

# Electronic Tuning of Host-Guest Interactions within the Cavities of Fluorophore-Appended Calix[4]arenes

Varun Rawat and Arkadi Vigalok \*

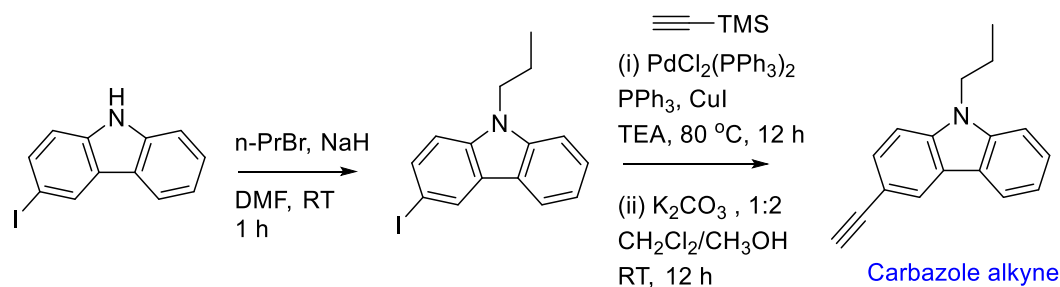
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\* Correspondence: avigal@tauex.tau.ac.il

## Electronic Supporting Information

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## 1. Experimental section



**Scheme S1:** Synthesis of carbazole alkyne

### Synthesis of 9-propyl-3-iodocarbazole

To a stirred solution of 3-iodocarbazole (2.93 g, 10 mmol) in dry DMF (30 mL), NaH (60 wt % in mineral oil; 0.36 g, 15 mmol) and  $n\text{-C}_3\text{H}_7\text{Br}$  (1.85 g, 1.37 mL, 15 mmol) were added sequentially. The mixture was stirred at room temperature until the reaction was complete, as monitored by TLC. The mixture was quenched with water (2 mL) and most of the solvent evaporated. The crude mixture was dissolved in dichloromethane ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) and washed with water, brine and dried over anhydrous  $\text{MgSO}_4$ . Filtration and evaporation of organic solvent followed by purification by column chromatography (silica gel,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ /petroleum ether, 1/1, v/v), gave the title compound as white solid.

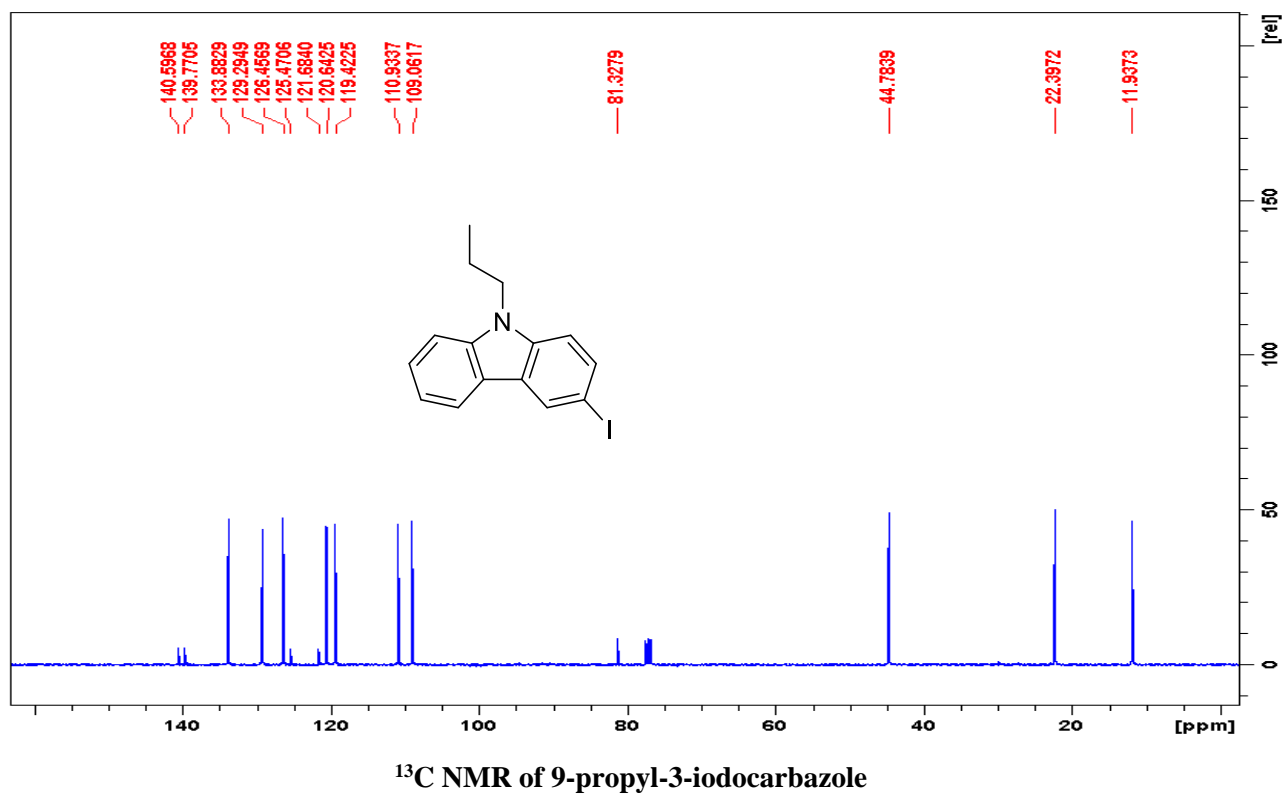
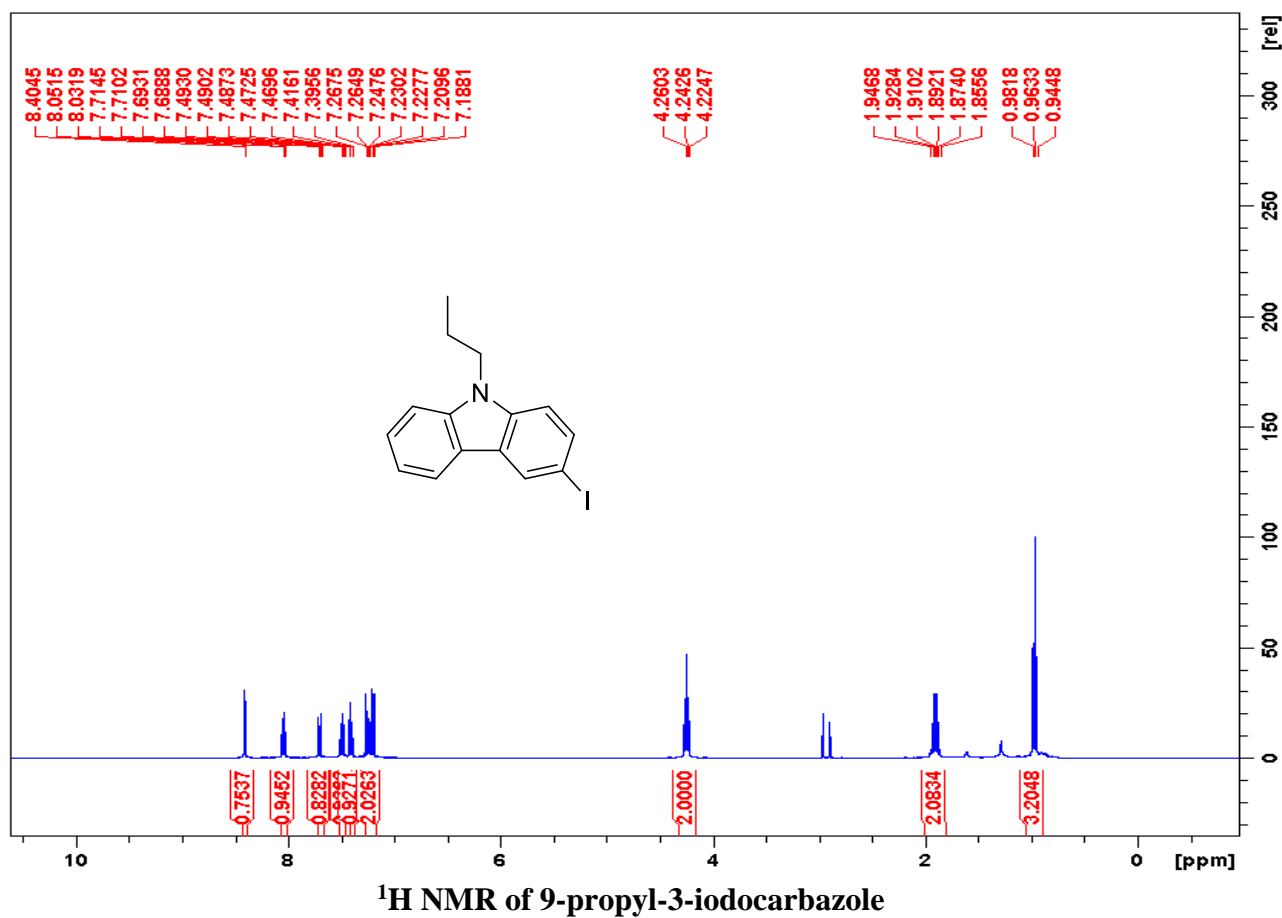
**Yield:** 3.15 g (94%); White solid;  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz):  $\delta$  8.40 (d,  $J = 1.8\text{ Hz}$ , 1H), 8.03 (d,  $J = 7.4\text{ Hz}$ , 1H), 7.69 (dd,  $J = 1.9, 8.6\text{ Hz}$ , 1H), 7.47-7.49 (m, 1H), 7.39-7.41 (m, 1H), 7.19-7.27 (m, 2H), 4.4 (t,  $J = 7.0\text{ Hz}$ , 2H), 1.85-1.95 (m, 2H), 0.96 (t,  $J = 7.4\text{ Hz}$ , 3H).  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  140.60, 139.77, 133.88, 129.30, 126.46, 125.47, 121.68, 120.64, 119.42, 110.93, 109.06, 81.33, 44.78, 22.39, 11.93. **ESI-MS** calcd for  $[\text{M}]^+$   $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{14}\text{IN}$  335.02, found 335.22.

### Synthesis of 3-ethynyl-9-propyl-9H-carbazole

A mixture of 3-iodo-9-propyl-9H-carbazole (2.10 g, 6.27 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (126 mg, 0.18 mmol), PPh<sub>3</sub> (78.6 mg, 0.3 mmol), CuI (57 mg, 0.3 mmol) in triethylamine (50 mL) was stirred for 5 minutes under inert atmosphere. To this (trimethylsilyl)-acetylene (2.4 mL, 23.5 mmol) was added dropwise and the reaction stirred for additional 4 h at 80 °C. After the completion of reaction the volatiles were removed, and the residue was dissolved in diethylether and passed through a short silica gel column. The eluent obtained containing the intermediate, 3-(2-(trimethylsilyl)-ethynyl)-9-propyl-9H-carbazole, was concentrated to dryness and dissolved in dichloromethane/methanol mixture (1:2). It was treated with sodium hydroxide, 0.40 g (10 mmol) with overnight stirring. The reaction was quenched by the addition of water, and the organic product was extracted into dichloromethane. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to yield the crude product. It was further purified by column chromatography using hexane/dichloromethane mixture (4:1) as eluent.

**Yield:** 1.08 g (74%); Yellow liquid; **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 400 MHz): δ 8.29 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1 H), 8.12 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1 H), 7.62 (dd, J = 1.5, 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.43-7.56 (m, 3 H), 7.28-7.31 (m, 1H), 4.33 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2 H), 3.16 (s, 1 H), 1.93-1.98 (m, 2 H), 1.01 (t, J = 8.3 Hz, 3 H). **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 100 MHz): δ 141.12, 129.60, 126.3, 124.6, 122.8, 120.5, 119.5, 111.9, 109.3, 109.0, 85.0, 75.1, 44.9, 22.4, 11.6. **ESI-MS** calcd for [M]<sup>+</sup> C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N 233.12, found 233.23.

### 3. NMR and Mass Spectra

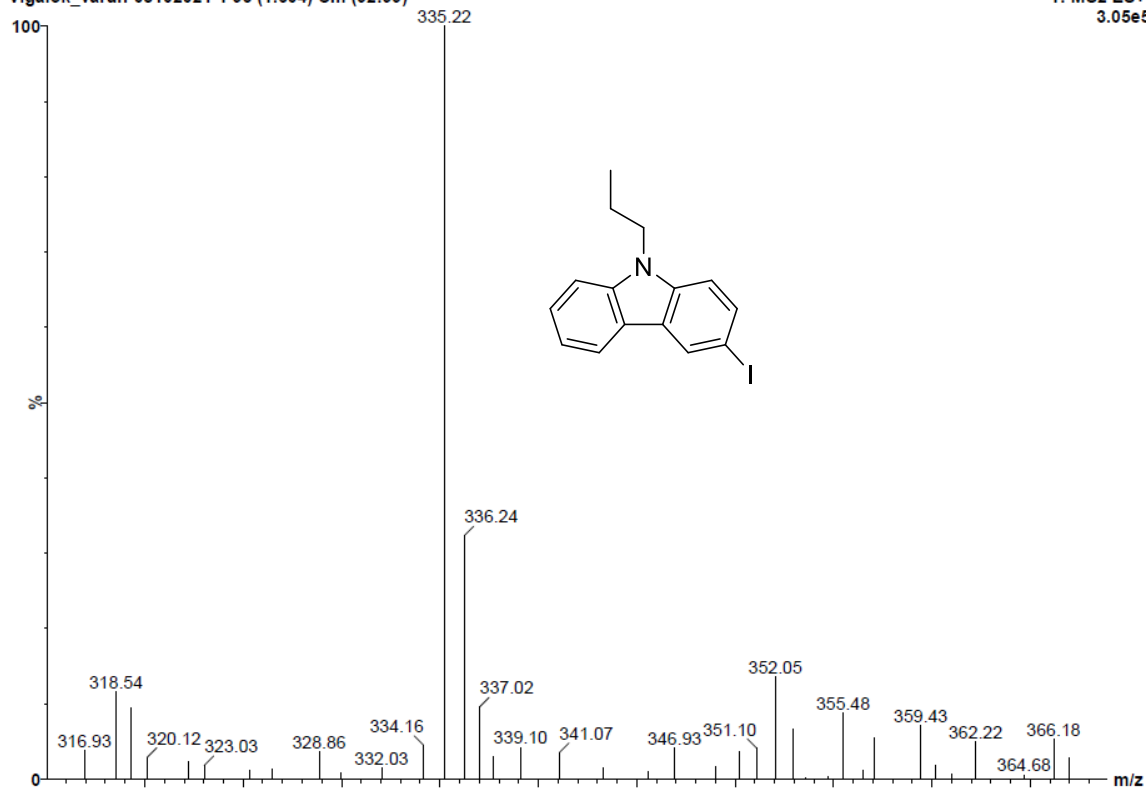


Scheme S1 - A

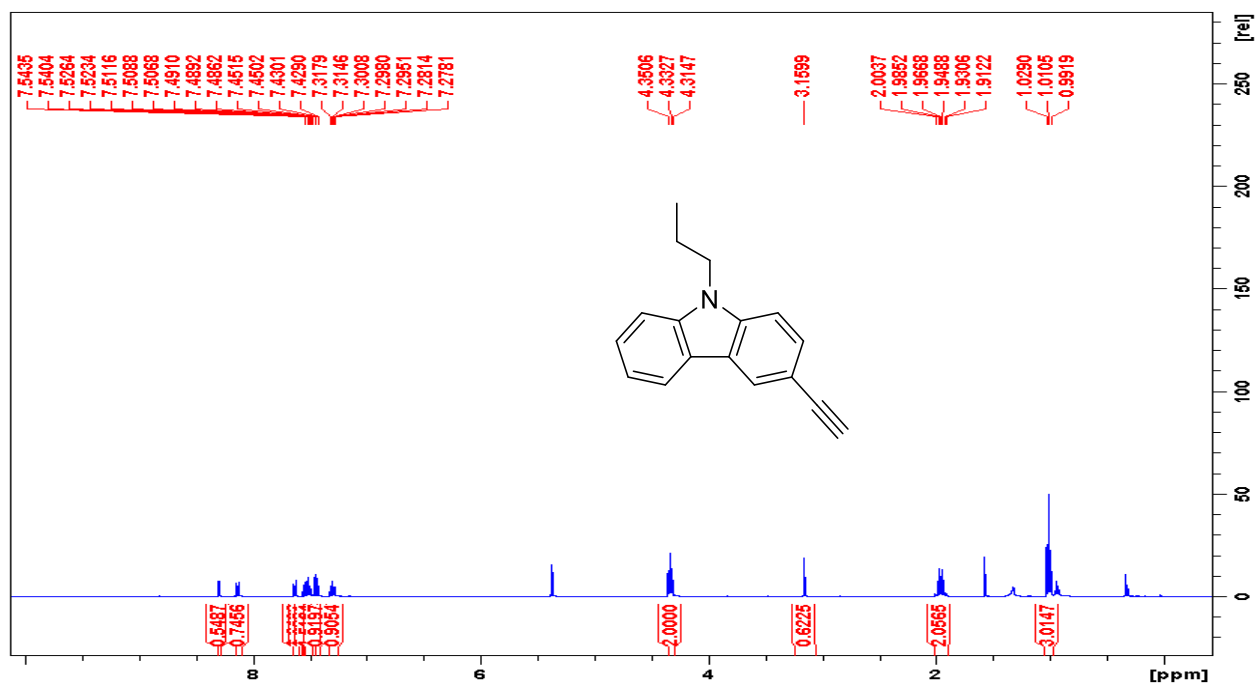
varun

08-Oct-2021  
Coll energy 0  
1: MS2 ES+  
3.05e5

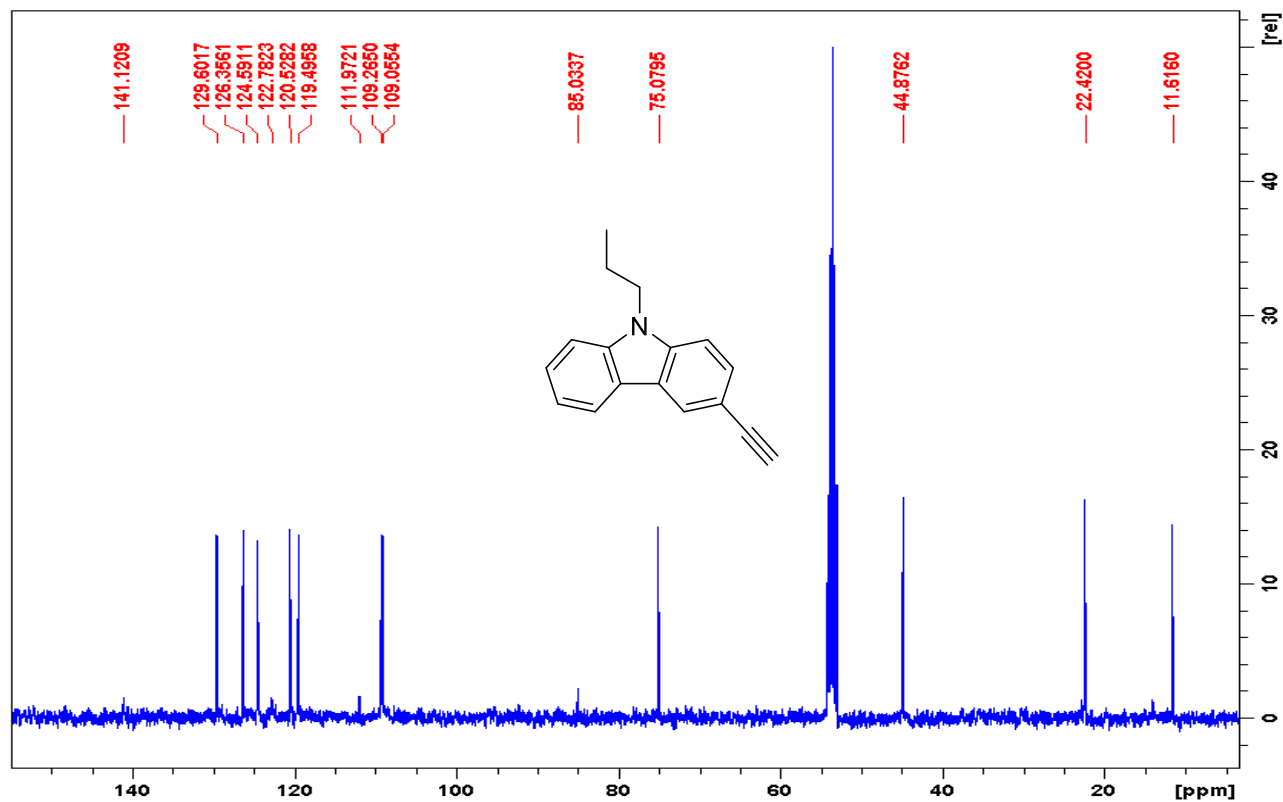
Vigalok\_varun-08102021-1 93 (1.604) Cm (92:99)



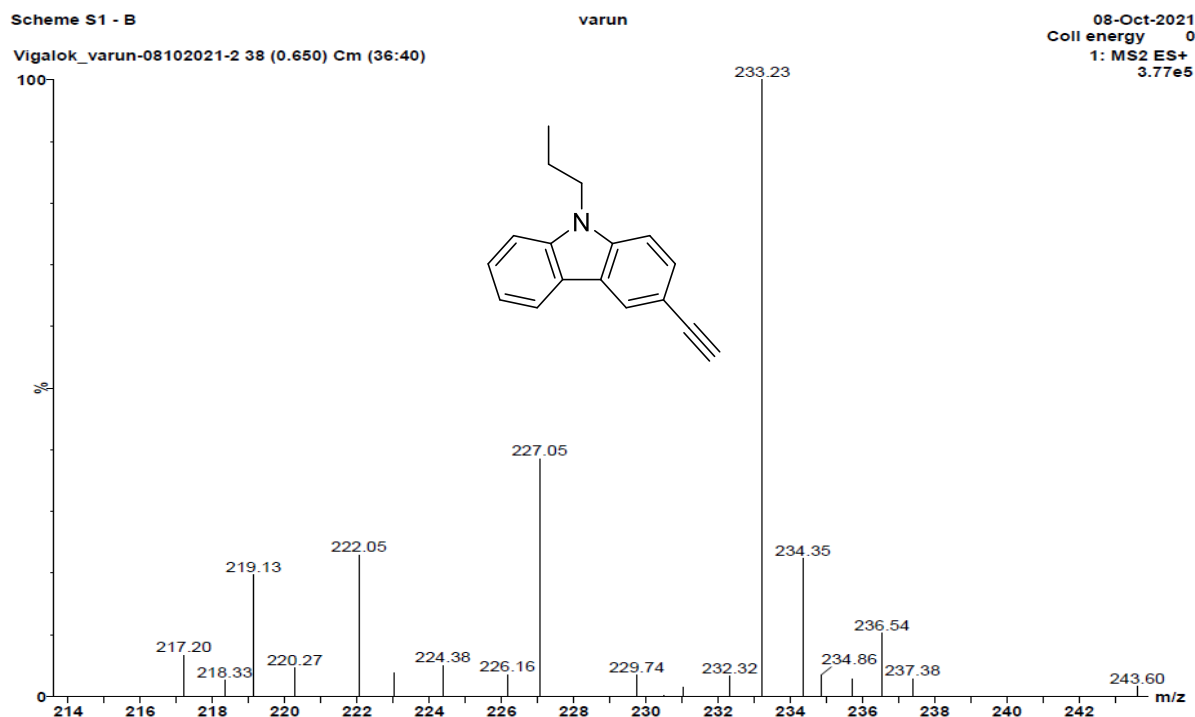
ESI MS of 9-propyl-3-iodocarbazole



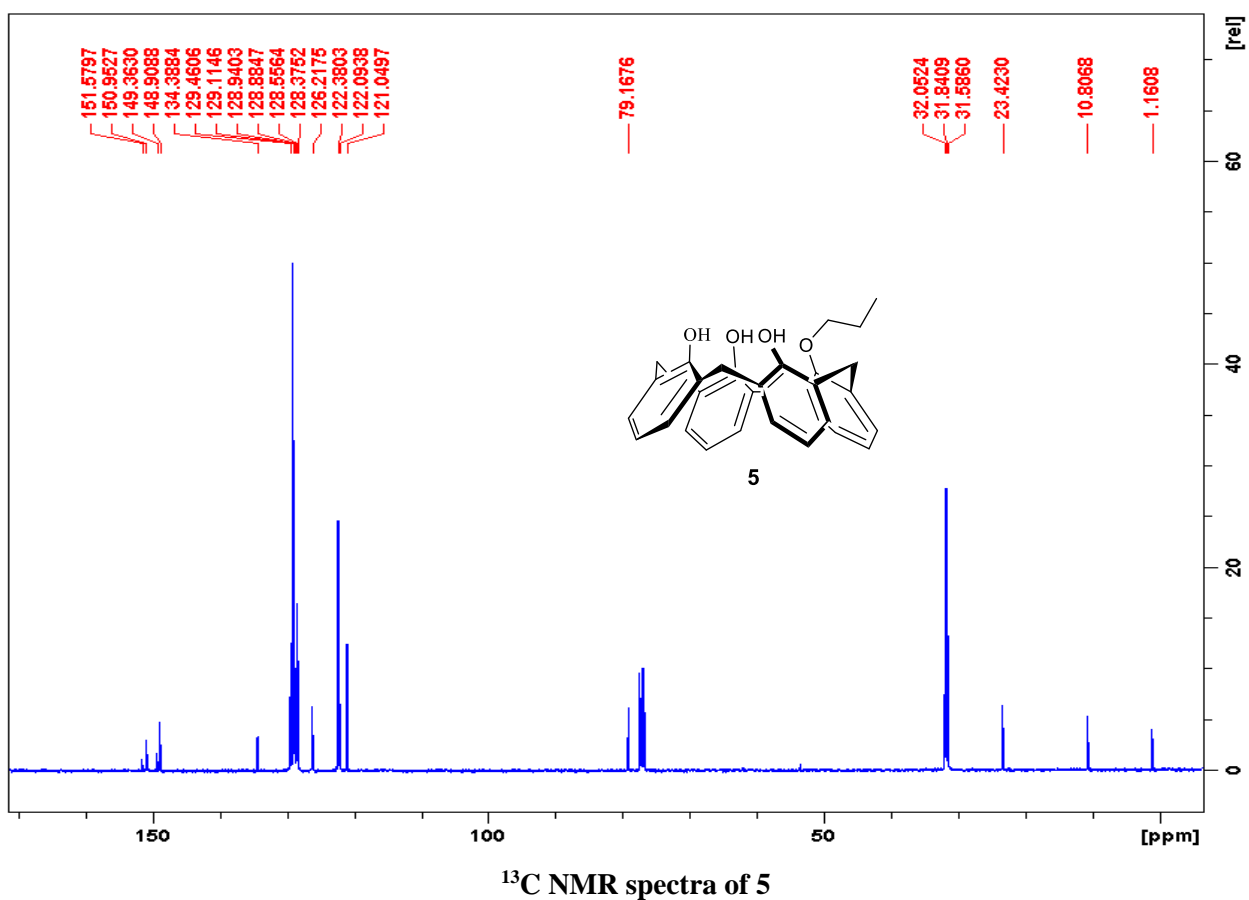
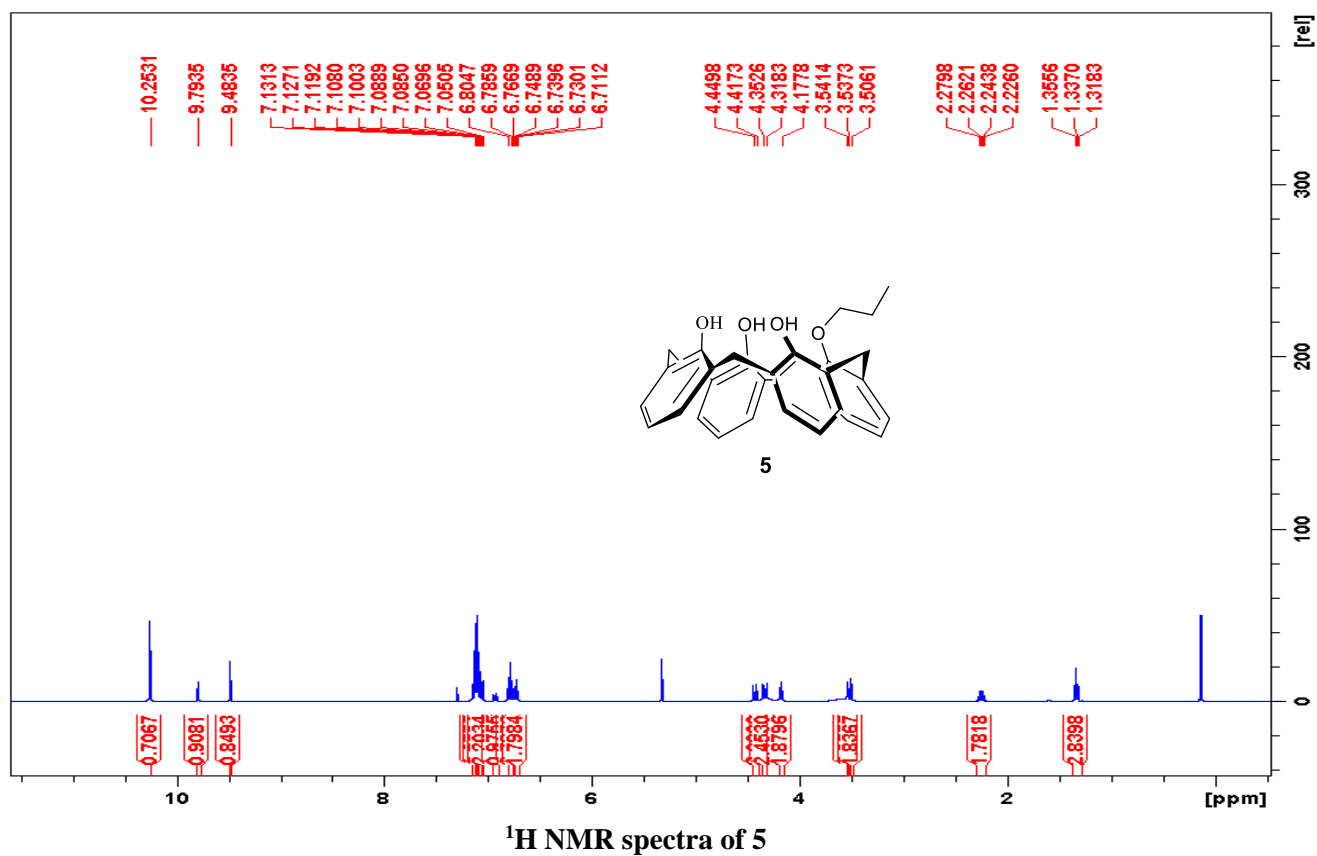
<sup>1</sup>H NMR of 3-ethynyl-9-propyl-9H-carbazole



**<sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3-ethynyl-9-propyl-9H-carbazole**



**ESI MS of 3-ethynyl-9-propyl-9H-carbazole**

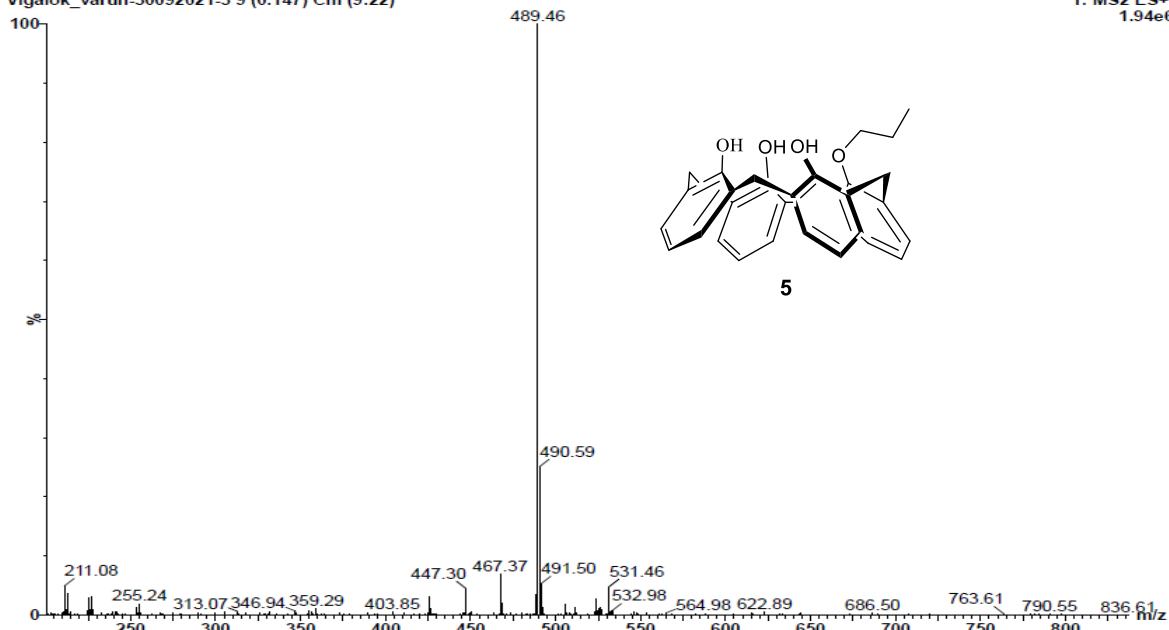


mono propyl calix

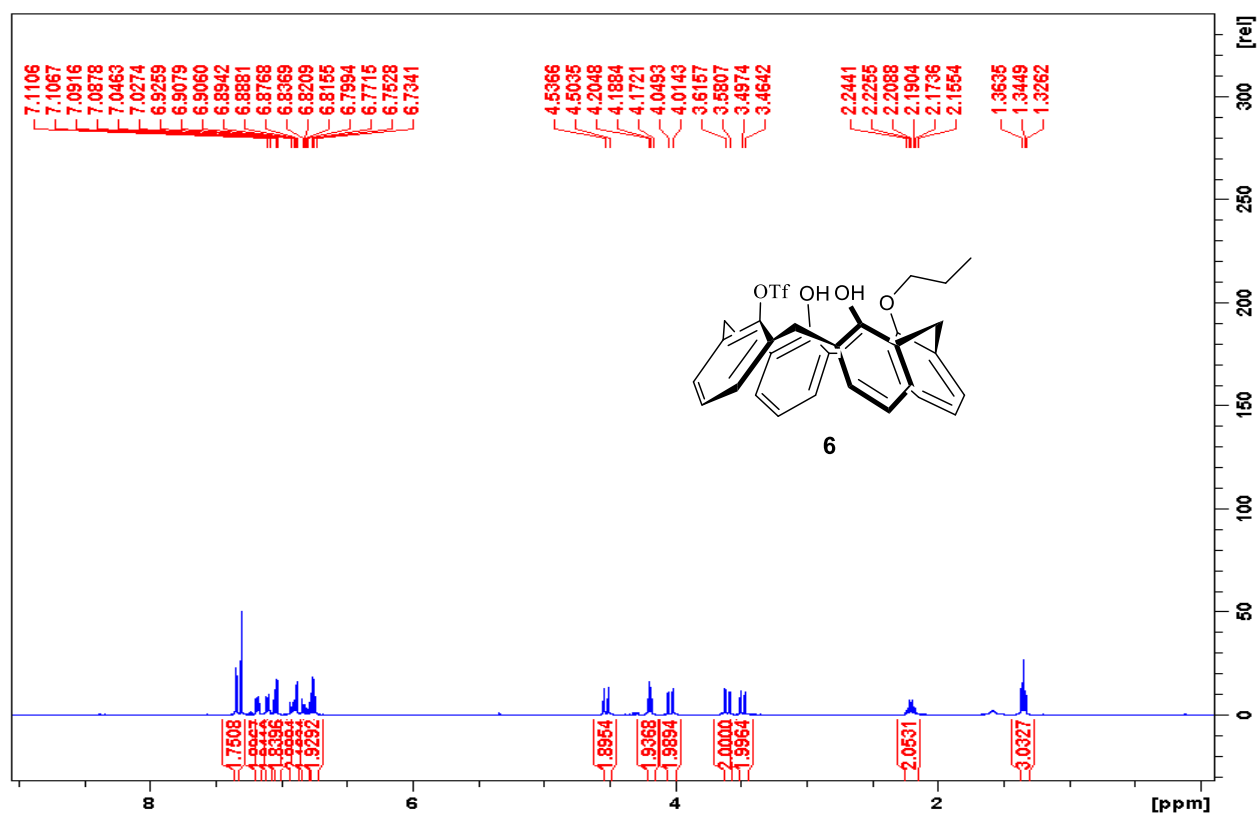
varun

30-Sep-2021  
Coll energy 0  
1: MS2 ES+  
1.94e6

Vigalok\_varun-30092021-3 9 (0.147) Cm (9:22)

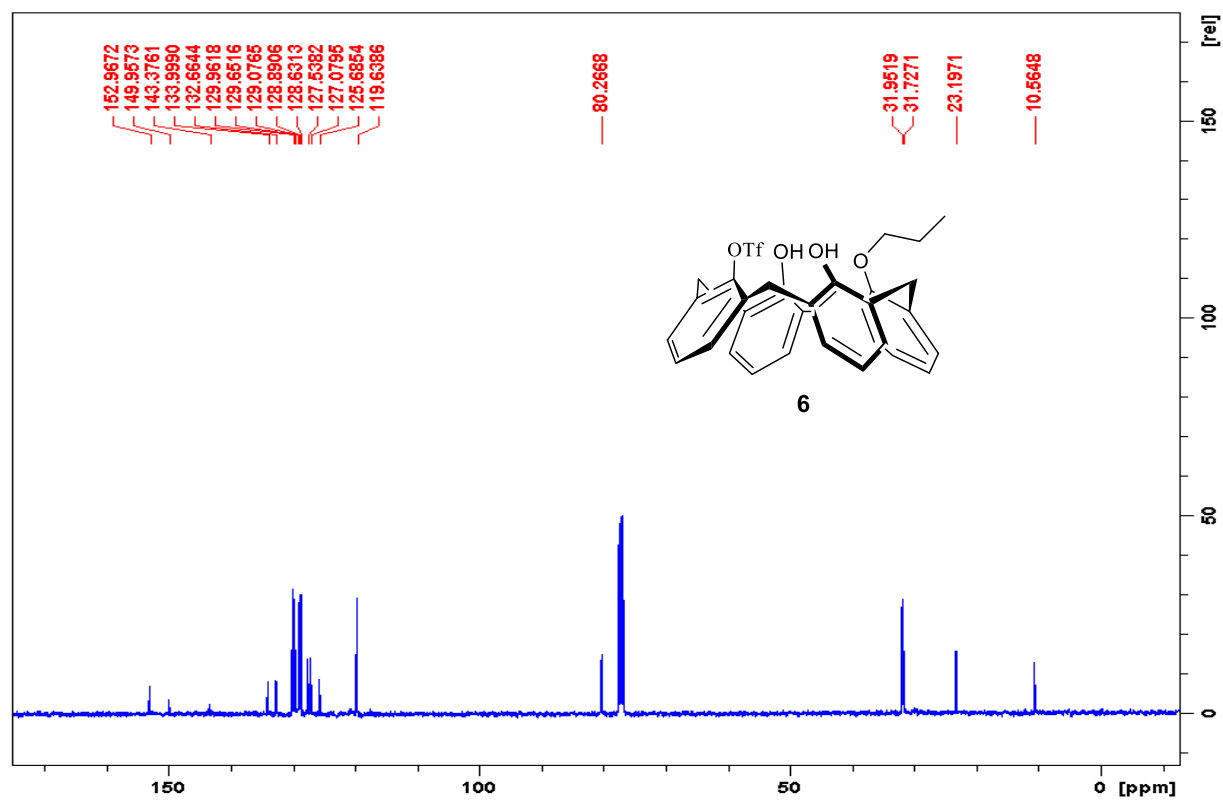


ESI MS of 5

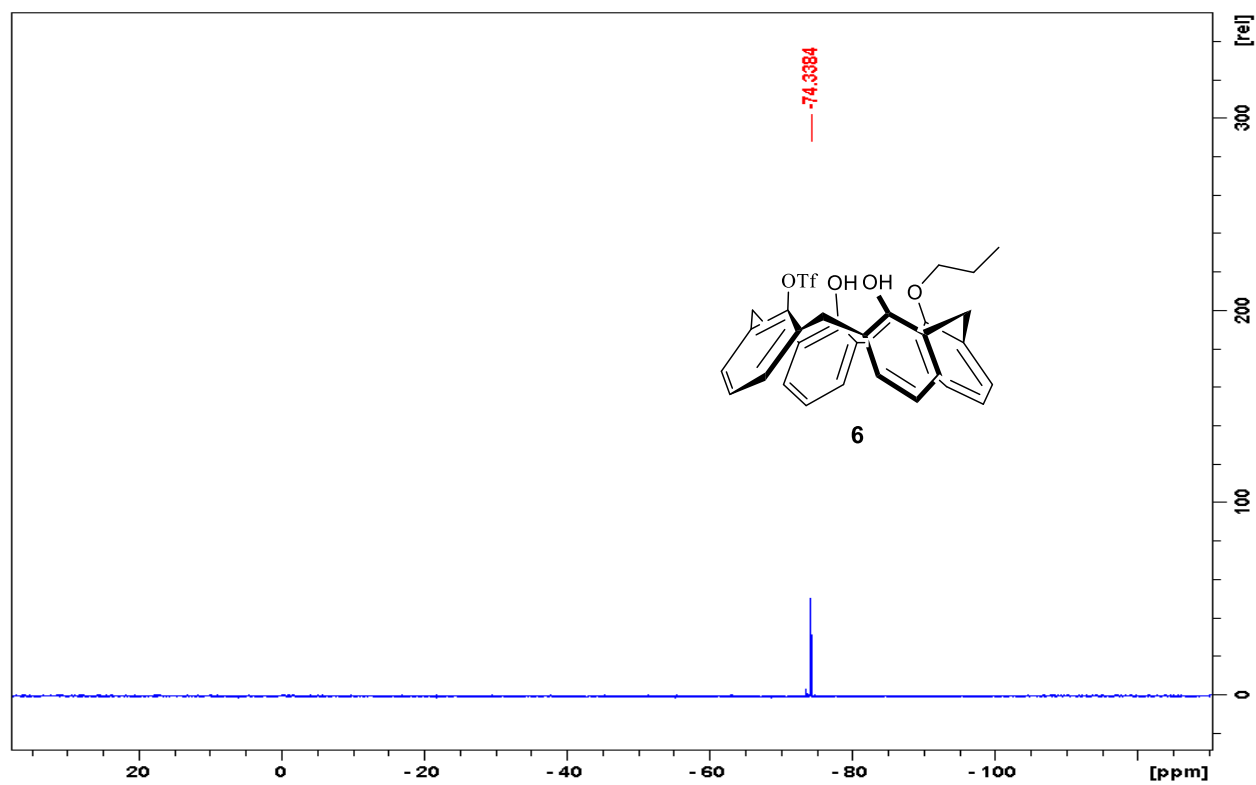


$^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of 6





**<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of 6**



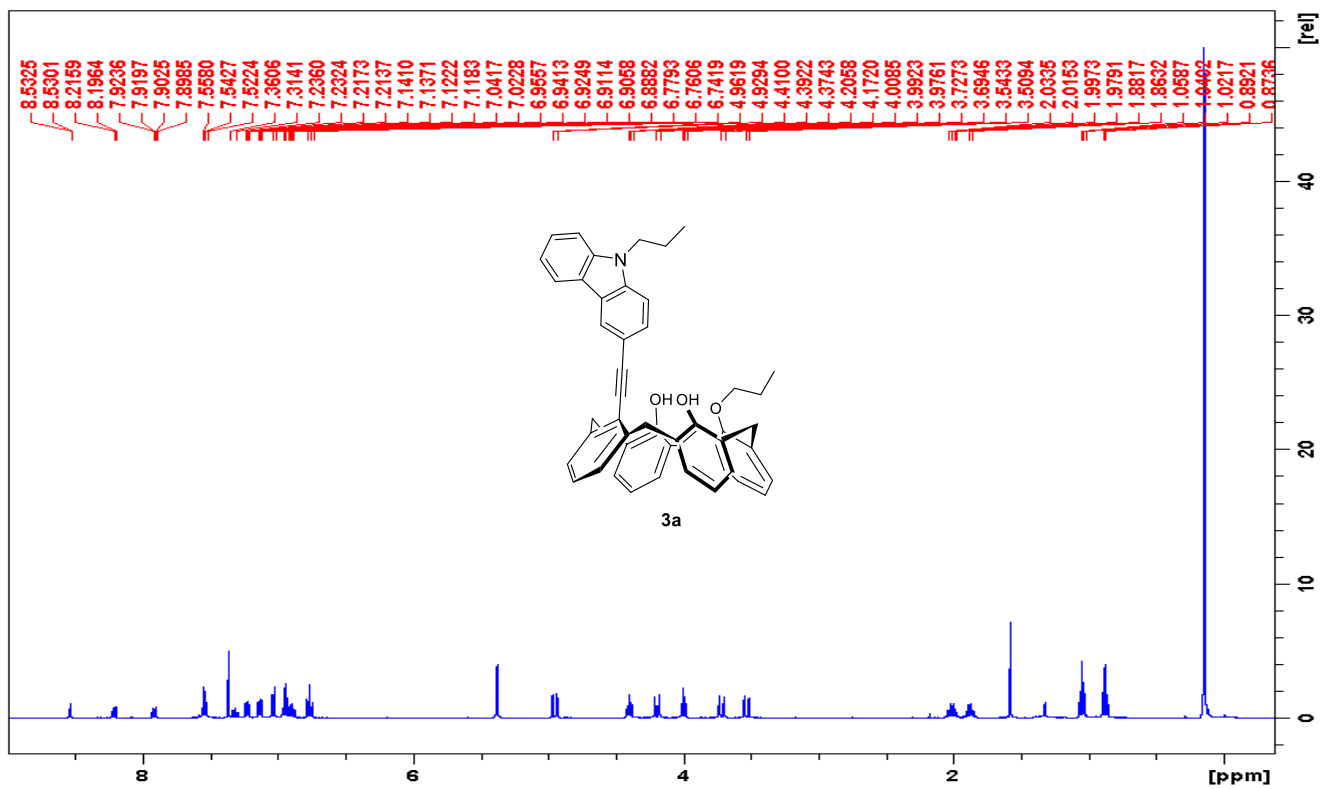
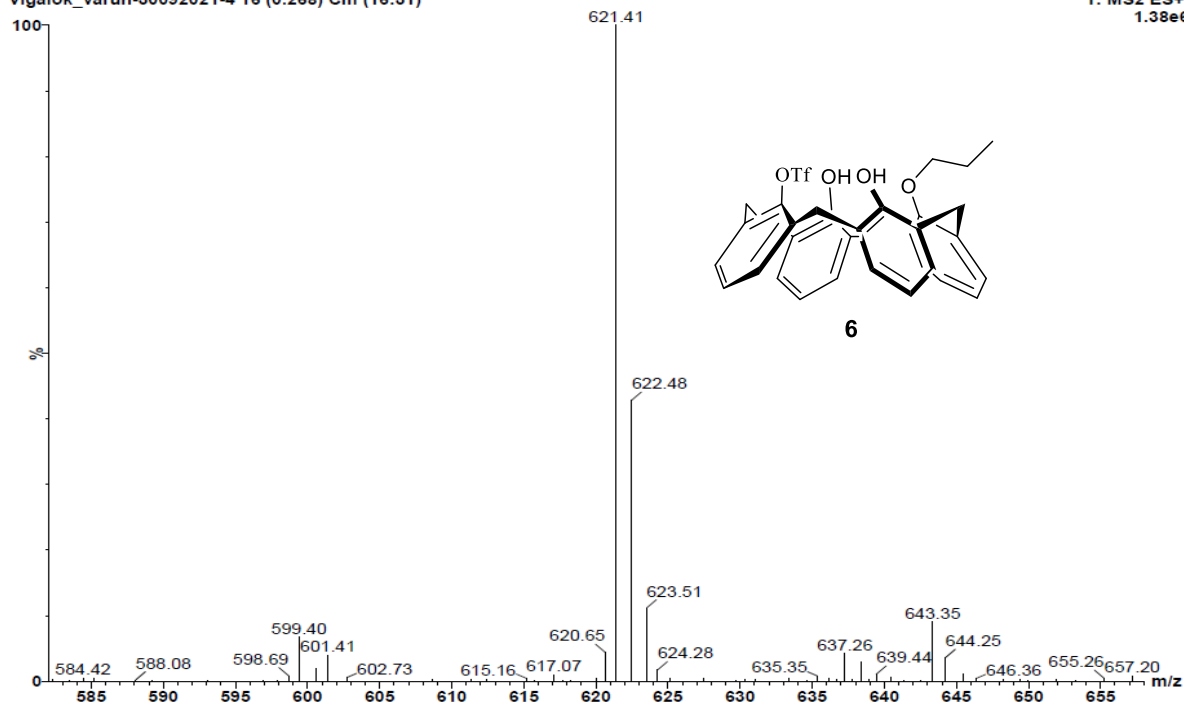
**<sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra of 6**

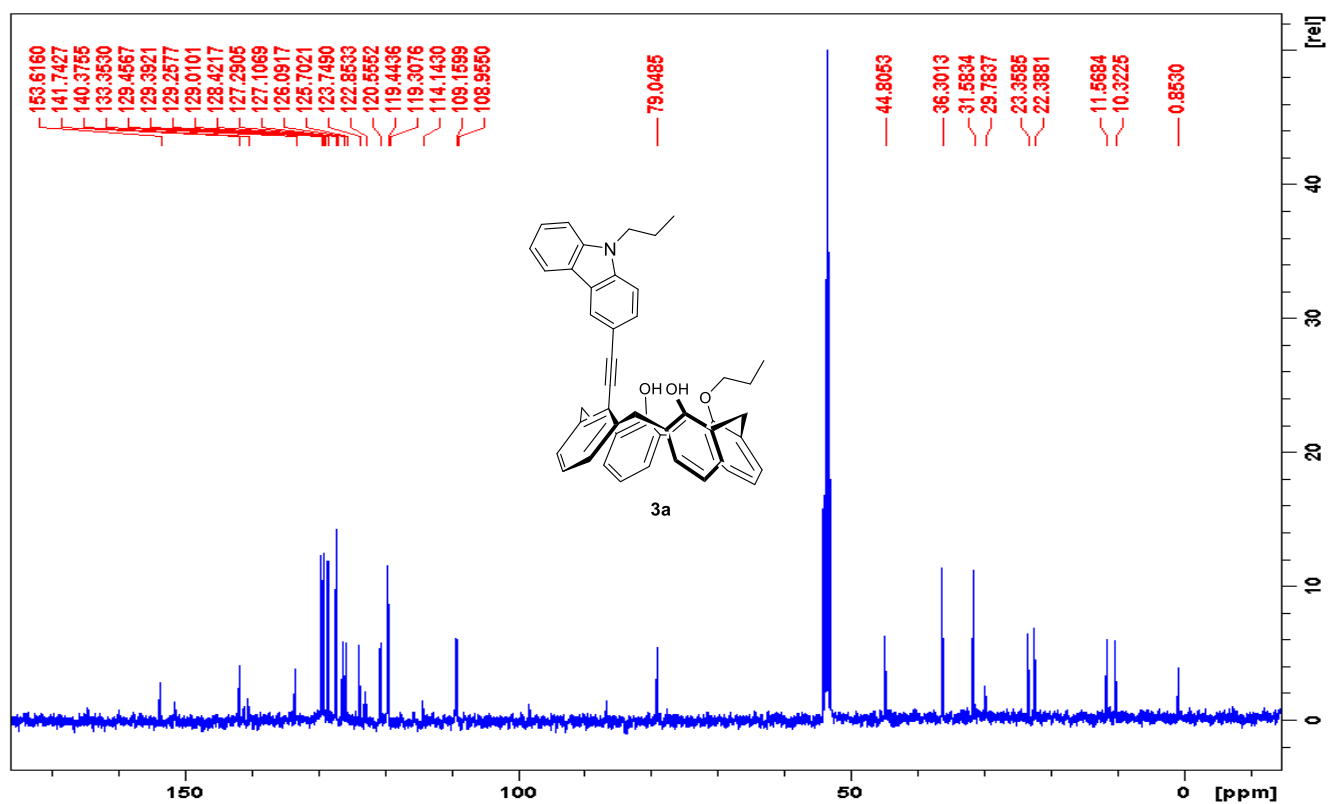
mono propyl calix triflate

varun

30-Sep-2021  
Coll energy 0  
1: MS2 ES+  
1.38e6

Vigalok\_varun-30092021-4 16 (0.268) Cm (16:31)





**<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of carbazole-appended calix[4]arene 3a**

#### Single Mass Analysis

Tolerance = 10.0 PPM / DBE: min = 0.0, max = 50.0

Element prediction: Off

Number of isotope peaks used for i-FIT = 3

Monoisotopic Mass, Even Electron Ions

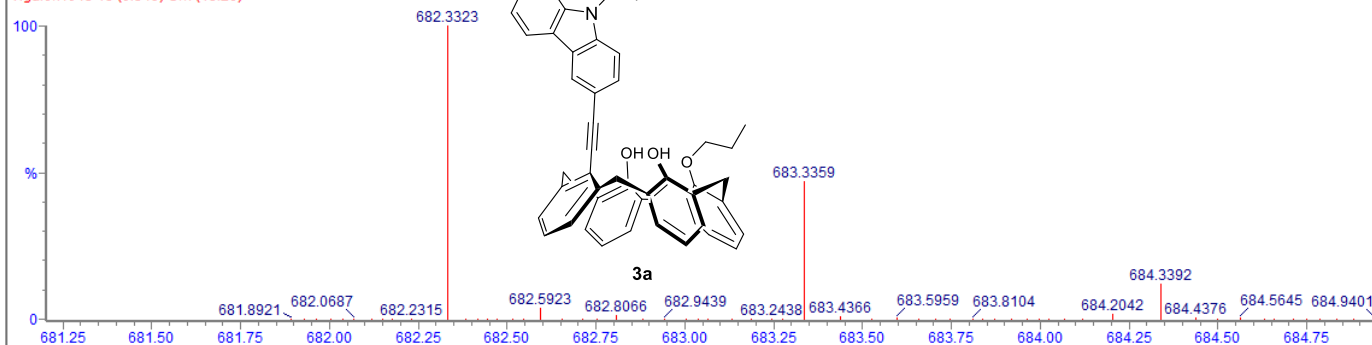
96 formula(e) evaluated with 2 results within limits (all results (up to 1000) for each mass)

Elements Used:

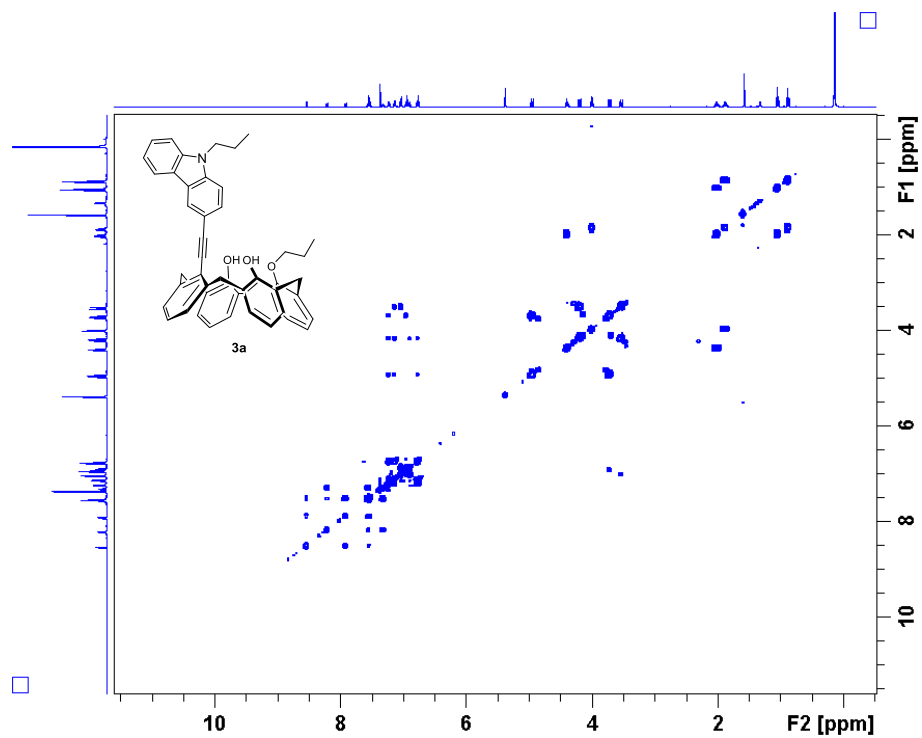
| Mass     | Calc. Mass | mDa | PPM | DBE  | Formula   | i-FIT | i-FIT Norm | Fit Conf % | C  | H  | N | O |
|----------|------------|-----|-----|------|---|-------|------------|------------|----|----|---|---|
| 682.3323 | 682.3321   | 0.2 | 0.3 | 27.5 | C <sub>48</sub> H <sub>44</sub> N O <sub>3</sub>              | 993.1 | 3.535      | 2.91       | 48 | 44 | 1 | 3 |
|          | 682.3281   | 4.2 | 6.2 | 23.5 | C <sub>43</sub> H <sub>44</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>5</sub> | 989.6 | 0.030      | 97.09      | 43 | 44 | 3 | 5 |

VSR-A-I  
Vigalok4043 18 (0.349) Cm (18:26)

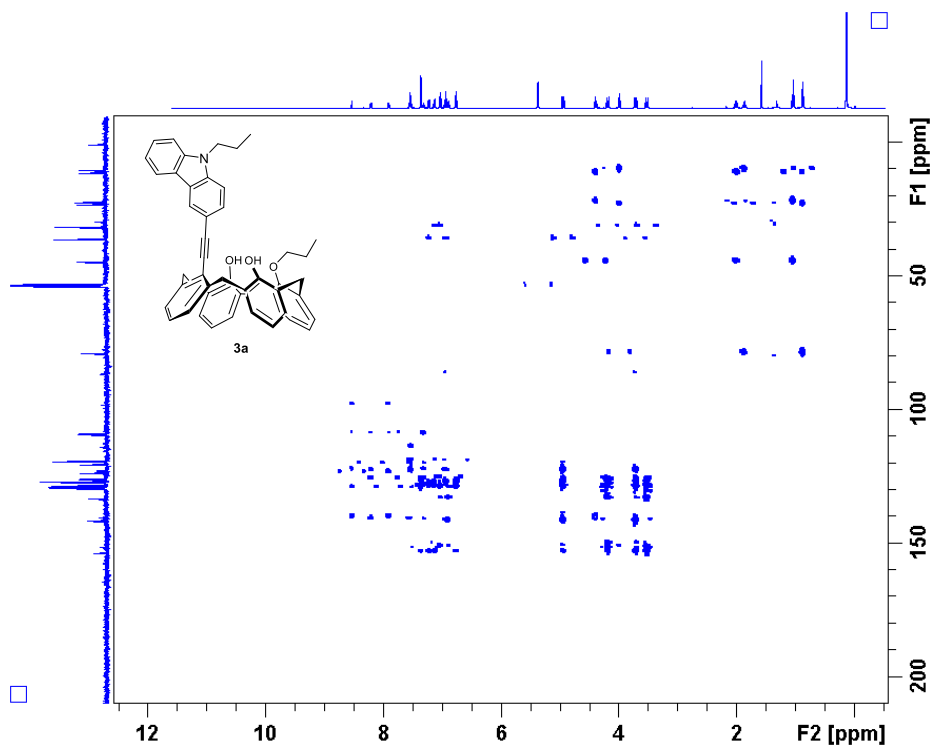
Varu Rawat



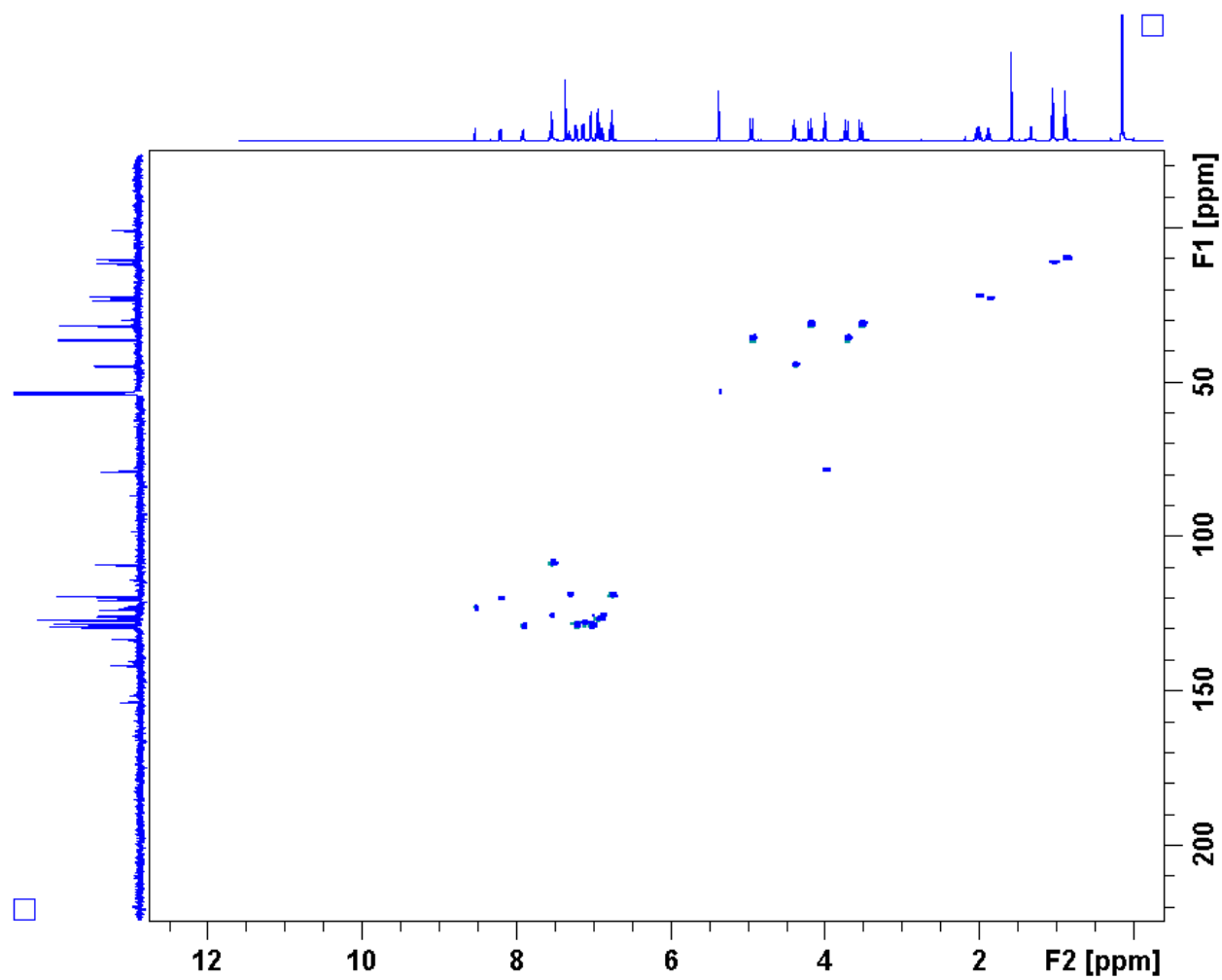
**HRMS of carbazole-appended calix[4]arene 3a**



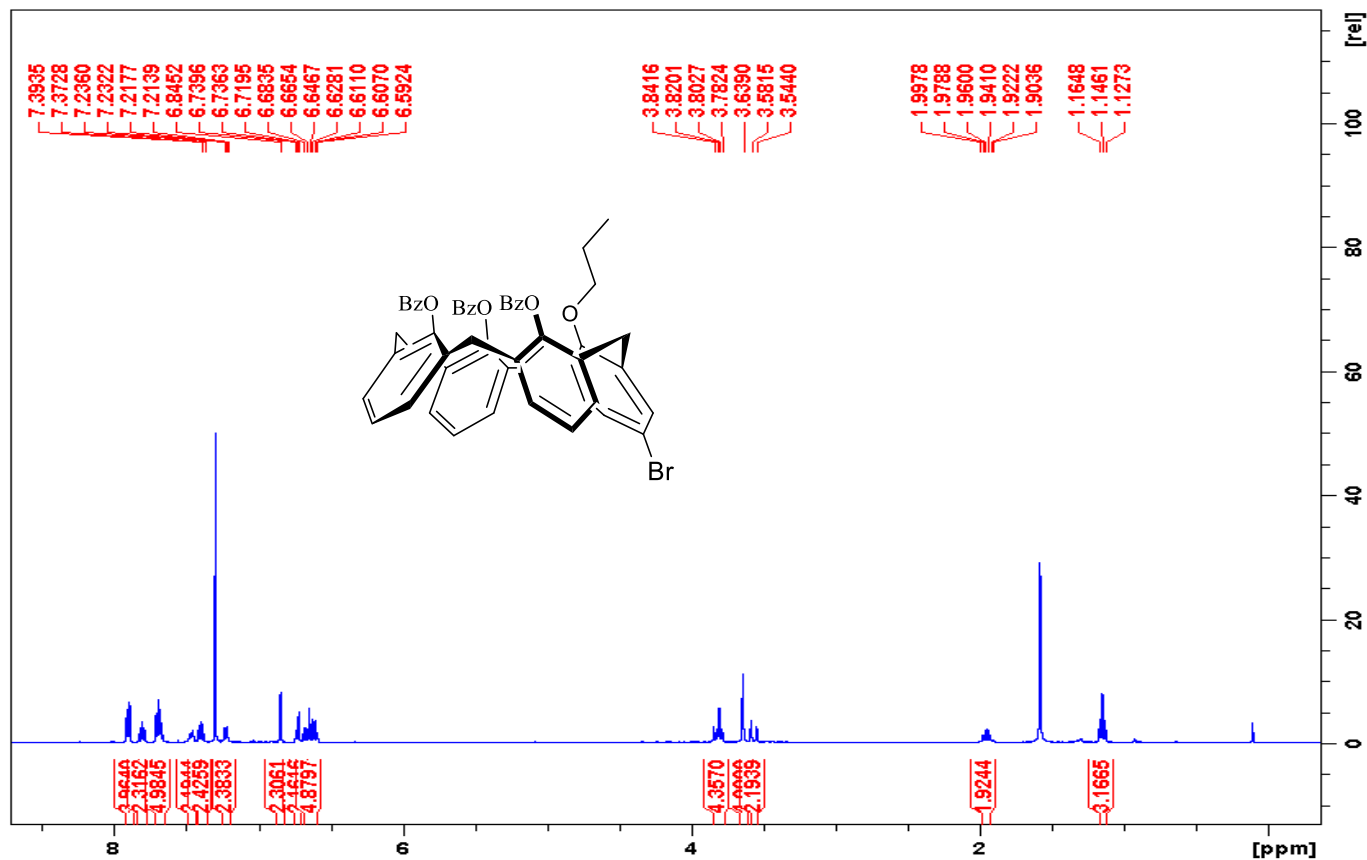
**COSY NMR spectra of carbazole-appended calix[4]arene 3a**



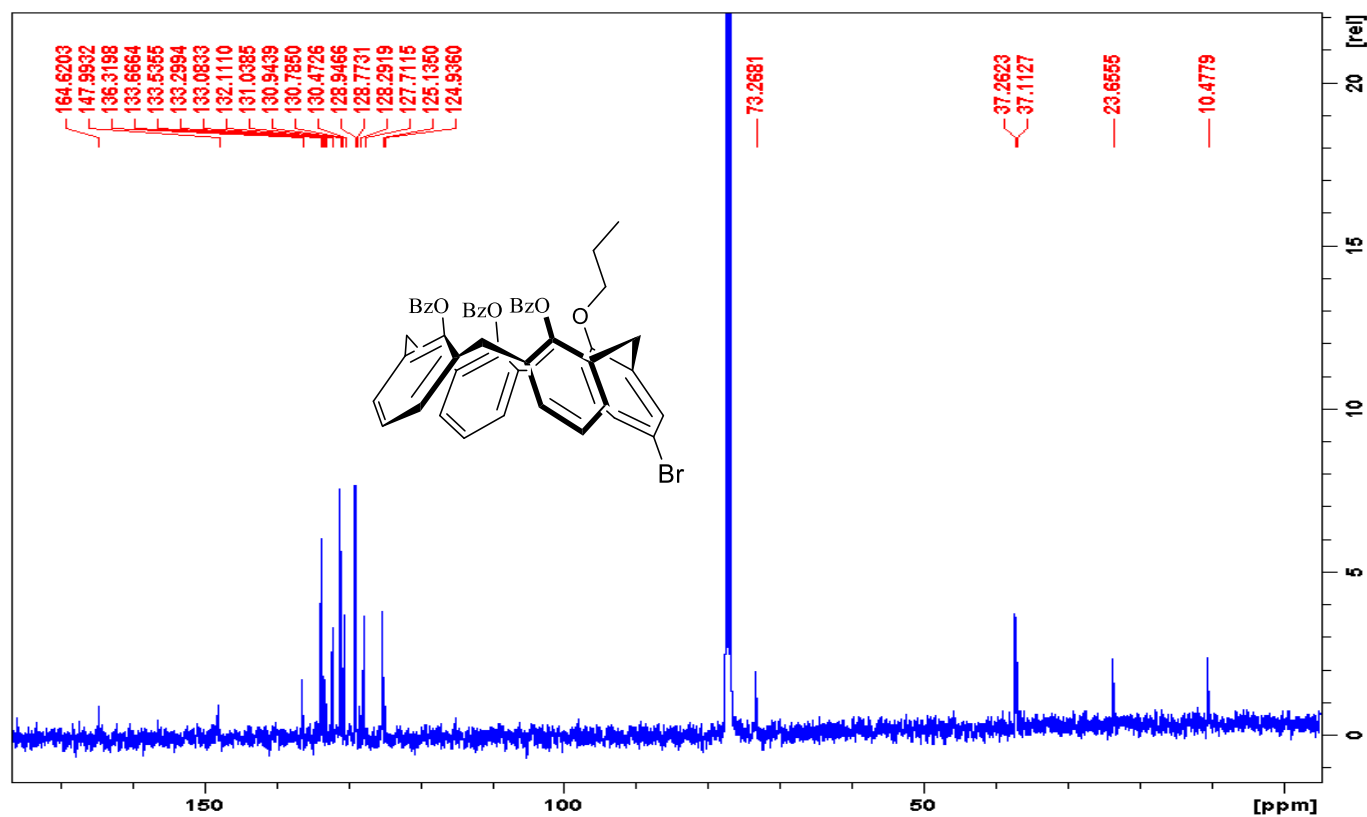
**HMBC NMR spectra of carbazole-appended calix[4]arene 3a**



HSQC NMR spectra of carbazole-appended calix[4]arene 3a



### <sup>1</sup>H NMR of 25,26,27-tribenzoyl-5-bromo-28-propoxy-calix[4]arene



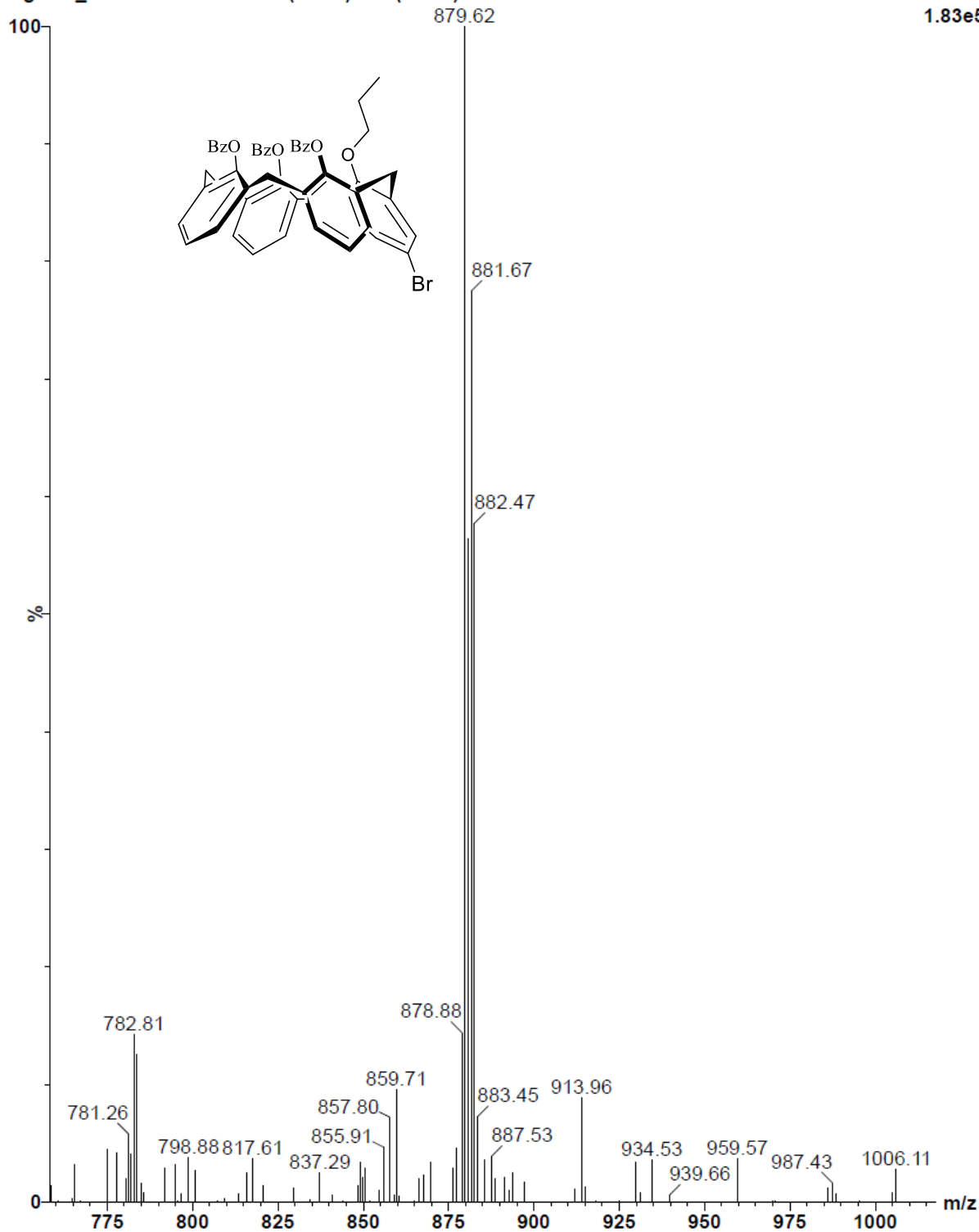
**<sup>13</sup>C NMR of 25,26,27-tribenzoyl-bromo-28-propoxy-calix[4]arene**

Scheme 5 - C

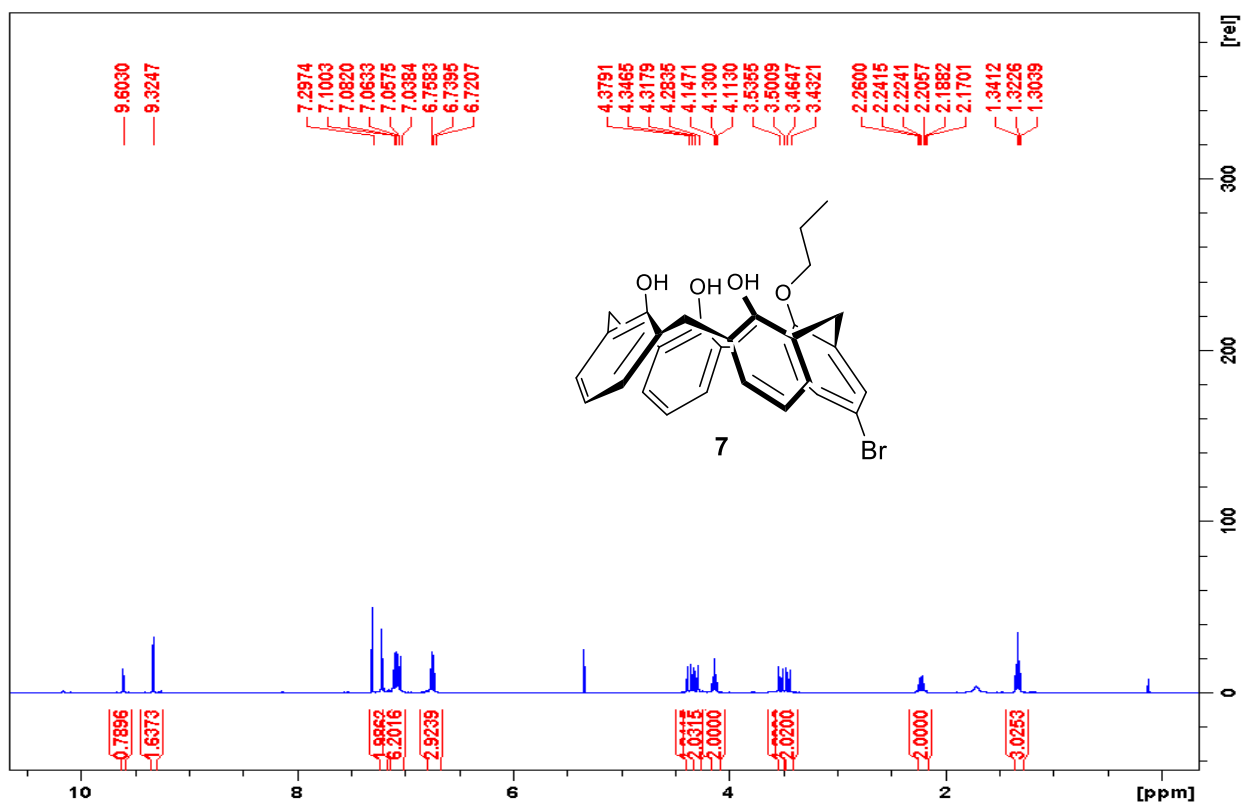
varun

04-Oct-2021  
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1: MS2 ES+  
1.83e5

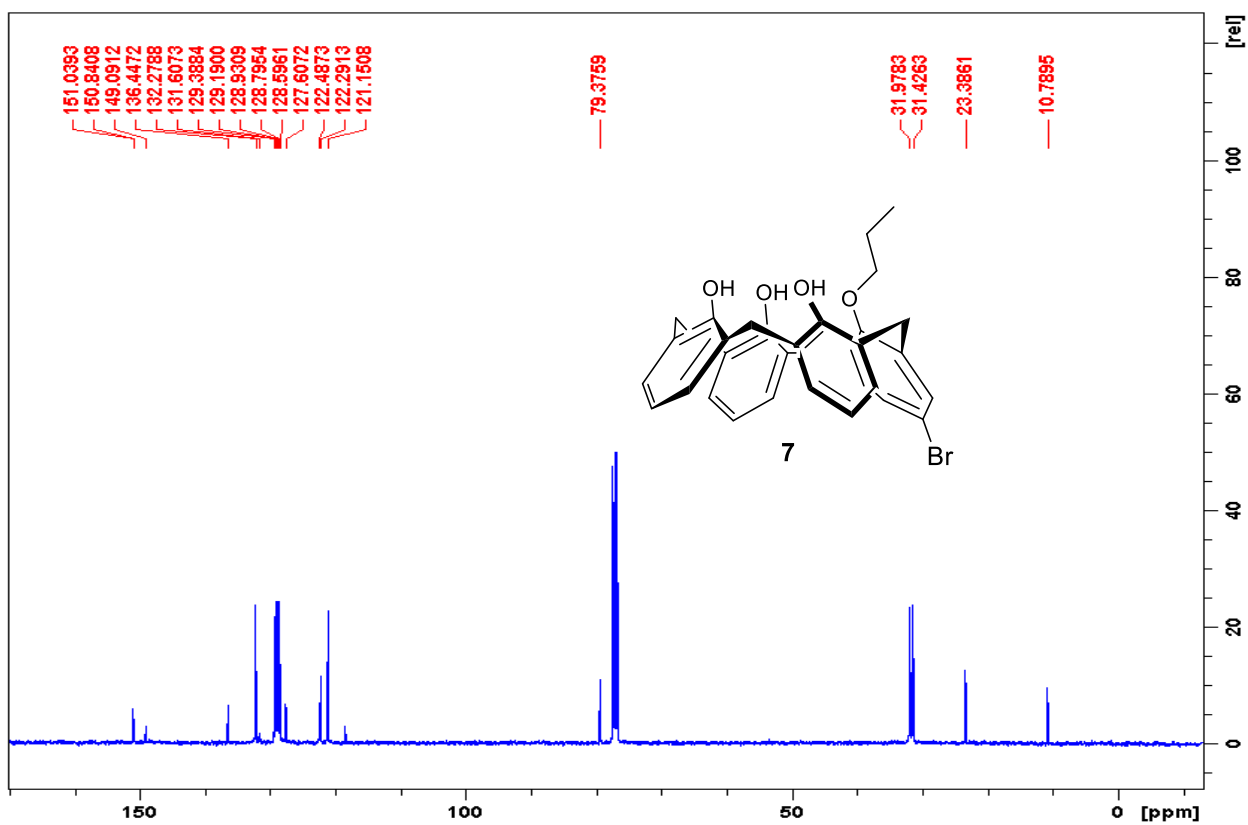
Vigalok\_varun-04102021-3 16 (0.268) Cm (10:17)



ESI MS of 25,26,27-tribenzoyl-5-bromo-28-propoxy-calix[4]arene



**<sup>1</sup>H NMR of compound 7**



**<sup>13</sup>C NMR of compound 7**

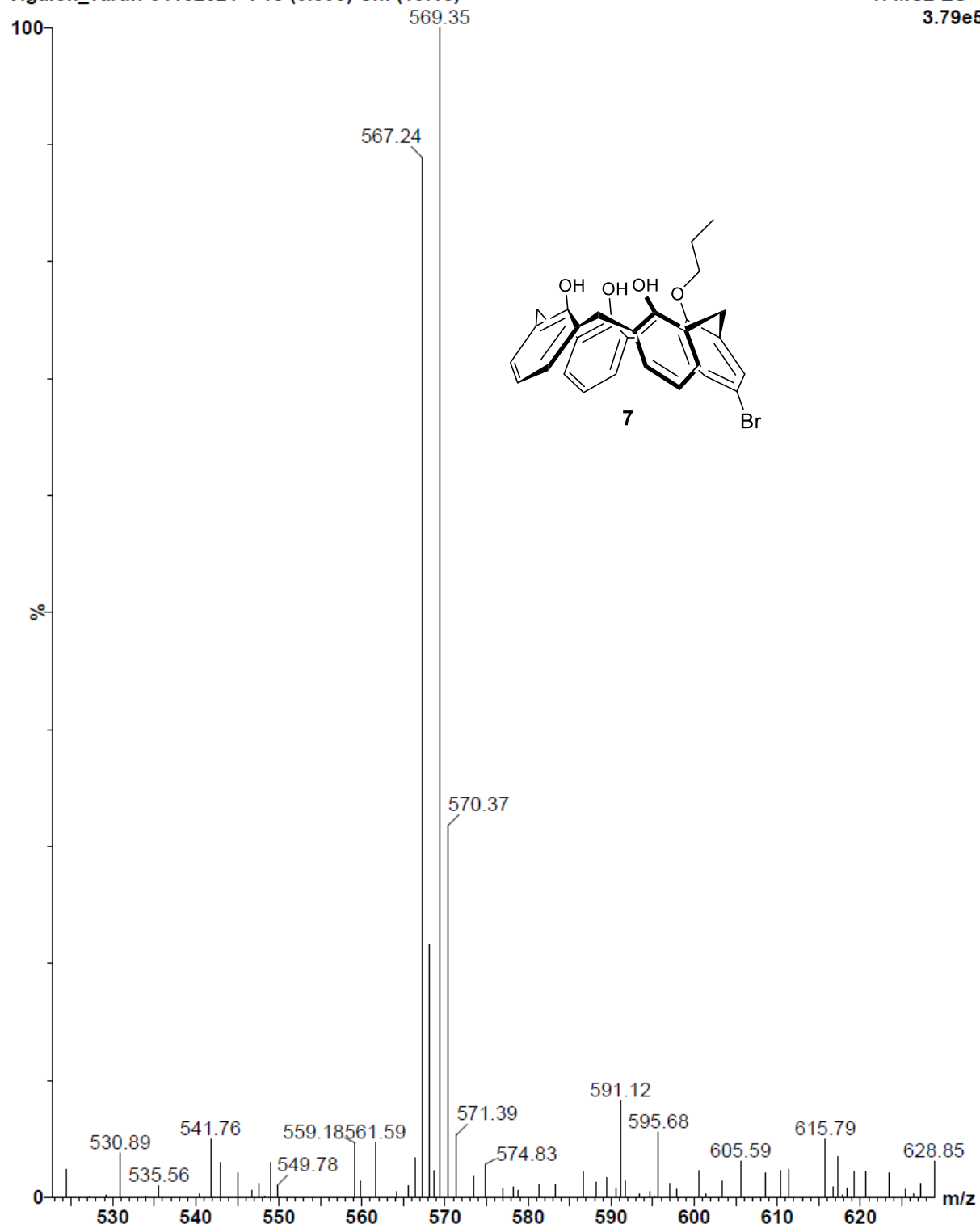


Scheme 5 - D

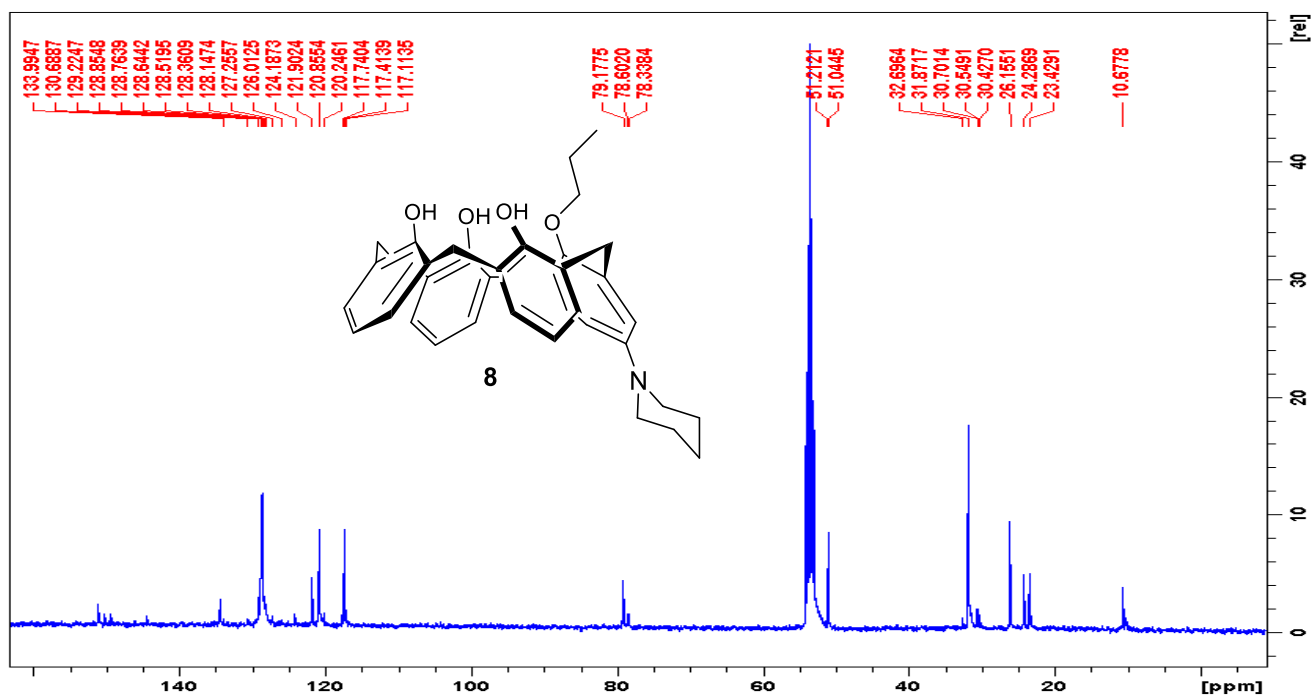
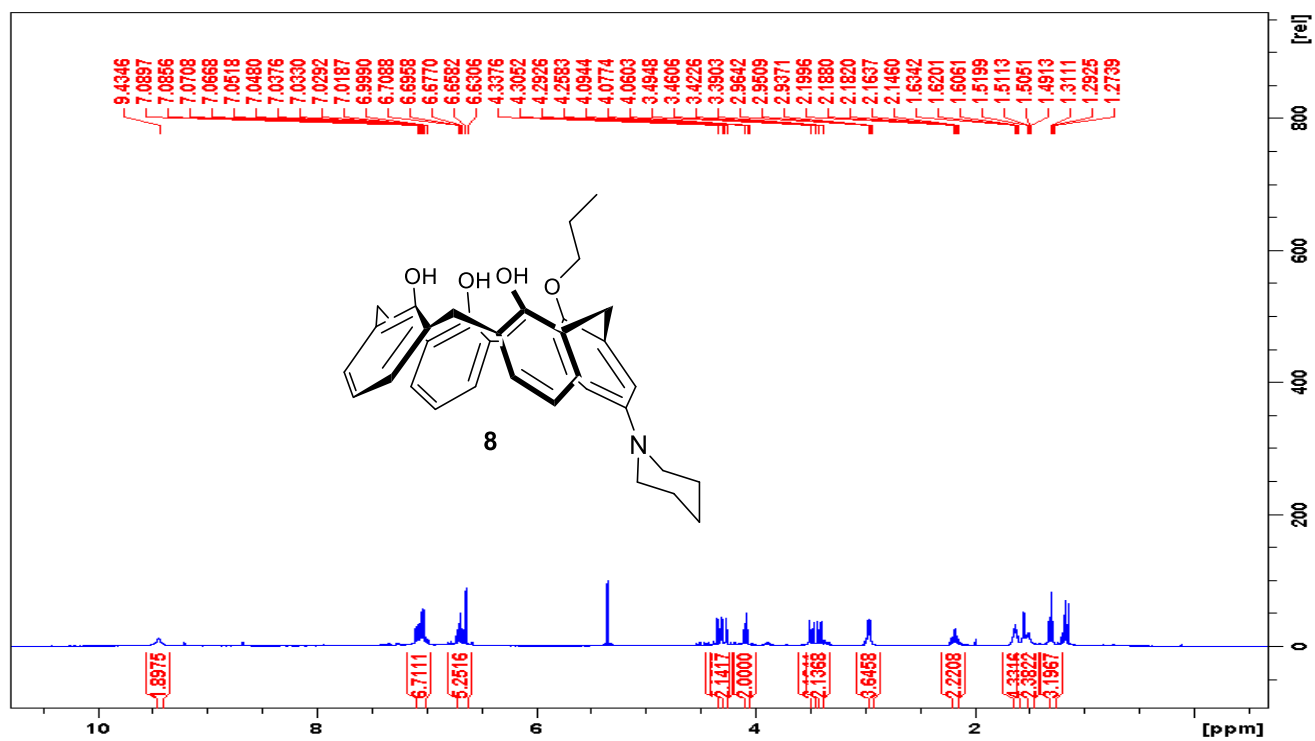
varun

04-Oct-2021  
Coll energy 0  
1: MS2 ES+  
3.79e5

Vigalok\_varun-04102021-4 18 (0.303) Cm (10:18)



ESI MS of 7

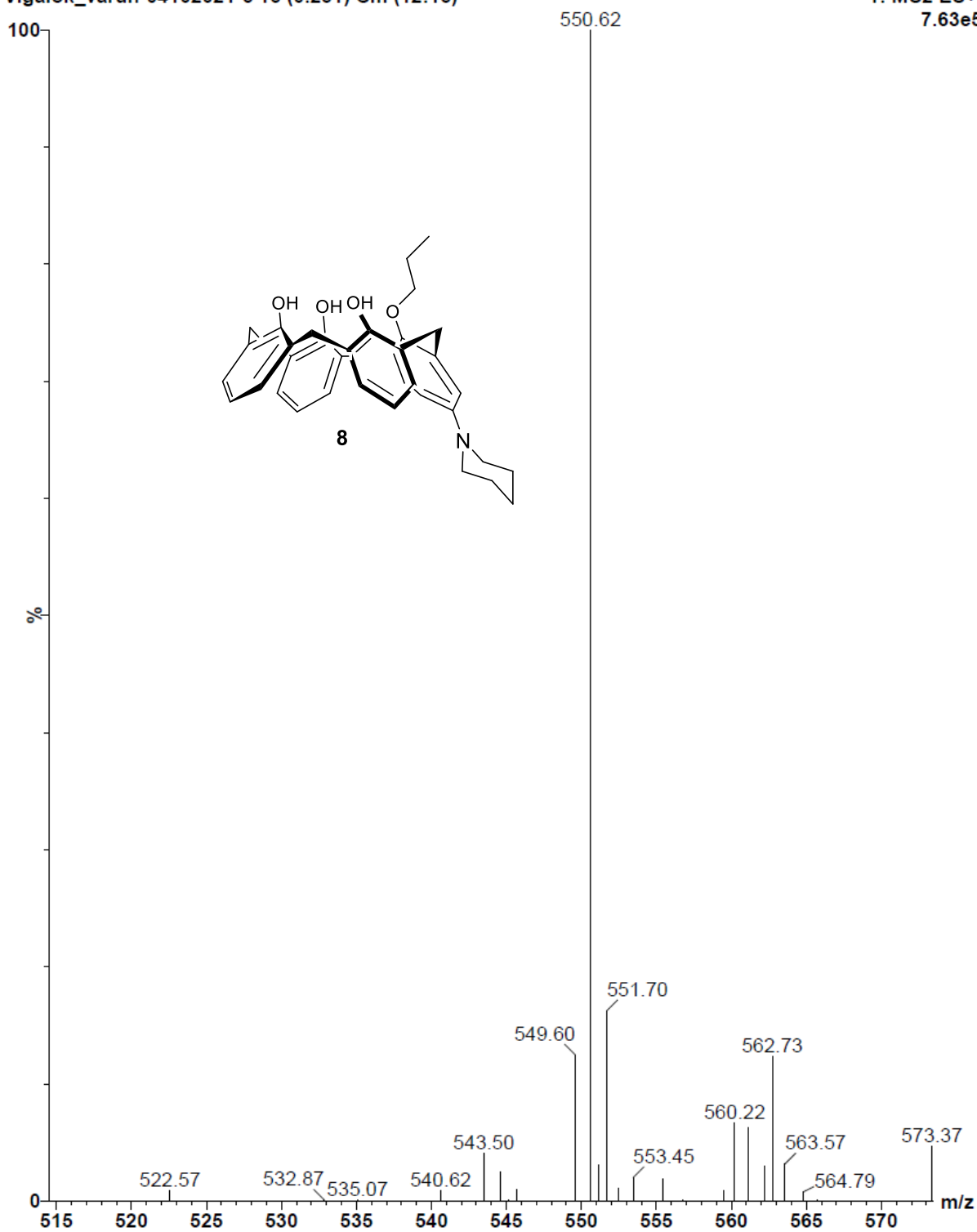


Scheme 5 - E

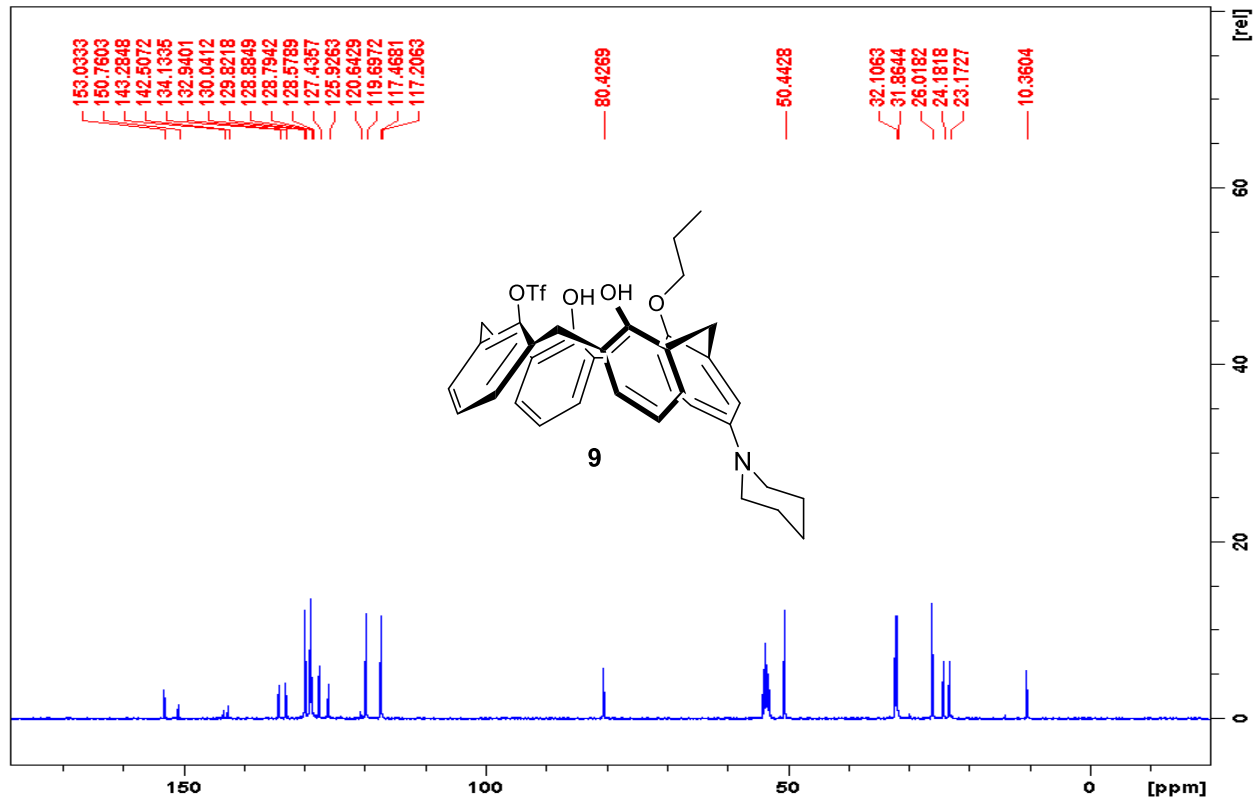
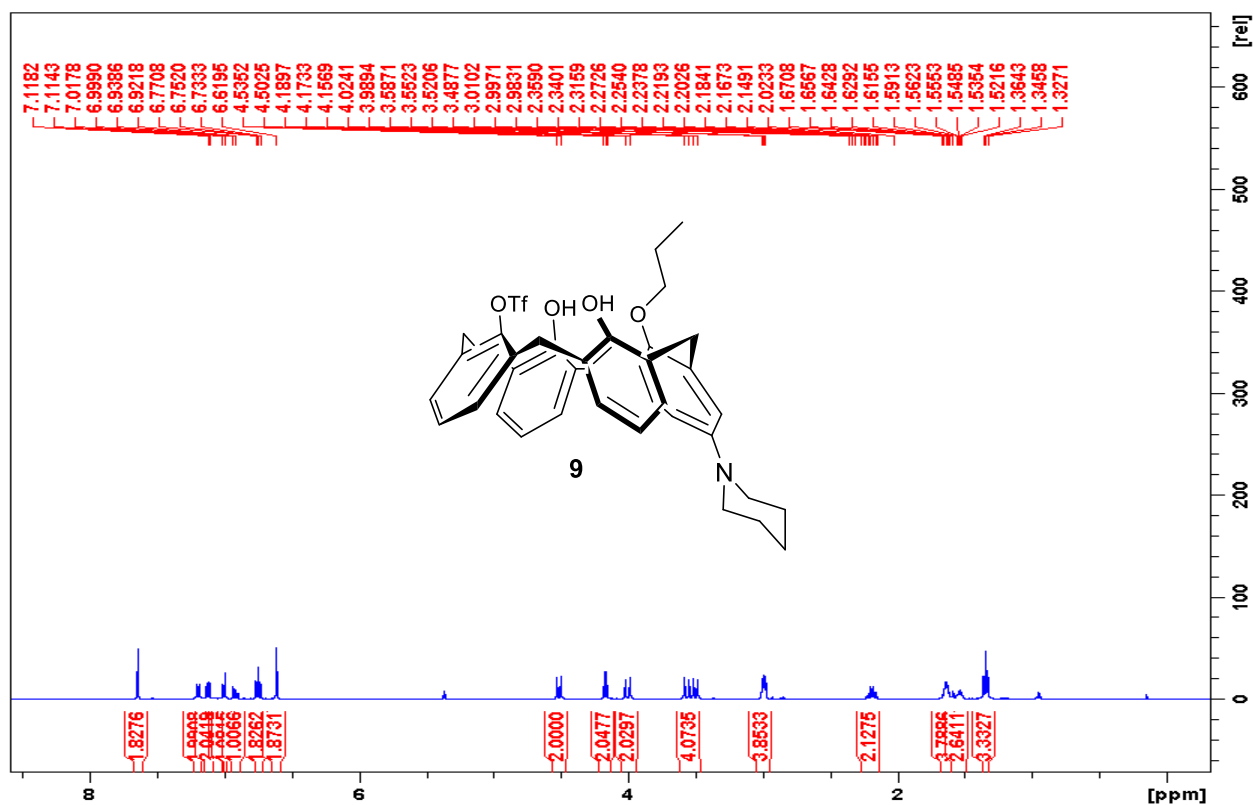
varun

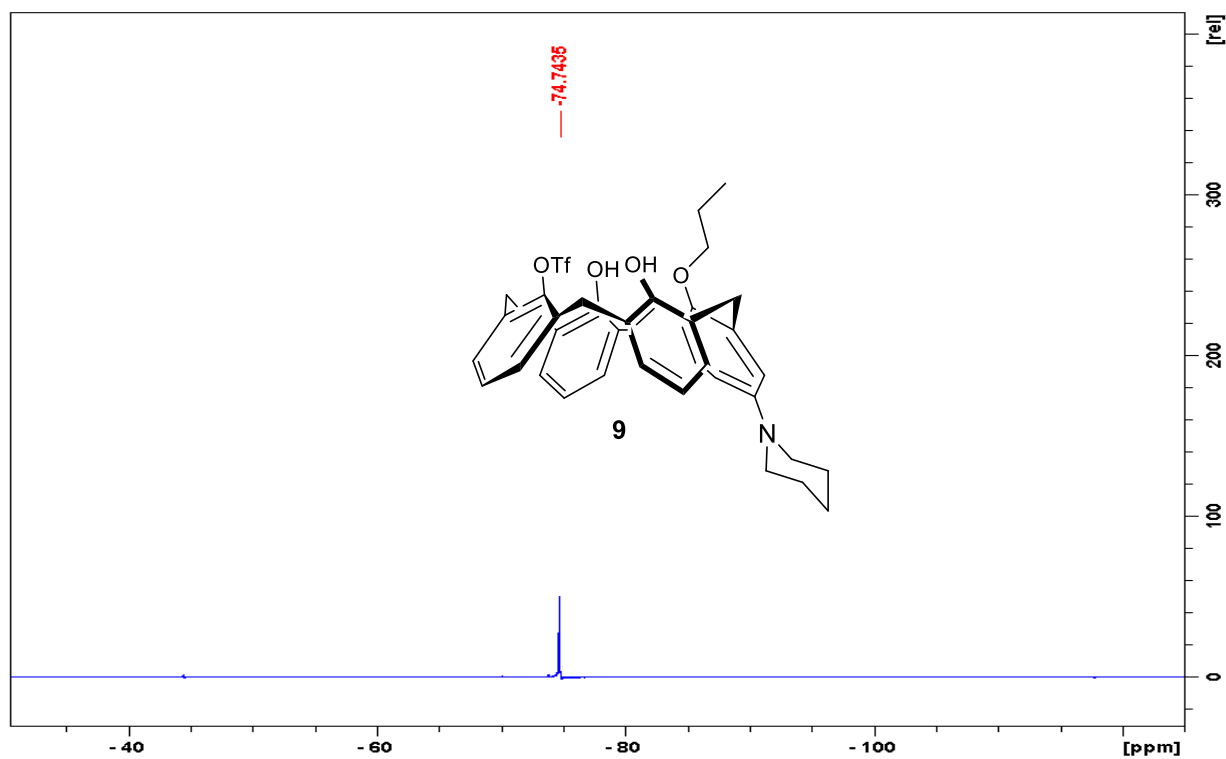
04-Oct-2021  
Coll energy 0  
1: MS2 ES+  
7.63e5

Vigalok\_varun-04102021-5 15 (0.251) Cm (12:15)



ESI MS of 8



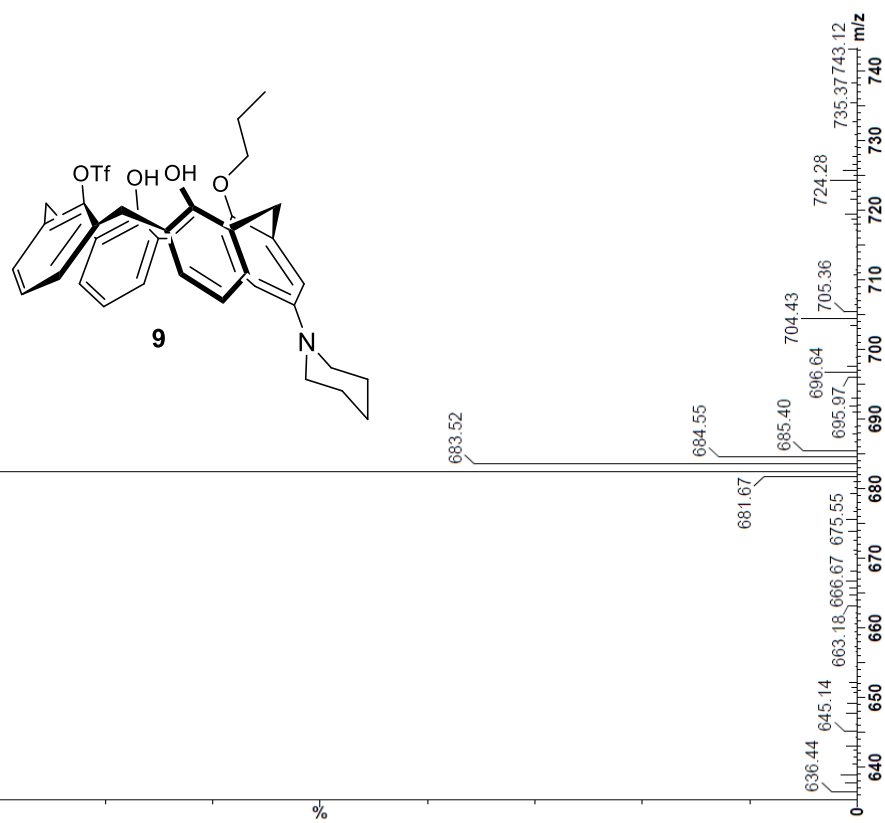


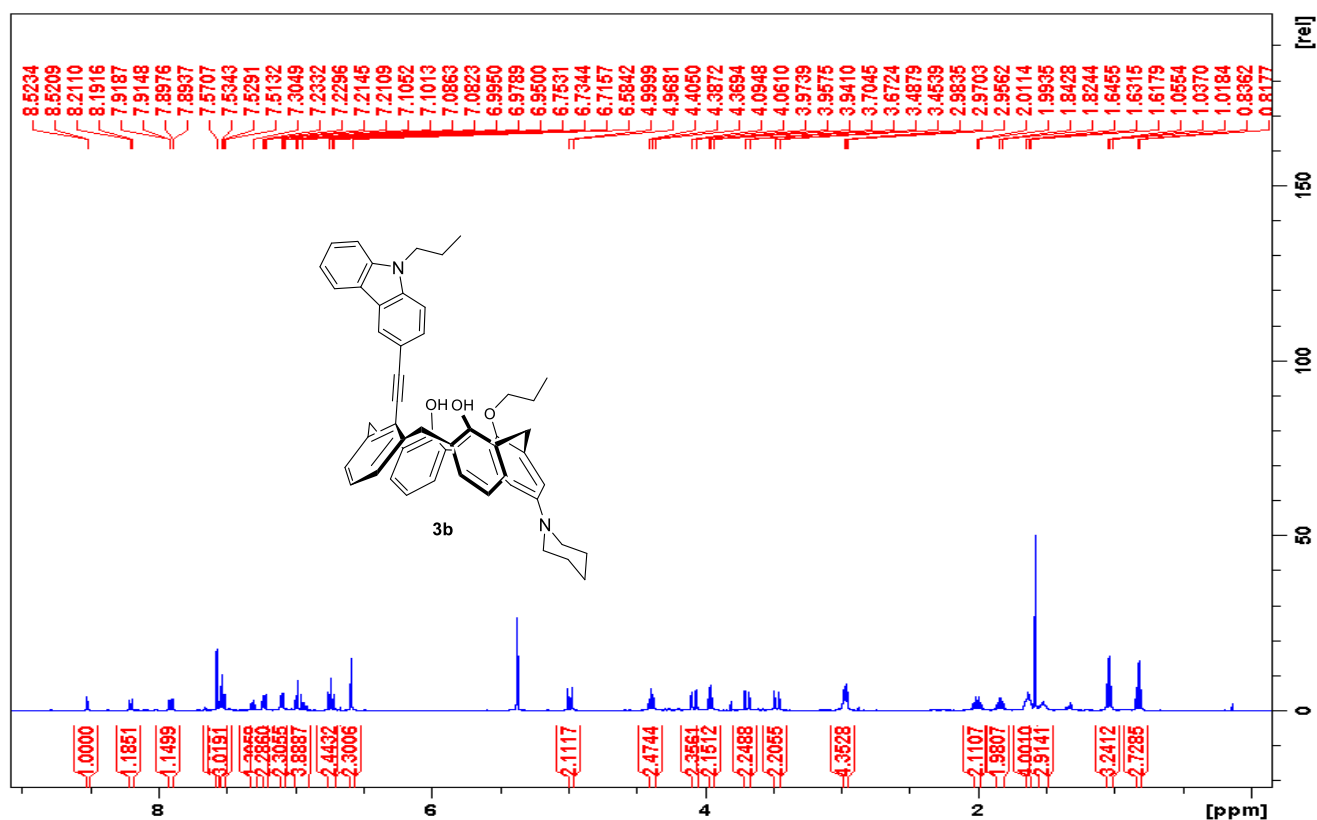
04-Oct-2021  
Coll energy 0  
1: MS2 ES+  
4.55e5

varun

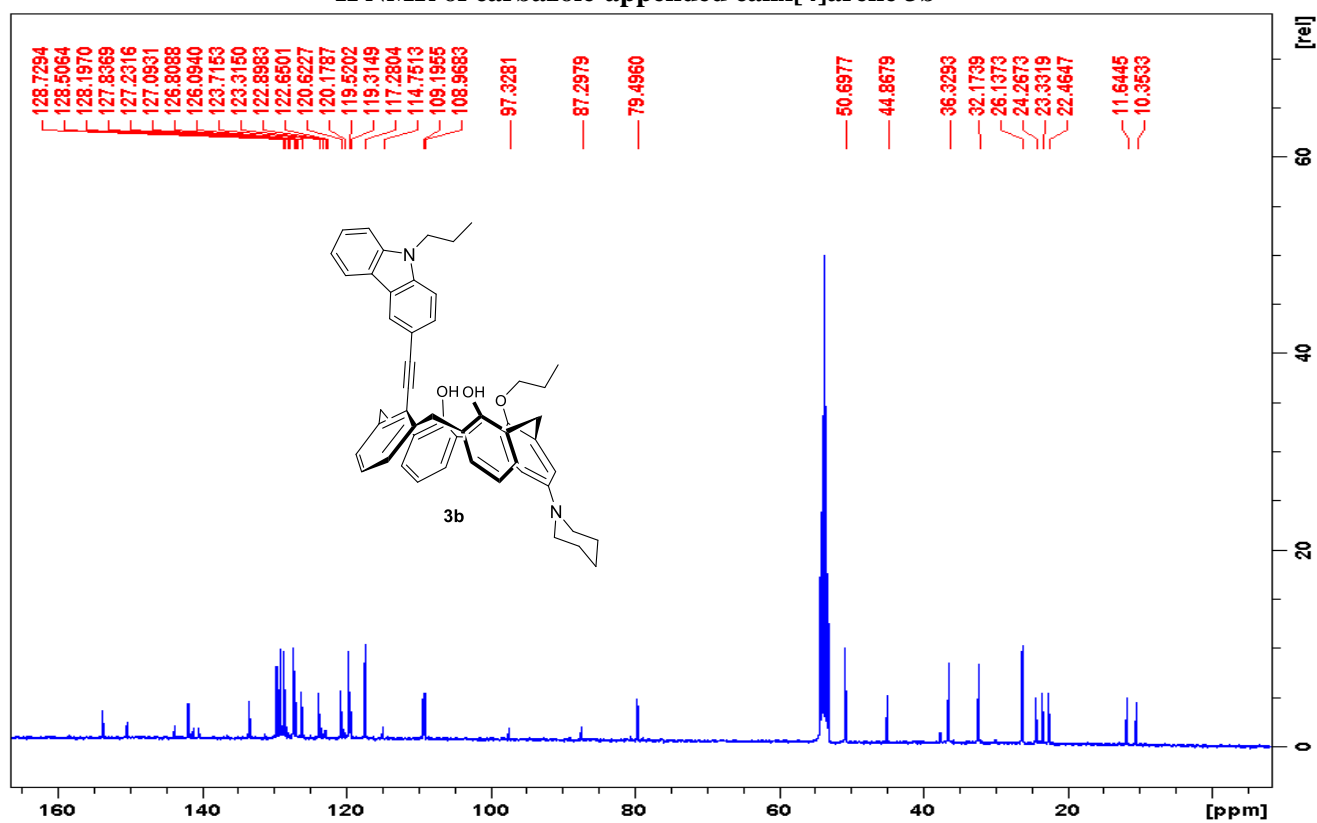
Scheme 5 - F

Vigalok\_varun-04102021-6 13 (0.216) Cm (13:36)  
682.47





**<sup>1</sup>H NMR of carbazole-appended calix[4]arene 3b**



**<sup>13</sup>C NMR of carbazole-appended calix[4]arene 3b**

# Single Mass Analysis

Tolerance = 10.0 PPM / DBE: min = 0.0, max = 50.0

Element prediction: Off

Number of isotope peaks used for i-FIT = 3

Monoisotopic Mass, Even Electron Ions

89 formula(e) evaluated with 3 results within limits (all results (up to 1000) for each mass)

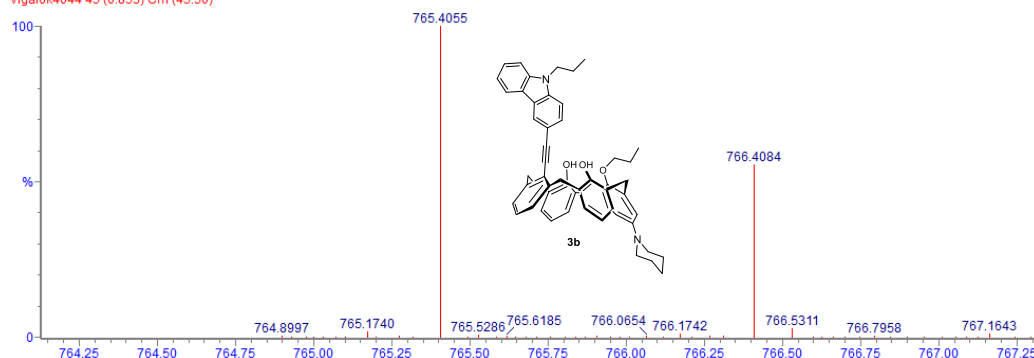
Elements Used:

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|----------|------------|------|------|------|---------------|-------|------------|------------|----|----|---|---|
| 765.4055 | 765.4056   | -0.1 | -0.1 | 28.5 | C53 H53 N2 O3 | 955.0 | 0.222      | 80.10      | 53 | 53 | 2 | 3 |
| 765.4016 | 765.4016   | 3.9  | 5.1  | 24.5 | C48 H53 N4 O5 | 956.4 | 1.636      | 19.48      | 48 | 53 | 4 | 5 |
| 765.4096 | 765.4096   | -4.1 | -5.4 | 32.5 | C58 H53 O     | 960.2 | 5.478      | 0.42       | 58 | 53 | 1 | 1 |

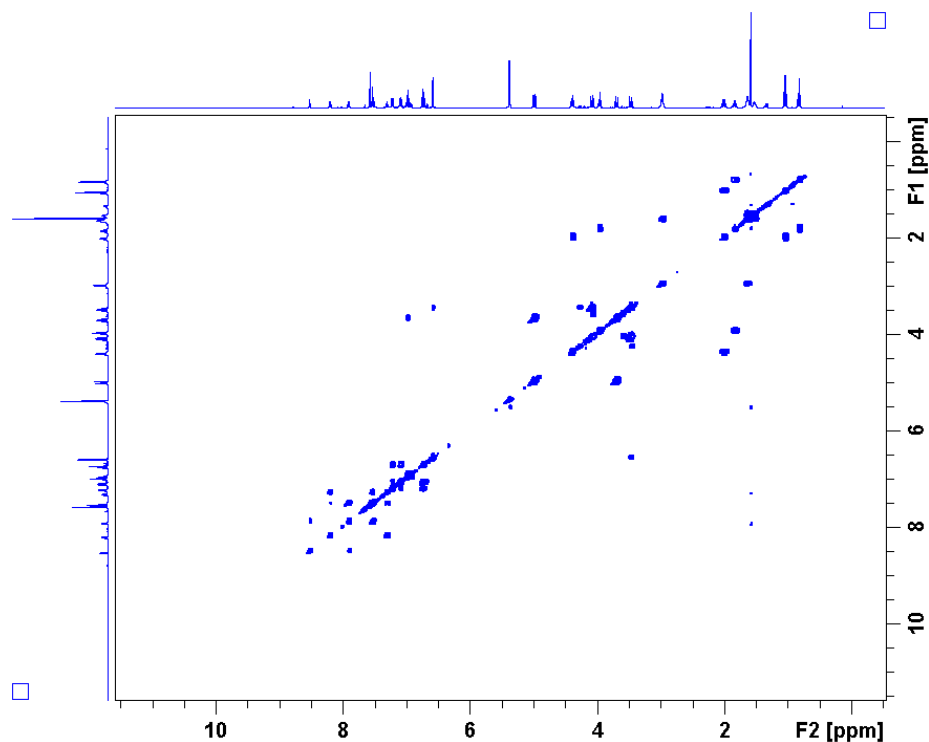
VSR-A-III

Vigalok4044 45 (0.853) Cm (45:50)

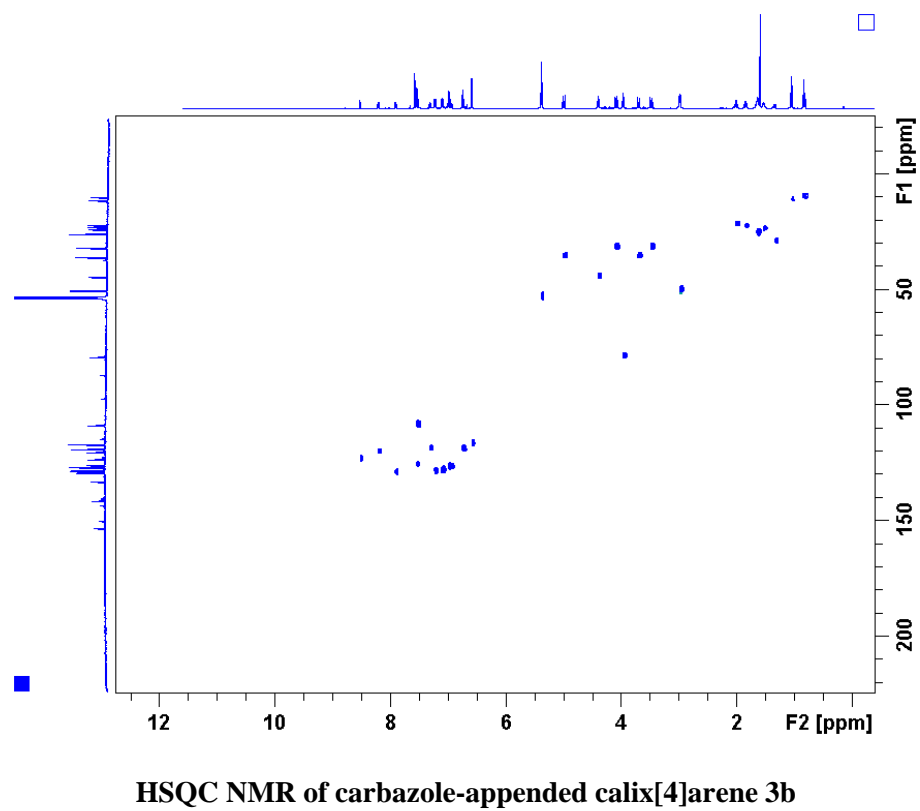
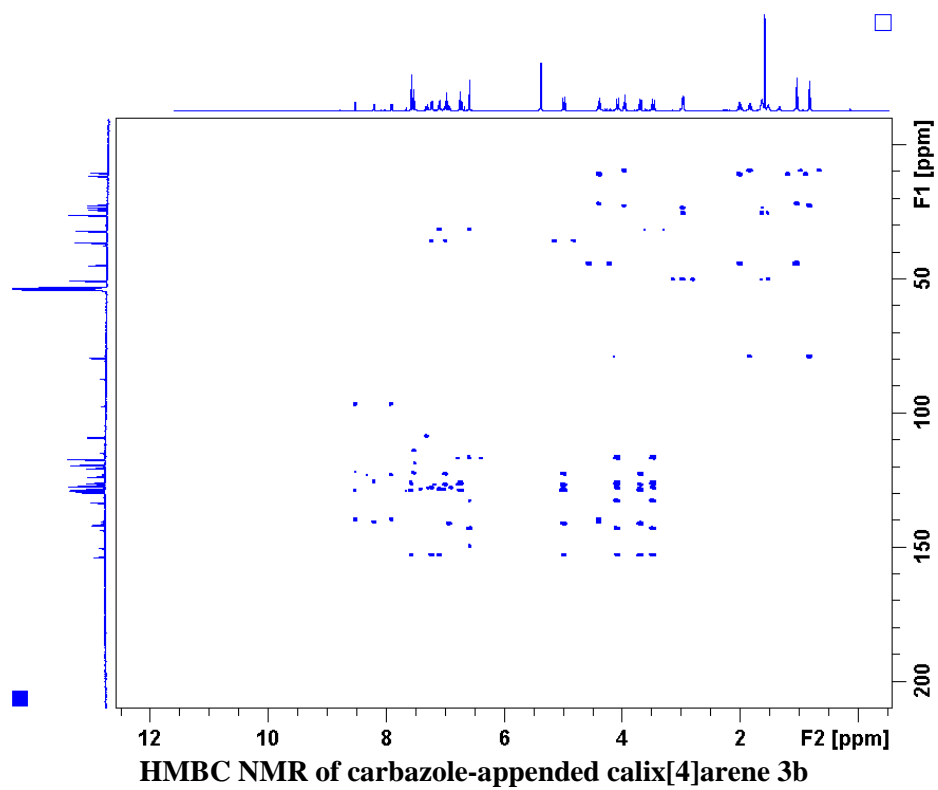
Varu Rawat



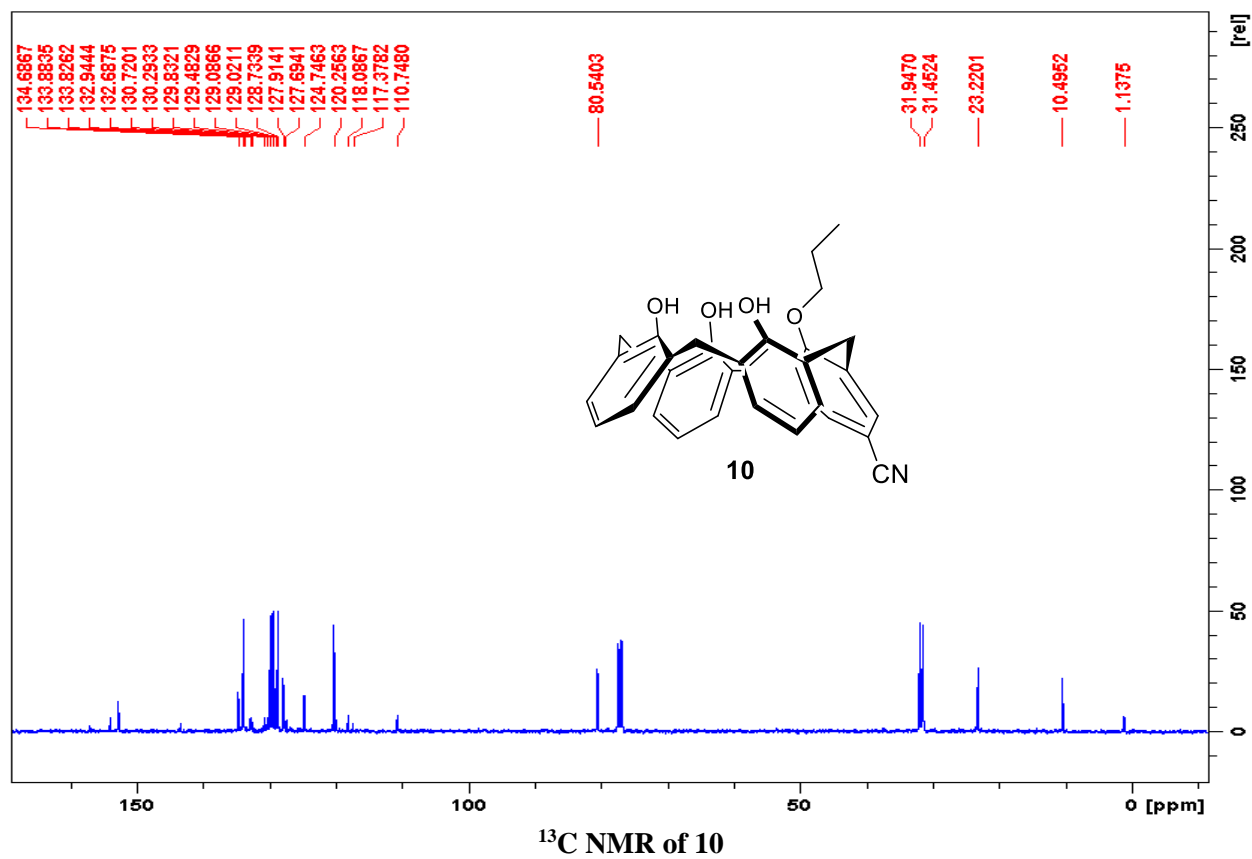
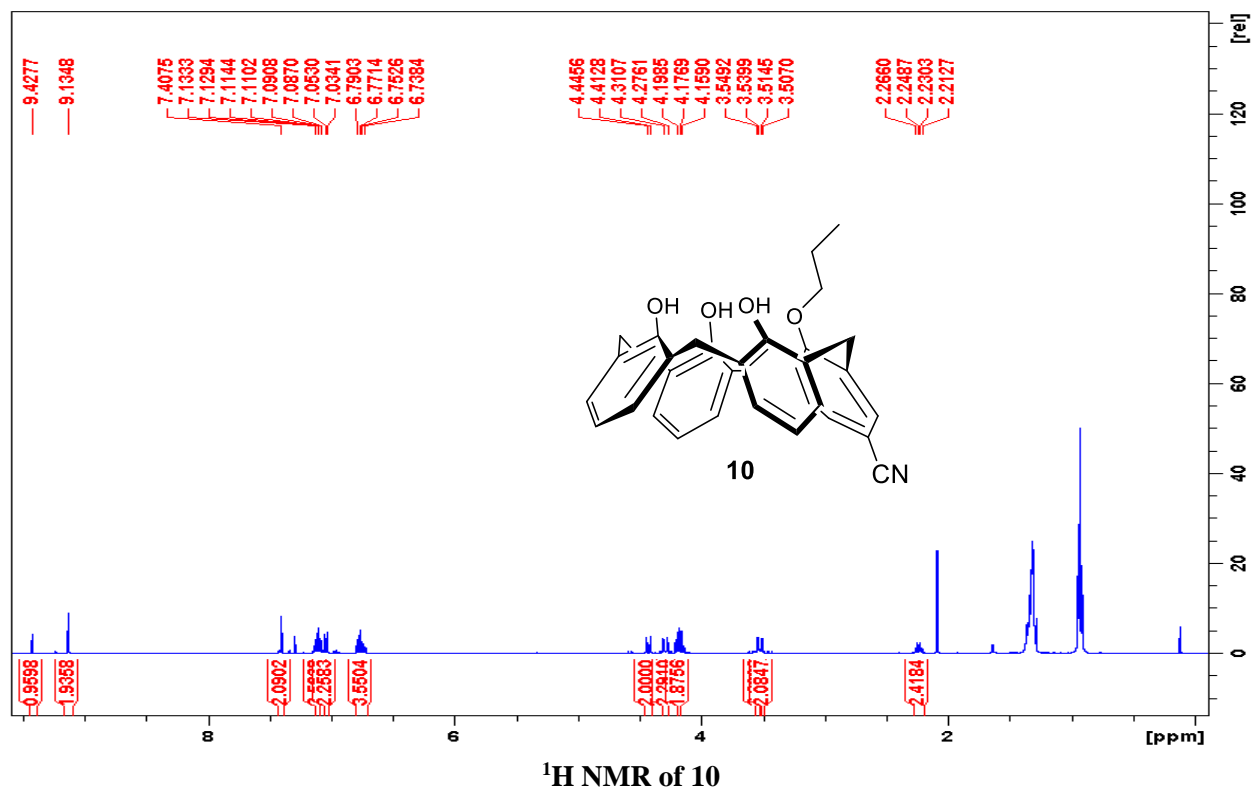
HRMS of carbazole-appended calix[4]arene 3b



COSY NMR of carbazole-appended calix[4]arene 3b





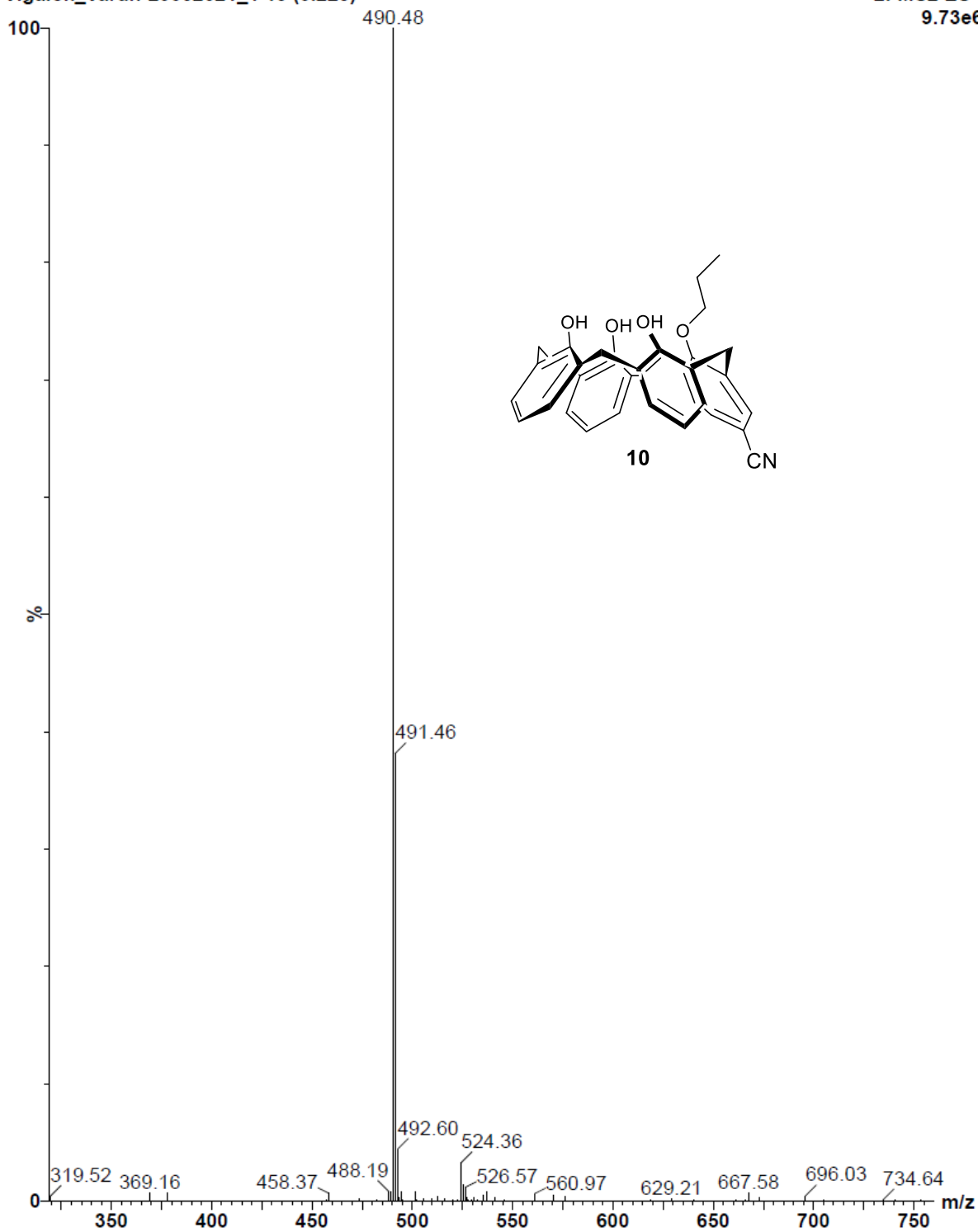


CN OPr Tri OH calix

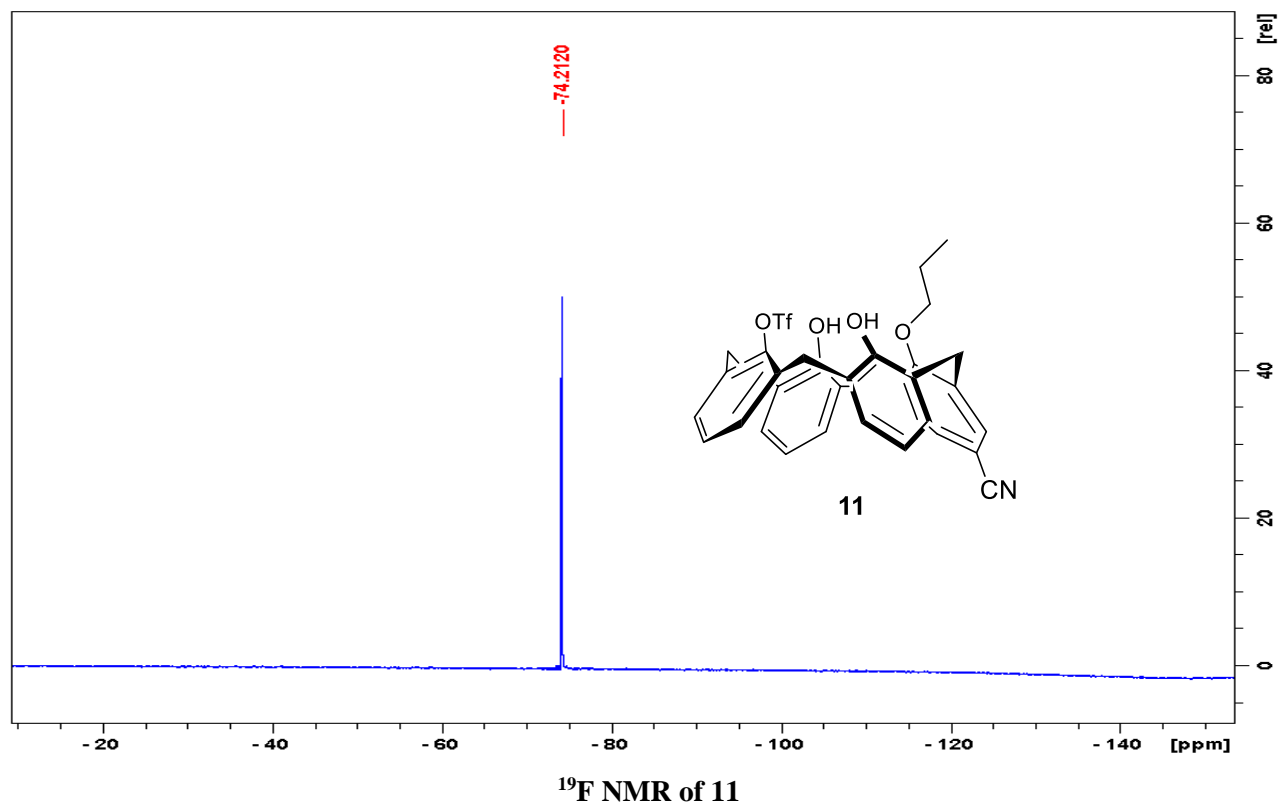
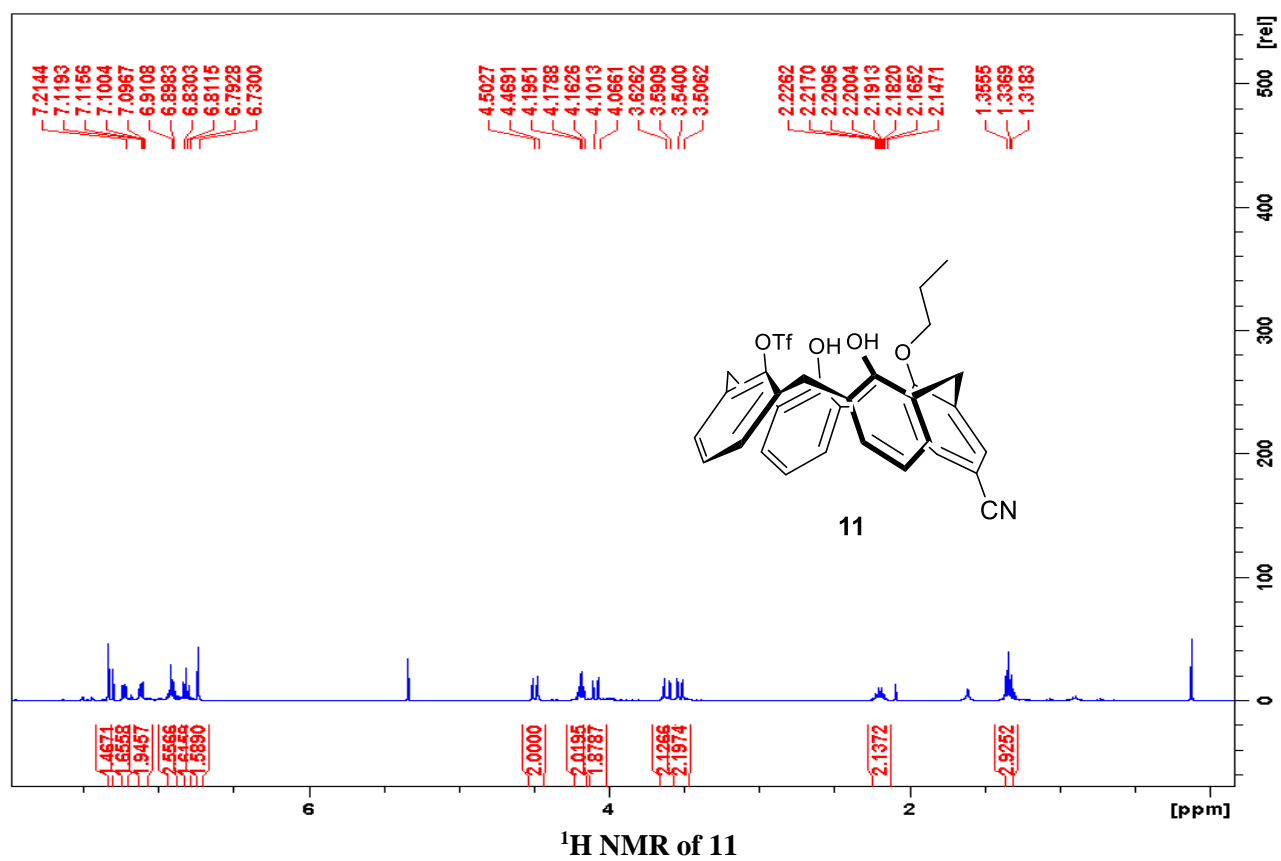
Varun

20-Jun-2021  
Coll energy 5  
2: MS2 ES-  
9.73e6

Vigalok\_Varun-20062021\_1 13 (0.225)



ESI MS of 10

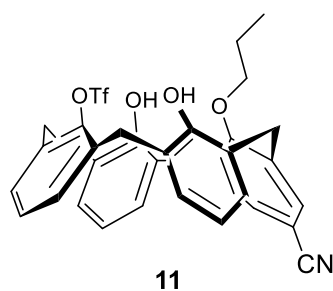
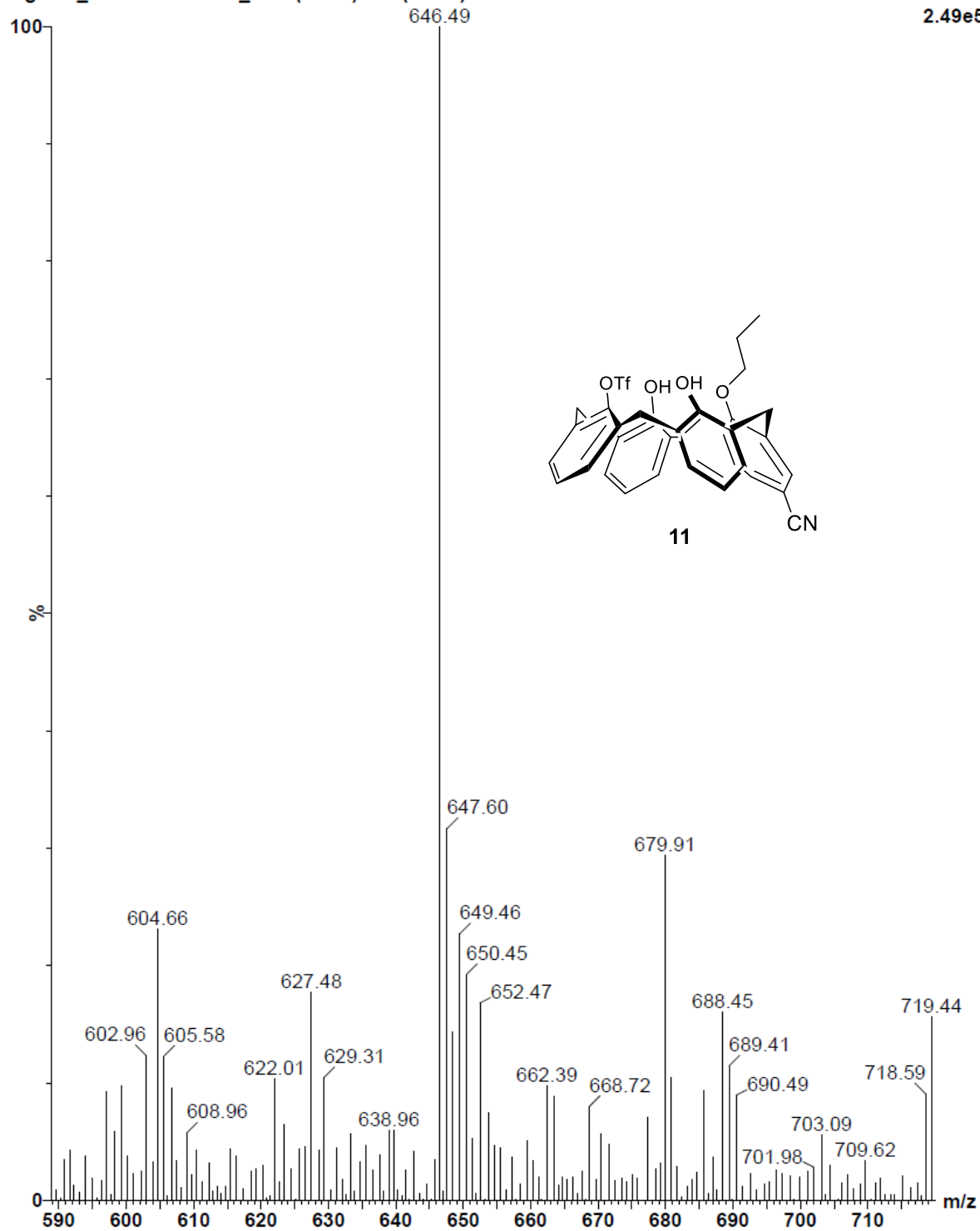


cn otF cALIX

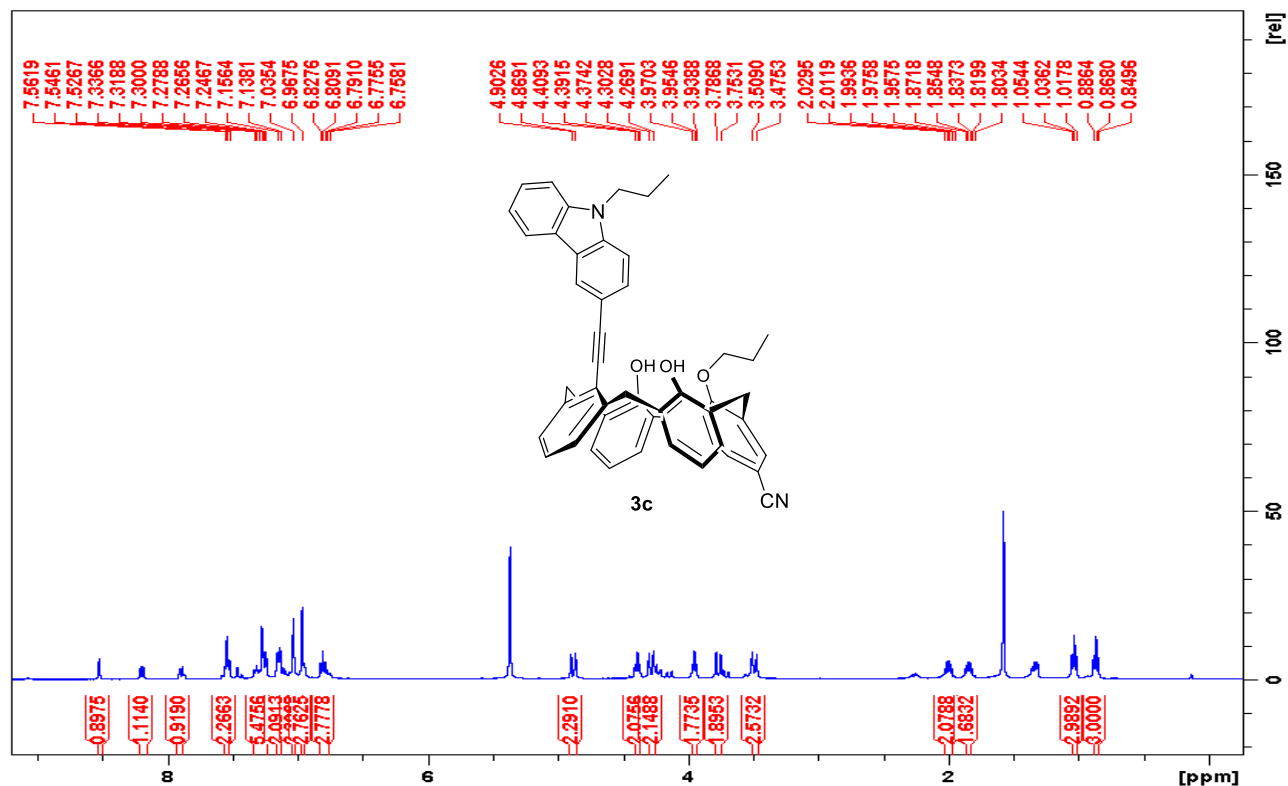
varun

02-Jun-2021  
Coll energy 2  
1: MS2 ES+  
2.49e5

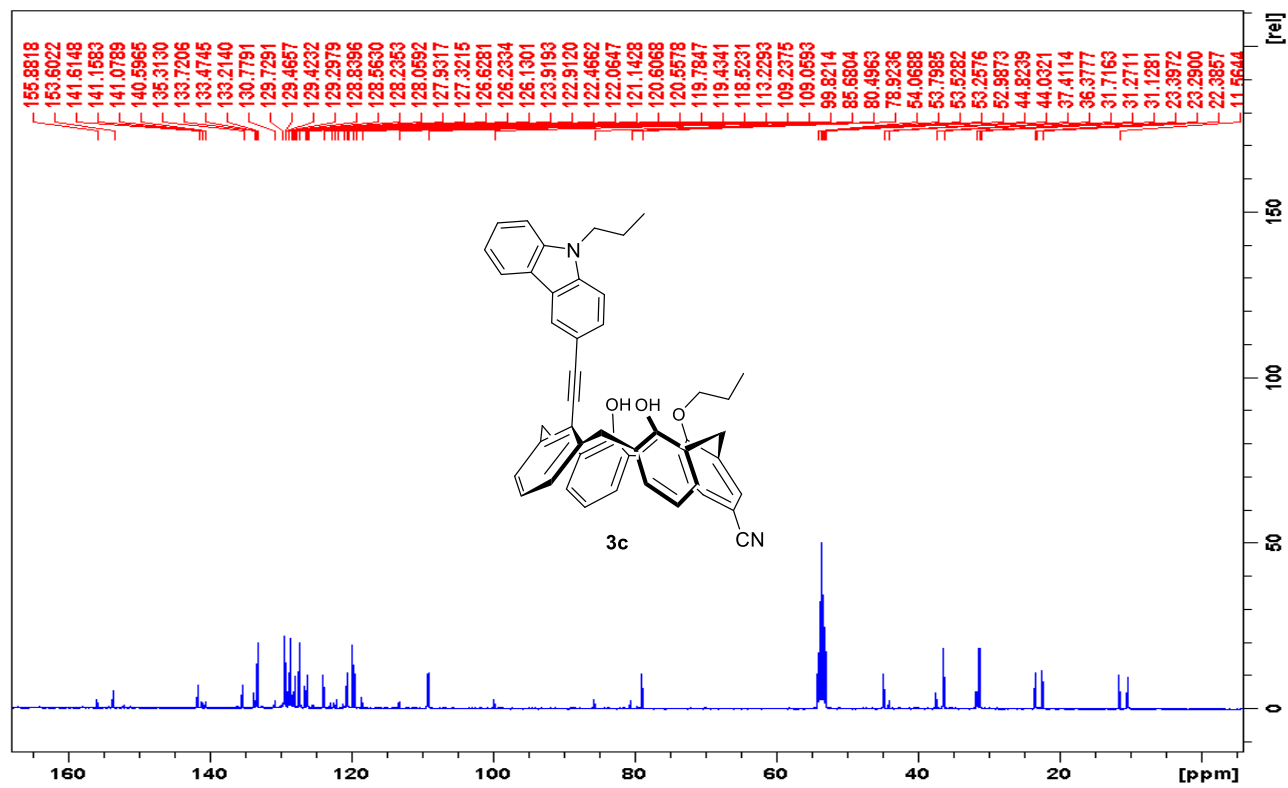
Vigalok\_Varun-02062021\_1 18 (0.303) Cm (18:49)



ESI MS of 11



**<sup>1</sup>H NMR of carbazole-appended calix[4]arene 3c**



**<sup>13</sup>C NMR of carbazole-appended calix[4]arene 3c**

### Single Mass Analysis

Tolerance = 10.0 PPM / DBE: min = 0.0, max = 50.0

Element prediction: Off

Number of isotope peaks used for i-FIT = 3

Monoisotopic Mass, Even Electron Ions

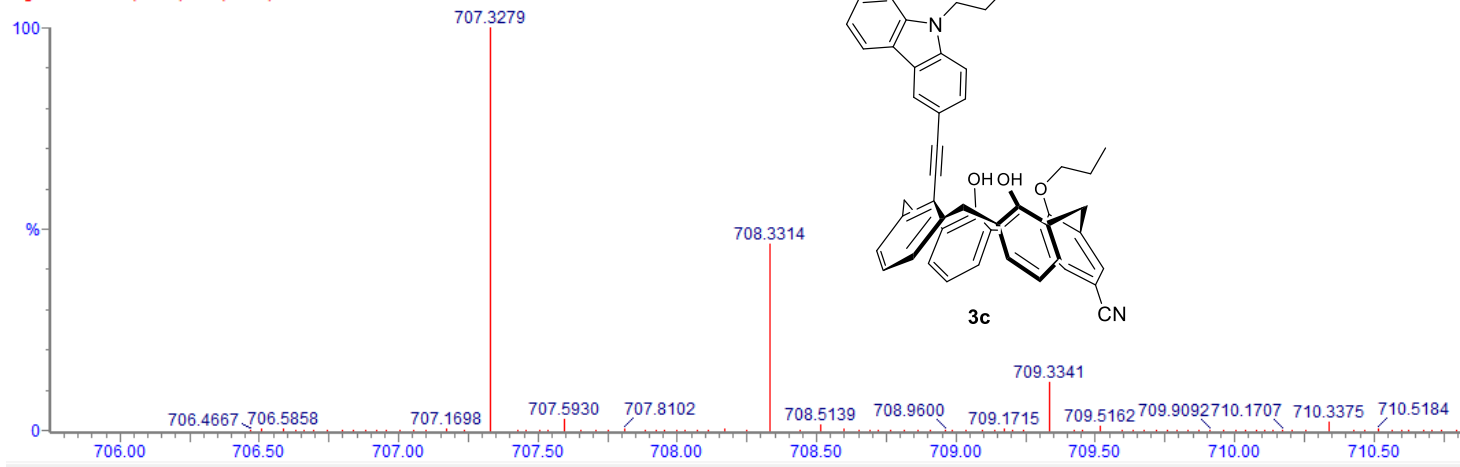
90 formula(e) evaluated with 3 results within limits (all results (up to 1000) for each mass)

Elements Used:

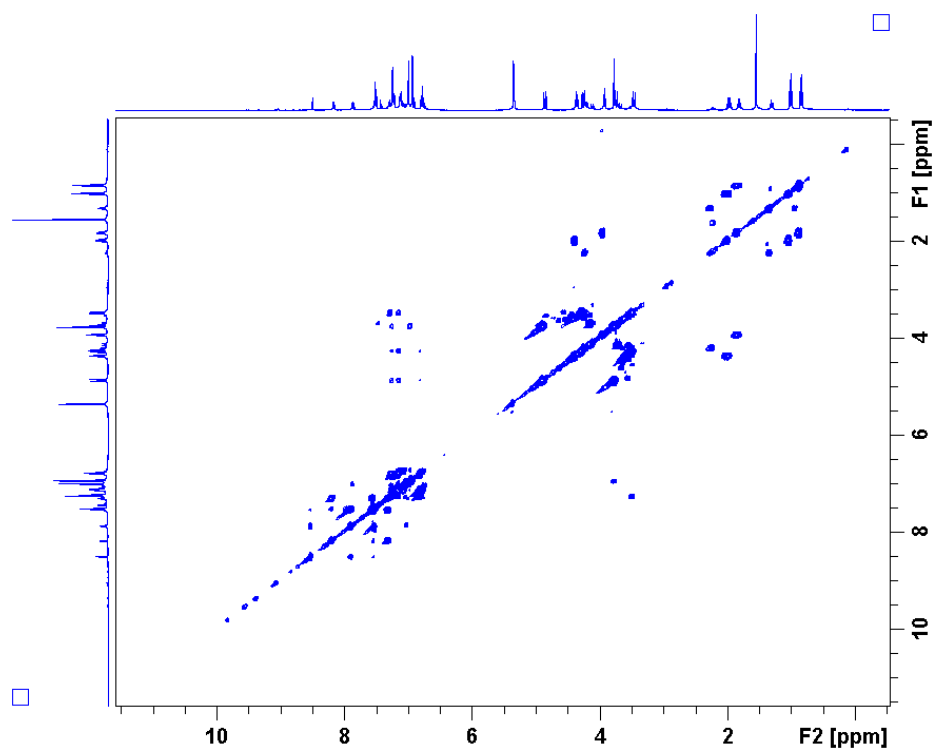
| Mass     | Calc. Mass | mDa  | PPM  | DBE  | Formula   | i-FIT | i-FIT Norm | Fit Conf % | C  | H  | N | O |
|----------|------------|------|------|------|---|-------|------------|------------|----|----|---|---|
| 707.3279 | 707.3274   | 0.5  | 0.7  | 29.5 | C <sub>49</sub> H <sub>43</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> | 954.2 | 1.900      | 14.96      | 49 | 43 | 2 | 3 |
|          | 707.3314   | -3.5 | -4.9 | 33.5 | C <sub>54</sub> H <sub>43</sub> O                             | 957.3 | 5.019      | 0.66       | 54 | 43 |   | 1 |
|          | 707.3233   | 4.6  | 6.5  | 25.5 | C <sub>44</sub> H <sub>43</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>5</sub> | 952.5 | 0.170      | 84.38      | 44 | 43 | 4 | 5 |

VSR-A-IV

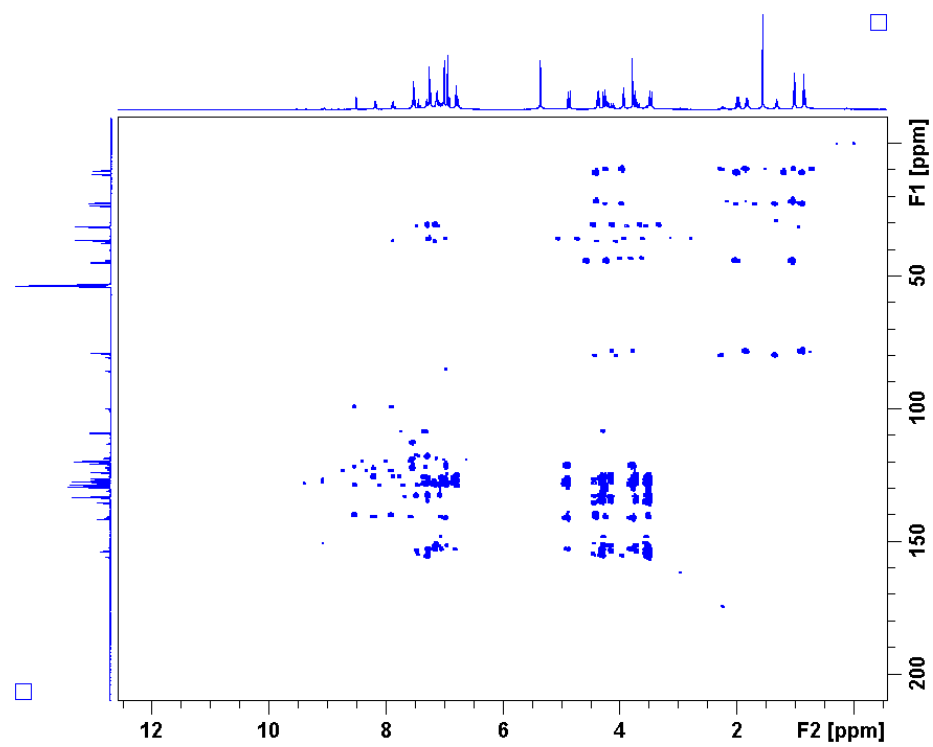
Vigalok4045 12 (0.238) Cm (12:16)



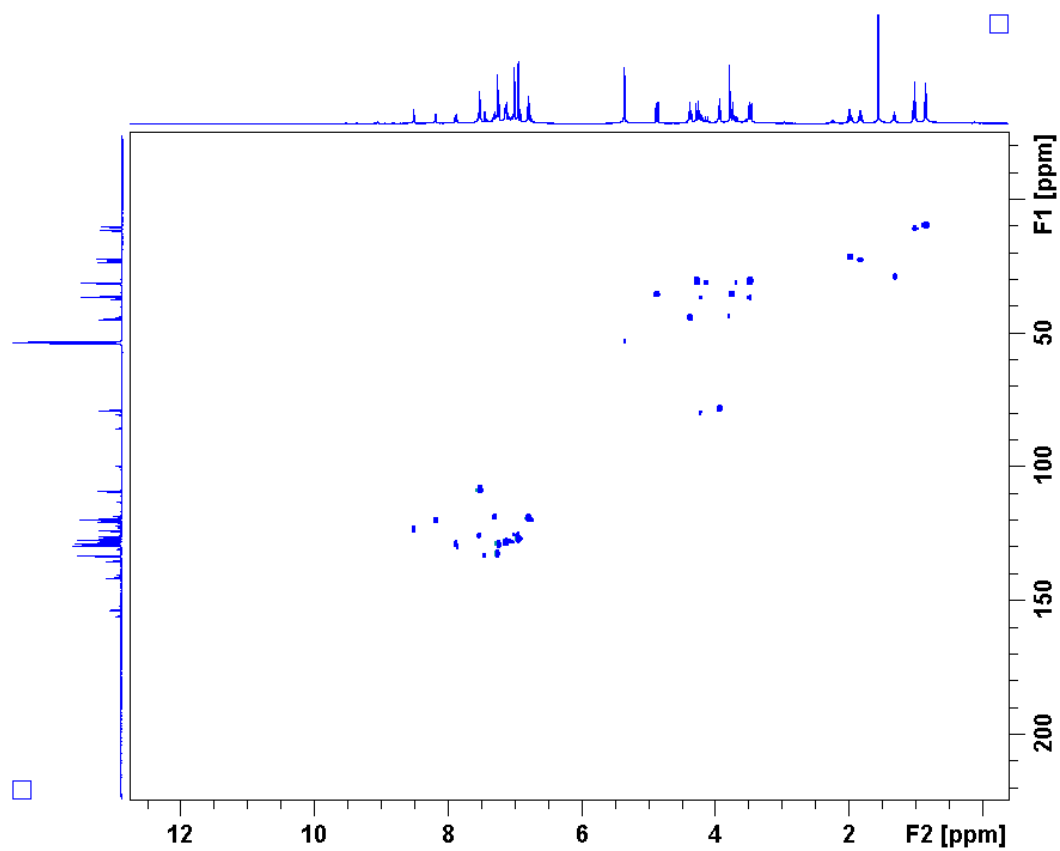
**HRMS of carbazole-appended calix[4]arene 3c**



**COSY NMR of carbazole-appended calix[4]arene 3c**

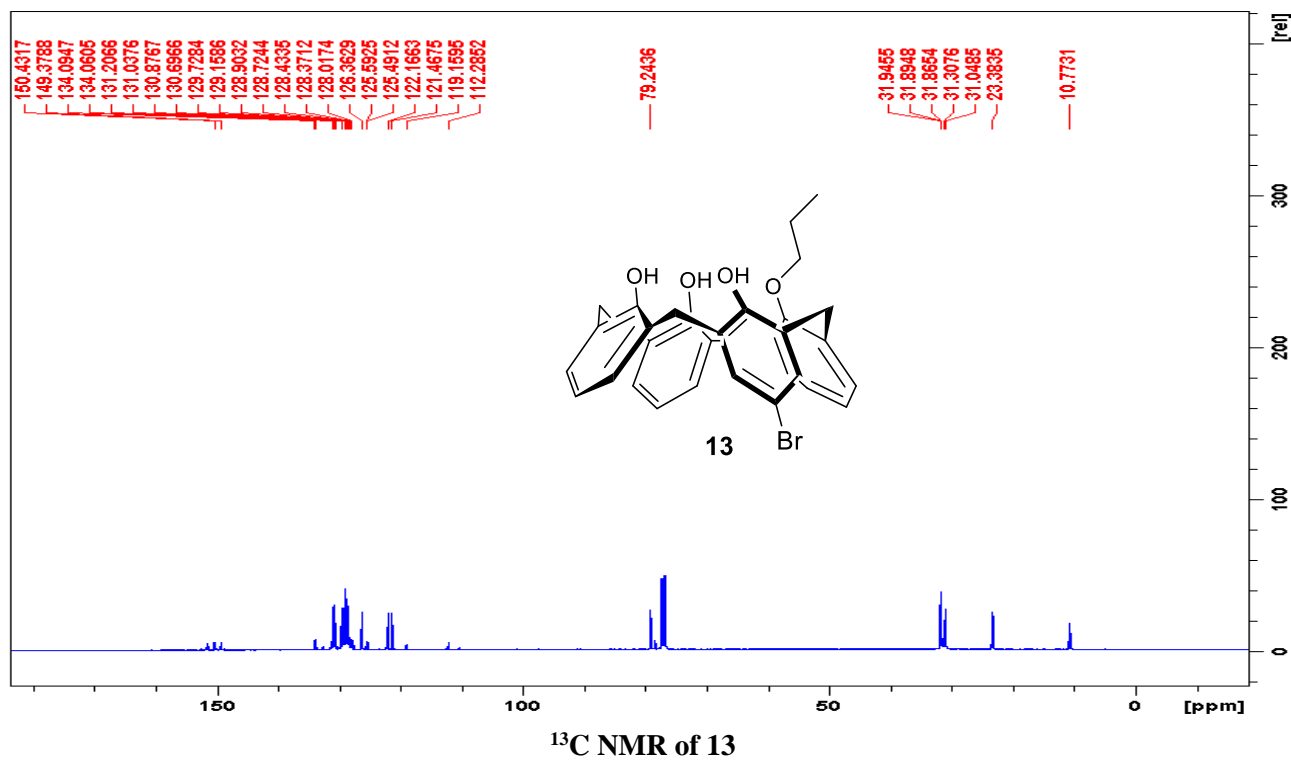
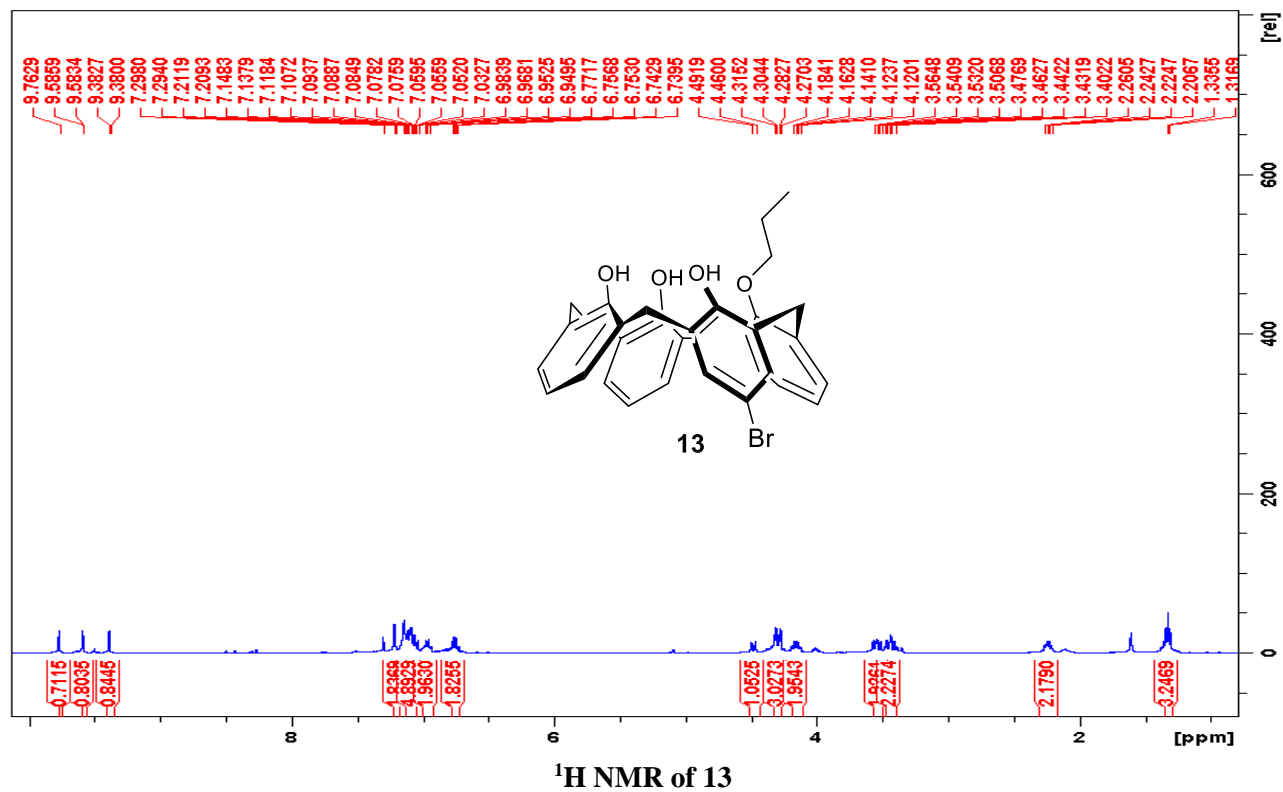


**HMBC NMR of carbazole-appended calix[4]arene 3c**



**HSQC NMR of carbazole-appended calix[4]arene 3c**



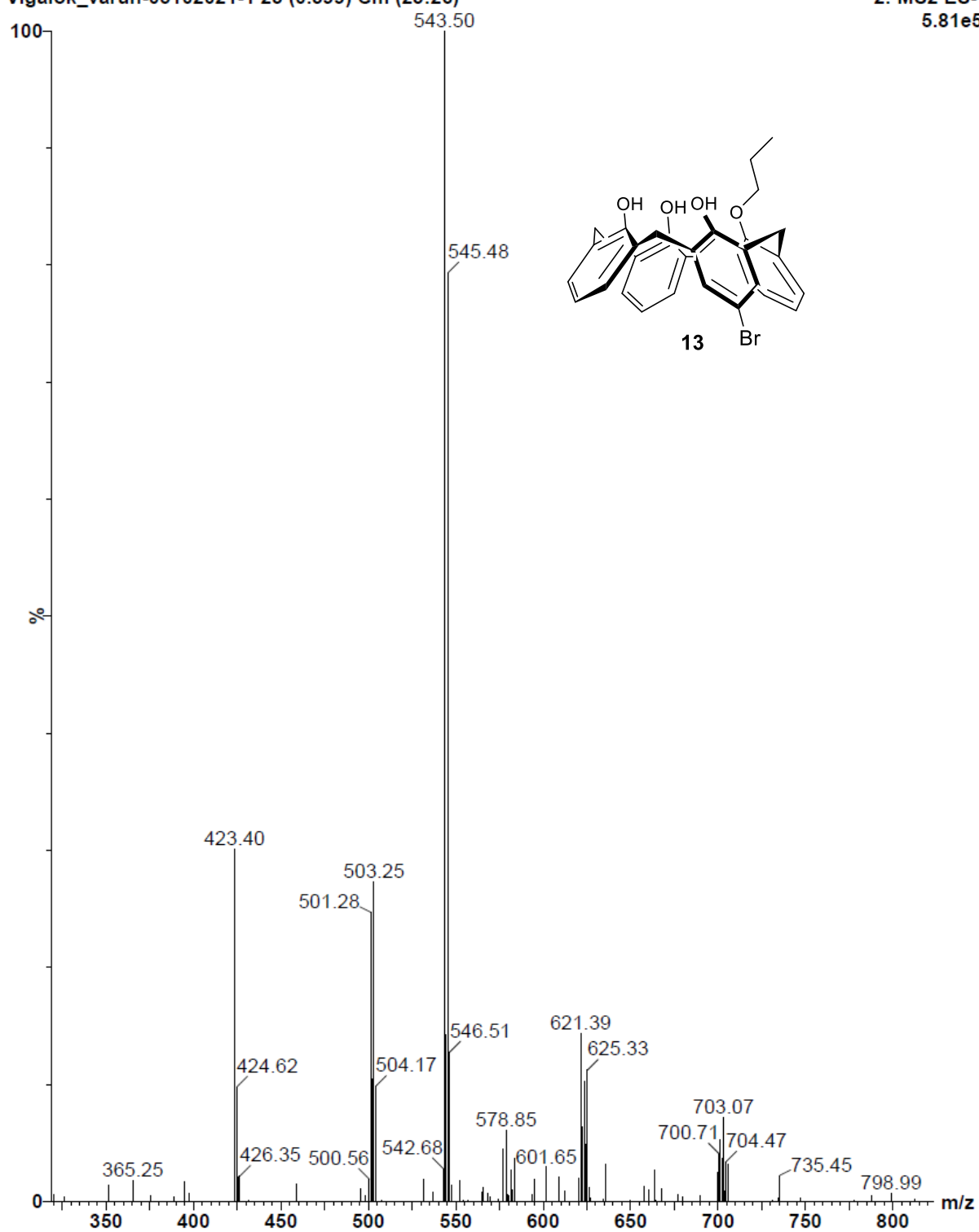


Tri OH MOno Pr Mono Br-Proximal

varun

05-Oct-2021  
Coll energy 5  
2: MS2 ES-  
5.81e5

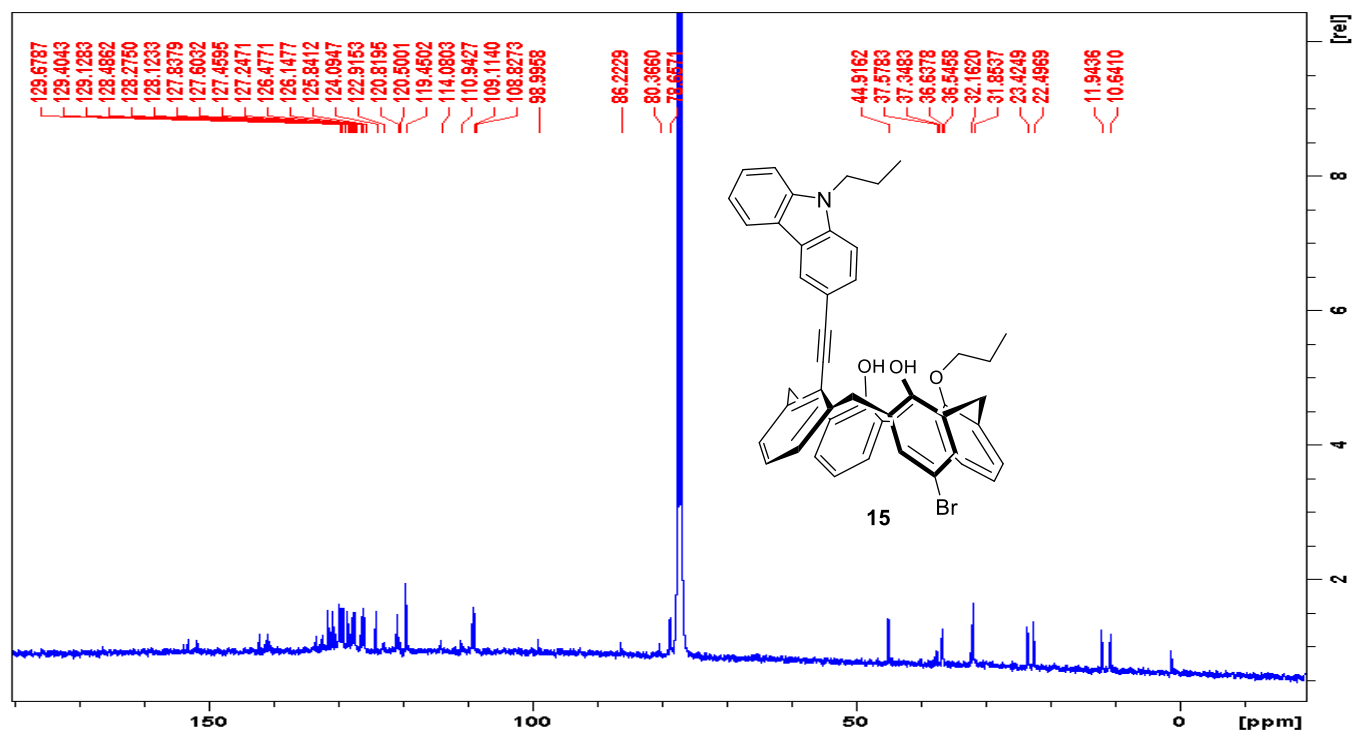
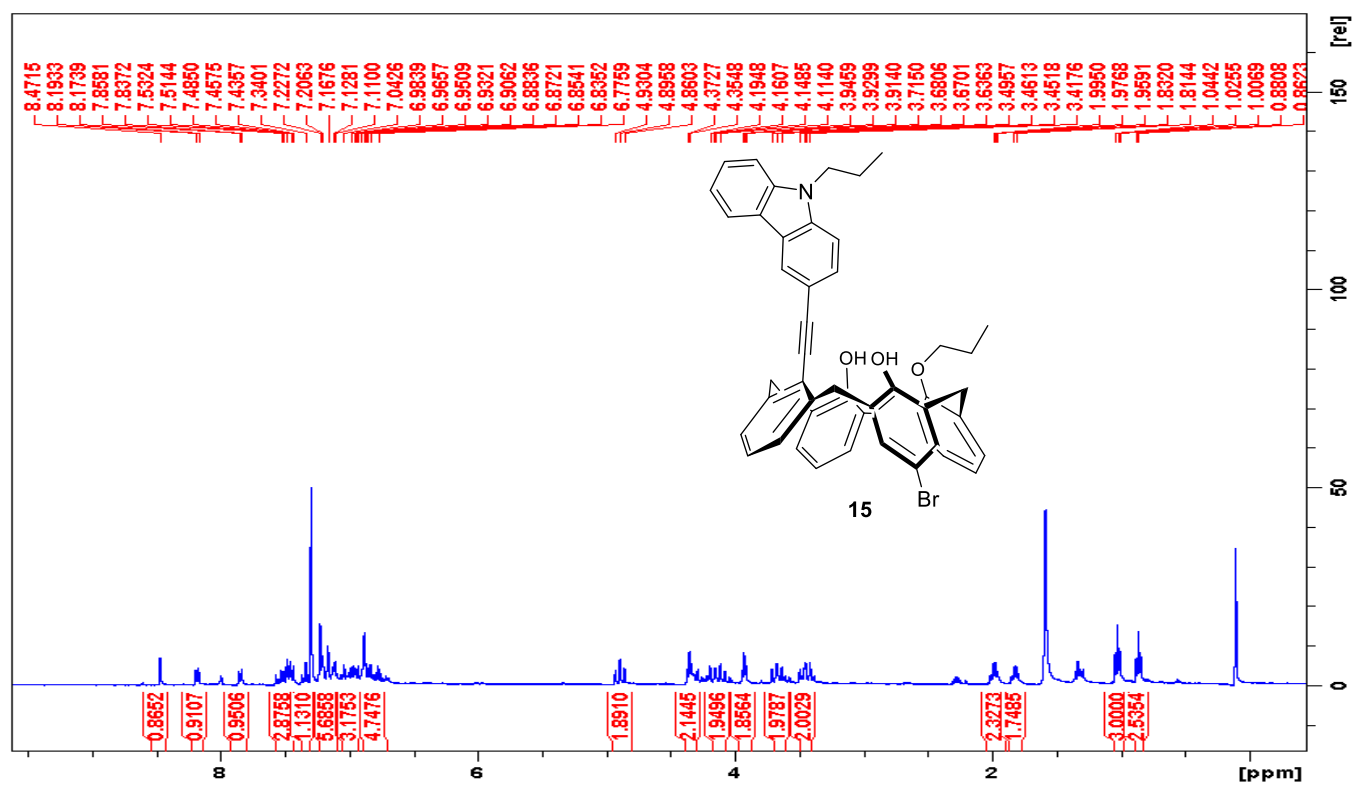
Vigalok\_varun-05102021-1 23 (0.399) Cm (23:26)



ESI MS of 13





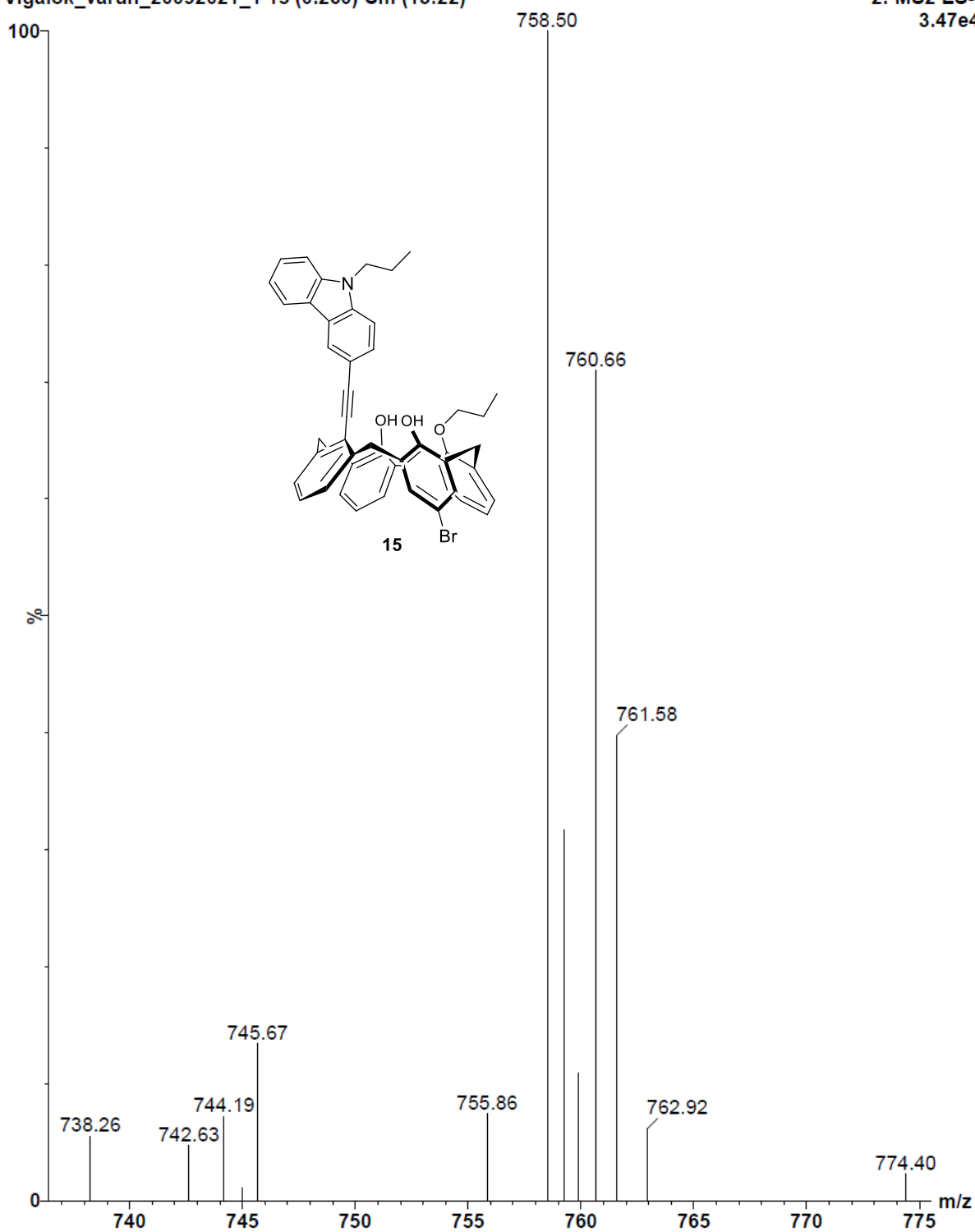


Mono Pr carbazole piperidine

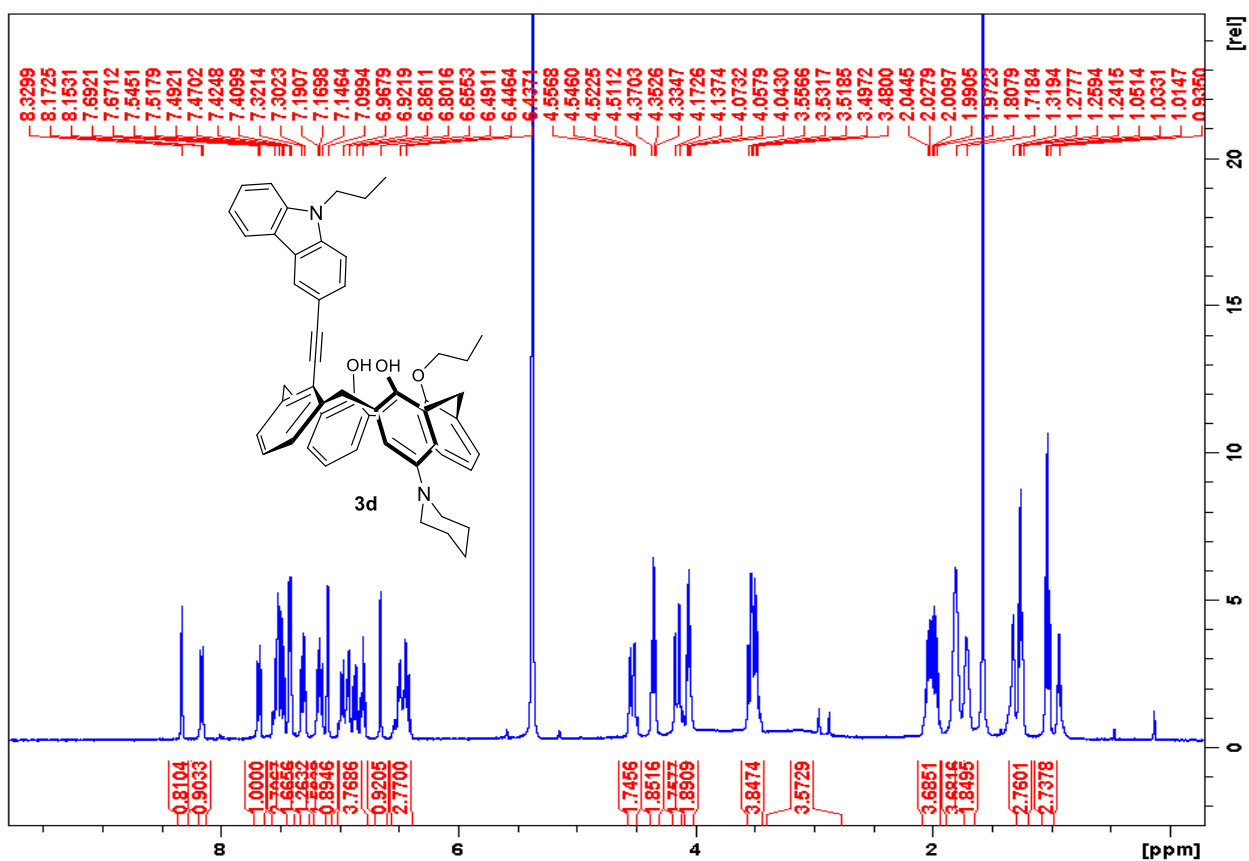
varun

20-Sep-2021  
Coll energy 5  
2: MS2 ES-  
3.47e4

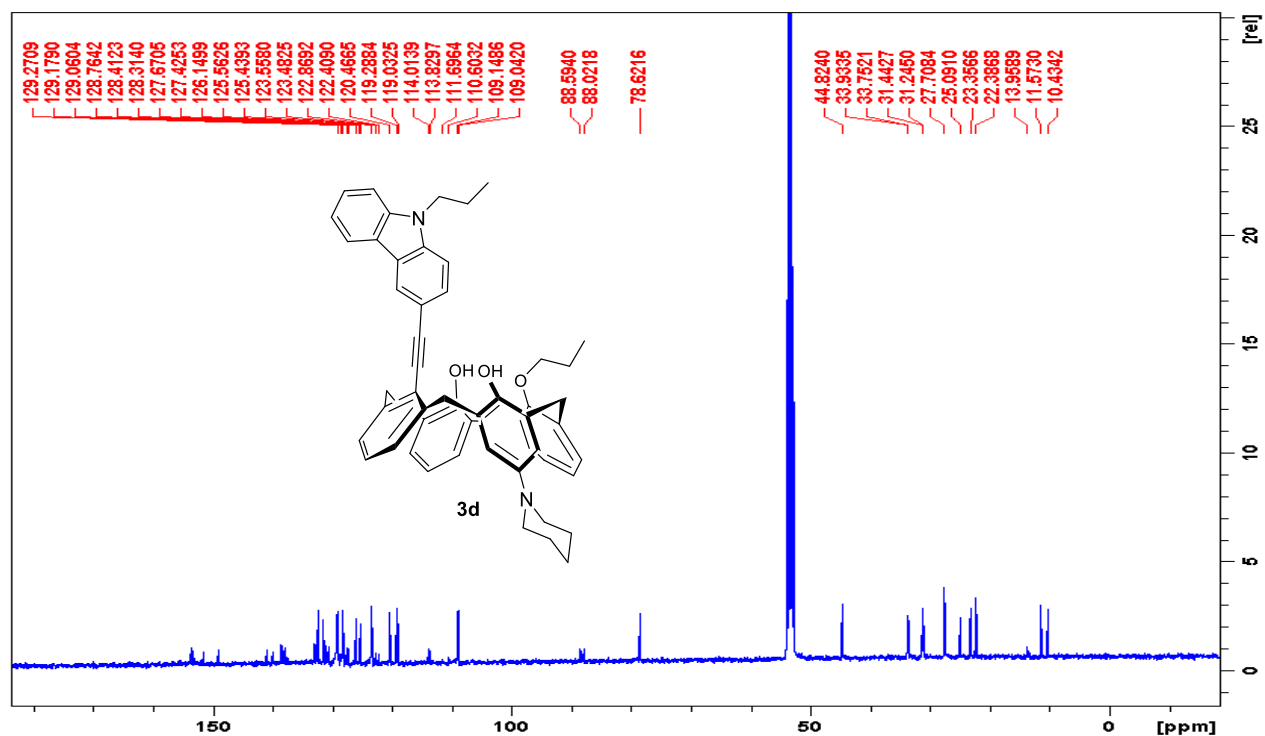
Vigalok\_varun\_20092021\_1 15 (0.260) Cm (13:22)



ESI MS of 15



**<sup>1</sup>H NMR of carbazole-appended calix[4]arene 3d**



**<sup>13</sup>C NMR of carbazole-appended calix[4]arene 3d**

### Single Mass Analysis

Tolerance = 10.0 PPM / DBE: min = 0.0, max = 50.0

Element prediction: Off

Number of isotope peaks used for i-FIT = 3

Monoisotopic Mass, Even Electron Ions

89 formula(e) evaluated with 3 results within limits (all results (up to 1000) for each mass)

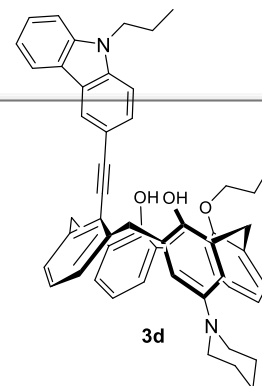
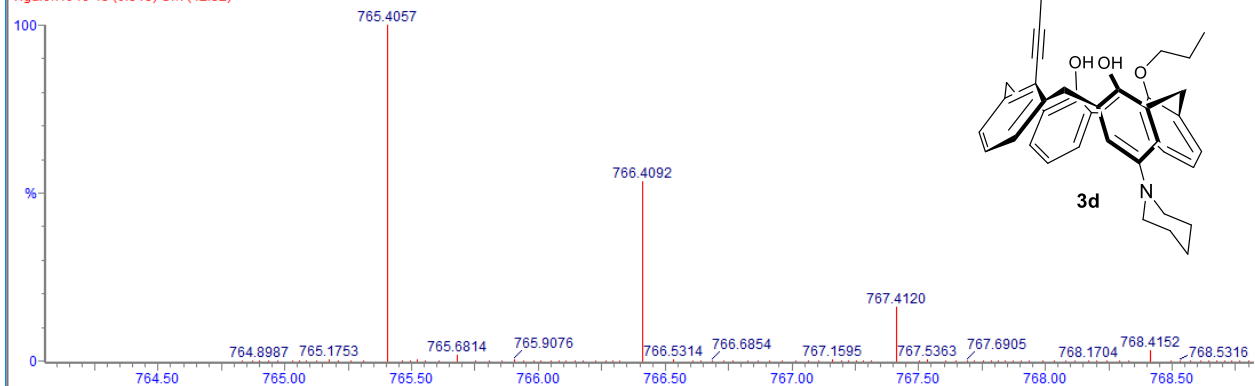
Elements Used:

| Mass     | Calc. Mass | mDa  | PPM  | DBE  | Formula       | i-FIT  | i-FIT Norm | Fit Conf % | C  | H  | N | O |
|----------|------------|------|------|------|---------------|--------|------------|------------|----|----|---|---|
| 765.4057 | 765.4056   | 0.1  | 0.1  | 28.5 | C53 H53 N2 O3 | 1091.0 | 4.196      | 1.51       | 53 | 53 | 2 | 3 |
|          | 765.4096   | -3.9 | -5.1 | 32.5 | C58 H53 O     | 1095.0 | 8.271      | 0.03       | 58 | 53 |   | 1 |
|          | 765.4016   | 4.1  | 5.4  | 24.5 | C48 H53 N4 O5 | 1086.8 | 0.015      | 98.47      | 48 | 53 | 4 | 5 |

VSR-A-V

Vigalok4046 43 (0.818) Cm (42:52)

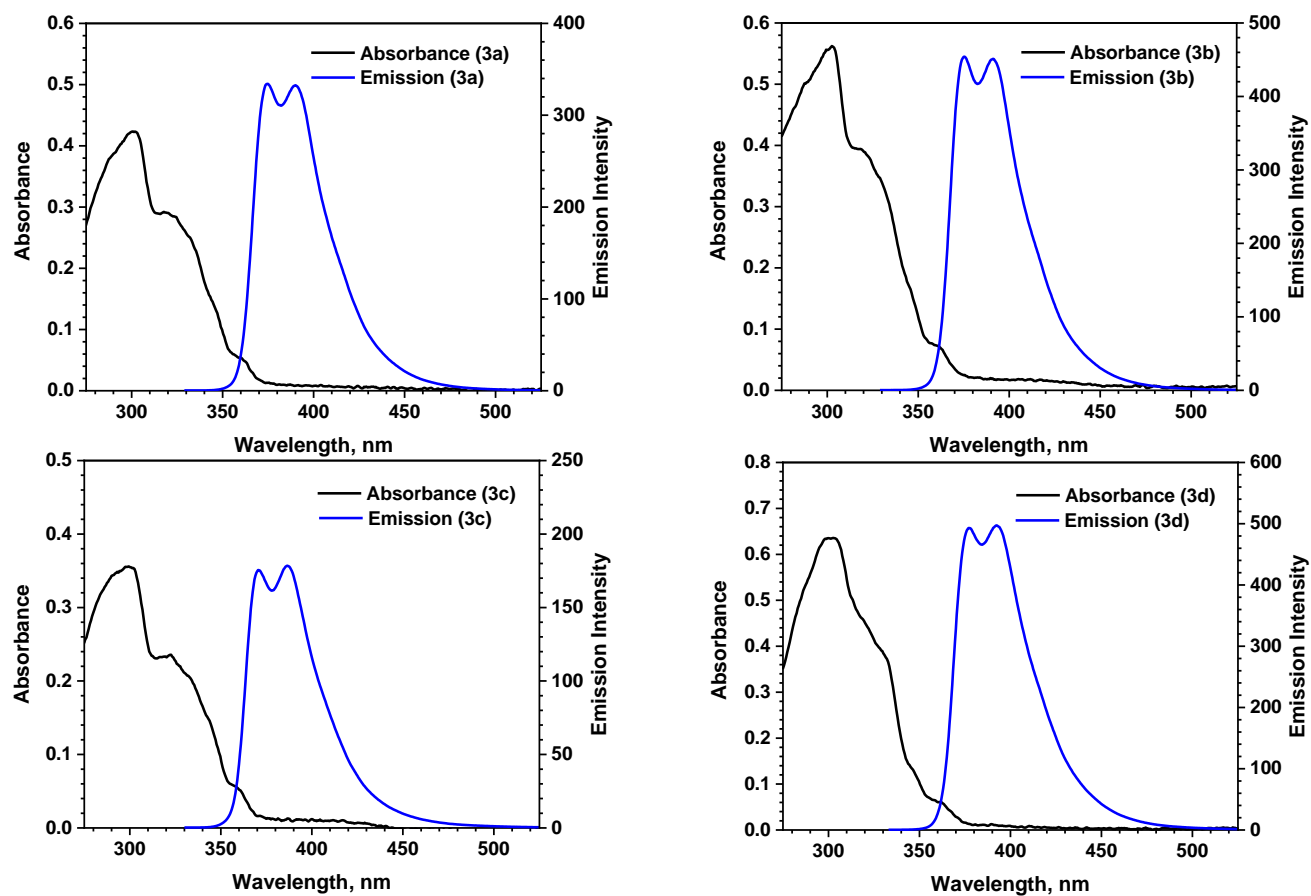
Varu Rawat



### HRMS of carbazole-appended calix[4]arene 3d

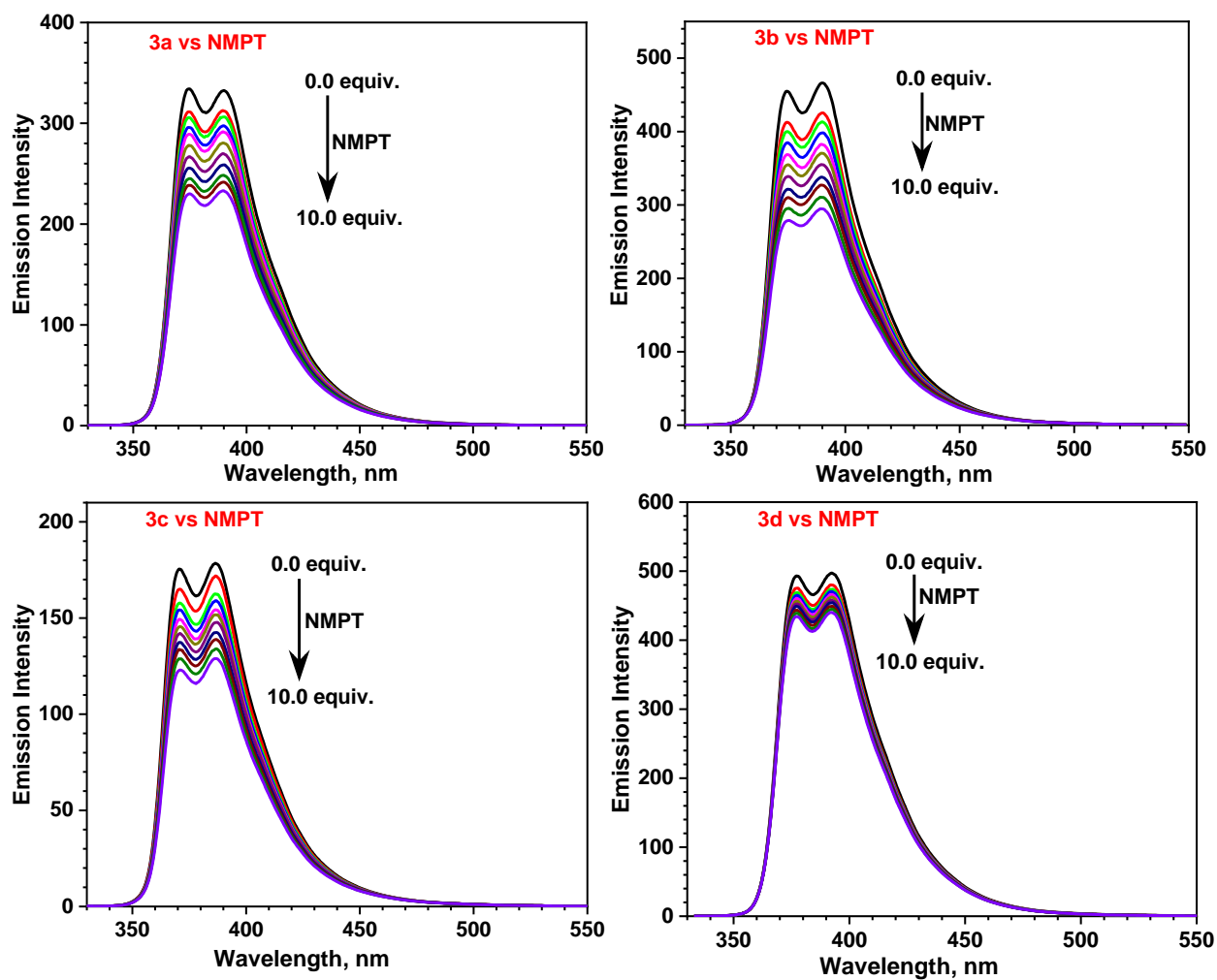


### 3. Absorption and Emission Spectra

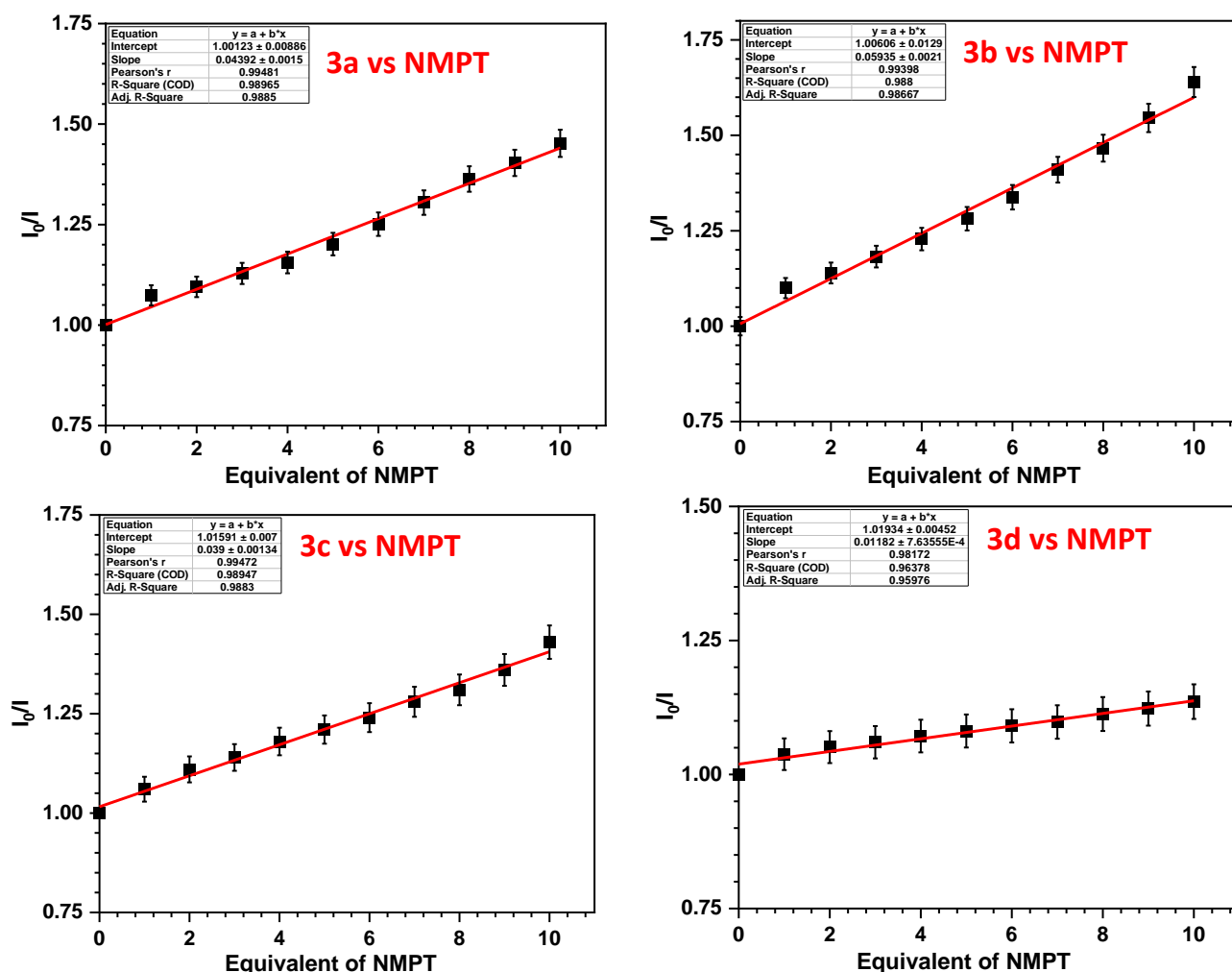


**Figure S1:** Absorption and Emission spectra of carbazole-appended calixarenes (**3a-d**) recorded in DCE (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ).

#### 4. Host-guest Complexation Studies



**Figure S2:** Fluorescent spectra of carbazole-appended calixarenes **3a-d** (DCE, 10 mM) with various concentrations of NMPT, **2** (0 to 10 equivalents).

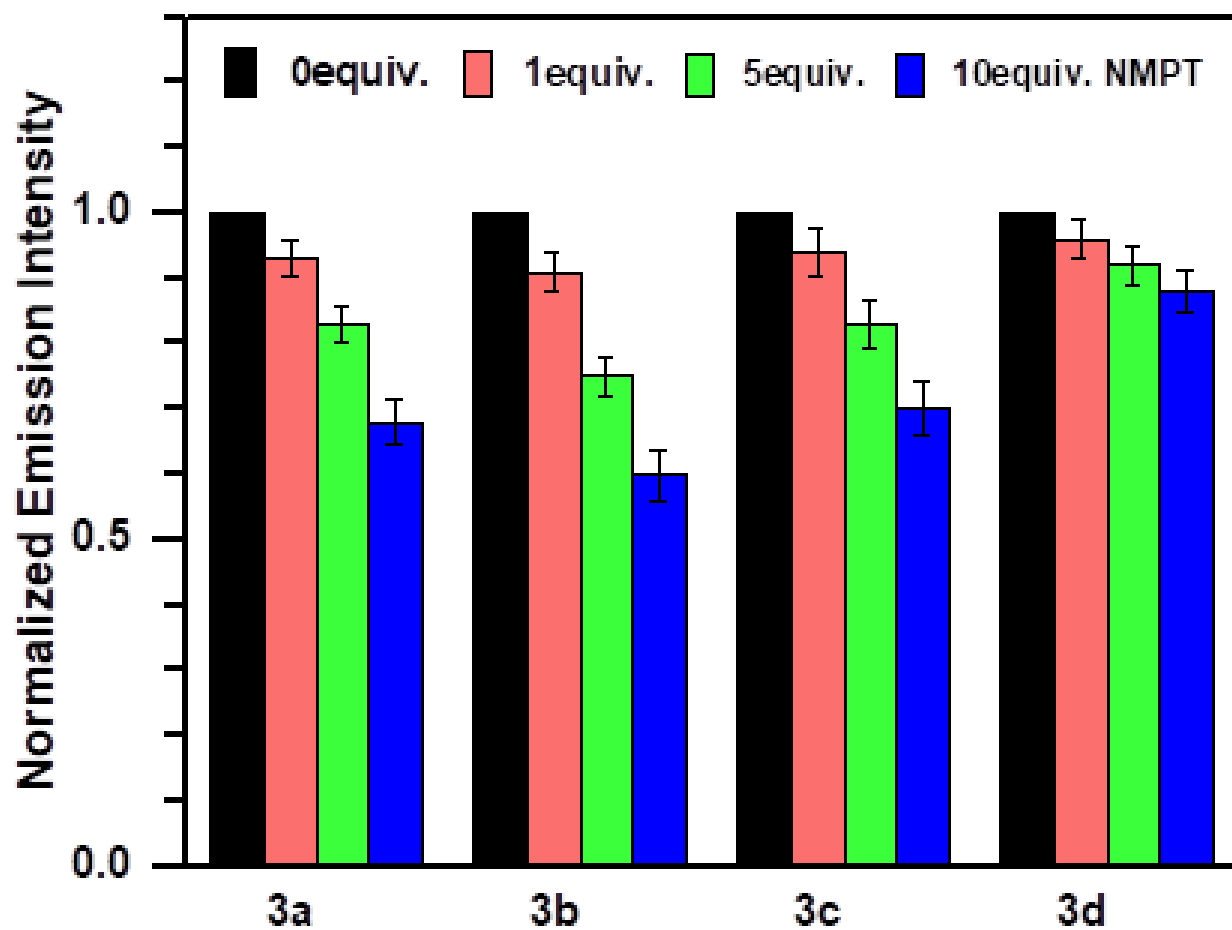


**Figure S3:** Stern-Volmer plot ( $I_0/I$ ) of **3a-d** vs increasing equivalents of NMPT

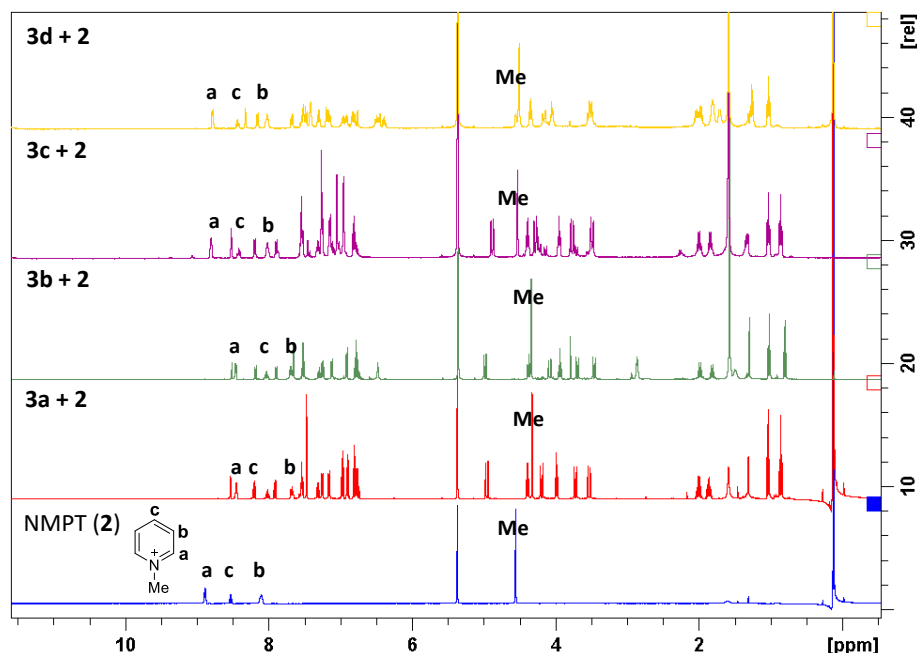
**Table S1:** Emission intensity dependence on the concentration of **2**  
**% Decrease in Emission Intensity**

| Calixarene | 1 equiv. <b>2</b> | 5 equiv. <b>2</b> | 10 equiv. <b>2</b> | $K_{\text{ass}}$              |
|------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>3a</b>  | 7%                | 17%               | 33%                | $4392 \pm 150 \text{ M}^{-1}$ |
| <b>3b</b>  | 9%                | 25%               | 39%                | $5935 \pm 210 \text{ M}^{-1}$ |
| <b>3c</b>  | 6%                | 17%               | 30%                | $3900 \pm 134 \text{ M}^{-1}$ |
| <b>3d</b>  | 4%                | 8%                | 12%                | $1182 \pm 76 \text{ M}^{-1}$  |

**Conditions:** Titration was done with 10  $\mu\text{M}$  solution of calixarenes (**3a-d**) in DCE with increasing concentration of NMPT (0 to 10 equivalents). Linear fitting eqn.  $I_0/I = 1 + K_{\text{ass}}Q$ .



**Figure S4:** Fluorescence quenching in carbazole-appended calixarenes **3a-d** (DCE, 10 mM) upon the addition of N-methylpyridinium triflate (NMPT, **2**).



**Figure S5:**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz) host-guest complexation studies in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (5 mM solution).

**Table S2:** Comparison of  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz) chemical shifts during host-guest complexation

| Resonance      | <b>2</b>       | <b>3a + 2</b>  | <b>3b + 2</b>  | <b>3c + 2</b>  | <b>3d + 2</b>  |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Signal         | $\delta$ , ppm | $\delta$ , ppm | $\delta$ , ppm | $\delta$ , ppm | $\delta$ , ppm |
| Me             | 4.56           | 4.33           | 4.36           | 4.53           | 4.51           |
| H <sub>a</sub> | 8.88           | 8.45           | 8.47           | 8.80           | 8.78           |
| H <sub>b</sub> | 8.11           | 7.68           | 7.71           | 8.02           | 8.02           |
| H <sub>c</sub> | 8.54           | 8.02           | 8.05           | 8.42           | 8.44           |

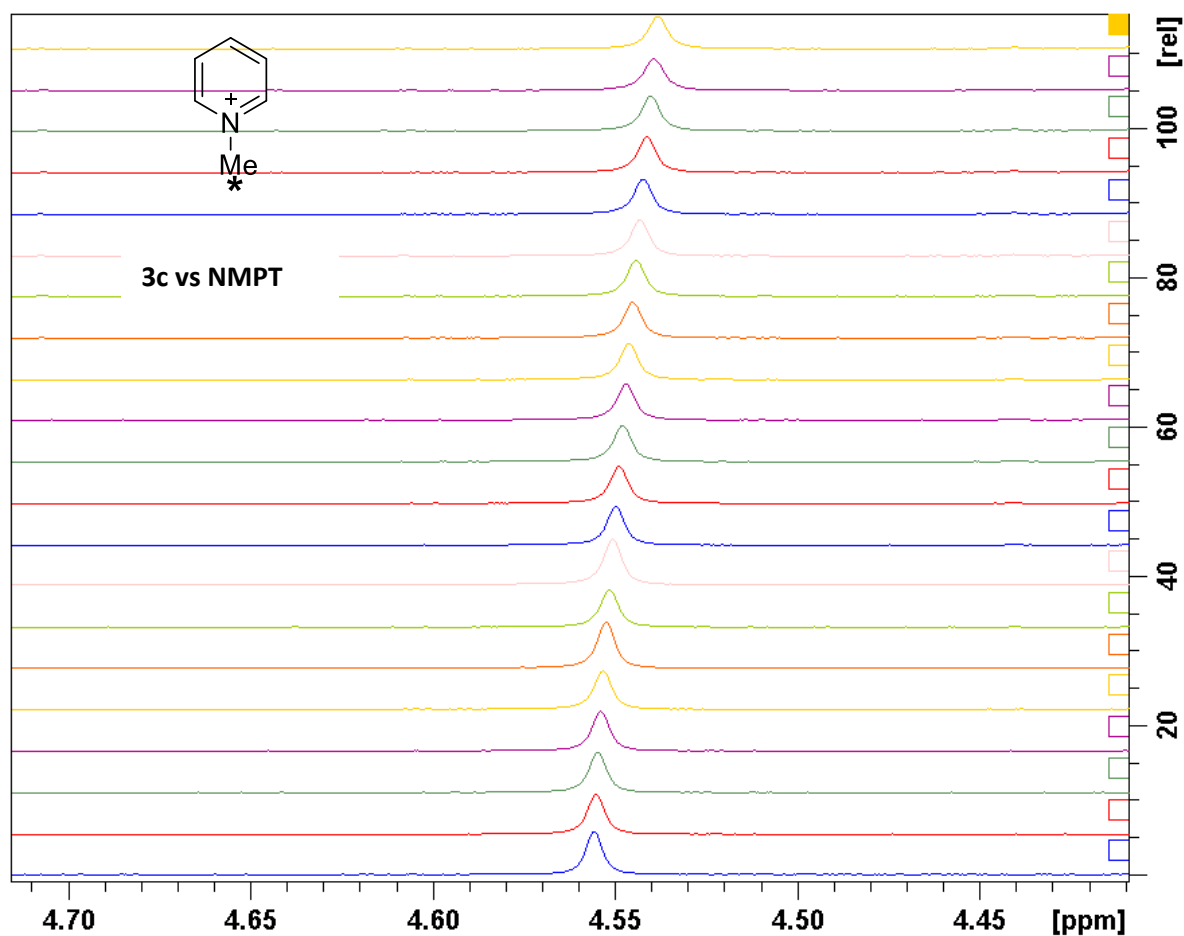
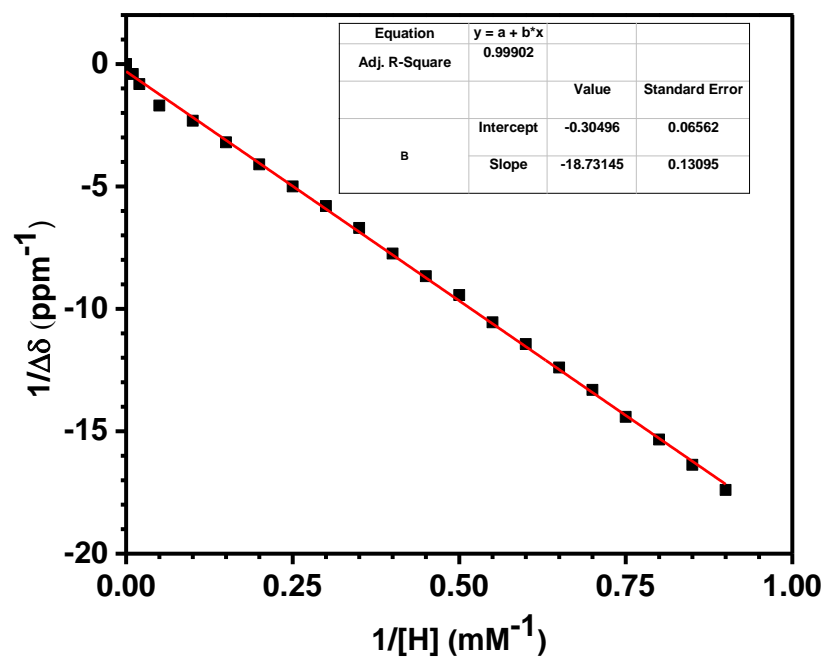
**Conditions:** Host-guest complexation studies were carried out in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (5 mM soln).

## 5. Binding constant from NMR titration

In a typical  $^1\text{H}$  NMR titration experiment, increasing amounts of a solution of the carbazole-appended calix[4]arene **3c** (usually  $c = 10^{-3}$  M) were added to a solution of the NMPT salt (usually  $c = 10^{-4}$  M). After each addition, the variation of chemical shift experienced by the proton signals of the N-methylpyridinium (NMP) cation was monitored and plotted *via* a NMR version of the Benesi–Hildebrand equation.<sup>1</sup>

$$1/\Delta\delta = 1/(K_{\text{ass}}\Delta\delta_{\text{max}}[\text{H}]_0) + 1/\Delta\delta_{\text{max}}$$

where  $\Delta\delta = (\delta_{\text{G}} - \delta_{\text{obs}})$ , and  $\Delta\delta_{\text{max}} = (\delta_{\text{G}} - \delta_{\text{HG}})$ ,  $[\text{H}]_0$  = known total concentration of host,  $K_{\text{ass}}$  = association constants,  $\delta_{\text{G}}$  = chemical shift of a nucleus in the guest molecule,  $\delta_{\text{HG}}$  = chemical shift of a nucleus in the host–guest complex,  $\delta_{\text{obs}}$  = an experimentally measured chemical shift



## 6. Calculation of Quantum Yield

Fluorescence quantum yields ( $\Phi$ ) were estimated by integrating the area under the fluorescence curves using the equation.

$$\Phi_S = \Phi_R A_S \eta_S / A_R \eta_R$$

Where A was the area under the fluorescence spectral curve and  $\eta$  was the refractive indices of the solvent. Coumarin ( $\Phi$  0.73 in EtOAc) was used as quantum yield standard for measuring the quantum yields.

## Reference:

1. Fielding, L. Determination of Association Constants ( $K_{\text{ass}}$ ) from Solution NMR Data. *Tetrahedron* **2000**, 56, 6151-6170.