

# **Modifying the Internal Substituents of Self-Assembled Cages Controls their Molecular Recognition and Optical Properties**

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Richard J. Hooley\*

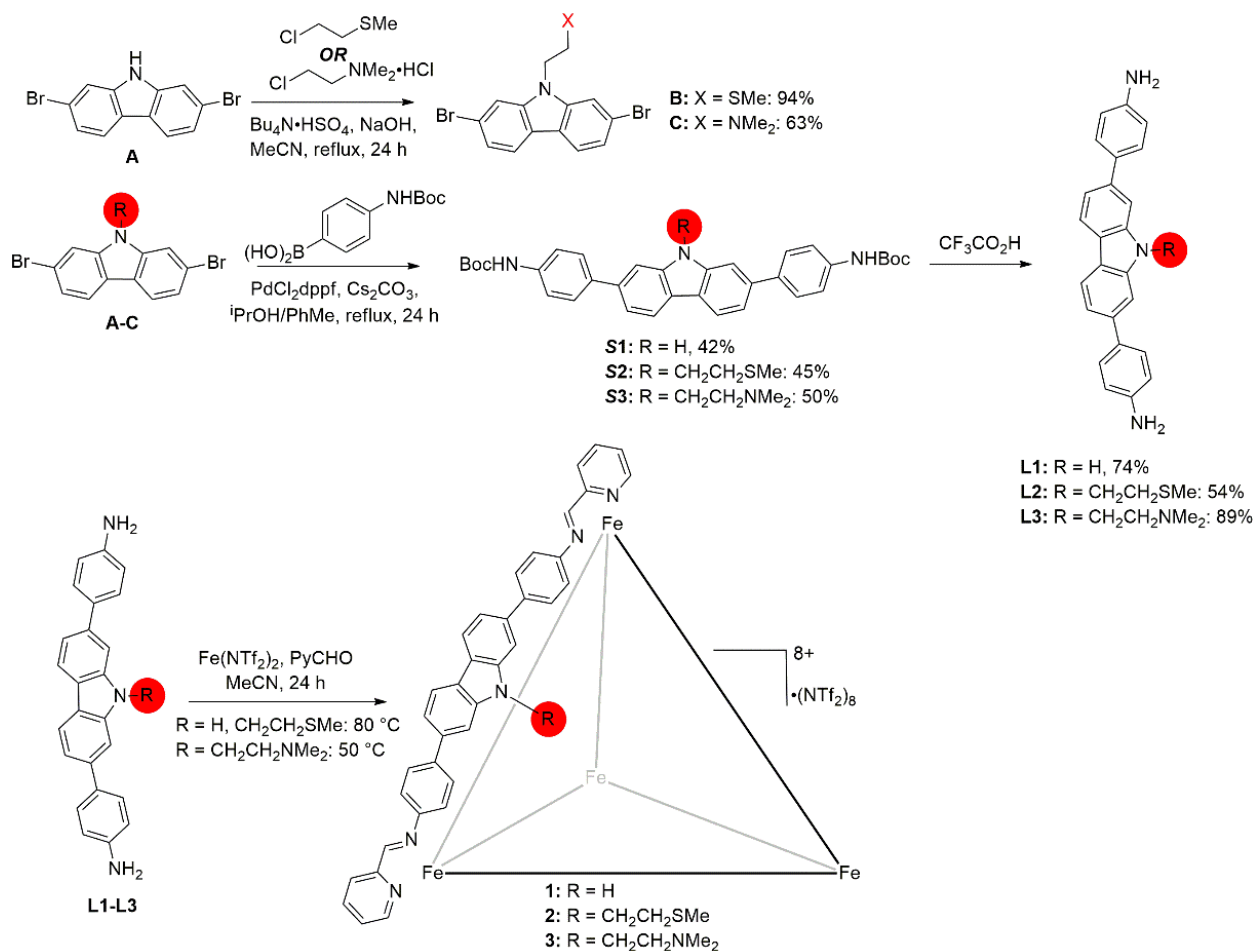
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## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

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## I. Characterization of Substrates and Products



**Figure S-1.** Reaction scheme for the synthesis of cages **1-3**.

## Unfunctionalized Cage 1:

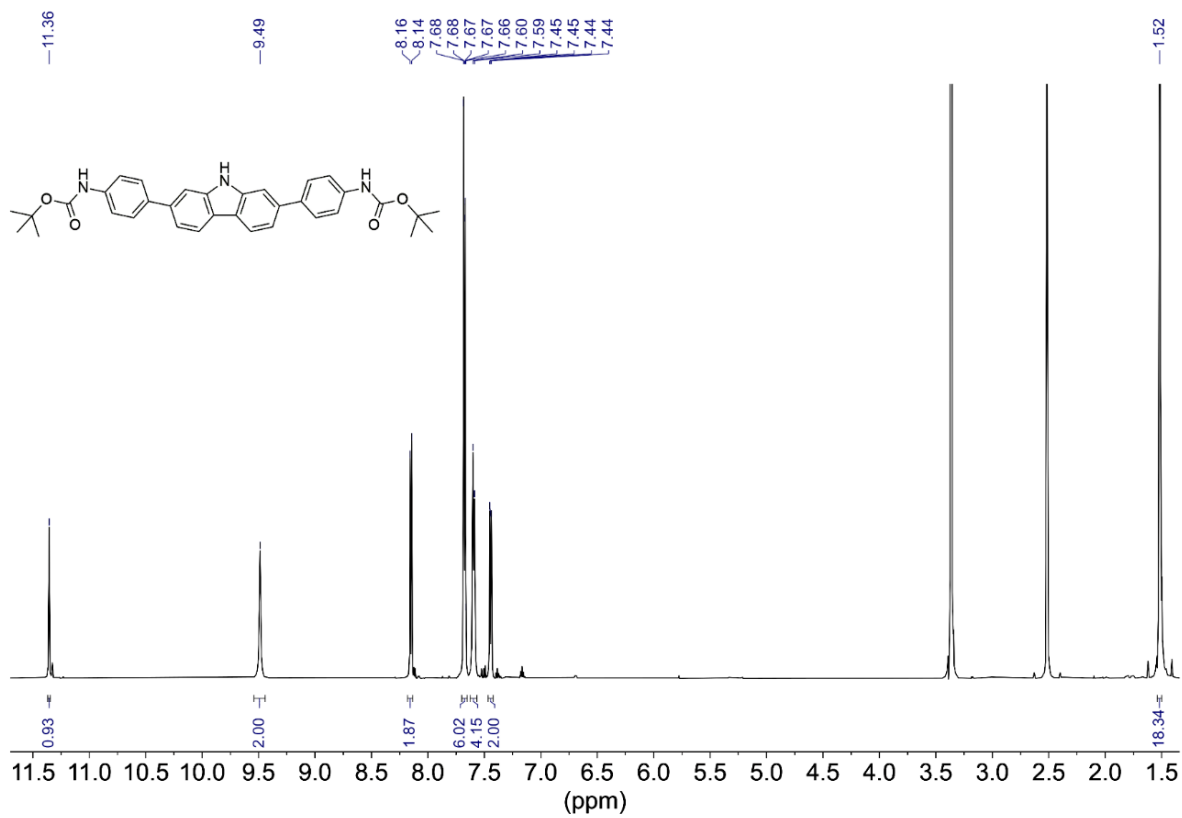


Figure S-2.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **S1** (600 MHz, 298 K,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ ).

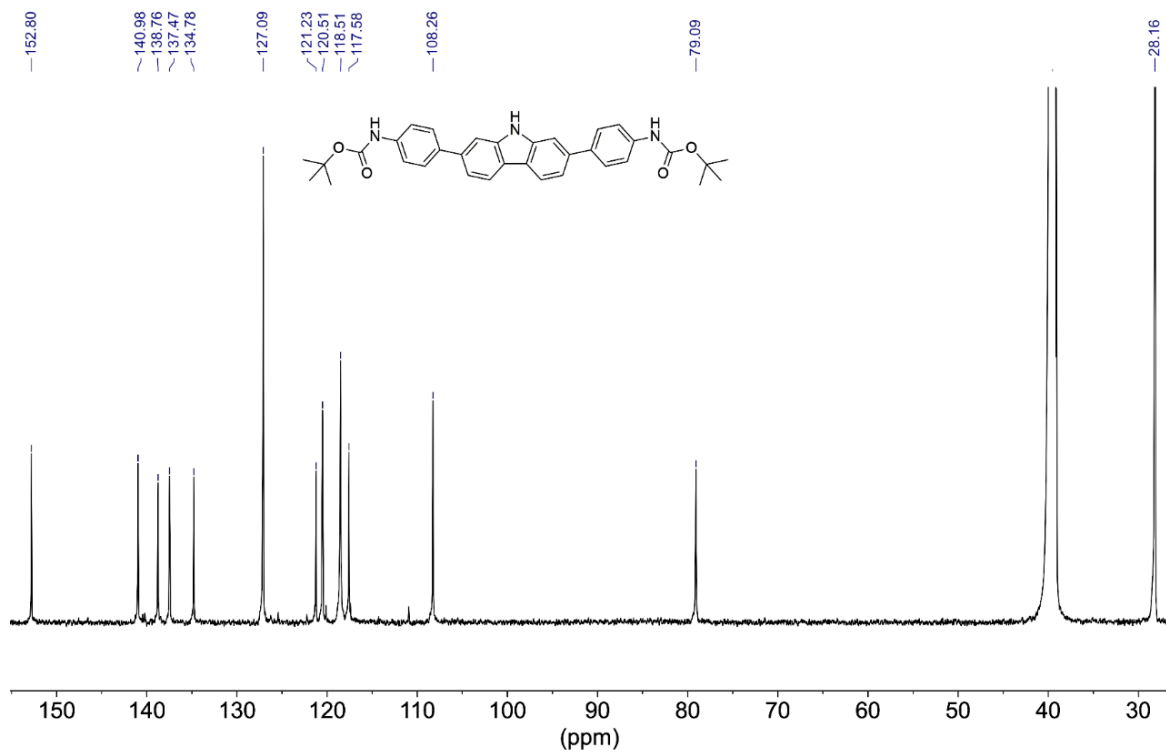
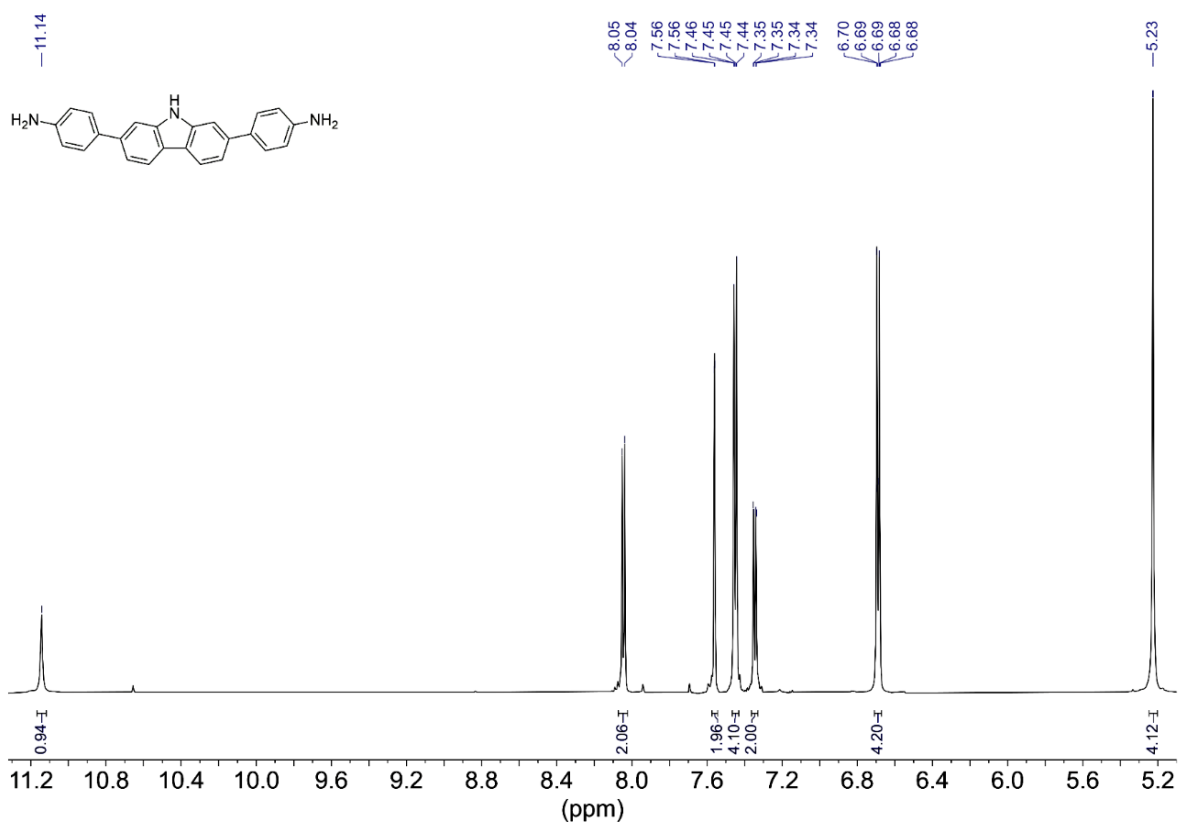
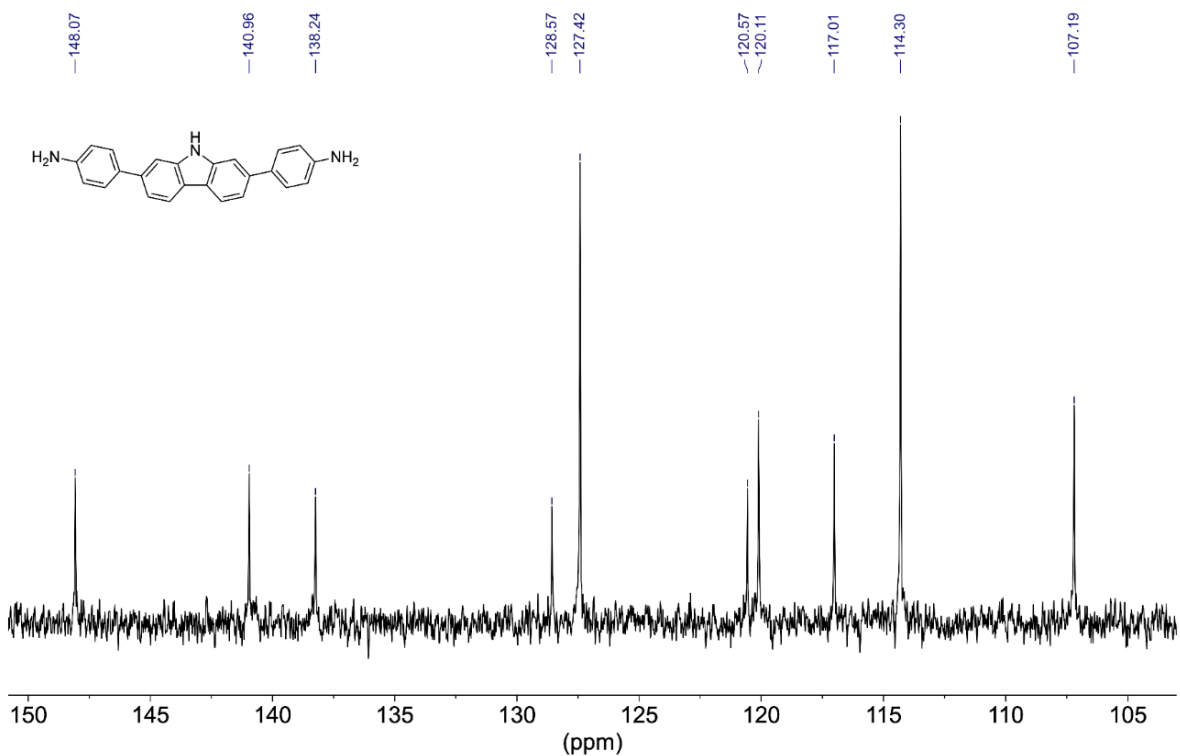


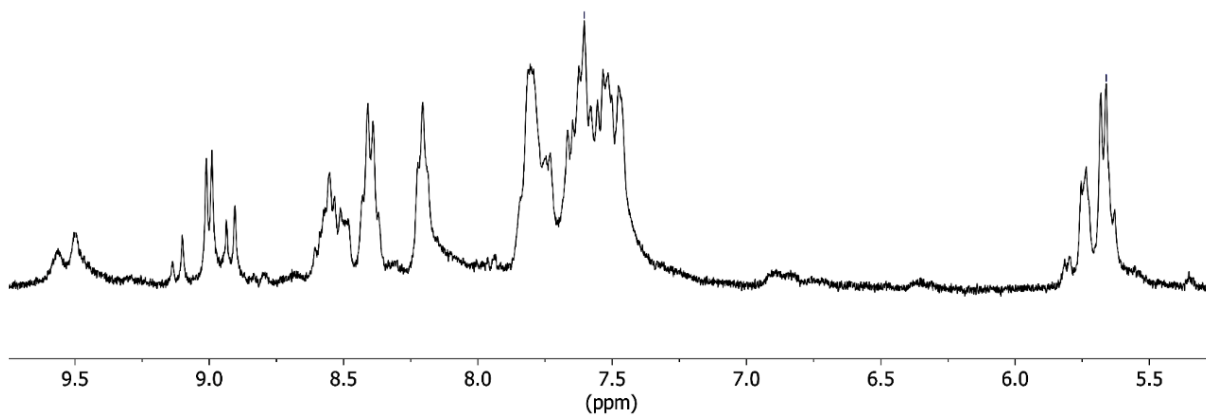
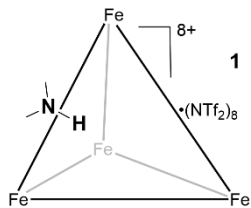
Figure S-3.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **S1** (100 MHz, 298 K,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ ).



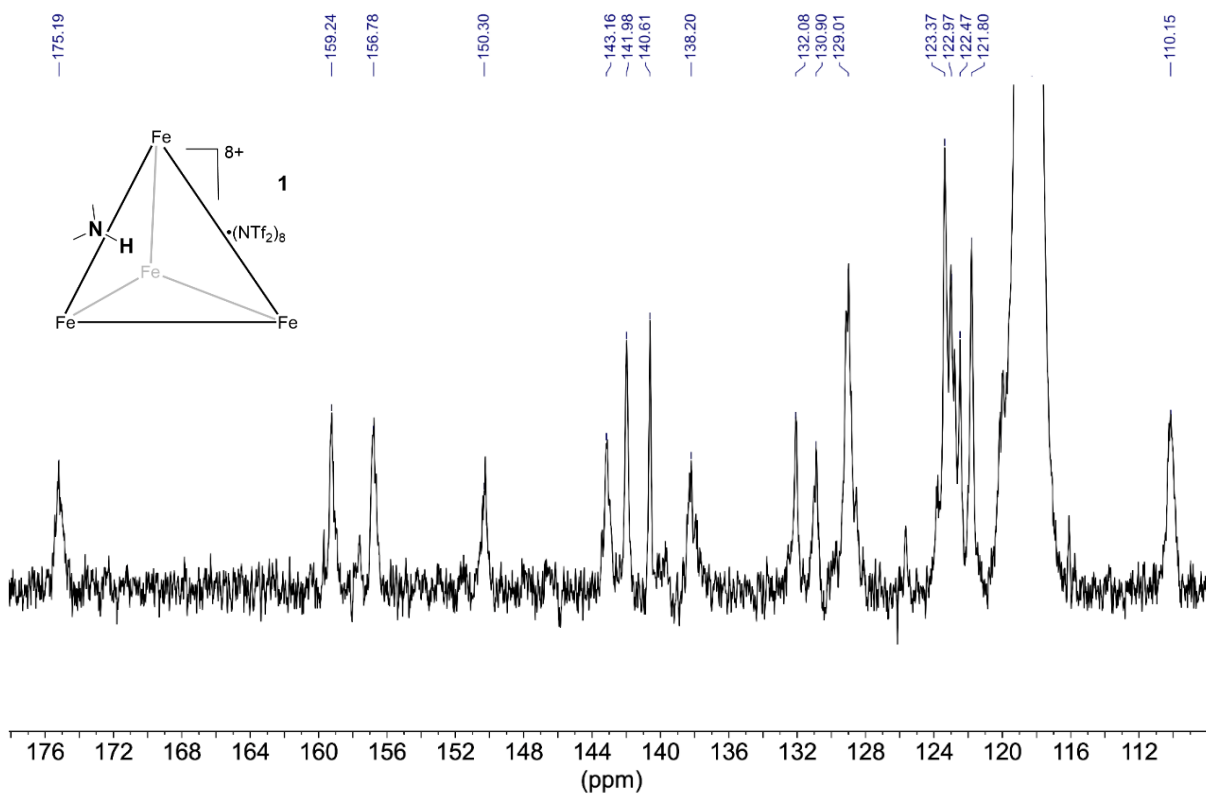
**Figure S-4.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of L1 (600 MHz, 298 K, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>).



**Figure S-5.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of L1 (150 MHz, 298 K, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>).



**Figure S-6.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **1** (400 MHz, 298 K, CD<sub>3</sub>CN).



**Figure S-7.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **1** (100 MHz, 298 K, CD<sub>3</sub>CN).

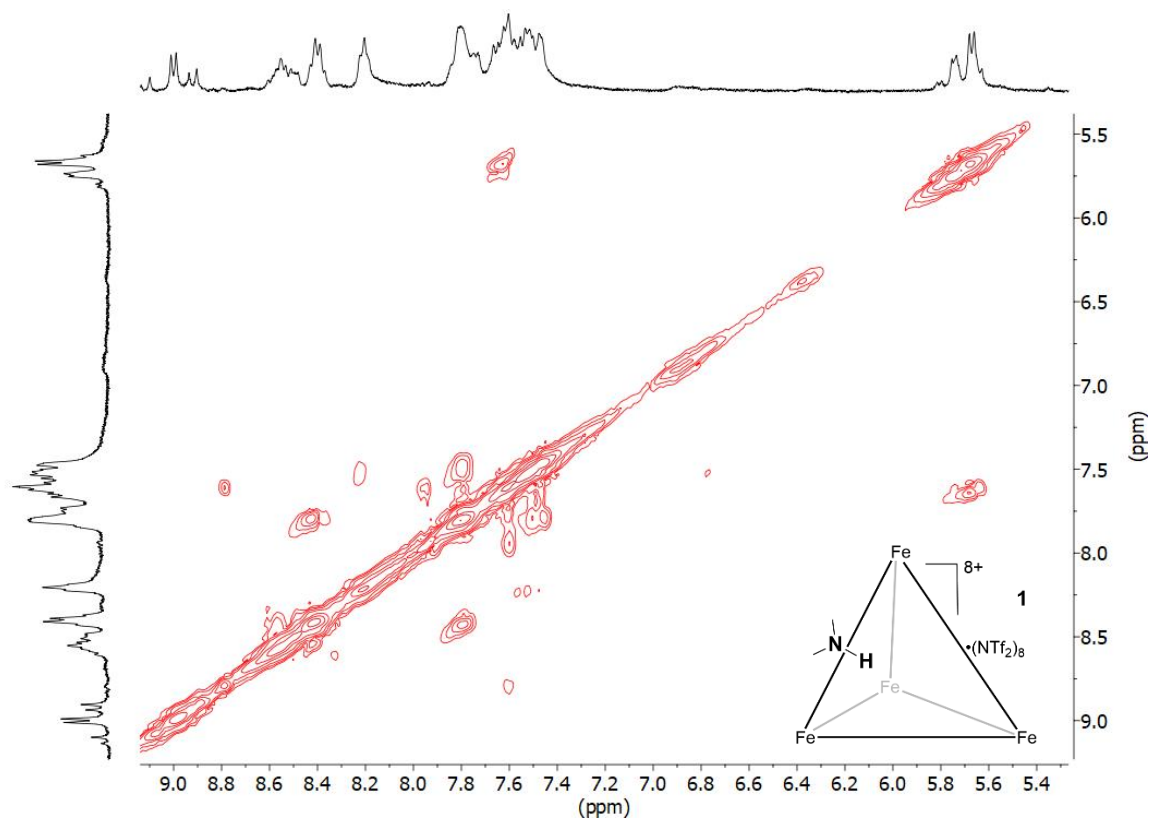


Figure S-8.  $^1\text{H}$  COSY NMR spectrum of **1** (400 MHz, 298 K,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ).

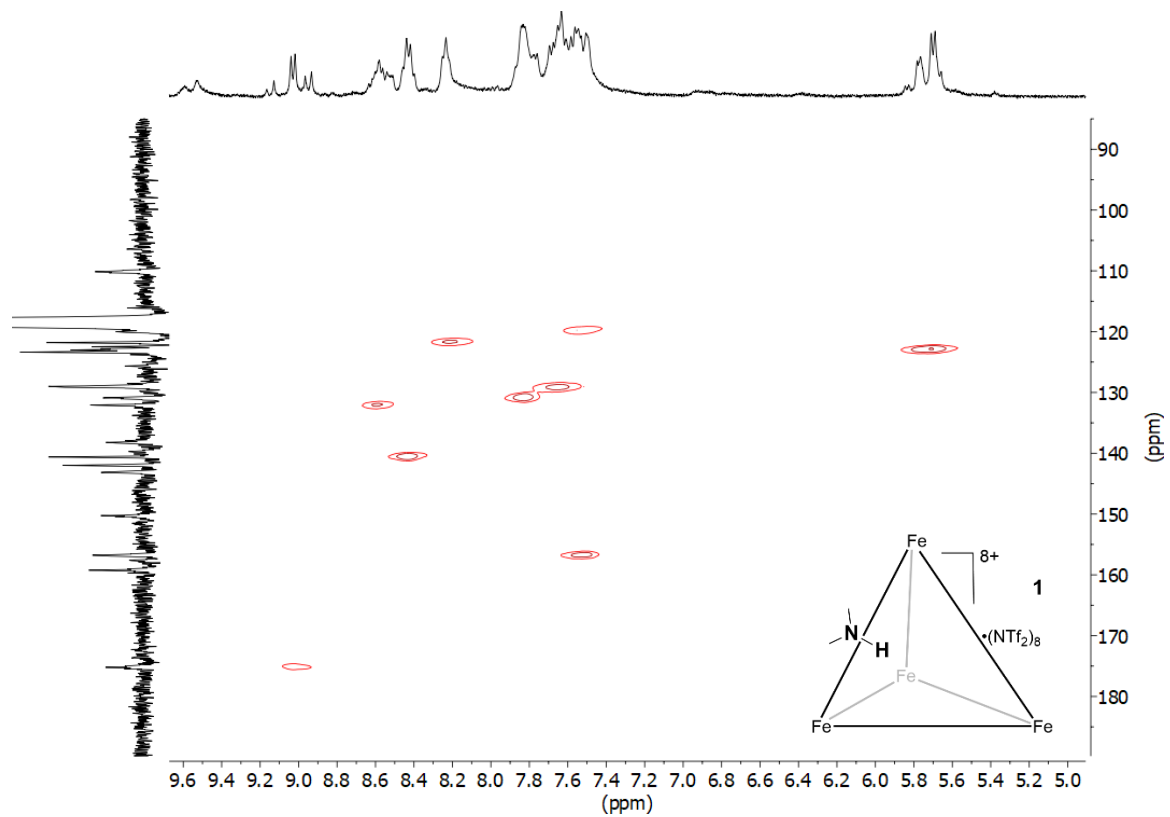
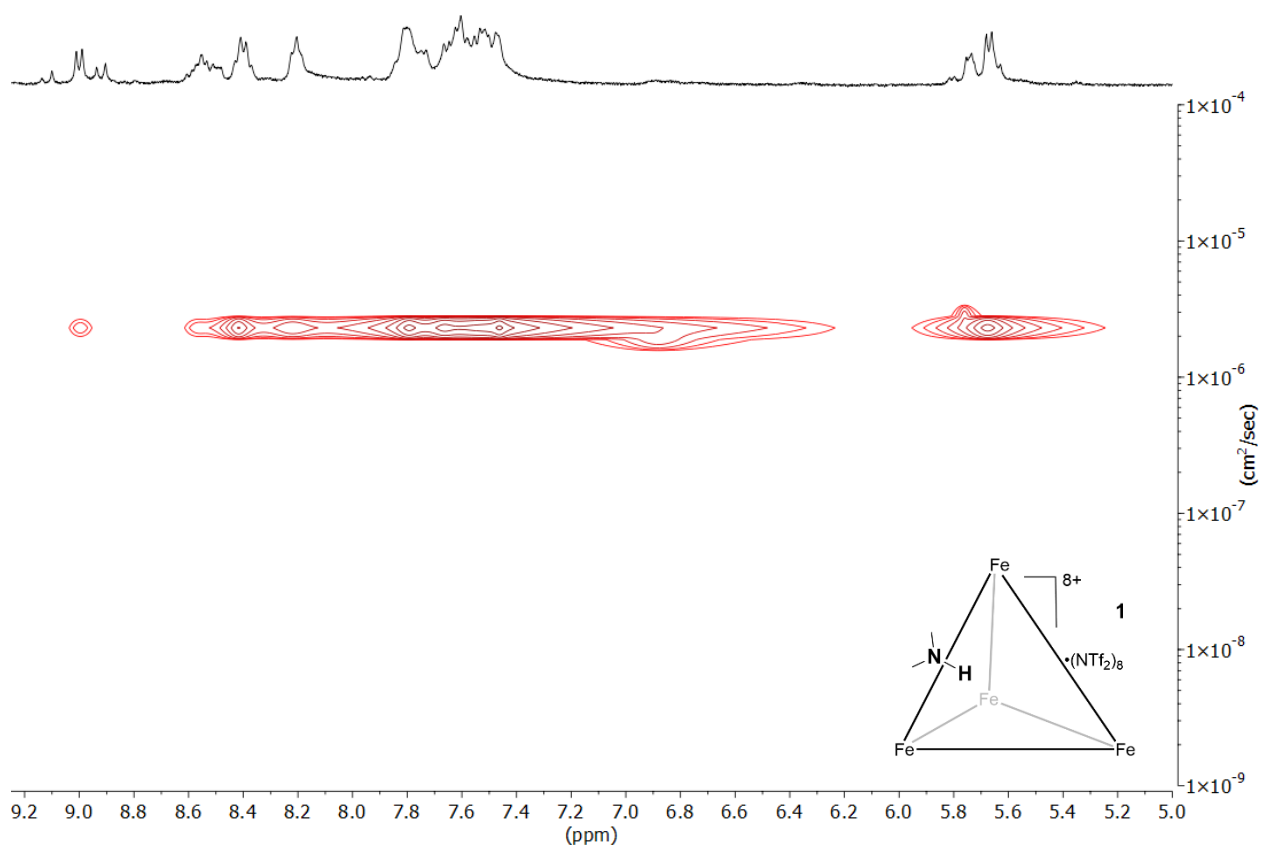
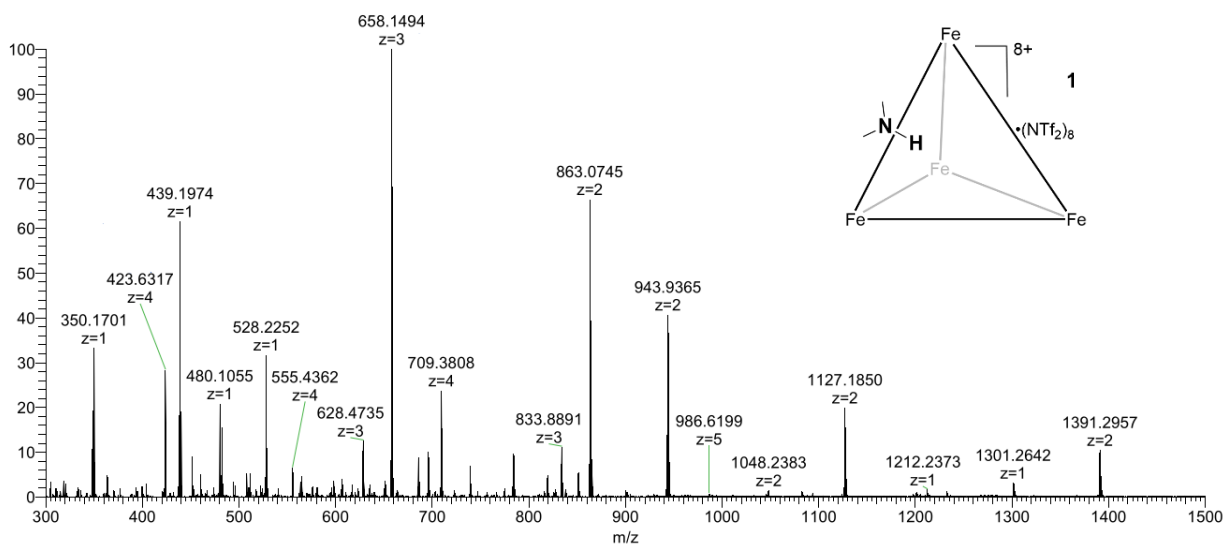


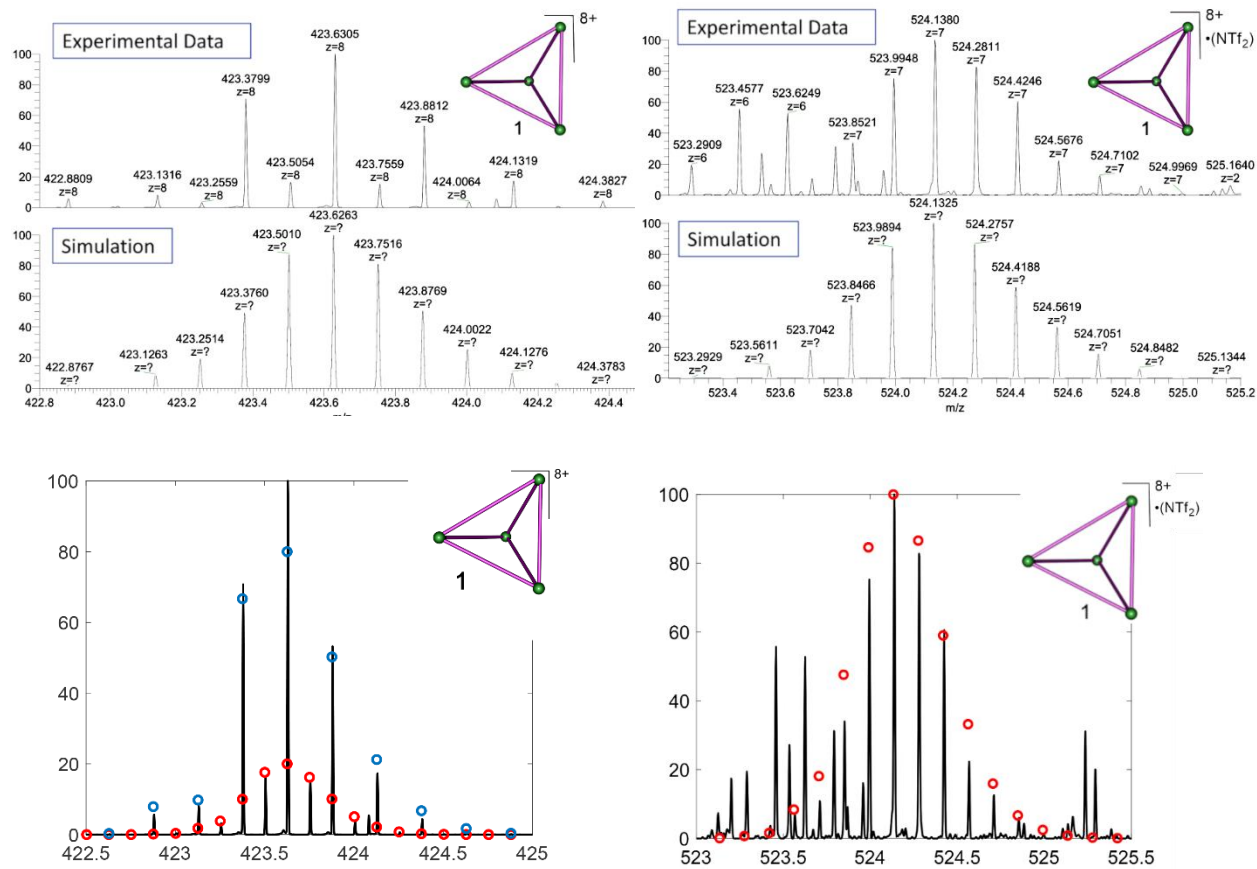
Figure S-9. HSQC NMR spectrum of **1** (400 MHz, 298 K,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ).



**Figure S-10.** DOSY NMR spectrum of **1** (600 MHz, 298 K,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ). Diffusion constant;  $2.30 \times 10^{-6} \text{ cm}^2/\text{sec}$ .



**Figure S-11.** Full mass spectrum of **1** ( $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ).



**Figure S-12.** Mass spectrum of predicted ions  $[1]^{8+}$  and  $[1\cdot\text{NTf}_2]^{7+}$  stacked versus predicted peaks.



## Thioether Cage 2:

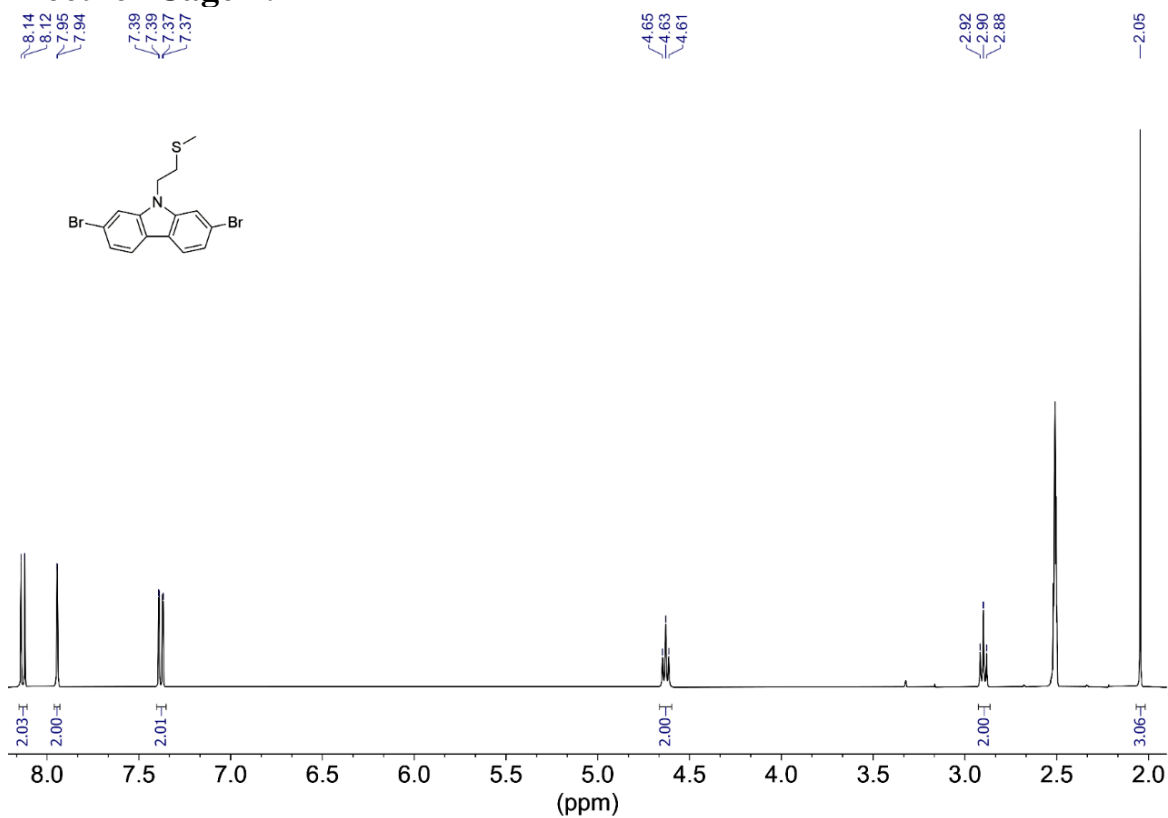


Figure S-13 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **B** (400 MHz, 298 K, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>).

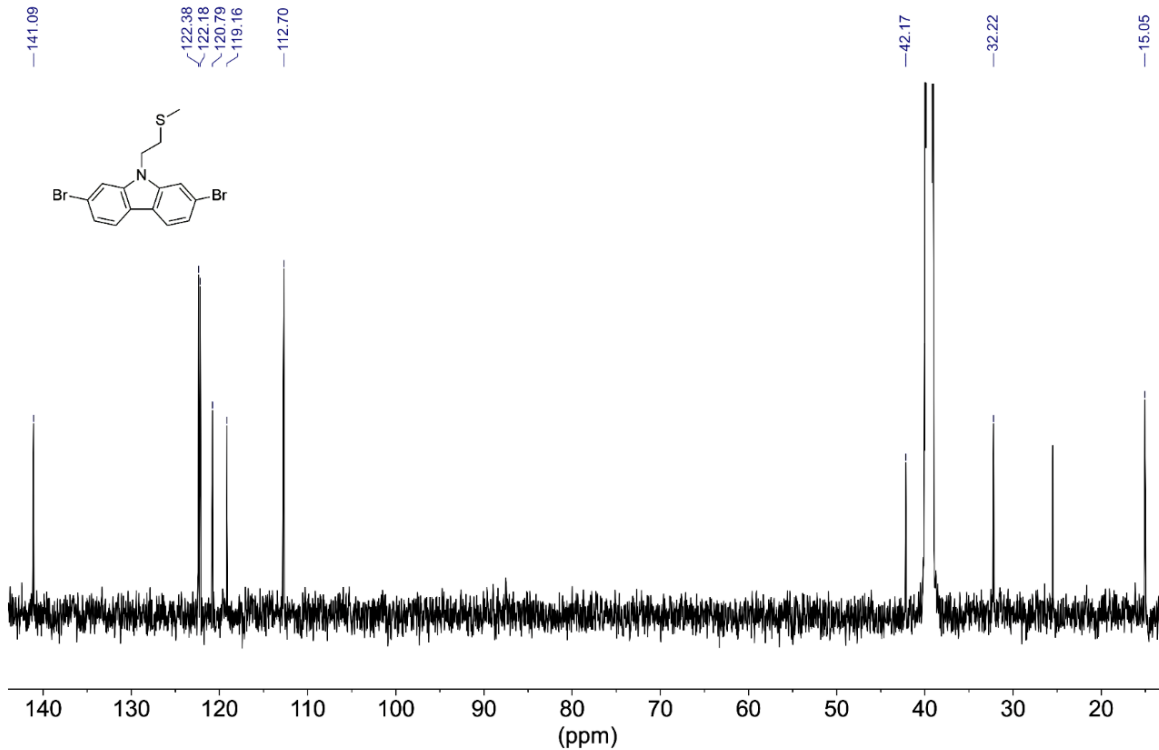


Figure S-14. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **B** (100 MHz, 298 K, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>).

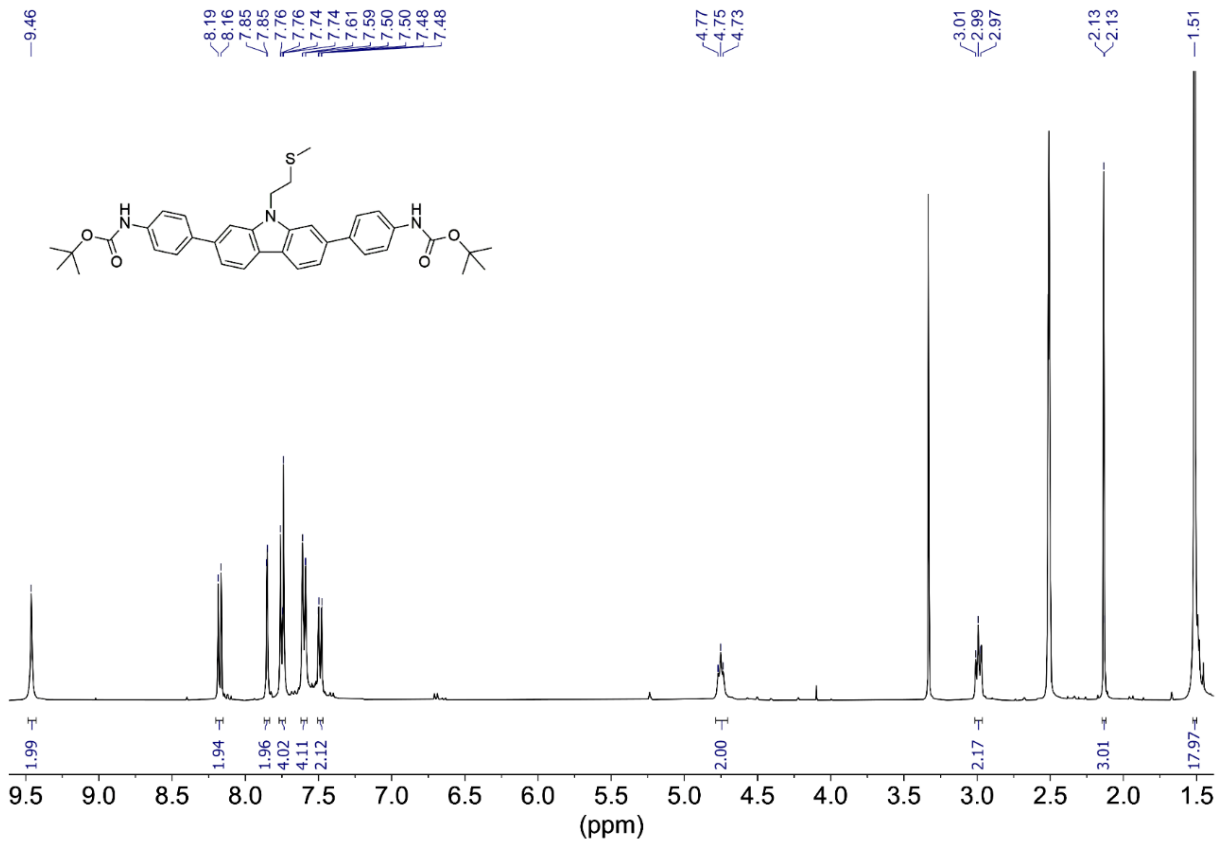


Figure S-15.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of S2 (400 MHz, 298 K, DMSO- $d_6$ ).

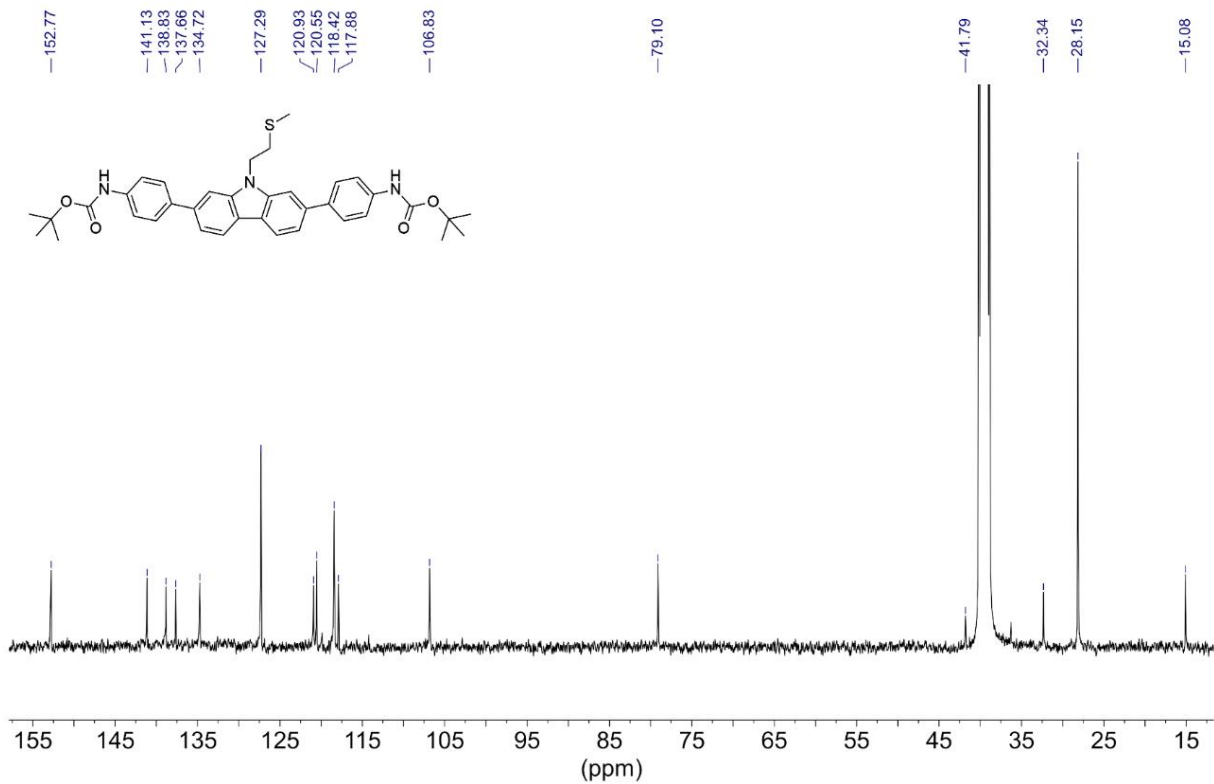


Figure S-16.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of S2 (150 MHz, 298 K, DMSO- $d_6$ ).

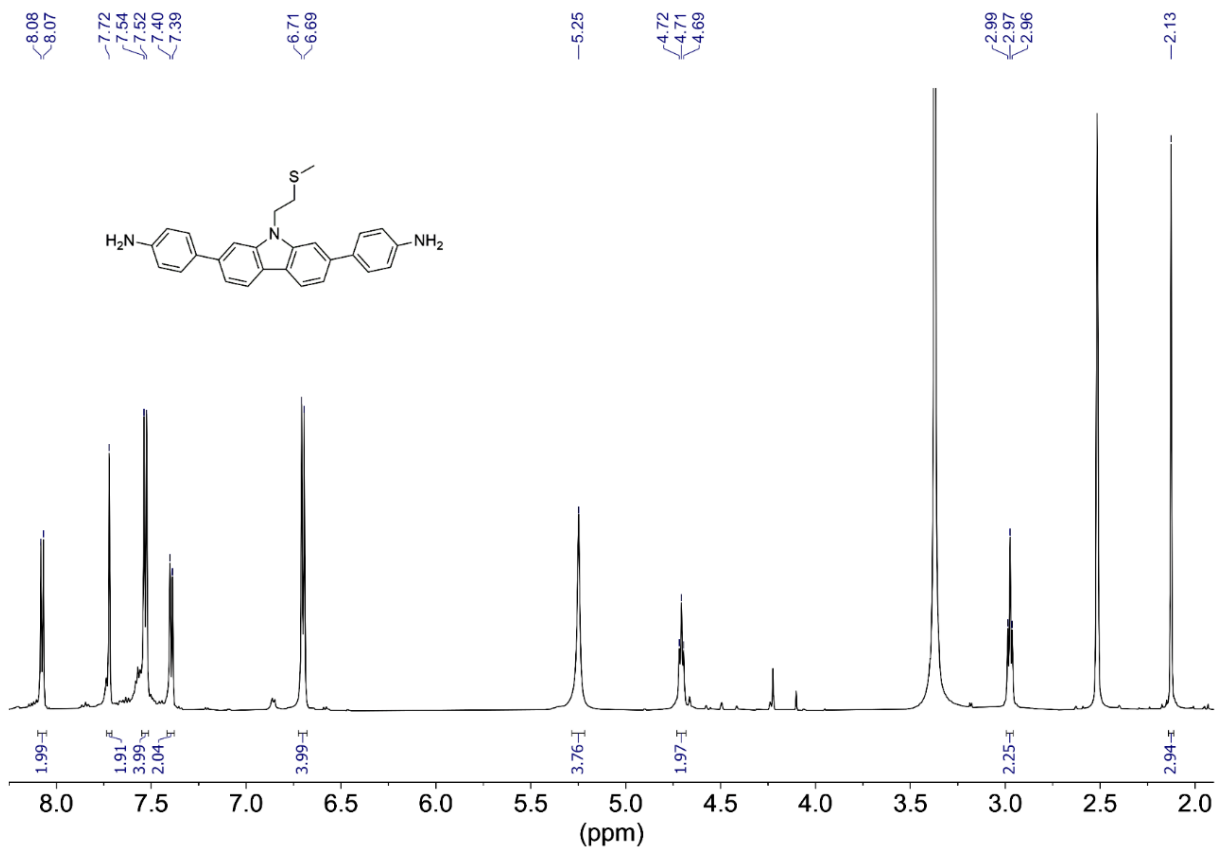


Figure S-17. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of L2 (600 MHz, 298 K, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>).

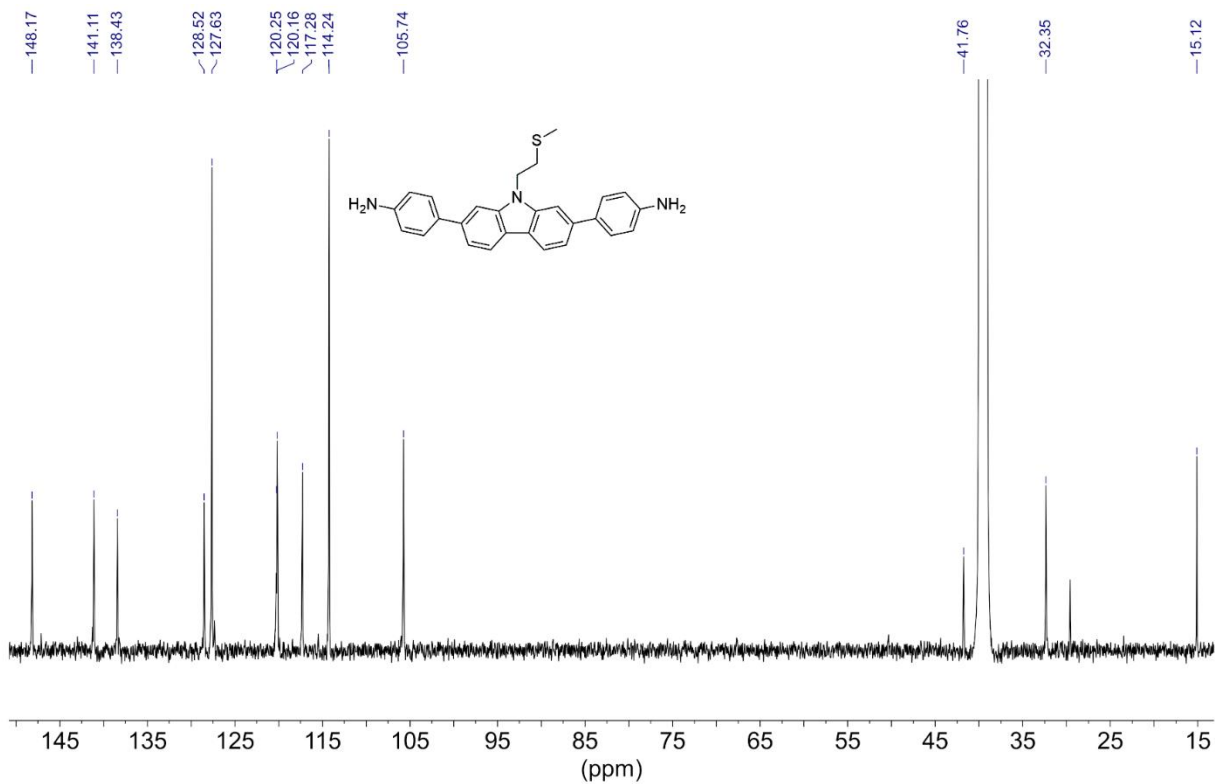


Figure S-18. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of L2 (150 MHz, 298 K, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>).

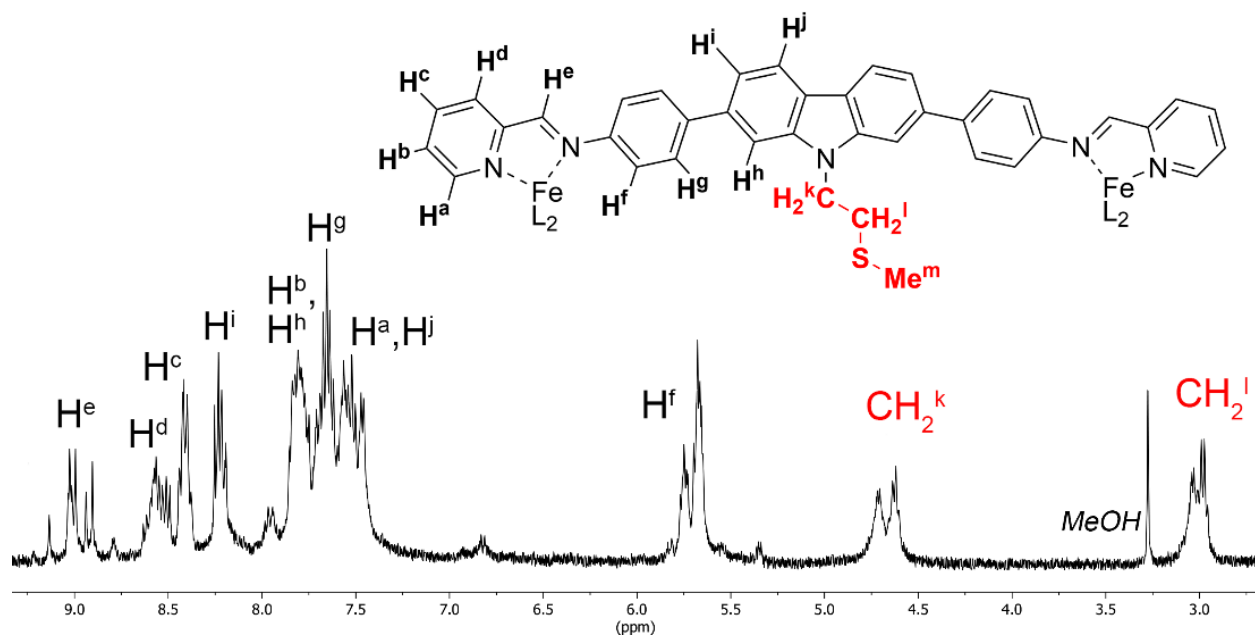


Figure S-19.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **2** (600 MHz, 298 K,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ).

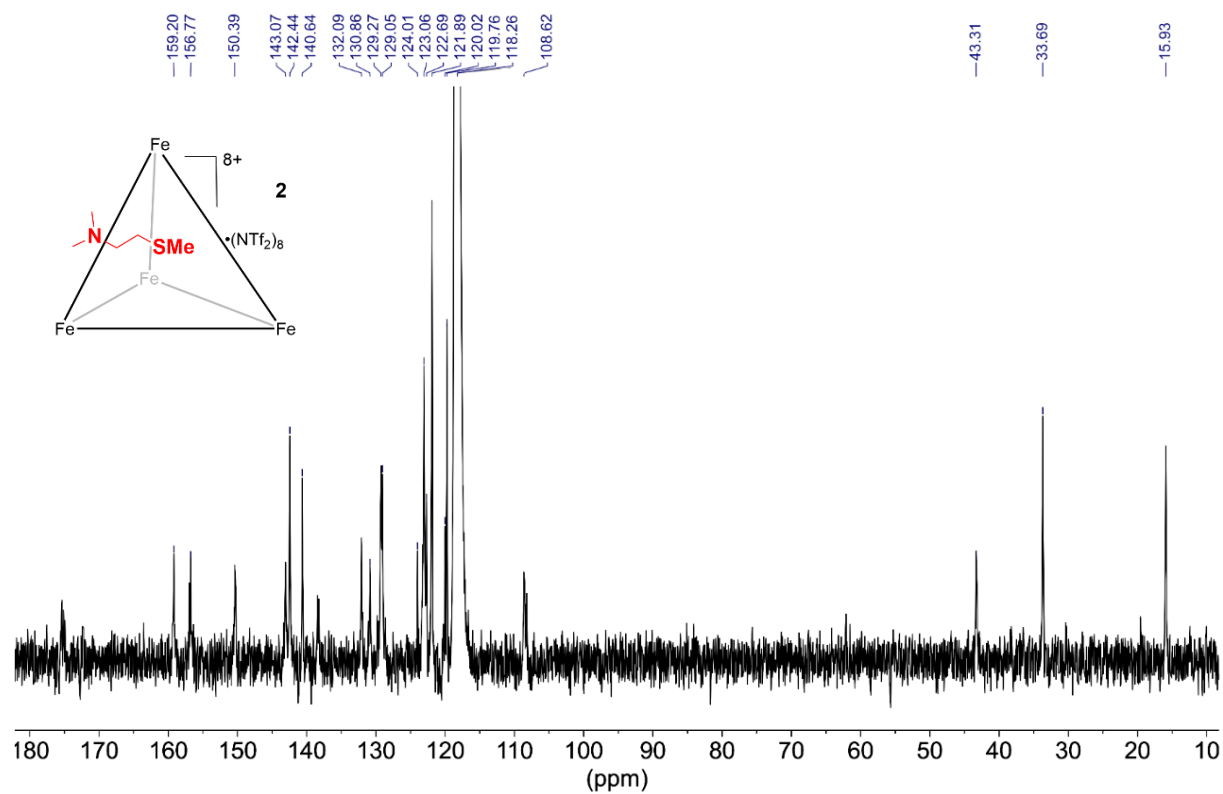


Figure S-20.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **2** (150 MHz, 298 K,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ).

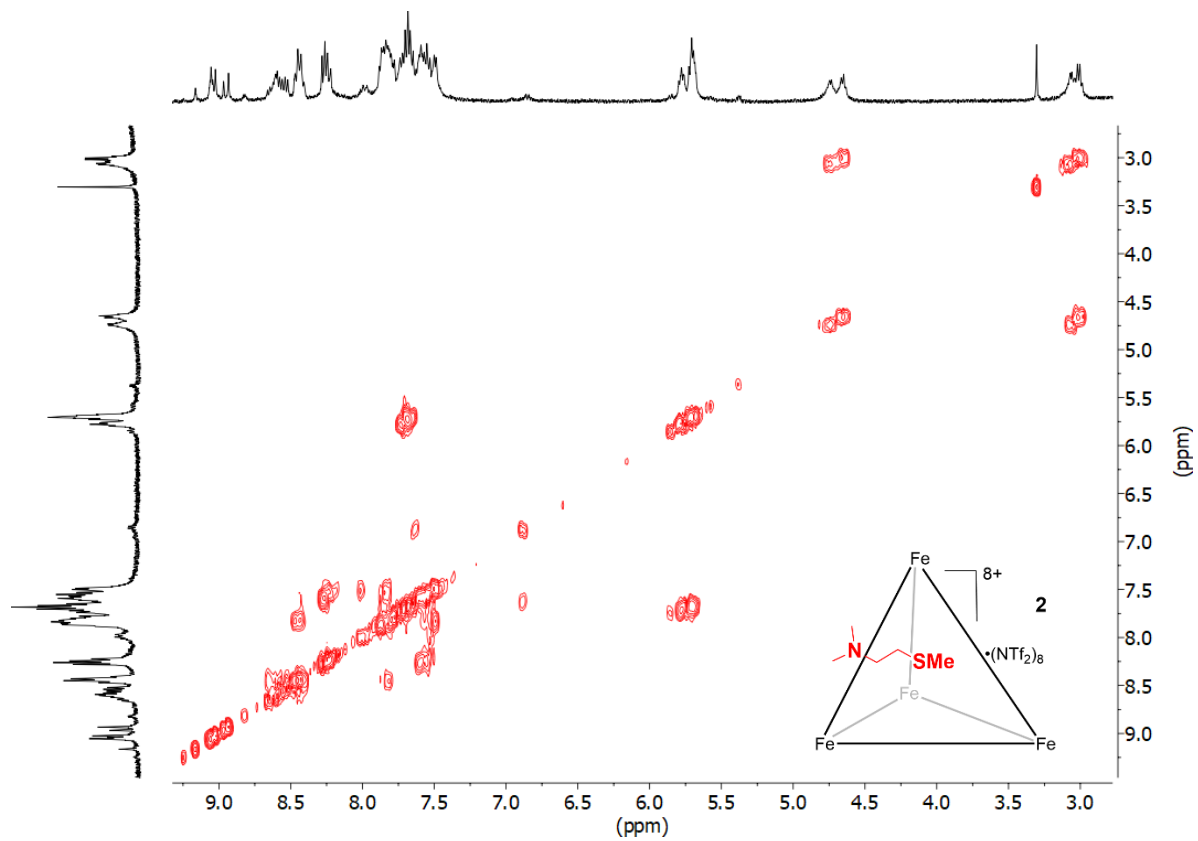


Figure S-21.  $^1\text{H}$  COSY NMR spectrum of **2** (600 MHz, 298 K,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ).

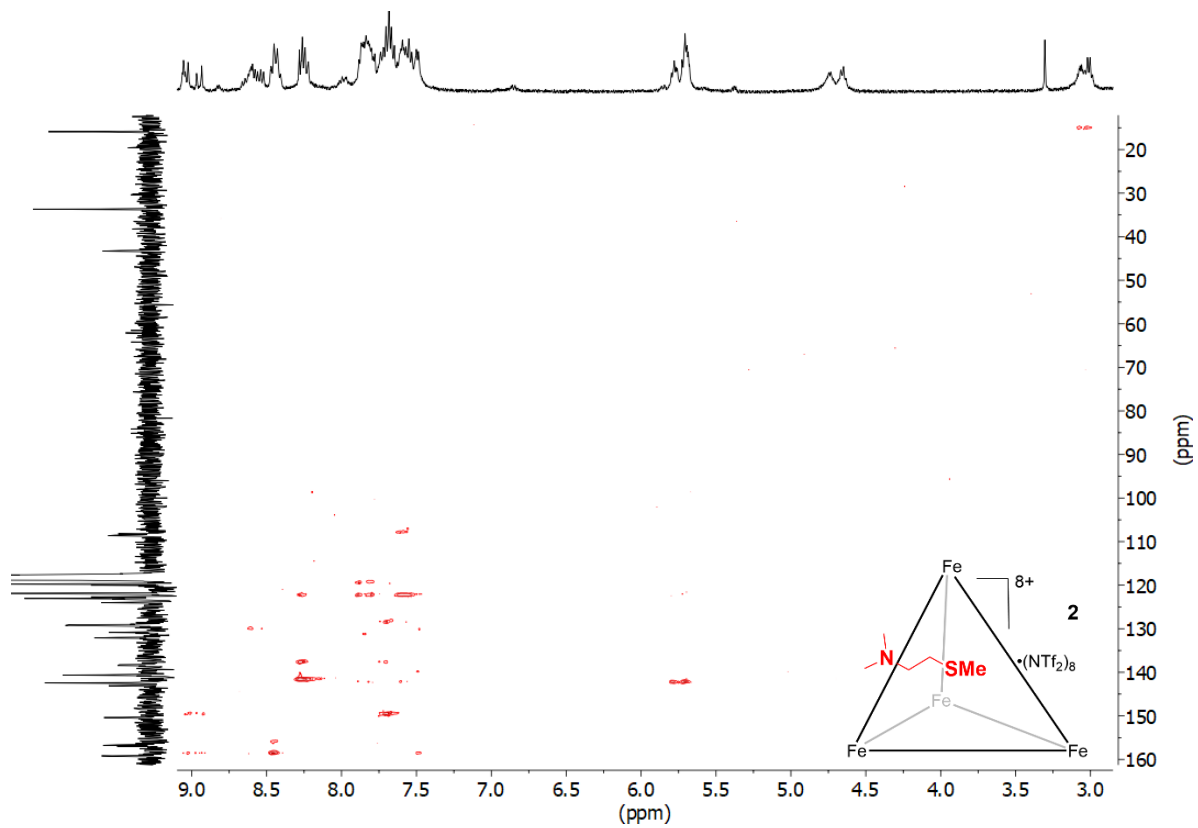


Figure S-22. HMBC NMR spectrum of **2** (600 MHz, 298 K,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ).

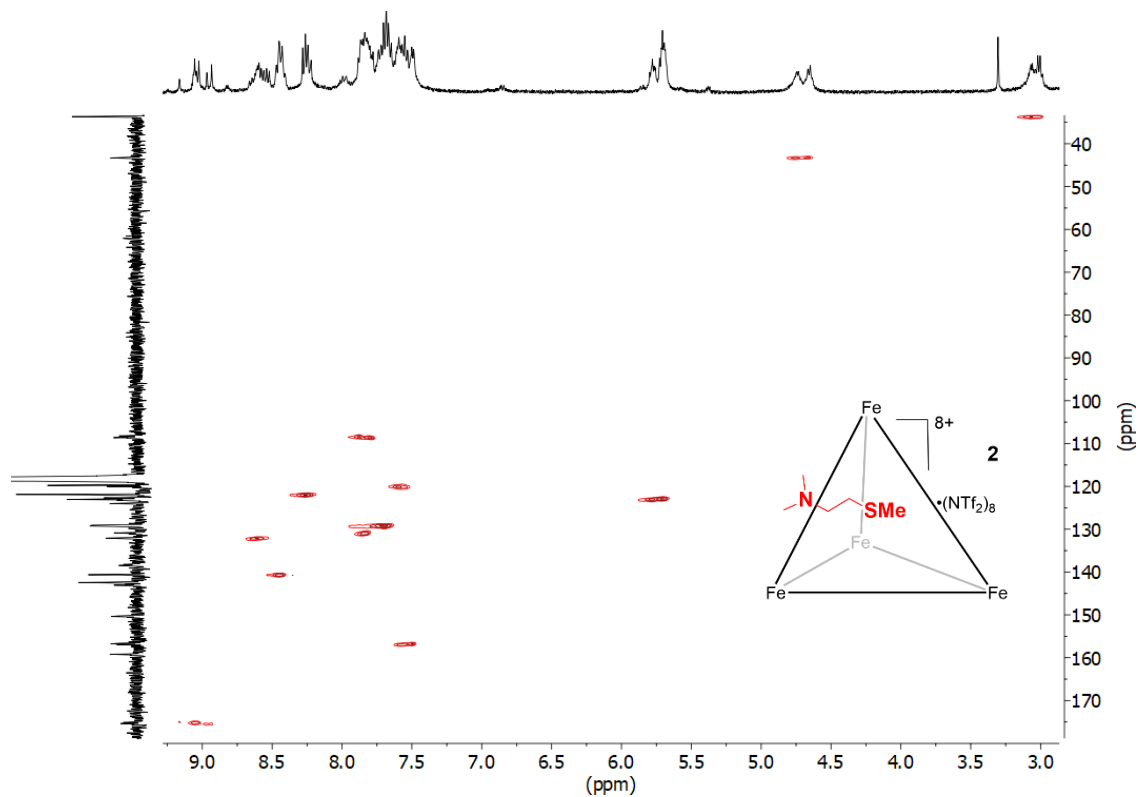


Figure S-23. HSQC NMR spectrum of **2** (600 MHz, 298 K, CD<sub>3</sub>CN).

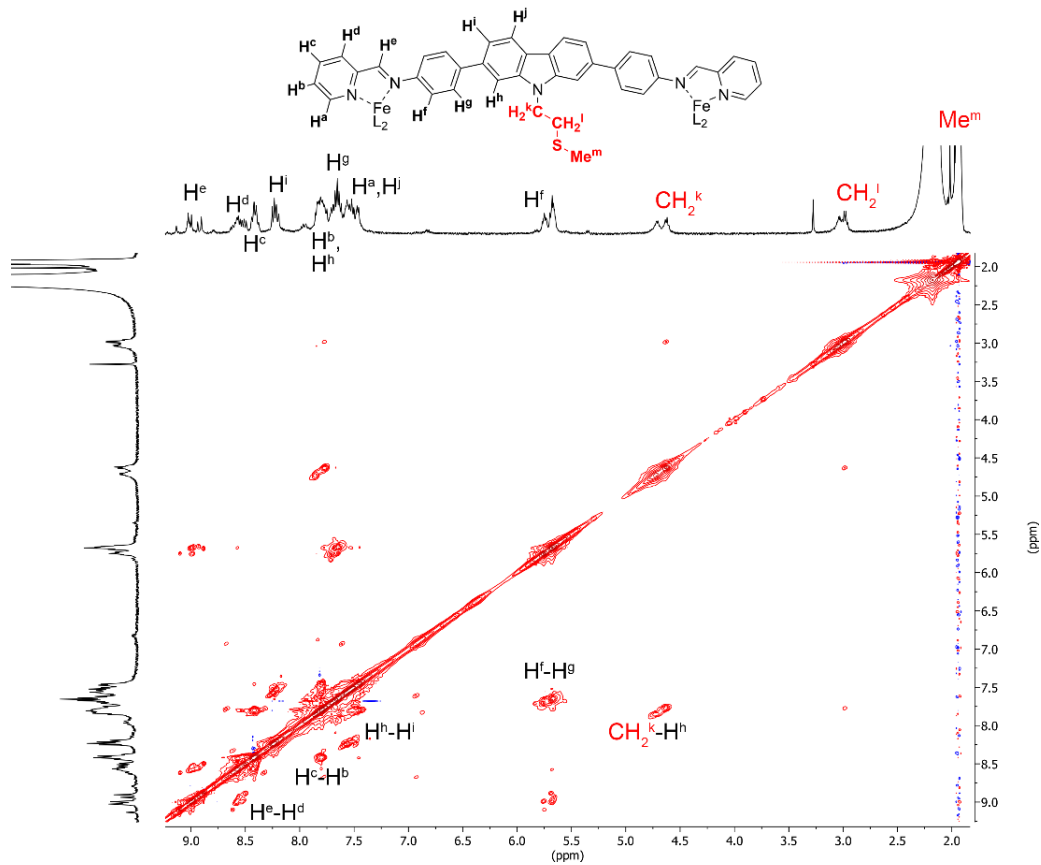
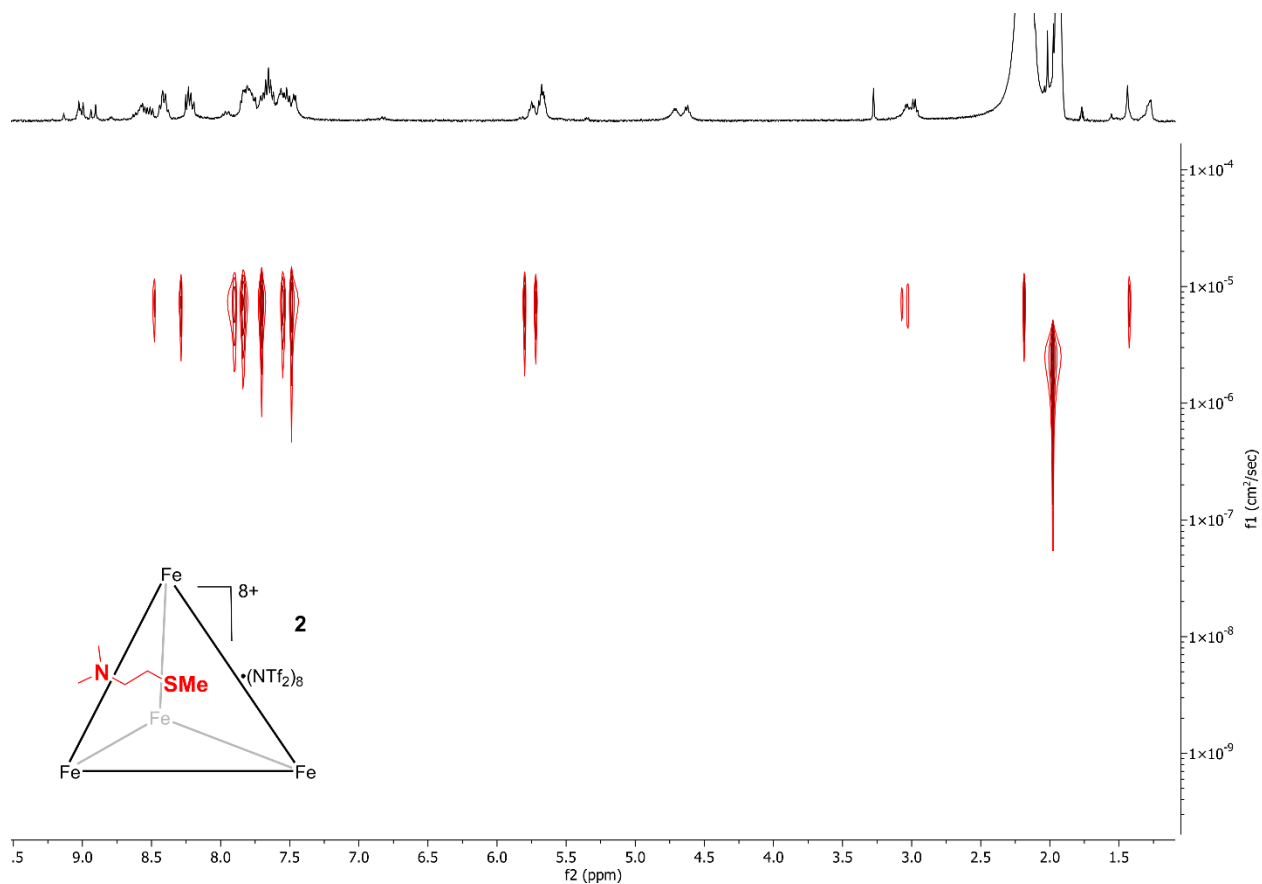
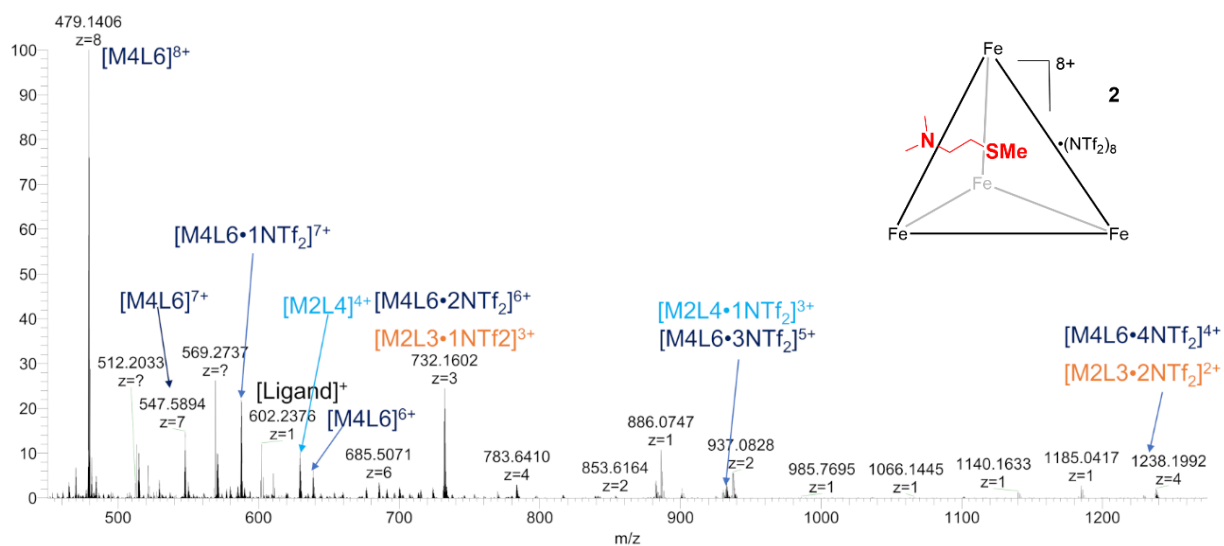


Figure S-24. NOESY NMR spectrum of **2** (600 MHz, 298 K, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, mixing time = 300 ms).



**Figure S-25.** DOSY NMR spectrum of **2** (600 MHz, 298 K,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ). Diffusion constant;  $7.48 \times 10^{-6} \text{ cm}^2/\text{sec}$ .



**Figure S-26.** Full mass spectrum of **2** ( $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ).

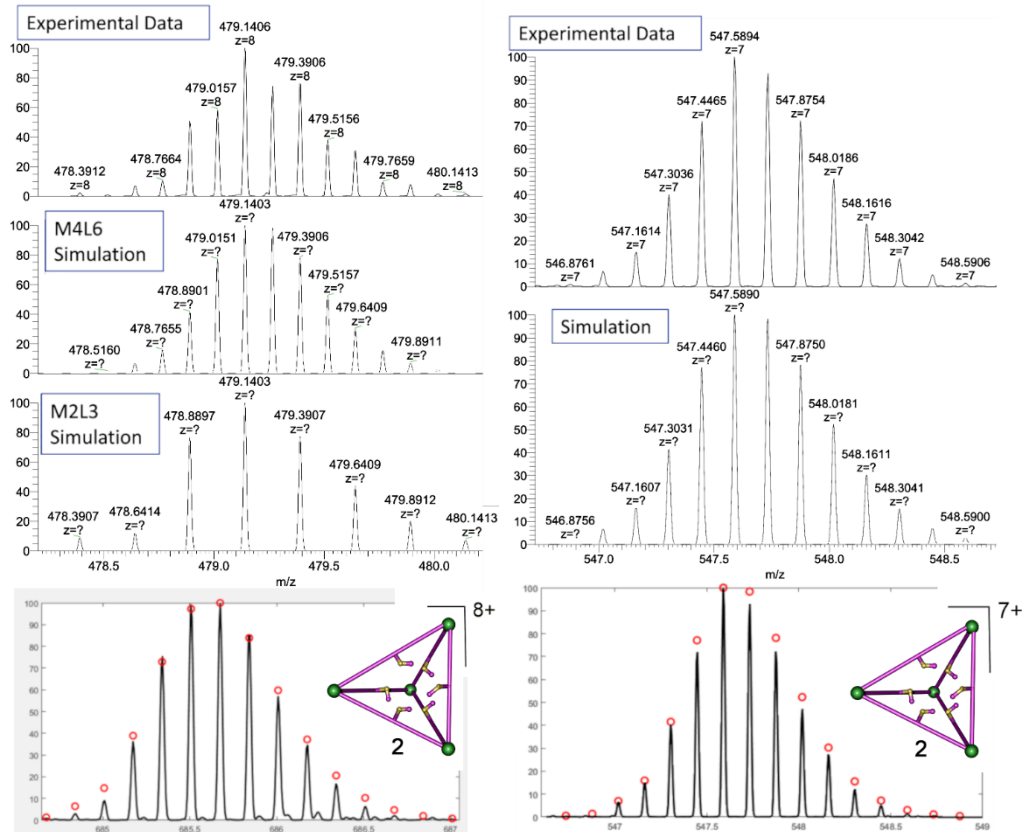


Figure S-27. Mass spectra of predicted ions  $[2]^{8+}$  and  $[2]^{7+}$  stacked versus predicted peaks.

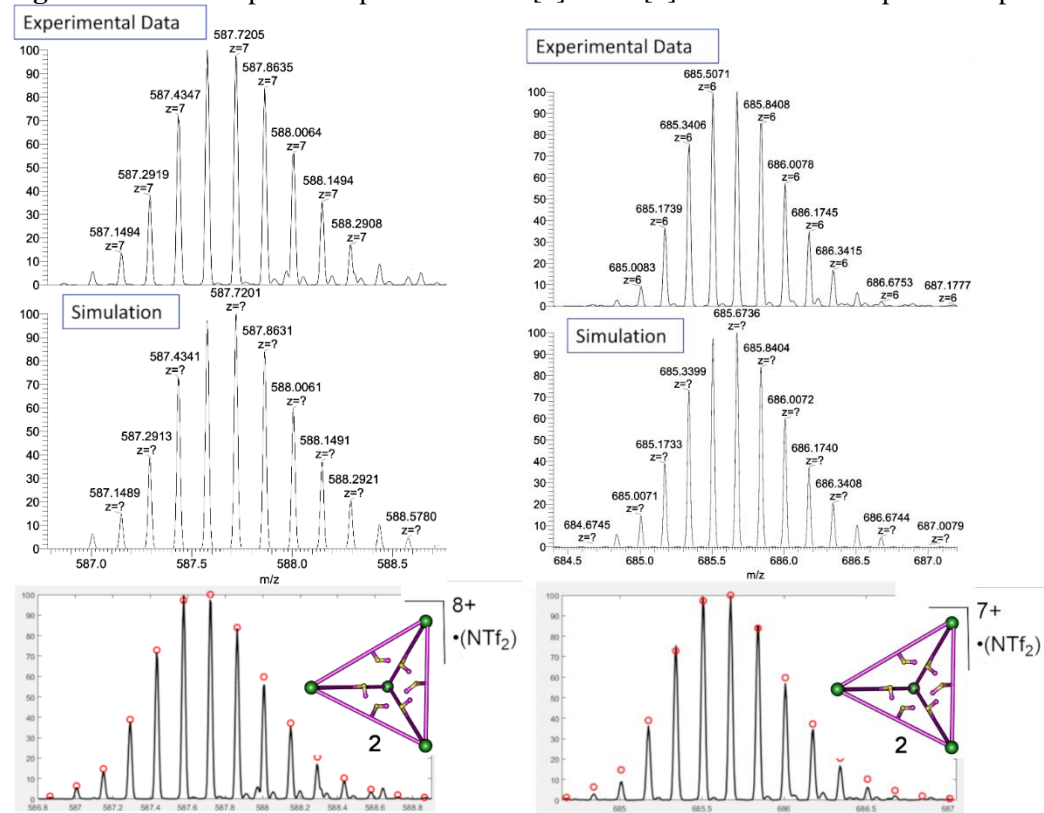


Figure S-28. Mass spectra of predicted ions  $[2 \cdot 1\text{NTf}_2]^{7+}$  and  $[2 \cdot 1\text{NTf}_2]^{6+}$  stacked versus predicted peaks.



### Amine Cage 3:

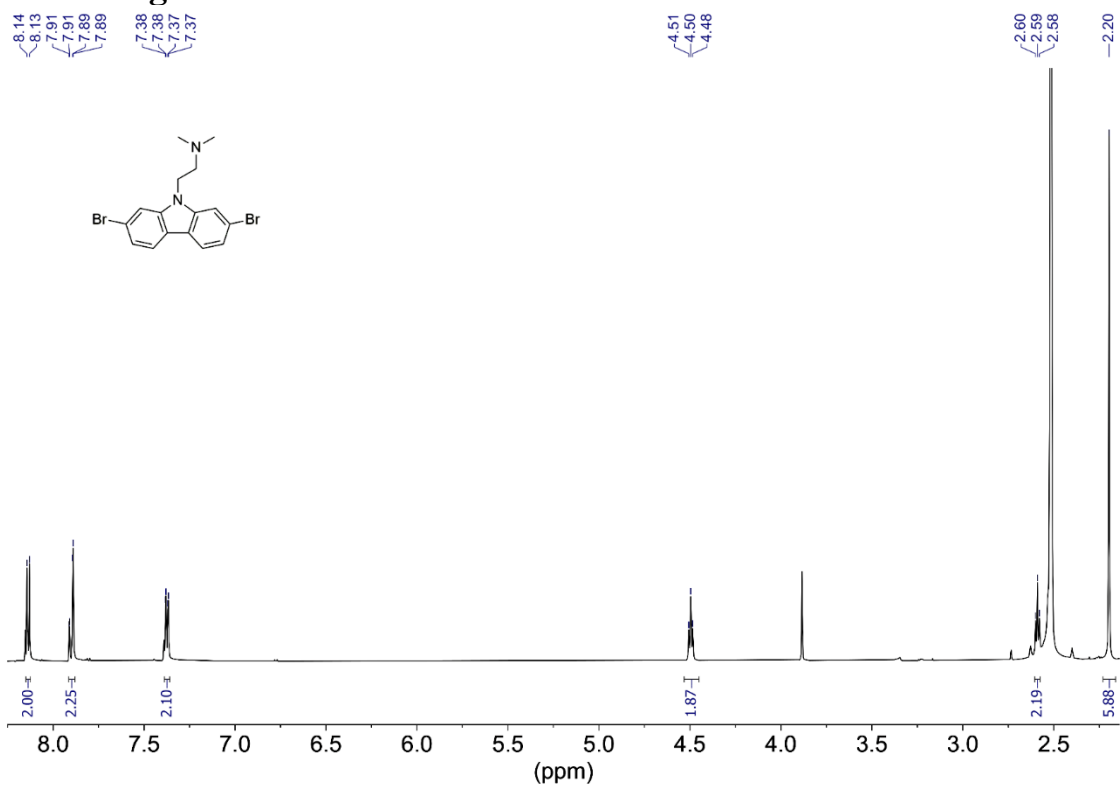


Figure S-29. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of C (600 MHz, 298 K, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>).

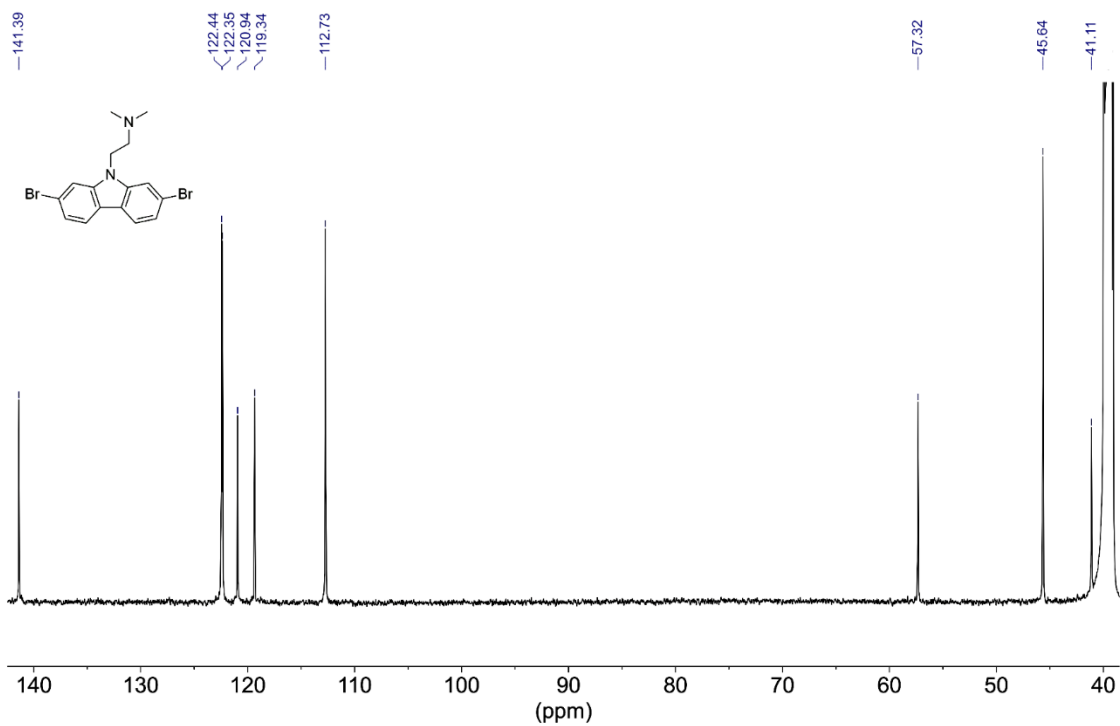
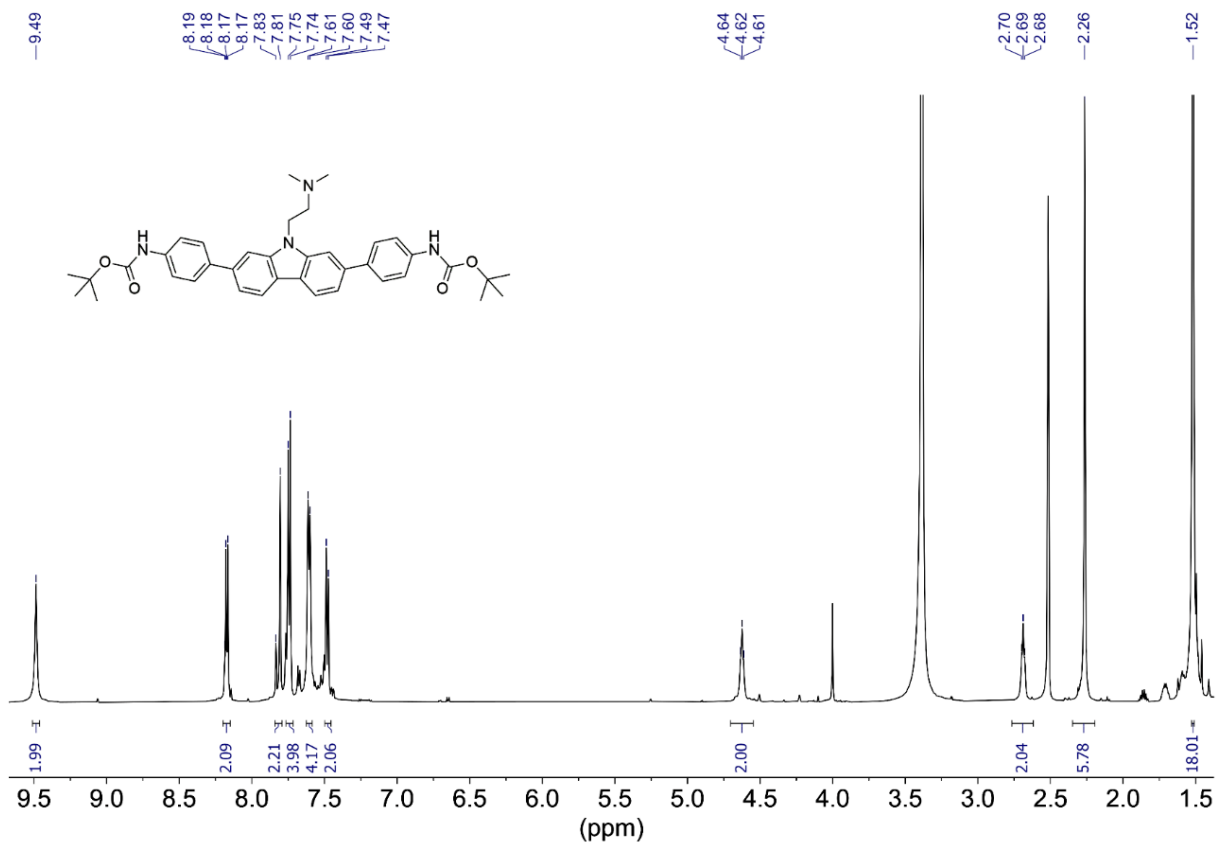
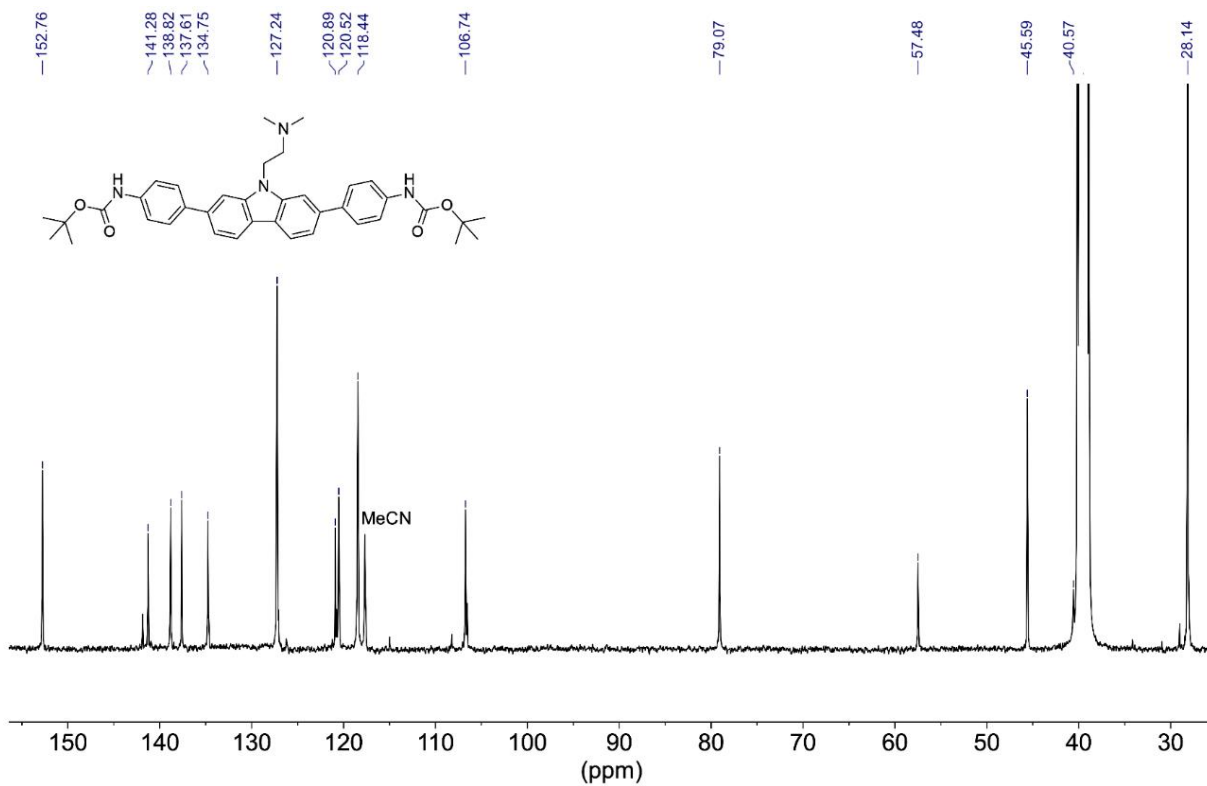


Figure S-30. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of C (150 MHz, 298 K, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>).



**Figure S-31.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **S3** (600 MHz, 298 K, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>).



**Figure S-32.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **S3** (100 MHz, 298 K, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>).

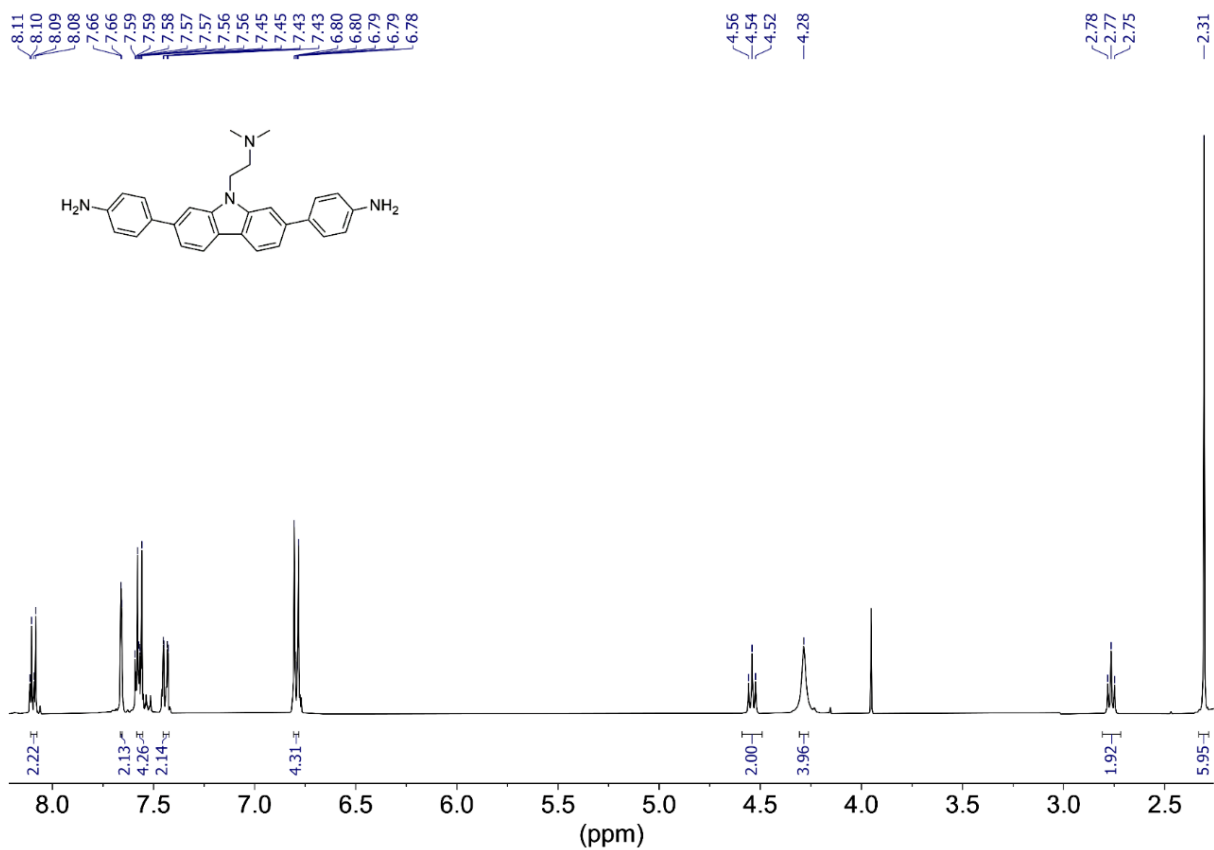


Figure S-33.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **L3** (400 MHz, 298 K,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ).

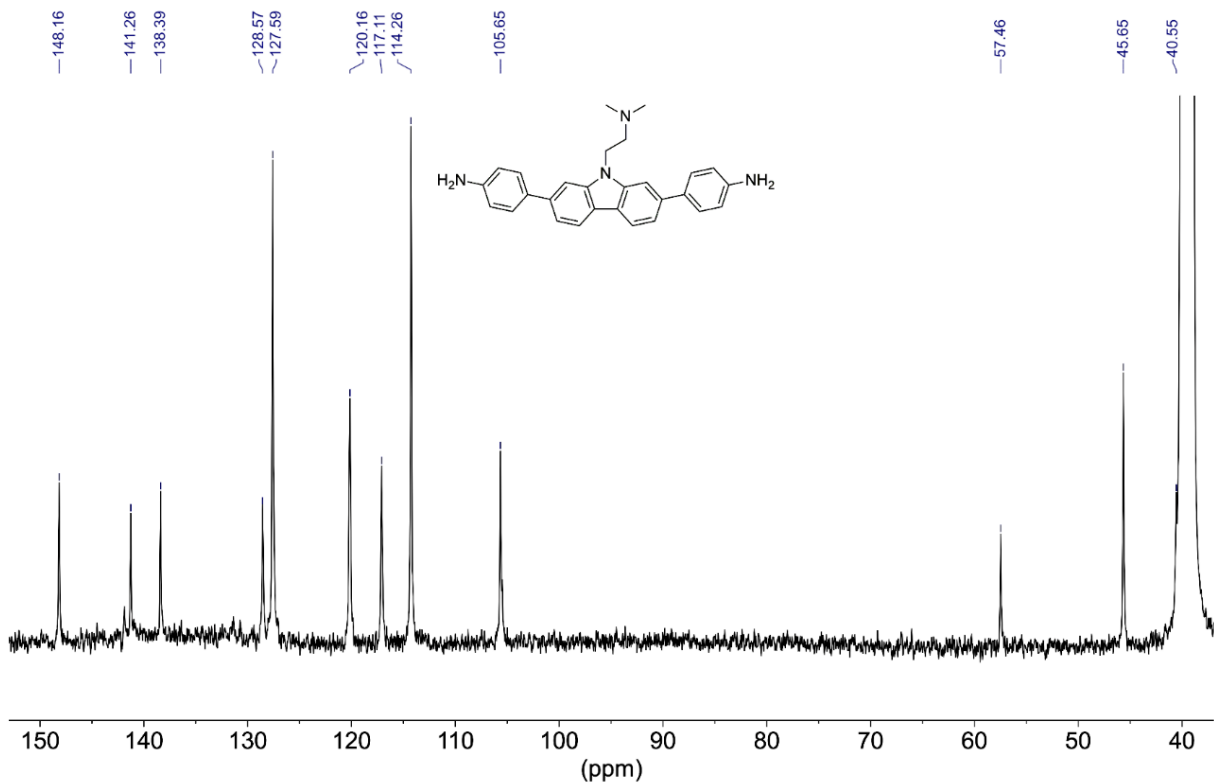
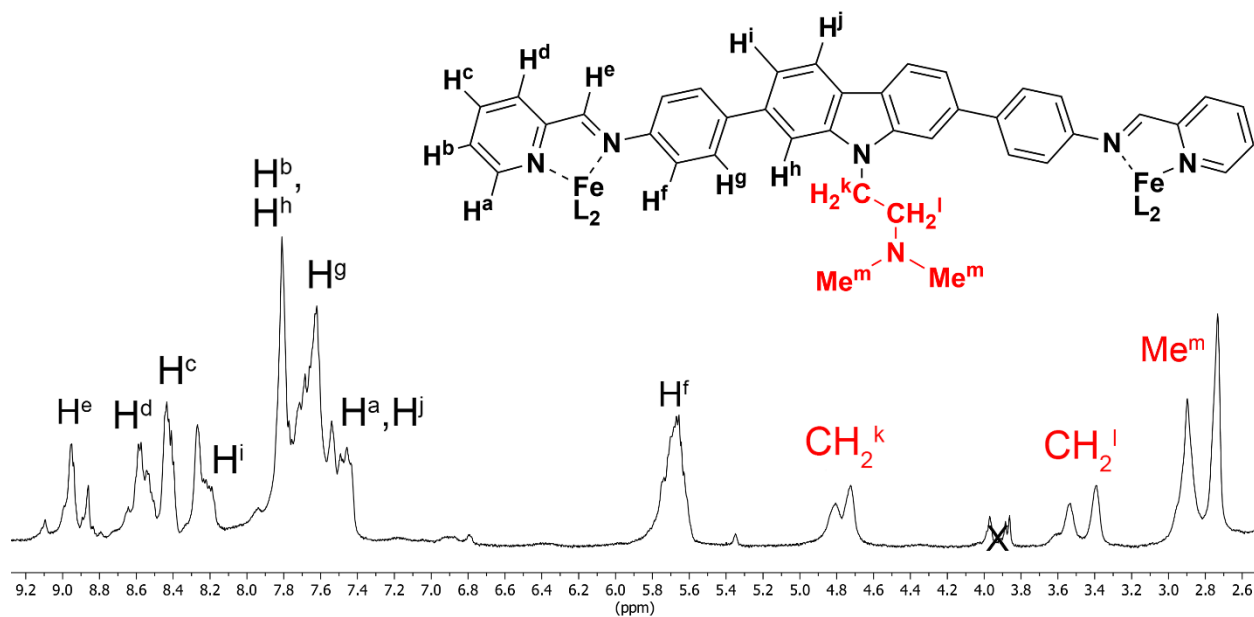
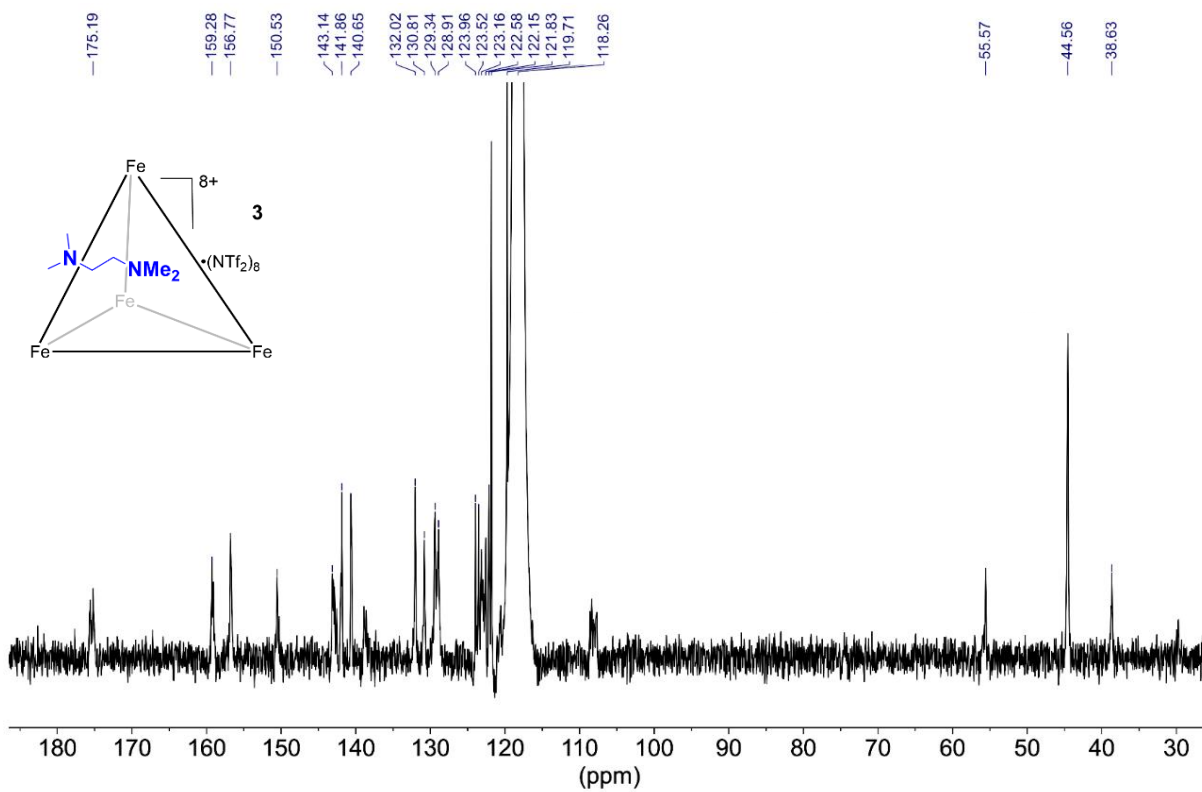


Figure S-34.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **L3** (100 MHz, 298 K,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ).



**Figure S-35.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **3** (400 MHz, 298 K,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ).



**Figure S-36.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **3** (150 MHz, 298 K,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ).

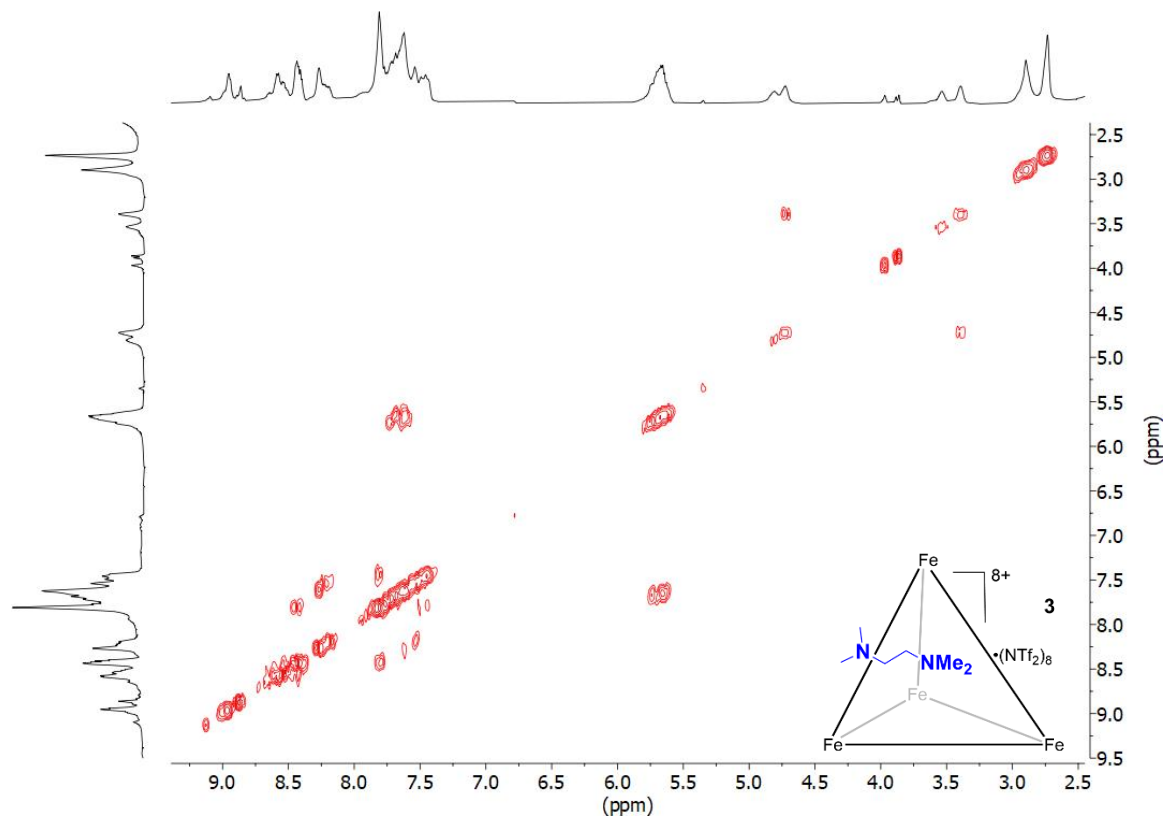


Figure S-37. <sup>1</sup>H COSY NMR spectrum of **3** (400 MHz, 298 K, CD<sub>3</sub>CN).

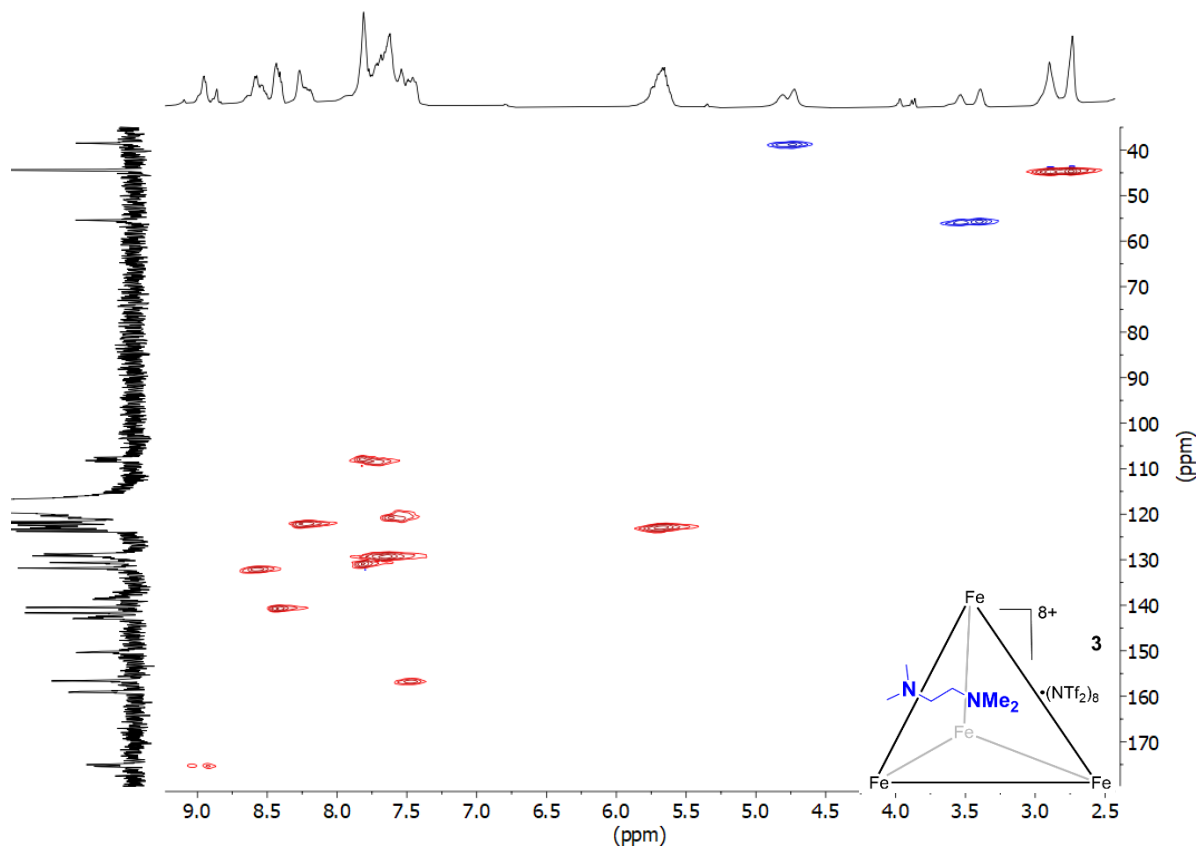


Figure S-38. HSQC NMR spectrum of **3** (400 MHz, 298 K, CD<sub>3</sub>CN).

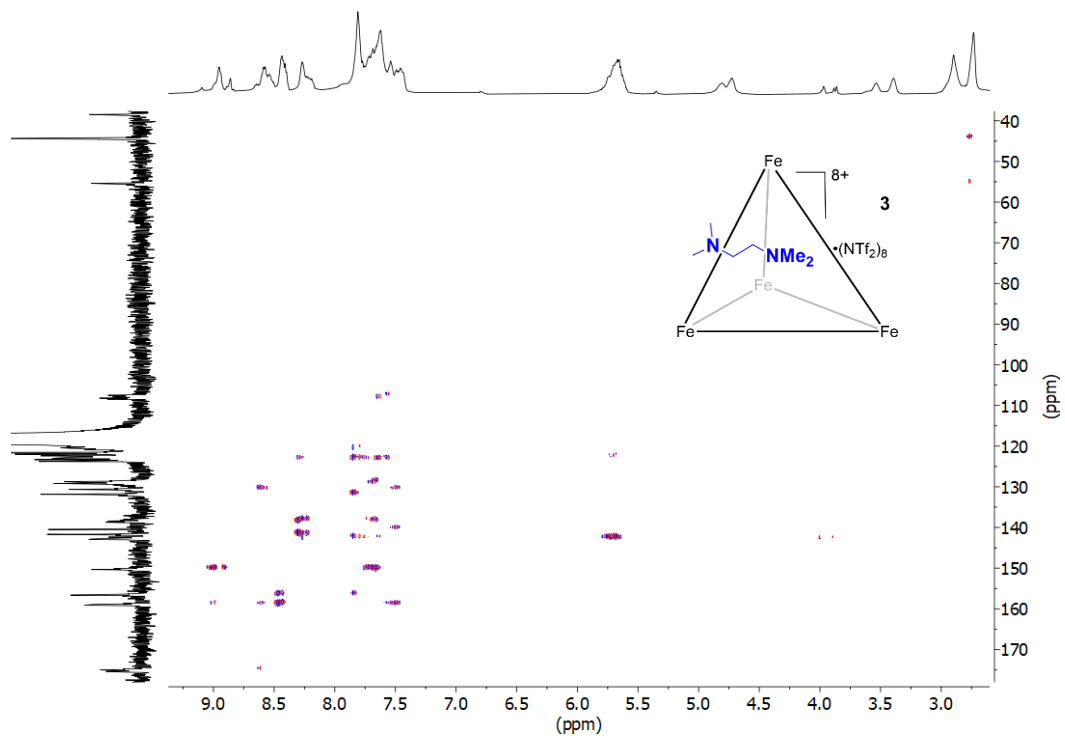


Figure S-39. HMBC NMR spectrum of **3** (400 MHz, 298 K, CD<sub>3</sub>CN).

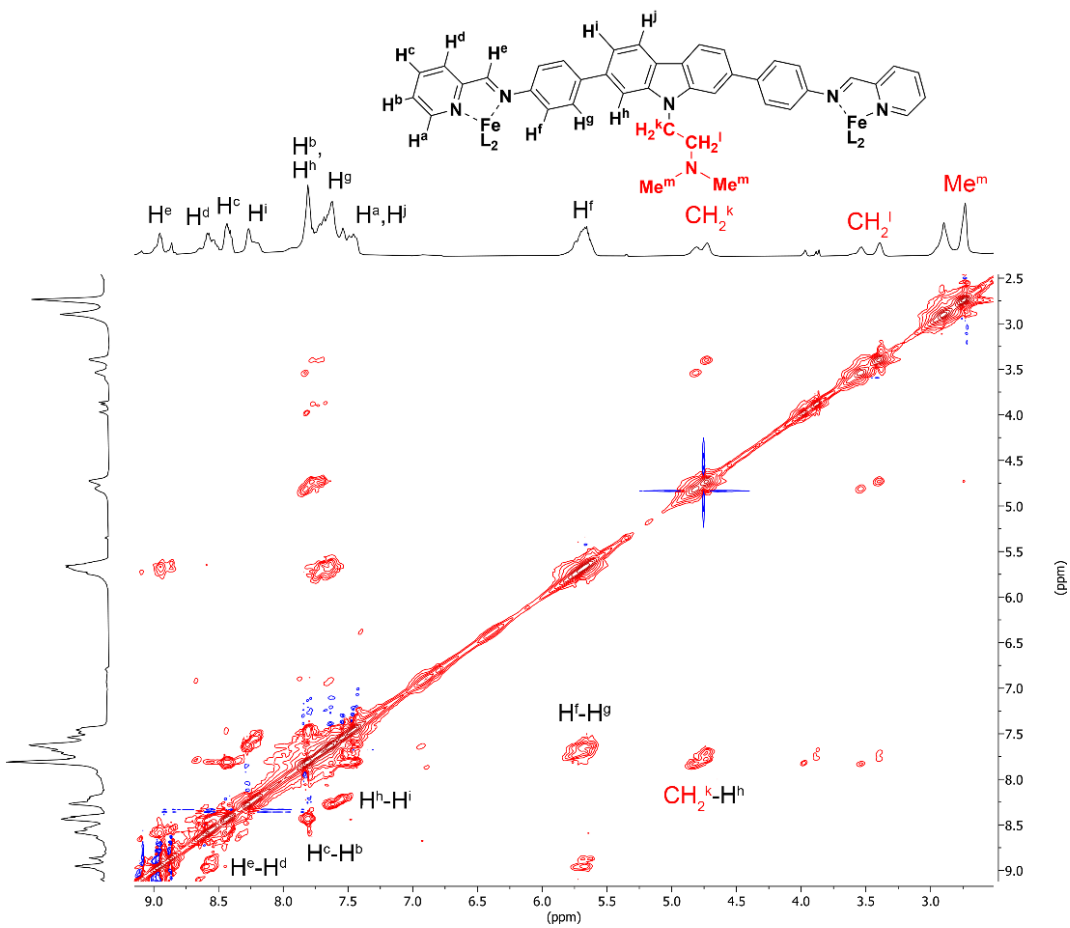
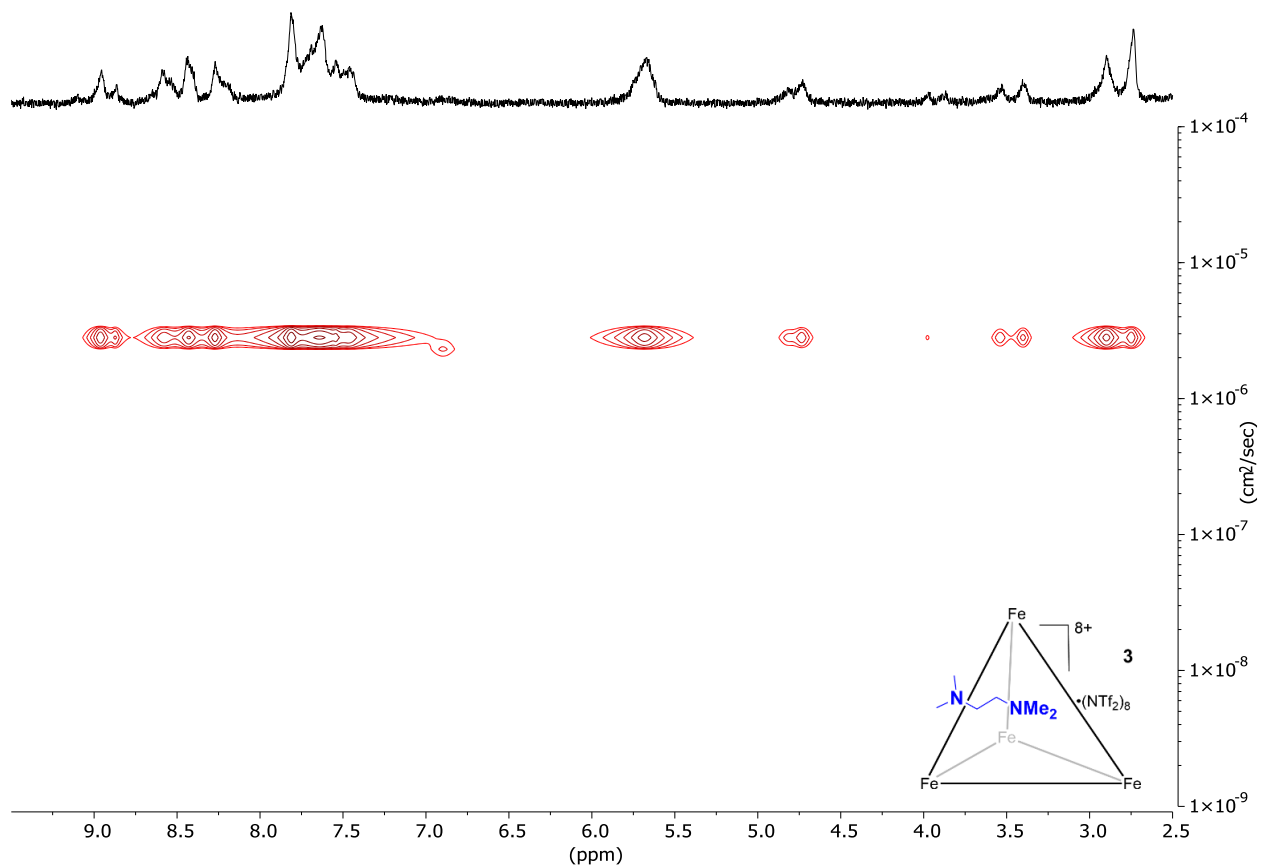
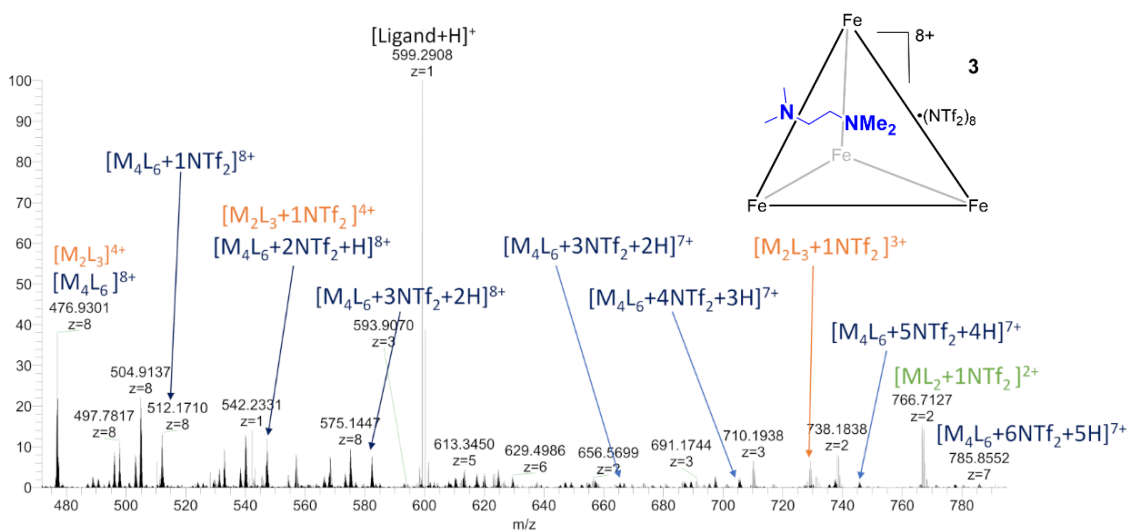


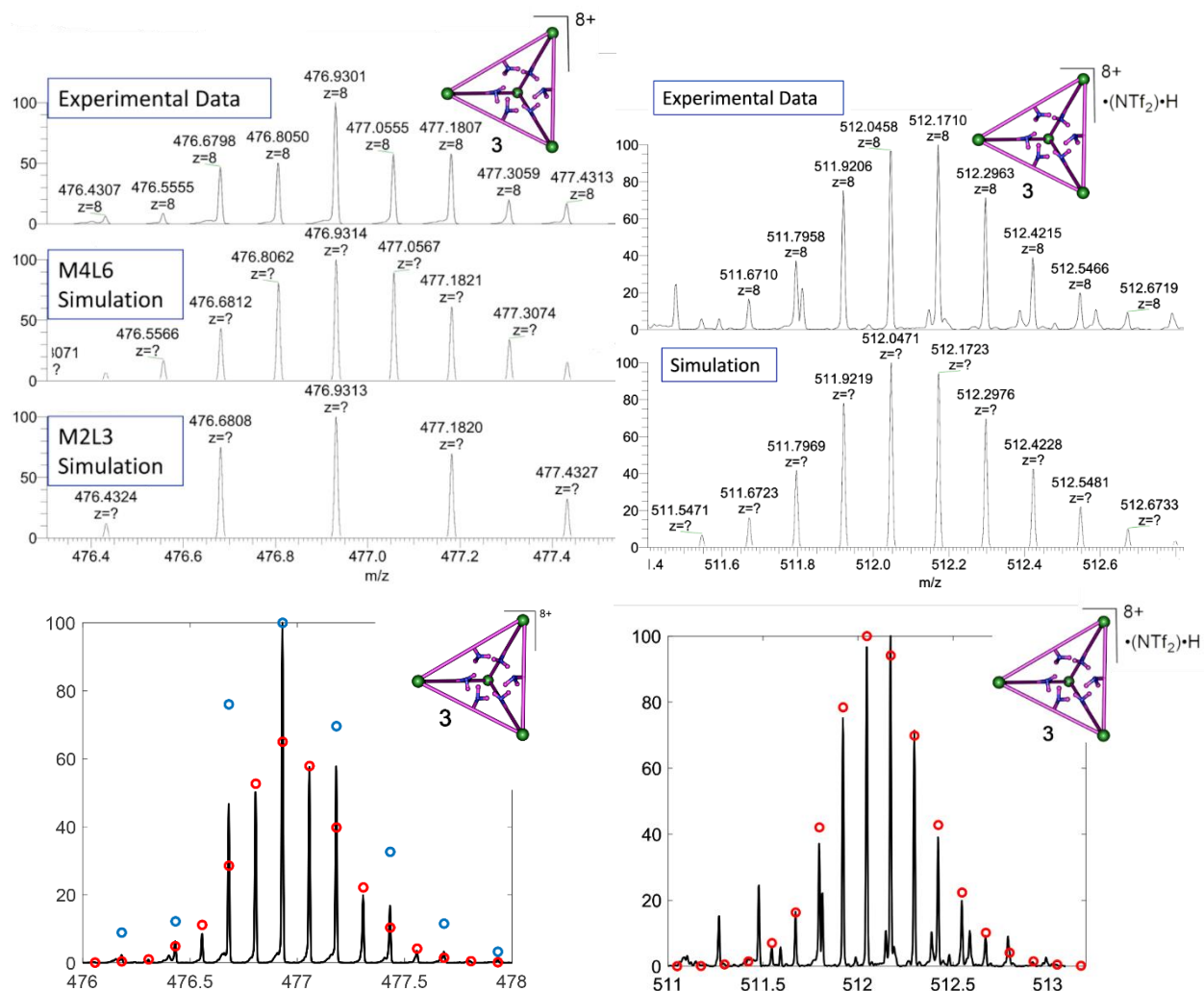
Figure S-40. NOESY NMR spectrum of **3** (600 MHz, 298 K, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, mixing time = 300 ms).



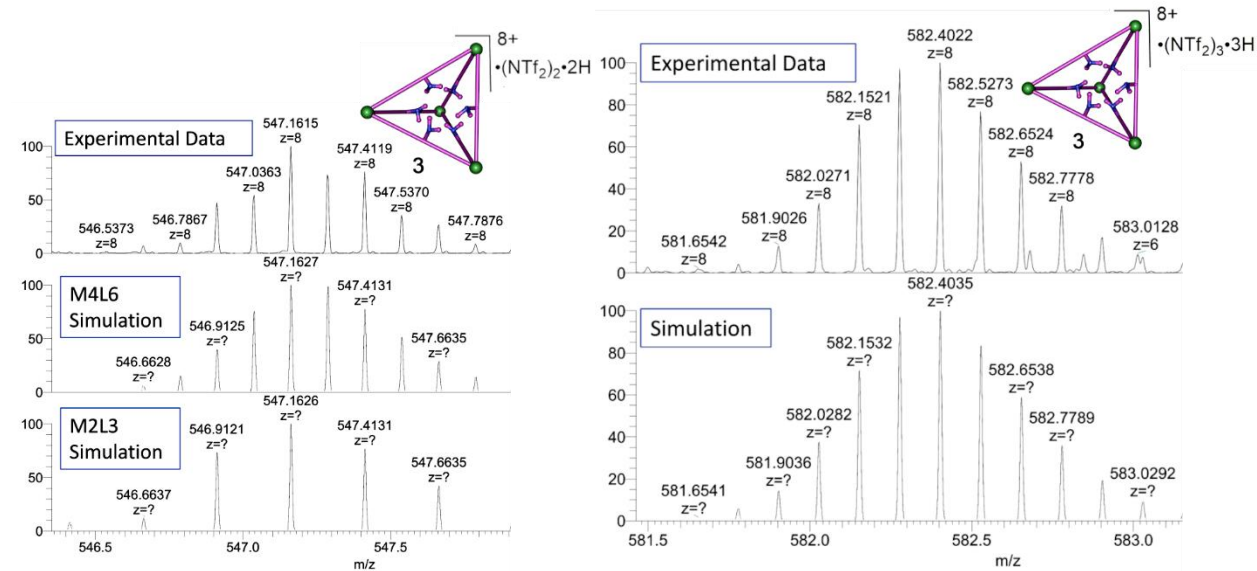
**Figure S-41.** DOSY NMR spectrum of **3** (600 MHz, 298 K, CD<sub>3</sub>CN). Diffusion constant;  $2.81 \times 10^{-6}$  cm<sup>2</sup>/sec.



**Figure S-42.** Full mass spectrum of **3** (CH<sub>3</sub>CN).

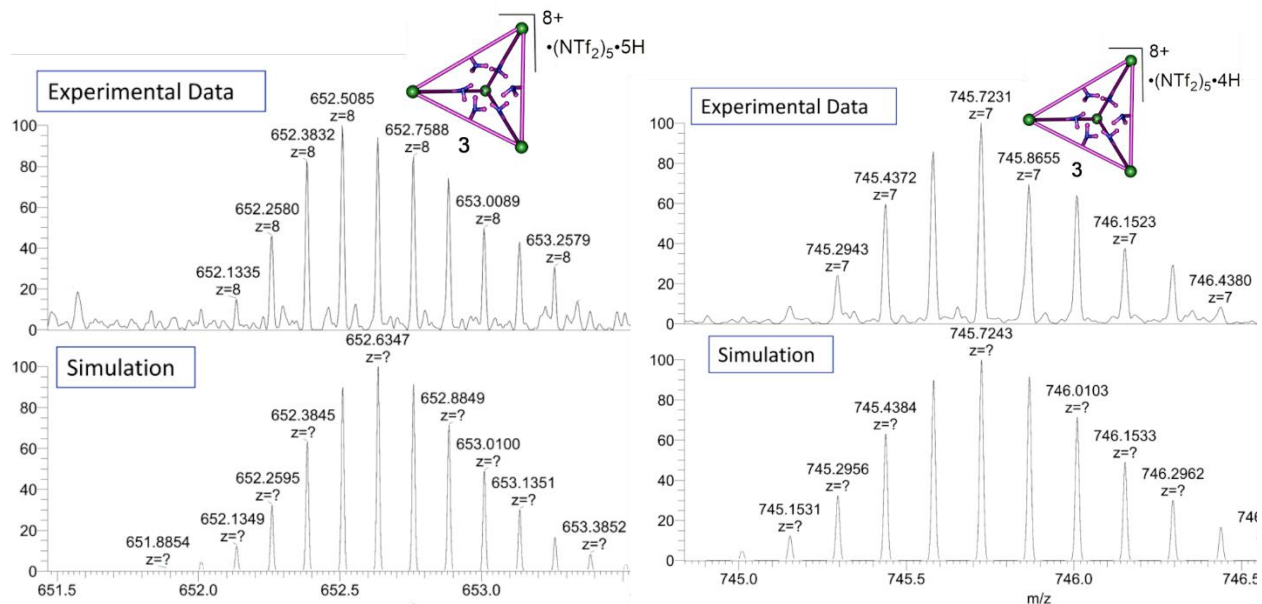


**Figure S-43.** Mass spectra of predicted ions  $[3]^{8+}$  and  $[3 \cdot 1\text{NTf}_2^- + 1\text{H}^+]^{8+}$  stacked versus predicted peaks.



**Figure S-44.** Mass spectra of predicted ions  $[3 \cdot 2\text{NTf}_2^- + 2\text{H}^+]^{8+}$  and  $[3 \cdot 3\text{NTf}_2^- + 3\text{H}^+]^{8+}$  stacked versus predicted peaks.





**Figure S-45.** Mass spectra of predicted ions  $[3 \cdot 5\text{Tf}_2^- + 5\text{H}^+]^{8+}$  and  $[3 \cdot 5\text{NTf}_2^- + 4\text{H}^+]^{7+}$  stacked versus predicted peaks.

## II. Photochemistry Data

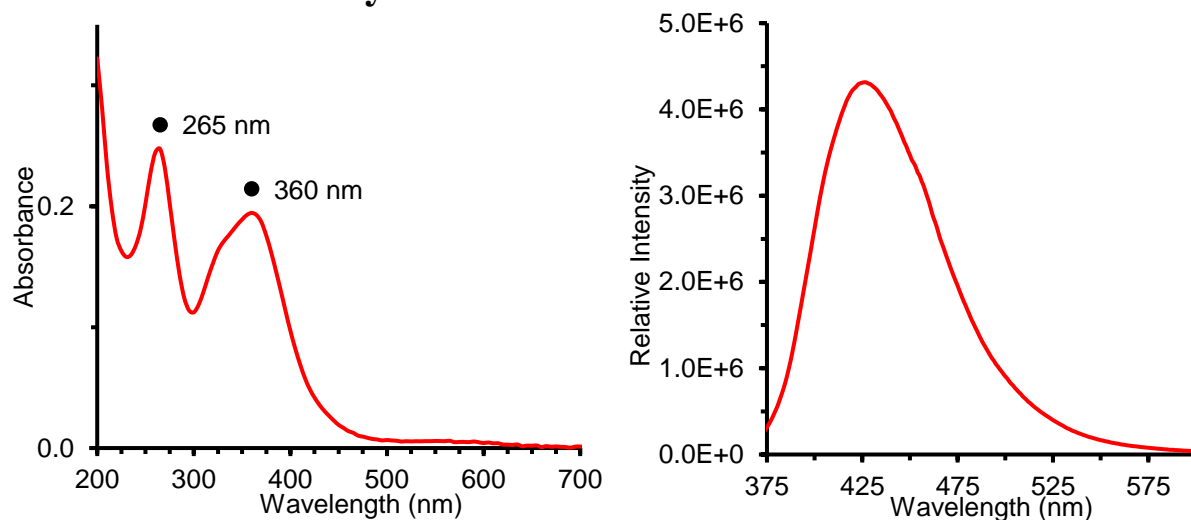


Figure S-46. UV-vis absorption spectrum of 1  $\mu\text{M}$  1 and fluorescence spectrum at 360 nm in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ .

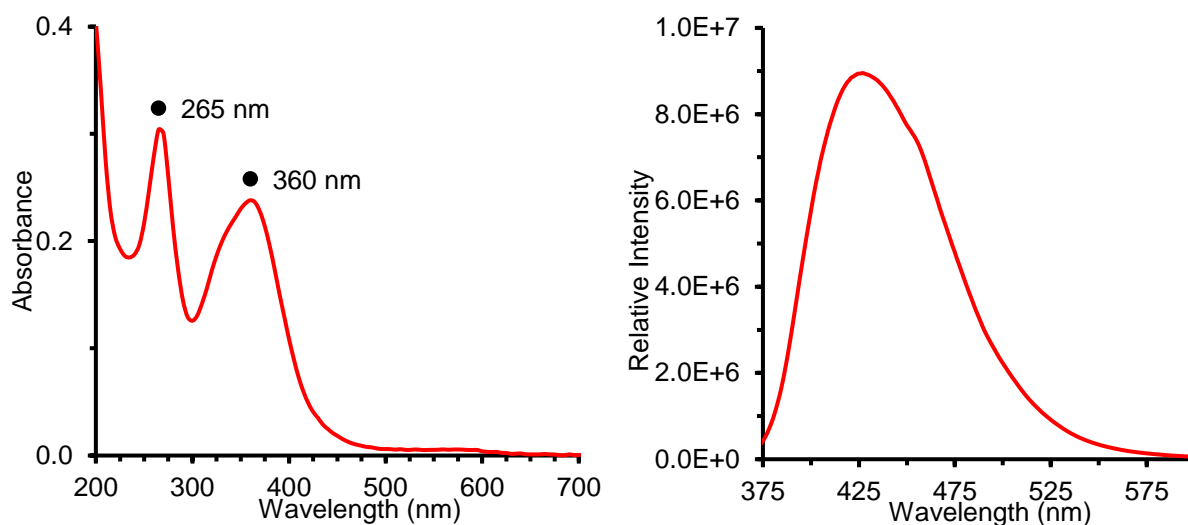


Figure S-47. UV-vis absorption spectrum of 1  $\mu\text{M}$  2 and fluorescence spectrum at 360 nm in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ .

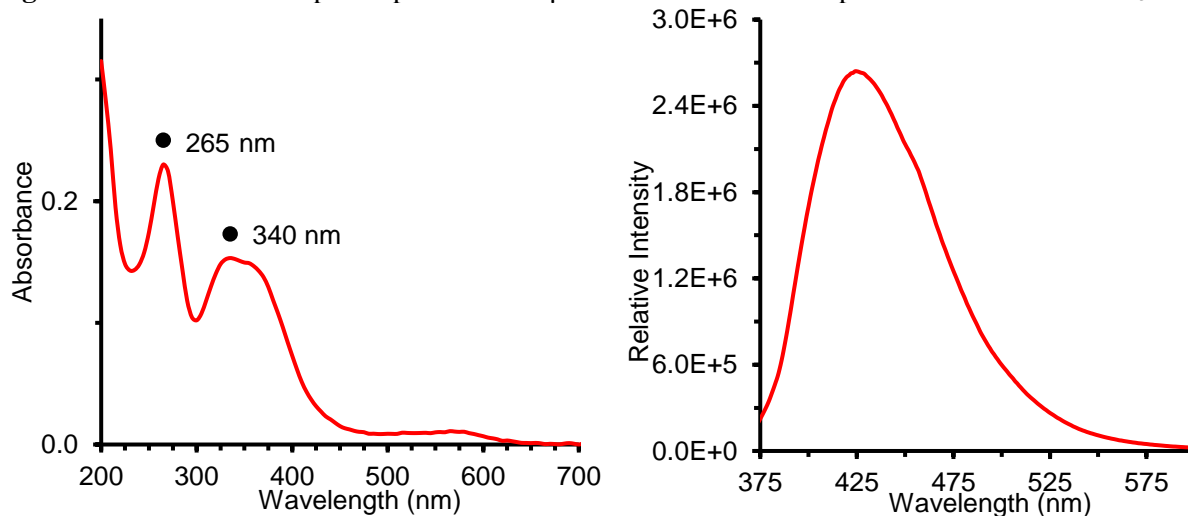
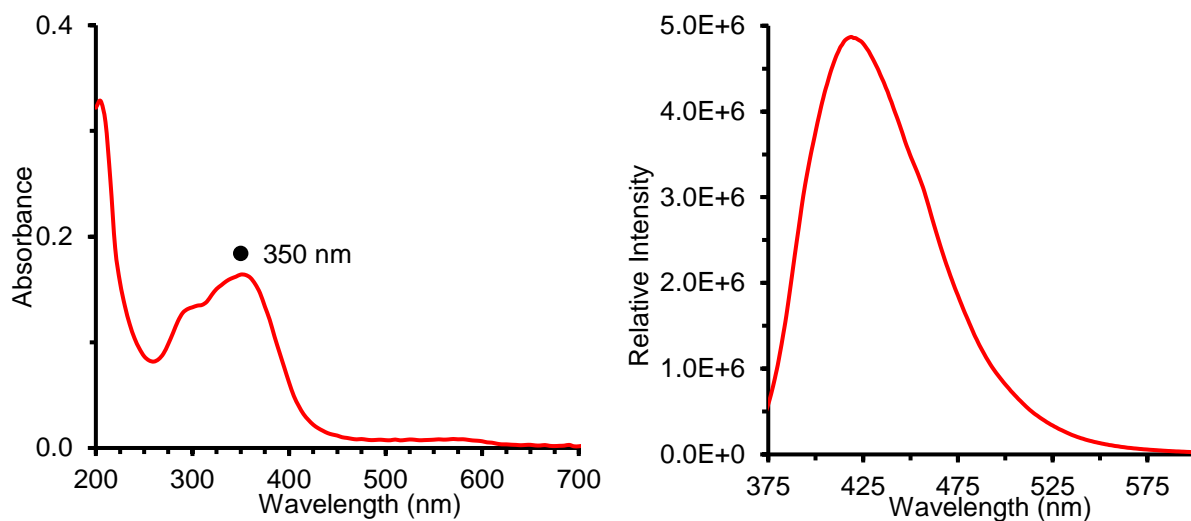
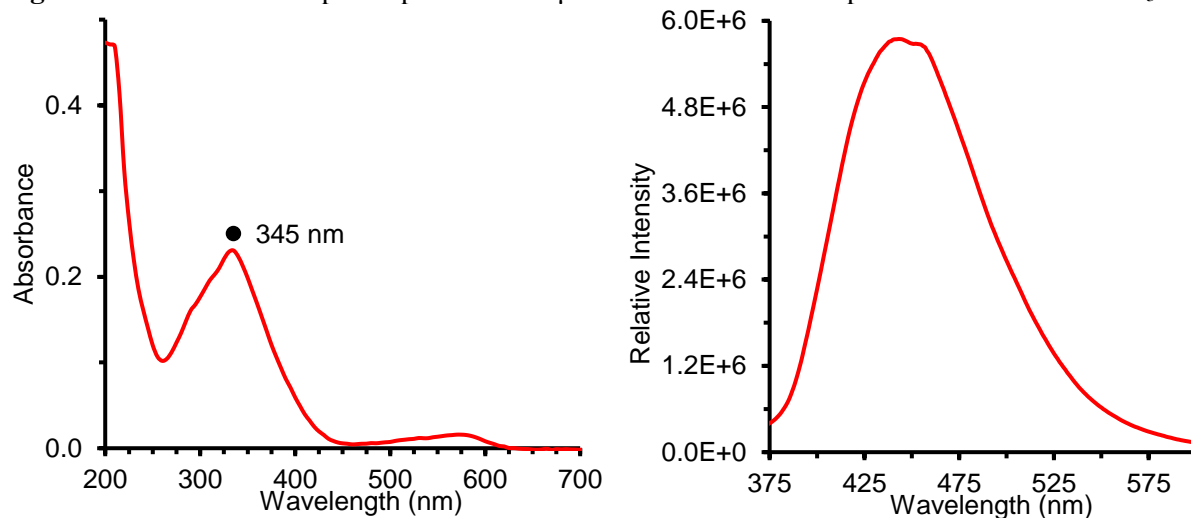


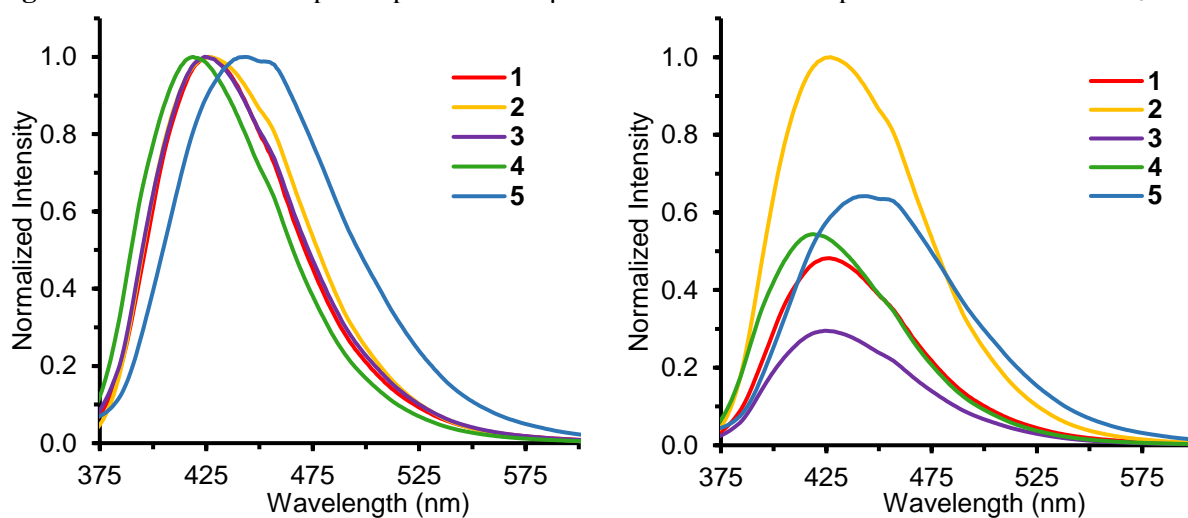
Figure S-48. UV-vis absorption spectrum of 1  $\mu\text{M}$  3 and fluorescence spectrum at 340 nm in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ .



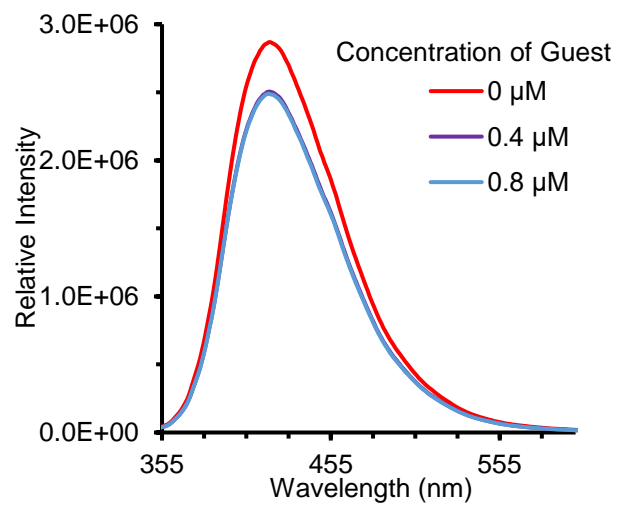
**Figure S-49.** UV-vis absorption spectrum of 1 μM **4** and fluorescence spectrum at 350 nm in CH<sub>3</sub>CN.



**Figure S-50.** UV-vis absorption spectrum of 1 μM **5** and fluorescence spectrum at 333 nm in CH<sub>3</sub>CN.



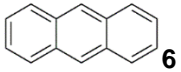
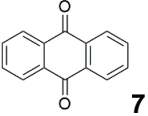
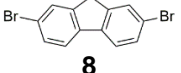
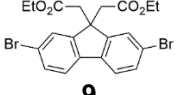
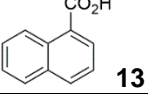
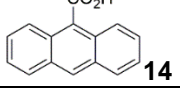
**Figure S-51.** Fluorescence spectra of cages **1-5** relative to max emissions and normalized emissions.



**Figure S-52.** Fluorescence spectra of the titration of DABCO into a 0.2 μM solution of cage **3** in CH<sub>3</sub>CN. DABCO was added in 0.4 μL aliquots from a 3 mM stock solution in CH<sub>3</sub>CN.

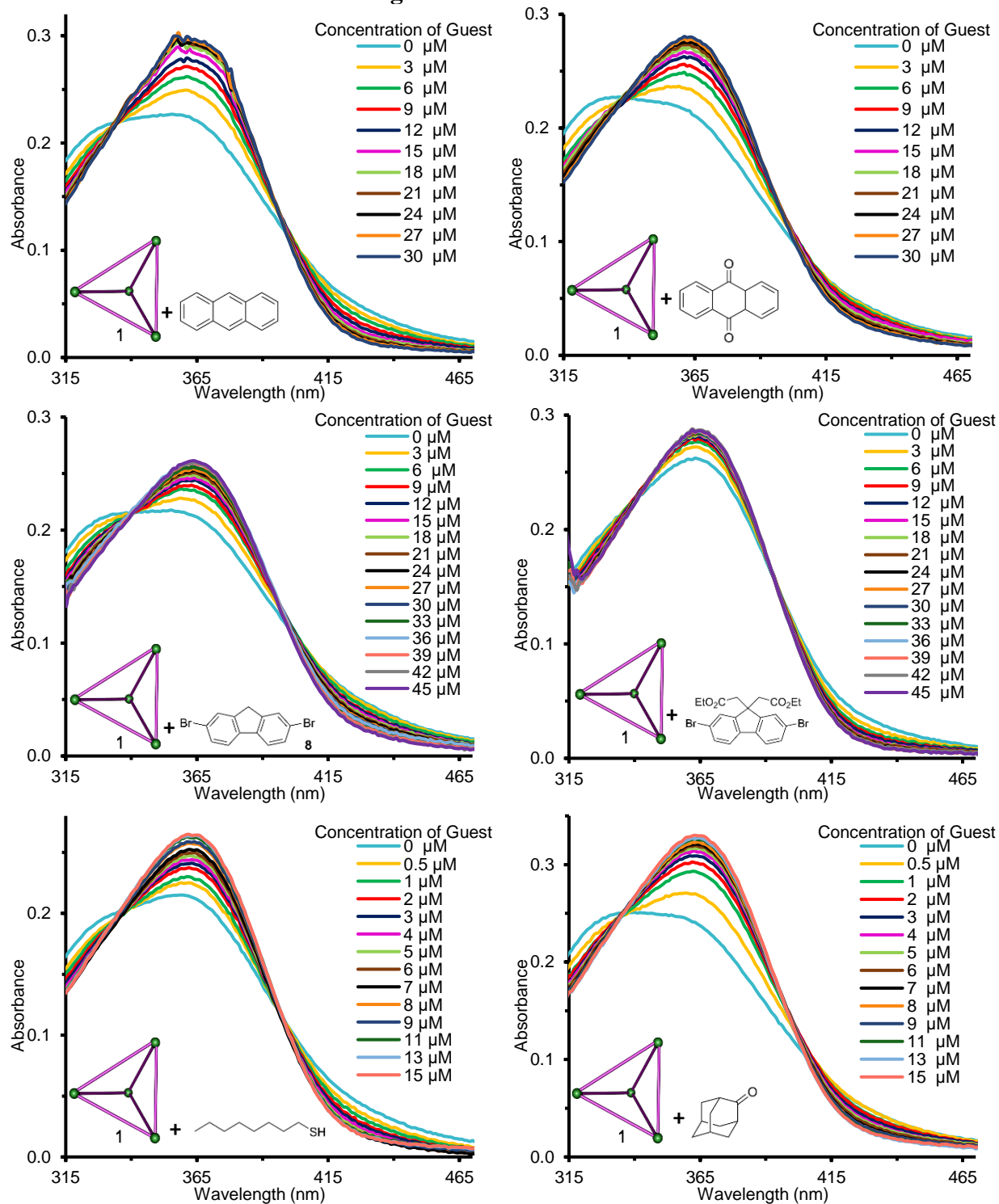
### III. Binding Studies

**Table S-I:** Binding affinities of guests **6-14** in cages **1-3**,<sup>a</sup> including binding results from fitting to a 1:1 and 1:2 algorithm in each case. Entries in red were deemed “poor fits” and not shown in Table 1 (main text) due to excessive fitting errors.

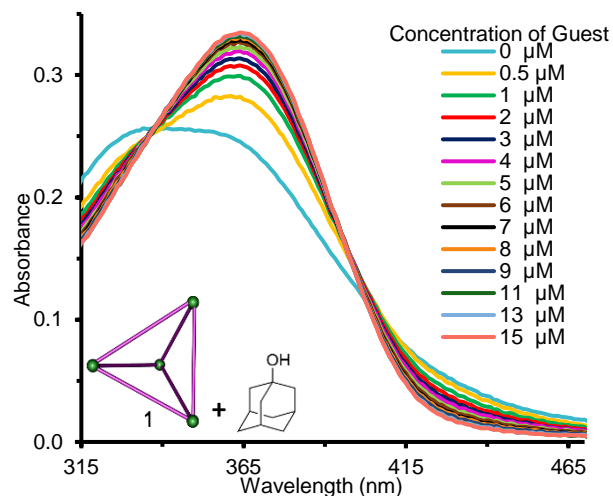
Guest	Cage 1		Cage 2		Cage 3	
	$K_a(1:1)$ , $\times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1}$	$K_{11}, K_{12}(1:2)$ , $\times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1}$	$K_a(1:1)$ , $\times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1}$	$K_{11}, K_{12}(1:2)$ , $\times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1}$	$K_a(1:1)$ , $\times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1}$	$K_{11}, K_{12}(1:2)$ , $\times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1}$
 <b>6</b>	$120 \pm 6.8$	$K_{11}: 89 \pm 2.8$ $K_{12}: 1.7 \pm 0.1$	$110 \pm 5.9$	$K_{11}: 51 \pm 2.1$ $K_{12}: 64 \pm 13$	$99 \pm 5.7$	$K_{11}: 110 \pm 7.7$ $K_{12}: 2.0 \pm 0.4$
 <b>7</b>	$100 \pm 5.5$	$K_{11}: 210 \pm 8.8$ $K_{12}: 23 \pm 0.6$	$80 \pm 3.8$	$K_{11}: 1800 \pm 1300$ $K_{12}: 54 \pm 3.0$	$110 \pm 4.2$	$K_{11}: 88 \pm 5.6$ $K_{12}: 37 \pm 18$
 <b>8</b>	$74 \times \pm 3.6$	$K_{11}: 160 \pm 13$ $K_{12}: 2.1 \pm 0.2$	$83 \pm 3.6$	$K_{11}: 130 \pm 11$ $K_{12}: 0.5 \pm 0.08$	$58 \pm 2.4$	$K_{11}: 64 \pm 3.2$ $K_{12}: 6.8 \pm 1.1$
 <b>9</b>	$160 \pm 11$	$K_{11}: 650 \pm 220$ $K_{12}: 110 \pm 9.9$	$61 \pm 1.2$	$K_{11}: 430 \pm 29$ $K_{12}: 100 \pm 3.9$	$70 \pm 2.5$	$K_{11}: 120 \pm 4.8$ $K_{12}: 0.7 \pm 0.04$
<i>n</i> -octylSH <b>10</b>	$320 \pm 28$	$K_{11}: 5800 \pm 1600$ $K_{12}: 2.8 \pm 0.2$	$140 \pm 14$	$K_{11}: 12000 \pm 8300$ $K_{12}: -39 \pm -2.3$	$230 \pm 18$	$K_{11}: 56000 \pm 190000$ $K_{12}: 90 \pm 12$
adamantanone <b>11</b>	$1600 \pm 290$	$K_{11}: 250000 \pm 420000$ $K_{12}: 210 \pm 15$	$720 \pm 74$	$K_{11}: 6600 \pm 1700$ $K_{12}: 300 \pm 17$	$440 \pm 26$	$K_{11}: 1500 \pm 230$ $K_{12}: 89 \pm 6.8$
adamantanol <b>12</b>	$1800 \pm 360$	$K_{11}: 63000 \pm 75000$ $K_{12}: 150 \pm 19$	$540 \pm 64$	$K_{11}: 260000 \pm 620000$ $K_{12}: 161 \pm 8.1$	$490 \pm 27$	$K_{11}: 680 \pm 37$ $K_{12}: 120 \pm 7.6$
 <b>13</b>	$18 \pm 0.7$	$K_{11}: 26 \pm 0.8$ $K_{12}: 370 \pm 27$	$77 \pm 3.2$	$K_{11}: 300 \pm 41$ $K_{12}: 59 \pm 2.7$	$86 \pm 5.2$	$K_{11}: 76 \pm 4.0$ $K_{12}: 0.5 \pm 0.05$
 <b>14</b>	$120 \pm 9.2$	$K_{11}: 49 \pm 2.7$ $K_{12}: 4.8 \pm 0.4$	$100 \pm 9.1$	$K_{11}: 18 \pm 8.2$ $K_{12}: 910 \pm 450$	$79 \pm 3.8$	$K_{11}: 440 \pm 160$ $K_{12}: 90 \pm 6.3$

<sup>a</sup>in CH<sub>3</sub>CN, [1-3] = 1.0 μM, absorbance changes measured at 325 nm and 365 nm, affinities calculated via the Nelder-Mead method.<sup>1-3</sup>

### UV/Vis Titrations of Guests into cage 1:

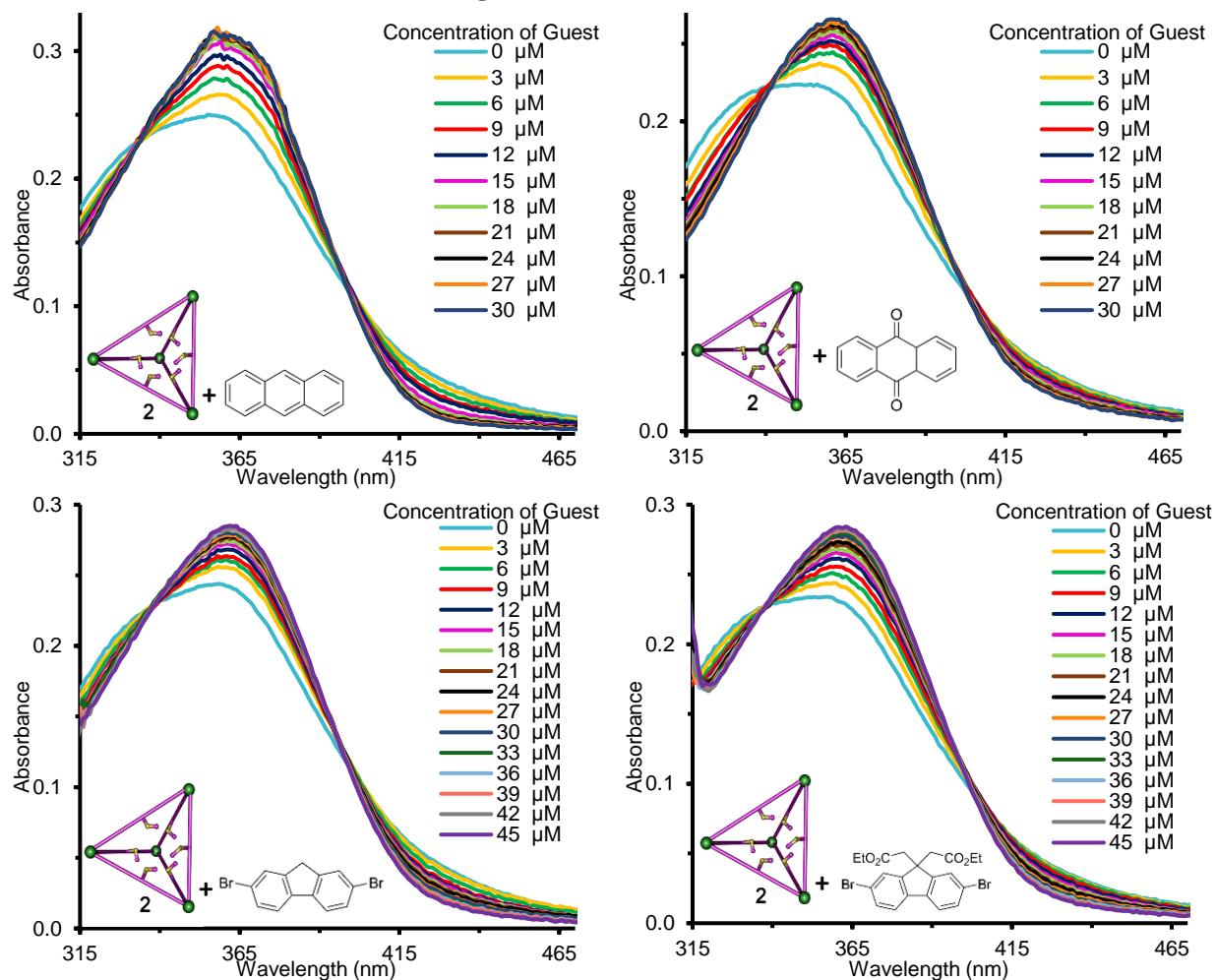


**Figure S-53.** UV-Vis absorption spectra of the titrations of guests 6–11 into 1  $\mu\text{M}$  solutions of cage 1 in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ . Guests were added in 0.5 or 1  $\mu\text{L}$  aliquots from 3 or 9 mM stock solutions in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ .

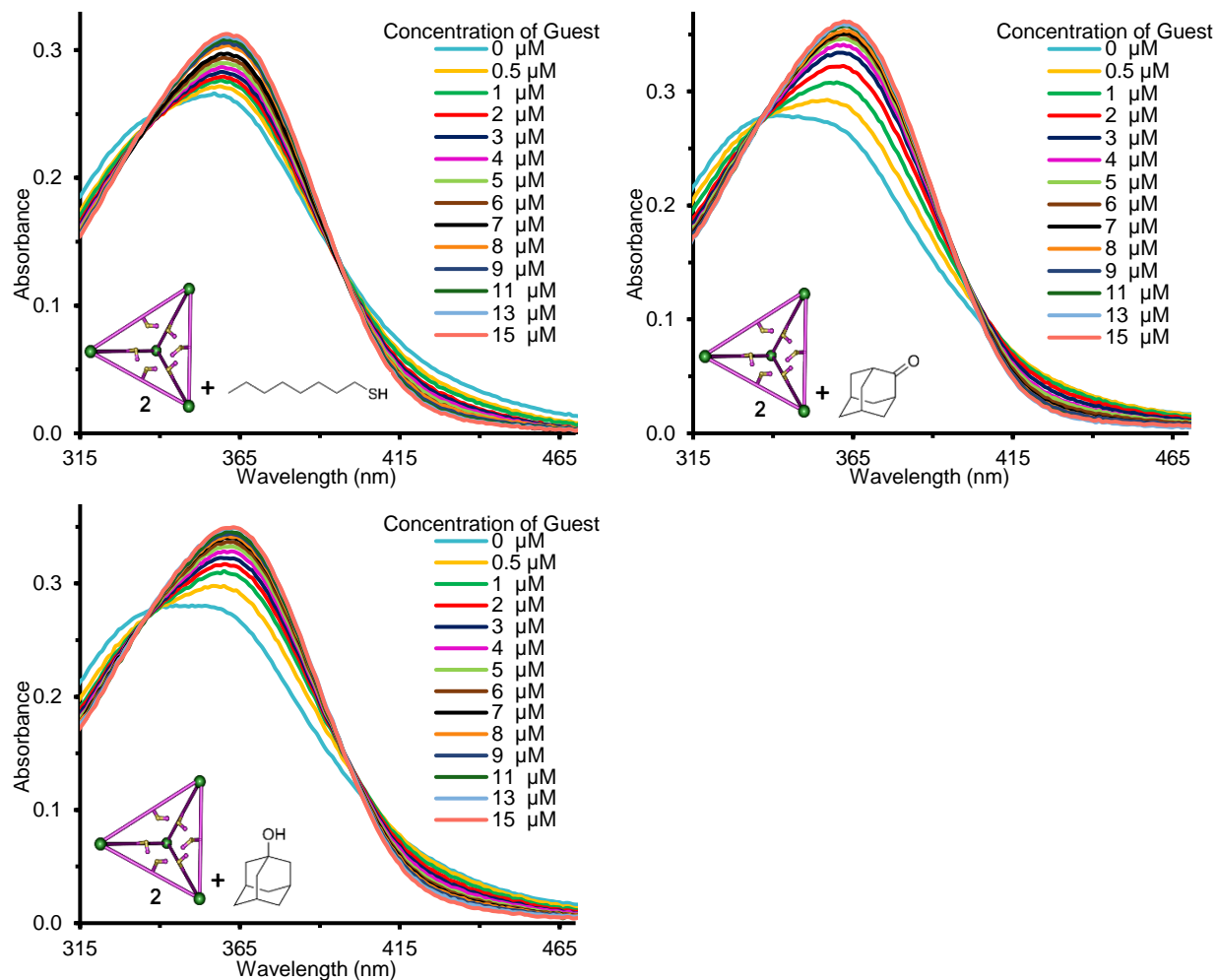


**Figure S-54.** UV-Vis absorption spectrum of the titration of **12** into 1  $\mu\text{M}$  solutions of cage **1** in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ . Guest was added in 0.5 and 1  $\mu\text{L}$  aliquots from a 3 mM stock solution in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ .

### UV/Vis Titrations of Guests into cage 2:

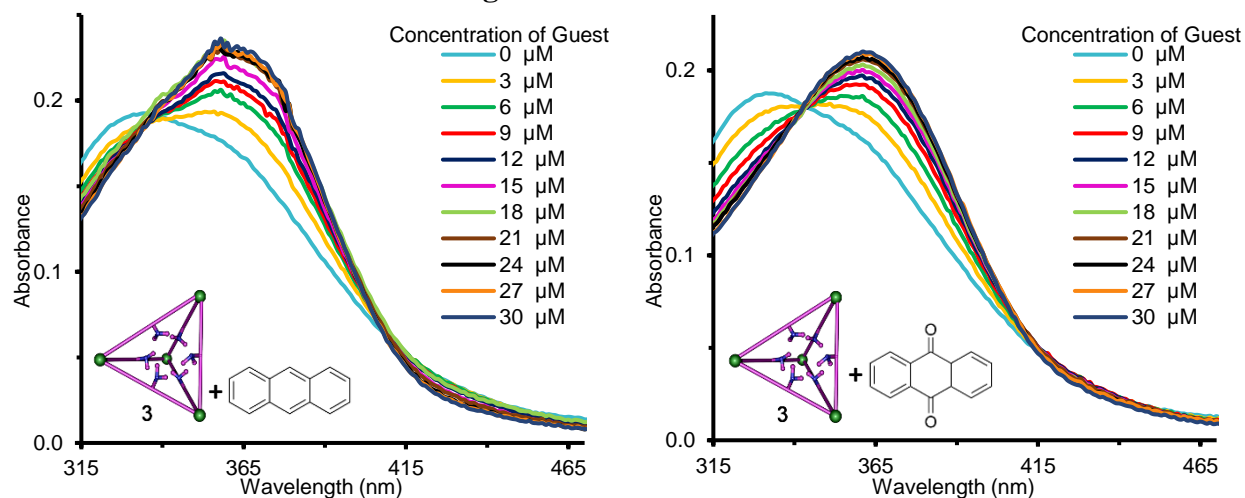


**Figure S-55.** UV-Vis absorption spectra of the titrations of guests **6–9** into 1  $\mu\text{M}$  solutions of cage **2** in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ . Guests were added in 1  $\mu\text{L}$  aliquots from a 9 mM stock solution in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ .



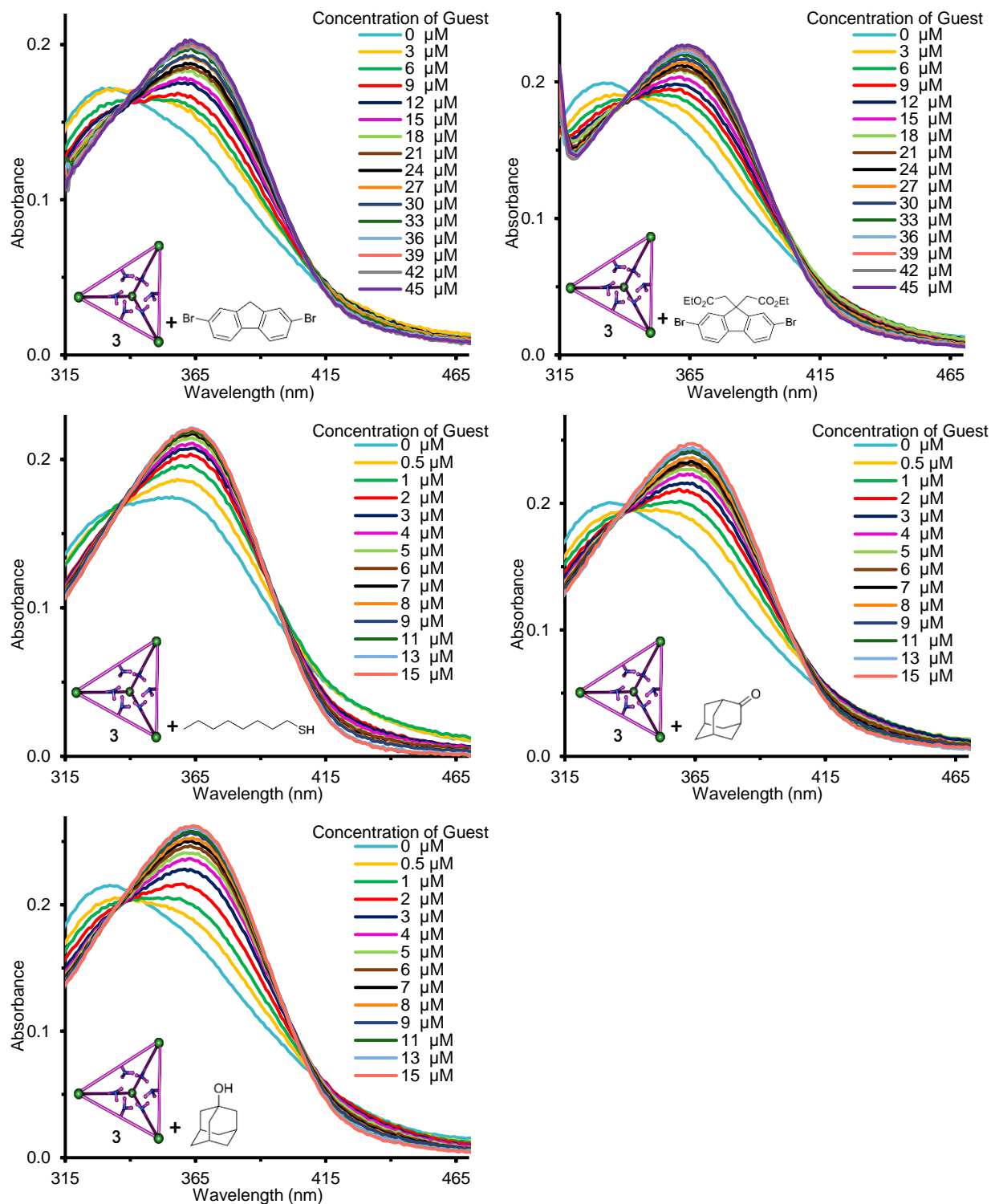
**Figure S-56.** UV-Vis absorption spectra of the titrations **10–12** into 1  $\mu\text{M}$  solutions of cage **2** in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ . Guests were added in 0.5 and 1  $\mu\text{L}$  aliquots from a 3 mM stock solution in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ .

### UV/Vis Titrations of Guests into cage 3:



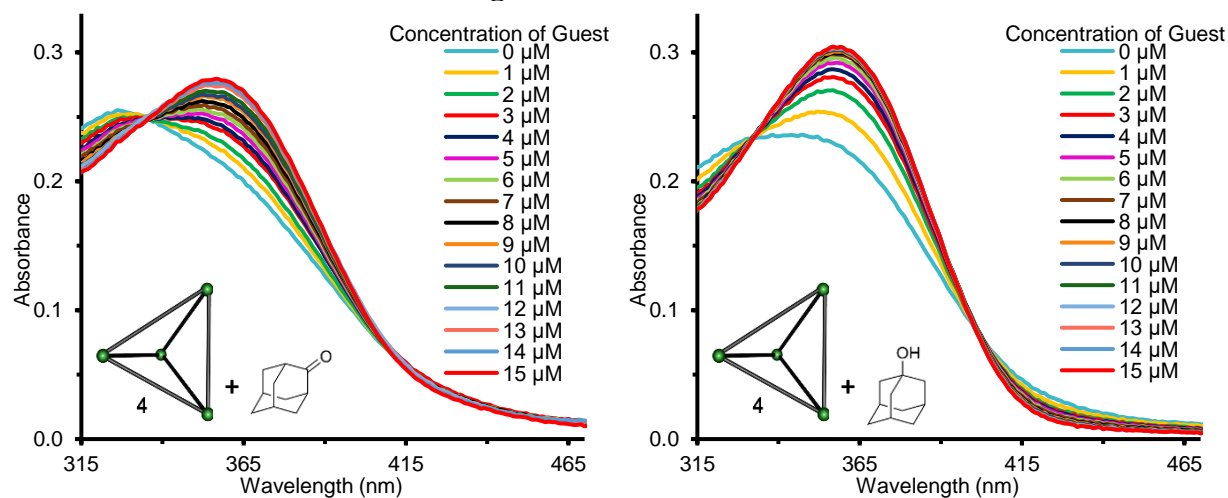
**Figure S-57.** UV-Vis absorption spectra of the titrations of **6** and **7** into 1  $\mu\text{M}$  solutions of cage **3** in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ . Guests were added in 1  $\mu\text{L}$  aliquots from a 9 mM stock solution in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ .



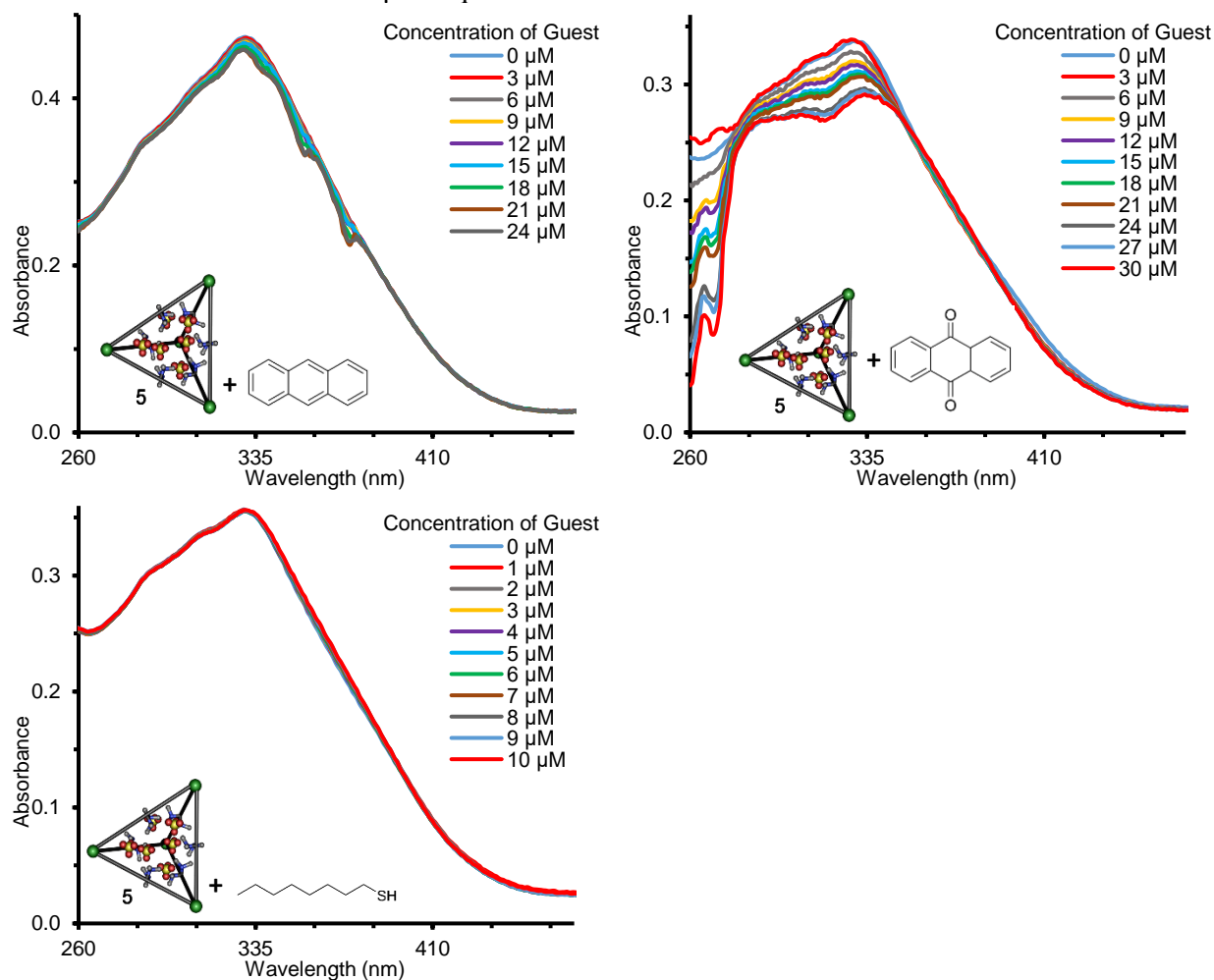


**Figure S-58.** UV-Vis absorption spectra of the titrations of 8–12 into 1  $\mu\text{M}$  solutions of cage 3 in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ . Guests were added in 0.5 and 1  $\mu\text{L}$  aliquots from a 3 and 9 mM stock solutions in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ .

### UV/Vis Titrations of Guests into cages 4 and 5:

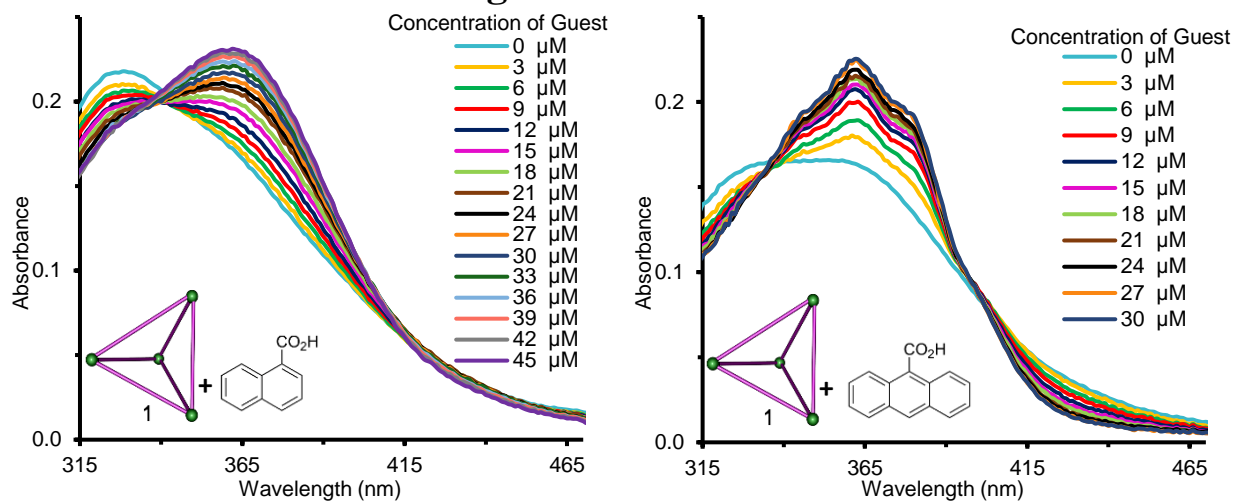


**Figure S-59.** UV-Vis absorption spectra of the titrations of **11** and **12** into 1  $\mu\text{M}$  solutions of cage **4** in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ . Guests were added in 1  $\mu\text{L}$  aliquots from a 3 mM stock solution in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ .

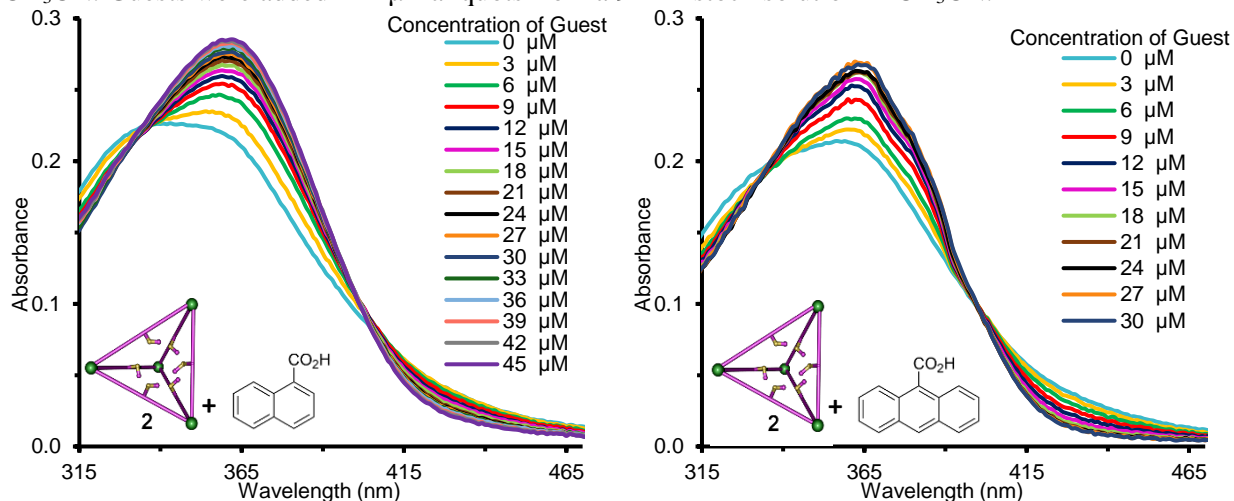


**Figure S-60.** UV-Vis absorption spectra of the titrations of **6**, **7**, and **10** into 1  $\mu\text{M}$  solutions of cage **5** in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ . Guests were added in 1  $\mu\text{L}$  aliquots from 3 and 9 mM stock solutions in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ .

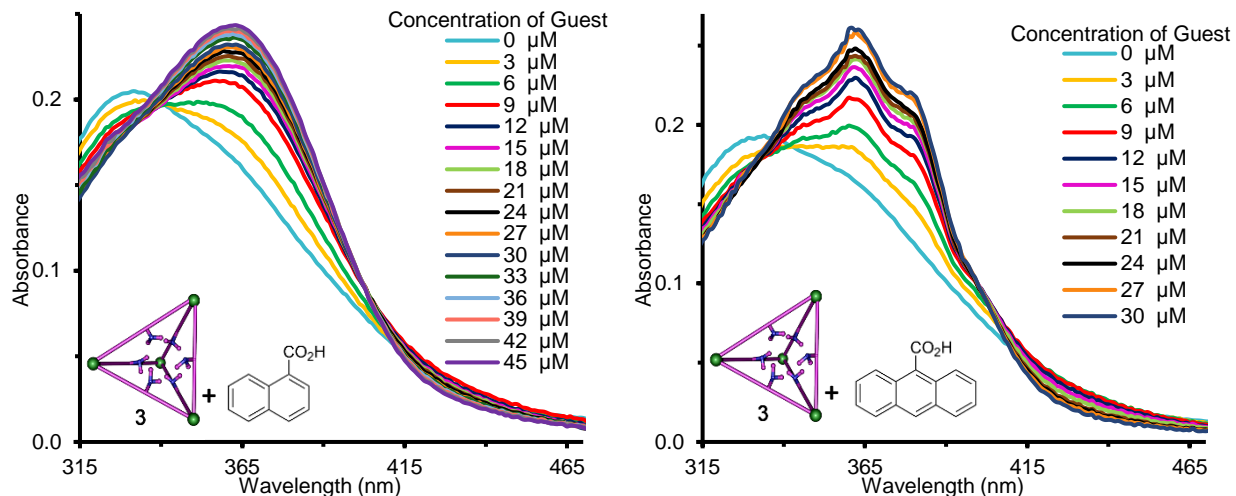
## IV. Acid and Base Binding



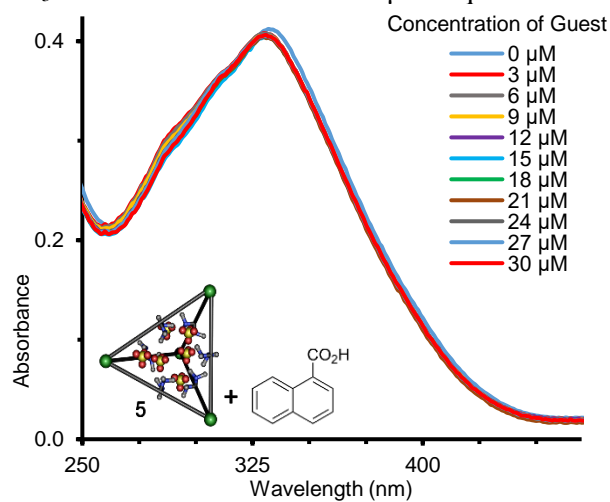
**Figure S-61.** UV-Vis absorption spectra of the titration of **13** and **14** into 1  $\mu\text{M}$  solutions of cage **1** in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ . Guests were added in 1  $\mu\text{L}$  aliquots from a 9 mM stock solution in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ .



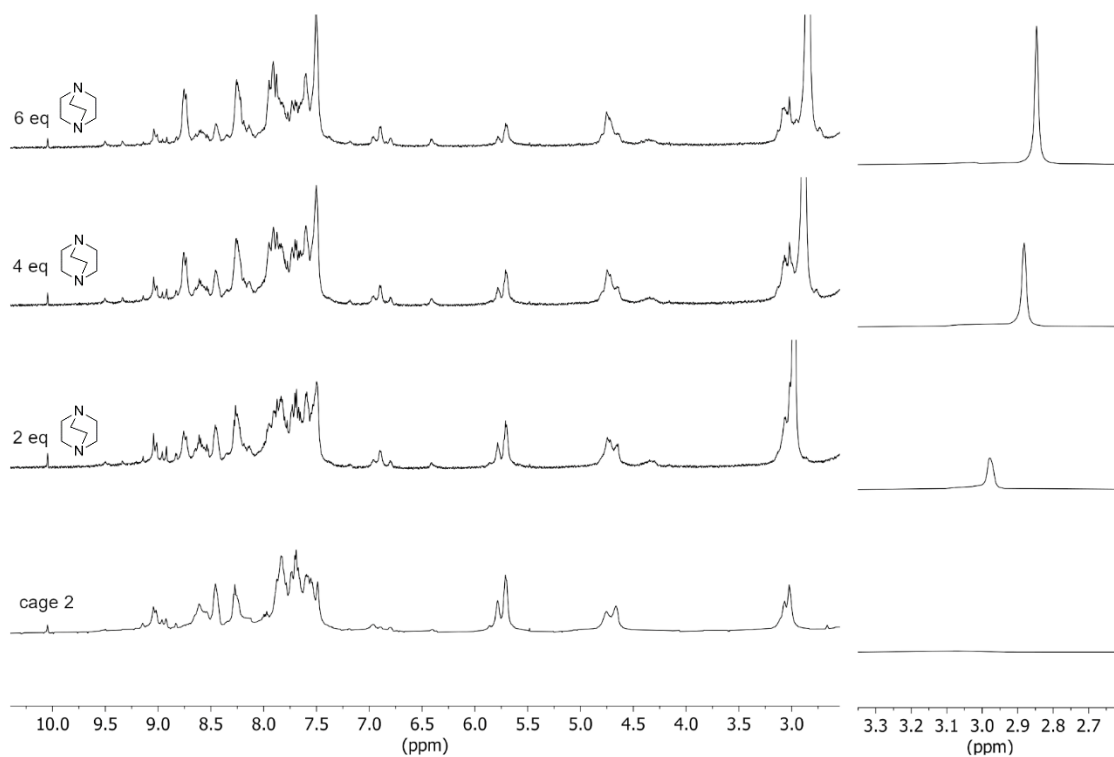
**Figure S-62.** UV-Vis absorption spectra of the titration of **13** and **14** into 1  $\mu\text{M}$  solutions of cage **2** in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ . Guests were added in 1  $\mu\text{L}$  aliquots from a 9 mM stock solution in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ .



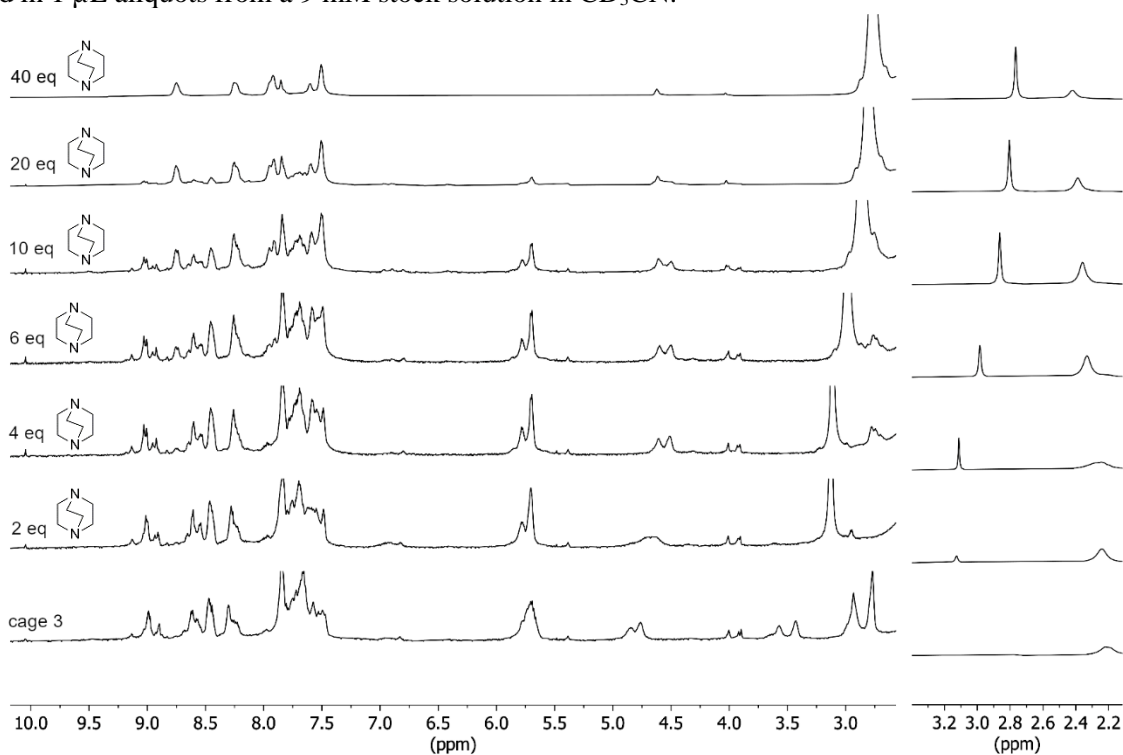
**Figure S-63.** UV-Vis absorption spectra of the titration of **13** and **14** into 1  $\mu\text{M}$  solutions of cage **3** in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ . Guests were added in 1  $\mu\text{L}$  aliquots from a 9 mM stock solution in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ .



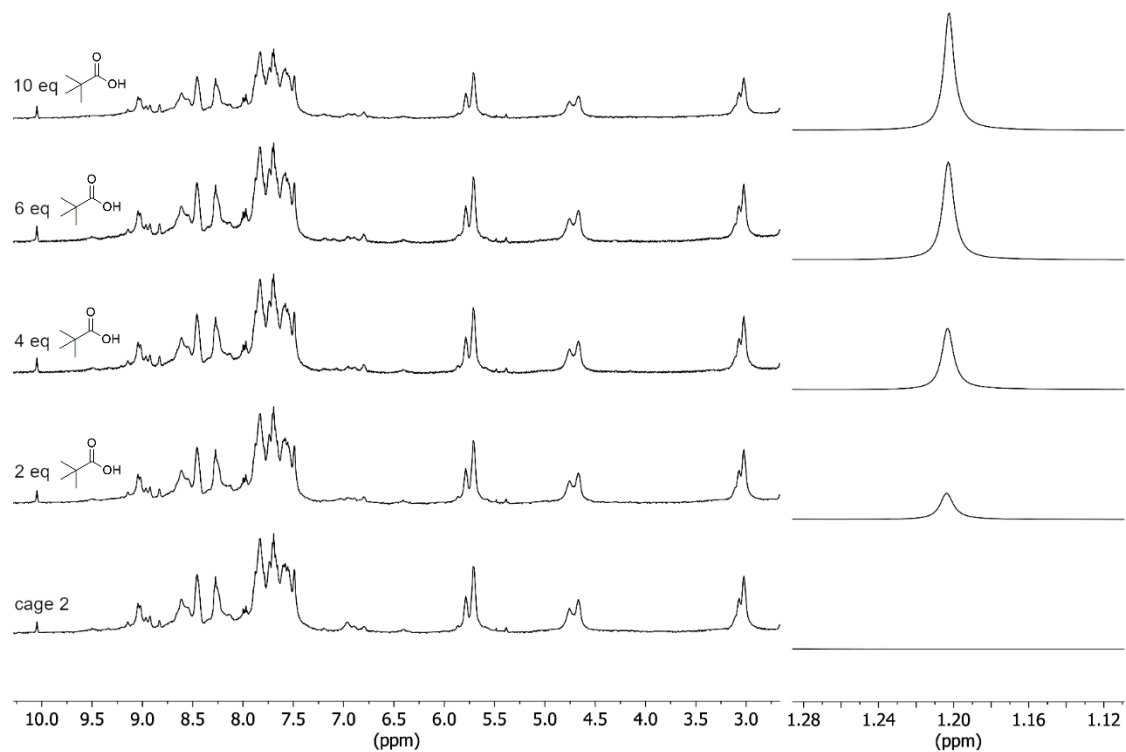
**Figure S-64.** UV-Vis absorption spectrum of the titration of **13** into 1  $\mu\text{M}$  solutions of cage **5** in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ . Guest was added in 1  $\mu\text{L}$  aliquots from a 9 mM stock solution in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ .



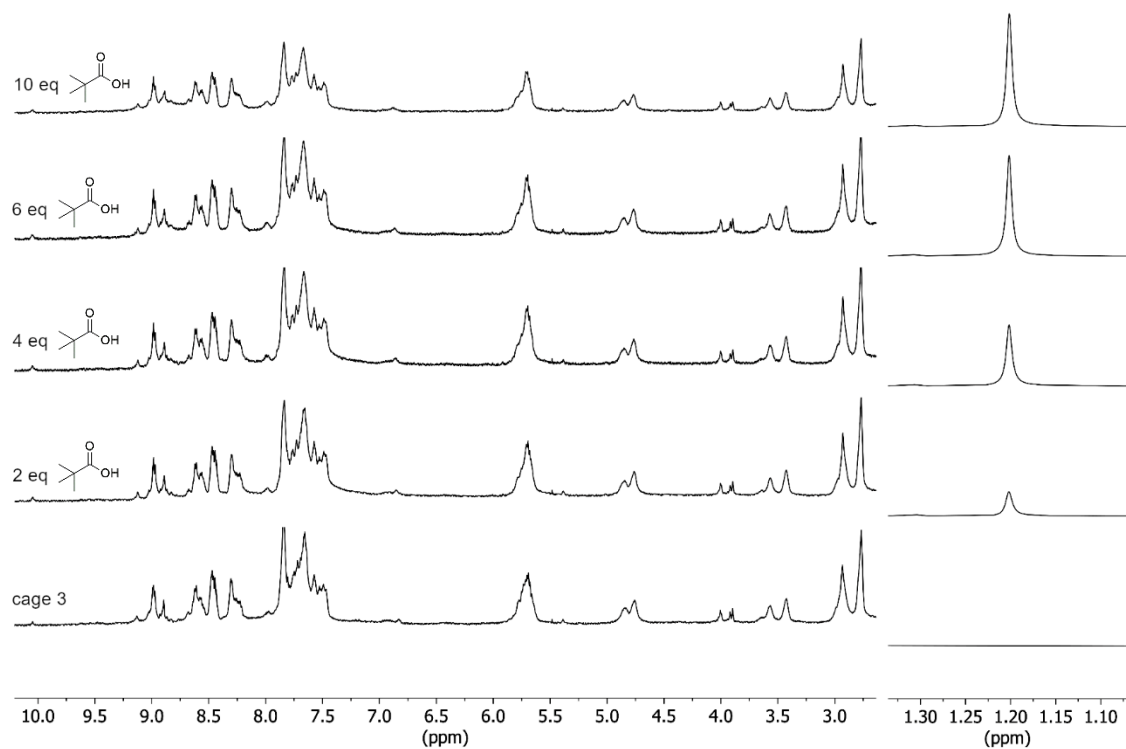
**Figure S-65.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of the titration of DABCO into a 0.9 M solution of cage **2** in CD<sub>3</sub>CN. DABCO was added in 1 μL aliquots from a 9 mM stock solution in CD<sub>3</sub>CN.



**Figure S-66.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of the titration of DABCO into a 0.9 M solution of cage **3** in CD<sub>3</sub>CN. DABCO was added in 1 μL aliquots from a 9 mM stock solution in CD<sub>3</sub>CN.



**Figure S-67.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of the titration of pivalic acid into a 0.9 M solution of cage 2 in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ . Pivalic acid was added in 1  $\mu\text{L}$  aliquots from a 9 mM stock solution in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ .



**Figure S-68.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of the titration of pivalic acid into a 0.9 M solution of cage 3 in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ . Pivalic acid was added in 1  $\mu\text{L}$  aliquots from a 9 mM stock solution in  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ .

## V. References

1. Association constants calculated using BindFit software found at <http://supramolecular.org>.
2. P. Thordarson, *Chem. Soc. Rev.* 2011, **40**, 1305–1323.
3. D. B. Hibbert, P. Thordarson, *Chem. Commun.* 2016, **52**, 12792–12805.