

## Electronic supplementary information

### **Novel cyano-activated Cu(II) complexes of arylhydrazones of active methylene nitriles and their catalytic application for azide–alkyne cycloaddition in water and glycerol**

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## 1. X-ray data and analysis

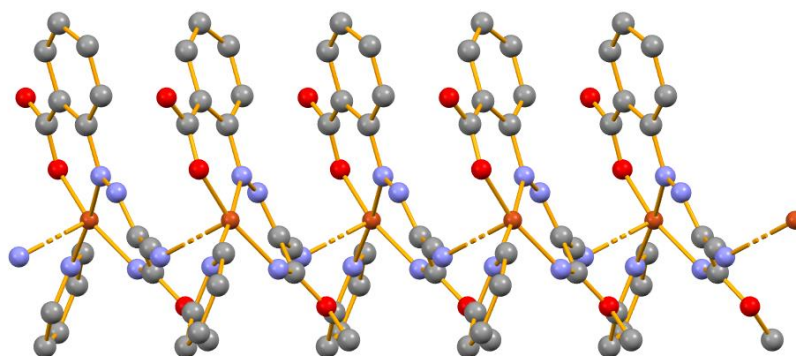
**Table S1.** Crystallographic data and structure refinement details for 1–5.

|   | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Empirical formula                               | C <sub>24</sub> H <sub>24</sub> Cu <sub>2</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O <sub>8</sub> | C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>12</sub> CuN <sub>6</sub> O <sub>3</sub> | C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>20</sub> CuN <sub>6</sub> O <sub>5</sub> | C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>13</sub> CuN <sub>5</sub> O <sub>3</sub> | C <sub>44</sub> H <sub>34</sub> Cu <sub>3</sub> N <sub>12</sub> O <sub>10</sub> |
| Formula weight                                  | 679.59  | 375.84  | 499.97  | 386.85  | 1081.45   |
| Crystal system                                  | Triclinic   | Triclinic   | Triclinic   | Orthorhombic  | Monoclinic  |
| Space group                                     | P-1   | P-1   | P-1   | Pbca  | C2/c  |
| <i>a</i> (Å)                                    | 9.3312(17)  | 8.3848(3)   | 8.6551(13)  | 7.5563(2)   | 30.947(5)   |
| <i>b</i> (Å)                                    | 9.3618(19)  | 8.9939(4)   | 10.2932(18)   | 19.9231(4)  | 8.1219(10)  |
| <i>c</i> (Å)                                    | 9.4050(15)  | 11.1413(5)  | 12.572(2)   | 19.9344(4)  | 20.211(2)   |
| $\alpha$ (°)                                    | 60.556(6)   | 102.733(2)  | 71.796(6)   | 90  | 90  |
| $\beta$ (°)                                     | 76.213(6)   | 90.338(2)   | 79.500(6)   | 90  | 101.999(7)  |
| $\gamma$ (°)                                    | 68.001(7)   | 113.054(2)  | 82.626(6)   | 90  | 90  |
| <i>V</i> (Å <sup>3</sup> )                      | 661.9(2)  | 750.08(6)   | 1043.1(3)   | 3001.02(12)   | 4969.1(11)  |
| <i>Z</i>  | 1   | 2   | 2   | 8   | 4   |
| <i>D</i> <sub>calc</sub> (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )   | 1.705   | 1.664   | 1.592   | 1.712   | 1.446   |
| F000  | 346   | 382   | 514   | 1576  | 2196  |
| $\mu$ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )                       | 1.672   | 1.483   | 1.096   | 1.484   | 1.338   |
| Rfl. measured                                   | 14352   | 25094   | 23523   | 28483   | 35267   |
| Obs / Unique rfl.                               | 2446 / 2728   | 2891 / 3032   | 3498 / 4283   | 2692 / 3074   | 2508 / 4626   |
| N° parameters                                   | 192   | 218   | 299   | 227   | 314   |
| <i>R</i> <sub>int</sub>                         | 0.0579  | 0.0316  | 0.0837  | 0.0326  | 0.0993  |
| <i>R</i> ( <i>F</i> ) ( <i>I</i> ≥ 2σ)          | 0.0274  | 0.0207  | 0.0395  | 0.0249  | 0.0522  |
| w <i>R</i> ( <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup> ) (all data) | 0.0698  | 0.0580  | 0.0871  | 0.0695  | 0.1590  |
| GOF ( <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup> )                   | 1.044   | 1.055   | 1.020   | 1.074   | 0.986   |

**Table S2.** Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) for **1-5**.

| <b>1<sup>a</sup></b>    |           | <b>2</b>               |           | <b>3</b>  |           |
|-------------------------|-----------|------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Cu1-O2                  | 1.932(2)  | Cu1-O1                 | 1.911(1)  | Cu1-N1    | 1.951(3)  |
| Cu1-O2 <sup>i</sup>     | 2.105(2)  | Cu1-N1                 | 1.930(1)  | Cu1-N3    | 1.970(2)  |
| Cu1-Cu1 <sup>i</sup>    | 3.1905(7) | Cu1-N3                 | 1.960(1)  | Cu1-N5    | 2.055(2)  |
| Cu1-O4                  | 2.283(2)  | Cu1-N5                 | 1.992(1)  | Cu1-O1    | 1.932(2)  |
| Cu1-N1                  | 1.913(2)  | C1-N1                  | 1.280(2)  | Cu1-O4    | 2.343(2)  |
| Cu1-N3                  | 1.963(2)  | C1-C2                  | 1.450(2)  | C1-N1     | 1.282(4)  |
| N2-N3                   | 1.310(3)  | N2-N3                  | 1.305(2)  | C1-C2     | 1.453(3)  |
| C1-N1                   | 1.281(4)  | C2-N2                  | 1.321(2)  | C2-N2     | 1.327(4)  |
| C1-C2                   | 1.449(3)  | O1-Cu1-N5              | 89.32(5)  | N2-N3     | 1.300(4)  |
| C2-N2                   | 1.321(3)  | N1-Cu1-N5              | 91.77(6)  | O1-Cu1-O4 | 106.60(7) |
| O2-Cu1-O2 <sup>i</sup>  | 75.65(7)  | N1-Cu1-N3              | 92.21(6)  | O1-Cu1-N1 | 145.83(9) |
| Cu1-O2-Cu1 <sup>i</sup> | 104.35(8) | O1-Cu1-N3              | 94.19(5)  | O1-Cu1-N3 | 92.56(9)  |
| O2-Cu1-O4               | 93.57(7)  | O1-Cu1-N1              | 155.20(6) | O1-Cu1-N5 | 89.16(9)  |
| O2 <sup>i</sup> -Cu1-O4 | 89.28(6)  | N3-Cu1-N5              | 162.41(6) | N1-Cu1-N5 | 89.3(1)   |
| O2-Cu1-N3               | 95.25(7)  |                        |           | N1-Cu1-N3 | 91.3(1)   |
| N1-Cu1-N3               | 92.80(8)  |                        |           | O4-Cu1-N1 | 107.30(9) |
| N1-Cu1-O2 <sup>i</sup>  | 94.61(7)  |                        |           | O4-Cu1-N3 | 90.51(8)  |
| N1-Cu1-O2               | 165.76(8) |                        |           | O4-Cu1-N5 | 85.62(8)  |
| N3-Cu1-O2 <sup>i</sup>  | 168.02(7) |                        |           |           |           |
| <b>4<sup>b</sup></b>    |           | <b>5<sup>c</sup></b>   |           |           |           |
| Cu1-O1                  | 1.889(1)  | Cu1-O1                 | 1.888(4)  |           |           |
| Cu1-N1                  | 1.938(1)  | Cu1-N1                 | 1.947(4)  |           |           |
| Cu1-N3                  | 1.966(1)  | Cu1-N3                 | 1.929(4)  |           |           |
| Cu1-N4 <sup>i</sup>     | 2.597(2)  | Cu1-N5                 | 2.041(5)  |           |           |
| Cu1-N5                  | 2.031(1)  | N1-N2                  | 1.314(5)  |           |           |
| C1-N1                   | 1.279(2)  | C13-N2                 | 1.309(6)  |           |           |
| C1-C2                   | 1.457(2)  | C14-N3                 | 1.280(7)  |           |           |
| C2-N2                   | 1.327(2)  | C13-N14                | 1.439(8)  |           |           |
| N2-N3                   | 1.308(2)  | Cu2-O3                 | 2.411     |           |           |
| N1-Cu1-N3               | 92.78(6)  | Cu2-O4                 | 2.045     |           |           |
| N1-Cu1-N4 <sup>i</sup>  | 92.28(5)  | Cu2-N6                 | 1.998     |           |           |
| N1-Cu1-N5               | 89.36(6)  | Cu1-Cu2                | 9.186     |           |           |
| N1-Cu1-O1               | 162.20(6) | N1-Cu1-O1              | 92.6(2)   |           |           |
| N3-Cu1-O1               | 93.44(6)  | N3-Cu1-O1              | 164.9(2)  |           |           |
| N4 <sup>i</sup> -Cu1-O1 | 105.00(5) | N5-Cu1-O1              | 84.1(2)   |           |           |
| N5-Cu1-O1               | 86.00(6)  | N1-Cu1-N3              | 93.7(2)   |           |           |
| N3-Cu1-N5               | 174.48(6) | N1-Cu1-N5              | 169.0(2)  |           |           |
|                         |           | N3-Cu1-N5              | 92.0(2)   |           |           |
|                         |           | N6-Cu2-O4              | 91.0      |           |           |
|                         |           | N6-Cu2-O3              | 93.7      |           |           |
|                         |           | N6-Cu2-N6 <sup>i</sup> | 180.0     |           |           |
|                         |           | O3-Cu2-O4              | 59.1      |           |           |
|                         |           | O3-Cu2-O4 <sup>i</sup> | 120.9     |           |           |
|                         |           | N6-Cu2-O3 <sup>i</sup> | 86.3      |           |           |
|                         |           | N6-Cu2-O4 <sup>i</sup> | 89.0      |           |           |

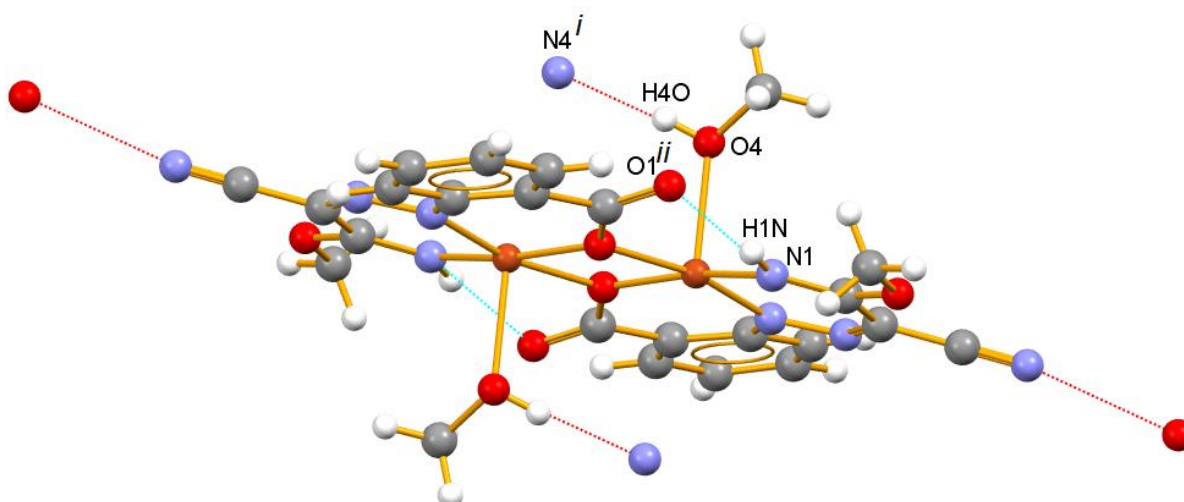
<sup>a</sup> (i) -x,1-y,1-z. <sup>b</sup> (i) -1/2x,y,1/2-z. <sup>c</sup> (i) 1-x,2-y,1-z.



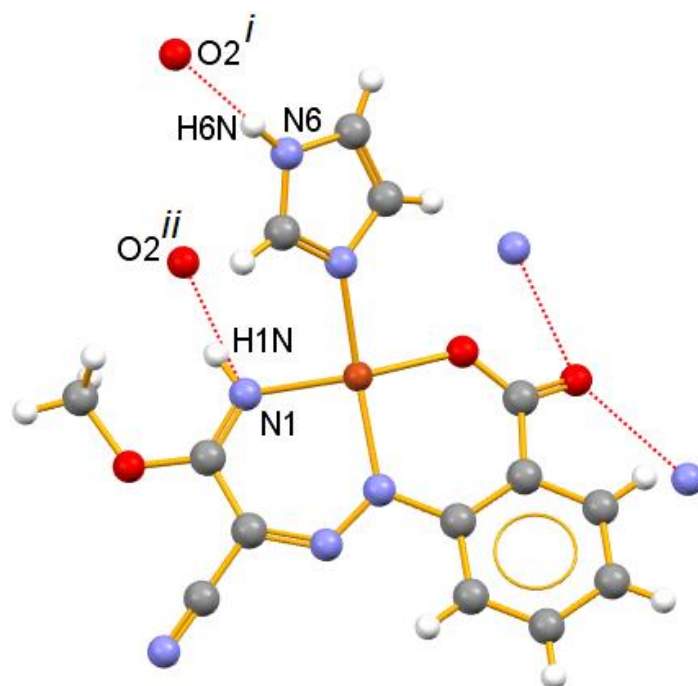
**Figure S1.** A structural fragment showing the 1D polymeric nature of **4**. Hydrogens in the bottom figure are omitted for clarity.

**Table S3.** Hydrogen bonding distances (Å) and angles (°) for for **1** - **5**.<sup>a</sup>

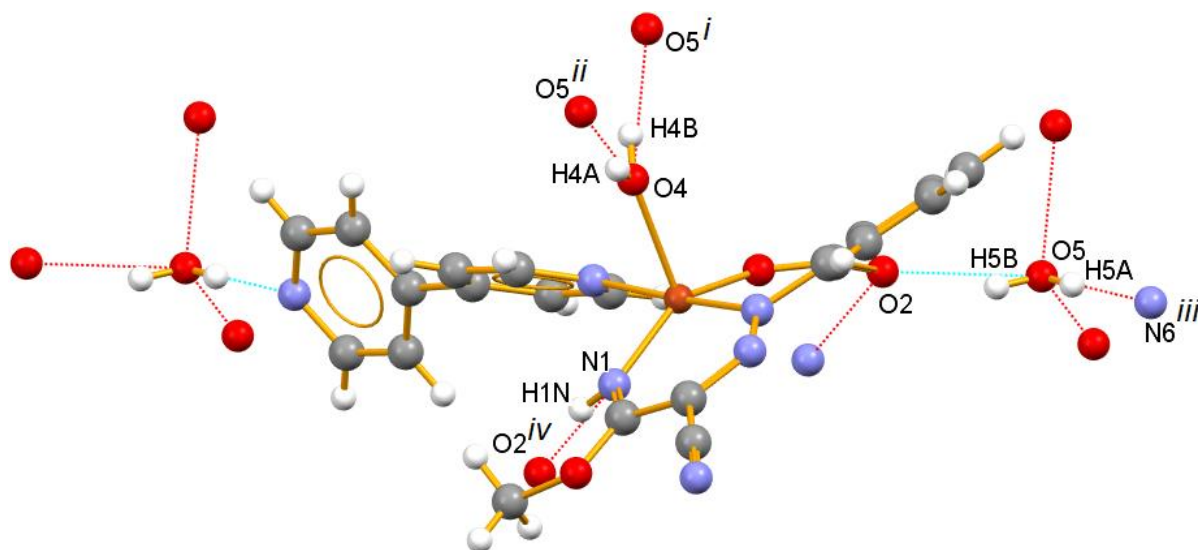
| D–H⋯A                    | D–H   | H⋯A   | D⋯A      | D–H⋯A  |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|----------|--------|
| <b>1</b>                 |       |       |          |        |
| O4–H4O⋯N4 <sup>i</sup>   | 0.850 | 1.959 | 2.805(4) | 173.5  |
| N1–H1N⋯O1 <sup>ii</sup>  | 0.900 | 1.914 | 2.707(2) | 146.0  |
| <b>2</b>                 |       |       |          |        |
| N6–H6N⋯O2 <sup>i</sup>   | 0.882 | 1.937 | 2.812(2) | 171.6  |
| N1–H1N⋯O2 <sup>ii</sup>  | 0.882 | 2.093 | 2.927(2) | 157.5  |
| <b>3</b>                 |       |       |          |        |
| O4–H4B⋯O5 <sup>i</sup>   | 0.850 | 2.014 | 2.853(3) | 168.9  |
| O4–H4A⋯O5 <sup>ii</sup>  | 0.850 | 2.043 | 2.869(3) | 164.0  |
| O5–H5A⋯N6 <sup>iii</sup> | 0.850 | 1.961 | 2.808(3) | 174.4  |
| N5–H5B⋯O2                | 0.850 | 1.971 | 2.770(3) | 156.3  |
| N1–H1N⋯O2 <sup>iv</sup>  | 0.875 | 2.169 | 2.997(3) | 157.9  |
| <b>4</b>                 |       |       |          |        |
| N1–H1N⋯O2 <sup>i</sup>   | 0.918 | 2.062 | 2.967(2) | 168.49 |
| <b>5</b>                 |       |       |          |        |
| N3–H3N⋯O2 <sup>i</sup>   | 0.860 | 2.141 | 2.996(6) | 172.7  |



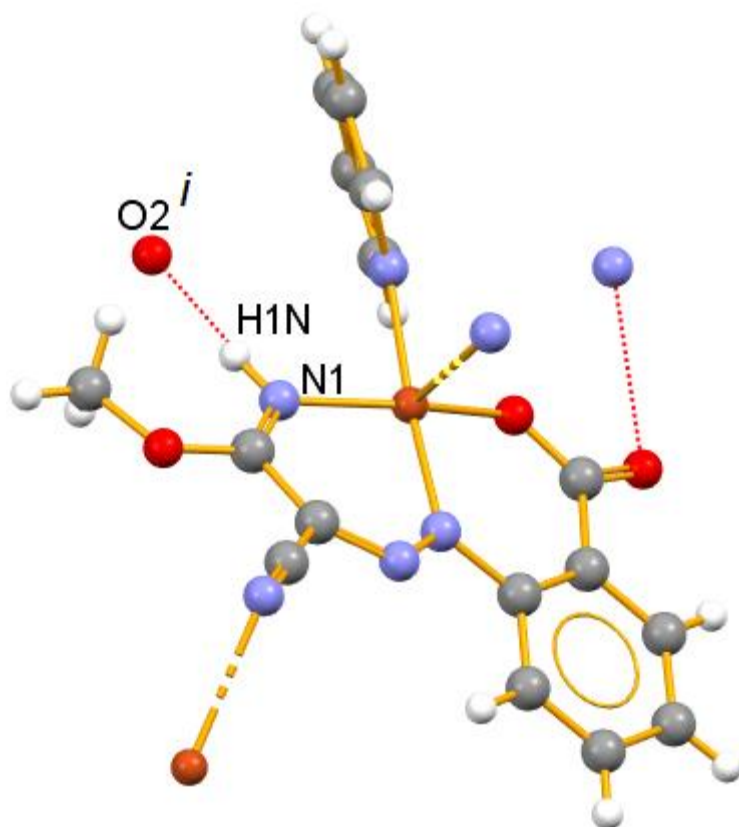
**Figure S2.** Hydrogen bond interactions in the structure of **1**. Symmetry operations to generate equivalent atoms: (i)  $-1+x,y,z$ . (ii)  $-x,1-y,1-z$ .



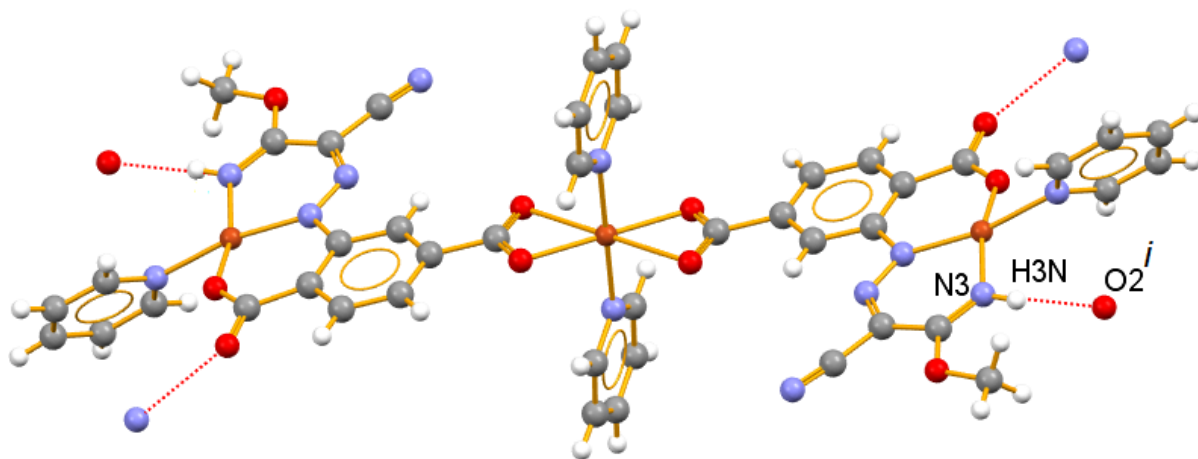
**Figure S3.** Hydrogen bond interactions in the structure of **2**. Symmetry operations to generate equivalent atoms: (i)  $1+x, 1+y, z$ . (ii)  $1-x, 1-y, 2-z$ .



**Figure S4.** Hydrogen bond interactions in the structure of **3**. Symmetry operations to generate equivalent atoms: (i)  $2-x, 1-y, 1-z$ . (ii)  $x, -1+y, z$ . (iii)  $1+x, 1+y, -1+z$ . (iv)  $1-x, 1-y, 1-z$ .

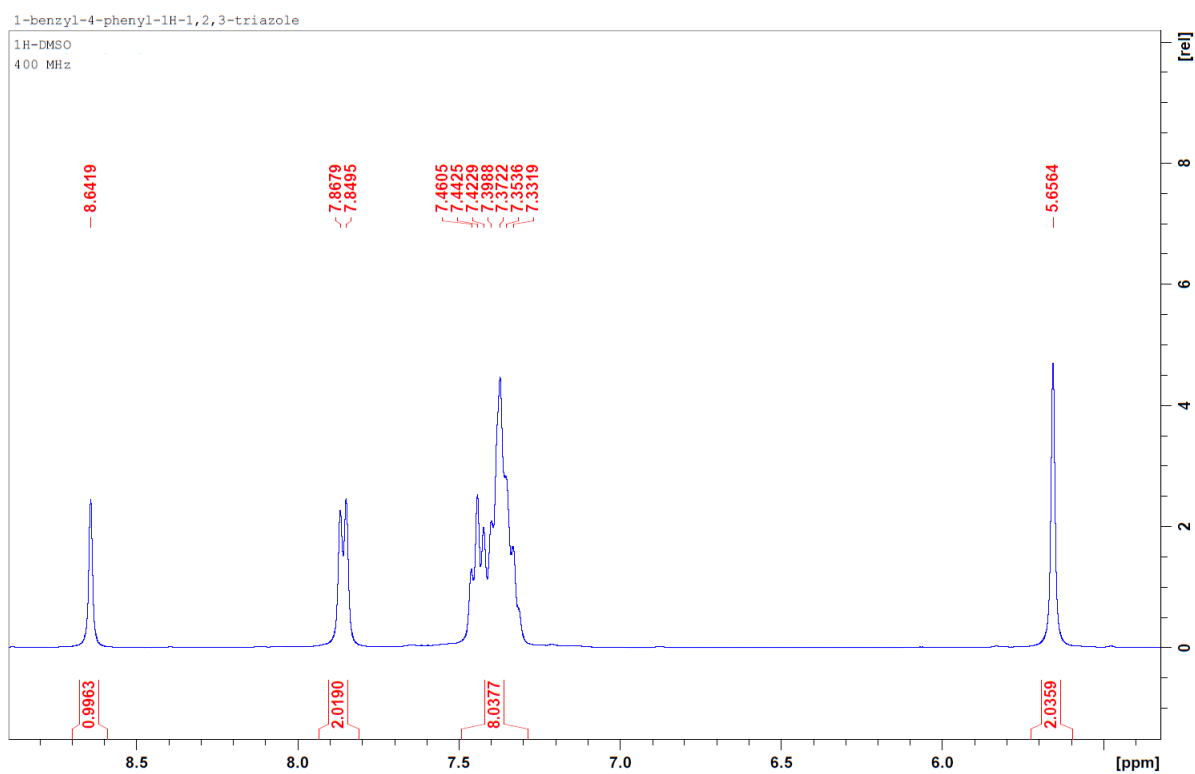


**Figure S5.** Hydrogen bond interactions in the structure of **4**. Symmetry operations to generate equivalent atoms: (*i*)  $1/2+x, 1.5-y, 1-z$ .

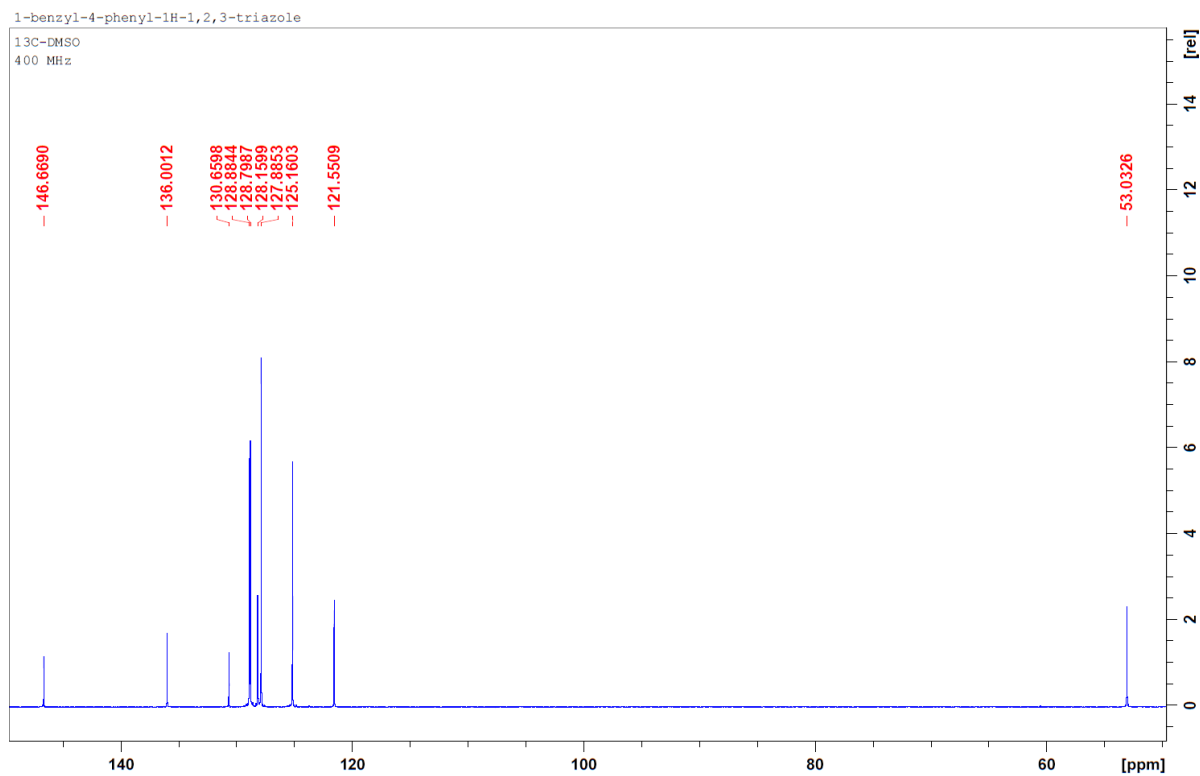


**Figure S6.** Hydrogen bond interactions in the structure of **5**. Symmetry operations to generate equivalent atoms: (*i*)  $1.5-x, -1/2+y, 1/2-z$ .

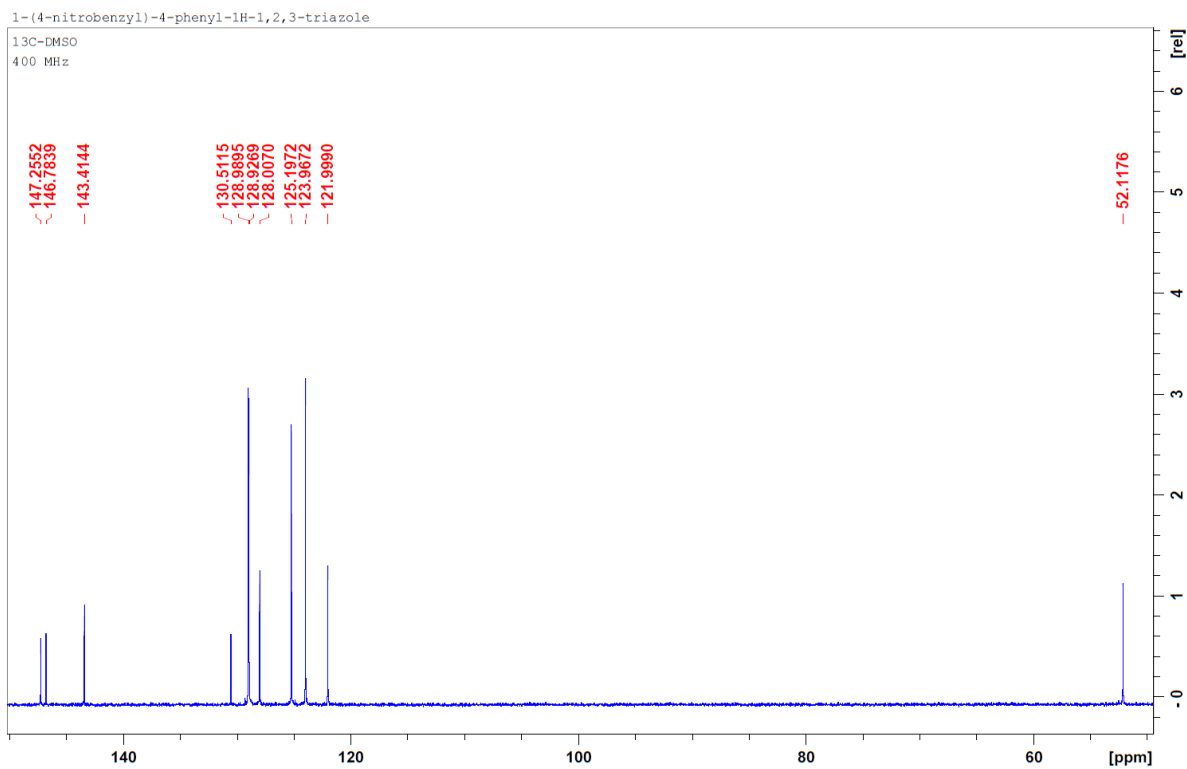
## 2. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra of 1,4-disubstituted 1,2,3-triazoles



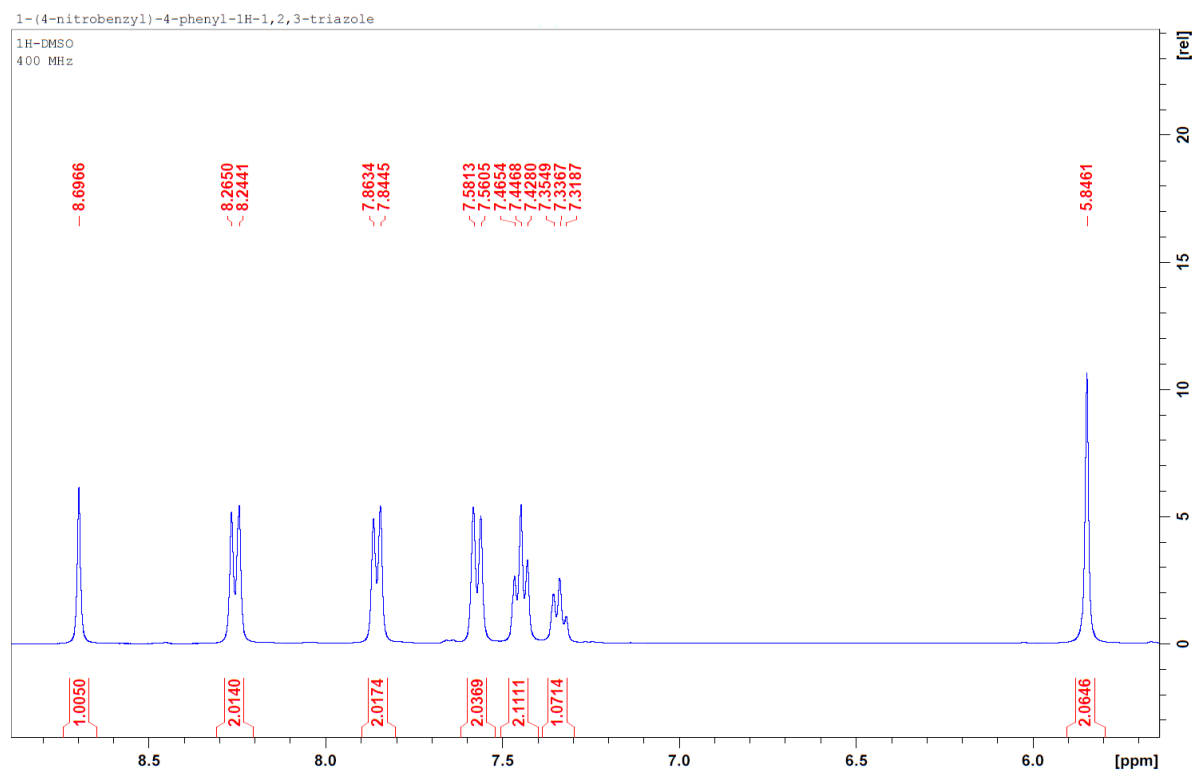
**Figure S7.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR of 1-benzyl-4-phenyl-1H-1,2,3-triazole (Table 2, entry 1) obtained in (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO.



**Figure S8.** <sup>13</sup>C-NMR of 1-benzyl-4-phenyl-1H-1,2,3-triazole (Table 2, entry 1) obtained in (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO.

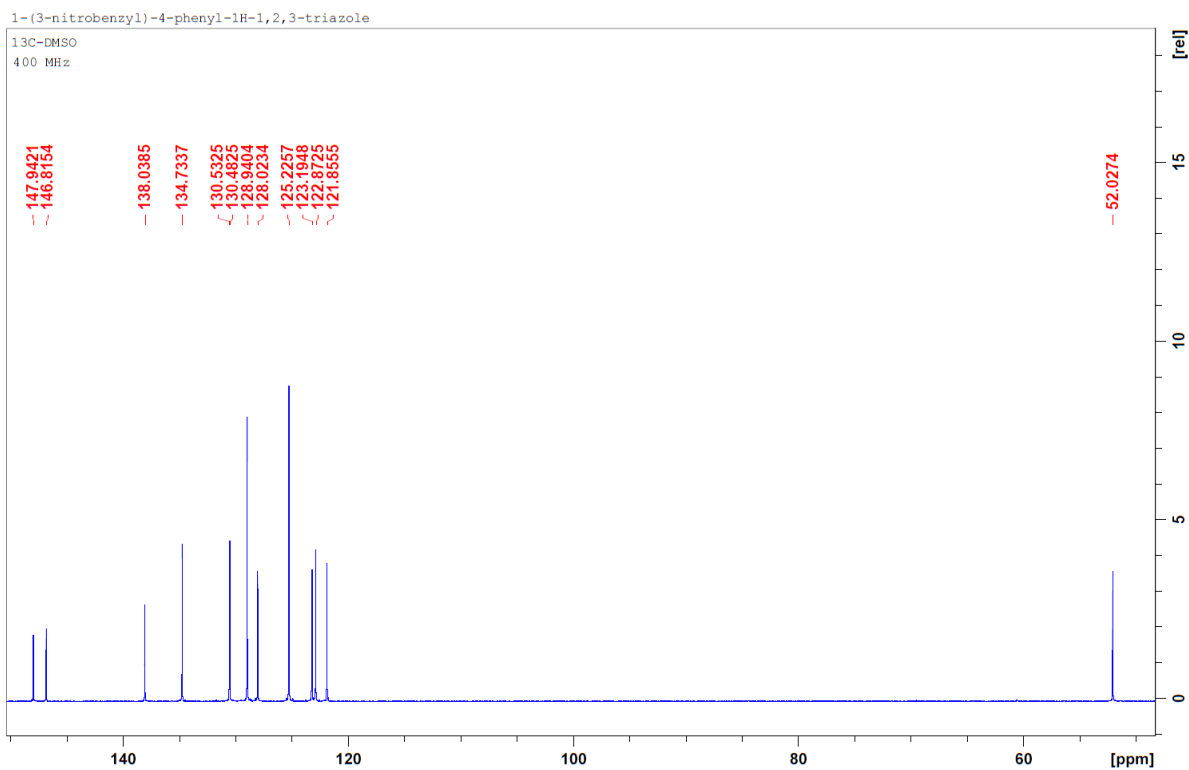


**Figure S9.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR of 1-(4-nitrobenzyl)-4-phenyl-1*H*-1,2,3-triazole (Table 2, entry 2) obtained in (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO.

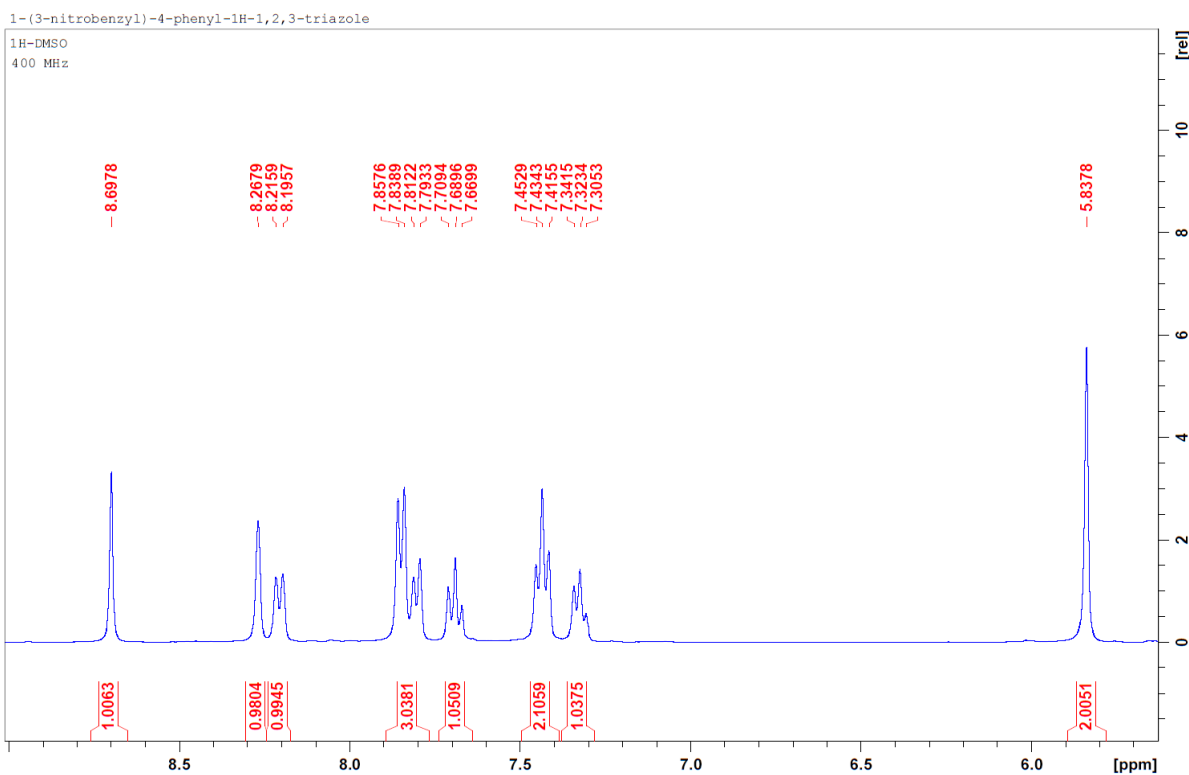


**Figure S10.** <sup>13</sup>C-NMR of 1-(4-nitrobenzyl)-4-phenyl-1*H*-1,2,3-triazole (Table 2, entry 2) obtained in (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO.

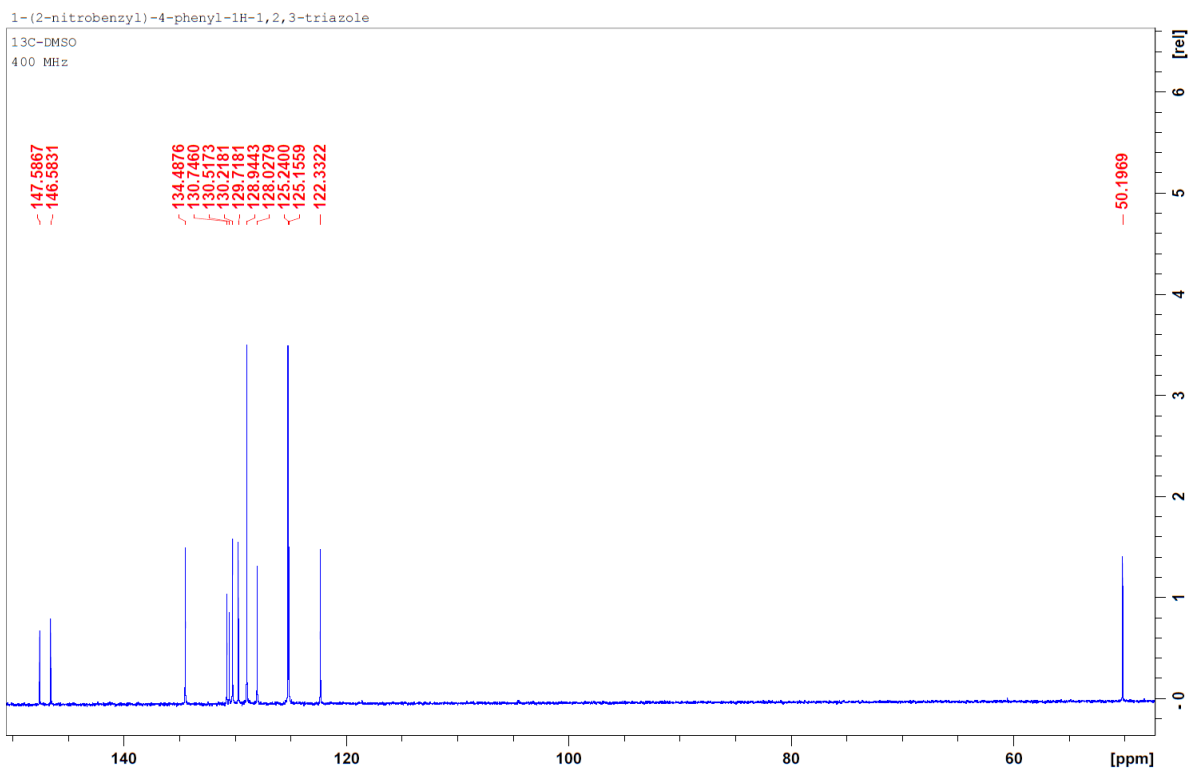




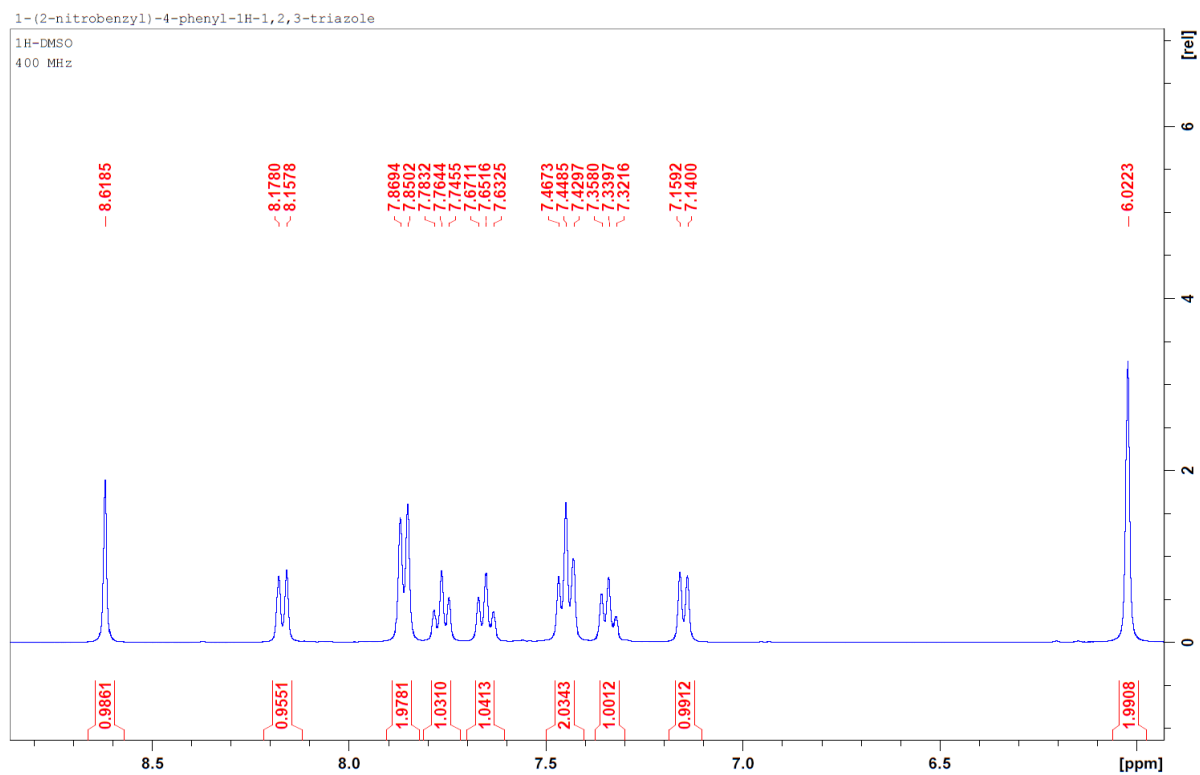
**Figure S11.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR of 1-(3-nitrobenzyl)-4-phenyl-1H-1,2,3-triazole (Table 2, entry 3) obtained in (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO.



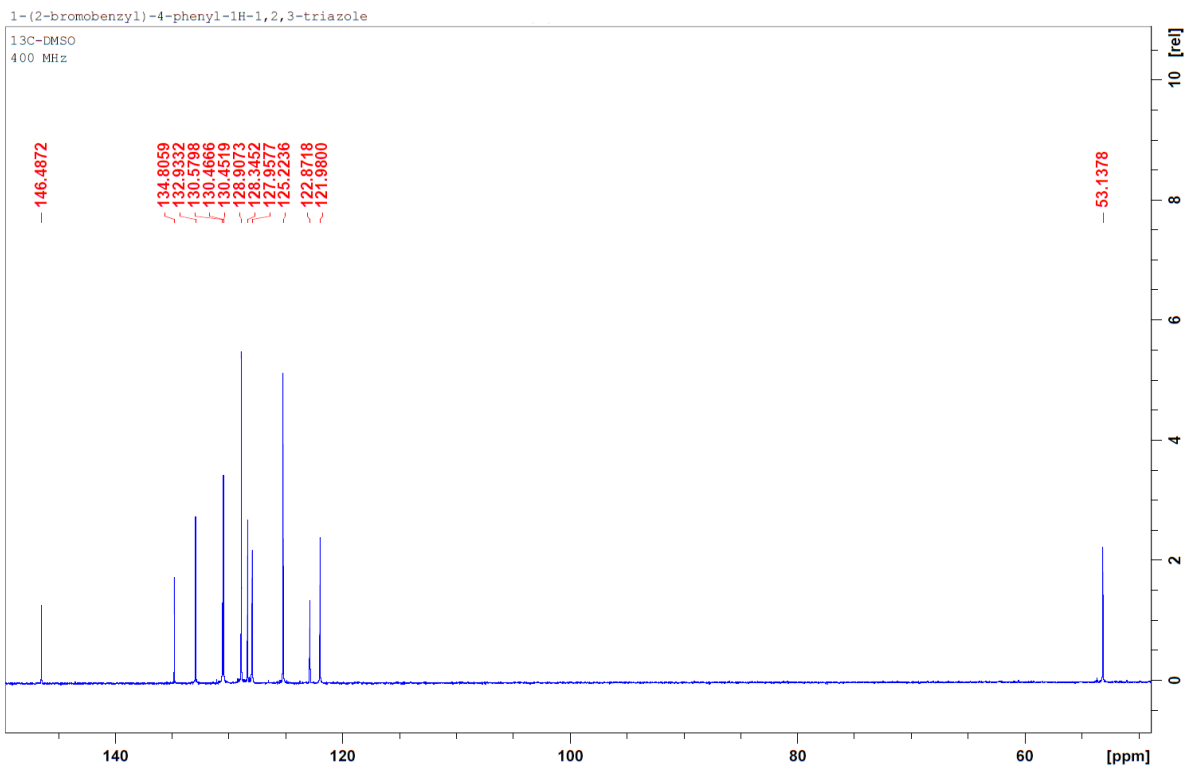
**Figure S12.** <sup>13</sup>C-NMR of 1-(3-nitrobenzyl)-4-phenyl-1H-1,2,3-triazole (Table 2, entry 3) obtained in (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO.



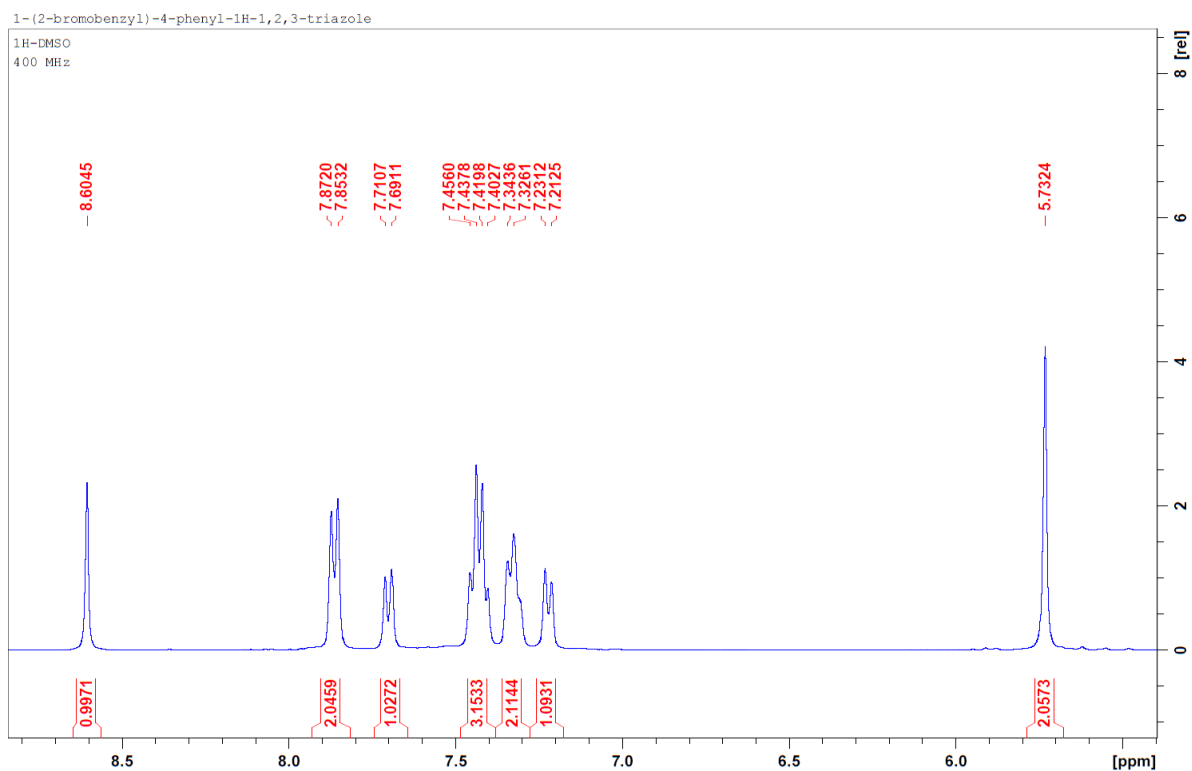
**Figure S13.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR of 1-(2-nitrobenzyl)-4-phenyl-1H-1,2,3-triazole (Table 2, entry 4) obtained in (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO.



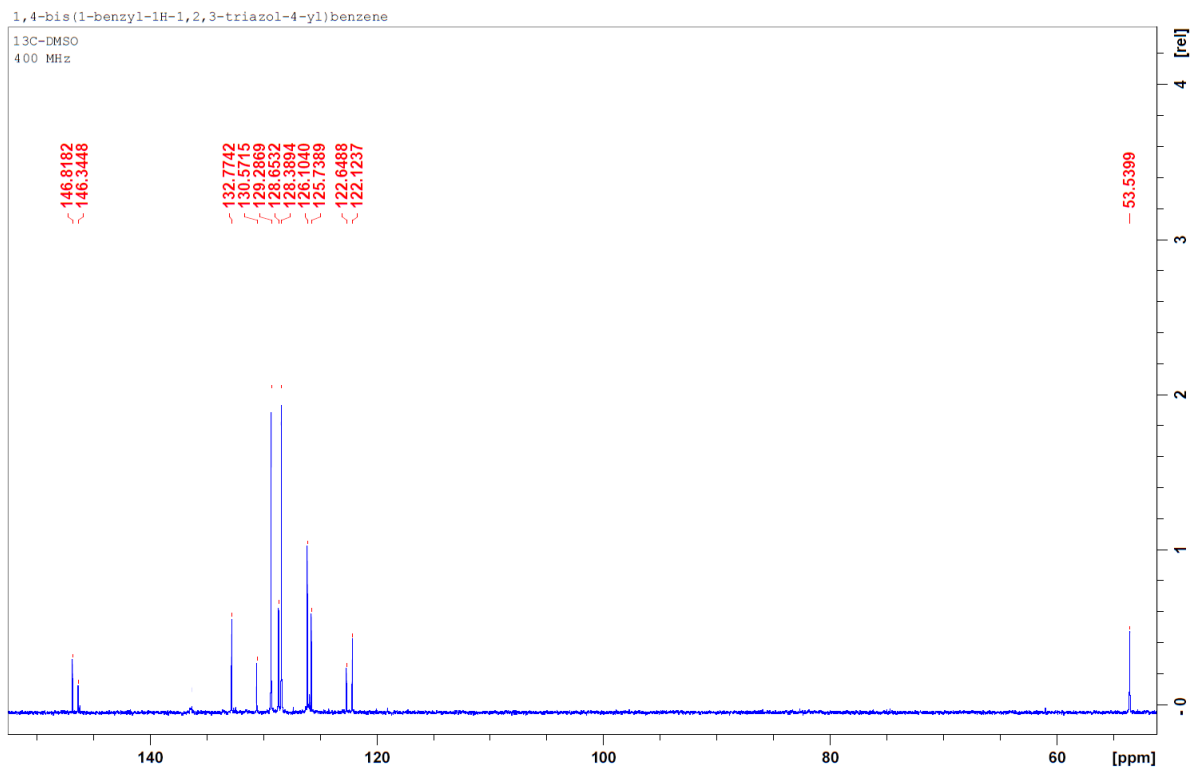
**Figure S14.** <sup>13</sup>C-NMR of 1-(2-nitrobenzyl)-4-phenyl-1H-1,2,3-triazole (Table 2, entry 4) obtained in (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO.



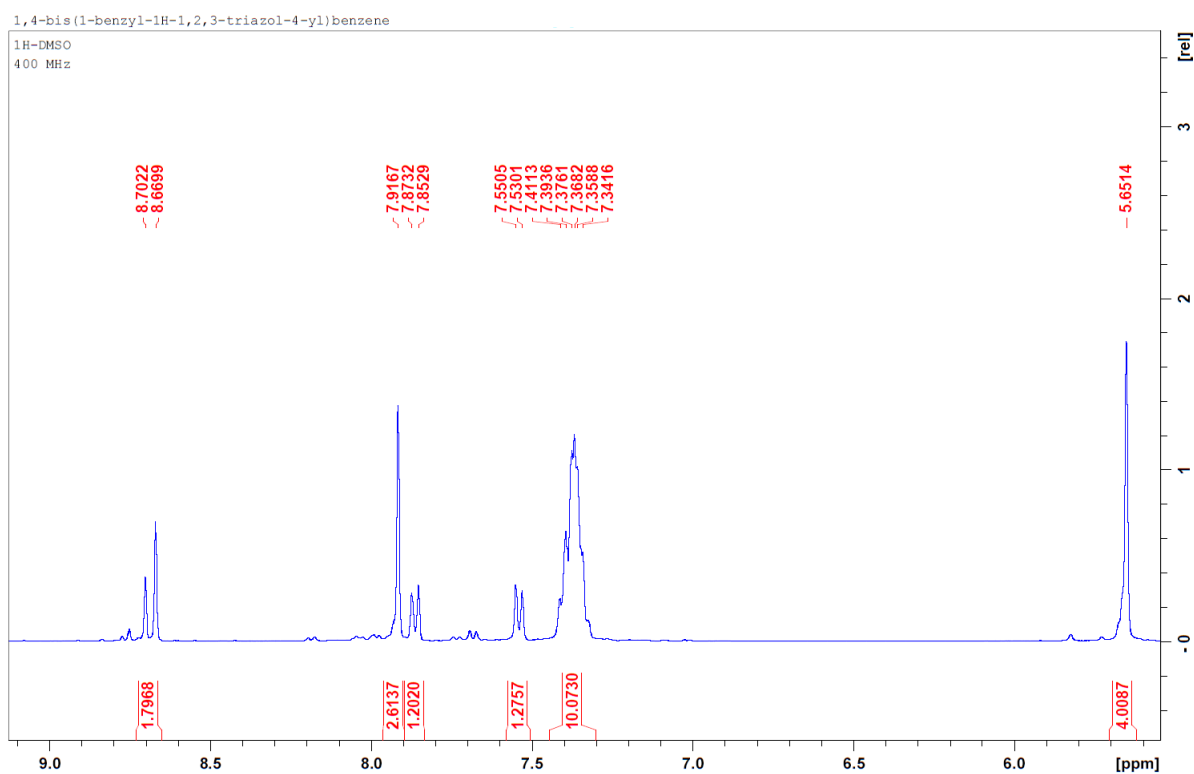
**Figure S15.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR of 1-(2-bromobenzyl)-4-phenyl-1H-1,2,3-triazole (Table 2, entry 6) obtained in (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO.



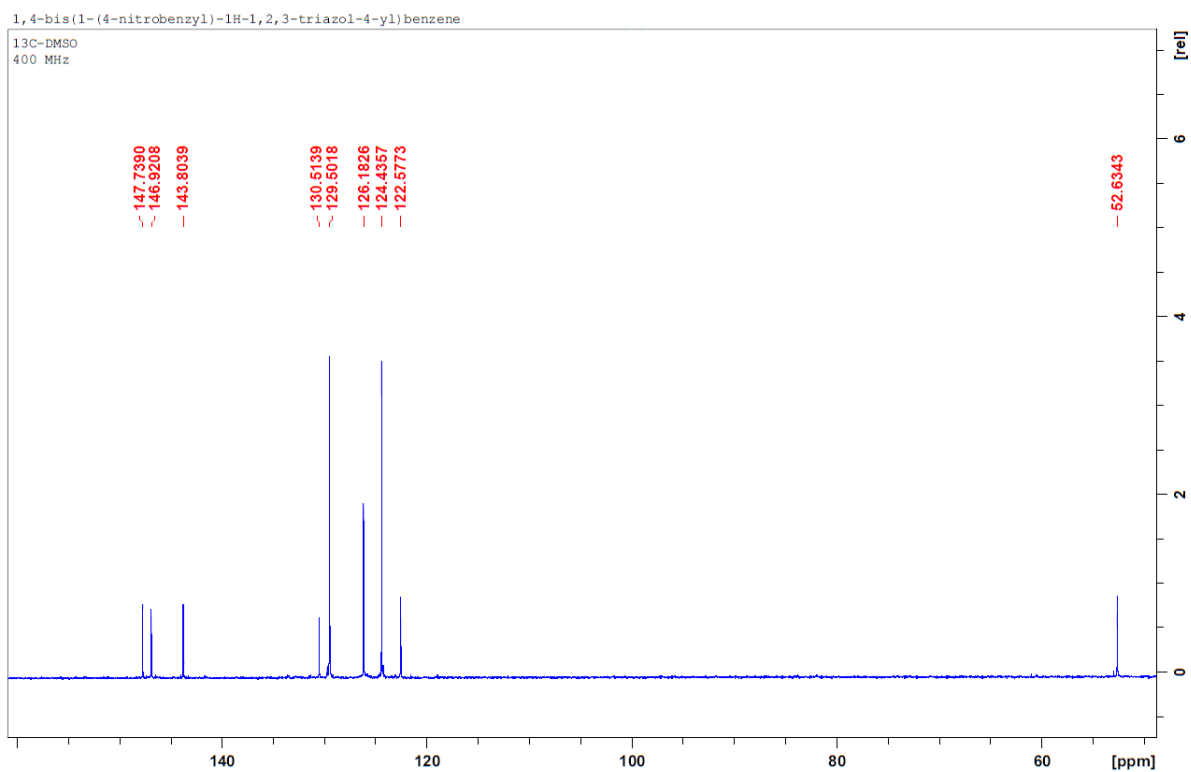
**Figure S16.** <sup>13</sup>C-NMR of 1-(2-bromobenzyl)-4-phenyl-1H-1,2,3-triazole (Table 2, entry 6) obtained in (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO.



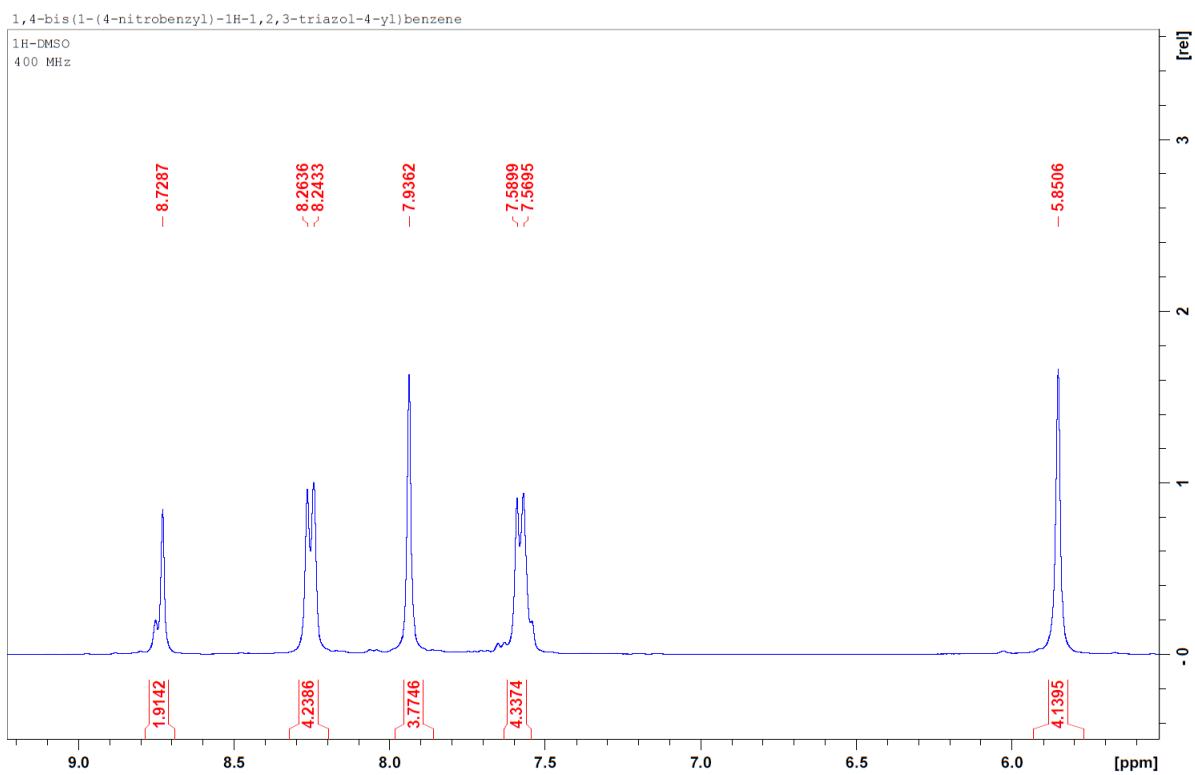
**Figure S17.**  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  of 1,4-bis(1-benzyl-1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)benzene (Table 2, entry 7) obtained in  $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{SO}$ .



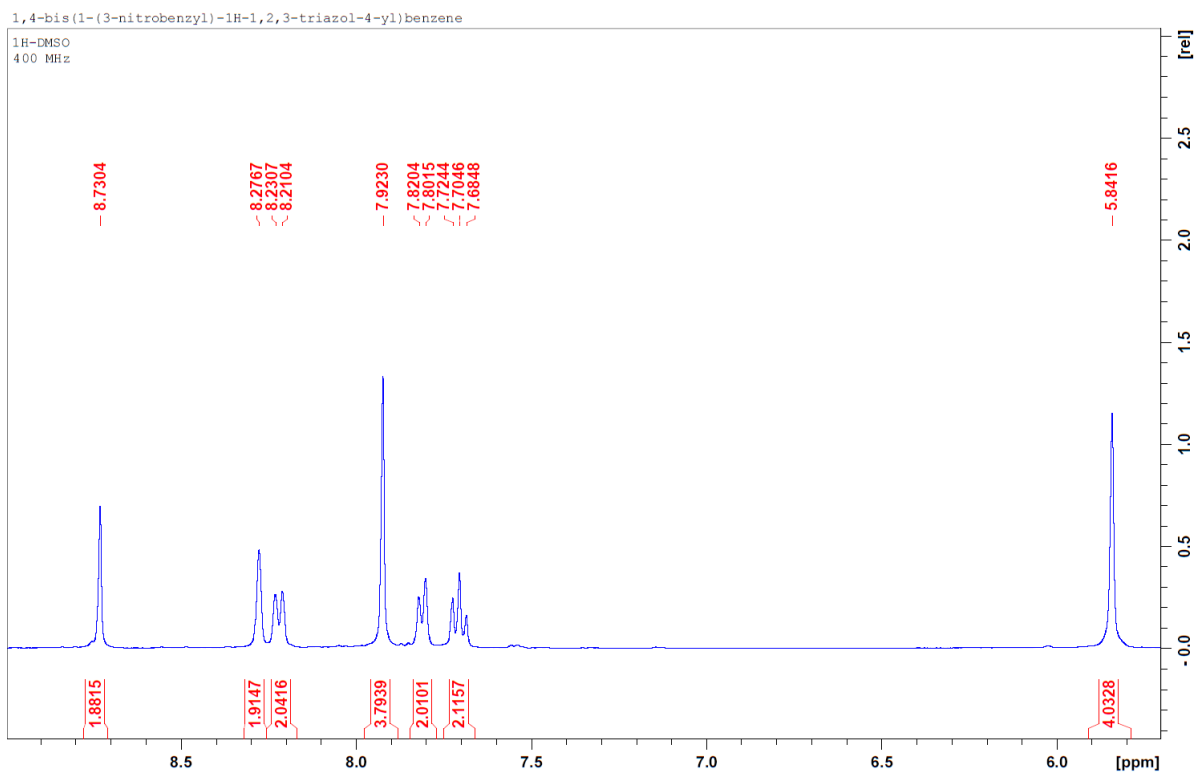
**Figure S18.**  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  of 1,4-bis(1-benzyl-1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)benzene (Table 2, entry 7) obtained in  $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{SO}$ .



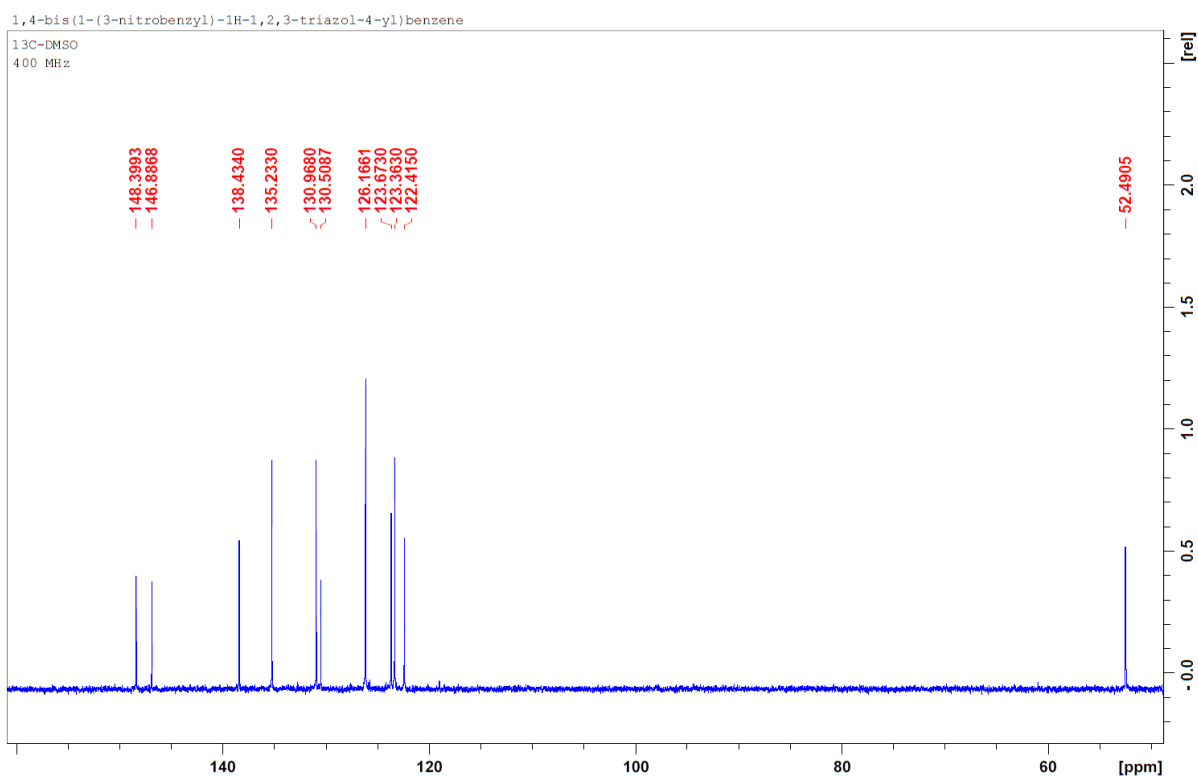
**Figure S19.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR of 1,4-bis(1-(4-nitrobenzyl)-1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)benzene (Table 2, entry 8) obtained in (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO.



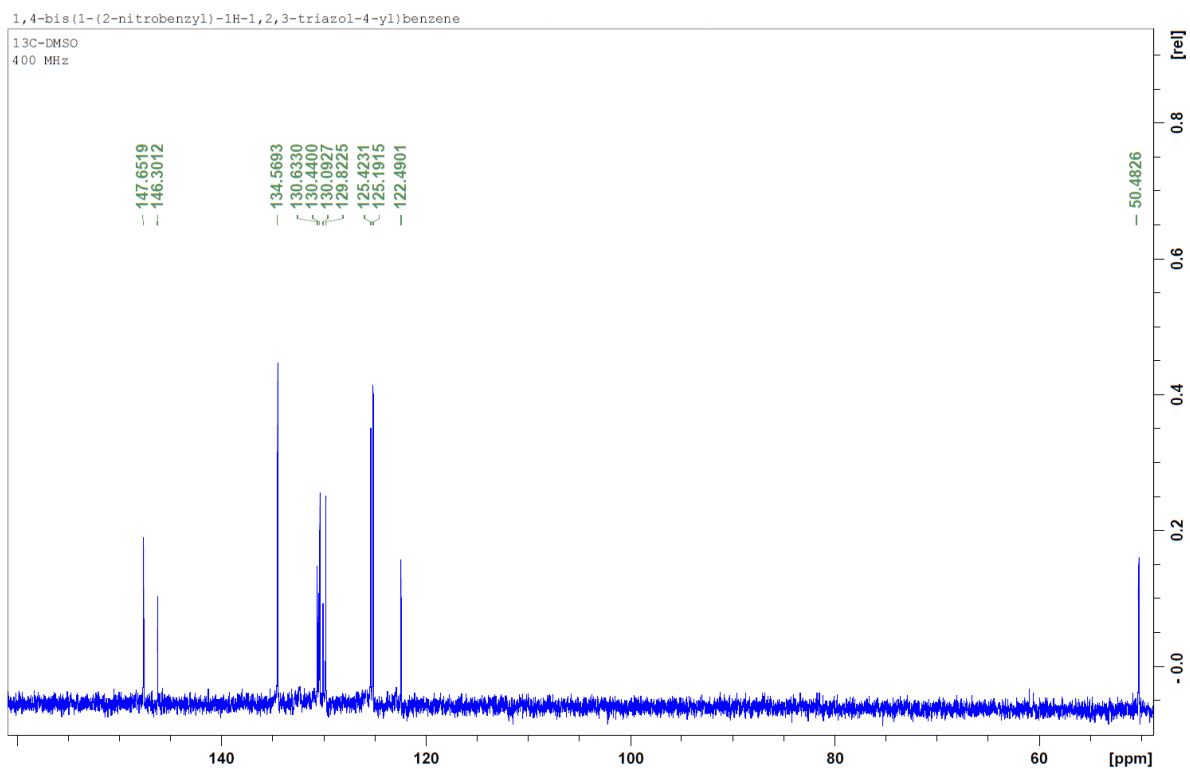
**Figure S20.** <sup>13</sup>C-NMR of 1,4-bis(1-(4-nitrobenzyl)-1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)benzene (Table 2, entry 8) obtained in (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO.



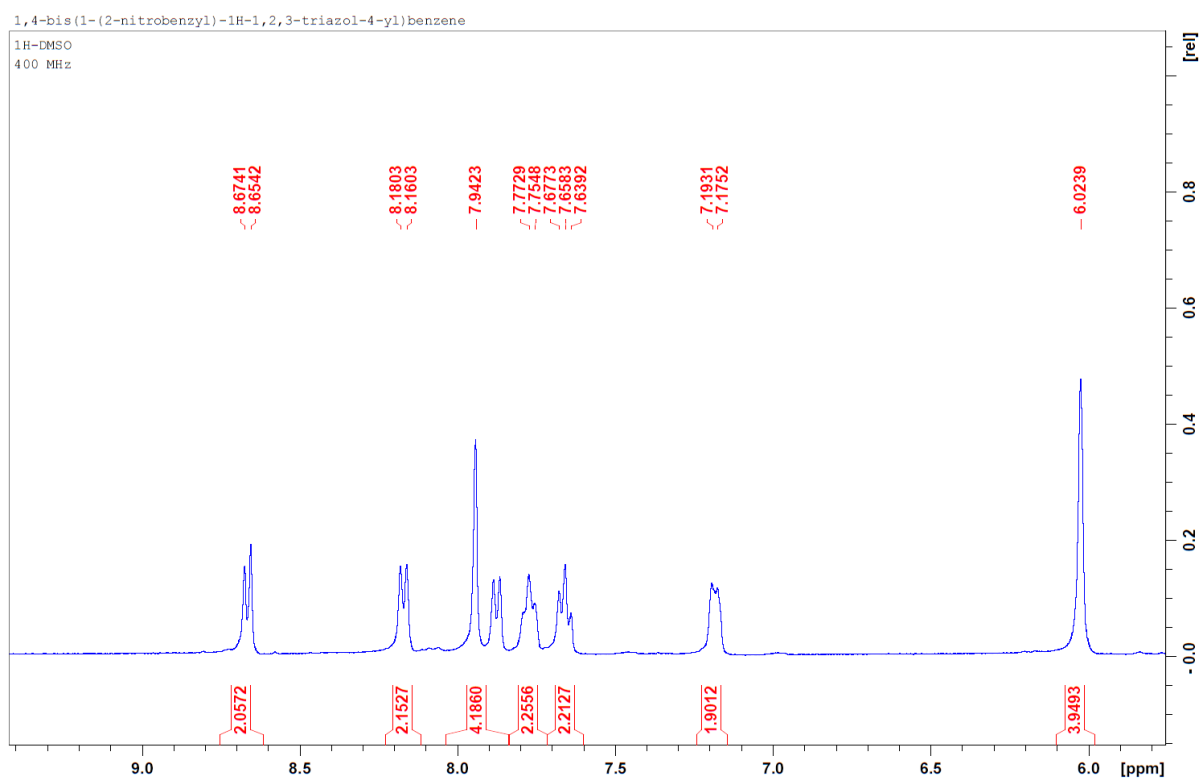
**Figure S21.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR of 1,4-bis(1-(3-nitrobenzyl)-1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)benzene (Table 2, entry 9) obtained in (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO.



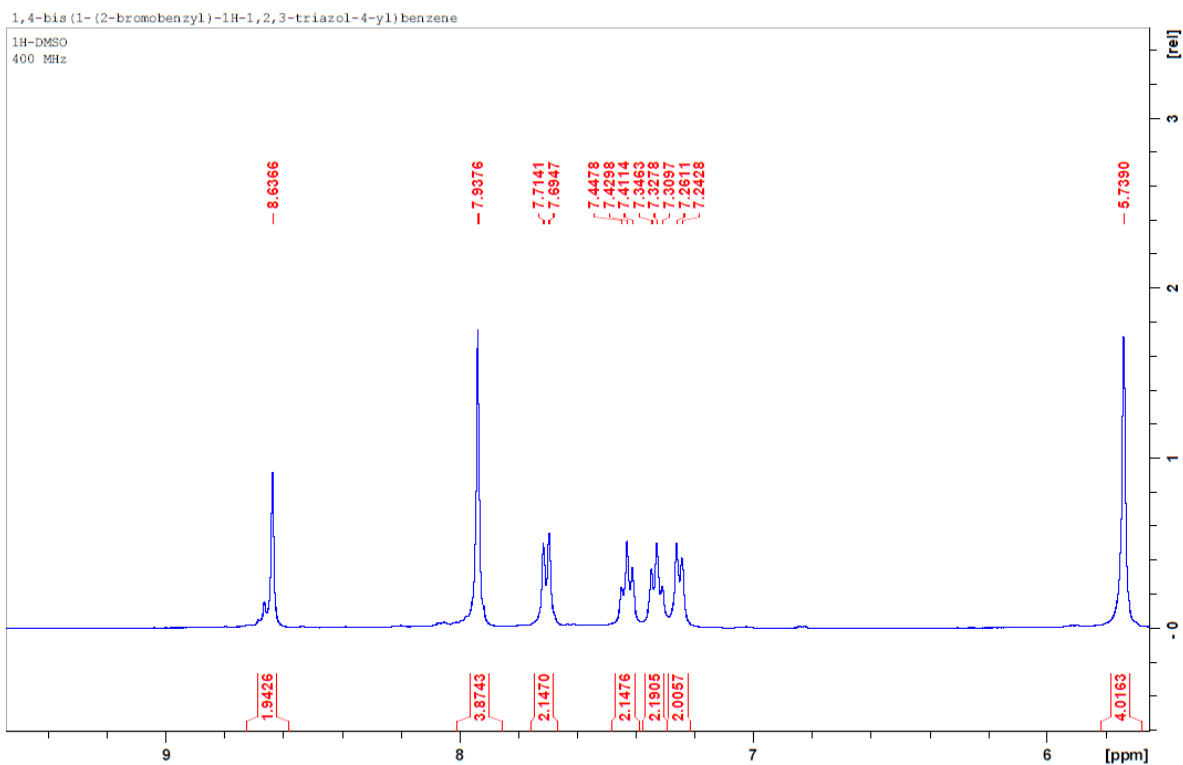
**Figure S22.** <sup>13</sup>C-NMR of 1,4-bis(1-(3-nitrobenzyl)-1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)benzene (Table 2, entry 9) obtained in (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO.



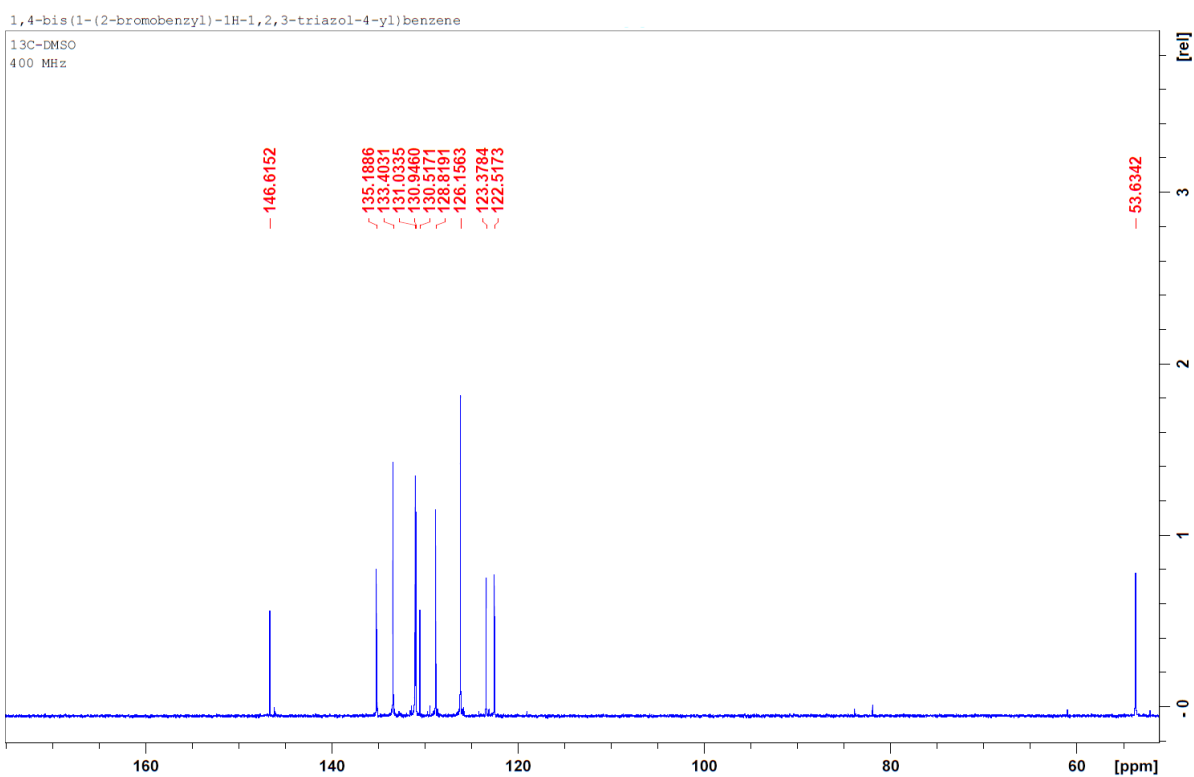
**Figure S23.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR of 1,4-bis(1-(2-nitrobenzyl)-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)benzene (Table 2, entry 10) obtained in (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO.



**Figure S24.** <sup>13</sup>C-NMR of 1,4-bis(1-(2-nitrobenzyl)-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)benzene (Table 2, entry 10) obtained in (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO.



**Figure S25.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR of 1,4-bis(1-(2-bromobenzyl)-1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)benzene (Table 2, entry 12) obtained in (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO.



**Figure S26.** <sup>13</sup>C-NMR of 1,4-bis(1-(2-bromobenzyl)-1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)benzene (Table 2, entry 12) obtained in (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO.