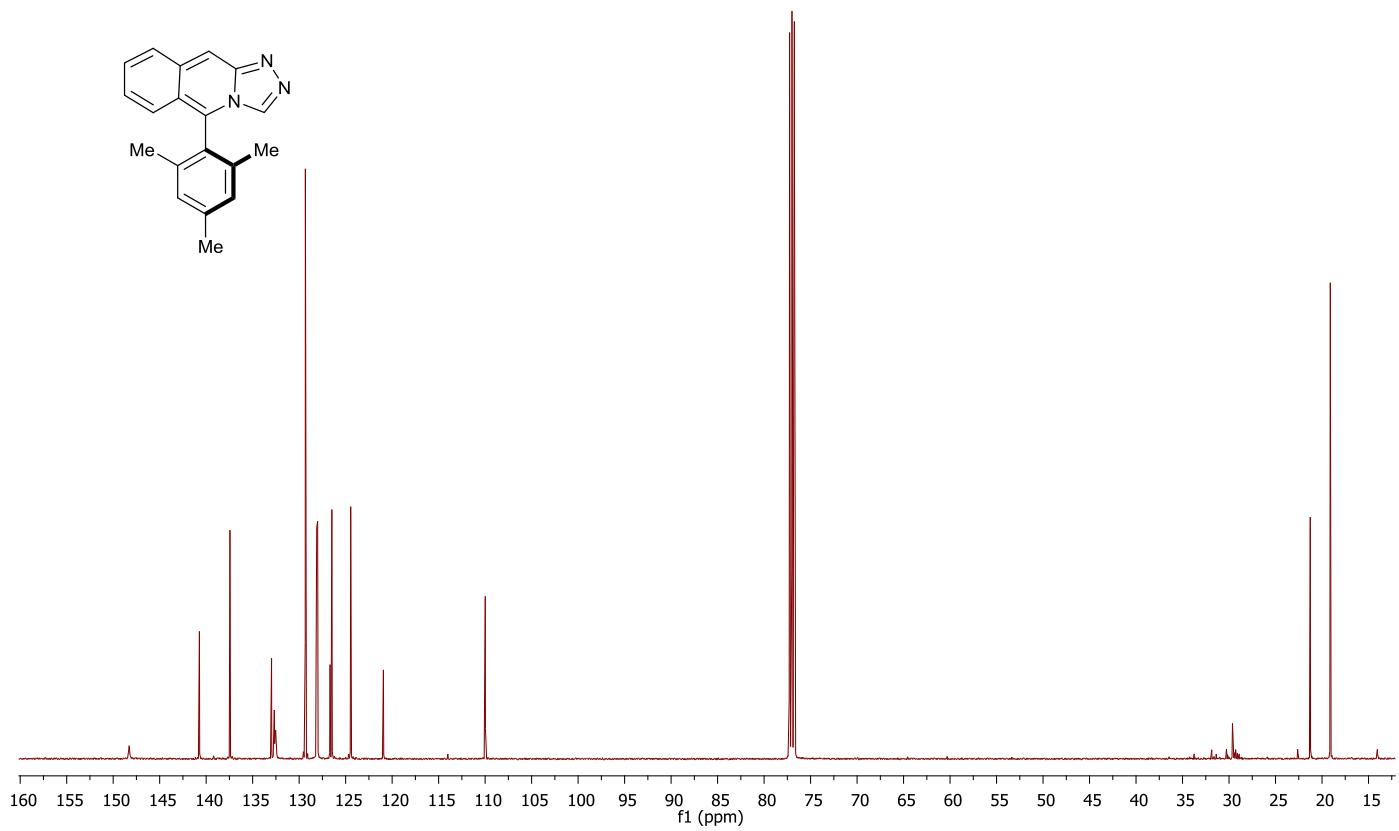
**Figure S4.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **5**:



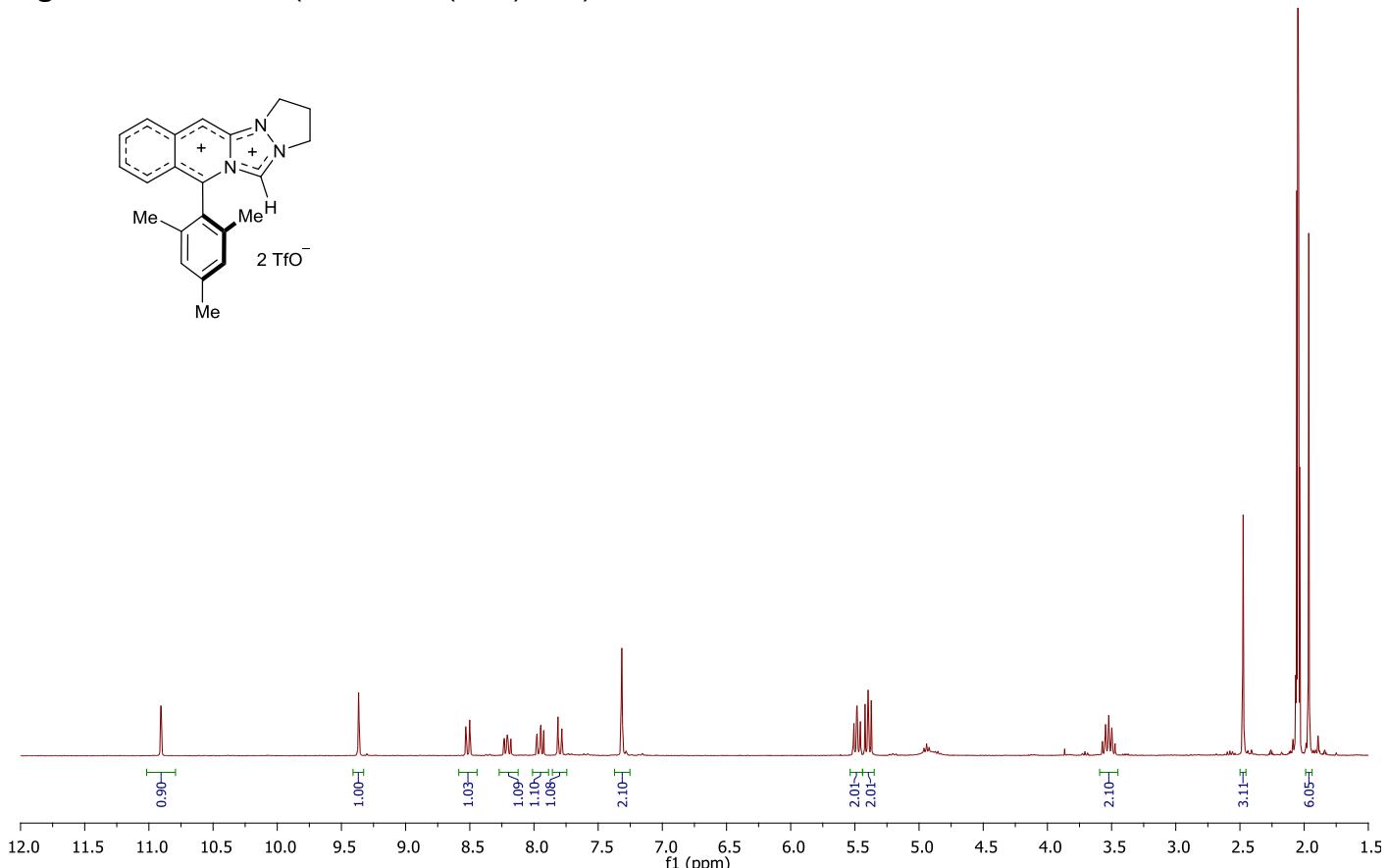
**Figure S5.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **1**:



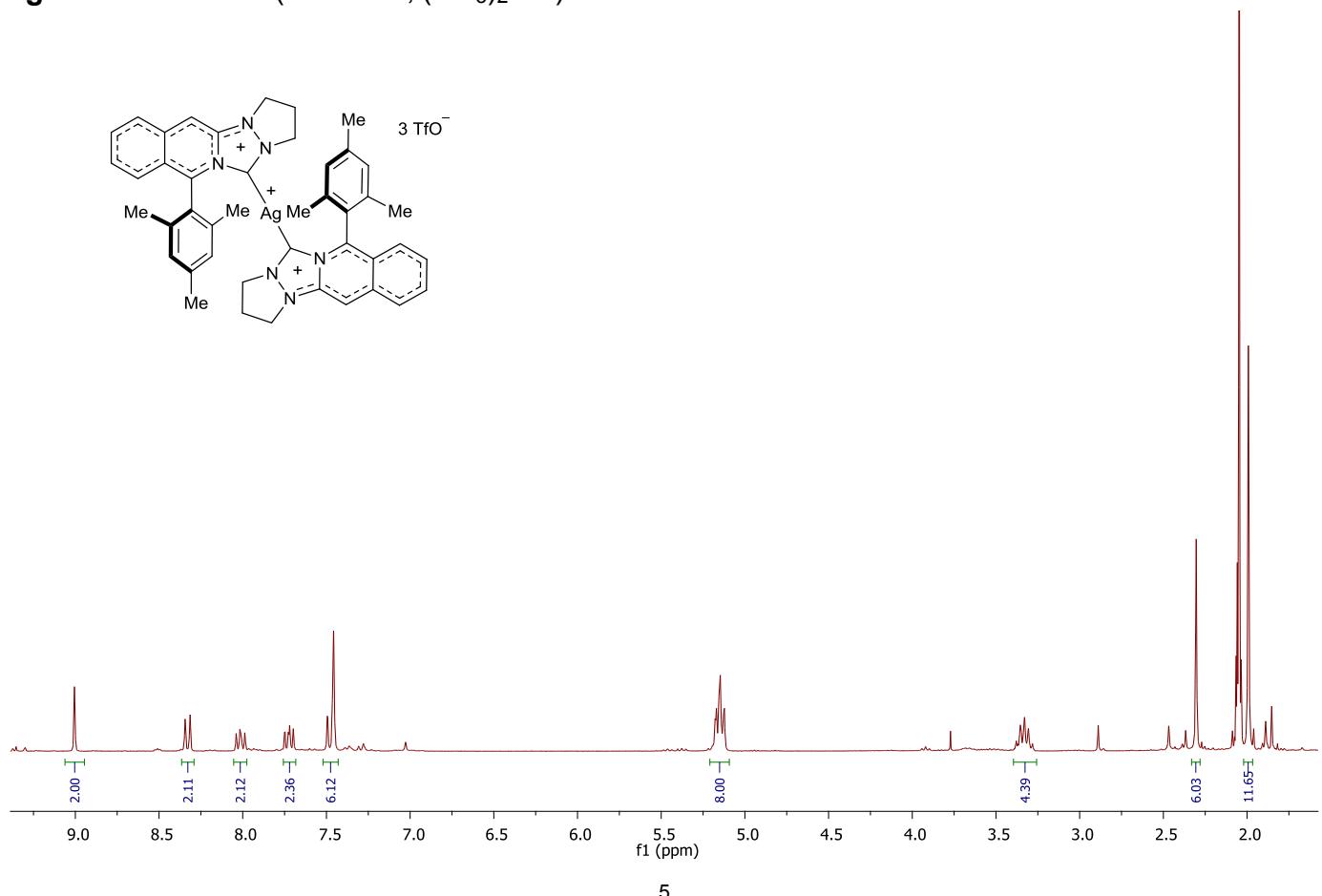
**Figure S6.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **1**:



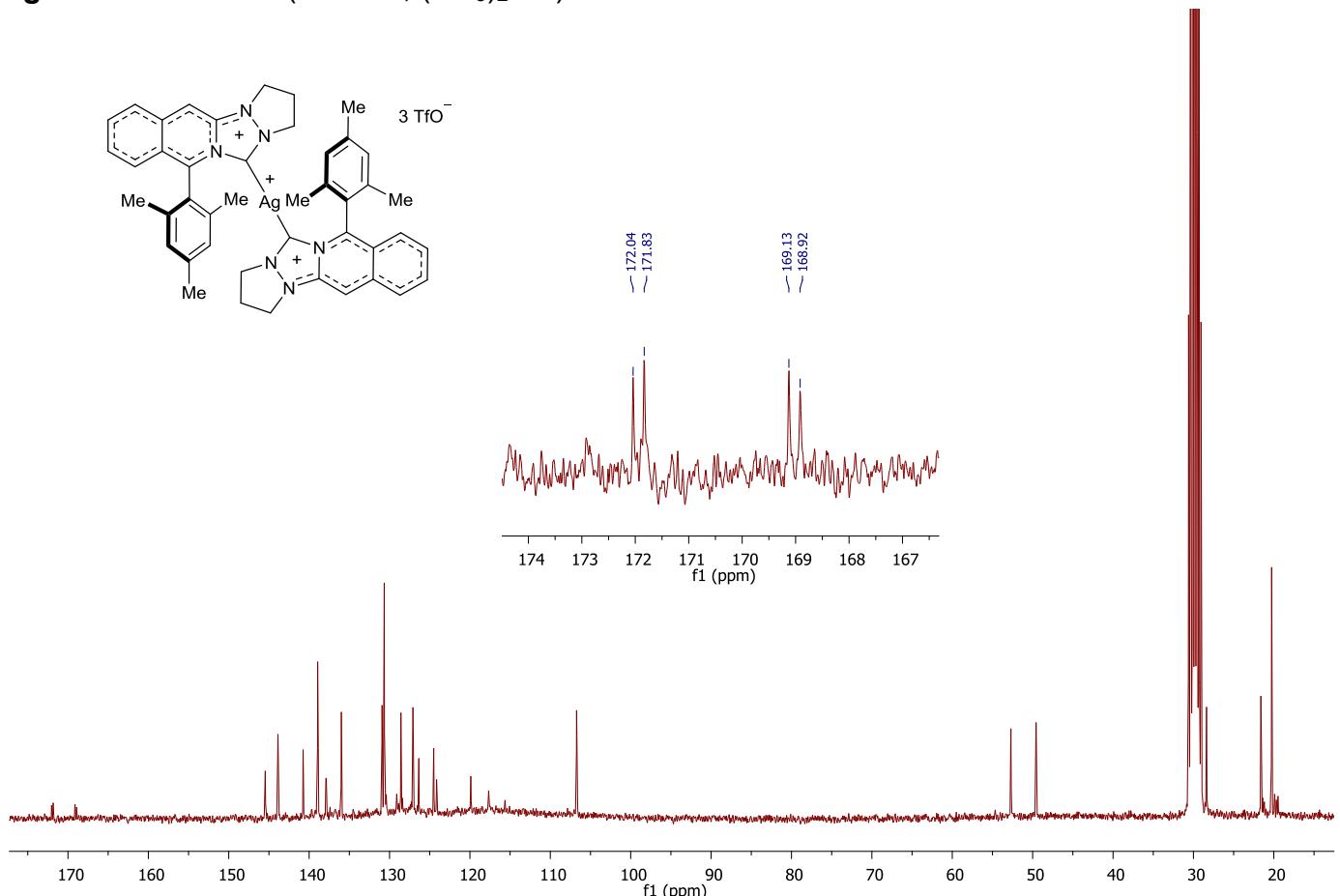
**Figure S7.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$ ) of **7**:



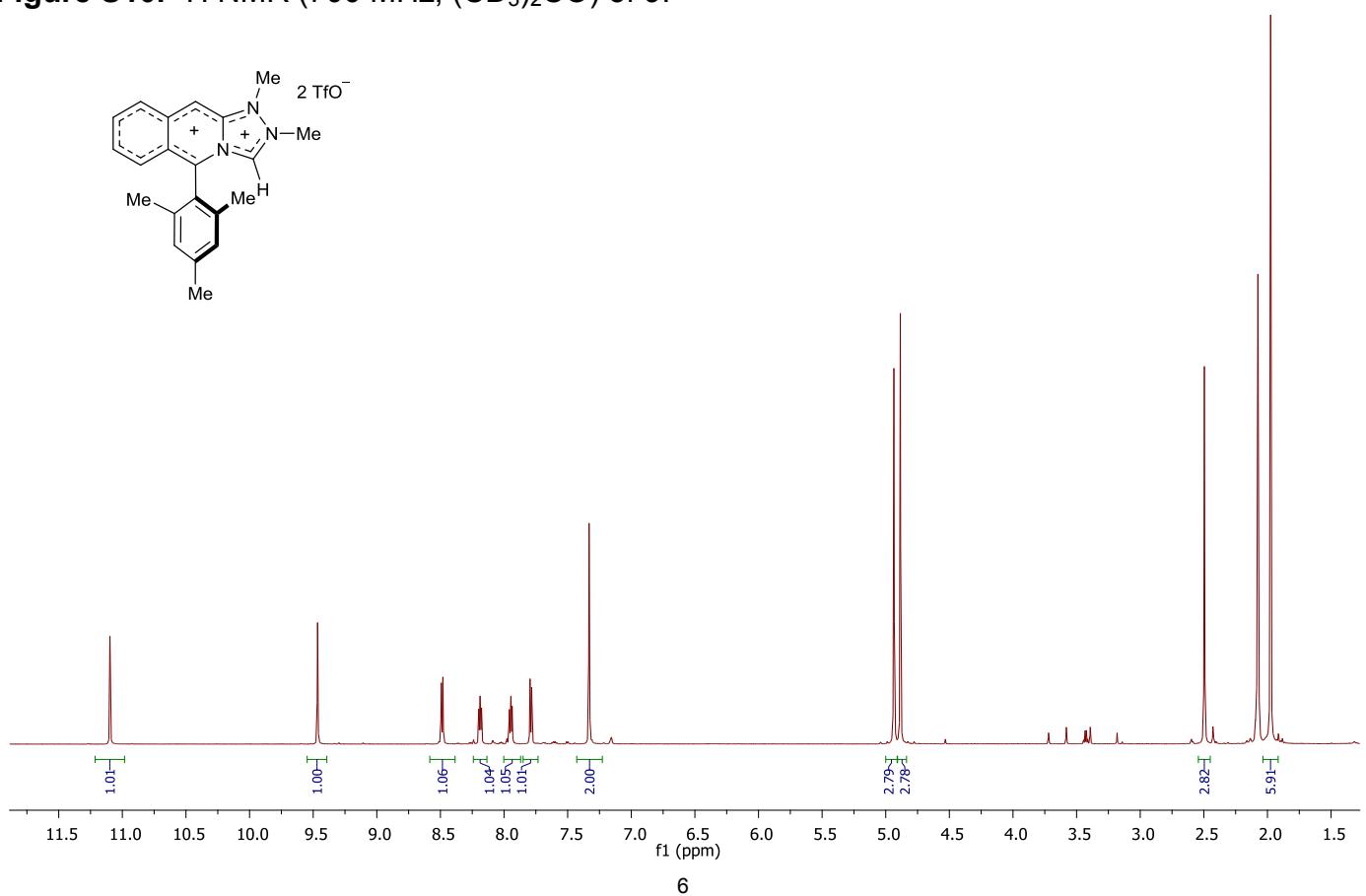
**Figure S8.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$ ) of **8**:



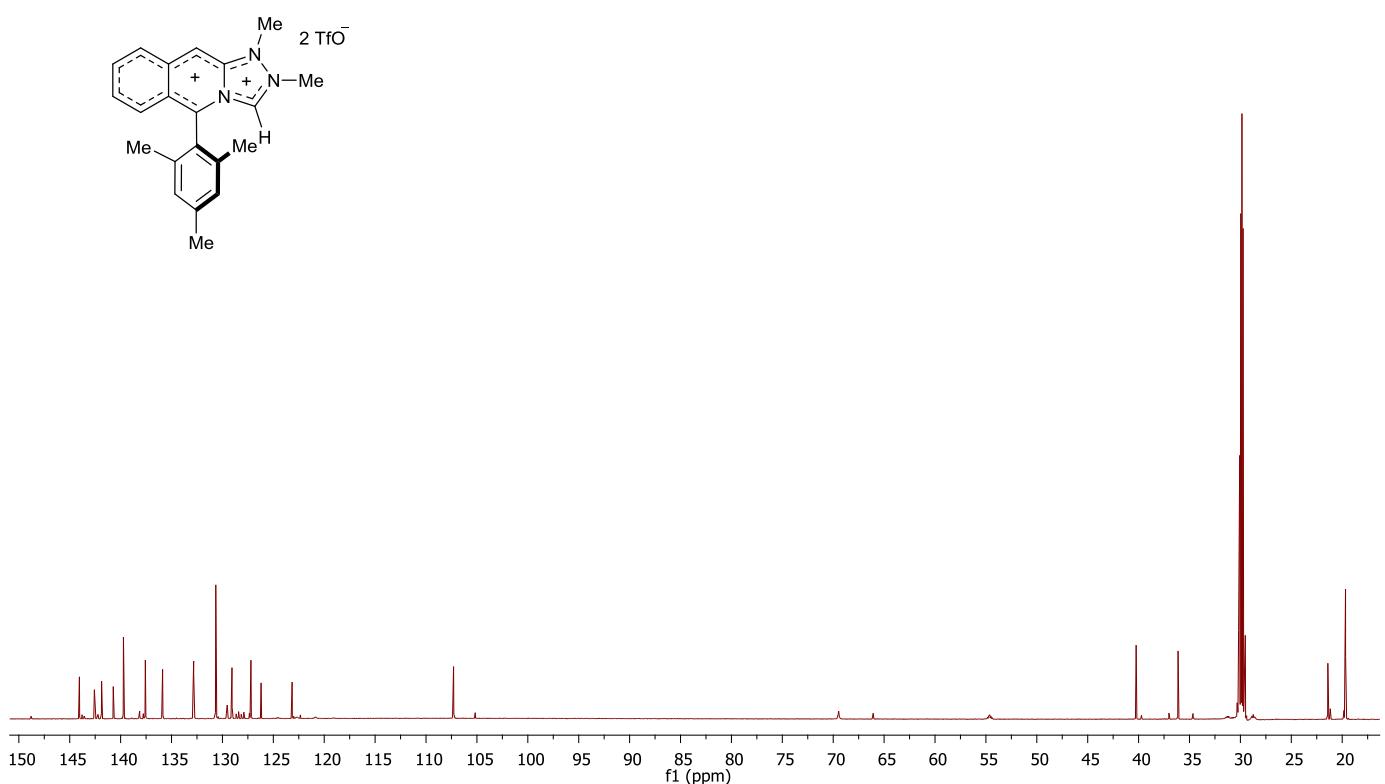
**Figure S9.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$ ) of **8**:



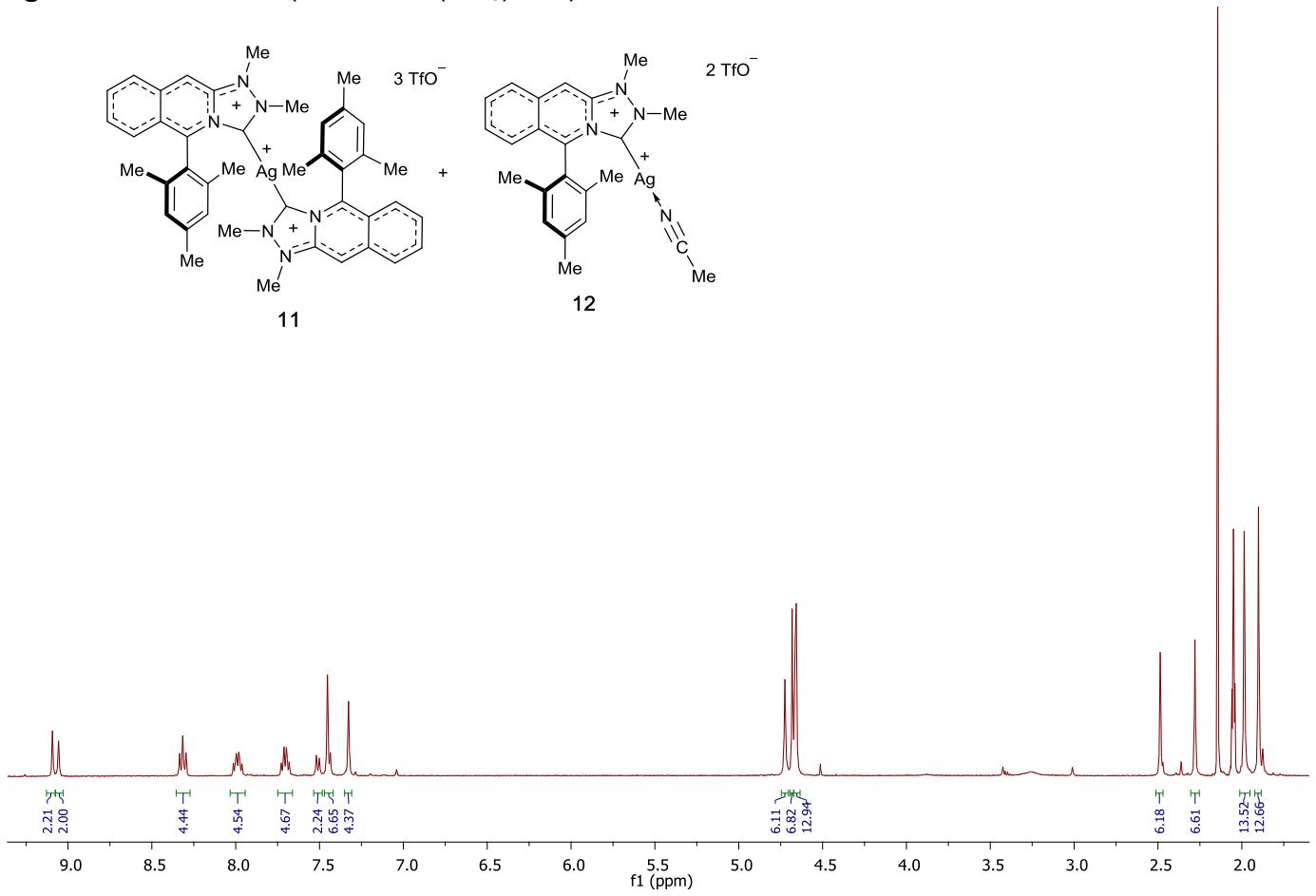
**Figure S10.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (700 MHz,  $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$ ) of **9**:



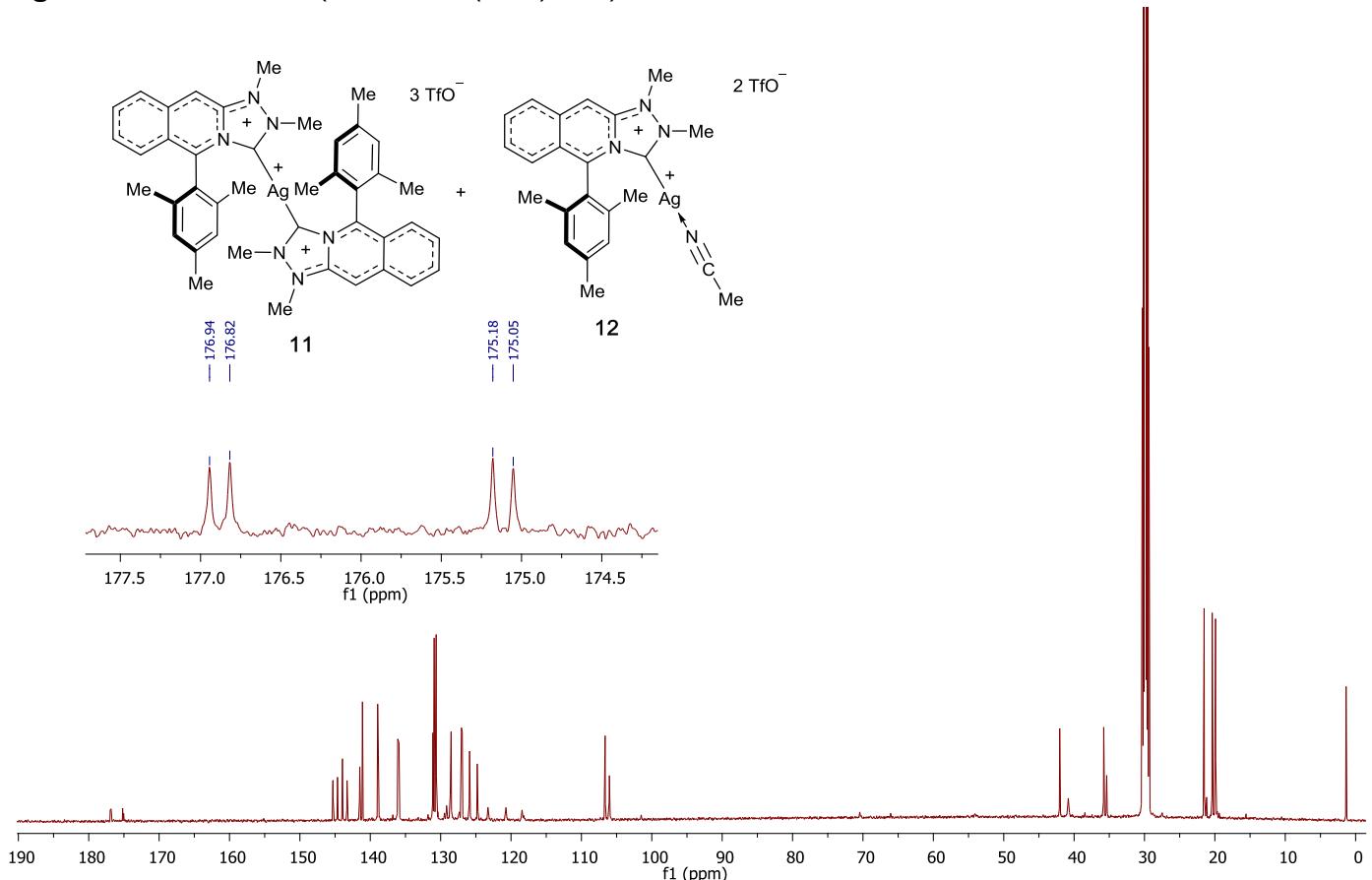
**Figure S11.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (175 MHz,  $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$ ) of **9**:



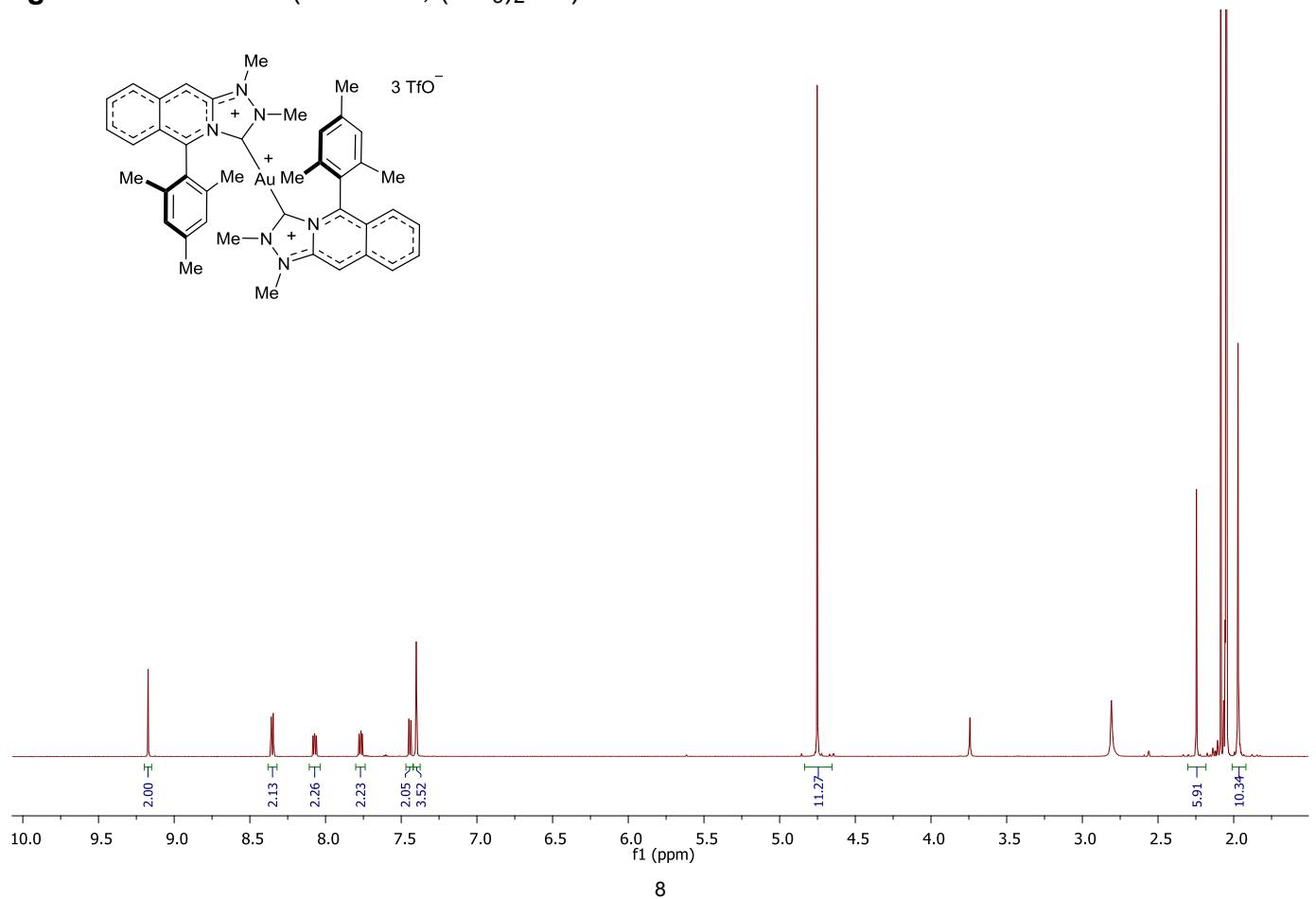
**Figure S12.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$ ) of **11 + 12**:



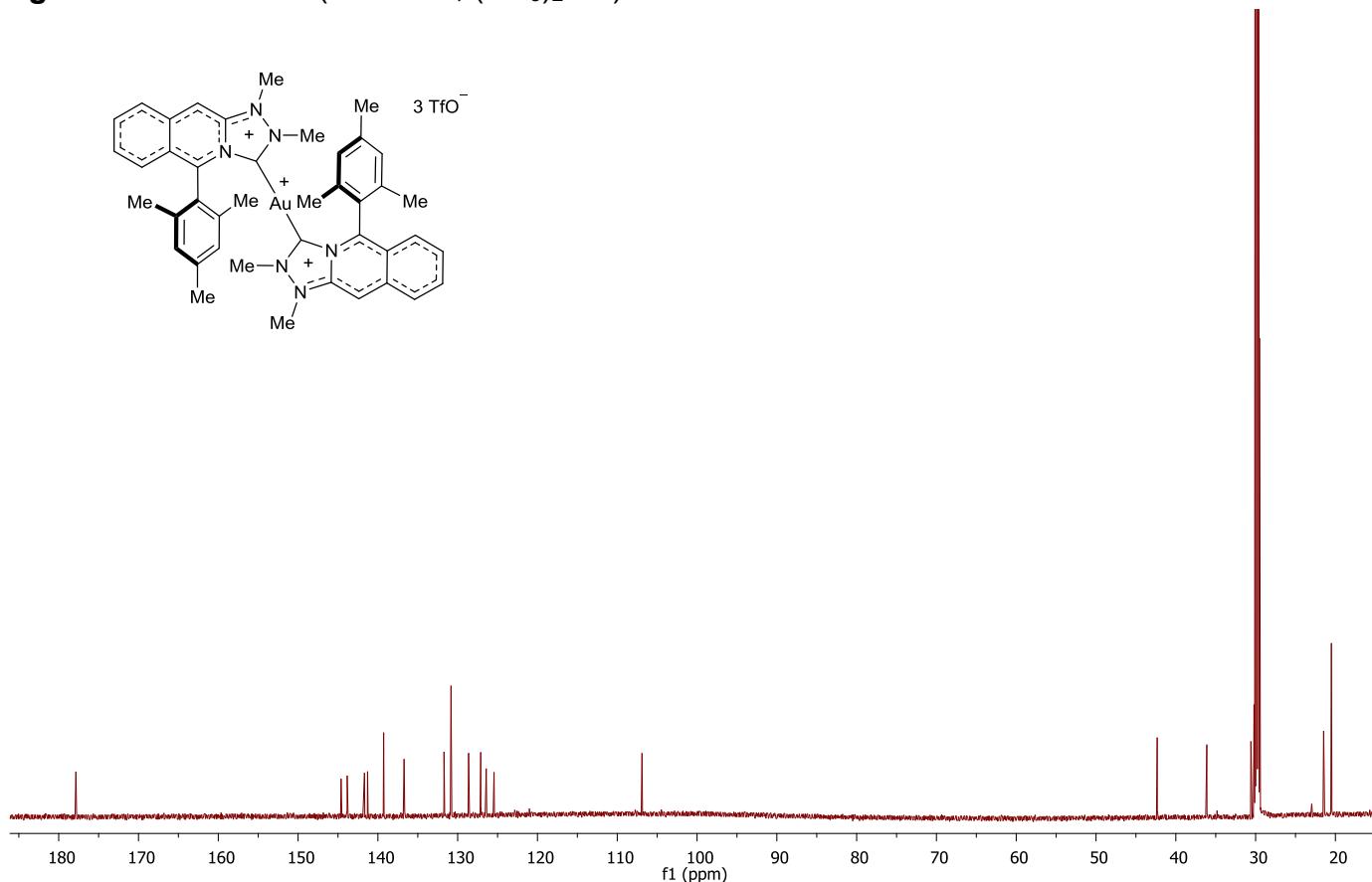
**Figure S13.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$ ) of **11 + 12**:



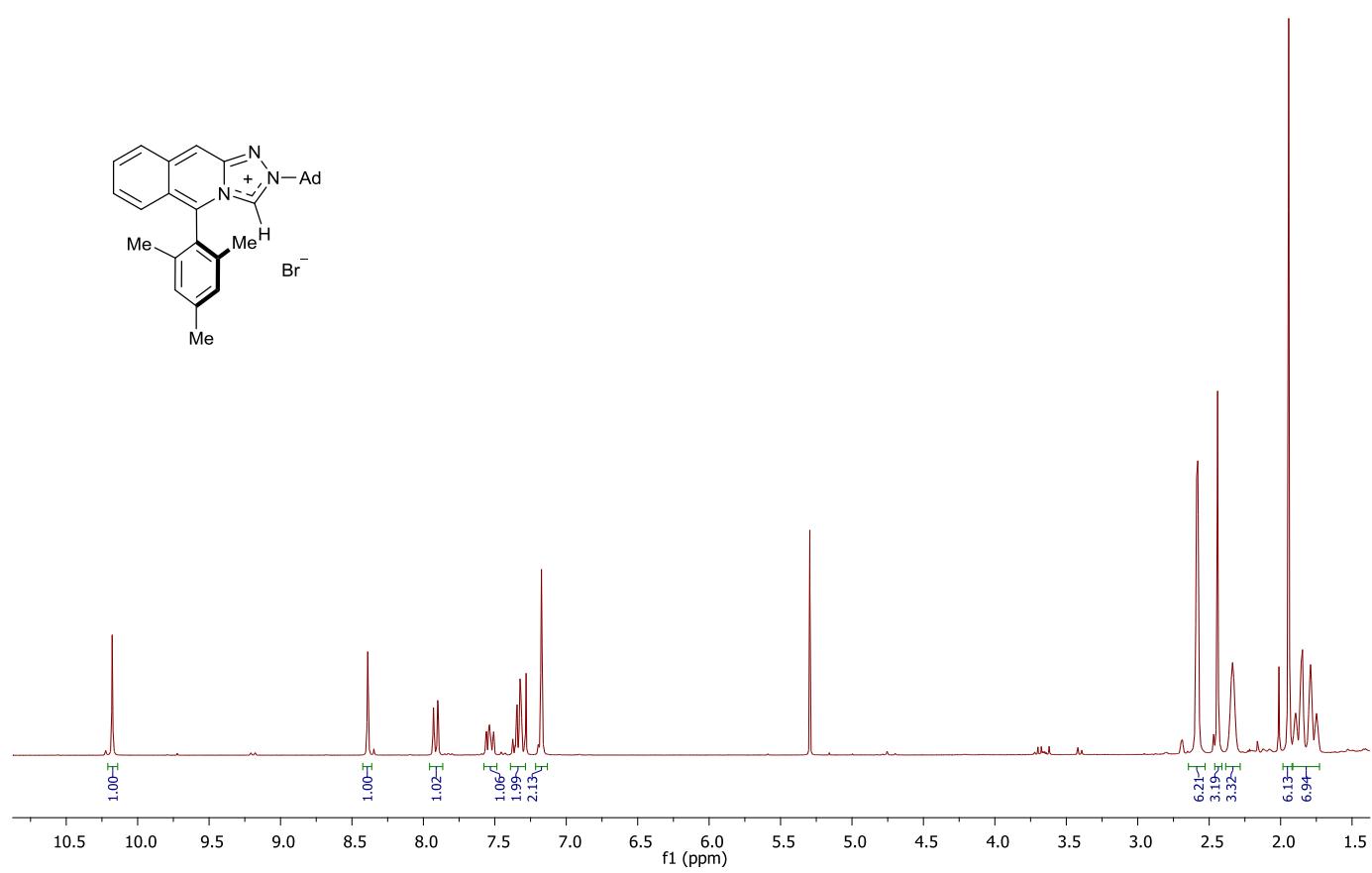
**Figure S14.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (700 MHz,  $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$ ) of **13**:



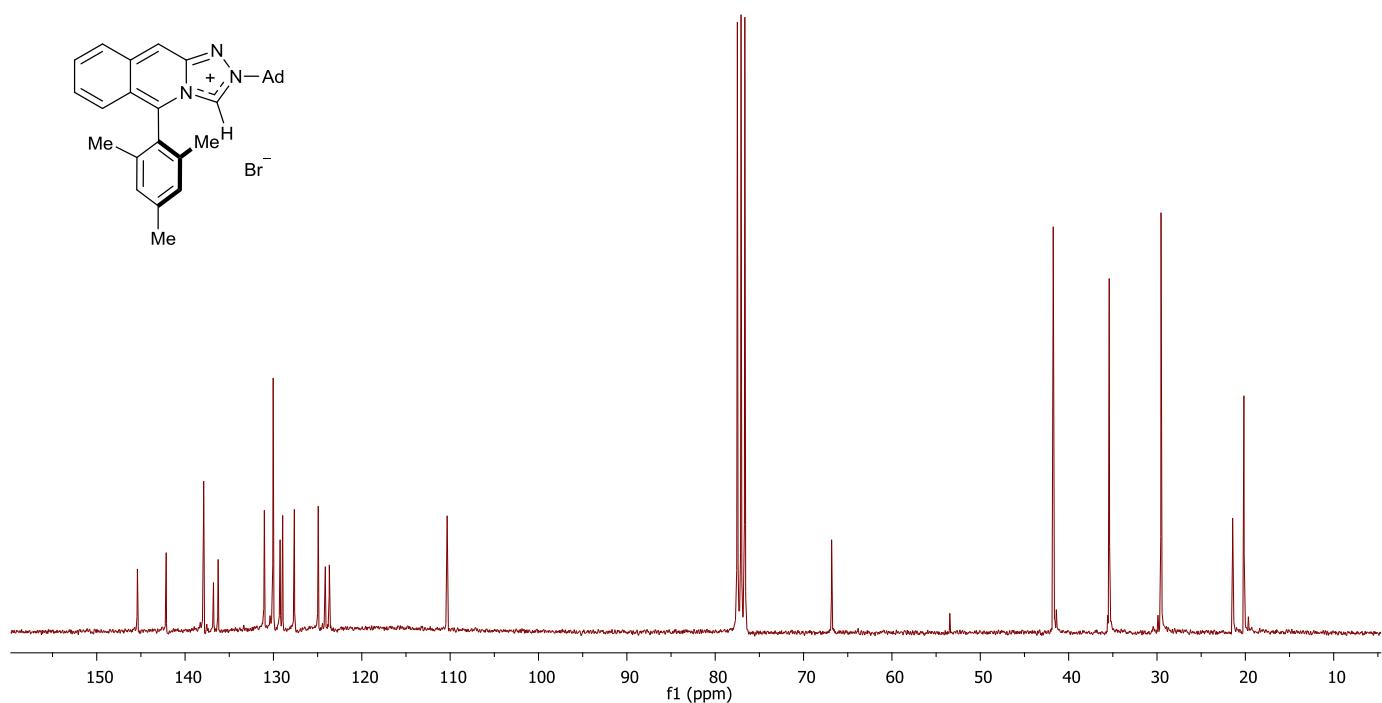
**Figure S15.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (175 MHz,  $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$ ) of **13**:



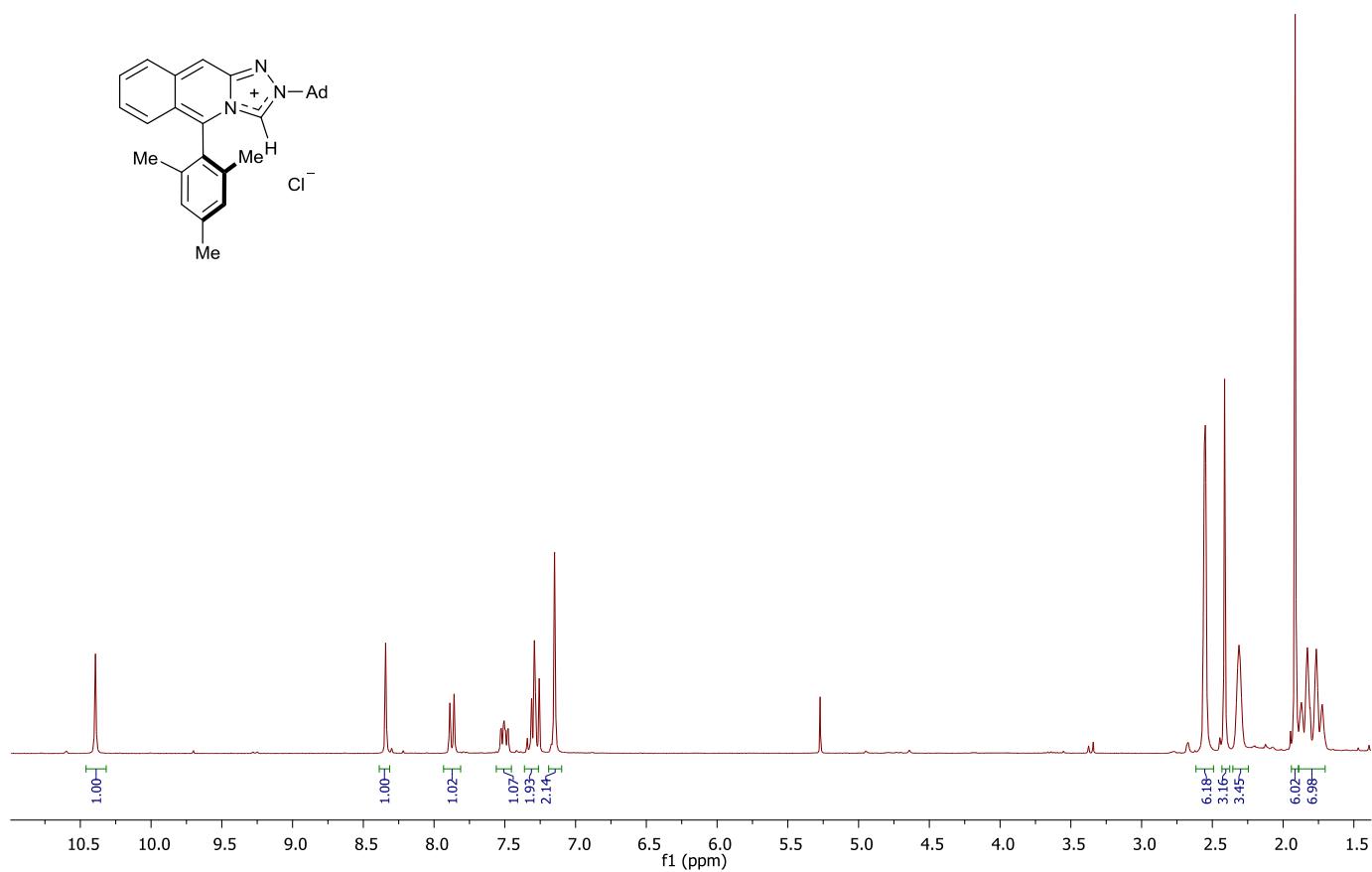
**Figure S16.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **17**:



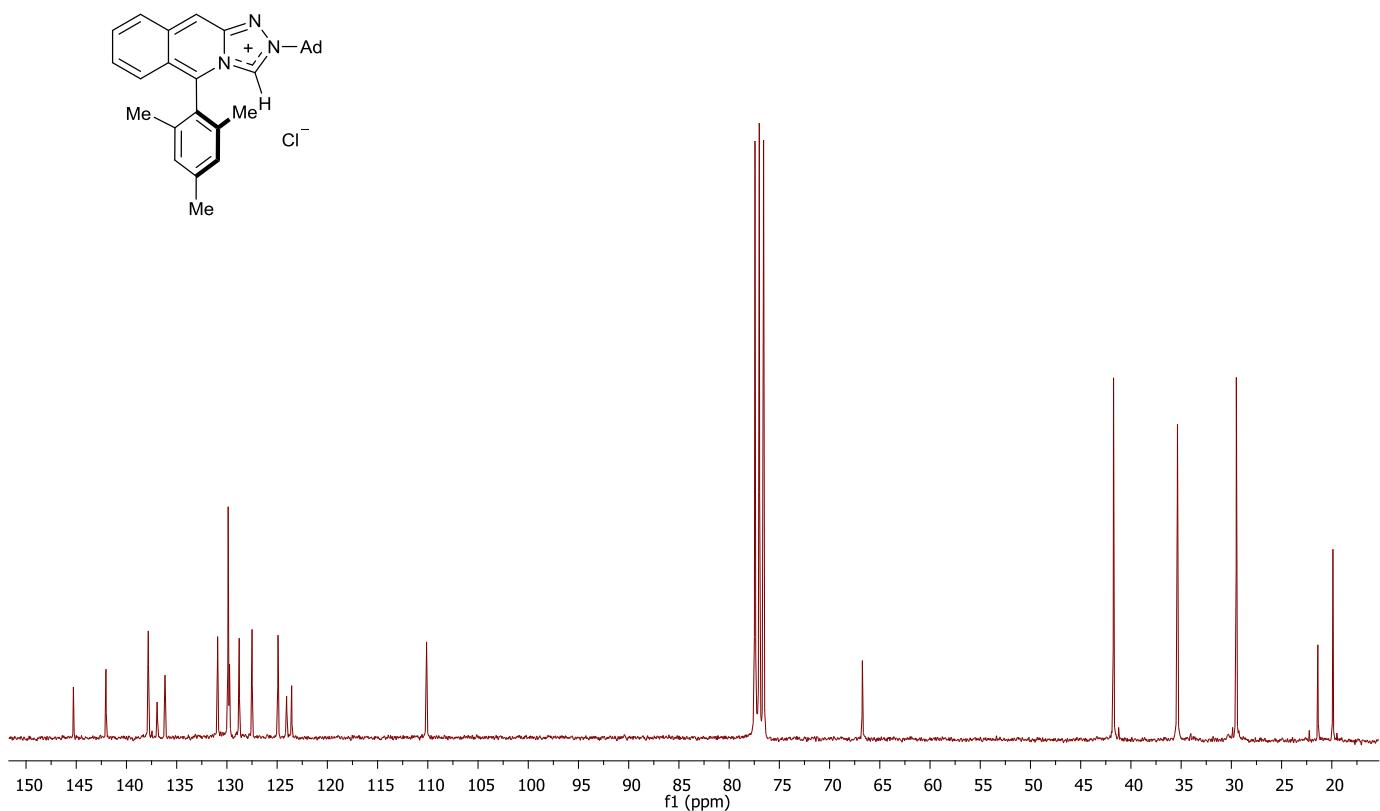
**Figure S17.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **17**:



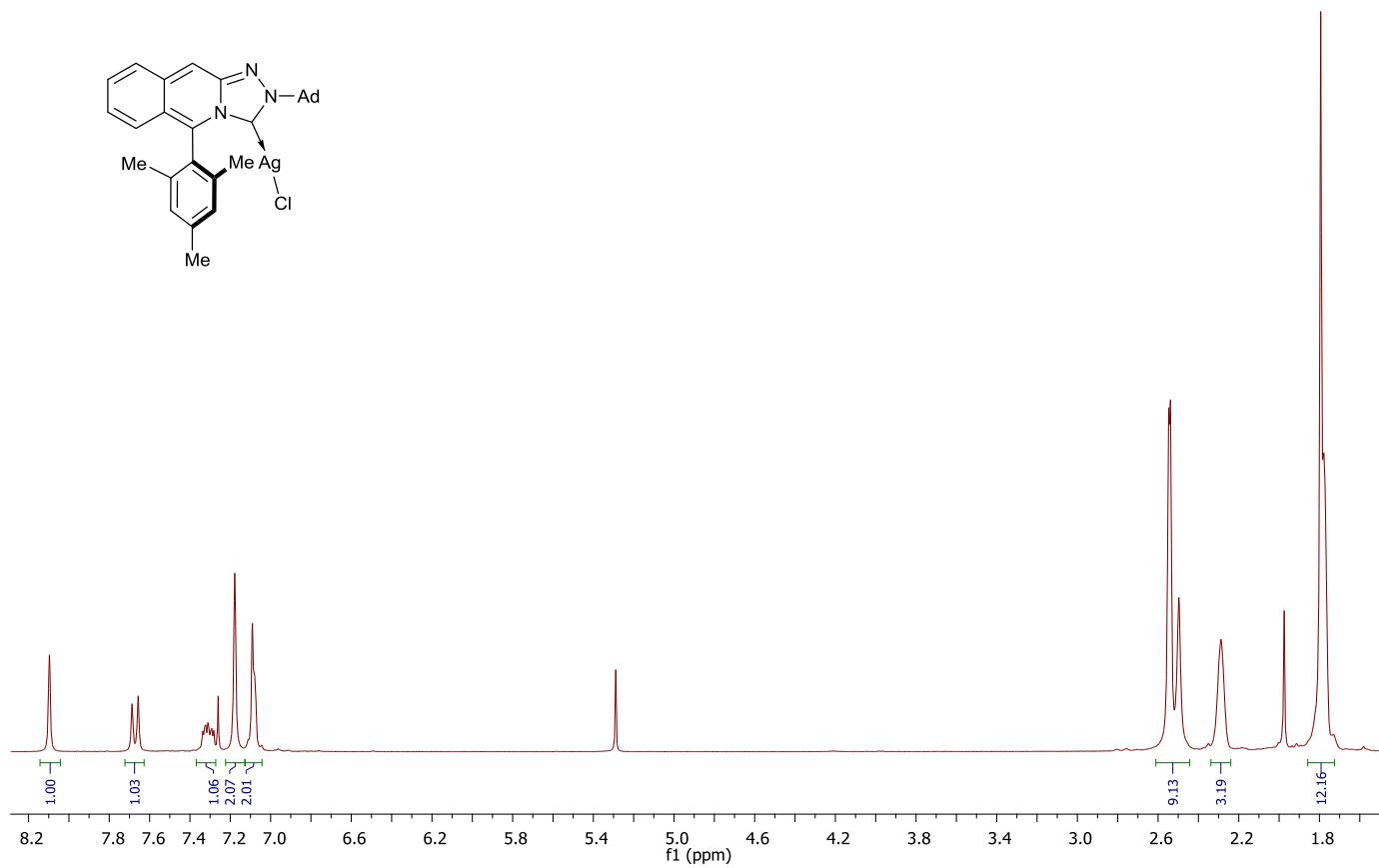
**Figure S18.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **18**:



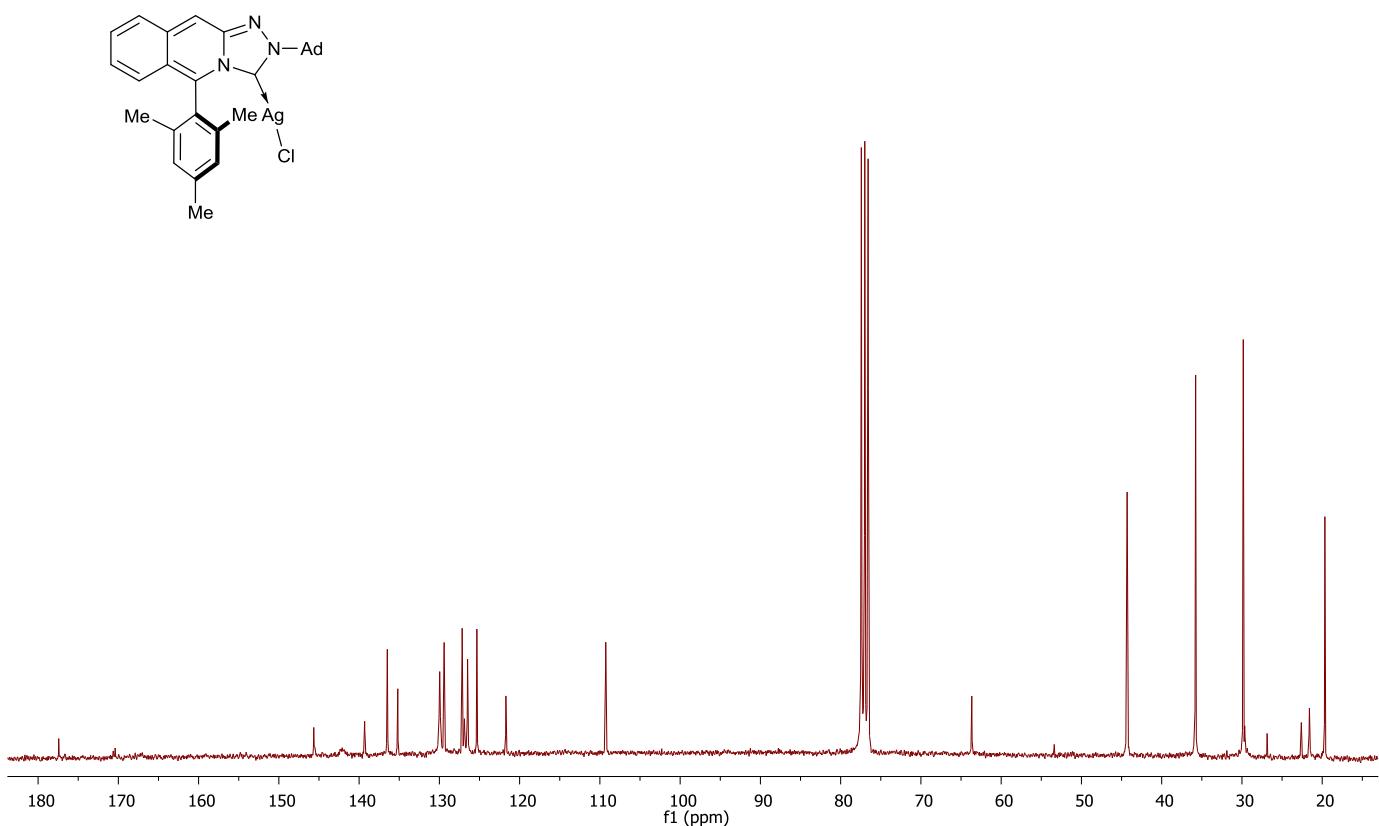
**Figure S19.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **18**:



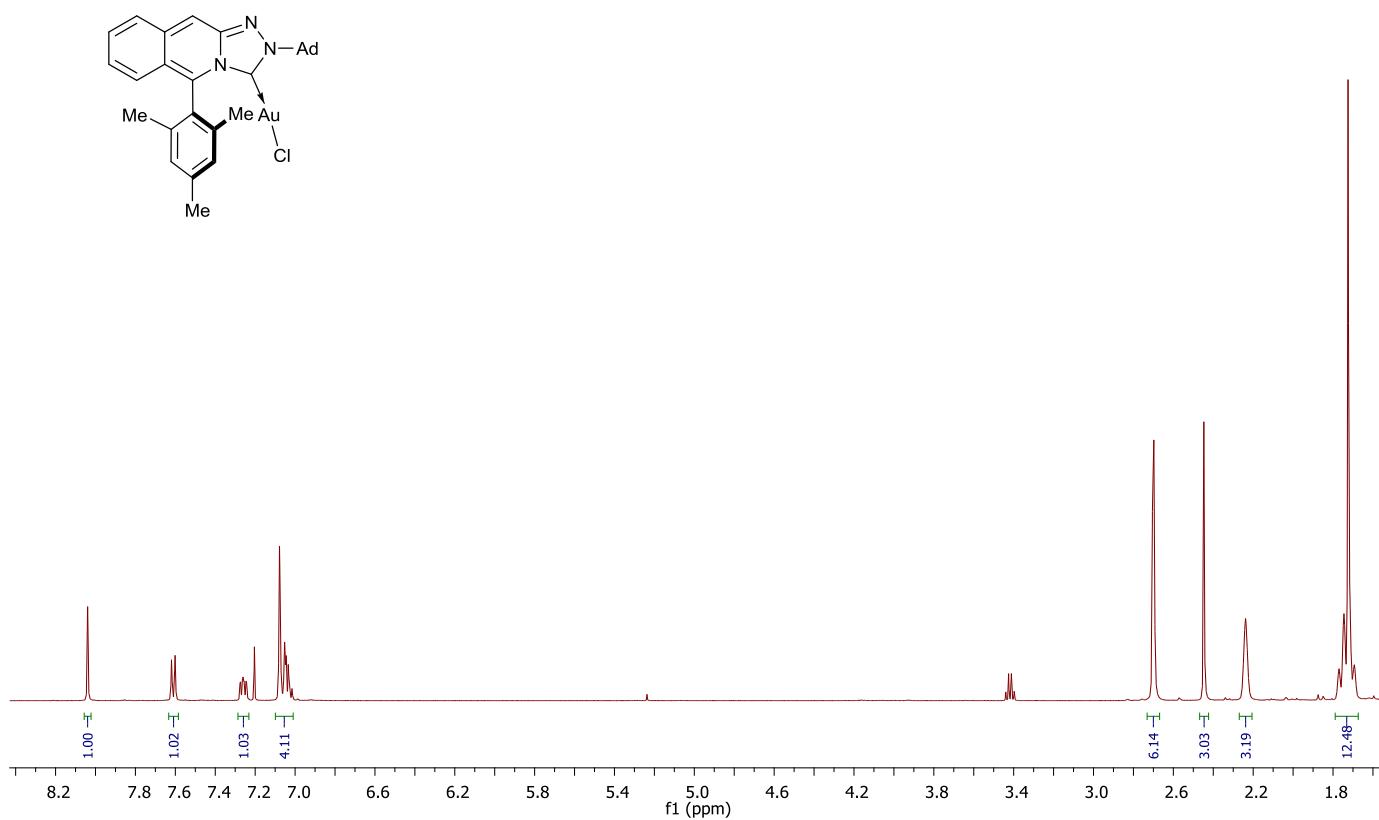
**Figure S20.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **19**:



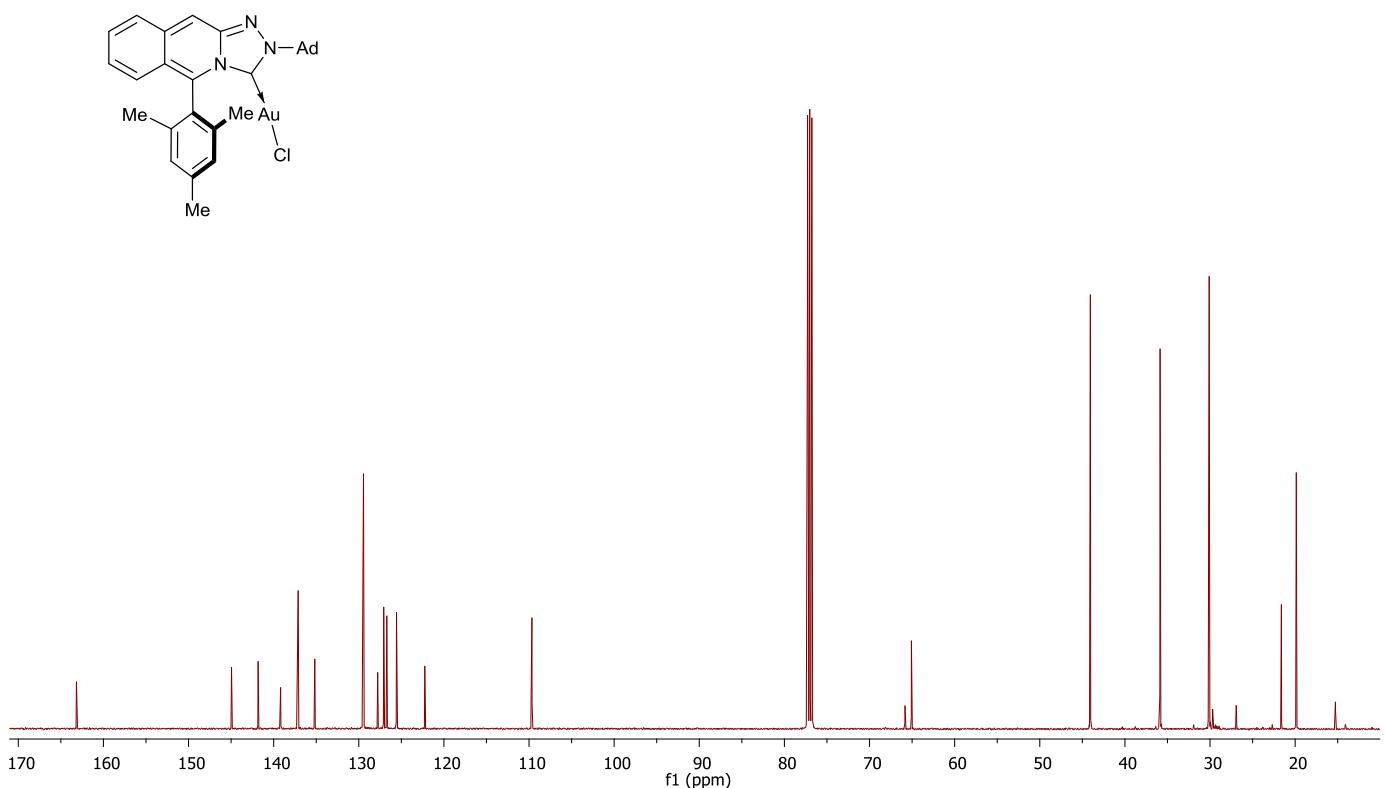
**Figure S21.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **19**:



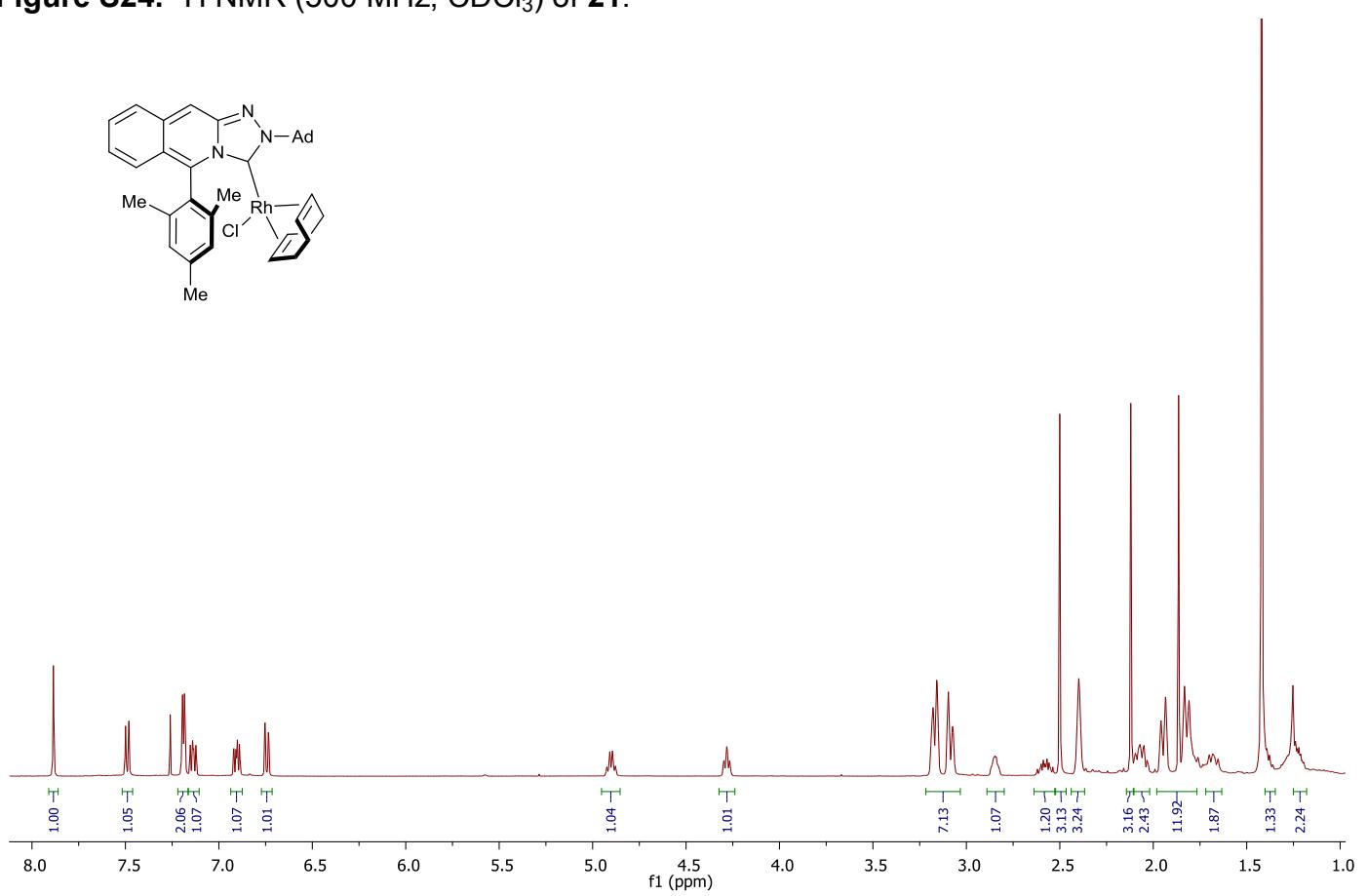
**Figure S22.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **20**:



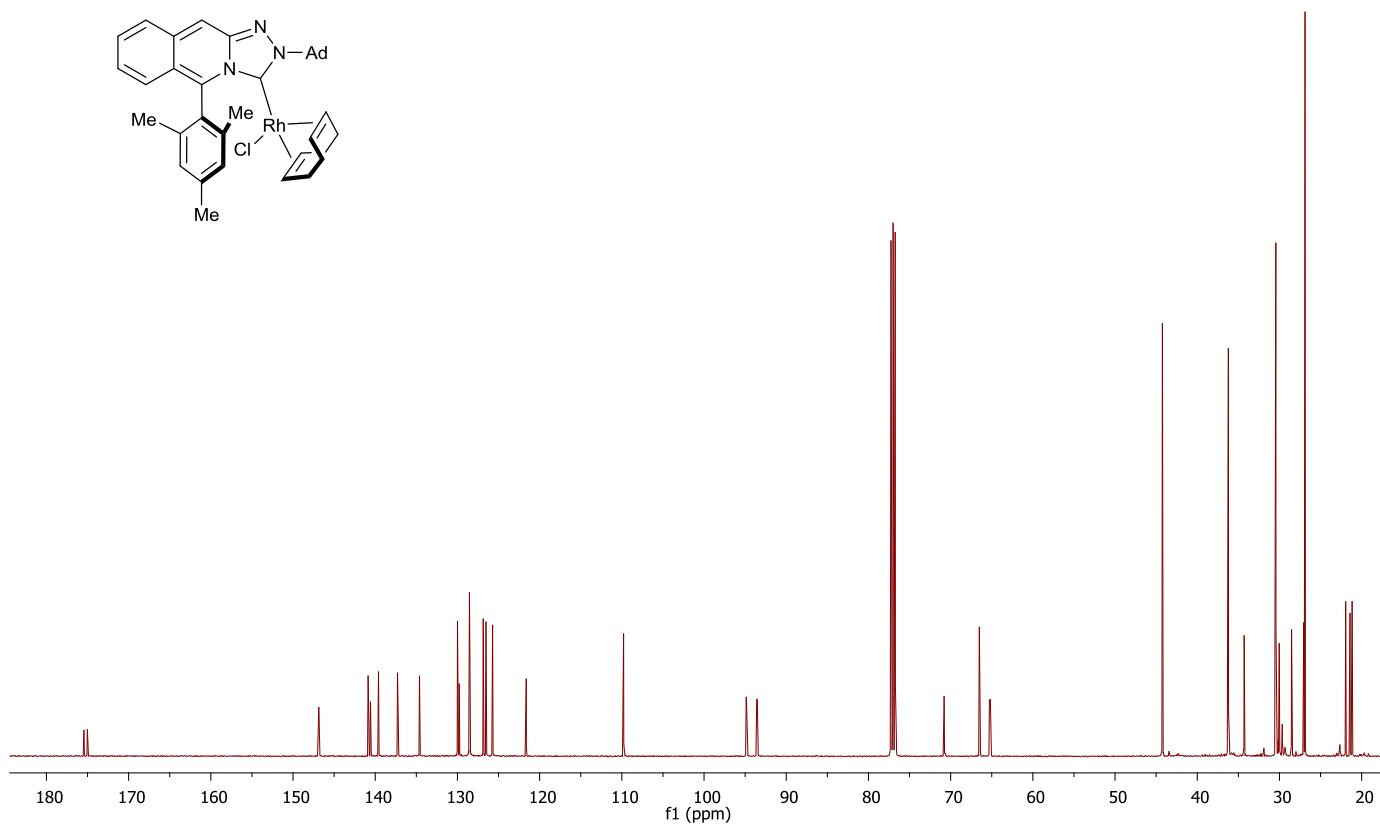
**Figure S23.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **20**:



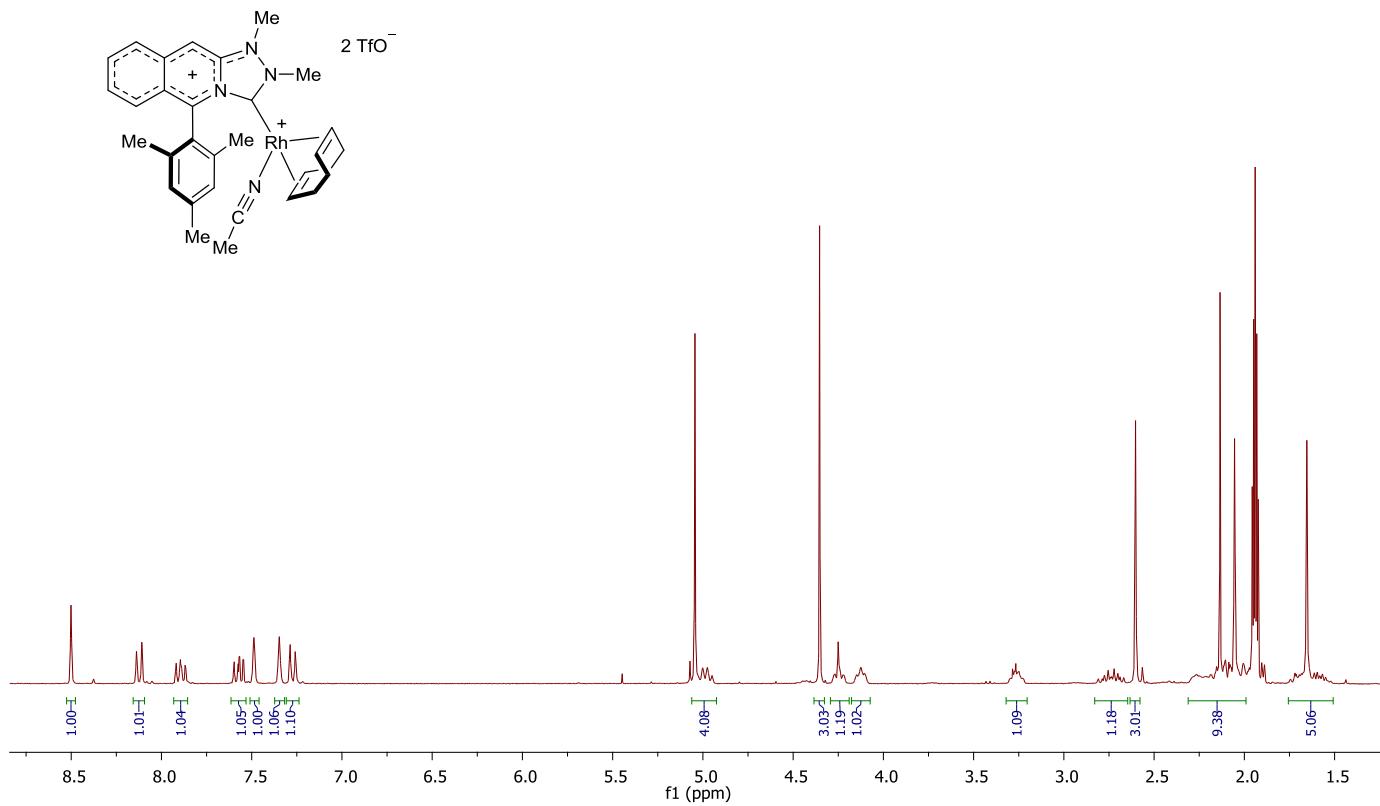
**Figure S24.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **21**:



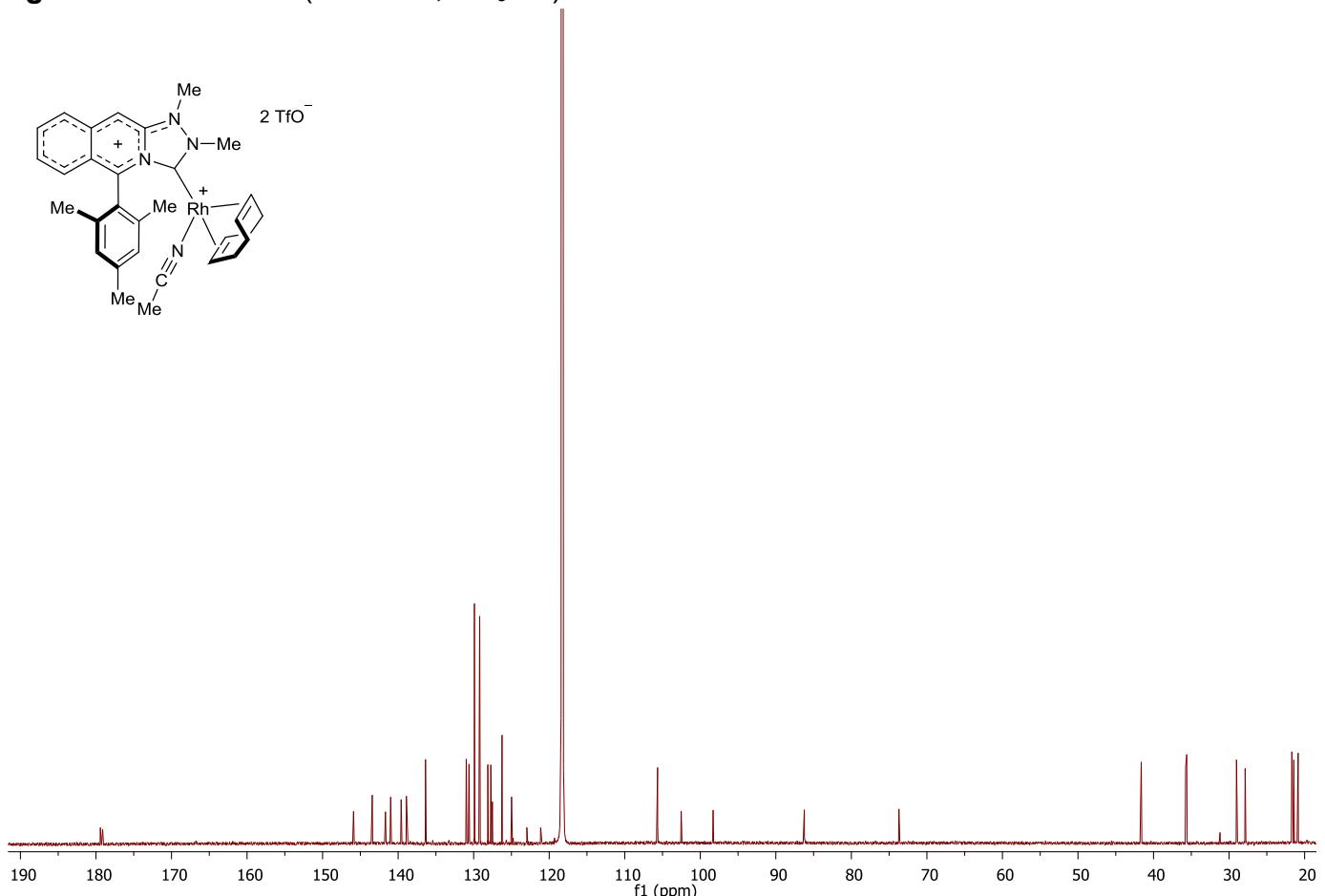
**Figure S25.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **21**:



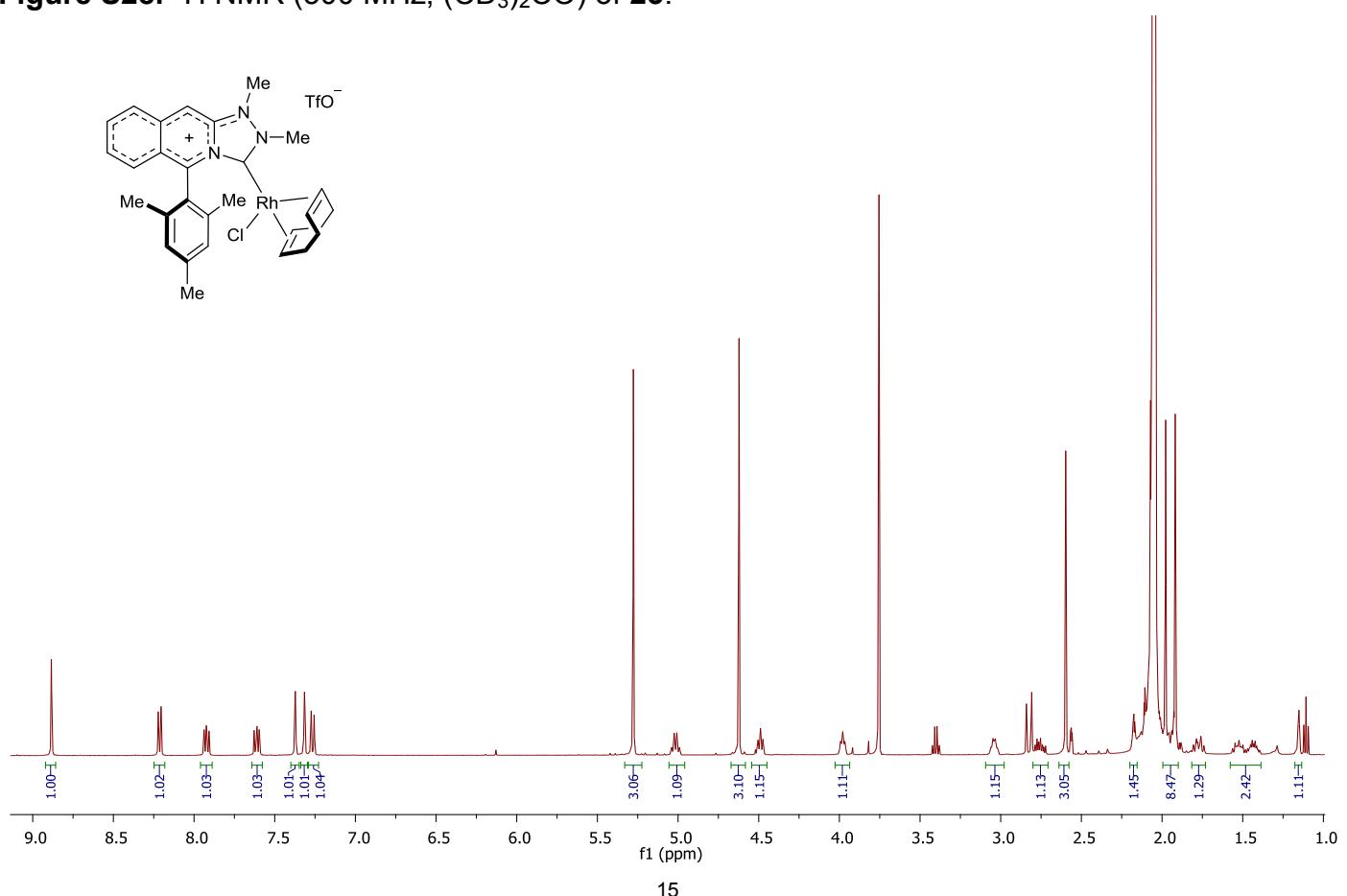
**Figure S26.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ) of **22**:



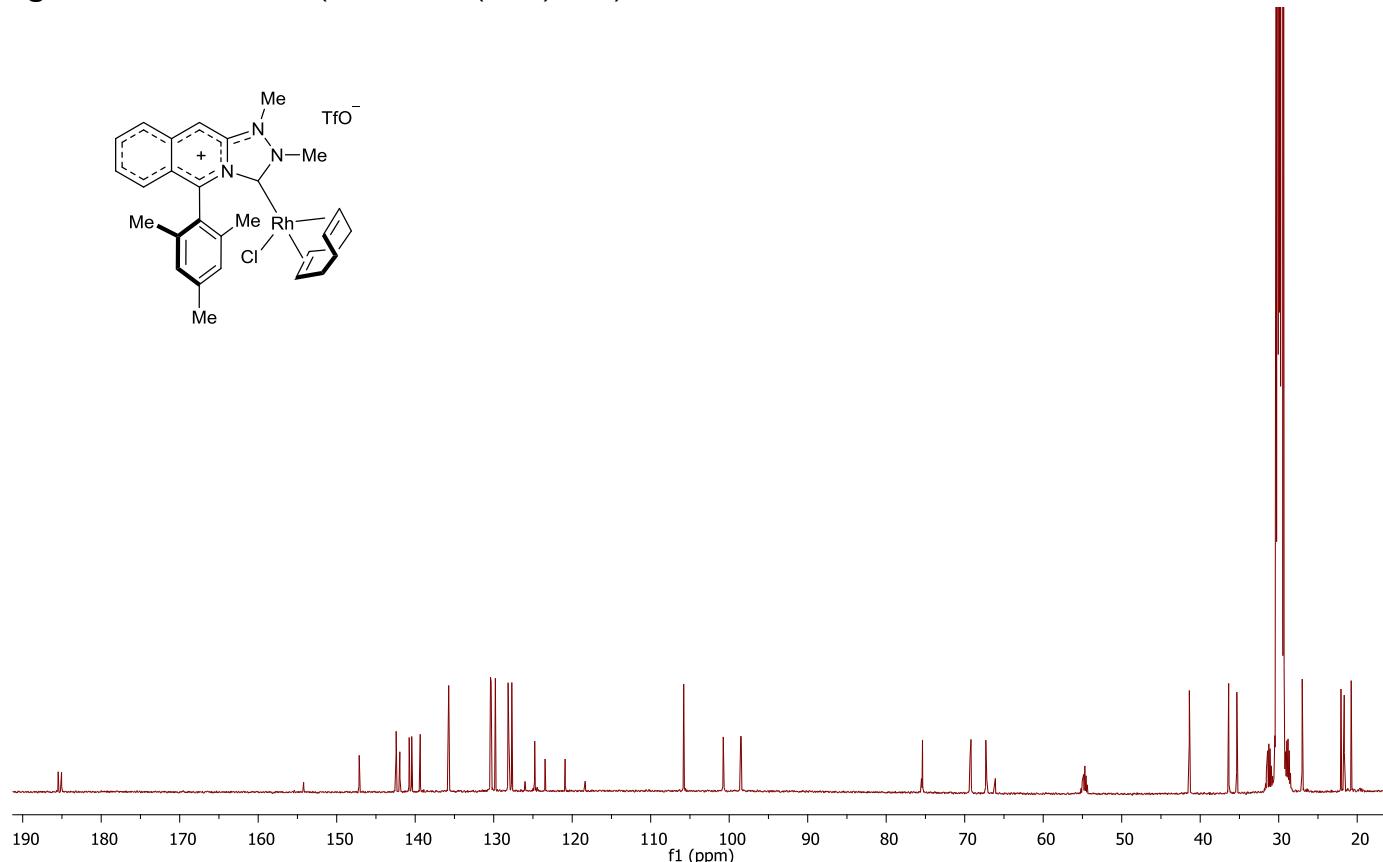
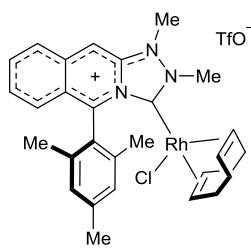
**Figure S27.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (175 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ) of **22**:



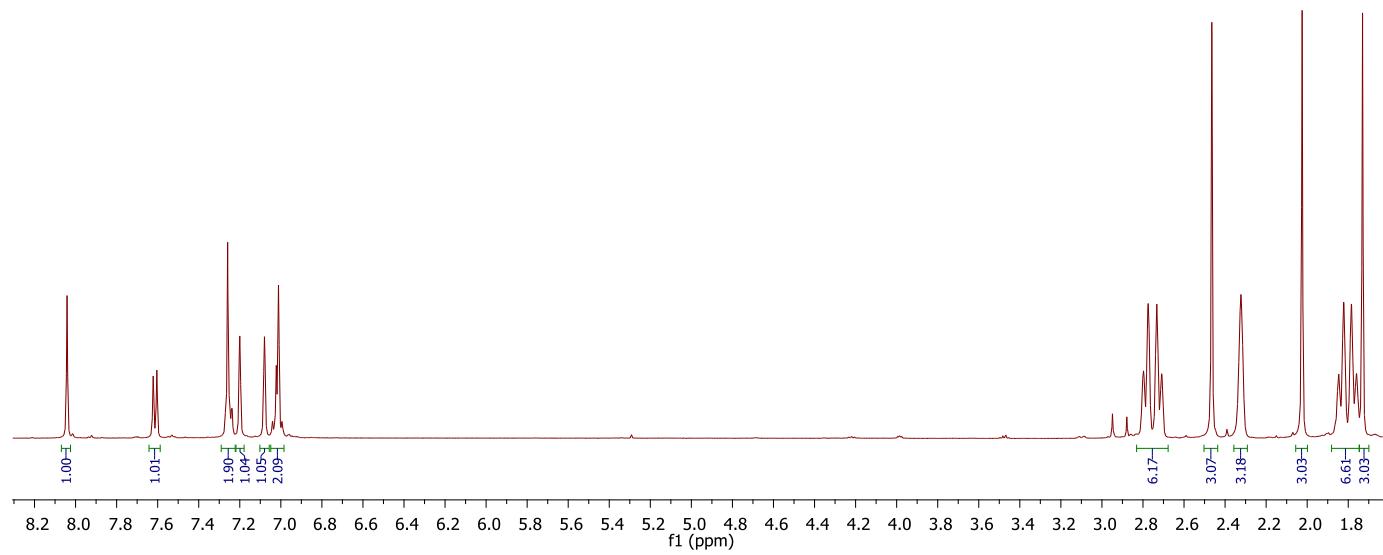
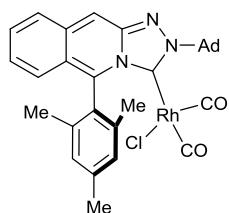
**Figure S28.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$ ) of **23**:



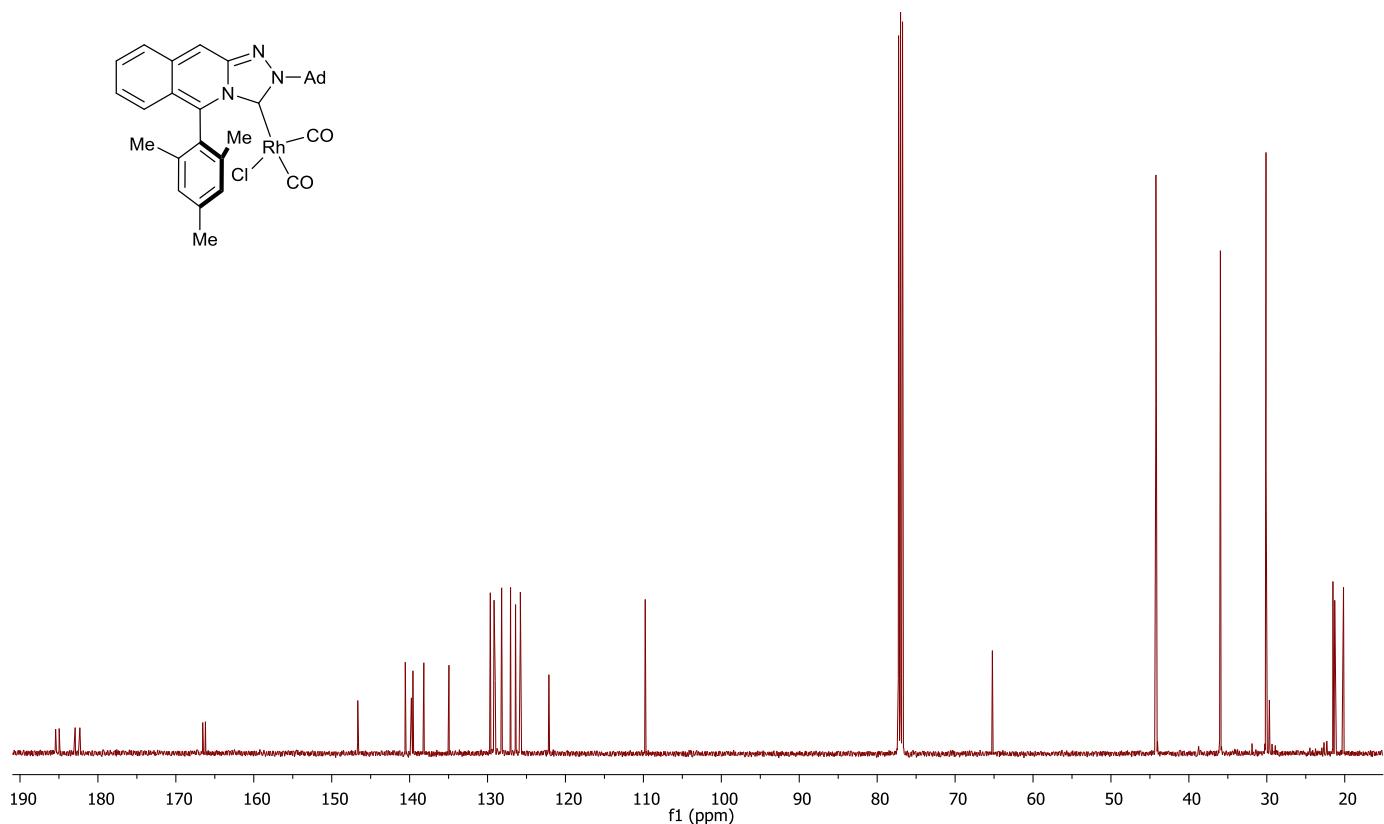
**Figure S29.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{CO}$ ) of **23**:



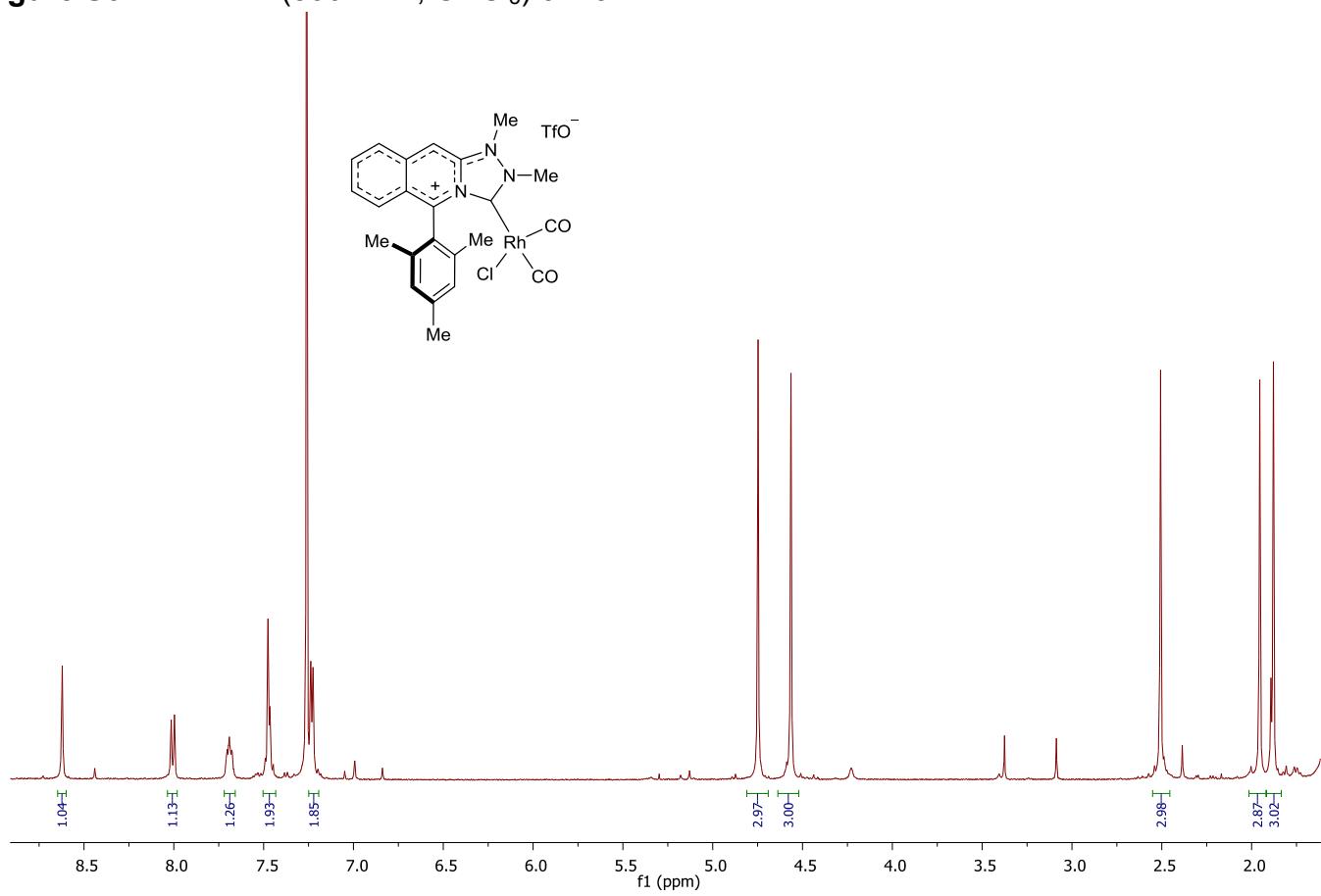
**Figure S30.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **24**:



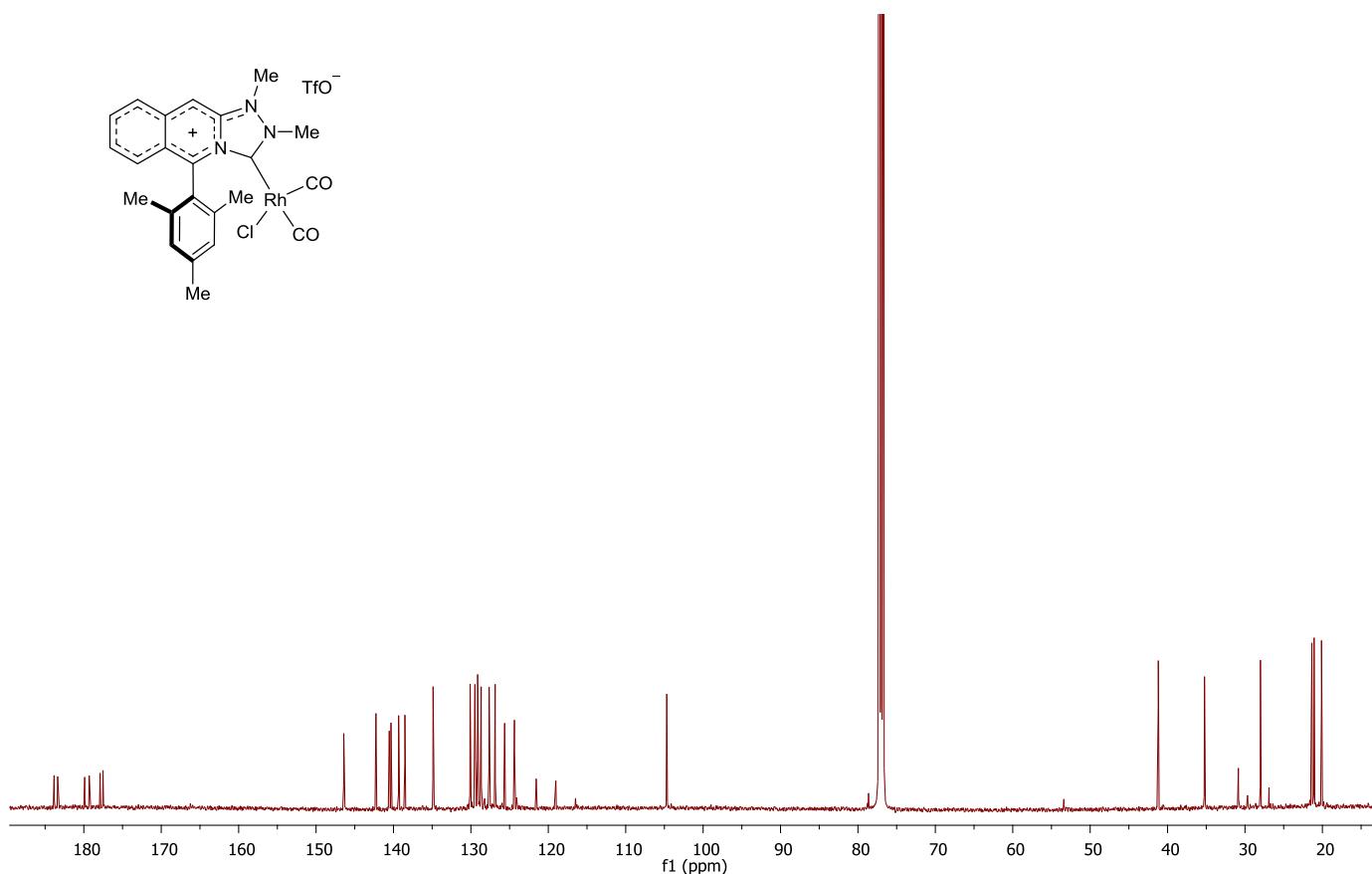
**Figure S31.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **24**:



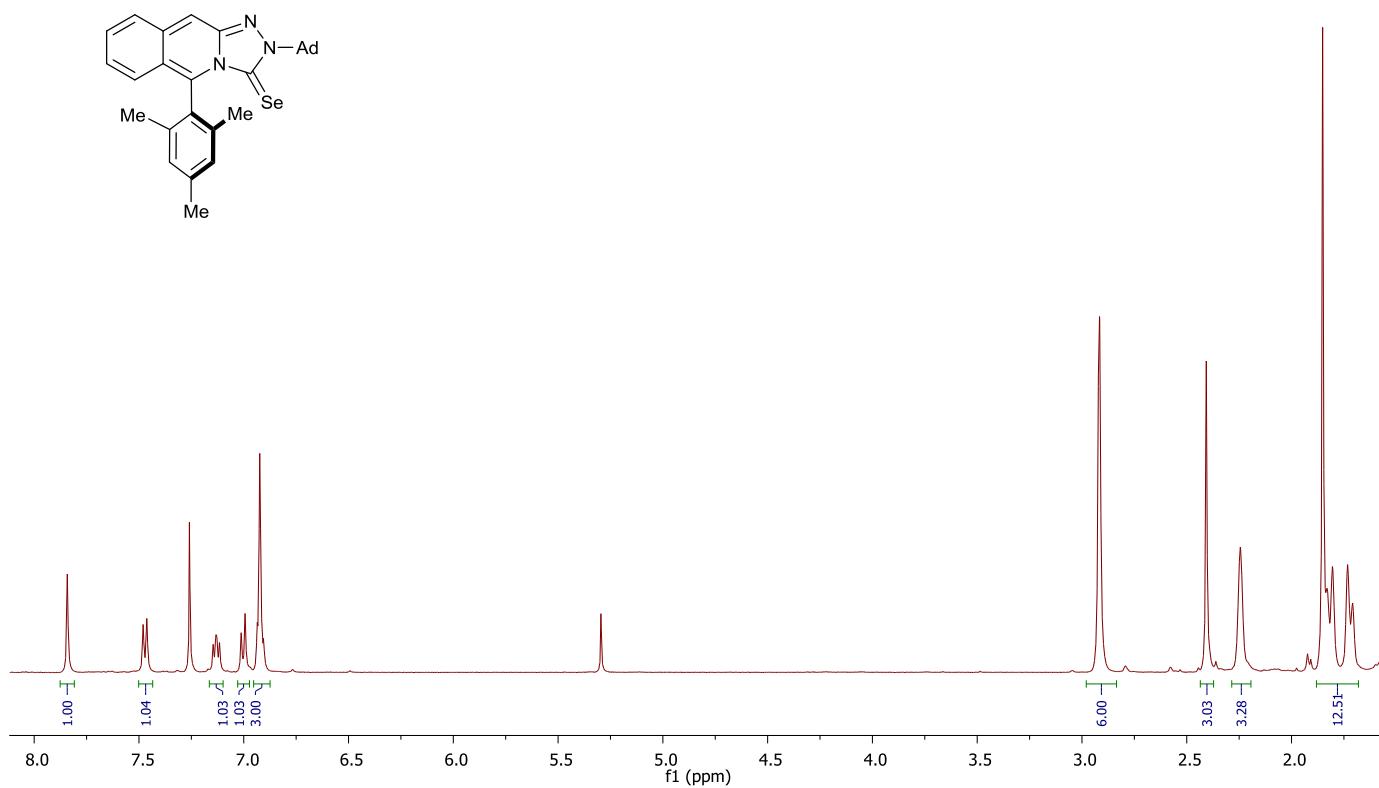
**Figure S32.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **25**:



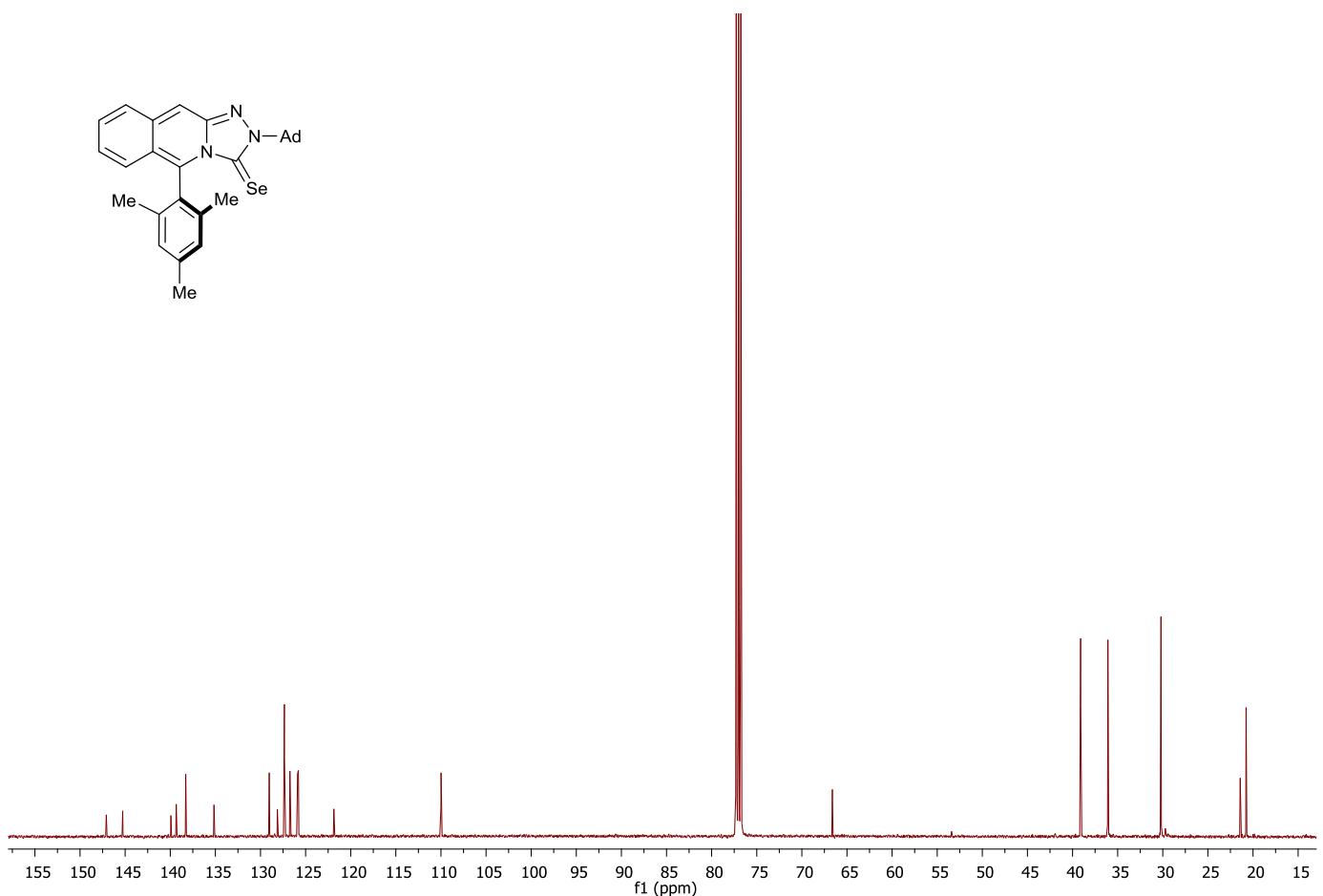
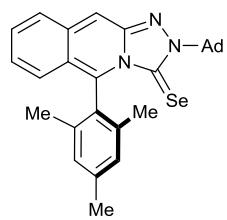
**Figure S33.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **25**:



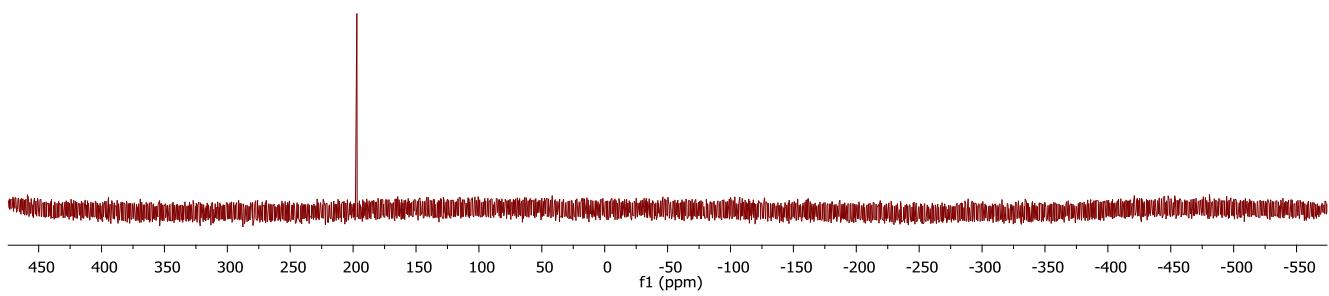
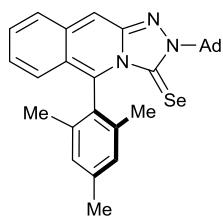
**Figure S34.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **16(=Se)**:



**Figure S35.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **16(=Se)**:



**Figure S36.**  $^{77}\text{Se}$  NMR (96 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **16(=Se)**:



### **X-Ray Crystallographic Data**

Single crystals of suitable size were covered with FOMBLIN oil and mounted on a glass fiber. Data collections have been performed on a Bruker Kappa APEX DUO diffractometer, using a graphite monochromator with AgK $\alpha$ 1 ( $\lambda=0.56085\text{ \AA}$ ) radiation. This equipment is equipped with an Apex-II CCD area detector and a Bruker Cryo-Flex low-temperature device that was fixed at 100 K. Data collection was processed with APEX-W2D-NT,<sup>1</sup> cell refinement and data reduction with SAINT and the absorption was corrected by multi-scan method applied by SADABS.<sup>2</sup> The structures were resolved by direct method and refined on F2 (SHELXTL).<sup>3</sup> Non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic displacement parameters and hydrogen atoms attached to refined atoms were placed in geometrically idealized positions and refined by using a riding model.

<sup>1</sup> APEX2 (version 2009.11\_0). Program for Bruker CCD X-ray Diffractometer Control, Bruker AXS Inc., Madison, WI, 2009.

<sup>2</sup> SADABS, Bruker (2006). APEX 2. Version 2.1. Bruker Analytical X-ray Solutions, Madison, Wisconsin, USA.

<sup>3</sup> G. M. Sheldrick, SHELXTL, version 6.14. Program for solution and refinement of crystal structures, Universität Göttingen, Germany, 2000.

**Table S1:** Crystal data for **8**.

CCDC number	1813613
Empirical formula	C47 H44 Ag F9 N6 O9 S3
Formula weight	1211.93
Temperature	120(2) K
Wavelength	0.56086 Å
Crystal system	Triclinic
Space group	P-1
Unit cell dimensions	$a = 12.7028(4)$ Å $\alpha = 98.759(2)^\circ$ $b = 13.7482(5)$ Å $\beta = 112.6170(10)^\circ$ $c = 15.9733(6)$ Å $\gamma = 91.3000(10)^\circ$
Volume	2534.91(16) Å <sup>3</sup>
Z	2
Density (calculated)	1.588 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Absorption coefficient	0.329 mm <sup>-1</sup>
F(000)	1232
Crystal size	0.430 x 0.390 x 0.190 mm <sup>3</sup>
Theta range for data collection	1.376 to 22.055°.
Index ranges	-17<=h<=16, -18<=k<=15, -16<=l<=20
Reflections collected	29523
Independent reflections	12400 [R(int) = 0.0322]
Completeness to theta = 19.665°	99.6 %
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.7447 and 0.6254
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	12400 / 0 / 682
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.007
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0409, wR2 = 0.1270
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0556, wR2 = 0.1404
Extinction coefficient	n/a
Largest diff. peak and hole	1.383 and -0.834 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>

**Table S2:** Crystal data for **12**.

CCDC number	1813614
Empirical formula	C50 H50 Ag2 F12 N8 O12 S4
Formula weight	1526.96
Temperature	100(2) K
Wavelength	0.56086 Å
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	P2(1)
Unit cell dimensions	$a = 8.1786(13)$ Å $\alpha = 90^\circ$ $b = 21.633(3)$ Å $\beta = 94.636(5)^\circ$ $c = 17.088(3)$ Å $\gamma = 90^\circ$
Volume	3013.5(8) Å <sup>3</sup>
Z	2
Density (calculated)	1.683 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Absorption coefficient	0.474 mm <sup>-1</sup>
F(000)	1536
Crystal size	0.59 x 0.44 x 0.20 mm <sup>3</sup>
Theta range for data collection	1.76 to 20.26°.
Index ranges	-10≤h≤9, -26≤k≤26, -21≤l≤19
Reflections collected	20982
Independent reflections	11415 [R(int) = 0.0664]
Completeness to theta = 20.26°	99.3 %
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.7447 and 0.5535
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	11415 / 37 / 793
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.303
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0830, wR2 = 0.2130
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.1036, wR2 = 0.2228
Absolute structure parameter	0.00
Largest diff. peak and hole	2.609 and -1.102 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>

**Table S3:** Crystal data for **13**.

CCDC number	1813615
Empirical formula	C51 H56 Au F9 N6 O11 S3
Formula weight	1393.16
Temperature	100(2) K
Wavelength	0.5608 Å
Crystal system	Triclinic
Space group	P-1
Unit cell dimensions	$a = 11.3236(3)$ Å $\alpha = 73.3940(10)^\circ$ $b = 14.9984(4)$ Å $\beta = 89.0510(10)^\circ$ $c = 16.8636(5)$ Å $\gamma = 86.4920(10)^\circ$
Volume	2739.45(13) Å <sup>3</sup>
Z	2
Density (calculated)	1.689 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Absorption coefficient	1.580 mm <sup>-1</sup>
F(000)	1400
Crystal size	0.50 x 0.39 x 0.17 mm <sup>3</sup>
Theta range for data collection	1.42 to 21.36°.
Index ranges	-14<=h<=14, -19<=k<=19, -21<=l<=21
Reflections collected	46745
Independent reflections	12544 [R(int) = 0.0452]
Completeness to theta = 21.36°	99.8 %
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.7447 and 0.5661
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	12544 / 0 / 744
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	0.737
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0266, wR2 = 0.0809
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0323, wR2 = 0.0925
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.781 and -0.833 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>

**Table S4:** Crystal data for **22**.

CCDC number	1813616
Empirical formula	C33 H37 F6 N4 O6 Rh S2
Formula weight	866.70
Temperature	100(2) K
Wavelength	0.56086 Å
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	P2(1)/n
Unit cell dimensions	$a = 13.0101(7)$ Å $\alpha = 90^\circ$ $b = 11.4324(6)$ Å $\beta = 100.037(2)^\circ$ $c = 24.3136(13)$ Å $\gamma = 90^\circ$
Volume	3561.0(3) Å <sup>3</sup>
Z	4
Density (calculated)	1.617 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Absorption coefficient	0.362 mm <sup>-1</sup>
F(000)	1768
Crystal size	0.32 x 0.21 x 0.08 mm <sup>3</sup>
Theta range for data collection	1.56 to 22.15°.
Index ranges	-16<=h<=17, -14<=k<=15, -28<=l<=32
Reflections collected	60945
Independent reflections	8969 [R(int) = 0.0390]
Completeness to theta = 22.15°	98.9 %
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.9716 and 0.8929
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	8969 / 6 / 508
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.321
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0424, wR2 = 0.1512
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0507, wR2 = 0.1619
Largest diff. peak and hole	1.517 and -1.195 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>

**Table S5:** Crystal data for **23**.

CCDC number	1813617
Empirical formula	C <sub>30</sub> H <sub>34</sub> ClF <sub>3</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>3</sub> RhS
Formula weight	712.02
Temperature	100(2) K
Wavelength	0.56086 Å
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	C2/c
Unit cell dimensions	a = 32.9652(17) Å $\alpha$ = 90° b = 7.9318(5) Å $\beta$ = 92.265(2)° c = 22.4318(13) Å $\gamma$ = 90°
Volume	5860.7(6) Å <sup>3</sup>
Z	8
Density (calculated)	1.614 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Absorption coefficient	0.427 mm <sup>-1</sup>
F(000)	2912
Crystal size	0.37 x 0.09 x 0.03 mm <sup>3</sup>
Theta range for data collection	1.70 to 22.03°.
Index ranges	-43 <= h <= 43, -10 <= k <= 10, -29 <= l <= 30
Reflections collected	47172
Independent reflections	7276 [R(int) = 0.0664]
Completeness to theta = 22.03°	99.1 %
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.9873 and 0.8581
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	7276 / 0 / 384
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	0.885
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0361, wR2 = 0.1093
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0480, wR2 = 0.1192
Largest diff. peak and hole	1.022 and -1.184 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>

**Table S6:** Crystal data for **24**.

CCDC number	1813618
Empirical formula	C31 H31 Cl N3 O2 Rh
Formula weight	615.95
Temperature	100(2) K
Wavelength	0.56086 Å
Crystal system	Triclinic
Space group	P-1
Unit cell dimensions	$a = 7.2839(7)$ Å $\alpha = 71.074(3)^\circ$ $b = 13.2903(12)$ Å $\beta = 80.495(3)^\circ$ $c = 14.8830(13)$ Å $\gamma = 79.623(3)^\circ$
Volume	1331.7(2) Å <sup>3</sup>
Z	2
Density (calculated)	1.536 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Absorption coefficient	0.415 mm <sup>-1</sup>
F(000)	632
Crystal size	0.34 x 0.11 x 0.06 mm <sup>3</sup>
Theta range for data collection	1.97 to 22.16°.
Index ranges	-9<=h<=9, -17<=k<=17, -18<=l<=19
Reflections collected	21205
Independent reflections	6650 [R(int) = 0.0606]
Completeness to theta = 22.16°	98.4 %
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.9755 and 0.8718
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	6650 / 0 / 346
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.016
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0527, wR2 = 0.1450
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0666, wR2 = 0.1560
Largest diff. peak and hole	1.615 and -1.657 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>

**Table S7:** Crystal data for **25**.

CCDC number	1813619
Empirical formula	C24 H22 Cl F3 N3 O5 Rh S
Formula weight	659.87
Temperature	100(2) K
Wavelength	0.56086 Å
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	P2(1)/n
Unit cell dimensions	$a = 7.6788(4)$ Å $\alpha = 90^\circ$ . $b = 23.8363(12)$ Å $\beta = 102.651(2)^\circ$ . $c = 14.9392(7)$ Å $\gamma = 90^\circ$ .
Volume	2668.0(2) Å <sup>3</sup>
Z	4
Density (calculated)	1.643 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Absorption coefficient	0.466 mm <sup>-1</sup>
F(000)	1328
Crystal size	0.29 x 0.11 x 0.07 mm <sup>3</sup>
Theta range for data collection	2.19 to 22.01°.
Index ranges	-10≤h≤10, -31≤k≤31, -19≤l≤18
Reflections collected	30199
Independent reflections	6445 [R(int) = 0.0423]
Completeness to theta = 22.01°	96.6 %
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.9681 and 0.8767
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	6445 / 0 / 365
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.264
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0568, wR2 = 0.1637
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0774, wR2 = 0.1777
Largest diff. peak and hole	3.134 and -1.567 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>