

## ***Supporting Information***

### **Isoacenofuran: Novel Quinoidal Building Block for Efficient Access to High-ordered Polyacene Derivatives**

Kei Kitamura,<sup>1,2</sup> Ryoji Kudo,<sup>1</sup> Haruki Sugiyama,<sup>3</sup> Hidehiro Uekusa,<sup>3</sup> and Toshiyuki Hamura<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Department of Applied Chemistry for Environment, School of Science and Technology, Kwansei Gakuin University, 2-1 Gakuen, Sanda, Hyogo 669-1337, Japan*

<sup>2</sup>*Present Address: Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Tokushima Bunri University, 180 Yamashiro-cho, Tokushima 770-8514, Japan*

<sup>3</sup>*Department of Chemistry, Tokyo Institute of Technology, 2-12-1 O-okayama, Meguro, Tokyo 152-8551, Japan*

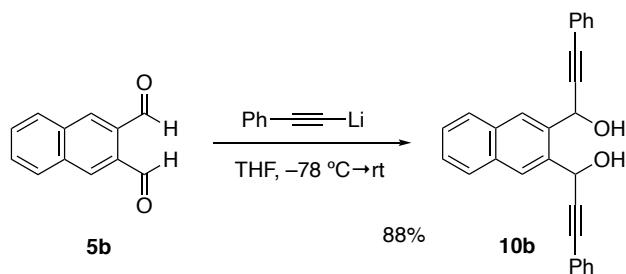
#### **Table of Contents**

1. General.....	S2
2. Synthesis of the Precursor of Isoacenofurans.....	S3
3. Preparation of 2,3-Anthracedicarbaldehyde.....	S6
4. Cycloadditions of Isoacenofuran with Quinones.....	S8
5. Base-promoted Aromatization of Cycloadducts.....	S11
6. Synthesis of Substituted Hexacene <b>21</b> .....	S14
7. Synthesis of Substituted Hexacene <b>22</b> .....	S16
8. X-ray Crystallographic Data.....	S20
9. UV–Vis–NIR Absorption Spectra .....	S21
10. Cyclic Voltammograms.....	S22
11. Time-course <sup>1</sup> H NMR Analysis.....	S23
12. HRMS Spectra of Hexacenes.....	S24
13. <sup>1</sup> H and <sup>13</sup> C NMR Spectra.....	S25
14. Calculations.....	S45
15. References.....	S55

## **1. General**

All experiments dealing with air- and moisture-sensitive compounds were conducted under an atmosphere of dry argon. THF, toluene, and dichloromethane (super dehydrated; Wako Pure Chemical Industries, Ltd.) were used as received. For thin-layer chromatography (TLC) analysis, Merck pre-coated plates (silica gel 60 F<sub>254</sub>, Art 5715, 0.25 mm) were used. For flash column chromatography, silica gel 60 N (spherical, neutral, 63–210 µm) from Kanto Chemical was used. <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR were measured on a JEOL JNM ECA-300, a JEOL JNM ECZ-500R, or a Varian 400-MR spectrometer. Attenuated Total Reflectance Fourier Transformation Infrared (ATR-FTIR) spectra were recorded on a JASCO FT/IR-4200 infrared spectrometer. UV-VIS spectra were recorded on a JASCO V-630 spectrophotometer. High resolution mass spectra were obtained with a JEOL The AccuTOF LC-plus JMS-T100LP, a JEOL SpiralTOF JMS-S3000, or a Bruker micrOTOF spectrometer. Cyclic voltammetry (CV) were recorded on a ALS/CH Instruments Electrochemical Analyzer Model 620D. Melting points (Mp) were measured on an OptiMelt Automated Melting Point System from Stanford research systems and are uncorrected.

## 2. Synthesis of the Precursor of Isoacenofurans



To a solution of phenylacetylene (1.39 mL, 12.7 mmol) in THF (2 mL) was added *n*-BuLi (1.64 M in hexane, 7.3 mL, 12 mmol) at  $-78^{\circ}\text{C}$ . After stirring for 5 min, naphthalene-2,3-dicarboxaldehyde (**5b**) (1.00 g, 5.43 mmol) in THF (18 mL) was added, and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. After gradual warming to room temperature for 7 h, the reaction was quenched by sat. aq.  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$ . The products were extracted with EtOAc ( $\times 3$ ), and combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried ( $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ ), and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc = 8/2  $\rightarrow$  7/3) to give diol **10b** (1.62 g, 88%, dr 65:35) as a pale yellow oil.

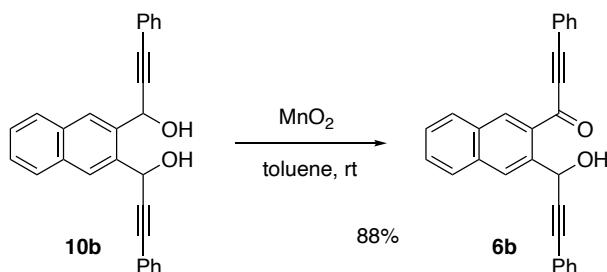
$R_f$  0.34 (hexane/EtOAc = 7/3);

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 300 MHz) 3.26 (s, 0.7H), 3.73 (s, 1.30H), 6.34 (s, 0.70H), 6.49 (s, 1.30H), 7.33–7.37 (m, 6H), 7.52–7.56 (m, 6H), 7.87–7.93 (m, 2H), 8.23 (s, 1.30H), 8.41 (s, 0.70H);

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 75 MHz) 62.8, 64.4, 87.6, 87.9, 88.0, 122.27, 122.32, 126.9, 127.1, 127.8, 128.0, 128.1, 128.4, 128.7, 128.8, 129.0, 131.79, 131.84, 133.06, 133.10, 135.4, 135.6; *All signals for both diastereomers were listed.*

IR (ATR) 3308, 3056, 3018, 2925, 2229, 1598, 1489, 1442, 1216, 1176, 1017, 954, 895, 752  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;

HRMS (DART)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}_2\text{Na} [\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ : 411.1361; found 411.1363.



To a solution of diol **10b** (1.62 g, 4.79 mmol) in toluene (6 mL) was added  $\text{MnO}_2$  (600 mg, 6.90 mmol) in several portions at  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$ , and the reaction was vigorously stirred at room temperature. After stirring for 30 h, the mixture was filtered through Celite® pad, and the solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (toluene/EtOAc = 96/4) to give keto-alcohol **6b** (1.41 g, 88%) as a yellow solid.

Mp 94 °C (dec), yellow prism (hexane/CHCl<sub>3</sub>);

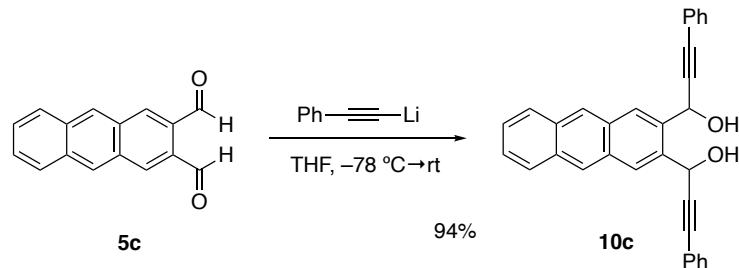
R<sub>f</sub> 0.43 (hexane/EtOAc = 7/3);

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz) 5.04 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 6.15 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 7.28–7.30 (m, 3H), 7.44–7.54 (m, 5H), 7.61–7.64 (m, 1H), 7.67–7.74 (m, 3H), 7.94 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 8.03 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 8.28 (s, 1H), 8.97 (s, 1H);

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 75 MHz) 64.4, 86.7, 88.1, 88.3, 94.3, 119.9, 122.7, 127.6, 128.2, 128.3, 128.4, 128.8, 129.2, 129.3, 129.9, 131.1, 131.8, 132.0, 133.1, 133.6, 135.4, 137.3, 137.5, 181.1;

IR (ATR) 3376, 3057, 3032, 2193, 1611, 1572, 1489, 1442, 1301, 1186, 1102, 1025, 957, 897, 752 cm<sup>-1</sup>;

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 409.1204; found: 409.1193.



To a solution of phenylacetylene (1.0 mL, 9.1 mmol) in THF (25 mL) was added *n*-BuLi (1.57 M in hexane, 5.1 mL, 8.0 mmol) at 0 °C. After stirring for 20 min, 2,3-anthracenedicarboxaldehyde (**5c**) (468 mg, 2.00 mmol) was added at –78 °C and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 h. The reaction was then quenched by addition of sat. aq. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl at 0 °C. The products were extracted with EtOAc (×3) and the combined extracts were washed with brine and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After concentration, the residue was purified by silica-gel column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc = 9/1→7/3) to give diol **10c** (828 mg, 94%, dr 87:13) as yellow oil.

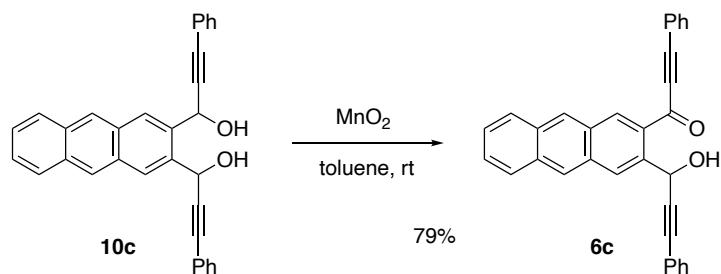
R<sub>f</sub> 0.29 (hexane/EtOAc = 7/3);

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 3.84 (brs, 2H), 6.36 (s, 0.26H), 6.52 (s, 1.74H), 7.34–7.40 (m, 6H), 7.48–7.53 (m, 2H), 7.54–7.61 (m, 4H), 8.00–8.05 (m, 2H), 8.39 (s, 1.74H), 8.46 (s, 1.74H), 8.50 (s, 0.26H), 8.58 (s, 0.26H);

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 100 MHz) 60.6, 85.4, 90.6, 122.2, 125.8, 126.3, 126.7, 128.1, 128.7, 130.4, 131.45, 131.46, 131.7, 136.9; *Only major diastereomer was recorded for <sup>13</sup>C NMR.*

IR (ATR) 3274, 2230, 1490, 1444, 1375, 1257, 1175, 1013, 956, 910, 788, 753, 689 cm<sup>-1</sup>;

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 461.1512; found: 461.1513.



To a solution of diol **10c** (828 mg, 1.89 mmol) in toluene (19 mL) was added  $\text{MnO}_2$  (200 mg, 2.30 mmol) portionwise at 0 °C. The mixture was then vigorously stirred at room temperature for 46 h. After filtration through Celite® pad (washed with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) and concentration, the residue was purified by silica-gel column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc = 4/1) to give ketol **6c** (653 mg, 79%) as an orange oil.

$R_f$  0.41 (hexane/acetone = 8/2);

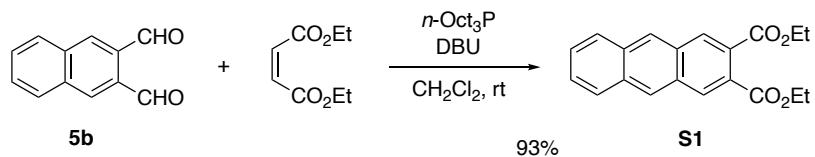
$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz) 5.19 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz), 6.16 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz), 7.28–7.34 (m, 3H), 7.44–7.62 (m, 7H), 7.76 (d, 2H,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz), 8.05 (t, 2H,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz), 8.38 (s, 1H), 8.47 (s, 1H), 8.63 (s, 1H), 9.18 (s, 1H);

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz) 64.6, 86.8, 88.0, 88.4, 94.1, 119.9, 122.8, 126.5, 127.1, 127.4, 128.2, 128.36, 128.39, 128.6, 128.8, 129.3, 129.47, 129.52, 131.1, 131.9, 132.0, 132.5, 133.2, 133.4, 134.1, 135.6, 139.9, 180.8;

IR (ATR) 3391, 3053, 2194, 1614, 1489, 1444, 1317, 1289, 1254, 1195, 1027, 989, 957, 915, 868, 792, 753, 688, 534  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;

HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{20}\text{NaO}_2$  [ $\text{M}+\text{Na}$ ] $^+$ : 459.1356; found: 459.1356.

### 3. Preparation of 2,3-Anthracenedicarbaldehyde<sup>[1]</sup>



To a solution of diethyl maleate (2.1 mL, 13 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (20 mL) was added tri-*n*-octylphosphine (6.3 mL, 14 mmol) at 0 °C. After stirring at room temperature for 30 min, 2,3-naphthalenedicarboxaldehyde<sup>[2]</sup> (**5b**) (1.83 g, 9.94 mmol) was added at 0 °C and then added DBU (150  $\mu\text{L}$ , 1.00 mmol). After stirring at room temperature for 24 h, the mixture was diluted with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (20 mL). The products were extracted with EtOAc ( $\times 3$ ) and combined organic extracts were washed with brine and dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . After concentration, the residue was purified by silica-gel column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc = 9/1 → 8/2) to give diester **S1** (2.98 g, 93%) as yellow solids.

Mp 91–93 °C;

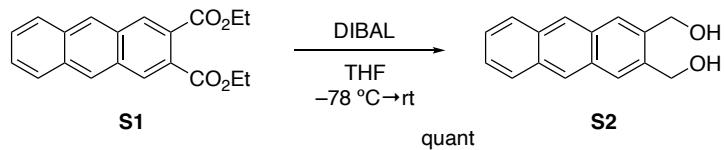
$R_f$  0.44 (hexane/EtOAc = 8/2);

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz) 1.43 (t, 6H,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz), 4.44 (q, 4H,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz), 7.50–7.55 (m, 2H), 7.98–8.03 (m, 2H), 8.40 (s, 2H), 8.46 (s, 2H);

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz) 14.2, 61.6, 126.7, 127.8, 127.9, 128.3, 130.4, 131.1, 132.9, 167.7;

IR (ATR) 2979, 1729, 1708, 1628, 1467, 1442, 1368, 1288, 1238, 1174, 1131, 1113, 1053, 1019, 960, 933, 880, 863, 776, 743, 662, 583  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;

HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{NaO}_4$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 345.1103; found: 345.1101.



To a solution of diester **S1** (650 mg, 2.02 mmol) in THF (20 mL) was added DIBAL (1.0 M in hexane, 10 mL, 10 mmol) at –78 °C. The mixture was stirred at –78 °C for 10 min and then stirred for 4 h with gradual warming to room temperature. The reaction was carefully quenched by dropwise addition of MeOH. The products were extracted with EtOAc ( $\times 3$ ) and combined organic extracts were washed with brine and dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . The volatiles were removed in vacuo to give diol **S2** (481 mg, quant) as white solids.

Mp 256 °C (dec.);

$R_f$  0.18 (hexane/EtOAc = 5/5);

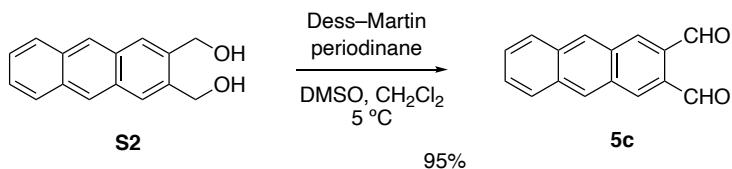
$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ , 400 MHz) 4.76 (d, 4H,  $J$  = 5.2 Hz), 5.36 (t, 2H,  $J$  = 5.2 Hz), 7.45–7.50 (m, 2H), 8.03–

8.08 (m, 2H), 8.04 (s, 2H), 8.51 (s, 2H);

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 100 MHz) 60.9, 124.8, 125.3, 125.4, 128.0, 130.6, 131.2, 138.3;

IR (ATR) 3172, 2926, 1462, 1372, 1345, 1225, 1189, 1117, 1034, 1011, 901, 737, 595  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 261.0891; found: 261.0894.



To a solution of diol **S2** (40.7 mg, 0.171 mmol) in DMSO (1.0 mL) and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mL) was added Dess–Martin periodinane (190 mg, 0.448 mmol) at 0 °C. After stirring at 5 °C for 1 h, the reaction was quenched by sequential additions of 10% aq. Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and sat. aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. The products were extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> ( $\times 3$ ) and combined organic extracts were washed with brine and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After concentration, the residue was purified by silica-gel column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc = 8/2) to give dialdehyde **5c** (37.9 mg, 95%) as yellow solids.

Mp 216–218 °C;

R<sub>f</sub> 0.34 (hexane/EtOAc = 8/2);

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.62–7.68 (m, 2H), 8.07–8.13 (m, 2H), 8.62 (s, 2H), 8.64 (s, 2H), 10.65 (s, 2H);

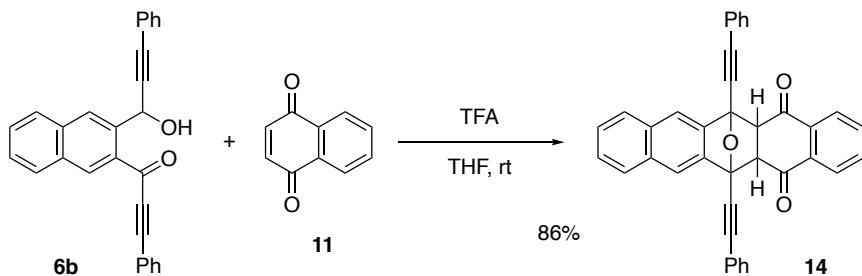
$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 127.8, 128.6, 129.5, 130.9, 132.0, 133.8, 136.4, 192.5;

IR (ATR) 2911, 1683, 1612, 1574, 1454, 1403, 1342, 1288, 1172, 1116, 1002, 913, 867, 791, 756, 701, 609,

537  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>10</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 257.0578; found: 257.0578.

#### 4. Cycloadditions of Isoacenofuran and Quinones



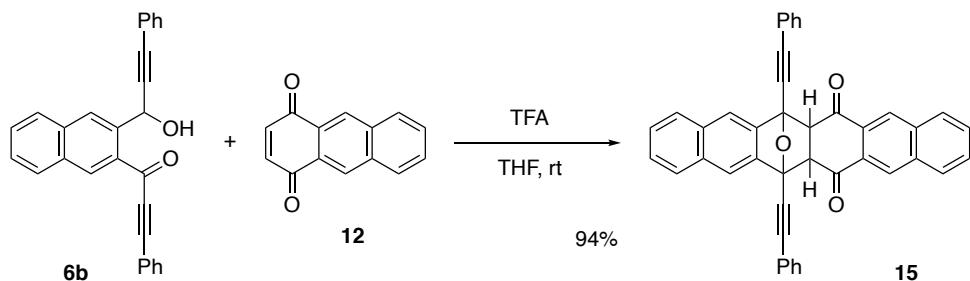
To a mixture of keto-alcohol **6b** (200 mg, 0.518 mmol) and 1,4-naphthoquinone (**11**) (100 mg, 0.632 mmol) in THF (1.7 mL) was added TFA (0.10 mL, 1.3 mmol) at 0 °C, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 8 h. The reaction was carefully quenched by an addition of sat. aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. The products were extracted with EtOAc ( $\times 3$ ), and the combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), and concentrated in vacuo. The precipitates were collected by filtration (heptane) to provide cycloadduct **14** (235 mg, 86%, *endo/exo* = 74/26) as a pale brown solid.

R<sub>f</sub> 0.31 (hexane/EtOAc = 8/2);

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 3.54 (s, 0.52H), 4.18 (s, 1.48H), 7.21–7.25 (m, 1.48H), 7.36–7.38 (m, 1.48H), 7.39–7.44 (m, 6H), 7.56–7.61 (m, 2H), 7.61 (s, 1.48H), 7.63–7.66, (m, 2.52H), 7.69–7.73 (m, 2.96H), 7.75–7.77 (m, 0.52H), 7.94–7.96 (m, 0.52H), 7.99 (s, 0.52H), 8.04–8.06 (m, 0.52H);  
<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz) 56.8, 59.3, 81.8, 83.1, 83.6, 90.8, 118.4, 120.2, 121.4, 121.7, 126.2, 126.6, 126.7, 126.9, 128.2, 128.38, 128.44, 128.6, 129.3, 129.5, 132.4, 132.7, 133.6, 134.1, 134.4, 137.1, 138.8, 192.0, 193.5; All signals for both diastereomers were listed.

IR (ATR) 3057, 2921, 2849, 2196, 1670, 1489, 1397, 1348, 1274, 999, 884 cm<sup>-1</sup>;

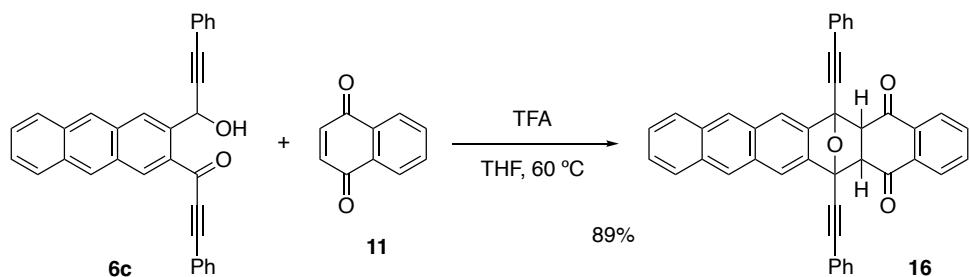
HRMS (DART) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>38</sub>H<sub>23</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 527.1647; found: 527.1652.



To a mixture of keto-alcohol **6b** (1.00 g, 2.59 mmol) and 1,4-anthraquinone (**12**) (590 mg, 2.83 mmol) in THF (6.5 mL) was added TFA (0.50 mL, 6.5 mmol) at 0 °C, and the mixture was stirred for 5 h at room temperature. The reaction was carefully quenched by sat. aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. The products were extracted with EtOAc ( $\times 3$ ), and combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), and concentrated in vacuo. The precipitates were collected by filtration (heptane) to provide cycloadduct **15** (1.36 g, 94%, *endo/exo* = 93/7) as a pale brown solid.

$R_f$  0.27 (hexane/EtOAc = 8/2);

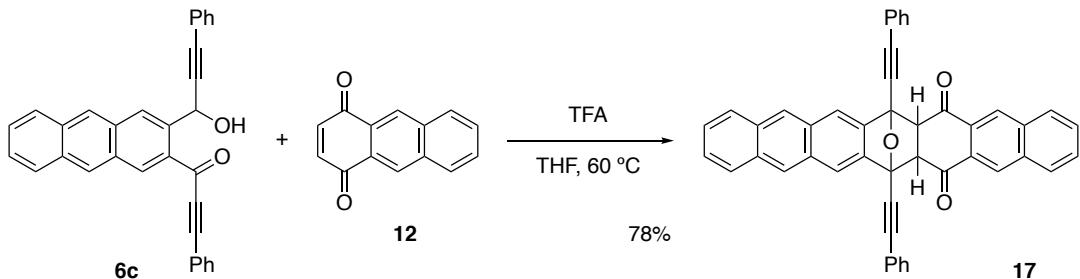
$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz) 3.61 (s, 0.14H), 4.28 (s, 1.86H), 7.19–7.22 (m, 1.86H), 7.40–7.45 (m, 6H), 7.47–7.50 (m, 1.86H), 7.55–7.59 (m, 2H), 7.66 (s, 1.86H), 7.67–7.69 (m, 0.28H), 7.72–7.78 (m, 5.72H), 7.94–7.96 (m, 0.14H), 8.00 (s, 0.14H), 8.05–8.07 (m, 0.14H), 8.21 (s, 1.86H), 8.60 (s, 0.14H);  
 $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 125 MHz) 57.0, 82.2, 83.1, 90.6, 120.2, 121.8, 126.4, 128.1, 128.4, 128.6, 129.2, 129.3, 129.6, 130.1, 132.3, 132.6, 134.7, 138.9, 192.0; *Only major diastereomer was recorded for  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR.*  
IR (ATR) 3051, 2957, 2925, 2243, 1682, 1619, 1491, 1454, 1250, 1193, 1122, 979, 911, 869, 756  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (DART)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{42}\text{H}_{25}\text{O}_3$  [ $\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 577.1804; found: 577.1805.



To a mixture of ketol **6c** (259 mg, 0.593 mmol) and 1,4-naphthoquinone (**11**) (102 mg, 0.647 mmol) in THF (2.0 mL) was added TFA (113  $\mu\text{L}$ , 1.48 mmol) at 0 °C. After stirring at 60 °C in oil bath for 10 h, the reaction was quenched by addition of sat. aq.  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and the products were extracted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  ( $\times 3$ ). The combined extracts were washed with brine, and then dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . The crude products were triturated with hexane/Et<sub>2</sub>O (=4/1) to give cycloadduct **16** (304 mg, 89%, *endo/exo* = 78/22) as a light brown solid.

$R_f$  0.29 (hexane/EtOAc = 8/2);

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz) 3.63 (s, 0.44H), 4.21 (s, 1.56H), 7.12–7.18 (m, 1.56H), 7.40–7.49 (m, 7.56H), 7.50–7.55 (m, 0.44H), 7.60–7.65 (m, 1.56H), 7.65–7.70 (m, 0.44H), 7.71–7.80 (m, 5.56H), 7.89–7.94 (m, 1.56H), 8.02–8.09 (m, 0.88H), 8.11 (s, 0.44H), 8.24 (s, 1.56H), 8.52 (s, 0.44H);  
 $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz) 56.9, 59.5, 80.0, 81.7, 83.0, 83.6, 90.8, 94.0, 118.4, 120.2, 121.4, 121.6, 125.8, 126.0, 126.2, 126.7, 127.0, 127.4, 128.0, 128.1, 128.4, 128.5, 129.3, 129.5, 130.4, 131.0, 131.8, 132.1, 132.4 ( $\times 2$ ), 133.8, 134.0, 134.4, 137.1, 138.3, 141.0, 191.9, 193.4; *All signals for both diastereomers were listed.*  
IR (ATR) 3048, 2243, 1679, 1594, 1492, 1443, 1286, 1259, 1134, 1061, 969, 887, 754, 688, 590  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{42}\text{H}_{25}\text{O}_3$  [ $\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 577.1804; found: 577.1804.



To a mixture of ketol **6c** (652 mg, 1.49 mmol) and 1,4-anthraquinone (**12**) (330 mg, 1.58 mmol) in THF (4.0 mL) was added TFA (286  $\mu$ L, 3.74 mmol) at 0 °C. After stirring at 60 °C in oil bath for 11 h, the reaction was quenched by addition of sat. aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> at 0 °C and stirred for 10 min. The precipitates were collected by filtration and sequentially washed with H<sub>2</sub>O, EtOH, and Et<sub>2</sub>O to give cycloadduct (529 mg, 56.7%, *endo/exo* = 71/29) as off-white solids. Additional products were extracted with EtOAc ( $\times$ 3) from the mother liquor. The combined extracts were washed with brine, and then dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After concentration, the residue was purified by silica-gel column chromatography (hexane/acetone = 70/30) to give cycloadduct **17** (195 mg, 20.9%, 78% combined yield) as a yellow solid.

*R*<sub>f</sub> 0.25 (hexane/EtOAc = 8/2);

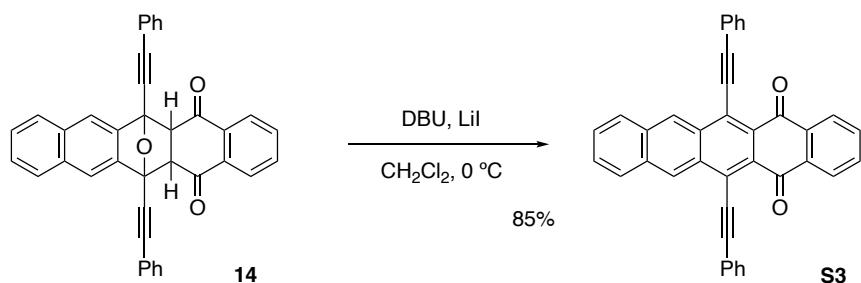
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 3.71 (s, 0.58H), 4.30 (s, 1.42H), 7.31–7.35 (m, 1.42H), 7.35–7.39 (m, 1.42H), 7.42–7.47 (m, 6H), 7.51–7.55 (m, 0.58H), 7.65–7.71 (m, 3.16H), 7.74–7.77 (m, 2.84H), 7.78–7.82 (m, 1.42H), 7.80 (s, 1.42H), 8.02–8.09 (m, 1.16H), 8.13 (s, 0.58H), 8.15 (s, 1.42H), 8.22 (s, 1.42H), 8.53 (s, 0.58H), 8.62 (s, 0.58H);

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz) 57.1, 59.9, 80.2, 82.1, 83.1, 83.9, 90.7, 93.9, 118.4, 120.3, 121.5, 121.8, 125.6, 126.0, 127.0, 127.4, 127.9, 128.1, 128.4, 128.5, 128.7, 128.9, 129.0, 129.3, 129.5, 129.6, 129.9, 130.0, 130.2, 130.5, 131.0, 131.7, 132.1, 132.4, 132.9, 134.6, 135.4, 138.5, 140.1, 141.1, 191.9, 193.6; *All signals for both diastereomers were listed.*

IR (ATR) 3052, 2242, 1682, 1620, 1491, 1442, 1390, 1327, 1288, 1247, 1191, 1053, 982, 888, 755, 688 cm<sup>-1</sup>;

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>46</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 649.1780; found: 649.1781.

## 5. Base-promoted Aromatization of Cycloadducts



To a solution of cycloadduct **14** (200 mg, 0.380 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (9.5 mL) was sequentially added LiI (102 mg, 0.762 mmol) and DBU (0.34 mL, 2.3 mmol) at 0 °C. After stirring for 90 min at this temperature, the reaction was quenched by an addition of 2 M HCl and the products were extracted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  ( $\times 3$ ). The combined extracts were washed with brine, and then dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . After concentration, the crude products were triturated with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  to give pentacenequinone **S3** (164 mg, 85%) as an orange solid.

Mp 154 °C (dec);

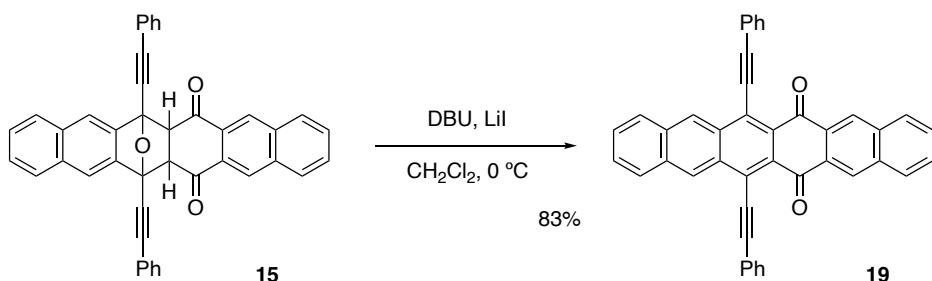
$R_f$  0.36 (hexane/EtOAc = 8/2);

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz) 7.47–7.54 (m, 6H), 7.65–7.67 (m, 2H), 7.81–7.82 (m, 2H), 7.95–7.97 (m, 4H), 8.18–8.20 (m, 2H), 8.41–8.43 (m, 2H), 9.46 (s, 2H);

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 125 MHz, 50 °C) 88.8, 104.7, 123.6, 124.1, 127.4, 127.9, 128.7, 129.0, 129.1, 129.3, 131.0, 131.5, 132.5, 133.7, 133.8, 134.9, 182.1;

IR (ATR) 3055, 2923, 2853, 2175, 1669, 1593, 1488, 1396, 1345, 1273, 995, 913, 884  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;

HRMS (MALDI, DCTB matrix)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{38}\text{H}_{21}\text{O}_2$  [ $\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 509.1536; found: 509.1521.

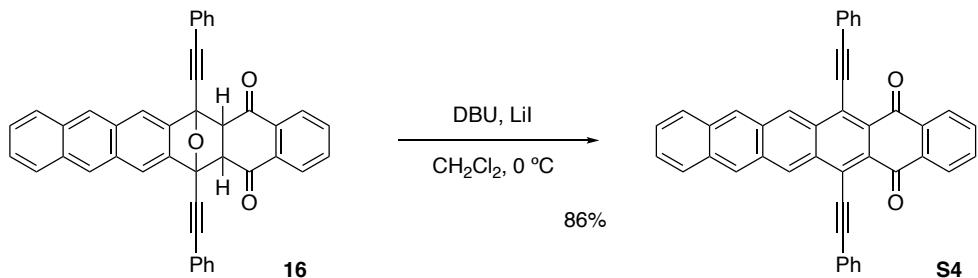


To a solution of cycloadduct **15** (1.45 g, 2.51 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (100 mL) was sequentially added LiI (669 mg, 5.00 mmol) and DBU (2.24 mL, 15.0 mmol) at 0 °C. After stirring for 30 min at this temperature, the reaction was quenched by an addition of 2 M HCl and stirred for 30 min. The precipitates were collected by filtration and sequentially washed with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , EtOH, and hexane to give heptacenequinone **19** (1.16 g, 83%) as a red solid.

Mp 144 °C (dec);

$R_f$  0.36 (hexane/EtOAc = 8/2);

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz, 50 °C) 7.46–7.53 (m, 6H), 7.63–7.65 (m, 2H), 7.67–7.69 (m, 2H), 7.97 (d, 4H,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz), 8.10–8.12 (m, 2H), 8.16–8.18 (m, 2H), 8.95 (s, 2H), 9.46 (s, 2H);  
 $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 125 MHz, 50 °C) 89.0, 104.8, 123.7, 124.1, 127.8, 128.7, 129.03, 129.04, 129.1, 129.3, 129.4, 130.0, 131.1, 131.5, 131.8, 132.5, 133.8, 135.4, 182.1; IR (ATR) 3051, 2187, 1672, 1619, 1489, 1456, 1394, 1344, 1266, 1183, 1026, 888, 754  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (MALDI, TCNQ matrix)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{42}\text{H}_{23}\text{O}_2$  [ $\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 559.1693; found: 559.1710.

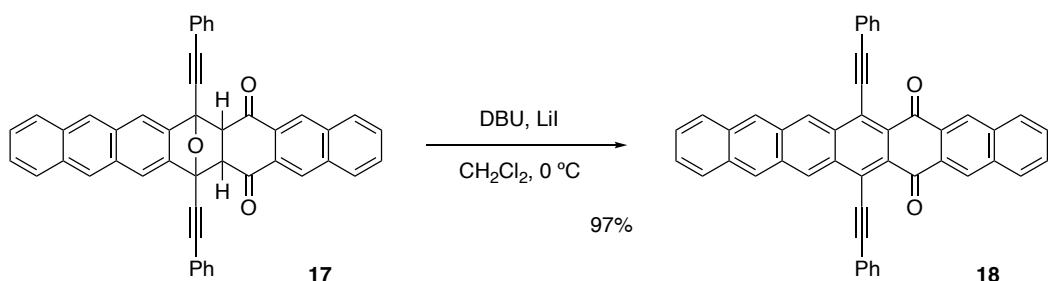


To a solution of cycloadduct **16** (229 mg, 0.397 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (16 mL) was sequentially added LiI (107 mg, 0.799 mmol) and DBU (360  $\mu\text{L}$ , 2.41 mmol) at 0 °C. After stirring for 1 h, the reaction was quenched by addition of 2 M HCl and stirred for 30 min. The products were extracted with  $\text{CHCl}_3$  ( $\times 3$ ) and combined organic extracts were washed with brine and dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . After concentration, the residue was triturated with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ . The precipitates were sequentially washed with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ , EtOH, and hexane to give hexacenequinone **S4** (192 mg, 86%) as a dark brown solid.

Mp >300 °C;

$R_f$  0.50 (hexane/acetone = 7/3);

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{C}_2\text{D}_2\text{Cl}_4$ , 500 MHz, 50 °C) 7.52–7.61 (m, 8H), 7.83–7.87 (m, 2H), 8.00–8.04 (m, 4H), 8.07–8.11 (m, 2H), 8.39–8.43 (m, 2H), 8.82 (s, 2H), 9.63 (s, 2H);  
 $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{C}_2\text{D}_2\text{Cl}_4$ , 125 MHz, 50 °C) 89.0, 104.9, 123.5, 124.4, 126.7, 127.4, 127.9, 128.5, 128.8, 129.6, 130.1, 130.2, 130.7, 131.2, 132.6, 133.1, 133.9, 134.8, 181.9; IR (ATR) 2930, 2188, 1648, 1593, 1489, 1443, 1396, 1349, 1280, 1107, 1001, 898, 758, 721, 687, 567  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (MALDI, TCNQ matrix)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{42}\text{H}_{23}\text{O}_2$  [ $\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 559.1693; found: 559.1687.



To a solution of cycloadduct **17** (506 mg, 0.807 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (32 mL) was sequentially added LiI (214 mg, 1.60 mmol) and DBU (720  $\mu$ L, 4.82 mmol) at 0 °C. After stirring for 30 min, the reaction was quenched by addition of 2 M HCl and stirred for 30 min. The precipitates were collected by filtration and sequentially washed with H<sub>2</sub>O, EtOH, and hexane to give heptacenequinone **18** (475 mg, 97%) as a dark-red solid.

Mp >300 °C

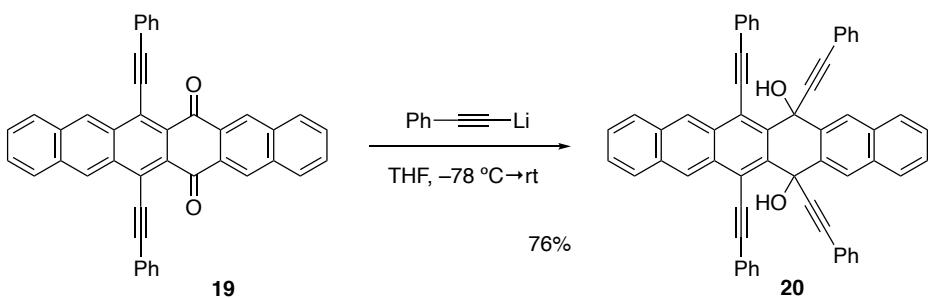
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (C<sub>2</sub>D<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub>, 500 MHz, 100 °C) 7.51–7.61 (m, 8H) 7.70–7.75 (m, 2H), 8.02–8.06 (m, 4H), 8.09–8.14 (m, 2H), 8.14–8.19 (m, 2H), 8.88 (s, 2H), 8.99 (s, 2H), 9.75 (s, 2H);

<sup>13</sup>C NMR could not be obtained due to the poor solubility in common organic solvents.

IR (ATR) 3048, 2190, 1668, 1617, 1590, 1487, 1455, 1390, 1345, 1274, 1247, 1172, 1061, 1026, 900, 752, 686 cm<sup>-1</sup>;

HRMS (MALDI, DCTB matrix) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>46</sub>H<sub>25</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 609.1849; found: 609.1850.

## 6. Synthesis of Substituted Hexacene **21**



To a solution of phenylacetylene (1.32 mL, 12.0 mmol) in THF (50 mL) was added *n*-BuLi (1.57 M in hexane, 6.4 mL, 10 mmol) at -78 °C. After stirring for 10 min, hexacenequinone **19** (558 mg, 0.999 mmol) was added at -78 °C. After gradual warming to room temperature, the mixture was continued to stir for 15 h. The reaction was quenched by an addition of sat. aq. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl and the products were extracted with EtOAc ( $\times 3$ ). The combined extracts were washed with brine, and then dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After concentration, the crude products were triturated with Et<sub>2</sub>O to give diol **20** (576 mg, 76%, single diastereomer) as an orange solid.

Mp 133 °C (dec);

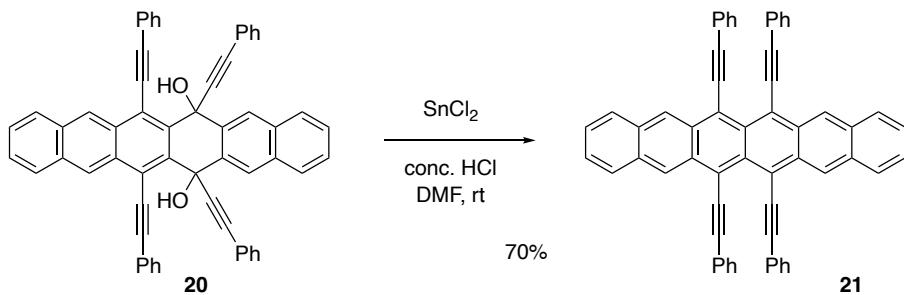
R<sub>f</sub> 0.38 (hexane/acetone = 7/3);

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 5.69 (s, 2H), 7.14–7.20 (m, 6H), 7.27–7.29 (m, 4H), 7.48–7.59 (m, 10H), 7.86–7.89 (m, 4H), 8.01–8.04 (m, 2H), 8.14–8.17 (m, 2H), 8.82 (s, 2H), 9.26 (s, 2H);

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz) 67.5, 86.4, 87.3, 94.3, 107.4, 120.6, 122.5, 122.7, 125.9, 126.5, 126.8, 128.0, 128.18, 128.22, 128.6, 128.8, 129.5, 130.8, 131.7, 131.8, 132.1, 132.9, 133.4, 133.7, 138.0;

IR (ATR) 3364, 3053, 2925, 2860, 2193, 1596, 1489, 1442, 998, 888, 746 cm<sup>-1</sup>;

HRMS (APCI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>58</sub>H<sub>35</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 763.2632; found: 763.2633.



*Note: All operations in this section were conducted against light and oxygen. All solvents for reactions and filtrations were degassed. During reaction, the glassware was shielded with aluminum foils.*

A solution of diol **20** (29.8 mg, 39.1 μmol) in DMF (2.0 mL) was degassed by argon bubbling for 5 min. To this mixture was sequentially added SnCl<sub>2</sub> (30.0 mg, 0.158 mmol) and one drop of concentrated HCl at 0 °C and then degassed by argon bubbling for 5 min. After stirring at room temperature for 2 h, the mixture was

diluted with deionized H<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL) and stirred for 10 min. The precipitated were collected by filtration and sequentially washed with H<sub>2</sub>O, EtOH, ice-cold Et<sub>2</sub>O, and pentane to afford hexacene **21** (20.0 mg, 70% yield) as a light green solid.

Mp >300 °C (dec);

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (C<sub>2</sub>D<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub>, 500 MHz) 7.24–7.33 (m, 12H), 7.43–7.47 (m, 4H), 7.60–7.65 (m, 8H), 8.03–8.07 (m, 4H), 9.38 (s, 4H);

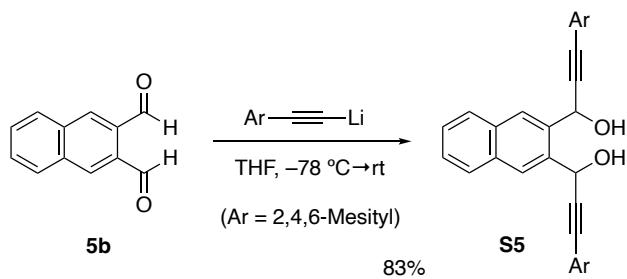
<sup>13</sup>C NMR could not be obtained due to the instability of **21** in solutions.

IR (ATR) 3051, 2922, 2187, 1596, 1490, 1441, 1069, 750, 687 cm<sup>-1</sup>;

UV–Vis (CHCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  nm (log ε) 340 (4.87), 845 (3.90);

HRMS (MALDI, DCTB matrix, AgTFA) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>58</sub>H<sub>32</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup>: 728.2499; found: 728.2481.

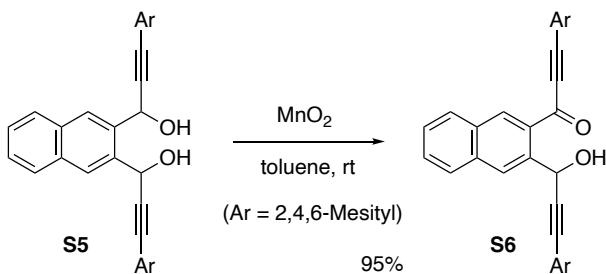
## 7. Synthesis of Substituted Hexacene **22**



To a solution of 2-ethynyl-1,3,5-trimethylbenzene (375 mg, 2.60 mmol) in THF was added *n*-BuLi (1.64 M in hexane, 1.46 mL, 2.39 mmol) at 0 °C. After stirring for 20 min, 2,3-naphthalenedicarboxaldehyde (**5b**) (192 mg, 1.04 mmol) was added at −78 °C and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 h. The reaction was then quenched by addition of sat. aq. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl at 0 °C. The products were extracted with EtOAc ( $\times 3$ ) and the combined extracts were washed with brine and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After concentration, the residue was washed with Et<sub>2</sub>O to give diol **S5** (405 mg, 83%, dr 77:23) as a white solid.

*R*<sub>f</sub> 0.23 (hexane/EtOAc = 8/2);

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 2.29 (s, 1.38H), 2.30 (s, 4.62H), 2.45 (s, 2.76H), 2.48 (s, 9.24H), 3.31 (d, 1.54H, *J* = 4.6 Hz), 3.80 (d, 0.46H, *J* = 6.9 Hz), 6.44 (d, 1.54H, *J* = 4.6 Hz), 6.63 (d, 0.46H, *J* = 6.9 Hz), 6.88 (s, 0.92H), 6.90 (s, 3.08H), 7.51–7.55 (m, 2H), 7.84–7.89 (m, 2H), 8.28 (s, 0.46H), 8.52 (s, 1.54H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz) 21.1, 21.2, 21.3, 63.0, 64.8, 85.6, 85.8, 95.0, 95.4, 119.1, 126.9, 127.0, 127.70, 127.74, 127.9, 128.0, 129.0, 133.1, 135.8, 136.0, 138.3, 140.5; *All signals for both diastereomers were listed.* IR (ATR) 3265, 2916, 2227, 1609, 1434, 1276, 1247, 1174, 851, 749, 598 cm<sup>−1</sup>; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>32</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 495.2295; found: 495.2285.



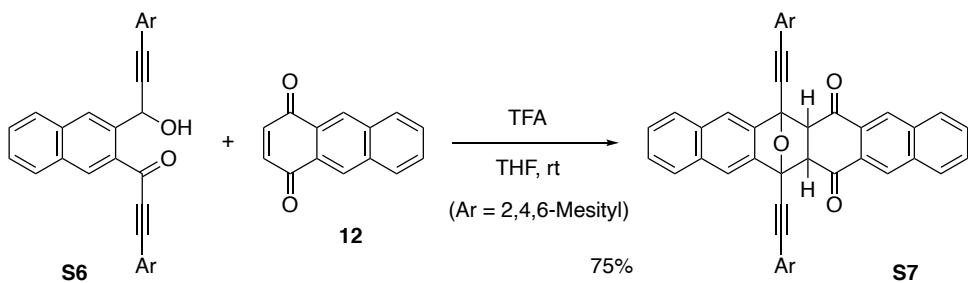
To a solution of diol **S5** (473 mg, 1.00 mmol) in toluene (10 mL) was added MnO<sub>2</sub> (104 mg, 1.20 mmol) portionwise at 0 °C. The mixture was then vigorously stirred at room temperature for 46 h. After filtration through Celite® pad (washed with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), the solvents were removed *in vacuo* to give ketol **S6** (447 mg, 95%) as a white solid.

Mp 155 °C (dec.);

*R*<sub>f</sub> 0.44 (hexane/EtOAc = 8/2);

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) 2.25 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.42 (s, 6H), 2.57 (s, 6H), 5.39 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.6 Hz),

6.19 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 8.6 Hz), 6.82 (s, 2H), 6.96 (s, 2H), 7.58–7.62 (m, 1H), 7.65–7.69 (m, 1H), 7.91 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz), 7.96 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz), 8.29 (s, 1H), 9.07 (s, 1H);  
 $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 125 MHz) 21.1, 21.3, 21.6, 65.0, 84.2, 93.2, 95.9, 96.2, 116.7, 119.5, 127.46, 127.52, 128.1, 128.2, 129.1, 129.2, 129.8, 131.8, 134.0, 135.3, 137.6, 137.7, 137.8, 140.5, 141.4, 143.0, 181.1; IR (ATR) 3448, 2912, 2183, 1606, 1459, 1402, 1286, 1187, 1103, 1018, 989, 898, 847, 749, 659, 573  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{30}\text{NaO}_2$  [M+Na] $^+$ : 493.2138; found: 493.2144.



To a mixture of ketol **S6** (238 mg, 0.499 mmol) and 1,4-anthraquinone (**12**) (237 mg, 1.14 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added TFA (182  $\mu\text{L}$ , 2.38 mmol) at 0 °C. After stirring at room temperature for 24 h, the reaction was quenched by addition of sat. aq.  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and the products were extracted with EtOAc ( $\times 3$ ). The combined extracts were washed with brine, and then dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . The crude products were triturated with hexane/toluene (=1/1) to give cycloadduct **S7** (474 mg, 75%, *endo/exo* = 83/17) as a yellow solid.

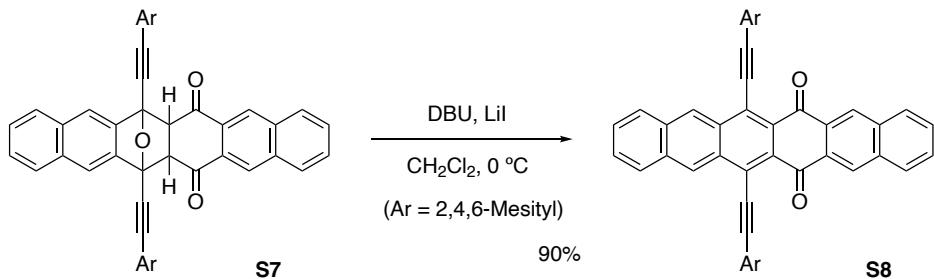
$R_f$  0.46 (hexane/EtOAc = 8/2);

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz) 2.32 (s, 1.02H), 2.33 (s, 4.98H), 2.56 (s, 2.04H), 2.64 (s, 9.96H), 3.62 (s, 0.34H), 4.28 (s, 1.66H), 6.93 (s, 0.68H), 6.95 (s, 3.32H), 7.15–7.19 (m, 1.66H), 7.42–7.46 (m, 1.66H), 7.52–7.58 (m, 2H), 7.63 (s, 1.66H), 7.64–7.68 (m, 0.34H), 7.69–7.73 (m, 1.66H), 7.92–7.96 (m, 0.34H), 8.01 (s, 0.34H), 8.02–8.06 (m, 0.34H), 8.17 (s, 1.66H), 8.57 (s, 0.34H);

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 125 MHz) 21.2, 21.4, 57.4, 59.5, 83.4, 84.4, 87.5, 88.7, 89.6, 91.4, 118.2, 118.4, 118.6, 120.0, 126.3, 126.8, 127.67, 127.71, 128.1, 128.4, 128.5, 128.6, 129.0, 129.3, 129.5, 129.8, 130.2, 132.6, 132.9, 133.2, 134.6, 135.3, 138.8, 139.1, 139.5, 140.0, 141.3, 142.6, 192.0, 193.7; *All signals for both diastereomers were listed.*

IR (ATR) 2917, 2227, 1684, 1669, 1619, 1455, 1396, 1335, 1280, 1246, 1193, 1113, 1045, 986, 913, 876, 846, 773, 691, 578  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;

HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{48}\text{H}_{36}\text{NaO}_3$  [M+Na] $^+$ : 683.2557; found: 683.2568.



To a solution of cycloadduct **S7** (263 mg, 0.398 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL) was sequentially added LiI (107 mg, 0.799 mmol) and DBU (360 µL, 2.41 mmol) at 0 °C. After stirring for 30 min, the reaction was quenched by addition of 2 M HCl and stirred for 30 min. The precipitates were collected by filtration and sequentially washed with H<sub>2</sub>O, EtOH, and Et<sub>2</sub>O to give hexacenequinone (139.3 mg, 54.4%) as a red solid. The mother liquor was concentrated and the residue was triturated with Et<sub>2</sub>O to give quinone **S8** (90.6 mg, 35.4%, 90% combined yield).

Mp 260 °C (dec.)

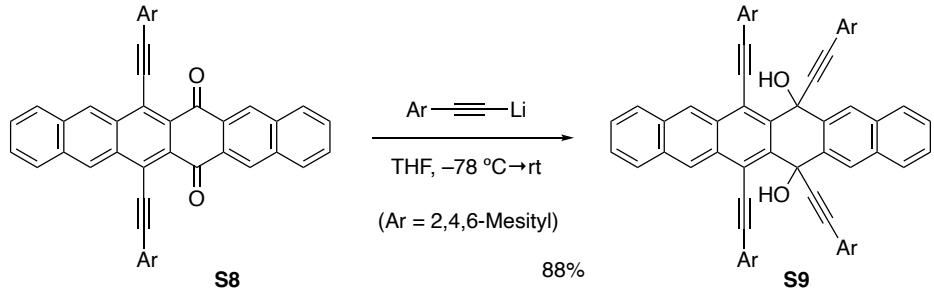
$R_f$  0.20 (hexane/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> = 1/1);

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (C<sub>2</sub>D<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub>, 500 MHz) 2.38 (s, 6H), 2.86 (s, 12H), 7.05 (s, 4H), 7.61–7.65 (m, 2H), 7.67–7.71 (m, 2H), 8.06–8.10 (m, 2H), 8.11–8.15 (m, 2H), 8.85 (s, 2H), 9.59 (s, 2H);

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (C<sub>2</sub>D<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>4</sub>, 125 MHz) 21.5, 21.8, 95.7, 103.1, 120.2, 124.1, 127.9, 128.1, 128.5, 128.9, 129.1, 129.2, 129.8, 130.9, 131.2, 131.4, 133.4, 135.0, 139.4, 141.5, 182.1;

IR (ATR) 2913, 2159, 1677, 1621, 1514, 1457, 1394, 1342, 1271, 1184, 1027, 950, 883, 842, 760, 730, 649 cm<sup>-1</sup>;

HRMS (MALDI, DCTB matrix)  $m/z$  calcd for C<sub>48</sub>H<sub>34</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup>: 642.2553; found: 642.2567.



To a solution of 2-ethynyl-1,3,5-trimethylbenzene (346 mg, 2.40 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added *n*-BuLi (1.64 M in hexane, 1.22 mL, 2.00 mmol) at 0 °C. After stirring for 20 min, hexacenequinone **S8** (130 mg, 0.202 mmol) was added at –78 °C. After gradual warming to room temperature, the mixture was stirred for 12 h. The reaction was quenched by addition of sat. aq. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl and the products were extracted with EtOAc ( $\times 3$ ). The combined extracts were washed with brine, and then dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The crude products were triturated with Et<sub>2</sub>O to give diol **S9** (178 mg, 88%, dr 70:30) as an orange solid.

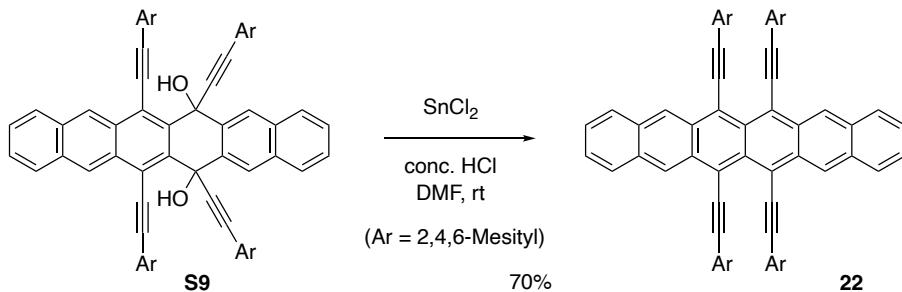
$R_f$  0.58 (hexane/EtOAc = 4/1);

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 MHz) 1.83 (s, 8.40H), 2.07 (s, 6H), 2.14 (s, 3.60H), 2.37 (s, 6H), 2.73 (s, 8.40H), 2.75 (s, 3.60H), 6.00 (s, 0.60H), 6.44 (s, 2.80H), 6.46 (s, 1.20H), 6.64 (s, 1.40H), 7.00 (s, 4H), 7.45–7.58 (m, 4H), 7.91–8.10 (m, 4H), 8.76 (s, 1.40H), 8.80 (s, 0.60H), 9.40 (s, 1.40H), 9.43 (s, 0.60H);

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 125 MHz) 20.3, 20.7, 21.2, 21.5, 21.9, 22.0, 67.2, 68.0, 85.2, 85.9, 94.0, 94.4, 100.2, 102.2, 105.9, 106.6, 119.1, 119.4, 119.47, 119.53, 120.7, 125.85, 125.90, 126.0, 126.2, 126.4, 126.6, 126.9, 127.3, 128.0, 128.21, 128.24, 128.38, 128.42, 131.1, 131.2, 132.6, 132.7, 133.5, 133.6, 134.06, 134.09, 137.4, 137.7, 137.9, 139.0, 139.4, 140.3, 140.5, 140.86, 140.90; All signals for both diastereomers were listed.

IR (ATR) 3492, 2915, 2172, 1609, 1478, 1359, 1220, 1172, 1093, 1030, 890, 849, 772, 741, 656  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;

HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{70}\text{H}_{58}\text{NaO}_2$  [M+Na] $^+$ : 953.4329; found: 953.4324.



Note: All operations in this section were conducted against light and oxygen. All solvents for reactions and filtrations were degassed. During reaction, the glassware was shielded with aluminum foils.

A solution of diol **S9** (40.9 mg, 43.9  $\mu\text{mol}$ ) in DMF (2.5 mL) was degassed by argon bubbling for 5 min. To this mixture was sequentially added  $\text{SnCl}_2$  (38 mg, 0.20 mmol) and one drop of concentrated HCl at 0 °C and then degassed by argon bubbling for 5 min. After stirring at room temperature for 2 h, the mixture was diluted with deionized  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (20 mL) and stirred for 10 min. The precipitated were collected by filtration and sequentially washed with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , EtOH, ice-cold  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ , and pentane to afford hexacene **22** (27.5 mg, 70% yield) as a dark brown solid. Single crystals of **22** suitable for X-ray crystallographic analysis were obtained by recrystallization from a solution of  $\text{CHCl}_3$  diffused with MeOH.

Mp >300 °C (dec.);

$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{C}_2\text{D}_2\text{Cl}_4$ , 500 MHz) 2.23 (s, 12H), 2.58 (s, 24H), 6.73 (s, 8H), 7.38–7.42 (m, 4H), 7.92–7.96 (m, 4H), 9.44 (s, 4H);

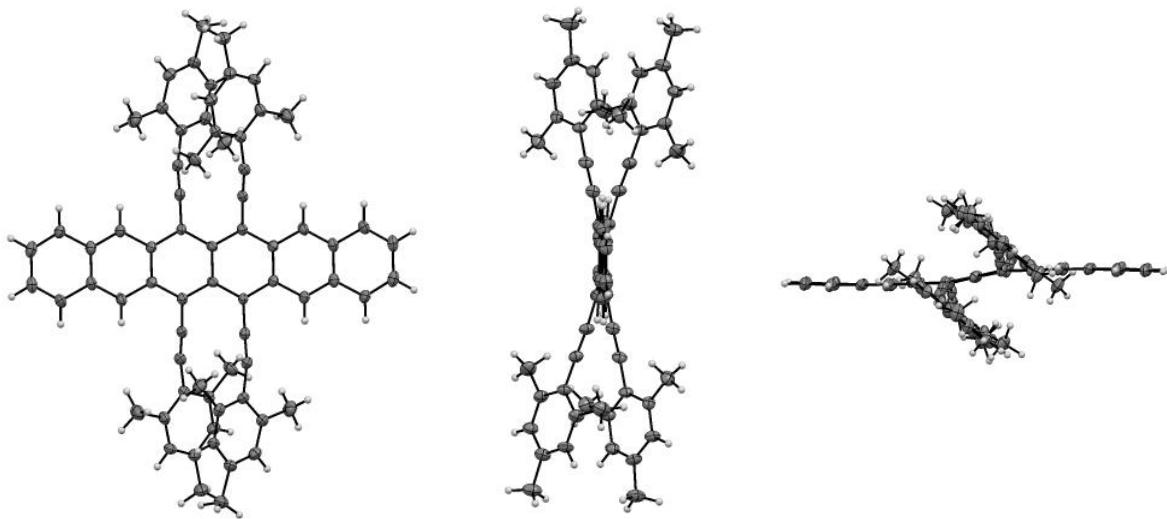
$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{C}_2\text{D}_2\text{Cl}_4$ , 125 MHz) 21.3, 21.4, 97.6, 108.7, 118.5, 120.8, 126.4, 126.6, 127.4, 128.5, 129.8, 131.4, 132.7, 137.9, 139.8;

IR (ATR) 2912, 2164, 1608, 1479, 1394, 1373, 1298, 1270, 1184, 1135, 1032, 948, 873, 853, 738, 657  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;

UV–Vis ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ )  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  nm (log  $\epsilon$ ) 342 (5.11), 853 (4.18);

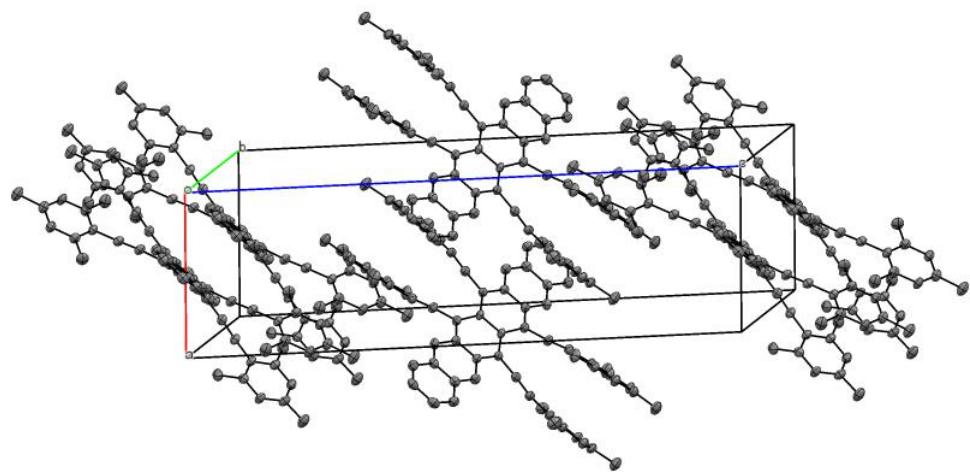
HRMS (MALDI, DCTB matrix)  $m/z$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{70}\text{H}_{56}$  [M] $^+$ : 896.4377; found: 896.4388.

## 8. X-ray Crystallographic Data



**Figure S1.** ORTEP drawings of hexacene **22** at the 50% probability level (CCDC 1991642).

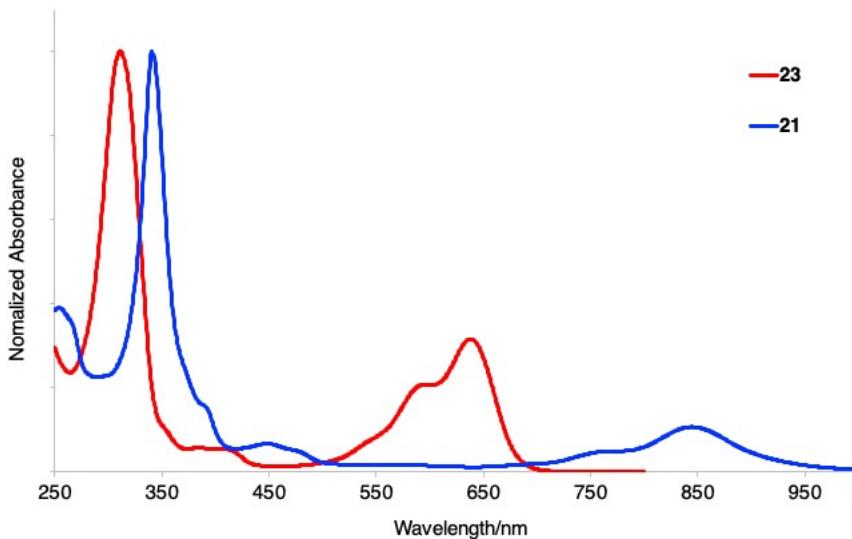
$C_{70}H_{56}$ , MW = 897.14,  $0.180 \times 0.028 \times 0.028$  mm, Monoclinic, space group  $P\bar{1}/n$ ,  $Z=2$ ,  $T = 93(2)$  K,  $a = 8.80384(16)\text{\AA}$ ,  $b = 9.18711(17)\text{\AA}$ ,  $c = 30.3074(6)\text{\AA}$ ,  $\alpha = 90^\circ$ ,  $\beta = 96.5951(10)^\circ$ ,  $\gamma = 90^\circ$ ,  $V = 2435.10(8)\text{\AA}^3$ ,  $\lambda(\text{Cu K}\alpha) = 1.54186\text{\AA}$ ,  $\mu = 0.520\text{ mm}^{-1}$ . Intensity data were collected on a Rigaku R-AXIS RAPID II. The structure was solved by direct methods (*SHELXT 2014/4*) and refined by the full-matrix least-squares on  $F^2$  (*SHELXL-2018/1*). A total of 52552 reflections were measured and 52552 were independent. Final  $R_1 = 0.0887$ ,  $wR_2 = 0.2264$  (24533 refs;  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ), and GOF = 0.994 (for all data,  $R_1 = 0.1527$ ,  $wR_2 = 0.2787$ ).



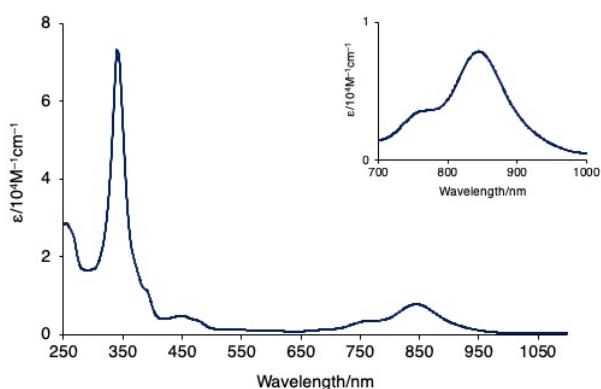
**Figure S2.** Packing structure of hexacene **22** at the 50% probability level (CCDC 1991642, all hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity).

## 9. UV–Vis–NIR Absorption Spectra

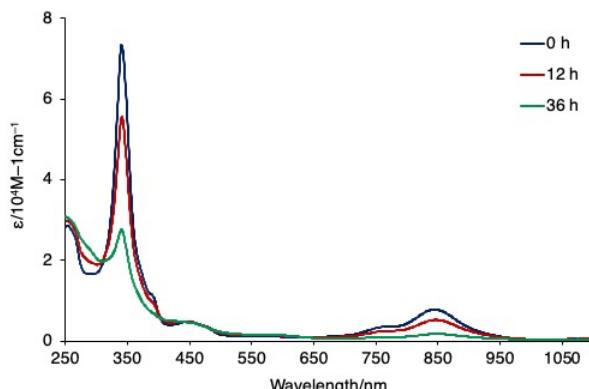
The spectra were recorded in degassed spectrochemical-grade chloroform ( $2 \times 10^{-5}$  M) using quartz cells with 1 cm path length. The solutions of hexacenes **21** and **23** were prepared in the dark and the initial spectrum were obtained. The solution was then exposed to room light and the spectra were acquired at several intervals.



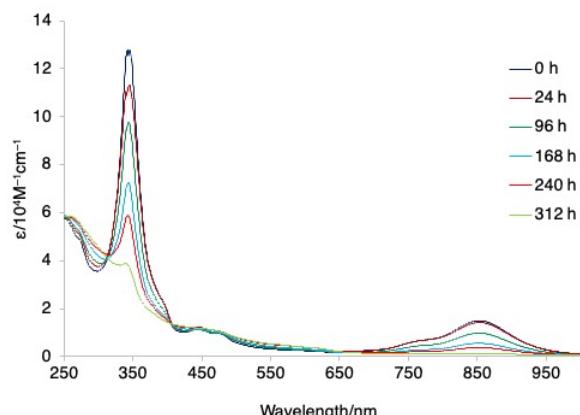
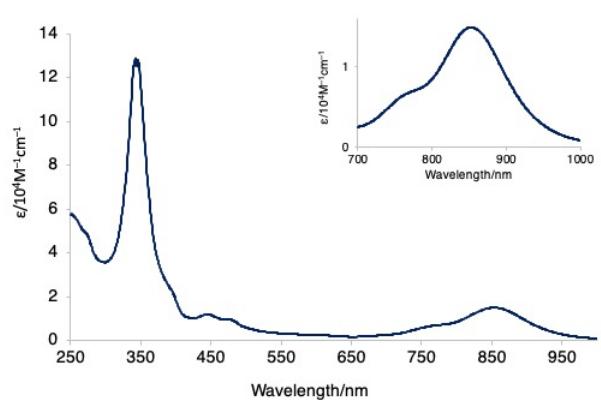
**Figure S3.** UV-vis-NIR absorption spectra of tetracene **23** and hexacene **21** in  $\text{CHCl}_3$  ( $2 \times 10^{-5}$  M).



**Figure S4.** Absorption spectrum of hexacene **21**.



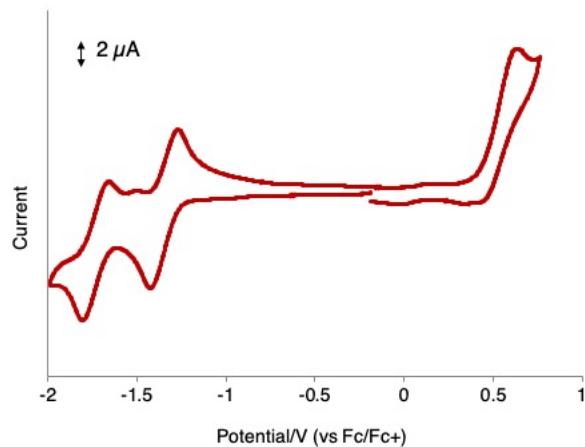
**Figure S5.** Absorption spectra of hexacene **21**.



**Figure S6.** Absorption spectrum of hexacene **22**.

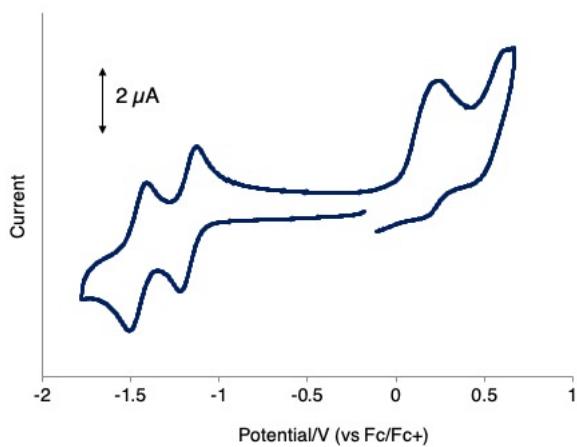
## 10. Cyclic Voltammograms

The measurements were carried out in degassed THF (1.0 mM) with 0.1 M  $n\text{-Bu}_4\text{NPF}_6$  as supporting electrolyte at room temperature. A glassy carbon was used as working electrode, platinum wire was used as counter electrode, and Ag/AgNO<sub>3</sub> was used as reference electrode. The scan rate is 100 mV/s. The potential was calibrated against the ferrocene/ferrocenium couple (Fc/Fc<sup>+</sup>).



**Figure S8.** Cyclic voltammograms of **23** (red).

**Figure S7.** Absorption spectra of hexacene **22**.



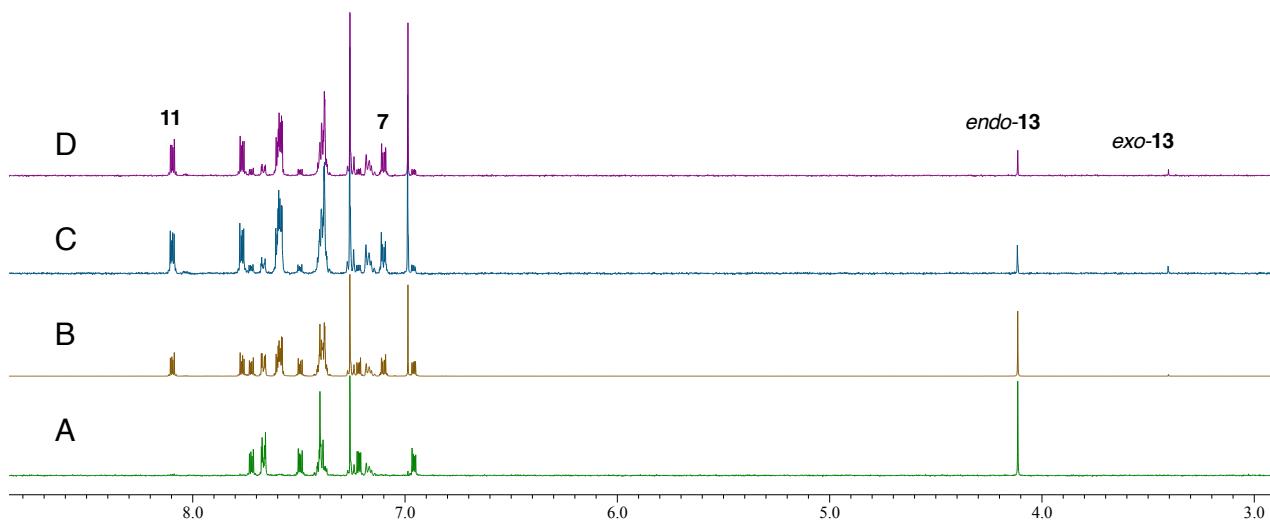
**Figure S9.** Cyclic voltammograms of **22** (blue).

**Table S1.** Electrochemically derived HOMO and LUMO energy

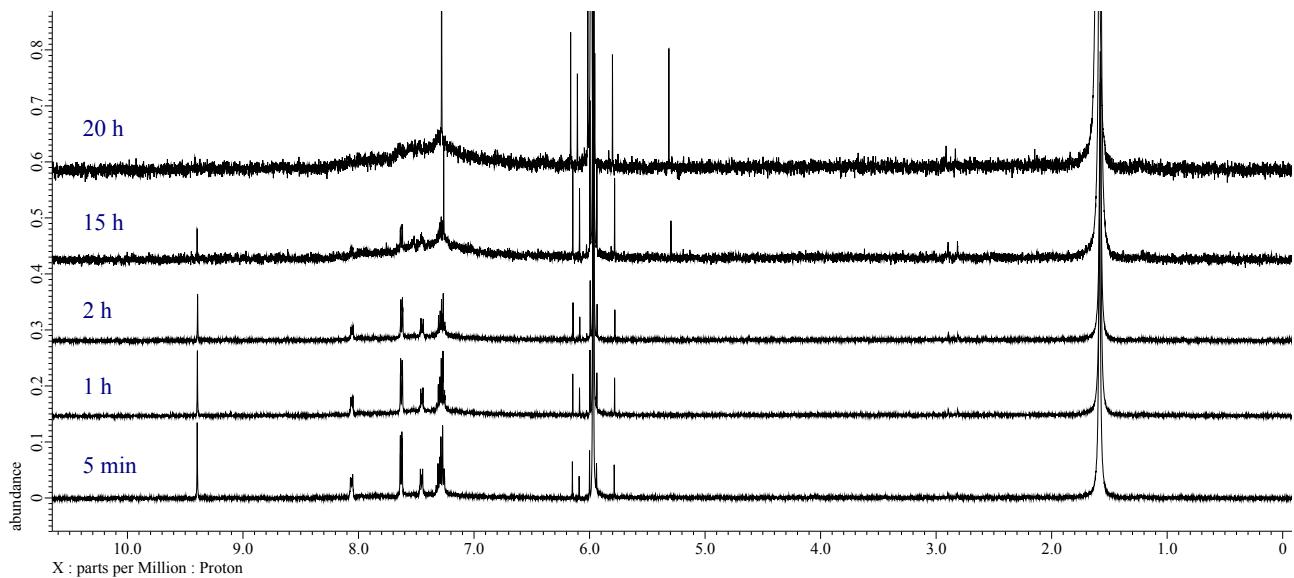
compound	$E_1^{\text{red}}$ (V)	$E_2^{\text{red}}$ (V)	$E^{\text{ox}}$ (V)	$E_g^{\text{elect}}$ (V)	$E_g^{\text{opt}}$ (V) <sup>[1]</sup>	HOMO (eV) <sup>[2]</sup>	LUMO (eV) <sup>[3]</sup>
<b>23</b>	-1.33	-1.37	+0.60	1.93	1.81	-5.40	-3.47
<b>22</b>	-1.18	-1.46	+0.21	1.39	1.31	-5.01	-3.62

[1] Estimated from the onset of the UV/Vis absorption spectrum by using  $E_g^{\text{opt}} = 1240/\lambda_{\text{onset}}$ . [2]  $E_{\text{HOMO}} = -(4.8 + E^{\text{ox}})$  eV. [3]  $E_{\text{LUMO}} = -(4.8 + E_1^{\text{red}})$  eV.

## 11. Time-course $^1\text{H}$ NMR Analysis



**Figure S10.** Cycloreversion of cycloadduct **13-endo** monitored by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR at room temperature (A: 5 min, B: 2 h, C: 7 h, D: 15 h).



**Figure S11.** Stability study of hexacene **21** monitored by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  under ambient conditions.

## 12. HRMS Spectra of Hexacenes

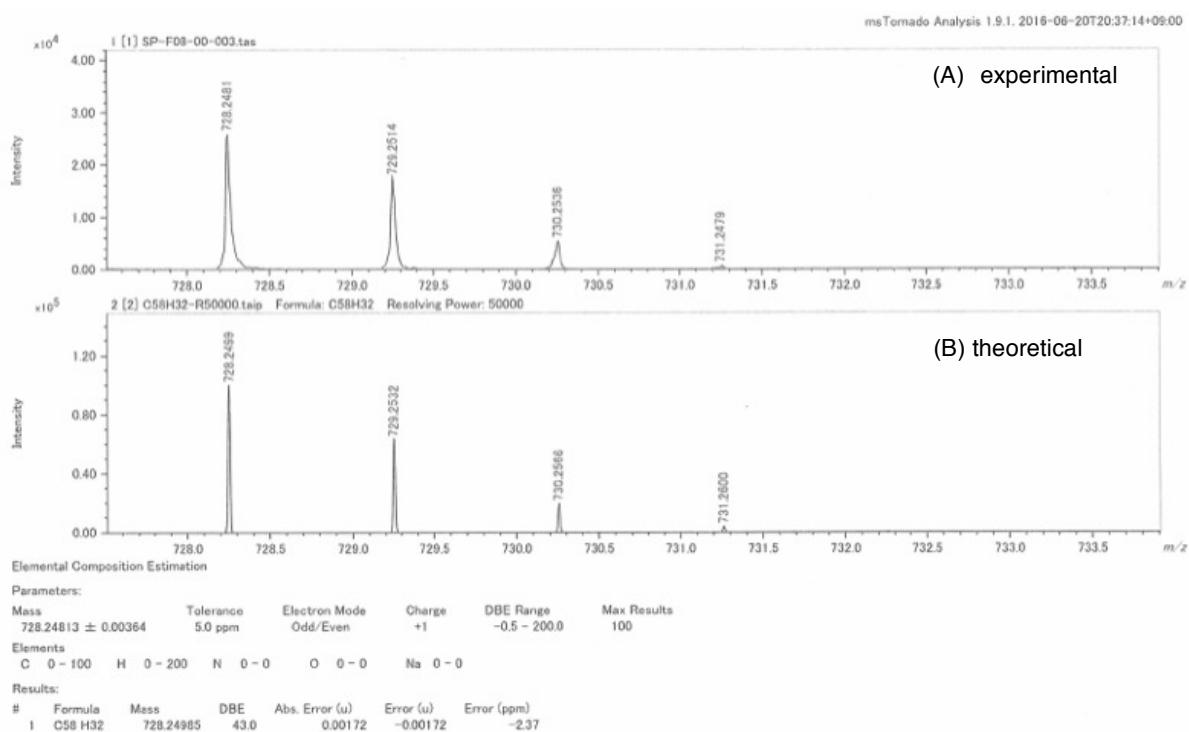


Figure S12. MALDI-TOF HRMS spectra of hexacene 21.

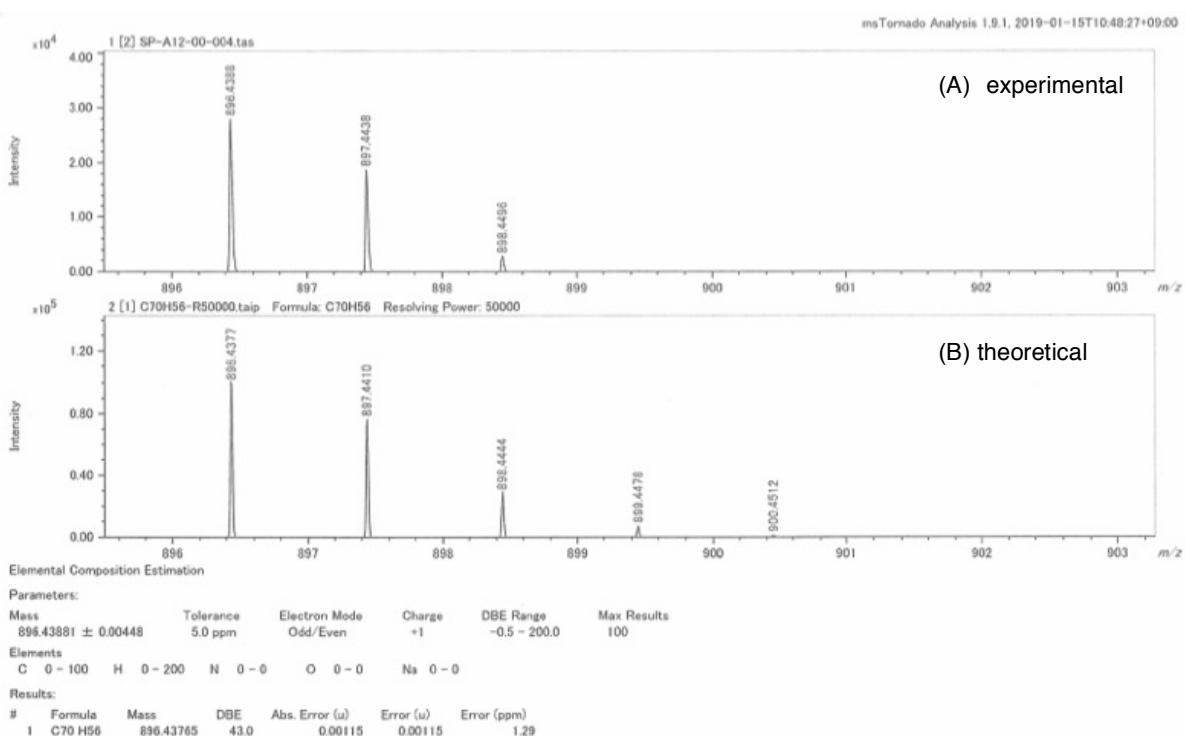
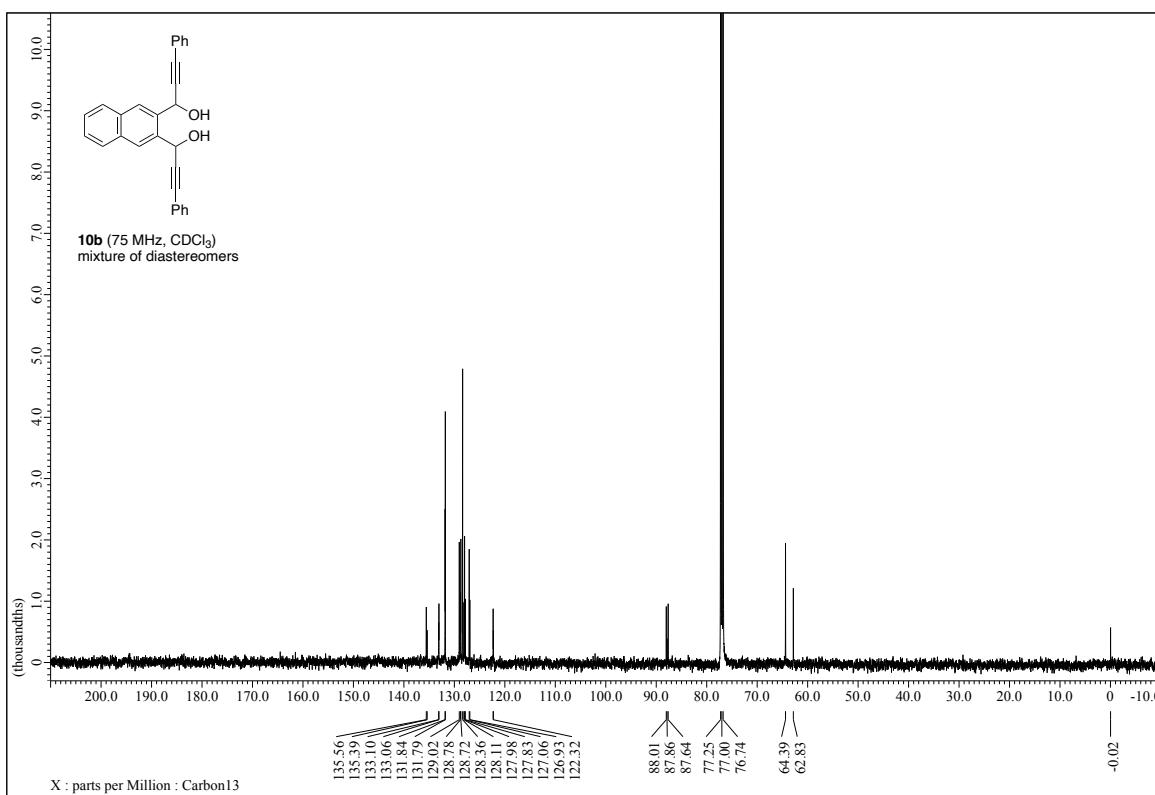
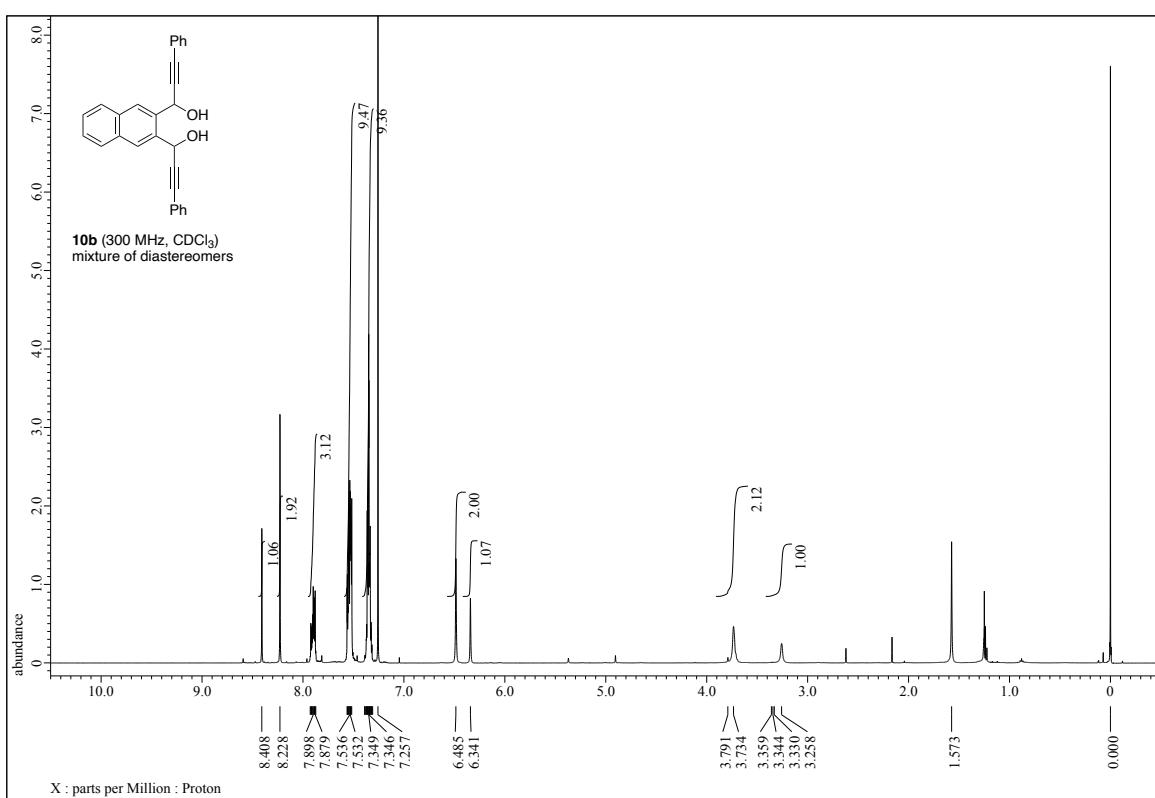
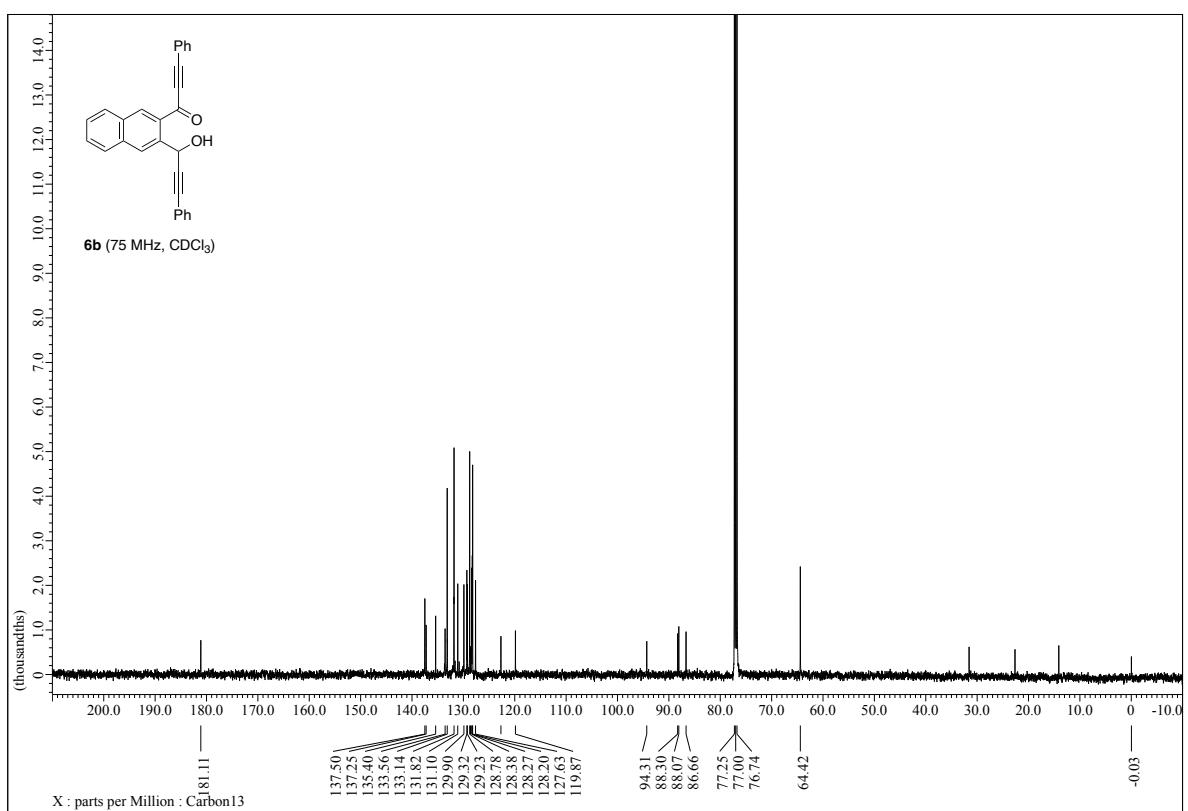
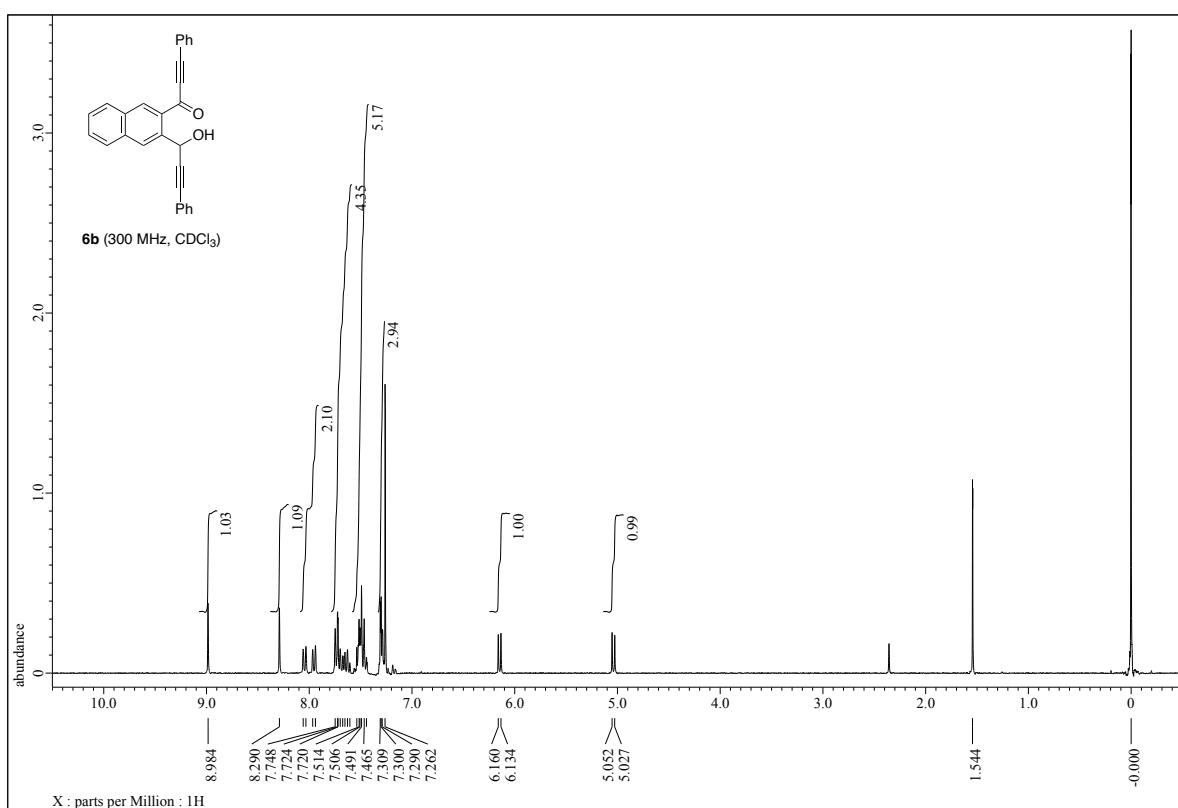
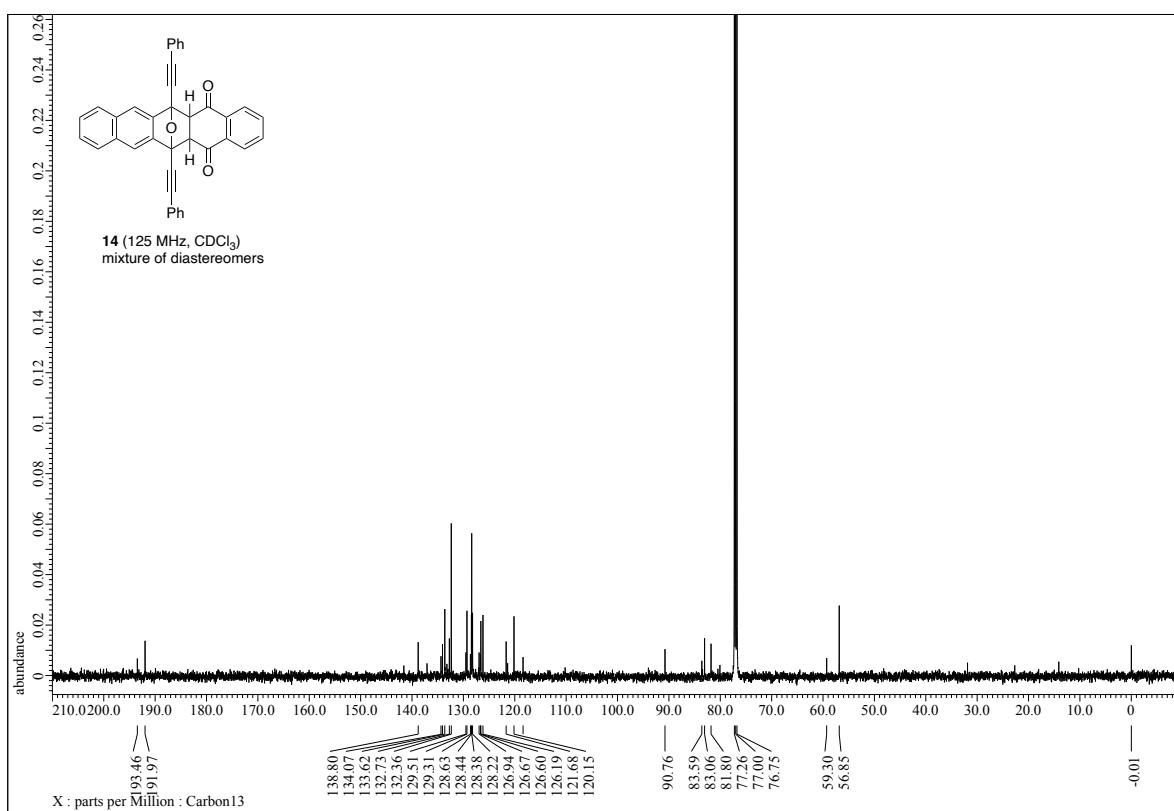
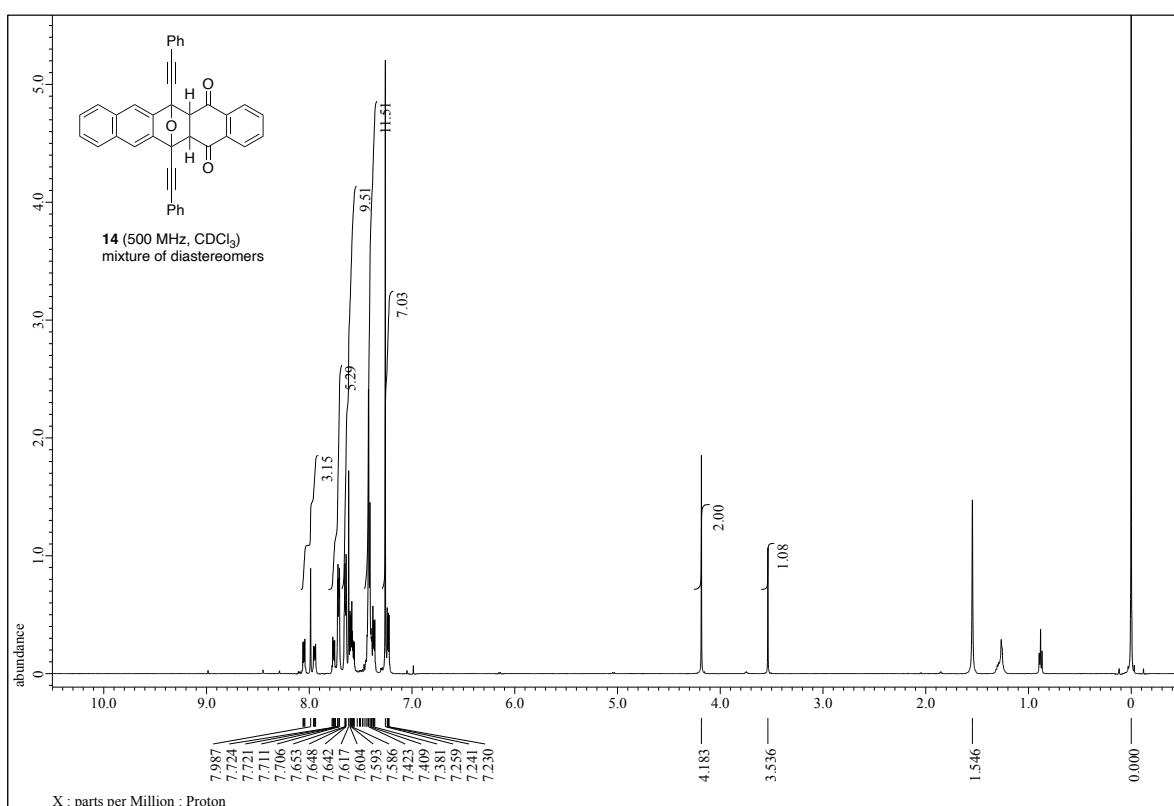


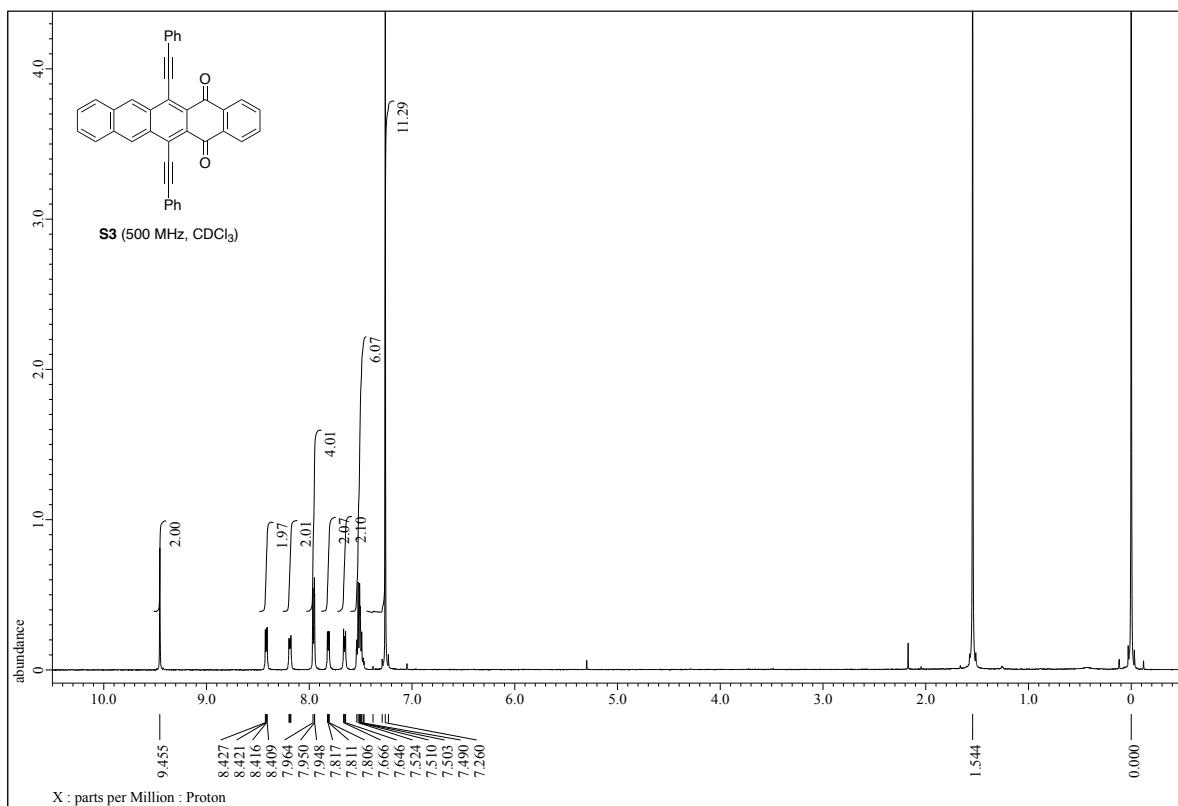
Figure S13. MALDI-TOF HRMS spectra of hexacene 22.

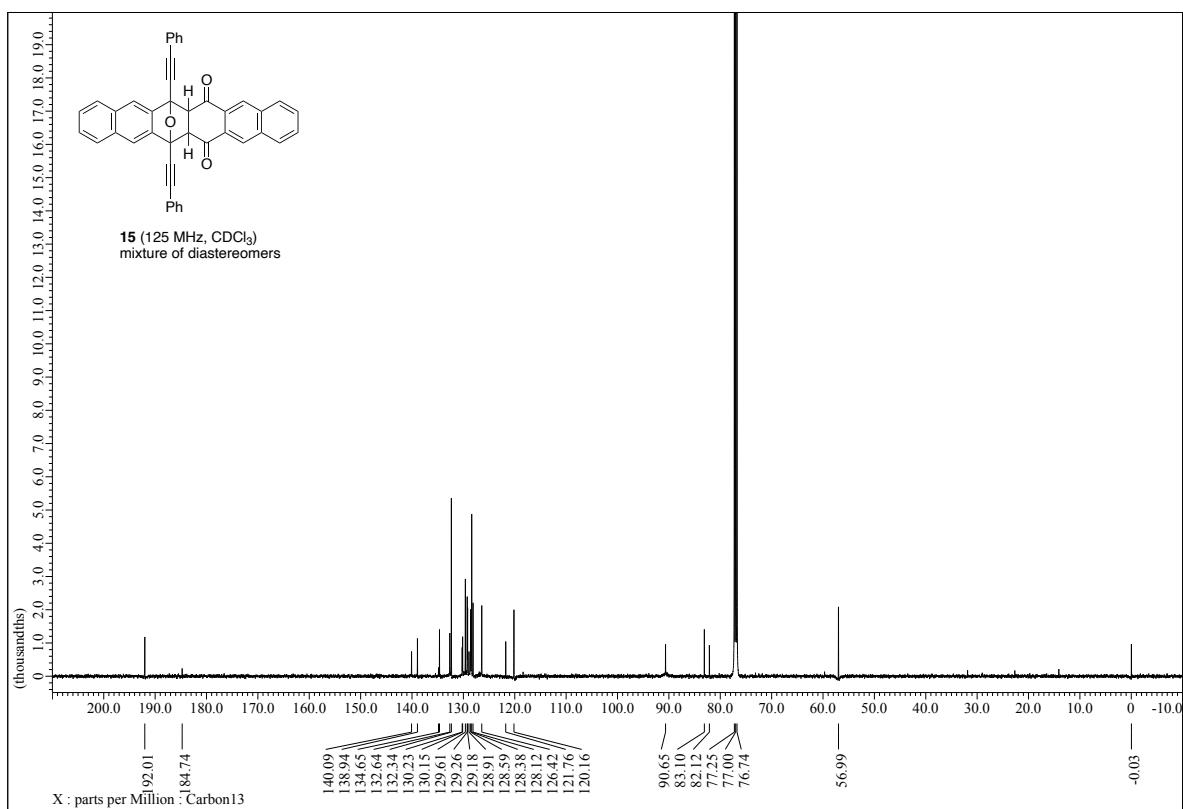
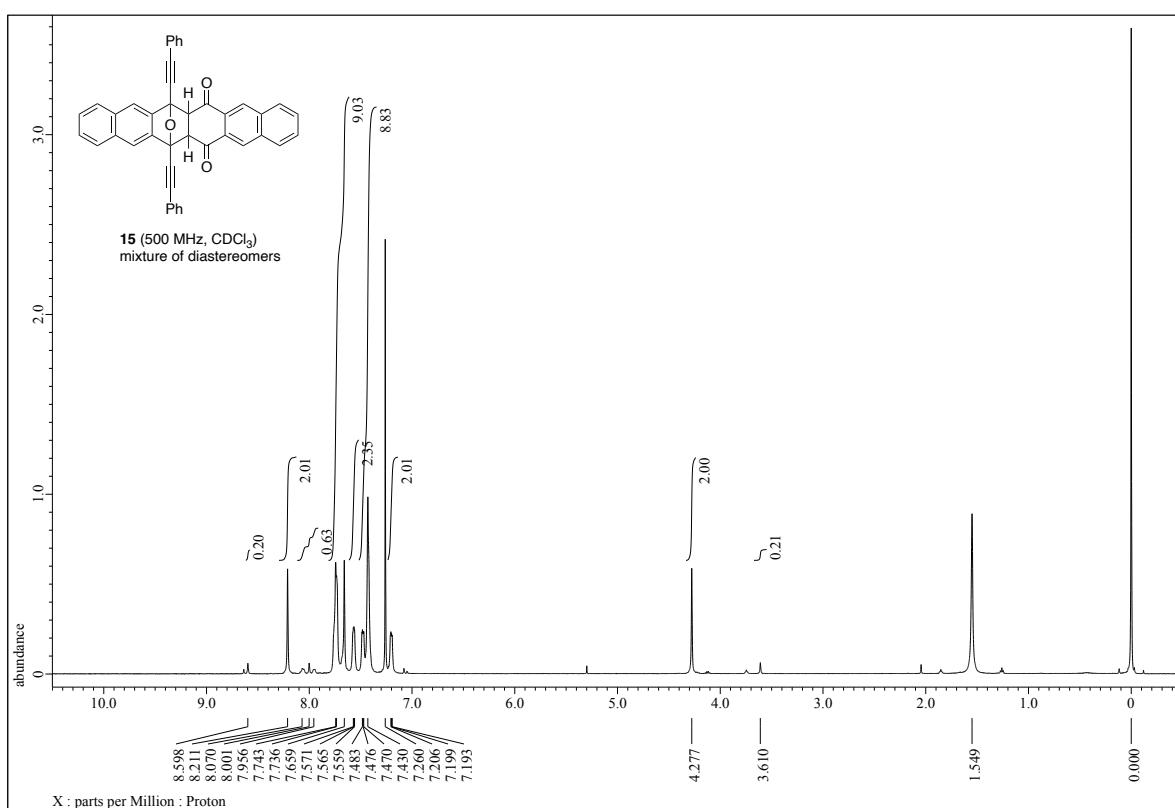
### 13. $^1\text{H}$ and $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectra

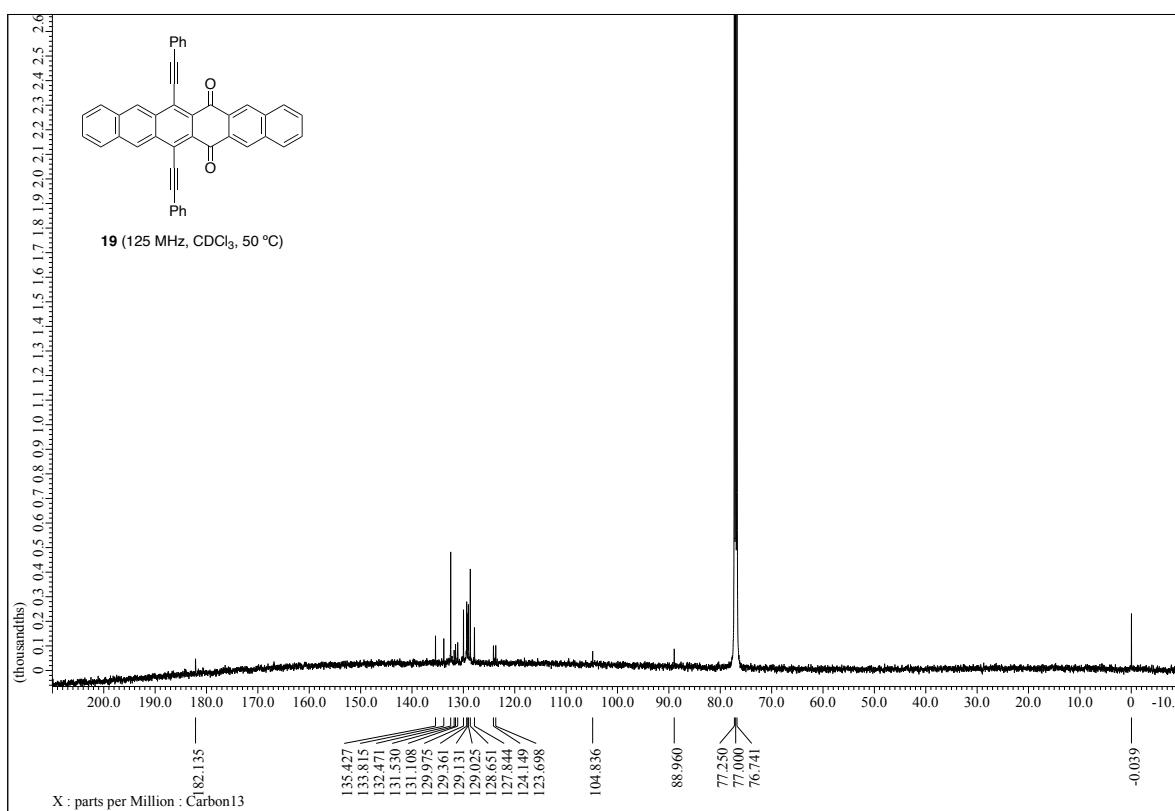
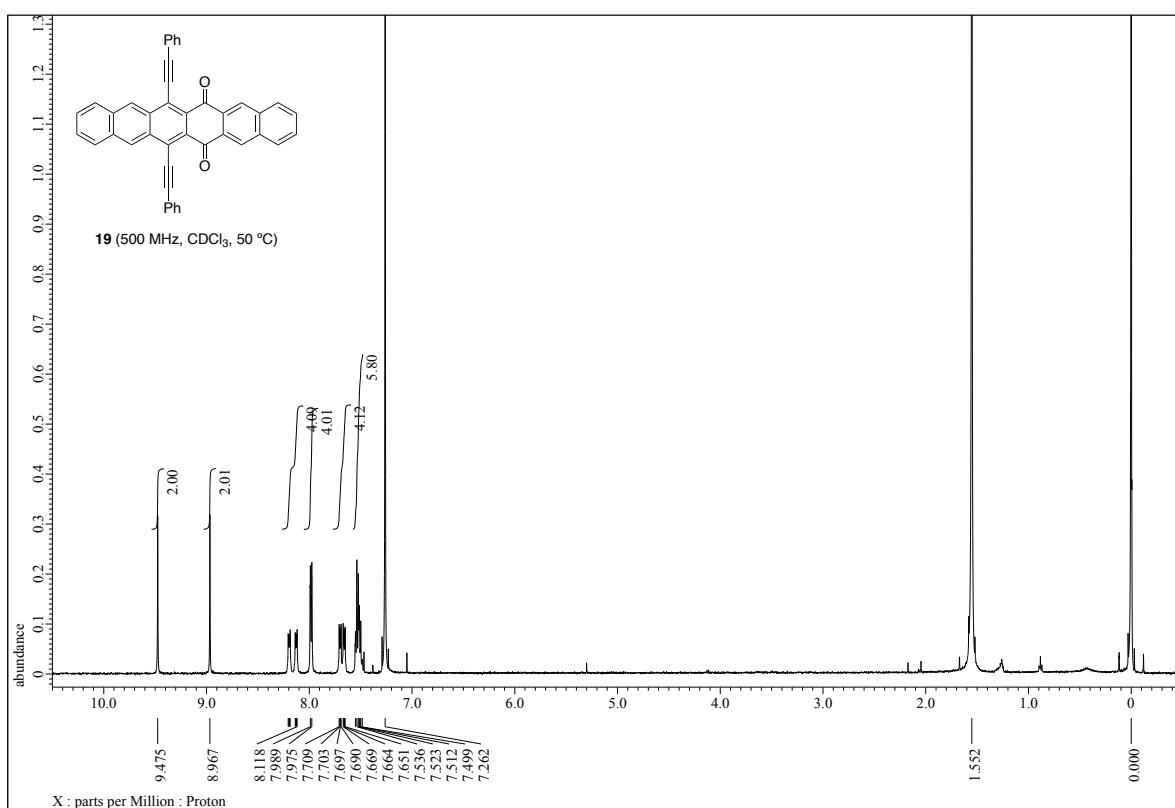


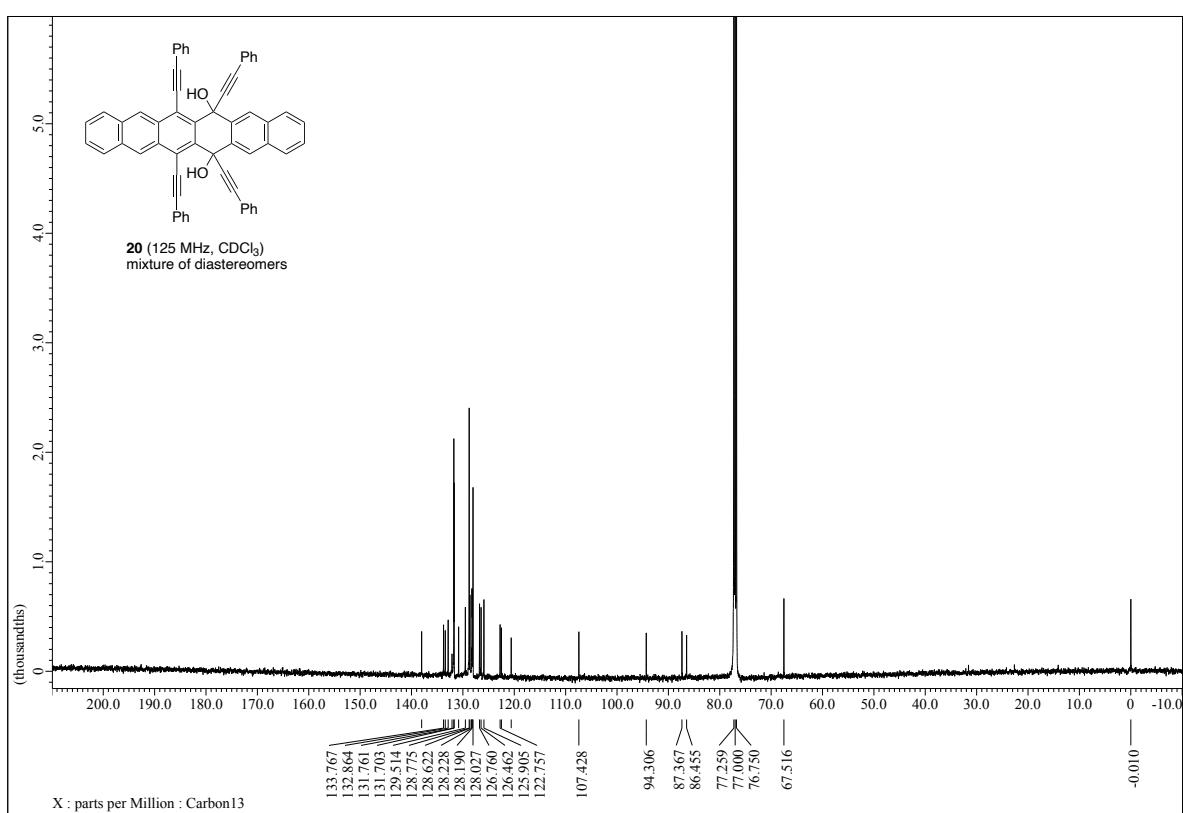
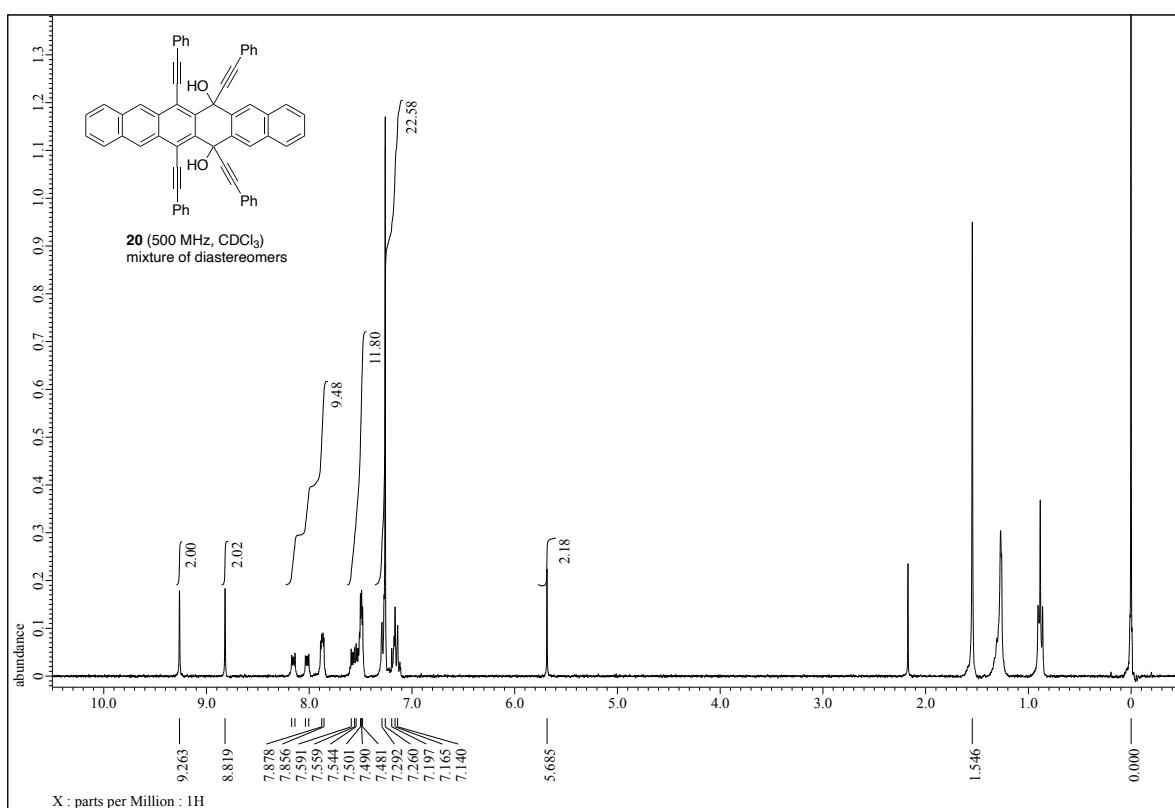


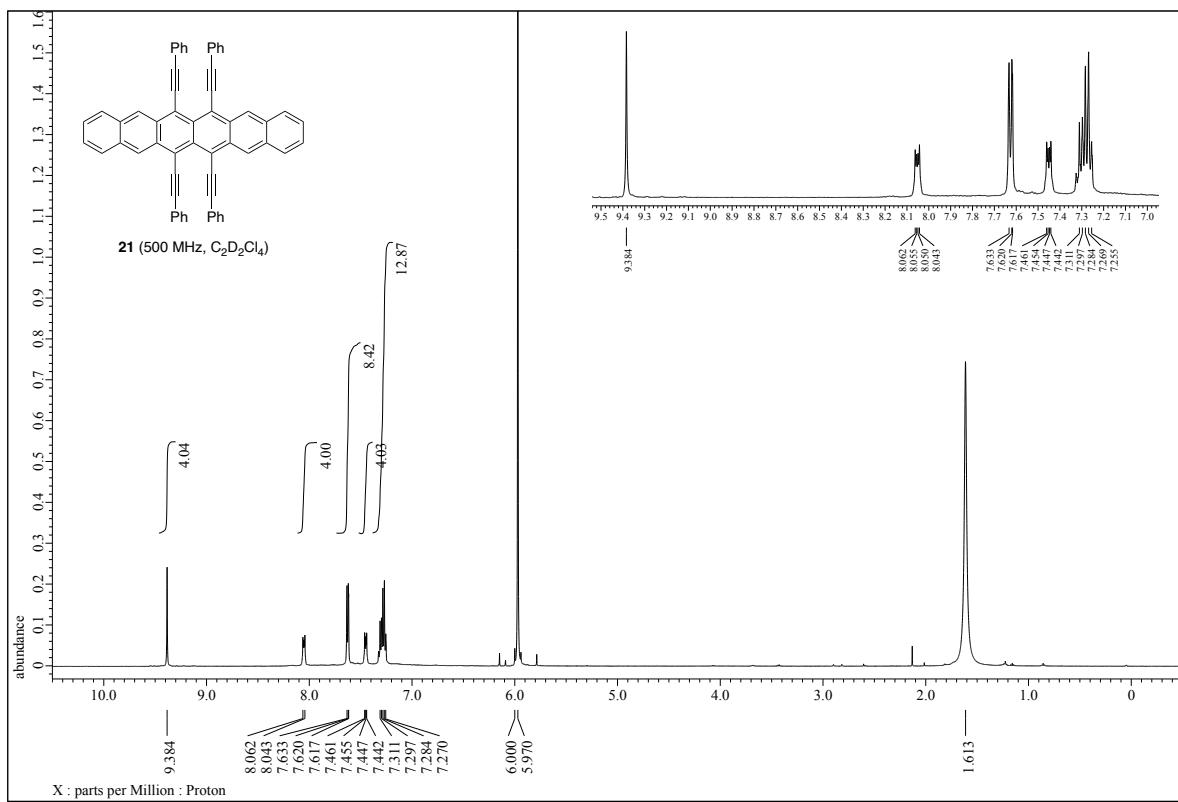


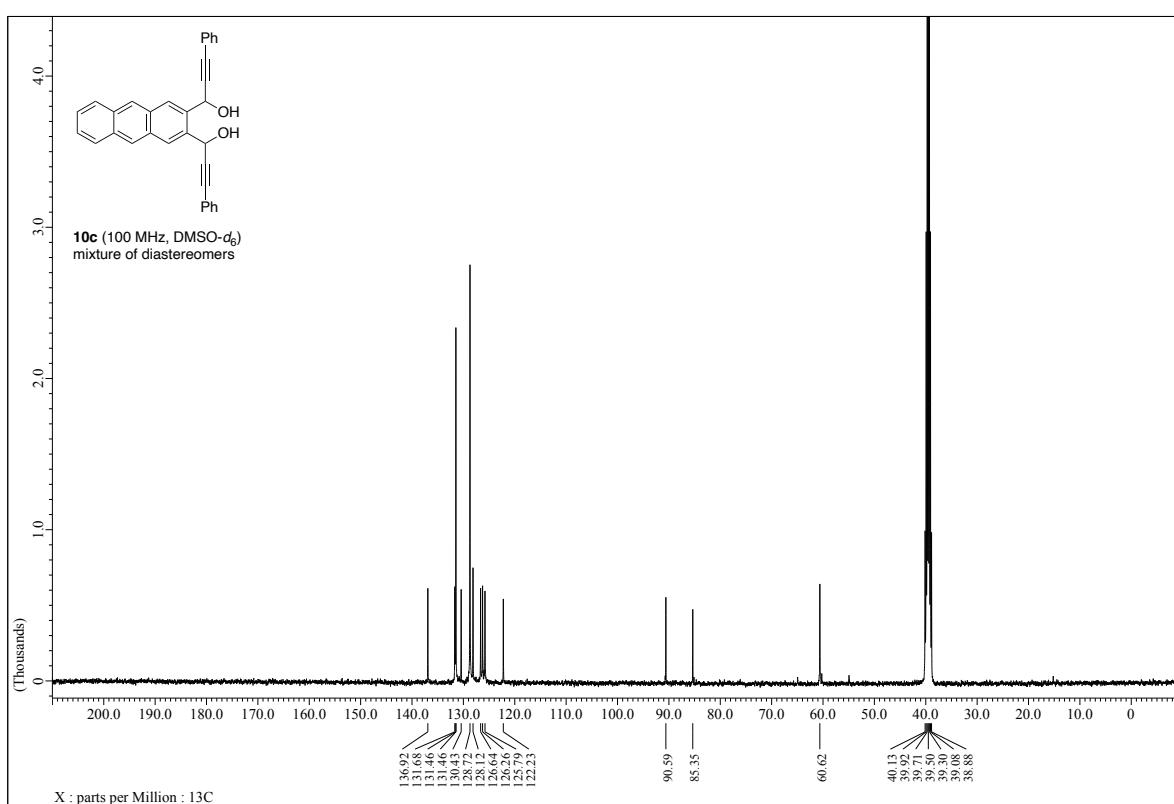
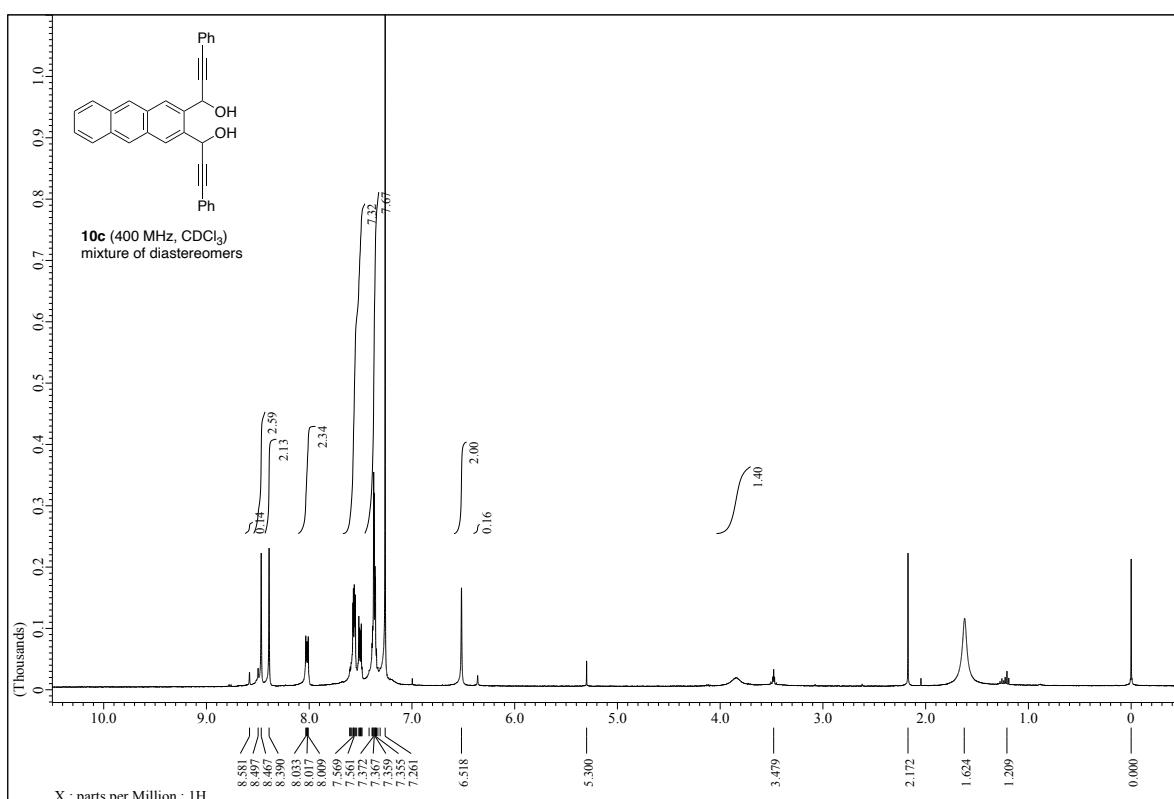


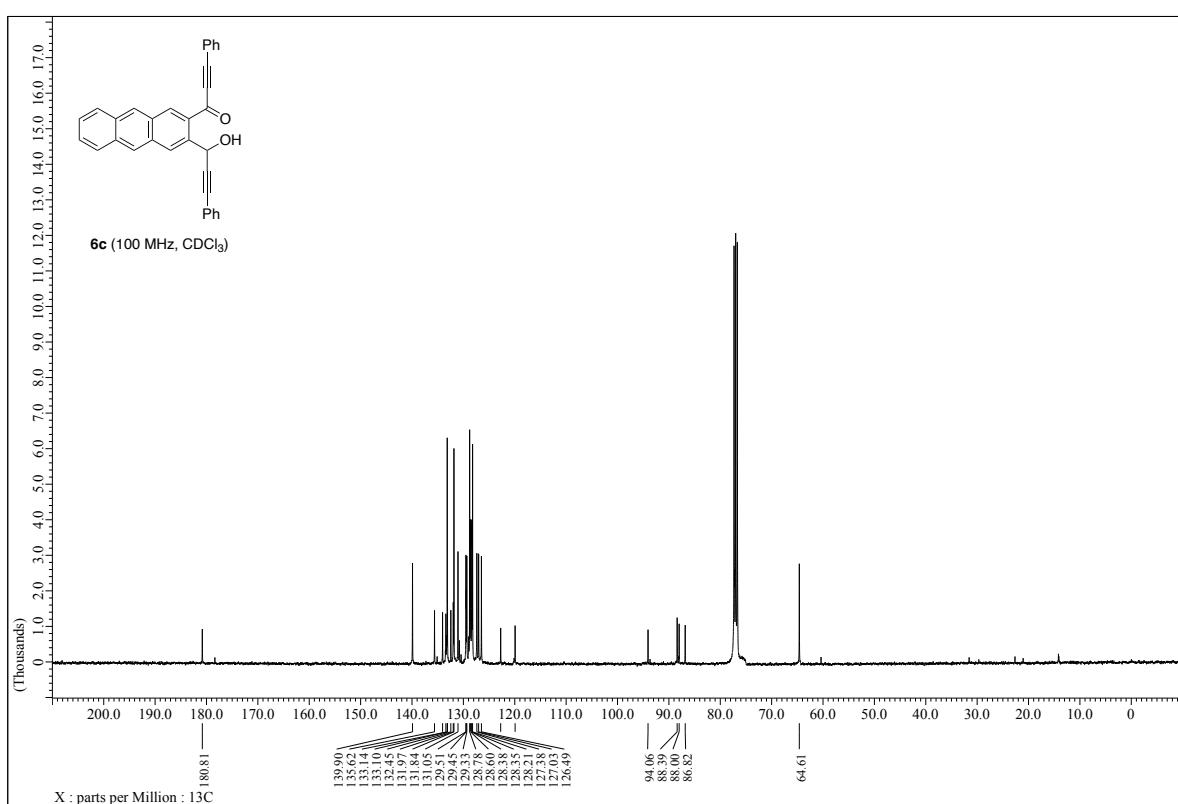
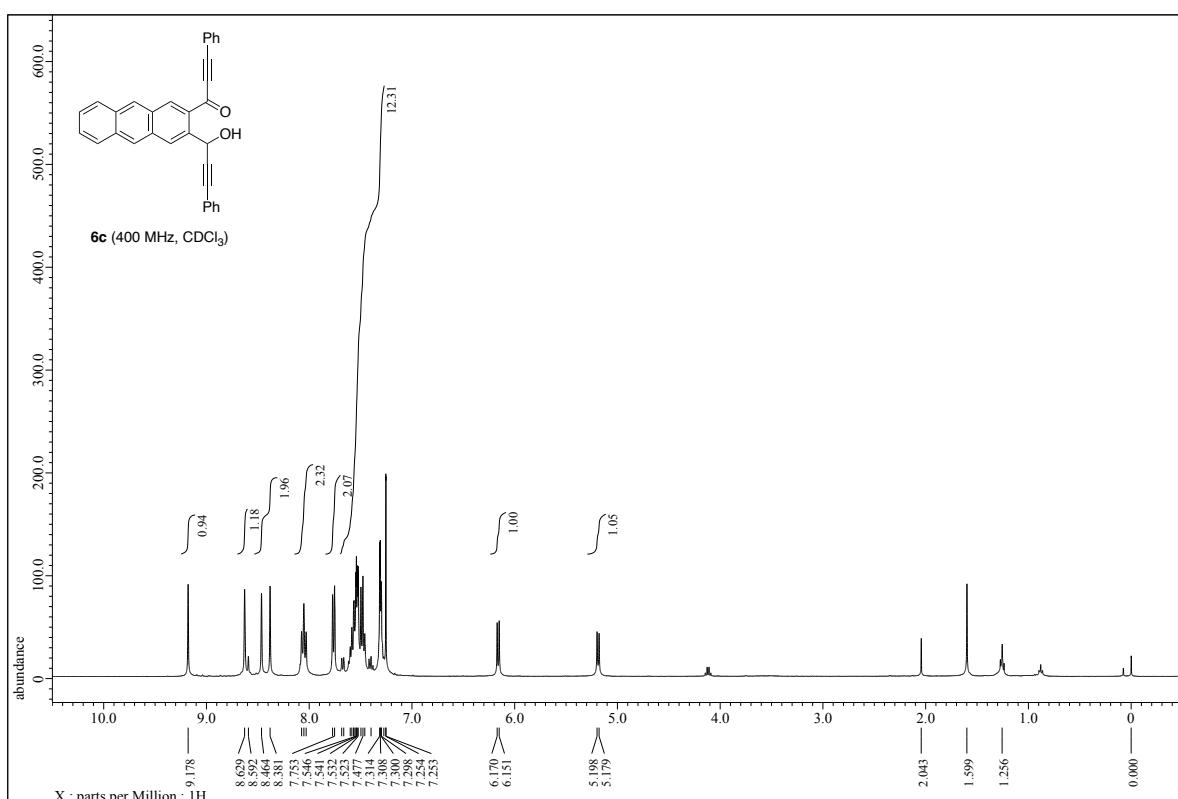


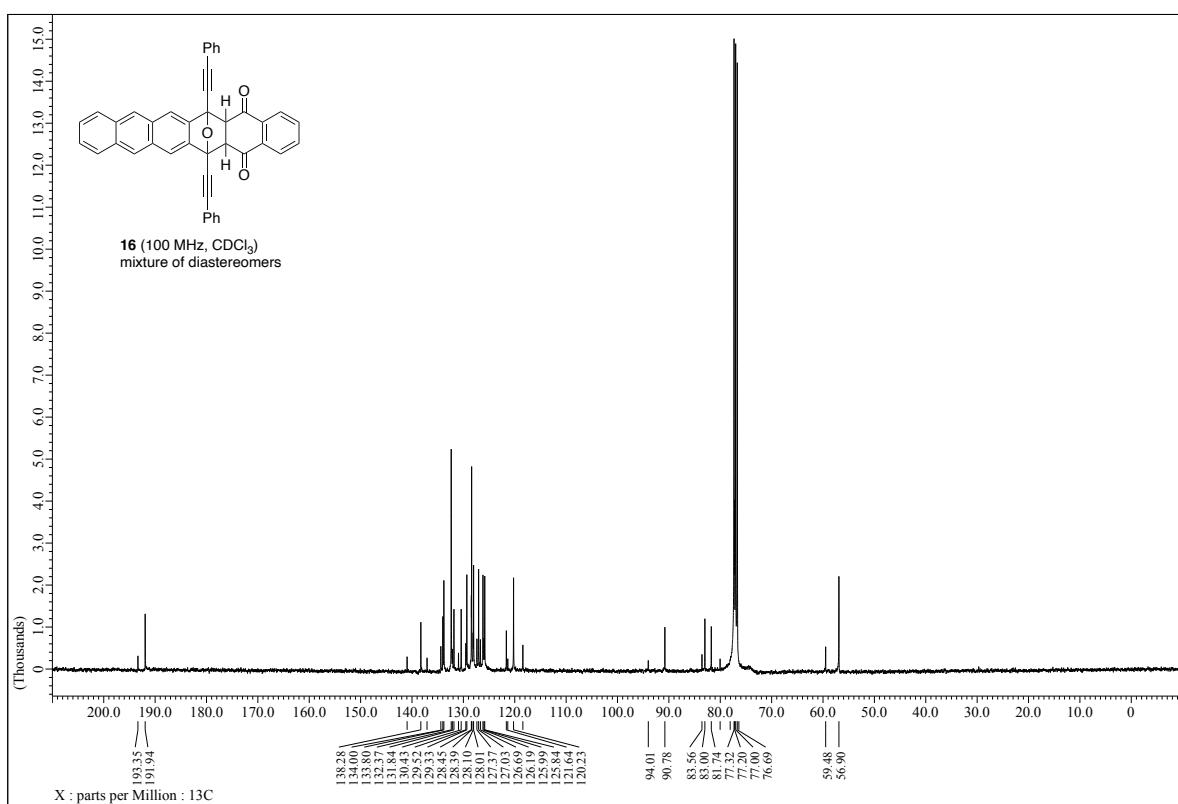
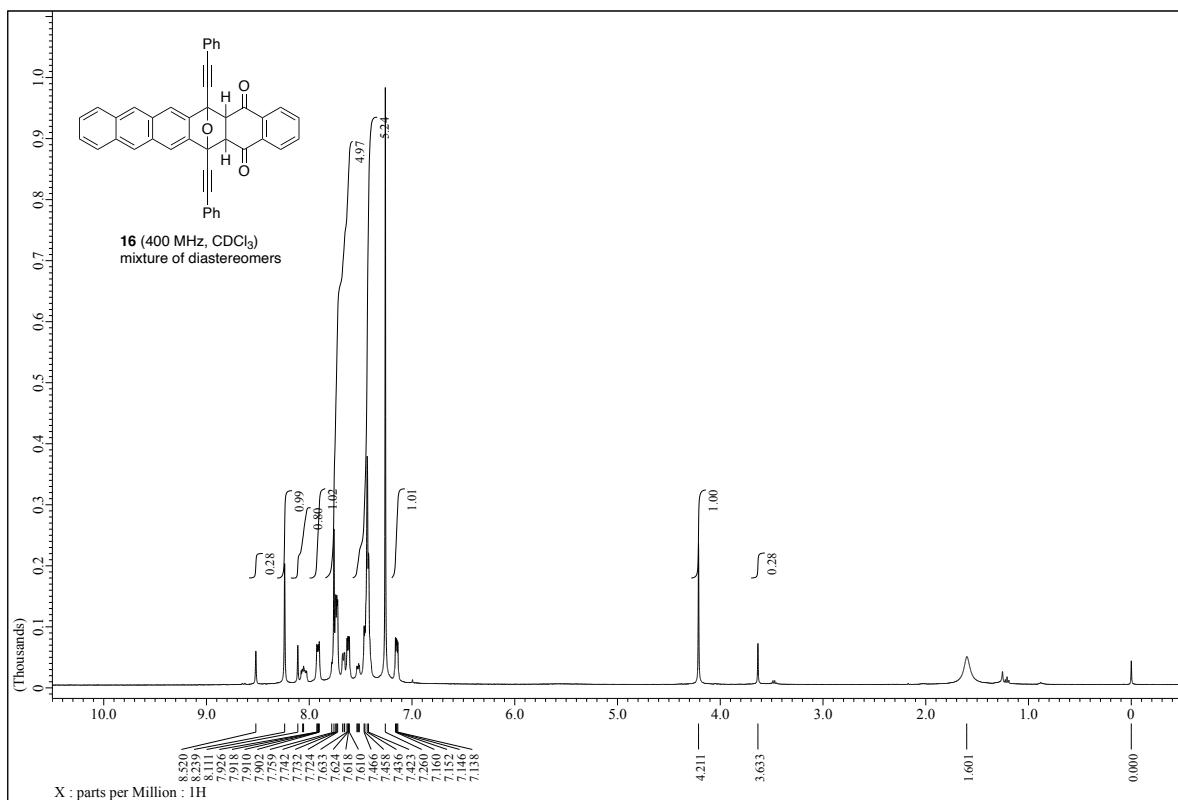


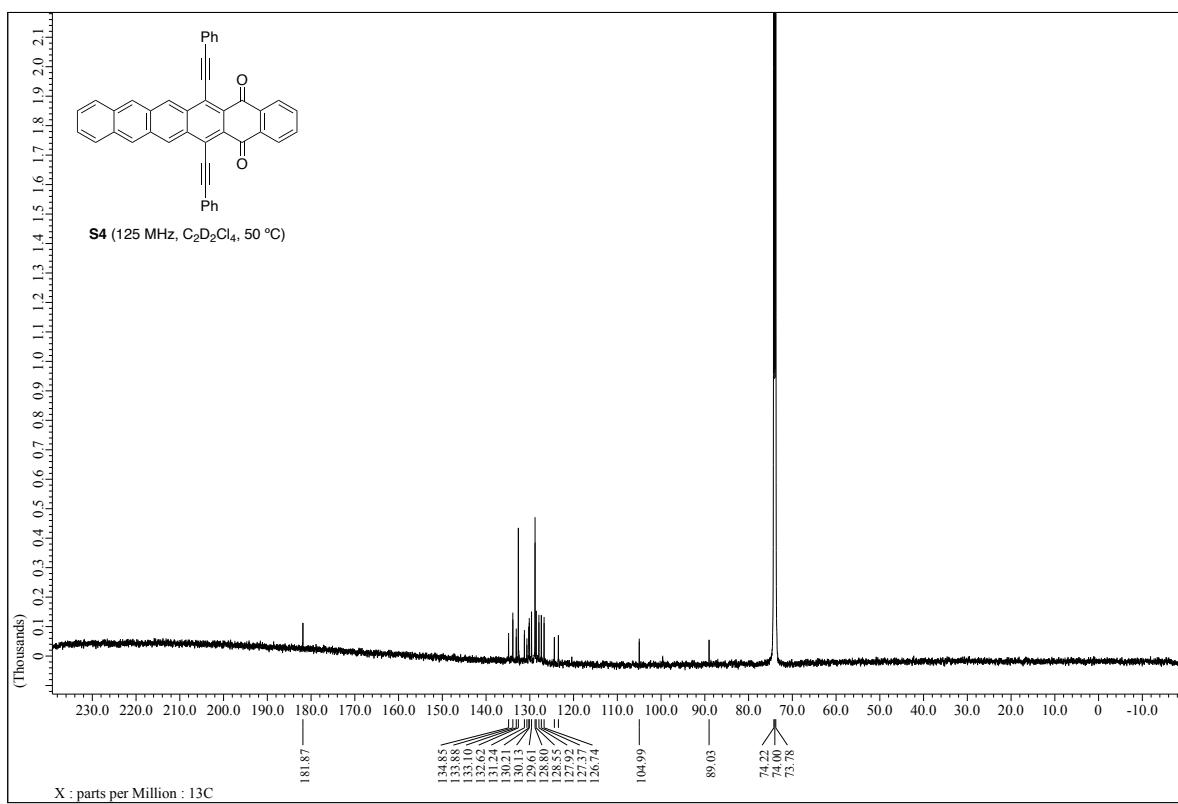
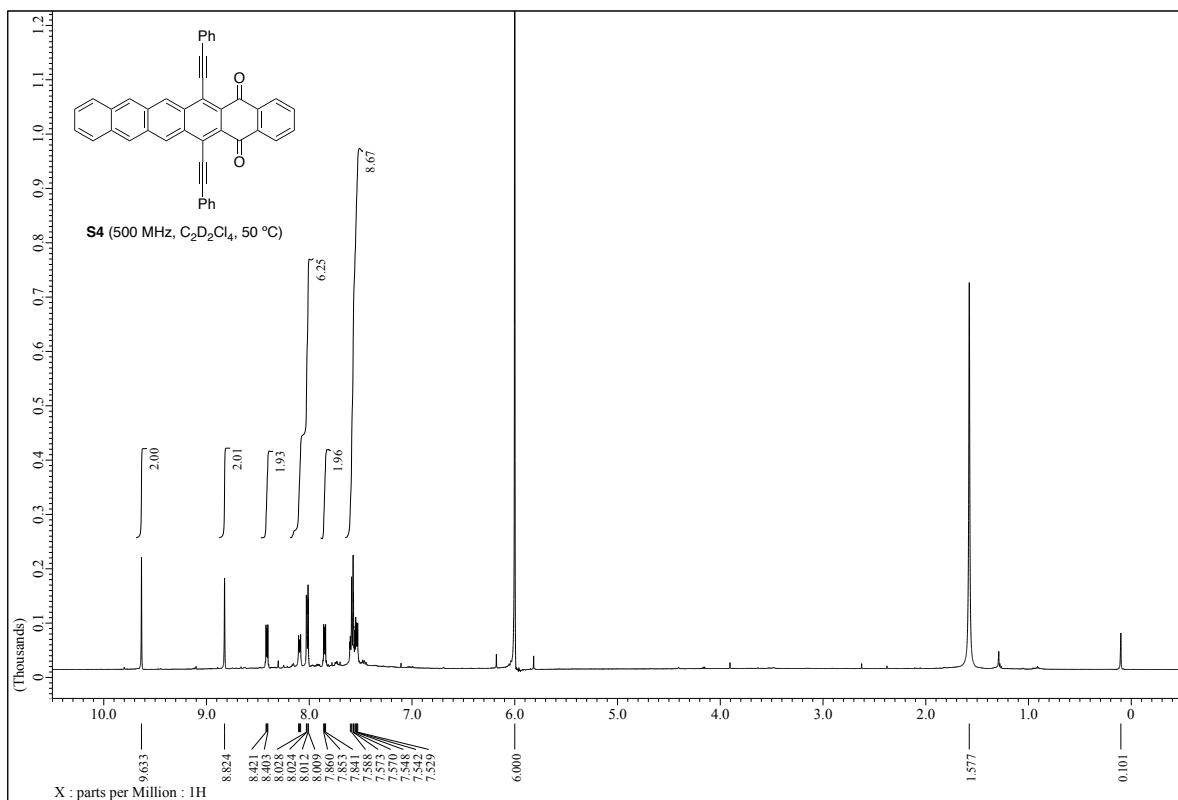


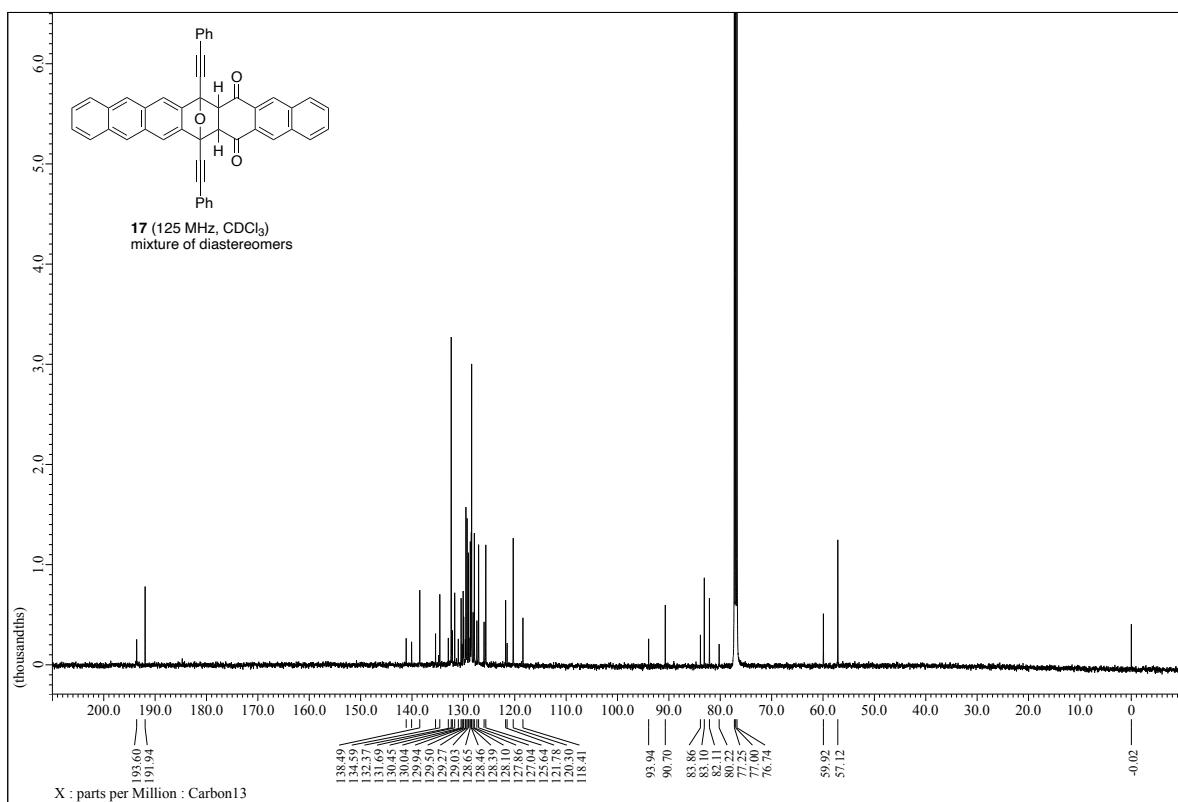
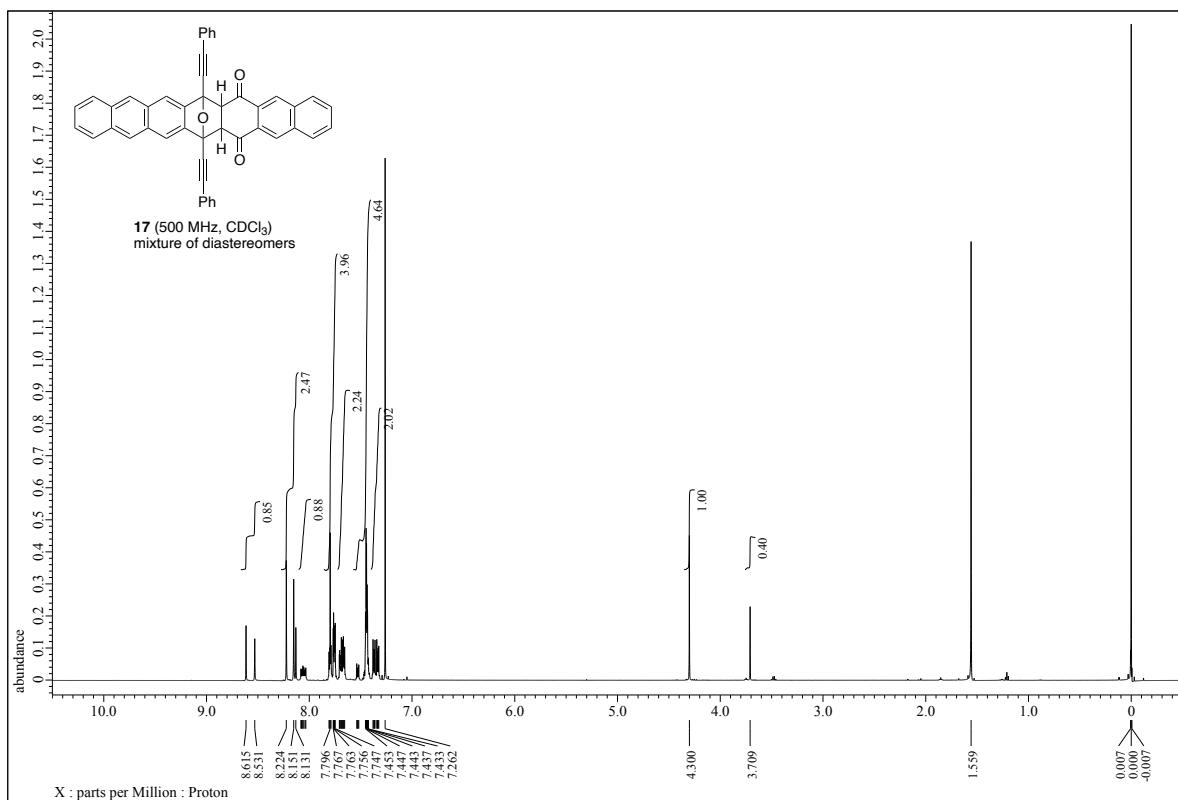


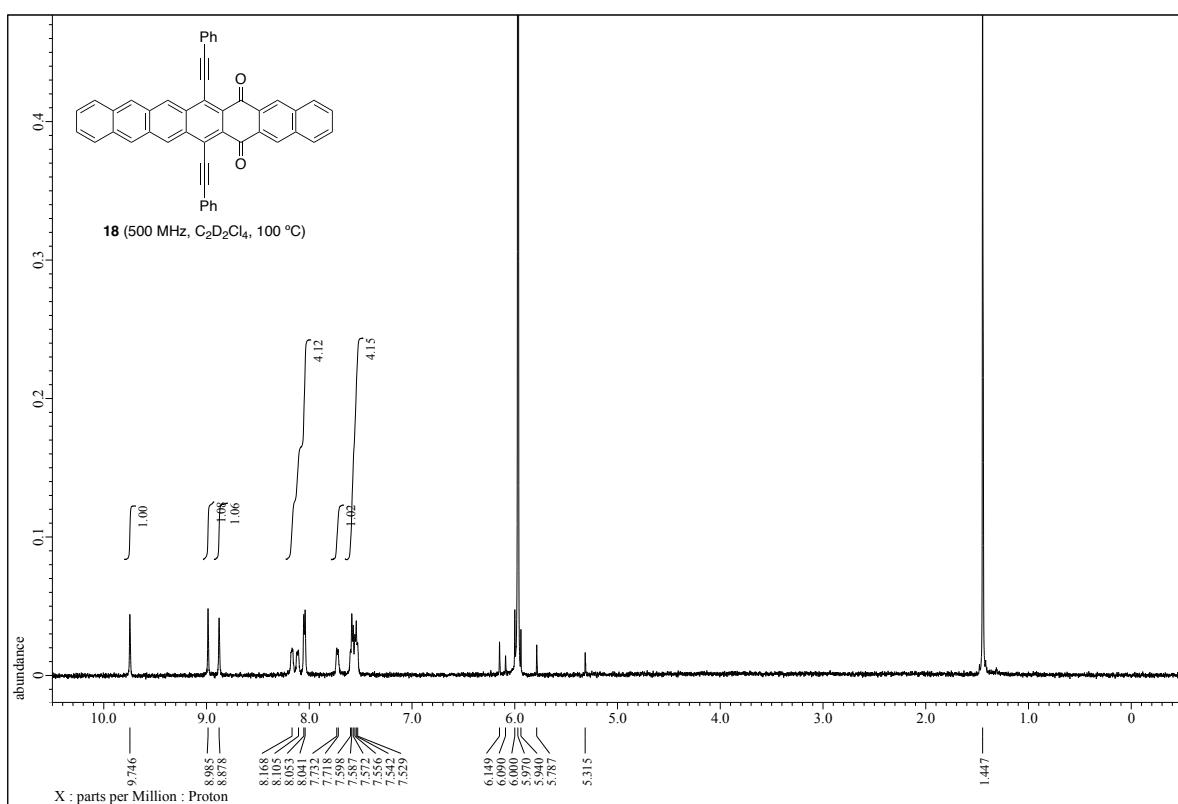


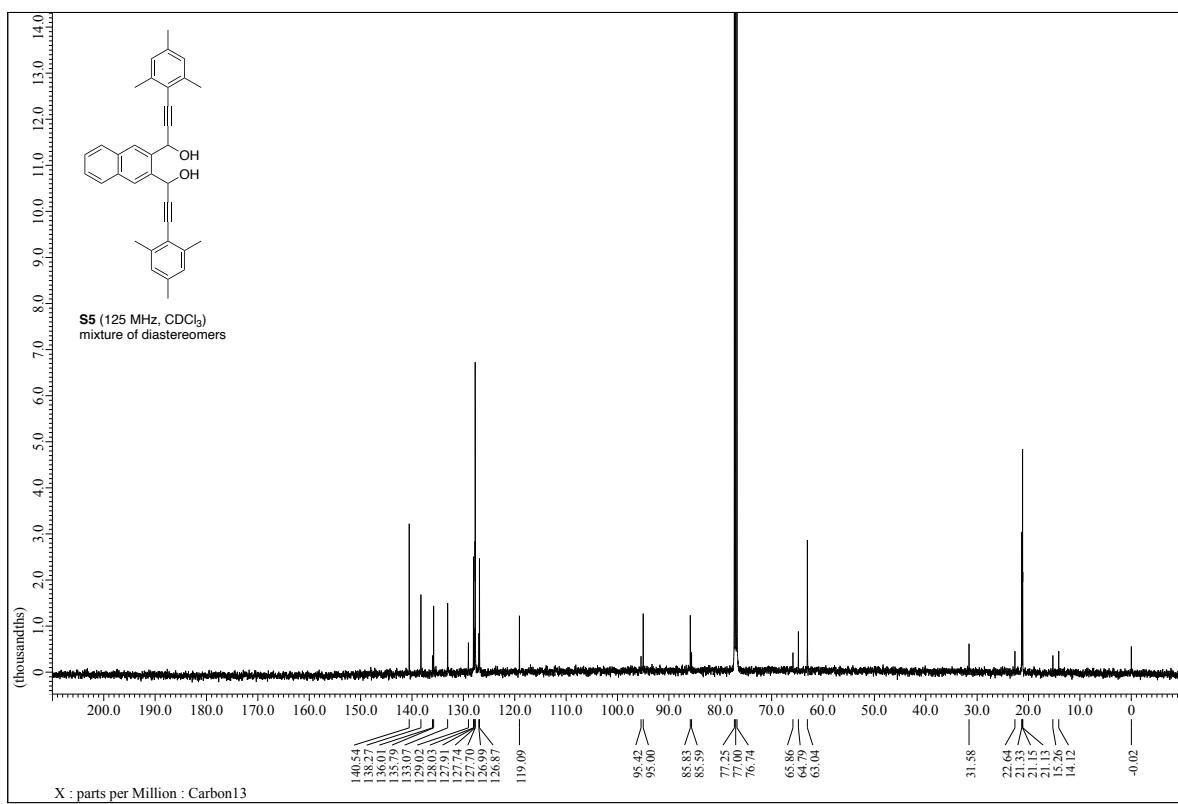
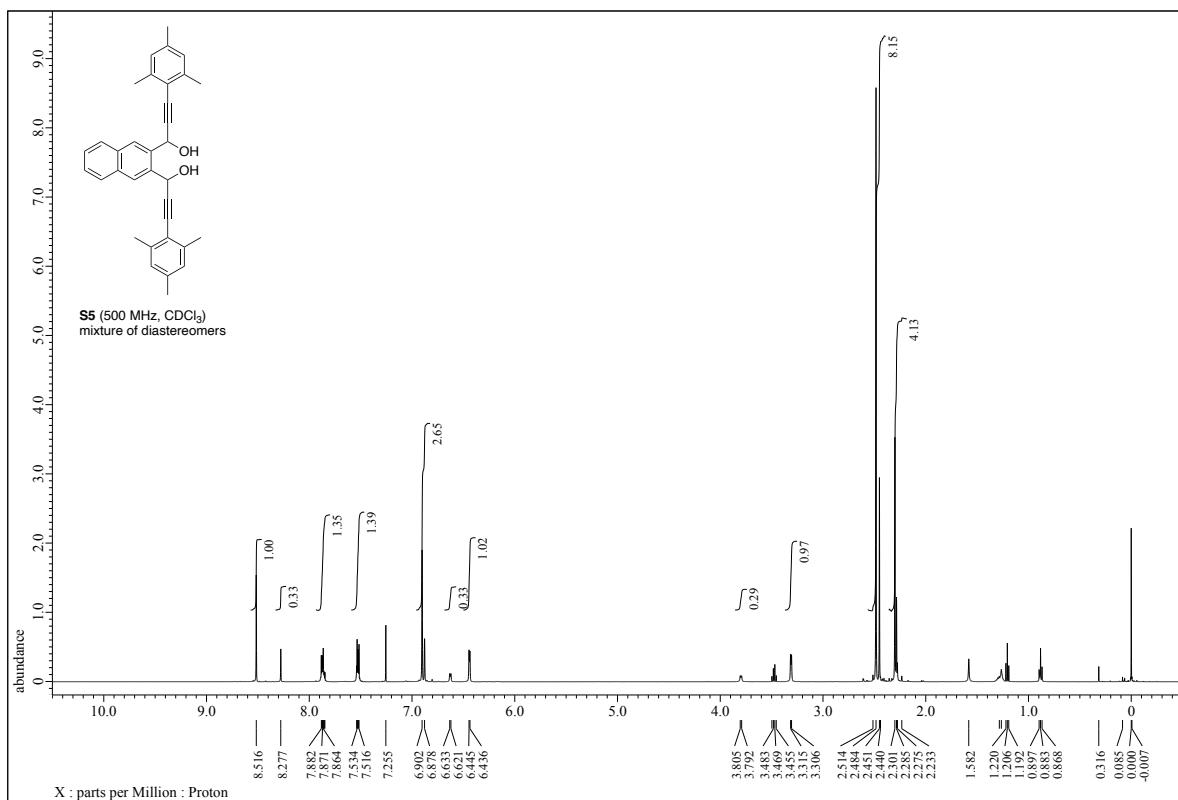


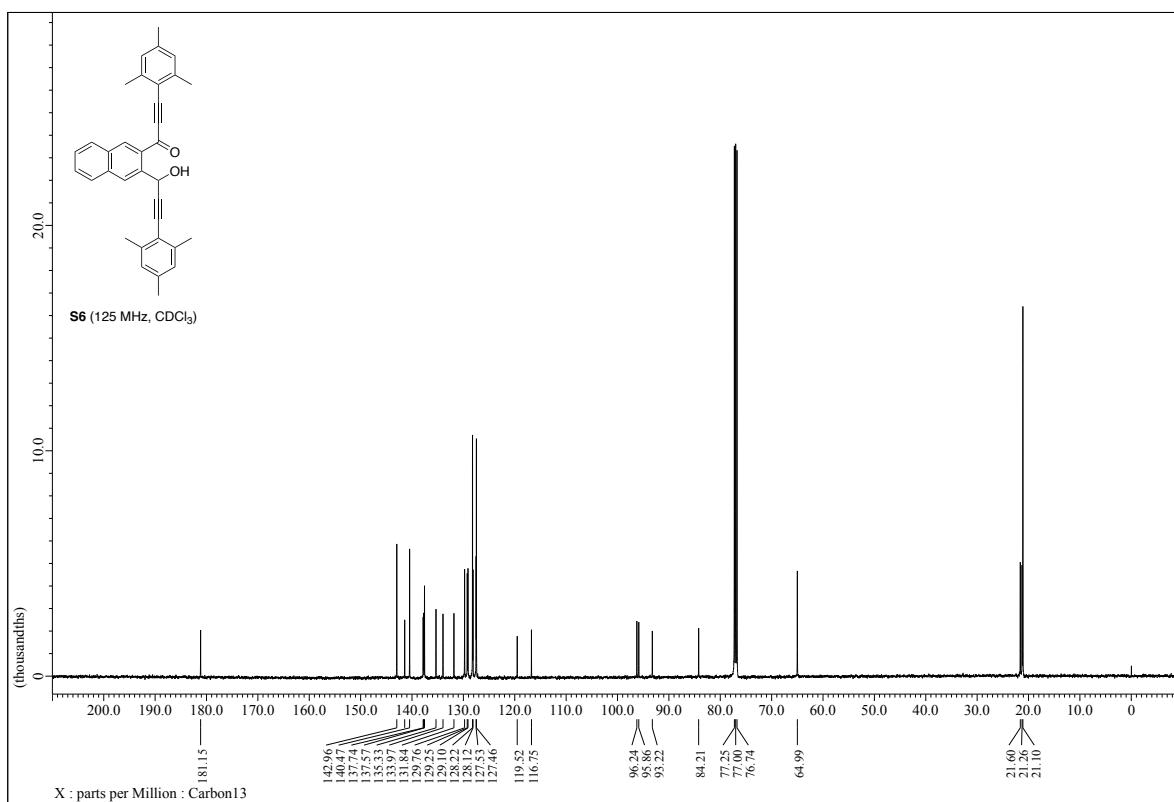
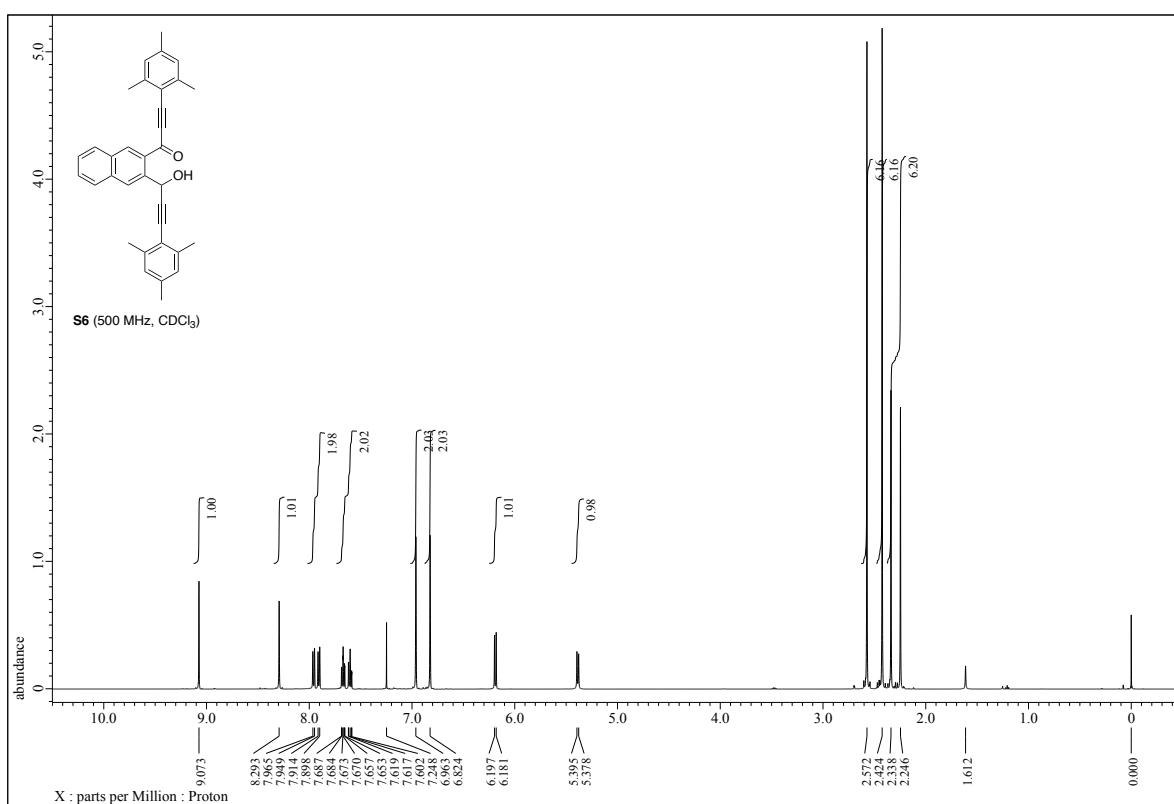


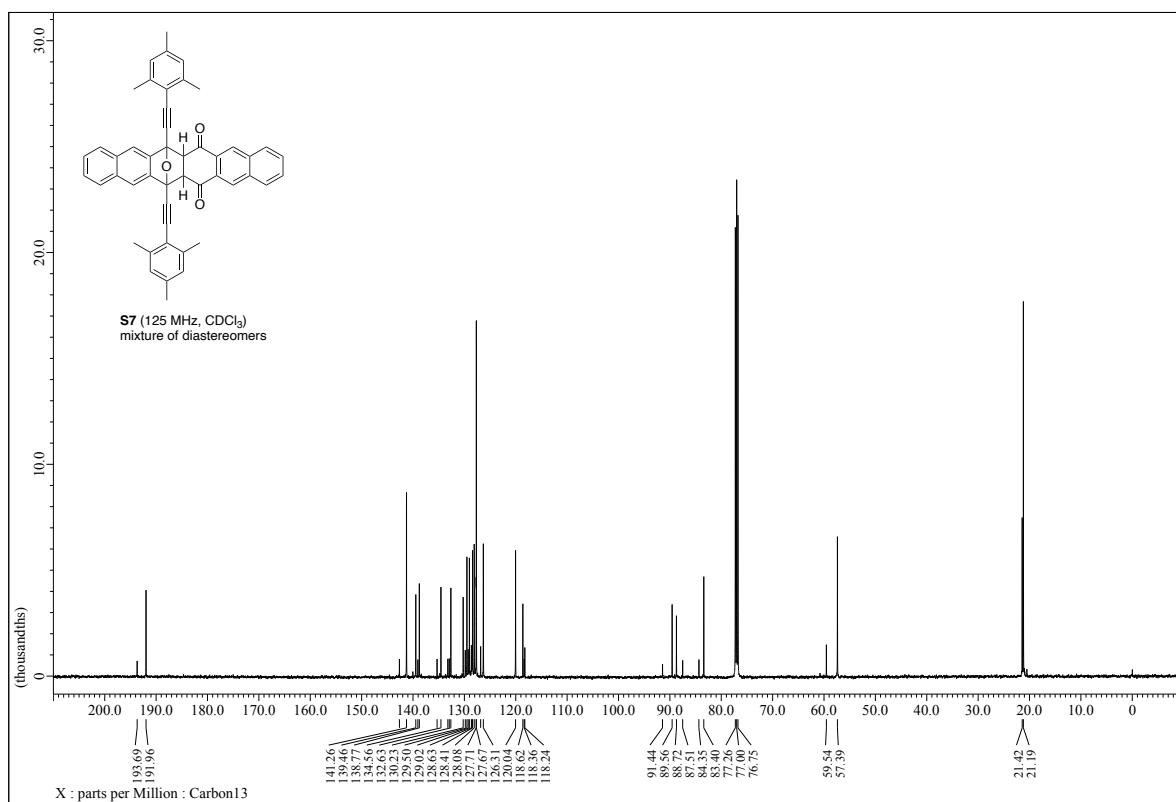
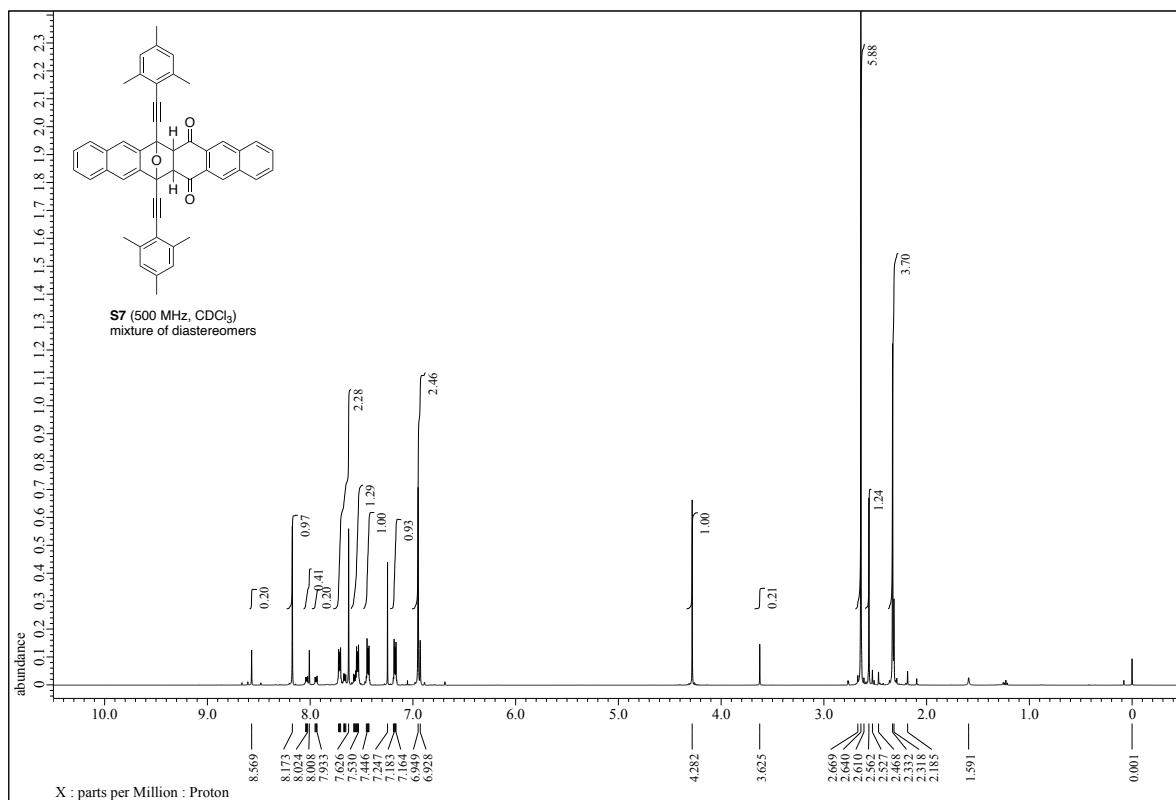


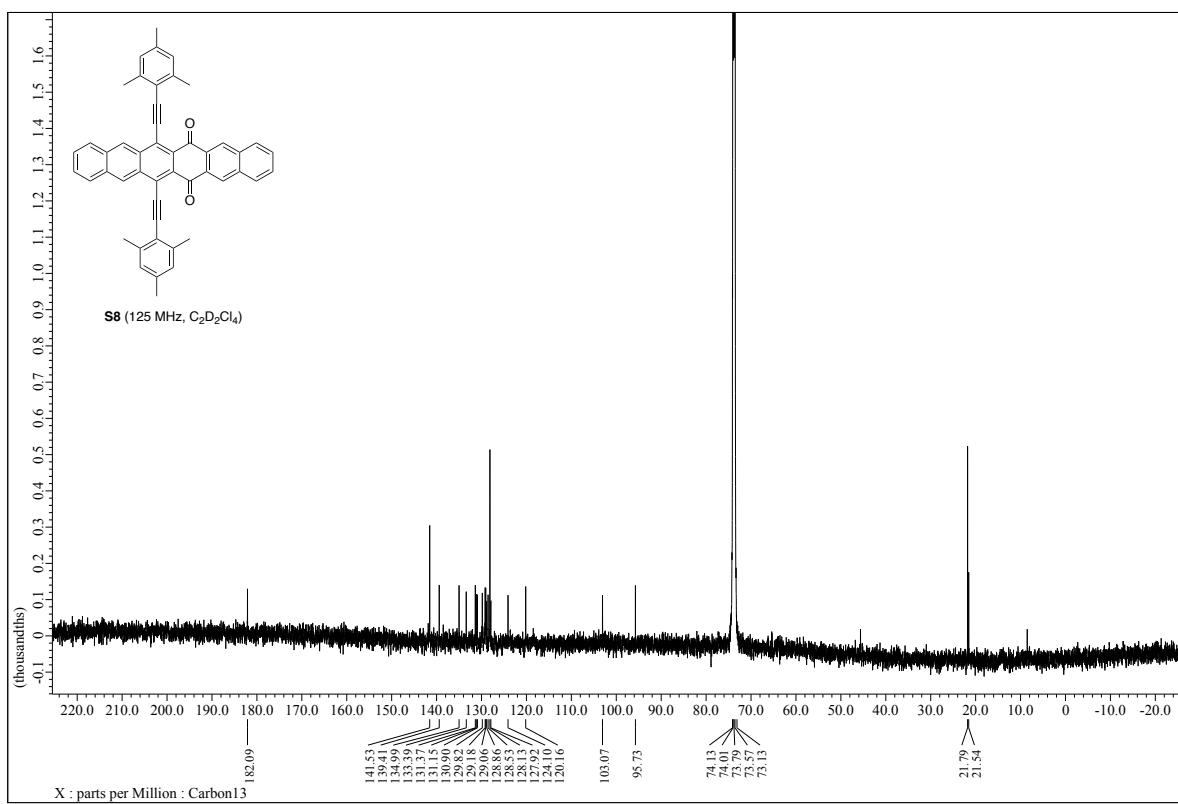
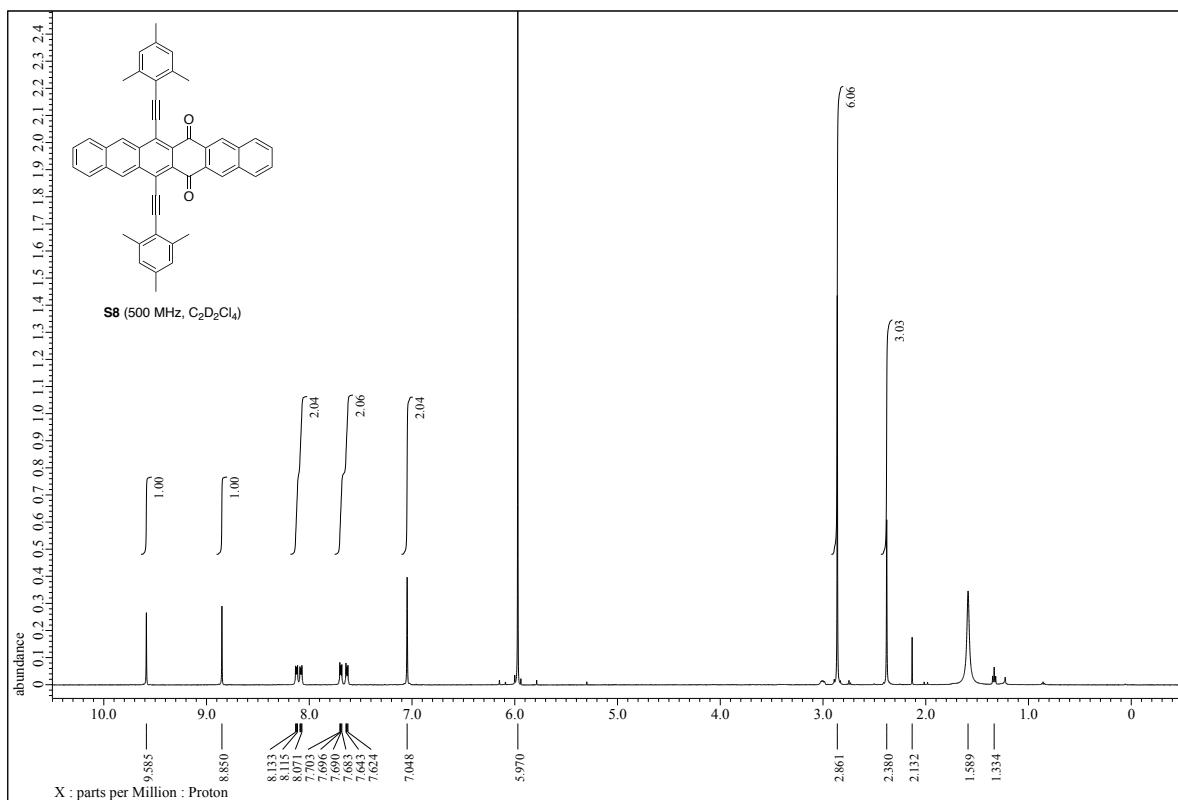


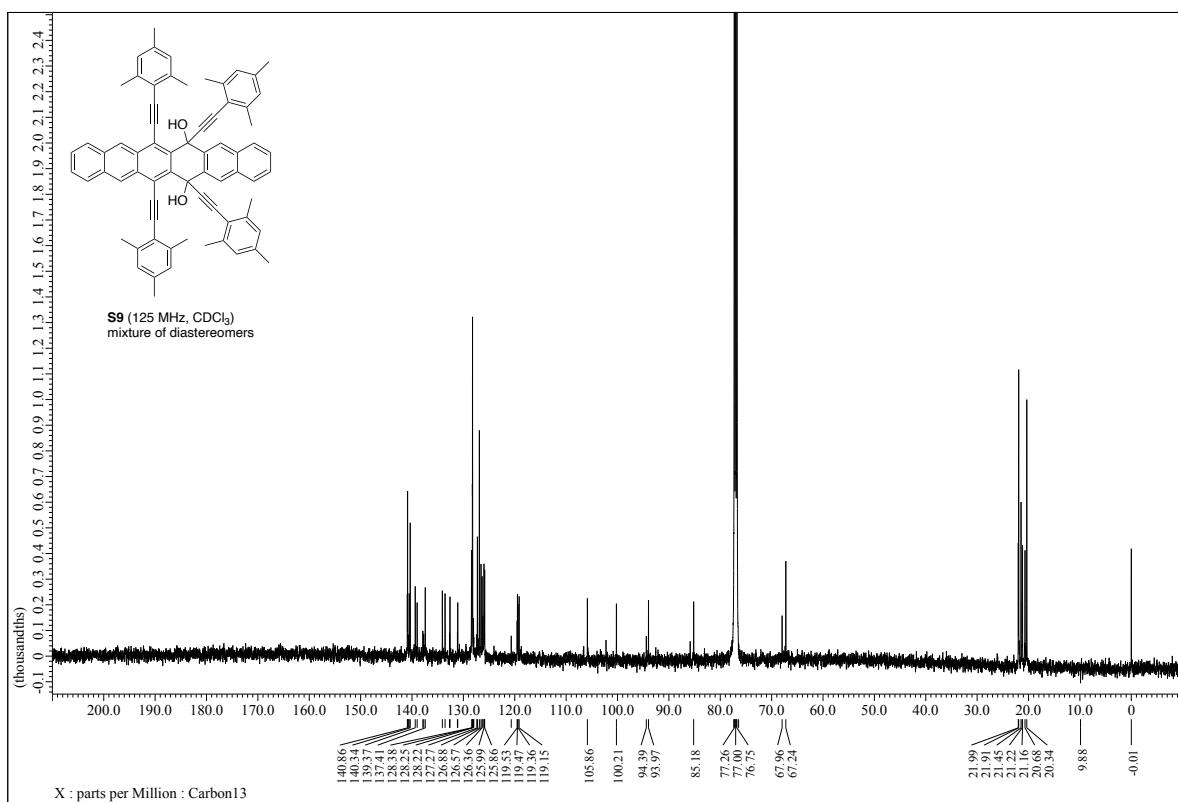
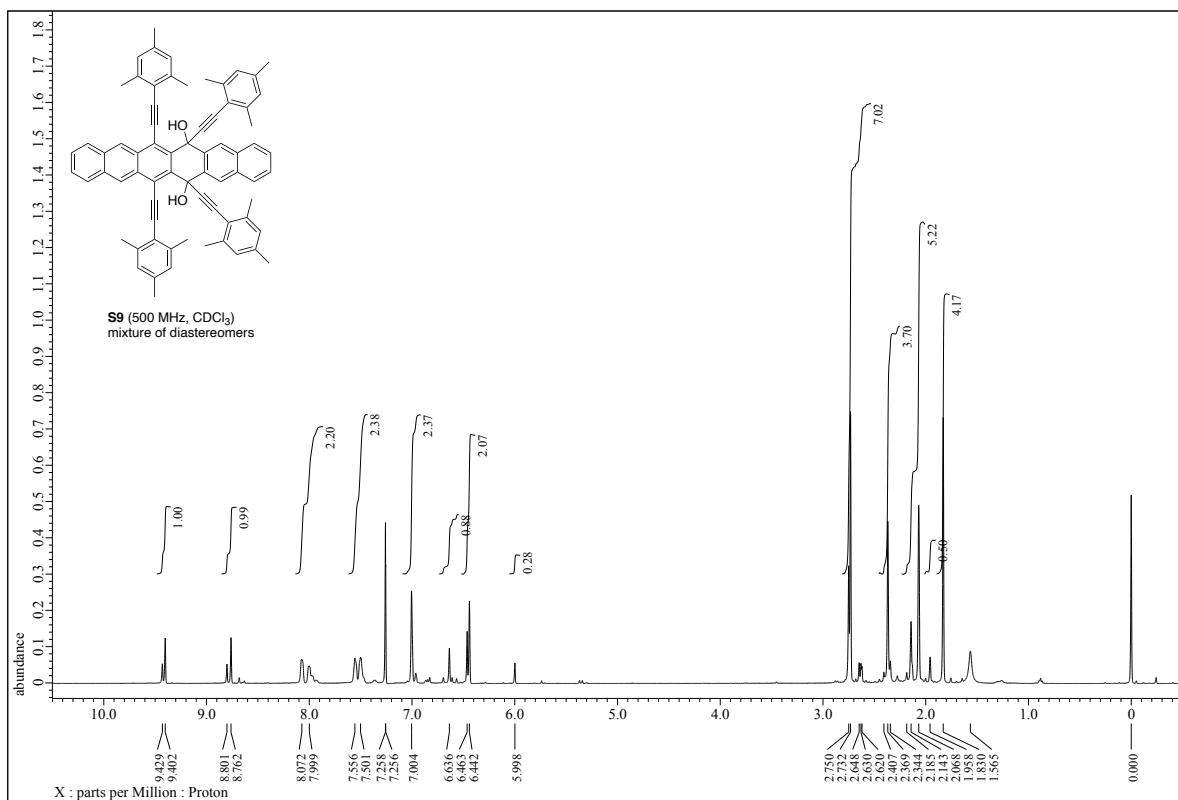


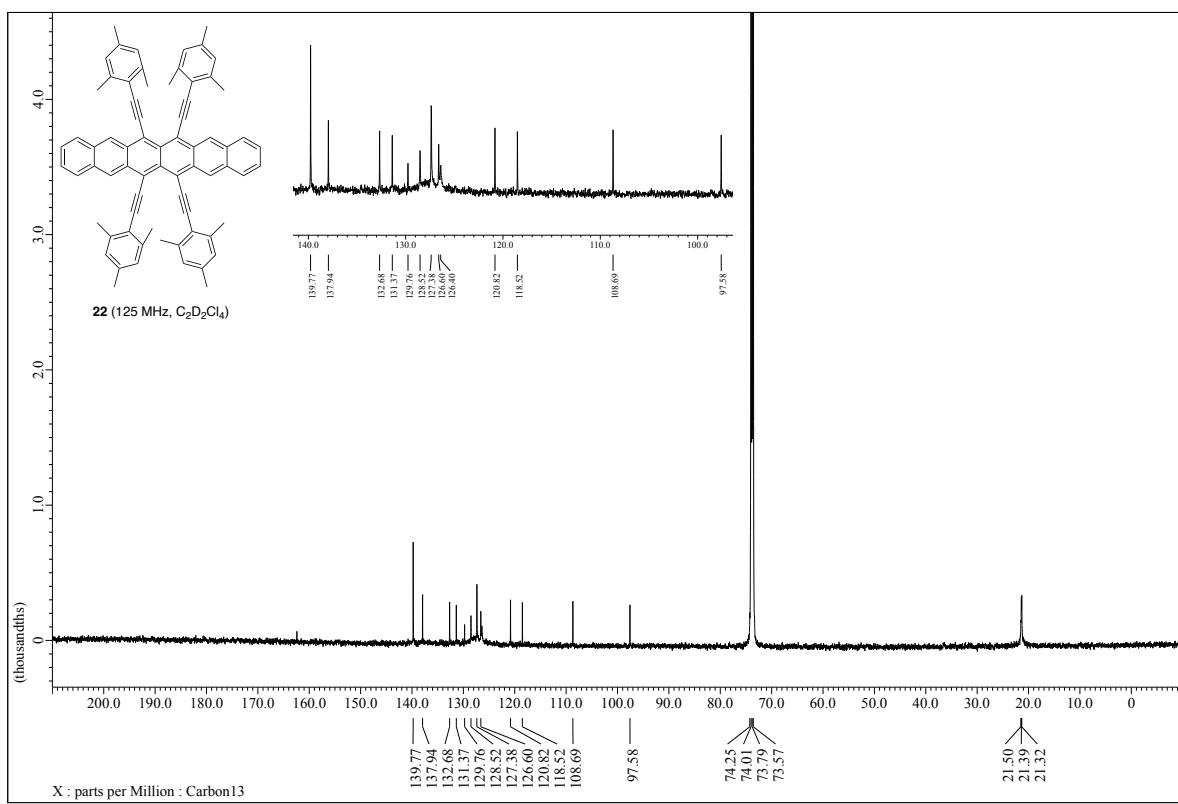
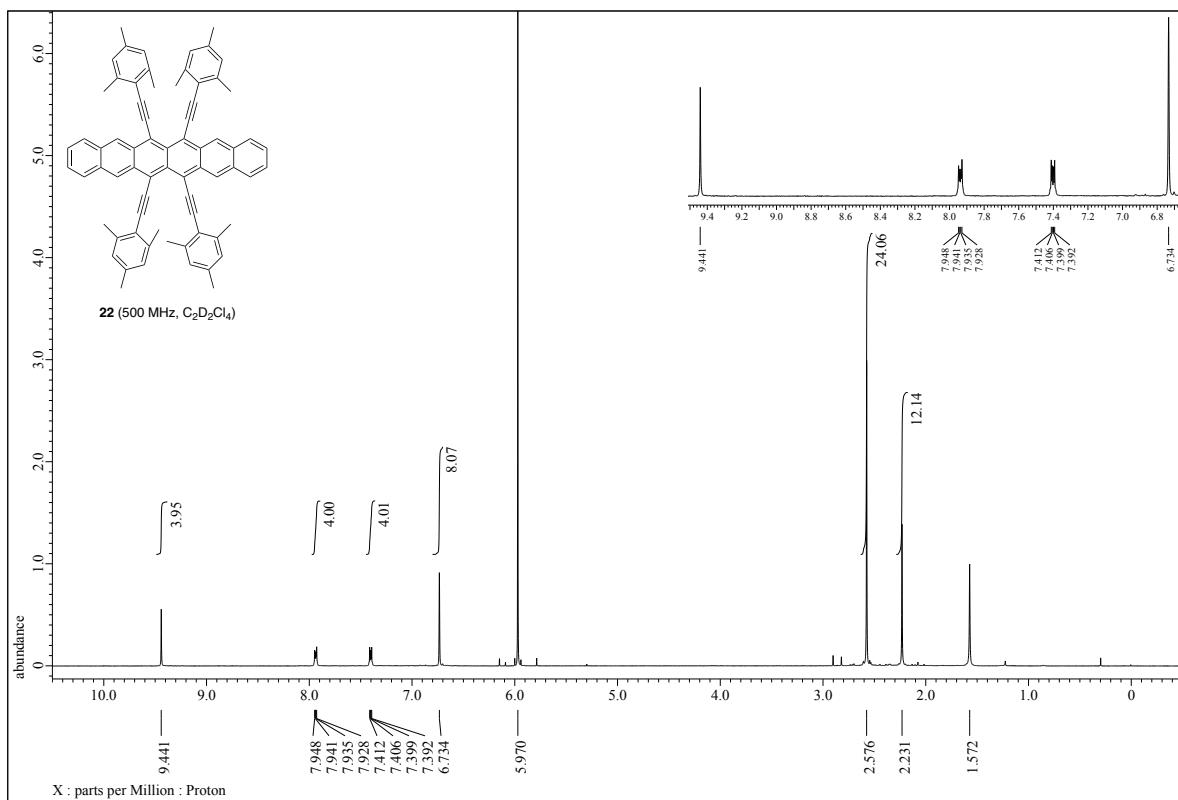












## 14. Calculations

DFT calculations were performed with the Gaussian 09 program<sup>[3]</sup> and Spartan 16 program<sup>[4]</sup>. Geometry optimizations were carried out at the RB3LYP level of density functional theory with the 6-31G(d) basis set for compounds **7**, **8**, **9**, **13**, **14**, **16**, and **15**. For hexacene **22**, the optimization was performed at the RB3LYP level of density functional theory with the 6-311G(d,p) basis set.

**Table S2.** Cartesian coordinates (Å) of the optimized structure for isoacenofuran **7**.

Atom	X	Y	Z
C	0.00002200	0.71575400	-4.41717600
C	-0.00002200	-0.71575400	-4.41717600
C	-0.00004000	-1.43440900	-3.24678100
C	-0.00001500	-0.71864500	-2.02139000
C	0.00001500	0.71864500	-2.02139000
C	0.00004000	1.43440900	-3.24678100
C	-0.00002400	-1.11554800	-0.68009900
O	0.00000000	0.00000000	0.11373200
C	0.00002400	1.11554800	-0.68009900
C	0.00002200	2.37071900	-0.07213700
C	-0.00002200	-2.37071900	-0.07213700
C	0.00002200	3.48118400	0.43313900
C	-0.00002200	-3.48118400	0.43313900
C	-0.00000200	-4.76679900	1.03564200
C	0.00003700	-5.93379000	0.24274700
C	0.00005400	-7.18956900	0.84200600
C	0.00003400	-7.30822500	2.23441100
C	-0.00000400	-6.15805200	3.02834500
C	-0.00002200	-4.89689900	2.44075600
C	0.00000200	4.76679900	1.03564200
C	0.00002200	4.89689900	2.44075600
C	0.00000400	6.15805200	3.02834500
C	-0.00003400	7.30822500	2.23441100
C	-0.00005400	7.18956900	0.84200600
C	-0.00003700	5.93379000	0.24274700
H	0.00004000	1.23801000	-5.36987600
H	-0.00004000	-1.23801000	-5.36987600
H	-0.00007000	-2.52026200	-3.24695000
H	0.00007000	2.52026200	-3.24695000
H	0.00005400	-5.83937600	-0.83879100
H	0.00008300	-8.08047500	0.21979900
H	0.00004800	-8.29082800	2.69788800
H	-0.00001900	-6.24447300	4.11155000
H	-0.00005200	-4.00164900	3.05467200
H	0.00005200	4.00164900	3.05467200
H	0.00001900	6.24447300	4.11155000
H	-0.00004800	8.29082800	2.69788800
H	-0.00008300	8.08047500	0.21979900
H	-0.00005400	5.83937600	-0.83879100

**Table S3.** Cartesian coordinates (Å) of the optimized structure for isoacenofuran **8**.

Atom	X	Y	Z
C	-0.73042400	-3.56896400	-0.00001100
C	0.72927400	-3.56927300	0.00001100
C	1.43335600	-2.36401300	0.00001800
C	0.72198100	-1.15702900	0.00000300
C	-0.72210800	-1.15672300	-0.00000400
C	-1.43399500	-2.36340500	-0.00001800
C	-1.40933300	-4.83294100	-0.00002500
C	-0.71650400	-6.01048400	-0.00001300
C	0.71431900	-6.01078800	0.00001400
C	1.40764700	-4.83353800	0.00002500
C	1.11801900	0.19314200	0.00000500
O	0.00038800	0.97953400	-0.00000100
C	-1.11757600	0.19361500	-0.00000600
C	-2.36892900	0.80246500	0.00000400
C	2.36963100	0.80145900	-0.00000500
C	-3.48055900	1.30758500	-0.00000500
C	3.48142200	1.30622400	0.00000400
C	-4.76512500	1.90972400	-0.00000100
C	-4.89547900	3.31528400	-0.00011800
C	-6.15649600	3.90277200	-0.00012400
C	-7.30693200	3.10903300	-0.00001100
C	-7.18827900	1.71651900	0.00011100
C	-5.93280000	1.11702500	0.00011700
C	4.76585600	1.90864500	0.00000100
C	5.93370000	1.11619500	-0.00011700
C	7.18905000	1.71595700	-0.00010900
C	7.30740800	3.10849600	0.00001300
C	6.15680300	3.90199000	0.00012500
C	4.89591200	3.31423300	0.00011800
H	2.51991900	-2.36490900	0.00003000
H	-2.52055900	-2.36384100	-0.00003100
H	-2.49670400	-4.83103200	-0.00004600
H	-1.24917300	-6.95749200	-0.00002500
H	1.24658700	-6.95802200	0.00002600
H	2.49501900	-4.83209000	0.00004600
H	-4.00025200	3.92923200	-0.00021100
H	-6.24278400	4.98599800	-0.00021600
H	-8.28946800	3.57261200	-0.00001700
H	-8.07926800	1.09441200	0.00019900
H	-5.83865200	0.03546300	0.00021200
H	5.83978100	0.03461200	-0.00021200
H	8.08017200	1.09403900	-0.00019600
H	8.28984500	3.57228400	0.00002000
H	6.24286100	4.98523500	0.00021700
H	4.00055400	3.92799100	0.00021000

**Table S4.** Cartesian coordinates (Å) of the optimized structure for isoacenofuran **9**.

Atom	X	Y	Z
C	-0.73255000	-2.61858600	-0.00006400
C	0.73255900	-2.61858300	0.00006000
C	1.43608600	-1.40222800	0.00011100
C	0.72430500	-0.20355700	0.00003800
C	-0.72430500	-0.20356000	-0.00004900
C	-1.43608200	-1.40223400	-0.00011800

C	-1.40704700	-3.86384900	-0.00012600
C	-0.72764100	-5.07398700	-0.00006500
C	0.72766000	-5.07398300	0.00006500
C	1.40706200	-3.86384300	0.00012400
C	1.11891100	1.15126200	0.00007000
O	-0.00000400	1.93355900	-0.00001100
C	-1.11891600	1.15125700	-0.00008700
C	-2.36848800	1.76050000	-0.00007700
C	2.36848200	1.76050800	0.00005700
C	-3.48081400	2.26531200	-0.00006600
C	3.48080800	2.26531900	0.00004900
C	-1.41106900	-6.33725400	-0.00012500
C	-0.71687000	-7.51268900	-0.00006300
C	0.71689900	-7.51268600	0.00006400
C	1.41109300	-6.33724800	0.00012500
C	-4.76465500	2.86766200	-0.00000100
C	-4.89473200	4.27349500	0.00023900
C	-6.15550300	4.86129900	0.00029400
C	-7.30631400	4.06800000	0.00011000
C	-7.18806600	2.67538900	-0.00013800
C	-5.93292400	2.07540300	-0.00019700
C	4.76464500	2.86767700	-0.00000100
C	5.93291700	2.07542400	0.00024500
C	7.18805700	2.67541600	0.00020100
C	7.30629800	4.06802800	-0.00008100
C	6.15548300	4.86132100	-0.00031600
C	4.89471500	4.27351100	-0.00027500
H	2.52252100	-1.40237500	0.00019000
H	-2.52251600	-1.40238500	-0.00019800
H	-2.49509100	-3.86453800	-0.00022000
H	2.49510500	-3.86452800	0.00021700
H	-2.49849200	-6.33507700	-0.00022000
H	-1.24751400	-8.46087400	-0.00011000
H	1.24754700	-8.46086900	0.00011100
H	2.49851600	-6.33506600	0.00022000
H	-3.99933700	4.88719800	0.00038000
H	-6.24140600	5.94456100	0.00048500
H	-8.28867800	4.53192300	0.00015100
H	-8.07928200	2.05359600	-0.00029000
H	-5.83923200	0.99380000	-0.00038700
H	5.83923100	0.99382100	0.00046200
H	8.07927600	2.05362700	0.00039200
H	8.28866000	4.53195600	-0.00011100
H	6.24138100	5.94458400	-0.00053300
H	3.99931700	4.88720900	-0.00045400

**Table S5.** Cartesian coordinates (Å) of the optimized structure for naphthoquinone **11**.

Atom	X	Y	Z
C	-0.26001200	-0.70453200	0.00000000
C	-0.26001200	0.70453200	0.00000000
C	1.02469300	1.46280500	0.00000000
C	2.28138800	0.67178500	0.00000000
C	2.28138800	-0.67178500	0.00000000
C	1.02469300	-1.46280500	0.00000000
O	1.06155000	-2.68795900	0.00000000

O	1.06155000	2.68795900	0.00000000
C	-1.47270400	-1.40017800	0.00000000
C	-2.67756900	-0.69961500	0.00000000
C	-2.67756900	0.69961500	0.00000000
C	-1.47270400	1.40017800	0.00000000
H	3.19898000	1.25385700	0.00000000
H	3.19898000	-1.25385700	0.00000000
H	-1.44742100	-2.48517800	0.00000000
H	-3.61873600	-1.24235400	0.00000000
H	-3.61873600	1.24235400	0.00000000
H	-1.44742100	2.48517800	0.00000000

**Table S6.** Cartesian coordinates (Å) of the optimized structure for cycloadduct **13**.

Atom	X	Y	Z
C	0.55040100	1.19798000	-0.77441300
C	0.55040100	1.19798000	0.77441300
C	1.87517700	1.02530900	1.49727400
C	3.10272500	0.72457000	0.70479600
C	3.10272500	0.72457000	-0.70479600
C	1.87517700	1.02530900	-1.49727400
C	4.29270900	0.45852900	1.39706800
C	5.46524000	0.18831200	0.70063100
C	5.46524000	0.18831200	-0.70063100
C	4.29270900	0.45852900	-1.39706800
C	-0.48480500	0.02140500	-1.09452900
C	0.17955600	-1.29430300	-0.69841100
C	0.17955600	-1.29430300	0.69841100
C	-0.48480500	0.02140500	1.09452900
C	0.74734300	-2.33111100	-1.42135500
C	1.30598100	-3.39602200	-0.69893600
C	1.30598100	-3.39602200	0.69893600
C	0.74734300	-2.33111100	1.42135500
C	-1.11749300	0.09265600	-2.39210400
C	-1.11749300	0.09265600	2.39210400
C	-1.59021000	0.14333300	-3.50663500
C	-1.59021000	0.14333300	3.50663500
O	1.91769600	1.12808300	-2.71500800
O	1.91769600	1.12808300	2.71500800
H	0.09419600	2.11424200	-1.15778800
H	0.09419600	2.11424200	1.15778800
O	-1.41546000	0.21285400	0.00000000
C	-2.12154100	0.22840500	-4.82929500
C	-1.35963800	0.82261000	-5.85383500
C	-1.87075200	0.90582600	-7.14636200
C	-3.14260200	0.40429500	-7.43470600
C	-3.90444600	-0.18499800	-6.42281100
C	-3.40091600	-0.27648300	-5.12759300
C	-2.12154100	0.22840500	4.82929500
C	-1.35963800	0.82261000	5.85383500
C	-1.87075200	0.90582600	7.14636200
C	-3.14260200	0.40429500	7.43470600
C	-3.90444600	-0.18499800	6.42281100
C	-3.40091600	-0.27648300	5.12759300
H	4.26782100	0.47314100	2.48163100
H	6.38300700	-0.01972500	1.24383200
H	6.38300700	-0.01972500	-1.24383200

H	4.26782100	0.47314100	-2.48163100
H	0.74494900	-2.32604700	-2.50751400
H	1.73905100	-4.23644100	-1.23450700
H	1.73905100	-4.23644100	1.23450700
H	0.74494900	-2.32604700	2.50751400
H	-0.37294000	1.20964300	-5.61852400
H	-1.27547100	1.36493600	-7.93098600
H	-3.53869900	0.47260600	-8.44426500
H	-4.89407900	-0.57573000	-6.64351100
H	-3.98793500	-0.73458200	-4.33757600
H	-0.37294000	1.20964300	5.61852400
H	-1.27547100	1.36493600	7.93098600
H	-3.53869900	0.47260600	8.44426500
H	-4.89407900	-0.57573000	6.64351100
H	-3.98793500	-0.73458200	4.33757600

**Table S7.** Cartesian coordinates (Å) of the optimized structure for cycloadduct **14**.

Atom	X	Y	Z
C	-0.21935900	1.70206300	-0.77472600
C	-0.21935900	1.70206300	0.77472600
C	1.09254800	1.95843900	1.49695300
C	2.35340500	2.04528100	0.70493000
C	2.35340500	2.04528100	-0.70493000
C	1.09254800	1.95843900	-1.49695300
C	3.56782100	2.15495500	1.39712300
C	4.76694200	2.25398300	0.70060400
C	4.76694200	2.25398300	-0.70060400
C	3.56782100	2.15495500	-1.39712300
C	-0.82399700	0.25901300	-1.09624400
C	0.22462400	-0.77851100	-0.70861900
C	0.22462400	-0.77851100	0.70861900
C	-0.82399700	0.25901300	1.09624400
C	1.06713900	-1.57905300	-1.42707800
C	1.95459300	-2.44540600	-0.71901300
C	1.95459300	-2.44540600	0.71901300
C	1.06713900	-1.57905300	1.42707800
C	-1.44748200	0.12984400	-2.39369700
C	-1.44748200	0.12984400	2.39369700
C	-1.90807300	0.03712600	-3.51056300
C	-1.90807300	0.03712600	3.51056300
O	1.09881100	2.08160700	-2.71345100
O	1.09881100	2.08160700	2.71345100
H	-0.94267400	2.42615400	-1.15821400
H	-0.94267400	2.42615400	1.15821400
O	-1.76595400	0.13506900	0.00000000
C	2.84080900	-3.31928700	-1.40140800
C	3.69038800	-4.15288500	-0.70735500
C	3.69038800	-4.15288500	0.70735500
C	2.84080900	-3.31928700	1.40140800
C	-2.43116300	-0.03459000	-4.83729800
C	-1.88615600	0.78065300	-5.84815900
C	-2.38859300	0.71572500	-7.14504600
C	-3.43767800	-0.15486800	-7.45130900
C	-3.98386300	-0.96535500	-6.45309700
C	-3.48600400	-0.91080500	-5.15355500

C	-2.43116300	-0.03459000	4.83729800
C	-1.88615600	0.78065300	5.84815900
C	-2.38859300	0.71572500	7.14504600
C	-3.43767800	-0.15486800	7.45130900
C	-3.98386300	-0.96535500	6.45309700
C	-3.48600400	-0.91080500	5.15355500
H	3.53987400	2.16171000	2.48168400
H	5.70452400	2.33443600	1.24377600
H	5.70452400	2.33443600	-1.24377600
H	3.53987400	2.16171000	-2.48168400
H	1.06220200	-1.57794700	-2.51403000
H	1.06220200	-1.57794700	2.51403000
H	2.83753100	-3.31868200	-2.48879600
H	4.36377400	-4.81432700	-1.24568300
H	4.36377400	-4.81432700	1.24568300
H	2.83753100	-3.31868200	2.48879600
H	-1.07195800	1.45409700	-5.59852700
H	-1.96148700	1.34761100	-7.91904800
H	-3.82829200	-0.20150100	-8.46423300
H	-4.79988900	-1.64339500	-6.68785300
H	-3.90567500	-1.53922700	-4.37411000
H	-1.07195800	1.45409700	5.59852700
H	-1.96148700	1.34761100	7.91904800
H	-3.82829200	-0.20150100	8.46423300
H	-4.79988900	-1.64339500	6.68785300
H	-3.90567500	-1.53922700	4.37411000

**Table S8.** Cartesian coordinates (Å) of the optimized structure for cycloadduct **16**.

Atom	X	Y	Z
C	-0.77478600	-1.66291700	1.57368100
C	0.77492200	-1.66284300	1.57371400
C	1.49678800	-0.65358400	2.45095900
C	0.70491700	0.39915700	3.15039600
C	-0.70504000	0.39909200	3.15036500
C	-1.49678300	-0.65372200	2.45089300
C	1.39700700	1.40011700	3.84678200
C	0.70043800	2.39337700	4.52585500
C	-0.70080600	2.39331200	4.52582400
C	-1.39725300	1.39998700	3.84672100
C	-1.09698000	-1.46559200	0.02292400
C	-0.71326700	-0.03927000	-0.35500800
C	0.71332000	-0.03919800	-0.35497500
C	1.09716200	-1.46548100	0.02297200
C	-1.43193000	1.07976800	-0.63919700
C	-0.72537300	2.28891800	-0.96111900
C	0.72521600	2.28899200	-0.96108600
C	1.43188200	1.07991500	-0.63913000
C	-2.39431900	-1.94265300	-0.39913100
C	2.39457000	-1.94240600	-0.39902400
C	-3.51161500	-2.29516900	-0.70818000
C	3.51191200	-2.29481100	-0.70803300
O	-2.71281400	-0.71243800	2.56428700
O	2.71281900	-0.71218400	2.56440100
H	-1.15852600	-2.65101500	1.83999400
H	1.15874500	-2.65090600	1.84004000

O	0.00014100	-2.21780100	-0.55787100
C	-1.40265500	3.46960400	-1.28264800
C	-0.72187900	4.65288100	-1.60239300
C	0.72151000	4.65295500	-1.60236000
C	1.40239200	3.46974700	-1.28258400
C	-1.40724500	5.86321500	-1.93021800
C	-0.71295500	7.00375700	-2.23947500
C	0.71237600	7.00383000	-2.23944200
C	1.40676800	5.86335900	-1.93015400
C	-4.83813600	-2.71272700	-1.03221100
C	-5.84028300	-2.68809500	-0.04302700
C	-7.13703400	-3.09021900	-0.35178800
C	-7.45166400	-3.52370000	-1.64230100
C	-6.46208800	-3.55203800	-2.62799000
C	-5.16283900	-3.14835200	-2.33042600
C	4.83841600	-2.71236400	-1.03213500
C	5.84061200	-2.68772500	-0.04300100
C	7.13735200	-3.08983600	-0.35182900
C	7.45192200	-3.52331000	-1.64236000
C	6.46229700	-3.55165300	-2.62799900
C	5.16305800	-3.14798000	-2.33036800
H	2.48156100	1.37251200	3.83855200
H	1.24358400	3.16879600	5.05902000
H	-1.24404700	3.16868000	5.05896700
H	-2.48180400	1.37228200	3.83844400
H	-2.51878400	1.07333800	-0.64221000
H	2.51873700	1.07359600	-0.64209400
H	-2.49076600	3.46915000	-1.28458100
H	2.49050400	3.46940400	-1.28446700
H	-2.49471600	5.86023700	-1.93017500
H	-1.24673400	7.91707600	-2.48782700
H	1.24607200	7.91720300	-2.48777000
H	2.49423900	5.86049200	-1.93006000
H	-5.58447200	-2.34968900	0.95635900
H	-7.90435700	-3.06690000	0.41725800
H	-8.46442400	-3.83843700	-1.87900100
H	-6.70343600	-3.88873200	-3.63253900
H	-4.39008100	-3.16694400	-3.09270200
H	5.58484800	-2.34932300	0.95639800
H	7.90471400	-3.06651200	0.41717900
H	8.46467300	-3.83803700	-1.87911100
H	6.70359800	-3.88834000	-3.63256200
H	4.39026400	-3.16657500	-3.09260600

**Table S9.** Cartesian coordinates (Å) of the optimized structure for hexacene **22**.

Atom	X	Y	Z
C C0	-4.9214894	0.0224614	-0.7005590
C C1	-4.9095150	-0.3113934	0.7077614
C C2	-3.6924373	-0.4265875	1.3631631
C C3	-2.4620852	-0.2219820	0.7050064
C C4	-2.4725643	0.0659766	-0.7116891
C C5	-3.7154549	0.2024313	-1.3623461
C C6	-1.2260349	-0.2477897	1.4094093
C C7	-0.0001896	-0.0000048	0.7218271
C C8	-0.0001872	-0.0000008	-0.7337166

C	C9	-1.2411591	0.1682640	-1.4201597
C	C10	1.2257261	0.2477802	1.4093518
C	C11	2.4618706	0.2219881	0.7049684
C	C12	2.4723534	-0.0659867	-0.7116385
C	C13	1.2408582	-0.1682632	-1.4200954
C	C14	3.6924265	0.4266214	1.3630320
C	C15	4.9097116	0.3114233	0.7077273
C	C16	4.9216883	-0.0224816	-0.7004958
C	C17	3.7154505	-0.2024607	-1.3621951
C	C18	-6.1856905	0.1487719	-1.3633735
C	C19	-7.3527856	-0.0396572	-0.6851287
C	C20	-7.3408443	-0.3692292	0.7071950
C	C21	-6.1619534	-0.5002778	1.3783549
C	C22	6.1622792	0.5003267	1.3782612
C	C23	7.3412559	0.3692627	0.7071828
C	C24	7.3531990	0.0396342	-0.6850722
C	C25	6.1860211	-0.1488103	-1.3632425
C	C26	1.2871508	-0.5549160	-2.7823194
C	C27	1.2434999	0.6397506	2.7726792
C	C28	-1.2436985	-0.6397741	2.7727360
C	C29	1.4227920	-1.0120416	-3.8992743
C	C30	1.3472108	1.1038608	3.8893907
C	C31	-1.3473326	-1.1038912	3.8894539
C	C32	1.5078405	-1.5807029	-5.1998183
C	C33	-1.3933527	-1.6737453	5.1935782
C	C34	1.3932831	1.6737154	5.1935119
C	C35	-1.9151297	-0.9394638	6.2825322
C	C36	-1.9356761	-1.5327498	7.5443234
C	C37	-1.4558780	-2.8237829	7.7640057
C	C38	-0.9501382	-3.5352673	6.6723996
C	C39	-0.9090554	-2.9911840	5.3922467
C	C40	0.9090148	2.9911647	5.3921884
C	C41	0.9501527	3.5352553	6.6723345
C	C42	1.4559182	2.8237675	7.7639269
C	C43	1.9356872	1.5327243	7.5442362
C	C44	1.9150754	0.9394261	6.2824526
C	C45	-1.2873466	0.5549258	-2.7823858
C	C46	-1.4229214	1.0120424	-3.8993544
C	C47	-1.5078992	1.5806942	-5.1999078
C	C48	-2.3677351	1.0211190	-6.1760514
C	C49	-2.4281239	1.6085294	-7.4354719
C	C50	-1.6680578	2.7345381	-7.7649300
C	C51	-0.8245677	3.2684543	-6.7900263
C	C52	-0.7270087	2.7186661	-5.5131633
C	C53	2.3676883	-1.0211012	-6.1759350
C	C54	2.4281160	-1.6084966	-7.4353616
C	C55	1.6680594	-2.7345001	-7.7648594
C	C56	0.8245503	-3.2684357	-6.7899848
C	C57	0.7269950	-2.7186982	-5.5130982
C	C58	-1.7722612	3.3605491	-9.1339738
C	C59	1.7722871	-3.3604778	-9.1339160
C	C60	0.1810419	3.3375350	-4.4814922
C	C61	3.1865710	0.2054706	-5.8646752
C	C62	-1.4678169	-3.4369768	9.1430322
C	C63	1.4679102	3.4369665	9.1429507
C	C64	-2.4120364	0.4709516	6.0964335
C	C65	2.4119474	-0.4710024	6.0963595

C	C66	-3.1866462	-0.2054392	-5.8648162
C	C67	-0.1811277	-3.3375546	-4.4814809
C	C68	-0.3745556	-3.7961940	4.2351001
C	C69	0.3744803	3.7961730	4.2350565
H	H1	-3.6797810	-0.6615722	2.4197241
H	H2	-3.7222263	0.4429419	-2.4174691
H	H3	3.6797509	0.6616592	2.4195961
H	H4	3.7222121	-0.4430229	-2.4173219
H	H5	-6.1939864	0.3995324	-2.4188231
H	H6	-8.3031415	0.0602834	-1.1974984
H	H7	-8.2822992	-0.5143581	1.2251598
H	H8	-6.1504927	-0.7494621	2.4341053
H	H9	6.1507501	0.7495608	2.4340081
H	H10	8.2826867	0.5144217	1.2251716
H	H11	8.3035343	-0.0603414	-1.1974619
H	H12	6.1942589	-0.3996241	-2.4186886
H	H13	-2.3393520	-0.9680323	8.3793202
H	H14	-0.5847450	-4.5472082	6.8216518
H	H15	0.5847820	4.5472032	6.8215935
H	H16	2.3393867	0.9680062	8.3792214
H	H17	-3.0842871	1.1727291	-8.1833686
H	H18	-0.2273689	4.1436715	-7.0279866
H	H19	3.0842904	-1.1726773	-8.1832376
H	H20	0.2273332	-4.1436293	-7.0279854
H	H21	-2.7278138	3.8818270	-9.2569132
H	H22	-0.9748380	4.0876054	-9.3000881
H	H23	-1.7120455	2.6052830	-9.9227149
H	H24	0.9748754	-4.0875399	-9.3000600
H	H25	1.7120742	-2.6051930	-9.9226390
H	H26	2.7278470	-3.8817432	-9.2568538
H	H27	0.8954117	2.6083693	-4.0899719
H	H28	0.7369067	4.1755052	-4.9057906
H	H29	-0.3910821	3.7050400	-3.6241112
H	H30	3.8000794	0.4923124	-6.7204340
H	H31	2.5432227	1.0514894	-5.6061347
H	H32	3.8496803	0.0385378	-5.0107615
H	H33	-1.8175861	-4.4727018	9.1152981
H	H34	-0.4621284	-3.4472404	9.5776739
H	H35	-2.1154240	-2.8788436	9.8223500
H	H36	2.1155254	2.8788231	9.8222522
H	H37	1.8176986	4.4726848	9.1152020
H	H38	0.4622342	3.4472513	9.5776210
H	H39	-2.9588858	0.8109239	6.9779523
H	H40	-1.5751335	1.1577169	5.9330344
H	H41	-3.0685618	0.5550386	5.2268612
H	H42	3.0685531	-0.5550833	5.2268491
H	H43	2.9586879	-0.8110218	6.9779284
H	H44	1.5750408	-1.1577392	5.9328538
H	H45	-2.5433116	-1.0514736	-5.6062957
H	H46	-3.8497479	-0.0385125	-5.0108948
H	H47	-3.8001672	-0.4922470	-6.7205770
H	H48	-0.8958832	-2.6085104	-4.0904516
H	H49	-0.7364961	-4.1759269	-4.9056337
H	H50	0.3908635	-3.7045490	-3.6237893
H	H51	-1.1360486	-3.9247781	3.4601671
H	H52	0.4740155	-3.2973820	3.7580866
H	H53	-0.0502002	-4.7846928	4.5649889

H	H54	0.0501366	4.7846728	4.5649529
H	H55	1.1359481	3.9247521	3.4600984
H	H56	-0.4741091	3.2973628	3.7580727

## 15. References

- [1] C.-H. Lin, K.-H. Lin, B. Pal, L.-D. Tsou, *Chem. Commun.* **2009**, 803.
- [2] a) C. F. Wilcox, Jr., K. A. Weber, *J. Org. Chem.* **1986**, *51*, 1088; b) O. Farooq, *Synthesis* **1994**, 1035; c) Y. E. Türkmen, T. J. Montavon, S. A. Kozmin, V. H. Rawal, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2012**, *134*, 9062.
- [3] Gaussian 09, Revision C.01, M. J. Frisch, G. W. Trucks, H. B. Schlegel, G. E. Scuseria, M. A. Robb, J. R. Cheeseman, G. Scalmani, V. Barone, B. Mennucci, G. A. Petersson, H. Nakatsuji, M. Caricato, X. Li, H. P. Hratchian, A. F. Izmaylov, J. Bloino, G. Zheng, J. L. Sonnenberg, M. Hada, M. Ehara, K. Toyota, R. Fukuda, J. Hasegawa, M. Ishida, T. Nakajima, Y. Honda, O. Kitao, H. Nakai, T. Vreven, J. A. Montgomery, Jr., J. E. Peralta, F. Ogliaro, M. Bearpark, J. J. Heyd, E. Brothers, K. N. Kudin, V. N. Staroverov, T. Keith, R. Kobayashi, J. Normand, K. Raghavachari, A. Rendell, J. C. Burant, S. S. Iyengar, J. Tomasi, M. Cossi, N. Rega, J. M. Millam, M. Klene, J. E. Knox, J. B. Cross, V. Bakken, C. Adamo, J. Jaramillo, R. Gomperts, R. E. Stratmann, O. Yazyev, A. J. Austin, R. Cammi, C. Pomelli, J. W. Ochterski, R. L. Martin, K. Morokuma, V. G. Zakrzewski, G. A. Voth, P. Salvador, J. J. Dannenberg, S. Dapprich, A. D. Daniels, O. Farkas, J. B. Foresman, J. V. Ortiz, J. Cioslowski, and D. J. Fox, Gaussian, Inc., Wallingford CT, 2010.
- [4] Spartan '16, Wavefunction, Inc., Irvine, CA; Y. Shao et al., *Mol. Phys.* **2015**, *113*, 184.