

## Electronic Supporting Information

# Donor-( $\pi$ -bridge)-Azinium as D- $\pi$ -A<sup>+</sup> one-dimensional and D- $\pi$ -A<sup>+</sup>- $\pi$ -D multidimensional V-shaped chromophores

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## 1. Experimental procedures and characterization data for all new compounds reported

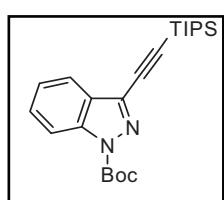
### 1a. General information

Melting points were uncorrected. Infrared spectra were recorded on KBr pellets and spectral bands were reported in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded at 200 MHz and 300 MHz respectively. Chemical shifts were reported as  $\delta$  values (ppm). Mass spectra (MS) were obtained as ( $\text{ESI}^+$ ). CuI, PdCl( $\text{PPh}_3$ )<sub>2</sub>, LiCl, were purchased from Aldrich. The acetylenes heterocycle of pyrazole and indazole were prepared using the classical catalytic procedures of Sonogashira coupling. 2-Triisopropylsilanyl ethynyl phenyl carbamic acid *tert*-butyl ester,<sup>1</sup> 1-triisopropylsilanyl-3-trimethylsilanylethynyl-1*H*-pyrrole,<sup>2</sup> 1-(toluene-4sulfonyl)-3-trimethylsilanylethynyl-1*H*-indole<sup>3</sup> were obtained by previously described methods. DMF and Et<sub>3</sub>N were distilled over activated molecular sieves.

### 1b. Synthesis of heteroaryl ethynyl derivatives by Sonogashira protocol

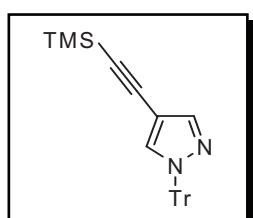
#### General Procedure

A flame-dried flask was charged under argon with the corresponding halo-heteroaryl-derivative (3 mmol), 10 mol% CuI (0.3 mmol, 0.05 g) and 5 mol % PdCl( $\text{PPh}_3$ )<sub>2</sub> (0.15 mmol, 0.1 g) in dry THF (10 mL). Then, the corresponding silil acetylene (15 mmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (17 mmol, 2.36 mL) were added. After being stirring at room temperature for 4 h, the solution was filtered through a small pad of celite and washed with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic phase was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel in hexane/ethyl acetate (9.5:0.5) as eluent.



#### 3-[Triisopropylsilyl]-ethynyl-indazole-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester

Following the general procedure, (1.11g, 93%) were obtained as a yellow oil. IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 2062, 1740;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.21 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz), 7.79 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 8.1 Hz), 7.68 (td, 1H,  $J$  = 1.1, 8.4 Hz), 7.47 (t, 1H,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz), 1.76 (s, 9H), 1.25 (s, 21H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 139.5, 129.1, 127.2, 123.8, 120.4, 114.5, 99.1, 96.1, 94.5, 85.9, 85.1, 27.9, 18.2, 10.8; MS (ESI<sup>+</sup>)  $m/z$  (relative intensity) 398 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>34</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si : C, 69.30; H, 8.6; N, 7.03. Found: C, 69.6; H, 8.03; N, 7.3.



#### 4-Trimethylsilanylethynyl-1-trityl-1*H*-pyrazole

Following the general procedure, (1.15g, 95 %) were obtained as a yellow solid: mp 155-157 °C; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 2164, 1596, 845;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 7.73 (s, 1H), 7.52 (s, 1H), 7.29 (t, 10H,  $J$  = 2.56 Hz), 7.09 (m, 5H), 0.18 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 142.6, 142.5, 135.7, 130.0, 127.8, 127.8, 101.9, 96.5, 95.0, 0.03; MS (ESI<sup>+</sup>)  $m/z$  (relative intensity) 406 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>2</sub>Si: C, 79.76; H, 6.45; N, 6.89. Found: C, 79.89; H, 6.76; N, 6.76.

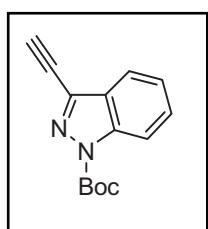
<sup>1</sup> Costa, M.; Della Ca, N.; Gabriele, B.; Massera C.; Salerno, G.; Solian, M. *J. Org. Chem.* **2004**, *69*, 2469-2477.

<sup>2</sup> Alvarez, A.; Guzmán, A.; Ruiz, A.; Velarde E. *J. Org. Chem.* **1992**, *57*, 1653-1656.

<sup>3</sup> Tanaka, K.; Kobayashi, T.; Mori, H.; Katsumura, S. *J. Org. Chem.* **2004**, *69*, 5906-5925.

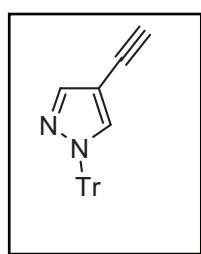
### Desilylation of triisopropyl- and trimethyl- silyl group

To a solution of the corresponding heteroaryl ethynyl derivative (2.3 mmol) in THF (10 mL) and MeOH (10 mL), Bu<sub>4</sub>NF (3.5 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. The reaction was quenched by dilution with water, and the mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, and the extract was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. And the solvent was removed in vacuo. Finally the residue was purified by flash chromatography to give the corresponding product.



### 3-Ethynyl-indazole-1-carboxylic acid tert-butyl ester

Brown solid (0.6555 g, 97%): mp 106-108 °C; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\max}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3226, 2114, 1749; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ (ppm) 8.2 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.85 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 7.68 (td, 1H, *J* = 1.1; 7.3 Hz), 7.49 (t, 1H, *J* = 6.9 Hz), 4.21 (s, 1H), 1.75 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 139.7, 133.8, 129.3, 126.8, 124.1, 120.4, 114.7, 85.4, 83.4, 79.1, 28.1, 17.8; MS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) *m/z* (relative intensity) 242 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 69.41; H, 5.82; N, 11.56. Found: C, 69.41; H, 5.56; N, 11.82.



### 4-Ethynyl-1-trityl-1H-pyrazole

Yellow solid (0.946, 98%): mp 194-196 °C; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\max}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2165; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ (ppm) 7.74 (s, 1H), 7.53 (s, 1H), 7.3 (t, 10H, *J* = 3.3 Hz), 7.1 (m, 5H), 2.97 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ (ppm) 142.6, 142.5, 135.9, 130.1, 127.9, 127.8, 79.1, 78.2, 75.4, 29.7; MS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) *m/z* (relative intensity) 334 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>: C, 86.20; H, 5.43; N, 8.38. Found: C, 86.43; H, 5.38; N, 8.20.

## 1c. General Procedure for the Synthesis of D-π-A Pyridinium Salts

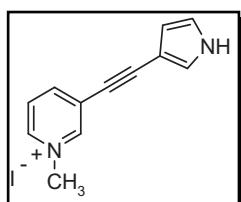
### Method A

A flame-dried flask was charged under argon with 1 equiv. of bromopyridinium iodide or hexaflourophosphate, 10 mol % CuI (0.0667 mmol, 0.0127 g) and 5 mol % PdCl<sub>2</sub>(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (0.0333 mmol, 0.0234 g) in dry DMF (10 mL). 1.2 equiv. of the corresponding acetylene heterocycle (0.7551 mmol) and 1.5 equiv. of Et<sub>3</sub>N (0.9438 mmol, 0.1315 mL) were added. The mixture was heated at 65 °C for 4 h and the solution was filtered through a small pad of celite and washed with methanol. The solution was concentrated, treated with saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic phase was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure, and the solid was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH (9.5:0.5) as eluent.

### Method B

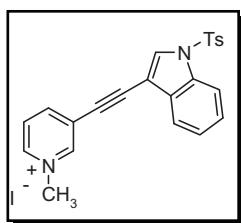
A flame-dried flask was charged under argon with 1 equiv. of bromopyridinium iodide (0.2 g, 0.6292 mmol), 10 mol % CuI (0.0667 mmol, 0.0127 g), 5 mol % PdCl<sub>2</sub>(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (0.0333 mmol, 0.0234 g), and 10 mol % LiCl (0.0667 mmol, 0.0026 g), in dry DMF (10 mL) were added. 1.2 equiv. of the corresponding acetylene heterocycle (0.7551 mmol) and 1.5 equiv. of Et<sub>3</sub>N (0.9438 mmol, 0.1315 mL) were added. The mixture was stirred for 20 h at room temperature and the solution was filtered through a small pad of celite and washed with methanol. The solution was concentrated, treated with saturated

aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic phase was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure, and the solid was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH (9.5:0.5) as eluent.



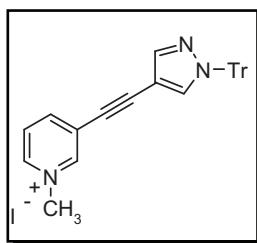
**1-Methyl-3-(1H-pyrrol-3-ylethynyl) pyridinium iodide (4a)**

Following the general procedure B, from **1a** and 3-ethynyl-1-triisopropylsilanyl-1*H*-pyrrole (0.7551 mmol, 0.1875 g), afforded 0.1351 g, (63 %) of **4a** as a brown solid: mp 133 °C; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3444, 3131, 2208, 1637; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ (ppm) 8.66 (d, 2H, *J* = 6.7 Hz), 7.9 (d, 2H, *J* = 6.7 Hz), 7.36 (t, 1H, *J* = 1.4 Hz), 6.85 (dd, 1H, *J* = 0.7, 2.0 Hz), 6.44 (dd, 1H, *J* = 1.2, 1.4 Hz), 4.89 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ (ppm) 145.7, 144.6, 132.9, 129.7, 127.5, 124.6, 120.5, 118.3, 112.9, 106.8, 47.8; MS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) *m/z* (relative intensity) 341 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>: C, 78.23; H, 6.57; N, 15.20. Found: C, 78.57; H, 6.20; N, 15.23.



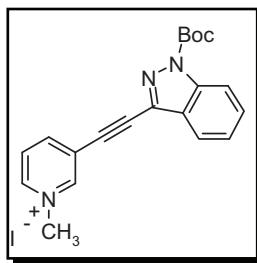
**1-Methyl-3-[1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1H-indol-3-ylethynyl] pyridinium iodide (4b)**

Following the general procedure B, from **1a** and 3-ethynyl-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1*H*-indole (0.7551 mmol, 0.2231 g), gave 0.1489 g, (61 %) of **4b** brown solid: mp 208 °C; IR (KBr) :  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3505, 2231, 1378; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ (ppm) 8.84 (d, 2H, *J* = 6.7 Hz), 8.34 (s, 1H), 8.14 (d, 2H, *J* = 6.9 Hz), 8.03 (t, 2H, *J* = 8.6 Hz), 7.94 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.8 (d, 1H, *J* = 0.9 Hz), 7.7-7.58 (m, 4H), 4.4 (s, 3H), 2.38 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ (ppm) 147.3, 146.3, 134.8, 133.7, 133.0, 132.6, 132.5, 131.2, 129.7, 129.6, 129.5, 128.1, 127.0, 126.6, 125.4, 121.2, 114.6, 90.57, 48.8, 47.6, 21.4; MS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) *m/z* (relative intensity) 388 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S: C, 71.1; H, 5.1; N, 7.2. Found: C, 71.01; H, 5.21; N, 7.18.



**1-Methyl-3-(1-trityl-1H-pyrazol-4-ylethynyl) pyridinium iodide (4c)**

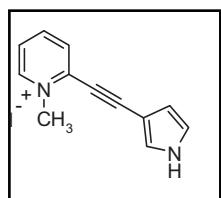
Following the general procedure A, from **1a** and 4-ethynyl-1-trityl-1*H*-pyrazol (0.7551 mmol, 0.2626 g), afforded 0.1812 g (48 %) of **4c** as a yellow solid: mp 246-247 °C; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2231, 1443; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO-d6) δ (ppm) 9.23 (s, 1H), 8.9 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.2 Hz), 8.59 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 8.11 (t, 1H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 8.01 (m, 9H), 7.38 (m, 6H), 7.38 (m, 9H, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 7.06 (m, 6H, *J* = 3.6 Hz), 4.28 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, acetone-d6) δ (ppm) 148.2, 147.1, 143.5, 142.8, 137.3, 130.9, 129.0, 128.8, 125.7, 100.9, 84.1, 80.4, 73.4, 61.9, 45.3, 41.0; MS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) *m/z* (relative intensity) 426 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>3</sub>: C, 83.94; H, 6.59; N, 9.47. Found: C, 83.67; H, 6.61; N, 9.31.



**1-Methyl-3-(1-tert-butoxycarbonyl-1H-indazol-3-ylethynyl) pyridinium iodide (4d)**

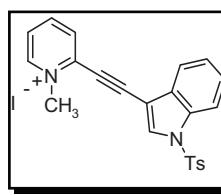
Following the general procedure A, from **1a** and 3-Ethynyl-indazole-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester (0.7551 mmol, 0.1736 g), afforded 0.1705 g, (57 %) of **4d** as a brown solid: mp 134 °C; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3419, 2230, 1742; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ (ppm) 9.45 (s, 1H), 9.01 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.2 Hz), 8.88 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 8.25 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 8.19 (dd, 1H, *J* = 6.2

Hz), 8.03 (d, 1H,  $J = 7.7$  Hz), 7.74 (t, 1H,  $J = 7.3$  Hz), 7.55 (t, 1H,  $J = 6.9$  Hz), 4.51 (s, 3H), 1.78 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  (ppm) 209.1, 149.6, 148.4, 146.6, 141.1, 133.7, 131.3, 129.2, 127.7, 126.2, 124.5, 121.4, 115.9, 88.1, 87.7, 87.5, 48.4, 28.2; MS (ESI $^+$ )  $m/z$  (relative intensity) 253 (M $^+$ , 100); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 71.77; H, 7.17; N, 11.96. Found: C, 71.96; H, 7.77; N, 11.17.



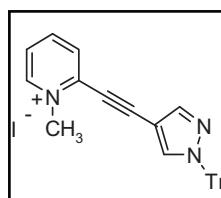
**1-Methyl -2-(1H-pyrrol-3-ylethynyl) pyridinium iodide (5a)**

Following the general procedure B, from **2** and 3-ethynyl-1-triisopropylsilyl-1*H*-pyrrole (0.7551 mmol, 0.1875 g), gave 0.0381 g, (26 %) of **5a** as an orange dark oil: IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\max}$  (cm $^{-1}$ ) 3434, 2206, 1619;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.88 (d, 1H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 8.45 (t, 1H,  $J = 6.8$  Hz), 8.13 (d, 1H,  $J = 8.0$  Hz), 7.87 (t, 1H,  $J = 6.2$  Hz), 7.5 (t, 1H,  $J = 1.6$  Hz), 6.89 (dd, 1H,  $J = 0.9, 2.0$  Hz), 6.53 (dd, 1H,  $J = 1.4, 2.9$  Hz), 4.46 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  (ppm) 147.1, 145.2, 141.1, 131.5, 128.2, 125.7, 120.9, 113.0, 109.5, 101.3, 81.6, 47.86; MS (ESI $^+$ )  $m/z$  (relative intensity) 341 (M $^+$ , 100); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>: C, 78.23; H, 6.57; N, 15.20. Found: C, 78.13; H, 6.67; N, 15.32.



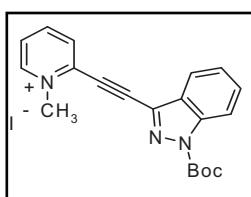
**1-Methyl -2-[1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1H-indol-3-ylethynyl] pyridinium iodide (5b)**

Following the general procedure B, from **2** and 3-ethynyl-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1*H*-indole (0.7551 mmol, 0.2231 g), afforded 0.2387 g, (70%) of **5b** as a yellow solid: mp 192 °C. IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\max}$  (cm $^{-1}$ ) 3500, 2220, 1378;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  (ppm) 9.02 (d, 1H,  $J = 6.7$  Hz), 8.58 (t, 1H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 8.5 (s, 1H), 8.37 (d, 1H,  $J = 7.7$  Hz), 8.09 (d, 1H,  $J = 7.8$  Hz), 8.03 (t, 1H,  $J = 6.2$  Hz), 7.97 (d, 2H,  $J = 8.4$  Hz), 7.83 (d, 1H,  $J = 7.5$  Hz), 7.54-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.44 (t, 3H,  $J = 8.4$  Hz), 4.59 (s, 3H), 2.41 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  (ppm) 148.0, 147.9, 145.9, 135.6, 135.5, 135.1, 132.7, 131.4, 130.8, 128.4, 127.4, 125.8, 121.3, 115.0, 102.3, 101.1, 85.2, 48.1, 47.9, 21.5; MS (ESI $^+$ )  $m/z$  (relative intensity) 388 (M $^+$ , 100); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S: C, 71.11; H, 5.19; N, 7.21. Found: C, 71.29; H, 5.36; N, 7.59.



**1-Methyl -2-(1-trityl-1H-pyrazol-4-ylethynyl) pyridinium iodide (5c)**

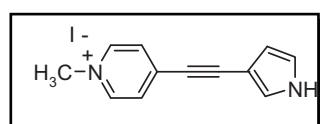
Following the general procedure A, from **2** and 4-ethynyl-1-trityl-1*H*-pyrazol (0.7551 mmol, 0.2626 g), gave 0.08 g, (45 %) of **5c** as a brown solid: mp 233 °C. IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\max}$  (cm $^{-1}$ ) 2215, 1615, 1443;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.93 (d, 1H,  $J = 5.8$  Hz), 8.51 (t, 1H,  $J = 8.1$  Hz), 8.21 (d, 1H,  $J = 7.8$  Hz), 8.08 (s, 2H), 7.96 (t, 1H,  $J = 6.2$  Hz), 7.41 (t, 9H,  $J = 3.6$  Hz), 7.18 (m, 6H), 4.45 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  (ppm) 146.3, 144.0, 142.4, 141.4, 137.4, 137.0, 130.2, 129.1, 127.6, 125.5, 116.5, 98.8, 98.4, 81.8, 78.7, 46.6; MS (ESI $^+$ )  $m/z$  (relative intensity) 426 (M $^+$ , 100); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>3</sub>: C, 83.94; H, 6.59; N, 9.47. Found: C, 83.47; H, 6.94; N, 9.59.



**1-Methyl -2-(1-tert-butoxycarbonyl-1H-indazol-3-ylethynyl) pyridinium iodide (5d)**

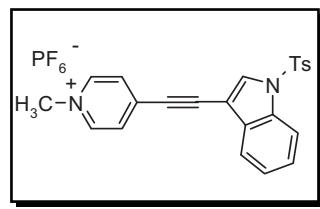
Following the general procedure A, from **2** and 3-ethynyl-indazole-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester (0.7551 mmol, 0.1736 g), gave 0.1705 g, (53 %) of **5d** as an orange solid: mp 185 °C; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\max}$  (cm $^{-1}$ ) 3418, 2350, 1628;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (200 MHz,

CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ (ppm) 9.18 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.6 Hz), 8.79 (t, 1H, *J* = 6.6 Hz), 8.38 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 8.19 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 7.94 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 7.73 (td, 2H, *J* = 1.1, 7.3 Hz), 7.6 (td, 1H, *J* = 1.8, 4.4 Hz), 4.44 (s, 3H), 1.25 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ (ppm) 209.0, 148.3, 148.3, 146.5, 141.1, 136.0, 130.3, 126.9, 126.7, 125.5, 125.1, 120.8, 111.4, 100.2, 95.6, 46.8, 17.8, 11.2; MS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) *m/z* (relative intensity) 253 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 71.17; H, 7.17; N, 11.96. Found: C, 71.96; H, 7.27; N, 11.34.



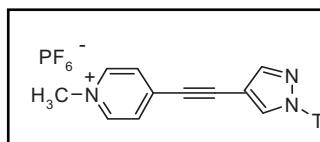
**1-Methyl-4-(1H-pyrrol-3-ylethynyl) pyridinium hexafluoro phosphate (6a)**

Following the general procedure B, from **3** and 3-ethynyl-1-triisopropylsilanyl-1*H*-pyrrole (0.7551 mmol, 0.1875 g), gave 0.0379 g, (32 %) of **6a** as a brown solid: mp 133 °C; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3444, 3131, 2208, 1637; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ (ppm) 8.66 (d, 2H, *J* = 6.7 Hz), 7.9 (d, 2H, *J* = 6.7 Hz), 7.36 (t, 1H, *J* = 1.4 Hz), 6.85 (dd, 1H, *J* = 0.7, 2.0 Hz), 6.44 (dd, 1H, *J* = 1.3, 1.4 Hz), 4.89 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ (ppm) 145.7, 144.6, 132.9, 129.7, 127.5, 124.6, 120.5, 118.3, 112.9, 106.8, 47.8; MS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) *m/z* (relative intensity) 341 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>: C, 78.23; H, 6.57; N, 15.20. Found: C, 78.57; H, 6.20; N, 15.33.



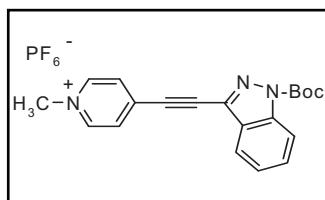
**1-Methyl-4-[1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1*H*-indol-3-ylethynyl] pyridinium hexafluoro phosphate (6b)**

Following the general procedure B, from **3** and 3-ethynyl-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1*H*-indole (0.7551 mmol, 0.02231 g), gave 0.1692 g, (50 %) of **6b** as a brown solid: mp 208 °C; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3564, 2238, 1384. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ (ppm) 8.84 (d, 2H, *J* = 6.7 Hz), 8.34 (s, 1H), 8.14 (d, 2H, *J* = 6.9 Hz), 8.03 (t, 2H, *J* = 8.6 Hz), 7.94 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 7.8 (d, 1H, *J* = 0.9 Hz), 7.7-7.58 (m, 4H), 4.4 (s, 3H), 2.38 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ (ppm) 147.3, 146.3, 134.8, 133.7, 133.0, 132.6, 132.5, 131.2, 129.7, 129.6, 129.5, 128.1, 127.0, 126.6, 125.4, 121.2, 114.6, 90.5, 48.8, 47.6, 21.4; MS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) *m/z* (relative intensity) 388 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S: C, 71.1; H, 5.1; N, 7.2. Found: C, 71.34; H, 5.27; N, 7.43.



**1-Methyl-4-(1-trityl-1*H*-pyrazol-4-ylethynyl) pyridinium hexafluorophosphate (6c)**

Following the general procedure A, from **3** and 4-ethynyl-1-trityl-1*H*-pyrazol (0.7551 mmol, 0.2626 g), afforded 0.2485 g, (77 %) of **6c** as an orange solid: mp 249-251 °C; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2215, 1637, 1447; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO-d6) δ (ppm) 8.89 (d, 2H, *J* = 6.7 Hz), 8.09 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 7.93 (s, 1H), 7.39 (m, 10H), 7.06 (m, 6H), 4.25 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, acetone-d6) δ (ppm) 146.2, 143.3, 141.2, 138.3, 130.8, 129.3, 128.9, 128.7, 100.7, 97.8, 80.0, 73.3, 48.7; MS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) *m/z* (relative intensity) 426 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>3</sub>: C, 83.94; H, 6.59; N, 9.47. Found: C, 83.59; H, 6.78; N, 9.74.



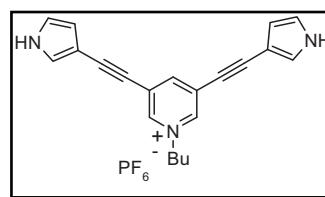
**1-Methyl-4-(1-tert-butoxycarbonyl-1H-indazol-3-ylethynyl) pyridinium hexafluoro phosphate (6d)**

Following the general procedure A, from **3** and 3-ethynyl-indazole-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester (0.7551 mmol, 0.1736 g), gave 0.2066 g, (69 %) of **6d** as a black solid: mp 144 °C; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3418, 2207, 1636; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ (ppm) 9.02 (d, 2H, *J* = 6.6 Hz), 8.37 (d, 2H, *J* = 6.9 Hz), 8.28 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 8.06 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 7.75 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 7.57 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 4.47 (s, 3H), 1.78 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ (ppm) 209.1, 145.5, 143.0, 140.6, 139.8, 129.0, 127.6, 125.1, 122.9, 119.6, 117.1, 110.9, 95.5, 88.7, 69.4, 47.0, 29.9; MS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) *m/z* (relative intensity) 253 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 71.9; H, 7.95; N, 11.43. Found: C, 71.95; H, 7.43; N, 11.83.

**Id. General Procedure for the Synthesis of D-π-A- π-D Pyridinium Salts**

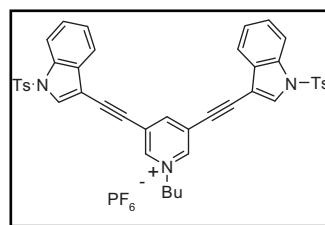
**Method C**

A flame-dried flask was charged under argon with 1 equiv. of the corresponding 3,5-dibromo-N-butylpyridinium hexafluoro-phosphate salt (0.3 g, 0.6834 mmol), 10 mol % CuI (0.013 g, 0.0683 mmol), 5 mol % PdCl(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (0.0239 g, 0.0341 mmol) in dry THF (10 mL) were added. The corresponding acetylene heterocycle (2.4 equiv., 1.6401 mmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (3 equiv., 2.0502 mmol, 0.2815 mL) were added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h and the solution was filtered through a small pad of celite and washed with methanol. The solution was concentrated, the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure, and the solid was purified by column chromatography on silica gel using CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH (9.5:0.5) as eluent.



**1-Butyl-3,5-(1H-pyrrol-3-ethynyl) pyridinium hexafluoro phosphate (7a)**

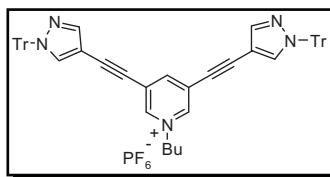
Following the general procedure C, **1b** and 3-Ethynyl-1-trisopropylsilanyl-1H-pyrrole (1.6401 mmol, 0.4074 g), gave 0.1714 g, (55 %) of **7a** as a brown solid: mp descomposed at 210 °C; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3444, 2965, 2215; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ (ppm) 9.15 (d, 2H, *J* = 1.4 Hz), 8.54 (s, 1H), 7.32 (dd, 2H, *J* = 1.2, 1.4 Hz), 6.91 (dd, 2H, *J* = 2.0, 2.5 Hz), 6.35 (t, 2H, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 4.84 (t, 2H; *J* = 7.5 Hz), 2.22-2.20 (m, 2H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 1.53-1.5 (m, 2H), 0.99 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.3 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ (ppm) 145.7, 143.1, 126.1, 124.8, 119.4, 111.3, 101.5, 96.2, 80.8, 62.4, 32.9, 19.1, 12.8; MS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) *m/z* (relative intensity) 314 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>3</sub>: C 79.39; H, 5.18; N, 15.43. Found: C, 79.43; H, 5.39; N, 15.36.



**1-Butyl-3,5-[1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-3-ethynylindole] pyridinium hexafluoro phosphate (7b)**

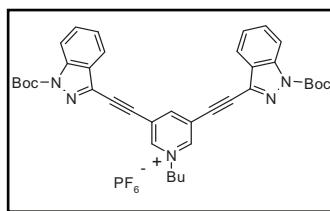
Following the general procedure C, from **1b** and 3-ethynyl-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1H-indole (1.6401 mmol, 0.4846 g), afforded 0.4778 g, (83 %) of **7b** as a brown solid: mp 177 °C. IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2220; 1373; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ (ppm) 9.45 (d, 2H, *J* = 1.5 Hz), 9.02 (s, 1H), 8.21 (s, 2H), 8.09 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 7.99 (d, 4H; *J* = 8.5 Hz), 7.79 (d, 2H; *J* = 6.9 Hz), 7.54-7.37 (m, 9H), 4.92 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 2.37 (s, 6H), 2.20-2.06 (m, 2H), 1.53-1.48 (m, 2H), 1.0 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.6 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ (ppm) 148.4, 147.3, 146.0, 135.2, 134.9, 132.4, 131.3, 130.8, 128.1, 127.1, 125.7, 125.3, 121.3, 114.7,

103.5, 90.6, 86.9, 63.7, 33.8, 21.5, 20.0, 13.7; MS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) *m/z* (relative intensity) 722 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: C, 70.57; H, 4.44; N 6.17. Found: C, 70.54; H, 4.47; N, 6.23.



**1-Butyl-3,5-(1-trityl-1H-pyrazol-4-ylethynyl) pyridinium hexafluorophosphate (7c)**

Following the general procedure C, from **1b** and 4-ethynyl-1-trityl-1*H*-pyrazol (1.6401 mmol, 0.5711 g), gave 0.5317 g, (80 %) of **7c** as a brown solid: mp decomposes at 230°C; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2223, 1618; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ (ppm) 9.2 (s, 2H), 8.6 (s, 1H), 7.8 (s, 2H), 7.7 (s, 2H), 7.41-7.38 (m, 15H), 7.17-7.14 (m, 10H), 7.3-7.28 (m, 5H), 4.8 (t, 2H, *J* = 3.6 Hz), 4.28 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, acetone-d<sub>6</sub>) δ (ppm) 147.9, 146.8, 144.4, 142.6, 141.9, 136.5, 131.8, 130.0, 128.1, 127.9, 127.8, 127.5, 126.7, 125.1, 99.9, 90.4, 83.1, 79.5, 62.6, 19.1, 12.7; MS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) *m/z* (relative intensity) 801 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>57</sub>H<sub>46</sub>N<sub>5</sub>: C, 85.16; H, 6.28; N, 8.56. Found: C, 85.43; H, 6.56; N, 8.16.



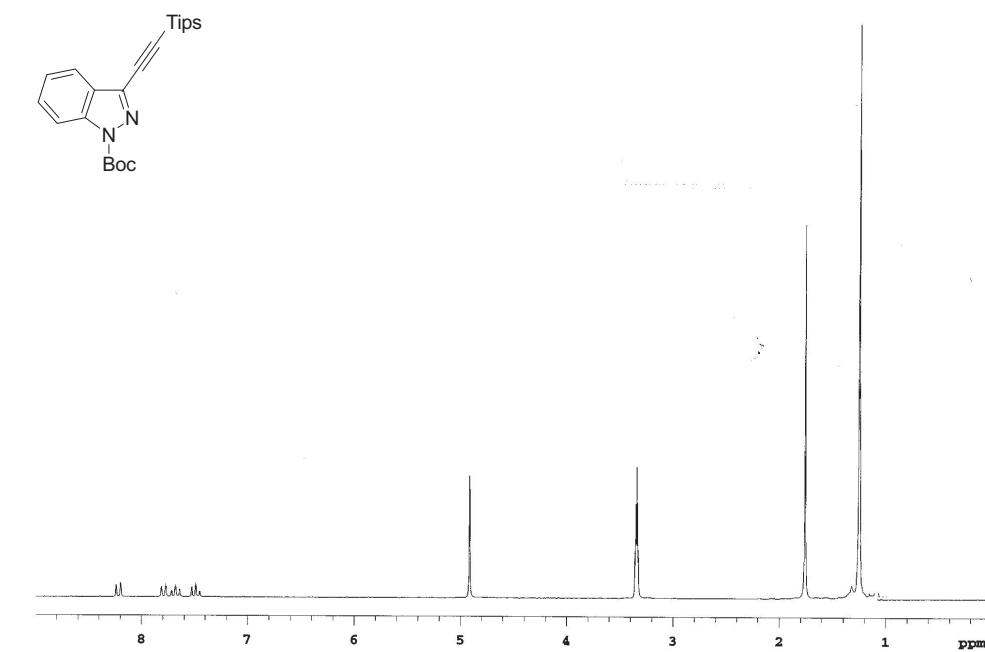
**1-Butyl-3,5-(1-tert-butoxycarbonyl-1H-indazol-3-ylethynyl) pyridinium hexafluoro phosphate (7d)**

Following the general procedure C, from **1b** and 3-ethynyl-indazole-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester (1.6401 mmol, 0.3772 g), gave 0.2315 g, (55 %) of **7d** as a black solid: mp: decompose at 240°C; IR (KBr):  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2229; 1744; 1382; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, acetone-d<sub>6</sub>) δ (ppm) 9.69 (d, 2H, *J* = 1.2 Hz), 9.37 (s, 1H), 8.27 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 8.03 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.9 Hz), 7.73 (t, 2H, *J* = 6.9 Hz), 7.52 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 4.9 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 2.23-2.20 (m, 2H), 1.53-1.48 (m, 2H, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 1.02 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.6 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ (ppm) 150.0, 149.1, 147.8, 140.8, 132.8, 130.8, 127.5, 125.8, 124.7, 121.1, 115.8, 88.6, 87.4, 86.5, 64.0, 33.7, 28.2, 20.1, 13.7; MS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) *m/z* (relative intensity) 616 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>32</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: C, 71.06; H, 5.61; N, 12.19. Found: C, 71.12; H, 5.51; N, 12.13.

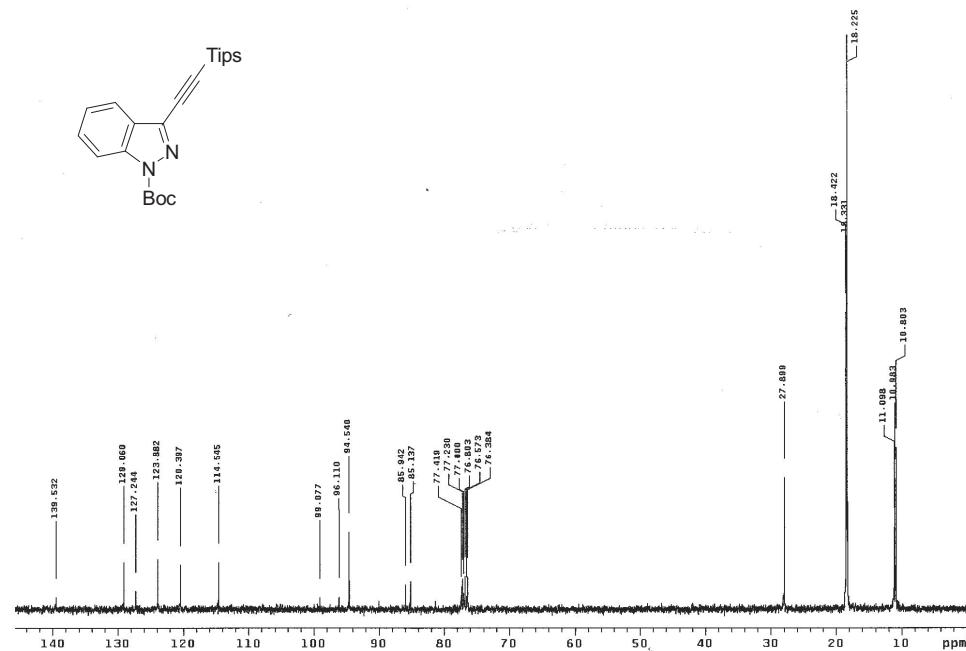
**1e. Copies of  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR for all new compounds reported**

**3-[*(Triisopropylsilanyl)-ethynyl*]-indazole-1-carboxylic acid *tert*-butyl ester**

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) : 8.21 (d, 1H, J= 8.44); 7.79 (d, 1H, J= 8.07); 7.68 (td, 1H, J= 1.1, 8.4); 7.47 (t, 1H, J= 6.97); 1.76 ( s, 9H); 1.25 (s, 21H).

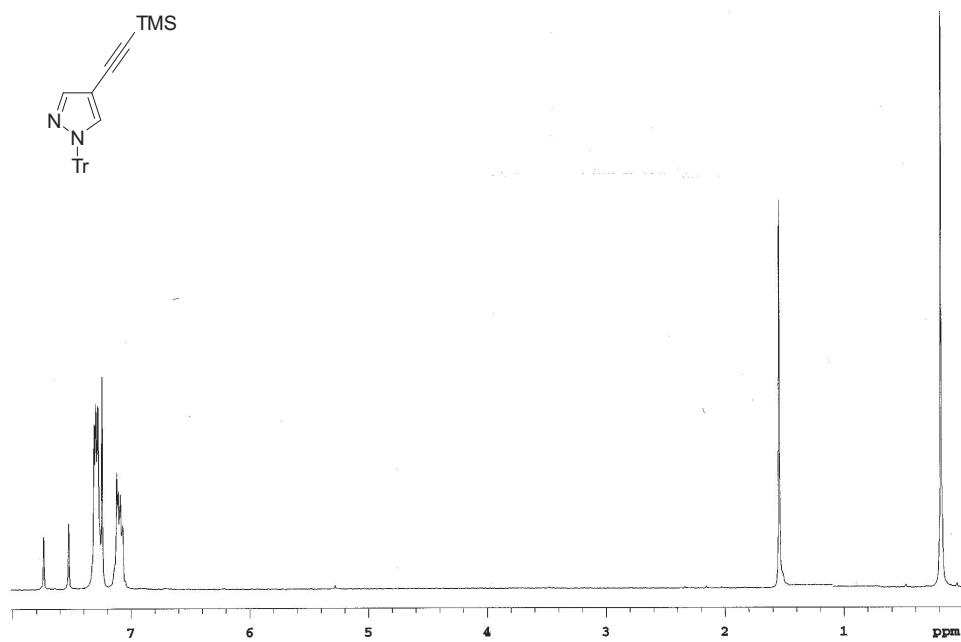


$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 139.53; 129.06; 127.24; 123.88; 120.39; 114.54; 99.07; 96.11; 94.54; 85.94; 85.13; 27.89; 18.22; 10.80.

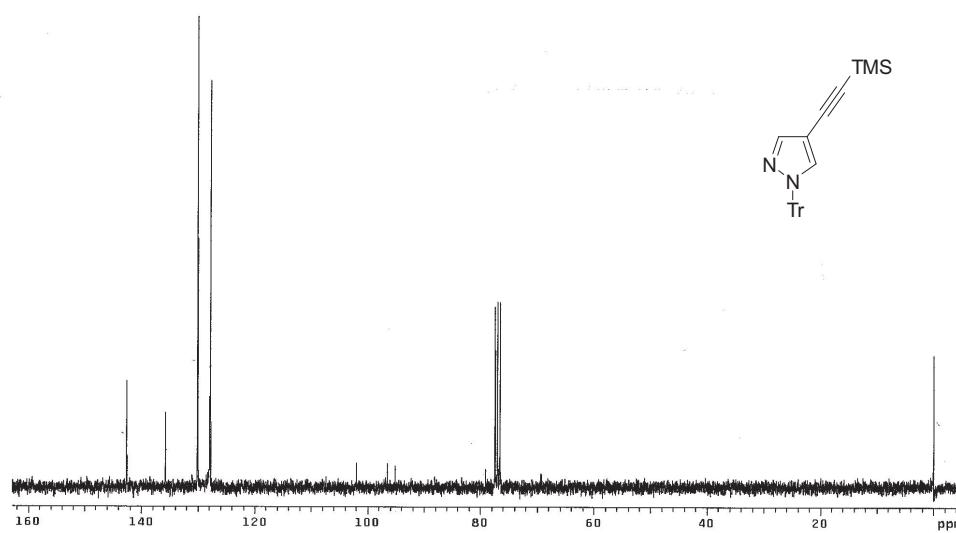


**4-Trimethylsilylenthynyl-1-trityl-1H-pyrazole**

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (200 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.73 (s, 1H); 7.52 (s, 1H); 7.29 (t, 10H,  $J = 2.56$ ); 7.09 (m, 5H); 0.18 (s, 9H).

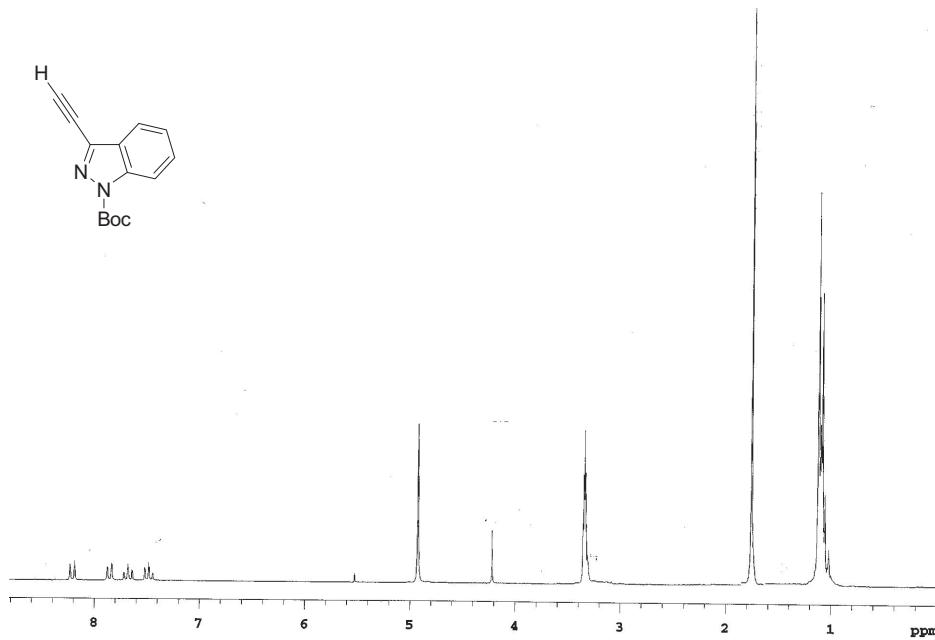


$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) 142.63; 142.56; 135.71; 130.0; 127.87; 127.8; 101.96; 96.49; 95.0; 0.03

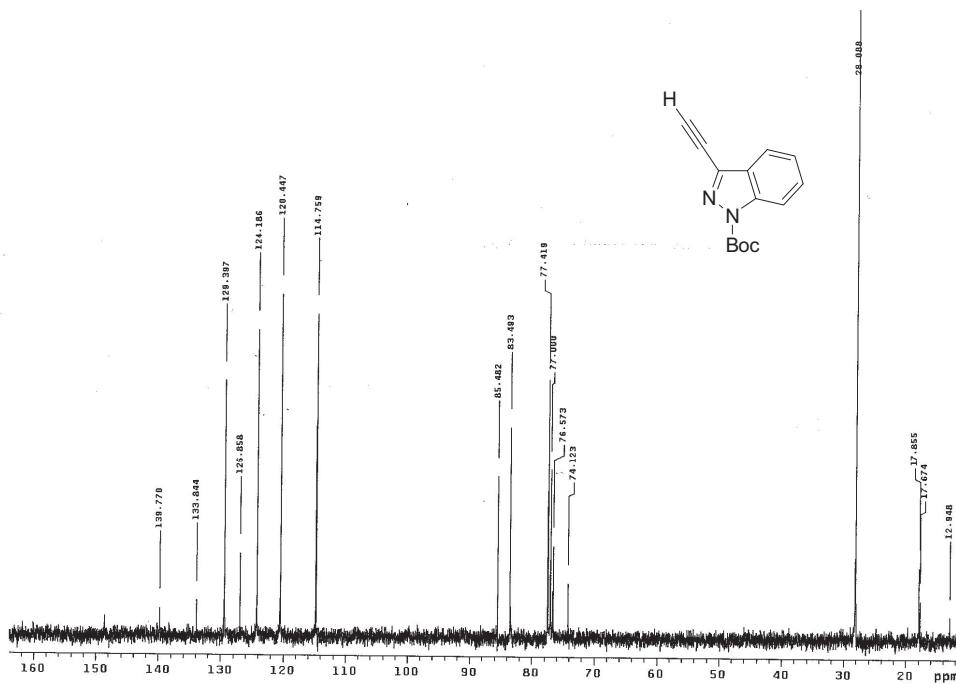


**3-Ethynyl-indazole-1-carboxylic acid tert-butyl ester.**

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) : 8.2 (d, 1H, J= 8.44); 7.85 (d, 1H, J= 8.07); 7.68 (td, 1H, J= 1.1; 7.34); 7.49 (t, 1H, J= 6.97); 4.21 (s, 1H); 1.75 (s, 9H).

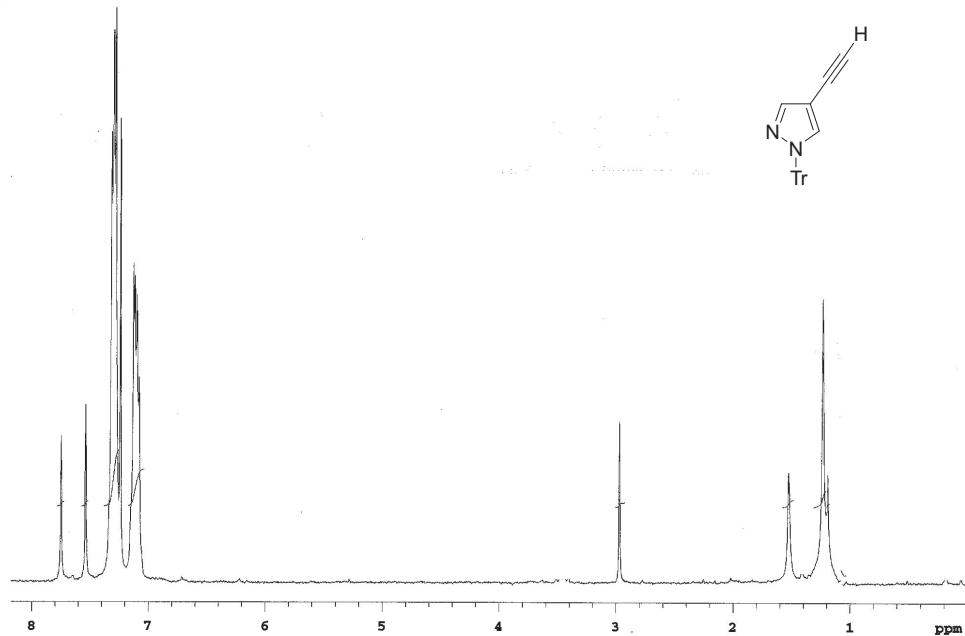


$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 139.7; 133.8; 129.3; 126.8; 124.1; 120.4; 114.7; 85.4; 83.4; 79.1; 28.08; 17.8.

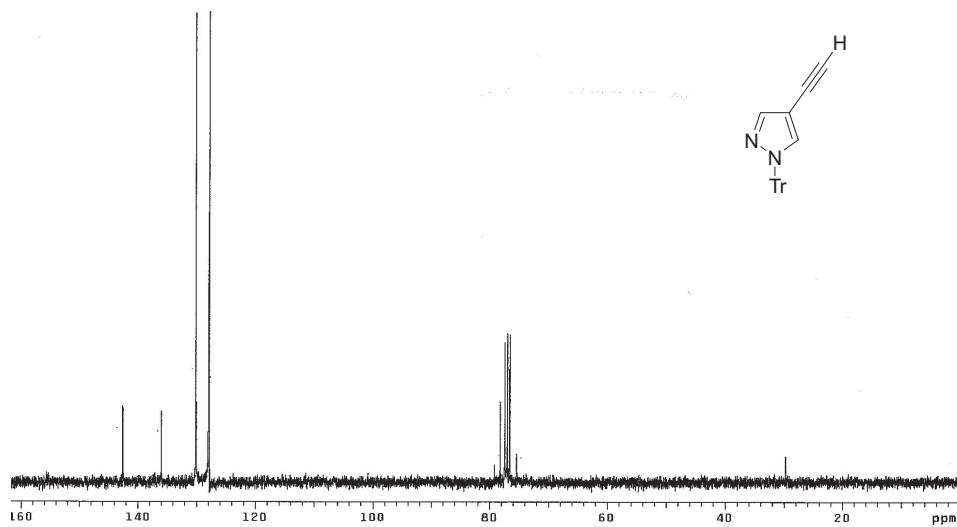


**4-Ethynyl-1-trityl-1H-pyrazole.**

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) : 7.74 (s, 1H); 7.53 (s, 1H); 7.3 (t, 10H, J= 3.3); 7.1 (m, 5H); 2.97 (s, 1H).

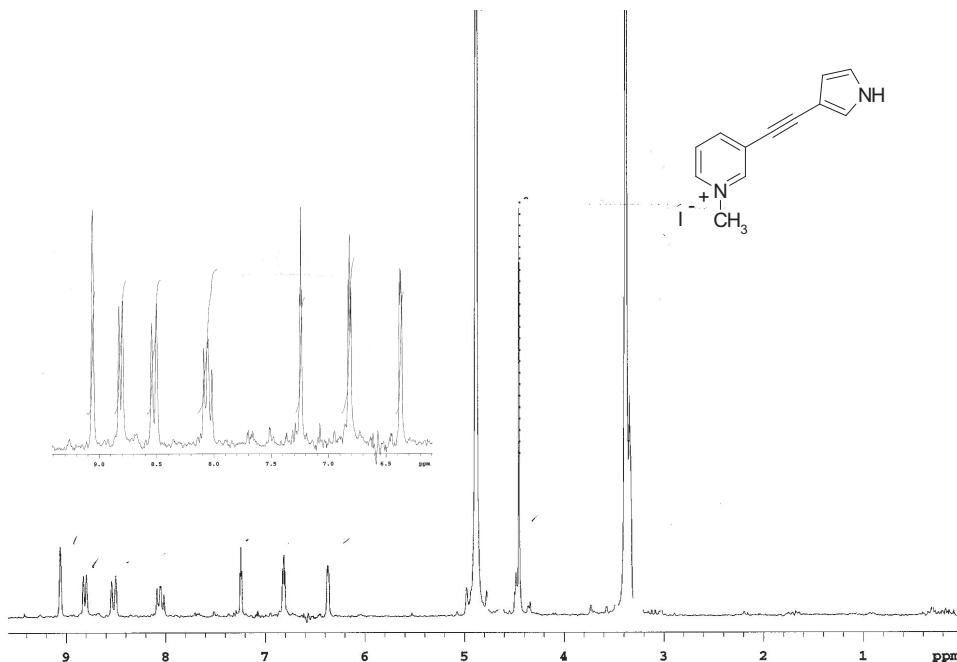


$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 142.58; 142.53; 135.95; 130.08; 127.92; 127.82; 79.15; 78.22; 75.39; 29.69.

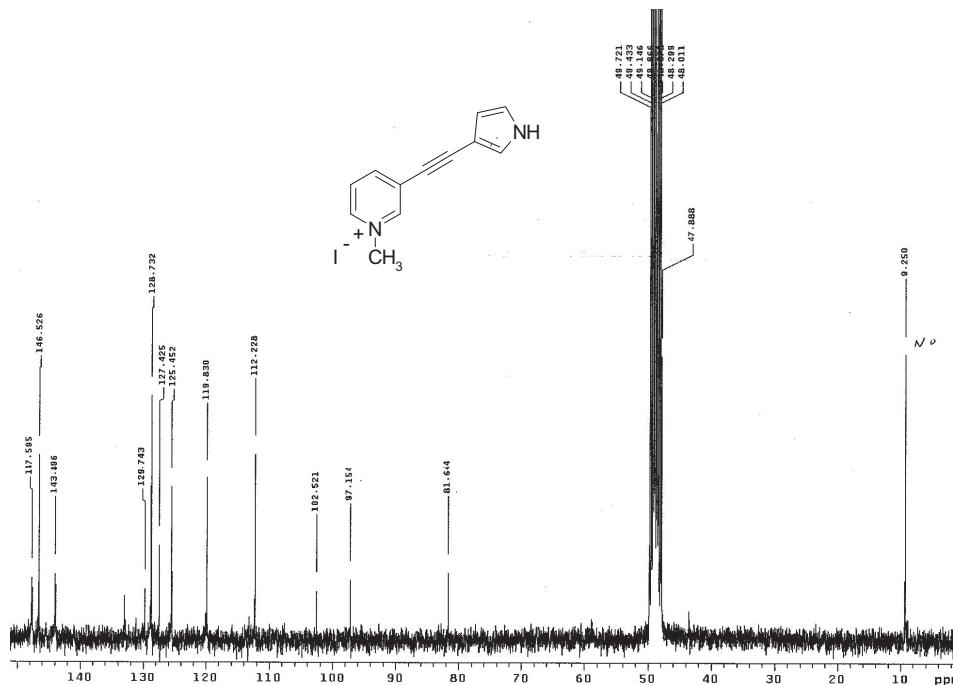


**1-Methyl -3-(1H-pyrrol-3-ylethynyl) pyridinium iodide (4a)**

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) 9.06 (s, 1H); 8.81 (d, 1H,  $J$ =5.8 Hz); 8.52 (d, 1H,  $J$ =8.4 Hz); 8.04 (t, 1H,  $J$ =6.2 Hz); 7.24 (t, 1H,  $J$ =1.4 Hz); 6.81 (t, 1H,  $J$ =1.8 Hz); 6.36 (dd, 1H,  $J$ =1.4, 1.4 Hz); 4.45 (s, 3H)

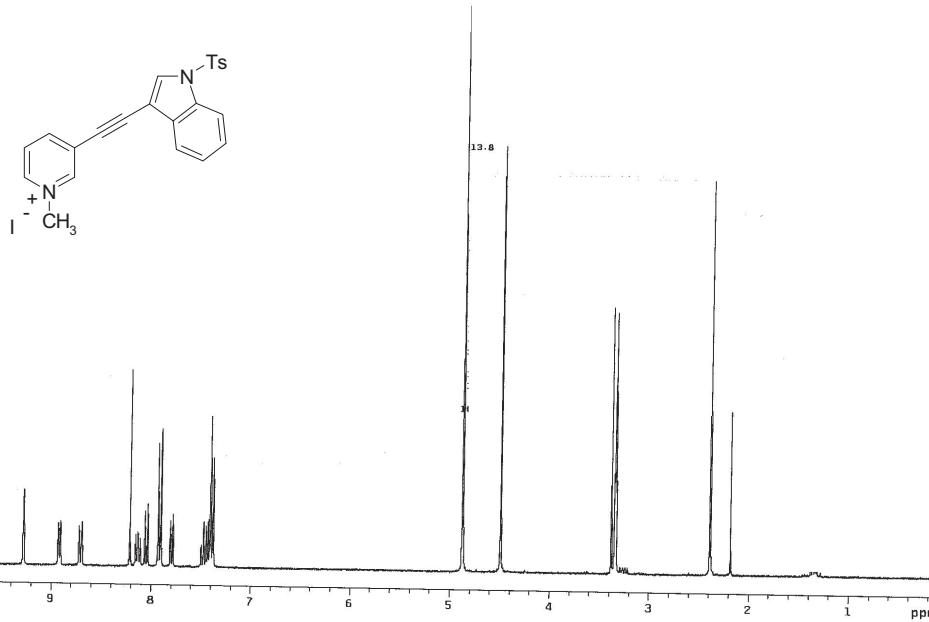


$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  147.59; 146.52; 143.9; 128.73; 127.42; 125.45; 119.83; 112.22; 102.52; 97.15; 81.64; 47.88.

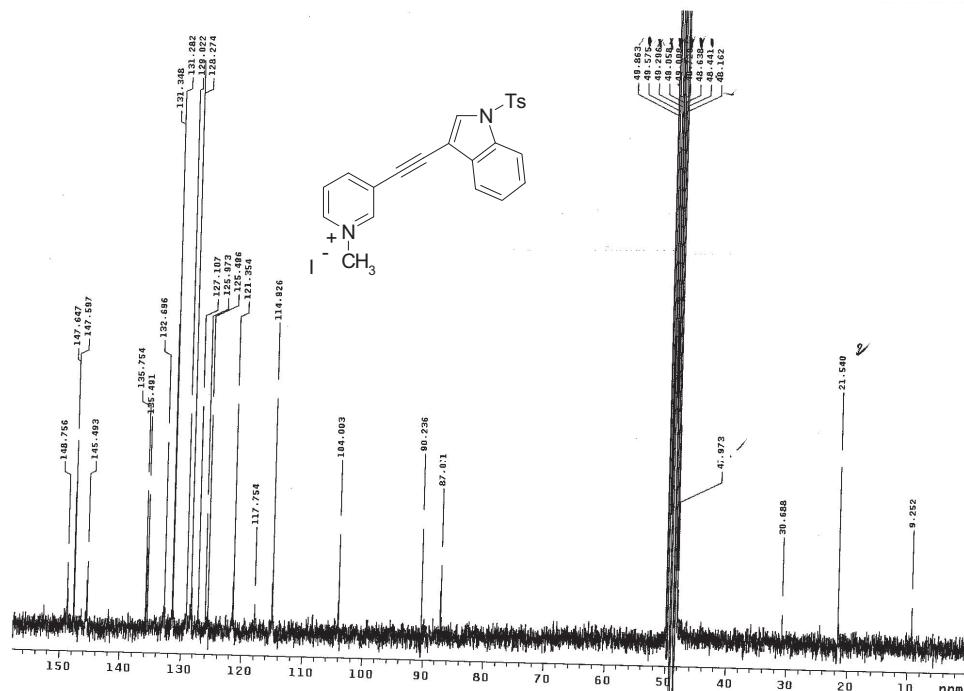


*1-Methyl-3-[1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1*H*-indol-3-ylethynyl] pyridinium Iodide (4b)*

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) : 9.27 (s, 1H); 8.91 (d, 1H, *J*=5.8 Hz); 8.63 (d, 1H, *J*=8.1 Hz); 8.2 (s, 1H); 8.12-7.98 (m, 3H); 7.88 (d, 3H, *J*=8.4 Hz); 7.78 (d, 1H, *J*=6.6 Hz); 7.48-7.3 (m, 5H); 4.5 (s, 3H); 2.32 (s, 3H).

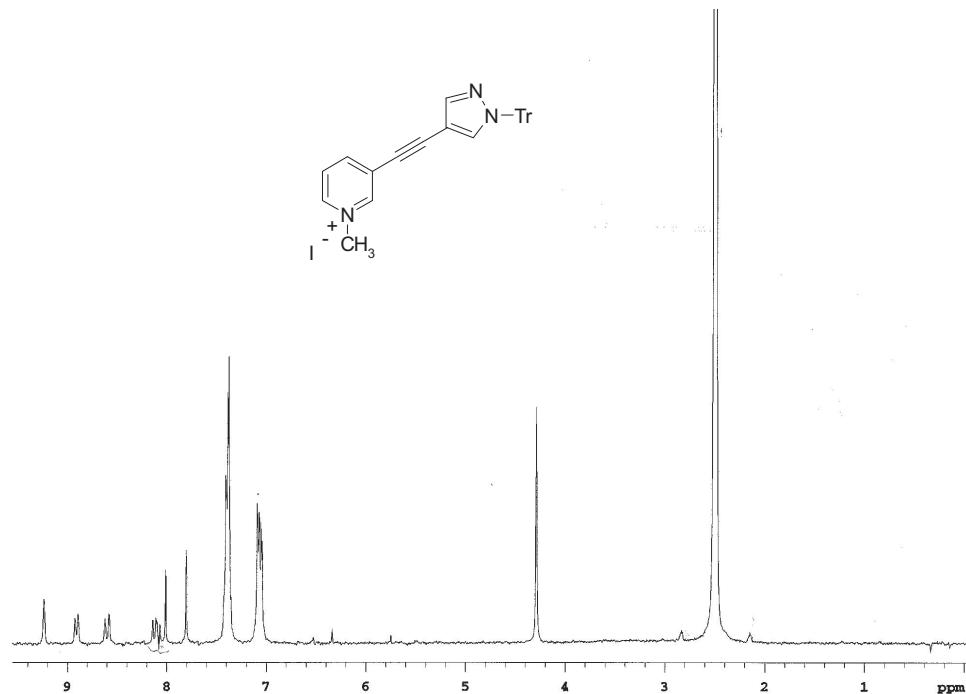


<sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) 148.75; 147.64; 147.59; 145.49; 135.75; 135.49; 132.69; 131.34; 129.02; 128.27; 127.1; 125.97; 125.49; 121.35; 117.75; 114.92; 104.0; 90.23; 87.07; 48.16; 47.97; 21.54.

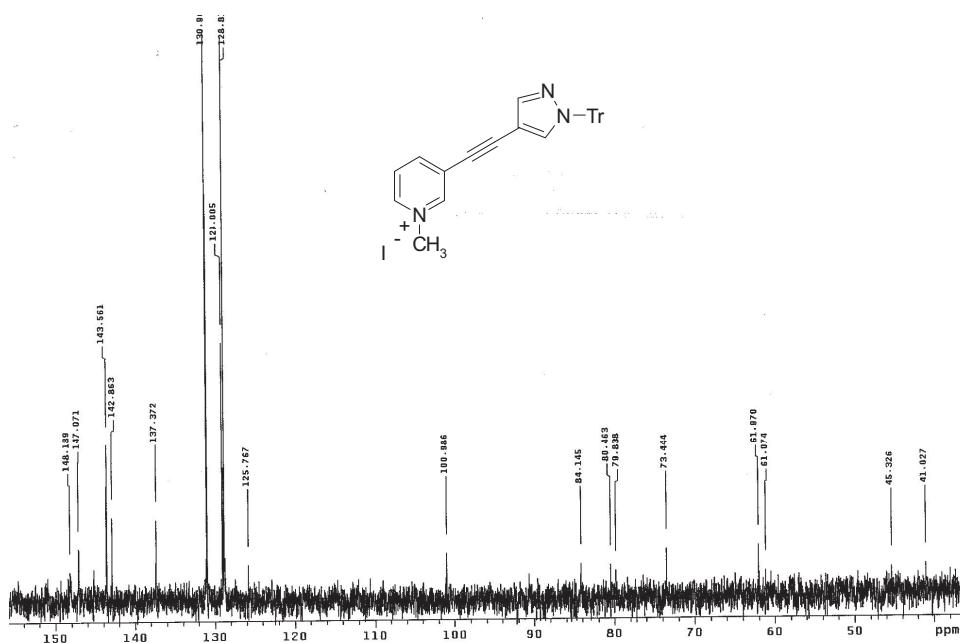


**1-Methyl -3-(1-trityl-1H-pyrazol-4-ylethynyl) pyridinium Iodide (4c)**

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (200 MHz, DMSO-d6) 9.23 (s, 1H); 8.9 (d, 1H,  $J=6.2$  Hz); 8.59 (d, 1H;  $J= 8.1$  Hz); 8.11 (t, 1H,  $J=8.4$  Hz); 8.01 (s); 7.38 (s); 7.38 (t, 9H,  $J=2.5$  Hz); 7.06 (c, 6H,  $J=3.6$  Hz); 4.28 (s, 3H)

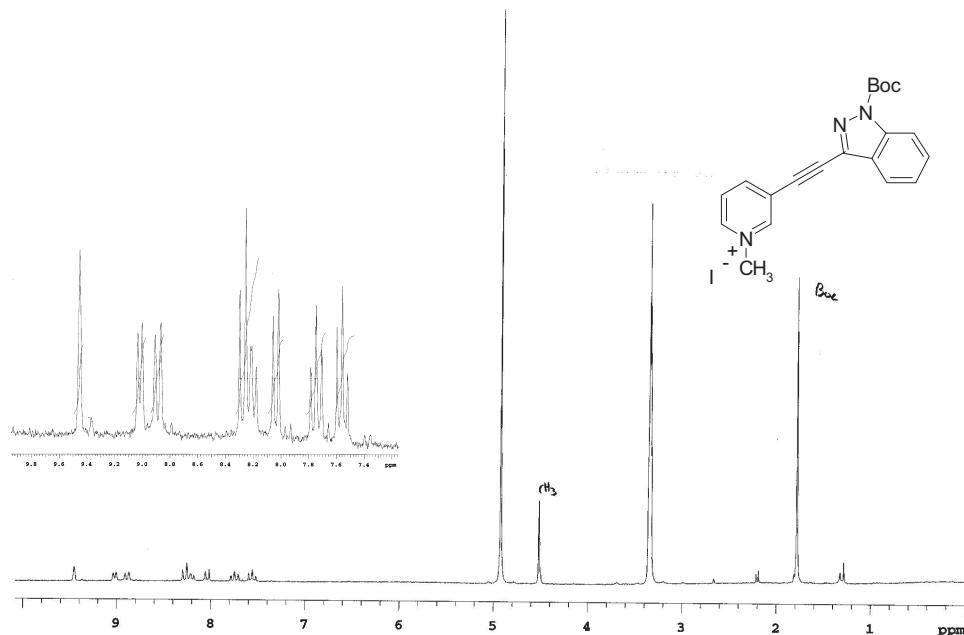


$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (300 MHz, acetone-d6)  $\delta$  148.18; 147.07; 143.56; 142.86; 137.37; 130.96; 129.0; 128.81; 125.76; 100.98; 84.14; 80.46; 73.44; 61.97; 45.32; 41.02

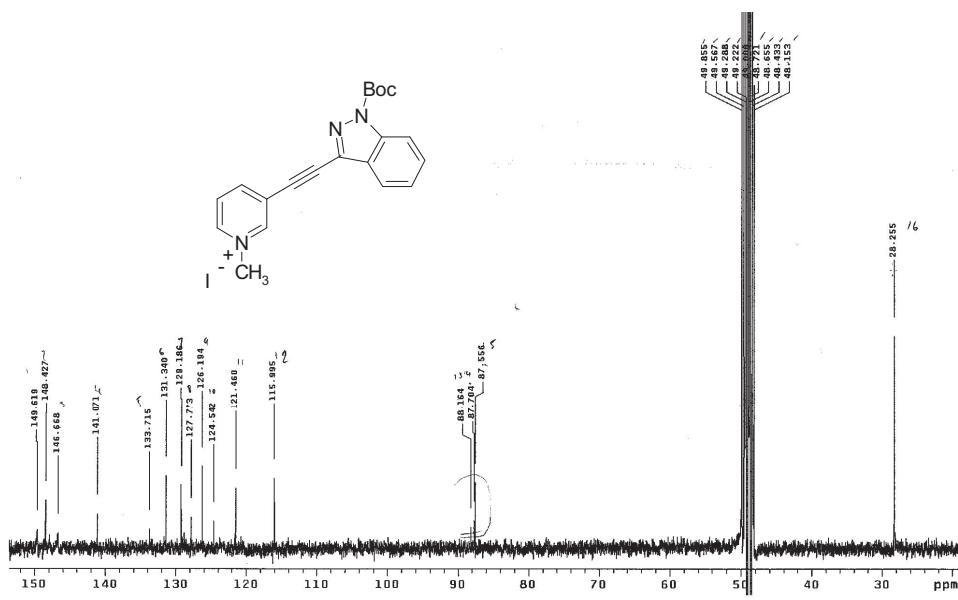


**1-Methyl -3-(1-tert-butoxycarbonyl-1H-indazol-3-ylethynyl) pyridinium iodide (4d)**

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) : 9.45 (s, 1H); 9.01 (d, 1H,  $J=6.2$  Hz); 8.88 (d, 1H,  $J=8.1$  Hz); 8.25 (d, 1H,  $J=8.4$  Hz); 8.19 (dd, 1H,  $J=6.2$  Hz); 8.03 (d, 1H,  $J=7.7$  Hz); 7.74 (t, 1H,  $J=7.3$  Hz); 7.55 (t, 1H,  $J=6.9$  Hz); 4.51 (s, 3H); 1.78 (s, 9H).

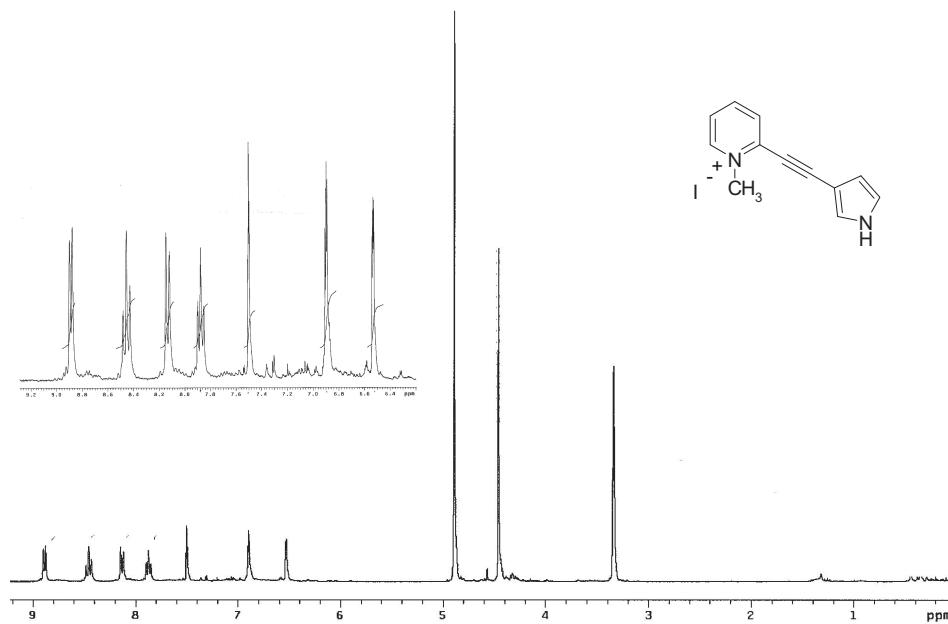


$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) 209.11; 149.61; 148.42; 146.66; 141.07; 133.71; 131.34; 129.18; 127.77; 126.19; 124.54; 121.46; 115.99; 88.16; 87.7; 87.55; 48.43; 28.25.

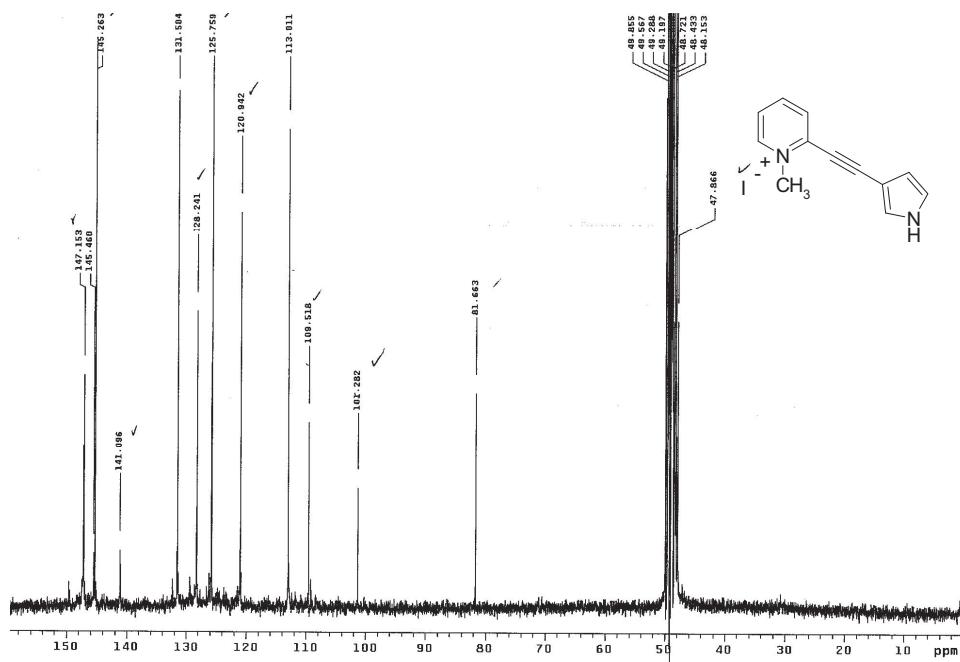


**1-Methyl -2-(1H-pyrrol-3-ylethynyl) pyridinium iodide (5a)**

;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) 8.88 (d,1H;  $J= 7.2$  Hz); 8.45 (t,1H,  $J=6.8$  Hz); 8.13 (d,1H,  $J=8.0$  Hz); 7.87 (t,1H,  $J=6.2$  Hz); 7.5 (t,1H,  $J=1.6$  Hz); 6.89 (dd,1H,  $J= 0.9$  Hz, 2.0 Hz); 6.53 (dd, 1H, $J=1.4$ , 1.4 Hz); 4.46 (s,3H)

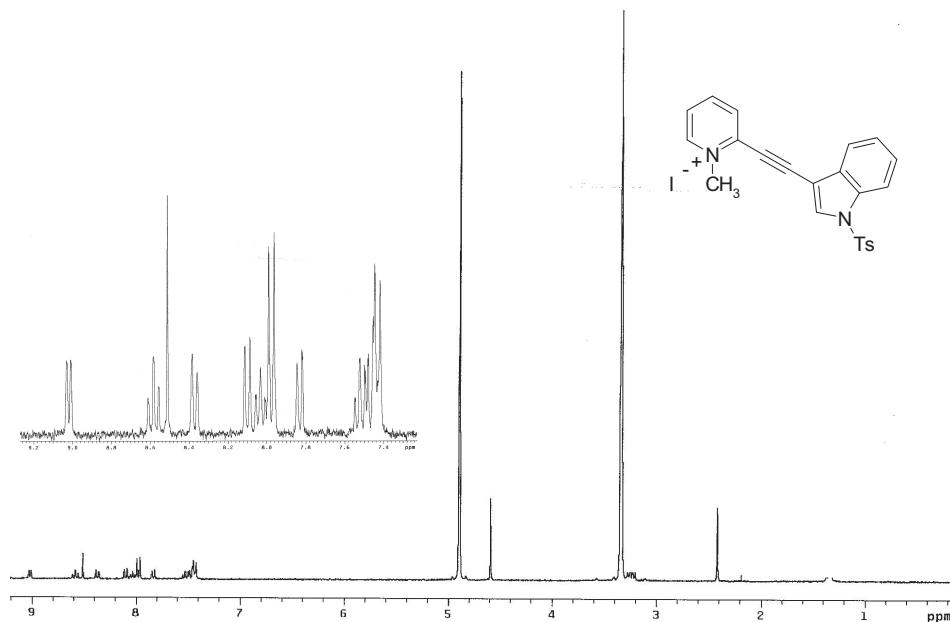


$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  147.15; 145.26; 141.09; 131.5; 128.24; 125.76; 120.94; 113.01; 109.51; 101.28; 81.66; 47.86.

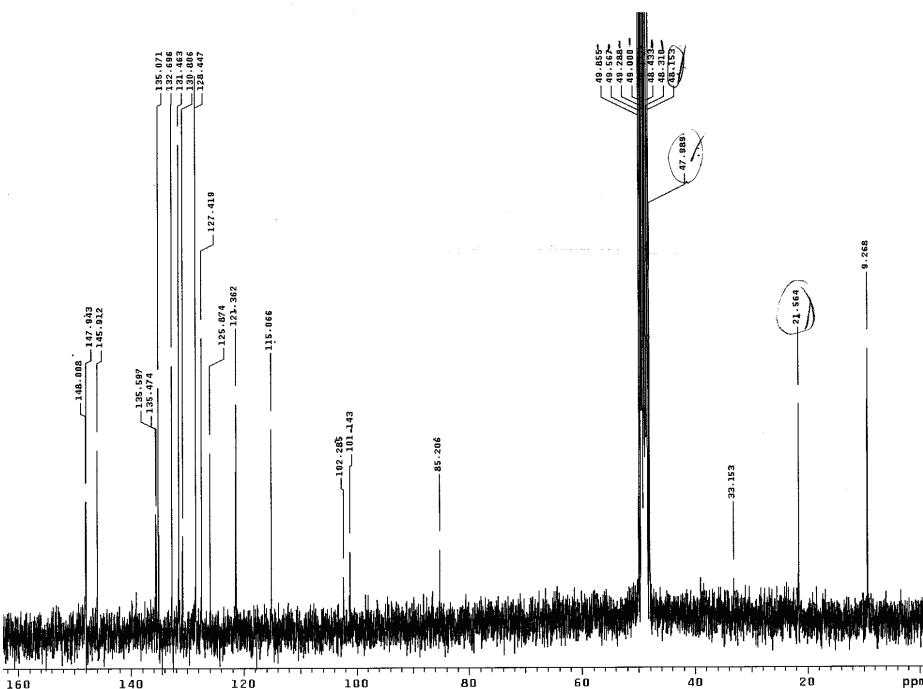


**1-Methyl -2-[1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1H-indol-3-ylethynyl] pyridinium iodide (5b)**

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) : 9.02 (d, 1H,  $J= 6.7$  Hz); 8.58 (t, 1H,  $J= 7.1$  Hz); 8.5 (s, 1H); 8.37 (d, 1H,  $J= 7.7$  Hz); 8.09 (d, 1H,  $J= 7.8$  Hz); 8.03 (t, 1H,  $J= 6.2$  Hz); 7.97 (d, 2H,  $J= 8.4$  Hz); 7.83 (d, 1H,  $J= 7.5$  Hz); 7.54-7.47 (m, 2H); 7.44 (t, 3H,  $J= 8.4$  Hz) 4.59 (s, 3H); 2.41 (s, 3H).

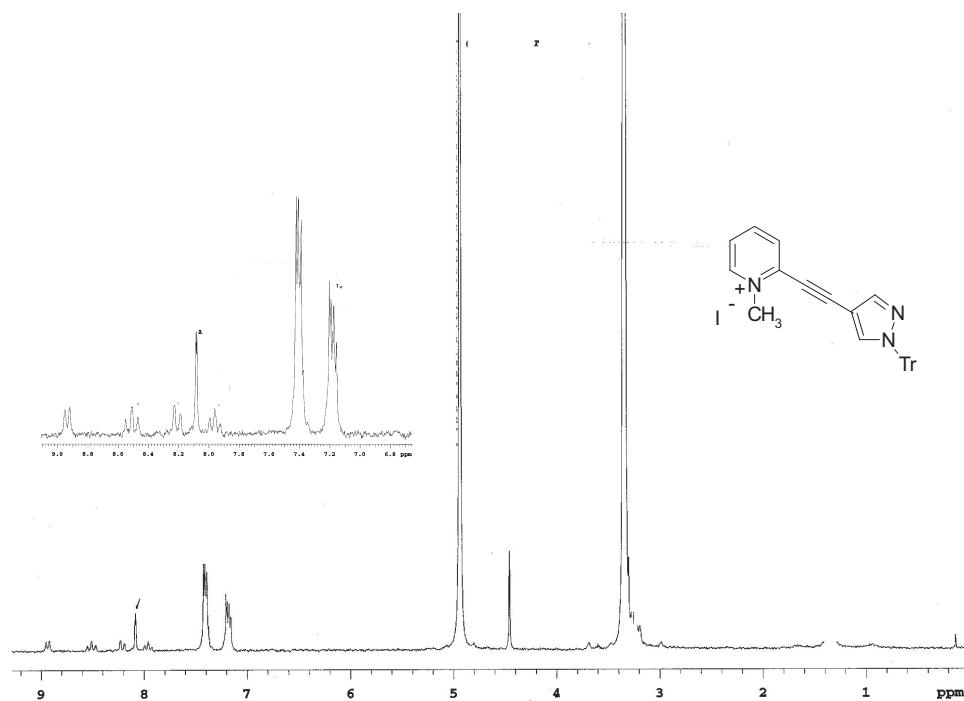


$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) 148.0; 147.94; 145.91; 135.59; 135.47; 135.07; 132.69; 131.46; 130.8; 128.44; 127.41; 125.87; 121.36; 115.06; 102.28; 101.14; 85.2; 48.15; 47.98; 21.56.

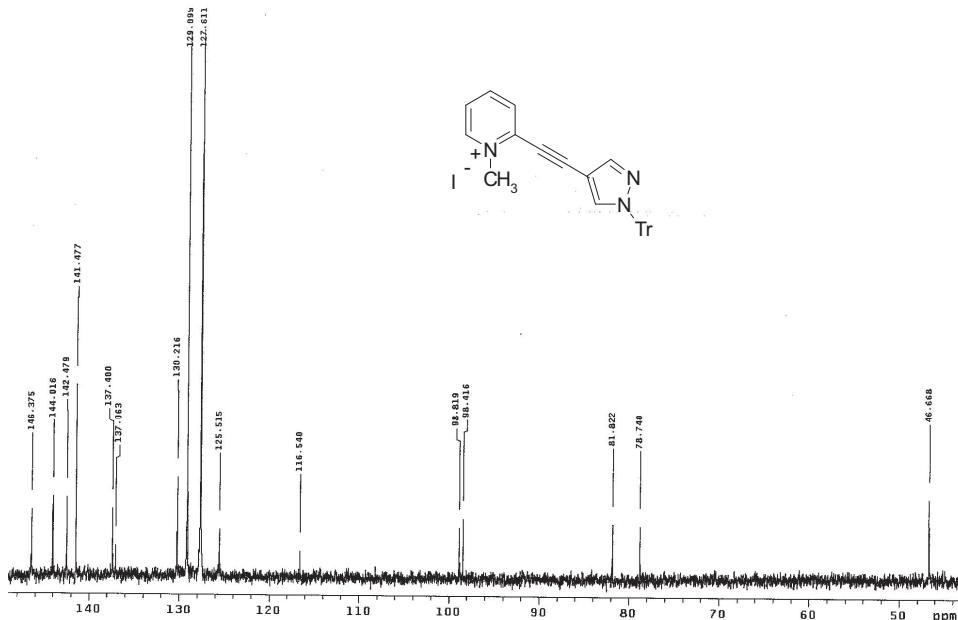


**1-Methyl -2-(1-trityl-1H-pyrazol-4-ylethynyl) pyridinium iodide (5c)**

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) : 8.93 (d, 1H,  $J=5.8$  Hz); 8.51 (t, 1H,  $J=8.1$  Hz); 8.21 (d, 1H,  $J=7.7$  Hz); 8.08 (s, 2H); 7.96 (t, 1H,  $J=6.2$  Hz), 7.41 (t, 9H,  $J=3.7$  Hz) ; 7.18 (c, 6H,  $J=3.7$  Hz) ; 4.45 (s, 3H);

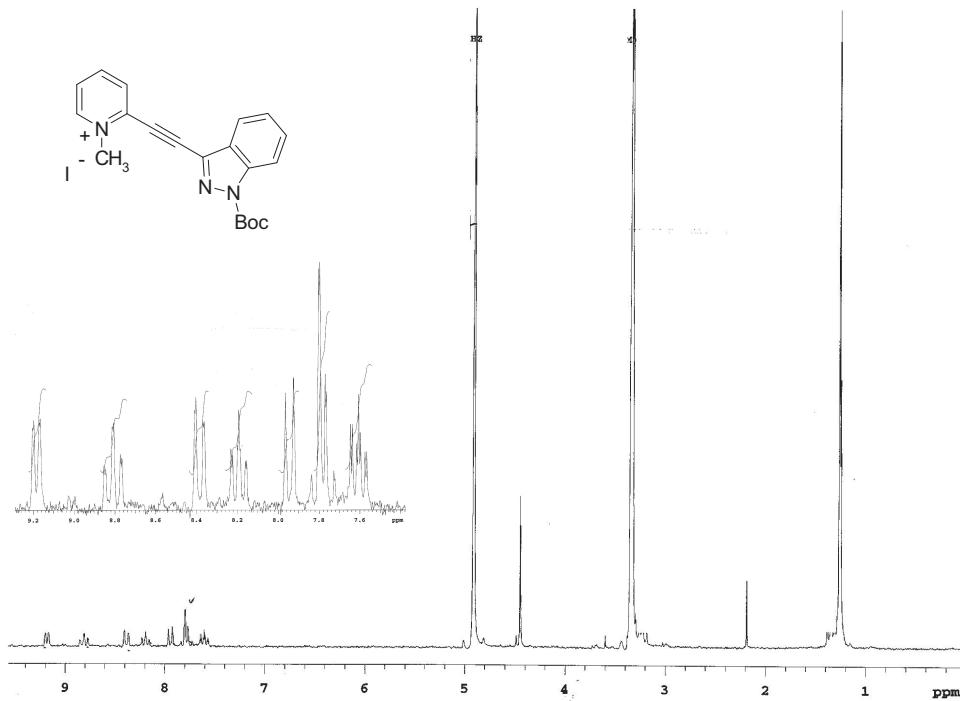


$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) : 146.3; 144.01; 142.4; 141.4; 137.4; 137.0; 130.2; 129.1; 127.6; 125.5; 116.5; 98.8; 98.4; 81.8; 78.7; 46.6.

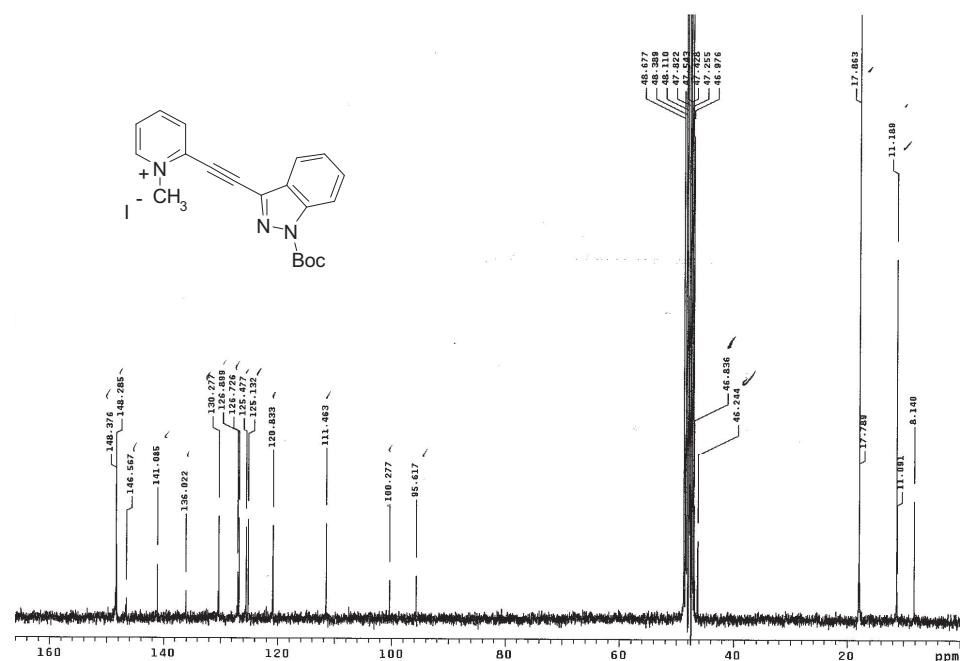


**1-Methyl -2-(1-tert-butoxycarbonyl-1H-indazol-3-ylethynyl) pyridinium iodide (5d)**

;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) : 9.18 (d, 1H,  $J=6.6$  Hz); 8.79 (t, 1H,  $J=6.6$  Hz); 8.38 (d, 1H,  $J=8.1$  Hz); 8.19 (t, 1H,  $J=7.7$  Hz); 7.94 (d, 1H,  $J=8.1$  Hz); 7.73 (td, 2H,  $J=1.1, 7.3$  Hz); 7.6 (td, 1H,  $J=1.8, 4.4$  Hz); 4.44 (s, 3H); 1.25 (s, 9H).

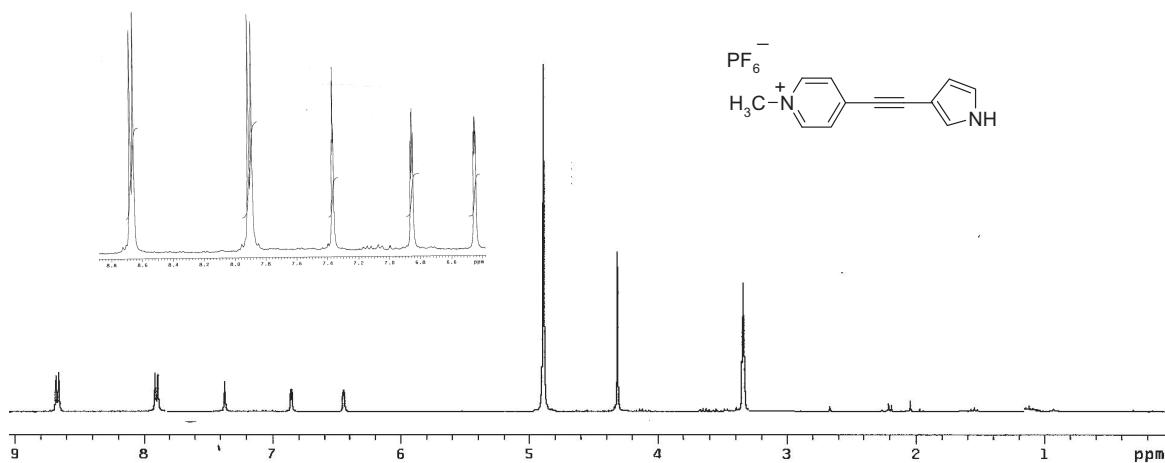


$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD): 209; 148.37; 148.28; 146.56; 141.08; 136.02; 130.27; 126.9; 126.72; 125.47; 125.13; 120.83; 111.46; 100.27; 95.61; 46.83; 17.86; 11.18.

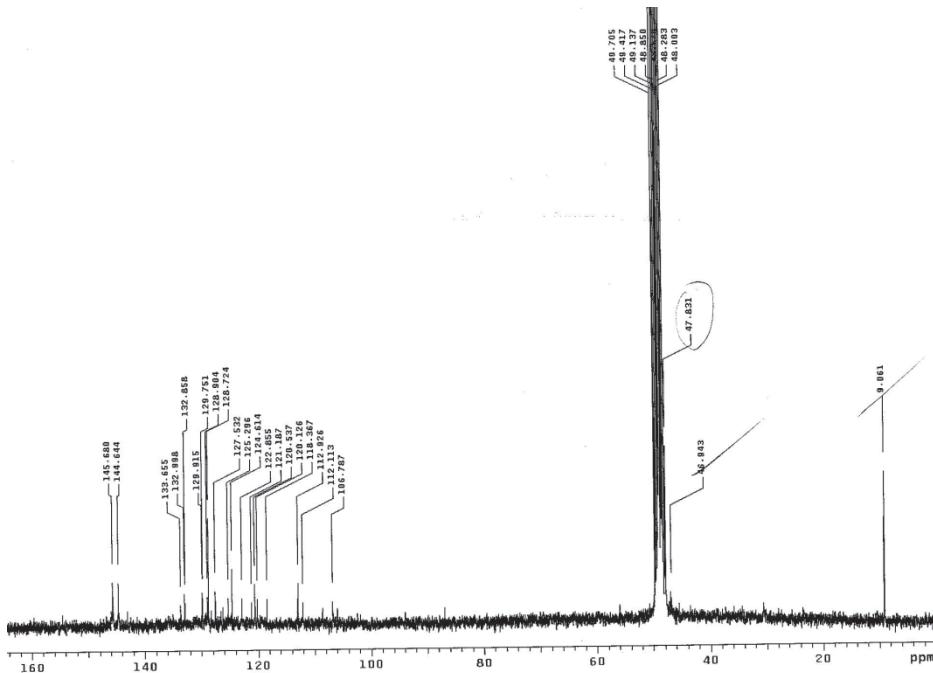


**1-Methyl -4-(1H-pyrrol-3-ylethynyl) pyridinium hexafluoro phosphate (6a)**

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) 8.66 (d,2H,  $J=6.7$  Hz); 7.9 (d,2H,  $J=6.7$  Hz); 7.36 (t,1H,  $J=1.4$  Hz); 6.85 (dd,1H,  $J=2.0$ , 0.7 Hz); 6.44 (dd,1H,  $J=1.2$ , 1.4 Hz), 4.89 (s, 3H)

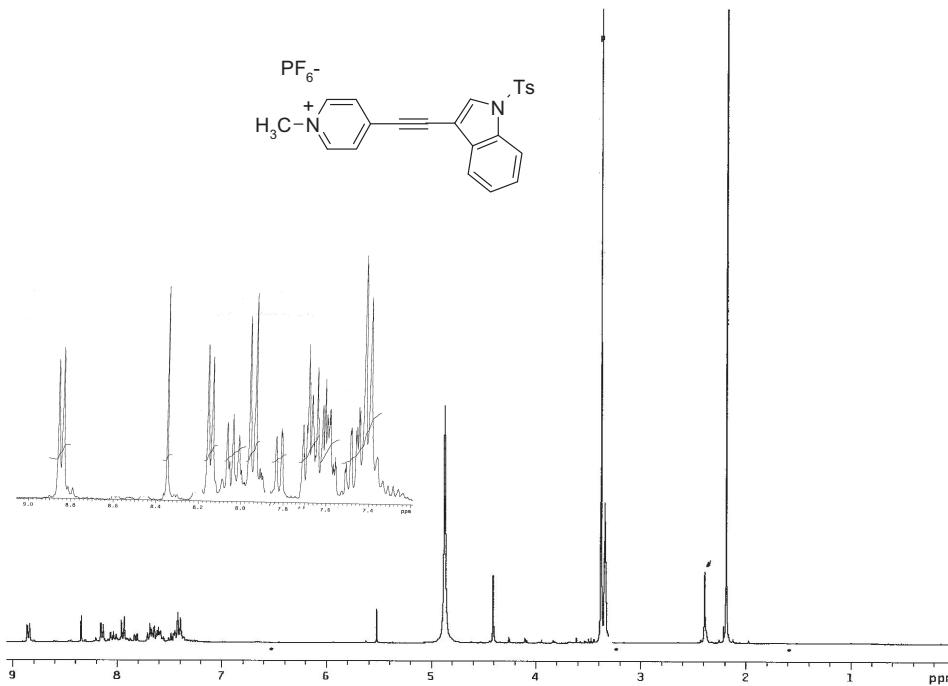


$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  145.68; 144.64; 132.99; 129.72; 127.53; 124.61; 120.53; 118.36; 112.92; 106.78; 47.83.

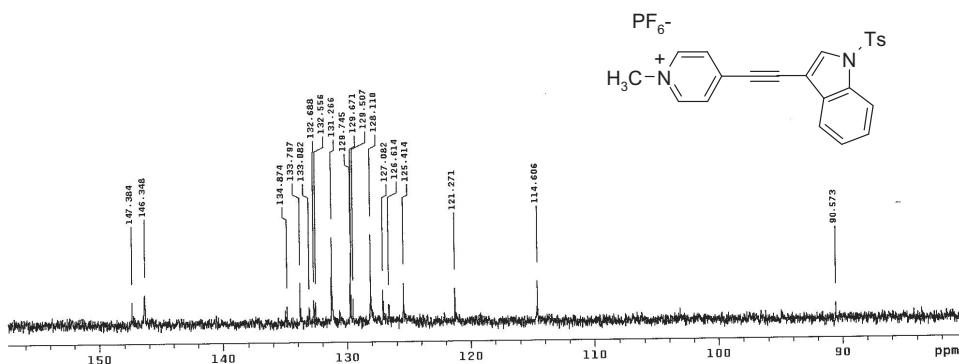


**1-Methyl-4-[1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1H-indol-3-ylethynyl] pyridinium hexafluoro phosphate (6b)**

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) : 8.84 (d, 2H,  $J=6.7$  Hz); 8.34 (s, 1H); 8.14 (d, 2H,  $J=6.95$  Hz); 8.03 (t, 2H,  $J= 8.6$  Hz); 7.94 (d, 2H;  $J= 8.4$  Hz), 7.8 (d, 1H;  $J= 0.9$  Hz); 7.7-7.58 (m, 4H); 4.4 (s, 3H); 2.38 (s, 3H).

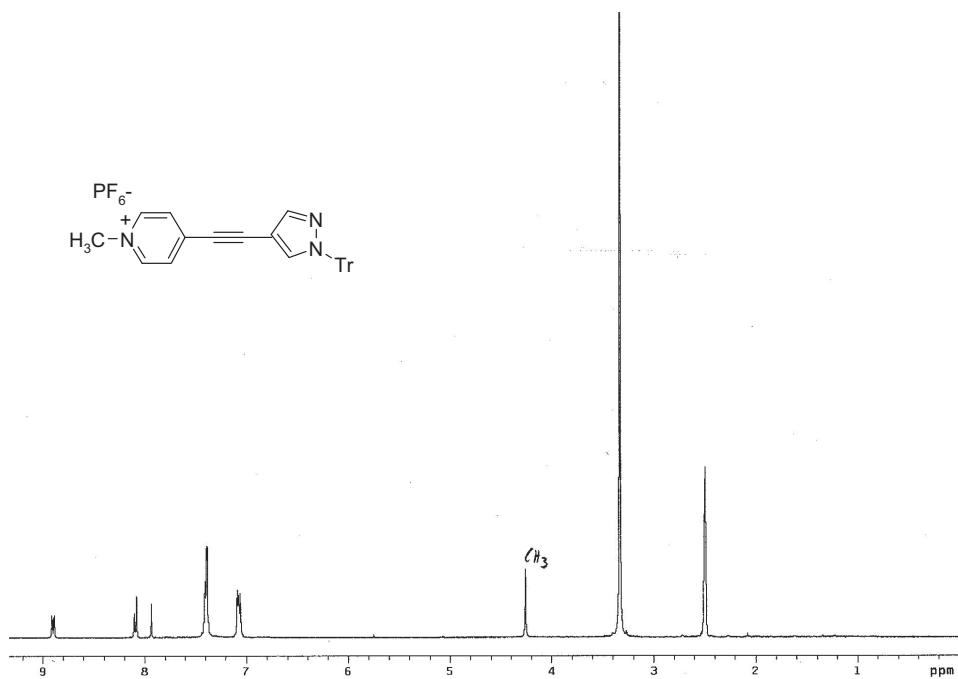


$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) 147.3; 146.3; 134.8; 133.7; 133.0; 132.6; 132.5; 131.2; 129.7; 129.6; 129.5; 128.1; 127.0; 126.6; 125.4; 121.2; 114.6; 90.57; 48.8; 47.6; 21.4.

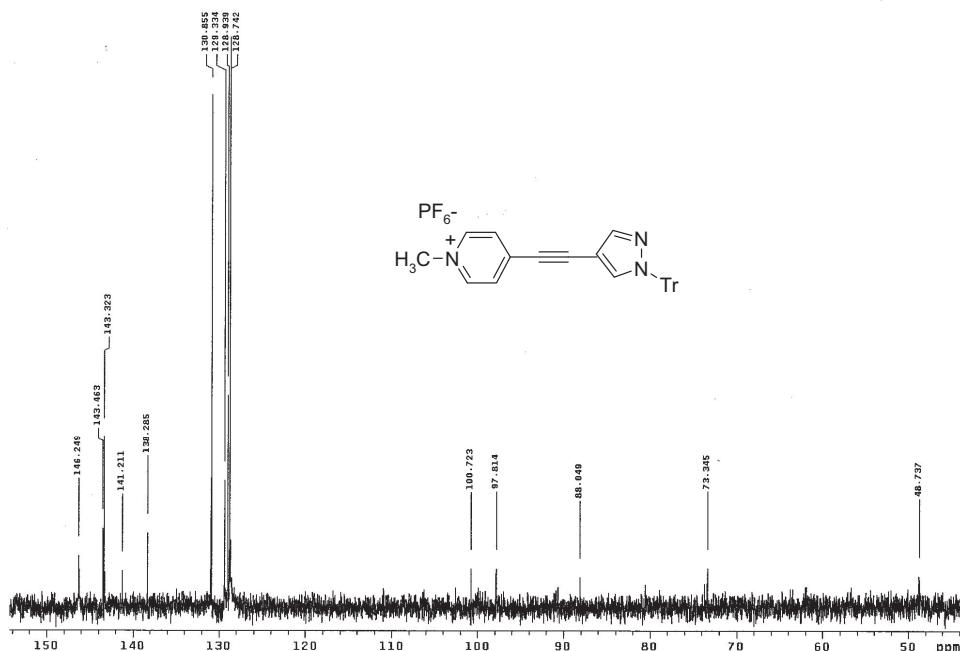


**1-Methyl-4-(1-trityl-1H-pyrazol-4-ylethynyl) pyridinium hexafluorophosphate (6c)**

;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (200 MHz, DMSO-d6) 8.89 (d, 2H,  $J=6.7$  Hz); 8.091 (d, 2H,  $J=7.1$  Hz); 7.93 (s); 7.39 (c, 10H,  $J=3.6$  Hz); 7.06 (c, 6H,  $J=3.4$  Hz); 4.25 (s, 3H)

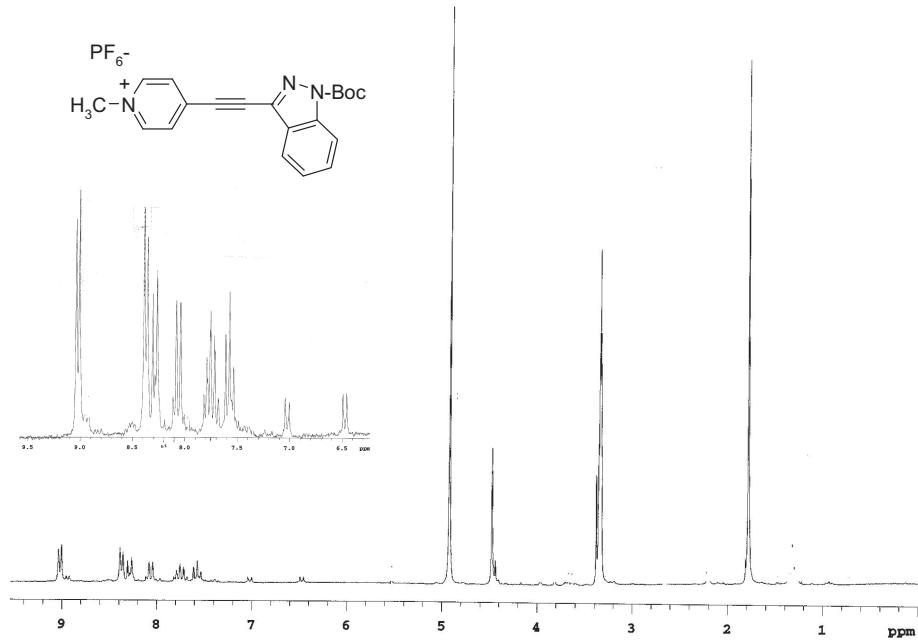


$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (300 MHz, acetone-d6)  $\delta$  146.25; 143.32; 141.21; 138.28; 130.85; 129.33; 128.93; 128.74; 100.72; 97.81; 80.04; 73.34; 48.73.

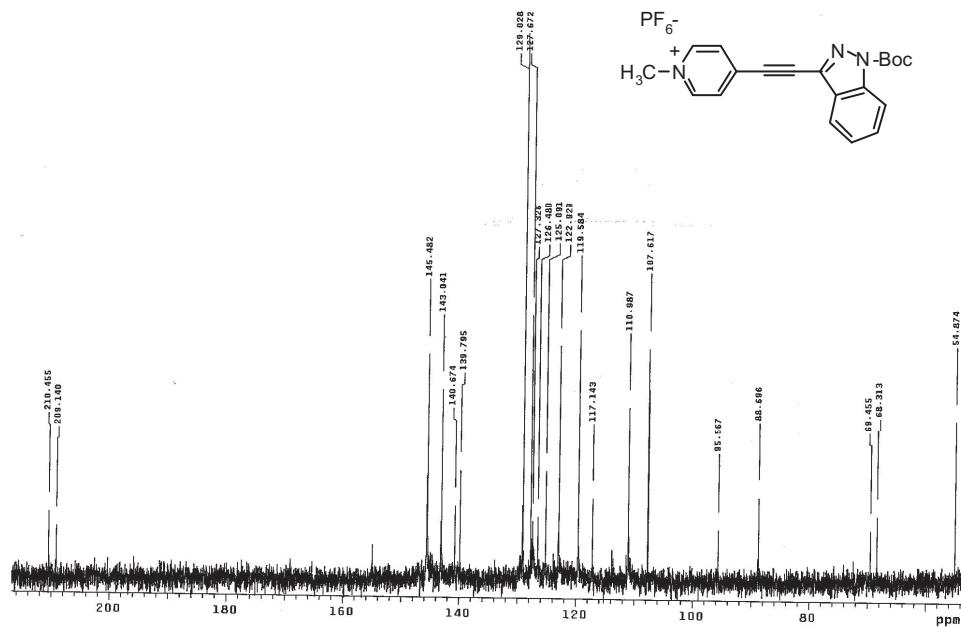


**1-Methyl-4-(1-tert-butoxycarbonyl-1H-indazol-3-ylethynyl) pyridinium hexafluoro phosphate (6d)**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD): 9.02 (d, 2H, *J*=6.6 Hz); 8.37 (d, 2H, *J*=6.9 Hz); 8.28 (d, 1H, *J*=8.4 Hz); 8.06 (d, 1H, *J*=8.1 Hz); 7.75 (t, 1H, *J*=7.3 Hz); 7.57 (t, 1H, *J*=7.3 Hz); 4.47 (s, 3H); 1.78 (s, 9H)

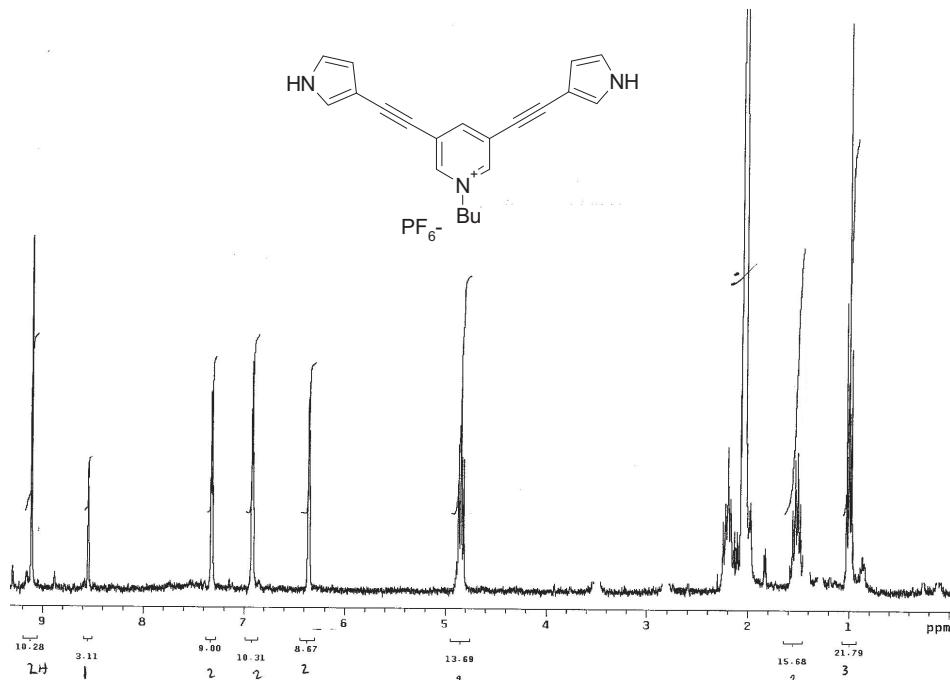


<sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD): 209.11; 145.48; 143.04; 140.67; 139.79; 129.02; 127.67; 125.09; 122.92; 119.58; 117.14; 110.98; 95.56; 88.69; 69.45; 47.0; 29.98.

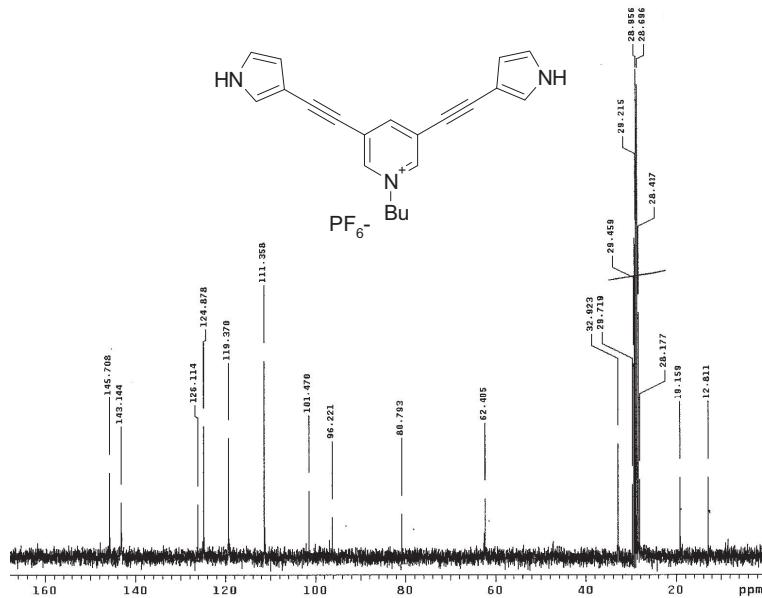


**1-Butyl-3,5-(1H-pyrrol-3-ethynyl) pyridinium hexafluorophosphate (7a)**

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ (ppm) 9.15 (d,2H, *J*= 1.4 Hz); 8.54 (s,1H); 7.32 (dd, 2H, *J*=1.2, 1.4 Hz); 6.91 (dd,2H, *J*= 2.0, 2.5 Hz); 6.35 (t,2H, *J*= 2.5 Hz), 4.84 (t, 2H; *J*= 7.5 Hz); 2.22 (q, 2H, *J*= 8.0 Hz); 1.53 (sex, 2h, *J*= 7.3 Hz); 0.99 (t, 3H, *J*= 7.3 Hz);

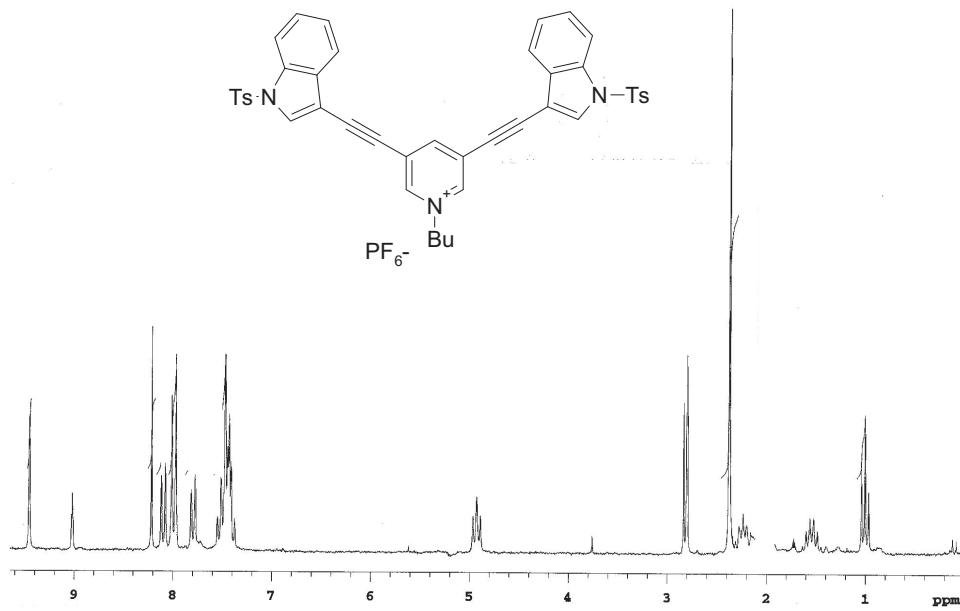


<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ (ppm) 145.7; 143.14; 126.11; 124.87; 119.37; 111.35; 101.47; 96.22; 80.79; 62.4; 32.92; 19.15; 12.81.

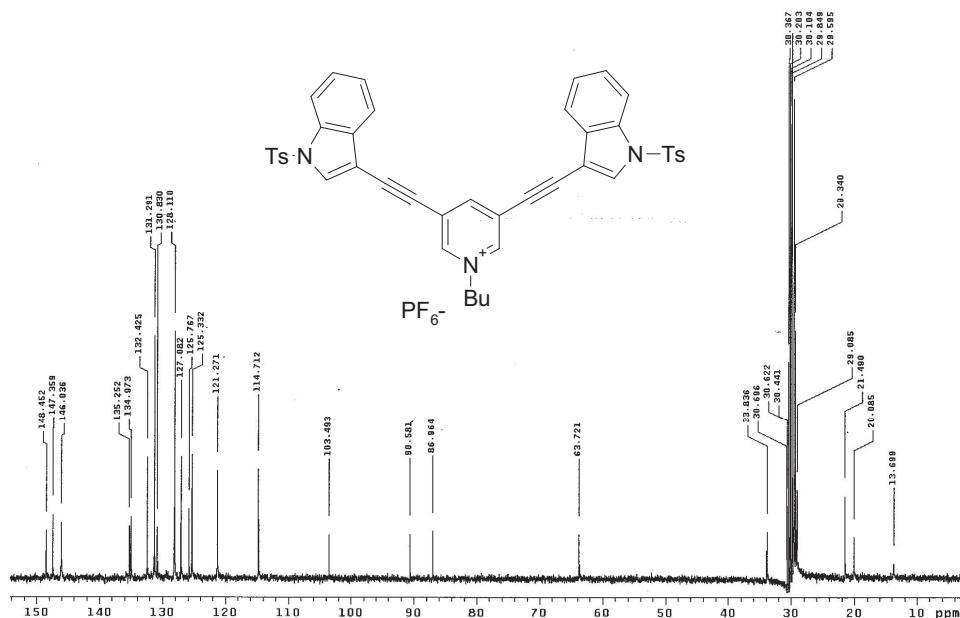


**1-Butyl-3,5-[1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-3-ethynylindole]pyridinium Hexafluoro phosphate (7b)**

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ (ppm) 9.45 (d, 2H, *J*= 1.5 Hz); 9.02 (s, 1H); 8.21 (s, 2H); 8.09 (d, 2H, *J*= 8.2 Hz); 7.99 (d, 4H, *J*= 8.5 Hz), 7.79 (d, 2H; *J*= 6.9 Hz); 7.54-7.37 (m, 9H); 4.92 (t, 2H, *J*= 7.6 Hz); 2.37 (s, 6H); 2.22 (dd, 2H, *J*= 8.05 Hz); 1.53 (td, 2H, *J*= 7.3 Hz); 1.0 (t, 3H, *J*= 7.6 Hz).

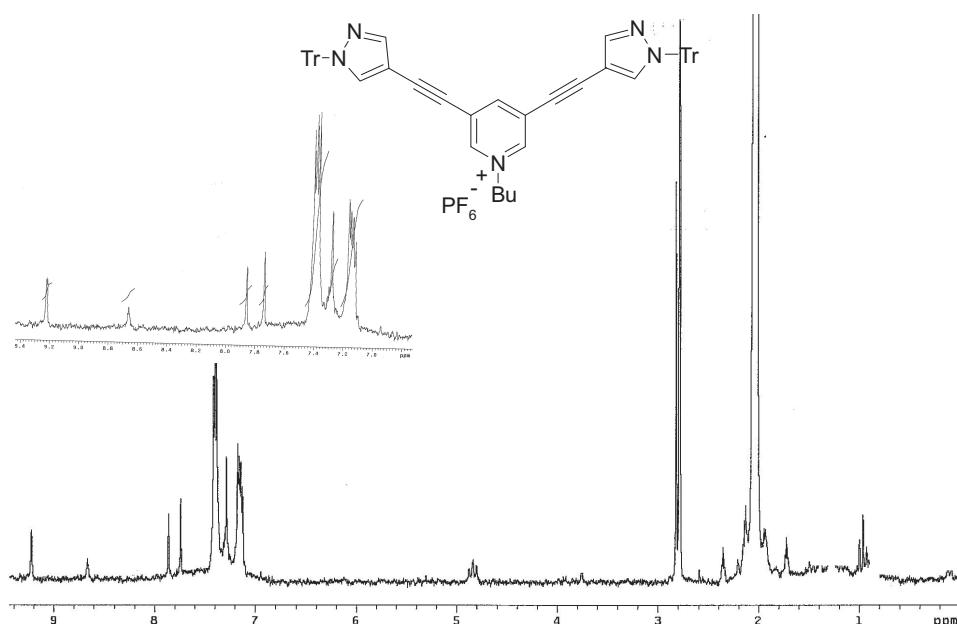


<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) 148.45; 147.35; 146.03; 135.25; 134.97; 132.42; 131.29; 130.83; 128.11; 127.08; 125.76; 125.33; 121.27; 114.71; 103.49; 90.58; 86.96; 63.72; 33.83; 21.49; 20.08; 13.69.

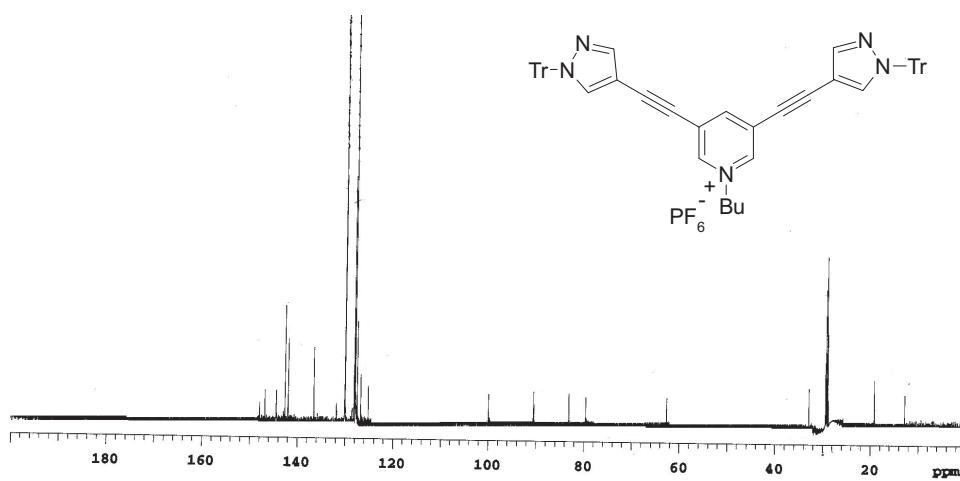


**1-Butyl-3,5-(1-trityl-1H-pyrazol-4-ylethynyl) pyridinium hexafluorophosphate (7c)**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, DMSO-d6) 9.2 (s, 2H); 8.6 (s, 1H); 7.8 (s, 2H); 7.7 (s, 2H); 7.41-7.38 (m, 15H); 7.17- 7.14 (m, 10H); 7.3-7.28 (m, 5H); 4.8 (t, 2H, *J*=3.6 Hz); 4.28 (s, 3H);

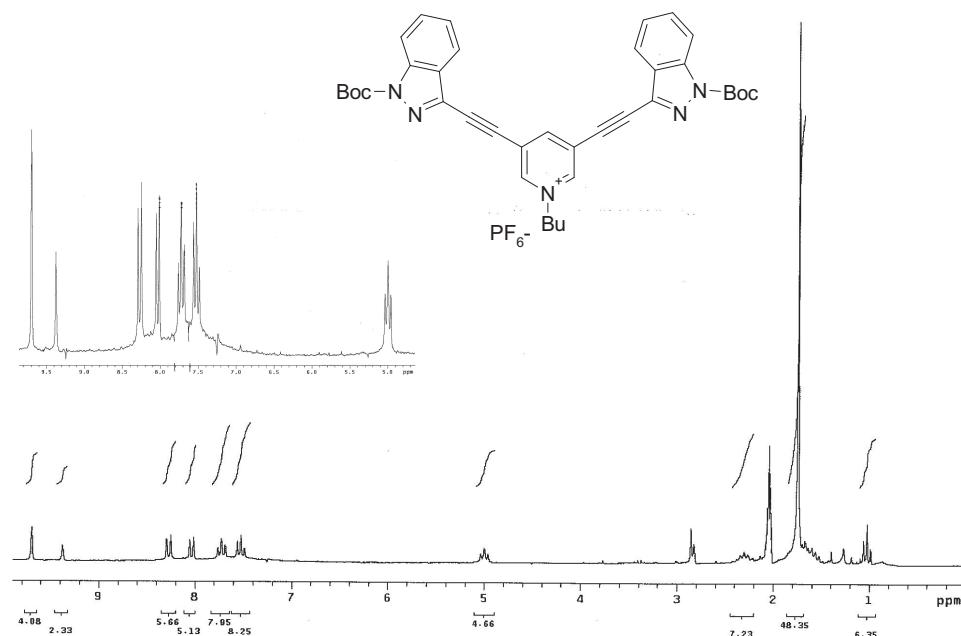


<sup>13</sup>C NMR (300 MHz, acetone-d6) δ 147.89; 146.78; 144.43; 142.57; 141.93; 136.52; 131.79; 130.01; 128.09; 127.99; 127.88; 127.48; 126.72; 125.17; 99.95; 90.46; 83.11; 79.56; 62.62; 19.12; 12.77.

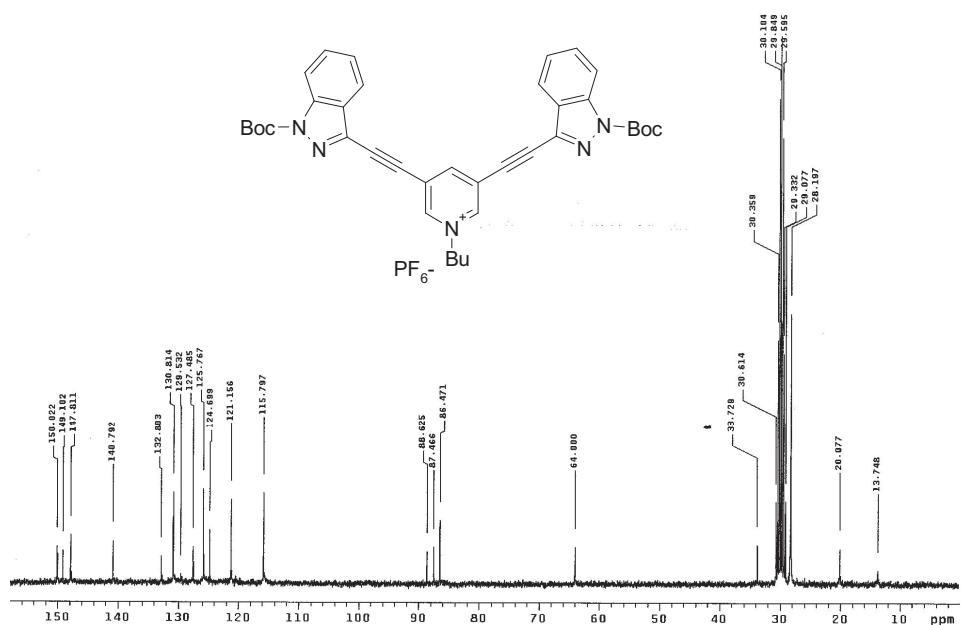


**1-Butyl-3,5-(1-tert-butoxycarbonyl-1H-indazol-3-ylethynyl) pyridinium hexafluoro phosphate (7d)**

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, acetone-D6) δ (ppm) 9.69 (d, 2H, *J*=1.27 Hz); 9.37 (s, 1H); 8.27 (d, 2H, *J*=8.57 Hz); 8.03 (d, 2H, *J*=7.93 Hz); 7.73 (t, 2H, *J*=6.9 Hz); 7.52 (t, 2H, *J*=7.3 Hz); 4.9 (t, 2H, *J*=7.6 Hz); 2.23 (dd, 2H, *J*=8.05); 1.53 (td, 2H, *J*=7.3 Hz); 1.02 (t, 3H, *J*=7.6 Hz);



<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) δ (ppm) 150.02, 149.1; 147.81; 140.79; 132.8; 130.81; 127.48; 125.76; 124.69; 121.15; 115.79; 88.62; 87.46; 86.47; 64.0; 33.72; 28.19; 20.07; 13.74



## 2. Linear properties

### 2a. General information

Absorption Spectra were recorded in a UV-Vis Perkin-Elmer L35 Spectrophotometer in the 200-1000 nm range. Steady-state fluorescence measurements were performed by using an SLM 8100 AMINCO spectrofluorimeter equipped with polarizers and a double (single) concave grating monochromator in the excitation (emission) path and a cooled photomultiplier. Slit widths were set at 8 nm for excitation and emission and polarizers at the magic angle. Fluorescence decay measurements were performed on a time-correlated single-photon-counting FL900 Edinburgh Instruments Spectrometer. The thyratron-gated lamp (nF900) was filled with H<sub>2</sub>. Concave gratings monochromators were used at the excitation and emission. Photons were detected by a red sensitive cooled photomultiplier. The data acquisition was carried out by using 1024 channels of the multichannel analyzer with a time window width of 125 ns. A total of 10000-5000 counts in the peak channel were taken for each measurement. Instrumental response functions were regularly achieved by measuring the scattering of a Ludox solution and the quality of the fit was judged by the reduced  $\chi^2$  criterion, the inspection of the weighted residuals per channel and the autocorrelation function of the weighted residuals. Decay intensity profiles were fitted to a sum of exponential decay functions as

$$I(t) = \sum_{i=1}^n B_i e^{-t/\tau_i} \quad (1)$$

by the iterative deconvolution method. The average lifetime of a multiple-exponential decay function was then defined as

$$\langle \tau \rangle = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n B_i \tau_i^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n B_i \tau_i} \quad (2)$$

where  $B_i$  is the pre-exponential factor of the component with a lifetime  $\tau_i$  of the multi-exponential function intensity decay.

## 3. Non-linear properties

### 3a. General Information

The second-order nonlinear polarizability, or first hyperpolarizability,  $\beta$ , of the compounds was determined by Hyper-Rayleigh scattering (HRS).<sup>4</sup> This is the only available experimental technique that can measure directly the molecular second-order nonlinear response of ionic species in solution.

The HRS measurements were performed at room temperature in methanol, with crystal violet as the reference molecule and with high-frequency demodulation of the multiphoton fluorescence contribution.<sup>5</sup> The HRS signal was analyzed towards a single major dipolar hyperpolarizability tensor element  $\beta_{zzz}$  along the molecular z-axis. The dynamic, on resonantly-enhanced,  $\beta_{zzz,800}$  value obtained at 800nm was reduced to the static, or off-resonance  $\beta_{zzz,0}$  value by applying the classical two-level model.<sup>6</sup> From the

<sup>4</sup> Ref. 6 in text. K.Clays and A. Peersons, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **1991**, *66*, 2980-2983. (b) K.Clays and A. Peersons, *Rev. Sci. Instrum.* **1992**, *63*, 3285- 3289.

<sup>5</sup> Olbrechts, G.; Strobbe, R.; Clays, K.; Persoons, A. *Rev. Sci. Instrum.* **1998**, *69*, 2233-2241.

<sup>6</sup> Oudar, J. L.; Chemla, D. S. ; *J. Chem. Phys.* **1997**, *66*, 2664.

fitting of the apparent  $\beta_{zzz,800}$  as a function of modulation frequency, a fluorescence lifetime could be obtained, as well as the accurate fluorescence-free hyperpolarizability value.<sup>7</sup>

### 3b. Experimental data HRS Compounds 7

According to the theory of hyper-Rayleigh scattering (HRS) following equations 1, 2 and 3, for a typical experiment a clear linear dependence of the HRS response QC is observed as function of concentration ( eq. 1 and 2) and the ratio of the slopes is directly proportional to the ratio of their orientational averaged hyperpolarisabilities squared (eq. 3). In this study, only in the case of **7d** a good quality measurement a linear fitting was obtained.

$$I_{2\omega} = G (N_s [\beta^2_{HRS}]_s + N_x [\beta^2_{HRS}]_x) I^2_\omega \quad \text{eq. 1}$$

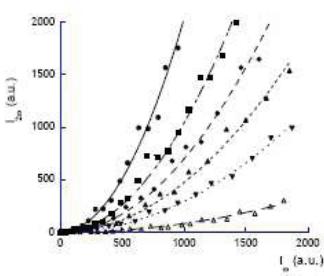
G includes all constants and local field factors, and is treated as a calibration constant.

$I_{2\omega}$  represents the HRS intensity,

$I_\omega$  the intensity of the input light

N the chromophores concentration and the orientational averaged hyperpolarisability squared.

The subscripts s and x refer to solvent and chromophore.



For a typical HRS experiment, the quadratic dependence of  $I_{2\omega}$  on  $I_\omega$  for a dilution series is determined (Fig. 1). From a quadratic fit  $y = a x^2$ , the product of the G factor and the factor between brackets is determined and is called the quadratic coefficient (Q.C.).

The quadratic coefficient is equal to:

$$QC = G (N_s [\beta^2_{HRS}]_s + N_x [\beta^2_{HRS}]_x) \quad \text{eq. 2}$$

**Figure 1:** The intensity of the scattered light  $I_{2\omega}$  versus the intensity of the fundamental beam  $I_\omega$  for a dilution series.

The quadratic coefficient is a linear function of the chromophores concentration ( $N_x$ ), which is demonstrated in Fig. 1 and is fitted to the equation below:

$$QC = \text{intercept} + \text{slope} N$$

In a example of a good fitting: a linear dependence of the HRS response QC is observed as a function of concentration.

Y-axis: the Q.C. of the HRS signal is plotted,

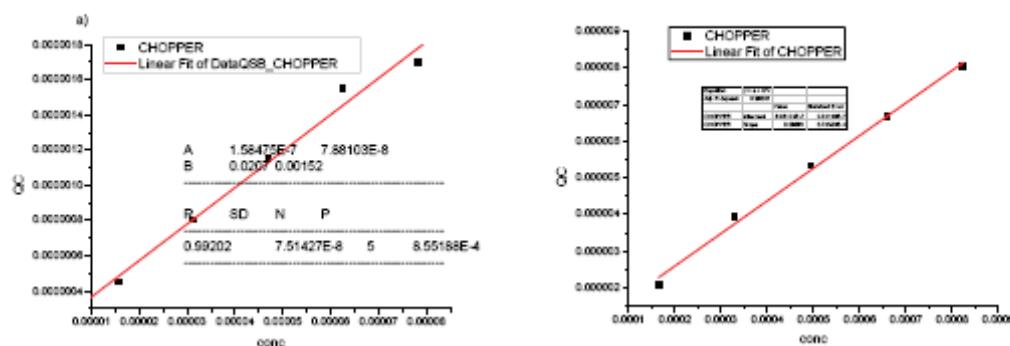
X-axis: the concentration.

$$I_{2\omega} = G (N_s [\beta^2_{HRS}]_s + N_x [\beta^2_{HRS}]_x) I^2_\omega \quad \text{eq. 1}$$

<sup>7</sup> Clays, K.; Wostyn, K.; Binnemans, K.; Persoons, A. *Rev. Sci. Instrum.* **2001**, 72 3215-3220 .

$$QC = G (N_s [\beta^2_{HRS}]_s + N_x [\beta^2_{HRS}]_x) \quad eq. 2$$

**Figure 2a** represents the data as obtained for a sample randomly chosen from all the measured samples, while in figure 2b the reference sample is plotted.



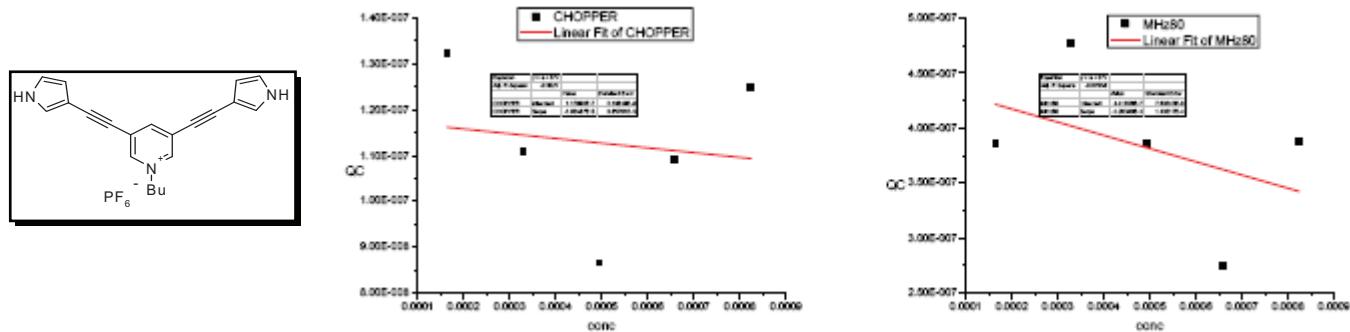
**Fig. 2: 2a and 2b**

For the external reference method, the quadratic dependence of  $I_{2\omega}$  on  $I_\omega$  is measured for the dilution series of a reference (in this case, crystal violet (CV)) as well as for the chromophore of unknown hyperpolarisability. Both results are plotted as a function of chromophore concentration. The ratio of the slopes is directly proportional to the ratio of their orientational averaged hyperpolarisabilities squared.

$$\frac{\text{Slope}_{\text{CV}}}{\text{Slope}_{\text{chromophore}}} = \frac{[\beta^2_{HRS}]_{\text{CV}}}{[\beta^2_{HRS}]_{\text{chromophore}}} \quad eq. 3$$

CV:crystal violet

The plotted graphic obtained from **7a** are indicate in **Fig. 3**



The plotted graphic obtained from **7b**, are indicated in *Fig.4*

