

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

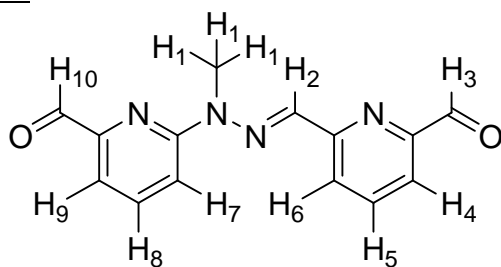
### **Reversible Constitutional Switching between Macrocycles and Polymers Induced by Shape Change in a Dynamic Covalent System**

Sébastien Ulrich, Eric Buhler, and Jean-Marie Lehn\*

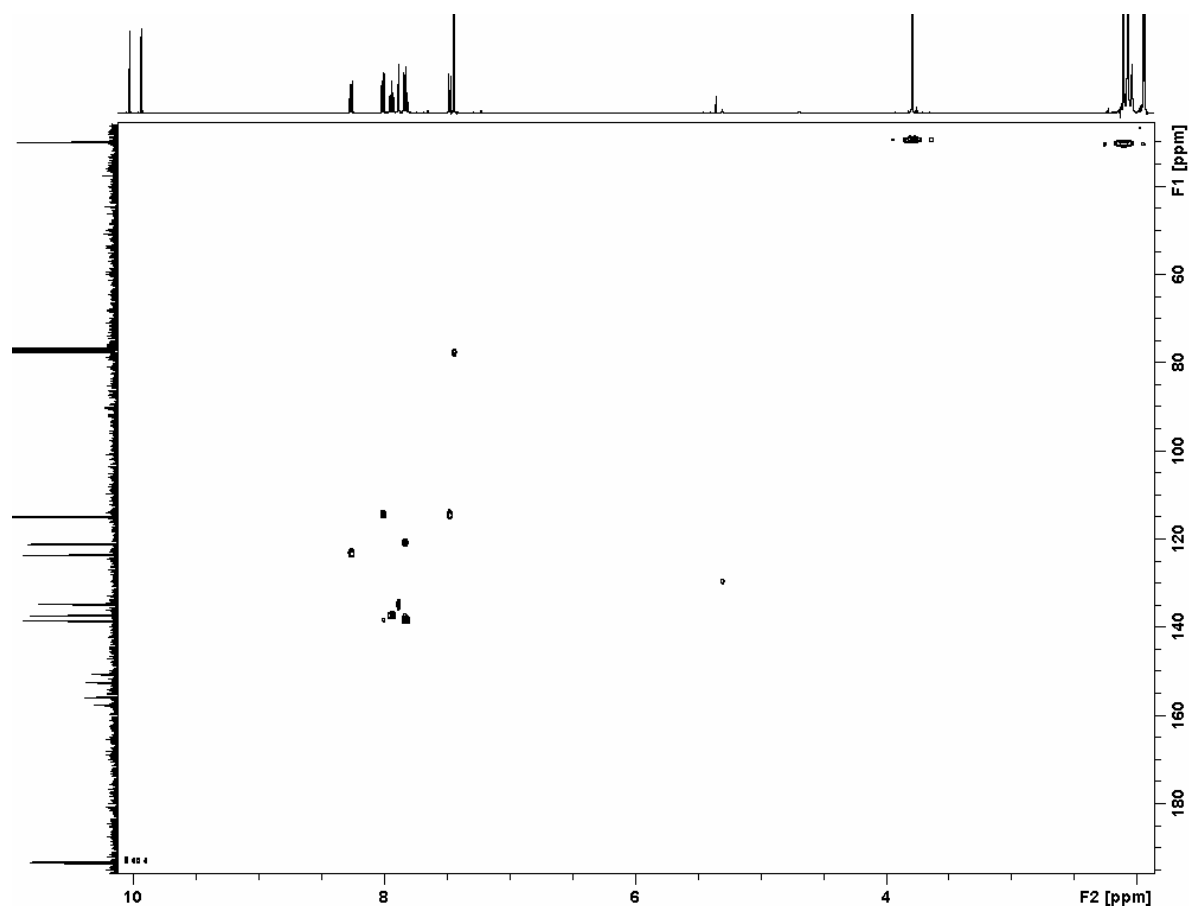
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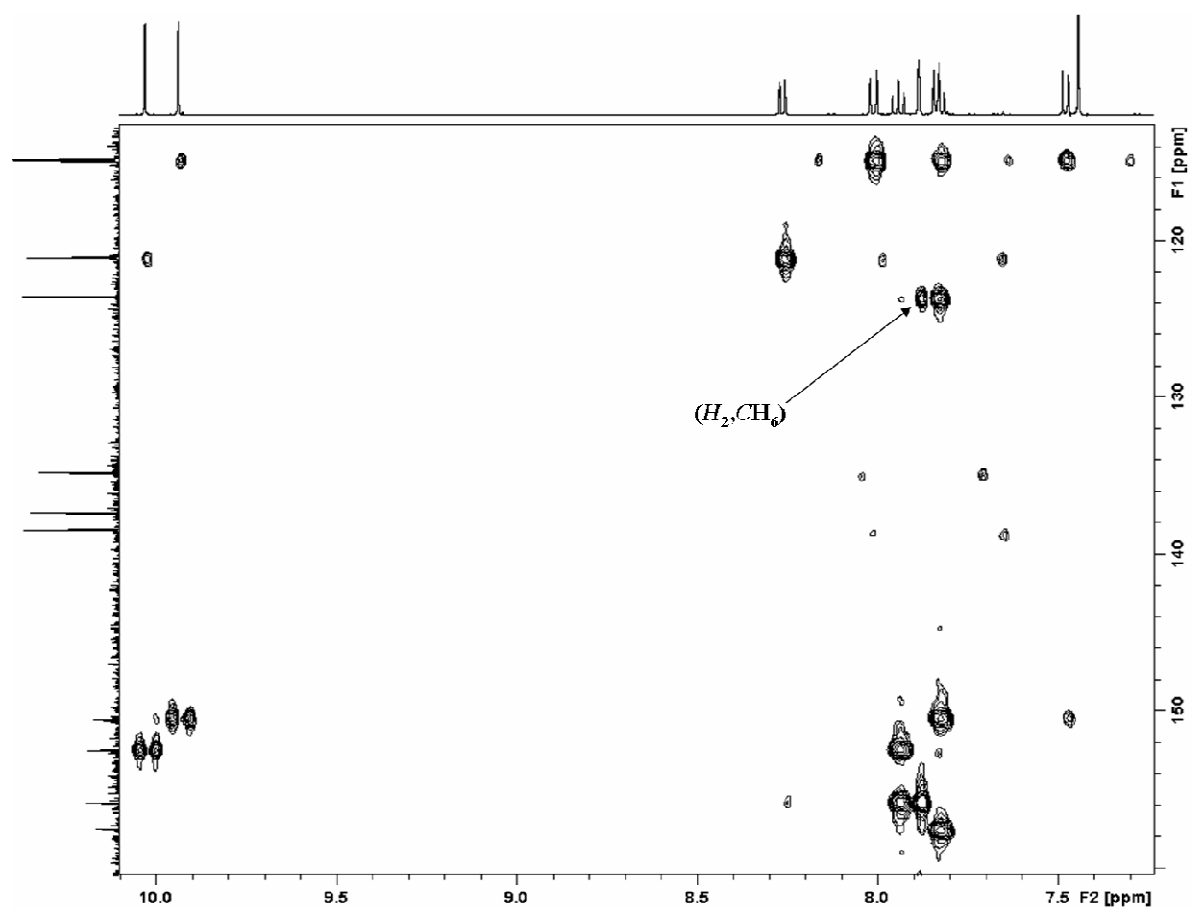
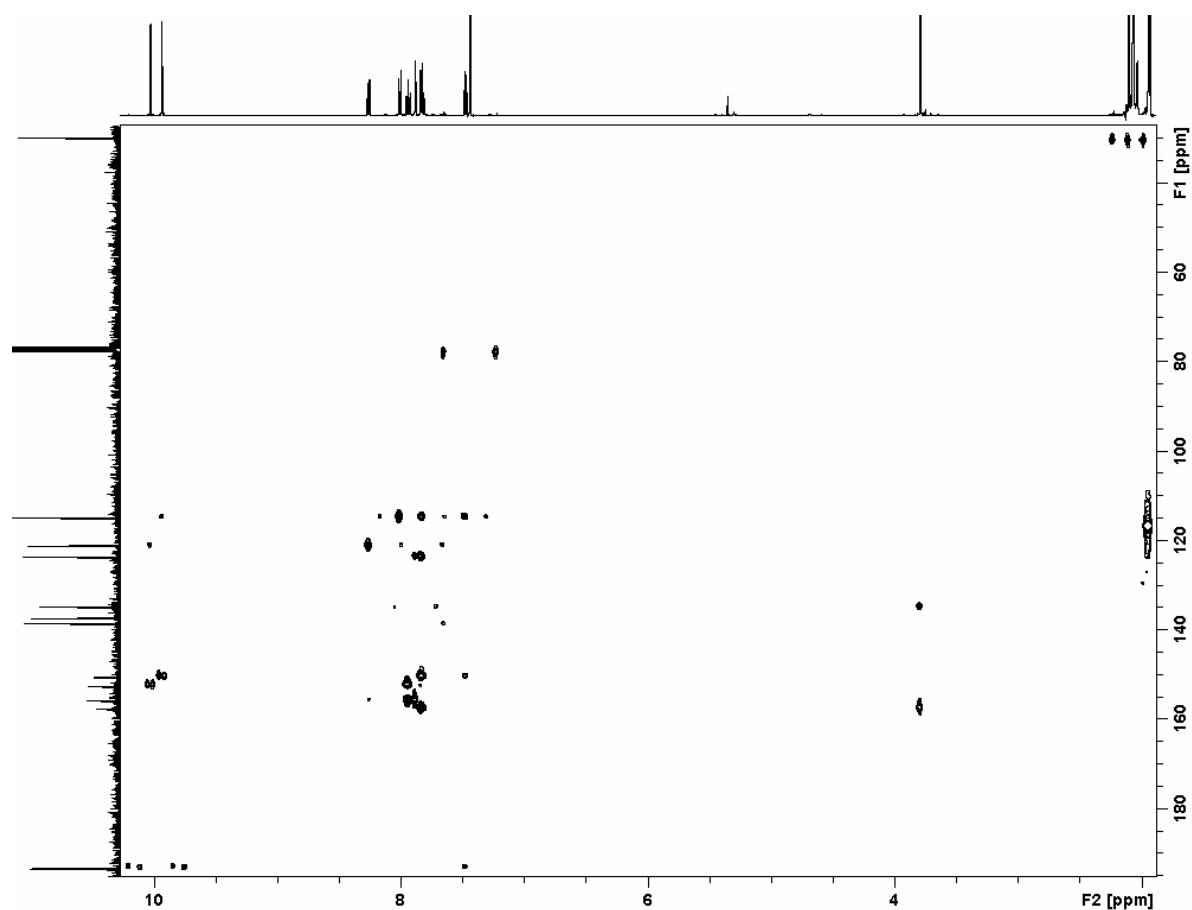
2D NMR analyses of **1-Me**:



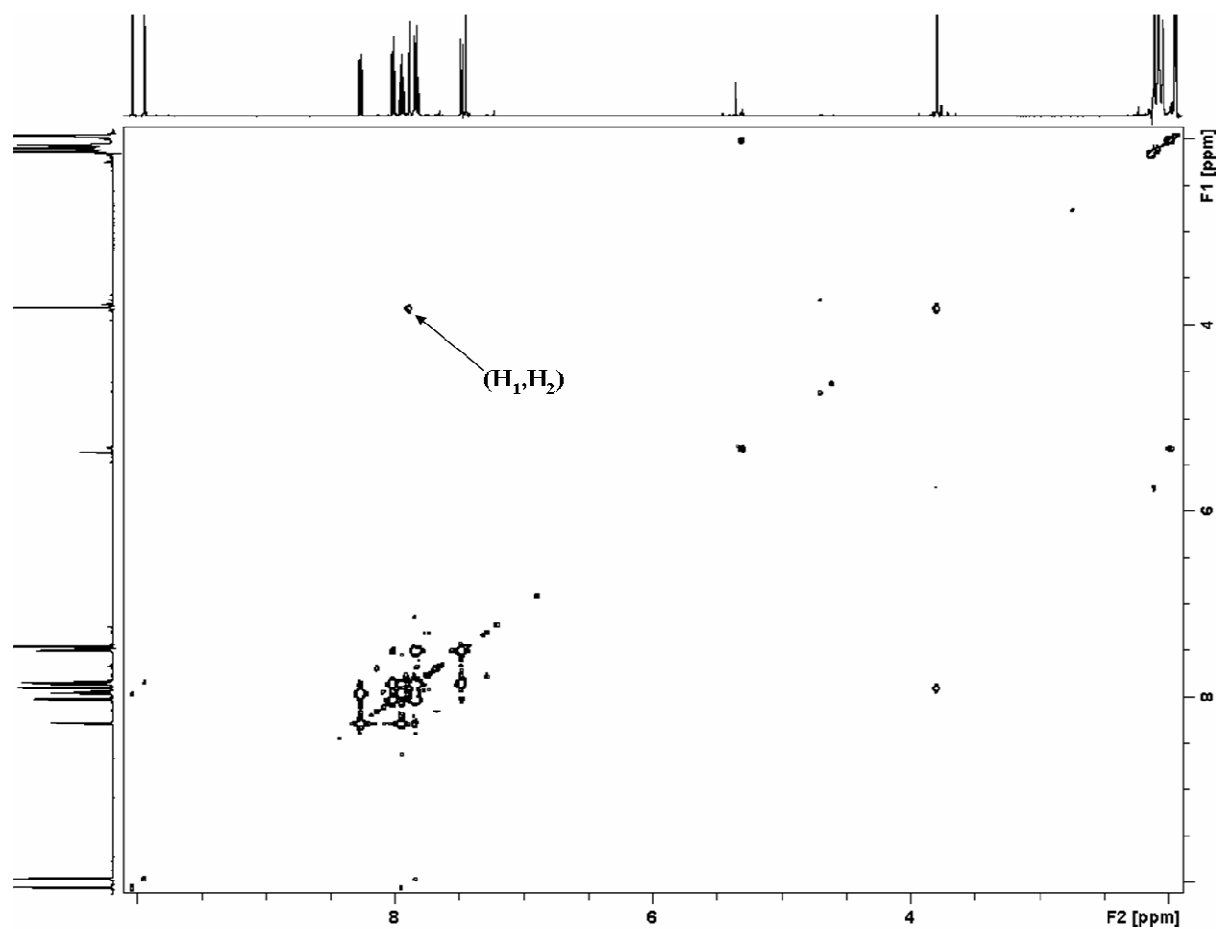
HSQC (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>\*/CD<sub>3</sub>CN: 6/4):



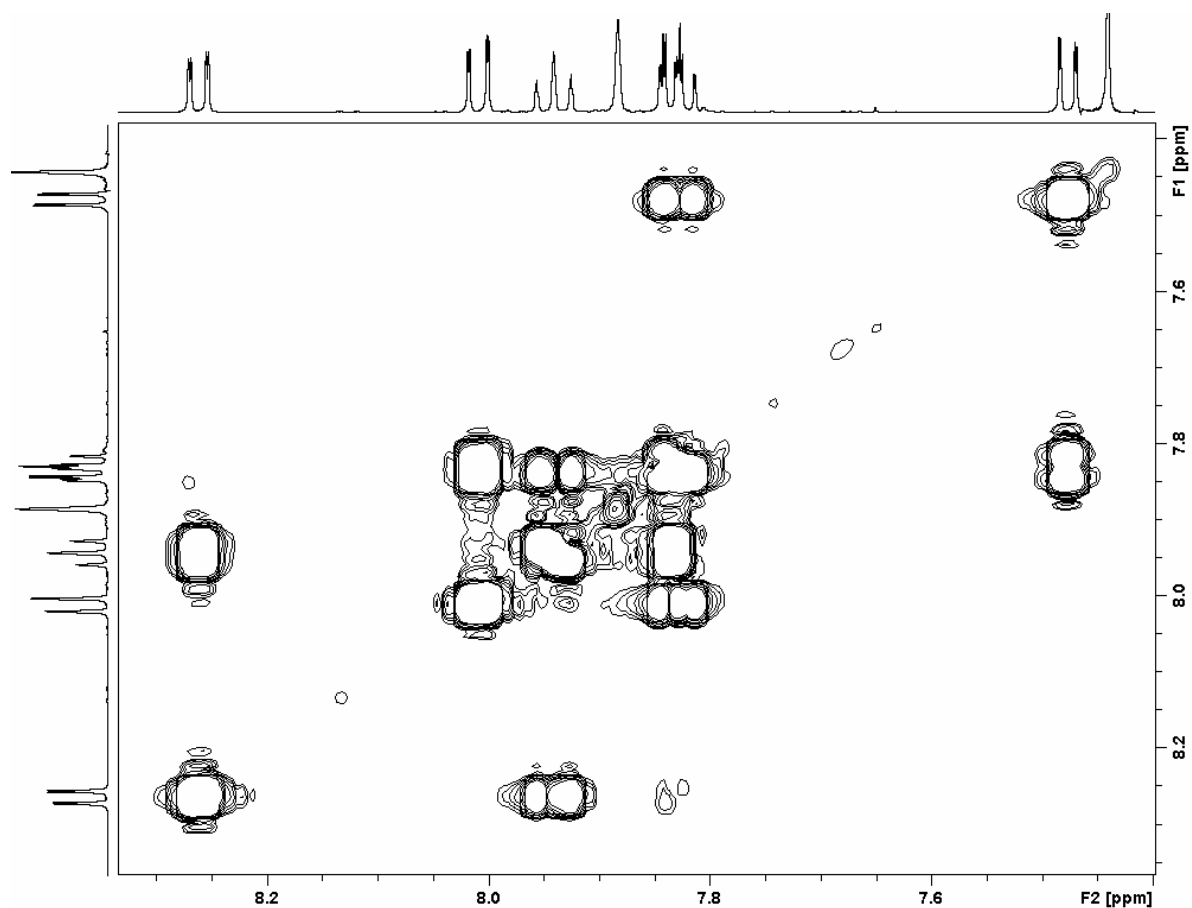
HMBC (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>\*/CD<sub>3</sub>CN: 6/4):



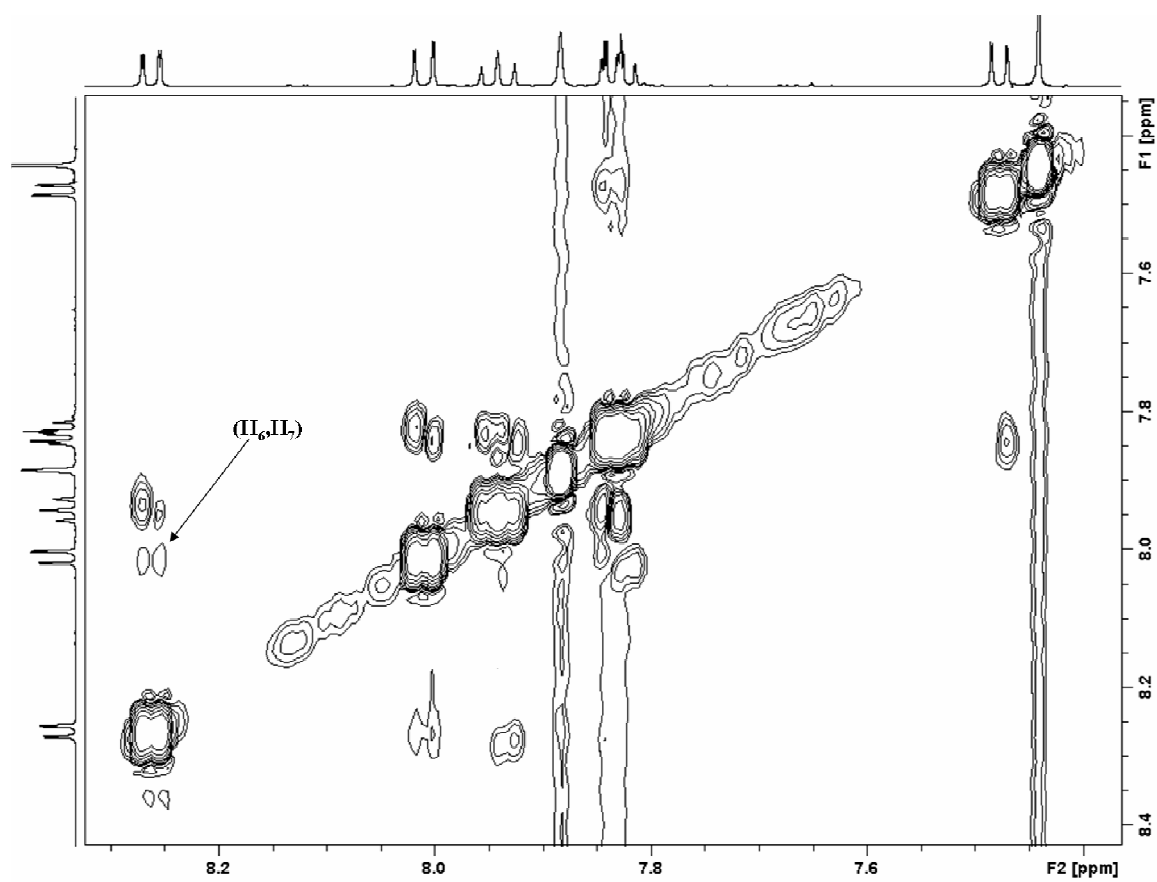
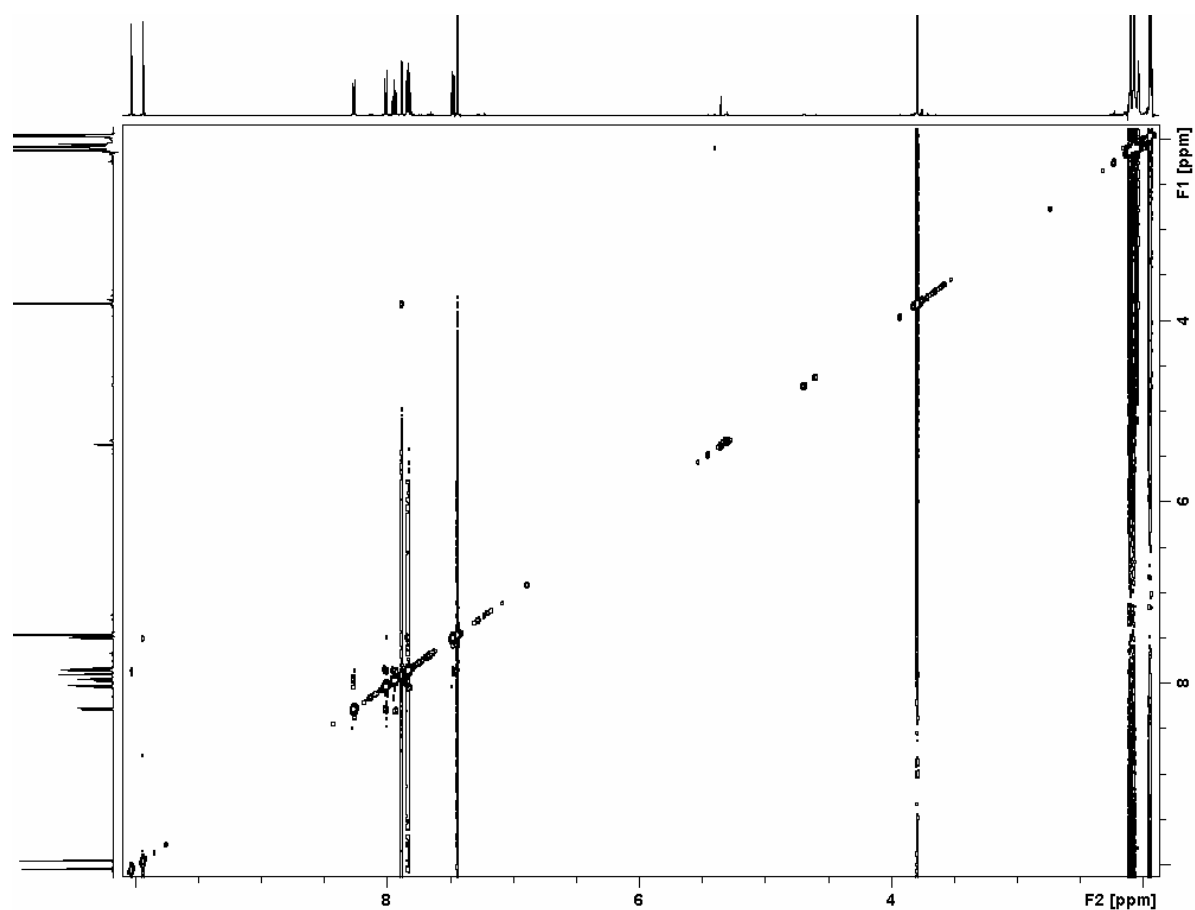
COSY (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>\*/CD<sub>3</sub>CN: 6/4):



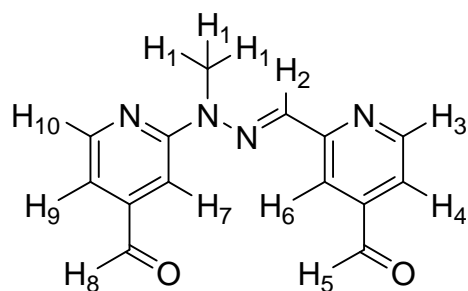




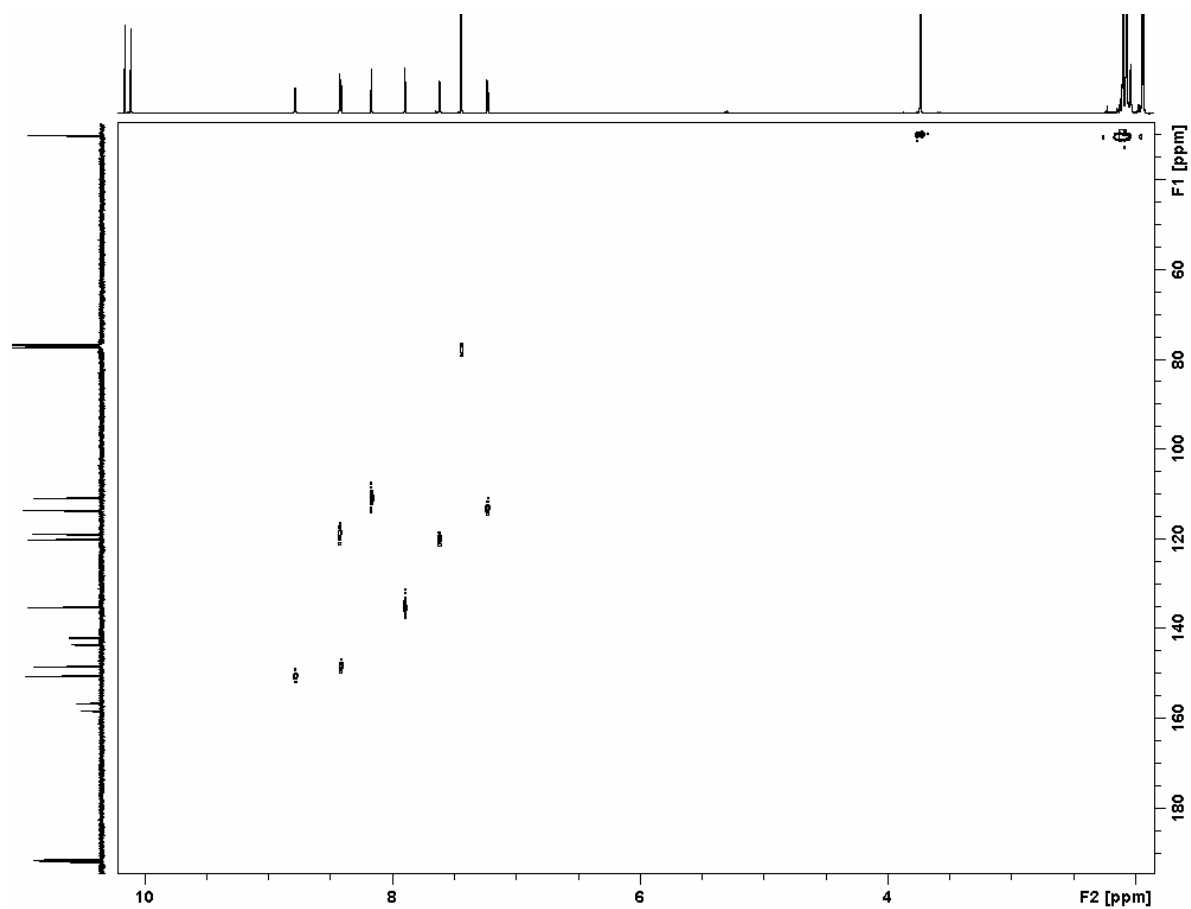
ROESY (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>\*/CD<sub>3</sub>CN: 6/4):



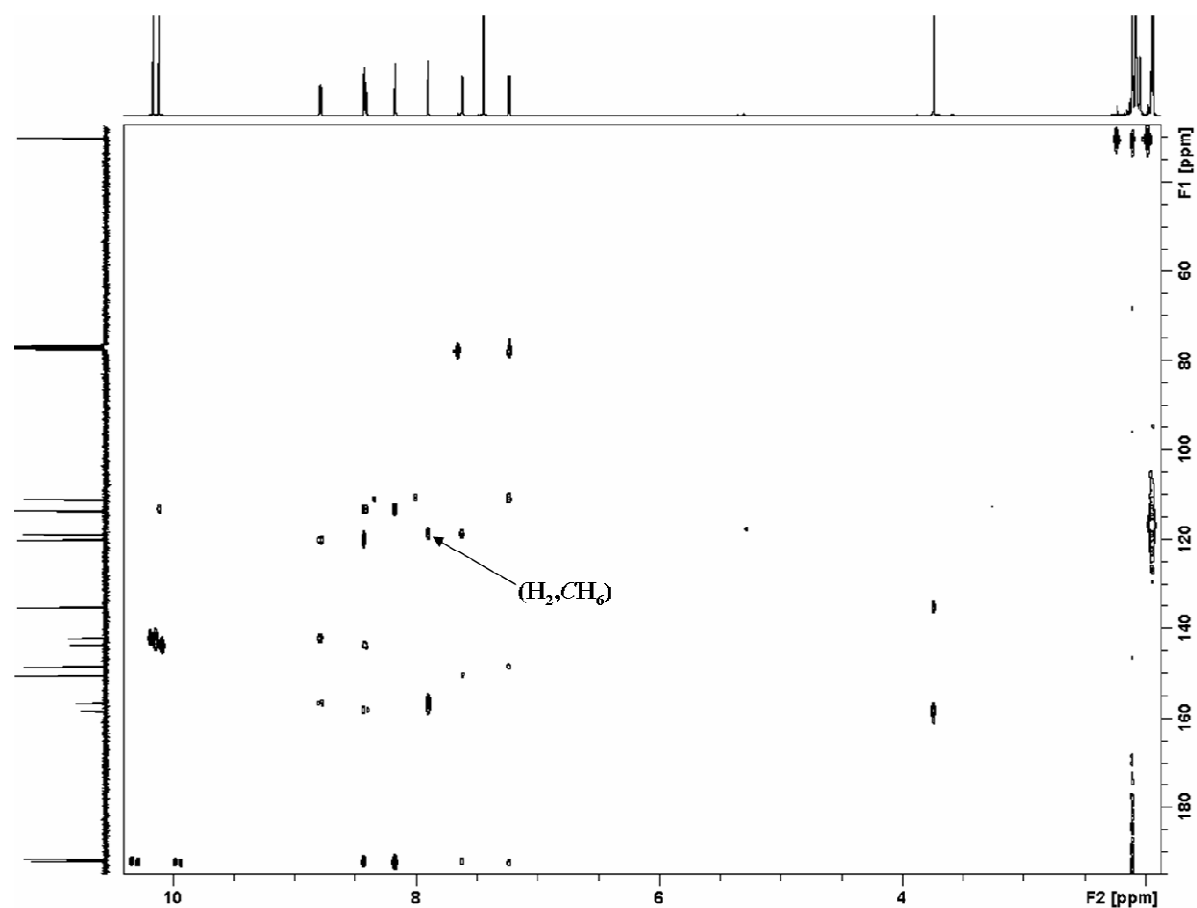
2D NMR analyses of 2:



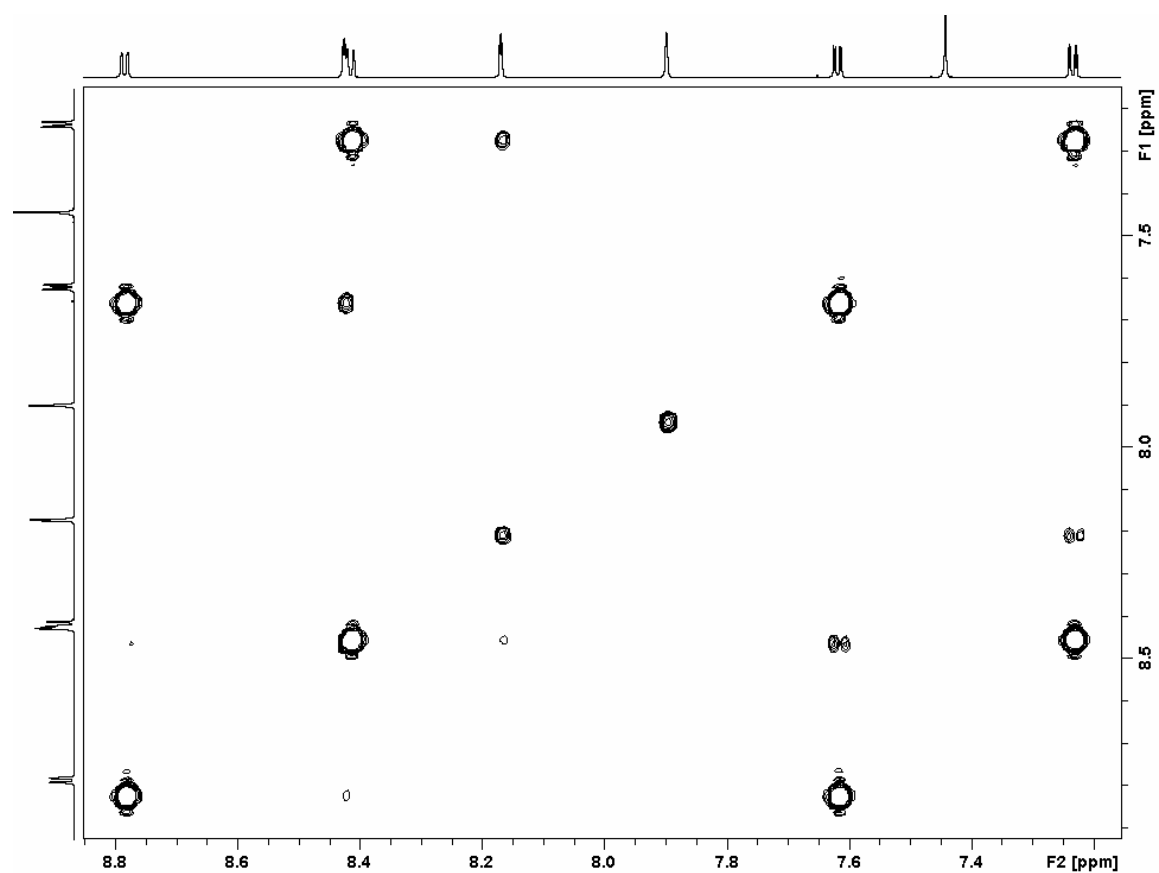
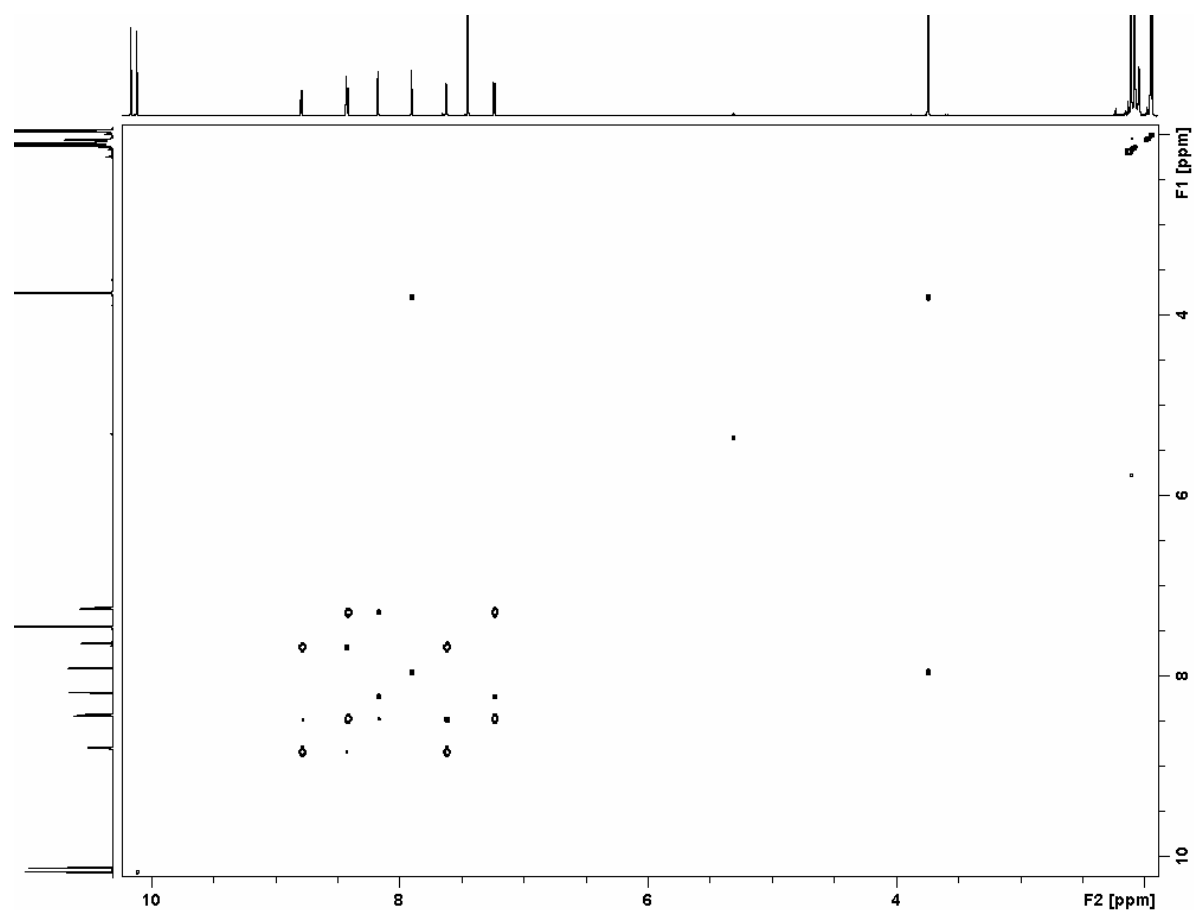
HSQC (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>\*/CD<sub>3</sub>CN: 6/4):



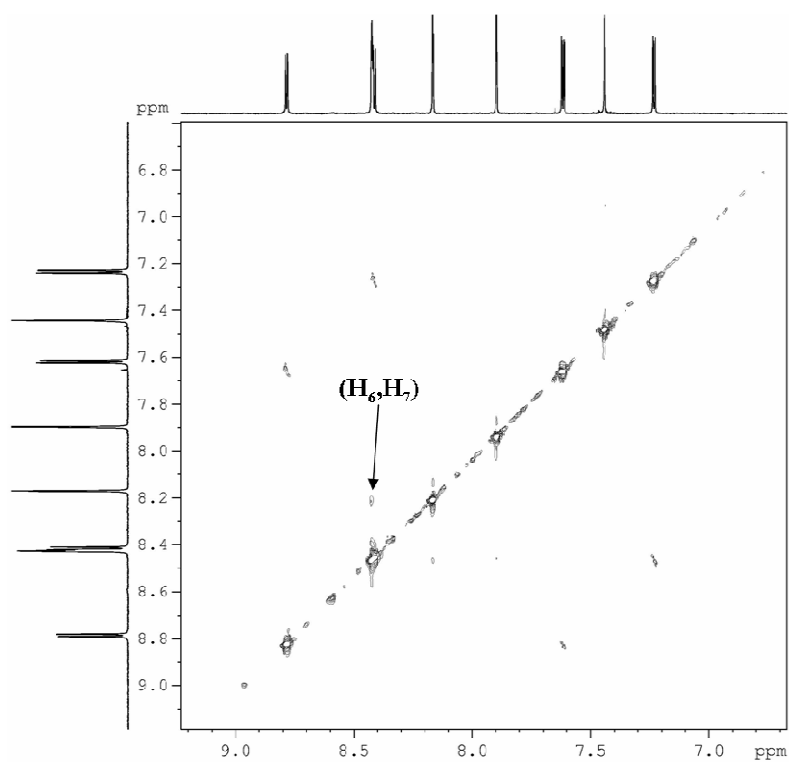
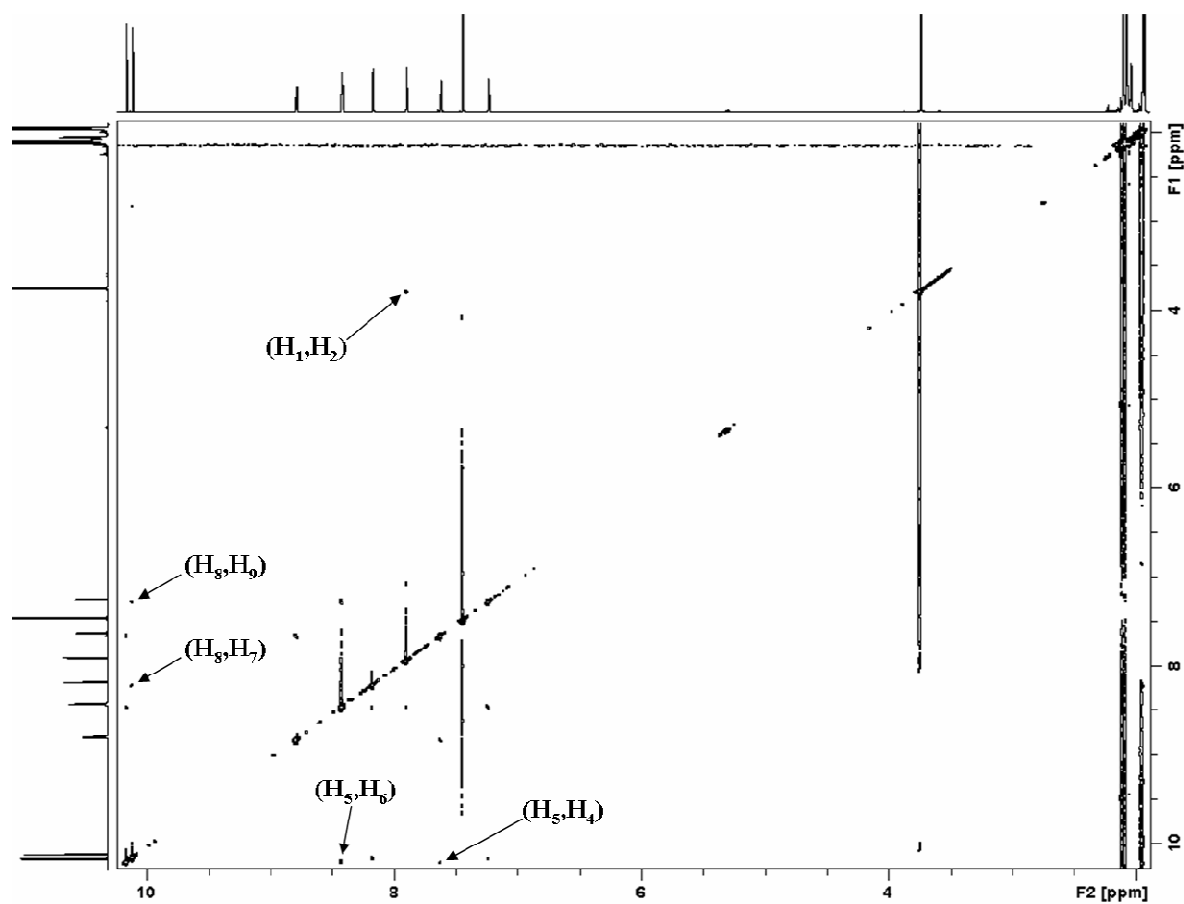
HMBC (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>\*/CD<sub>3</sub>CN: 6/4):



COSY (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>\*/CD<sub>3</sub>CN: 6/4):

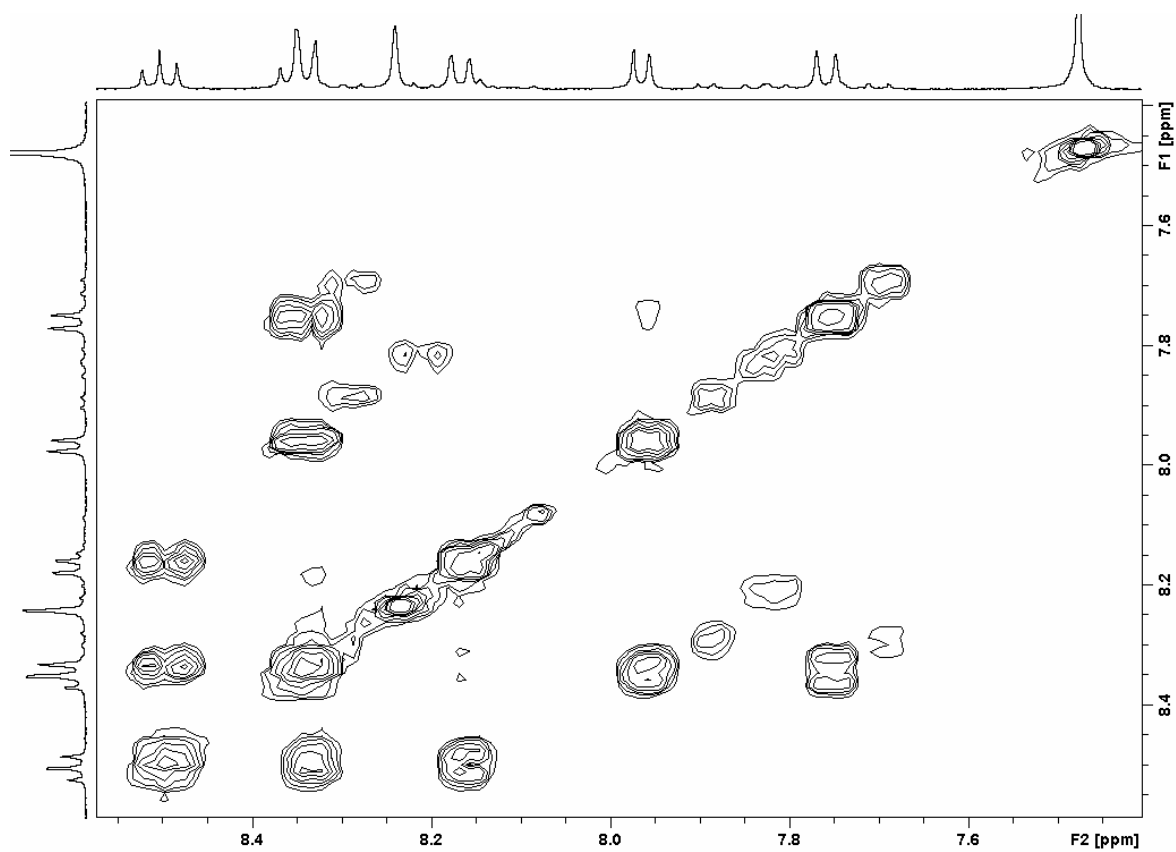
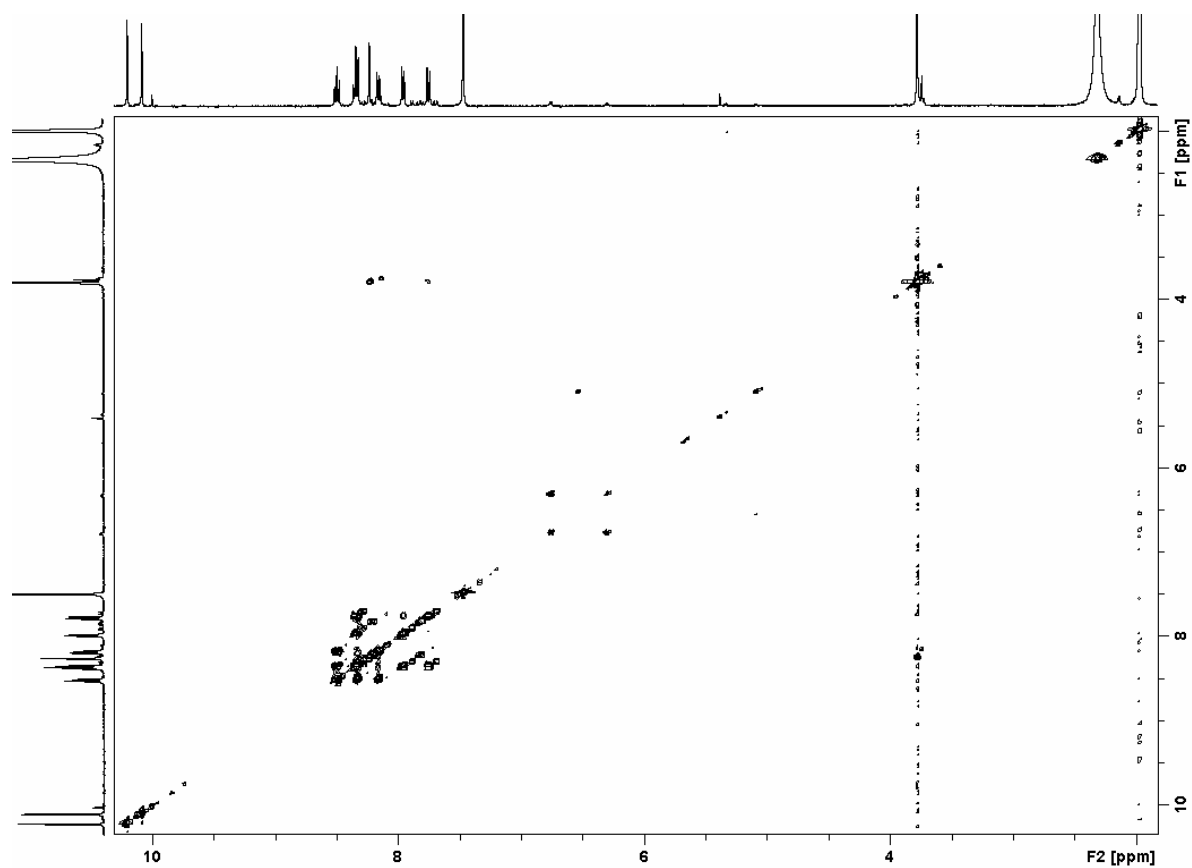


ROESY (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3^*/\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ : 6/4):

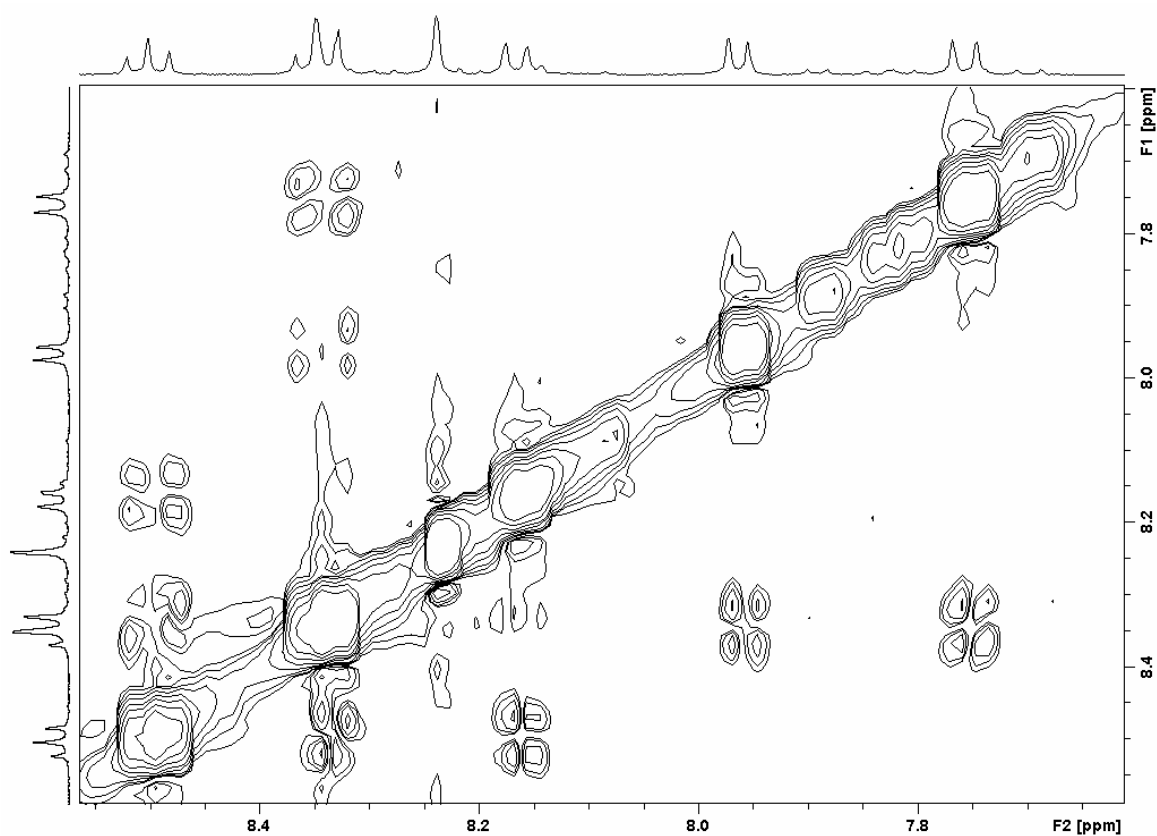
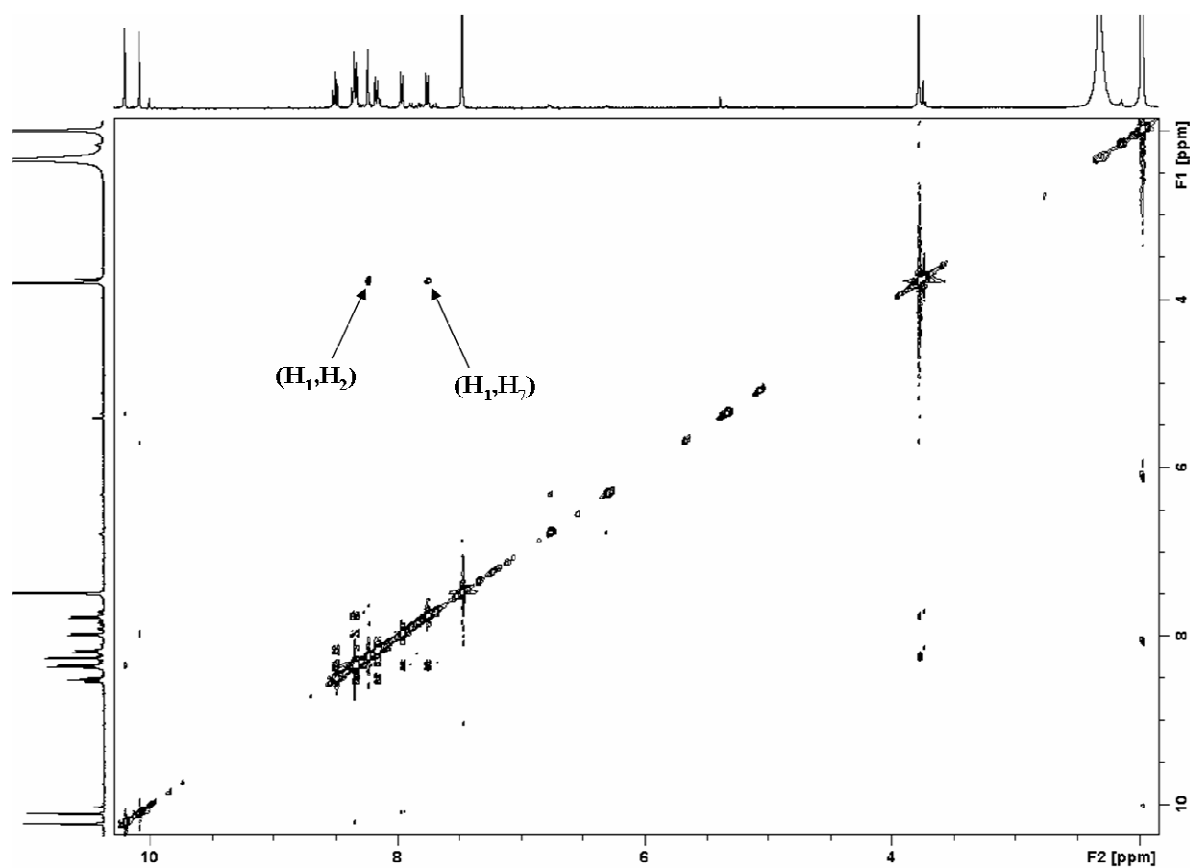


2D NMR analyses of **Zn.1-Me**:

COSY (CDCl<sub>3</sub>\*/CD<sub>3</sub>CN: 6/4):



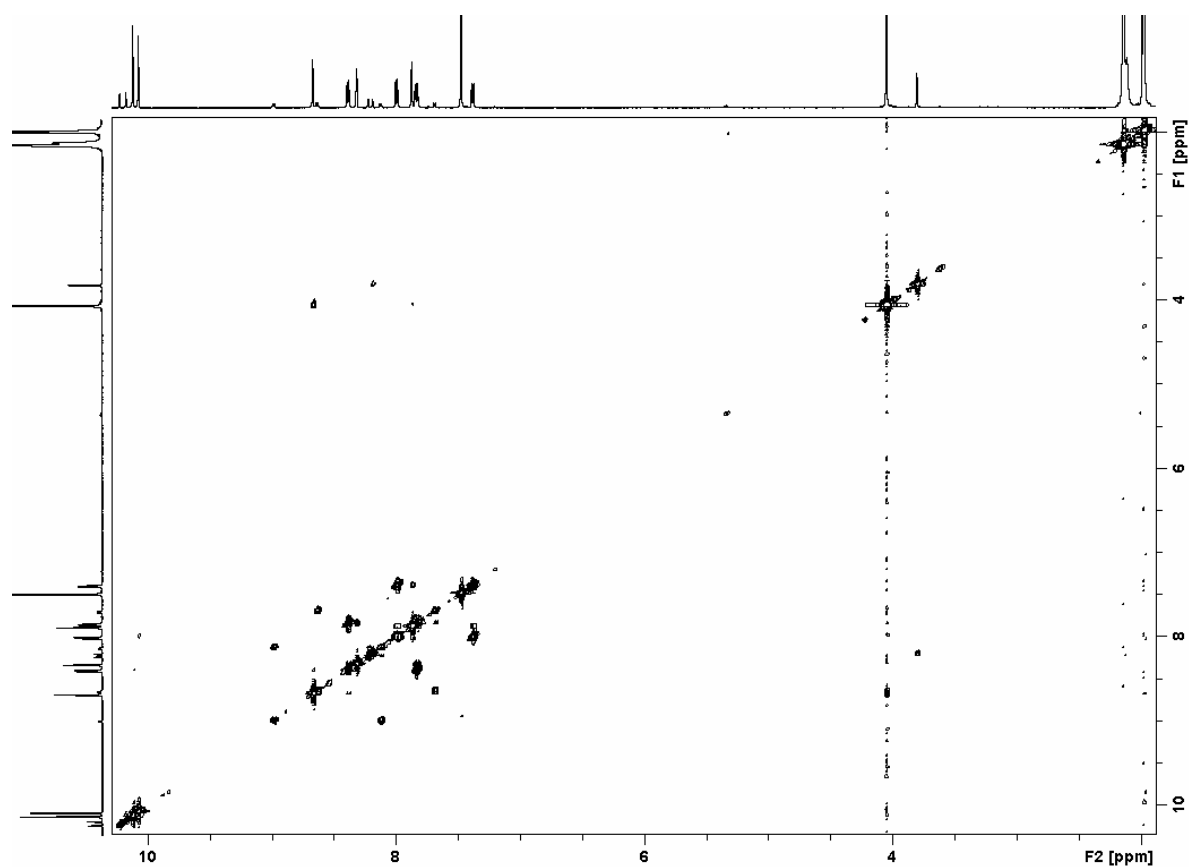
ROESY (CDCl<sub>3</sub>\*/CD<sub>3</sub>CN: 6/4):

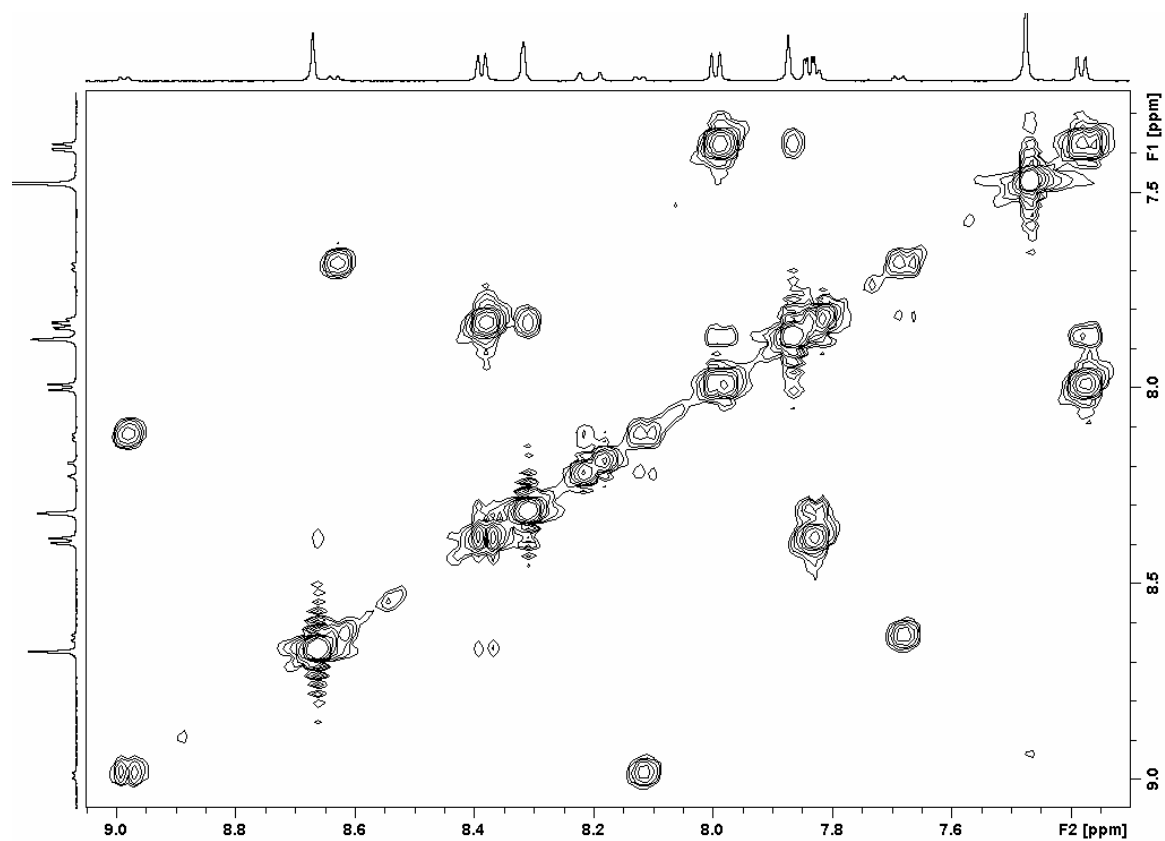




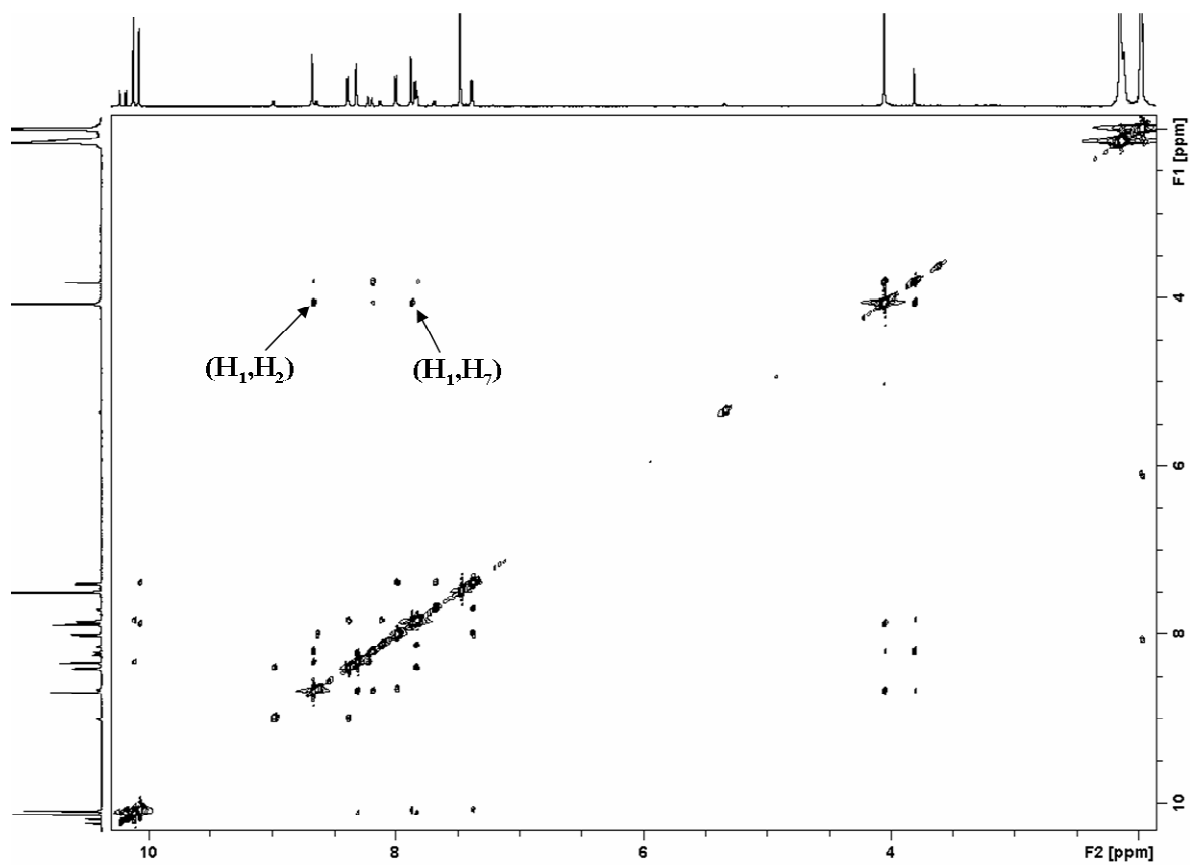
2D NMR analyses of **Zn.2<sub>2</sub>**:

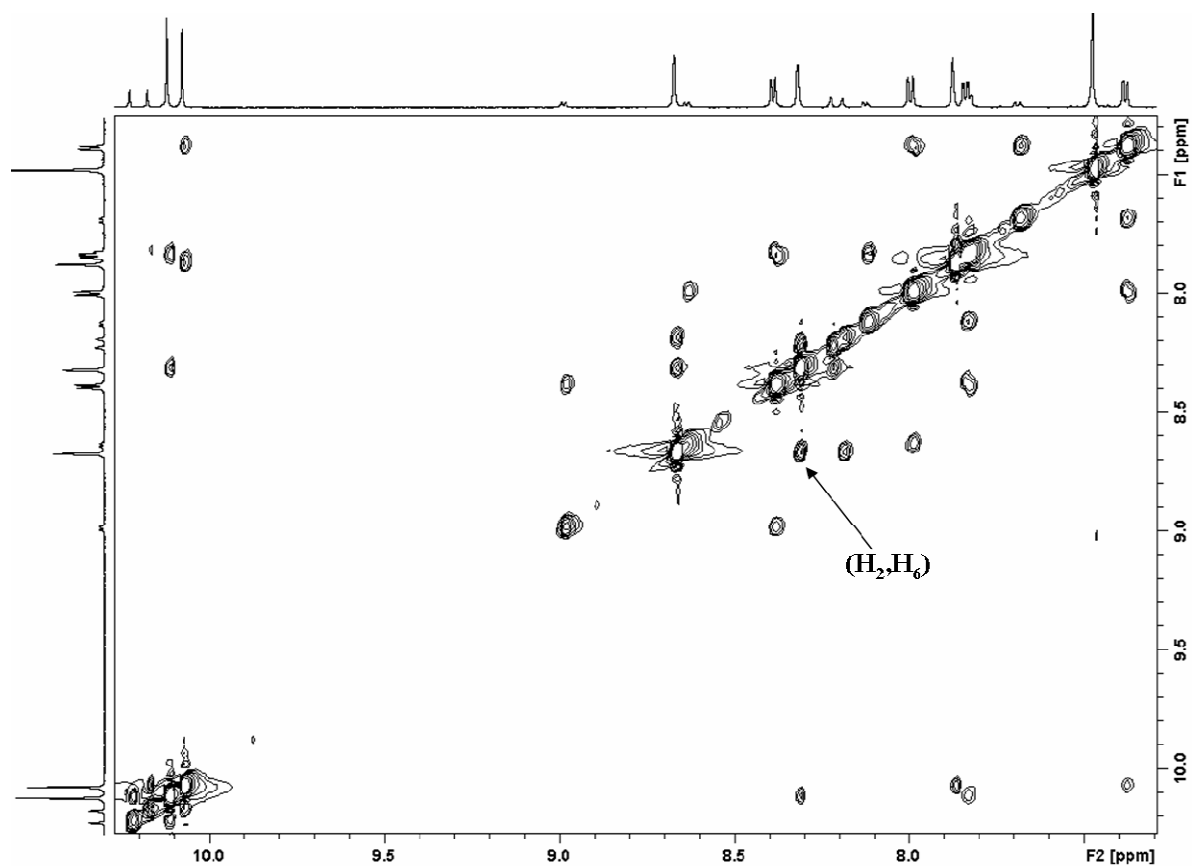
COSY ( $\text{CDCl}_3^*/\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ : 6/4):





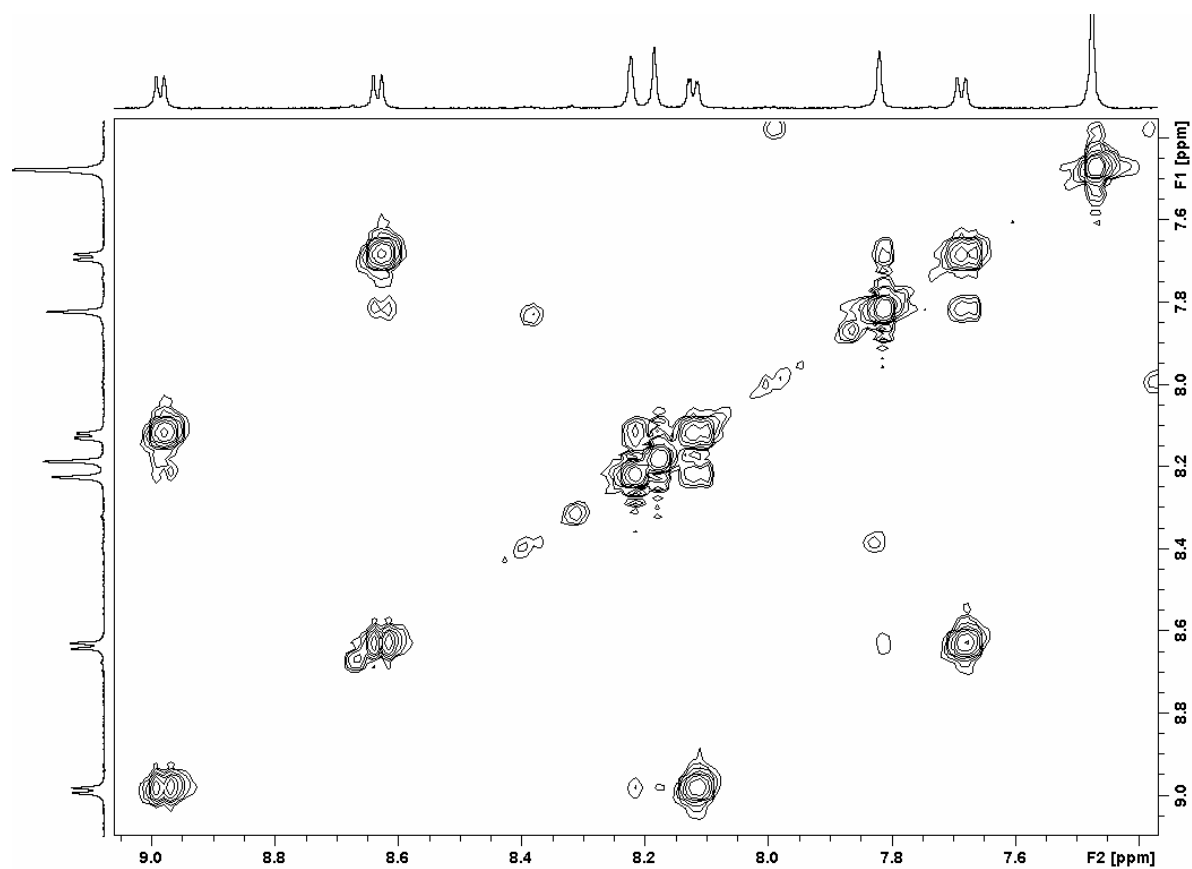
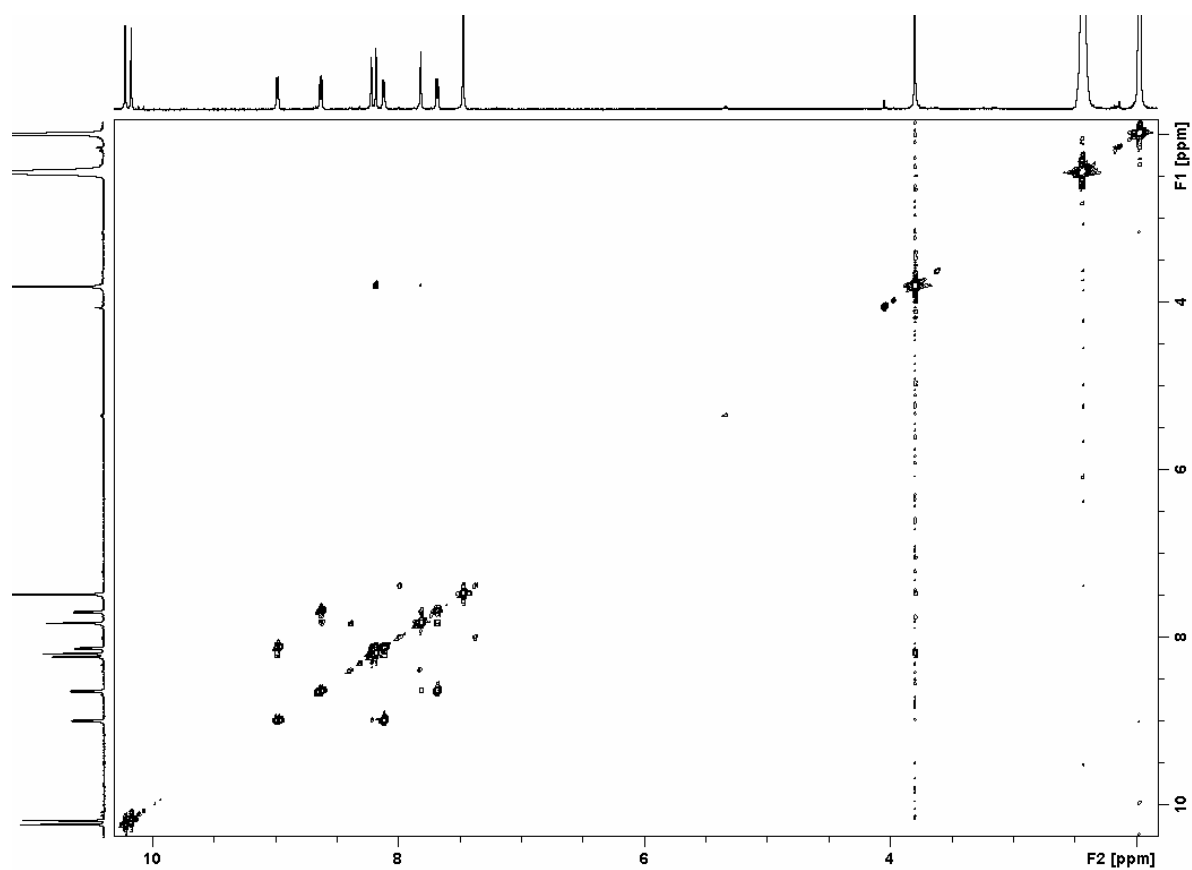
ROESY ( $\text{CDCl}_3^*/\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ : 6/4):



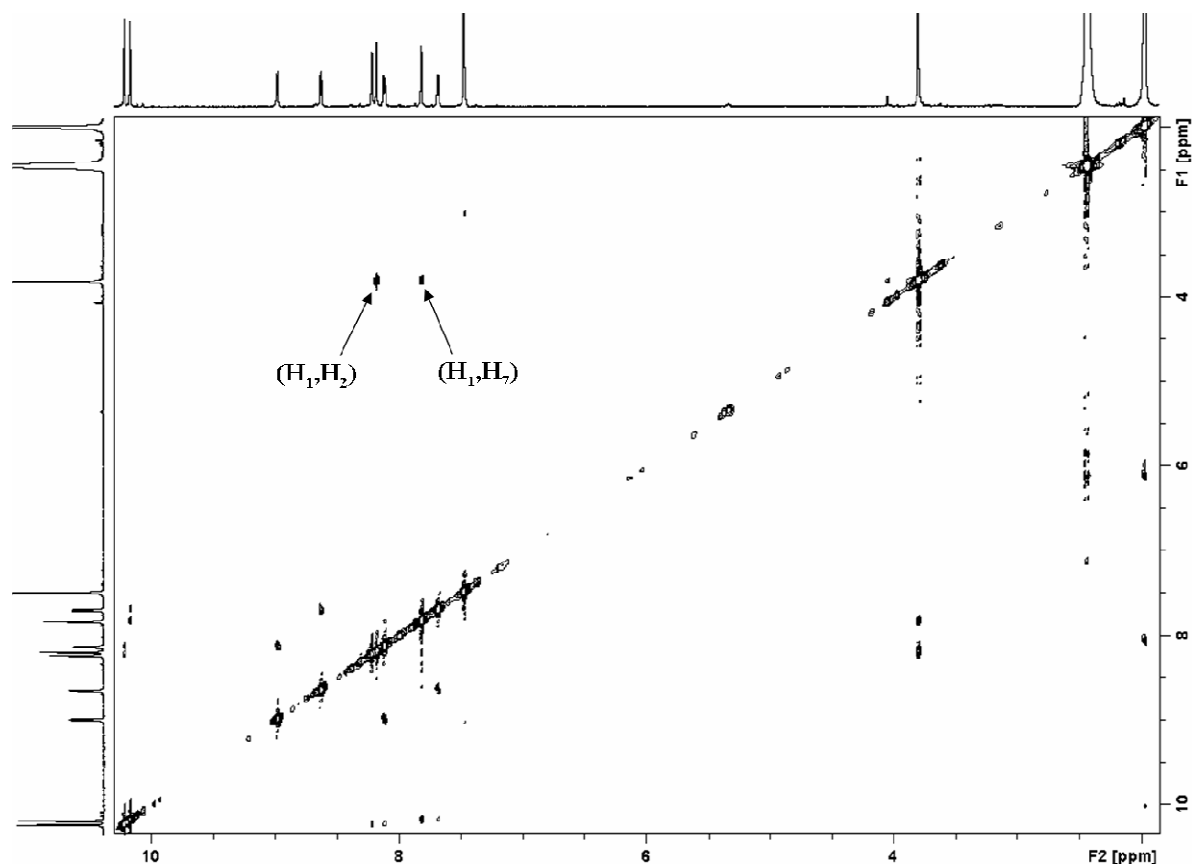


2D NMR analyses of **Zn.2**:

COSY (CDCl<sub>3</sub>\*/CD<sub>3</sub>CN: 6/4):



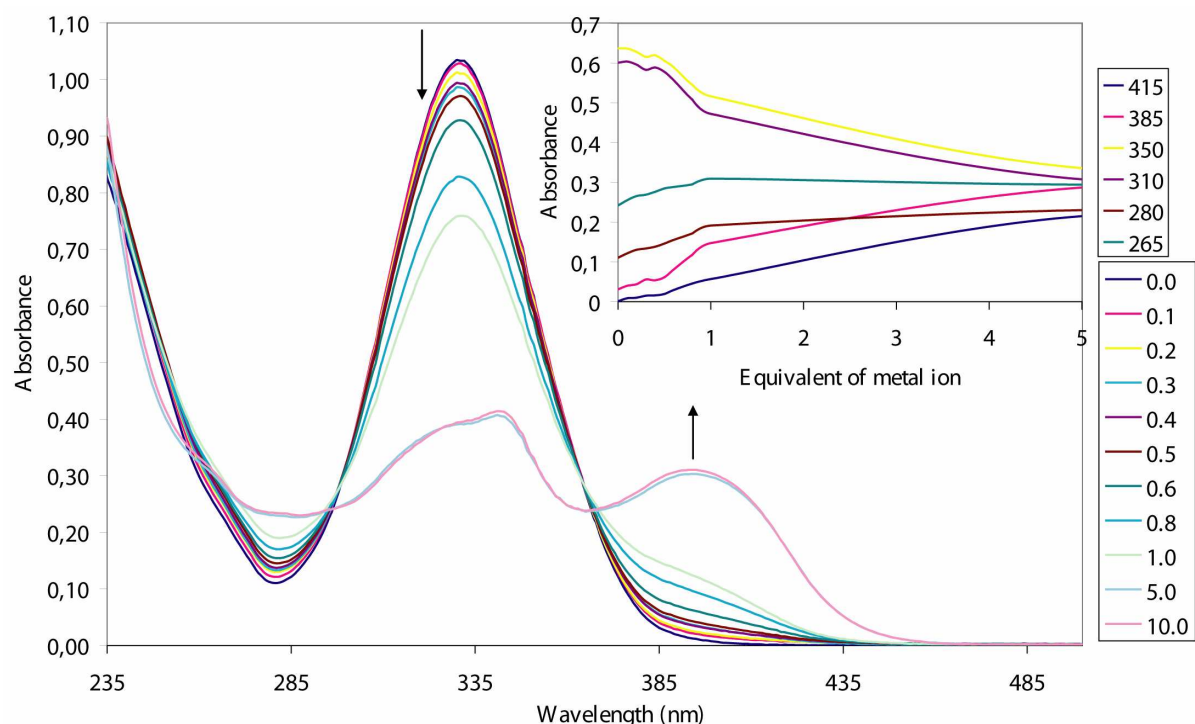
ROESY (CDCl<sub>3</sub>\*/CD<sub>3</sub>CN: 6/4):



Titration of **1-Me** by Pb(OTf)<sub>2</sub> monitored by UV-visible spectroscopy:

The concentration of the ligand was  $3.010^{-5}$  M in CHCl<sub>3</sub>\*/CH<sub>3</sub>CN: 6/4. Samples were prepared with a different molar ratio of Pb(OTf)<sub>2</sub> in respect to the ligand and the mixtures were left a few hours to equilibrate.

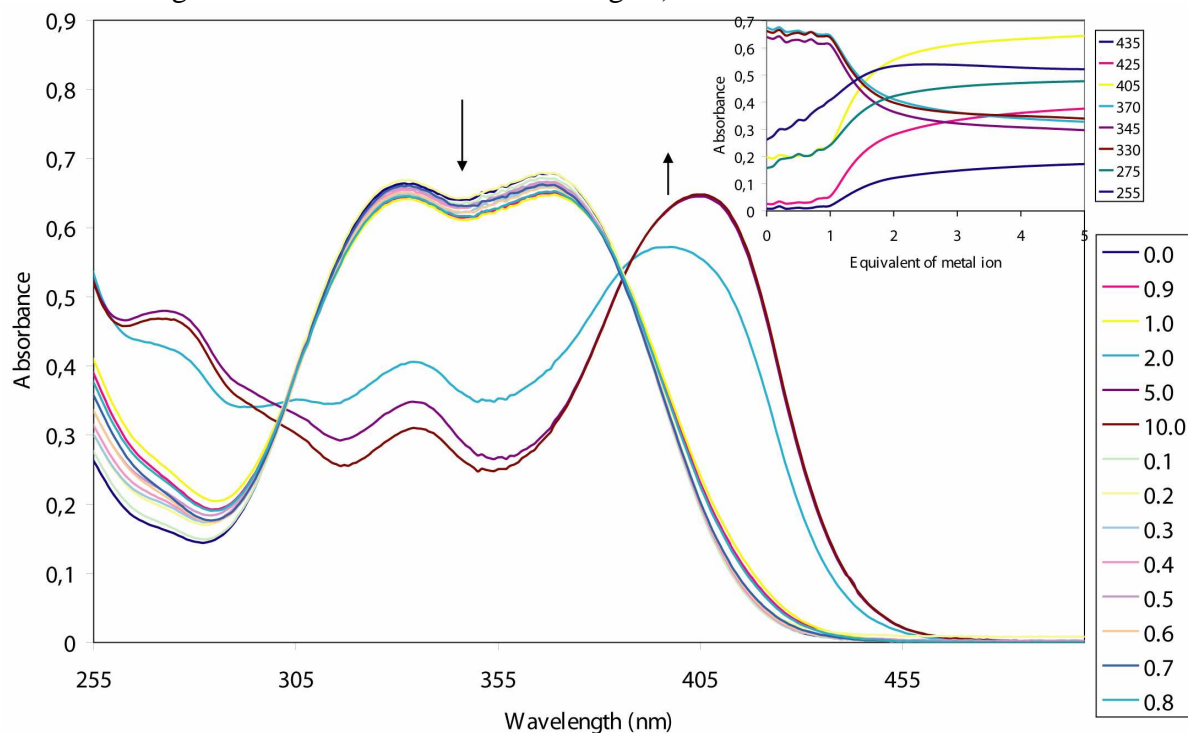
UV-Visible spectra of ligand with different ratios of metal ion (inset: evolution of absorbance along the titration at different wavelengths):



#### Titration of **2** by Pb(OTf)<sub>2</sub> monitored by UV-visible spectroscopy:

The concentration of the ligand was  $4.010^{-5}$  M in CHCl<sub>3</sub>\*/CH<sub>3</sub>CN: 6/4. Samples were prepared with a different molar ratio of Pb(OTf)<sub>2</sub> in respect to the ligand and the mixtures were left a few hours to equilibrate.

UV-Visible spectra of ligand with different ratios of metal ion (inset: evolution of absorbance along the titration at different wavelengths):



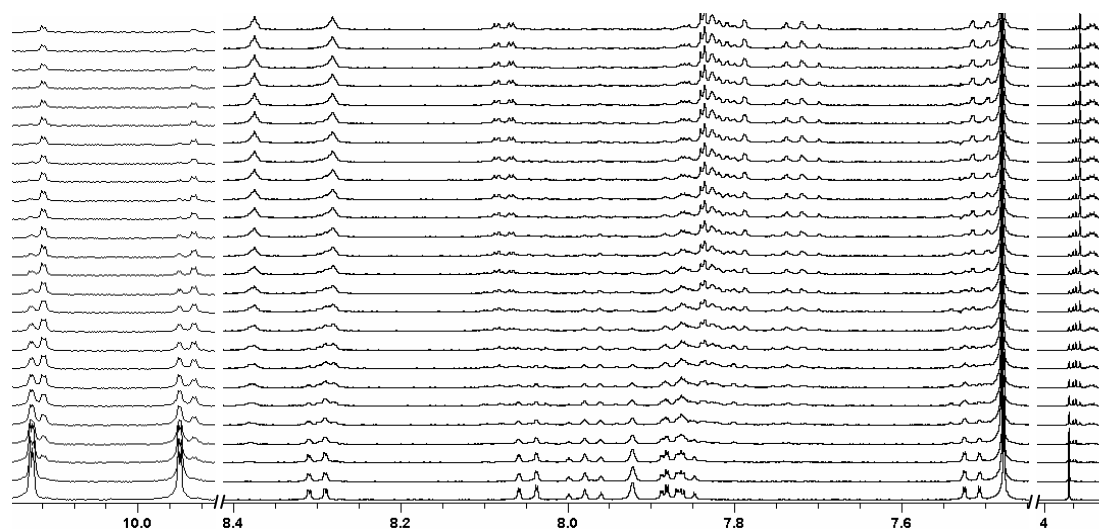
#### General procedure for the kinetic experiments:

A 5 mM solution of the dialdehyde (3  $\mu$ moles) in  $\text{CDCl}_3/\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ : 6/4 (0.6 mL) was prepared. The diamine (50  $\mu$ L of a 60 mM solution in  $\text{CDCl}_3^*/\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ : 6/4, 3  $\mu$ moles) or monoamine (50  $\mu$ L of a 120 mM solution in  $\text{CDCl}_3^*/\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ : 6/4, 6  $\mu$ moles) was added and the reaction was monitored by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR.

Here are the data obtained after fitting the concentration-time plot with pseudo-first order equations:

Starting from **1-Me** and *n*-octylamine:

Monitoring by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR:



$^1\text{H}$  NMR kinetic analysis of the condensation between **1-Me** and *n*-octylamine  $\text{NC}_8$ . Bottom: ligand **1-Me**, then spectrum after addition of 2.0 equivalent of *n*-octylamine, then each spectrum was recorded every 3 minutes.

Disappearance of the dialdehyde:

$$y = P1 + P2 * \exp(-k * t) \quad //$$

$$P1 = 0.028 \pm 0.009$$

$$P2 = 4.47 \pm 0.04$$

$$k = 0.076 \pm 0.002$$

$$t_{1/2} = 9.1$$

$$r = 0.9974$$

Appearance of one monoimine:

$$y = P1 + P2 * \exp(-k_1 * t) + P3 * \exp(-k_2 * t)$$

$$P1 = 0$$

$$P2 = 1.97 \pm 0.08$$

$$P3 = -1.96 \pm 0.08$$

$$\begin{aligned}k_1 &= 0.028 \pm 0.001 \\k_2 &= 0.115 \pm 0.006 \\r &= 0.9949\end{aligned}$$

Appearance of the other monoimine:

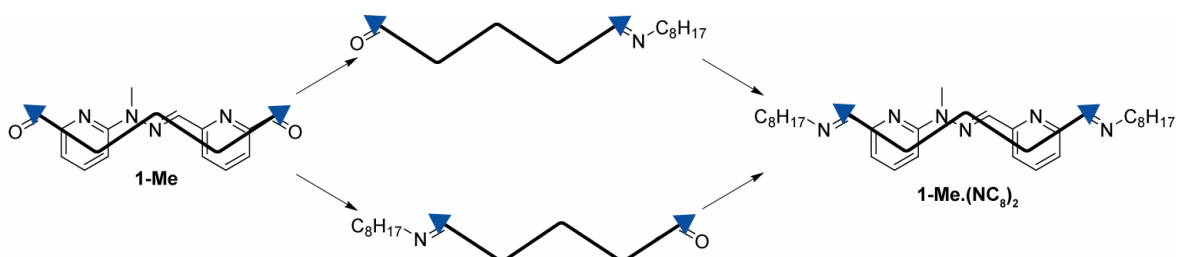
$$y = P1 + P2 * \exp(-k_1 * t) + P3 * \exp(-k_2 * t)$$

$$\begin{aligned}P1 &= 0 \\P2 &= 2.9 \pm 0.1 \\P3 &= -3.0 \pm 0.1 \\k_1 &= 0.025 \pm 0.001 \\k_2 &= 0.090 \pm 0.004 \\r &= 0.9954\end{aligned}$$

Appearance of the bisimine:

$$y = P1 + P2 * \exp(-k * t)$$

$$\begin{aligned}P1 &= 4.615 \\P2 &= -4.615 \\k &= 0.023 \pm 0.001 \\t_{1/2} &= 30.1 \\r &= 0.9867\end{aligned}$$

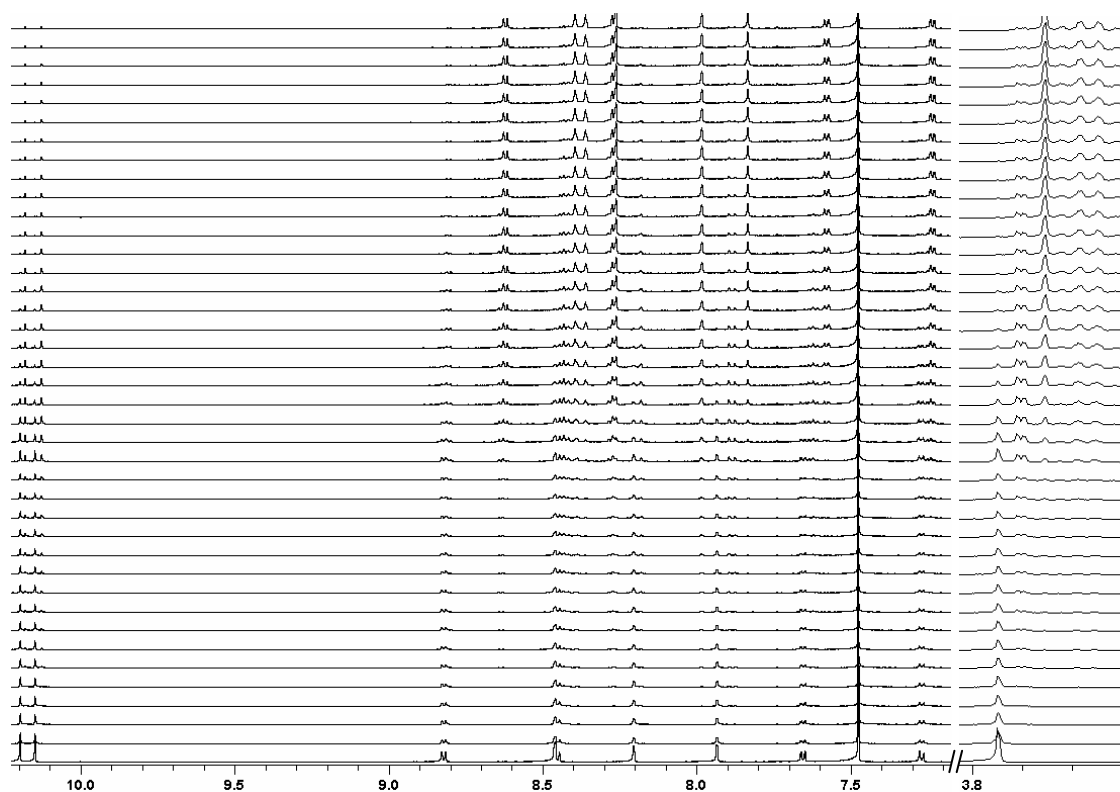


Schematic representation of the pathway from dialdehyde **1-Me** to the diimine product when *n*-octylamine  $\text{NC}_8$  is added. Note that the two intermediates are not equivalent due to the presence of the hydrazone unit in the ligand which induces a dissymmetry.

Starting from **2** and *n*-octylamine:

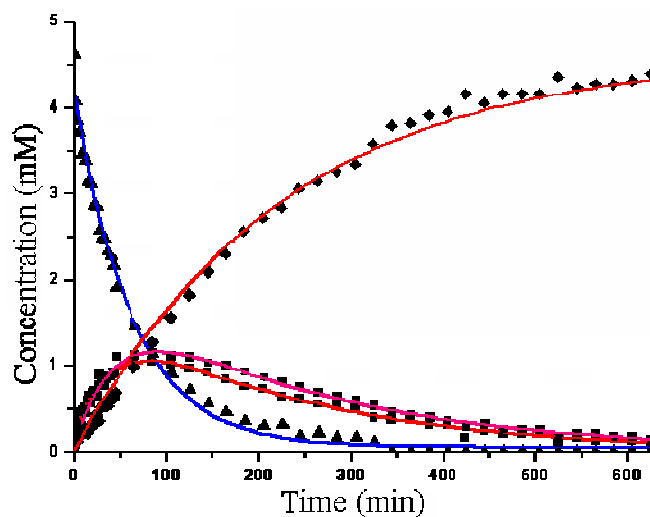
Monitoring by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR:





$^1\text{H}$  NMR kinetic analysis of the condensation between **2** and *n*-octylamine **NC<sub>8</sub>**. Bottom: ligand **2**, then spectrum after addition of 2.0 equivalent of *n*-octylamine, then each spectrum was recorded every 3 minutes.

Concentration-time curve:



Disappearance of the dialdehyde:

$$y = P1 + P2 * \exp(-k * t)$$

$$P1 = 0.05 \pm 0.03$$

$$P2 = 4.08 \pm 0.05$$

$$k = 0.016 \pm 0.001$$

$$t_{1/2} = 43.3$$

$$r = 0.9948$$

Appearance of one monoimine:

$$y = P1 + P2 * \exp(-k_1 * t) + P3 * \exp(-k_2 * t)$$

$$P1 = 0$$

$$P2 = -1.7 \pm 0.1$$

$$P3 = 1.9 \pm 0.1$$

$$k_1 = 0.024 \pm 0.001$$

$$k_2 = 0.0046 \pm 0.0002$$

$$r = 0.9821$$

Appearance of the other monoimine:

$$y = P1 + P2 * \exp(-k_1 * t) + P3 * \exp(-k_2 * t)$$

$$P1 = 0$$

$$P2 = -2.0 \pm 0.1$$

$$P3 = 2.1 \pm 0.1$$

$$k_1 = 0.022 \pm 0.002$$

$$k_2 = 0.0043 \pm 0.0002$$

$$r = 0.9742$$

Appearance of the diimine:

$$y = P1 + P2 * \exp(-k * t)$$

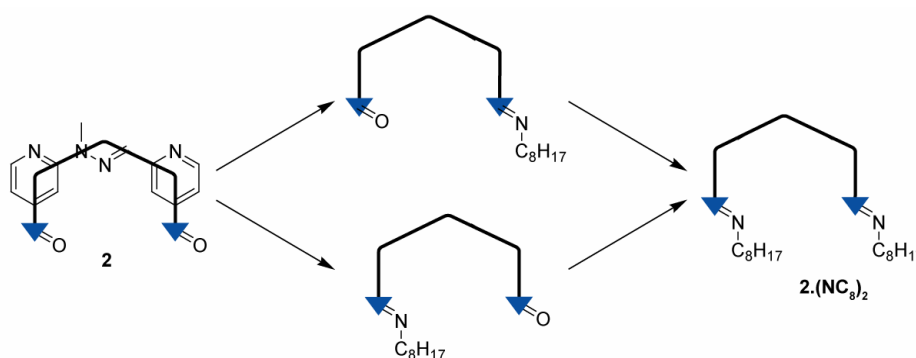
$$P1 = 4.615$$

$$P2 = -4.615$$

$$k = 0.0044 \pm 0.0001$$

$$t_{1/2} = 157.5$$

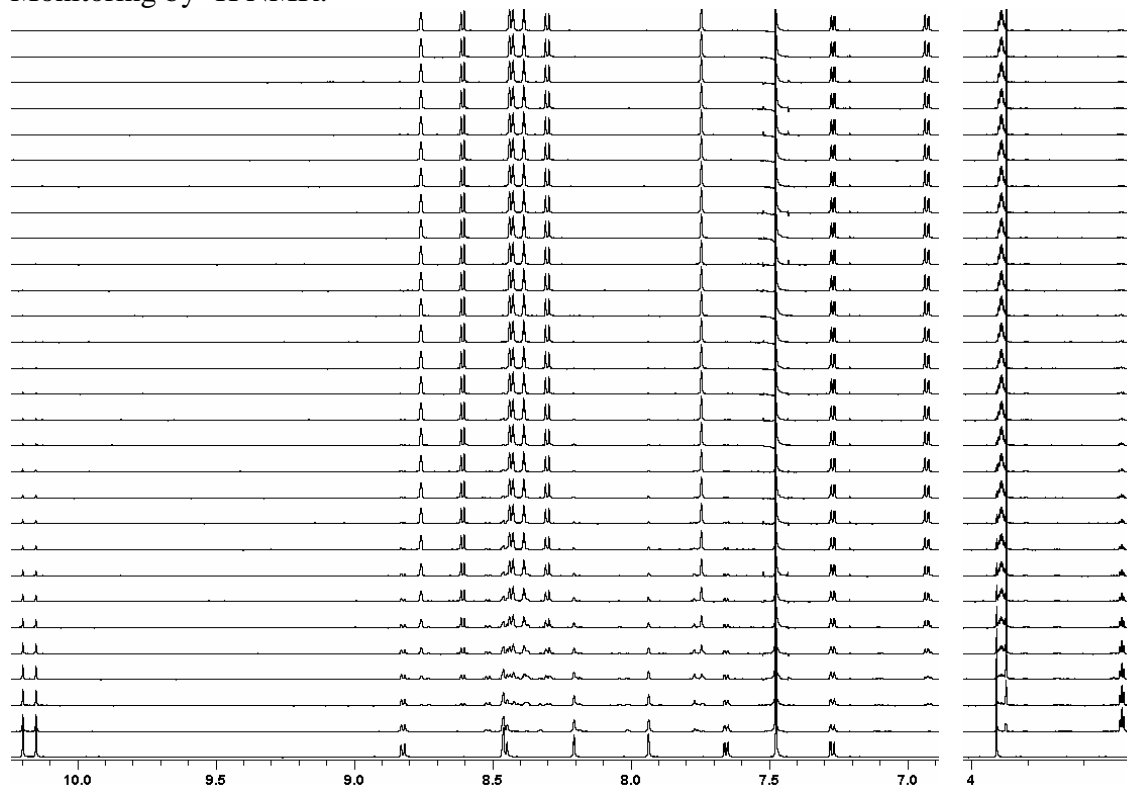
$$r = 0.9957$$



Schematic representation of the pathway from dialdehyde **2** to the diimine product when *n*-octylamine **NC<sub>8</sub>** is added. Note that the two intermediates are not equivalent due to the presence of the hydrazone unit in the ligand which induces a dissymmetry.

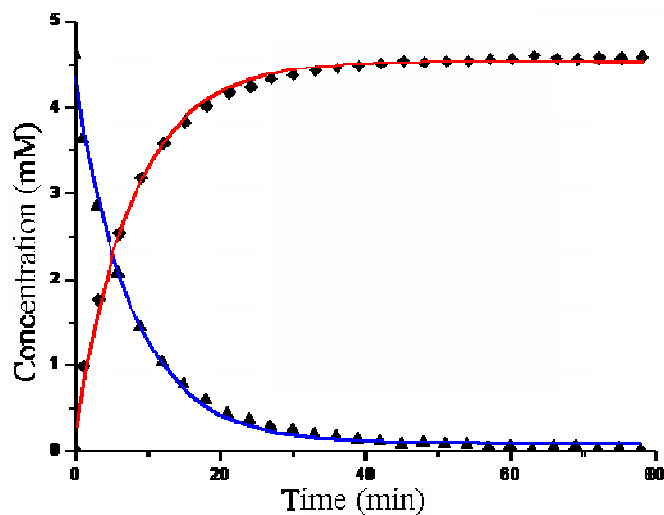
Starting from **2** and 1,5-diaminopentane:

Monitoring by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR:



$^1\text{H}$  NMR kinetic analysis of the condensation between **2** and 1,5-diaminopentane. Bottom: ligand **2**, then spectrum after addition of 2.0 equivalent of 1,5-diaminopentane, then each spectrum was recorded every 3 minutes.

Distribution curves:



Disappearance of the dialdehyde:

$$y = P1 + P2 * \exp(-k * t)$$

$$P1 = 0.08 \pm 0.02$$

$$P2 = 4.26 \pm 0.06$$

$$k = 0.126 \pm 0.004$$

$$t_{1/2} = 5.5$$

$$r = 0.9951$$

Appearance of the diimine:

$$y = P1 + P2 * \exp(-k * t)$$

$$P1 = 4.53 \pm 0.02$$

$$P2 = -4.26 \pm 0.06$$

$$k = 0.126 \pm 0.004$$

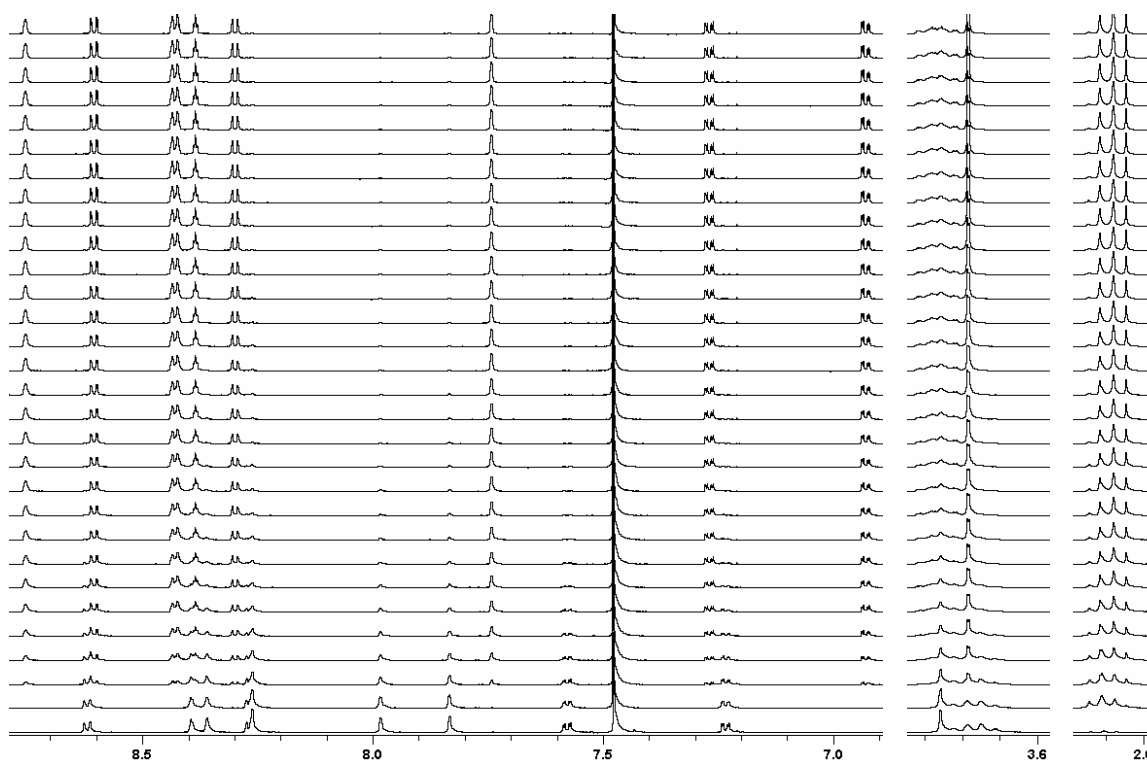
$$t_{1/2} = 5.5$$

$$r = 0.9951$$

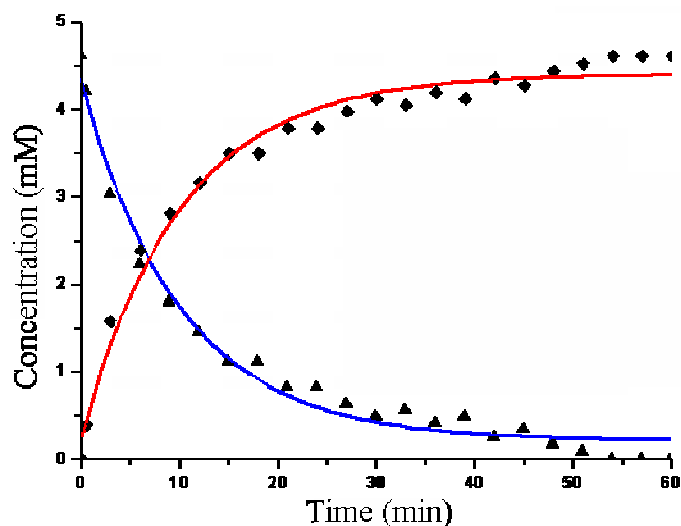
#### Kinetic of transimination:

A 5 mM solution of acyclic diimine was prepared from the dialdehyde **2** (3  $\mu$ moles) and the *n*-octylamine (6  $\mu$ moles) in  $CDCl_3/CD_3CN$ : 6/4 (0.6 mL) was prepared. The 1,5-diaminopentane (50  $\mu$ L of a 60 mM solution in  $CDCl_3^*/CD_3CN$ : 6/4, 3  $\mu$ moles) was added and the progress of the reaction was monitored by  $^1H$  NMR.

Monitoring by  $^1H$  NMR:



Distribution curves:



Disappearance of the acyclic bisimine:

$$y = P1 + P2 * \exp(-k * t)$$

$$P1 = 0.21 \pm 0.06$$

$$P2 = 4.1 \pm 0.1$$

$$k = 0.099 \pm 0.008$$

$$t_{1/2} = 7.0$$

$$r = 0.9827$$

Appearance of the macrocyclic bisimine:

$$y = P1 + P2 * \exp(-k * t)$$

$$P1 = 4.40 \pm 0.06$$

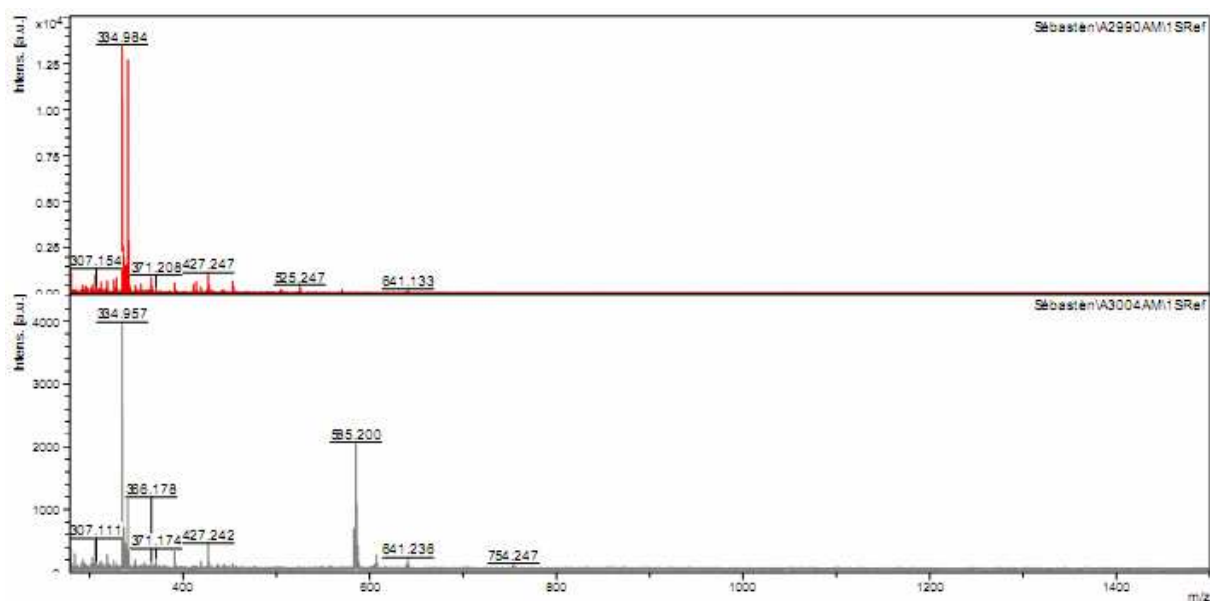
$$P2 = -4.1 \pm 0.1$$

$$k = 0.099 \pm 0.008$$

$$t_{1/2} = 7.0$$

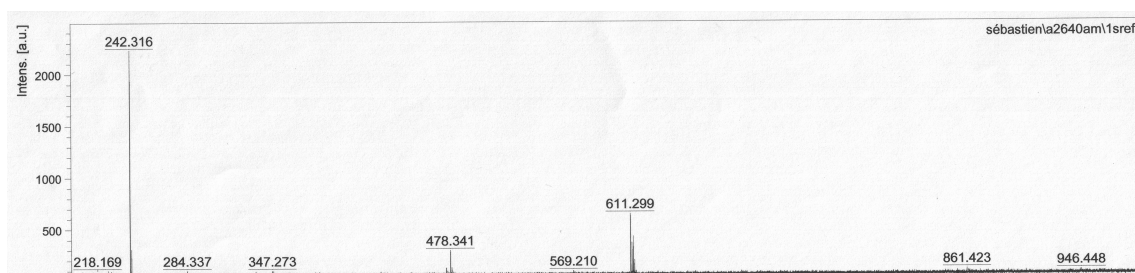
$$r = 0.9827$$

Solid state MALDI-TOF analysis of  $2_2 \cdot (N_2C_2)_2$ :

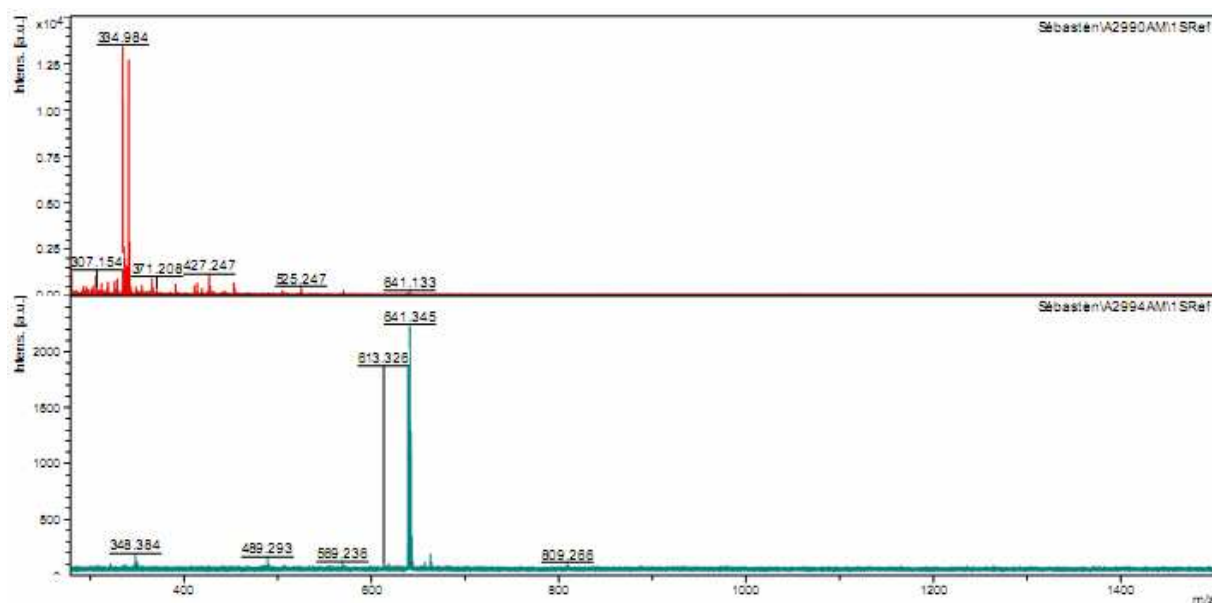


The upper spectrum is without the sample (the peaks therefore belong to the matrix, THAP), the lower was made with the sample.

#### Solid state MALDI-TOF analysis of $2_2 \cdot (N_2C_3)_2$ :

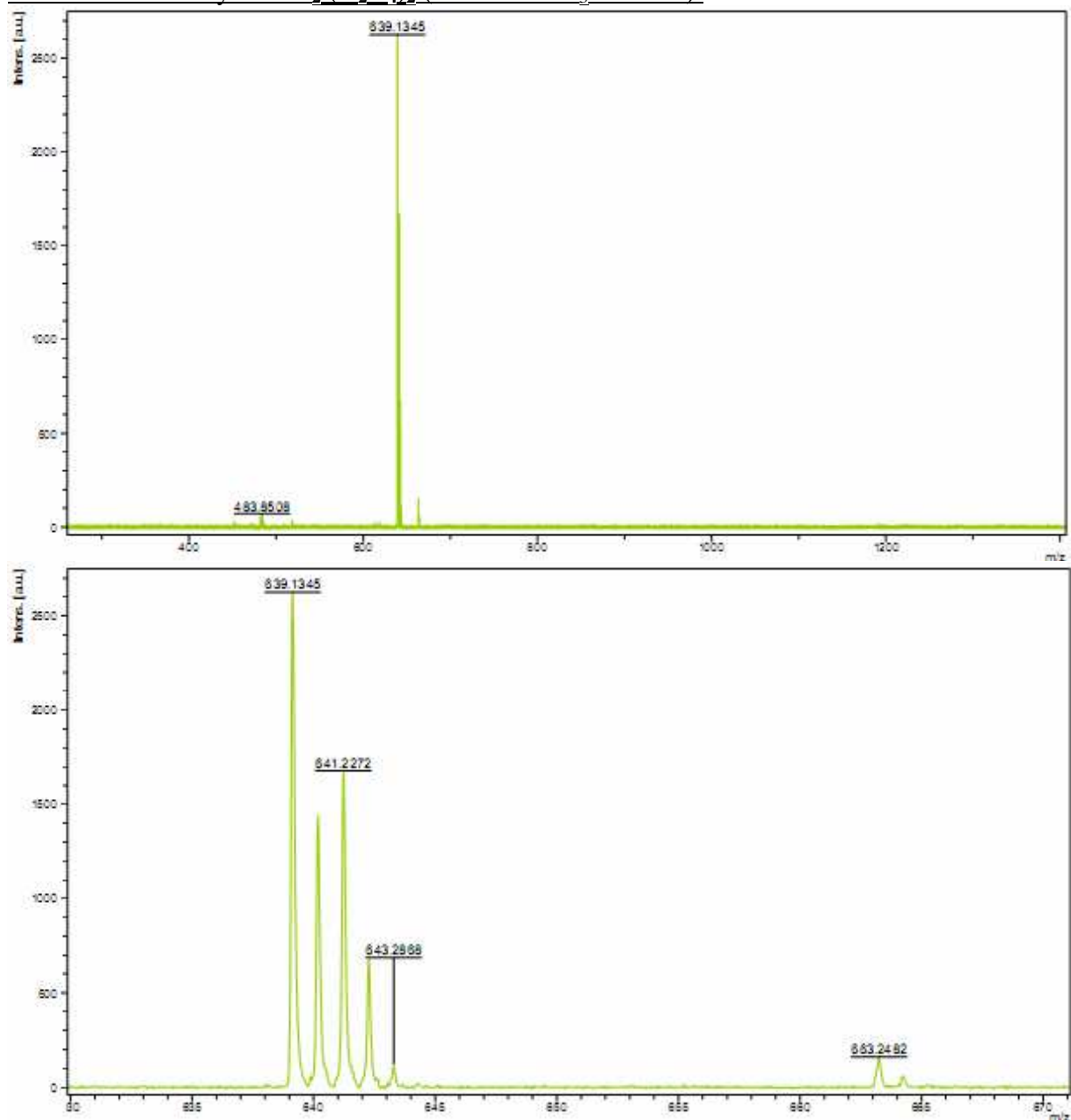


#### Solid state MALDI-TOF analysis of $2_2 \cdot (N_2C_4)_2$ :

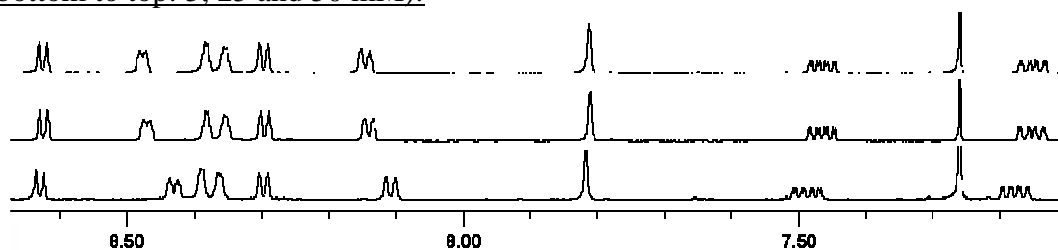


The upper spectrum is without the sample (the peaks therefore belong to the matrix, THAP), the lower was made with the sample.

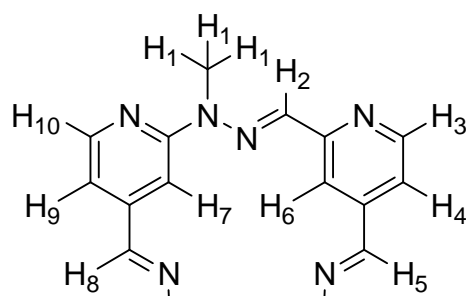
MALDI-TOF analysis of  $2_2 \cdot (\text{N}_2\text{C}_4)_2$  (from a  $\text{CHCl}_3$  solution):



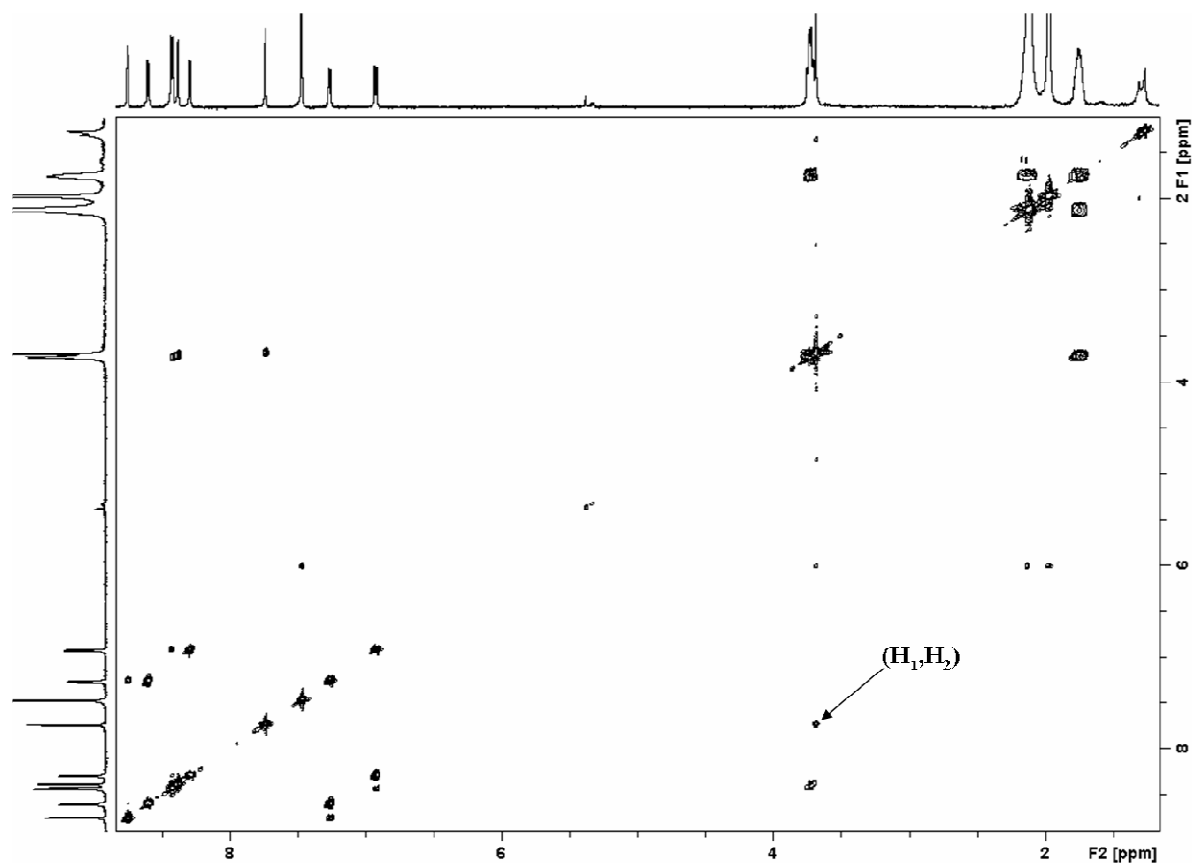
Concentration-dependent NMR spectra of  $2_2 \cdot (\text{N}_2\text{C}_4)_2$  in  $\text{CDCl}_3^*$  at various concentrations (from bottom to top: 5, 25 and 50 mM):



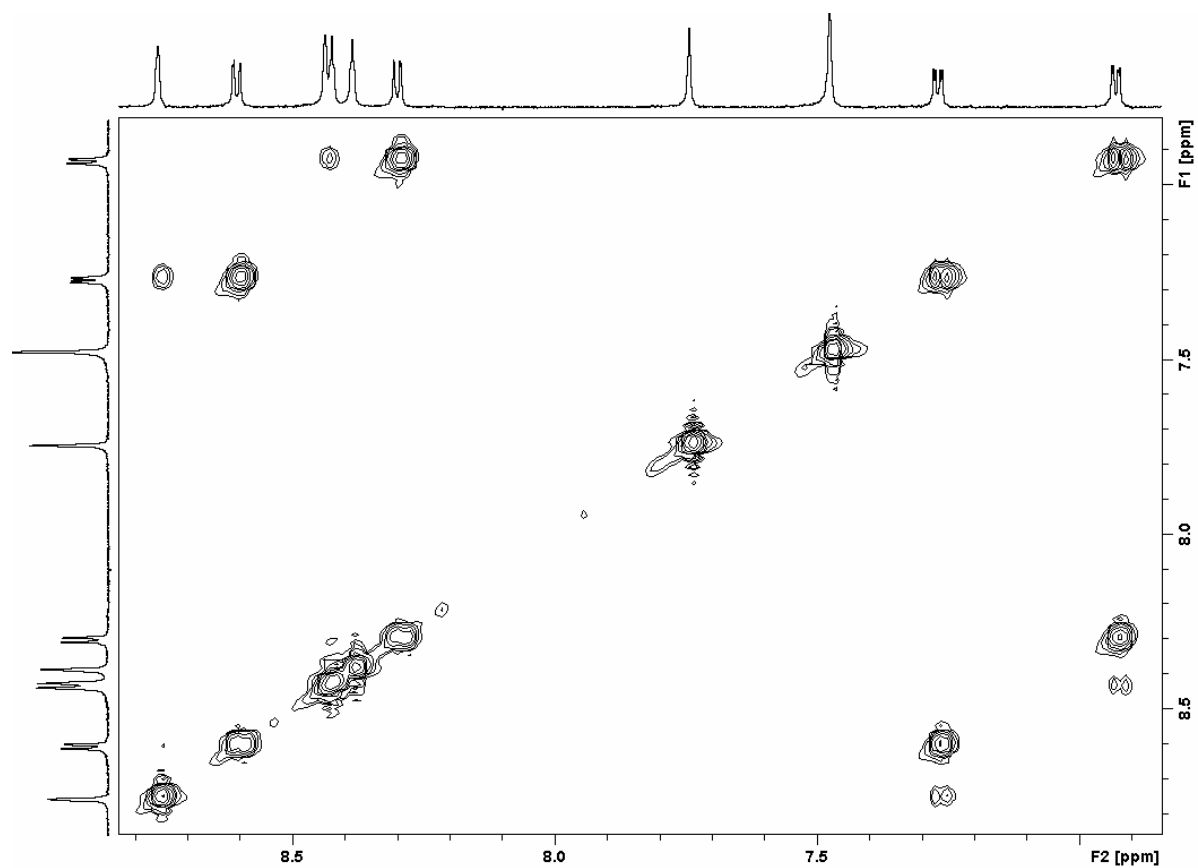
2D NMR analyses of  $2 \cdot \text{N}_2\text{C}_5$ :



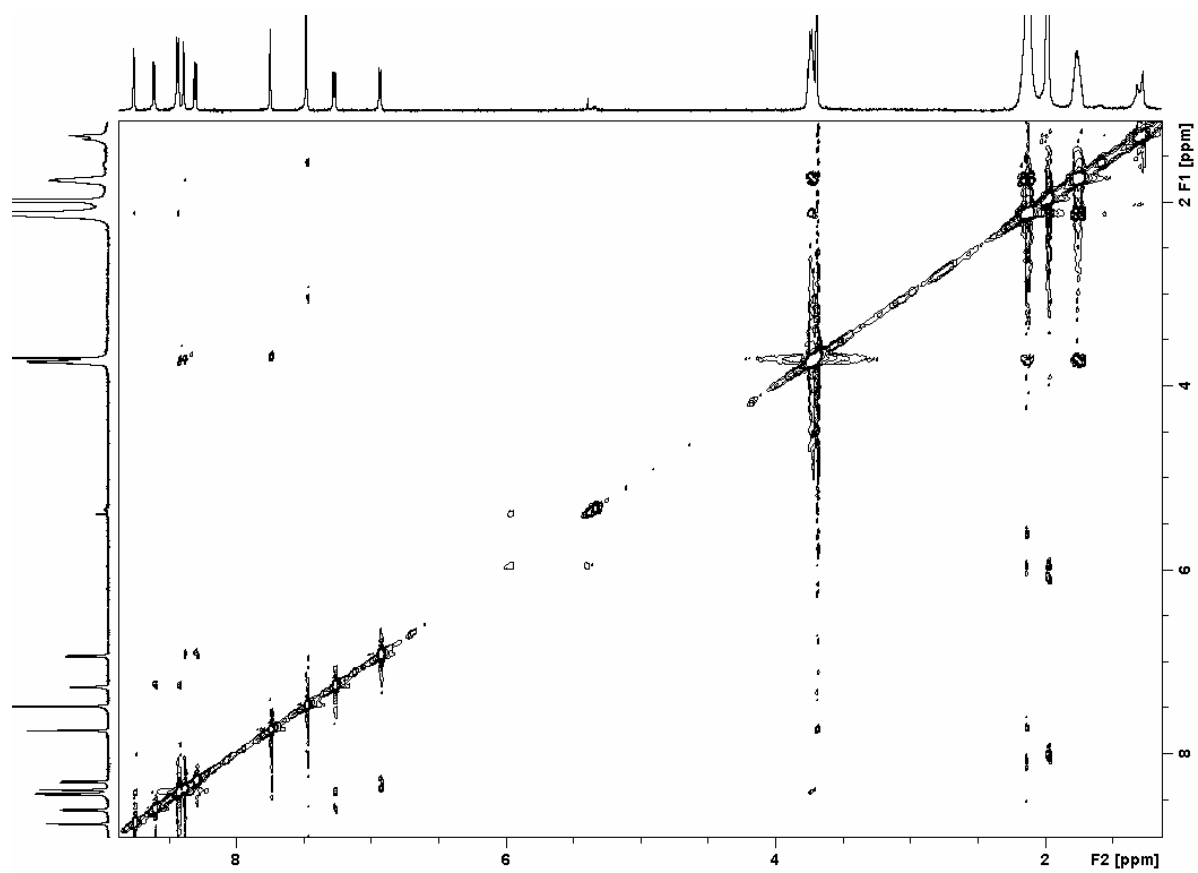
COSY (CDCl<sub>3</sub><sup>\*</sup>/CD<sub>3</sub>CN: 6/4):

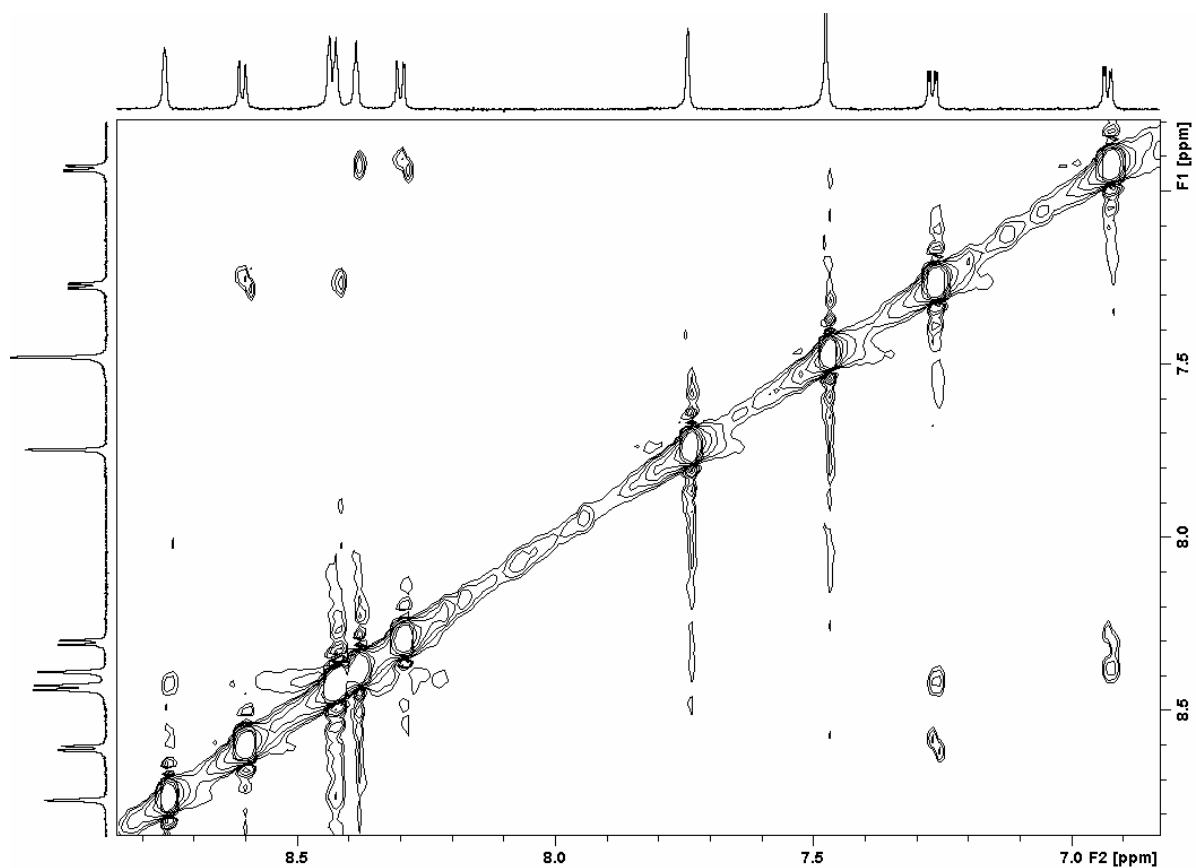




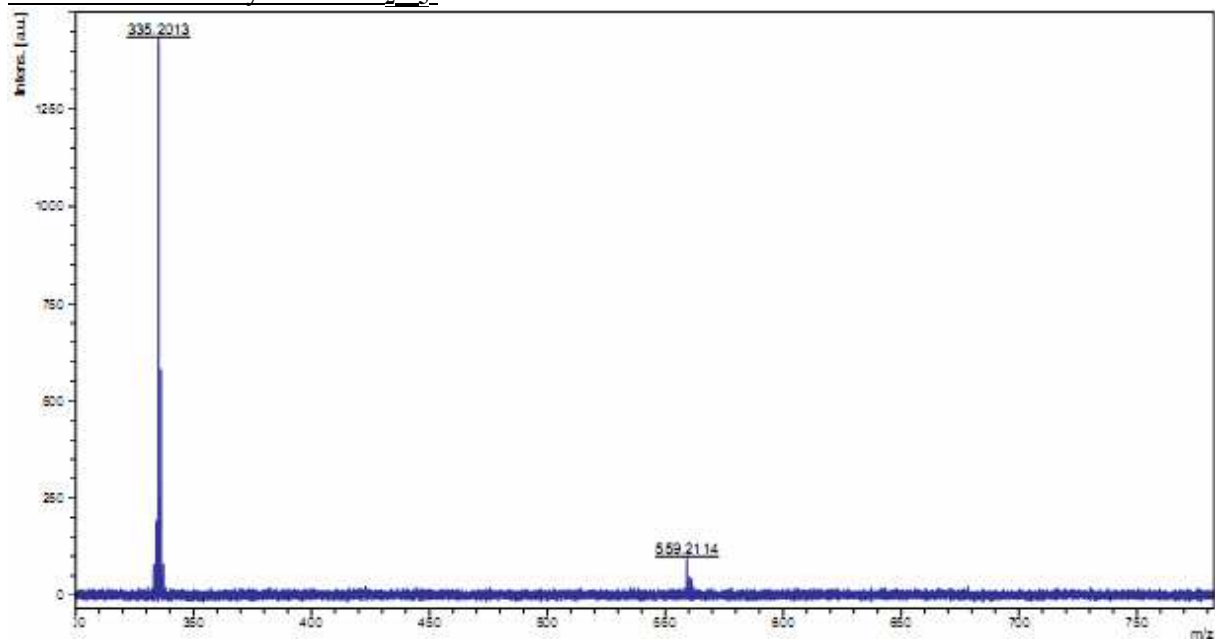


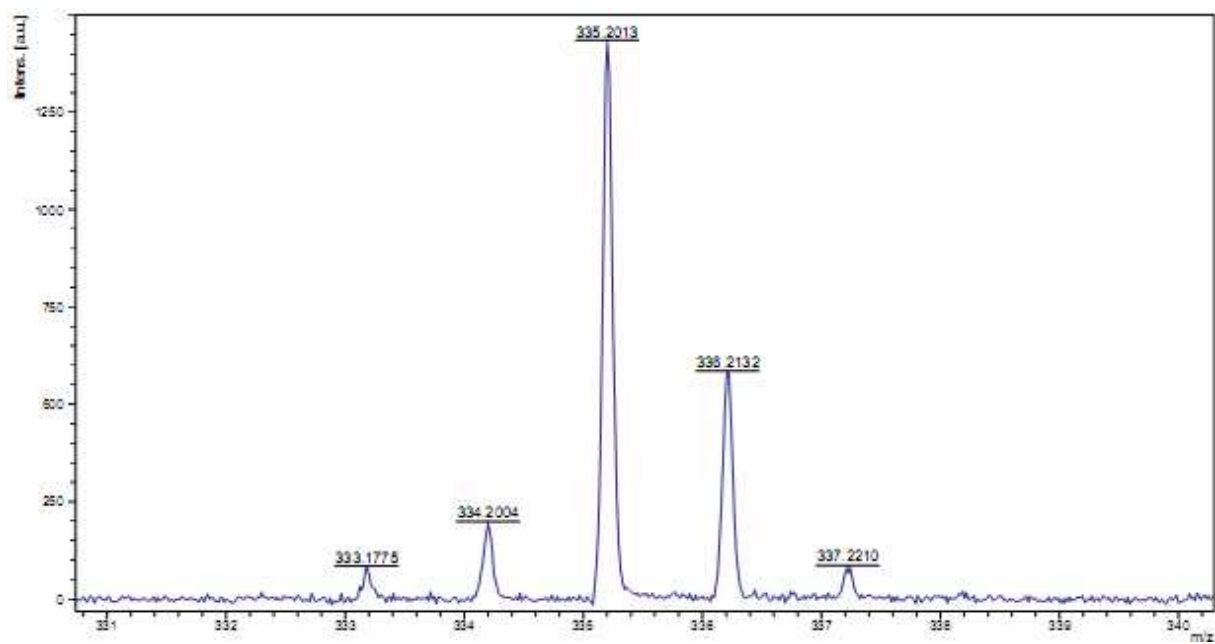
ROESY ( $\text{CDCl}_3^*/\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ : 6/4):



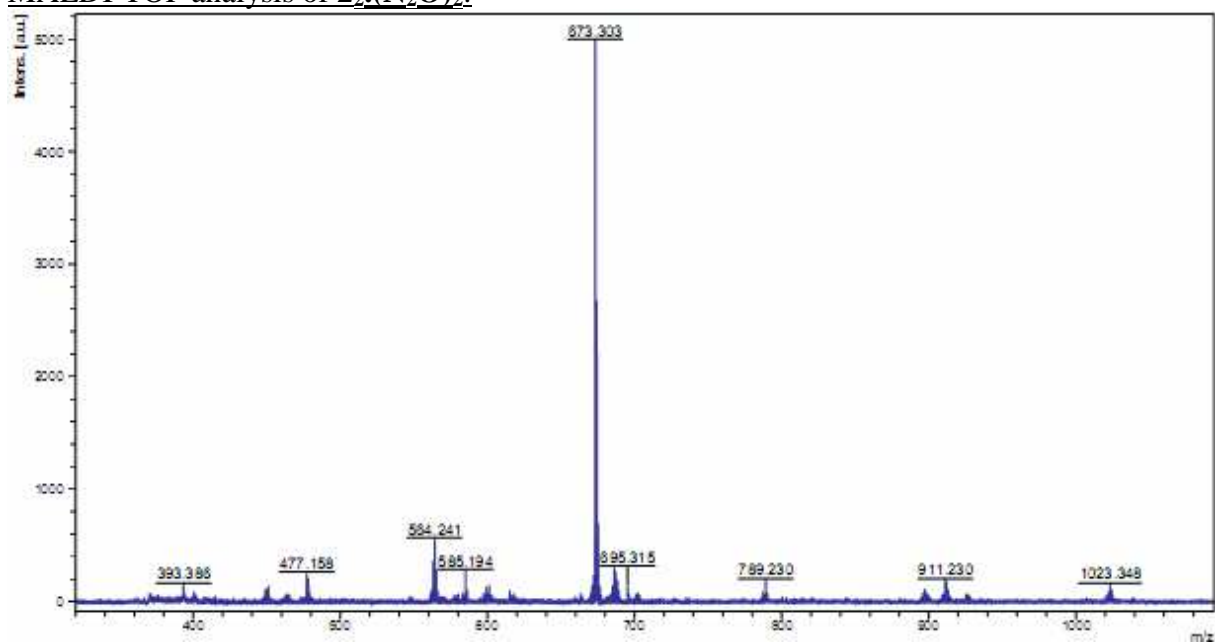


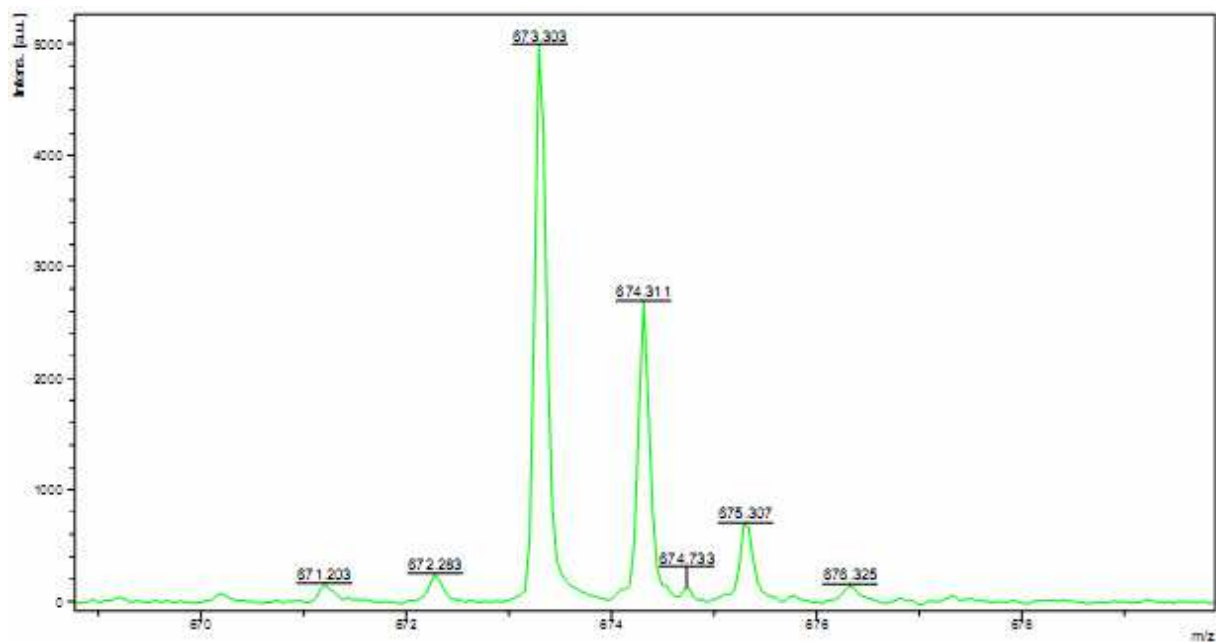
MALDI-TOF analysis of  $2.\text{N}_2\text{C}_5$ :



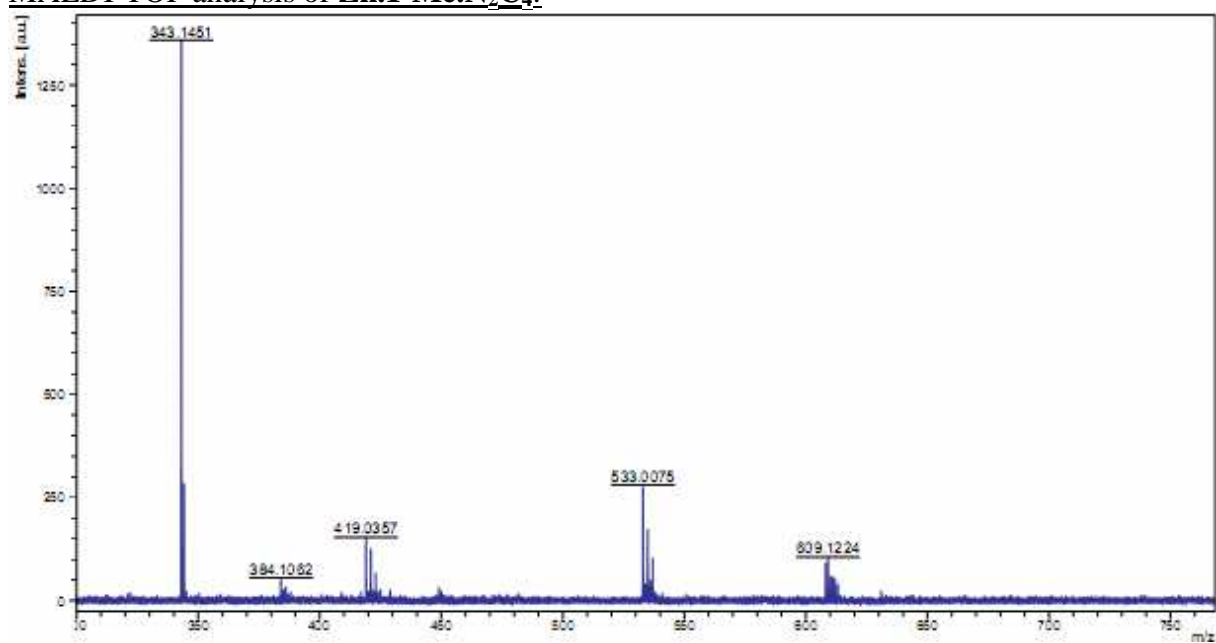


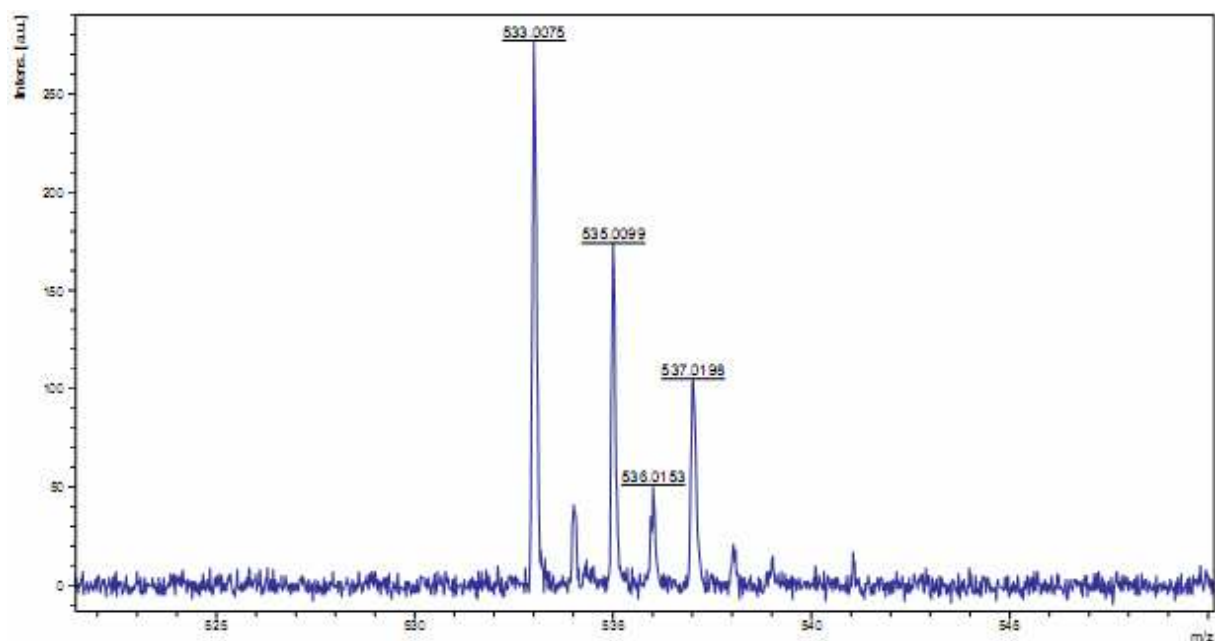
MALDI-TOF analysis of  $2_2.(N_2O)_2$ :



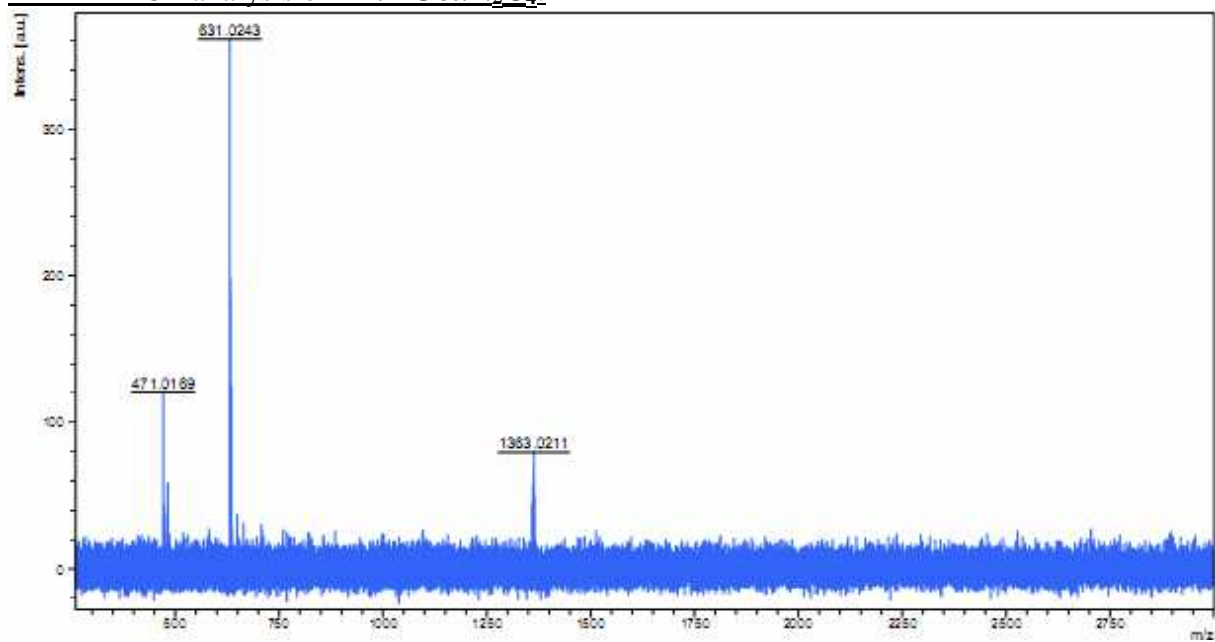


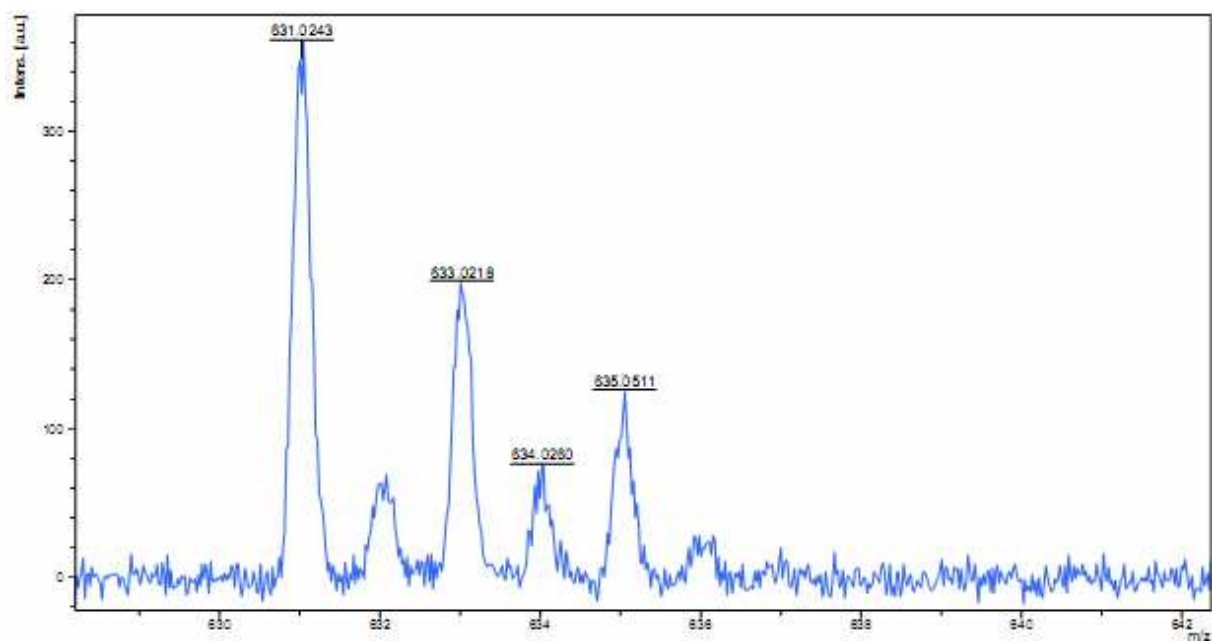
MALDI-TOF analysis of **Zn.1-Me.N<sub>2</sub>C<sub>4</sub>**:



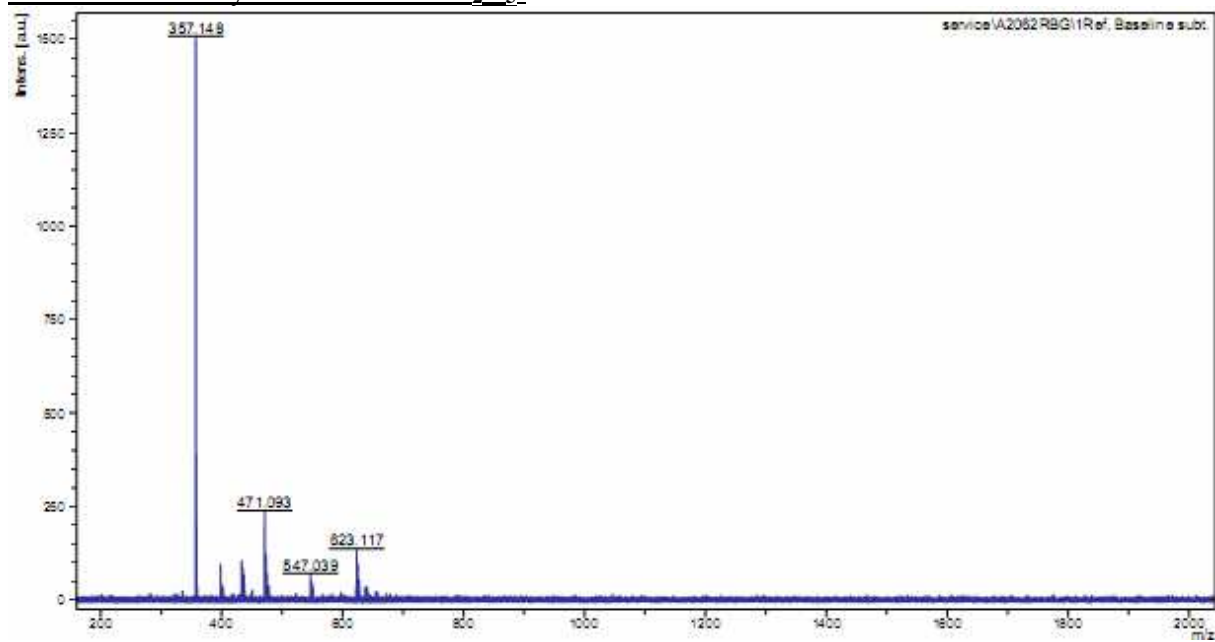


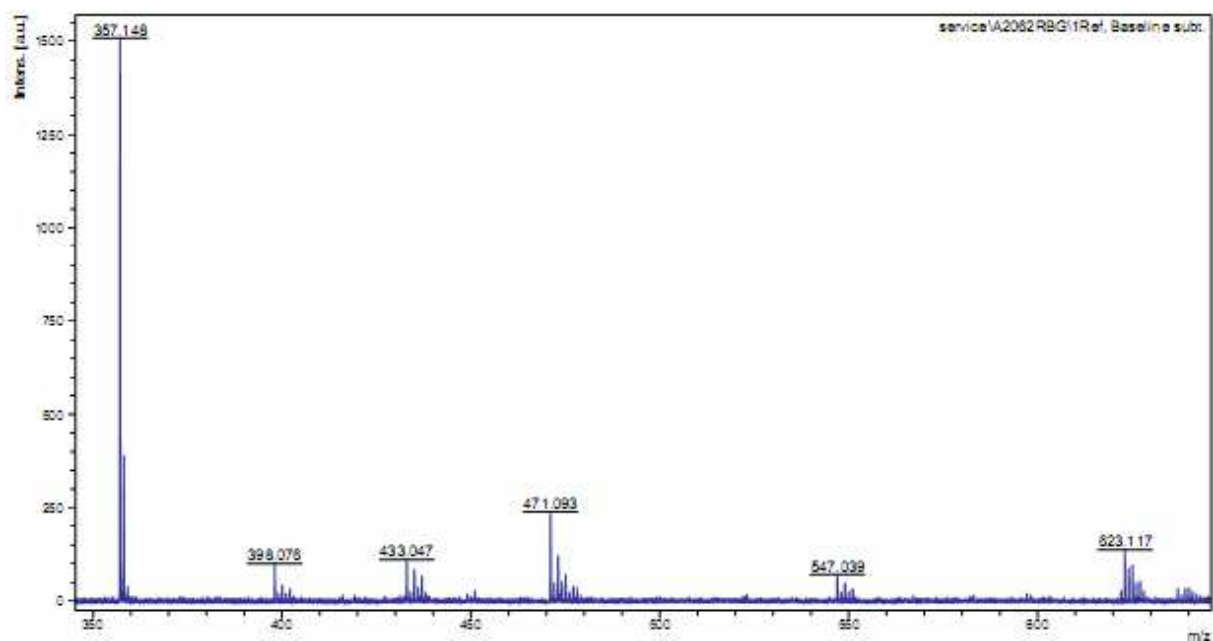
MALDI-TOF analysis of **Zn.1-Oct.N<sub>2</sub>C<sub>4</sub>**:



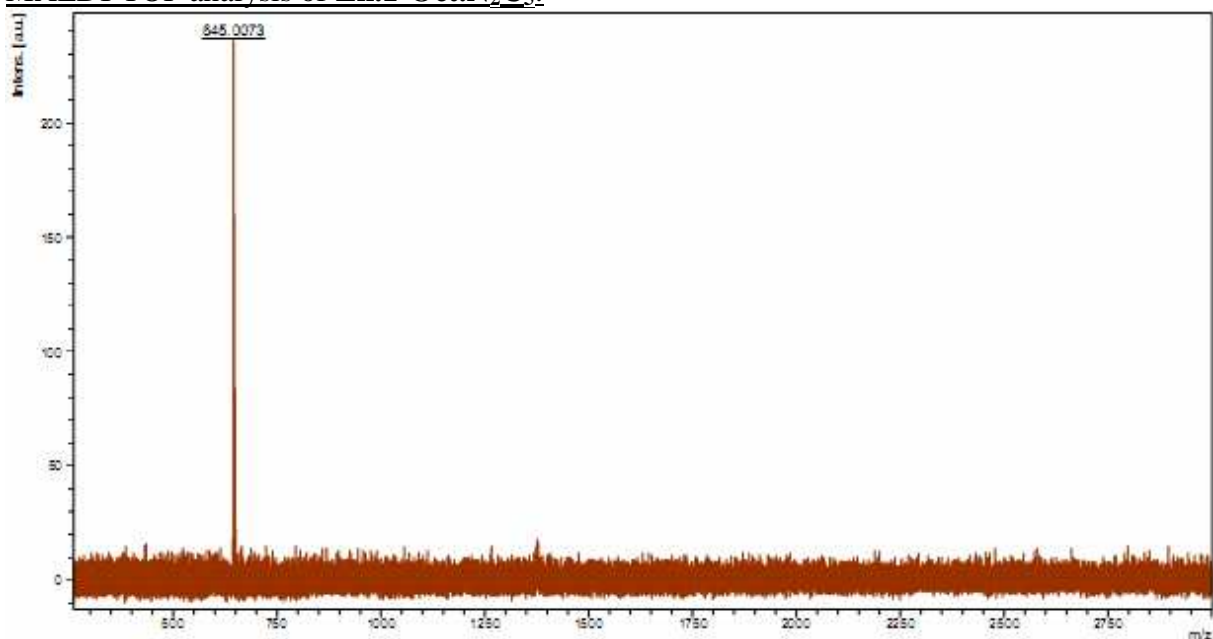


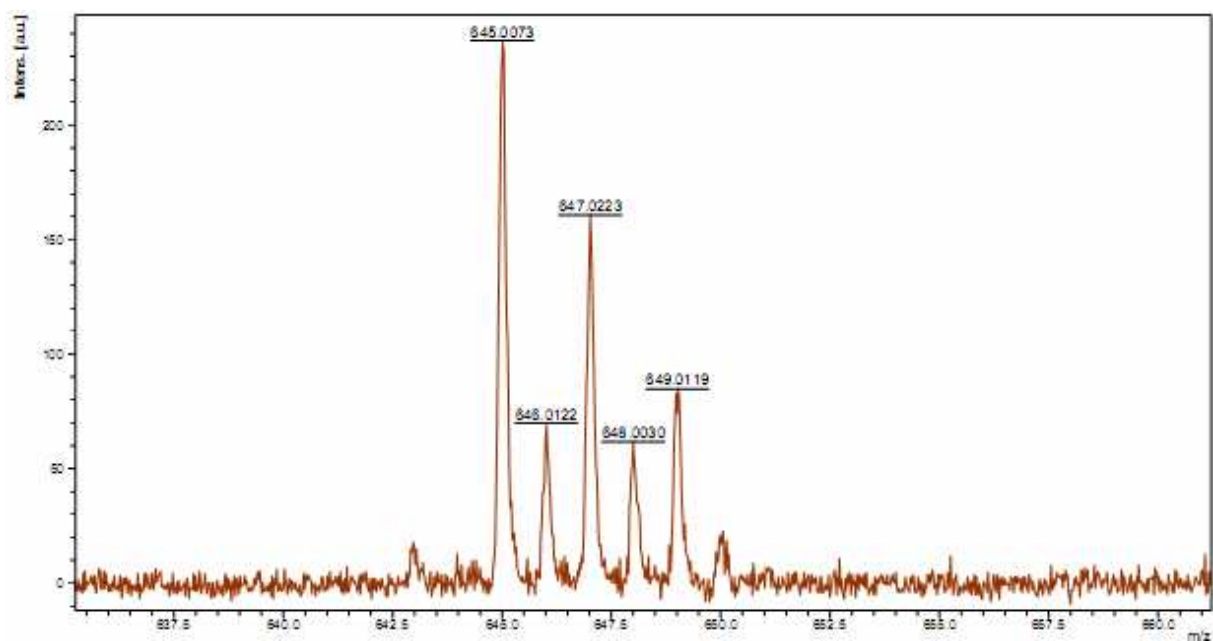
**HR-ESI-MS analysis of  $\text{Zn.1-Me.N}_2\text{C}_5$ :**



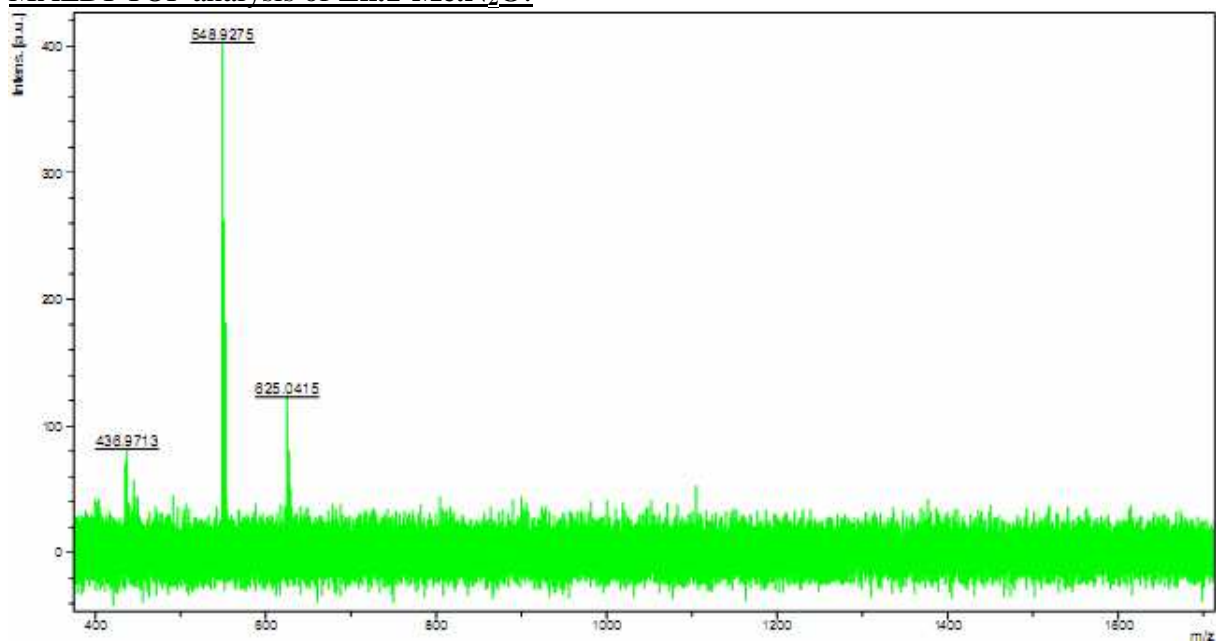


**MALDI-TOF analysis of  $\text{Zn.1-Oct.N}_2\text{C}_5$ :**

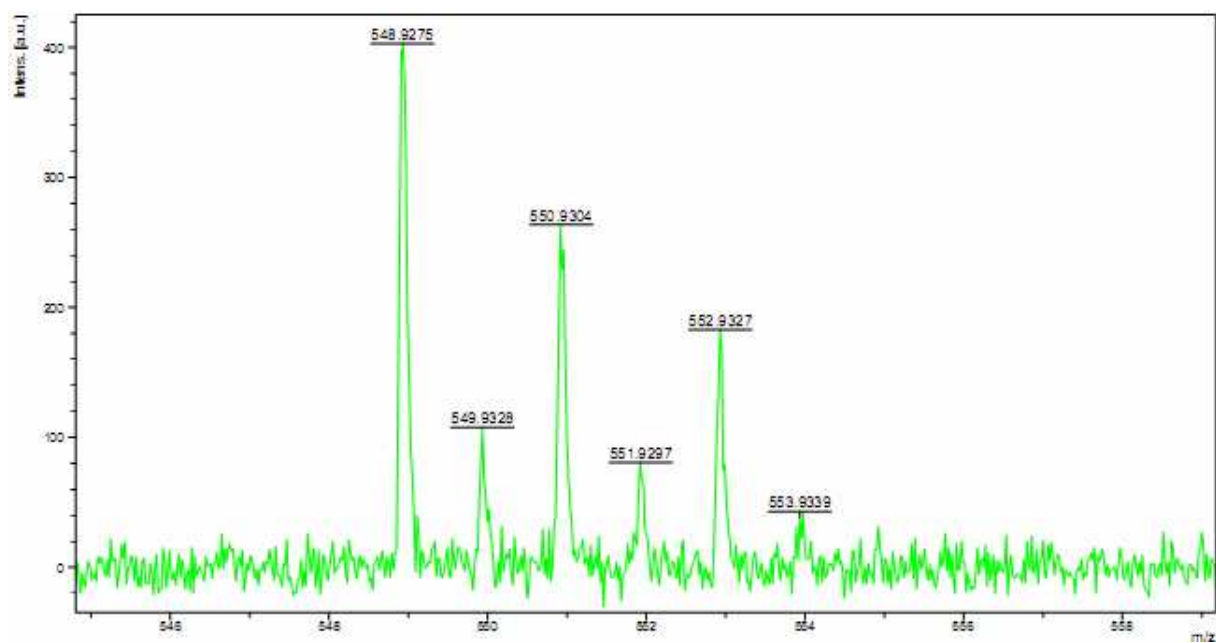




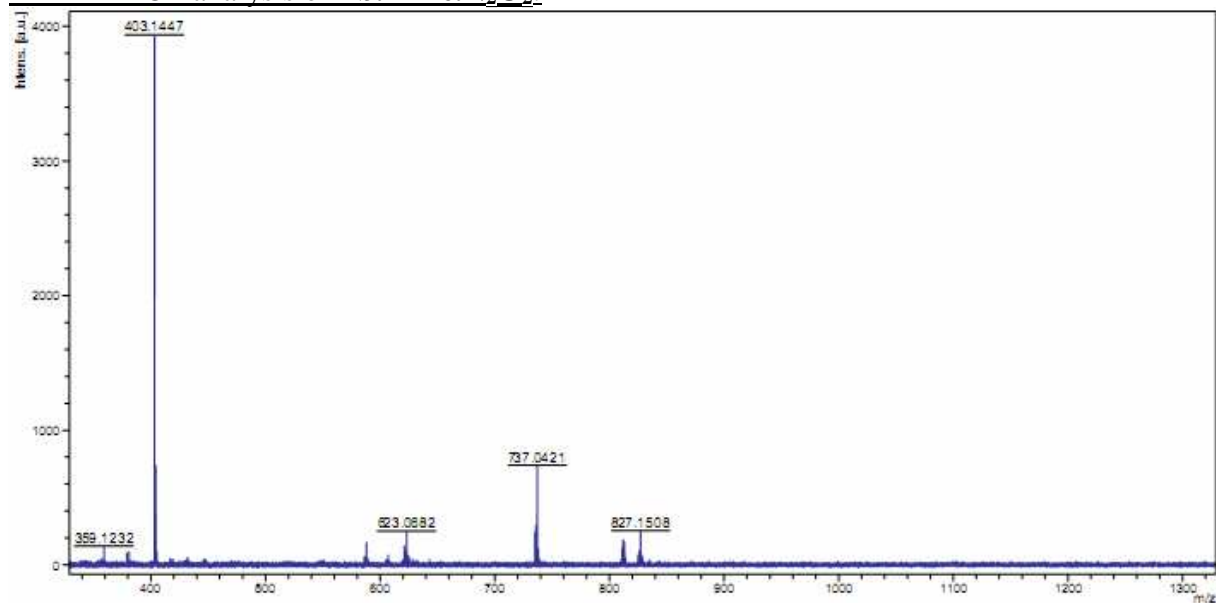
**MALDI-TOF analysis of  $\text{Zn.1-Me.N}_2\text{O}$ :**

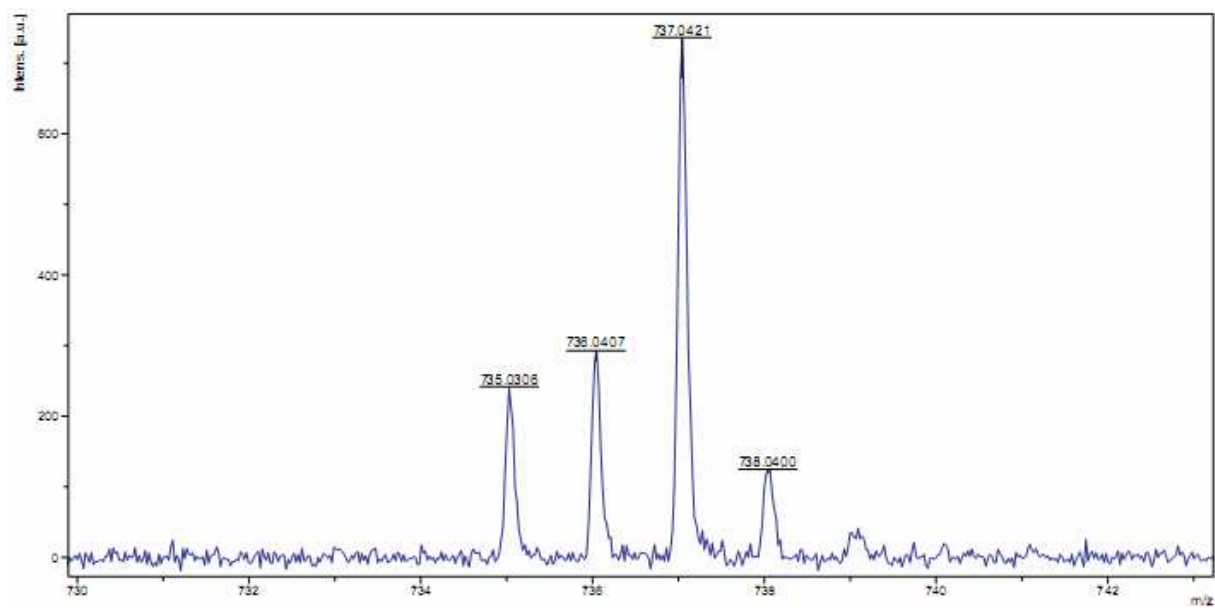




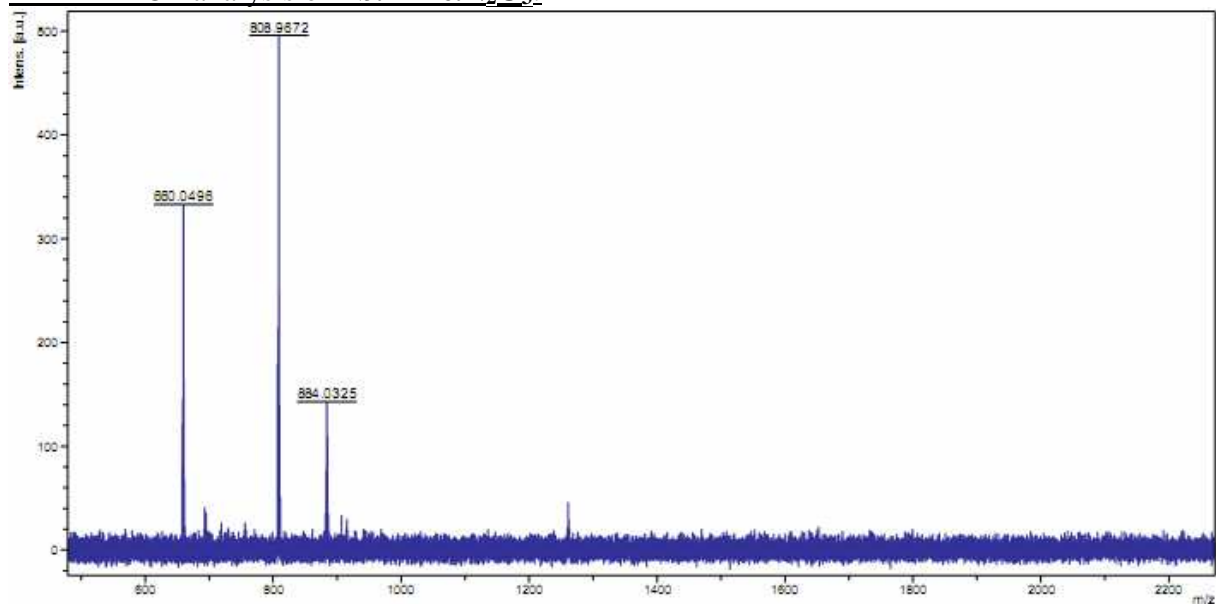


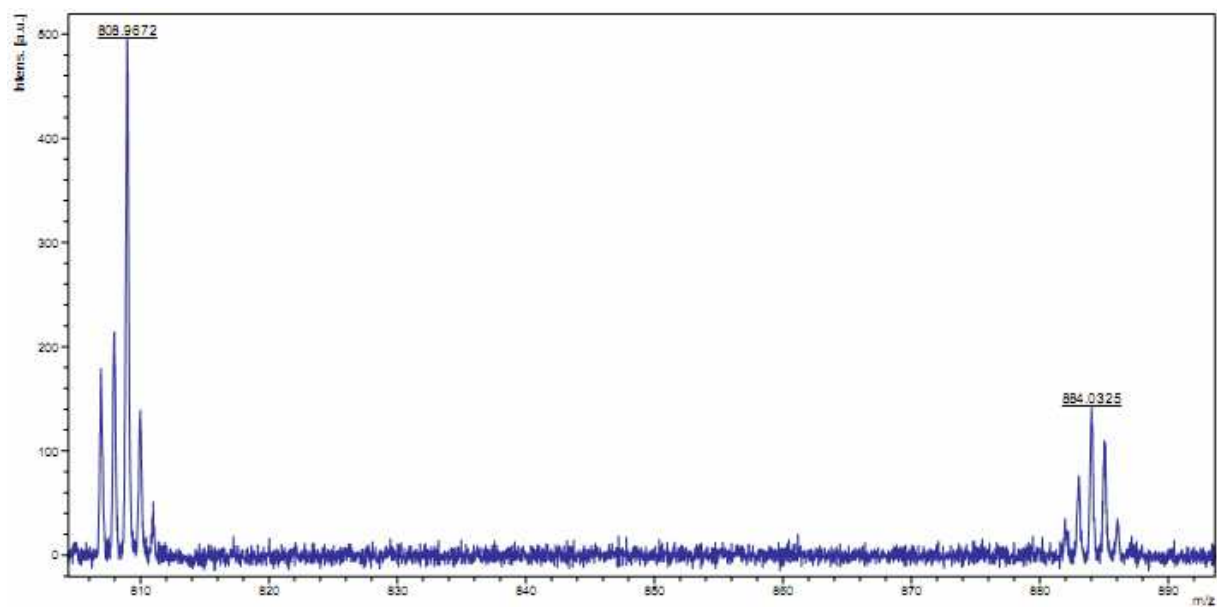
**MALDI-TOF analysis of  $\text{Pb.1-Me.N}_2\text{O}_2$ :**



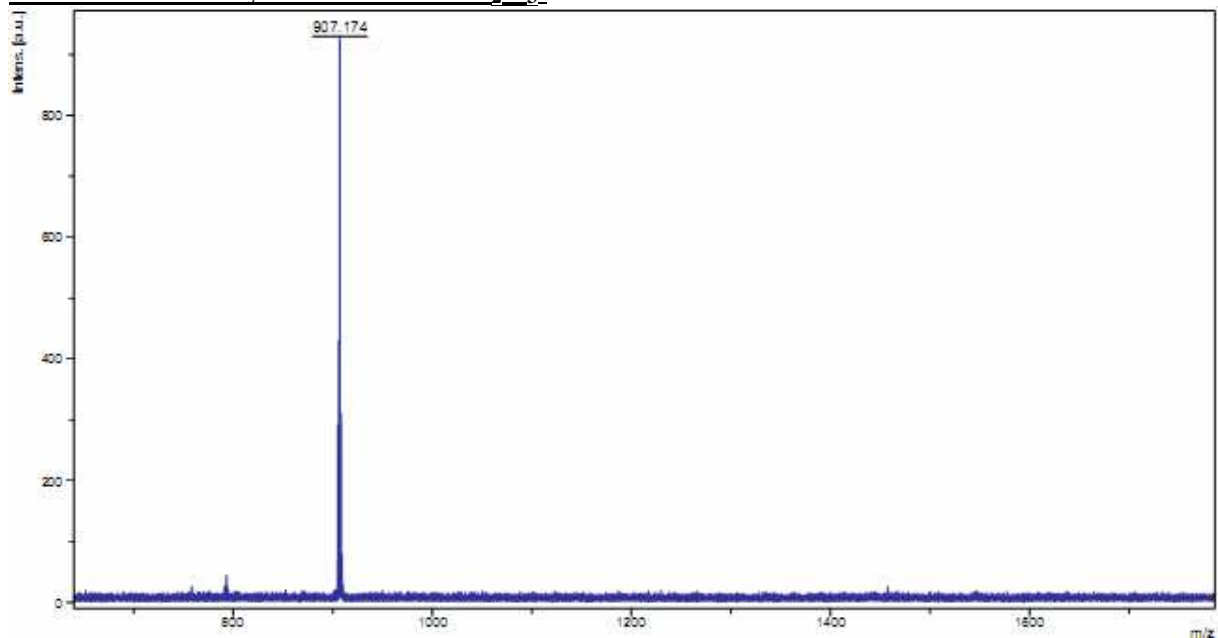


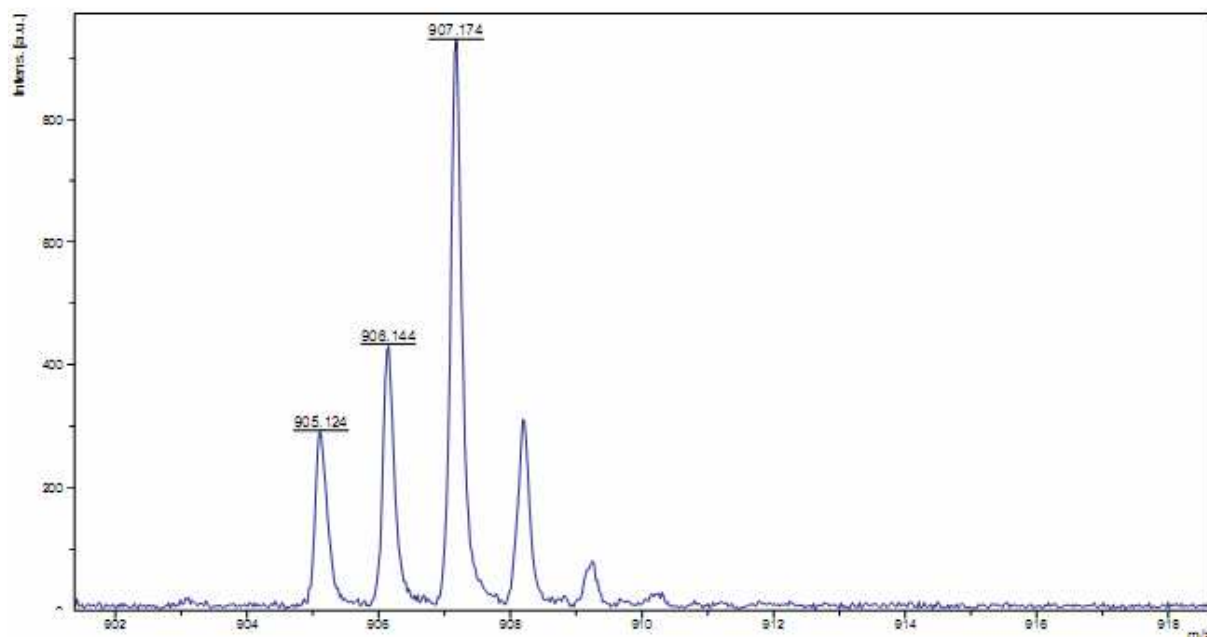
**MALDI-TOF analysis of Pb.1-Me.N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>:**



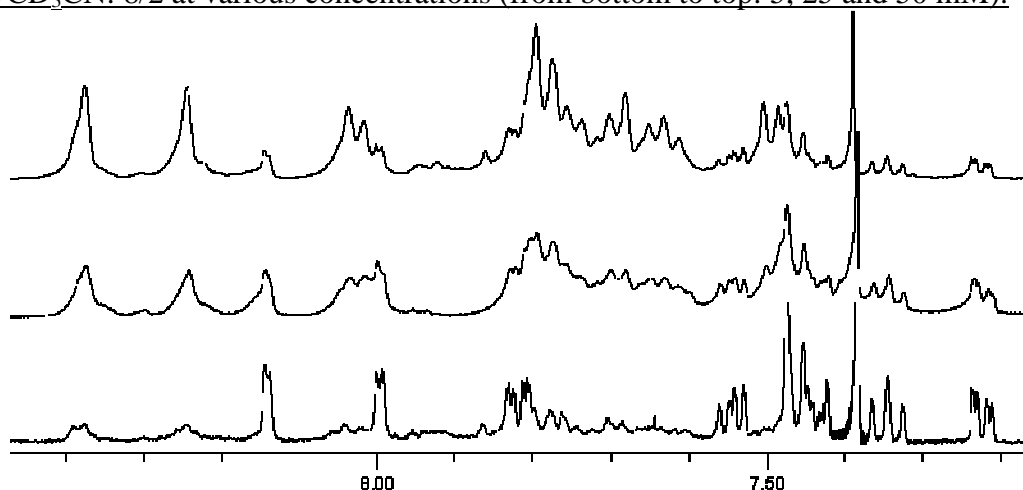


**MALDI-TOF analysis of  $\text{Pb.1-Oct.N}_2\text{O}_3$ :**

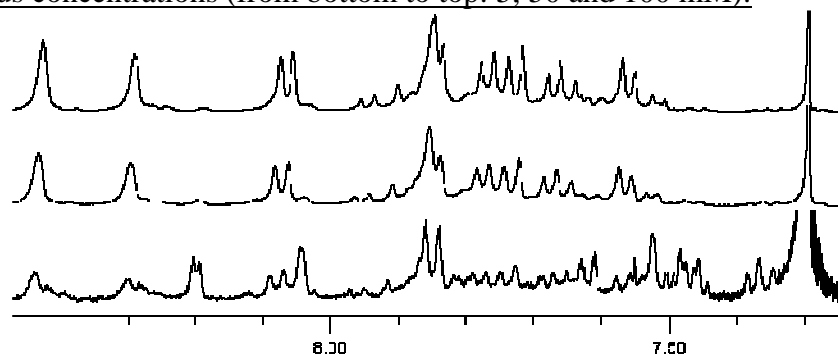




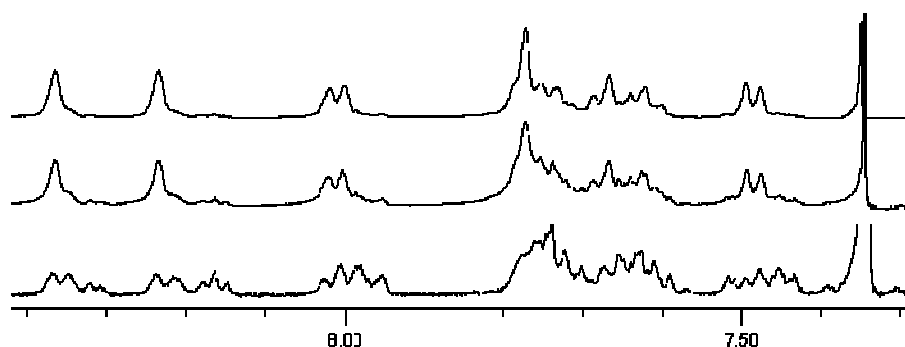
Concentration-dependent NMR spectra of the self-assembly between **1-Oct** and **N<sub>2</sub>C<sub>5</sub>** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>\*/CD<sub>3</sub>CN: 8/2 at various concentrations (from bottom to top: 5, 25 and 50 mM):



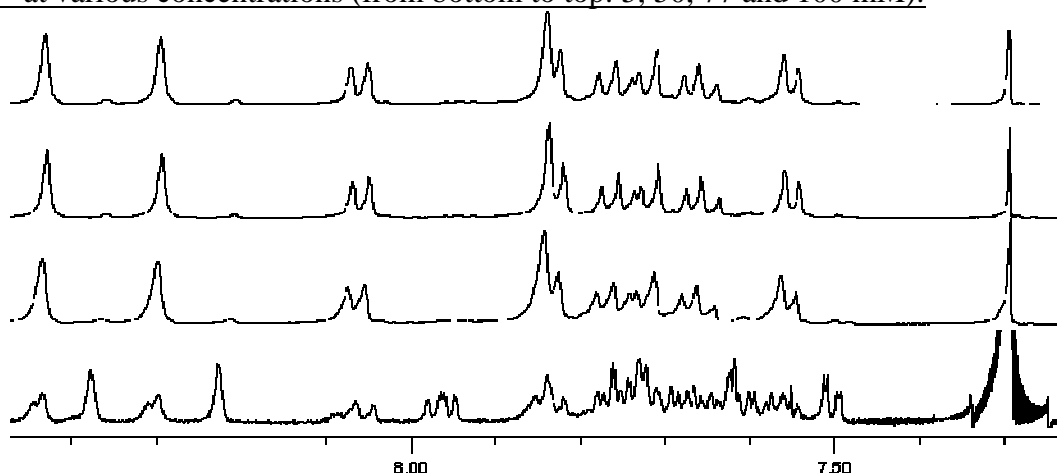
Concentration-dependent NMR spectra of the self-assembly between **1-Oct** and **N<sub>2</sub>C<sub>5</sub>** in CDCl<sub>3</sub> at various concentrations (from bottom to top: 5, 50 and 100 mM):



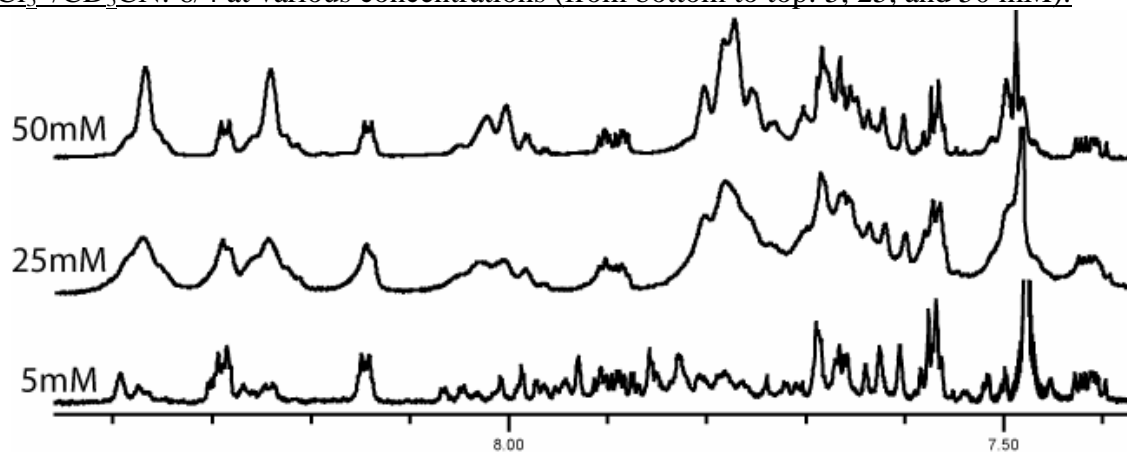
Concentration-dependent NMR spectra of the self-assembly between **1-Oct** and **N<sub>2</sub>C<sub>4</sub>** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>\*/CD<sub>3</sub>CN: 8/2 at various concentrations (from bottom to top: 5, 25 and 50 mM):



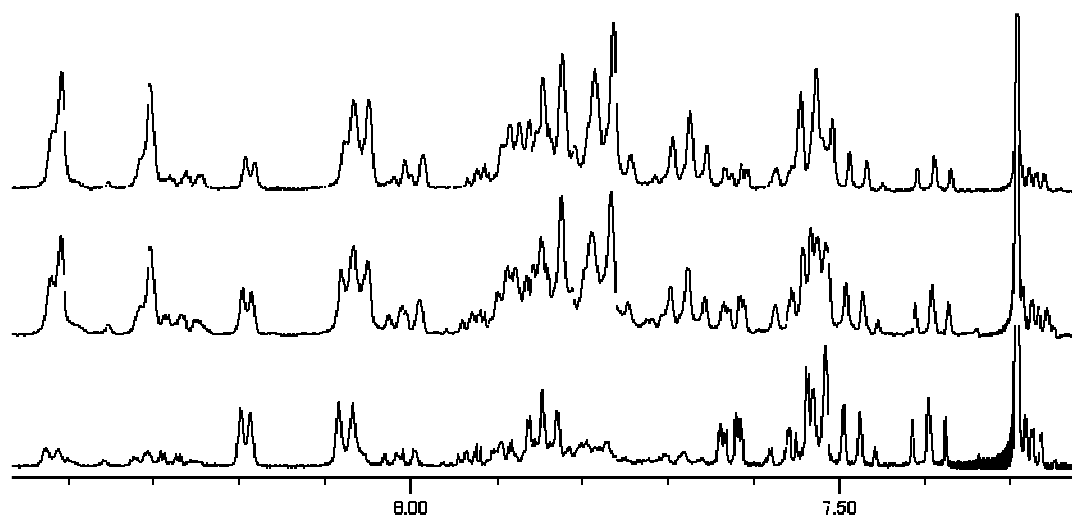
Concentration-dependent NMR spectra of the self-assembly between **1-Oct** and **N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>** in **CDCl<sub>3</sub>\*** at various concentrations (from bottom to top: 5, 50, 77 and 100 mM):



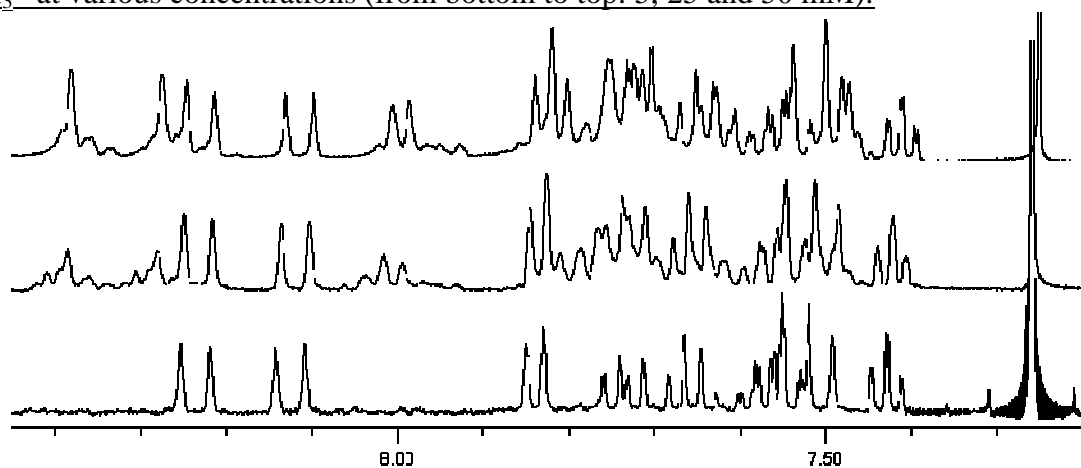
Concentration-dependent NMR spectra of the self-assembly between **1-Oct** and **N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>** in **CDCl<sub>3</sub>\*/CD<sub>3</sub>CN**: 6/4 at various concentrations (from bottom to top: 5, 25, and 50 mM):



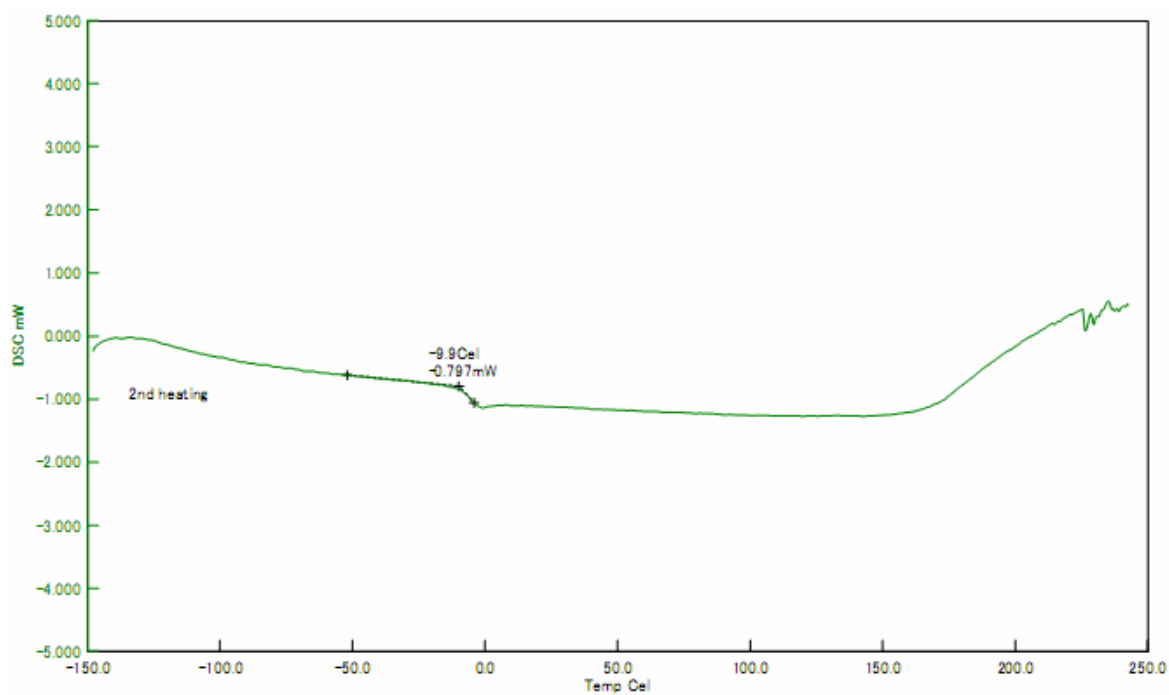
Concentration-dependent NMR spectra of the self-assembly between **1-Me** and **N<sub>2</sub>C<sub>5</sub>** in **CDCl<sub>3</sub>\*** at various concentrations (from bottom to top: 5, 25 and 50 mM):



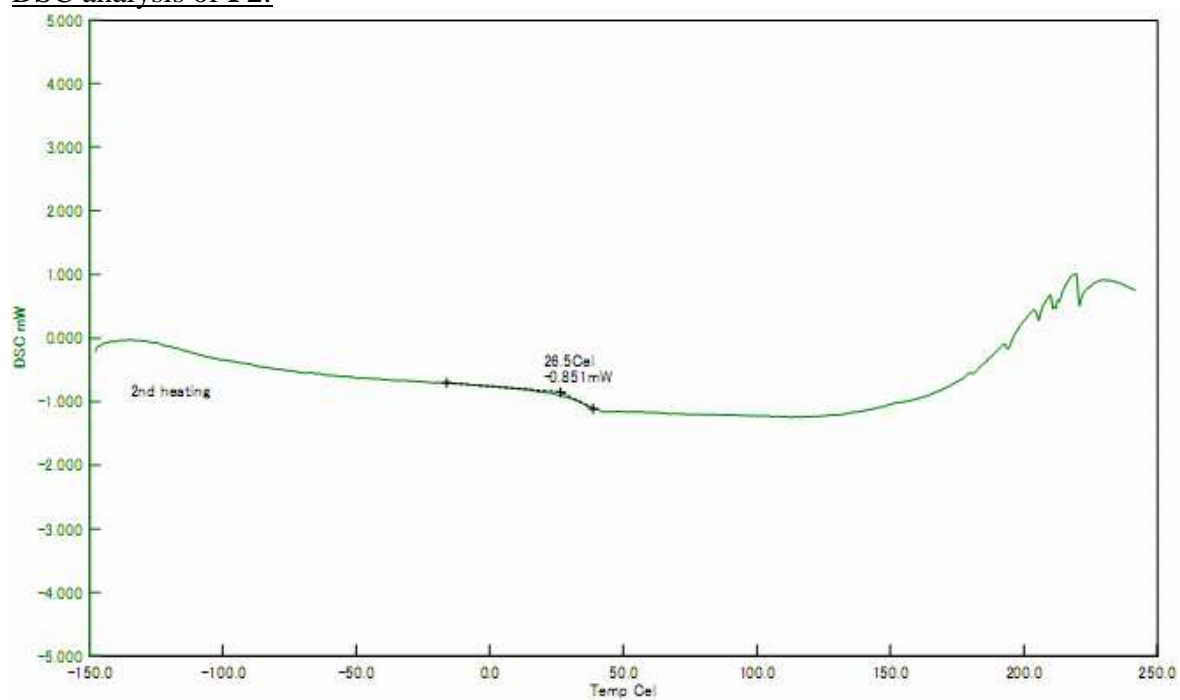
Concentration-dependent NMR spectra of the self-assembly between **1-Me** and **N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>\* at various concentrations (from bottom to top: 5, 25 and 50 mM):



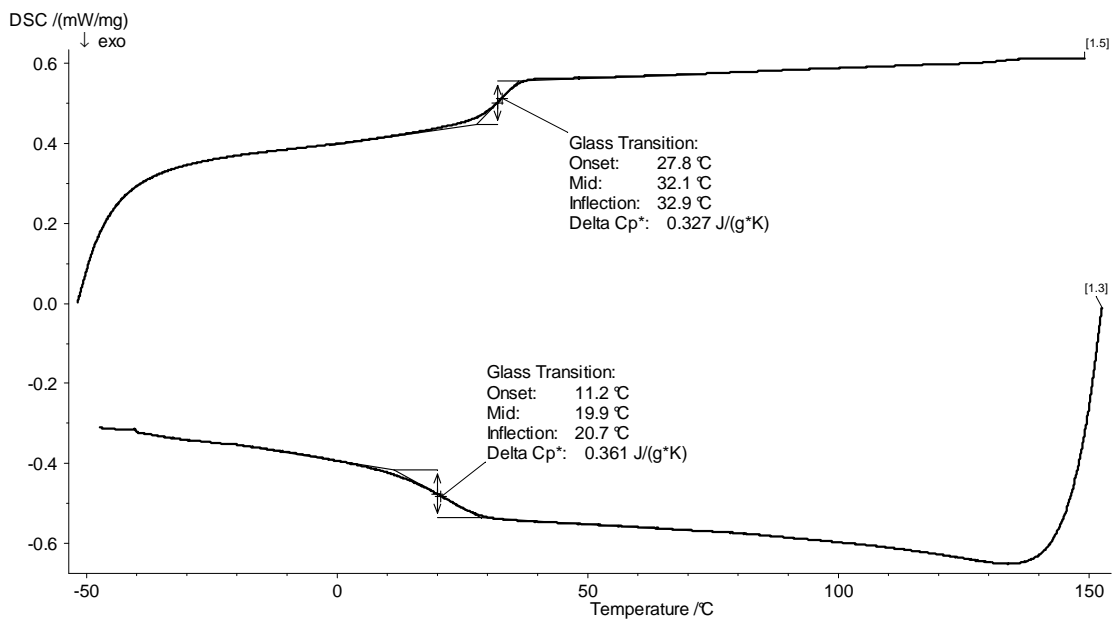
DSC analysis of **P4**:



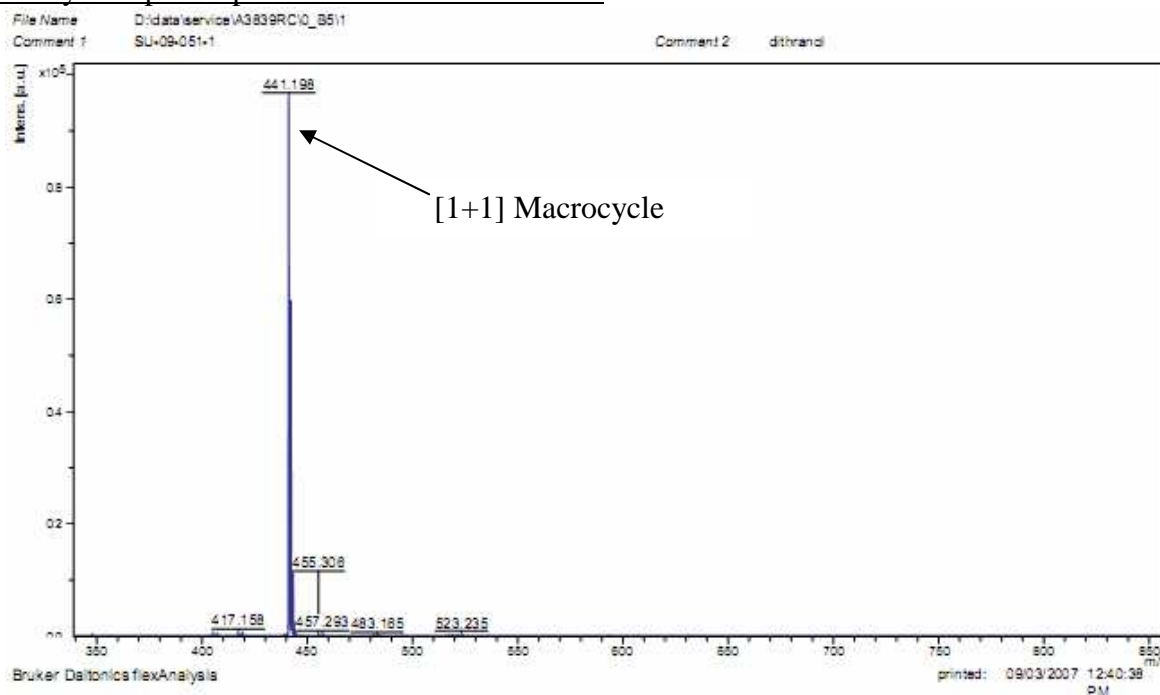
DSC analysis of **P2**:



DSC analysis of **P4'**:

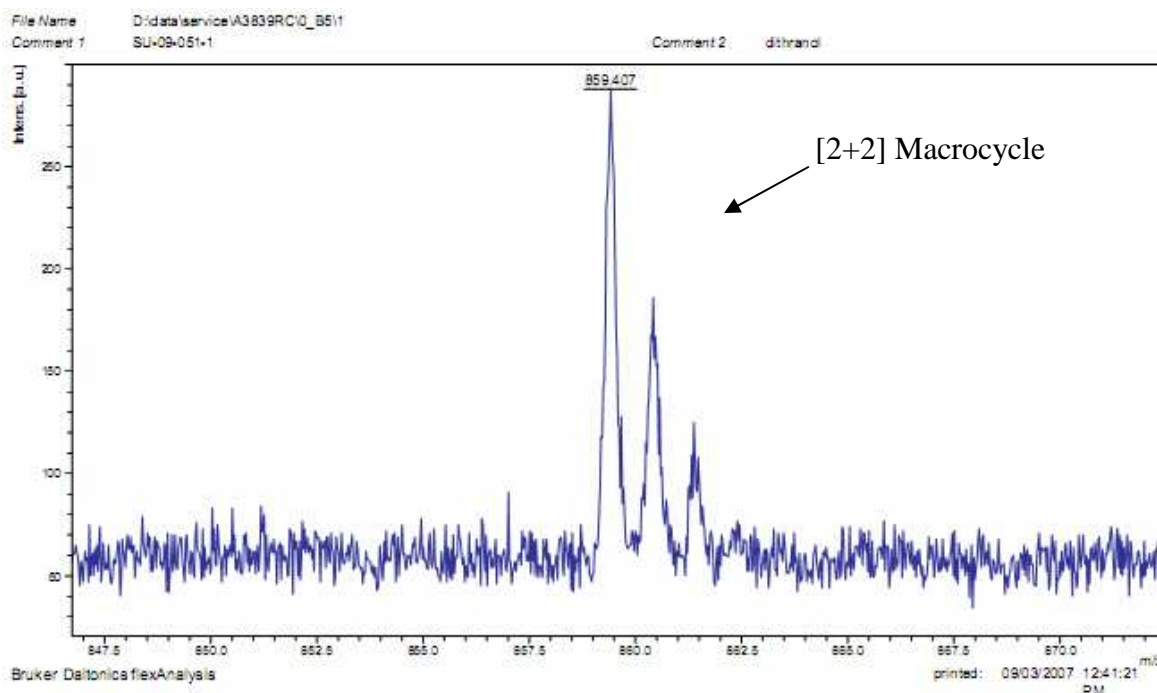


MALDI-TOF analysis of the self-assembly between **1-Oct** and **N<sub>2</sub>C<sub>4</sub>** showing the macrocyclic species present at low concentration:



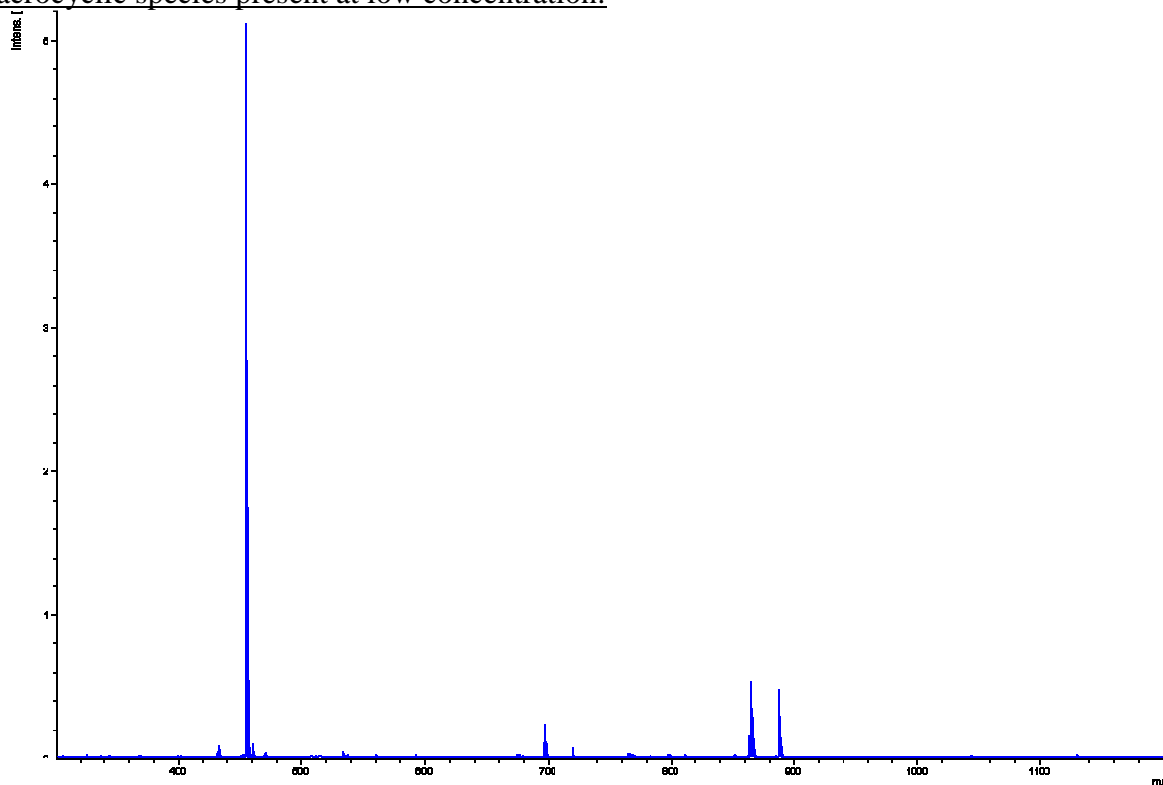
Calculated for  $[C_{25}H_{34}N_6+Na]^+$  (m/z): 441.2743 (100.0%), 442.2776 (27.0%), 443.2810 (3.5%)

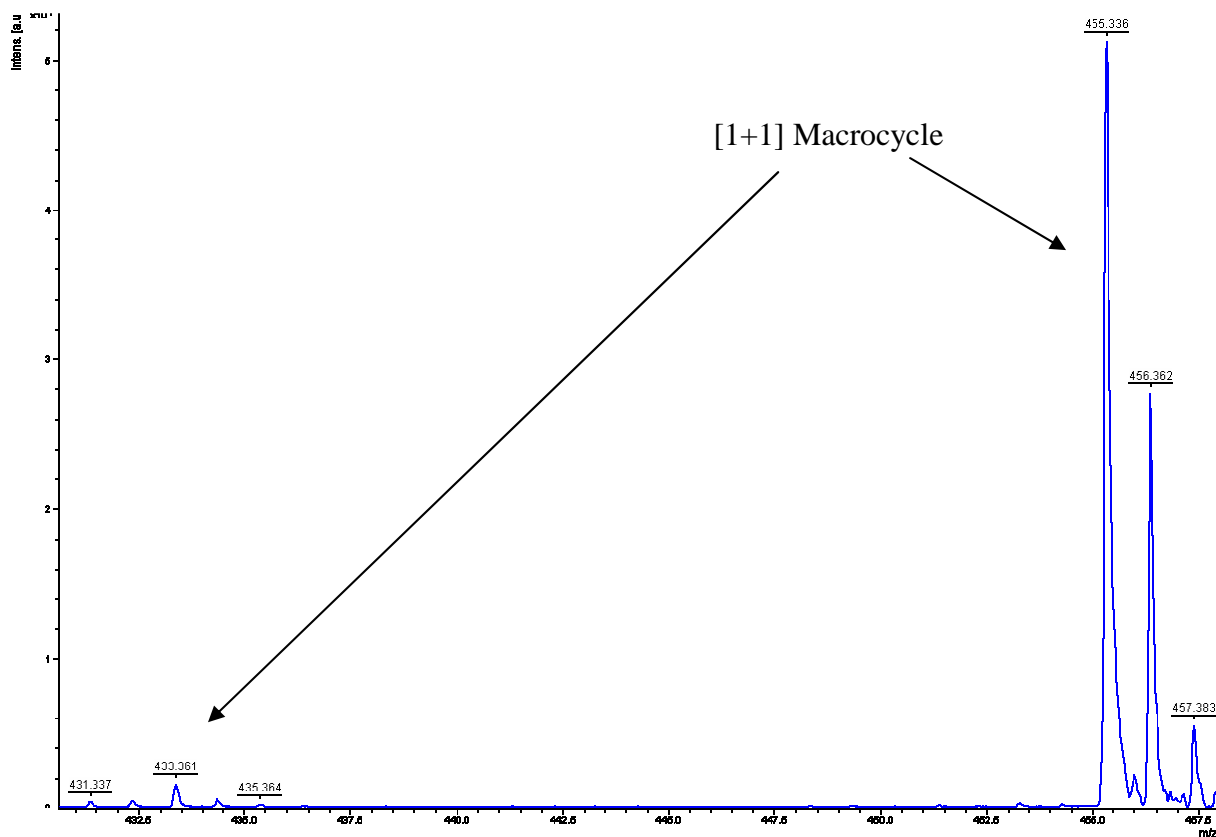




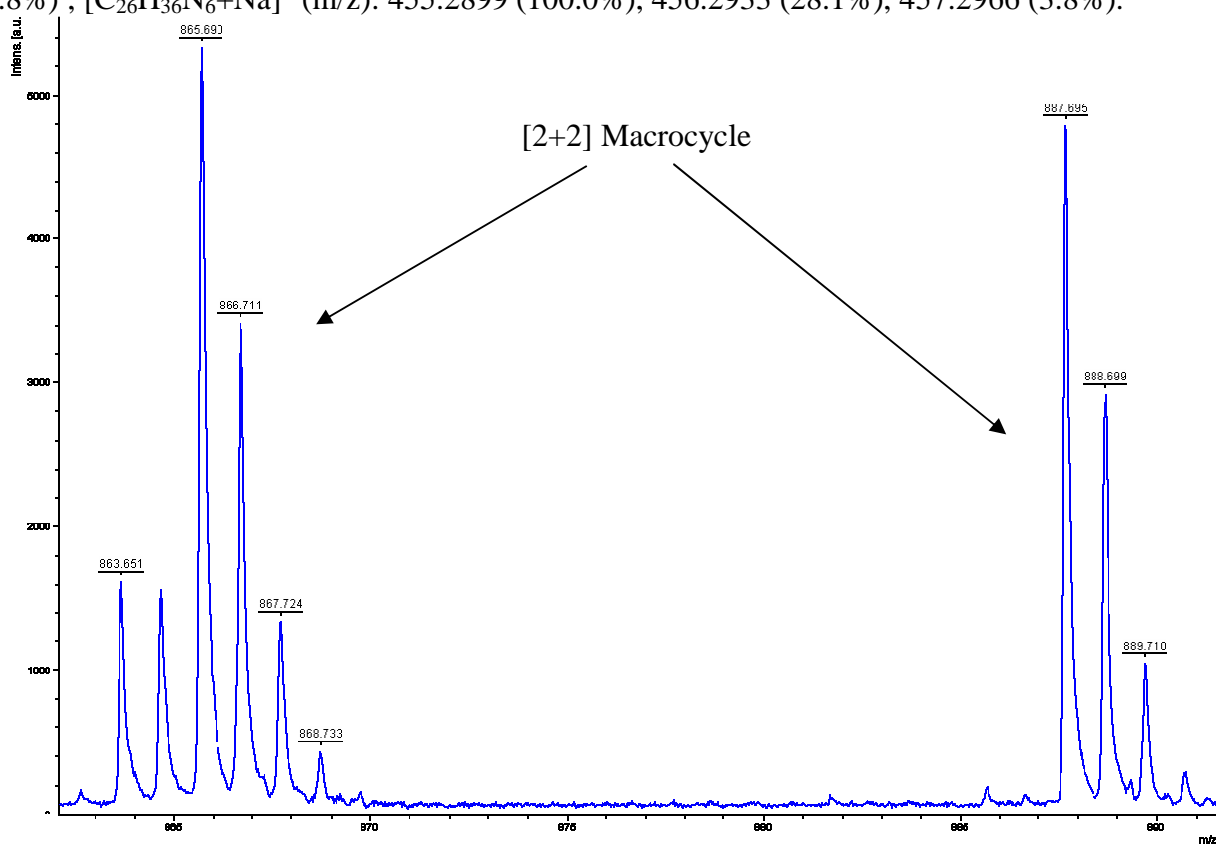
Calculated for  $[\text{C}_{50}\text{H}_{68}\text{N}_{12}+\text{Na}]^+$  (m/z): 859.5588 (100.0%), 860.5621 (54.1%), 861.5655 (14.3%)

MALDI-TOF analysis of the self-assembly between **1-Oct** and **N<sub>2</sub>C<sub>5</sub>** showing the macrocyclic species present at low concentration:



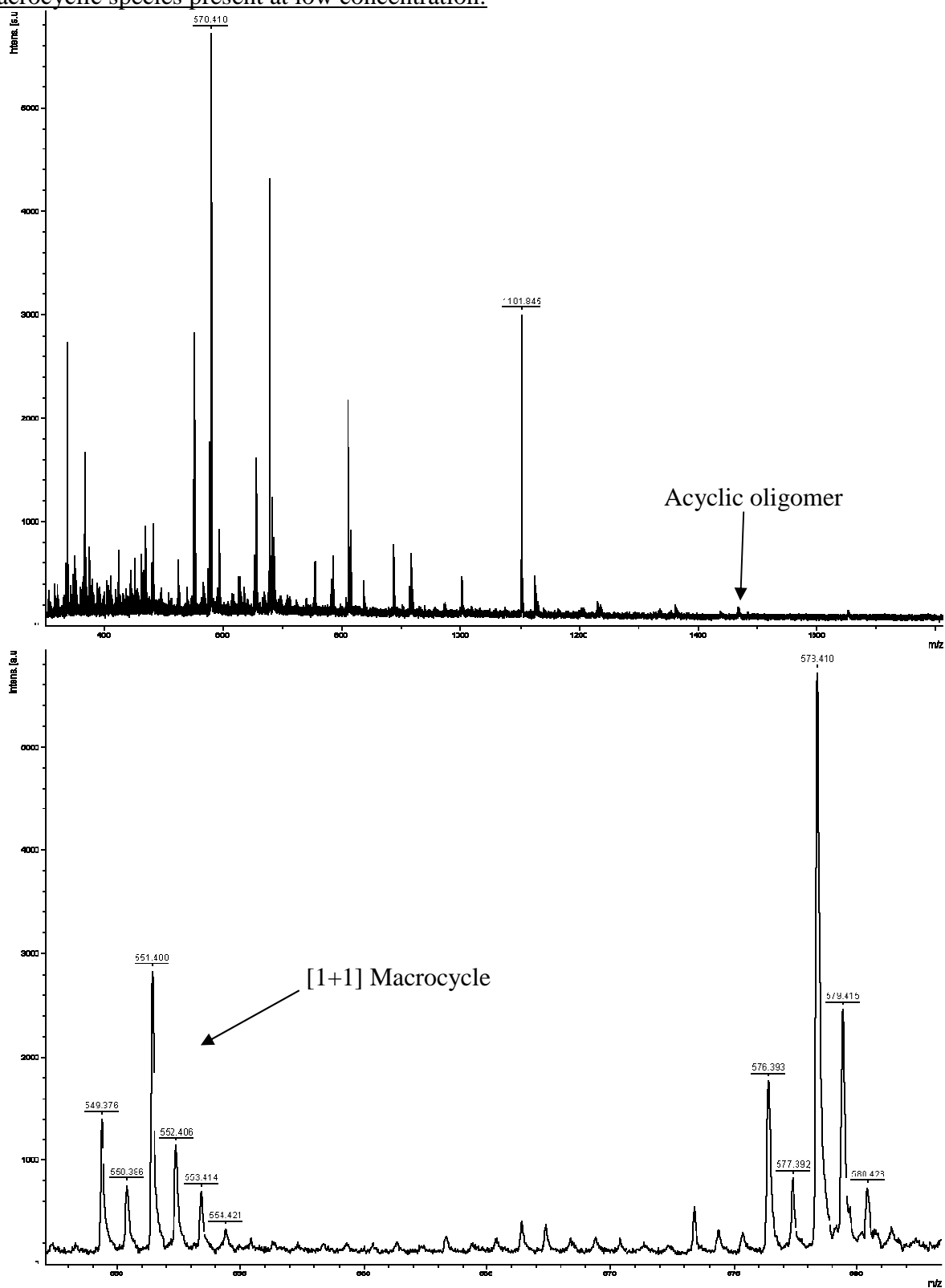


Calculated for  $[\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{36}\text{N}_6+\text{H}]^+$  ( $m/z$ ): 433.3080 (100.0%), 434.3113 (28.1%), 435.3147 (3.8%) ;  $[\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{36}\text{N}_6+\text{Na}]^+$  ( $m/z$ ): 455.2899 (100.0%), 456.2933 (28.1%), 457.2966 (3.8%).

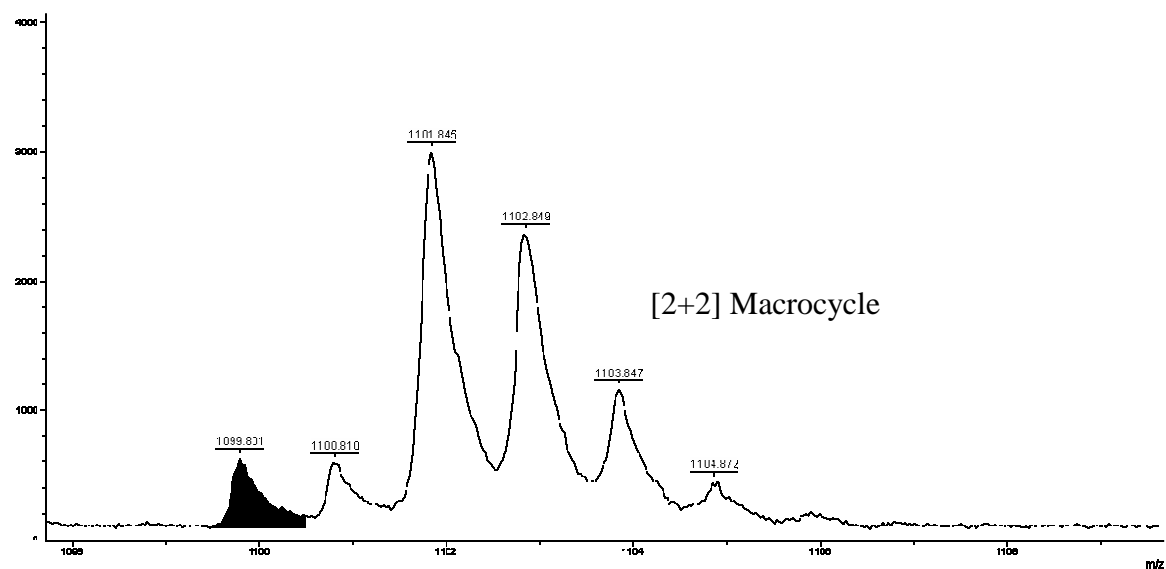


Calculated for  $[\text{C}_{52}\text{H}_{72}\text{N}_{12}+\text{H}]^+$  ( $m/z$ ): 865.6081 (100.0%), 866.6115 (56.2%), 867.6148 (15.5%) ;  $[\text{C}_{52}\text{H}_{72}\text{N}_{12}+\text{Na}]^+$  ( $m/z$ ): 887.5901 (100.0%), 888.5934 (56.2%), 889.5968 (15.5%).

MALDI-TOF analysis of the self-assembly between 1-Oct and N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> showing the macrocyclic species present at low concentration:

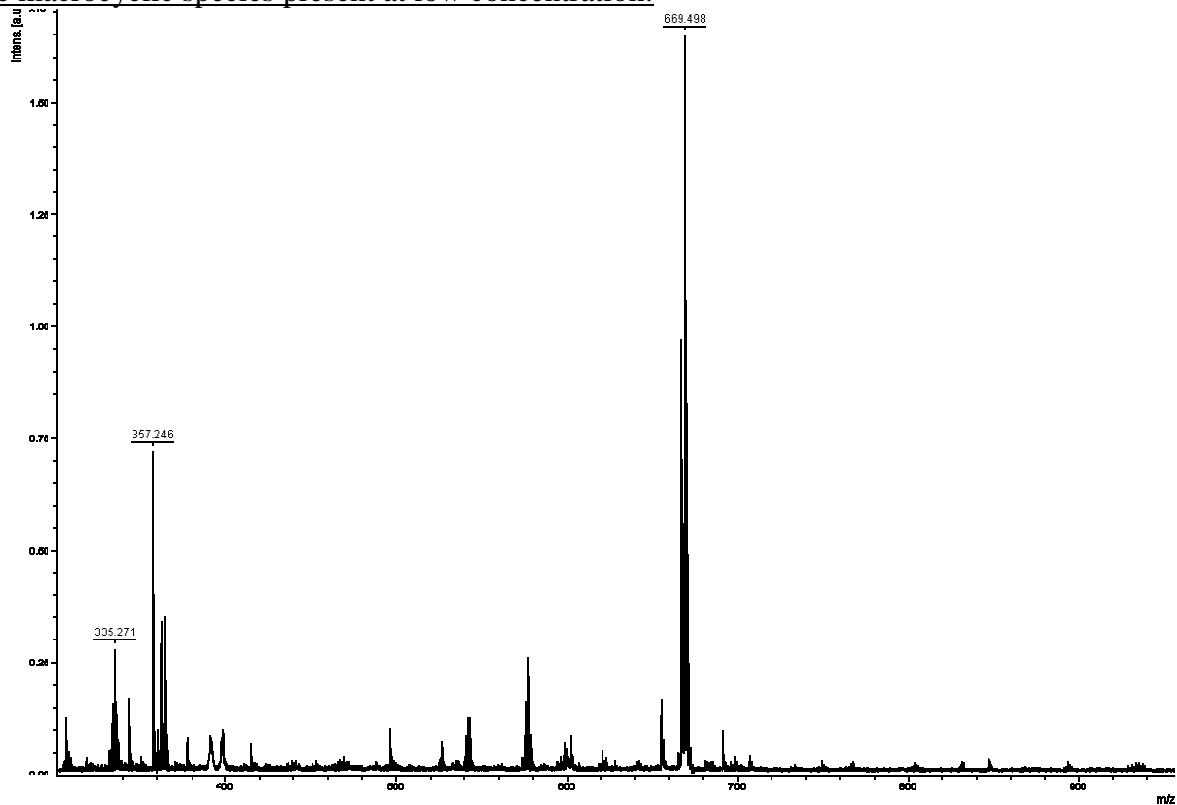


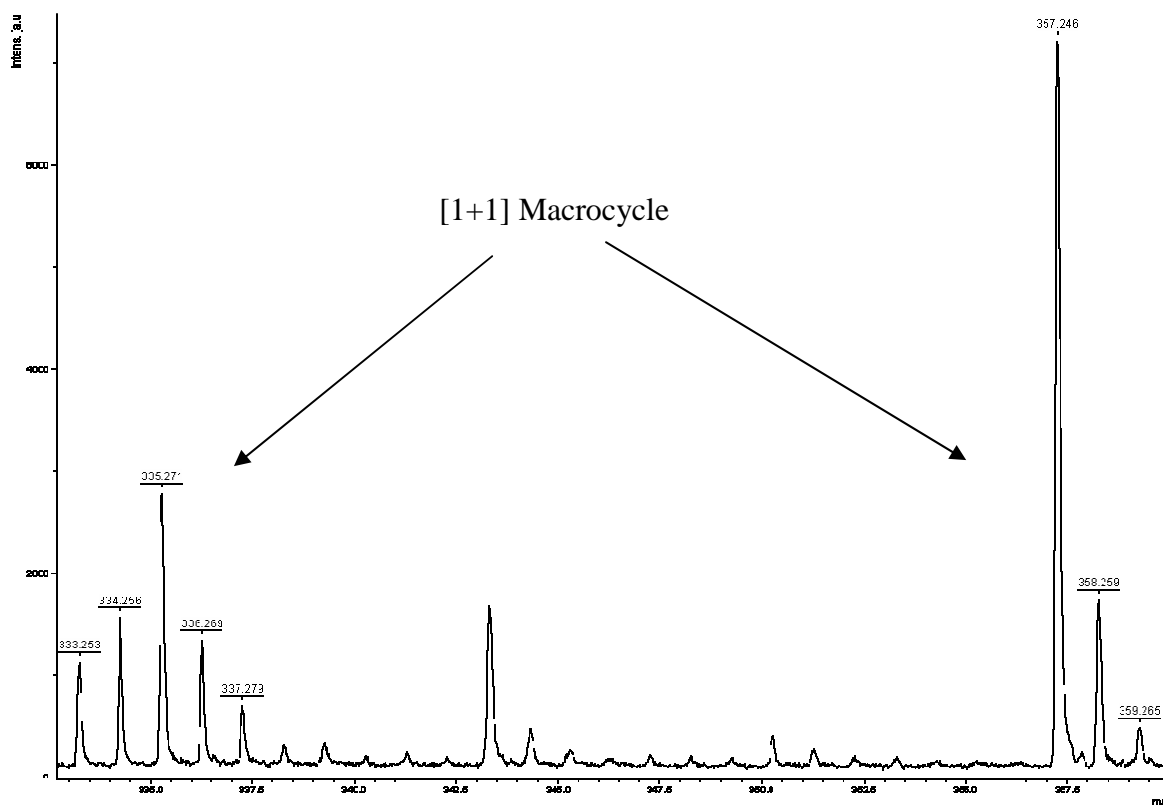
Calculated for  $[C_{31}H_{47}N_6O_3+H]^+$  ( $m/z$ ): 551.3710 (100.0%), 552.3743 (33.5%), 553.3777 (5.4%).



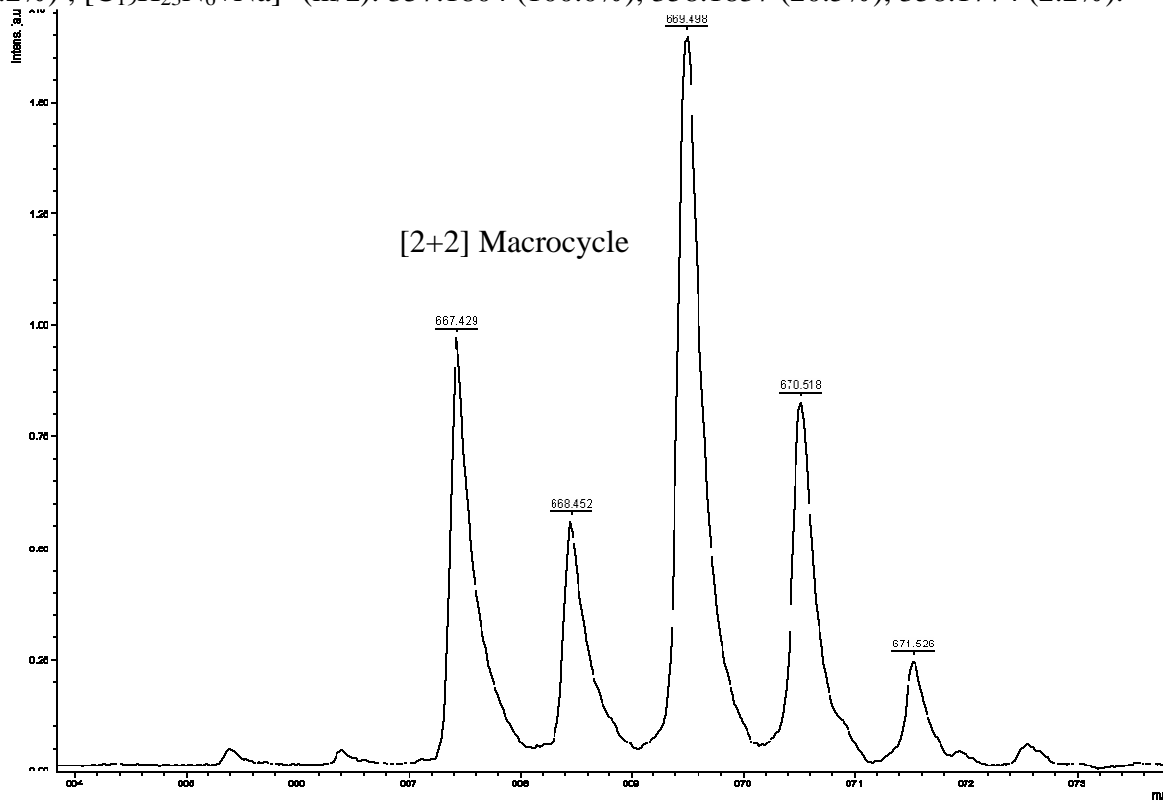
Calculated for  $[C_{62}H_{93}N_{12}O_6+H]^+$  (m/z): 1101.7341 (100.0%), 1102.7375 (67.1%).

MALDI-TOF (dithranol) analysis of the self-assembly between **1-Me** and **N<sub>2</sub>C<sub>5</sub>** showing the macrocyclic species present at low concentration:

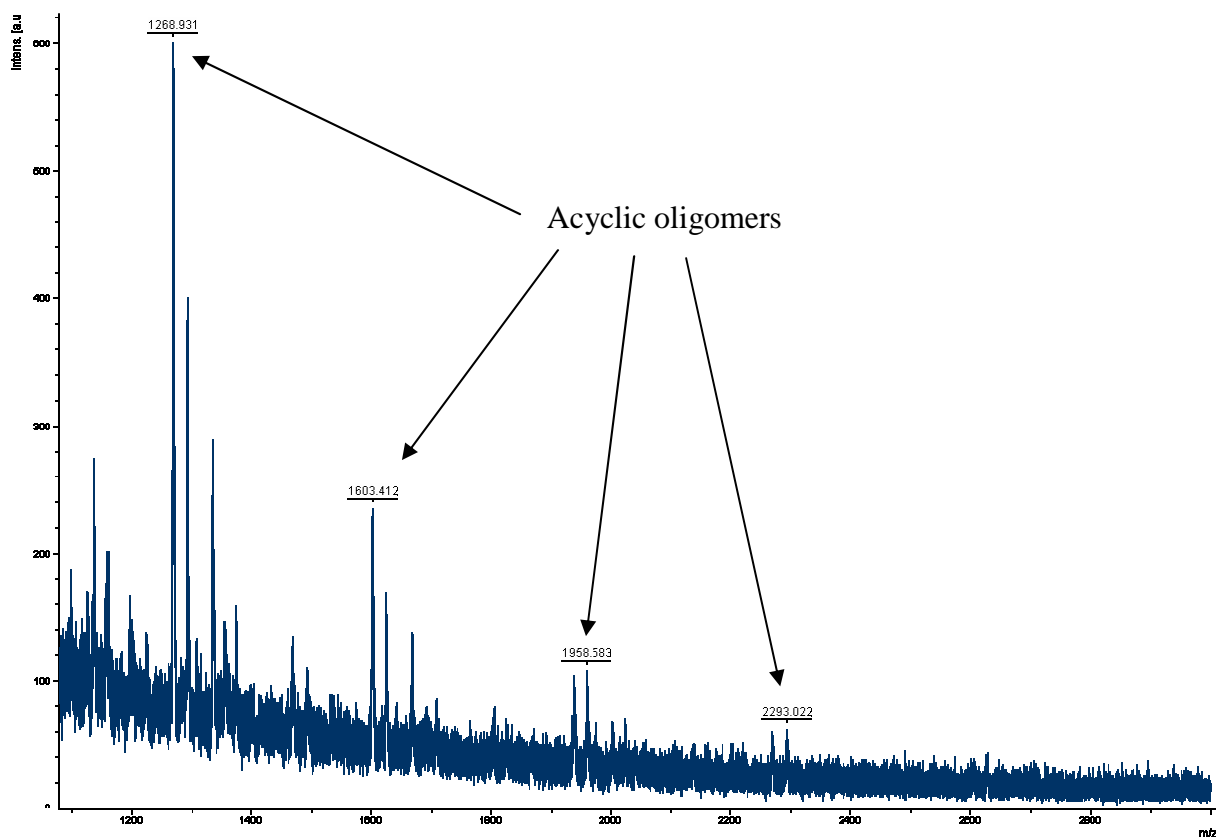




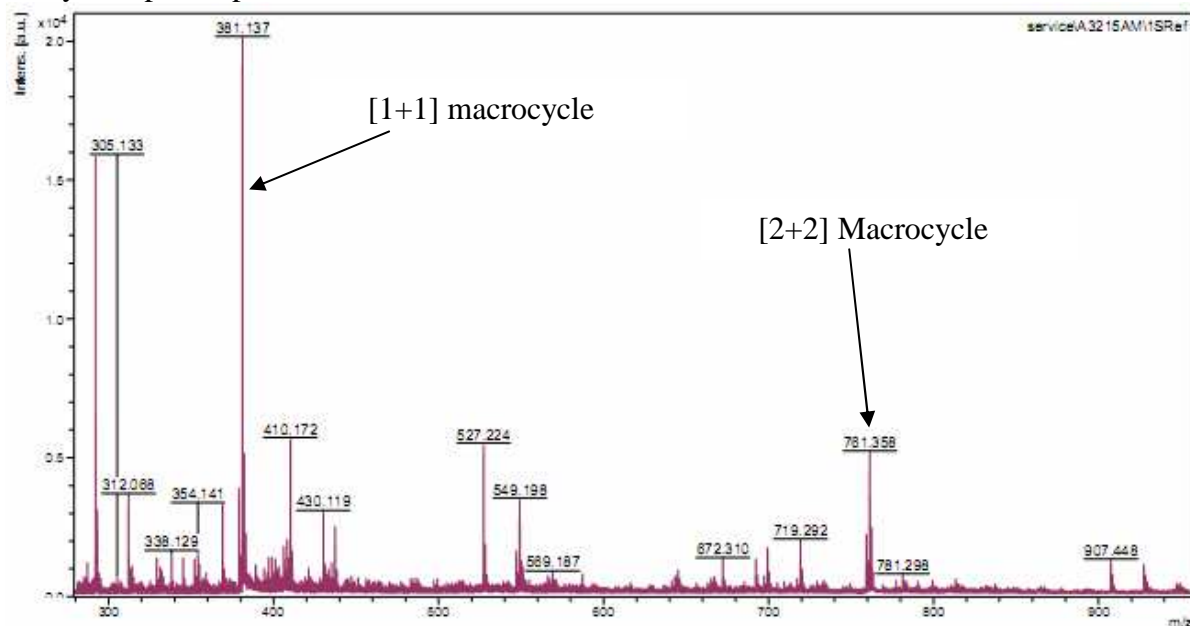
Calculated for  $[\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_6+\text{H}]^+$  (m/z): 335.1984 (100.0%), 336.2018 (20.5%), 336.1955 (2.2%) ;  $[\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_6+\text{Na}]^+$  (m/z): 357.1804 (100.0%), 358.1837 (20.5%), 358.1774 (2.2%).



Calculated for  $[\text{C}_{38}\text{H}_{45}\text{N}_{12}+\text{H}]^+$  (m/z): 669.3890 (100.0%), 670.3924 (41.1%), 671.3957 (8.2%).

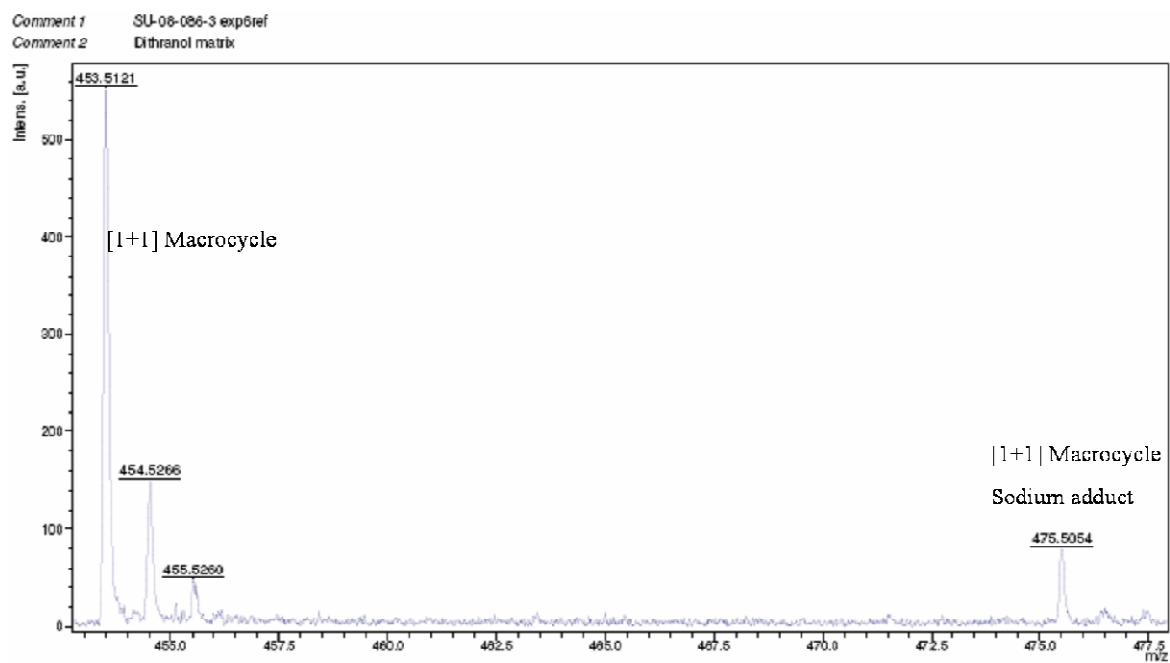
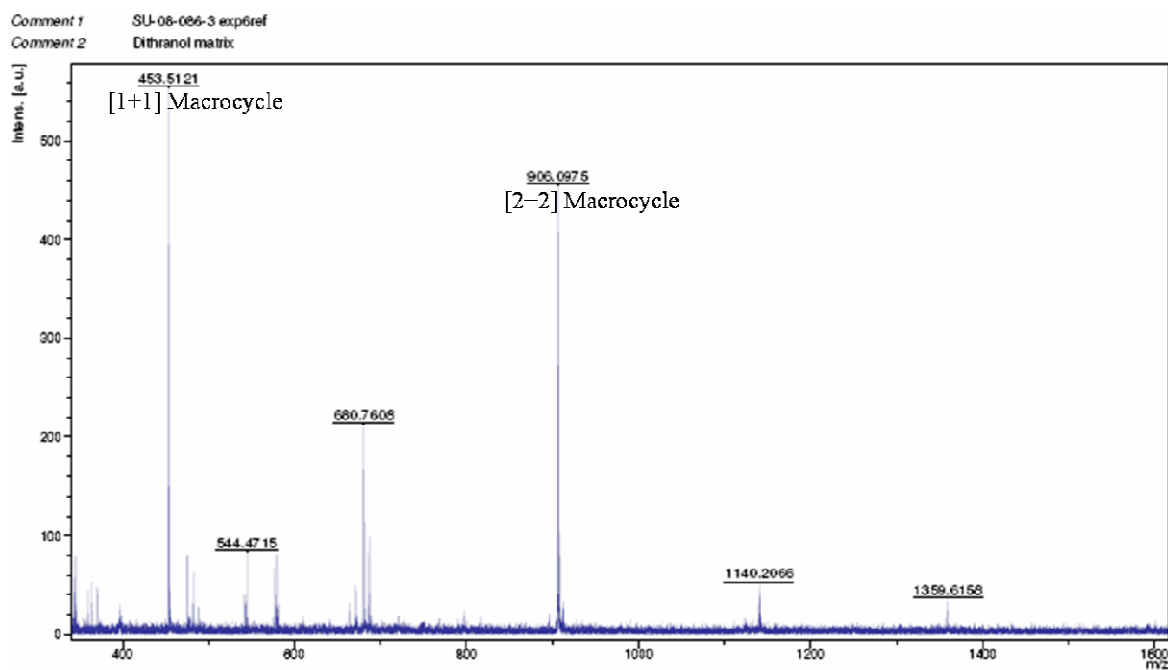


MALDI-TOF analysis of the self-assembly between **1-Me** and **N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>** showing the macrocyclic species present at low concentration:

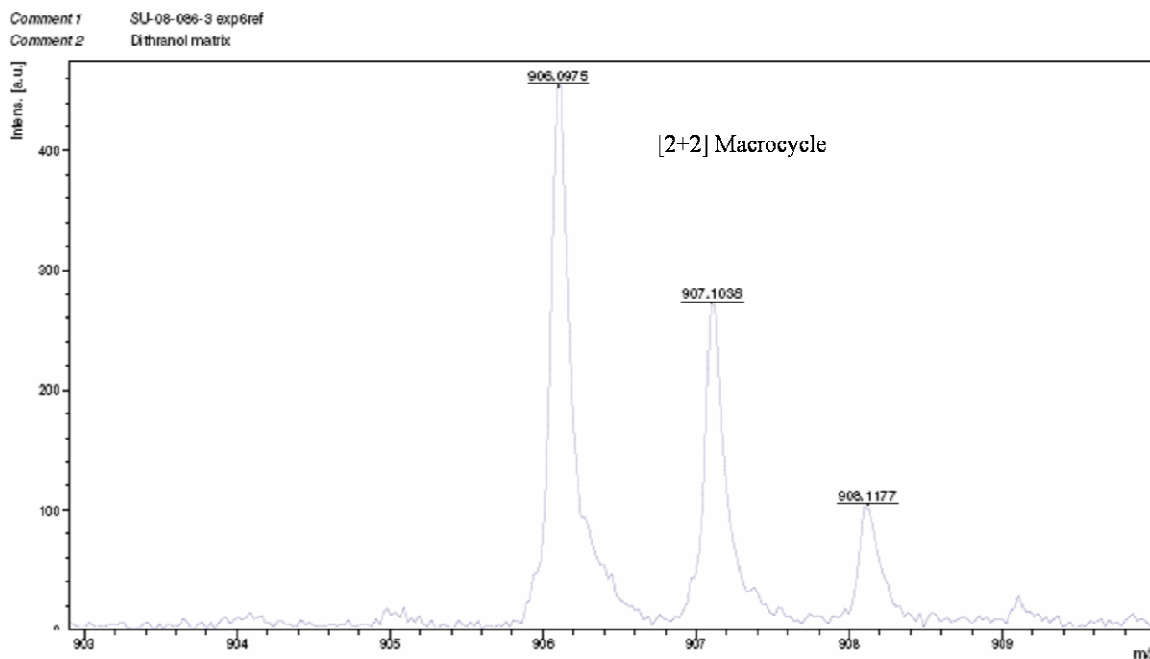


Calculated for  $[\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{25}\text{N}_6\text{O}_2+\text{H}]^+$  (m/z): 381.2039 (100.0%), 382.2073 (21.6%), 383.2106 (2.2%) ;  $[\text{C}_{40}\text{H}_{49}\text{N}_{12}\text{O}_4+\text{H}]^+$  (m/z): 761.4000 (100.0%), 762.4033 (43.3%), 763.4067 (9.1%).

MALDI-TOF analysis of the self-assembly between **1-Me** and **N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>** showing the macrocyclic species present at low concentration:

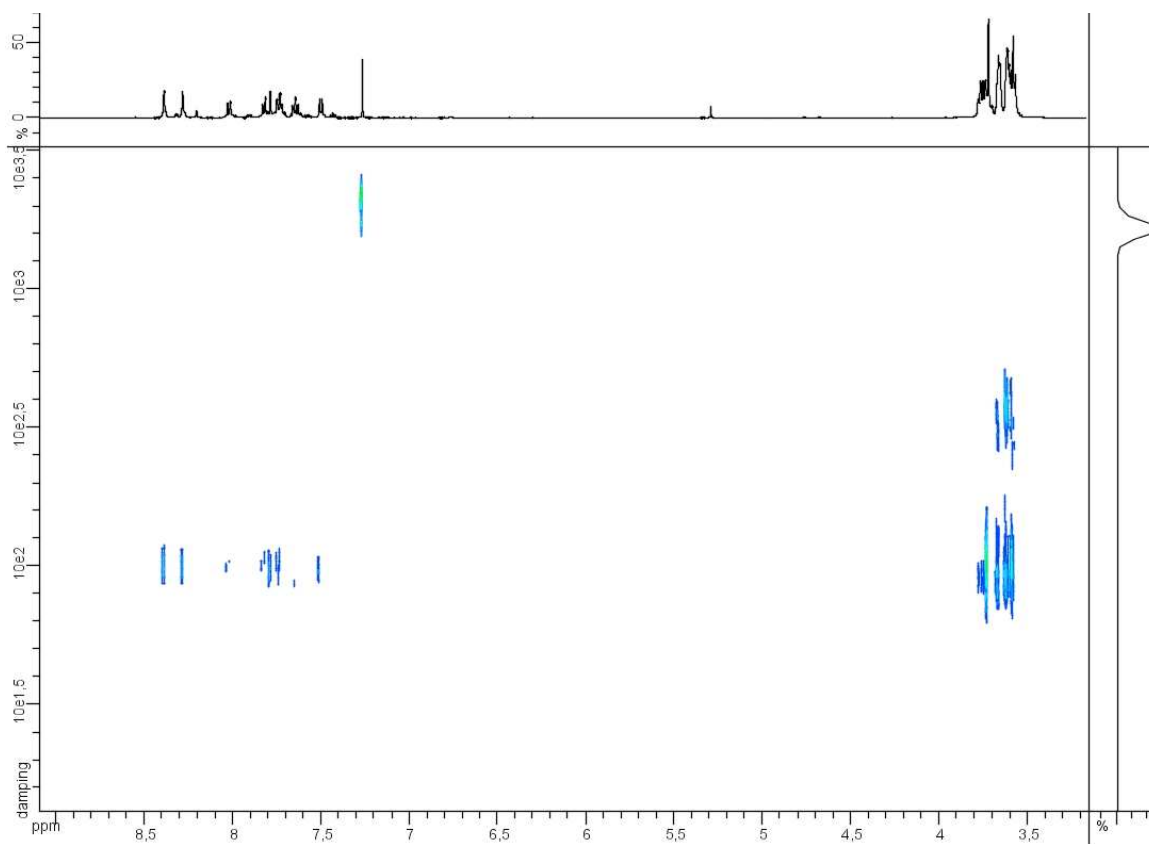


Calculated for  $[C_{24}H_{32}N_6O_3+H]^+$  (m/z): 453.2614 (100.0%), 454.2648 (26.0%), 455.2681 (3.2%)



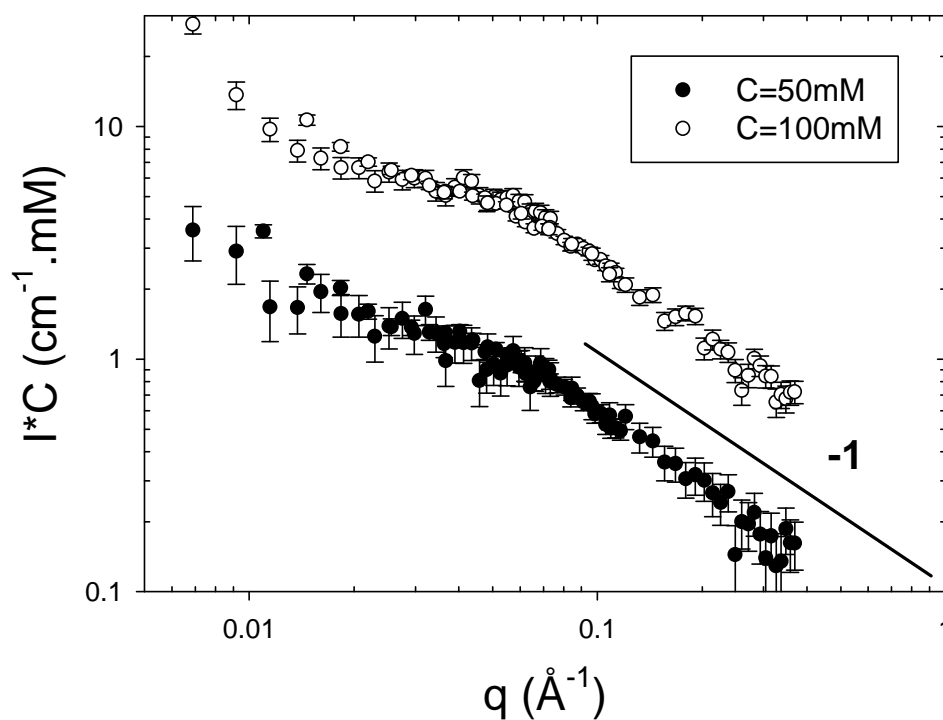
Calculated for  $[C_{48}H_{64}N_{12}O_6+H]^+$  ( $m/z$ ): 905.5150 (100.0%), 906.5184 (51.9%), 907.5217 (13.2%), 906.5120 (4.4%), 907.5154 (2.3%), 908.5251 (2.2%), 907.5192 (1.2%)

DOSY NMR of the self-assembly between **1-Me** and **N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>** at 50 mM in CDCl<sub>3</sub>\* (fresh sample):

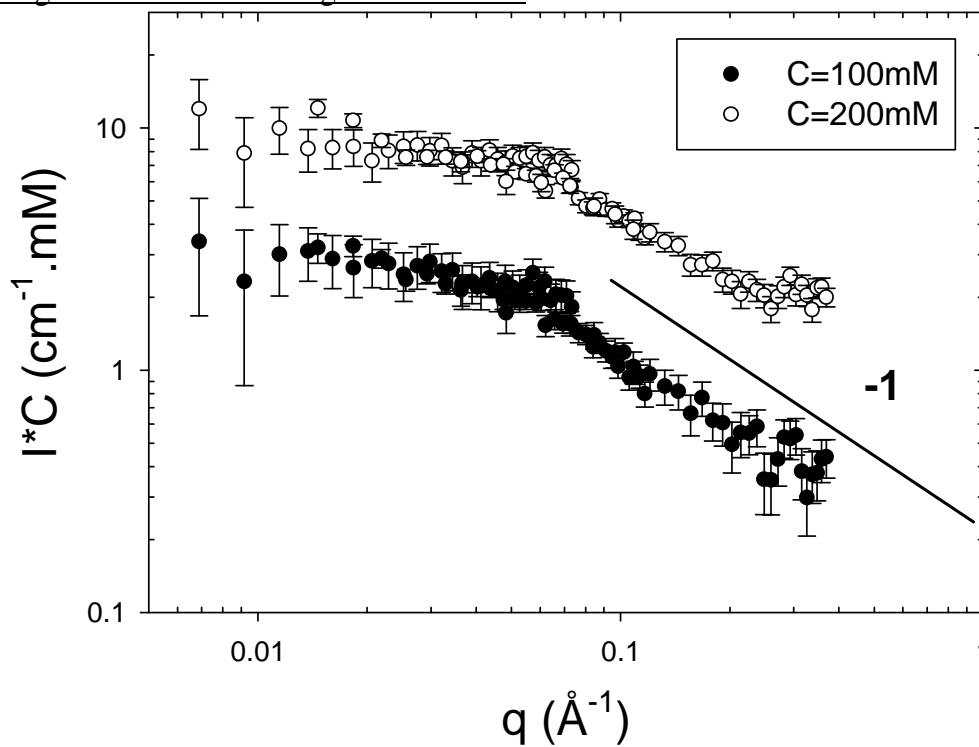


Small Angle Neutrons Scattering curves of **P2**:

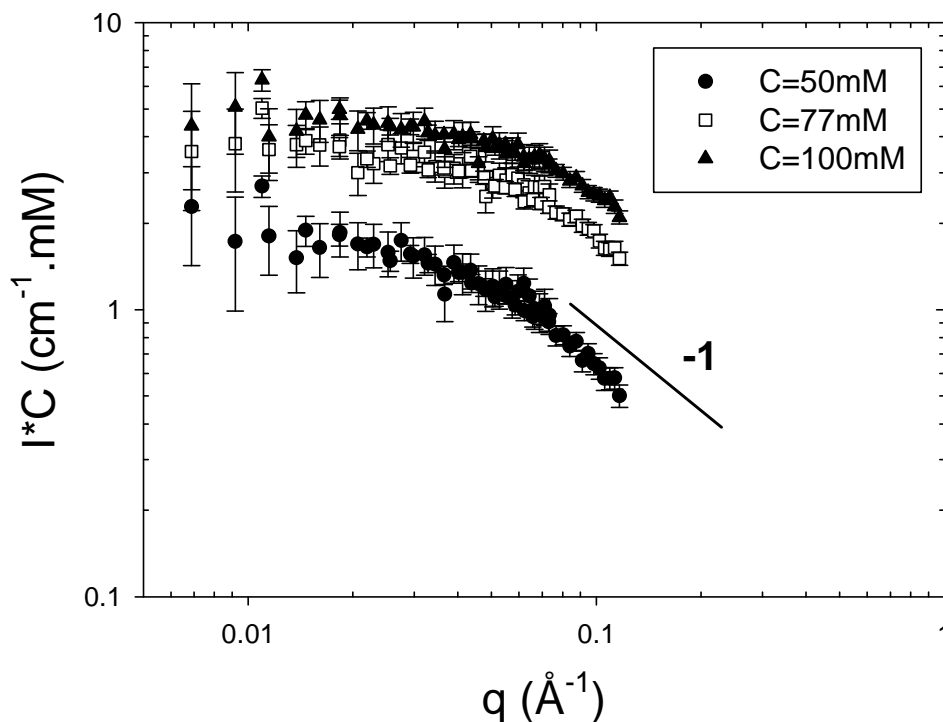




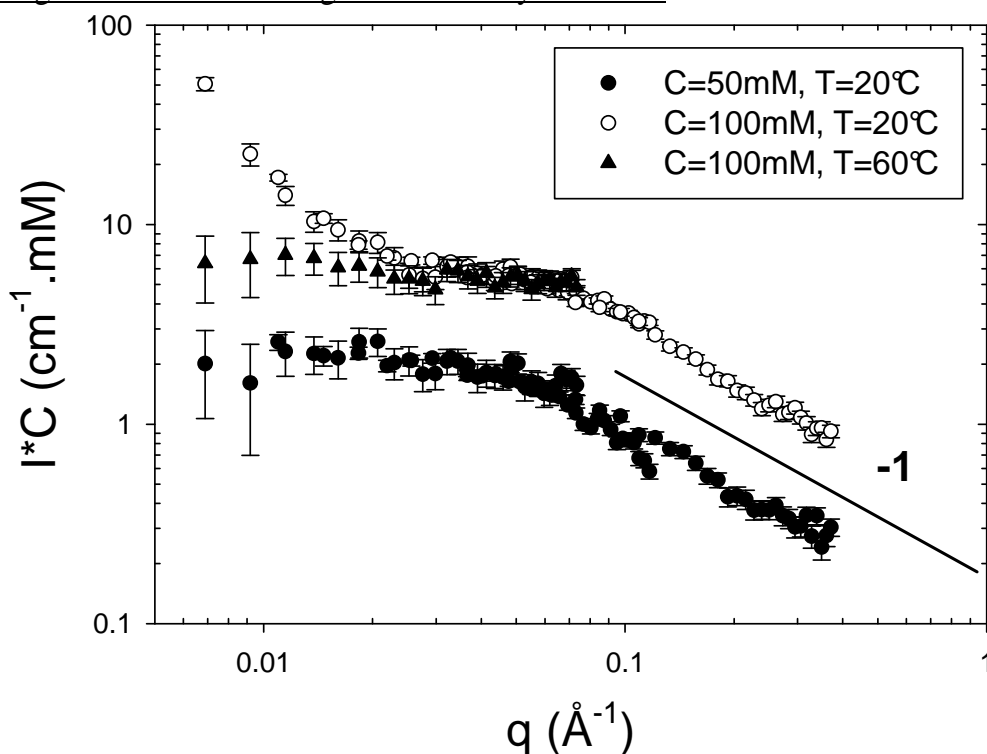
Small Angle Neutrons Scattering curves of **P4'**:



Small Angle Neutrons Scattering curves of **P4** (T=52.3°C):

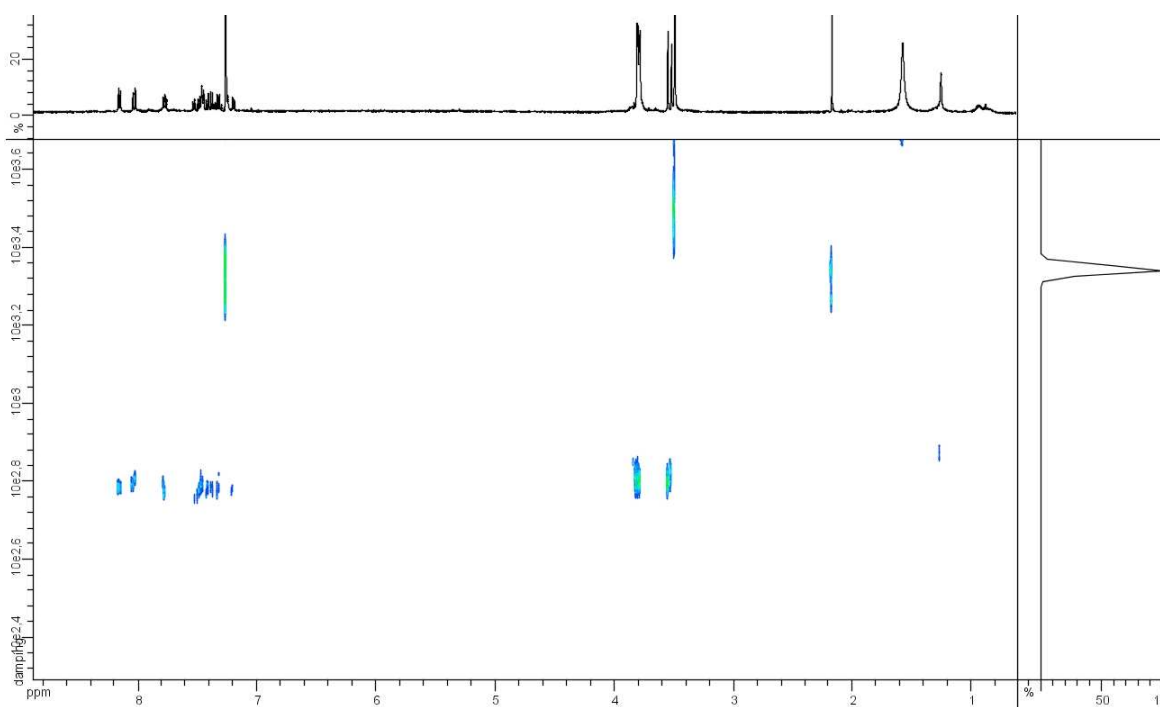


Small Angle Neutrons Scattering curves of dehydrated **P4**:

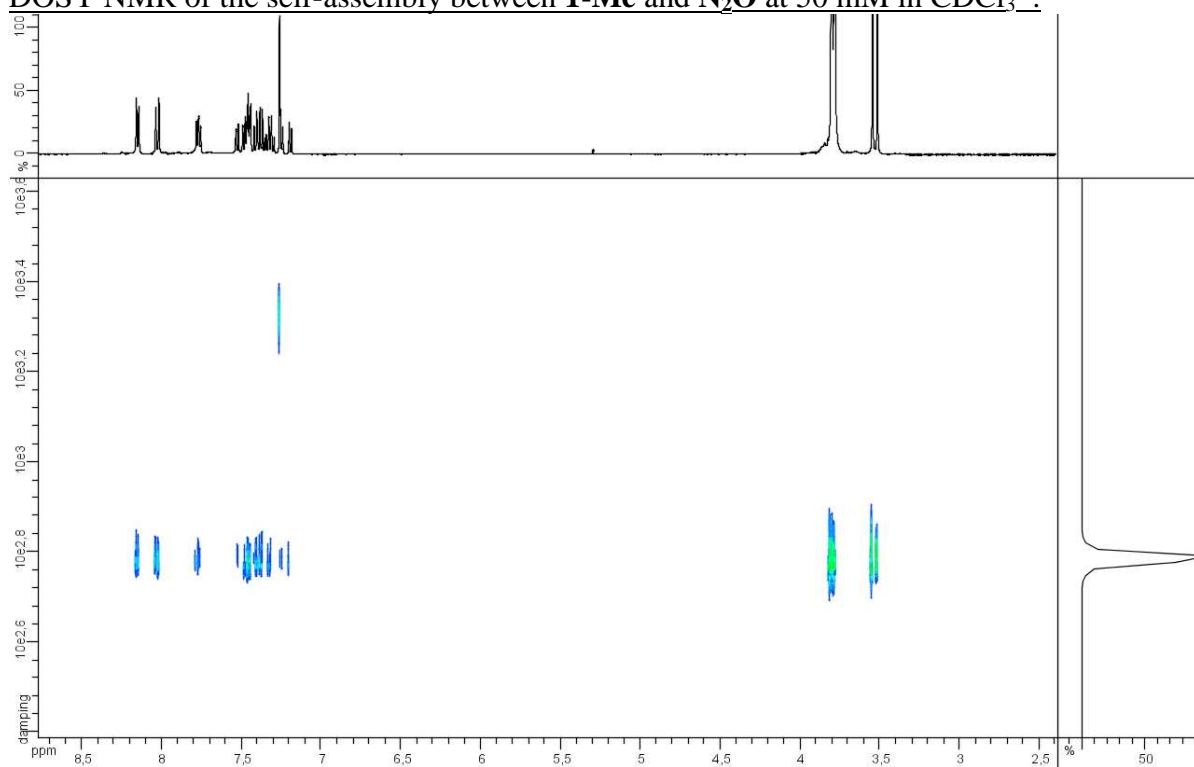


Dehydration was performed by leaving the chloroform solution containing the polymer onto anhydrous sodium sulfate. The aggregation behaviour observed may be due to a too long storage before analysis (see text).

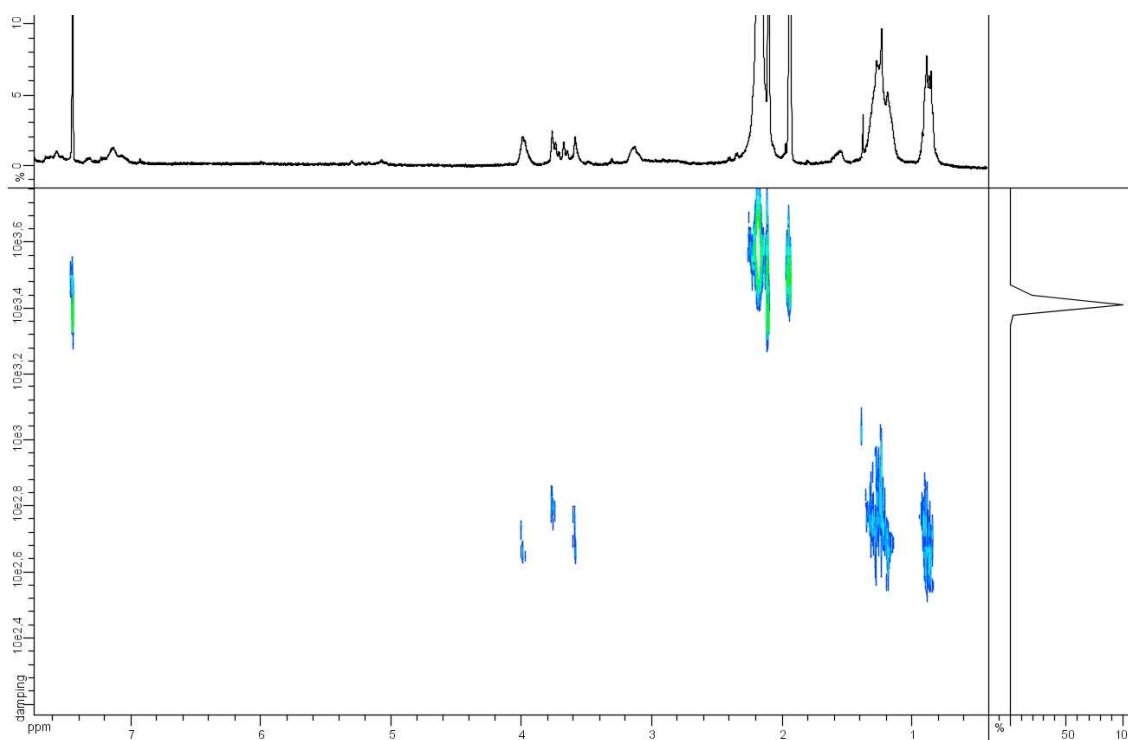
DOSY NMR of the self-assembly between **1-Me** and  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  at 5 mM in  $\text{CDCl}_3^*$ :



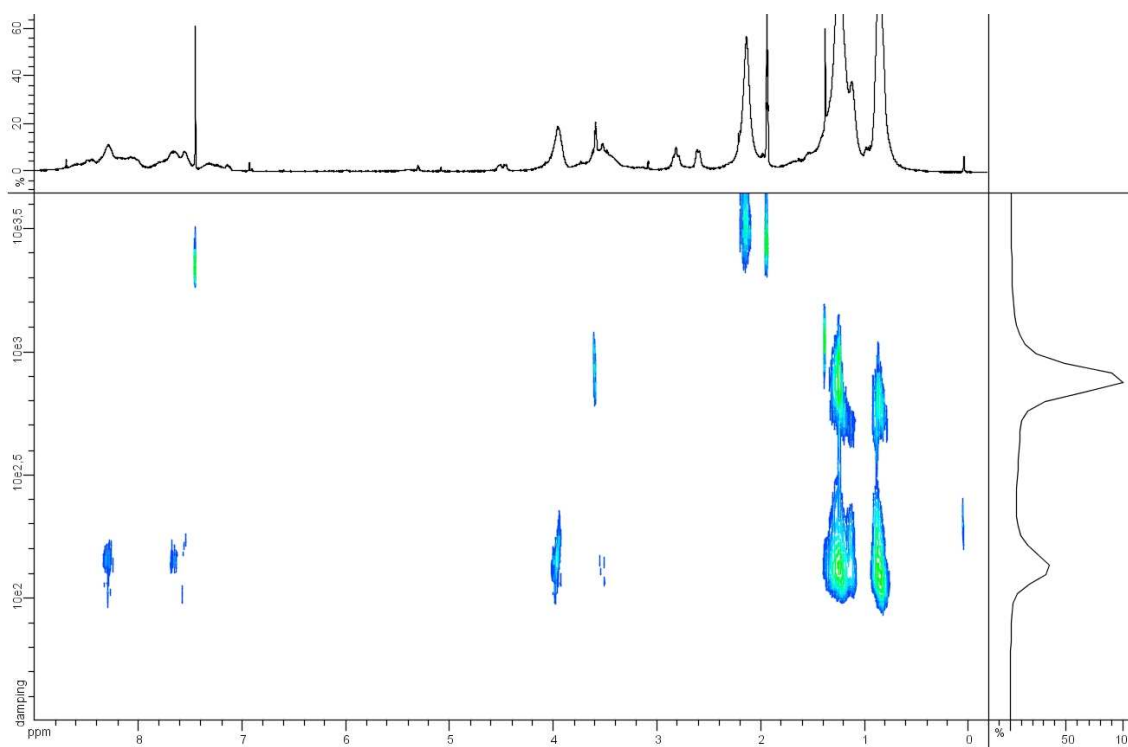
DOSY NMR of the self-assembly between **1-Me** and **N<sub>2</sub>O** at 50 mM in CDCl<sub>3</sub>\*:



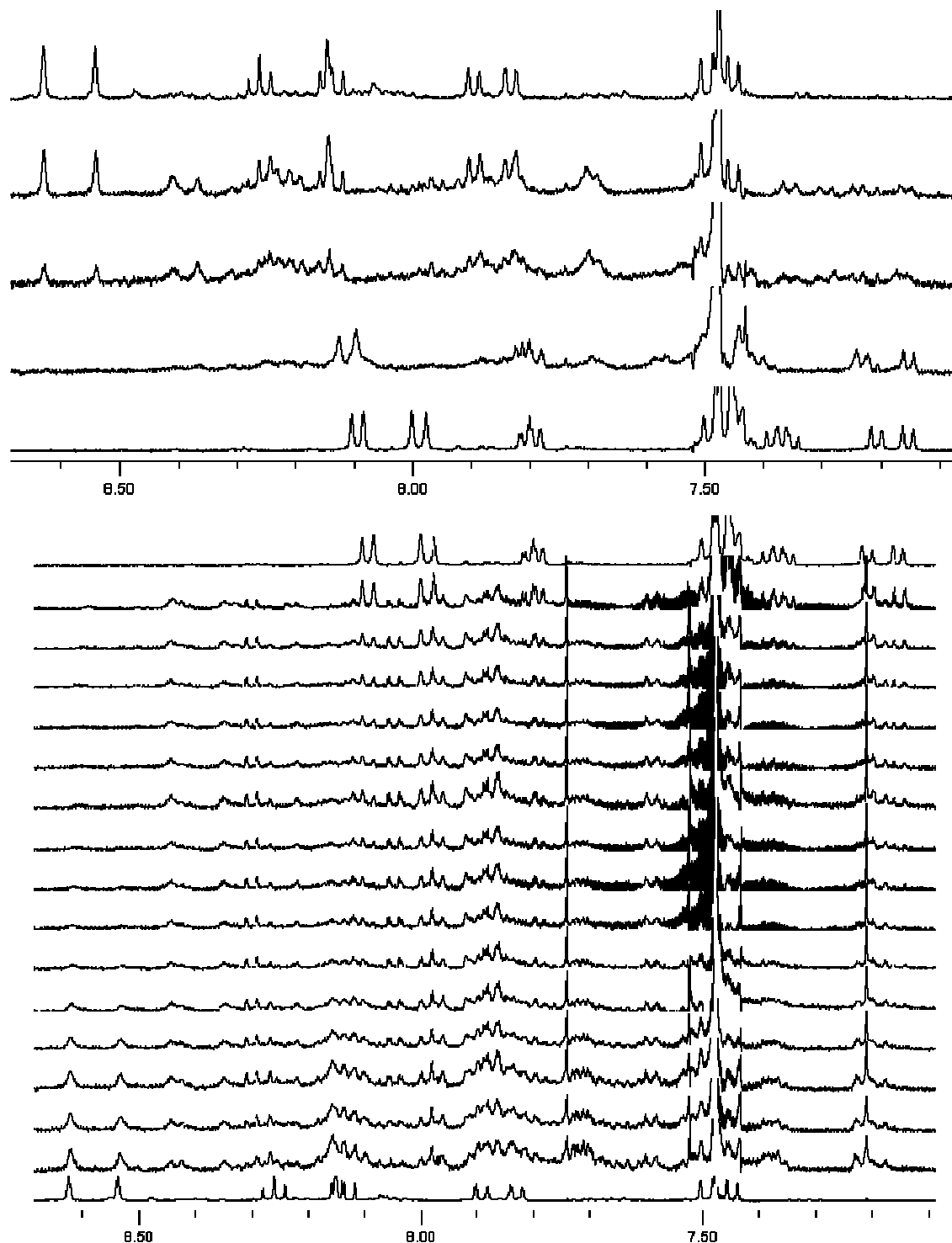
DOSY NMR of the self-assembly between **Zn.2<sub>2</sub>** and **N<sub>2</sub>C<sub>3</sub>'** at 5 mM in CDCl<sub>3</sub>\* / CD<sub>3</sub>CN:  
6/4:



DOSY NMR of the self-assembly between **Zn.2<sub>2</sub>** and **N<sub>2</sub>C<sub>3</sub>'** at 50 mM in CDCl<sub>3</sub>\*/CD<sub>3</sub>CN:  
6/4:



Macrocycle-macrocycle interconversion:



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra showing the reversible constitutional conversion between the [2+2] macrocycle **1<sub>2</sub>**.(N<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub> and the [1+1] metallo-macrocycles **Zn.1**.N<sub>2</sub>O at 5 mM of each starting material in CDCl<sub>3</sub>/CD<sub>3</sub>CN: 6/4. Top: [2+2] macrocycle (bottom), then after addition of 0.3, 0.5, 0.7 and 1.0 equivalent of zinc triflate. NMR spectra were taken immediately after the addition ; bottom: [1+1] metallo-macrocycle (bottom), then after addition of 1.0 equivalent of hexacyclen, then a spectrum was recorded every 3 minutes, the last but one was recorded one day after the addition of hexacyclen and the last spectrum is a reference of the [2+2] macrocycle prepared from its components. Conversion is incomplete in the time frame due to the low concentration used.