

## Conjugated Donor-Acceptor Molecular Systems Involving the 1,3-Indandione-Derived Electron Accepting Moieties.

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### Synthesis of 2-(4-(diisopropylamino)benzylidene)-1H-indene-1,3(2H)-dione (1c).

To the mixture of 0.146 g (1 mmol) of 1,3-indandione and 0.205 g (1 mmol) of 4-N-diisopropylaminobenzaldehyde in 20 ml of acetic acid were added three drops of concentrated HCl, the solution was refluxed for 30 min, cooled to room temperature and poured into ice water. The precipitate formed was filtered off and washed with cold ethanol. Red solid, yield 0.23 g (66%), m.p. 177-178°C, from ethanol. <sup>1</sup>H NMR, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ, ppm: 8.46 d (2H, H-2'6'); 7.86 m (2H, 5,6-H); 7.72 m (2H, H-4,7); 7.69 s (1H, =CH); 6.91 d (2H, J = (9.3 Hz, H-3',5'); 4.08 m (2H, CH-i-Pr); 1.36 d (12H, J = 6.8 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ, ppm: 191.3; 189.8; 152.9; 146.7; 142.2; 137.4; 134.2; 134.0; 122.5; 122.2; 122.1; 121.5; 114.2; 48.1; 20.5.

Calculated: C 79.25%, H 6.95%, N 4.20%. Found: C 79.14%, H 7.02%, N 4.17%.

### Synthesis of 1,3-bis-dicyanovinyl-2-(4-diisopropylaminobenzylidene)-indane (3c).

The mixture of 0.24 g (1 mmol) of 1,3-bisdicyanovinyllindane and 0.25 g (1.2 mmol) of 4-N-diisopropylaminobenzaldehyde in 10 ml of acetic anhydride was heated at 70°C for 2h and cooled. The precipitated solid was filtered off, washed with diethyl ether and dried. Dark-green solid, yield 0.35 g, (74%), m.p. 240-242°C, from acetonitrile. <sup>1</sup>H NMR, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ, ppm: 8.63 s (1H, =CH); 8.54 m (2H, 4,7-H); 7.72 m (2H, 5,6-H); 7.55 d (2H, J = 9.3 Hz, H-2',6'); 6.92 d (2H, J = (9.3 Hz, H-3',5'); 4.14 m (2H, CH-i-Pr); 1.40 d (12H, J = 6.8 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ, ppm: 161.4; 153.6; 146.5; 137.7; 146.5; 137.7; 133.7; 125.1; 122.8; 122.3; 115.2; 114.6; 114.2; 69.6; 48.8; 20.9.

Calculated: C 78.30%, H 5.40%, N 16.31%. Found: 78.21%, H 5.42%, N 16.35%.

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## NMR spectra

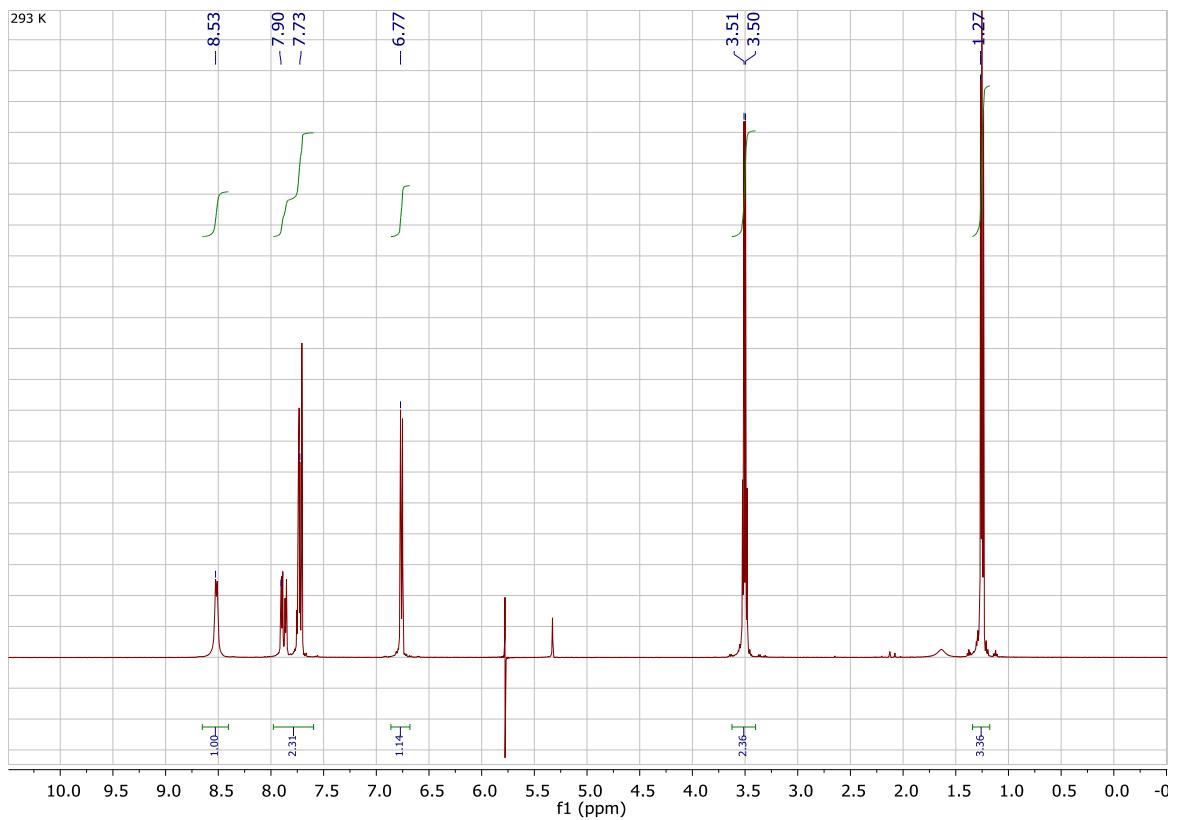


Fig. S1. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **1b** in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .

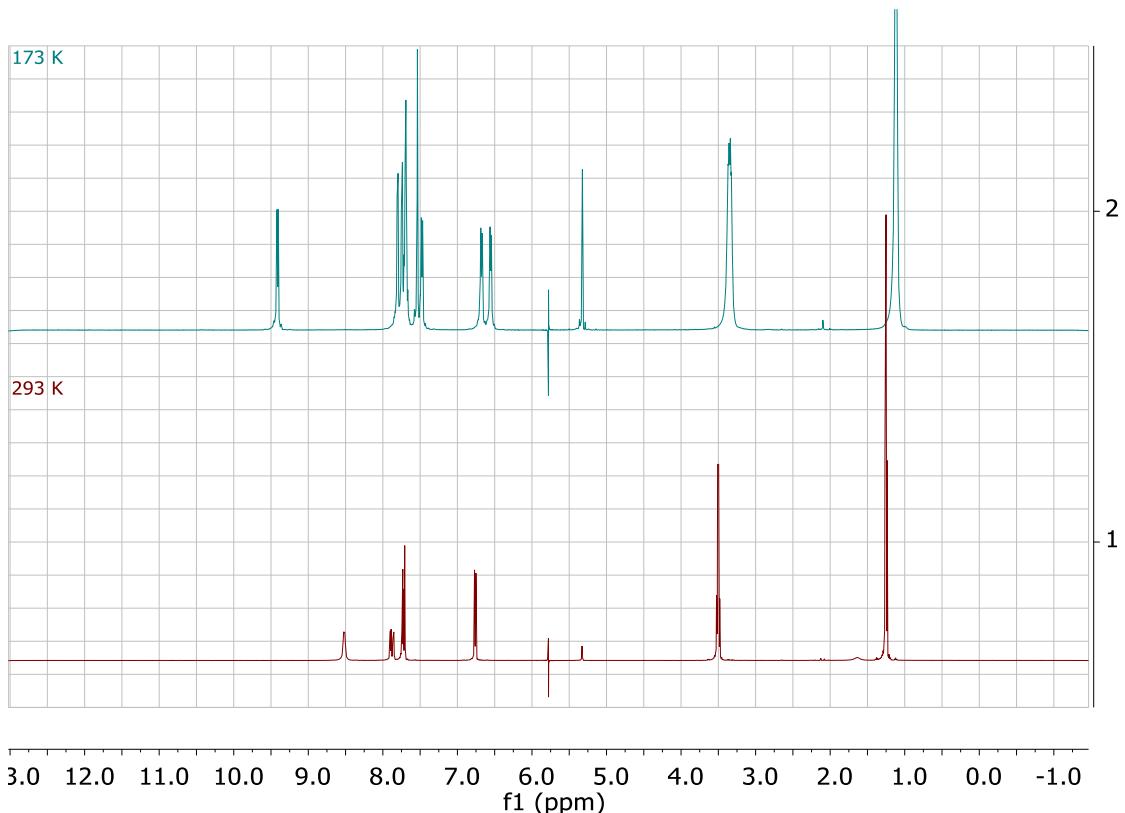


Fig. S2. Variable temperature <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of **1b** in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  at RT (brown) and 173 K (green).

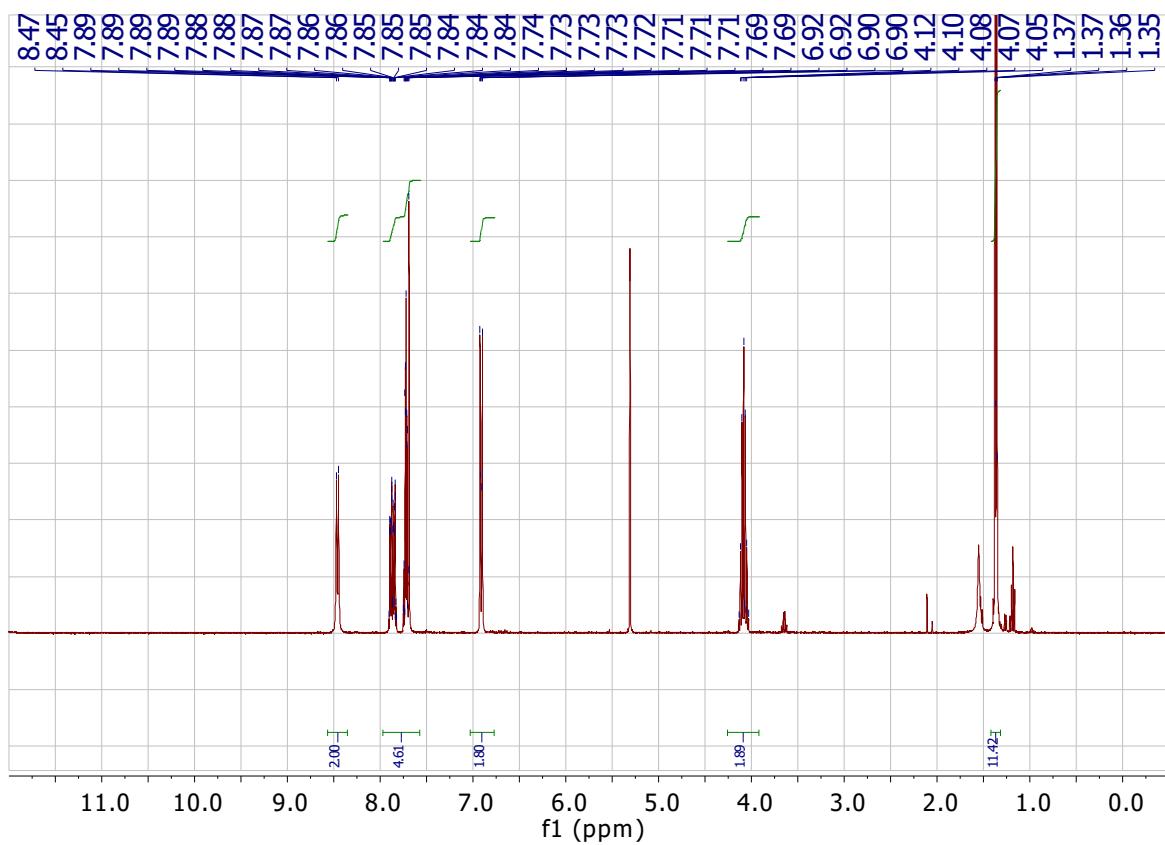


Fig. S3.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **1c** in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .

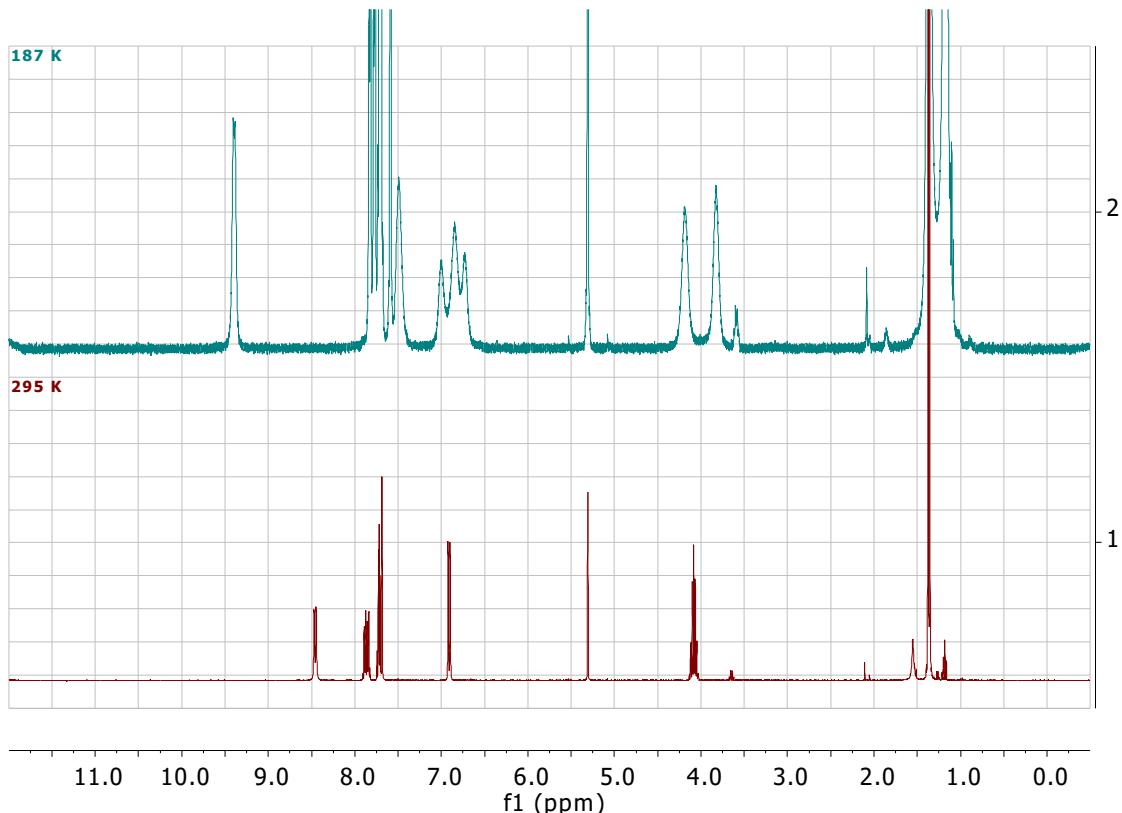


Fig. S4. Variable temperature  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectra of **1c** in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  at RT (brown) 233 K (green) and 187 K (blue).

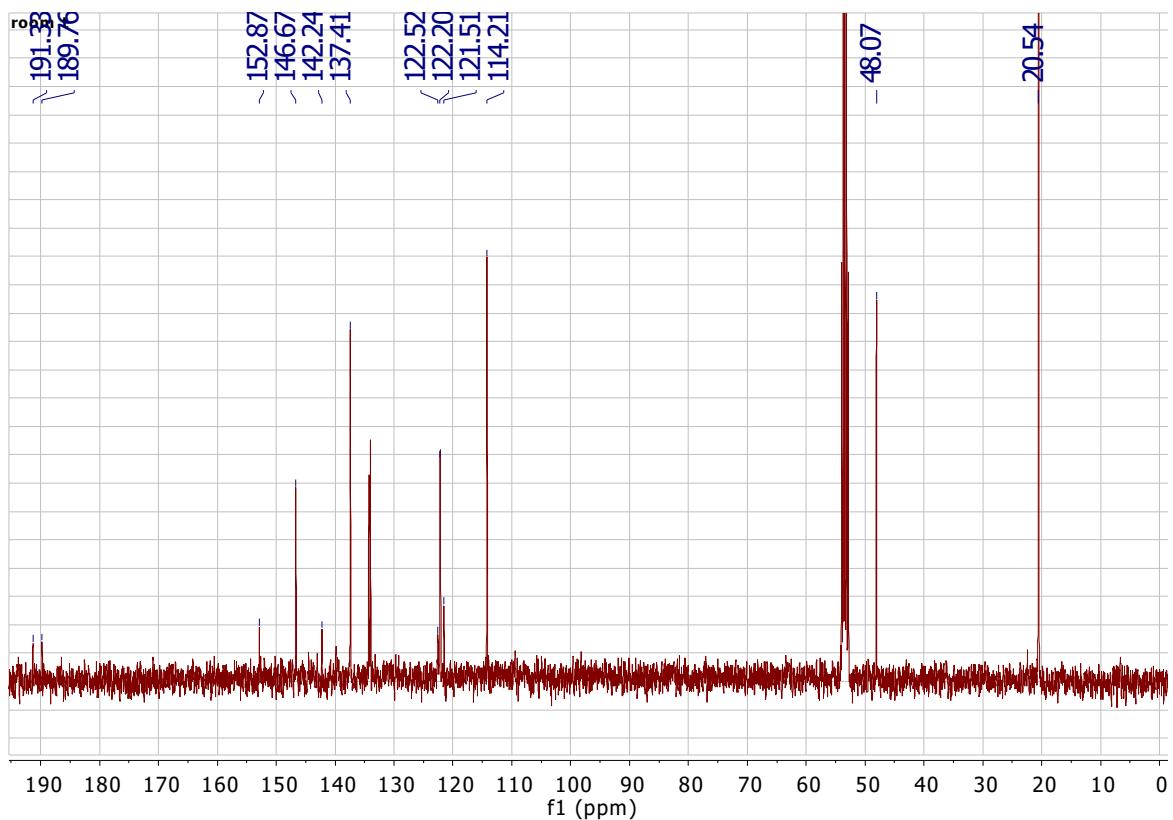


Fig. S5. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **1c** in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .

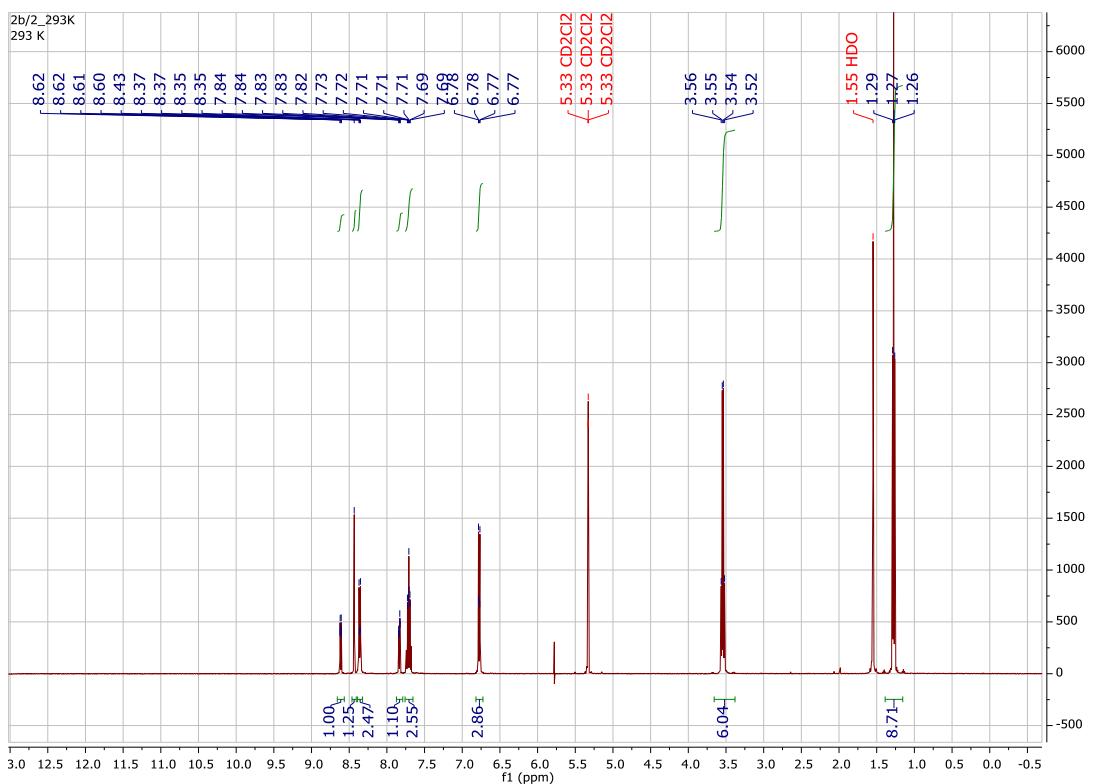


Fig. S6. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **2b** in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.

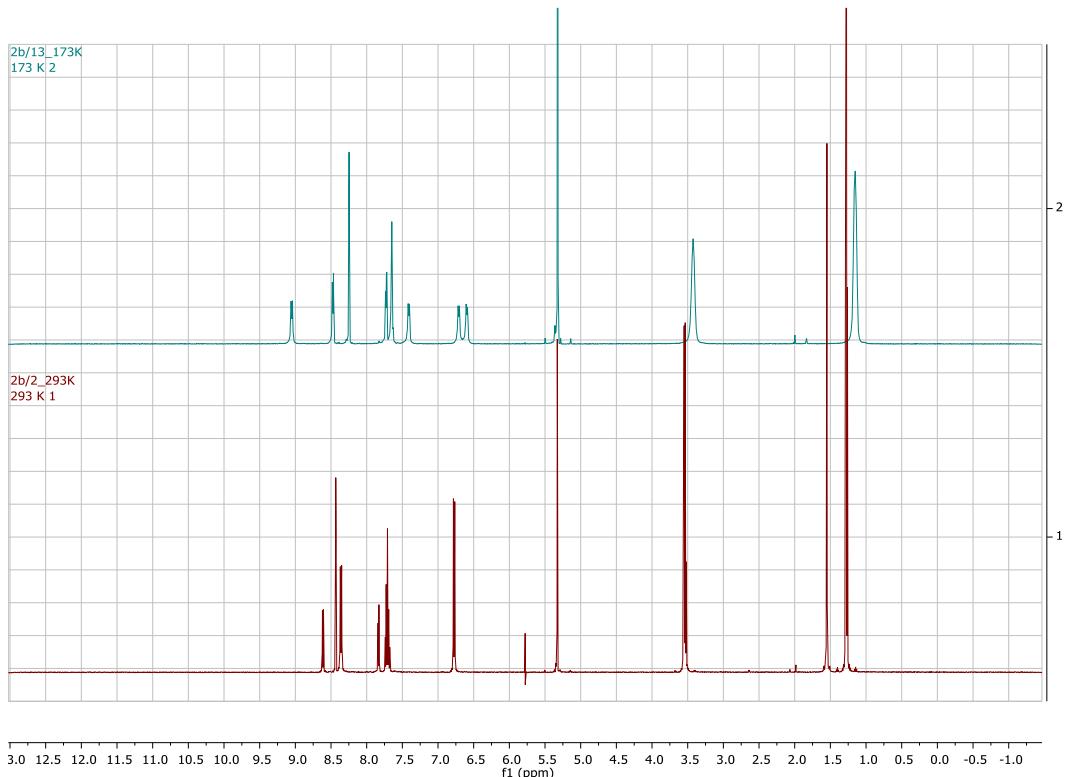


Fig. S7. Variable temperature <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of **2b** in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at RT (brown) and 173 K (green).

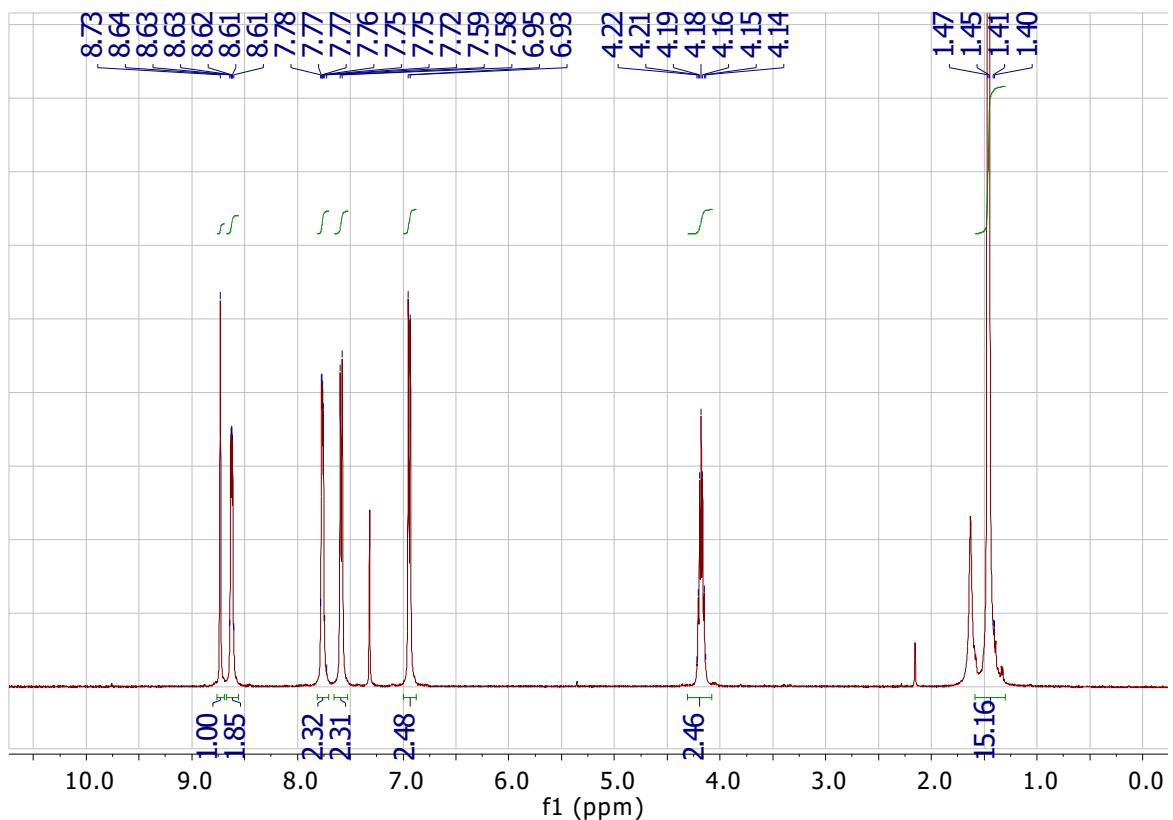


Fig. S8. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3c** in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.

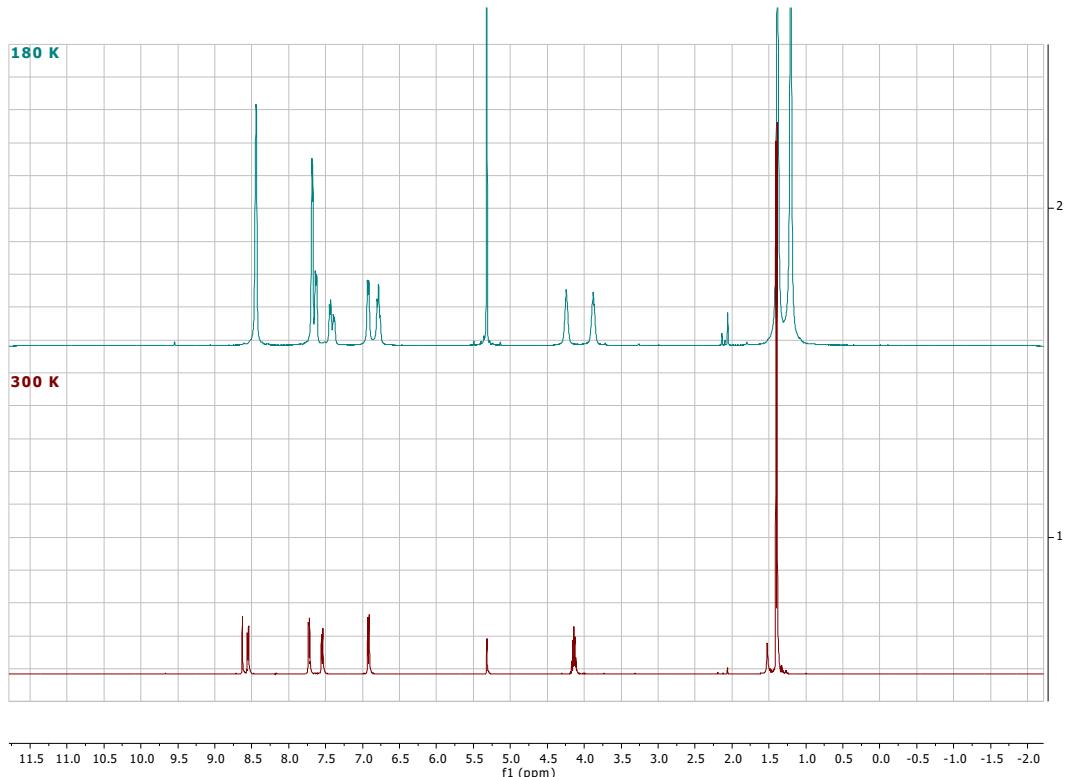


Fig. S9. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3c** in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at 300 (brown) and 180 K (green).

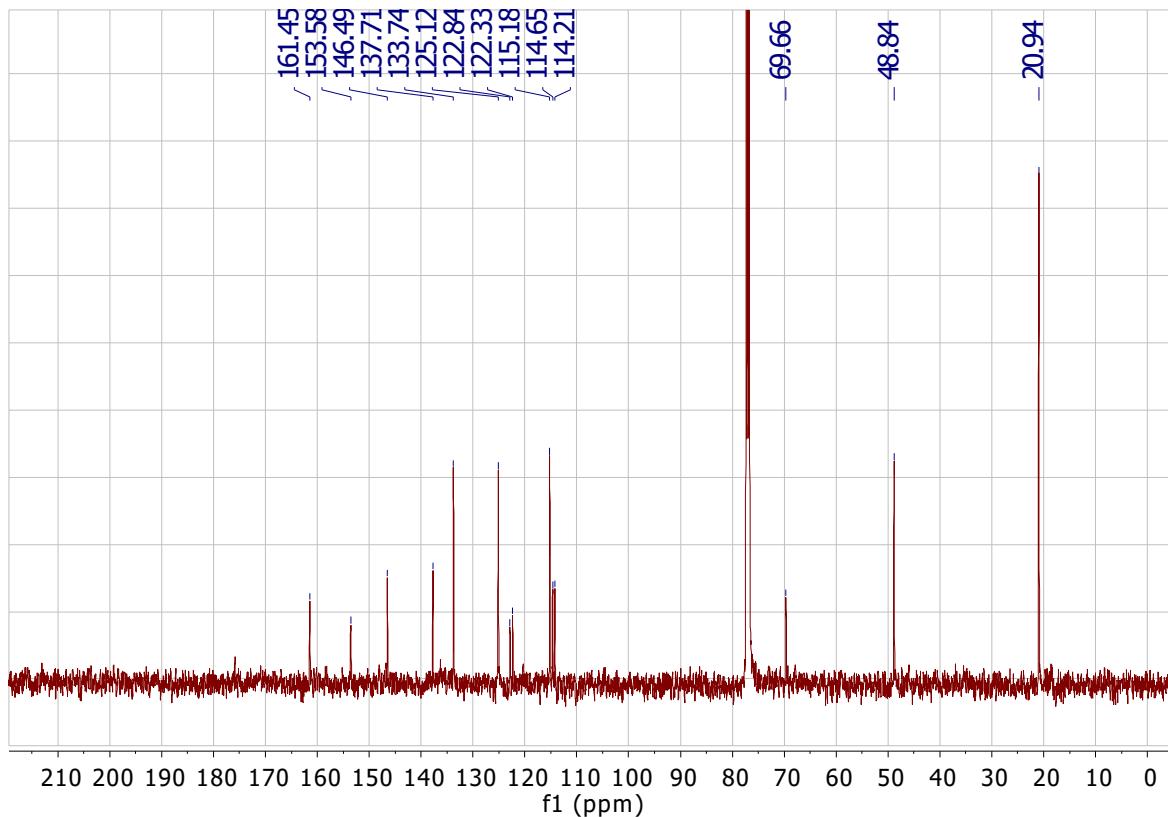


Fig. S10.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **3c** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  at RT.

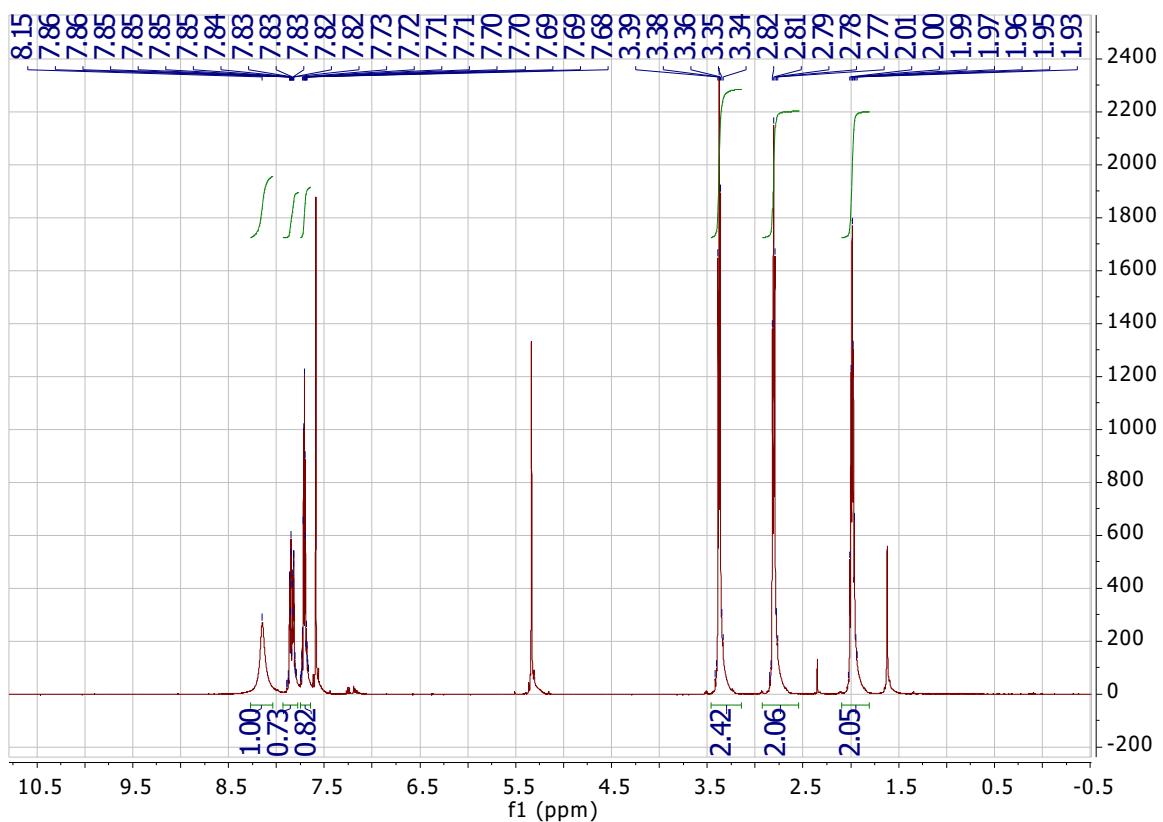
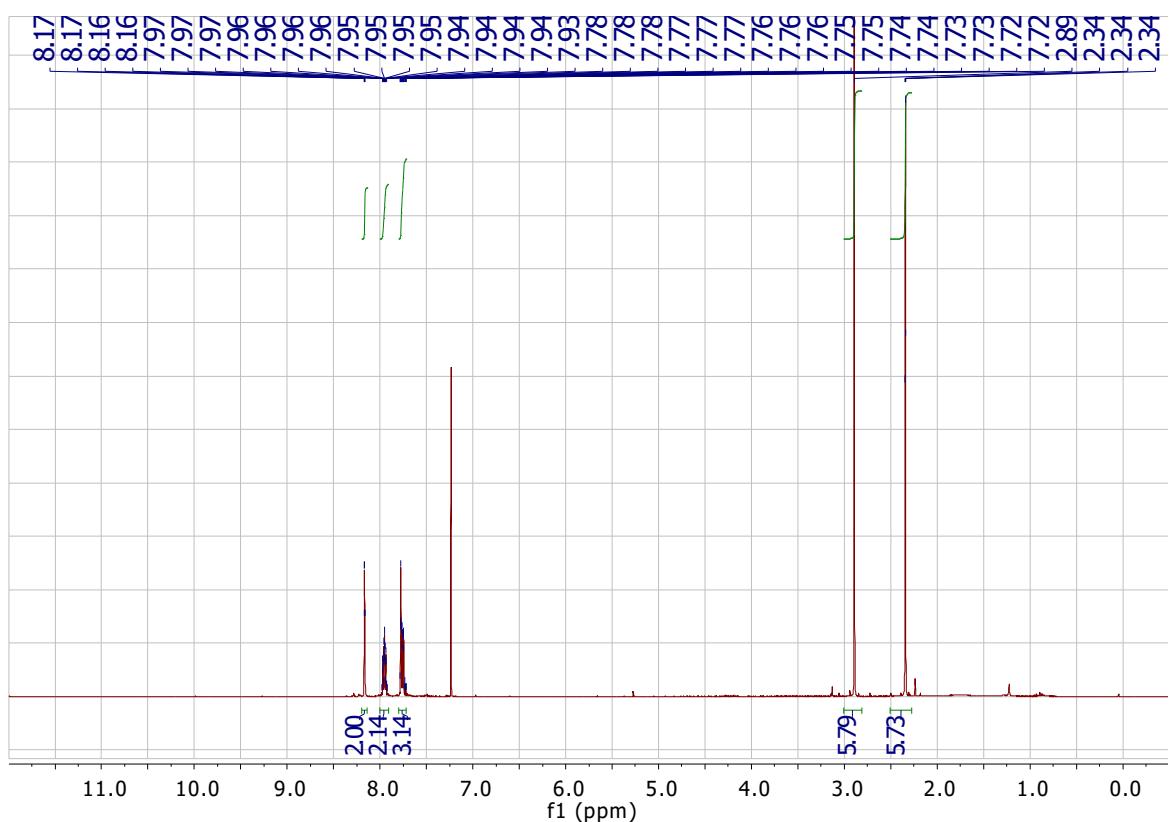
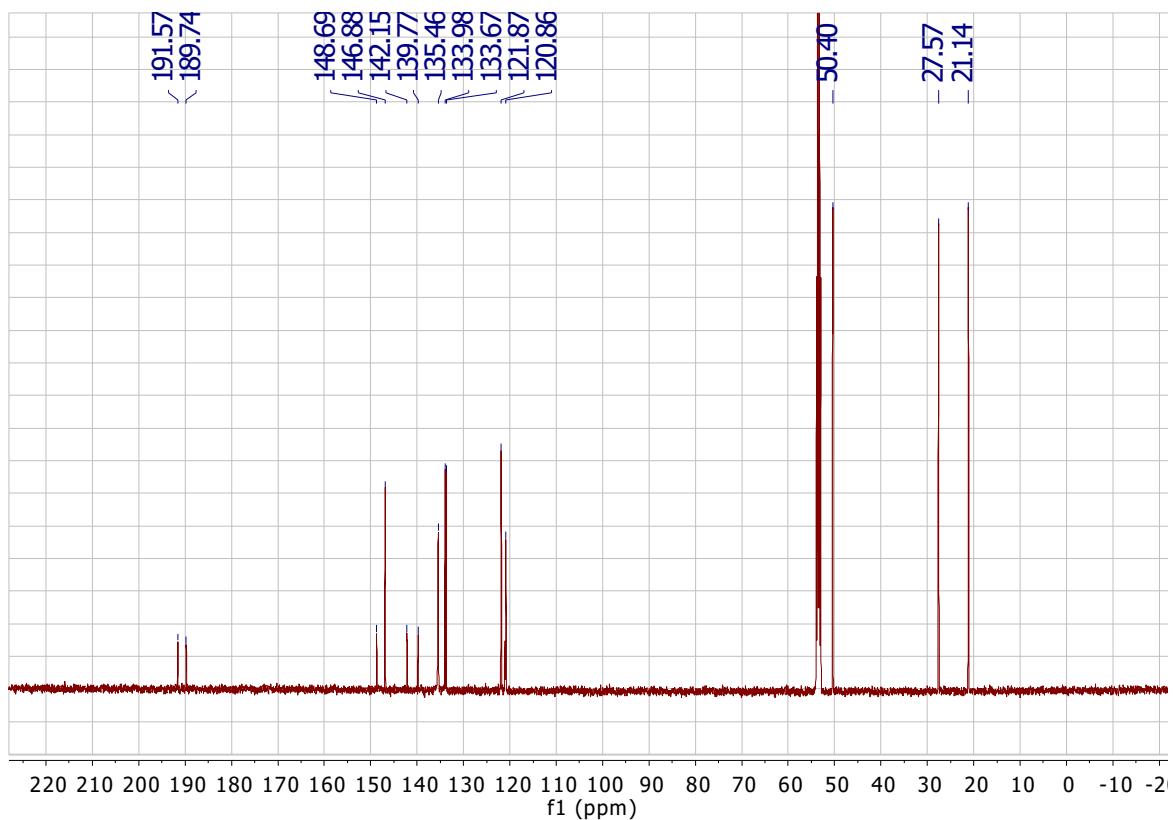


Fig. S11.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **4** in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  at RT.



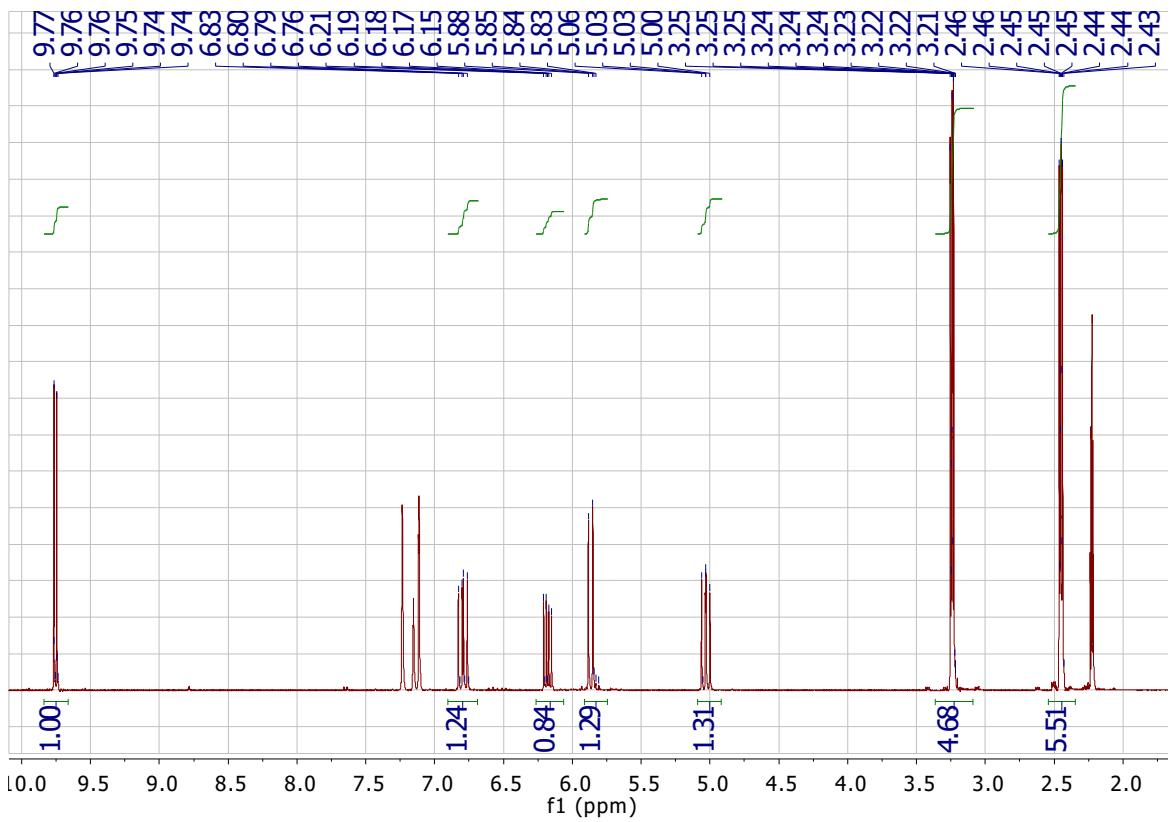


Fig. S14.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **6b** in toluene- $d_8$  at RT.

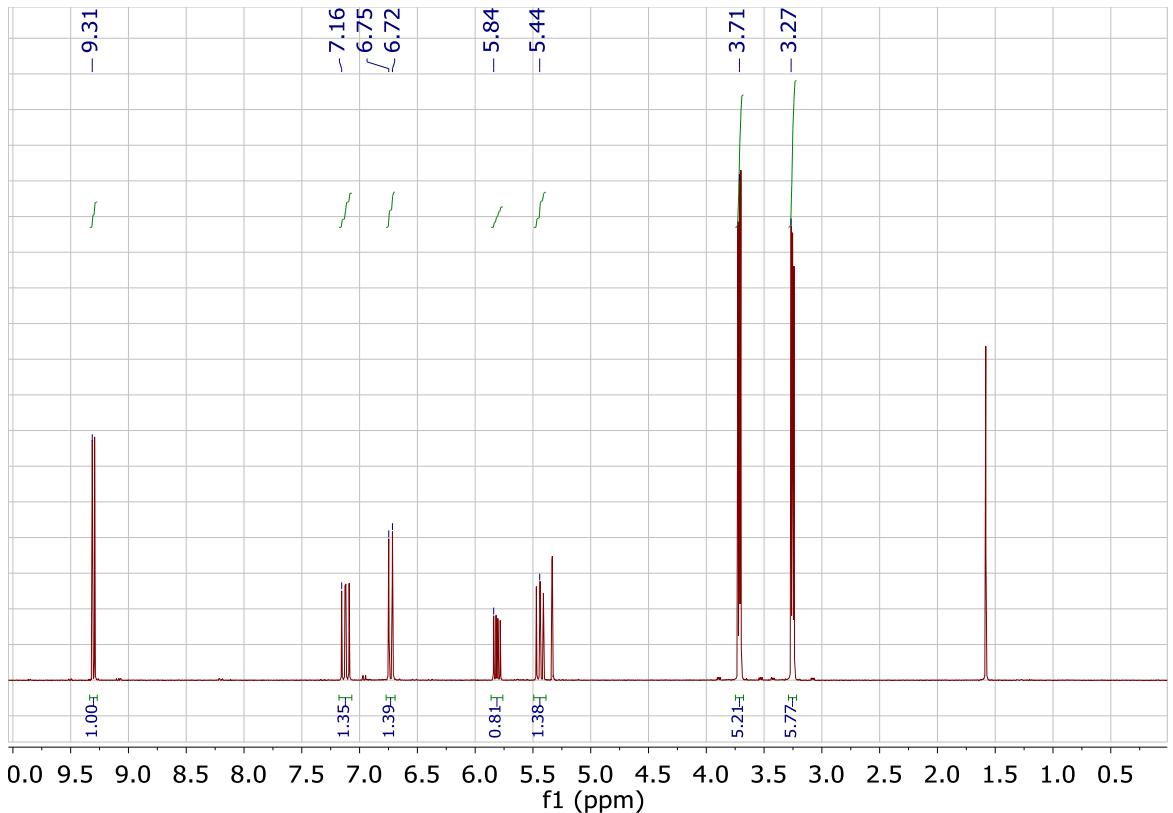


Fig. S15.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **6b** in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  at RT.

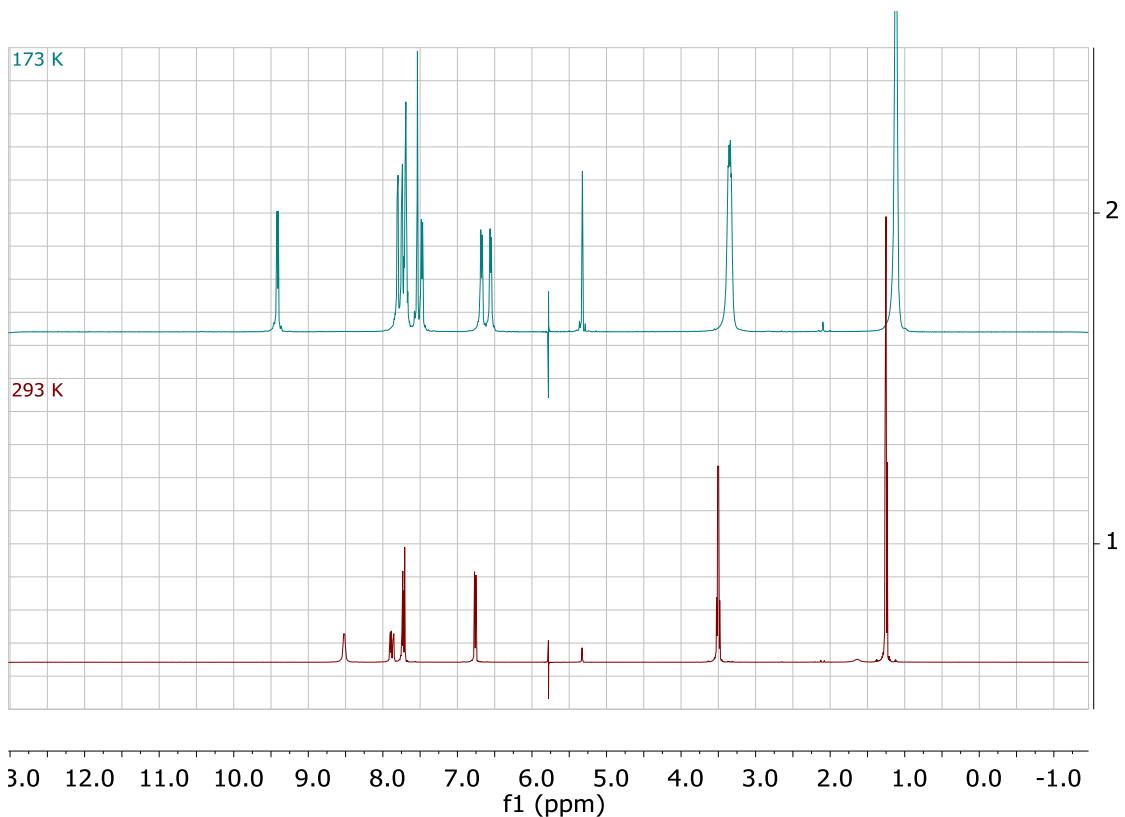


Fig. S16. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **6b** in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at 295 (brown) and 195 K (green).

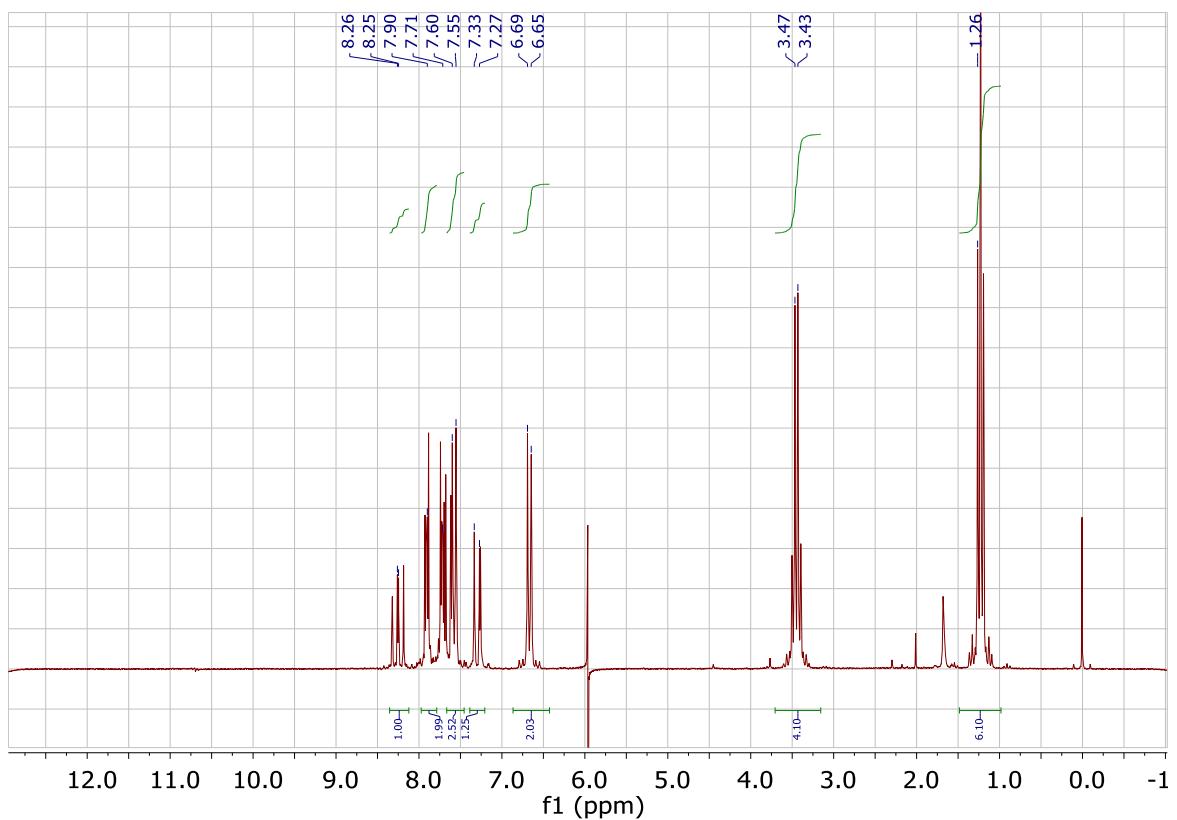


Fig. S17. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **7b** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

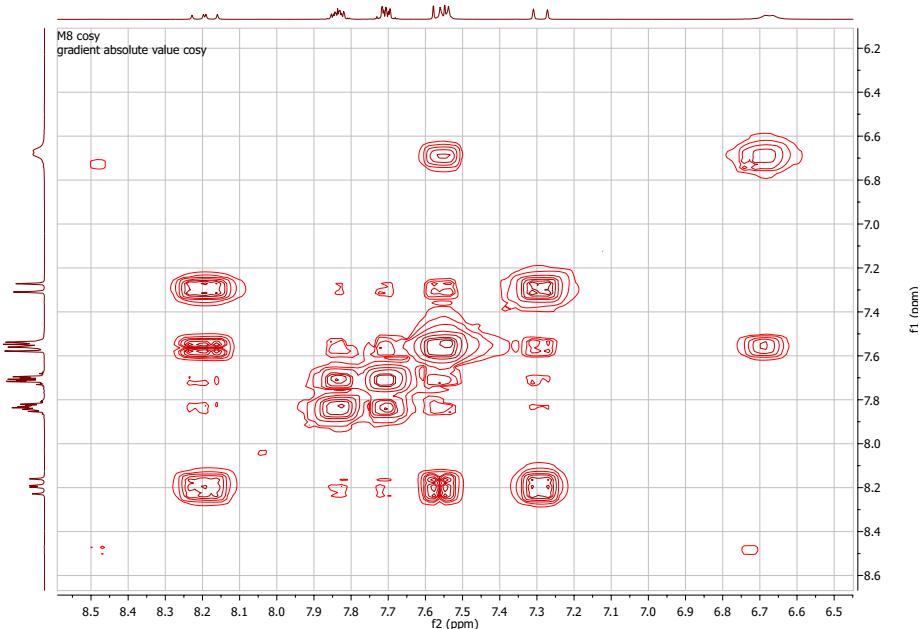


Fig. S18. COSY spectrum of **7b** in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  at RT.

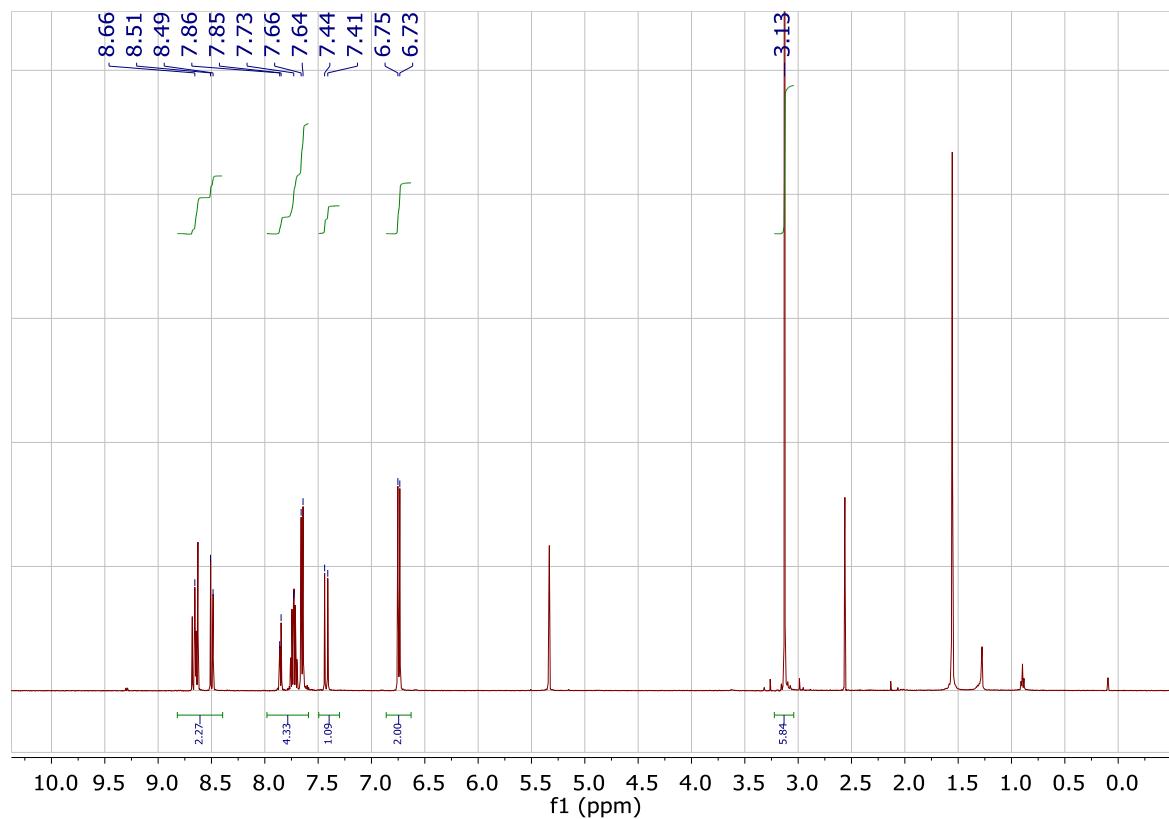


Fig. S19.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **8b** in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .

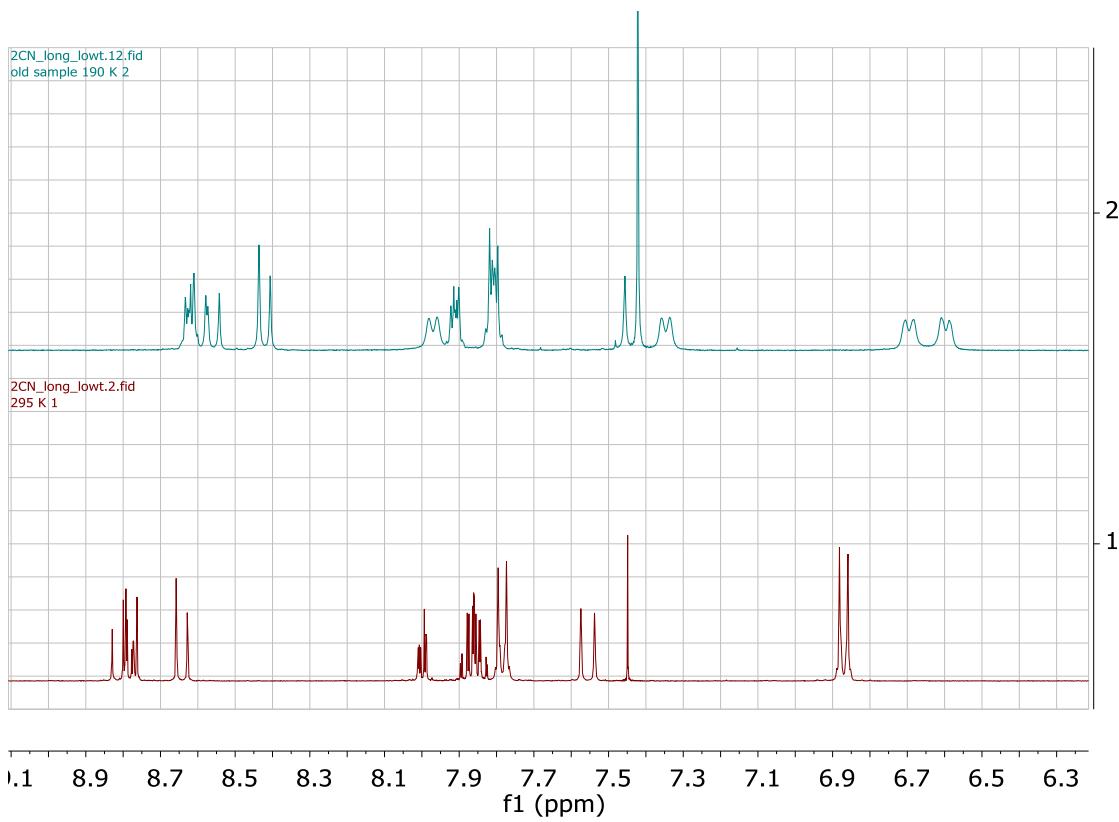


Fig. S20. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **8b** in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at 295 (brown) and 190 K (green).

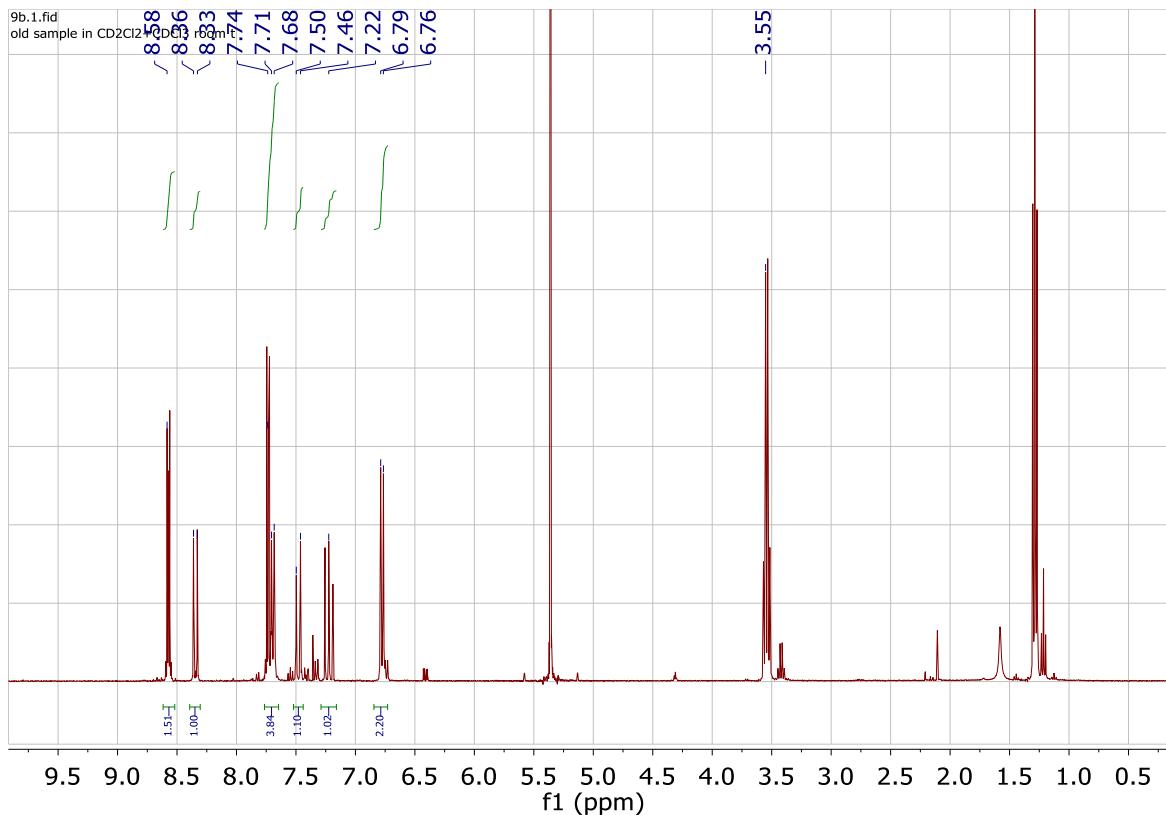


Fig. S21. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **9b** in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.

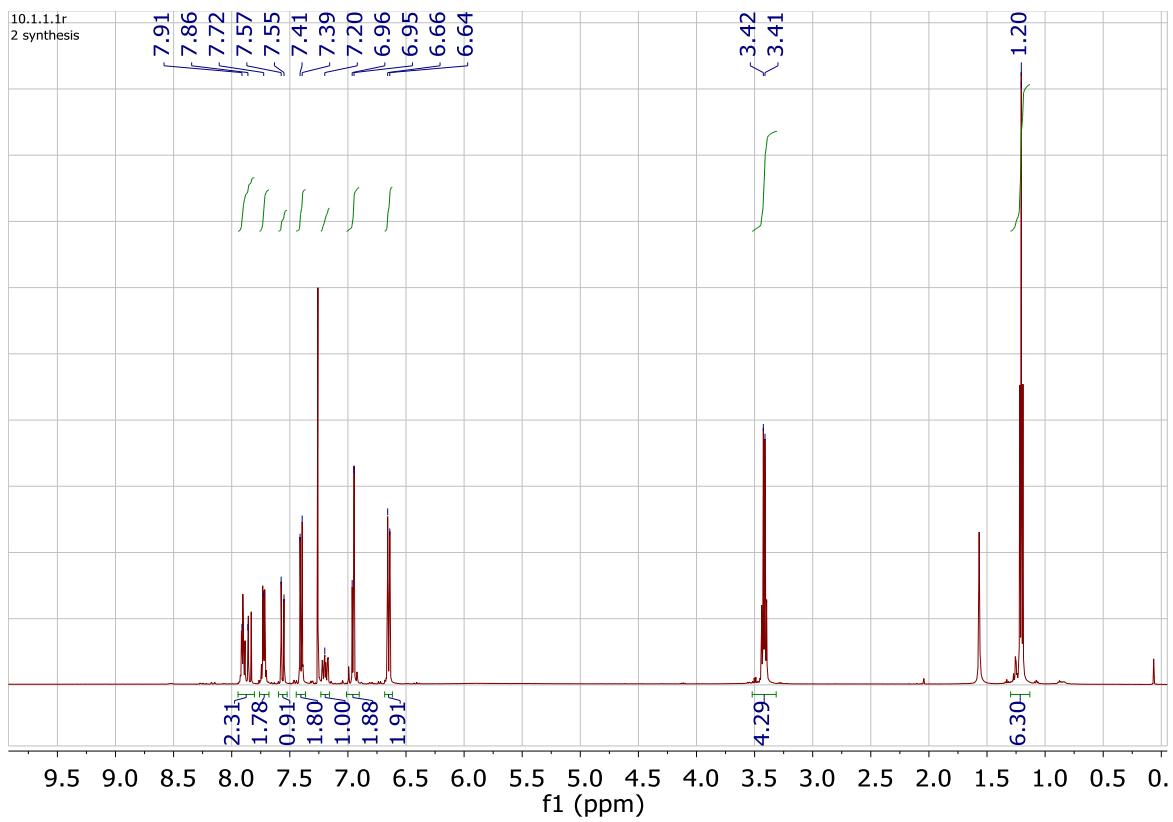


Fig. S22.  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of **10b** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

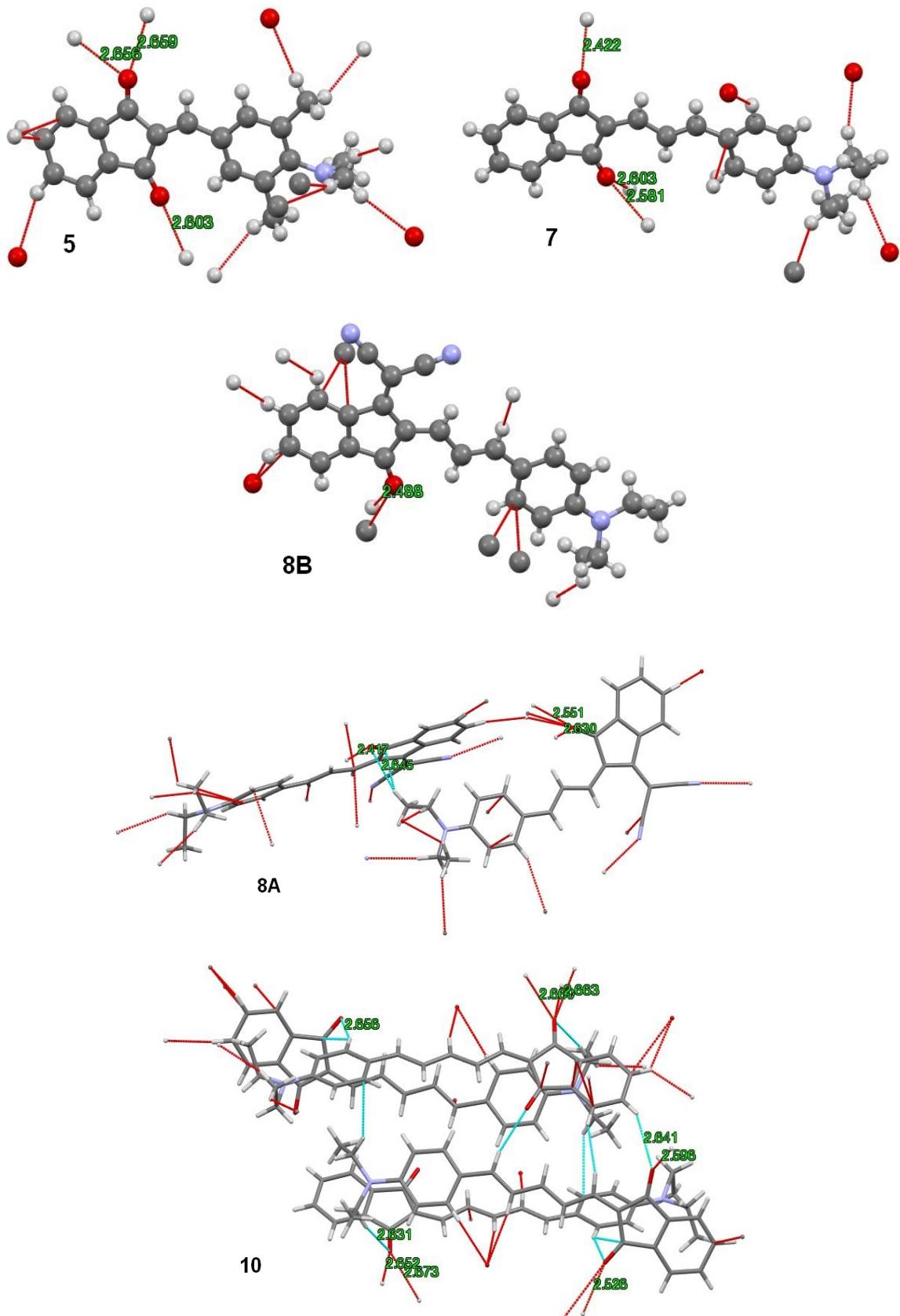


Fig. S23. Short contacts within the X-Ray structures of **5**, **7**, **8** and **10**. Only selected O···HC bond lengths are shown.

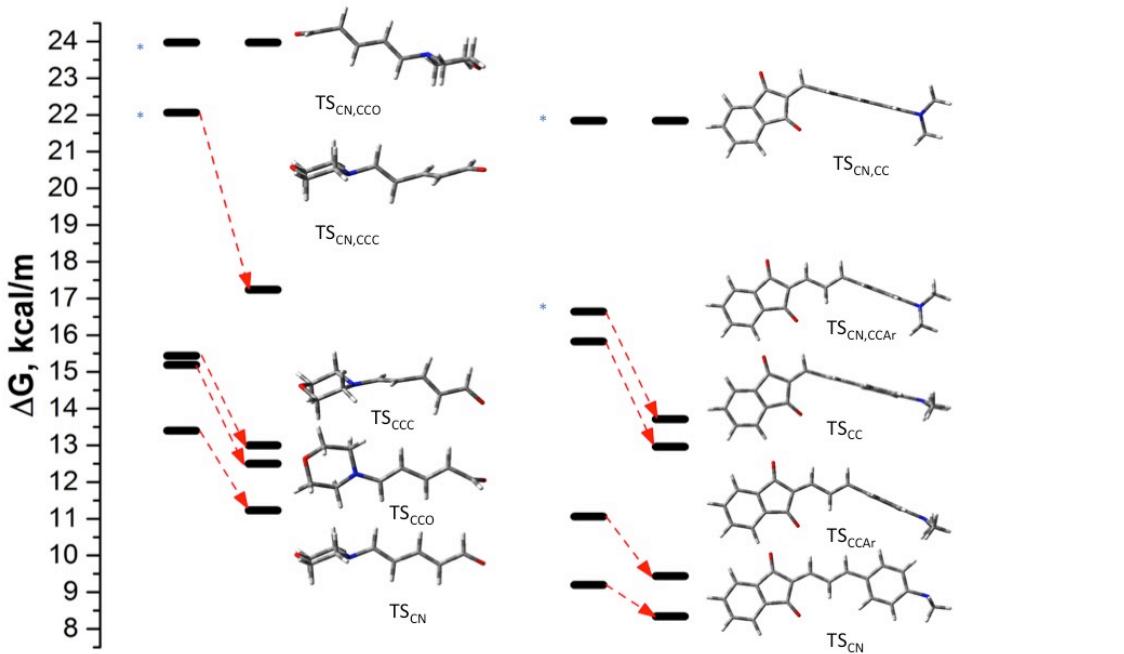


Fig. S24. Corrections of the calculated barriers to rotation for derivatives **6b** and **7a**. Two higher barriers (blue asterisks) are used to correct the lower barriers:  $\text{TS}_{\text{CN},\text{CCO}}$  for  $\text{TS}_{\text{CN},\text{C-C}}$  and  $\text{TS}_{\text{C-CC}}$ ;  $\text{TS}_{\text{CN,C-CC}}$  for  $\text{TS}_{\text{C-CO}}$  and  $\text{TS}_{\text{CN}}$  (**6d**);  $\text{TS}_{\text{CN},\text{CC}}$  for  $\text{TS}_{\text{CN},\text{CCAr}}$  and  $\text{TS}_{\text{CC}}$ ;  $\text{TS}_{\text{CN},\text{CCAr}}$  for  $\text{TS}_{\text{CCAr}}$  and  $\text{TS}_{\text{CN}}$  (**7a**).

Table S1. Calculated for derivative **1a** energies (a.u.) in dichloromethane: EE - electronic energies, ZPE - ZPE corrected energies,  $\text{FE}_{\text{RT}}$  - free energies at 298 K,  $\text{FE}_{204}$  - free energies at 204 K.  $B_{\text{X-Y}}$  - rotation barrier about X-Y bond (kcal/mol, corrected). Bonds (a), (b) and (c) are also shown in Chart 3.

	GS DZ	$\text{TS}_{\text{C-C}}$	$\text{TS}_{\text{C-N}}$	$\text{TS}_{\text{C-C,C-N}}$
EE	-900.26287	-900.24331	-900.24553	-900.23498
ZPE	-899.97729	-899.9597	-899.96112	-899.9521
$\text{FE}_{\text{RT}}$	-900.02498	-900.00644	-900.00659	-899.99679
$\text{FE}_{204\text{K}}$	-900.00567	-899.98753	-899.98835	-899.97881

$B_{\text{C-C}}(\text{b})$ : 10.00;  $B_{\text{C-N}}(\text{c})$ : 9.66 (kcal/mol, corrected).

	TZ			
EE	-900.48034	-900.46125	-900.46307	-900.4529
ZPE	-900.19459	-900.17696	-900.17815	-900.16917
$\text{FE}_{\text{RT}}$	-900.24266	-900.22369	-900.22384	-900.21381

$B_{\text{C-C}}(\text{b})$ : 10.23;  $B_{\text{C-N}}(\text{c})$ : 9.89 (kcal/mol, corrected).

Table S2. Calculated (DZ) for derivative **2a** energies (a.u.) in dichloromethane.

	GS	TS <sub>C-C</sub>	TS <sub>C-N</sub>	TS <sub>C-C,C-N</sub>
EE	-1,048.8271	-1,048.8082	-1,048.8078	-1,048.7998
ZPE	-1,048.521	-1,048.504	-1,048.5033	-1,048.4961
FE <sub>RT</sub>	-1,048.5741	-1,048.5574	-1,048.5551	-1,048.5467

B<sub>C-C</sub>(b): 9.13; B<sub>C-N</sub>(c): 9.89 (kcal/mol, corrected).

Table S3. Calculated (DZ) for derivative **3a** energies (a.u.) in dichloromethane.

	GS	TS <sub>C-C</sub>	TS <sub>C-N</sub>	TS <sub>C-C,C-N</sub>
EE	-1,197.387	-1,197.3659	-1,197.3681	-1,197.3548
ZPE	-1,197.0609	-1,197.0409	-1,197.0433	-1,197.0303
FE <sub>RT</sub>	-1,197.1185	-1,197.0977	-1,197.0992	-1,197.0852

B<sub>C-C</sub>(b): 11.74; B<sub>C-N</sub>(c): 10.51 (kcal/mol, corrected).

Table S4. Calculated (DZ) for derivative **4** energies (a.u.) in dichloromethane.

	GS	TS <sub>C-C</sub>	GS <sub>anh</sub>	TS <sub>C-C, anh</sub>
EE	-1055.138	-1055.1176	-1055.136	-1055.1165
ZPE	-1054.78	-1054.7616	-1054.7766	-1054.7596
FE <sub>248</sub>	-1054.8177	-1054.7987	-1054.8116	-1054.7957

B<sub>C-C</sub>: 11.92; B<sub>C-CAnh</sub>: 9.98 kcal/mol

Table S5. Calculated (DZ) for derivative **5** energies (a.u.) in dichloromethane.

	GS	TS <sub>C-C</sub>	TS <sub>C-N</sub>	TS <sub>C-C,C-N</sub>
EE	-978.8849	-978.8708	-978.8804	-978.8697
ZPE	-978.5450	-978.5330	-978.5417	-978.5325
FE <sub>RT</sub>	-978.5949	-978.5826	-978.5915	-978.5813

B<sub>C-C</sub>(b): 6.77; B<sub>C-N</sub>(c): 2.08 (kcal/mol, corrected).

Table S6. Calculated (TZ) for derivative **6d** energies (a.u.) in dichloromethane.

	GS	TS <sub>C-CO</sub>	TS <sub>C-N</sub>	TS <sub>C-C</sub>	TS <sub>C-C,C-N</sub>	TS <sub>C-CO,C-N</sub>
EE	-556.1613	-556.1358	-556.1393	-556.1356	-556.1249	-556.1215
ZPE	-555.9506	-555.9266	-555.9299	-555.9263	-555.9164	-555.9133
FE <sub>225K</sub>	-555.9773	-555.9531	-555.956	-555.9527	-555.9422	-555.9391

B<sub>C-C</sub>: 13.00; B<sub>C-CO</sub>: 13.01; B<sub>C-N</sub>: 11.37 (kcal/mol, corrected).

Table S7. Calculated (DZ) for derivative **7a** energies (a.u.) in dichloromethane.

	GS	TS <sub>C-C</sub>	TS <sub>C-N</sub>	TS <sub>C-CAr</sub>	TS <sub>C-CAr,C-N</sub>	TS <sub>C-C,C-N</sub>
EE	-977.6829	-977.6551	-977.6674	-977.6637	-977.6552	-977.6456
ZPE	-977.3639	-977.3383	-977.3498	-977.3462	-977.3386	-977.3297
FE <sub>215K</sub>	-977.3958	-977.3706	-977.3811	-977.3782	-977.3693	-977.3610

B<sub>C-C</sub>(b): 12.96; B<sub>C-CAr</sub>: 9.44; B<sub>C-N</sub>(c): 8.34 (kcal/mol, corrected).

Table S8. Calculated (DZ) for derivative **8a** energies (a.u.) in dichloromethane.

	GS	TS <sub>C-C</sub>	TS <sub>C-N</sub>	TS <sub>C-CAr</sub>	TS <sub>C-CAr,C-N</sub>
EE	-1,126.2514	-1,126.2202	-1,126.2341	-1,126.2294	-1,126.2208
ZPE	-1,125.9114	-1,125.8827	-1,125.8954	-1,125.8911	-1,125.8833
FE <sub>225K</sub>	-1,125.9489	-1,125.9207	-1,125.9323	-1,125.929	-1,125.9194

B<sub>C-C</sub>(b): 10.57; B<sub>C-CAr</sub>: 9.44 10.35; B<sub>C-N</sub>(c): 8.34 9.14 (kcal/mol, corrected).

Table S9. Calculated (DZ) for derivative **9a** energies (a.u.) in dichloromethane.

	GS	TS <sub>C-C(a)</sub>	TS <sub>C-C(b)</sub>	TS <sub>C-CAr</sub>	TS <sub>C-N(c)</sub>	TS <sub>C-C,C-N</sub>
EE	-1,274.8114	-1,274.7926	-1,274.7788	-1,274.7888	-1,274.793	-1,274.78
ZPE	-1,274.4512	-1,274.4328	-1,274.4207	-1,274.4303	-1,274.4342	-1,274.4222
FE <sub>242K</sub>	-1,274.4962	-1,274.4777	-1,274.4665	-1,274.4748	-1,274.4782	-1,274.4654

B<sub>C-C</sub>(a): 9.93; B<sub>C-C</sub>(b): 14.75; B<sub>C-CAr</sub>: 9.44 11.33; B<sub>C-N</sub>(c): 8.34 10.09 (kcal/mol, corrected).

Table S10. Calculated dipole moments  $\mu$  (D) and zero-frequency hyperpolarizabilities  $\beta_0 \cdot 10^{30}$  (esu) for six unique rotamers of eight of derivative **1a** in dichloromethane.

	GS	TSA1	TSA2	TSD1	TSD2	TSDA
DZ (CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> )						
$\mu$ (D)	8.0514	2.9789	2.4390	0.6585	2.170	2.9864
$\beta_0 \cdot 10^{30}$ (esu)	135.99	5.53	8.87	32.26	32.64	8.79
TZ (CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> )						
	7.9862	2.9367	2.4144	0.6668	2.1416	2.9378
	131.69	5.236	8.874	31.51	31.169	8.52
DZ (CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> )						
	7.5878	2.9221	2.4299	0.6940	2.0778	2.8464
	116.34	4.664	7.991	29.28	28.98	7.442

Averaging:

$$(2 \cdot \text{TSA1} + \text{TSA2} + \text{TSD1} + \text{TSD2} + 2 \cdot \text{TSDA}) / 8$$

Table S11. Calculated (TZ) dipole moments  $\mu$  (D) for ten unique rotamers of ten of derivative **6a** in benzene and chloroform.

	GS	TS1a	TS1b	TS1c	TS2a	TS2b	TS2c	TS3a	TS3b	TS3c
Benzene										
$\mu$ (D)	11.371	6.588	9.654	6.80	6.558	10.457	5.335	6.31	11.371	5.281
Chloroform										
$\mu$ (D)	12.828	7.130	10.908	7.348	6.975	11.748	5.659	6.84	12.82	4.721

Averaging:

$$(TS1a + TS1b + TS1c + TS2a + TS2b + TS2c + TS3a + TS3b + TS3c) / 10$$

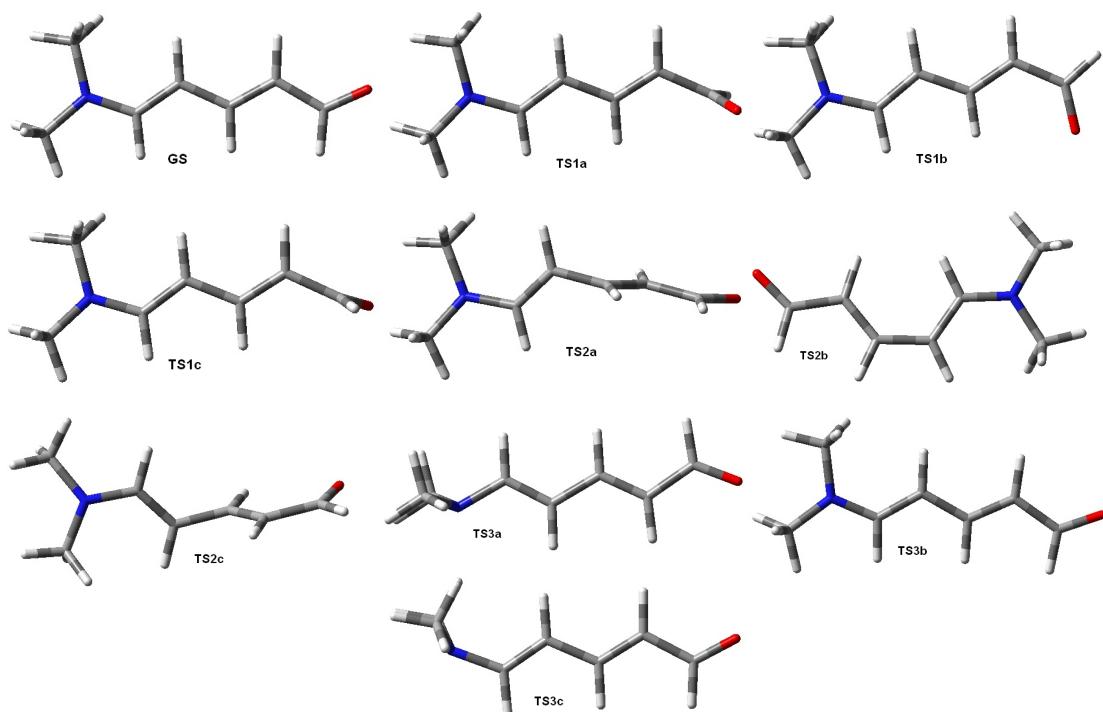


Fig. S25. Ten unique rotamers of ten of **6a** present in benzene solution at RT.

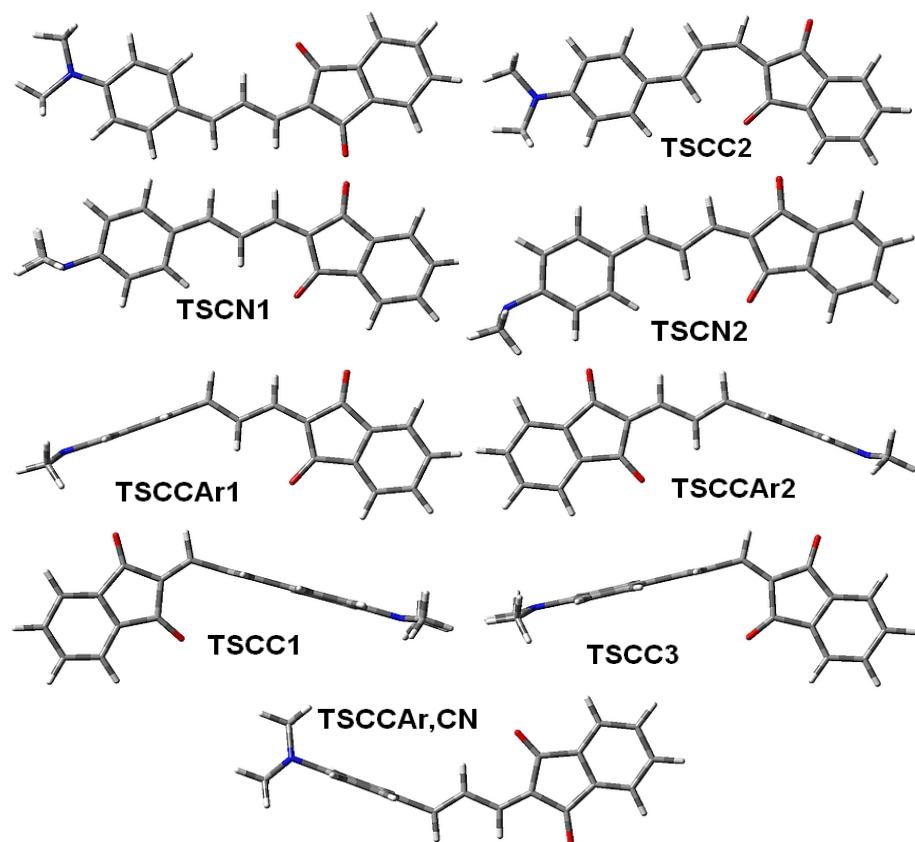


Fig. S26. Nine unique rotamers of 18 of **6a** present in dichloromethane and chloroform solutions at RT.

Table S12. Calculated (DZ) dipole moments  $\mu$  (D) and zero-frequency hyperpolarizabilities  $\beta_0 \cdot 10^{30}$  (esu) for nine unique rotamers of 18 of derivative **7a** in dichloromethane and chloroform.

Dichloromethane:

	GS	TS <sub>CC2</sub>	TS <sub>CN1</sub>	TS <sub>CN2</sub>	TS <sub>CCAr1</sub>	TS <sub>CCAr2</sub>	TS <sub>CC1</sub>	TS <sub>CC2</sub>	TS <sub>CCAr,CN</sub>
$\mu$ (D)	11.258	11.471	2.947	3.136	3.631	3.329	3.329	3.631	1.482
$\beta_0 \cdot 10^{30}$	345.9	316.62	105.06	104.5	24.67	25.43	25.43	24.67	11.47

Chloroform:

	GS	TS <sub>CC2</sub>	TS <sub>CN1</sub>	TS <sub>CN2</sub>	TS <sub>CCAr1</sub>	TS <sub>CCAr2</sub>	TS <sub>CC1</sub>	TS <sub>CC2</sub>	TS <sub>CCAr,CN</sub>
$\mu$ (D)	10.509	10.733	2.836	3.031	3.521	3.380	3.556	3.268	1.432
$\beta_0 \cdot 10^{30}$	292.09	266.57	92.01	91.60	19.14	19.08	22.18	22.86	11.01

Averaging:

$$(3*GS+TS_{CC2}+2*TS_{CN1}+2*TS_{CN2}+4*TS_{CCAr,CN}+2*TS_{CCAr1}+2*TS_{CCAr2}+TS_{CC1}+TS_{CC2})/18$$