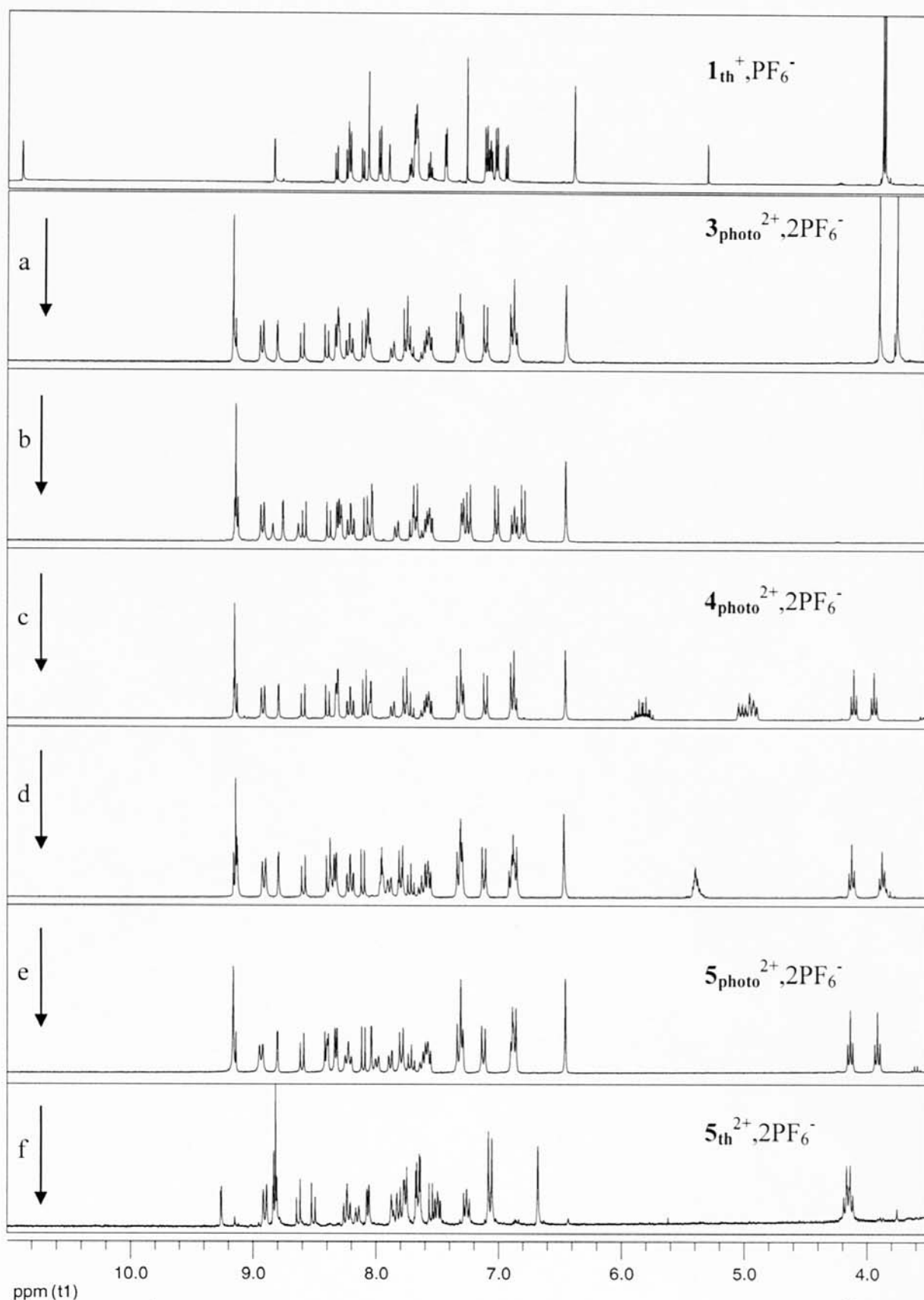


Supplementary material S1



Evolution of the ^1H NMR spectrum of the complexes, from $1_{\text{th}}^+, \text{PF}_6^-$ to $5_{\text{th}}^{2+}, 2\text{PF}_6^-$. Scale is 11-3.5 ppm in acetone d_6 . Réaction conditions: a) $h\nu$ in $\text{CH}_3\text{CN} / \text{H}_2\text{O}$, then 2h reflux in $\text{C}_5\text{H}_5\text{N}$; b) BBr_3 in DCM , $-78^\circ\text{C} \rightarrow \text{RT}$ 2h; c) $\text{Br}(\text{CH}_2)_8\text{CHCH}_2$, Cs_2CO_3 in DMF , 60°C 8h; d) Grubbs 1st gen. catalyst, DCM RT 48h; e) Pd/C cat., H_2 in DCM 16h; f) CH_3SOCH_3 140°C 2h then $\text{C}_5\text{H}_5\text{N}$ reflux 2h.