

## BP23C7: high-yield synthesis and application in constructing [3]rotaxanes and responsive pseudo[2]rotaxanes

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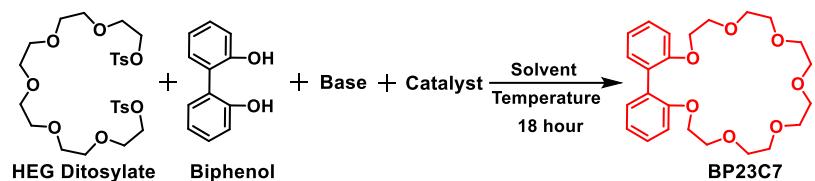
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### Electronic Supplementary Information

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## 1. Optimization table for BP23C7 synthesis

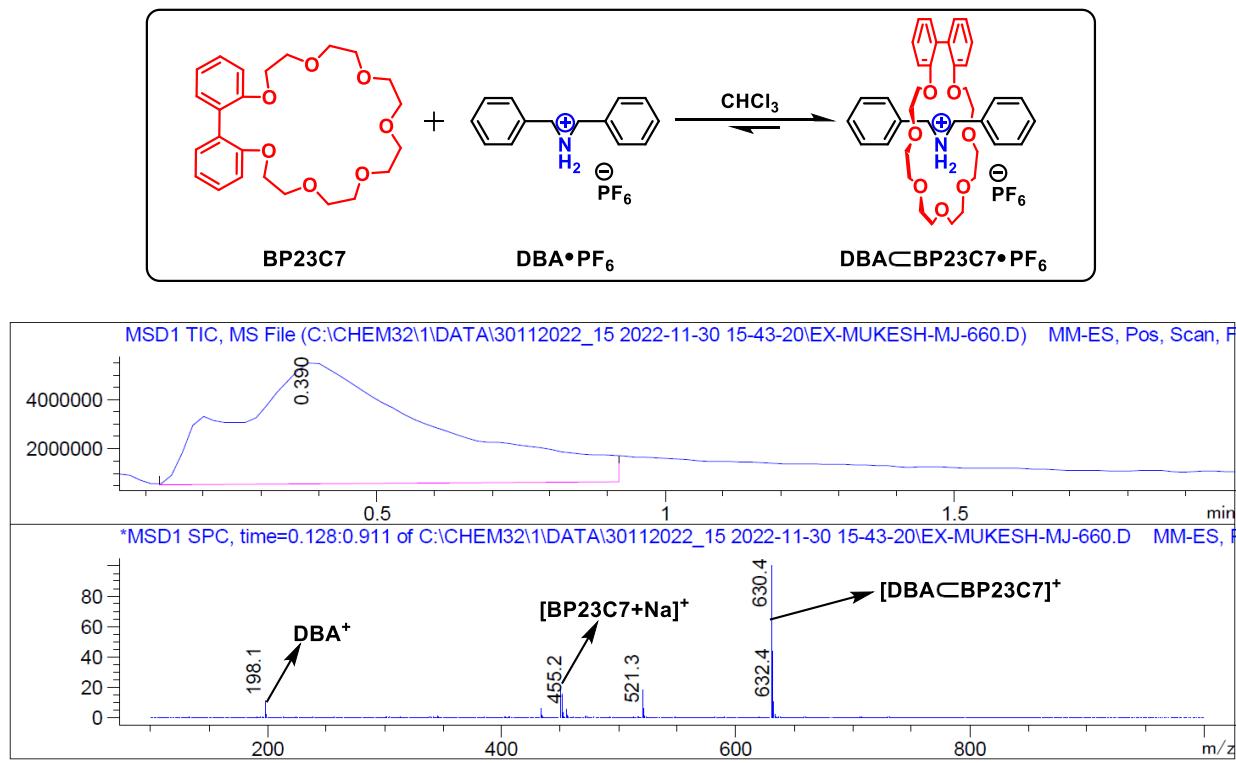


Entry	Solvent <sup>b</sup>	Base (equiv.)	Catalyst (equiv.)	Temperature	Yield (%) <sup>c</sup>
1	THF	NaH (3)	KPF <sub>6</sub> (0.25)	Room temp.	44
2	THF	NaH (6)	KPF <sub>6</sub> (0.25)	Room temp.	25
3	DMF	NaH (3)	KPF <sub>6</sub> (0.25)	Room temp.	23
4	DMF	NaH (6)	KPF <sub>6</sub> (0.25)	Room temp.	15
5	THF	NaH (3)	KPF <sub>6</sub> (0.25)	80°C	83
6	THF	NaH (3)	KI (0.25)	80°C	77
7	THF	K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> (3)	-	80°C	66
8	THF	KO <i>i</i> Bu (3)	-	80°C	71
9	THF	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> (3)	-	80°C	71
10	DMF	NaH (3)	KPF <sub>6</sub> (0.25)	80°C	51
11	DMF	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> (3)	-	80°C	64
12	ACN	Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> (3)	-	80°C	86

<sup>a</sup>100 mg scale of HEG ditosylate has been used throughout. <sup>b</sup>THF = Tetrahydrofuran, DMF = N,N'-Dimethylformamide and ACN = Acetonitrile. <sup>c</sup>Isolated yield.

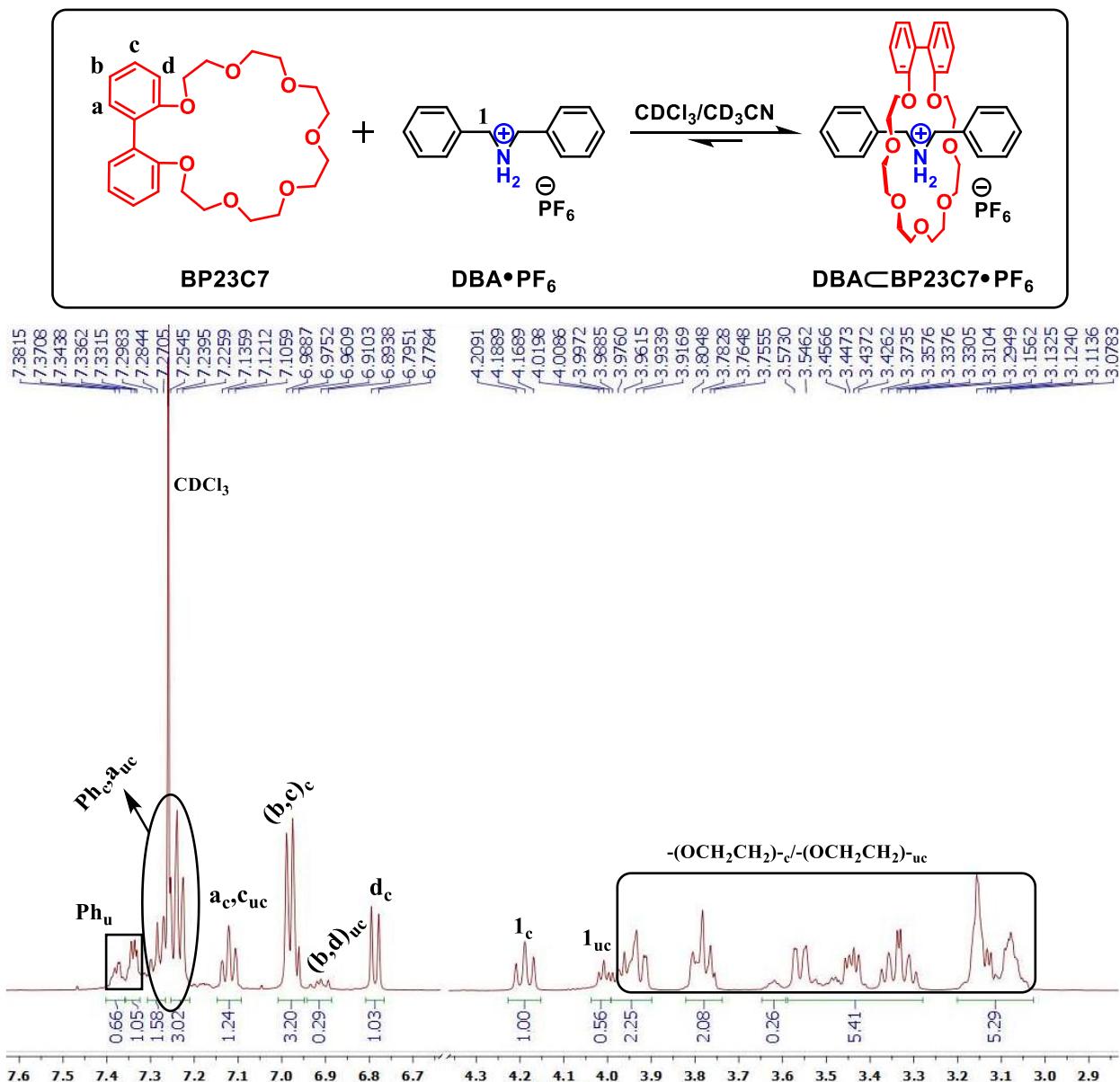
**Table S1.** Optimization reaction condition for BP23C7 synthesis. Heating condition afforded better yields. Three equivalents of base worked better than six equivalents of base. Templates such as KPF<sub>6</sub> and KI are effective, and bases comprising of alkali metal ions performed additional role of templating. Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> in acetonitrile medium at 80°C afforded the highest yield (86%, entry 12).

## 2. Nominal ESI-MS of a 1:1 mixture of $\text{DBA}\cdot\text{PF}_6$ & BP23C7



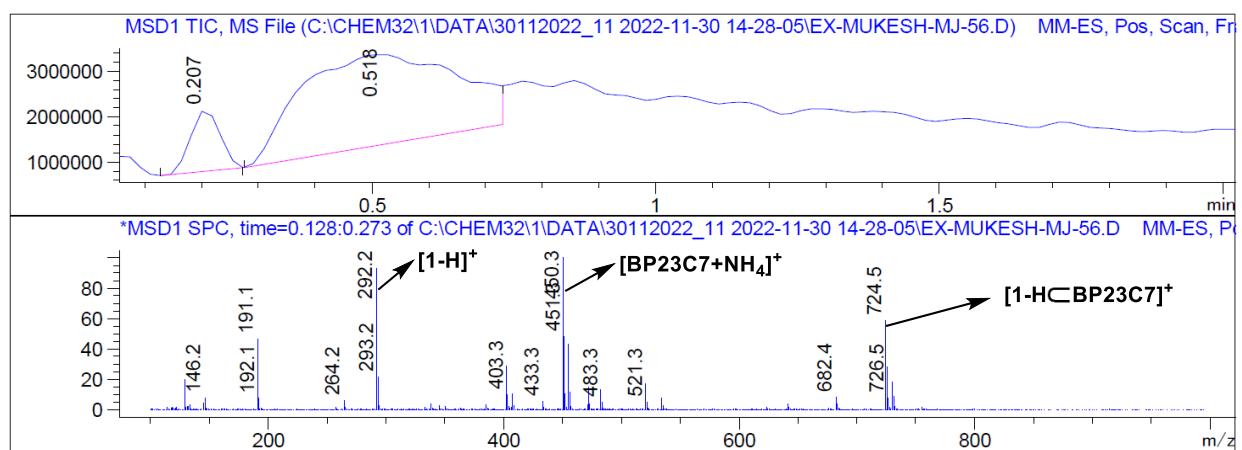
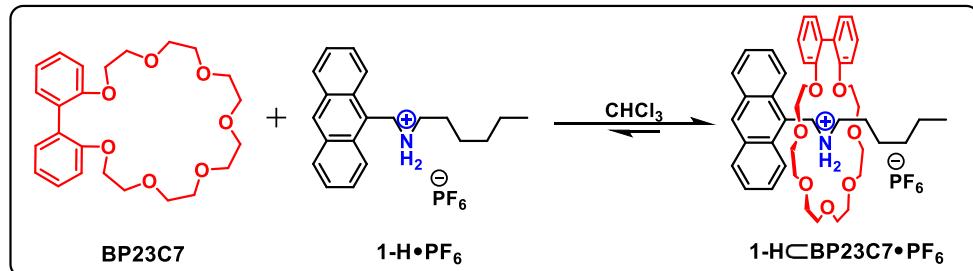
**Figure S1.** ESI mass spectrum of the equimolar mixture of  $\text{DBA}\cdot\text{PF}_6$  & BP23C7 displayed base peak at  $m/z = 630.4$   $[\text{M}-\text{PF}_6]^+$ , where “M” corresponds to the pseudo[2]rotaxane species  $\text{DBA}\subset\text{BP23C7}\cdot\text{PF}_6$ .

### 3. $^1\text{H}$ NMR spectrum of a 1:1 mixture of **DBA** $\cdot$ **PF<sub>6</sub>** & **BP23C7**



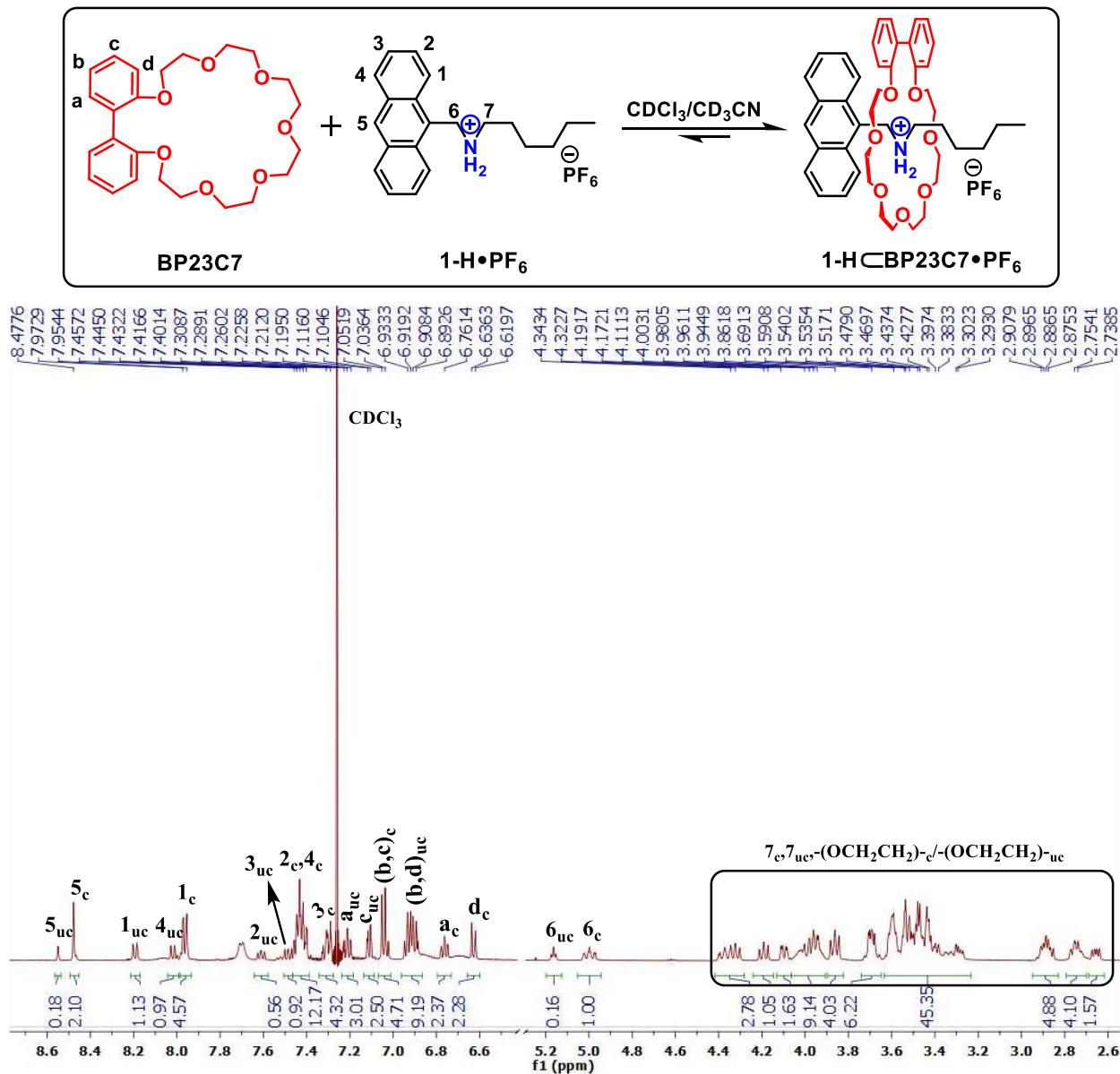
**Figure S2.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3/\text{CD}_3\text{CN} = 11:1$ ) of a 5mM equimolar mixture of **DBA** $\cdot$ **PF<sub>6</sub>** & **BP23C7**.  $K_a$  value calculated from integrations of the complexed and the uncomplexed peaks “1” of **DBA** $\cdot$ **PF<sub>6</sub>** is  $[(1.00/1.56) \times 5.00 \times 10^{-3}] / [(1 - 1.00/1.56) \times 5.00 \times 10^{-3}]^2 = 1.00 \times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1}$ .

#### 4. Nominal ESI-MS of a 1:1 mixture of **1-H·PF<sub>6</sub>** & **BP23C7**



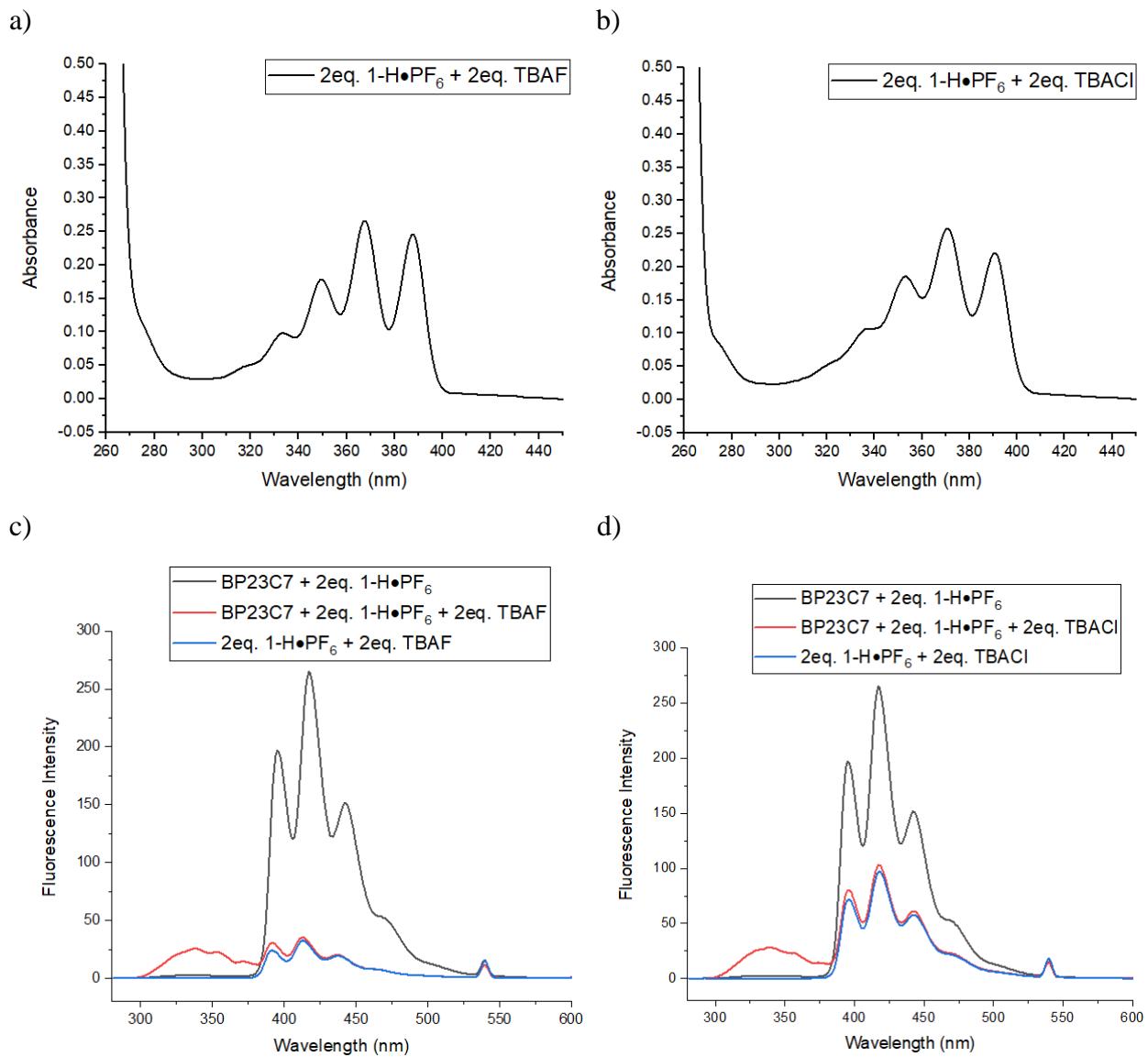
**Figure S3.** ESI mass spectrum of the equimolar mixture of **1-H·PF<sub>6</sub>** & **BP23C7** displayed base peak at  $m/z = 724.5$   $[M\text{-}PF_6]^+$ , where “M” corresponds to the pseudo[2]rotaxane species **1-H<sub>c</sub>BP23C7·PF<sub>6</sub>**.

## 5. $^1\text{H}$ NMR spectrum of a 1:1 mixture of **1-H** $\cdot$ **PF<sub>6</sub>** & **BP23C7**



**Figure S4.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>CN = 11:1) of a 5mM equimolar mixture of **1-H** $\cdot$ **PF<sub>6</sub>** & **BP23C7**.  $K_a$  value calculated from integrations of the complexed and the uncomplexed peaks “6” of **1-H** $\cdot$ **PF<sub>6</sub>** is [(1.00/1.16) x 5.00 x 10<sup>-3</sup>]/[(1-1.00/1.16) x 5.00 x 10<sup>-3</sup>]<sup>2</sup> = 9.0 x 10<sup>3</sup> M<sup>-1</sup>.

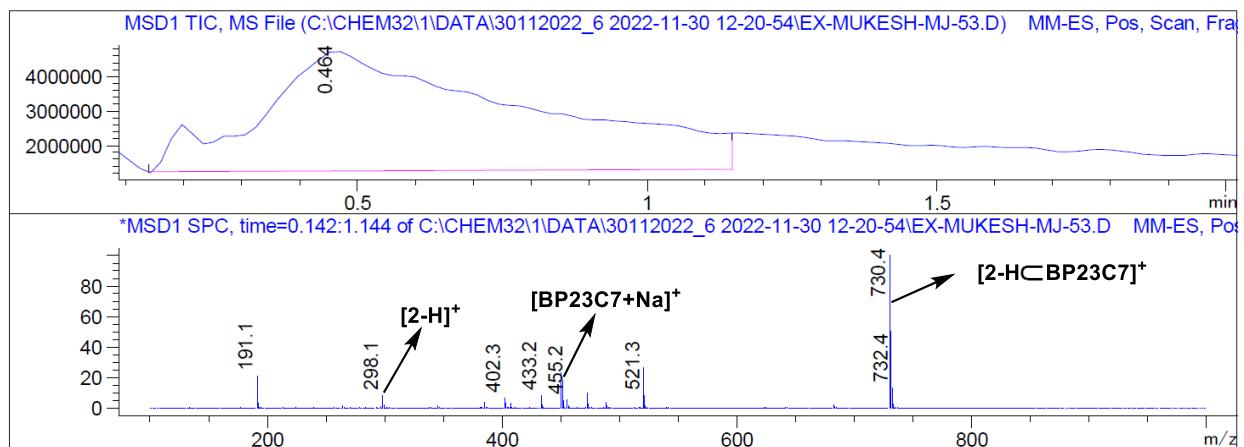
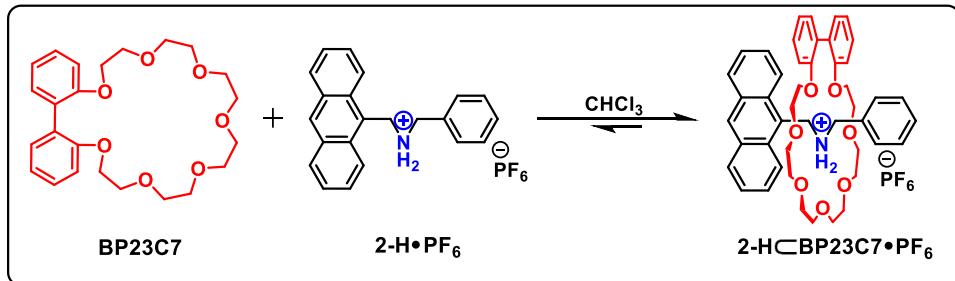
## 6. Optical data of the mixture of **1-H•PF<sub>6</sub>** & **BP23C7**



**Figure S5.** Absorption spectra (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 298 K) of a) 2eq. **1-H•PF<sub>6</sub>** ( $4 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}^{-1}$ ) + 2eq. **TBAF**; and b) 2eq. **1-H•PF<sub>6</sub>** ( $4 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}^{-1}$ ) + 2eq. **TBACl**.

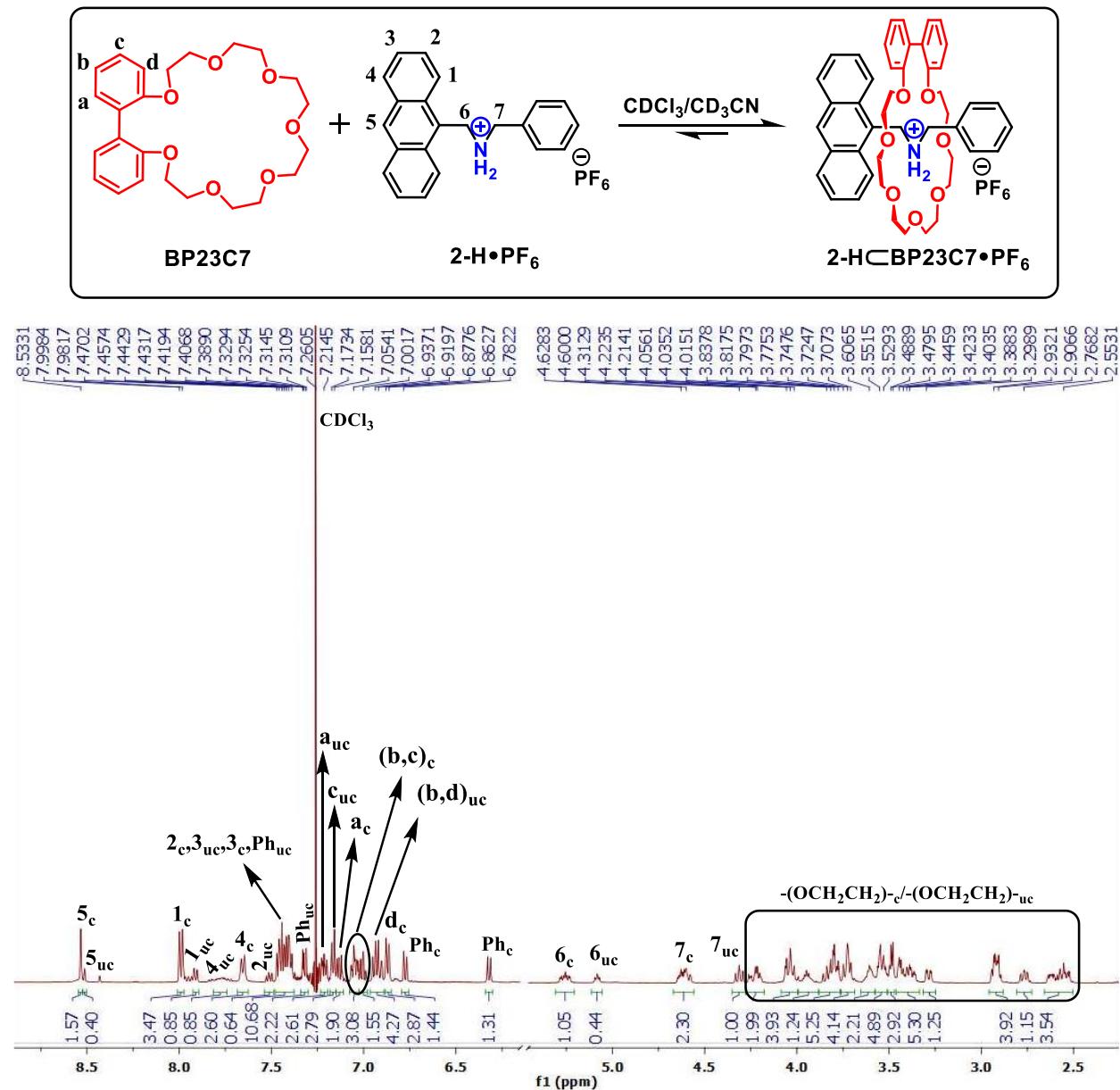
Fluorescence spectra (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>,  $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 270 \text{ nm}$ , 298 K) of c) **BP23C7** ( $2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}^{-1}$ ) + 2eq. **1-H•PF<sub>6</sub>** (black), **BP23C7** + 2eq. **1-H•PF<sub>6</sub>** + 2eq. **TBAF** (red), 2eq. **1-H•PF<sub>6</sub>** + 2eq. **TBAF** (blue); and d) **BP23C7** ( $2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}^{-1}$ ) + 2eq. **1-H•PF<sub>6</sub>** (black), **BP23C7** + 2eq. **1-H•PF<sub>6</sub>** + 2eq. **TBACl** (red), 2eq. **1-H•PF<sub>6</sub>** + 2eq. **TBACl** (blue).

## 7. Nominal ESI-MS of a 1:1 mixture of 2-H<sup>•</sup>PF<sub>6</sub> & BP23C7



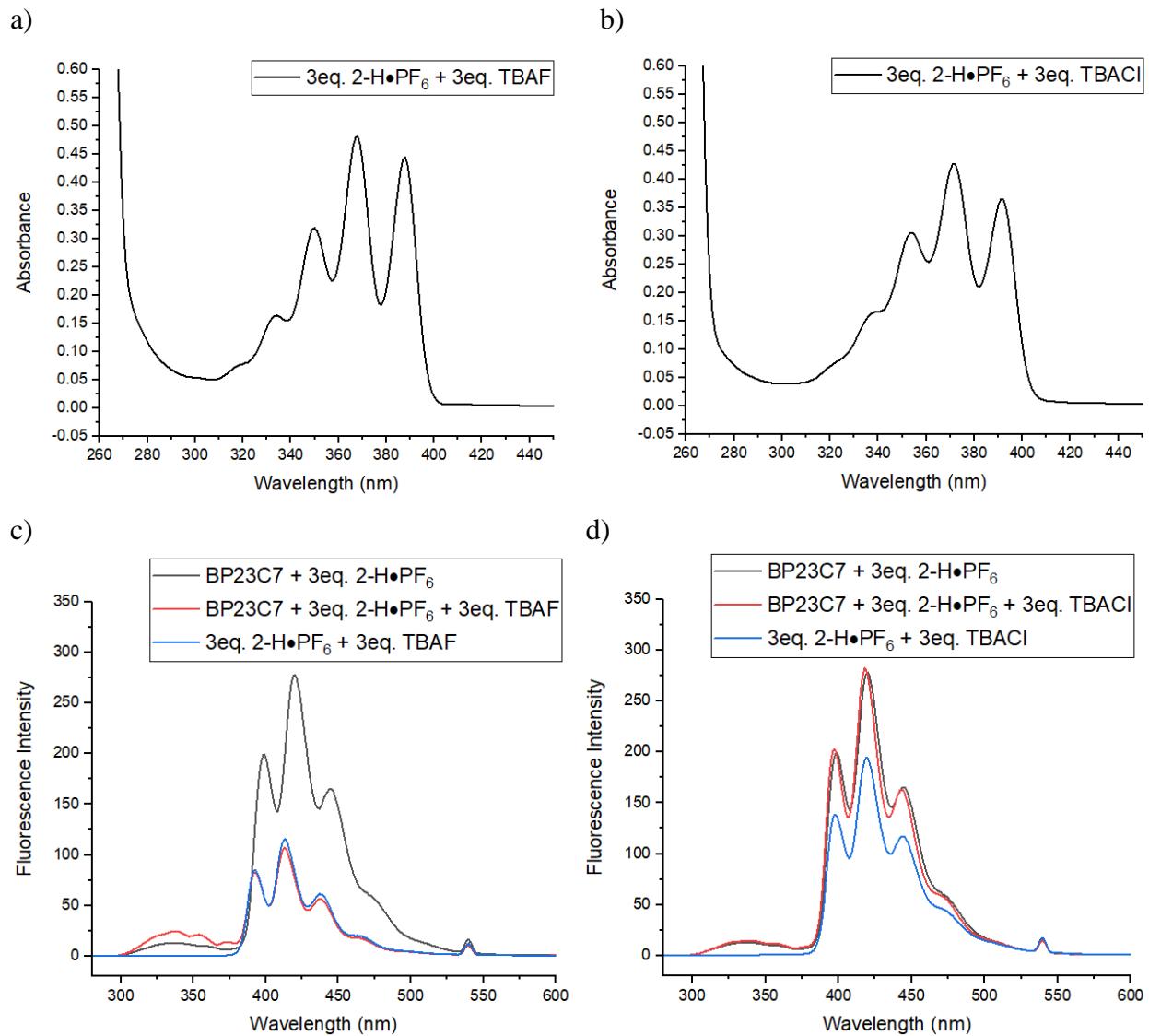
**Figure S6.** ESI mass spectrum of the equimolar mixture of 2-H<sup>•</sup>PF<sub>6</sub> & BP23C7 displayed base peak at  $m/z = 730.4$   $[M\text{-}PF_6]^+$ , where “M” corresponds to the pseudo[2]rotaxane species 2-H<sup>•</sup>BP23C7<sup>•</sup>PF<sub>6</sub>.

## 8. $^1\text{H}$ NMR spectrum of a 1:1 mixture of **2-H** $\bullet$ **PF<sub>6</sub>** & **BP23C7**



**Figure S7.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3/\text{CD}_3\text{CN} = 11:1$ ) of a 5mM equimolar mixture of **2-H** $\bullet$ **PF<sub>6</sub>** & **BP23C7**.  $K_a$  value calculated from integrations of the complexed and the uncomplexed peaks “6” of **2-H** $\bullet$ **PF<sub>6</sub>** is  $[(1.05/1.49) \times 5.00 \times 10^{-3}] / [(1-1.05/1.49) \times 5.00 \times 10^{-3}]^2 = 1.6 \times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1}$ .

## 9. Optical data of the mixture of **2-H·PF<sub>6</sub>** & **BP23C7**

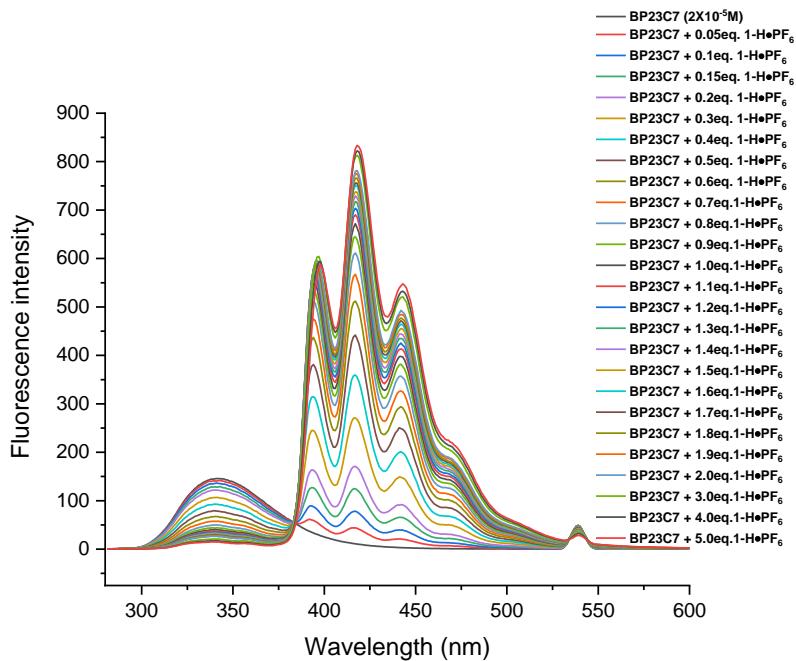


**Figure S8.** Absorption spectra ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 298 K) of a) 3eq. **2-H·PF<sub>6</sub>** ( $6 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}^{-1}$ ) + 3eq. **TBAF**; and b) 3eq. **2-H·PF<sub>6</sub>** ( $6 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}^{-1}$ ) + 3eq. **TBACl**.

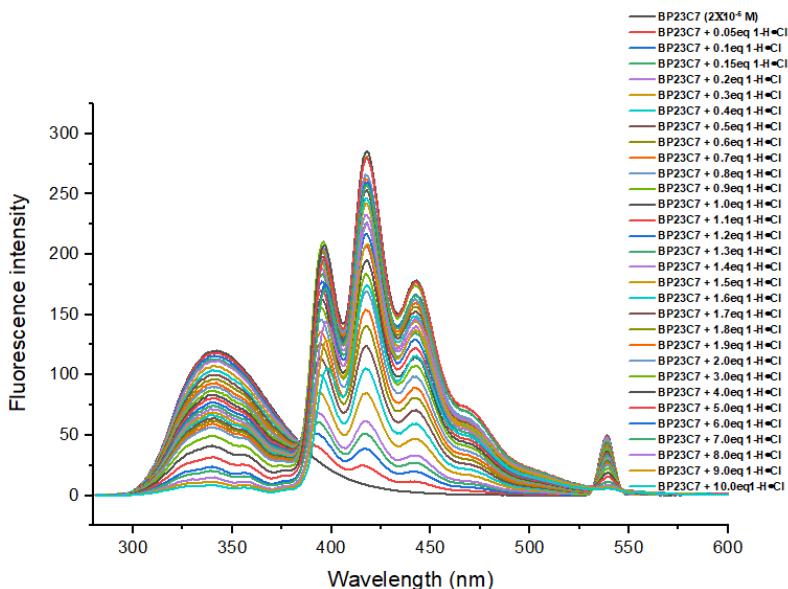
Fluorescence spectra ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 270 \text{ nm}$ , 298 K) of c) **BP23C7** ( $2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}^{-1}$ ) + 3eq. **2-H·PF<sub>6</sub>** (black), **BP23C7** + 3eq. **2-H·PF<sub>6</sub>** + 3eq. **TBAF** (red), 3eq. **2-H·PF<sub>6</sub>** + 3eq. **TBAF** (blue); and d) **BP23C7** ( $2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}^{-1}$ ) + 3eq. **2-H·PF<sub>6</sub>** (black), **BP23C7** + 3eq. **2-H·PF<sub>6</sub>** + 3eq. **TBACl** (red), 3eq. **2-H·PF<sub>6</sub>** + 3eq. **TBACl** (blue).

## 10. Fluorescence titration of BP23C7 with 1-H·PF<sub>6</sub> & 1-H·Cl

a)



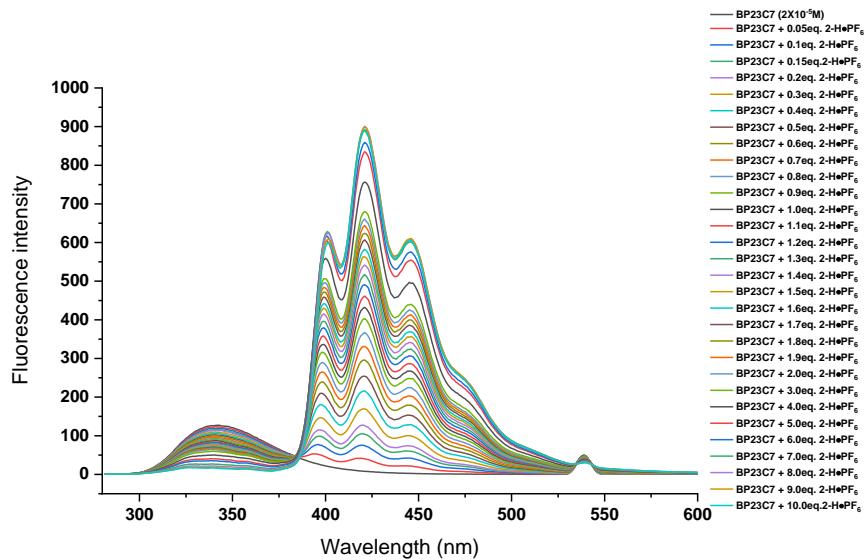
b)



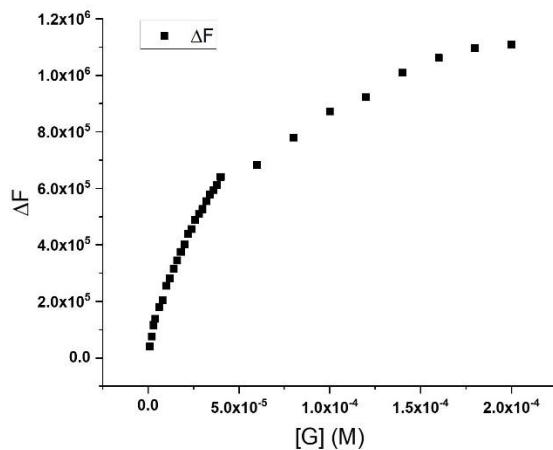
**Figure S9.** Fluorescence titration experiment of BP23C7 ( $2 \times 10^{-5}$  M) with a) 1-H·PF<sub>6</sub> and b) 1-H·Cl.

## 11. Fluorescence titration of BP23C7 with 2-H·PF<sub>6</sub>

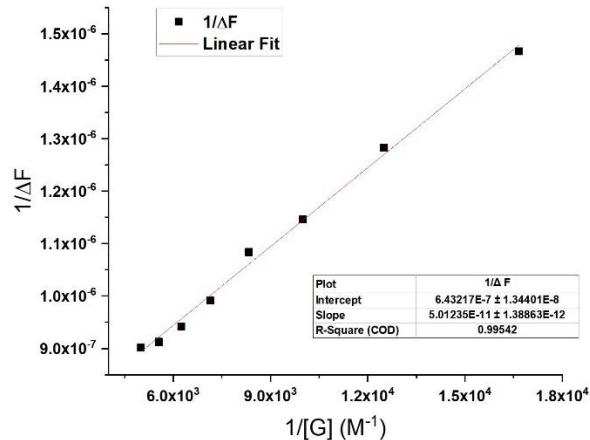
a)



b)

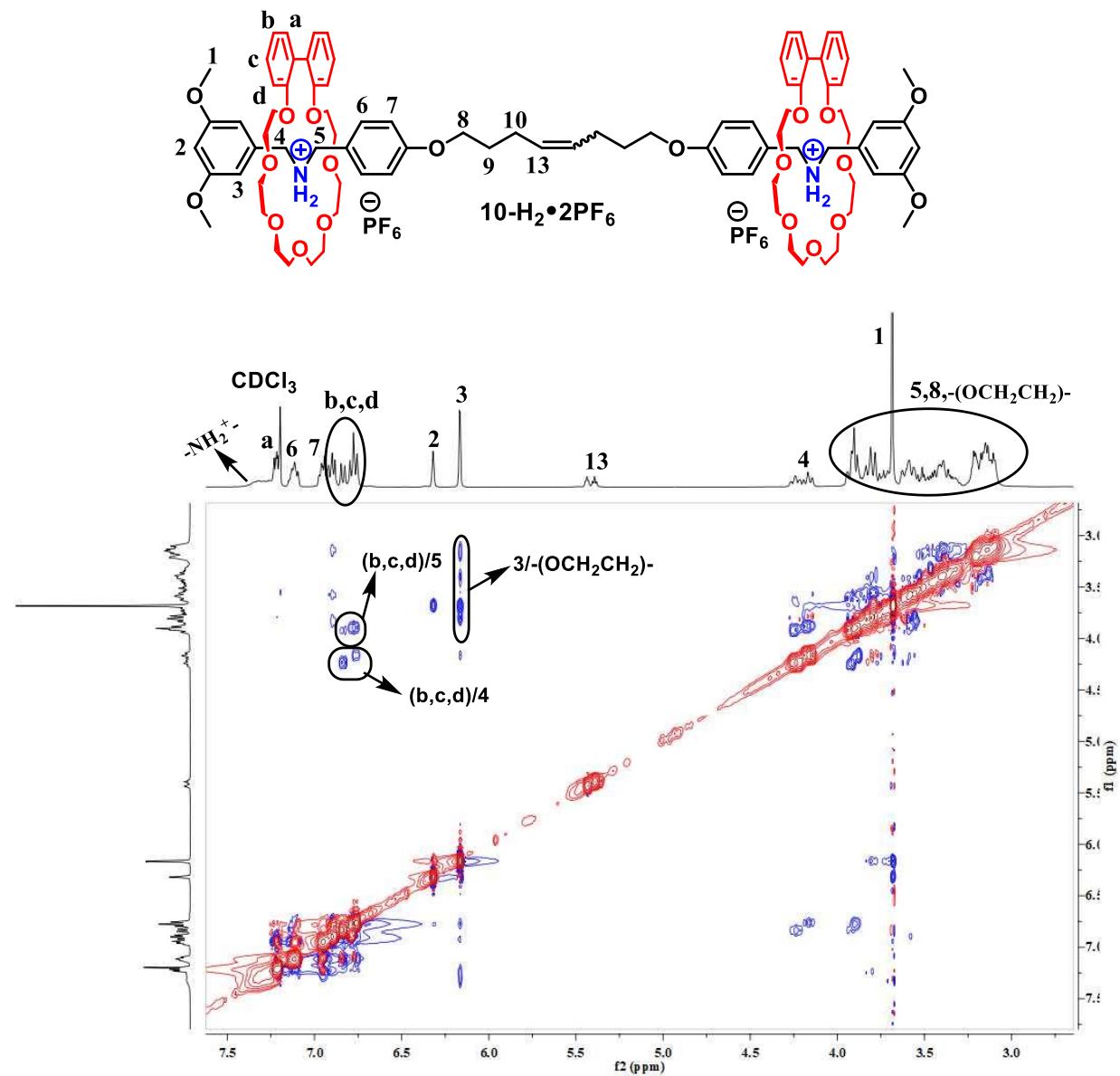


c)



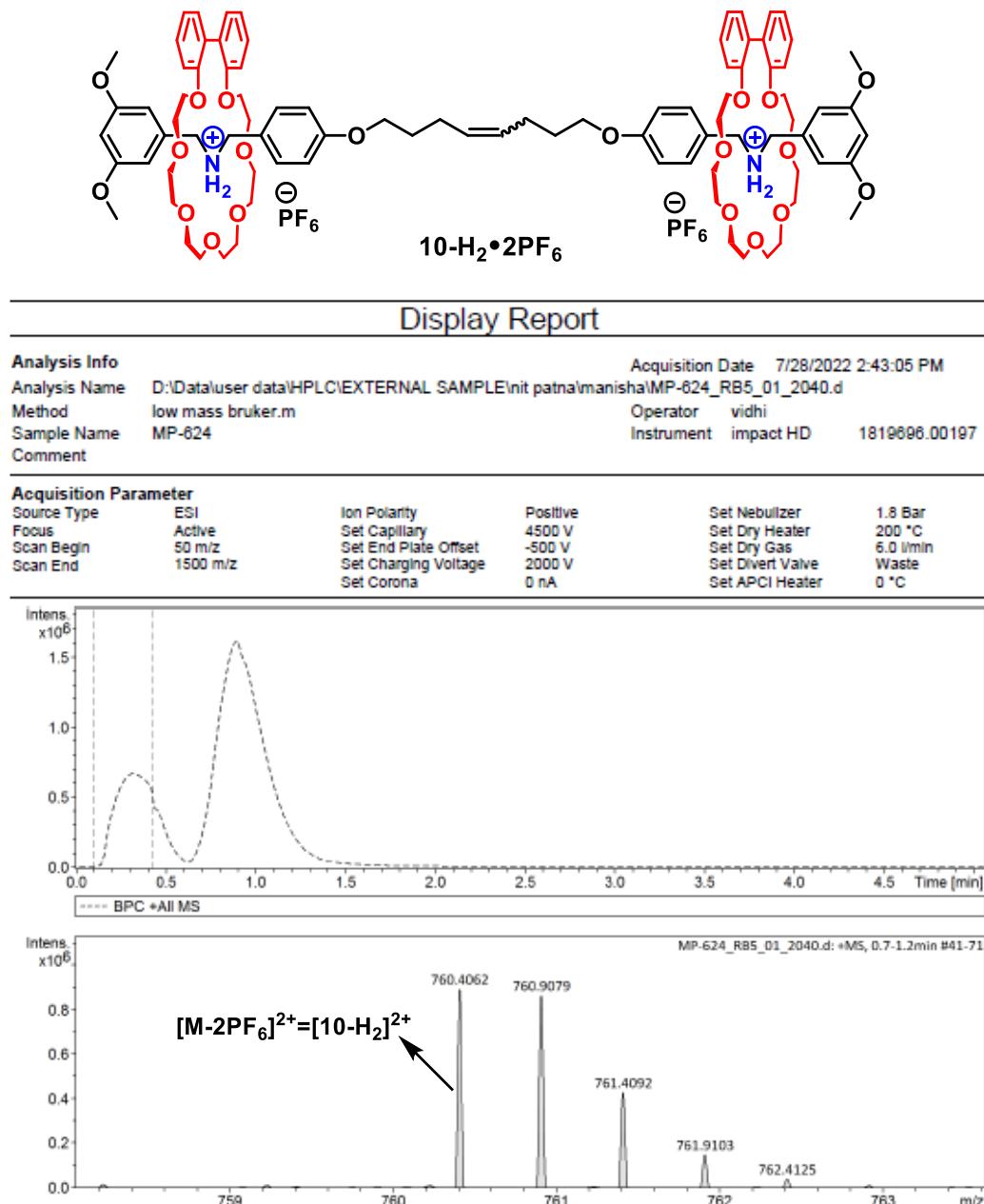
**Figure S10.** a) Fluorescence titration experiment of BP23C7 ( $2 \times 10^{-5}$  M) with **2-H·PF<sub>6</sub>**; b) Plot of change in fluorescence quenching of BP23C7 with concentration of **2-H·PF<sub>6</sub>**; c) Benesi-Hildebrand plot from fluorescence titration data of (a),  $K_a = \text{Intercept}/\text{Slope} = (1.283 \pm 0.008) \times 10^4 \text{ M}^{-1}$ .

## 12. 2D NOESY NMR spectrum of the [3]Rotaxane **10-H<sub>2</sub>•2PF<sub>6</sub>**



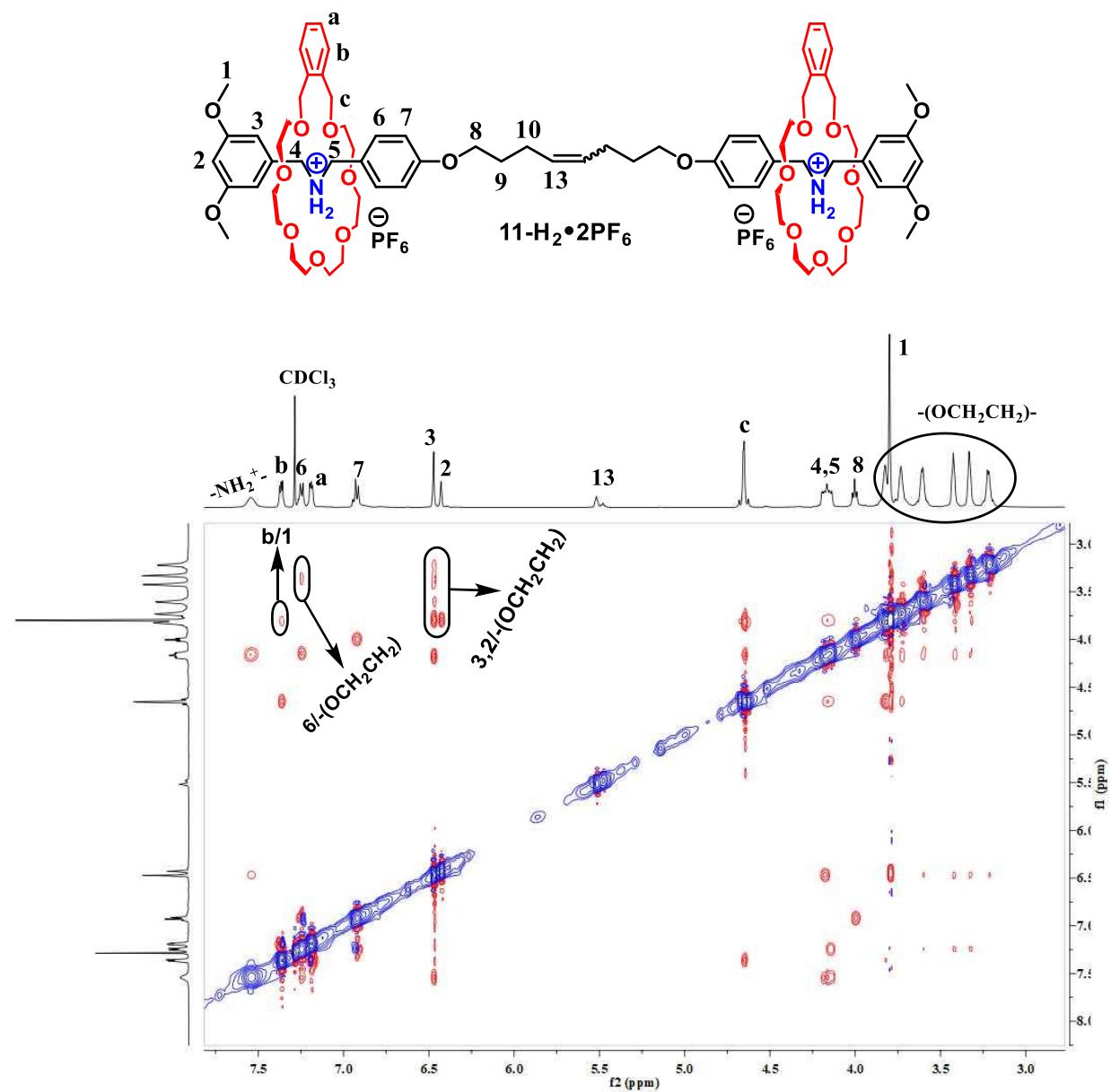
**Figure S11.**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  NOESY NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **10-H<sub>2</sub>•2PF<sub>6</sub>**. In this case, a strong correlation between (-OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-) protons of **BP23C7** with the aromatic protons H<sub>3</sub> of the stopper group is seen. Moreover, strong NOE cross peaks between **BP23C7** aromatic protons H<sub>b</sub>, H<sub>c</sub>, H<sub>d</sub> and the benzylic protons H<sub>4</sub> and H<sub>5</sub> of the axle corroborates the interlocking geometry.

### 13. HR ESI-MS spectrum of the [3]Rotaxane **10-H<sub>2</sub>•2PF<sub>6</sub>**



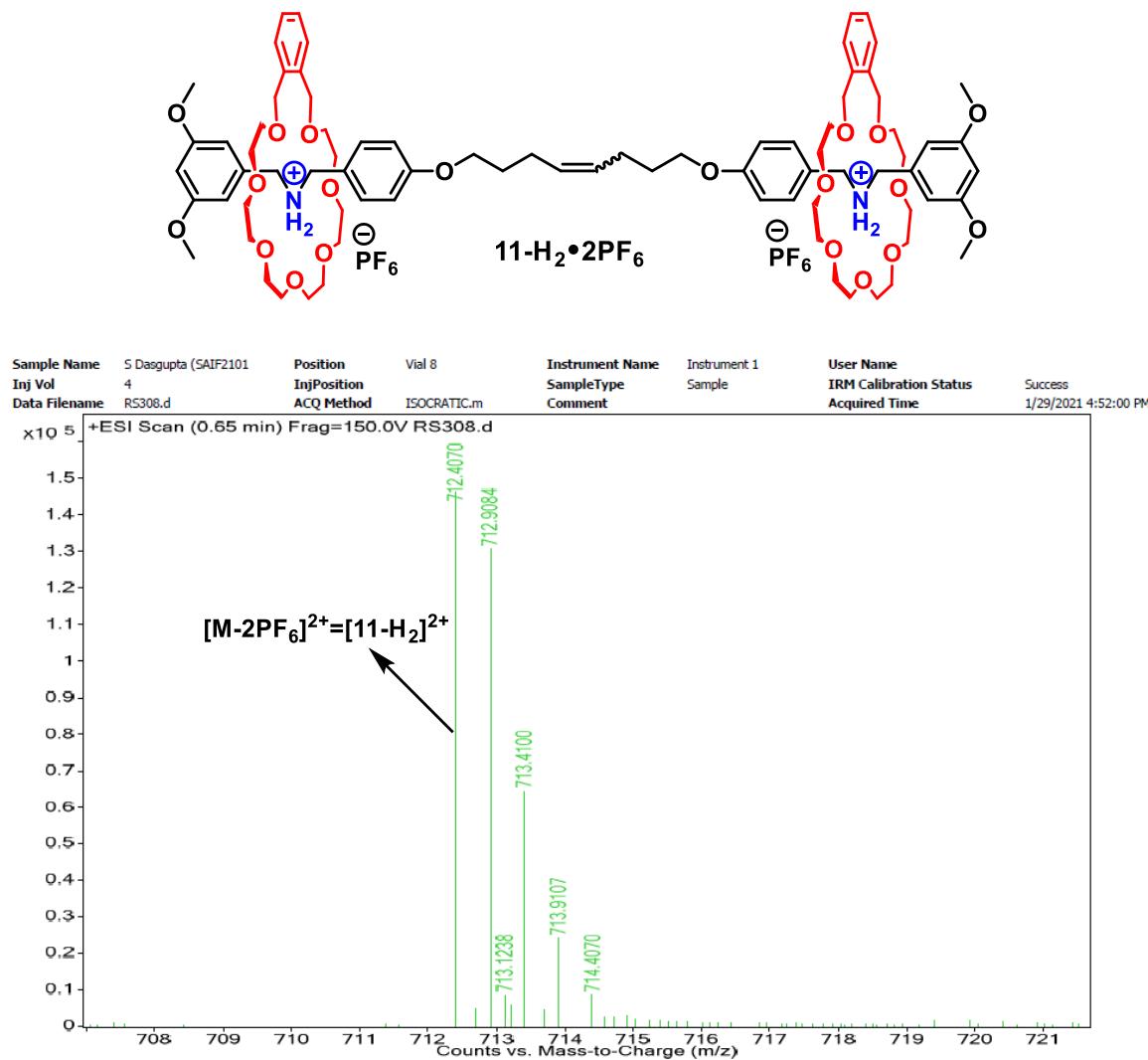
**Figure S12.** HR ESI-MS spectrum of the [3]rotaxane **10-H<sub>2</sub>•2PF<sub>6</sub>**. Peak at  $m/z = 760.4062$  corresponds to  $[M-2PF_6]^{2+}$  species. Isotopic distribution aptly reaffirms the effective species as the dicationic species,  $[10-H_2]^{2+}$ . HR MS (ESI):  $m/z$  Calcd for  $C_{88}H_{116}N_2O_{20}^{2+}$  ( $M-2PF_6$ ) $^{2+}$ : 760.4055 (100%), 760.9072 (95.2%).

## 14. 2D NOESY NMR spectrum of the [3]Rotaxane **11-H<sub>2</sub>•2PF<sub>6</sub>**



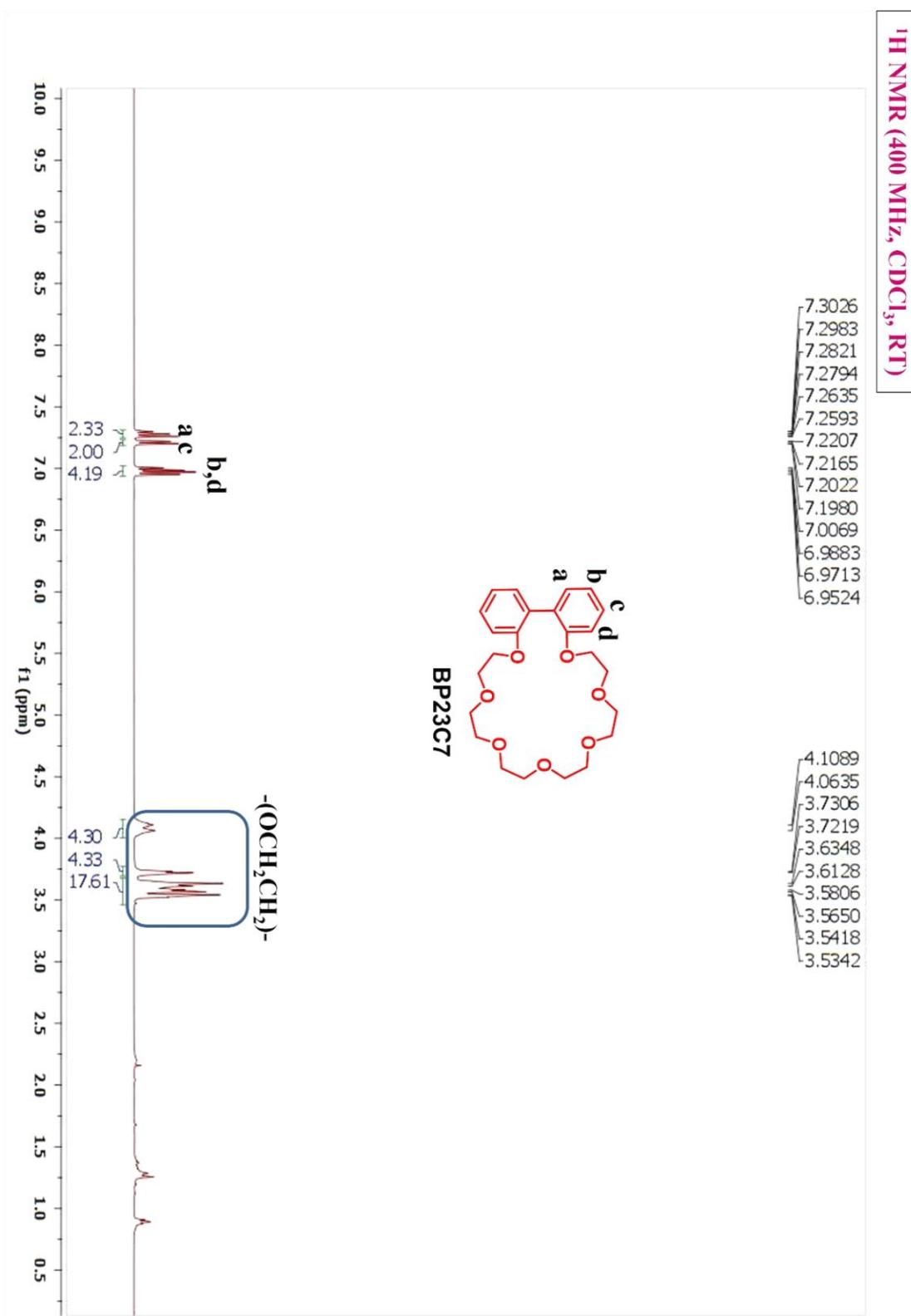
**Figure S13.** <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H NOESY NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of **11-H<sub>2</sub>•2PF<sub>6</sub>**. In this case, strong correlations between (-OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-) protons of **X23C7** with the aromatic protons H<sub>2</sub>/H<sub>3</sub>/H<sub>6</sub> of the axle are observed. Additional correlations such as “H<sub>b</sub>/H<sub>1</sub>” unambiguously indicates the interlocked geometry.

## 15. HR ESI-MS spectrum of the [3]Rotaxane $\mathbf{11\text{-H}_2\bullet 2PF_6}$

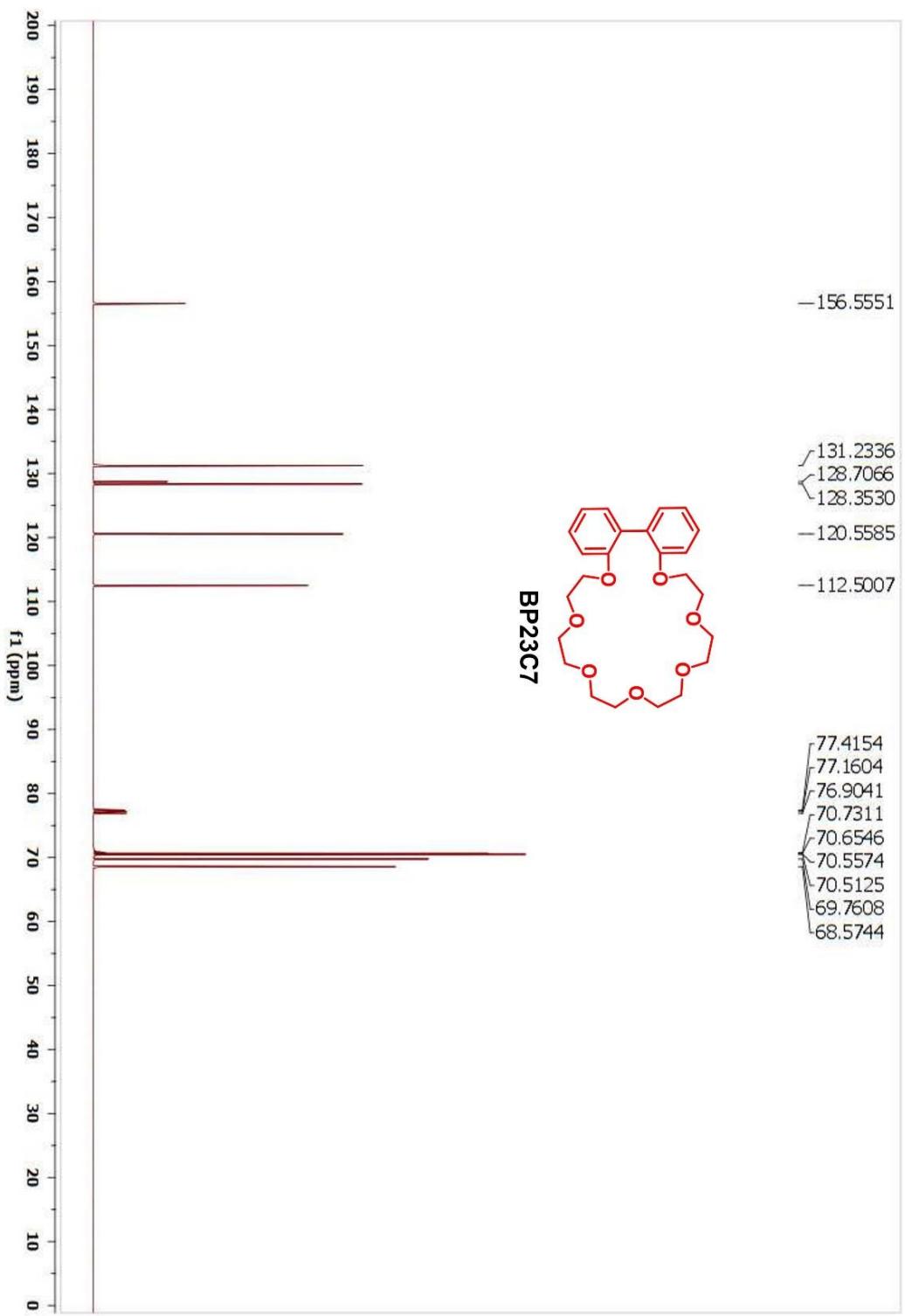


**Figure S14.** HR ESI-MS spectrum of the [3]rotaxane  $\mathbf{11\text{-H}_2\bullet 2PF_6}$ . Peak at  $m/z = 712.4070$  corresponds to the  $[\text{M-2PF}_6]^{2+}$  species. Isotopic distribution clearly suggests the effective species as the dicationic species,  $[\mathbf{11\text{-H}_2}]^{2+}$ . HR MS (ESI):  $m/z$  Calcd for  $\text{C}_{80}\text{H}_{116}\text{N}_2\text{O}_{20}^{2+}$  ( $\text{M-2PF}_6$ ) $^{2+}$ : 712.4055 (100%), 712.9072 (86.5%).

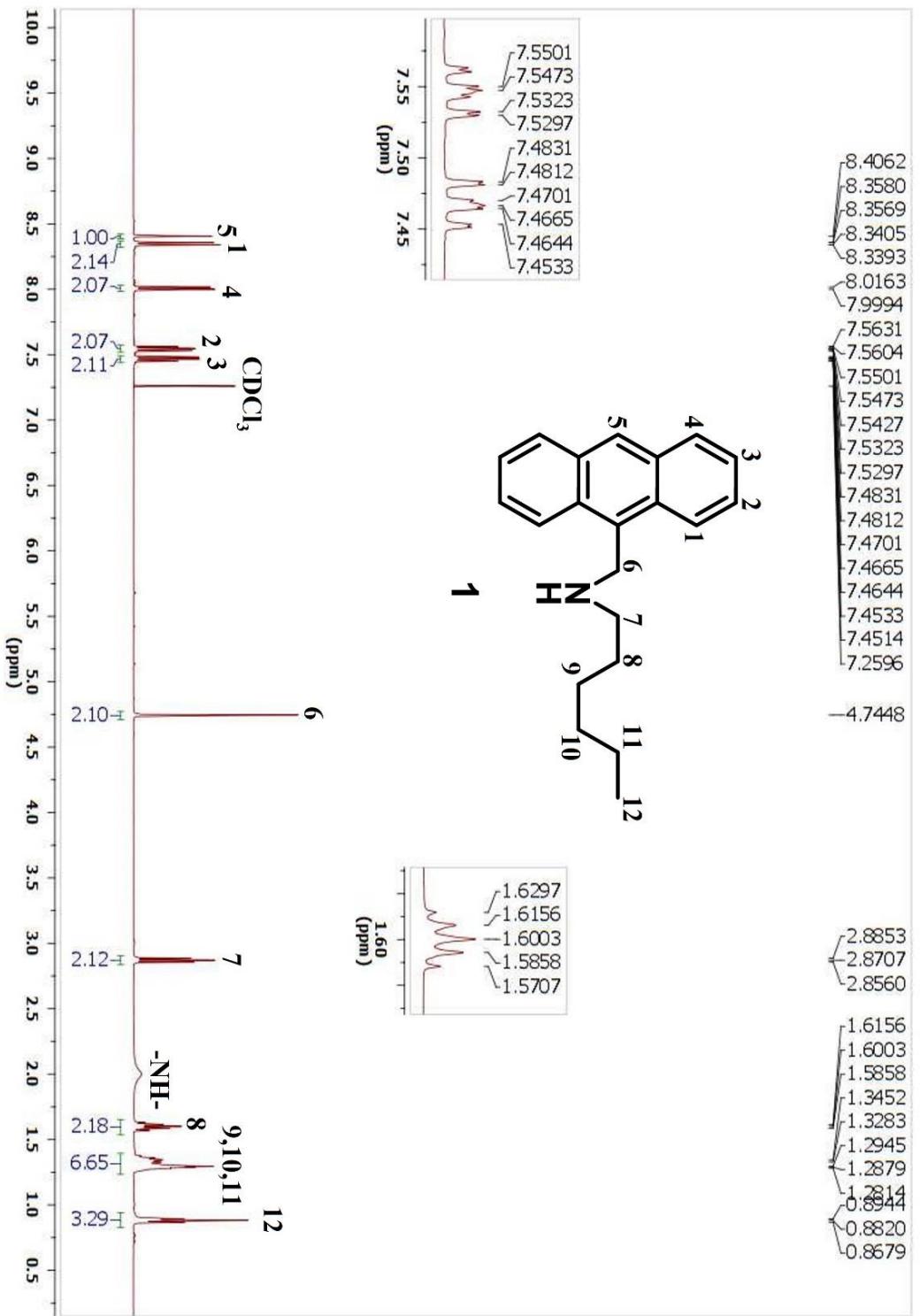
## 16. $^1\text{H}$ NMR & $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectra of all synthesized compounds



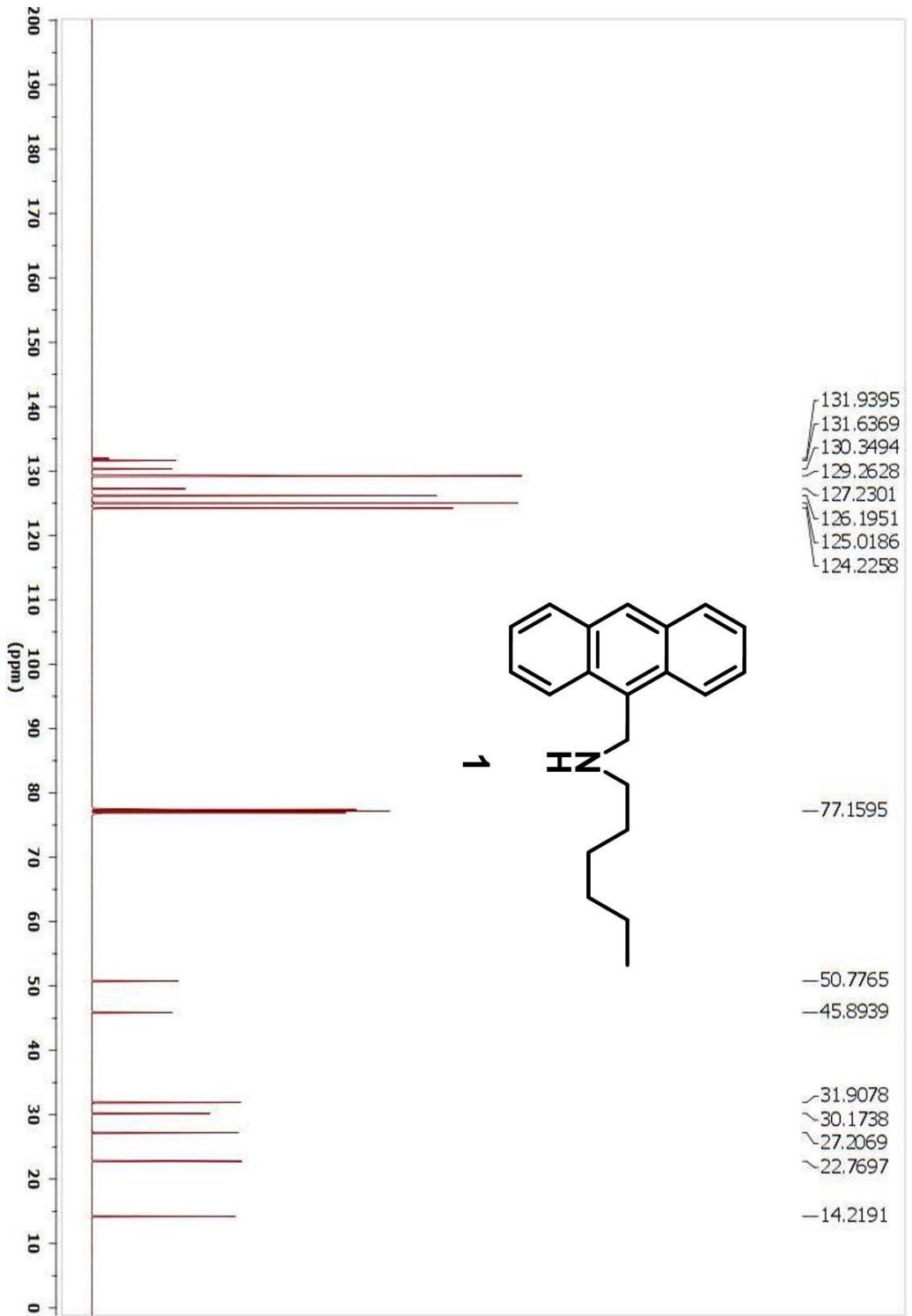
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, RT)



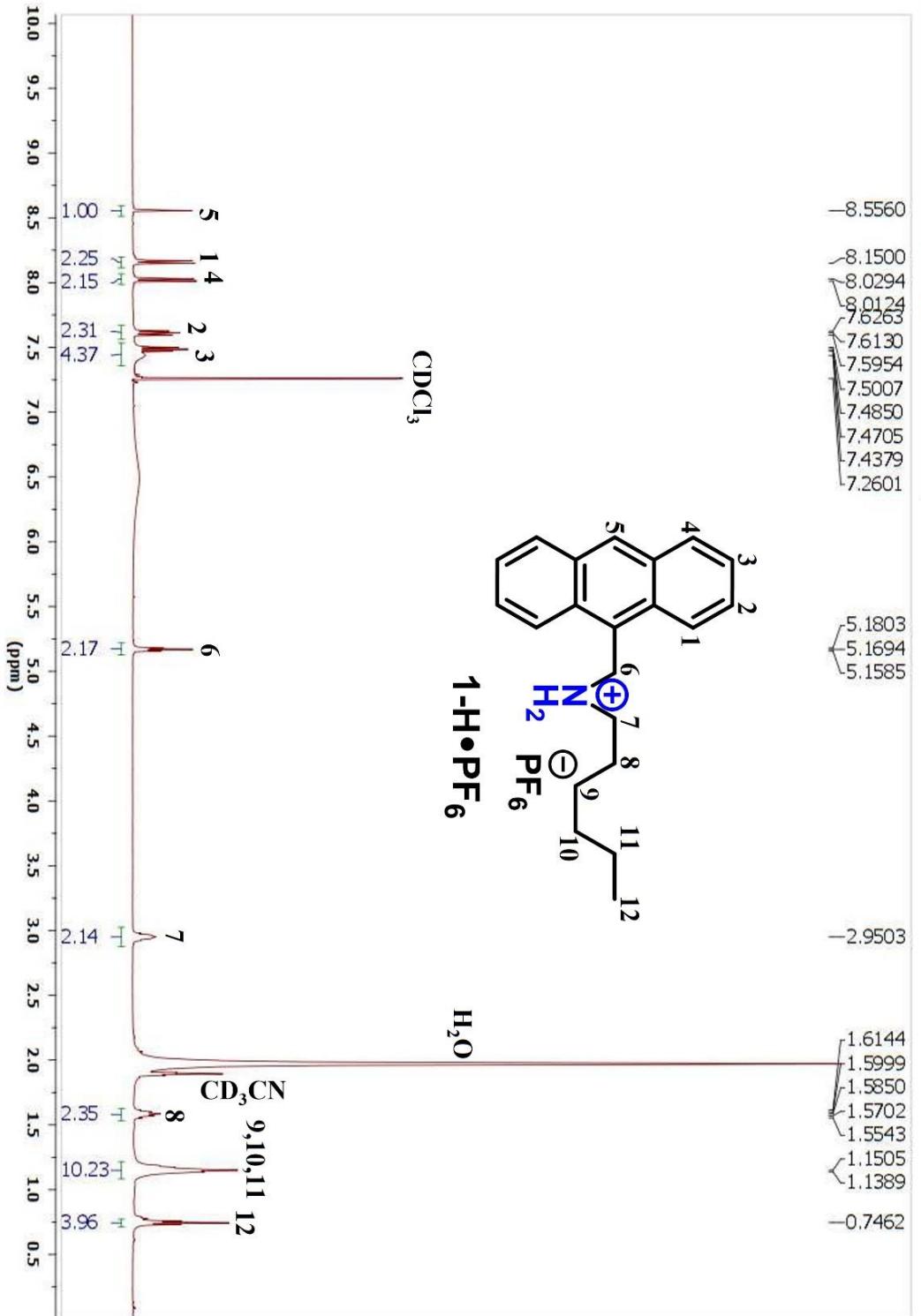
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, RT)**



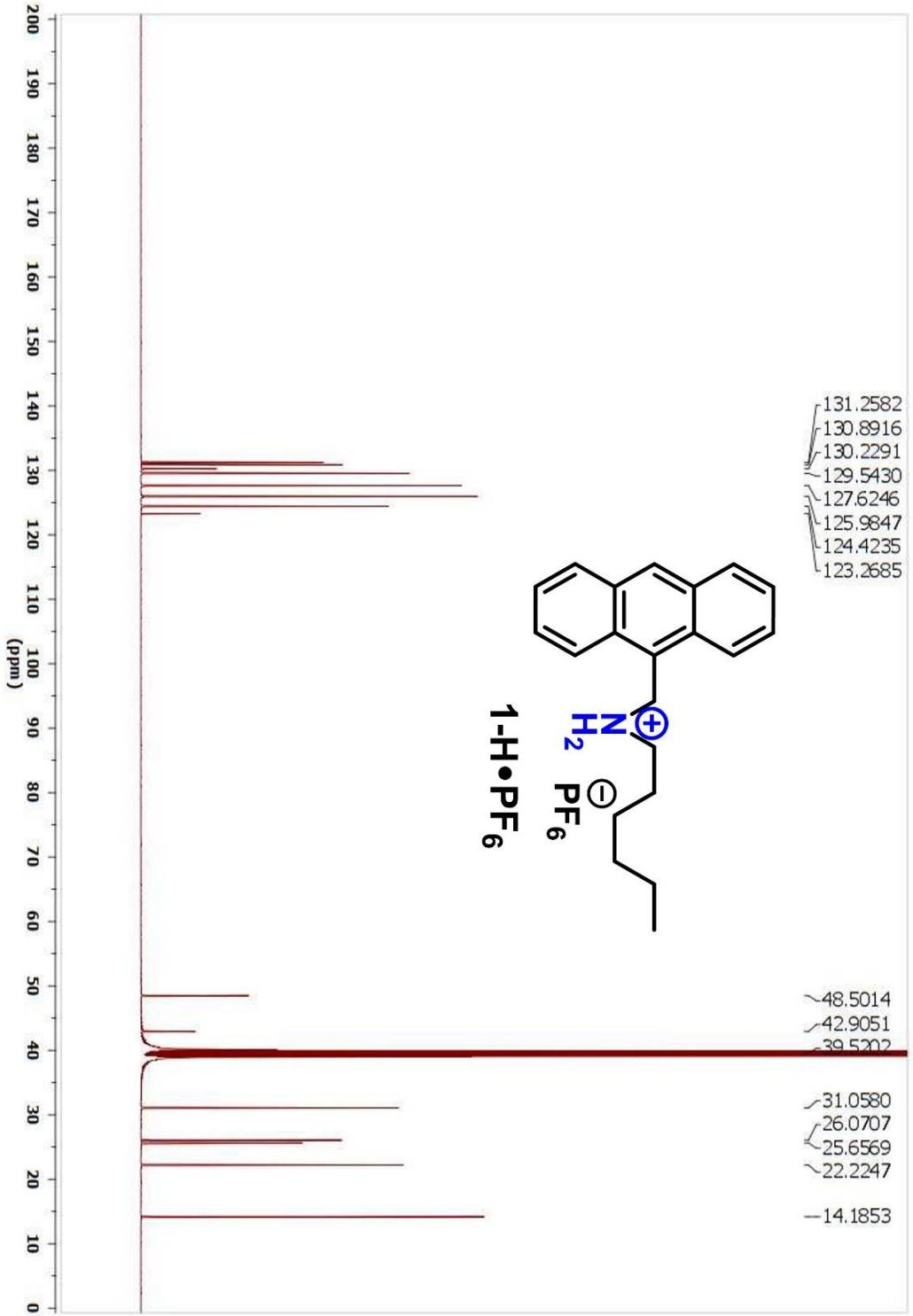
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, RT)



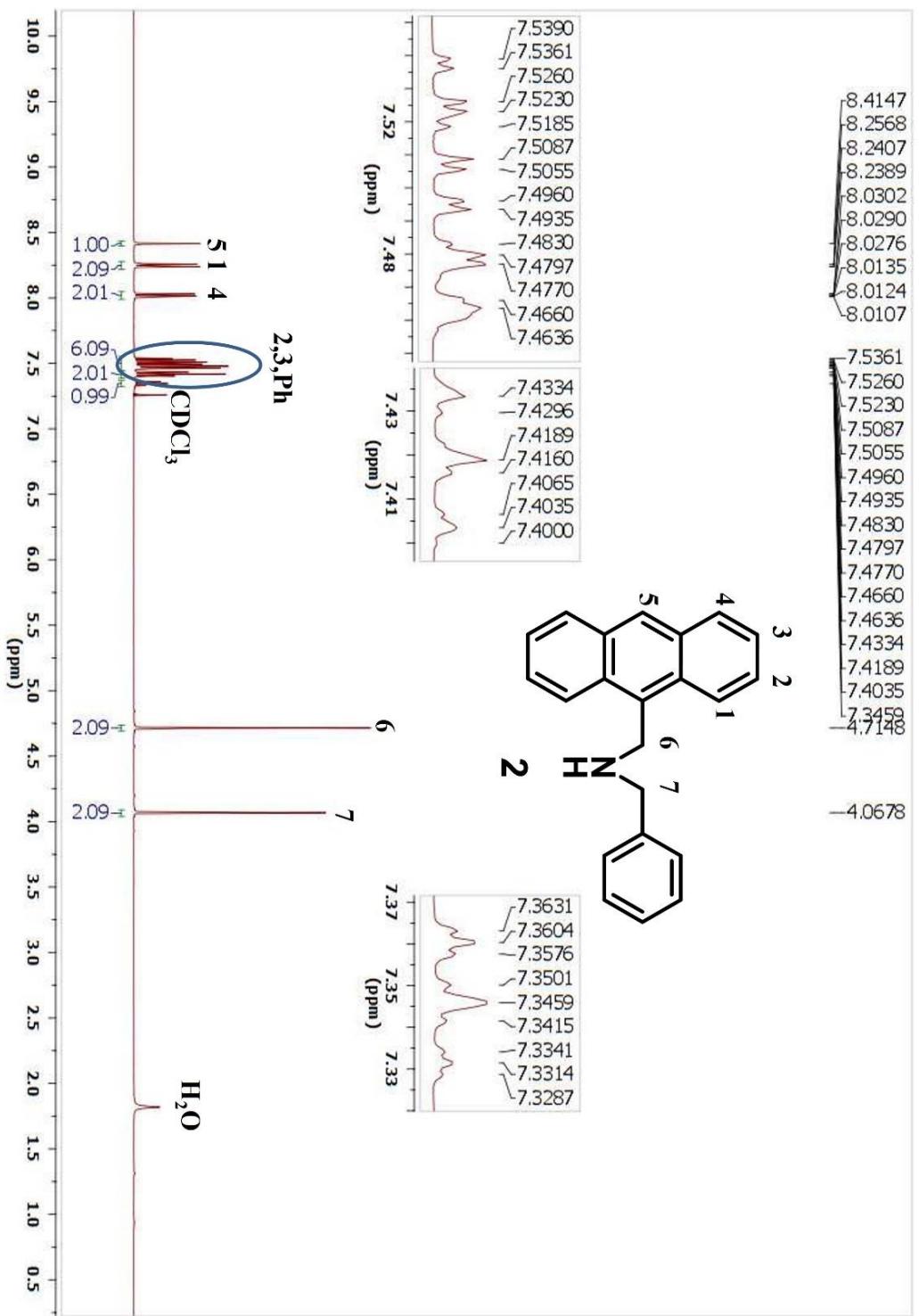
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>CN (1:1), RT)**



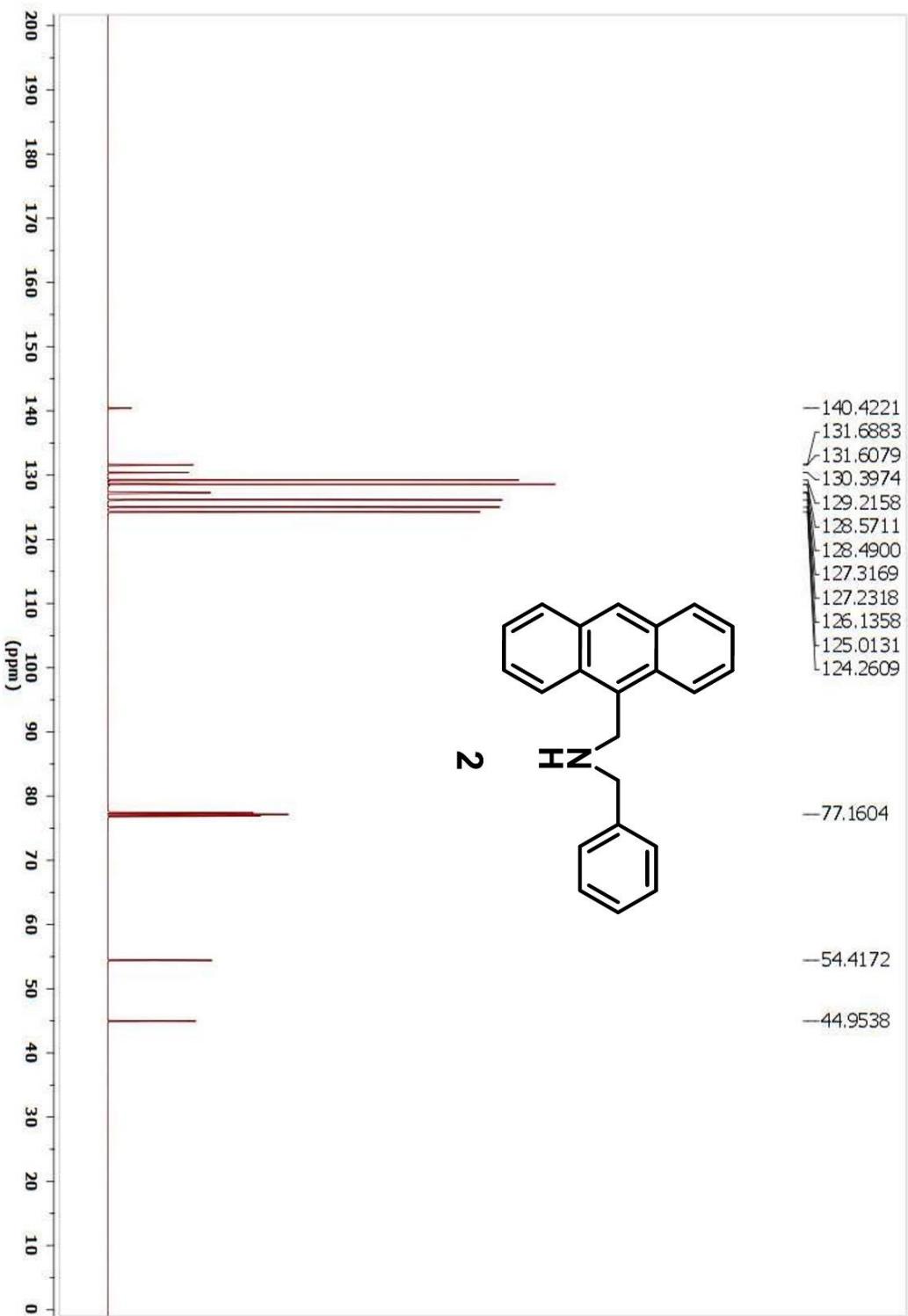
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, RT)



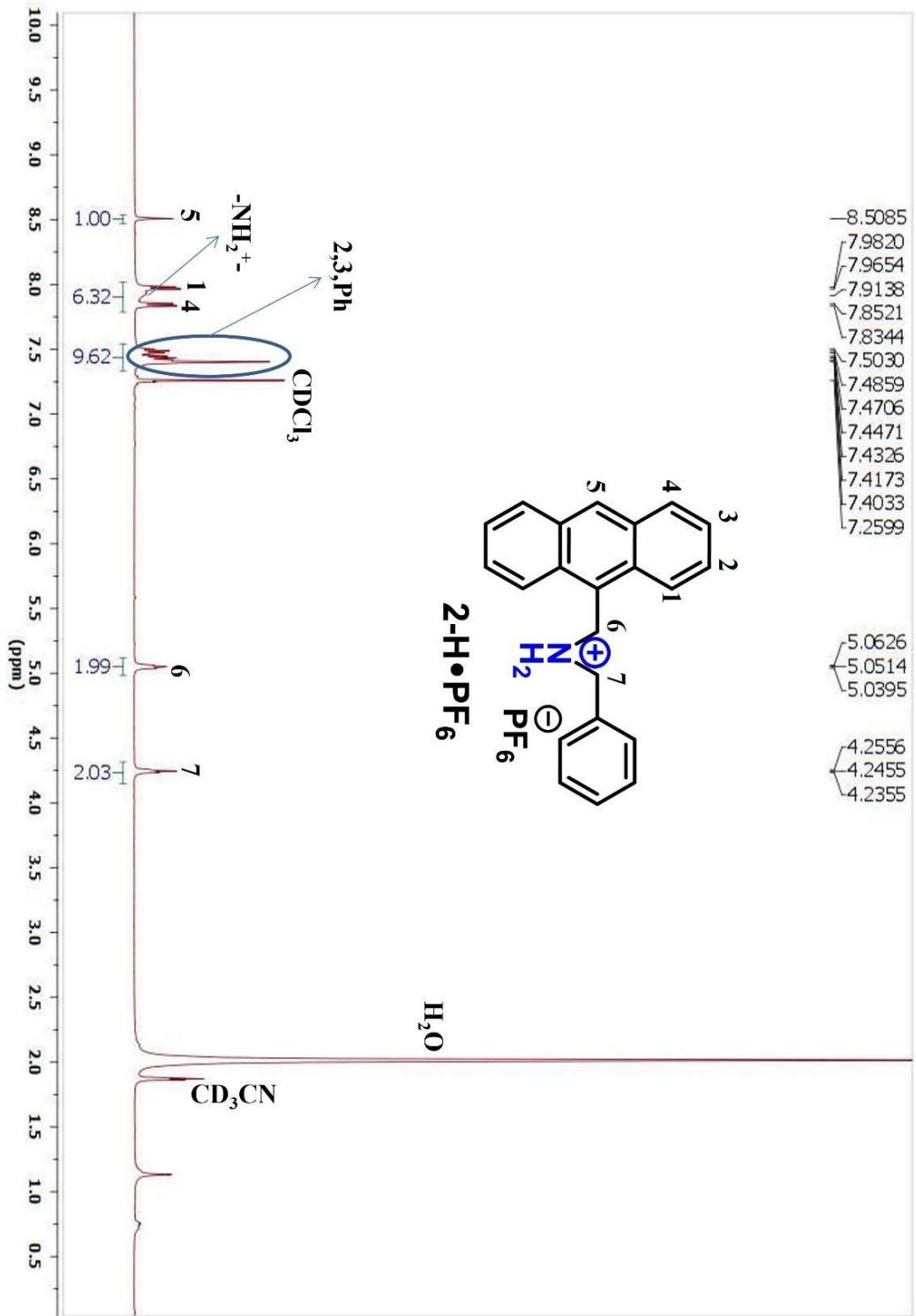
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, RT)**



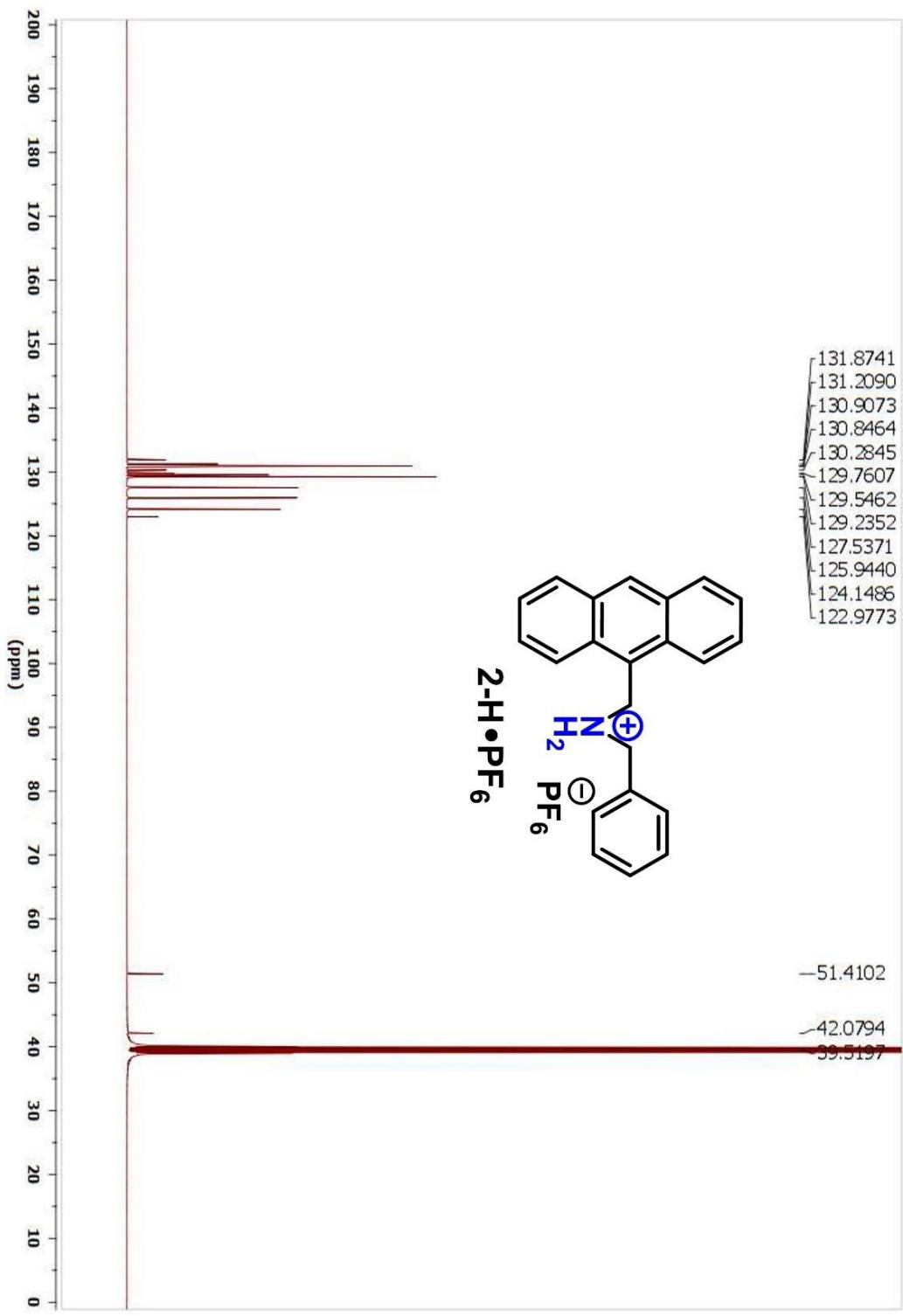
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, RT)



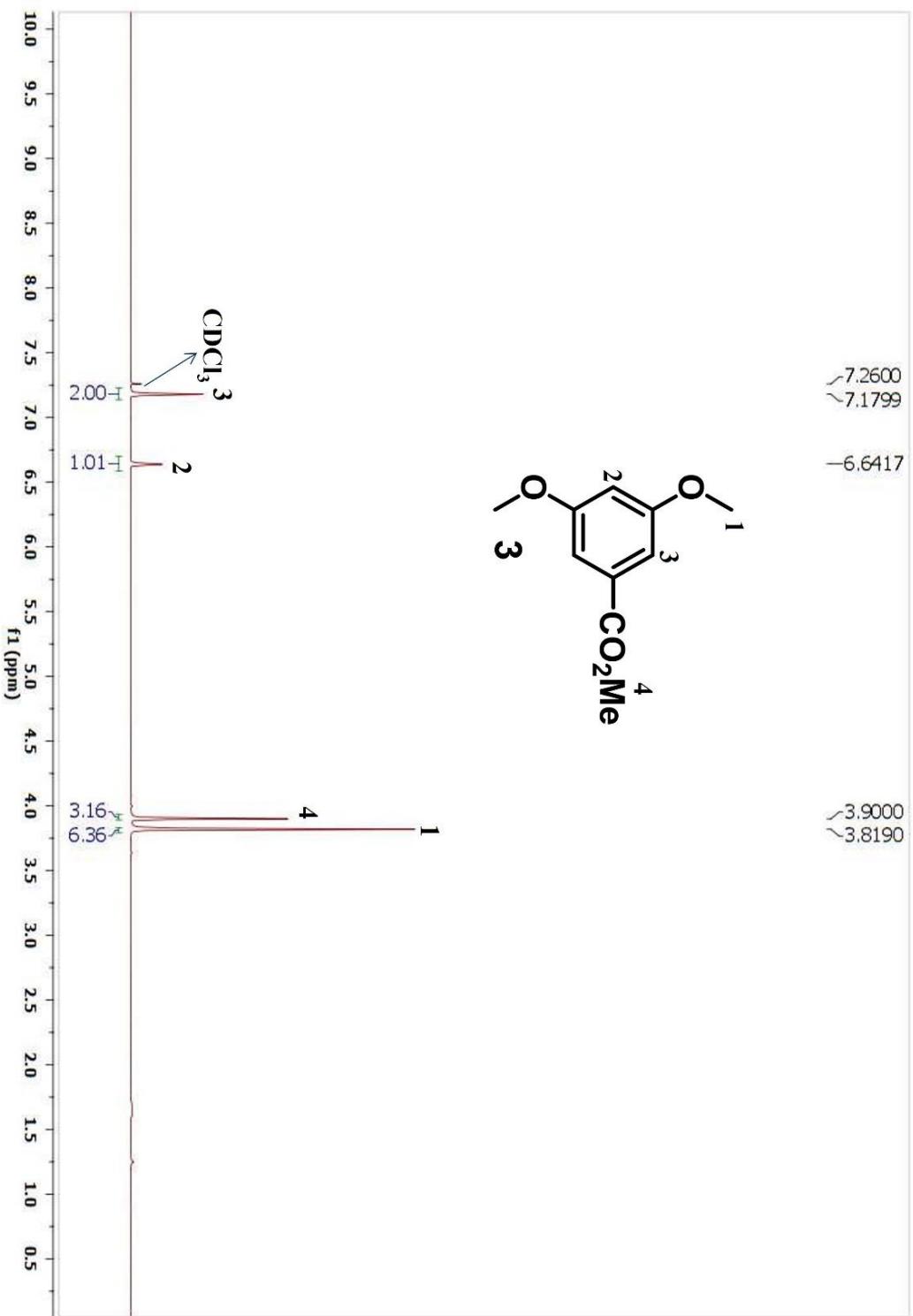
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>CN (11:1), RT)**



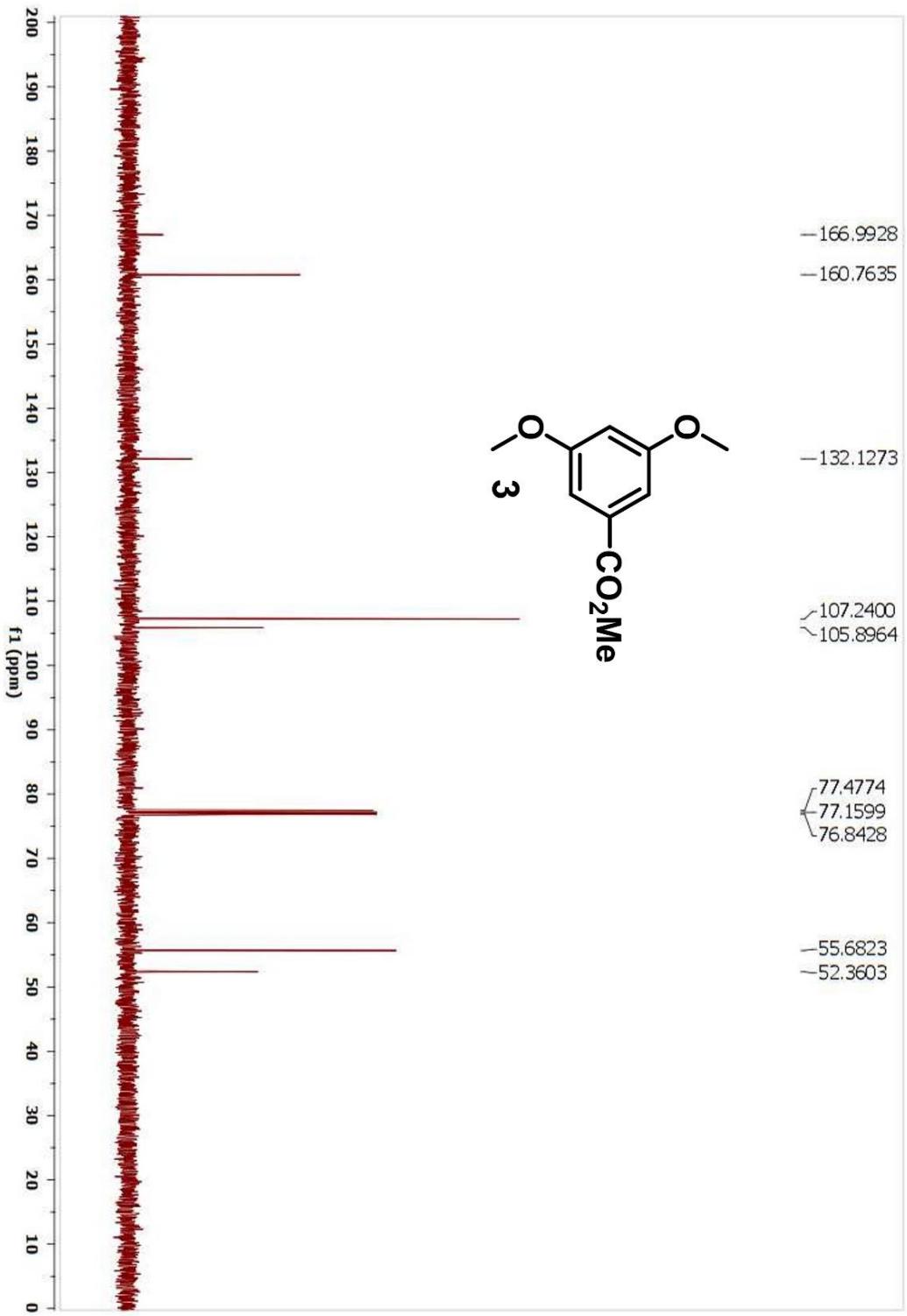
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, RT)



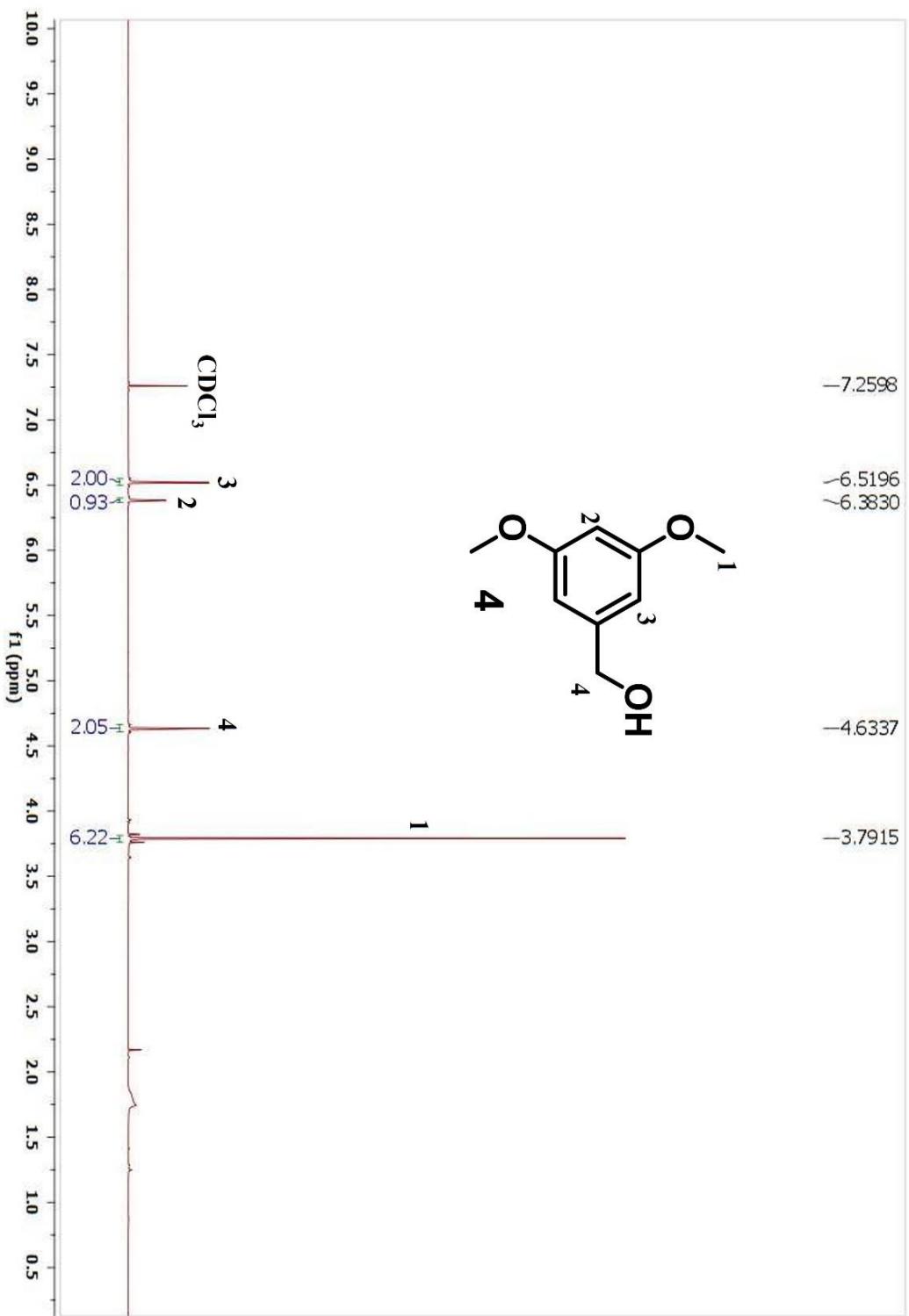
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, RT)



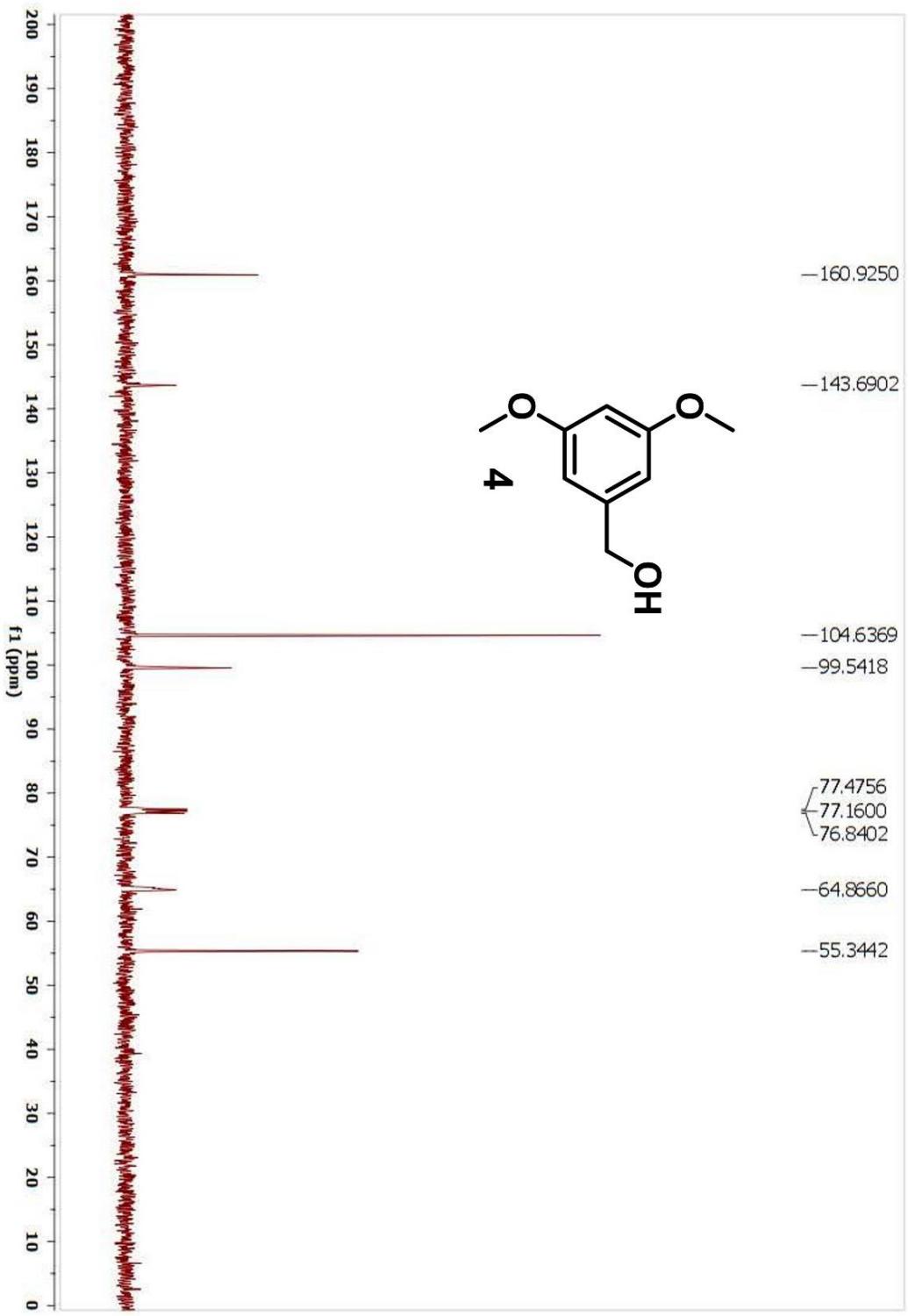
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, RT)



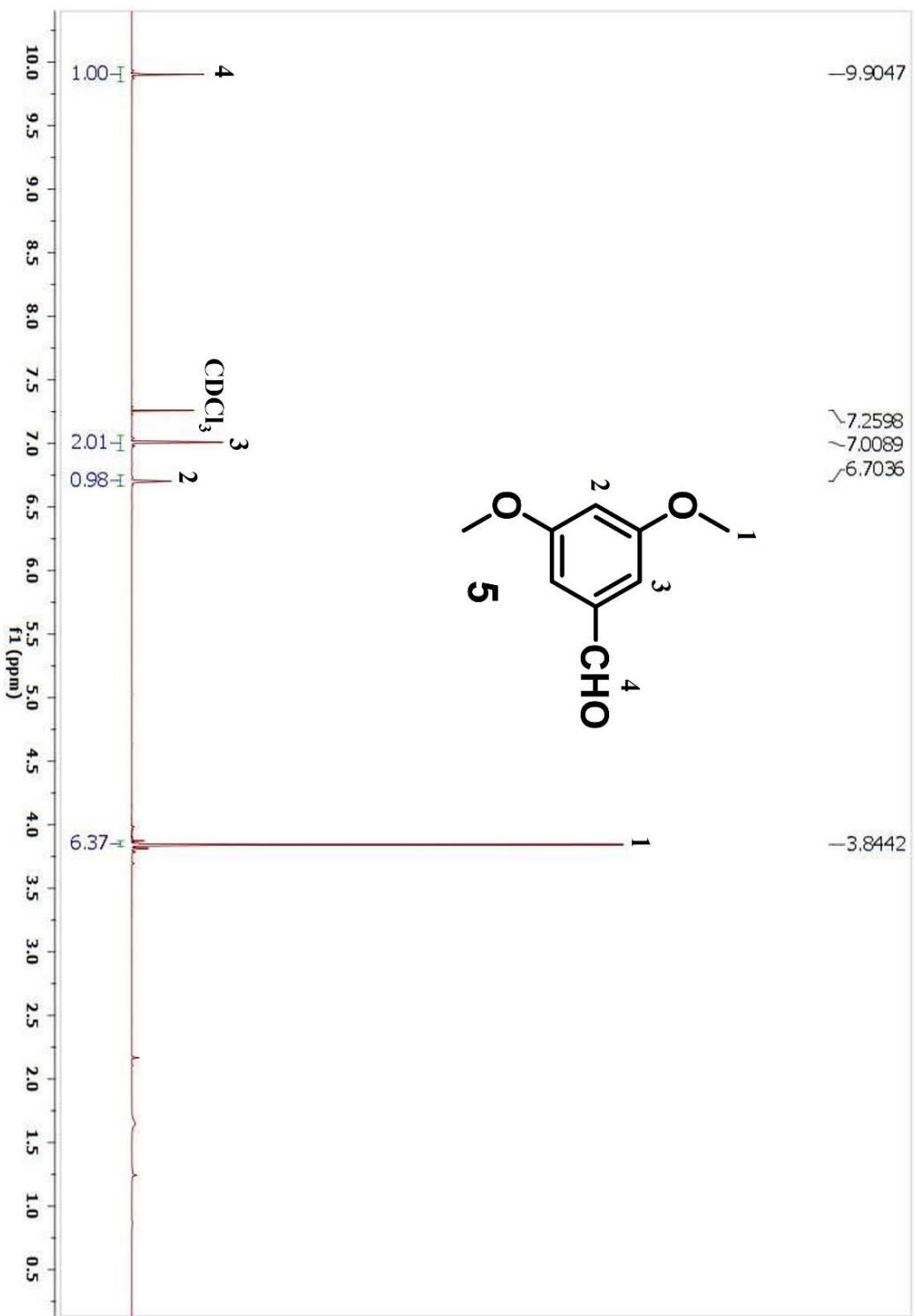
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, RT)**



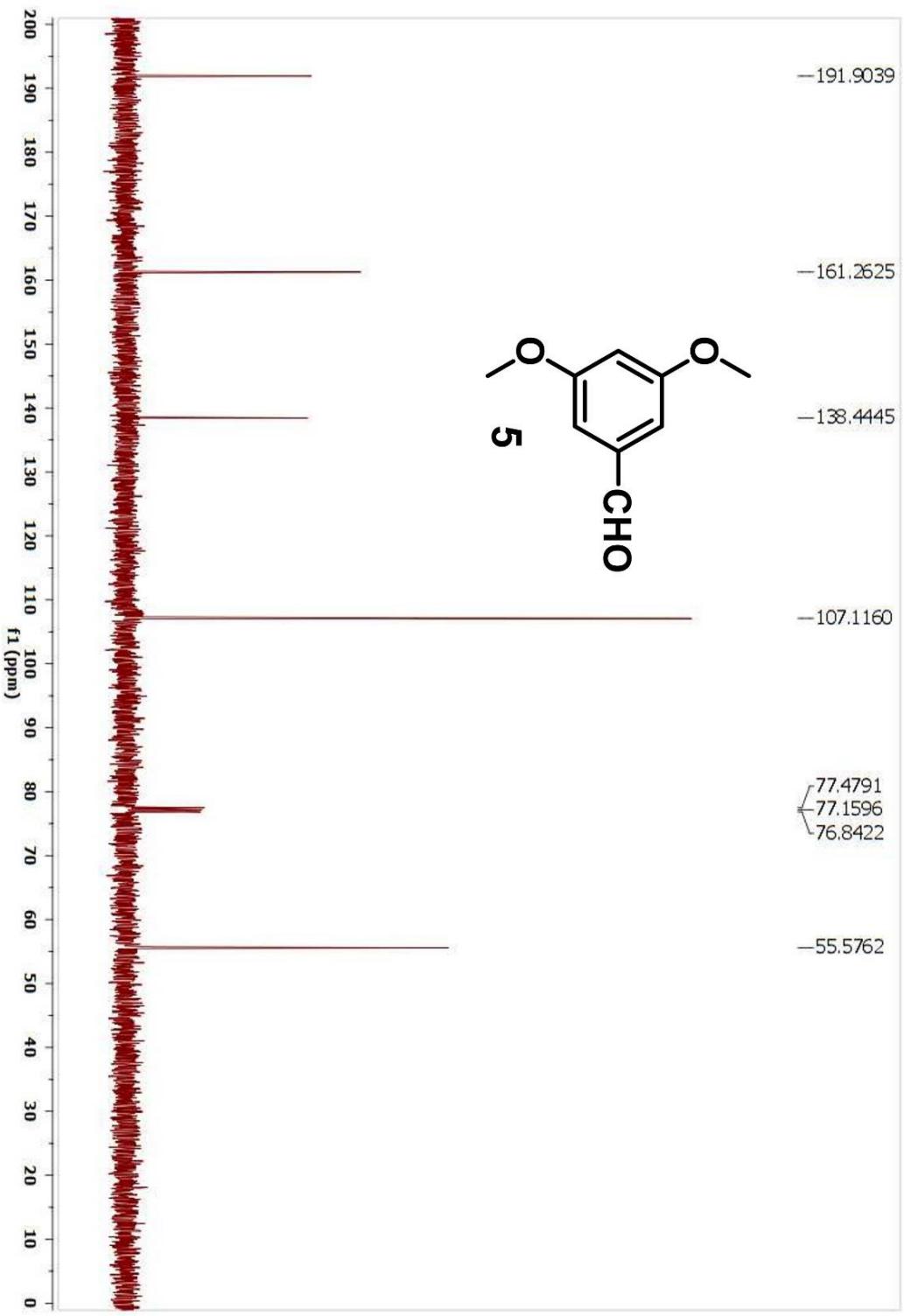
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, RT)



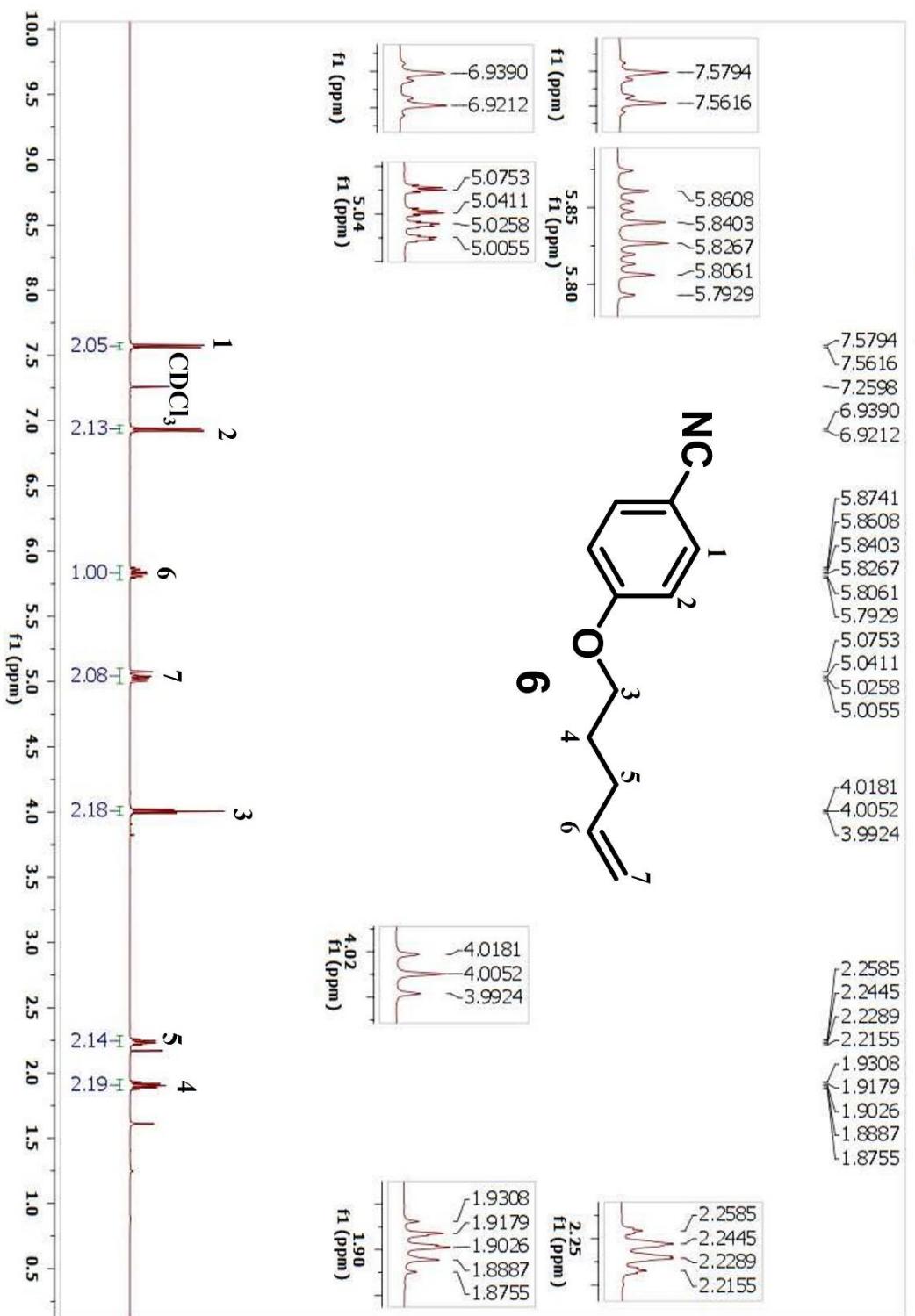
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, RT)**



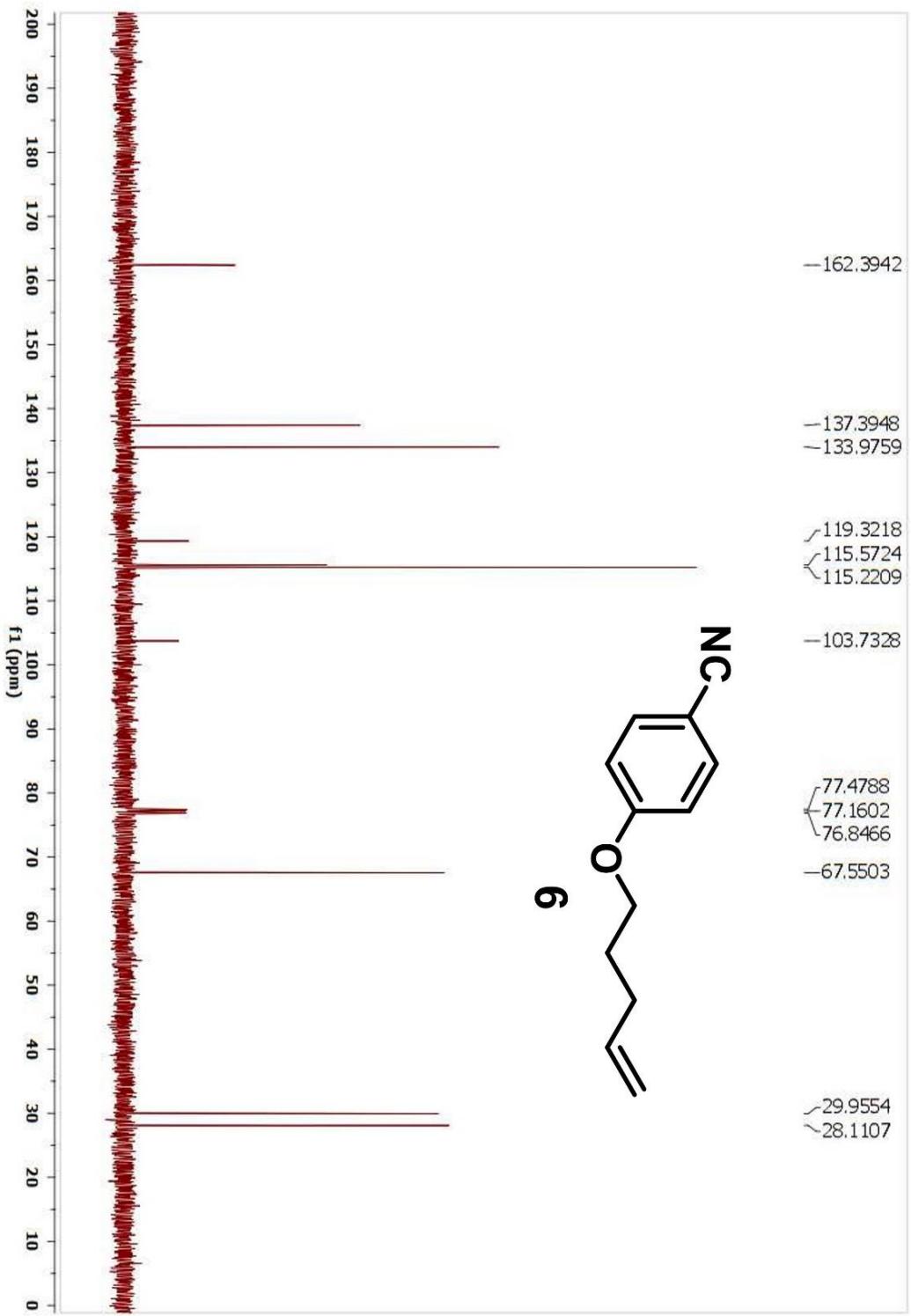
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, RT)



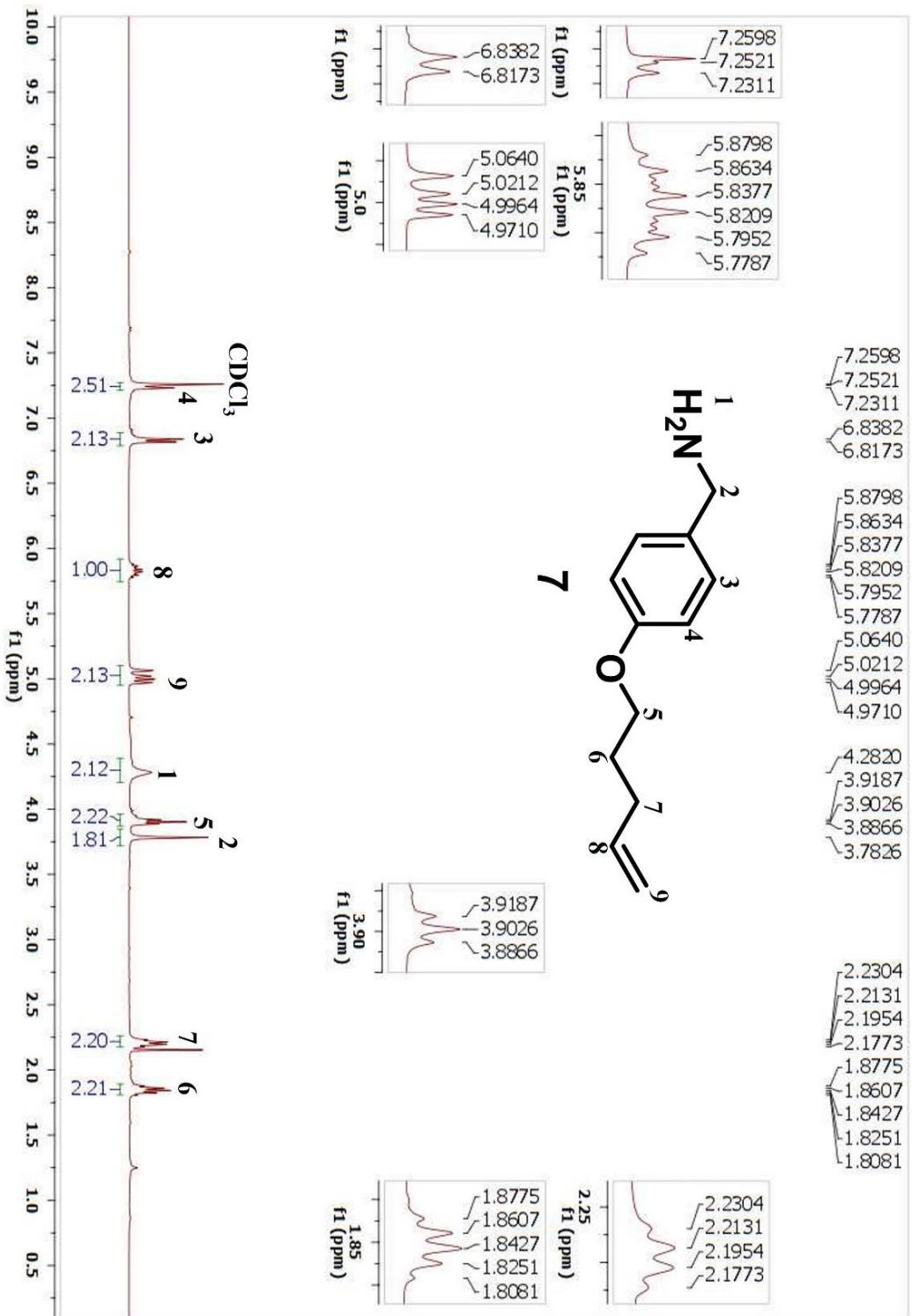
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, RT)**



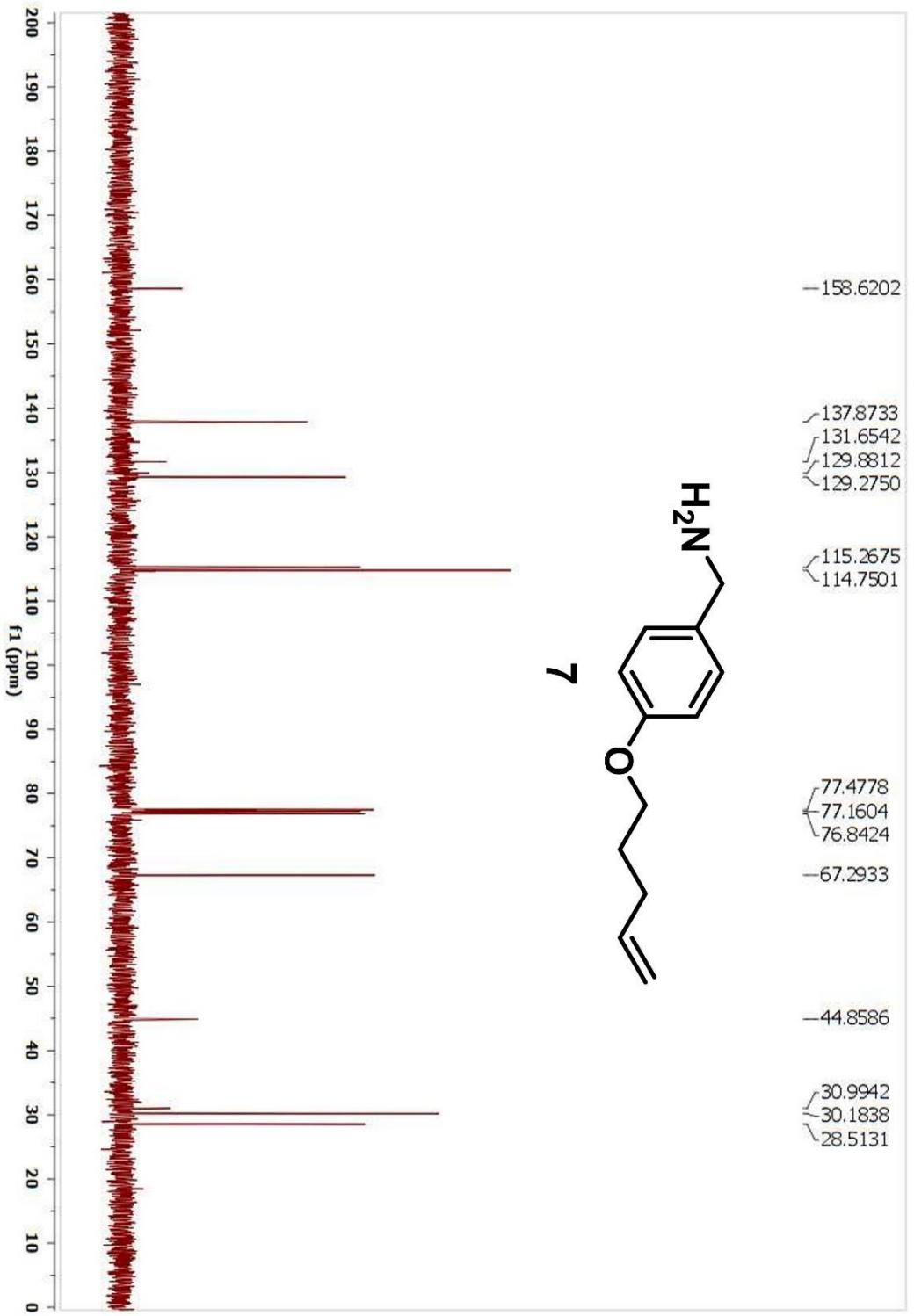
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, RT)



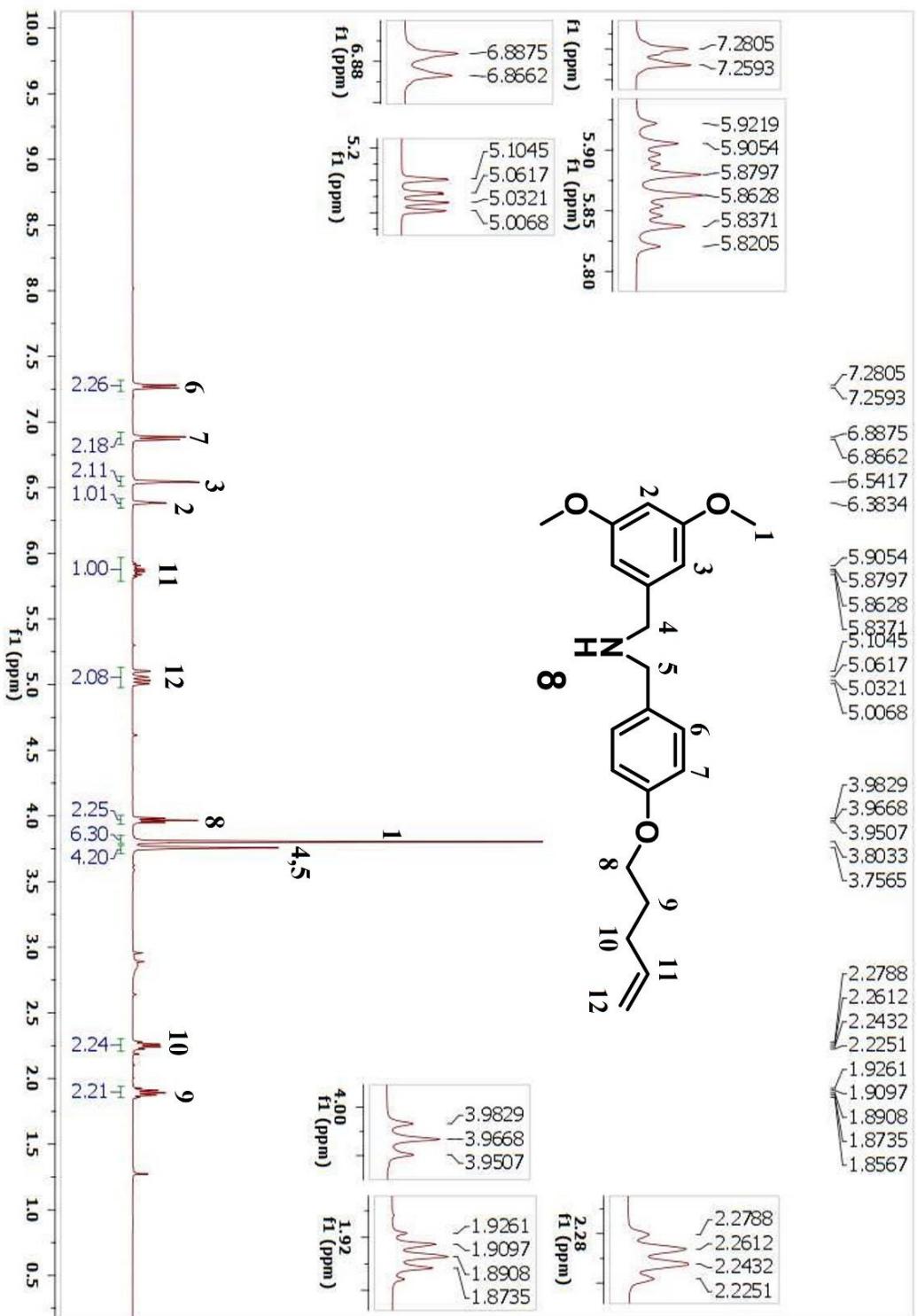
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, RT)**



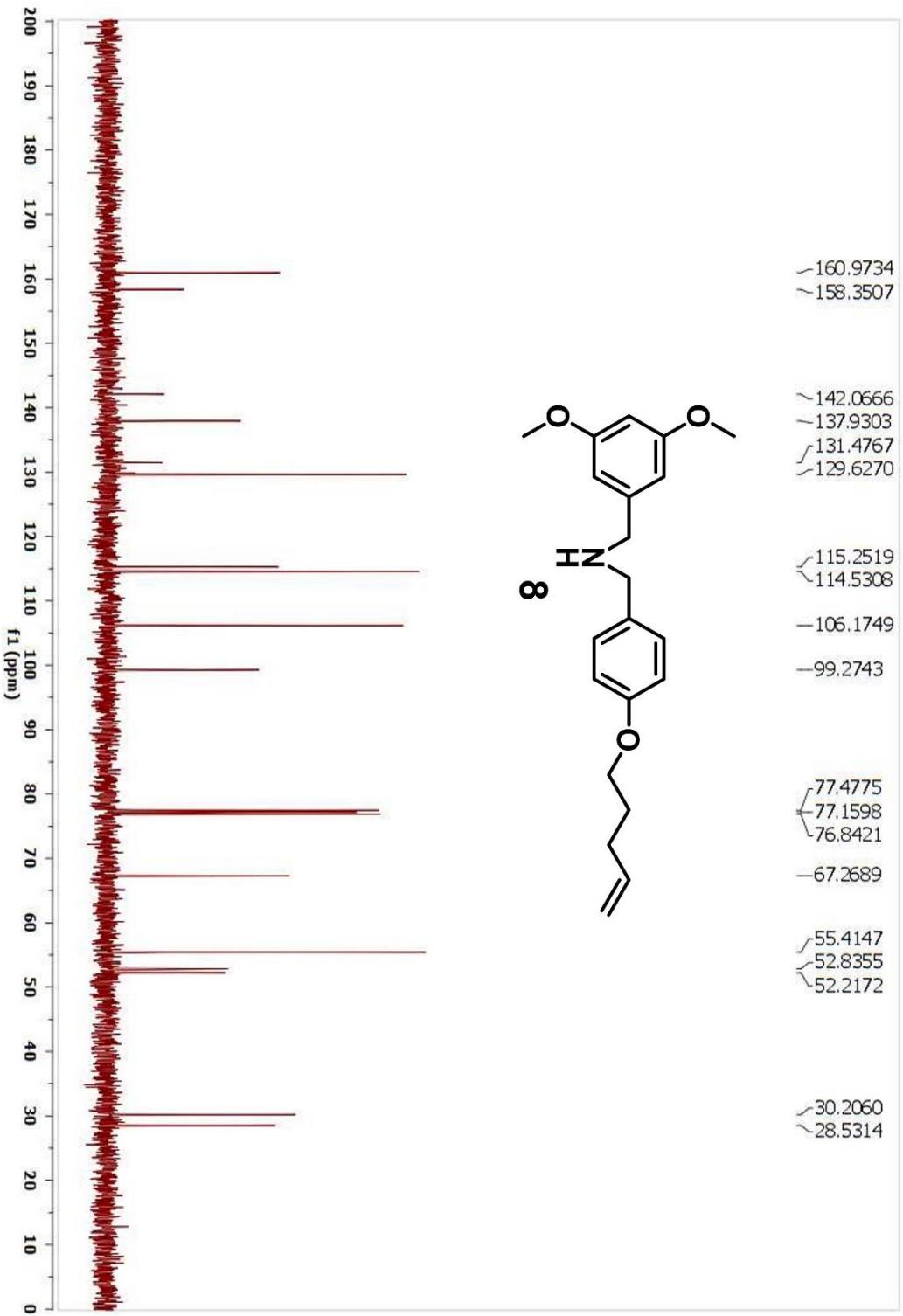
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, RT)



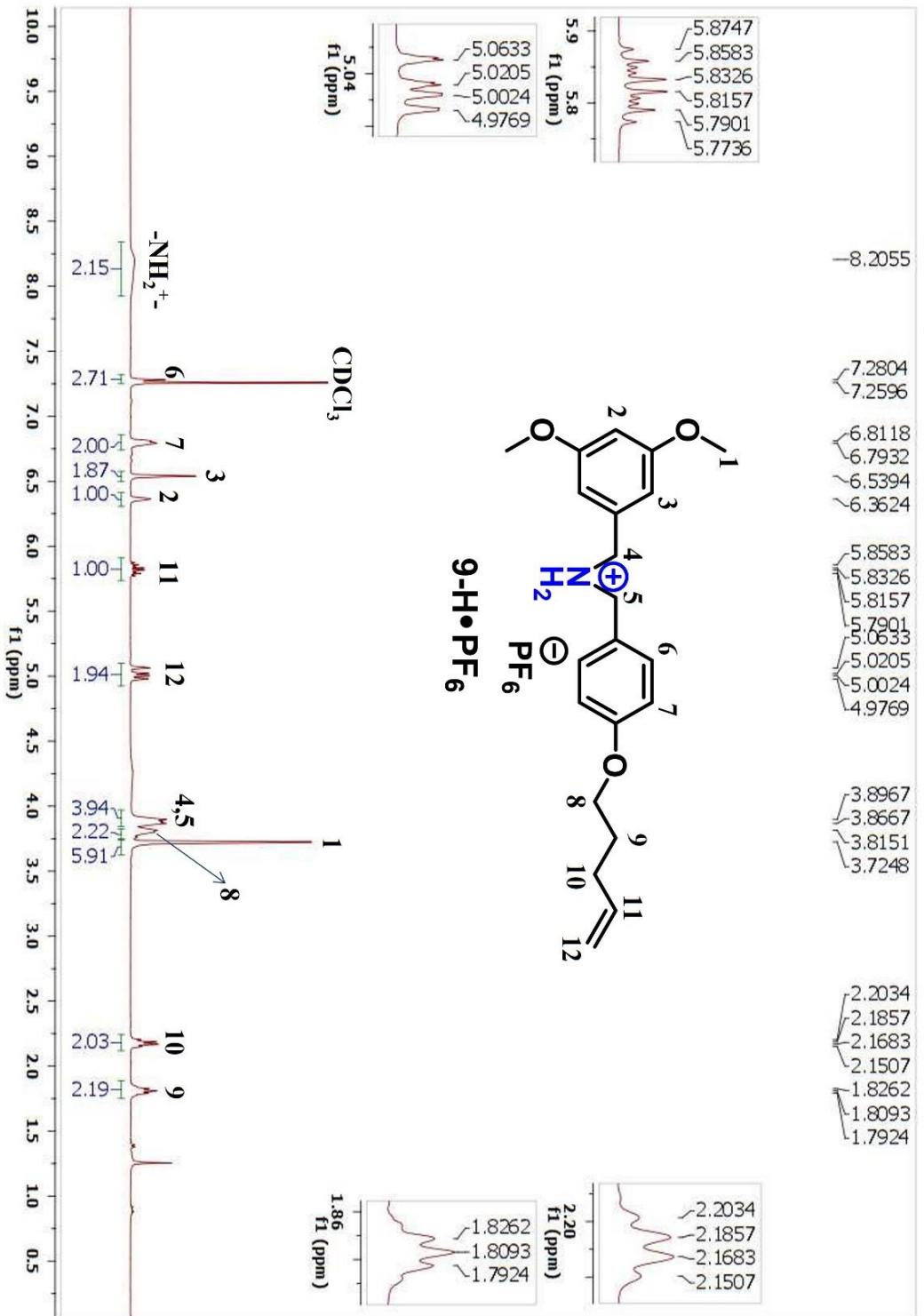
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, RT)**



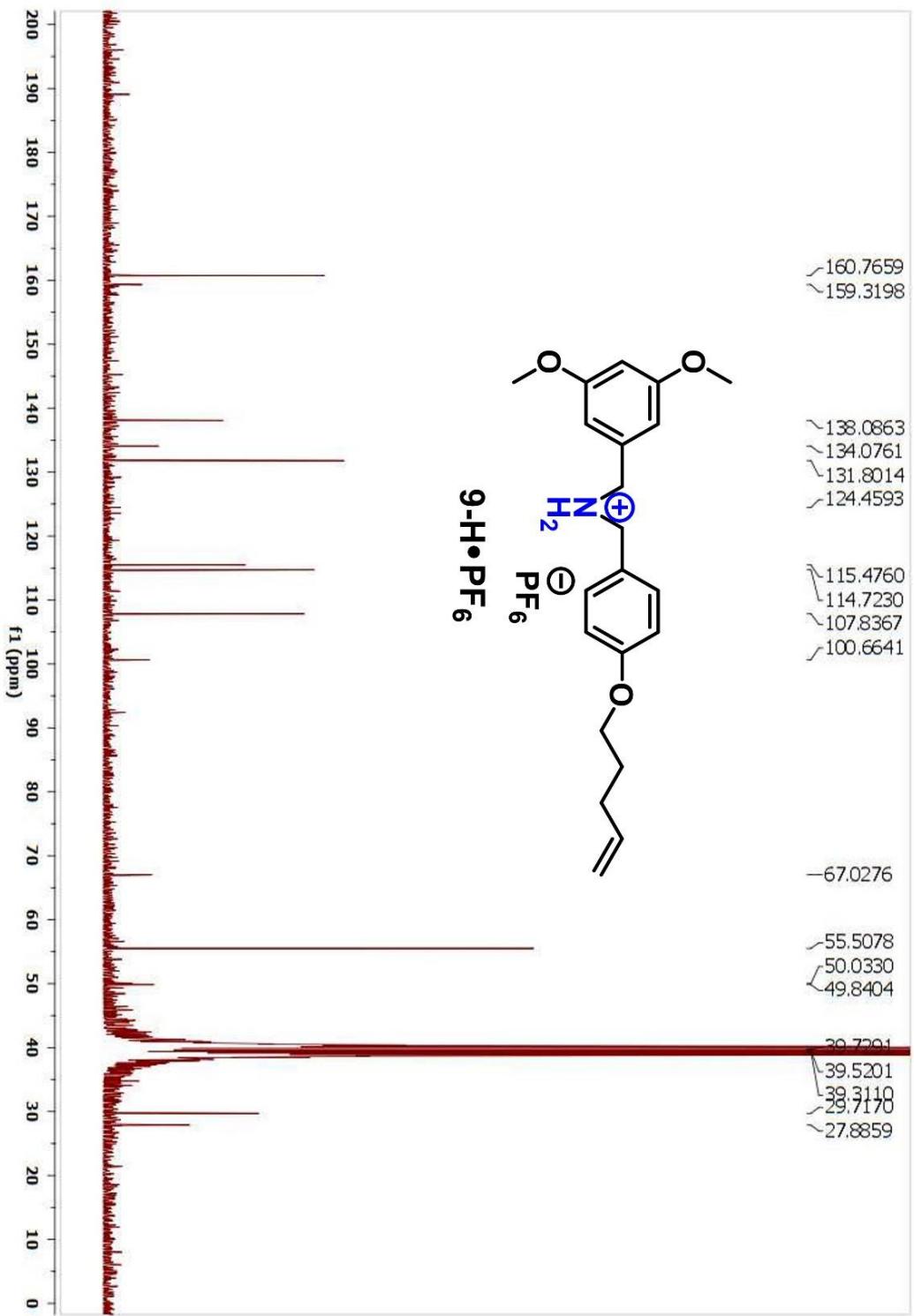
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, RT)



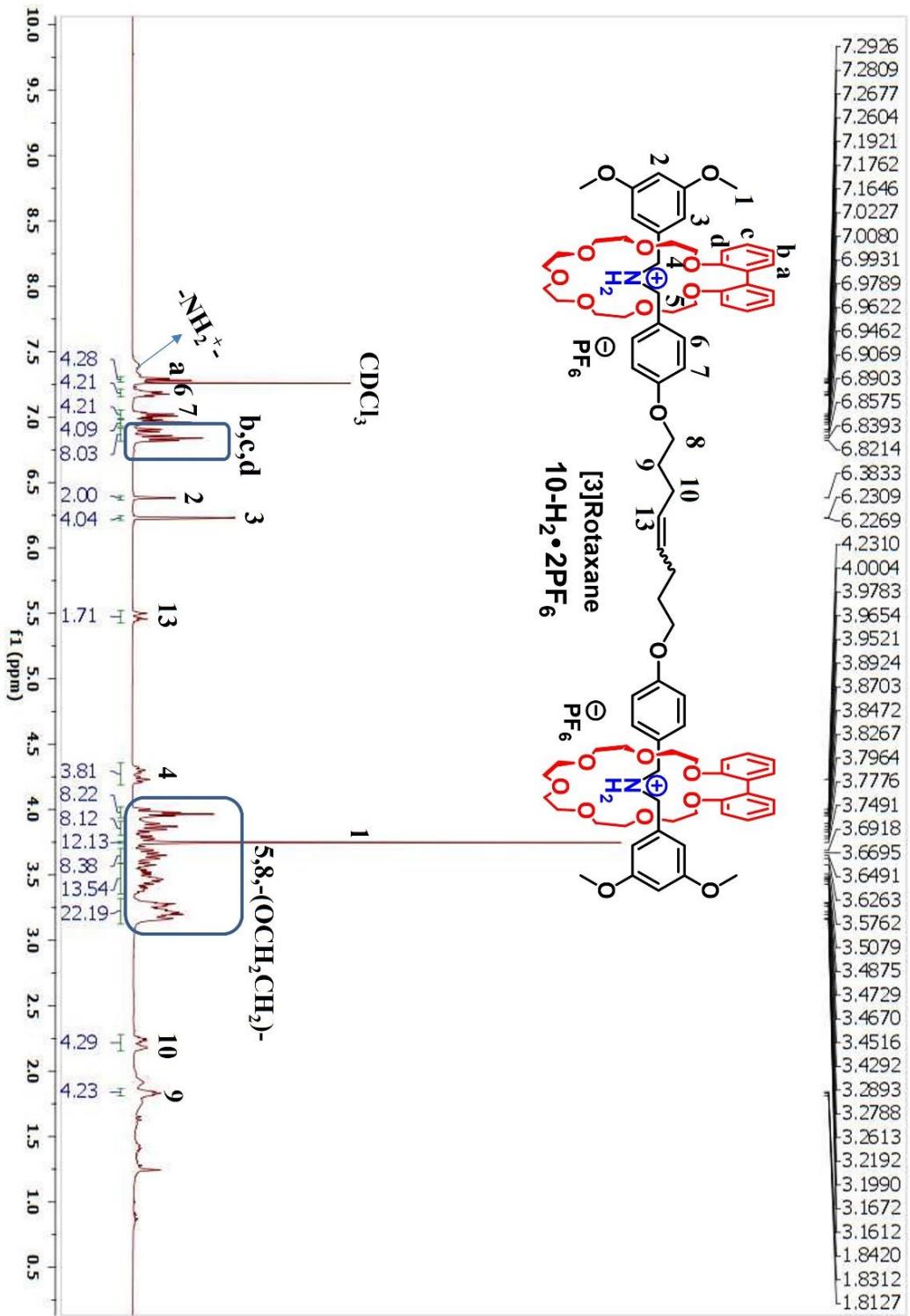
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, RT)**



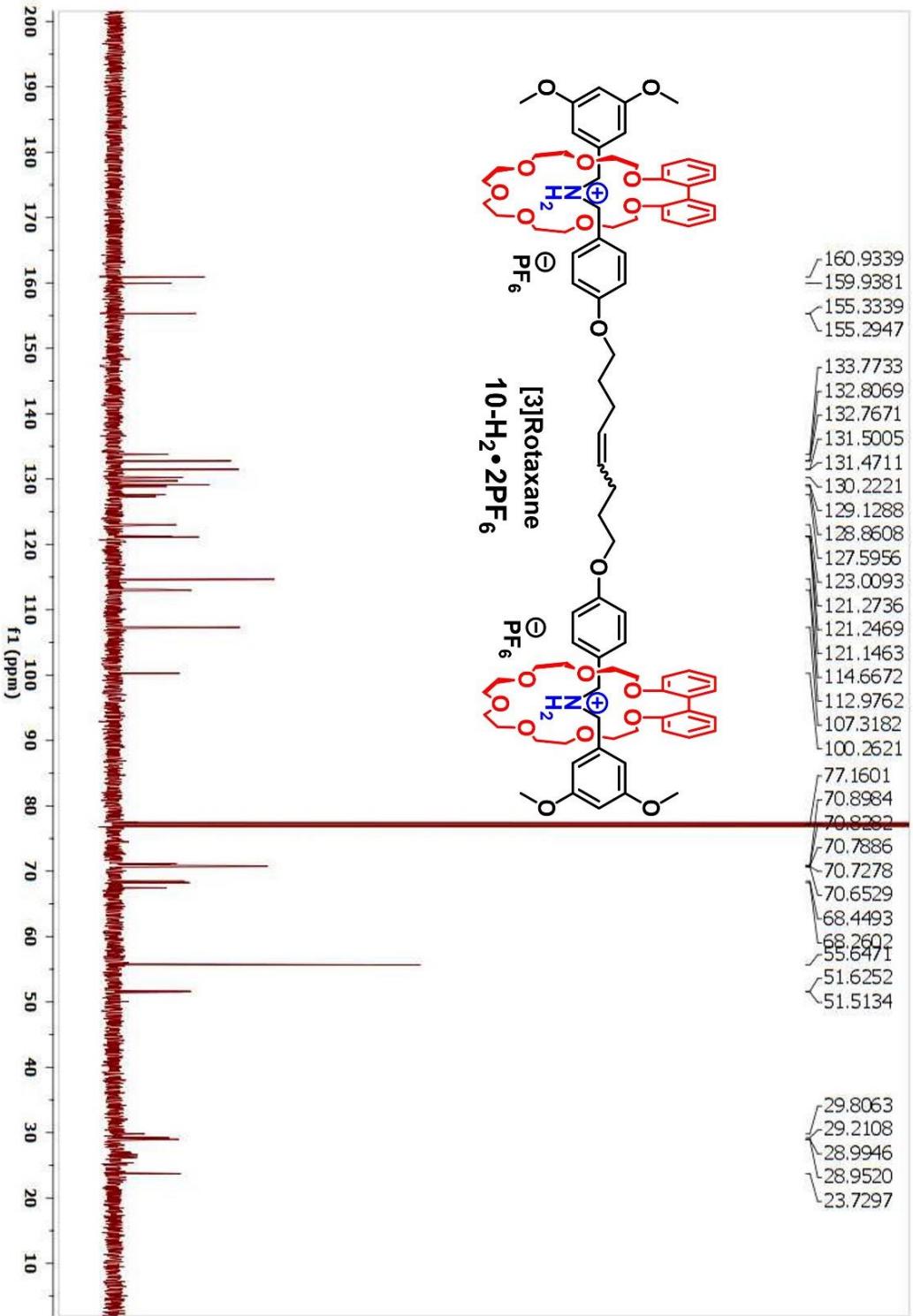
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, RT)



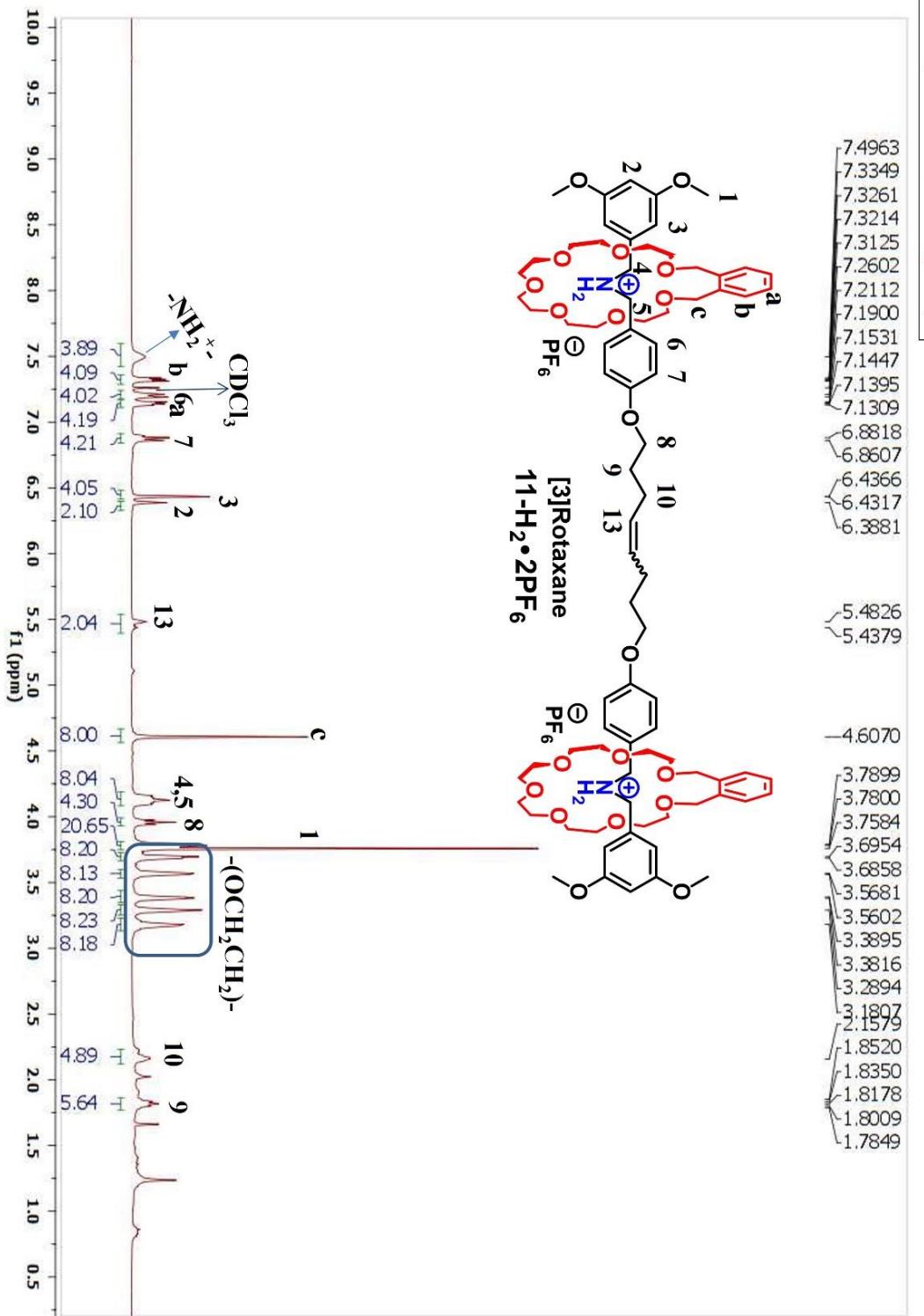
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, RT)**



<sup>13</sup>C{H} NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, RT)



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, RT)



<sup>13</sup>C{H} NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, RT)

