

## Electronic Supporting Information

### Fullerene-Based Liquid Crystals Acting as Acid-Sensitive Fluorescent Probes

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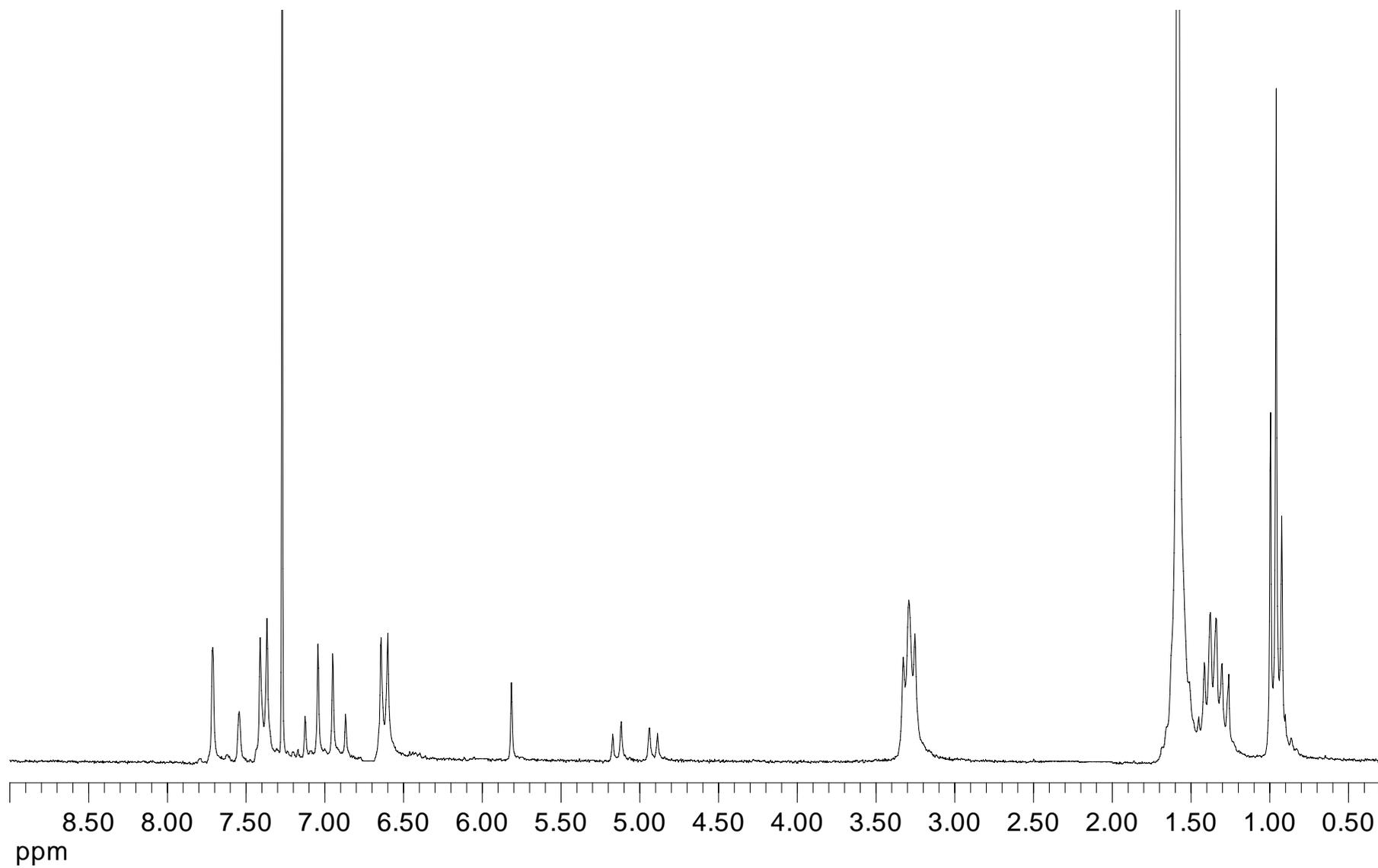
**Techniques.** See the following reference: S. Campidelli, L. Pérez, J. Rodríguez-López, J. Barberá, F. Langa and R. Deschenaux, *Tetrahedron*, 2006, **62**, 2115.

**Synthesis of 2.** A mixture of C<sub>60</sub> (130 mg, 0.18 mmol), **3** (67.8 mg, 0.12 mmol) and glycine (45 mg, 0.6 mmol) was heated under reflux for 6 h in degassed anhydrous chlorobenzene (30 mL) under inert atmosphere. After removal of the solvents, the residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, toluene/hexane 8:2). The product was centrifuged with CH<sub>3</sub>OH and *n*-pentane to give **2** (28%) as a dark brown solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ/ppm: 0.95 (t, 12H, *J* = 7.0 Hz), 1.23-1.44 (m, 8H), 1.49-1.67 (m, 8H), 3.28 (t, 8H, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 4.90 (d, 1H, *J* = 10.4 Hz), 5.13 (d, 1H, *J* = 10.4 Hz), 5.80 (s, 1H), 6.61 (d, 4H, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 6.90 (d, 2H, *J* = 16.4 Hz), 7.07 (d, 2H, *J* = 16.4 Hz), 7.38 (d, 4H, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 7.53 (s, 1H), 7.70 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (50 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ/ppm: 156.3, 154.2, 153.9, 153.3, 151.4, 148.1, 147.4, 146.7, 146.5, 146.4, 146.1, 145.6, 145.5, 145.2, 144.8, 144.6, 144.5, 144.3, 143.3, 143.1, 142.7, 142.4, 141.9, 141.3, 140.3, 140.1, 139.9, 139.1, 138.3, 138.1, 136.6, 136.3, 136.1, 129.7, 129.1, 128.0, 124.5, 124.2, 123.6, 111.8, 73.1, 62.0, 51.0, 29.9, 20.5, 14.2. IR (KBr)  $\nu$ /cm<sup>-1</sup>: 525 (C<sub>60</sub>). MALDI-TOF MS *m/z* calculated for C<sub>100</sub>H<sub>55</sub>N<sub>3</sub>: 1297.44 (M<sup>+</sup>), found: 1297.97 (M<sup>+</sup>). UV-vis (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\lambda_{\max}$ /nm (log  $\epsilon$ ): 257 (4.8), 325 (4.5), 374 (4.5), 431 (3.7).

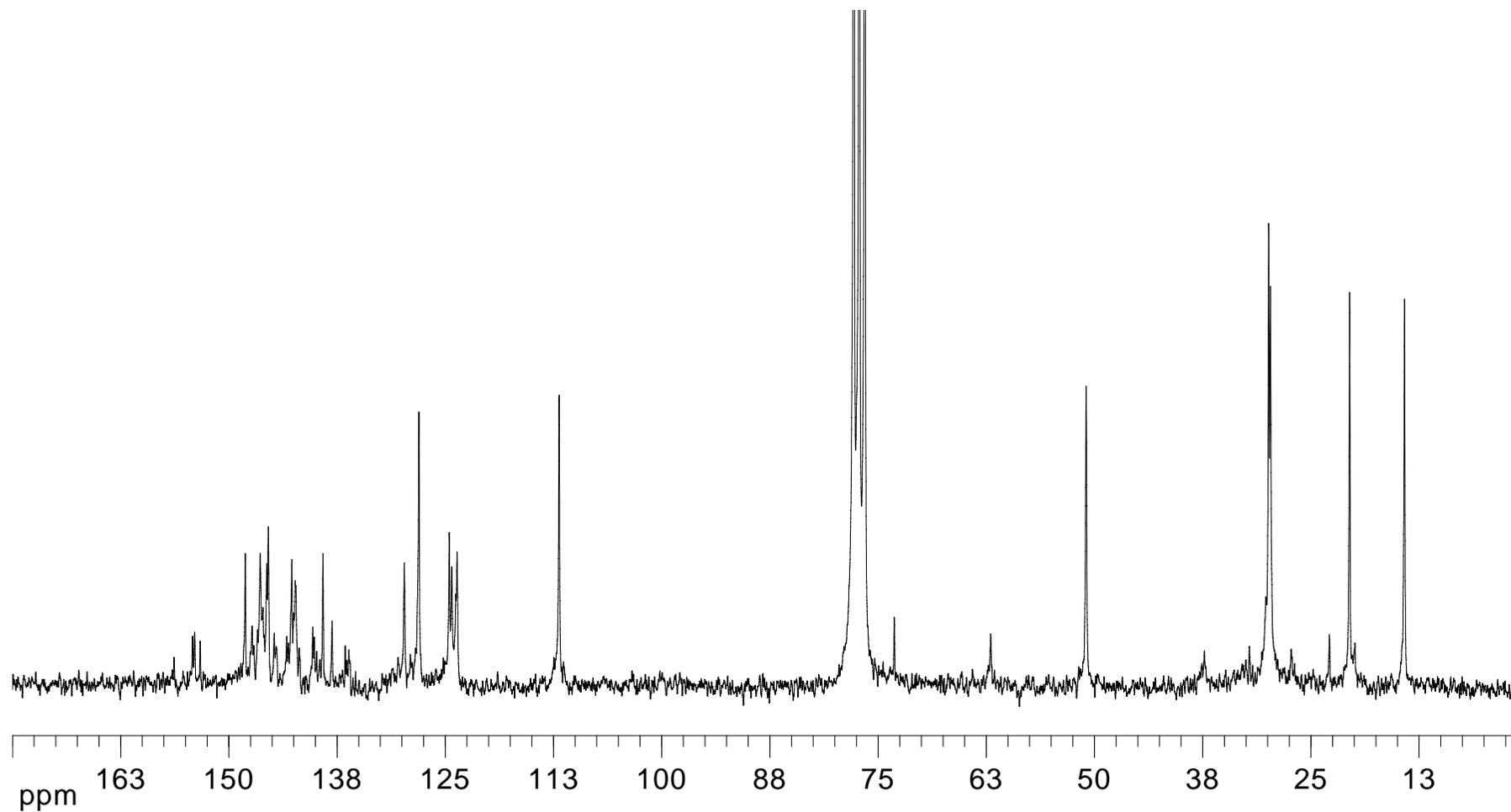
**Synthesis of 1a.** A mixture of **4a** (100 mg, 0.036 mmol) and thionyl chloride (0.1 mL, 1.3 mmol) was heated under reflux for 7 h in anhydrous CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and a solution of **2** (35 mg, 0.025 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (30 mL) and anhydrous pyridine (3.7 mg, 0.05 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 minutes. After evaporation of the solvent under reduced pressure, the residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, toluene/ethyl acetate 3:2). A further purification by centrifugation with CH<sub>3</sub>OH afforded **1a** in quantitative yield as a green solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ/ppm: 0.98 (t, 12H, *J* = 7.0 Hz), 1.23-1.44 (m, 68H), 1.82 (broad m, 28H), 3.31 (t, 8H, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 4.04 (t, 10H, *J* = 6.4 Hz), 4.39 (t, 10H, *J* = 6.6 Hz), 5.75 (d, 1H, *J* = 10.4 Hz), 5.82 (d, 1H, *J* = 10.4 Hz), 6.00 (s, 1H), 6.65 (d, 4H, *J* = 8.6 Hz), 6.99 (m, 10H), 7.11 (d, 2H, *J* = 16.2 Hz), 7.15-7.35 (m, 10H), 7.43 (d, 4H, *J* = 8.6 Hz), 7.62-7.77 (m, 24H), 7.88 (s, 1H), 7.92 (s, 2H), 8.12-8.24 (m, 18H), 8.38 (t, 2H, *J* = 1.6 Hz), 8.67 (t, 2H, *J* = 1.6 Hz), 8.98 (t, 1H, *J* = 1.6 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ/ppm: 164.8, 164.72, 164.7, 164.6, 164.4, 164.1, 163.6, 163.0, 155.5, 152.8, 151.8, 151.6, 151.5, 150.5, 148.0, 147.9, 147.4, 146.3, 146.2, 146.0, 145.6, 145.4, 145.3, 144.8, 144.5, 144.3, 143.0,

142.6, 142.0, 141.9, 141.7, 141.5, 140.3, 140.2, 139.7, 139.5, 139.4, 136.9, 136.6, 132.9, 132.6, 132.5, 132.4, 132.3, 131.1, 130.8, 130.0, 129.0, 128.7, 128.2, 127.6, 126.9, 126.8, 122.5, 121.2, 120.3, 118.8, 117.1, 114.5, 114.3, 111.3, 111.0, 70.0, 68.4, 68.3, 68.1, 65.8, 65.5, 50.8, 50.7, 38.7, 37.3, 37.1, 33.7, 33.4, 33.1, 32.7, 31.9, 31.7, 31.4, 30.0, 29.6, 29.4, 29.3, 29.2, 29.0, 28.9, 28.6, 27.0, 26.7, 25.9, 23.7, 22.6, 20.3, 19.7, 14.1, 13.9, 10.9. FT-IR (KBr)  $\nu/\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 528 ( $\text{C}_{60}$ ). MALDI-TOF MS  $m/z$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{269}\text{H}_{219}\text{N}_7\text{O}_{30}$ : 4026.583 ( $\text{M}^+$ ), found: 4026.93 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**Synthesis of 1b.** A mixture of **4b** (75 mg, 0.014 mmol) and thionyl chloride (0.04 mL, 0.5 mmol) was heated under reflux for 40 h in anhydrous  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and a solution of **2** (18 mg, 0.014 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (30 mL) and anhydrous pyridine (2.3 mg, 0.03 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 minutes. After evaporation of the solvent under reduced pressure, the residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, toluene/ethyl acetate 7:3). A further purification by centrifugation with  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  afforded **1b** in quantitative yield as a green solid.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (200 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta/\text{ppm}$  0.95 (m, 12H,  $J = 13.5$  Hz), 1.25-1.57 (m, 116H), 1.57-1.76 (broad m, 44H), 3.28 (t, 8H,  $J = 7.4$  Hz), 4.03 (t, 18H,  $J = 6.3$  Hz), 4.36 (t, 18H,  $J = 6.6$  Hz), 5.71 (d, 1H,  $J = 10.4$  Hz), 5.77 (d, 1H,  $J = 10.4$  Hz), 6.21 (s, 1H), 6.62 (d, 4H,  $J = 8.8$  Hz), 6.88-7.17 (m, 20H), 7.27-7.42 (m, 22H), 7.60-7.81 (m, 49H), 7.86 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.8$  Hz), 8.12 (m, 30H), 8.35 (t, 6H,  $J = 1.4$  Hz), 8.63 (t, 4H,  $J = 1.4$  Hz), 8.92 (t, 3H,  $J = 1.5$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta/\text{ppm}$ : 166.0, 165.0, 164.9, 163.8, 163.0, 151.7, 151.2, 150.7, 148.2, 146.3, 145.5, 145.0, 142.8, 142.3, 139.9, 139.7, 136.8, 132.8, 132.5, 131.6, 131.0, 130.4, 130.2, 128.5, 128.2, 127.8, 127.1, 124.3, 122.7, 121.4, 119.0, 114.7, 114.5, 111.8, 111.5, 111.2, 68.5, 66.0, 50.9, 41.5, 34.8, 31.7, 29.6, 29.4, 29.2, 28.8, 26.1, 25.5, 22.8, 20.8, 20.5, 18.9, 14.5, 14.3, 14.2, 11.6. IR (KBr)  $\nu/\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 527 ( $\text{C}_{60}$ ). MALDI-TOF MS  $m/z$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{421}\text{H}_{359}\text{N}_{11}\text{O}_{58}$ : 6495.55 ( $\text{M}^+$ ), found: 6495.56 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).



**Figure S1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound 2



**Figure S2.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of compound 2

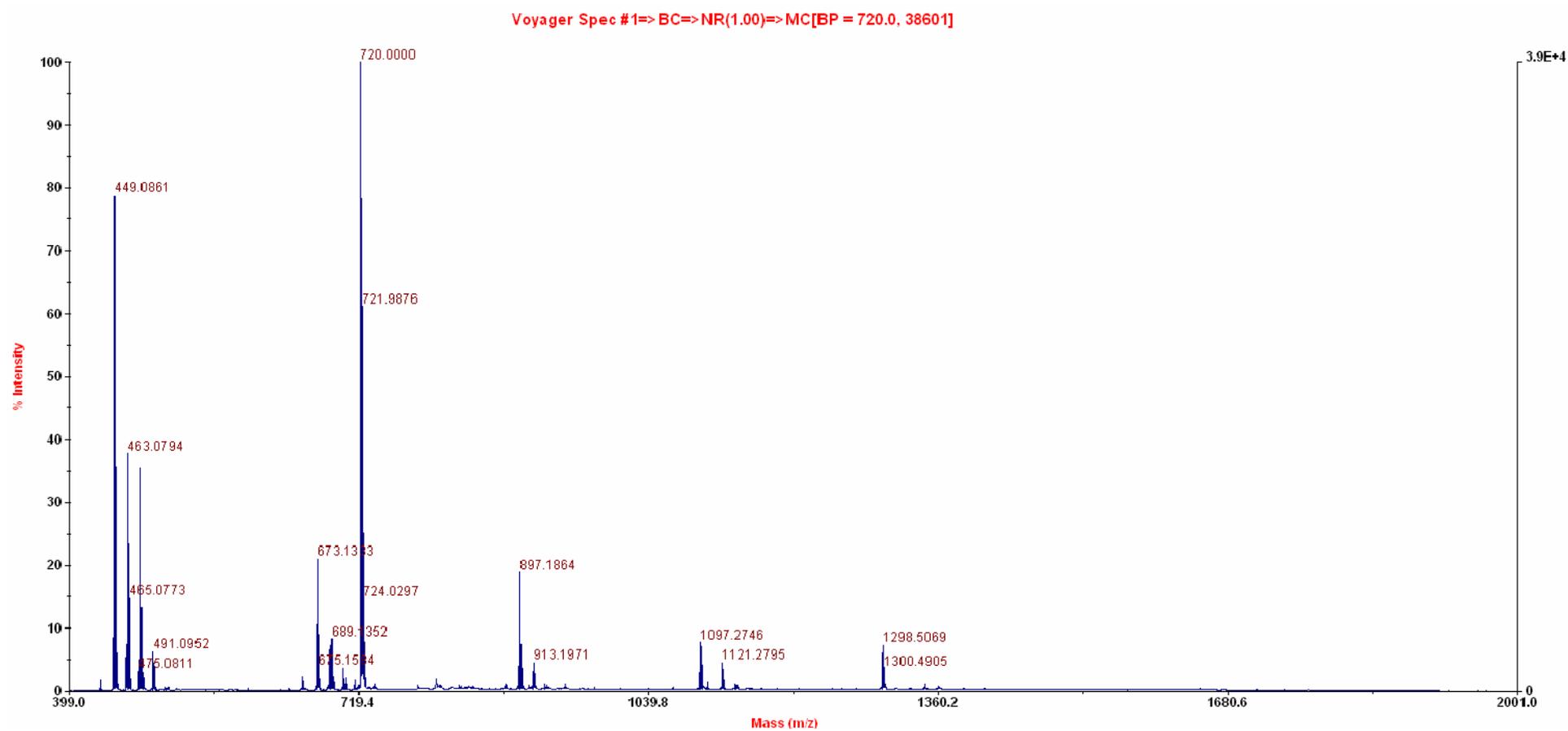
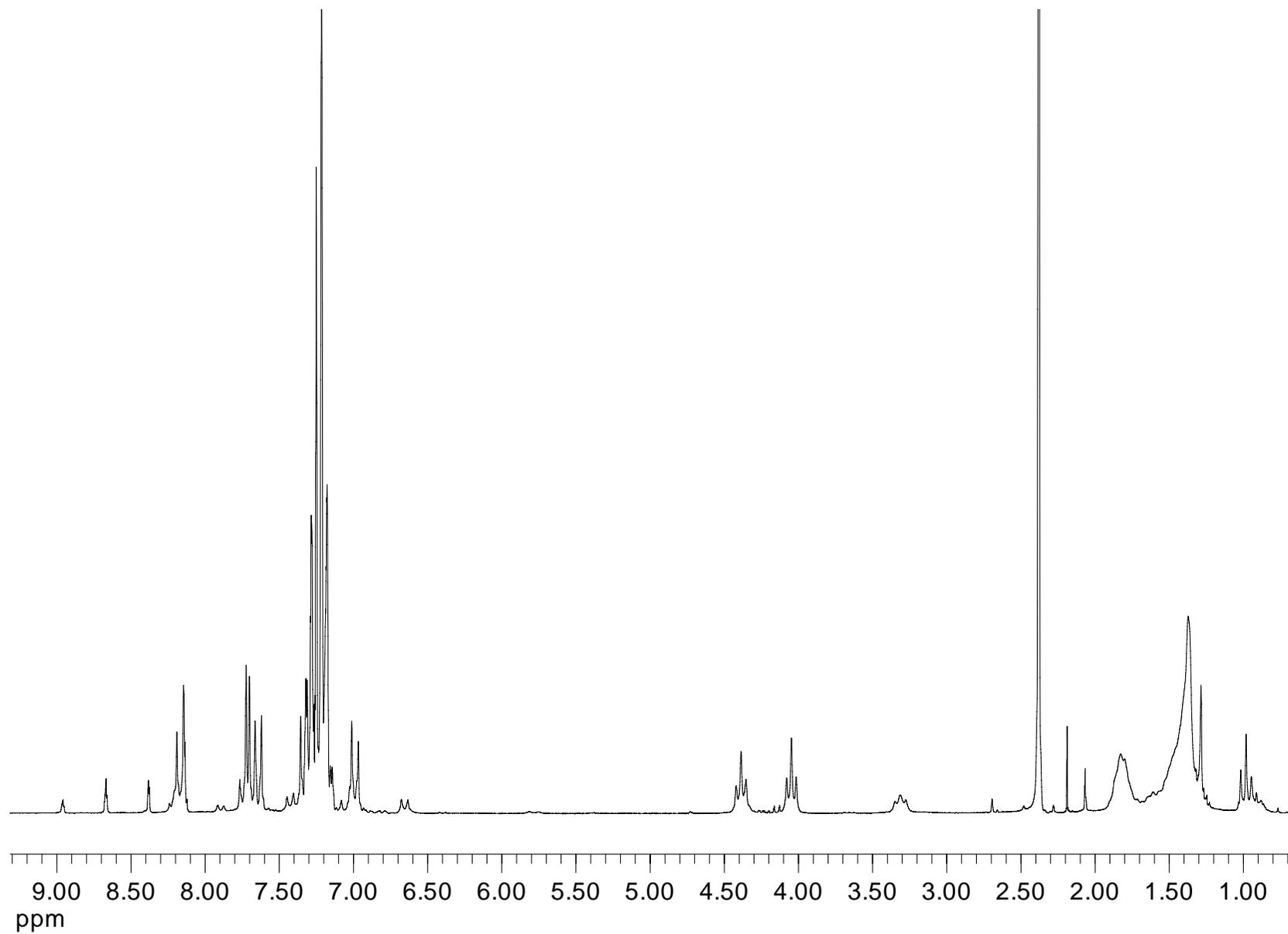
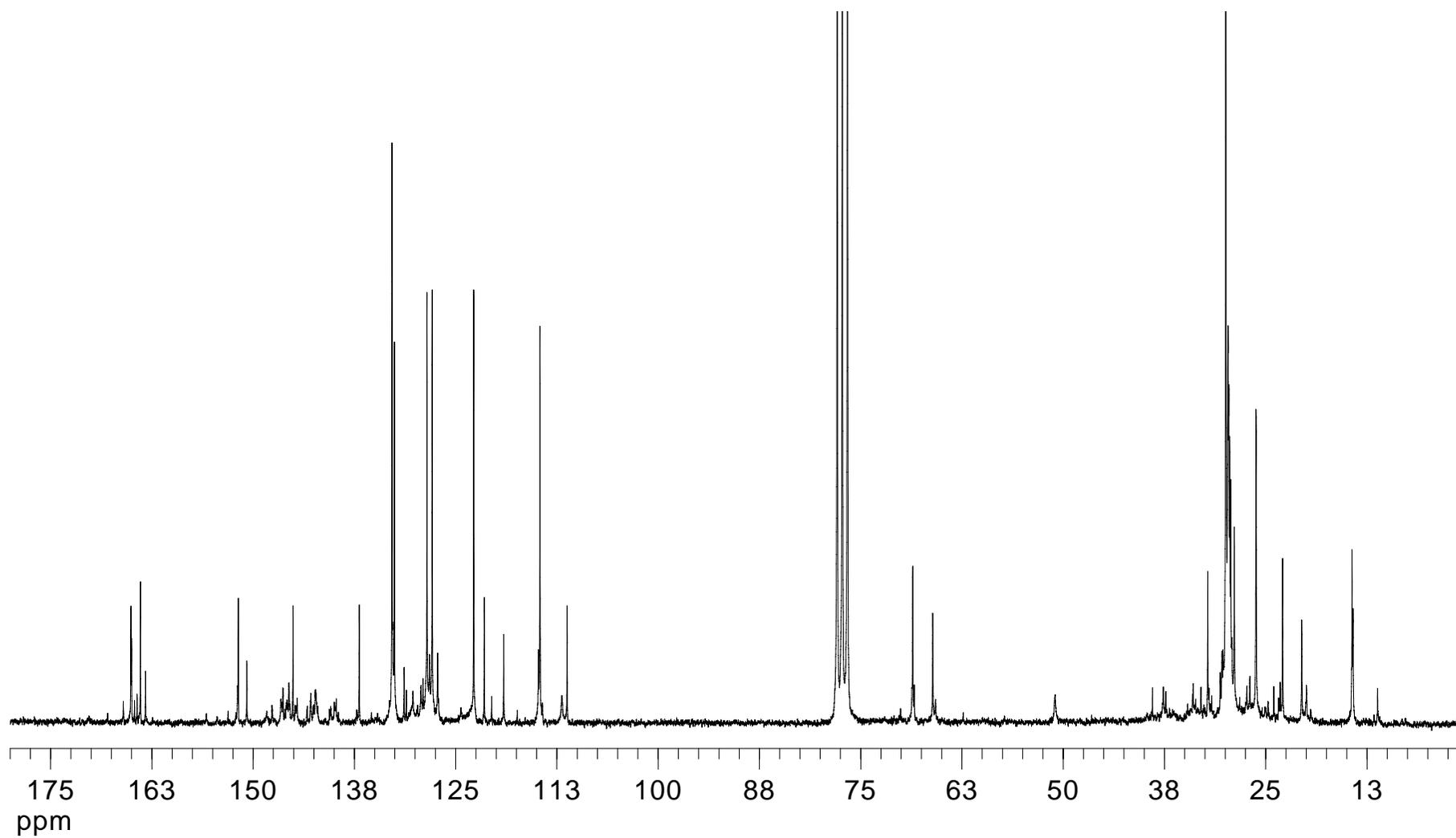


Figure S3. MALDI-TOF MS spectrum of compound 2



**Figure S4.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound **1a**



**Figure S5.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of compound **1a**

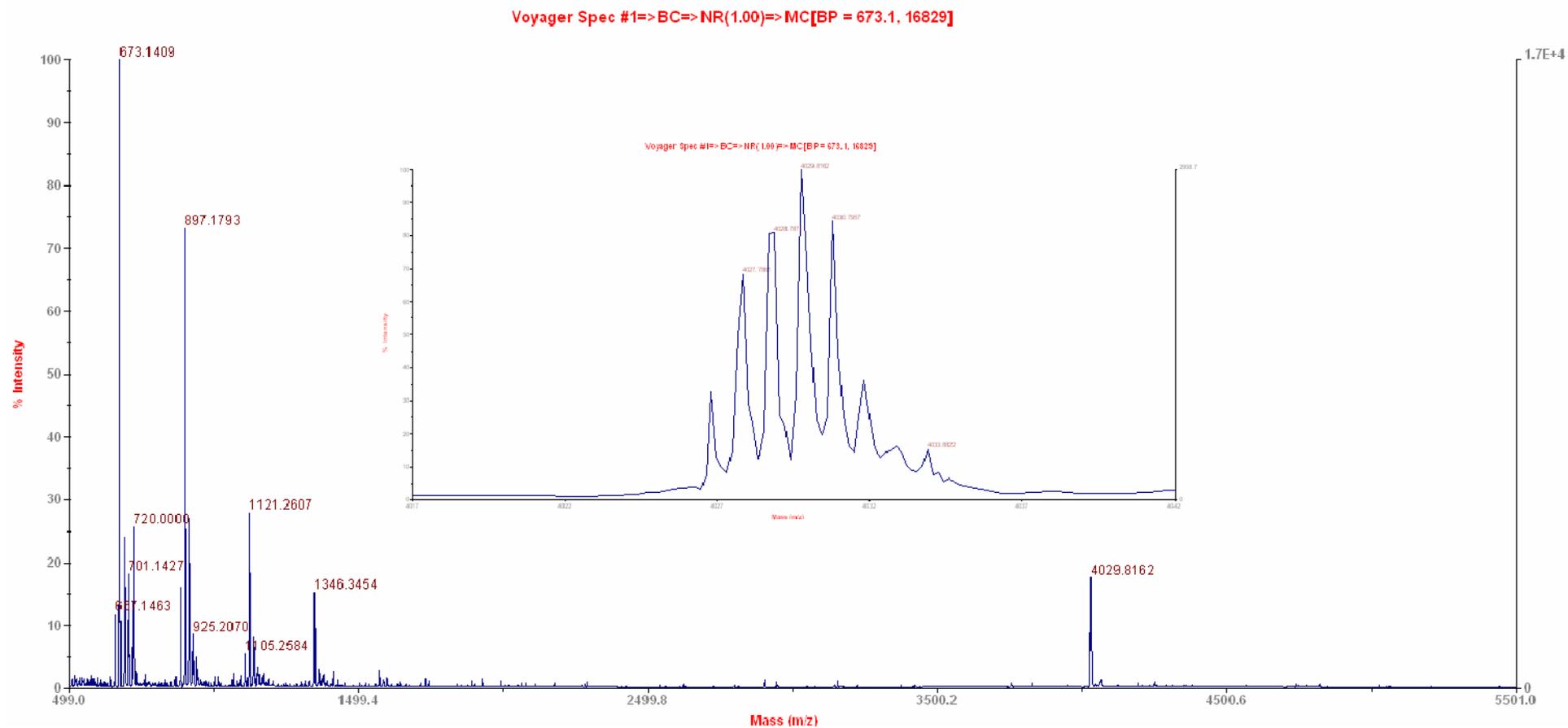
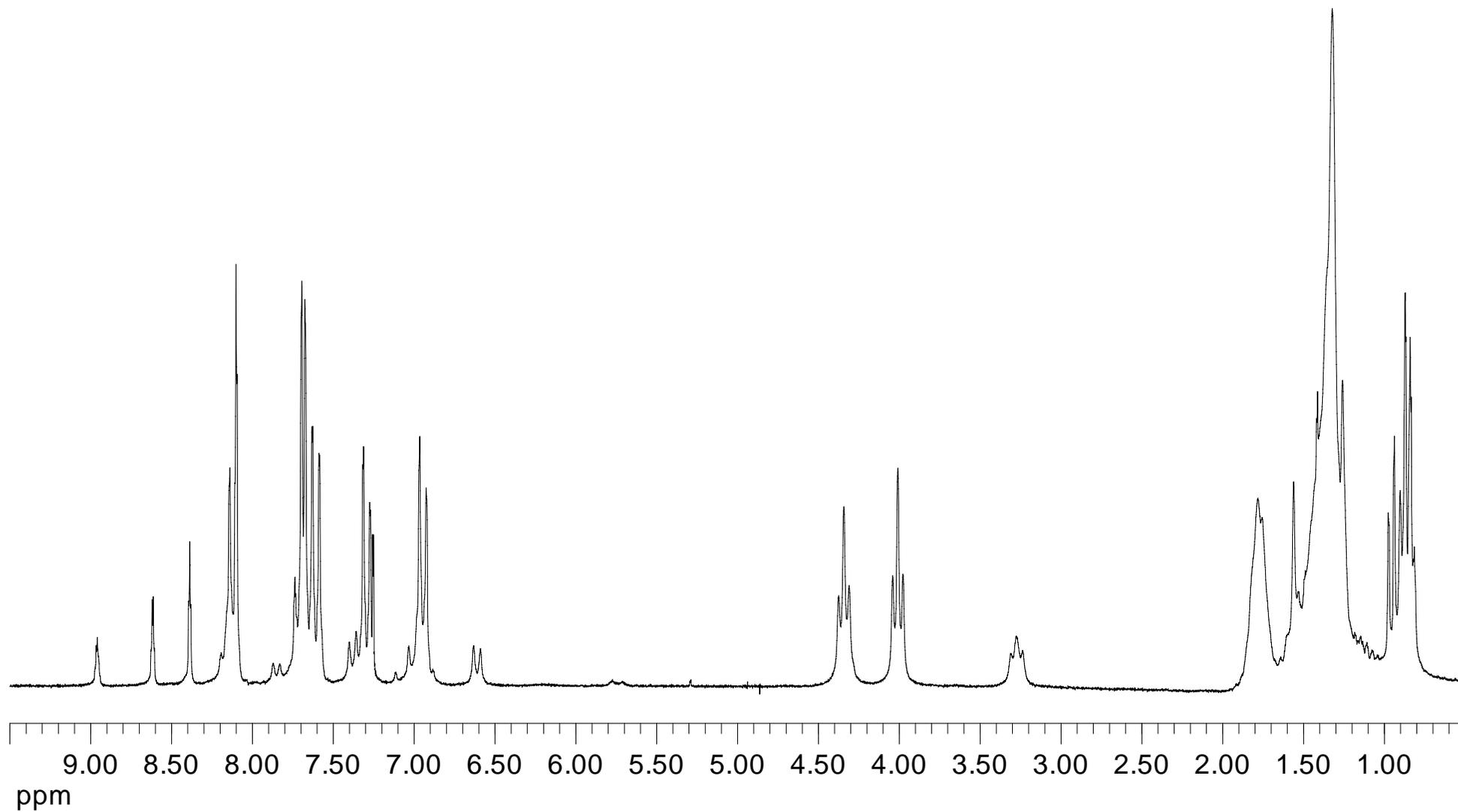
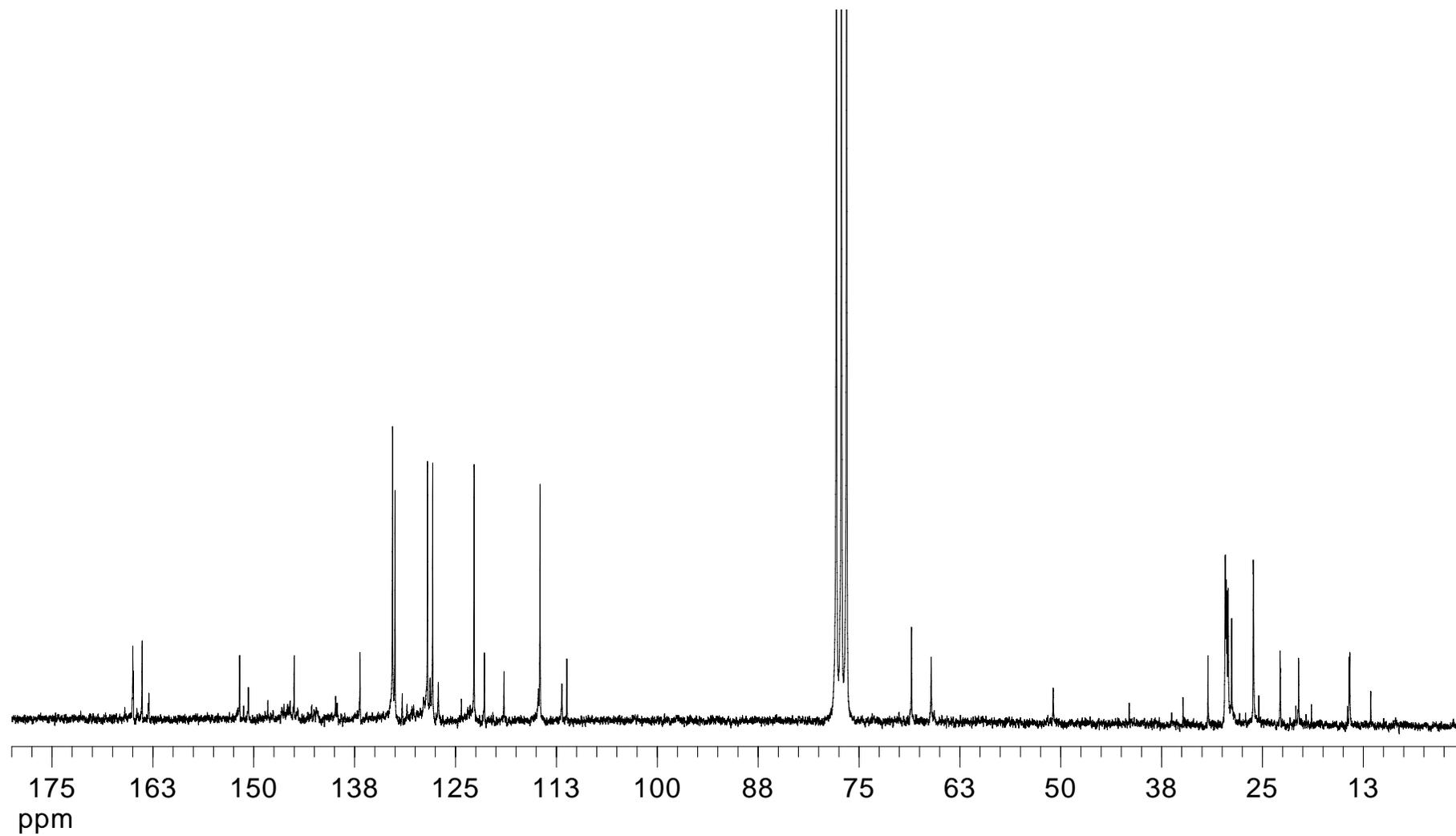


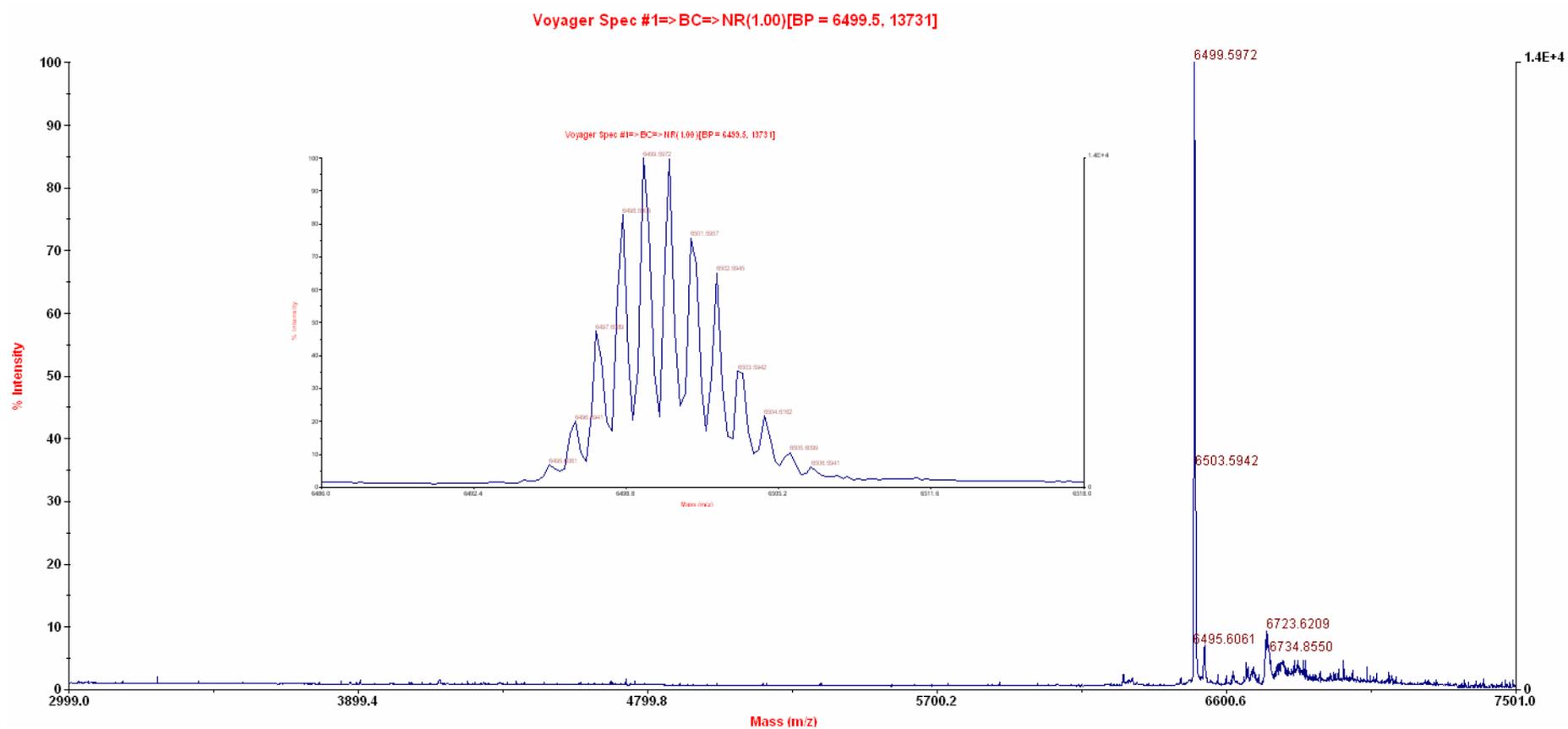
Figure S6. MALDI-TOF MS spectrum of compound 1a

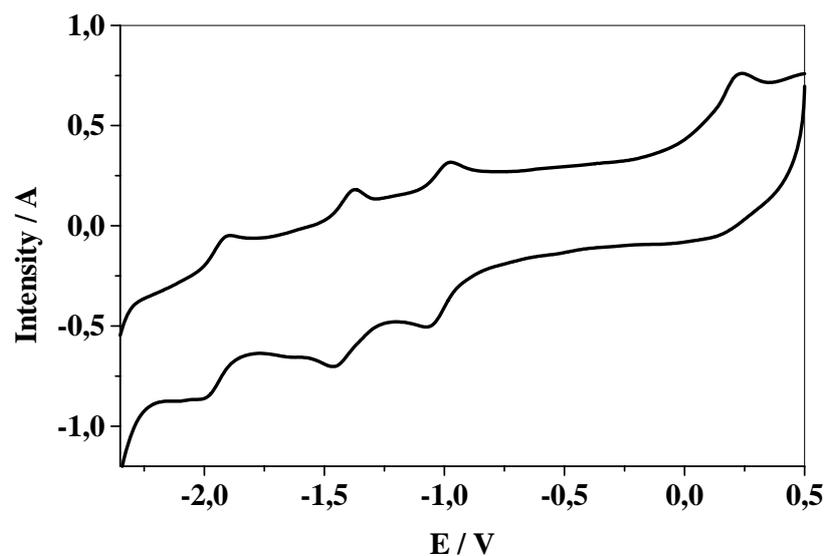


**Figure S7.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound **1b**

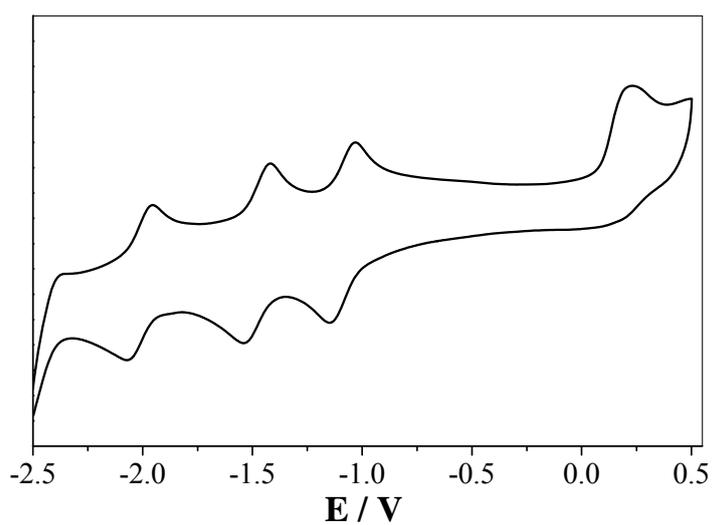


**Figure S8.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of compound **1b**





**Figure S10.** CV plot of compound **1a** in ODCB/CH<sub>3</sub>CN 4:1 at room temperature



**Figure S11.** CV plot of compound **2** in ODCB/CH<sub>3</sub>CN 4:1 at room temperature

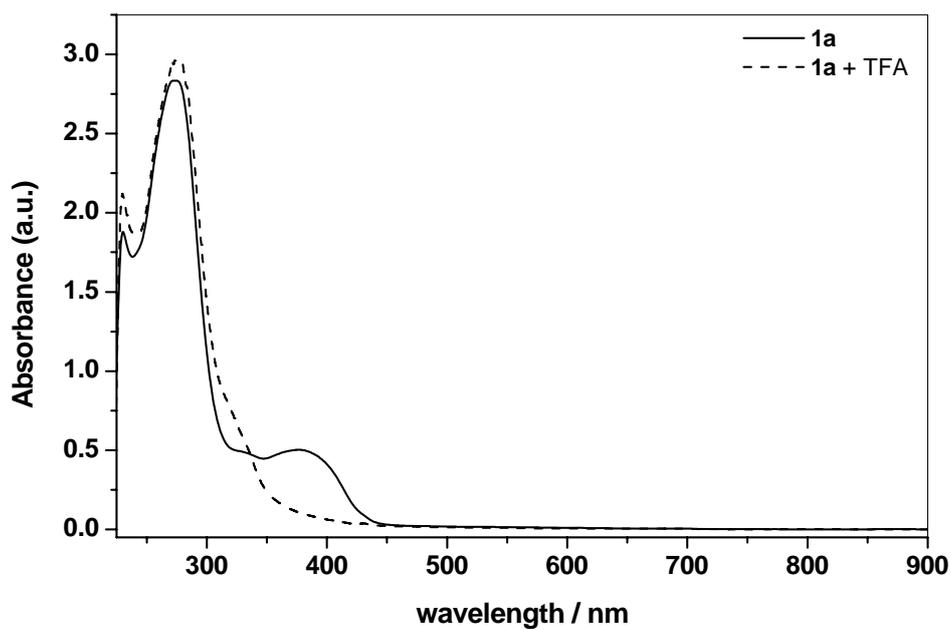


Figure S12. Absorption spectra of non-protonated (—) and protonated (---) **1a**

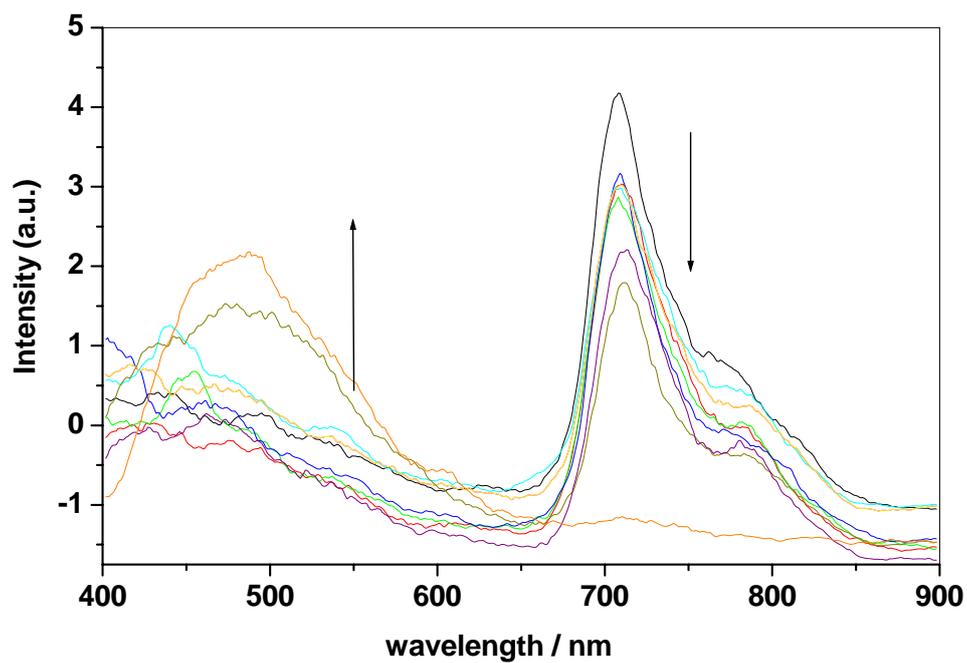
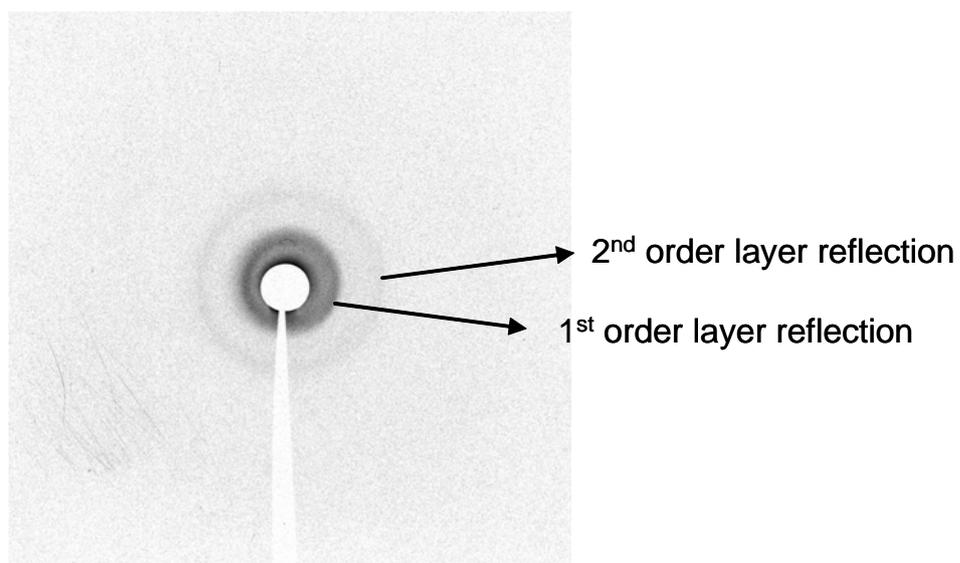
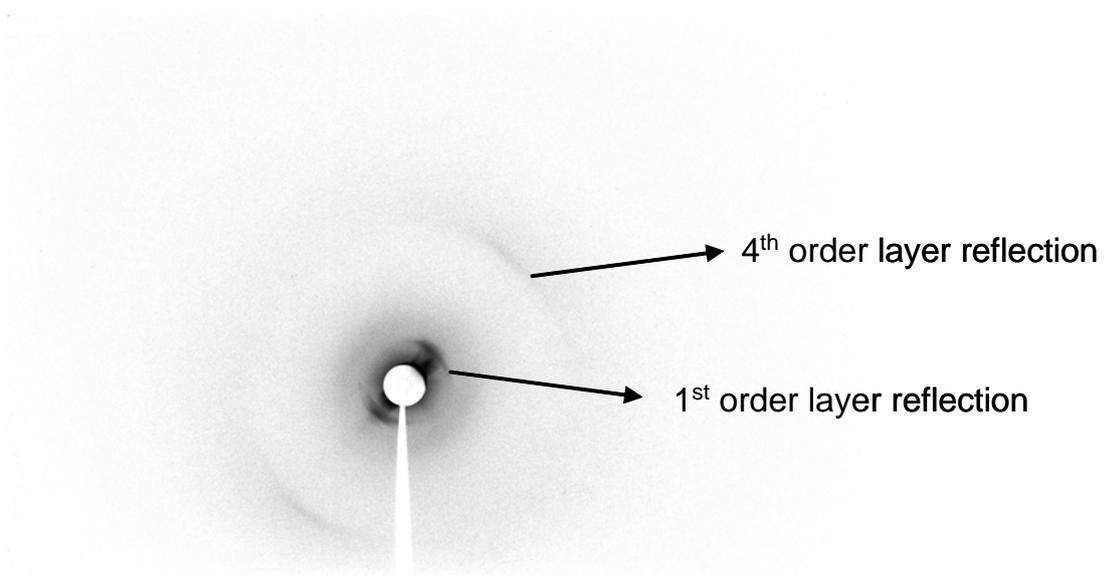


Figure S13. Emission spectra of fulleropyrrolidine **1a** in dichloromethane upon addition of  $\text{Et}_3\text{N}$  ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 336 \text{ nm}$ )



**Figure S14.** Small-angle diffraction pattern of compound **1a** in the smectic A phase



**Figure S15.** Small-angle diffraction pattern of compound **1b** in the smectic A phase. The sample adopts some preferential orientation