

**SUPPLEMENTARY FILE****2.1. General methods and materials**

All chemicals used were analytical reagents and were commercially purchased from Aldrich. Cu(CH<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>.H<sub>2</sub>O, 2,4-dichloro-5-sulfamoylbenzoic acid, 2-aminopyridine, 2-amino-3-methylpyridine, 2-amino-4-methylpyridine, 2-amino-5-methylpyridine and 2-amino-6-methylpyridine were used as received. Elemental analyses for C, H, N and S were performed on Elementar Vario III EL and Cu was detected with Perkin Elmer AAS PinAAcle 900T. FT-IR spectra were recorded in the 4000–400 cm<sup>-1</sup> region with Bruker Optics, Vertex 70 FT-IR spectrometer using KBr. The UV–Vis spectra were obtained for aqueous solutions of the compounds (10<sup>-3</sup> M) with a SHIMADZU UV-2550 spectrometer in the range of 200–900 nm. Magnetic susceptibility measurements at room temperature were performed using a Sherwood Scientific Magway MSB MK1 model magnetic balance by the Gouy method using Hg[Co(SCN)<sub>4</sub>] as calibrant. The molar conductances of the compounds were determined in water/ethanol (1:1) and in DMSO (10<sup>-3</sup> M) at room temperature using a WTW Cond 315i/SET Model conductivity meter.

**Table S1.** IR spectral data of free ligands (cm<sup>-1</sup>).

	<b>Hsba</b>	<b>ap</b>	<b>2a3mp</b>	<b>2a4mp</b>	<b>2a5mp</b>	<b>2a6mp</b>
v(O-H)	2900(br)					
v(NH <sub>2</sub> )	3425(m) 3278(m)	3443(m) 3291(m)	3175(m) 3317(m)	3317(m) 3175(m)	3387(m) 3290(m)	3175(m) 3330(m)
v(C-H) <sub>Ar</sub>	3090(w)	3070(w)	3072(w)	3072(w)	3092(w)	3040(m)
v(C-H) <sub>Alp.</sub>	-	-	3005(w) 2930(w)	2971(w) 2855(w)	3032(w) 2989(w)	2849(w)
v(C=O)	1684(s) 1430(s)	-	-	-	-	-
v(C=N)	1430(s)		1622(s) 1593(s)	1580(s)	1580(s) 1475(s)	1585(s) 1571(s)
v(C=C)	1401(s)		1555(s) 1483(s)	1460(s) 1445(s)	1460(s) 1445(s)	1465(s) 1447(s)
			1435(s)		1417(s)	1443(s)
v(C-O)	1352(s) 1250(s) 1169(s)					
v(S=O)	1073(s) 1160(s)					
v(py)		751(s)	768(s)	768(s)	791(s)	795(s)

<sup>a</sup> abbreviations: w, weak; m, medium; s, strong; br, broad

**Table S2.** IR spectral data of complexes **1-5** ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ).

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
$\nu(\text{NH}_2)$	3382(m)	3476(m)	3408(m)	3309(m)	3326(m)
	3341(m)	3332(m)	3344(m)	3267(m)	3297(m)
	3235(m)	3165(m)	3262(m)	3197(m)	3252(m)
	3172(m)		3162(m)	3191(m)	3190(m)
$\nu(\text{CH})_{\text{Ar}}$	3100(w)	3100(w)	3100(w)	3108(w)	3072(s)
$\nu(\text{CH})_{\text{Alp.}}$	-	2956(w)	2976(w)	2969(w)	2980(w)
		2861(w)	2936(w)	2951(w)	2850(w)
		2809(w)	283(w)1	2847(w)	2725(w)
$\nu(\text{N}^+\text{H})$	2792(w)	2699(w)	2764(w)	2765(w)	2724(w)
	2574(w)	2550(w)	2607(w)	2501(w)	2596(w)
$\nu(\text{C}=\text{O})$	1686(s)	1679(s)	1629(s)	1691(s)	1676(s)
	1483(s)	1473(s)	1487(s)	1466(s)	1472(s)
$\nu(\text{C}=\text{N})$	1635(s)	1631(s)	1590(s)	1642(s)	1632(s)
$\nu(\text{C}=\text{C})$	1573(s)	1574(s)	1570(s)	1601(s)	1600(s)
	1546(s)	1473(s)	1547(s)	1578(s)	1561(s)
	1444(s)	1438(s)	1510(s)	1543(s)	1541(s)
	1430(s)		1444(s)	1491(s)	1534(s)
					1435(s)
$\nu(\text{CO})$	1384(s)	1387(s)	1388(s)	1380(s)	1360(s)
	1312(s)	1310(s)	1316(s)	1273(s)	1217(s)
	1079(s)	1077(s)	1081(s)	1085(s)	1095(s)
$\nu(\text{S}=\text{O})$	1249(s)	1252(s)	1236(s)	1251(s)	1257(s)
	1173(s)	1169(s)	1175(s)	1171(s)	1160(s)
	1123(s)	1118(s)	1117(s)	1124(s)	1135(s)
$\nu(\text{py})$	763(s)	781(s)	771(s)	794(s)	790(s)

<sup>a</sup> abbreviations: w, weak; m, medium; s, strong; br, broad

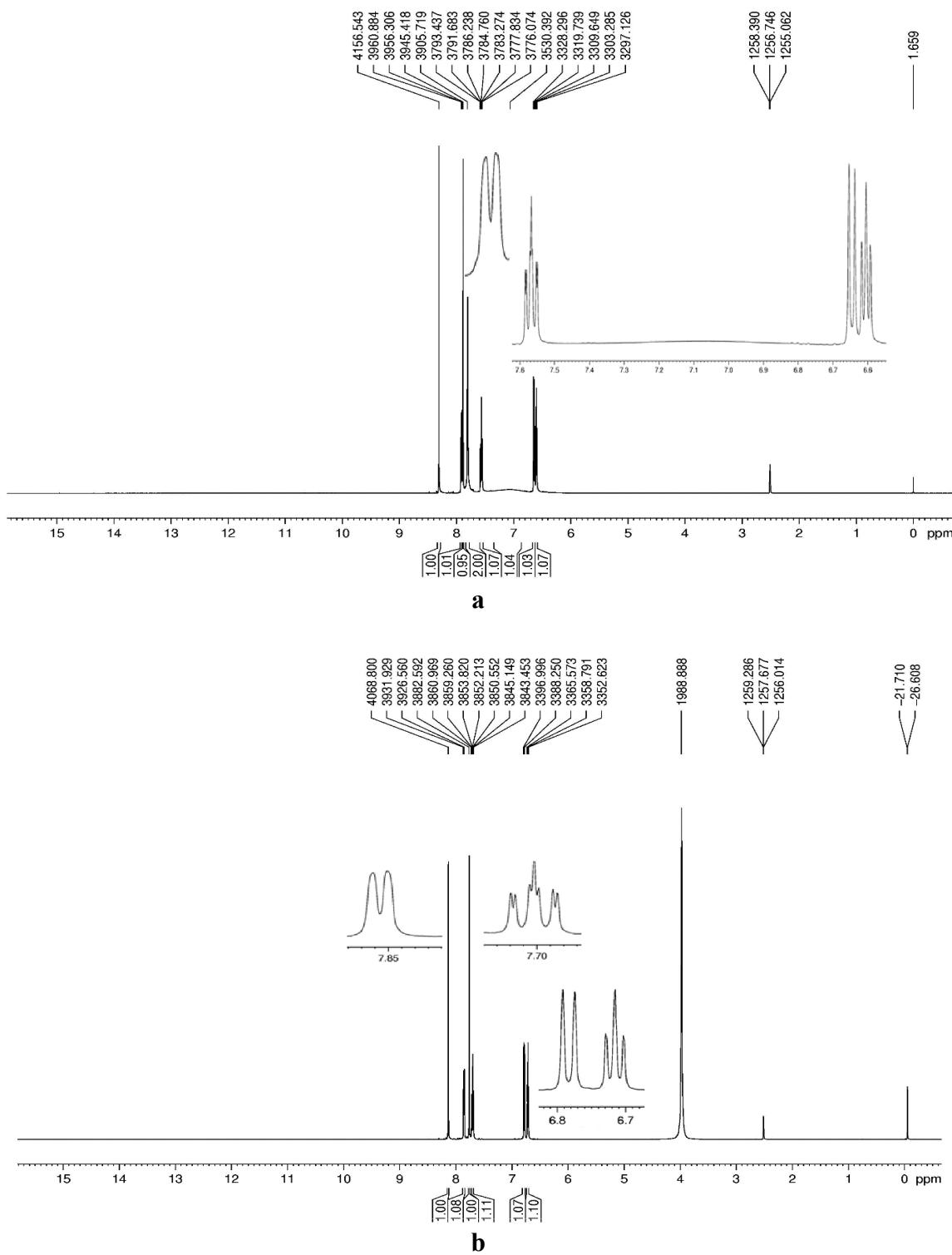
**Table S3.** IR spectral data of complexes **1-5** (cm<sup>-1</sup>).

	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
v(OH)	3549(br)	3530(br)	3432(br)	3430(br)	3567(br)	3532(br)
v(NH <sub>2</sub> )	3465(m) 3358(m) 3212(m)	3476(m) 3361(m) 3319(m) 3278(m)		3334(m) 3432(m) 3351(m)	3444(m) 3392(m) 3186(m) 3352(m) 3290(m)	3377(m) 3291(m)
v(CH) <sub>Ar</sub>	3074(w)	3107(w)	3076(w)	3089(w)	3099(w)	3109(w)
v(CH) <sub>Alp.</sub>	-	2968(w) 2920(w) 2872(w)	2956(w) 2804(w) 2747(w)	3012(w) 2931(w) 2752(w)	2971(w) 2938(w) 2855(w)	-
v(N <sup>+</sup> H)	-	-	-	-	-	-
v(C=O)	1677(s) 1489(s)	1654(s) 1462(s)	1678(s) 1489(s)	1684(s) 1484(s)	1631(s) 1421(s)	1661(s) 1461(s)
v(C=N)	1586(s)	1588(s)	1634(s)	1641(s)	1568(s)	1590(s)
v(C=C)	1538(s) 1510(s) 1453(s) 1426(s)	1524(s) 1427(s)	1579(s) 1540(s) 1439(s)	1579(s) 1511(s) 1454(s)	1455(s) 1441(s)	1556(s) 1425(s)
v(CO)	1378(s) 1268(s) 1090(s)	1386(s) 1297(s) 1070(s)	1389(s) 1297(s) 1080(s)	1402(s) 1269(s) 1081(s)	1356(s) 1239(s) 1080(s)	1385(s) 1297(s) 1043(s)
v(S=O)	1220(s) 1164(s) 1127(s)	1243(s) 1201(s) 1152(s)	1238(s) 1175(s) 1119(s)	1242(s) 1176(s) 1117(s)	1239(s) 1171(s) 1126(s)	1238(s) 1151(s) 1100(s)
v(py)	802(s)	793(s)	790(s)	792(s)	786(s)	-
v(MN)	474(w)	473(w)	455(w)	446(w)	462(w)	-
v(MO)	589(w)	597(w)	567(w)	564(w)	583(w)	569(w)

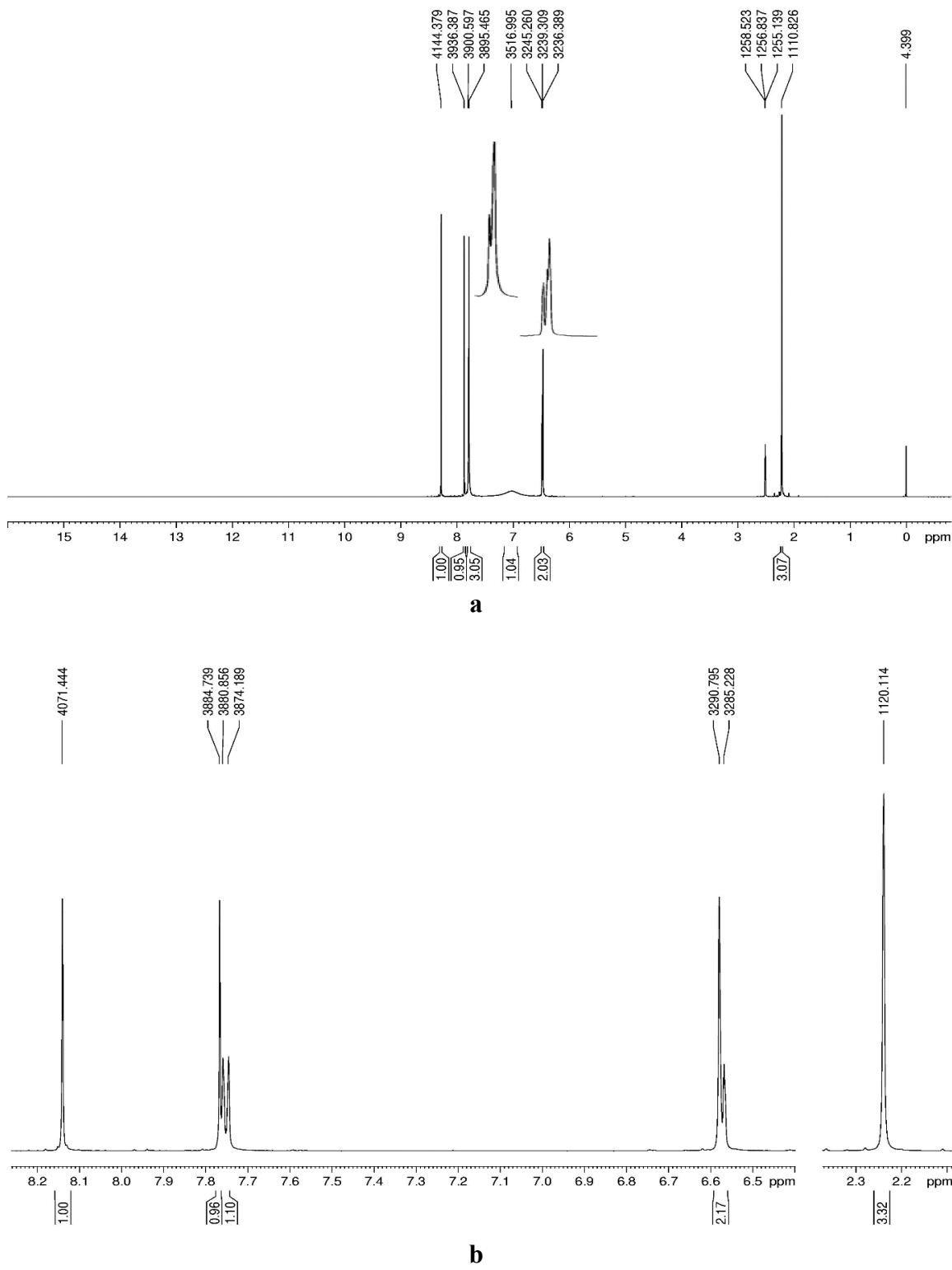
<sup>a</sup> abbreviations: w, weak; m, medium; s, strong; br, broad

**Table S4.** Optical properties all compounds in DMSO (nm(Lmol<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>)).

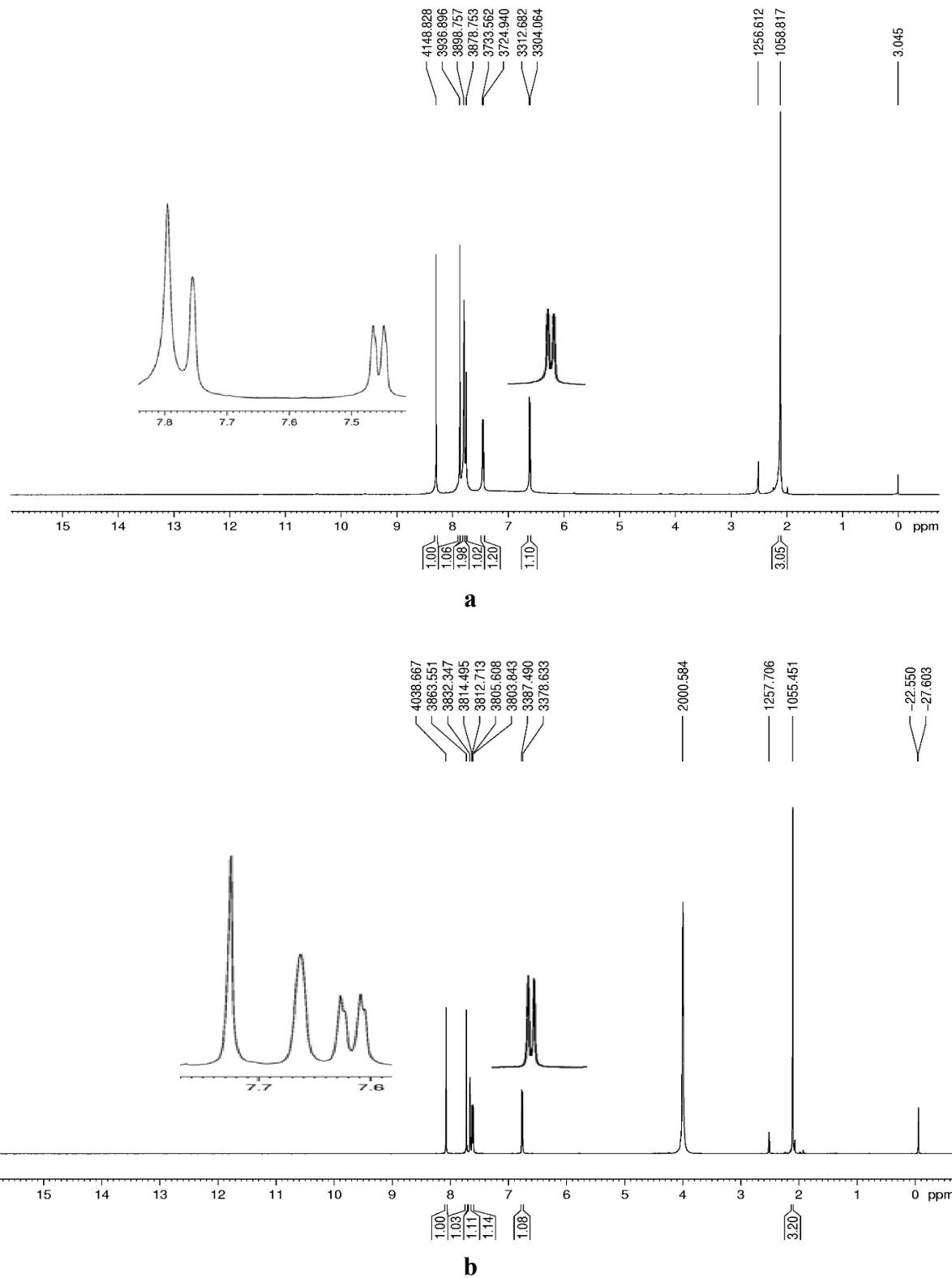
<b>Hsba</b>	<b>ap</b>	<b>2a4mp</b>	<b>2a5mp</b>	<b>2a6mp</b>	<b>2a3mp</b>
285(11230)	313(32610)	309(33120)	325(28780)	321(32150)	296(34190)
257(35120)		291(26230)	295(29280)	308(31940)	
<b>Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub>.2H<sub>2</sub>O</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
760(140)	300(34370)	318(41190)	306(38640)	306(37760)	304(29090)
256(36270)		290(29140)	295(26270)	298(21240)	296(29540)
<b>11</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>
835(180)	792(270)	790(240)	791(340)	797(100)	791(230)
290(31740)	301(22870)	300(30610)	312(38640)	308(38640)	295(35390)
		290(32060)	309(38640)		291(32490)



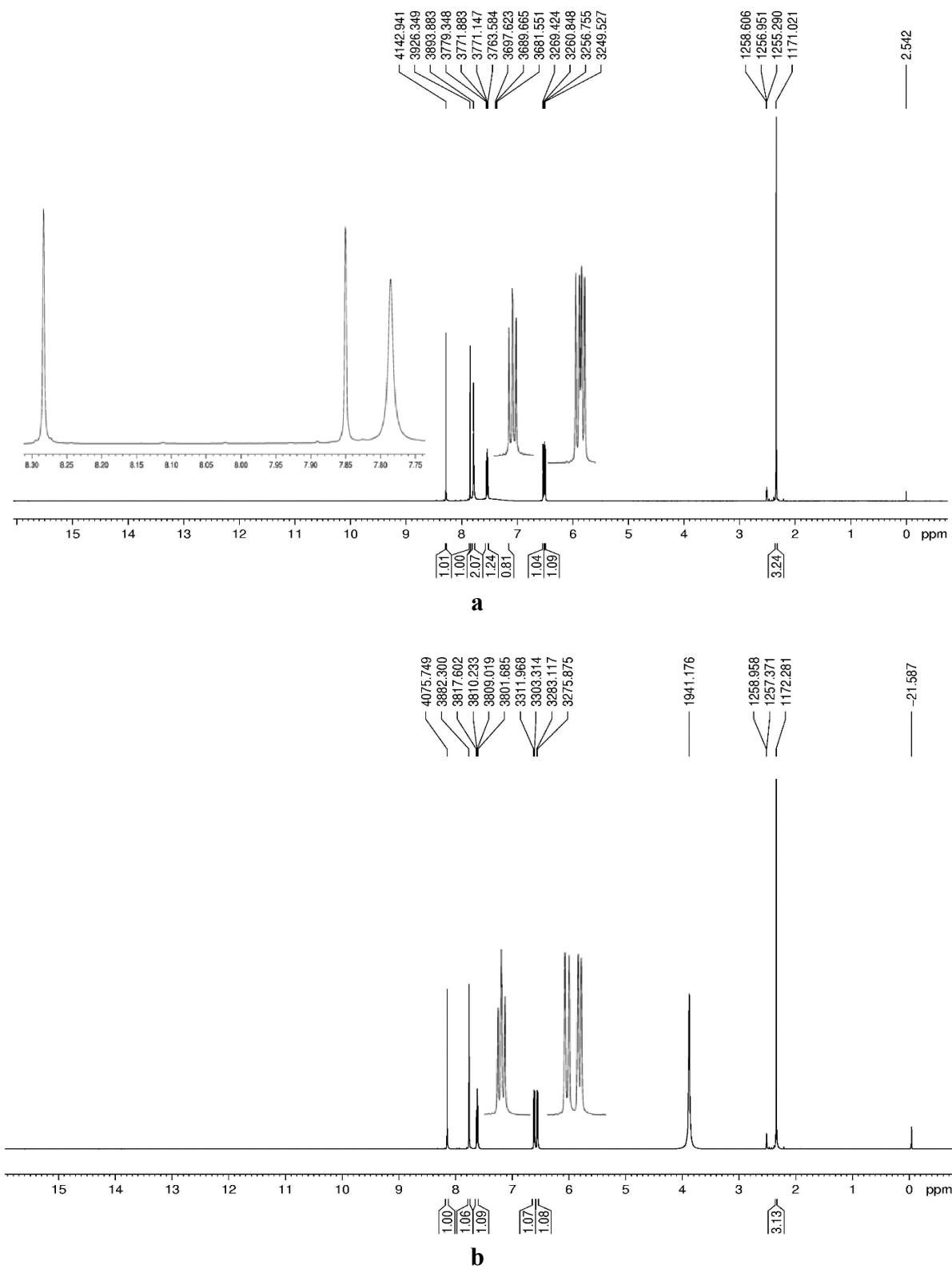
**Fig. S1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of compound 1; a) in DMSO, b) in DMSO with  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ .



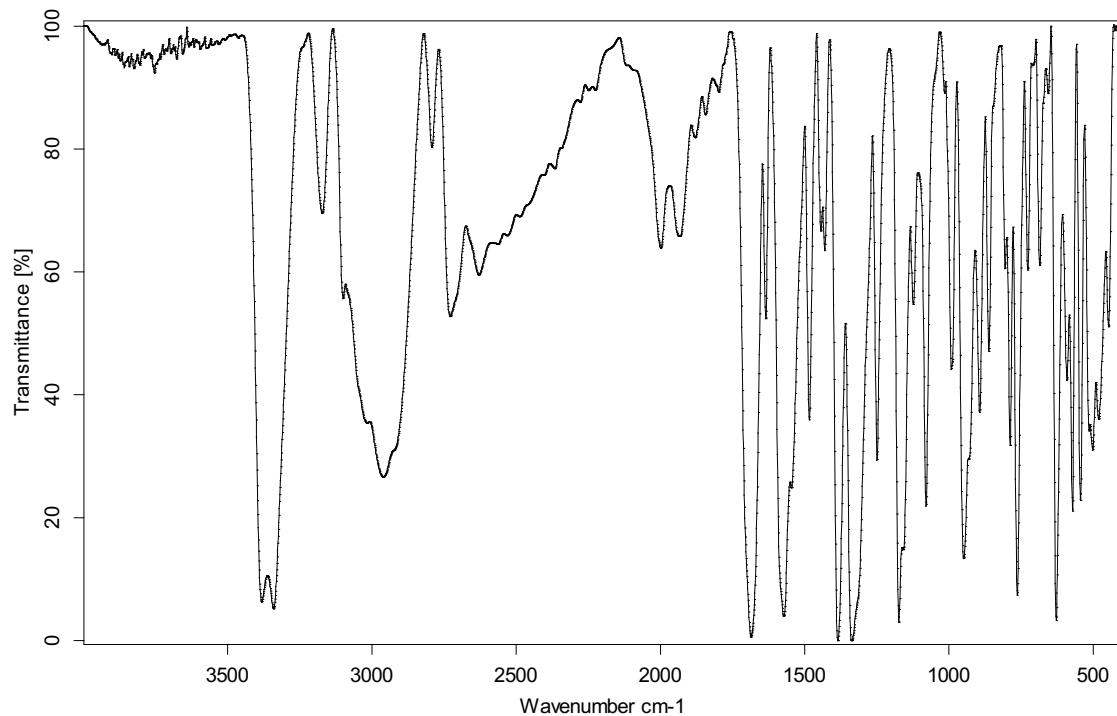
**Fig. S2.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of compound 2; a) in DMSO, b) in DMSO with D<sub>2</sub>O.



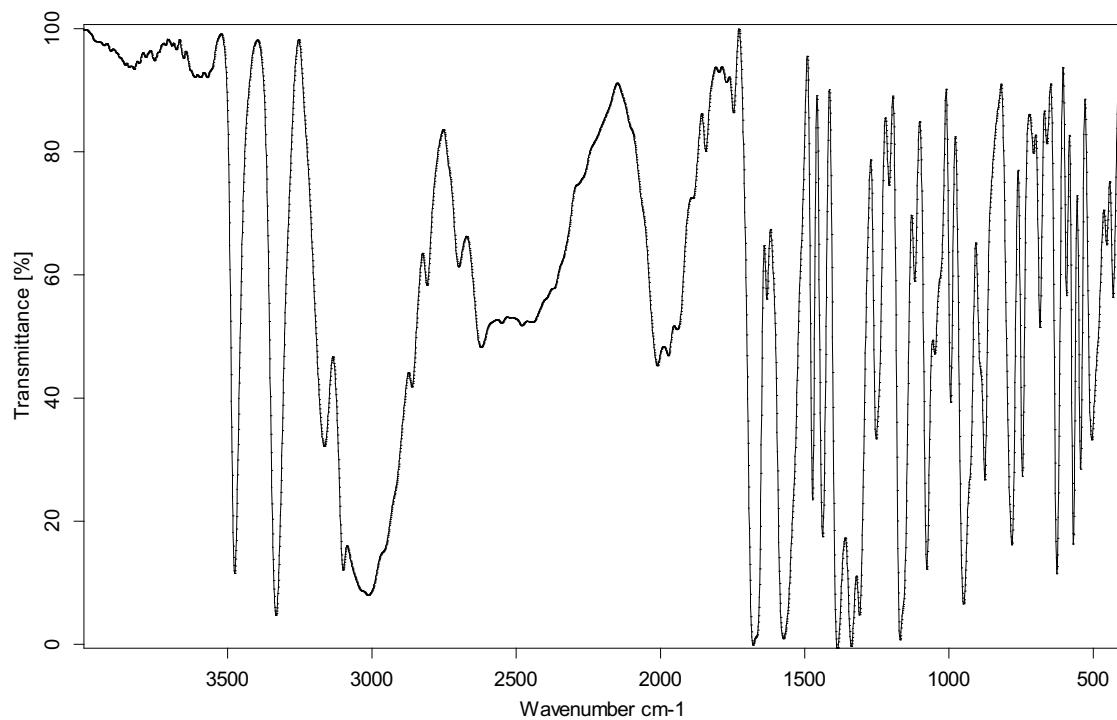
**Fig. S3.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of compound 3; a) in DMSO, b) in DMSO with  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ .



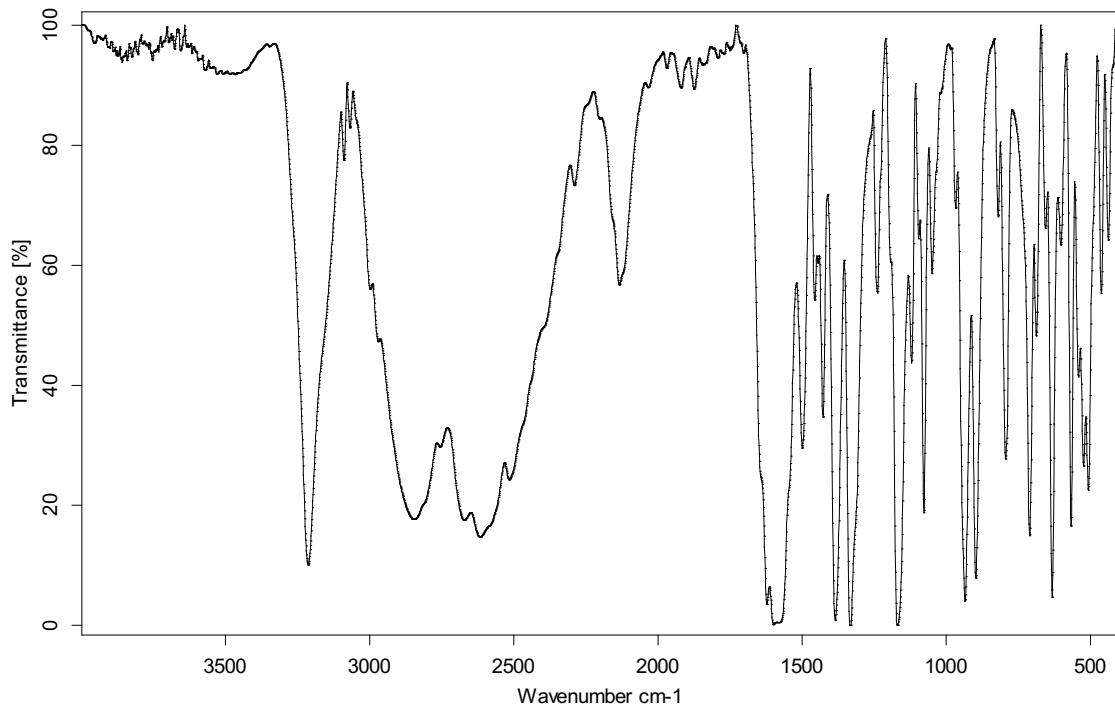
**Fig. S4.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of compound 4; a) in DMSO, b) in DMSO with  $D_2O$ .



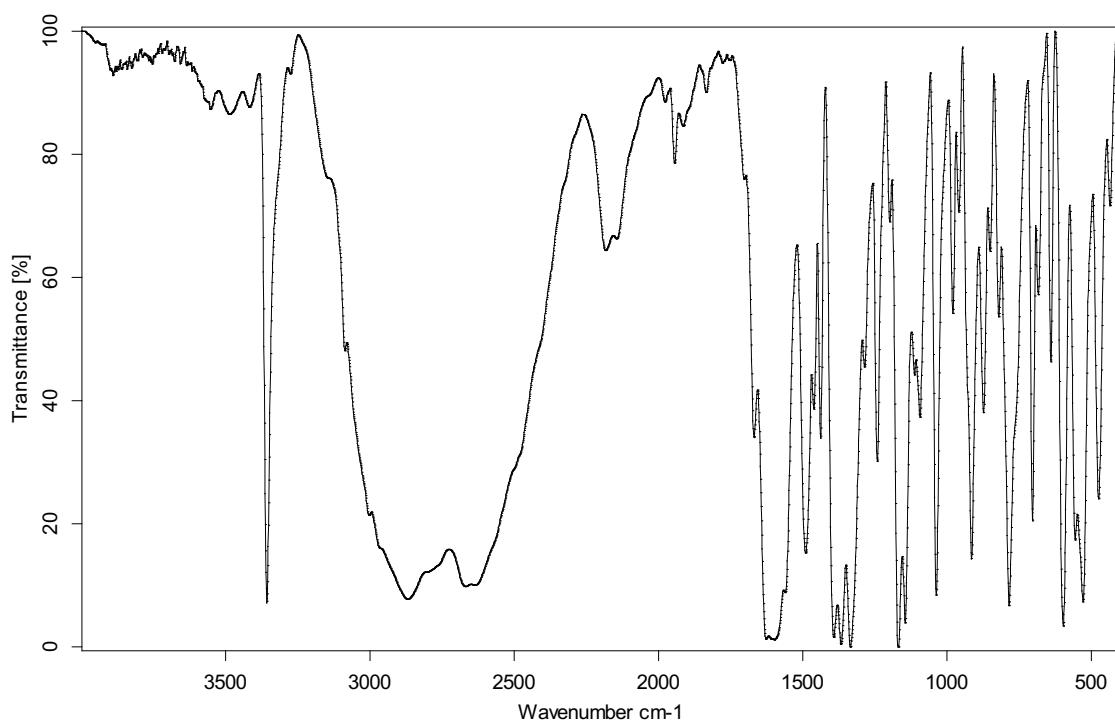
**Fig. S5.** IR spectrum of **1**.



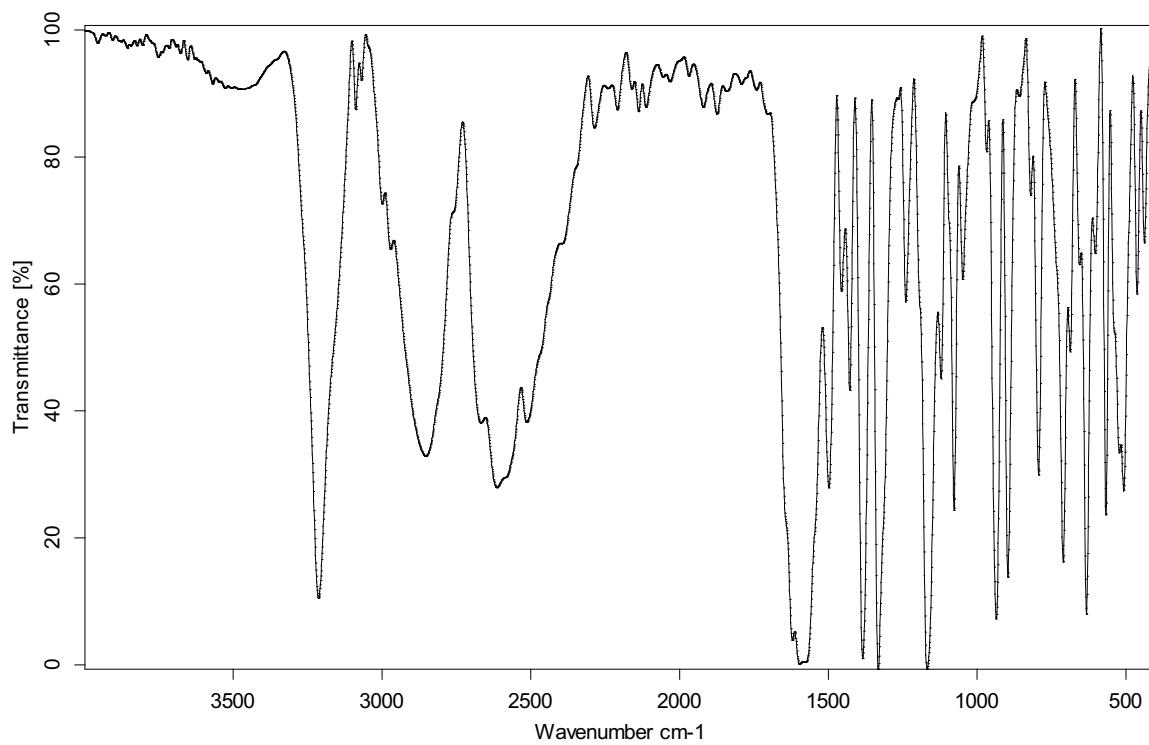
**Fig. S6.** IR spectrum of **2**.



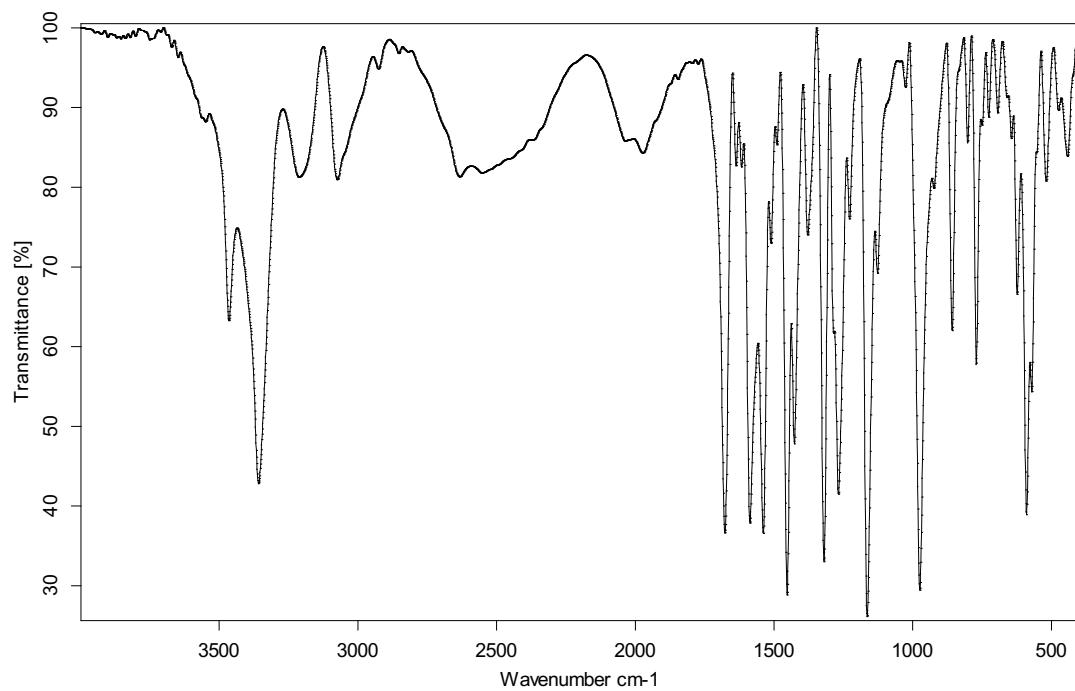
**Fig. S7.** IR spectrum of 3.



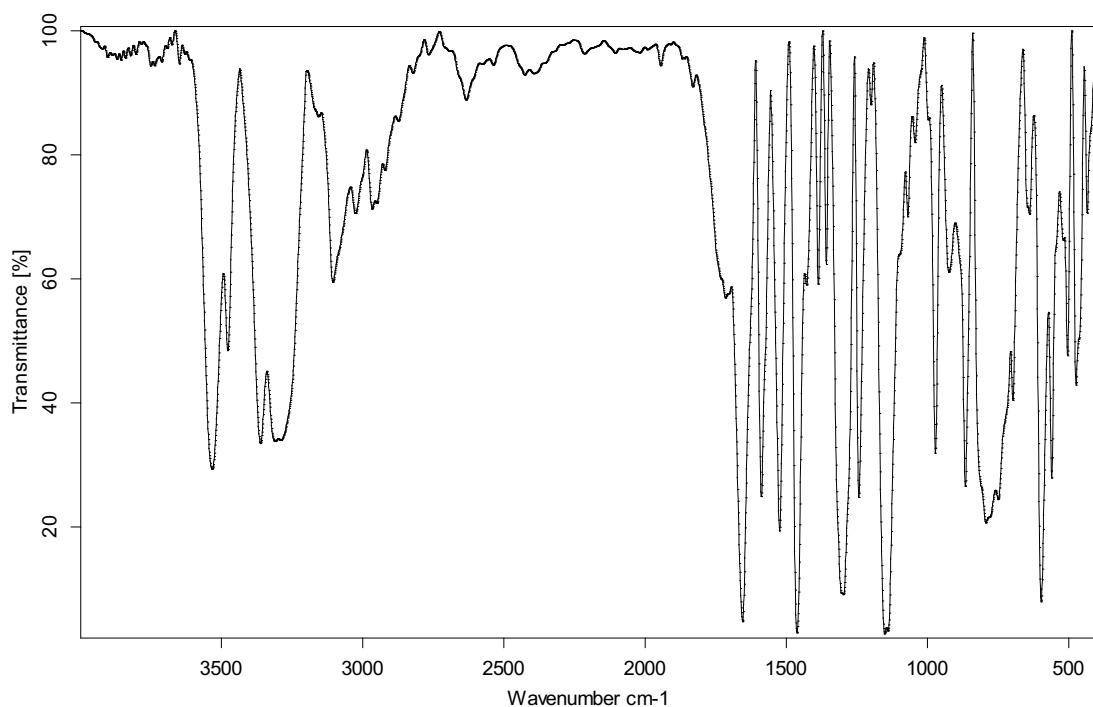
**Fig. S8.** IR spectrum of 4.



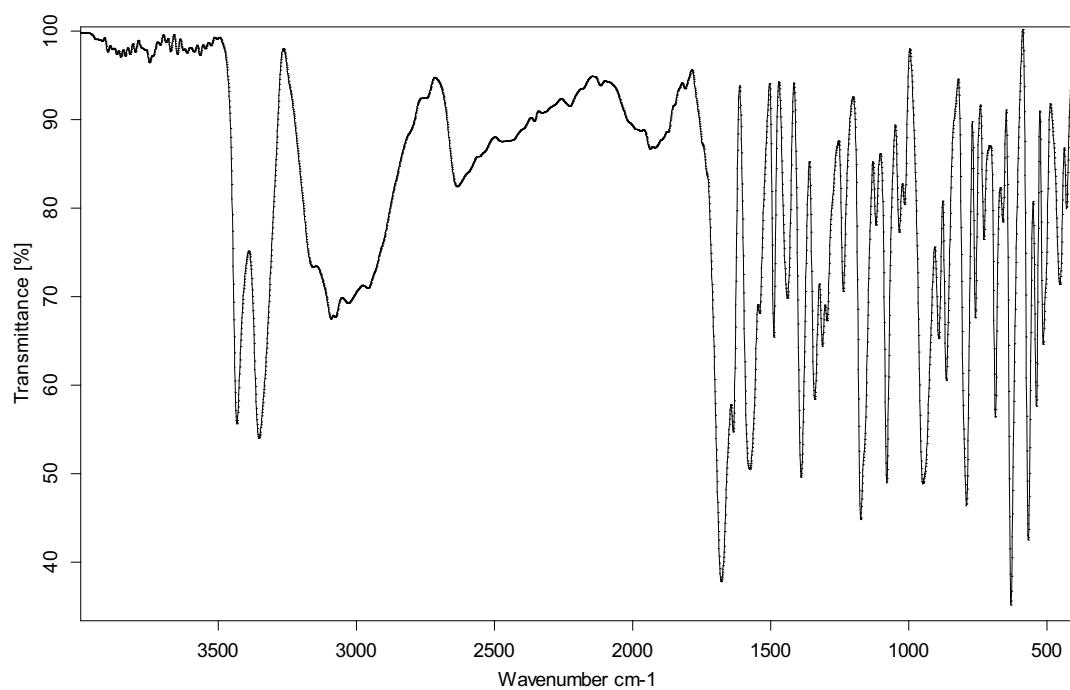
**Fig. S9.** IR spectrum of 5.



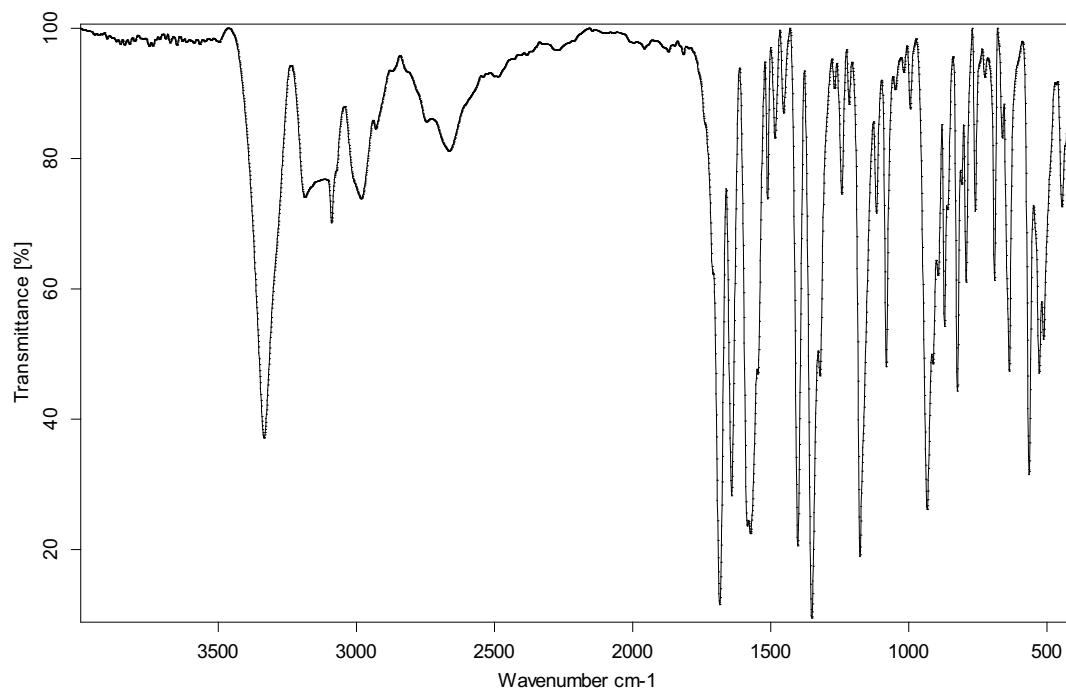
**Fig. S10.** IR spectrum of 6.



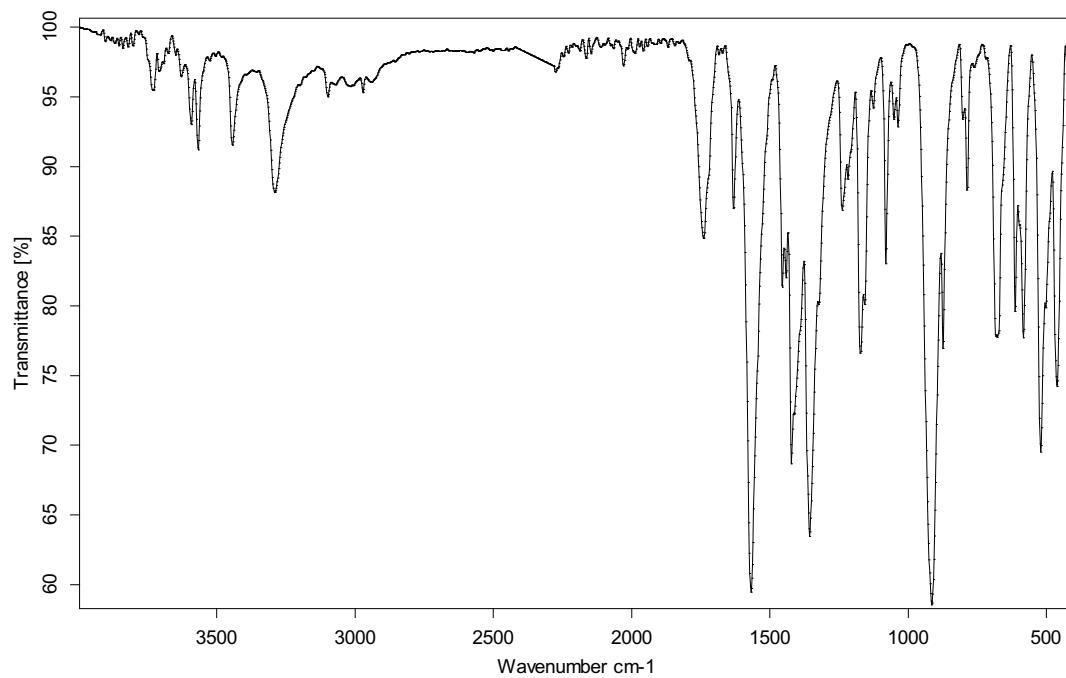
**Fig. S11.** IR spectrum of 7.



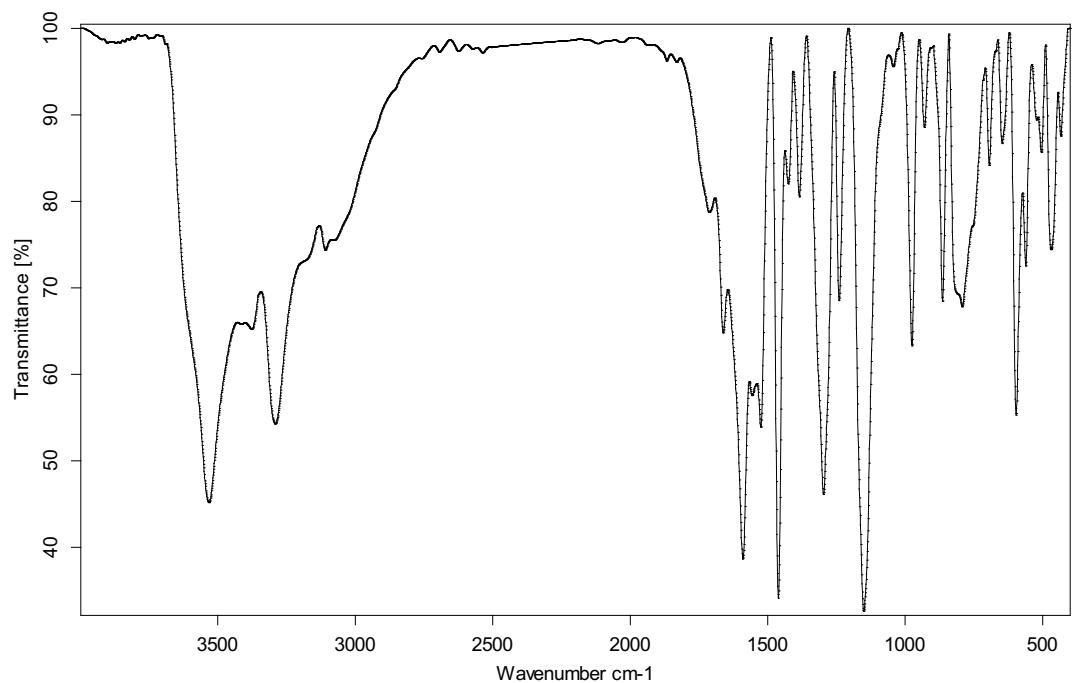
**Fig. S12.** IR spectrum of 8.



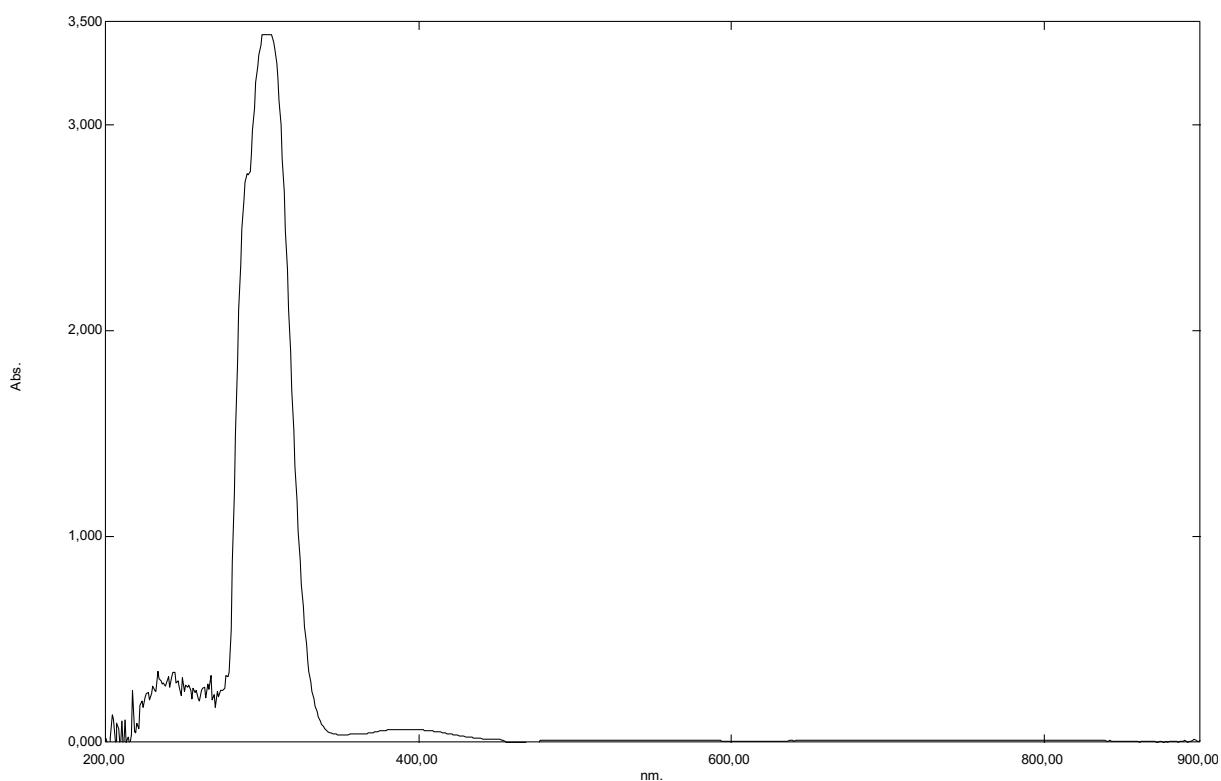
**Fig. S13.** IR spectrum of **9**.



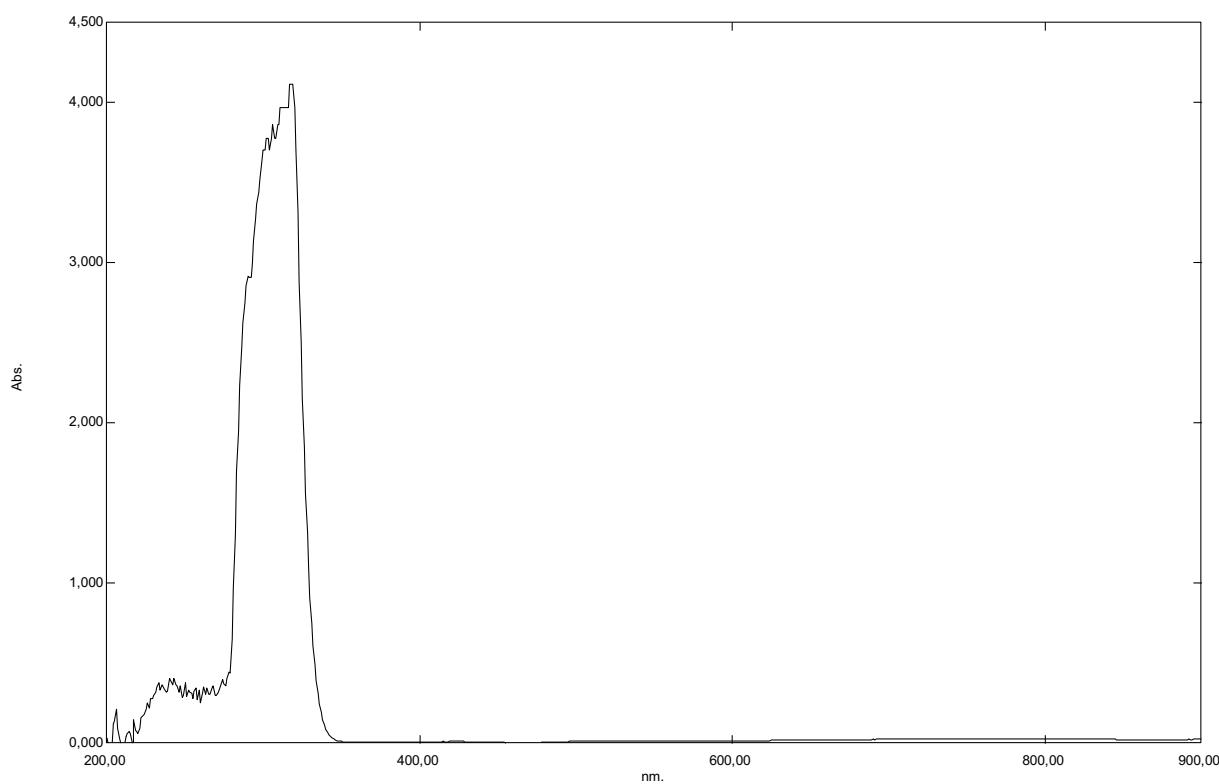
**Fig. S14.** IR spectrum of **10**.



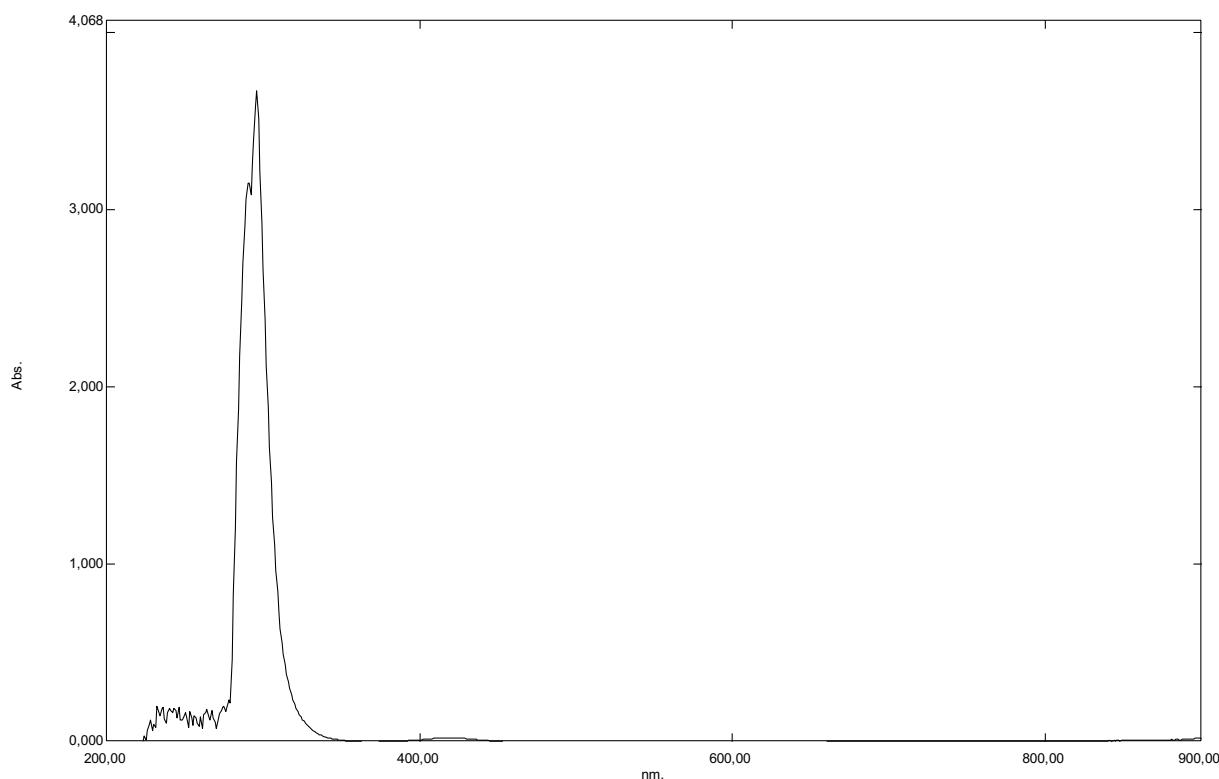
**Fig. S15.** IR spectrum of **11**.



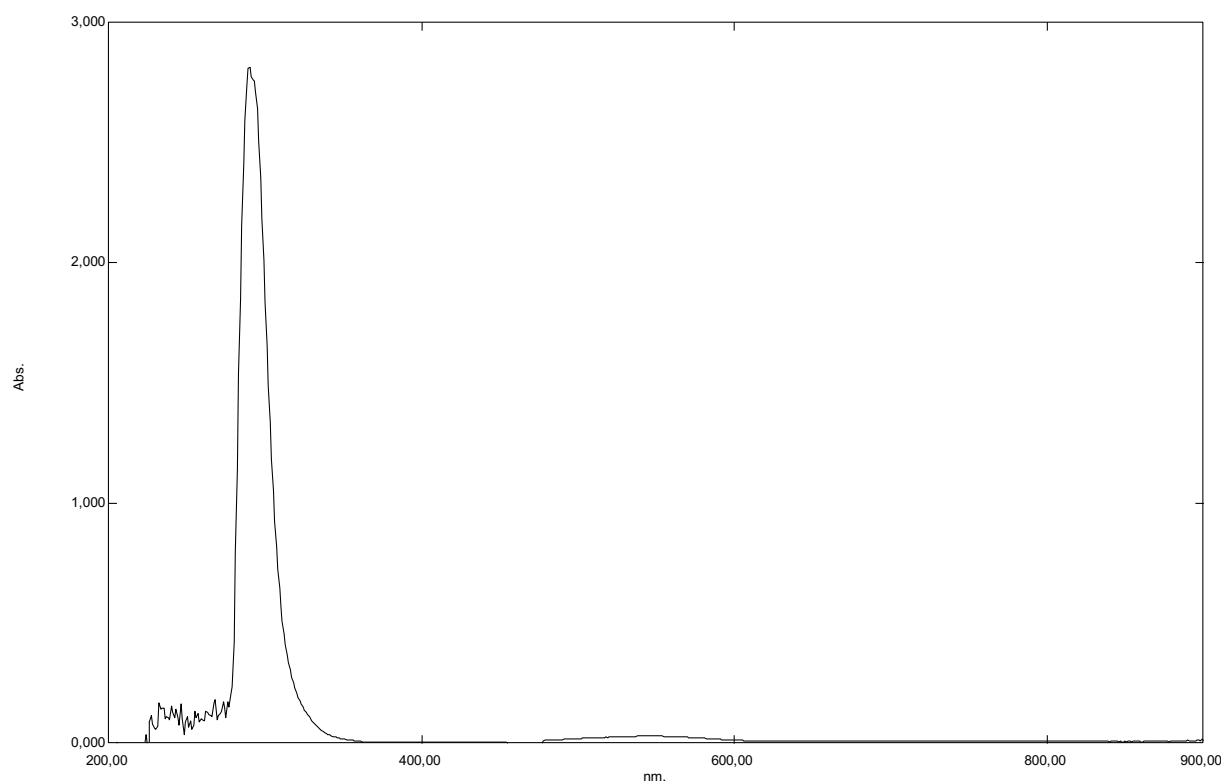
**Fig. S16.** UV-vis spectrum of **1**.



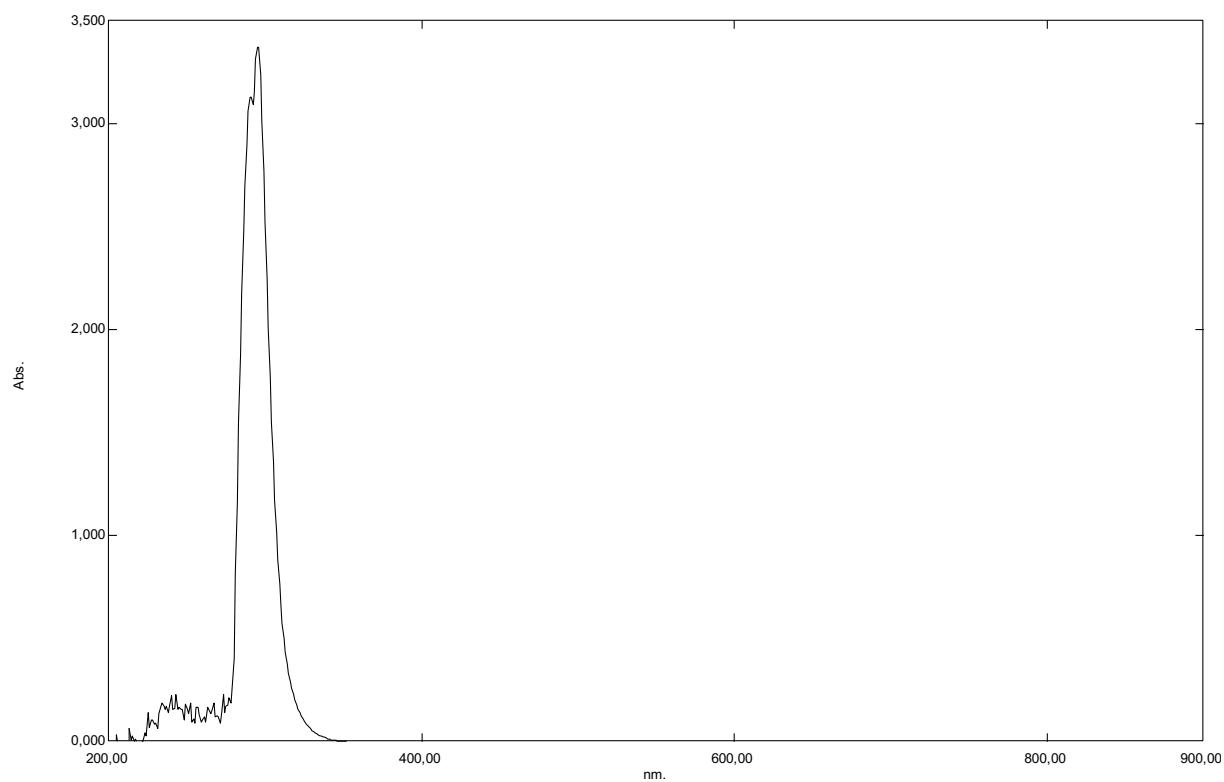
**Fig. S17.** UV-vis spectrum of **2**.



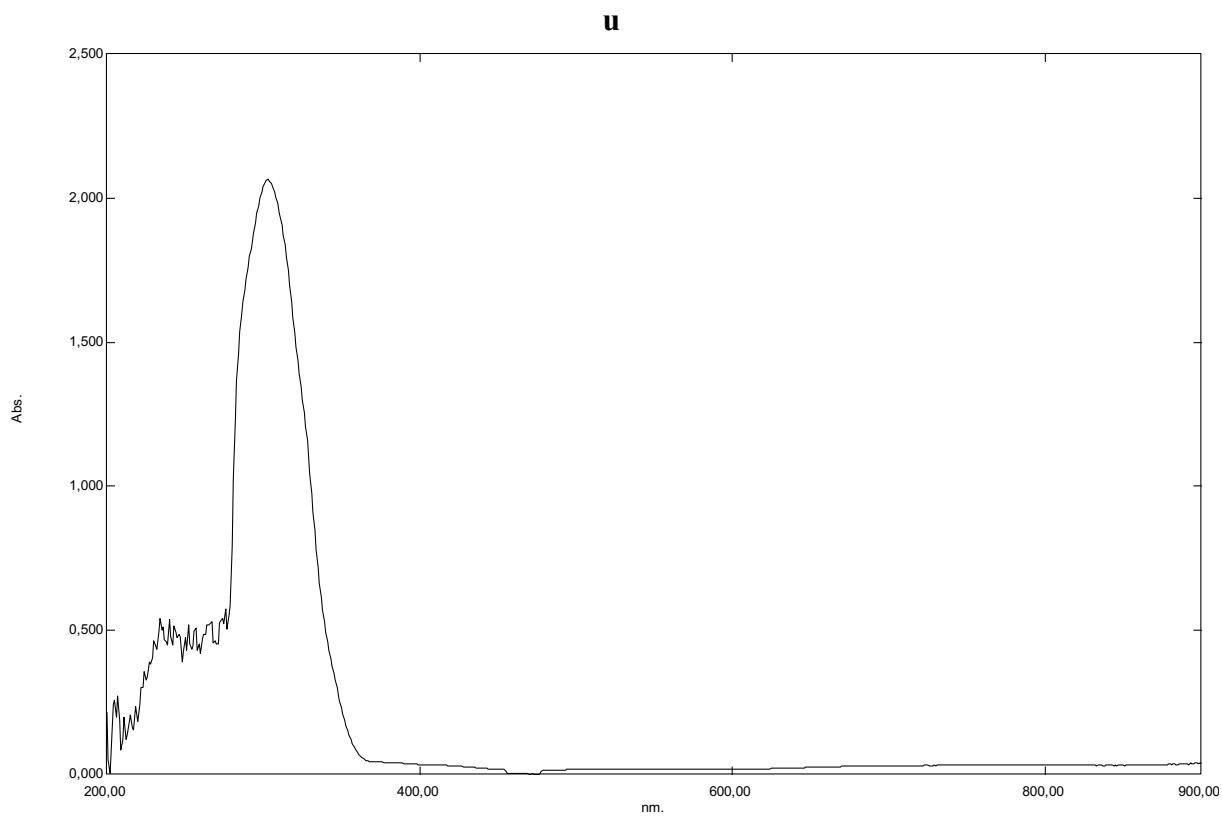
**Fig. S18.** UV-vis spectrum of **3**.



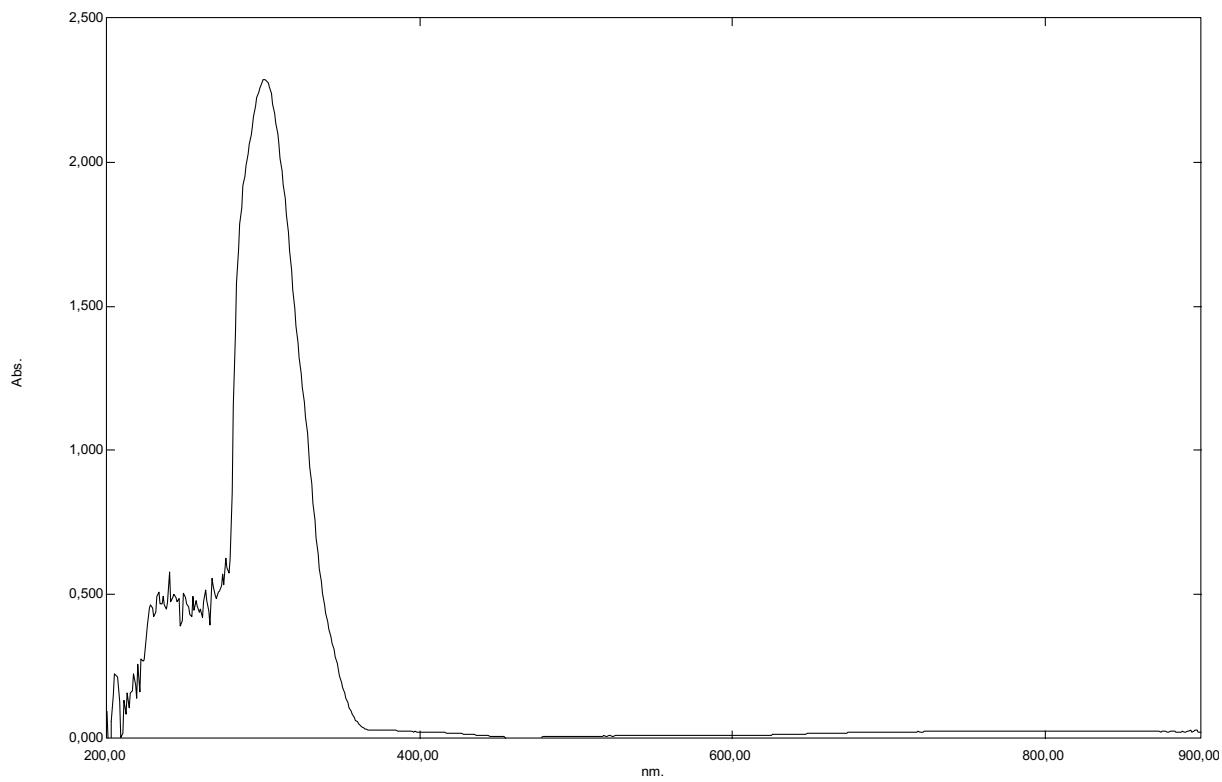
**Fig. S19.** UV-vis spectrum of 4.



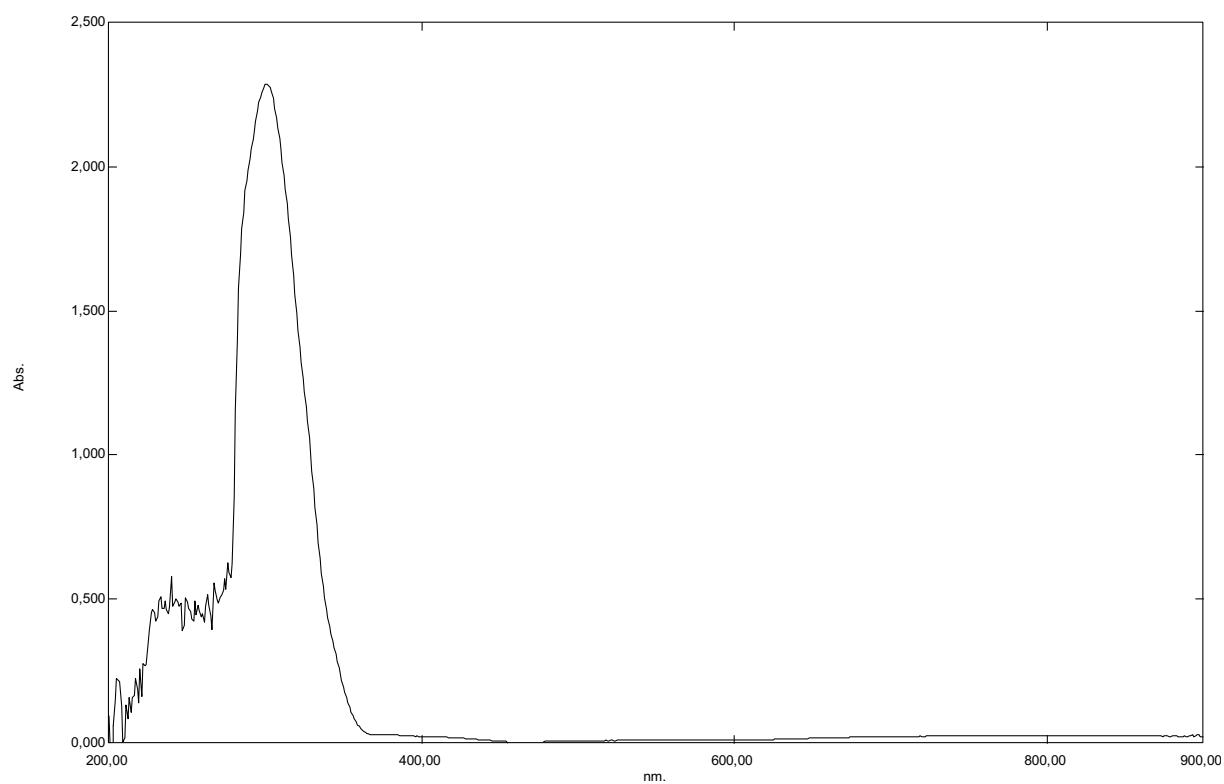
**Fig. S20.** UV-vis spectrum of 5.



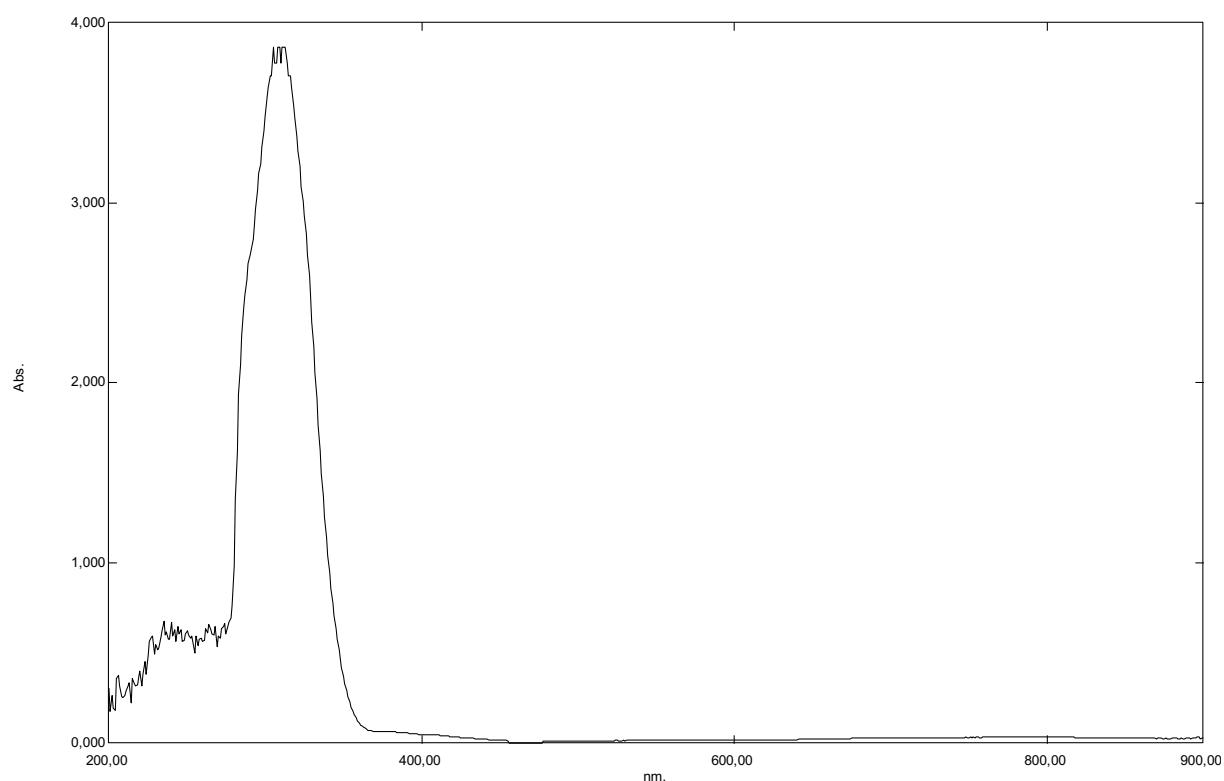
**Fig. S21.** UV-vis spectrum of 6.



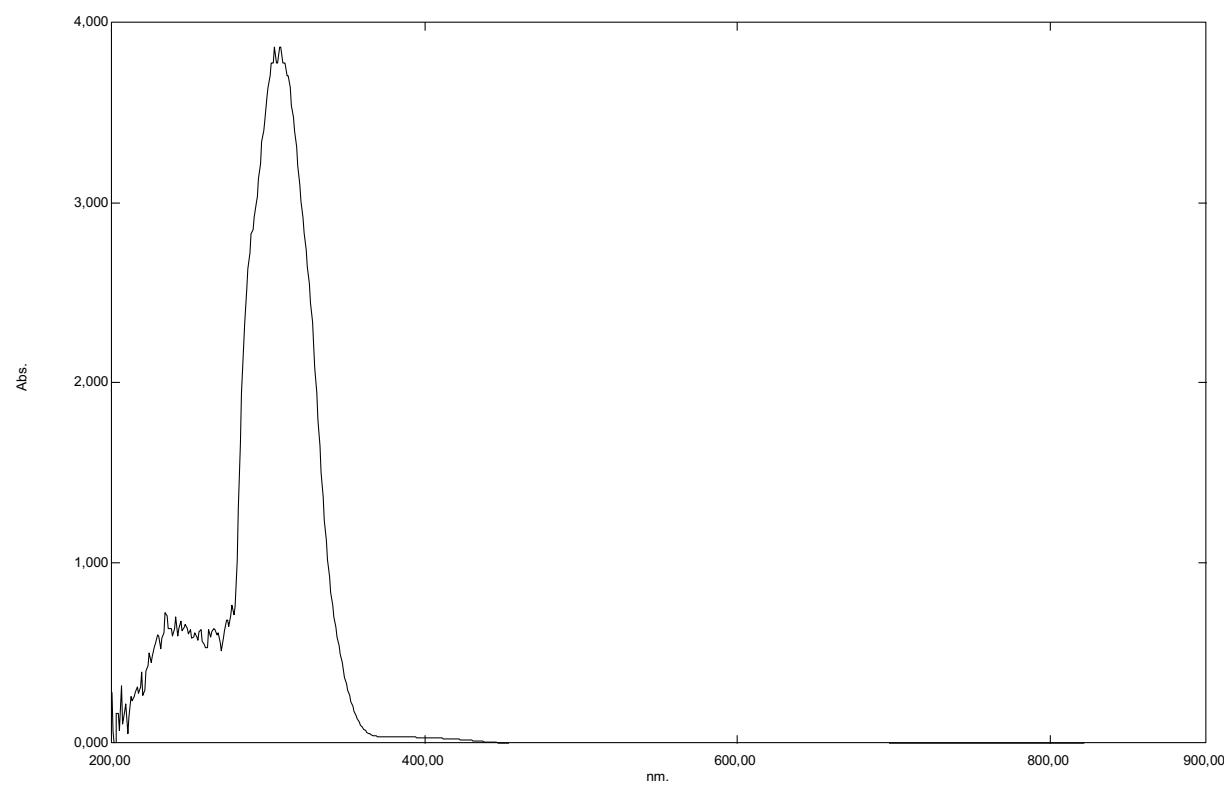
**Fig. S22.** UV-vis spectrum of 7.



**Fig. S23.** UV-vis spectrum of **8**.



**Fig. S24.** UV-vis spectrum of **9**.



**Fig. S25.** UV-vis spectrum of **10**.