

*Supplementary Information*

**Construction of sterically bent  $\pi$ -conjugated arylene by  
implanting into bulky NHC Cu(I) coordination polymers in  
crystalline media**

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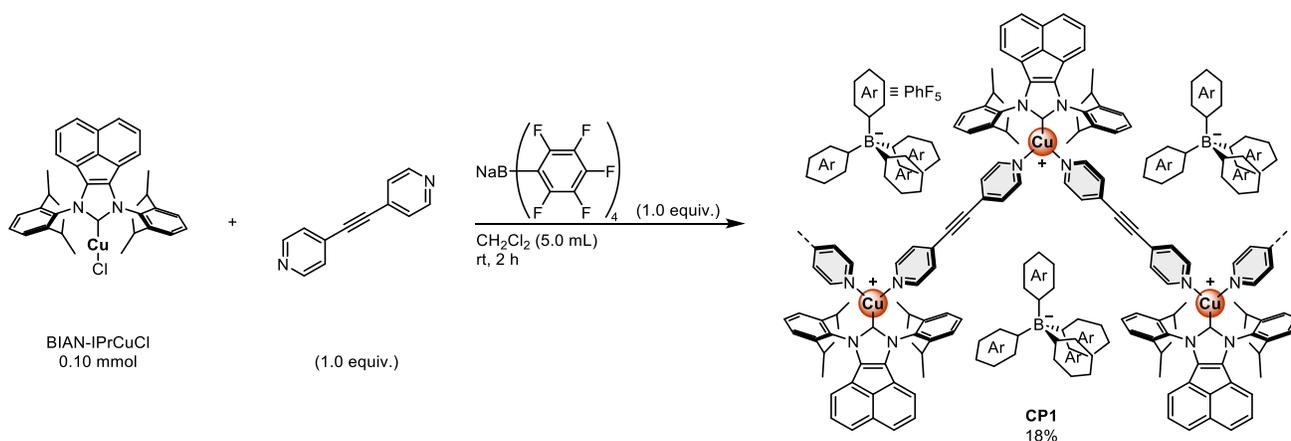
## 1. General

All commercially available reagents and solvents are reagent grade and were used without further purification unless otherwise noted. Solvents for the synthesis were purchased from commercial suppliers and dried over molecular sieves (4 Å). NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL JNM-ECX400P, JNM-ECS400 ( $^1\text{H}$ : 400 MHz;  $^{13}\text{C}$ : 100 MHz) using acetone- $d_6$  or tetramethylsilane and  $\text{CDCl}_3$  as internal standards, respectively. Elemental analyses and low- and high-resolution mass spectra were recorded at the Global Facility Center at Hokkaido University.

## 2. Synthesis

The compound BIAN-IPrCuCl (BIAN: bis(imino)acenaphthene, IPrCuCl: chloro[1,3-bis(2,6-diisopropylphenyl)imidazol-2-ylidene]Cu(I)),<sup>1</sup> 1,2-bis(4-pyridyl)acetylene,<sup>2</sup> sodium tetrakis(pentafluorophenyl)borate,<sup>3</sup> and sodium tetrakis[3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]borate<sup>3</sup> were prepared according to the previously reported literatures.

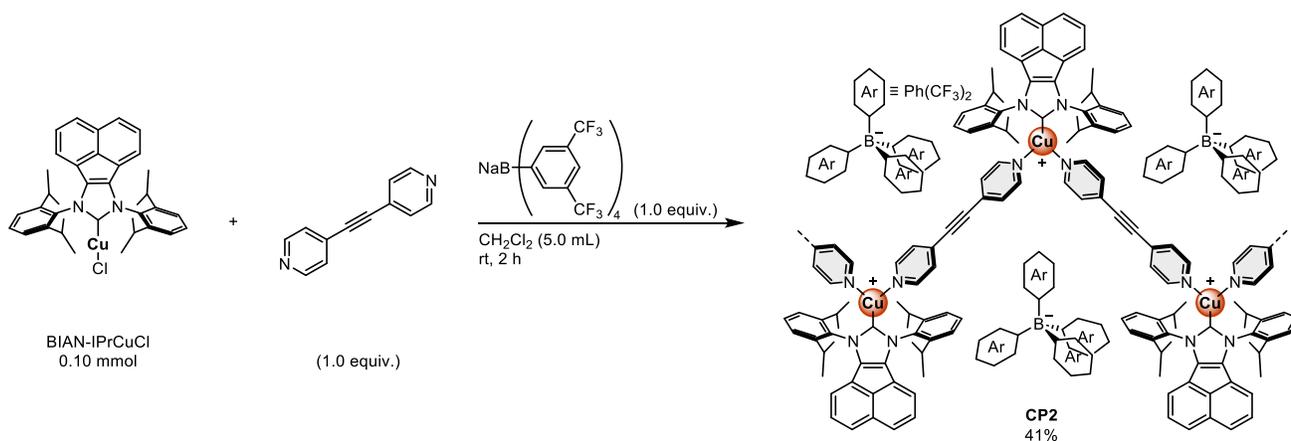
### 2.1. Synthesis of NHC Cu(I) coordination polymer 1



The cationic NHC Cu(I) coordination polymer CP1 was synthesized according to the modified literature procedure.<sup>4</sup> To an oven-dried 20 mL two-neck round-bottom flask was added 1,2-bis(4-pyridyl)acetylene (18.0 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and BIAN-IPrCuCl (BIAN: bis(imino)acenaphthene, IPrCuCl: chloro[1,3-bis(2,6-diisopropylphenyl)imidazol-2-ylidene]Cu(I)) (61.2 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). The flask was connected to a vacuum/nitrogen manifold through a rubber tube. It was evacuated and then backfilled with nitrogen. This process was repeated three times.  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (5.0 mL) was then added to the flask under nitrogen atmosphere. The reagents contained  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  solution were added sodium tetrakis(pentafluorophenyl)borate ( $\text{NaB}(\text{PhF}_5)_4$ , 70.2 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), and the reaction was performed under room temperature for 2 h. The suspended  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  solution was followed by separating the liquid organic layer using centrifuge. The organic layers were collected, and the solvent was removed *in vacuo*. Further purification by reprecipitation using  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ /Hex and subsequent vacuum drying gave light-yellowish powder of **1** (25.6 mg, 0.018 mmol, 18%). The obtained powder was well soluble in chloroform, thus, Acetone- $d_6$  was used for dissolving the crystal for measurements of the  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra in solution phase.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ ,  $\delta$ ): 8.67 (dd,  $J = 1.6$  Hz,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 4H), 7.99 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.70 (t,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.62-7.55 (m, 6H), 7.53 (dd,  $J = 1.6$  Hz,  $J = 4.4$  Hz, 4H), 7.14

(d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 2.94 (septet,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 4H), 1.37 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 12H), 1.16 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 12H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ , d): 151.0 (CH), 150.3–147.9 (C), 146.6 (C), 139.6 (C), 140.4–135.7 (C), 134.2 (C), 132.7 (C), 131.8 (CH), 131.5 (C), 131.0 (C), 130.7 (C), 129.6 (CH), 129.5–129.4 (C), 129.0 (CH), 126.9 (C), 126.4 (CH), 125.9 (C), 125.5 (CH), 122.1 (CH), 91.1 (C), 29.7 (CH), 25.1 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 23.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>). HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$  calcd. for C<sub>49</sub>H<sub>48</sub>N<sub>4</sub>Cu, 755.31695; found, 755.31705; calcd. for C<sub>24</sub><sup>10</sup>BF<sub>20</sub>, 677.98155; found, 677.98246. Elemental analysis: calcd. for C<sub>73</sub>H<sub>48</sub>BCuF<sub>20</sub>N<sub>4</sub>: C, 61.08; H, 3.37; N, 3.90; found: C, 57.53; H, 2.77; N, 3.47. The analytically pure light-yellowish single crystal **1** was prepared by recrystallization using CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/EtOH.

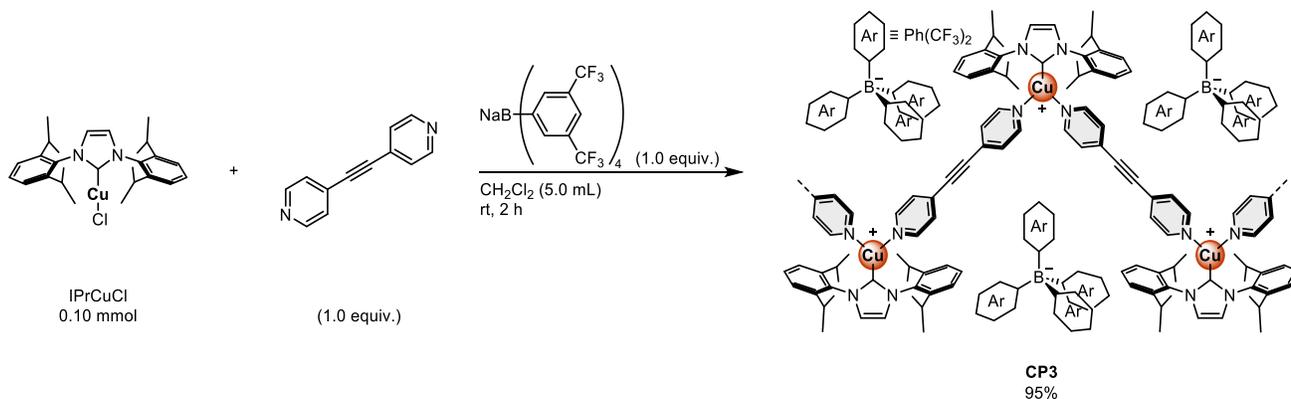
## 2.2. Synthesis of NHC Cu(I) coordination polymer **2**



The cationic NHC Cu(I) coordination polymer CP2 was synthesized according to the modified literature procedure.<sup>4</sup> To an oven-dried 20 mL two-neck round-bottom flask was added 1,2-bis(4-pyridyl)acetylene (18.0 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and BIAN-IPrCuCl (BIAN: bis(imino)acenaphthene, IPrCuCl: chloro[1,3-bis(2,6-diisopropylphenyl)imidazol-2-ylidene]Cu(I)) (61.2 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). The flask was connected to a vacuum/nitrogen manifold through a rubber tube. It was evacuated and then backfilled with nitrogen. This process was repeated three times. CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5.0 mL) was then added to the flask under nitrogen atmosphere. The reagents contained CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution was added sodium tetrakis[3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]borate (NaB(Ph(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, 88.6 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), and the reaction was performed under room temperature for 2 h. The suspended CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution was followed by separating the liquid organic layer using centrifuge. The organic layers were collected, and the solvent was removed *in vacuo*. Further purification by reprecipitation using CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/Hex and subsequent vacuum drying gave light-yellowish powder of **2** (67.0 mg, 0.041 mmol, 41%). The CDCl<sub>3</sub> was used for dissolving the crystal for measurements of the <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra in solution phase. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ): 7.88 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.54 (s, 4H), 7.69 (s, 8H), 7.52–7.43 (m, 10H), 7.20 (d,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 4H), 7.12 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.83 (septet,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 4H), 1.14 (dd,  $J = 6.8$  Hz,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 24H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, d): 161.8 (q,  $J = 49.8$  Hz, C), 148.8 (CH), 146.3 (C), 139.1 (C), 134.9 (CH), 134.4 (C), 131.8 (C), 131.0 (CH), 130.9 (C), 130.1 (C), 129.5–128.1 (C), 128.9 (CH), 128.1 (CH), 127.1 (CH), 126.0 (C), 125.1 (CH), 123.3 (C), 121.4 (CH), 120.6 (C), 117.5 (CH), 91.6 (C), 29.0 (CH), 24.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 23.6 (CH<sub>3</sub>). HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M}]^+$  calcd. for C<sub>49</sub>H<sub>48</sub>N<sub>4</sub>Cu, 755.31695; found, 755.31622; calcd. for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>12</sub><sup>10</sup>BF<sub>24</sub>, 862.06906; found, 862.07011. Elemental analysis: calcd. for C<sub>81</sub>H<sub>60</sub>BCuF<sub>24</sub>N<sub>4</sub>: C, 60.07; H, 3.73; N, 3.46; found: C, 59.45; H, 3.59; N, 3.31. The analytically pure light-yellowish single crystal **2** was

prepared by recrystallization using CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/EtOH.

### 2.3. Synthesis of NHC Cu(I) coordination polymer **3**



The cationic NHC Cu(I) coordination polymer CP3 was synthesized according to the modified literature procedure.<sup>4</sup> To an oven-dried 20 mL two-neck round-bottom flask was added 1,2-bis(4-pyridyl)acetylene (18.0 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and chloro[1,3-bis(2,6-diisopropylphenyl)imidazol-2-ylidene]Cu(I) (IPrCuCl, 48.8 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.). The flask was connected to a vacuum/nitrogen manifold through a rubber tube. It was evacuated and then backfilled with nitrogen. This process was repeated three times. CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5.0 mL) was then added to the flask under nitrogen atmosphere. The reagents contained CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution was added sodium tetrakis[3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]borate (NaB(Ph(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, 88.6 mg, 0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), and the reaction was performed under room temperature for 2 h. The suspended CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution was followed by separating the liquid organic layer using centrifuge. The organic layers were collected, and the solvent was removed *in vacuo*. Further purification by reprecipitation using CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/Hex and subsequent vacuum drying gave light-yellowish powder of **3** (141.4 mg, 0.095 mmol, 95%). The CDCl<sub>3</sub> was used for dissolving the crystal for measurements of the <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra in solution phase. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ): 7.66 (s, 8H), 7.52 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (broad, 6H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.27 (s, 2H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 4H), 2.54 (septet, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 4H), 1.23 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 12H), 1.08 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 12H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, d): 161.9 (q, *J* = 49.9 Hz, C), 148.6 (CH), 146.2 (C), 134.9 (CH), 132.1 (C), 130.8 (CH), 129.0 (dq, *J* = 11.5 Hz, *J* = 62.9 Hz, C), 127.3 (CH), 126.0 (C), 124.7 (CH), 123.6 (CH), 123.3 (C), 120.6 (C), 117.6 (CH), 91.7 (C), 28.8 (CH), 24.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 23.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>). HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M]<sup>+</sup> calcd. for C<sub>39</sub>H<sub>44</sub>N<sub>4</sub>Cu, 631.28565; found, 631.28512; calcd. for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>12</sub><sup>10</sup>BF<sub>24</sub>, 862.06906; found, 862.07009. Elemental analysis: calcd. for C<sub>71</sub>H<sub>56</sub>BCuF<sub>24</sub>N<sub>4</sub>: C, 57.02; H, 3.77; N, 3.75; found: C, 57.10; H, 3.83; N, 3.50. The analytically pure light-yellowish single crystal **3** was prepared by recrystallization using CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/EtOH.

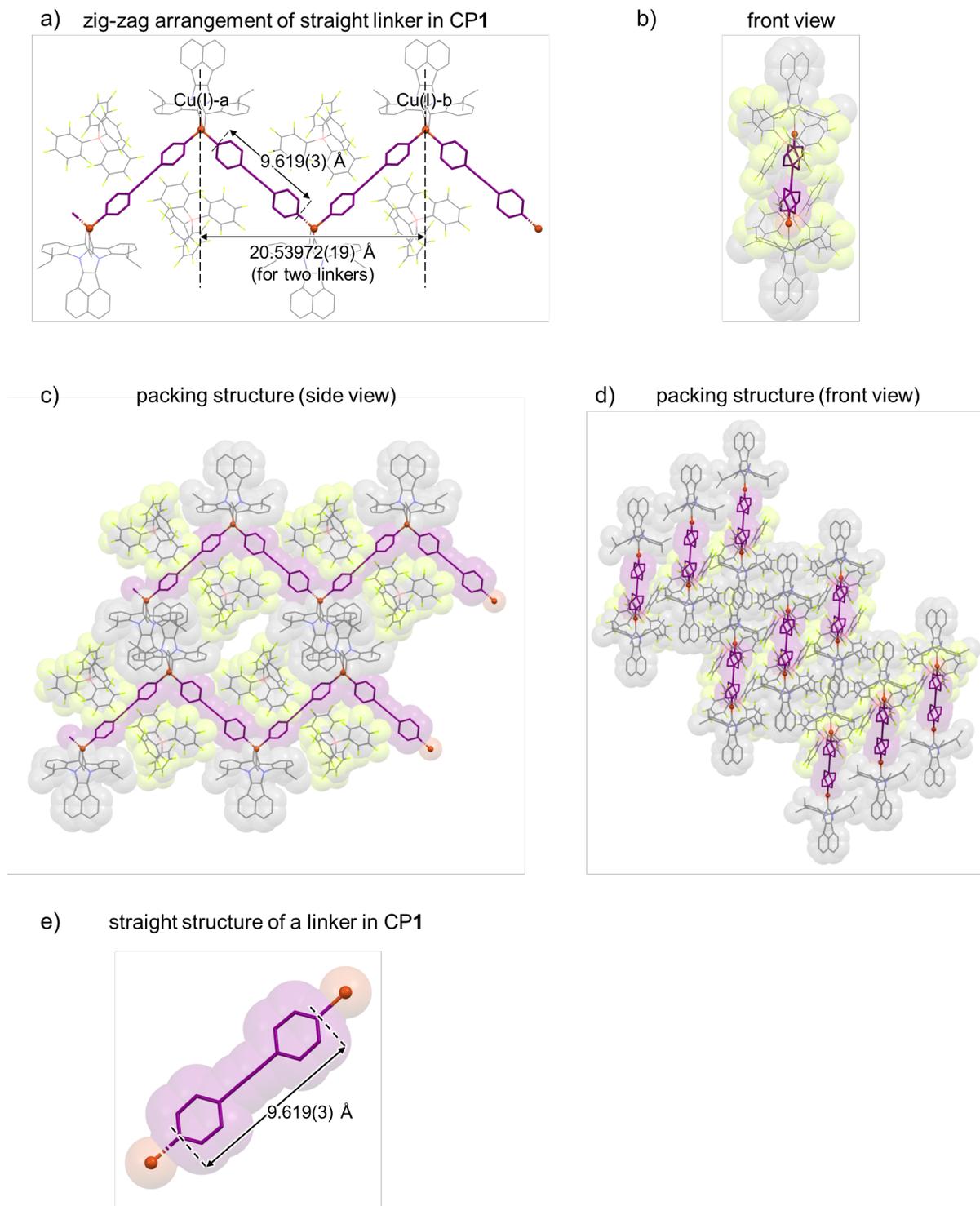
### 3. Data for Single-Crystal X-Ray Structural Analyses

Single-crystal X-ray structural analyses were carried out on a Rigaku XtaLAB Synergy diffractometer using graphite monochromated Mo-K $\alpha$  radiation. The structure was solved by direct methods and expanded using Fourier techniques. Non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. Hydrogen atoms were refined using the riding model. All calculations were performed using the Olex2 crystallographic software package except for refinement, which was performed using SHELXL-2013.<sup>5</sup>

**Table S1.** Summary of X-ray crystallographic data of the crystal **1**, **2**, and **3**.

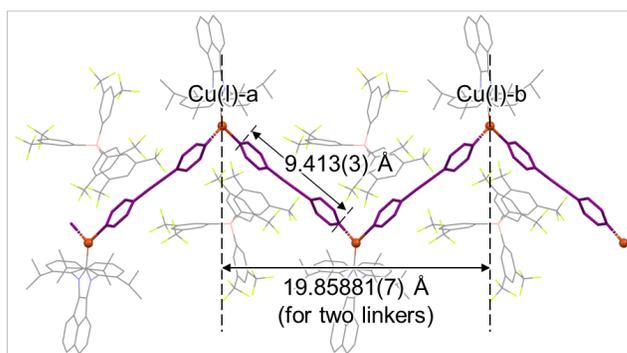
compound	Crystal 1	Crystal 2	Crystal 3
CCDC Number	2435084	2435085	2435086
Empirical Formula	C <sub>73</sub> H <sub>48</sub> BCuF <sub>20</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>81</sub> H <sub>60</sub> BCuF <sub>24</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>71</sub> H <sub>56</sub> BCuF <sub>24</sub> N <sub>4</sub>
Formula Weight	1435.50	1619.68	1495.54
Crystal System	triclinic	monoclinic	monoclinic
Crystal Size / mm	0.10 × 0.10 × 0.01	0.20 × 0.10 × 0.10	0.20 × 0.20 × 0.10
<i>a</i> / Å	11.41140(10)	13.43416(5)	12.27189(4)
<i>b</i> / Å	16.17480(10)	19.85881(7)	15.93292(4)
<i>c</i> / Å	19.6865(2)	28.77729(10)	36.59908(11)
$\alpha$ / °	113.2060(10)	90	90
$\beta$ / °	90.6480(10)	93.4025(3)	98.9216(3)
$\gamma$ / °	94.6670(10)	90	90
<i>V</i> / Å <sup>3</sup>	3324.88(5)	7663.85(5)	7069.53(3)
Space Group	<i>P</i> -1	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> / <i>c</i>	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> / <i>c</i>
<i>Z</i> value	2	4	4
<i>D</i> <sub>calc</sub> / g cm <sup>-3</sup>	1.434	1.404	1.405
Temperature / K	153	153	153
2 $\theta$ <sub>max</sub> / °	152.542	153.150	152.634
$\mu$ (Cu K $\alpha$ ) / mm <sup>-1</sup>	1.369	1.330	1.390
No. of Reflections	Total: 123929	Total: 145062	Total: 255188
	Unique: 13389	Unique: 15890	Unique: 14384
	R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0382	R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0307	R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0415
<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> <sup>a</sup>	0.0400	0.0788	0.0546
<i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup>	0.1039	0.2149	0.1442
GOF <sup>c</sup>	1.047	1.070	1.050
Max./Mini. peak <i>I</i> <sup>d</sup> / Å <sup>3</sup>	0.75 e <sup>-</sup> /-0.50 e <sup>-</sup>	1.78 e <sup>-</sup> /-0.84 e <sup>-</sup>	0.88 e <sup>-</sup> /-0.65 e <sup>-</sup>
Flack Parameter	-	-	-

<sup>a</sup>: All data. <sup>b</sup>: All reflections. <sup>c</sup>: Goodness of Fit Indicator. <sup>d</sup>: in Final Diff. Map.

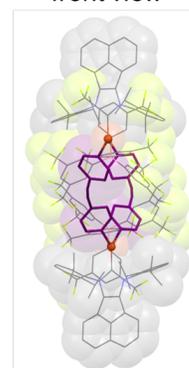


**Figure S1.** Molecular packing structure of crystal **1** at 153 K. H atoms are omitted for clarity. a) 1D zig-zag structure and b) the view from chain axis. c) Inter-chain packing structure and d) the view from chain axis. e) Illustration of the straight structure of a linker in chain.

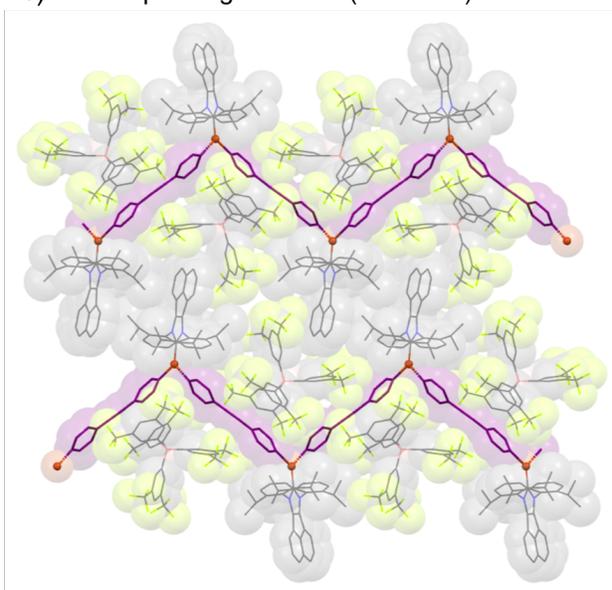
a) zig-zag arrangement of straight linker in CP2



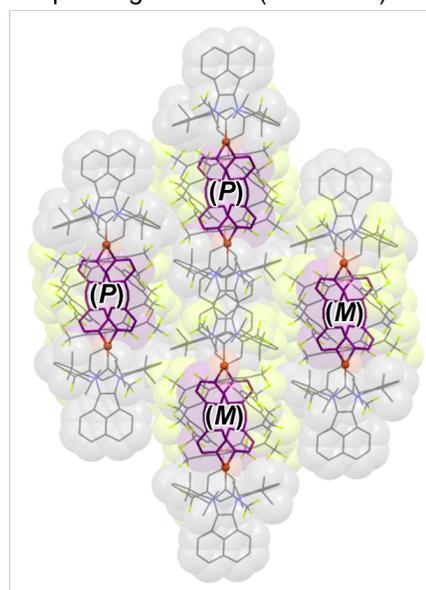
b) front view



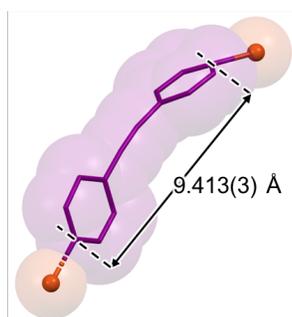
c) packing structure (side view)



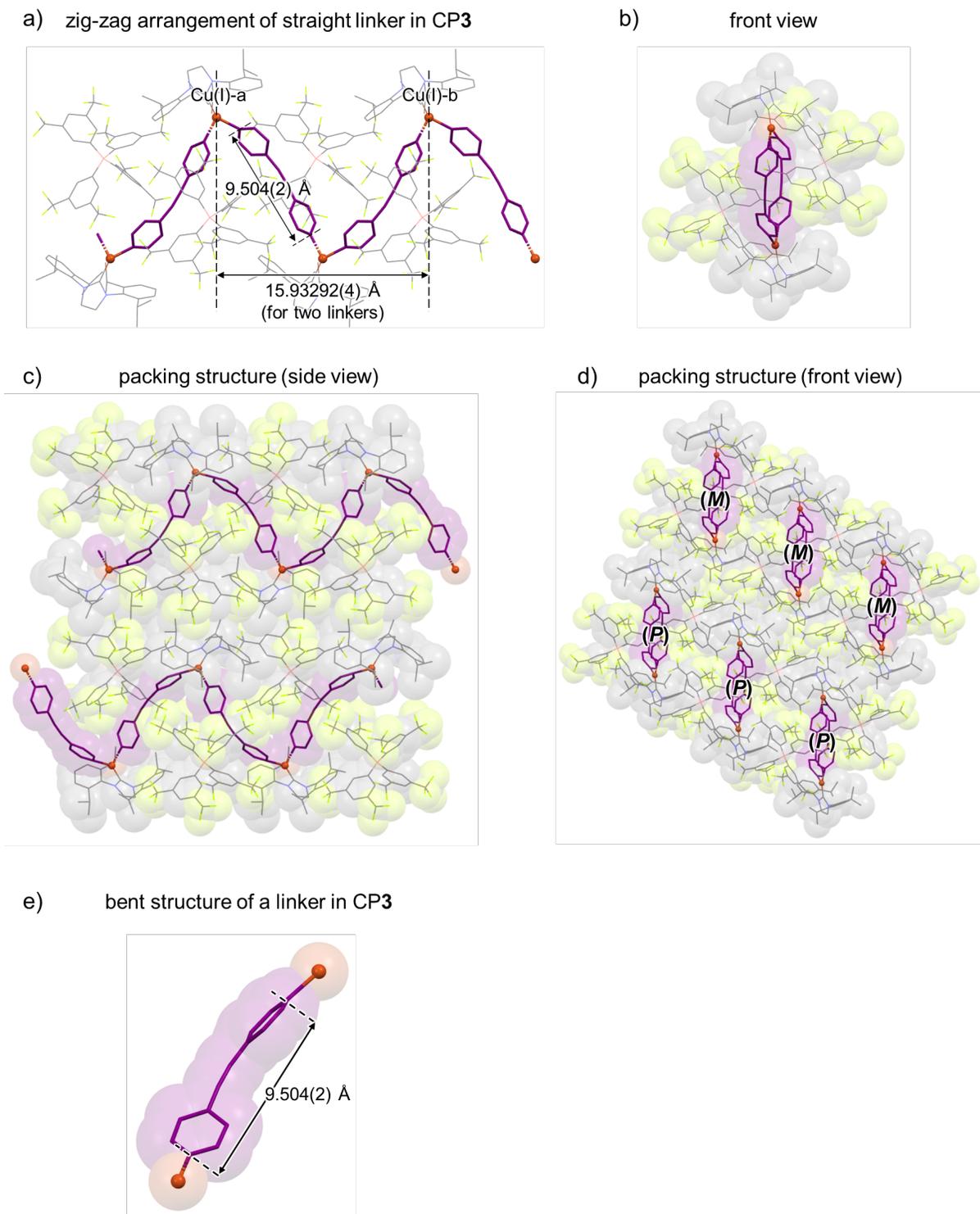
d) packing structure (front view)



e) bent structure of a linker in CP2



**Figure S2.** Molecular packing structure of crystal **2** at 153 K. H atoms are omitted for clarity. a) 1D helical structure and b) the view from helical axis. c) Inter-columnar packing structure and d) the view from helical axis. e) Illustration of the bent structure of a linker in column.



**Figure S3.** Molecular packing structure of crystal **3** at 153 K. H atoms are omitted for clarity. a) 1D helical structure and b) the view from helical axis. c) Inter-columnar packing structure and d) the view from helical axis. e) Illustration of the bent structure of a linker in column.

#### 4. References

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2. Y. Li, Z. Su, H. Hao, J. Zhuang, *Chem. Commun.*, **2020**, *56*, 7669–7672.
3. D. Röth, J. Stirn, D. W. Stephan, L. Greb, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2021**, *143*, 15845–15851.
4. M. Jin, R. Ando, M. J. Jellen, M. A. Garcia-Garibay, H. Ito, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2021**, *143*, 1144–1153.
5. Sheldrick, G. M. SHELXL-2013, Program for the Refinement of Crystal Structures; University of Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany, 2013.

# 5. NMR Spectra

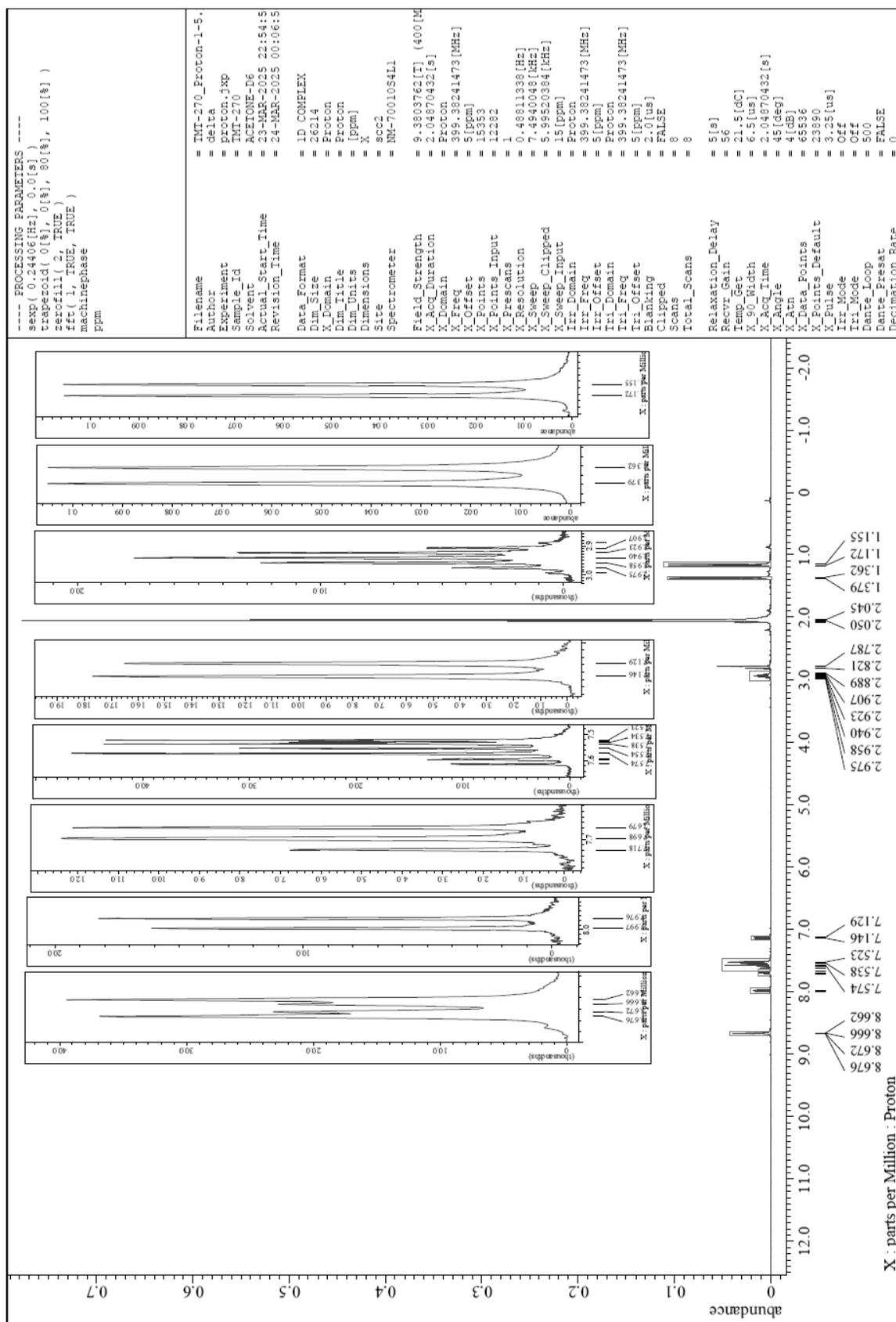


Figure S4. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, Acetone-*d*<sub>6</sub>) of **1**.



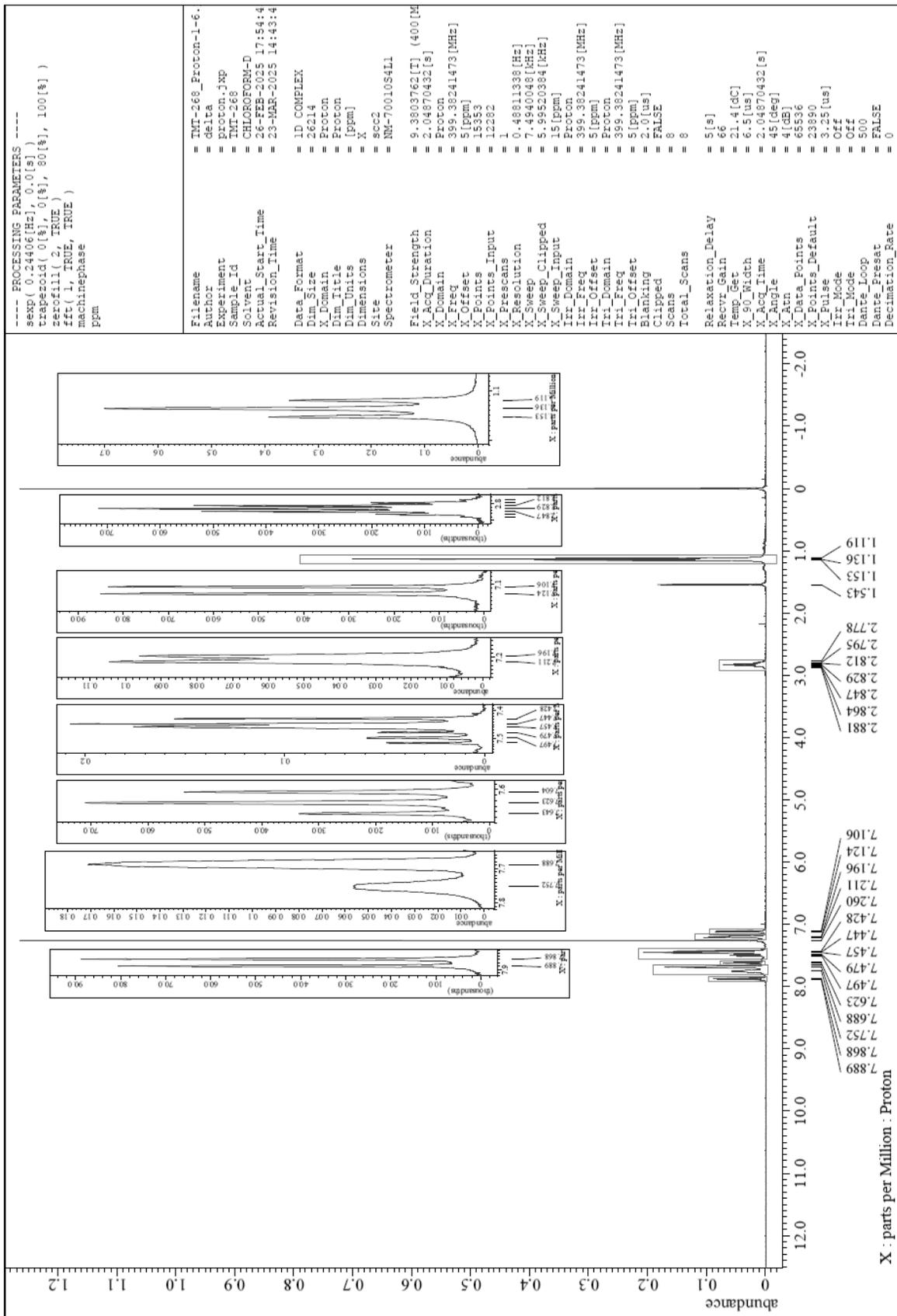


Figure S6.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of 2.

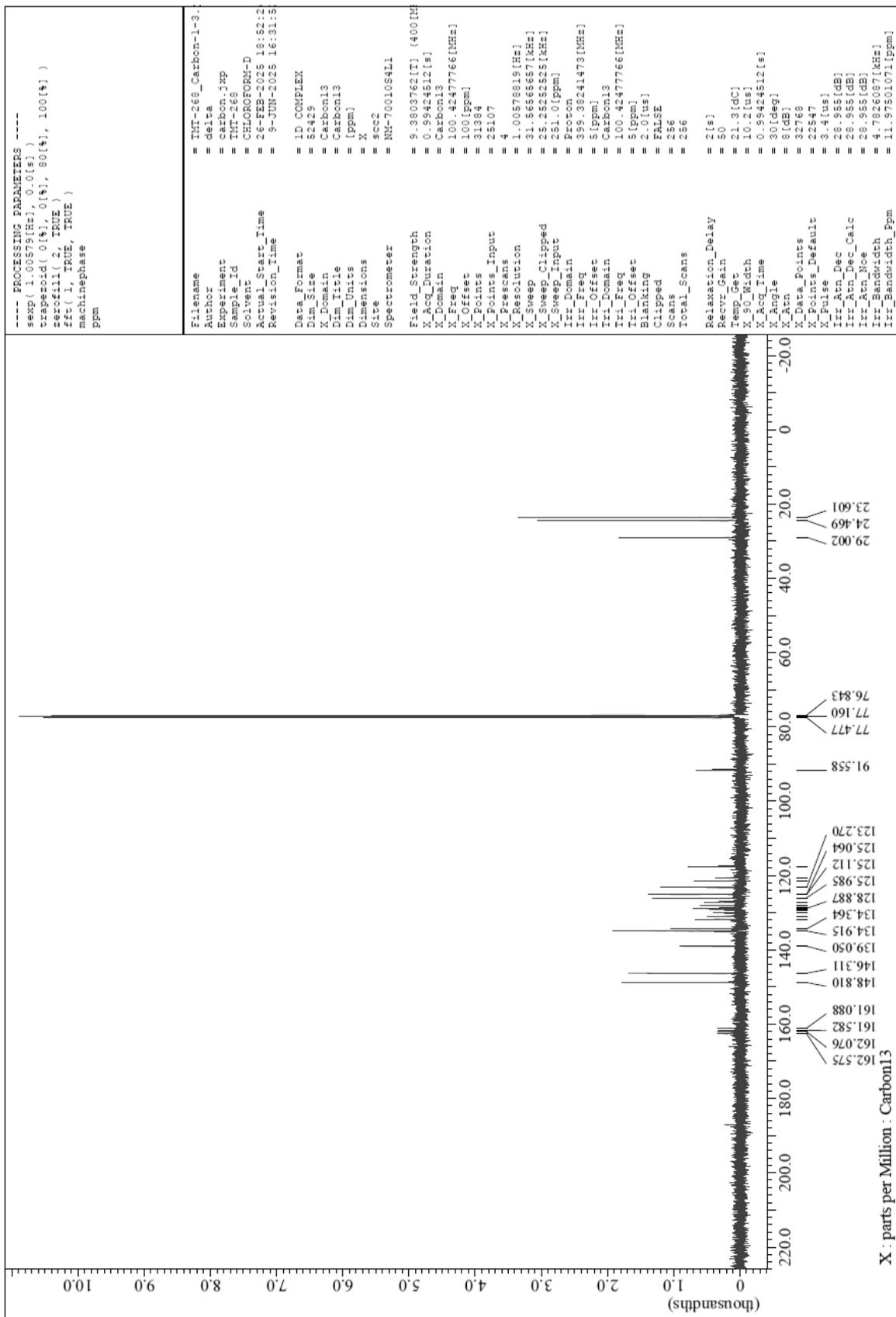


Figure S7.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of 2.

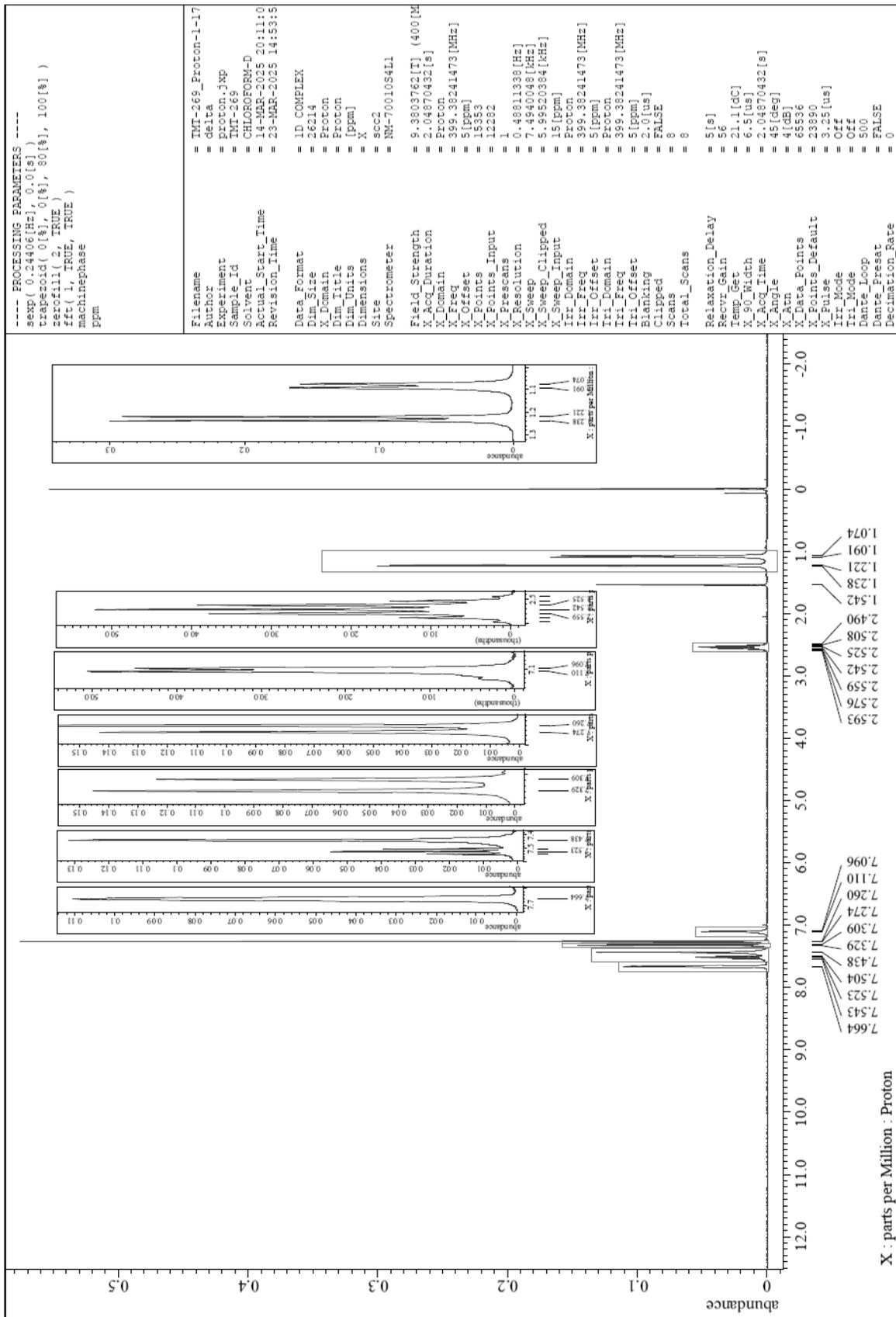


Figure S8.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **3**.

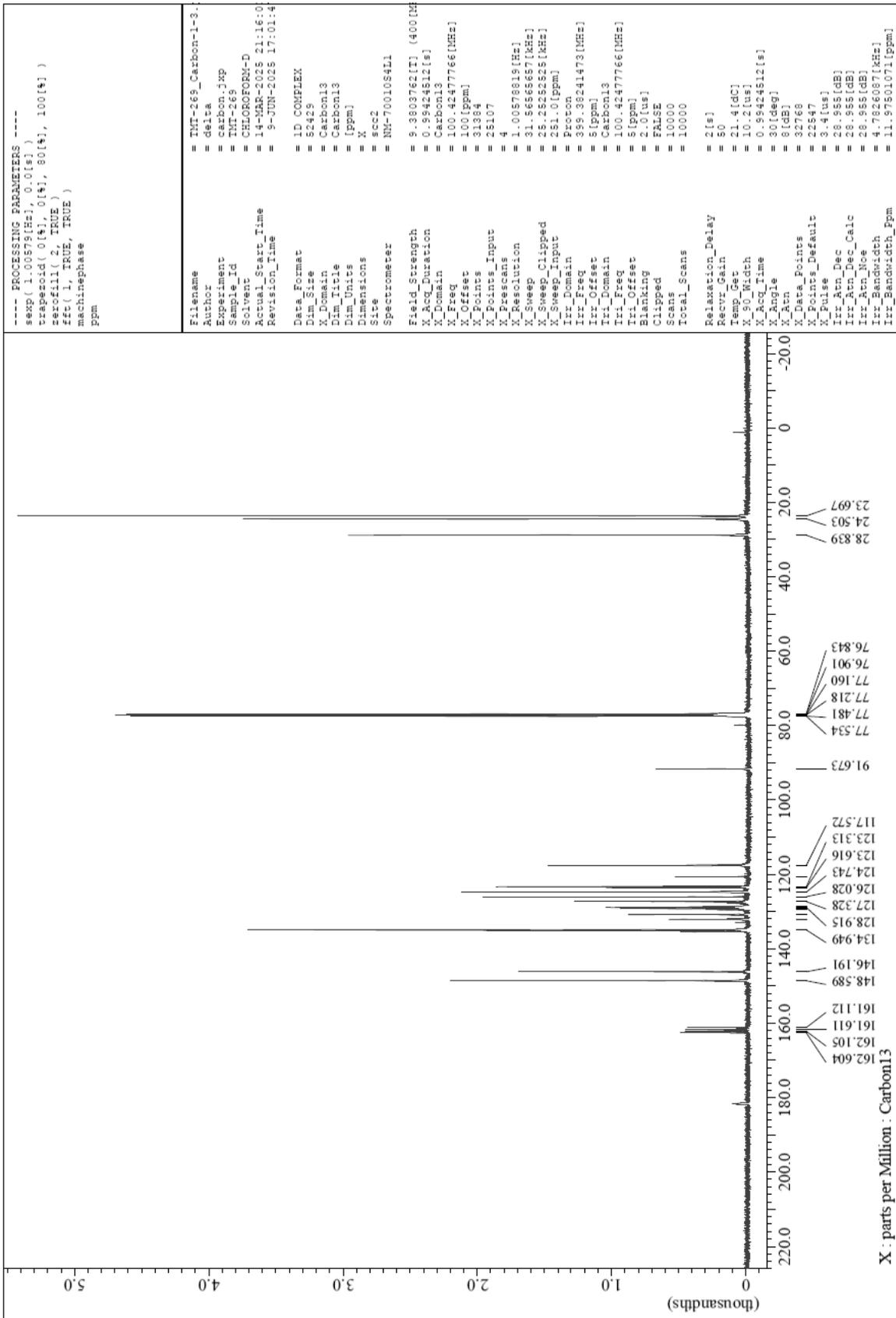


Figure S9.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) of **3**.