

## Electronic Supplementary Information

### Complexation of pentiptycene-derived trans-bis(crown ether) host with different terminal functional paraquat derivatives in solution and solid state: a switchable complexation process controlled by potassium ions

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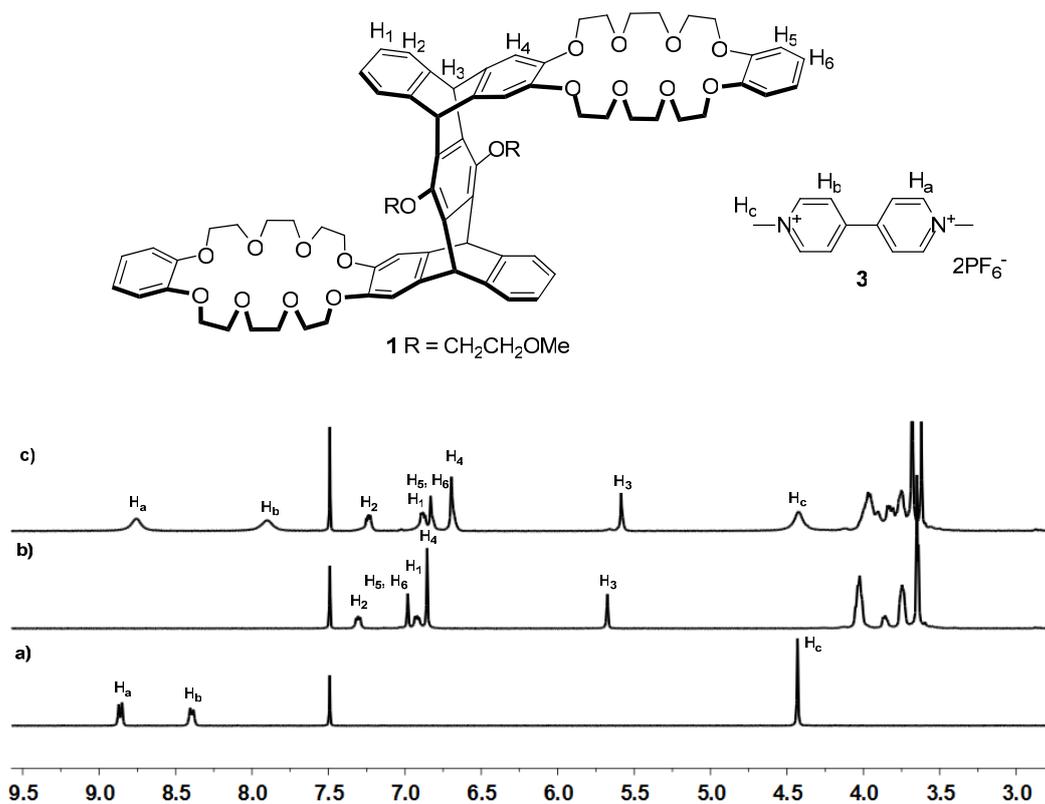
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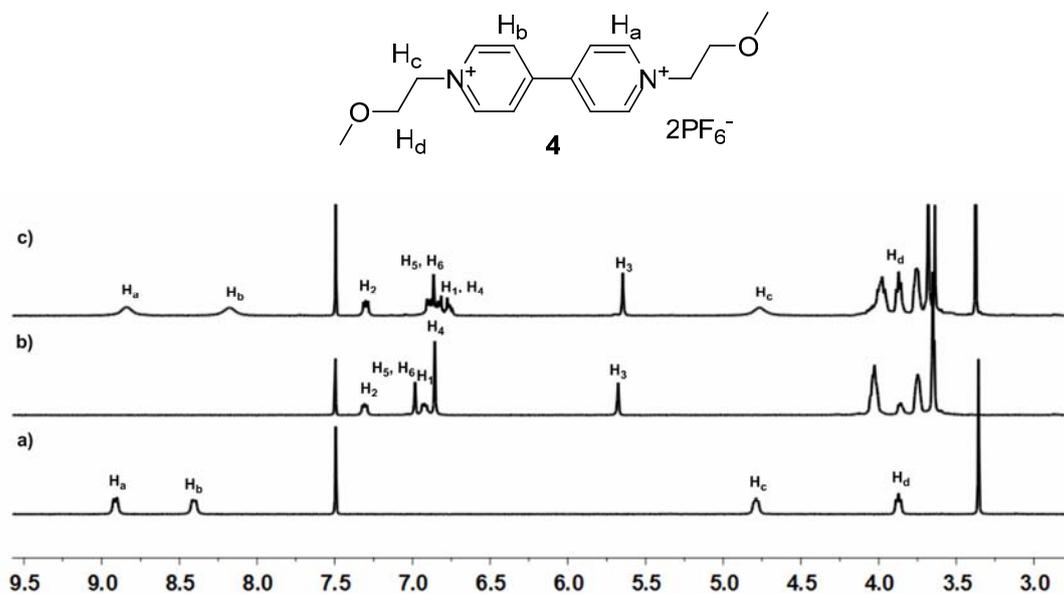
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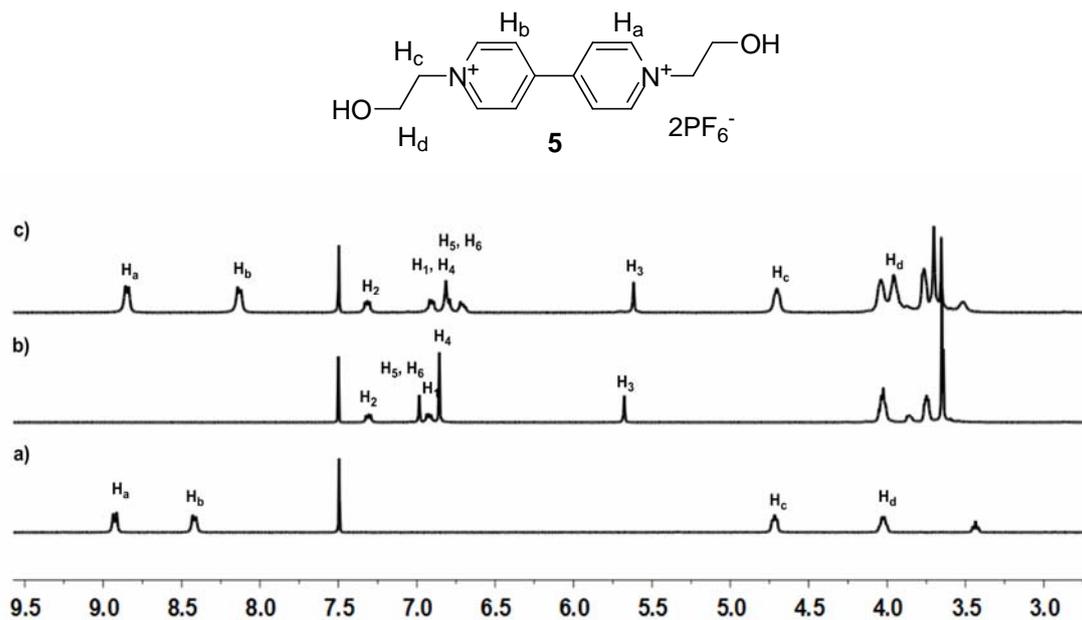
## 1. Comparison of partial $^1\text{H}$ NMR spectra between the host and the guests



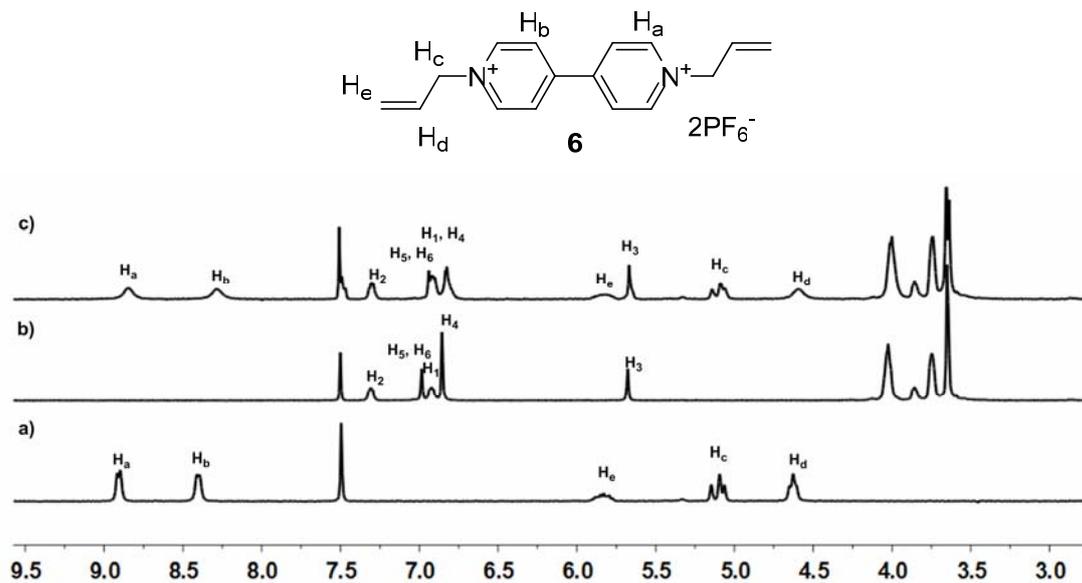
**Fig. S1** Partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (300 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}/\text{CDCl}_3=1:1$ , v/v, 295K) of (a) free guest **3**, (b) free host **1**, and (c) **1** and 2.0 equiv. of **3**. [**1**]<sub>0</sub>=3.0 mM.



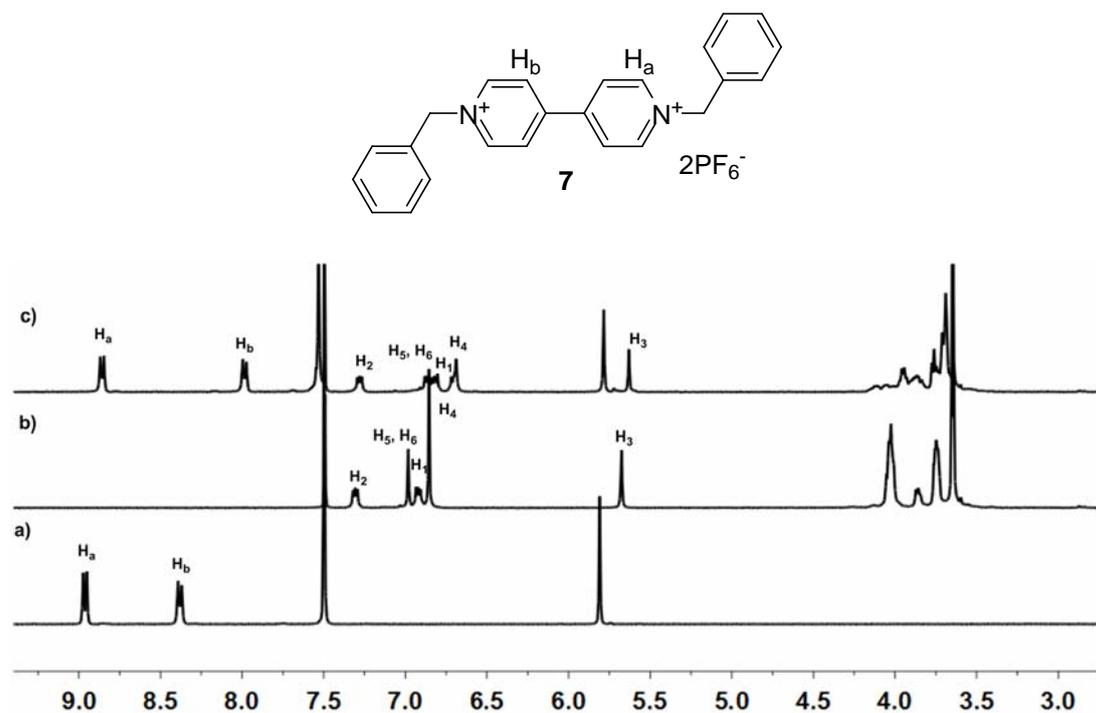
**Fig. S2** Partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (300 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}/\text{CDCl}_3=1:1$ , v/v, 295K) of (a) free guest **4**, (b) free host **1**, and (c) **1** and 2.0 equiv. of **4**. [**1**]<sub>0</sub>=3.0 mM.



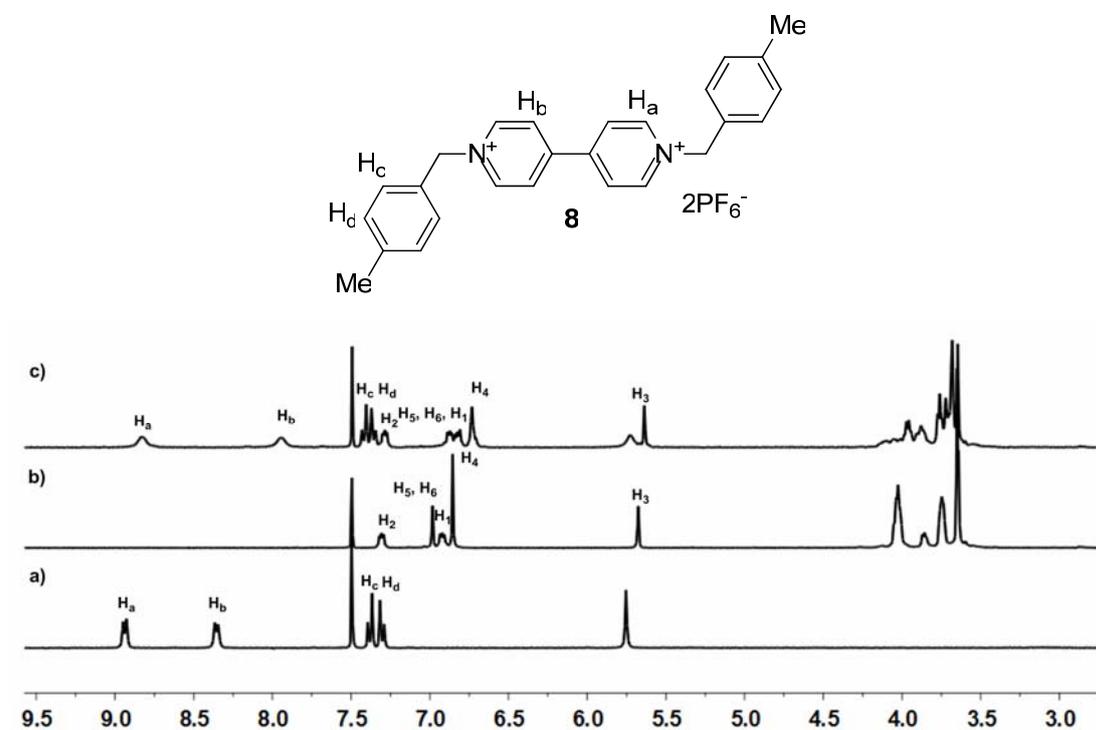
**Fig. S3** Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN/CDCl<sub>3</sub>=1:1, v/v, 295K) of (a) free guest **5**, (b) free host **1**, and (c) **1** and 2.0 equiv. of **5**. [**1**]<sub>0</sub>=3.0 mM.



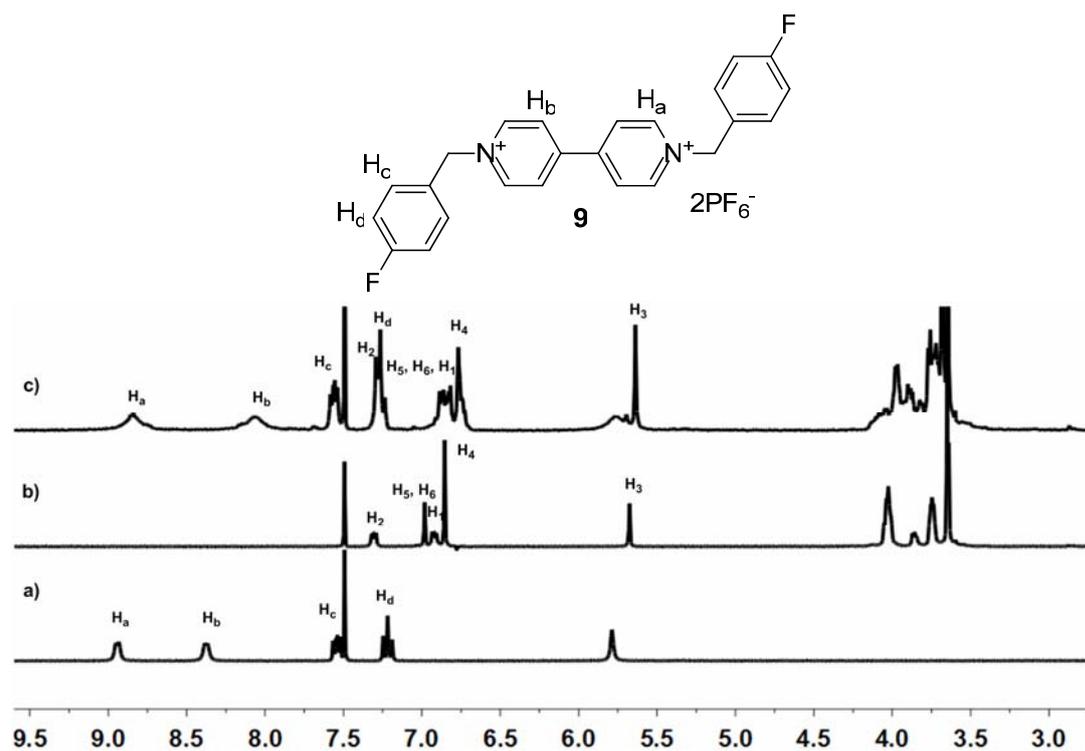
**Fig. S4** Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN/CDCl<sub>3</sub>=1:1, v/v, 295K) of (a) free guest **6**, (b) free host **1**, and (c) **1** and 2.0 equiv. of **6**. [**1**]<sub>0</sub>=3.0 mM.



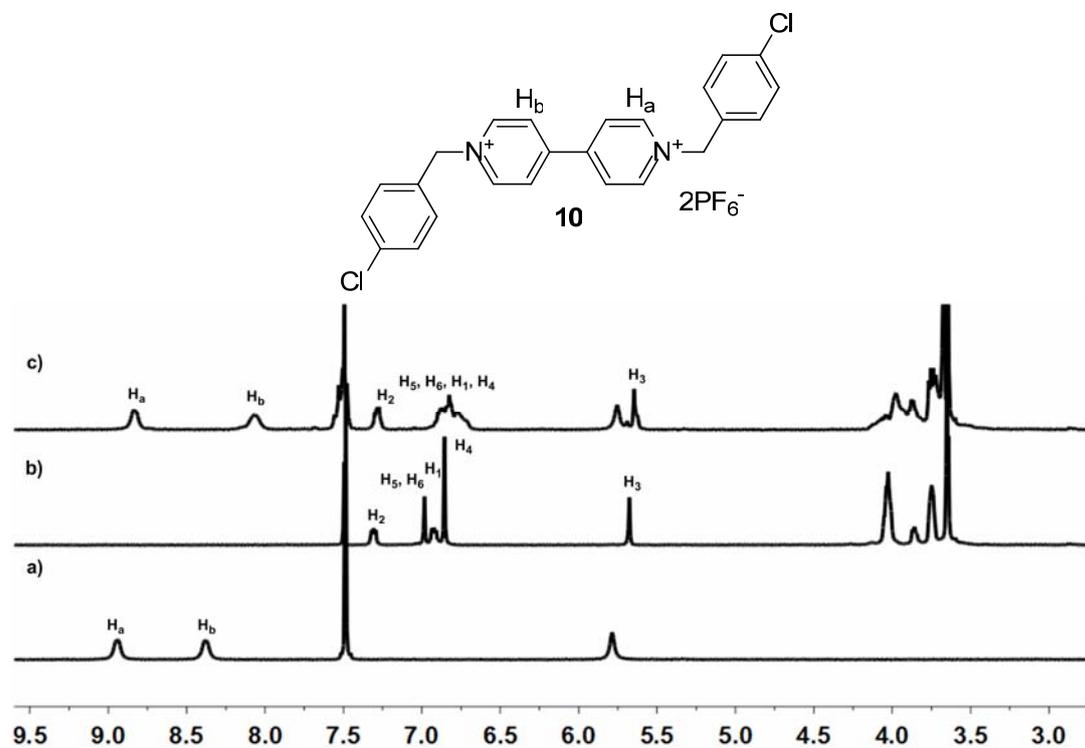
**Fig. S5** Partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (300 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}/\text{CDCl}_3=1:1$ , v/v, 295K) of (a) free guest **7**, (b) free host **1**, and (c) **1** and 2.0 equiv. of **7**.  $[\mathbf{1}]_0=3.0$  mM.



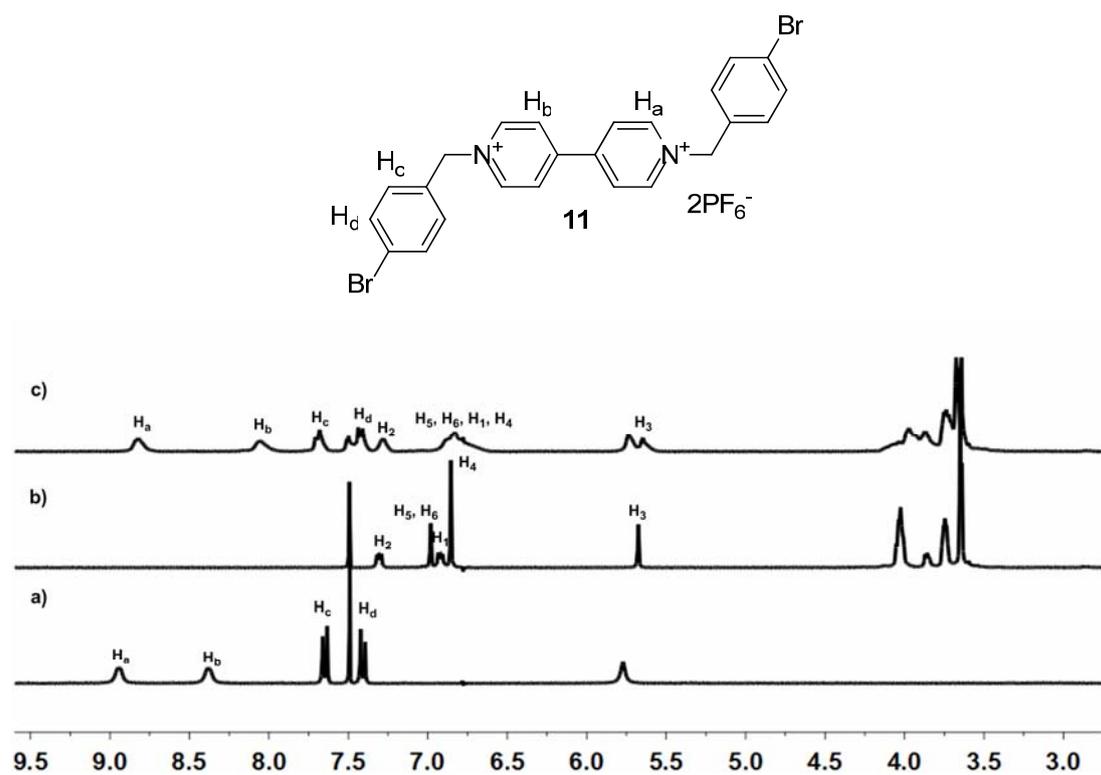
**Fig. S6** Partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (300 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}/\text{CDCl}_3=1:1$ , v/v, 295K) of (a) free guest **8**, (b) free host **1**, and (c) **1** and 2.0 equiv. of **8**.  $[\mathbf{1}]_0=3.0$  mM.



**Fig. S7** Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN/CDCl<sub>3</sub>=1:1, v/v, 295K) of (a) free guest **9**, (b) free host **1**, and (c) **1** and 2.0 equiv. of **9**. [**1**]<sub>0</sub>=3.0 mM.

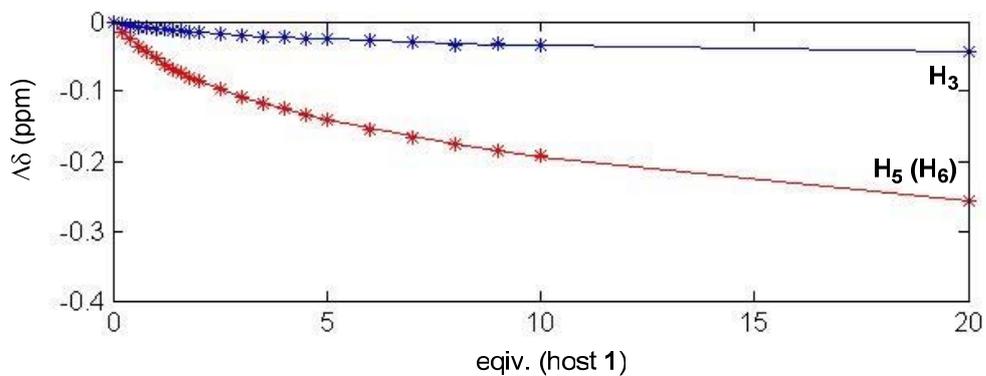


**Fig. S8** Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN/CDCl<sub>3</sub>=1:1, v/v, 295K) of (a) free guest **10**, (b) free host **1**, and (c) **1** and 2.0 equiv. of **10**. [**1**]<sub>0</sub>=3.0 mM.

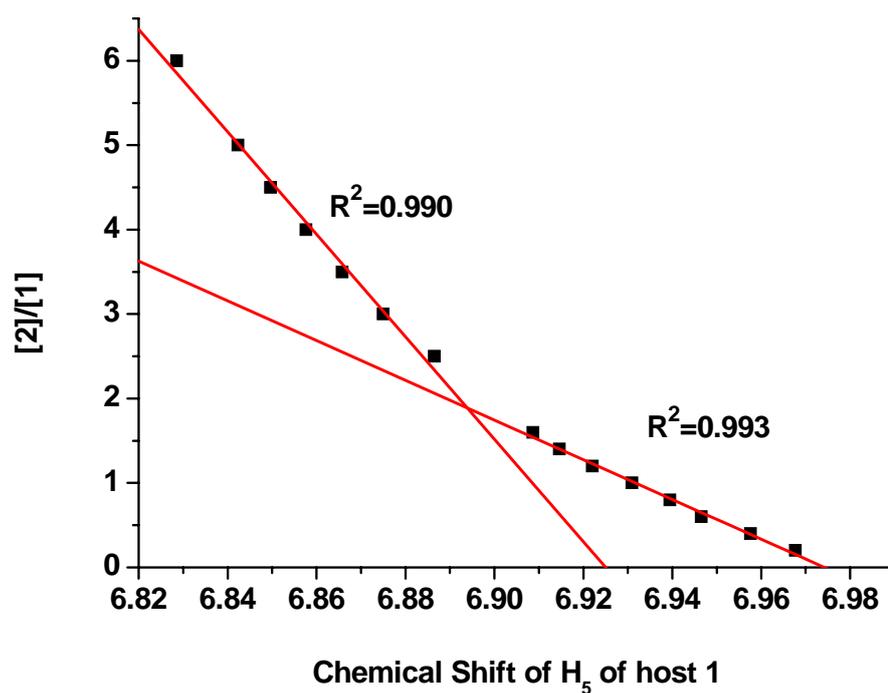


**Fig. S9** Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN/CDCl<sub>3</sub>=1:1, v/v, 295K) of (a) free guest **11**, (b) free host **1**, and (c) **1** and 2.0 equiv. of **11**. [**1**]<sub>0</sub>=3.0 mM.

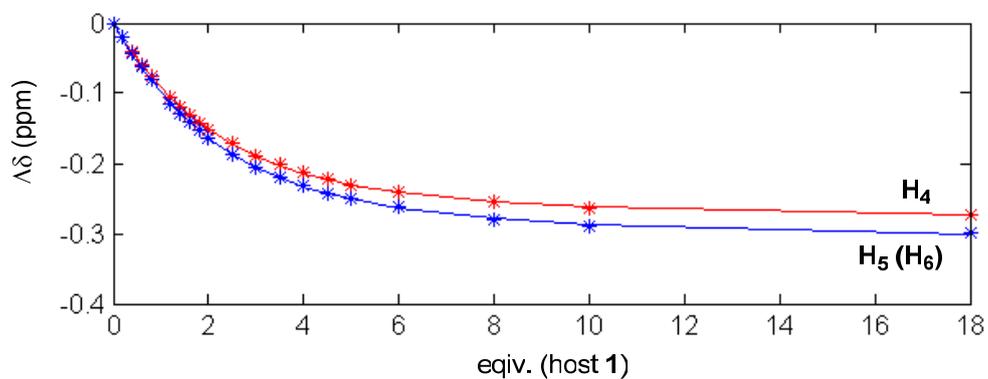
## 2. Determination of the association constants of complexes



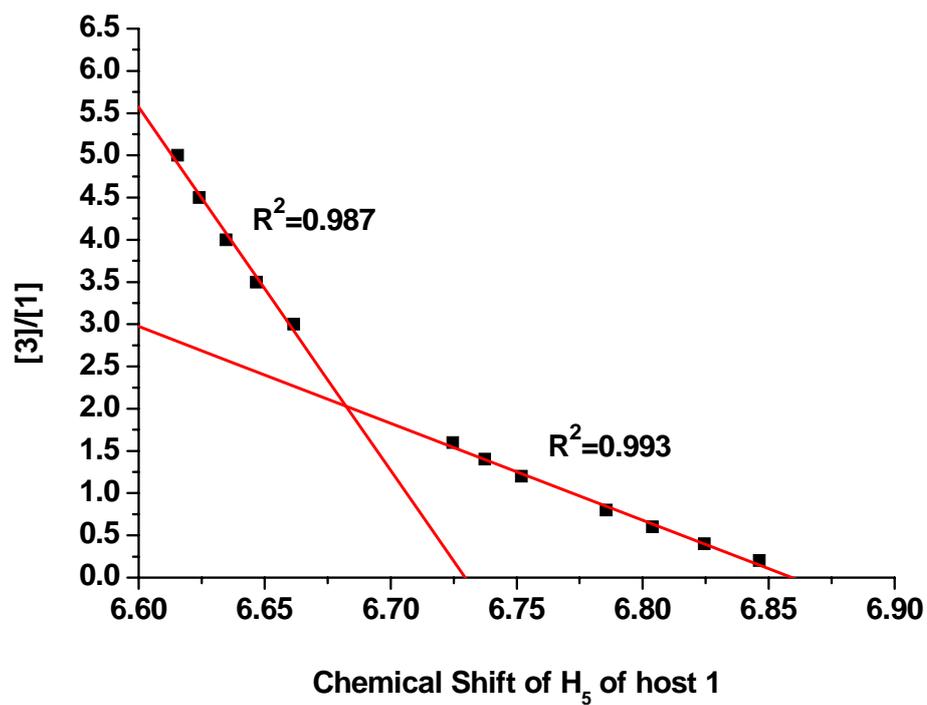
**Fig. S10** Plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR signal shifts observed in the titration of guest **2** with host **1**.



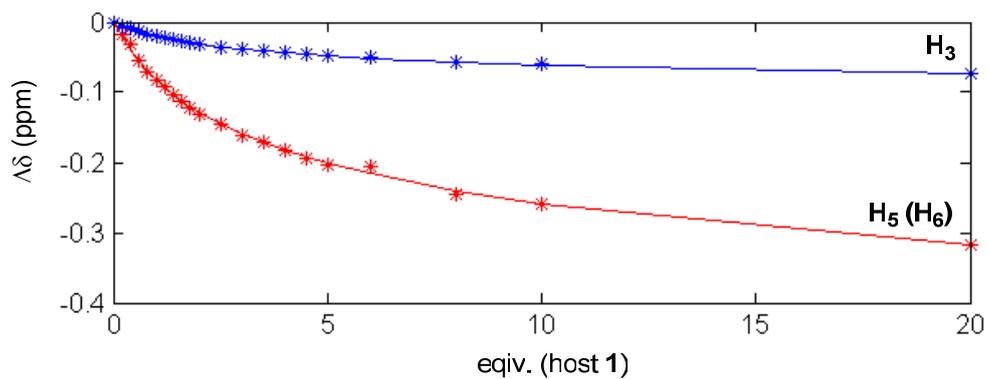
**Fig. S11** Mole ratio plot for the complexation of **1** and **2** in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}/\text{CDCl}_3 = 1:1$  at 298 K.



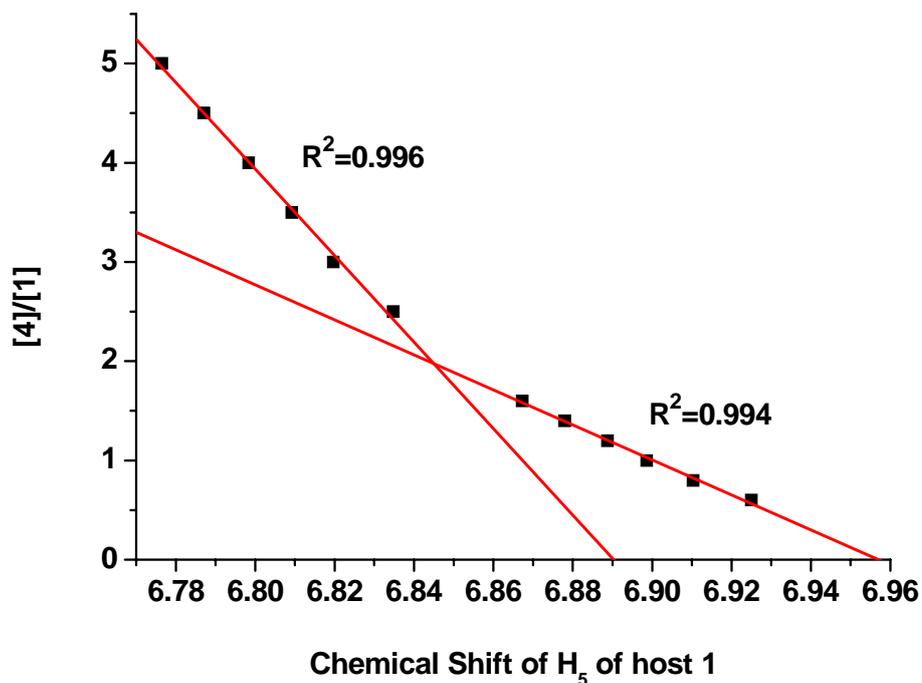
**Fig. S12** Plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR signal shifts observed in the titration of guest **3** with host **1**.



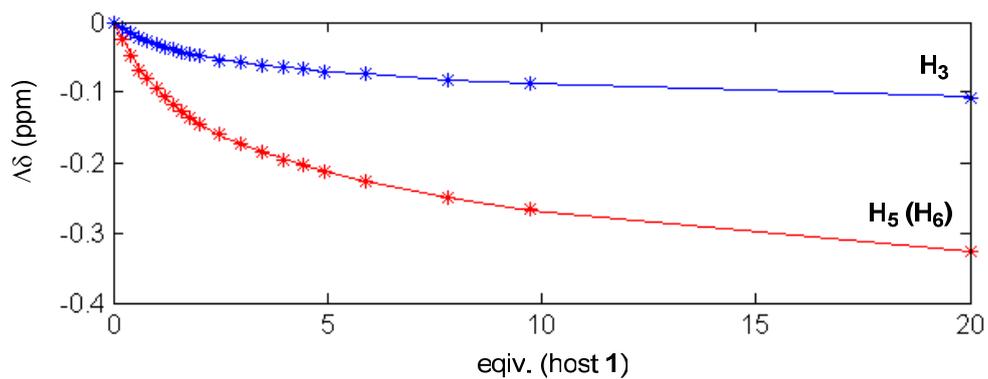
**Fig. S13** Mole ratio plot for the complexation of **1** and **3** in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}/\text{CDCl}_3 = 1:1$  at 298 K.



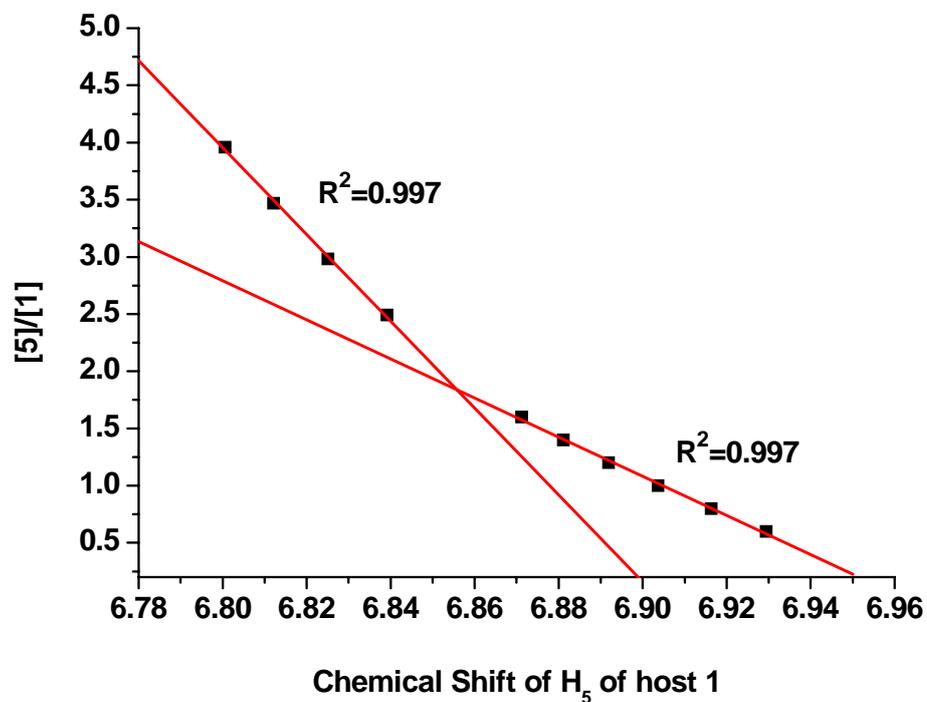
**Fig. S14** Plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR signal shifts observed in the titration of guest **4** with host **1**.



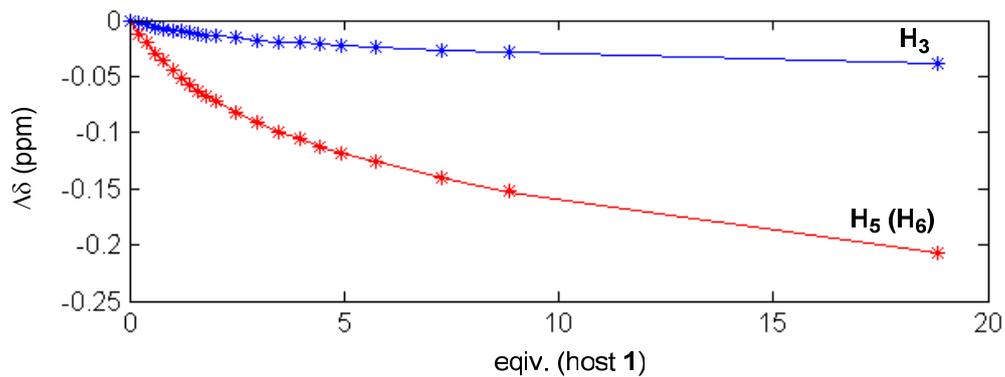
**Fig. S15** Mole ratio plot for the complexation of **1** and **4** in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}/\text{CDCl}_3 = 1:1$  at 298 K.



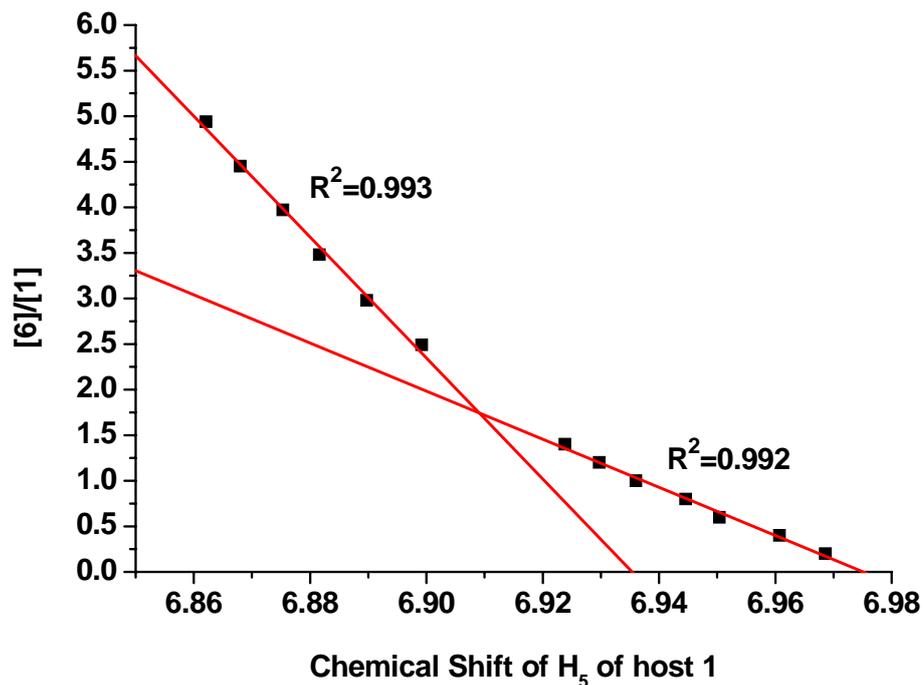
**Fig. S16** Plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR signal shifts observed in the titration of guest **5** with host **1**.



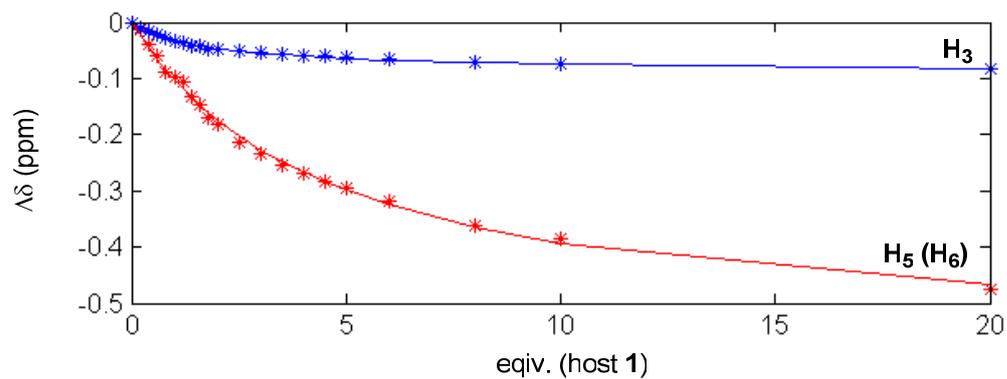
**Fig. S17** Mole ratio plot for the complexation of **1** and **5** in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}/\text{CDCl}_3 = 1:1$  at 298 K.



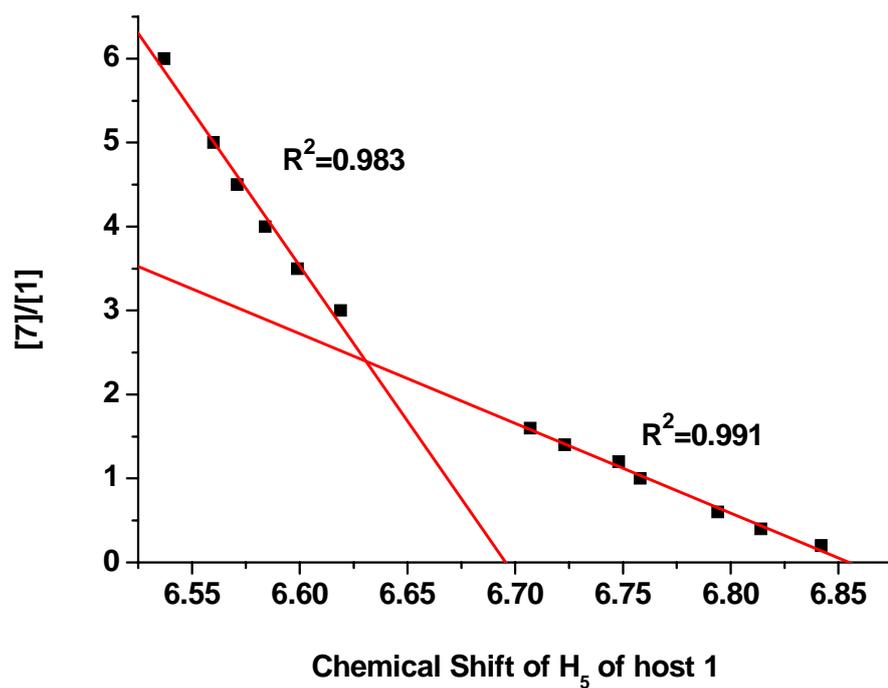
**Fig. S16** Plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR signal shifts observed in the titration of guest **6** with host **1**.



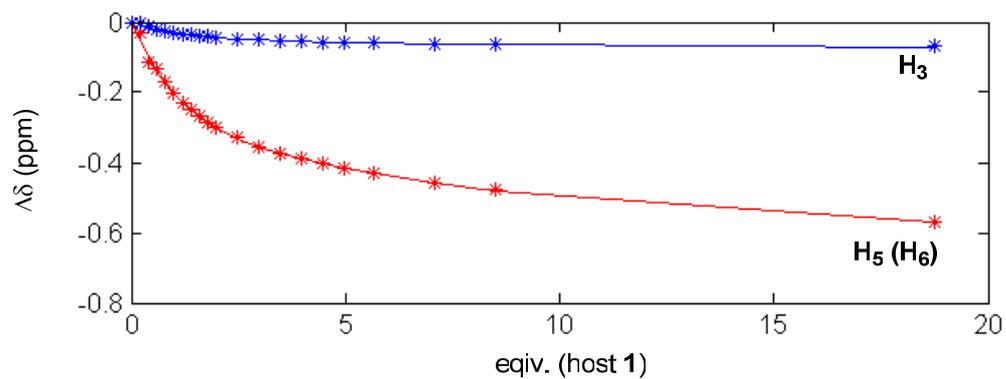
**Fig. S17** Mole ratio plot for the complexation of **1** and **6** in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}/\text{CDCl}_3 = 1:1$  at 298 K.



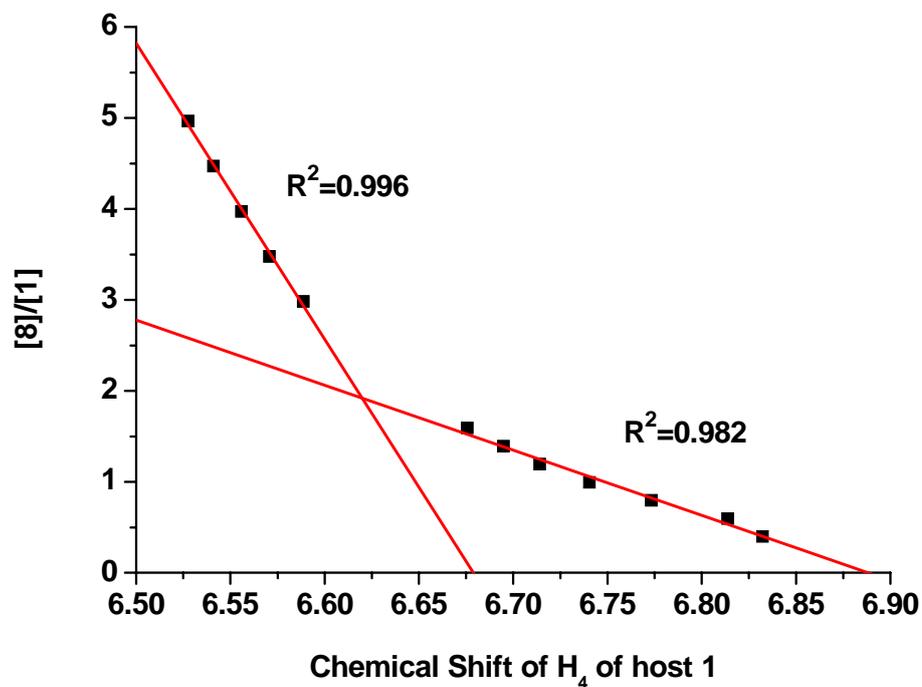
**Fig. S18** Plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR signal shifts observed in the titration of guest **7** with host **1**.



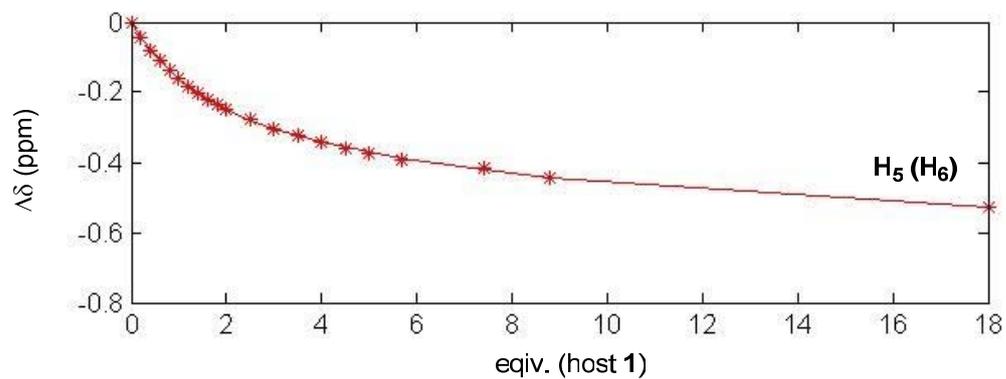
**Fig. S19** Mole ratio plot for the complexation of **1** and **7** in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}/\text{CDCl}_3 = 1:1$  at 298 K.



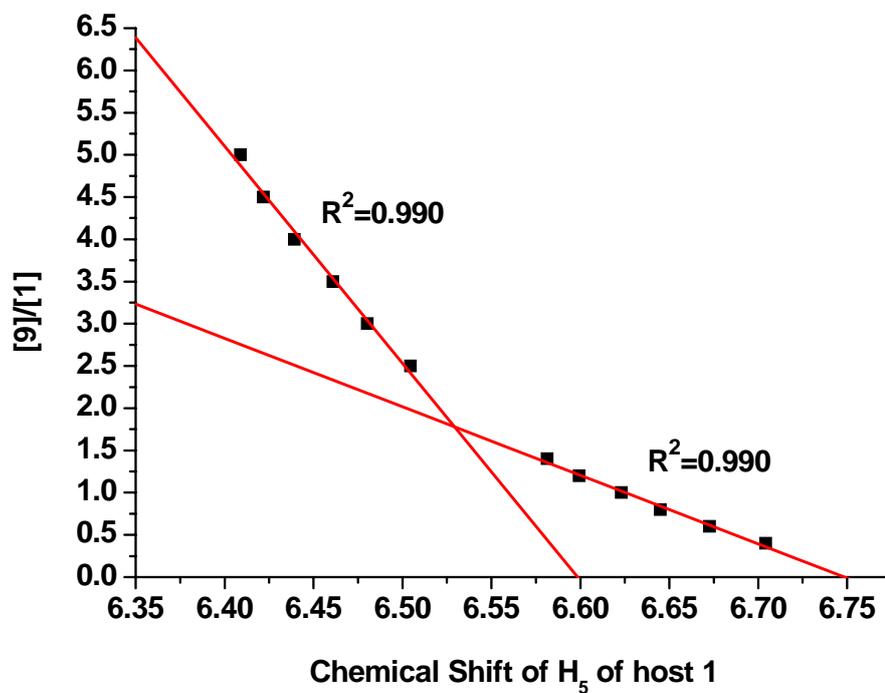
**Fig. S20** Plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR signal shifts observed in the titration of guest **8** with host **1**.



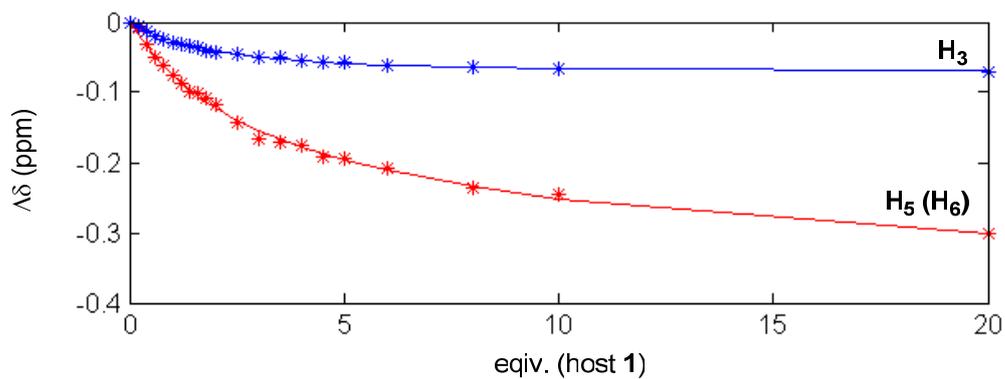
**Fig. S21** Mole ratio plot for the complexation of **1** and **8** in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}/\text{CDCl}_3 = 1:1$  at 298 K.



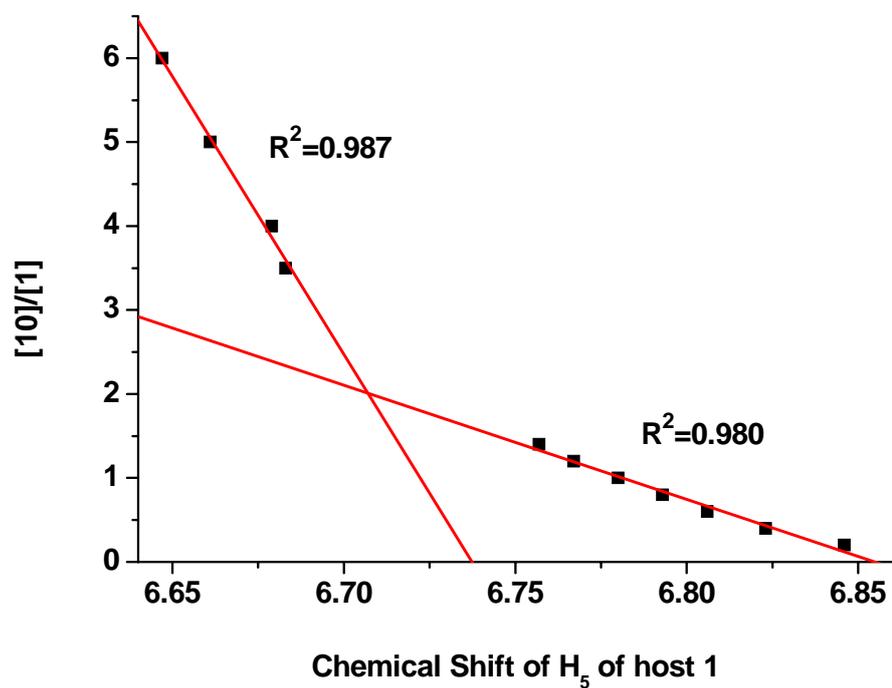
**Fig. S22** Plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR signal shifts observed in the titration of guest **9** with host **1**.



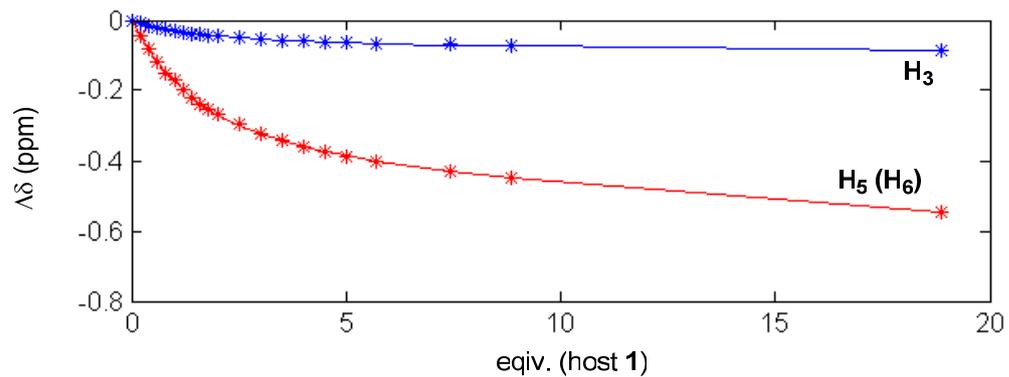
**Fig. S23** Mole ratio plot for the complexation of **1** and **9** in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}/\text{CDCl}_3 = 1:1$  at 298 K.



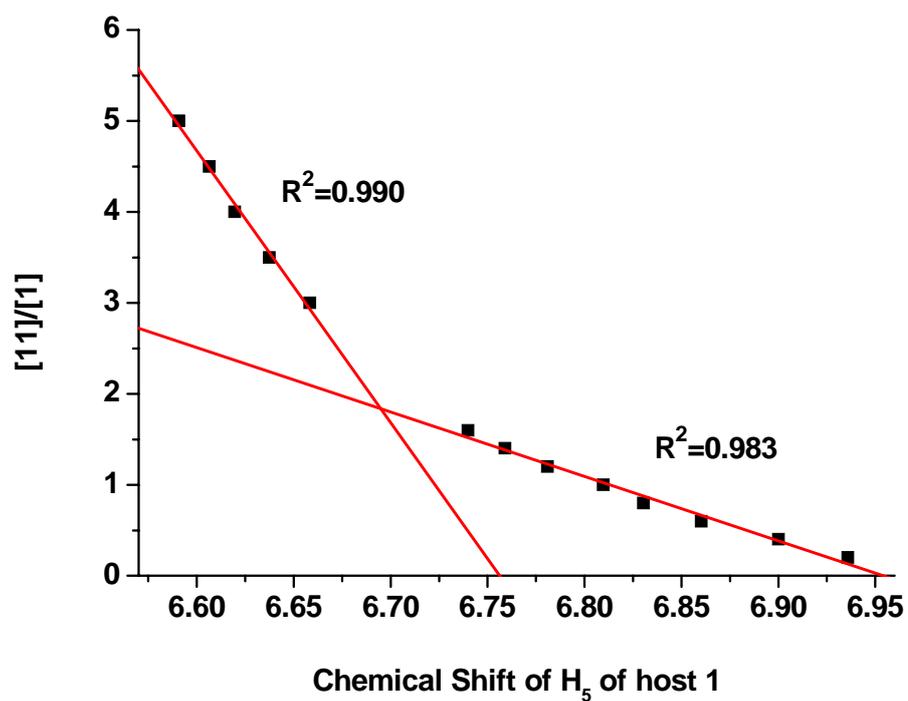
**Fig. S24** Plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR signal shifts observed in the titration of guest **10** with host **1**.



**Fig. S25** Mole ratio plot for the complexation of **1** and **10** in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}/\text{CDCl}_3 = 1:1$  at 298 K.

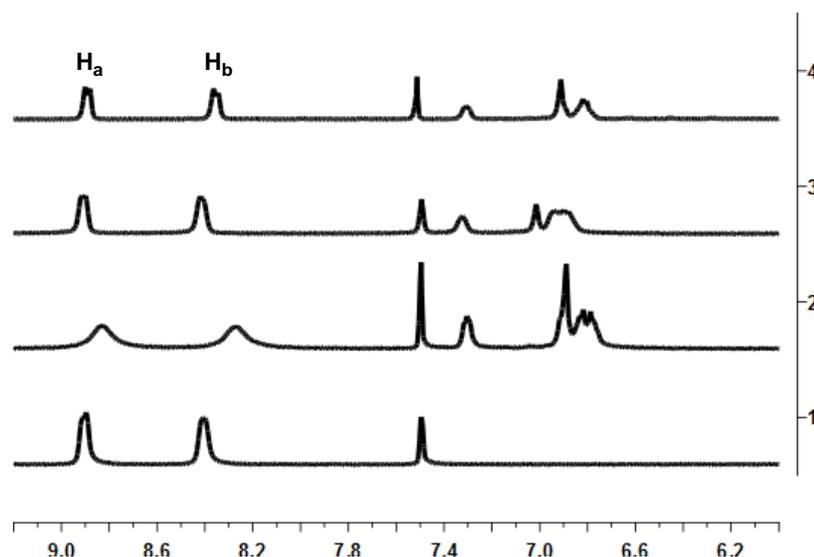


**Fig. S26** Plot of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR signal shifts observed in the titration of guest **11** with host **1**.

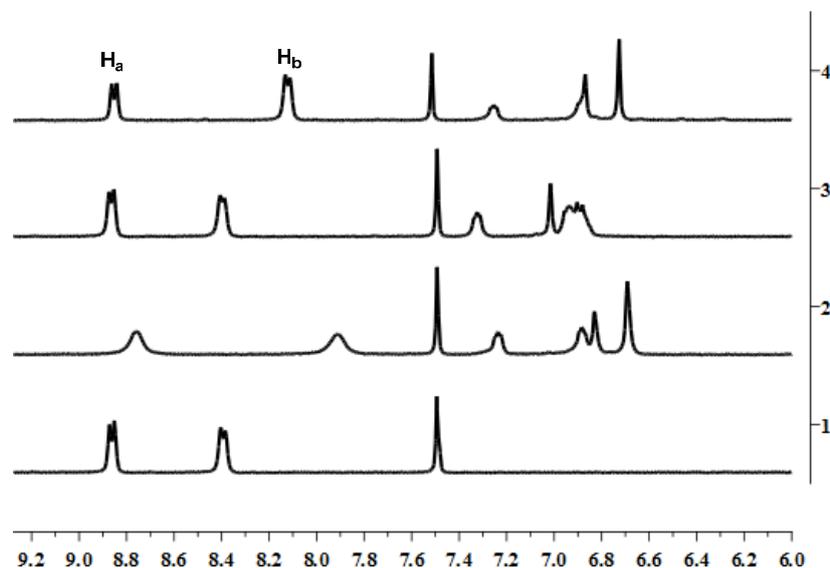


**Fig. S27** Mole ratio plot for the complexation of **1** and **11** in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}/\text{CDCl}_3 = 1:1$  at 298 K.

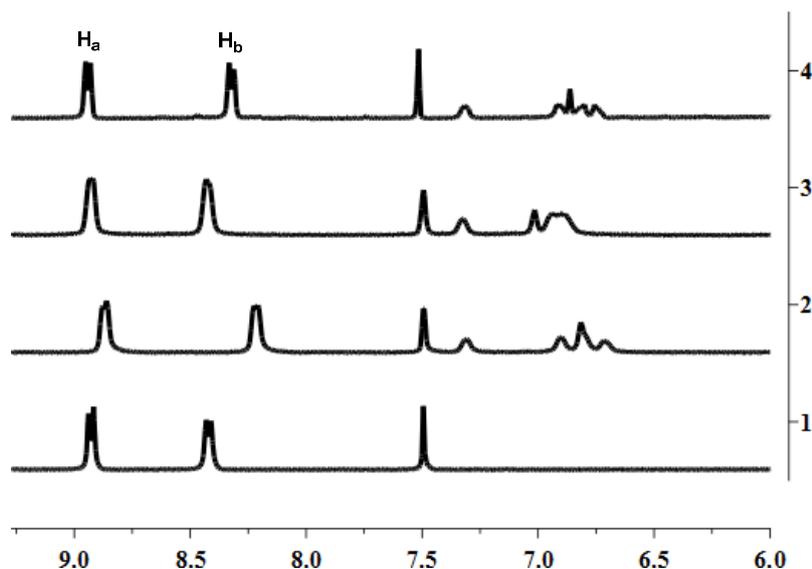
### 3. Comparison of $^1\text{H}$ NMR spectra by the removal and addition of the $\text{K}^+$ ions



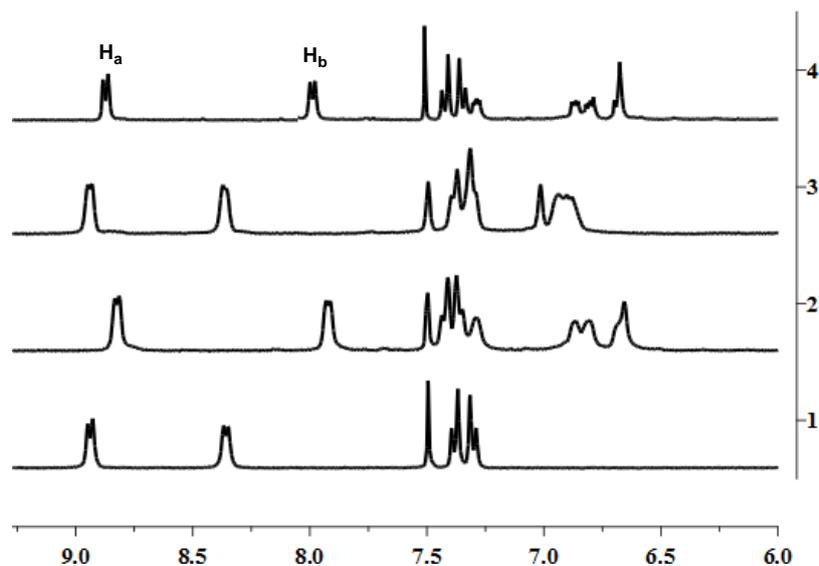
**Fig. S28** Partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (300 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}/\text{CDCl}_3 = 1:1$ , v/v, 298K) of (1) free **2**, (2) **1** and 2.0 equiv. of **2**, (3) to the solution of **2** was added 4.0 equiv. of  $\text{KPF}_6$ , and (4) to the solution of **3** was added 6.0 equiv. of [18]-crown-6.  $[\mathbf{1}]_0 = 3.0$  mM.



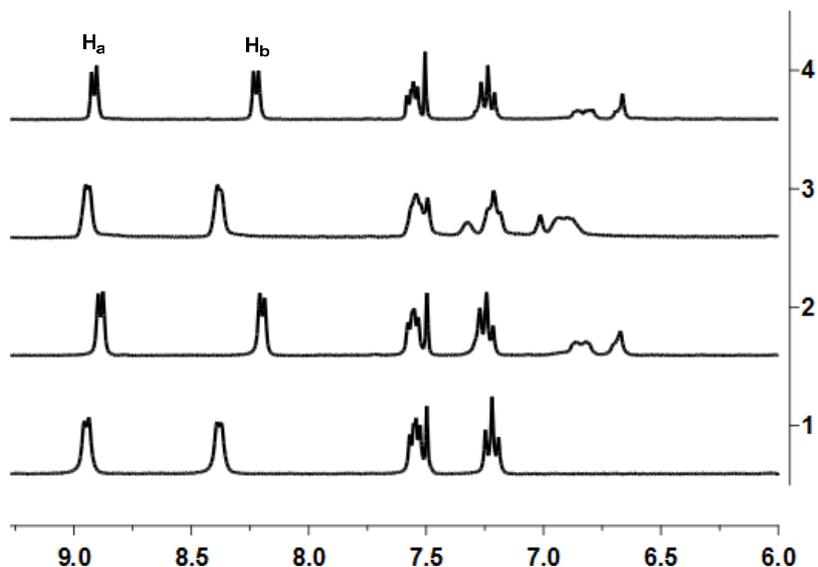
**Fig. S29** Partial  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (300 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}/\text{CDCl}_3 = 1:1$ , v/v, 298K) of (1) free **3**, (2) **1** and 2.0 equiv. of **3**, (3) to the solution of **2** was added 4.0 equiv. of  $\text{KPF}_6$ , and (4) to the solution of **3** was added 6.0 equiv. of [18]-crown-6.  $[\mathbf{1}]_0 = 3.0$  mM.



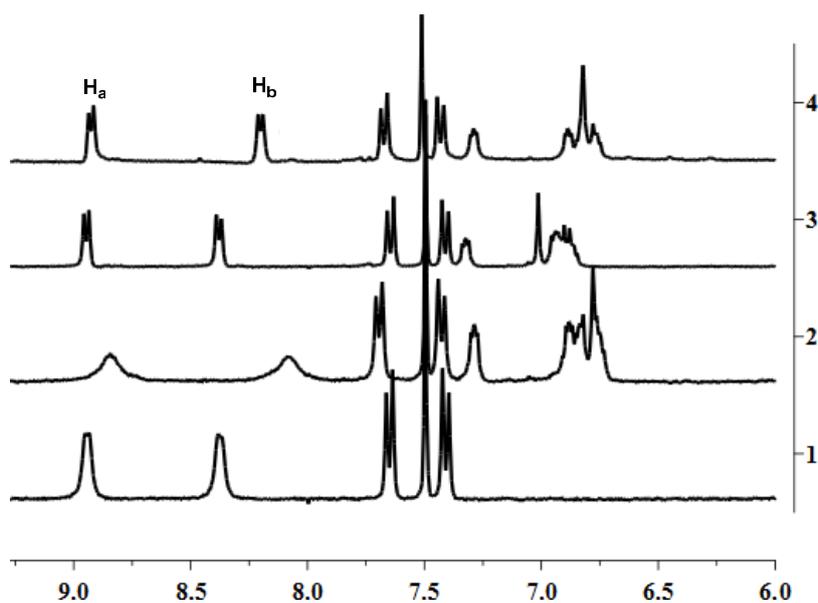
**Fig. S30** Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN/CDCl<sub>3</sub> = 1:1, v/v, 298K) of (1) free **5**, (2) **1** and 2.0 equiv. of **5**, (3) to the solution of **2** was added 4.0 equiv. of KPF<sub>6</sub>, and (4) to the solution of **3** was added 6.0 equiv. of [18]-crown-6. [**1**]<sub>0</sub> = 3.0 mM.



**Fig. S31** Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN/CDCl<sub>3</sub> = 1:1, v/v, 298K) of (1) free **8**, (2) **1** and 2.0 equiv. of **8**, (3) to the solution of **2** was added 4.0 equiv. of KPF<sub>6</sub>, and (4) to the solution of **3** was added 6.0 equiv. of [18]-crown-6. [**1**]<sub>0</sub> = 3.0 mM.

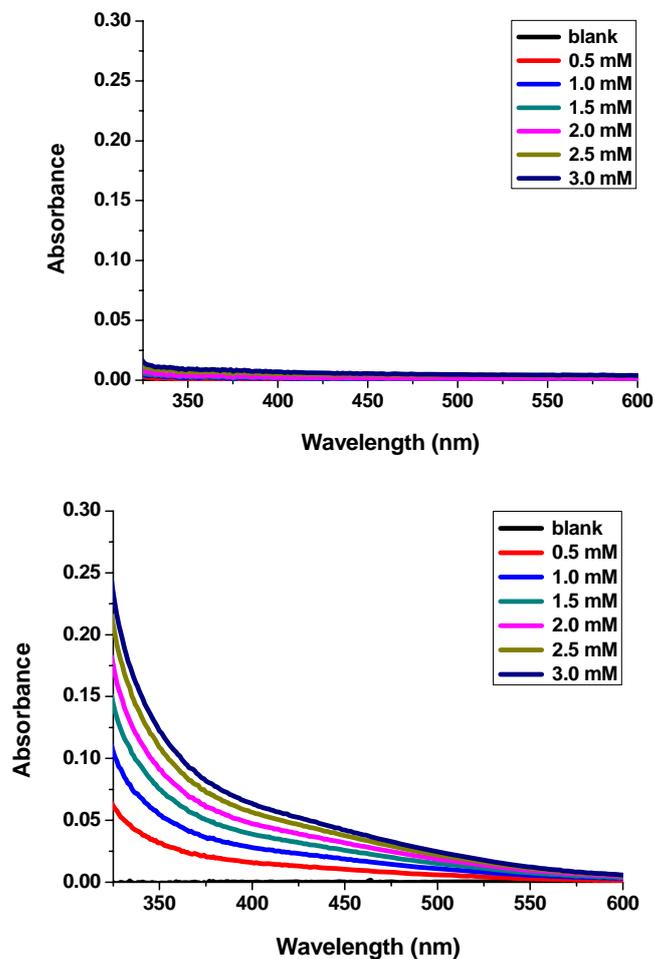


**Fig. S32** Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN/CDCl<sub>3</sub> = 1:1, v/v, 298K) of (1) free **9**, (2) **1** and 2.0 equiv. of **9**, (3) to the solution of **2** was added 4.0 equiv. of KPF<sub>6</sub>, and (4) to the solution of **3** was added 6.0 equiv. of [18]-crown-6. [**1**]<sub>0</sub> = 3.0 mM.

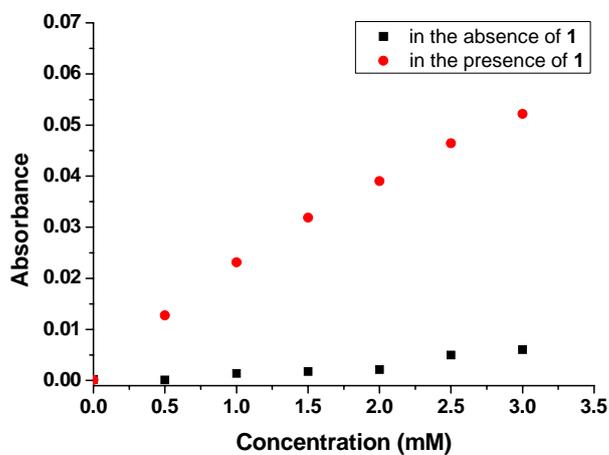


**Fig. S33** Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN/CDCl<sub>3</sub> = 1:1, v/v, 298K) of (1) free **11**, (2) **1** and 2.0 equiv. of **11**, (3) to the solution of **2** was added 4.0 equiv. of KPF<sub>6</sub>, and (4) to the solution of **3** was added 6.0 equiv. of [18]-crown-6. [**1**]<sub>0</sub> = 3.0 mM.

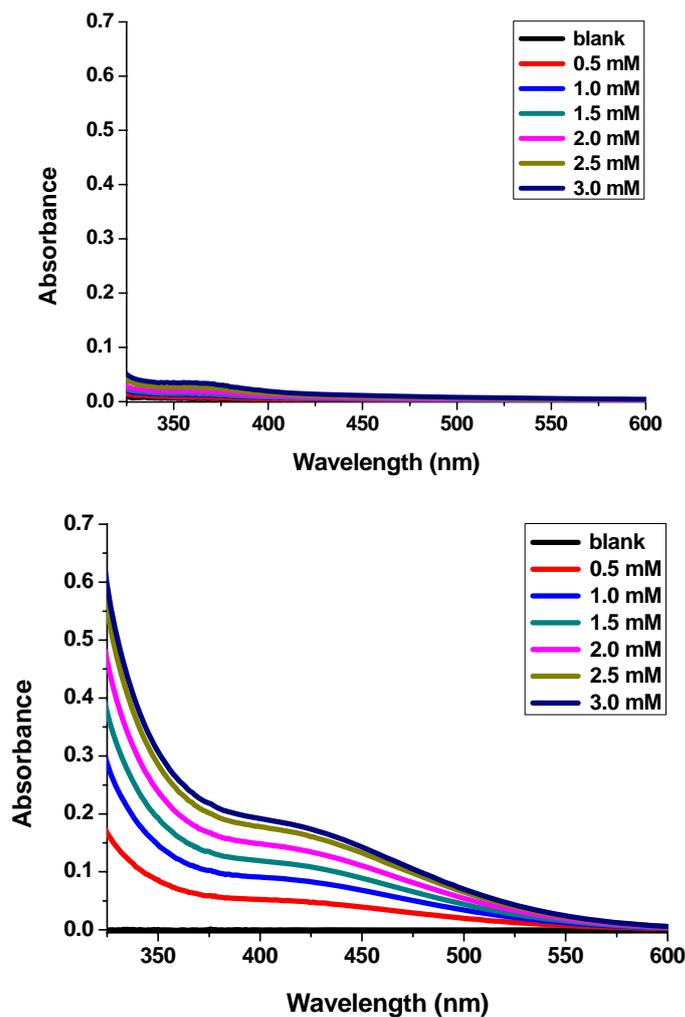
#### 4. UV-Vis spectrum of the complexes



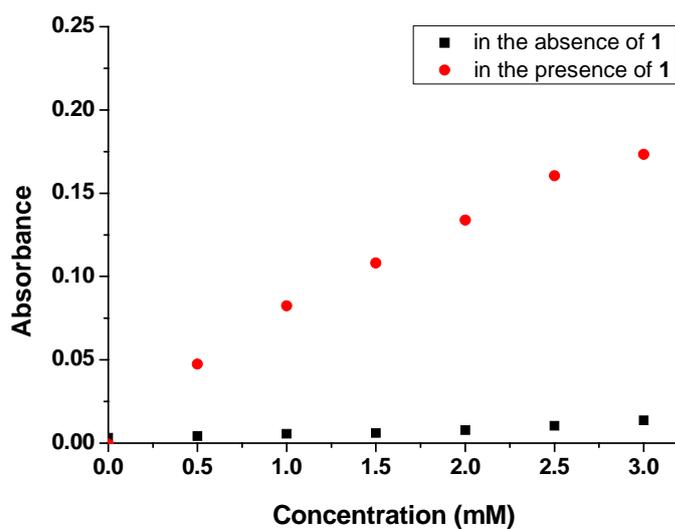
**Fig. S34** UV/Vis absorption spectra of (top) free **2** by increasing its concentration, (bottom) **2** by increasing its concentration in the presence of **1** (1.0 mM, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>= 1:1, v/v).



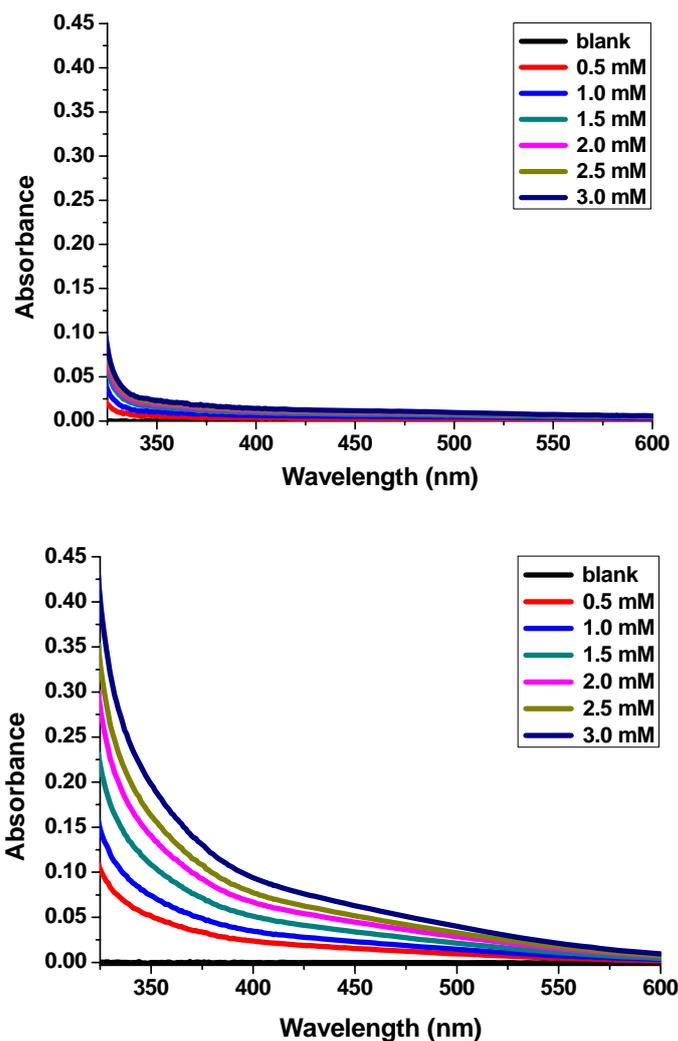
**Fig. S35** Dependence of the absorbance at 425 nm of **2** on its concentration in the absence and presence of **1** (1.0 mM, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>= 1:1, v/v).



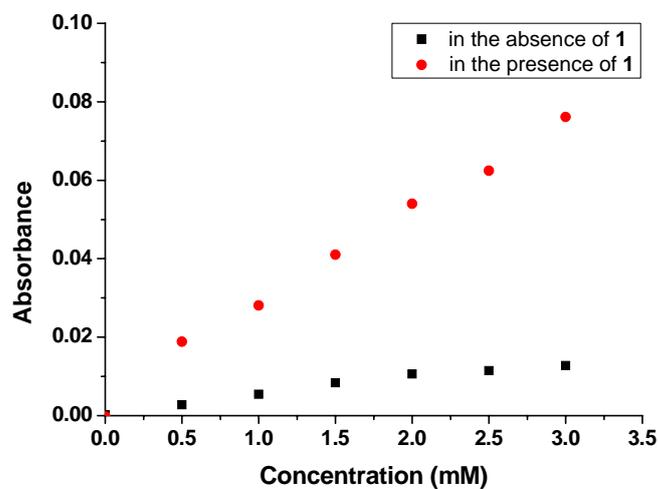
**Fig. S36** UV/Vis absorption spectra of (top) free **3** by increasing its concentration, (bottom) **3** by increasing its concentration in the presence of **1** (1.0 mM, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>= 1:1, v/v).



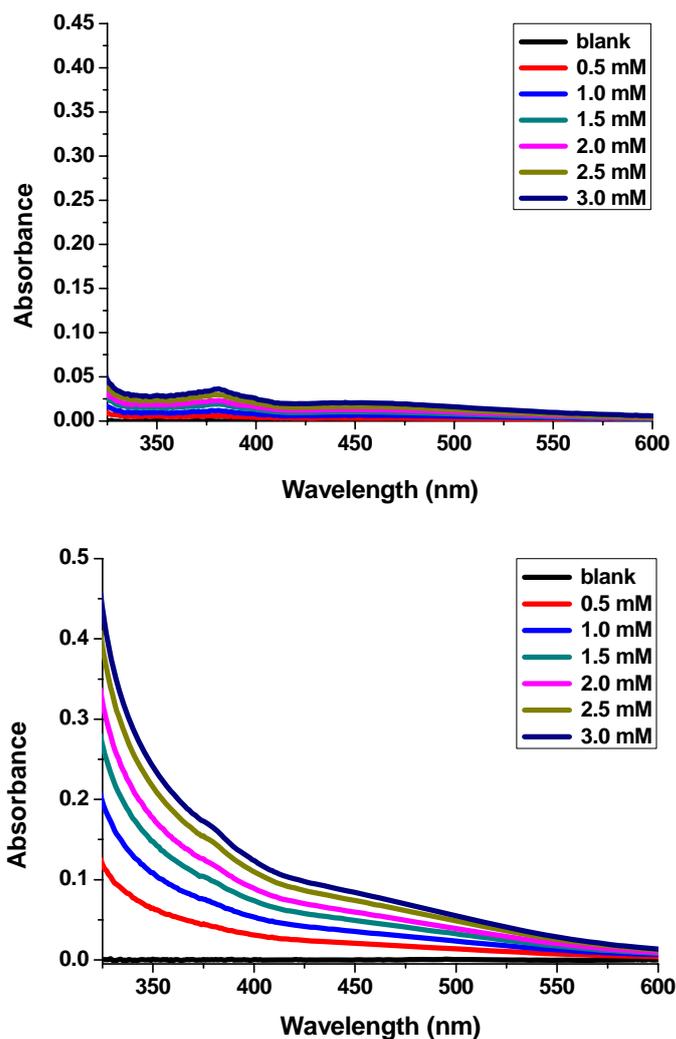
**Fig. S37** Dependence of the absorbance at 425 nm of **3** on its concentration in the absence and presence of **1** (1.0 mM, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>= 1:1, v/v).



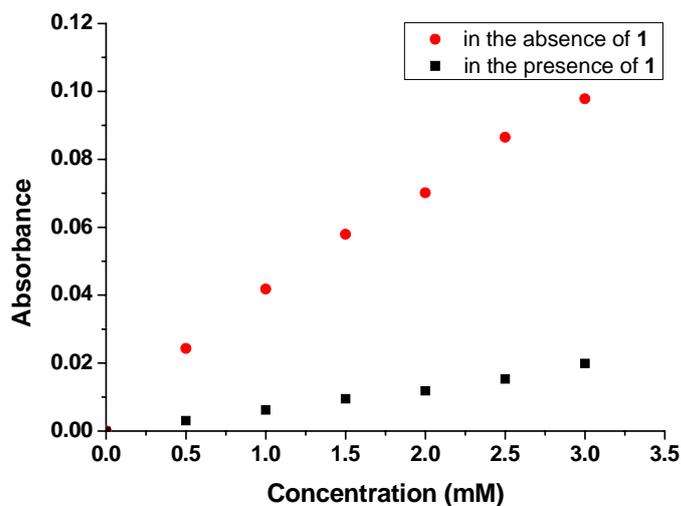
**Fig. S38** UV/Vis absorption spectra of (top) free **4** by increasing its concentration, (bottom) **4** by increasing its concentration in the presence of **1** (1.0 mM, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>= 1:1, v/v).



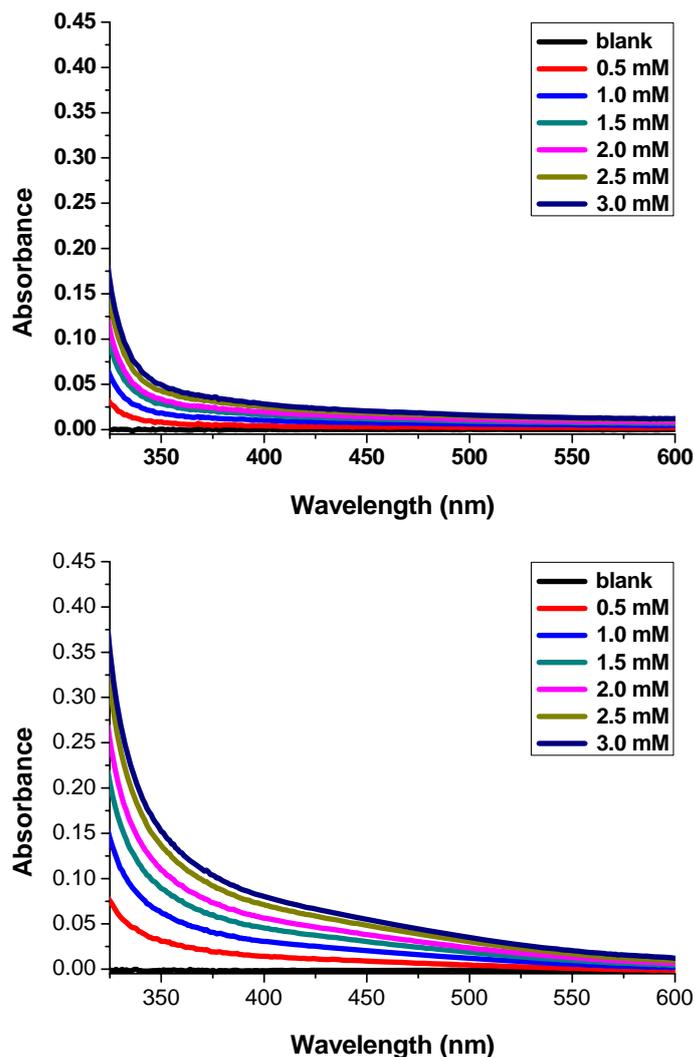
**Fig. S39** Dependence of the absorbance at 425 nm of **4** on its concentration in the absence and presence of **1** (1.0 mM, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>= 1:1, v/v).



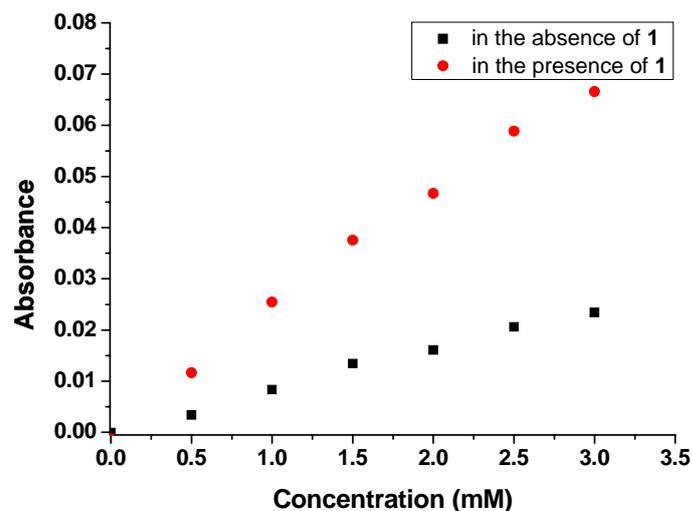
**Fig. S40** UV/Vis absorption spectra of (top) free **5** by increasing its concentration, (bottom) **5** by increasing its concentration in the presence of **1** (1.0 mM, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>= 1:1, v/v).



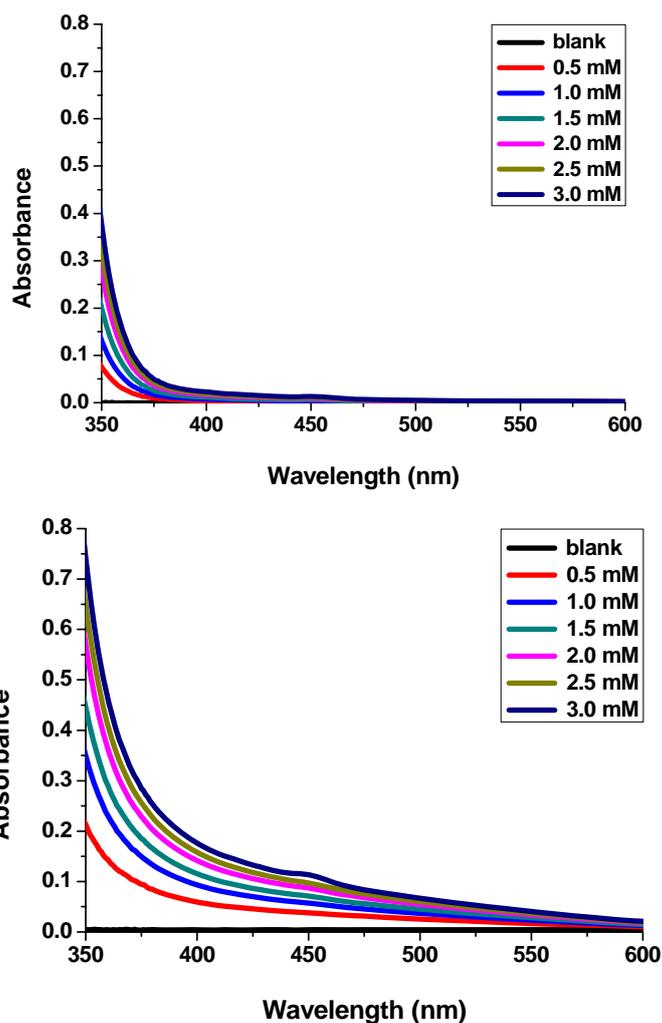
**Fig. S41** Dependence of the absorbance at 425 nm of **5** on its concentration in the absence and presence of **1** (1.0 mM, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>= 1:1, v/v).



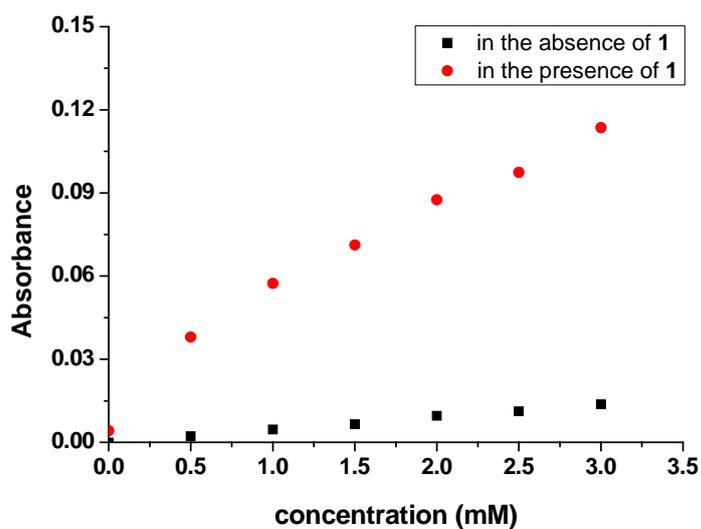
**Fig. S42** UV/Vis absorption spectra of (top) free **6** by increasing its concentration, (bottom) **6** by increasing its concentration in the presence of **1** (1.0 mM, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>= 1:1, v/v).



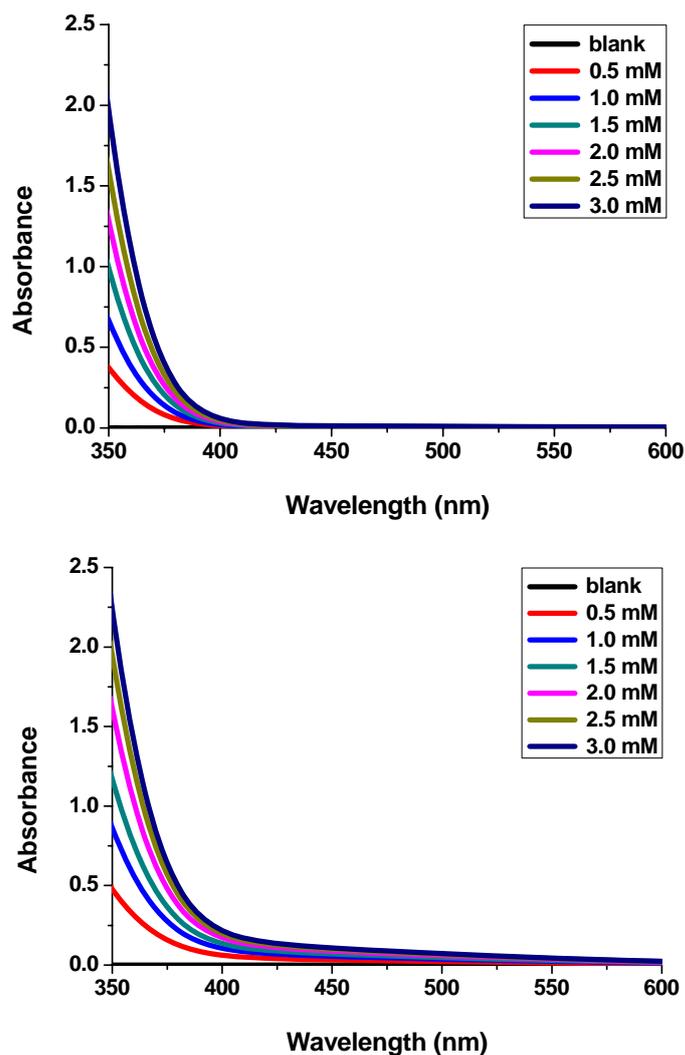
**Fig. S43** Dependence of the absorbance at 425 nm of **6** on its concentration in the absence and presence of **1** (1.0 mM, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>= 1:1, v/v).



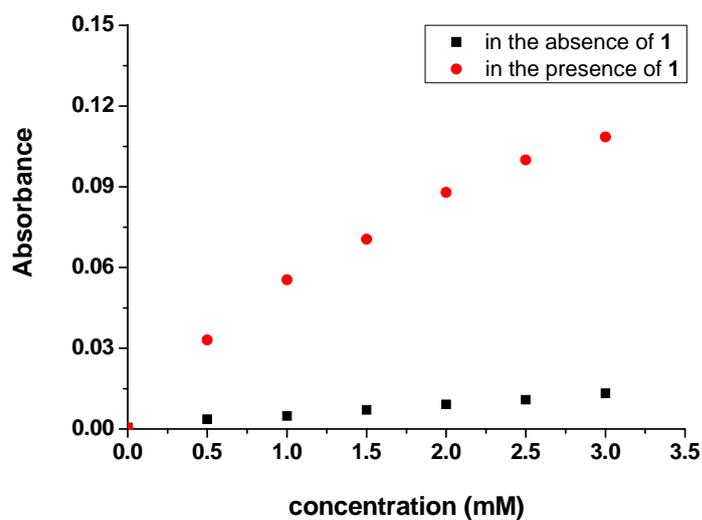
**Fig. S44** UV/Vis absorption spectra of (top) free **7** by increasing its concentration, (bottom) **7** by increasing its concentration in the presence of **1** (1.0 mM, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>= 1:1, v/v).



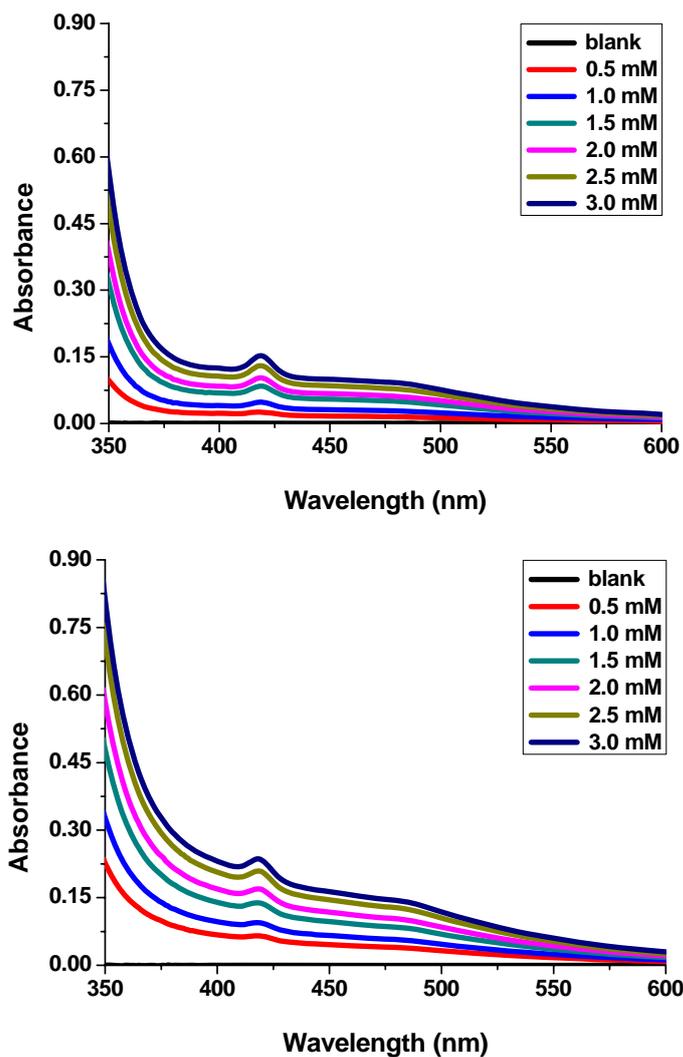
**Fig. S45** Dependence of the absorbance at 425 nm of **7** on its concentration in the absence and presence of **1** (1.0 mM, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>= 1:1, v/v).



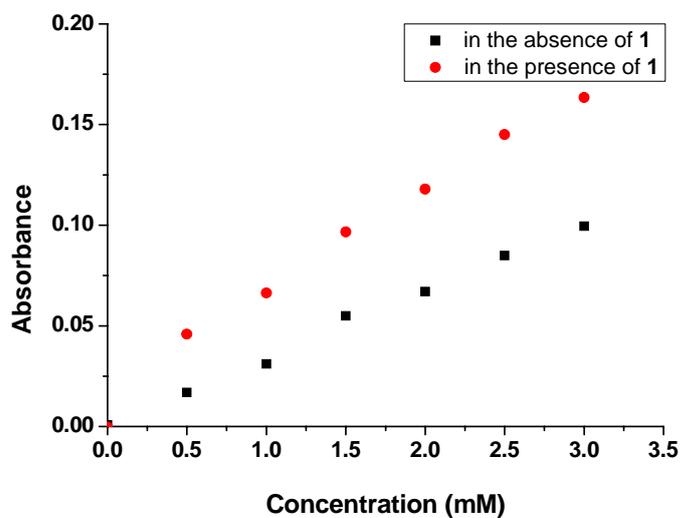
**Fig. S46** UV/Vis absorption spectra of (top) free **8** by increasing its concentration, (bottom) **8** by increasing its concentration in the presence of **1** (1.0 mM, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>= 1:1, v/v).



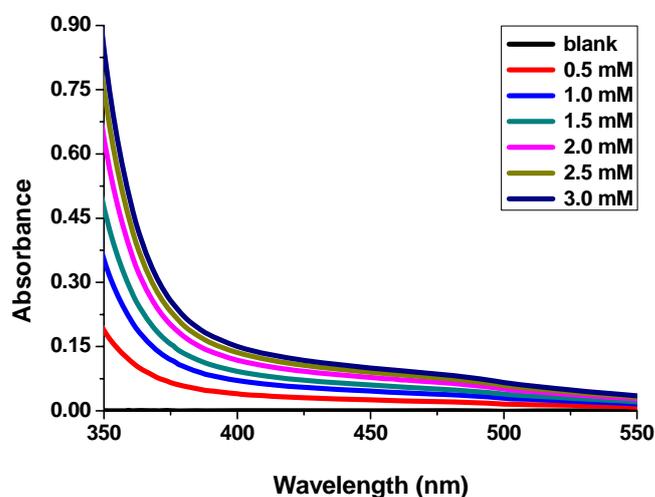
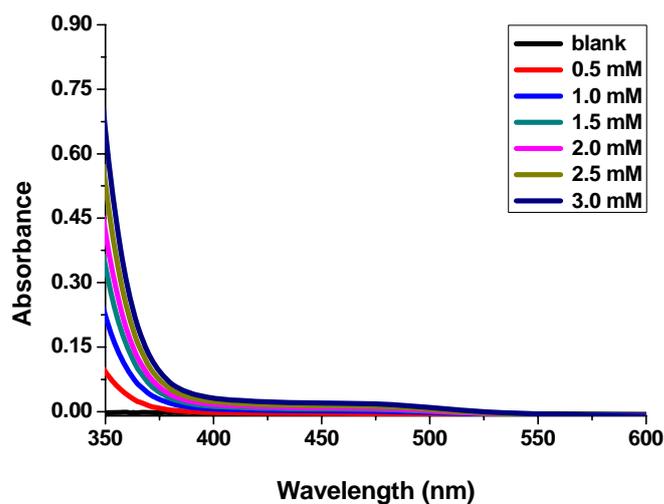
**Fig. S47** Dependence of the absorbance at 425 nm of **8** on its concentration in the absence and presence of **1** (1.0 mM, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>= 1:1, v/v).



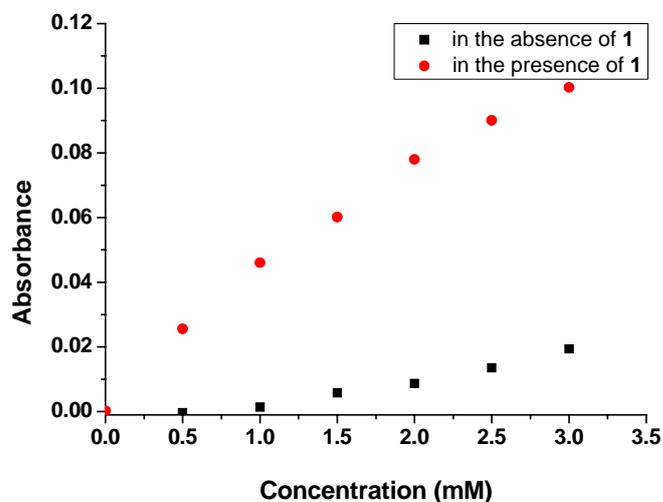
**Fig. S48** UV/Vis absorption spectra of (top) free **9** by increasing its concentration, (bottom) **9** by increasing its concentration in the presence of **1** (1.0 mM, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>= 1:1, v/v).



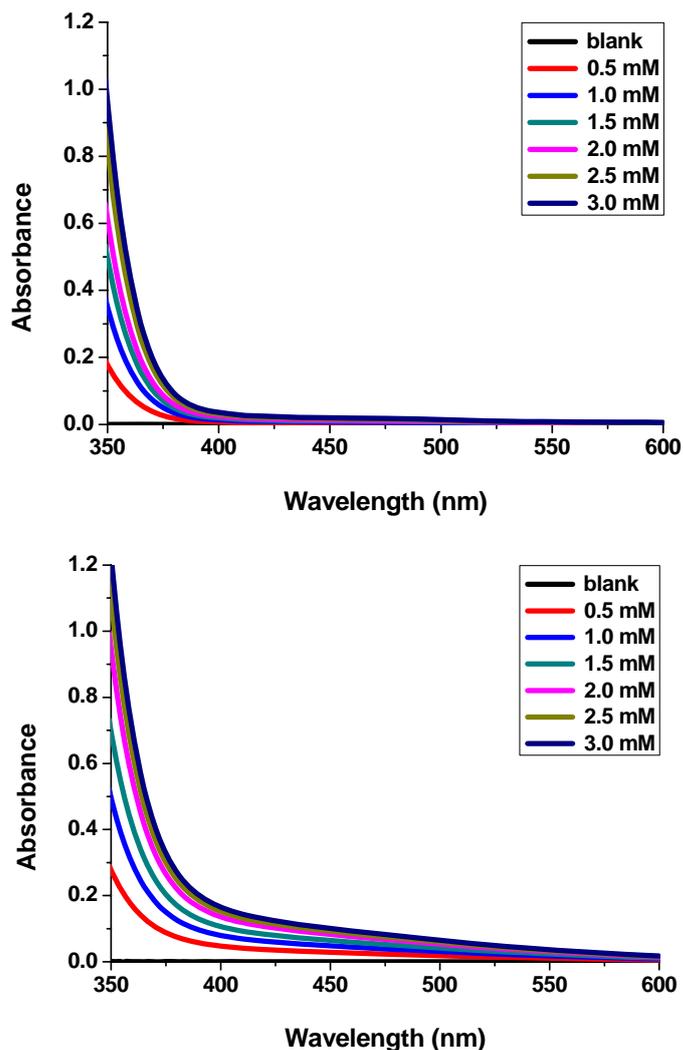
**Fig. S49** Dependence of the absorbance at 450 nm of **9** on its concentration in the absence and presence of **1** (1.0 mM, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>= 1:1, v/v).



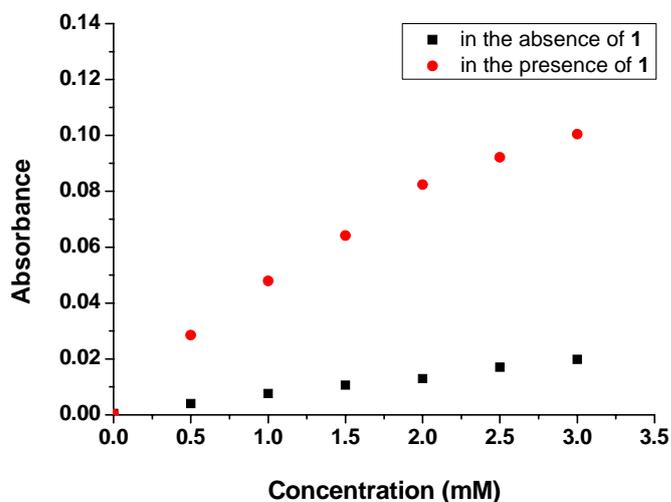
**Fig. S50** UV/Vis absorption spectra of (top) free **10** by increasing its concentration, (bottom) **10** by increasing its concentration in the presence of **1** (1.0 mM, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>= 1:1, v/v).



**Fig. S51** Dependence of the absorbance at 450 nm of **10** on its concentration in the absence and presence of **1** (1.0 mM, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>= 1:1, v/v).

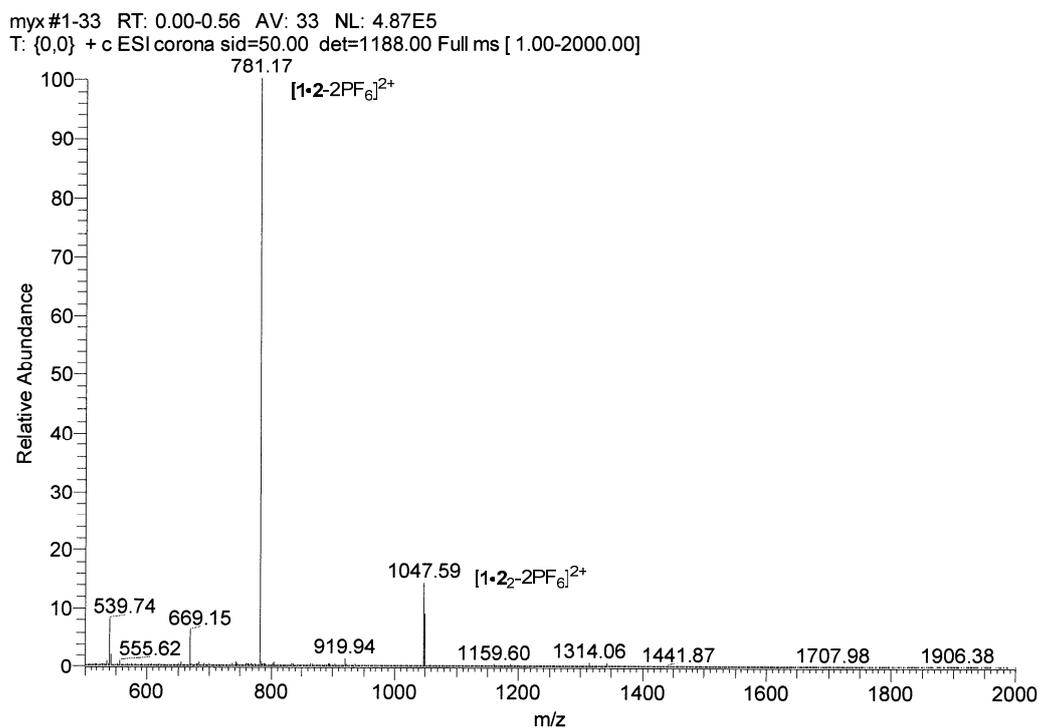


**Fig. S52** UV/Vis absorption spectra of (top) free **11** by increasing its concentration, (bottom) **11** by increasing its concentration in the presence of **1** (1.0 mM, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>= 1:1, v/v).

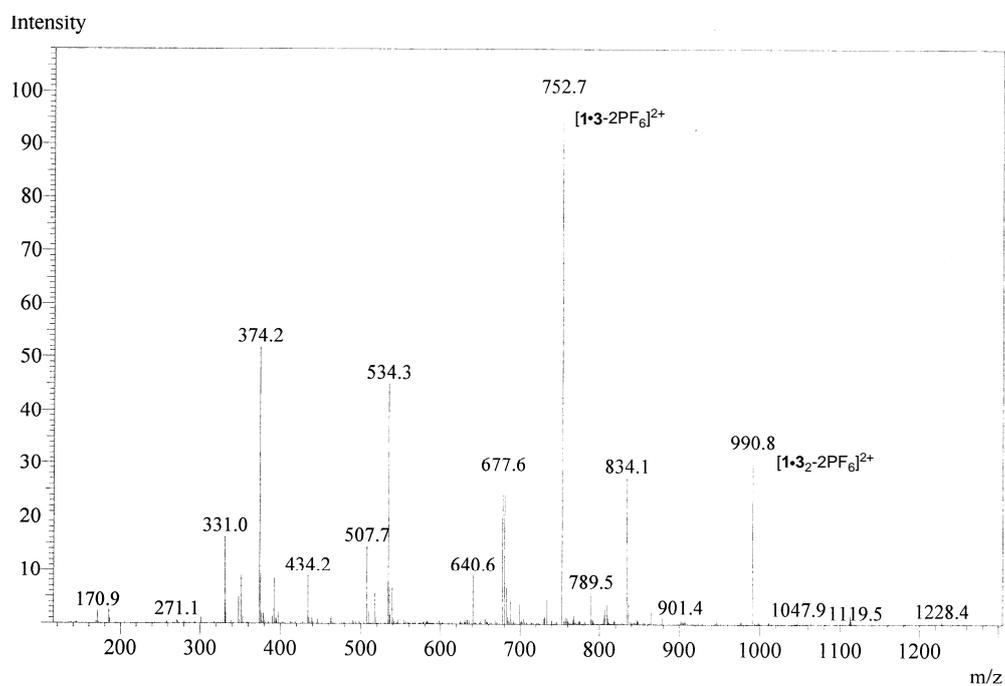


**Fig. S53** Dependence of the absorbance at 450 nm of **11** on its concentration in the absence and presence of **1** (1.0 mM, CH<sub>3</sub>CN/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>= 1:1, v/v).

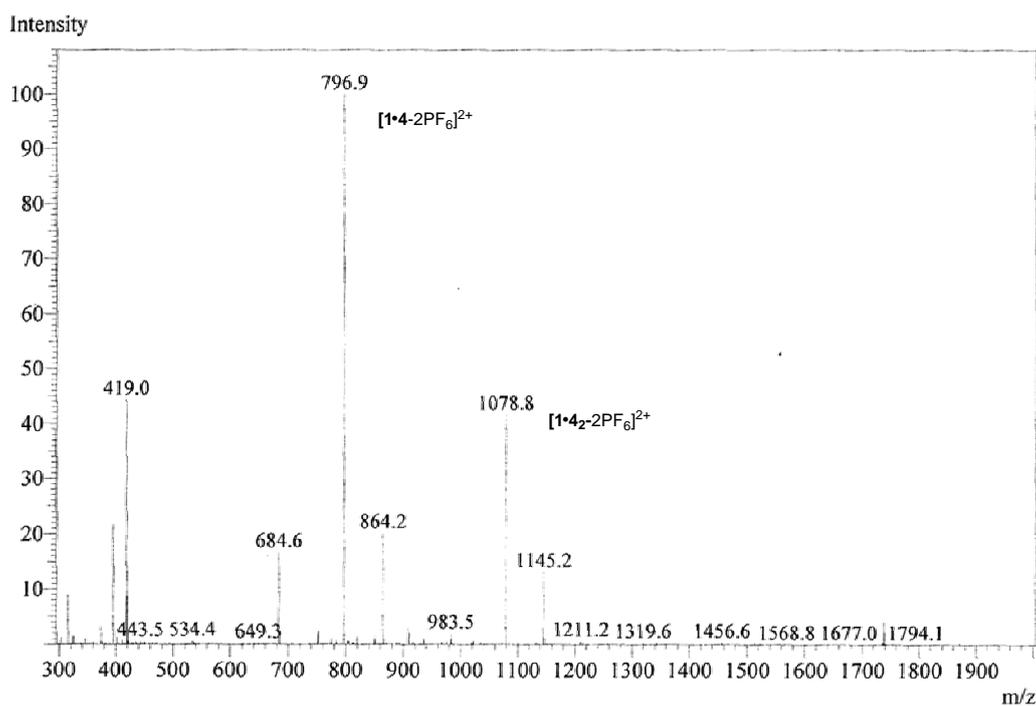
## 5. ESI-MS spectra of the complexes



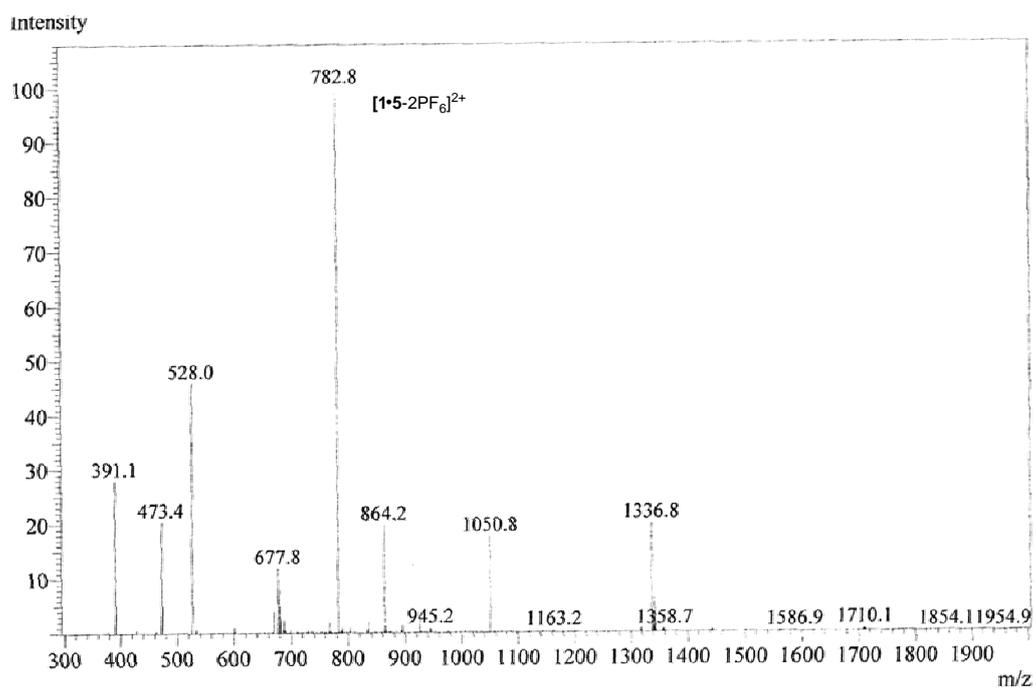
**Fig. S54** ESI-MS of **1** and **2** in acetonitrile-chloroform (1:1, v:v).



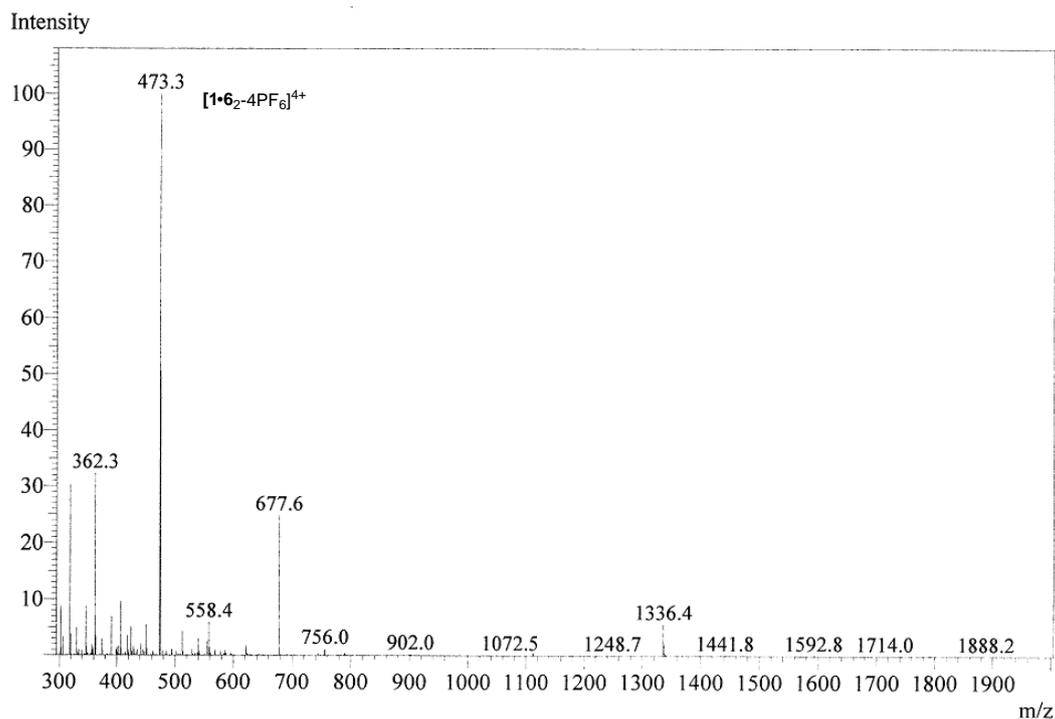
**Fig. S55** ESI-MS of **1** and **3** in acetonitrile-chloroform (1:1, v:v).



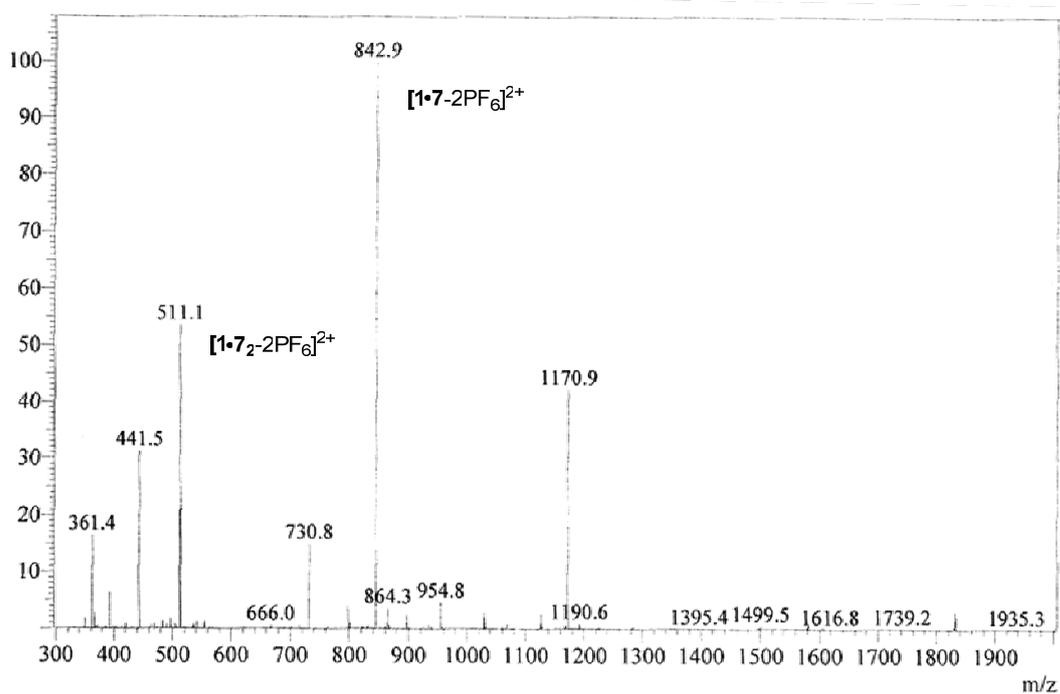
**Fig. S56** ESI-MS of **1** and **4** in acetonitrile-chloroform (1:1, v:v).



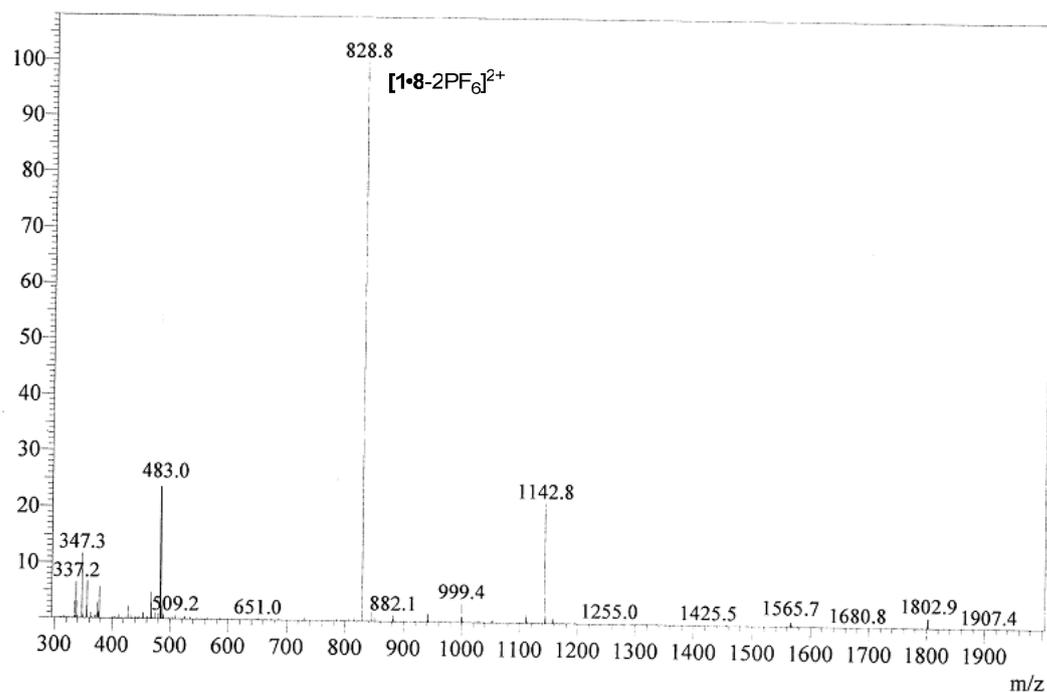
**Fig. S57** ESI-MS of **1** and **5** in acetonitrile-chloroform (1:1, v:v).



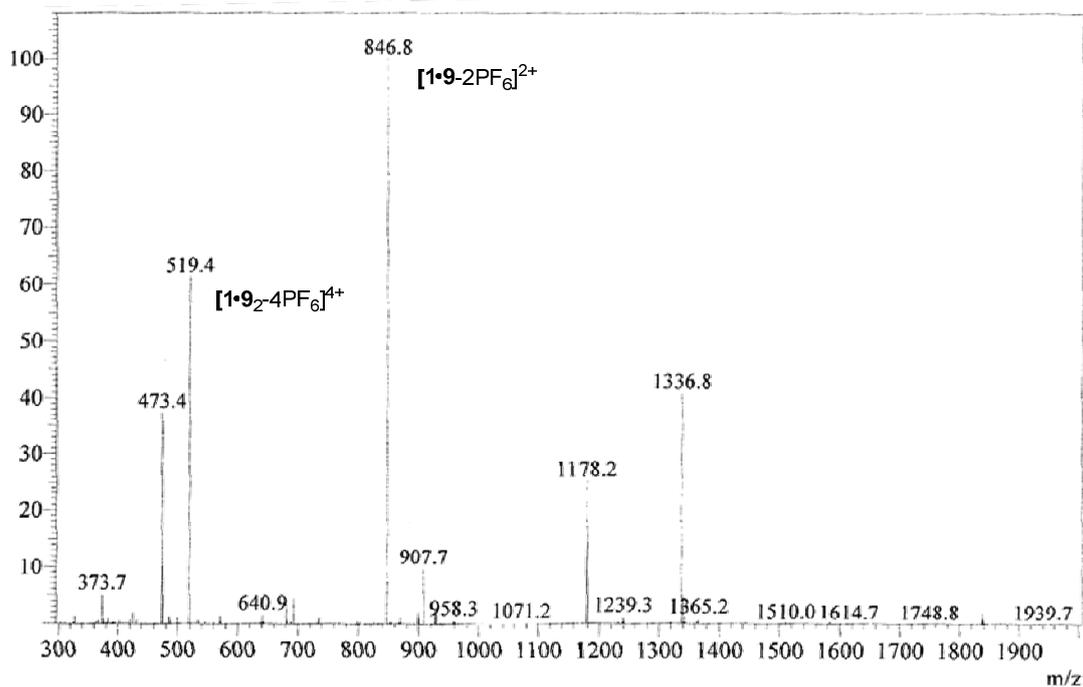
**Fig. S58** ESI-MS of **1** and **6** in acetonitrile-chloroform (1:1, v:v).



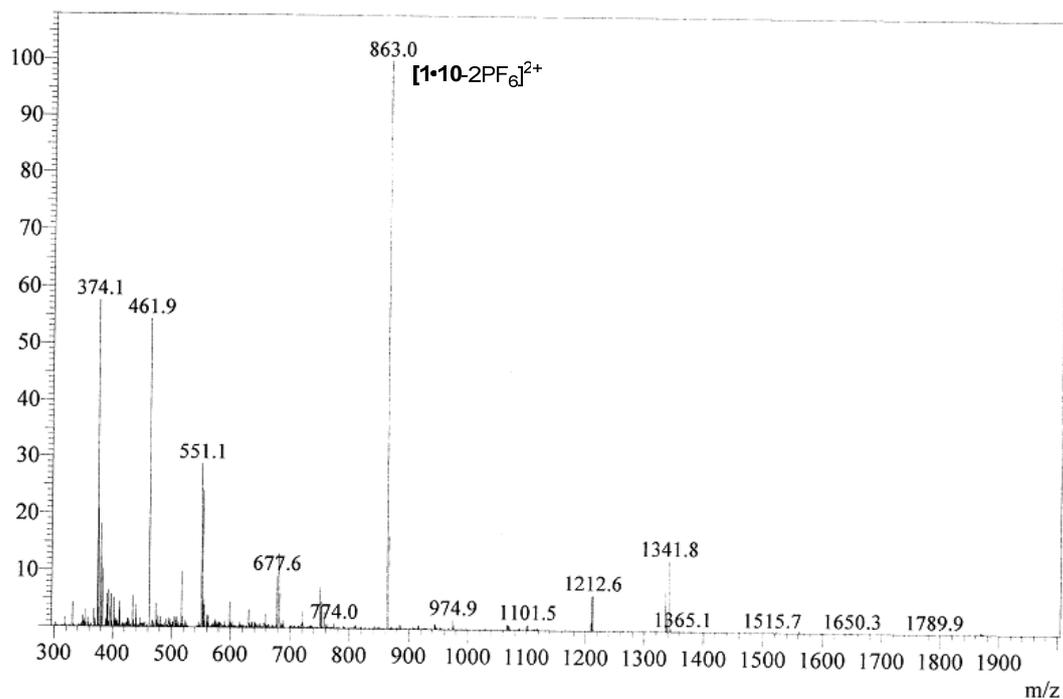
**Fig. S59** ESI-MS of **1** and **7** in acetonitrile-chloroform (1:1, v:v).



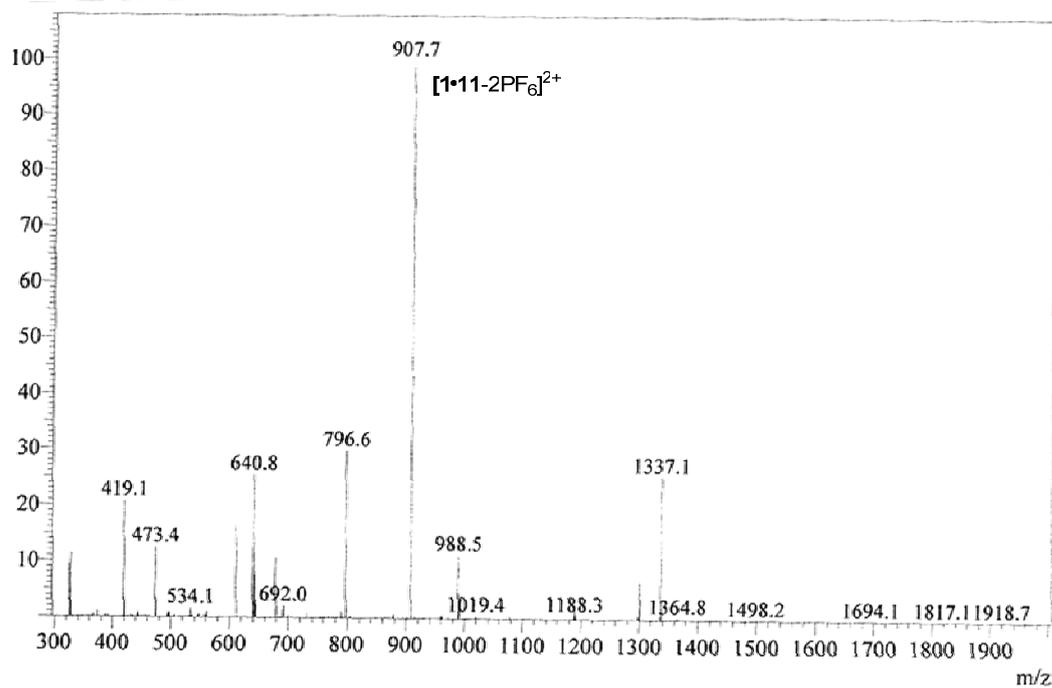
**Fig. S60** ESI-MS of **1** and **8** in acetonitrile-chloroform (1:1, v:v).



**Fig. S61** ESI-MS of **1** and **9** in acetonitrile-chloroform (1:1, v:v).

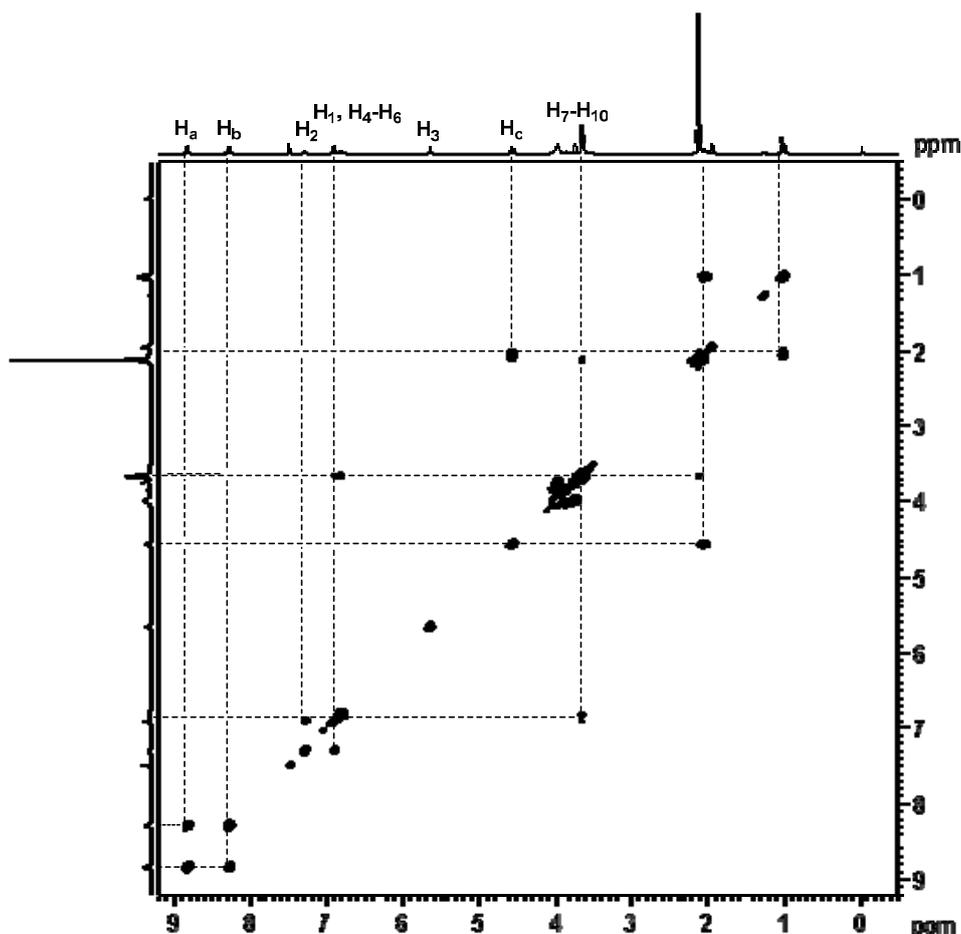
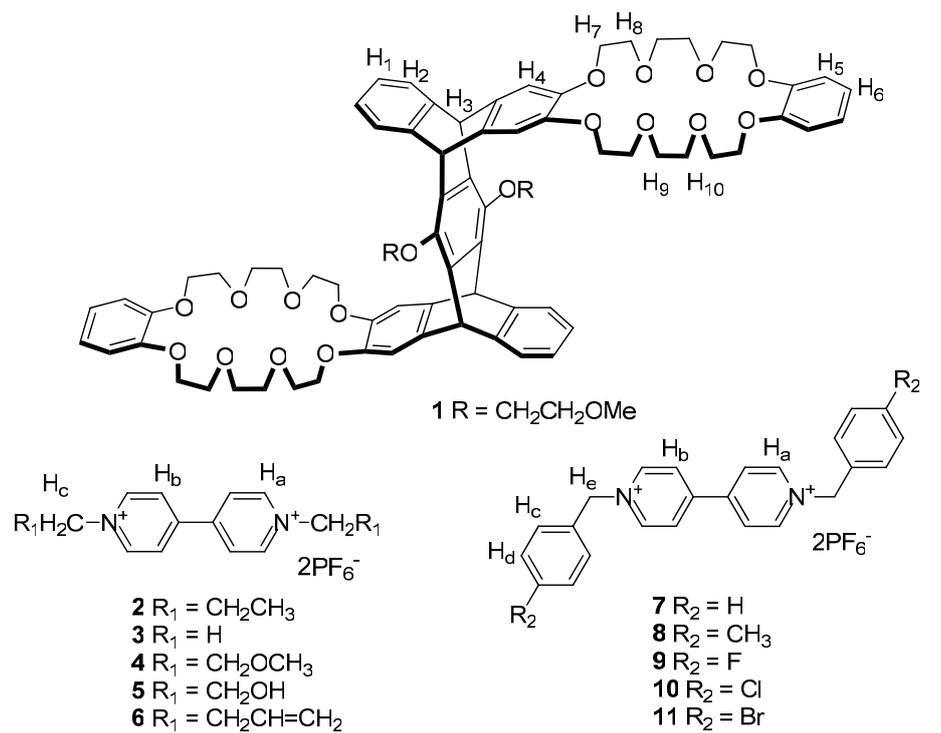


**Fig. S62** ESI-MS of **1** and **10** in acetonitrile-chloroform (1:1, v:v).

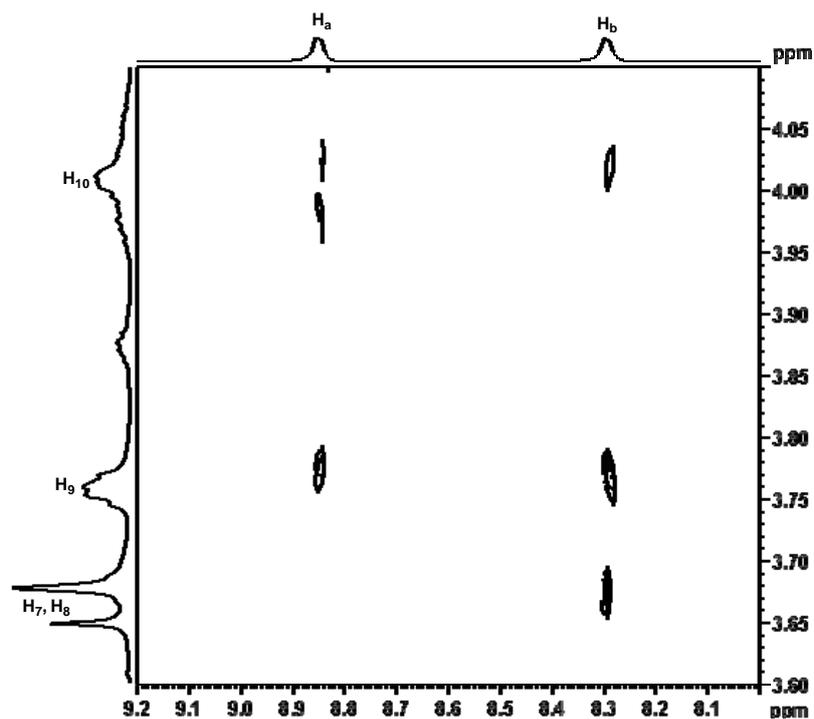


**Fig. S63** ESI-MS of **1** and **11** in acetonitrile-chloroform (1:1, v:v).

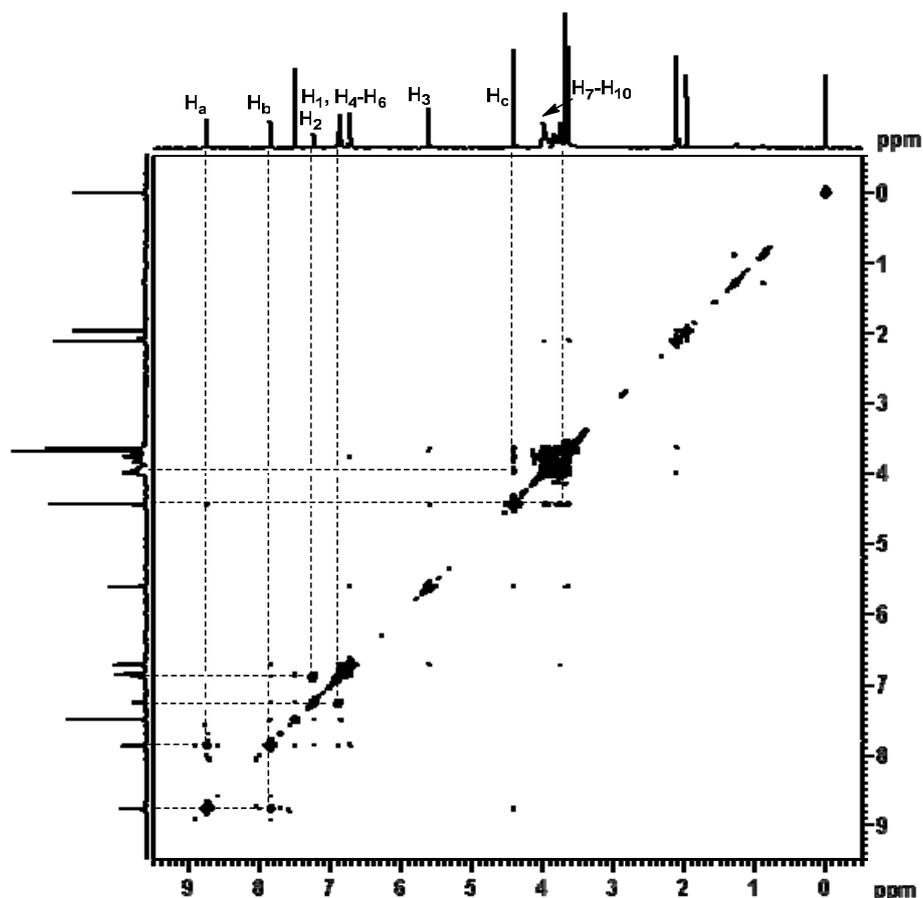
## 6. $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$ COSY and ROESY spectra of the complexes



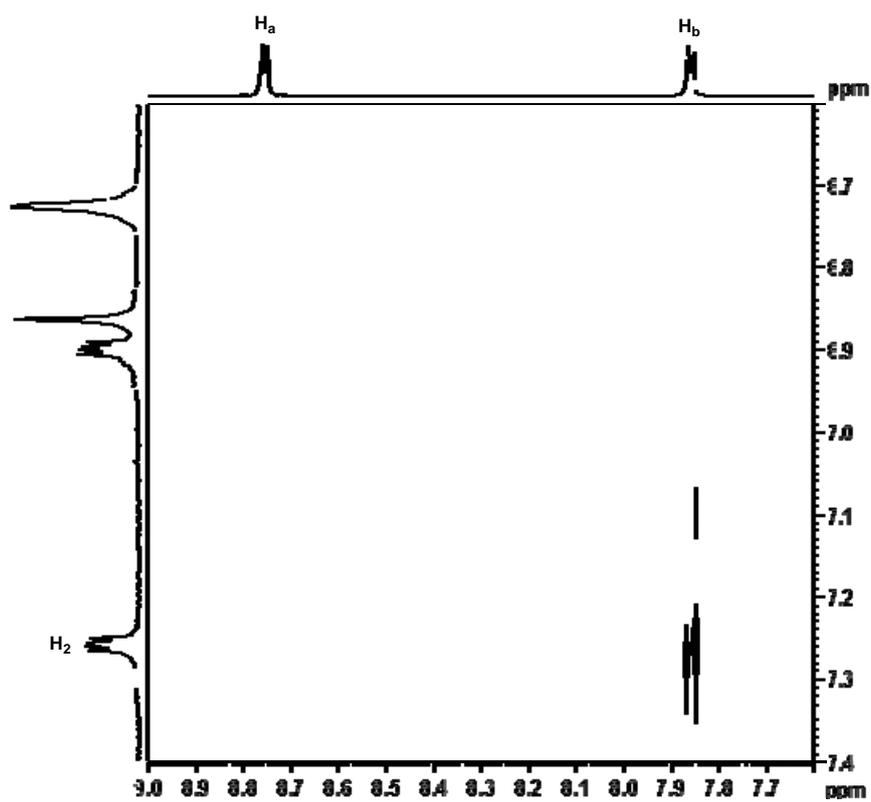
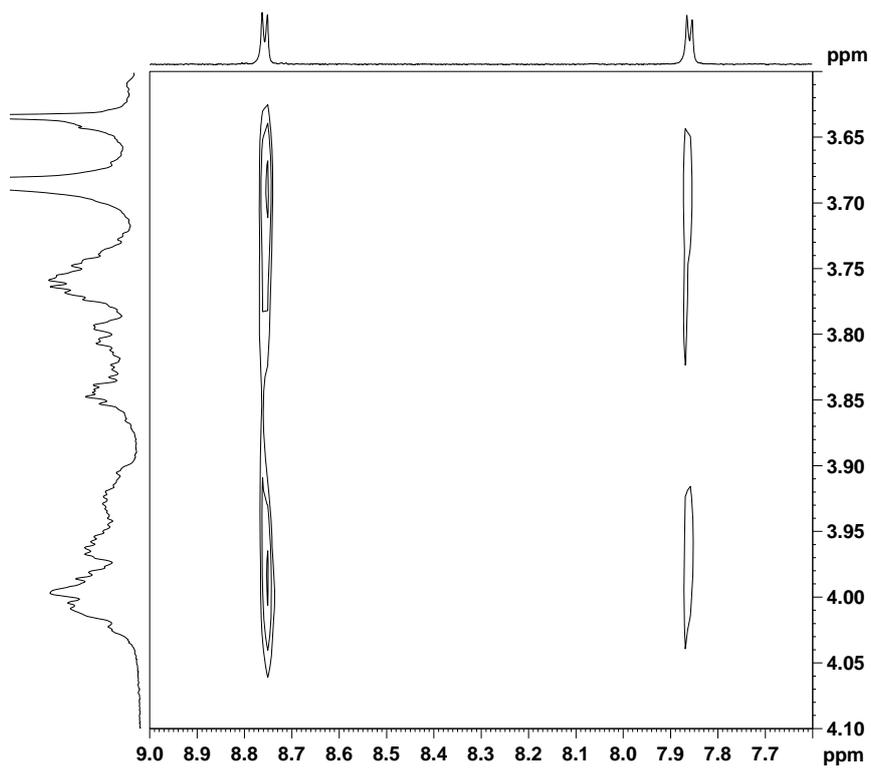
**Fig. S64**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY spectrum (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}/\text{CDCl}_3=1:1$ , v/v, 295K) of **1** and 2 equiv of **2**.  $[\mathbf{1}]_0 = 3.0$  mM.



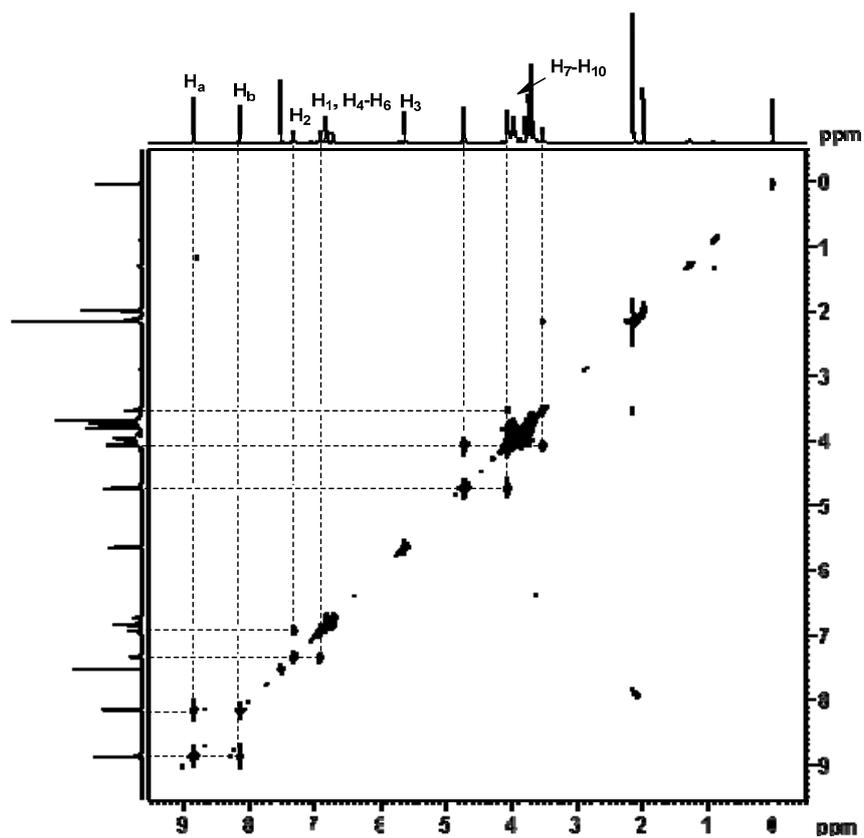
**Fig. S65** <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H ROESY spectrum (600 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN/CDCl<sub>3</sub>=1:1, v/v, 295K) of **1** and 2 equiv of **2**. [1]<sub>0</sub> = 3.0 mM.



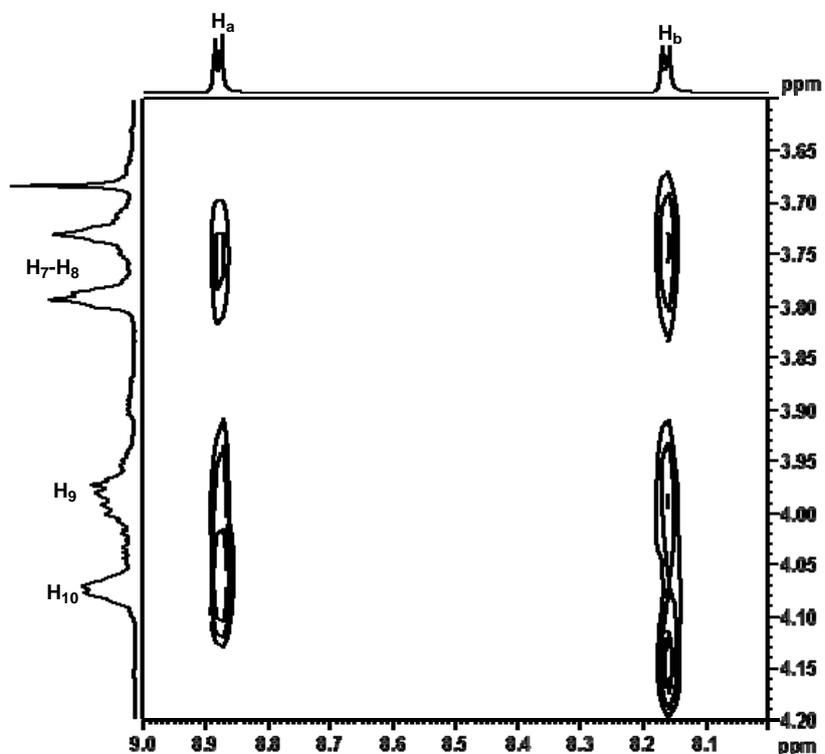
**Fig. S66** <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY spectrum (600 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN/CDCl<sub>3</sub>=1:1, v/v, 295K) of **1** and 2 equiv of **3**. [1]<sub>0</sub> = 3.0 mM.



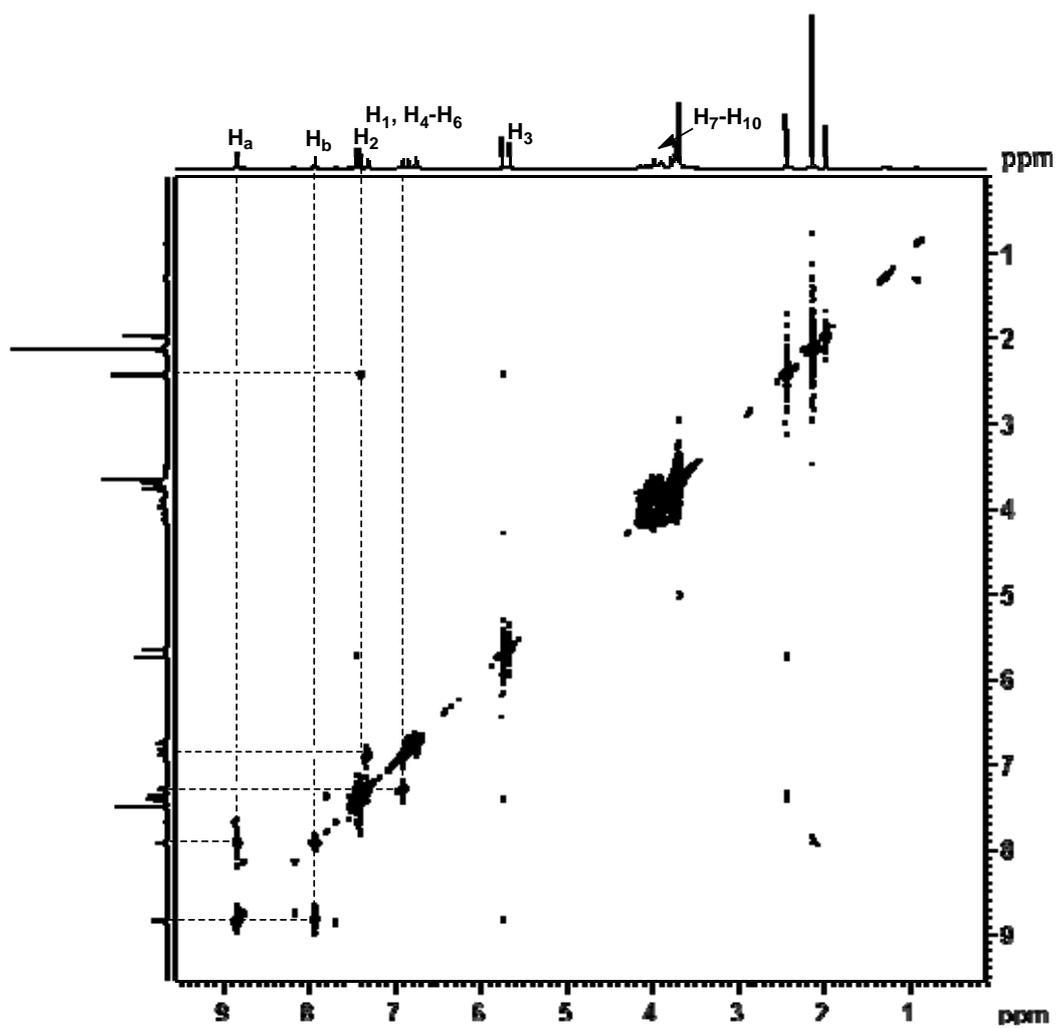
**Fig. S67**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  ROESY spectrum (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}/\text{CDCl}_3=1:1$ , v/v, 295K) of **1** and 2 equiv of **3**.  $[\mathbf{1}]_0 = 3.0$  mM.



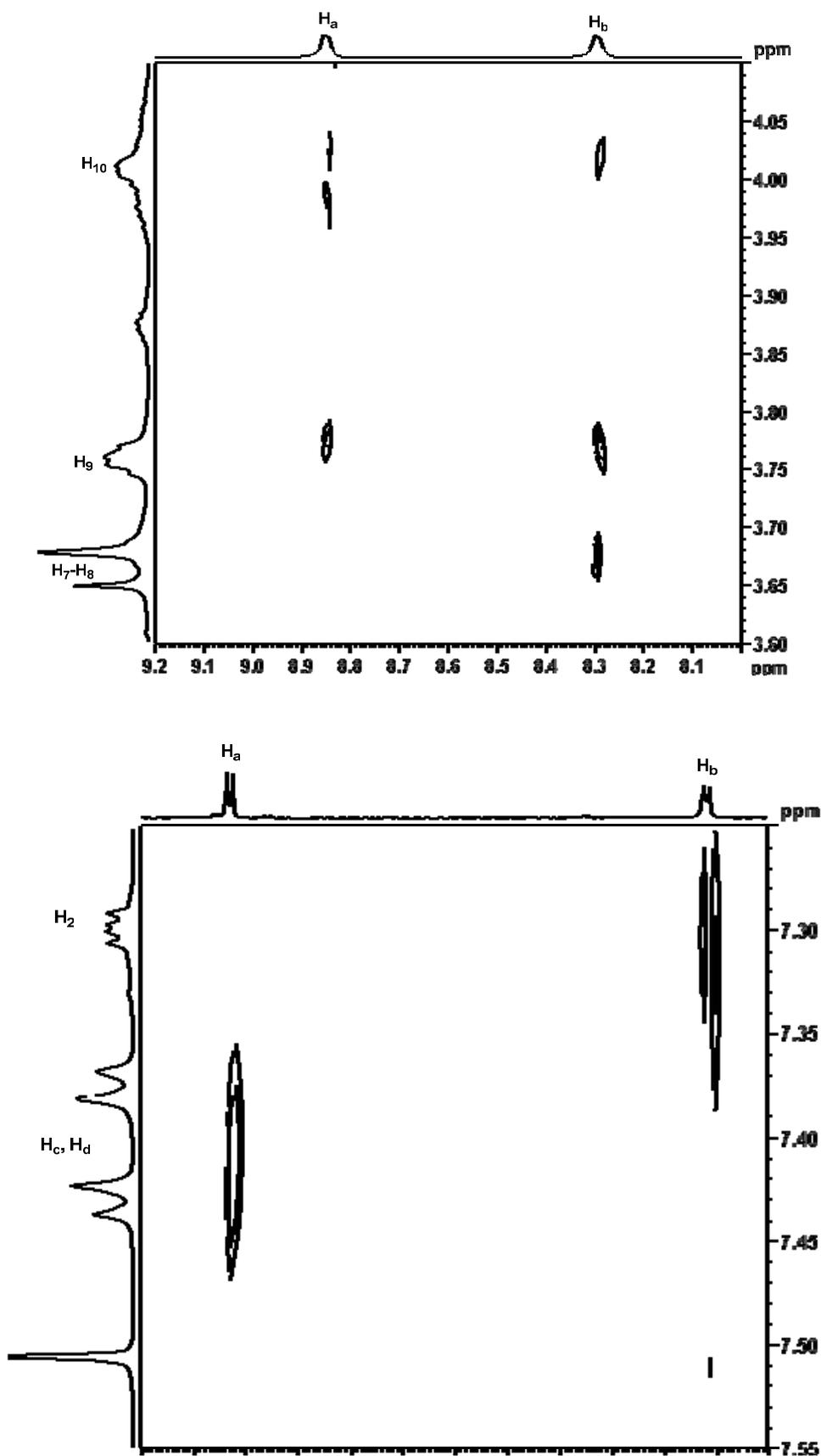
**Fig. S68**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY spectrum (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}/\text{CDCl}_3=1:1$ , v/v, 295K) of **1** and 2 equiv of **5**.  $[\mathbf{1}]_0 = 3.0$  mM.



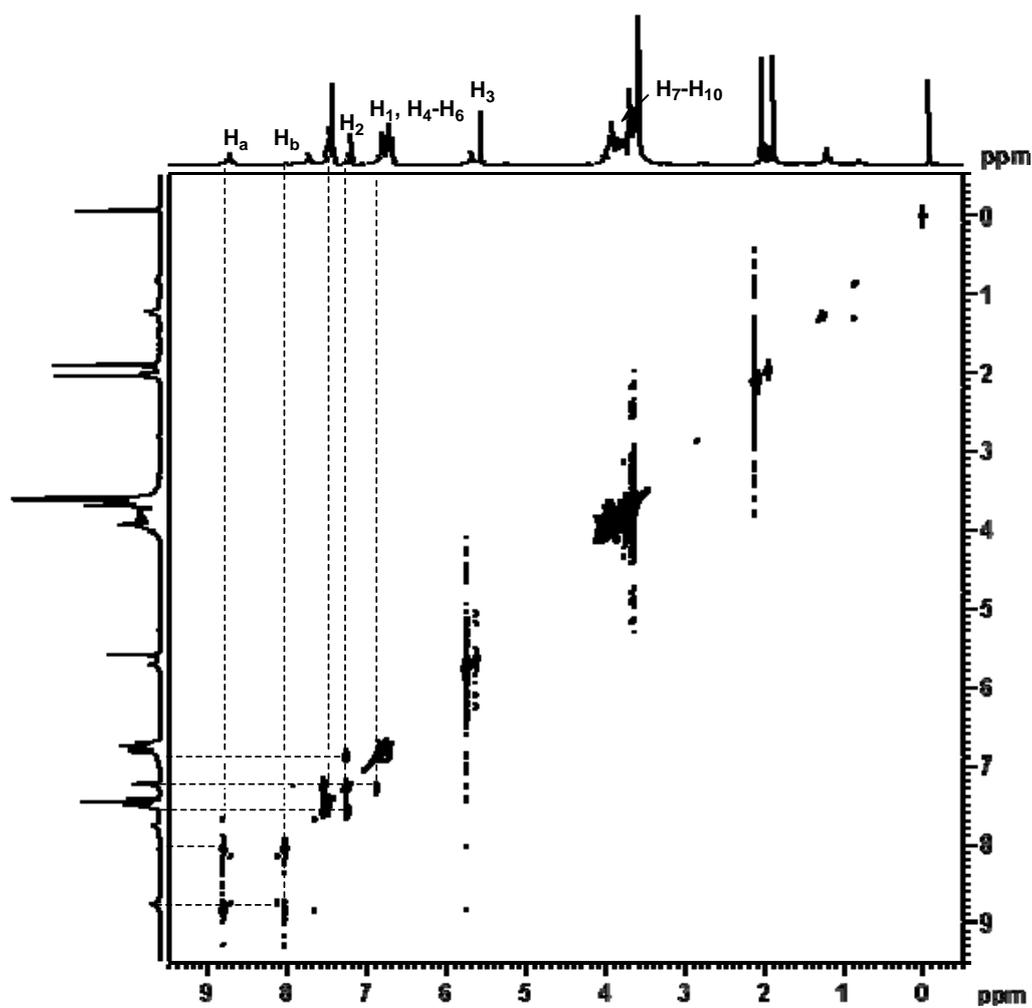
**Fig. S69**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  ROESY spectrum (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}/\text{CDCl}_3=1:1$ , v/v, 295K) of **1** and 2 equiv of **5**.  $[\mathbf{1}]_0 = 3.0$  mM.



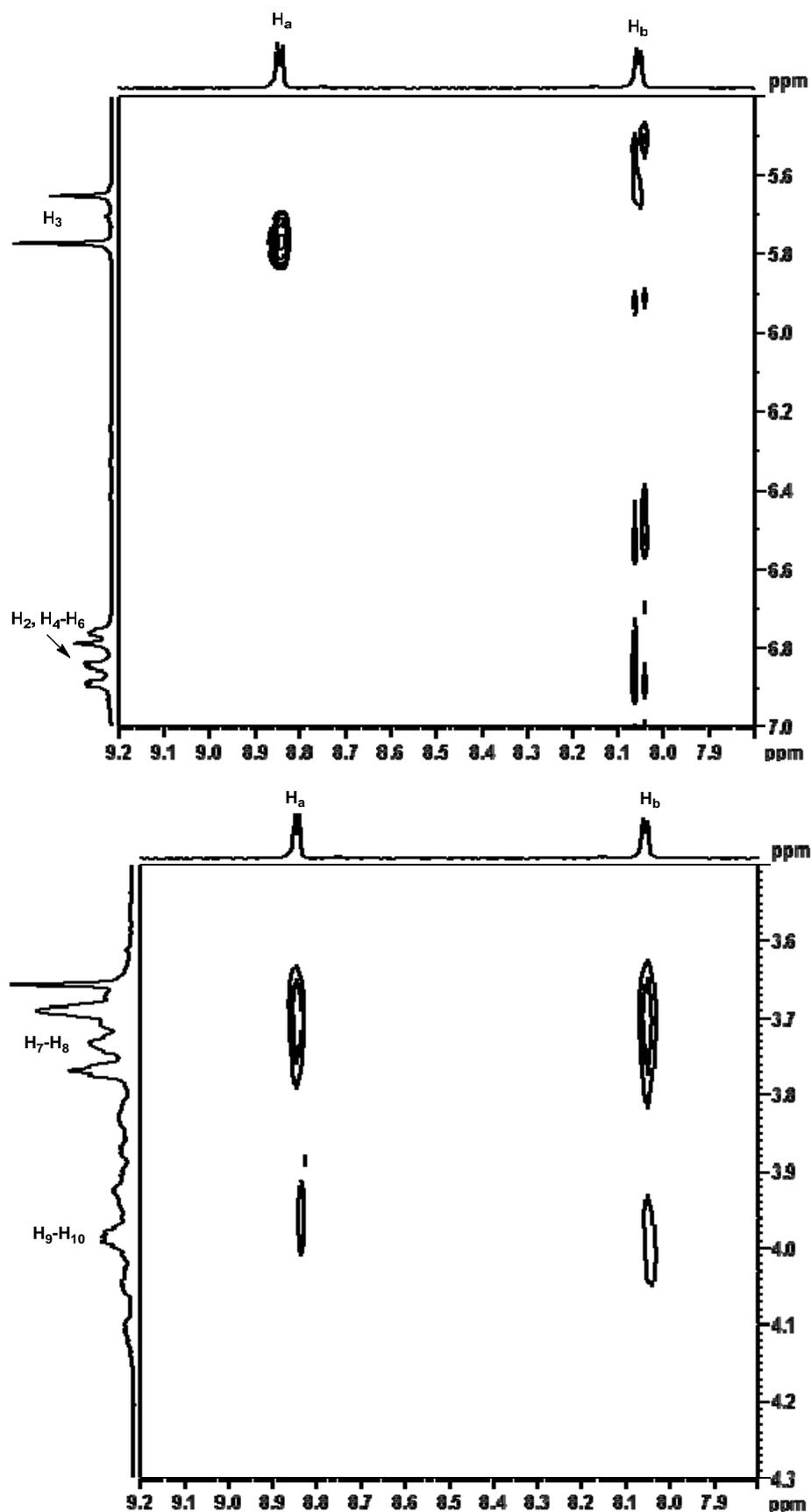
**Fig. S70** <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY spectrum (600 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN/CDCl<sub>3</sub>=1:1, v/v, 295K) of **1** and 2 equiv of **8**. [1]<sub>0</sub> = 3.0 mM.



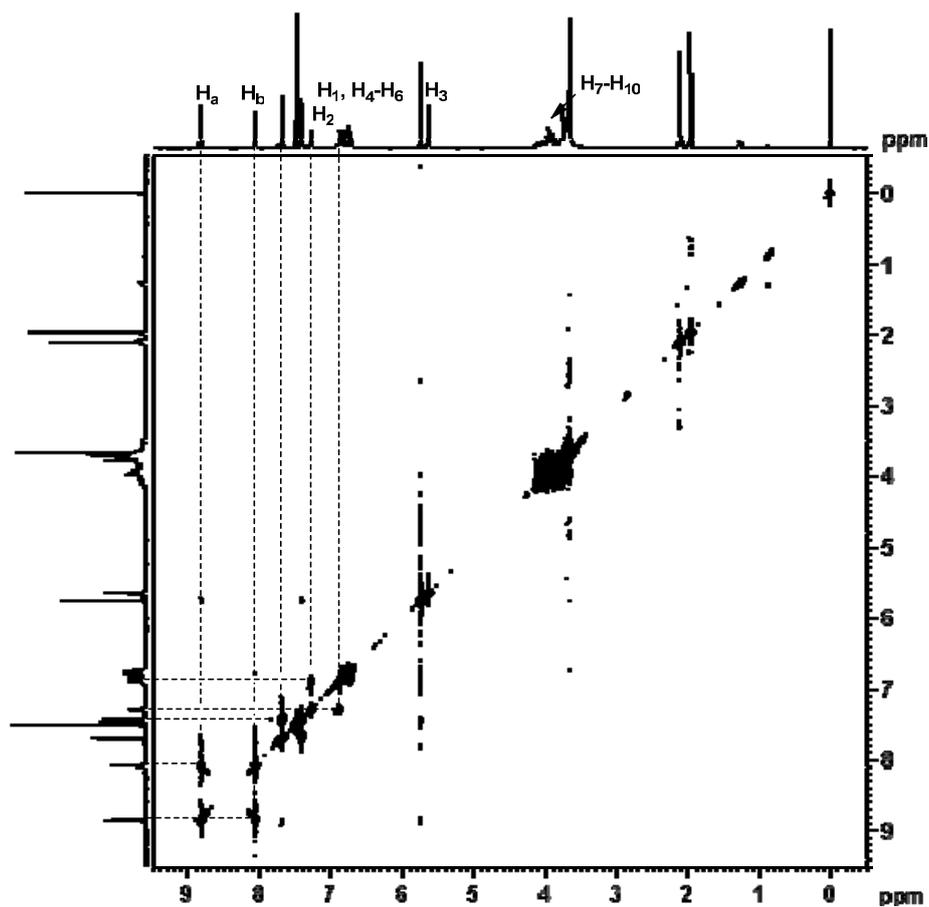
**Fig. S71**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  ROESY spectrum (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}/\text{CDCl}_3=1:1$ , v/v, 295K) of **1** and 2 equiv of **8**.  $[\mathbf{1}]_0 = 3.0$  mM.



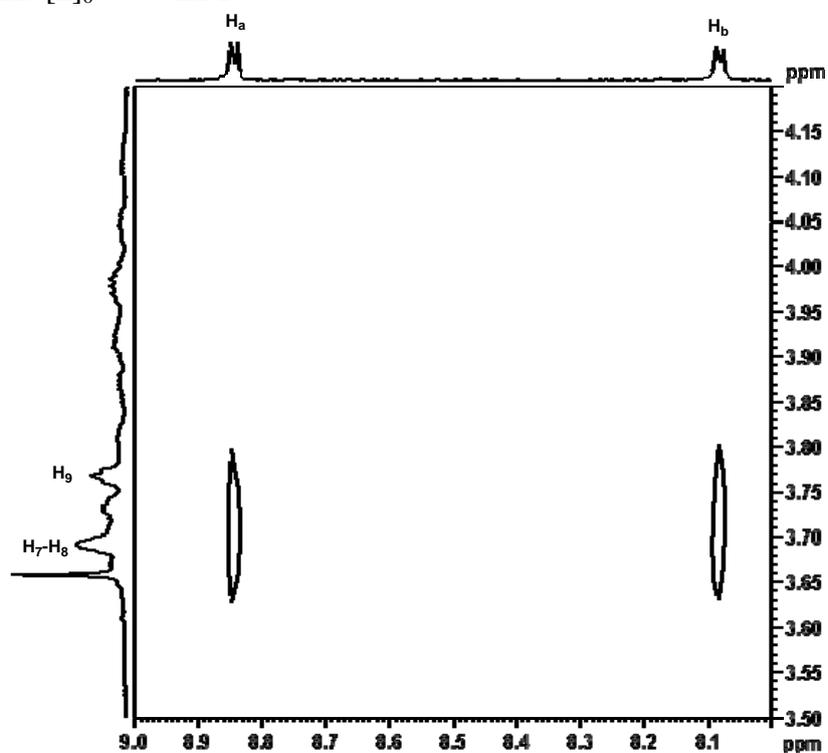
**Fig. S72**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY spectrum (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}/\text{CDCl}_3=1:1$ , v/v, 295K) of **1** and 2 equiv of **9**.  $[\mathbf{1}]_0 = 3.0$  mM.



**Fig. S73**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  ROESY spectrum (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}/\text{CDCl}_3=1:1$ , v/v, 295K) of **1** and 2 equiv of **9**.  $[\mathbf{1}]_0 = 3.0$  mM.

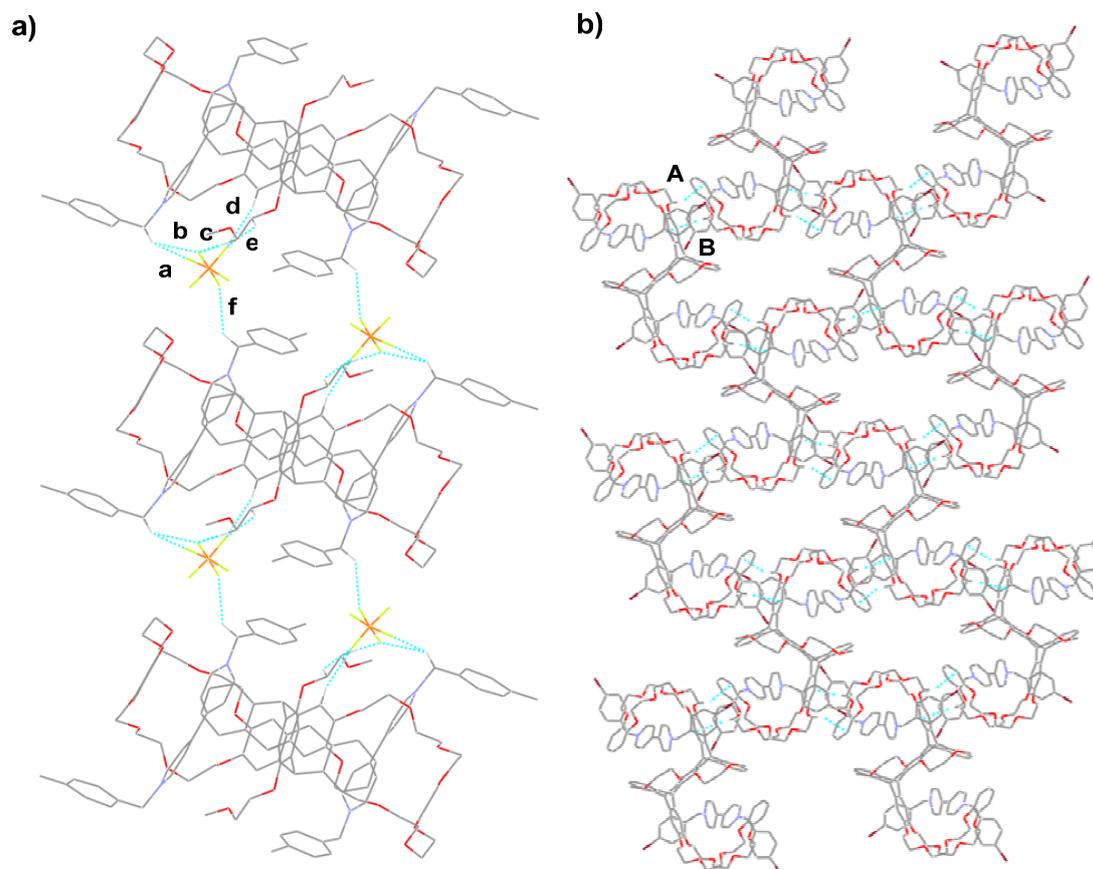


**Fig. S74** <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H COSY spectrum (600 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN/CDCl<sub>3</sub>=1:1, v/v, 295K) of **1** and 2 equiv of **11**. [**1**]<sub>0</sub> = 3.0 mM.

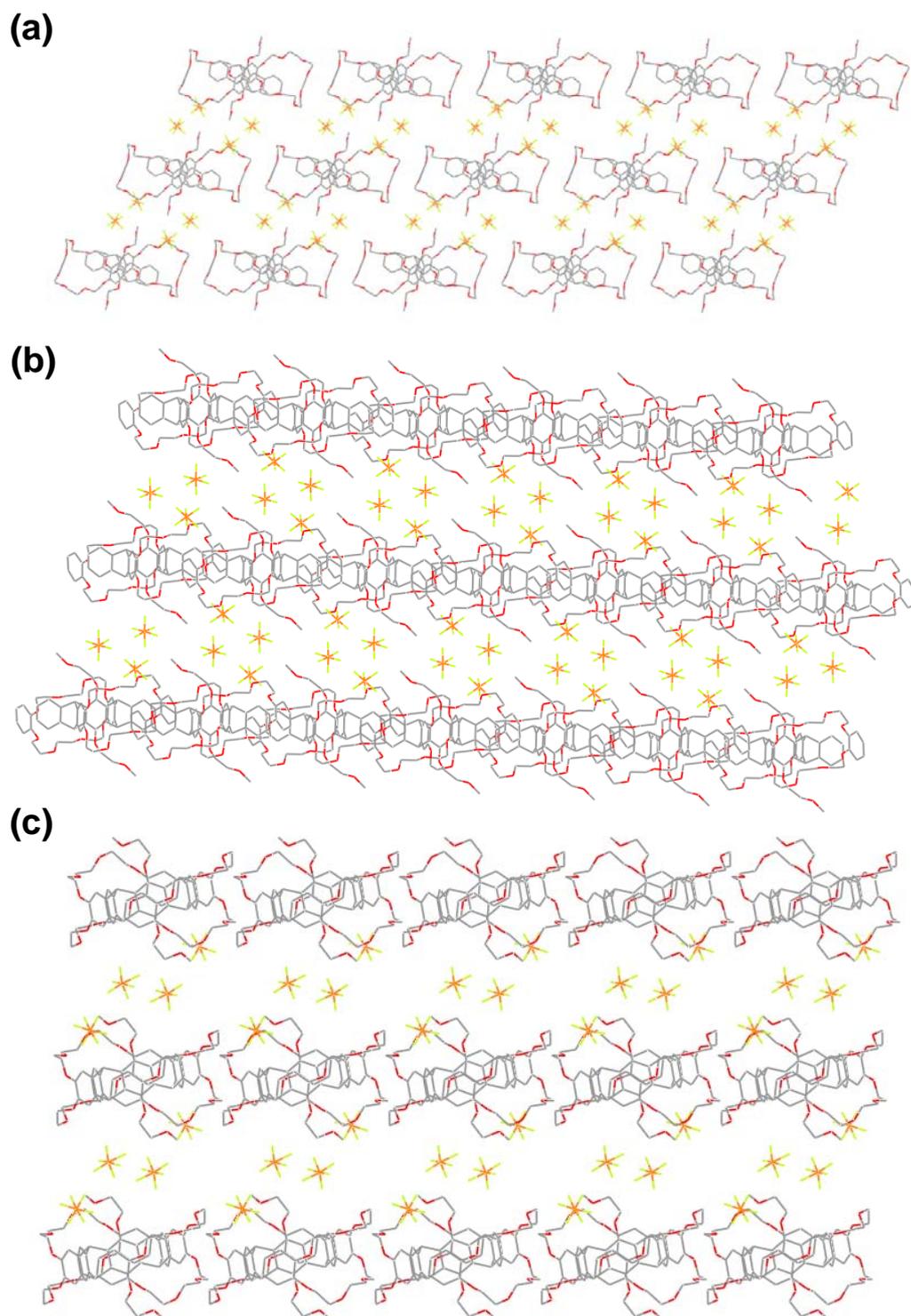


**Fig. S75** <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>1</sup>H ROESY spectrum (600 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN/CDCl<sub>3</sub>=1:1, v/v, 295K) of **1** and 2 equiv of **11**. [**1**]<sub>0</sub> = 3.0 mM.

## 7. Crystal structures and packing of the complexes



**Fig. S76** (a) Linear supramolecular array of complex  $1 \cdot 8_2$  viewed along the  $a$  axis and (b) packing of the complex  $1 \cdot 11_2$  viewed along the  $a$  axis. Blue lines denote the non-covalent interactions between the host and the guests. Solvent molecules,  $\text{PF}_6^-$  counterions, and hydrogen atoms not involved in the non-covalent interactions were omitted for clarity.



**Fig. S77** Packing of the complex (a)  $1 \cdot 2_2$  viewed along the  $a$  axis, (b)  $1 \cdot 8_2$  viewed along the  $b$  axis and (c)  $1 \cdot 11_2$  viewed along the  $c$  axis. Solvent molecules, guest molecules, and hydrogen atoms were omitted for clarity.