

## Synthesis and photophysical properties of 1,7-aroYL BODIPYs: An experimental and theoretical study

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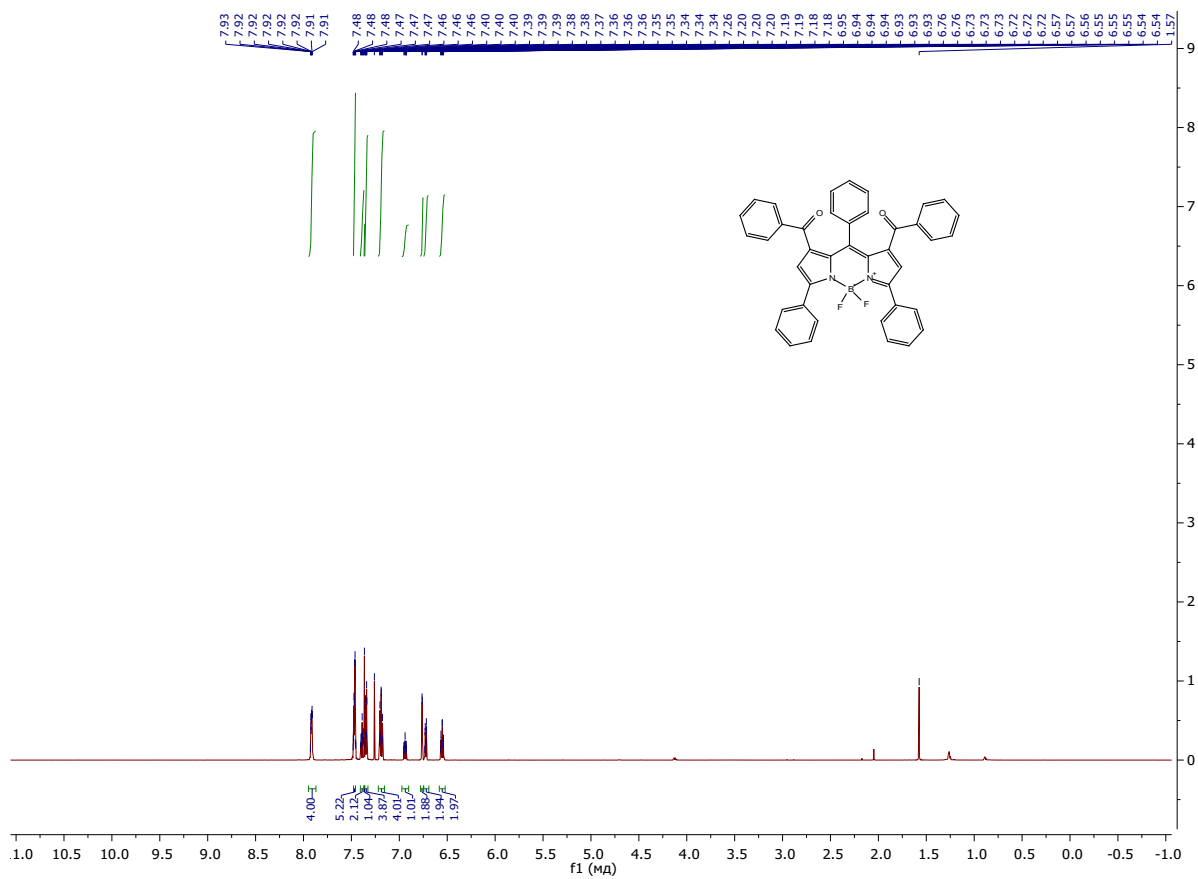
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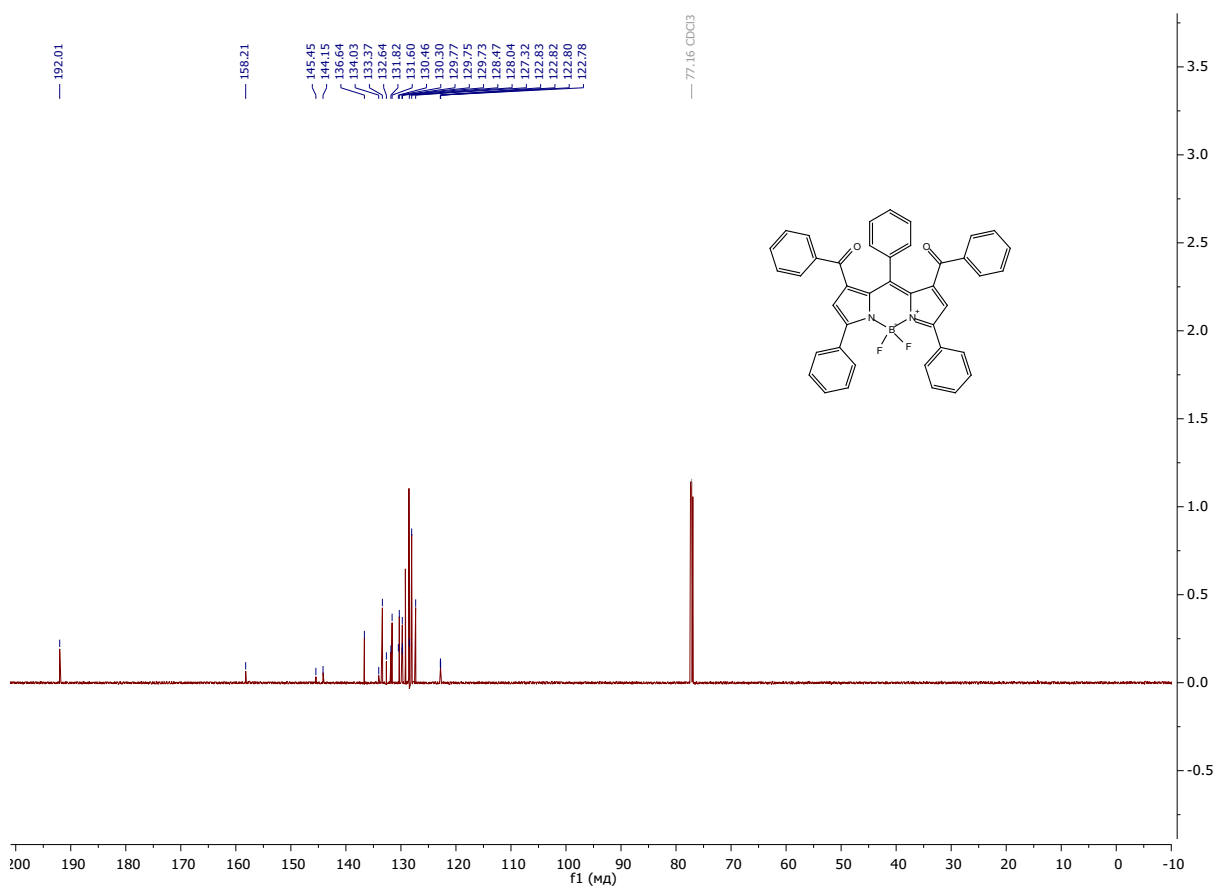
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# 1. NMR spectra for products

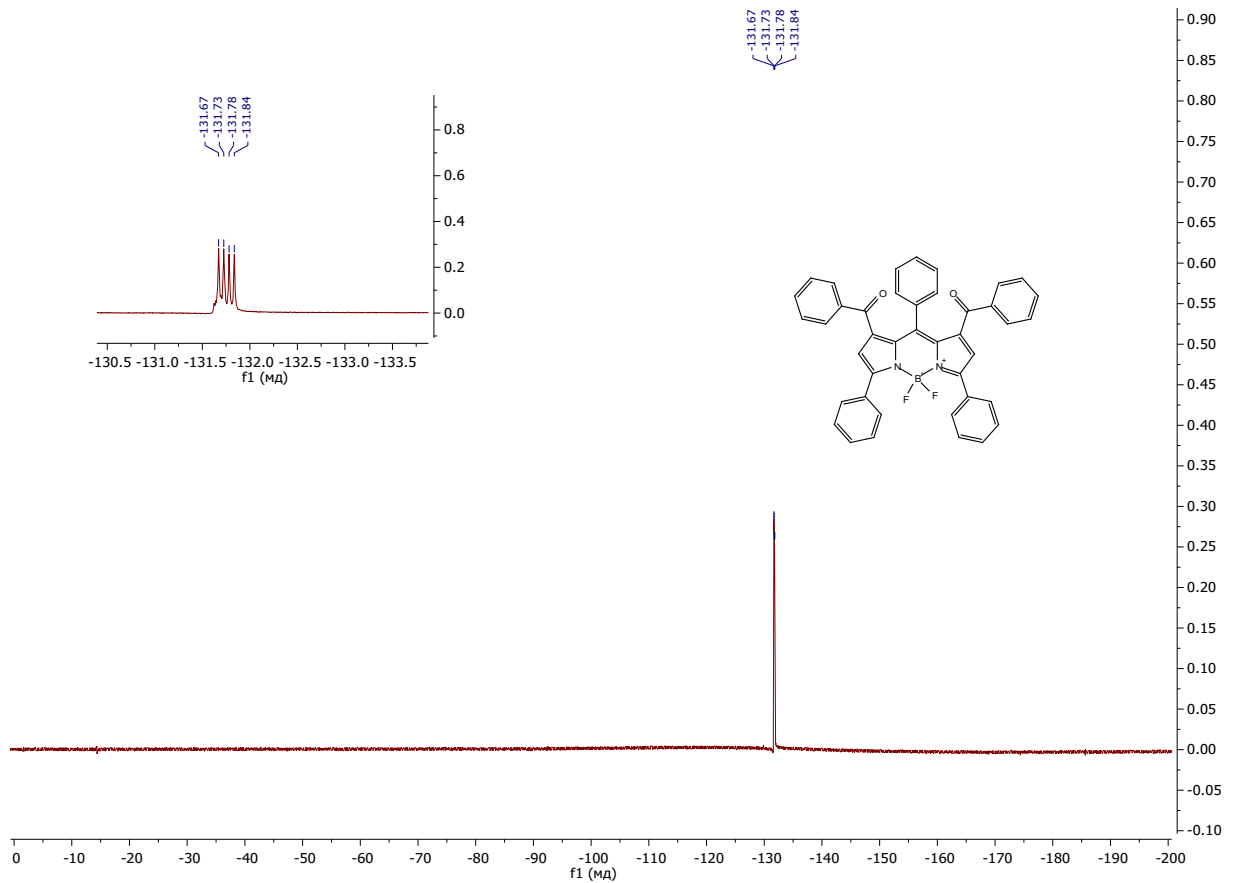
## <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 4a



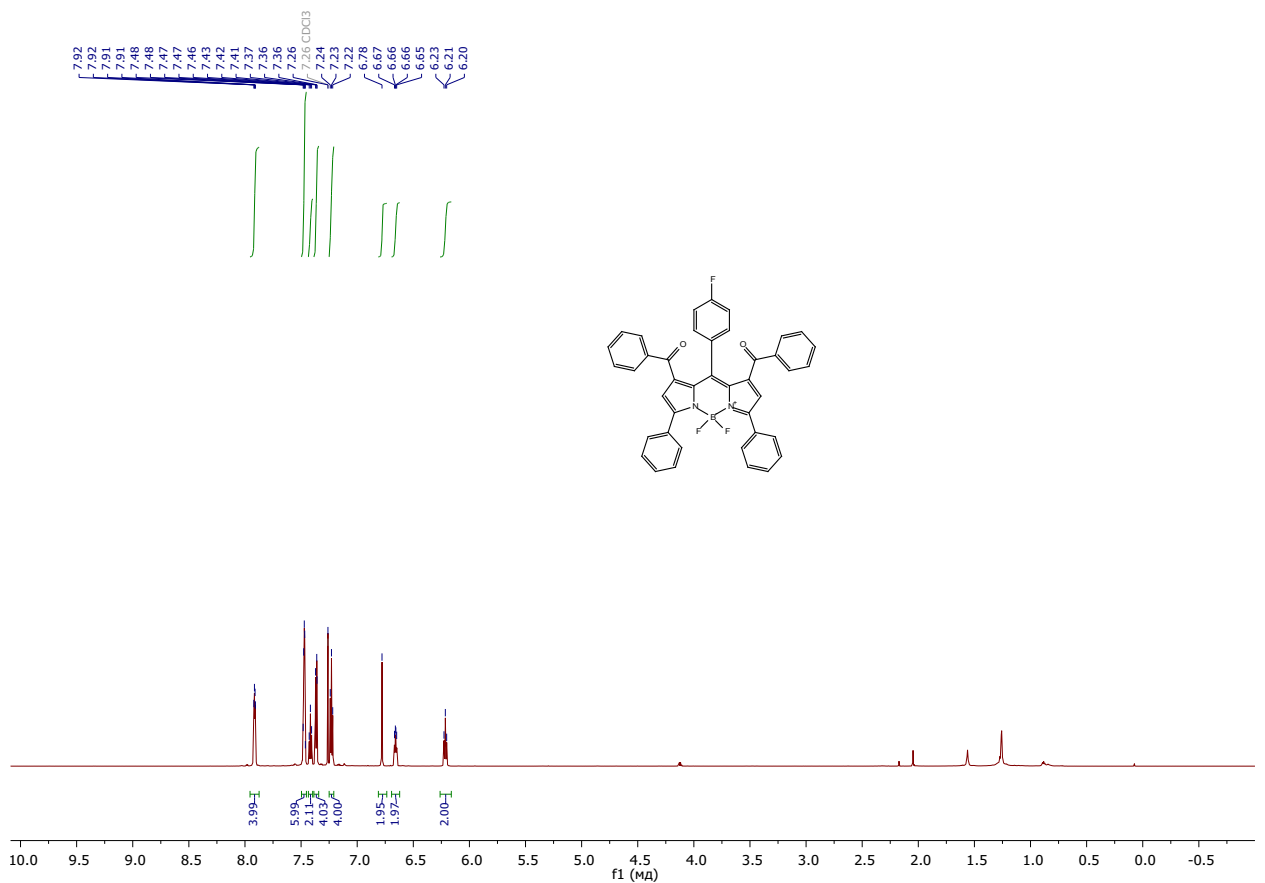
## <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 4a



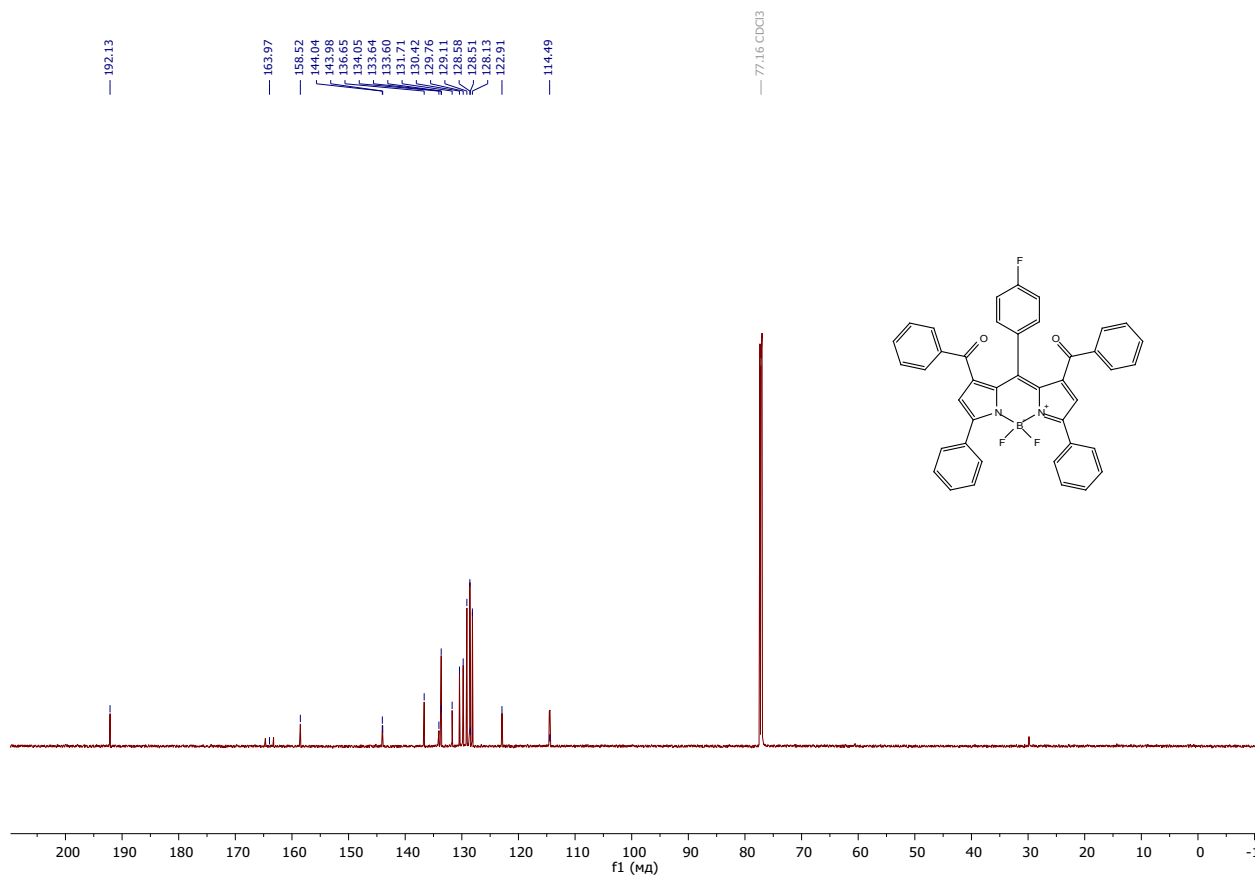
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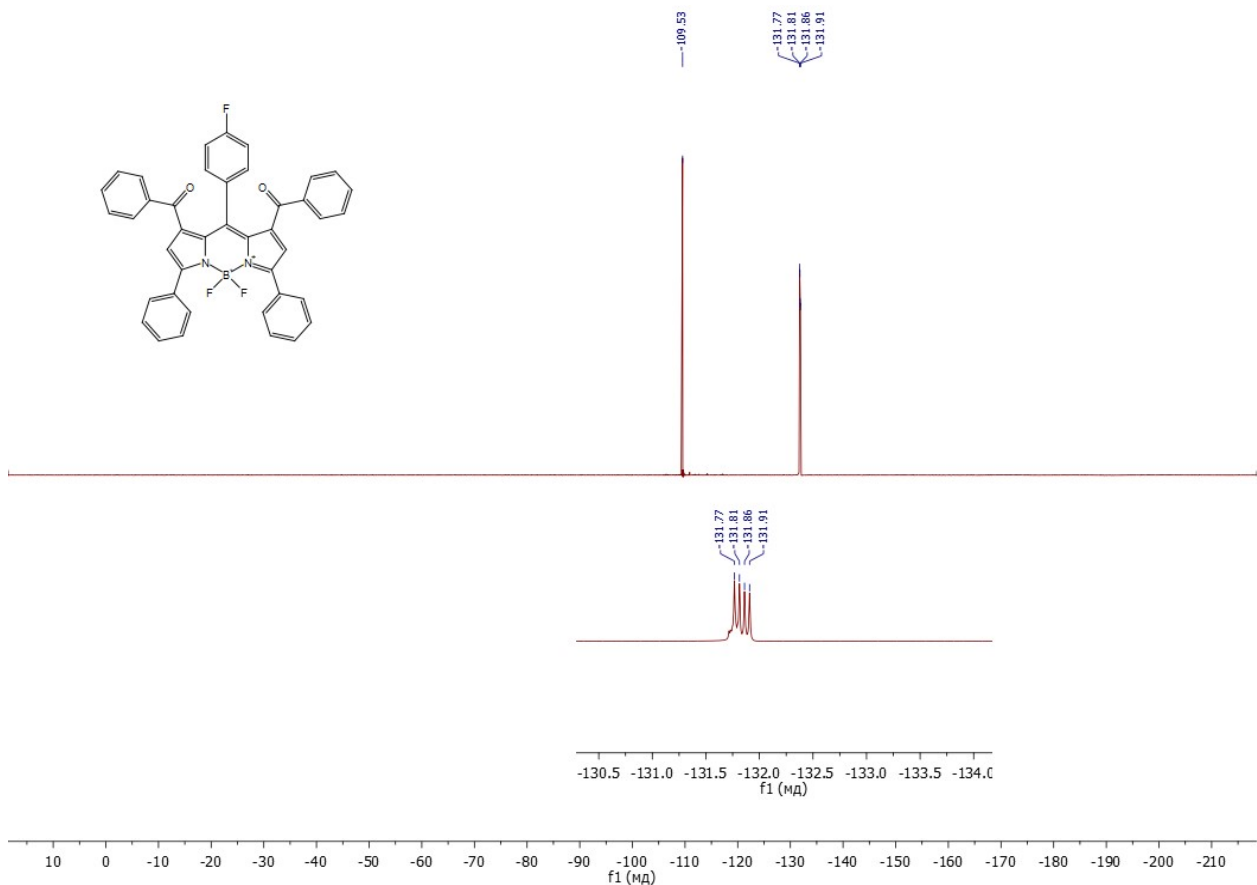
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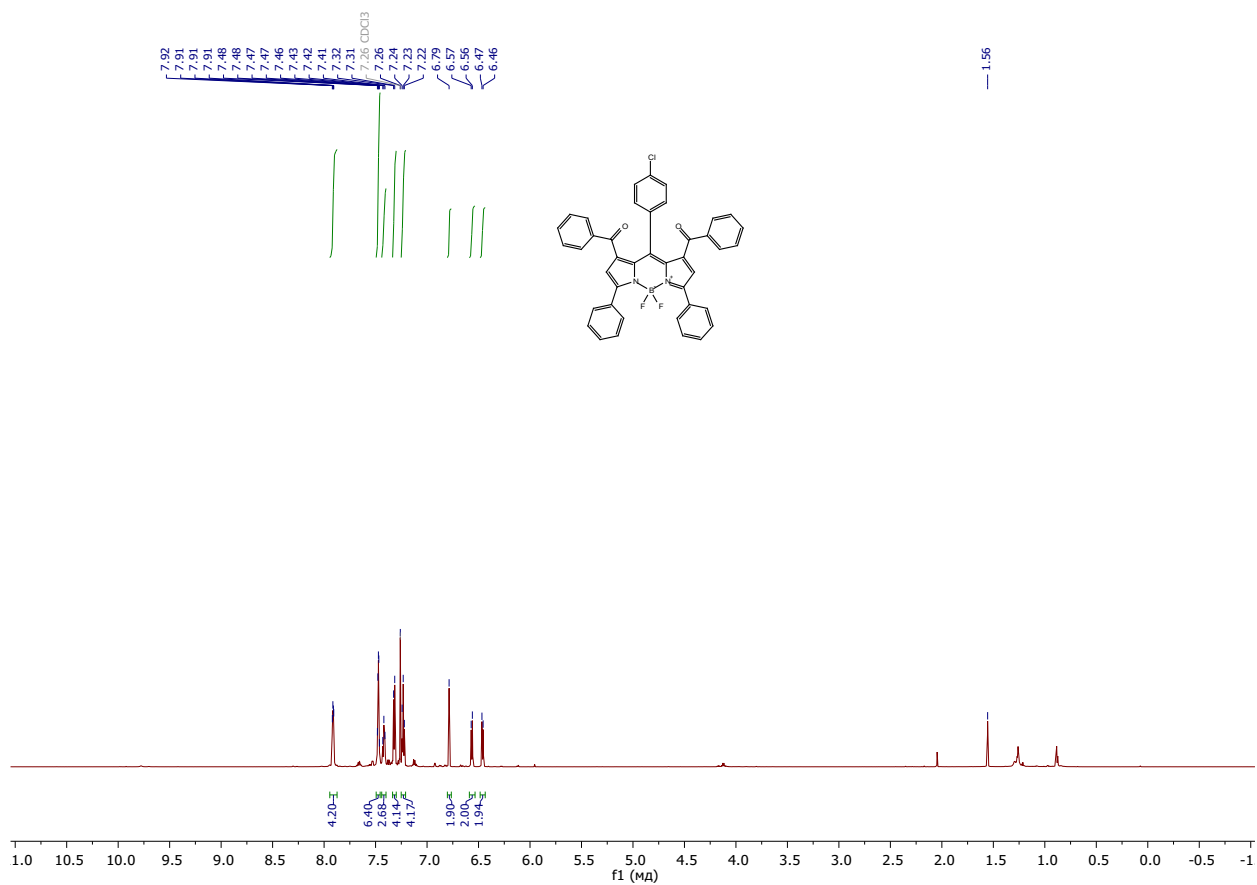
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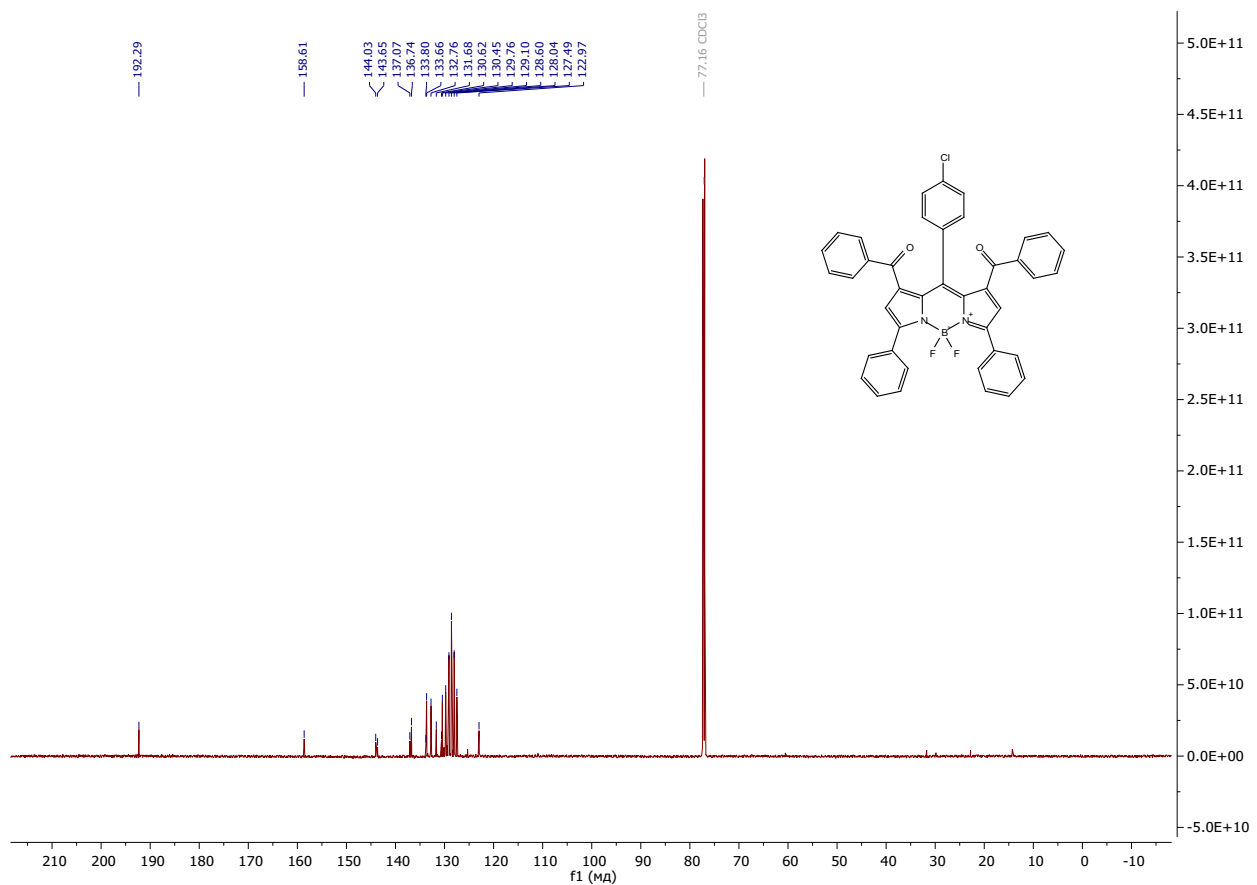
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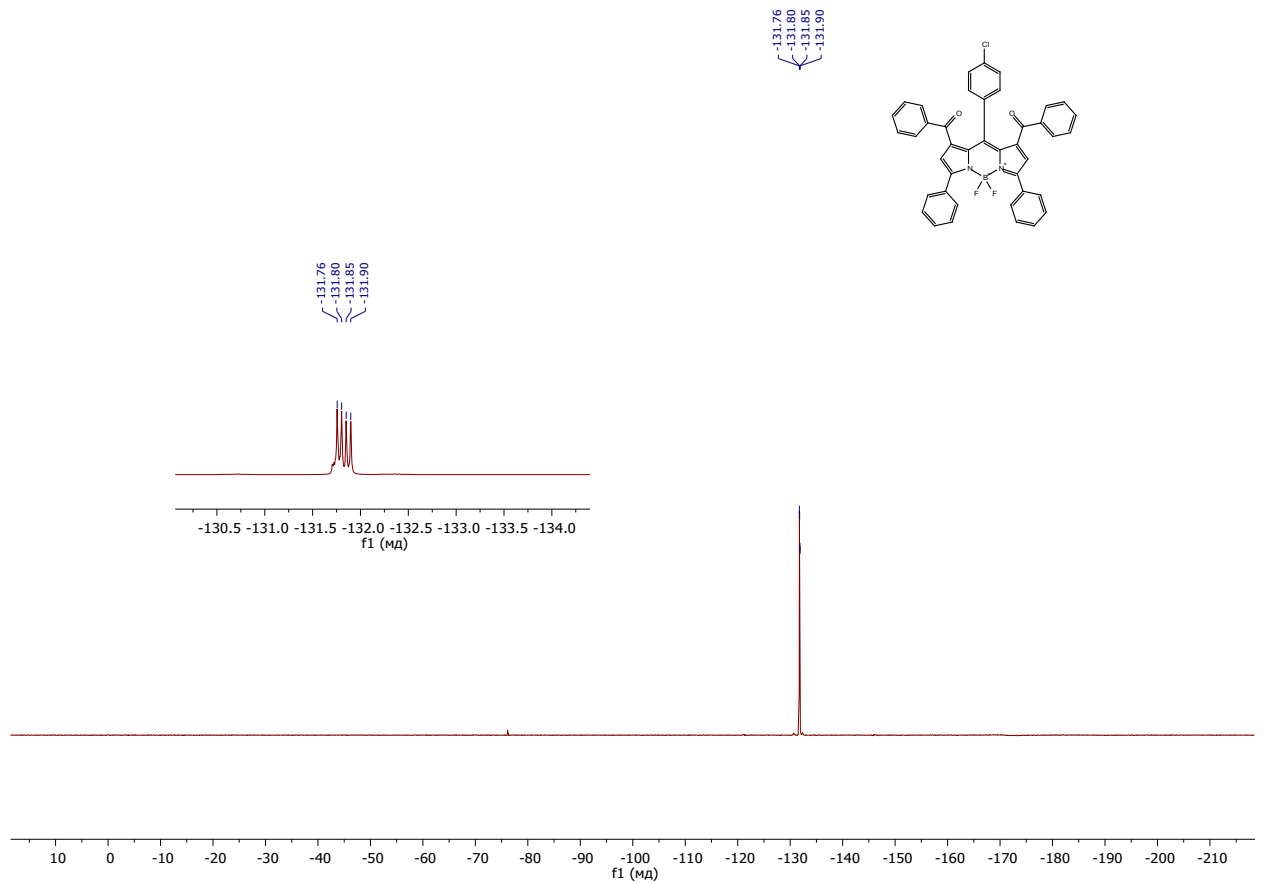
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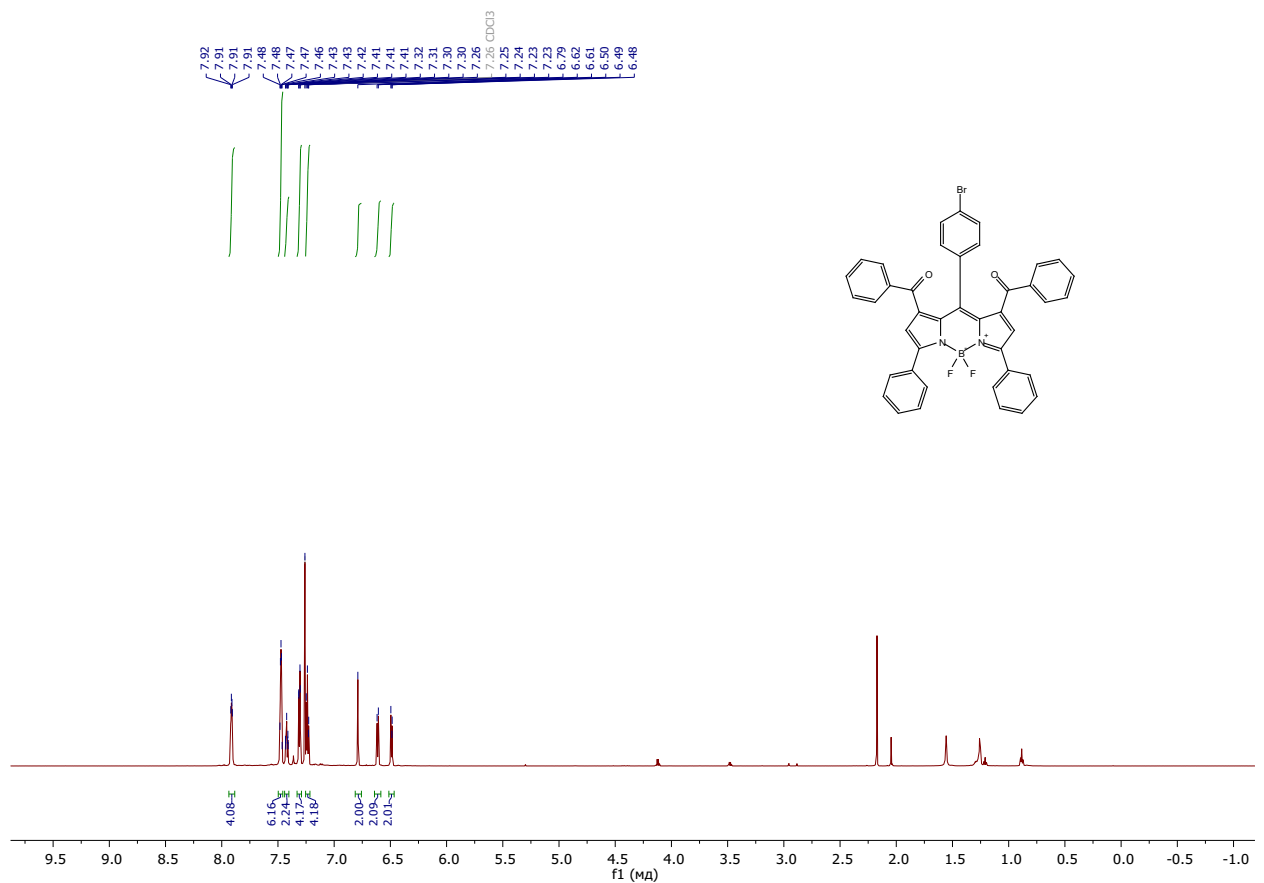
# <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 4c



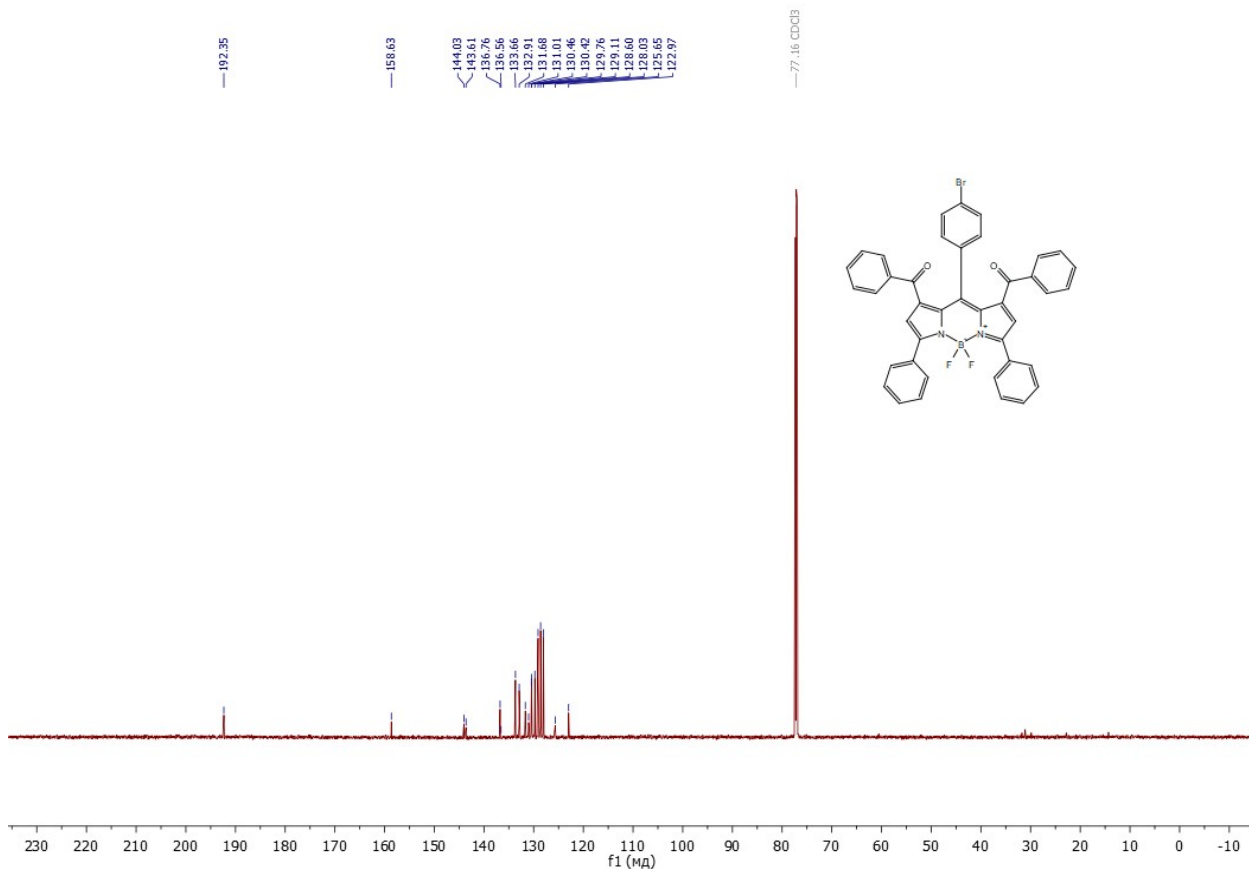
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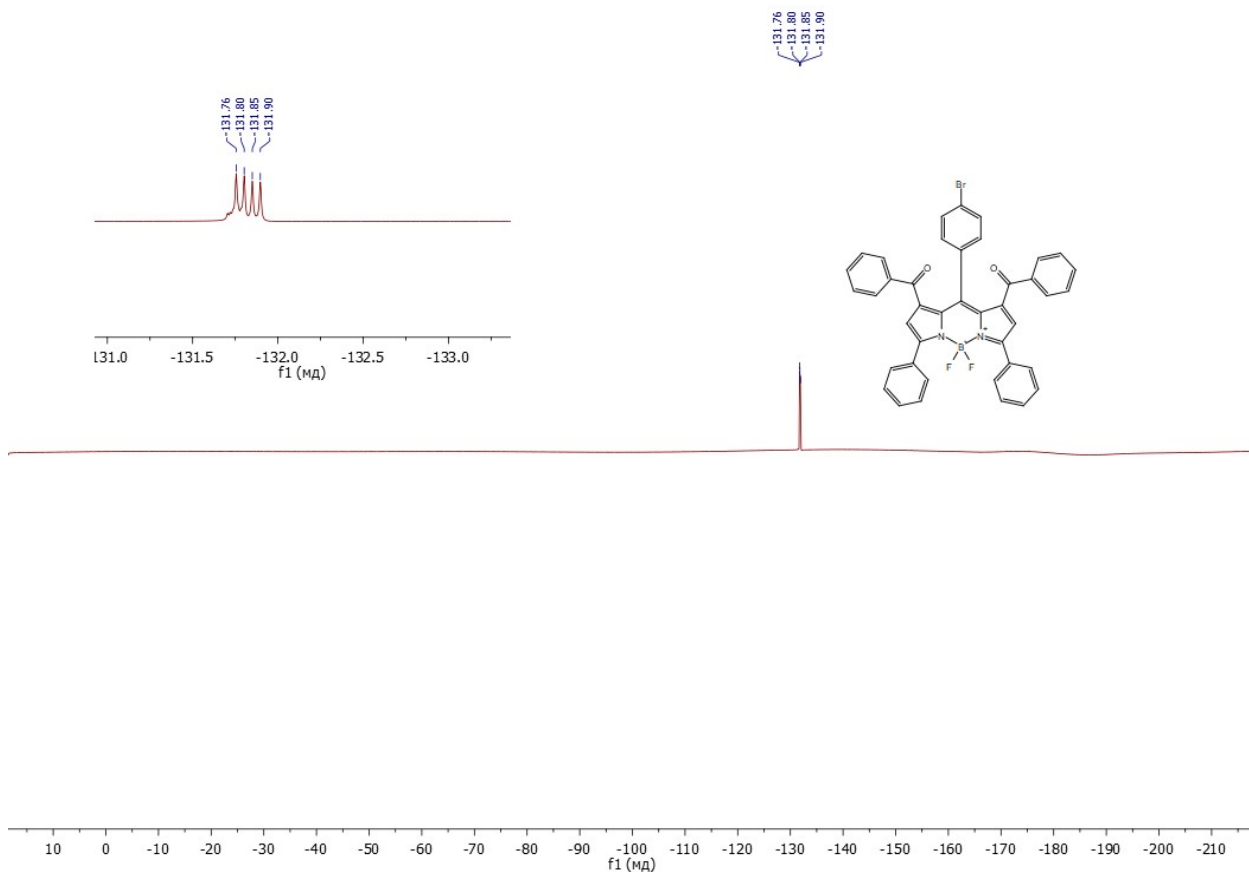
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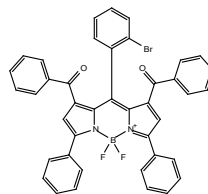
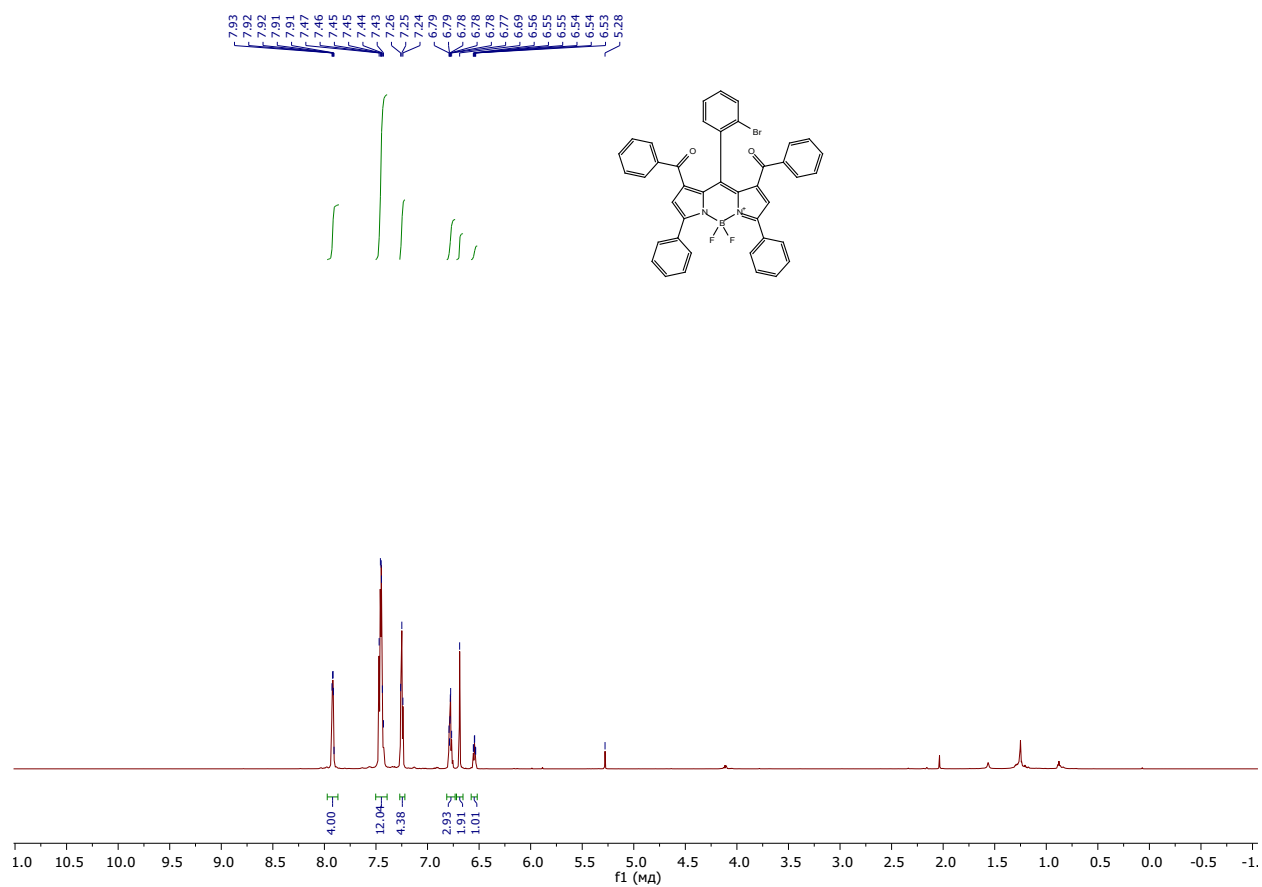
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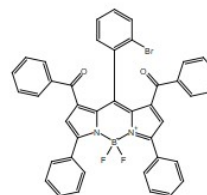
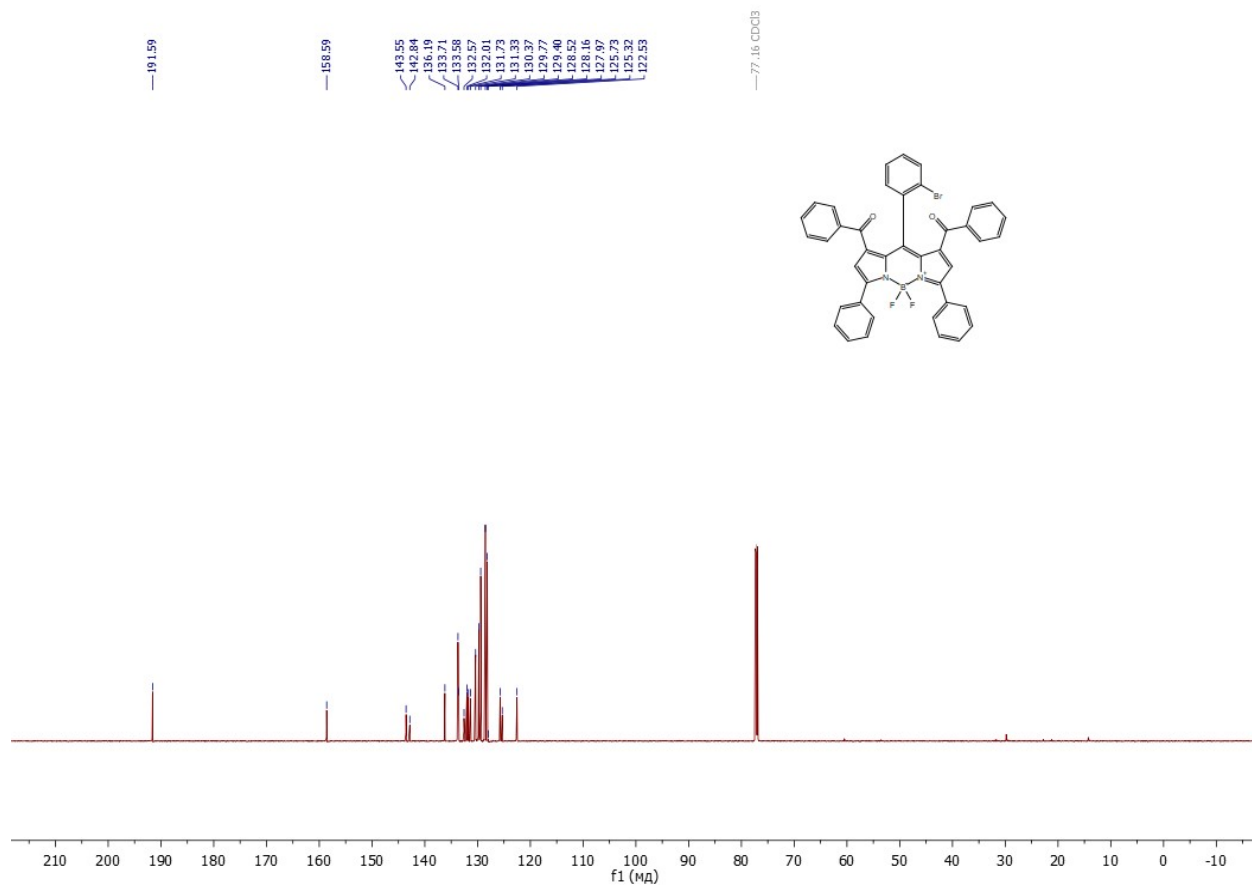
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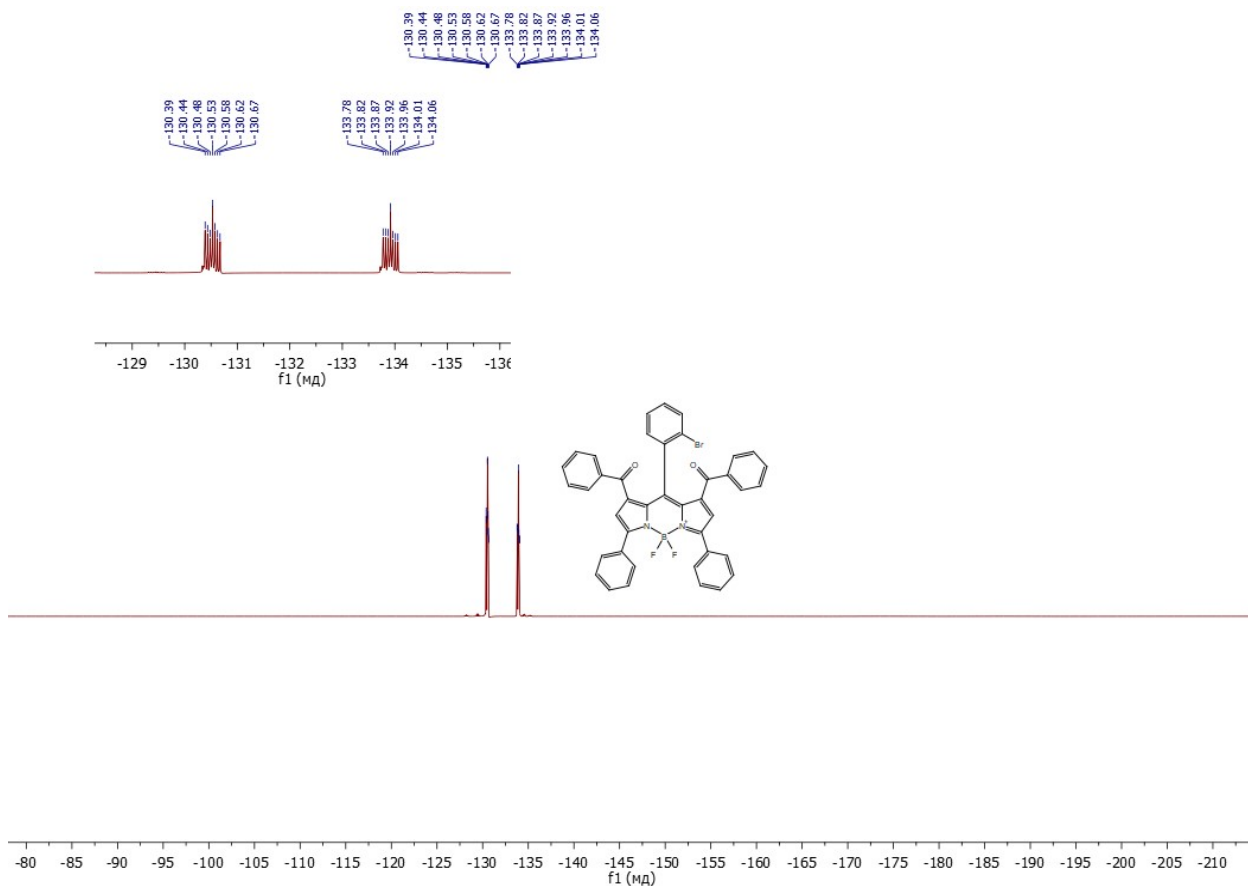


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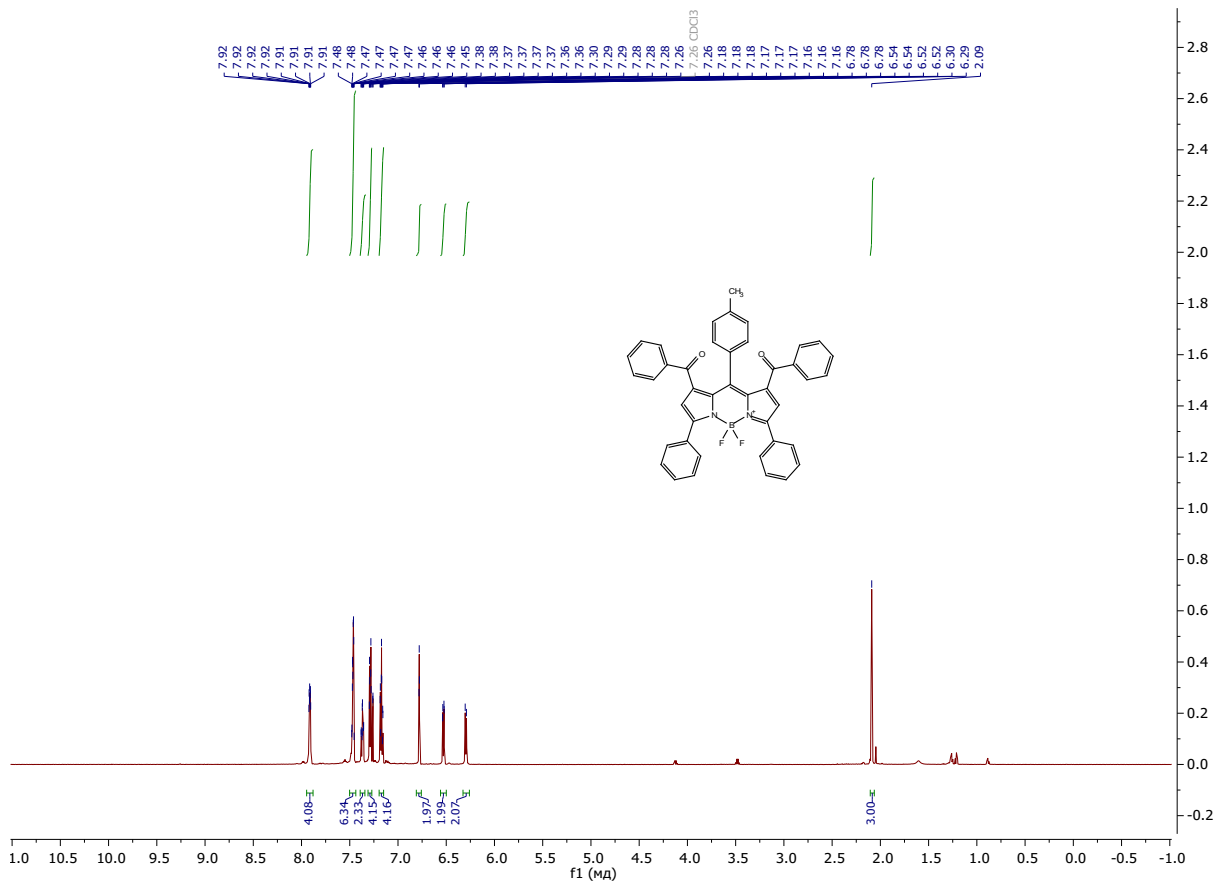




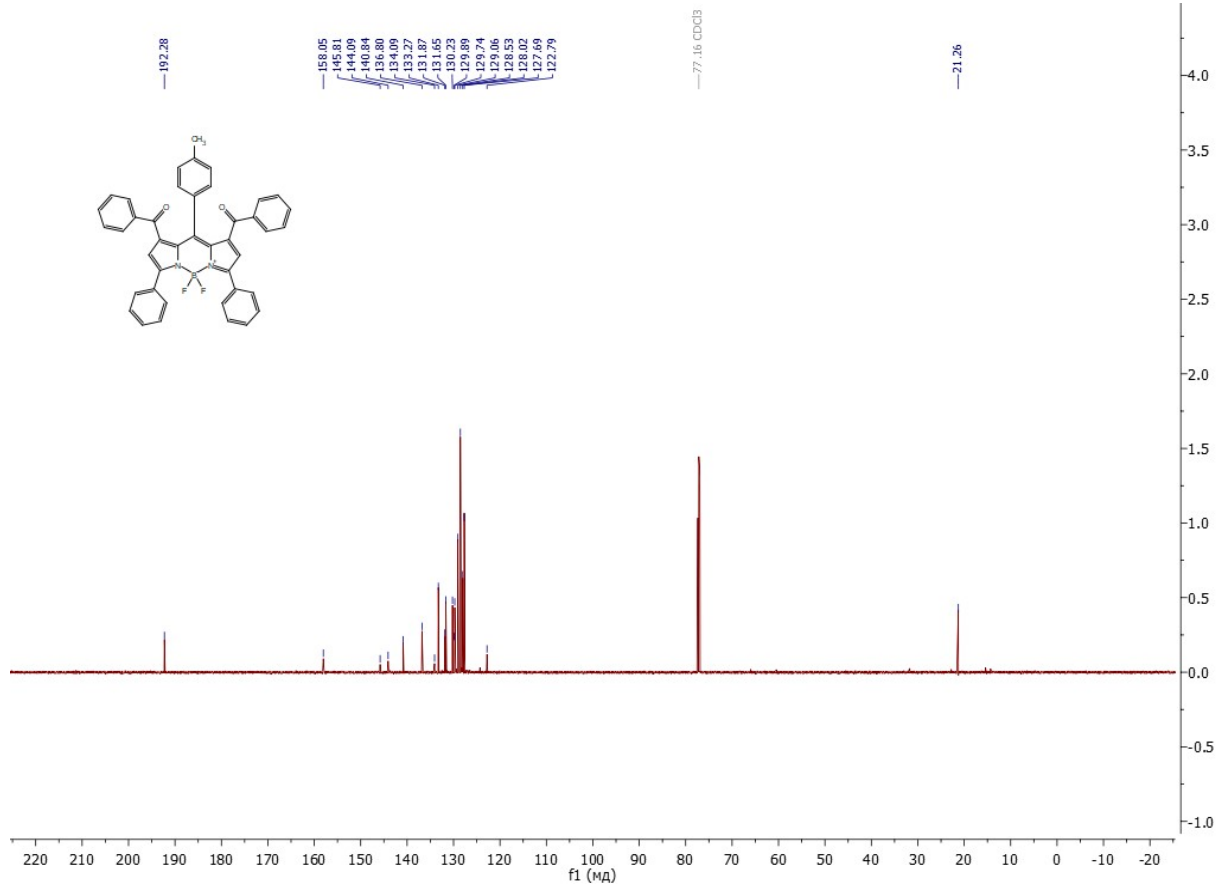
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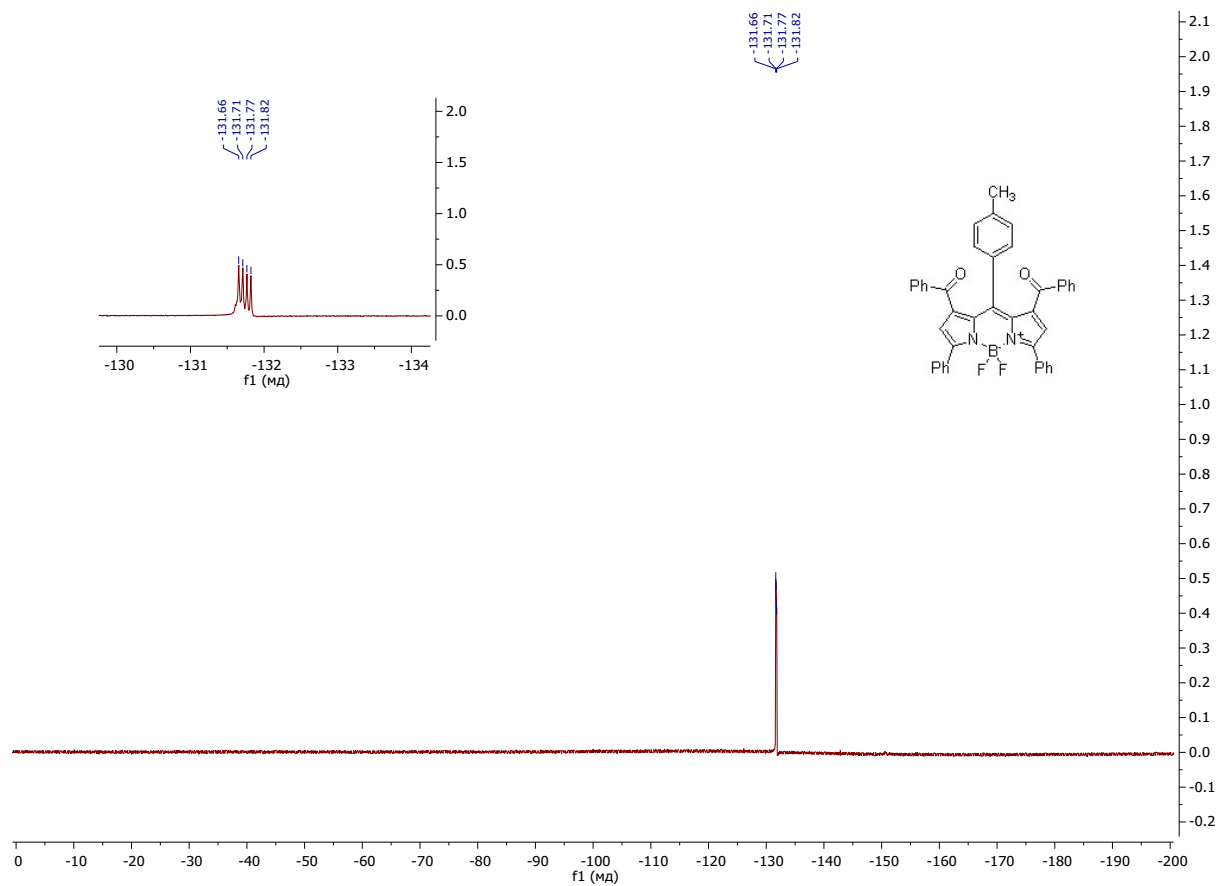
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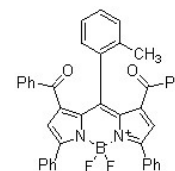
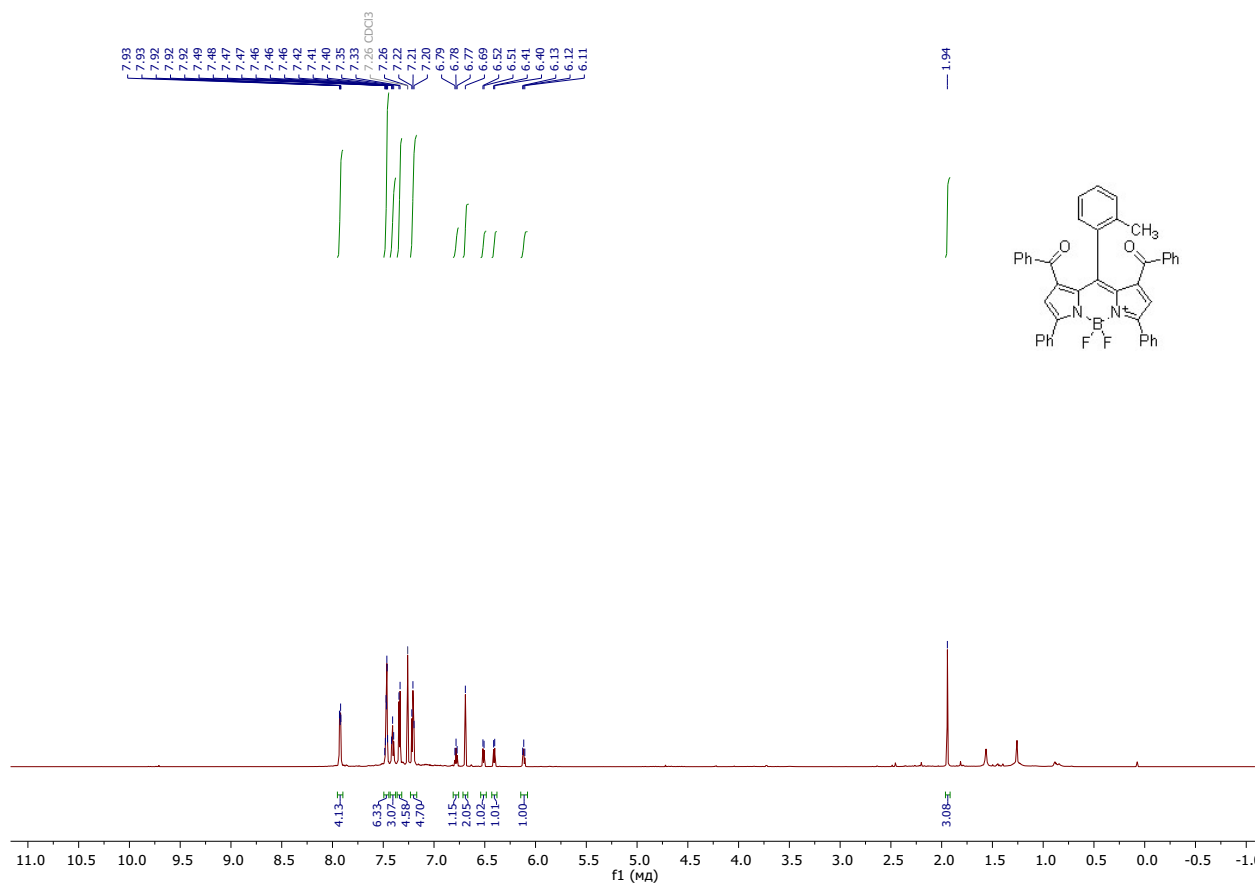
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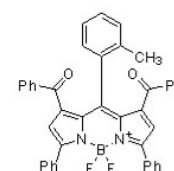
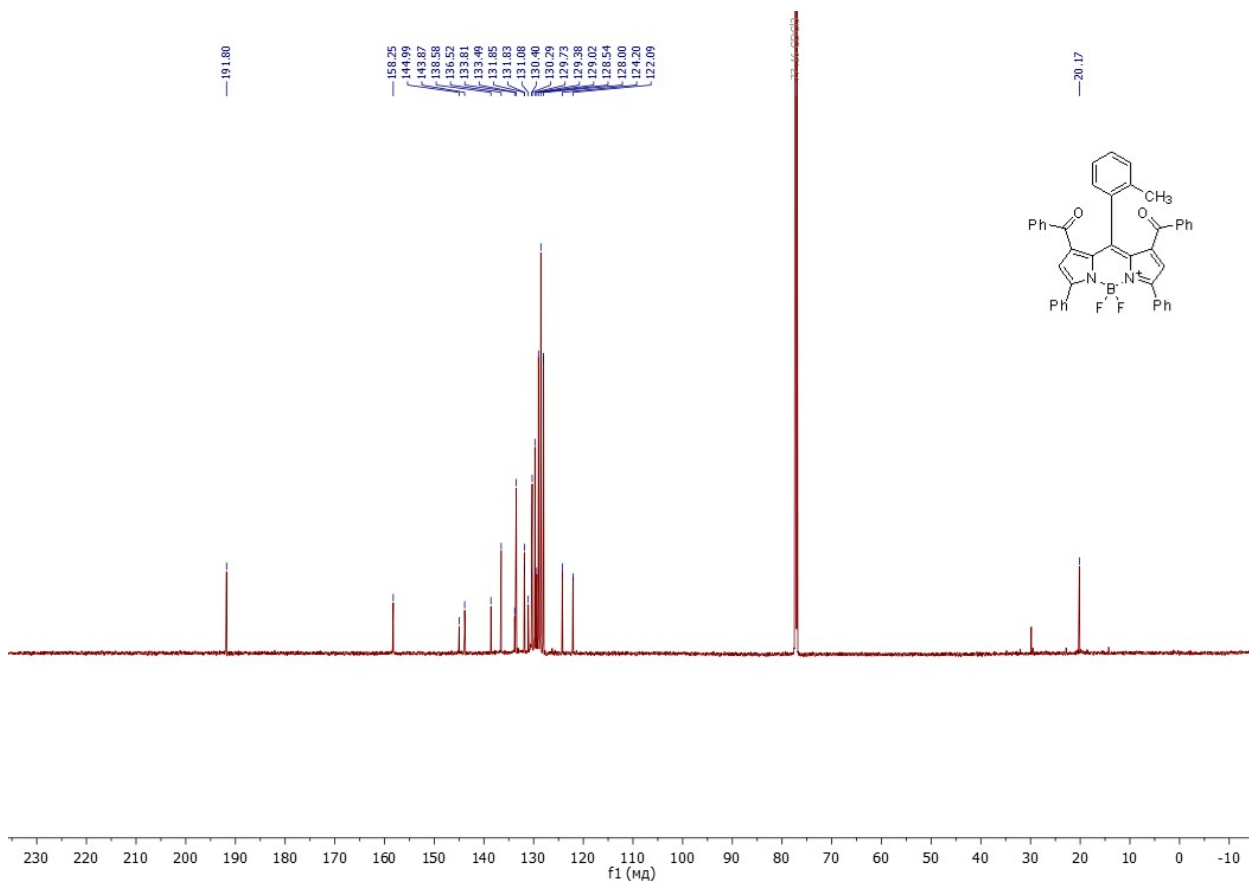
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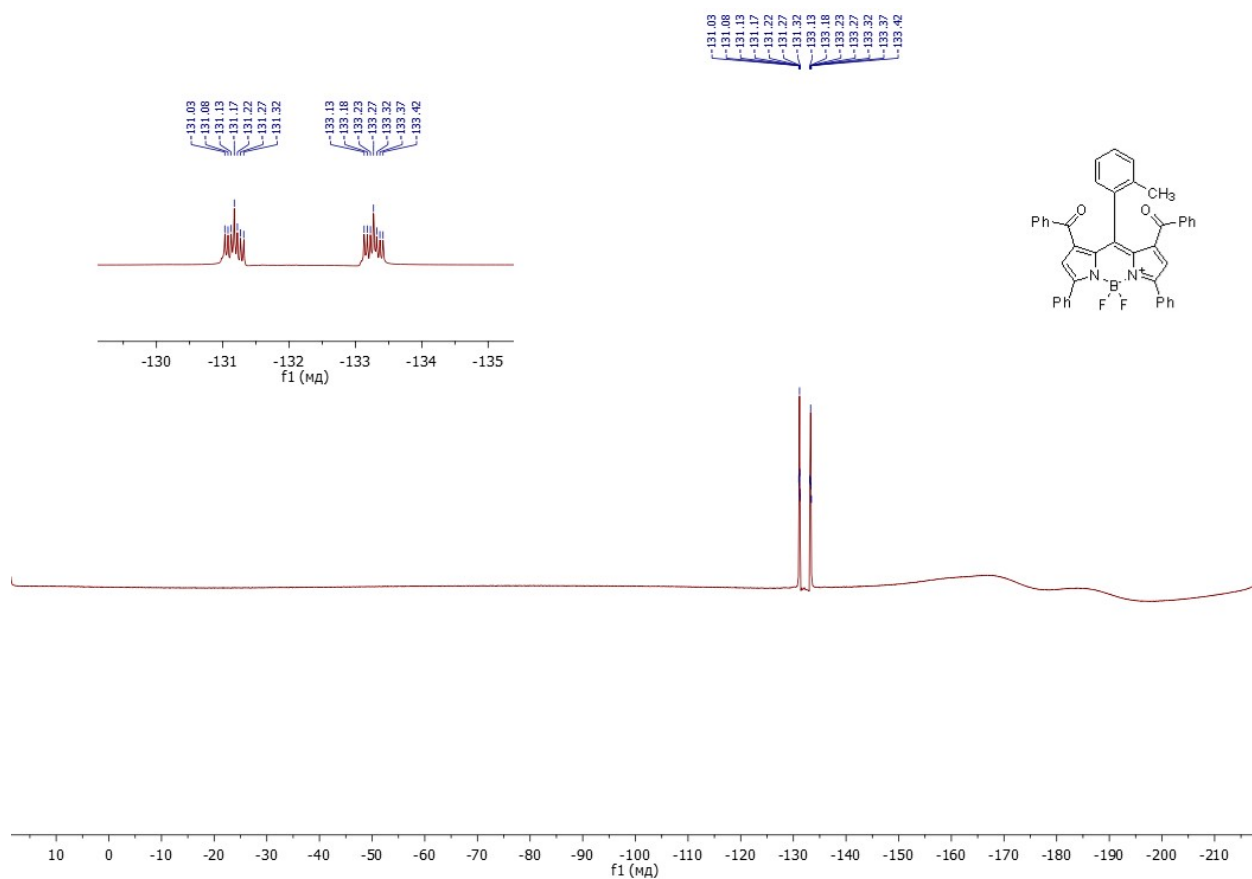
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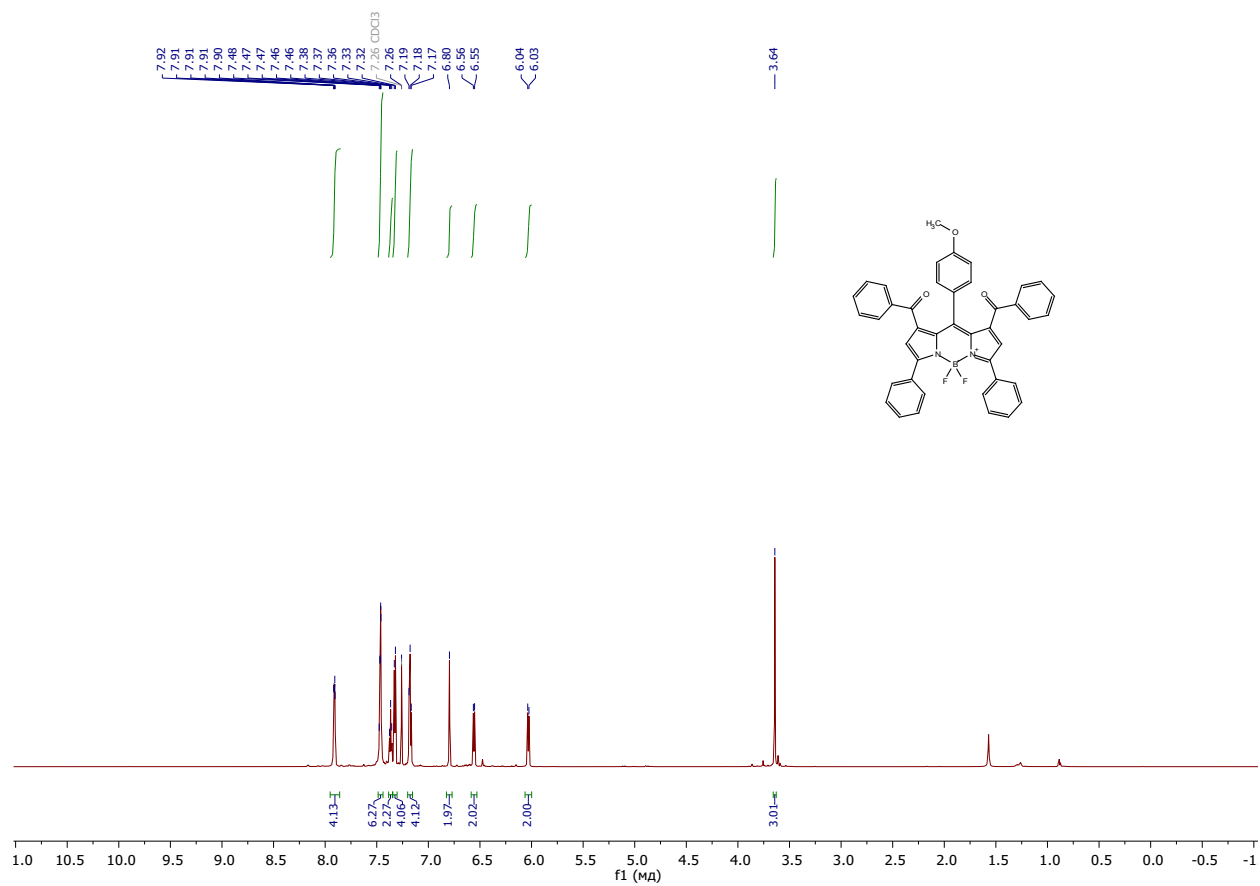
### <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **4g**



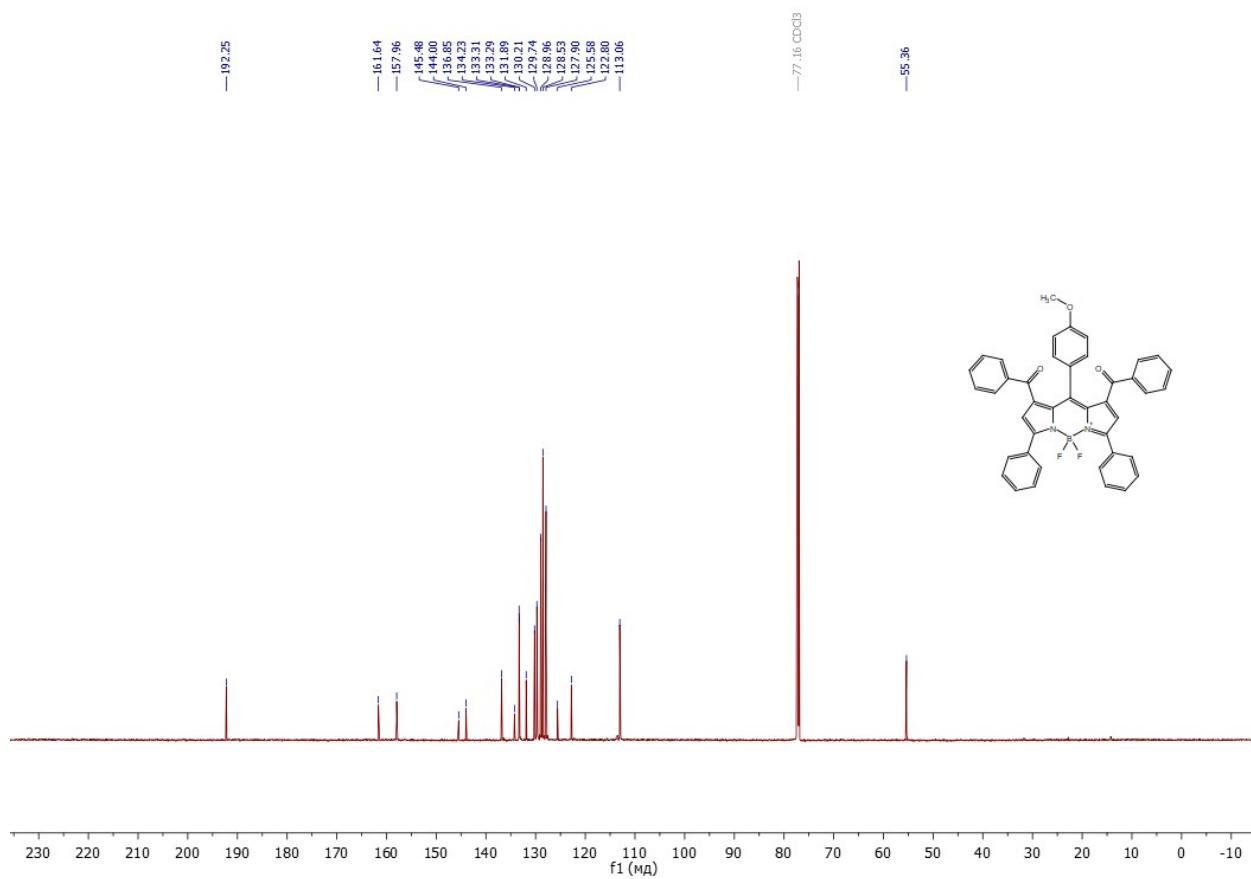
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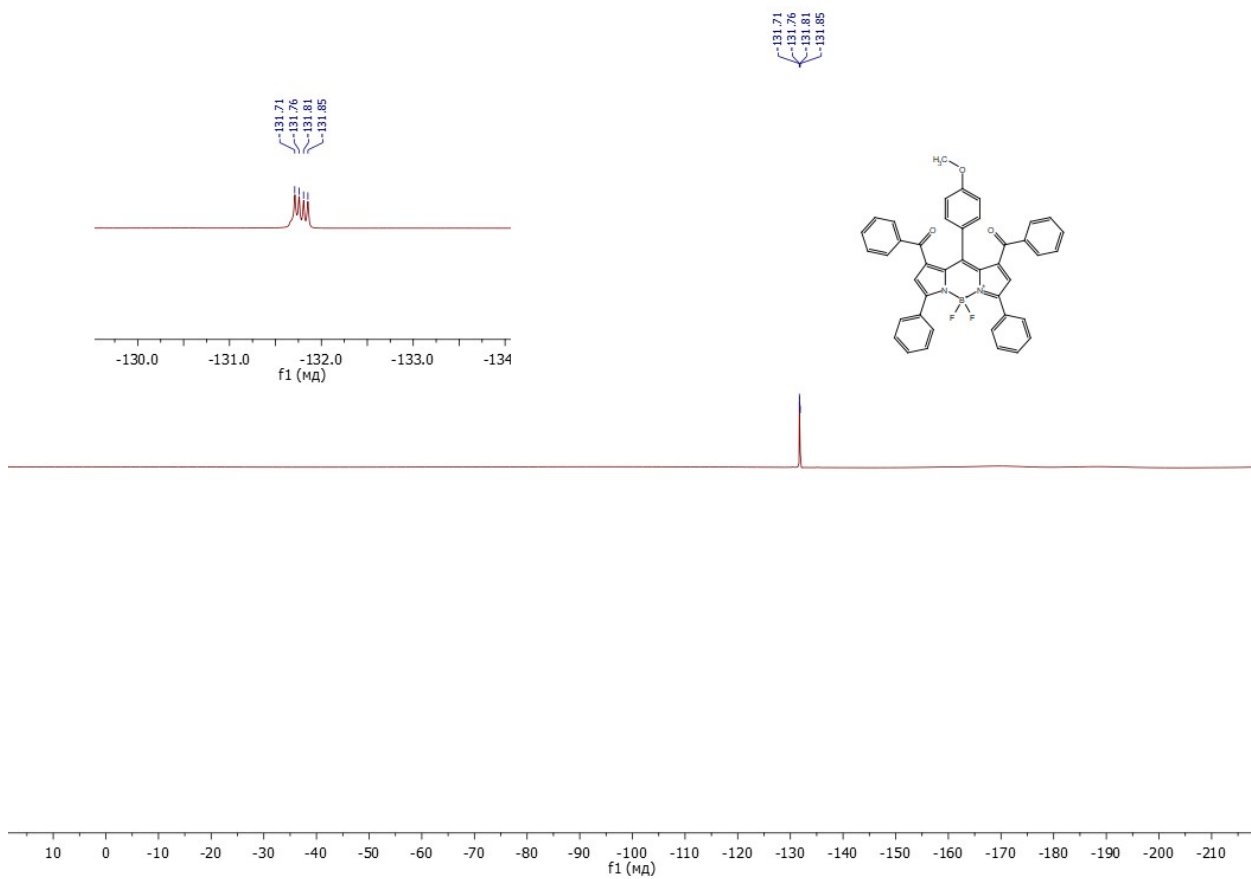
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### $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectrum of **4h**

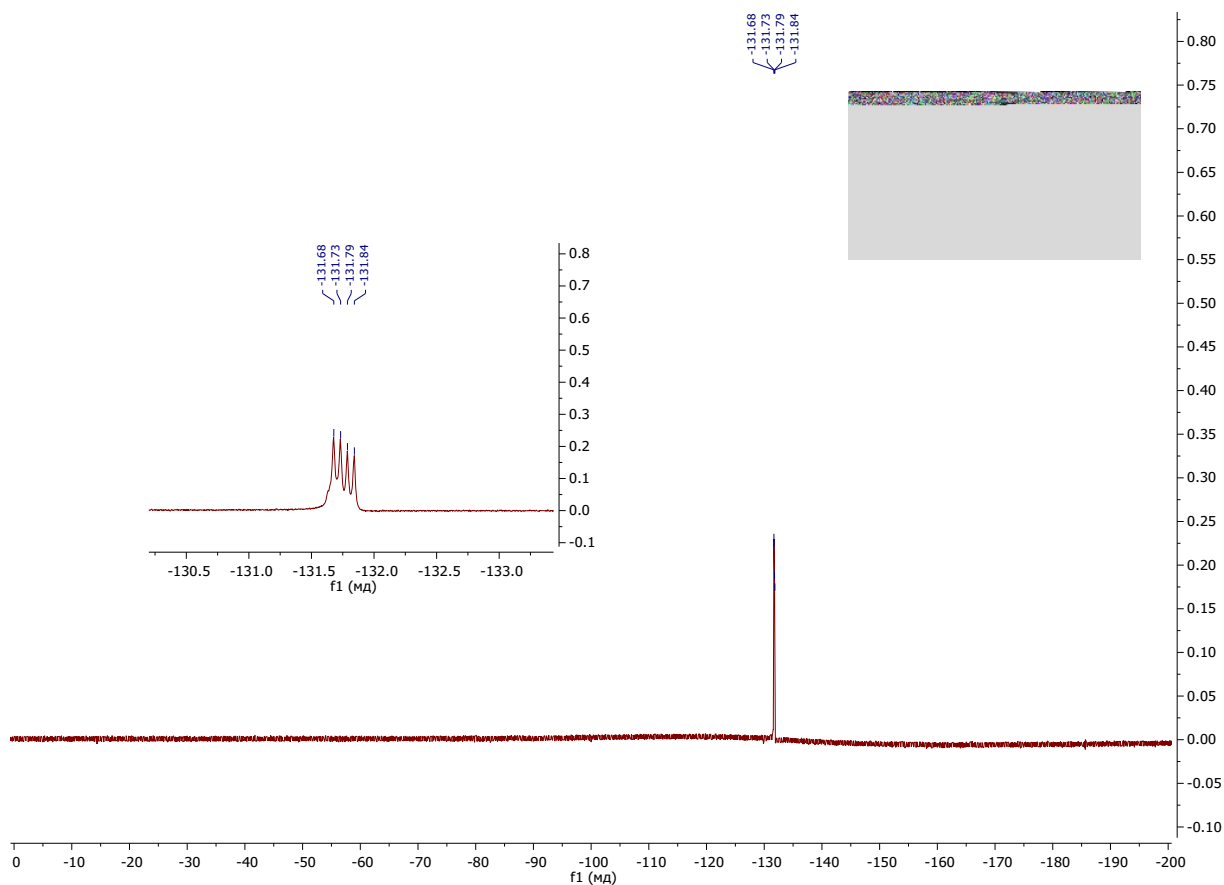


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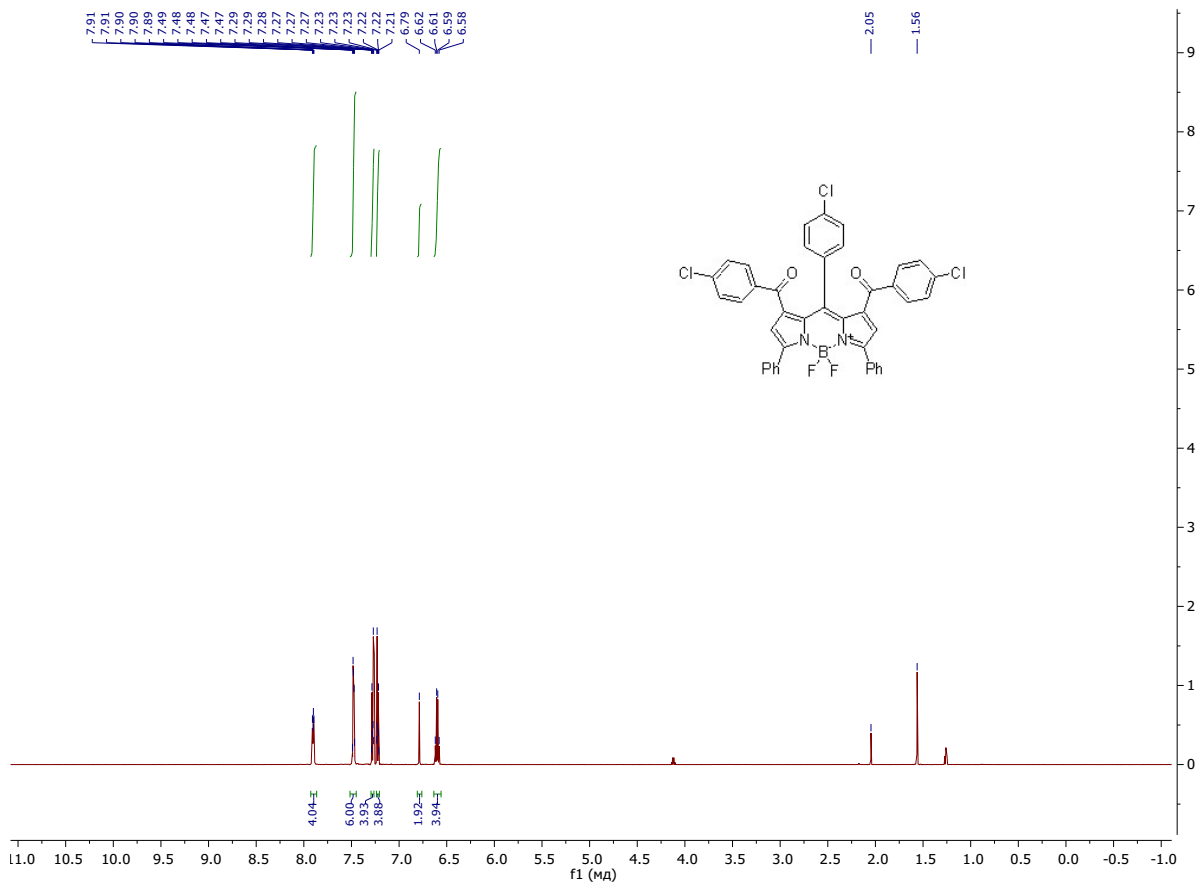




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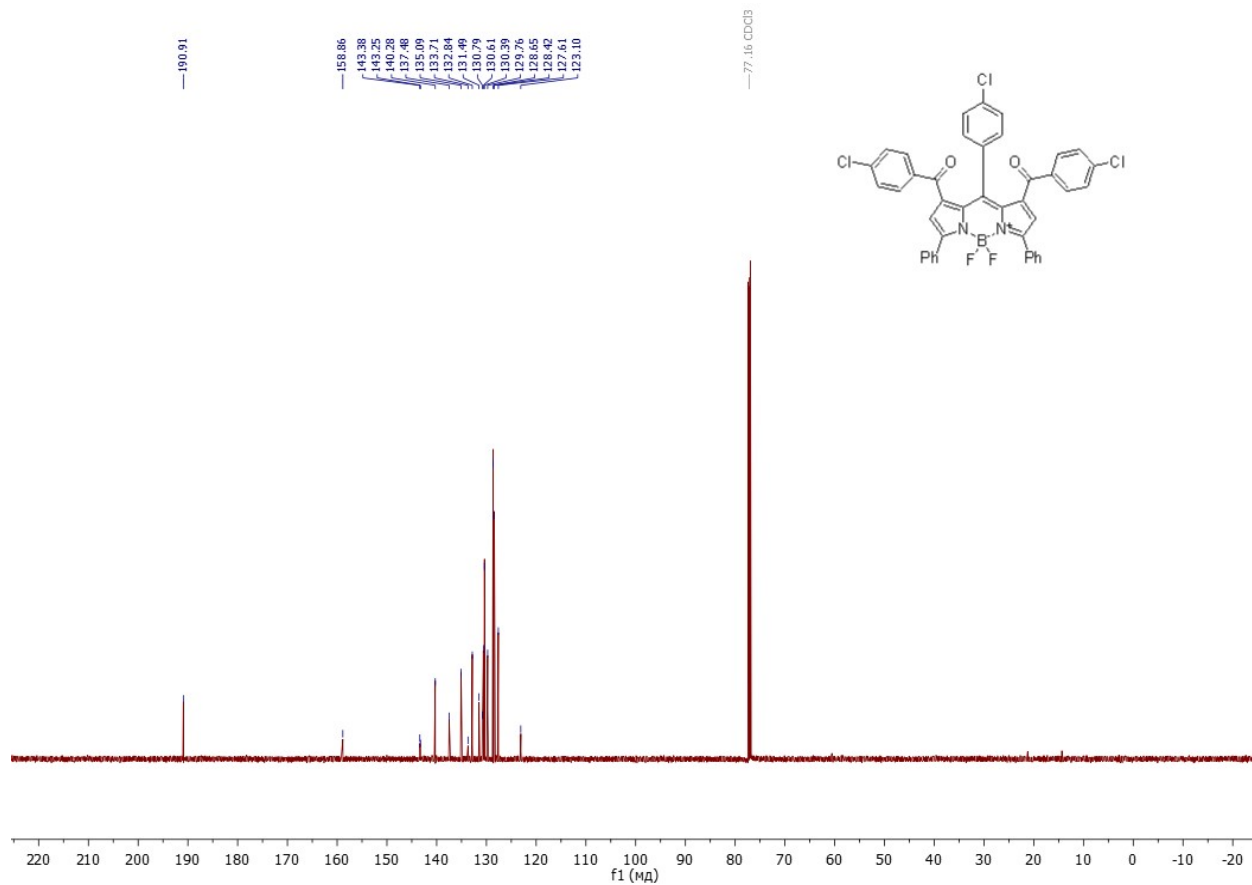


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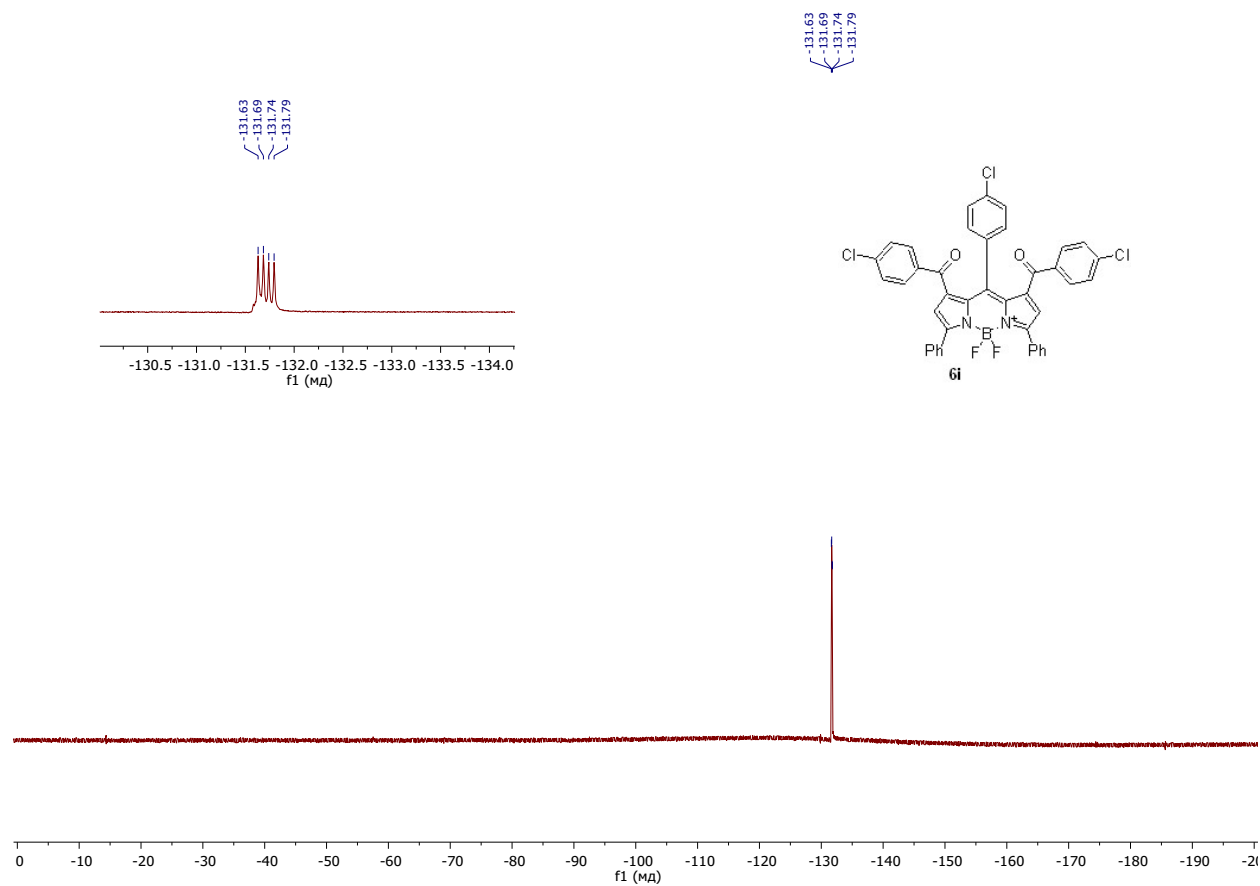




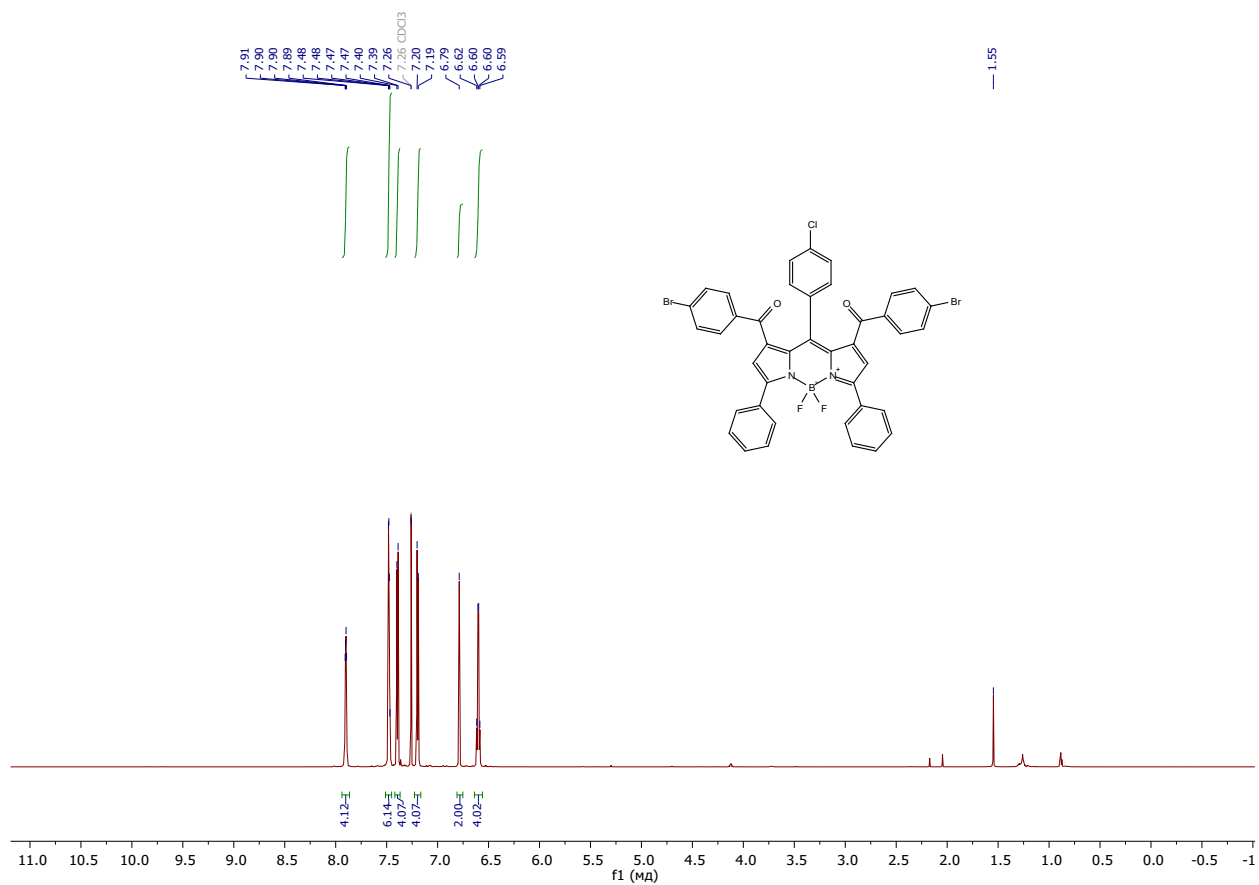
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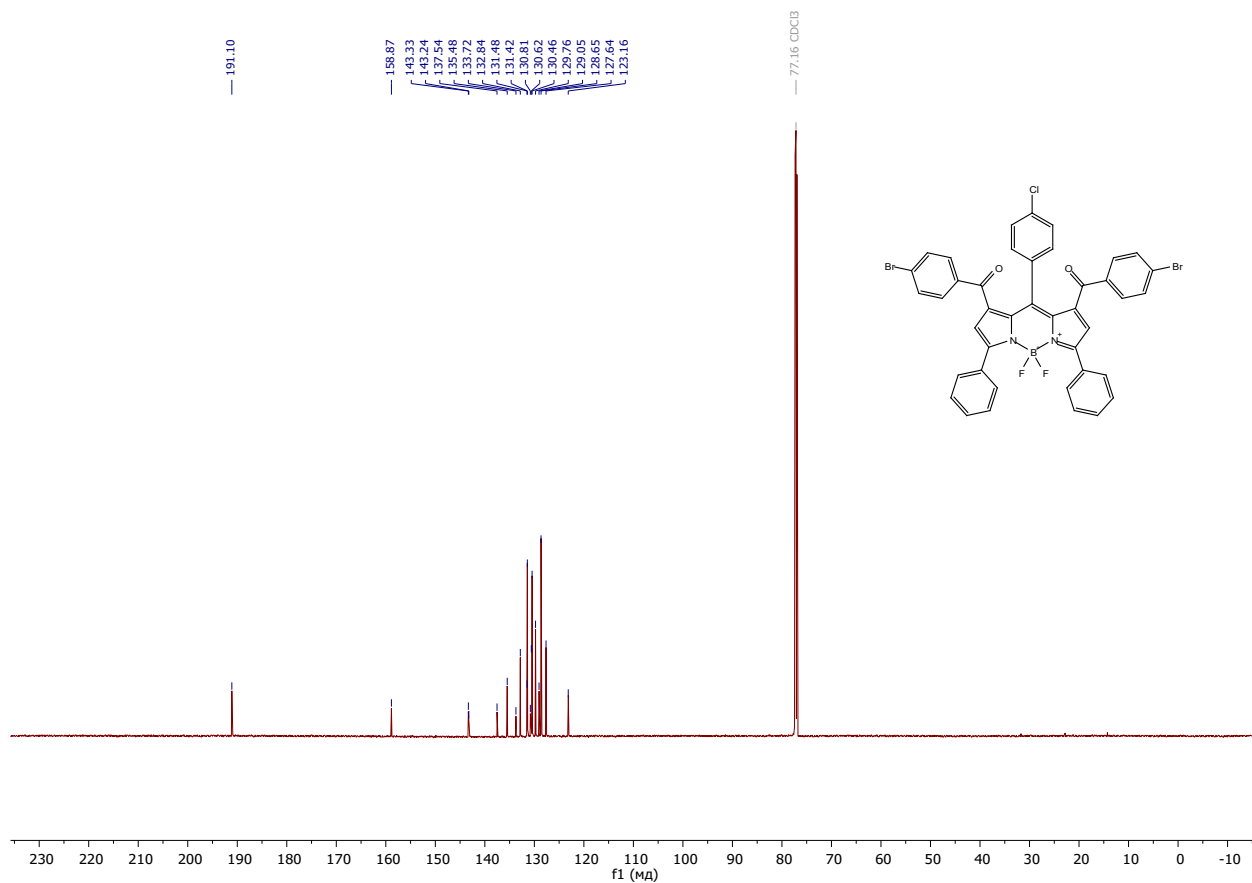
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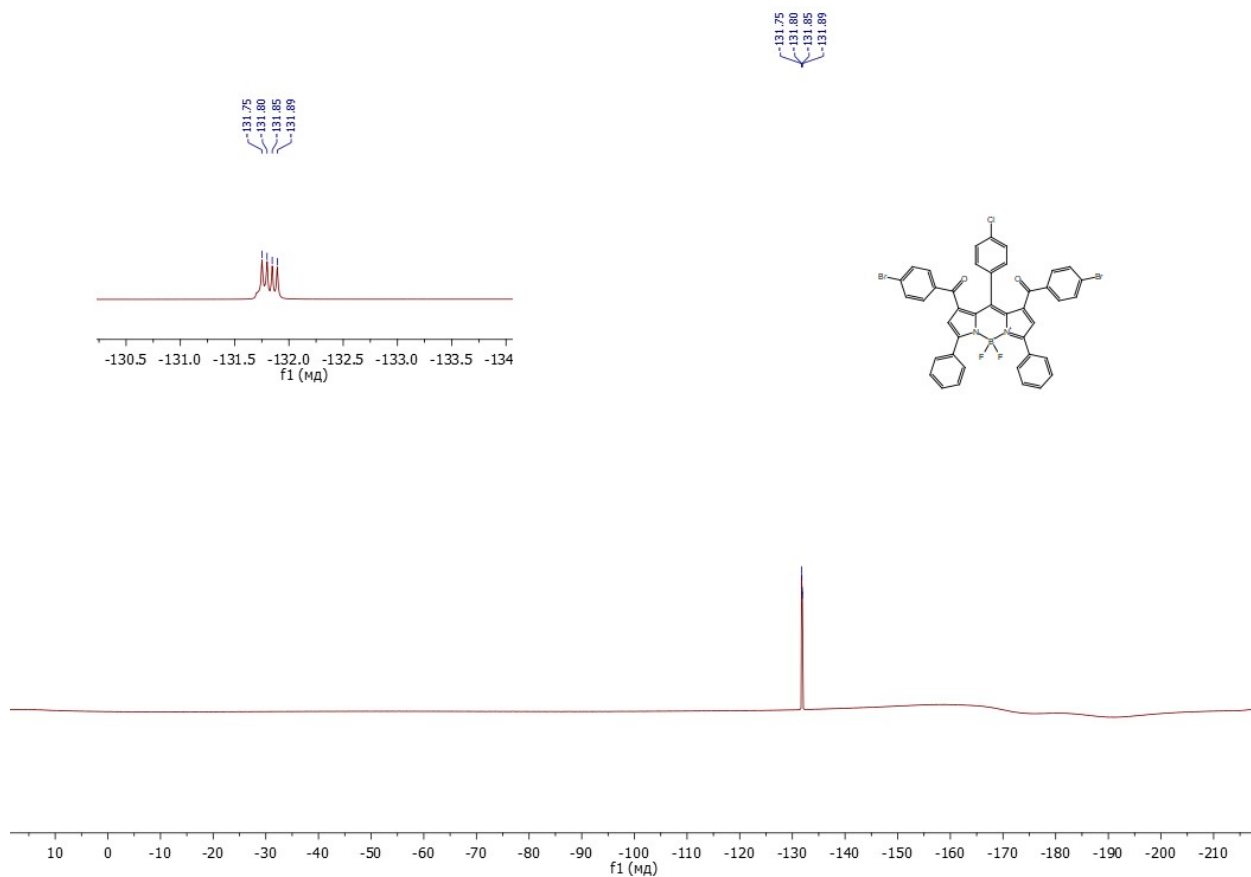
### <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **4k**



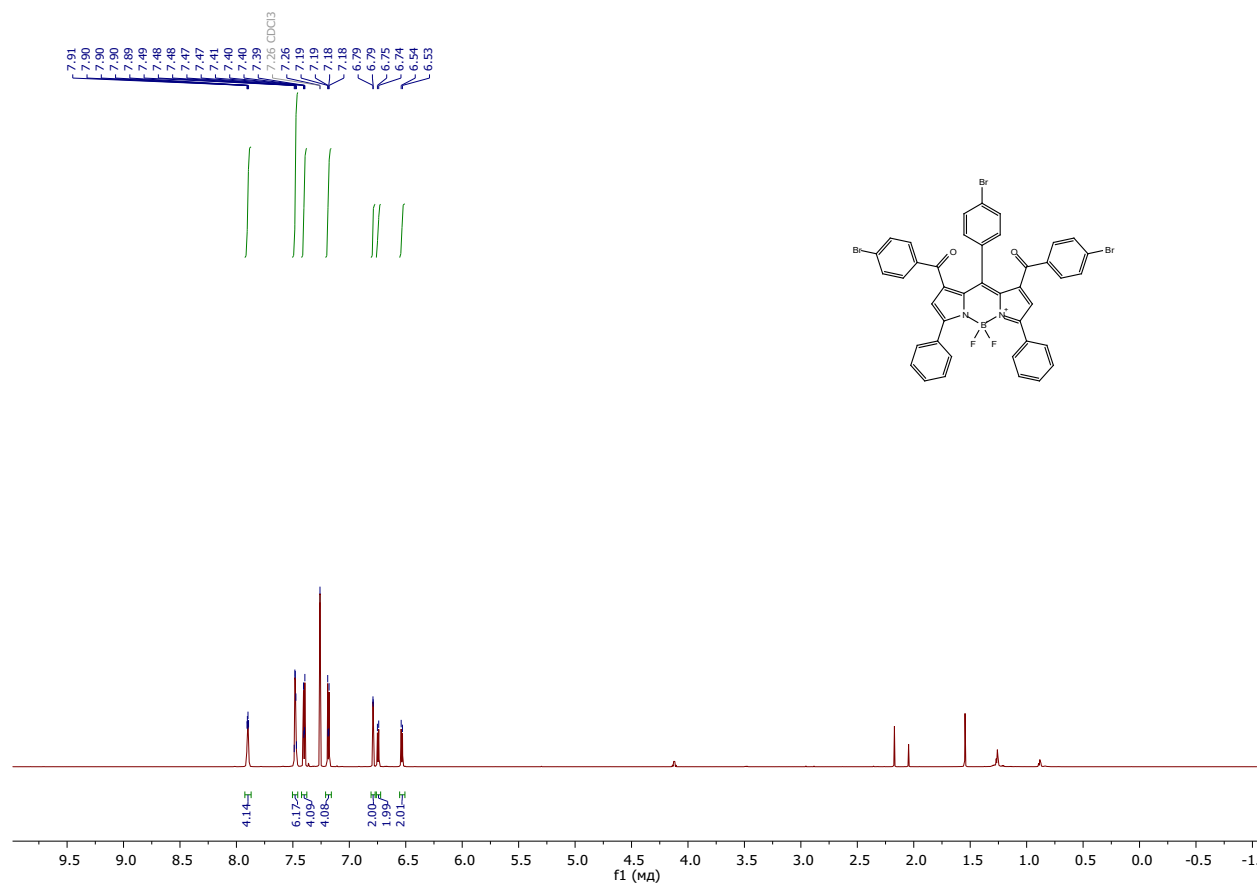
### <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **4k**



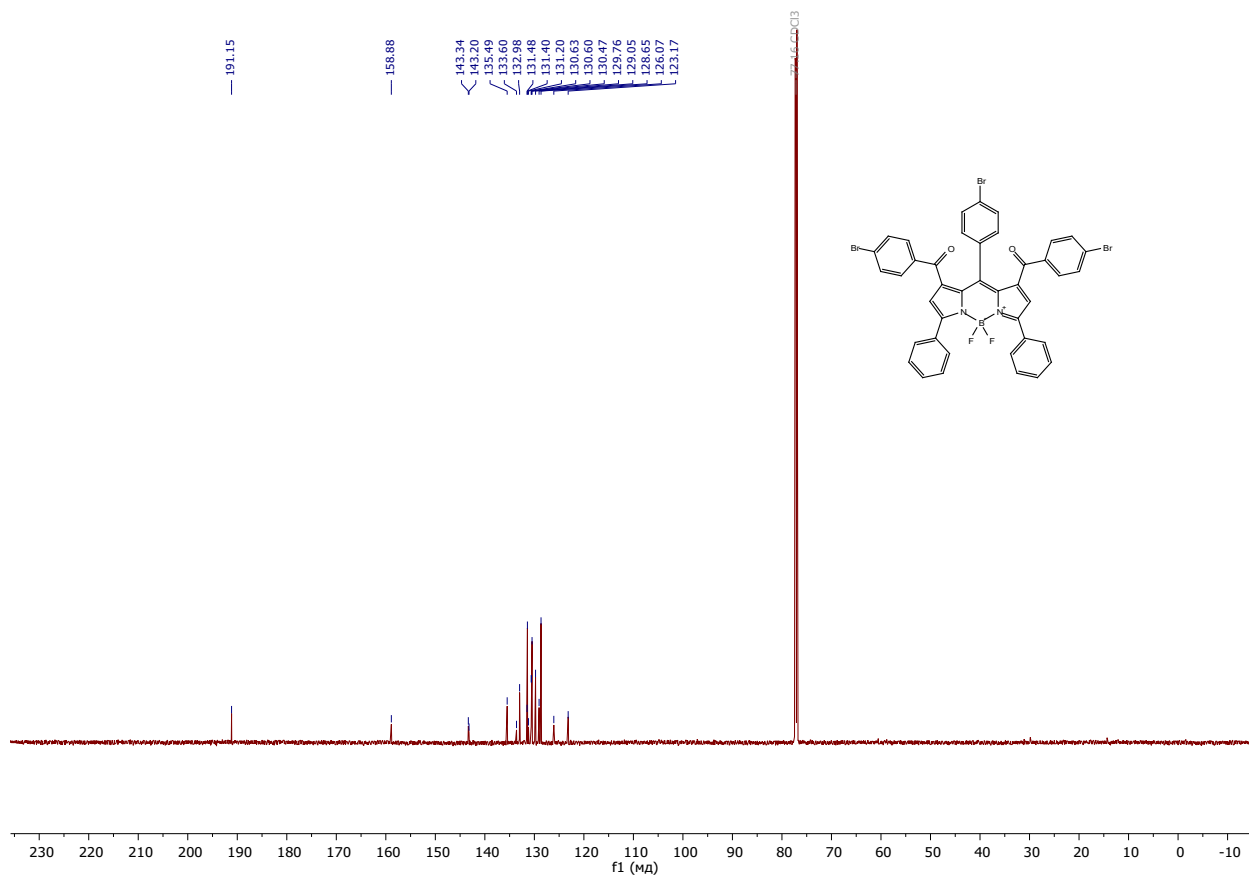
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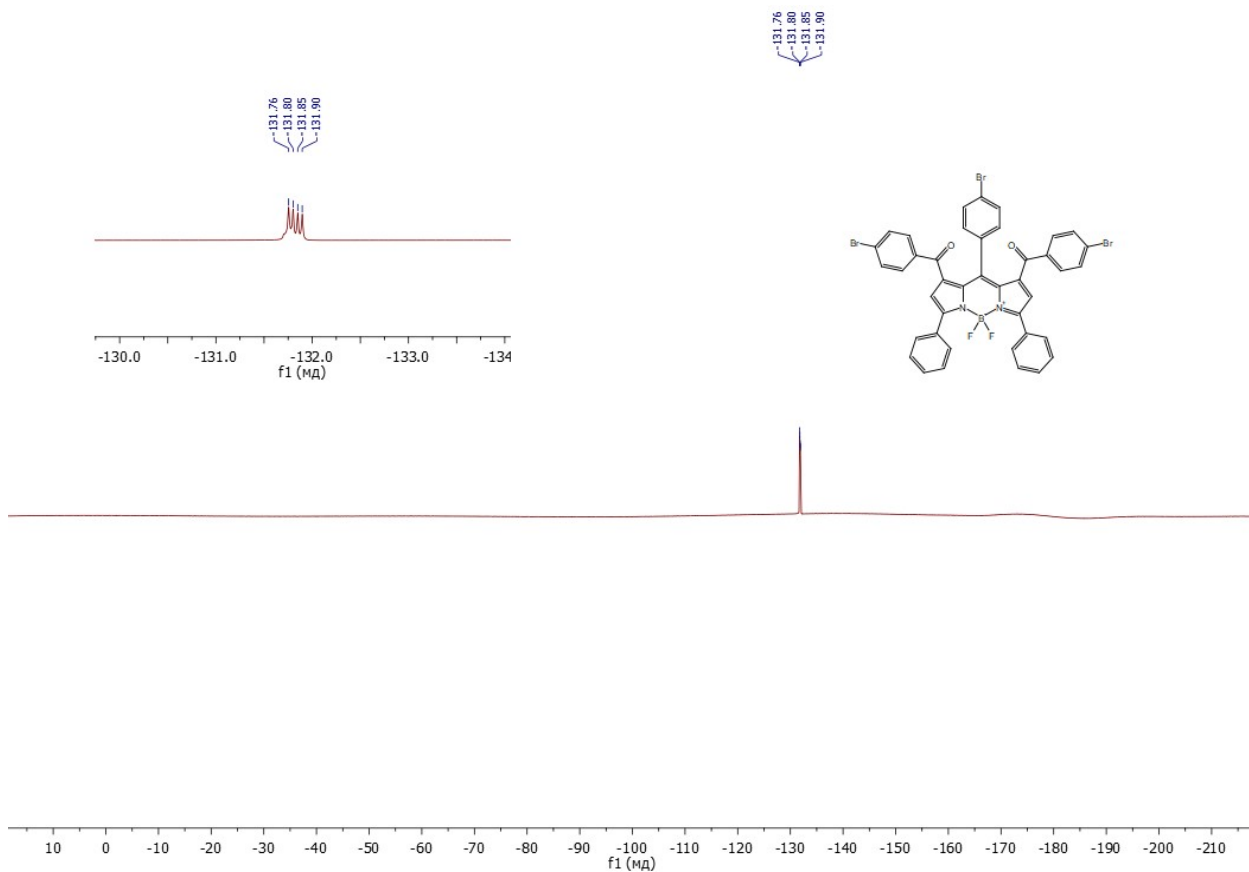
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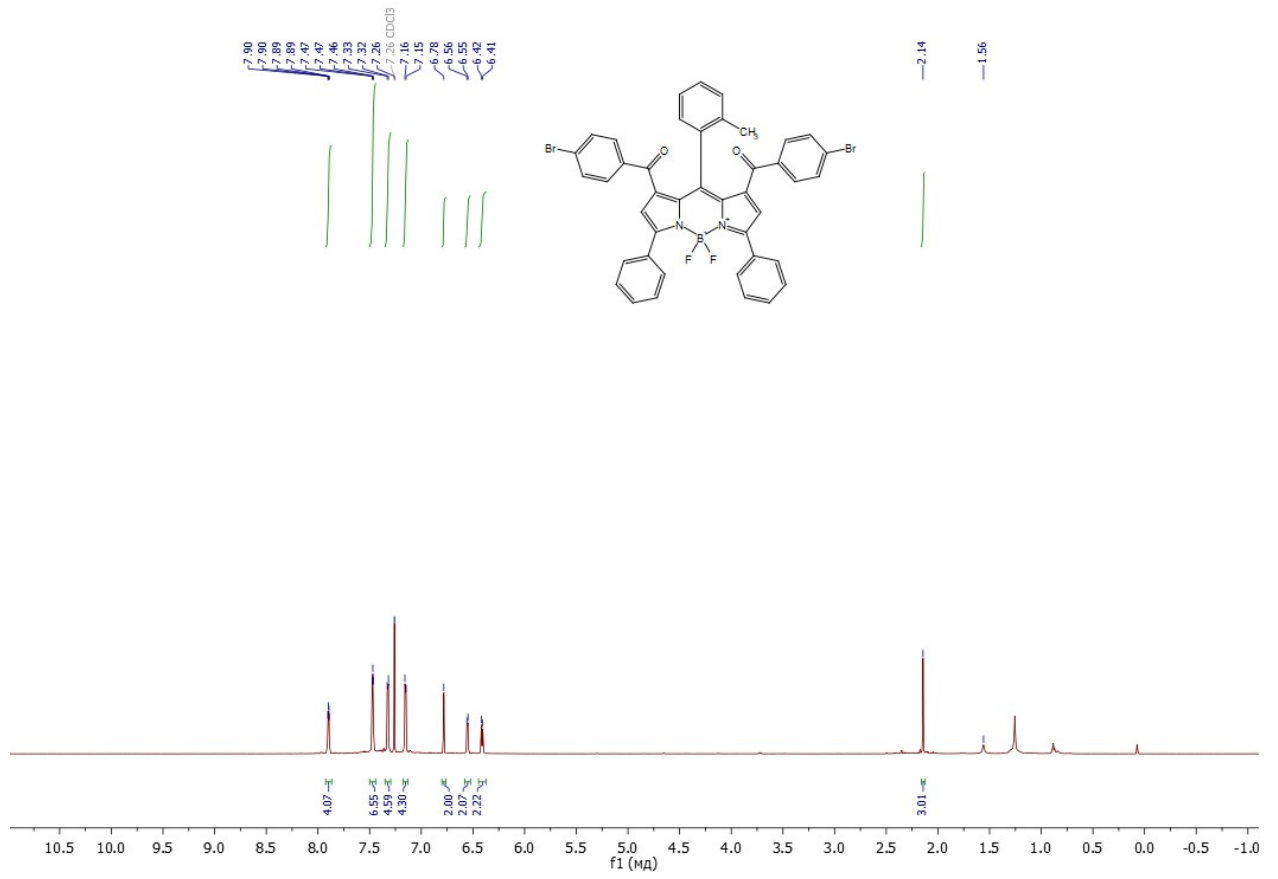
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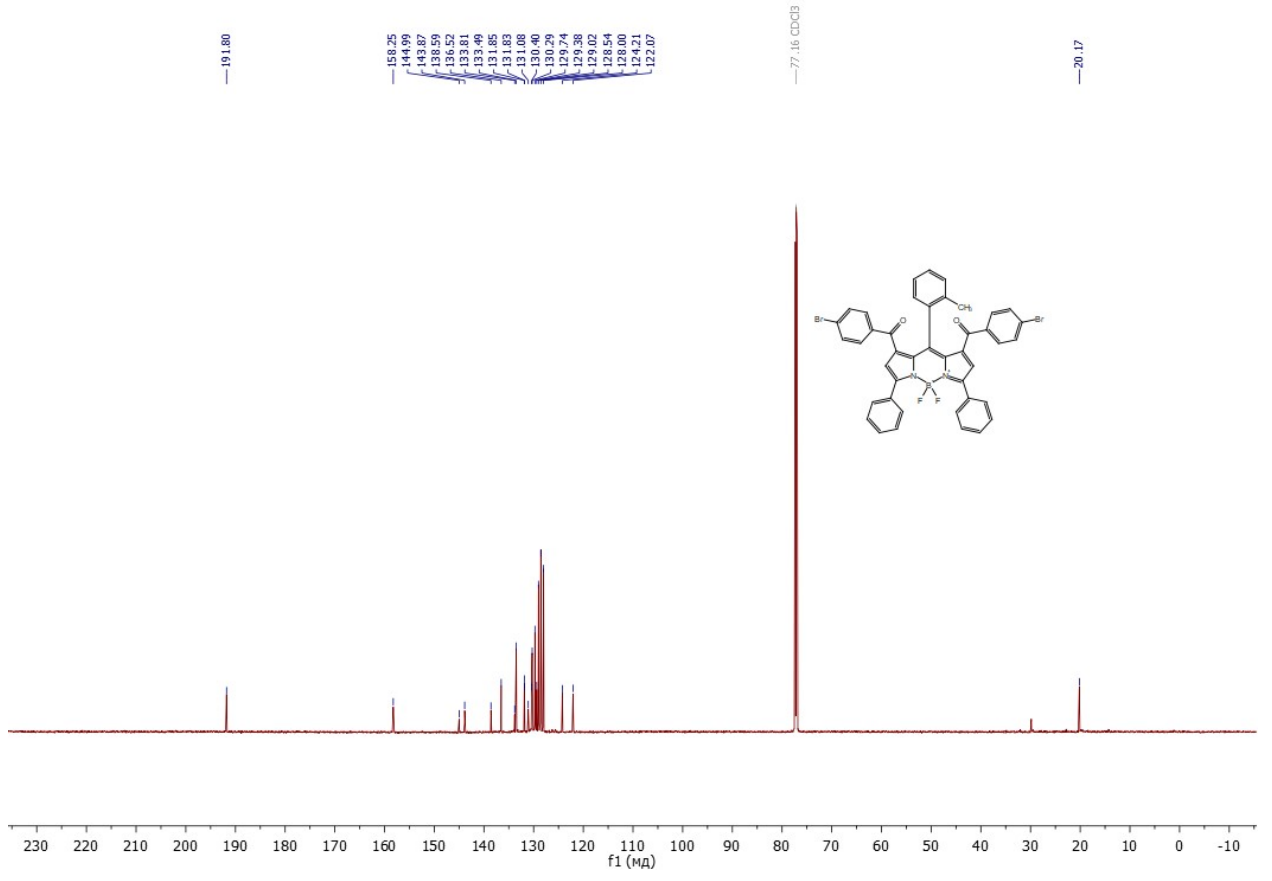
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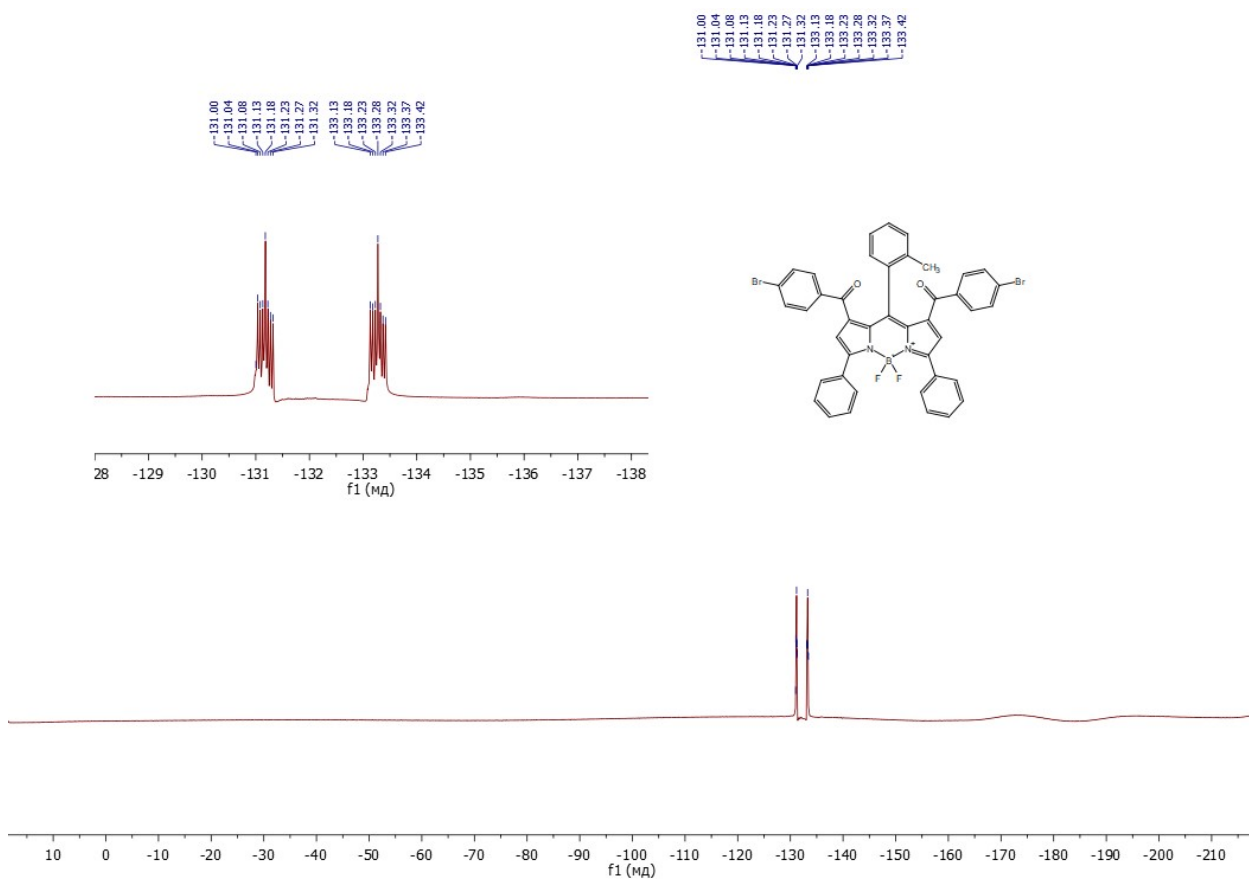
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **4m**



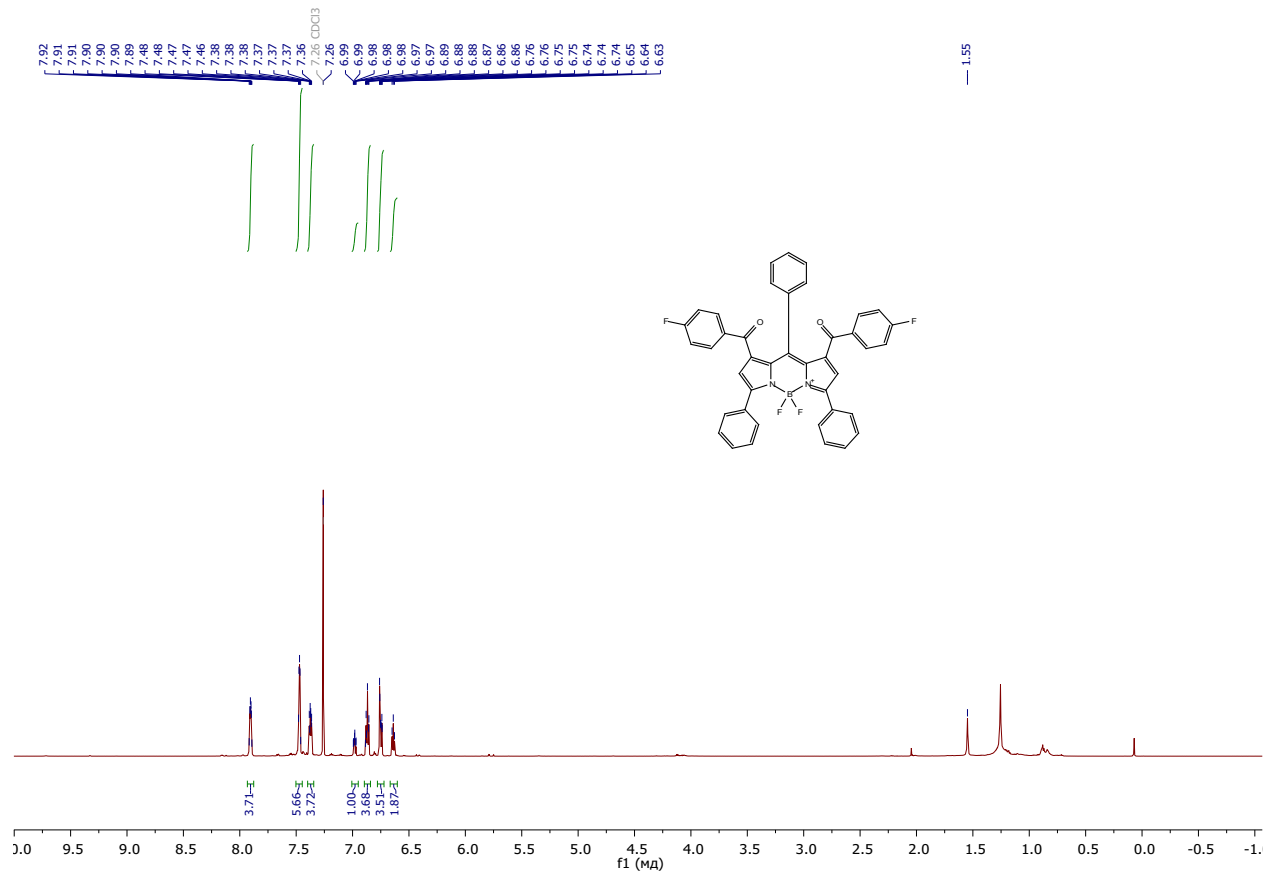
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **4m**



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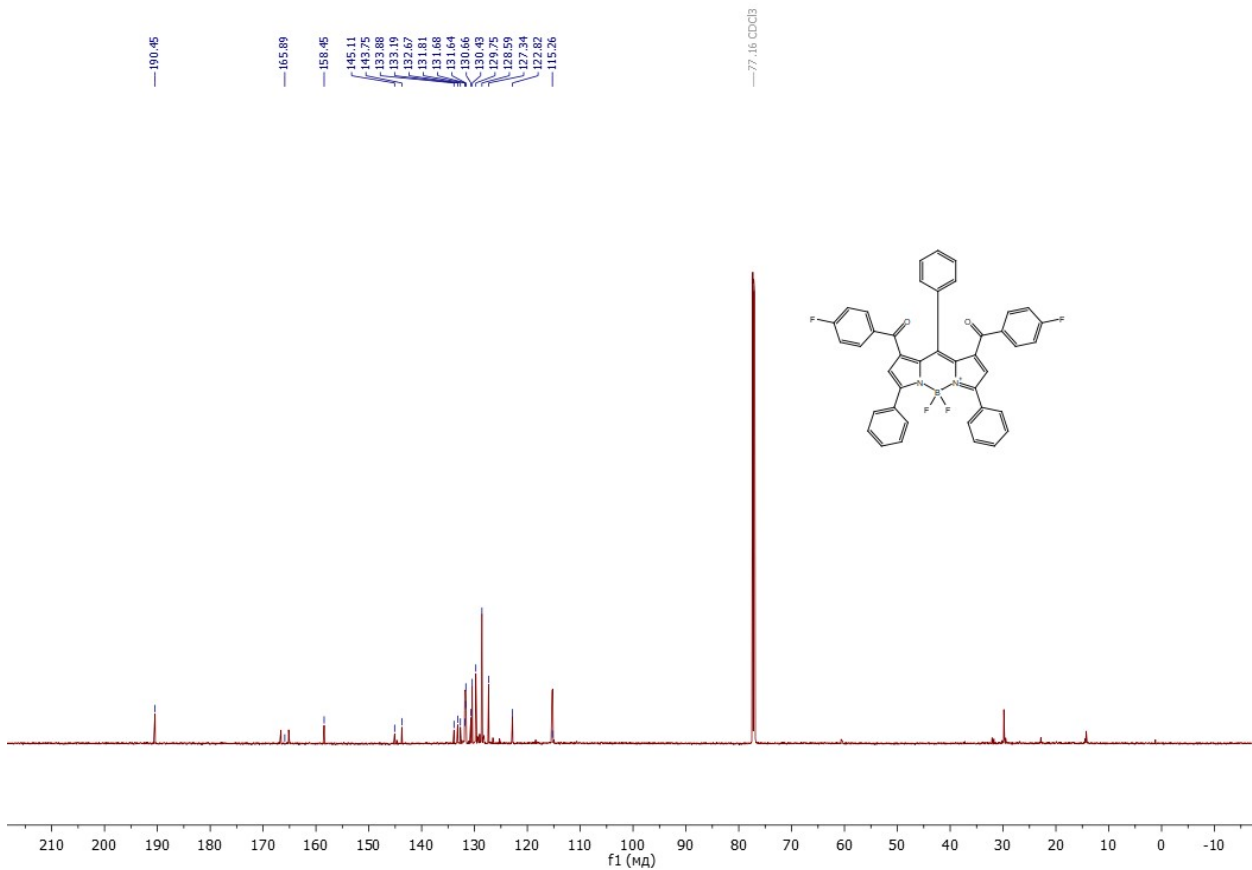


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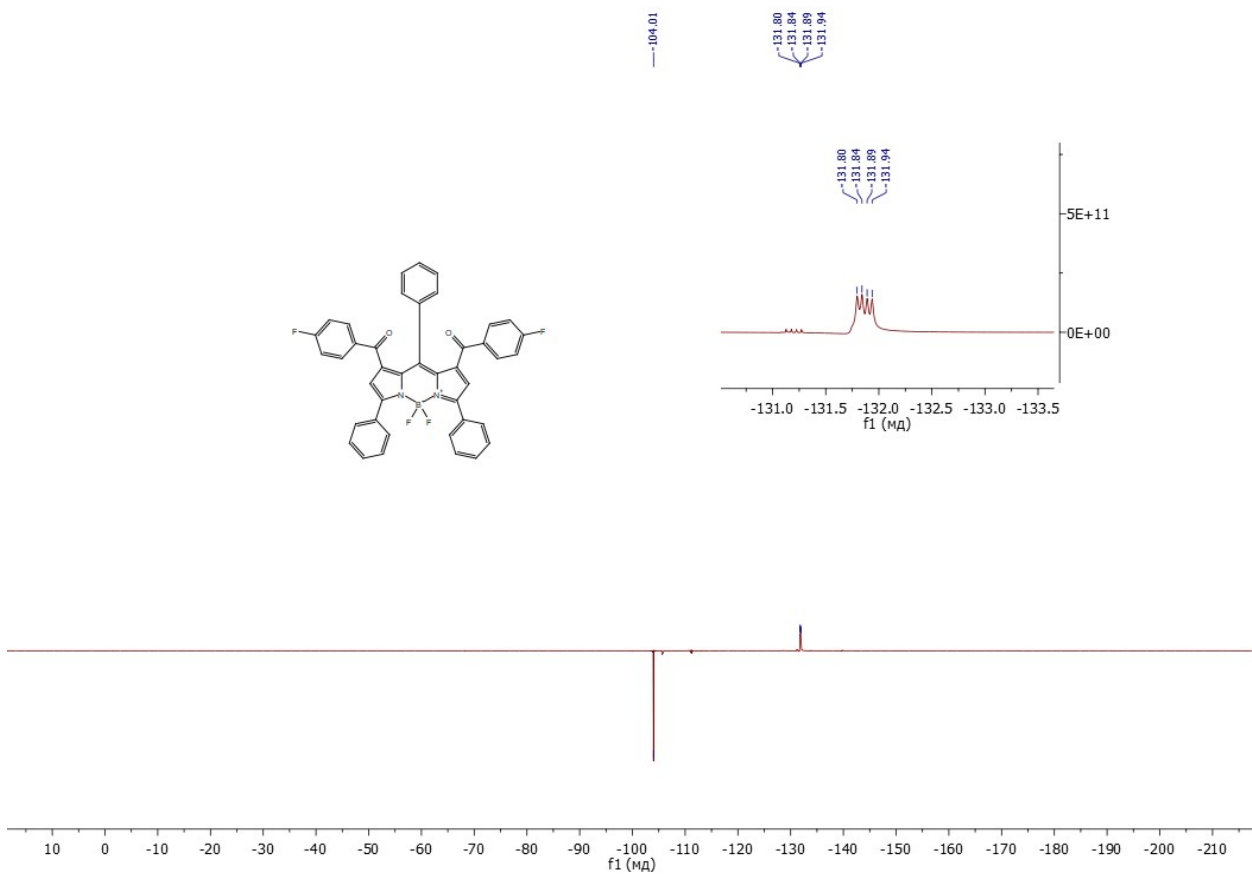




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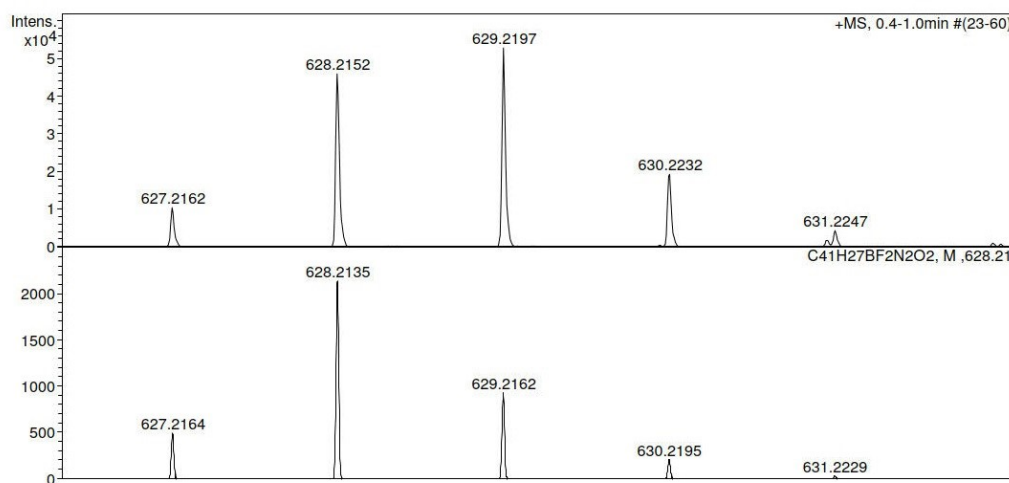


### $^{19}\text{F}$ NMR spectrum of **4n**

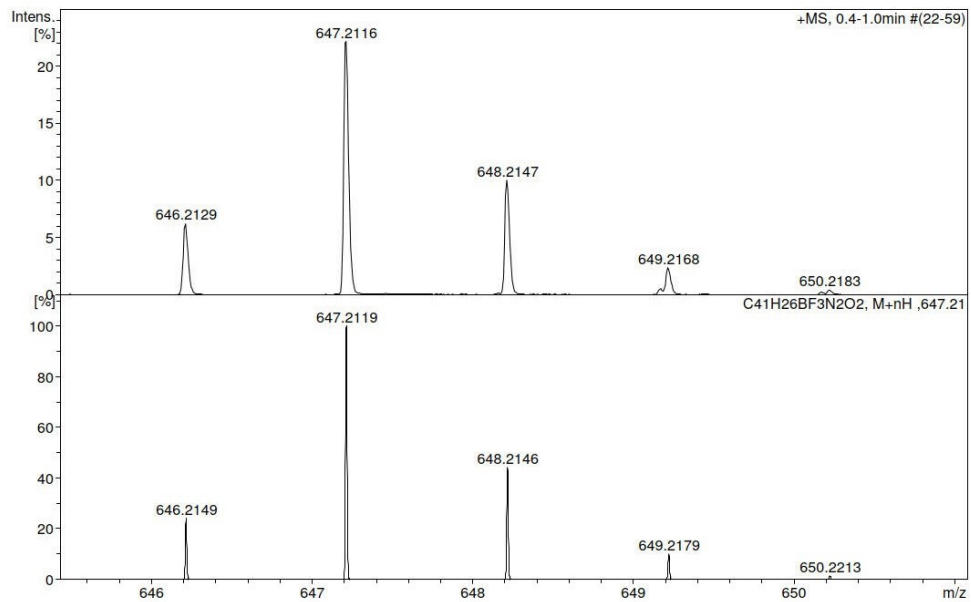


## 2. HRMS

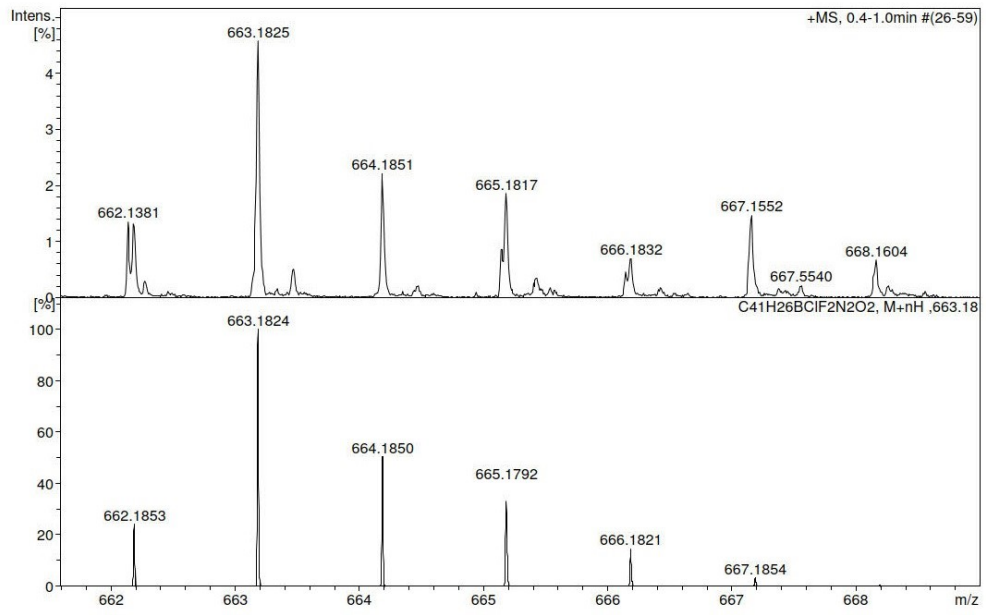
### 4a



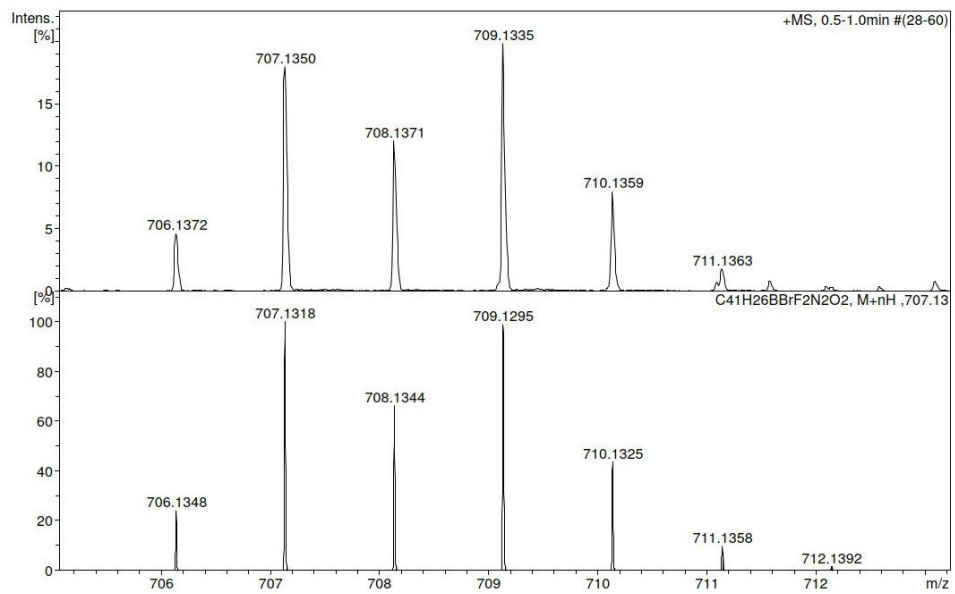
### 4b



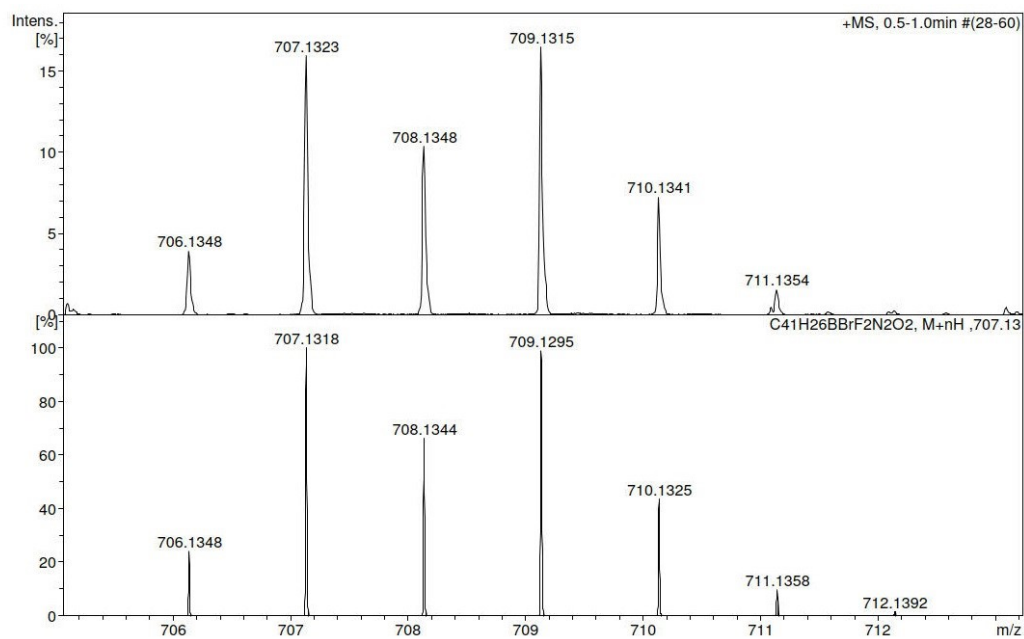
### 4c



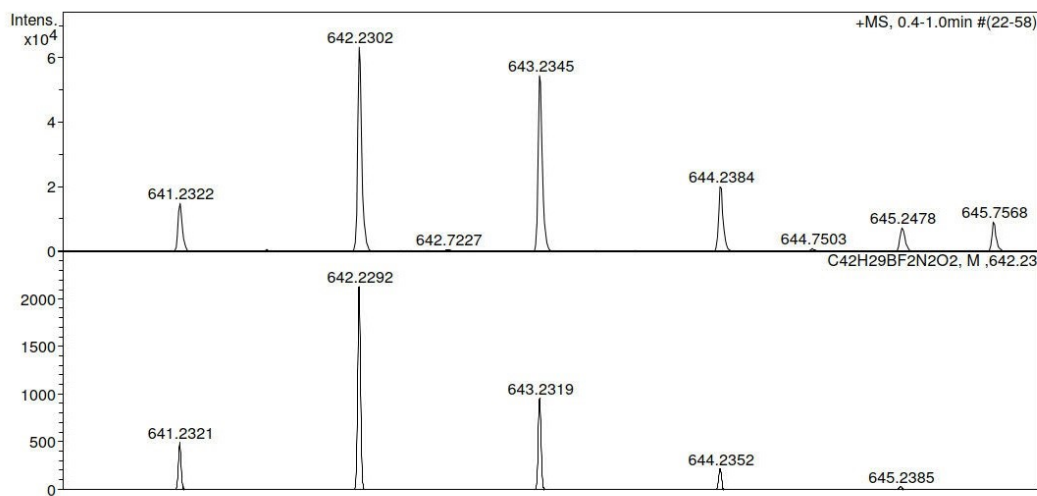
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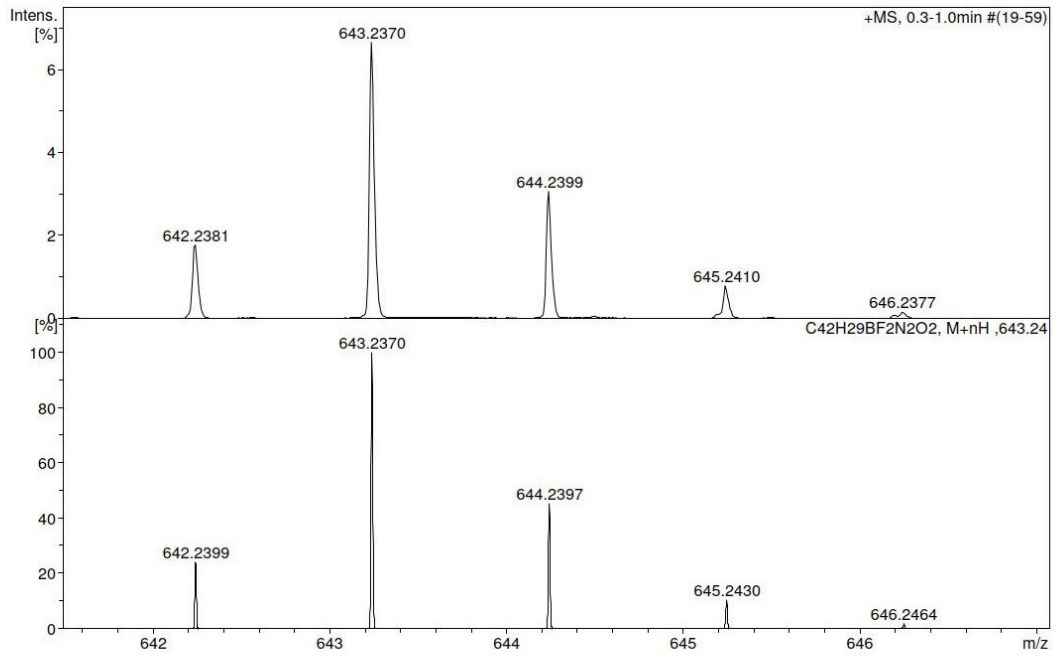
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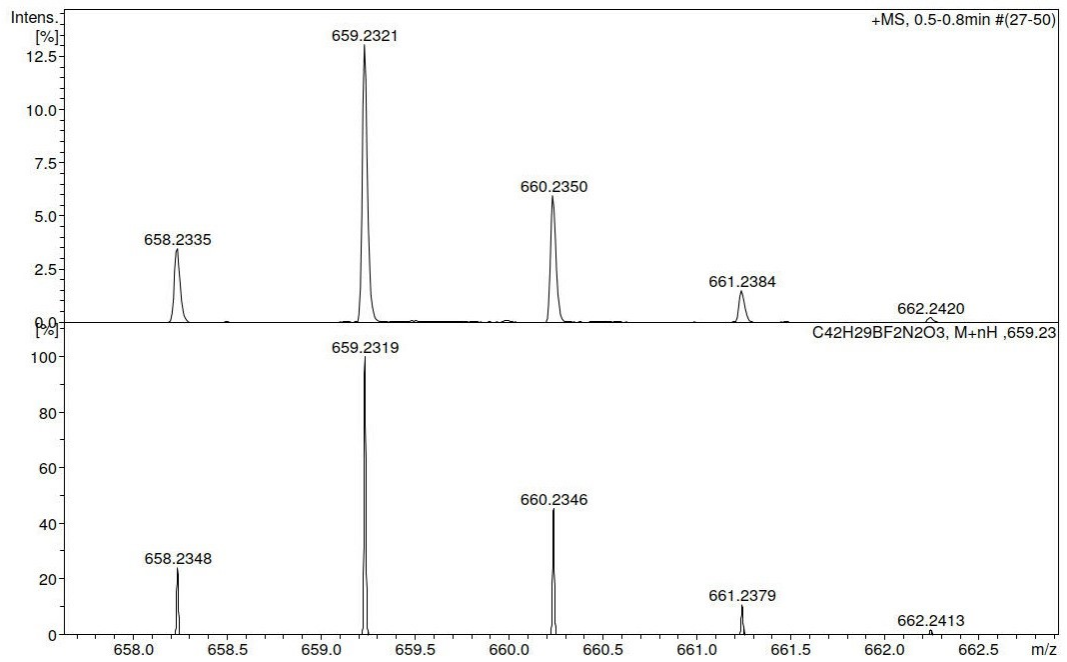
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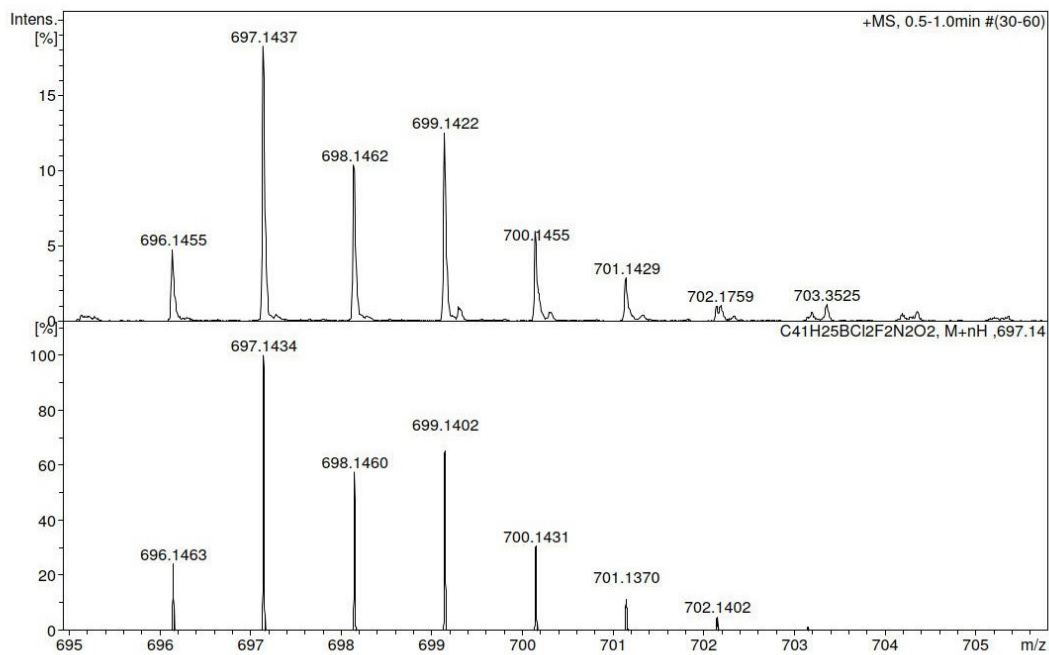
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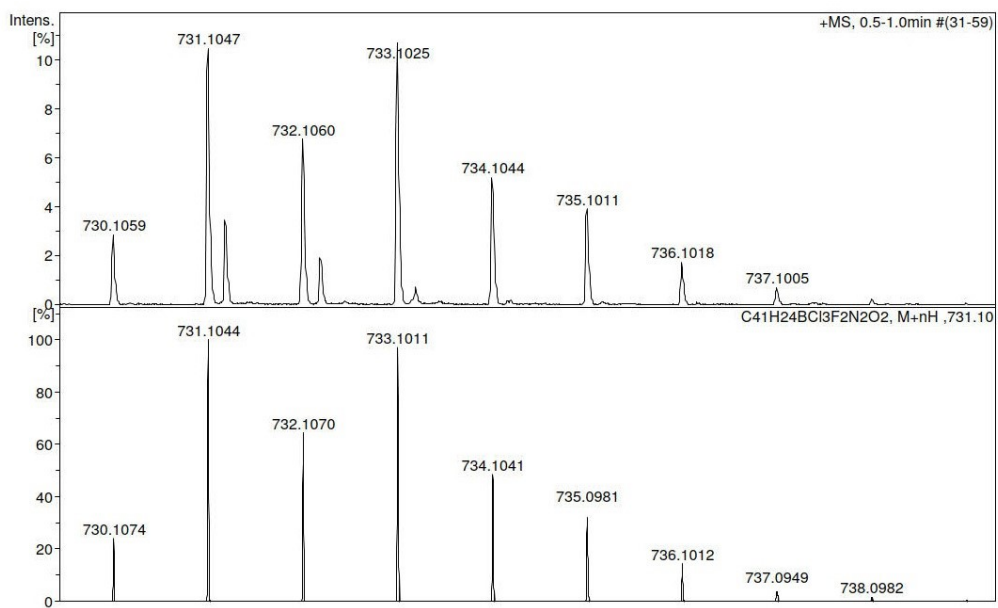
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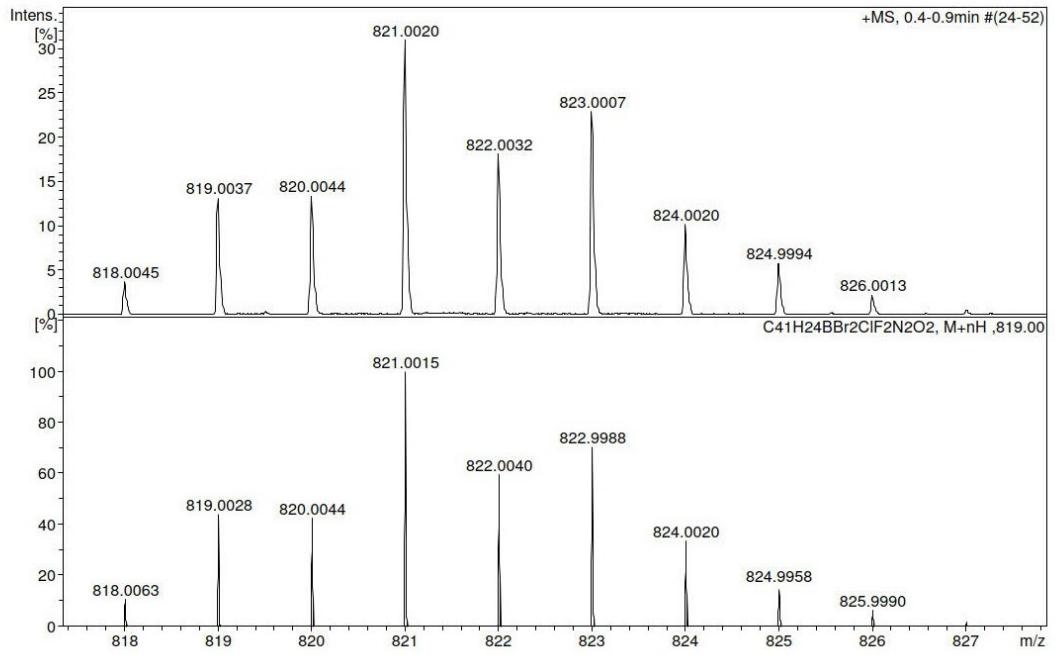
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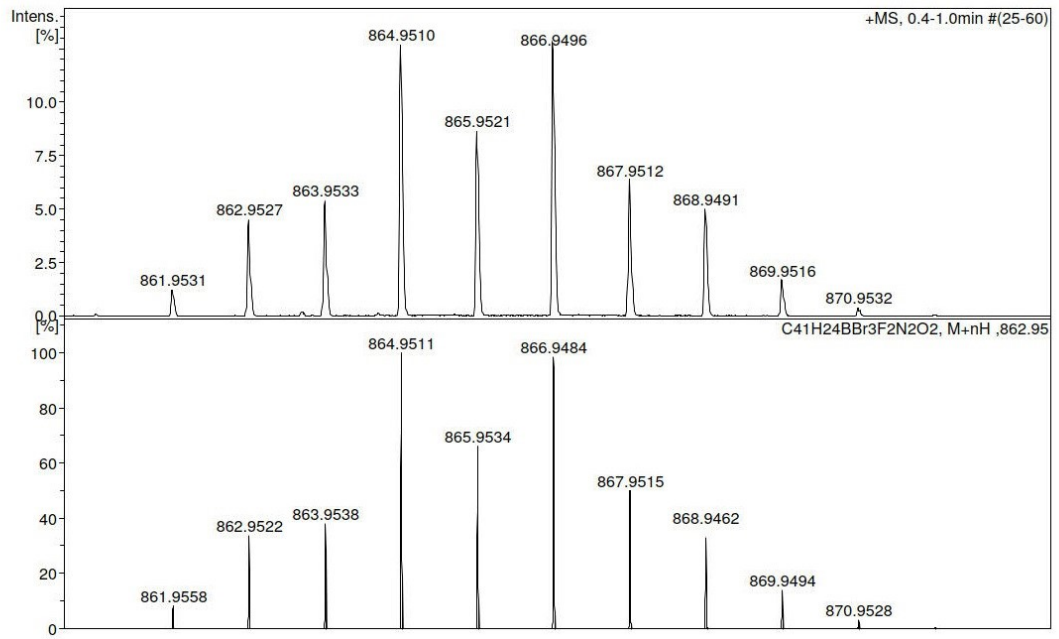
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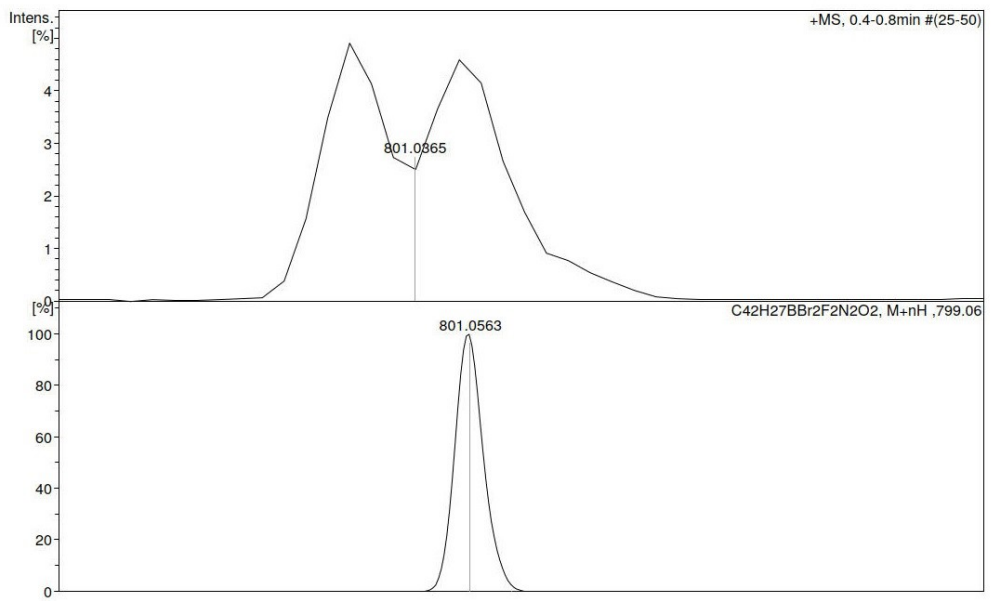
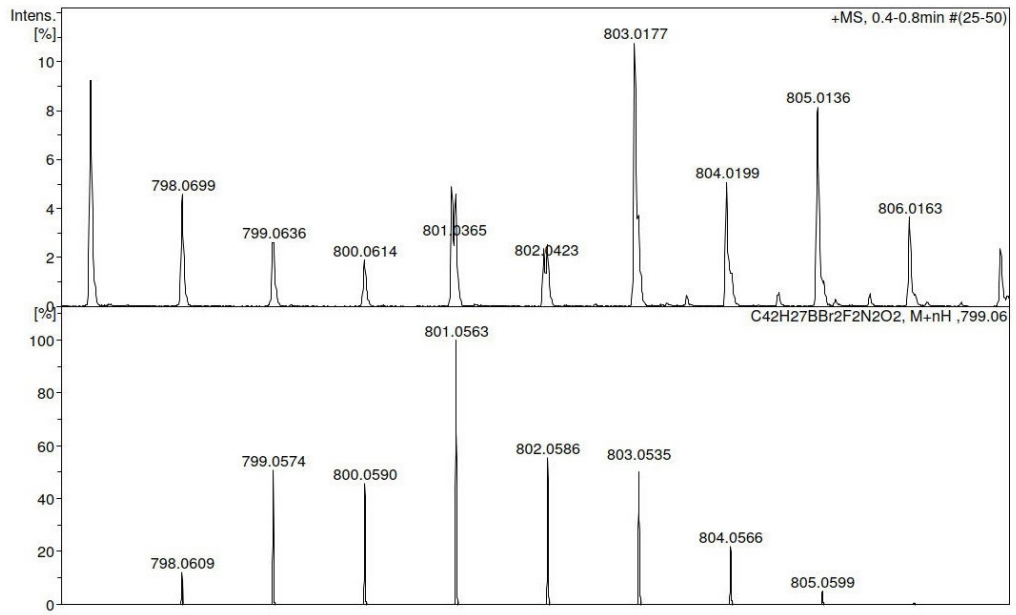
4k



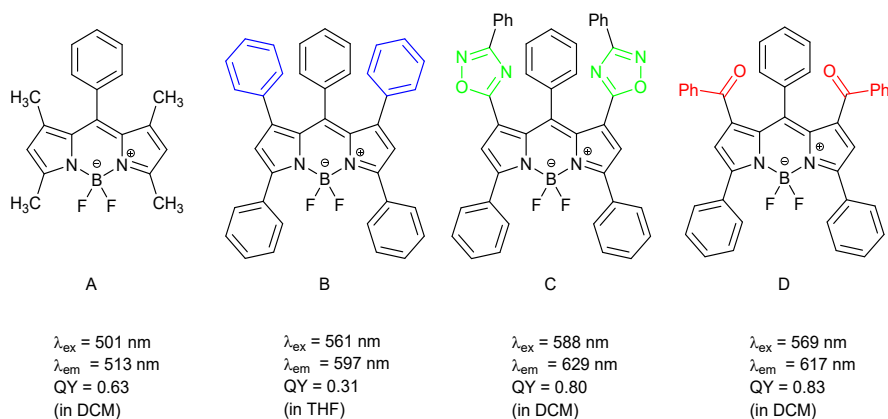
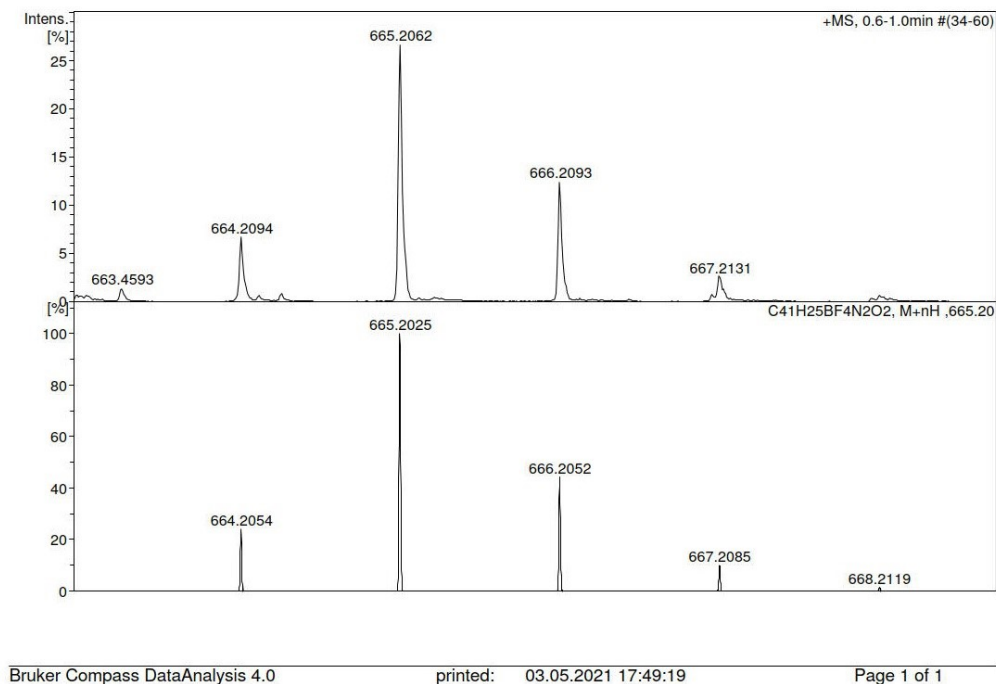
4l



4m







**Figure S1.** Experimental variation of the main peaks for excitation ( $\lambda_{\text{ex}}$ ) and emission ( $\lambda_{\text{em}}$ ) in nm and quantum yield depending on BODIPY ligand variation.

### 3. Quantum-chemical calculations

DFT and time-dependent density functional theory (TD-DFT) calculations to obtain minimum energy structures in both the ground and excited states for all structures reported in the text were performed by using Gaussian16 set of programs.<sup>1</sup> The ground state was optimized at B3LYP level<sup>2</sup> with 6-31G(d,p) basis set and stationary points were characterized using vibrational analysis. The absorption spectra for all structures were simulated by using TD-DFT calculations with a range-separated versions CAM-B3LYP<sup>3</sup> and 6-311+G(d,p) basis set. Solvent effects were treated by the conductor-like polarizable continuum model (CPCM) model<sup>4</sup> adopted in the linear response formalism when used with TD-DFT. According to a general trend of TD-DFT

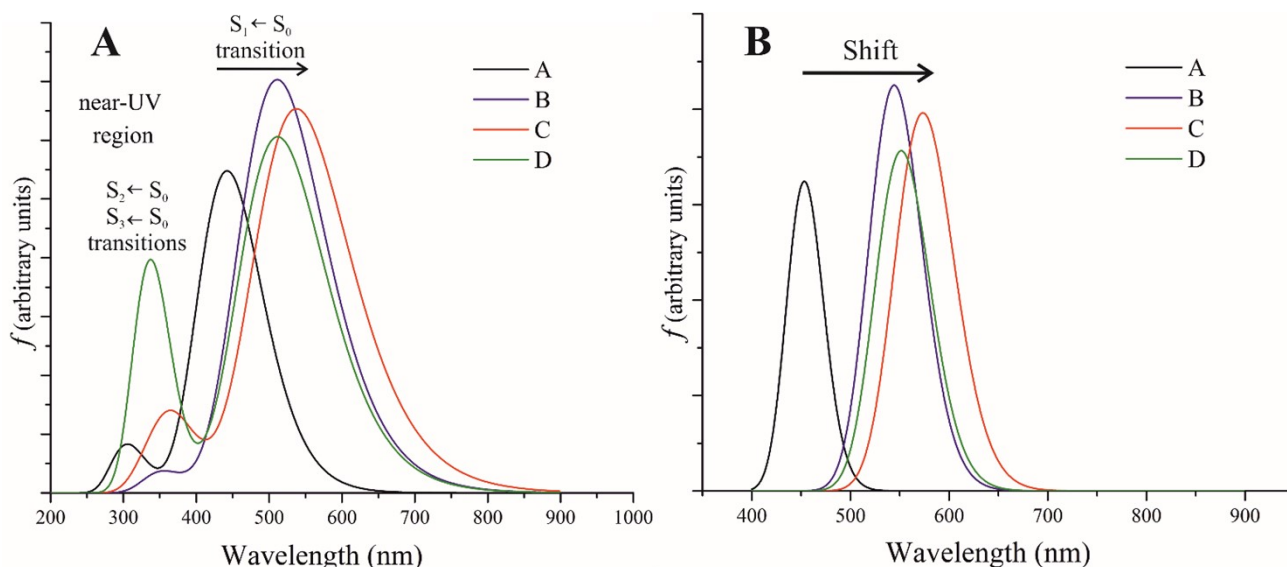
methods<sup>5</sup> we found an overestimation of calculated absorption band peaks with respect to the experimental ones (reported in Figure 4 for **4a-4n** structures and Figure 5 of the main text) of about 0.3 eV; nevertheless, the shift for absorption and emission spectra going from structures **A-D** of Figure S1 is well reproduced (Figure S2-A and Figure S2-B). Finally, our TD-DFT analysis revealed that the maximum of absorption for the  $S_0 \leftarrow S_1$  transition corresponds to the HOMO and LUMO difference. The near-UV region with maximum at about 320-360 nm (see Figure S2-A) can be attributed to the  $S_0 \leftarrow S_2$  and  $S_0 \leftarrow S_3$  transitions and differences within the **4a-4n** structures may be found on the molecular contribution (compare Figure 6 and Figure S4). All details for the absorption and emission spectra for the new synthesized compounds are reported in Table S1 and Table S2. Finally, if we approximated the emission process by a vertical  $S_0 \leftarrow S_1$  transition, the emission decay rate  $k_r$  from the excited to the ground state can be calculated by using the equation (1):

$$kr = \frac{4}{3} \frac{\Delta E^3}{c^3} \mu_{10}^2 10 \quad (1)$$

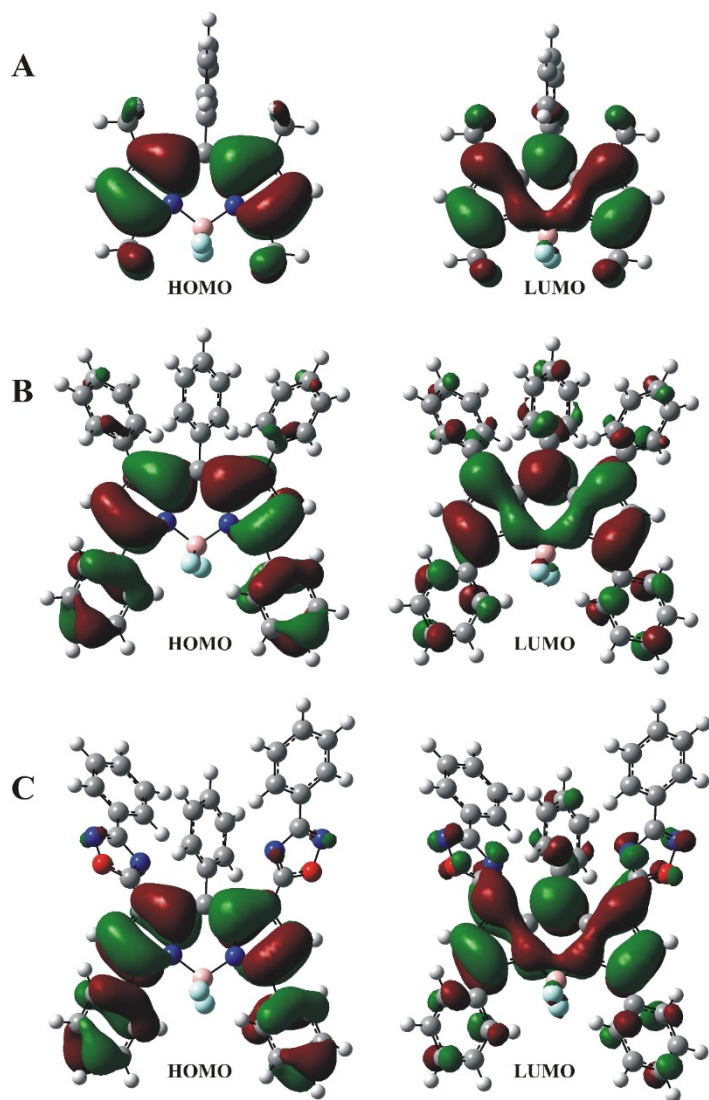
where  $\Delta E$  corresponds to the  $S_0 \leftarrow S_1$  transition energy.  $c$  is the light speed and  $\mu_{10}^2$  is the transition dipole strength calculated in atomic unit. The values used for the plot of Figure 9 of the main text are reported in Table S1 and Table S3.

Once calculated the  $k_r$  of equation (1) by using the computational values reported in Table S1 and Table S3, we can estimate the  $k_{nr}$  of selected BODIPY compounds by using the experimental quantum yield in the equation (2).

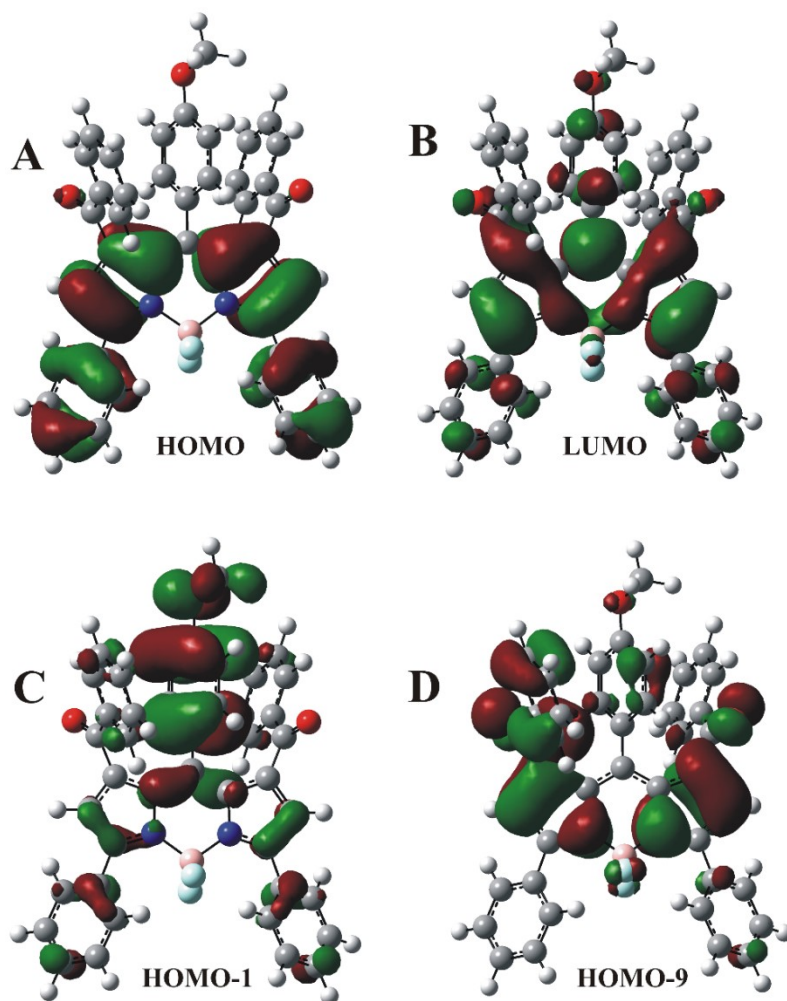
$$\Phi = k_r / (k_r + k_{nr}) \quad (2)$$



**Figure S2** TD-DFT (CAM-B3LYP/6311+G(d,p)) simulated spectra for excitation (**A**) and emission (**B**) of BODIPY compounds (**A**, **B**, **C**, **D**) reported in Figure S1 in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  as solvent.



**Figure S3.** TD-DFT (CAM-B3LYP/6311+G(d,p)) molecular orbital for  $S_0 \leftarrow S_1$  transition corresponding to the HOMO (left) and LUMO (right) difference for BODIPY compounds **A**, **B**, **C** reported in Figure S1 in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  as solvent.



**Figure S4.** TD-DFT (CAM-B3LYP/6311+G(d,p)) molecular orbital of **4h** for the absorption peak at  $\lambda_{\text{ex}}$  565 nm ( $S_0 \leftarrow S_1$  transition) corresponding to the HOMO (**A**) and LUMO (**B**) difference whereas the maximum at about 325 nm can be attributed to the  $S_0 \leftarrow S_2$  and  $S_0 \leftarrow S_3$  transitions coming from the HOMO-1 (**C**) and HOMO-9 (**D**).

**Table S1.** Calculated main assignments (coefficient), excitation energies  $E$  (in eV), maximum absorption wavelengths  $\lambda_{\text{abs}}$  (in nm), the oscillator strength  $f$ , for selected compounds at the TD-CAM-B3LYP/6-311+G(d,p)//B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) level by using dichloromethane as solvent (CPCM).

Compounds	Main assignment	$E$	$\lambda_{\text{abs}}$	$f$
<b>A</b>	H → L (0.70017)	2.8029	442.34	0.6763
<b>A</b>	H <sub>1</sub> → L (0.6913)	3.8654	320.76	0.0474
<b>A</b>	H <sub>2</sub> → L (0.7003)	4.1668	297.55	0.0699
<b>B</b>	H → L (0.6965)	2.4287	510.49	0.8634
<b>B</b>	H <sub>1</sub> → L (0.6886)	3.3556	369.49	0.0039
<b>B</b>	H <sub>11</sub> → L (0.14859)	3.5117	353.06	0.0420
<b>C</b>	H → L (0.696)	2.3104	536.62	0.8027
<b>C</b>	H <sub>1</sub> → L (0.593)	3.3502	370.09	0.1473
<b>C</b>	H <sub>10</sub> → L (0.586)	3.7130	333.92	0.0476
<b>D (4a)</b>	H → L (0.69527)	2.4225	511.79	0.7480
<b>D (4a)</b>	H <sub>1</sub> → L (0.64369)	3.6673	338.08	0.4475
<b>D (4a)</b>	H <sub>8</sub> → L (0.49436)	3.7628	329.50	0.0450
<b>4b</b>	H → L (0.69534)	2.4161	513.16	0.7493
<b>4b</b>	H <sub>1</sub> → L (0.65414)	3.6333	341.24	0.4449
<b>4b</b>	H <sub>8</sub> → L (0.53123)	3.7625	329.52	0.0404
<b>4c</b>	H → L (0.69530)	2.4095	514.55	0.7504
<b>4c</b>	H <sub>1</sub> → L (0.66378)	3.6507	339.62	0.5053
<b>4c</b>	H <sub>8</sub> → L (0.49913)	3.7575	329.97	0.0450
<b>4d</b>	H → L (0.695)	2.4053	515.47	0.7516
<b>4d</b>	H <sub>1</sub> → L (0.6613)	3.6828	336.65	0.5226
<b>4d</b>	H <sub>9</sub> → L (0.45180)	3.7580	329.92	0.0577
<b>4e</b>	H → L (0.69617)	2.3130	536.02	0.8180
<b>4e</b>	H <sub>1</sub> → L (0.56361)	3.5521	349.05	0.0577
<b>4e</b>	H <sub>1</sub> → L (0.28836)	3.6880	336.19	0.0085
<b>4f</b>	H → L (0.69514)	2.4304	510.13	0.7411
<b>4f</b>	H <sub>1</sub> → L (0.67621)	3.4840	355.87	0.4413
<b>4f</b>	H <sub>8</sub> → L (0.44567)	3.7655	329.27	0.0287
<b>4g</b>	H → L (0.69571)	2.3806	520.81	0.8182
<b>4g</b>	H <sub>1</sub> → L (0.56147)	3.4482	359.57	0.0538
<b>4g</b>	H <sub>2</sub> → L (0.42078)	3.6972	335.35	0.0244
<b>4h</b>	H → L (0.69503)	2.4370	508.76	0.7319
<b>4h</b>	H <sub>1</sub> → L (0.68993)	3.2008	387.36	0.4135
<b>4h</b>	H <sub>9</sub> → L (0.47307)	3.7716	328.73	0.0289
<b>4i</b>	H → L (0.69503)	2.4115	514.13	0.7453
<b>4i</b>	H <sub>1</sub> → L (0.64179)	3.6627	338.51	0.4610
<b>4i</b>	H <sub>9</sub> → L (0.51749)	3.7637	329.42	0.0458
<b>4j</b>	H → L (0.69506)	2.3999	516.63	0.7486
<b>4j</b>	H <sub>1</sub> → L (0.66193)	3.6442	340.22	0.5185
<b>4j</b>	H <sub>7</sub> → L (0.46753)	3.7598	329.77	0.0452
<b>4k</b>	H → L (0.69505)	2.3936	517.99	0.7461
<b>4k</b>	H <sub>1</sub> → L (0.66115)	3.6373	340.87	0.5258
<b>4k</b>	H <sub>7</sub> → L (0.46402)	3.7576	329.96	0.0441
<b>4l</b>	H → L (0.69512)	2.3926	518.19	0.7480
<b>4l</b>	H <sub>1</sub> → L (0.66026)	3.6717	337.68	0.5453
<b>4l</b>	H <sub>7</sub> → L (0.47451)	3.7587	329.86	0.0554
<b>4m</b>	H → L (0.69540)	2.3652	524.19	0.8370
<b>4m</b>	H <sub>1</sub> → L (0.54808)	3.4290	361.57	0.0544
<b>4m</b>	H <sub>2</sub> → L (0.39946)	3.6823	336.71	0.0281
<b>4n</b>	H → L (0.69522)	2.4189	512.56	0.7485
<b>4n</b>	H <sub>1</sub> → L (0.64074)	3.6719	337.66	0.4618
<b>4n</b>	H <sub>8</sub> → L (0.52516)	3.7733	328.58	0.0444

**Table S2.** Calculated main assignments (coefficient), excitation energies  $E$  (in eV), maximum emission wavelengths  $\lambda_{em}$  (in nm), the oscillator strength  $f$ , for selected compounds at the TD-CAM-B3LYP/6-311+G(d,p)//TD-CAM-B3LYP/6-31G(d,p) level, by using dichloromethane as solvent (CPCM).

Compounds	Main assignment	$E$	$\lambda_{em}$	$f$
<b>A</b>	H $\leftarrow$ L (0.7005)	2.7353	453.27	0.6400
<b>B</b>	H $\leftarrow$ L (0.6977)	2.2775	545.26	0.8429
<b>C</b>	H $\leftarrow$ L (0.6969)	2.1620	573.48	0.7815
<b>D (4a)</b>	H $\leftarrow$ L (0.6964)	2.2477	551.61	0.7032
<b>4b</b>	H $\leftarrow$ L (0.6949)	2.2445	552.40	0.7074
<b>4c</b>	H $\leftarrow$ L (0.69646)	2.2337	555.07	0.7041
<b>4d</b>	H $\leftarrow$ L (0.6965)	2.2288	556.28	0.7037
<b>4e</b>	H $\leftarrow$ L (0.69740)	2.1230	584.01	0.7743
<b>4f</b>	H $\leftarrow$ L (0.69627)	2.2604	548.50	0.7010
<b>4g</b>	H $\leftarrow$ L (0.69687)	2.1662	572.37	0.7733
<b>4g</b>	H <sub>1</sub> $\leftarrow$ L (0.64922)	3.1527	393.27	0.0851
<b>4g</b>	H <sub>2</sub> $\leftarrow$ L (0.50807)	3.5145	352.78	0.0361
<b>4h</b>	H $\leftarrow$ L (0.69621)	2.2703	546.11	0.6981
<b>4h</b>	H <sub>1</sub> $\leftarrow$ L (0.69023)	3.0996	400.00	0.4309
<b>4h</b>	H <sub>9</sub> $\leftarrow$ L (0.46426)	3.7015	334.95	0.0195
<b>4i</b>	H $\leftarrow$ L (0.69621)	2.2371	554.23	0.6976
<b>4j</b>	H $\leftarrow$ L (0.69626)	2.2232	557.68	0.6980
<b>4k</b>	H $\leftarrow$ L (0.69626)	2.2179	559.02	0.6954
<b>4l</b>	H $\leftarrow$ L (0.69632)	2.2150	559.74	0.6955
<b>4m</b>	H $\leftarrow$ L (0.69622)	2.1533	575.78	0.7945
<b>4n</b>	H $\leftarrow$ L (0.69635)	2.2450	552.27	0.7037

**Table S3.** Experimental QY and calculated TD-CAM-B3LYP/6-311+G(d,p) (dichloromethane as solvent (CPCM))  $k_r$ , and  $k_{nr}$  values following the equations (2) and (3). The energies for the S<sub>0</sub>  $\leftarrow$  S<sub>1</sub> transition are reported in Table S1.

Compounds	QY	$k_{nr}$ (s <sup>-1</sup> )	$k_r$ (s <sup>-1</sup> )	$\mu^2_{10}$
<b>4a</b>	0.83	9.44(10 <sup>-10</sup> )	4.60702(10 <sup>-9</sup> )	12.6022
<b>4b</b>	0.84	8.71(10 <sup>-10</sup> )	4.5706(10 <sup>-9</sup> )	12.6022
<b>4c</b>	0.96	1.91(10 <sup>-10</sup> )	4.57288(10 <sup>-9</sup> )	12.7124
<b>4d</b>	0.71	1.86(10 <sup>-9</sup> )	4.56422(10 <sup>-9</sup> )	12.7549
<b>4f</b>	0.67	2.32(10 <sup>-9</sup> )	4.7086(10 <sup>-9</sup> )	12.7549
<b>4h</b>	0.12	3.35(10 <sup>-8</sup> )	4.56228(10 <sup>-9</sup> )	12.2584

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