

Spectroscopy, electrochemistry and antiproliferative properties of Au(III), Pt(II) and Cu(II) complexes bearing modified 2,2':6',2''-terpyridine ligands. Impact of metal center and substituent incorporated into terpy framework

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Table S1. Short intra- and intermolecular hydrogen bonds detected in complexes.

| D–H \cdots A | D–H [Å] | H \cdots A [Å] | D–A [Å] | D–H \cdots A[°] |
|--|---------|------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| 1 | | | | |
| C(1)–H(1) \cdots Cl(1) | 0.93 | 2.82 | 3.372(11) | 118.8 |
| C(1)–H(1) \cdots F(9) ^a | 0.93 | 2.38 | 3.106(11) | 135.2 |
| C(2)–H(2) \cdots F(12) ^a | 0.93 | 2.38 | 3.025(10) | 126.2 |
| C(13)–H(13) \cdots F(9) ^b | 0.93 | 2.53 | 3.308(12) | 141.6 |
| C(22)–H(22B) \cdots F(6) ^c | 0.96 | 2.45 | 3.274(13) | 143.5 |
| C(23)–H(23B) \cdots F(7) ^a | 0.96 | 2.44 | 3.29(2) | 147.1 |
| 2 | | | | |
| C(1)–H(1) \cdots Cl(1) | 0.93 | 2.81 | 3.354(8) | 118.8 |
| C(1)–H(1) \cdots F(10) ^d | 0.93 | 2.34 | 3.232(10) | 160.4 |
| C(4)–H(4) \cdots F(6) ^e | 0.93 | 2.53 | 3.087(10) | 118.4 |
| C(9)–H(9) \cdots F(9) | 0.93 | 2.49 | 3.395(9) | 164.7 |
| C(12)–H(12) \cdots F(7) | 0.93 | 2.39 | 3.231(10) | 149.9 |
| C(14)–H(14) \cdots F(11) ^f | 0.93 | 2.53 | 3.103(10) | 120.4 |
| C(15)–H(15) \cdots Cl(1) | 0.93 | 2.83 | 3.387(8) | 119.8 |
| C(15)–H(15) \cdots F(1) | 0.93 | 2.55 | 3.304(9) | 138.4 |
| C(23)–H(23) \cdots F(12) ^g | 0.93 | 2.51 | 3.277(10) | 140.2 |
| C(21)–H(21) \cdots F(3) ^h | 0.93 | 2.48 | 3.402(11) | 174.5 |
| 3 | | | | |
| C(4)–H(4) \cdots N(4) ⁱ | 0.93 | 2.62 | 3.548(9) | 173.0 |
| C(12)–H(12) \cdots N(4) ⁱ | 0.93 | 2.56 | 3.486(10) | 175.0 |
| 4 | | | | |
| C(7)–H(7) \cdots Cl(1) ^a | 0.93 | 2.80 | 3.329(8) | 116.8 |
| C(12)–H(12) \cdots O(3) ^j | 0.93 | 2.45 | 3.236(11) | 142.9 |
| C(21)–H(21) \cdots O(1) | 0.93 | 2.36 | 2.682(10) | 100.0 |
| 6 | | | | |
| C(4)–H(4) \cdots Cl(2) ^f | 0.93 | 2.66 | 3.570(3) | 165.0 |
| C(7)–H(7) \cdots Cl(2) ^f | 0.93 | 2.82 | 3.661(3) | 150.6 |
| C(12)–H(12) \cdots N(4) | 0.93 | 2.62 | 3.380(7) | 139.2 |
| C(13)–H(13) \cdots Cl(2) ^k | 0.93 | 2.64 | 3.489(3) | 151.6 |
| C(17)–H(17) \cdots Cl(2) ^f | 0.93 | 2.70 | 3.561(3) | 154.6 |
| C(21)–H(21) \cdots O(1) | 0.93 | 2.38 | 3.712(4) | 100.9 |
| C(28)–H(28A) \cdots Cl(1) ^k | 0.96 | 2.80 | 3.679(6) | 152.5 |

Symmetry codes: (a) = $x, 1/2-y, -1/2+z$; (b) = $-x, -y, 2-z$; (c) = $1-x, -1-y, 2-z$; (d) = $x, 1/2-y, 1/2+z$; (e) = $-1+x, 1/2-y, -1/2+z$; (f) = $1-x, -y, 1-z$; (g) = $-x, 1/2+y, 1/2-z$; (h) = $-1+x, y, -1+z$; (i) = $1+x, y, z$; (j) = $-1+x, y, z$; (k) = $-x, 1-y, 1-z$

Table S2. Short $\pi\cdots\pi$ interactions for the complexes.

| Cg(I)…Cg(J) | Cg(I)…Cg(J) [Å] | α [°] | β [°] | γ [°] | Cg(I)-Perp [Å] | Cg(J)-Perp [Å] |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | | | | | | |
| Cg(1)…Cg(1) ^c | 3.867(5) | 0 | 24.57 | 24.57 | -3.517(4) | -3.516(4) |
| 4 | | | | | | |
| Cg(2)…Cg(3) ^d | 3.912 (5) | 7.3(4) | 26.43 | 26.91 | 3.488(4) | 3.503(3) |
| Cg(4)…Cg(5) ^l | 3.941(4) | 3.3(4) | 26.25 | 28.73 | -3.456(3) | -3.534(3) |
| Cg(3)…Cg(3) ^m | 3.684(4) | 0 | 21.02 | 21.02 | -3.439(3) | -3.439(3) |
| 6 | | | | | | |
| Cg(2)…Cg(4) ^f | 3.9083(17) | 7.02(14) | 25.82 | 18.96 | -3.6963(12) | -3.5182(11) |
| Cg(5)…Cg(5) ^k | 3.5655(17) | 0 | 21.33 | 21.33 | -3.3213(12) | -3.3213(12) |
| Cg(5)…Cg(5) ⁿ | 3.7138(17) | 0 | 24.25 | 24.25 | 3.3861(12) | 3.3860(12) |

α = dihedral angle between Cg(I) and Cg(J); Cg(I)-Perp = Perpendicular distance of Cg(I) on ring J; Cg(J)-Perp = perpendicular distance of Cg(J) on ring I; β = angle Cg(I)→Cg(J) vector and normal to ring I; γ = angle Cg(I)→Cg(J) vector and normal to plane J;

Cg1 is the centroid of atoms C(16)/C(17)/C(18)/C(19)/C(20)/C(21); Cg2 is the centroid of atoms N(1)/C(1)/C(2)/C(3)/C(4)/C(5); Cg3 is the centroid of atoms C(20)/C(21)/C(22)/C(23)/C(24)/C(25); Cg4 is the centroid of atoms N(2)/C(6)/C(7)/C(8)/C(9)/C(10); Cg5 is the centroid of atoms N(3)/C(11)/C(12)/C(13)/C(14)/C(15);

Symmetry codes: (c) = 1-x,-1-y,2-z; (d) = x,1/2-y,1/2+z; (f) = 1-x,-y,1-z; (k) = -x,1-y,1-z; (l) = -x,-y,-z; (m) = -x,-y,-1-z; (n) = 1-x,1-y,1-z;

Table S3. X—Y…Cg(J)(π -ring) interactions for the complexes.

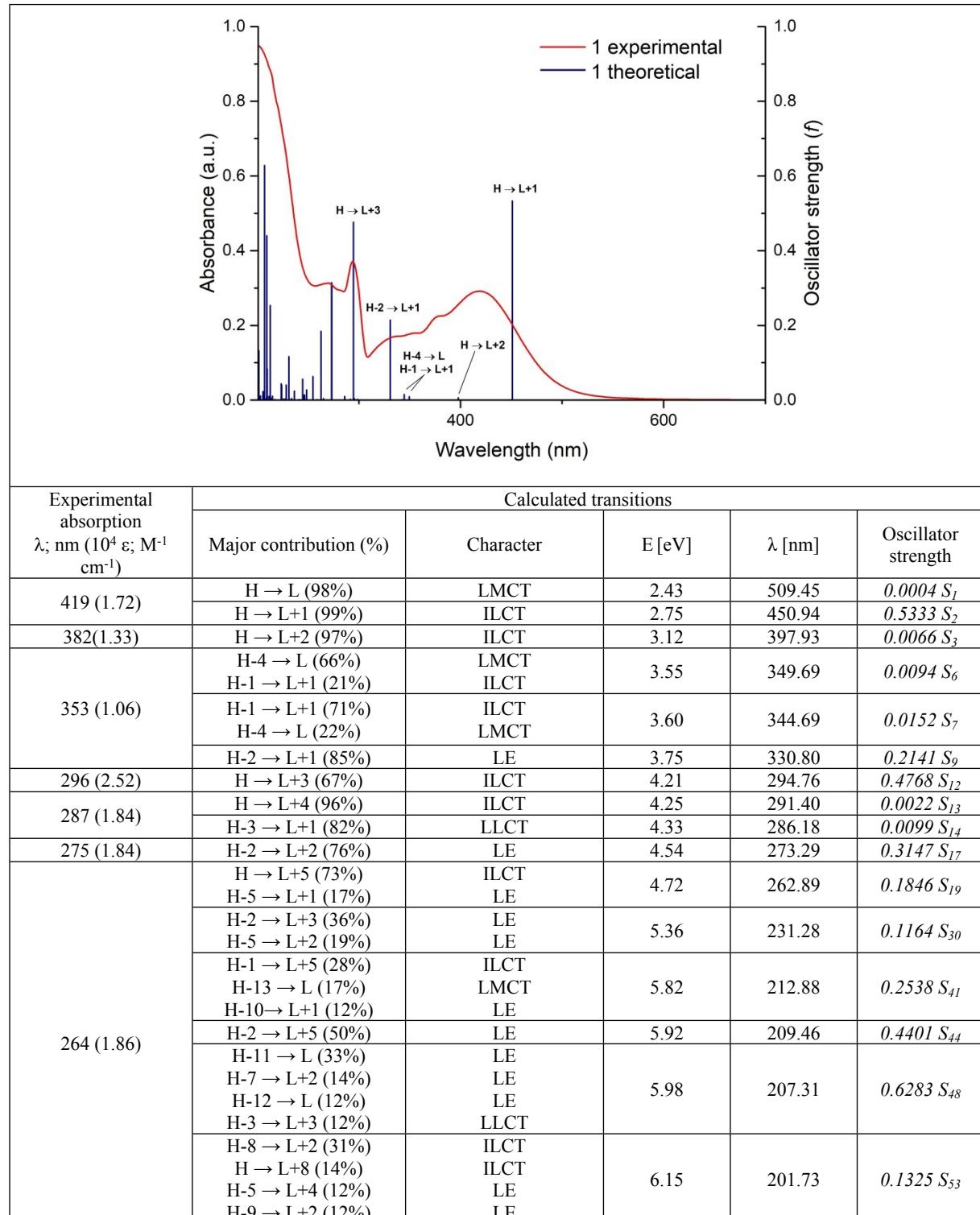
| Y-X(I)…Cg(J) | X(I)…Cg(J) [Å] | X-Perp [Å] | γ [°] | Y-X(I)…Cg(J) [°] |
|--------------------------------|----------------|------------|--------------|------------------|
| 1 | | | | |
| Au(1)-Cl(1)…Cg(5) ^o | 3.835(4) | -3.365 | 28.65 | 174.38(12) |
| P(1)-F(6)…Cg(4) ^p | 3.328(8) | -3.041 | 23.95 | 124.8(5) |
| 2 | | | | |
| Au(1)-Cl(1)…Cg(1) ^q | 3.834(3) | -3.375 | 28.32 | 114.83(7) |
| P(1)-F(2)…Cg(2) ^d | 3.189(8) | 2.920 | 23.68 | 155.2(5) |
| P(1)-F(4)…Cg(4) ^d | 3.337(8) | 3.222 | 15.11 | 124.1(4) |
| P(2)-F(8)…Cg(5) ^r | 3.415(9) | -3.317 | 13.81 | 124.5(4) |
| 3 | | | | |
| C(13)-H(13)…Cg(6) ^s | 2.96 | -2.91 | 10.33 | 136.00 |
| Pt(2)-Cl(1)…Cg(2) ^t | 3.795(3) | -3.439 | 25.02 | 111.71(6) |
| Pt(2)-Cl(1)…Cg(5) ^u | 3.837(3) | 3.578 | 21.15 | 69.93(5) |
| 6 | | | | |
| Cu(1)-Cl(2)…Cg(2) ^j | 3.8024(14) | 3.795 | 3.63 | 174.33(3) |

γ = angle X(I)→Cg(J) vector and normal to plane J.

Cg1 is the centroid of atoms C(16)/C(17)/C(18)/C(19)/C(20)/C(21); Cg2 is the centroid of atoms N(1)/C(1)/C(2)/C(3)/C(4)/C(5); Cg4 is the centroid of atoms N(2)/C(6)/C(7)/C(8)/C(9)/C(10); Cg5 is the centroid of atoms N(3)/C(11)/C(12)/C(13)/C(14)/C(15); Cg6 is the centroid of atoms C(35)/C(36)/C(37)/C(38)/C(39)/C(40);

Symmetry codes: (d) = x,1/2-y,1/2+z; (j) = -1+x,y,z; (o) = -x,1/2+y,3/2-z; (p) = x,y,z; (q) = 1+x,1/2-y,1/2+z; (r) = -x,-y,1-z; (s) = 2-x,-y,1-z; (t) = 1-x,1-y,-z; (u) = 2-x,1-y,-z

Table S4. The energies and characters of the selected spin-allowed electronic transitions for **1** calculated with the TDDFT/PBE1PBE method, together with assignment to the experimental absorption bands. UV-Vis absorption spectrum of **1** was recorded in CH₃CN solution ($c = 5 \cdot 10^{-5}$ M).



LE (locally excited) = $\pi_{\text{terpy}} \rightarrow \pi^*_{\text{terpy}}$; ILCT (intraligand charge transfer) = $\pi_R \rightarrow \pi^*_{\text{terpy}}$

Table S5. The energies and characters of the selected spin-allowed electronic transitions for **2** calculated with the TDDFT/PBE1PBE method, together with assignment to the experimental absorption bands. UV-Vis absorption spectrum of **2** was recorded in CH₃CN solution ($c = 5 \cdot 10^{-5}$ M).

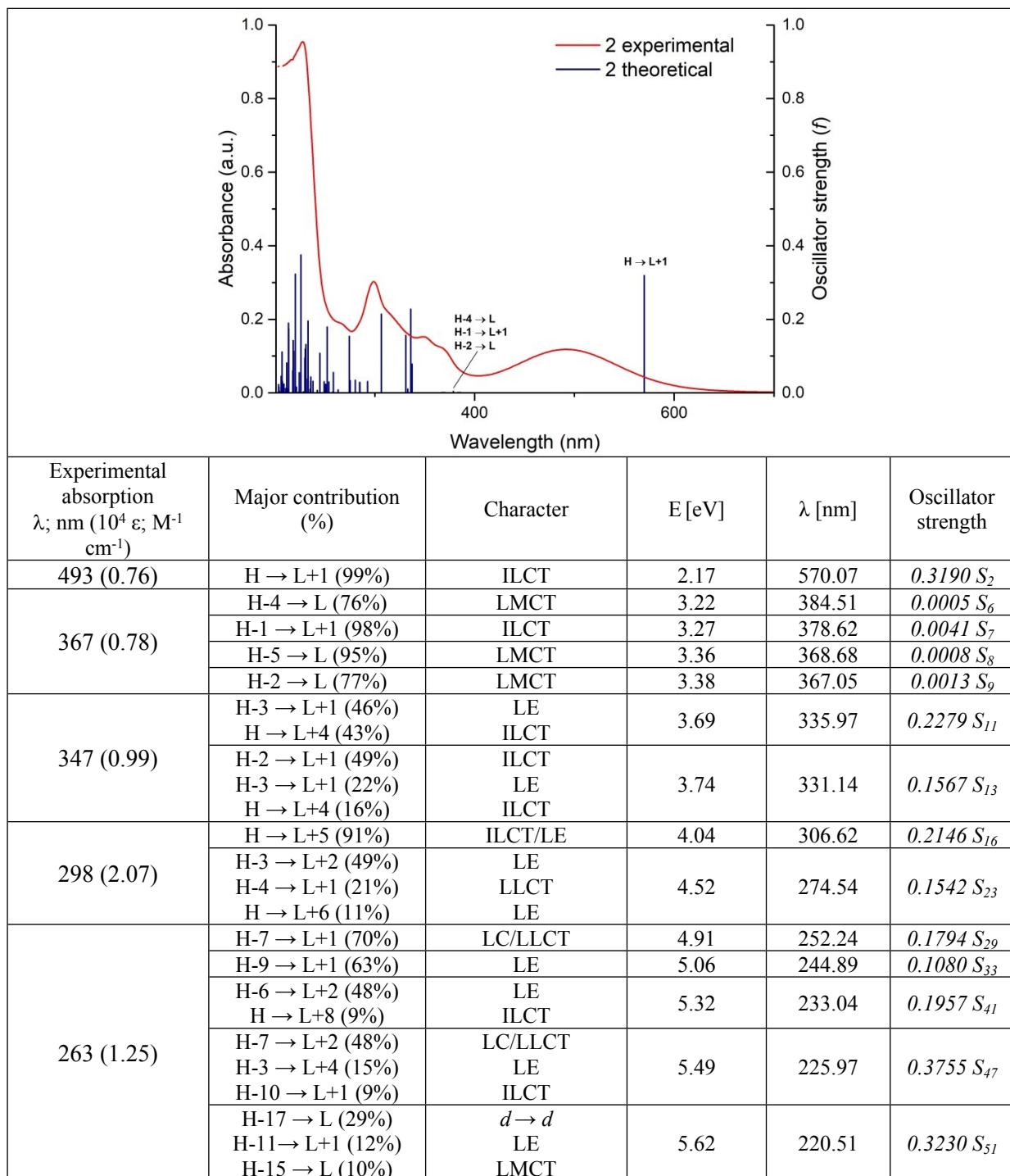


Table S6. The energies and characters of the selected spin-allowed electronic transitions for **3** calculated with the TDDFT/PBE1PBE method, together with assignment to the experimental absorption bands. UV-Vis absorption spectrum of **3** was recorded in CH₃CN solution ($c = 5 \cdot 10^{-5}$ M).

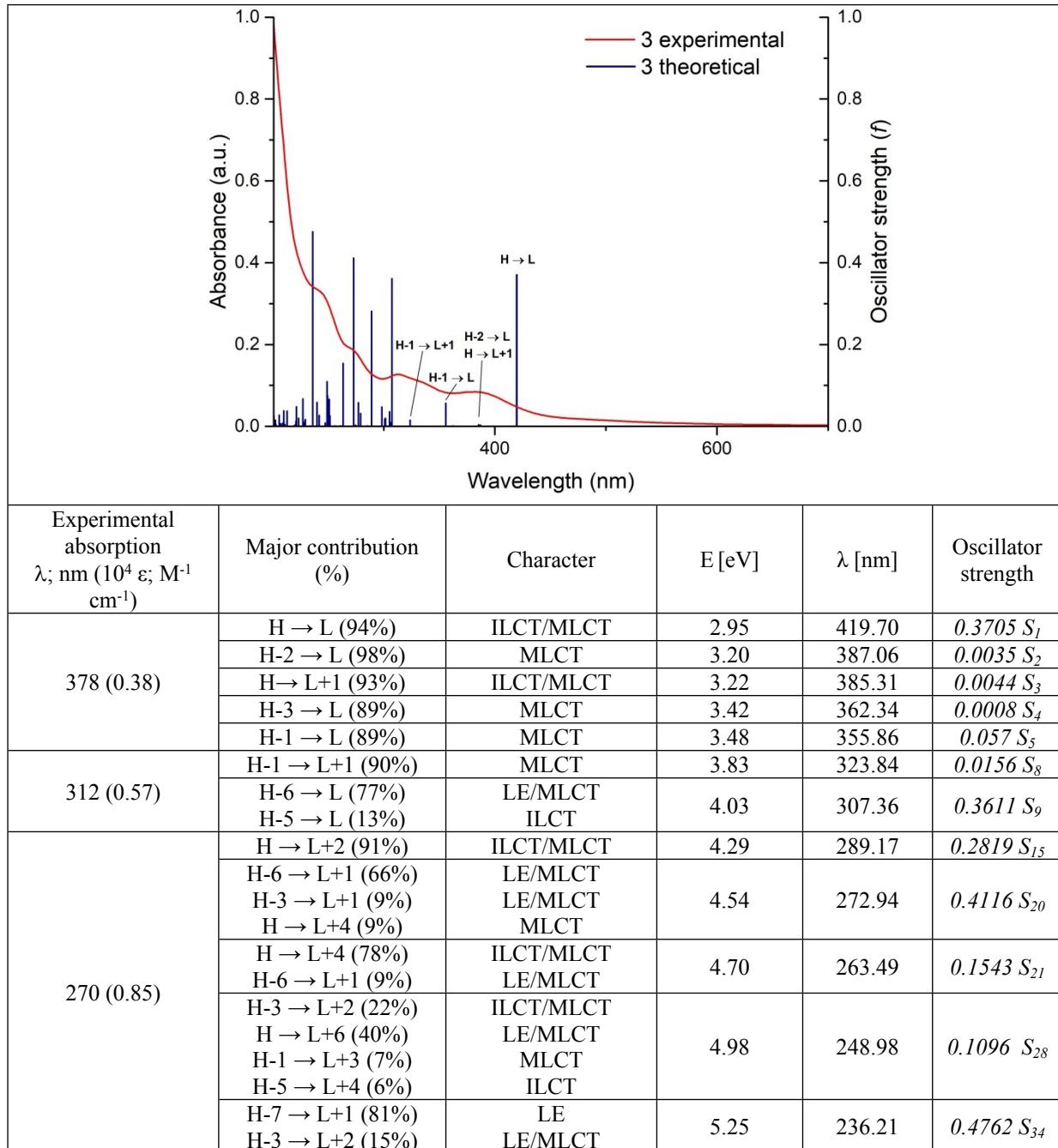


Table S7. The energies and characters of the selected spin-allowed electronic transitions for **4** calculated with the TDDFT/PBE1PBE method, together with assignment to the experimental absorption bands. UV-Vis absorption spectrum of **4** was recorded in CH₃CN solution ($c = 5 \cdot 10^{-5}$ M).

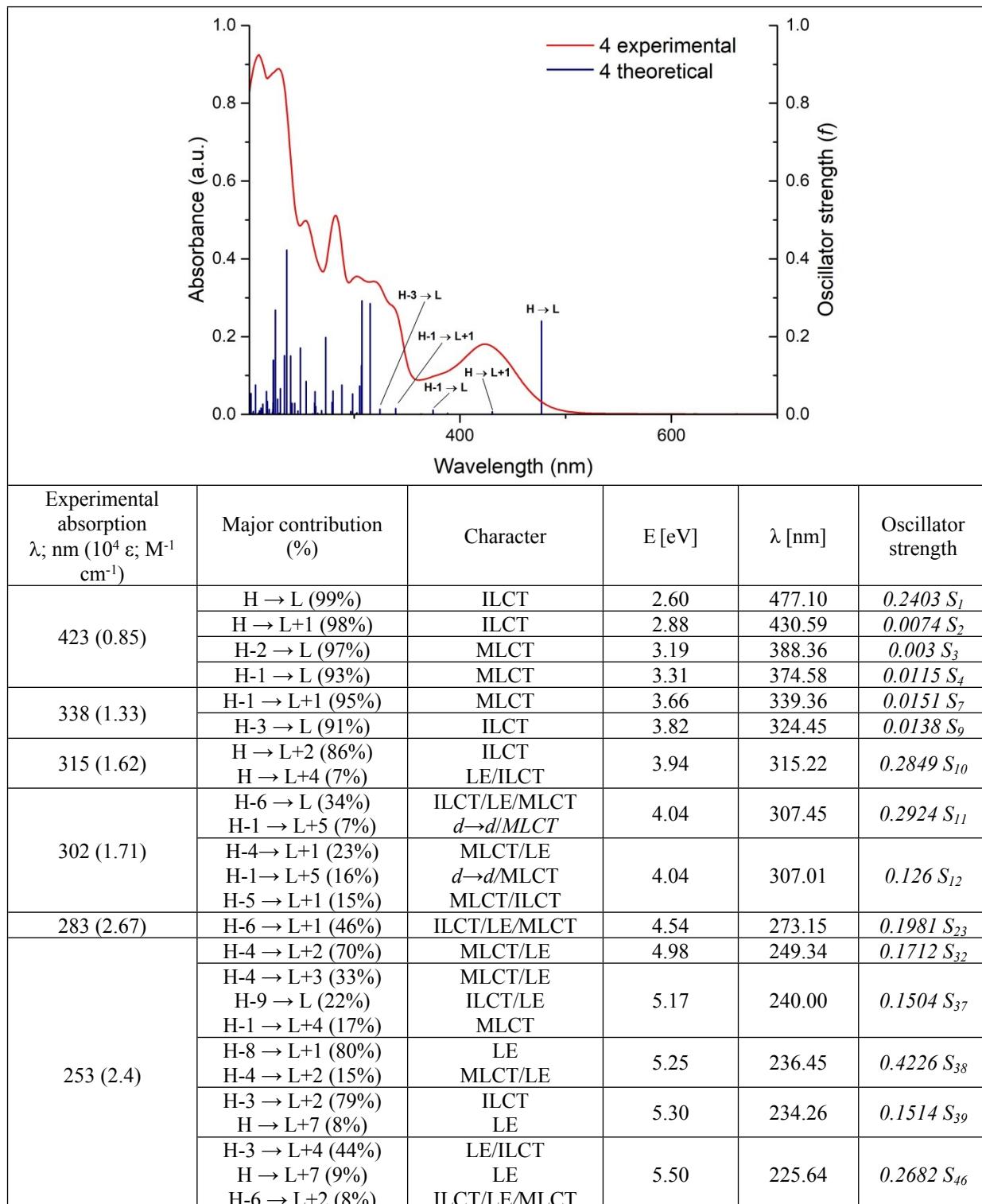
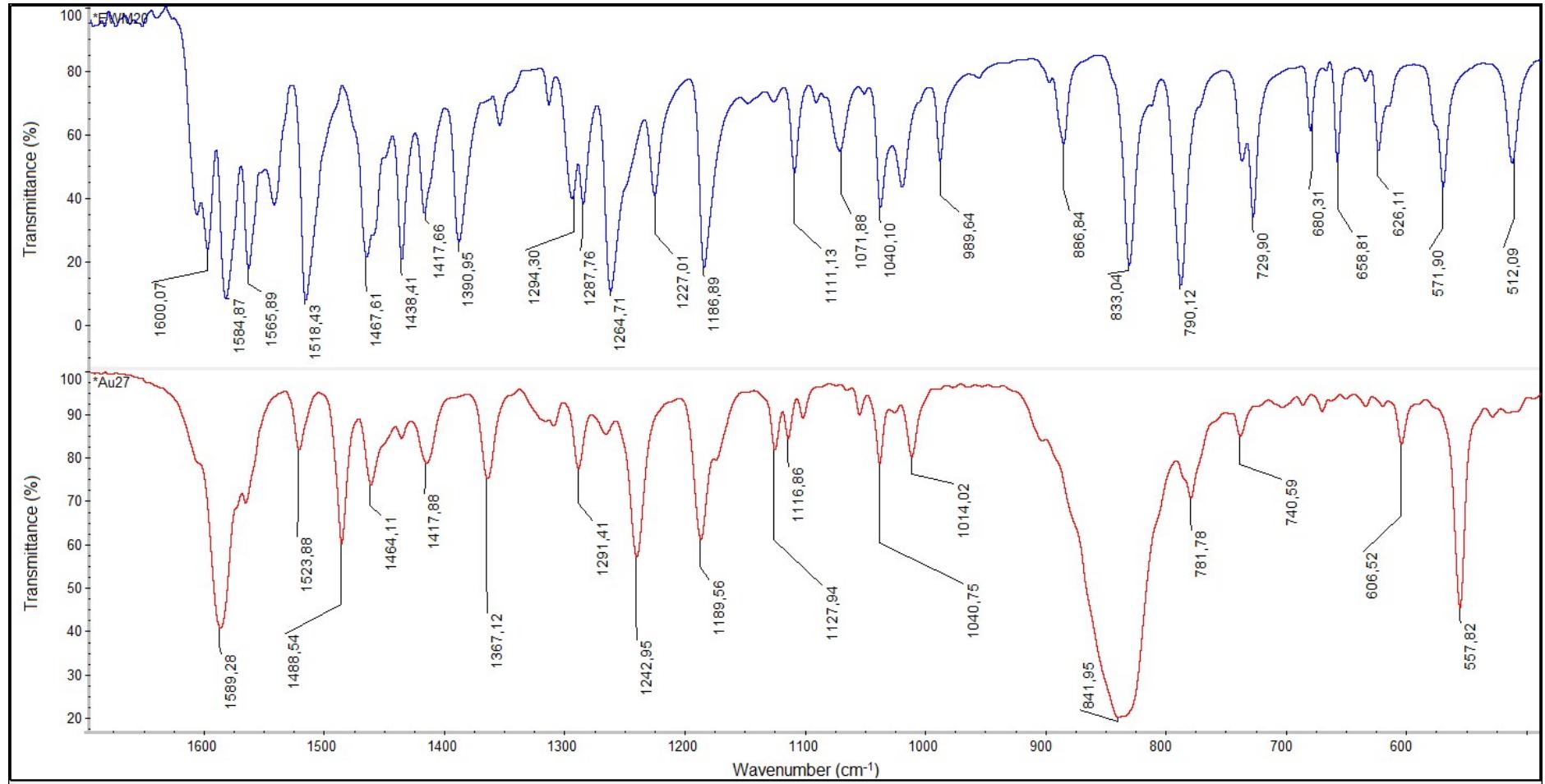
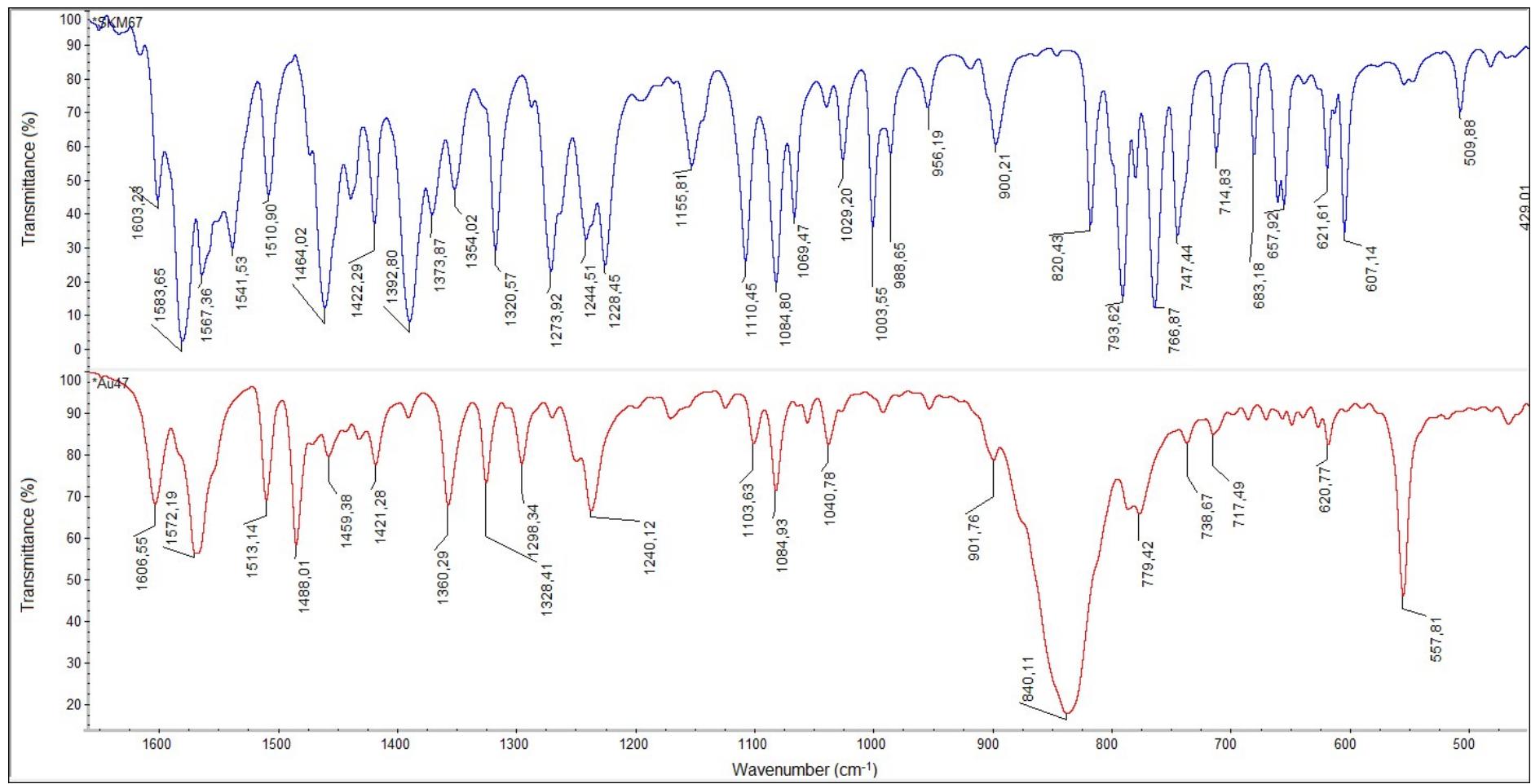


Table S8. Comparison of ^1H NMR chemical shifts of **1–4** and ligands L^1 and L^2 .

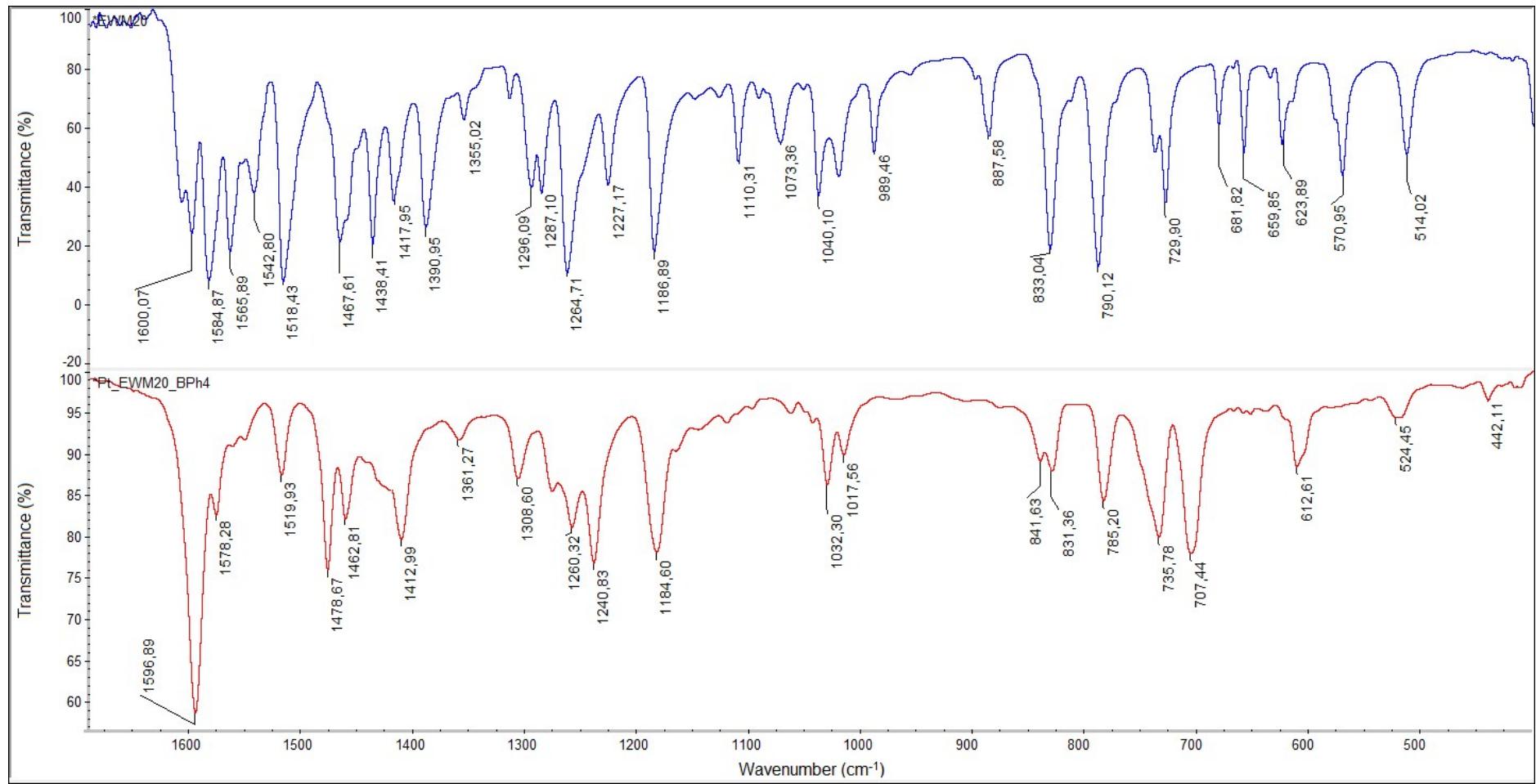
| compound (medium) | proton chemical shift (ppm) | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------|
| | A1 | A2 | A3 | A4 | B2 | C2 | C3 | | | C5 | | |
| 1 (CD ₃ CN) | 9.16 | 8.10 | 8.73 – 8.69 | 8.73 – 8.69 | 8.73 – 8.69 | 8.16 | 7.28 | | | 3.97 | | |
| 3 (CD ₃ SOCD ₃) | 8.76 – 8.72 | 7.84 | 8.44 | 8.76 – 8.72 | 8.80 | 8.14 | 7.21 – 7.15 | | | 3.92 | | |
| L¹ (CD ₃ CN) | 8.72 | 7.47 – 7.41 | 7.96 | 8.67 | 8.70 | 7.86 | 7.11 | | | 3.87 | | |
| L¹ (CD ₃ SOCD ₃) | 8.76 | 7.54 – 7.48 | 8.03 | 8.66 | 8.67 | 7.89 | 7.14 | | | 3.85 | | |
| | A1 | A2 | A3 | A4 | B2 | C2 | C3 | C6 | C7 | C9 | C11 | |
| 2 (CD ₃ CN) | 9.19 | 8.14 – 8.07 | 8.67 | 8.60 | 8.71 | 7.84 | 7.23 | 8.14 – 8.07 | 7.74 – 7.70 | 7.74 – 7.70 | 8.46 – 8.43 | 4.15 |
| 4 (CD ₃ SOCD ₃) | 8.84 | 7.89 | 8.44 | 8.70 | 8.82 | 7.73 | 7.23 | 8.04 – 8.00 | 7.68 – 7.64 | 7.68 – 7.64 | 8.37 – 8.34 | 4.10 |
| L² (CD ₃ CN) | 8.68 | 7.47 – 7.41 | 8.03 – 7.95 | 8.74 | 8.57 | 7.62 – 7.52 | 7.08 | 8.03 – 7.95 | 7.62 – 7.52 | 7.62 – 7.52 | 8.36 | 4.08 |
| L² (CD ₃ SOCD ₃) | 8.75 – 8.70 | 7.54 – 7.49 | 8.05 | 8.75 – 8.70 | 8.53 | 7.64 – 7.57 | 7.15 | 7.94 – 7.90 | 7.64 – 7.57 | 7.64 – 7.57 | 8.33 – 8.30 | 4.06 |



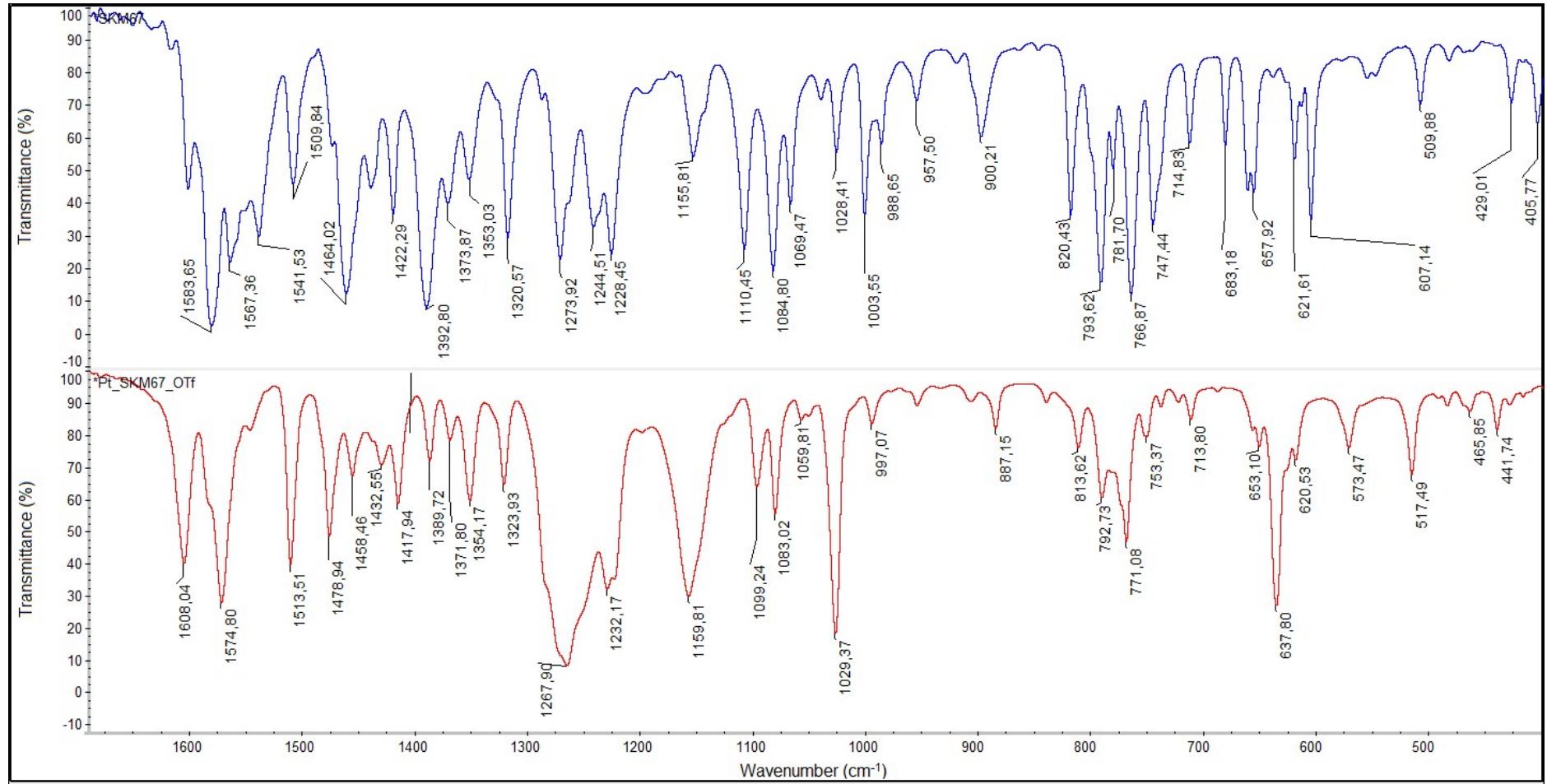
(a)



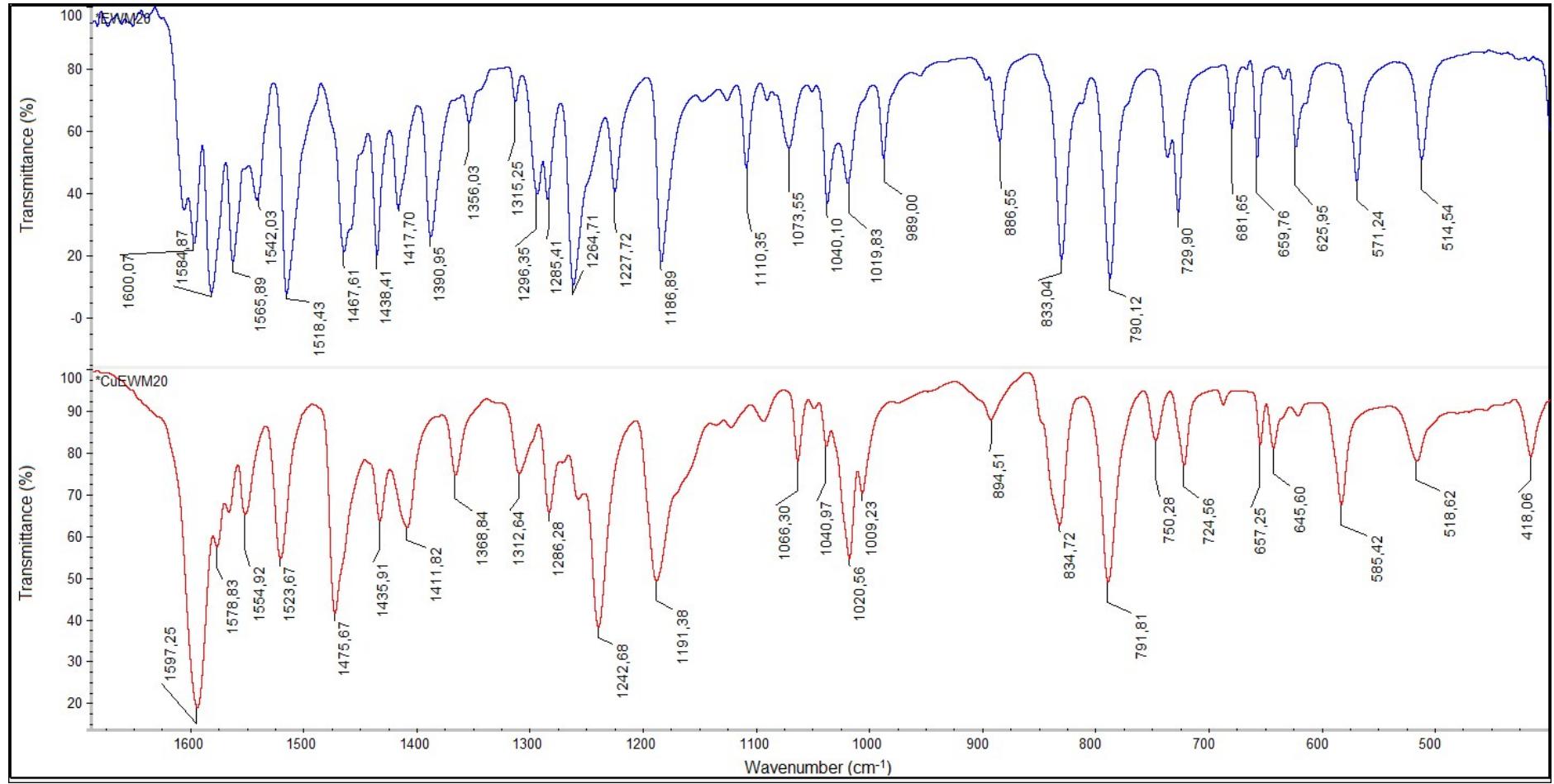
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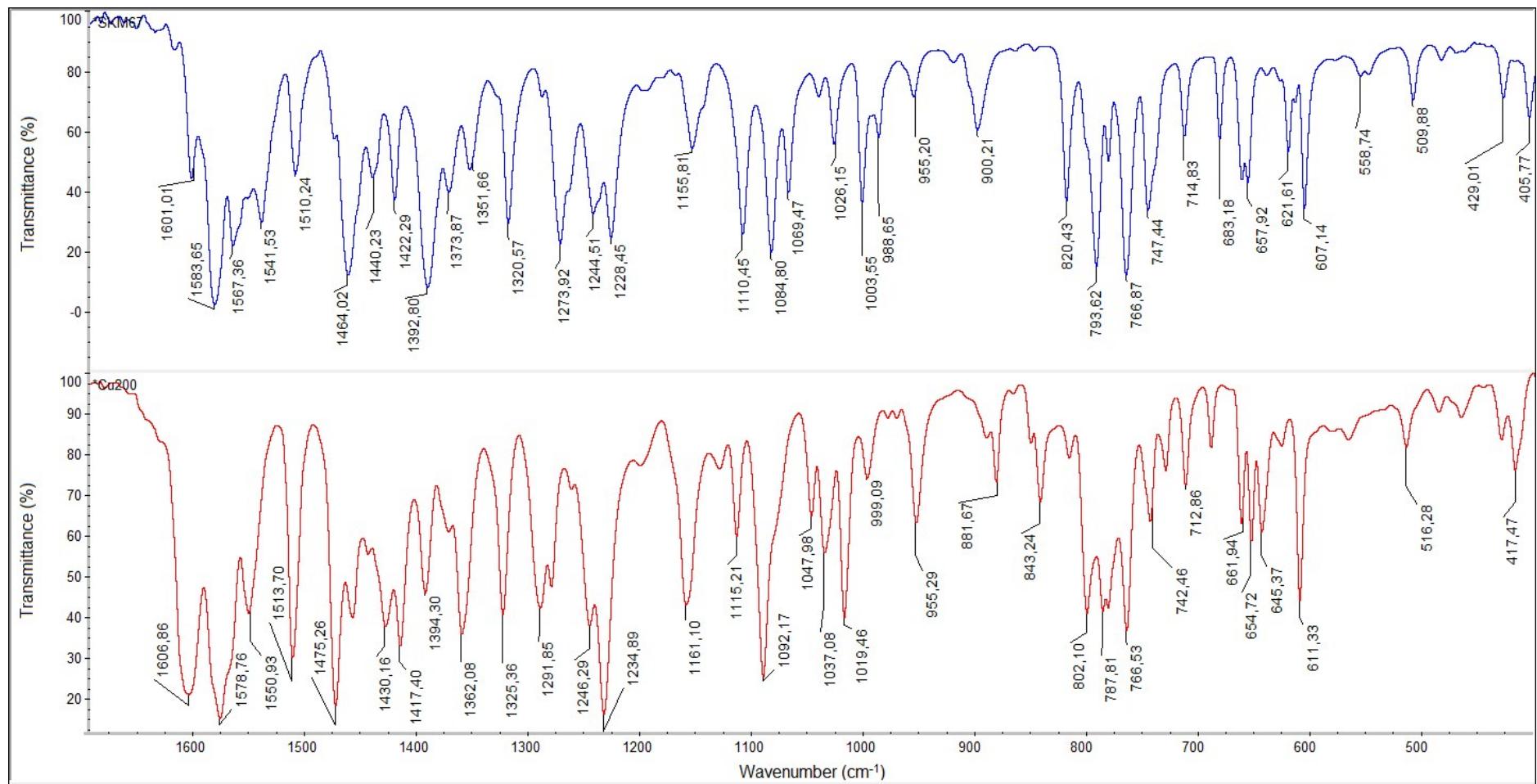
(c)



(d)

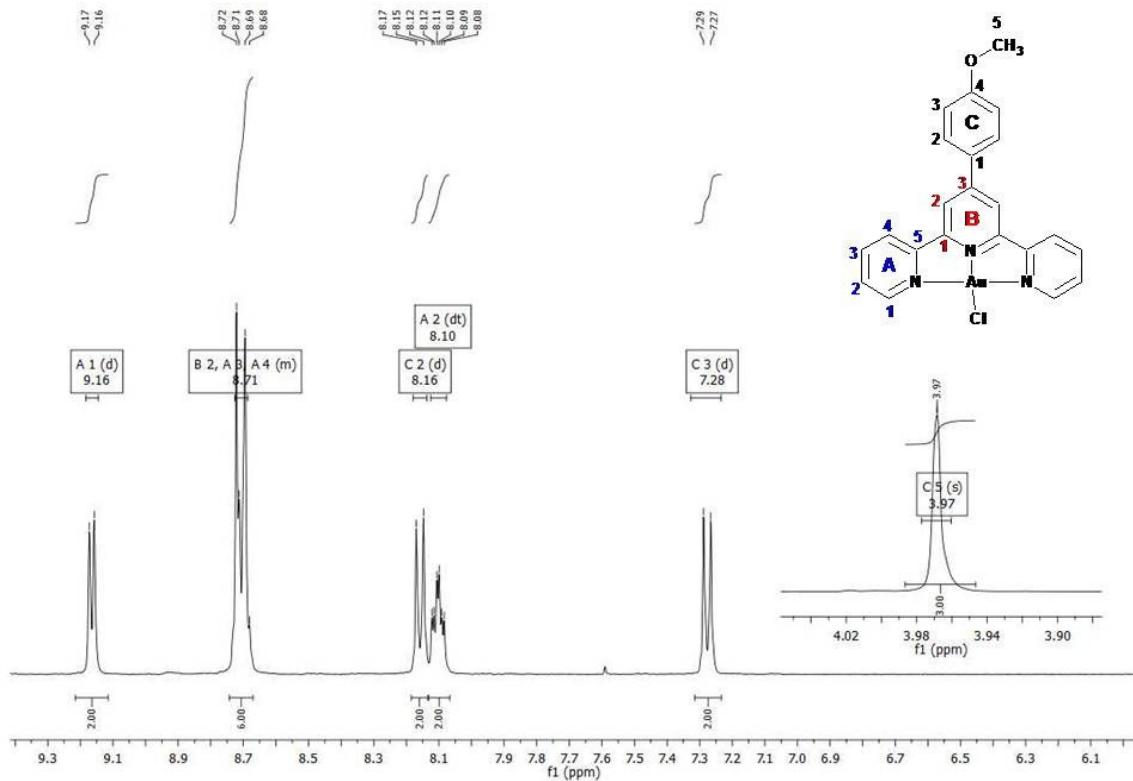


(e)

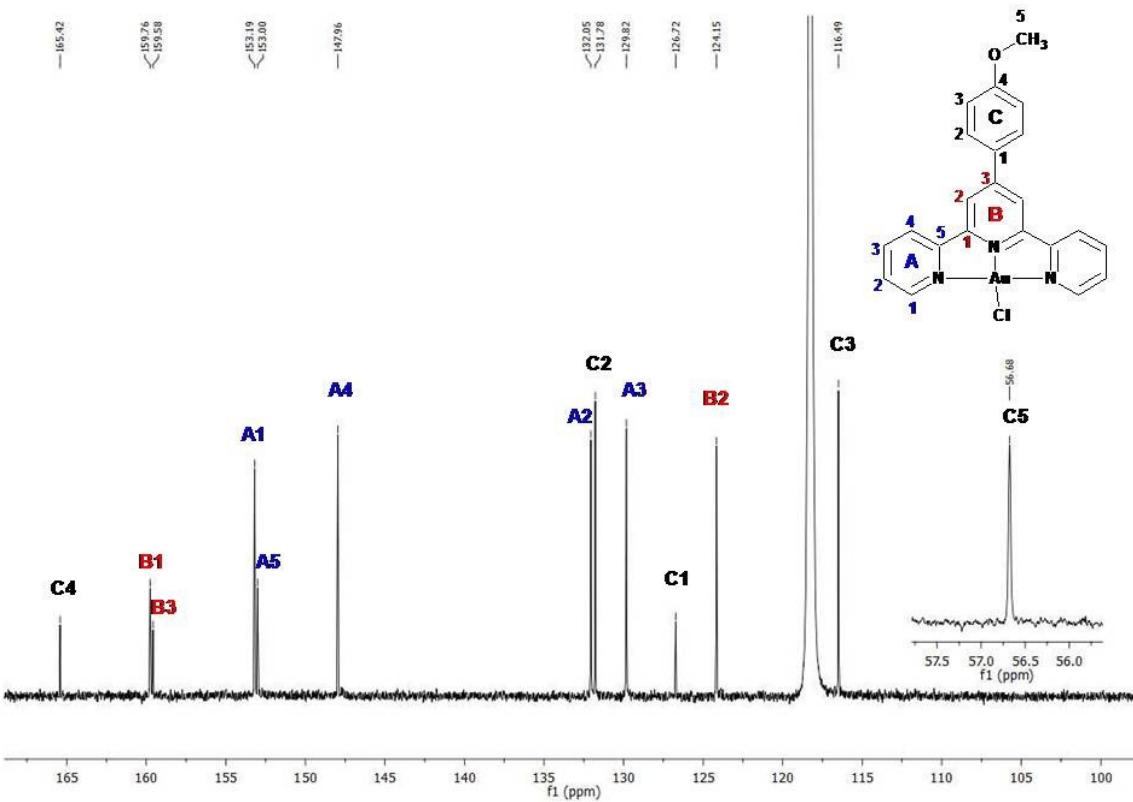


(f)

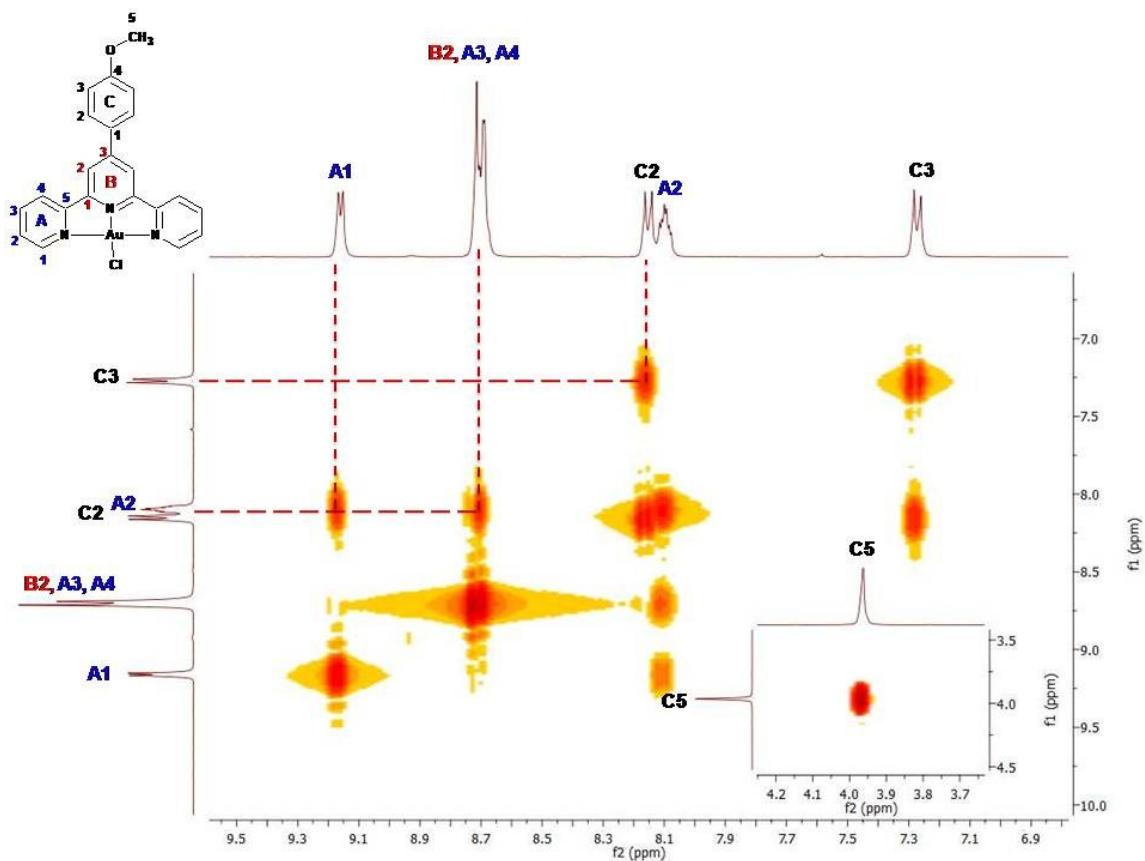
Figure S1. IR spectra of the free ligands L¹ or L² (blue) and complexes **1-6** (red) (a-f).



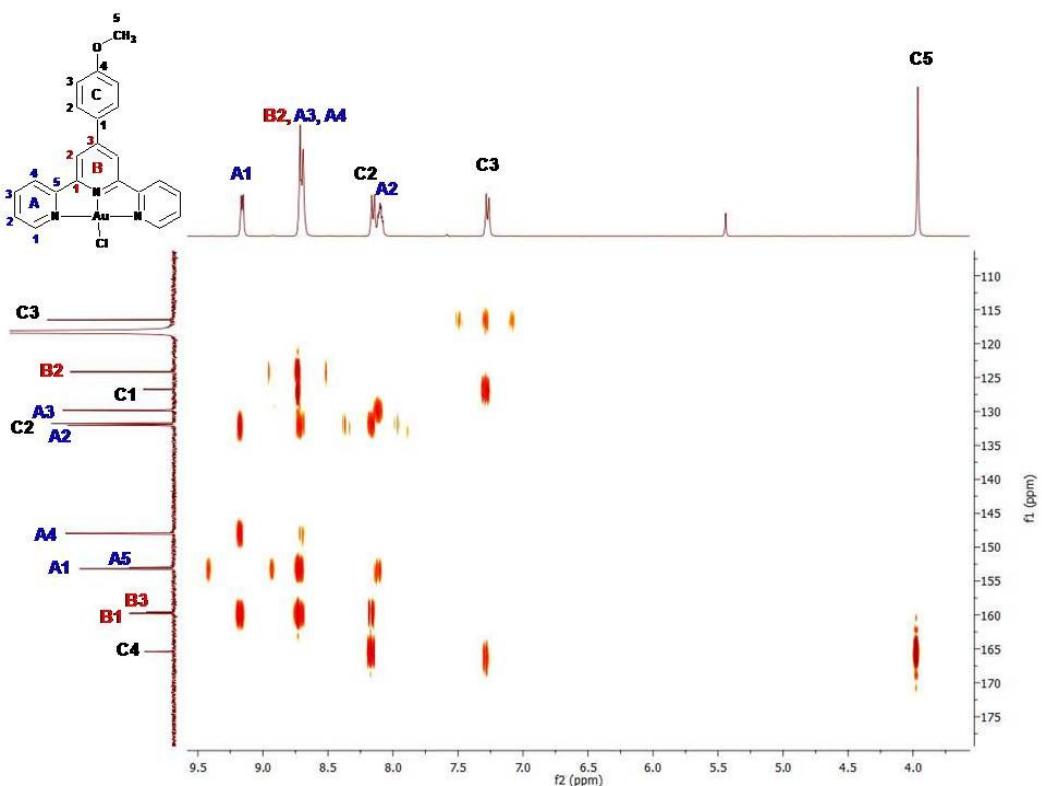
(a)



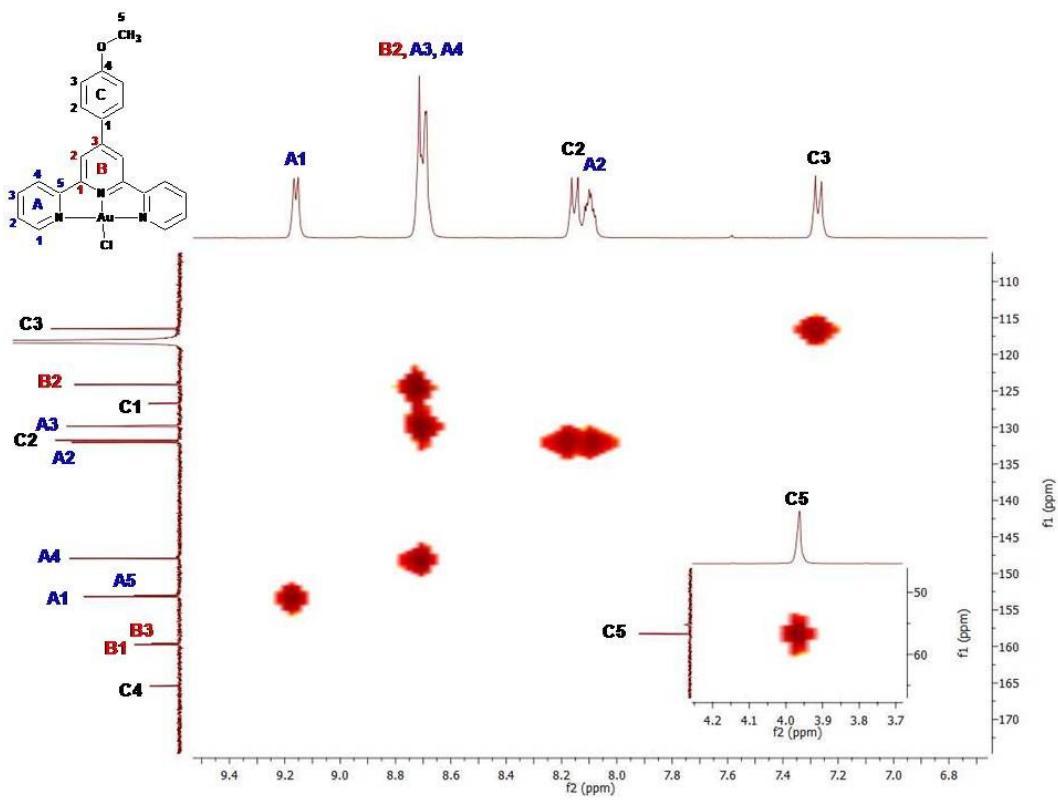
(b)



(c)

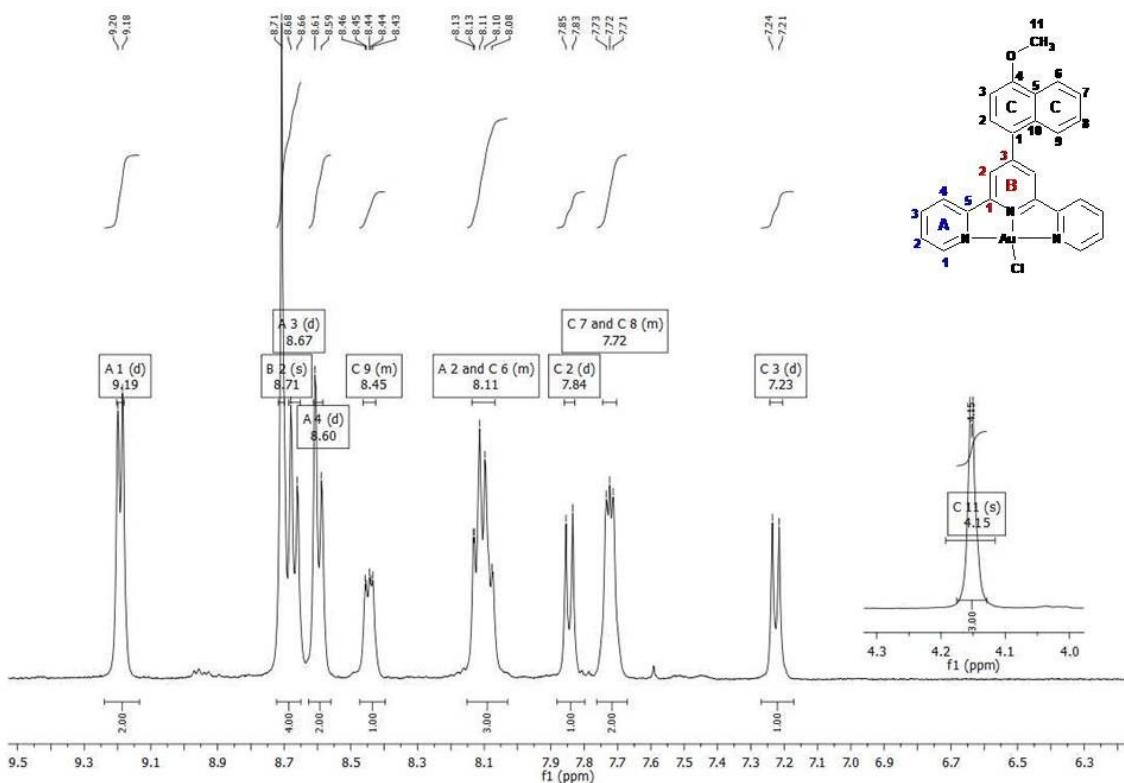


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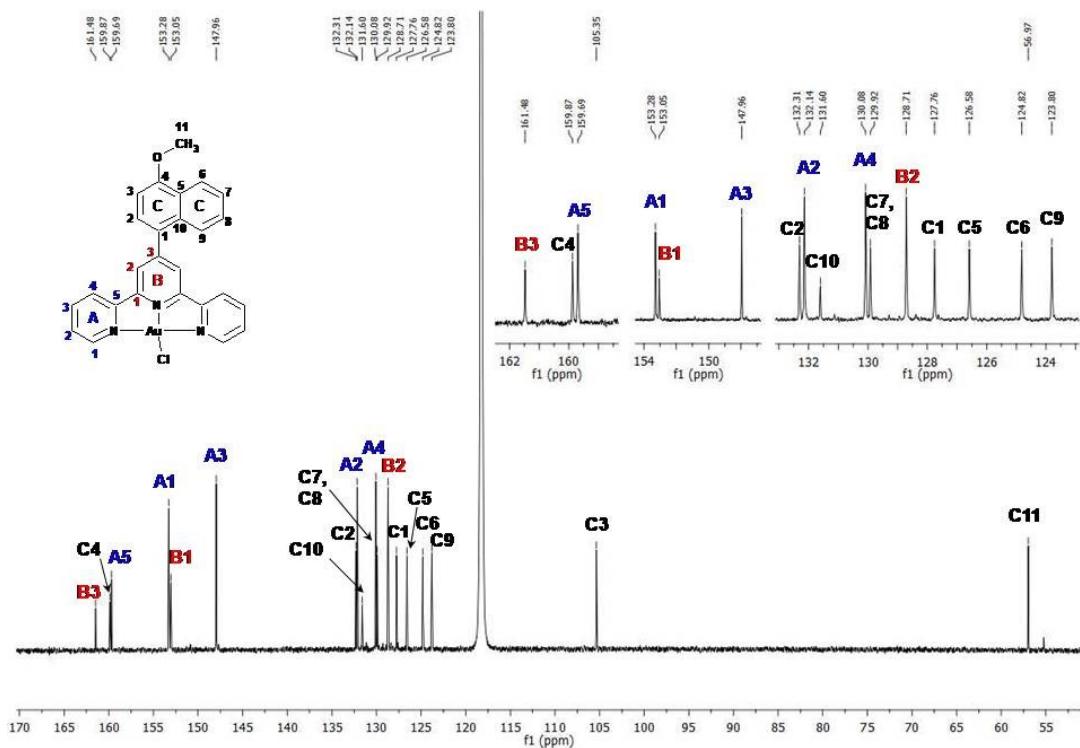


(e)

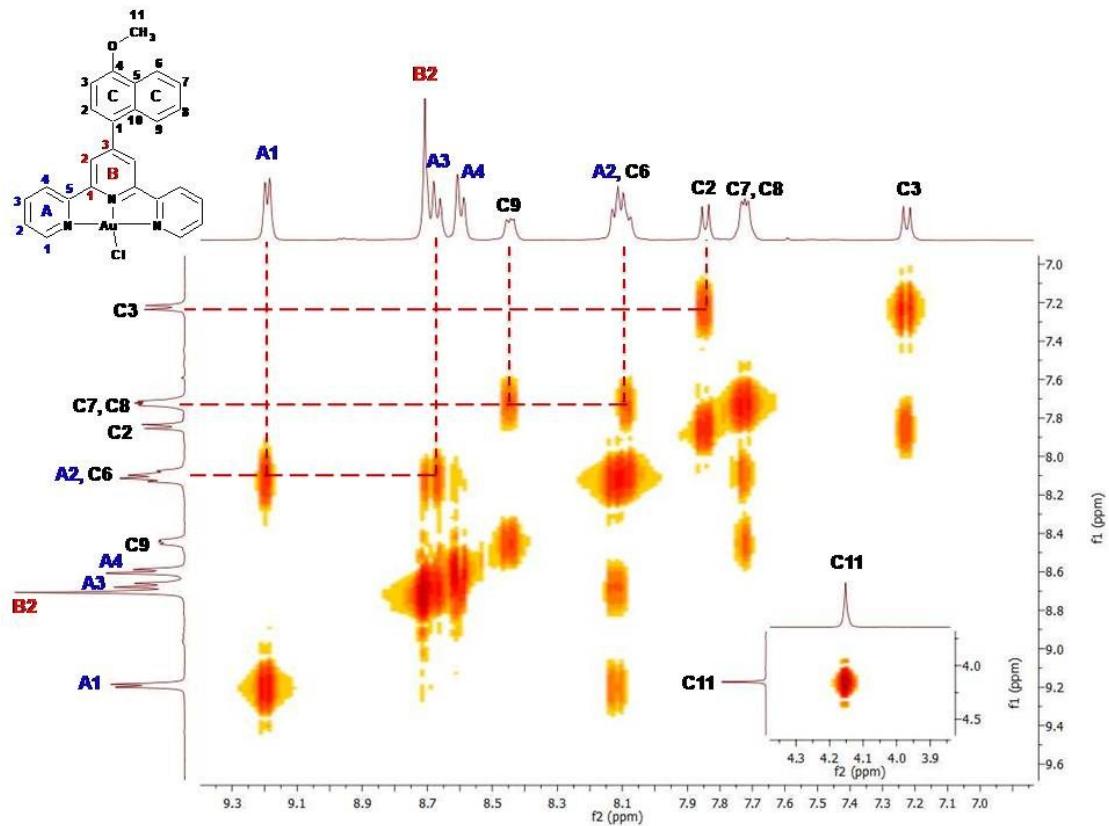
Figure S2. ¹H NMR (a), ¹³C NMR (b), COSY (c), HMBC (d) and HMQC (e) NMR of **1**



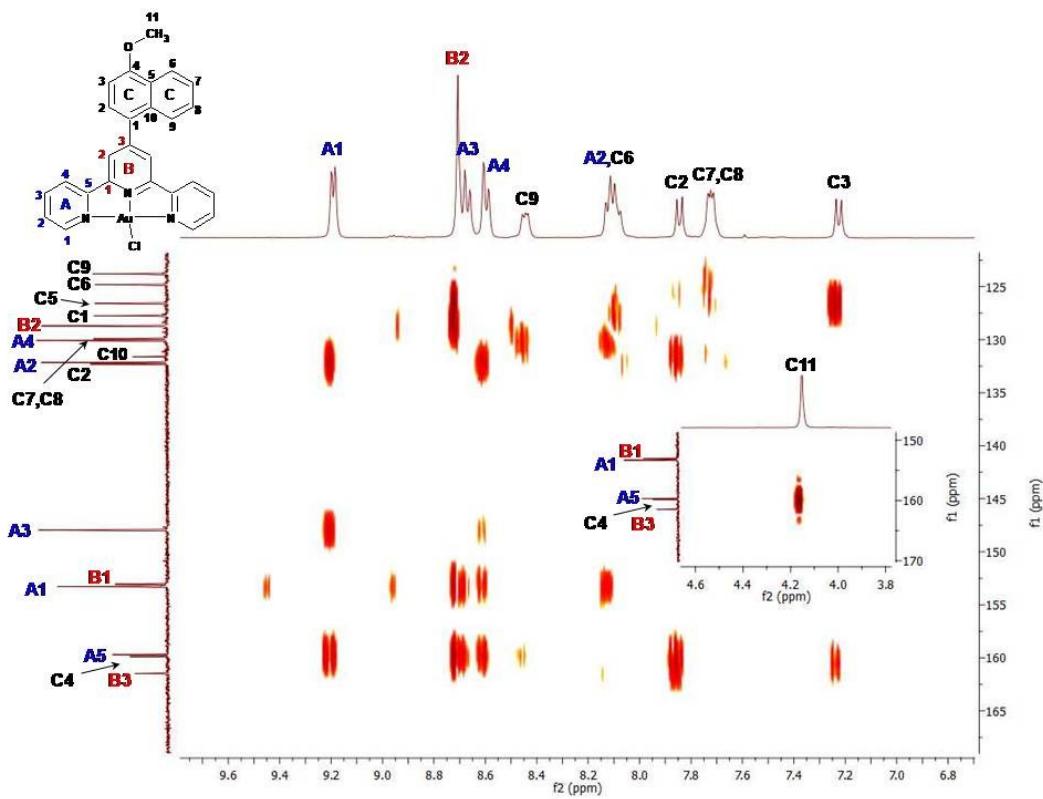
(a)



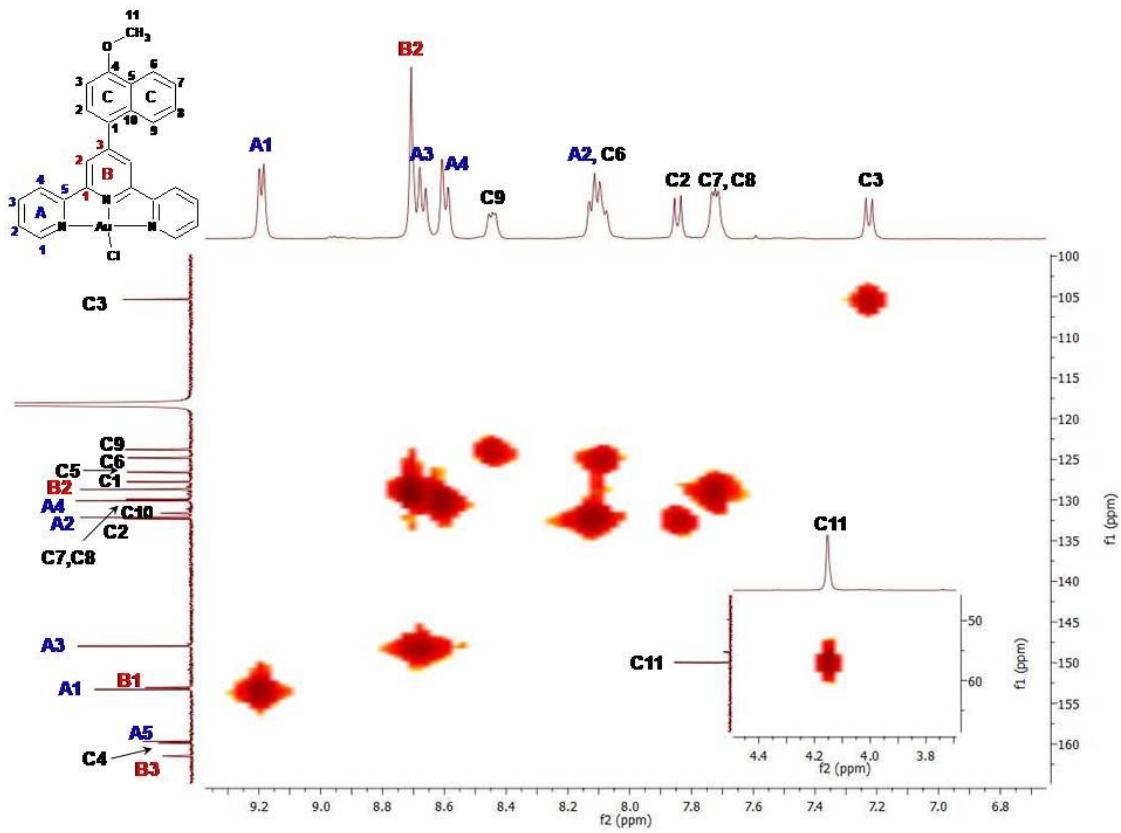
(b)



(c)

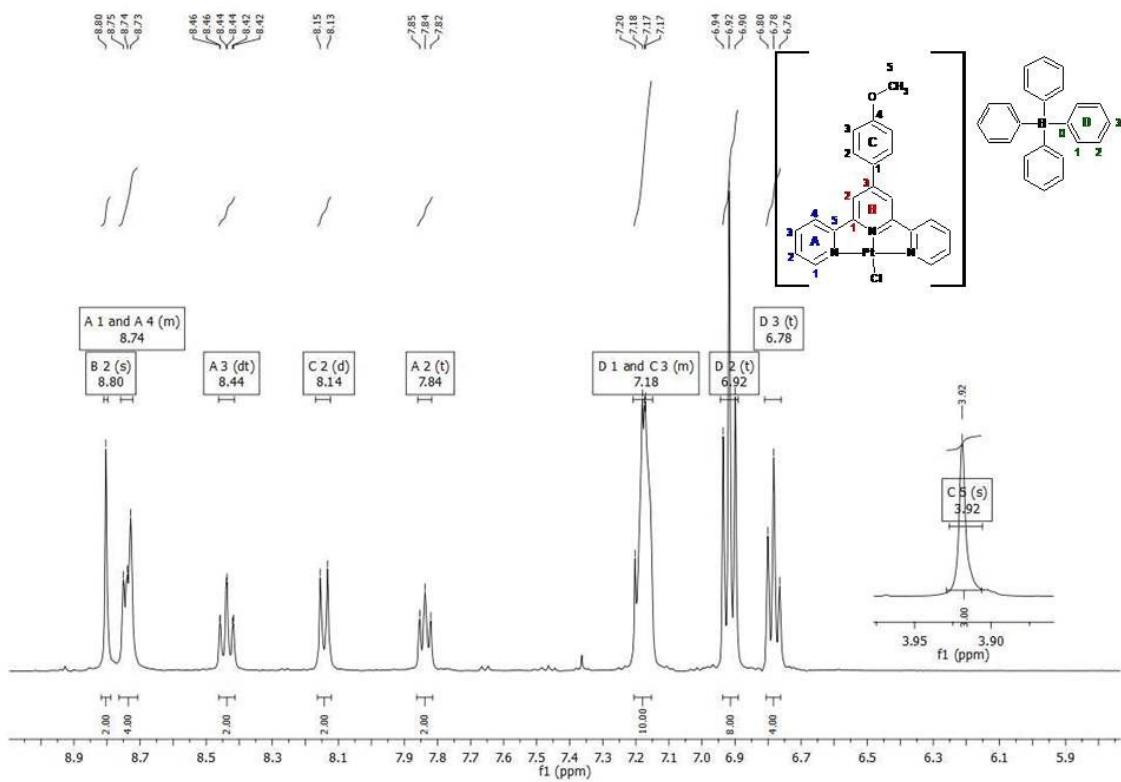


(d)

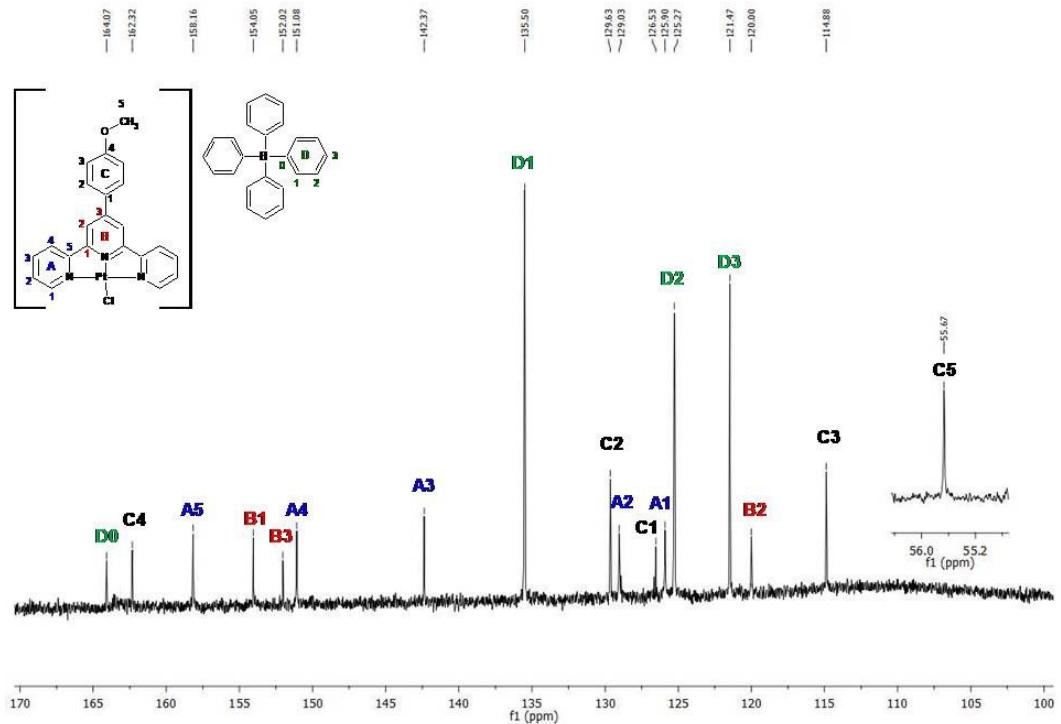


(e)

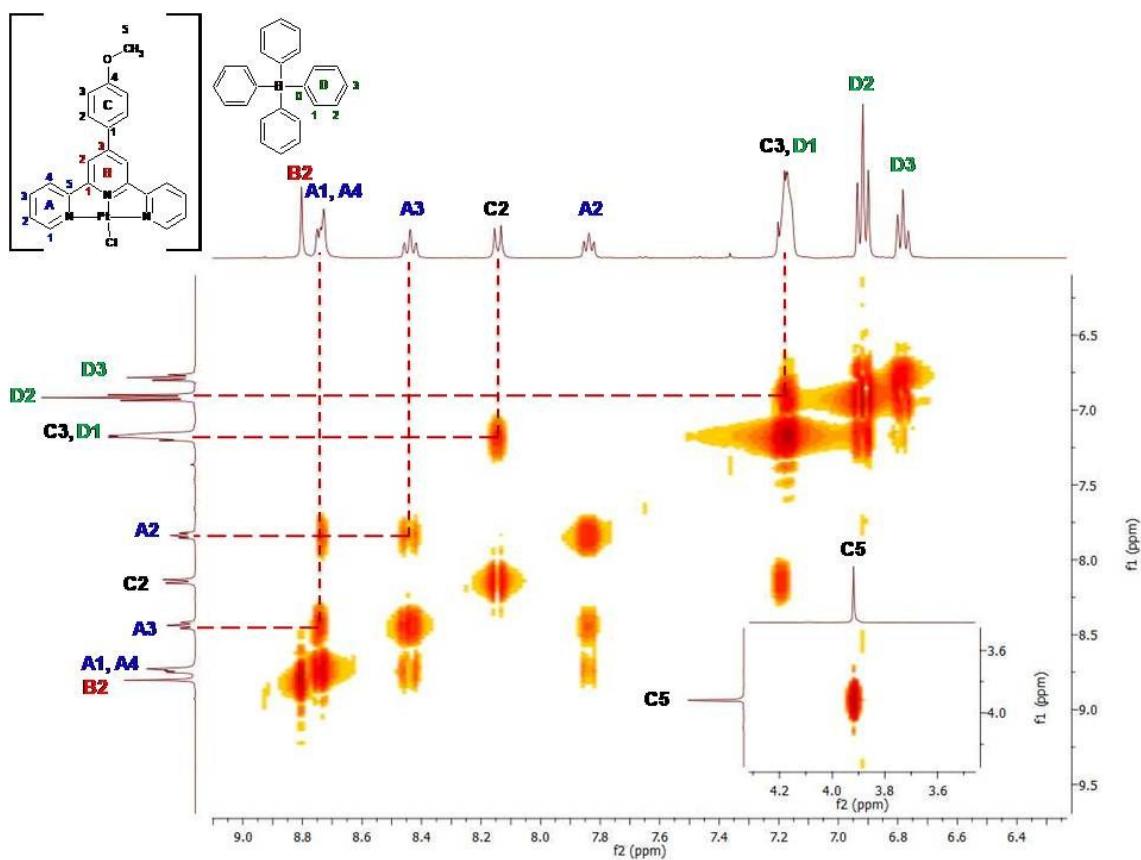
Figure S3. ¹H NMR (a), ¹³C NMR (b), COSY (c), HMBC (d) and HMQC (e) NMR of **2**.



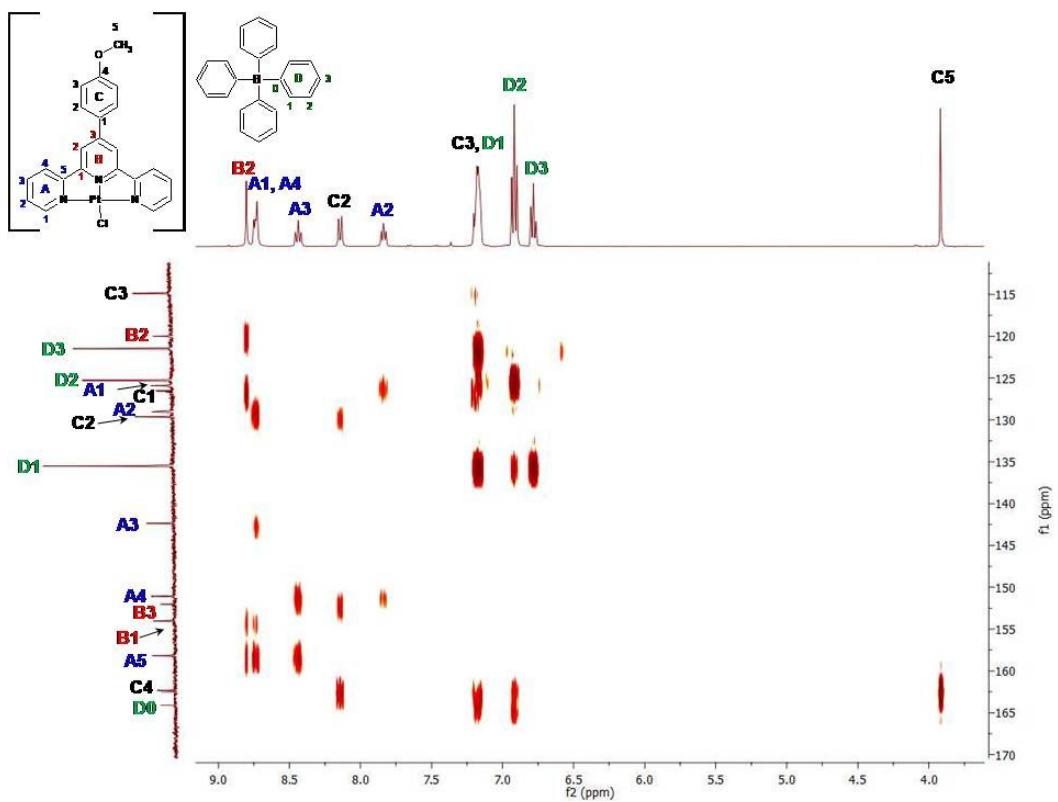
(a)



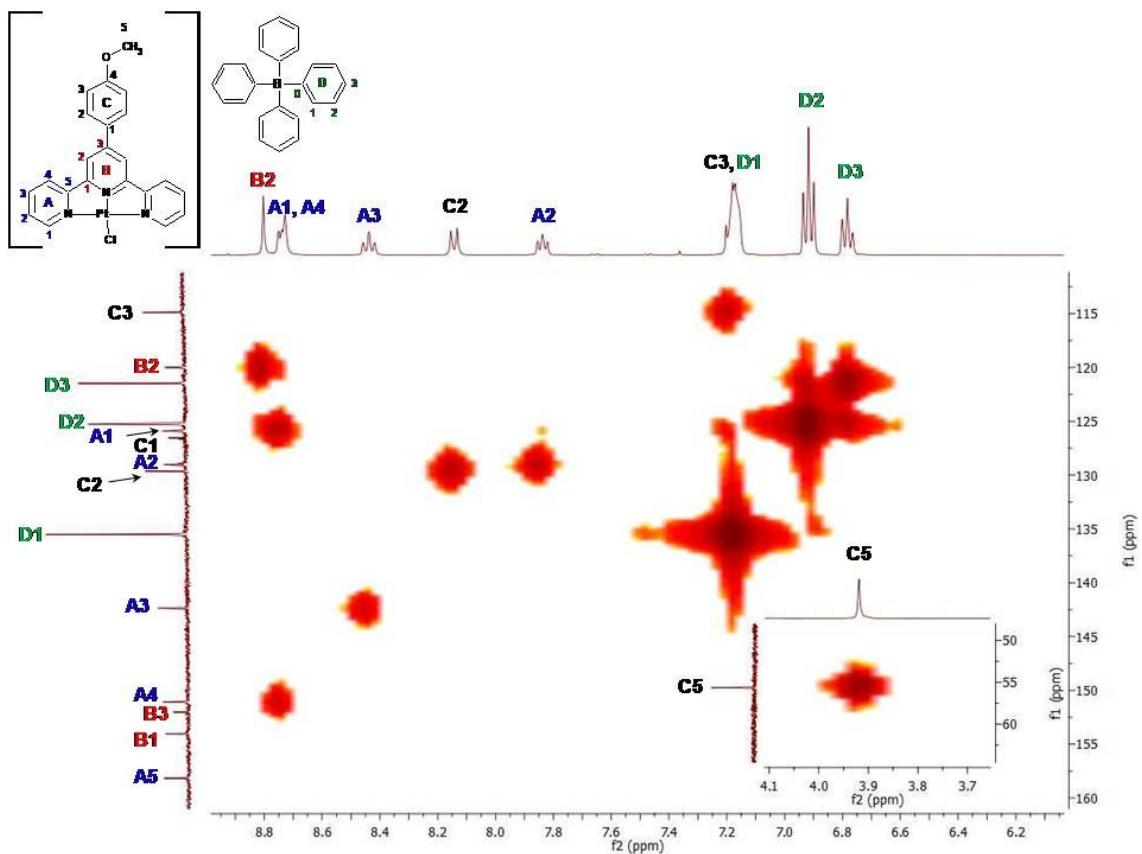
(b)



(c)

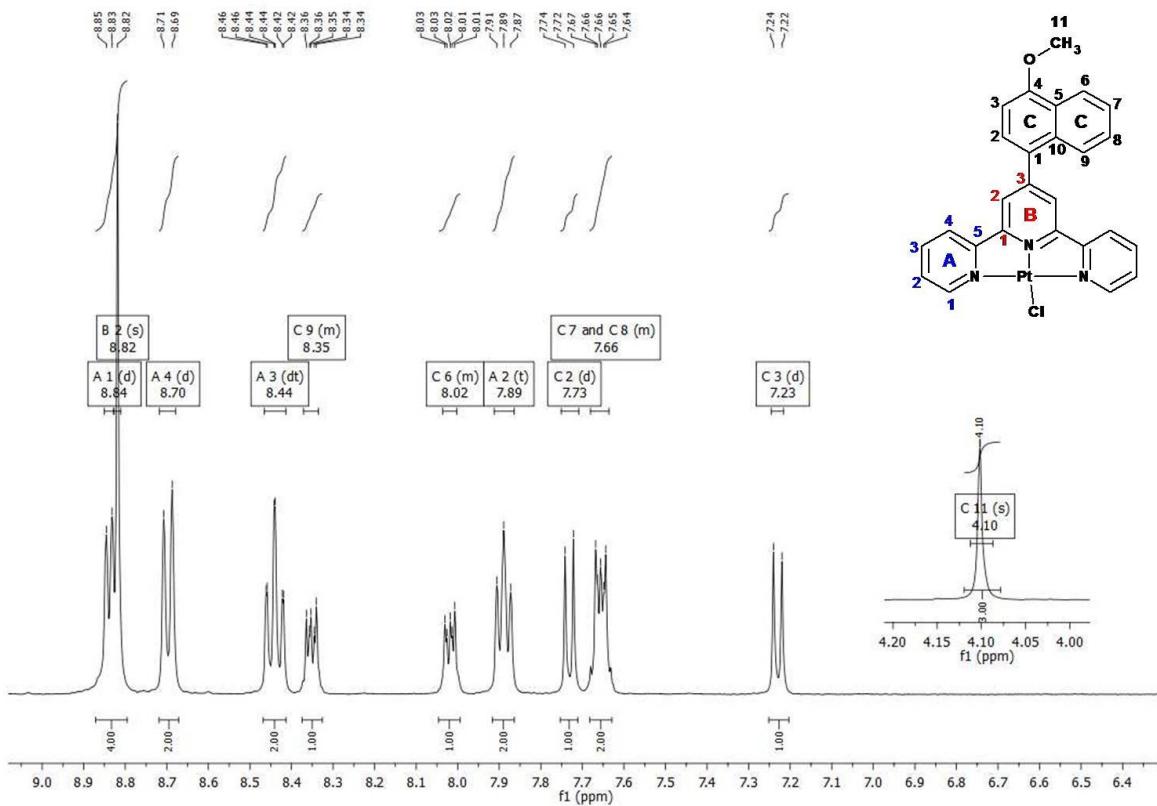


(d)

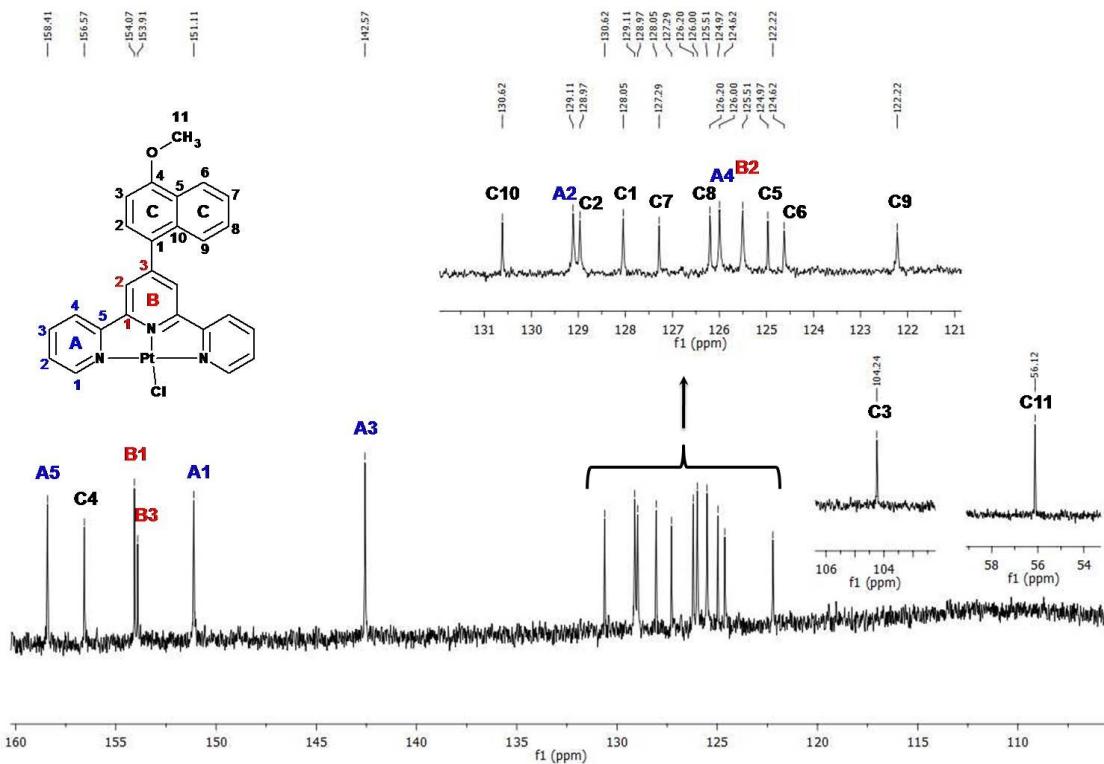


(e)

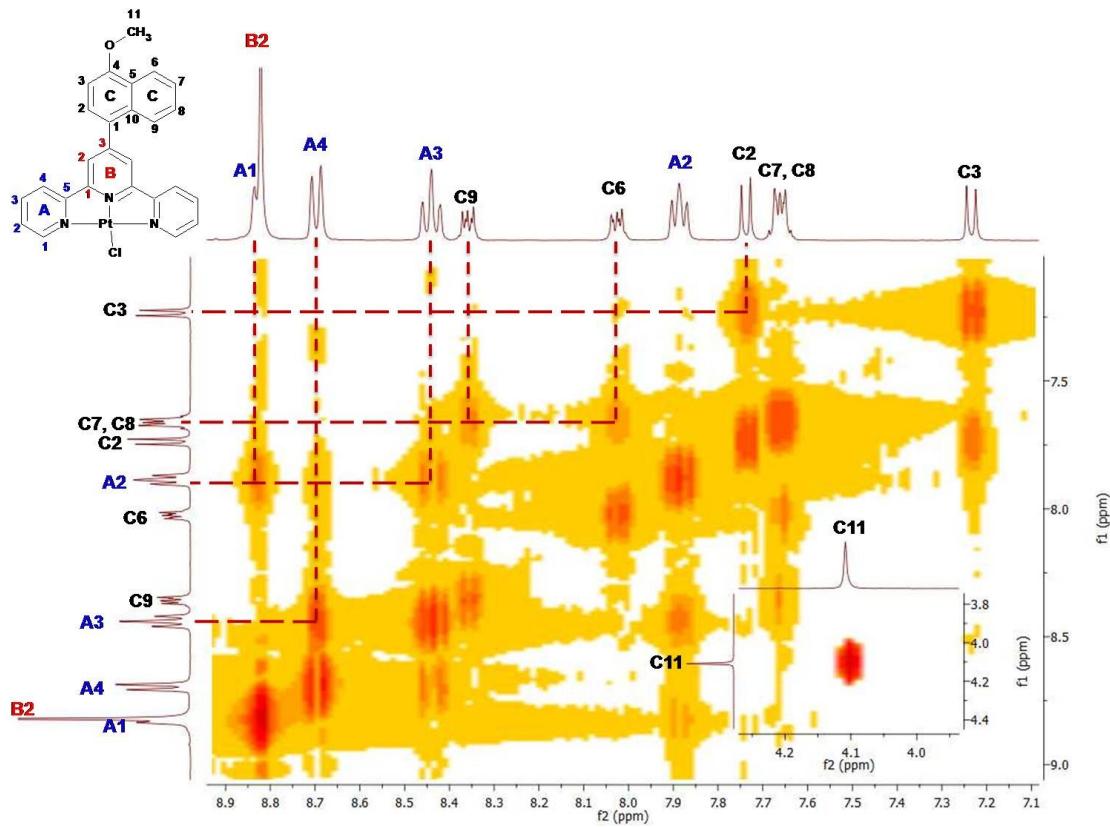
Figure S4. ^1H NMR (a), ^{13}C NMR (b), COSY (c), HMBC (d) and HMQC (e) NMR of **3**



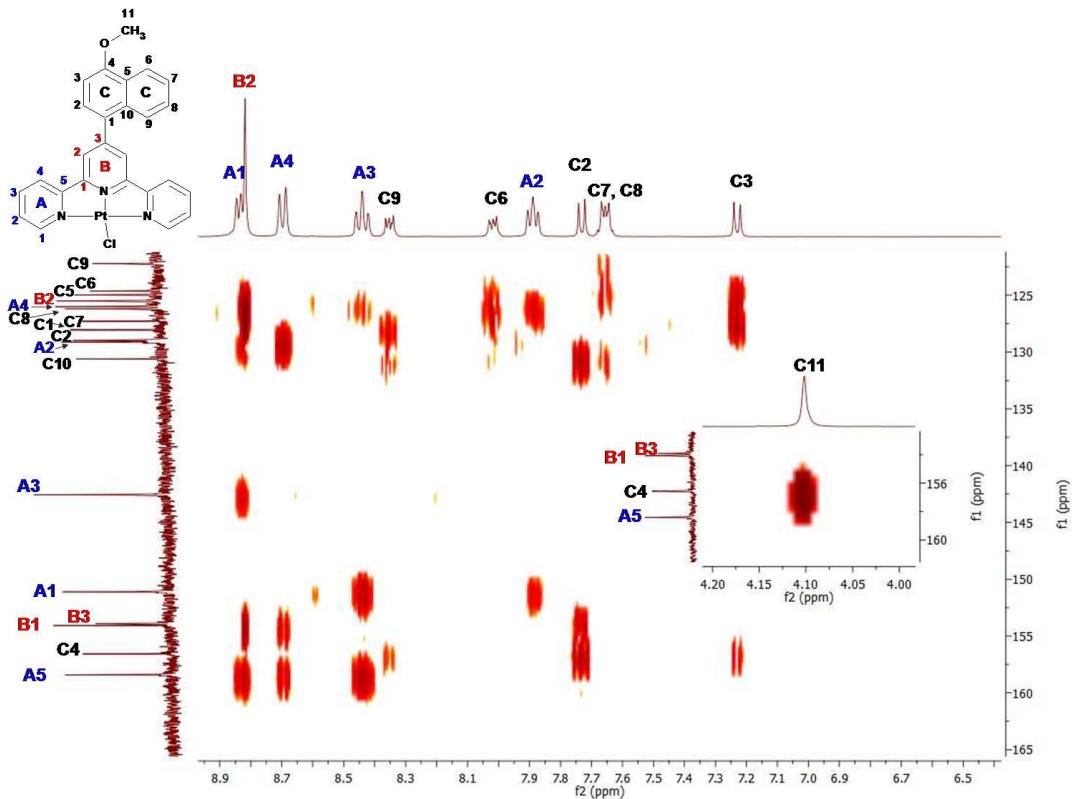
(a)



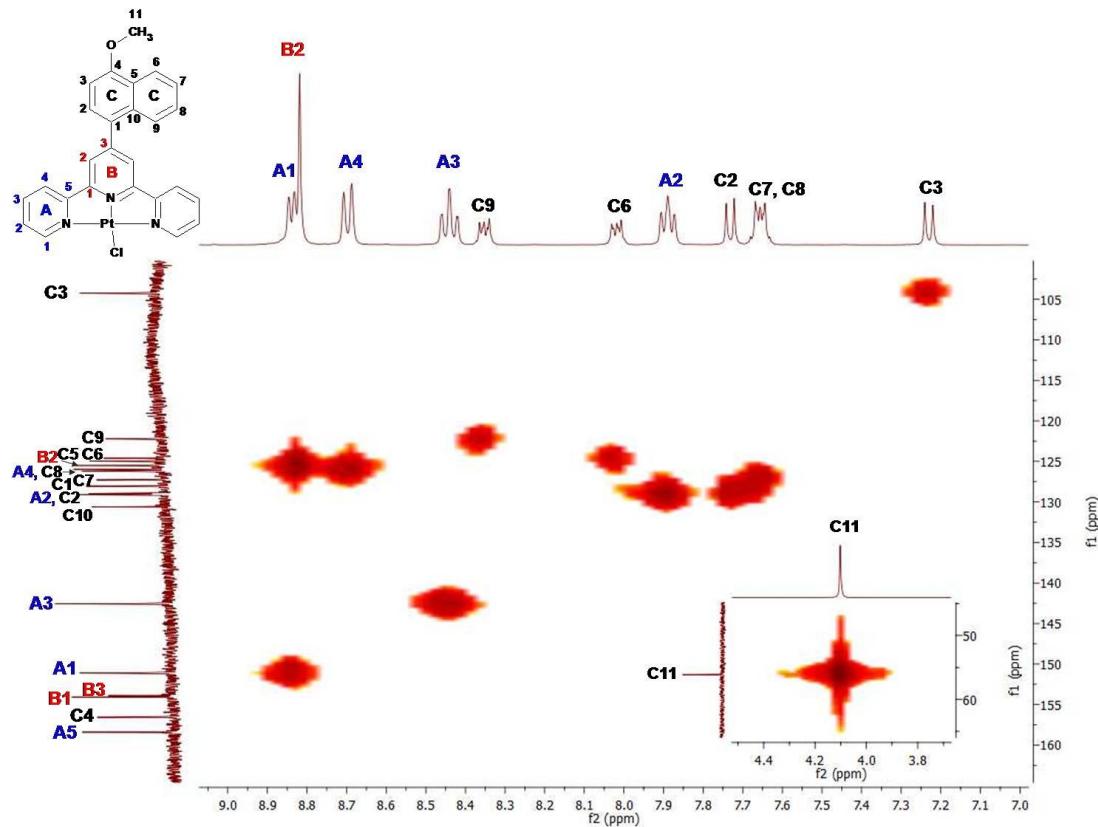
(b)



(c)

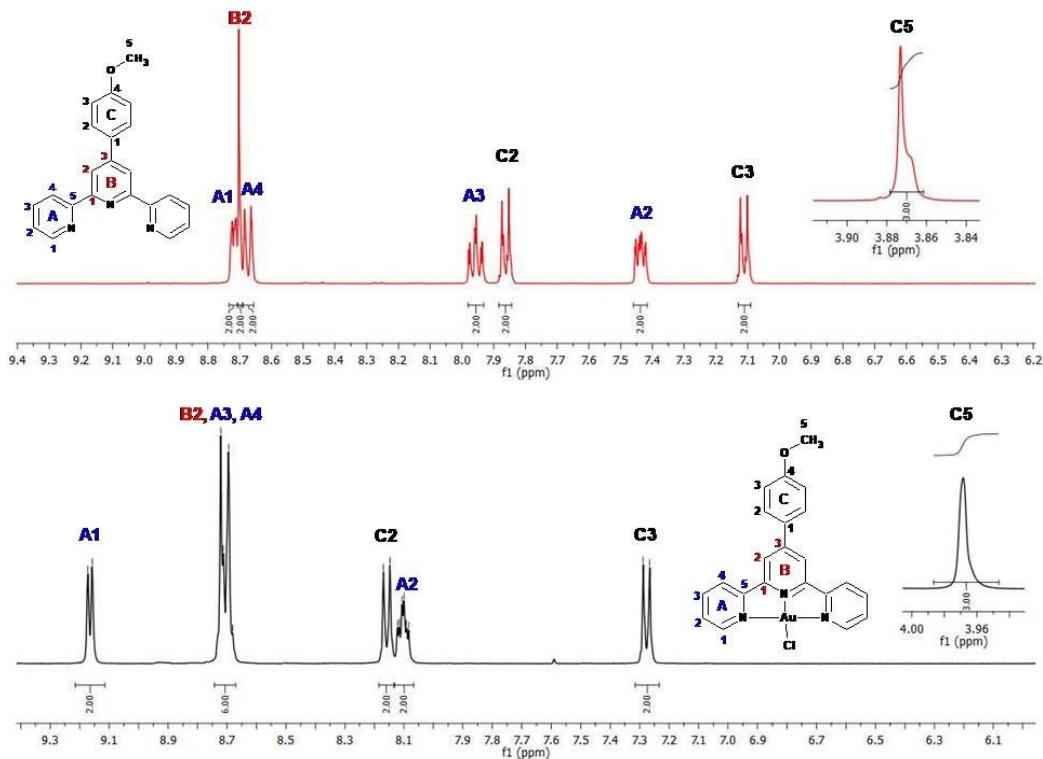


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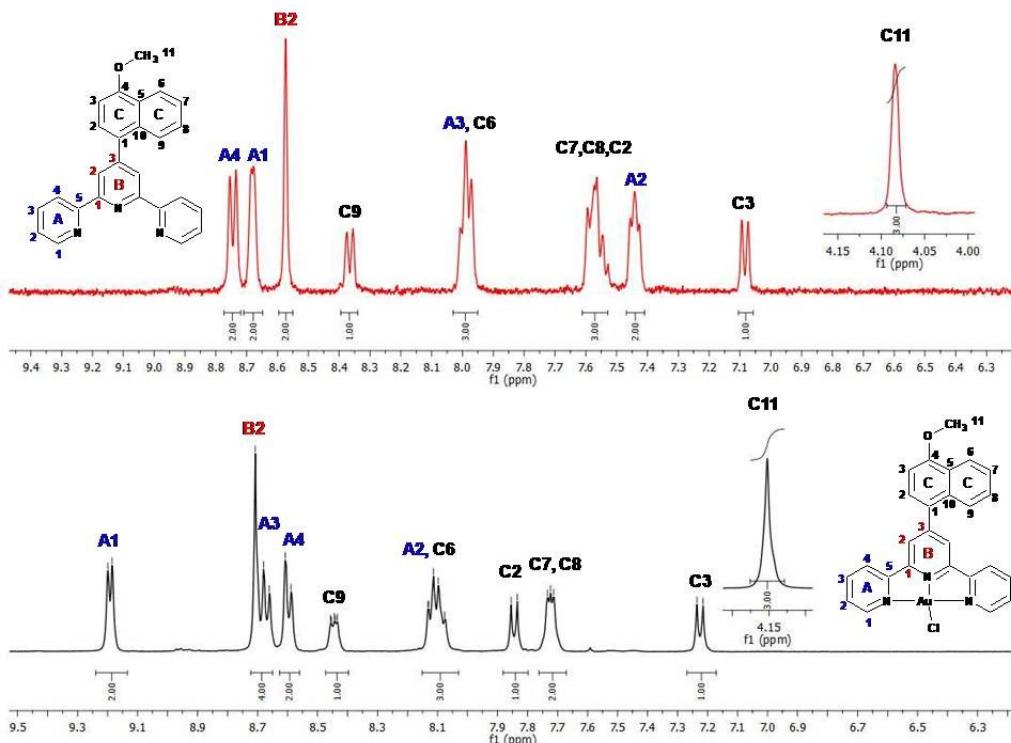


(e)

Figure S5. ^1H NMR (a), ^{13}C NMR (b), COSY (c), HMBC (d) and HMQC (e) NMR of **4**.



(a)



(b)

Figure S6. Comparison of ¹H NMR of **1** (a) or **2** (b) with the corresponding ligand L¹ and L² in acetonitrile-d₃.

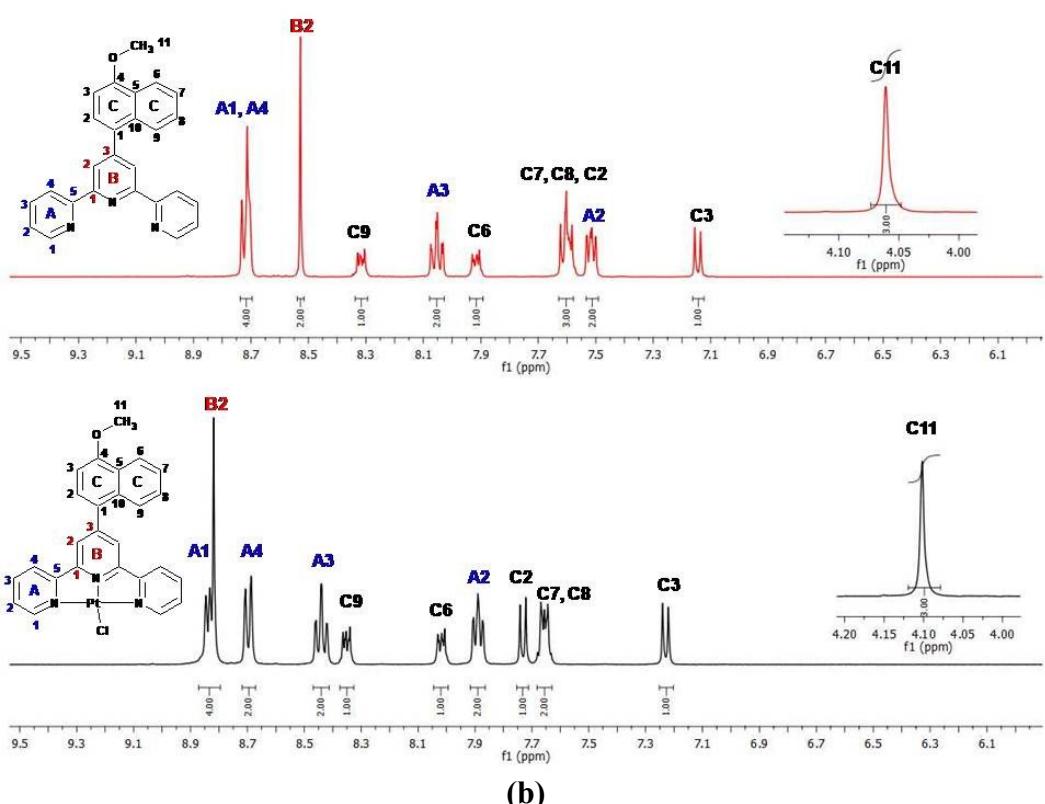
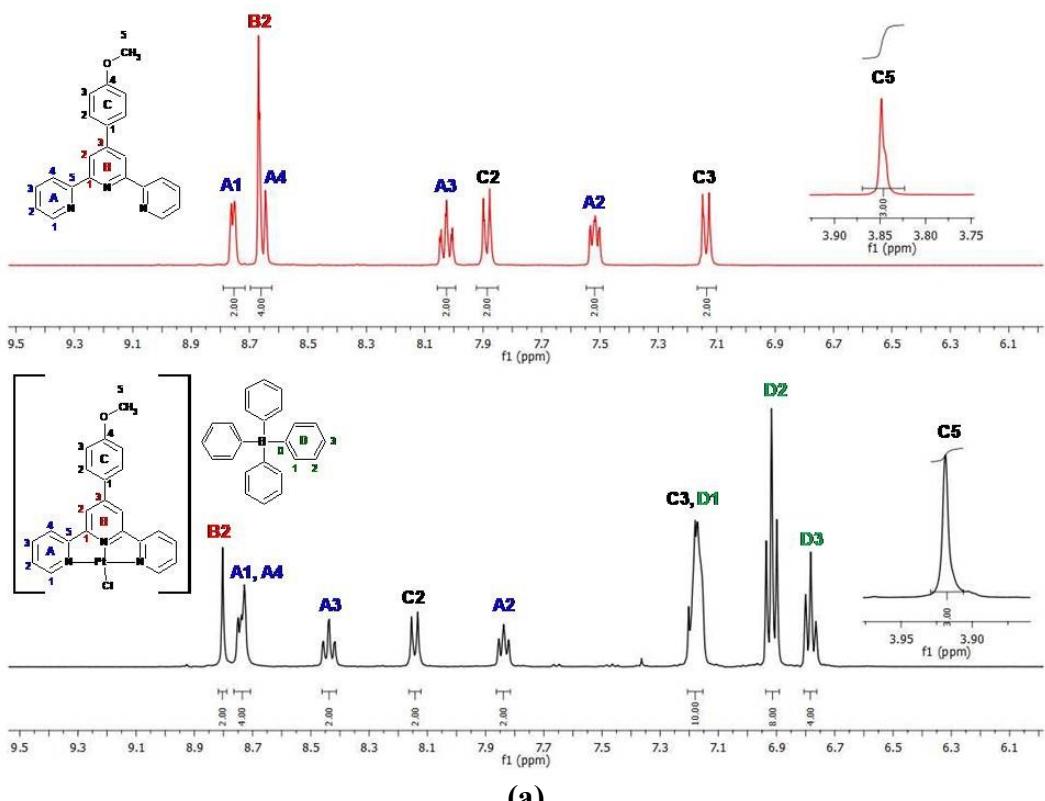
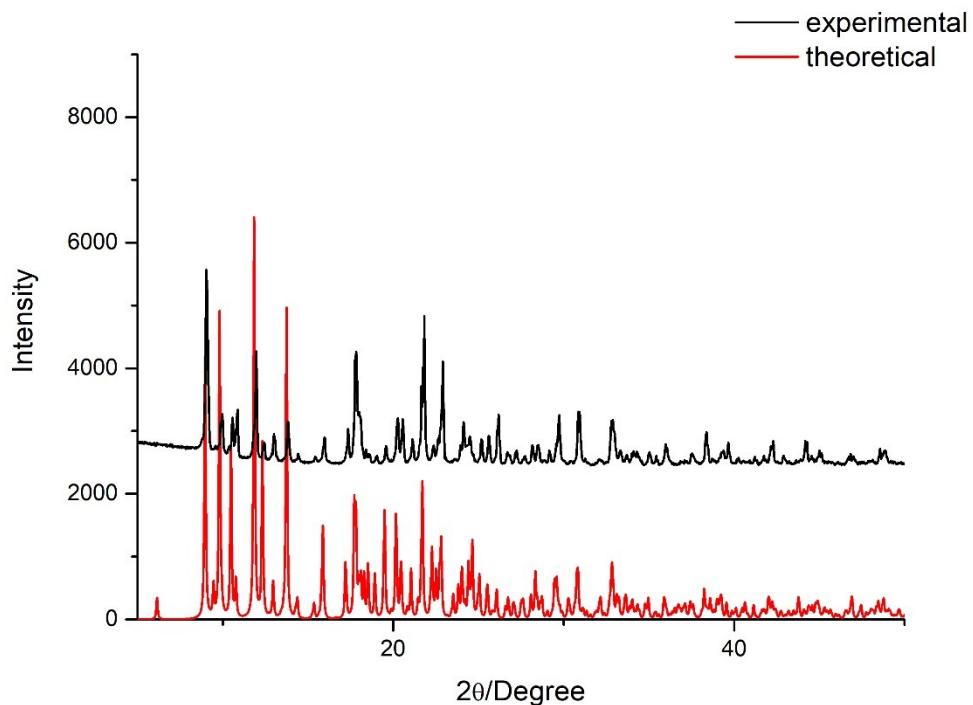
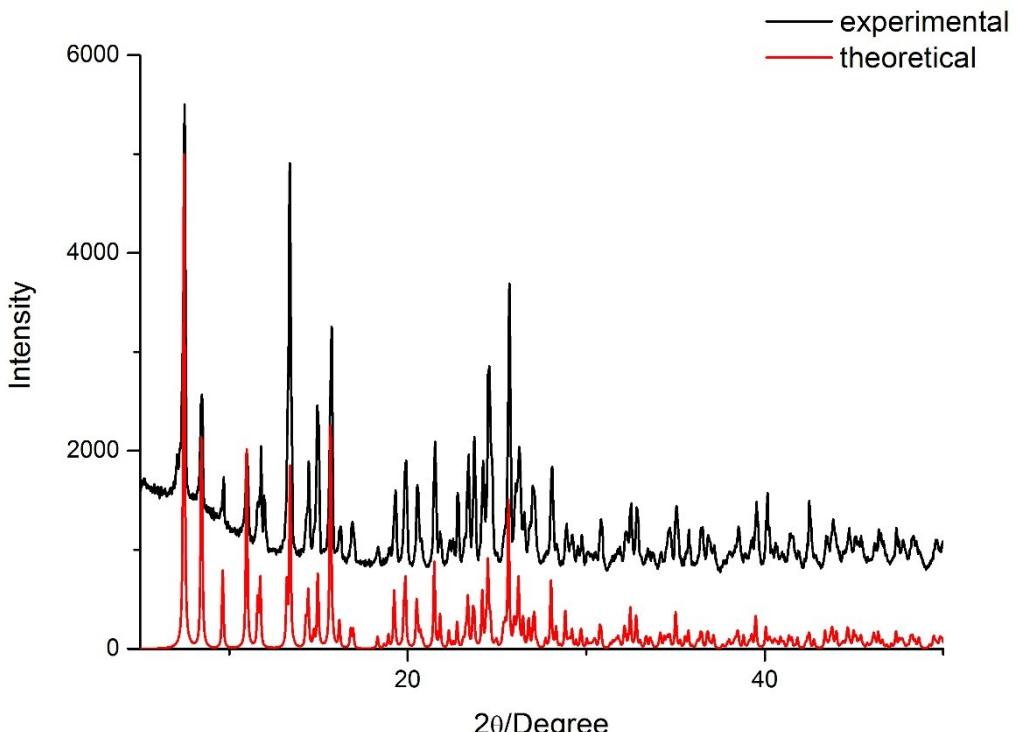


Figure S7. Comparison of ^1H NMR of **3** (a) or **4** (b) with the corresponding ligand L^1 and L^2 in DMSO-d_6 .



(a)



(b)

Figure S8. The powder XPRD patterns of representative compounds **1** (a) and **4** (b) (experimental - black) and the simulations of the powder pattern from the crystal structures (red).

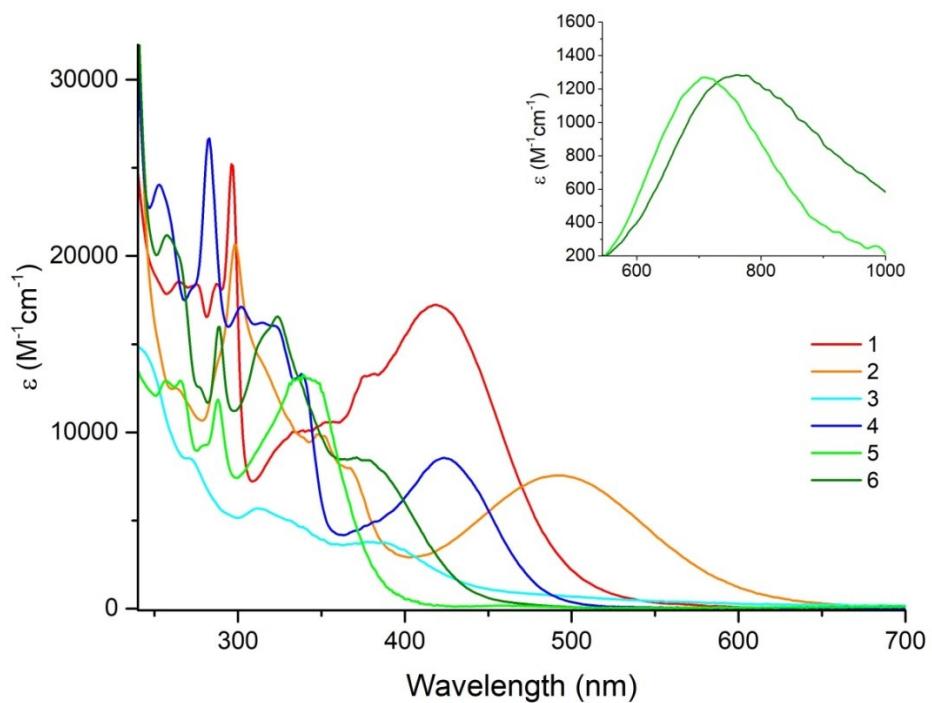


Figure S9. UV-Vis spectra of the complexes **1-6** in CH_3CN ($c = 5 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ M}$)

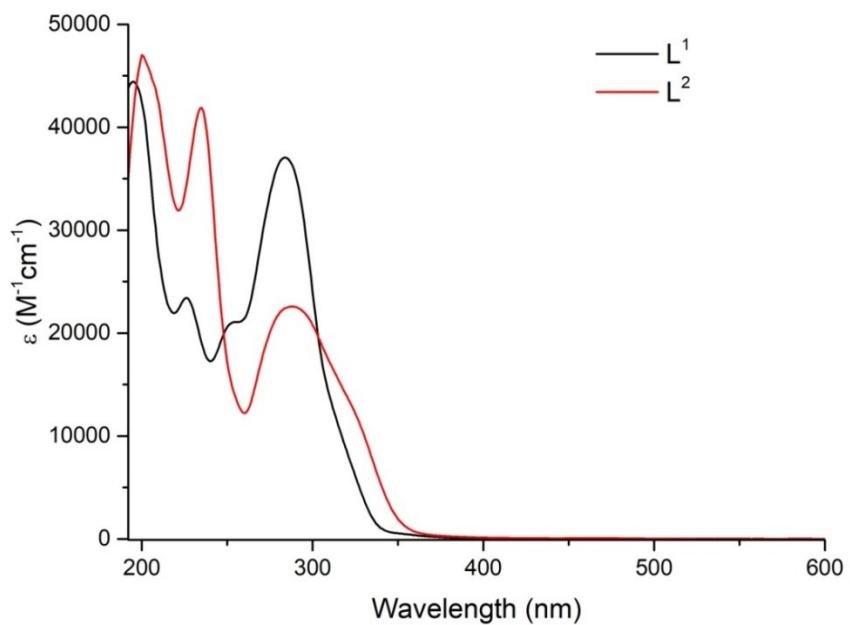


Figure S10. UV-vis spectra of the free ligands in CH_3CN ($5 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ M}$).

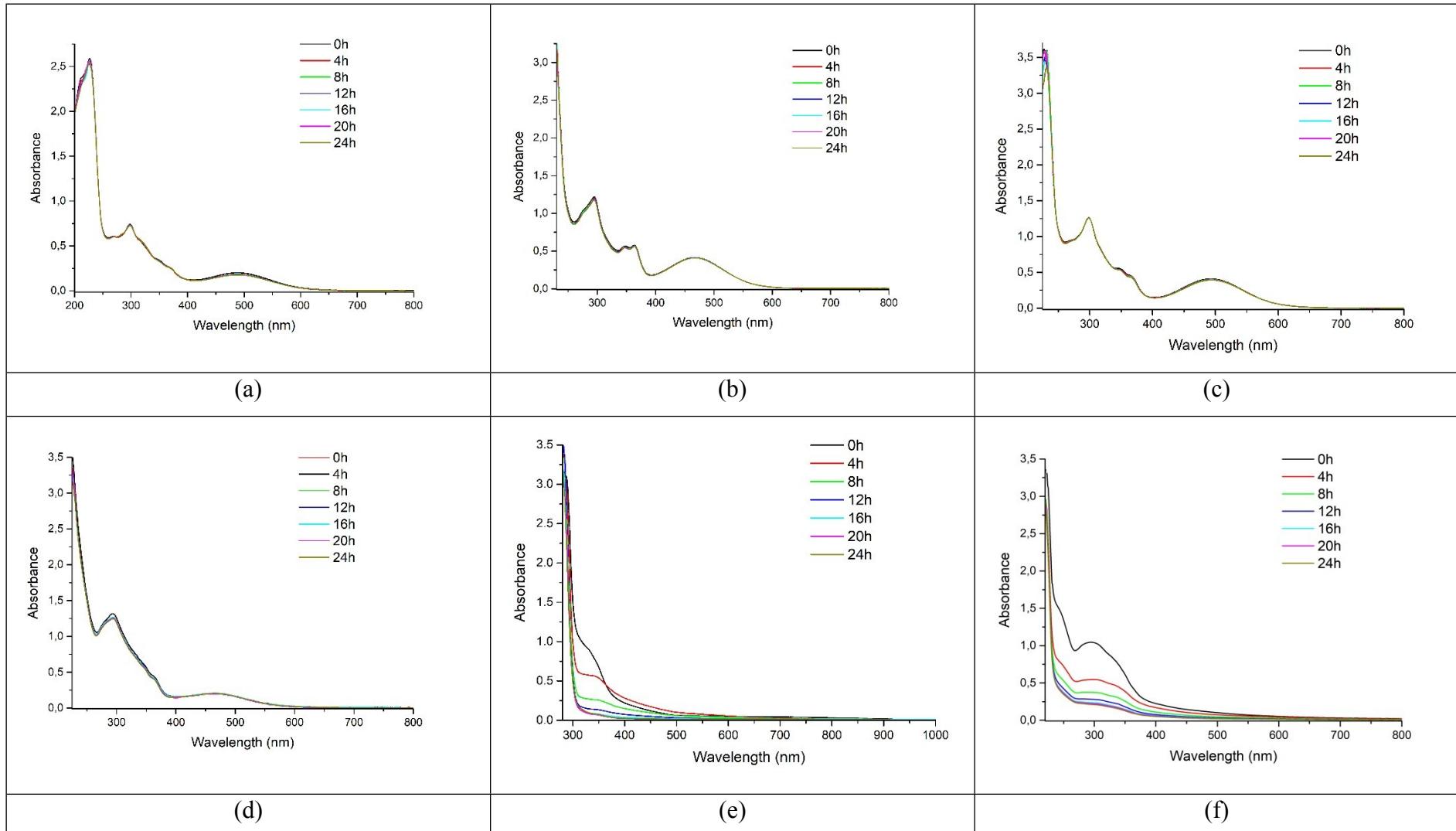
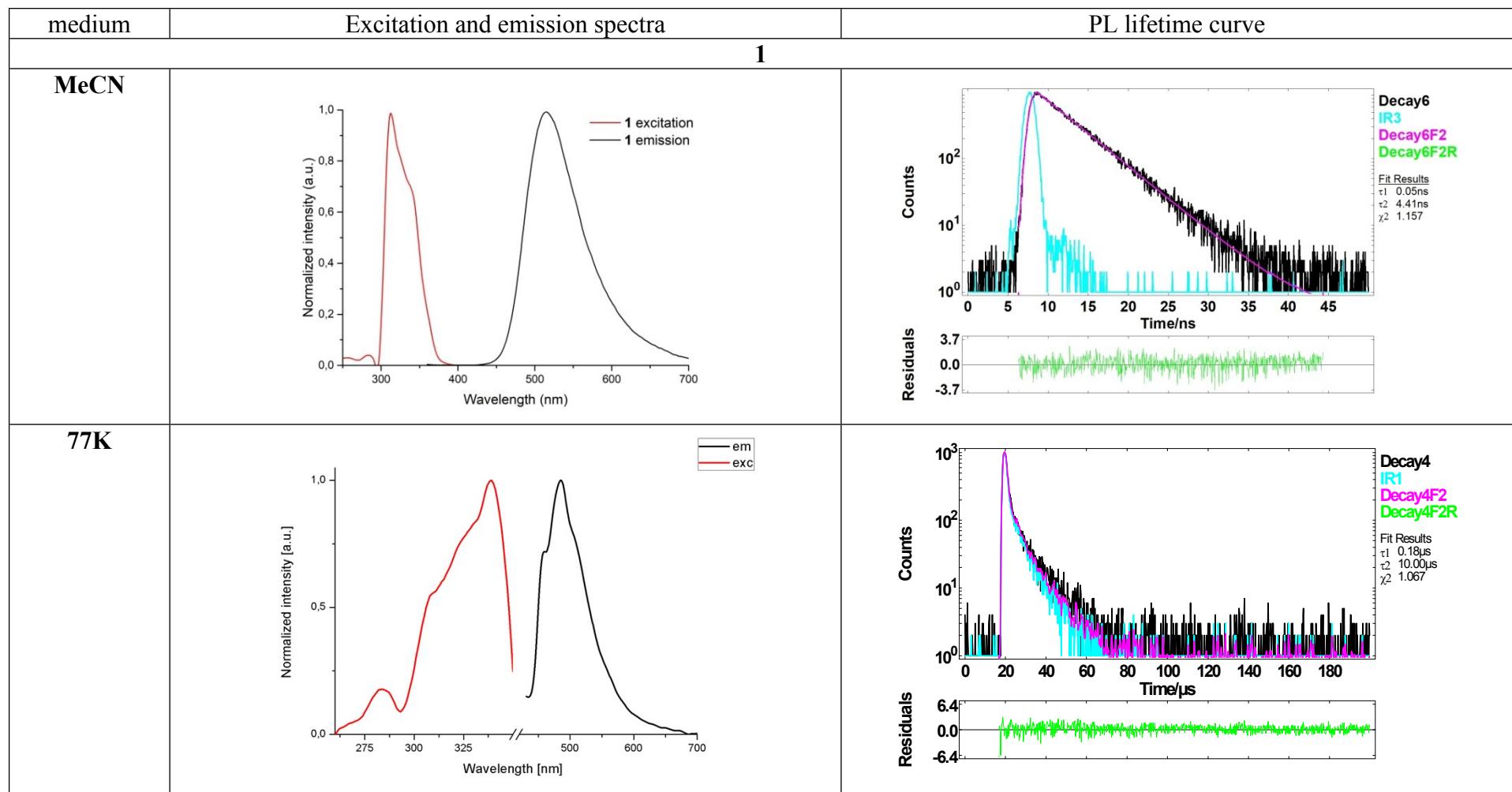
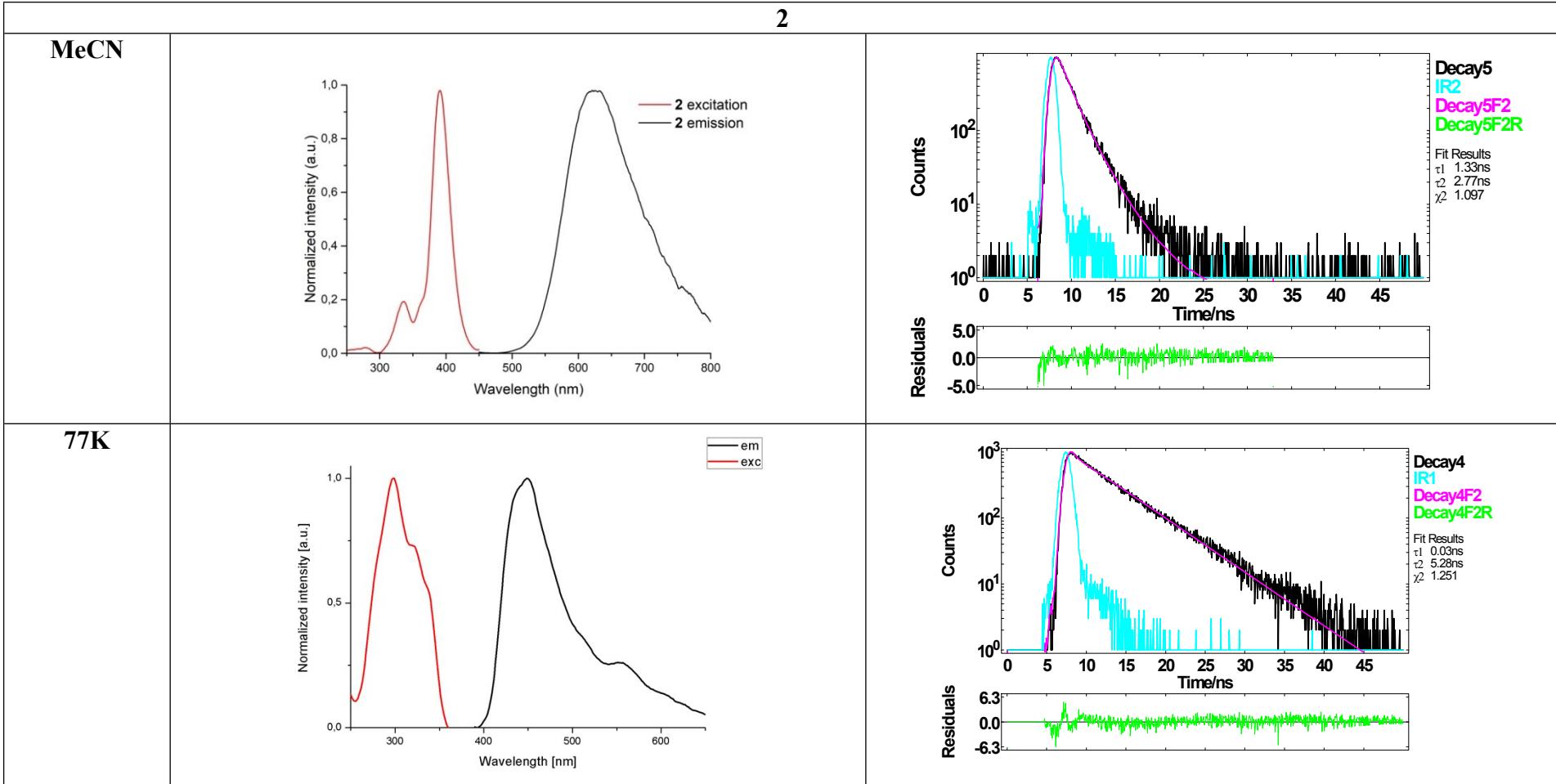
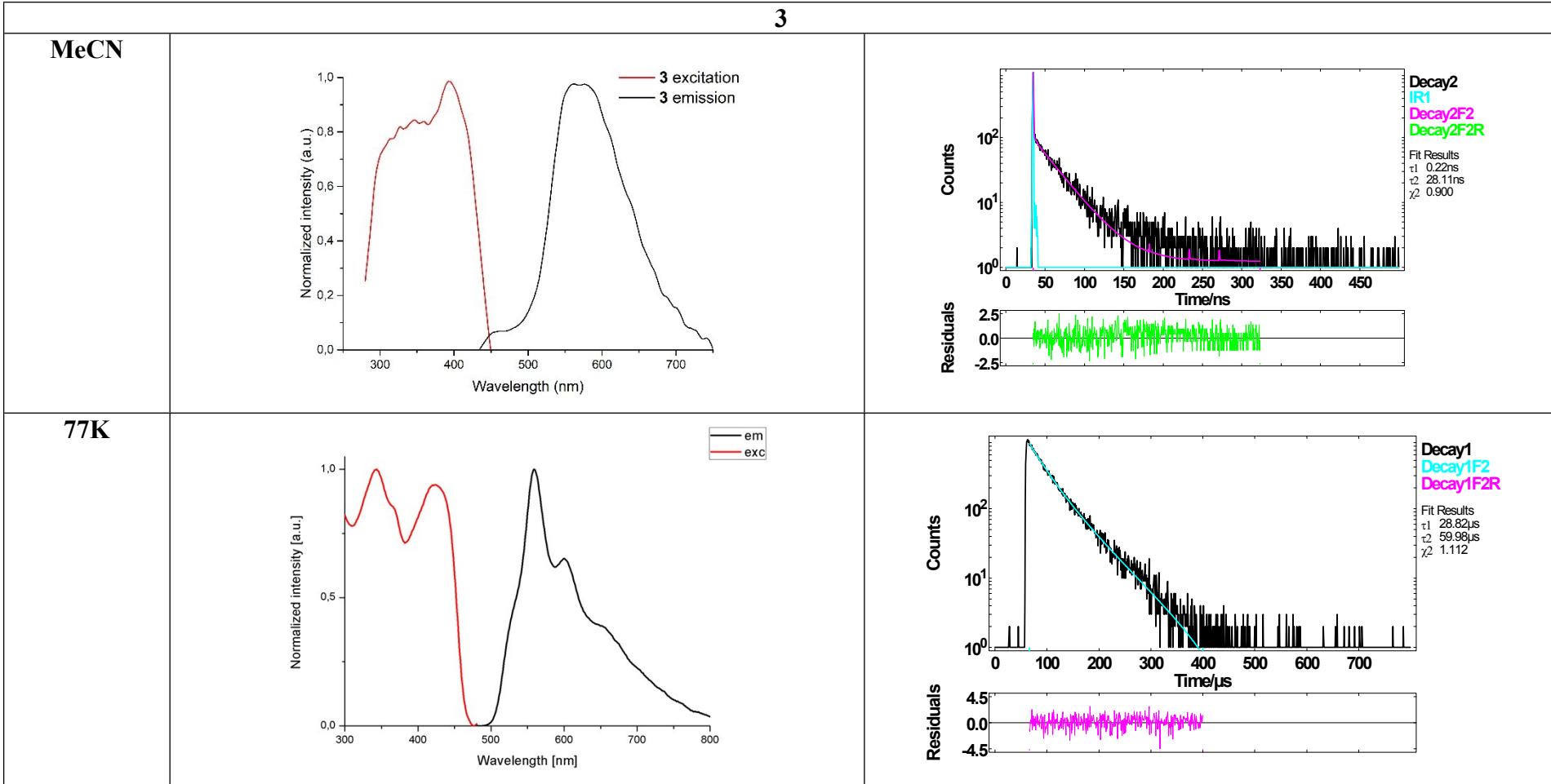


Figure S11. UV-Vis absorption spectra of **2** in CH_3CN ($5 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ M}$) (a), PBS buffer (pH 7.4, 130 mM NaCl) (b), $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}:\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ (1:4 v/v) (c), PBS upon addition of stoichiometric amount of glutathione (d), PBS upon addition of excess of glutathione (e) and PBS in the presence of sodium ascorbate (f). Spectra were recorded once every four hours for 24 h.







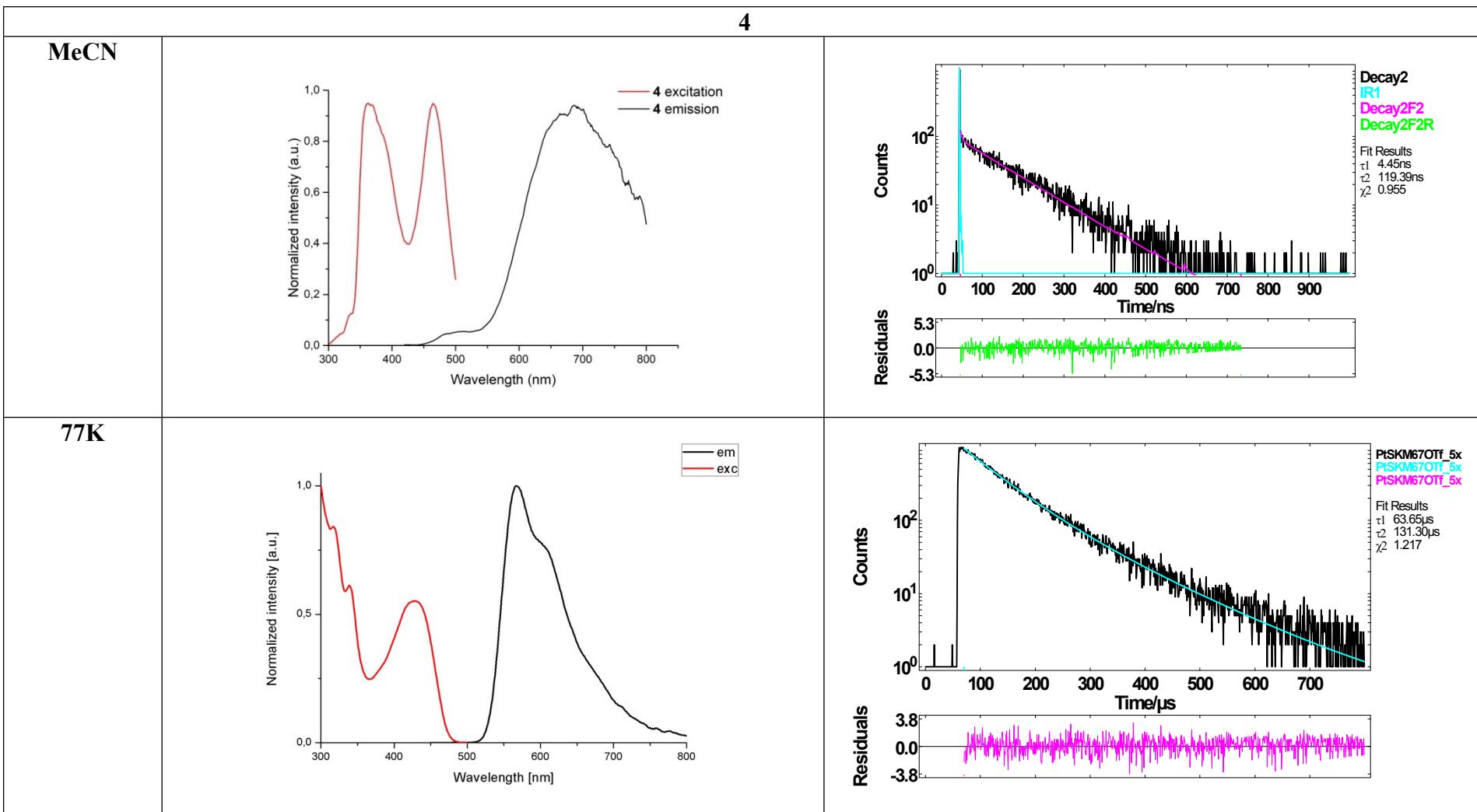
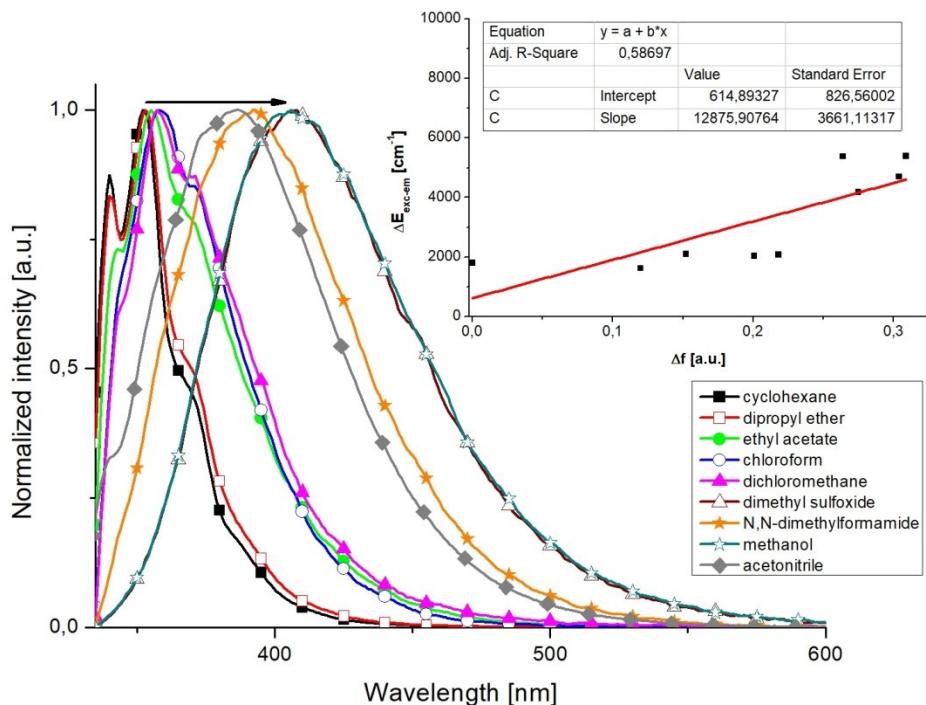
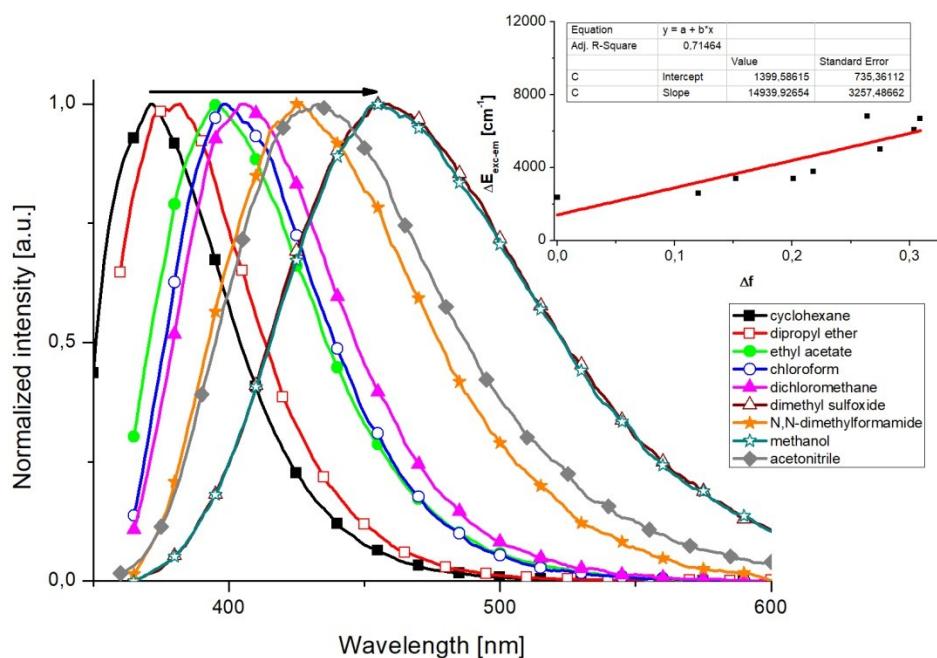


Figure S12. Excitation and emission spectra of compounds 1-4.



(a)



(b)

Figure S13. Emission spectra of **L¹(a)** and **L² (b)** in different solvents. Insert: Plot of Stokes shift ΔE_{exc-em} vs. solvent polarity parameter Δf

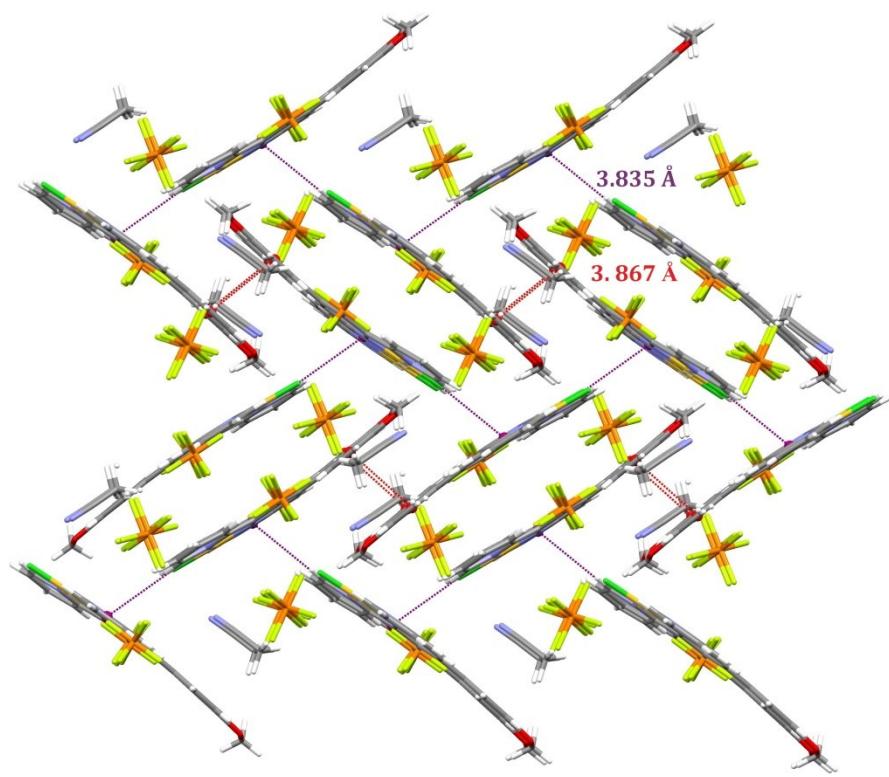


Figure S14. View of the supramolecular packing of **1** arising from weak $\pi\cdots\pi$ and $\pi\cdots\text{Cl}$ type interactions.

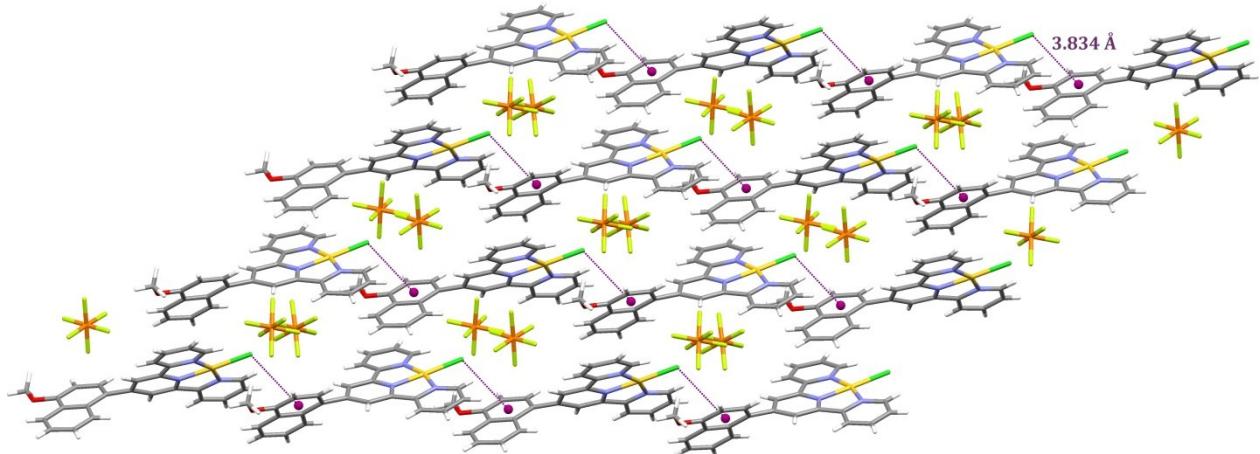


Figure S15. View of the supramolecular packing of **2** arising from weak $\pi\cdots\pi$ and $\pi\cdots\text{Cl}$ type interactions.

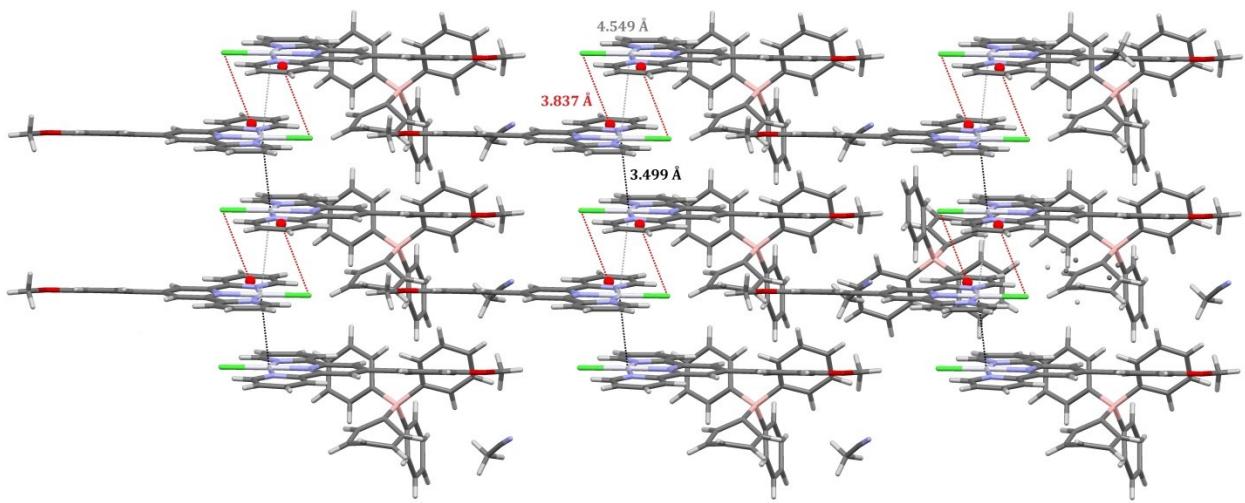


Figure S16. View of the supramolecular packing of **3** showing $\text{Cl}\cdots\pi$ (red dotted lines) interactions between $[\text{PtCl}(\text{L}^1)]^+$ cations and formation of a linear chain motifs with altering $\text{Pt}\cdots\text{Pt}$ distances of 3.499 and 4.549 Å.

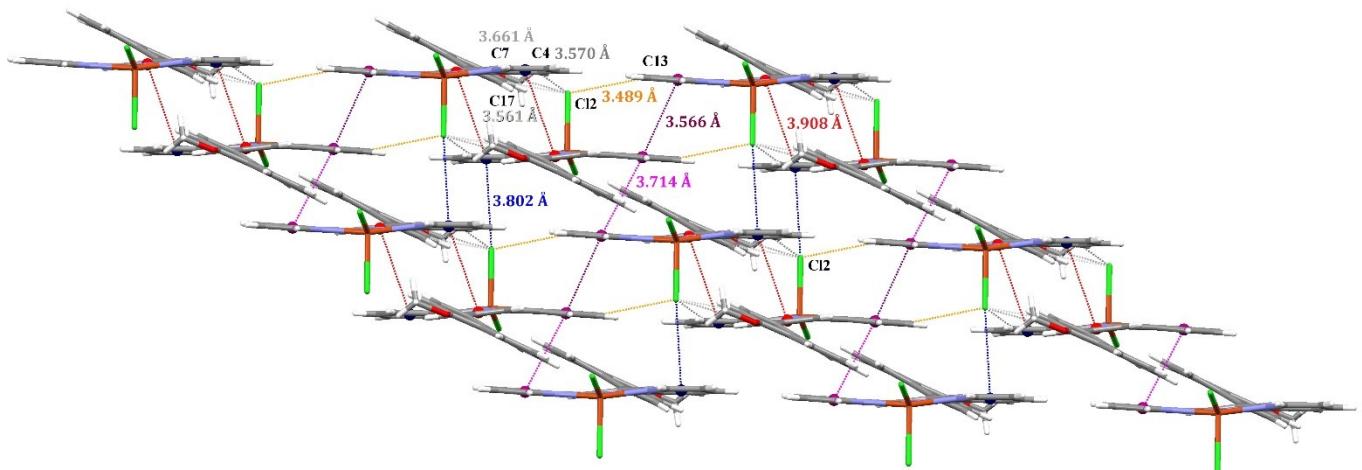


Figure S17. View of the supramolecular packing of the cations $[\text{CuCl}_2(\text{L}^2)]$ in **6**.

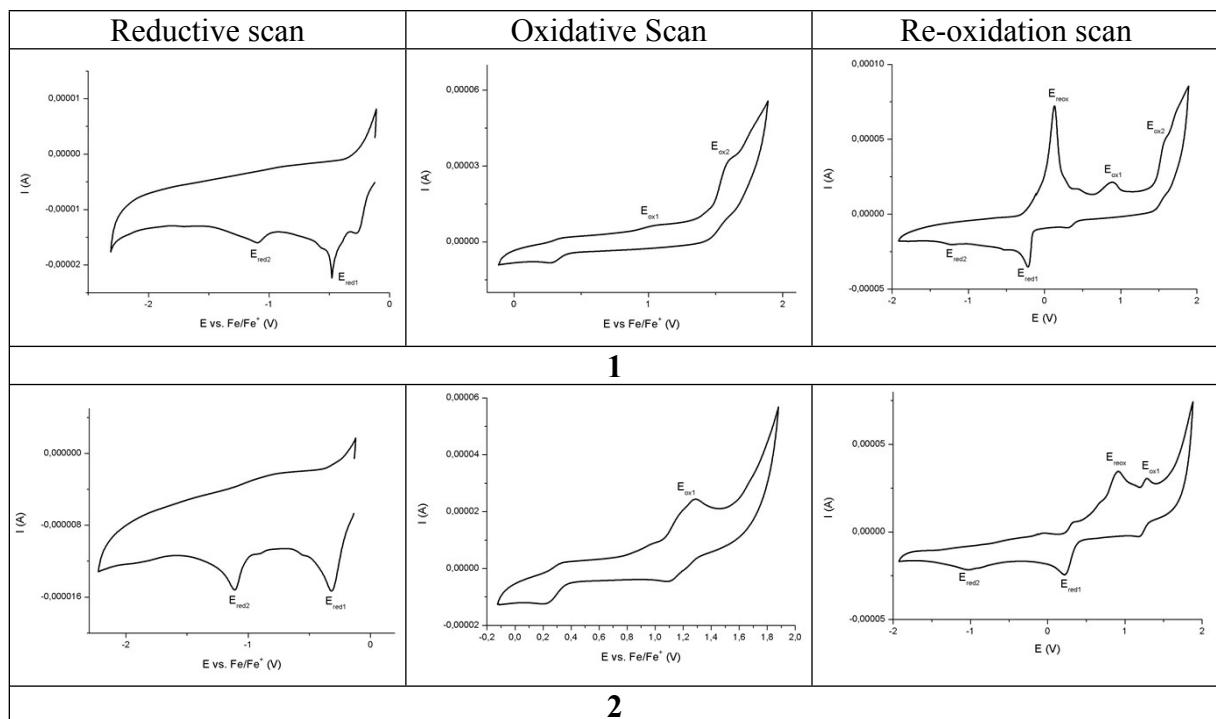


Figure S18. Cyclic voltammograms of compounds **1–2**.

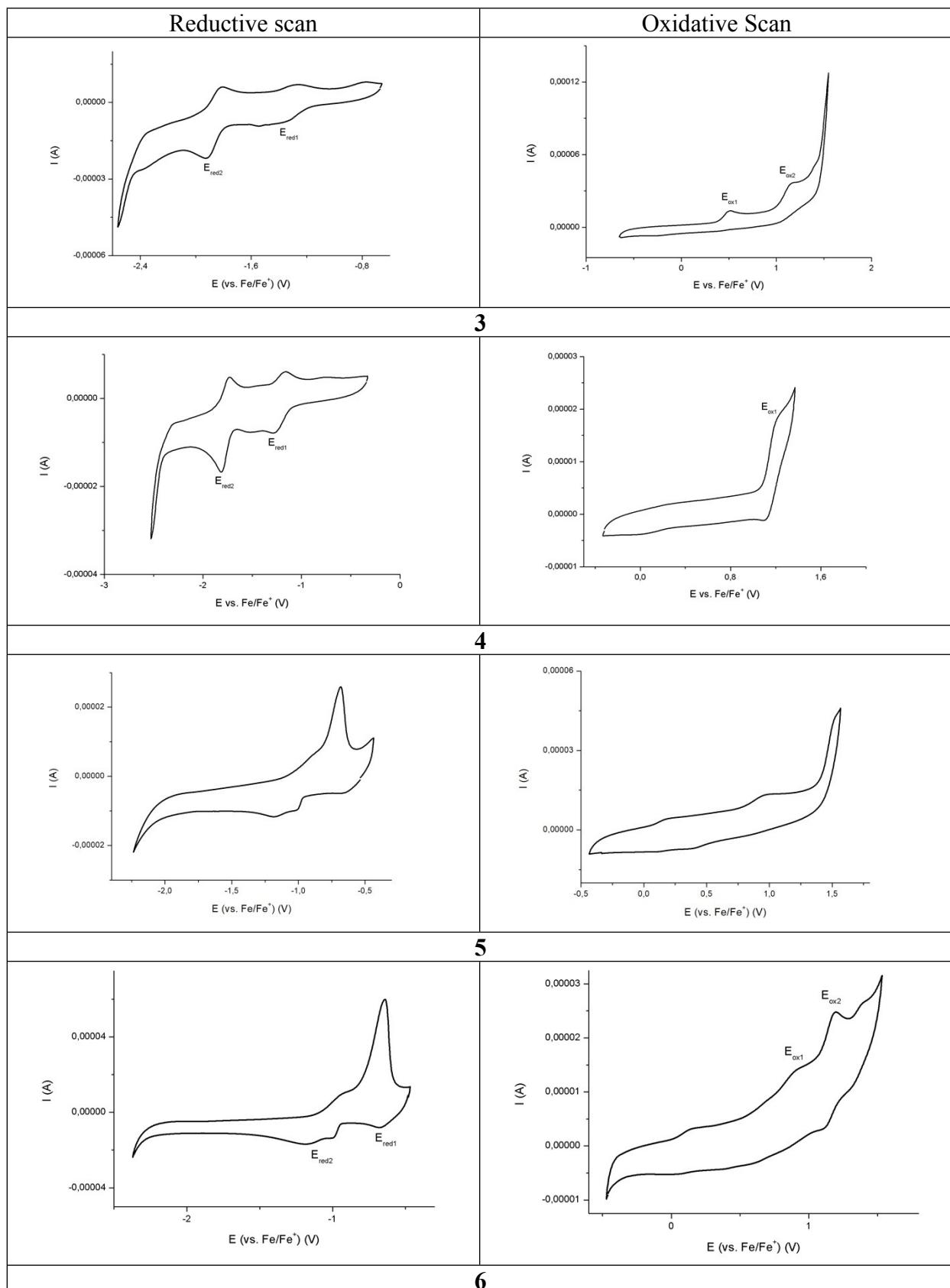
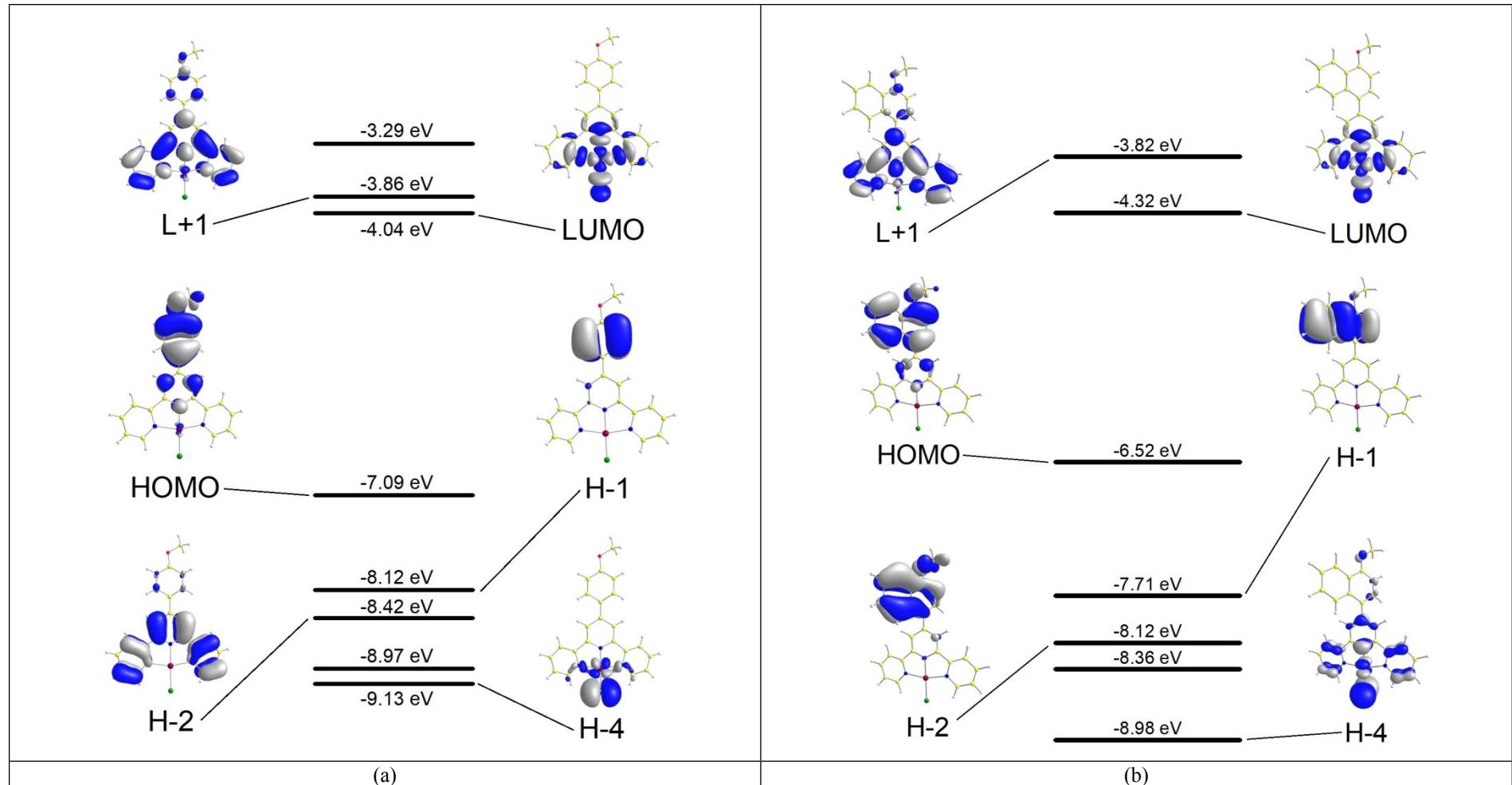


Figure S19. Cyclic voltammograms of compounds **3–6**.



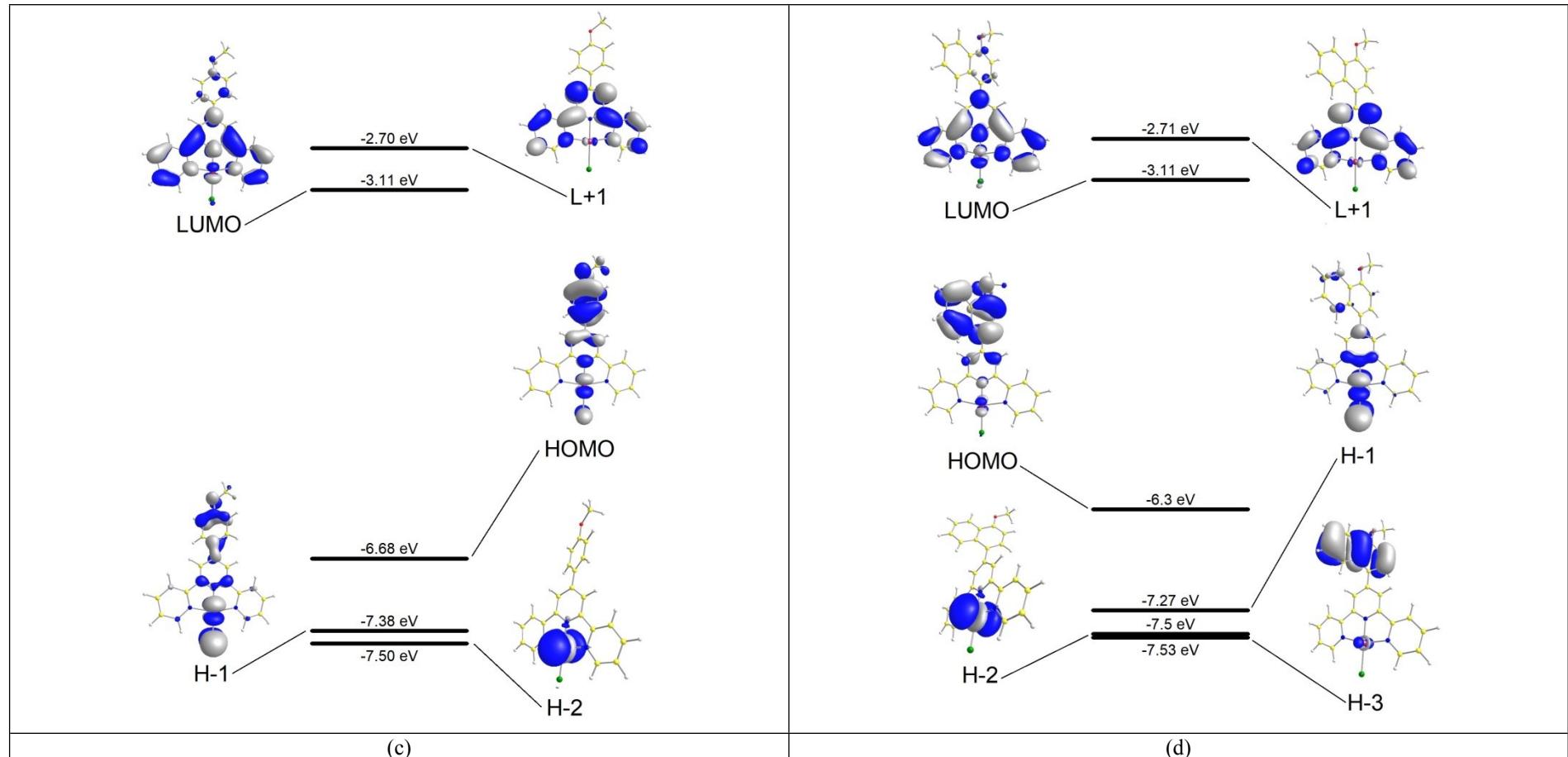
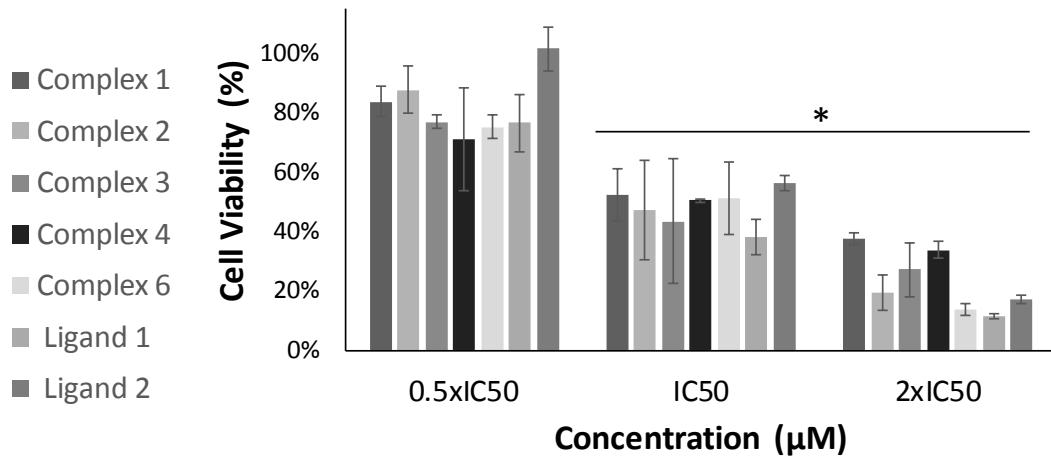


Figure S20. Graphical representations of the selected MOs and their TD-DFT energies for **1-4** (a-d).

A) HCT116



B) A2780

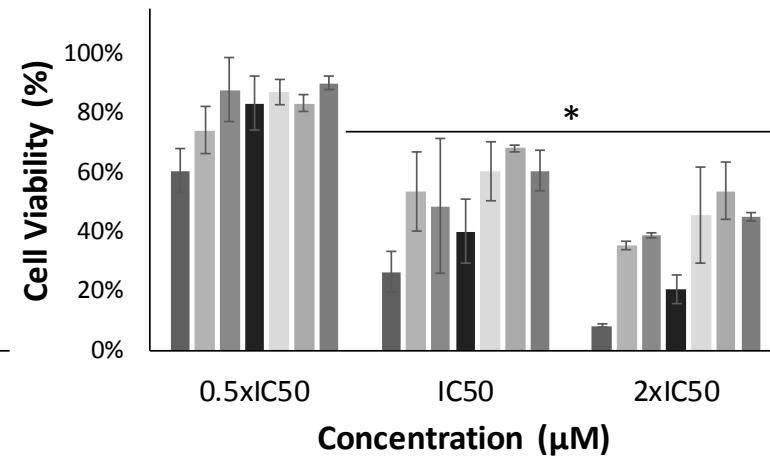


Figure S21. Cytotoxicity of metallic complexes **1-4**, **6** and ligands L¹ and L² in HCT116 (a) and A2780 (b) cell lines. Cells were incubated with 0.5xIC₅₀, IC₅₀ and 2xIC₅₀ concentrations of complexes for 48 h and cell viability percentage was determined by the trypan blue exclusion method, using cells incubated with 0.1% (v/v) DMSO as control. The results shown are expressed as the mean \pm SD from three independent assays. The symbol * means that the results are statistically significant with a p < 0.05 (as compared to 0.5xIC₅₀ cell viability for compound concentration in the respective cell line).

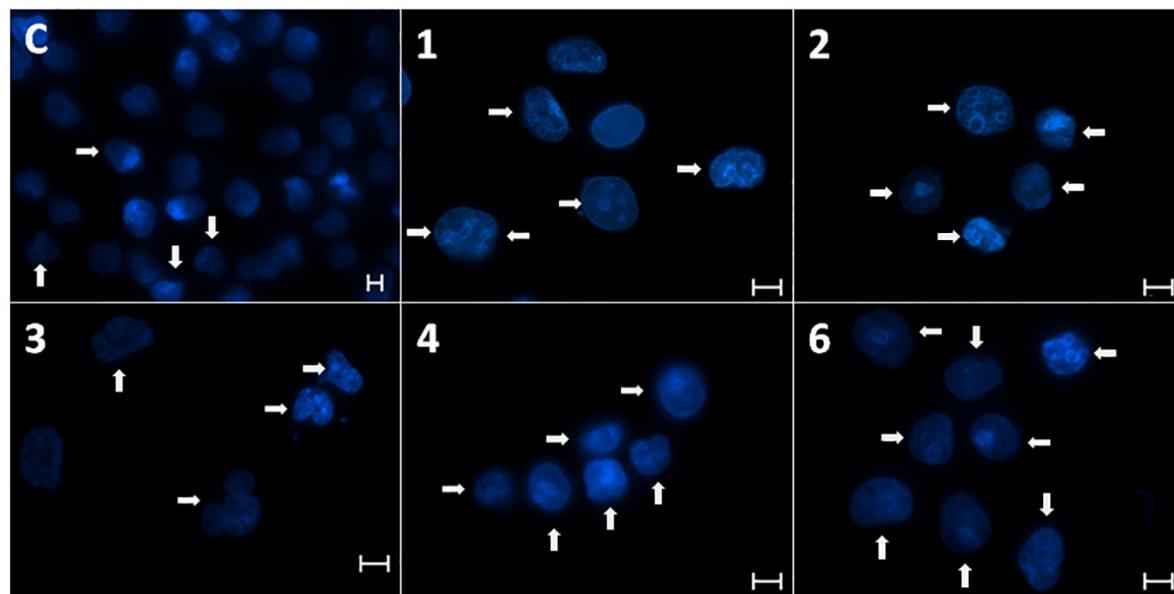


Figure S22. Induction of apoptosis by complexes **1-4, 6**. Representative images of HCT116 cells incubated for 48 h with the IC₅₀ concentrations of complexes **1-4** and **6** and the control vehicle (0.1% (v/v) DMSO; C), depicting cells with morphological changes characteristic of cells in apoptosis (white arrows). The white scale bar indicates 10 μ m.

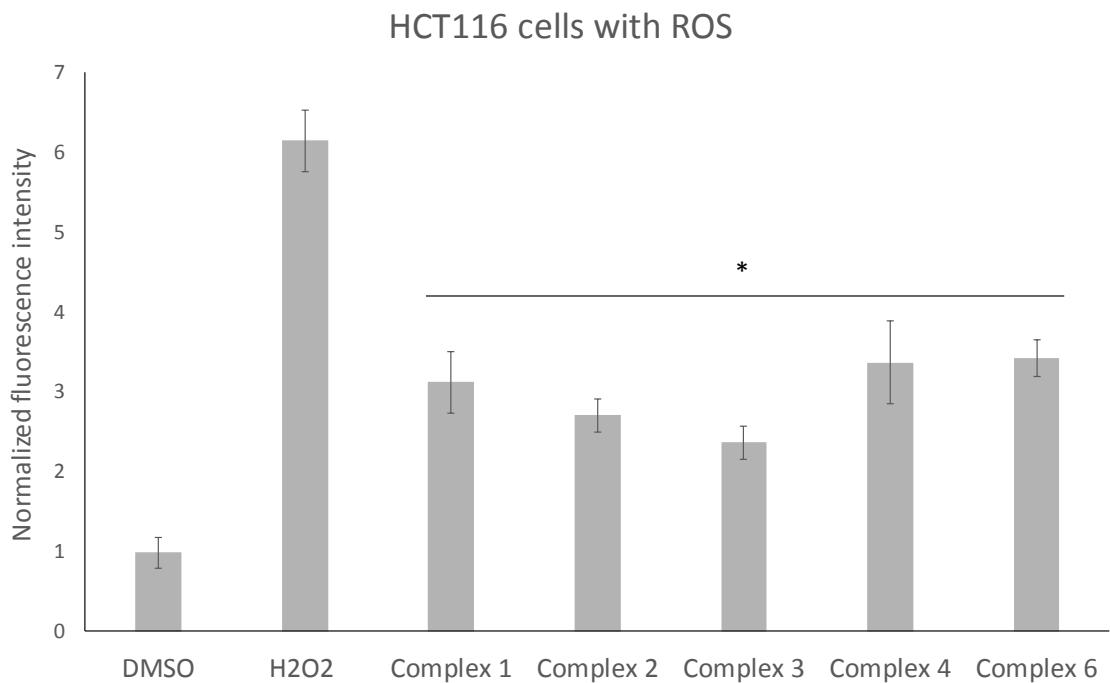


Figure S23. Induction of Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS) in HCT116 cells incubated with IC₅₀ concentrations of metallic complexes **1-4** and **6** for 48 h measured by the 2',7'-dichlorodihydrofluorescein diacetate (H₂DCF-DA) method. The results shown are expressed the mean fluorescence intensity of each sample normalized to the fluorescence intensity of control cells exposed to 0.1% (v/v) DMSO (vehicle control). Results are expressed as the average ± SD from three independent assays. Hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) was used as positive control. The symbol * means that the results are statistically significant with a p < 0.0001 (as compared to the 0.1% (v/v) DMSO control).