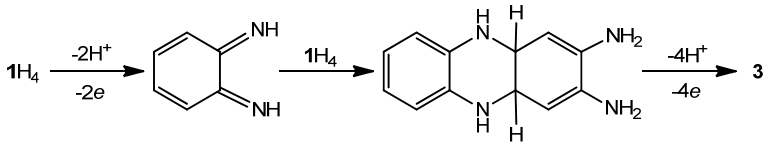
ESI



Scheme ESI-1 Mechanism of formation of **3** involving a Diel Alder type reaction.

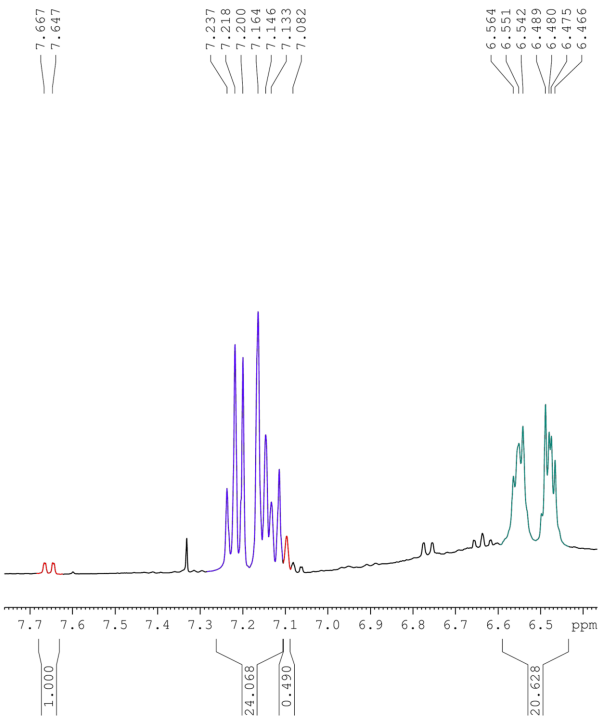


Figure ESI-1 ^{1}H NMR (500MHz, +25°C, $CDCl_3$) of the crude mixture produced in the reaction of $Sn(NMe_2)_2$/*n*BuLi with *o*-phenylene diamine (**1**H_4), after hydrolysis and extraction of the aqueous phase with $CDCl_3$ at pH 8. (red **3**, blue **2**H, green **1**H_4). The two mutiplets at δ6.62 and 7.08 can be assigned to aniline, the byproduct in the formation of **2**H (see Scheme 3 in the text).

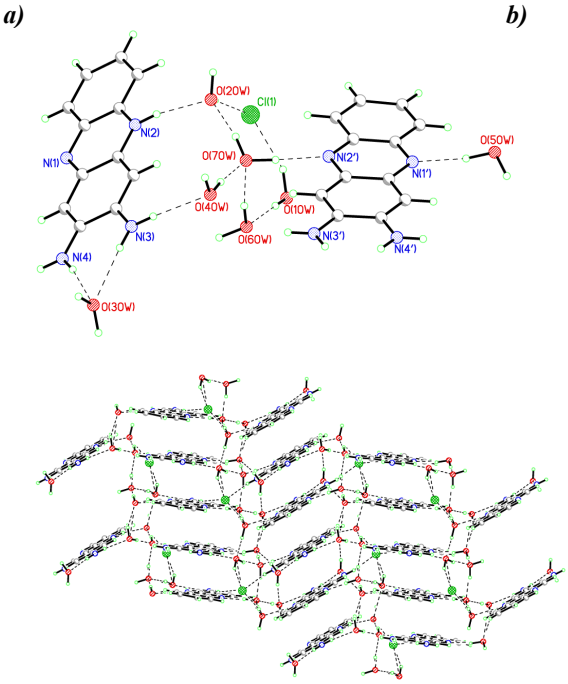


Figure ESI-2 X-ray structure of [**3**][**3**H]$^{+}$Cl^{-}·7H_2O. *a)* the Asymmetric unit and *b)* the lattice structure.