

Base-promoted transformation of 2-C(O)R-1,8-bis(dimethylamino)naphthalenes into benzo[g]indole derivatives

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8: Colorless crystals, mp 116–117 °C. Yield 0.07 g (7%). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 2.72 (s, 6H), 4.09 (s, 3H), 7.18 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.38–7.41 (m, 1H), 7.44 (q, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.55–7.59 (m, 2H), 7.74 (dq, *J* = 8.6, 1.1 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 40.3, 43.3, 107.5 (q, *J* = 36.4 Hz), 114.6, 118.1, 118.7, 122.6 (q, *J* = 2.0 Hz), 123.2, 123.3, 124.7, 124.4 (q, *J* = 266.1 Hz), 129.9 (q, *J* = 5.1 Hz), 132.8, 134.1, 148.5. EI-MS, *m/z* (I, %): 292 (100) [M]⁺.

9: Yellow crystals, mp 119–120 °C. Yield 0.08 g (6%). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 2.87 (s, 6H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (q, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (dq, *J* = 9.1, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (dq, *J* = 8.5, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.94 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 38.6, 42.2, 108.0 (q, *J* = 36.9 Hz), 110.2, 117.8 (m), 119.5, 122.47, 122.5 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz), 124.0 (q, *J* = 266.3 Hz), 133.3 (dd, *J* = 9.9, 5.0 Hz), 132.8 (q, *J* = 4.1 Hz), 133.3, 133.6, 155.1, 179.8 (q, *J* = 32.0 Hz). EI-MS, *m/z* (I, %): 388 (39), [M]⁺, 319 (100) [M–CF₃]⁺.

10: Beige crystals, mp 73–75 °C (*n*-hexane). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 2.73 (s, 6H), 4.07 (s, 3H), 6.63 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.31–7.34 (m, 1H), 7.45 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (ddd, *J* = 7.9, 1.2, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 39.6, 43.2, 103.0, 113.6, 118.4, 121.1, 121.4, 123.0, 123.6, 127.0, 130.7, 132.3, 133.8, 148.4. EI-MS, *m/z* (I, %): 224 (68) [M]⁺.

Procedure S1: Trifluoroacetylation of indole derivative 8.

Trifluoroacetic anhydride (0.05 mL, 0.36 mmol) as a solution in dry Et₂O (0.5 mL) was added portionwise to a solution of compound **8** (100 mg, 0.34 mmol) in dry Et₂O (10 mL) under argon atmosphere at –20 °C. Then the temperature was raised to ambient, the red colored reaction mixture was kept for 4.5 h and treated with 10% aqueous Na₂CO₃ till pH 11–12. The organic layer was separated and the water layer was extracted with Et₂O (4 × 5 mL). The combined organic layers were evaporated to dryness and chromatographed by TLC (Al₂O₃, Et₂O–petroleum ether, 1:2). Four fractions were collected (see SI-1, Figure S1): yellow (*R_f* = 0.1), pale orange (*R_f* = 0.2), yellow (*R_f* = 0.4), yellow (*R_f* = 0.7). The first one represented a mixture of indoles **11** and **14**, which were not separated and identified by their rather distinct NMR spectra (SI-2, p. S-10). Compound **11** was later obtained in pure state in another reaction (see procedure S2). The other fractions contained individual indoles **12**, **9** and **13**, respectively. The starting indole **8** was also recovered in a yield 19 mg (19%).

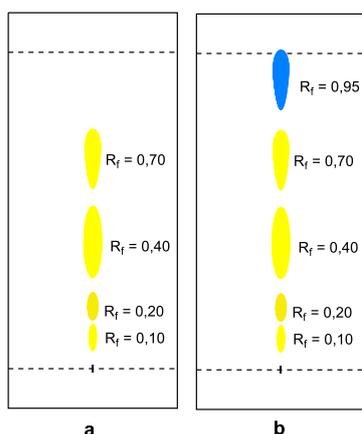


Figure S1 TLC of the reaction mixture before (a) and after (b) iodine vapor exposition.

12: Yellow crystals, mp 184–189 °C. Yield 14 mg (6%). ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 2.88 (s, 6H), 3.98 (s, 3H), 7.09 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.95 (q, $J = 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 8.14 (dq, $J = 8.6, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.64 (d, $J = 9.1$ Hz, 1H), 9.03 (d, $J = 9.1$ Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 39.6, 42.4, 110.6, 110.7, 115.0, 116.9 (q, $J = 291.2$ Hz), 117.3 (q, $J = 293.3$ Hz), 118.1, 121.8, 124.4, 125.4, 133.1 (dd, $J = 8.3, 4.1$ Hz), 133.8, 134.2, 139.2 (dd, $J = 9.6, 4.8$ Hz), 155.0, 175.2 (q, $J = 35.2$ Hz), 179.9 (q, $J = 32.7$ Hz).

13: Yellow oil. Yield 14 mg (13%). ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 2.87 (s, 6H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 6.67 (d, $J = 3.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, $J = 3.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.27 (s, 1H), 7.86 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 1H), 8.07 (dq, $J = 8.6, 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 8.85 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 38.0, 42.1, 103.4, 109.3, 115.4, 117.6, 117.6 (q, $J = 293.6$ Hz), 124.7, 127.0, 131.2, 132.3 (q, $J = 4.4$ Hz), 133.0, 133.1 (dd, $J = 1.3, 0.7$ Hz), 155.2, 179.8 (dd, $J = 64.2, 32.0$ Hz).

Procedure S2: Trifluoroacetylation of compound 9.

Trifluoroacetic anhydride (0.08 mL, 0.34 mmol) dissolved in dry Et_2O (0.4 mL) was added by portions to a solution of indole derivative **9** (100 mg, 0.26 mmol) in dry Et_2O (10 mL) under argon atmosphere at room temperature. The bright-yellow reaction mass was then refluxed for 13 h and treated with water (20 mL) and 5% aq. Na_2CO_3 till pH 7–8. The organic layer was separated and the water layer was extracted with Et_2O (5×5 mL). The combined organic layers were evaporated to dryness and chromatographed by TLC (Al_2O_3 , EtOAc –petroleum ether, 1:5). The yellow-colored fraction ($R_f = 0.2$) representing product **11** was isolated. The starting compound **9** was also recovered: 63 mg (63%).

11: yellow crystals, mp 189–191 °C, yield 32 mg (26%). ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 3.22 (s, 6H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 7.47 (q, $J = 1.3$ Hz, 1H), 8.02 (dq, $J = 9.0, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.60–8.61 (m, 1H), 8.85 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl_3) δ : 36.1, 46.1, 105.4, 107.9, 109.1 (q, $J = 37.4$ Hz), 112.6, 117.3 (q, $J = 290.9$ Hz), 117.5 (q, $J = 293.0$ Hz), 118.3, 122.4, 123.6 (q, $J = 266.5$ Hz), 124.1, 130.3 (dd, $J = 9.8, 4.8$ Hz), 132.6, 132.7, 135.3–135.9 (m), 162.8, 173.1 (q, $J = 34.0$ Hz), 177.3 (q, $J = 32.5$ Hz).

Procedure S3: Preparation of 5 by deacetylation of 7.

Trifluoroacetic acid (0.9 mL, 12.32 mmol) was added to a solution of 2,4-bis(trifluoroacetyl)-1,8-bis(dimethylamino)naphthalene (**7**) (500 mg, 1.23 mmol) in a mixture of MeCN (3.7 mL) and water (1.1 mL). The reaction mixture was refluxed for 26 h and after cooling to the room temperature was neutralized with 5% aq. Na_2CO_3 (~20 mL). After separation of organic and water phases, the latter

was extracted with chloroform (4 × 5 mL), the combined organic layers were evaporated to dryness and purified by TLC (Al₂O₃, Et₂O–petroleum ether, 1:1). An orange fraction with R_f = 0.7 was collected. Yield of practically pure monoketone **5** – 295 mg (77%). After recrystallization from *n*-heptane product **5** was obtained as orange needles with mp 103–104 °C.

¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 2.73 (s, 6H), 3.13 (s, 6H), 6.71 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.30–7.42 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 43.6, 46.0, 107.5, 112.2, 114.7, 114.9, 118.2, 118.5 (q, *J* = 291.6 Hz), 124.8 (q, *J* = 3.6 Hz), 129.9, 139.5, 151.6, 162.4, 172.9 (q, *J* = 32.2 Hz). EI–MS *m/z* (*I*, %): 310 (42) [M]⁺.

15: Yellow oil. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 2.47 (br s, 1H, OH), 2.80 (br s, 6H), 3.06 (s, 3H), 3.52 (dq, *J* = 12.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 3.96 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (dd, *J* = 7.4, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.34–7.36 (m, 2H), 7.38–7.40 (m, 1H), 7.41 (dq, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 43.5, 44.7, 45.2, 65.0, 81.1 (q, *J* = 30.6 Hz), 113.2, 117.9, 120.4, 121.9, 122.1, 124.6, 126.9, 122.5–128.3 (m), 139.0, 150.2, 152.7.

16: Colorless crystals, mp 197–198 °C. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃, –58 °C) δ: 1.87 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.49–2.75 (m, 15H), 3.04 (s, 3H), 6.82 (s, 1H), 7.32–7.51 (m, 6H), 7.70 (dd, *J* = 57.7, 7.0 Hz, 2H), 8.07 (s, 1H), 12.52 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃, –58 °C) δ: 42.2, 44.1, 44.8, 45.6, 46.7, 48.0, 50.0, 83.2 (dd, *J* = 51.2, 24.9 Hz), 117.6, 117.9, 125.1, 125.4, 125.7, 125.8, 126.1, 126.4, 127.0, 127.2, 129.1, 129.7, 135.2, 135.7, 137.3, 141.6, 144.6, 149.1, 151.4, 153.0. ESI–HRMS *m/z*: 525.2819 [M + H]⁺ (calc. for C₃₀H₃₅F₃N₄O 525.2836).

Procedure S4: Dehydration of alcohol 15.

A solution of alcohol **15** (16 mg, 0.052 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (6 mL) was poured into chromatographic column (6 × 1.3 cm) filled with silica gel. After the solvent stacked, the column was closed and allowed to stand overnight. The column was then eluted with acetone to give benzo[*g*]indole **8** as a single product. Yield 12 mg (80%).

Procedure S5: Reaction of diketone 7 with 2-lithio-1,8-bis(dimethylamino)naphthalene (4).

A solution of diketone **7** (230 mg, 0.57 mmol) in dry Et₂O (10 mL) was added portionwise (during 1.5 h) to a solution of **4** obtained from 2-bromo-1,8-bis(dimethylamino)naphthalene (340 mg, 0.12 mmol; see procedure 1) in dry Et₂O (5 mL) under argon atmosphere at –20 °C. The red colored reaction mixture was treated with water (10 mL). The organic layer was separated and the water layer was extracted with Et₂O (4 × 5 mL). The combined organic layers were evaporated to dryness and chromatographed by TLC (Al₂O₃, CH₂Cl₂–hexane, 1:1). The dominating brown fraction (R_f = 0.1) was isolated and crystallized from hexane to give product **19** as colorless crystals with mp 166–167 °C. Yield 157 mg (43%).

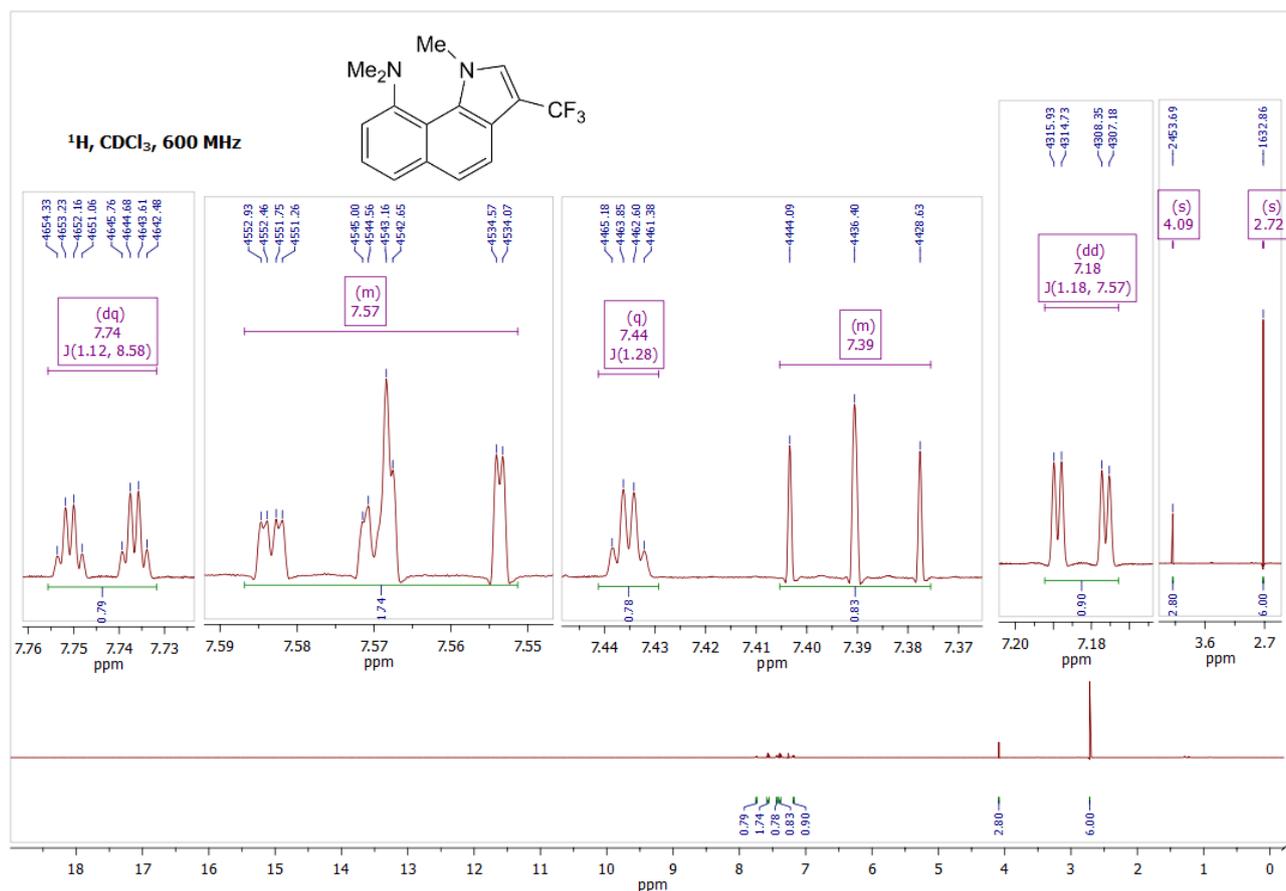
¹H NMR (250 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆, 70 °C) δ: 2.61–2.87 (m, 18H), 2.99 (s, 3H), 3.57 (d, *J* = 12.5 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (d, *J* = 12.5 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (s, 1H), 6.82 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.43–7.72 (m, 4H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (s, 1H), 11.25 (brs, 1H). ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, DMSO) δ: 44.1, 44.6, 45.3, 47.1, 49.7, 55.7, 65.4, 80.1 (q, *J* = 28.9 Hz), 79.3–80.9 (m), 112.7, 118.2, 120.2, 120.7,

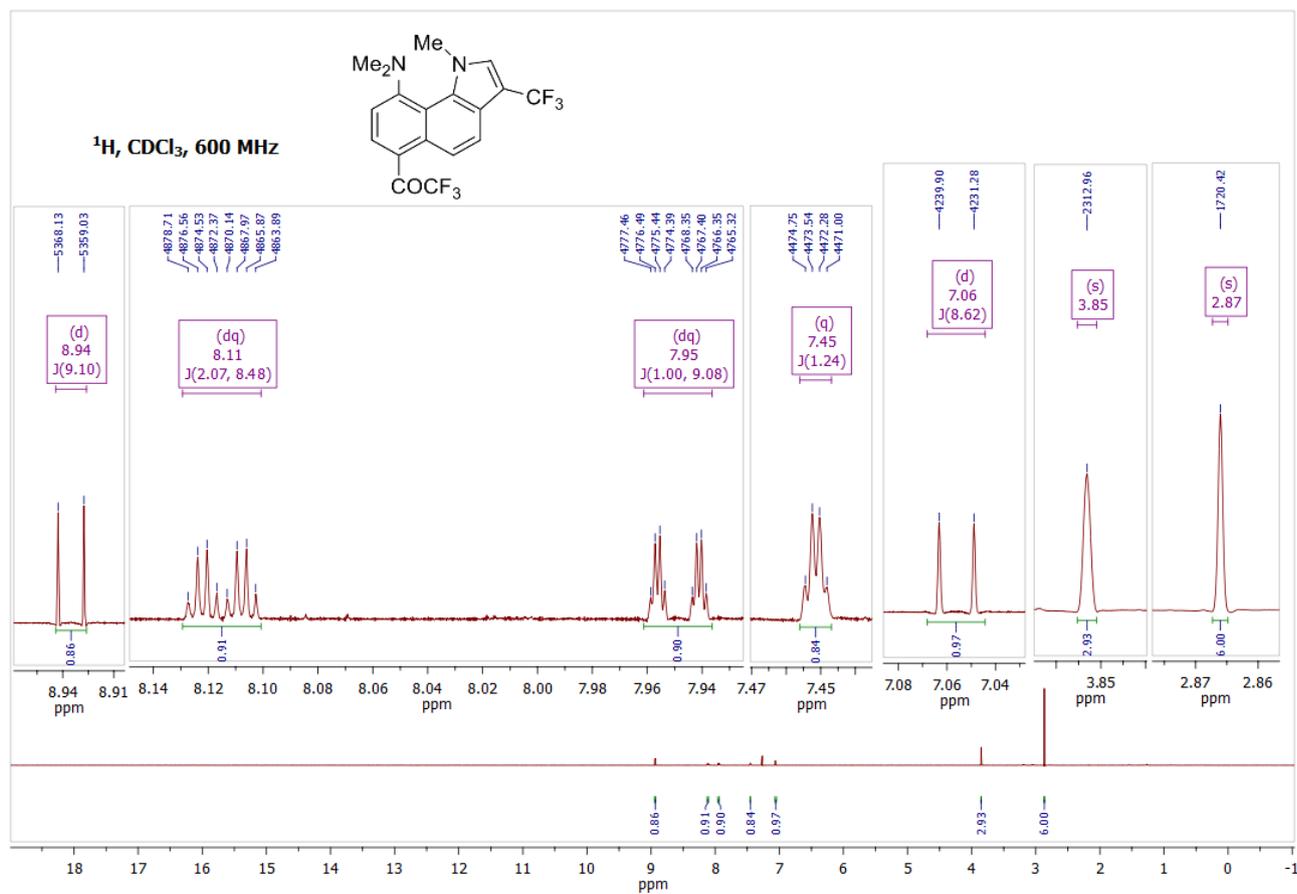
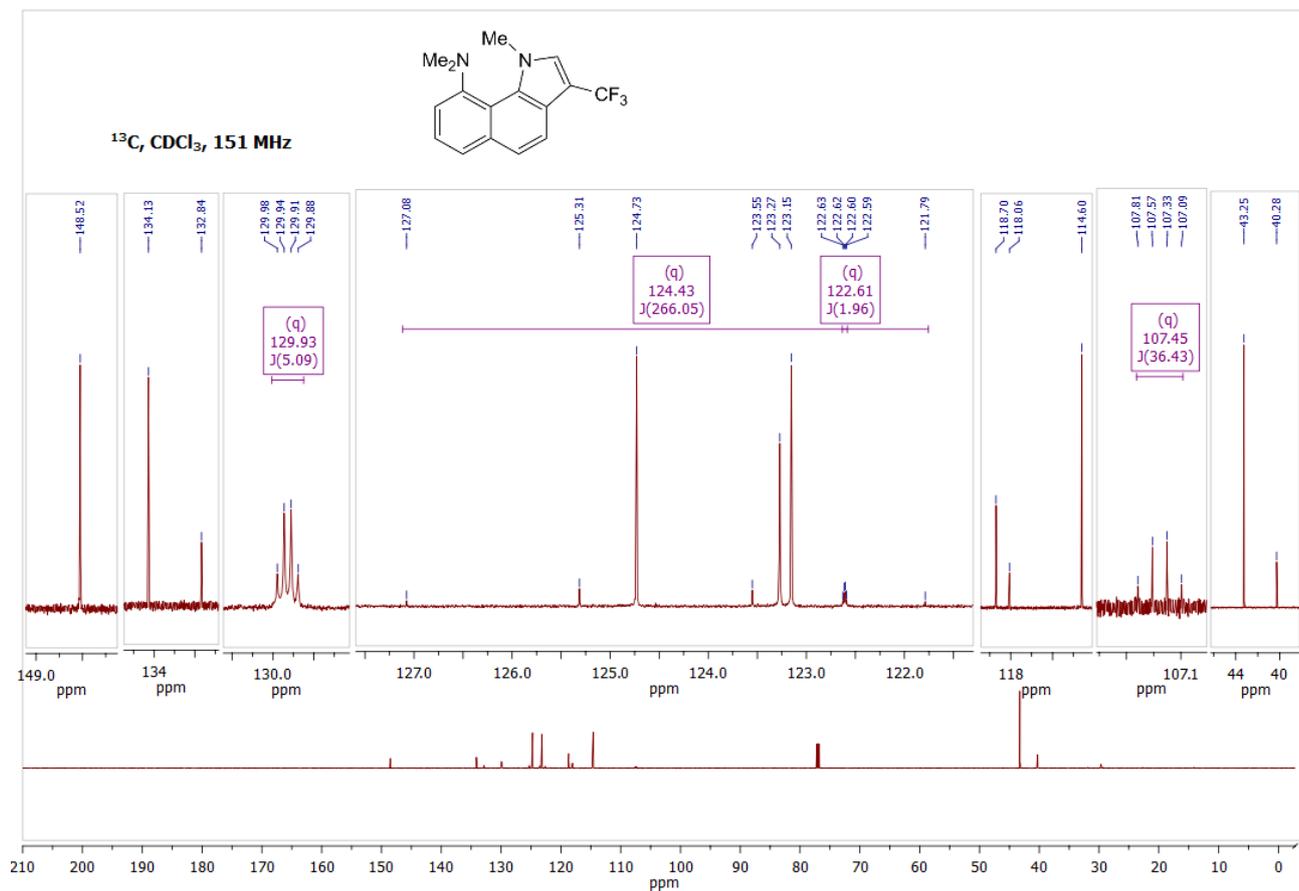
120.7, 121.0, 122.0, 124.5, 125.0, 126.1, 126.7, 127.7, 128.3, 129.0, 129.6, 134.8, 136.2, 137.6, 147.4, 147.5, 150.7, 152.7, 153.1. ESI-HRMS m/z : 621.2636 $[M + H]^+$ (calc. for $C_{32}H_{35}F_3N_4O$ 621.2659).

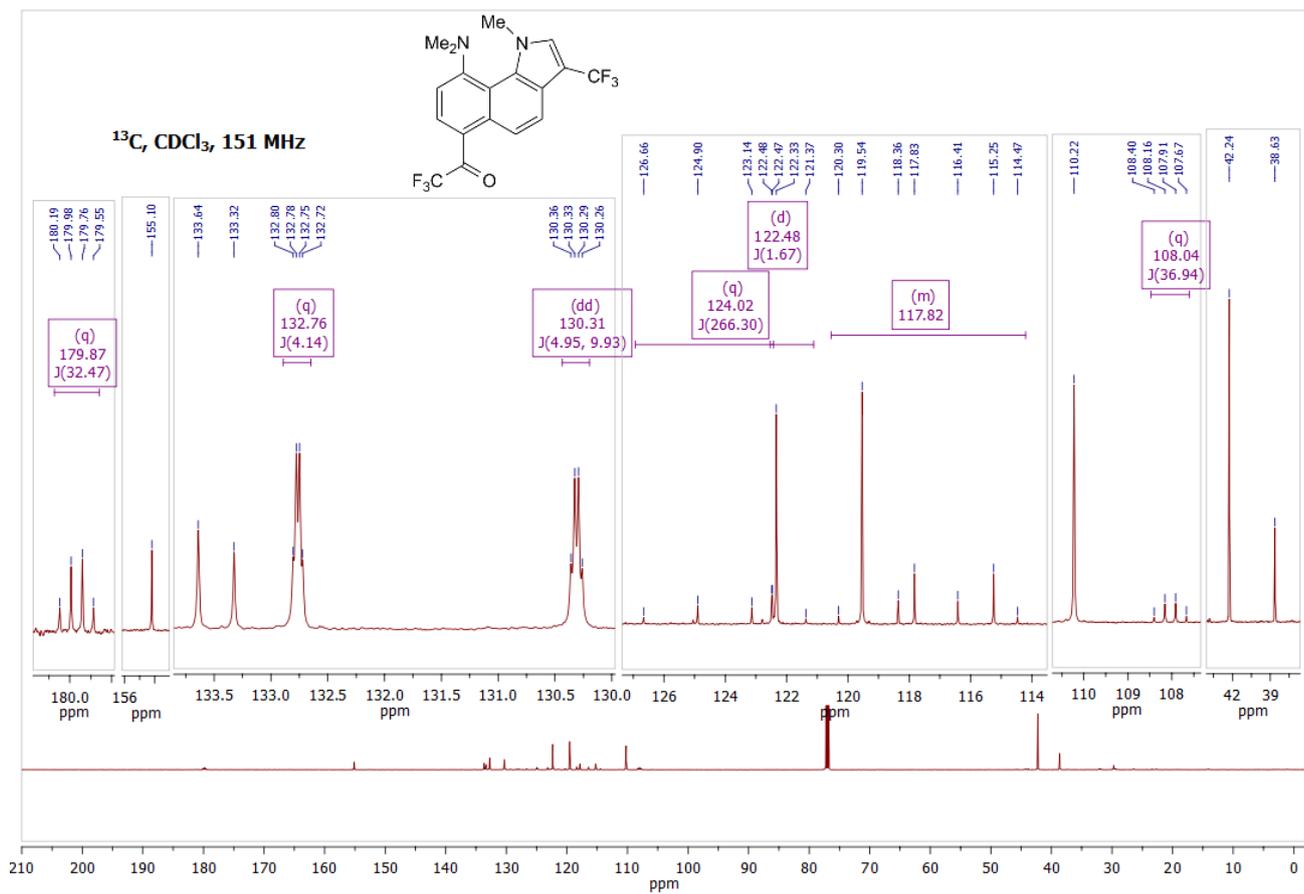
22: 1H NMR (250 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ : 2.85 (s, 12H), 2.95 (s, 12H), 6.96 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.18–7.41 (m, 6H), 7.46 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (63 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ : 44.9, 45.3, 87.5, 113.1, 113.6, 120.4, 121.5, 122.1, 122.4, 125.9, 127.7, 128.4, 128.6, 140.1, 152.3, 153.1, 197.4. IR (nujol): 1647 cm^{-1} (C=O). ESI-HRMS m/z : 455.2775 $[M + H]^+$ (calc. for $C_{29}H_{35}N_4O$ 455.2805).

23: 1H NMR (250 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ : 2.78 (s, 6H), 2.92 (s, 6H), 2.93 (s, 6H), 4.32 (s, 3H), 7.14 (s, 1H), 7.18 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.23–7.33 (m, 1H), 7.38–7.75 (m, 8H). ^{13}C NMR (63 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ : 40.1, 43.7, 45.1, 45.7, 114.1, 114.2, 118.8, 119.2, 120.7, 121.7, 122.8, 123.1, 123.5, 124.2, 124.7, 125.6, 127.3, 128.1, 130.0, 131.5, 132.8, 134.4, 137.7, 148.5, 148.9, 152.1. ESI-HRMS m/z : 437.2658 $[M + H]^+$ (calc. for $C_{29}H_{33}N_4$ 437.2700).

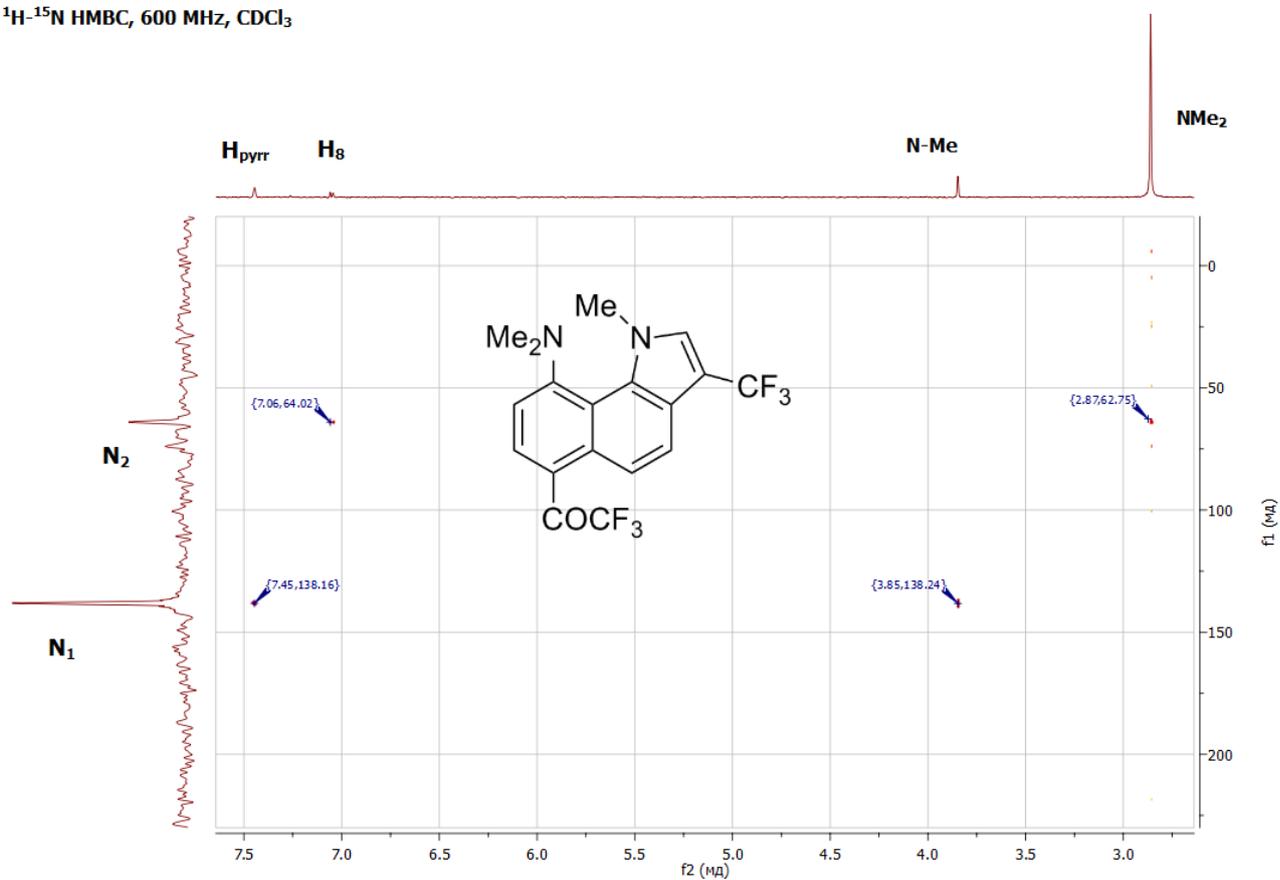
1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra for products

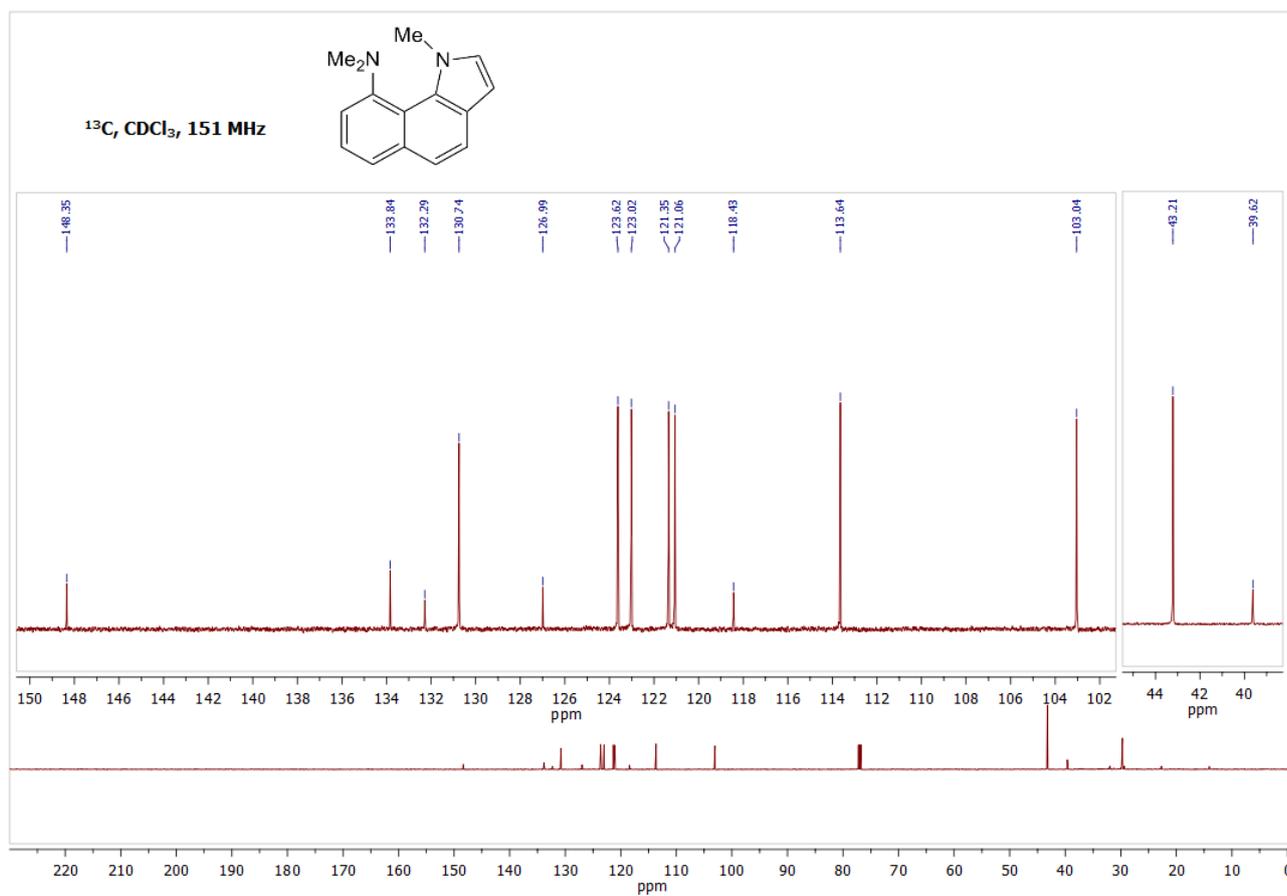
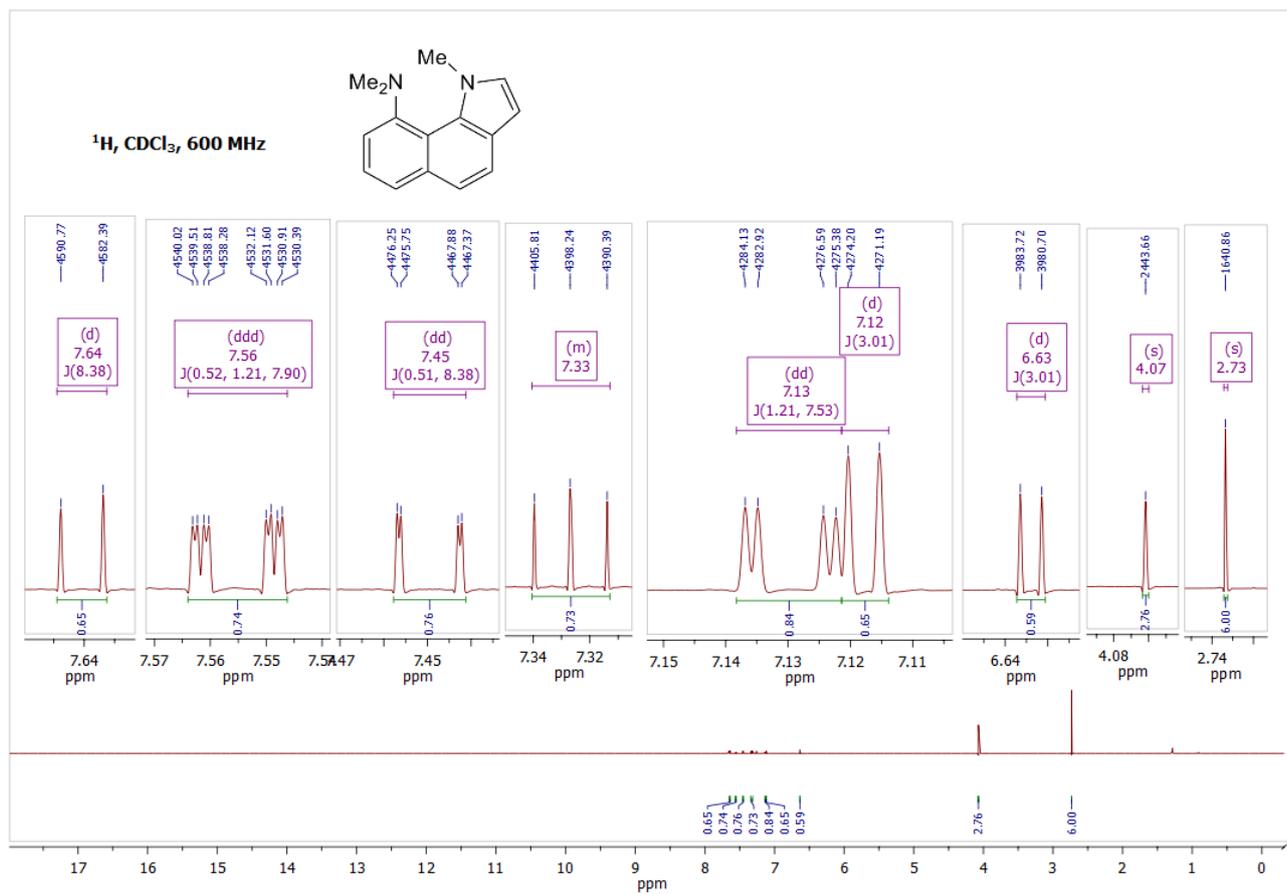


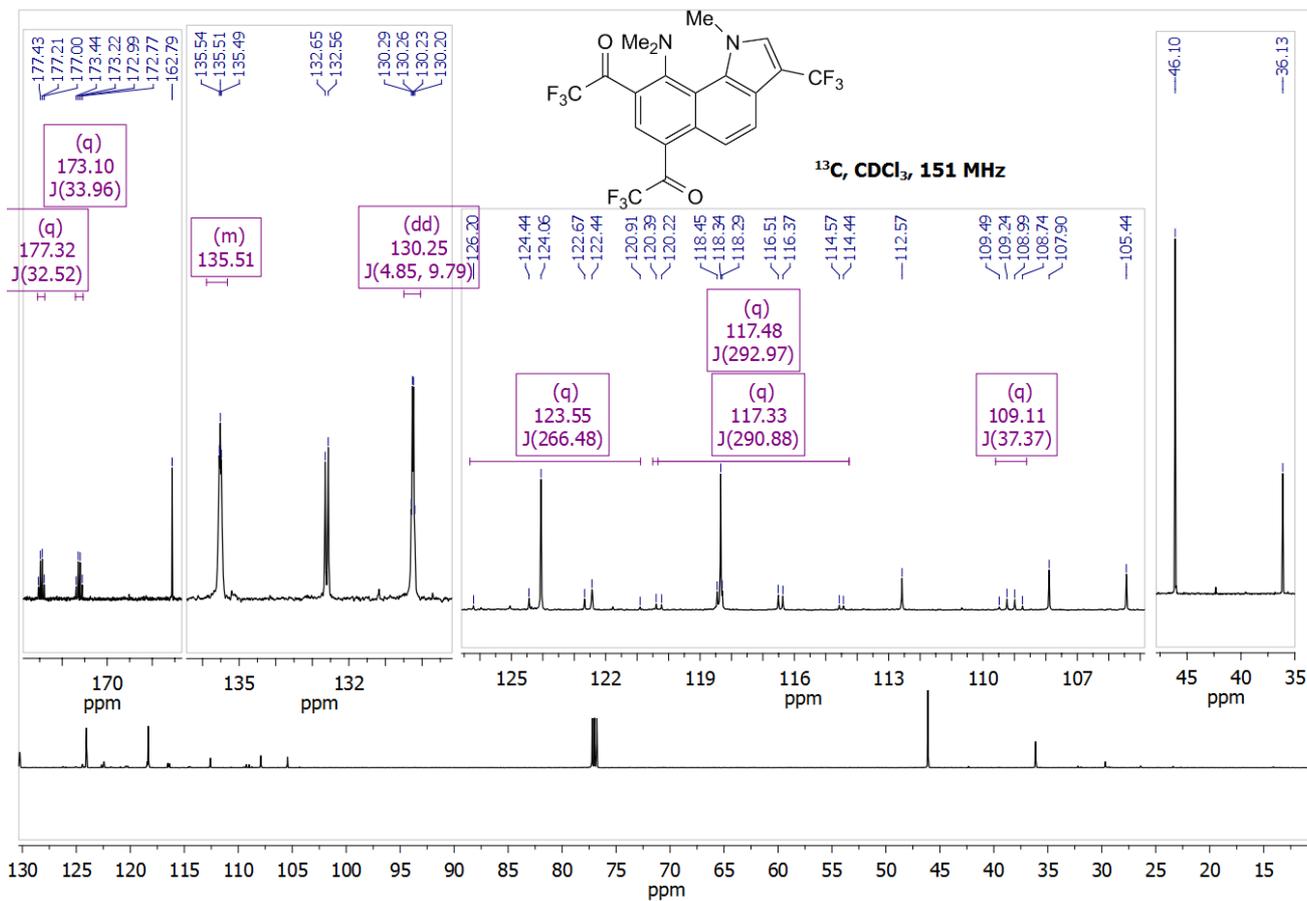
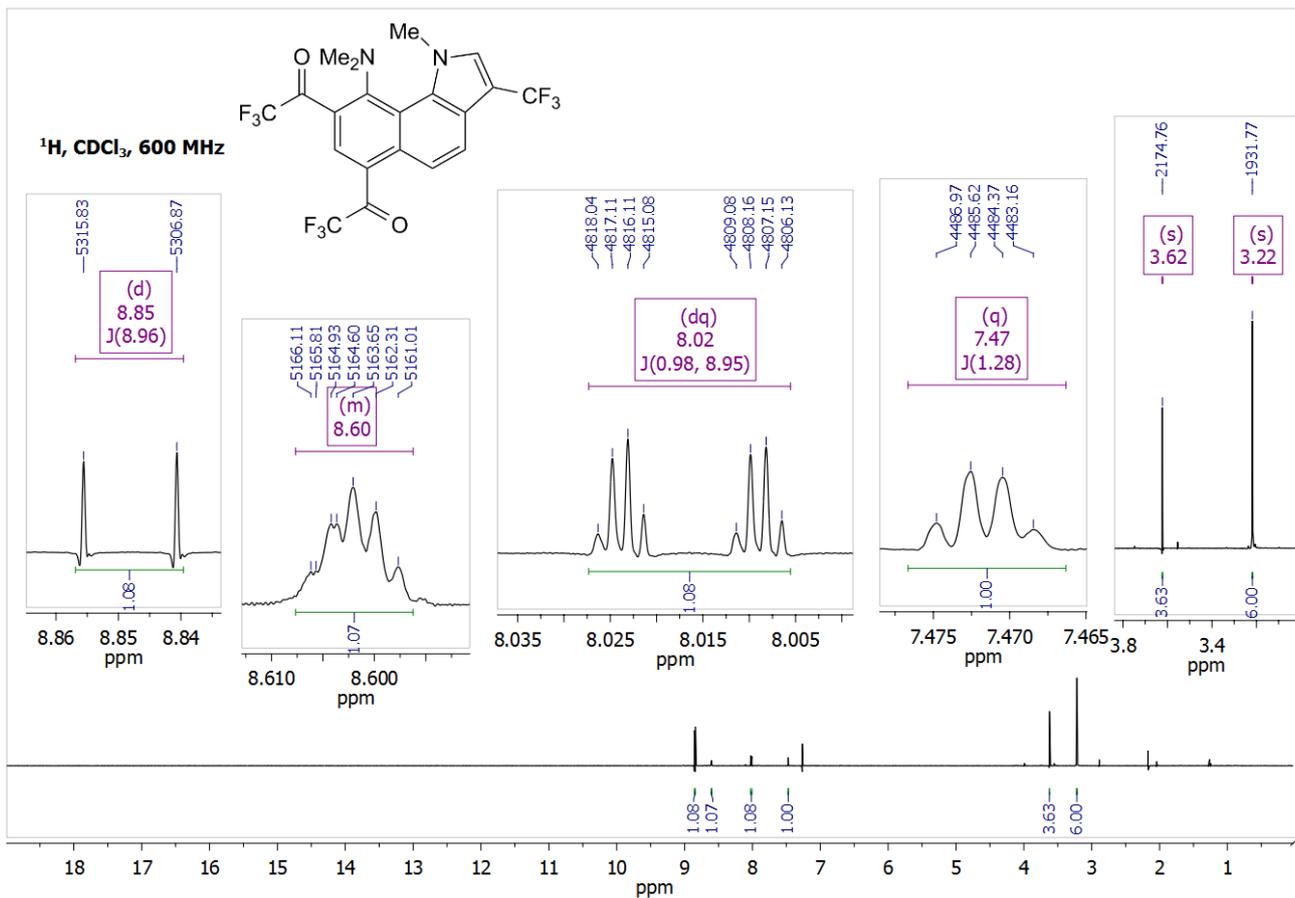




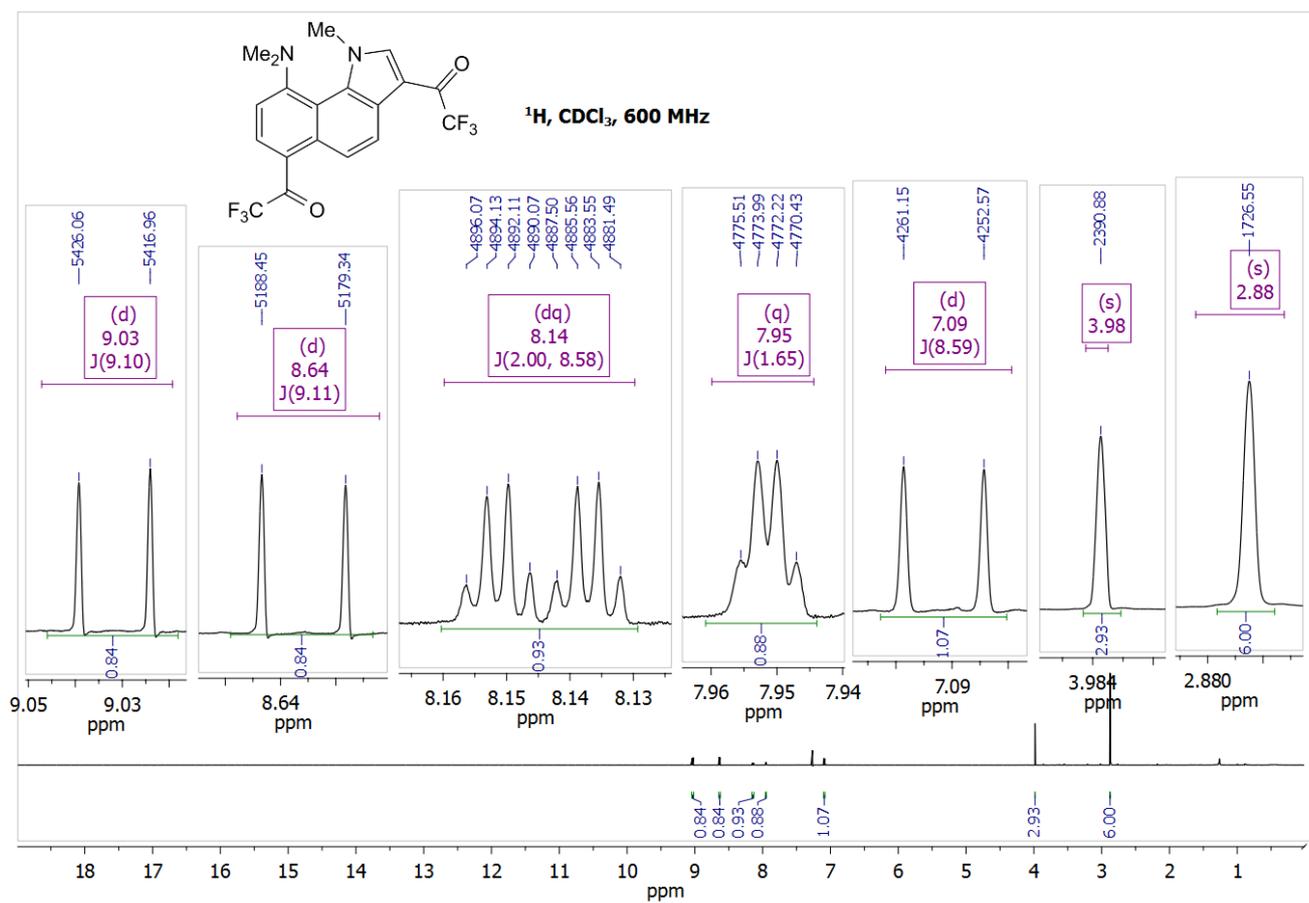
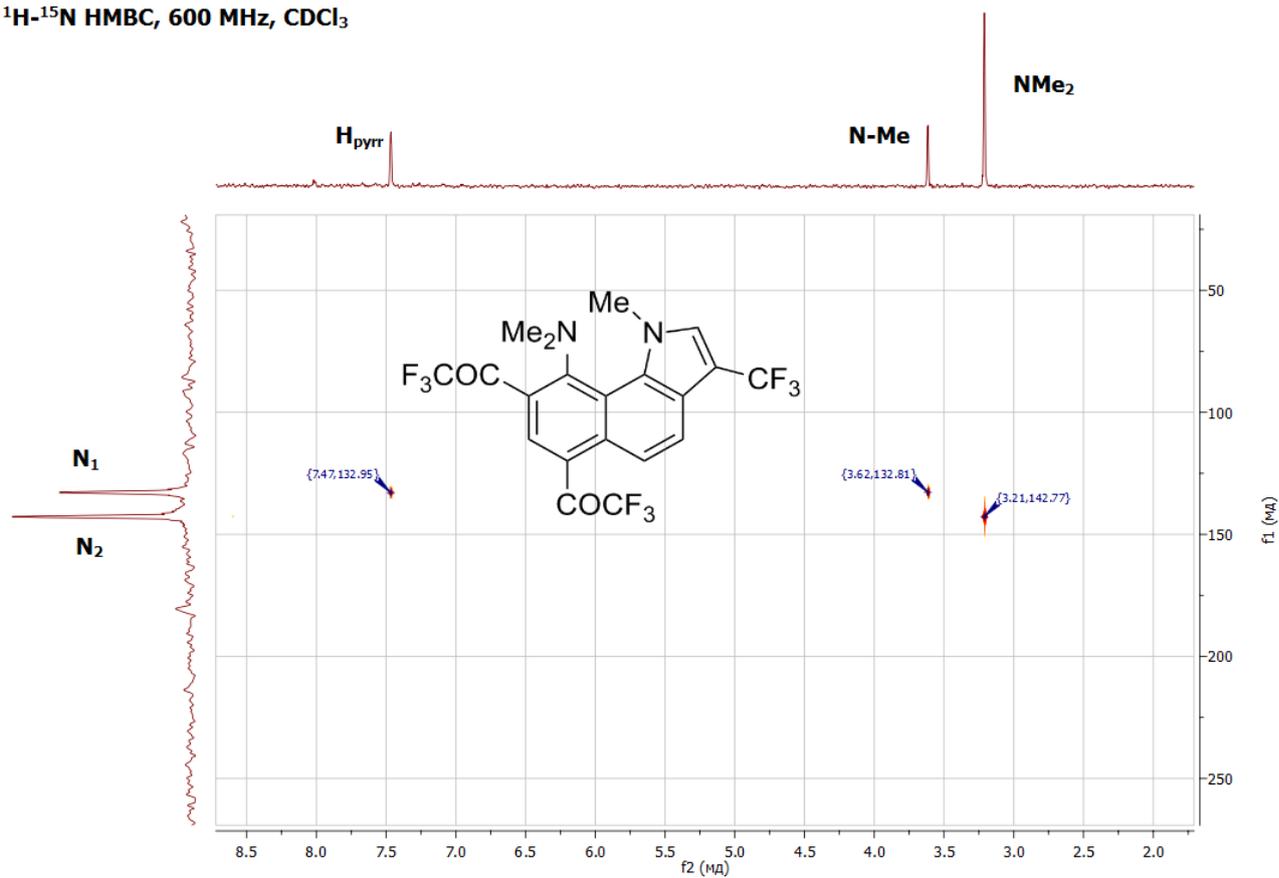
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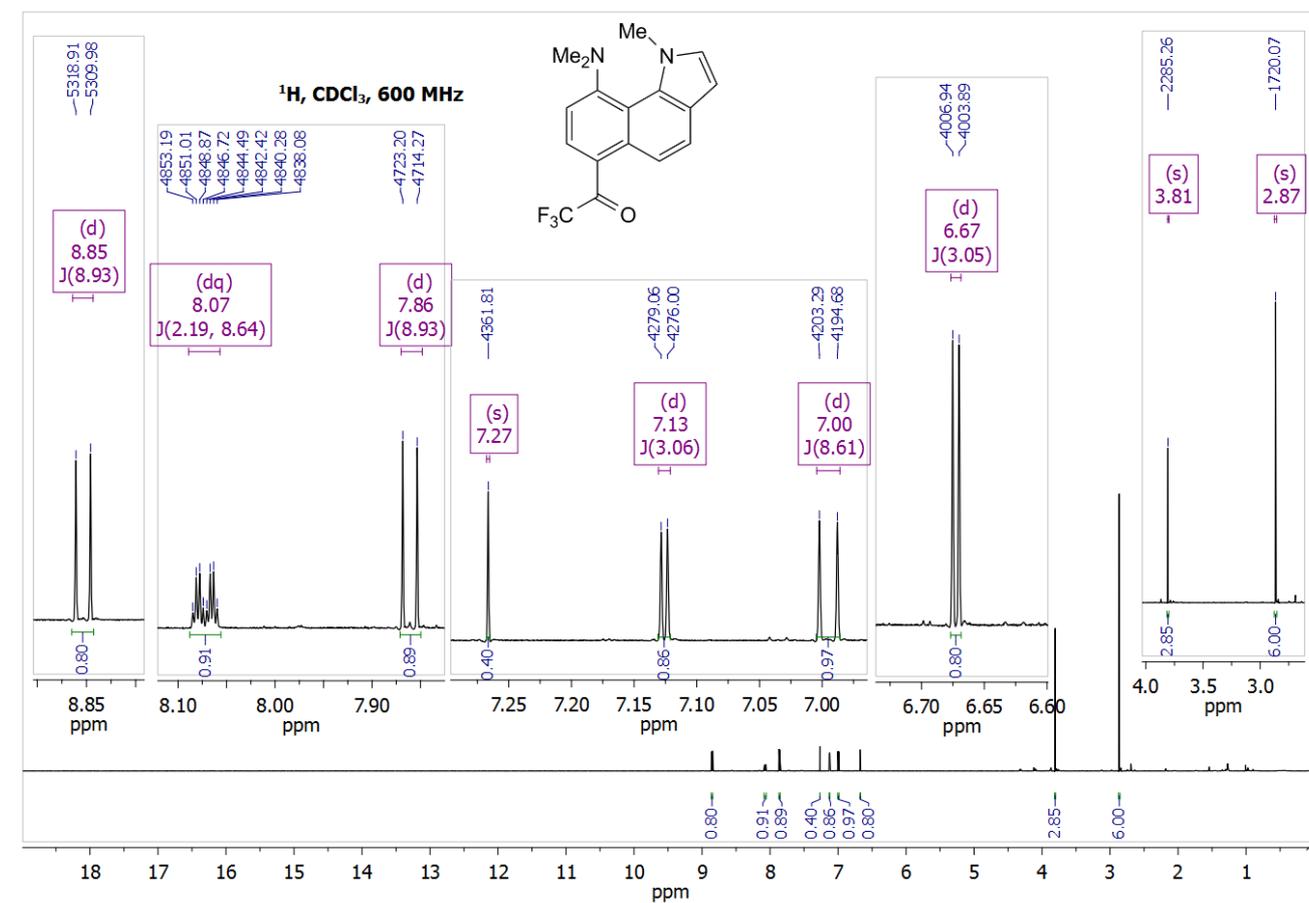
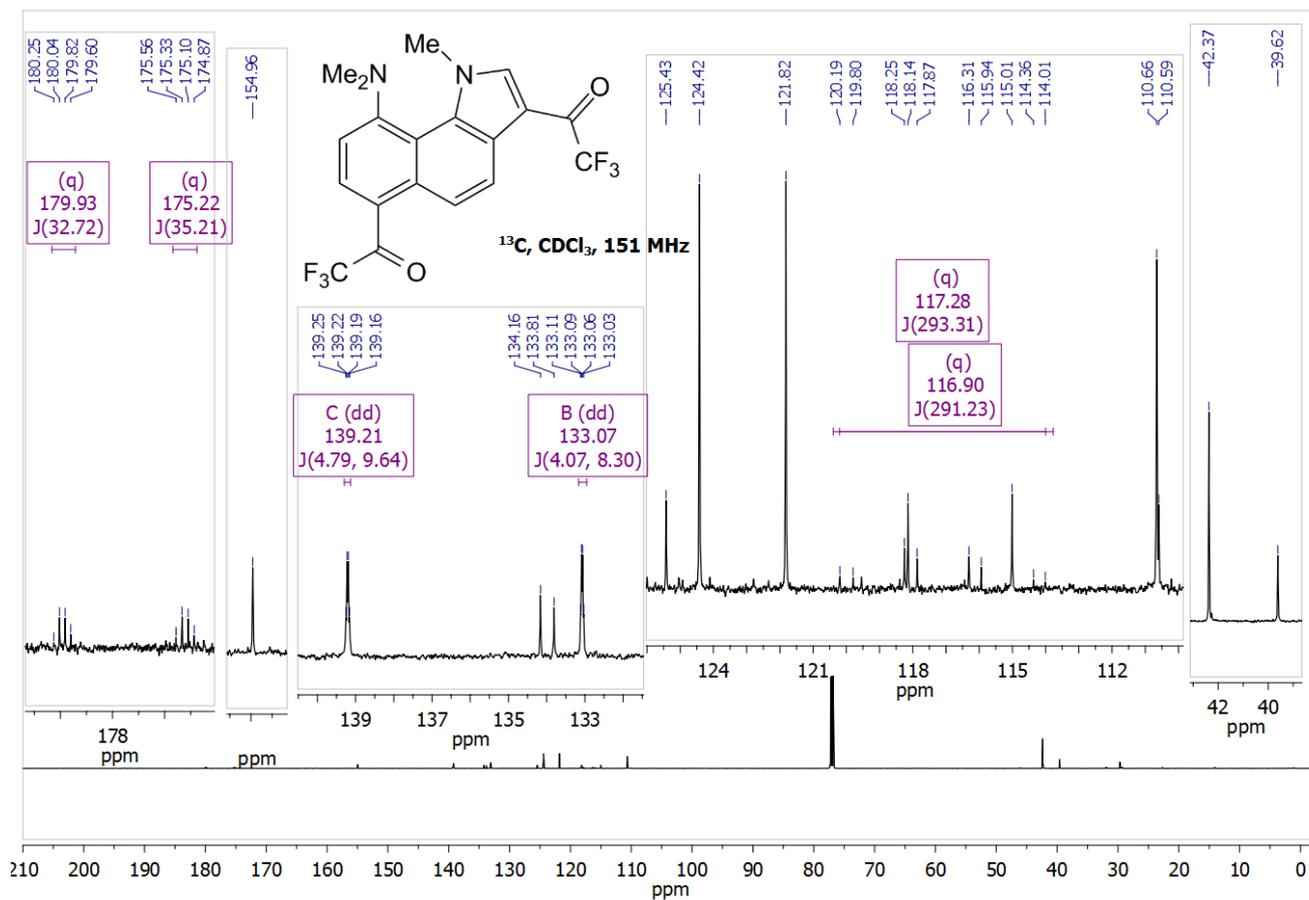


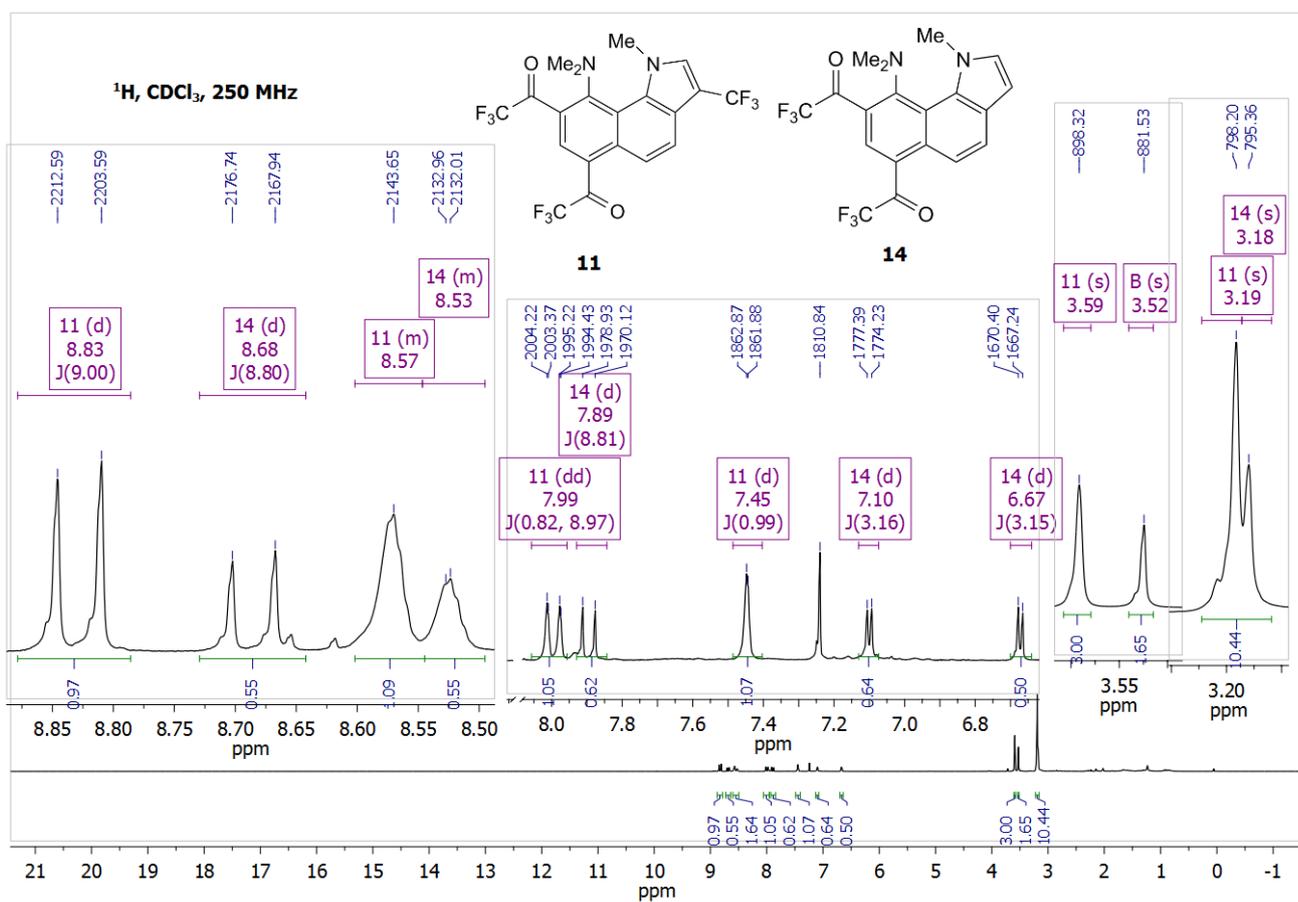
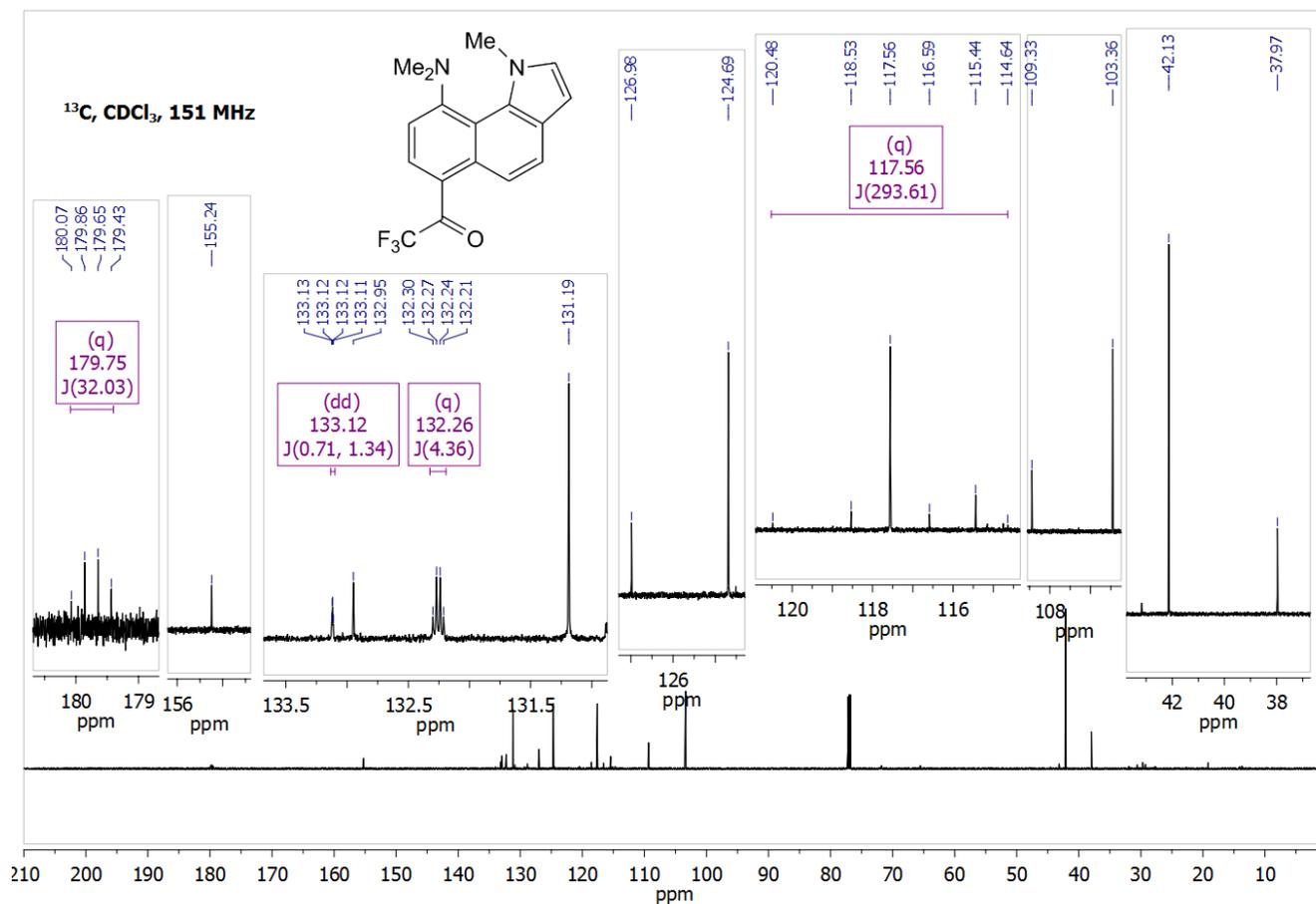


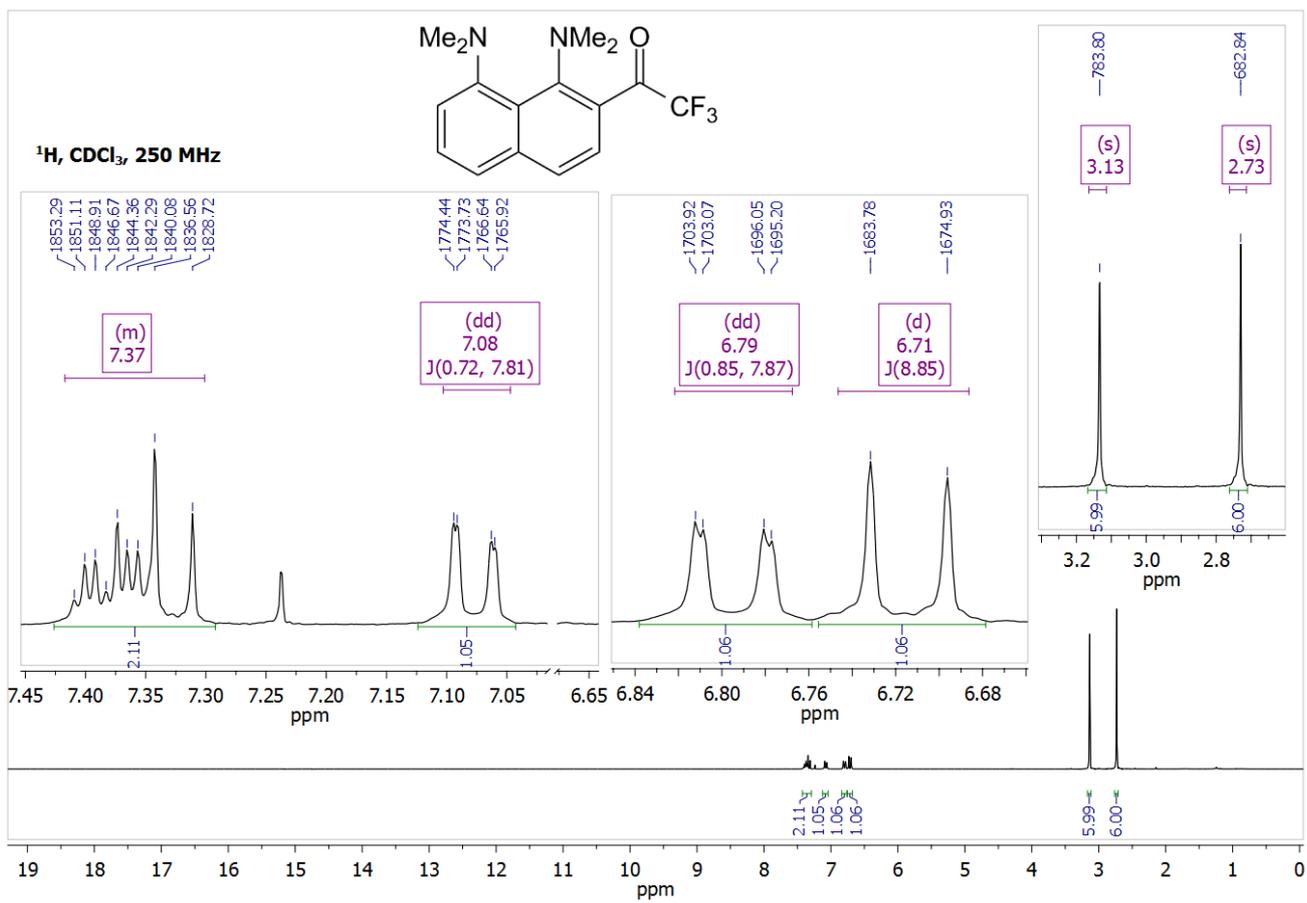


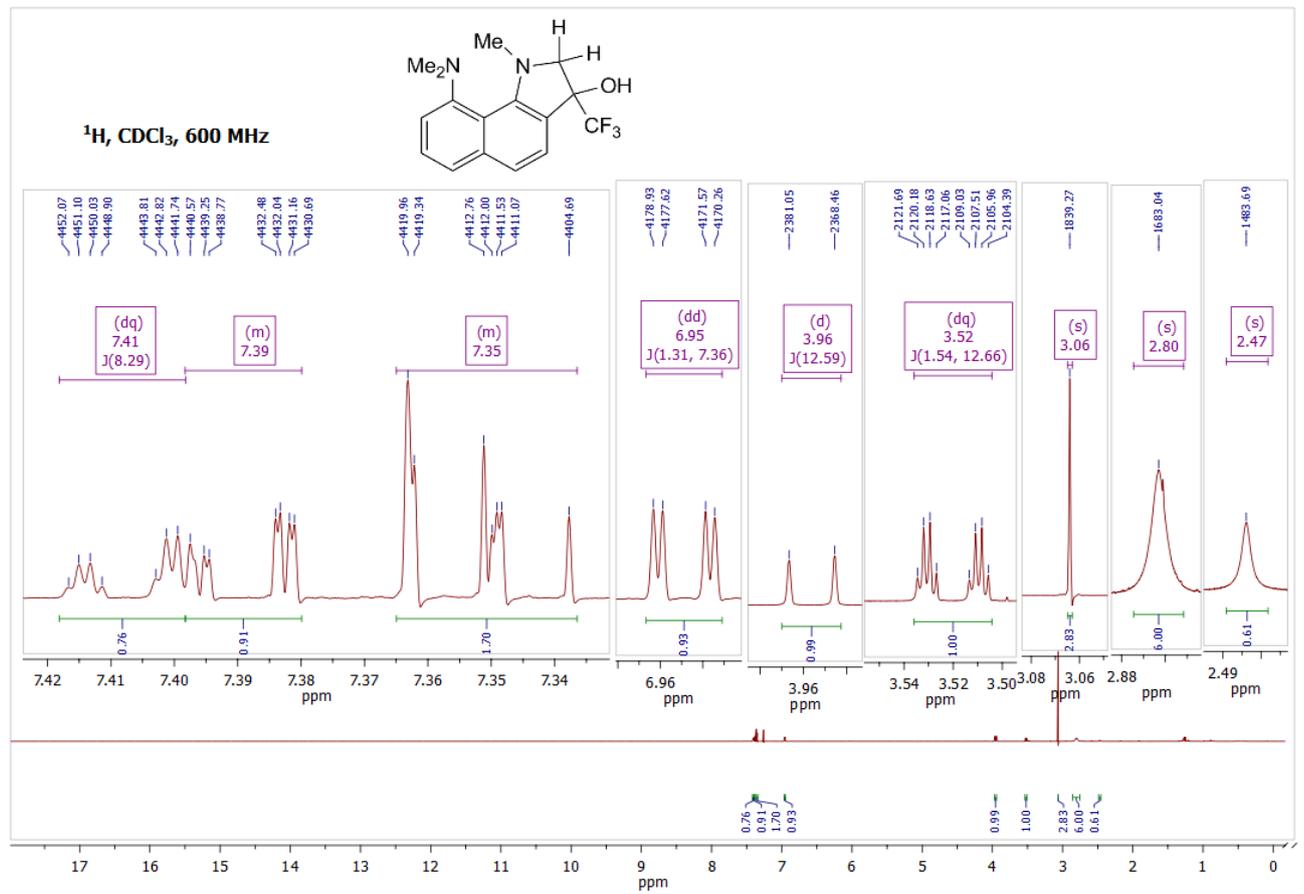
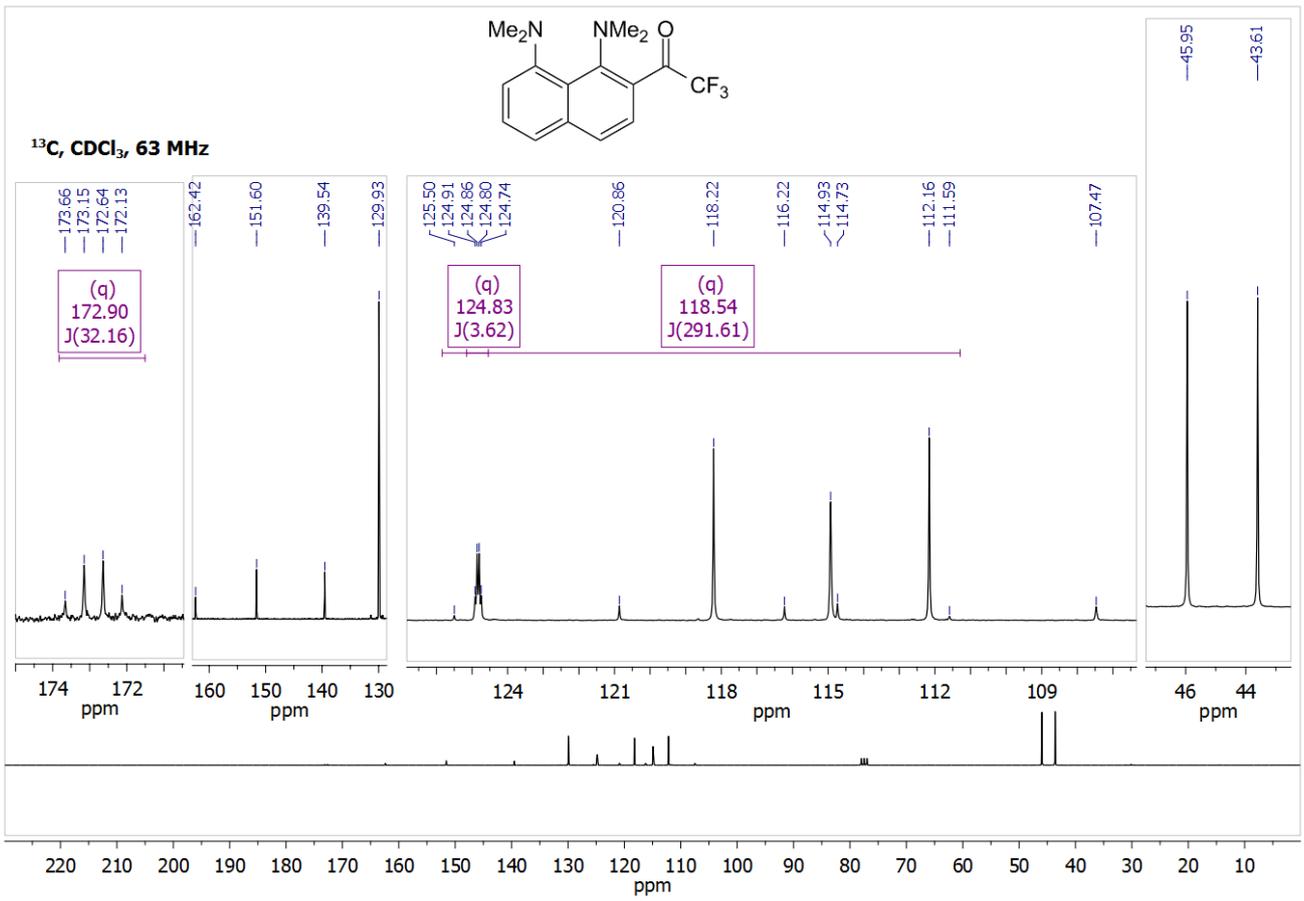
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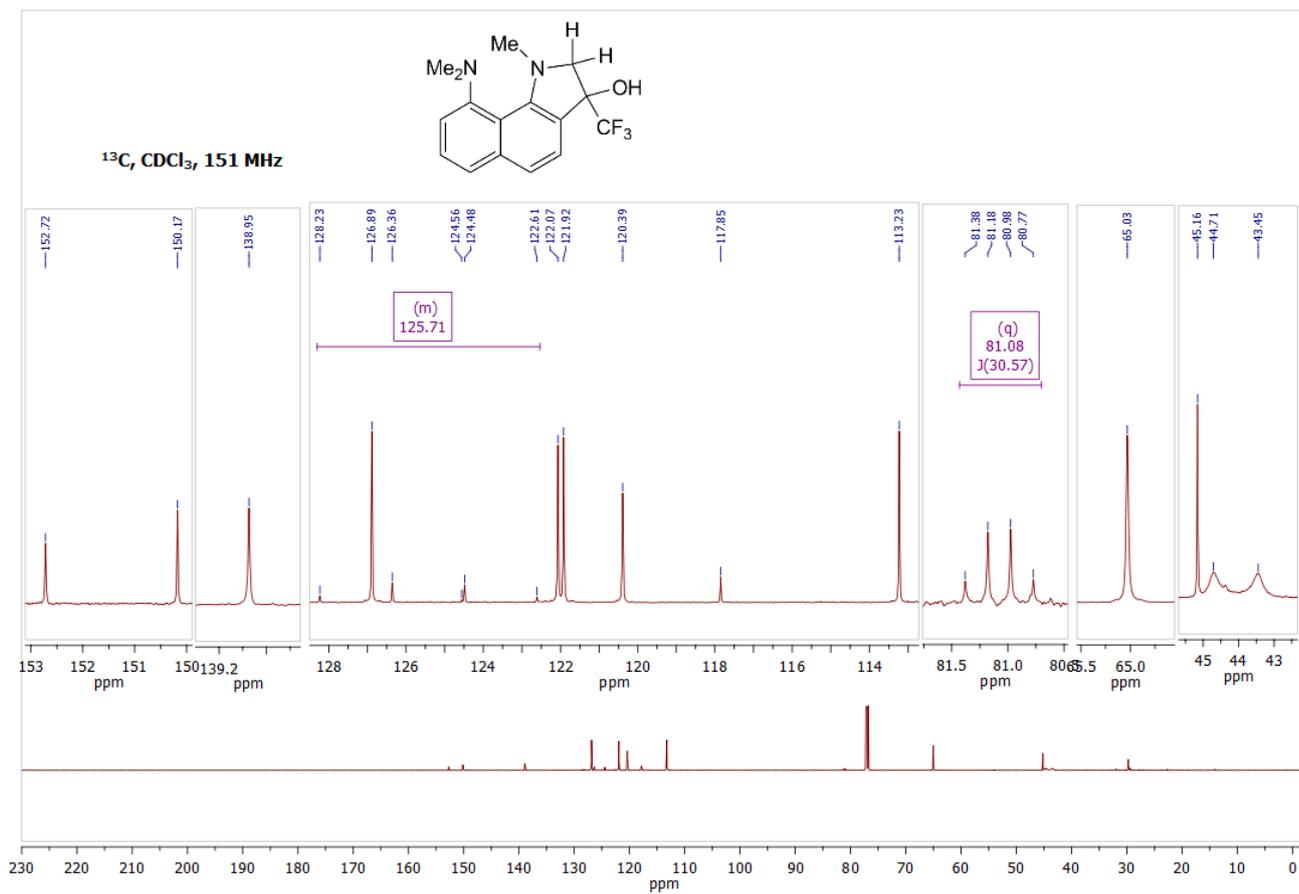




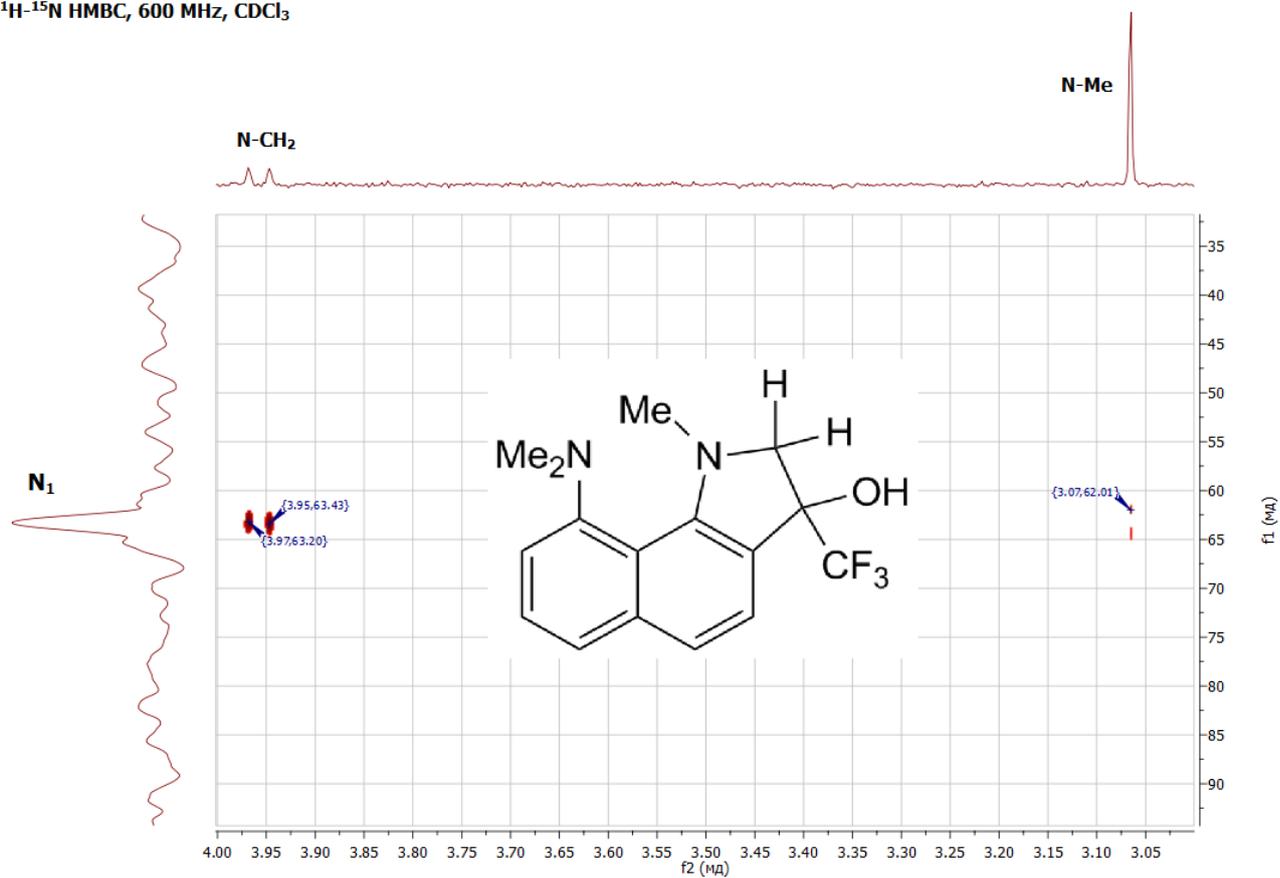


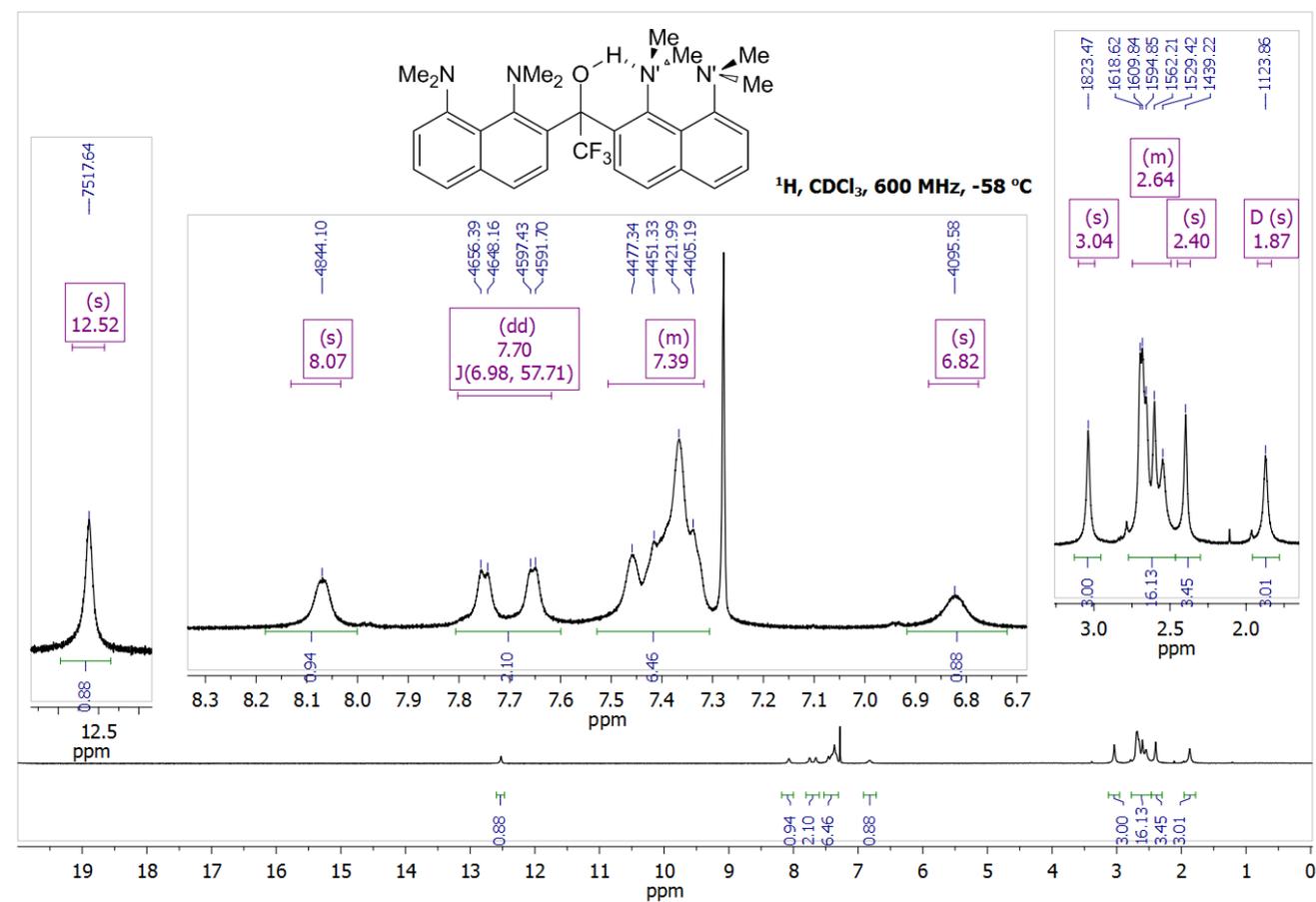
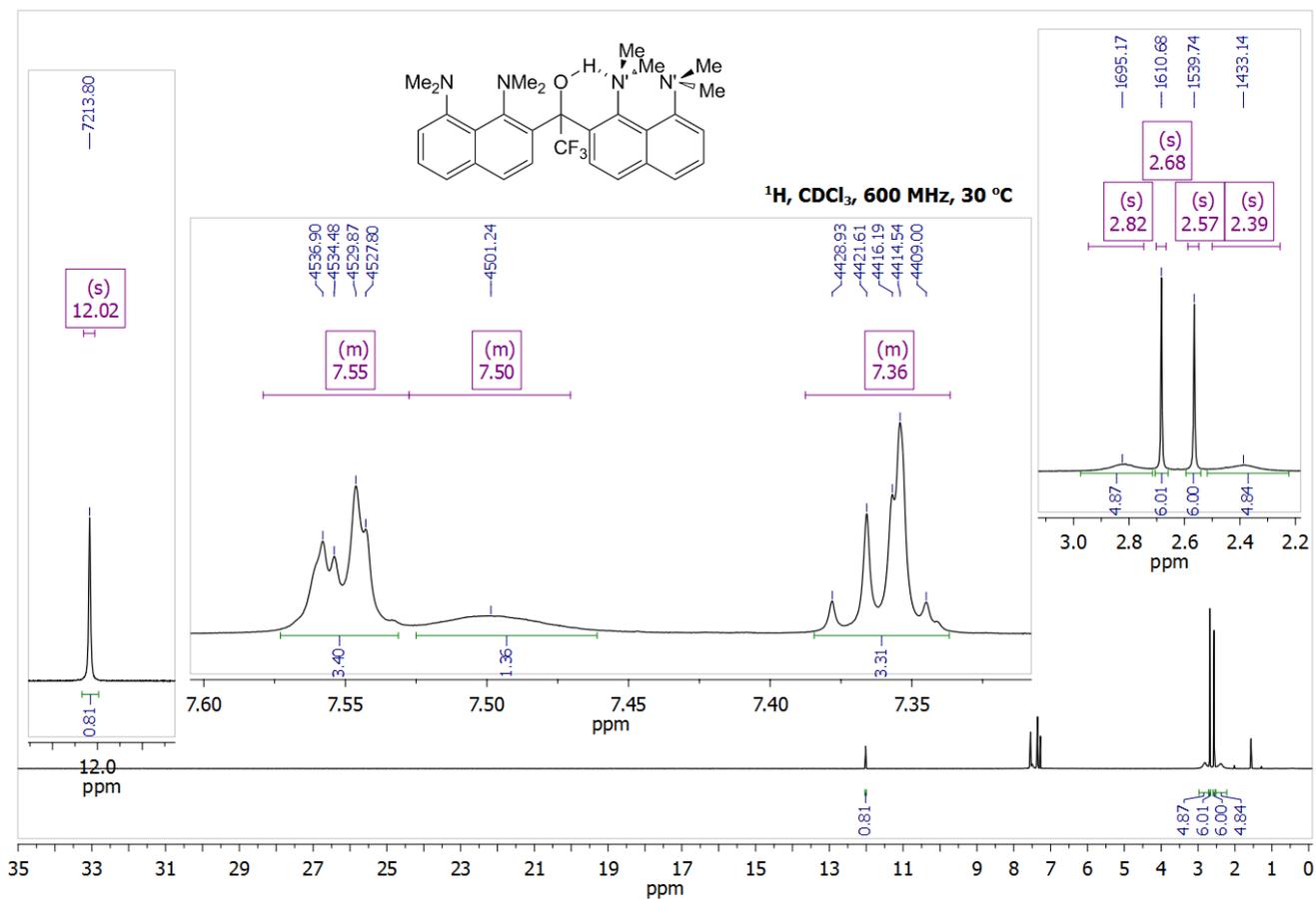


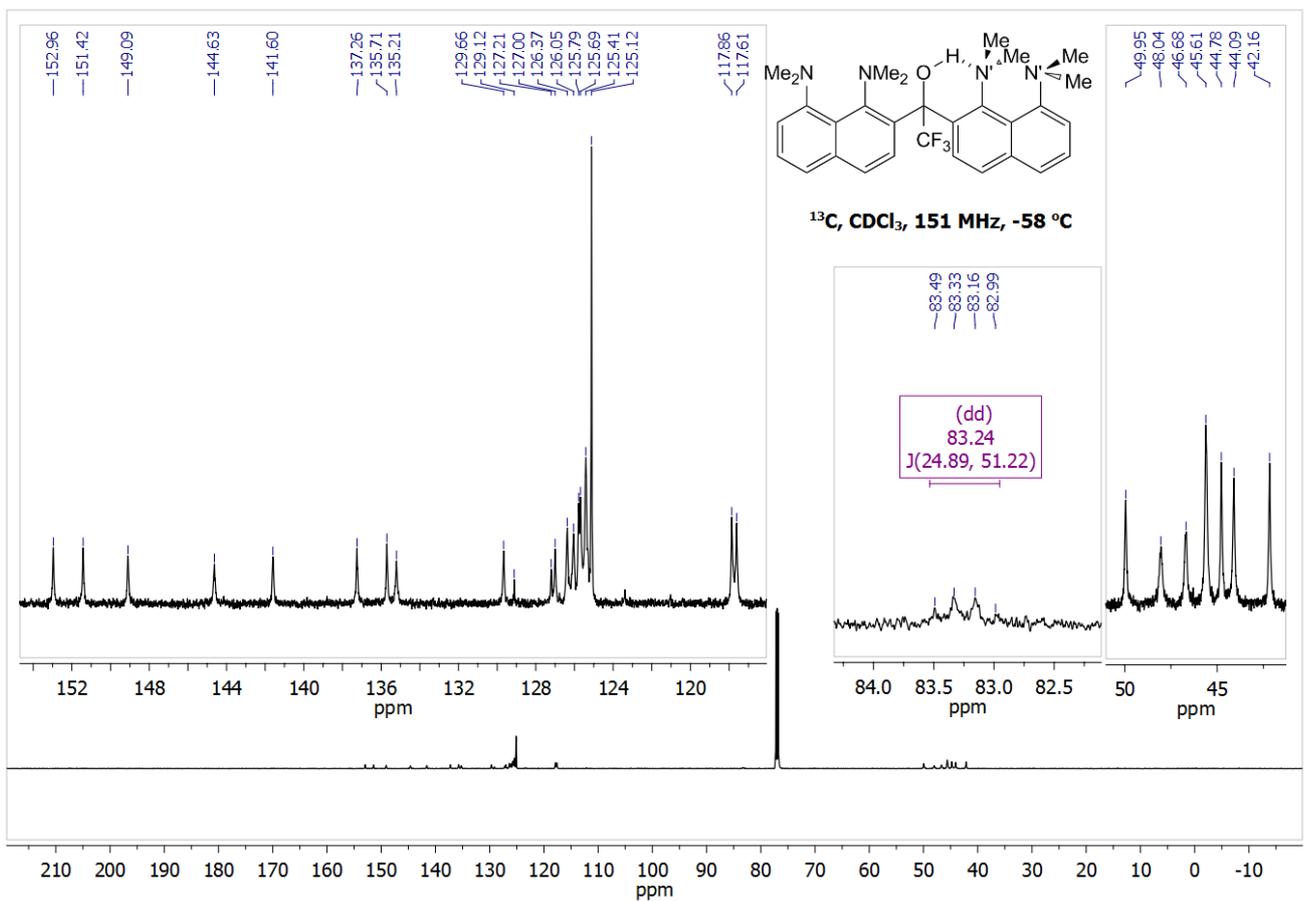
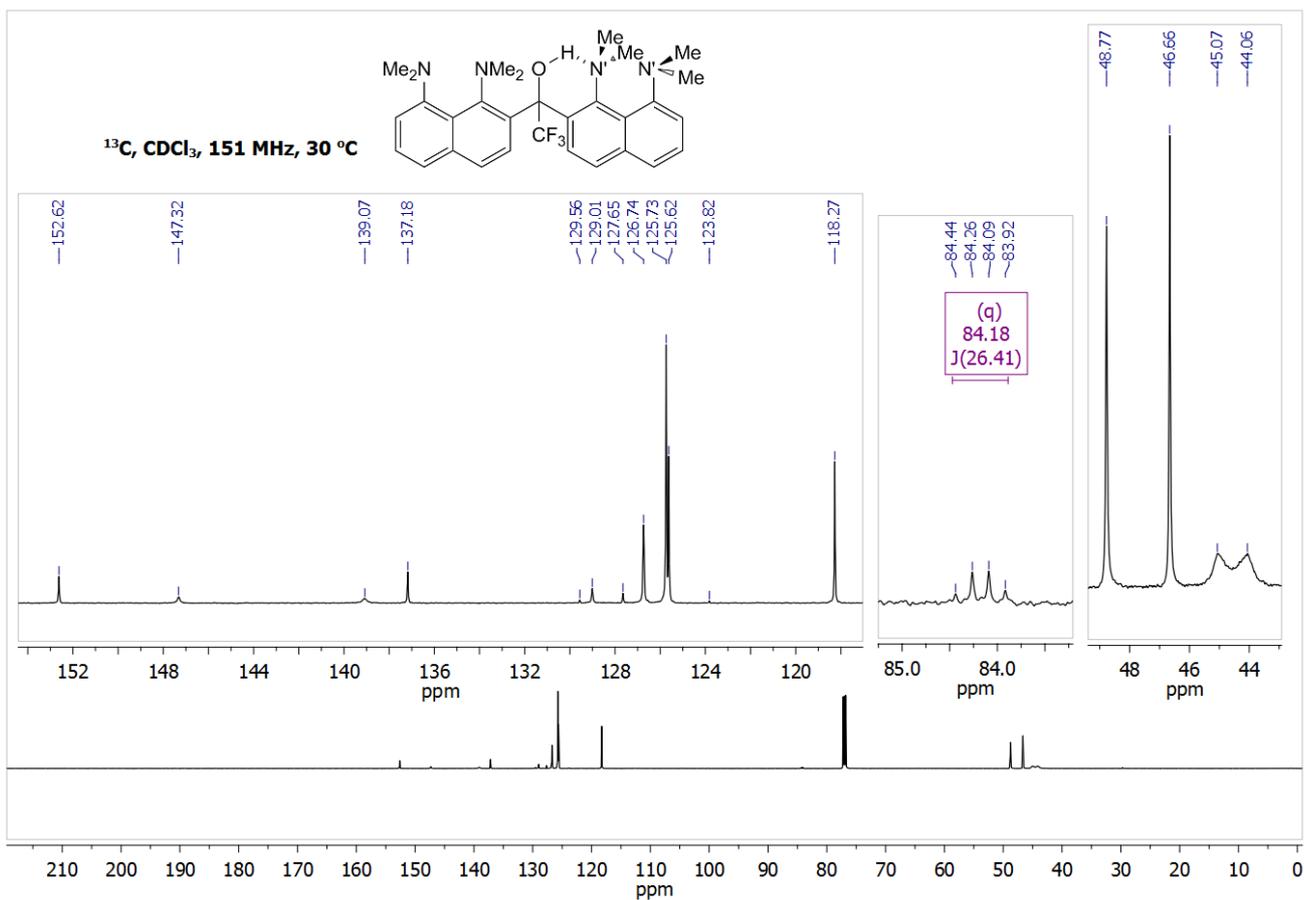


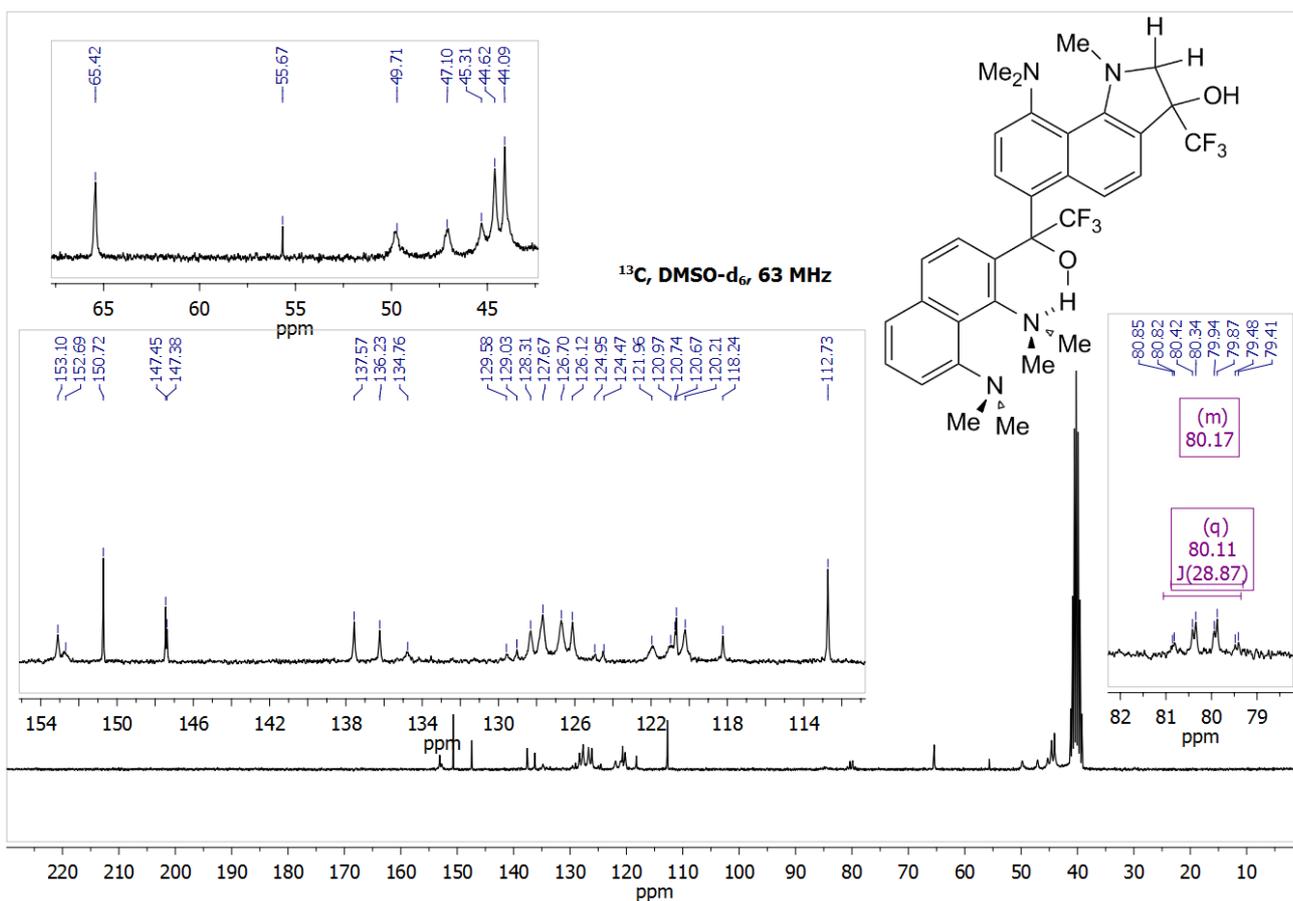
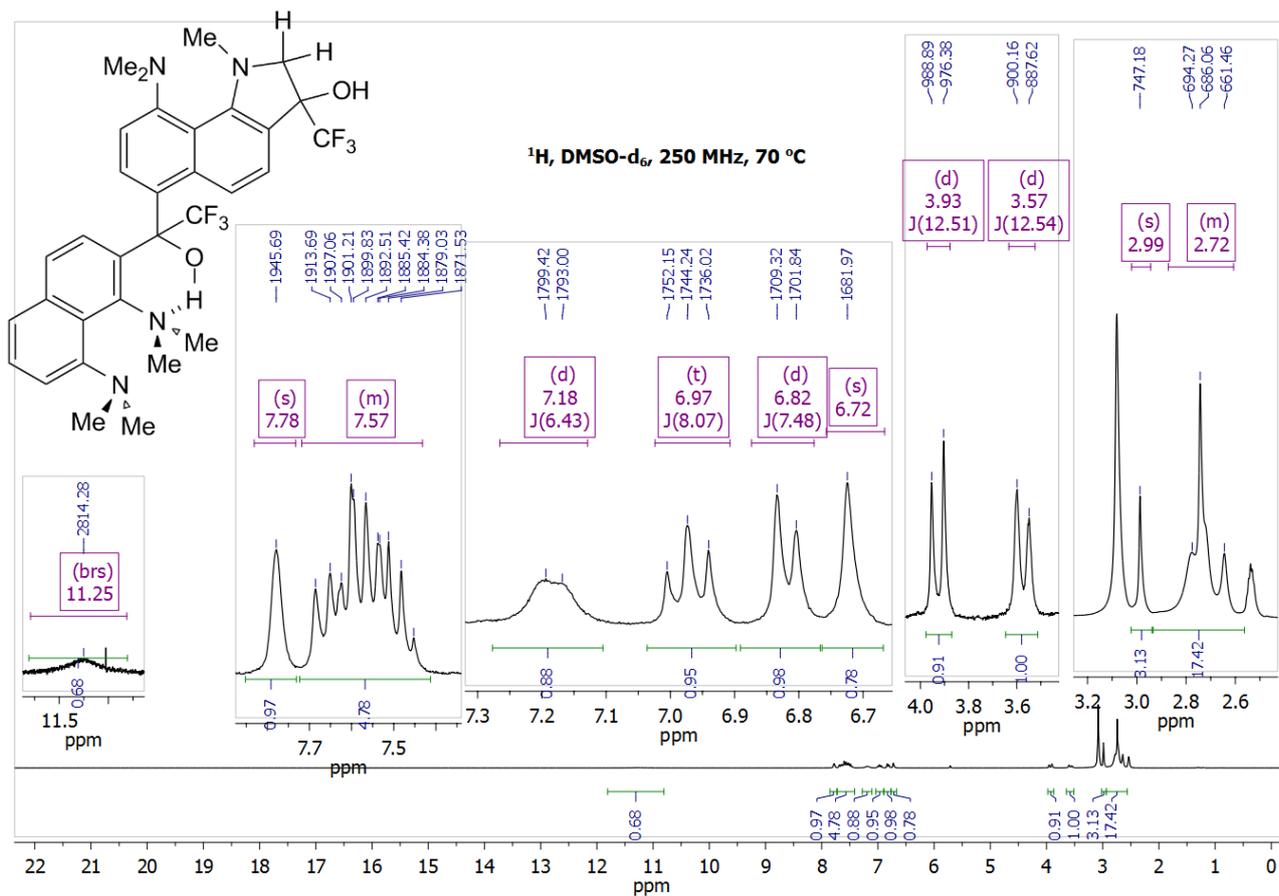


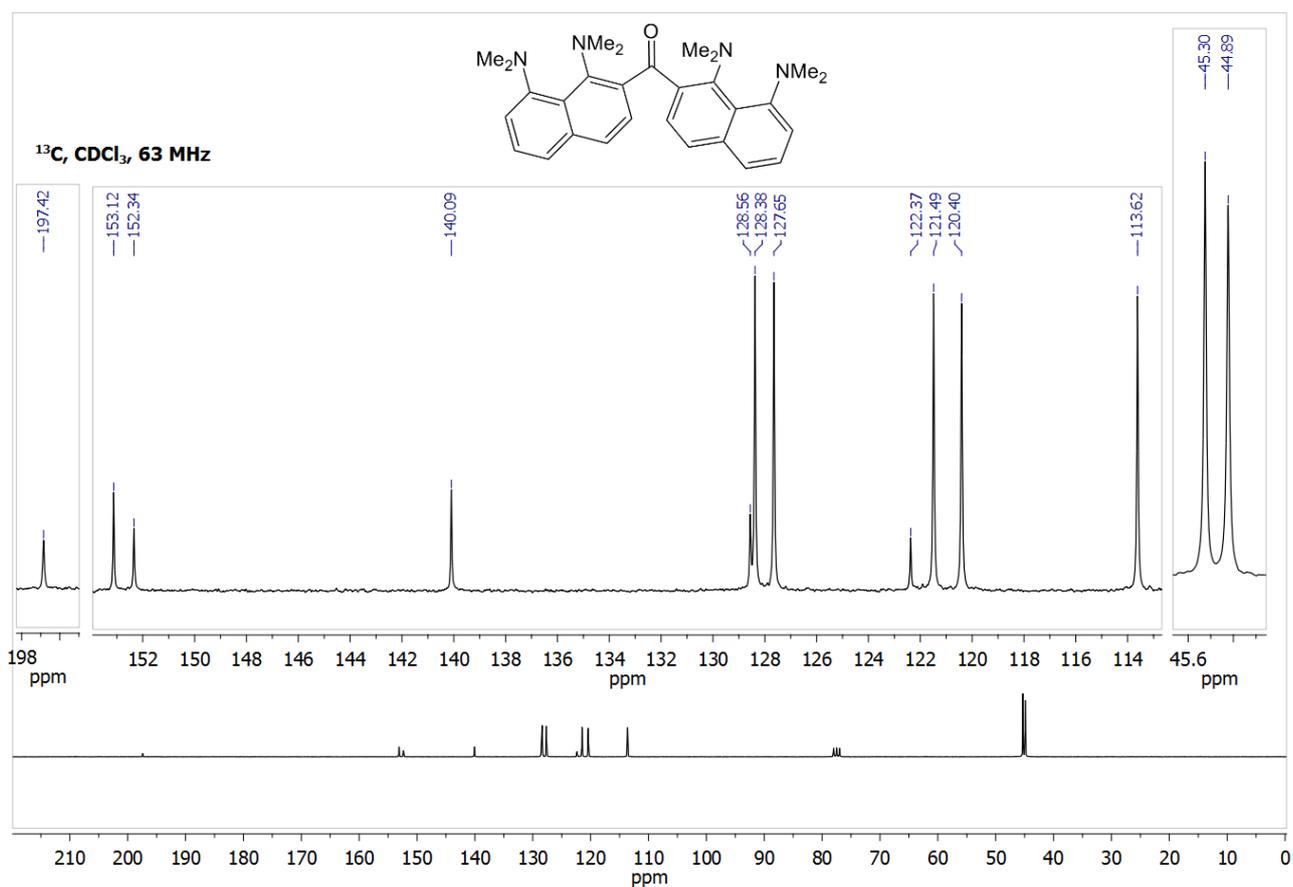
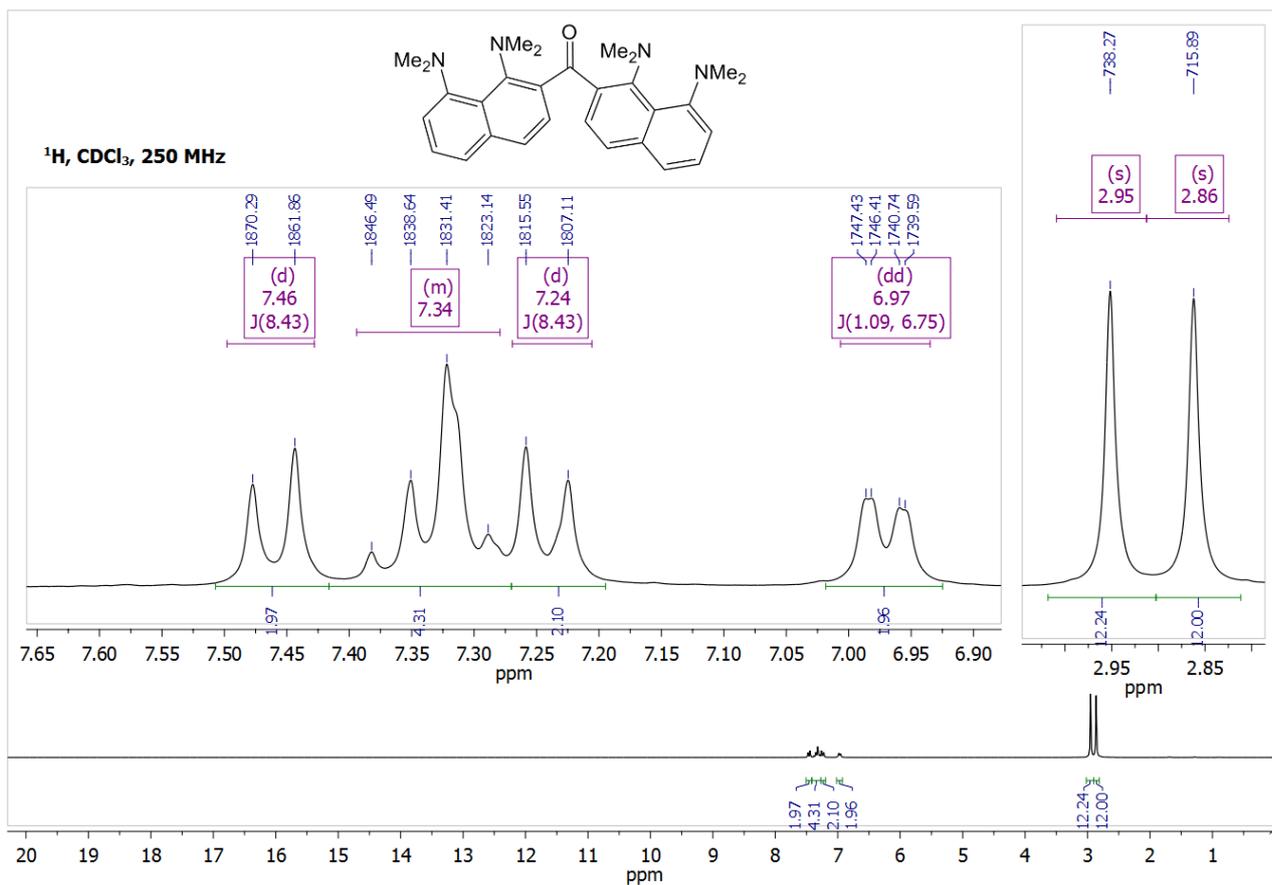
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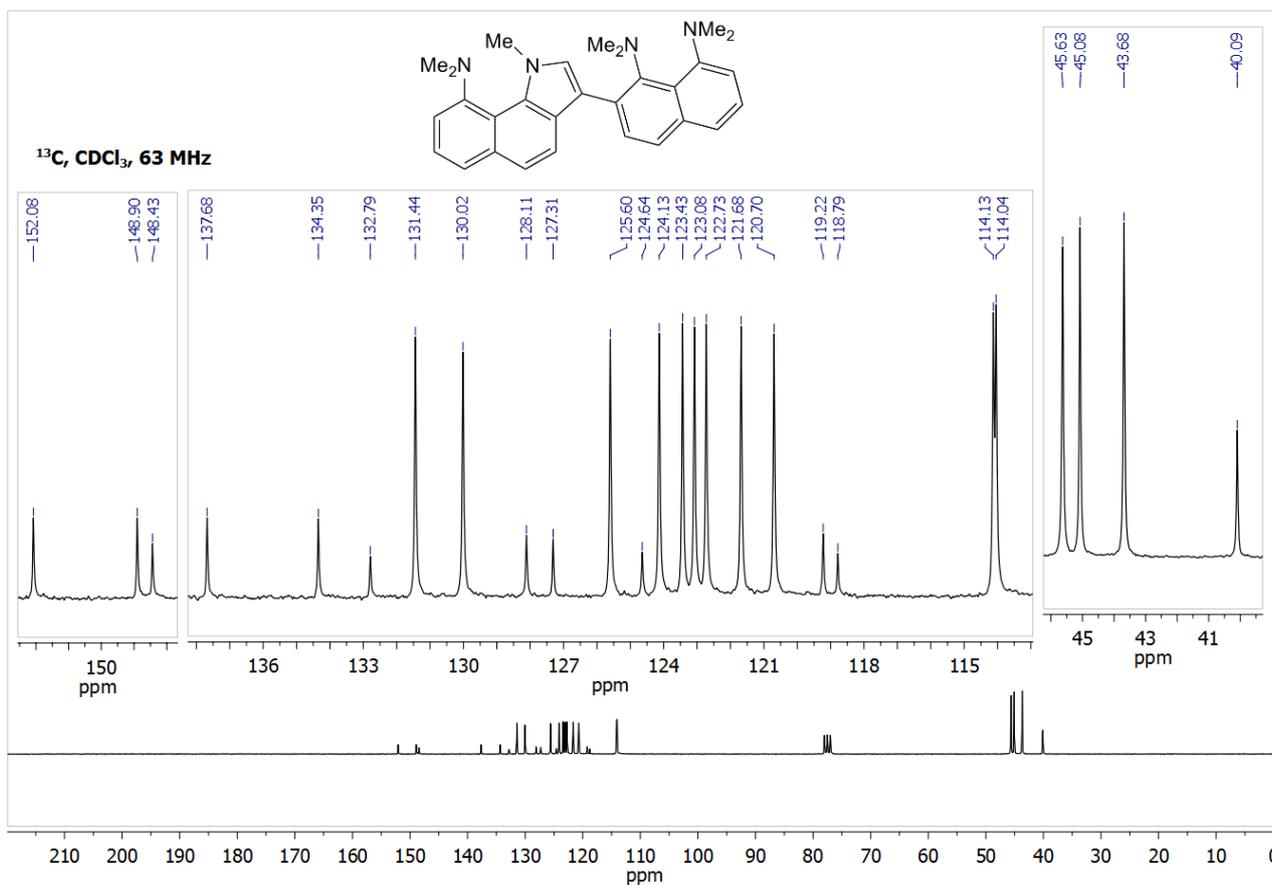
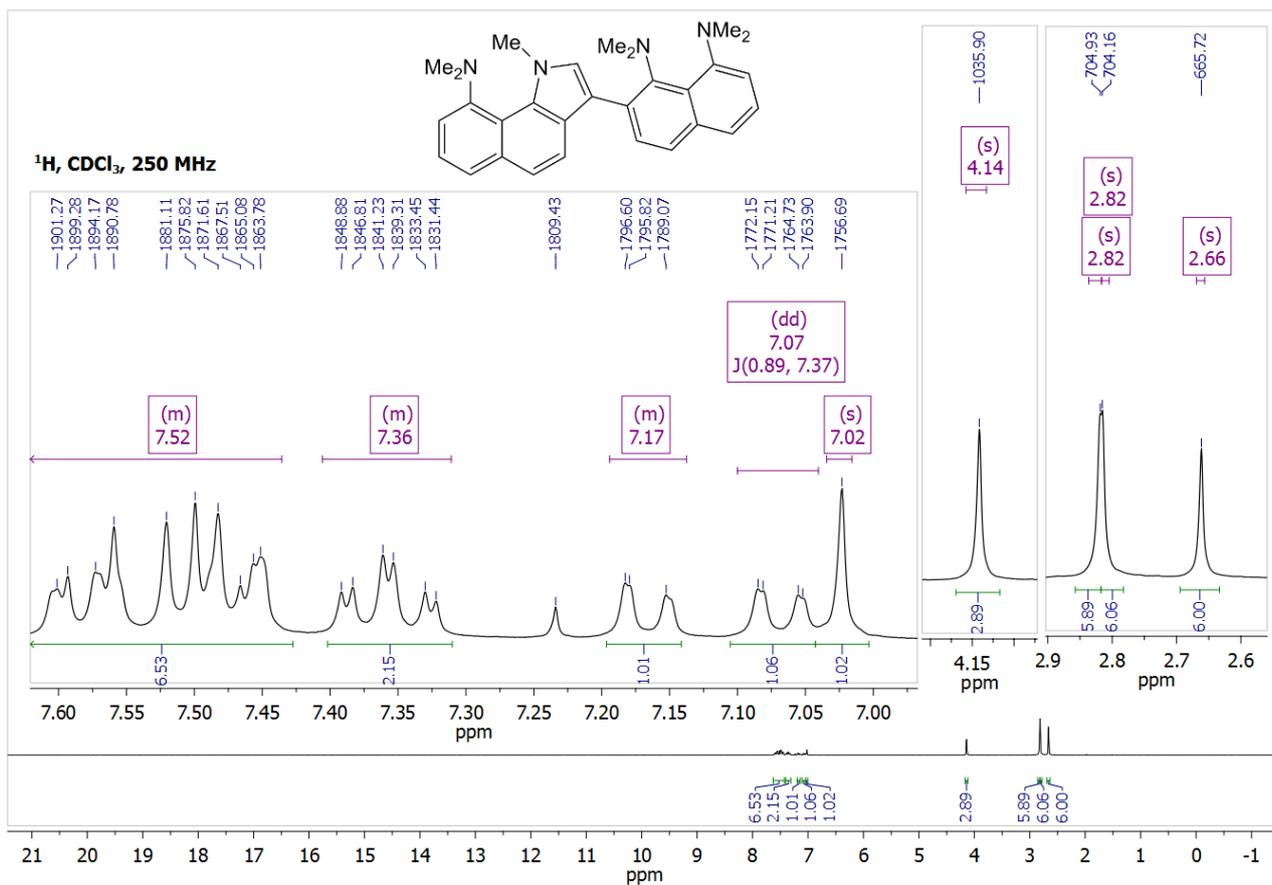












Crystal data and structure refinement for compounds

Crystals suitable for X-ray studies were grown up by slow evaporation from solutions of compounds in appropriate solvents or solvent mixtures: acetone for **5**, Et₂O–hexane 1:1 for **20**, MeCN for **22**. X-Ray measurements were conducted with Bruker APEX II diffractometers (Mo-K_α line, graphite monochromator, ω-scanning). The structures were solved by direct method and refined by the full-matrix least-squares against F^2 in anisotropic (for non-hydrogen atoms) approximation. All hydrogen atoms were placed in geometrically calculated positions and were refined in isotropic approximation in riding model with the $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H})$ parameters equal to $n \cdot U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C}_i)$ ($n = 1.2$ for CH and CH₂ groups and $n = 1.5$ for CH₃ groups), where $U(\text{C}_i)$ are respectively the equivalent thermal parameters of the atoms to which corresponding H atoms are bonded. The H(O) hydrogen atom for **20** was found in difference Fourier synthesis.

Parameter	5	20	22
CCDC registration number	1035188	1035189	1035190
Empirical formula	C ₁₆ H ₁₇ F ₃ N ₂ O	C ₃₂ H ₃₂ F ₆ N ₄ O	C ₂₉ H ₃₄ N ₄ O
Formula weight	310.32	602.62	454.60
T (K)	100(2)	120(2)	100(2)
Crystal system	Orthorhombic	Monoclinic	Triclinic
Space group	<i>Pbca</i>	<i>P2₁/c</i>	<i>P</i> $\bar{1}$
a (Å)	17.3704(11)	12.819(9)	12.282(8)
b (Å)	7.9575(5)	13.786(10)	13.024(8)
c (Å)	21.6807(14)	16.801(12)	16.571(10)
α (°)	90	90	108.054(11)
β (°)	90	96.45(2)	95.805(11)
γ (°)	90	90	90.129(11)
V (Å ³)	2996.8(3)	2950(4)	2506(3)
Z, D_c (Mg m ⁻³)	8, 1.376	4, 1.357	2, 1.205
μ (mm ⁻¹)	0.112	0.110	0.074
Reflections collected/unique	34843/4337	23955/7849	21497/9732
$R(\text{int})$	0.0370	0.0287	0.1131
R_1, wR_2 (all data)	0.0556, 0.1004	0.0649, 0.1318	0.1798, 0.1488
R factor (%)	4.28	4.82	7.27

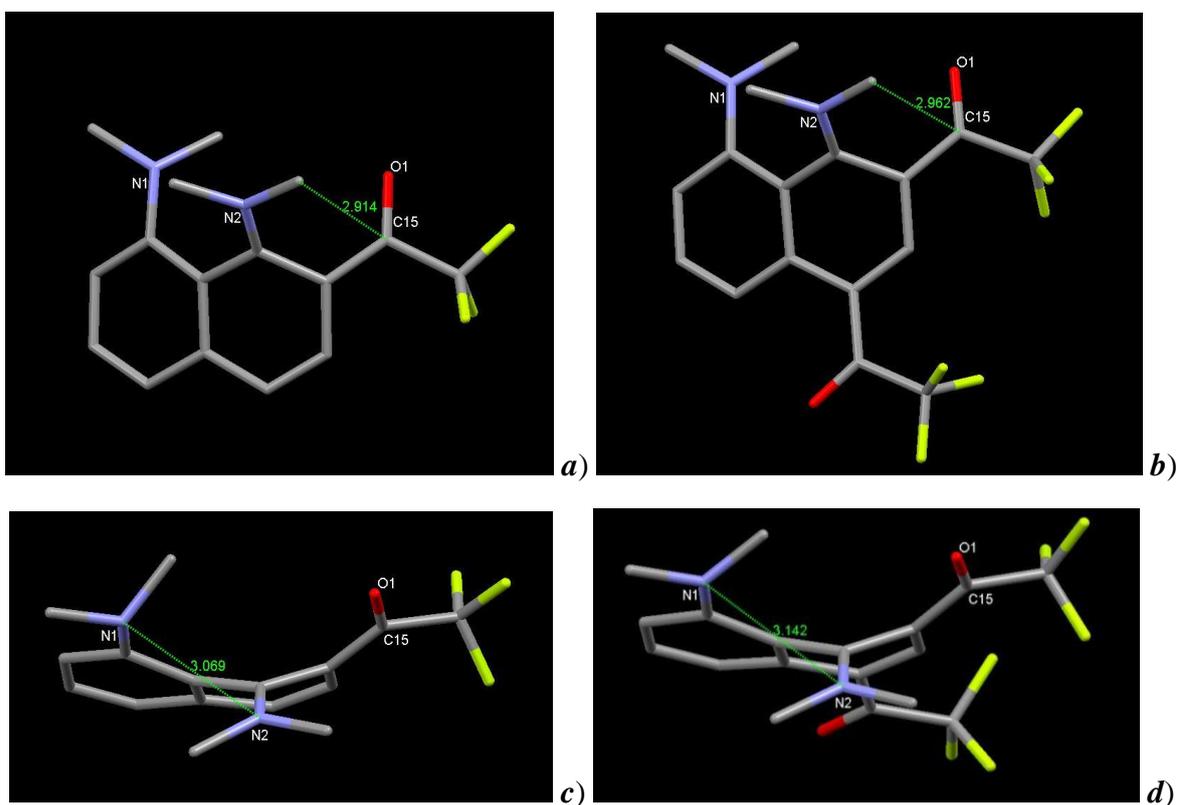


Figure S2 Molecular structures of trifluoroacetyl derivatives **5** (*a,c*) and **7** (*b,d*)^a at 100 K showing the Me(N)...C(O) (*a,b*) and N1...N2 distances (*c,d*) (Å) (H atoms are omitted for clarity).

(a) L. Z. Boiko, V. I. Sorokin, E. A. Filatova, Z. A. Starikova, V. A. Ozeryanskii and A. F. Pozharskii, *J. Mol. Struct.*, 2011, **1005**, 12.

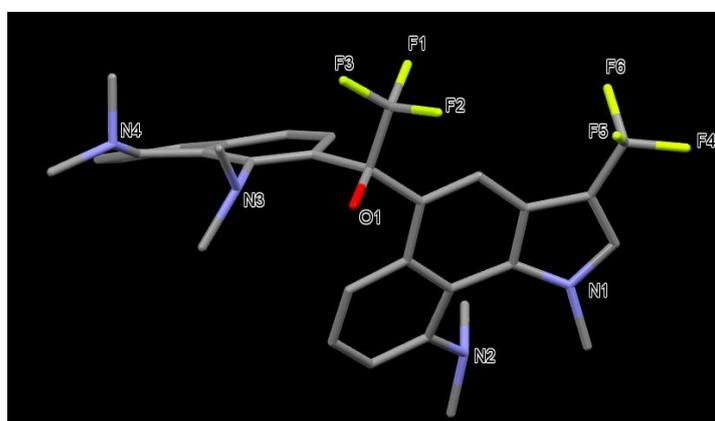


Figure S3 Molecular structure of indole **20** at 120 K (H atoms are omitted for clarity).

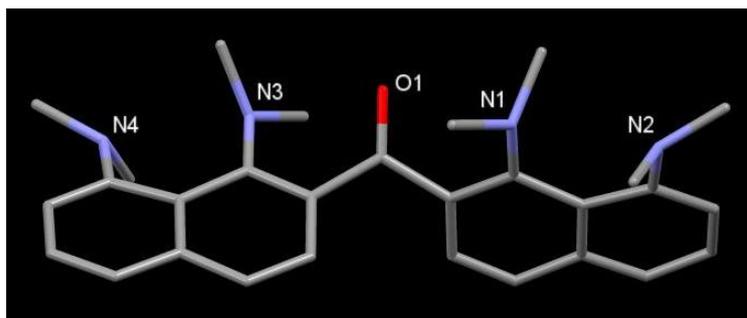


Figure S4 Molecular structure of binaphthylketone **22** at 100 K (H atoms are omitted for clarity).

DFT calculations

The quantum mechanical simulations were carried out using the Gaussian 09 suite of programs.^b The energy minimization was performed using the Møller-Plesset second order perturbation theory (MP2)² and DFT with the B3LYP functional.^{c,d} The 6-311+G(d,p) basis set was applied during the simulations.^{e-h} Harmonic frequencies calculations were performed to confirm that the obtained structures corresponded to the minimum on the potential energy surface.

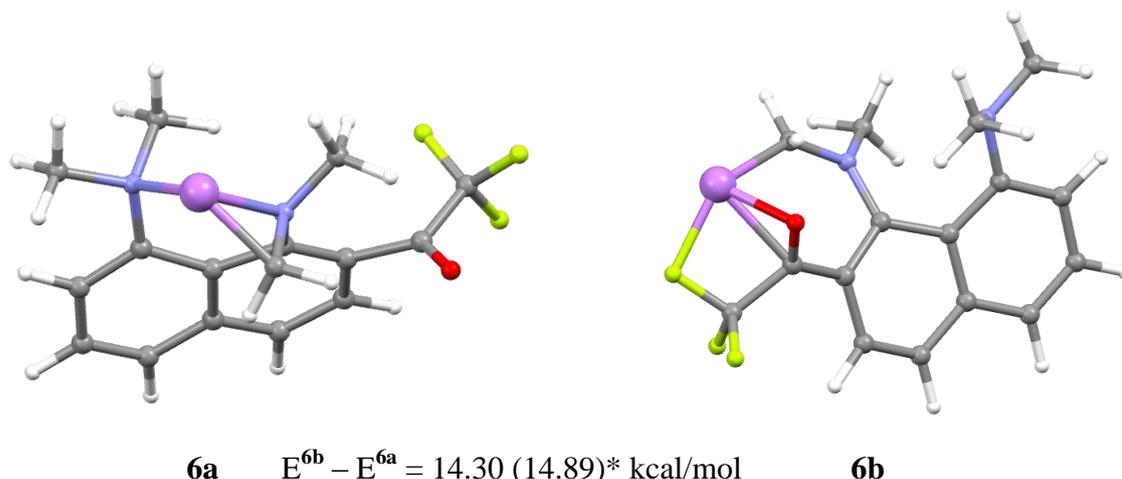


Figure S5 The calculated gas-phase structure of **6** with the chelation of lithium to *peri*-NMe₂ groups (**6a**) and carbonyl group (**6b**) [B3LYP/6-311+G(d,p), *MP2/6-311+G(d,p)].

(b) M. J. Frisch, *et al.*, *Gaussian 09, Revision B01*, Gaussian, Inc., Wallingford CT, 2009; (c) C. Møller and M. S. Plesset, *Phys. Rev.*, 1934, **46**, 618; (d) A. D. Becke, *J. Chem. Phys.*, 1993, **98**, 5648; (e) C. Lee, W. Yang and R. G. Parr, *Phys. Rev. B*, 1988, **15**, 785; (f) K. Raghavachari, J. S. Binkley, R. Seeger and J. A. Pople, *J. Chem. Phys.*, 1980, **72**, 650; (g) T. Clark, J. Chandrasekhar, G. W. Spitznagel and P. v. R. Schleyer, *J. Comp. Chem.*, 1983, **4**, 294; (h) M. J. Frisch, J. A. Pople and J. S. Binkley, *J. Chem. Phys.*, 1984, **80**, 3265.