

Supporting Information
for
Hydroquinone–pyrrole dyads with varied linkers

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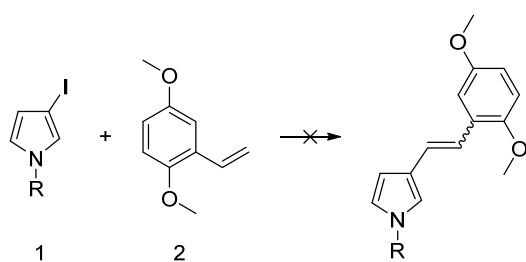
*Corresponding author

Optimization of experimental conditions, computed electron distributions, UV–vis, IR, and NMR spectral data

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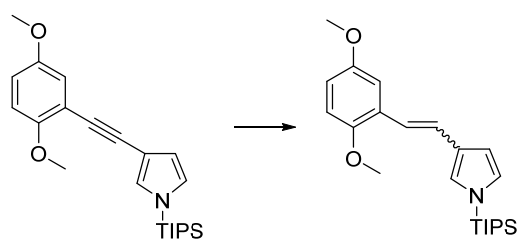


Trial	R	Solvent	Temperature	Catalyst	Base	additives	time
1	TIPS	DMF	150	Pd(OAc) ₂	K ₂ CO ₃	TBAB	overnight
2	TIPS	DMF	80	Pd(OAc) ₂	KOAc	TBAB	overnight
3	TIPS	DMF	150	PdCl ₂	KOAc	MeOH	overnight
4	TIPS	MeCN	80	Pd(OAc) ₂	Et ₃ N	PPh ₃	overnight
5	TIPS	Toluene	150	Pd(PPh ₃) ₄	Et ₃ N		20 mins
6	TIPS	Dioxane	150	Pd ₂ (dba) ₃	CsCO ₃	P(^t Bu) ₃	2 h
7	Tosyl	DMF	120	Pd(PPh ₃) ₂ Cl ₂	Et ₃ N		1 h
8	Boc	DMF	120	Pd(PPh ₃) ₂ Cl ₂	Et ₃ N		1 h

Procedure:

To a solution of **1** (50 mg, 0.14 mmol), **2** (1.2 eq.), base (2 eq.) and additives (for TBAB 1.5 eq. respectively, for PPh₃ and P(^tBu)₃, 0.1 eq respectively, MeOH was added as co-solvent) in the dry solvent in a heavy-wall Smith process vial, palladium catalyst (0.05 eq.) was added, the vial was sealed and then heat it up in oil bath at the indicated temperature (according to the description of reaction vial provider, this vial sealed can withstand pressures beyond 30 bar in a wide range of conditions). No product was formed in any of the trials.

Optimization attempts for hydrogenation of 4d.



Trial	Condition	Yield	E:Z ratio
1 ^a	Lindlar catalyst, quinoline, benzene, RT, H ₂ (1 atm), overnight	No reaction	n. a.
2 ^b	HSiEt ₃ , Pd(PPh ₃) ₂ Cl ₂ , dppf, Cu ₂ SO ₄ , Toluene/H ₂ O, 100 °C, H ₂ (1 atm), overnight	34 %	E:Z =3:1
3 ^c	Pd(OAc) ₂ , KOH, DMF, 145 °C, H ₂ (1 atm), 3 h	25 % ^d	Z only

^a To a benzene solution (2 ml) of Lindlar catalyst (33 mg, 5 % Pd/C loading) suspended in a 10 ml round-bottom flask, fresh distilled quinoline (2 ul) was added. The resulting solution was degassed by switching between vacuum and Ar gas for 5 times, and then connected with a hydrogen reservoir. Bubbling H₂ gas for 5 mins and then the starting material (60 mg, 0.16 mmol) in 2 ml benzene was added. The reaction mixture was stirred overnight.

^b Luo, F.; Pan, C.; Wang, W.; Ye, Z.; Cheng, J., *Tetrahedron* **2010**, 66 (6), 1399-1403.

^c J. Li, R. Hua, T. Liu, *J. Org. Chem.* **2010**, 75, 2966-2970.

^d Deprotection occurred during reaction, the yield was calculated referring to deprotected product.

Table S 1. Wavelength (λ , nm) and extinction coefficient (ϵ , $\text{cm}^{-1}\text{M}^{-1}$) in UV-vis spectra of compounds **3a** – **3d** and **1**, measured for MeCN solutions, and calculated wavelengths (λ , nm) with corresponding oscillator strength(f).

Compound	Experimental		Calculation	
	λ	ϵ	λ	f
3a	221	16830	229	0.07
	290	5060	272	0.114
3b	224	11080	229	0.07
	290	3580	272	0.11
<i>trans</i> - 3c	222	7030	230	0.11
	298	4510	295	0.2
	336	4450	337	0.82
<i>cis</i> - 3c	230	14860	240	0.09
	297	8150	288	0.11
	325	7220	314	0.29
3d	217	37560	228	0.14
	252	12940	248	0.08
	273	14540	263	0.1
	288	20640	287	0.19
	322	18260	328	0.66
1	214	27090	237	0.09
	265	9590	251	0.08
	270	8970	264	0.1
	308	7840	297	0.3

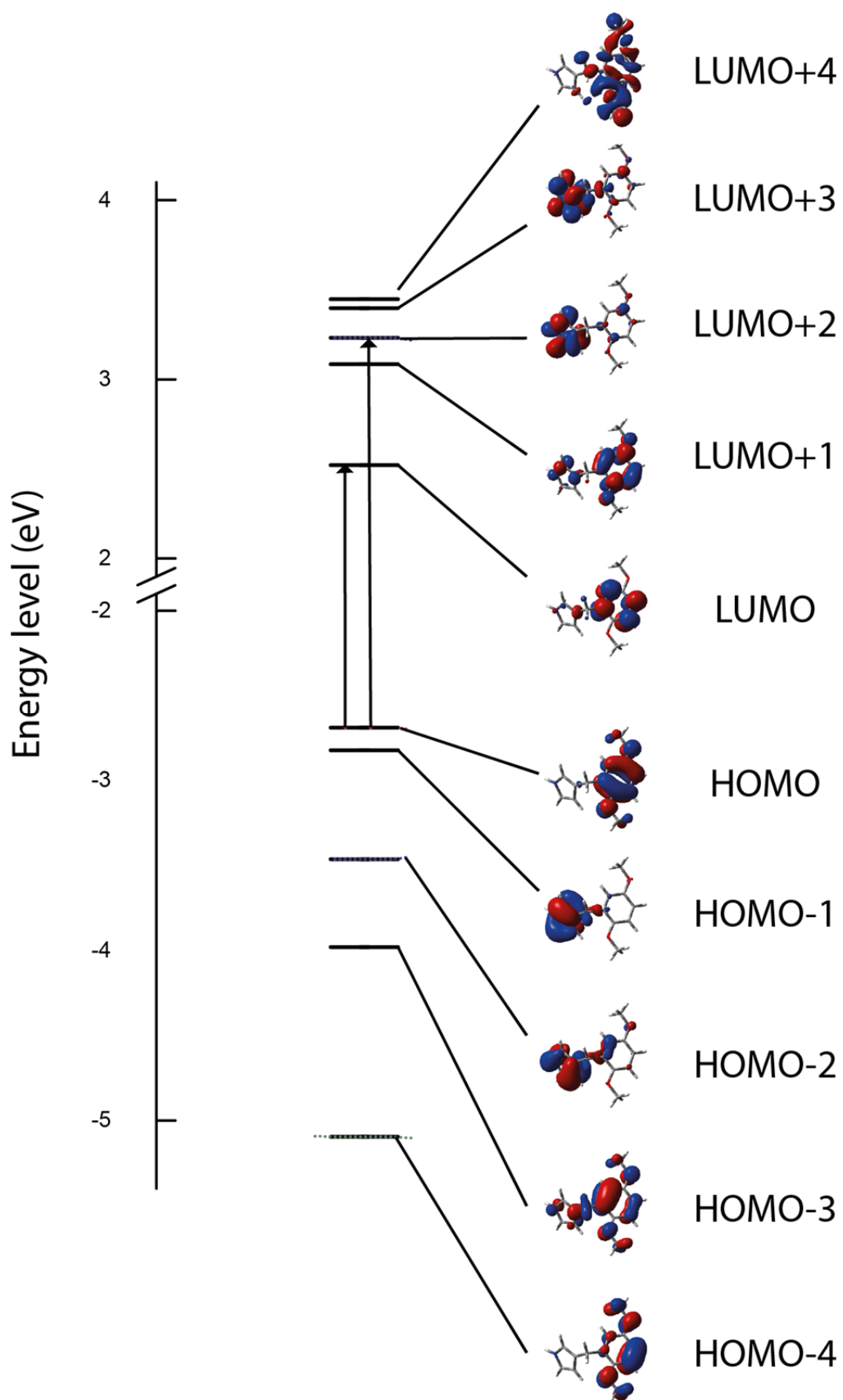


Figure S 1. Energy diagram of 3a with MOs, transitions indicated by calculations marked by arrows.

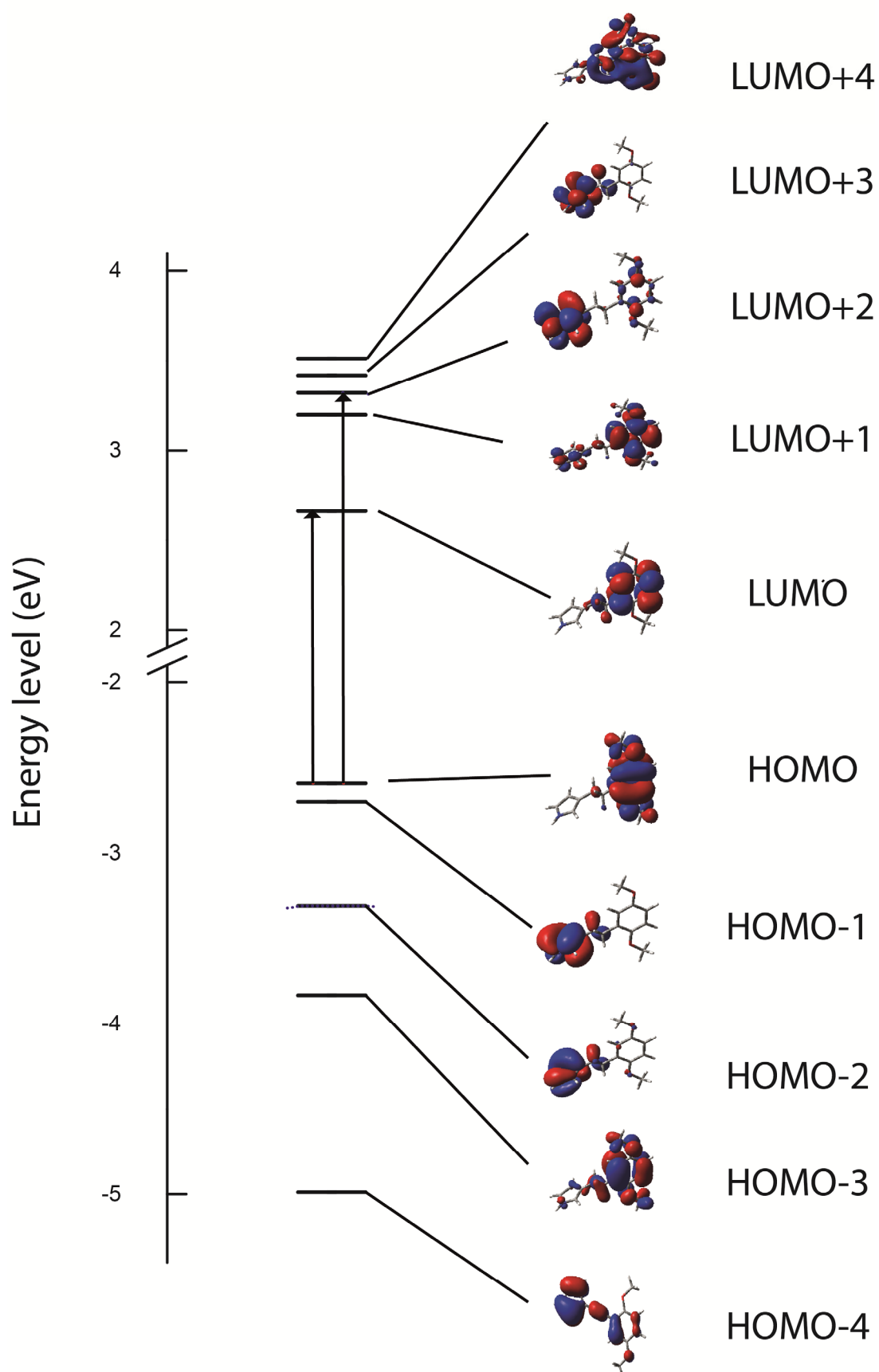


Figure S 2. Energy diagram of **3b** with MOs, transitions indicated by calculations marked by arrows.

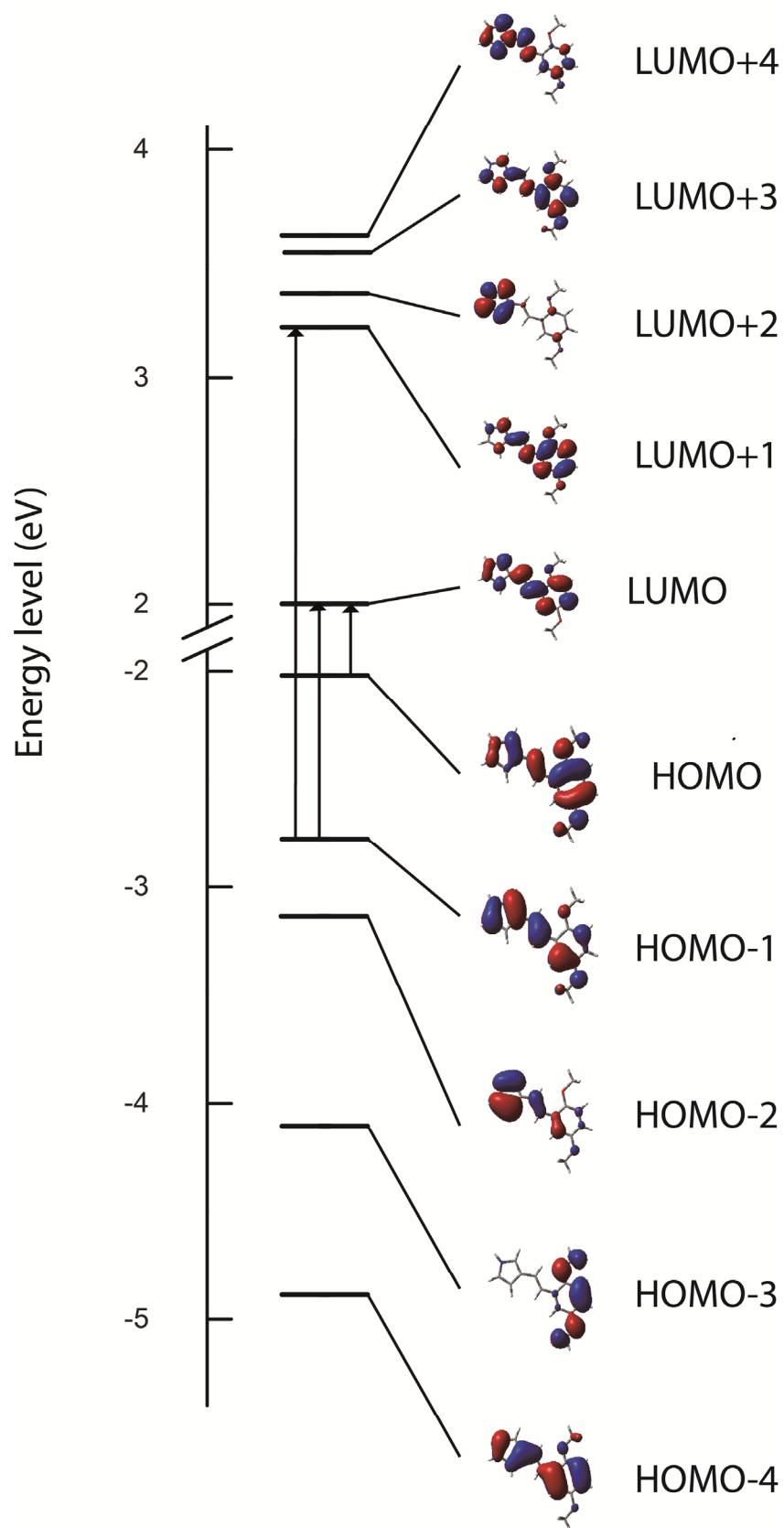


Figure S 3. Energy diagram of *trans*-3c with MOs, transitions indicated by calculations marked by arrows.

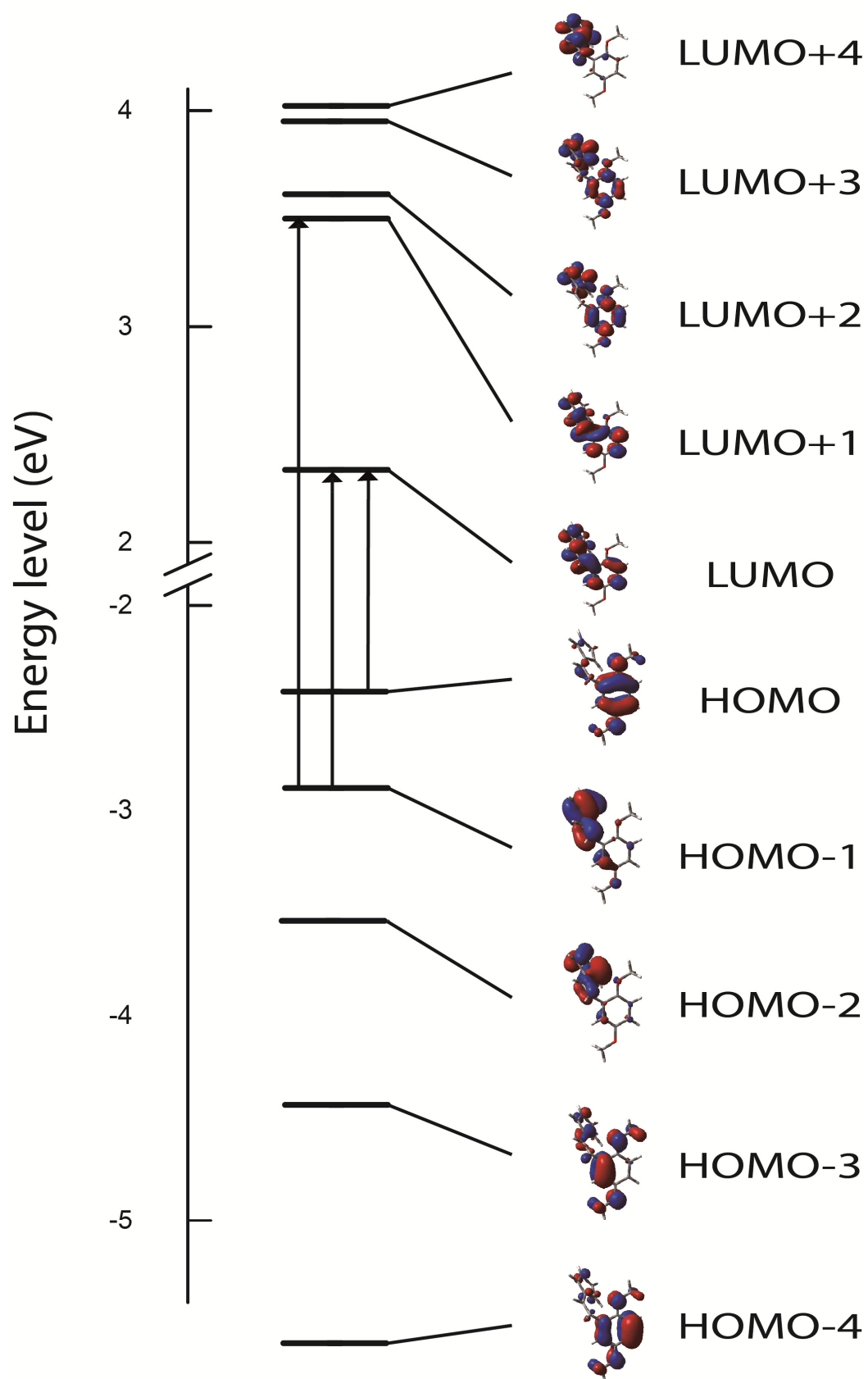


Figure S 4. Energy diagram of *cis*-3c with MOs, transitions indicated by calculations marked by arrows.

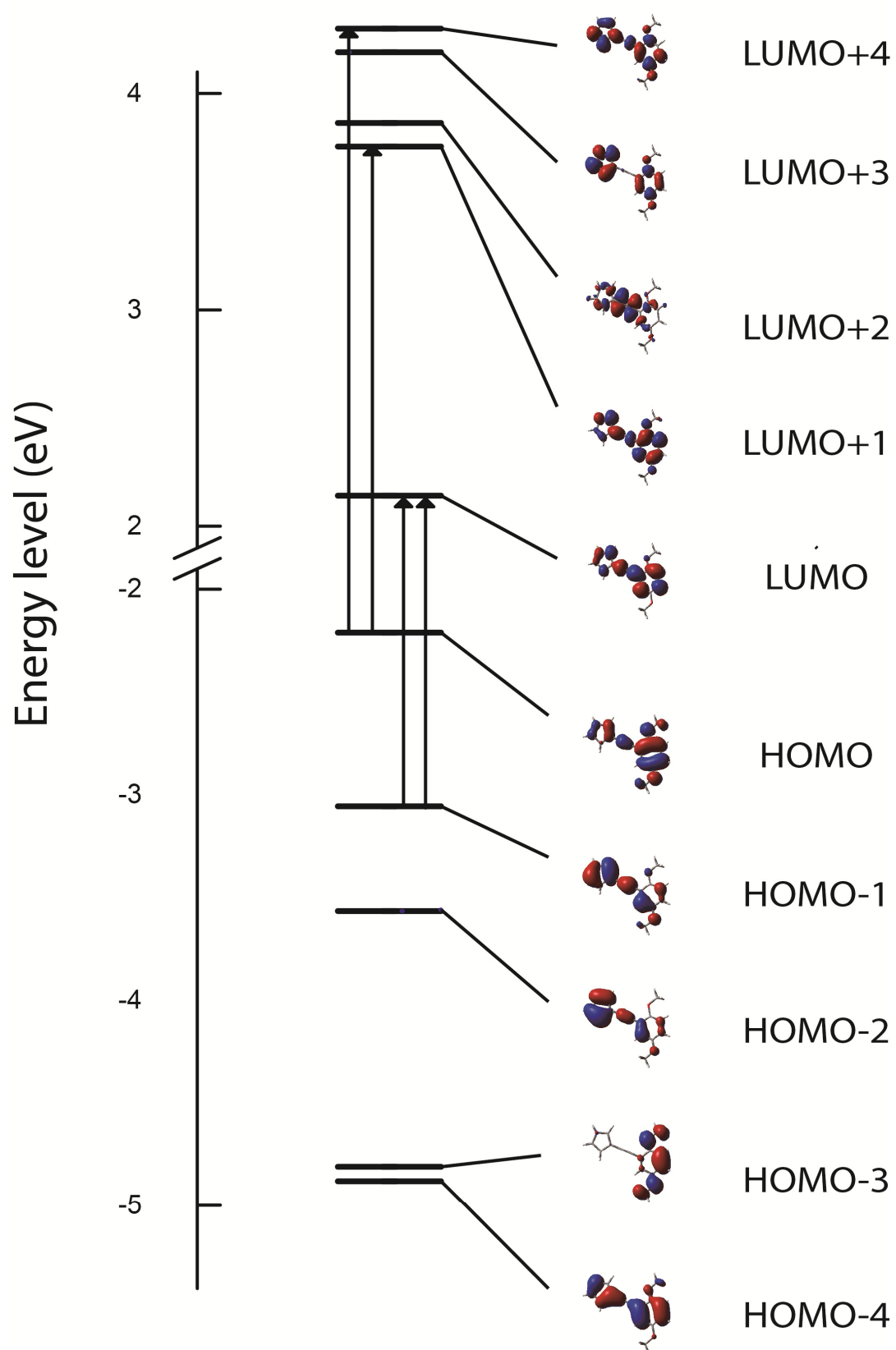


Figure S 5. Energy diagram of **3d** with MOs, transitions indicated by calculations marked by arrows.

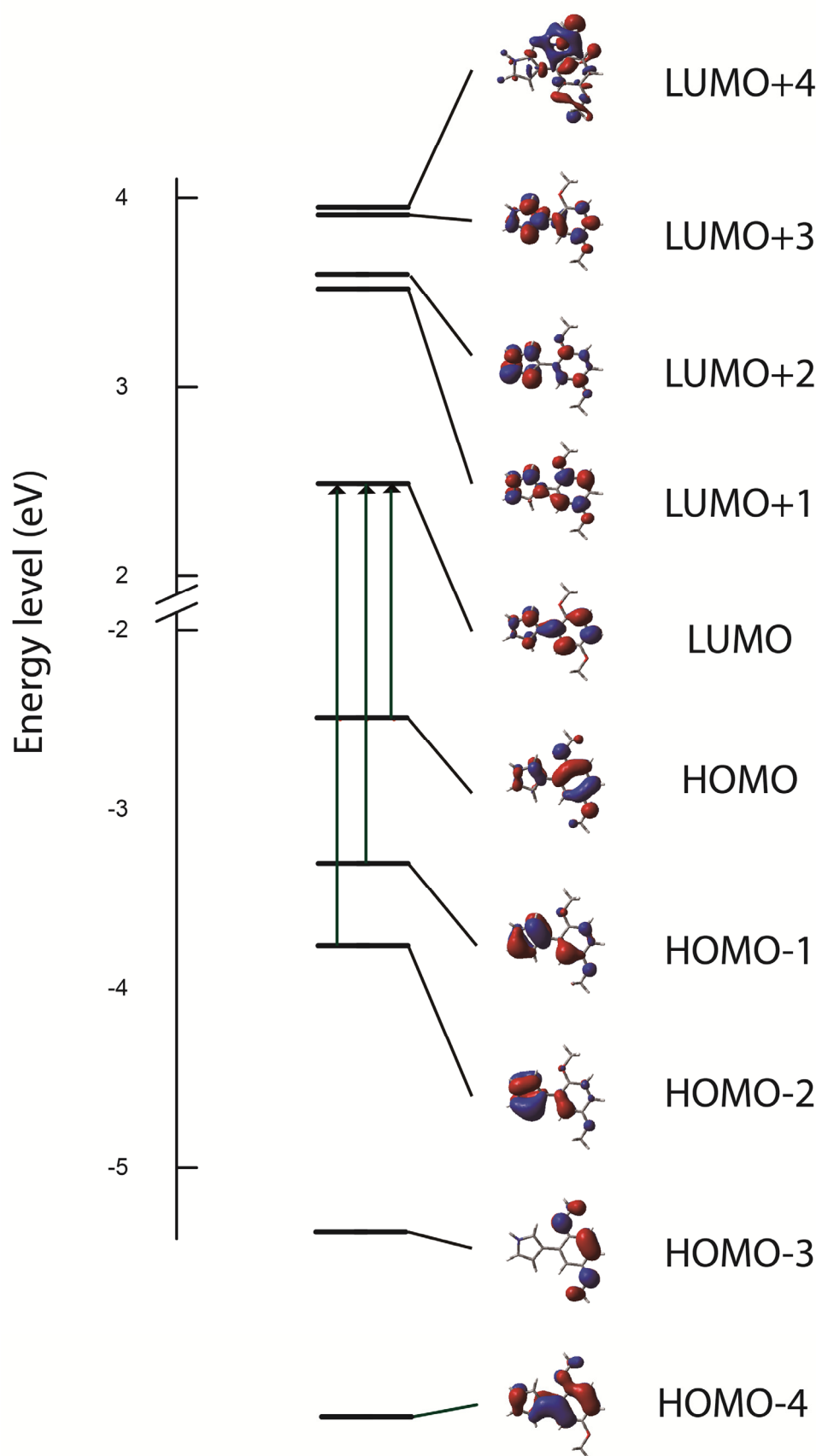


Figure S 6. Energy diagram of **1** with MOs, transitions indicated by calculations marked by arrows.

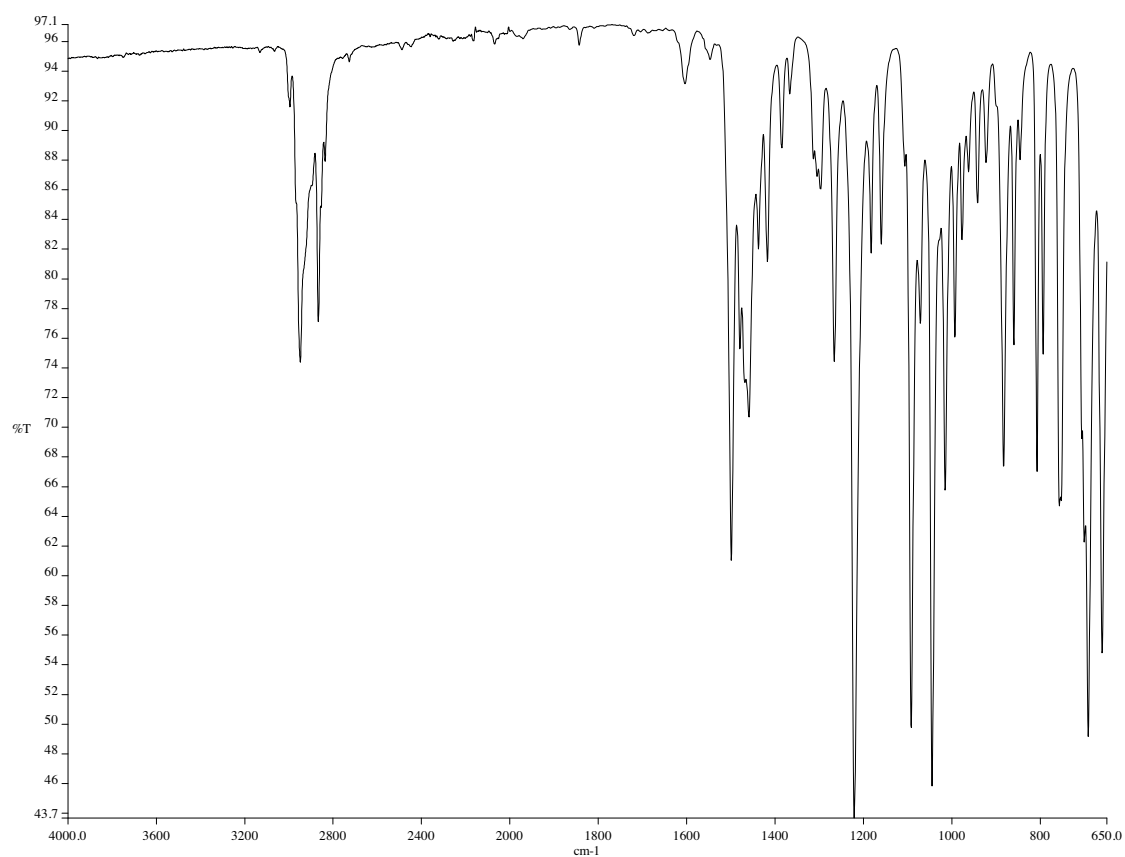


Figure S 7. IR spectrum of **4a**.

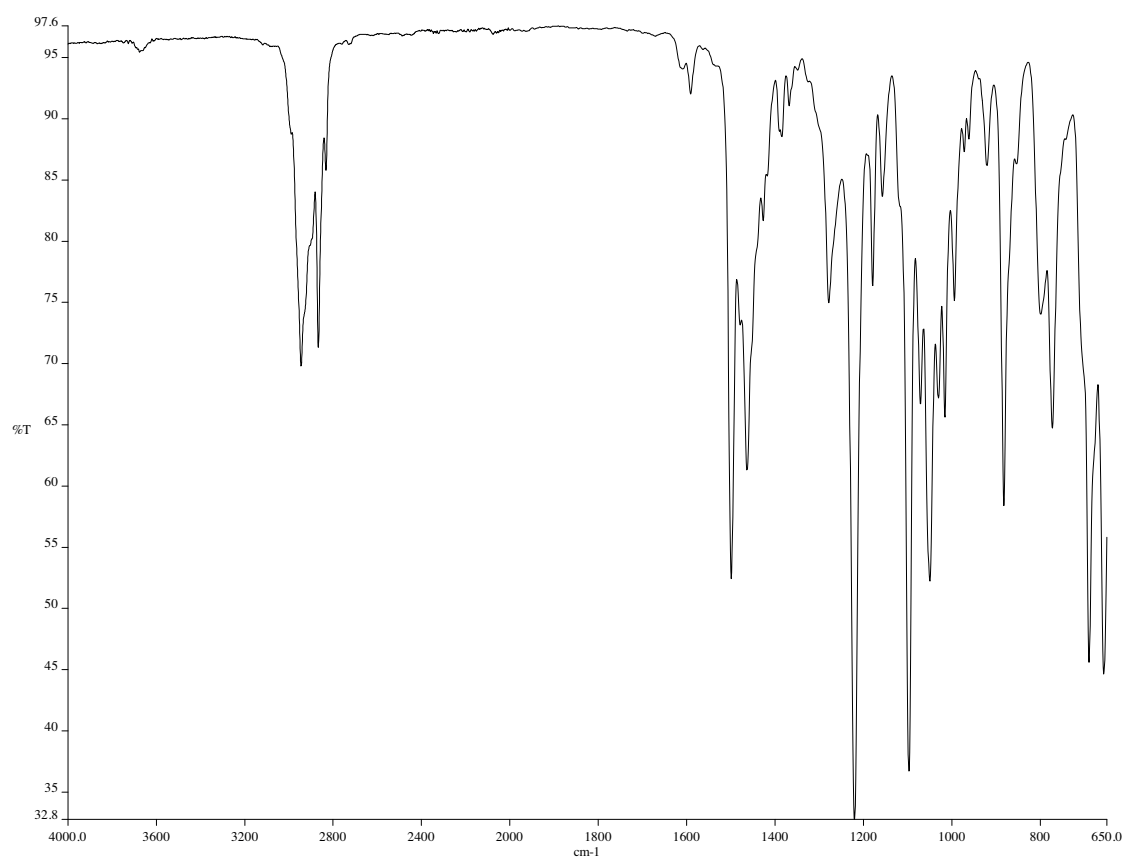


Figure S 8. IR spectrum of **4b**.

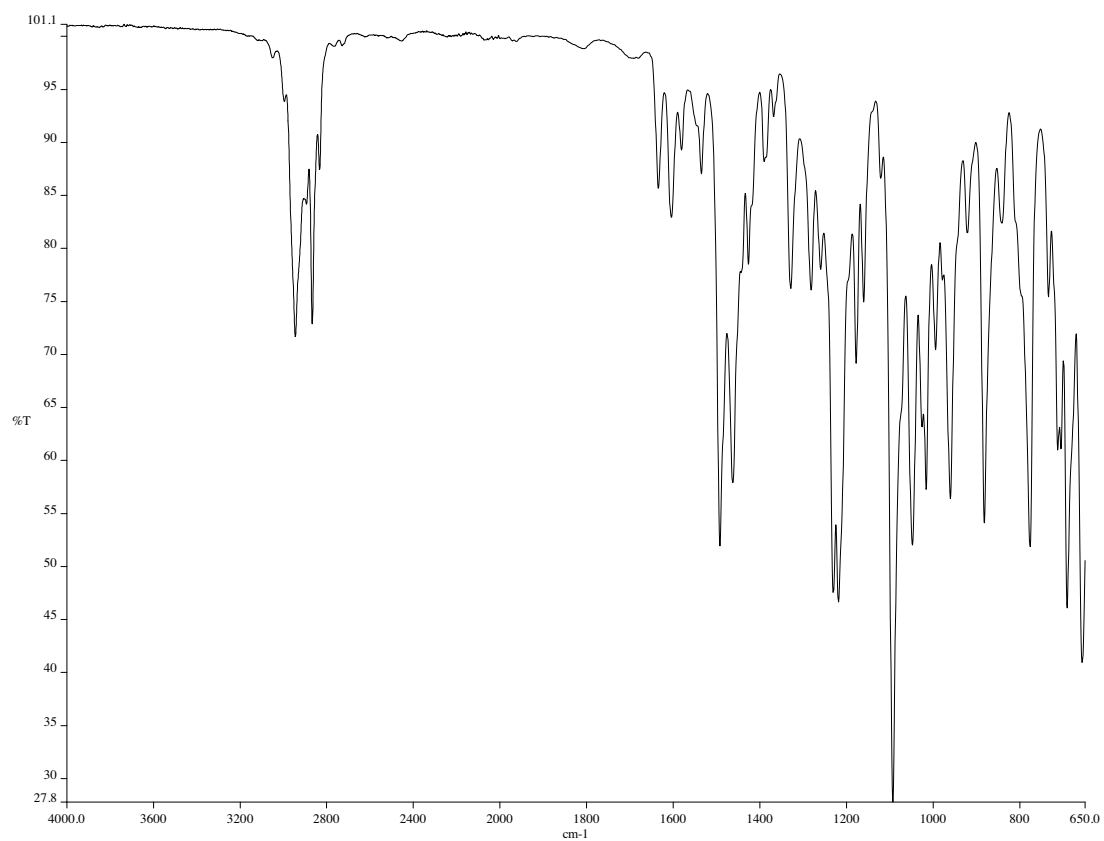


Figure S 9. IR spectrum of *trans*-4c.

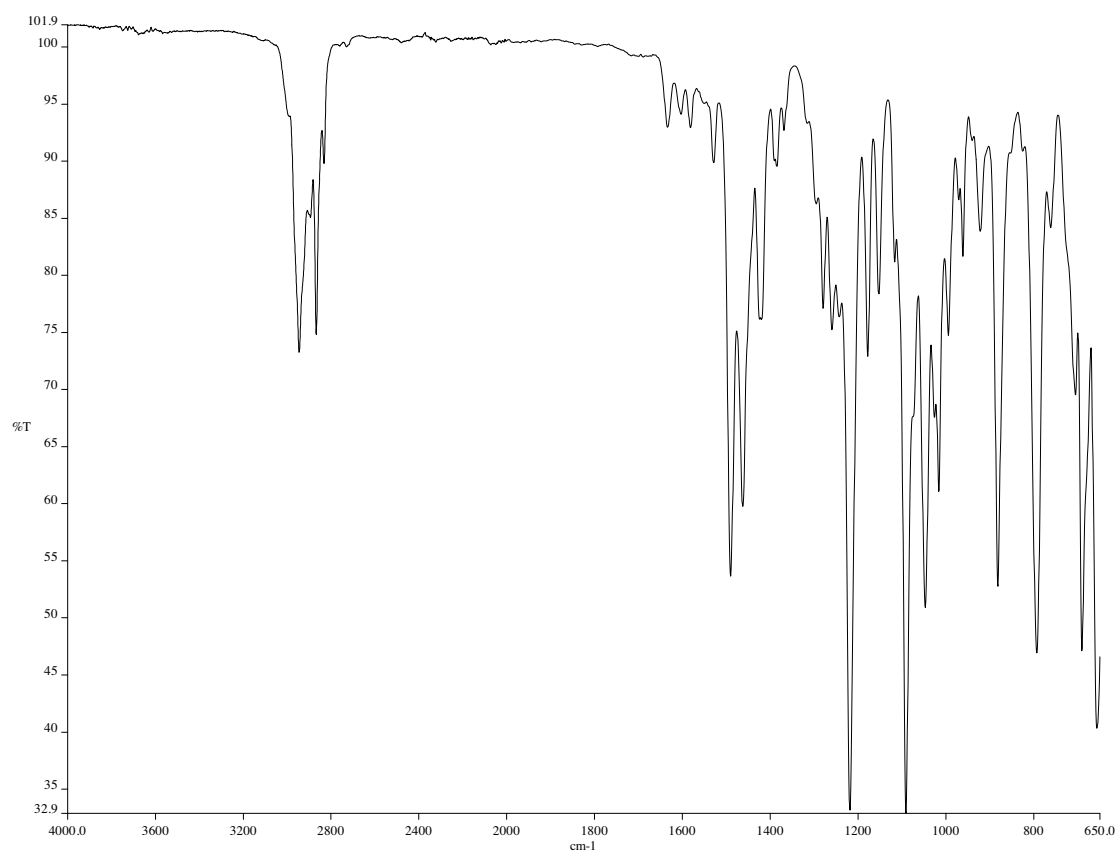


Figure S 10. IR spectrum of *cis*-4c.

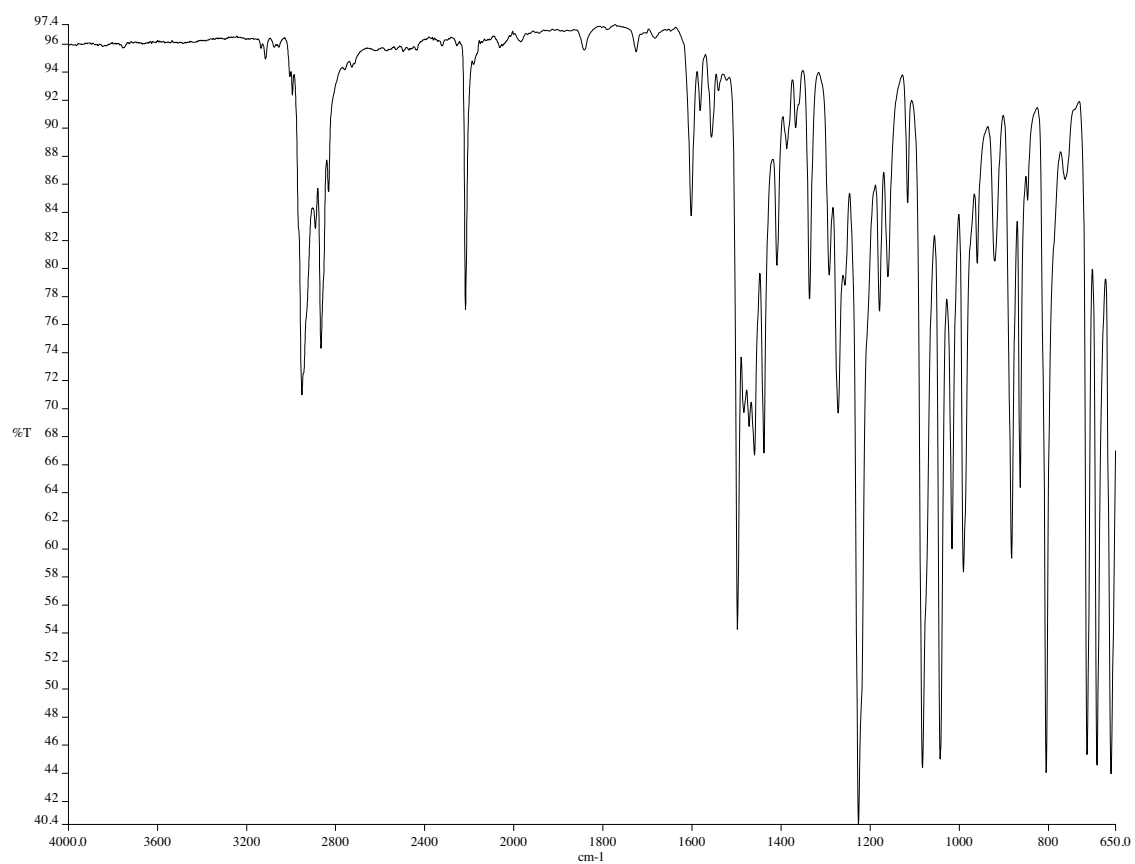


Figure S 11. IR spectrum of **4d**.

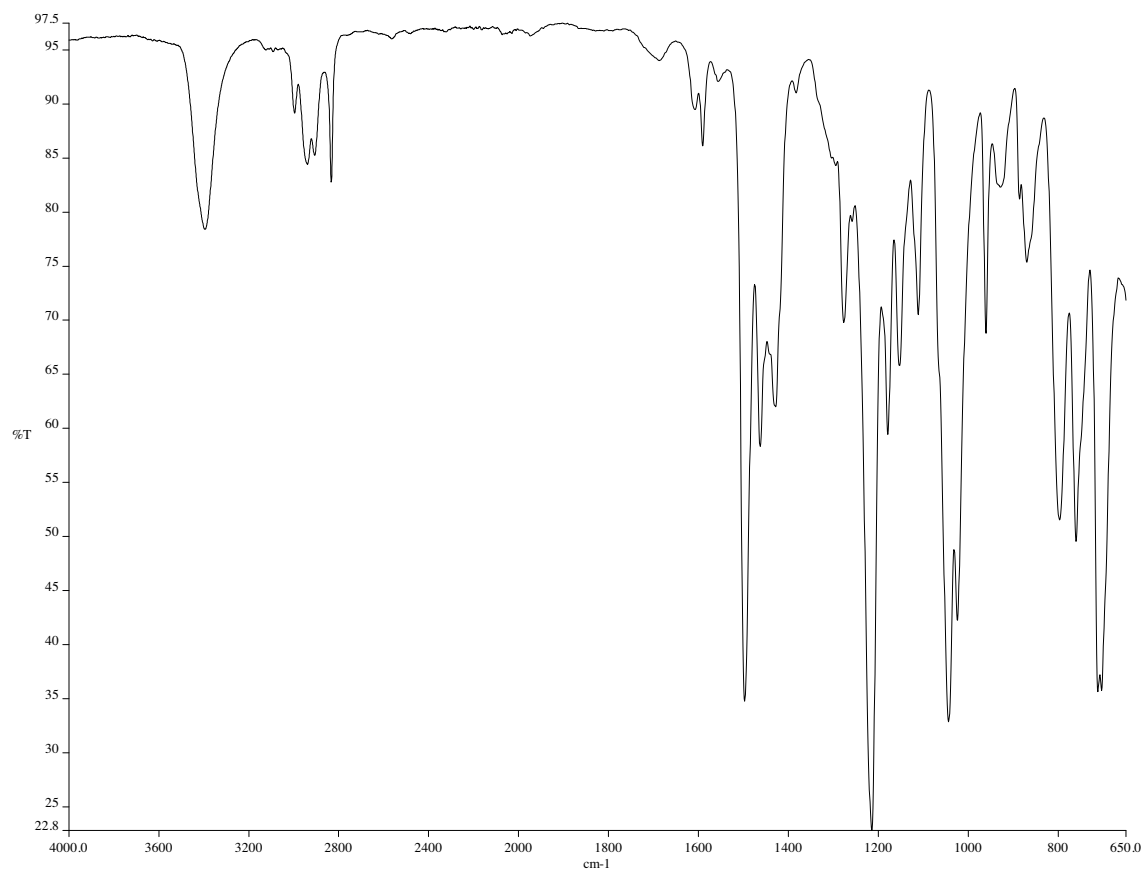


Figure S 12. IR spectrum of **3a**.

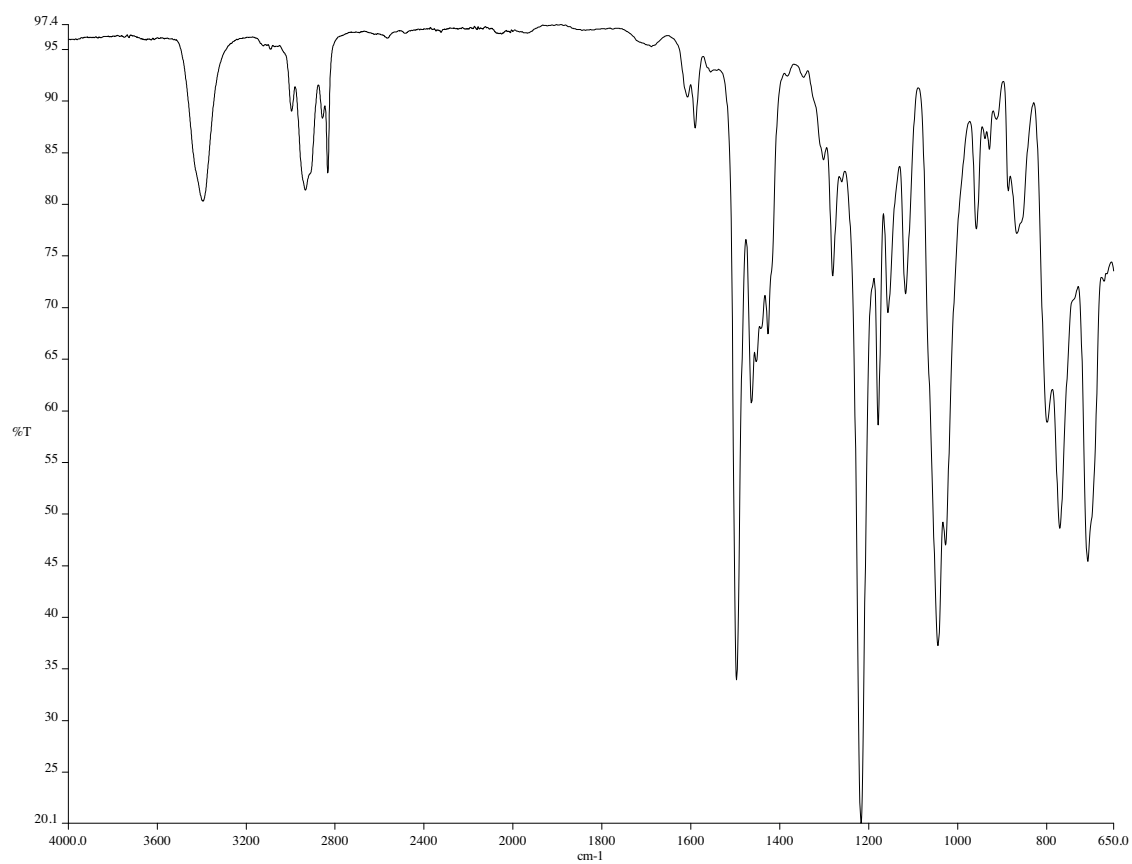


Figure S 13. IR spectrum of **3b**.

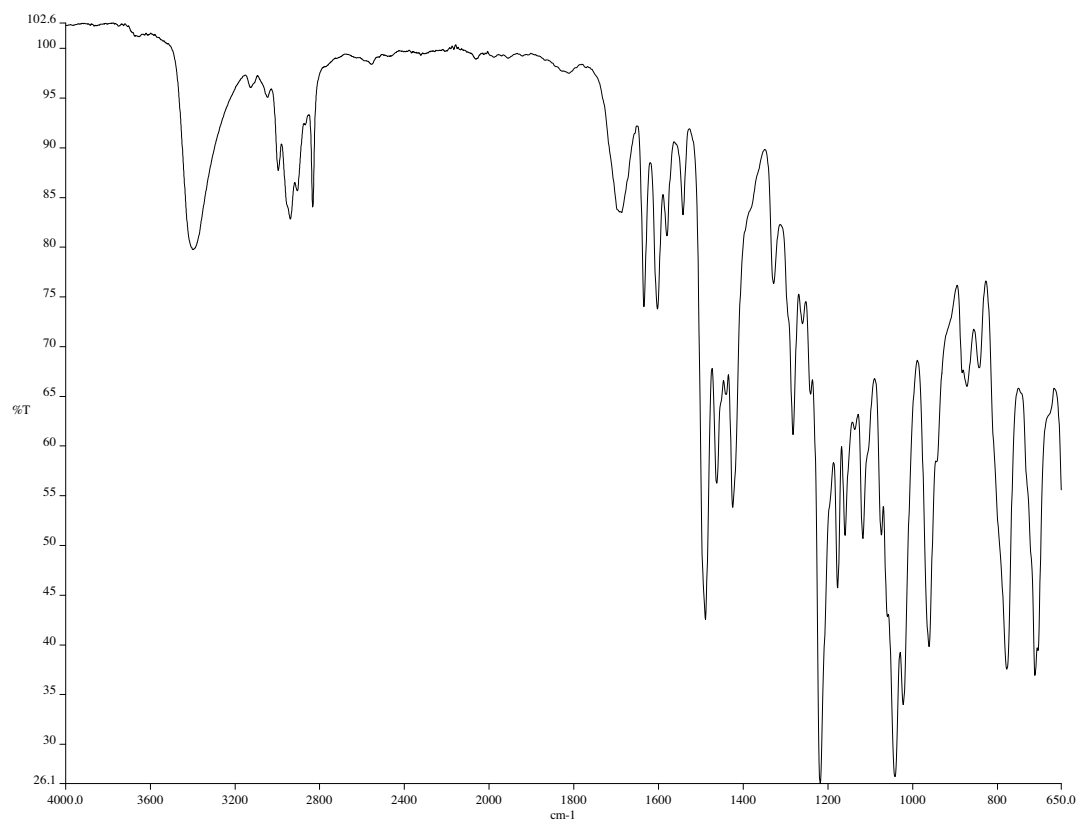


Figure S 14. IR spectrum of *trans*-**3c**.

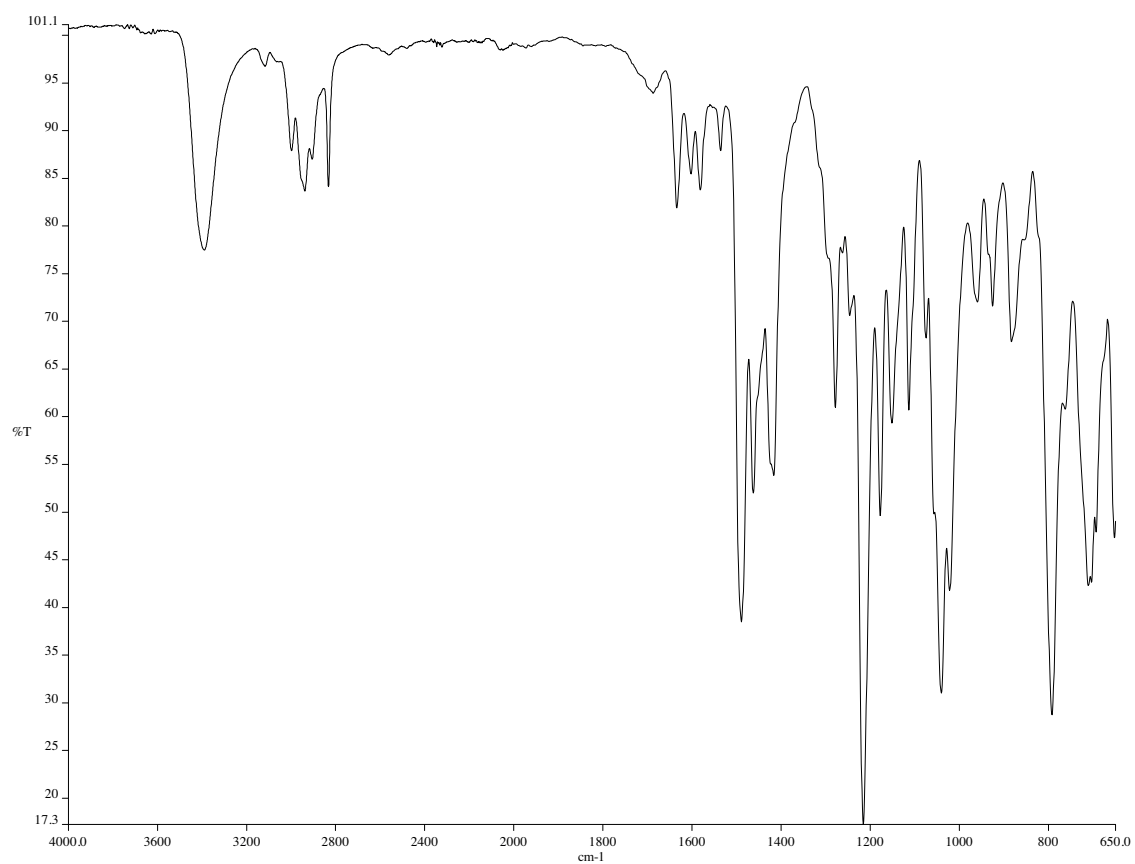


Figure S 15. IR spectrum of *cis*-3c.

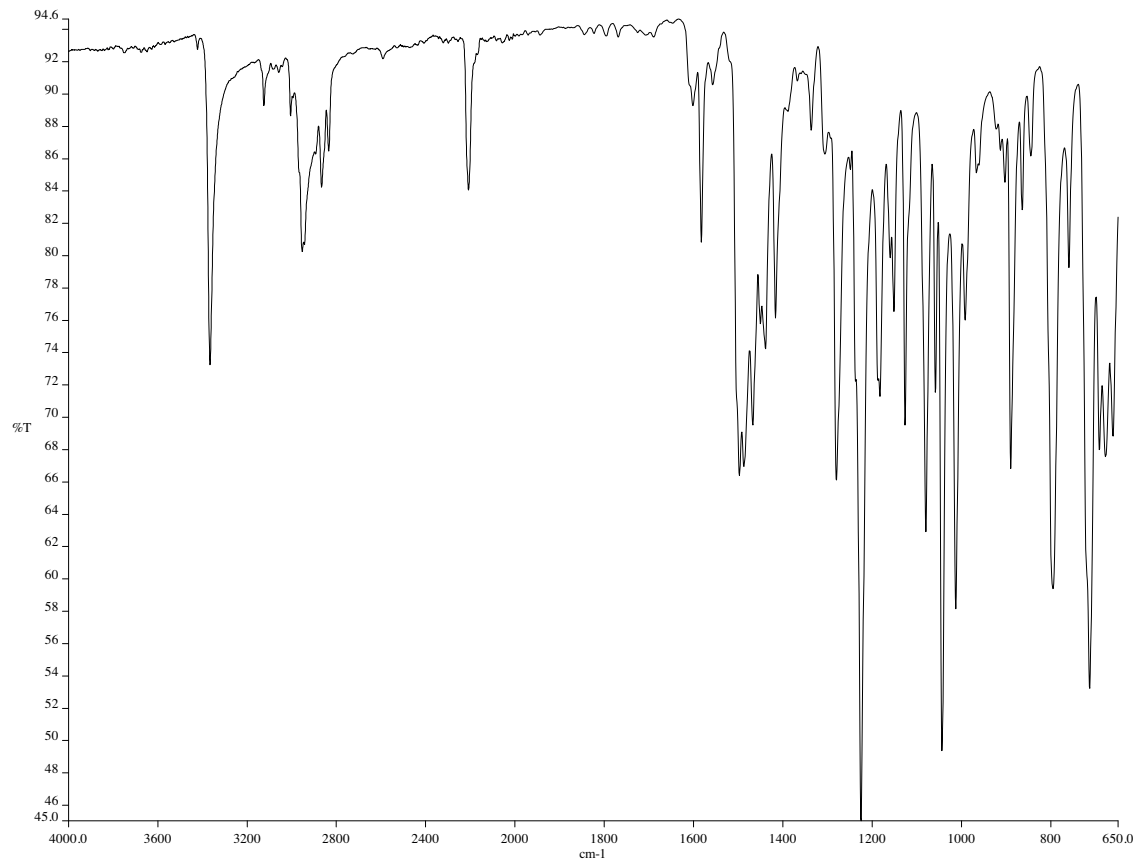


Figure S 16. IR spectrum of 3d.

NMR spectra

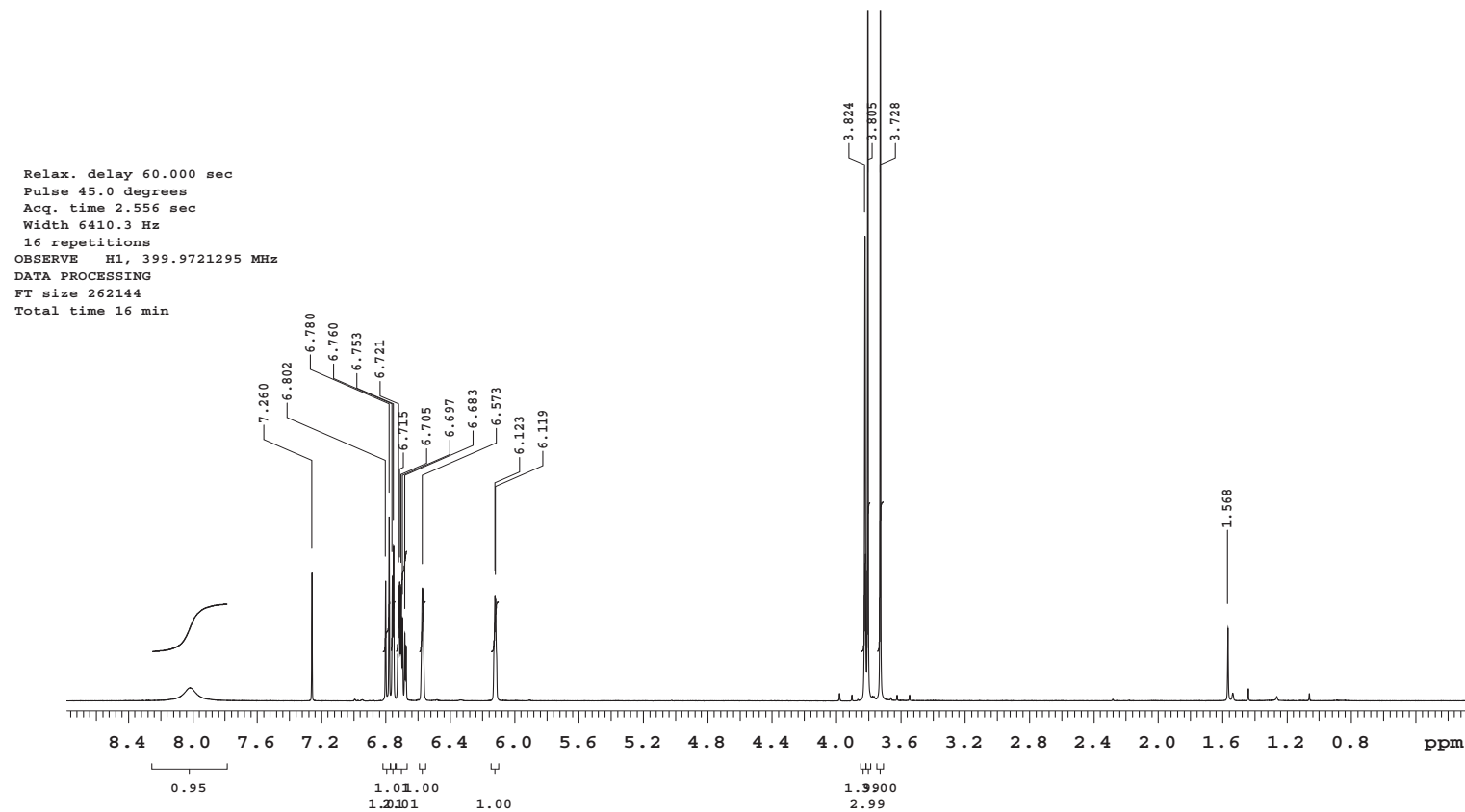


Figure S 17. ^1H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl_3 solution) of **3a**.

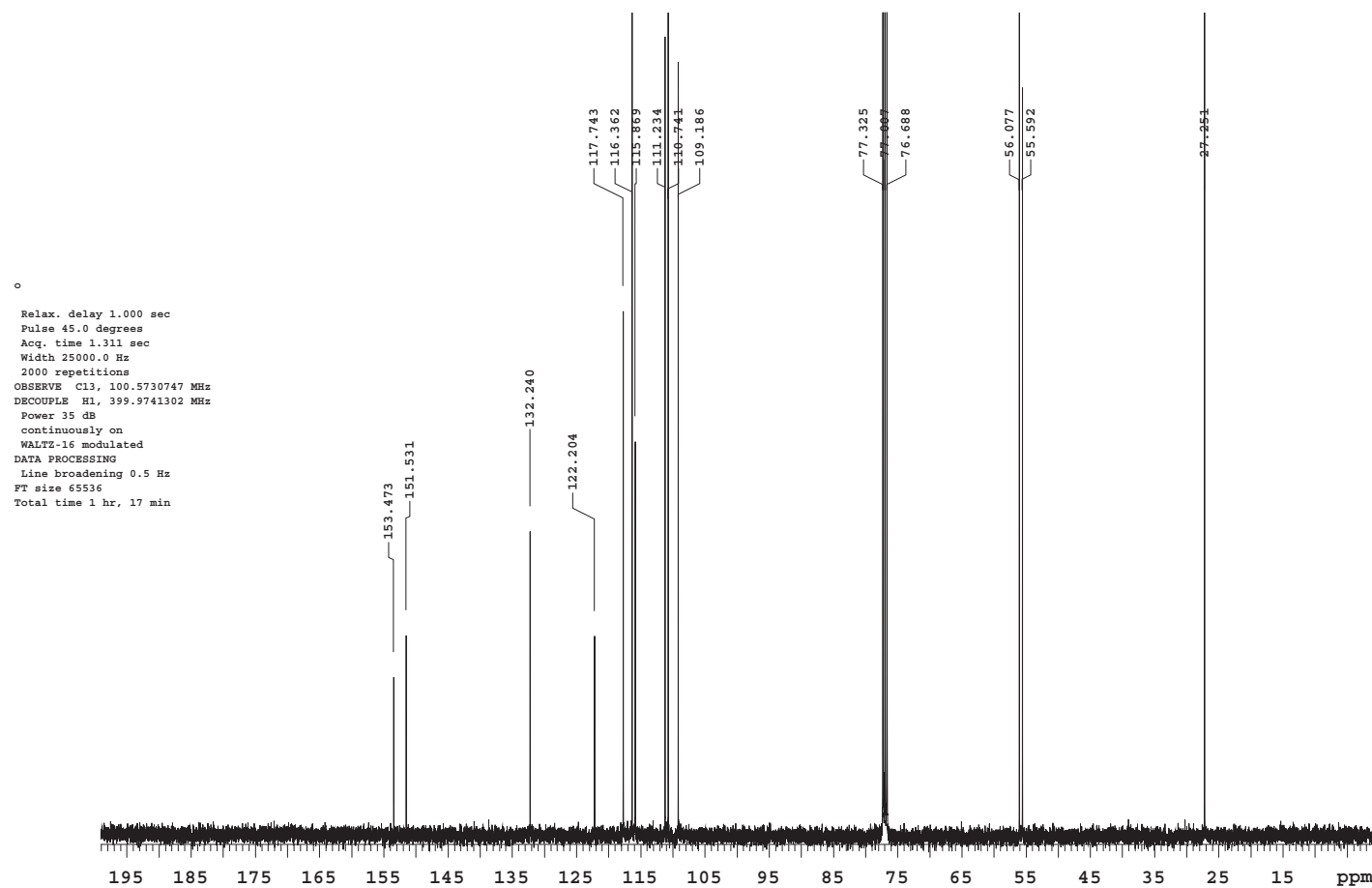
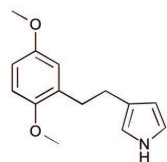


Figure S 18. ^{13}C NMR spectrum (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3 solution) of **3a**.



3b

Temp. 25.0 C / 298.1 K
Sample #1, Operator: huanghao

Relax. delay 25.000 sec
Pulse 45.0 degrees
Acq. time 2.556 sec
Width 6410.3 Hz
16 repetitions
OBSERVE H1, 399.9721291 MHz
DATA PROCESSING
FT size 32768
Total time 7 min 21 sec

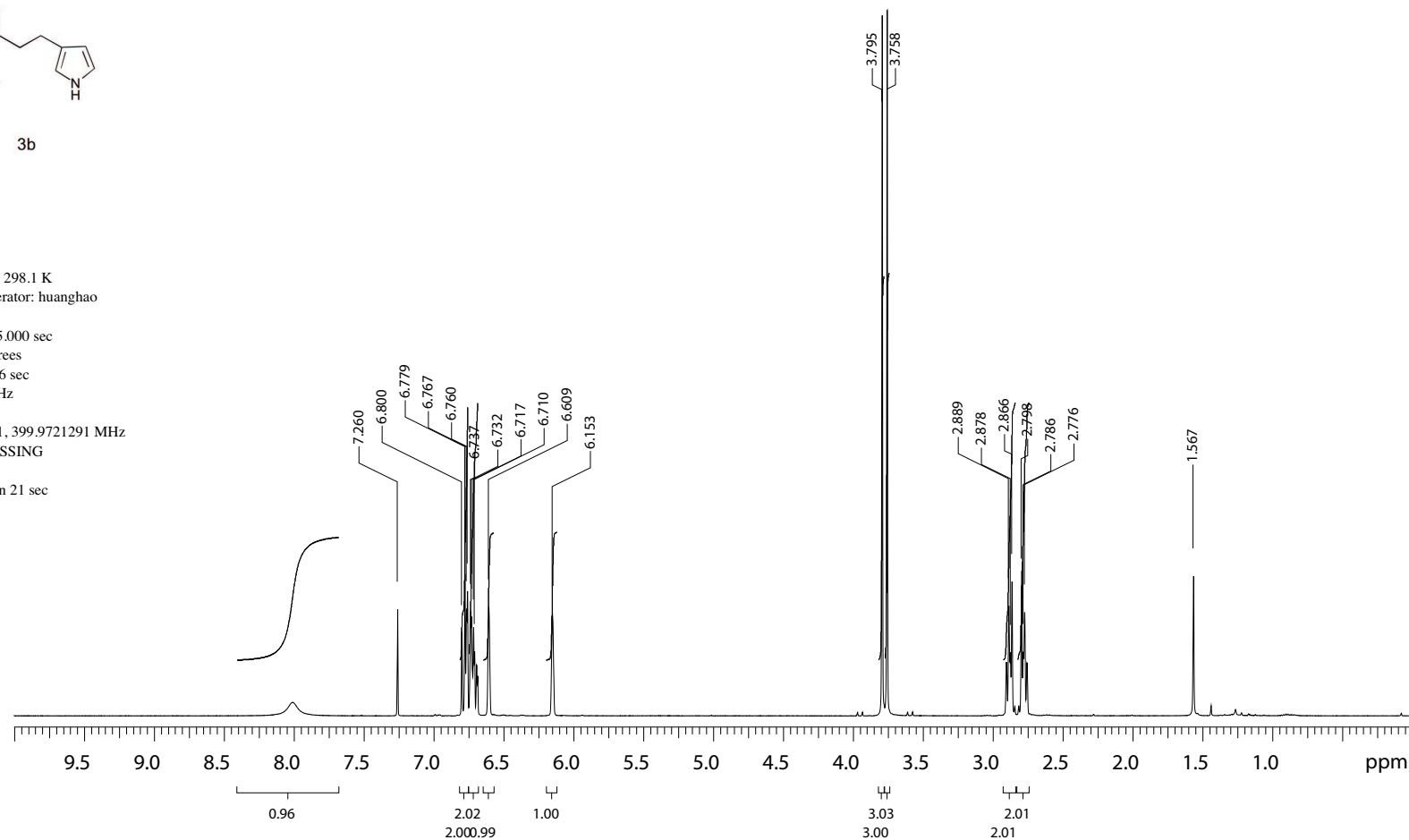


Figure S 19. ¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃ solution) of **3b**.

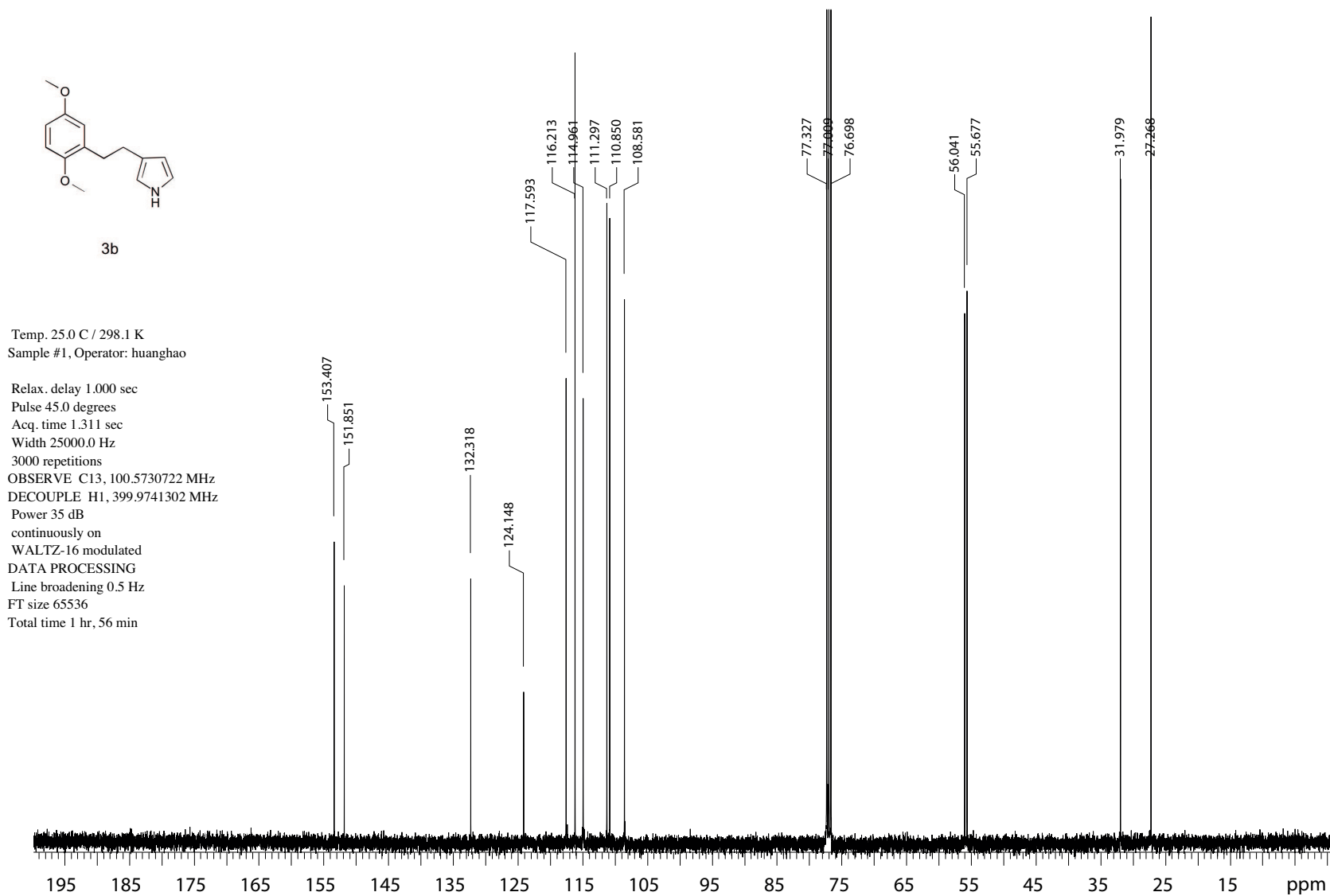


Figure S 20. ^{13}C NMR spectrum (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3 solution) of **3b**.

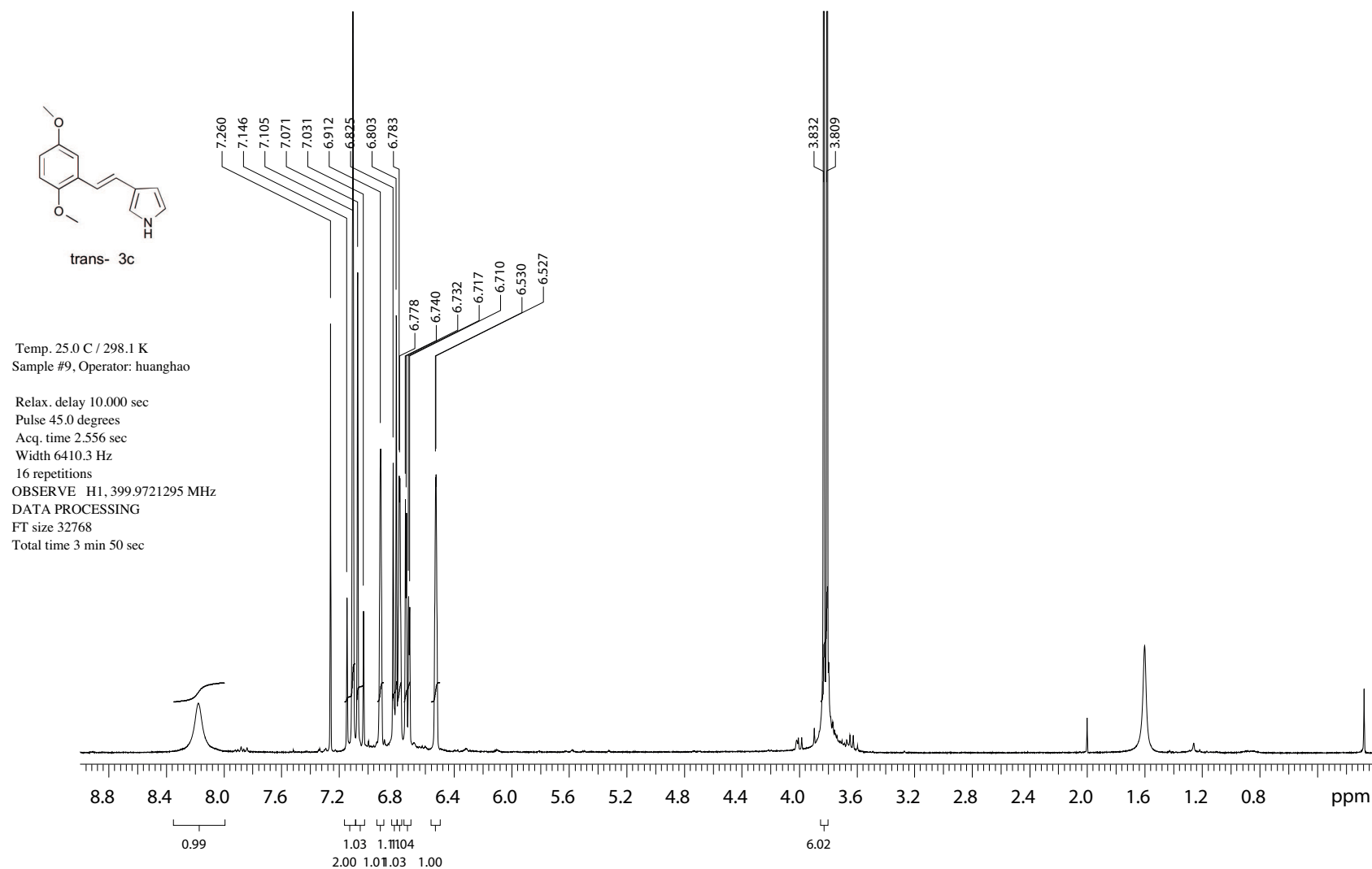
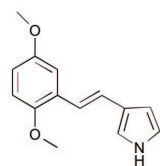


Figure S 21. ^1H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl_3 solution) of *trans*-**3c**.



trans- 3c

Temp. 25.0 C / 298.1 K
Sample #9, Operator: huanghao

Relax. delay 1.000 sec
Pulse 45.0 degrees
Acq. time 1.311 sec
Width 25000.0 Hz
3000 repetitions
OBSERVE C13, 100.5730722 MHz
DECOUPLE H1, 399.9741302 MHz
Power 35 dB
continuously on
WALTZ-16 modulated
DATA PROCESSING
Line broadening 0.5 Hz
FT size 65536
Total time 1 hr, 55 min

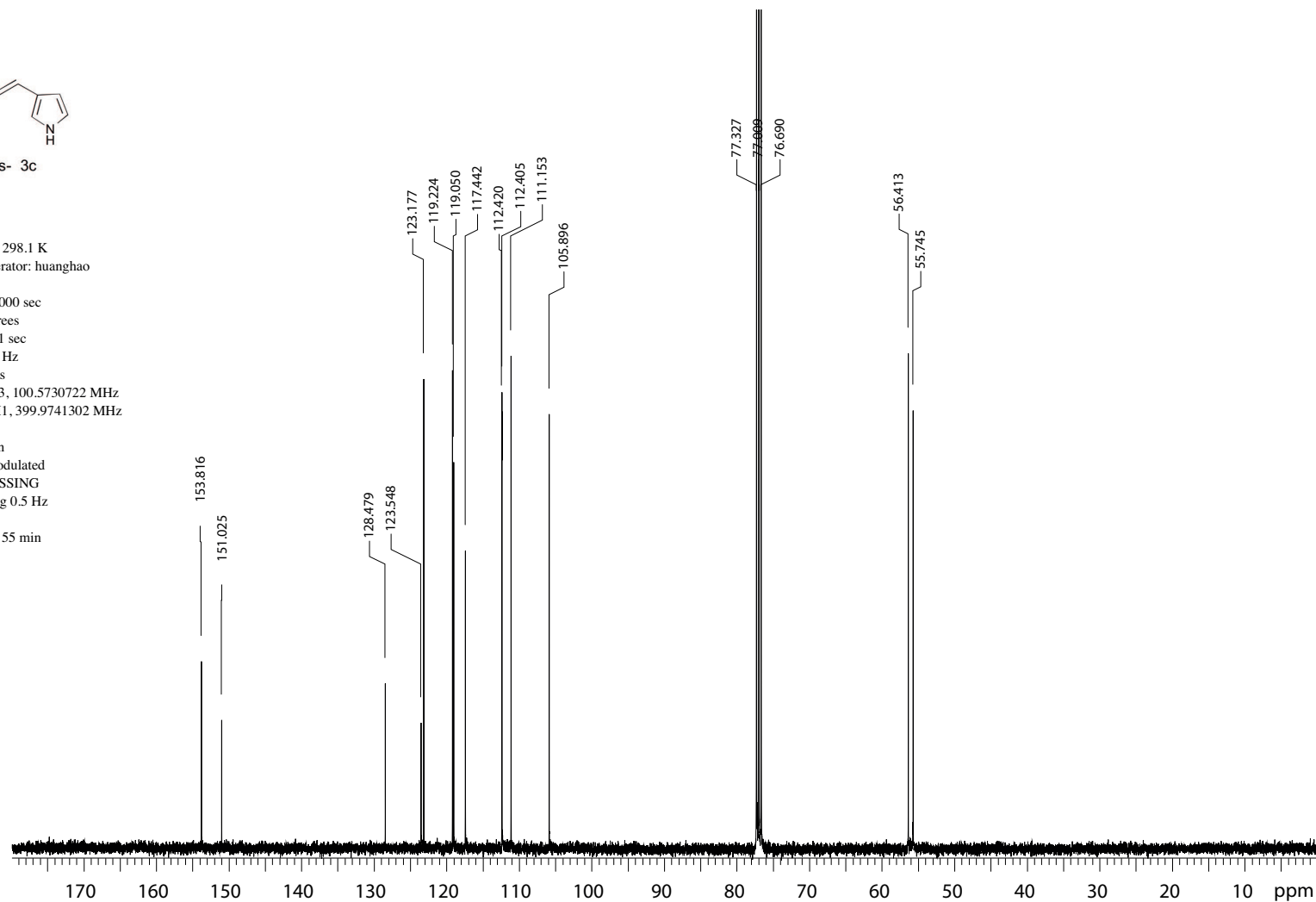


Figure S 22. ^{13}C NMR spectrum (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3 solution) of *trans*-**3c**.

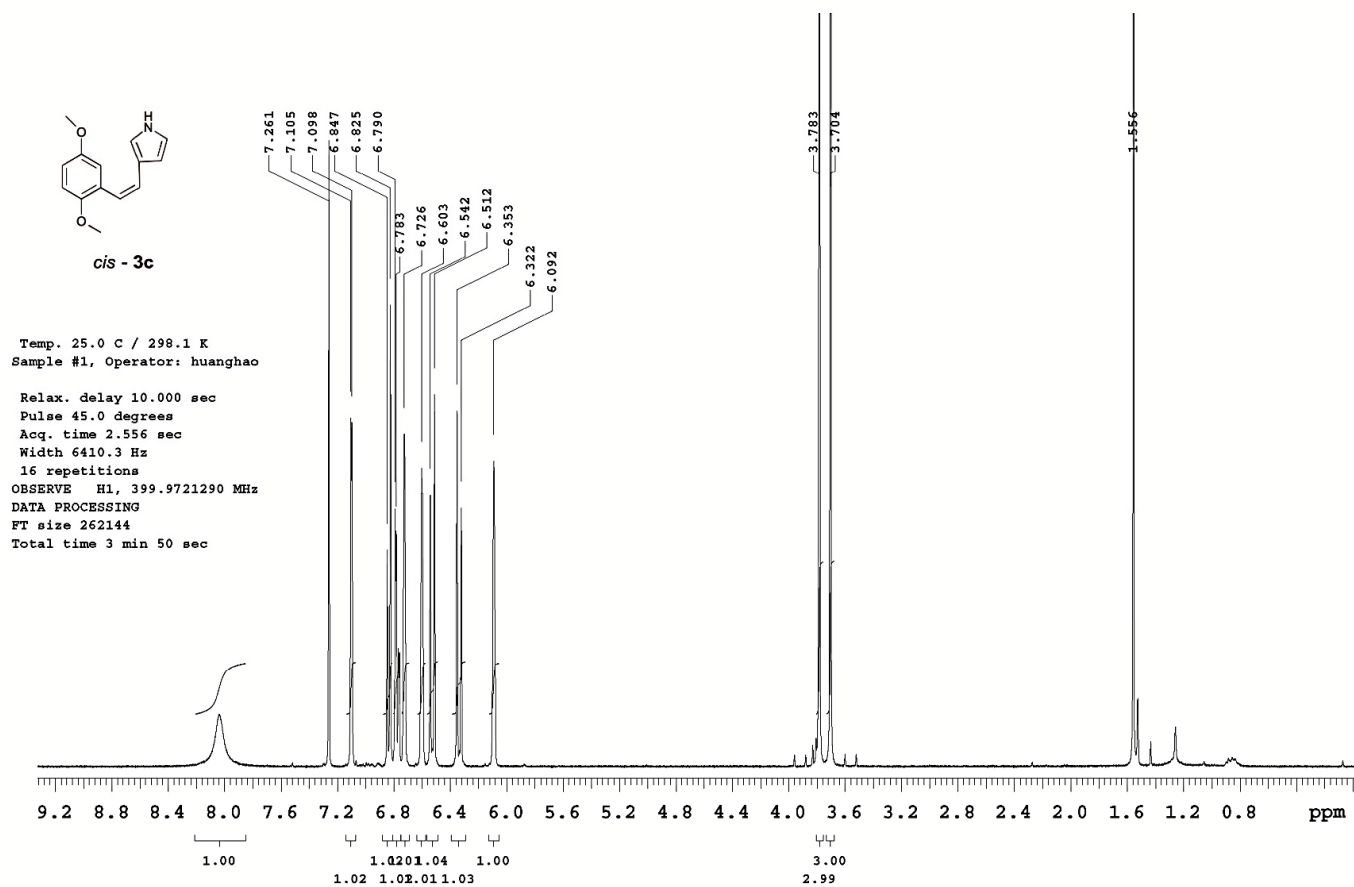
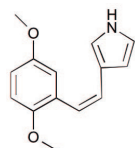


Figure S 23. ^1H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl_3 solution) of *cis*-**3c**.



cis - **3c**

Temp. 25.0 C / 298.1 K
Sample #1, Operator: huanghao

Relax. delay 1.000 sec
Pulse 45.0 degrees
Acq. time 1.311 sec
Width 25000.0 Hz
3200 repetitions
OBSERVE C13, 100.5730722 MHz
DECOUPLE H1, 399.9741302 MHz
Power 35 dB
continuously on
WALTZ-16 modulated
DATA PROCESSING
Line broadening 0.5 Hz
FT size 65536
Total time 2 hr, 3 min

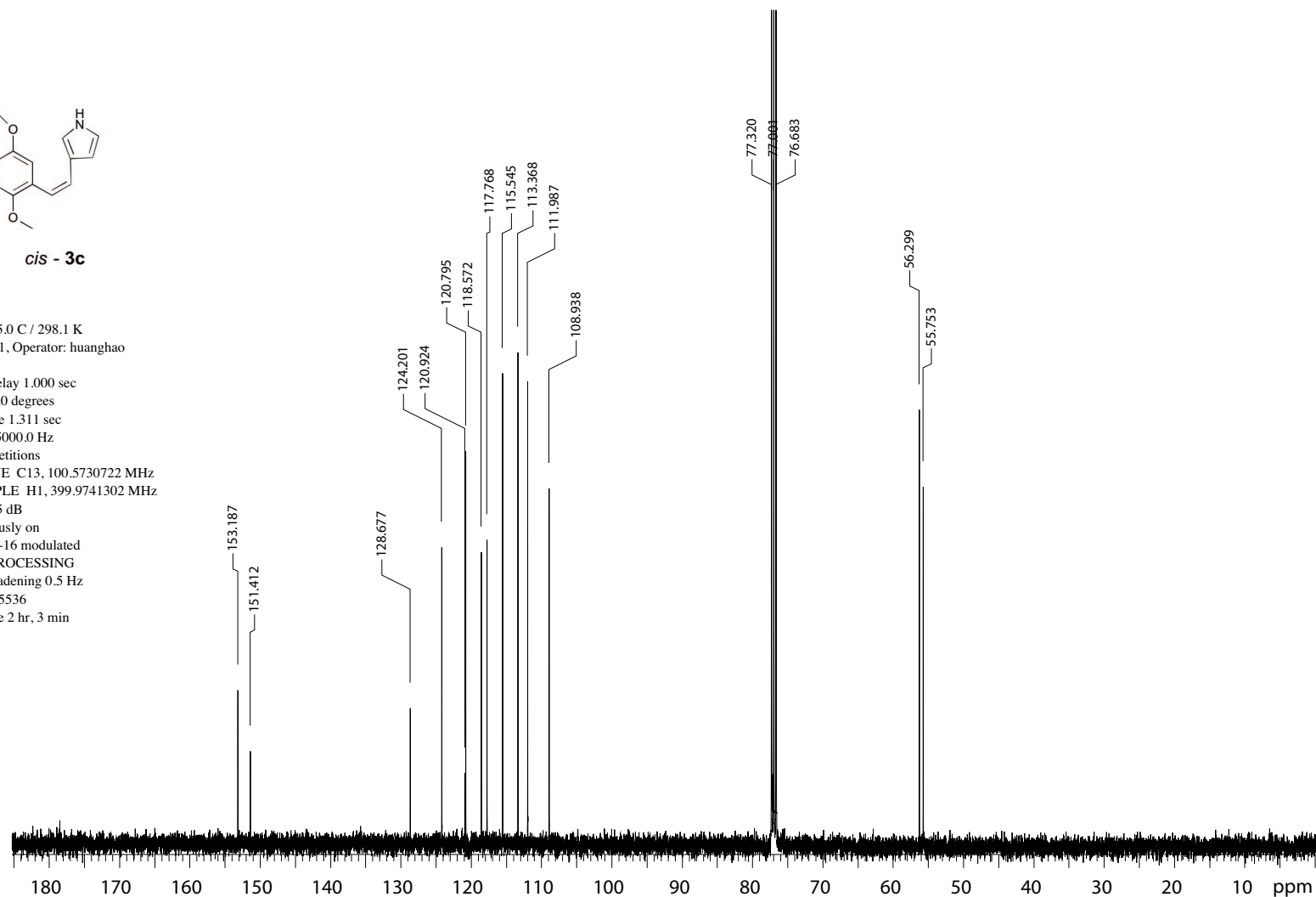
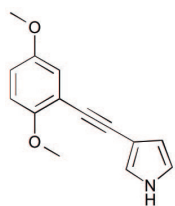


Figure S 24. ^{13}C NMR spectrum (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3 solution) of *cis*-**3c**.



3d

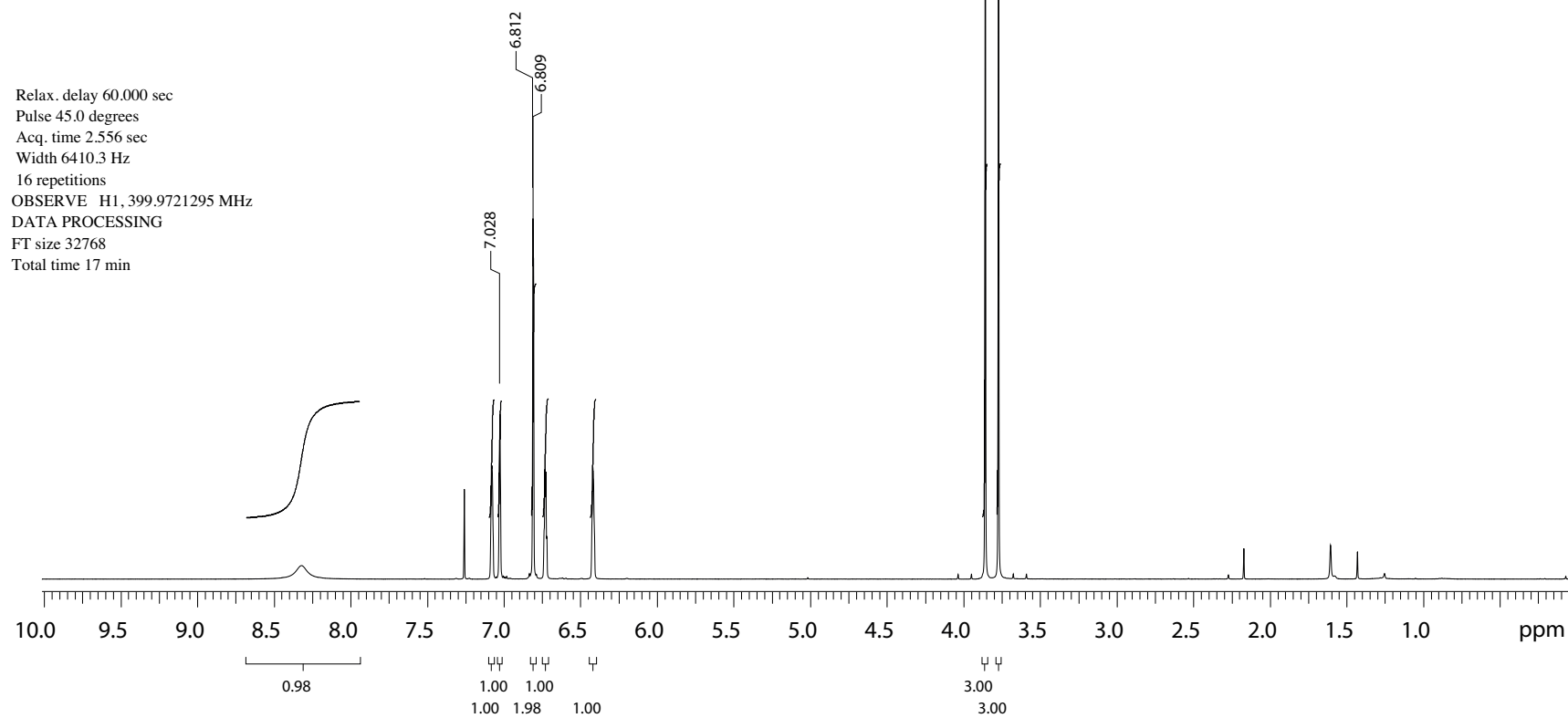


Figure S 25. ^1H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl_3 solution) of **3d**.

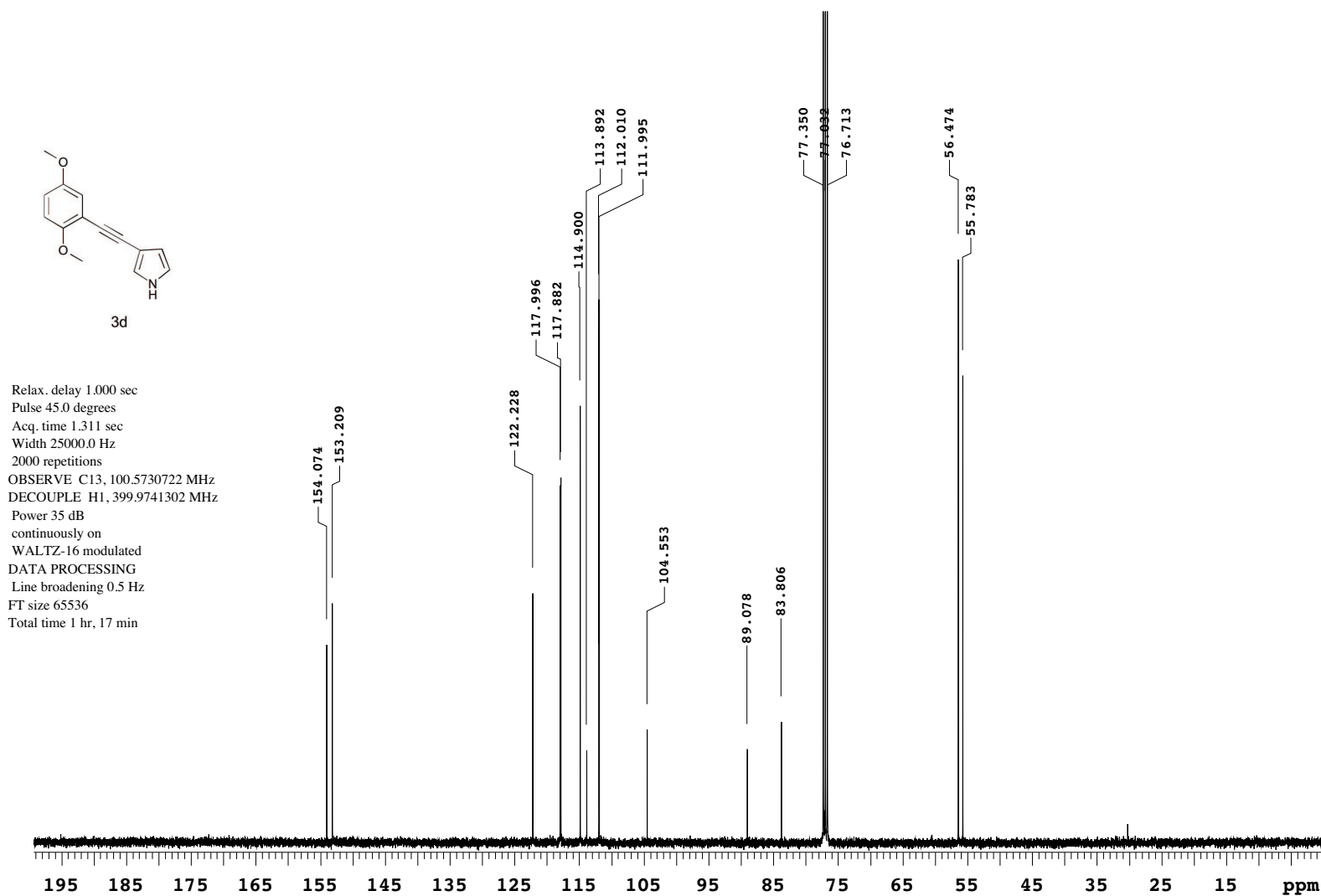


Figure S 26. ^{13}C NMR spectrum (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3 solution) of **3d**.

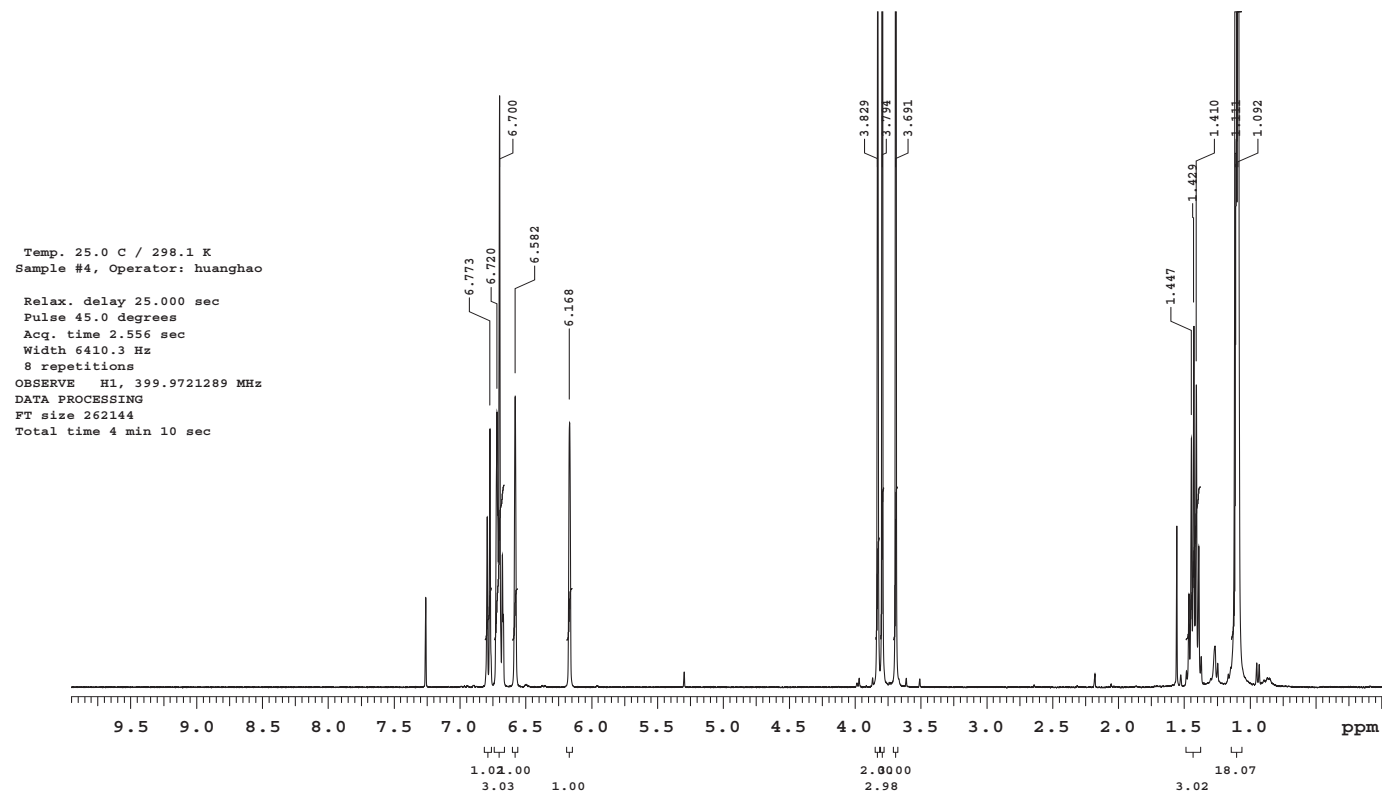


Figure S 27. ^1H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl_3 solution) of **4a**.

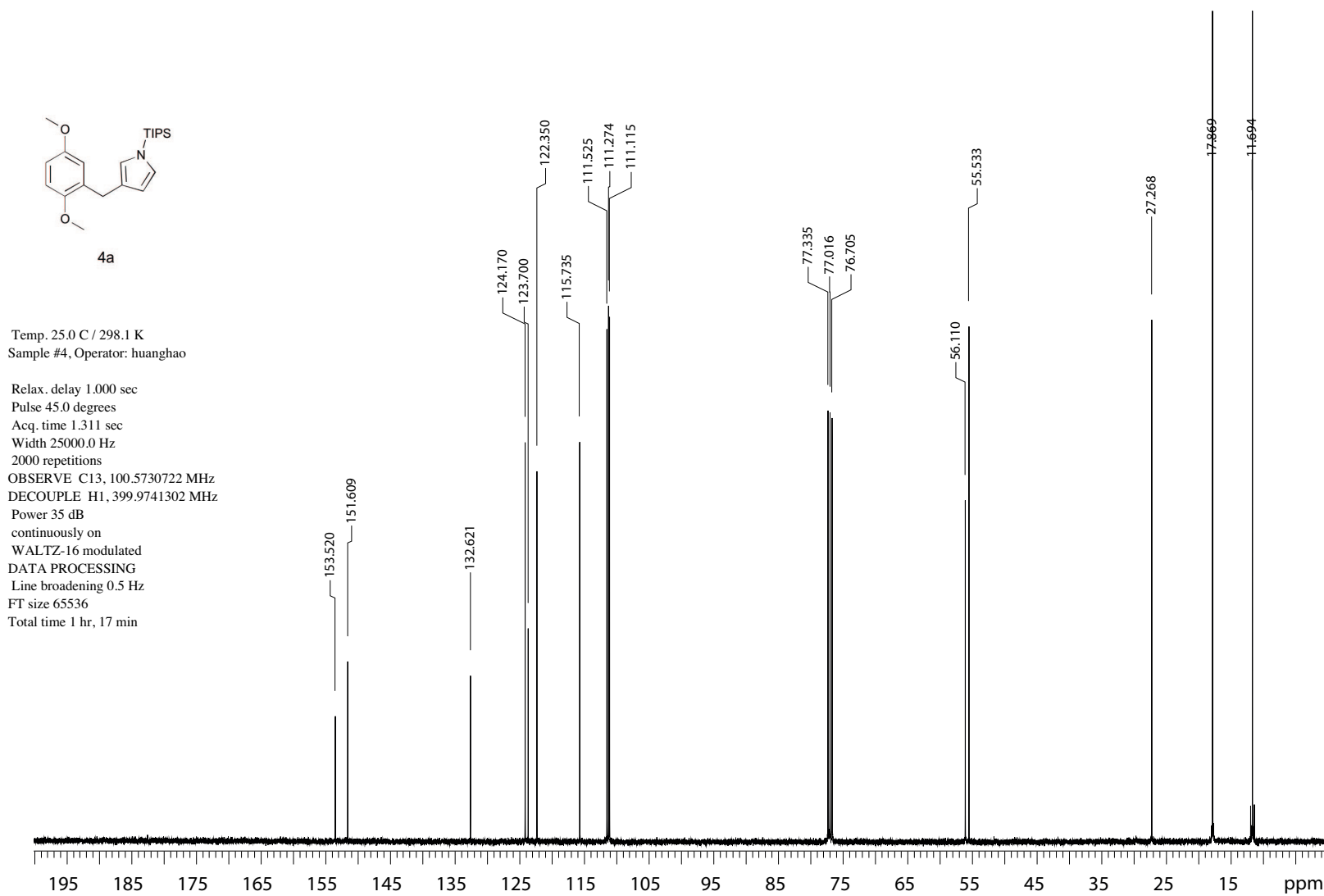


Figure S 28. ^{13}C NMR spectrum (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3 solution) of **4a**.

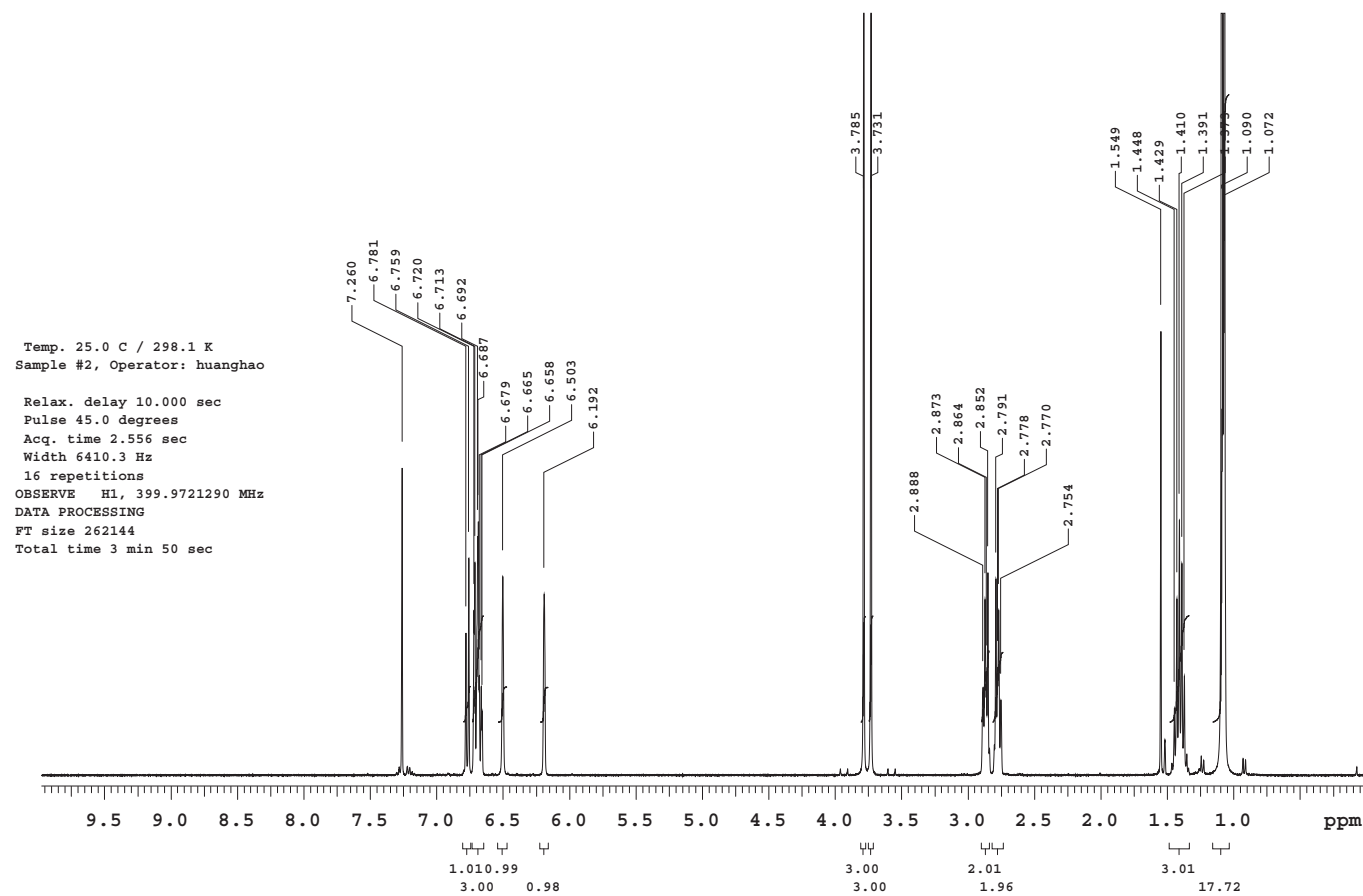
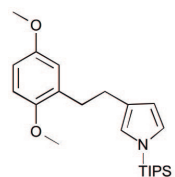


Figure S 29. ^1H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl_3 solution) of **4b**.



4b

Temp. 25.0 C / 298.1 K
Sample #2, Operator: huanghao

Relax. delay 1.000 sec
Pulse 45.0 degrees
Acq. time 1.311 sec
Width 25000.0 Hz
5000 repetitions
OBSERVE C13, 100.5730722 MHz
DECOUPLE H1, 399.9741302 MHz
Power 35 dB
continuously on
WALTZ-16 modulated
DATA PROCESSING
Line broadening 0.5 Hz
FT size 65536
Total time 3 hr, 12 min

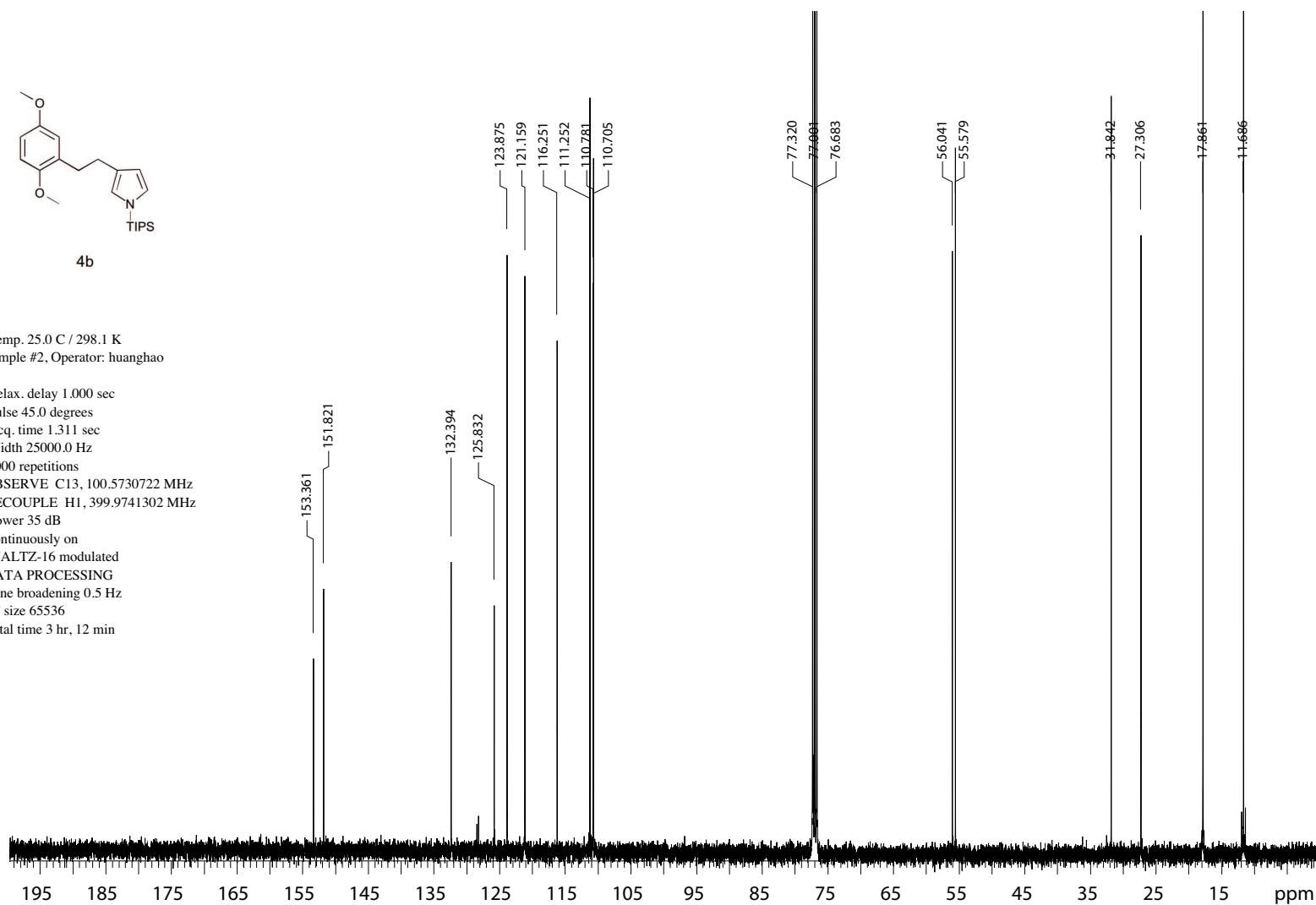


Figure S 30. ^{13}C NMR spectrum (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3 solution) of **4b**.

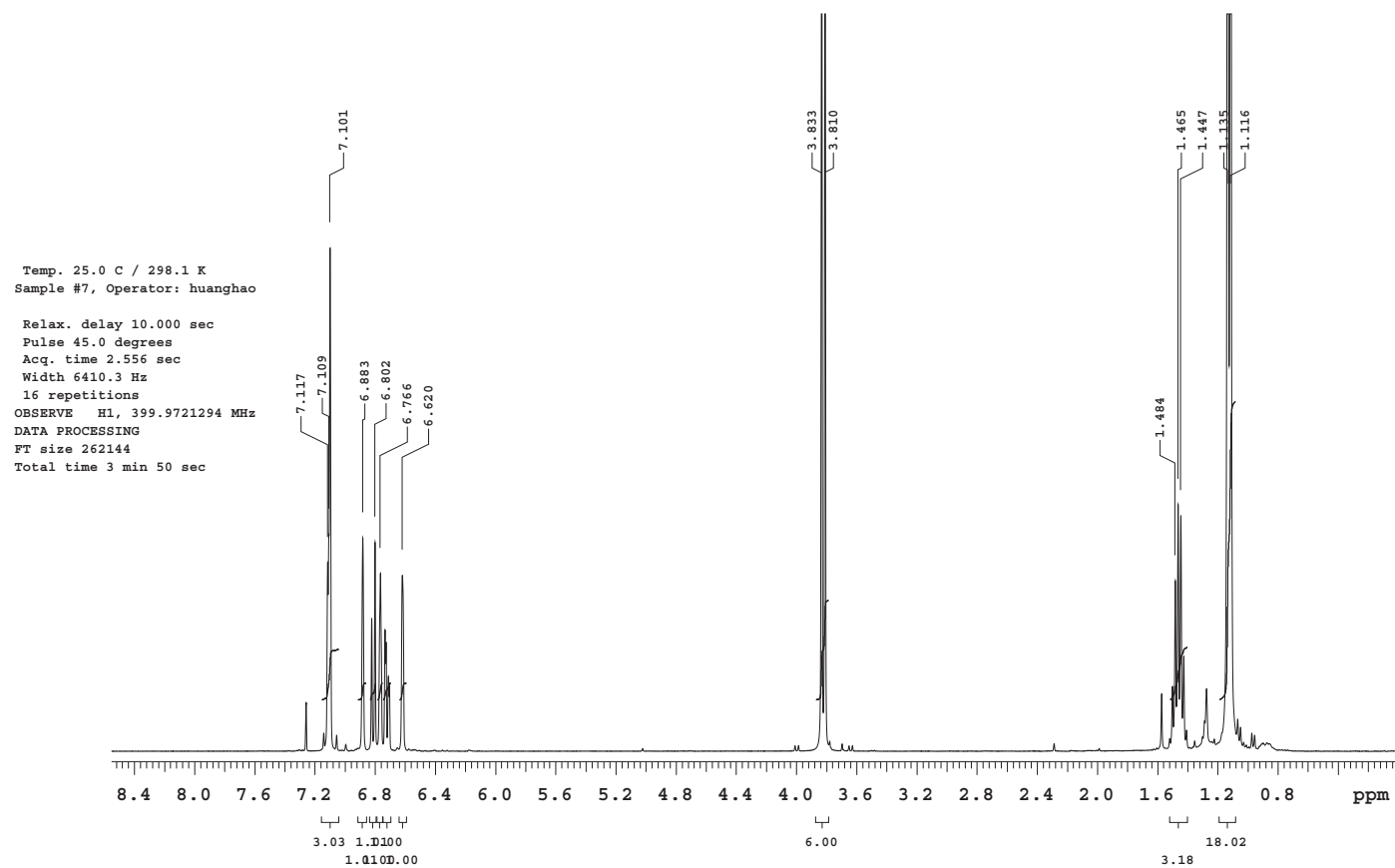
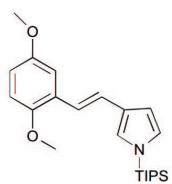


Figure S 31. ^1H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl_3 solution) of *trans*-**4c**.



trans-4c

Temp. 25.0 C / 298.1 K
Sample #7, Operator: huanghao

Relax. delay 1.000 sec
Pulse 45.0 degrees
Acq. time 1.311 sec
Width 25000.0 Hz
2000 repetitions
OBSERVE C13, 100.5730722 MHz
DECOUPLE H1, 399.9741302 MHz
Power 35 dB
continuously on
WALTZ-16 modulated
DATA PROCESSING
Line broadening 0.5 Hz
FT size 65536
Total time 1 hr, 17 min

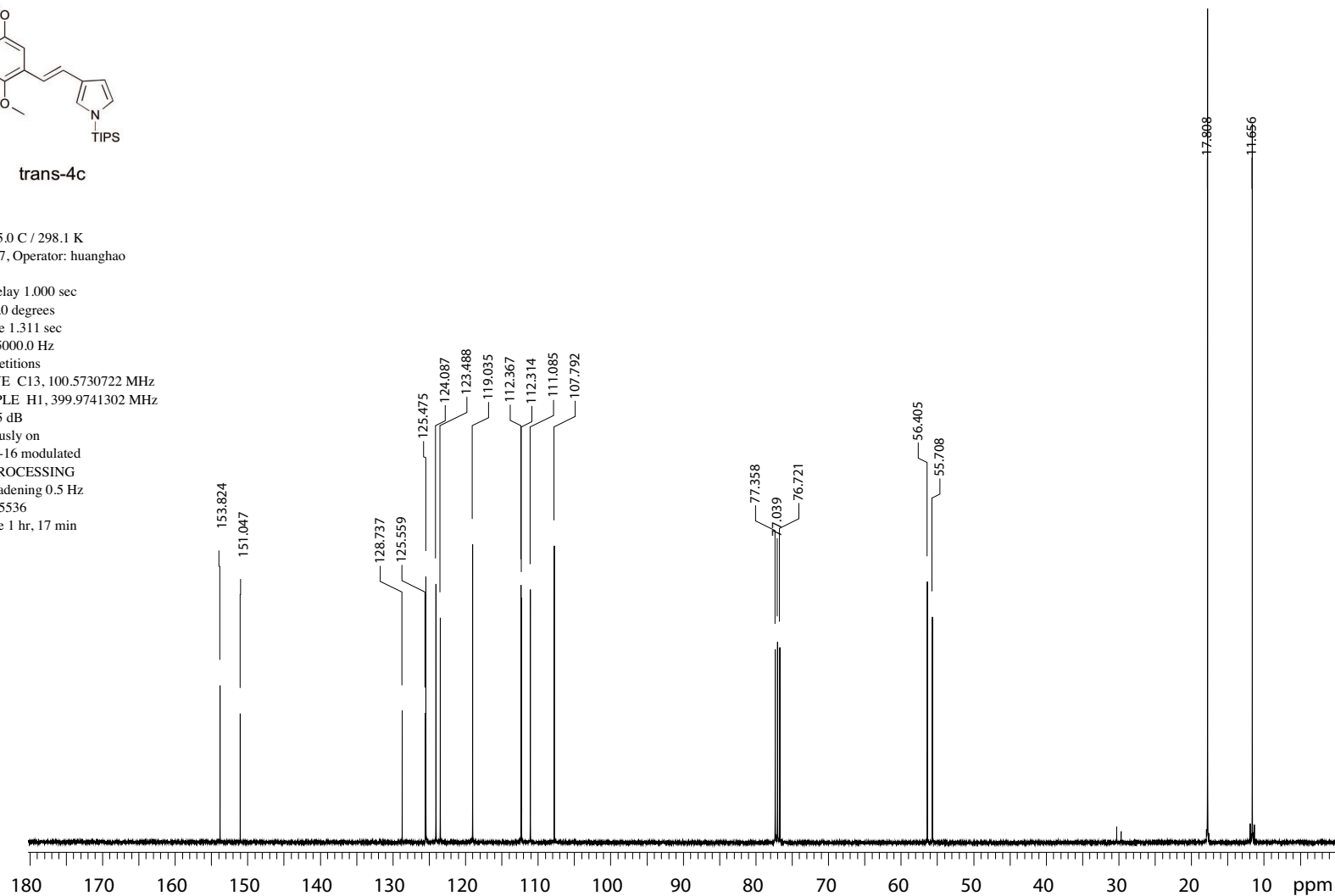


Figure S 32. ^{13}C NMR spectrum (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3 solution) of *trans*-4c.

Temp. 25.0 C / 298.1 K
Sample #8, Operator: huanghao

Relax. delay 10.000 sec
Pulse 45.0 degrees
Acq. time 2.556 sec
Width 6410.3 Hz
16 repetitions
OBSERVE H1, 399.9721294 MHz
DATA PROCESSING
FT size 262144
Total time 3 min 50 sec

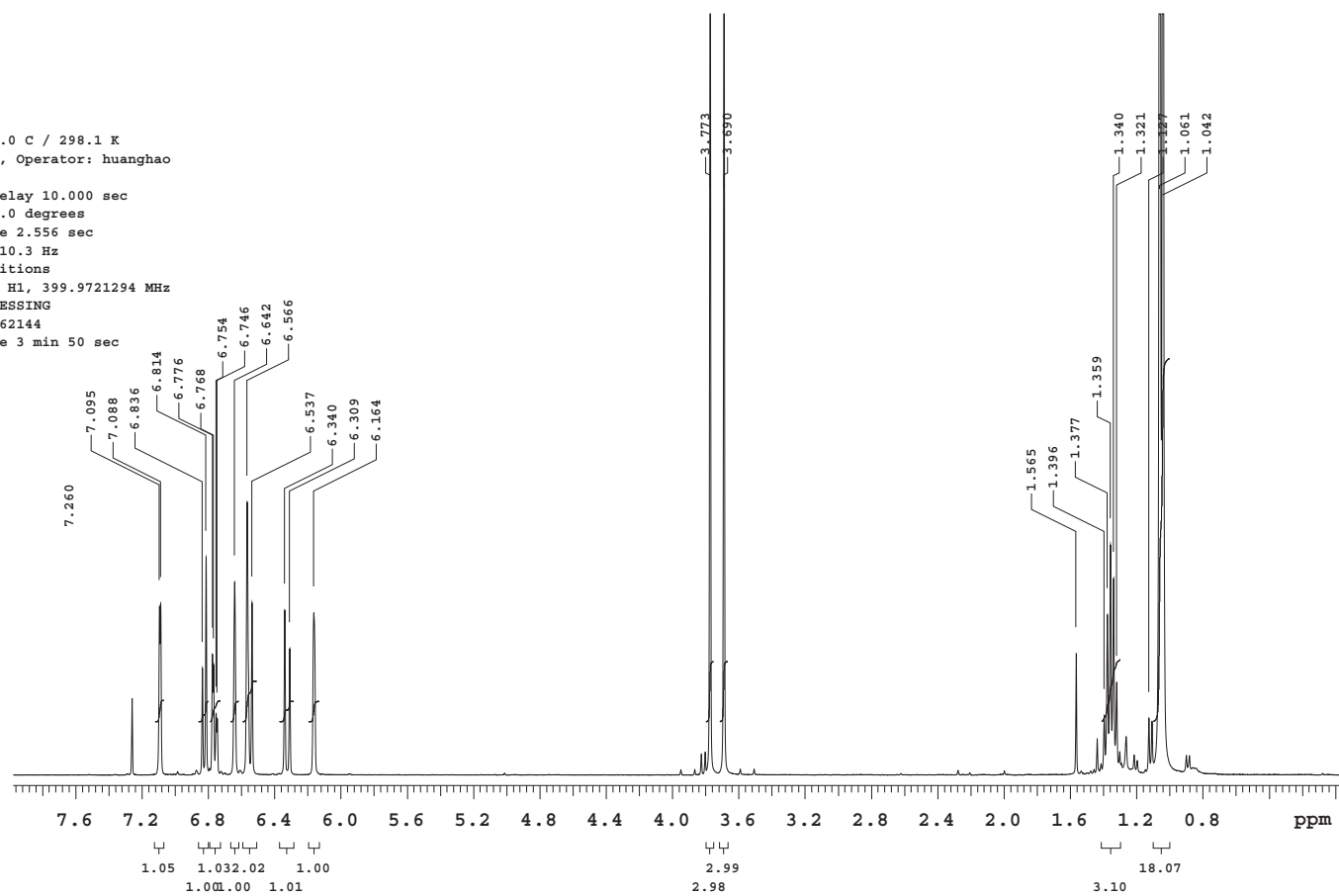
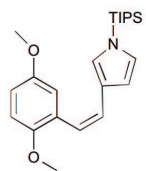


Figure S 33. ¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃ solution) of *cis*-4c.



***cis* - 4c**

Temp. 25.0 C / 298.1 K
Sample #8, Operator: huanghao

Relax. delay 1.000 sec
Pulse 45.0 degrees
Acq. time 1.311 sec
Width 25000.0 Hz
2000 repetitions
OBSERVE C13, 100.5730722 MHz
DECOUPLE H1, 399.9741302 MHz
Power 35 dB
continuously on
WALTZ-16 modulated
DATA PROCESSING
Line broadening 0.5 Hz
FT size 65536
Total time 1 hr, 17 min

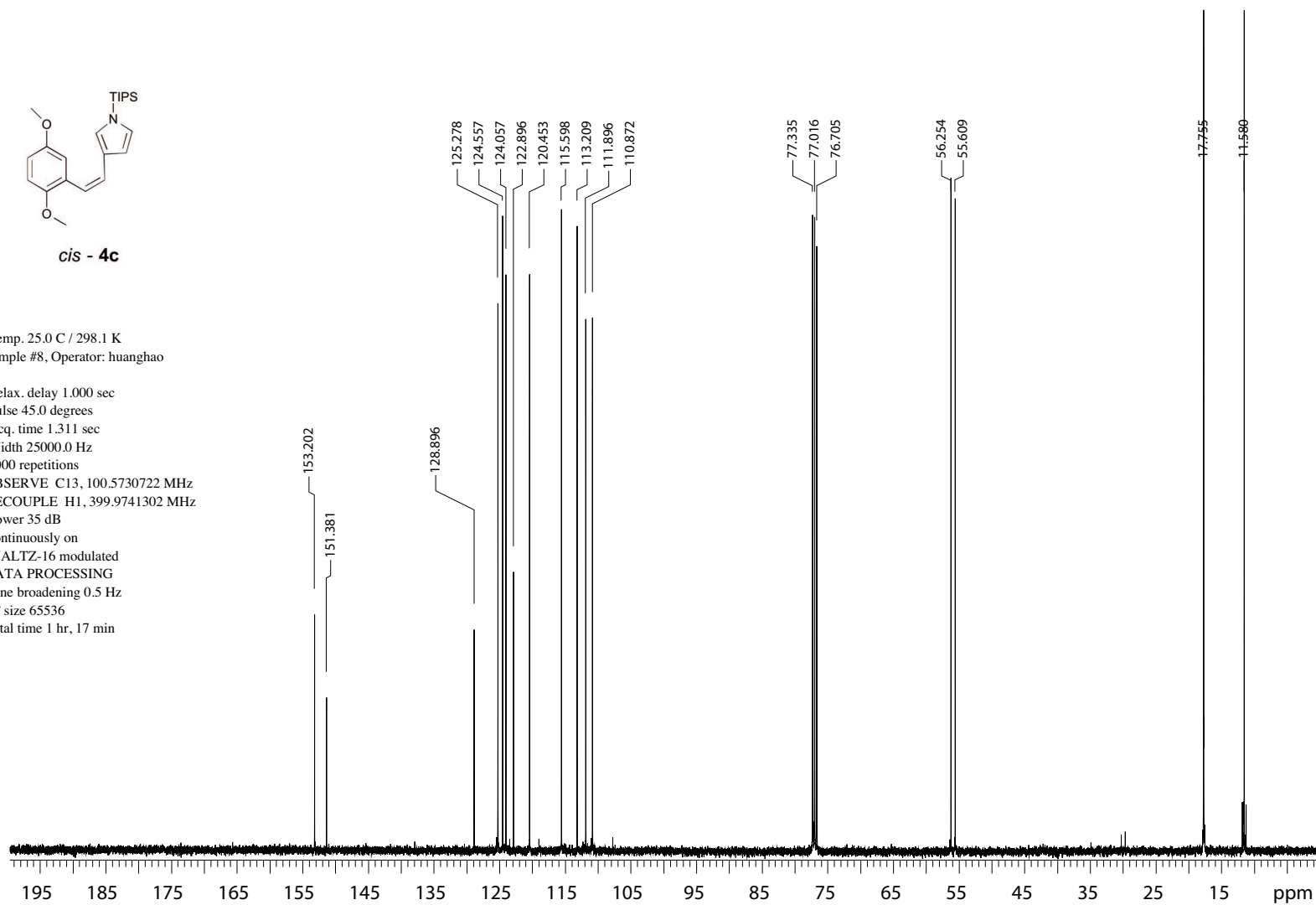


Figure S 34. ^{13}C NMR spectrum (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3 solution) of *cis*-4c.

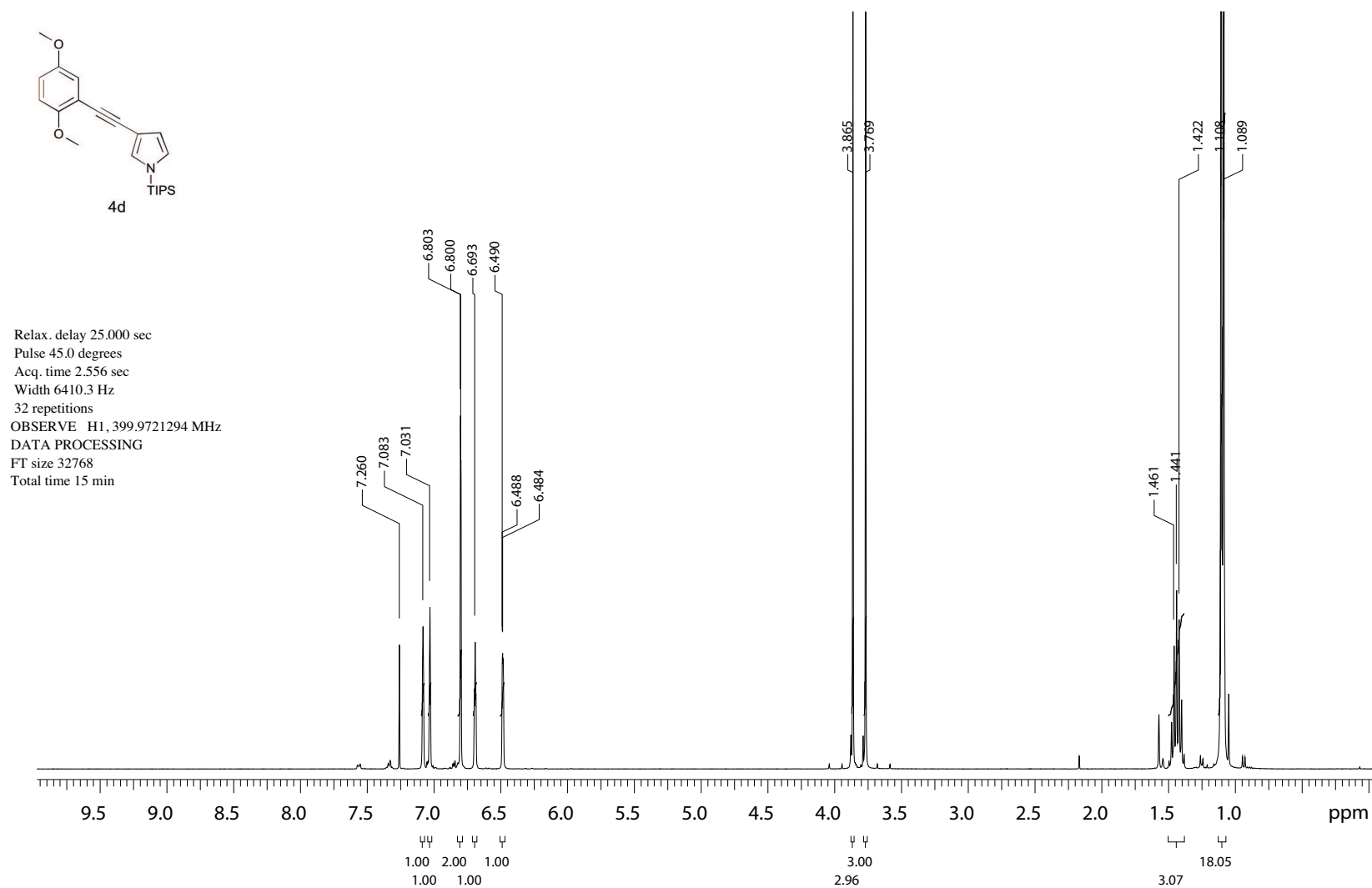


Figure S 35. ¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃ solution) of **4d**.

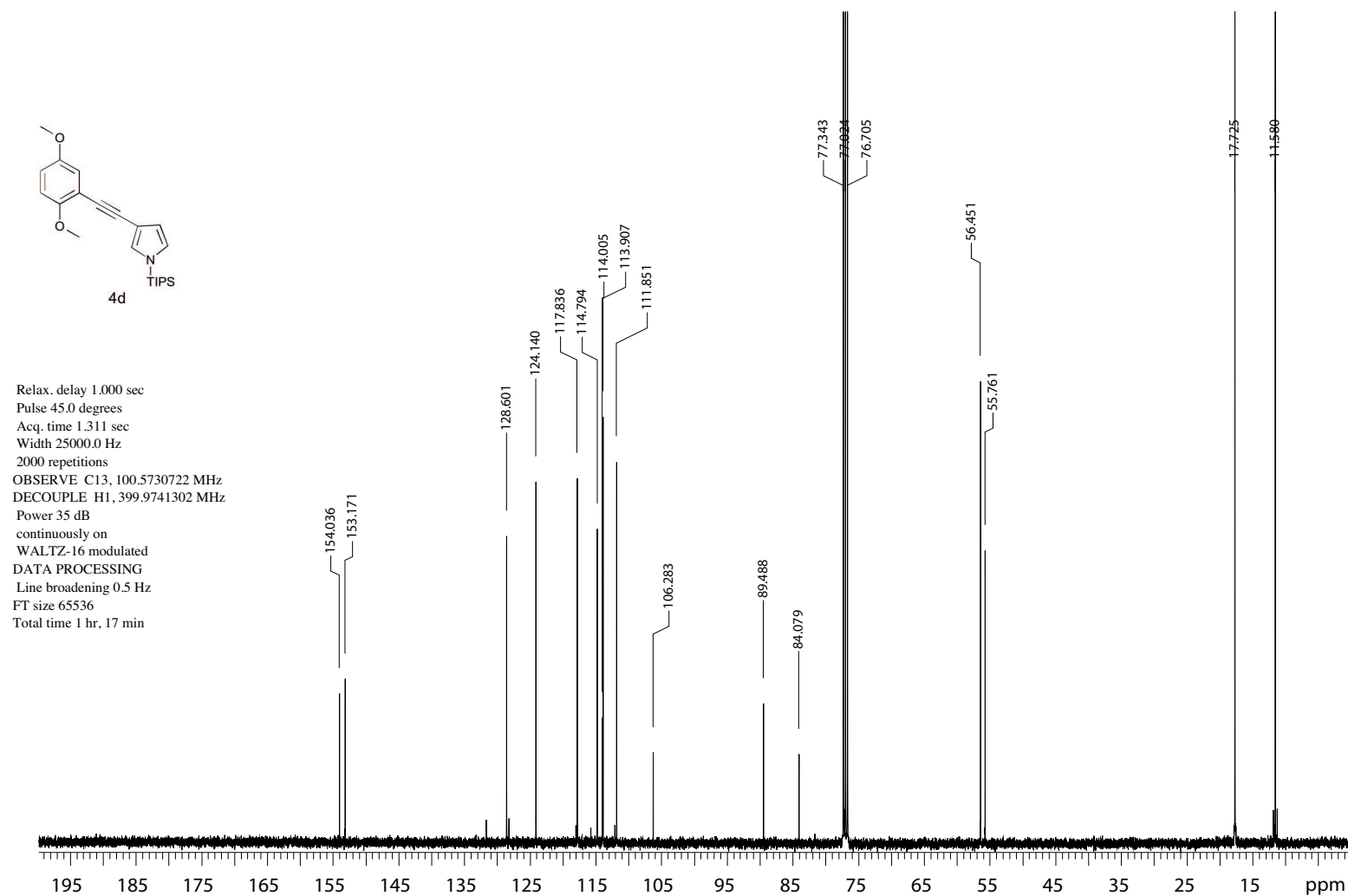


Figure S 36. ^{13}C NMR spectrum (100.6 MHz, CDCl_3 solution) of **4d**.

Mass spectra

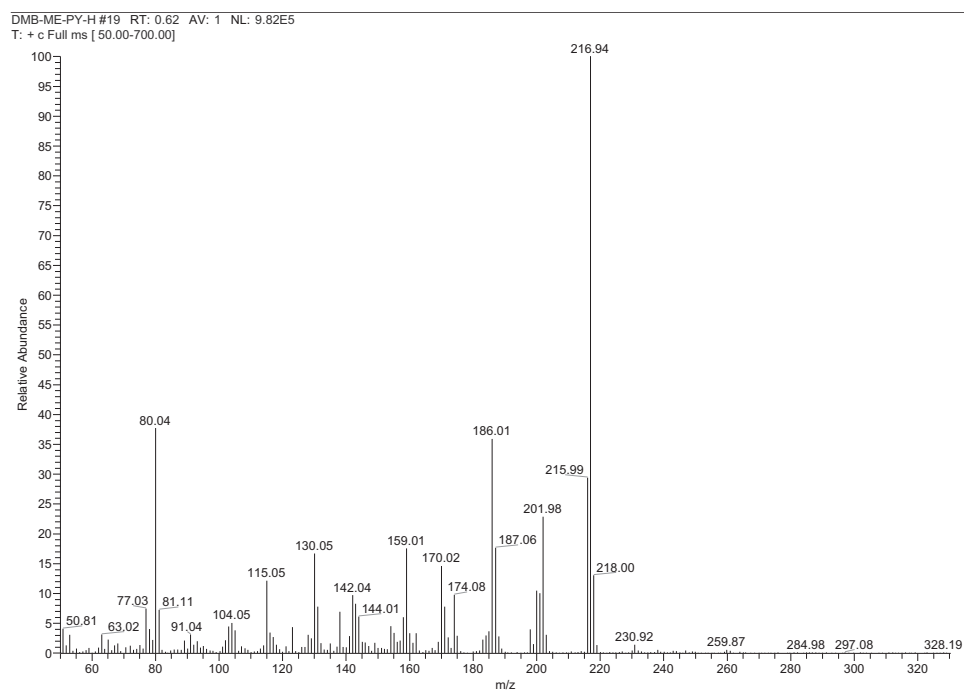


Figure S 37. Mass spectrum of **3a**.

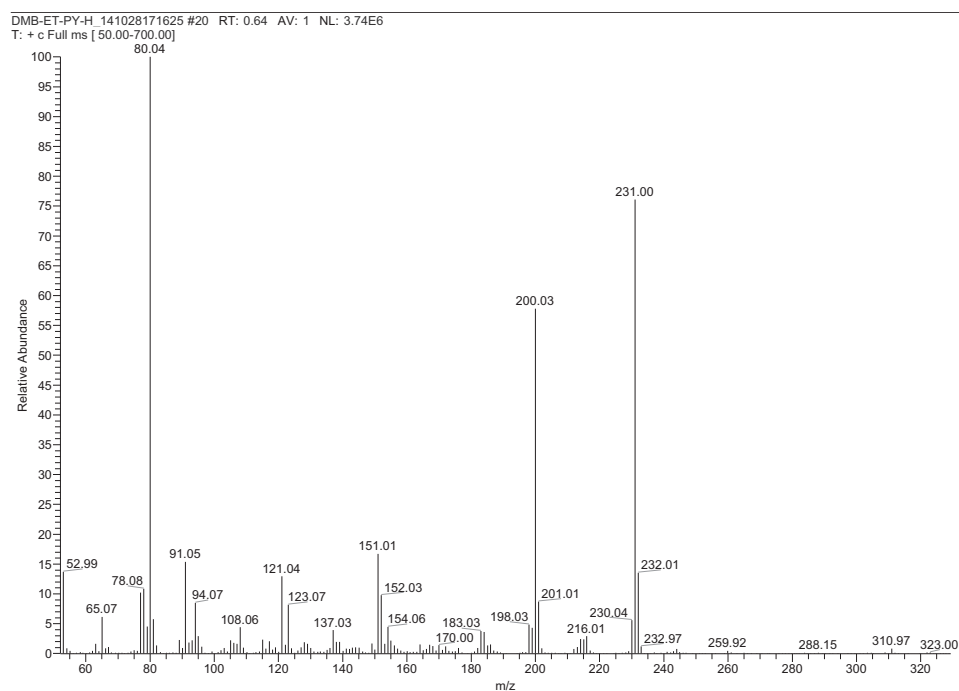


Figure S 38. Mass spectrum of **3b**.

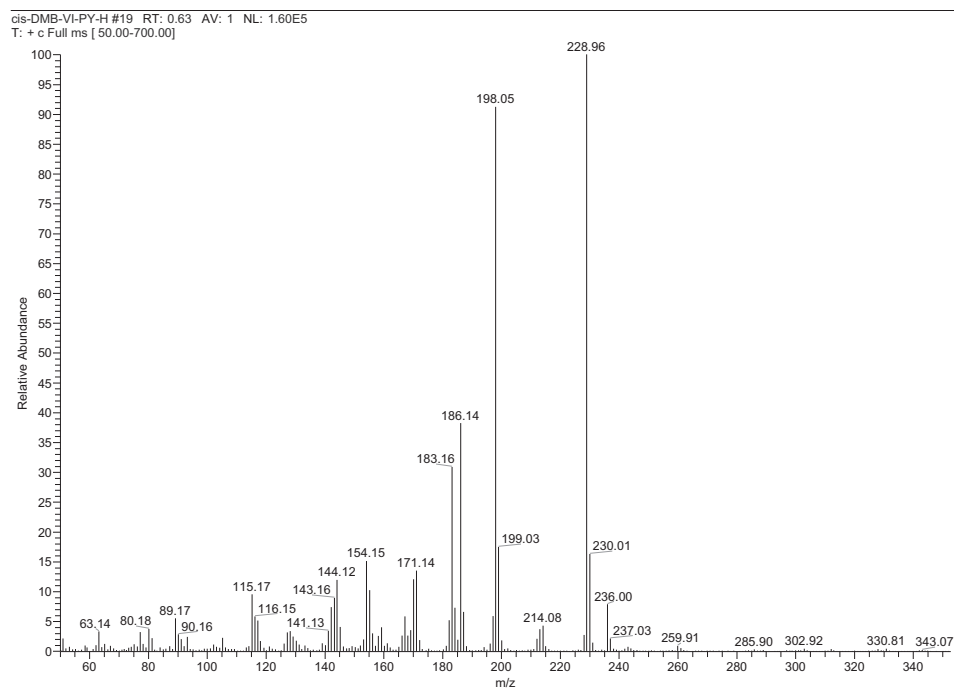


Figure S 39. Mass spectrum of *cis*-3c.

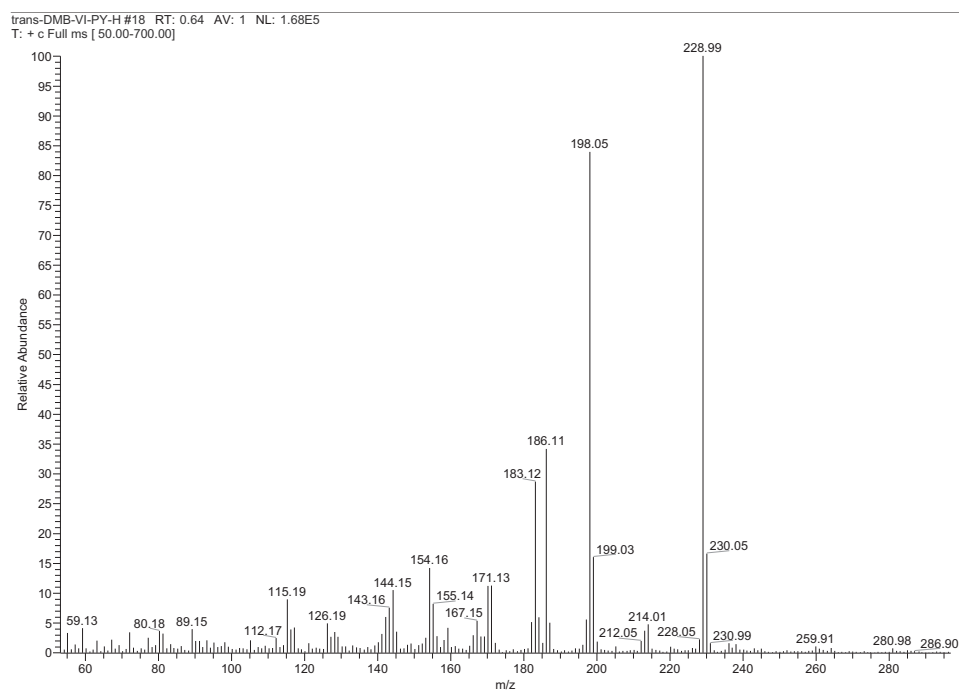


Figure S 40. Mass spectrum of *trans*-3c.

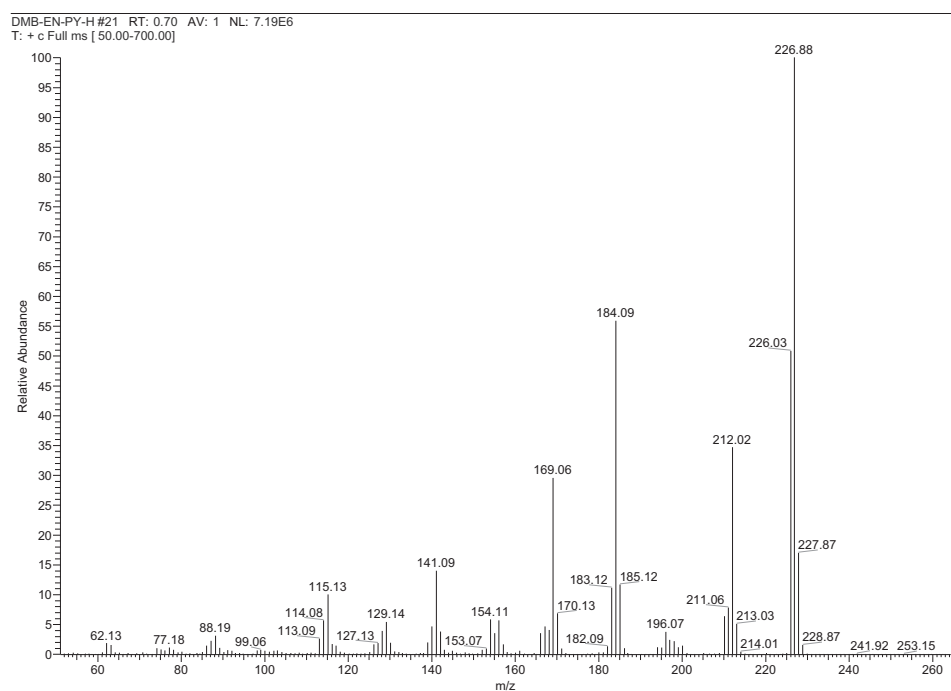


Figure S 41. Mass spectrum of **3d**.

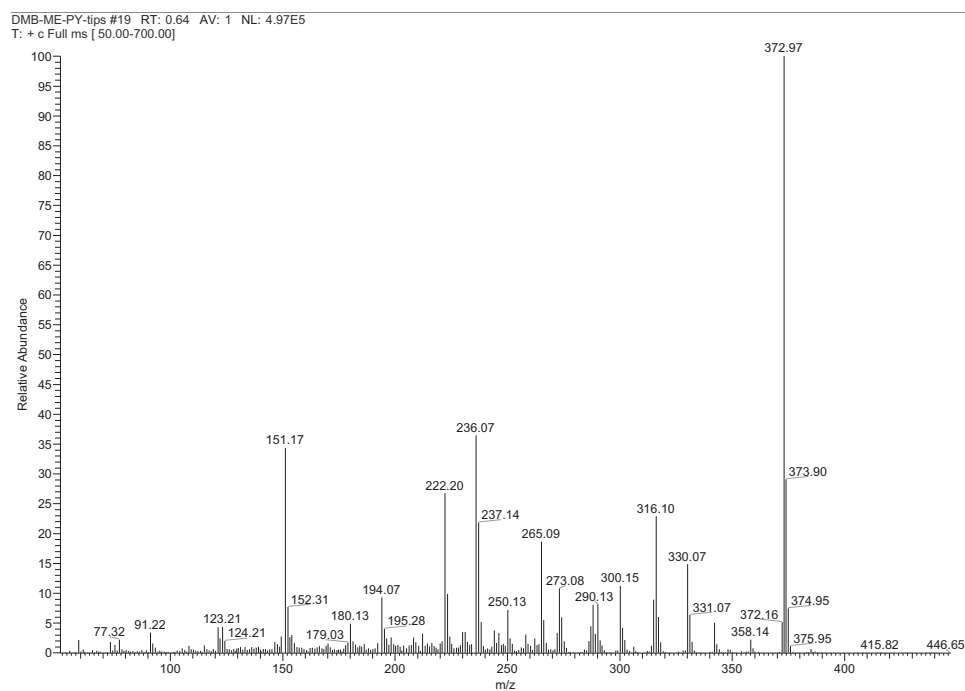


Figure S 42. Mass spectrum of **4a**.

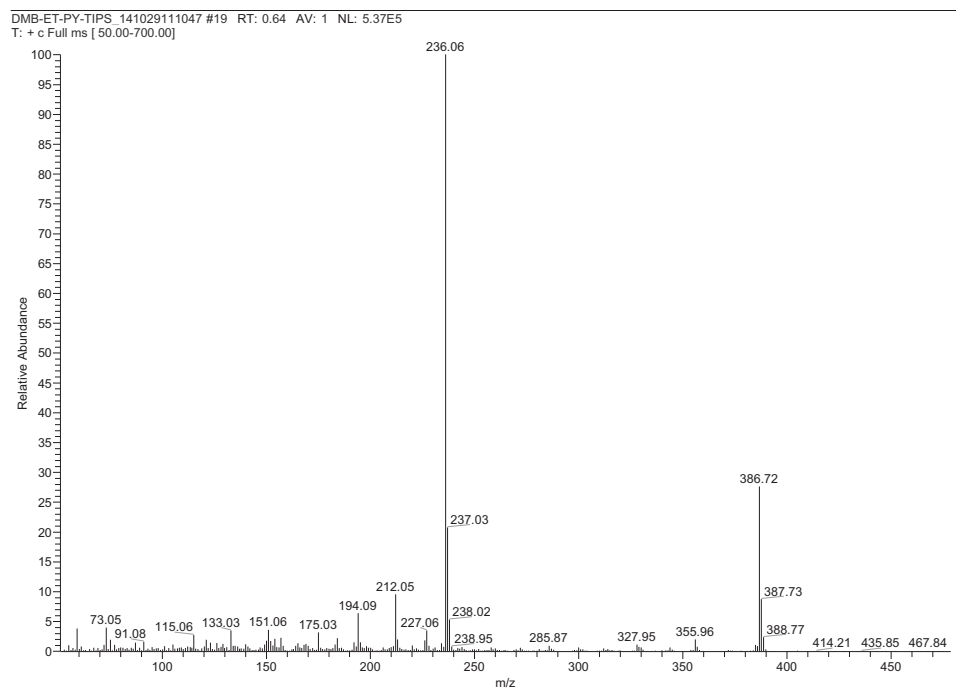


Figure S 43. Mass spectrum of **4b**.

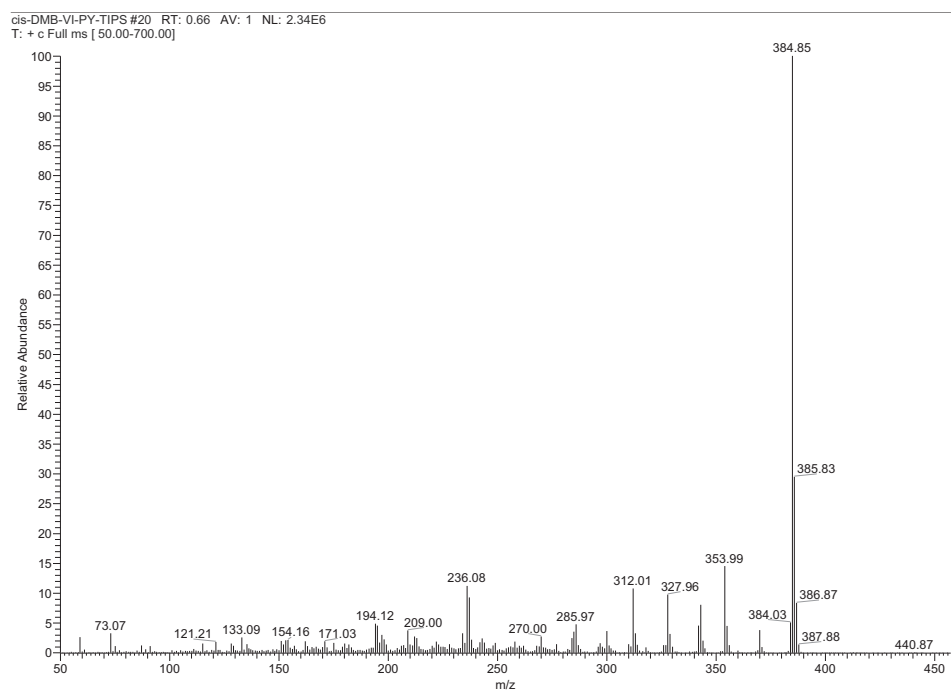


Figure S 44. Mass spectrum of *cis*-**4c**.

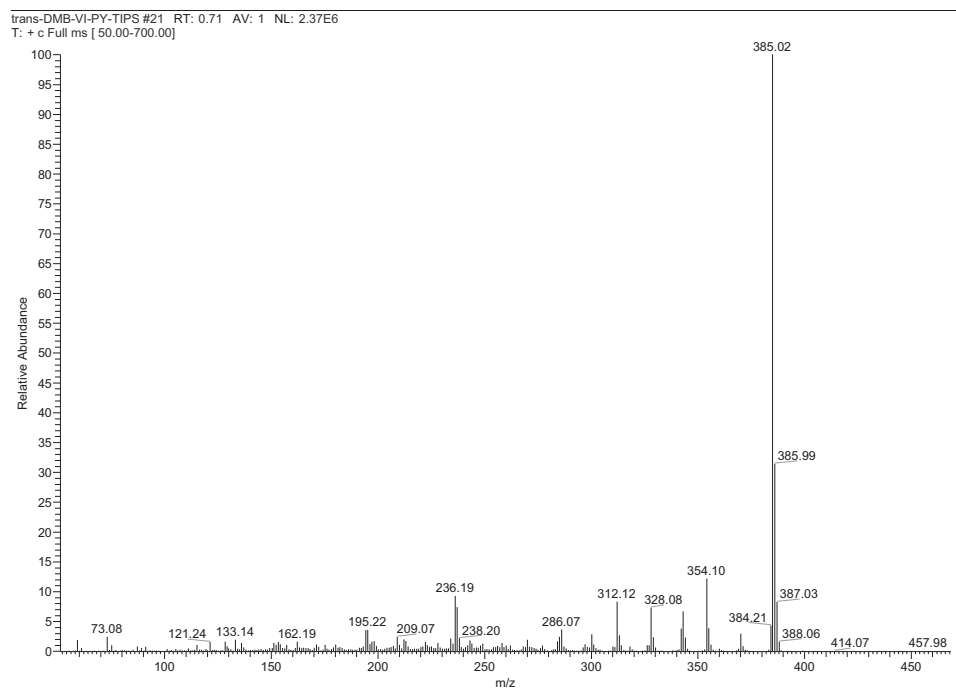


Figure S 45. Mass spectrum of *trans*-4c.

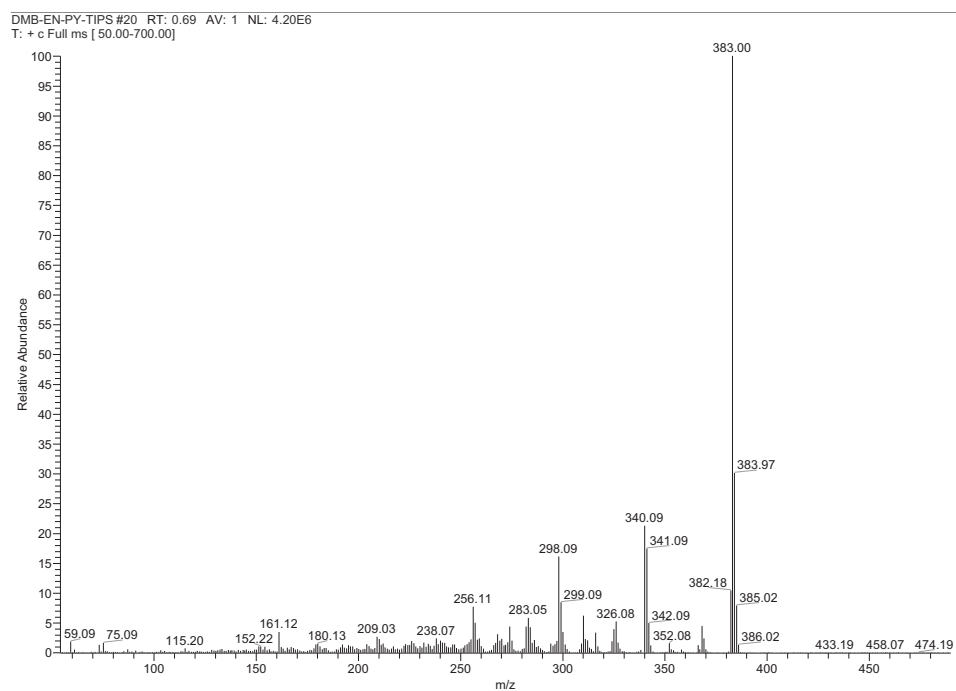


Figure S 46. Mass spectrum of 4d.

Calculated NMR chemical shifts

Table S 2. Comparison of experimental and calculated ^1H chemical shifts for the dyads discussed in the text.

		Py-2	Py-4	Py-5	Ph-3	Ph-4	Ph-6
1	δ_{exp}	7.36	6.62	6.83	6.87	6.70	7.13
	δ_{DFT}	7.30	6.55	6.73	6.75	6.61	7.08
	Error _{abs}	0.06	0.07	0.10	0.12	0.09	0.05
3a	δ_{exp}	6.57	6.12	6.72	6.78	6.69	6.76
	δ_{DFT}	6.61	6.20	6.49	6.65	6.66	6.57
	Error _{abs}	0.04	0.08	0.23	0.13	0.03	0.19
3b	δ_{exp}	6.63	6.2	6.76	6.84	6.76	6.84
	δ_{DFT}	6.59	5.99	6.68	6.67	6.67	6.62
	Error _{abs}	0.04	0.21	0.08	0.17	0.09	0.22
<i>trans</i> - 3c	δ_{exp}	6.91	6.52	6.78	6.81	6.72	7.10
	δ_{DFT}	6.68	6.52	6.70	6.75	6.62	6.63
	Error _{abs}	0.23	0.00	0.08	0.06	0.10	0.47
<i>cis</i> - 3c	δ_{exp}	6.72	6.09	6.60	6.84	6.78	7.1
	δ_{DFT}	6.68	5.86	6.44	6.64	6.78	6.61
	Error _{abs}	0.04	0.23	0.16	0.20	0.00	0.49
3d	δ_{exp}	7.08	6.42	6.73	6.8	6.8	7.03
	δ_{DFT}	7.04	6.32	6.61	6.65	6.75	6.79
	Error _{abs}	0.04	0.10	0.12	0.15	0.05	0.24

The average error is 0.13 ppm and the RMS value is 0.17 ppm.

Table S 3. Comparison of experimental and calculated ^{13}C chemical shifts for the dyads discussed in the text.

		Py-2	Py-3	Py-4	Py-5	Ph-1	Ph-2	Ph-3	Ph-4	Ph-5	Ph-6
1	δ_{exp}	118.1	120.2	107.9	117.7	125.6	150.6	112.3	110.6	153.7	114.0
	δ_{DFT}	118.8	121.6	105.4	115.9	125.2	150.1	109.4	112.4	154.4	106.0
	Error _{abs}	0.7	1.4	2.4	1.9	0.4	0.5	2.9	1.8	0.6	7.9
3a	δ_{exp}	115.9	122.2	109.2	117.8	132.3	151.5	111.2	110.8	153.5	116.4
	δ_{DFT}	112.8	127.1	107.1	116.5	133.5	150.4	108.9	112.9	153.2	110.0
	Error _{abs}	3.1	4.9	2.1	1.3	1.3	1.1	2.3	2.2	0.2	6.4
3b	δ_{exp}	115.0	124.1	108.6	117.6	132.3	151.8	111.3	110.8	153.4	116.2
	δ_{DFT}	111.8	126.4	107.0	116.2	132.2	151.1	108.5	113.8	153.6	110.1
	Error _{abs}	3.1	2.3	1.6	1.4	0.1	0.8	2.8	2.9	0.2	6.1
<i>trans</i> - 3c	δ_{exp}	117.4	123.5	105.9	119.0	128.5	151.0	112.4	112.4	153.8	111.1
	δ_{DFT}	118.3	124.9	102.5	118.2	126.9	152.4	109.8	112.9	153.5	111.4
	Error _{abs}	0.8	1.3	3.4	0.8	1.6	1.4	2.6	0.5	0.3	0.2
<i>cis</i> - 3c	δ_{exp}	118.6	120.9	108.9	117.8	128.7	151.4	112.0	113.4	153.2	115.5
	δ_{DFT}	119.2	124.2	106.5	116.6	129.9	150.7	108.8	114.3	153.1	109.4
	Error _{abs}	0.7	3.3	2.4	1.2	1.2	0.7	3.2	1.0	0.1	6.2
3d	δ_{exp}	122.2	104.5	112.0	118.0	113.9	154.1	112.0	114.9	153.2	117.9
	δ_{DFT}	123.0	105.4	111.5	116.8	113.3	154.2	108.9	115.7	153.1	112.3
	Error _{abs}	0.8	0.9	0.5	1.2	0.6	0.2	3.1	0.9	0.1	5.5

The average error is 1.9 ppm, and the RMS is 2.6 ppm.

Gaussian 09 was used to perform the DFT calculation at B3LYP level of theory. Structures were optimized in the gas phase with the 6-311+G(d) basis set. NMR chemical shifts were calculated by the GIAO method with 6-311+G(2d,p) at the B3LYP level of theory using the SDM solvent model with chloroform as solvent.¹ NMR chemical shift data were extracted from the computed isotropic shielding constants and the slope and intercept from the linear regression analysis (eq 1):

$$\delta = \frac{A - \sigma}{-B} \quad (\text{eq. 1})$$

Here, σ is the isotropic shielding constant, A is the intercept, and B is the slope. The values of intercept and slope were obtained from reference 1.

1. Lodewyk, M. W.; Siebert, M. R.; Tantillo, D. J., *Chem. Rev.* **2012**, 112 (3), 1839-1862.