

## Electronic Supporting Information (ESI)

### Synthesis and Near-Infrared Photothermal Conversion of Cp\*Rh-Based [2]-Catenanes in Trapezoidal Metallacycle

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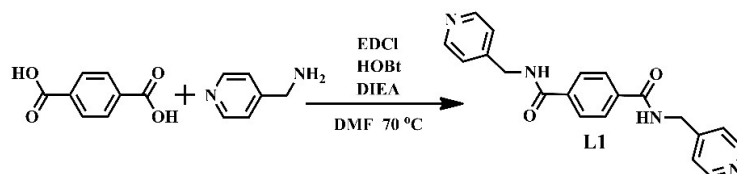
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## 1. Experimental Procedures

### Synthetic Procedures:

#### Synthesis of L1.



Scheme 1. Synthesis of L1.

Terephthalic acid (132.9 mg, 0.8 mmol), 4-Pyridinylmethanamine (162.4  $\mu$ L, 1.6 mmol), HOBt (0.10 g, 0.8 mmol), EDCI (0.13 g, 0.8 mmol), and DIEA (0.4 mL, 2.0 mmol) were mixed in DMF (10 mL) and the mixture was stirred at 70 °C. After 2 d, the solution was concentrated by evaporation. Adding a saturated solution of sodium bicarbonate to the above reactants yields a solid, which was then filtered to obtain **L1** (238.3 mg; Yield: 86%). Anal. calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 69.35; H, 5.24; N, 16.17. Found: C, 69.45; H, 5.36; N, 16.24. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO, ppm)  $\delta$  = 9.28 (s, 2H), 8.52 (s, 4H), 8.03 (s, 4H), 7.33 (s, 4H), 4.54 (s, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$  166.36 (s), 150.04 (s), 148.88 (s), 136.94 (s), 127.87 (s), 122.64 (s), 42.31 (s).

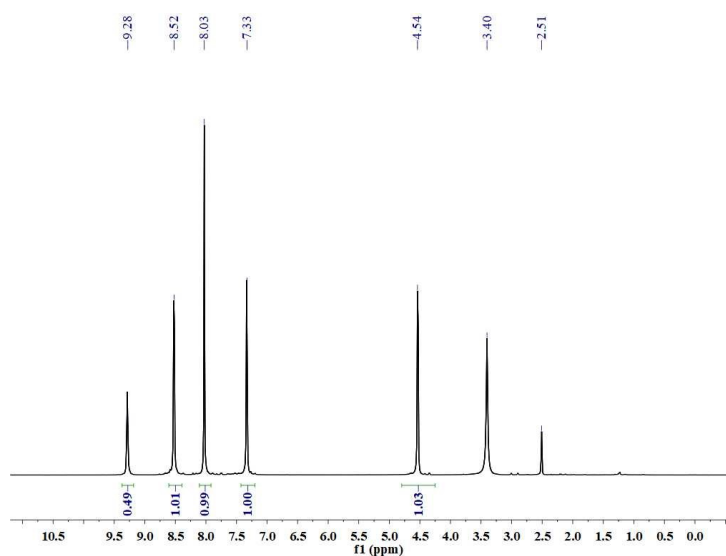
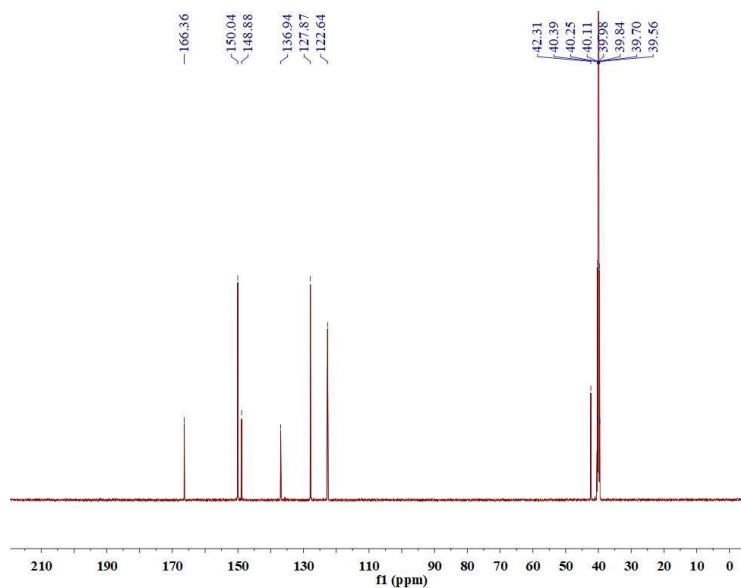
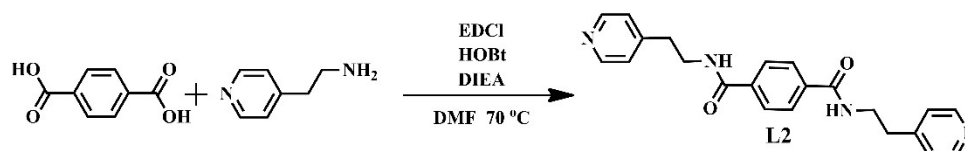


Fig. S1 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, ppm) for L1.



**Fig. S2**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ , ppm) for **L1**.

### Synthesis of **L2**.



**Scheme 2.** Synthesis of **L2**.

Terephthalic acid (132.9 mg, 0.8 mmol), 4-(2-Aminoethyl)pyridine (191.0  $\mu\text{L}$ , 1.6 mmol), HOBt (0.10 g, 0.8 mmol), EDCI (0.13 g, 0.8 mmol), and DIEA (0.4 mL, 2.0 mmol) were mixed in DMF (10 mL) and the mixture was stirred at 70 °C. After 2 d, the solution was concentrated by evaporation. By adding a saturated solution of sodium bicarbonate to the reactants mentioned above, a solid is formed. This solid was subsequently filtered to obtain **L2** (245.5 mg; Yield: 82%). Anal. calcd for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_4\text{O}_2$ : C, 70.57; H, 5.92; N, 14.96. Found: C, 70.42; H, 5.86; N, 14.82.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz, DMSO, ppm)  $\delta$  = 8.70 (s, 2H), 8.47 (s, 4H), 7.87 (s, 4H), 7.27 (s, 4H), 3.55 (s, 4H),

2.89 (s, 4H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$  = 166.11 (s), 149.92 (s), 148.88 (s), 137.13 (s), 127.57 (s), 124.73 (s), 40.51 (s), 34.60 (s).

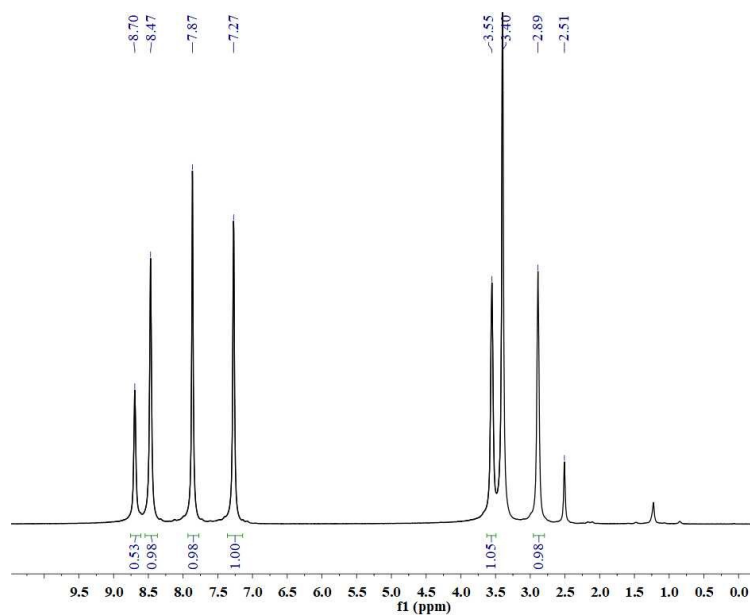


Fig. S3  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ , ppm) for L2.

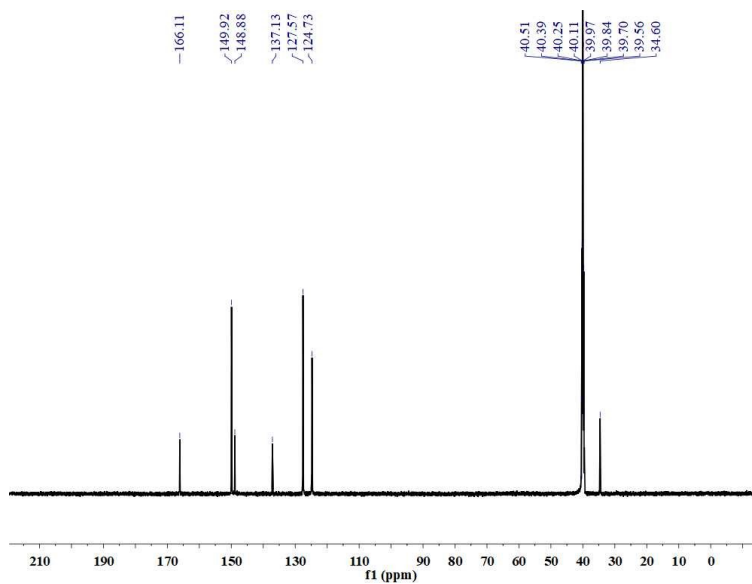
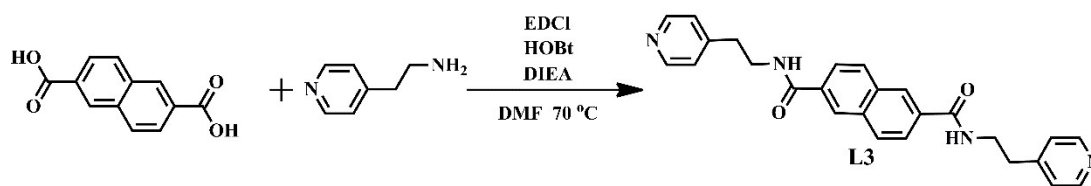


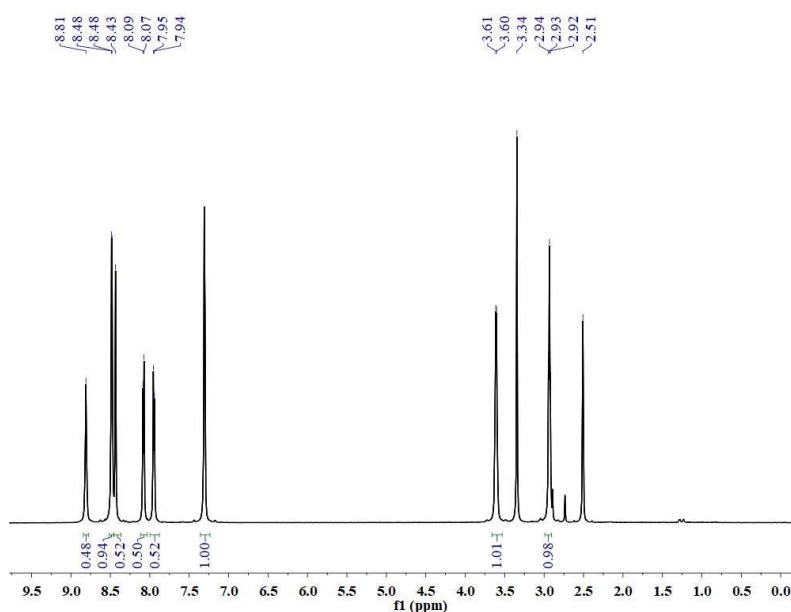
Fig. S4  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ , ppm) for L2.

### Synthesis of L3.



**Scheme 3.** Synthesis of **L3**.

Biphenyl-4,4'-dicarboxylic acid (193.8 mg, 0.8 mmol), 4-(2-Aminoethyl)pyridine (191.0  $\mu$ L, 1.6 mmol), HOBt (0.10 g, 0.8 mmol), EDCI (0.13 g, 0.8 mmol), and DIEA (0.4 mL, 2.0 mmol) were mixed in DMF (10 mL) and the mixture was stirred at 70 °C. After 2 d, the solution was concentrated by evaporation. By adding a saturated solution of sodium bicarbonate to the reactants mentioned above, a solid is formed. This solid was subsequently filtered to obtain **L3** (295.4 mg; Yield: 87%). Anal. calcd for  $C_{26}H_{24}N_4O_2$ : C, 73.56; H, 5.70; N, 13.20. Found: C, 73.48; H, 5.81; N, 13.42.  $^1H$  NMR (600 MHz, DMSO, ppm)  $\delta$  = 8.81 (s, 2H), 8.48 (d,  $J$  = 3.6 Hz, 4H), 8.43 (s, 2H), 8.08 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.95 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d,  $J$  = 4.2 Hz, 4H), 3.61 (d,  $J$  = 5.9 Hz, 4H), 2.93 (t,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 4H).  $^{13}C$  NMR (151 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$  166.59 (s), 149.96 (s), 148.91 (s), 133.73 (s), 129.43 (s), 127.54 (s), 125.30 (s), 124.75 (s), 40.42 (s), 34.68 (s).



**Fig. S5**  $^1H$  NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ , ppm) for **L3**.

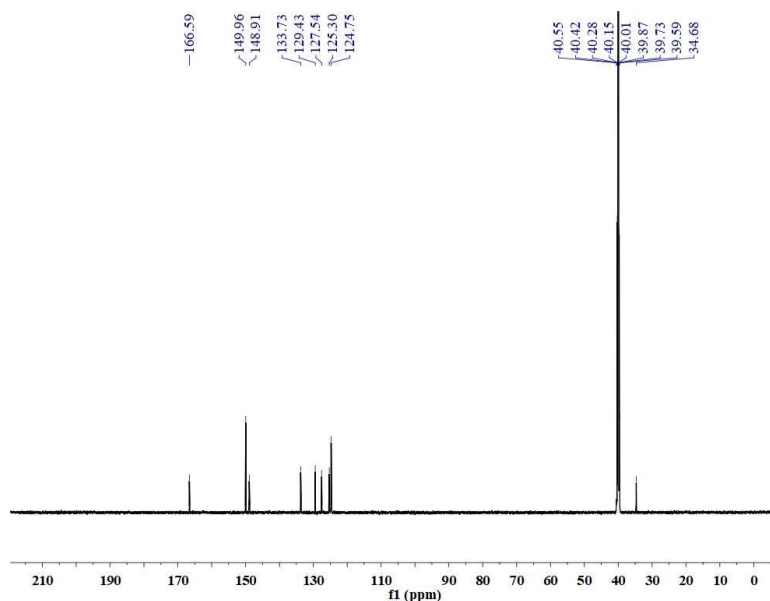
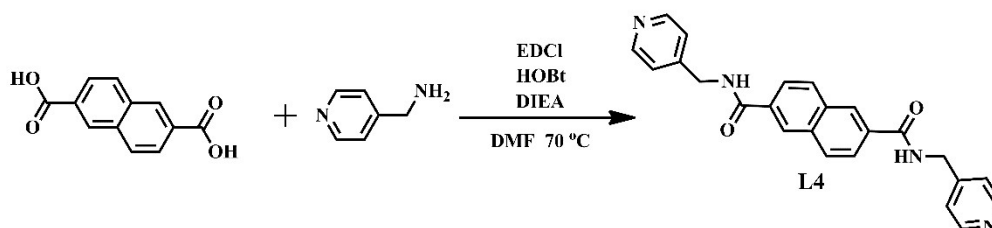


Fig. S6  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ , ppm) for L3.

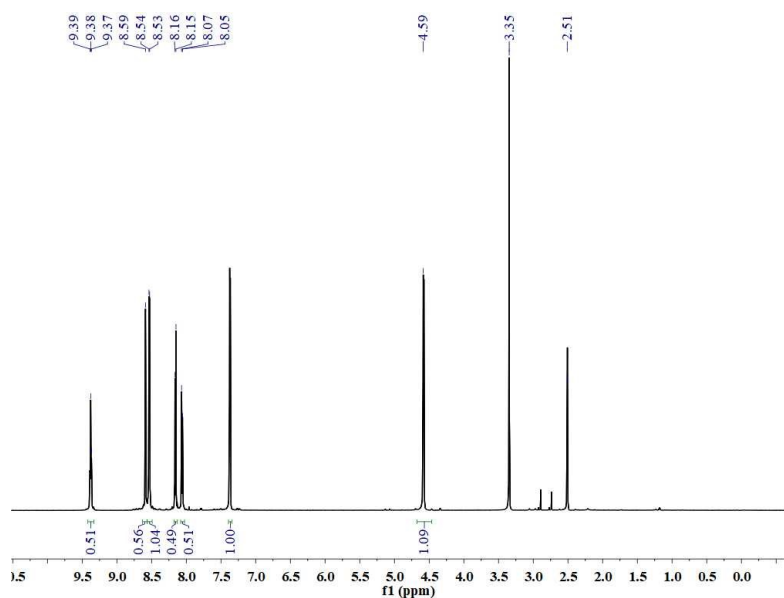
#### Synthesis of L4.



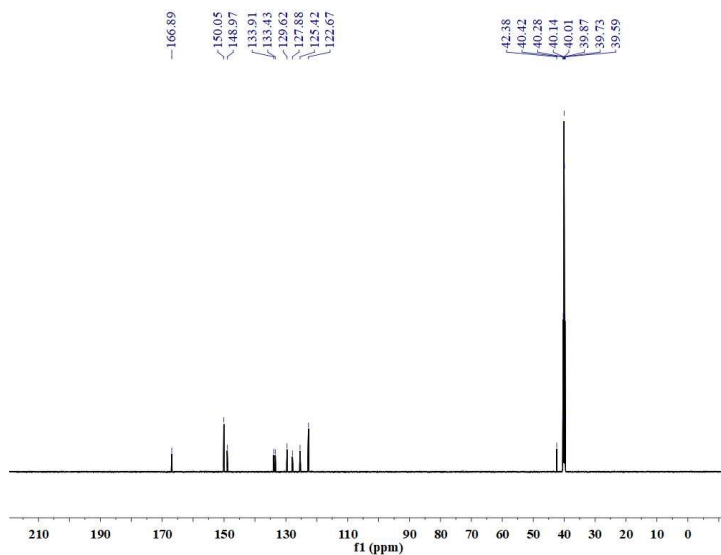
Scheme 4. Synthesis of L4.

Biphenyl-4,4'-dicarboxylic acid (193.8 mg, 0.8 mmol), 4-Pyridinylmethanamine (162.4  $\mu\text{L}$ , 1.6 mmol), HOBT (0.10 g, 0.8 mmol), EDCI (0.13 g, 0.8 mmol), and DIEA (0.4 mL, 2.0 mmol) were mixed in DMF (10 mL) and the mixture was stirred at 70  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ . After 2 d, the solution was concentrated by evaporation. By adding a saturated solution of sodium bicarbonate to the reactants mentioned above, a solid is formed. This solid was subsequently filtered to obtain L4 (269.6 mg; Yield: 85%). Anal. calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_4\text{O}_2$ : C, 72.71; H, 5.08; N, 14.13. Found: C, 72.81; H, 5.15; N, 14.37.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}$ , ppm)  $\delta$  = 9.38 (t,  $J$  = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 8.59 (s, 4H), 8.53 (d,  $J$  = 5.7 Hz, 2H), 8.16 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 8.06 (d,  $J$  = 9.6 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d,  $J$  = 5.7 Hz, 4H), 4.58

(d,  $J = 5.9$  Hz, 4H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$  166.89 (s), 150.05 (s), 148.97 (s), 133.91 (s), 133.43 (s), 129.62 (s), 127.88 (s), 125.42 (s), 122.67 (s), 42.38 (s).



**Fig. S7**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ , ppm) for L4.



**Fig. S8**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (151 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ , ppm) for L4.



## 2. NMR Data

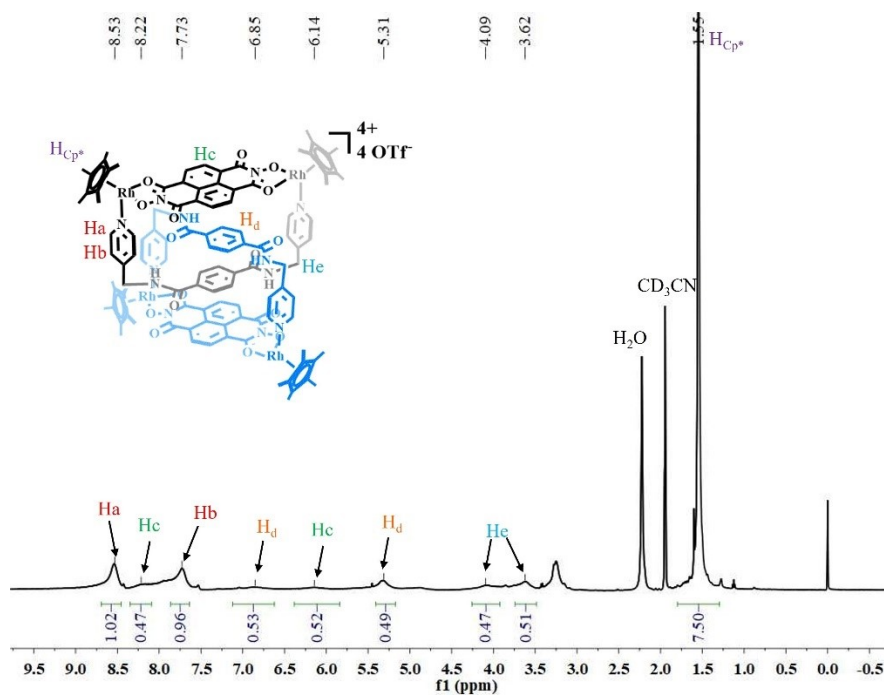


Fig. S9 <sup>1</sup>H NMR at 300K (600 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN, ppm) for 1.

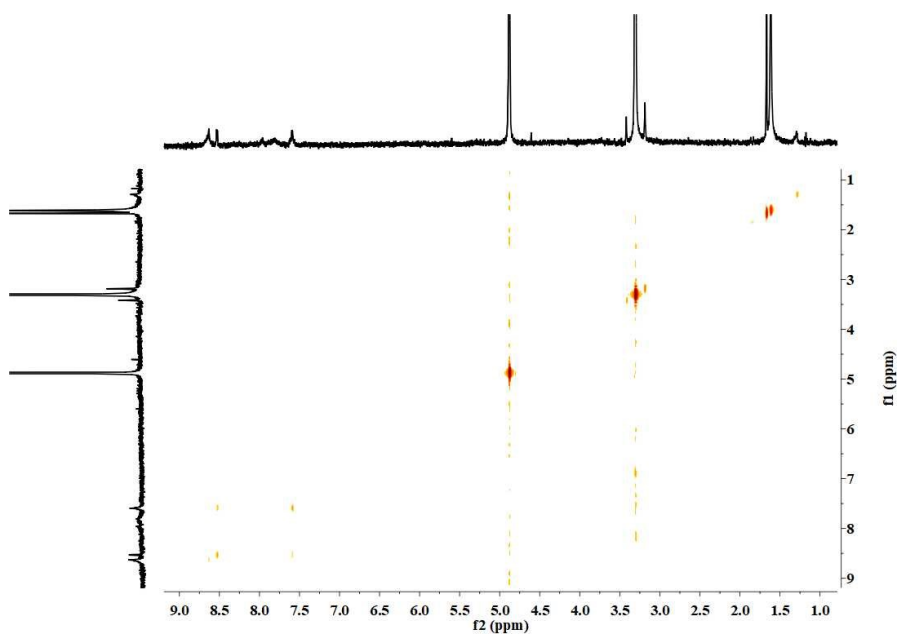
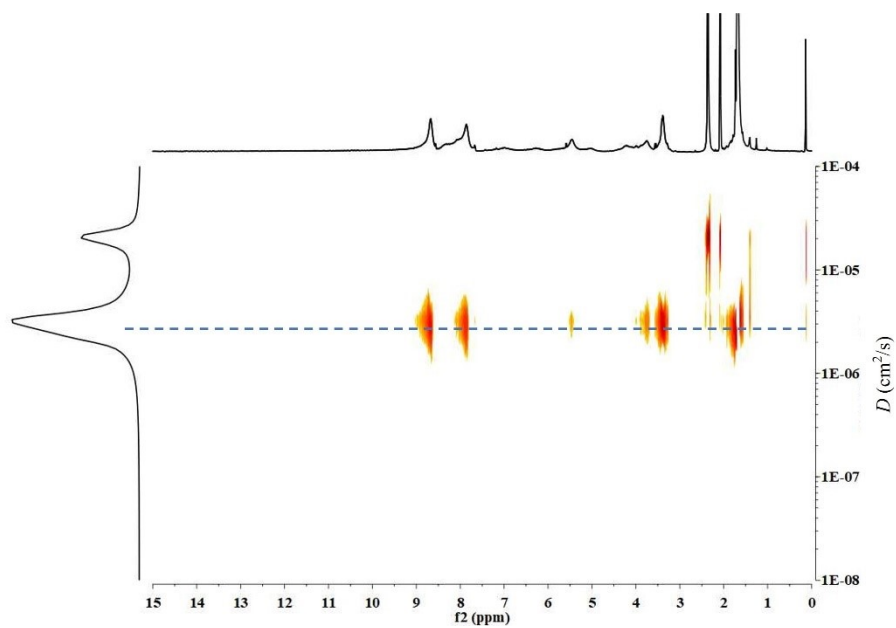
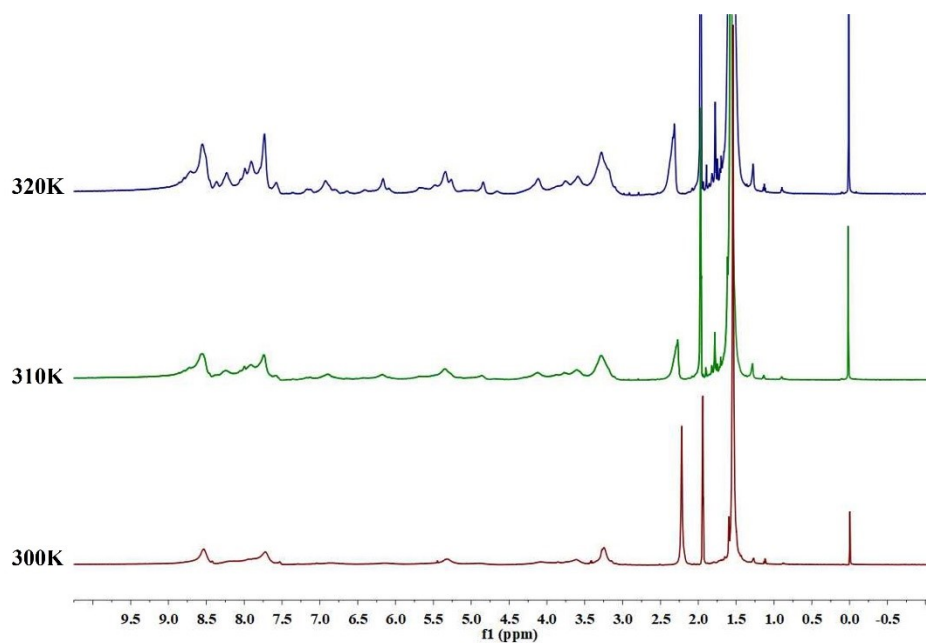


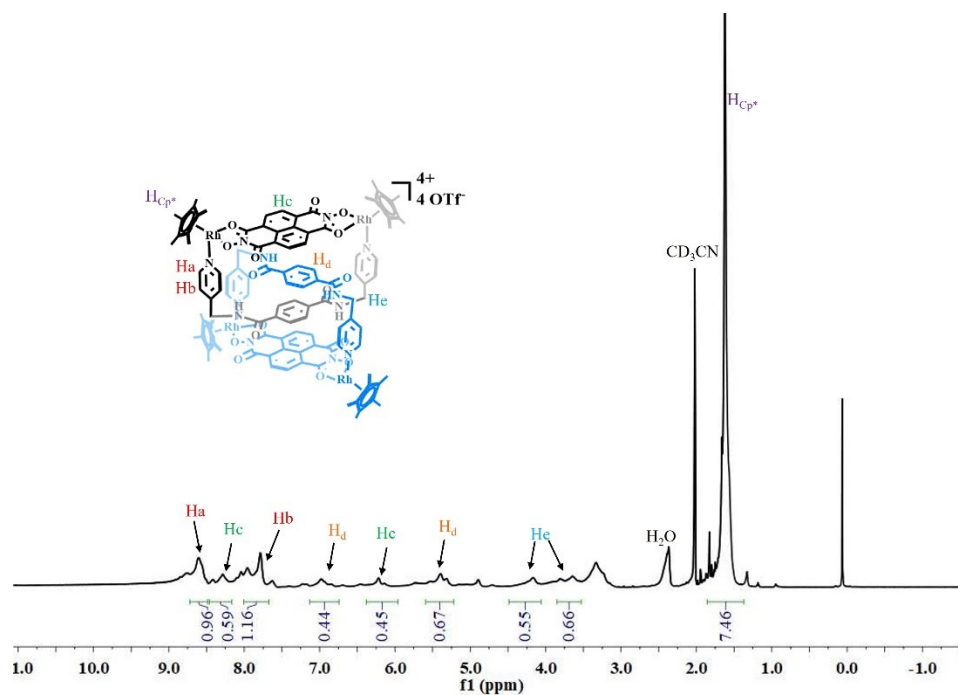
Fig. S10 <sup>1</sup>H - <sup>1</sup>H COSY NMR spectrum of 1 (600 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN) at 300K.



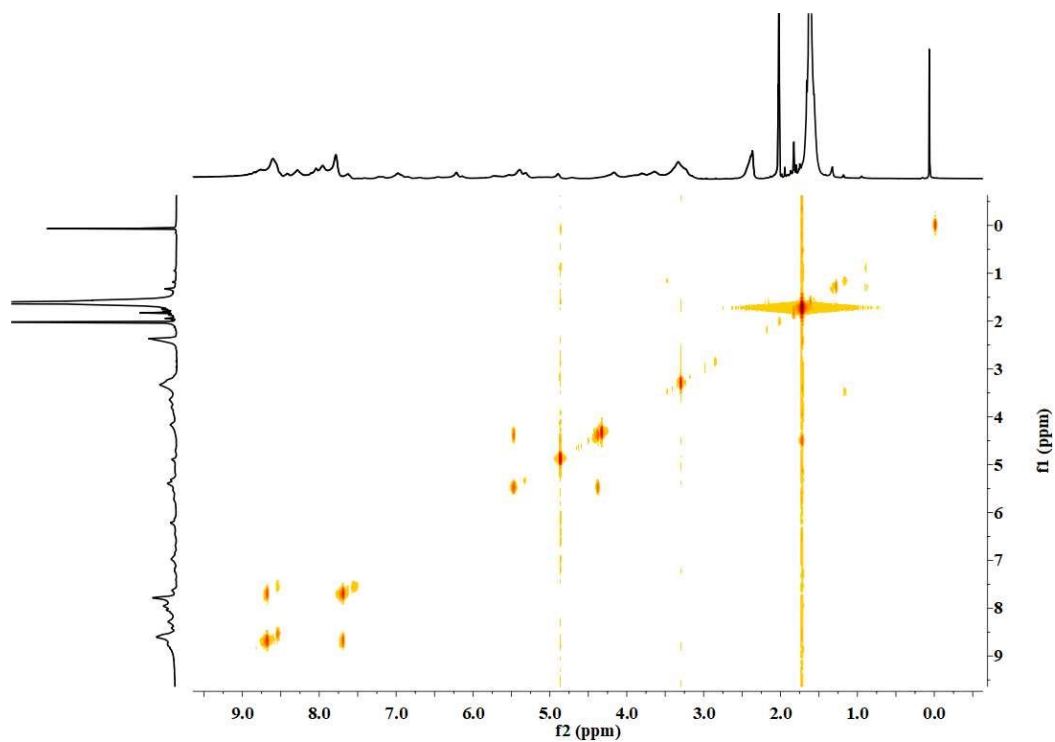
**Fig. S11:**  $^1\text{H}$  DOSY NMR spectrum of **1** (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ ) at 300K.



**Fig. S12**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR at different temperatures (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , ppm) for **1**.



**Fig. S13**  $^1H$  NMR at 320K (600 MHz,  $CD_3CN$ , ppm) for **1**.



**Fig. S14**  $^1H$  -  $^1H$  COSY NMR spectrum of **1** (600 MHz,  $CD_3CN$ ) at 320K.

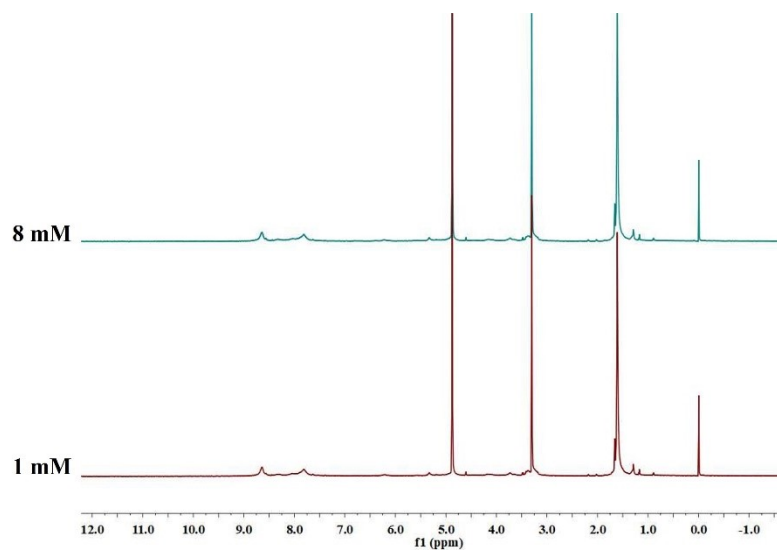


Fig. S15  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , ppm) for **1** at 1 mM and 8 mM.

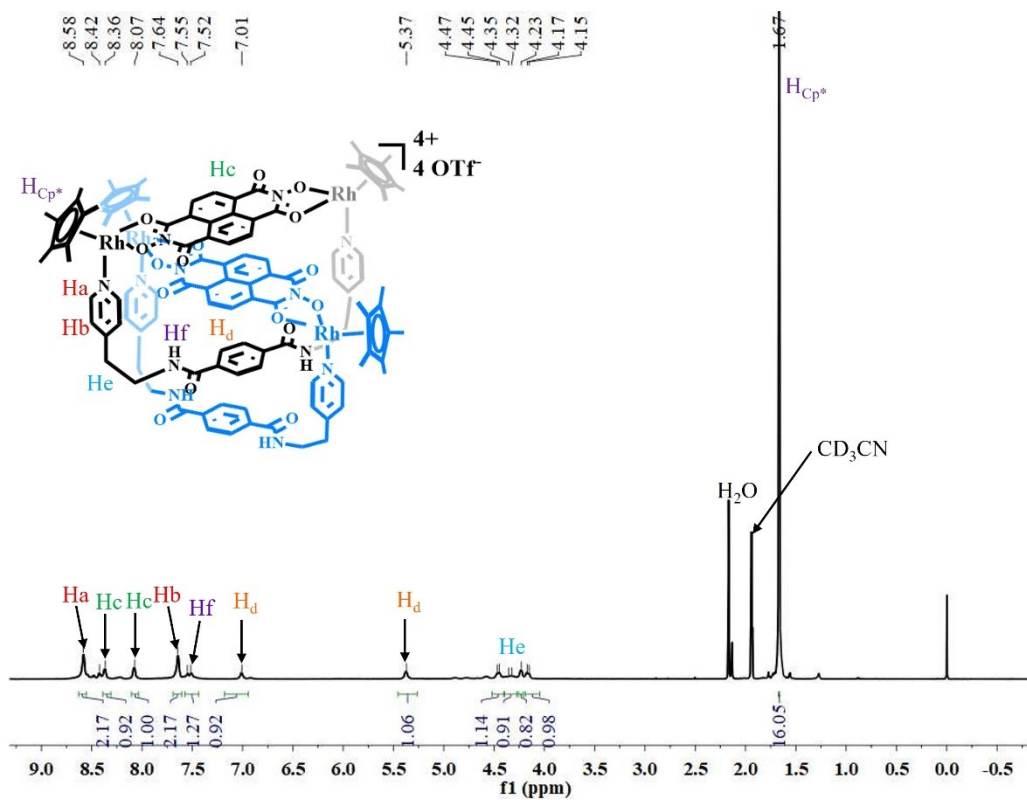
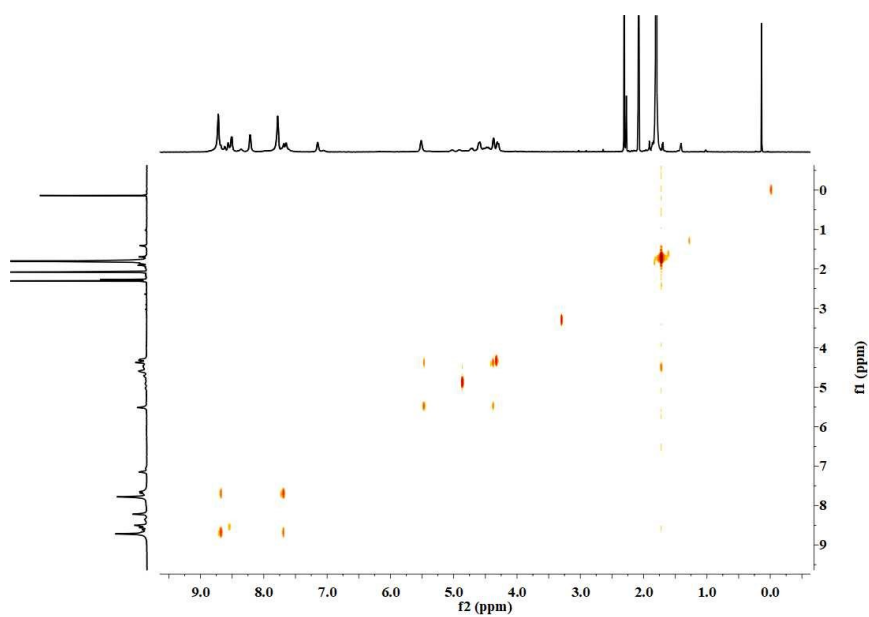
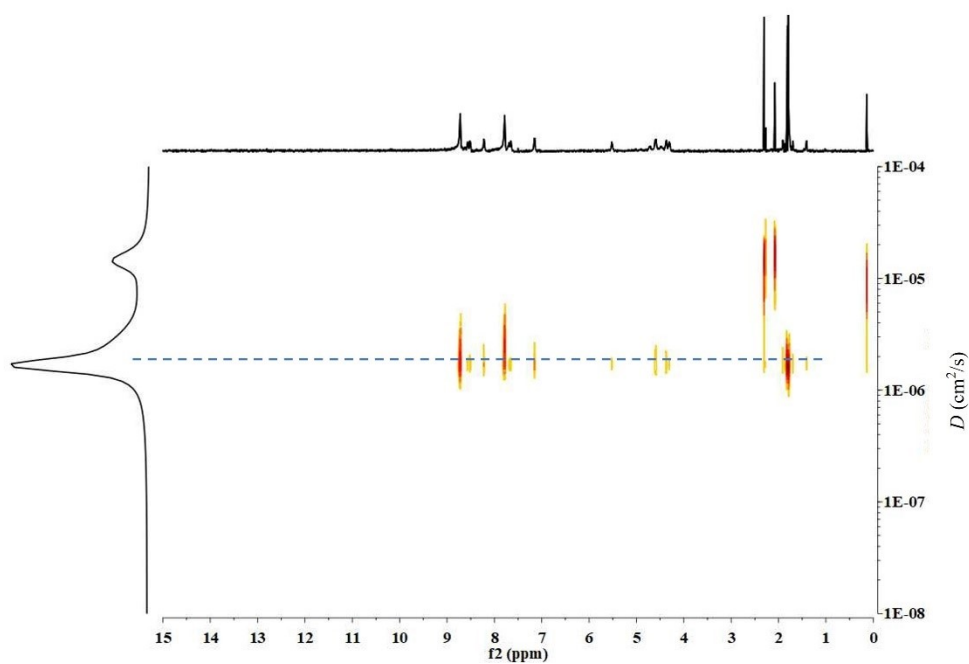


Fig. S16  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , ppm) at 300k for **2**.



**Fig. S17**  $^1\text{H}$  -  $^1\text{H}$  COSY NMR spectrum of **2** (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , 300K).



**Fig. S18:**  $^1\text{H}$  DOSY NMR spectrum of **2** (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , 300K).

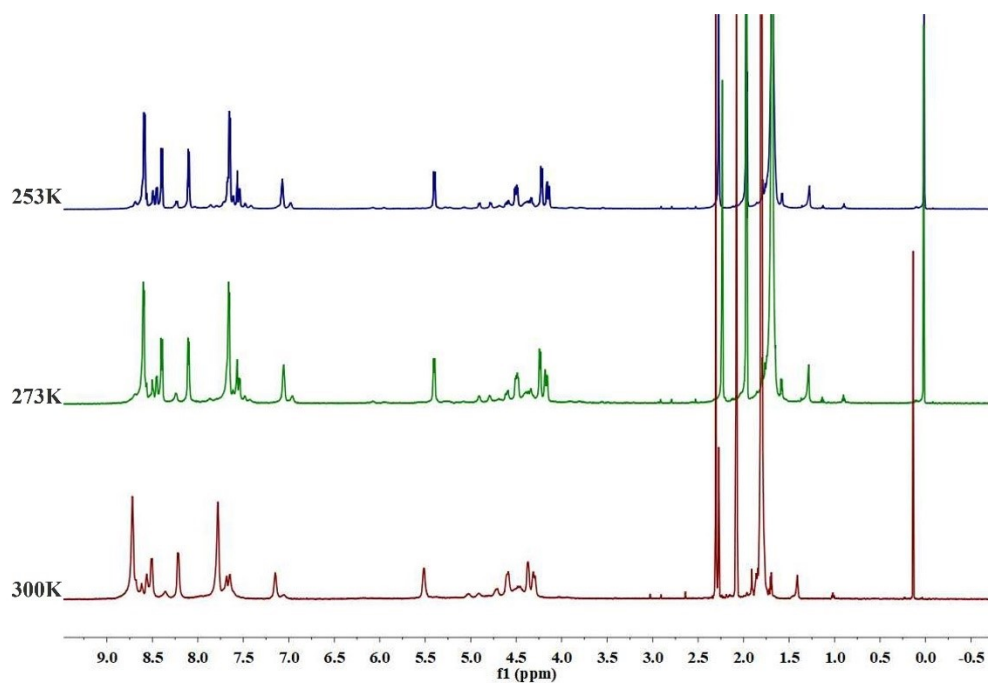


Fig. S19  $^1\text{H}$  NMR at different temperatures (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , ppm) for **2**.

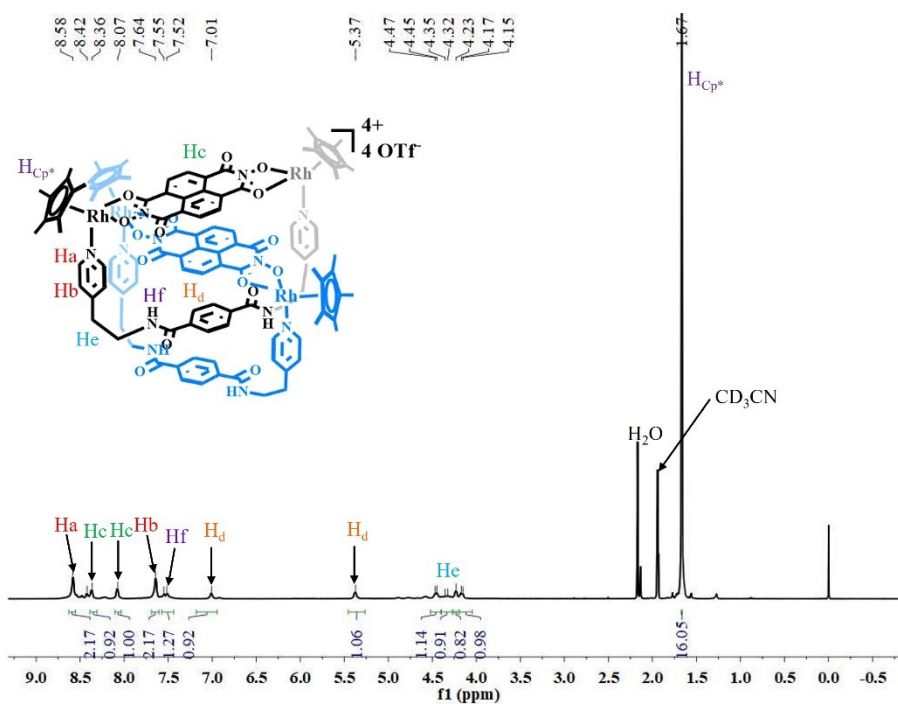
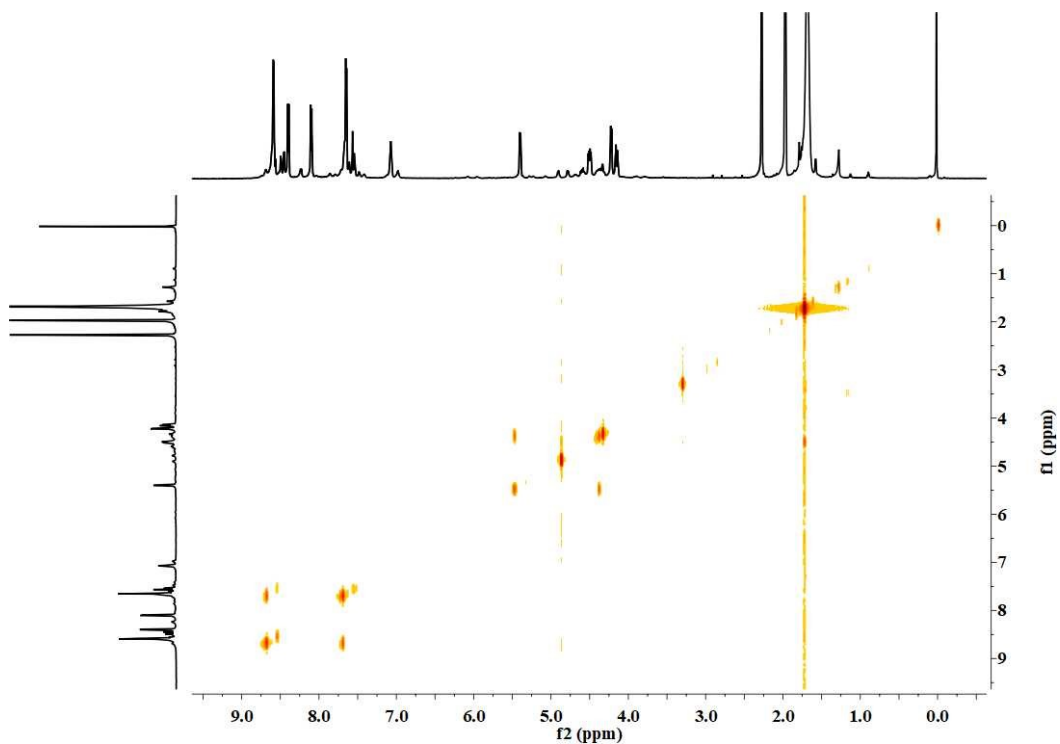
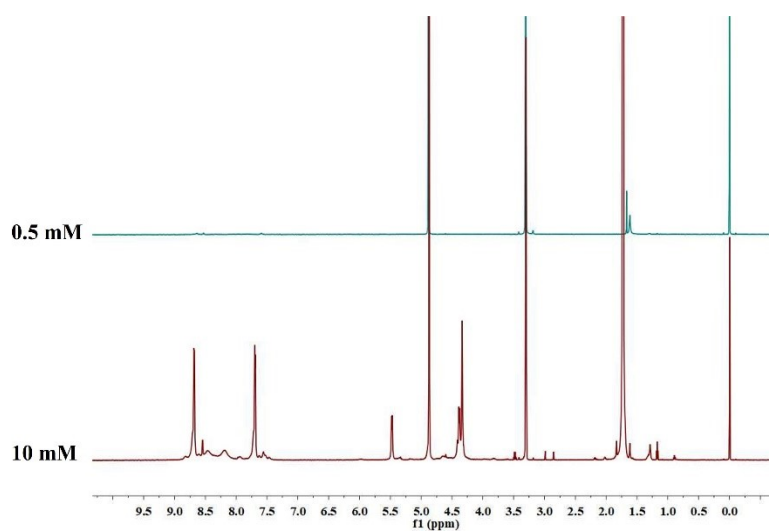


Fig. S20  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , ppm) at 253k for **2**.



**Fig. S21**  $^1\text{H}$  -  $^1\text{H}$  COSY NMR spectrum of **2** (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , 253K).



**Fig. S22**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , ppm) for **2** at 10mM and 0.5mM.

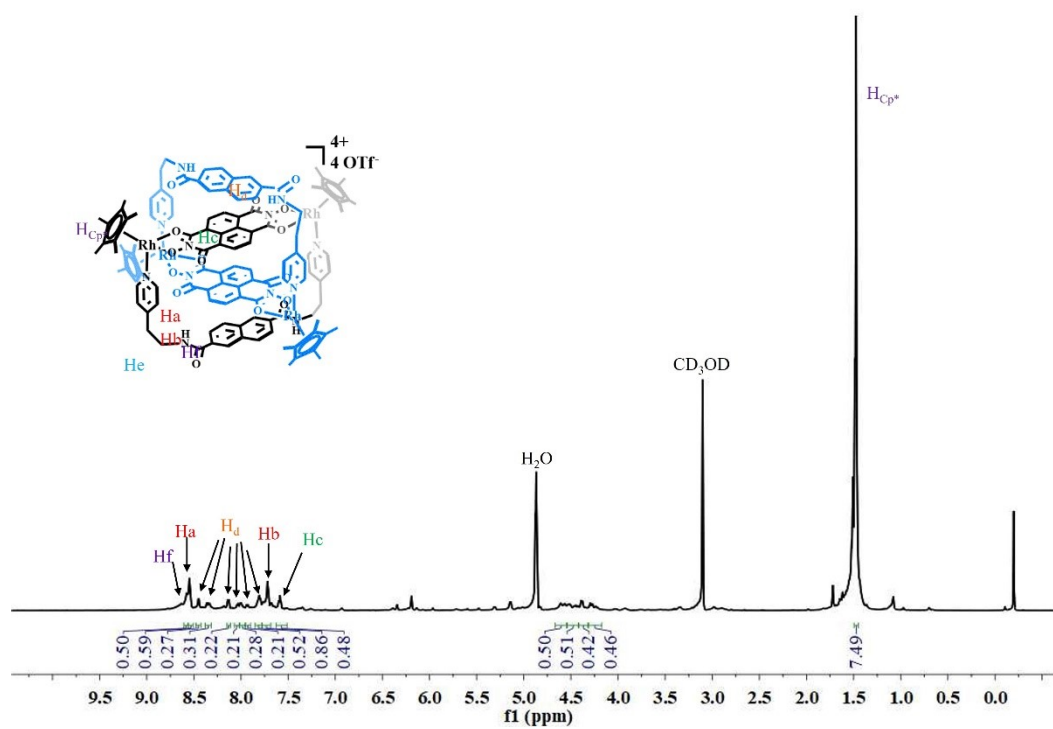


Fig. S23  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ , ppm, 300K) for **3**.

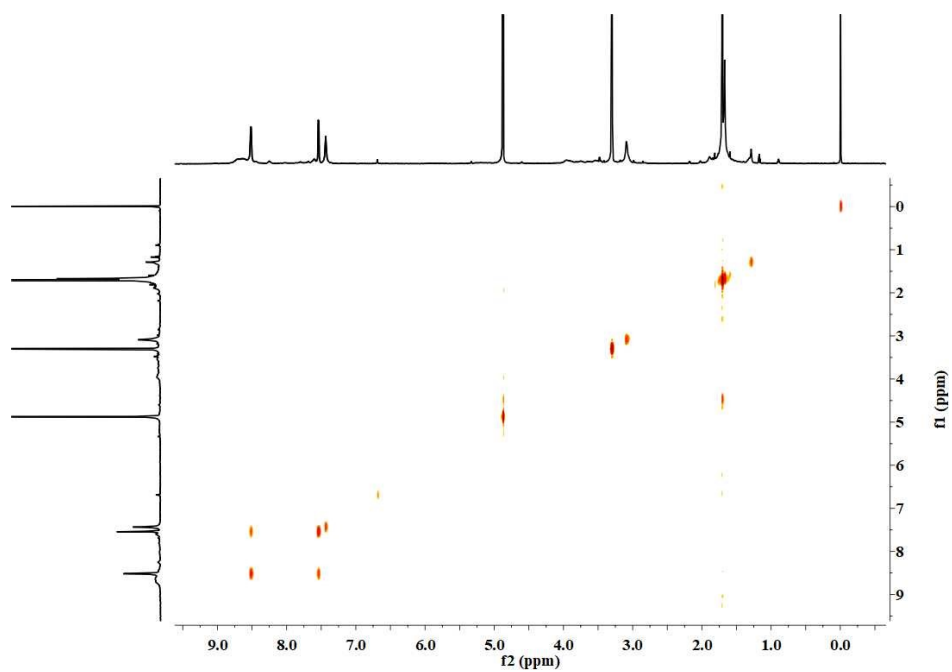
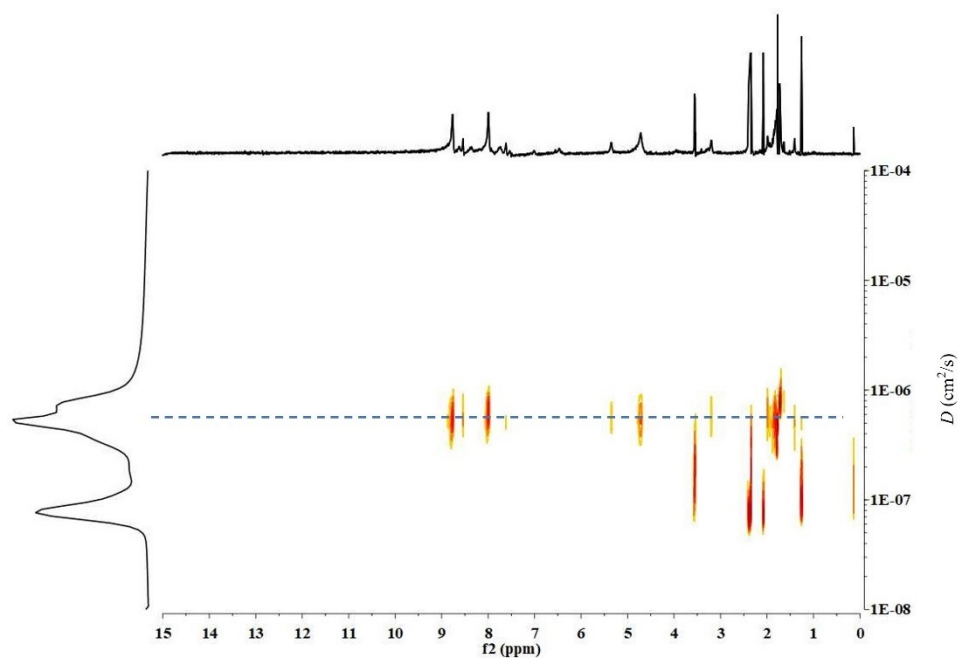
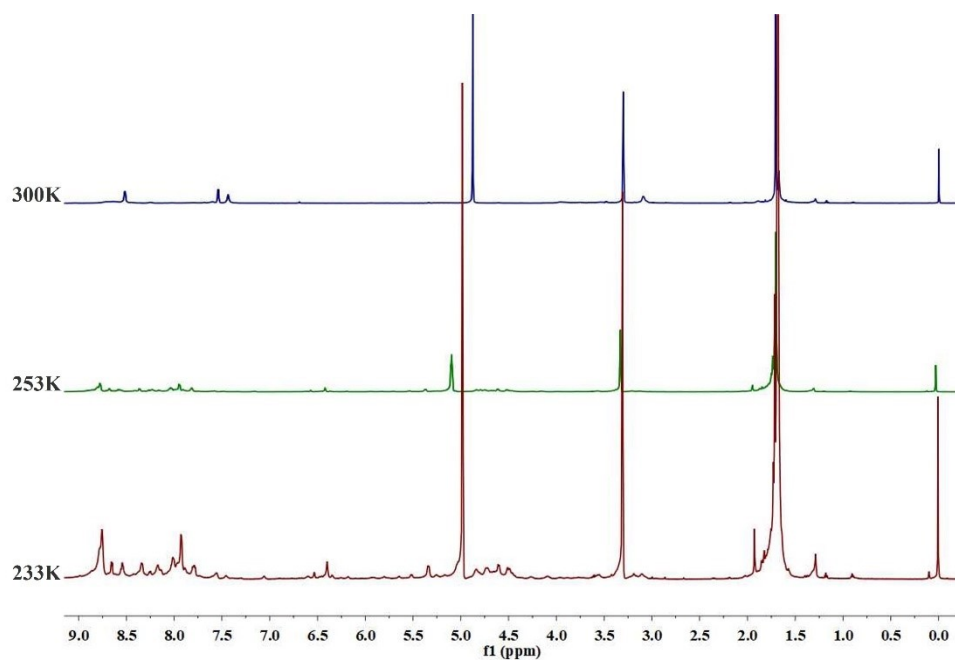


Fig. S24  $^1\text{H}$  -  $^1\text{H}$  COSY NMR spectrum of **3** (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ , 300K).





**Fig. S25:**  $^1\text{H}$  DOSY NMR spectrum of **3** (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ , 300k).



**Fig. S26**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR at different temperatures (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ , ppm) for **3**.

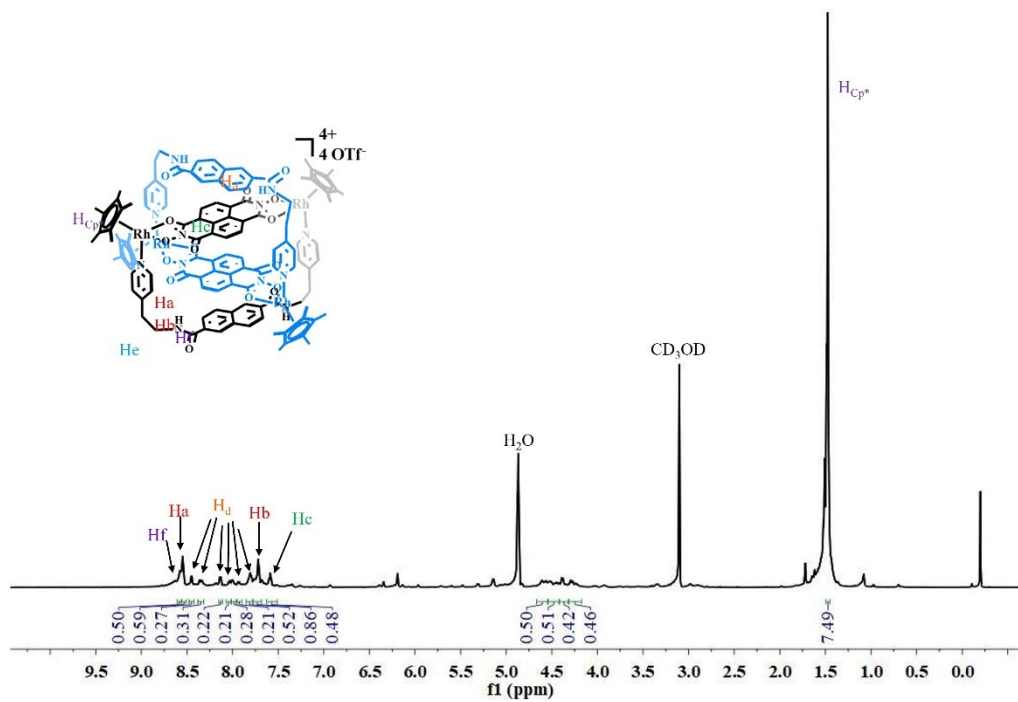


Fig. S27  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ , ppm, 233K) for **3**.

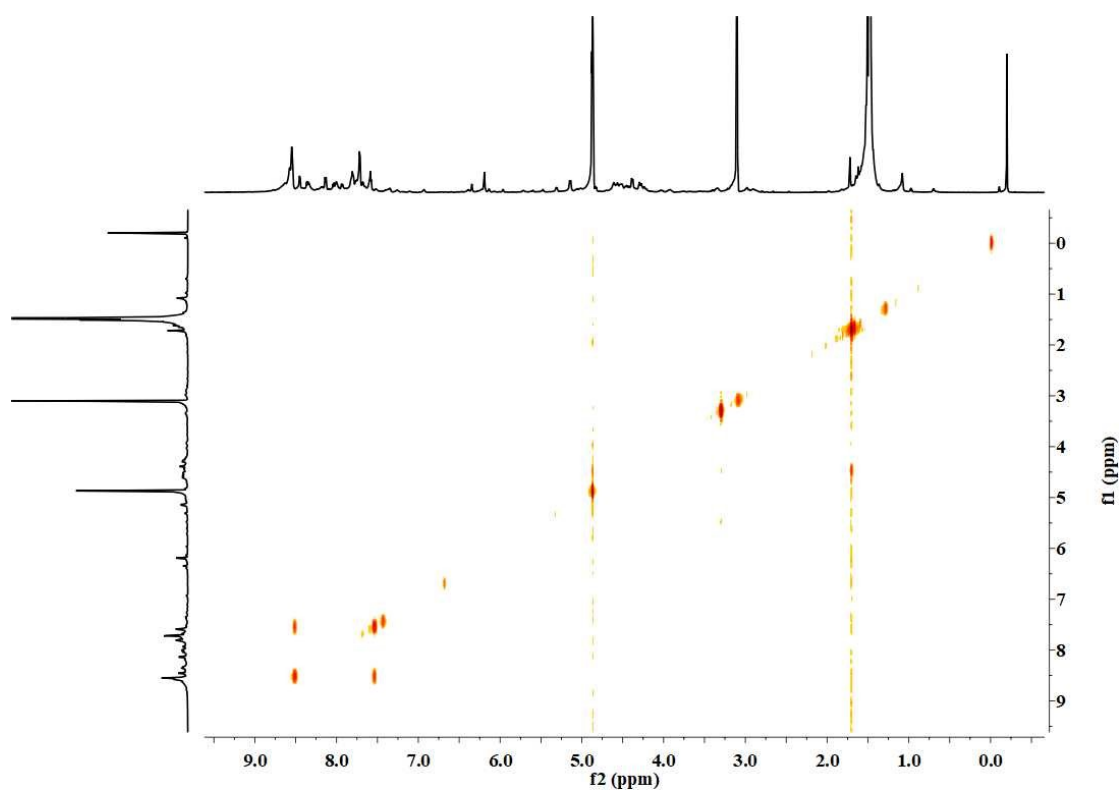


Fig. S28  $^1\text{H}$  -  $^1\text{H}$  COSY NMR spectrum of **3** (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ , 233K).

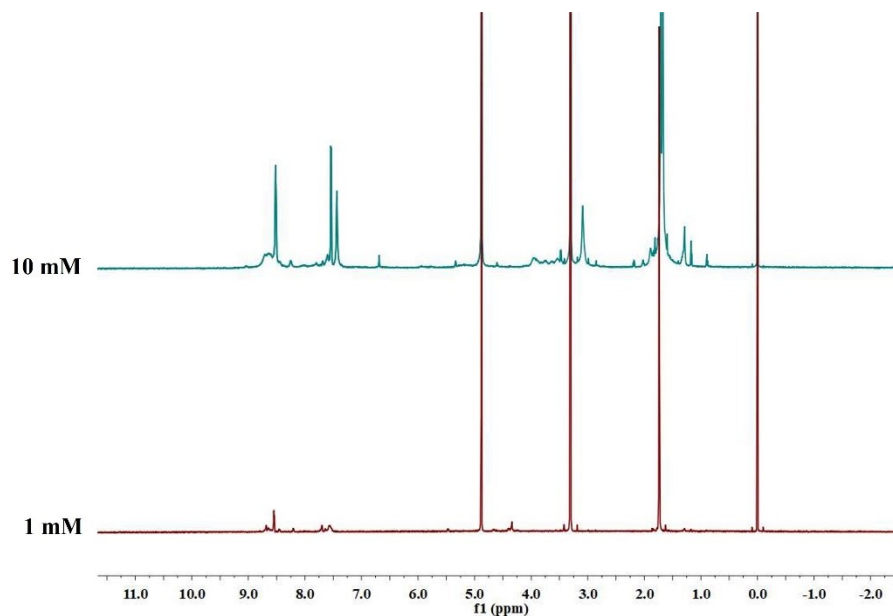


Fig. S29  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , ppm) for **3** at 10mM and 1mM.

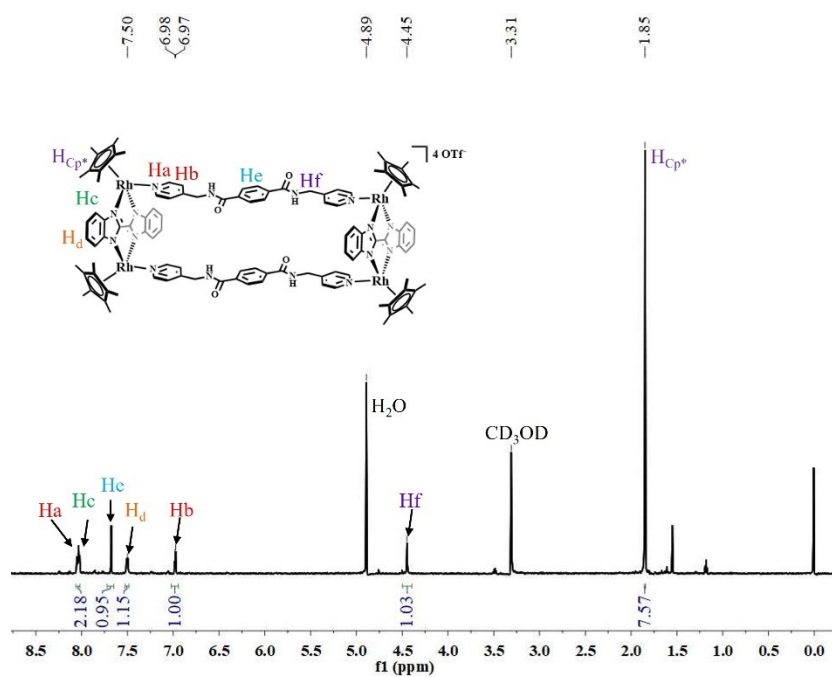
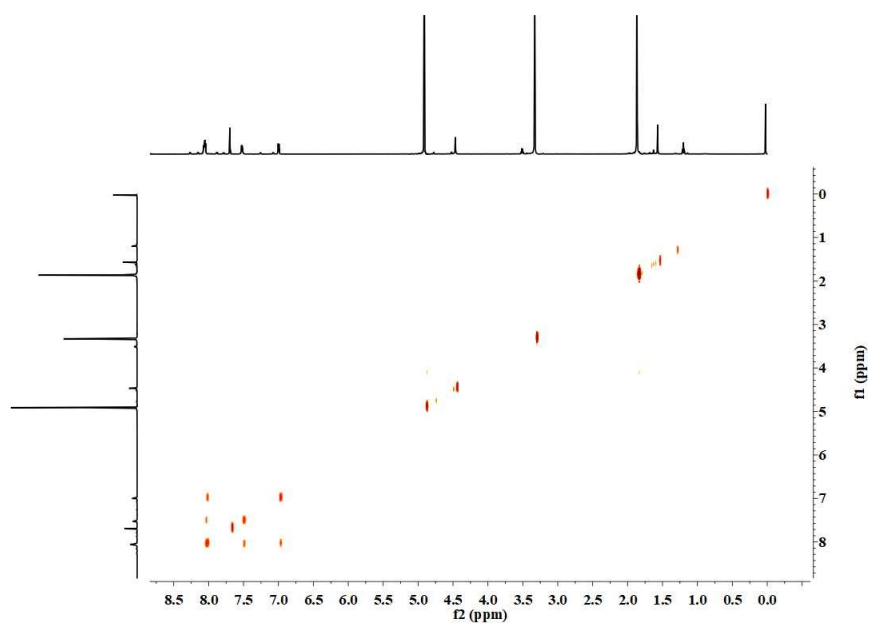
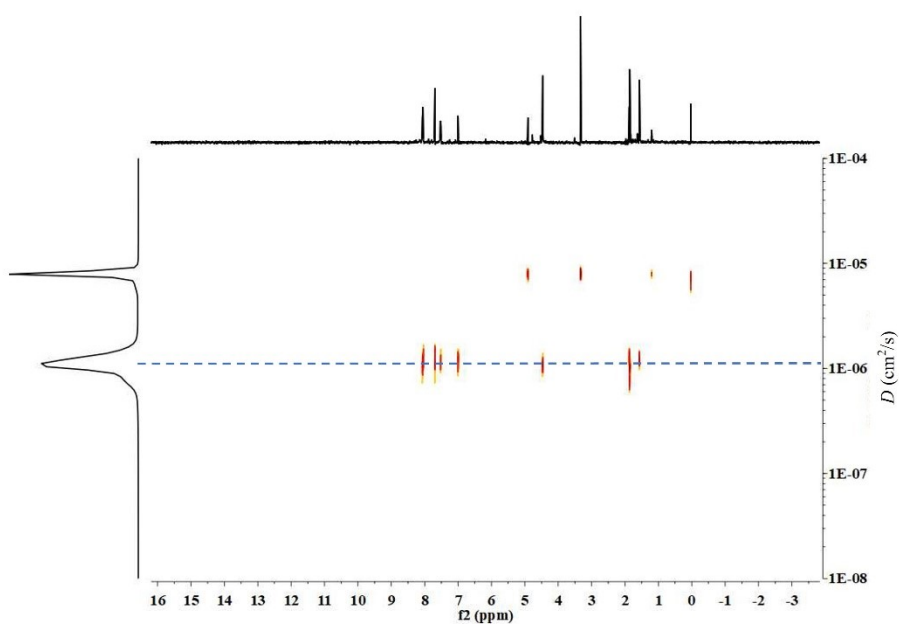


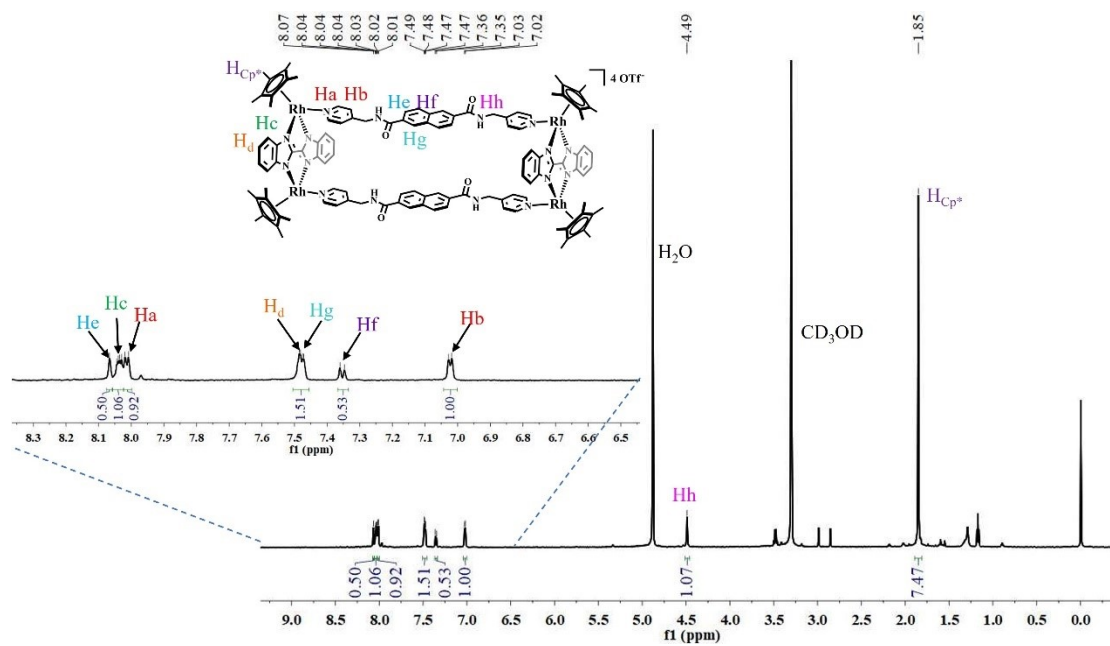
Fig. S30  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ , ppm) for **4**.



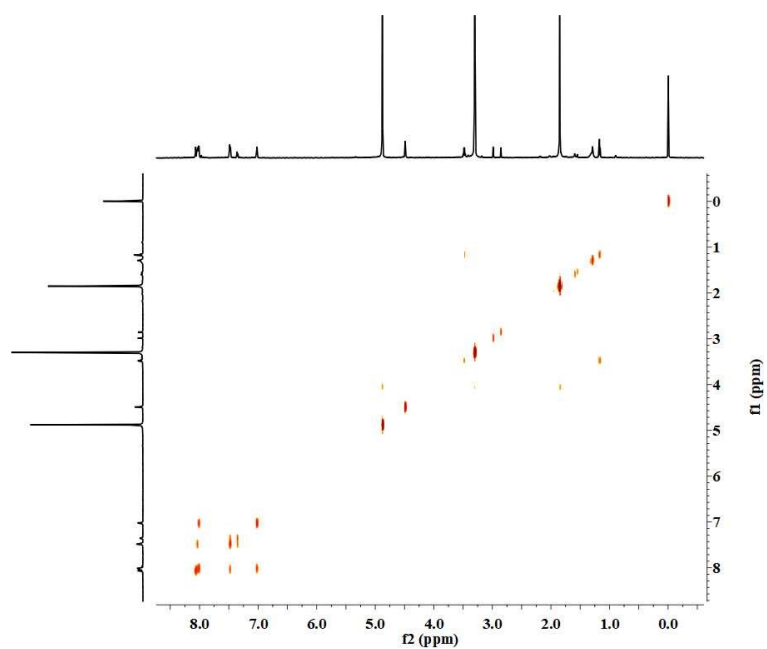
**Fig. S31**  $^1\text{H}$  -  $^1\text{H}$  COSY NMR spectrum of **4** (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ ).



**Fig. S32:**  $^1\text{H}$  DOSY NMR spectrum of **4** (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ ).

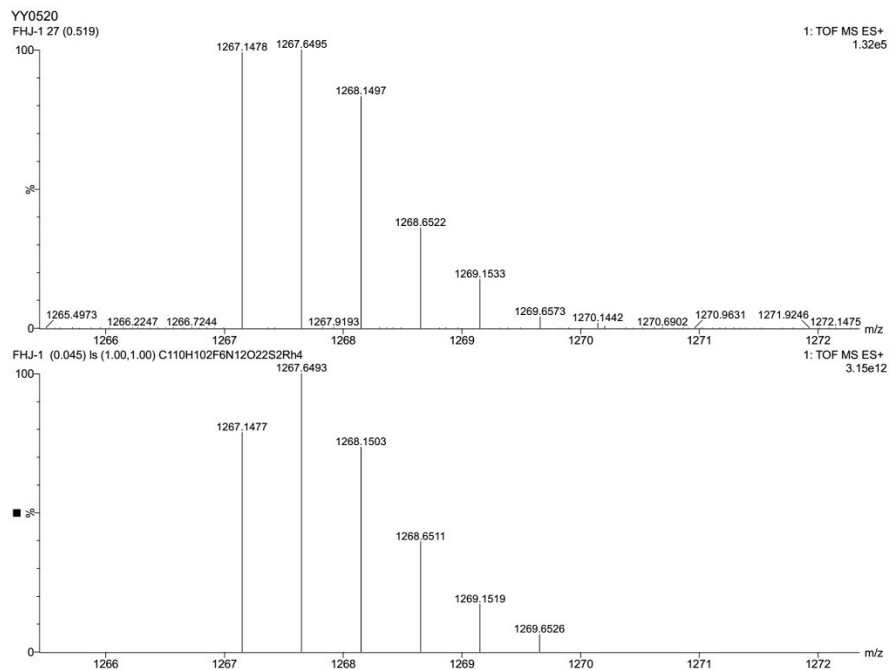


**Fig. S33**  $^1H$  NMR (600 MHz,  $CD_3OD$ , ppm) for **5**.

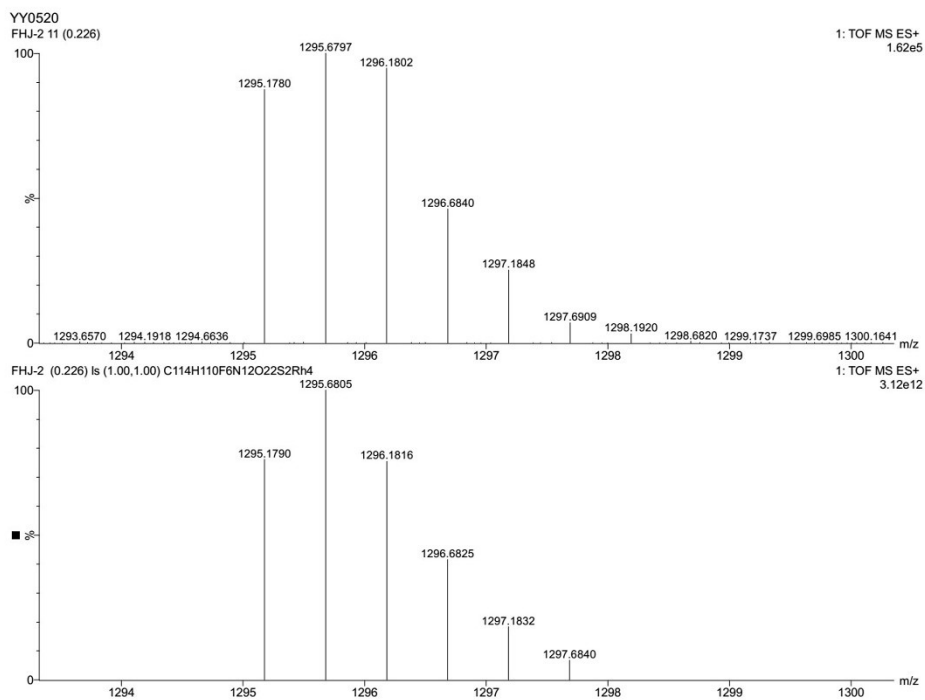


**Fig. S34**  $^1H$  -  $^1H$  COSY NMR spectrum of **5** (600 MHz,  $CD_3OD$ ).

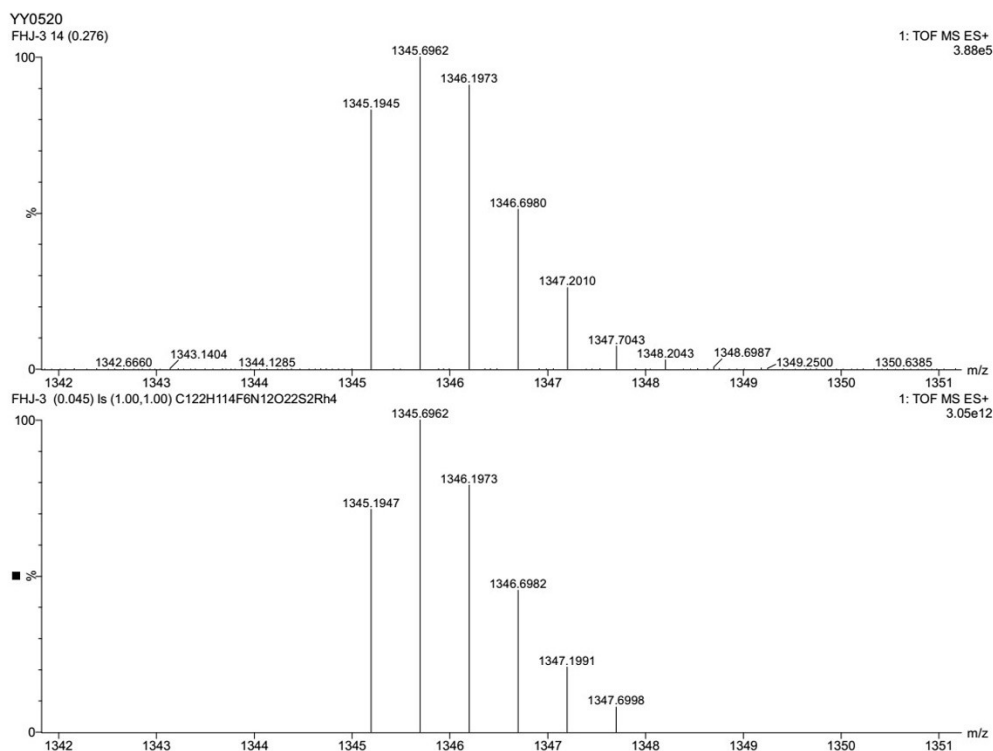
### 3. ESI-MS spectra



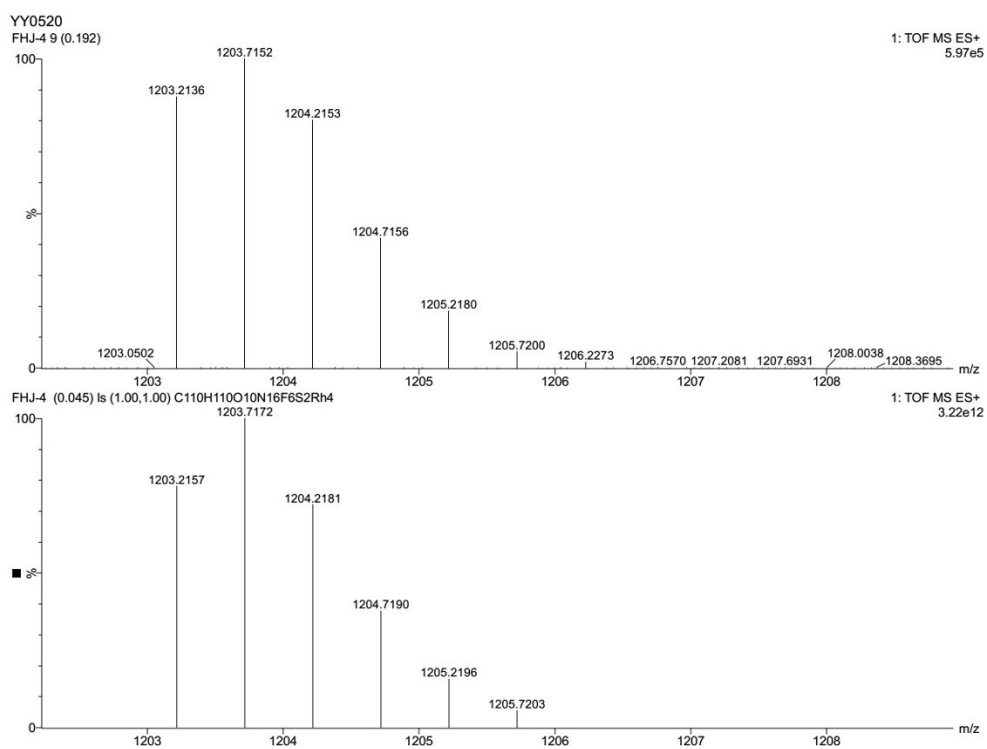
**Fig. S35** Experimental (top) and theoretical (bottom) ESI-MS spectra of  $[1 - 2OTf]^{2+}$ .



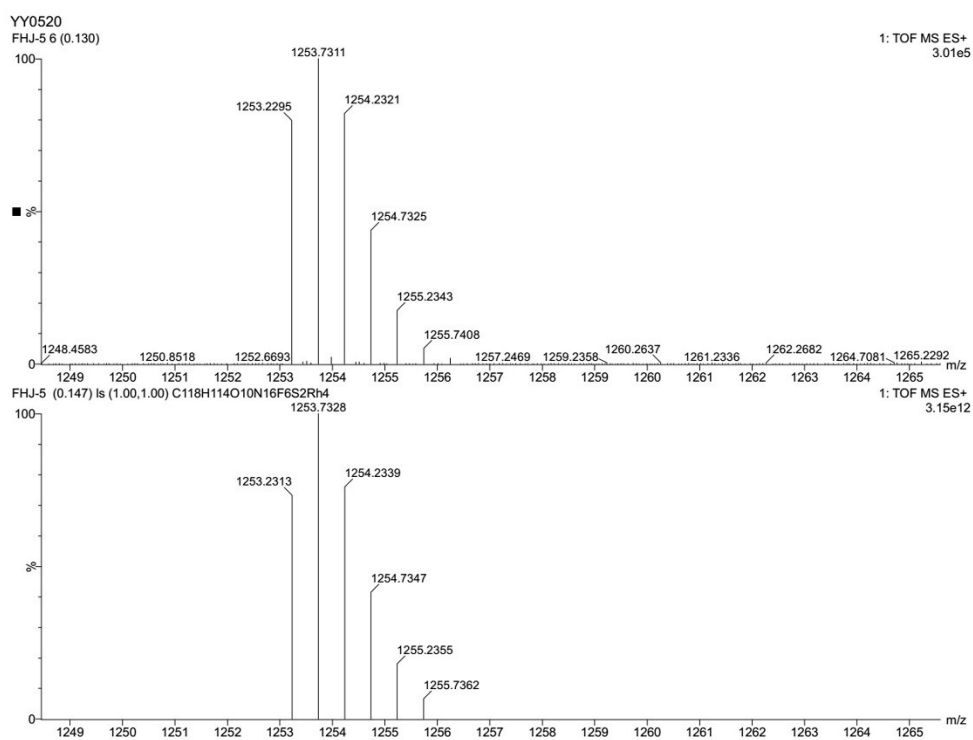
**Fig. S36** Experimental (top) and theoretical (bottom) ESI-MS spectra of  $[2 - 2OTf]^{2+}$ .



**Fig. S37** Experimental (top) and theoretical (bottom) ESI-MS spectra of  $[3 - 2OTf]^{2+}$ .



**Fig. S38** Experimental (top) and theoretical (bottom) ESI-MS spectra of  $[4 - 2OTf]^{2+}$ .



**Fig. S39** Experimental (top) and theoretical (bottom) ESI-MS spectra of  $[5 - 2OTf]^{2+}$ .



#### 4. Near-infrared photothermal conversion research:

##### Experimental details:

To guarantee same amount of conjugated- $\pi$  area, the applied molar ratio of the five topologies **1** / **2** / **3** / **4** / **5** was 1: 1: 1: 2: 2. Compound **1** (8.5 mg, 0.003mmol) was added into CH<sub>3</sub>OH (1.00 ml). After the solid dissolved absolutely, the solution was taken into quartz spectrophotometer cell (1×1×5 cm) and put into the bright spot of a laser with 730 nm wavelength at 0.4 W/cm<sup>2</sup>. Temperature variation of the solution was detected by an infrared camera. Compound **2** (8.7 mg, 0.003 mmol), compound **3** (8.9 mg, 0.003 mmol), Compound **4** (16.2 mg, 0.003 mmol) and compound **5** (16.8 mg, 0.006 mmol) were detected with the same procedure as compound **1**.

Equations used to calculate near-infrared photothermal conversion efficiency were exhibited as follows:

$$\eta = hS(\Delta T_{\text{sample}} - \Delta T_{\text{solvent}}) / I(1-10^{-A}) \quad (1)$$

$$hS = \sum mC_p / \tau_s \quad (2)$$

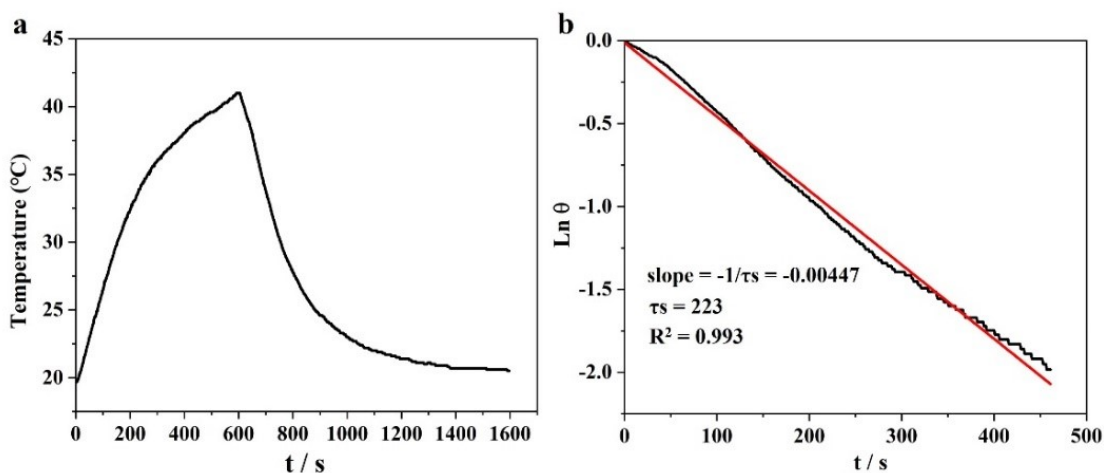
$$\tau_s = -t / \ln \theta \quad (3)$$

$$\theta = (T_{\text{amb}} - T) / (T_{\text{amb}} - T_{\text{max}}) \quad (4)$$

$\sum mC_p = m(\text{methanol}) \cdot C_p(\text{methanol}) = \rho(\text{methanol}) \cdot V(\text{methanol}) \cdot C_p(\text{methanol}) = 0.777 \times 1.0 \times 2.51 = 1.9503 \text{ J} \cdot \text{K}^{-1}$ .  $\Delta T_{\text{solvent}} = 2.0 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ .  $I = 0.4 \text{ W/cm}^2$ .

In the equations 1-4 provided above,  $h$  represents the heat transfer coefficient, while  $S$  stands for the surface area of the container.  $\tau_s$  denotes the time constant of the sample system,  $m$  indicates the mass of the products, and  $C_p$  signifies the specific heat capacity of the solvent.

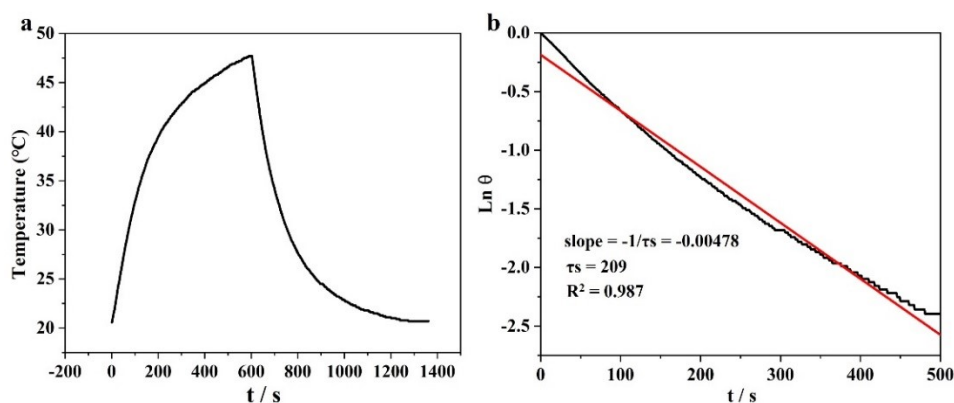
(1) [2]-catenane **1** (**B-L-L-B**).



**Fig. S40** (a) Heating and cooling curve of [2]-catenane **1** (with B–L–L–B stacking). (b) Fitting linear of  $\ln\theta$ -t.

Near-infrared photothermal conversion efficiency  $\eta$  of **1** was calculated by equations above. A fitting linear of  $\ln\theta$ -t was obtained by Eqs (3) and (4), by which  $\tau_s$  was calculated as 223 s. Thus,  $hS = 1.9503 / 223 = 8.7457 \times 10^{-3} \text{ J}\cdot\text{K}^{-1}\cdot\text{S}^{-1}$ .  $\Delta T_{\text{sample}} = 21.3 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  (41.0 – 19.7, Fig. S26a).  $A1 = 0.5755$  (Fig.5b in main text). Eventually,  $\eta_1 = 8.7457 \times 10^{-3} \times (21.3 - 2.0) / [0.4 \times (1 - 10^{-0.5755})] = 57.0\%$ .

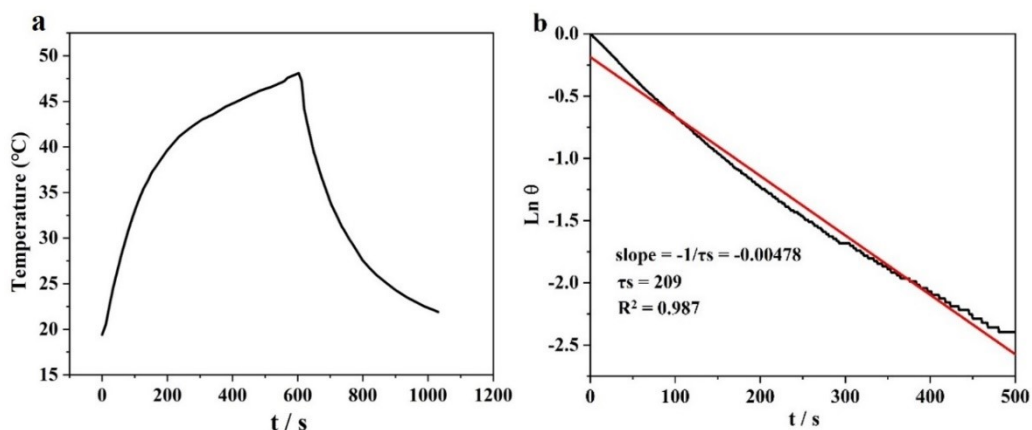
(2) [2]-catenane **2** (B–B–L–L).



**Fig. S41** (a) Heating and cooling curve of [2]-catenane **2** (with B–B–L–L stacking). (b) Fitting linear of  $\ln\theta$ -t.

Near-infrared photothermal conversion efficiency  $\eta$  of **2** was calculated by equations above. A fitting linear of  $\ln\theta$ -t was obtained by Eqs (3) and (4), by which  $\tau_s$  was calculated as 209 s. Thus,  $hS = 1.9503 / 209 = 9.3316 \times 10^{-3} \text{ J}\cdot\text{K}^{-1}\cdot\text{S}^{-1}$ .  $\Delta T_{\text{sample}} = 27.1 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  (47.7 – 20.6, Fig. S27a).  $A1 = 0.6571$  (Fig.5b in main text). Eventually,  $\eta_2 = 9.3316 \times 10^{-3} \times (27.1 - 2.0) / [0.4 \times (1 - 10^{-0.6571})] = 75.0\%$ .

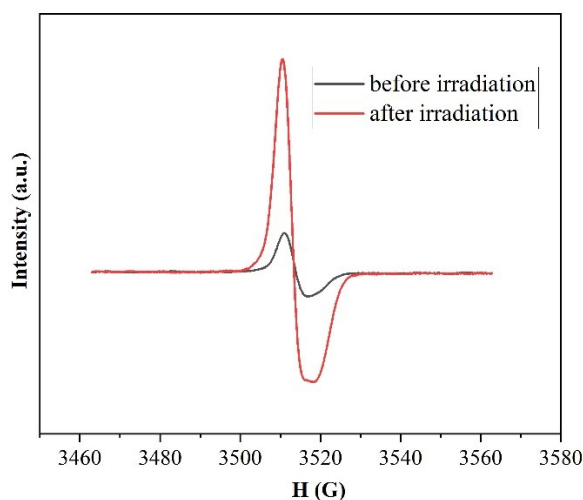
(3) [2]-catenane **3** (L–B–B–L).



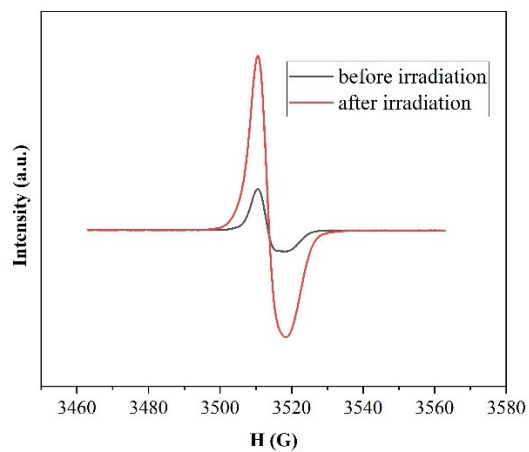
**Fig. S42** (a) Heating and cooling curve of [2]-catenane **3** (with L–B–B–L stacking). (b)

Fitting linear of  $\ln\theta$ - $t$ .

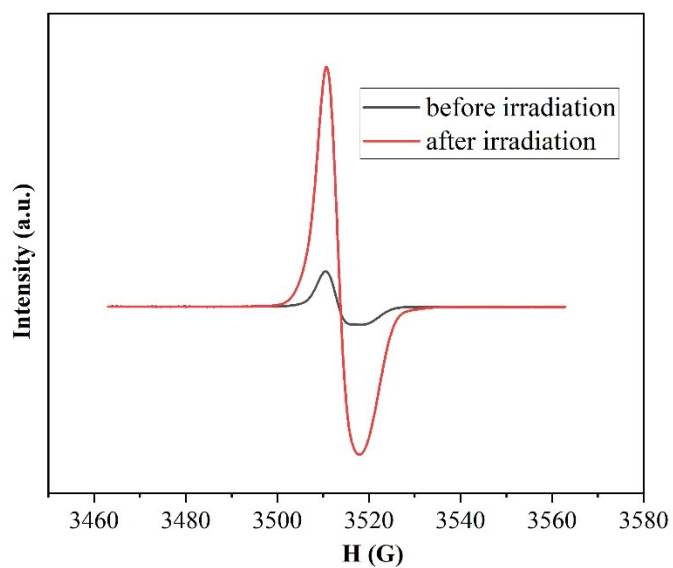
Near-infrared photothermal conversion efficiency  $\eta$  of **3** was calculated by equations above. A fitting linear of  $\ln\theta$ - $t$  was obtained by Eqs (3) and (4), by which  $\tau_s$  was calculated as 193 s. Thus,  $hS = 1.9503 / 193 = 10.1052 \times 10^{-3} \text{ J}\cdot\text{K}^{-1}\cdot\text{S}^{-1}$ .  $\Delta T_{\text{sample}} = 27.6 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  (48.1 – 20.5, Fig. S28a).  $A1 = 0.6443$  (Fig.5b in main text). Eventually,  $\eta = 10.1052 \times 10^{-3} \times (27.6 - 2.0) / [0.4 \times (1 - 10^{-0.6443})] = 83.7\%$ .



**Fig. S43** EPR spectra of [2]-catenane **1** before and after irradiation.



**Fig. S44** EPR spectra of [2]-catenane **2** before and after irradiation.



**Fig. S45** EPR spectra of [2]-catenane **3** before and after irradiation.

## 5. X-ray crystallography details

X-ray Crystallography Details. Single crystals of **1**, **2**, **3**, **4** and **5** suitable for X-ray diffraction study were obtained at room temperature. Crystallographic data for complexes **1**, **2**, **3**, **4** and **5** were collected at 173 K with a Bruker D8 VENTURE microfocus X-ray source system (Cu Ka,  $\lambda = 1.54178 \text{ \AA}$ ).

In asymmetric unit of **1**, a solvent mask was calculated and 650 electrons were found in a volume of  $2674 \text{ \AA}^3$  in 2 voids per unit cell. This is consistent with the presence of 1[CH<sub>3</sub>OH], 8[CH<sub>3</sub>OH] per Asymmetric Unit which account for 648 electrons per unit cell.

In asymmetric unit of **2**, a solvent mask was calculated and 534 electrons were found in a volume of  $1464 \text{ \AA}^3$  in 3 voids per unit cell. This is consistent with the presence of 6[CH<sub>3</sub>OH], 1[H<sub>2</sub>O], 1[H<sub>2</sub>O] per Asymmetric Unit which account for 512 electrons per unit cell.

In asymmetric unit of **3**, a solvent mask was calculated and 250 electrons were found in a volume of  $792 \text{ \AA}^3$  in 2 voids per unit cell. This is consistent with the presence of 1[C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>NO], 1[CH<sub>3</sub>OH] per Asymmetric Unit which account for 232 electrons per unit cell.

In asymmetric unit of **4**, a solvent mask was calculated and 114 electrons were found in a volume of  $443 \text{ \AA}^3$  in 3 voids per unit cell. This is consistent with the presence of 2[C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>NO], 2.8[H<sub>2</sub>O] per Asymmetric Unit which account for 108 electrons per unit cell.

In asymmetric unit of **5**, a solvent mask was calculated and 829 electrons were found in a volume of  $1976 \text{ \AA}^3$  in 1 void per unit cell. This is consistent with the presence of 22[CH<sub>3</sub>OH] per Asymmetric Unit which account for 792 electrons per unit cell.

**Table S1.** Crystal data for complex **1**.

Complex	1
Empirical formula	C <sub>121</sub> H <sub>140</sub> F <sub>12</sub> N <sub>12</sub> O <sub>37</sub> Rh <sub>4</sub> S <sub>4</sub>
Formula weight	3122.32
Temperature	173.00 K
Wavelength	1.34138 Å
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	P 1 21/n 1
Unit cell dimensions	a = 13.9735(8) Å b = 53.355(3) Å c = 17.4998(10) Å
Volume	13039.4(13) Å <sup>3</sup>
Z	4
Density (calculated)	1.590 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Absorption coefficient	3.689 mm <sup>-1</sup>
F(000)	6392
Crystal size	0.3 x 0.2 x 0.2 mm <sup>3</sup>
Theta range for data collection	2.628 to 54.959°.
Index ranges	-16<=h<=17, -65<=k<=64, -21<=l<=21
Reflections collected	87383
Independent reflections	24709 [R(int) = 0.0503]
Completeness to theta = 53.594°	99.7 %
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.7508 and 0.4981
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	24709 / 1752 / 1569
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.027
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0693, wR2 = 0.1839
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0881, wR2 = 0.1988
Extinction coefficient	n/a
Largest diff. peak and hole	1.907 and -1.725 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>

[α] : R<sub>1</sub>=Σ||F<sub>o</sub>|-|F<sub>c</sub>||/Σ|F<sub>o</sub>| (based on reflections with F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>>2σF<sup>2</sup>). wR<sub>2</sub>=[Σ[w(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>-F<sub>c</sub><sup>2</sup>)<sup>2</sup>]/Σ[w(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>)<sup>2</sup>]]<sup>1/2</sup>;  
w=1/[σ<sup>2</sup>(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>)+(0.095P)<sup>2</sup>]; P=[max(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>, 0)+2F<sub>c</sub><sup>2</sup>]/3(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>>2σF<sup>2</sup>).

**Table S2.** Crystal data for complex 2.

Complex	2
Empirical formula	C <sub>125</sub> H <sub>151</sub> F <sub>12</sub> N <sub>12</sub> O <sub>39</sub> Rh <sub>4</sub> S <sub>4</sub>
Formula weight	3213.45
Temperature	173.00 K
Wavelength	1.34139 Å
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	P 1 21/c 1
Unit cell dimensions	a = 22.9933(18) Å b = 21.6473(17) Å c = 26.969(2) Å
Volume	13236.0(18) Å <sup>3</sup>
Z	4
Density (calculated)	1.613 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Absorption coefficient	3.653 mm <sup>-1</sup>
F(000)	6596
Crystal size	0.3 x 0.3 x 0.1 mm <sup>3</sup>
Theta range for data collection	2.702 to 53.326°.
Index ranges	-27<=h<=26, -20<=k<=25, -31<=l<=31
Reflections collected	101492
Independent reflections	23323 [R(int) = 0.1191]
Completeness to theta = 53.326°	98.4 %
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.7504 and 0.2686
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	23323 / 1871 / 1613
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.111
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.1325, wR2 = 0.2618
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.1741, wR2 = 0.2817
Extinction coefficient	n/a
Largest diff. peak and hole	2.433 and -1.537 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>

[α] : R<sub>1</sub>=Σ||F<sub>o</sub>|-|F<sub>c</sub>||/Σ|F<sub>o</sub>| (based on reflections with F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>>2σF<sup>2</sup>). wR<sub>2</sub>=[Σ[w(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>-F<sub>c</sub><sup>2</sup>)<sup>2</sup>]/Σ[w(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>)<sup>2</sup>]]<sup>1/2</sup>;  
w=1/[σ<sup>2</sup>(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>)+(0.095P)<sup>2</sup>]; P=[max(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>, 0)+2F<sub>c</sub><sup>2</sup>]/3(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>>2σF<sup>2</sup>).

**Table S3.** Crystal data for complex 3.

Complex	3
Empirical formula	C <sub>67</sub> H <sub>73</sub> F <sub>6</sub> N <sub>7</sub> O <sub>15.63</sub> Rh <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub>
Formula weight	1610.32
Temperature	173.00 K
Wavelength	1.34139 Å
Crystal system	Orthorhombic
Space group	P2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2
Unit cell dimensions	a = 28.7856(8) Å b = 14.4874(4) Å c = 15.6484(4) Å
Volume	6525.8(3) Å <sup>3</sup>
Z	4
Density (calculated)	1.639 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Absorption coefficient	3.681 mm <sup>-1</sup>
F(000)	3300
Crystal size	0.21 x 0.19 x 0.17 mm <sup>3</sup>
Theta range for data collection	2.971 to 52.982°.
Index ranges	-34 ≤ h ≤ 34, -17 ≤ k ≤ 15, -18 ≤ l ≤ 18
Reflections collected	53732
Independent reflections	11508 [R(int) = 0.0544]
Completeness to theta = 52.982°	99.8 %
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.7512 and 0.3544
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	11508 / 926 / 859
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.038
Final R indices [I > 2σ(I)]	R1 = 0.0656, wR2 = 0.1737
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0759, wR2 = 0.1853
Absolute structure parameter	0.47(2)
Extinction coefficient	n/a
Largest diff. peak and hole	1.181 and -1.583 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>

[α] : R<sub>1</sub> = Σ||F<sub>o</sub>|-|F<sub>c</sub>||/Σ|F<sub>o</sub>| (based on reflections with F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup> > 2σF<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>). wR<sub>2</sub> = [Σ[w(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>-F<sub>c</sub><sup>2</sup>)<sup>2</sup>]/Σ[w(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>)<sup>2</sup>]]<sup>1/2</sup>;  
w = 1/[σ<sup>2</sup>(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>) + (0.095P)<sup>2</sup>]; P = [max(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>, 0) + 2F<sub>c</sub><sup>2</sup>]/3(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup> > 2σF<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>).

**Table S4.** Crystal data for complex 4.



Complex	4
Empirical formula	C <sub>118</sub> H <sub>131.60</sub> F <sub>12</sub> N <sub>18</sub> O <sub>20.80</sub> Rh <sub>4</sub> S <sub>4</sub>
Formula weight	2902.68
Temperature	173.00 K
Wavelength	1.34139 Å
Crystal system	Triclinic
Space group	P-1
Unit cell dimensions	a = 12.7842(9) Å b = 13.3300(10) Å c = 20.9500(15) Å
Volume	3148.9(4) Å <sup>3</sup>
Z	1
Density (calculated)	1.531 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Absorption coefficient	3.728 mm <sup>-1</sup>
F(000)	1484
Crystal size	0.2 x 0.2 x 0.2 mm <sup>3</sup>
Theta range for data collection	3.114 to 55.104°.
Index ranges	-15 ≤ h ≤ 14, -16 ≤ k ≤ 16, -25 ≤ l ≤ 25
Reflections collected	28559
Independent reflections	11723 [R(int) = 0.0788]
Completeness to theta = 53.594°	98.1 %
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.7508 and 0.2888
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	11723 / 803 / 763
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.059
Final R indices [I > 2σ(I)]	R1 = 0.1046, wR2 = 0.2091
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.1528, wR2 = 0.2365
Extinction coefficient	n/a
Largest diff. peak and hole	2.094 and -1.821 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>

[α] : R<sub>1</sub> = Σ||F<sub>o</sub>|-|F<sub>c</sub>||/Σ|F<sub>o</sub>| (based on reflections with F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup> > 2σF<sup>2</sup>). wR<sub>2</sub> = [Σ[w(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>-F<sub>c</sub><sup>2</sup>)<sup>2</sup>]/Σ[w(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>)<sup>2</sup>]<sup>1/2</sup>;  
w = 1/[σ<sup>2</sup>(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>) + (0.095P)<sup>2</sup>]; P = [max(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>, 0) + 2F<sub>c</sub><sup>2</sup>]/3(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup> > 2σF<sup>2</sup>).

**Table S5.** Crystal data for complex 5.

Complex	5
Empirical formula	C <sub>140</sub> H <sub>204</sub> F <sub>6</sub> N <sub>16</sub> O <sub>32</sub> Rh <sub>4</sub> S <sub>2</sub>
Formula weight	3212.94
Temperature	173.00 K
Wavelength	1.34139 Å
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	P 1 21/n 1
Unit cell dimensions	a = 13.7998(11) Å b = 32.678(3) Å c = 16.4748(13) Å
Volume	6898.8(10) Å <sup>3</sup>
Z	2
Density (calculated)	1.547 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Absorption coefficient	3.254 mm <sup>-1</sup>
F(000)	3356
Crystal size	0.19 x 0.17 x 0.15 mm <sup>3</sup>
Theta range for data collection	3.223 to 52.093°.
Index ranges	-16<=h<=16, -38<=k<=38, -19<=l<=15
Reflections collected	48986
Independent reflections	11647 [R(int) = 0.0585]
Completeness to theta = 52.093°	99.0 %
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.7505 and 0.3635
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	11647 / 878 / 713
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.068
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.1007, wR2 = 0.2014
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.1260, wR2 = 0.2172
Extinction coefficient	n/a
Largest diff. peak and hole	2.611 and -1.519 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>

[α] : R<sub>1</sub>=Σ||F<sub>o</sub>|-|F<sub>c</sub>||/Σ|F<sub>o</sub>| (based on reflections with F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>>2σF<sup>2</sup>). wR<sub>2</sub>=[Σ[w(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>-F<sub>c</sub><sup>2</sup>)<sup>2</sup>]/Σ[w(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>)<sup>2</sup>]<sup>1/2</sup>;  
w=1/[σ<sup>2</sup>(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>)+(0.095P)<sup>2</sup>]; P=[max(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>, 0)+2F<sub>c</sub><sup>2</sup>]/3(F<sub>o</sub><sup>2</sup>>2σF<sup>2</sup>).