

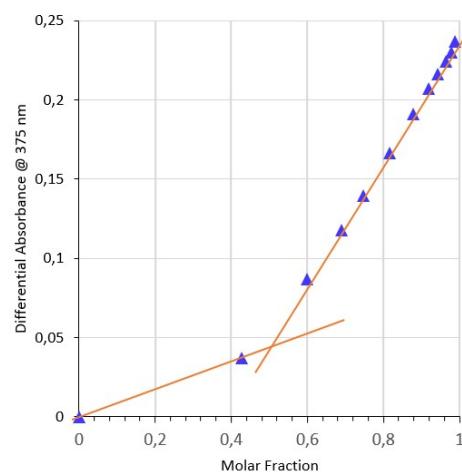
## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### Photoejection-recapture of Ca<sup>2+</sup> Cation studied by time resolved spectroscopy and TDDFT calculations: the case study of Azacrown –Iridium (III) complex.

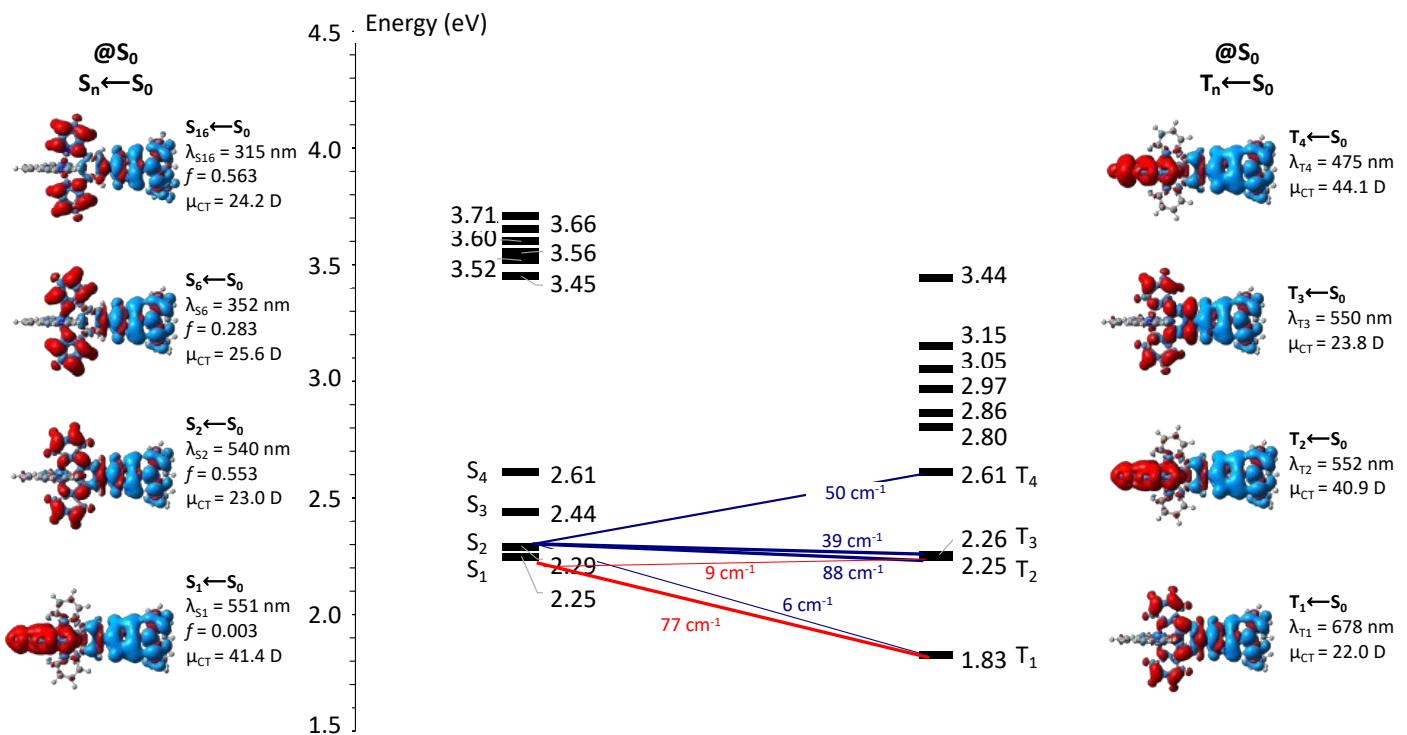
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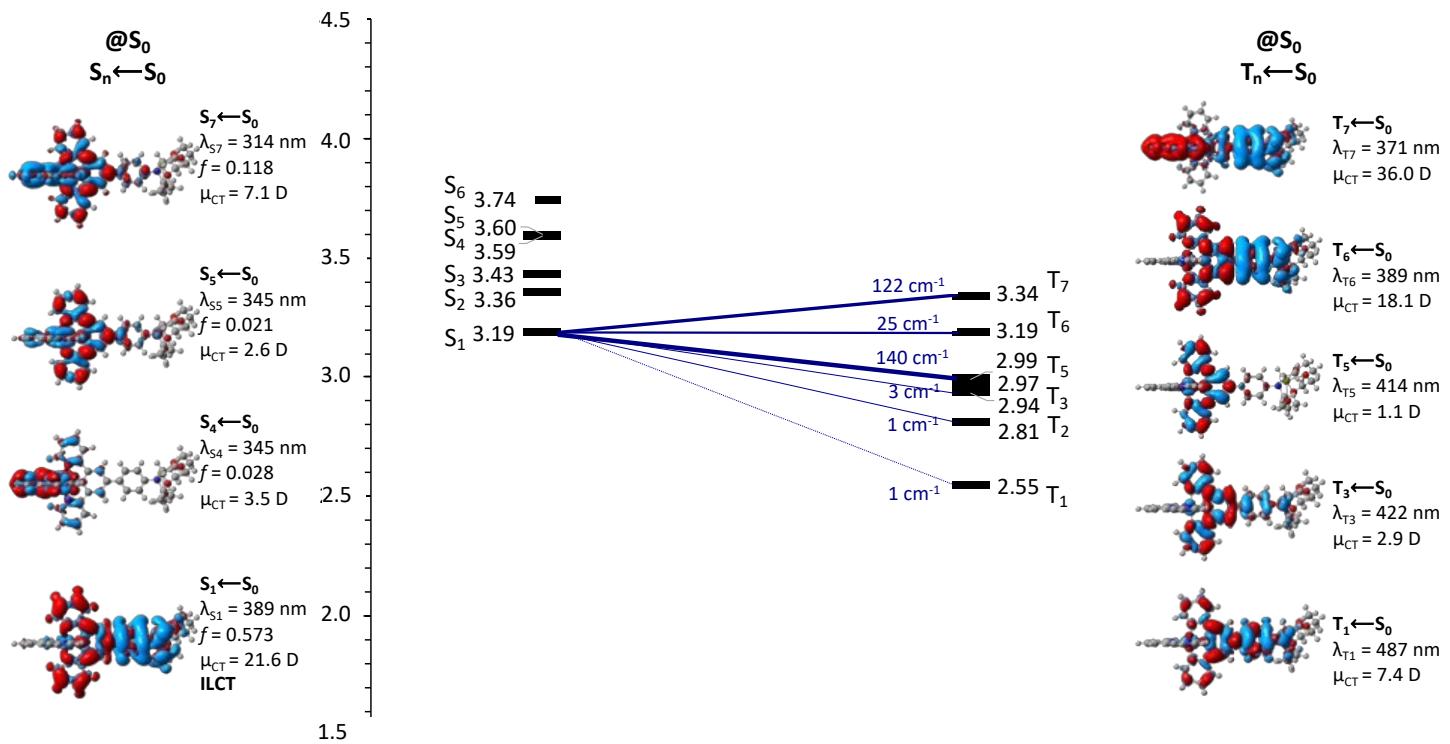
**Figure S1. Job Plot:** JOB plot obtained at 375 nm from the absorption spectra of **1** in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (28μM) upon successive addition of calcium perchlorate solution from 0 to 0.29 M. Fitting results indicates a molar ratio 1:1.



**Figure S2. Molecule 1:** Energies of the  $S_n$  and  $T_n$  states ( $n=1..6$ ) in eV at the  $S_0$  geometry. Selected spin-orbit coupling matrix elements  $\langle S_n | \hat{H}_{SO} | T_k \rangle$  are given ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) ( $\langle S_1 | \hat{H}_{SO} | T_k \rangle$  in red,  $\langle S_2 | \hat{H}_{SO} | T_k \rangle$  in dark blue). The variation of the electronic density upon excitation for the transitions  $S_n \leftarrow S_0$  and  $T_n \leftarrow S_0$  is also provided along with the norm of the CT dipole moment (blue: loss of electronic density, red: gain of electronic density).



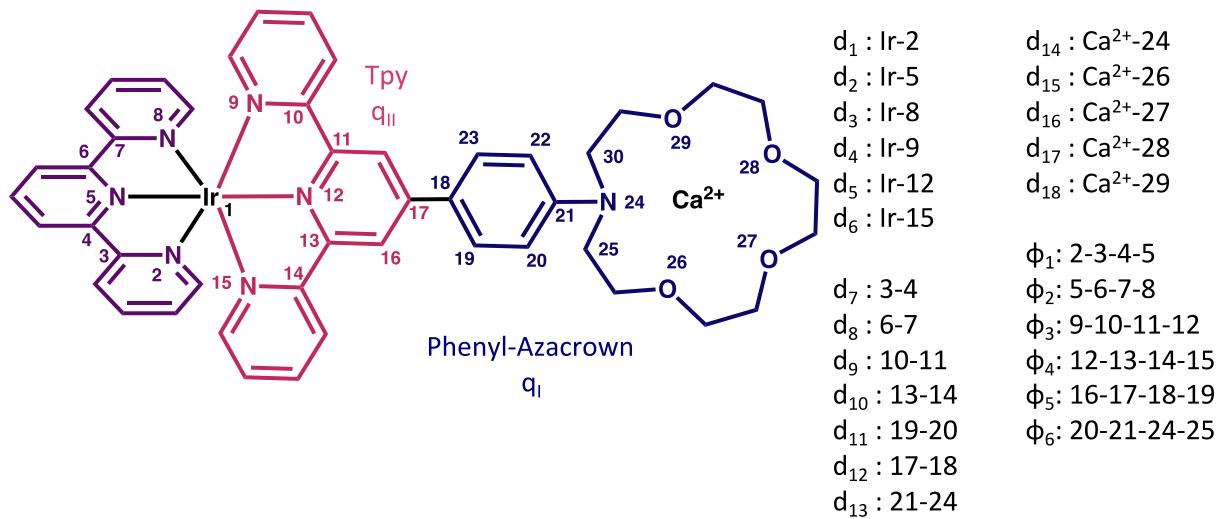
**Figure S3. Molecule 1-Ca<sup>2+</sup>:** Energies of the  $S_n$  and  $T_n$  states ( $n=1..6$ ) in eV at the  $S_0$  geometry. Selected spin-orbit coupling matrix elements  $\langle S_n | \hat{H}_{SO} | T_k \rangle$  are given ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) ( $\langle S_1 | \hat{H}_{SO} | T_k \rangle$  in red,  $\langle S_2 | \hat{H}_{SO} | T_k \rangle$  in dark blue). The variation of the electronic density upon excitation for the transitions  $S_n \leftarrow S_0$  and  $T_n \leftarrow S_0$  is also provided along with the norm of the CT dipole moment (blue: loss of electronic density, red: gain of electronic density).



**Table S1: 1-Ca<sup>2+</sup> complex:** Main distances (in Å) of Ca<sup>2+</sup> inside the azacrown.  $\langle d_O \rangle$  is the average distance between Ca<sup>2+</sup> and the oxygens. The distances are defined in Figure S3.

	d <sub>14</sub>	d <sub>15</sub>	d <sub>16</sub>	d <sub>17</sub>	d <sub>18</sub>	$\langle d_O \rangle$
S <sub>0,opt</sub>	2.764	2.399	2.458	2.449	2.396	2.425
S <sub>1,opt</sub>	3.853	2.524	2.410	2.472	2.504	2.478

**Figure S4:** Definition of the structural parameters and of the different regions used to calculate the variation of Natural Population Analysis (NPA) charges: I = phenyl-azacrown (blue); II = 2,2':6',2"-terpyridine (=tpy) (pink); III = tpy (purple)



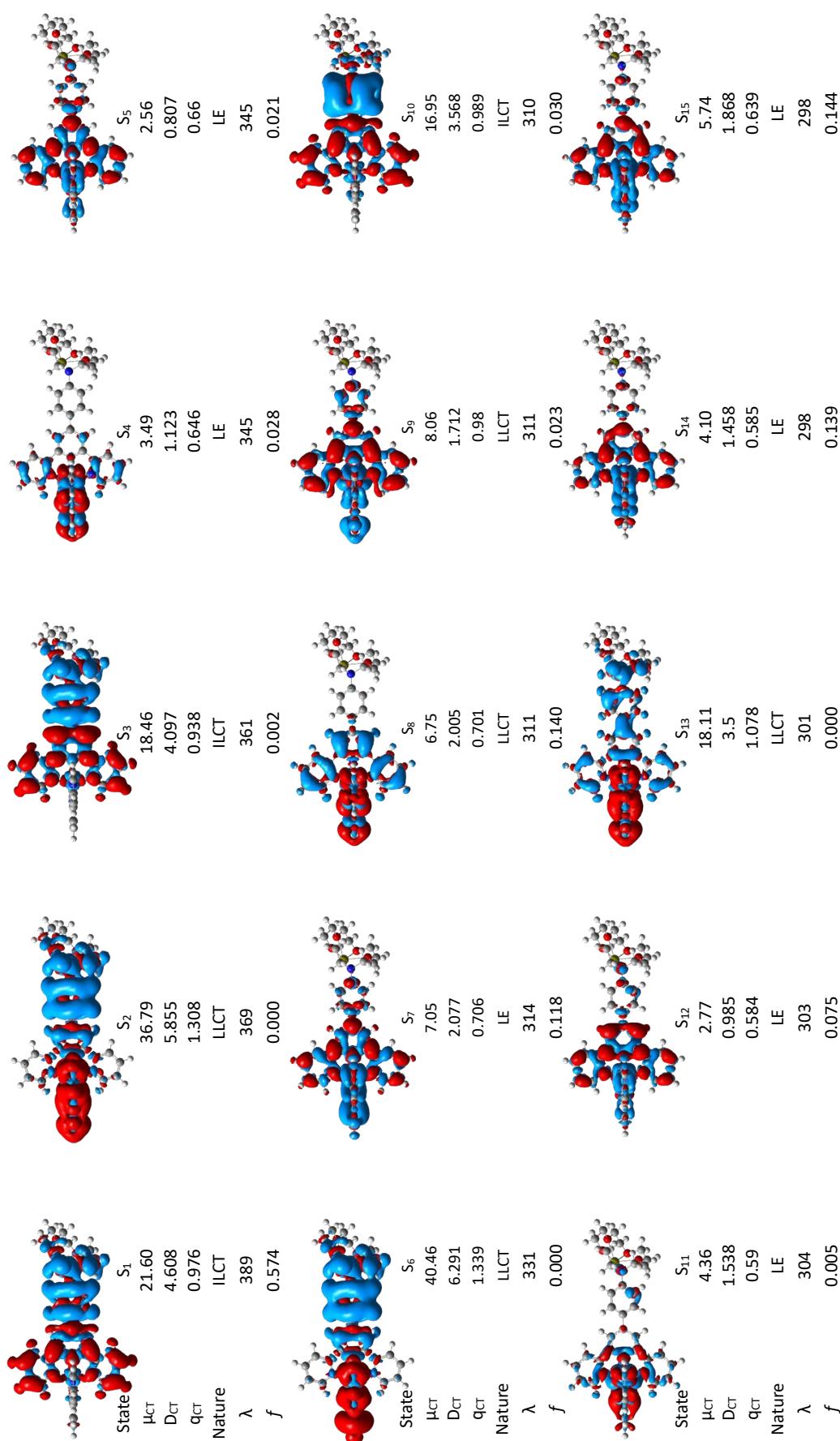
**Table S2. Molecule 1:** Absorption wavelengths (nm) calculated for the first 6 excited states with their corresponding oscillator strength (f), electronic excitation assignments and charge transfer parameters: D in Å, q in |e| and  $\mu_{CT}$  in D. The variations of NPA charges upon the corresponding excitation are also given according to the regions defined above.

1									
State	$\lambda$	f	Electronic excitation	$\Delta q_I$	$\Delta q_{II}$	$\Delta q_{III}$	$\Delta q_{Ir}$	$\mu_{CT}$	DCT
$S_1 \leftarrow S_0$	551	0.002	HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO	-0.796	0.865	-0.011	0.003	41.4	4.956
$S_2 \leftarrow S_0$	540	0.552	HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1	-0.633	0.068	0.621	0.004	23.0	6.236
$S_3 \leftarrow S_0$	507	0.000	HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+3	-0.742	0.073	0.700	-0.003	24.64	4.523
$S_4 \leftarrow S_0$	475	0.000	HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+2	-0.803	0.887	-0.019	-0.004	43.75	6.619
$S_5 \leftarrow S_0$	359	0.000	HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+4	-0.794	0.405	0.456	-0.006	34.36	5.468
$S_6 \leftarrow S_0$	352	0.283	HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+6	-0.676	0.034	0.708	-0.005	25.59	5.046

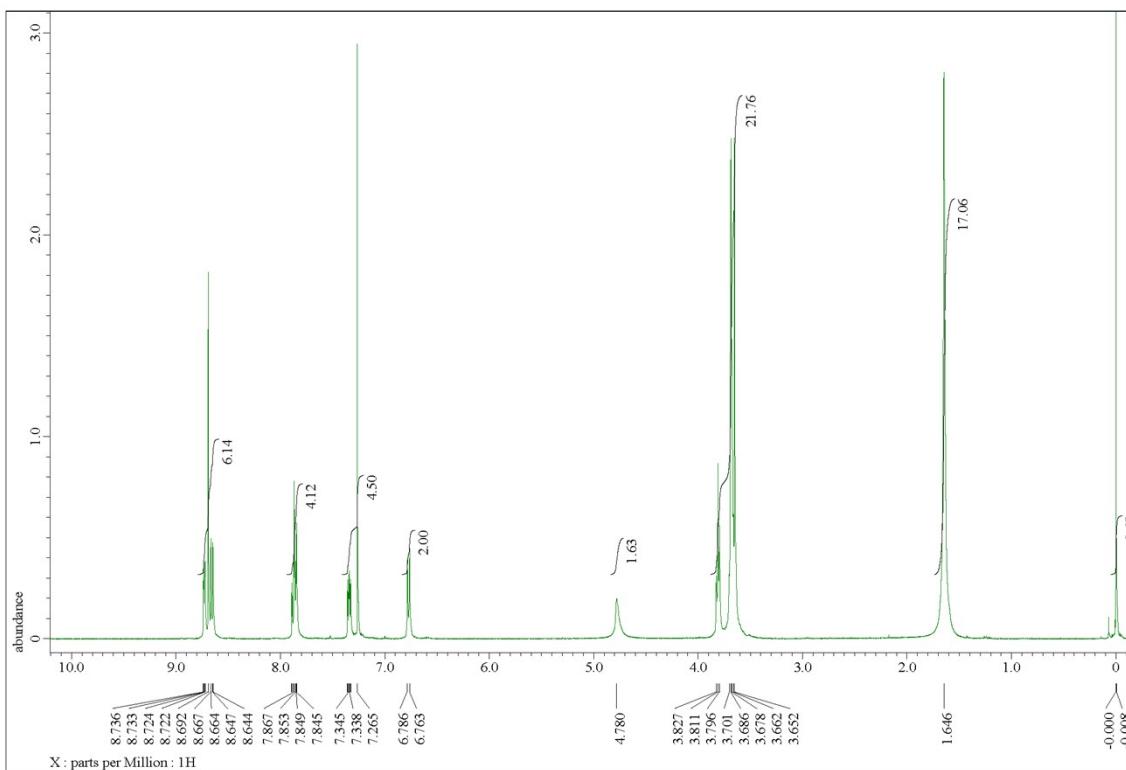
**Table S3. 1-Ca<sup>2+</sup> complex:** Absorption wavelengths (nm) calculated for the first 6 excited states with their corresponding oscillator strength (f), electronic excitation assignments and charge transfer parameters: D in Å, q in |e| and  $\mu_{CT}$  in D. The variations of “Natural Population Analysis” (NPA) charges upon the corresponding excitation are also given according to the regions defined above.

1 -Ca <sup>2+</sup>									
State	$\lambda$	f	Electronic excitation	$\Delta q_I$	$\Delta q_{II}$	$\Delta q_{III}$	$\Delta q_{Ir}$	$\mu_{CT}$	DCT
$S_1 \leftarrow S_0$	389	0.573	HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO	-0.611	-0.585	-0.043	-0.010	21.6	4.608
$S_2 \leftarrow S_0$	369	0.000	HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1	-0.682	0.098	-0.823	-0.036	36.8	5.855
$S_3 \leftarrow S_0$	361	0.001	HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+2	-0.584	0.604	0.011	-0.025	18.46	4.097
$S_4 \leftarrow S_0$	345	0.028	HOMO-1 $\rightarrow$ LUMO+1	-0.010	-0.143	0.272	-0.118	3.49	1.123
$S_5 \leftarrow S_0$	345	0.020	HOMO-1 $\rightarrow$ LUMO	-0.036	0.327	-0.172	-0.118	2.56	0.807
$S_6 \leftarrow S_0$	331	0.000	HOMO $\rightarrow$ LUMO+3	-0.717	-0.105	0.861	-0.033	40.46	6.291

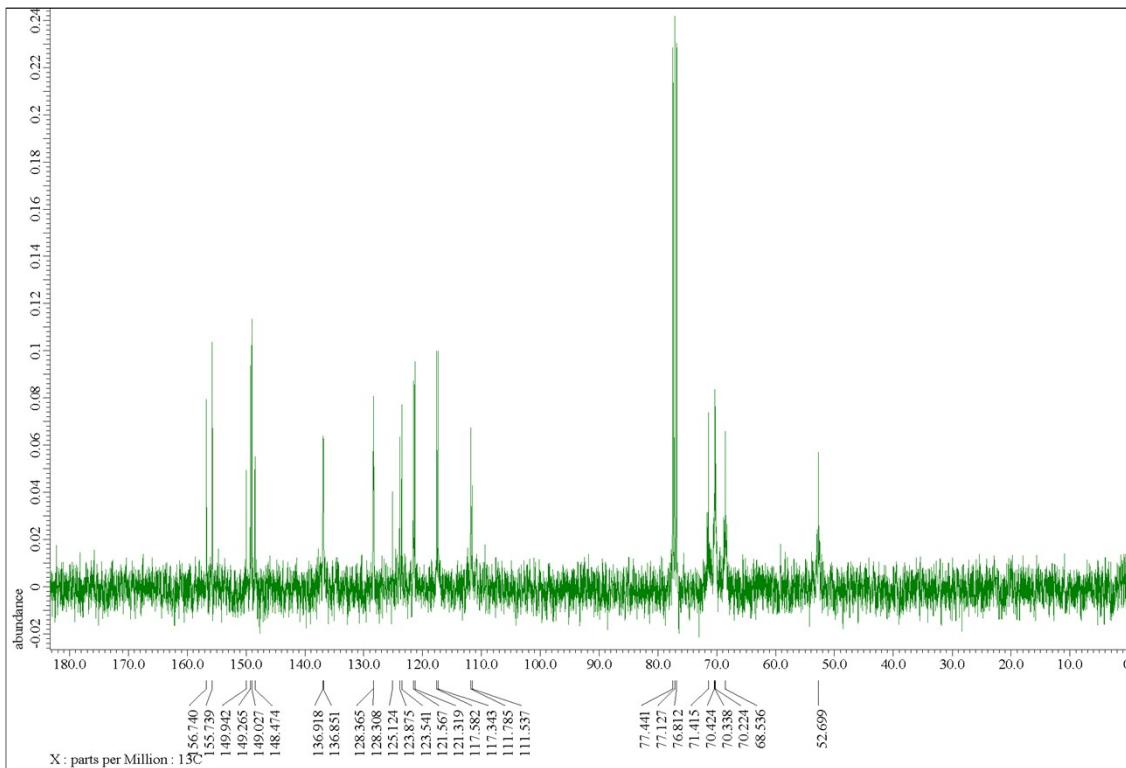
**Figure S5. 1-Ca<sup>2+</sup> complex:** Variation of the electronic density upon excitation for the transitions  $S_n \leftarrow S_0$  ( $n=1$  to 15)



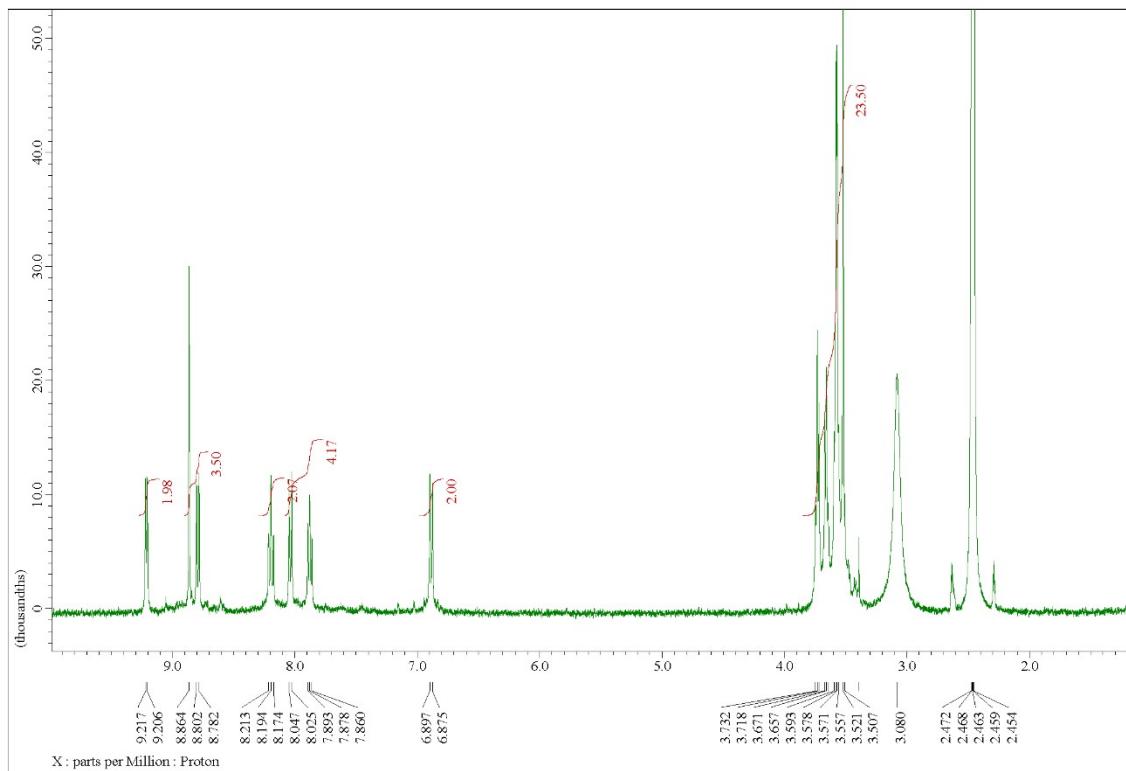
**Figure S6**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound **4** ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)



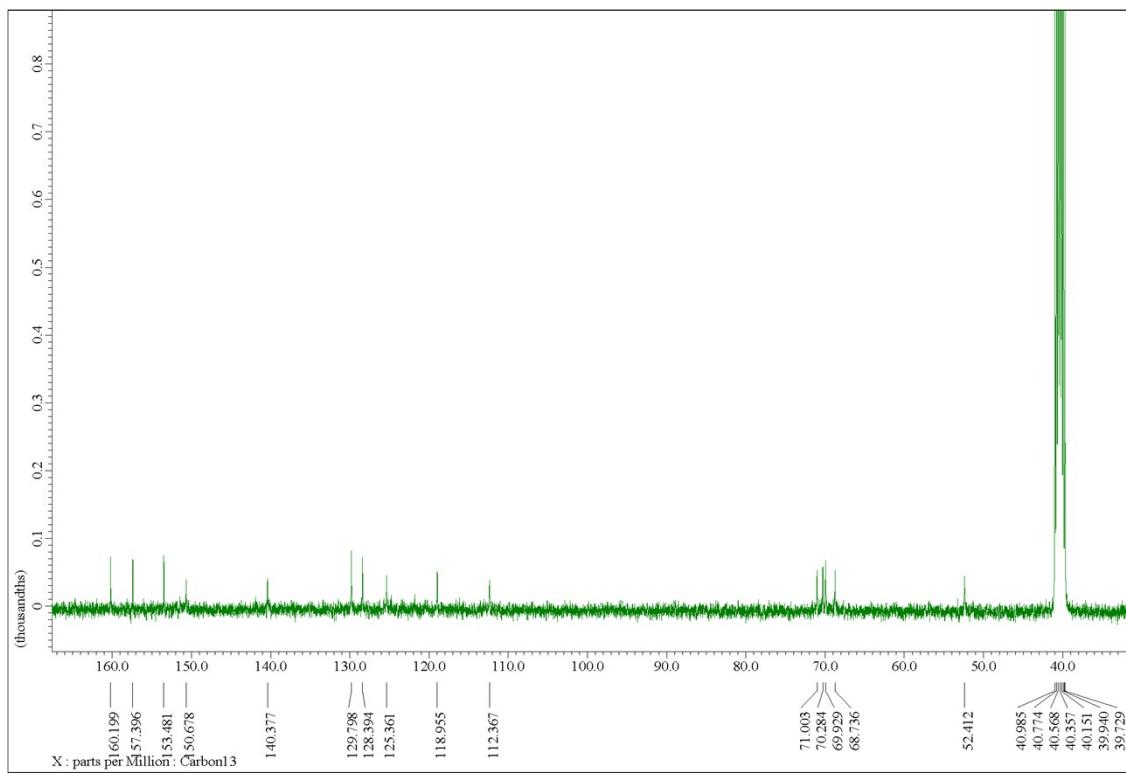
**Figure S7**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of compound **4** ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz)



**Figure S8**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound 5 (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 80 °C, 400 MHz)



**Figure S9**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of compound 5 (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 80 °C, 100 MHz)



**Figure S10**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound **1** (Acetone-d6, 400 MHz)

