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## Supporting Information

# The fascinating flexibility and coordination modes of a pentamethylene connected macrocyclic CNC pincer ligand

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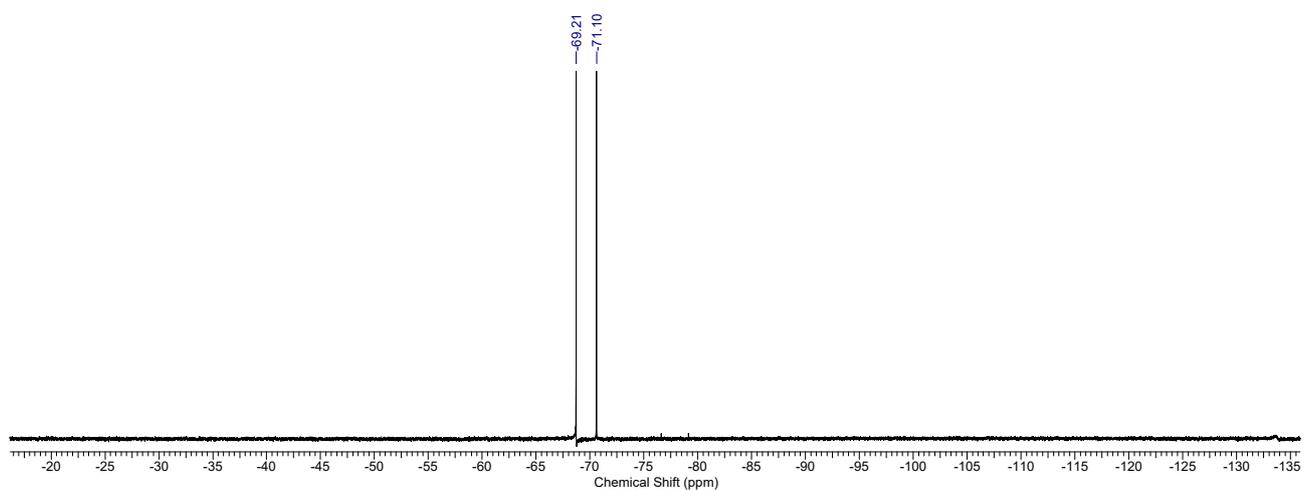
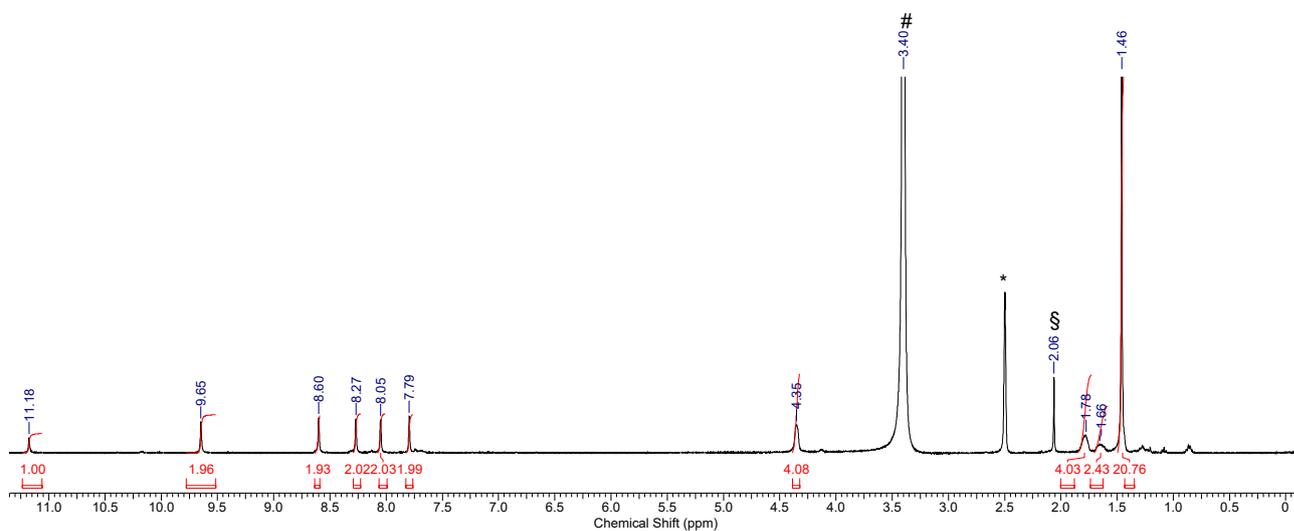
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# 1 NMR-Spectroscopy

## (Hbimca<sup>C5</sup>)·2HPF<sub>6</sub> (1b):



**[Li(bimca<sup>C5</sup>)] (2):**

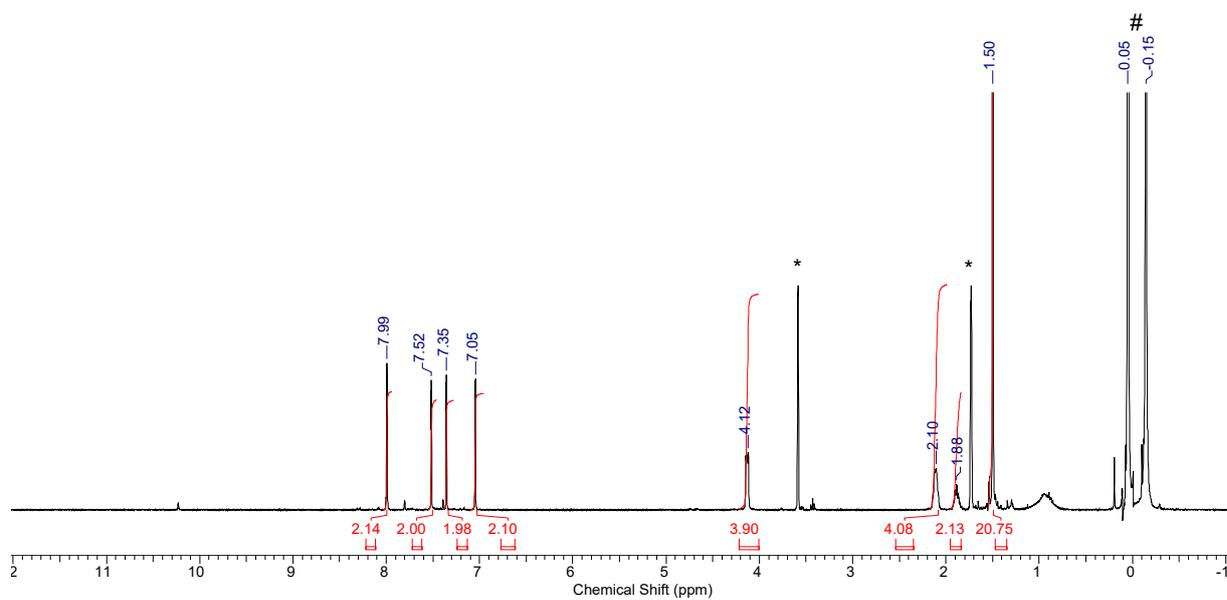


Figure 3: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, THF-d<sub>8</sub> (\*)) of [Li(bimca<sup>C5</sup>)] (2) generated with LiHMDS (#); HMDS (#).

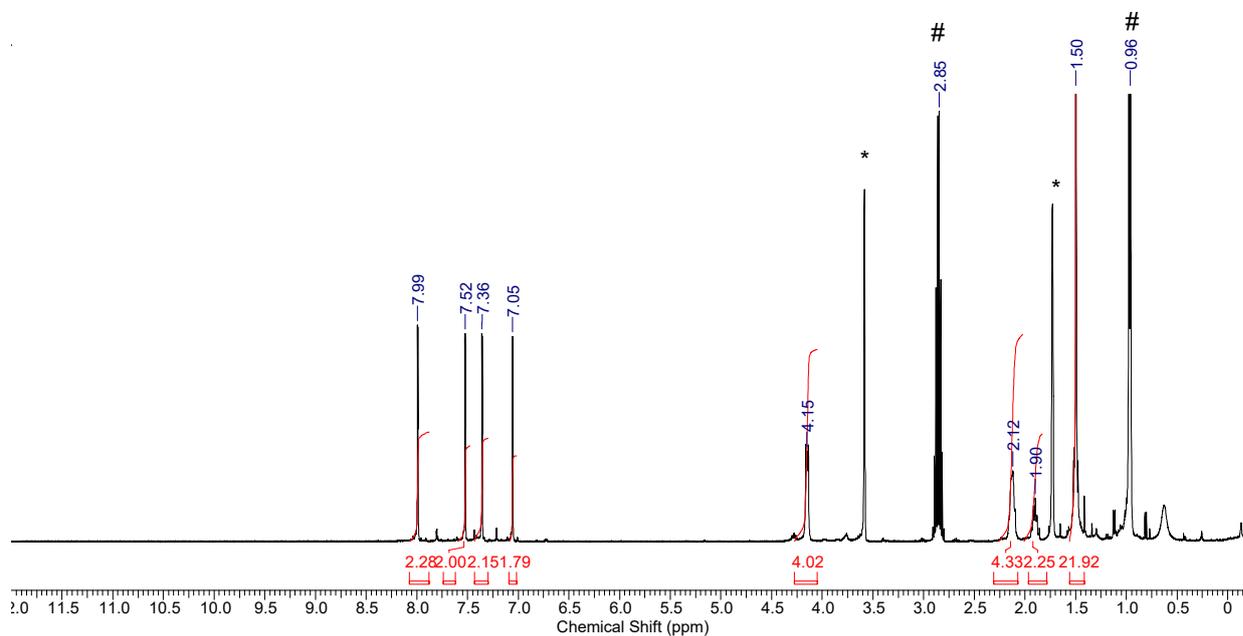


Figure 4: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, THF-d<sub>8</sub> (\*)) of [Li(bimca<sup>C5</sup>)] (2); generated with LDA (#); HDA (#).

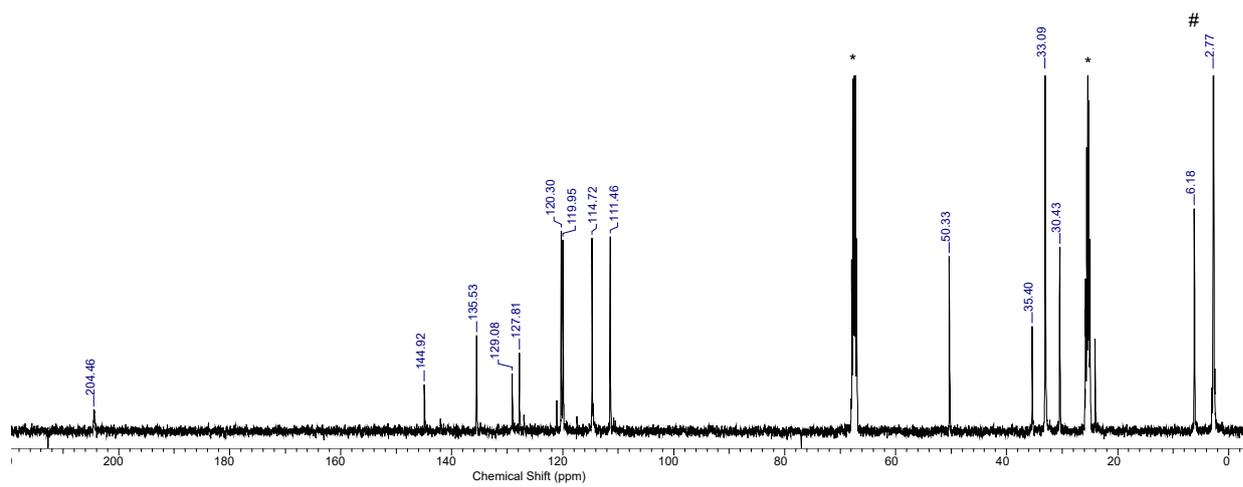


Figure 5:  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum (100 MHz,  $\text{THF-d}_8$  (\*)) of  $[\text{Li}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C5}})]$  (2) generated with  $\text{LiHMDS}$  (#);  $\text{HMDS}$  (#).

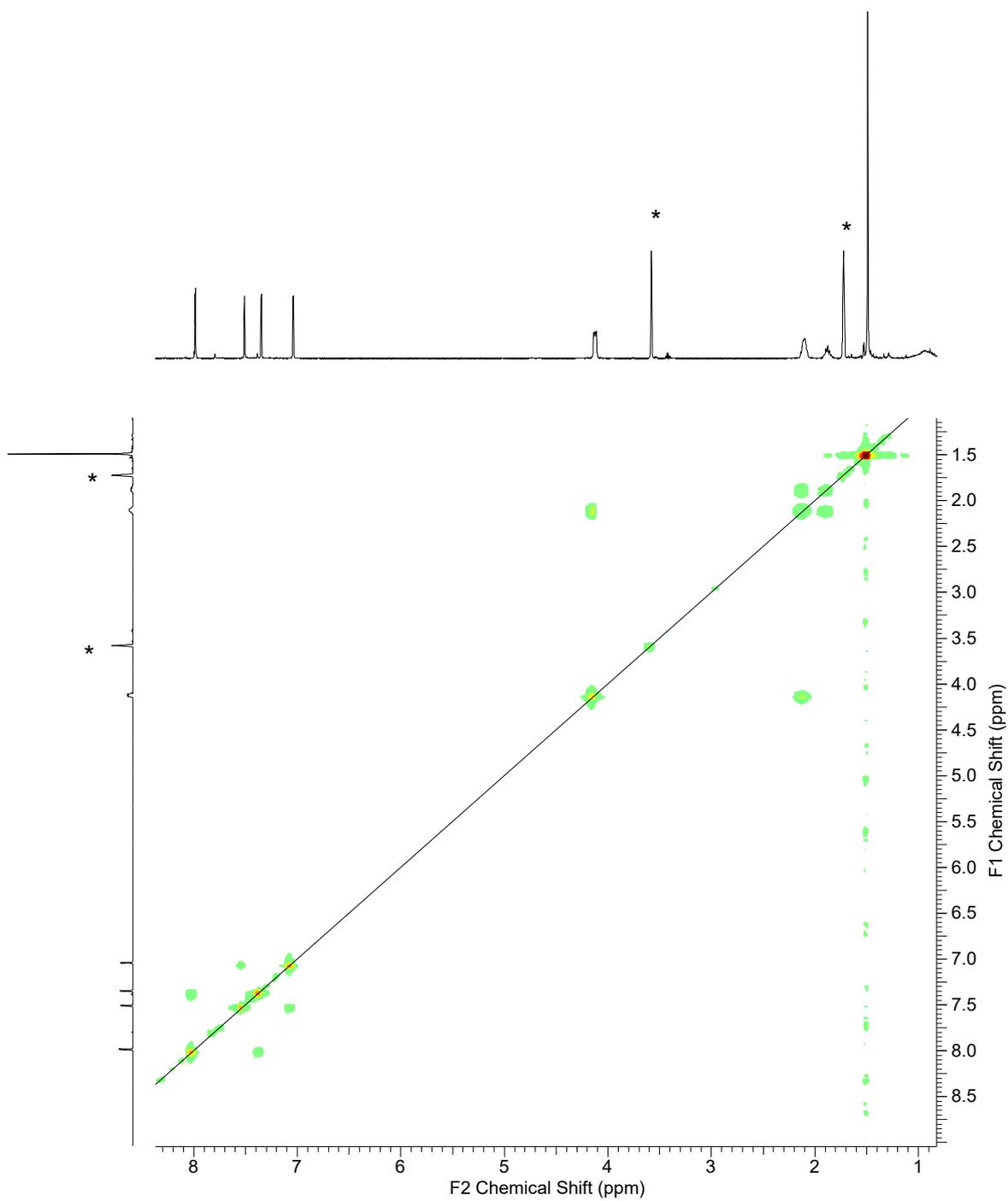


Figure 6:  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^1\text{H}$  COSY-NMR spectrum (detail) (400 MHz, THF- $d_8$  (\*)) of  $[\text{Li}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C}5})]$  (2).

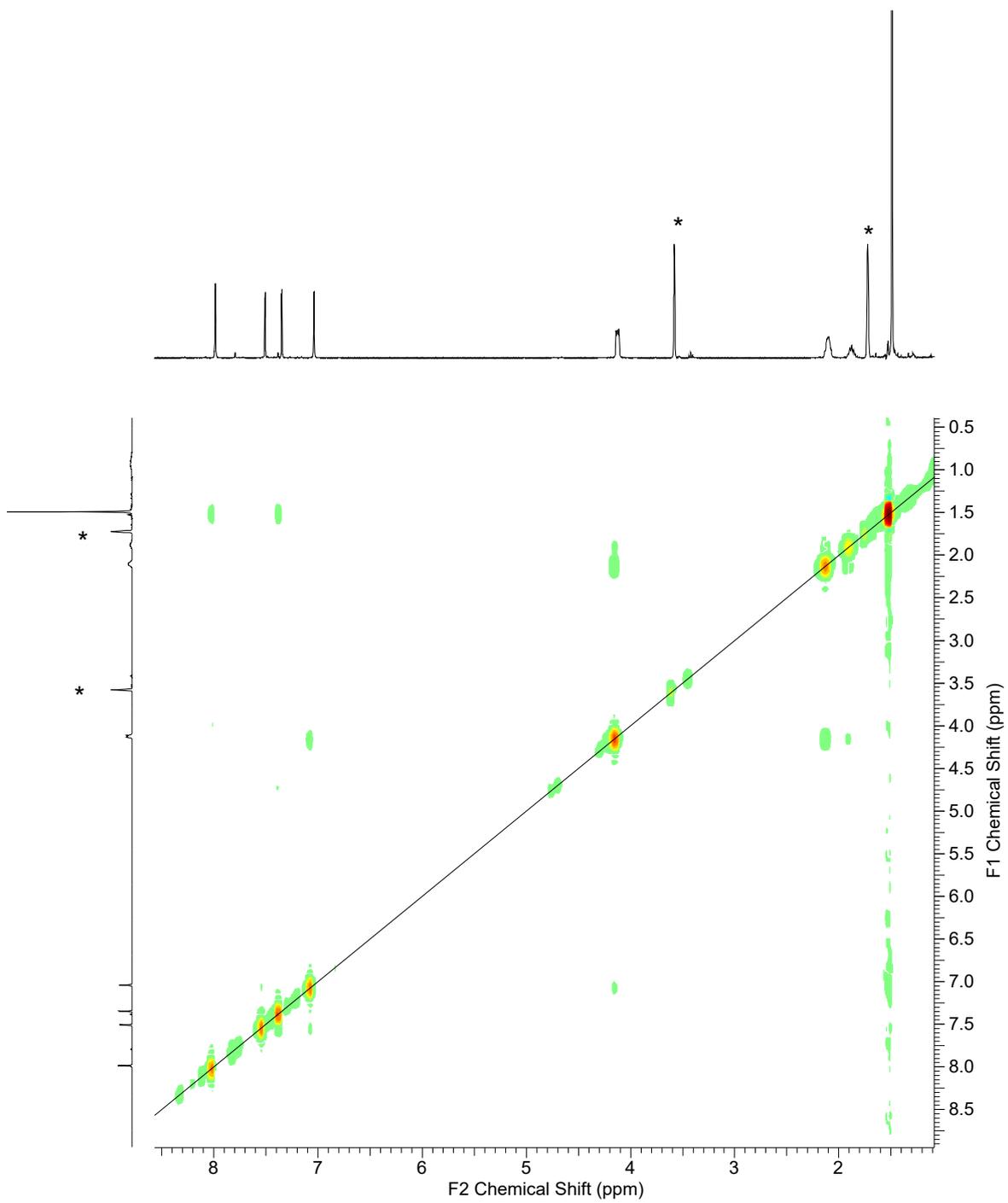


Figure 7:  $^1\text{H}, ^1\text{H}$  NOESY-NMR spectrum (detail) (400 MHz,  $\text{THF-d}_8$  (\*)) of  $[\text{Li}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C5}})]$  (2).

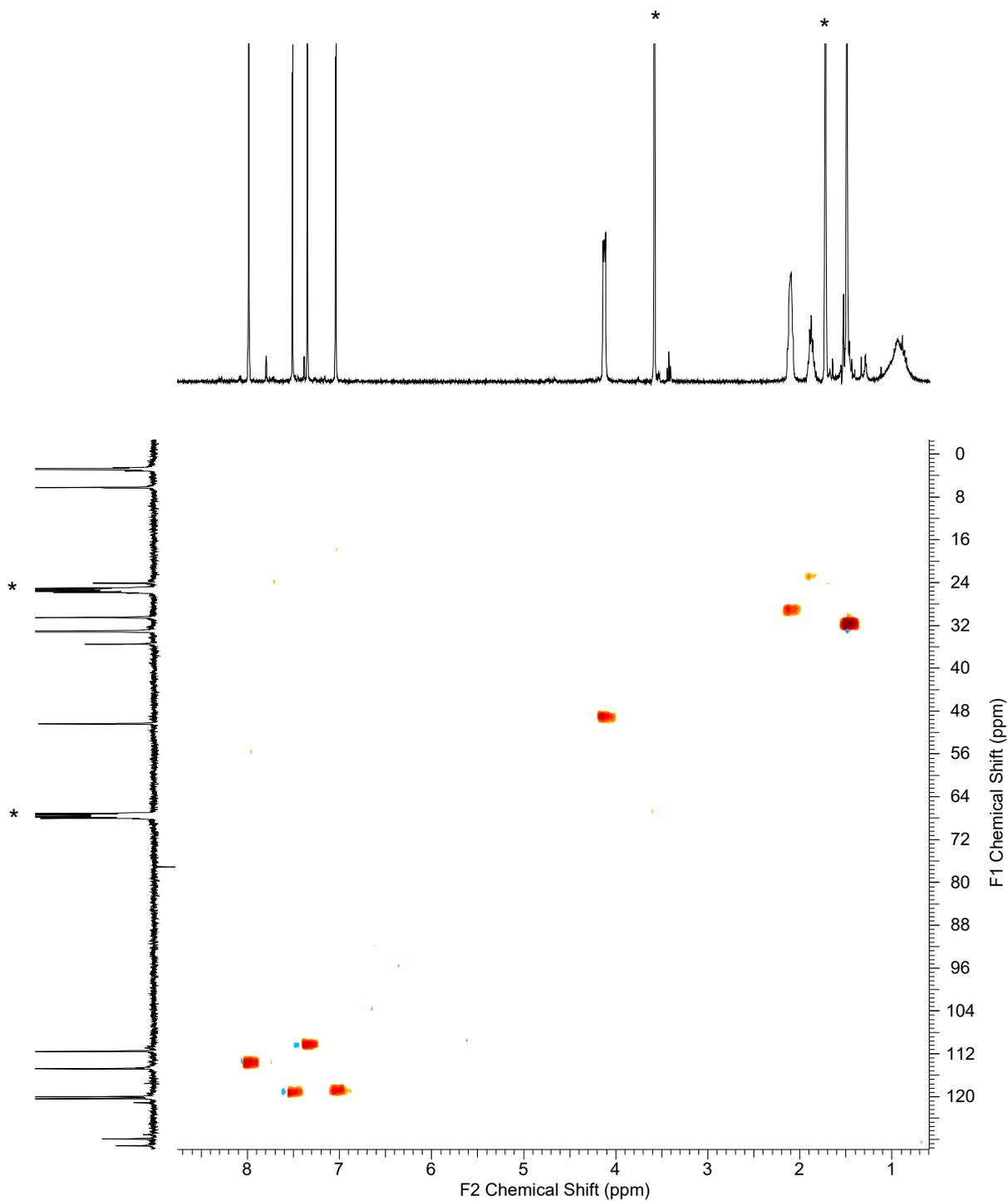


Figure 8:  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  HSQC-NMR spectrum (detail) (400 MHz,  $\text{THF-d}_8$  (\*)) of  $[\text{Li}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C5}})]$  (2).

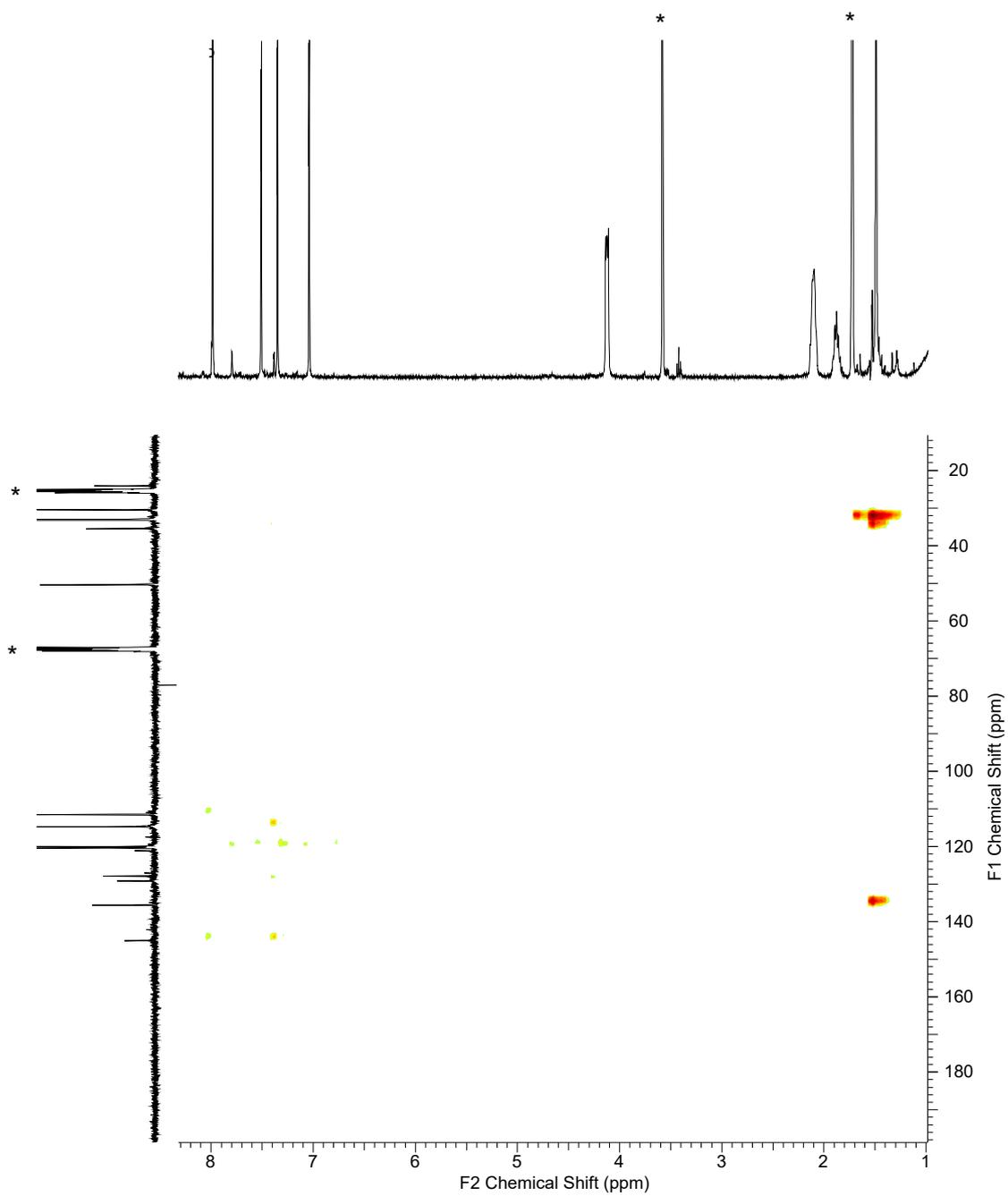


Figure 9:  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  HMBC-NMR spectrum (detail) (400 MHz,  $\text{THF-d}_8$  (\*)) of  $[\text{Li}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C}5})]$  (2).

**Low temperature measurement:**

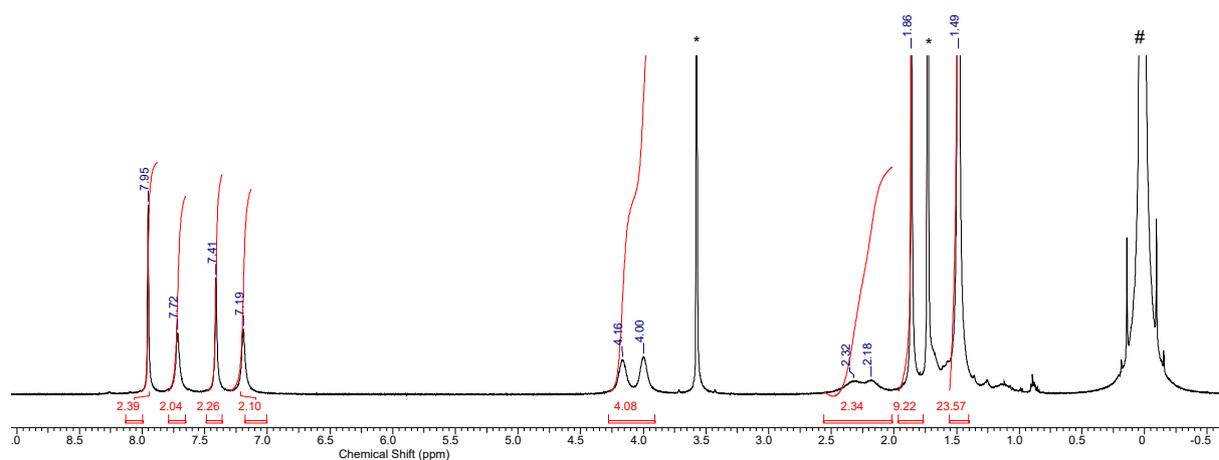


Figure 10:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (500 MHz,  $\text{THF-d}_8$  (\*)) at  $-90\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  of  $[\text{Li}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C5}})]$  (2) generated with  $\text{LiHMDS}$ (#);  $\text{HMDS}$  (#).

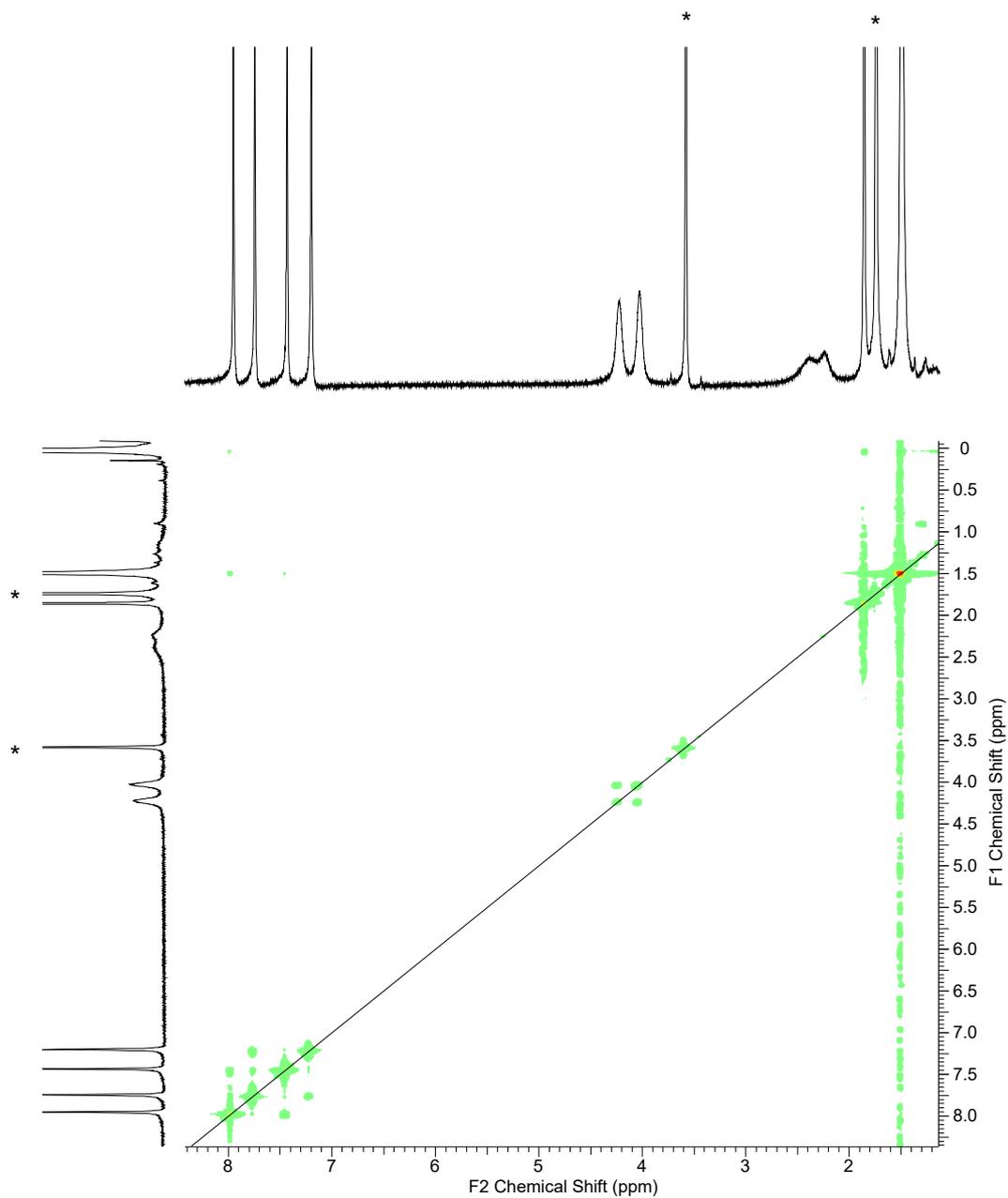


Figure 11:  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^1\text{H}$  COSY spectrum (500 MHz,  $\text{THF-d}_8$  (\*)) (\*) at  $-90\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  of  $[\text{Li}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C5}})]$  (2).

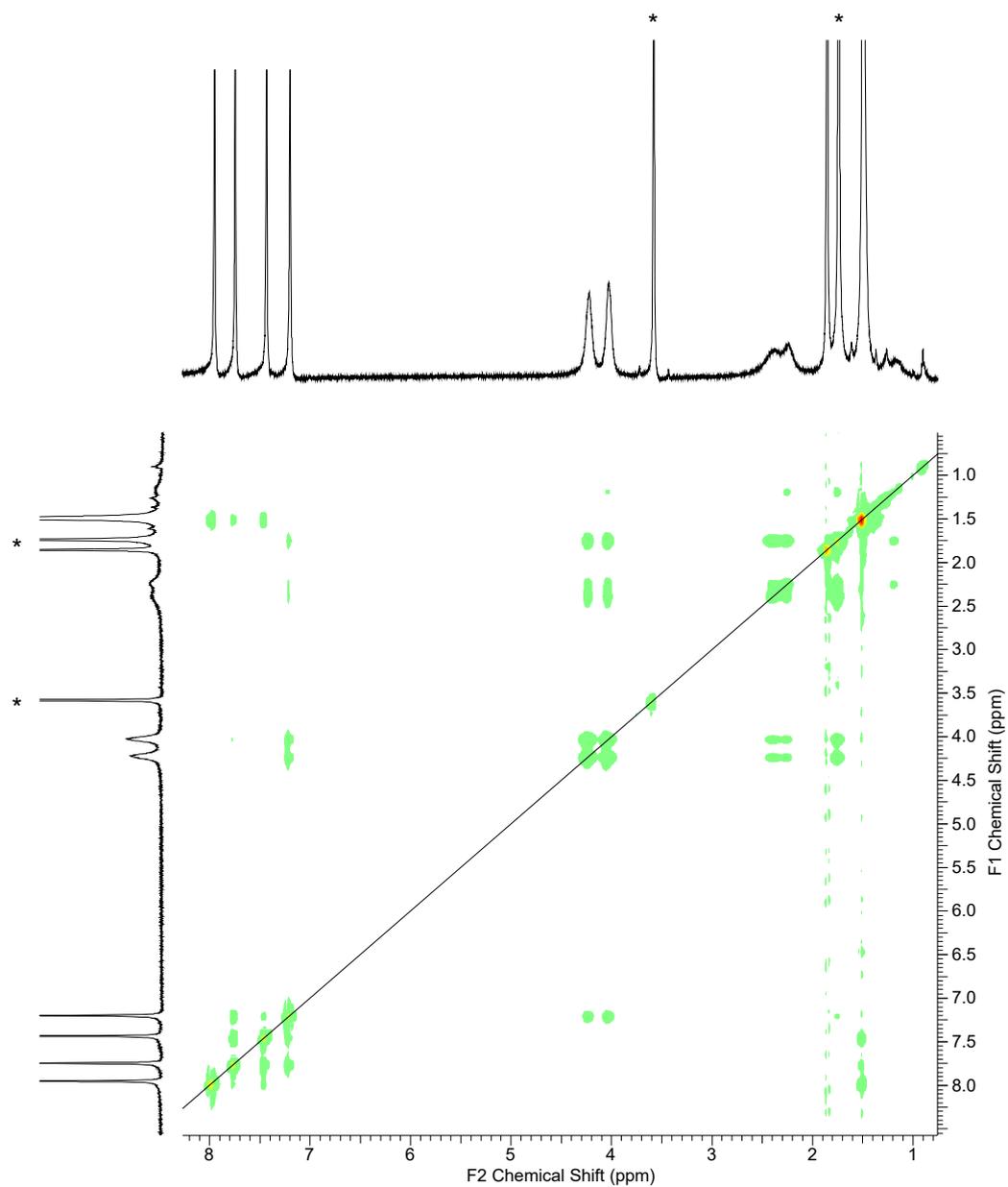


Figure 12: <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>1</sup>H NOESY spectrum (500 MHz, THF-d<sub>8</sub> (\*)) at -90 °C of [Li(bimca<sup>C5</sup>)] (2).

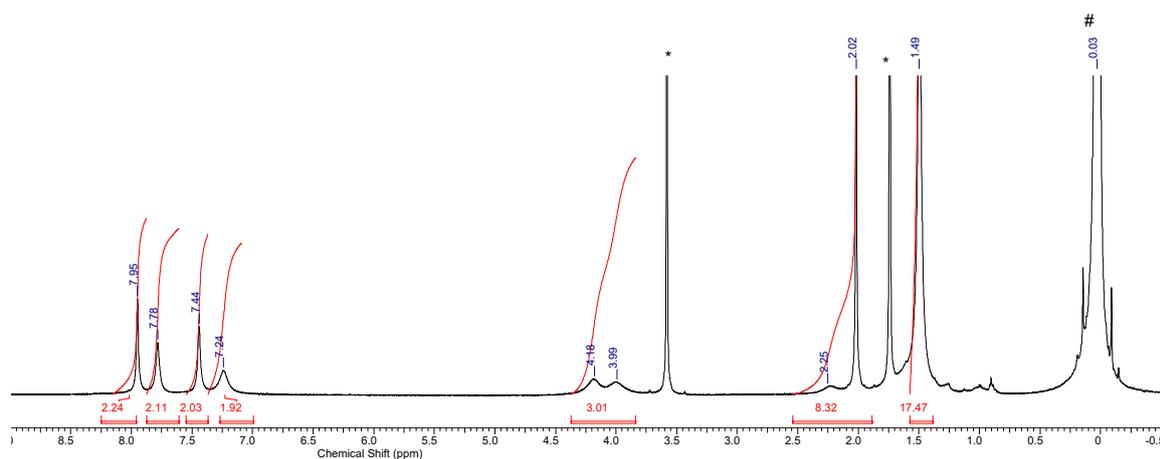


Figure 13:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum (500 MHz,  $\text{THF-d}_8$  (\*)) at  $-110\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  of  $[\text{Li}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C}5})]$  (2) generated with LiHMDS (#); HMDS (#).

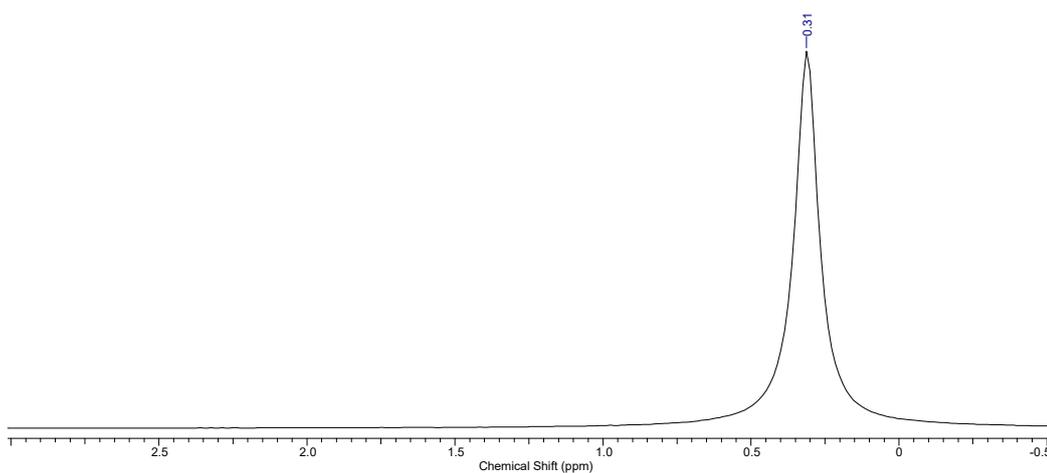


Figure 14:  $^7\text{Li}$  NMR spectrum (300 MHz,  $\text{THF-d}_8$ ) of  $[\text{Li}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C}5})]$  (2) at RT.

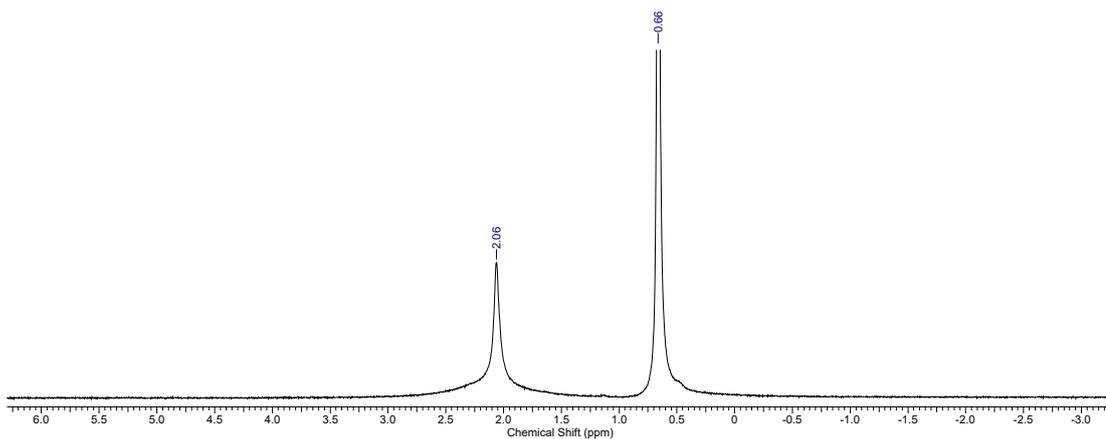


Figure 15:  $^7\text{Li}$  NMR spectrum (500 MHz,  $\text{THF-d}_8$ ) at  $-90\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  of  $[\text{Li}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C5}})]$  (**2**) generated with  $\text{LiHMDS}(\#)$ ;  $\text{HMDS}(\#)$ .

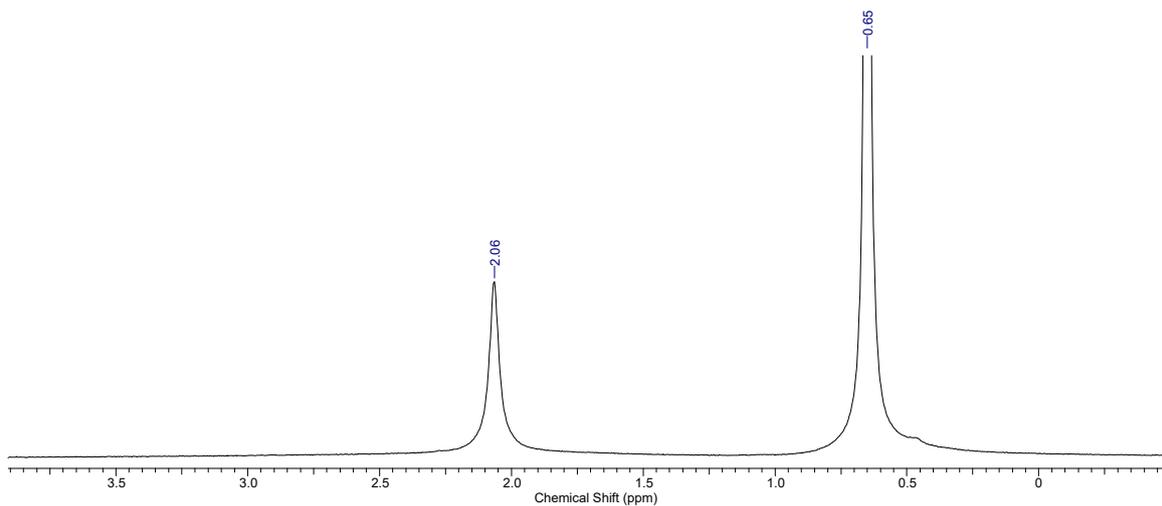


Figure 16:  $^7\text{Li}$  NMR spectrum (500 MHz,  $\text{THF-d}_8$ ) at  $-110\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  of  $[\text{Li}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C5}})]$  (**2**) with  $\text{LiHMDS}(\#)$ ;  $\text{HMDS}(\#)$ .

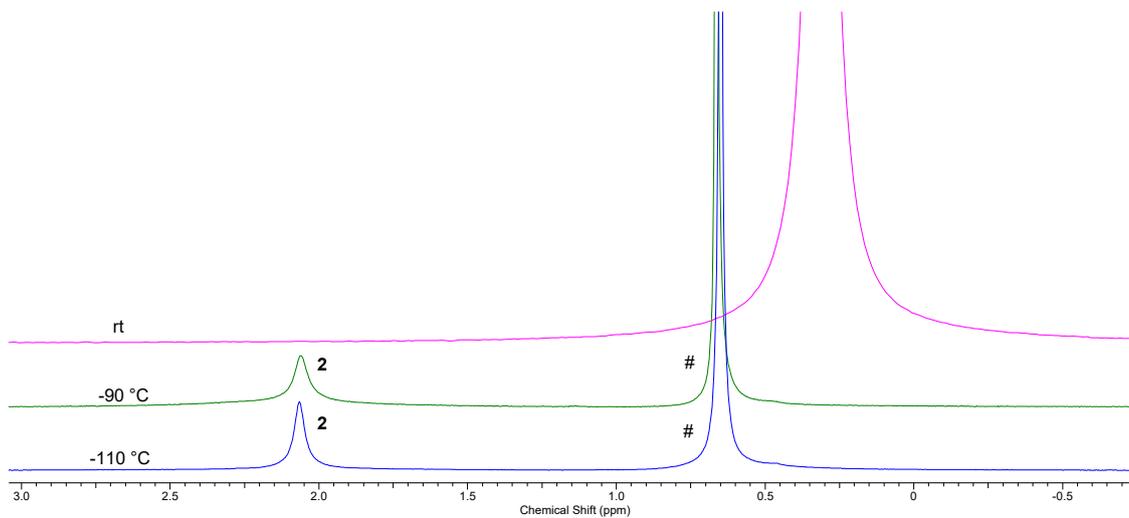


Figure 17: VT  $^7\text{Li}$  NMR spectra (300 and 500 MHz,  $\text{THF-d}_8$ ) of  $[\text{Li}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C5}})]$  (2) generated with  $\text{LiHMDS}(\#)$ ;  $\text{LiX}(\#)$ .

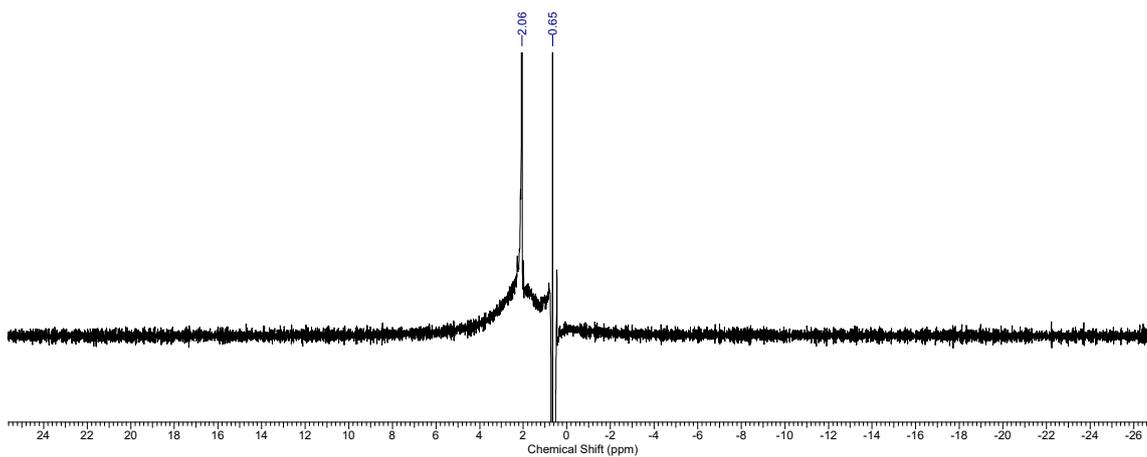


Figure 18:  $^7\text{Li}$  NMR spectrum (500 MHz,  $\text{THF-d}_8$ ) at  $-110^\circ\text{C}$  of  $[\text{Li}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C5}})]$  (2) generated with  $\text{LiHMDS}/\text{HMDS}(\#)$ . Resolution enhanced version of [Figure 16](#) by gaussian windows multiplication (apodisation).

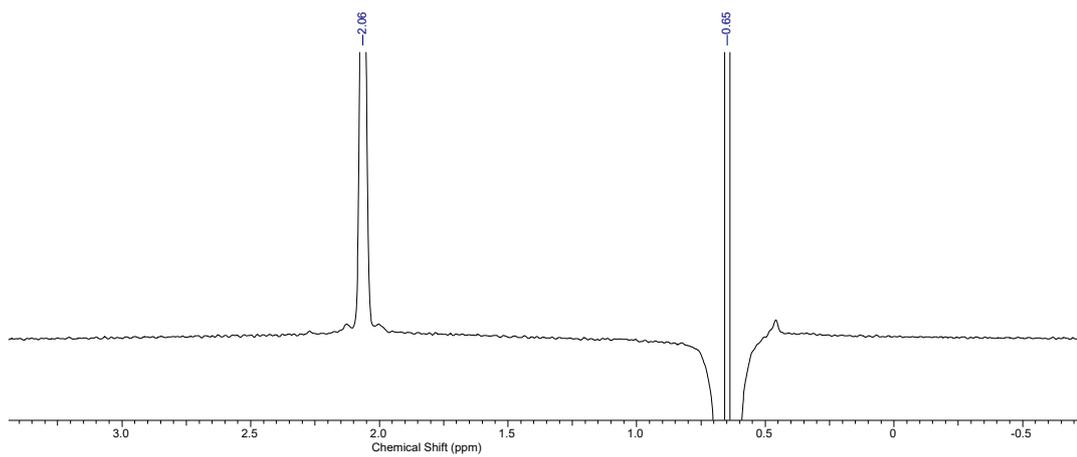


Figure 19: Detail of ~~Figure 18~~ to emphasize the  $^{13}\text{C}$  satellites ( $^1\text{J}(\text{}^7\text{Li}^{13}\text{C})$ ) of the signal at 2.06 ppm.

**[K(bimca<sup>C5</sup>)] (3):**

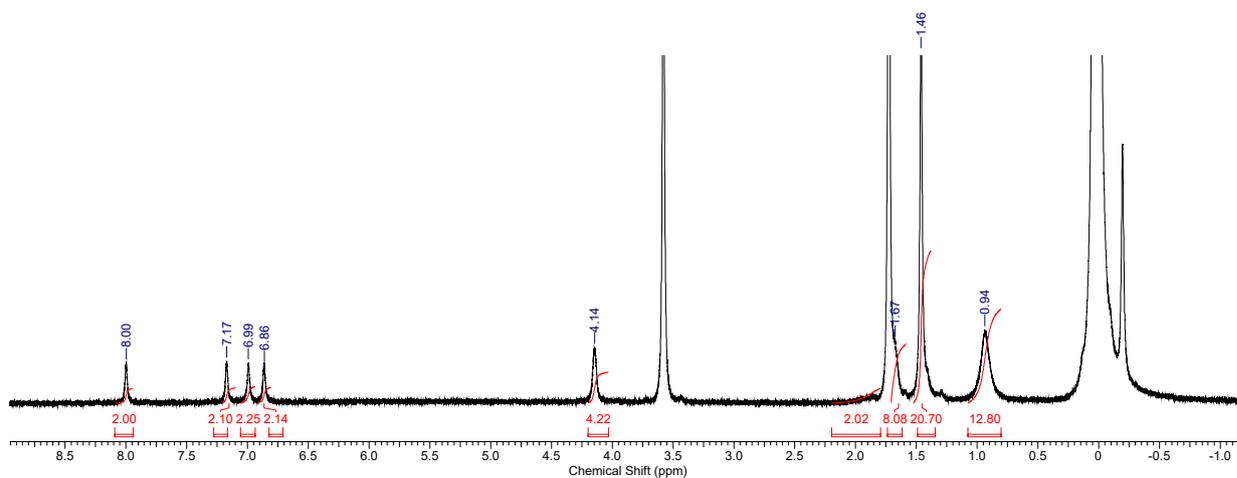


Figure 20: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, THF-d<sub>8</sub> (\*)) of [K(bimca<sup>C5</sup>)] (3) generated with KHMDS(#); HMDS (#).

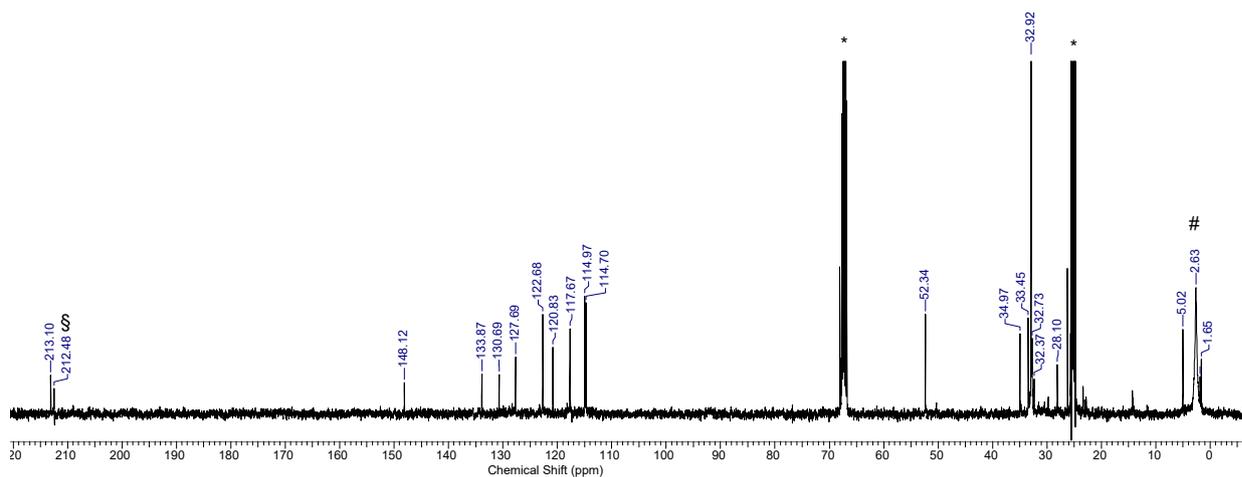


Figure 21: <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, THF-d<sub>8</sub> (\*)) of [K(bimca<sup>C5</sup>)] (3) generated with KHMDS(#); HMDS (#), artefact (§).

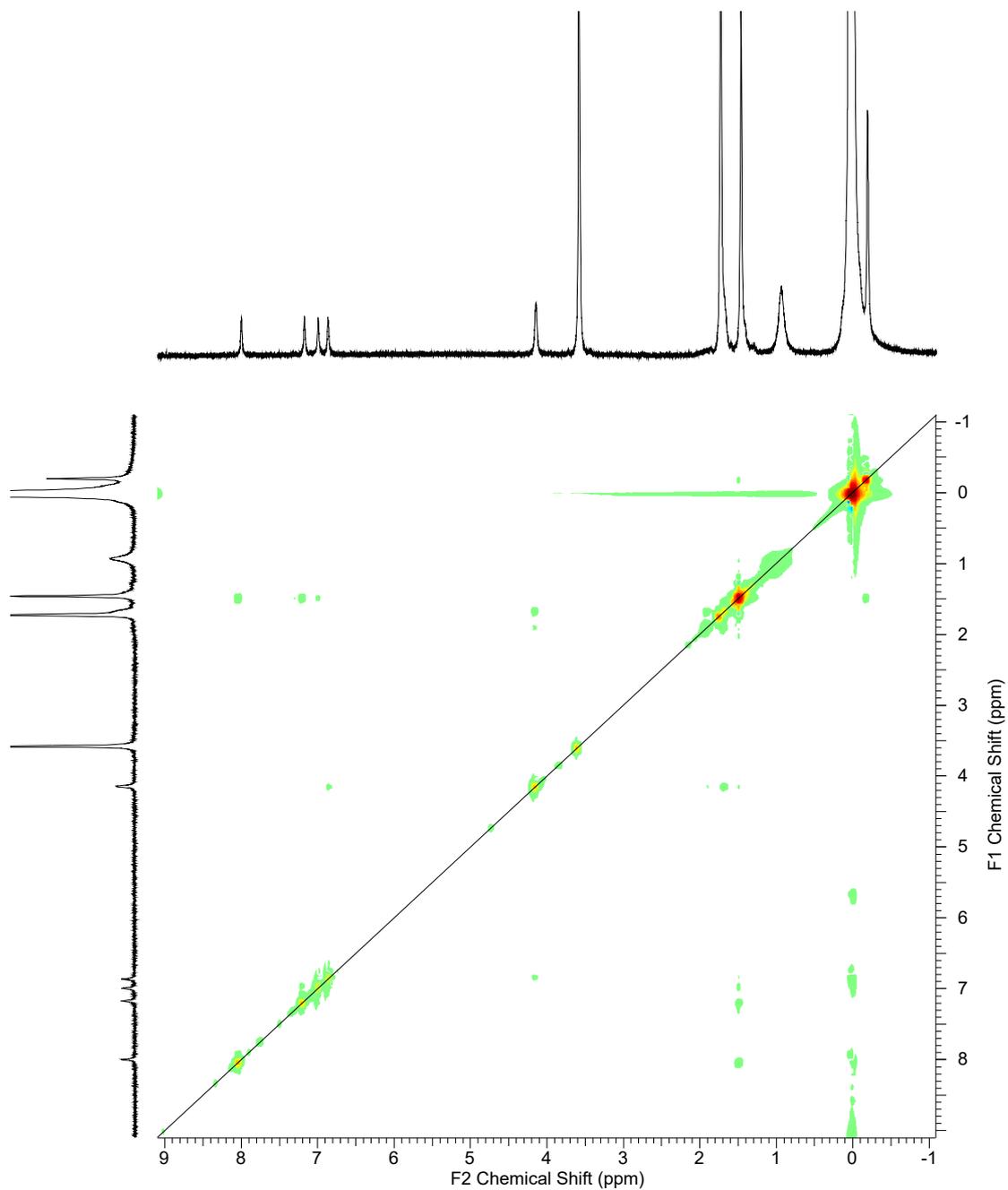


Figure 22:  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^1\text{H}$  NOESY-NMR spectrum (500 MHz,  $\text{THF-d}_8$  (\*)) of  $[\text{K}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C5}})]$  (**3**) (# = HMDS/KHMDS).

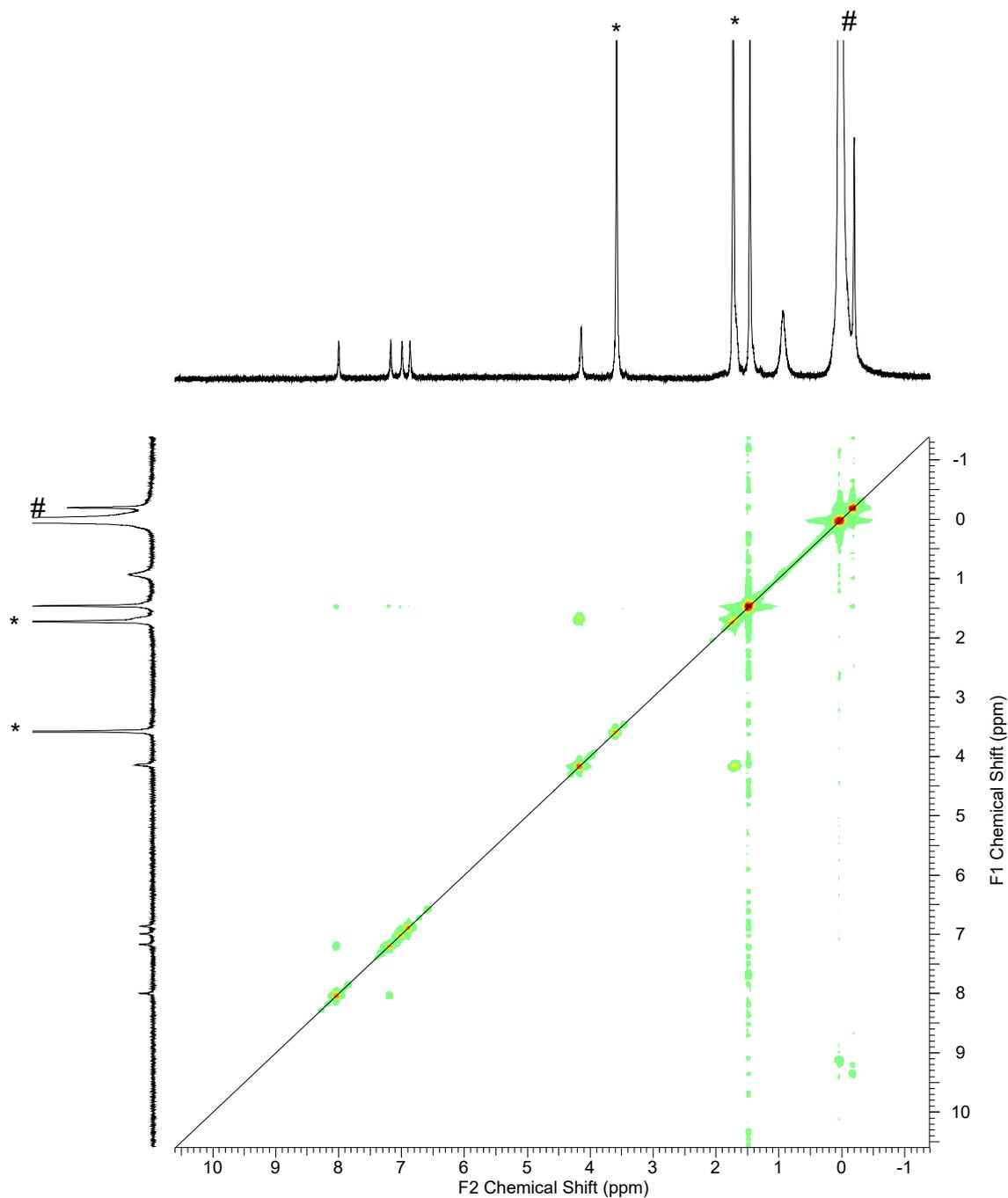


Figure 23:  $^1\text{H},^1\text{H}$  COSY-NMR spectrum (500 MHz,  $\text{THF-d}_8$  (\*)) of  $[\text{K}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C}5})]$  (3) (# = HMDS/KHMDS.)

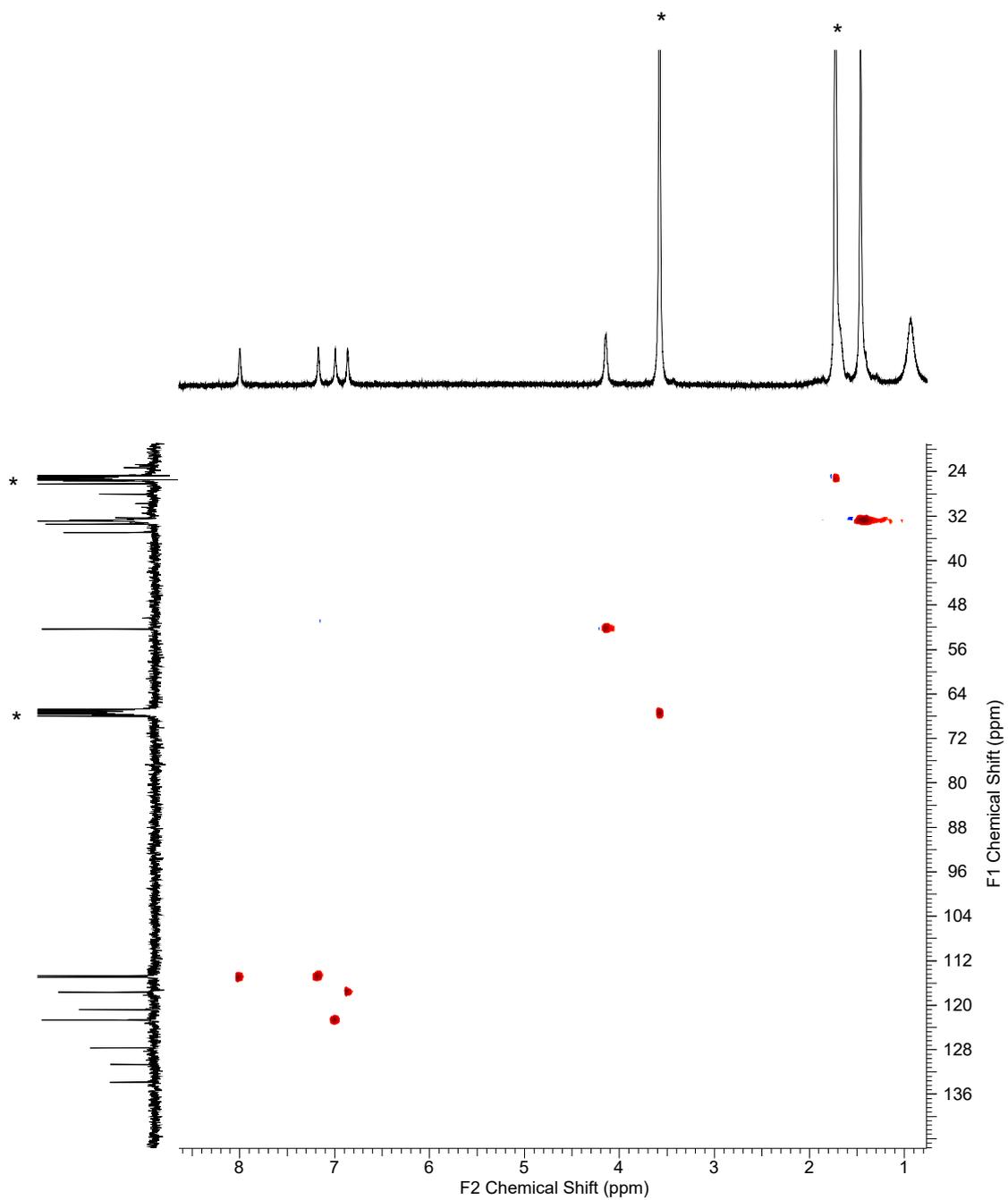


Figure 24:  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  HSQC NMR spectrum (500 MHz,  $\text{THF-d}_8$  (\*)) of  $[\text{K}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C}5})]$  (**3**).

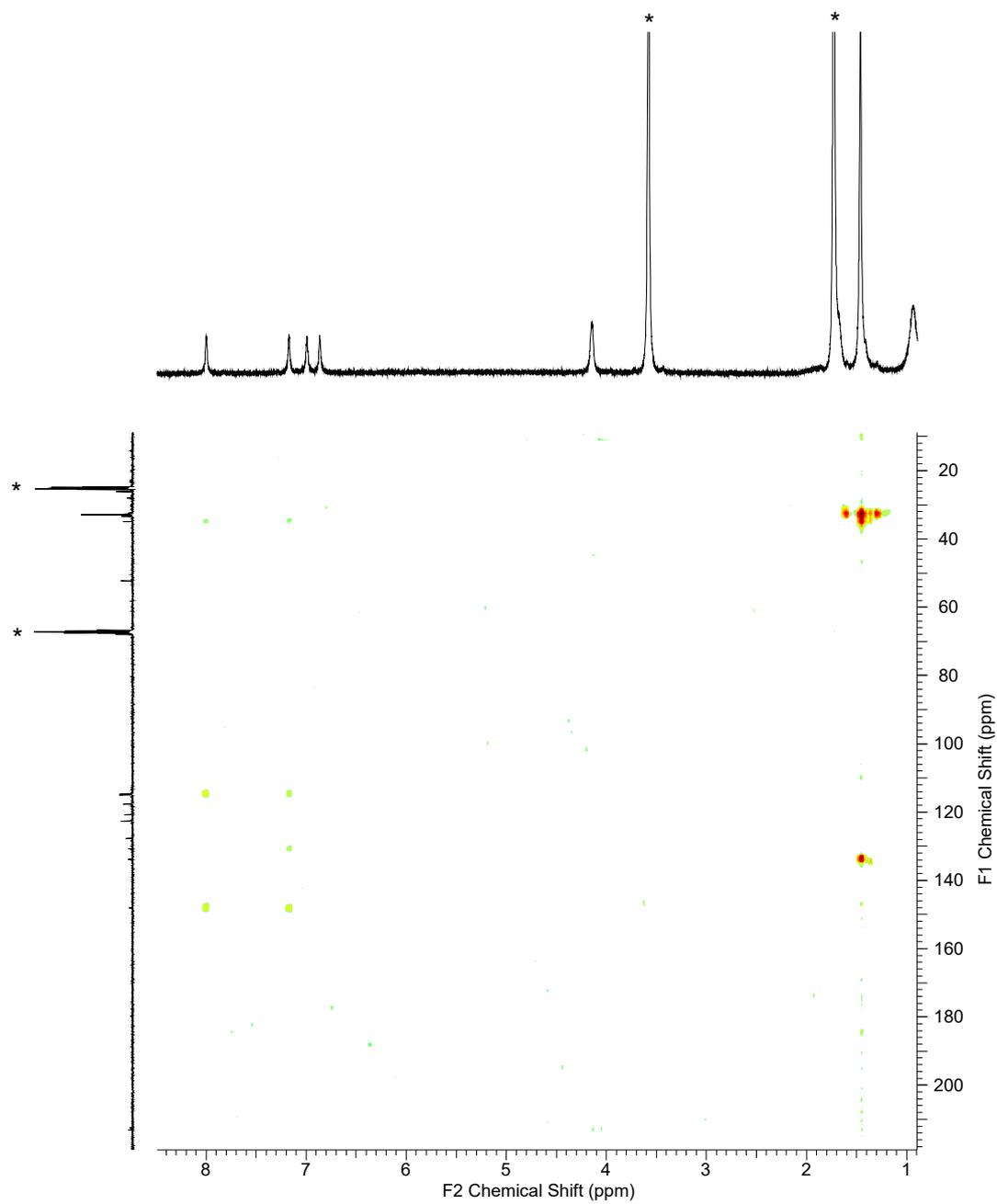


Figure 25:  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  HMBC NMR spectrum (400 MHz,  $\text{THF-d}_8$  (\*)) of  $[\text{K}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C}5})]$  (**3**).

**[Ru(bimca<sup>C5</sup>)Cp\*] (4):**

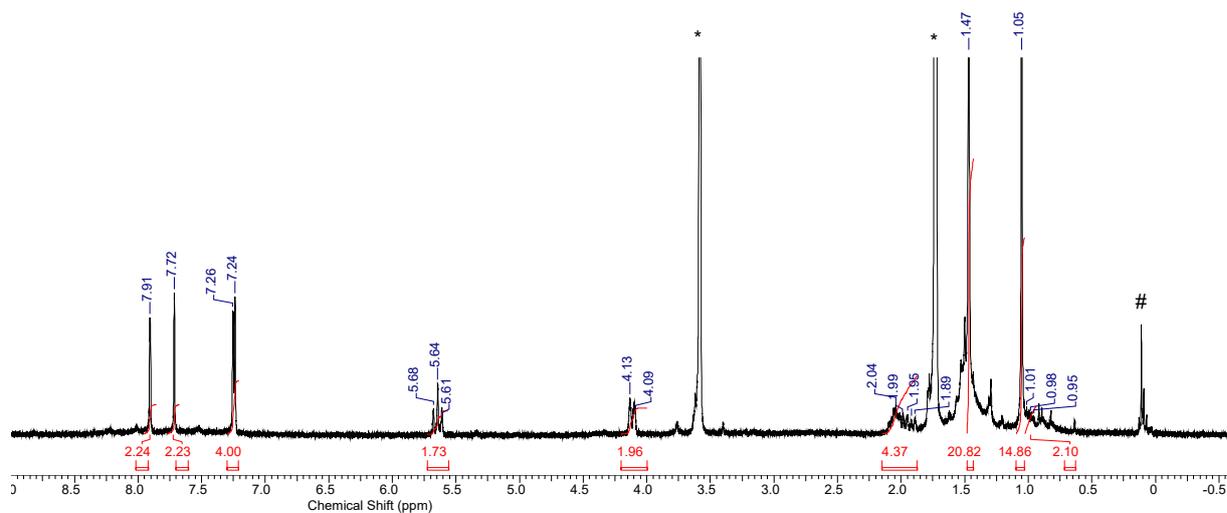


Figure 26: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, THF-d<sub>8</sub> (\*)) of [Ru(bimca<sup>C5</sup>)Cp\*] (3) HMDS/grease (#).

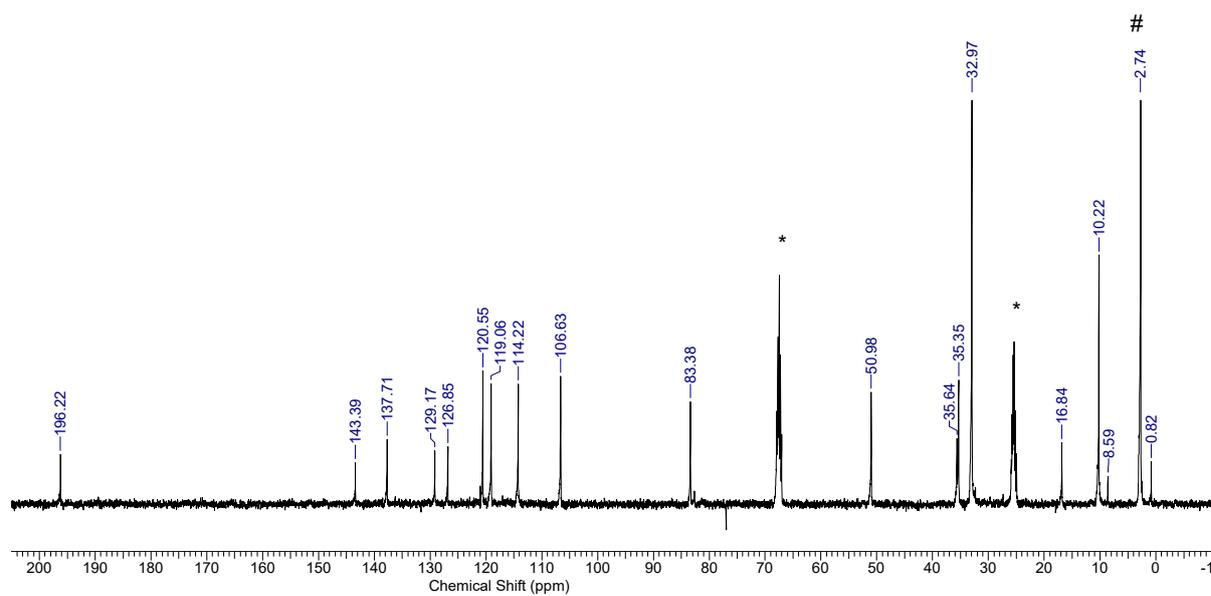


Figure 27: <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, THF-d<sub>8</sub> (\*)) of [Ru(bimca<sup>C5</sup>)Cp\*] (4); HMDS (#).

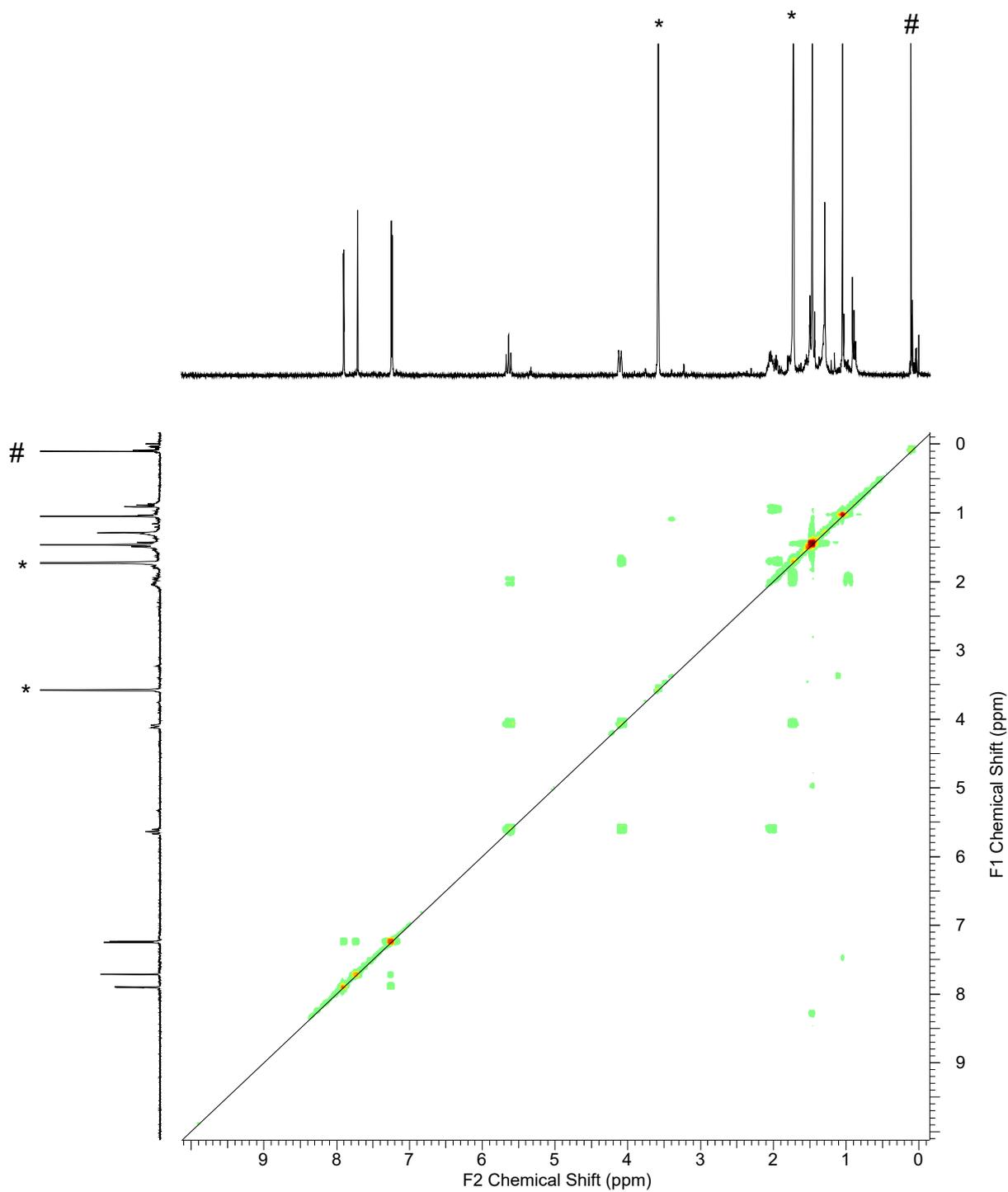


Figure 28:  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY NMR spectrum ( $\text{THF-d}_8$  (\*)) of  $[\text{Ru}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C}5})\text{Cp}^*]$  (4); HMDS (#).

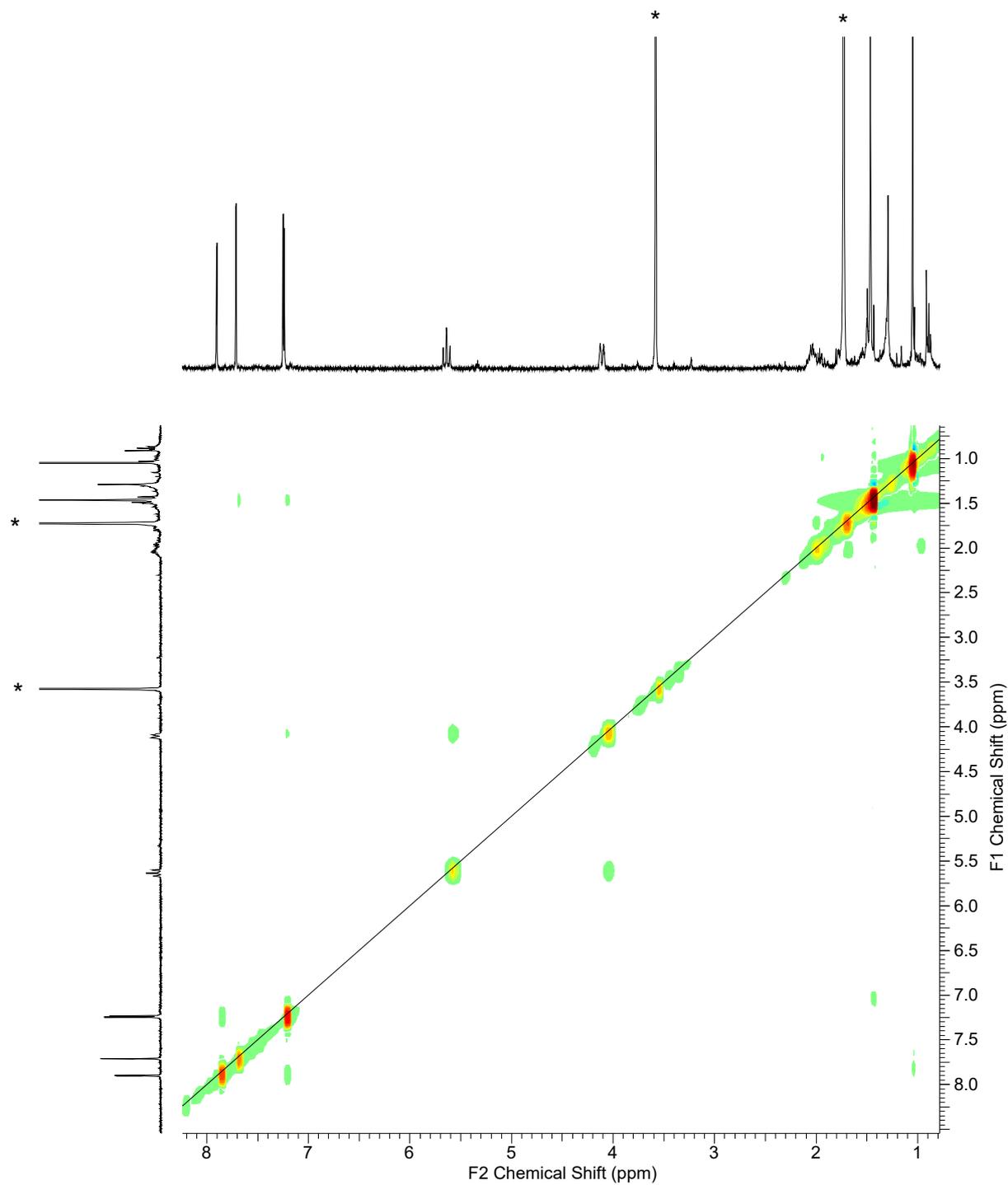


Figure 29:  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  COSY NMR spectrum (detail) ( $\text{THF-d}_8$  (\*)) of  $[\text{Ru}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C5}})\text{Cp}^*]$  (4).

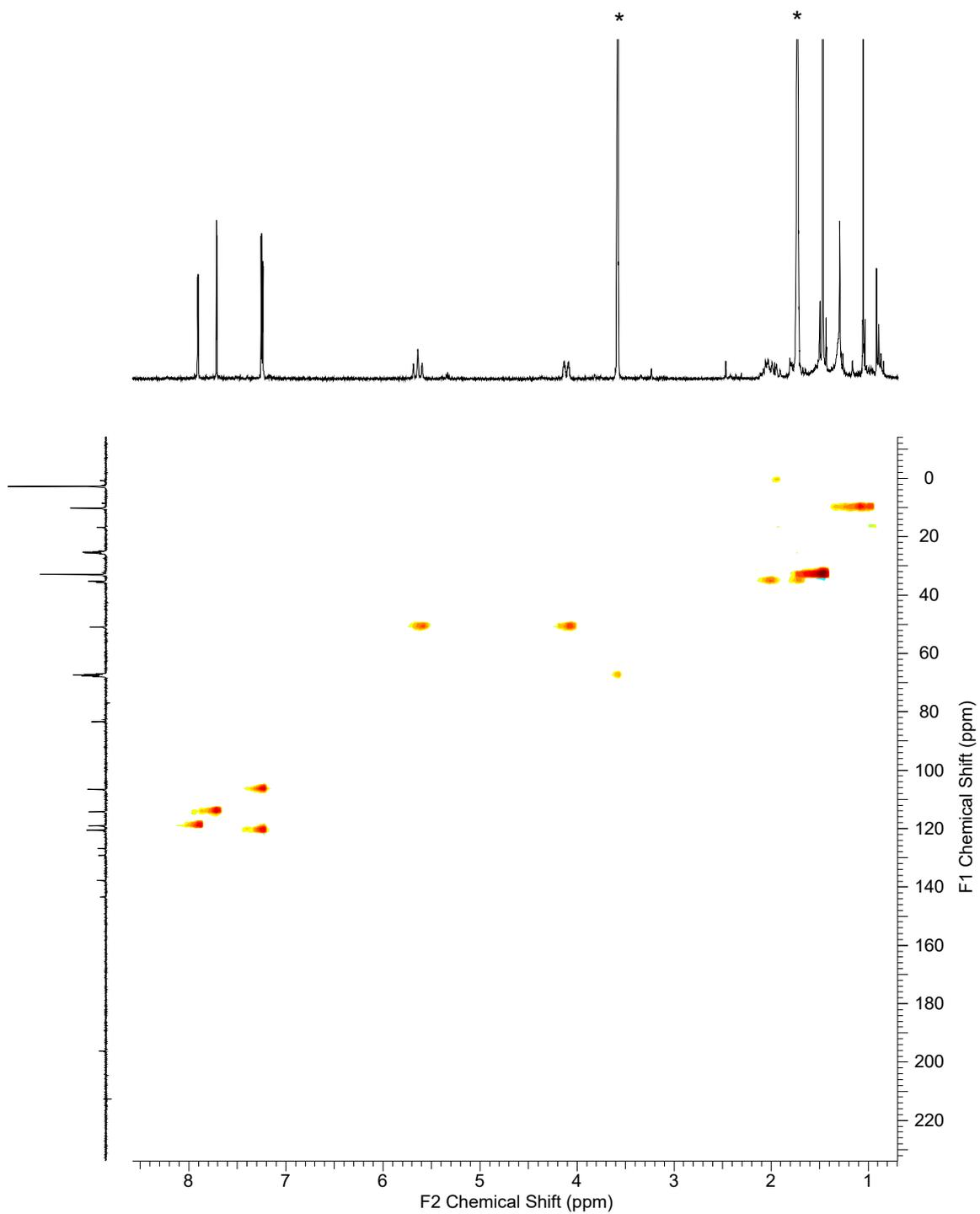


Figure 30:  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  HSQC NMR spectrum (detail) ( $\text{THF-d}_8$  (\*)) of  $[\text{Ru}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C}5})\text{Cp}^*]$  (**4**).

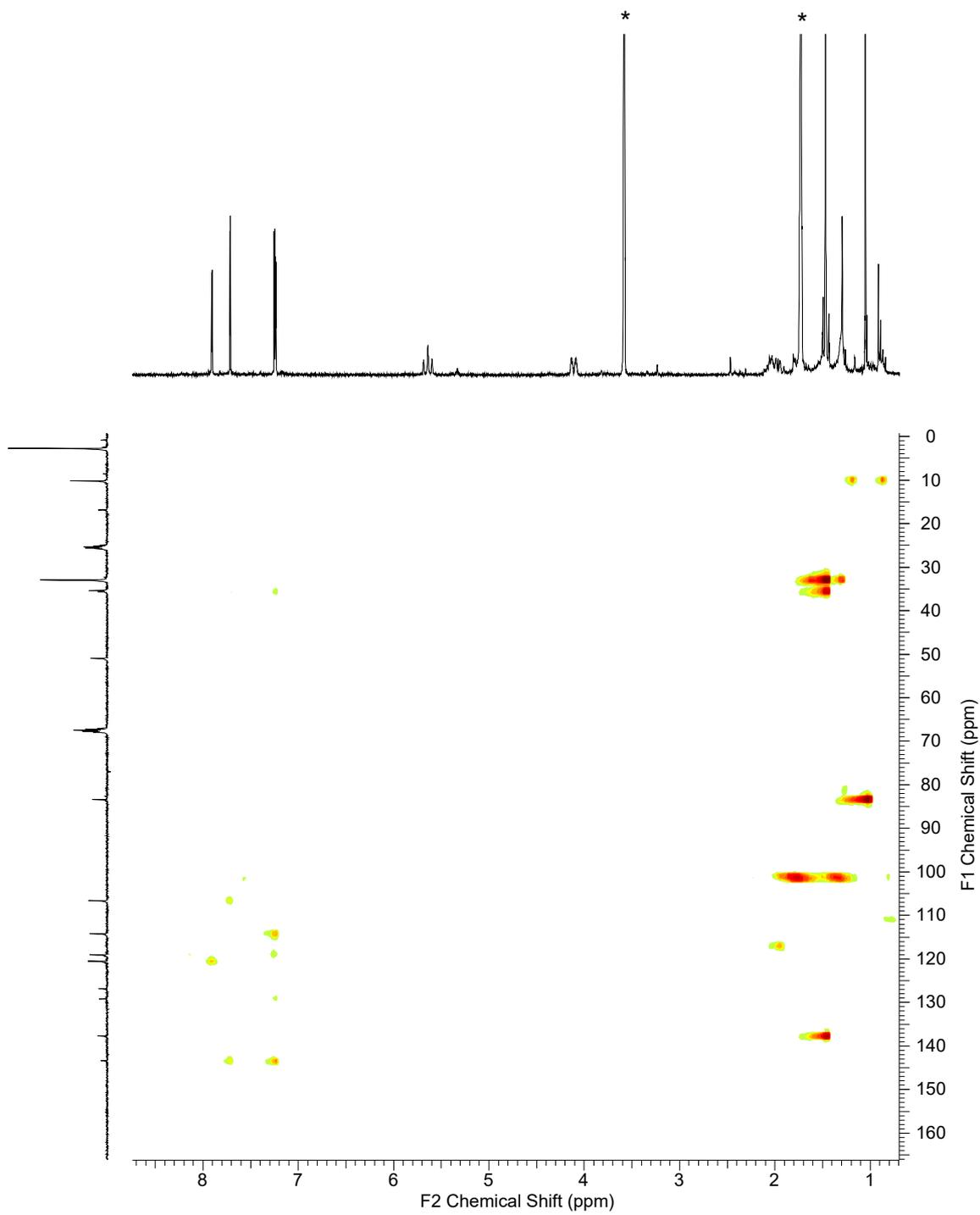


Figure 31:  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  HMBC NMR spectrum (detail) ( $\text{THF-d}_8$  (\*)) of  $[\text{Ru}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C}5})\text{Cp}^*]$  (4).

**[Ru(bimca<sup>C5H8</sup>)Br(PPh<sub>3</sub>)] (5):**

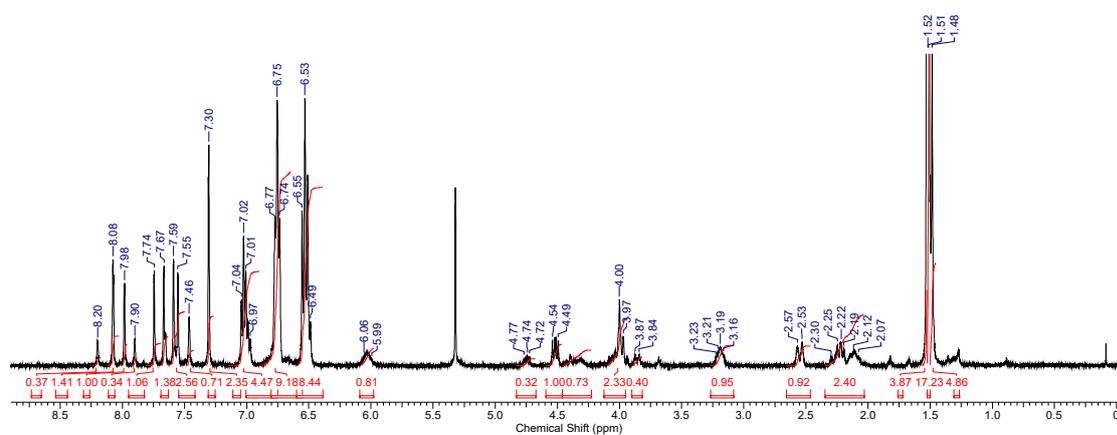


Figure 32: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, DCM-d<sub>2</sub> (\*)) of [Ru(bimca<sup>C5H8</sup>)Br(PPh<sub>3</sub>)] (5).

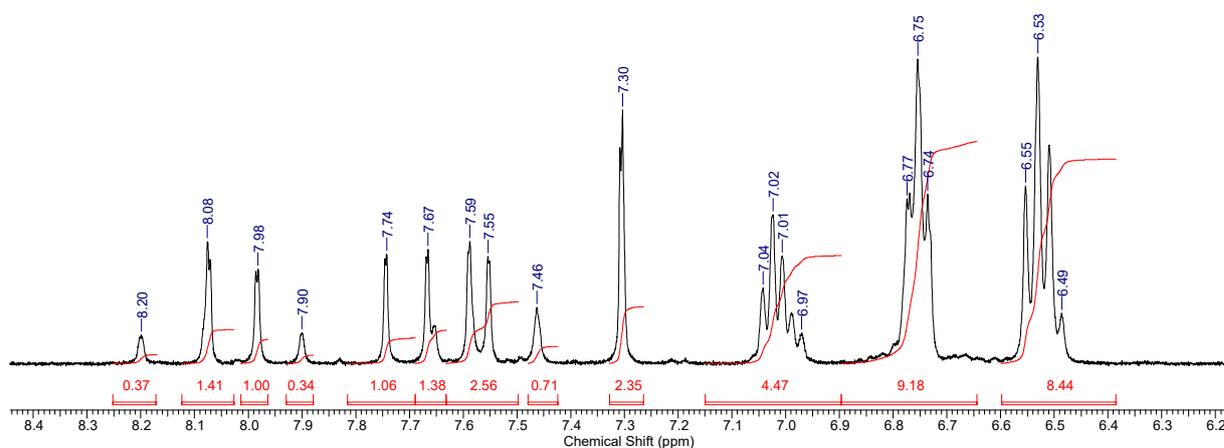


Figure 33: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (detail) (400 MHz, DCM-d<sub>2</sub> (\*)) of [Ru(bimca<sup>C5H8</sup>)Br(PPh<sub>3</sub>)] (5).

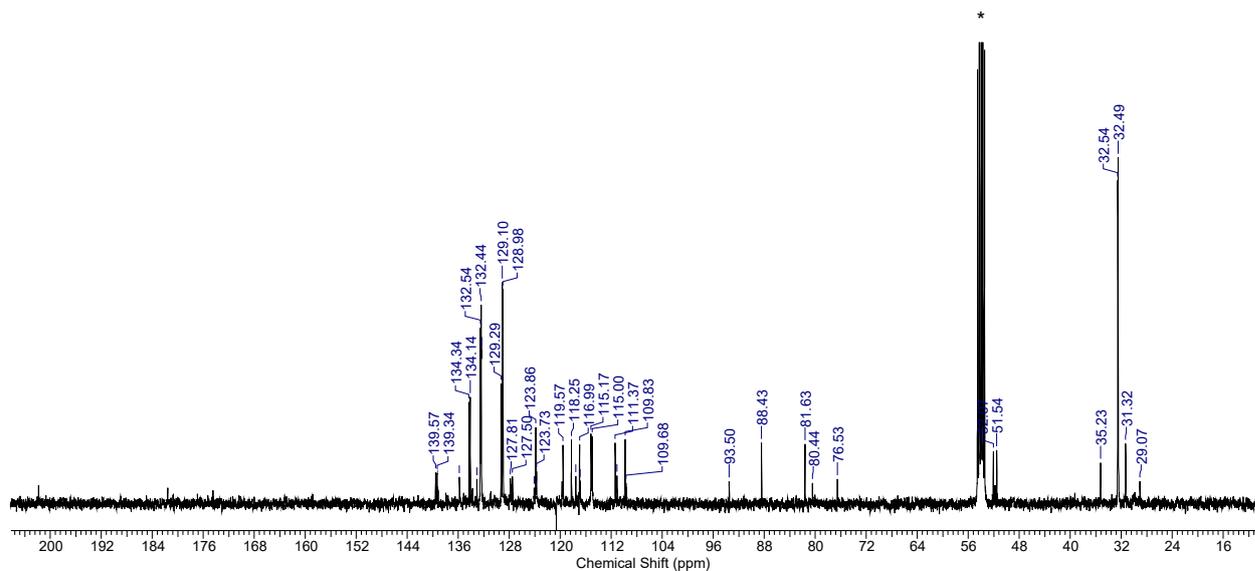


Figure 34:  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum (100 MHz,  $\text{DCM-d}_2$  (\*)) of  $[\text{Ru}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C}5\text{H}8})\text{Br}(\text{PPh}_3)]$  (5).

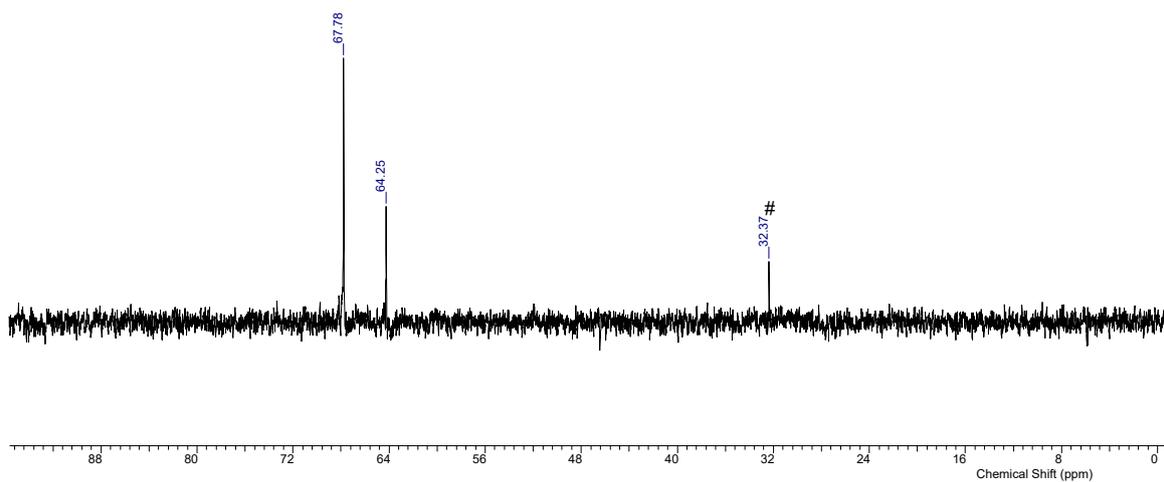


Figure 35:  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectrum of  $[\text{Ru}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C}5\text{H}8})\text{Br}(\text{PPh}_3)]$  (5) in  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ ; triphenylphosphine oxide (#).

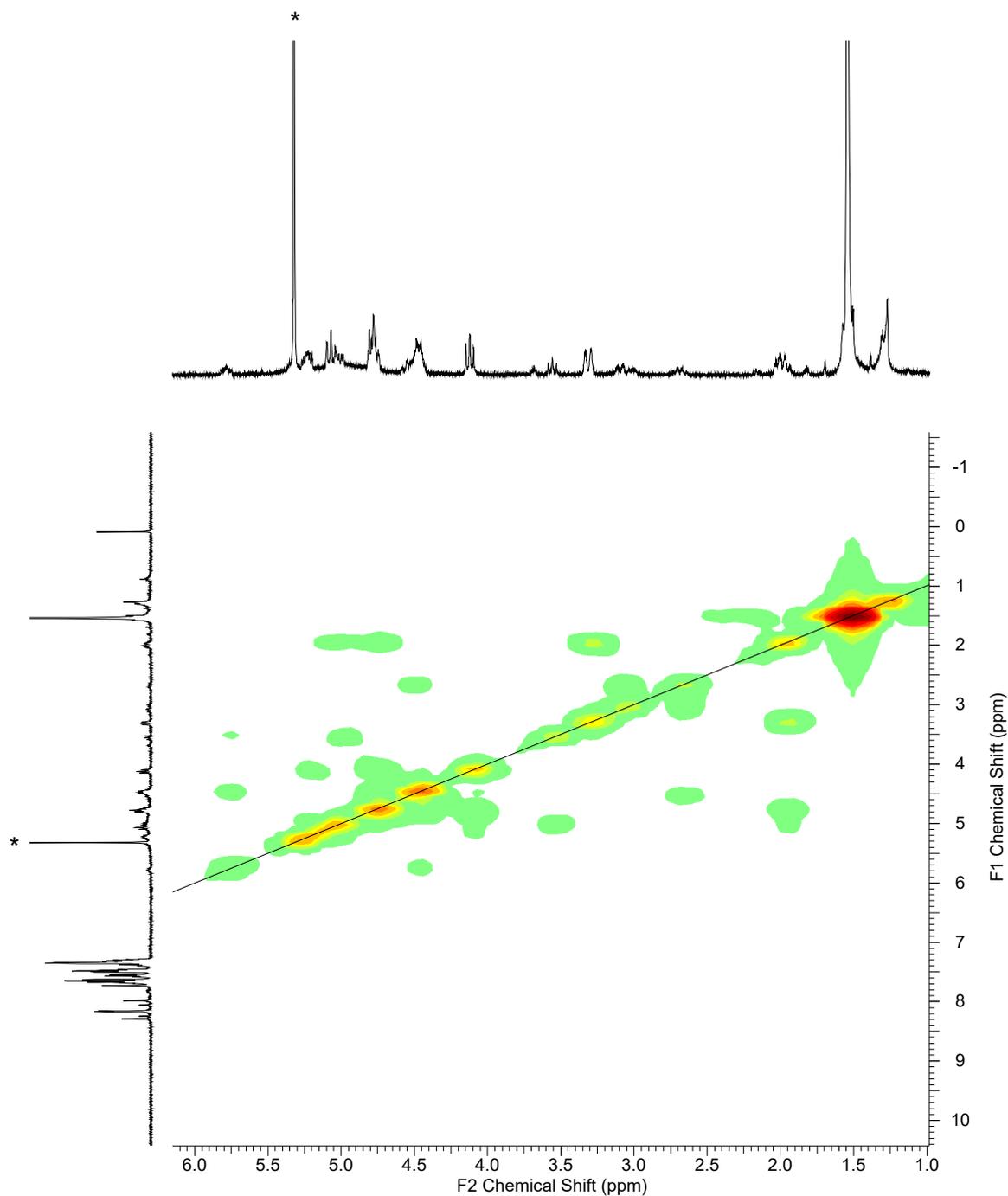


Figure 36:  $^1\text{H}, ^1\text{H}$  COSY NMR spectrum (detail) ( $\text{DCM-d}_2$  (\*)) of  $[\text{Ru}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C}5\text{H}8})\text{Br}(\text{PPh}_3)]$  (**5**).

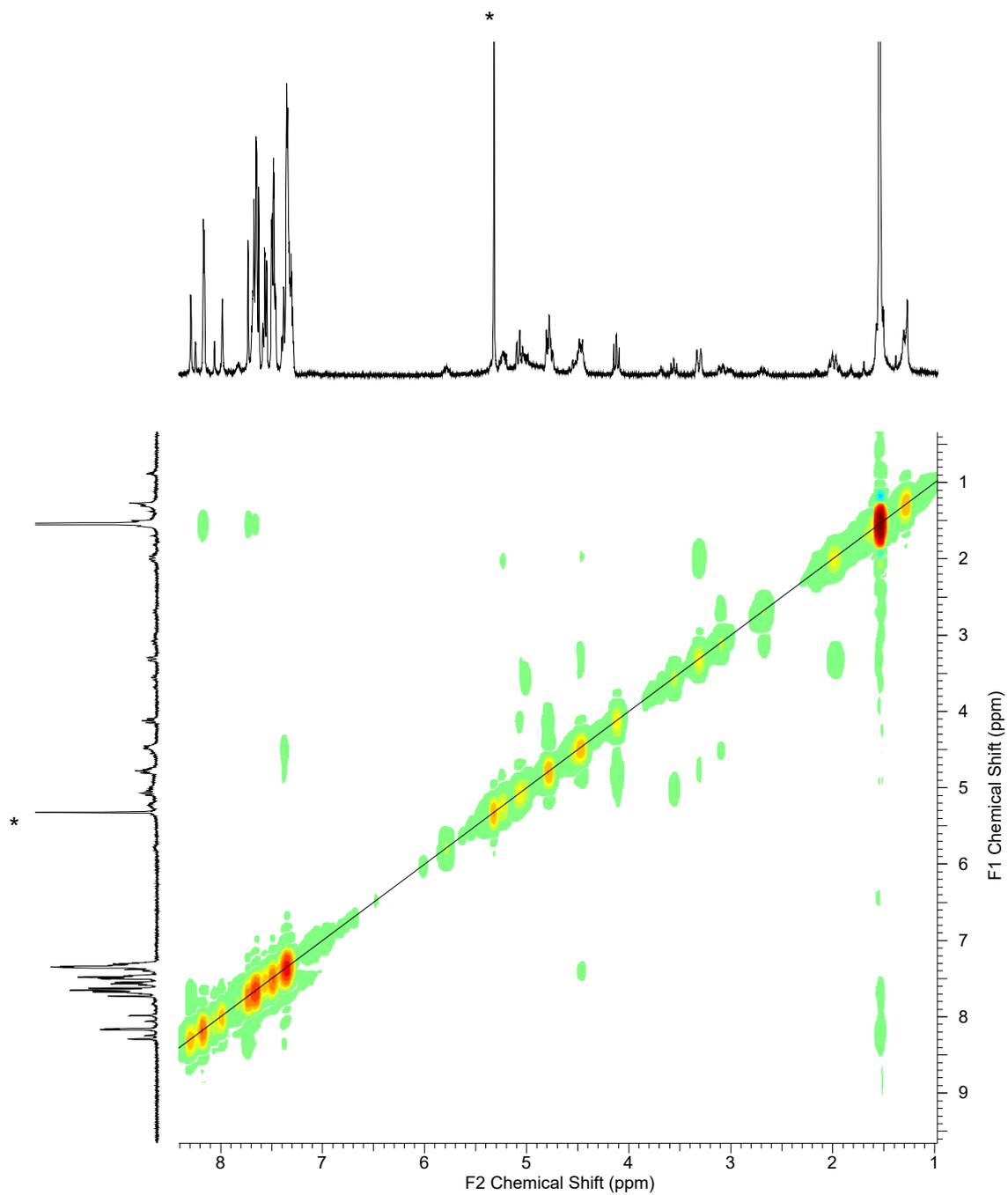


Figure 37:  $^1\text{H}, ^1\text{H}$  NOESY NMR spectrum (detail) ( $\text{DCM-d}_2$  (\*)) of  $[\text{Ru}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C}5\text{H}8})\text{Br}(\text{PPh}_3)]$  (**5**).

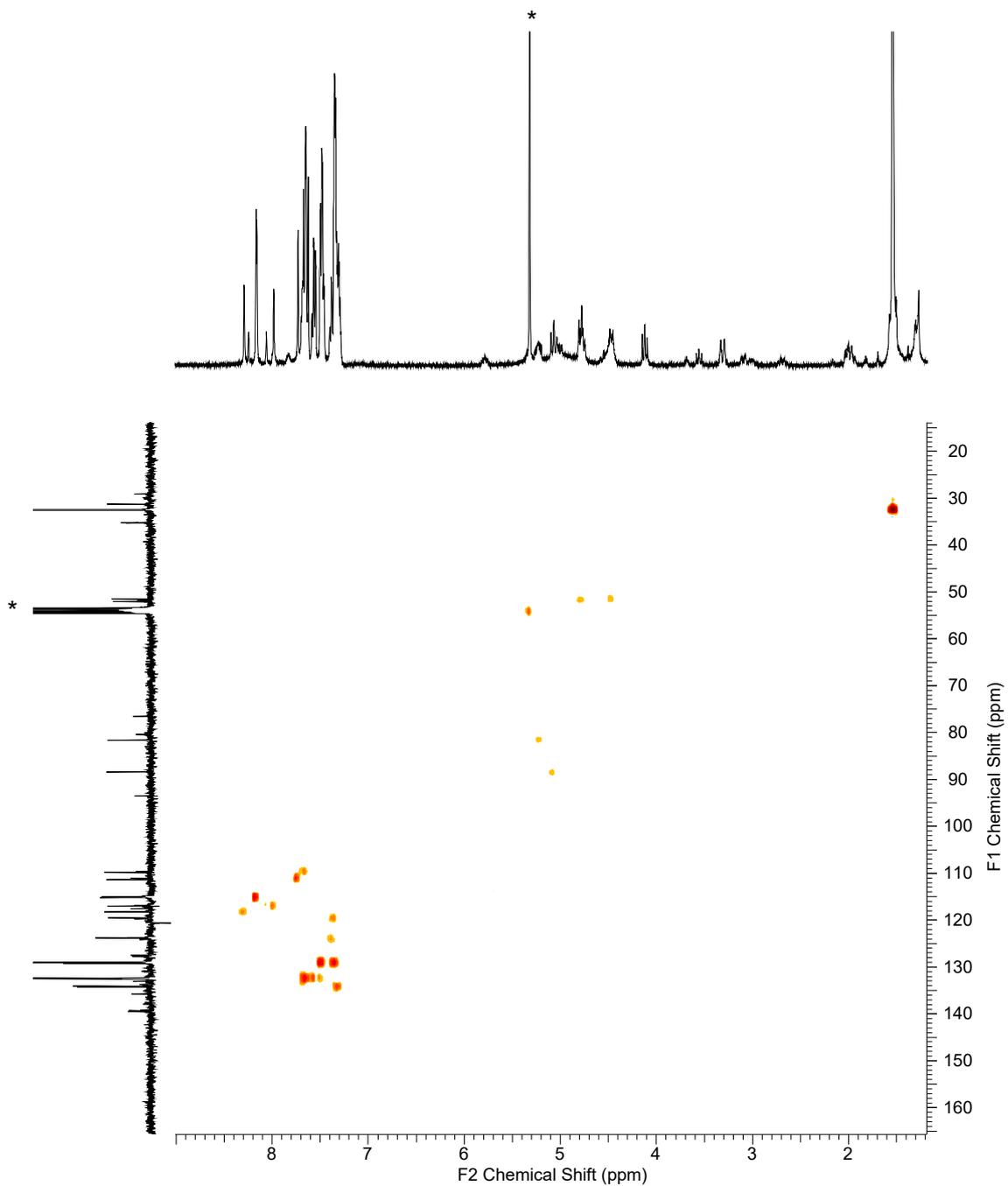


Figure 38:  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  HSQC NMR spectrum (detail) ( $\text{DCM-d}_2$  (\*)) of  $[\text{Ru}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C}5\text{H}8})\text{Br}(\text{PPh}_3)]$  (5).

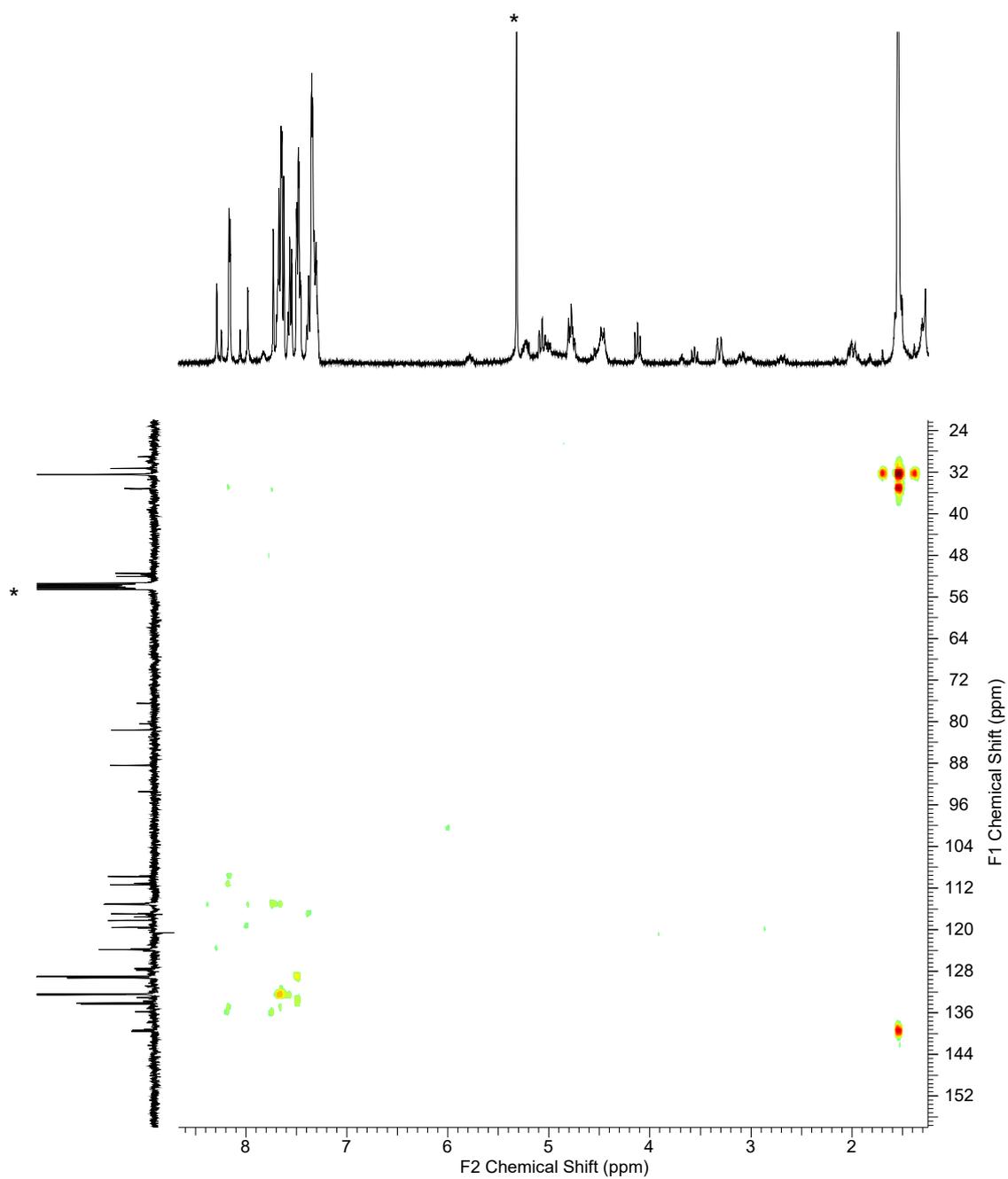


Figure 39:  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  HMBC NMR spectrum (detail) ( $\text{DCM-d}_2$  (\*)) of  $[\text{Ru}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C}5\text{H}8})\text{Br}(\text{PPh}_3)]$  (**5**).

**[Pd(bimca<sup>C5H9</sup>)] (6):**

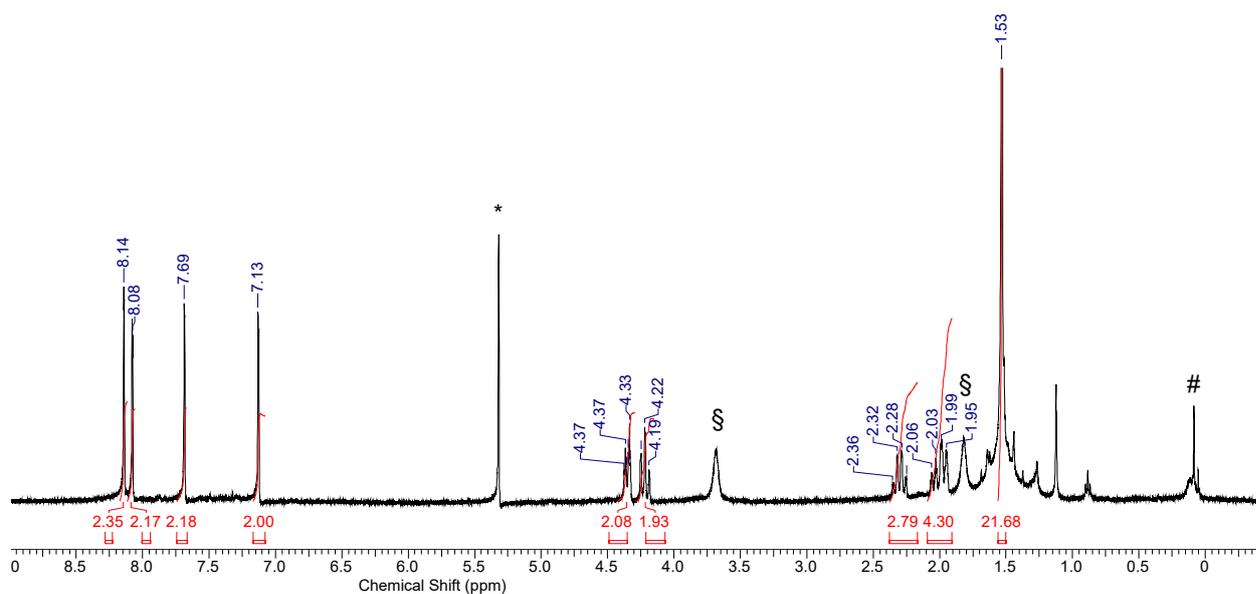


Figure 40: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, DCM-d<sub>2</sub> (\*)) of [Pd(bimca<sup>C5H9</sup>)] (6); grease (#), THF-d<sub>8</sub> (§).

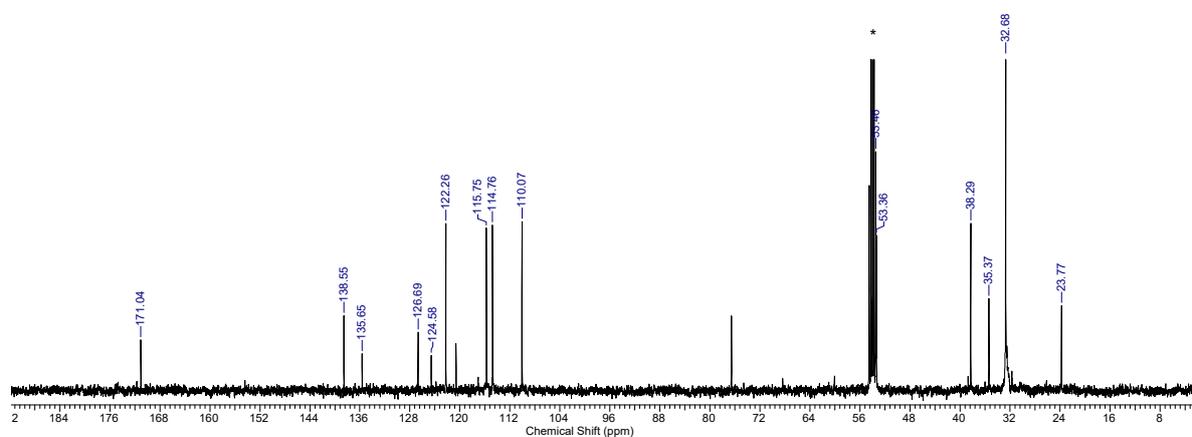


Figure 41: <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, DCM-d<sub>2</sub> (\*)) of [Pd(bimca<sup>C5H9</sup>)] (6).

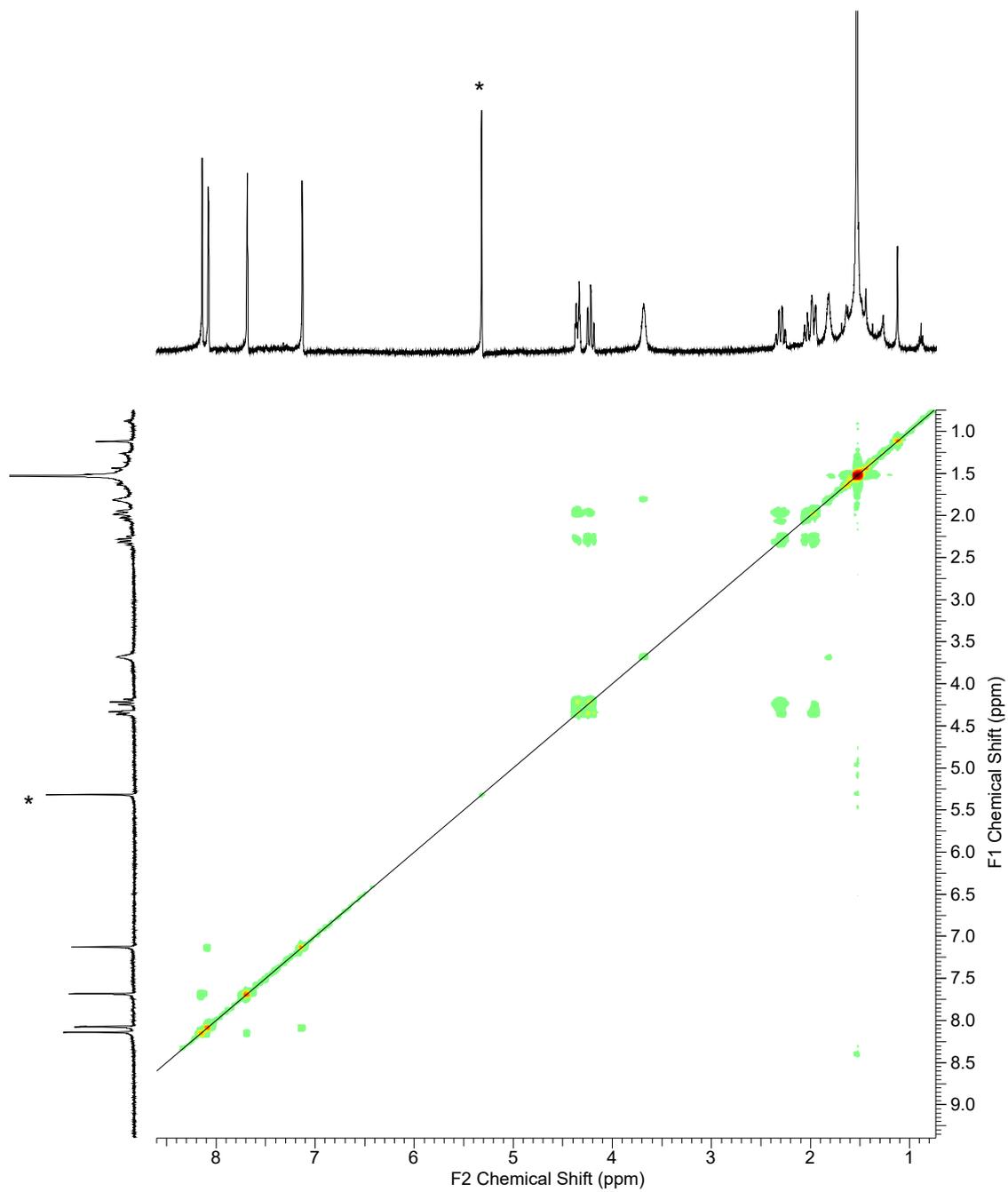


Figure 42:  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^1\text{H}$  COSY NMR spectrum (detail) (400 MHz,  $\text{DCM-d}_2$  (\*)) of  $[\text{Pd}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C}5\text{H}9})]$  (**6**).

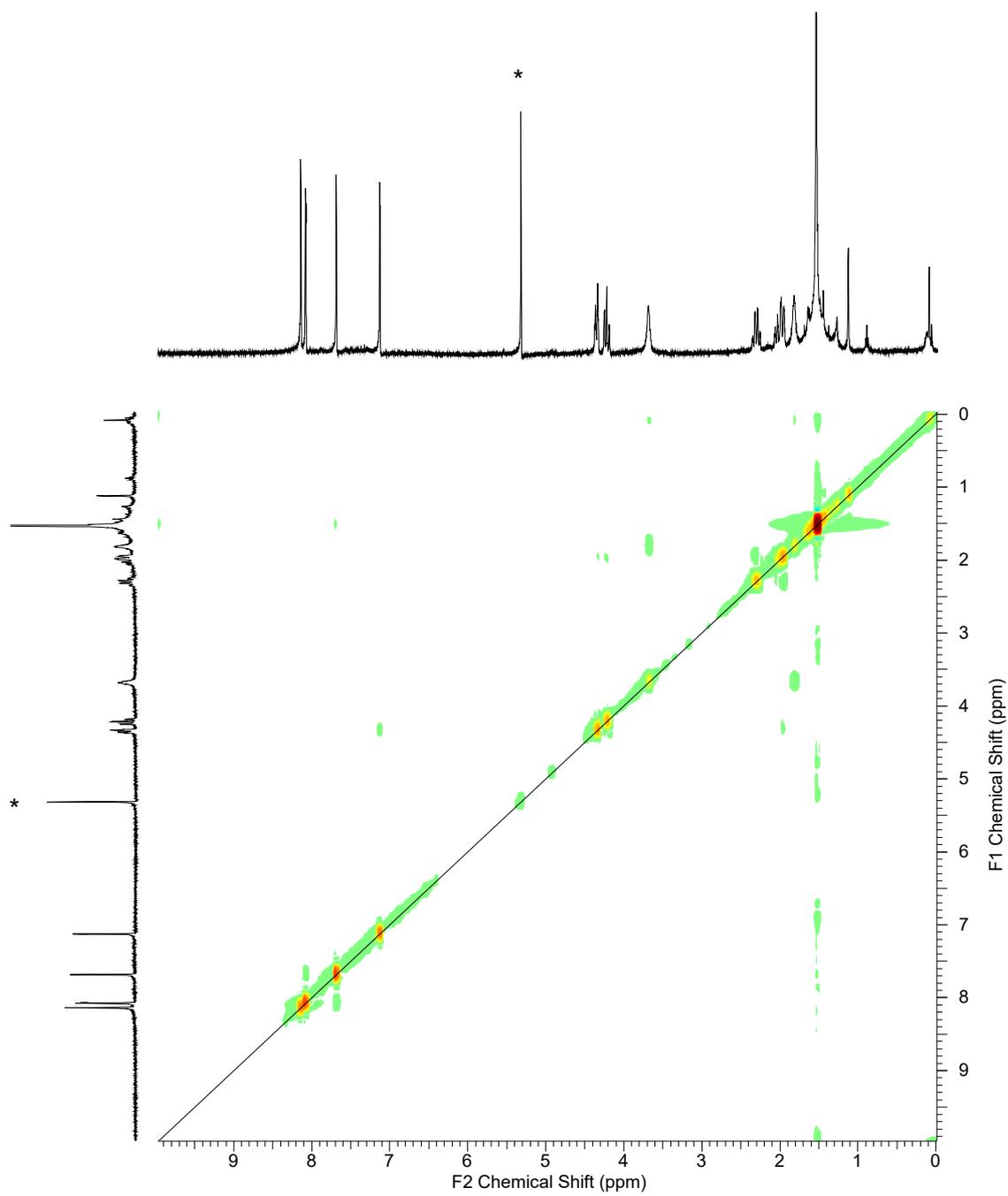


Figure 43:  $^1\text{H},^1\text{H}$  NOESY NMR spectrum (detail) (400 MHz,  $\text{DCM-d}_2$  (\*)) of  $[\text{Pd}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C}5\text{H}9})]$  (6).

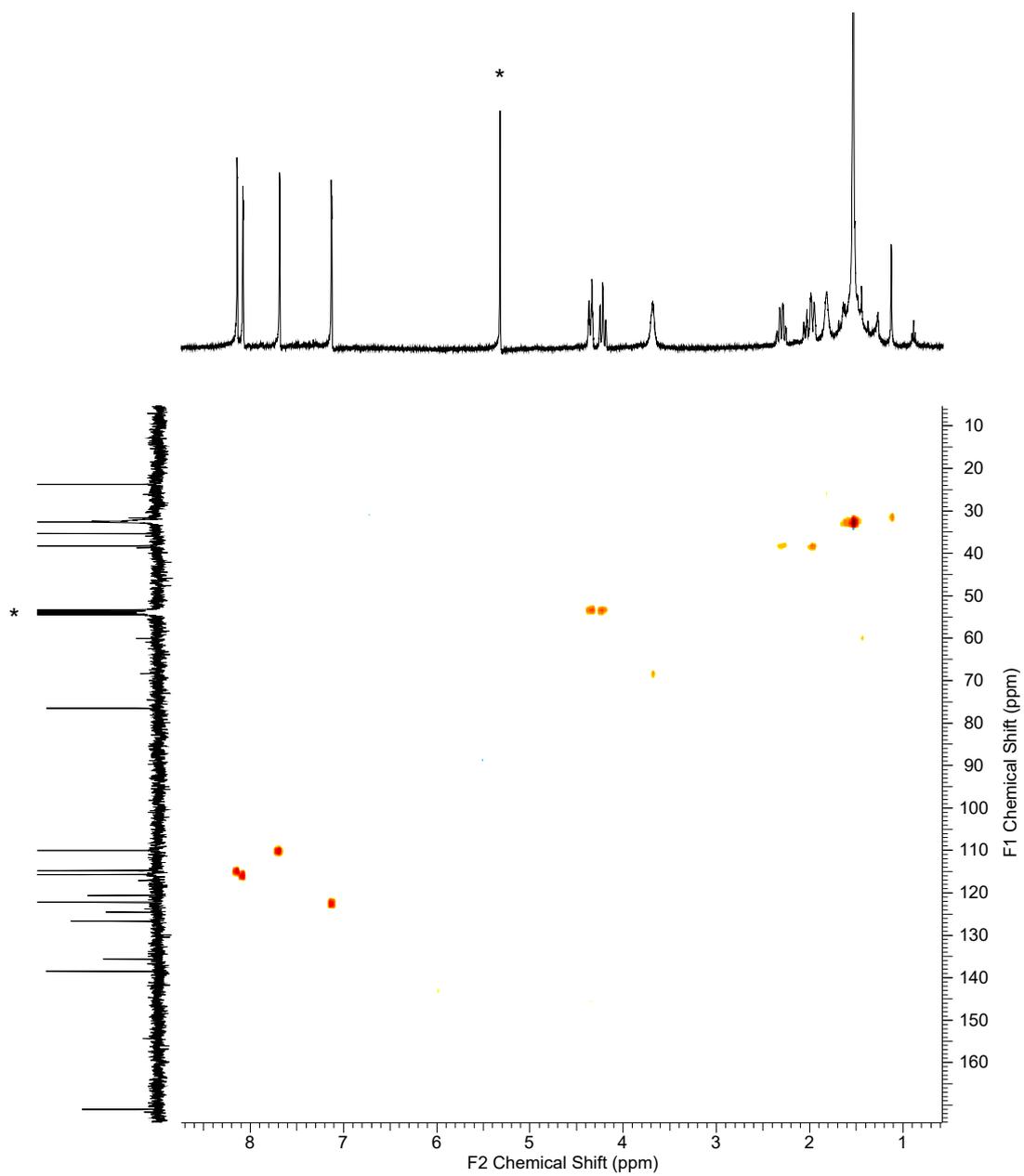


Figure 44:  $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$  HSQC NMR spectrum (detail) of  $[\text{Pd}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C}5\text{H}9})]$  in  $\text{DCM-d}_2$  (\*).

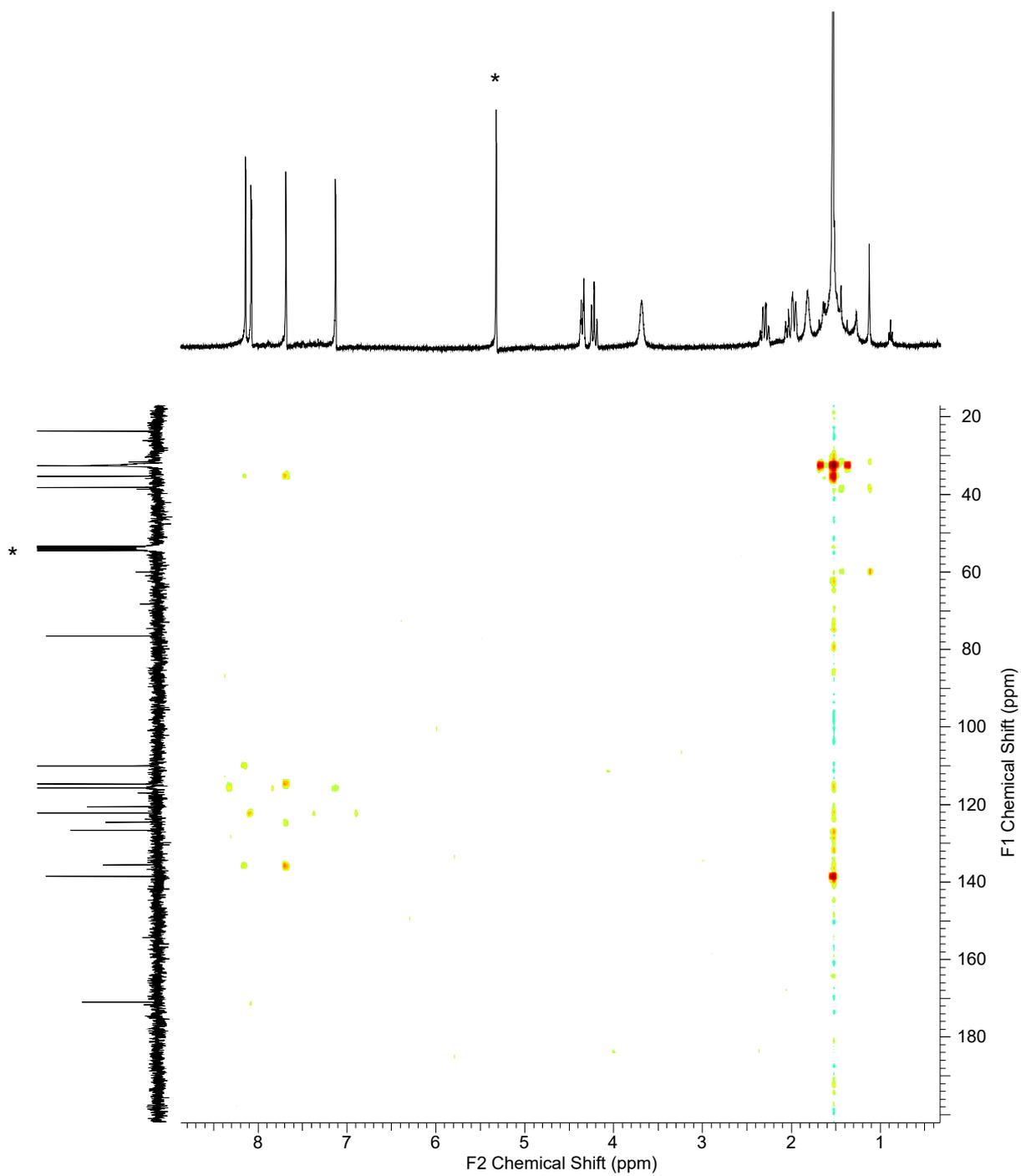


Figure 45:  $^1\text{H}^{13}\text{C}$  HMBC NMR spectrum (detail) of  $[\text{Pd}(\text{bimca}^{\text{C}5\text{H}9})]$  (**6**) in  $\text{DCM-d}_2$  (\*).

## 2 HR-MS Spectrum of (6)

### [Pd(bimca<sup>C5H9</sup>)]:

MS (HR-ESI<sup>+</sup>, CH<sub>3</sub>CN) calculated [M+H]<sup>+</sup> = 584.20001; measured = 584.19985 relative mass deviation = 2.27 ppm.

The experimentally obtained peak (top) is a superposition of the peaks [M]<sup>+</sup> and [M+H]<sup>+</sup> as revealed by the simulated spectra of [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (middle) and [M]<sup>+</sup> (bottom).

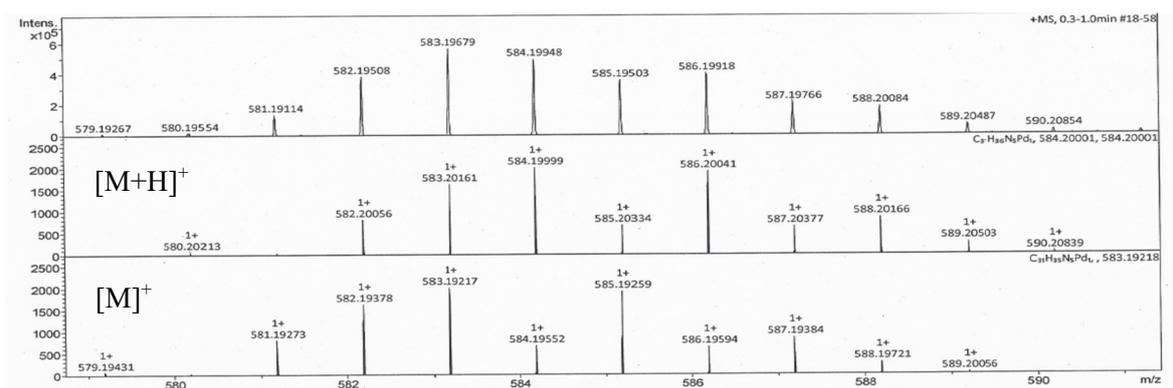


Figure 46: HR-ESI<sup>+</sup> analysis of [Pd(bimca<sup>C5H9</sup>)] experimental (top) and simulation of the peaks [M+H]<sup>+</sup> and [M]<sup>+</sup>.

### 3 Crystal structure analysis

Compound	[Li(bimca <sup>C5</sup> )] (2)	[K(bimca <sup>C5</sup> )] (3)	[Ru(bimca <sup>C5</sup> )Cp*] (4)	[Ru(bimca <sup>C5H8</sup> )Br(PP h <sub>3</sub> )] (5)
CCDC No.#	2064679	2064676	2064677	2064678
Empirical formula	C <sub>558</sub> H <sub>648</sub> Li <sub>18</sub> N <sub>90</sub>	C <sub>86</sub> H <sub>120</sub> K <sub>2</sub> N <sub>10</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	C <sub>82</sub> H <sub>102</sub> N <sub>10</sub> Ru <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>51</sub> H <sub>53</sub> BrCl <sub>4</sub> N <sub>5</sub> PRu
Formular weight	8740.54	1468.11	1429.88	1089.73
Temperature/K	100(2)	100(2)	100(2)	100(2)
Radiation	MoK <sub>α</sub> (λ = 0.71073)	MoK <sub>α</sub> (λ = 0.71073)	MoK <sub>α</sub> (λ = 0.71073)	MoK <sub>α</sub> (λ = 0.71073)
Crystal system	trigonal	monoclinic	tetragonal	monoclinic
Space group	R-3	P2 <sub>1</sub>	I4/m	P2 <sub>1</sub> /c
a/Å	20.4638(5)	12.880(7)	19.800(4)	13.541(2)
b/Å	20.4638(5)	11.116(6)	19.800(4)	14.552(2)
c/Å	37.4037(10)	14.198(7)	22.655(4)	25.683(4)
α/°	90	90	90	90
β/°	90	95.465(10)	90	93.946(4)
γ/°	120	90	90	90
Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	13564.9(8)	2023.6(18)	8882(4)	5048.8(13)
Z	1	1	4	4
ρ <sub>calc</sub> g/cm <sup>3</sup>	1.070	1.205	1.069	1.434
μ/mm <sup>-1</sup>	0.064	0.176	0.382	1.385
Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>	0.231 x 0.248 x 0.568	0.082 x 0.135 x 1.454	0.091 x 0.171 x 0.177	0.128 x 0.143 x 0.144
F(000)	4680		3008	2224
Completeness	99.9 %	99.5 %	99.8 %	99.3 %
Description/colour	plate/colorless	column/colorless	plate/red	plate/red
Θ range for data collection/°	2.4625 – 28.17.	2.4235 – 21.595.	2.3115 – 20.4	1.6205 – 18.61
Index ranges	-27 ≤ h ≤ 27, -27 ≤ k ≤ 27, -49 ≤ l ≤ 49		-24 ≤ h ≤ 24, -24 ≤ k ≤ 24, -28 ≤ l ≤ 28	-16 ≤ h ≤ 16, -18 ≤ k ≤ 18, -32 ≤ l ≤ 32
Reflections collected	81891		45658	64973
Independent reflections	9840 (R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0407, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0188)		4667 (R <sub>int</sub> = 0.1665, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0778)	10325 (R <sub>int</sub> = 0.1296, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0904)
Data/restraints/parameters	9840/0/353		4667/670/367	10325/60/614
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.036		1.028	1.041
Final R indexes	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0526, wR <sub>2</sub> =		R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0462, wR <sub>2</sub> =	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0645.
R values [I > 2σ(I)]	0.1436		0.1058	wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1375
Final R indeces [all data]	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0665, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1570		R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0815, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1200	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.1119, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1592
Largest diff. peak/hole/ e Å <sup>-3</sup>	0.69/-0.41		0.44/-0.57	1.37/-0.96

## 4 UV-Vis and Fluorescence Spectroscopy

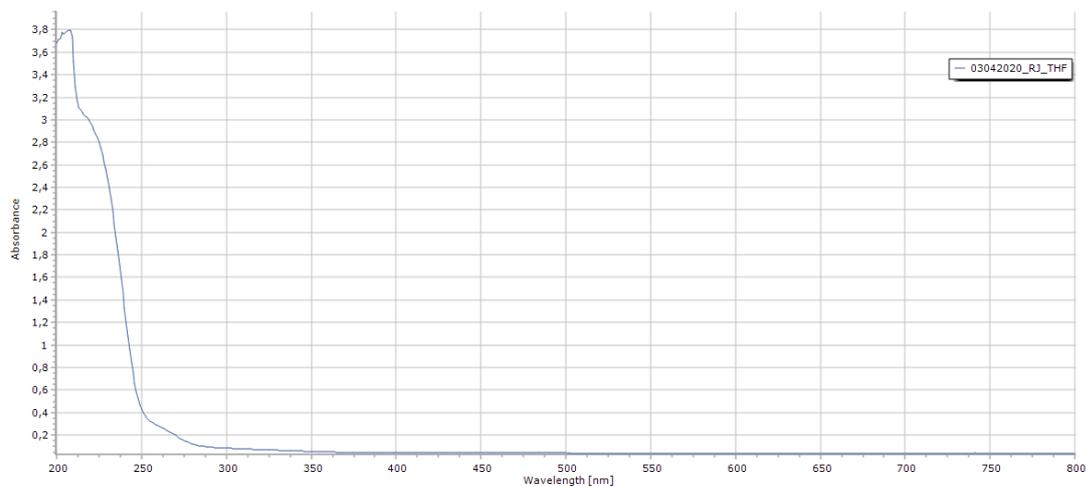


Figure 47: Absorption spectrum of THF (background)

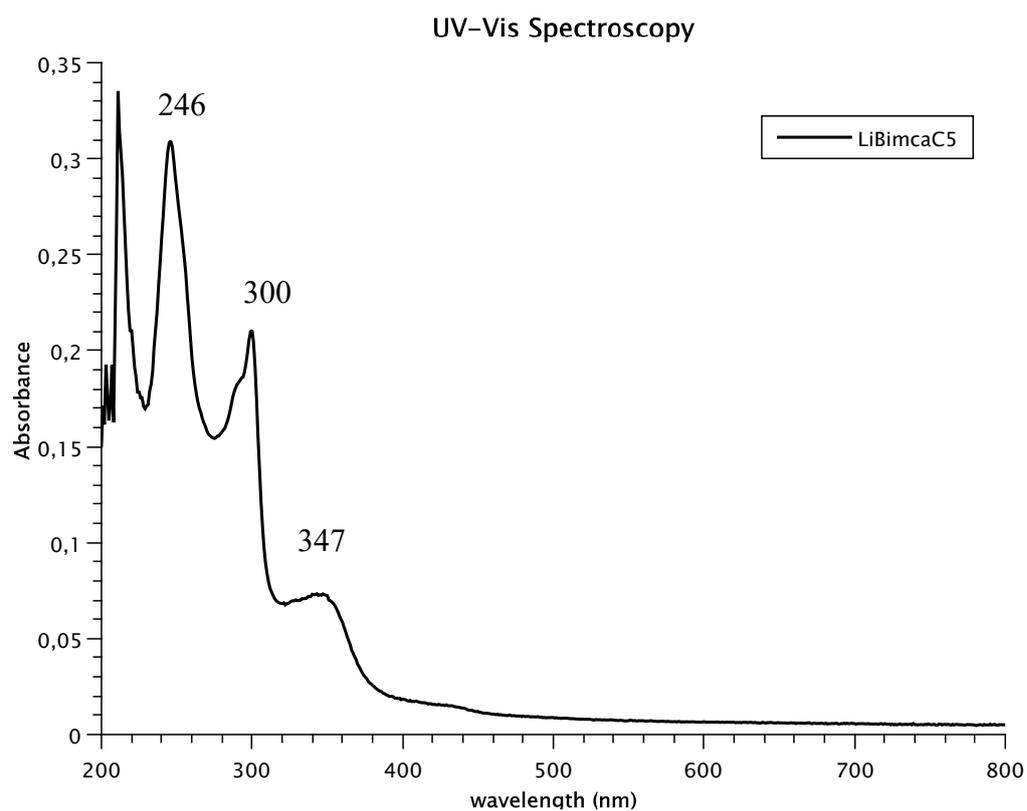


Figure 48: UV-Vis spectrum of  $[Li(bimca^{C5})]$  (2) (Tetrahydrofuran,  $c = 4 \times 10^{-5} M$ ).

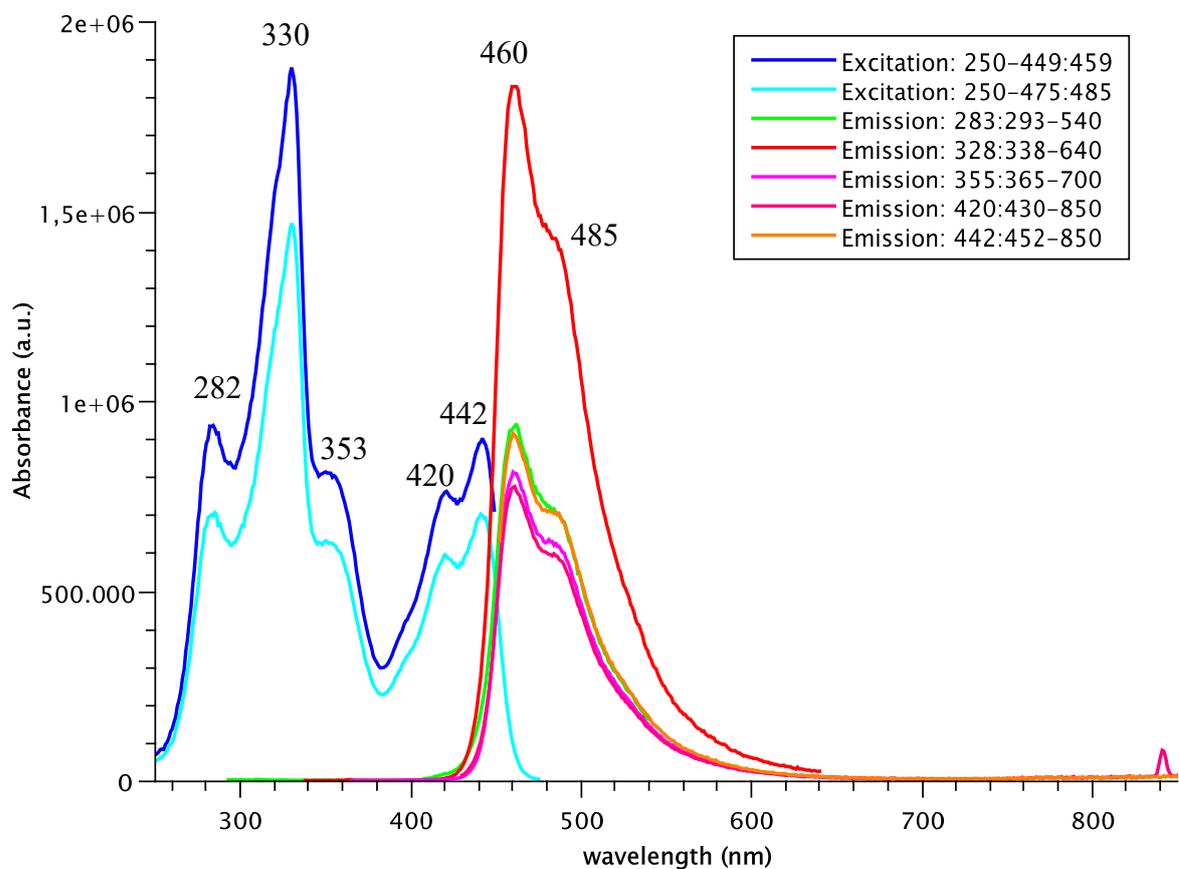


Figure 49: Excitation and emission spectra of  $[Li(bimca^{C5})]$  (2) in solution. (Tetrahydrofuran,  $c = 4 \times 10^{-3} M$ ).