

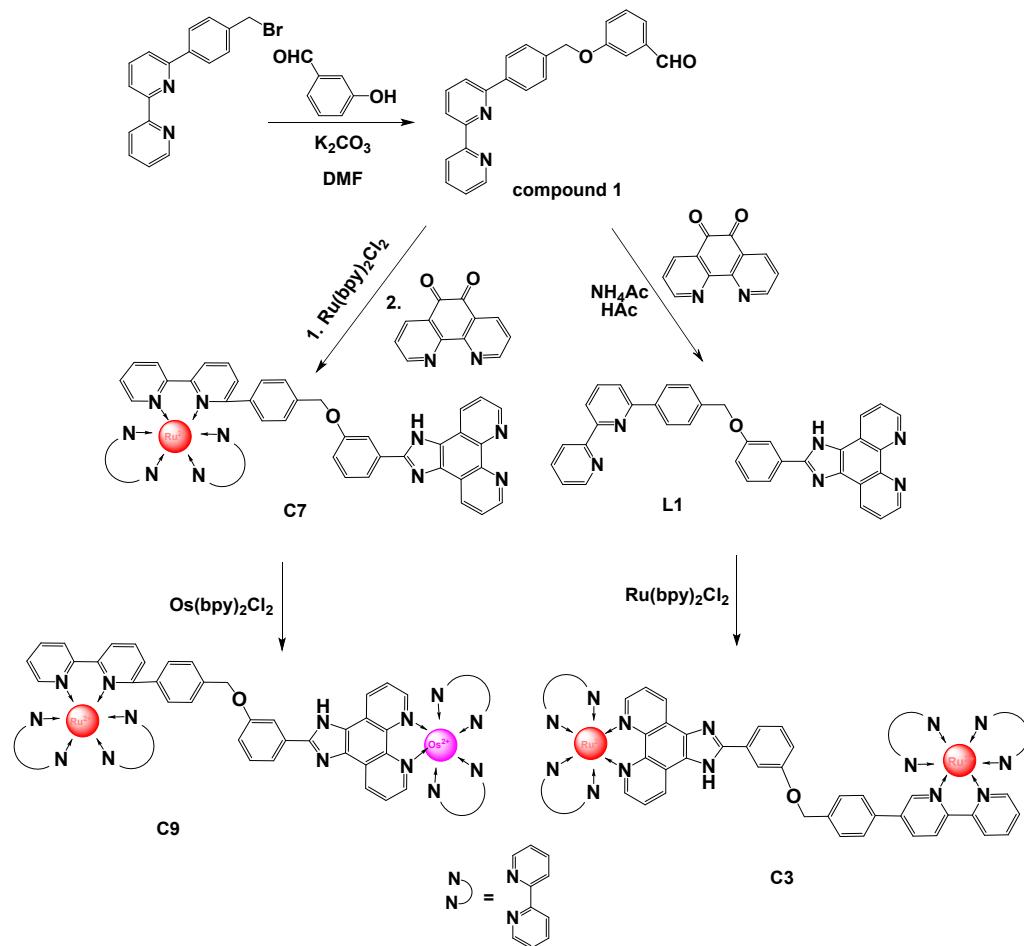
## Energy transfer in metal-exchange binuclear complexes covalently linked by asymmetric ligands

Weijun Dai, Shiwen Yu, Wen Xu, Ci Kong, Zining Liu, Hongju Yin, Chixian He, Jian-Jun Liu\*,

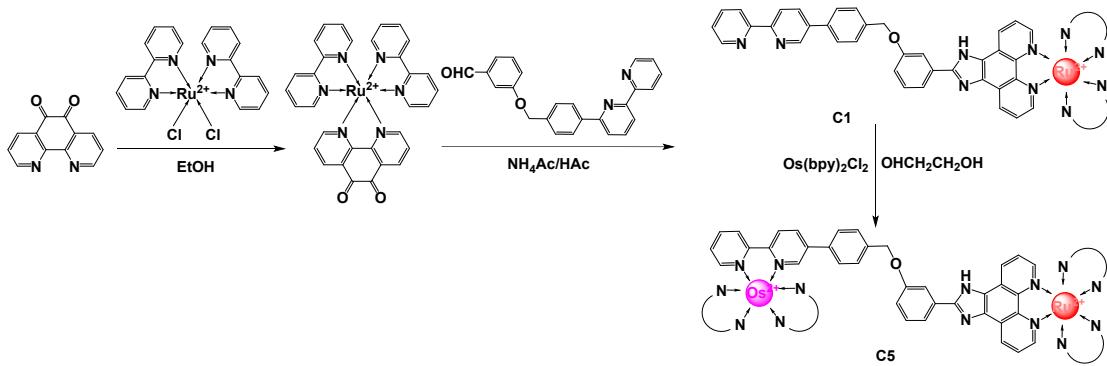
Feixiang Cheng\*

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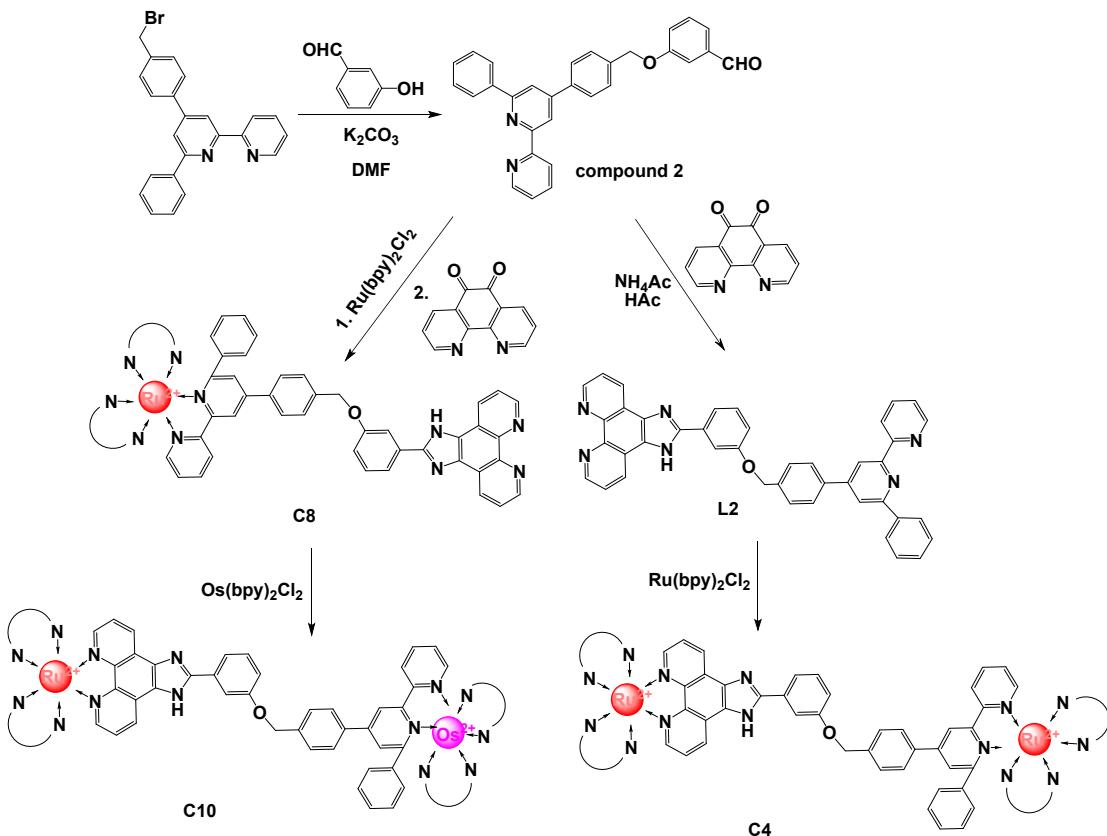
E-mail: jjliu302@163.com; chengfx2019@163.com



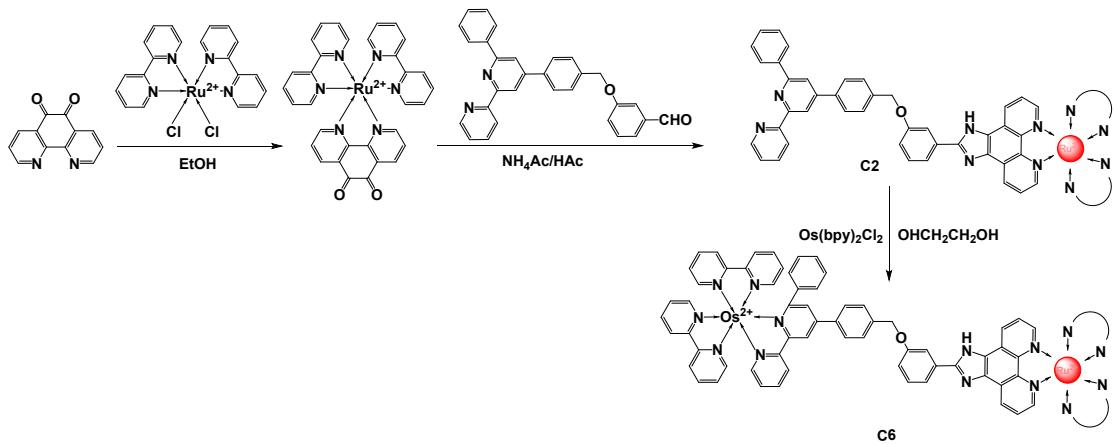
**Scheme S1.** Chemical structures of the target monometallic **C7**, homometallic **C3**, heterometallic **C9** complexes and corresponding bridging ligand **L1**. (The counter ions are omitted for clarity. The same below).



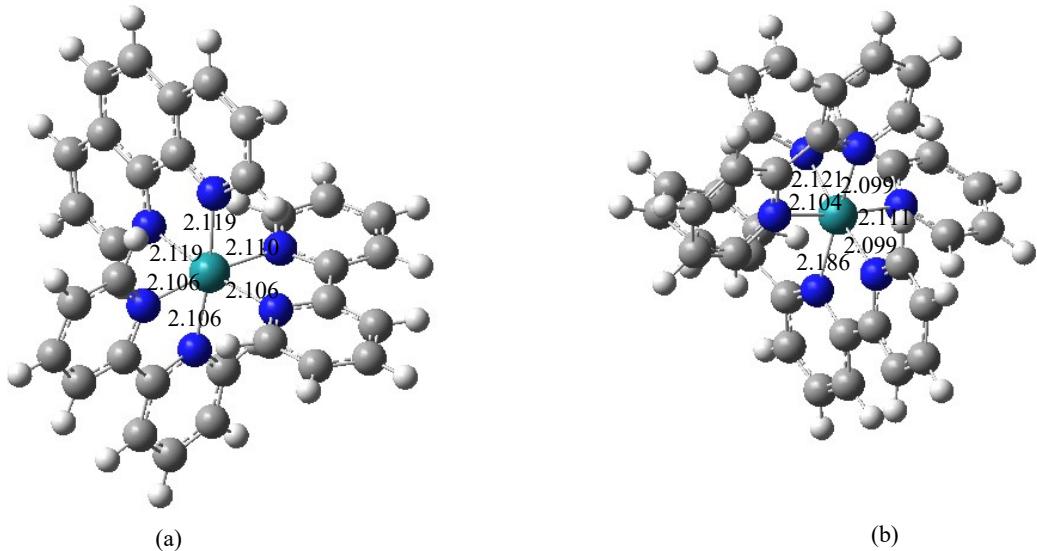
**Scheme S2.** Chemical structures of the target monometallic **C1**, homometallic **C5** complexes.



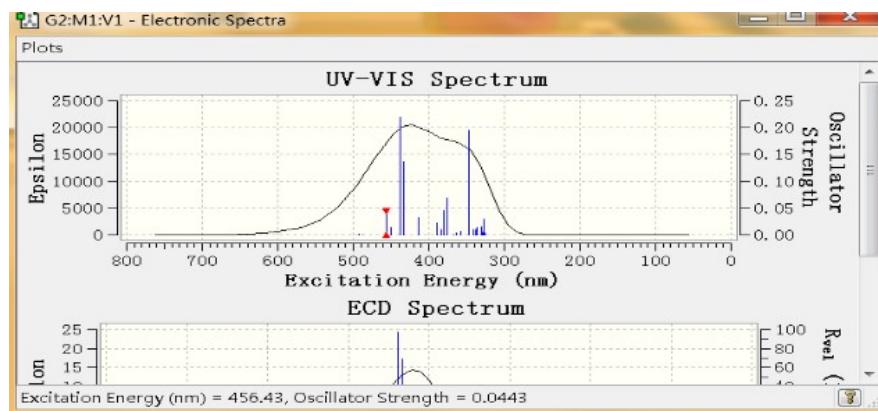
**Scheme S3.** Chemical structures of the target monometallic complex **C8**, homometallic complexes **C4**, **C10** bridged by ligand **L2**.



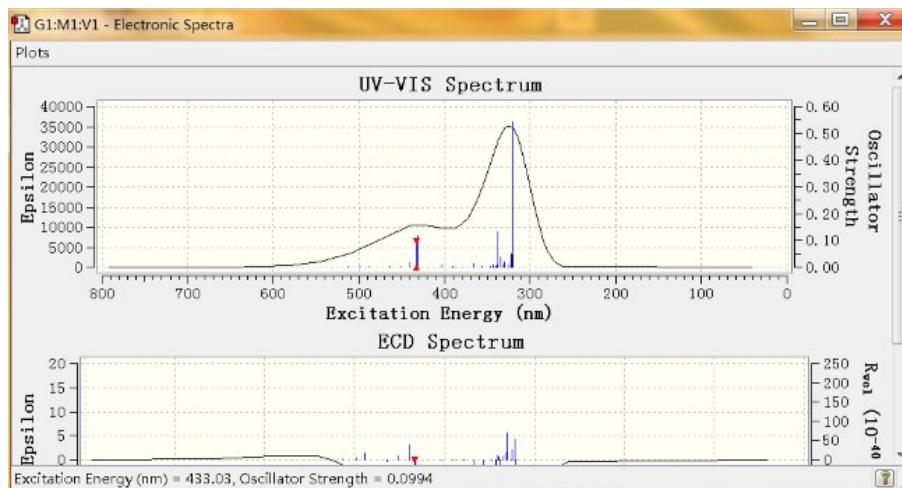
**Scheme S4.** Chemical structures of the target monometallic complex **C2**, heterometallic complex **C6**.



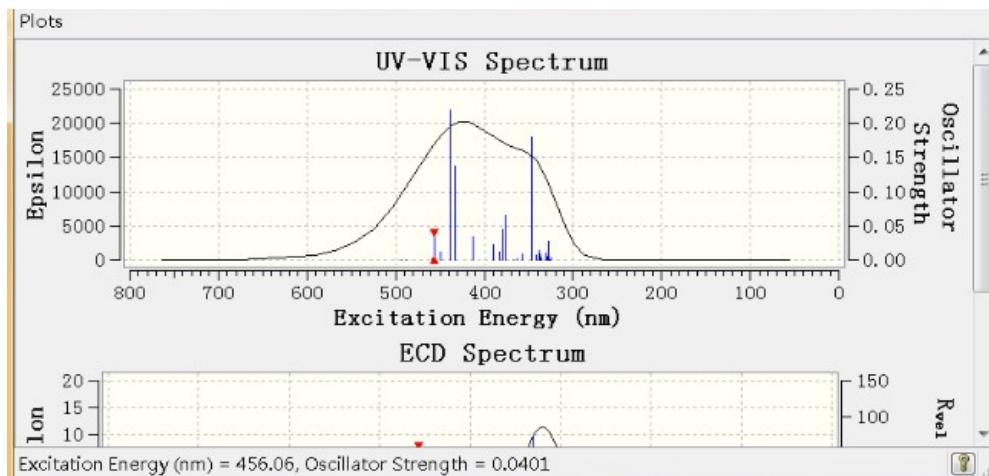
**Scheme S5.** The Ru–N bond lengths of octahedral Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub>(1,10-phenanthroline) moieties of complex **C4**, **C8** and **C10** presented in (a) and Ru–N bond lengths of the octahedral Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub>(6-phenyl-2,2'-bipyridine) of complexes **C2**, **C4** and **C6** presented in (b).



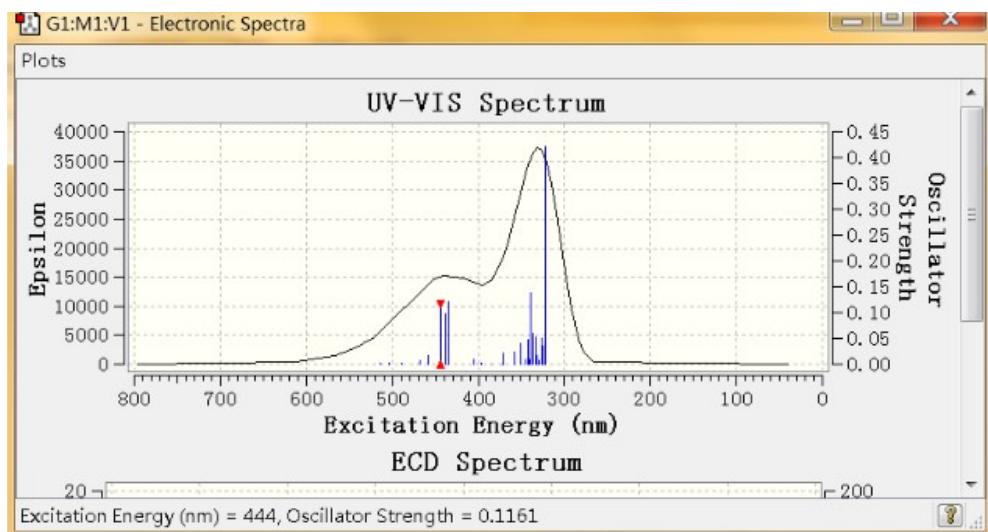
**Figure S1.** The UV-Vis spectrum of TD-DFT calculation of C1.



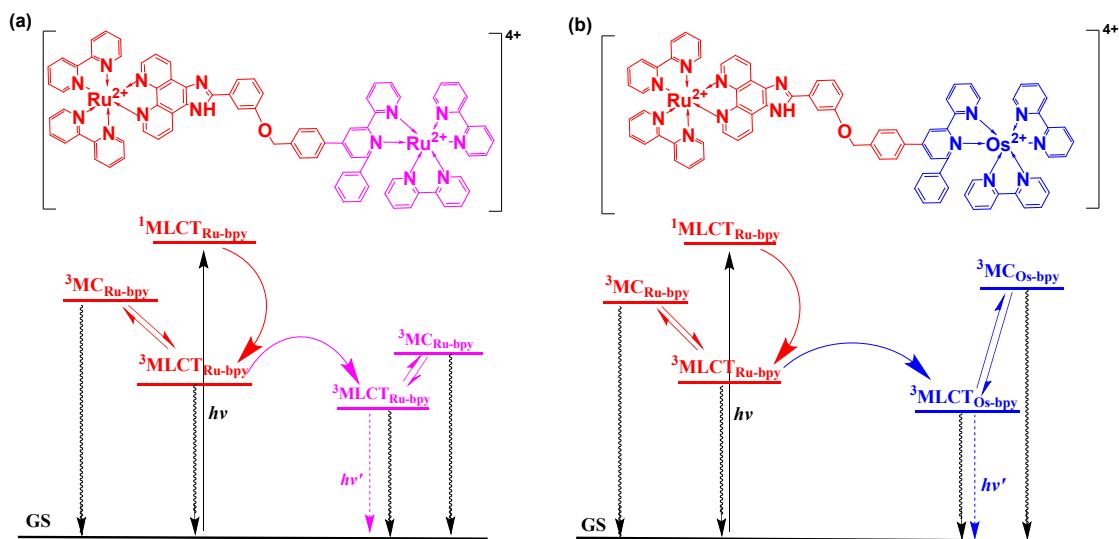
**Figure S2.** The UV-Vis spectrum of TD-DFT calculation of C7.



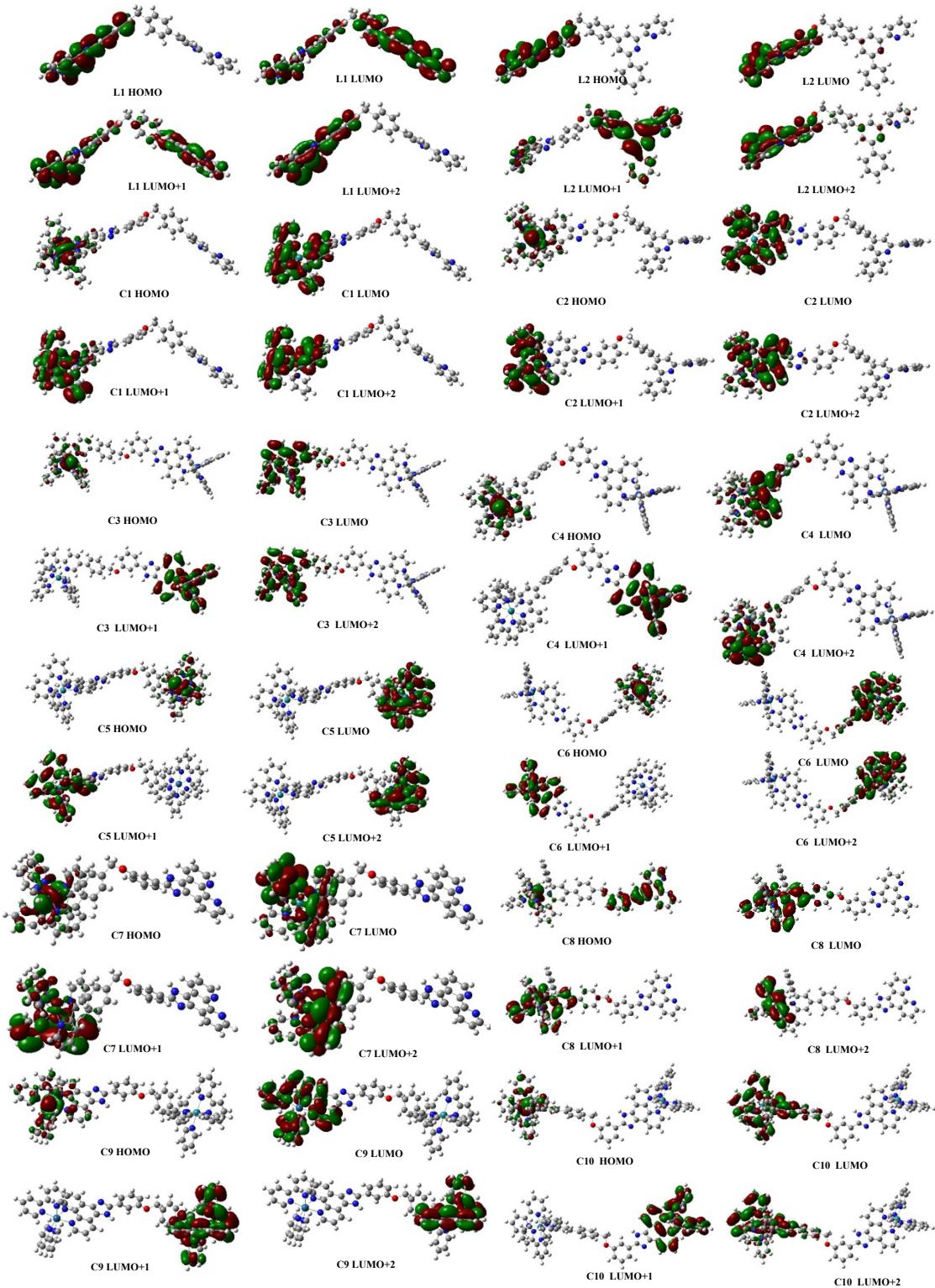
**Figure S3.** The UV-Vis spectrum of TD-DFT calculation of C2.



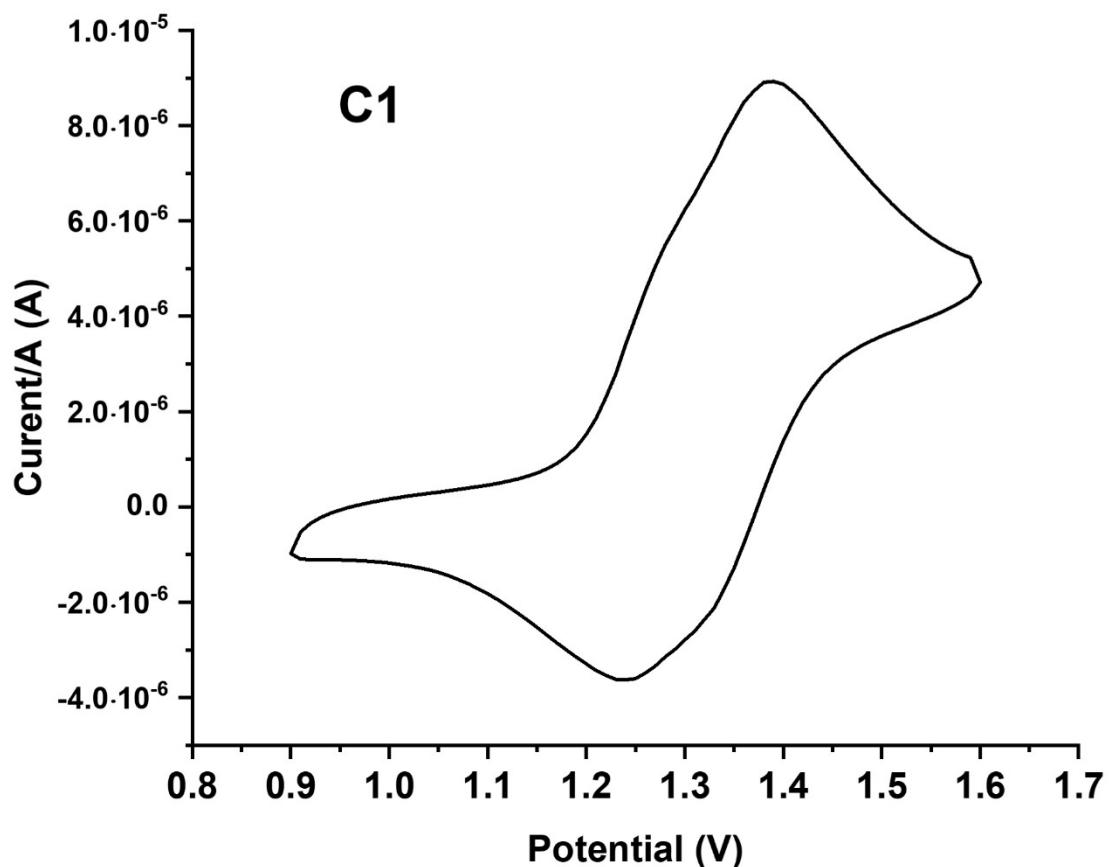
**Figure S4.** The UV-Vis spectrum of TD-DFT calculation of **C8**.



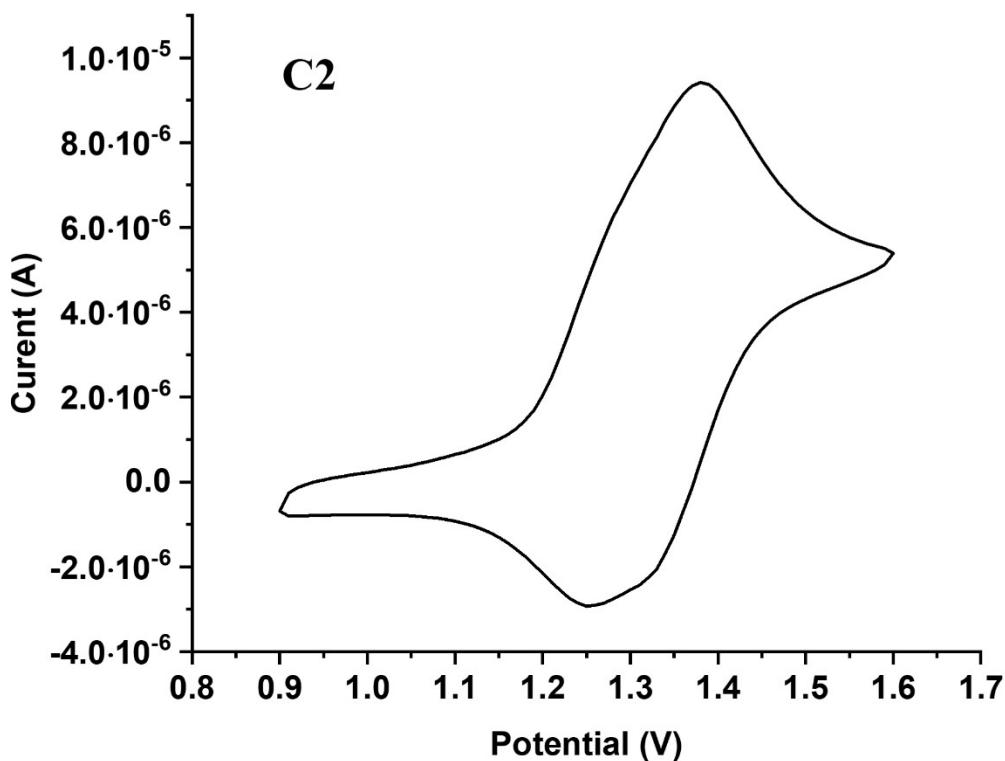
**Figure S5.** Energy level mechanism of the emissive state of multinuclear complexes **C4** (a), **C6** (b), where the straight line represents excitation; the dotted line represents luminescence, and the wavy line represents radiationless decay.



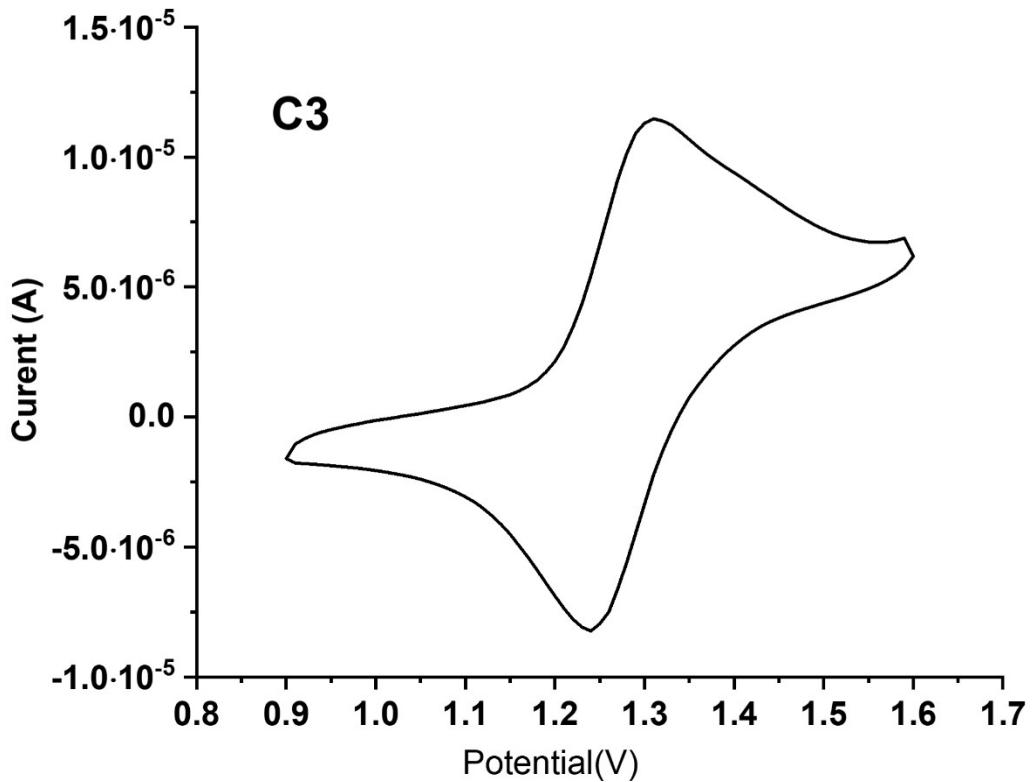
**Figure S6.** The HOMO and the LUMOs of all complexes.



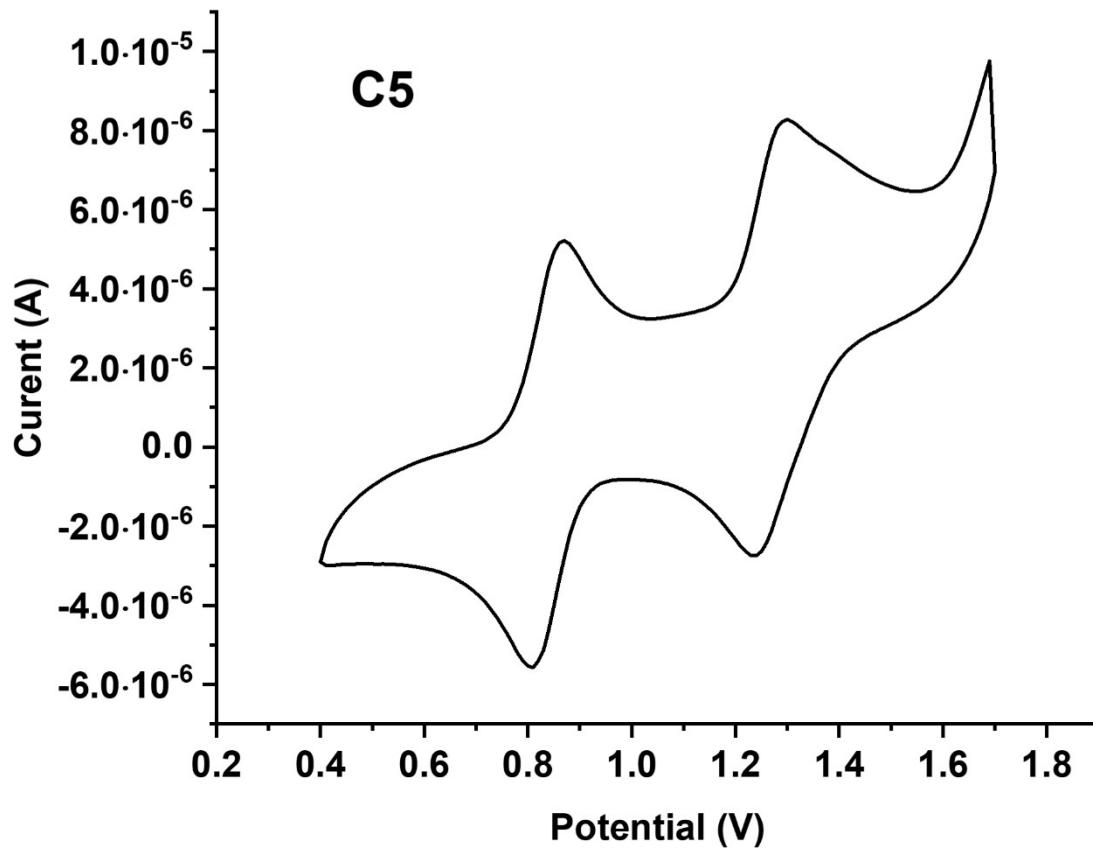
**Figure S7.** Oxidation cyclic voltammetry of complex **C1**.



**Figure S8.** Oxidation cyclic voltammetry of complex **C2**.



**Figure S9.** Oxidation cyclic voltammetry of complex **C3**.



**Figure S10.** Oxidation cyclic voltammetry of complex **C5**.

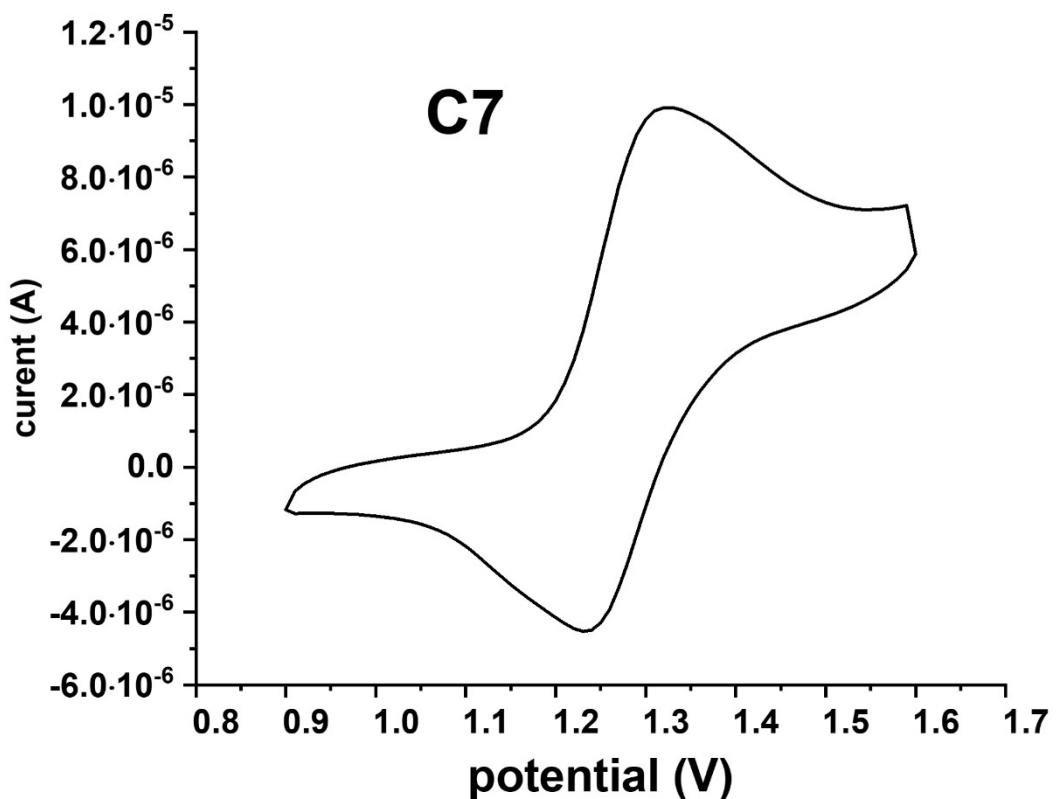


Figure S11. Oxidation cyclic voltammetry of complex C7.

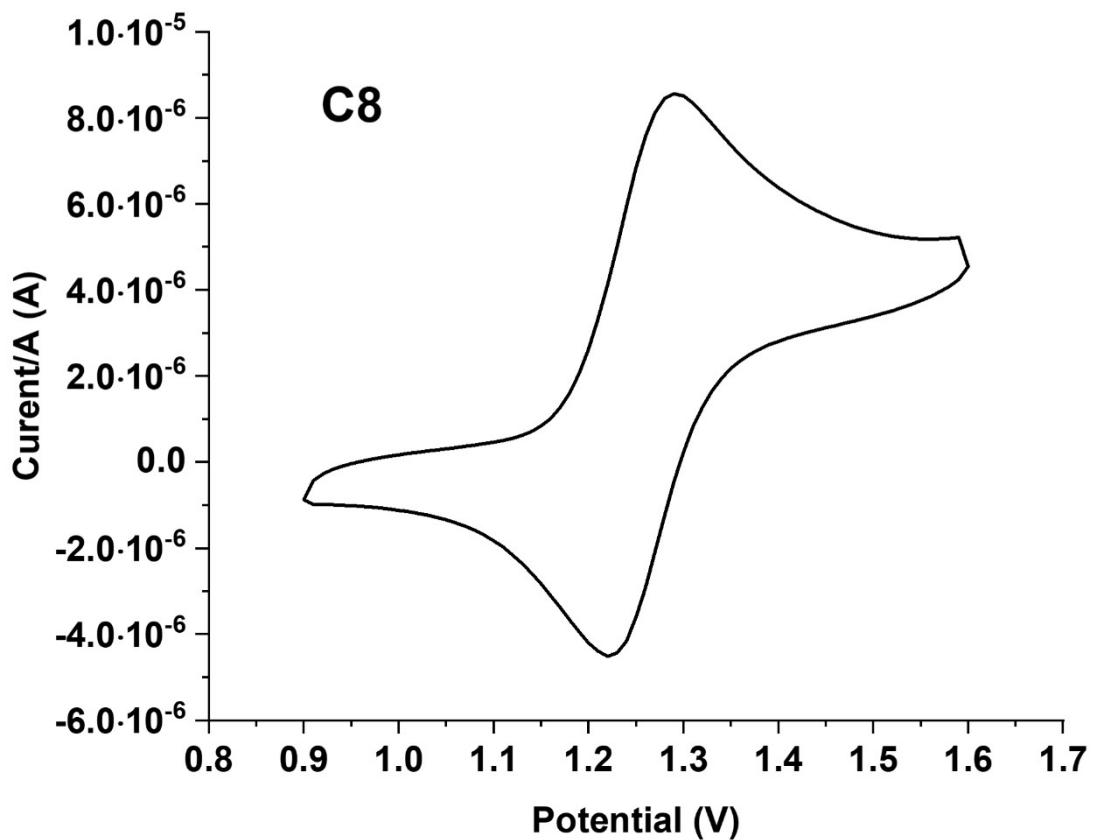
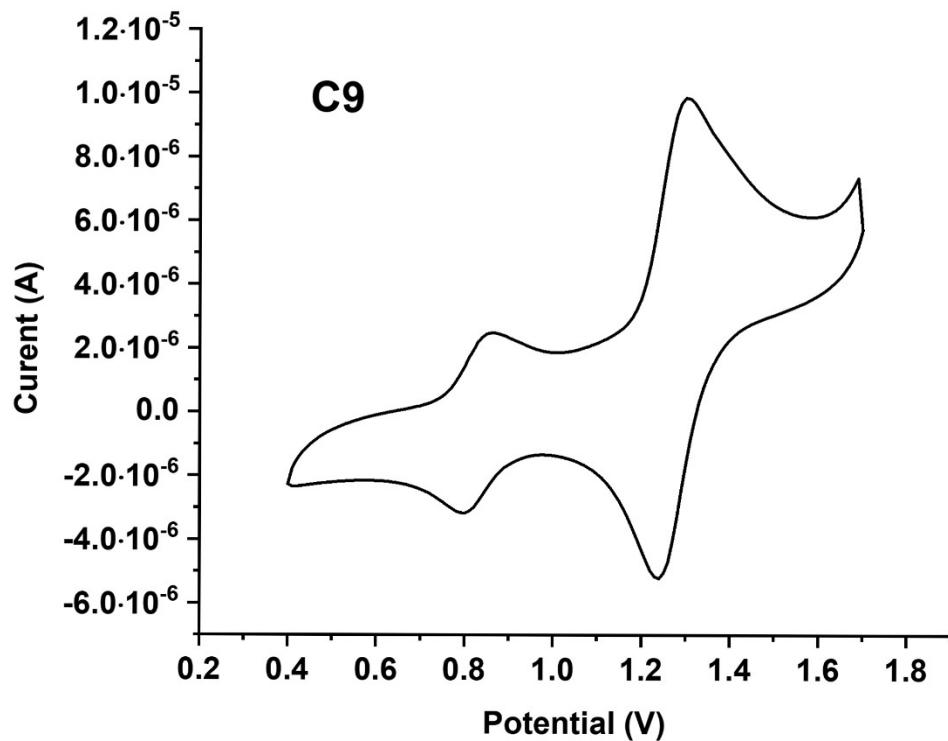
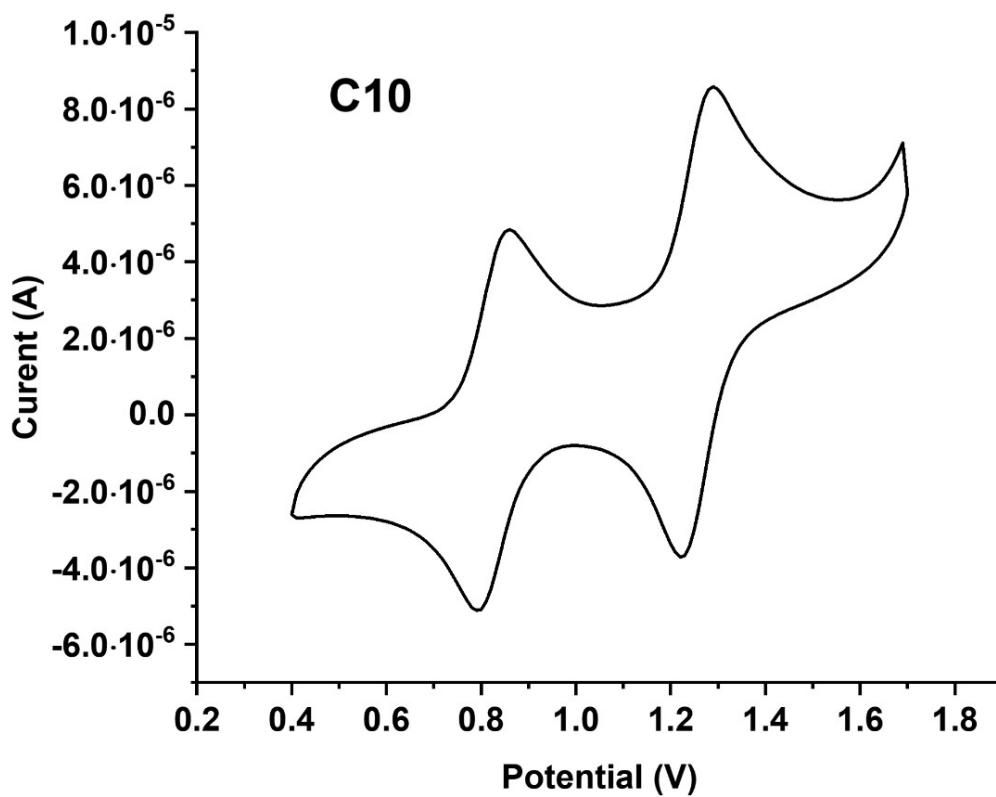


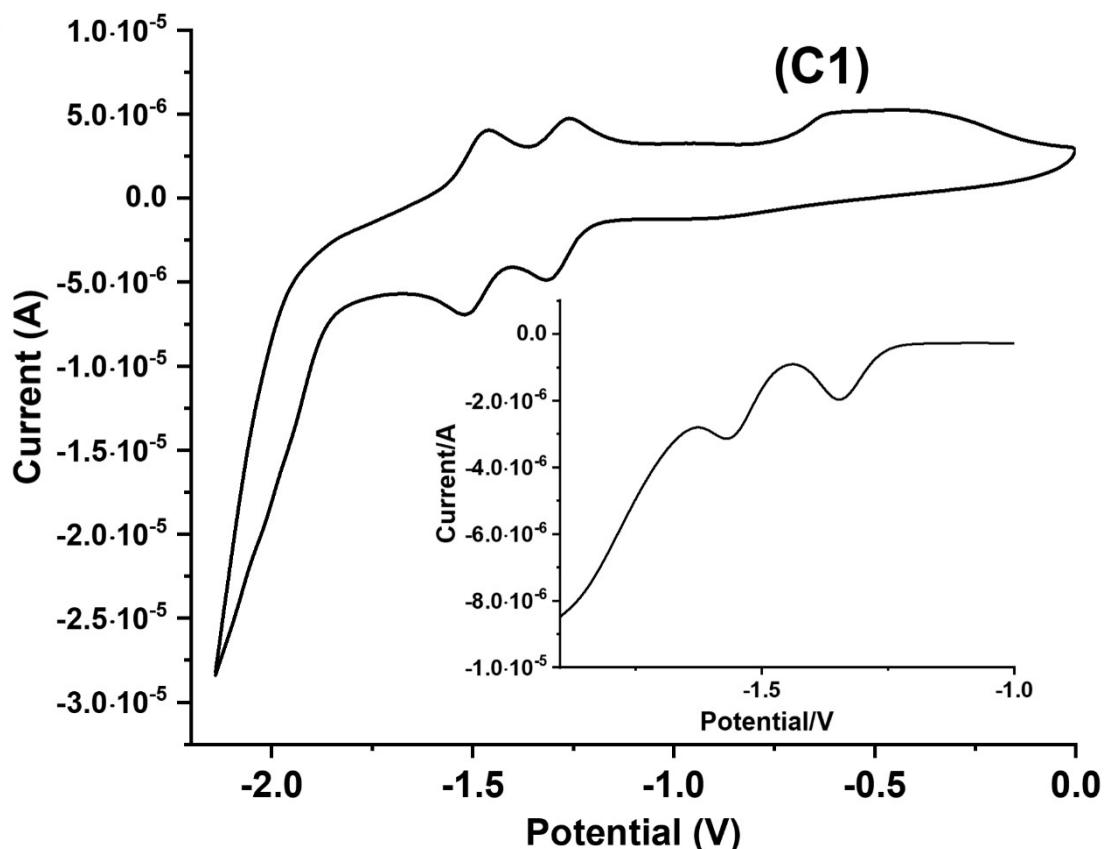
Figure S12. Oxidation cyclic voltammetry of complex C8.



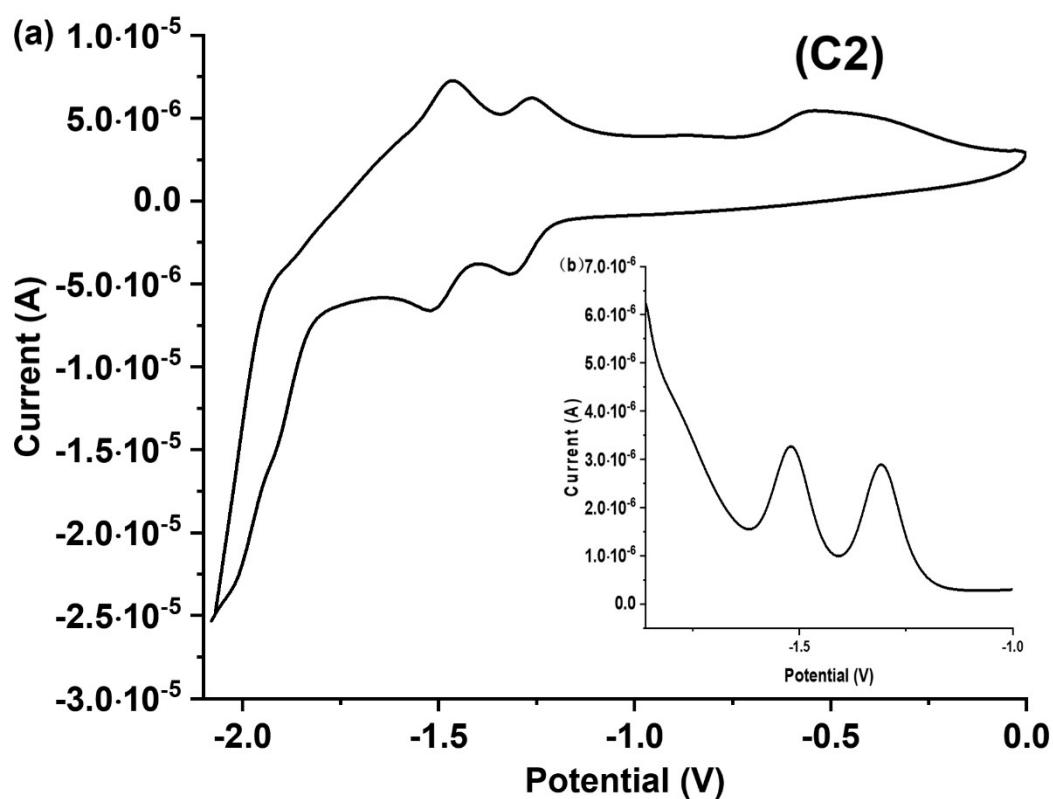
**Figure S13.** Oxidation cyclic voltammetry of complex **C9**.



**Figure S14.** Reduction cyclic voltammetry of complex **C10**.



**Figure S15.** Reduction cyclic voltammetry of complex C1.



**Figure S16.** Reduction cyclic voltammetry of complex C2.

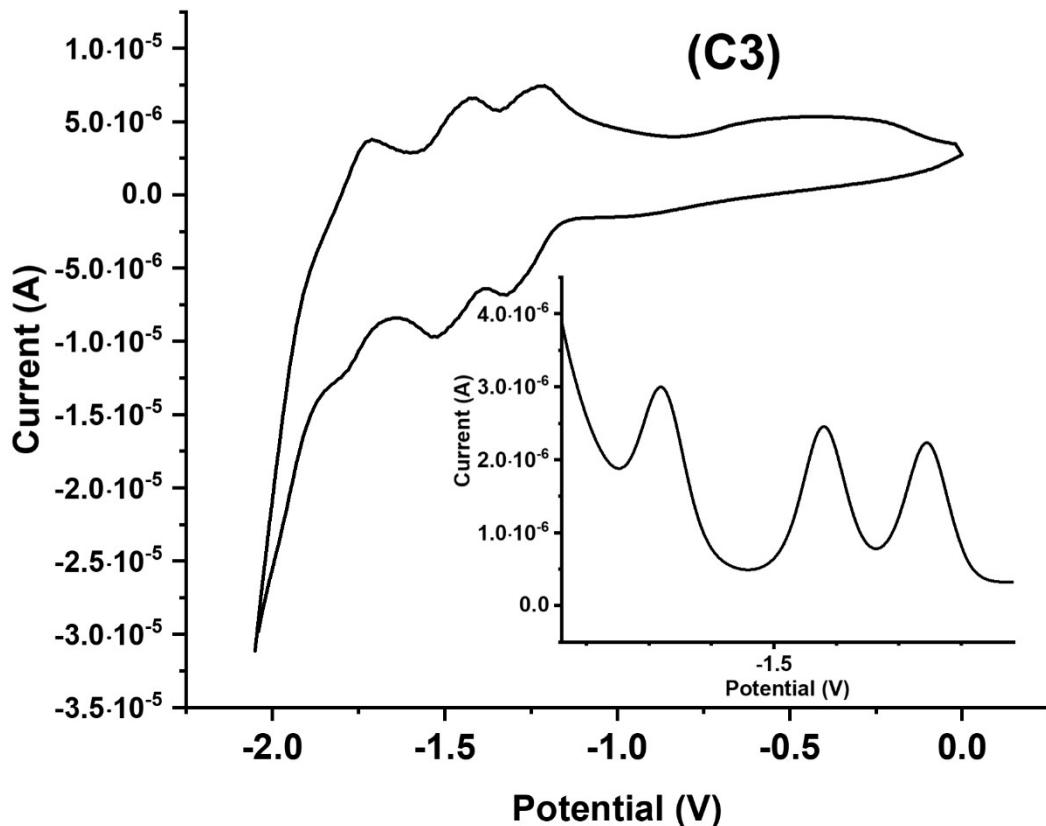


Figure S17. Reduction cyclic voltammetry of complex C3.

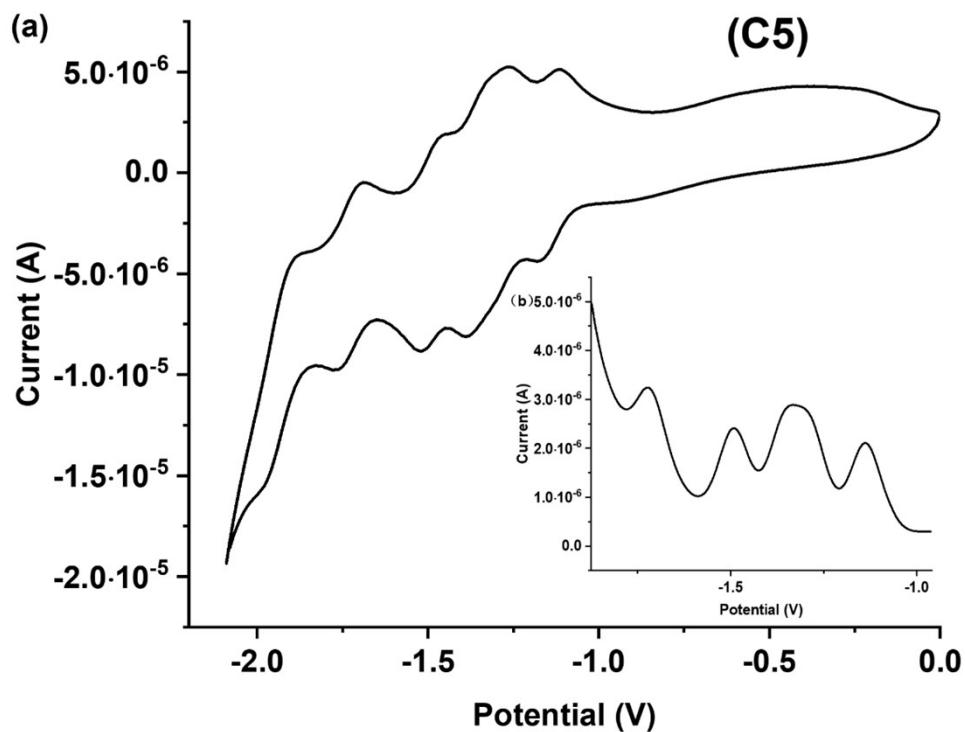
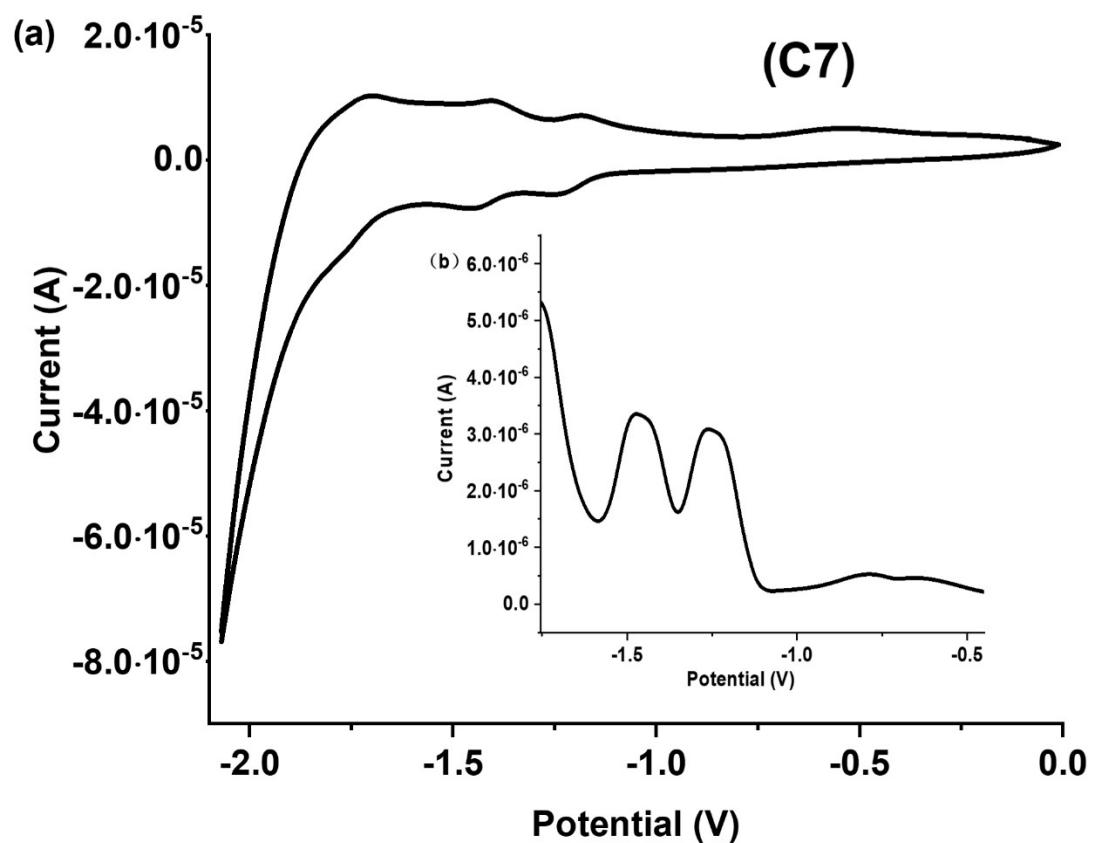
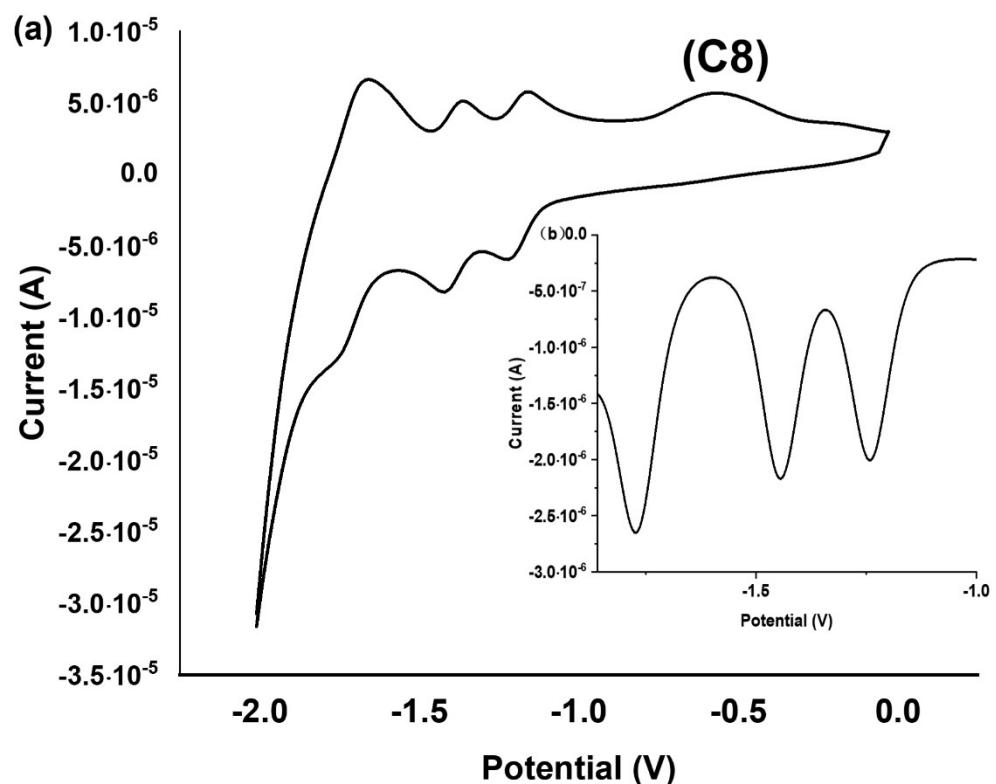


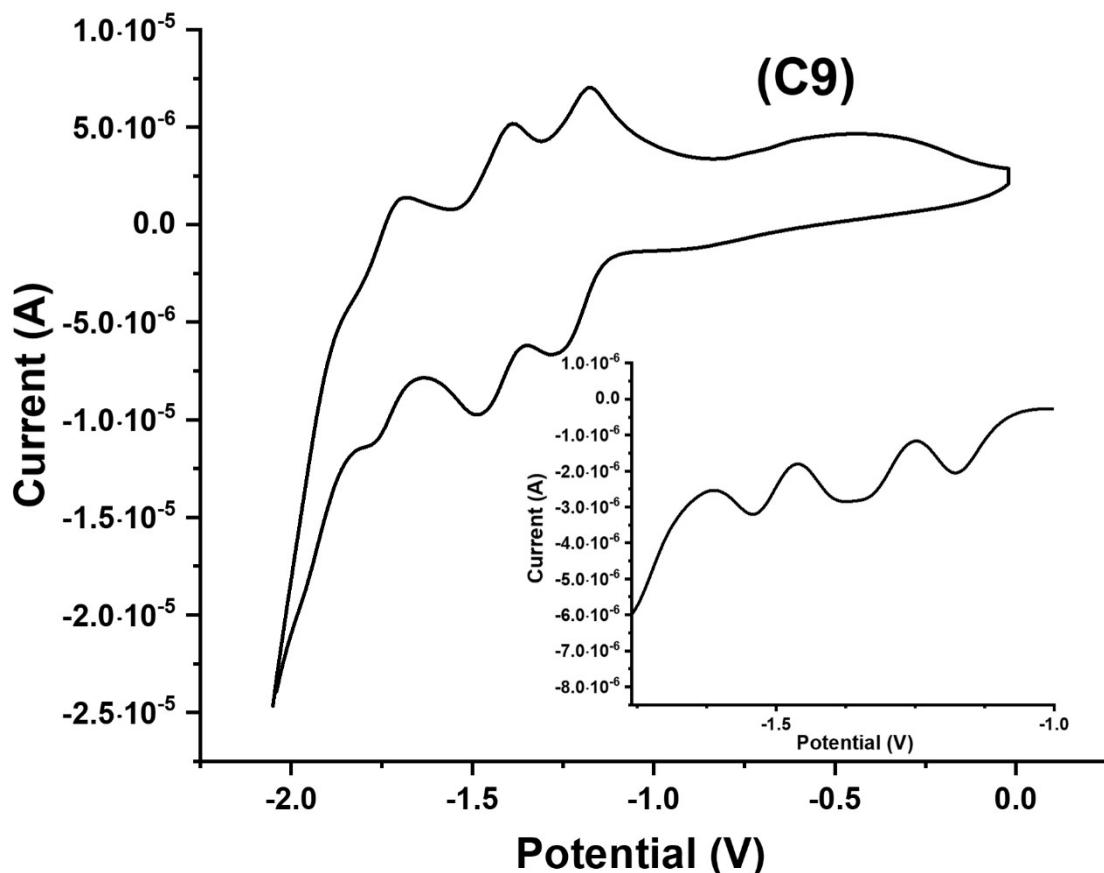
Figure S18. Reduction cyclic voltammetry of complex C5.



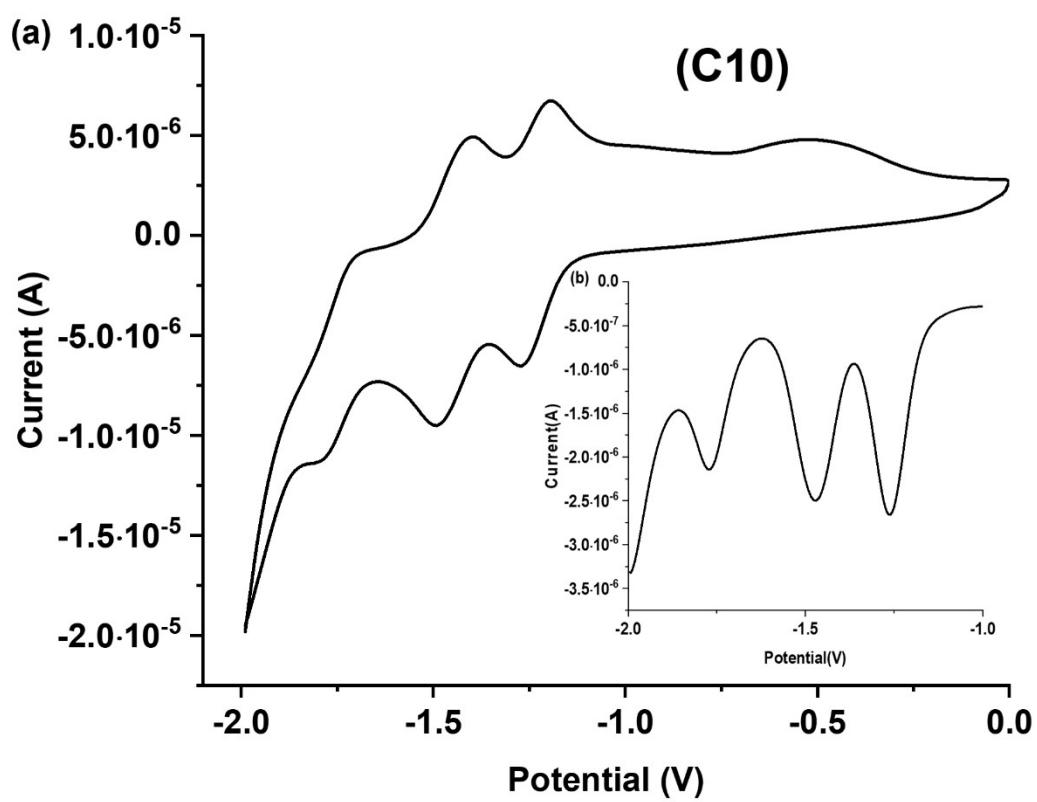
**Figure S19.** Reduction cyclic voltammetry of complex **C7**.



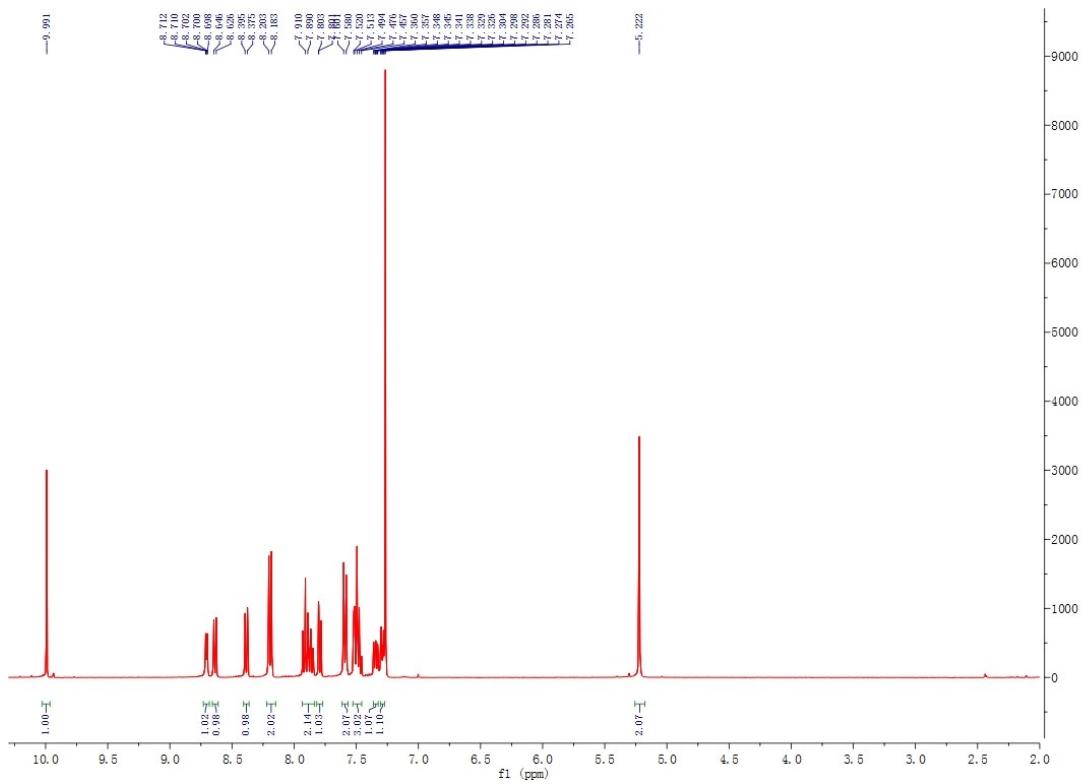
**Figure S20.** Reduction cyclic voltammetry of complex **C8**.



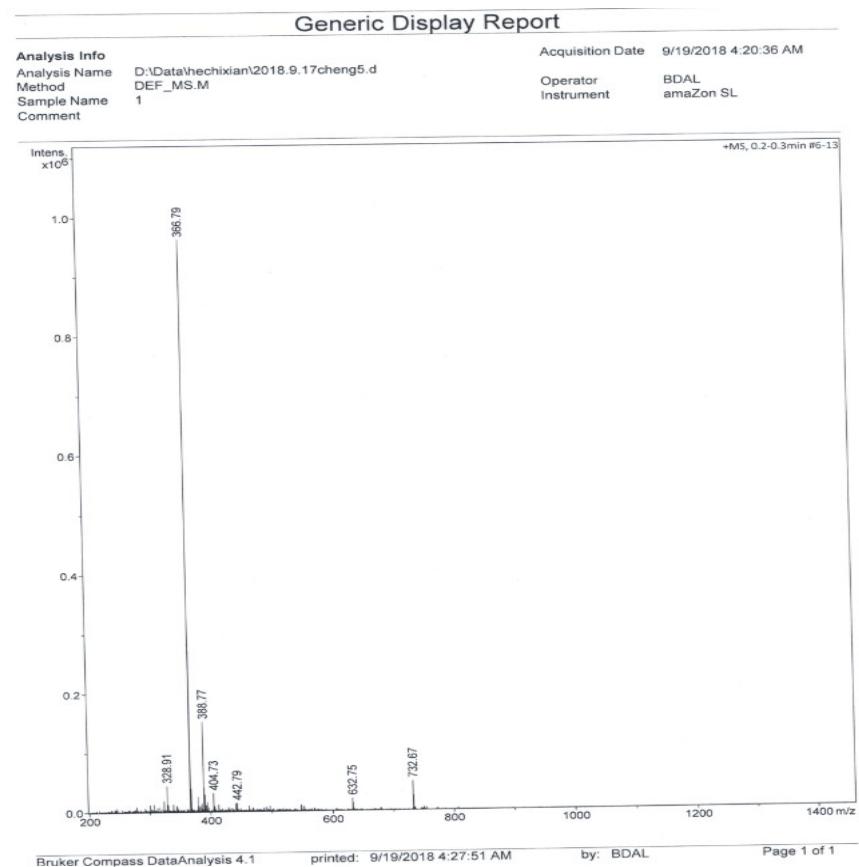
**Figure S21.** Reduction cyclic voltammetry of complex **C9**.



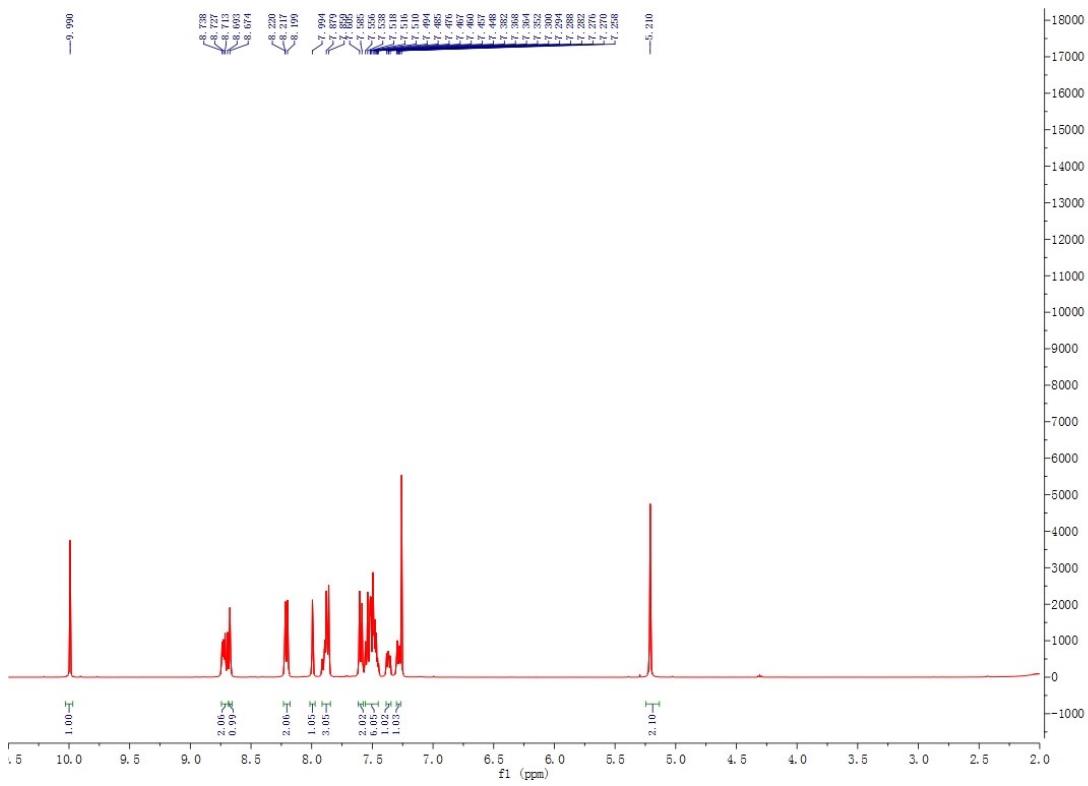
**Figure S22.** Reduction cyclic voltammetry of complex **C10**.



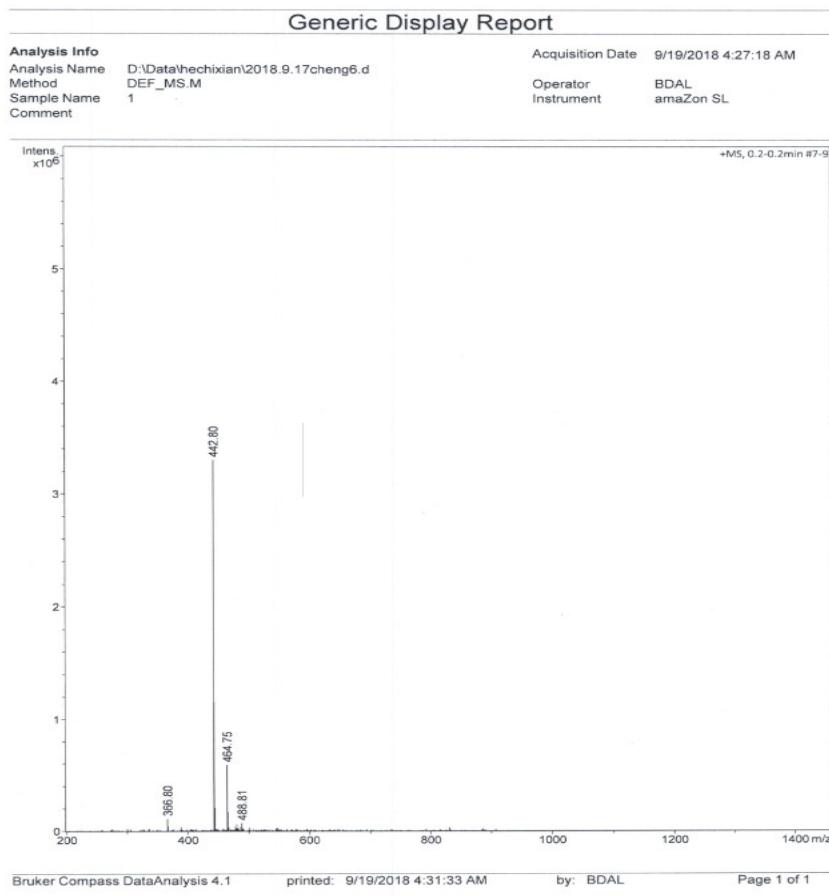
**Figure S23.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of compound 1.



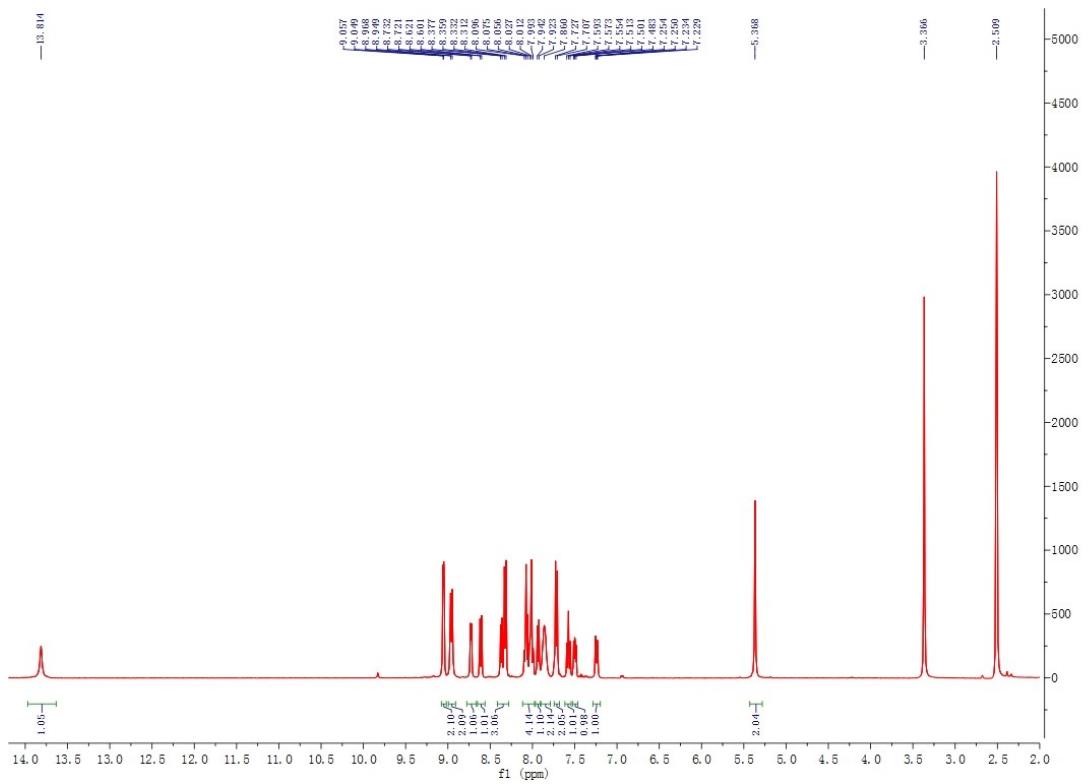
**Figure S24.** ESI-MS of compound 1.



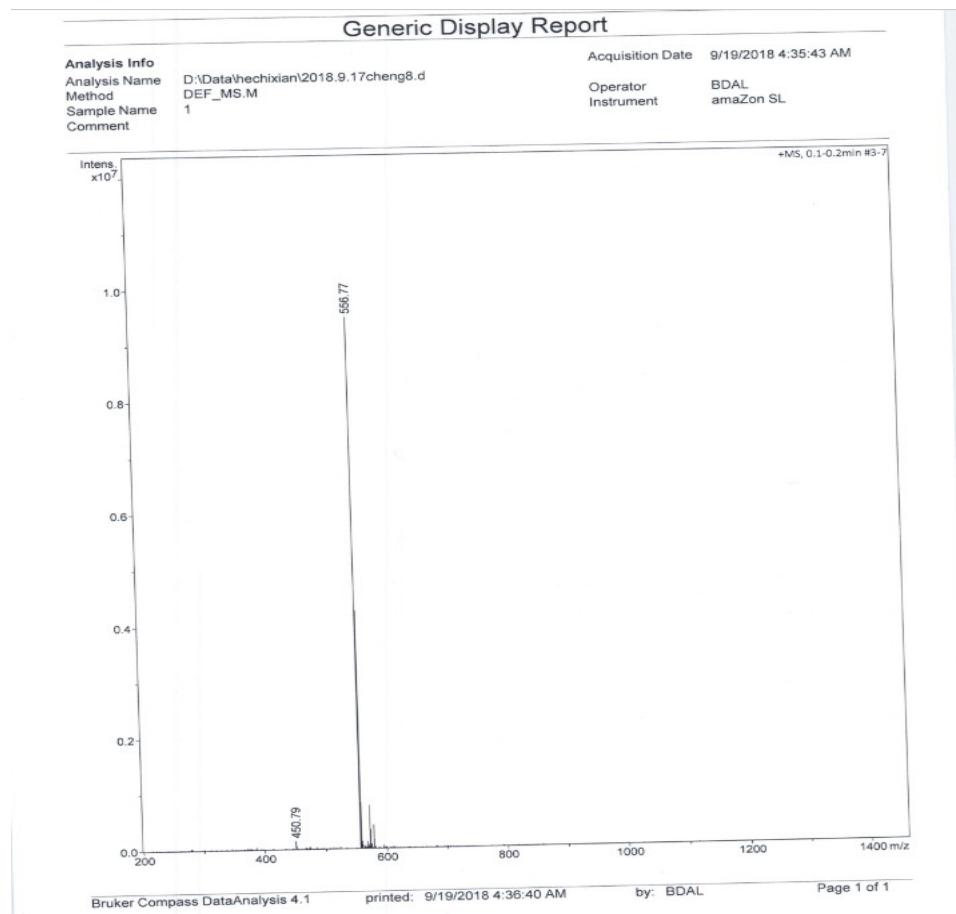
**Figure S25.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of compound 2.



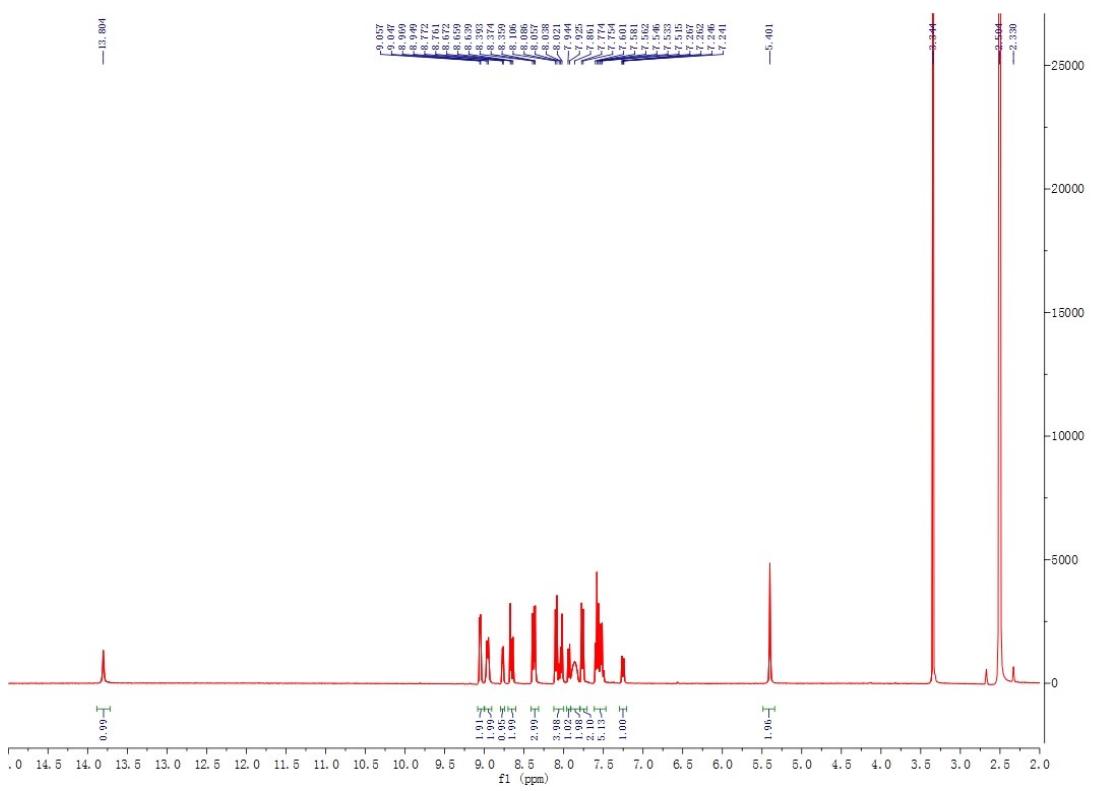
**Figure S26.** ESI-MS of compound 2.



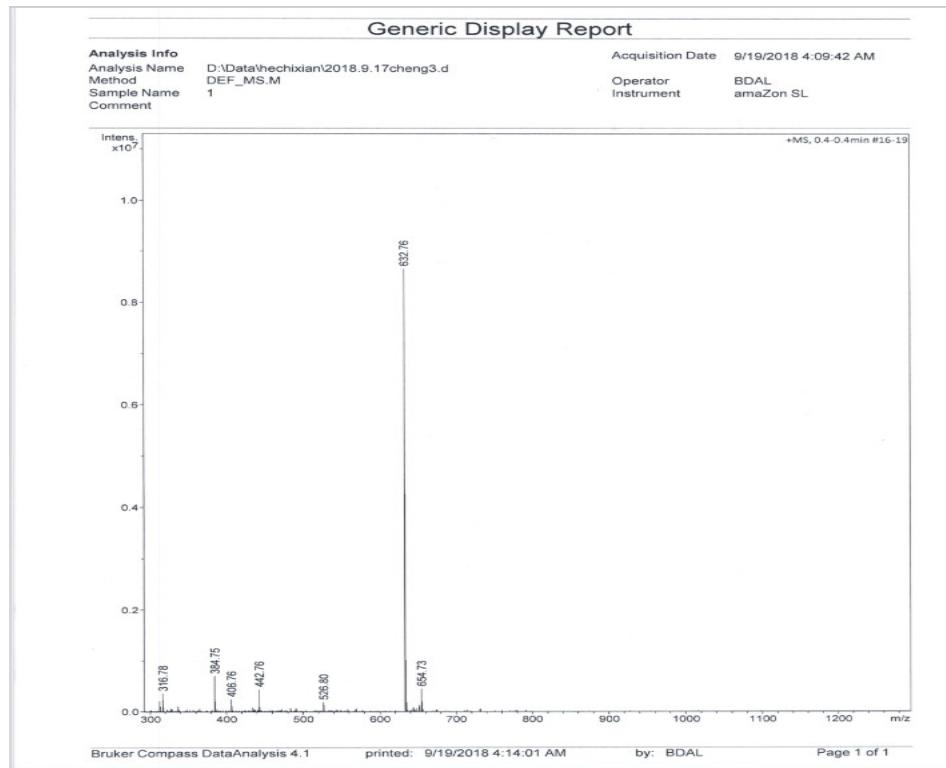
**Figure S27.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) spectrum of ligand L1.



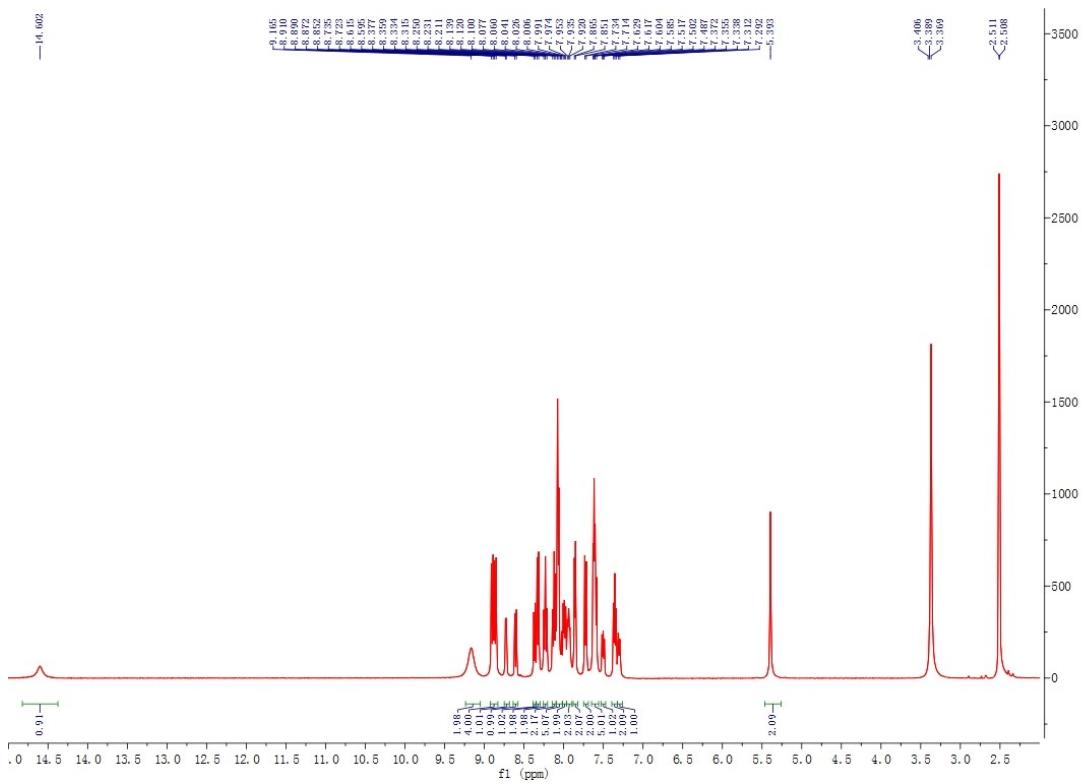
**Figure S28.** ESI-MS of ligand L1.



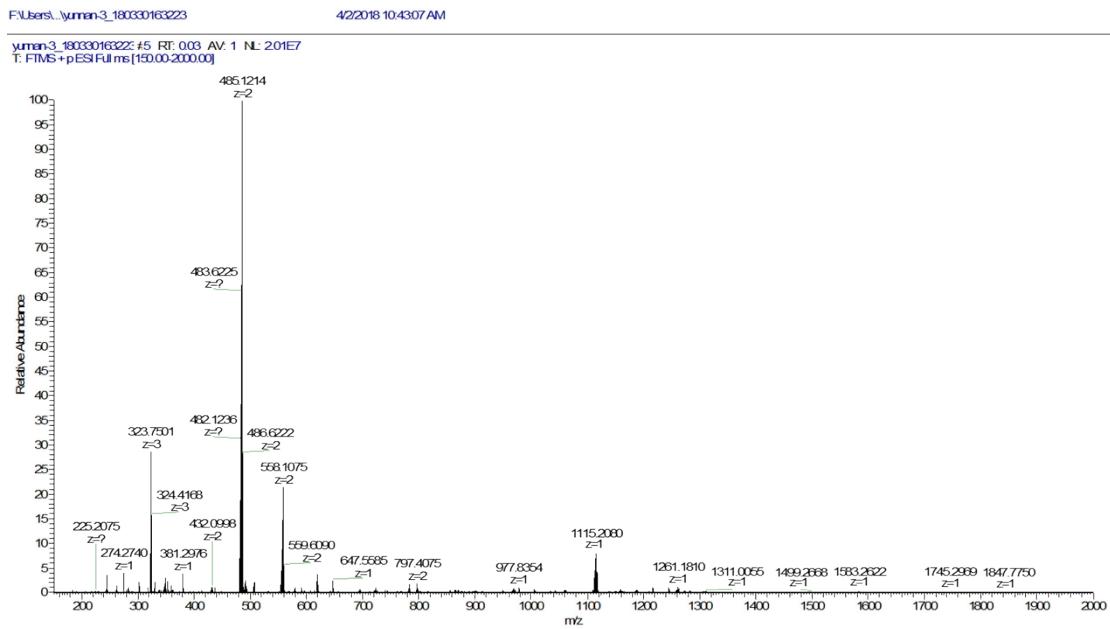
**Figure S29.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ) spectrum of ligand **L2**.



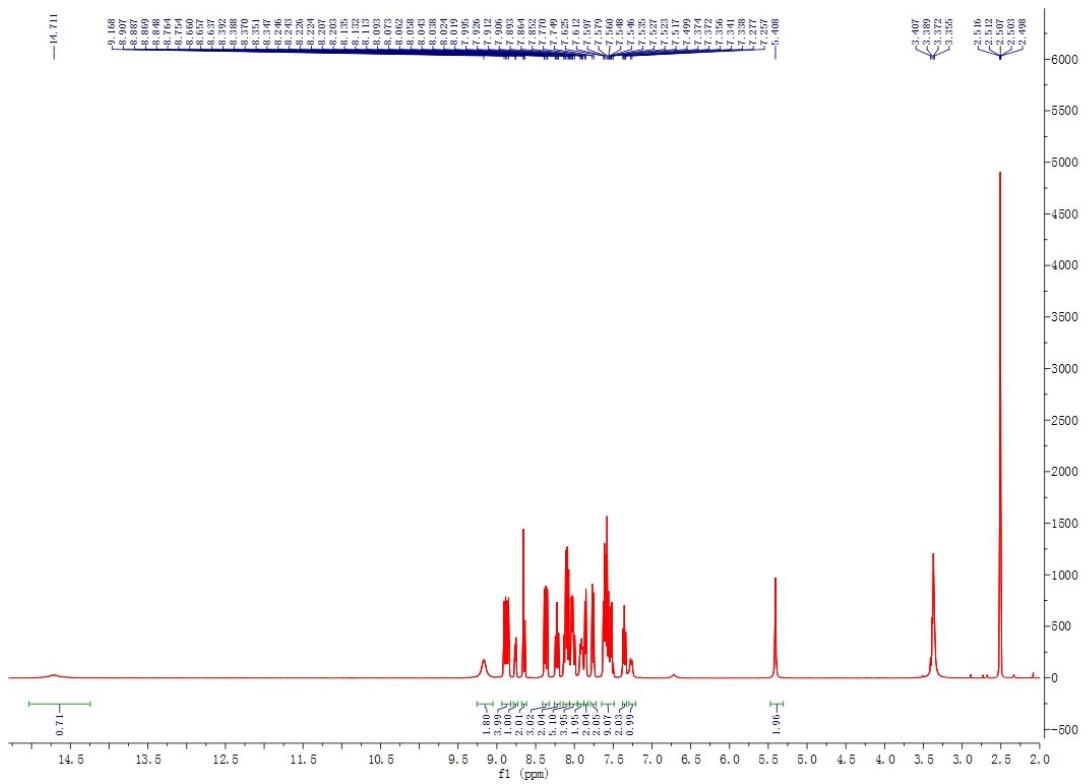
**Figure S30.** ESI-MS of ligand **L2**.



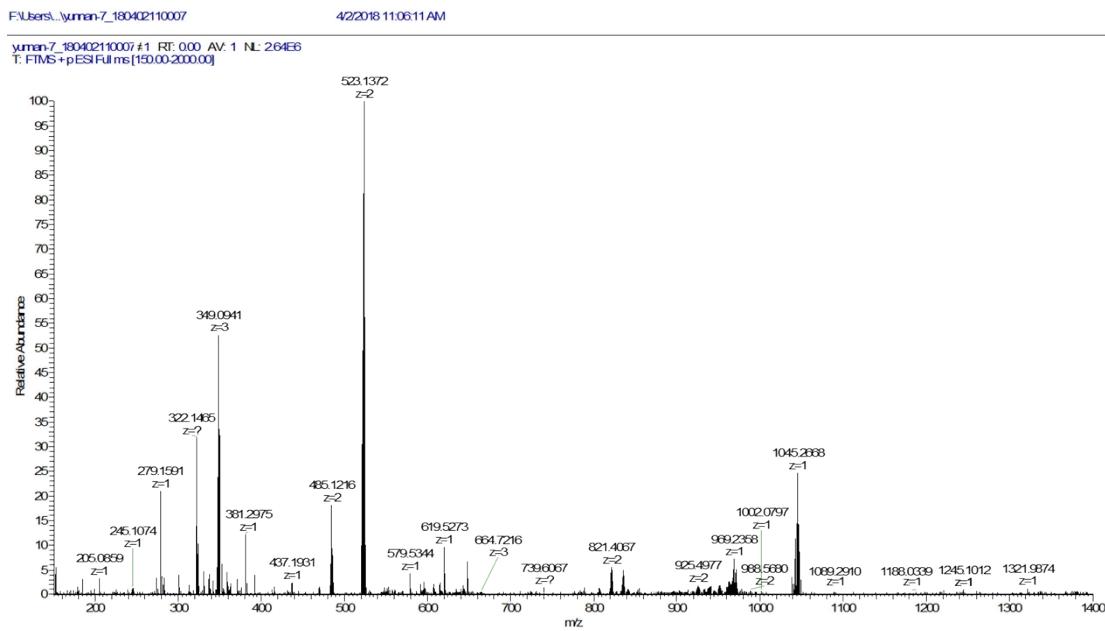
**Figure S31.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) spectrum of complex **C1**.



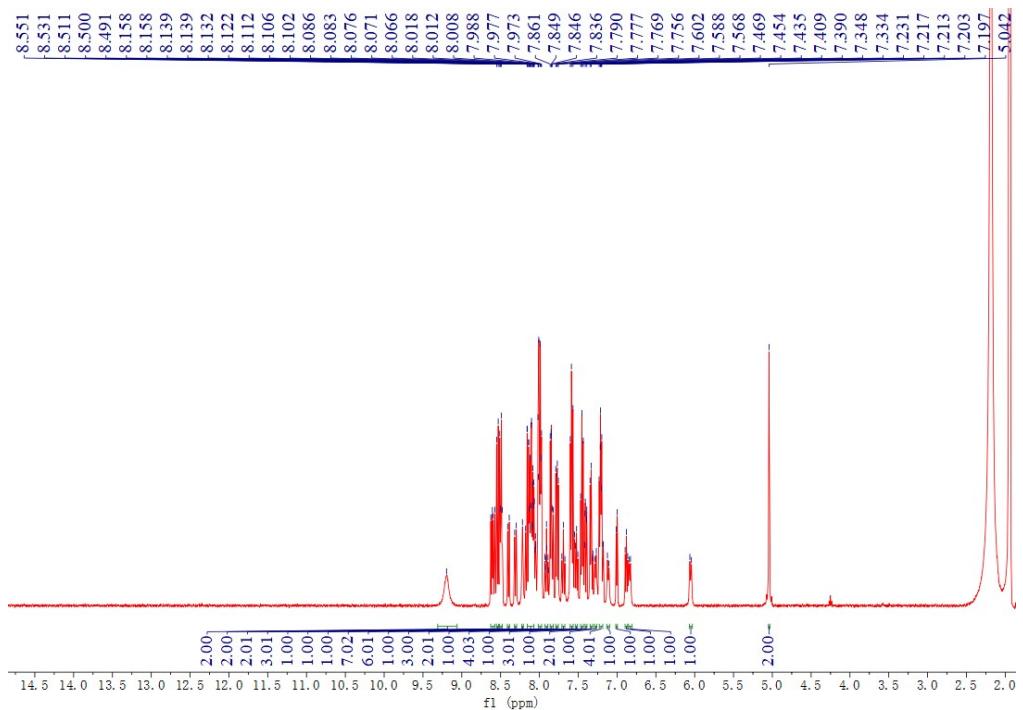
**Figure S32.** ESI-HRMS of complex **C1**.



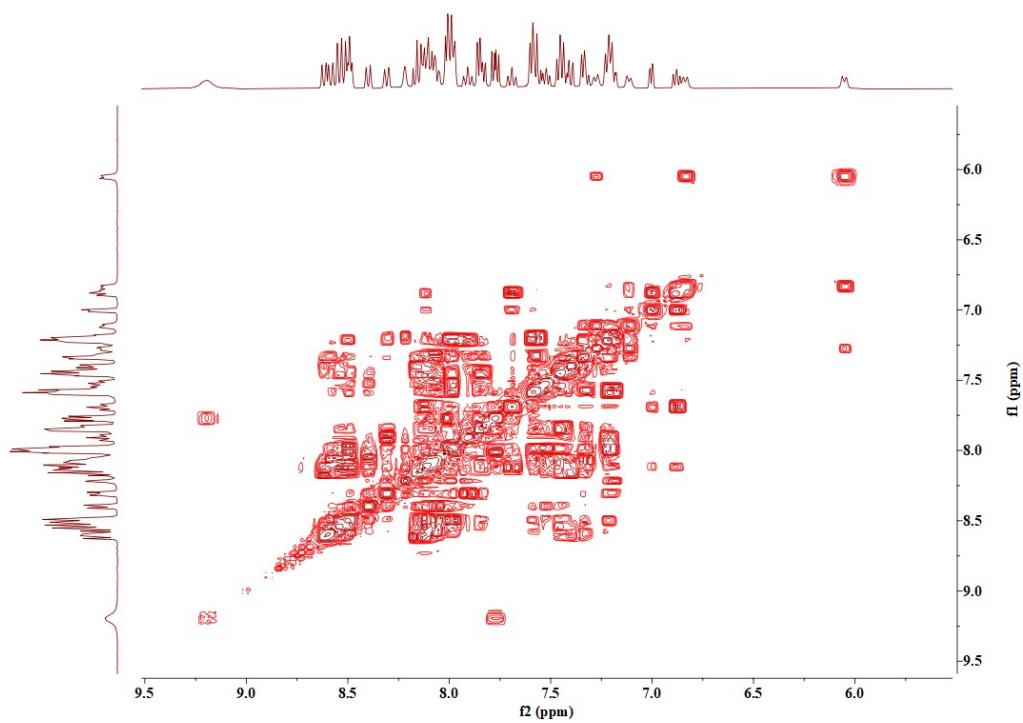
**Figure S33.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ) spectrum of complex C2.



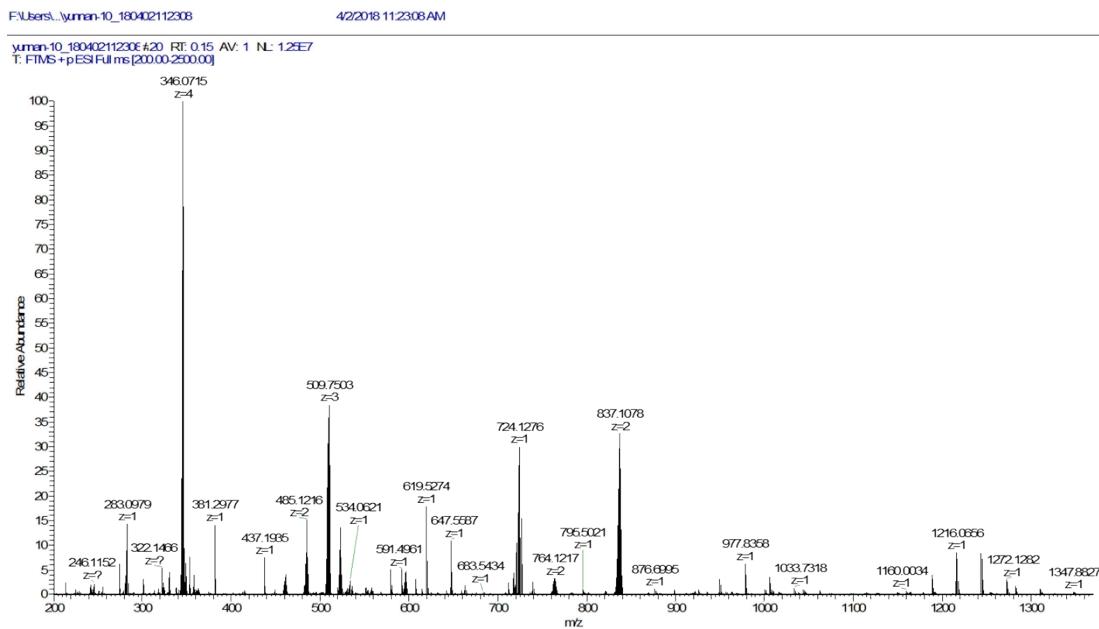
**Figure S34.** ESI-HRMS of complex C2.



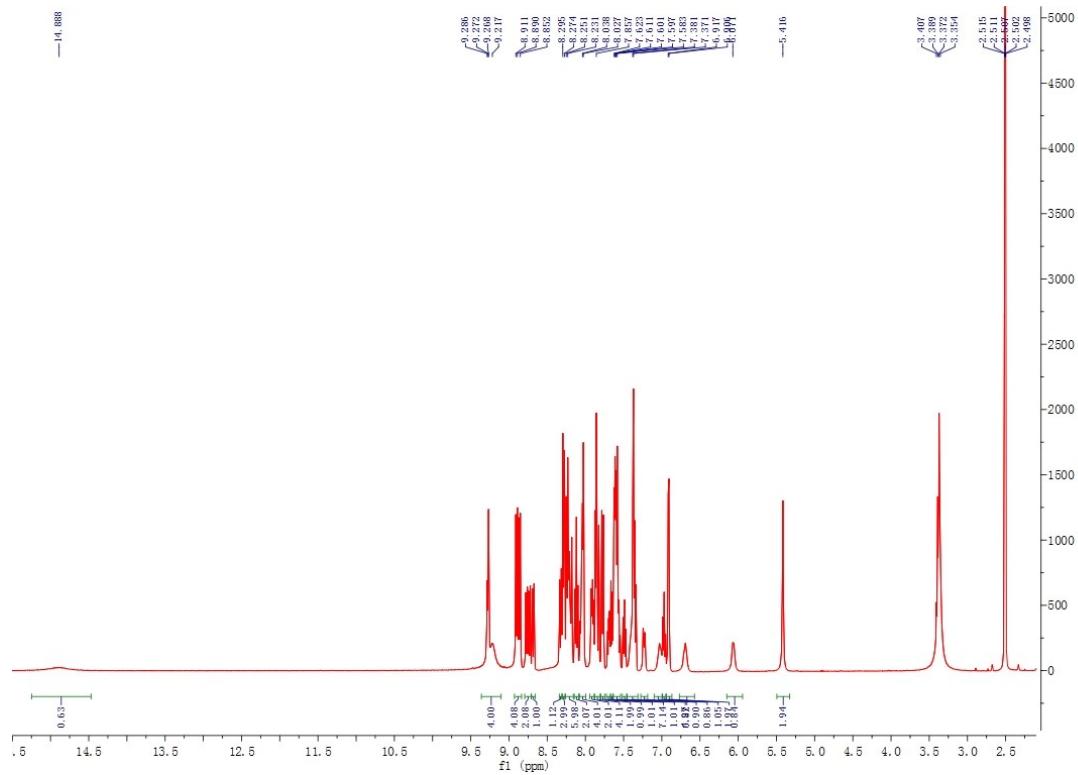
**Figure S35.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, MeCN- $d_3$ ) spectrum of complex **C3**.



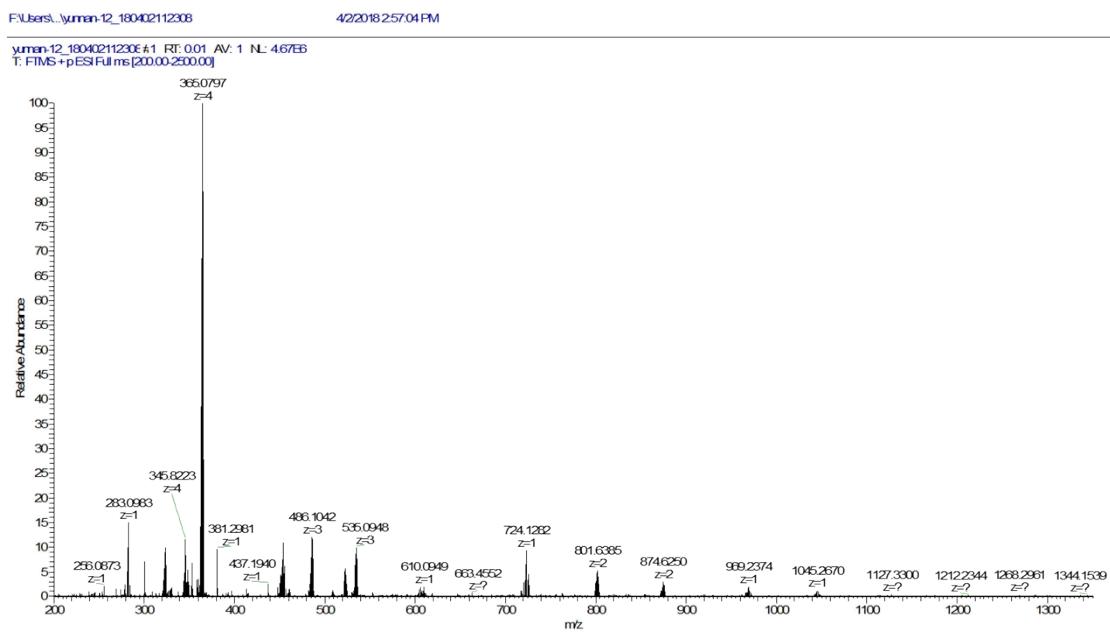
**Figure S36.**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY (400 MHz, MeCN- $d_3$ ) spectrum of complex **C3**.



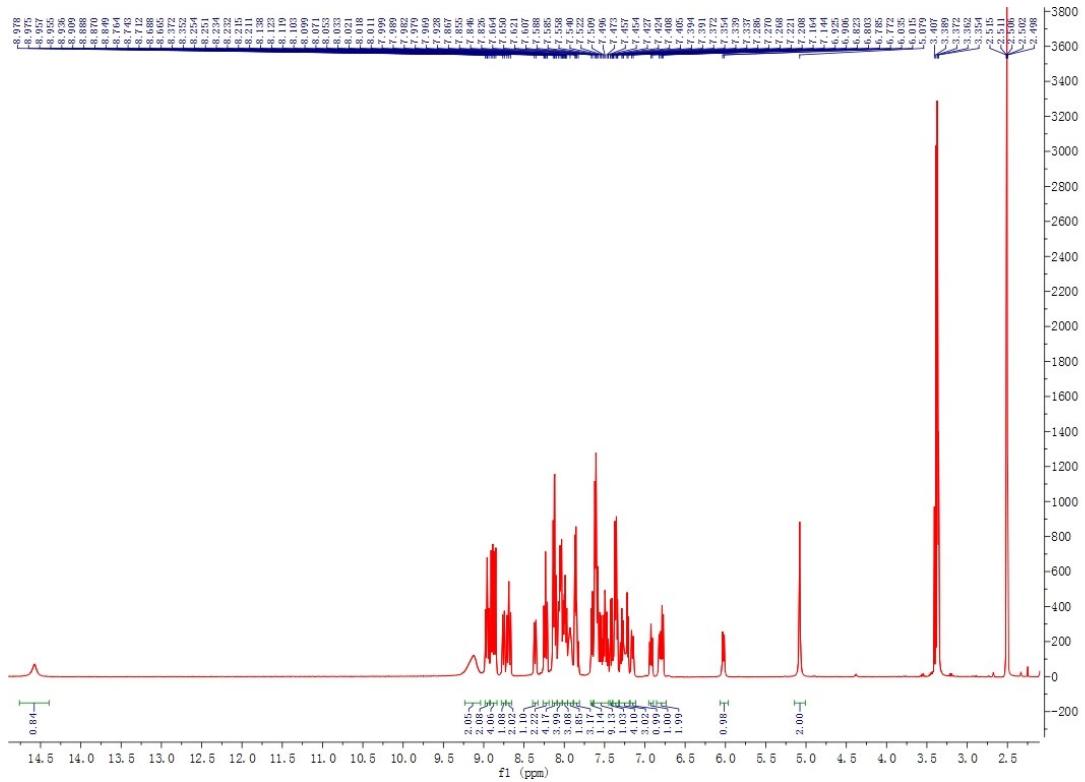
**Figure S37.** ESI-HRMS of complex C3.



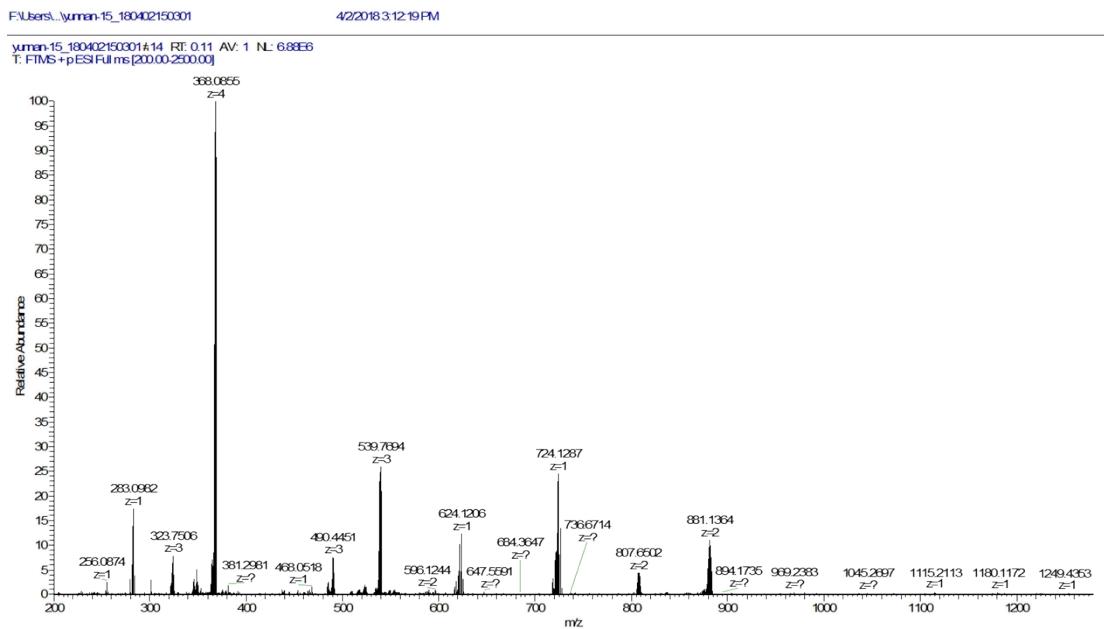
**Figure S38.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ) spectrum of complex C4.



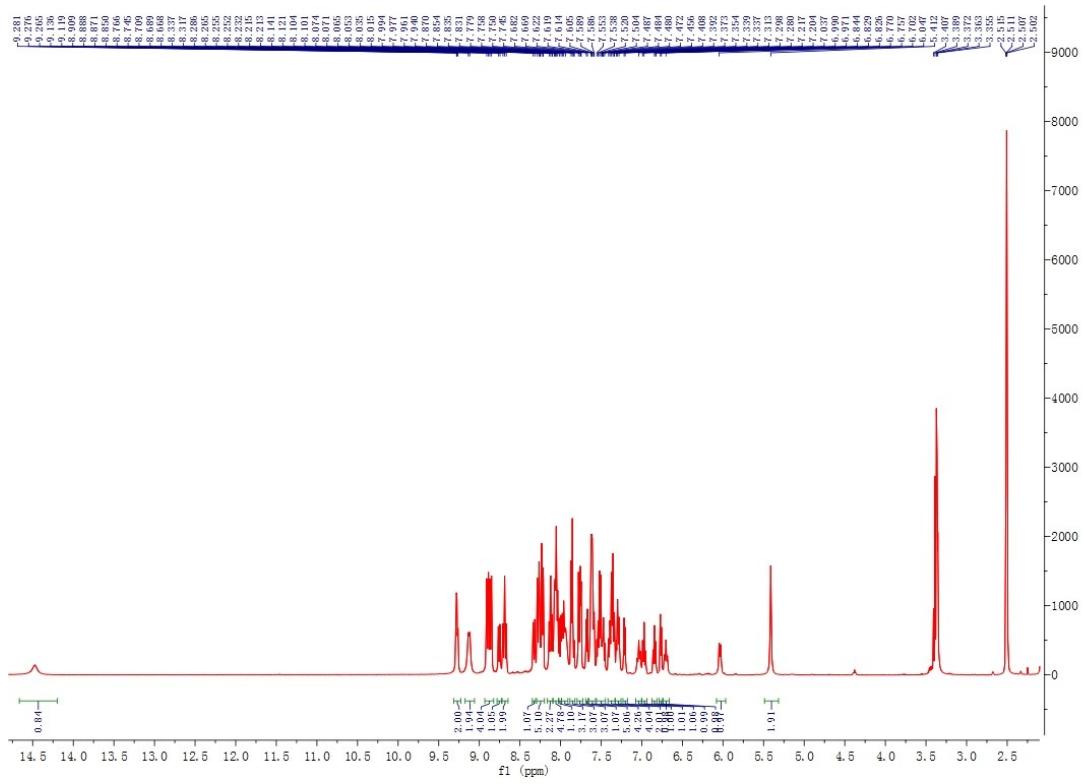
**Figure S39.** ESI-HRMS of complex **C4**.



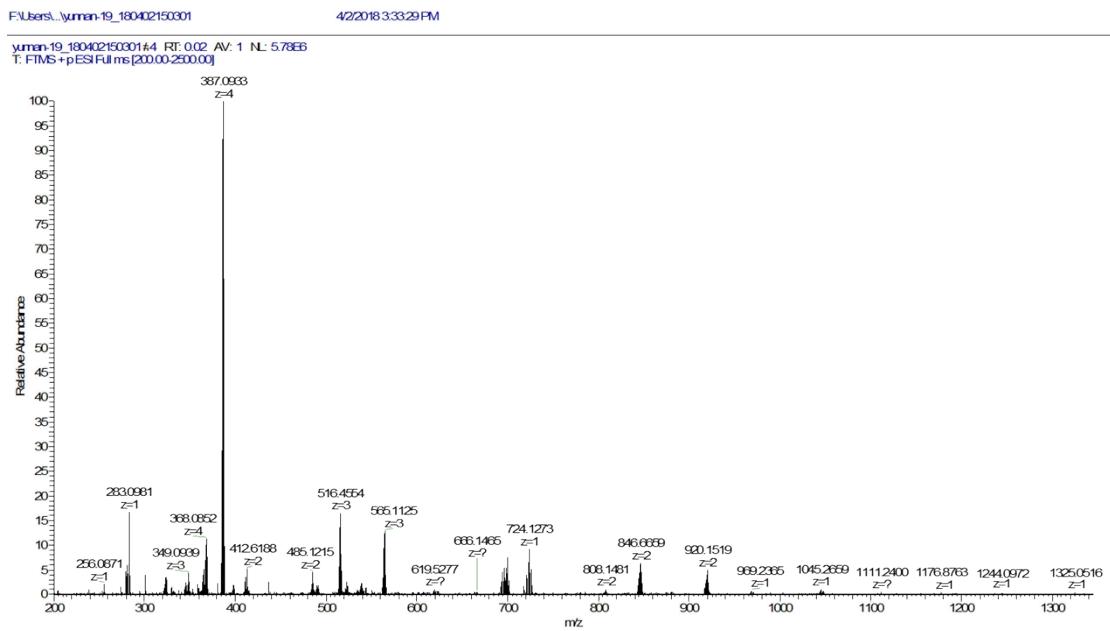
**Figure S40.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ) spectrum of complex **C5**.



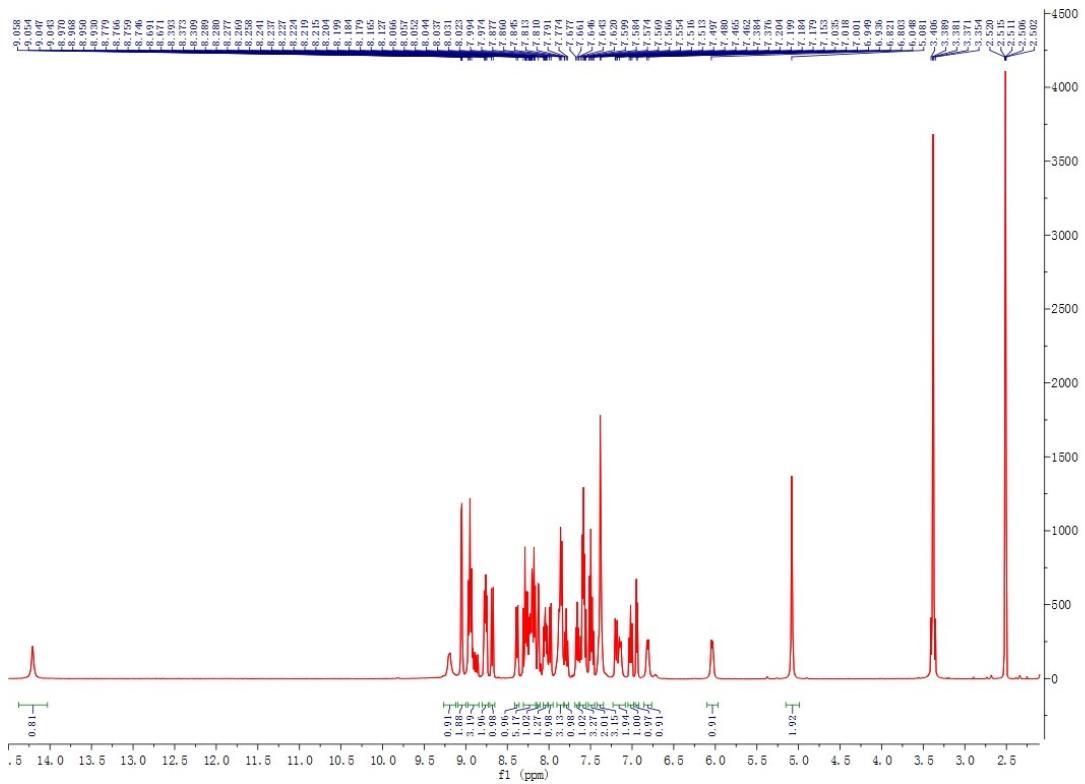
**Figure S41.** ESI-HRMS of complex **C5**.



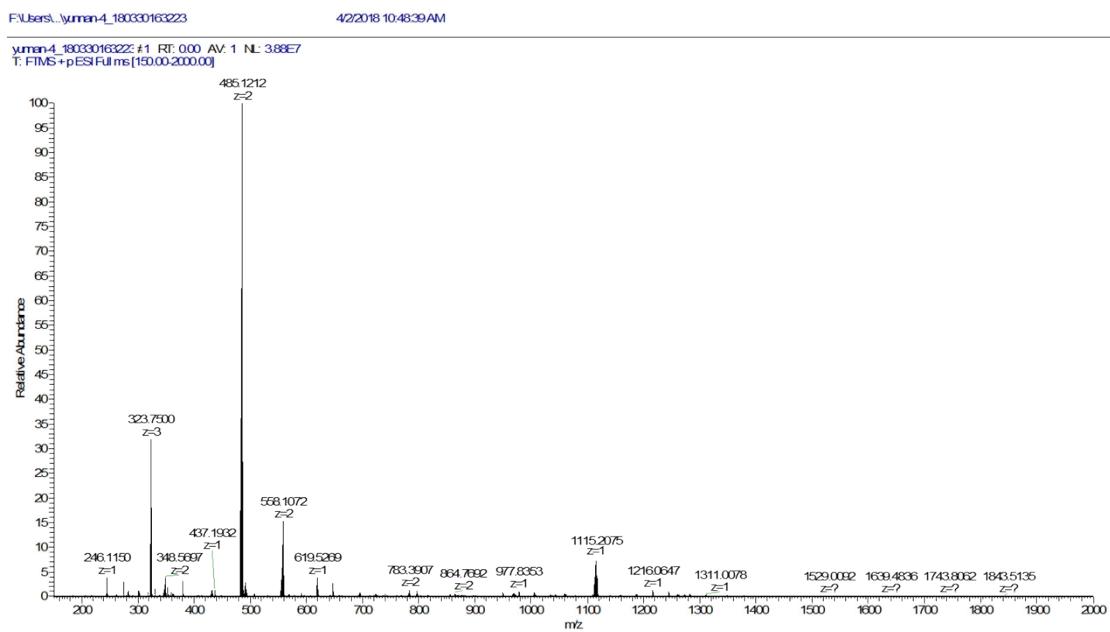
**Figure S42.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ) spectrum of complex **C6**.



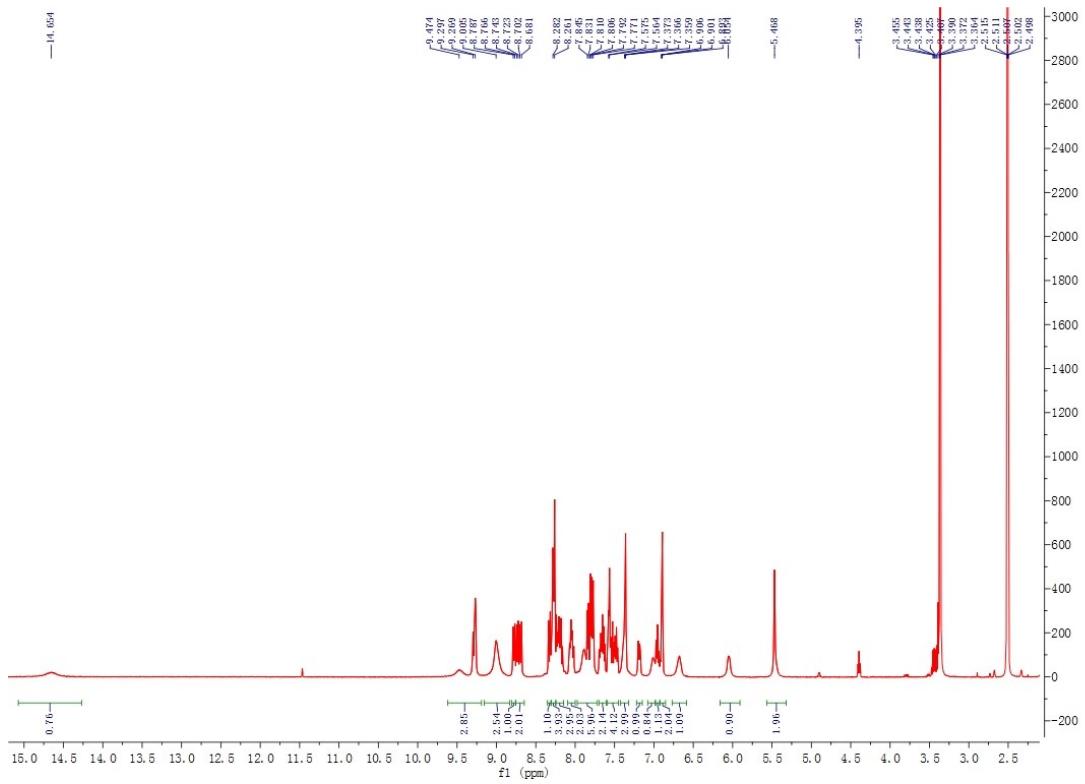
**Figure S43.** ESI-HRMS of complex **C6**.



**Figure S44.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ) spectrum of complex **C7**.



**Figure S45.** ESI-HRMS of complex **C7**.



**Figure S46.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ) spectrum of complex **C8**.

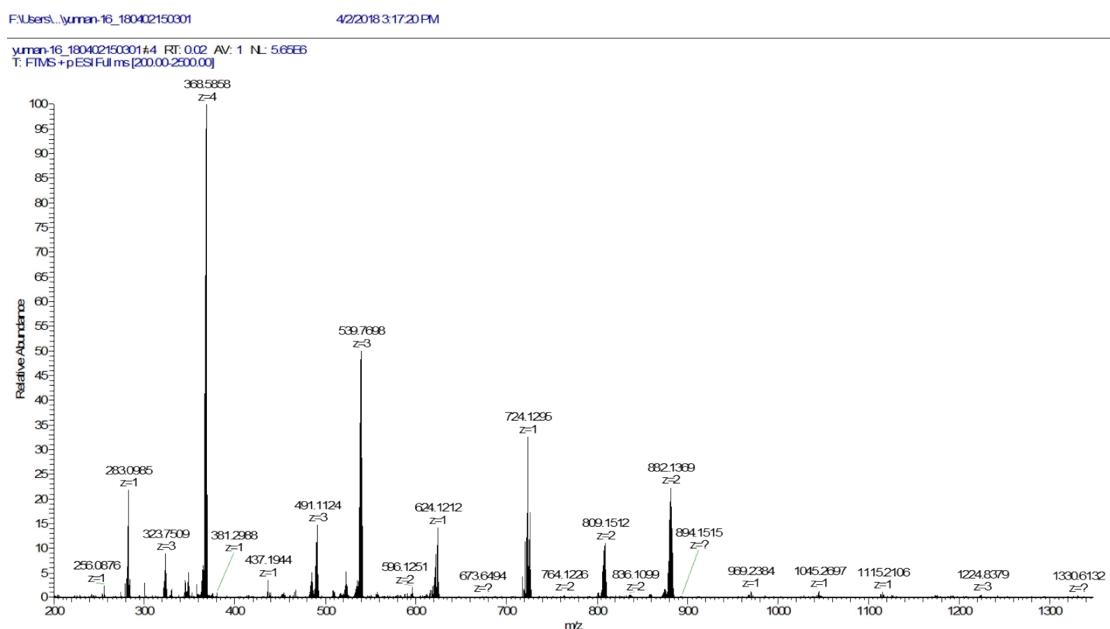
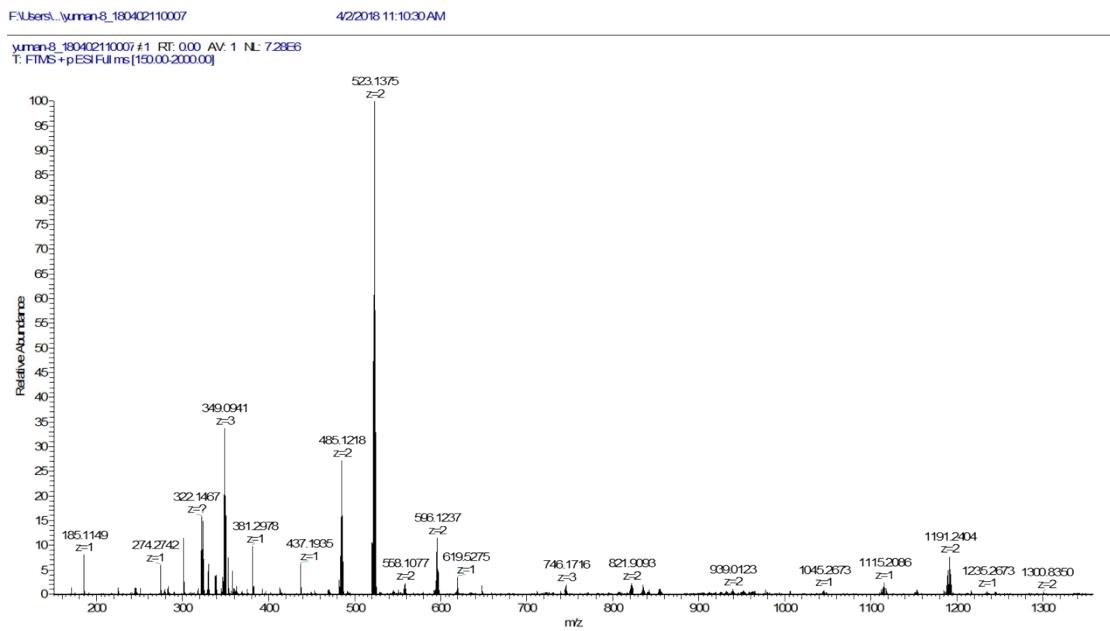
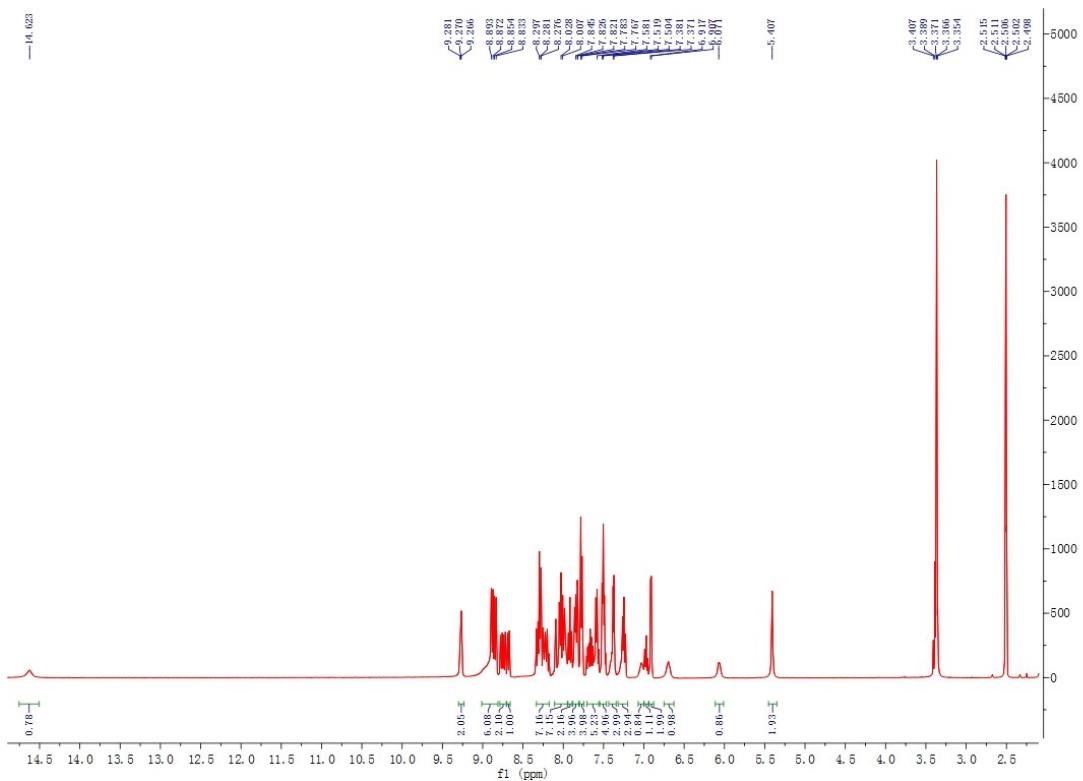
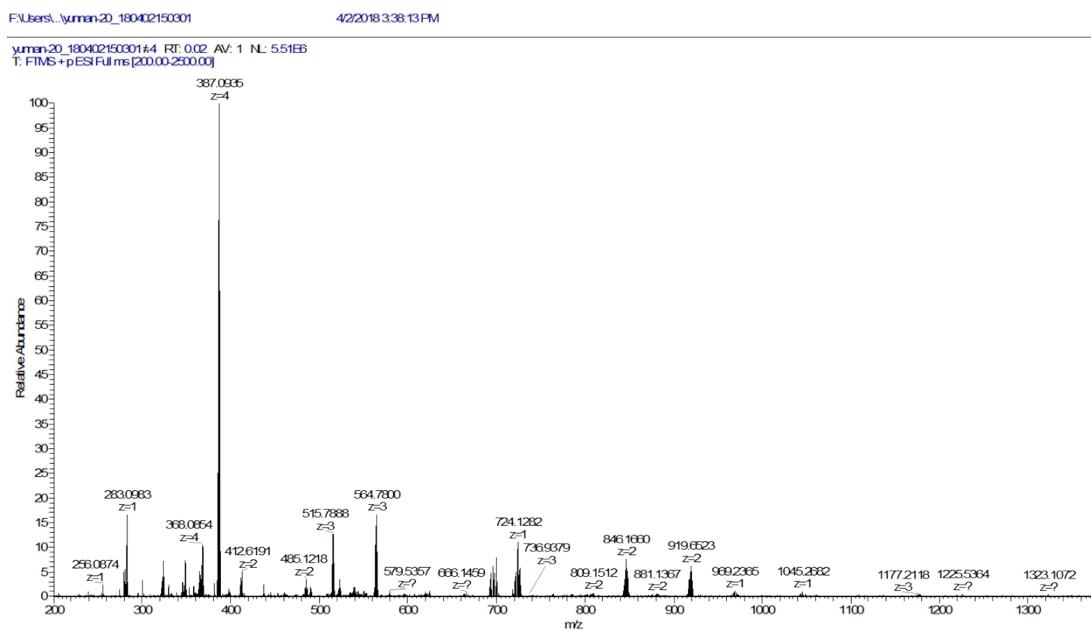


Figure S50. ESI-HRMS of complex C9.



**Figure S51.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ) spectrum of complex **C10**.



**Figure S52.** ESI-HRMS of complex **C10**.