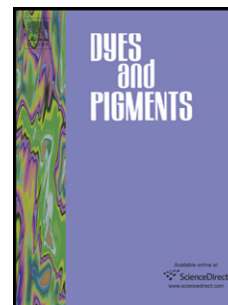


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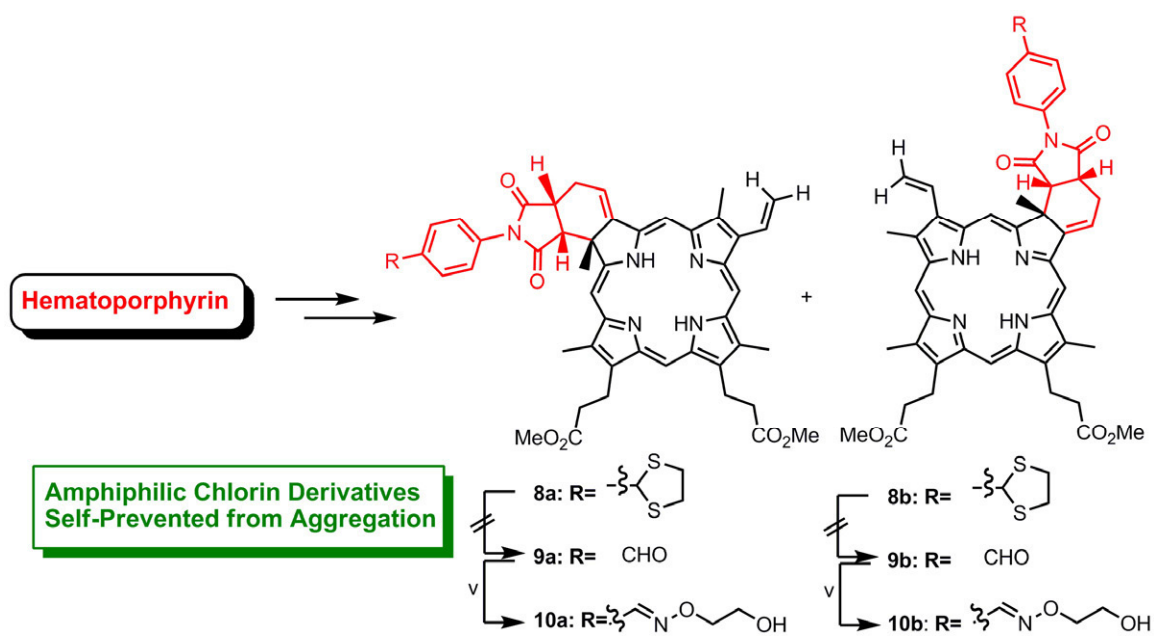
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Synthesis of Functionalized Chlorins Sterically-Prevented from Self-Aggregation

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Abstract

The synthesis of six new regioisomeric chlorin derivatives sterically-prevented from self-aggregation is described. The compounds were prepared by the Diels-Alder reaction between protoporphyrin IX dimethyl ester, and *N*-[*p*-(1,3-dithiolan)phenyl]maleimide and *N*-(*p*-formylphenyl)maleimide. The protoporphyrin IX dimethyl ester was synthesized in 2 steps from natural hematoporphyrin using a modified procedure from literature, and the substituted maleimides were conveniently synthesized, aiming at producing formyl-chlorins for subsequent functionalization with amphiphilic groups. The Diels-Alder reactions were systematically studied in order to establish optimized conditions for the cycloadditions.

The regioisomers were fully characterized and the aggregation studies were performed by NMR, UV-Vis spectroscopy, and also HRMS (ESI-TOF and MALDI-TOF). Preliminary evaluations on the photosensitizing activities and amphiphilicity were carried out indicating that these new compounds are potential candidates, to be studied in more advanced tests of Photodynamic Therapy (PDT). This work represents an advance on our previous study, with respect to these new structures, their photophysical properties and amphiphilicity.

Keywords: Protoporphyrin IX, chlorin derivatives, Diels-Alder, non-aggregation, photosensitizers, PDT and amphiphilicity.

Highlights:

- Synthesis of six chlorins sterically self-prevented from aggregation is described
- A vinyl porphyrin and *p*-substituted maleimides were used as building blocks.
- Amphiphilic chlorins were obtained after functionalizations
- These new chlorins have proven to be good candidates for PDT studies.

Introduction

Protoporphyrin IX and chlorophylls can be considered as the dyes of life since animal and vegetal existence on earth depends on the activities of these molecules.[1] For animals, protoporphyrin IX is essential in cellular breathing, and for plants the chlorophylls are essential to transfer light energy through the photosynthetic process. Therefore, there is no surprise that these biosynthetically-related pigments can act as photosensitizers, and some modified structures present improved ability to transfer light energy.[2] It is well known that when light excites a photosensitizer this may provide a type-II redox reaction in cells through singlet oxygen formation, which is an essential component of photodynamic therapy (PDT).[3]

In this context, the chemistry of protoporphyrin IX has attracted attention since the discovery of the photosensitizing ability of this compound, and many papers have been published recently.[2,4,5,6] In general, protoporphyrin IX exhibits an exceptional combination of advantages, such as optimal photophysical properties, low systemic toxicity, and a great affinity for hyperproliferating tissues.[2] In addition, several of the successful commercial photosensitizers, such as Visudyne® and Lemuteporfin® are an excellent example of chlorin derivatives synthesized from protoporphyrin IX, and present remarkable photodynamic activities.[2]

However, a general limitation for the use of chlorin derivatives in PDT is their strong tendency for aggregation in solution and their low chemical stability. Stability of chlorin derivatives has been achieved by using other methodologies,

highlighting those based on C-C bond formation at the β -position by using cycloaddition reactions.[4,5,6]

In conclusion, methodologies to produce stable and non-aggregating photosensitizers are the aim of our research, since the aggregation phenomenon has also been decisive for low singlet oxygen generation and for decreased ability to act as a photosensitizer in PDT treatments.

In previous work we have demonstrated that chlorin derivatives, which were synthesized through the Diels-Alder reaction between protoporphyrin IX dimethyl ester and maleimides, presented a special "L-shape" structure and were sterically prevented from self-aggregation.[6] We now describe the synthesis and preliminary evaluation of some functionalized chlorins prepared from different substituted maleimides, which were designed to produce non-aggregating and amphiphilic photosensitizers.

1. Materials and Methods

1.1. Reagents and measurements

All reagents were of analytical grade and were purchased from Aldrich® or some national suppliers. If necessary, solvents and reagents were only used after purification according to standard procedures.[7] Protoporphyrin IX was supplied by Frontier (Texas, USA). Ultrasound irradiation was employed for deoxygenation of the toluene used in the Diels-Alder reactions. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance 400 spectrometer at 400.13 MHz and 100.13 MHz, respectively, using CDCl_3 as the solvent and TMS as the

internal reference. Unequivocal ^1H and ^{13}C assignments were carried out by using 2D gCOSY ($^1\text{H}/^1\text{H}$), gHSQC ($^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$), gHMBC ($^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$) and NOESY spectra (mixing time of 800 ms). The chemical shifts are expressed in δ (ppm) and the coupling constants (J) are given in Hertz (Hz). HRMS were obtained using the ESI-TOF (Max Impact Bruker) and MALDI-TOF (AutoFlex Speed Bruker, laser 355 nm, 50 Hz, spectrometer, α -cyano-4-hydroxycinnamic acid as matrix, and Flex analysis as processing software). The UV-Vis absorption spectra were recorded on a Perkin Elmer Lambda 25 spectrophotometer.

Column chromatography was carried out using silica gel 200-400 mesh from Aldrich, and the preparative thin layer chromatography (TLC) was conducted on Aluminum sheets (1 mm thick) – Merck TLC Silica gel 60 F₂₅₄.

1.2. Synthesis of 2-(4-nitrophenyl)-1,3-dithiolane (**2**):

To a solution of 4-nitrobenzaldehyde (**1**) (5.10 g, 34.0 mmol) in anhydrous dichloromethane (150 mL), 1,2-ethanedithiol (14.8 mL, 17.6 mmol) and $\text{BF}_3\cdot\text{OEt}_2$ (0.8 mL) were added, maintaining the stirring at room temperature for 6 h. After that, the reaction was washed with 5% NaOH (100 mL), water (100 mL) and brine (100 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and the solvent was distilled off under reduced pressure. Compound **2** was purified by flash chromatography in silica gel using hexane:ethyl acetate (8:2) as eluent. Yield: 6.90 g; 30.4 mmol; 89%. **mp**: 76-78°C. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ (ppm): 3.36-3.56 (m, 4H); 5.65 (s, 1H); 7.67 (d, 2H, $J = 8.6$ Hz); 8.16 (d, 2H, $J = 8.6$ Hz). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm): 148.6 (1C); 147.4 (1C); 128.8 (2CH); 123.7 (2CH); 54.9 (1CH); 40.5 (2CH₂). **IR** (ν_{max} , KBr, cm^{-1}): 3115,

3099, 3078, 2920, 2853, 1108, 1605, 1593, 1517, 1349, 866, 727, 715. **GC-MS**
 m/z: 227, 199, 182, 166, 152, 121, 77.

1.3. *Synthesis of 4-(1,3-dithiolan-2-yl)aniline (3):*

To a solution of compound **2** (5.08 g, 22.0 mmol) in 95% ethanol, $\text{SnCl}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (25.3 g, 0.11 mol) was added. The reaction was heated at 70°C for 3h. The reaction mixture was then poured onto crushed ice (100 g) and the pH was adjusted with aqueous NaHCO_3 5% to about 8. The mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (300 mL) and the organic layer was washed with brine (100 mL) and dried over Na_2CO_3 . The solvent was distilled off under reduced pressure and compound **3** was obtained without further purification. Yield: 4.30 g; 21.7 mmol; 93%. **mp**: 56-58°C. **^1H NMR** (CDCl_3 , 400MHz) δ (ppm): 3.28-3.36 (m, 2H); 3.45-3.52 (m, 2H); 3.69 (br.s, 2H); 5.61 (s, 1H); 6.61 (d, 2H, $J = 8.4$ Hz); 7.31 (d, 2H, $J = 8.4$ Hz). **^{13}C NMR** (CDCl_3 , 100MHz) δ (ppm): 146.3 (1C); 129.1 (1C); 129.0 (2CH); 114.9 (2CH); 56.4 (1CH); 40.1 (2CH₂). **IR** (ν_{max} , KBr, cm^{-1}): 3423, 3383, 3308, 3032, 3007, 2916, 1624, 1607, 1513, 1279, 1174, 750, 685, 525.

1.4. *Synthesis of 1-[4-(1,3-dithiolan-2-yl)phenyl]-1H-pyrrole-2,5-dione (4):*

To a solution of compound **3** (3.73 g, 18.9 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (20 mL) at 0°C, maleic anhydride (1.85 g, 18.9 mmol) dissolved in CH_2Cl_2 (20 mL) was slowly added. After 1h, the solid formed was filtered and washed with small portions of

cooled CH_2Cl_2 . The solid amide-acid was dried under vacuum and used without further purification. Yield: 4.98 g; 16.9 mmol; 84%. **mp**: 181-183°C. **^1H NMR** ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$, 400 MHz) δ (ppm): 3.30-3.55 (m, 4H); 5.72 (s, 1H); 6.31 (d, 1H, $J = 12.1\text{Hz}$); 6.47 (d, 1H, $J = 12.1\text{ Hz}$); 7.46-7.48 (m, 2H); 7.56-7.58 (m, 2H); 10.43 (s, 1H); 12.97 (s, 1H). **^{13}C NMR** ($\text{DMSO}-d_6$, 100 MHz) δ (ppm): 39.7 (2CH_2); 54.7 (1CH); 119.4 (1CH); 128.4 (1CH); 130.5 (2CH); 131.5 (2CH); 136.0 (1C); 138.1 (1C); 163.2 (1C); 166.9 (1C). **IR** (ν_{max} , KBr, cm^{-1}): 3092; 1920; 1857; 1794; 1698; 1524; 1504; 1323; 852.

To the amide-acid obtained previously (2.50 g, 8.46 mmol), anhydrous sodium acetate (1.21 g, 8.46 mmol) and freshly purified acetic anhydride (100 mL) were added at room temperature. After 1h stirring under a N_2 atmosphere, the reaction was heated at 90°C for 1h. Cold water (200 mL) was added and the reaction was stirred up to room temperature (~ 30 min). The reaction was extracted with ethyl acetate (2 x 100 mL) and the organic layer washed with saturated NaHCO_3 solution (2 x 100 mL), brine (100 mL) and dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 . Compound **4** was obtained without further purification, after solvent evaporation under reduced pressure. Yield: 2.14 g; 7.75 mmol; 92%. **mp**: 168-170°C. **^1H NMR** (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ (ppm): 3.34-3.40 (m, 2H); 3.47-3.54 (m, 2H); 5.65 (s, 1H); 6.85 (s, 2H); 7.31 (d, 2H, $J = 8.5\text{ Hz}$); 7.63 (d, 2H, $J = 8.5\text{ Hz}$). **^{13}C NMR** (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm): 169.4 (2C); 140.3 (1C); 134.2 (2CH); 130.7 (1C); 128.8 (2CH); 125.9 (2CH); 55.6 (1CH); 40.2 (2CH_2). **IR** (ν_{max} , KBr, cm^{-1}): 3097, 2920, 1513, 1400, 1711, 1151, 832, 710. **HRMS (ESI-TOF)**: m/z calculated for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 278.0304; found 278.0301.

1.5. Synthesis of 4-(2,5-dioxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrol-1-yl)benzaldehyde (**5**):

To a solution of compound **4** (2.00 g, 7.21 mmol) in acetone (80 mL) at 0°C, NBS (5.13 g, 28.8 mmol) dissolved in acetone:water 9:1 (80 mL) was added, and the stirring was maintained for 1h. Water (100 mL) was added and the reaction was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 x 100 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and the solvent distilled off under reduced pressure. Compound **5** was purified by flash chromatography in silica gel using toluene:ethyl acetate (9:1) as eluent. Yield: 1.26 g; 6.26 mmol; 87%. **mp**: 129-131°C. **¹H NMR** (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ (ppm): 10.04 (s, 1H); 6.91 (s, 2H); 7.63 (d, 2H, J = 8.6 Hz); 7.99 (d, 2H, J = 8.6 Hz). **¹³C NMR** (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ (ppm): 125.7 (2CH); 130.4 (2CH); 134.5 (2CH); 135.0 (C); 136.6 (C); 168.8 (2C); 191.1 (1CH). **IR** (ν_{max} , KBr, cm⁻¹): 2854, 1776, 1718, 1701, 1603, 1395, 837, 827. **HRMS (ESI-TOF)**: m/z calculated for [M+H]⁺ 202.0499; found 202.0504.

1.6. Synthesis of protoporphyrin IX dimethyl ester (**7**):

To a solution of 2.00 g of hematoporphyrin (**6**) (3.34 mmol) in chlorobenzene (1L), dried *p*-toluenesulfonic acid (5.0 g, 30 mmol) was added and the reaction was heated at 140°C under a N₂ atmosphere for 3h. After that, the chlorobenzene was distilled off under reduced pressure, and the reaction was treated with a 5% methanolic solution of H₂SO₄ (670 mL) for 12h at room temperature and with protection from light. The reaction was then poured onto 800 g of crushed ice and neutralized with concentrated NH₄OH solution to a pH of about 9. The reaction was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 x 100 mL) and the

organic layer was dried over Na₂SO₄. Compound **7** was obtained after solvent evaporation and crystallization from CHCl₃:MeOH (1:3). Yield: 1.40 g, 2.40 mmol, 72%. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400MHz) δ ppm: -3.69 (s, 2H); 3.28 (t, 4H, *J* = 7.5 Hz); 3.62 (s, 3H); 3.63 (s, 3H); 3.66 (s, 6H); 3.70 (s, 3H); 3.71 (s, 3H); 4.40 (t, 4H, *J* = 7.5 Hz); 6.17 (d, 2H, *J* = 11.6 Hz); 6.37 (d, 2H, *J* = 17.7 Hz), 8.27 (dd, 2H, *J* = 17.7 Hz, *J* = 11.6 Hz); 10.03 (s, 3H); 10.08 (s, 1H); 10.16 (s, 3H); 10.21 (s, 3H).

1.7. General procedure for the Diels-Alder reactions between **7** and maleimides **4** and **5**.

To a solution of protoporphyrin dimethyl ester (**7**) (60 mg, 0.1 mmol) in degassed and dry toluene (5 mL), maleimides **4** or **5** were added in different molar proportions (Tables 1 and 2). The reactions were performed in glass pressure tubes (Ace pressure tubes from Aldrich®) at different temperatures and reaction times. The reactions were monitored by TLC and UV-Vis spectroscopy in order to verify the end of the starting material. The reaction products were purified by flash column chromatography in silica gel using toluene:ethyl acetate 8.5:1.5 as eluent, and the chlorin derivatives were crystallized from CH₂Cl₂ and hexanes. Compounds **8a-b** and **9a-b** were obtained in different yields as described in Tables 1 and 2.

2¹,2²[*N,N*-dicarbonyl-*N*-4-(1,3-dithiolan-2-yl)phenyl]-13,17-bis[2-(methoxycarbonyl)ethyl]-2,7,12,18-tetramethyl-8-vinyl-2,2¹,2²,2³-

tetrahydrobenzo[*b*]porphyrin (**8a**): $^1\text{H NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ (ppm): -2.40 and -2.48 (br.s, 2H, H-22 e H-24); 2.08 (s, 3H, $\text{CH}_3\text{-H}^{25}$); 3.05-3.11 and 3.14-3.22 (m, 6H e 2H, H-13², H-17², H2¹⁵, H2¹⁶); 3.40 (s, 3H, H-12¹); 3.45-3.47 (m, 2H, H-2^{3a} e 2^{3b}); 3.49 (s, 3H, H-18¹); 3.56 (s, 3H, H-7¹); 3.65 and 3.68 (s, 6H; H-13⁴ and H-17⁴); 3.90-3.94 (m, 1H, H-2²); 4.18 (t, 2H, $J = 7.8$ Hz, H-13¹); 4.31 (t, 2H, $J = 6.6$ Hz, H-17¹); 4.65 (d, 1H, $J = 8.6$ Hz, H-2¹); 6.15 (dd, 1H, $J = 1.3$ Hz, $J = 11.6$ Hz, H-8^{2a}); 6.35 (dd, H, $J = 1.3$ Hz and $J = 17.8$ Hz, H-8^{2b}); 6.64 (d, 2H, $J = 8.6$ Hz, H-2⁹ and H-2¹³); 7.10 (d, 2H, $J = 8.6$ Hz, H-2¹⁰ and H-2¹²); 7.41 (t, 1H, $J = 5.3$ Hz, H-2⁴); 8.19 (dd, 1H, $J = 17.8$ Hz and 11.6 Hz, H-8¹); 9.09 (s, 1H, H-20); 9.32 (s, 1H, H-5); 9.67 (s, 1H, H-15), 9.85 (s, 1H, H-10). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm): 11.4 (C-18¹); 11.6 (C-12¹); 12.3 (C-7¹); 21.5 (C-17¹); 21.9 (C-13¹); 25.6 (C-2³); 26.5 (C-2⁵); 36.6 (C-17²); 37.0 (C-13²); 38.5 (C-2²); 39.8 and 39.9 (C2¹⁵ and C2¹⁶); 50.1 (C-2¹); 51.7 (C-13⁴); 51.8 (C-17⁴); 52.3 (C-2); 55.3 (C-2¹⁴); 90.4 (C-5); 93.4 (C-20); 97.9 (C-15); 99.8 (C-10); 115.6 (C-2⁴); 121.4 (C-8²); 125.9 (C-2⁹ and C-2¹³); 128.2 (C-2¹⁰ and C-2¹²); 129.2 (C-7); 129.8 (C-8¹); 130.8 (C-2⁸); 130.9 (C-18); 132.6 (C-9); 133.7 (C-8); 133.9 (C-16); 136.2 (C-17); 136.5 (C-6); 138.3 (C-12 e C-19); 139.6 (C-13); 140.5 (C-2¹¹); 149.5 (C-3); 151.0 (C-14); 151.3 (C-11); 152.2 (C-4); 165.9 (C-1); 173.4 (C-17³); 173.8 (C-13³); 174.8 (C-2⁶); 178.5 (C-2⁷). **HRMS (MALDI-TOF)**: m/z calculated for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 868.3197; found 868.3207. **UV-Vis** (CH_2Cl_2) λ_{max} nm (log ϵ) 407 (5.26), 505 (4.08), 540 (4.10), 610 (3.59), 667 (4.58).

2¹,2²[*N,N*-dicarbonyl-*N*-4-(formylphenyl)]-13,17-bis[2-(methoxycarbonyl)ethyl]-2,7,12,18-tetramethyl-18-vinyl-2,2¹,2²,2³-tetrahydrobenzo[*b*]porphyrin (**9a**): ^1H

NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ (ppm): -2.47 and -2.39 (br.s, 2H, H-22 e H-24); 2.07 (s, 3H, H-2⁵); 3.15 (t, 2H, J = 7.8 Hz, H-13²); 3.20 (t, 2H, J = 7.8 Hz, H-17²); 3.40 (s, 3H, H-12¹); 3.44-3.47 (m, 2H, H-2^{3 α} and 2^{3 β}); 3.50 (s, 3H, H-18¹); 3.55 (s, 3H, H-7¹); 3.65 and 3.68 (s, 6H; H-13⁴ and H-17⁴); 3.89-3.93 (m, 1H, H-2²); 4.18 (t, 2H, J = 7.8 Hz, H-13¹); 4.31 (t, 2H, J = 7.6 Hz, H-17¹), 4.64 (d, 1H, J = 8.6 Hz, H-2¹); 6.15 (dd, 1H, J = 1.5 Hz, J = 11.5 Hz, H-8^{2 α}); 6.34 (dd, H, J = 1.5 Hz, J = 17.8 Hz, H-8^{2 β}); 6.91-6.94 (m, 2H, H-2⁹ and 2¹³); 7.44-7.47 (m, 2H, H-2¹¹ and H-2¹²); 7.41 (t, 1H, J = 5.4 Hz, H-2⁴); 8.17 (dd, 1H, J = 17.8 and 11.5 Hz, H-8¹); 9.07 (s, 1H, H-20); 9.33 (s, 1H, H-5); 9.69 (s, 1H, H-15), 9.86 (s, 1H, H-10); 9.64 (s, 1H, H-2¹⁴). **¹³C NMR** (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ (ppm): 11.4 (C-18¹); 11.6 (C-12¹); 12.3 (C-7¹); 21.5 (C-17¹); 21.9 (C-13¹); 25.6 (C-2³); 26.4 (C-2⁵); 36.6 (C-17²); 37.0 (C-13²); 38.5 (C-2²); 50.2 (C-2¹); 51.7 (C-13⁴); 51.8 (C-17⁴); 52.3 (C-2); 90.4 (C-5); 93.2 (C-20); 98.1 (C-15); 99.9 (C-10); 115.6 (C-2⁴); 121.4 (C-8²); 126.3 (C-2⁹ and C-2¹³); 129.7 (C-2¹⁰ and C-2¹²); 129.2 (C-7); 129.8 (C-8¹); 130.9 (C-18); 132.6 (C-9); 133.8 (C-8); 133.9 (C-16); 135.2 (C-2¹¹); 136.3 (C-17); 136.5 (C-6 and C-2⁸); 138.3 (C-19); 138.4 (C-12); 139.7 (C-13); 149.6 (C-3); 151.1 (C-14); 151.5 (C-11); 152.0 (C-4); 165.7 (C-1); 173.4 (C-17³); 173.8 (C-13³); 174.3 (C-2⁶); 178.1 (C-2⁷); 190.8 (C-2¹⁴). **HRMS (MALDI-TOF):** m/z calculated for [M+H]⁺ 792.3392; found 792.3420. **UV-Vis** (CH₂Cl₂) $\lambda_{\max}$ nm (log ϵ) 407 (5.25), 505 (4.11), 540 (4.11), 610 (3.65), 667 (4.65).

2¹,2²[*N,N*-dicarbonyl-*N*-4-(1,3-dithiolan-2-yl)phenyl]-8,12-bis[2-

(methoxycarbonyl)ethyl]-2,7,13,17-tetramethyl-8-vinyl-2,2¹,2²,2³-

tetrahydrobenzo[*b*]porphyrin (**8b**): **¹H NMR** (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ (ppm): -2.44

(br.s, 2H, H-21 and H-23); 2.06 (s, 3H, H-2⁵); 3.15-3.22 and 3.05–3.12 (m, 8H, H-12², H-8², H-2¹⁵, H-2¹⁶); 3.42 (s, 3H, H-13¹); 3.44-3.45 (m, 2H, H-2^{3α} and 2^{3β}); 3.47 (s, 3H, H-7¹); 3.61 (s, 3H, H-17¹); 3.65 and 3.66 (s, 6H; H-12⁴ and H-8⁴); 3.89-3.93 (m, 1H, H-2²); 4.18 (t, 2H, $J = 7.7$ Hz, H-12¹); 4.32 (t, 2H, $J = 7.7$ Hz, H-8¹); 4.63 (d, 1H, $J = 8.6$ Hz, H-2¹); 6.11 (dd, 1H, $J = 1.4$ Hz, $J = 11.5$ Hz, H-18^{2α}); 6.33 (dd, 1H, $J = 1.4$ Hz, $J = 17.8$ Hz, H-18^{2β}); 6.62-6.64 (m, 2H, H-2⁹ and 2¹³); 7.08-7.10 (m, 2H, H-2¹⁰ and H-2¹²); 7.41 (t, 1H, $J = 5.3$ Hz, H-2⁴); 8.13 (dd, 1H, $J = 17.8$ Hz and 11.5 Hz, H-18¹); 9.25 (s, 1H, H-5); 9.27 (s, 1H, H-20), 9.68 (s, 1H, H-10), 9.75 (s, 1H, H-15). **¹³C NMR** (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ (ppm): 11.2 (C-7¹); 11.7 (C-13¹); 12.4 (C-17¹); 21.6 (C-8¹); 21.9 (C-12¹); 25.6 (C-2³); 26.6 (C-2⁵); 36.7 (C-8²); 37.1 (C-12²); 38.6 (C-2²); 39.8 and 39.9 (C2¹⁵ and C2¹⁶); 50.1 (C-2¹); 51.7 (C-12⁴); 51.8 (C-8⁴); 52.2 (C-2); 55.3 (C2¹⁴); 89.9 (C-5); 94.1 (C-20); 98.4 (C-10); 99.4 (C-15); 116.0 (C-2⁴); 120.9 (C-18²); 125.8 (C-2⁹ and C-2¹³); 128.2 (C-2¹⁰ and C-2¹²); 129.9 (C-18¹); 130.4 (C-7); 130.8 (C-2⁸); 131.2 (C-18); 133.3 (C-9 and C-17); 133.8 (C-16); 135.9 (C-8); 136.8 (C-6); 137.3 (C-19); 138.0 (C-13); 139.7 (C-12); 140.4 (C-2¹¹); 149.6 (C-3); 150.6 (C-11); 151.4 (C-14); 152.8 (C-4); 165.6 (C-1); 173.4 (C-8³); 173.8 (C-12³); 174.7 (C-2⁶); 178.5 (C-2⁷). **HRMS (MALDI-TOF)**: m/z calculated for [M+H]⁺ 868.3197; found 868.3192. **UV-Vis** (CH₂Cl₂) $\lambda_{\max}$ nm (log ϵ) 407 (5.22), 505 (4.07), 539 (4.10), 574 (3.63), 667 (4.64).

2¹,2²[*N,N*-dicarbonyl-*N*-4-(formylphenyl)]-8,12-bis[2-(methoxycarbonyl)ethyl]-2,7,13,17-tetramethyl-18-vinyl-2,2¹,2²,2³-tetrahydrobenzo[*b*]porphyrin (**9b**): **¹H NMR** (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ (ppm): -2.43 (br.s, 2H, H-21 and H-23); 2.07 (s, 3H, H-2⁵); 3.14-3.17 (m, 2H, H-12²); 3.18-3.21 (m, 2H, H-8²); 3.41 (s, 3H, H-13¹);

3.44-3.45 (m, 2H, H-2^{3α} and H-2^{3β}); 3.46 (s, 3H, H-7¹); 3.61 (s, 3H, H-17¹); 3.64 and 3.66 (s, 6H; H-12⁴ and H-8⁴); 3.89-3.93 (m, 1H, H-2²); 4.18 (t, 2H, $J = 7.8$ Hz, H-12¹); 4.31 (t, 2H, $J = 7.7$ Hz, H-8¹), 4.64 (d, 1H, $J = 11.8$ Hz, H-2¹); 6.11 (dd, 1H, $J = 1.6$ Hz, $J = 11.6$ Hz, H-18^{2α}); 6.33 (dd, H, $J = 1.6$ Hz, $J = 17.8$ Hz, H-18^{2β}); 6.91-6.93 (m, 2H, H-2⁹ and H-2¹³); 7.44-7.46 (m, 2H, H-2¹⁰ and H-2¹²); 7.40 (t, 1H, $J = 5.4$ Hz, H-2⁴); 8.11 (dd, 1H, $J = 17.8$ Hz and 11.6 Hz, H-18¹); 9.26 (s, 2H, H-5 and H-20), 9.70 (s, 1H, H-10), 9.75 (s, 1H, H-15); 9.64 (s, 1H, H-2¹⁴). **¹³C NMR** (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ (ppm): 11.2 (C-7¹); 11.7 (C-13¹); 12.4 (C-17¹); 21.5 (C-8¹); 21.9 (C-12¹); 25.6 (C-2³); 26.5 (C-2⁵); 36.7 (C-8²); 37.0 (C-12²); 38.6 (C-2²); 50.1 (C-2¹); 51.7 (C-12⁴); 51.8 (C-8⁴); 52.2 (C-2); 89.9 (C-5); 93.9 (C-20); 98.5 (C-10); 99.5 (C-15); 115.8 (C-2⁴); 120.9 (C-18²); 126.3 (C-2⁹ and C-2¹³); 129.7 (C-2¹⁰ and C-2¹²); 129.9 (C-18¹); 130.4 (C-7); 131.2 (C-18); 133.4 (C-9); 133.4 (C-17); 133.8 (C-16); 135.2 (C-2¹¹); 136.0 (C-8); 136.5 (C-2⁸); 136.8 (C-19); 137.3 (C-6); 138.1 (C-13); 139.8 (C-12); 149.7 (C-3); 150.7 (C-11); 151.5 (C-14); 152.7 (C-4); 165.4 (C-1); 173.3 (C-8³); 173.8 (C-12³); 174.2 (C-2⁶); 178.1 (C-2⁷); 190.8 (C-2¹⁴). **HRMS (MALDI-TOF)**: m/z calculated for [M+H]⁺ 792.3392; found 792.3356. **UV-Vis** (CH₂Cl₂) $\lambda_{\max}$ nm (log ϵ) 407 (5.25), 505 (4.09), 539 (4.10), 574 (3.62), 667 (4.65).

2.8. General procedure for the reaction between **9a-b** and 2-(aminooxy)ethanol:

To a solution of 10 mg (0.012 mmol) of compounds **9a** or **9b** in anhydrous and deoxygenated THF, 2-(aminooxy)ethanol (1.5 mg, 0.02 mmol) and PTSA (2 mg) were added. The reaction was performed in a glass pressure tube (Ace pressure tube from Aldrich®), purged with argon and stirred at room

temperature for 6 h. The consumption of starting material **9a-b** was monitored by TLC and UV-Vis spectroscopy. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure when no starting material was detected. The purification was carried out by flash column chromatography in silica gel using dichloromethane:methanol 99:1 as eluent, and the chlorin derivatives were crystallized from CH₂Cl₂/hexane.

^{21,22}[*N,N*-dicarbonyl-*N*-4-(*O*-2-hydroxyethyloxime)phenyl]-13,17-bis[2-(methoxycarbonyl)ethyl]-2,7,12,18-tetramethyl-18-vinyl-2,2¹,2²,2³-tetrahydrobenzo[*b*]porphyrin (**10a**): Yield: 7.5 mg; 8.0 μmol; 70%. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ (ppm): -2.47 e -2.39 (sl, 2H); 2.09 (s, 3H); 3.16 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.9 Hz); 3.21 (t, 2H, *J* = 8.1 Hz); 3.41 (s, 3H); 3.46-3.48 (m, 2H); 3.50 (s, 3H); 3.56 (s, 3H); 3.65 and 3.68 (2s, 3H and 3H); 3.73 (t, 2H, *J* = 4.4Hz) 3.93-3.97 (m, 1H); 4.09-4.07 (m, 2H); 4.18 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.8 Hz); 4.31 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 4.68 (d, 1H, *J* = 8.7 Hz); 4.72 (br.s, 1H); 6.15 (dd, 1H, *J* = 1.3 Hz and 11.5 Hz, H-8^{2a}); 6.35 (dd, H, *J* = 1.3 Hz and 17.9 Hz); 6.77-6.74 (m, 2H); 7.17-7.15 (m, 2H,); 7.42 (t, 1H, *J* = 5.3 Hz); 7.76 (s, 1H,); 8.19 (dd, 1H, *J* = 17.9 and =11.5Hz); 9.09 (s, 1H, H-20); 9.33 (s, 1H, H-5); 9.68 (s, 1H,); 9.86 (s, 1H,). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ (ppm): 11.4 (1CH₃); 11.6 (1CH₃); 12.3 (1CH₃); 21.5 (1CH₂); 21.9 (1CH₂); 25.6 (1CH₂); 26.4 (1CH₃); 36.6 (1CH₂); 37.0 (1CH₂); 38.5 (1CH); 50.1 (1CH); 51.7 (1CH₃); 51.8 (1CH₃); 52.3 (1C); 62.0 (1CH₂); 75.1 (1CH₂); 90.4 (1CH); 93.2 (1CH); 98.0 (1CH); 99.8 (1CH); 115.5 (1CH); 121.3 (1CH₂); 126.2 (2CH); 127.1 (2CH); 129.2 (1C); 129.8 (1CH); 130.9 (1C); 131.5 (1C); 132.57 (1C); 132.64 (1C); 133,8 (1C); 133.9 (1C); 136.3 (1C); 136.5 (1C); 138.3 (1C); 138.4 (1C); 139.7 (1C); 148.1 (1CH); 149,6 (1C); 151.1 (1C);

151.4 (1C); 152.1 (1C); 165.8 (1C); 173.4 (1C); 173.8 (1C); 174.6 (1C); 178.4 (1C). **HRMS (ESI-TOF):** m/z calculated for $[M^+]$ 850.3685; found 850.3684. UV-Vis (CH_2Cl_2) λ_{max} (log ϵ) 407 (5.14), 503 (4.00), 540 (4.00), 610 (3.57), 668 (4.50).

$2^1,2^2$ [*N,N*-dicarbonyl-*N*-4-(*O*-2-hydroxyethyloxime)]-8,12-bis[2-(methoxycarbonyl)ethyl]-2,7,13,17-tetramethyl-18-vinyl-2,2¹,2²,2³-tetrahydrobenzo[*b*]porphyrin (**10b**): Yield: 8.0 mg; 9.0 μmol ; 74%. **¹H NMR** (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ (ppm): -2.43 (br.s, 2H); 2.07 (s, 3H); 3,15-3,18(m, 2H); 3,18-3,22 (m, 2H); 3.42 (s, 3H); 3.45-3.46 (m, 2H); 3.47 (s, 3H); 3.62 (s, 3H); 3.85 and 3.86 (2s, 3H and 3H); 3.72-3.74(m, 2H); 3,92-3,96 (m, 1H); 4.07-4.09 (m, 2H) 4.19 (t, 2H, $J = 7.8$ Hz); 4.32 (t, 2H, $J = 7.8$ Hz), 4.65 (d, 1H, $J = 8.7$ Hz); 6.11 (dd, 1H, $J = 1.1$ Hz and 11.6 Hz); 6.33 (dd, H, $J = 1.1$ Hz and 17.9 Hz); 6.74 (d, 2H, $J = 8.7\text{Hz}$); 7.15 (d, 2H, $J = 8.7\text{Hz}$); 7.42 (t, 1H, $J = 5.3$ Hz); 7.76 (s, 1H); 8.13 (dd, 1H, $J = 11.6$ and 17.9 Hz); 9.27 (s, 2H), 9.69 (s, 1H), 9.76 (s, 1H). **¹³C NMR** (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ (ppm): 11.2 (1CH₃); 11.7 (1CH₃); 12.4 (1CH₃); 21.5 (1CH₂); 21.9 (1CH₂); 25.6 (1CH₂); 26.5 (1CH₃); 36.7 (1CH₂); 37.1 (1CH₂); 38.6 (1CH); 50.1 (1CH); 51.7 (1CH₃); 51.8 (1CH₃); 52.2 (1C); 62.0 (1CH₂); 75.1 (1CH₂); 89,9 (1CH); 94.0 (1CH); 98.4 (1CH); 99.4 (1CH); 115.9 (1CH); 120.9 (2CH₂); 126.2 (2CH); 127.0 (2CH); 129.9 (1CH); 130.4 (1C); 131.2 (1C); 131.4 (1C); 132.7 (1C); 133.35 (1C); 133.41 (1C); 133,8 (1C); 136.0 (1C); 136.9 (1C); 137.4 (1C); 138.0 (1C); 139.8 (1C); 148.1 (1CH); 149.7 (1C); 150.6 (1C); 151.4 (1C); 152.8 (1C); 165.6 (1C); 173.4 (1C); 173.8 (1C); 174.5 (1C); 178.4 (1C). **HRMS (ESI-TOF):** m/z calculated for $[M^+]$ 850.3685;

found 850.3692. UV-Vis (CH_2Cl_2) λ_{max} (log ϵ) 407 (5.20), 502 (4.07), 539 (4.05), 611 (3.56), 668 (4.55) nm.

2.9. Aggregation studies

The self-aggregation on porphyrins and chlorins is a natural tendency due to the strong attractive interactions between π -systems of the polyaromatic compounds. As it is usual in any aggregation equilibrium, the amount of aggregates should increase with the total solution concentration of the photosensitizers, unless there are sterically-inhibiting functions on molecules as those present in **8a-b**, **9a-b**, **10a-b**. To evaluate this phenomenon, NMR and UV-Vis analyses give clear evidences about the presence or absence of the aggregates in solution.

Thus, the ^1H NMR spectra were acquired in different concentrations in order to evaluate the phenomenon. Chemical shift variations for each sample were the analysed parameters. The same was performed for the UV-Vis analyses at different concentrations and different solvents (CH_2Cl_2 and water). Changes in the λ_{max} from the bands in UV-Vis spectra were monitored.

2.10. Singlet oxygen measurements

The singlet oxygen quantum yield was determined using 1,3-diphenylisobenzofuran (DPBF) as singlet oxygen quencher.[8] A 1.01×10^{-4} mol.L $^{-1}$ solution of DPBF in ethanol was prepared. Solutions of the new chlorins (**8a-b**, **9a-b**, **10a-b**) were prepared in the same solvent, with an absorbance of

0.4 at the Soret band. The cuvette was filled with 1.5 mL of the chlorin solution and 1.5 mL of the DPBF solution. The absorbance was recorded and then the solution was irradiated for 3 second periods, using a red laser operating at 50 mW and 661 nm. Absorbance was recorded again and twelve more irradiations were made, each one followed by an absorbance measurement. Experiments were done in triplicate. The same was performed with standard methylene blue (MB). The singlet oxygen quantum yields were obtained from Equation (1).[9]

Equation (1)

In this equation, (Φ_{Δ}) represents the singlet oxygen quantum yield of the sample and (Φ_{Δ}^{Std}) is the standard singlet oxygen quantum yield. R and R^{Std} are the rate constants for DPBF consumption in the presence of the chlorins (**8a-b**, **9a-b**, **10a-b**) and MB, respectively. Since it is a first order reaction, these parameters were obtained from a plot of the natural logarithm (ln) of DPBF absorbance versus the irradiation time. I_{abs} and I_{abs}^{Std} are the intensity of absorbed light for the sample and the standard, respectively.

2.11. Photobleaching studies

A solution of the new chlorins (**8a-b**, **9a-b**, **10a-b**) in CH_2Cl_2 with an absorbance value around 1 was prepared, and irradiated for 1 min using 50 mW as laser potency. The absorbance spectra were recorded always after the irradiations (10 times), in order to observe the possible photobleaching by reduction of the photosensitizer concentration.[5]

2.12. Partition coefficients in *n*-octanol/water (log *P*)

The partition coefficients were determined at room temperature in *n*-octanol /water ($\log P_{OW}$) according to the shake-flask method. Distilled water and *n*-butanol were mixed vigorously for 24 h at room temperature, to promote solvent saturation in both phases. The chlorins (**10a-b**) were dissolved in the organic phase (absorbance~0.5 at the Soret band). Then, 4 mL of each, water and

stock chlorin solution were individually taken, and the vessel was vigorously stirred for 10 min to allow the partitioning between the aqueous and organic phase. The mixture was centrifuged at 3×10^3 g for 10 min, and the solvents were separated and kept for equilibration at the test temperature (25 °C) for 2 h before the analysis. The UV–Vis absorption spectra were measured for organic phases, before and after partitioning and the differences were measured at the Soret band. The value of $\log P_{OW}$ can be easily determined by Equation (2):

Equation (2)

Where A_W is the absorbance of water, given by difference between the stock solution before and after partitioning and A_O is the absorbance of *n*-octanol, given by stock solution after partitioning. Both absorbances were measured at the Soret band. V_W and V_B are the volumes of aqueous and *n*-octanol phases, respectively.[10]

2. Results and Discussion

First, we have performed the syntheses of the new dienophiles **4** and **5** (Scheme 1) which were designed to avoid aggregation in the Diels-Alder adducts with protoporphyrin IX dimethyl ester (**7**). For this purpose, *p*-nitrobenzaldehyde (**1**) was protected with ethanedithiol under catalytic acid conditions (yield 89%).^[11] Then, compound **2** was reduced with $\text{SnCl}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ in CH_2Cl_2 yielding the amine **3** (93%).^[11] Maleimide **4** was synthesized in two steps: the first using an addition of **3** to maleic anhydride (84%)^[6]; after that, maleimide **4** was prepared with the mixed anhydride of $\text{Ac}_2\text{O}/\text{NaOAc}$ (92%).^[12] The imide **5** was obtained from the reaction between **4** and NBS/acetone-water (87%).^[13]

Scheme 1

Aiming at the chlorin syntheses, we first prepared protoporphyrin IX dimethyl ester (**7**) starting from hematoporphyrin (**6**) through a modified literature procedure.^[14] Hematoporphyrin (**6**) was dehydrated in chlorobenzene under reflux and acid catalysis (PTSA). The solvent was distilled off and the crude product was immediately esterified in methanol: H_2SO_4 (5%) with protection from light, yielding **7** in 72% (2 steps) after crystallization.

Scheme 2.

After the preparation of compounds **4**, **5** and **7**, we then performed a systematic study of the Diels-Alder reaction between **4** and **7**, as presented in Table 1.

Table 1

In our hands, the best condition was obtained by using toluene as solvent, catalytic amounts of BHT (10 mg) to avoid polymerizations and 20 equiv of maleimide **4**, maintaining the temperature at 125 °C (glass pressure tube) for 24h. In these conditions, the regioisomeric chlorins **8a** and **8b** were each obtained in 37% yield (74% overall yield) after purifications.

Cycloaddition studies were also performed by using maleimide **5** as presented in Table 2. In all entries, chlorins **9a** and **9b** were obtained in a shorter time and by using a reduced amount of equivalents of dienophile **5**. The best result was obtained by using 8 equiv of maleimide **5** for 14h, at 125°C (glass pressure tube) in toluene. In these conditions, chlorins **9a** and **9b** were obtained in 36% and 35%, respectively (71% overall yield) after purification.

Table 2

Attempts to deprotect chlorins **8a** and **8b** were performed in order to have convergent syntheses of chlorins **9a** and **9b**, but there was no success. Thus, the desired functionalized chlorins **9a** and **9b** were only successfully obtained

from the reaction between **7** and **5**. The amphiphilic derivatives **10a** and **10b** were then prepared from **9a** or **9b** by the reaction with 2-(hydroxyamino)ethanol in THF under PTSA catalysis. The oxime derivatives **10a** and **10b** were obtained after purifications in 70% and 74% yield, respectively.

3. Characterizations using 1D and 2D NMR.

Compounds **8-10** were characterized using 1D (^1H , ^{13}C and DEPT 135) and 2D (*g*HMBC, *g*HSQC, *g*COSY and *g*NOESY) NMR analyses, MALDI-TOF or ESI-TOF HRMS and UV-Vis. Particularly, the 2D NOESY analyses were decisive to define the regiochemistry of the Diels–Alder reaction (reaction in ring A or B of porphyrin **7**) and the stereochemistry (*cis-endo*) of the products. For example, Figure 1 depicts the main NOE correlations for compounds **9a** and **9b** to exemplify the characterizations. First, we started from the principle that chlorins **9a** and **9b** presented a doublet in the ^1H NMR spectrum near to 4.65 ppm, and this signal corresponds to H-2¹ in both cases (Figure 1). For both isolated products (higher or lower R_f) we observed a NOE correlation between H-2¹ and one *meso*-hydrogen (H-20) in both regioisomers **9a** and **9b**. For the product with higher R_f , the *meso*-hydrogen H-20 presented a NOE correlation with one vinylic hydrogen (double doublet at 8.11 ppm, $J = 17.8$ Hz and $J = 11.6$ Hz) giving us the first evidence that it could be the isomer **9b** (Figure 1b). Looking at the structures of compounds **9a** and **9b**, only **9b** should present a NOE correlation between H-20 and the vinylic hydrogen H-18¹. In addition, H-18¹ presents a very elucidative multiplicity (double doublet at 8.11 ppm, $J = 17.8$ Hz and $J = 11.6$ Hz) as expected for this hydrogen in the compound **9b**. Other

correlations were decisive to conclude about the regiochemistry and the stereochemistry of **9b** and can be seen in Figure 1b. Remarkably, the NOE correlation between H-2¹ (Figure 1b) and the easily distinguished methyl group H-2⁵ (at 2.06 ppm) was decisive to assign the *cis-endo* structure of chlorin **9b**. Also, the NOE correlation between H-2¹ and H-2² gave us support to conclude about the *endo*-stereoselectivity.

Figure 1

The compound with lower R_f, proposed to be **9a**, was also deduced from the 2D NOESY spectrum. We observed NOE correlations between H-2¹ and H-20 and between H-2¹ and H-2⁵. However, in this case we observed a NOE effect between the easily distinguished exocyclic vinylic hydrogen H-2⁴ (triplet at 7.41 ppm and *J* = 5.4 Hz) and another meso-hydrogen, apparently H-5. Considering other NOE correlations, we have observed that the proposed H-5 presents a NOE correlation with the methyl group H-7¹, and these hydrogen atoms present a NOE correlation with a vinylic hydrogen, with an unambiguous multiplicity (double doublet at 6.34 ppm, *J* = 17.8 Hz and *J* = 1.5 Hz); this last hydrogen has to be assigned as H-8^{2b}, and all the previous correlations gave us a confirmation about the regiochemistry of this more polar isomer **9a**. Similarly, the *cis-endo* structure of chlorin **9a** was finally deduced from the NOE correlations between H-2¹ and H-2⁵ and between H-2¹ and H-2² (Figure 1a). As depicted in Figure 1a, other NOE correlations were decisive for the complete assignment of structure **9a**. The complete assignments of the ¹H and ¹³C of

chlorins **9a** and **9b** are described in the experimental section, and all the 1D and 2D NMR analyses are included in the supporting information.

The chlorins **8a** and **8b** were completely elucidated by using 1D and 2D NMR as carried out for **9a** and **9b**. Since compounds **10a** and **10b** were synthesized from **9a** and **9b** respectively, only the ^1H and ^{13}C NMR and HRMS analyses were performed and were thus conclusive to assign the structures of compounds **10a** and **10b**.

4. Aggregation studies by ^1H NMR spectroscopy.

Aggregation is a very undesirable phenomenon presented by photosensitizers in solutions, and this behavior makes such photosensitizers less efficient because the singlet oxygen production is strongly affected. In order to evaluate the aggregation behavior of compounds **8-10** in solution, we decided to carry out a large number of ^1H NMR analyses at different concentrations. First, we prepared 8 solutions of porphyrin **7** in CDCl_3 and the ^1H NMR spectra were recorded with 64 scans. As observed in Figure 2 there was a remarkable variation in the chemical shift of meso-hydrogen starting from $0.2 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mol.L}^{-1}$ to $2.1 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mol.L}^{-1}$. These results indicate that the porphyrin **7** presents a strong aggregation in solution, as described in our previous literature.[6] We have shown that the magnetic anisotropy is strongly affected by aggregation, resulting in a change of the chemical shift in ^1H NMR (around 0.1-0.5 ppm) in more concentrated solutions.

After that, solutions of compounds **8a**, **8b**, **9a**, **9b**, **10a** and **10b** were individually prepared in CDCl_3 and the ^1H NMR analyses were recorded (64 scans) using the same concentrations as for the compound **7** analysis. As shown in Figure 3 and Figures S1-S7 (Supporting information) all the new chlorin derivatives were completely prevented from aggregation due to the “L shape” of these potential photosensitizers. It is important to mention that all the chlorin concentrations used in these studies were larger than the concentrations used in common PDT treatments.

Figure 3

5. Aggregation studies by UV-Vis spectroscopy

Aggregation phenomena were also measured by UV-Vis spectroscopy since this technique is very sensitive, and the concentrations used here are in the same scale of PDT treatments. The measurements were performed in CH_2Cl_2 and water (containing 4% of DMSO) (Figures 4-5 and Figures S8-S13 - supporting information). Note that there is no shift at the maximum absorbance wavelengths. Also, there is a linear increase in the absorption with concentration confirming the very low tendency for aggregation of the new chlorins **8a**, **8b**, **9a**, **9b**, **10a** and **10b**. In addition, the solubilization of compounds **10a-b** in aqueous solution, attest their amphiphilic character, which may have good impact in the PDT efficiency

Figure 4

Figure 5**6. Singlet oxygen measurements (Φ_{Δ})**

In order to verify the ability of these new chlorins to produce singlet oxygen, we measured the singlet oxygen quantum yield as described in the literature.[15] For the quantifications, methylene blue (MB) was used as standard and 1,3-diphenylisobenzofuran (DPBF) as scavenger reagent. The measurements were performed in ethanol (Figures 6 and 7), detecting the consumption of DPBF after successive irradiations in the presence of MB or compounds **8a**, **8b**, **9a**, **9b**, **10a** and **10b**, respectively, giving the rate of singlet oxygen production (first order kinetics).

Figure 6**Figure 7**

Comparing these rates and using the Equation (1) the Φ_{Δ} values for the series were **8a**, Φ_{Δ} = 0.41; **8b**, Φ_{Δ} = 0.38; **9a**, Φ_{Δ} = 0.35; **9b**, Φ_{Δ} = 0.39; **10a**, Φ_{Δ} = 0.37; **10b**, Φ_{Δ} =0.36, when compared with methylene blue (Φ_{Δ} = 0.52). These singlet oxygen quantum yields showed that the compounds are good candidates for PDT treatments.

8. Photobleaching studies

Photobleaching is the photodegradation of photosensitizers after irradiation with light where singlet oxygen reacts with the proper photosensitizer promoting its consumption. This is an important parameter to be determined because stability under light irradiation represents a fundamental characteristic for a good photosensitizer.[16] All the studies described here were performed in dichloromethane, by selective irradiation with a red laser at 661 nm and 50 mW. After 10 irradiation periods of 1 min. each, we obtained the curves shown in Figure 8 and Figures S14-S19 (supporting information). All the new chlorin derivatives showed an absorbance decrease around 0.1-0.2 as exemplified for chlorin **10a** in Figure 8. Only the chlorin **8a** presented a strong photobleaching effect with an absorbance decrease around 0.4.

Figure 8

9. Preliminary Amphiphilicity Measurements (Log P)

Another essential property of a dye for PDT treatments is its ability to incorporate into the cell. This is especially crucial in the case of hydrophobic compounds, in which passive partitioning into the cytoplasm membrane appears to be a pre-requisite for their cellular absorption. For such molecules, a partition coefficient (logP) between an organic solvent phase and water is one factor that is used to predict the ability of a molecule to diffuse into biomembranes. In quantitative terms, the hydrophilic character is associated

with poor distribution of chlorins in n-octanol, with $\log P < 0$, and lipophilic compounds present $\log P > 1.5$. Amphiphilic substances have intermediate values of $\log P$. [17]

The procedure employed for determining $\log P$ was the shake-flask method. We measured the $\log P$ for chlorins **10a** and **10b** obtaining the same value for both ($\log P = 1.3$). Based on these results we can suggest that the designed compounds **10a** and **10b** can be considered amphiphilic with potential for future PDT treatments. [18]

7. Conclusions

In this paper we have described a study on the synthesis of six new chlorin derivatives, using protoporphyrin IX dimethyl ester and *p*-substituted phenylmaleimides as building blocks, thus obtaining the chlorin derivations in very good yields. All the compounds were fully characterized by ^1H and ^{13}C NMR (1D and 2D), HRMS and UV-Vis. Preliminary photophysical and photochemical evaluations were performed, showing that the new photosensitizers are self-prevented from aggregation in solution, and good candidates for PDT studies. This work was inspired by results that we have described previously, but here we have achieved advances in improving the structural features of more amphiphilic photosensitizers for PDT studies.

8. Appendix

Supporting information available for spectral data include: ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR (1D/2D), HRMS spectra, absorption and mass spectra of the synthesized compounds.

Acknowledgments

The authors wish to thank the following Brazilian agencies for the financial support and fellowships; FAPESP, CAPES, and CNPq. Thanks are also due to Edson R. Filho and Marília A. Trapp of this Department for the MALDI-HRMS measurements, and the Bruker laboratory in Brazil for ESI-TOF measurements.

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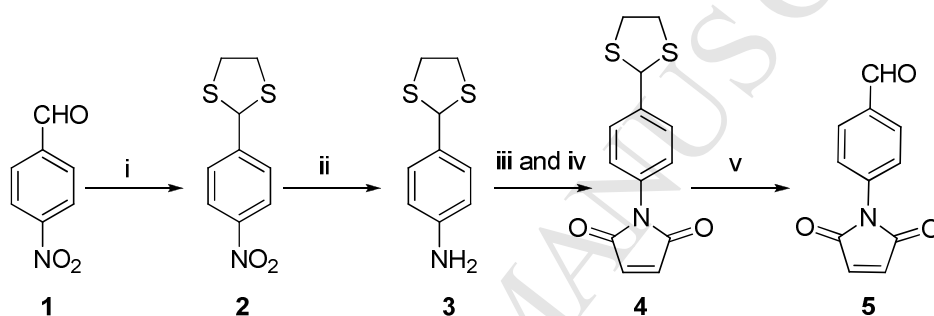
Highlights:

- Synthesis of six chlorins sterically self-prevented from aggregation is described
- A vinyl porphyrin and *p*-substituted maleimides were used as building blocks.
- Amphiphilic chlorins were obtained after functionalizations
- These new chlorins have proven to be good candidates for PDT studies.

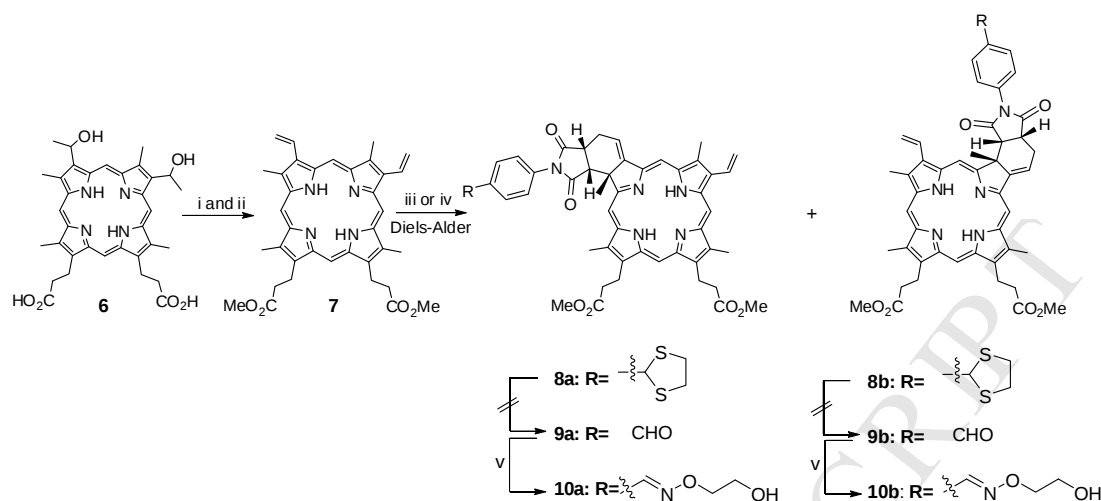
Figures, Schemes, Tables and Equations

$$\Phi_{\Delta} = \Phi_{\Delta}^{\text{Std}} \frac{R.I_{\text{abs}}^{\text{Std}}}{R.I_{\text{abs}}^{\text{Std}}} \quad \text{Equation (1)}$$

$$\log P_{OW} = \log \left(\frac{A_o V_w}{A_w V_o} \right) \quad \text{Equation (2)}$$



Scheme 1: Synthesis of maleimides **4** and **5**. i) ethanedithiol/ CH_2Cl_2 , $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{Et}_2\text{O}$, rt., 6h, 80% yield; ii) $\text{SnCl}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{EtOH}$, 70°C , 6h, 93% yield; iii) maleic anhydride/ CH_2Cl_2 , 0°C , 1h, 84% yield; iv) $\text{Ac}_2\text{O}/\text{NaOAc}$, rt, to 90°C , 92% yield; v) NBS, H_2O -acetone, 0°C , 87% yield.



Scheme 2. Synthesis of new chlorins. i) $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{Cl}/\text{PTSA}$, reflux, 2h and then ii) $\text{MeOH}/\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ 5%, rt, overnight, 72% yield (2 steps); iii) solvent/conditions (Table 1) and maleimide **4**; iv) solvent/conditions (Table 2) and maleimide **5**; v) $\text{NH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$, THF, PTSA, r.t.

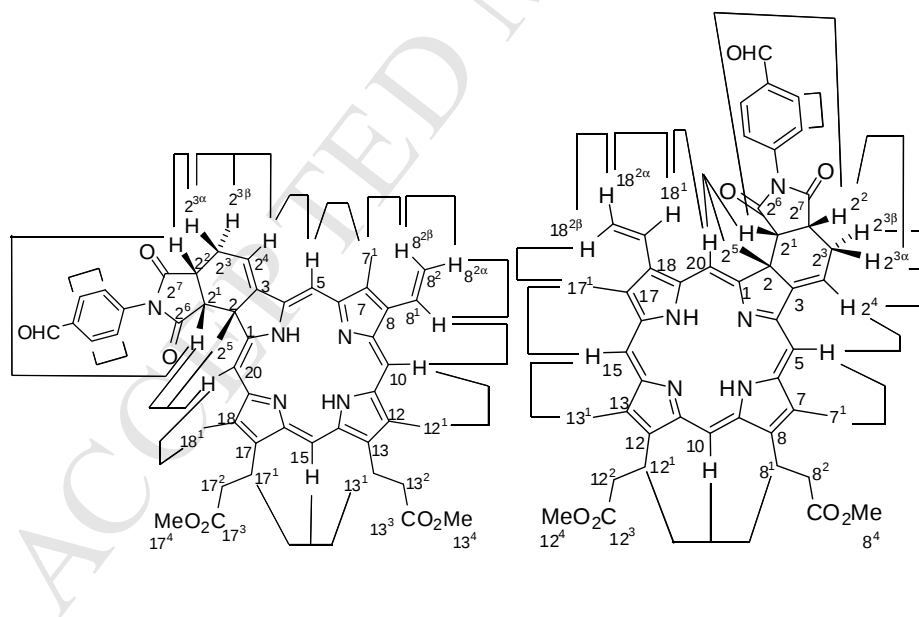
Table 1: Conditions for the synthesis of chlorins **8a** and **8b**.

Temperature (°C)	Equiv. of maleimide 4	Time (h)	Solvent	BHT in catalytic amounts	Yield 8a:8b (%)
110-140	4	40	Toluene	no	14/14
120	10	66	Toluene	no	14/14
125	20	24	Toluene	no	29/30
125	20	24	Chlorobenzene	yes	28/24
125	20	24	Toluene	yes	35/32
125	20	24	Toluene	yes	37/37

Table 2: Conditions for the synthesis of chlorins **9a** and **9b**.

Equiv. of imide 5	Time (h)	Catalytic BHT	Yield 9a:9b (%)
6	19	no	21/21
8	14	no	36/35
10	10	no	34/35
10	10	yes	35/34

All reactions were performed in toluene at 125°C in a sealed tube

a) Main NOE effects in **9a**b) Main NOE effects in **9b****Figure 1.**(a) Main NOE effects in compound **9a** (b) main NOE effects in compound **9b**.

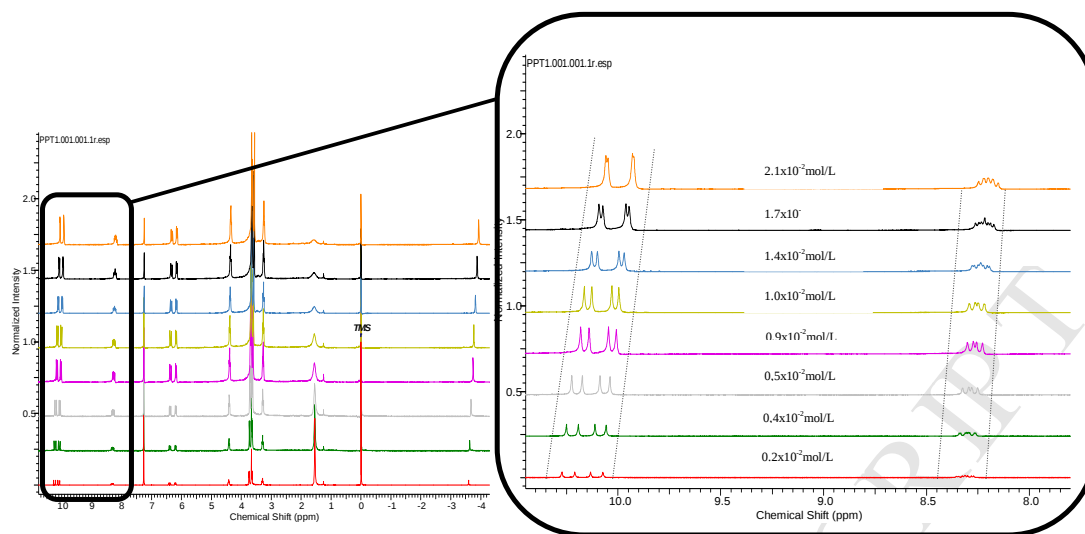


Figure 2. Changes of the ^1H chemical shifts of protoporphyrin IX dimethyl ester (7), in CDCl_3 at 25°C , as a function of the concentration.

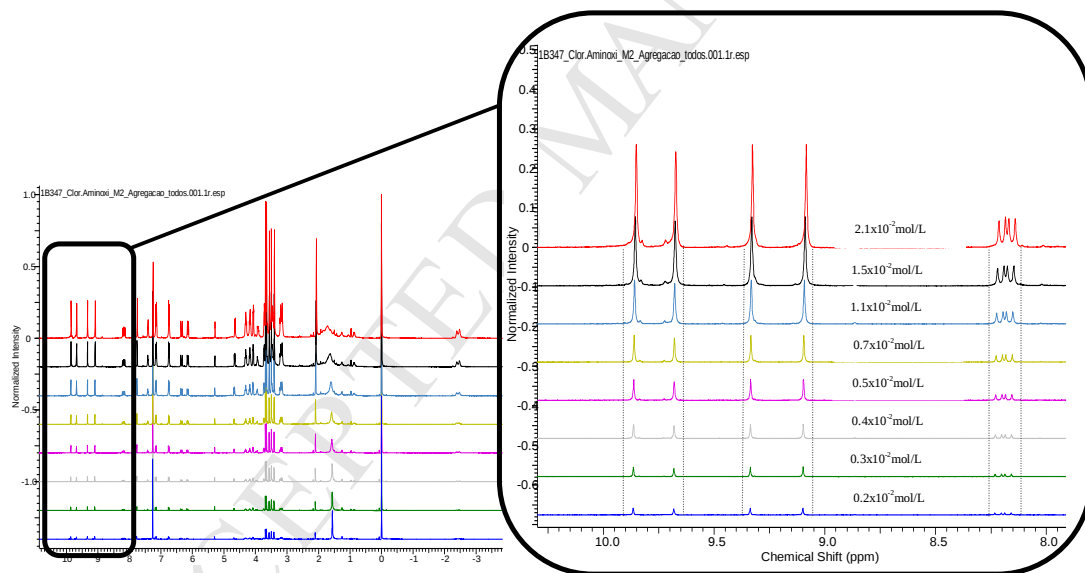


Figure 3. Example of the maintenance of the ^1H chemical shifts of compound 10a in CDCl_3 at 25°C as a function of the concentration.

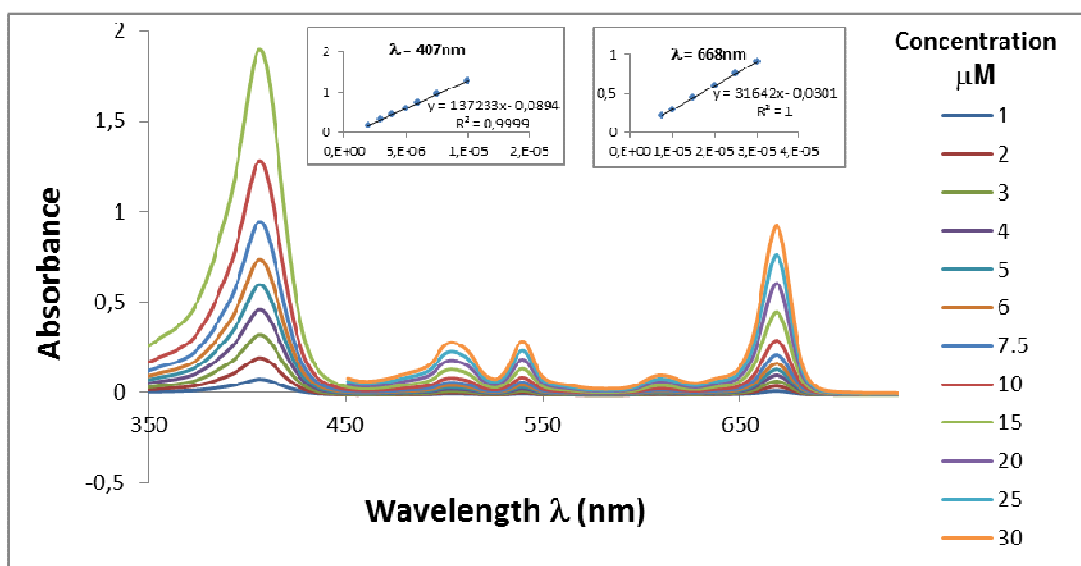


Figure 4. Example of aggregation study by UV-Vis analyses of compound **10a** in CH_2Cl_2 .

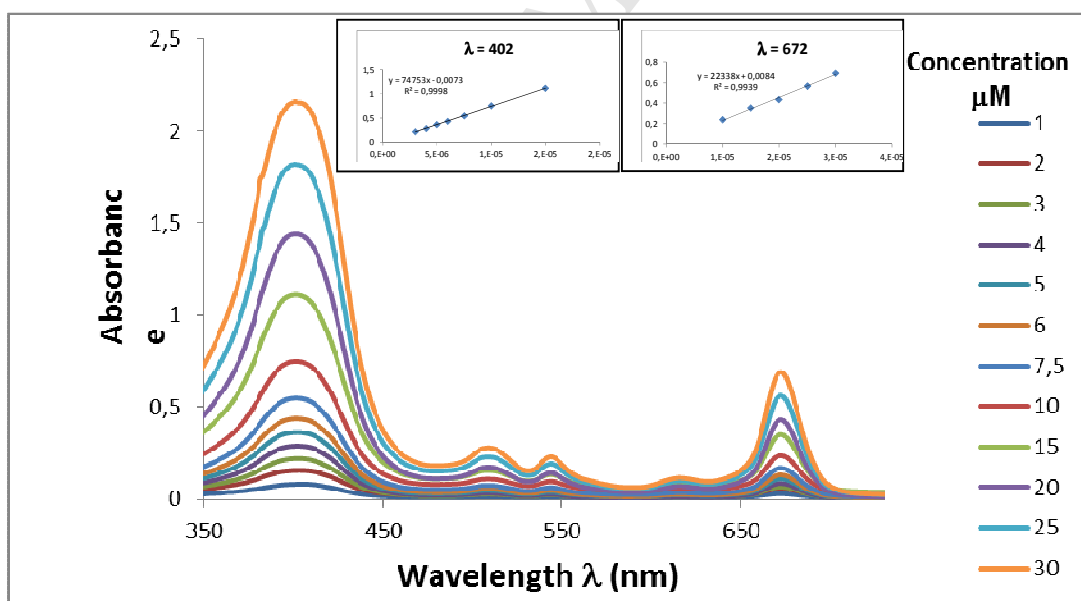


Figure 5. Example of aggregation study by UV-Vis analyses of compound **10a** in water containing 4% of DMSO.

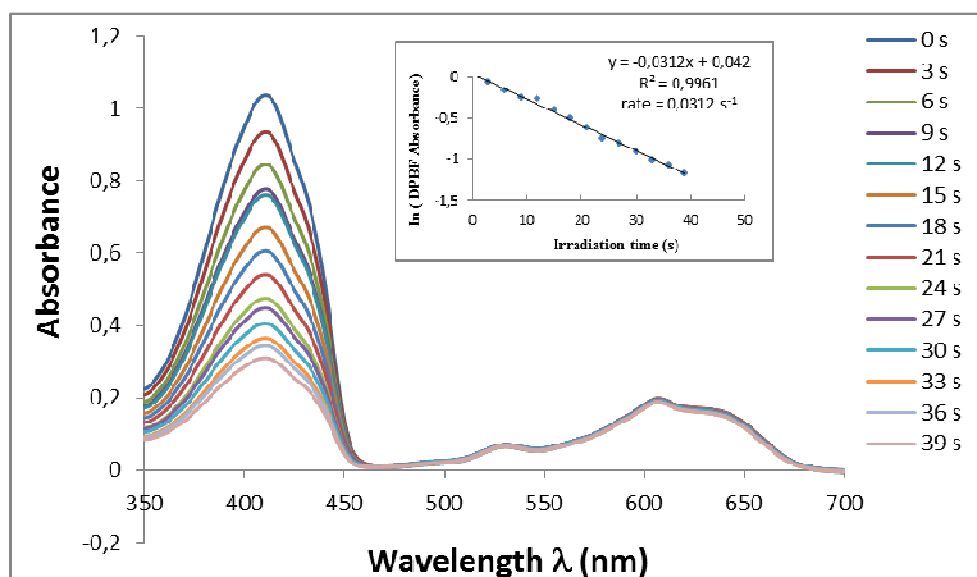


Figure 6. DPBF consumption in the presence of MB in ethanol. (inset: $\ln(\text{DPBF absorbance})$ vs irradiation time).

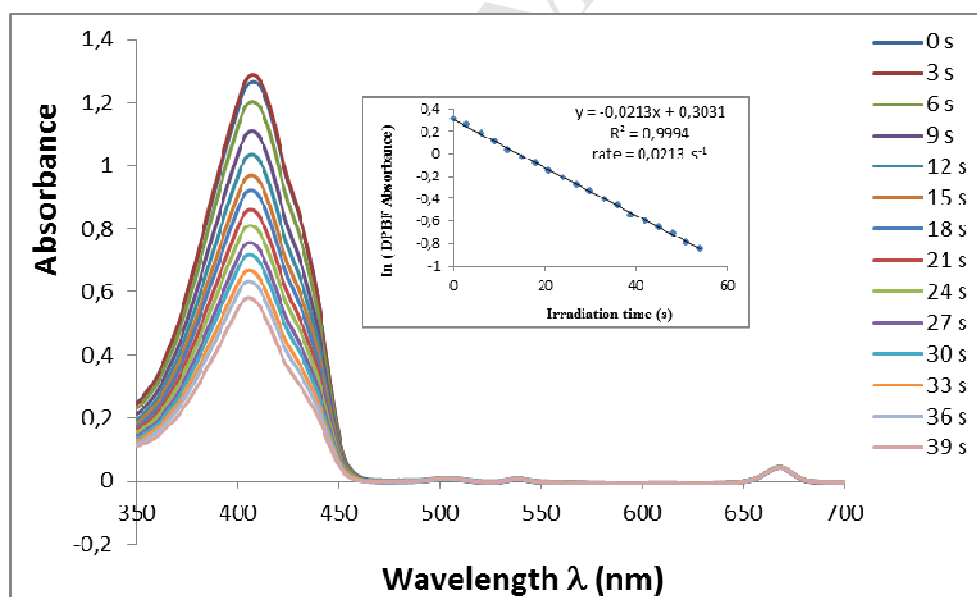


Figure 7. DPBF consumption in the presence of chlorin **10a** in ethanol. (inset: $\ln(\text{DPBF absorbance})$ vs irradiation time).

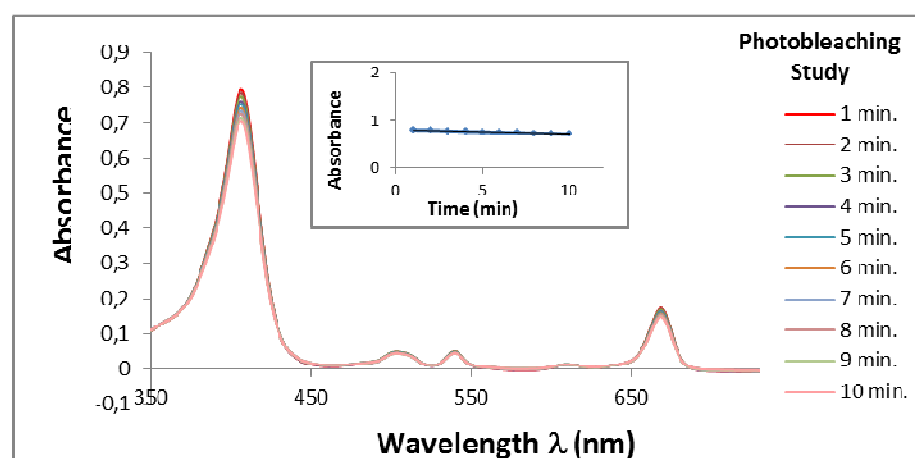


Figure 8. Photobleaching study for chlorin 10a.

Synthesis of Functionalized Chlorins Sterically-Prevented from Self-Aggregation

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Supporting Information

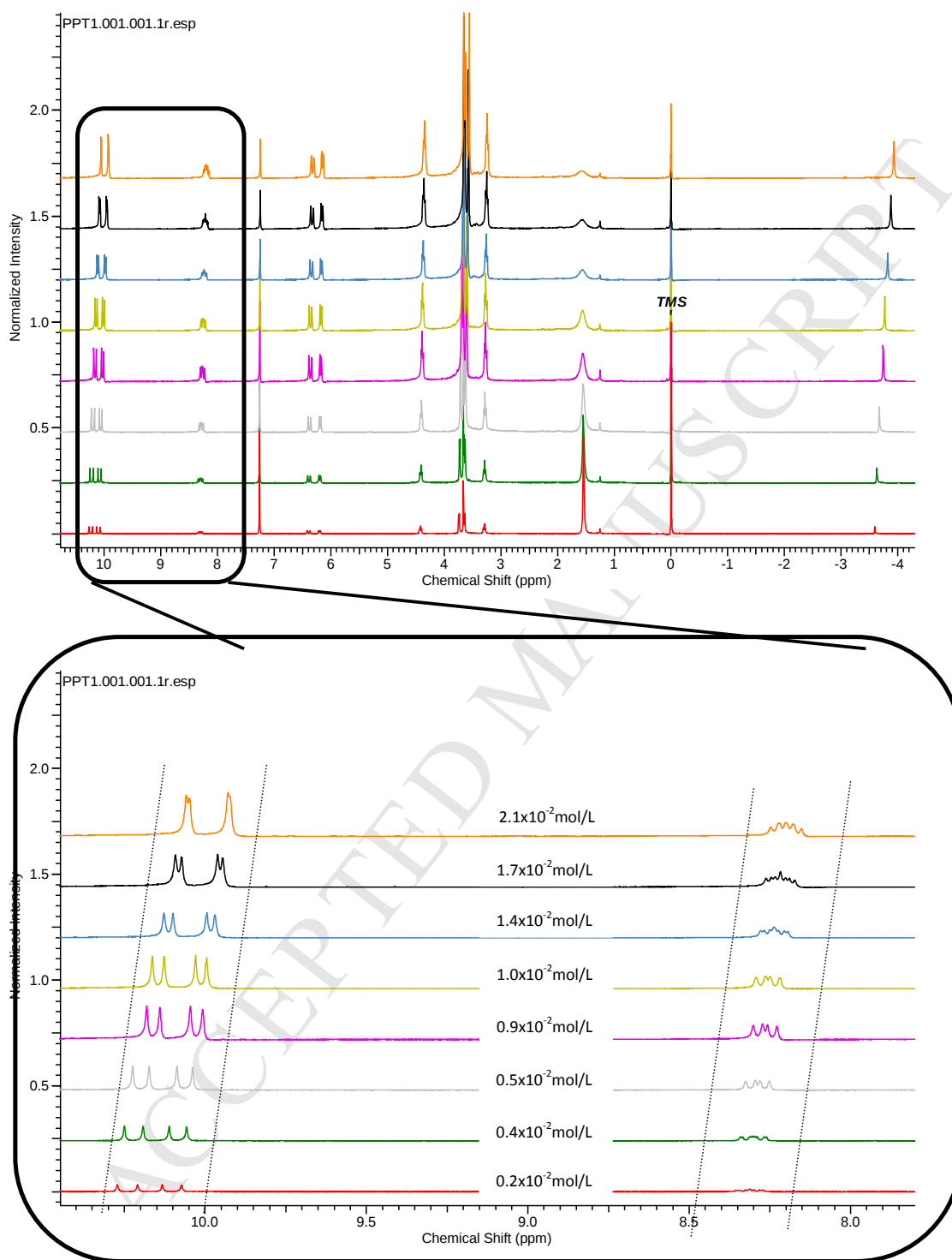
Aggregation studies - ^1H NMR spectra

Figure S1. ^1H -NMR chemical shift changes for protoporphyrin IX dimethyl ester (7), in CDCl_3 at 25°C , as a function of the concentration.

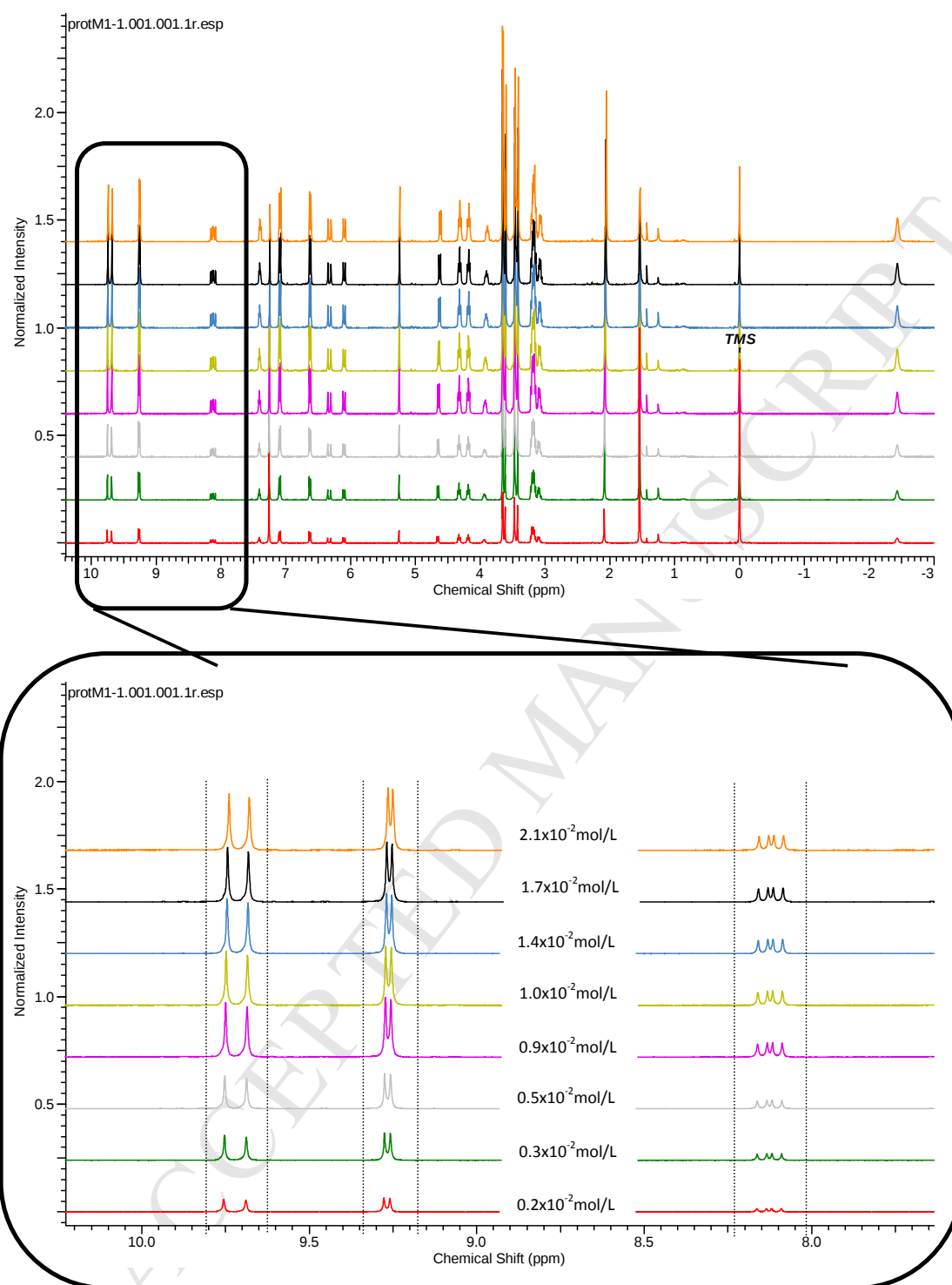
Aggregation studies - ^1H NMR spectra

Figure S2. ^1H -NMR chemical shift changes for compound **8b**, in CDCl_3 at 25°C , as a function of the concentration.

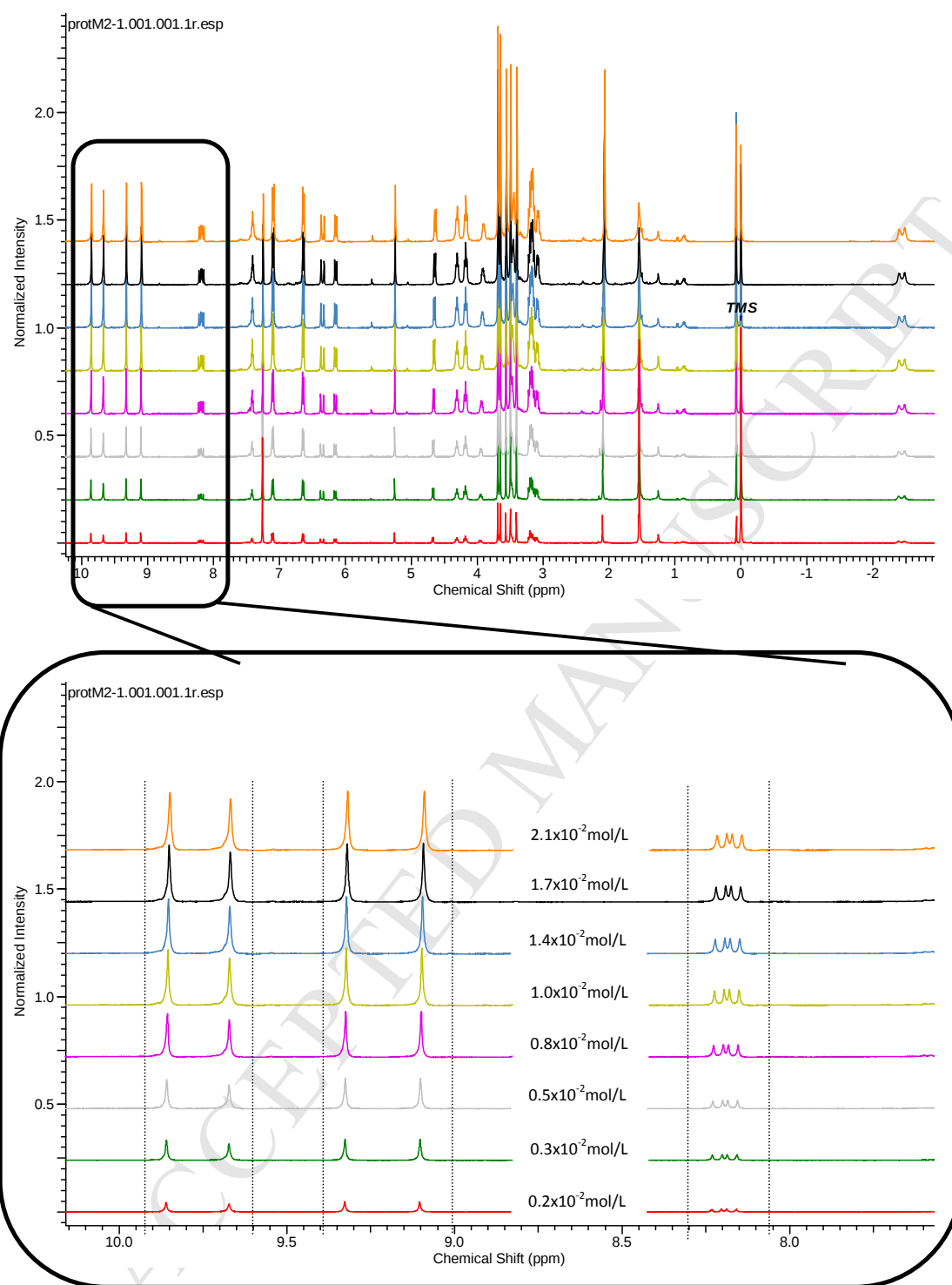
Aggregation studies - ^1H NMR spectra

Figure S3. ^1H -NMR chemical shift changes for compound **8a**, in CDCl_3 at 25°C , as a function of the concentration.

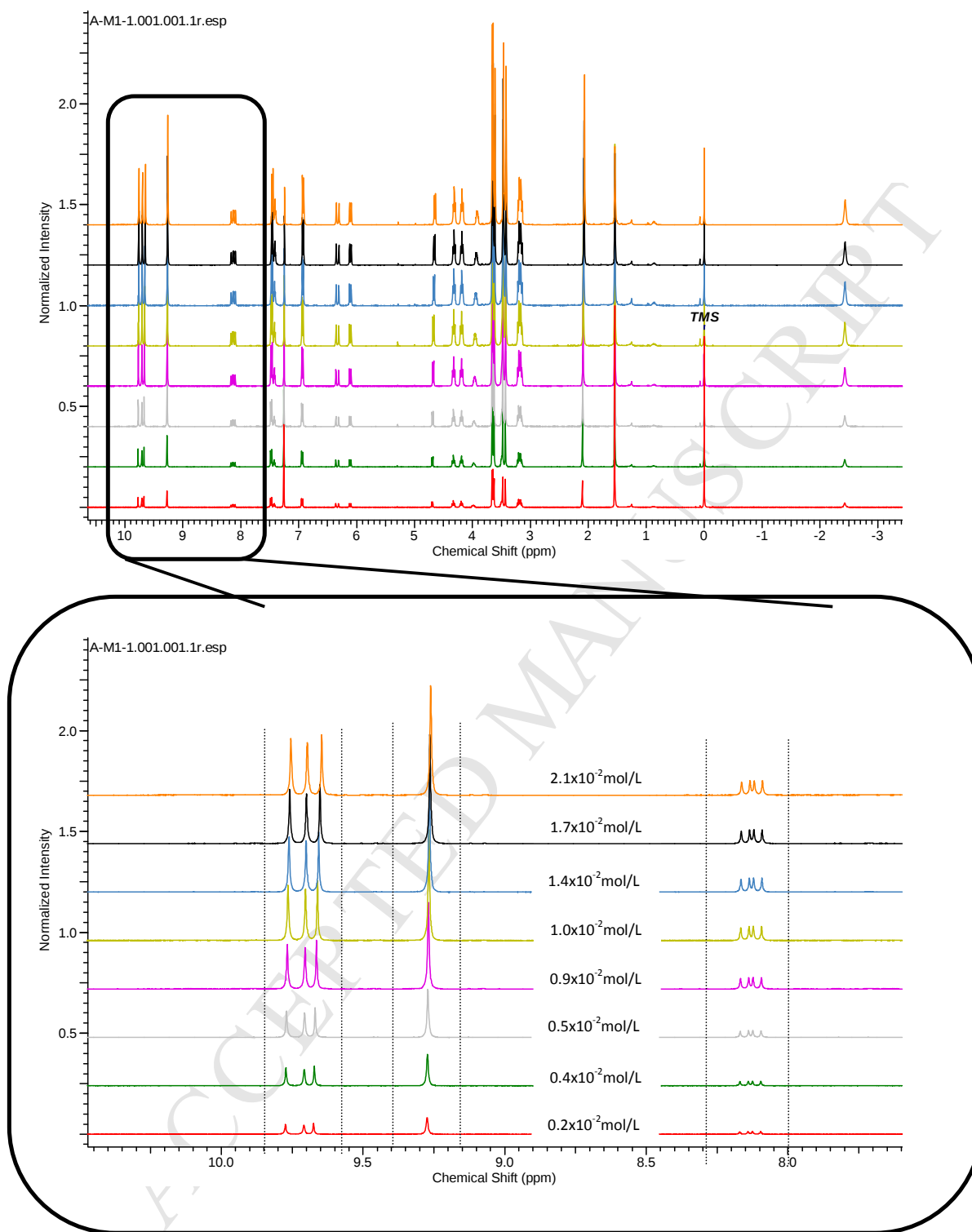
Aggregation studies - ^1H NMR spectra

Figure S4. ^1H -NMR chemical shift changes for compound **9b**, in CDCl_3 at 25°C , as a function of the concentration.

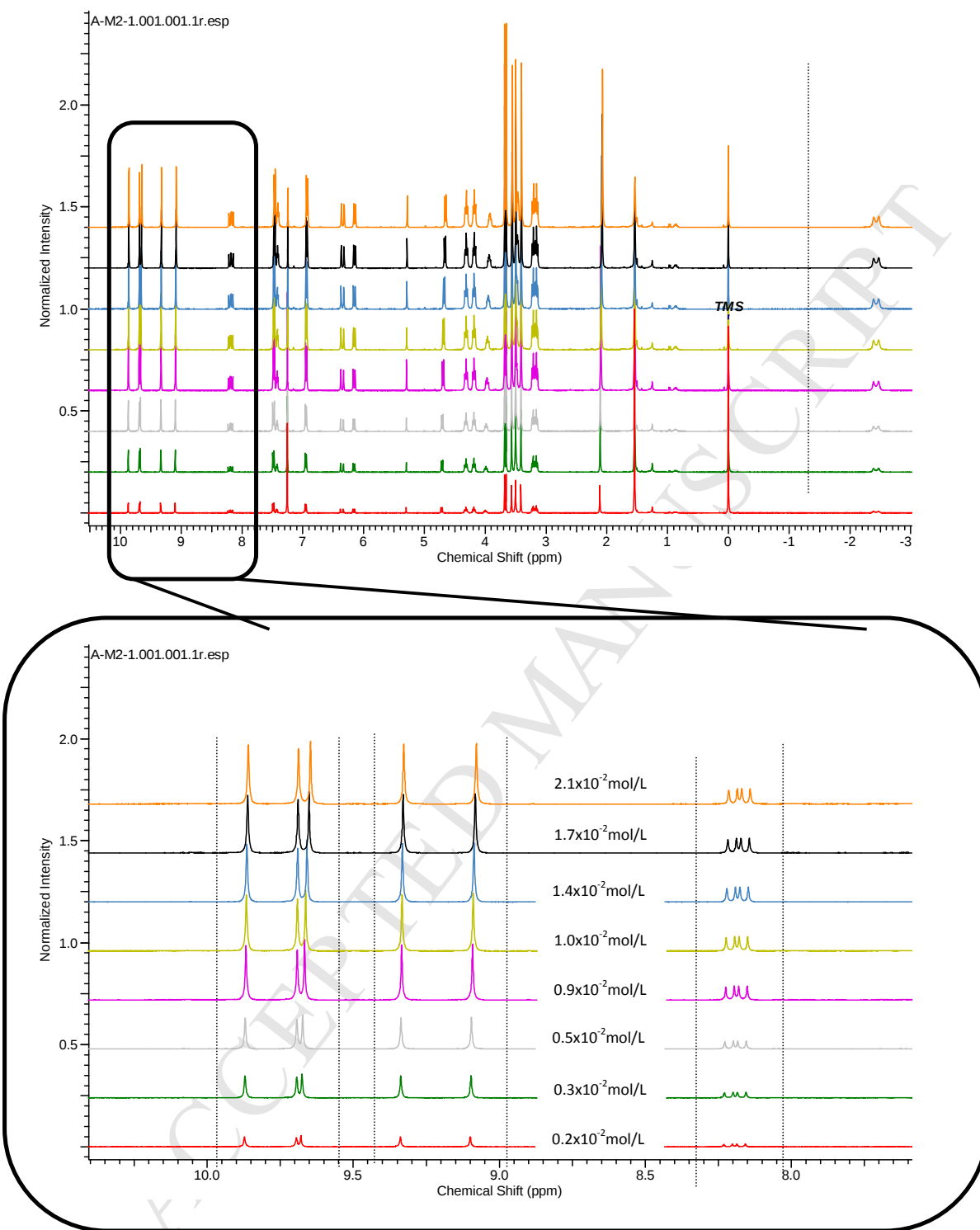
Aggregation studies - ^1H NMR spectra

Figure S5. ^1H -NMR chemical shift changes for compound **9a**, in CDCl_3 at 25°C , as a function of the concentration.

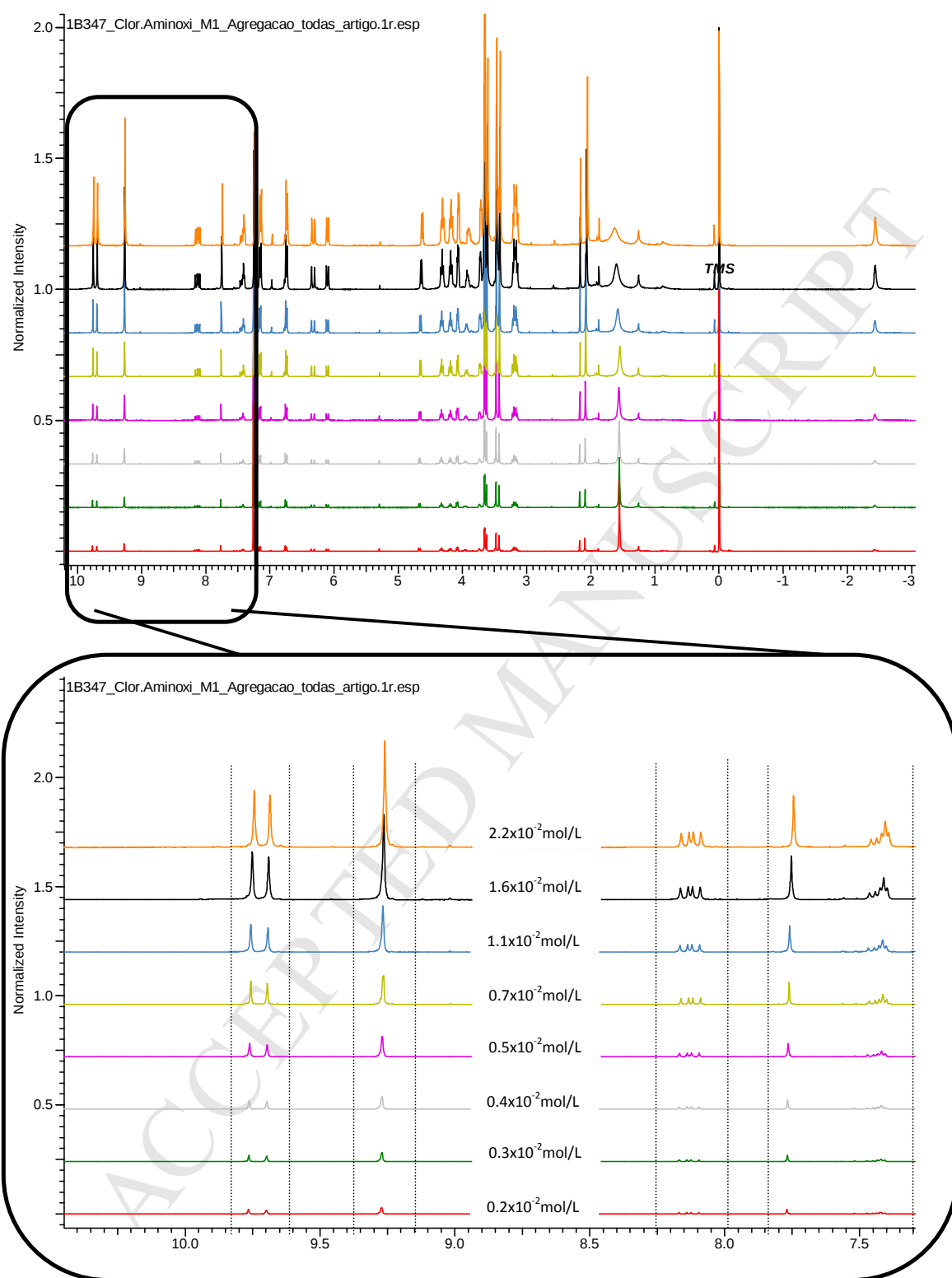
Aggregation studies - ^1H NMR spectra

Figure S6. ^1H -NMR chemical shift changes for compound **10b**, in CDCl_3 at 25°C , as a function of the concentration.

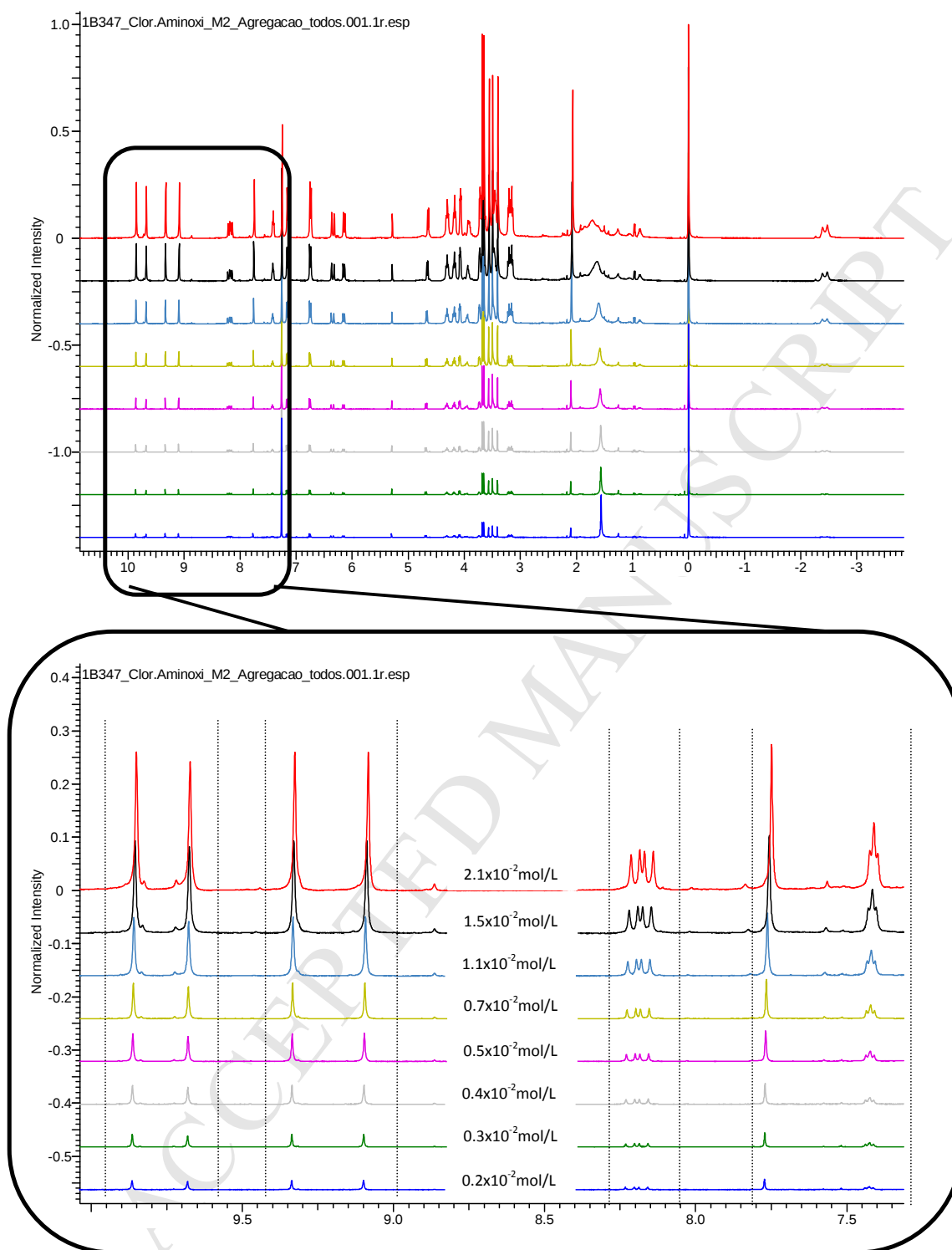
Aggregation studies - ^1H NMR spectra

Figure S7. ^1H -NMR chemical shift changes for compound **10a**, in CDCl_3 at 25°C , as a function of the concentration.

Aggregation studies- UV-Vis Spectra

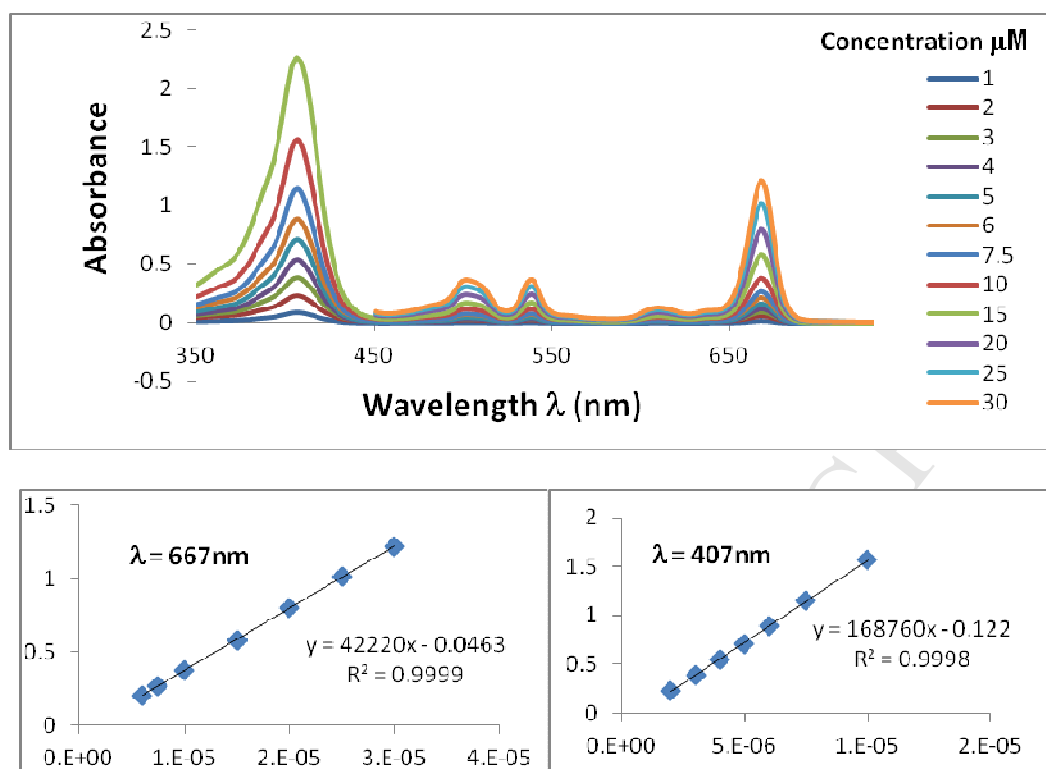


Figure S8. Aggregation studies by UV-Vis analyses of compound **8b** in CH_2Cl_2 .

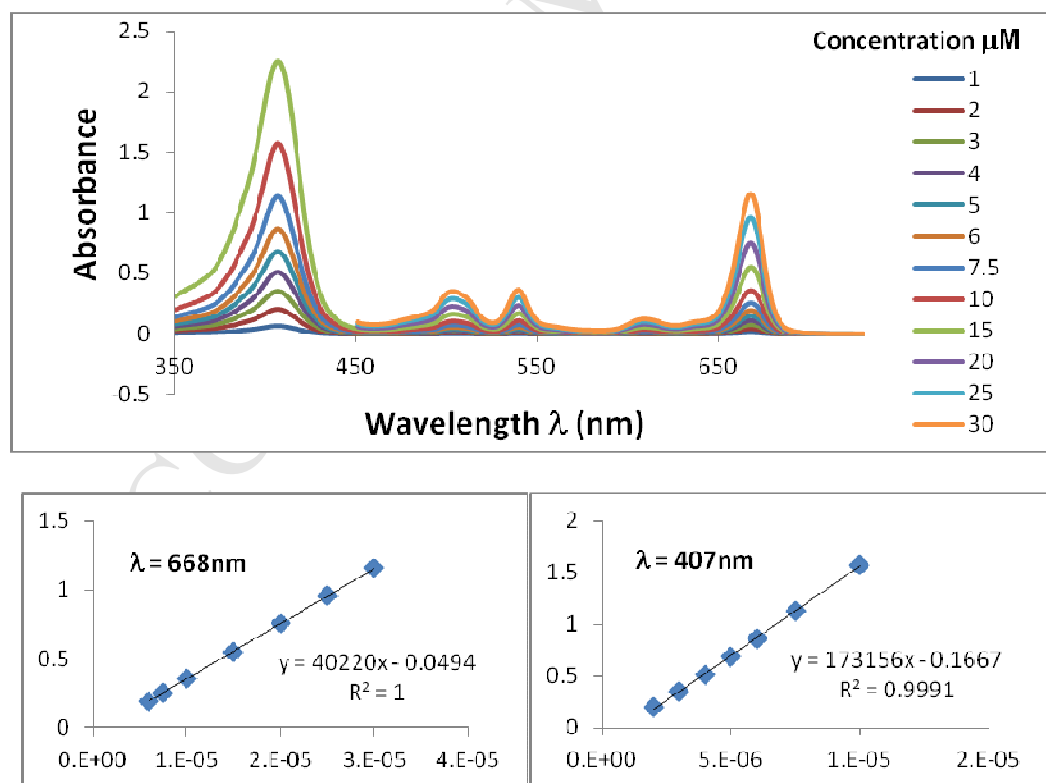
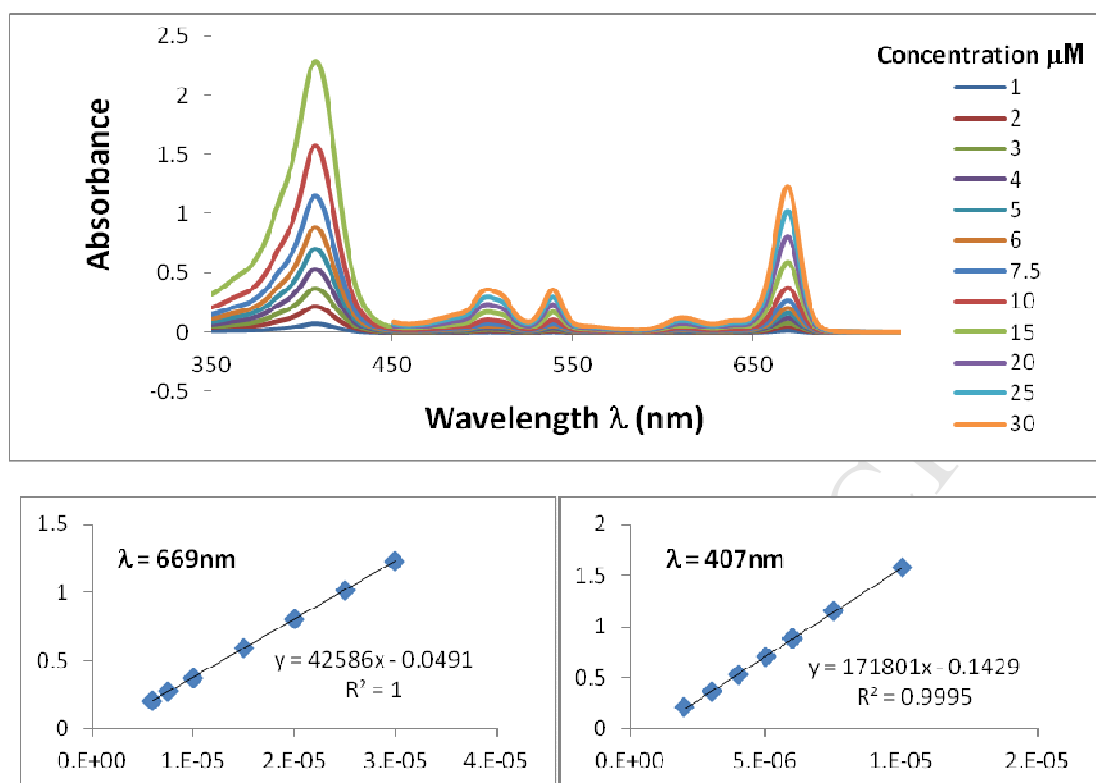
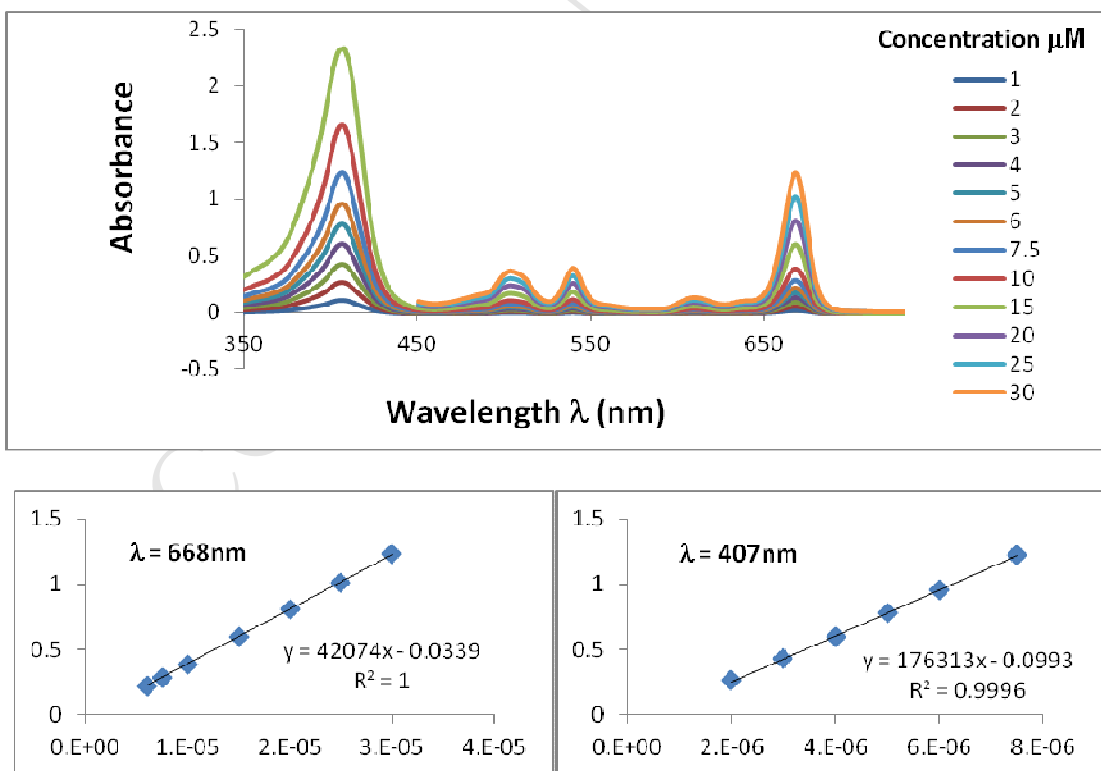
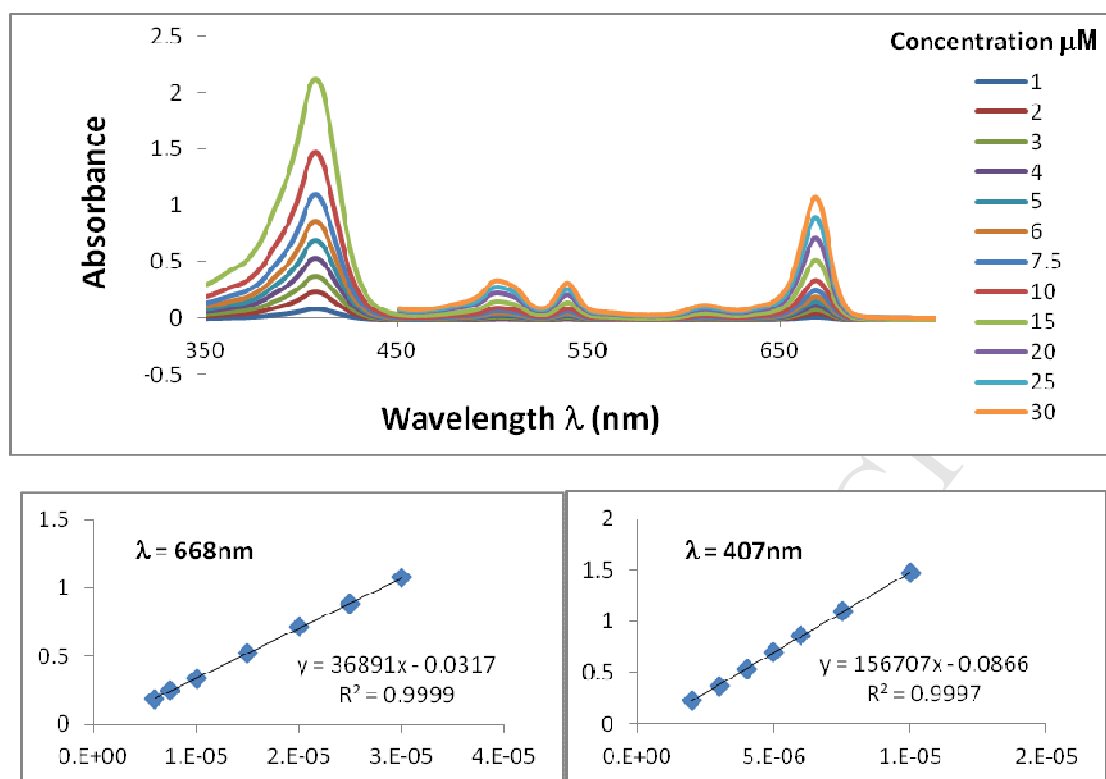
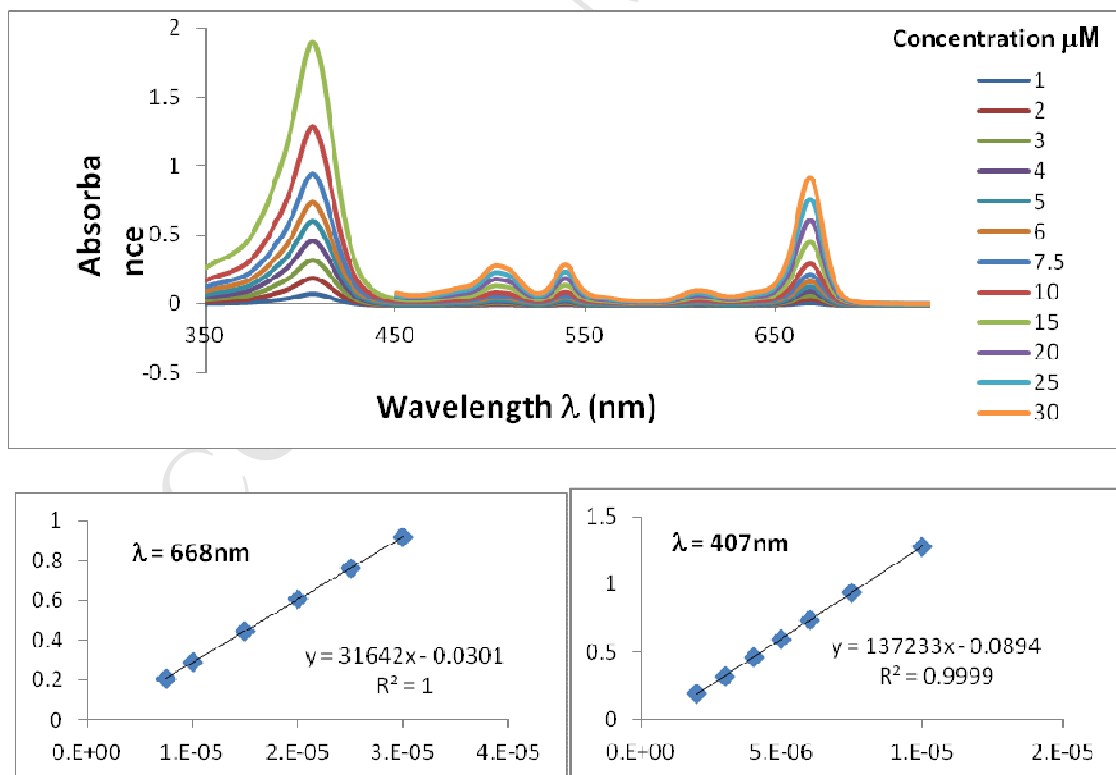


Figure S9. Aggregation studies by UV-Vis analyses of compound **8a** in CH_2Cl_2 .

Aggregation studies- UV-Vis Spectra**Figure S10.** Aggregation studies by UV-Vis analyses of compound **9b** in CH_2Cl_2 .**Figure S11.** Aggregation studies by UV-Vis analyses of compound **9a** in CH_2Cl_2 .

Aggregation studies- UV-Vis Spectra**Figure S12.** Aggregation studies by UV-Vis analyses of compound **10b** in CH_2Cl_2 .**Figure S13.** Aggregation studies by UV-Vis analyses of compound **10a** in CH_2Cl_2 .

Aggregation studies- UV-Vis Spectra

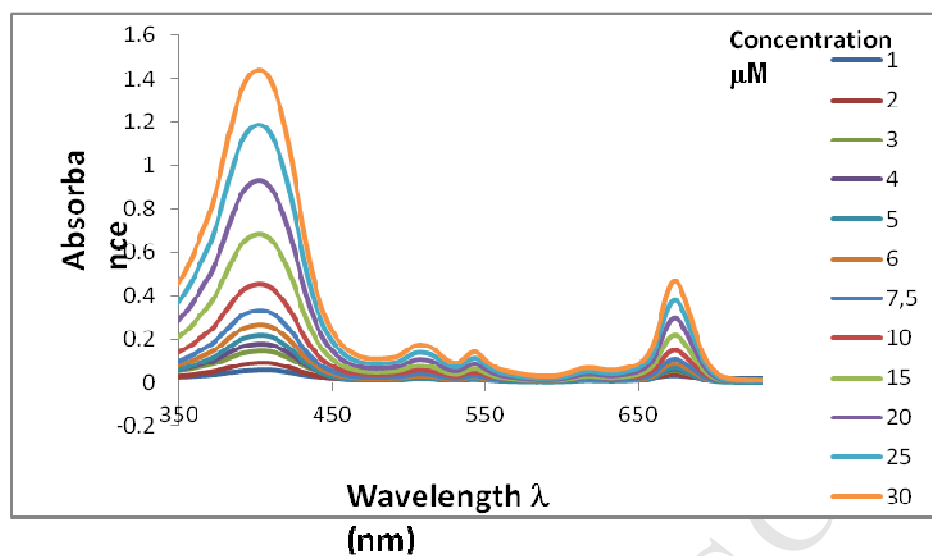
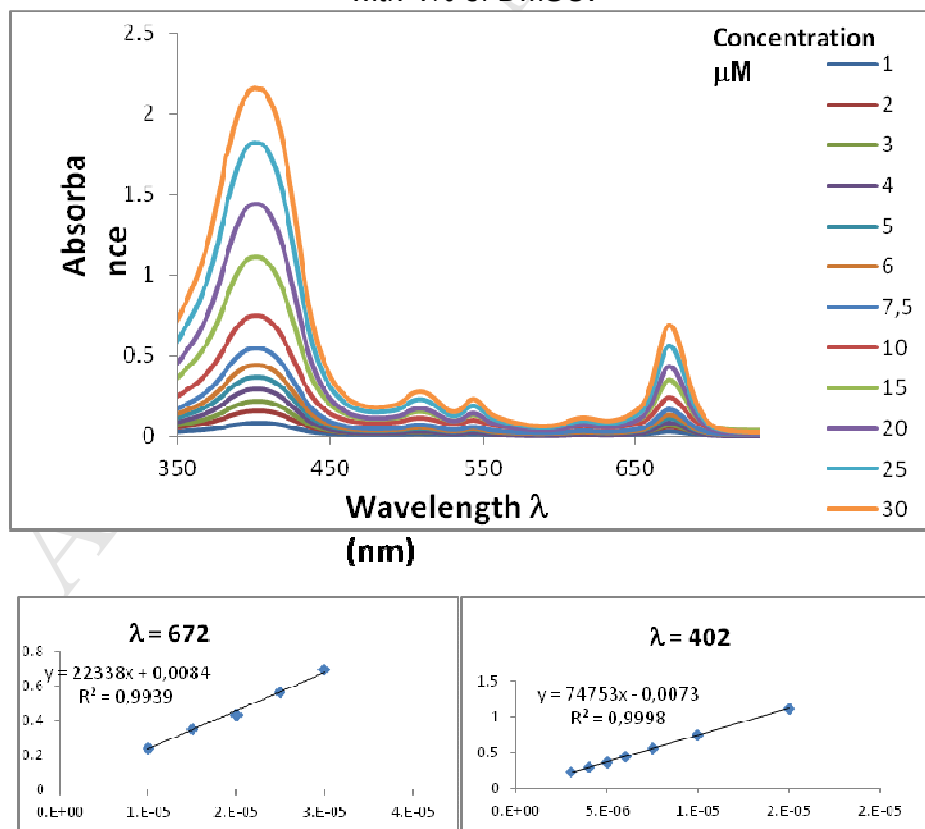


Figure S14a. Aggregation studies by UV-Vis analyses of compound **10b** in water with 4% of DMSO.



Aggregation studies- UV-Vis Spectra

Figure S13a. Aggregation studies by UV-Vis analyses of compound **10a** in water with 4% of DMSO.

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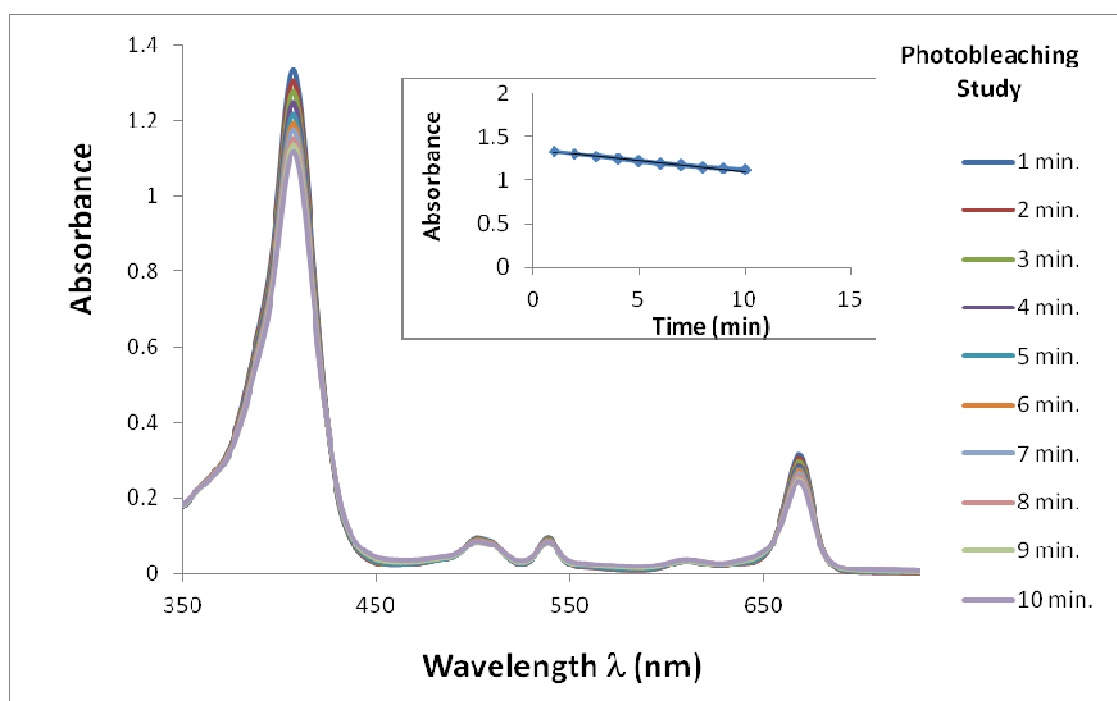
Photobleaching Study- UV-Vis Spectra

Figure S15. Photobleaching study by UV-Vis analyses of compound **8b** in CH_2Cl_2

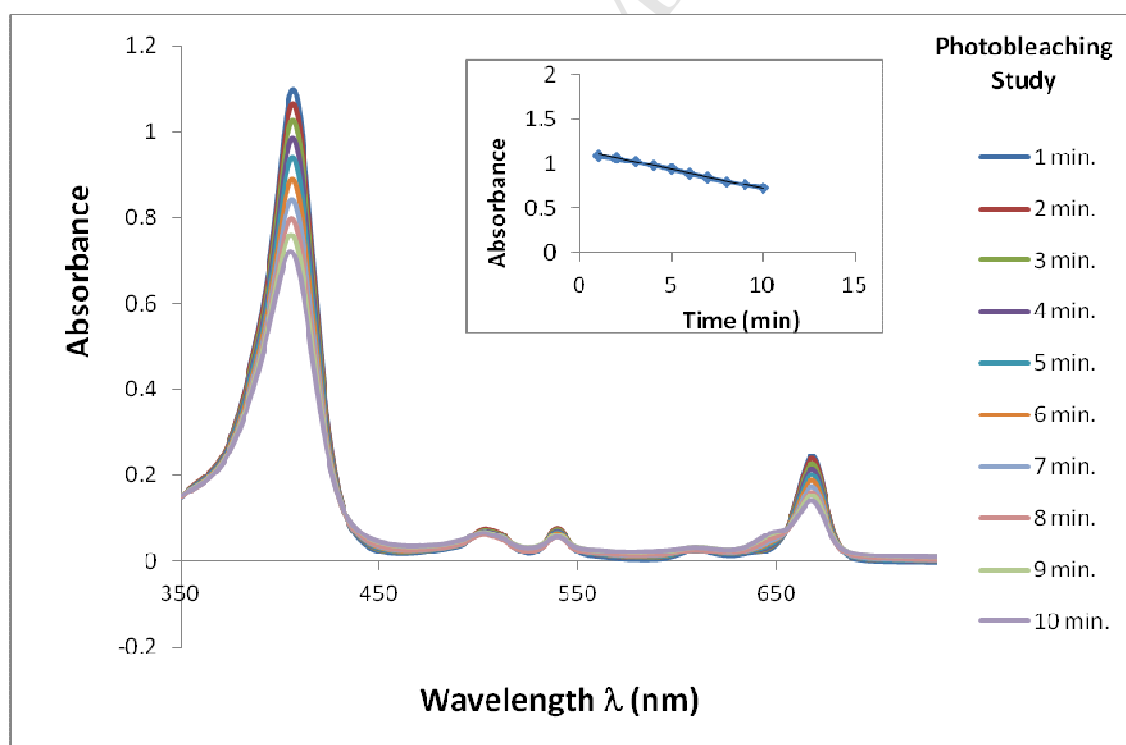
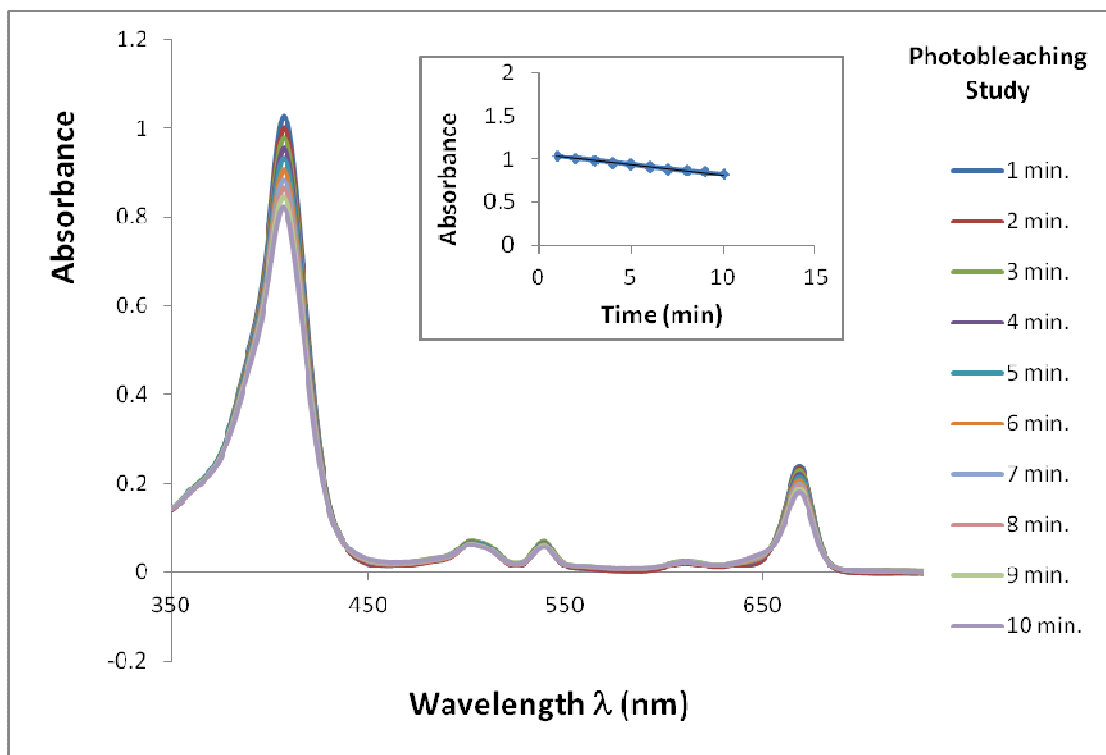
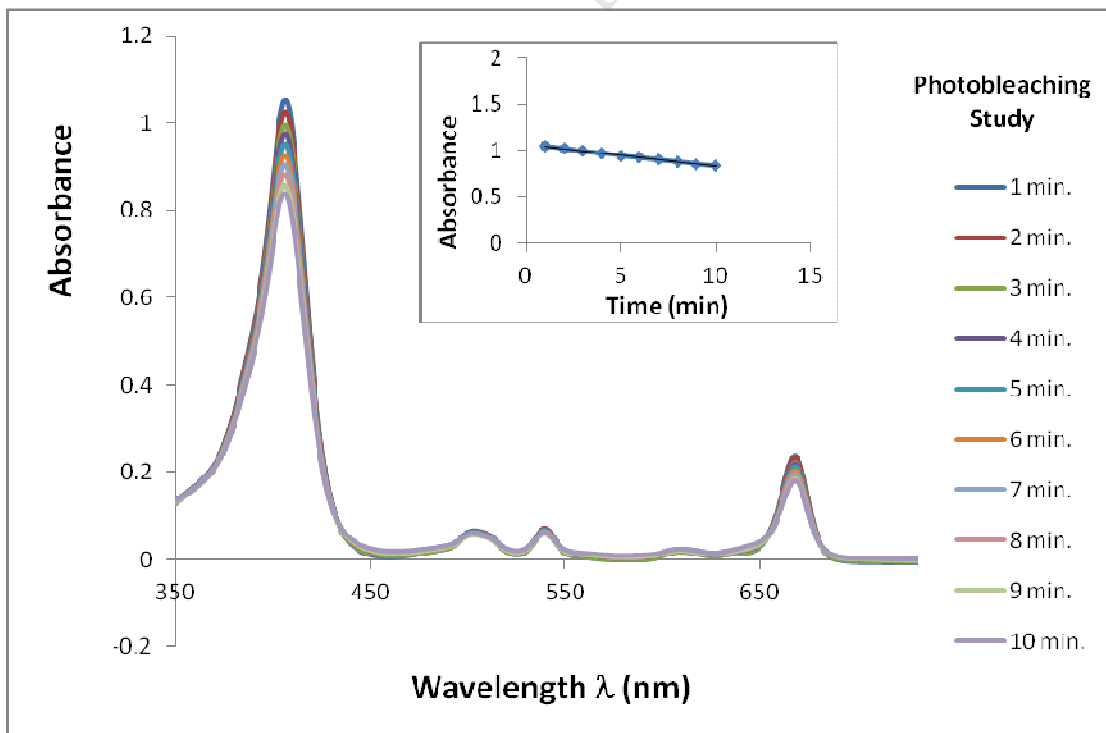


Figure S16. Photobleaching study by UV-Vis analyses of compound **8a** in CH_2Cl_2 .

Photobleaching Study- UV-Vis Spectra**Figure S17.** Photobleaching study by UV-Vis analyses of compound **9b** in CH_2Cl_2 **Figure S18.** Photobleaching study by UV-Vis analyses of compound **9a** in CH_2Cl_2 .

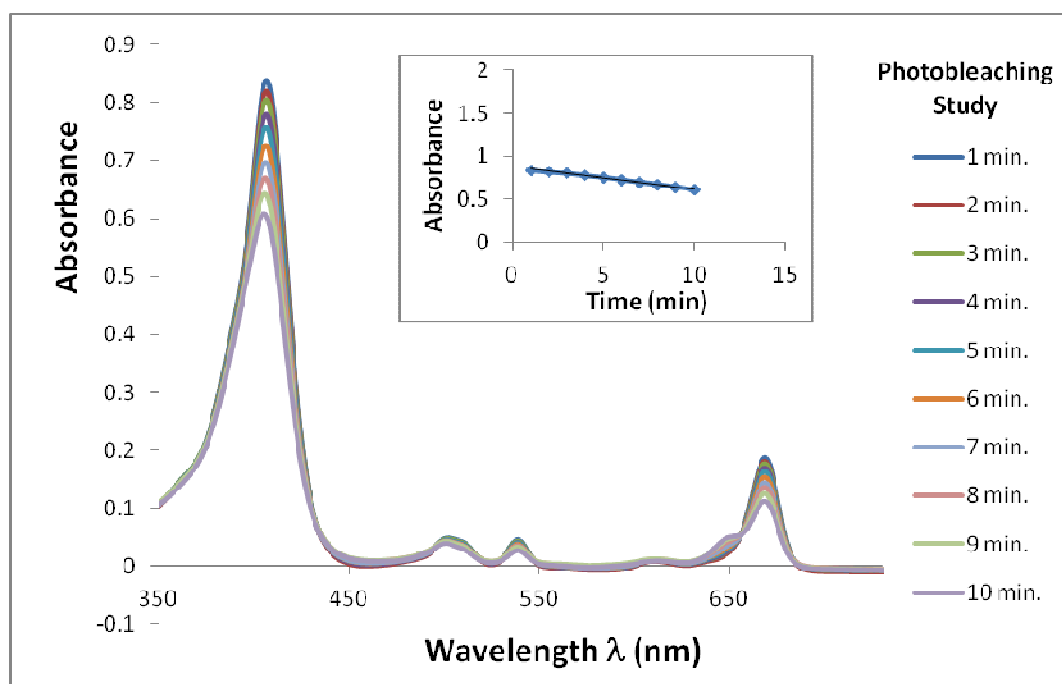
Photobleaching Study- UV-Vis Spectra

Figure S19. Photobleaching study by UV-Vis analyses of compound **10b** in CH_2Cl_2 .

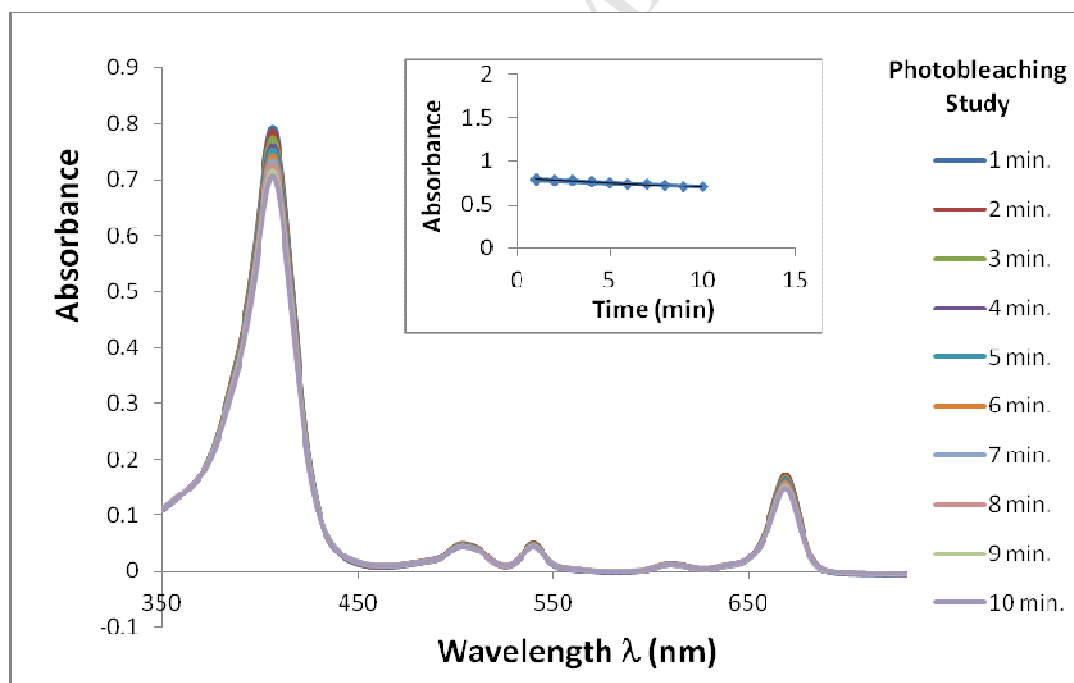


Figure S20. Photobleaching study by UV-Vis analyses of compound **10a** in CH_2Cl_2 .

NMR Spectrum

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Frequency (MHz)	400.15	Nucleus	¹ H	Number of Transients	128		
Origin	spect	Original Points Count	32768	Owner	nmrsu		
Points Count	65536	Pulse Sequence	zg30	Receiver Gain	114.00		
SW(cyclical) (Hz)	6818.18	Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d	Spectrum Offset (Hz)	2993.4102		
Spectrum Type	STANDARD	Sweep Width (Hz)	6818.08	Temperature (degree C)	26.800		

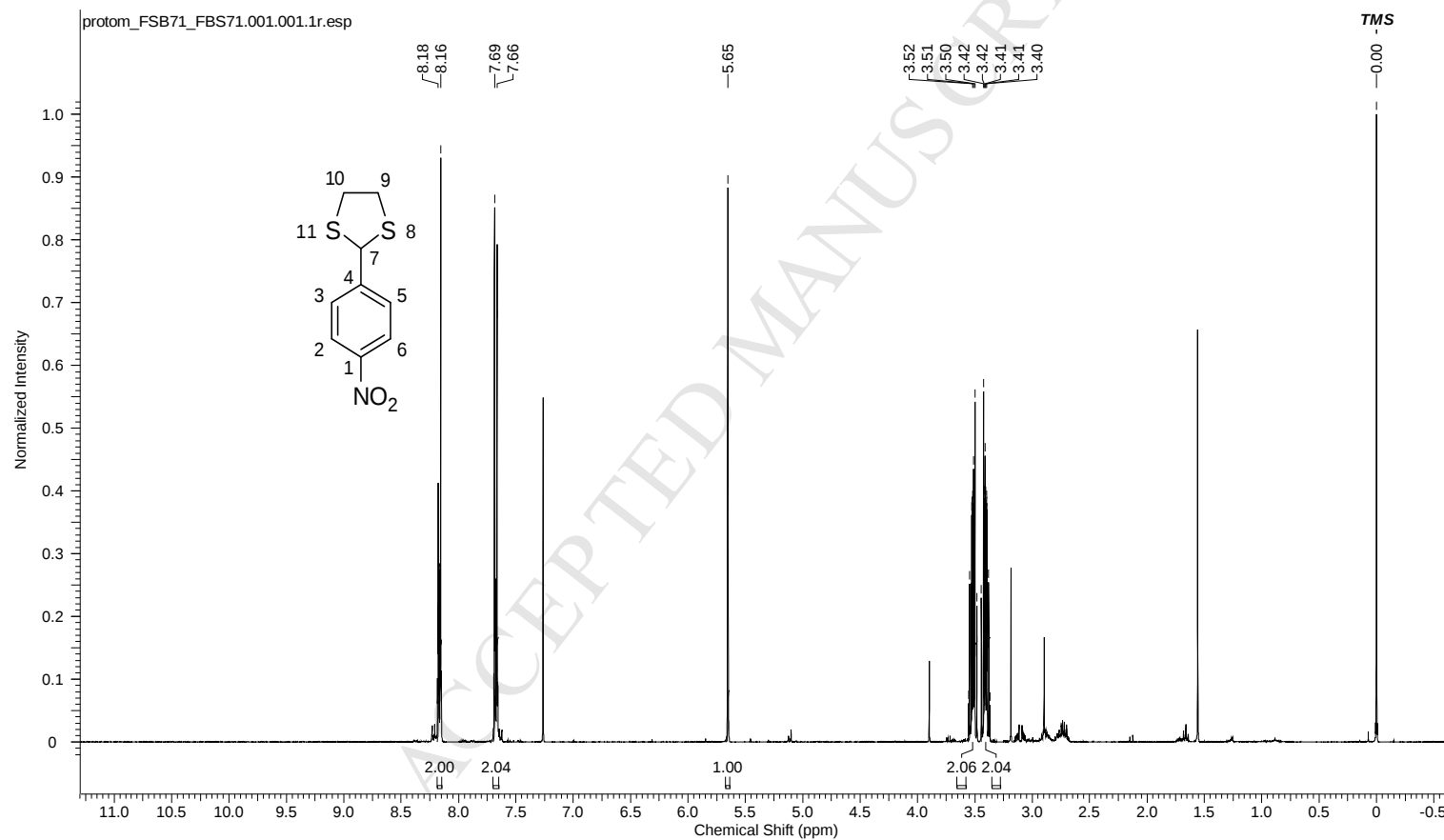


Figure S21. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound 2.

NMR Spectrum

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Frequency (MHz)	100.62	Nucleus	¹³ C	Number of Transients	1024
Origin	spect	Original Points Count	16384	Owner	nmrsu
Points Count	32768	Pulse Sequence	zgpg30	Receiver Gain	2050.00
SW(cyclical) (Hz)	24671.05	Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d	Spectrum Offset (Hz)	10058.5996
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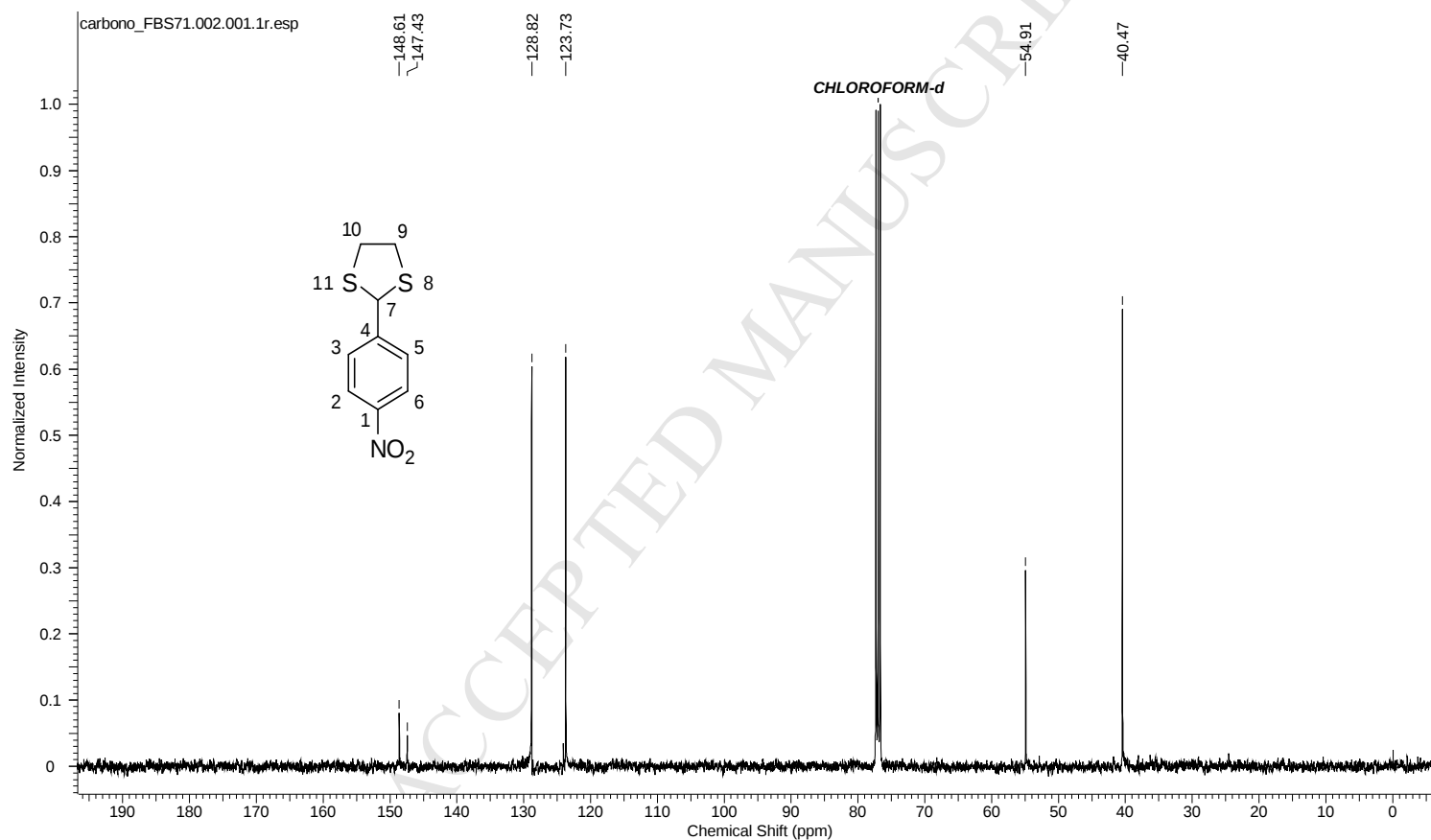


Figure S22. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound 2.

NMR Spectrum

Acquisition Time (sec) 0.8126		Date 14 Sep 2011 15:37:52		File Name FBS71	
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Points Count	32768	Pulse Sequence	deptsp135	Receiver Gain	2050.00
SW(cyclical) (Hz)	20161.29	Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d	Spectrum Offset (Hz)	8048.4780
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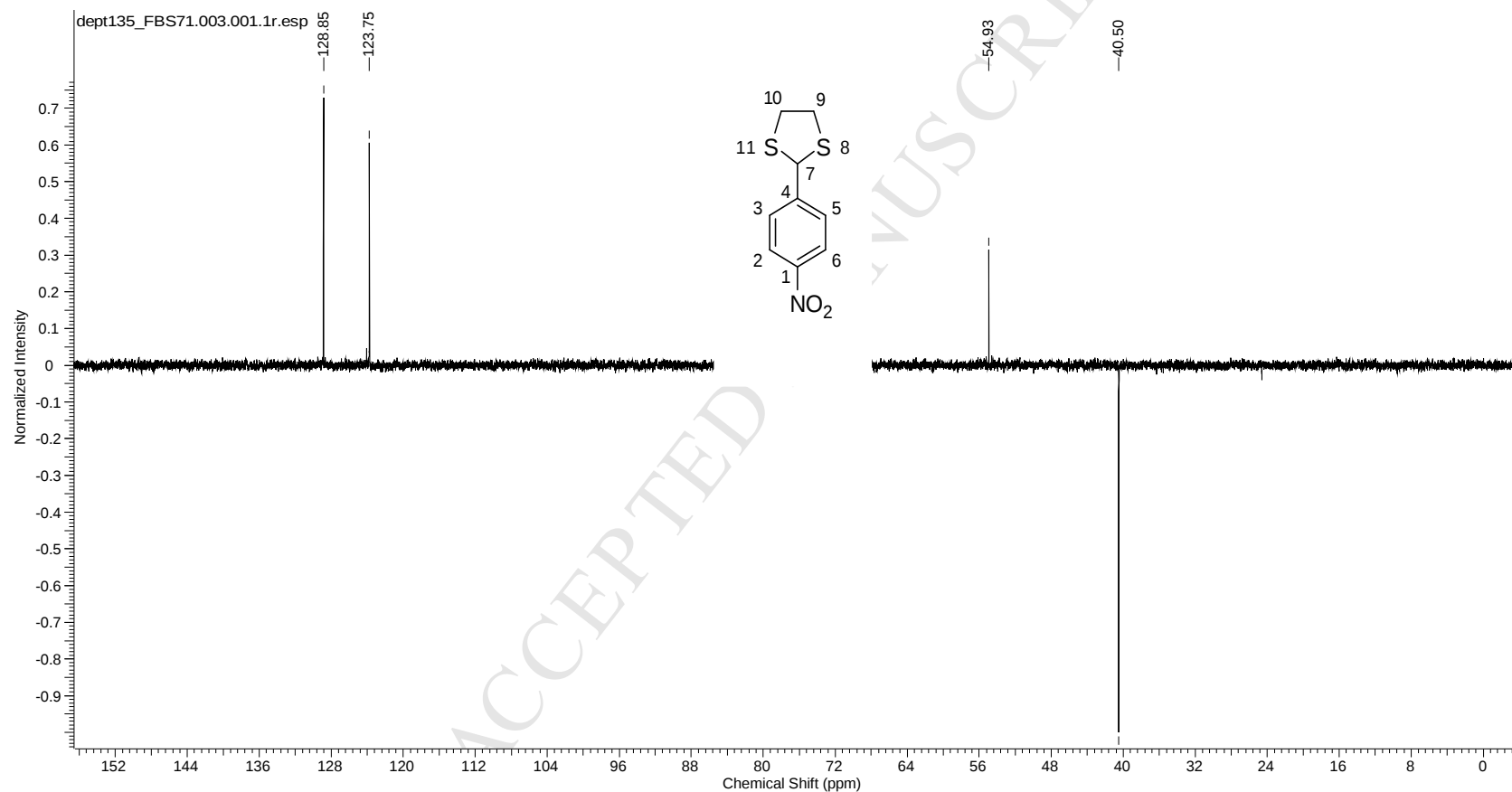


Figure S23. ^{13}C (DEPT-135) in CDCl_3 of compound 2.

NMR Spectrum

Acquisition Time (sec)	4.8060	File Name	FBS26	Date	07 Feb 2011 11:07:12
Frequency (MHz)	400.15	Nucleus	¹ H	Number of Transients	16
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Points Count	65536	Pulse Sequence	zg30	Receiver Gain	114.00
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Spectrum Type	STANDARD	Sweep Width (Hz)	6818.08	Temperature (degree C)	24.800

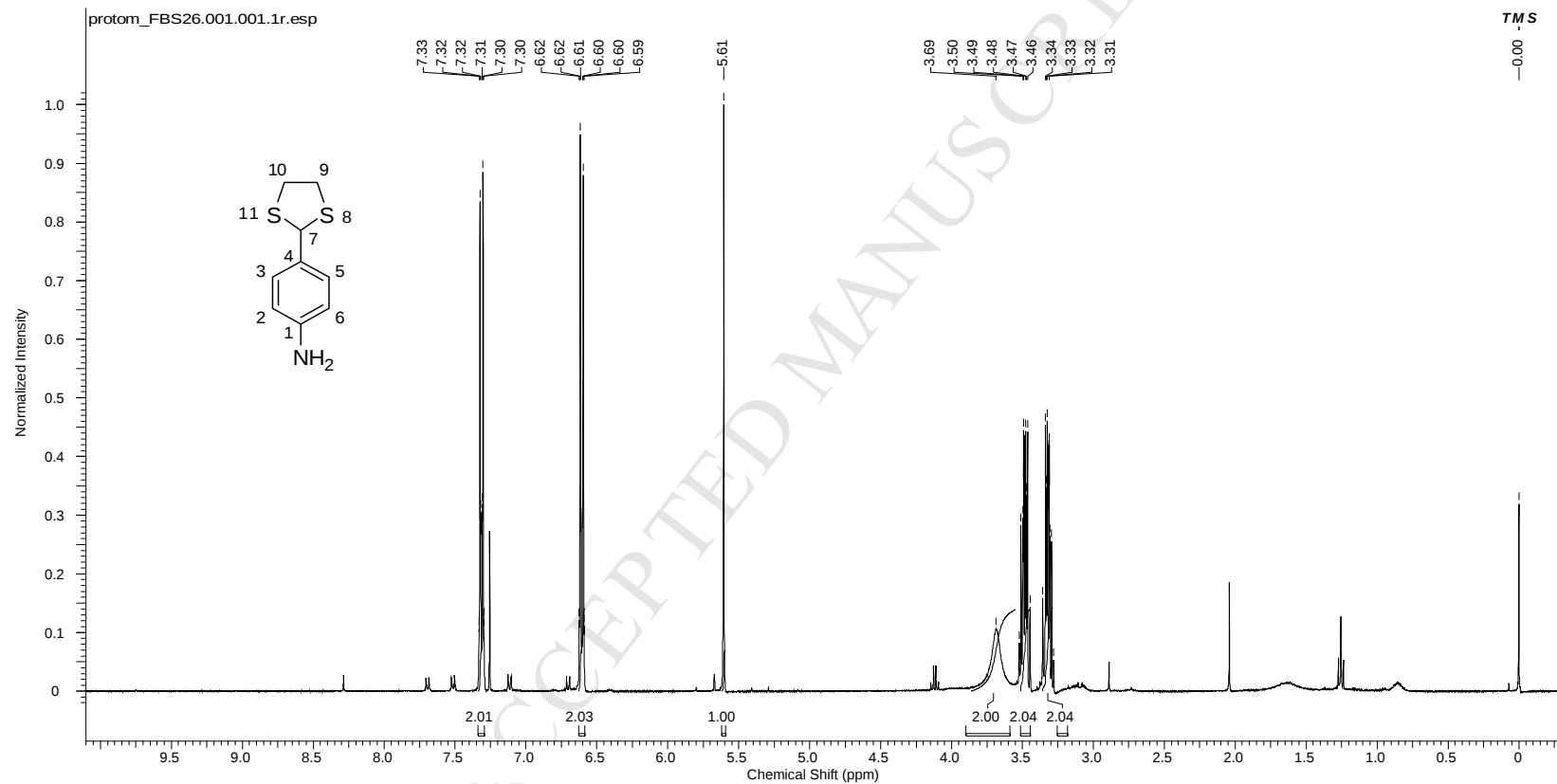


Figure S24. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound **3**.

NMR Spectrum

Acquisition Time (sec)	0.6641	File Name	FBS72_	Date	07 Feb 2011 11:22:08
Frequency (MHz)	100.62	Nucleus	¹³ C	Number of Transients	1024
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Points Count	32768	Pulse Sequence	zgpg30	Receiver Gain	2050.00
SW(cyclical) (Hz)	24671.05	Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d	Spectrum Offset (Hz)	10054.8350
Spectrum Type	STANDARD	Sweep Width (Hz)	24670.30	Temperature (degree C)	24.800

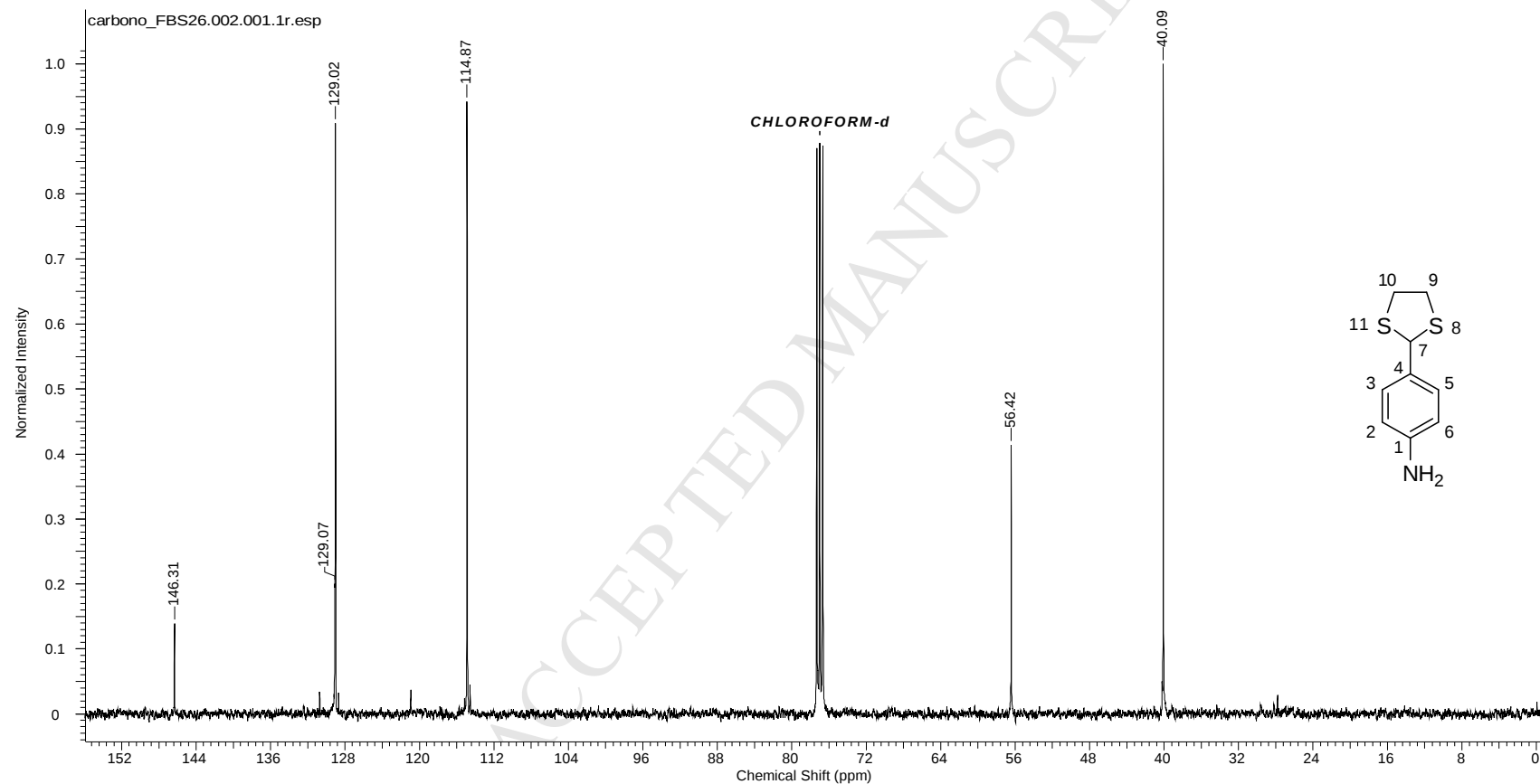


Figure S25. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound 3.

NMR Spectrum

Frequency (MHz)	100.62	Nucleus	¹³ C	Number of Transients	1024
File Name	FBS72	Original Points Count	16384	Date	07 Feb 2011 18:39:28
Points Count	32768	Pulse Sequence	deptsp135	Receiver Gain	2050.00
SW(cyclical) (Hz)	20161.29	Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d	Spectrum Offset (Hz)	8048.4780
Spectrum Type	DEPT135	Sweep Width (Hz)	20160.68	Temperature (degree C)	24.800

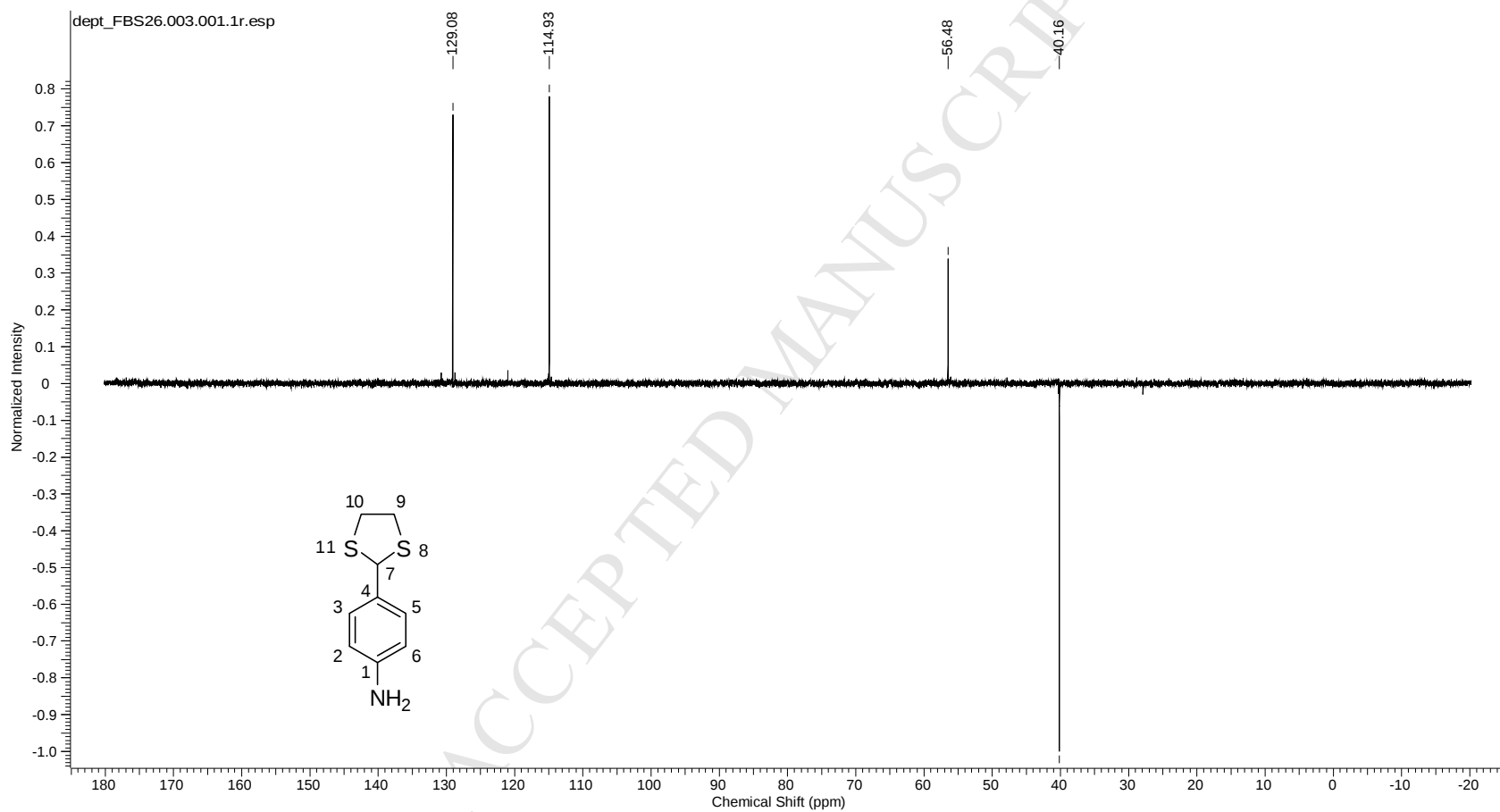


Figure S26. ¹³C (DEPT-135) in CDCl₃ of compound **3**.

NMR Spectrum

Frequency (MHz)	400.15	Nucleus	¹ H	Number of Transients	16
File Name	FBS27	Original Points Count	32768	Date	14 Feb 2011 15:18:56
Points Count	65536	Pulse Sequence	zg30	Receiver Gain	114.00
SW(cyclical) (Hz)	6818.18	Solvent	DMSO-d6	Spectrum Offset (Hz)	3001.1238
Spectrum Type	STANDARD	Sweep Width (Hz)	6818.08	Temperature (degree C)	23.800

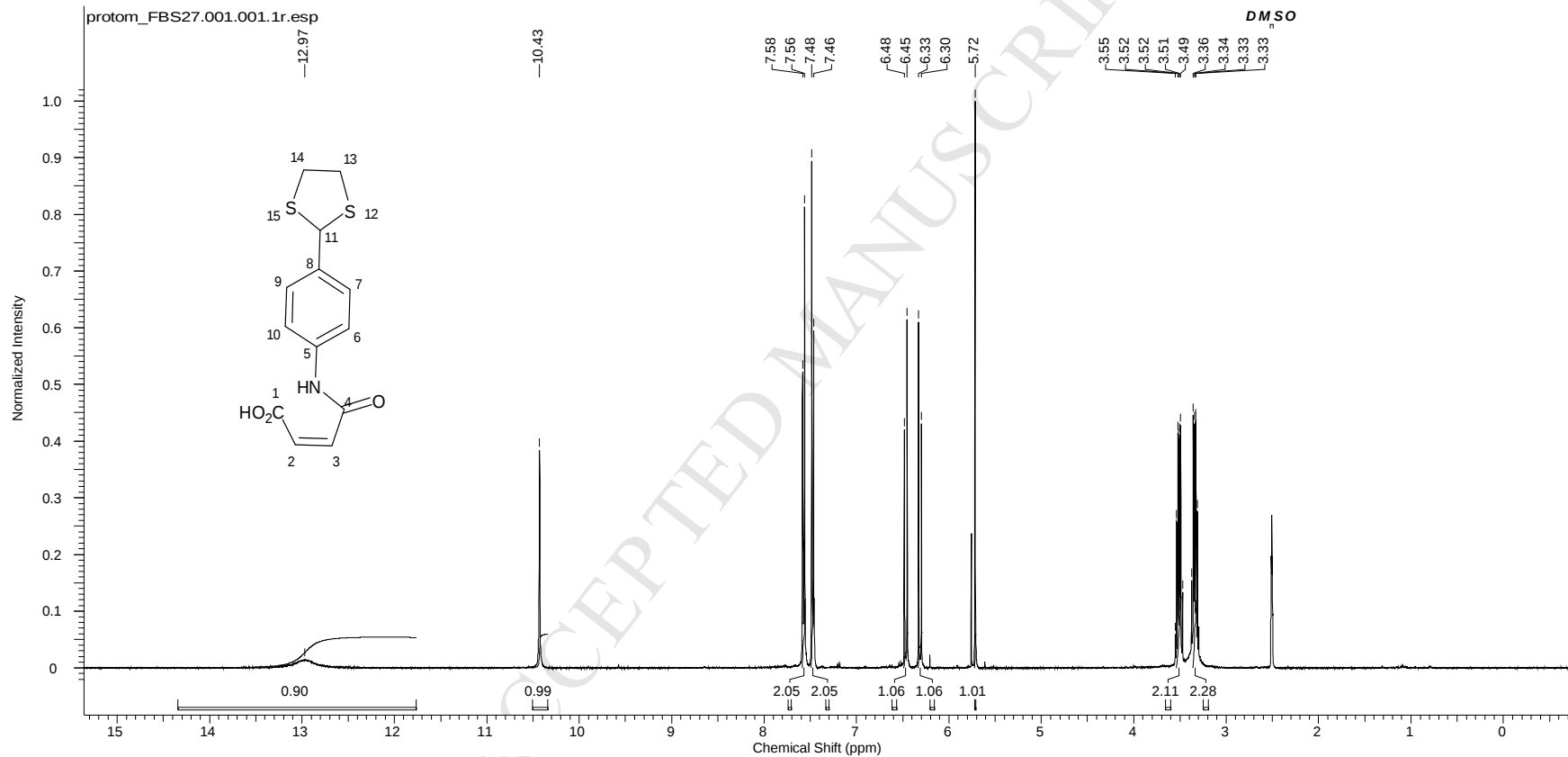


Figure S27. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) in DMSO-d6 of the intermediate for the preparation of compound **4**.

NMR Spectrum

File Name	FBS73 Prot S Acido	Frequency (MHz)	100.62	Nucleus	¹³ C
Number of Transients	2048	Temperature (degree C)	23.600	Original Points Count	16384
Points Count	32768	Pulse Sequence	zgpg30	Receiver Gain	2050.00
Solvent	DMSO-d6	Spectrum Offset (Hz)	10014.8047	Spectrum Type	STANDARD
				SW(cyclical) (Hz)	24671.05
				Sweep Width (Hz)	24670.30

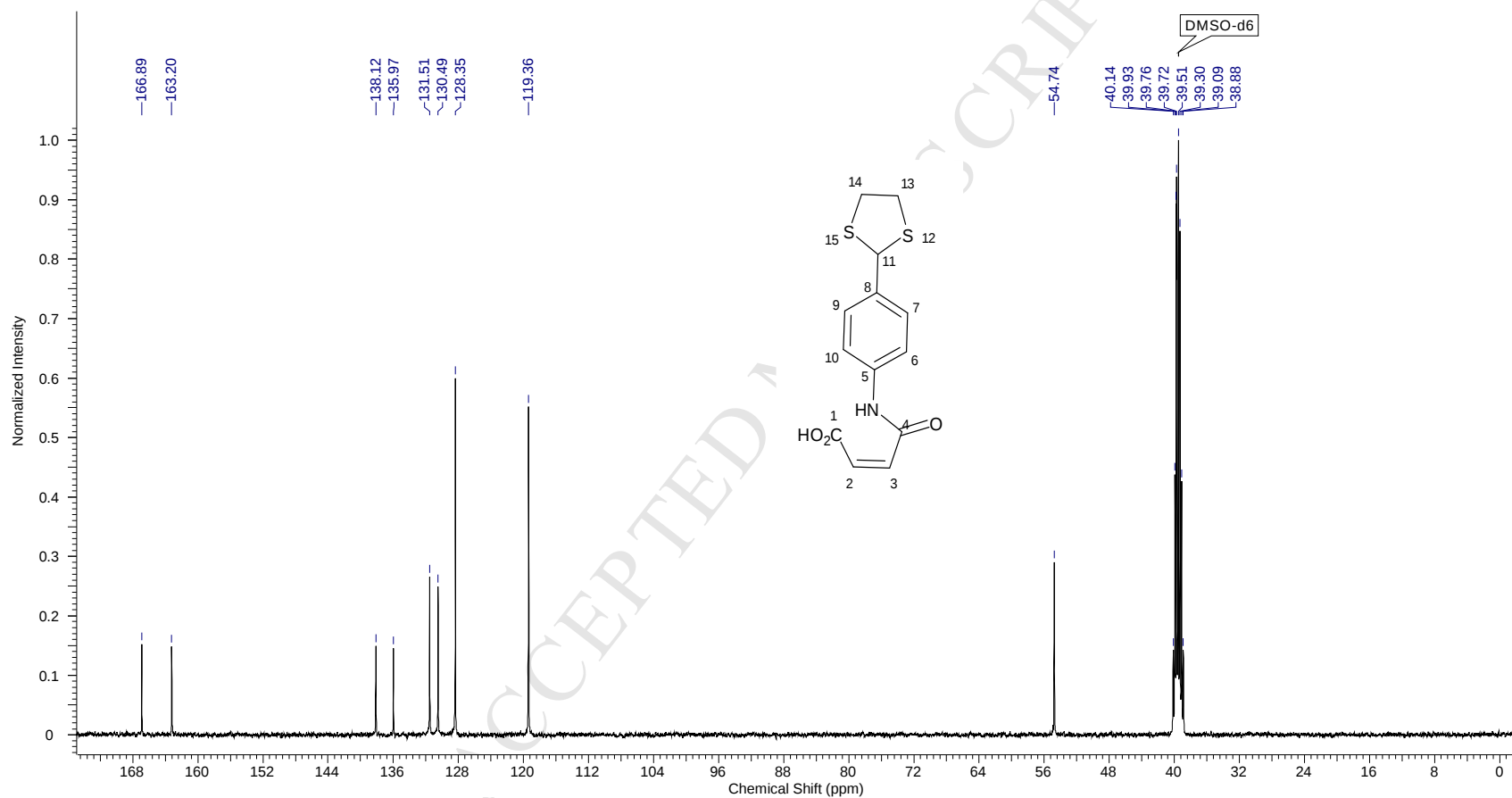


Figure S28. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) in DMSO-d6 of the intermediate for the preparation of compound **4**.

NMR Spectrum

Temperature (degree C)		23.200		Date Stamp		22 Jul 2012 23:22:56									
File Name		FBS73 Prot S Acido		Frequency (MHz)		100.62		Nucleus		13C					
Number of Transients		1024		Origin		spect		Original Points Count		16384		Date		22 Jul 2012 23:22:56	
Points Count		32768		Pulse Sequence		deptsp135		Receiver Gain		2050.00		SW(cyclical) (Hz)		20161.29	
Solvent		DMSO-d6		Spectrum Offset (Hz)		7998.1680		Spectrum Type		DEPT135		Sweep Width (Hz)		20160.68	

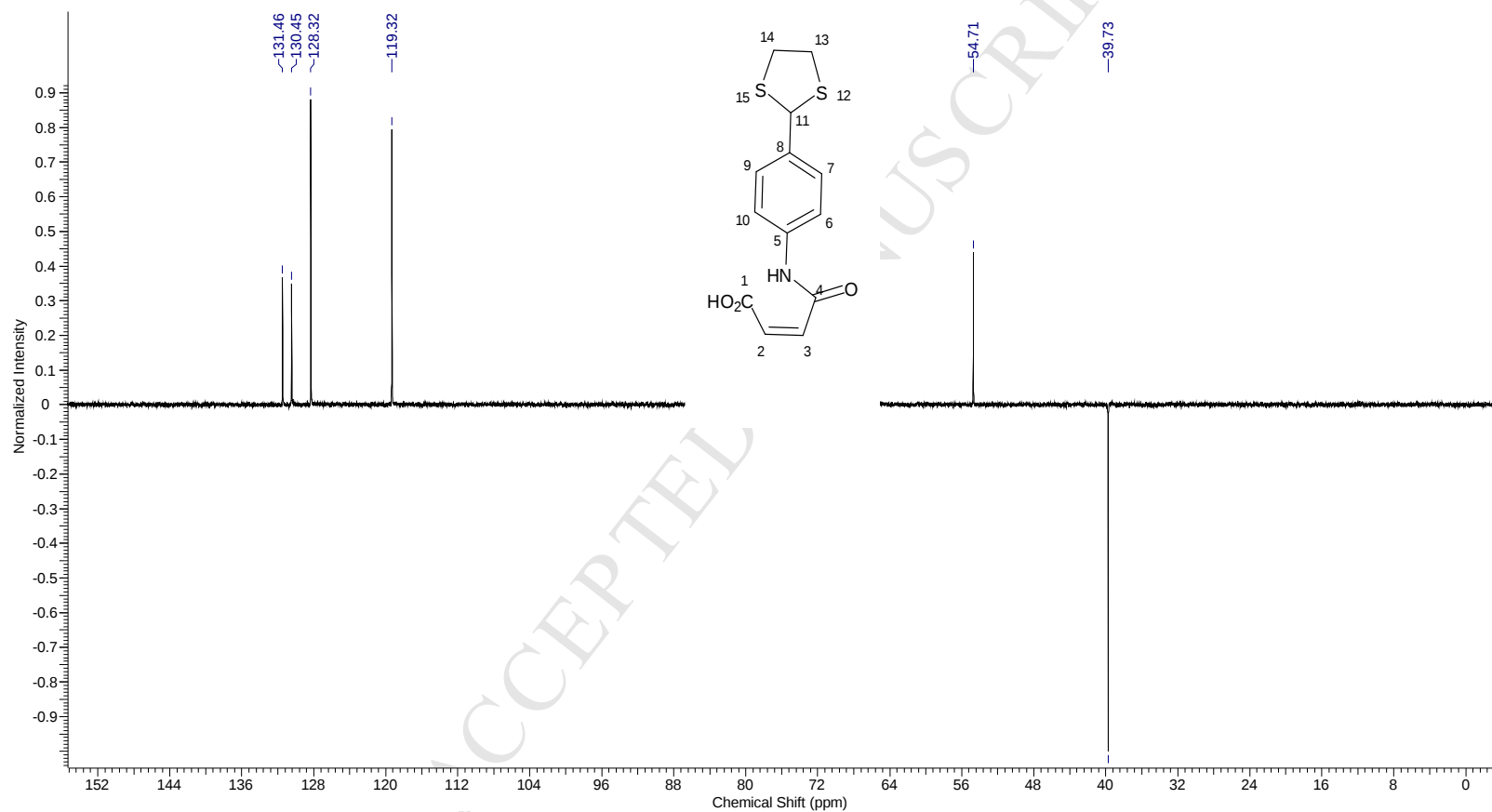


Figure S29. ¹³C (DEPT-135) in DMSO-d₆ of the intermediate for the preparation of compound 4.

NMR Spectrum

Frequency (MHz)	400.15	Nucleus	^1H	Number of Transients	16
File Name	FBS37	Original Points Count	32768	Date	11 Apr 2011 17:39:28
Points Count	65536	Pulse Sequence	zg30	Receiver Gain	203.00
SW(cyclical) (Hz)	6818.18	Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d	Spectrum Offset (Hz)	2993.6184
Spectrum Type	STANDARD	Sweep Width (Hz)	6818.08	Temperature (degree C)	24.800

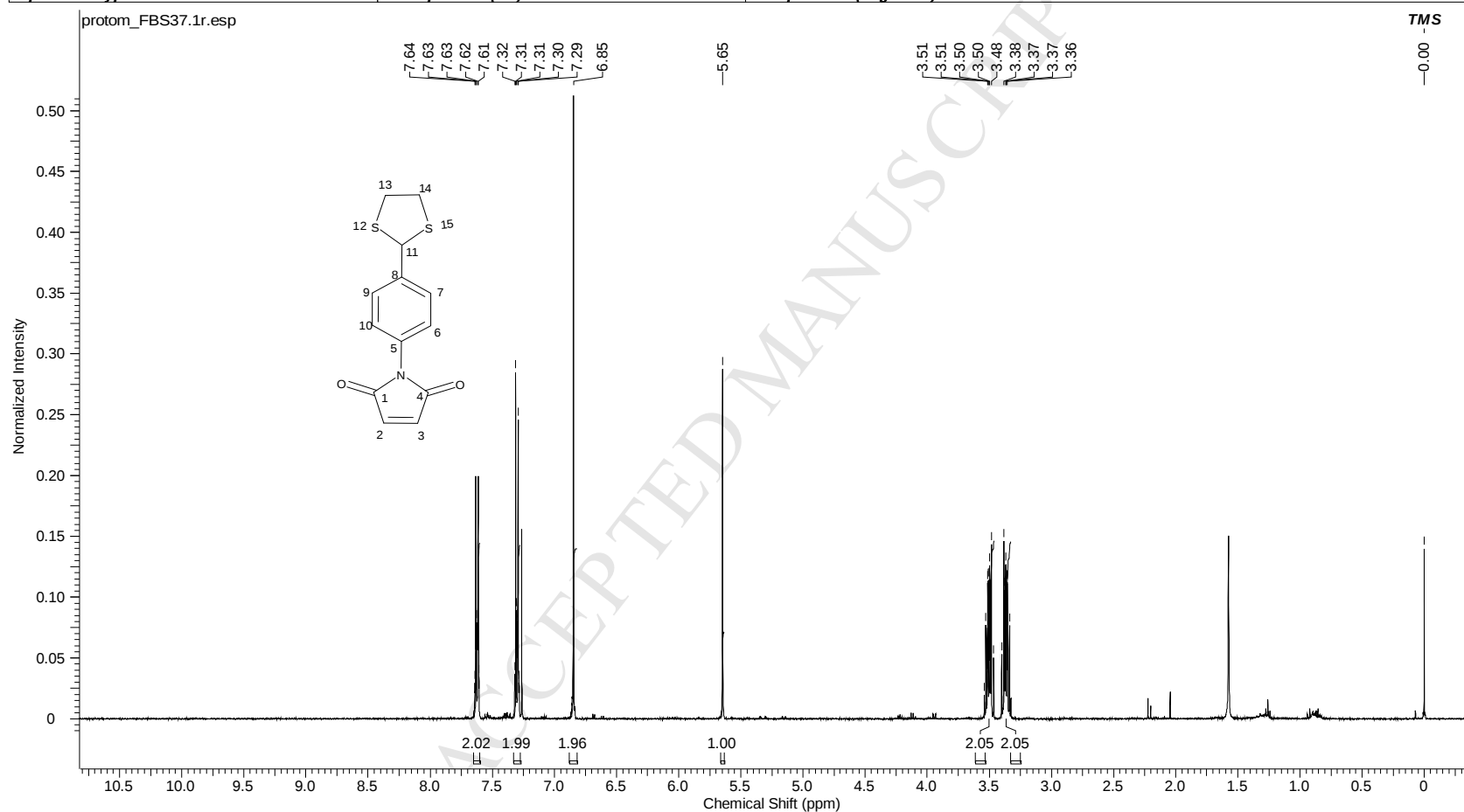


Figure S30. ^1H NMR (400 MHz) in CDCl_3 of compound 4.

NMR Spectrum

Frequency (MHz)	100.62	Nucleus	¹³ C	Number of Transients	1024
File Name	FBS42	Original Points Count	16384	Date	21 Apr 2011 15:14:24
Points Count	32768	Pulse Sequence	zgpg30	Receiver Gain	2050.00
SW(cyclical) (Hz)	24671.05	Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d	Spectrum Offset (Hz)	10058.5996
Spectrum Type	STANDARD	Sweep Width (Hz)	24670.30	Temperature (degree C)	24.900

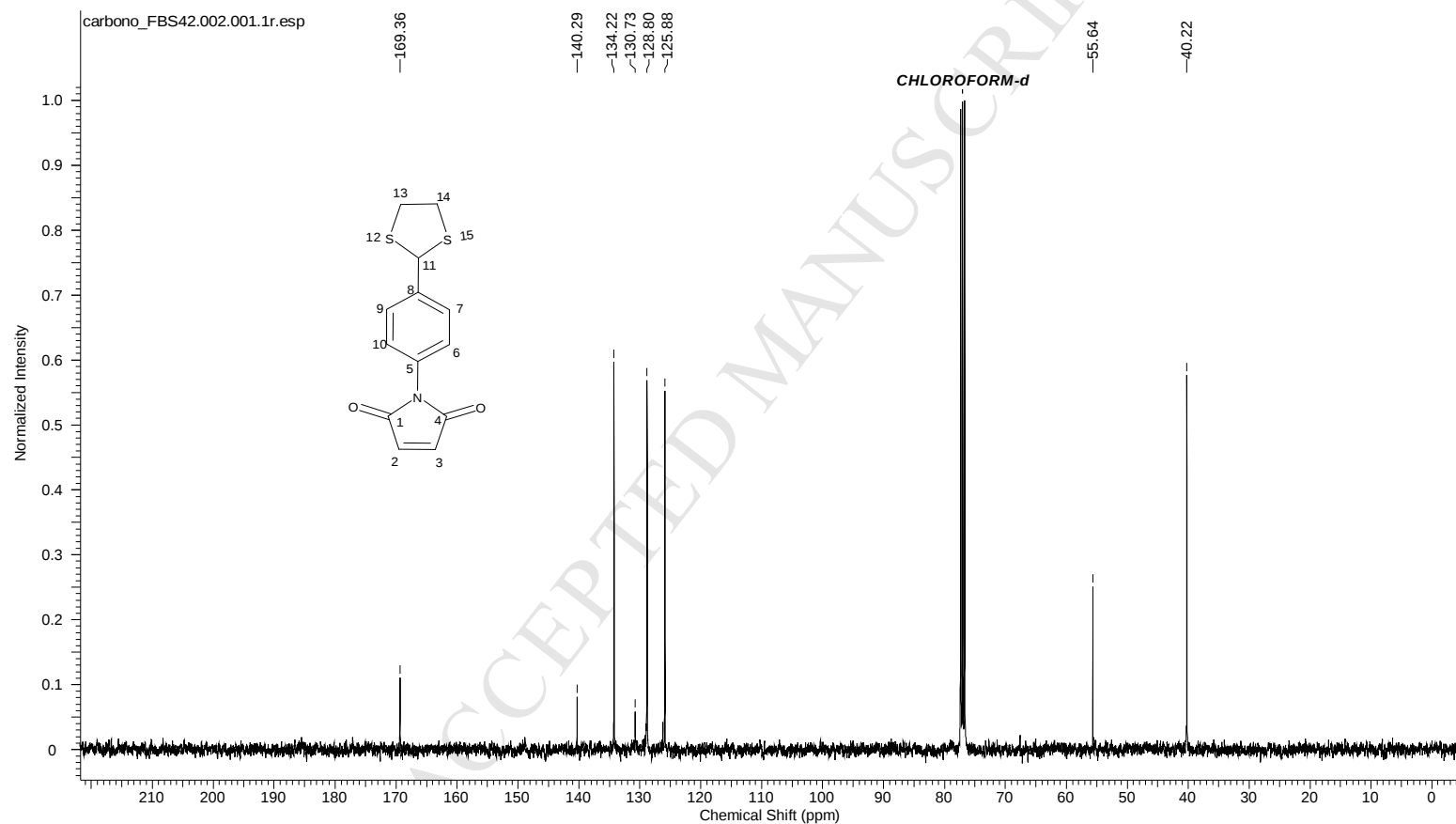


Figure S31. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound 4.

NMR Spectrum

Frequency (MHz)	100.62	Nucleus	^{13}C	Number of Transients	1024
File Name	FBS37	Original Points Count	16384	Date	11 Apr 2011 18:02:56
Points Count	32768	Pulse Sequence	deptsp135	Receiver Gain	2050.00
SW(cyclical) (Hz)	20161.29	Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d	Spectrum Offset (Hz)	8048.4780
Spectrum Type	DEPT135	Sweep Width (Hz)	20160.68	Temperature (degree C)	24.800

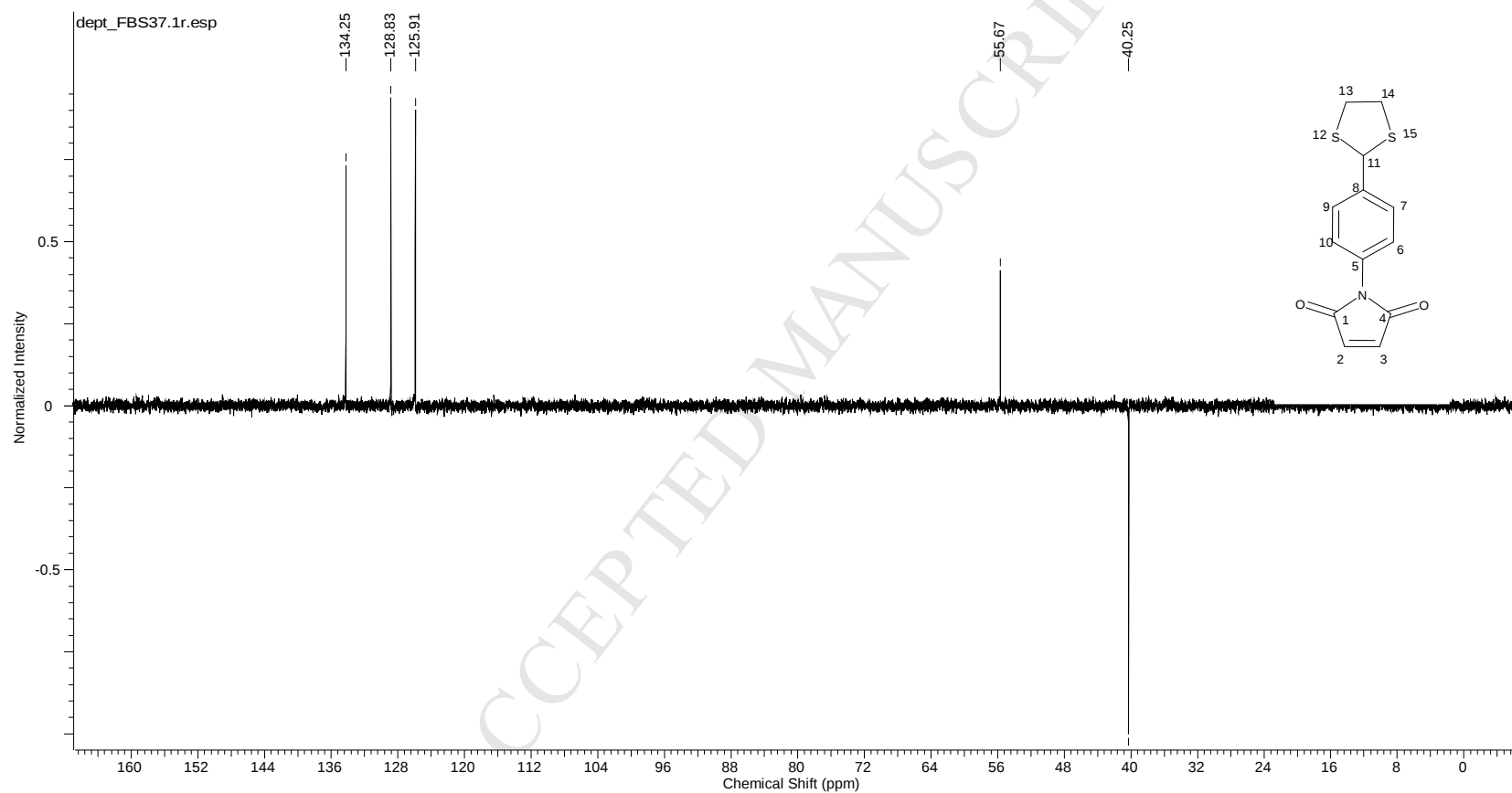


Figure S32. ^{13}C (DEPT-135) in CDCl_3 of compound 4.

NMR Spectrum

File Name	E:\1B329_FBS60-imida_aldeido\1\data\1\1r	Frequency (MHz)	400.15	Nucleus	¹ H
Number of Transients	16	Origin	spect	Original Points Count	32768
Points Count	65536	Pulse Sequence	zg30	Receiver Gain	203.00
Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d	Spectrum Offset (Hz)	2994.0344	Spectrum Type	STANDARD
Temperature (degree C)	26.800			SW(cyclical) (Hz)	6818.18
				Sweep Width (Hz)	6818.08

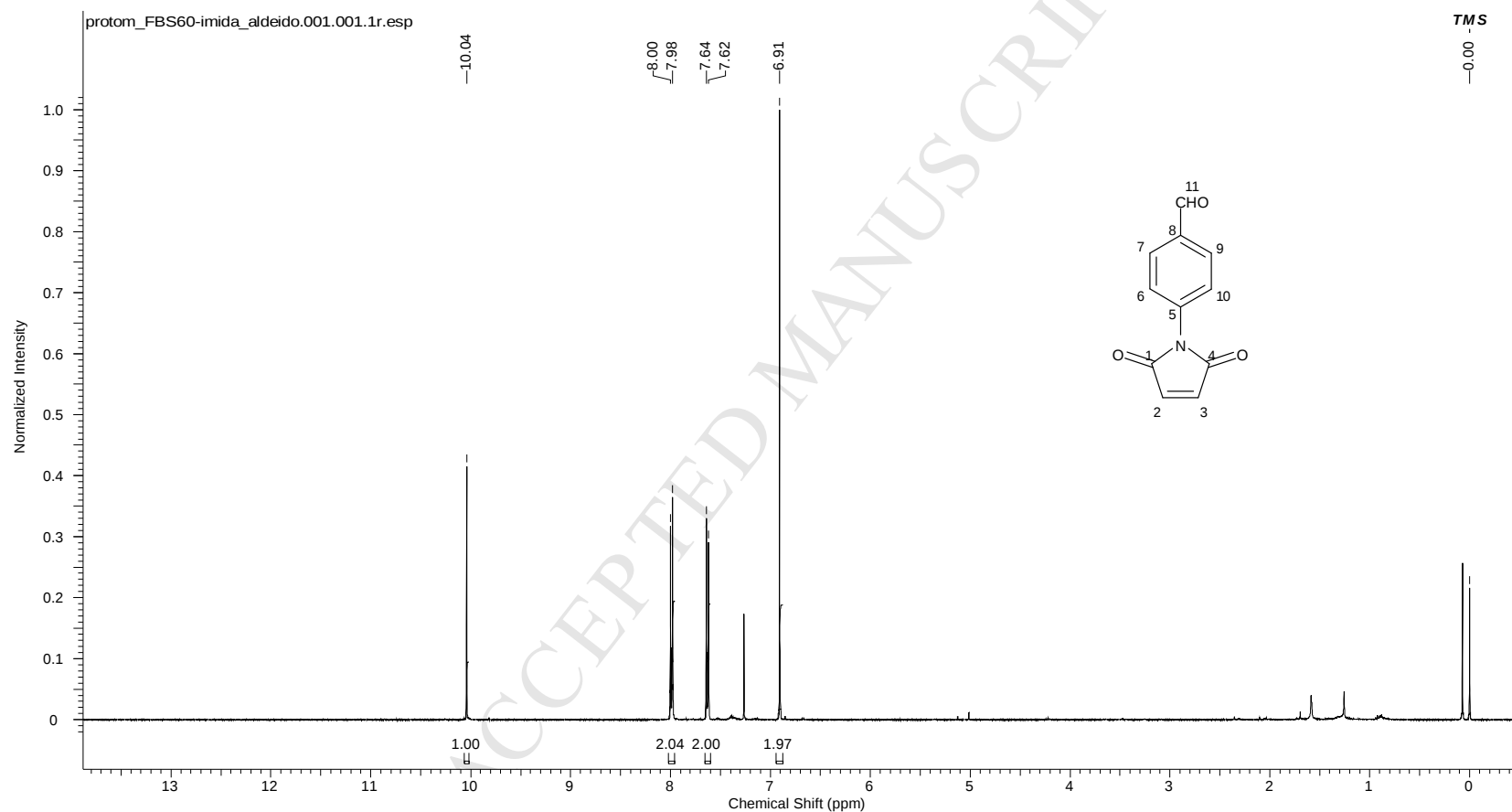


Figure S33. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound 5.

NMR Spectrum

File Name	FBS81_Meleimida_Aldeido	Frequency (MHz)	100.62
Nucleus	¹³ C	Number of Transients	2048
Owner	nmrslu	Date	23 Jul 2012 00:48:16
SW(cyclical) (Hz)	24671.05	Points Count	32768
Sweep Width (Hz)	24670.30	Pulse Sequence	zgpg30
		Receiver Gain	2050.00
		Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d
		Spectrum Offset (Hz)	10057.0938
		Spectrum Type	STANDARD
		Temperature (degree C)	23.600

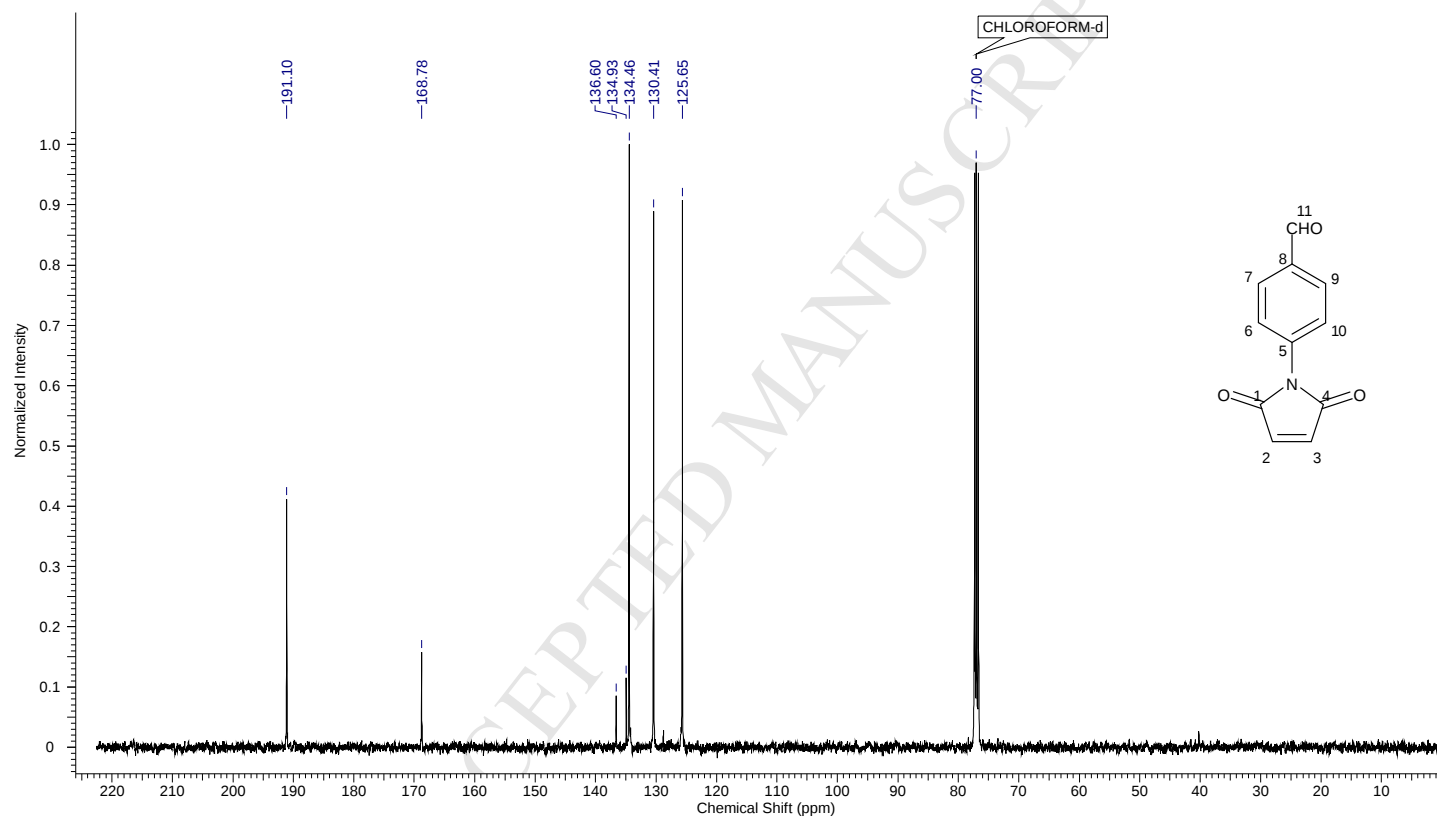


Figure S34. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound 5.

NMR Spectrum

File Name	FBS81_Meleimida_Aldeido	Frequency (MHz)	100.62	Nucleus	¹³ C
Number of Transients	1024	Origin	spect	Date	23 Jul 2012 00:20:32
Points Count	32768	Pulse Sequence	deptsp135	Receiver Gain	2050.00
Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d	Spectrum Offset (Hz)	8048.4780	SW(cyclical) (Hz)	20161.29
Temperature (degree C)	23.300	Spectrum Type	DEPT135	Sweep Width (Hz)	20160.68

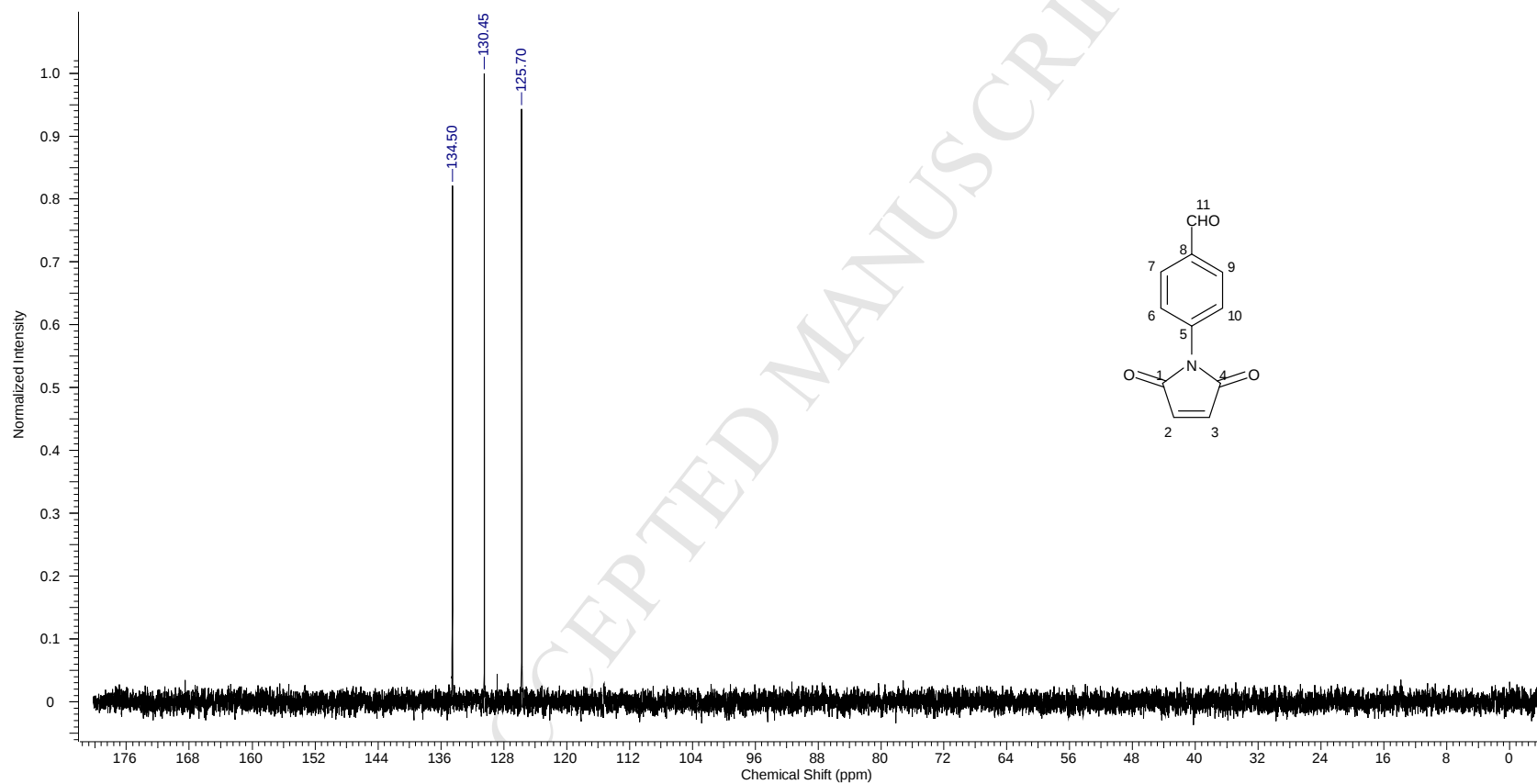


Figure S35. ¹³C (DEPT-135) in CDCl₃ of compound 5.

NMR Spectrum

Acquisition Time (sec)	3.2768	Comment	FBS pg 04	Date	04 Oct 2010 16:37:36
Nucleus	¹ H	Number of Transients	32	Origin	spect
Owner	RMN	Points Count	65536	Pulse Sequence	zg30
SW(cyclical) (Hz)	10000.00	Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d	Receiver Gain	144.00
Spectrum Type	STANDARD	Sweep Width (Hz)	9999.85	Temperature (degree C)	25.000
				Spectrum Offset (Hz)	2460.0984

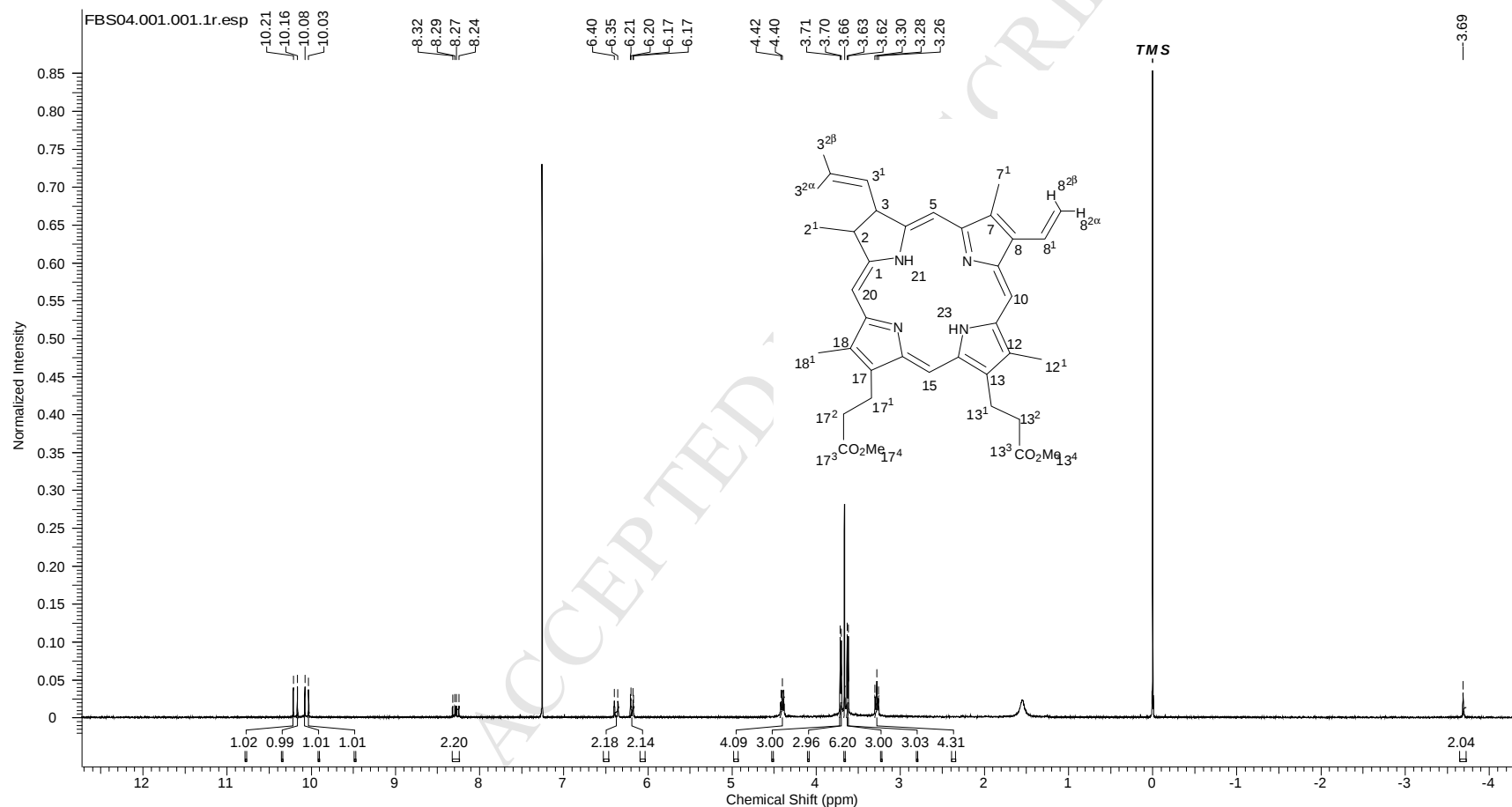


Figure S36. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound 7.

NMR Spectrum

Frequency (MHz)	400.13	Nucleus	¹ H	Number of Transients	32	File Name	C. Protegida M2
Original Points Count	32768	Date	31 Jan 2012 19:27:12	Points Count	65536	Pulse Sequence	zg
Receiver Gain	114.00	SW(cyclical) (Hz)	8370.54	Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d	Spectrum Offset (Hz)	1931.2543
Spectrum Type	STANDARD	Sweep Width (Hz)	8370.41	Temperature (degree C)	24.993		

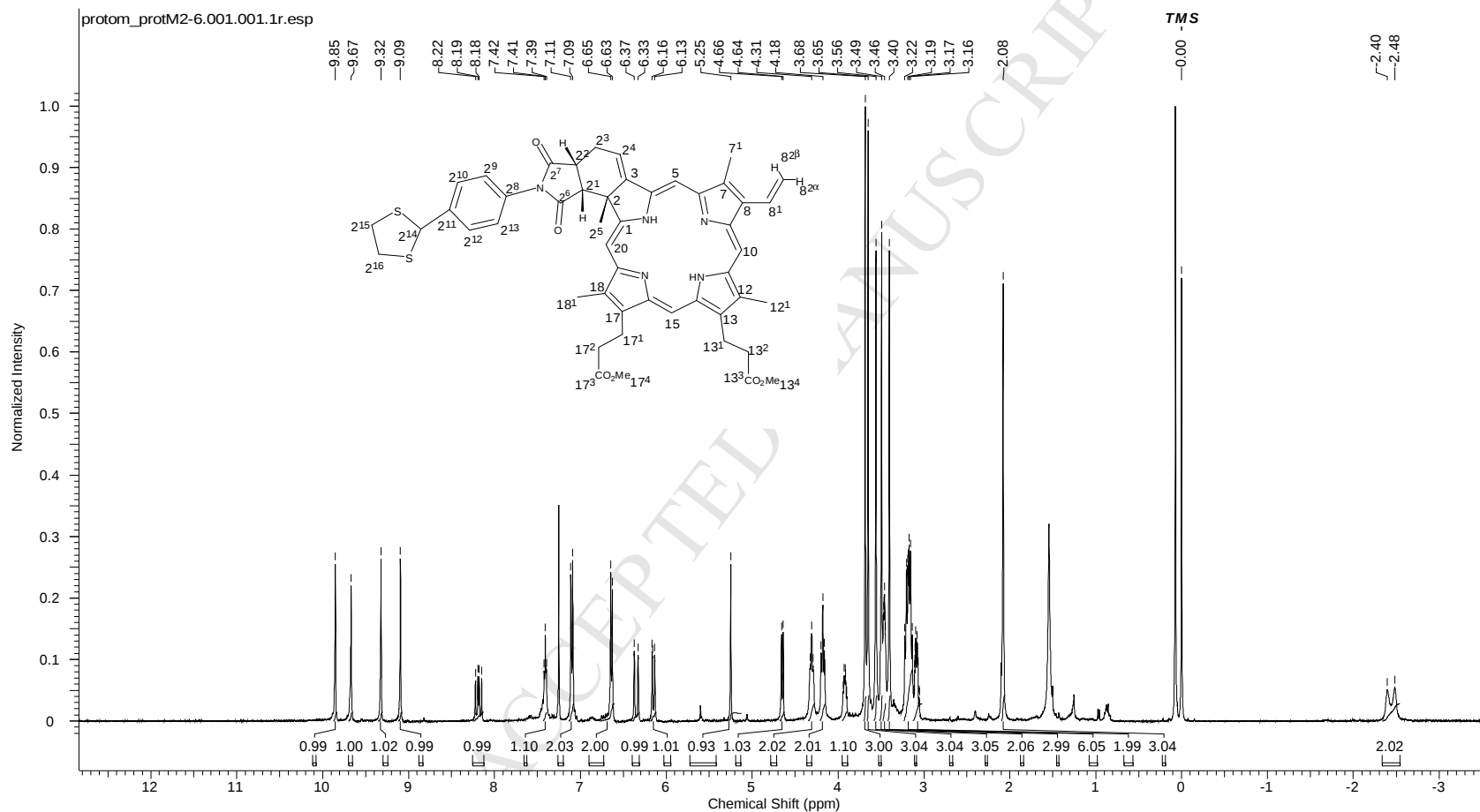


Figure S37. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound **8a**.

NMR Spectrum

Frequency (MHz)	100.62	Nucleus	^{13}C	Number of Transients	4096
Date	23 Jun 2012 11:00:32	Original Points Count	16384	File Name	C.Protégida M2
Points Count	32768	Pulse Sequence	zgpg30	Receiver Gain	2050.00
SW(cyclical) (Hz)	24671.05	Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d	Spectrum Offset (Hz)	10057.8467
Spectrum Type	STANDARD	Sweep Width (Hz)	24670.30	Temperature (degree C)	24.400

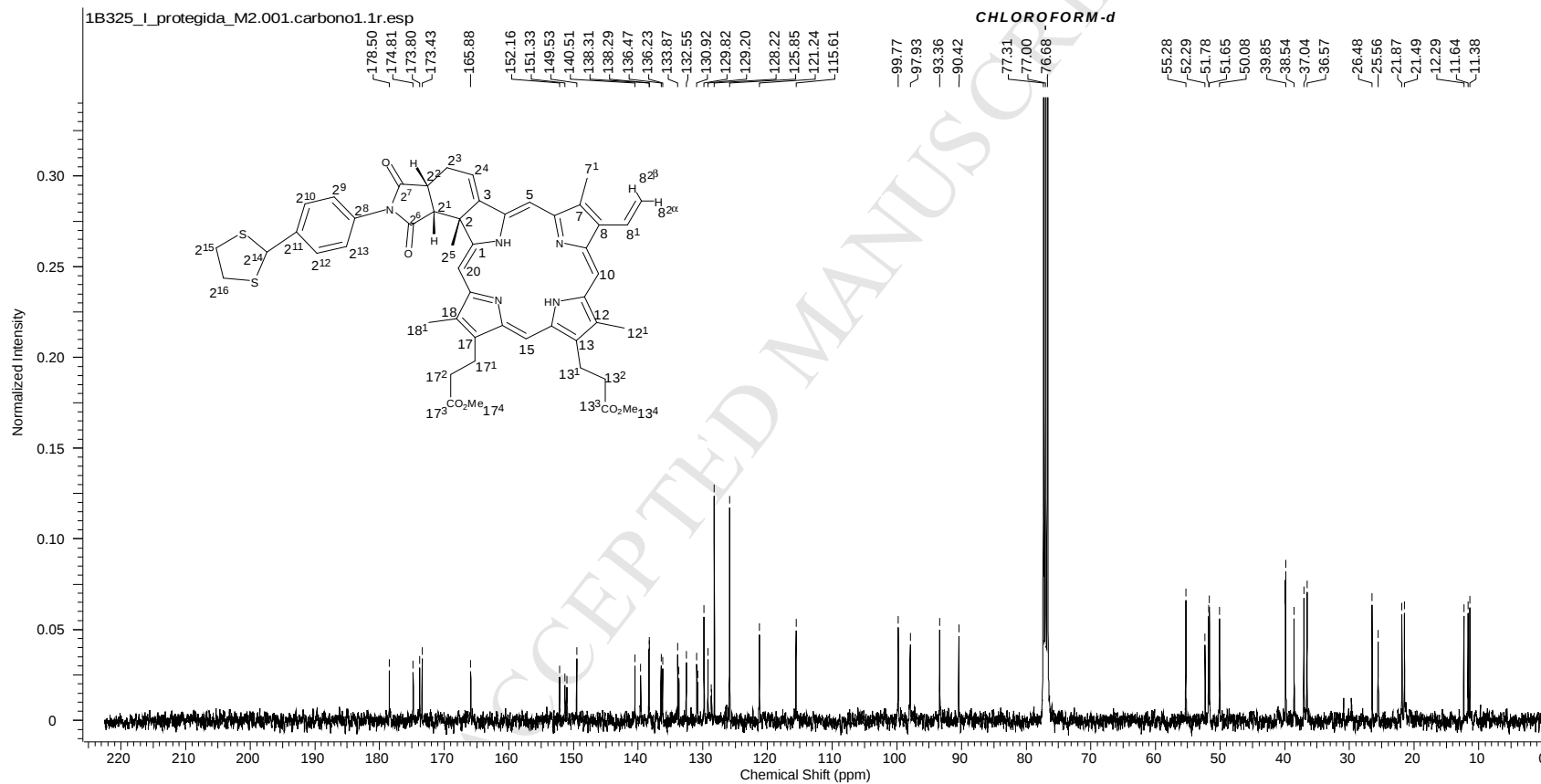


Figure S38. ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz) in CDCl_3 of compound 8a.

NMR Spectrum

Frequency (MHz)	100.62	Nucleus	^{13}C	Number of Transients	2048
Date	04 Jul 2011 16:05:36	Original Points Count	16384	File Name	
Points Count	32768	Pulse Sequence	depts135	Receiver Gain	724.00
SW(cyclical) (Hz)	20161.29	Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d	Spectrum Offset (Hz)	8048.4780
Spectrum Type	DEPT135	Sweep Width (Hz)	20160.68	Temperature (degree C)	26.800

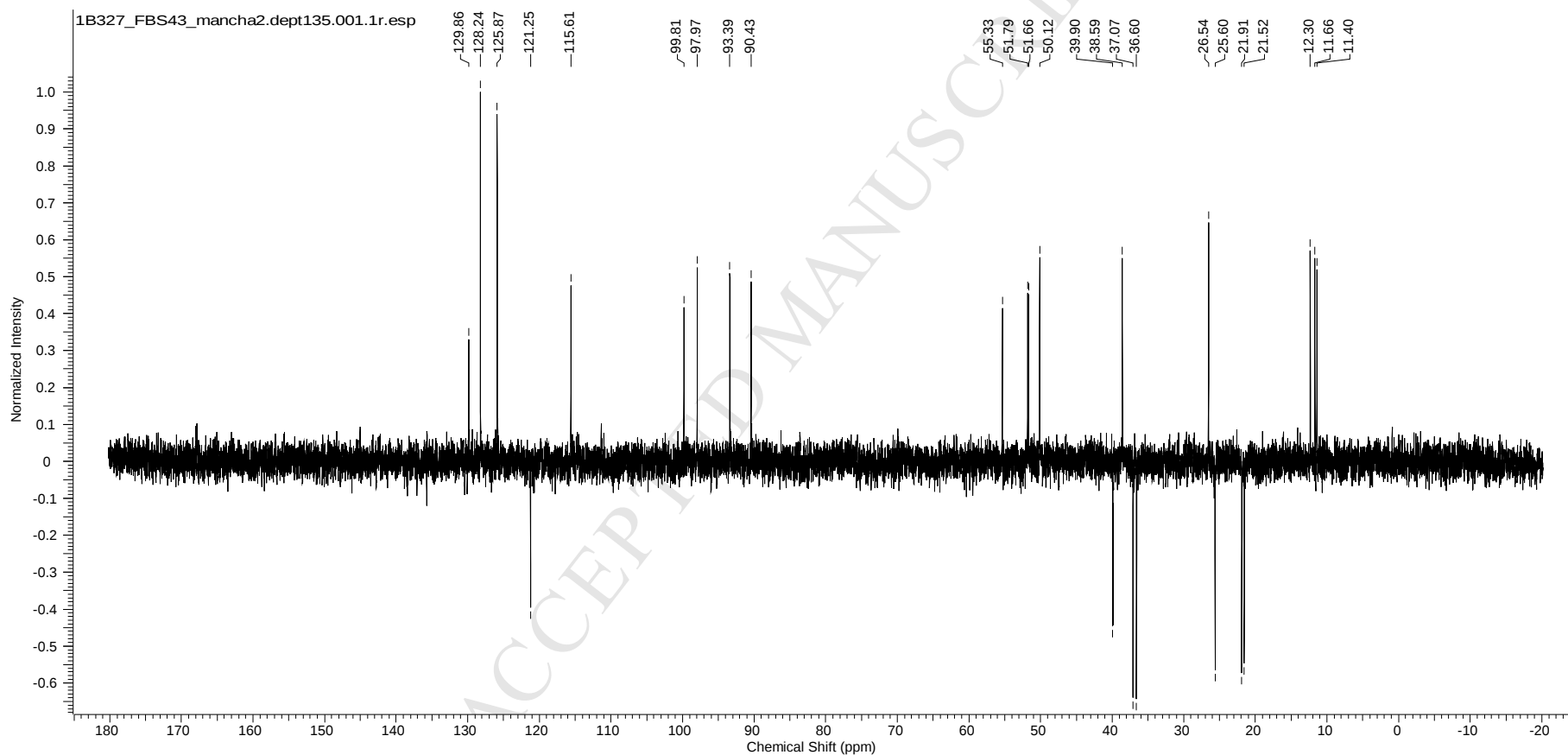


Figure S39. ^{13}C (DEPT-135) in CDCl_3 of compound **8a**.

NMR Spectrum

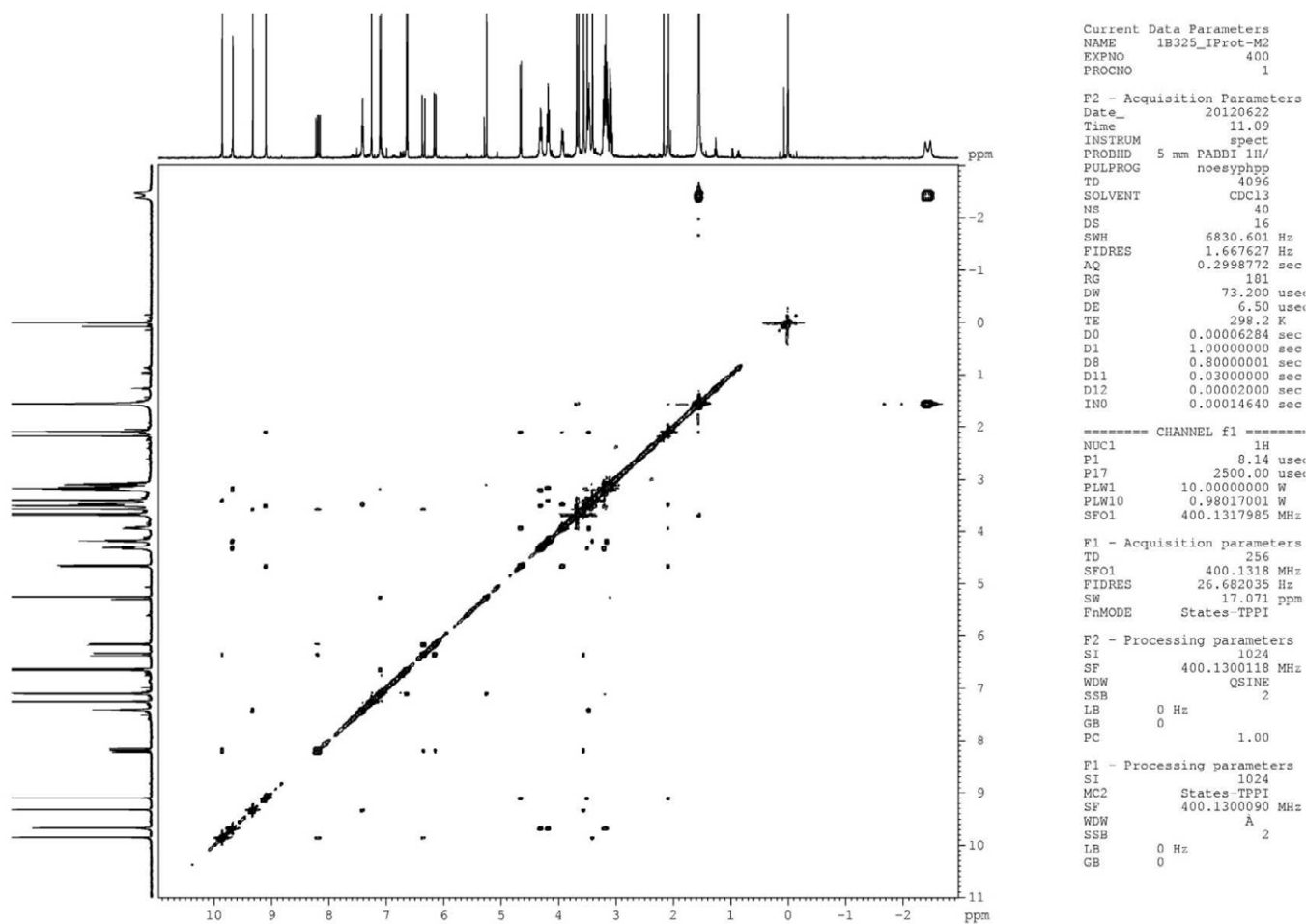


Figure S40. gNOESY (400 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound **8a**.

NMR Spectrum

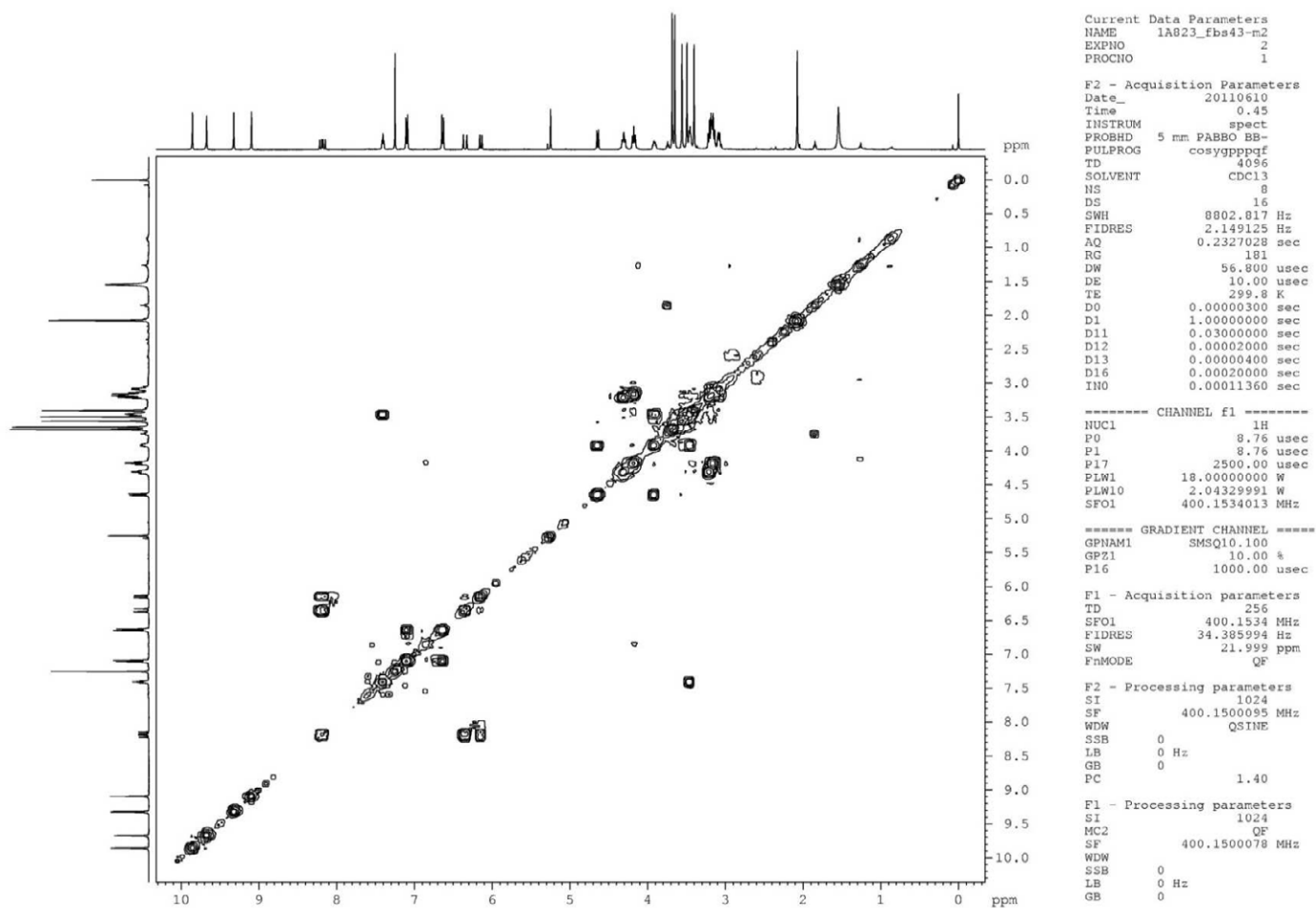


Figure S41. gCOSY (400 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound **8a**.

NMR Spectrum

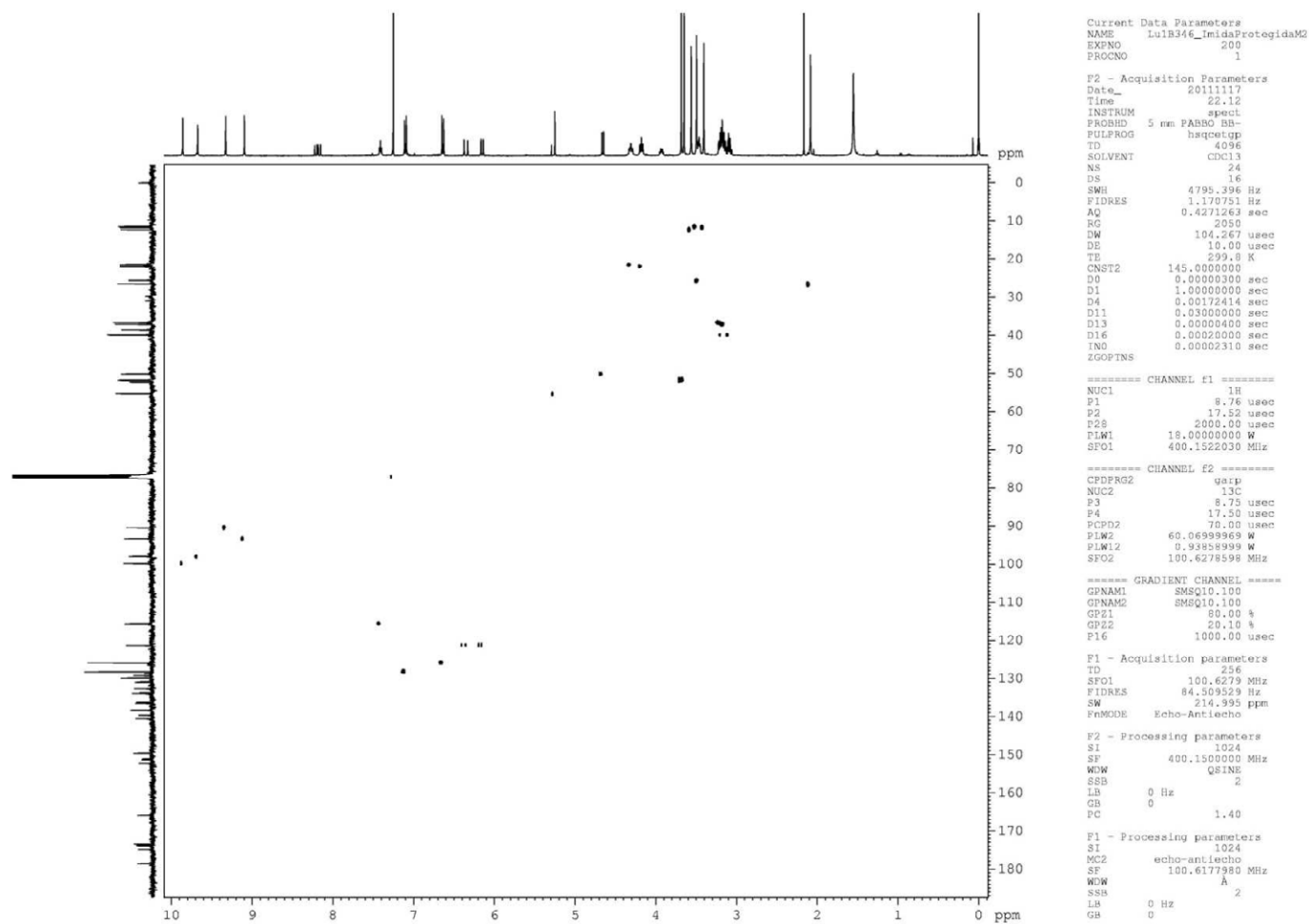


Figure S42.gHSQC (400 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound **8a**.

NMR Spectrum

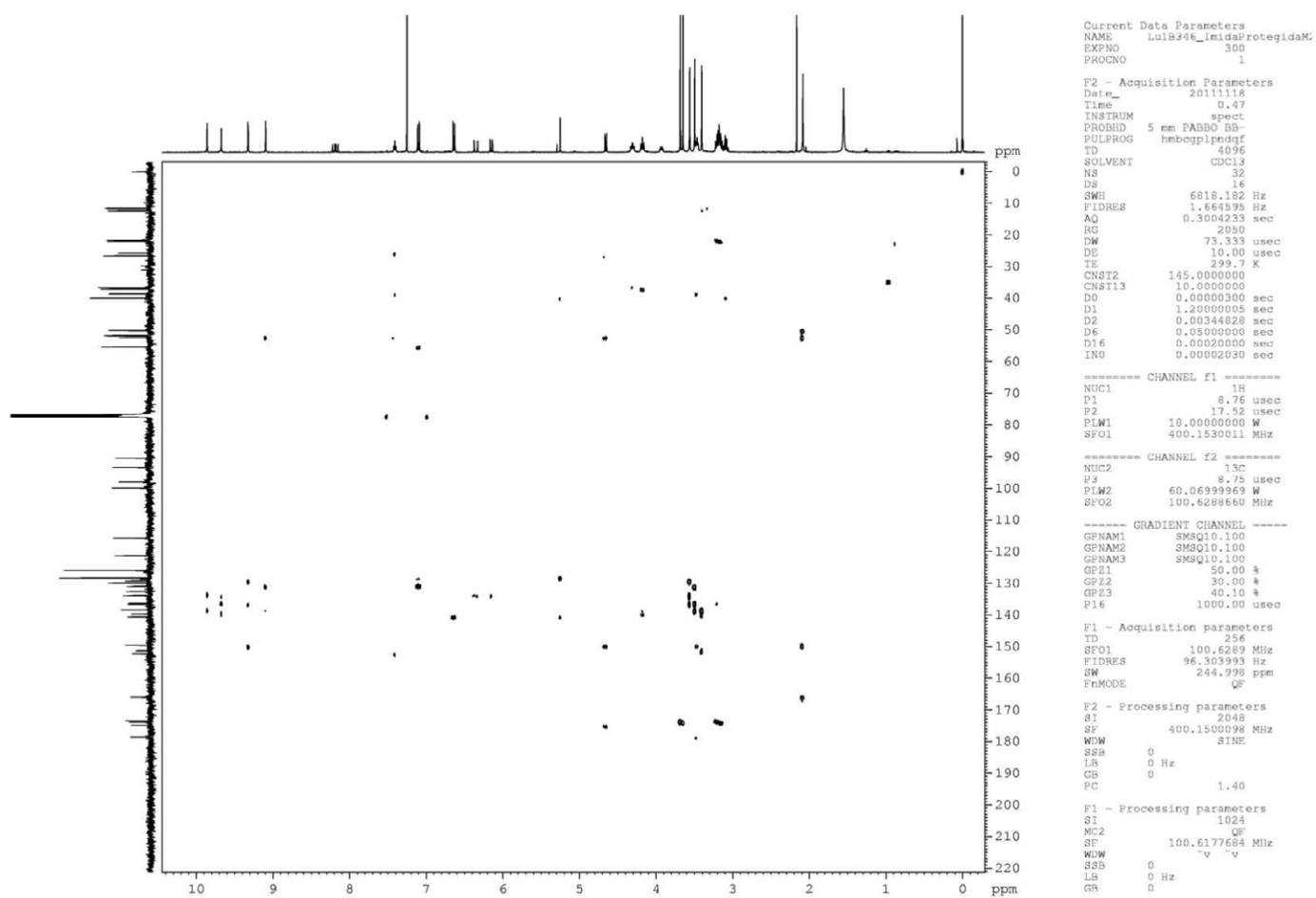


Figure S43. gHMBC (400 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound **8a**.

NMR Spectrum

Frequency (MHz)	400.15	Nucleus	¹ H	Number of Transients	128
File Name	C.Protegida_M1	Original Points Count	32768	Date	14 Oct 2011 12:51:28
Points Count	65536	Pulse Sequence	zg30	Receiver Gain	181.00
SW(cyclical) (Hz)	10000.00	Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d	Spectrum Offset (Hz)	2985.9163
Spectrum Type	STANDARD	Sweep Width (Hz)	9999.85	Temperature (degree C)	23.200

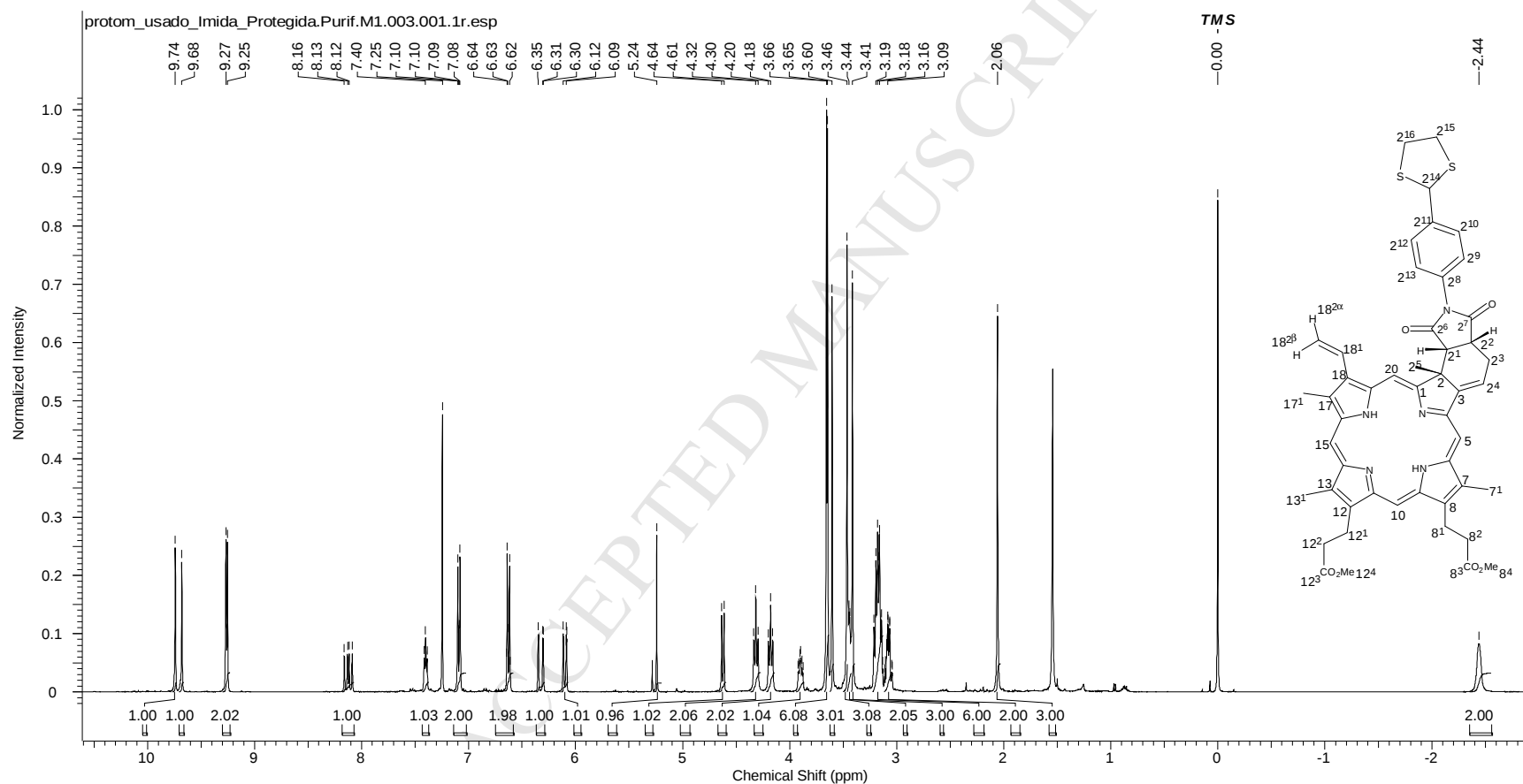


Figure S44. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound 8b.

NMR Spectrum

Frequency (MHz)	100.62	Nucleus	¹³ C	Number of Transients	4096
File Name	C.Protégida_M1	Original Points Count	16384	Date	17 Oct 2011 14:53:20
Points Count	32768	Pulse Sequence	zgpg30	Receiver Gain	2050.00
SW(cyclical) (Hz)	24671.05	Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d	Spectrum Offset (Hz)	10057.8467
Spectrum Type	STANDARD	Sweep Width (Hz)	24670.30	Temperature (degree C)	24.200

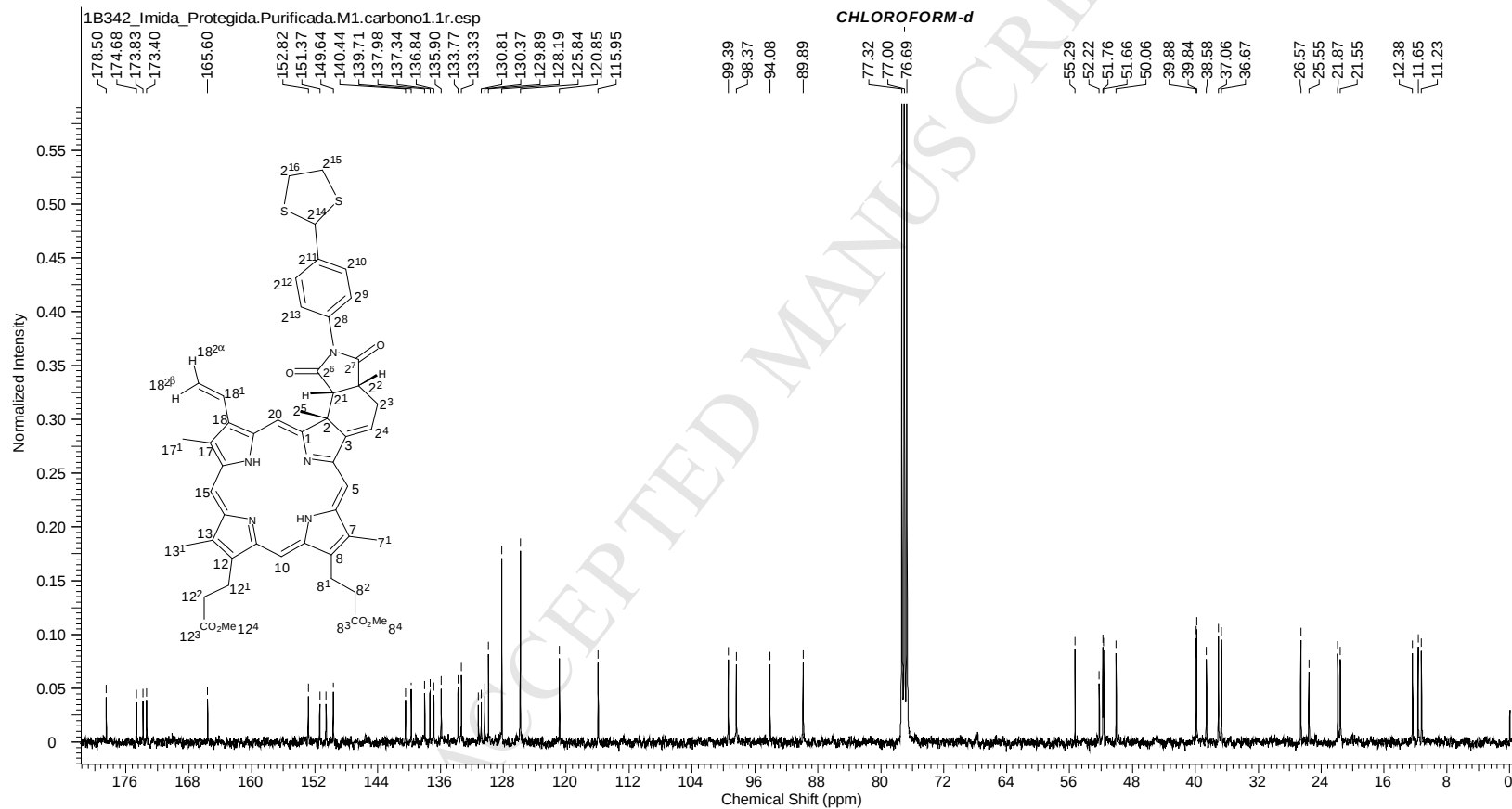


Figure S45. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound 8b.

NMR Spectrum

Frequency (MHz)	100.62	Nucleus	¹³ C	Number of Transients	2048
File Name	C.Protegida_M1	Original Points Count	16384	Date	29 Apr 2011 05:21:20
Points Count	32768	Pulse Sequence	deptsp135	Receiver Gain	2050.00
SW(cyclical) (Hz)	20161.29	Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d	Spectrum Offset (Hz)	8048.4780
Spectrum Type	DEPT135	Sweep Width (Hz)	20160.68	Temperature (degree C)	26.800

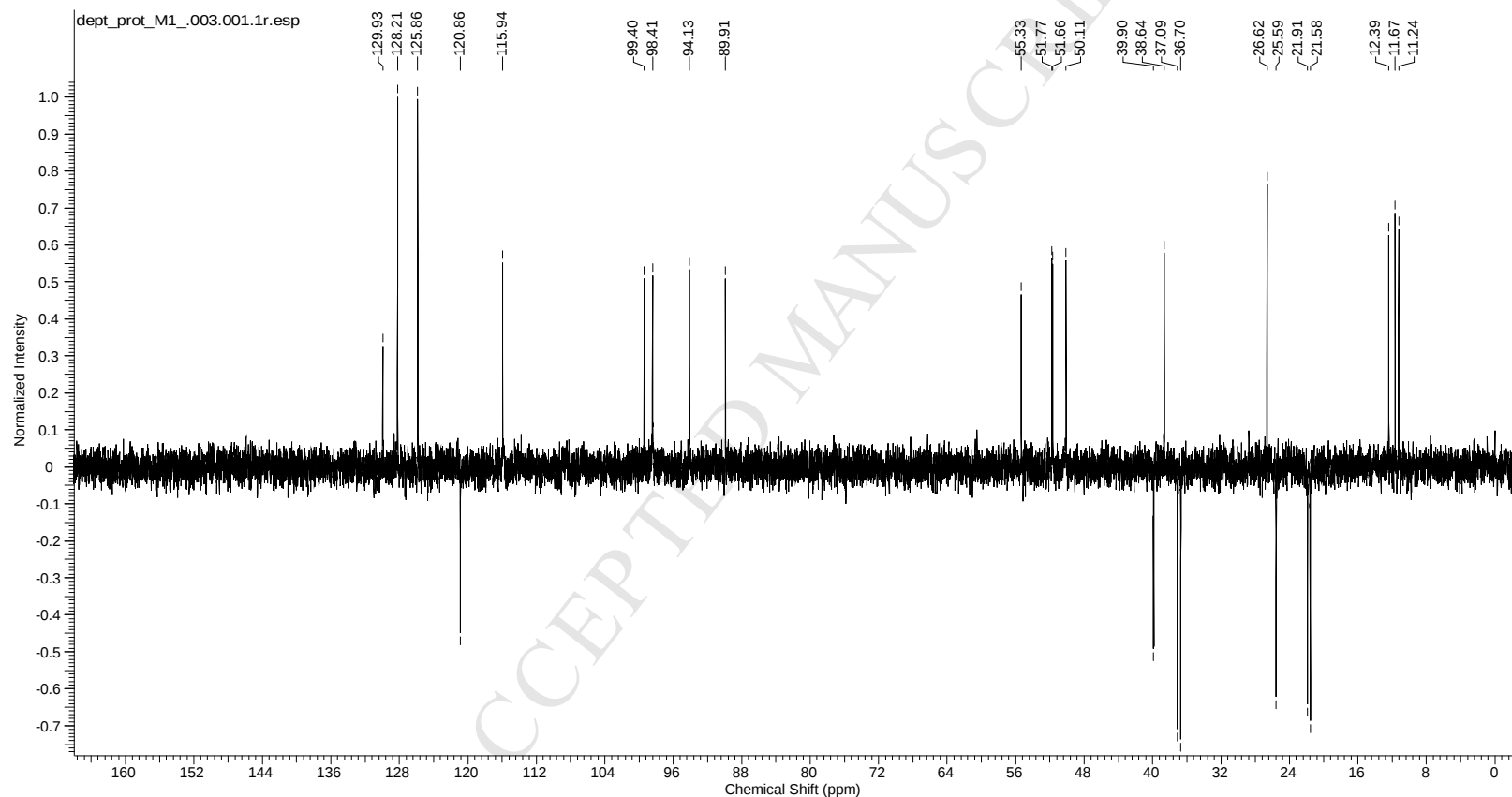


Figure S46. ¹³C (DEPT-135) in CDCl₃ of compound **8b**.

NMR Spectrum

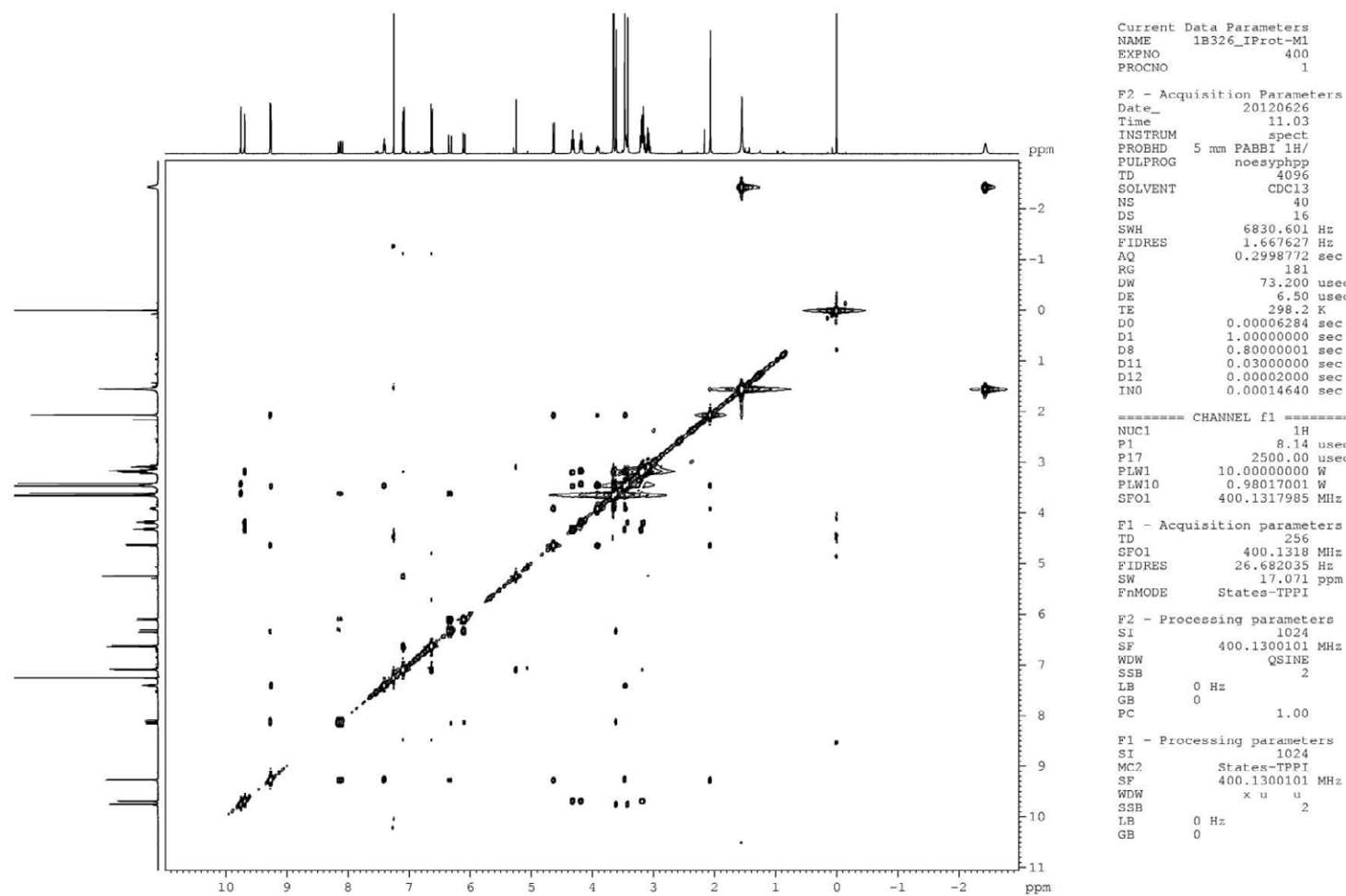


Figure S47.gNOESY (400 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound **8b**.

NMR Spectrum

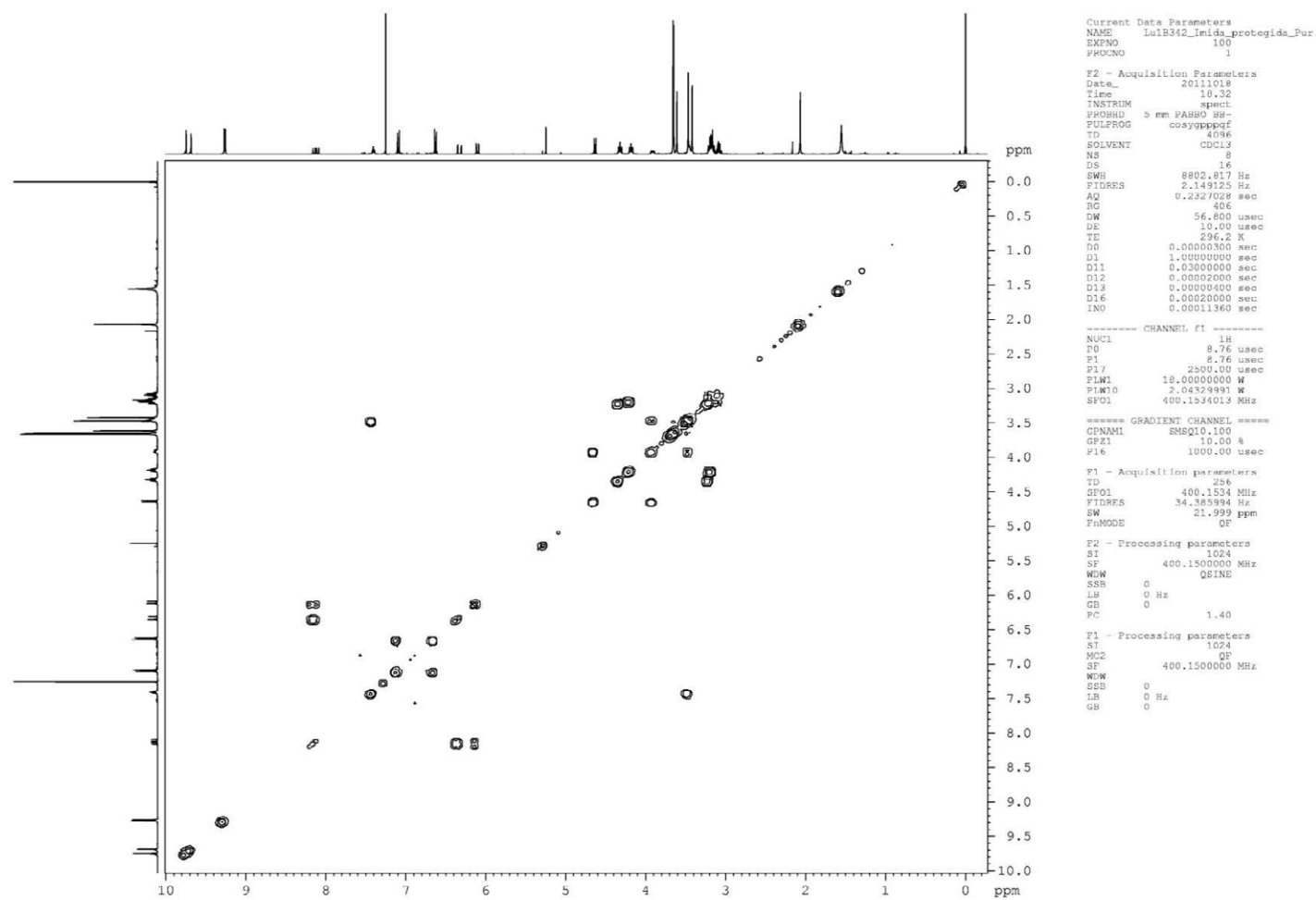


Figure S48. gCOSY (400 MHz) in CDCl_3 of compound **8b**.

NMR Spectrum

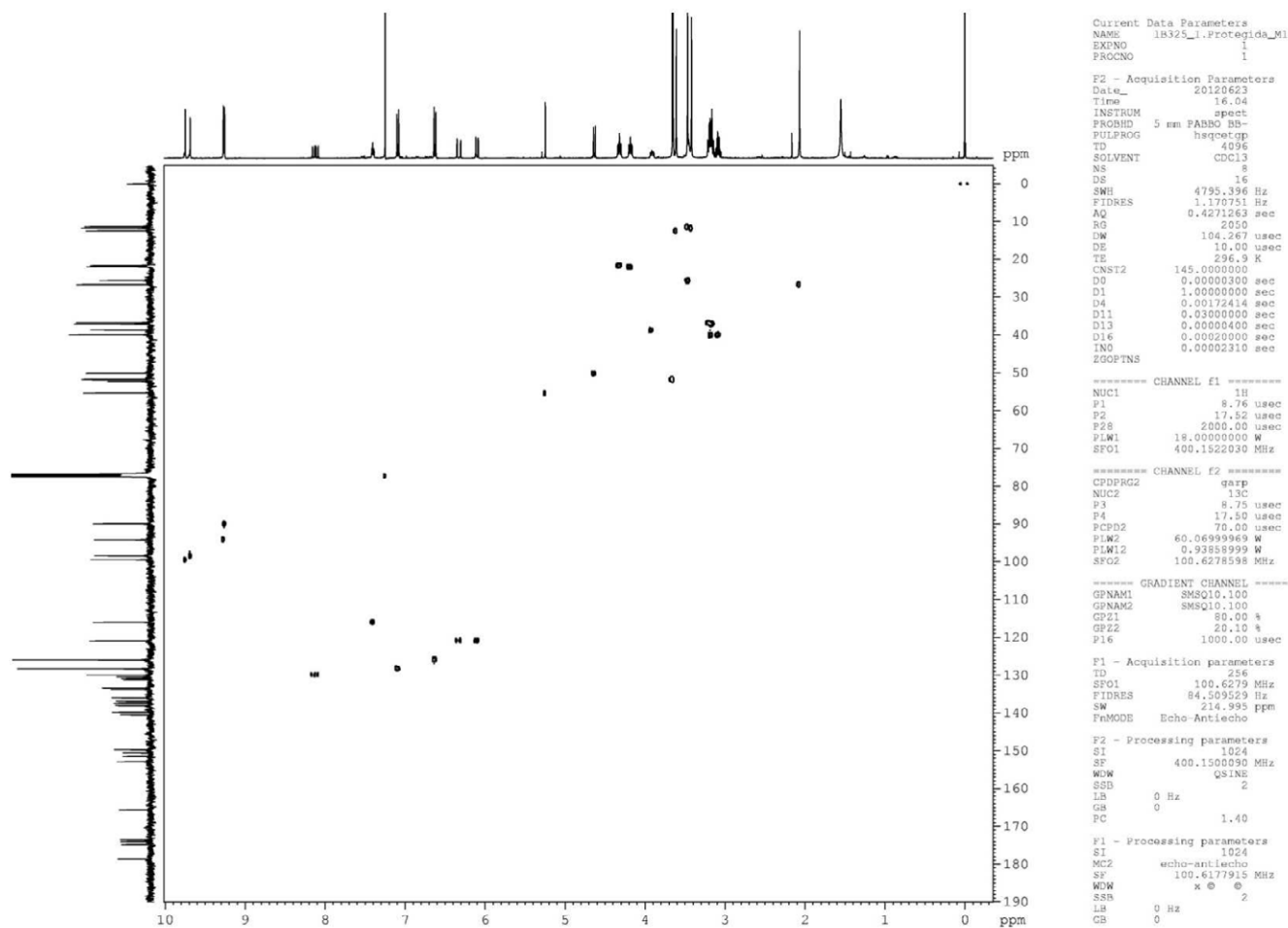


Figure S49.gHSQC (400 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound **8b**.

NMR Spectrum

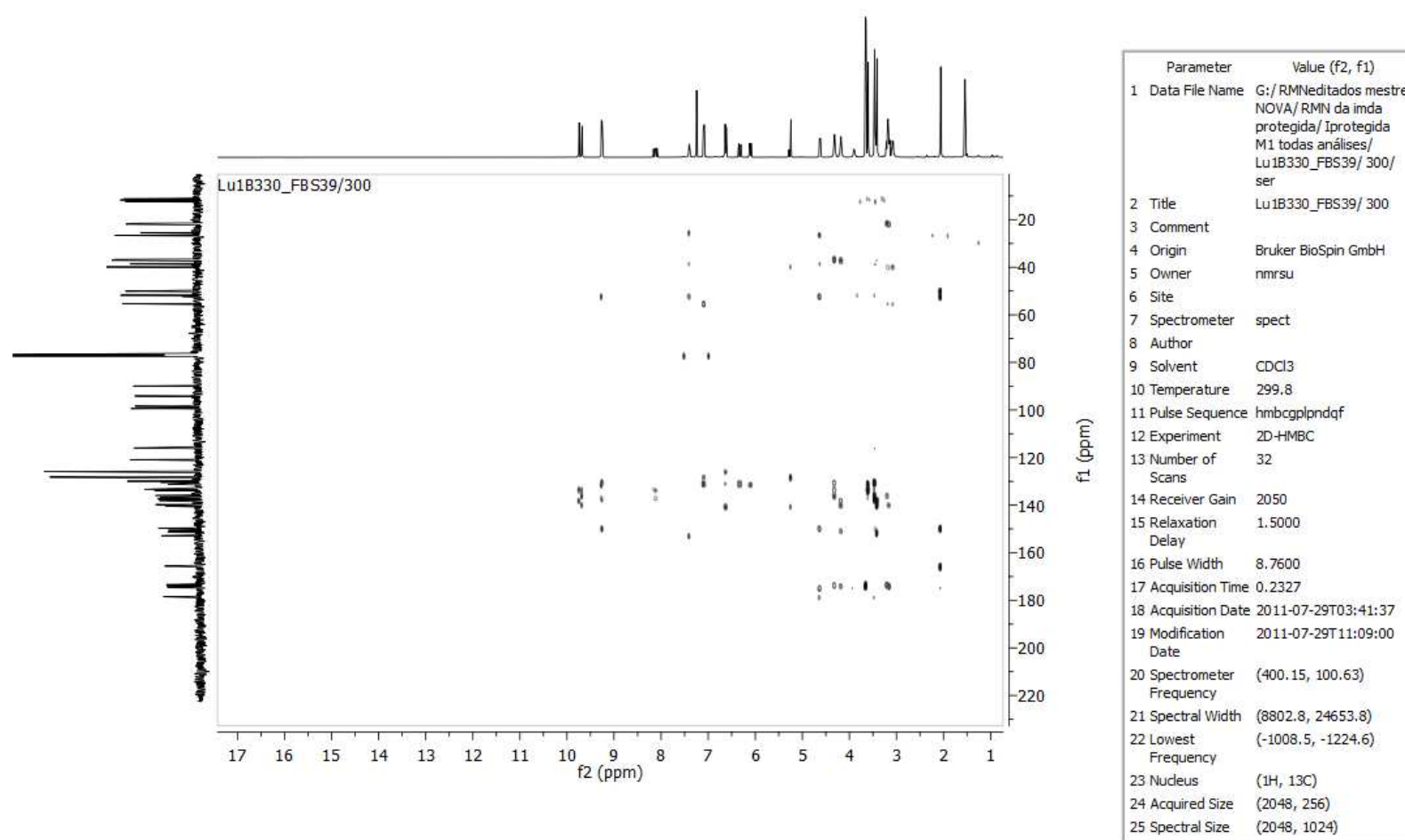


Figure S50. gHMBC (400 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound **8b**.

NMR Spectrum

Frequency (MHz)	400.13	Nucleus	¹ H	Number of Transients	8	File Name	C.Aldeido_M2
Original Points Count	32768	Owner	root	Points Count	32768	Pulse Sequence	zg
Receiver Gain	71.80	SW(cyclical) (Hz)	6578.95	Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d	Spectrum Offset (Hz)	1622.5515
Spectrum Type	STANDARD	Sweep Width (Hz)	6578.75	Temperature (degree C)	24.988		

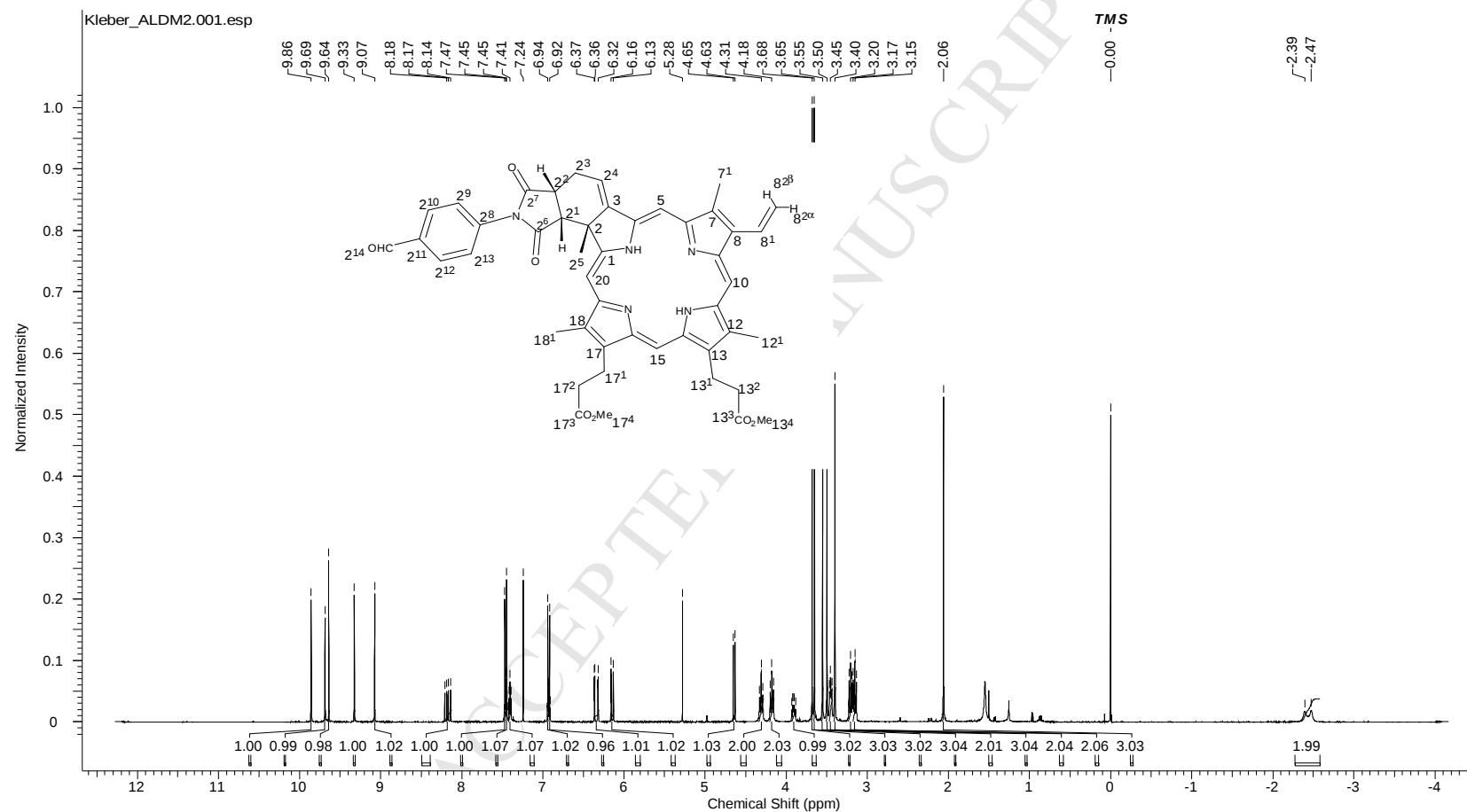


Figure S51. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound **9a**.

NMR Spectrum

Frequency (MHz)	100.62	Nucleus	¹³ C	Number of Transients	7168	File Name	C.Aldeido_M2
Original Points Count	16384	Owner	root	Points Count	16384	Pulse Sequence	zgpg30
Receiver Gain	912.00	SW(cyclical) (Hz)	24038.46	Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d	Spectrum Offset (Hz)	10056.5830
Spectrum Type	STANDARD	Sweep Width (Hz)	24036.99	Temperature (degree C)	24.998		

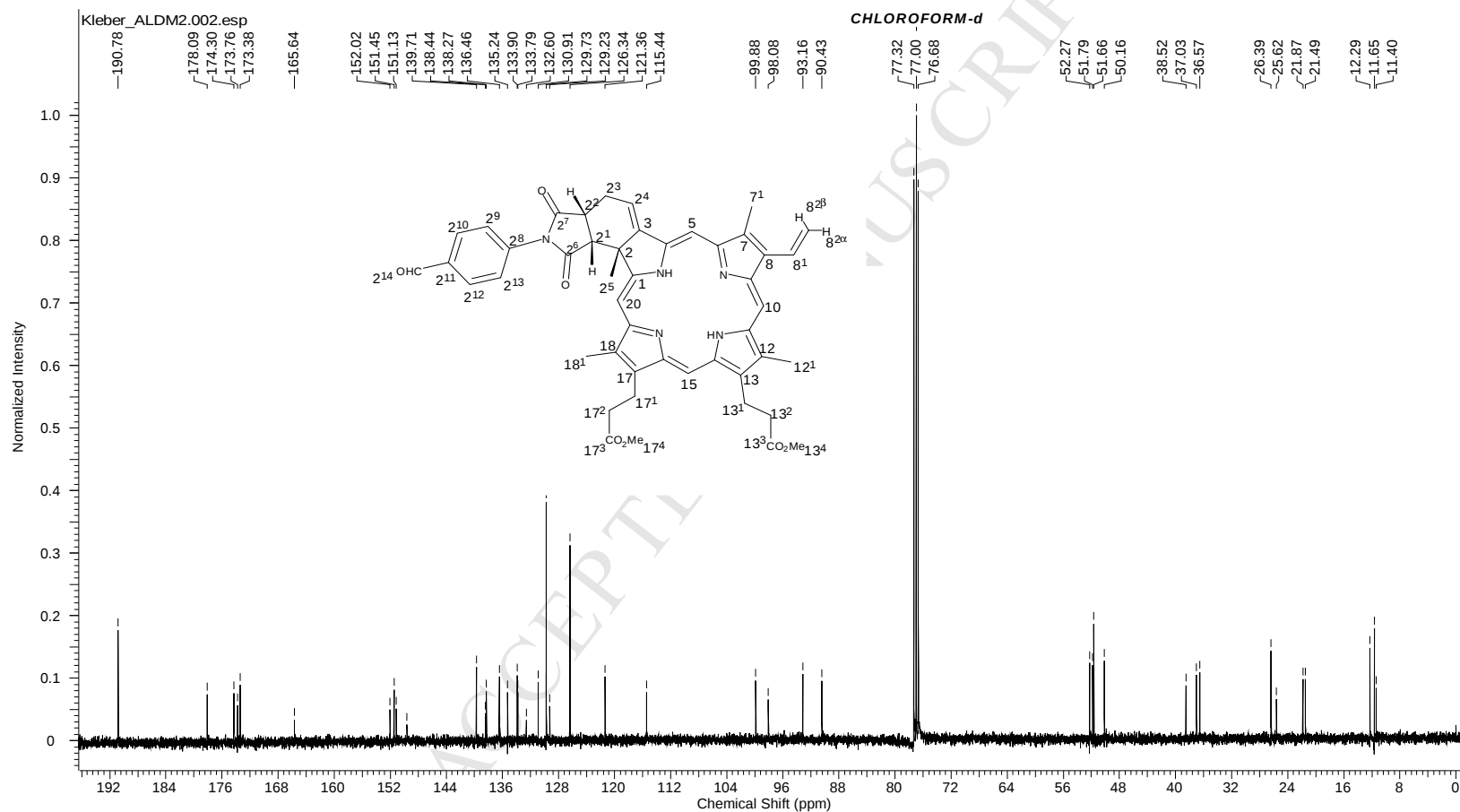


Figure S52. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound 9a.

NMR Spectrum

Frequency (MHz)	100.62	Nucleus	¹³ C	Number of Transients	2048	File Name	C.Aldeido_M2
Original Points Count	32768	Owner	root	Points Count	32768	Pulse Sequence	deptsp135
Receiver Gain	2050.00	SW(cyclical) (Hz)	23437.50	Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d	Spectrum Offset (Hz)	10403.8057
Spectrum Type	DEPT135	Sweep Width (Hz)	23436.79	Temperature (degree C)	24.995		

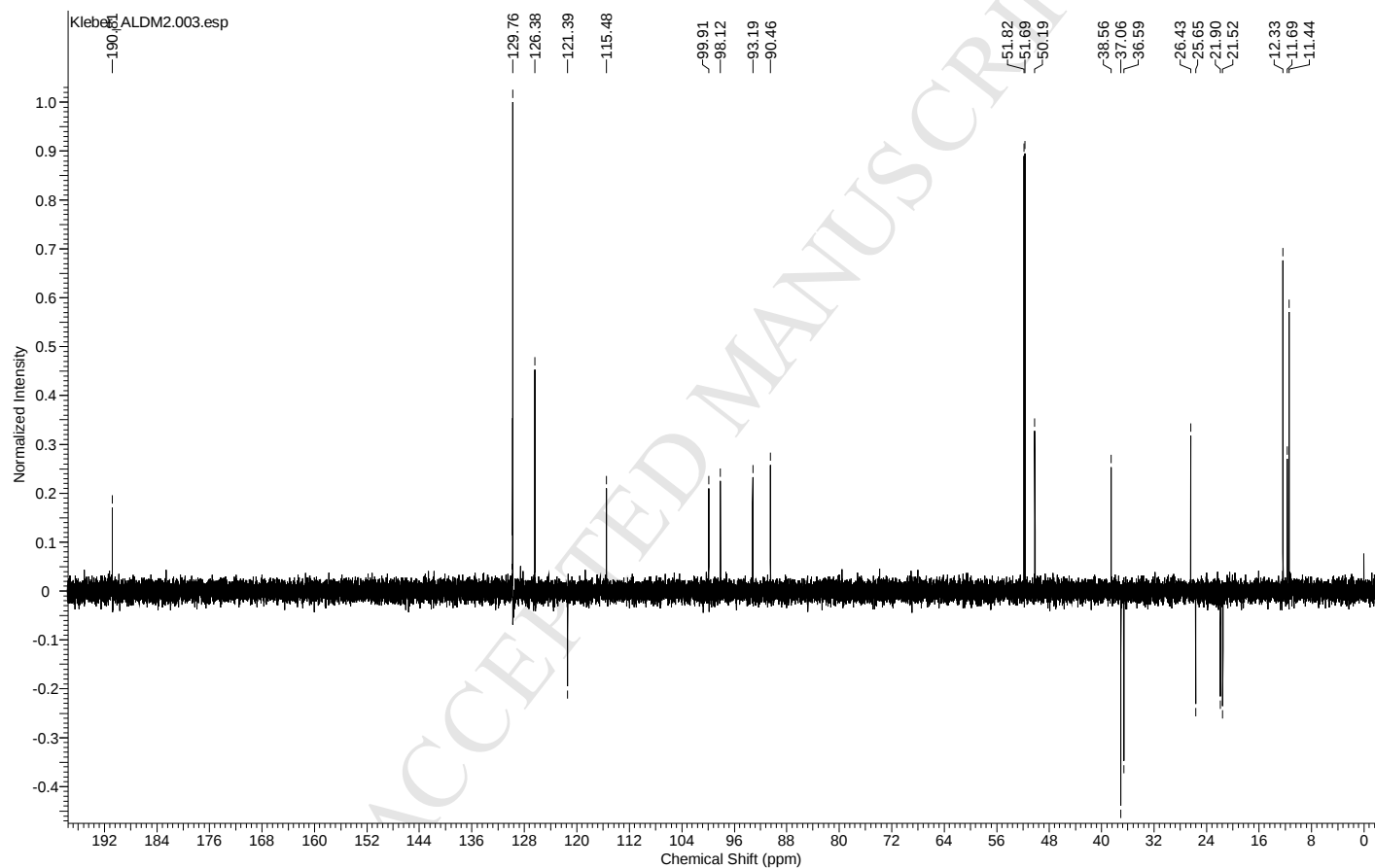


Figure S53. ¹³C (DEPT-135) in CDCl₃ of compound **9a**.

NMR Spectrum

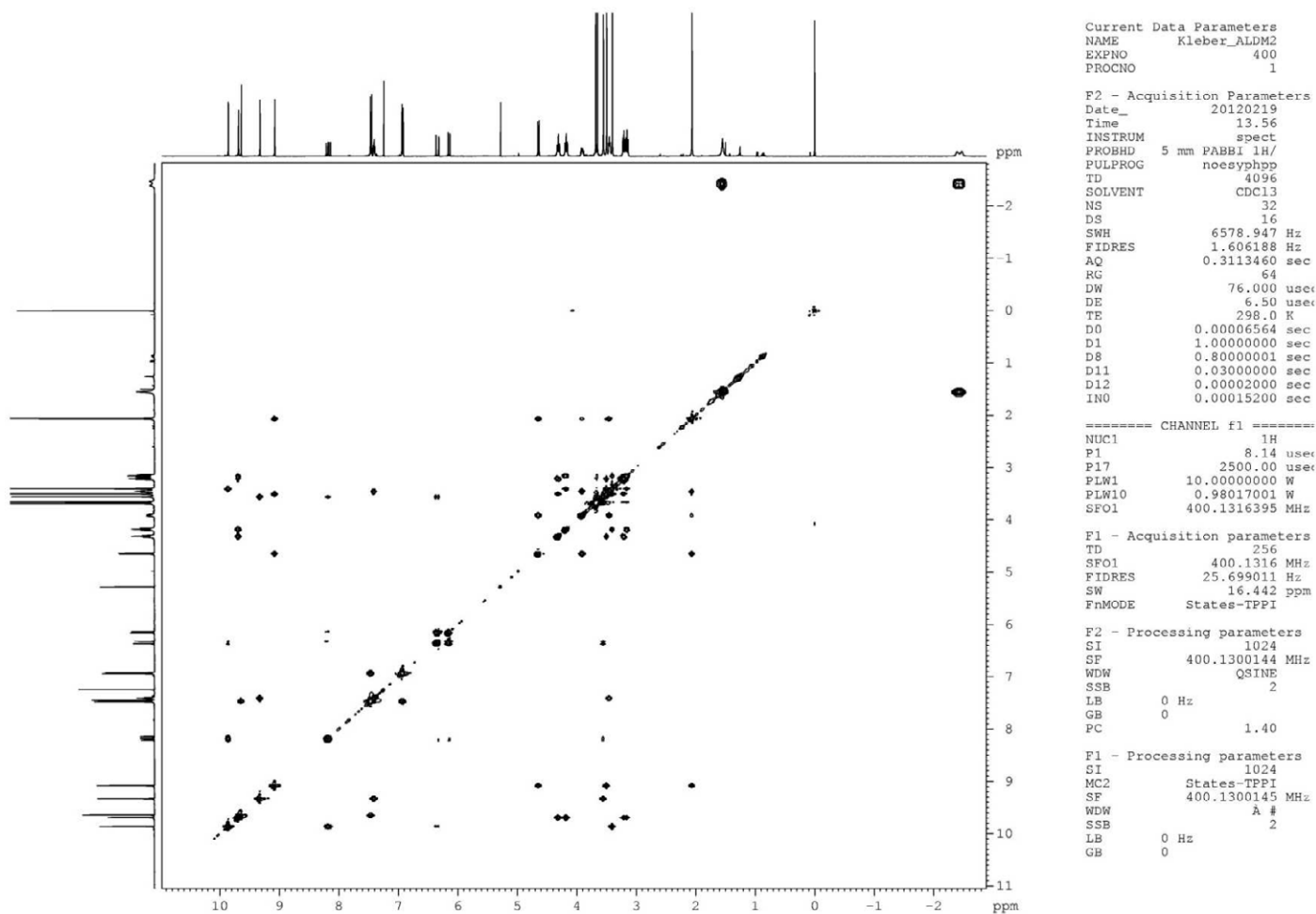


Figure S54. gNOESY (400 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound **9a**.

NMR Spectrum

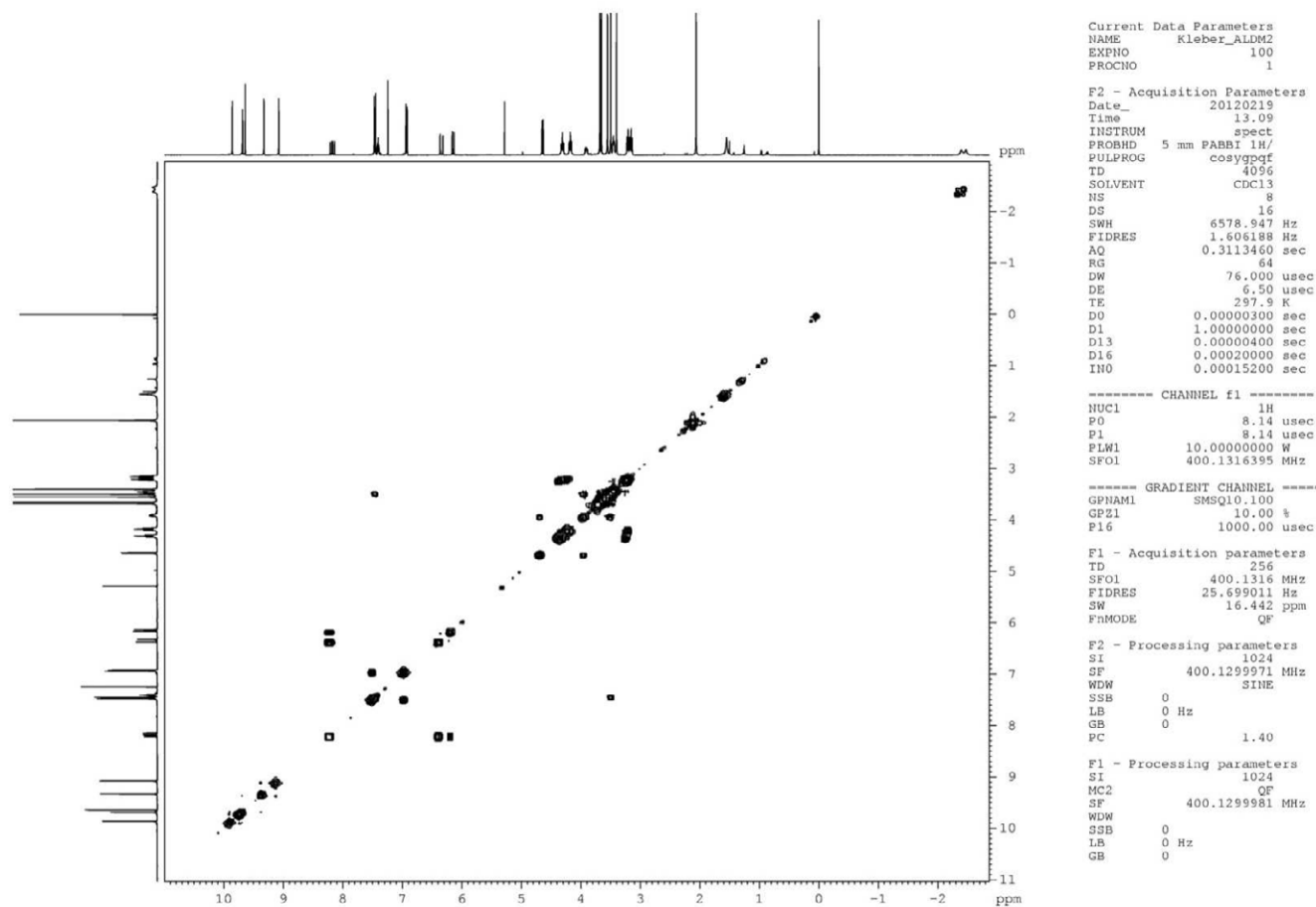


Figure S55. gCOSY (400 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound **9a**.

NMR Spectrum

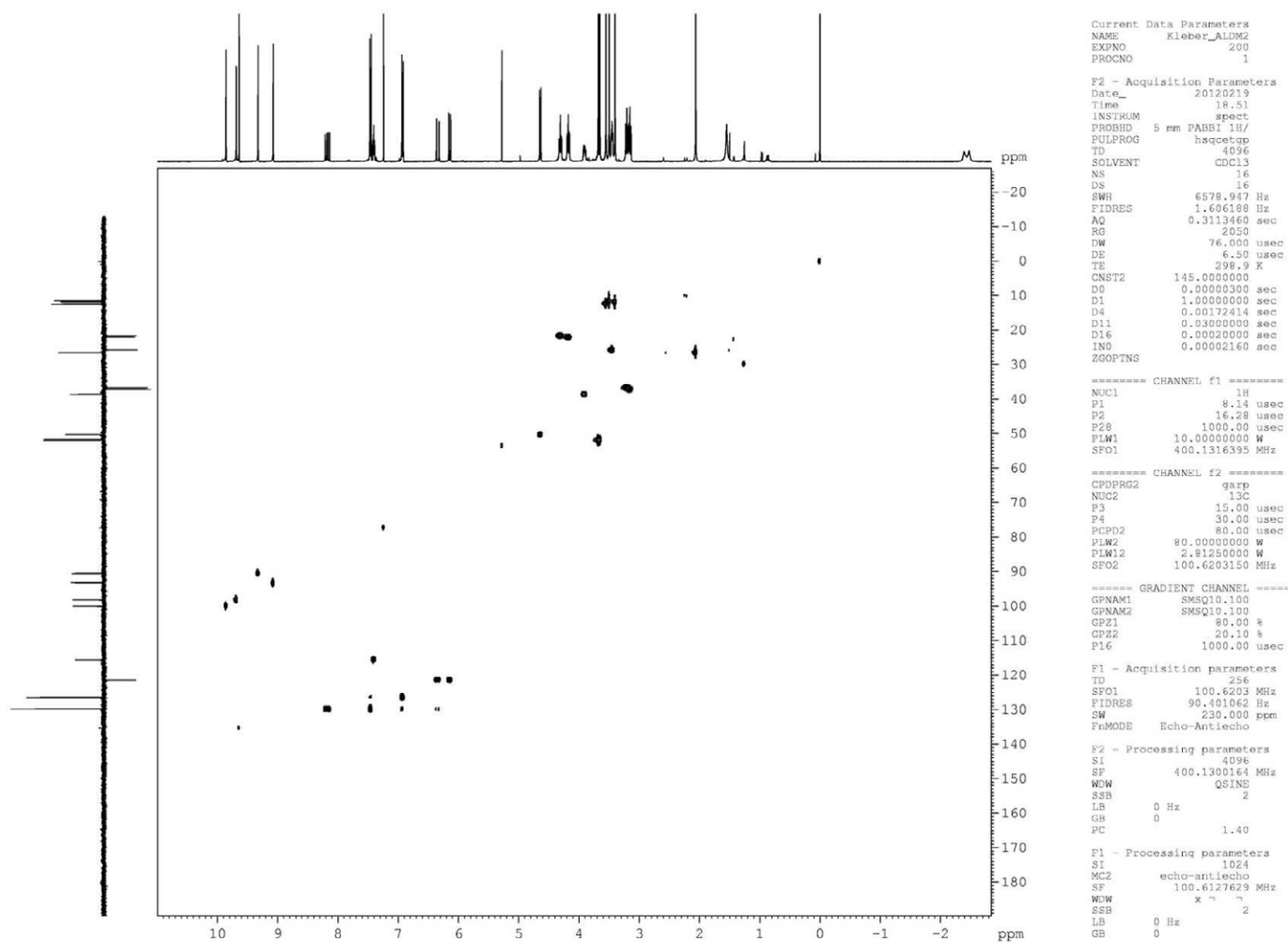


Figure S56. gHSQC (400 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound **9a**.

NMR Spectrum

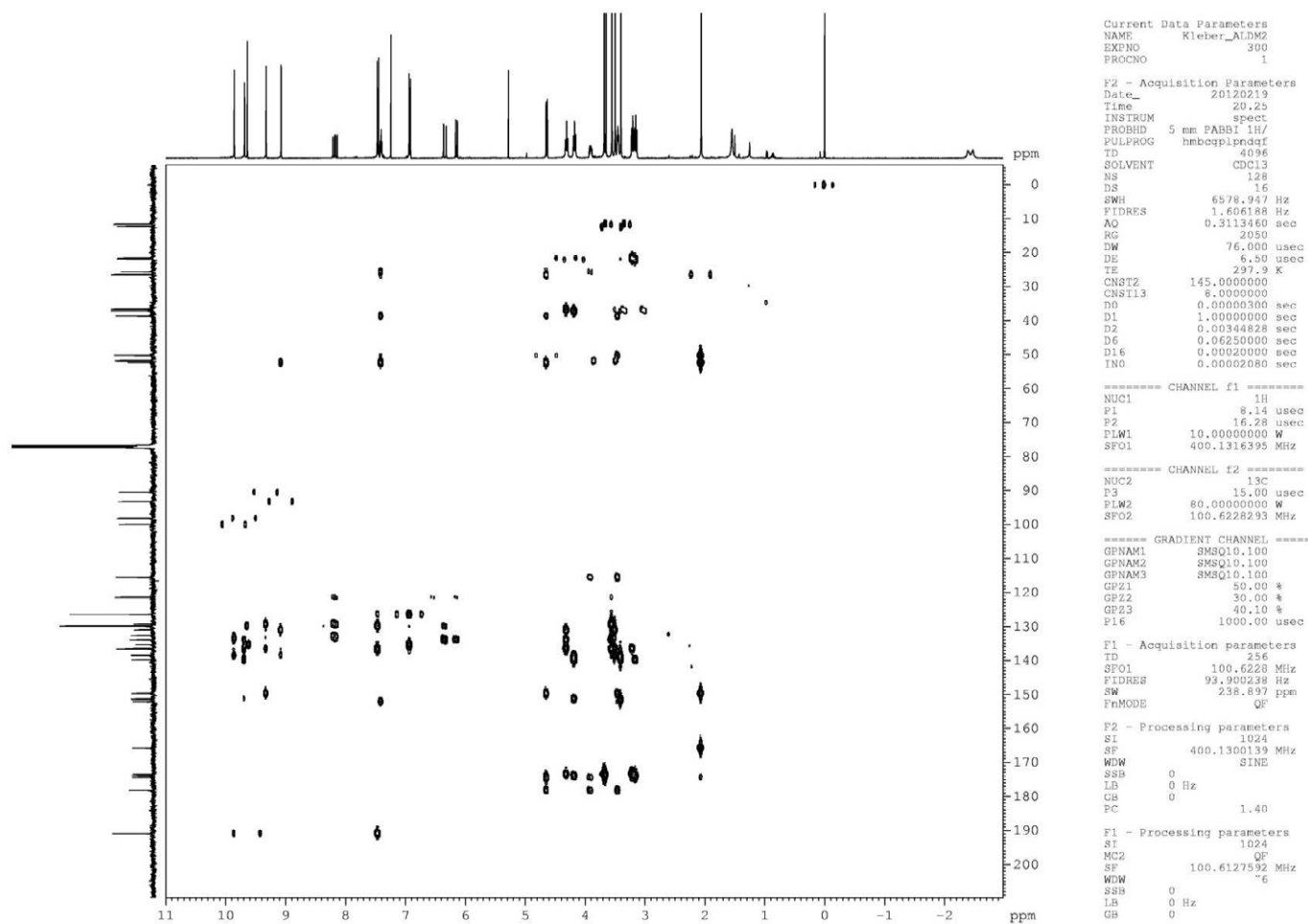


Figure S57. gHMBC (400 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound **9a**.

NMR Spectrum

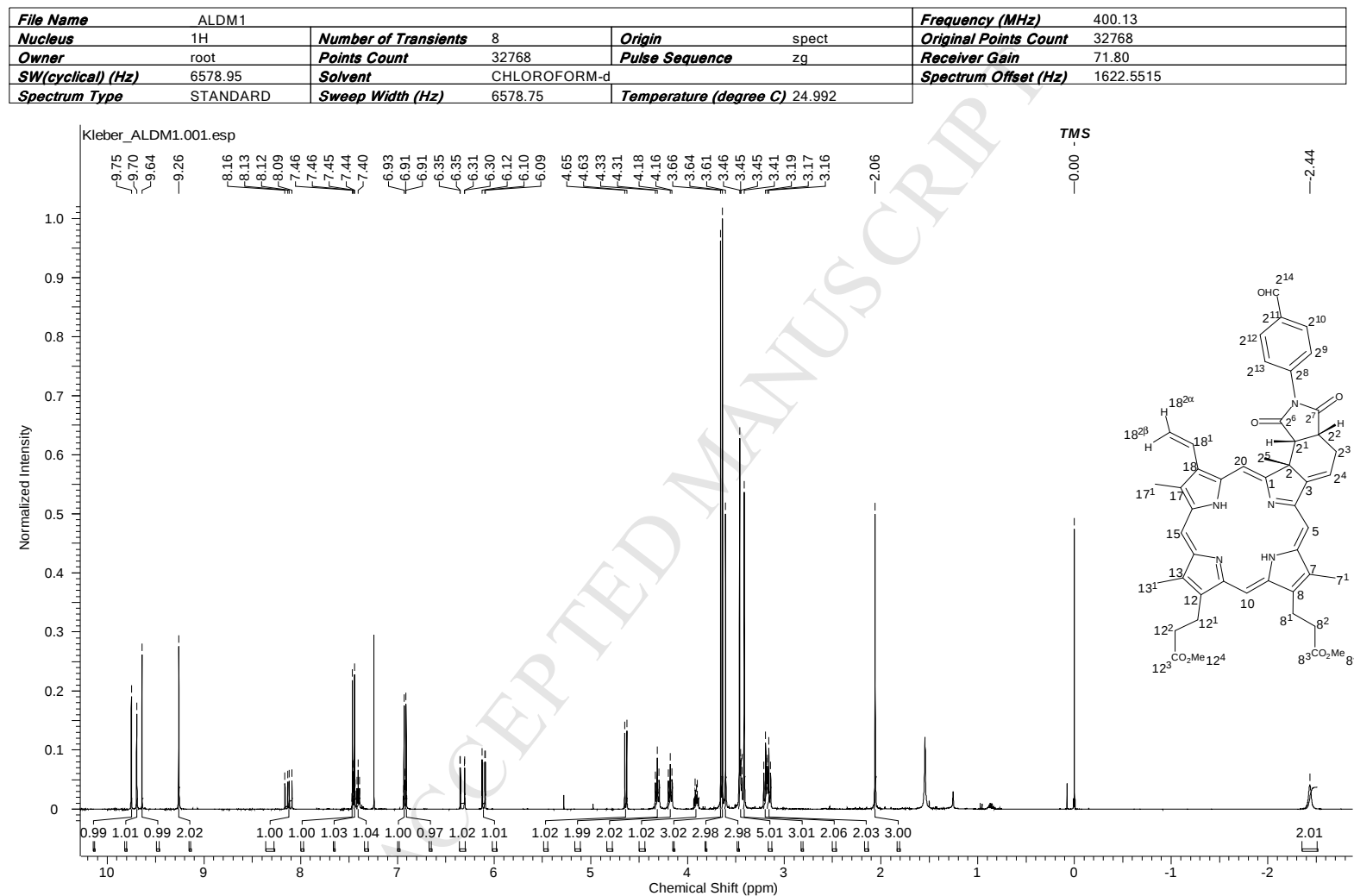


Figure S58. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound **9b**.

NMR Spectrum

File Name	_ALDM1	Number of Transients	8192	Origin	spect	Frequency (MHz)	100.62
Nucleus	¹³ C	Points Count	16384	Pulse Sequence	zgpg30	Original Points Count	16384
Owner	root	Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d	Temperature (degree C)	25.017	Receiver Gain	912.00
SW(cyclical) (Hz)	24038.46	Spectrum Type	STANDARD	Spectrum Offset (Hz)	10056.5830		
Sweep Width (Hz)	24036.99						

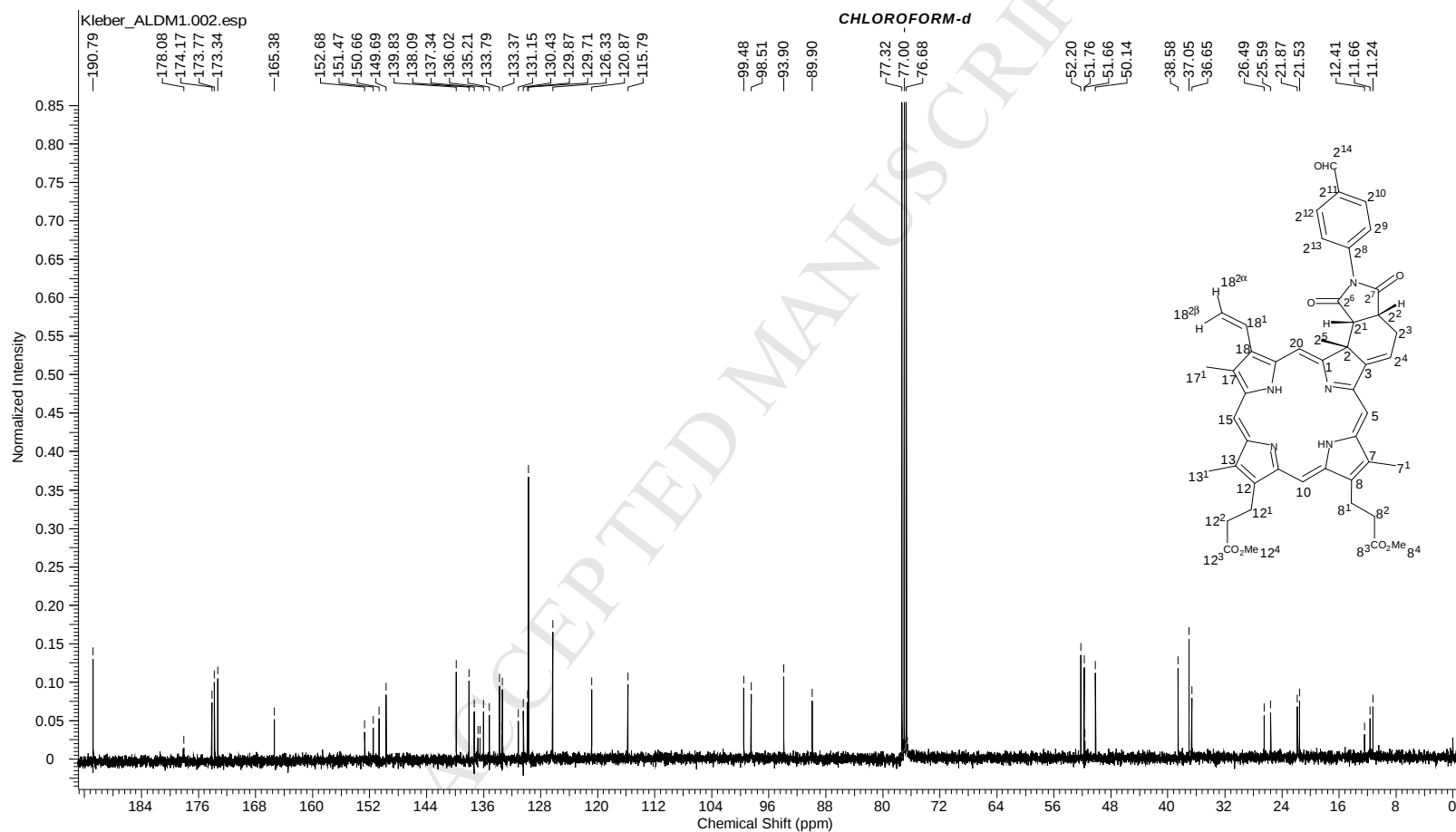


Figure S59. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound 9b.

NMR Spectrum

File Name	ALDM1			Frequency (MHz)	100.62
Nucleus	¹³ C	Number of Transients	2048	Origin	spect
Owner	root	Points Count	32768	Pulse Sequence	deptsp135
SW(cyclical) (Hz)	23437.50	Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d	Receiver Gain	2050.00
Spectrum Type	DEPT135	Sweep Width (Hz)	23436.79	Temperature (degree C)	24.994
				Spectrum Offset (Hz)	10403.8057

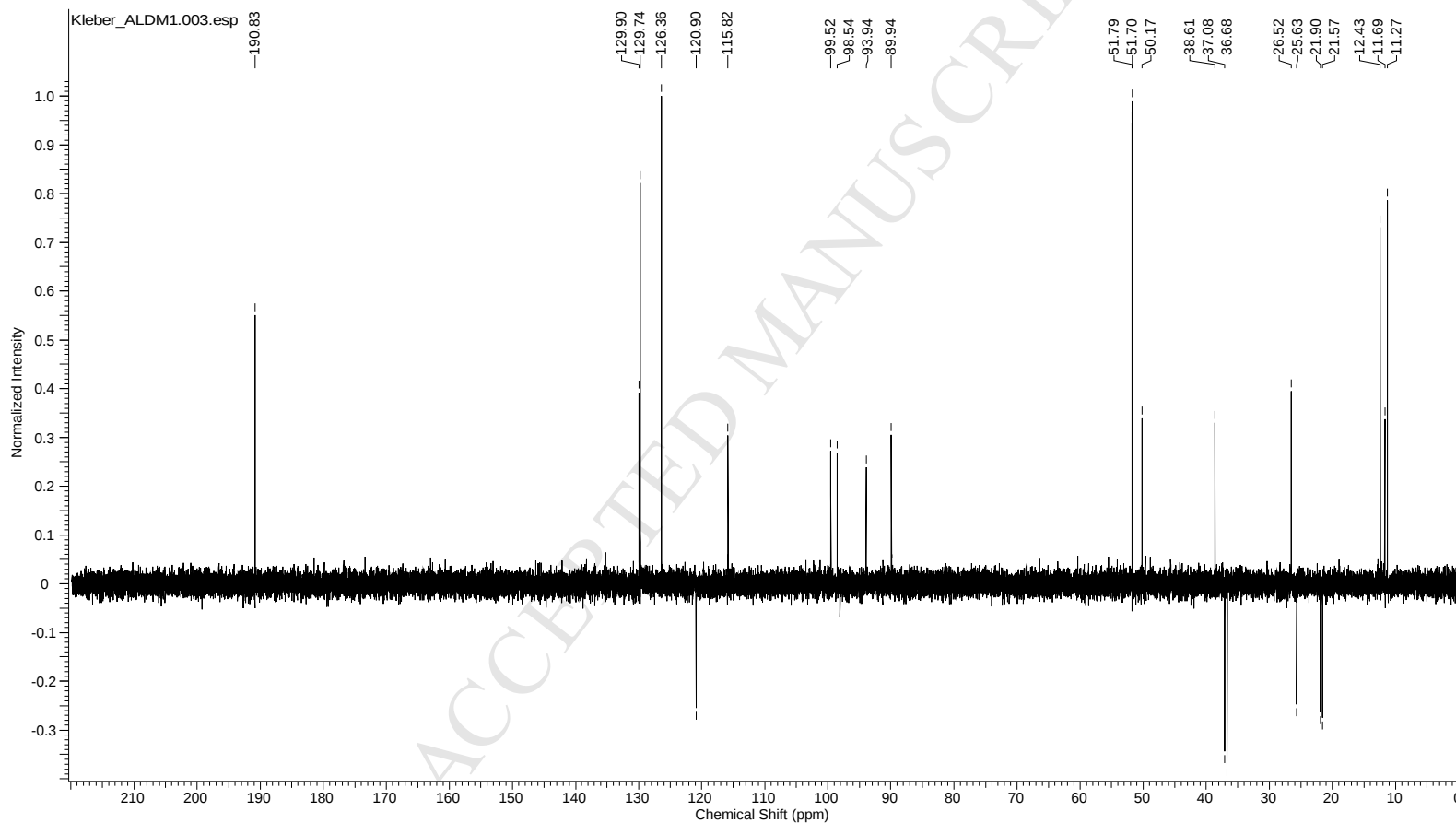


Figure S60. ¹³C (DEPT-135) in CDCl₃ of compound **9b**.

NMR Spectrum

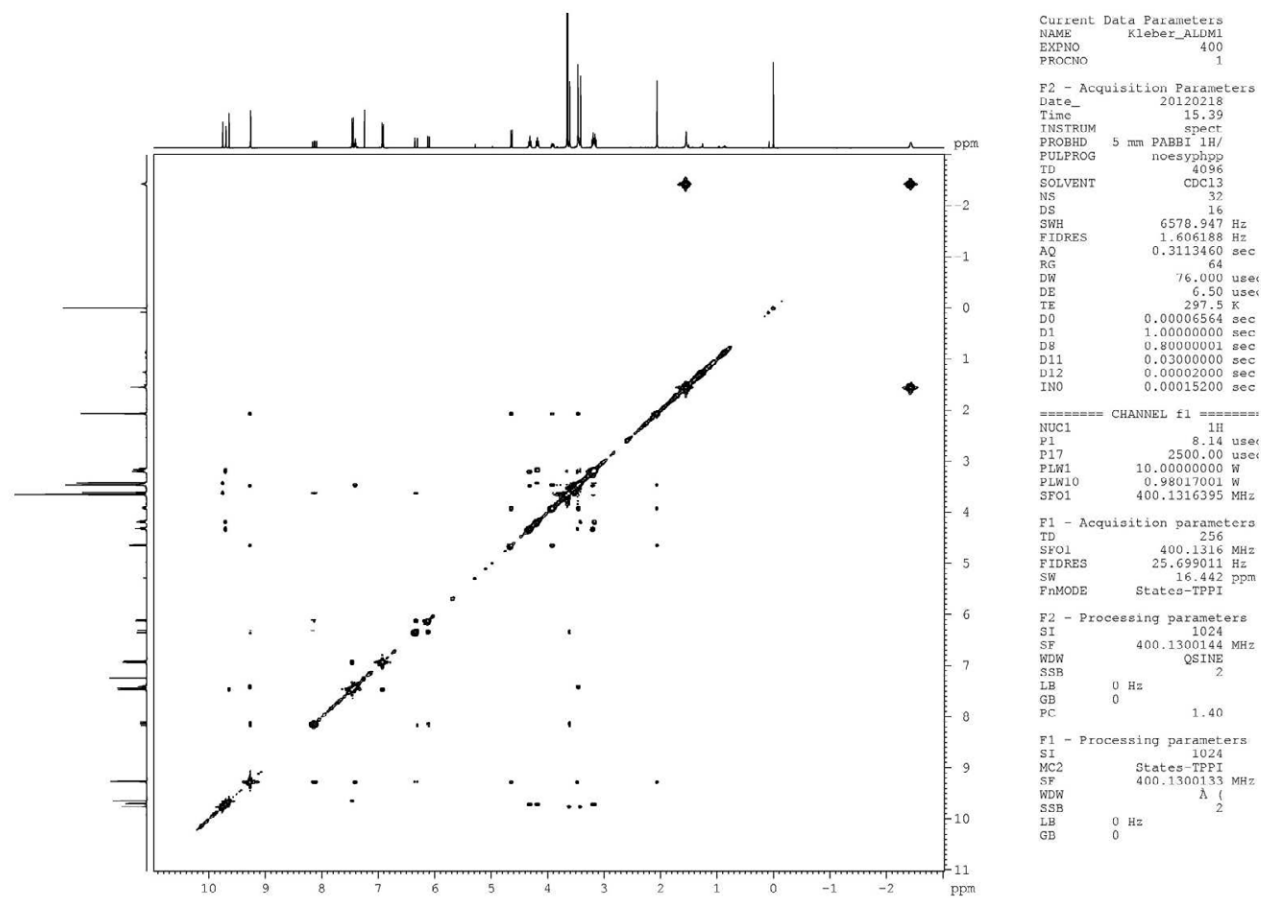


Figure S61.gNOESY (400 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound **9b**.

NMR Spectrum

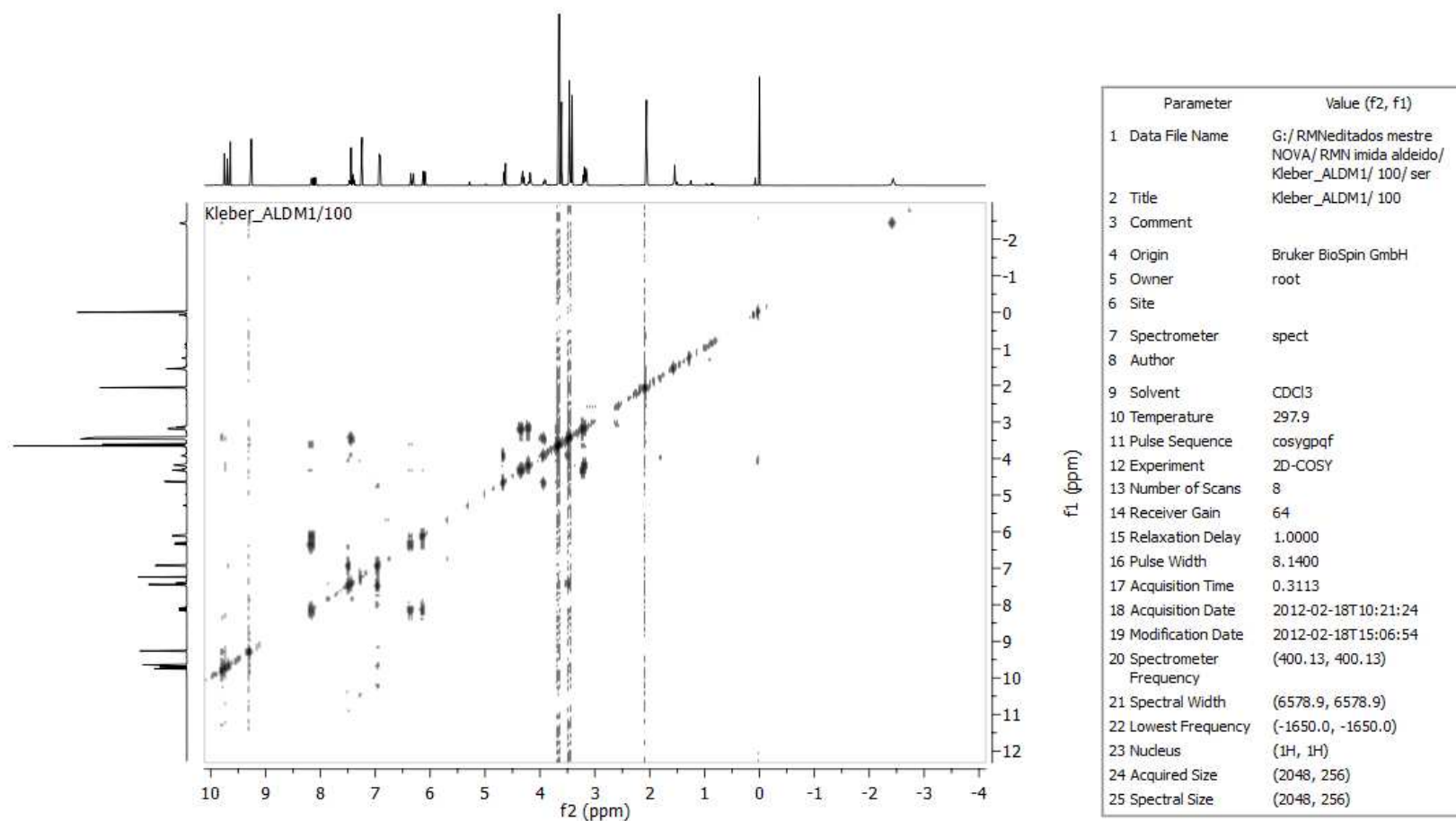


Figure S62. gCOSY (400 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound **9b**.

NMR Spectrum

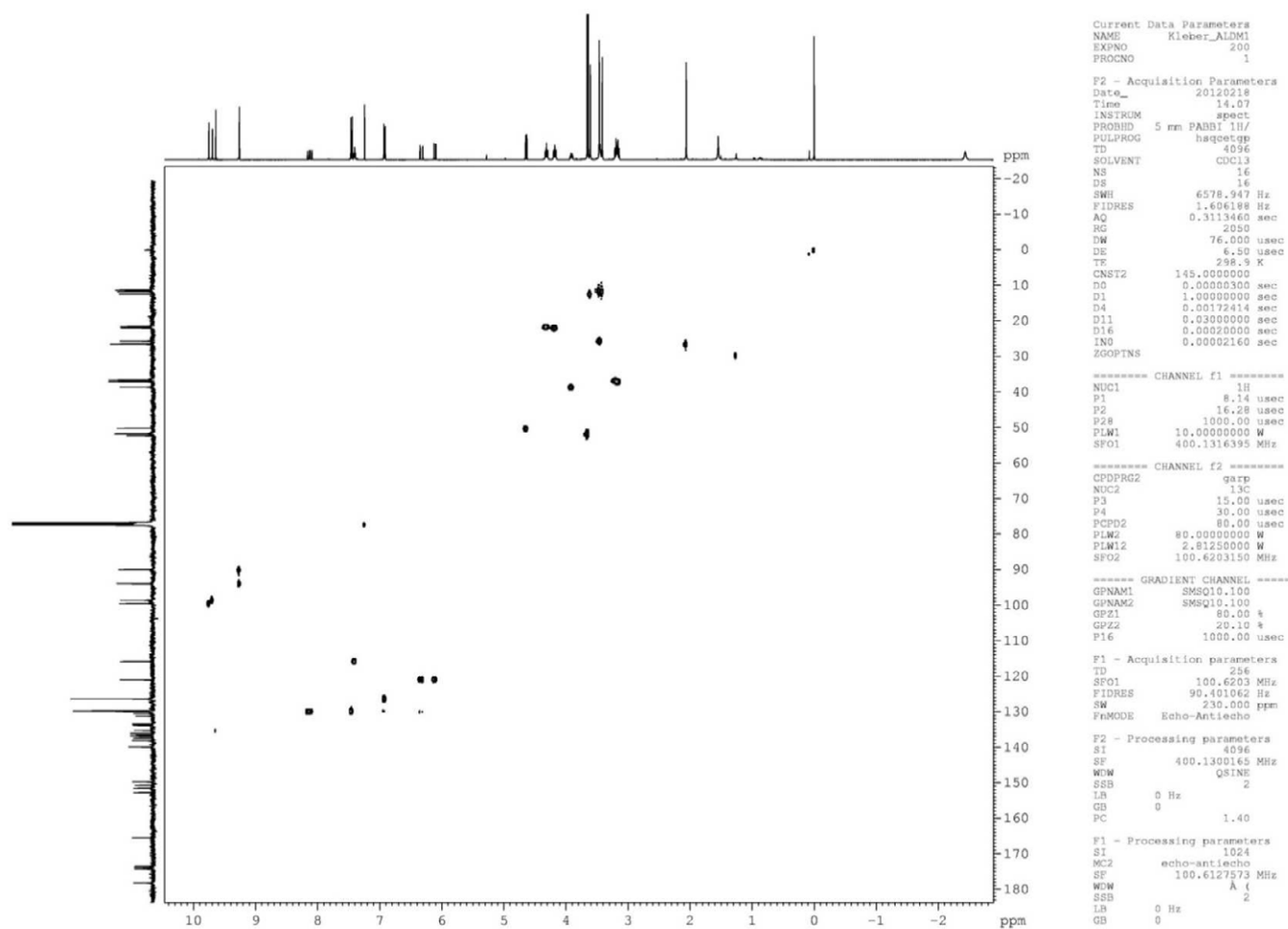


Figure S63. gHSQC (400 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound **9b**.

NMR Spectrum

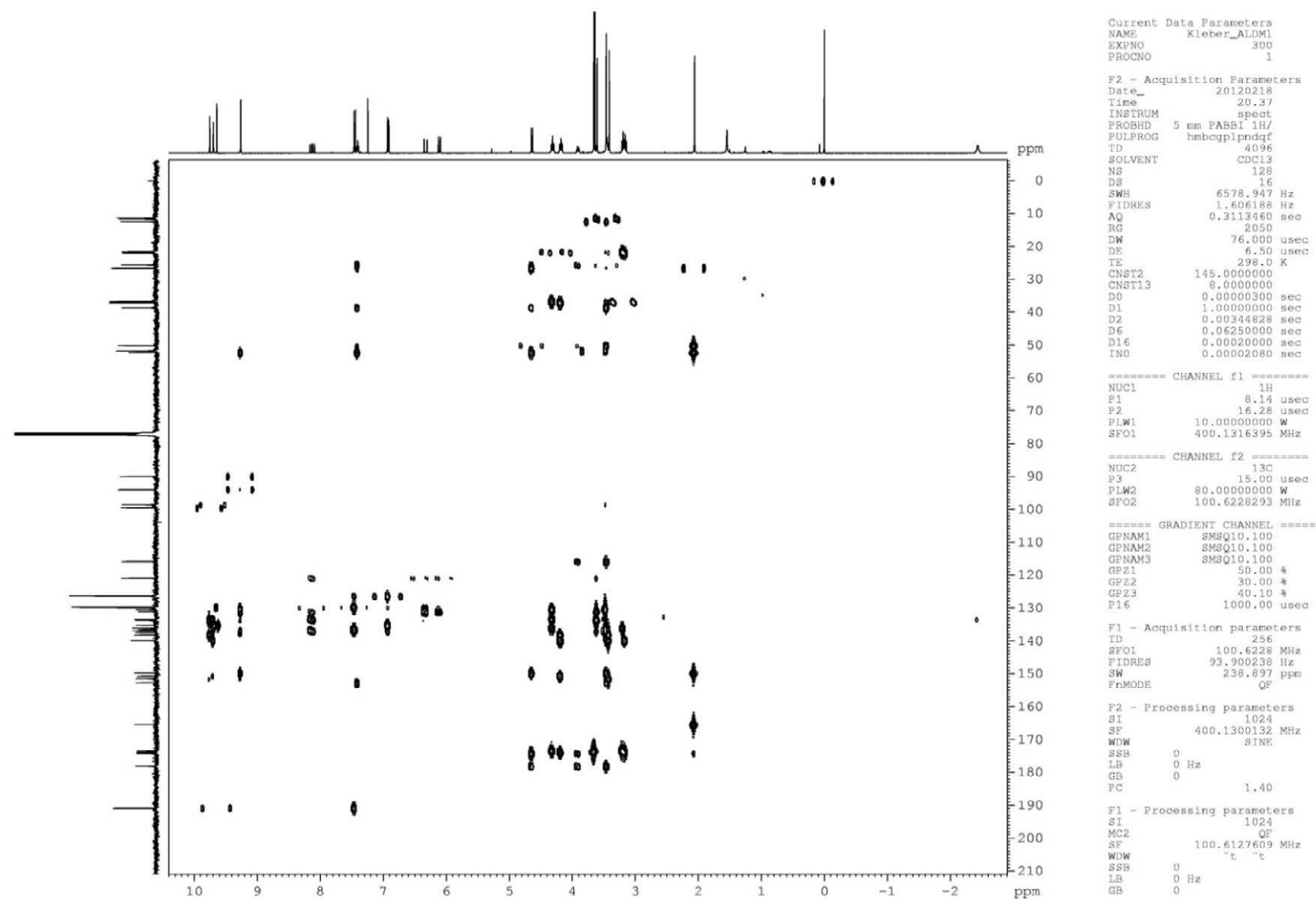


Figure S64. gHMBC (400 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound **9b**.

NMR Spectrum

Date	21 Sep 2012 08:01:20	Date Stamp	21 Sep 2012 08:01:20
File Name	F:\1B338 Clorina_desp_M2_OHCONH2\1\data\1\1r	Frequency (MHz)	400.15
Number of Transients	128	Original Points Count	32768
Points Count	65536	Pulse Sequence	zg30
Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d	Spectrum Offset (Hz)	2990.4939
		Spectrum Type	STANDARD
		Nucleus	¹ H
		Owner	nmrslu
		SW(cyclical) (Hz)	10000.00
		Sweep Width (Hz)	9999.85

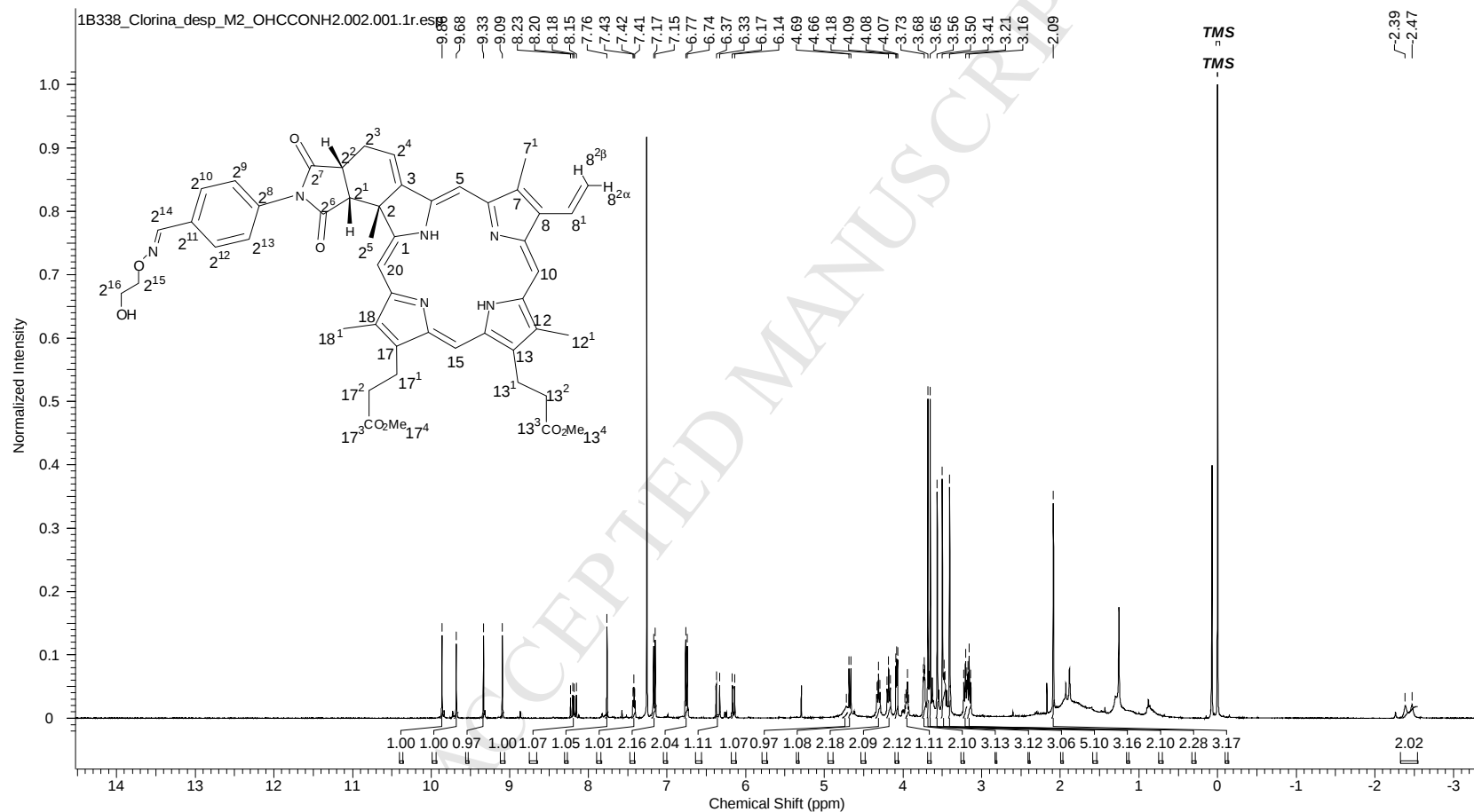


Figure S65. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound 10a.

NMR Spectrum

File Name	Aminoxi_M2_carb		
Frequency (MHz)	100.62	Nucleus	¹³ C
Origin	spect	Original Points Count	16384
Points Count	32768	Pulse Sequence	zgpg30
SW(cyclical) (Hz)	24671.05	Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d
		Number of Transients	4096
		Temperature (degree C)	25.600
		Receiver Gain	2050.00
		Spectrum Offset (Hz)	10058.5996

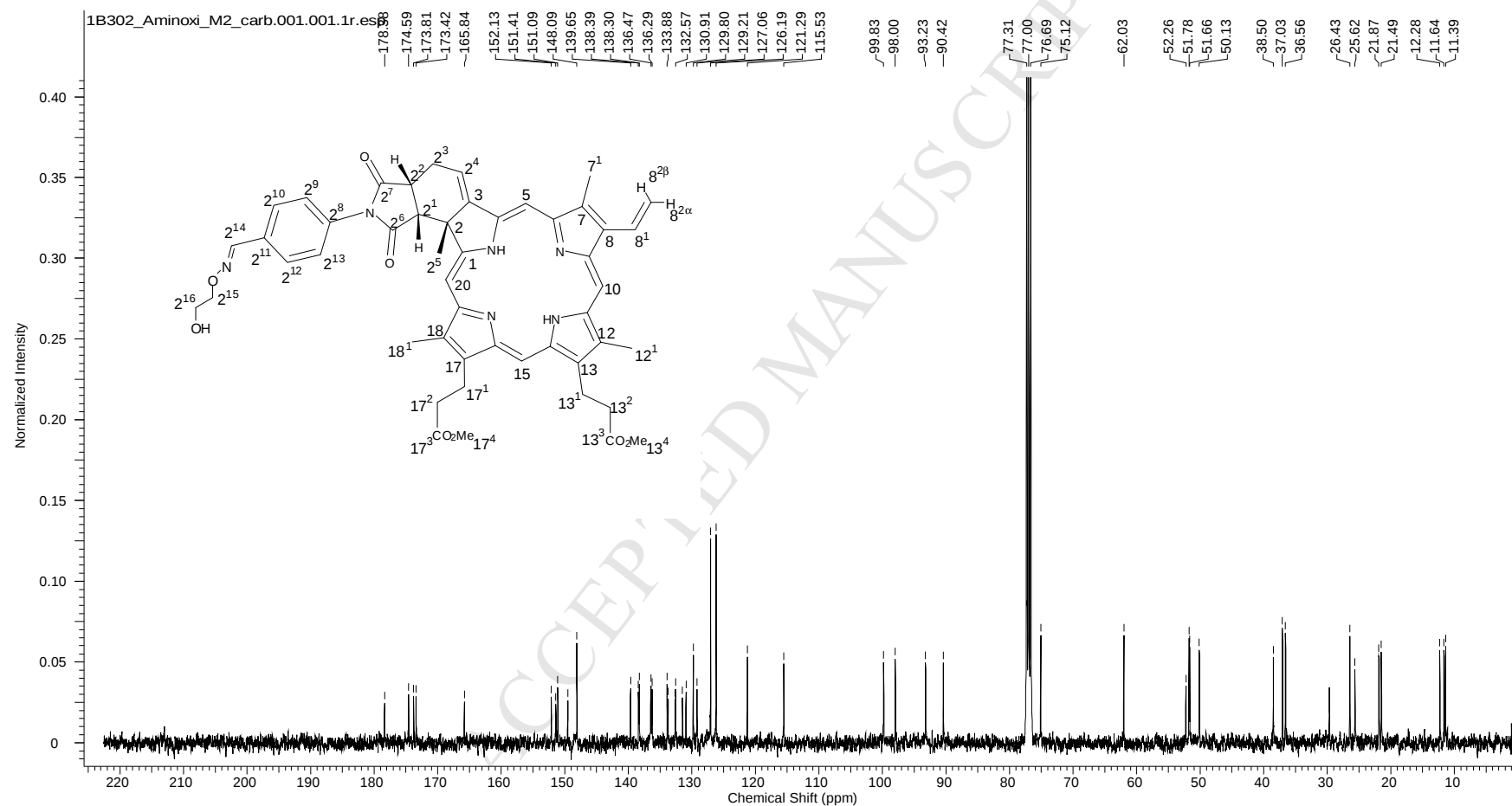


Figure S66. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound 10a.

NMR Spectrum

Date26 Sep 2012 07:52:48			Date Stamp26 Sep 2012 07:52:48		
File NameF:\1B339_Clorina_despM1_OHCONH2\1\pdata\1\1r			Frequency (MHz)400.15		Nucleus1H
Number of Transients128	Origin spect		Original Points Count32768	Ownernmrsu	
Points Count65536	Pulse Sequencezg30		Receiver Gain181.00	SW(cyclical) (Hz)10000.00	
SolventCHLOROFORM-d	Spectrum Offset (Hz)2989.8835		Spectrum TypeSTANDARD	Sweep Width (Hz)9999.85	

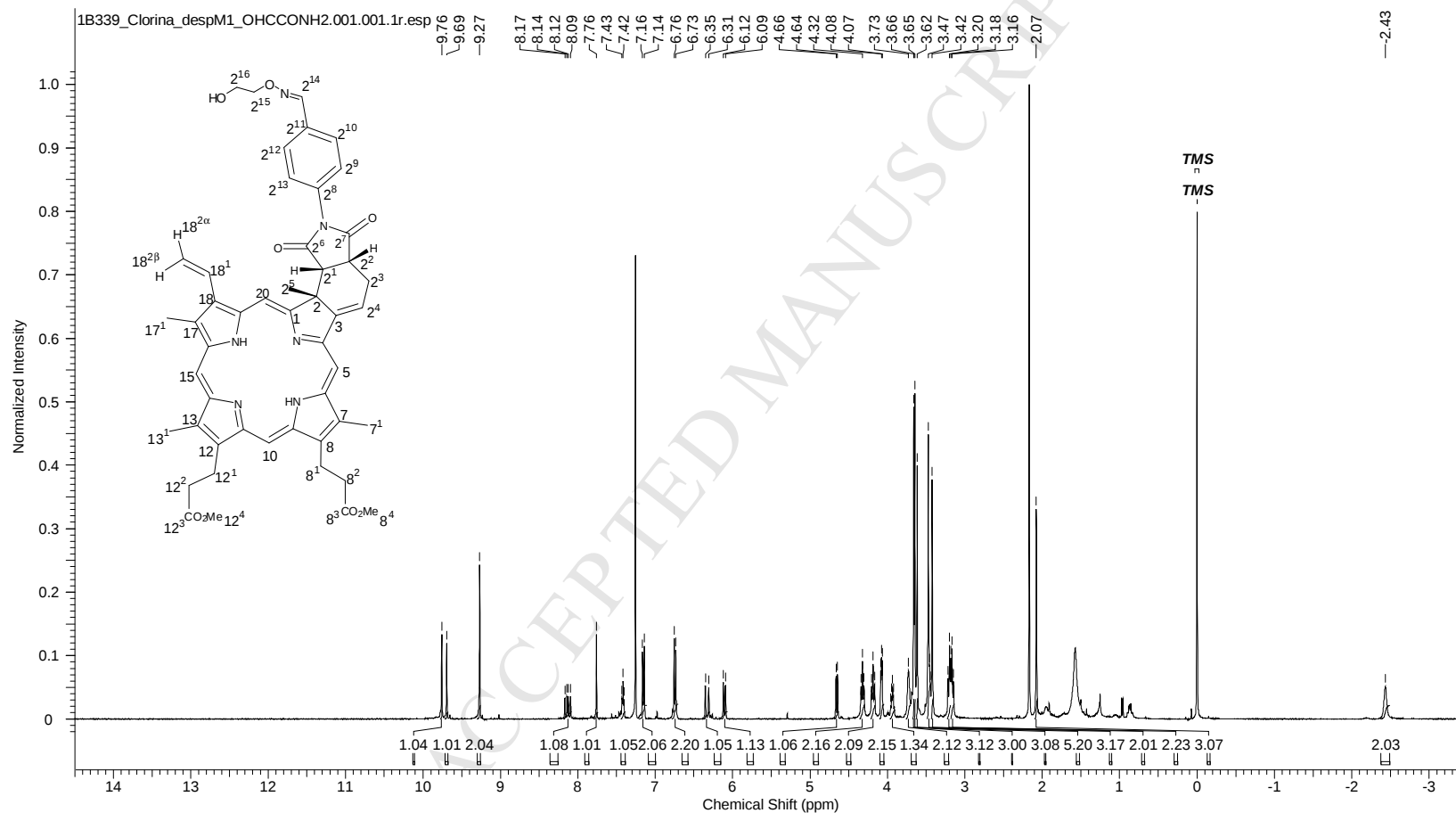


Figure S67. ¹H NMR (400 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound **10b**.

NMR Spectrum

File Name	_Aminoxi_M1_carb		
Frequency (MHz)	100.62	Nucleus	¹³ C
Origin	spect	Original Points Count	16384
Points Count	32768	Pulse Sequence	zgpg30
SW(cyclical) (Hz)	24671.05	Solvent	CHLOROFORM-d
		Number of Transients	4096
		Temperature (degree C)	25.700
		Receiver Gain	2050.00
		Spectrum Offset (Hz)	10058.5996

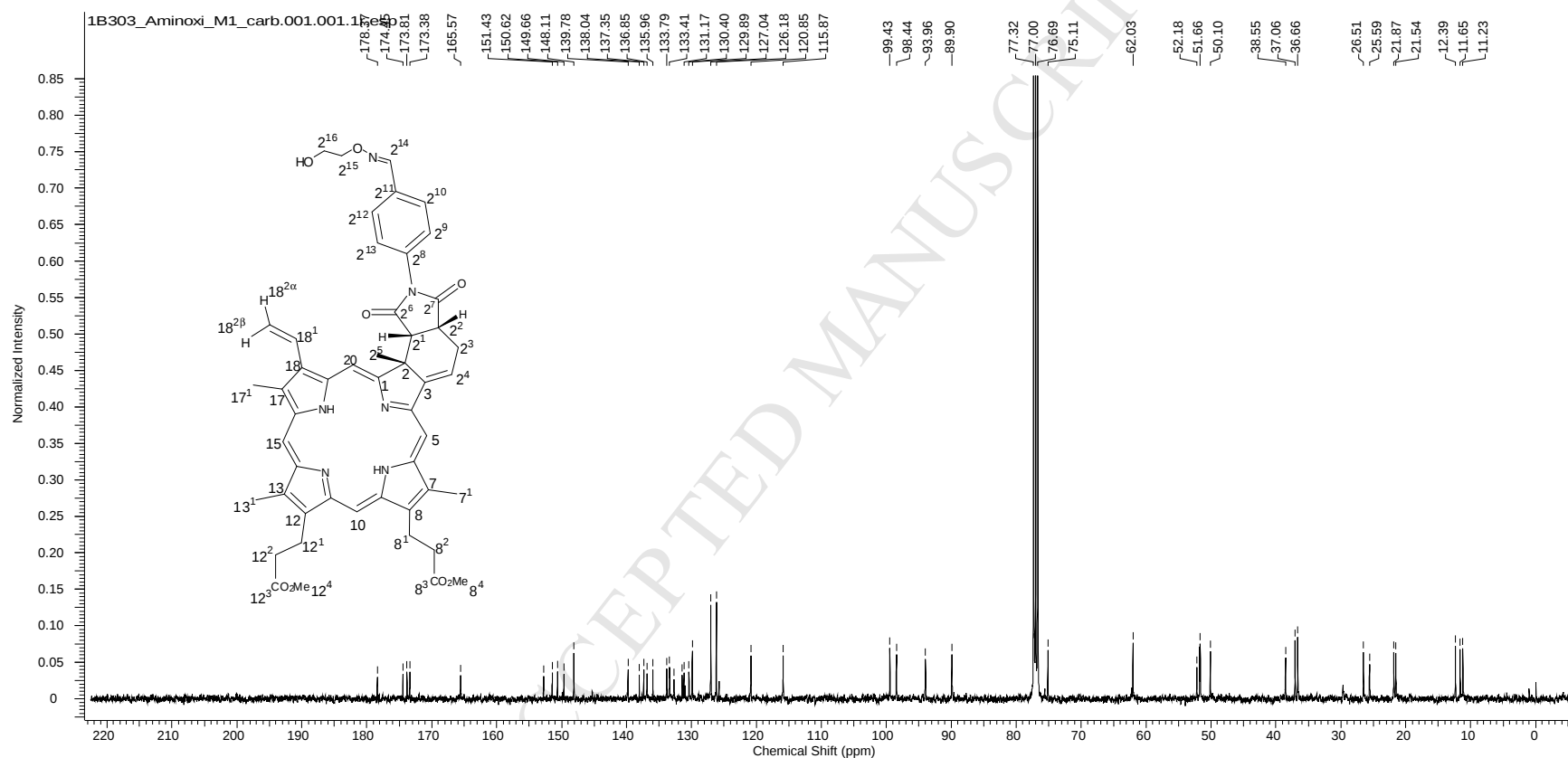


Figure S68. ¹³C NMR (100 MHz) in CDCl₃ of compound 10b.

Mass Spectrum

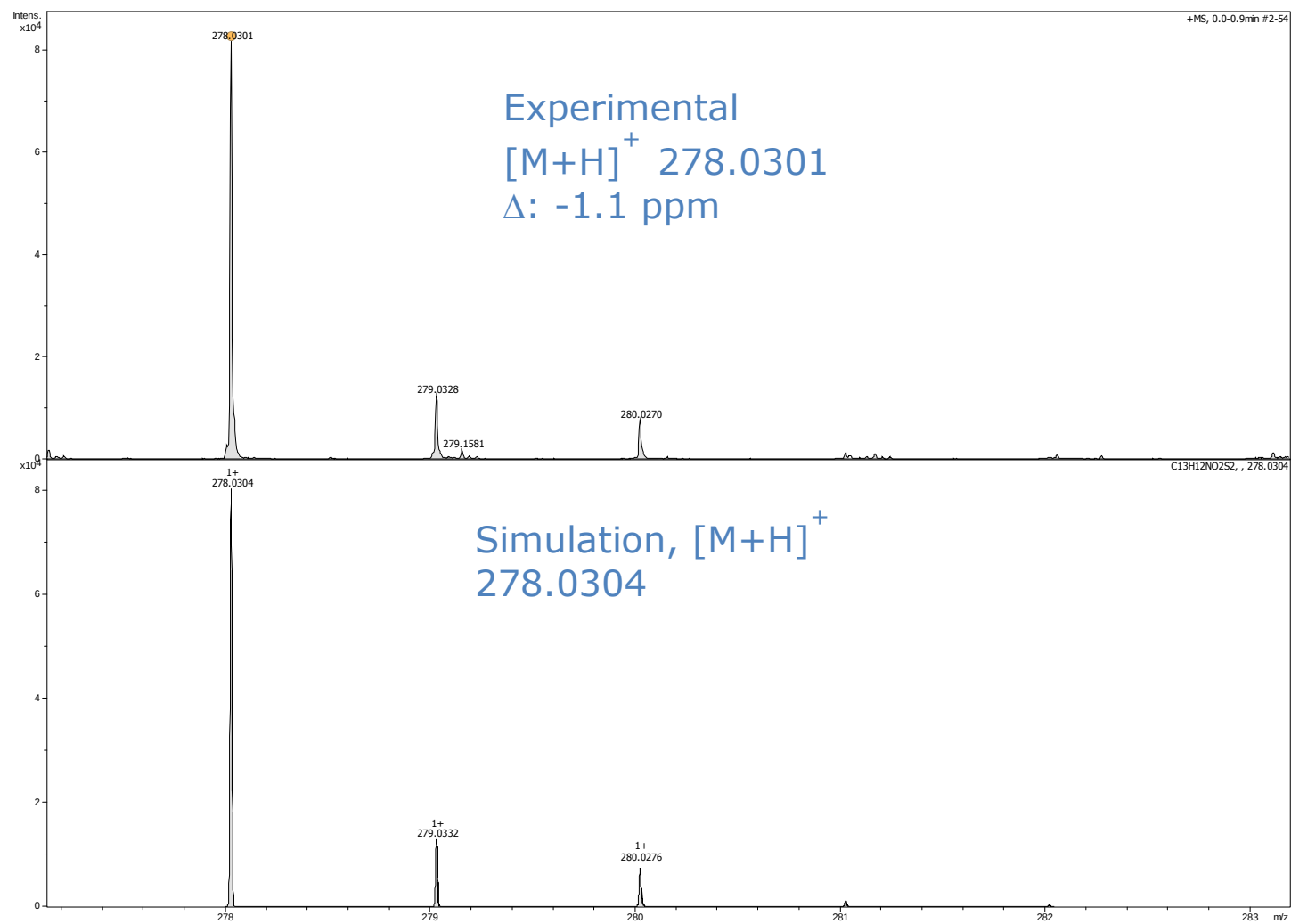


Figure S69. HRMS ESI-TOF of compound 4.

Mass Spectrum

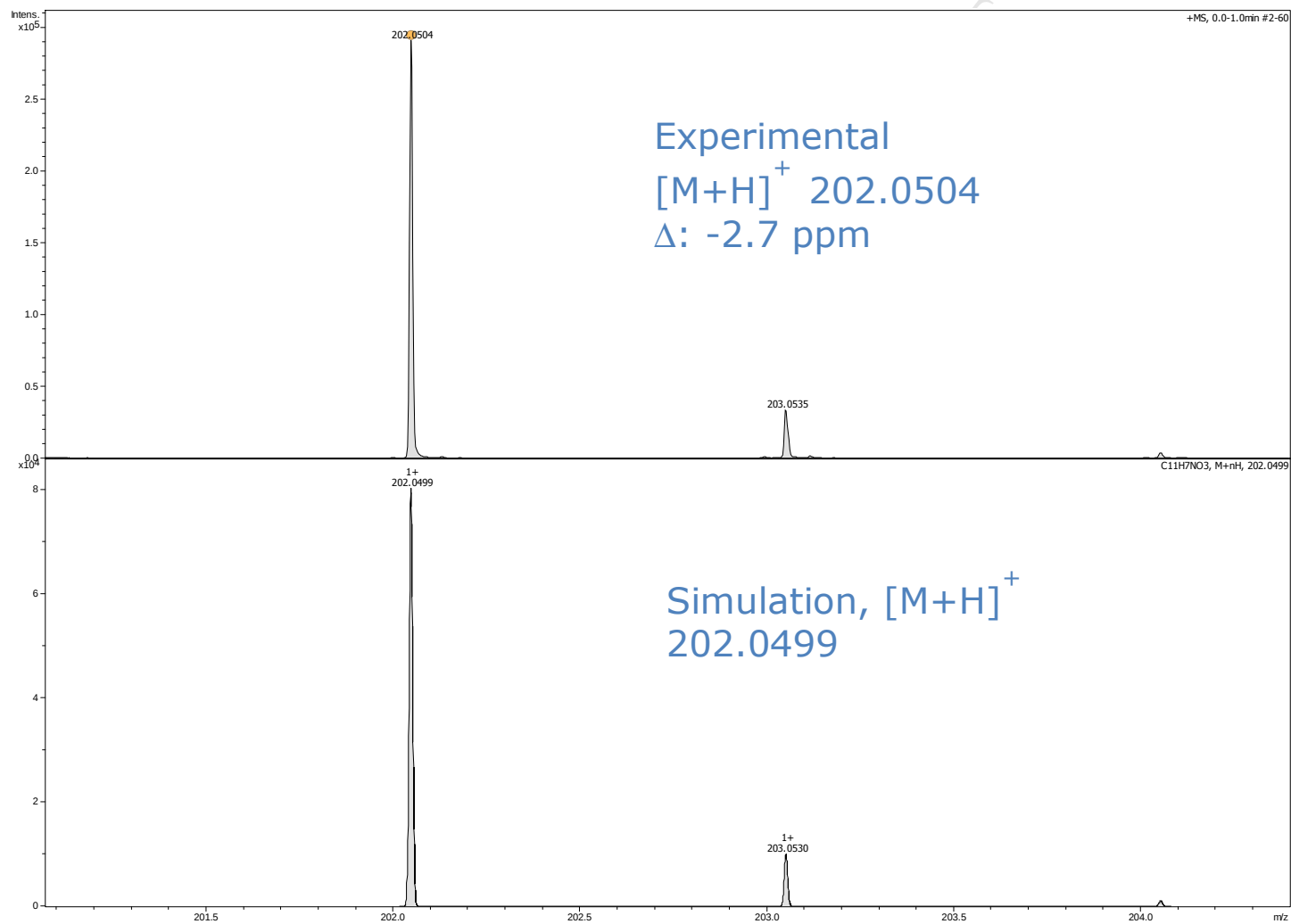


Figure S70. HRMS ESI-TOF of compound 5.

Mass Spectrum

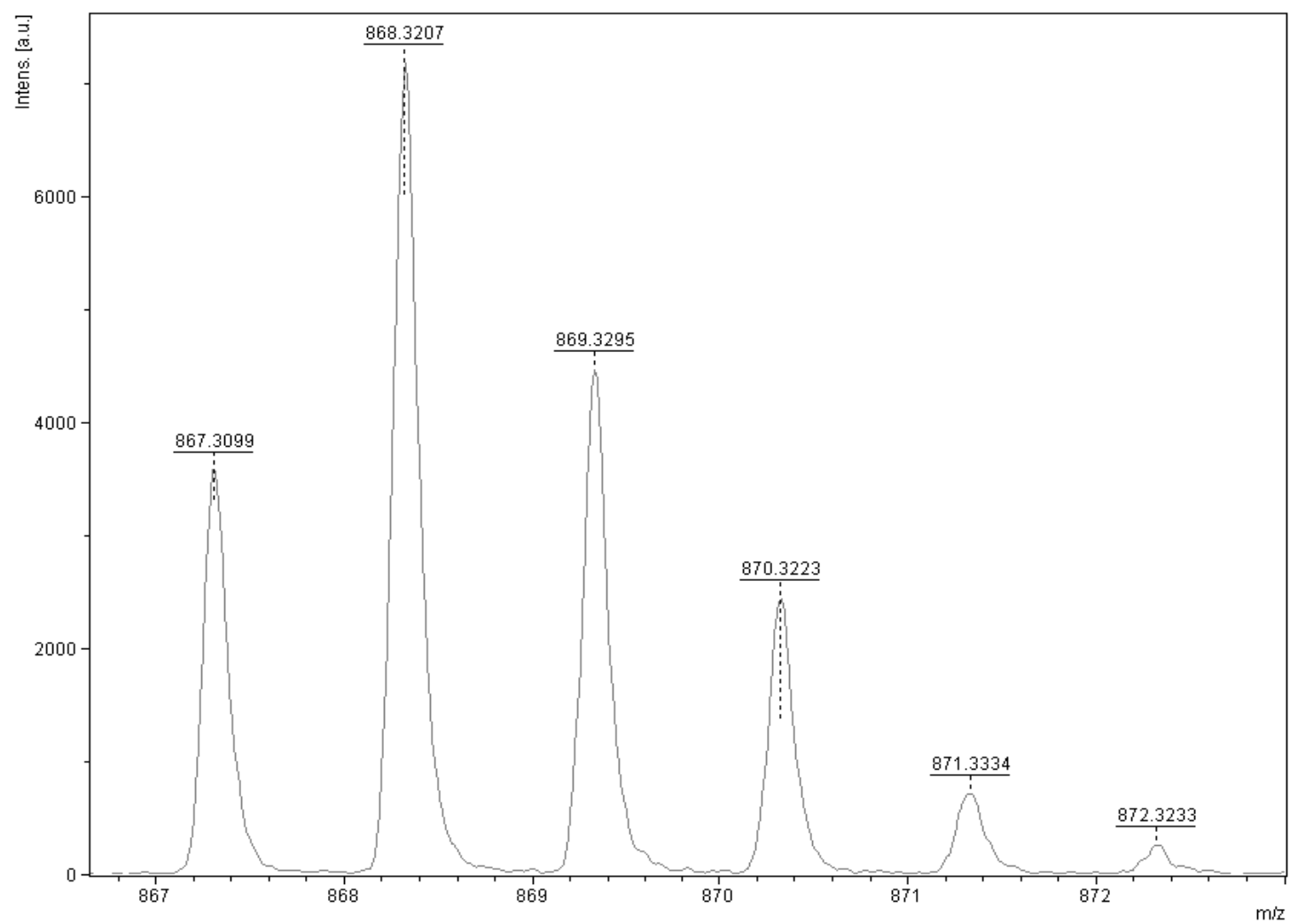
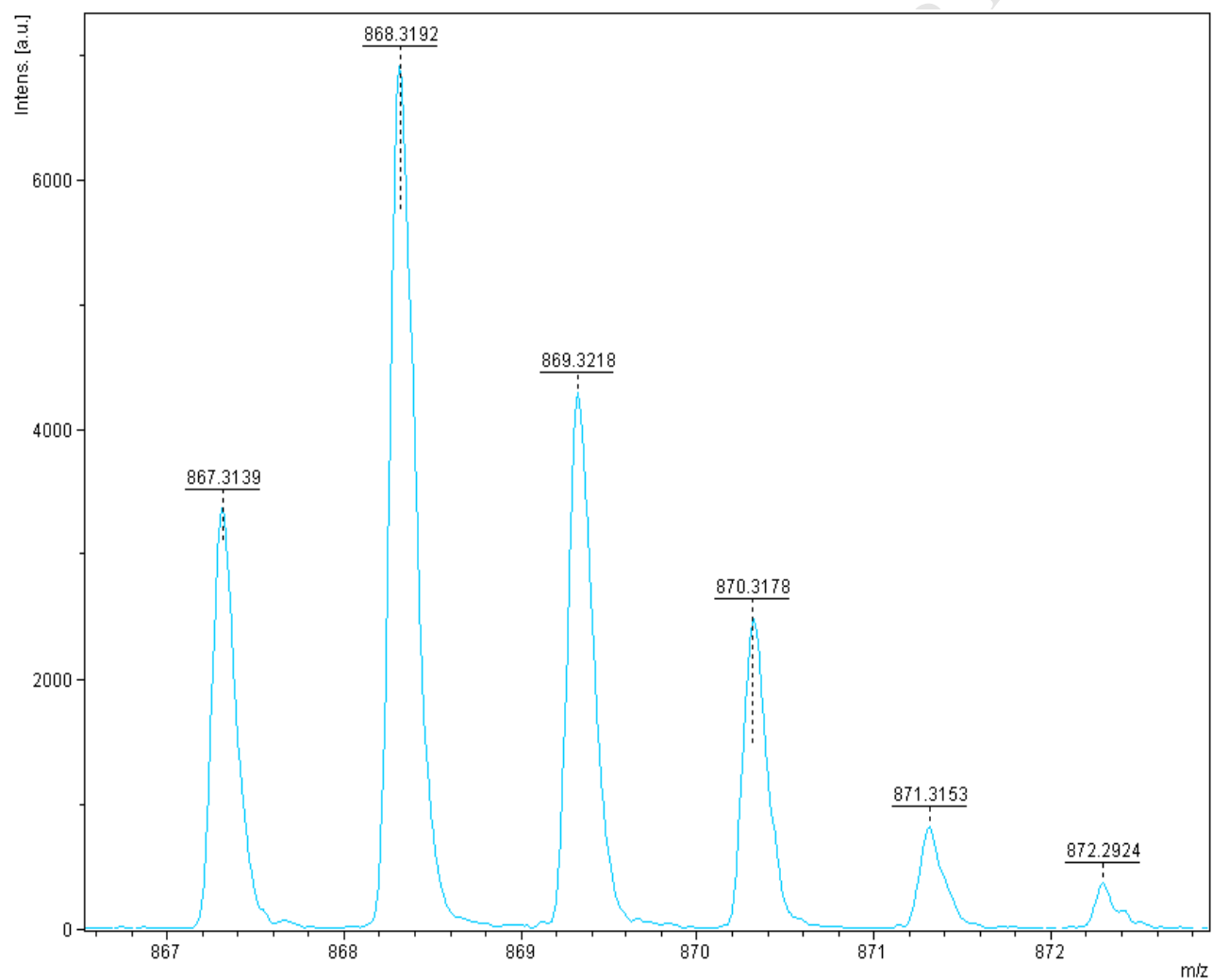


Figure S71. MALDI-HRMS of compound **8a**.

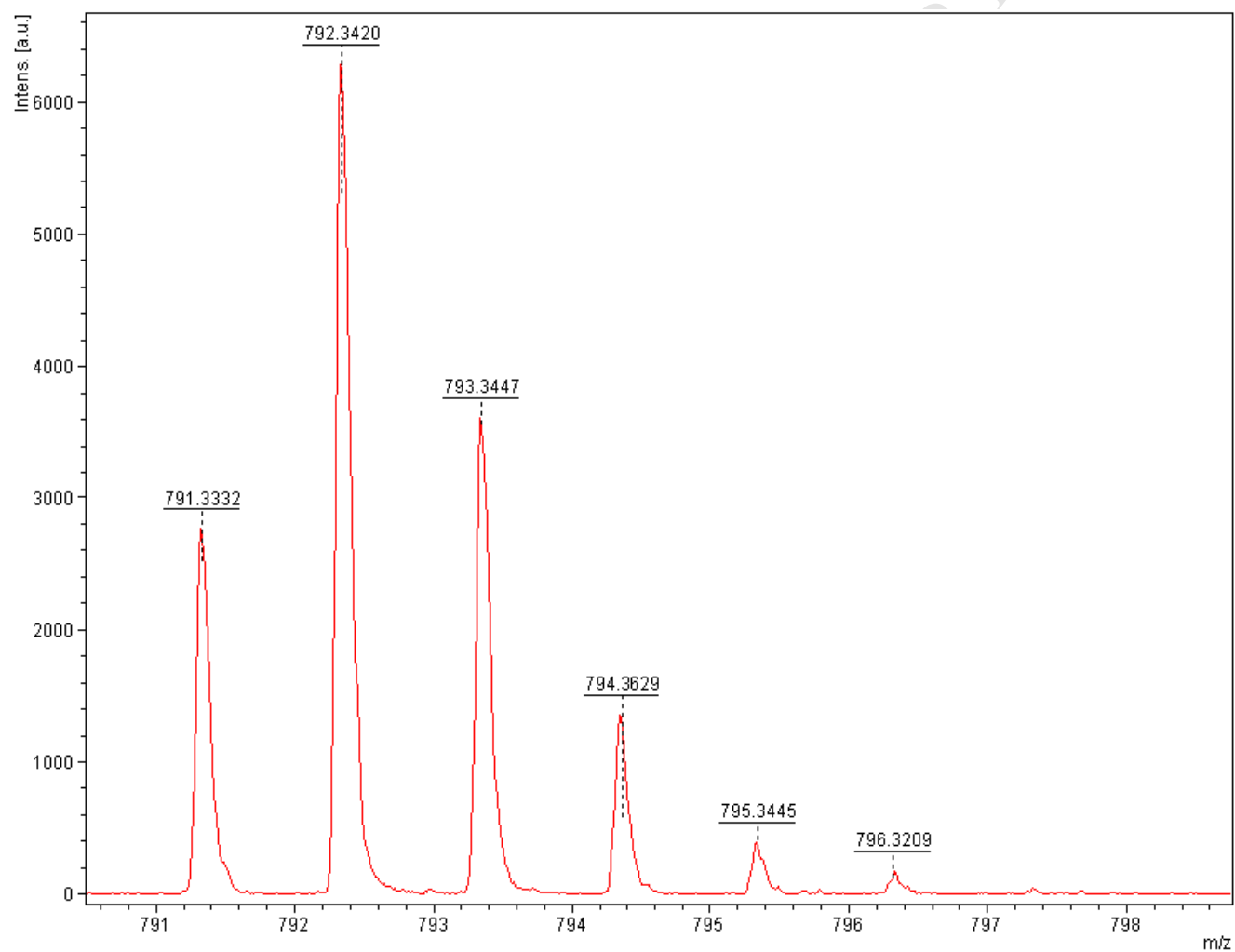
Mass Spectrum



S67

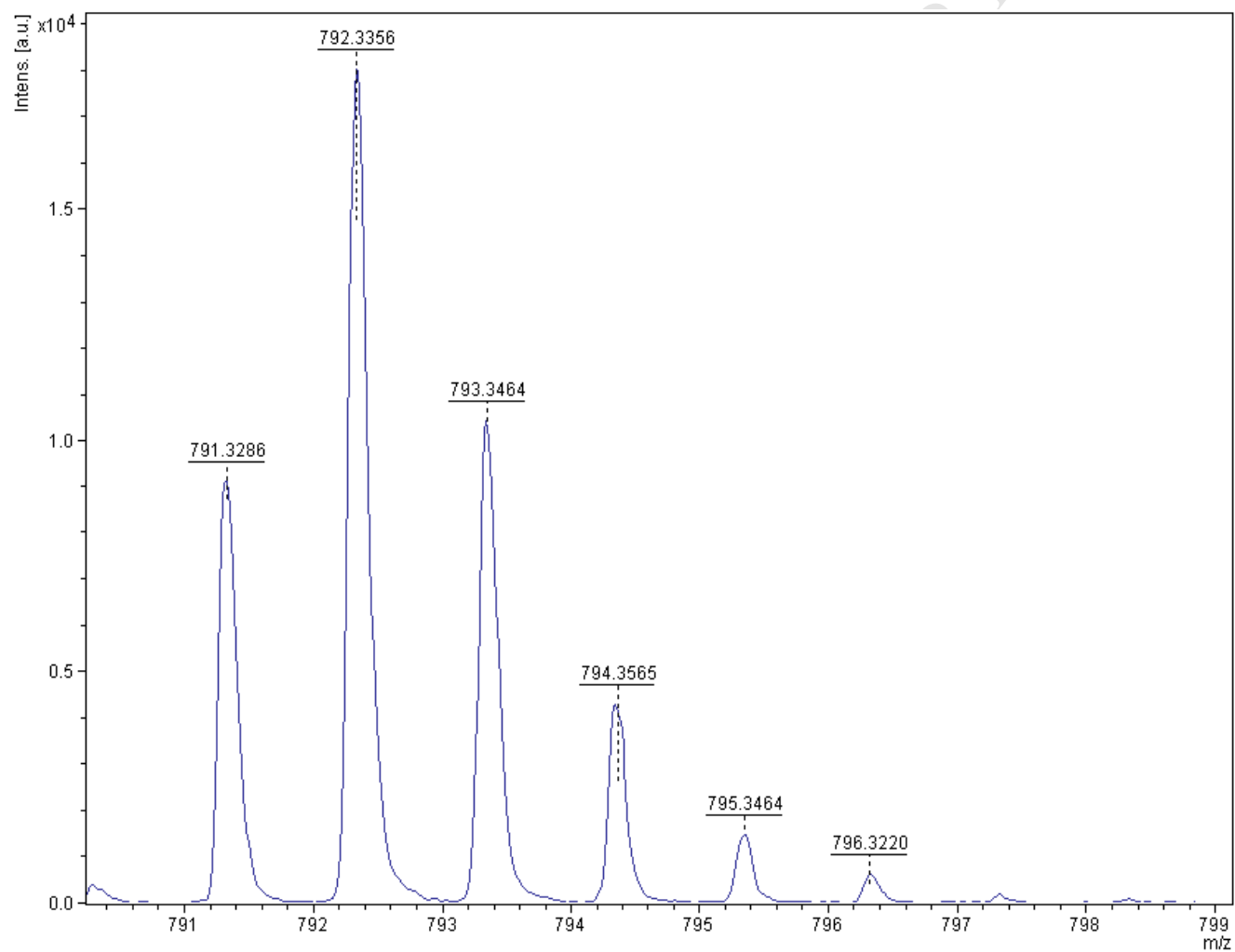
Mass Spectrum

Figure S72. MALDI-HRMS of compound **8b**.



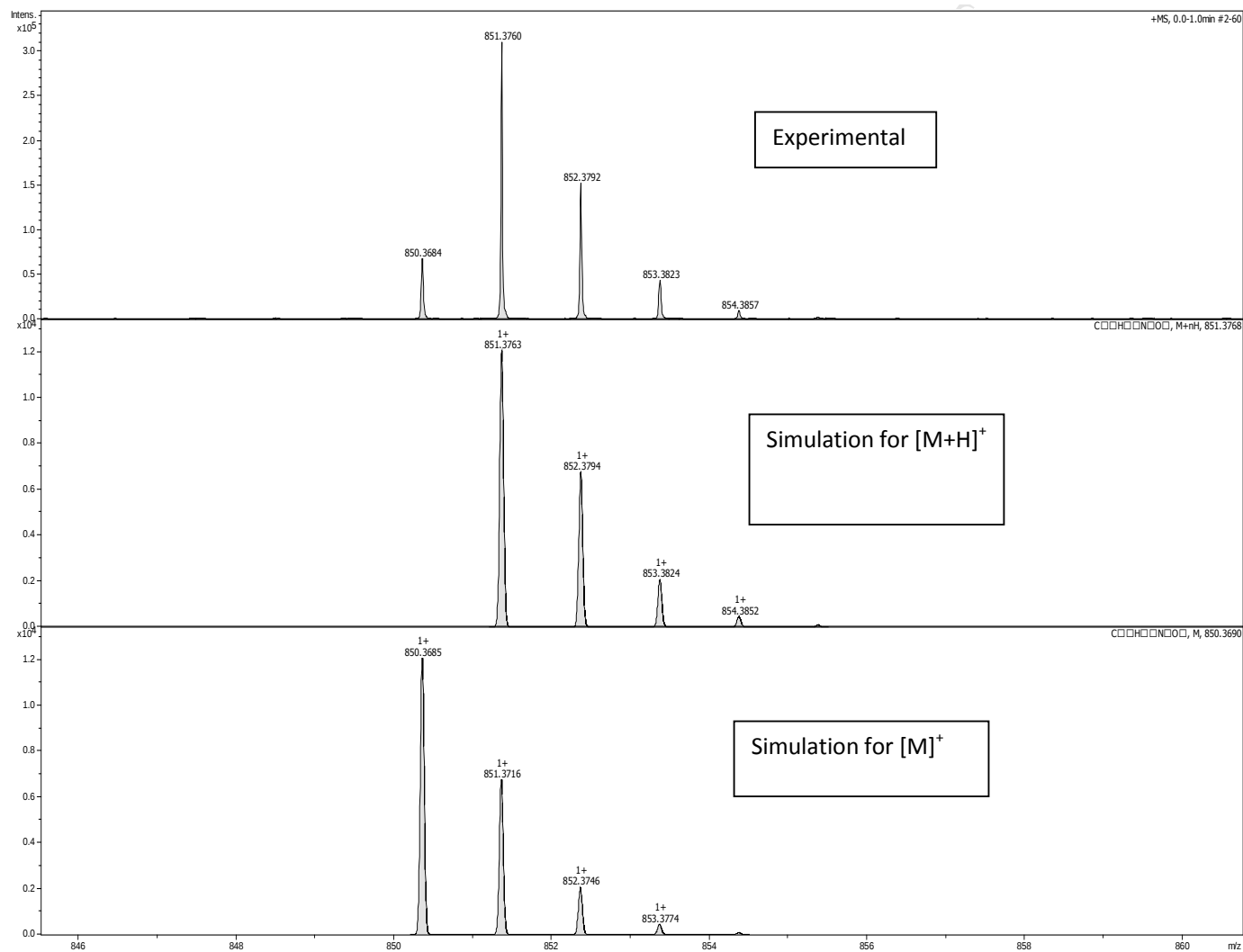
Mass Spectrum

Figure S73. MALDI-HRMS of compound **9a**.



Mass Spectrum

Figure S74. MALDI-HRMS of compound **9b**.



Mass Spectrum

Figure S75. ESI-TOF HRMS of compound **10a**.

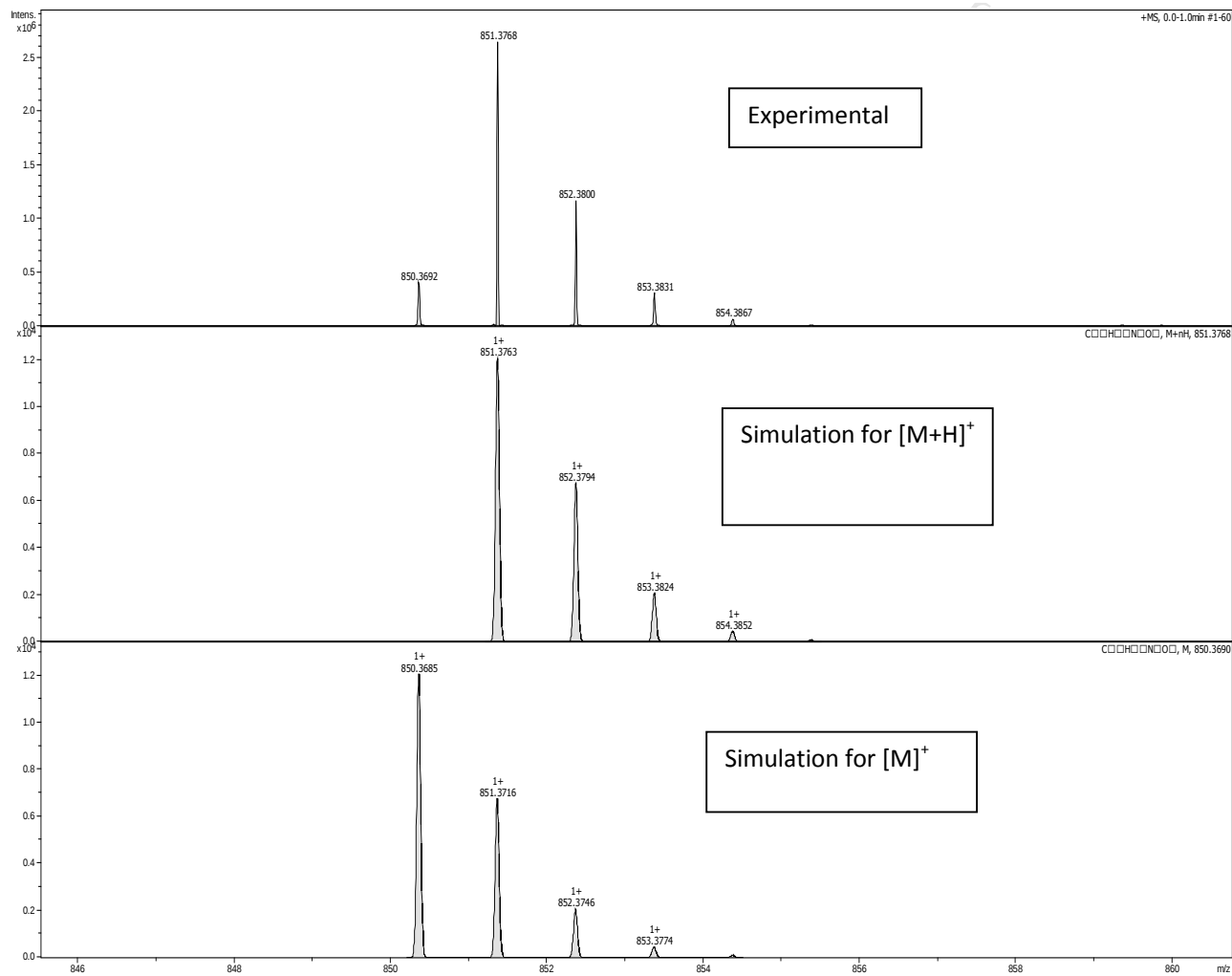


Figure S76. ESI-TOF HRMS of compound **10b**.

Scheme 1: Synthesis of maleimides **4** and **5**. i) ethanedithiol/ CH_2Cl_2 , $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{Et}_2\text{O}$, rt., 6h, 80% yield; ii) $\text{SnCl}_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{EtOH}$, 70°C , 6h, 93% yield; iii) maleic anhydride/ CH_2Cl_2 , 0°C , 1h, 84% yield; iv) $\text{Ac}_2\text{O}/\text{NaOAc}$, rt, to 90°C , 92% yield; v) NBS, H_2O -acetone, 0°C , 87% yield.

Scheme 2. Synthesis of new chlorins. i) $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{Cl}/\text{PTSA}$, reflux, 2h and then ii) $\text{MeOH}/\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ 5%, rt, overnight, 72% yield (2 steps); iii) solvent/conditions (Table 1) and maleimide **4**; iv) solvent/conditions (Table 2) and maleimide **5**; v) $\text{NH}_2\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$, THF, PTSA, r.t.

Table 1: Conditions for the synthesis of chlorins **8a** and **8b**.

Table 2: Conditions for the synthesis of chlorins **9a** and **9b**.

Figure 1.(a) Main NOE effects in compound **9a** (b) main NOE effects in compound **9b**.

a) Main NOE effects in **9a**

b) Main NOE effects in **9b**

Figure 2. Changes of the ^1H chemical shifts of protoporphyrin IX dimethyl ester (**7**), in CDCl_3 at 25°C , as a function of the concentration.

Figure 3. Example of the maintenance of the ^1H chemical shifts of compound **10a** in CDCl_3 at 25°C as a function of the concentration.

Figure 4. Example of aggregation study by UV-Vis analyses of compound **10a** in CH₂Cl₂.

Figure 5. Example of aggregation study by UV-Vis analyses of compound **10a** in water containing 4% of DMSO.

Figure 6. DPBF consumption in the presence of MB in ethanol. (inset: ln (DPBF absorbance) vs irradiation time).

Figure 7. DPBF consumption in the presence of chlorin **10a** in ethanol. (inset: ln (DPBF absorbance) vs irradiation time).

Figure 8. Photobleaching study for chlorin **10a**.