

**Halogen Derivatives of *m*-Phenylenecarbenonitrene: A Switch In Ground-State
Multiplicity**

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SUPPORTING INFORMATION

(Experimental Section, Tables S1-S4, Figures S1-S7, 36 total pages)

Experimental Section

3-Azidophenyldiazomethane (3-H) was prepared according to a modified procedure of Rees.¹ Thus, a mixture of 3-azidobenzaldehyde (190 mg, 1.3 mmol) and *p*-tosylhydrazine (250 mg, 3.4 mmol) in anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (10 mL) was stirred overnight at room temperature in the dark. After evaporation of the solvent, 3-azidobenzaldehyde tosylhydrazone was obtained as a white solid, which was used for the next step without further purification. To a stirred suspension of sodium hydride (60% oil suspension, 52 mg, 1.3 mmol) in anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (10 mL) was added the hydrazone (410 mg, 1.3 mmol), and the mixture was stirred for 30 min at room temperature. The precipitate was collected by filtration and washed thoroughly with anhydrous ether to give sodium 3-azidobenzaldehyde tosylhydrozonate as a white solid (340 mg, 78%). The sodium salt (50 mg, 0.15 mmol) was placed in a micro sublimation apparatus and heated at 120 °C under 5x10⁻⁴ Torr. The diazo azido (**3-H**) was collected from a cold finger as a rather unstable red liquid (18 mg, 75%) and was immediately used for the matrix photolysis experiments: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 4.93 (s, 1H), 6.52 (dd, *J* = 2.02, 2.02 Hz, 1H), 6.65-6.75 (m, 2H), 7.25 (dd, *J* = 7.90, 7.90 Hz, 1H); IR (Ar, 13 K) ν 2121 (vs), 2068 (vs), 1616 (w), 1603 (m), 1582 (w), 1491 (m), 1452 (w), 1390 (w), 1370 (w), 1303 (m), 1296 (w), 1287 (w), 1265 (w), 1213 (w), 1203 (w), 1174 (w), 780 (w), 771 (w), 697 (w), 682 (w), 675 (w) cm⁻¹; UV (Ar, 10 K) λ_{max} 278, 257 nm.

3-(3-Azidophenyl)-3-chlorodiazirine (6-Cl). 3-Azidobenzonitrile was prepared following the literature procedure². A mixture of 3-aminobenzonitrile (990 mg, 8.4 mmol), water (24 mL) and concentrated hydrochloric acid (24 mL) was stirred at 0-5 °C until a clear solution was obtained. To the amine hydrochloride solution was added dropwise a solution of sodium nitrite (700 mg) in water (9 mL). To the stirred solution of the diazonium salt was added a solution of sodium azide (1.1 g, 17 mmol) in water (9 mL) at 0-5 °C. After the reaction mixture was stirred for an additional hour, the resulting solution was extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The organic phase was washed (H₂O), dried (Na₂SO₄), filtered, evaporated, and dried in vacuo to give 3-azidobenzonitrile (1.2 g, 98%) as a light yellow solid : mp 55-56°C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.24-7.30 (m, 2H) 7.42 (ddd, *J* = 7.53, 1.65, 1.65 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (ddd, *J*

δ = 7.72, 7.72, 0.74 Hz, 1H); IR ν 2236 (m), 2195 (m), 2119 (s), 1600 (m), 1582 (m), 1486 (m), 1476 (m), 1430 (m), 1328 (m), 1299 (m), 1274 (m), 1216 (w), 1190 (w), 1112(w), 916(w), 894 (w), 868 (w), 791 (m), 757 (m), 679 (m), 600 (w), 534 (w) cm^{-1} . 3-Azidophenylimidate hydrochloride was prepared following the literature procedure³. Dry hydrogen chloride was passed into a solution of 3-azidobenzonitrile (1.1 g, 8.0 mmol) and absolute ethanol (0.47 mL, 8.0 mmol) in absolute CHCl_3 (2 mL) for 1 h. Then the flask was tightly stoppered and allowed to stand in a freezer. After 13 days, absolute Et_2O was added to the mixture under vigorous stirring. The precipitate was filtered, washed (Et_2O), and dried in vacuo to give 3-azidophenylimidate hydrochloride (1.6 g, 91%) as a white solid: mp 115-118 °C dec; ¹H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 1.63 (t, $J=6.61$ Hz, 3H), 4.92 (quart, $J=6.80$ Hz, 2H), 7.35 (d, $J = 8.08$ Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, $J = 7.90$ Hz, 1H), 7.97 (s, 1H), 8.26 (d, $J = 8.27$ Hz, 1H); IR (KBr disk) ν 3200-2550 (bs), 2117 (s), 1639 (m), 1620 (m), 1605 (m), 1586 (m), 1497 (w), 1458 (m), 1450 (w), 1434 (w), 1390 (w), 1357 (w), 1300 (m), 1277 (m), 1171 (w), 1122 (m), 1074 (m), 997 (w), 884 (m), 851 (w), 800 (w), 784 (w), 735 (w), 685 (w), 670 (w), 556 (w), 530 (w) cm^{-1} . 3-Azidophenylamidine hydrochloride was prepared following the literature procedure.³ To a solution of ethanol saturated with ammonia was added 3-azidophenylimidate hydrochloride (1.6 g, 7.2 mmol). After stirring overnight, the resulting mixture was filtered to remove an ammonium chloride. Removal of the solvent and drying of the solid in vacuo afforded 3-azidophenylamidine hydrochloride (1.5 g, quantitative) as a white solid: mp 183-184 °C (dec); IR (KBr disk) ν 3400-2900 (br.s), 2191 (w), 2168 (w), 2118 (s), 1673 (m), 1609 (w), 1584 (w), 1529 (w), 1478 (m), 1431 (w), 1322 (w), 1303 (m), 1280 (m), 1185 (w), 1109 (w), 1092 (w), 888 (w), 874 (w), 784 (w), 734 (m), 710 (m), 692 (m) cm^{-1} . **6-Cl** was prepared following the literature procedure.⁴ A mixture of 3-azidophenylamidine hydrochloride (200 mg, 1.0 mmol), dimethylsulfoxide (3.5 mL), LiCl (230 mg) and *n*-hexane (3 mL) was stirred at ~5 °C. A hypochlorite solution (8.0 mL) containing NaCl (1.4 g) was added rapidly to the stirred solution and the whole was stirred for an additional hour. Extraction with *n*-hexane and purification by gel permeation chromatography afforded **6-Cl** (90 mg, 46%) as a pale yellow liquid. ¹H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 6.78-6.82 (m, 2H), 7.06 (ddd, $J=8.08, 2.02, 1.10$ Hz, 1H), 7.37 (dd, $J = 8.27, 8.27$ Hz, 1H);

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 141, 138, 130, 122, 119, 116, 46; IR (Ar, 13 K) ν 2148 (m), 2137 (m), 2110 (s), 1613 (w), 1607 (w), 1592 (w), 1576 (m), 1494 (m), 1486 (m), 1442 (m), 1428 (w), 1327 (w), 1312 (m), 1284 (w), 1243 (w), 1179 (w), 1128 (w), 1105 (w), 1039 (w), 1025 (w), 999 (w), 989 (w), 978 (w), 951 (w), 944 (w), 894 (w), 880 (w), 853 (w), 835 (w), 815 (w), 788 (w), 781 (w), 714 (w), 687 (m), 654 (w), 535 (w); UV (Ar, 13 K) λ_{max} 386, 366, 348, 247, 220 nm.

3-(3-Azidophenyl)-3-bromodiazirine (6-Br) was prepared following the literature procedure.⁵ A mixture of 3-azidophenylamidine hydrochloride (1.3 g, 6.5 mmol) dimethylsulfoxide (27 mL), LiBr·H₂O (3.31 g), and *n*-hexane (13 mL) was stirred at ~5 °C. A fresh solution of NaOBr, prepared by the slow addition of bromine (3.1 mL) to a stirred and cooled (-10 °C) solution of NaOH (7.3 g) and NaBr (20 g) in water (46 mL), was added rapidly to the stirred solution, and the whole mixture was stirred for an additional hour. Extraction with *n*-hexane and purification by silica gel column chromatography afforded **6-Br** as a pale yellow liquid (540 mg, 45%): ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 6.82-6.86 (m, 2H), 7.05 (ddd, *J* = 8.08, 2.02, 1.10 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (dd, *J* = 8.27, 8.27 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 141, 139, 130, 123, 120, 118, 117, 37; IR (Ar, 13 K) ν 2129 (s), 2121 (m), 2106 (s), 1614 (w), 1604 (w), 1590 (w), 1575 (w), 1494 (w), 1484 (w), 1440 (w), 1427 (w), 1327 (w), 1311 (s), 1285 (w), 1233 (w), 1178 (w), 1126 (w), 1104 (w), 1094 (w), 1069 (w), 1029 (w), 1018 (w), 1015 (w), 999 (w), 971 (w), 964 (w), 954 (w), 946 (w), 926 (w), 918 (w), 891 (w), 879 (w), 874 (w), 848 (w), 819 (w), 805 (w), 797 (w), 787 (w), 781 (w), 709 (w), 687 (w), 679 (w), 648 (w), 536 (w) cm⁻¹; UV (Ar, 13 K) λ_{max} 388, 370, 350, 247, 222 nm.

3-(3-Azidophenyl)-3-fluorodiazirine (6-F) was prepared following the literature procedure.⁵ A mixture of **6-Br** (90 mg, 0.38 mmol), *n*-Bu₄N⁺F⁻ (460 mg, 1.8 mmol) and absolute acetonitrile (1 mL) was stirred at 25 °C in the dark for 4 h. The reaction was quenched with water (5 mL) and the resulting solution was extracted with *n*-hexane. Purification by gel permeation chromatography afforded **6-F** (7 mg, 10%) as a pale yellow liquid; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 6.68-6.76 (m, 2H), 7.10 (ddd, *J* = 8.08, 2.02, 1.10 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (dd, *J* = 8.27, 8.27 Hz, 1H); IR (Ar, 13 K) ν 2147 (w), 2125 (m), 2109 (s), 1614 (w), 1594 (w), 1568 (m), 1497 (w), 1490 (w), 1446 (w), 1327 (m), 1285 (w), 1271 (m), 1262 (w),

1170 (m), 1126 (w), 1043 (w), 873 (w), 791 (w), 734 (w), 688 (w), 661 (w), 558 (w), 536 (w) cm^{-1} ; UV (Ar, 13 K) λ_{max} 384, 365, 348 sh, 293 sh, 247 nm.

3-Nitrenophenyldiazomethane (4-H): IR (Ar, 13 K) ν 2076, 1547, 1535, 1523, 1445, 1402, 1336, 1274, 1235, 1195, 1145, 837, 762, 651, 631 cm^{-1} .

Z-5-H: IR (Ar, 13 K) ν 2208, 1733, 1594, 1588, 1505, 1304, 1107, 962, 955, 790, 732, 714, 704 cm^{-1} ; UV (Ar, 13 K) λ_{max} 287 nm.

E-5-H: IR (Ar, 13 K) ν 2223, 1769, 1741, 1624, 1605, 1520, 1352, 1170, 1090, 988, 968, 820, 686, 622 cm^{-1} ; UV (Ar, 13 K) λ_{max} 283, 271, 260 sh nm.

3-Nitrenophenylfluorodiazomethane (4-F): IR (Ar, 13 K) ν 2029, 1303, 1287, 1208 cm^{-1} ; UV (Ar, 13 K) λ_{max} 280 nm.

3-Nitrenophenylfluorocarbene (2-F): IR (Ar, 13 K) ν 1538, 1530, 1371, 1276, 1265, 1249, 1173, 1138, 1129, 1115, 1086, 1054, 890, 873, 785, 779, 649 cm^{-1} ; UV (Ar, 13 K) λ_{max} 420, 245 nm max.

5-F: IR (Ar, 13 K) ν 2215, 1850, 1596, 1340, 1244, 1218, 762 cm^{-1} ; UV (Ar, 13 K) λ_{max} 295 nm.

3-Azidophenylchlorocarbene (7-Cl): IR (Ar, 13 K) ν 2122, 1585, 1547, 1470, 1443, 1305, 1279, 1271, 1206, 1116, 1085, 936, 873, 795, 780, 730, 693, 670, 661, 564 cm^{-1} ; UV (Ar, 13 K) λ_{max} 304 nm.

3-Nitrenophenylchlorocarbene (2-Cl): IR (Ar, 13 K) ν 1519, 1421, 1296, 1286, 1250, 1175, 1168, 1139, 951, 929, 893, 880, 800, 784, 771, 742, 719, 645, 589 cm^{-1} ; UV (Ar, 13 K) λ_{max} 395, 257 nm.

5-Cl: IR (Ar, 13 K) ν 2212, 1798, 1593, 1538, 1407, 1125, 1047, 776, 708 cm^{-1} ; UV (Ar, 13 K) λ_{max} 314 nm.

3-Azidophenylbromocarbene (3-Br): IR (Ar, 13 K) ν 2122, 1582, 1568, 1467, 1427, 1305, 1280, 1267, 1204, 1116, 994, 933, 776, 698, 657, 573, 551 cm^{-1} ; UV (Ar, 13 K) λ_{max} 317 nm.

3-Nitrenophenylbromocarbene (2-Br): IR (Ar, 13 K) ν 1519, 1513, 1495, 1415, 1401, 1294, 1289, 1176, 1138, 893, 870, 794, 767, 753, 676, 668, 663, 644 cm^{-1} ; UV (Ar, 13 K) λ_{max} 401 nm.

5-Br: IR (Ar, 13 K) ν 2203, 1773, 1531, 1111, 1044, 1032, 1017, 965, 926, 838, 792, 777, 744, 705 cm^{-1} ; UV (Ar, 13 K) λ_{max} 314 nm.

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Table S1. Total Energies (hartrees) and Zero-Point Vibrational Energies (ZPE, hartrees)

Using DFT and MCSCF Wavefunctions.

| <i>E</i> -isomers | E(B3LYP) | ZPE | E(B3LYP) +ZPE ^a | E(MCSCF) ^b | E(CASPT2) ^c |
|--------------------|-------------|---------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 2-H (1A'') | | | | -322.32545 | -323.24461 |
| 2-H (1A') | | | | -322.36260 | -323.28887 |
| 2-H (3A'') | -324.27266 | 0.09316 | -324.18130 | -322.35479 | -323.27652 |
| 2-H (3A') | | | | -322.36938 | -323.29676 |
| 2-H (5A') | -324.29221 | 0.09304 | -324.20098 | -322.37862 | -323.30523 |
| 2-F (1A'') | | | | -421.20937 | -422.30328 |
| 2-F (1A') | | | | -421.20969 | -422.31035 |
| 2-F (3A'') | -423.53869 | 0.08701 | -423.45337 | -421.23810 | -422.33453 |
| 2-F (3A') | | | | -421.21626 | -422.31770 |
| 2-F (5A') | -423.52468 | 0.08660 | -423.43976 | -421.22559 | -422.32602 |
| 2-Cl (1A'') | | | | -781.24648 | -782.31339 |
| 2-Cl (1A') | | | | -781.26601 | -782.33852 |
| 2-Cl (3A'') | -783.89589 | 0.08552 | -783.81203 | -781.27521 | -782.34452 |
| 2-Cl (3A') | | | | -781.27233 | -782.34563 |
| 2-Cl (5A') | -783.89620 | 0.08524 | -783.81262 | -781.28135 | -782.35371 |
| 2-Br (1A'') | | | | -2891.65340 | -2892.72153 |
| 2-Br (1A') | | | | -2891.67350 | -2892.74696 |
| 2-Br (3A'') | -2895.40573 | 0.08511 | -2895.32227 | -2891.68215 | -2892.75267 |
| 2-Br (3A') | | | | -2891.67986 | -2892.75407 |
| 2-Br (5A') | -2895.40591 | 0.08472 | -2895.32284 | -2891.68888 | -2892.76209 |
| Z-isomers | | | | | |
| 2-H (1A'') | | | | -322.32534 | -323.24455 |
| 2-H (1A') | | | | -322.36300 | -323.28968 |
| 2-H (3A'') | -324.27333 | 0.09342 | -324.18173 | -322.35489 | -323.27682 |
| 2-H (3A') | | | | -322.36992 | -323.29787 |
| 2-H (5A') | -324.29203 | 0.09309 | -324.20075 | -322.37861 | -323.30513 |
| 2-F (1A'') | | | | -421.20785 | -422.30192 |
| 2-F (1A') | | | | -421.21009 | -422.31121 |
| 2-F (3A'') | -423.53870 | 0.08694 | -423.45344 | -421.23787 | -422.33435 |
| 2-F (3A') | | | | -421.21672 | -422.31873 |
| 2-F (5A') | -423.52434 | 0.08669 | -423.43933 | -421.22545 | -422.32576 |
| 2-Cl (1A'') | | | | -781.24430 | -782.31137 |
| 2-Cl (1A') | | | | -781.26650 | -782.33961 |
| 2-Cl (3A'') | -783.89575 | 0.08552 | -783.81188 | -781.27487 | -782.34429 |
| 2-Cl (3A') | | | | -781.27284 | -782.34675 |
| 2-Cl (5A') | -783.89591 | 0.08530 | -783.81226 | -781.28124 | -782.35356 |
| 2-Br (1A'') | | | | -2891.65110 | -2892.71924 |
| 2-Br (1A') | | | | -2891.67397 | -2892.74798 |
| 2-Br (3A'') | -2895.40556 | 0.08507 | -2895.32215 | -2891.68179 | -2892.75236 |
| 2-Br (3A') | | | | -2891.68035 | -2892.75516 |
| 2-Br (5A') | -2895.40562 | 0.08479 | -2895.32248 | -2891.68877 | -2892.76193 |

^a ZPE scaled by 0.961.

^c The active space includes 10 (11) molecular orbitals (MOs) and 10 (12) electrons for **2-H** (**2-X**, X= F, Cl, Br). The 10 (12) MOs include the six π MOs of the ring, the two π and the two σ orbitals located on the reactive centers (and the MO corresponding to the π lone pair of the halogen substituent). The basis set used is 6-31G(d).

^d Using the MCSCF/6-31G(d) wavefunction described above.

^e Modified G2(MP2,SVP) procedure (MCSCF/6-31G(d) optimized geometries, omission of higher-level correction. (See main text for details)

Table S2. Total Energies (hartrees) and Zero-Point Vibrational Energies (ZPE, hartrees) at Various Levels of Theory Based on HF wavefunctions.^a

| | ⁵ A' 2-H | ⁵ A' 2-F | ⁵ A' 2-Cl | ⁵ A' 2-Br | ⁵ A' 1-CCl |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| HF | -322.34376 | -421.18910 | -781.24615 | -2891.65404 | -1224.10659 |
| HF-ZPE | 0.09760 | 0.09089 | 0.0894 | 0.08880 | 0.09245 |
| ROMP2 ^{b,c} | -323.23501 | -422.25131 | -782.27145 | -2892.66172 | -1225.25033 |
| ROMP2 ^{b,c,d} | -323.56641 | -422.69446 | -782.68432 | -2895.52217 | -1225.73822 |
| QCISD ^c | -323.30541 | -422.31964 | -782.34820 | -2892.73573 | -1225.32879 |
| QCISD(T) ^c | -323.34401 | -422.36149 | -782.39212 | -2892.77897 | -1225.37797 |
| E _{QCI} ^c | -323.58826 | -422.72349 | -782.72518 | -2895.56012 | -1225.78331 |
| | ³ A' 2-H | ³ A' 2-F | ³ A' 2-Cl | ³ A' 2-Br | ³ A' 1-CCl |
| HF | -322.26526 | -421.16923 | -781.20734 | -2891.61434 | -1224.03217 |
| HF-ZPE | 0.10108 | 0.09148 | 0.08999 | 0.08944 | 0.09565 |
| ROMP2 ^{b,c} | -323.21393 | -422.26904 | -782.27199 | -2892.66280 | -1225.25567 |
| ROMP2 ^{b,c,d} | -323.55090 | -422.71485 | -782.68991 | -2895.52570 | -1225.75410 |
| QCISD ^c | -323.27955 | -422.33201 | -782.34318 | -2892.73095 | -1225.32978 |
| QCISD(T) ^c | -323.32255 | -422.37814 | -782.39217 | -2892.77948 | -1225.38854 |
| E _{QCI} ^c | -323.56927 | -422.74227 | -782.72973 | -2895.56252 | -1225.80156 |
| | ¹ A' 8-H | ¹ A' 8-F | ¹ A' 8-Cl | ¹ A' 8-Br | |
| HF | -268.444864 | -367.32969 | -727.36890 | -2837.77619 | |
| HF-ZPE | 0.11016 | 0.10335 | 0.10182 | 0.10127 | |
| ROMP2 ^{b,c} | -269.30071 | -368.35569 | -728.35921 | -2838.75029 | |
| ROMP2 ^{b,c,d} | -269.60086 | -368.76461 | -728.73994 | -2841.57590 | |
| QCISD(T) ^c | -269.39180 | -368.44689 | -728.46138 | -2838.84895 | |
| E _{QCI} ^c | -269.59359 | -368.76353 | -728.75120 | -2841.58413 | |
| | ³ A" 8-H | ³ A" 8-F | ³ A" 8-Cl | ³ A" 8-Br | |
| HF | -268.50298 | -367.34901 | -727.40634 | -2837.81419 | |
| HF-ZPE | 0.10696 | 0.10031 | 0.09882 | 0.09825 | |
| ROMP2 ^{b,c} | -269.31549 | -368.33243 | -728.35279 | -2838.74302 | |
| ROMP2 ^{b,c,d} | -269.60956 | -368.73829 | -728.72818 | -2841.56595 | |
| QCISD(T) ^c | -269.40196 | -368.42014 | -728.45103 | -2838.83794 | |
| E _{QCI} ^c | -269.60053 | -368.73644 | -728.73818 | -2841.57314 | |

^a With the 6-31G(d) basis set, unless otherwise specified.

^b Restricted open-shell MP2 calculation as implemented in Gaussian 98.

^c At the MCSCF/6-31G(d) optimized geometry.

^c With the 6-311+G(3df,2p) basis set.

$$\text{d} E_{\text{QCI}} = E_{\text{QCISD(T)}} + E_{\text{ROMP2/6-311+G(3df,2p)}} - E_{\text{ROMP2/6-31G(d)}} + 0.8929 * (\text{HF-ZPE}).$$

Table S3. Gaussian Archives of $^5\text{A}'$ and $^3\text{A}''$ states of **2-X**.

(The (U)B3LYP/6-31G(d) optimized structures of **2-X** were found to have zero imaginary frequencies).

 $^5\text{A}' \mathbf{2-H}$

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1¥1¥GINC-NS118¥FOpt¥UB3LYP¥6-31G(d)¥C7H5N1(5)¥AXN501¥17-Nov-2000¥0¥¥#B
3LYP/6-31G*, FOPT FREQ¥¥5-A'meta phenylenecarbonitrene, anti-H,str+f
rq. anl¥¥0,5¥C,0.2614490339,1.2591945241,0.¥C,-0.9656019078,0.54450303
96,0.¥C,-0.9901036126,-0.8842017377,0.¥C,0.2614876813,-1.600656917,0.¥
C,1.4590045412,-0.8969203848,0.¥C,1.4837172505,0.4968009097,0.¥C,0.283
5304042,2.6461511346,0.¥N,-2.1409088536,-1.5380477318,0.¥H,-1.90698109
73,1.0828051354,0.¥H,2.4316900229,1.0259024745,0.¥H,0.23802207,-2.6848
374869,0.¥H,2.3985934288,-1.4433794658,0.¥H,1.064137206,3.3966200542,0
.¥¥Version=IBM-RS6000-G98RevA.9¥State=5-A'¥HF=-324.2922124¥S2=6.095438
¥S2-1=0.¥S2A=6.002792¥RMSD=6.867e-09¥RMSF=1.225e-05¥Dipole=1.2170722,0
.4729871,0.¥PG=CS [SG(C7H5N1)]¥¥@
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 $^5\text{A}' \mathbf{2-H}$

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1¥1¥GINC-AEGEANYSP¥UQCISD(T)-FC¥6-31G(d)¥C7H5N1(5)¥CYP0002¥04-Mar-2001
¥0¥¥#QCISD(T,E4)/6-31G* MAXDISK=900000000 IOP(5/15=2)¥¥5-A' E-m-phenyl
ene-carbenonitrene, qcisd(t,e4)/6-31g*//CAS(12,11)/6-31G*¥¥0,5¥C,0,1.
2328813647,0.3441043003,0.¥C,0,0.0138562833,1.0580950952,0.¥C,0,-1.231
3236723,0.3727766843,0.¥C,0,-1.2447332926,-1.0597107762,0.¥C,0,-0.0433
062083,-1.7583916154,0.¥C,0,1.180957736,-1.0851349587,0.¥C,0,2.4618317
732,1.0260868666,0.¥N,0,-2.3729492051,1.0555218687,0.¥H,0,0.017526009,
2.1319719266,0.¥H,0,2.0994093561,-1.6427307826,0.¥H,0,-2.1886851202,-1
.5712731579,0.¥H,0,-0.0543116916,-2.8333450235,0.¥H,0,3.4650776679,0.6
483835726,0.¥¥Version=HP-PARisc-HPUX-G98RevA.9¥State=5-A'¥HF=-322.3435
387¥MP2=-323.2086019¥MP3=-323.2696672¥MP4D=-323.2898858¥MP4DQ=-323.271
8801¥MP4SDTQ=-323.3205417¥PUHF=-322.3728802¥PMP2-0=-323.2343919¥PMP3-0
=-323.2902394¥MP4SDQ=-323.2868166¥QCISD=-323.3054133¥QCISD(T)=-323.344
008¥S2=6.713889¥S2-1=6.510099¥S2A=6.184063¥RMSD=4.633e-09¥PG=CS [SG(C7
H5N1)]¥¥@
```

 $^3\text{A}'' \mathbf{2-H}$

```
1¥1¥GINC-NS118¥FOpt¥UB3LYP¥6-31G(d)¥C7H5N1(3)¥AXN501¥08-Jun-2001¥0¥¥#B
3LYP/6-31G*,FOPT¥¥nitrenocarbene, triplet, E¥¥0,3¥C,-1.2557589745,0.4115
080213,0.¥C,-1.2411419988,-1.0231849789,0.¥C,-0.0434730108,-1.72623499
93,0.¥C,1.1734240009,-1.0405840199,0.¥C,1.218771025,0.3843539793,0.¥C,
0.000000037,1.091451,0.¥N,-2.404693963,1.0876210408,0.¥C,2.4259470386,
1.1847679588,0.¥H,3.2783320264,0.4665269444,0.¥H,-2.1937360077,-1.5442
679628,0.¥H,-0.0610190292,-2.812567999,0.¥H,2.1102859915,-1.5912630358
,0.¥H,0.0323860554,2.1757629995,0.¥¥Version=IBM-RS6000-G98RevA.9¥State
=3-A"¥HF=-324.272659¥S2=2.054472¥S2-1=0.¥S2A=2.001418¥RMSD=8.890e-09¥R
MSF=6.631e-05¥Dipole=0.0271478,-1.6155399,0.¥PG=CS [SG(C7H5N1)]¥¥@
```

 $^3\text{A}'' \mathbf{2-H}$

```
1¥1¥GINC-AEGEANYSP¥UQCISD(T)-FC¥6-31G(d)¥C7H5N1(3)¥CYP0002¥04-Mar-2001
¥0¥¥#QCISD(T,E4)/6-31G* MAXDISK=900000000 IOP(5/15=2)¥¥3-A" E-m-phenyl
ene-carbenonitrene, qcisd(t,e4)/6-31g*//CAS(12,11)/6-31G*¥¥0,3¥C,0,1.
2313921874,0.3556803767,0.¥C,0,0.0194384428,1.0580055804,0.¥C,0,-1.223
1566302,0.3702768259,0.¥C,0,-1.2207027144,-1.0532839796,0.¥C,0,-0.0201
40517,-1.7509340858,0.¥C,0,1.1973614602,-1.0602411161,0.¥C,0,2.4638249
78,1.1508785864,0.¥N,0,-2.3803151571,1.050287959,0.¥H,0,0.0354064778,2
.131211761,0.¥H,0,2.1227891993,-1.6070405359,0.¥H,0,-2.1607977765,-1.5
731773235,0.¥H,0,-0.0287662312,-2.8255496946,0.¥H,0,3.2998972808,0.440
2396459,0.¥¥Version=HP-PARisc-HPUX-G98RevA.9¥State=3-A"¥HF=-322.287941
9¥MP2=-323.1808343¥MP3=-323.241889¥MP4D=-323.2640503¥MP4DQ=-323.244247
7¥MP4SDTQ=-323.2968709¥PUHF=-322.3252155¥PMP2-0=-323.2146278¥PMP3-0=-3
```

23.2699202 $\text{YMP4SDQ}=-323.2598655\text{YQCISD}=-323.2795545\text{YQCISD(T)}=-323.322554$
 $9\text{YS2}=2.720221\text{YS2-1}=2.548319\text{YS2A}=2.319371\text{YRMSD}=9.059e-09\text{YPG=CS}$ [SG(C7H5
N1)] $\text{Y}\text{Y}@$

⁵A' 2-F

1 $\text{Y1YGINC-DRAGON2YFreqYUB3LYP}6-31G(d)\text{YC7H4F1N1(5)YAXN501Y16-May-1900Y0}$
 $\text{Y}\text{Y}\#B3LYP/6-31G*,\text{FREQYm-F.q.nitrenocarbeneY0,5YC,1.0375189516,-1.4270$
 $599194,0.YC,-0.2785370484,-2.0175899194,0.YC,-1.4022900484,-1.20062991$
 $94,0.YC,-1.2943270484,0.1884900806,0.YC,-0.0000000484,0.8123530806,0.Y$
 $C,1.1560979516,-0.0038989194,0.YN,2.1177249516,-2.1924299194,0.YC,0.11$
 $43429516,2.2039920806,0.YF,-0.8927110484,3.0567500806,0.YH,-2.18038804$
 $84,0.8136280806,0.YH,2.1453019516,0.4401660806,0.YH,-2.3907000484,-1.6$
 $527259194,0.YH,-0.3607230484,-3.0987489194,0.YY$ Version=DEC-AXP-OSF/1-G
 $94\text{RevD.4YState=5-A'YHF}=-423.5246839\text{YS2}=6.09\text{YS2-1=0.YS2A}=6.002\text{YRMSD}=6.1$
 $03e-09\text{YRMSF}=2.256e-06\text{YDipole}=-0.9208402,0.3224304,0.Y PG=CS$ [SG(C7H4F1
N1)] YNImag=0Y

⁵A' 2-F

1 $\text{Y1YGINC-NS118YSPYUQCISD(T)-FCY6-31G(d)\text{YC7H4F1N1(5)YAXN501Y23-Jan-2001}$
 $\text{Y}\text{Y}\#QCISD(T,E4)/6-31G* MAXDISK=900000000Y5-A' E-m-phenylene-F.carben$
 $onitrene, qcisd(t)/6-31g*//CAS(12,11)/6-31G*Y0,5YC,0,0.7479412572,0.3$
 $405391946,0.YC,0,0.7285519256,-1.0866785734,0.YC,0,-0.4886231718,-1.77$
 $24628219,0.YC,0,-1.6989382634,-1.08952032,0.YC,0,-1.7063705419,0.34306$
 $23713,0.YC,0,-0.4723976648,1.0467991178,0.YC,0,1.9661605131,1.04257596$
 $79,0.YN,0,-2.8571555734,1.0109684541,0.YF,0,3.1457357937,0.4675591523,$
 $0.YH,0,1.6562566239,-1.6252314028,0.YH,0,-0.4858879342,-2.8471692422,0$
 $.YH,0,-2.6355989172,-1.6140651161,0.YH,0,-0.4826740468,2.1206232181,0.$
 YY Version=IBM-RS6000-G98RevA.9 $\text{YState=5-A'YHF}=-421.1889369\text{YMP2}=-422.224$
 $3649\text{YMP3}=-422.2785809\text{YMP4D}=-422.3008732\text{YMP4DQ}=-422.2816899\text{YMP4SDTQ}=-42$
 $2.3393325\text{YPUHF}=-421.2176587\text{YPPM2-0=-422.2496103YPPM3-0=-422.2986821YMP}$
 $4\text{SDQ}=-422.3004128\text{YQCISD}=-422.3196369\text{YQCISD(T)}=-422.3614895\text{YS2}=6.703204$
 $\text{YS2-1=6.503227YS2A}=6.176271\text{YRMSD}=5.414e-09\text{YPG=CS}$ [SG(C7H4F1N1)] $\text{Y}\text{Y}@$

³A" 2-F

1 $\text{Y1YGINC-DRAGON2YFreqYUB3LYP}6-31G(d)\text{YC7H4F1N1(3)YROOTY03-May-1900Y0Y}\text{Y}$
 $\text{Y}\text{B3LYP/6-31G*,FREQYttriplet,freq.m-fY0,3YC,1.0076010968,-1.4206530161}$
 $,0.YC,-0.3138479032,-1.9778630161,0.YC,-1.4329939032,-1.1543700161,0.Y$
 $C,-1.2916489032,0.2344659839,0.YC,0.0000000968,0.8175699839,0.YC,1.133$
 $6670968,0.0041489839,0.YN,2.0846470968,-2.2037510161,0.YC,0.2866020968$
 $,2.2670789839,0.YF,-0.8940469032,2.9020819839,0.YH,-2.1616269032,0.882$
 $3769839,0.YH,2.1176070968,0.4620129839,0.YH,-2.4236949032,-1.600518016$
 $1,0.YH,-0.4146709032,-3.0586200161,0.YY$ Version=DEC-AXP-OSF/1-G94RevD.4
 $\text{YState=3-A"YHF}=-423.538689\text{YS2}=2.055\text{YS2-1=0.YS2A}=2.001\text{YRMSD}=6.142e-09\text{YR}$
 $\text{MSF}=1.324e-04\text{YDipole}=-1.2096458,-0.6218342,0.Y PG=CS$ [SG(C7H4F1N1)] YNIag=0Y

³A" 2-F

1 $\text{Y1YGINC-NS118YSPYUQCISD(T)-FCY6-31G(d)\text{YC7H4F1N1(3)YAXN501Y22-Jan-2001}$
 $\text{Y}\text{Y}\#QCISD(T,E4)/6-31G* MAXDISK=900000000Y3-A" E-m-phenylene-F.carben$
 $onitrene, qcisd(t)/6-31g*//CAS(12,11)/6-31G*Y0,3YC,0,0.7458286872,0.3$
 $313737013,0.YC,0,0.7387890095,-1.0823032616,0.YC,0,-0.4760513127,-1.77$
 $43419751,0.YC,0,-1.683194831,-1.084548226,0.YC,0,-1.6960386031,0.33775$
 $08648,0.YC,0,-0.4552849972,1.034158729,0.YC,0,1.9695689061,1.168197472$
 $5,0.YN,0,-2.8542668798,1.0127804099,0.YF,0,3.0060560437,0.3646190188,0$
 $.YH,0,1.6675025734,-1.6185941701,0.YH,0,-0.4789878507,-2.8488672456,0$
 $.YH,0,-2.6193742834,-1.6112882994,0.YH,0,-0.4475464621,2.1080629815,0.Y$
 Y Version=IBM-RS6000-G98RevA.9 $\text{YState=3-A"YHF}=-421.169076\text{YMP2}=-422.23655$
 $89\text{YMP3}=-422.2895163\text{YMP4D}=-422.314218\text{YMP4DQ}=-422.293065\text{YMP4SDTQ}=-422.35$
 $60347\text{YPUHF}=-421.2063731\text{YPPM2-0=-422.2702975YPPM3-0=-422.3173783YMP4SDQ}$
 $=-422.3129898\text{YQCISD}=-422.3320122\text{YQCISD(T)}=-422.3781429\text{YS2}=2.706367\text{YS2-1=2.534792YS2A}=2.307554\text{YRMSD}=3.606e-09\text{YPG=CS}$ [SG(C7H4F1N1)] $\text{Y}\text{Y}@$

⁵A' 2-C1

1¥1¥GINC-LEONARDO¥FOpt¥UB3LYP¥6-31G(d)¥C7H4C11N1(5)¥AXN501¥08-Jan-1901
 ¥0¥¥#B3LYP/6-31G*, FREQ FOPT¥m-C1.q.nitrenocarbene¥0,5¥C,1.1461022952
 ,-1.8820785158,0.¥C,-0.1711467203,-2.4677245436,0.¥C,-1.290379353,-1.6
 462383054,0.¥C,-1.175592746,-0.2565753044,0.¥C,0.116848845,0.368117376
 6,0.¥C,1.2676147826,-0.458914319,0.¥N,2.2251396866,-2.6495799125,0.¥C,
 0.2780070129,1.7566173539,0.¥Cl,-0.838861557,3.0212180372,0.¥H,-2.0631
 533506,0.3670678608,0.¥H,2.258100217,-0.017941,0.¥H,-2.2809383697,-2.0
 934091323,0.¥H,-0.258064532,-3.5485874274,0.¥¥Version=SGI-G94RevD.4¥St
 ate=5-A'¥HF=-783.8962005¥S2=6.091¥S2-1=0.¥S2A=6.003¥RMSD=5.135e-09¥RMS
 F=2.732e-05¥Dipole=-1.0332073,0.2777993,0.¥PG=CS [SG(C7H4C11N1)]¥¥@

⁵A' 2-C1

1¥1¥GINC-NS118¥SP¥UQCISD(T)-FC¥6-31G(d)¥C7H4C11N1(5)¥AXN501¥20-Jan-200
 1¥0¥¥#QCISD(T)/6-31G* MAXDISK=1100000000¥¥5-A' E-m-phenylene-Cl.carben
 onitrene, qcisd(t)/6-31g*///CAS(12,11)/6-31G*¥¥0,5¥C,0,0.31188565,0.283
 1590329,0.¥C,0,-0.9040336669,1.000741371,0.¥C,0,-2.1469202718,0.313467
 9881,0.¥C,0,-2.1570009245,-1.1185509133,0.¥C,0,-0.9550841822,-1.814497
 1953,0.¥C,0,0.2710165864,-1.1427034012,0.¥C,0,1.5209649196,1.008806667
 1,0.¥N,0,-3.2891786704,0.9968167742,0.¥Cl,0,3.1247162841,0.4565121899,
 0.¥H,0,-0.900855238,2.0744306784,0.¥H,0,1.1885318706,-1.6985814646,0.¥
 H,0,-0.9634840738,-2.8891680079,0.¥H,0,-3.0995582833,-1.6324337193,0.¥
 ¥Version=IBM-RS6000-G98RevA.9¥State=5-A'¥HF=-781.2459551¥MP2=-782.2430
 993¥MP3=-782.3107714¥MP4D=-782.333134¥MP4DQ=-782.3119628¥PUHF=-781.275
 3531¥PMP2-0=-782.26894¥PMP3-0=-782.3313581¥MP4SDQ=-782.3287922¥QCISD=-
 782.3482045¥QCISD(T)=-782.392115¥S2=6.715338¥S2-1=6.511059¥S2A=6.18542
 5¥RMSD=8.115e-09¥PG=CS [SG(C7H4C11N1)]¥¥@

³A" 2-C1

1¥1¥GINC-DRAGON1¥Freq¥UB3LYP¥6-31G(d)¥C7H4C11N1(3)¥MATSUOKAY19-Apr-199
 9¥0¥¥#B3LYP/6-31G*, FREQ¥¥triplet.nitrenocarbene¥¥0,3¥C,1.6621768286,-1
 .3965949,0.¥C,0.5826008286,-2.3385309,0.¥C,-0.7375031714,-1.9031129,0.
 ¥C,-1.0402421714,-0.5418119,0.¥C,-0.0000001714,0.4278231,0.¥C,1.334532
 8286,-0.0044049,0.¥N,2.9314778286,-1.7995489,0.¥C,-0.0970451714,1.8888
 451,0.¥Cl,-1.7695761714,2.4300281,0.¥H,-2.0734151714,-0.2120449,0.¥H,
 2.1258458286,0.7374481,0.¥H,-1.5401461714,-2.6352989,0.¥H,0.8230468286,
 -3.3970159,0.¥¥Version=DEC-AXP-OSF/1-G94RevD.4¥State=3-A"¥HF=-783.8958
 886¥S2=2.056¥S2-1=0.¥S2A=2.001¥RMSD=5.922e-09¥RMSF=7.356e-05¥Dipole=-0
 .8867376,-1.1814845,0.¥G=CS [SG(C7H4C11N1)]¥NImag=0¥

³A" 2-C1

1¥1¥GINC-NS118¥SP¥UQCISD(T)-FC¥6-31G(d)¥C7H4C11N1(3)¥AXN501¥17-Jan-200
 1¥0¥¥#QCISD(T)/6-31G* MAXDISK=900000000¥¥3-A" E-m-phenylene-Cl.carbeno
 nitrene, qcisd(t)/6-31g*///CAS(12,11)/6-31G*¥¥0,3¥C,0,0.3140372319,0.28
 35644699,0.¥C,0,-0.8903698337,0.9902967039,0.¥C,0,-2.1374763851,0.3061
 534956,0.¥C,0,-2.1375937964,-1.1141488845,0.¥C,0,-0.9341782403,-1.8117
 890336,0.¥C,0,0.2865043639,-1.1334339253,0.¥C,0,1.4901483954,1.1690141
 754,0.¥N,0,-3.2886113073,0.9948766686,0.¥Cl,0,2.9898143316,0.298833818
 4,0.¥H,0,-0.8733161105,2.0633655691,0.¥H,0,1.2035257314,-1.6878407556,
 0.¥H,0,-0.9443590551,-2.8861876845,0.¥H,0,-3.0771253259,-1.6347046174,
 0.¥¥Version=IBM-RS6000-G98RevA.9¥State=3-A"¥HF=-781.2071521¥MP2=-782.2
 394061¥MP3=-782.3047463¥MP4D=-782.3293352¥MP4DQ=-782.3057338¥PUHF=-781
 .2440784¥PMP2-0=-782.2728388¥PMP3-0=-782.3323768¥MP4SDQ=-782.3238887¥Q
 CISD=-782.3431813¥QCISD(T)=-782.3921658¥S2=2.70815¥S2-1=2.537517¥S2A=2
 .308765¥RMSD=4.712e-09¥PG=CS [SG(C7H4C11N1)]¥¥@

⁵A' 2-Br

1¥1¥GINC-AEGEAN 41¥FOpt¥UB3LYP¥6-31G(d)¥C7H4Br1N1(5)¥CYP0002¥19-Jan-
 2001¥0¥¥#B3LYP/6-31G*, OPT=FCCARDS FREQ¥¥5-A', m-Br.nitrenocarbene, E-is
 omer, str+frq.¥¥0,5¥C,0.992474935,2.7086926944,0.¥C,2.3067098655,2.116
 2471586,0.¥C,2.43970589,0.7341466891,0.¥C,1.3265714612,-0.1048617185,0
 .¥C,-0.0009584756,0.4420212411,0.¥C,-0.1504882724,1.851534779,0.¥N,0.8
 460591082,4.0246224628,0.¥C,-1.1419821974,-0.3641566334,0.¥Br,-1.35613

73668,-2.1900933842,0.¥H,3.1706275785,2.7716290235,0.¥H,3.433033121,0.2931071008,0.¥H,1.4453528158,-1.1828996183,0.¥H,-1.1388186722,2.2973294394,0.¥¥Version=HP-PARisc-HPUX-G98RevA.9¥State=5-A'¥HF=-2895.4059112¥S2=6.091105¥S2-1=0.¥S2A=6.002574¥RMSD=4.051e-09¥RMSF=3.450e-06¥Dipole=0.4454085,-1.0498633,0.¥PG=CS [SG(C7H4Br1N1)]¥¥@

⁵A' 2-Br

1¥1¥GINC-NS118¥SP¥UQCISD(T)-FC¥6-31G(d)¥C7H4Br1N1(5)¥AXN501¥14-Feb-2001¥0¥¥#QCISD(T)/6-31G* MAXDISK=900000000¥¥5-A' E-m-phenylene-Br.carbene nitrene, qcisd(t)/6-31g*//CAS(12,11)/6-31G*¥¥0,5¥C,0,-0.3652550232,0.2357816148,0.¥C,0,-1.5996135565,0.9216892325,0.¥C,0,-2.824435546,0.2022444582,0.¥C,0,-2.7975612302,-1.229465251,0.¥C,0,-1.5779215948,-1.8941271604,0.¥C,0,-0.3700147202,-1.1908275923,0.¥C,0,0.8249609025,0.9912495108,0.¥N,0,-3.9838045083,0.8559665517,0.¥Br,0,2.5920075929,0.4414792571,0.¥H,0,-1.6245632712,1.9951332099,0.¥H,0,0.5634629311,-1.719014073,0.¥H,0,-1.558694846,-2.9686336355,0.¥H,0,-3.7265671302,-1.7674761228,0.¥¥Version=IBM-RS6000-G98RevA.9¥State=5-A'¥HF=-2891.65385¥MP2=-2892.632972¥MP3=-2892.6978414¥MP4D=-2892.719981¥MP4DQ=-2892.6989036¥PUHF=-2891.6834367¥PMP2-0=-2892.6589729¥PMP3-0=-2892.7185472¥MP4SDQ=-2892.7162048¥QCISD=-2892.7357253¥QCISD(T)=-2892.7789699¥S2=6.718603¥S2-1=6.512706¥S2A=6.18848¥RMSD=4.446e-09¥PG=CS [SG(C7H4Br1N1)]¥¥@

³A" 2-Br

1¥1¥GINC-AEGEAN 41¥FOpt¥UB3LYP¥6-31G(d)¥C7H4Br1N1(3)¥CYP0002¥16-Jan-2001¥0¥¥#UB3LYP/6-31G* FOPT FREQ¥¥3-A" m-Br.nitrenocarbene, E-isomer, str+frq.¥¥0,3¥C,-0.353697142,0.2380977709,0.¥C,-1.5858139558,0.9157860129,0.¥C,-2.8253621212,0.2025336501,0.¥C,-2.7744460007,-1.2290031681,0.¥C,-1.553706332,-1.8944550635,0.¥C,-0.3539344248,-1.1848652095,0.¥C,0.7675260117,1.1731552932,0.¥N,-3.9873082382,0.8538231662,0.¥Br,2.4639834278,0.2617534325,0.¥H,-1.5878457502,2.0005442153,0.¥H,0.5962564356,-1.7079169183,0.¥H,-1.5388357384,-2.980809302,0.¥H,-3.7111980316,-1.7774460126,0.¥¥Version=HP-PARisc-HPUX-G98RevA.9¥State=3-A"¥HF=-2895.4057324¥S2=2.056426¥S2-1=0.¥S2A=2.001492¥RMSD=6.303e-09¥RMSF=7.441e-05¥Dipole=-0.2306745,-1.4278535,0.¥PG=CS [SG(C7H4Br1N1)]¥¥@

³A" 2-Br

1¥1¥GINC-NS118¥SP¥UQCISD(T)-FC¥6-31G(d)¥C7H4Br1N1(3)¥AXN501¥04-Mar-2001¥4¥¥#QCISD(T)/6-31G* MAXDISK=900000000 IOP(5/15=2) SCF=QC GUESS=ALTER¥¥3-A' E-m-phenylene-Br.carbenonitrene, qcisd(t)/6-31g*//CAS(12,11)/6-31G*¥¥0,3¥C,0,-0.3621907103,0.2374313169,0.¥C,0,-1.5869845344,0.9116031849,0.¥C,0,-2.8152262327,0.1943338676,0.¥C,0,-2.7774567665,-1.2252091804,0.¥C,0,-1.555640247,-1.8903979487,0.¥C,0,-0.3537641753,-1.180301615,0.¥C,0,0.780751083,1.1604301646,0.¥N,0,-3.9842569716,0.8527817374,0.¥Br,0,2.4671938606,0.270691229,0.¥H,0,-1.6001107134,1.9847688266,0.¥H,0,0.5790456317,-1.7067367725,0.¥H,0,-1.5366445788,-2.964649032,0.¥H,0,-3.7027156454,-1.7707457783,0.¥¥¥43,44¥¥Version=IBM-RS6000-G98RevA.9¥State=3-A"¥HF=-2891.6141519¥MP2=-2892.6300476¥MP3=-2892.6919868¥MP4D=-2892.7165112¥MP4DQ=-2892.6928364¥PUHF=-2891.6509767¥PMP2-0=-2892.663395¥PMP3-0=-2892.719559¥MP4SDQ=-2892.7117403¥QCISD=-2892.7309539¥QCISD(T)=-2892.7794802¥S2=2.709165¥S2-1=2.538788¥S2A=2.309584¥RMSD=0.000e+00¥PG=CS [SG(C7H4Br1N1)]¥¥@

Table S4. Coordinates of MCSCF/6-31G(d) Optimized Geometries of **2-X**.⁵A' **2-H**

C,1.2328813647,0.3441043003,0.0000000000\$C,0.0138562833,1.0580950952,0
.0000000000\$C,-1.2313236723,0.3727766843,0.0000000000\$C,-1.2447332926,
-1.0597107762,0.0000000000\$C,-0.0433062083,-1.7583916154,0.0000000000\$
C,1.1809577360,-1.0851349587,0.0000000000\$C,2.4618317732,1.0260868666,
0.0000000000\$N,-2.3729492051,1.0555218687,0.0000000000\$H,0.0175260090,
2.1319719266,0.0000000000\$H,2.0994093561,-1.6427307826,0.0000000000\$H,
-2.1886851202,-1.5712731579,0.0000000000\$H,-0.0543116916,-2.8333450235
,0.0000000000\$H,3.4650776679,0.6483835726,0.0000000000\$

¹A' **2-H**

C,1.2194324316,0.3329736629,0.0000000000\$C,0.0106827054,1.0441040245,0
.0000000000\$C,-1.2218687273,0.3592664069,0.0000000000\$C,-1.2436012999,
-1.0505373122,0.0000000000\$C,-0.0430922496,-1.7547692367,0.0000000000\$
C,1.1773902829,-1.0764626326,0.0000000000\$C,2.4846236289,1.0365111285,
0.0000000000\$N,-2.3984138390,1.0619246897,0.0000000000\$H,0.0148168246,
2.1183731642,0.0000000000\$H,2.0970940250,-1.6332123153,0.0000000000\$H,
-2.1876710727,-1.5631427727,0.0000000000\$H,-0.0541815499,-2.8295563972
,0.0000000000\$H,3.4810198400,0.6408815901,0.0000000000\$

¹A" **2-H**

C,1.2336219670,0.3711904225,0.0000000000\$C,0.0464398683,1.0754456879,0
.0000000000\$C,-1.2521754690,0.3839994782,0.0000000000\$C,-1.2340296808,
-1.0875752897,0.0000000000\$C,-0.0425396627,-1.7622848255,0.0000000000\$
C,1.1974899671,-1.0675418526,0.0000000000\$C,2.4646948984,1.1720410588,
0.0000000000\$N,-2.3464609888,1.0427575291,0.0000000000\$H,0.0602065670,
2.1478040859,0.0000000000\$H,2.1200964387,-1.6166810114,0.0000000000\$H,
-2.1754733005,-1.6027714242,0.0000000000\$H,-0.0416081056,-2.8371972653
,0.0000000000\$H,3.3059685009,0.4671674064,0.0000000000\$

³A' **2-H**

C,1.2278072724,0.3393340951,0.0000000000\$C,0.0131926432,1.0527487009,0
.0000000000\$C,-1.2283539063,0.3676859765,0.0000000000\$C,-1.2446006890,
-1.0565310868,0.0000000000\$C,-0.0440138901,-1.7570681768,0.0000000000\$
C,1.1794268195,-1.0816312561,0.0000000000\$C,2.4706325307,1.0299688288,
0.0000000000\$N,-2.3816890041,1.0570897491,0.0000000000\$H,0.0171876732,
2.1267184938,0.0000000000\$H,2.0982112138,-1.6392171474,0.0000000000\$H,
-2.1886478644,-1.5682901851,0.0000000000\$H,-0.0548930911,-2.8319211887
,0.0000000000\$H,3.4719712923,0.6474671966,0.0000000000\$

³A" **2-H**

C,1.2313921874,0.3556803767,0.0000000000\$C,0.0194384428,1.0580055804,0
.0000000000\$C,-1.2231566302,0.3702768259,0.0000000000\$C,-1.2207027144,
-1.0532839796,0.0000000000\$C,-0.0201405170,-1.7509340858,0.0000000000\$
C,1.1973614602,-1.0602411161,0.0000000000\$C,2.4638249780,1.1508785864,
0.0000000000\$N,-2.3803151571,1.0502879590,0.0000000000\$H,0.0354064778,
2.1312117610,0.0000000000\$H,2.1227891993,-1.6070405359,0.0000000000\$H,
-2.1607977765,-1.5731773235,0.0000000000\$H,-0.0287662312,-2.8255496946
,0.0000000000\$H,3.2998972808,0.4402396459,0.0000000000\$

⁵A' **2-F**

C,.7479412572,.3405391946,.0000000000\$C,.7285519256,-1.0866785734,.000
000000\$C,-.4886231718,-1.7724628219,.0000000000\$C,-1.6989382634,-1.08
95203200,.0000000000\$C,-1.7063705419,.3430623713,.0000000000\$C,-.47239
76648,1.0467991178,.0000000000\$C,1.9661605131,1.0425759679,.0000000000\$
N,-2.8571555734,1.0109684541,.0000000000\$F,3.1457357937,.4675591523,.
0000000000\$H,1.6562566239,-1.6252314028,.0000000000\$H,-.4858879342,-2.
8471692422,.0000000000\$H,-2.6355989172,-1.6140651161,.0000000000\$H,-.4
826740468,2.1206232181,.0000000000\$

¹A' **2-F**

C,.7349401258,.3313669866,.0000000000\$C,.7261589645,-1.0757410192,.000
000000\$C,-.4869622833,-1.7677005942,.0000000000\$C,-1.6972725248,-1.08
10355193,.0000000000\$C,-1.6975428089,.3291922163,.0000000000\$C,-.47648
59510,1.0330790206,.0000000000\$C,1.9909556292,1.0573921599,.0000000000\$
N,-2.8833813855,1.0165163771,.0000000000\$F,3.1553216655,.4492232965,.

0000000000¥H,1.6553504276,-1.6127052657,.0000000000¥H,-.4828285463,-2.
8423511376,.0000000000¥H,-2.6334506373,-1.6076824841,.0000000000¥H,-.4
878026755,2.1074459631,.0000000000¥

¹A"2-F

C,.7469881319,.3487621200,.0000000000¥C,.7397311202,-1.0882353266,.000
000000¥C,-.4976736834,-1.7852861041,.0000000000¥C,-1.6945227222,-1.11
82407941,.0000000000¥C,-1.7242218361,.3536708272,.0000000000¥C,-.42993
39934,1.0534727658,.0000000000¥C,1.9717648022,1.1856255156,.0000000000
¥N,-2.8213625982,1.0065517276,.0000000000¥F,3.0056776373,.3798940640,.
0000000000¥H,1.6664390022,-1.6254243705,.0000000000¥H,-.4909475330,-2.
8600891654,.0000000000¥H,-2.6321081767,-1.6402938348,.0000000000¥H,-.4
228301508,2.1265925753,.0000000000¥

³A'2-F

C,.7424885469,.3369851844,.0000000000¥C,.7275697299,-1.0814526568,.000
000000¥C,-.4884083357,-1.7702158748,.0000000000¥C,-1.6984159196,-1.08
63231770,.0000000000¥C,-1.7035604720,.3375615808,.0000000000¥C,-.47372
15136,1.0414059640,.0000000000¥C,1.9767164317,1.0485823745,.0000000000
¥N,-2.8671611271,1.0120384327,.0000000000¥F,3.1497115274,.4592538646,.
0000000000¥H,1.6557594597,-1.6194604786,.0000000000¥H,-.4845321176,-2.
8449262622,.0000000000¥H,-2.6347892125,-1.6118422516,.0000000000¥H,-.4
846569975,2.1153933002,.0000000000¥

³A"2-F

C,.7458286872,.3313737013,.0000000000¥C,.7387890095,-1.0823032616,.000
000000¥C,-.4760513127,-1.7743419751,.0000000000¥C,-1.6831948310,-1.08
45482260,.0000000000¥C,-1.6960386031,.3377508648,.0000000000¥C,-.45528
49972,1.0341587290,.0000000000¥C,1.9695689061,1.1681974725,.0000000000
¥N,-2.8542668798,1.0127804099,.0000000000¥F,3.0060560437,.3646190188,.
0000000000¥H,1.6675025734,-1.6185941701,.0000000000¥H,-.4789878507,-2.
8488672456,.0000000000¥H,-2.6193742834,-1.6112882994,.0000000000¥H,-.4
475464621,2.1080629815,.0000000000¥

⁵A'2-C1

C,0.3118856500,0.2831590329,0.0000000000¥C,-0.9040336669,1.0007413710,
0.0000000000¥C,-2.1469202718,0.3134679881,0.0000000000¥C,-2.1570009245
, -1.118509133,0.0000000000¥C,-0.9550841822,-1.8144971953,0.0000000000
¥C,0.2710165864,-1.1427034012,0.0000000000¥C,1.5209649196,1.0088066671
,0.0000000000¥N,-3.2891786704,0.9968167742,0.0000000000¥C1,3.124716284
1,0.4565121899,0.0000000000¥H,-0.9008552380,2.0744306784,0.0000000000¥
H,1.1885318706,-1.6985814646,0.0000000000¥H,-0.9634840738,-2.889168007
9,0.0000000000¥H,-3.0995582833,-1.6324337193,0.0000000000¥

¹A'2-C1

C,.2991203508,.2729600118,.0000000000¥C,-.9080269217,.9872789866,.0000
000000¥C,-2.1377958748,.3000337520,.0000000000¥C,-2.1549642101,-1.1108
154005,.0000000000¥C,-.9537795579,-1.8106833963,.0000000000¥C,.2689527
704,-1.1330111857,.0000000000¥C,1.5431204040,1.0246551500,.0000000000¥
N,-3.3138728082,1.0025429151,.0000000000¥C1,3.1348789326,.4426982736,.
0000000000¥H,-.9055410554,2.0614555920,.0000000000¥H,1.1877146915,-1.6
877843954,.0000000000¥H,-.9614120847,-2.8852409096,.0000000000¥H,-3.09
73946365,-1.6260893934,.0000000000¥

¹A"2-C1

C,.3160174946,.3016621937,.0000000000¥C,-.8638462553,1.0091938235,.000
000000¥C,-2.1646108843,.3218311801,.0000000000¥C,-2.1497823111,-1.148
8043125,.0000000000¥C,-.9566256649,-1.8227644632,.0000000000¥C,.287005
0862,-1.1398153900,.0000000000¥C,1.4921185972,1.1882473316,.0000000000
¥N,-3.2523336271,.9905064085,.0000000000¥C1,2.9875259250,.3130887683,.
0000000000¥H,-.8490837164,2.0815257039,.0000000000¥H,1.2019682412,-1.6
949683938,.0000000000¥H,-.9566141835,-2.8974336273,.0000000000¥H,-3.09
07387017,-1.6642692226,.0000000000¥

³A'2-C1

C,0.3065697774,0.2789063533,0.0000000000¥C,-0.9051376885,0.9952297509,
0.0000000000¥C,-2.1437274490,0.3080363140,0.0000000000¥C,-2.1563582464
, -1.1156333131,0.0000000000¥C,-0.9550627266,-1.8127264803,0.0000000000
¥C,0.2701181666,-1.1381401445,0.0000000000¥C,1.5302792483,1.0152738773
,0.0000000000¥N,-3.2984403230,0.9978958275,0.0000000000¥C1,3.128845077

9, 0.4513488584, 0.0000000000¥H, -0.9020628131, 2.0690100121, 0.0000000000¥H,
 1.1880029336, -1.6937619889, 0.0000000000¥H, -0.9631379577, -2.887294454
 8, 0.0000000000¥H, -3.0988879993, -1.6301446118, 0.0000000000¥

³A" 2-C1

C, 0.3140372319, 0.2835644699, 0.0000000000¥C, -0.8903698337, 0.9902967039,
 0.0000000000¥C, -2.1374763851, 0.3061534956, 0.0000000000¥C, -2.1375937964
 , -1.1141488845, 0.0000000000¥C, -0.9341782403, -1.8117890336, 0.0000000000
 ¥C, 0.2865043639, -1.1334339253, 0.0000000000¥C, 1.4901483954, 1.1690141754
 , 0.0000000000¥N, -3.2886113073, 0.9948766686, 0.0000000000¥C1, 2.989814331
 6, 0.2988338184, 0.0000000000¥H, -0.8733161105, 2.0633655691, 0.0000000000¥H,
 1.2035257314, -1.6878407556, 0.0000000000¥H, -0.9443590551, -2.886187684
 5, 0.0000000000¥H, -3.0771253259, -1.6347046174, 0.0000000000¥

⁵A' 2-Br

C, -0.3652550232, .2357816148, .0000000000¥C, -1.5996135565, .9216892325, .00
 00000000¥C, -2.8244355460, .2022444582, .0000000000¥C, -2.7975612302, -1.22
 94652510, .0000000000¥C, -1.5779215948, -1.8941271604, .0000000000¥C, -.370
 0147202, -1.1908275923, .0000000000¥C, .8249609025, .9912495108, .0000000000
 0¥N, -3.9838045083, .8559665517, .0000000000¥Br, 2.5920075929, .4414792571,
 .0000000000¥H, -1.6245632712, 1.9951332099, .0000000000¥H, .5634629311, -1.
 7190140730, .0000000000¥H, -1.5586948460, -2.9686336355, .0000000000¥H, -3.
 7265671302, -1.7674761228, .0000000000¥

¹A' 2-Br

C, -0.3781785011, .2255833302, .0000000000¥C, -1.6034177550, .9083588588, .00
 00000000¥C, -2.8151562733, .1891092105, .0000000000¥C, -2.7955781898, -1.22
 14937342, .0000000000¥C, -1.5764496084, -1.8903138336, .0000000000¥C, -.372
 3665334, -1.1810785198, .0000000000¥C, .8469731280, 1.0074232046, .00000000
 00¥N, -4.0091467586, .8605141470, .0000000000¥Br, 2.6028744882, .4273788890
 , .0000000000¥H, -1.6294635071, 1.9822456922, .0000000000¥H, .5624160518, -1
 .7079860659, .0000000000¥H, -1.5561714496, -2.9647317598, .0000000000¥H, -3
 .7243350917, -1.7610094190, .0000000000¥

¹A" 2-Br

C, -0.3606577192, .2555336816, .0000000000¥C, -1.5609601530, .9306468232, .00
 00000000¥C, -2.8428799687, .2087526175, .0000000000¥C, -2.7887310654, -1.26
 07769933, .0000000000¥C, -1.5773380580, -1.9020133065, .0000000000¥C, -.352
 6740566, -1.1869431247, .0000000000¥C, .7813593576, 1.1810801833, .00000000
 00¥N, -3.9471270485, .8500189470, .0000000000¥Br, 2.4633736182, .2866574322
 , .0000000000¥H, -1.5773940686, 2.0030361625, .0000000000¥H, .5780801830, -1
 .7145038607, .0000000000¥H, -1.5475892600, -2.9762455354, .0000000000¥H, -3
 .7154617607, -1.8012430267, .0000000000¥

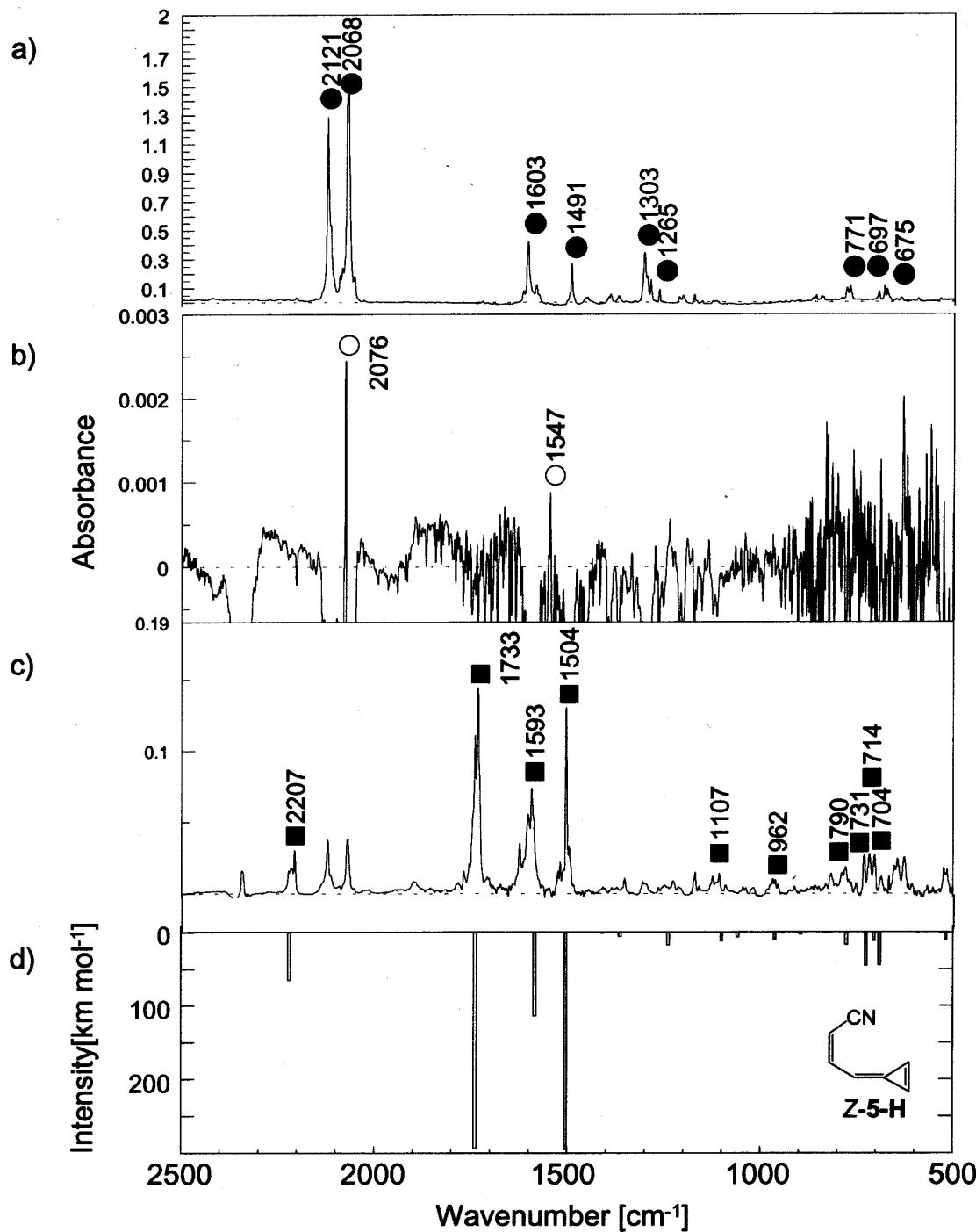
³A' 2-Br

C, -0.3705994227, 0.2315114404, 0.0000000000¥C, -1.6007966960, 0.9164247901
 , 0.0000000000¥C, -2.8212248135, 0.1970846430, 0.0000000000¥C, -2.796847948
 5, -1.2263832468, 0.0000000000¥C, -1.5778270203, -1.8925110708, 0.0000000000
 ¥C, -0.3710344360, -1.1863556068, 0.0000000000¥C, 0.8342827493, 0.99748182
 49, 0.0000000000¥N, -3.9933952728, 0.8568362596, 0.0000000000¥Br, 2.5966360
 556, 0.4361559231, 0.0000000000¥H, -1.6264853430, 1.9899666306, 0.0000000000
 0¥H, 0.5628589818, -1.7142986555, 0.0000000000¥H, -1.5577703046, -2.9670064
 622, 0.0000000000¥H, -3.7257965293, -1.7649064696, 0.0000000000¥

³A" 2-Br

C, -0.3621907103, 0.2374313169, 0.0000000000¥C, -1.5869845344, 0.9116031849
 , 0.0000000000¥C, -2.8152262327, 0.1943338676, 0.0000000000¥C, -2.777456766
 5, -1.2252091804, 0.0000000000¥C, -1.5556402470, -1.8903979487, 0.0000000000
 ¥C, -0.3537641753, -1.1803016150, 0.0000000000¥C, 0.7807510830, 1.16043016
 46, 0.0000000000¥N, -3.9842569716, 0.8527817374, 0.0000000000¥Br, 2.4671938
 606, 0.2706912290, 0.0000000000¥H, -1.6001107134, 1.9847688266, 0.0000000000
 0¥H, 0.5790456317, -1.7067367725, 0.0000000000¥H, -1.5366445788, -2.9646490
 320, 0.0000000000¥H, -3.7027156454, -1.7707457783, 0.0000000000¥

Figure S1. Photolysis ($\lambda > 350$ nm) of **3-H** in Ar matrix at 13 K. a) Total IR spectrum of **3-H** before irradiation. b) Difference spectrum between **3-H** (lower part) and photoproduct (H1, upper part) obtained after 60 sec of irradiation. c) Total spectrum obtained after 505 min of irradiation (H2, '■'). d) Calculated (B3LYP/6-31G(d)) spectrum of **Z-5-H**. e) Total IR spectrum of photoproduct H3 ('★') obtained after additional 215 min of irradiation with shorter wave-length ($\lambda > 300$ nm). f) Calculated spectrum of **E-5-H**. g) Calculated spectrum of **5A'-2-H**. h) Calculated spectrum of **3A''-2-H**.



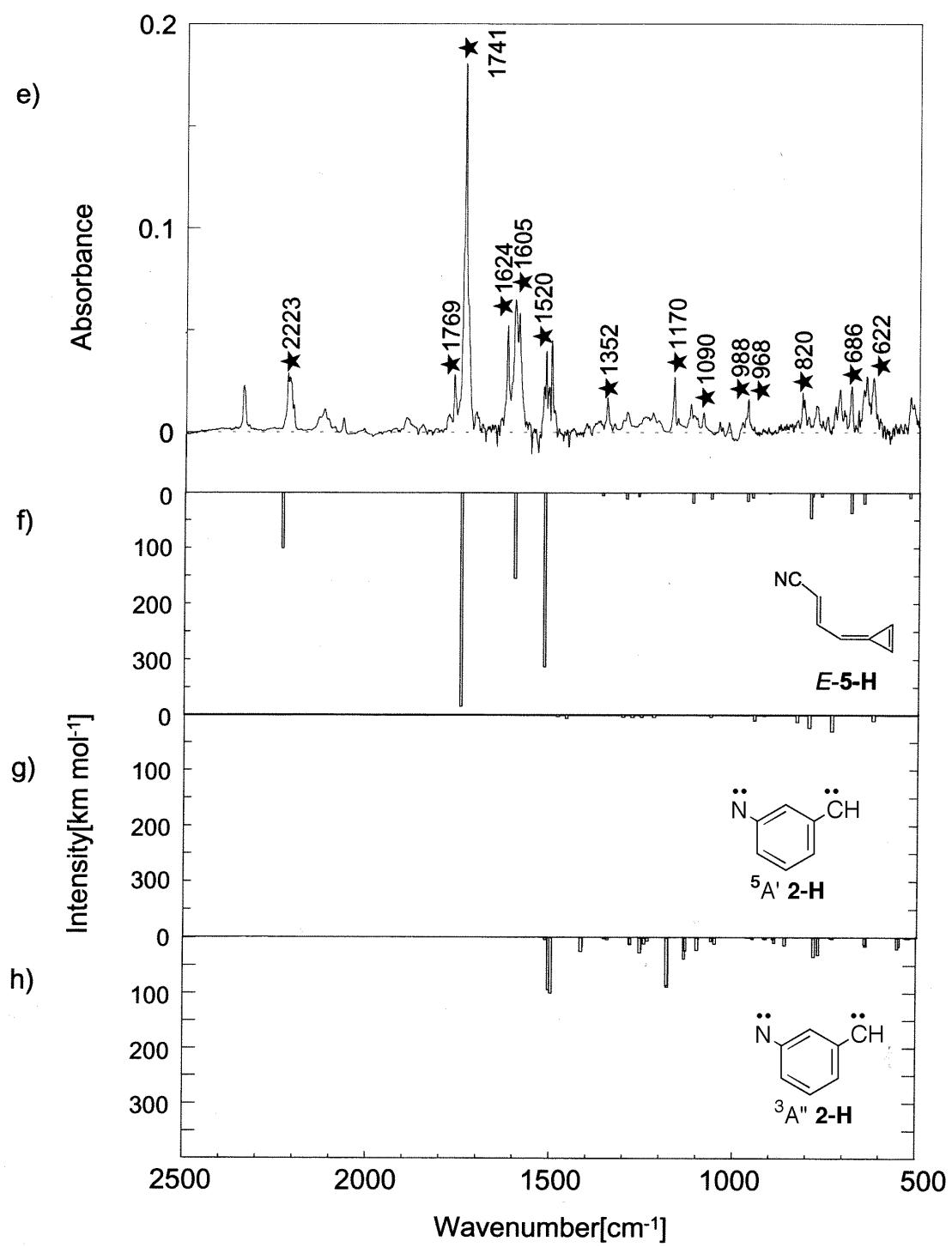
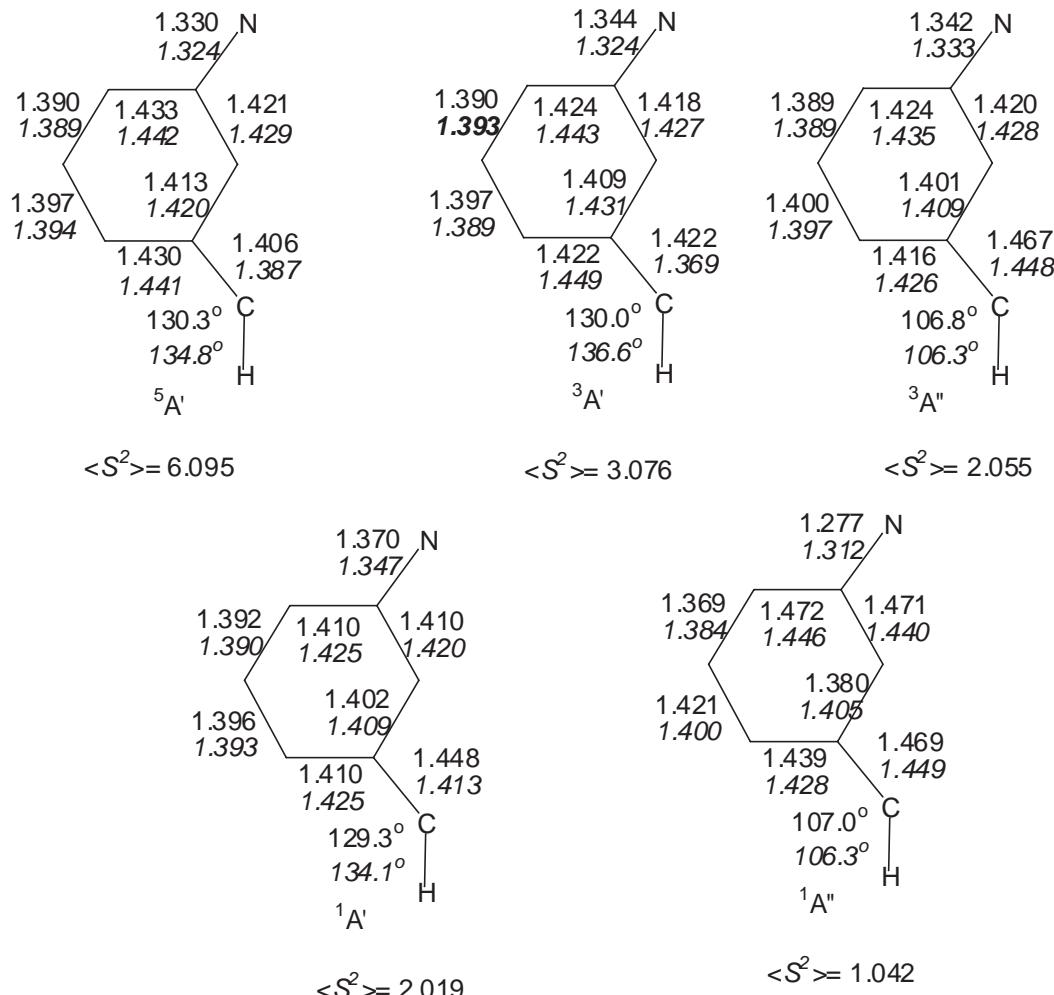
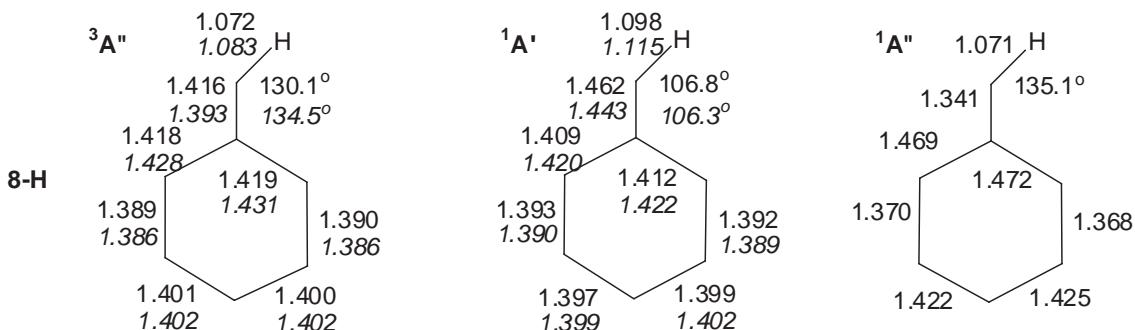


Figure S2. Selected geometrical parameters (distances in Å, angles in degrees) for the $^5\text{A}'$, $^3\text{A}'$, $^3\text{A}''$, $^1\text{A}'$ and $^1\text{A}''$ states of **2-H** at the MCSCF and UB3LYP (in italics) levels of theory with the 6-31G(d) basis set and UB3LYP spin-squared expectation values ($\langle S^2 \rangle$).

Figure S3. Selected geometrical parameters (distances in Å, angles in degrees) for the



$^3\text{A}''$, $^1\text{A}'$ and $^1\text{A}''$ states of **8-X** and for the $^3\text{A}_2$, $^1\text{A}_1$ and $^1\text{A}_2$ states of **9** at the MCSCF and UB3LYP (in italics) levels of theory with the 6-31G(d) basis set.



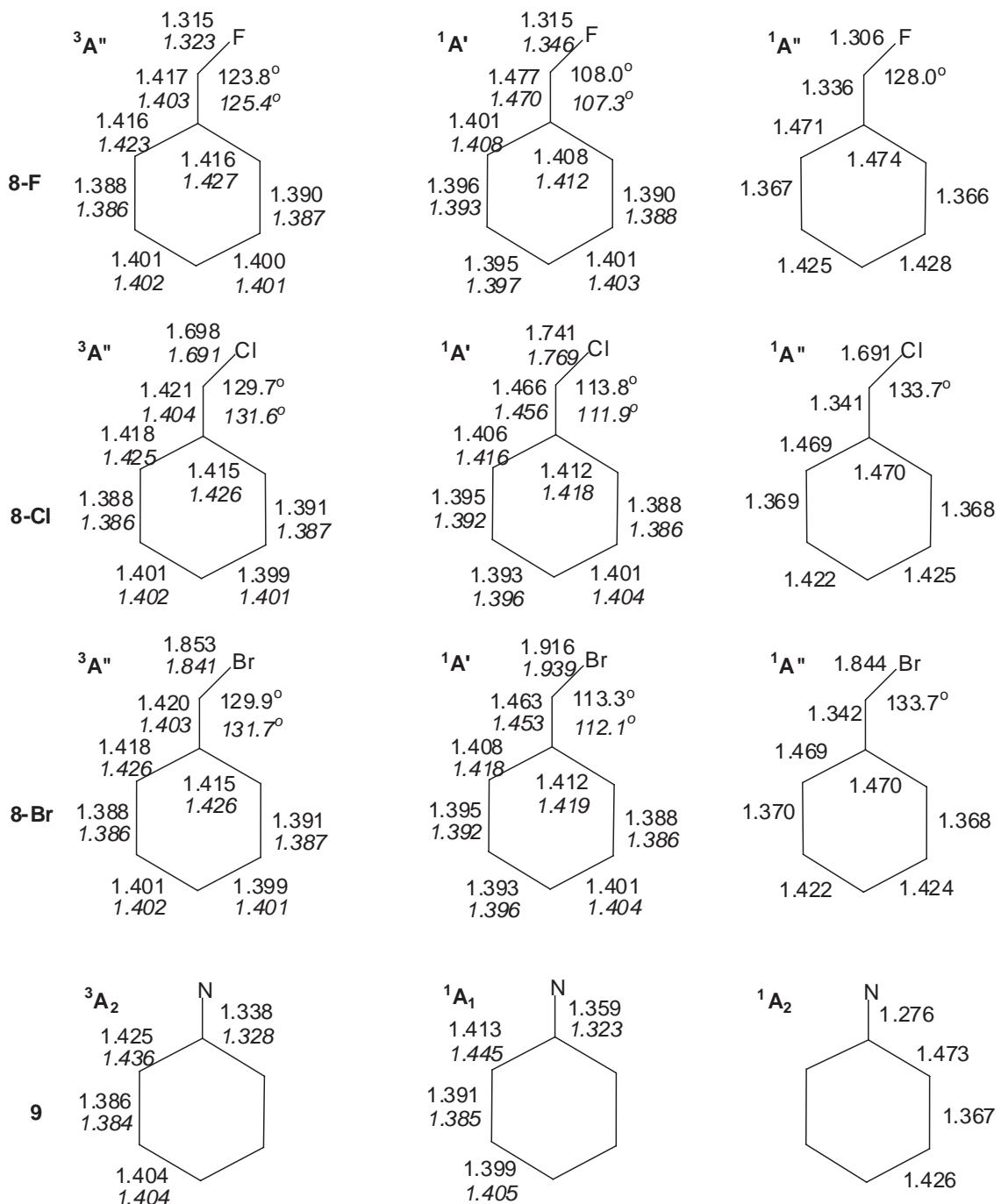
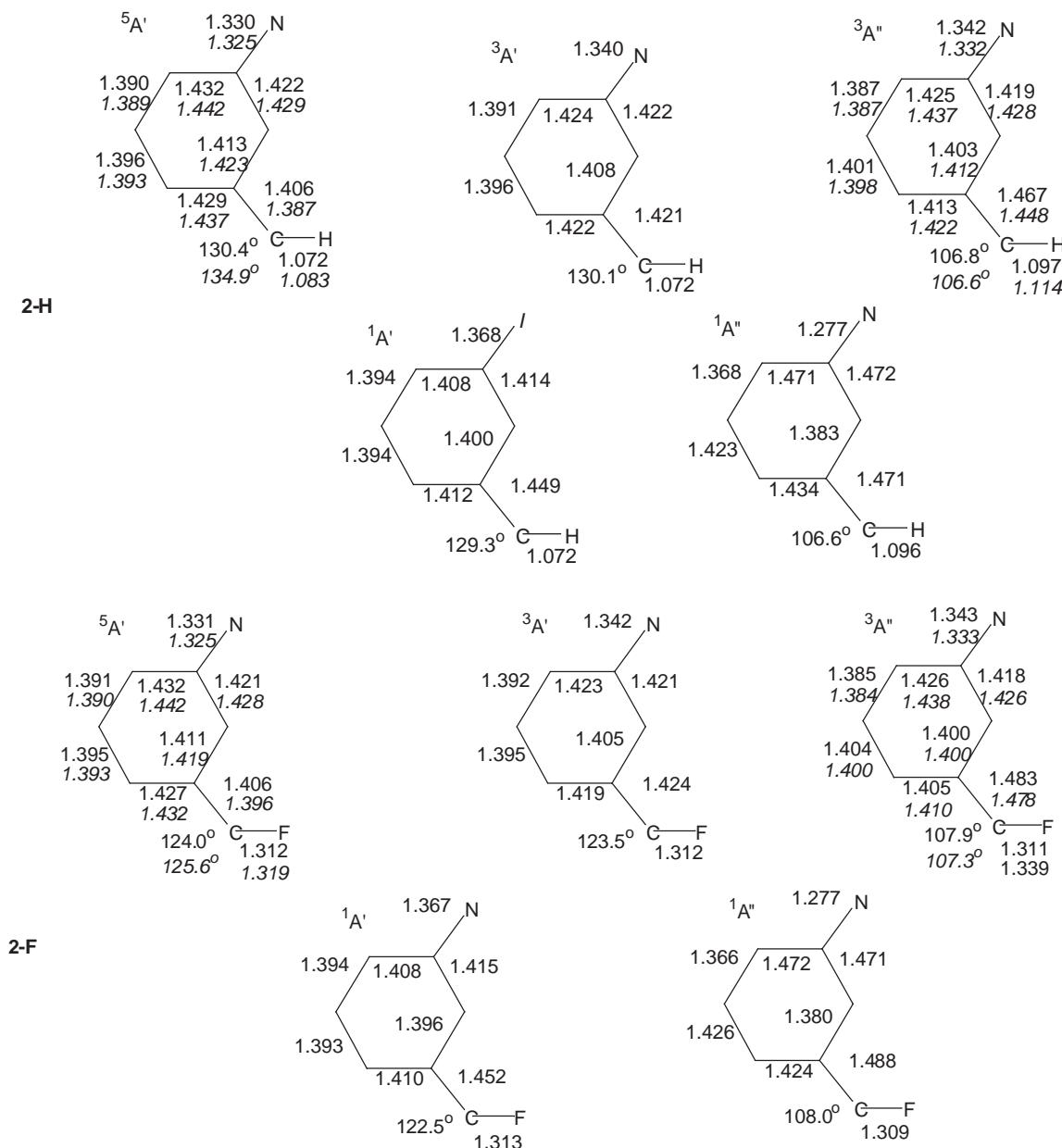


Figure S4. Selected geometrical parameters (distances in Å, angles in degrees) for the $^5\text{A}'$, $^3\text{A}'$, $^3\text{A}''$, $^1\text{A}'$ and $^1\text{A}''$ states of **2-X** (*syn* isomers) at the MCSCF and UB3LYP (in italics) levels of theory with the 6-31G(d) basis set.



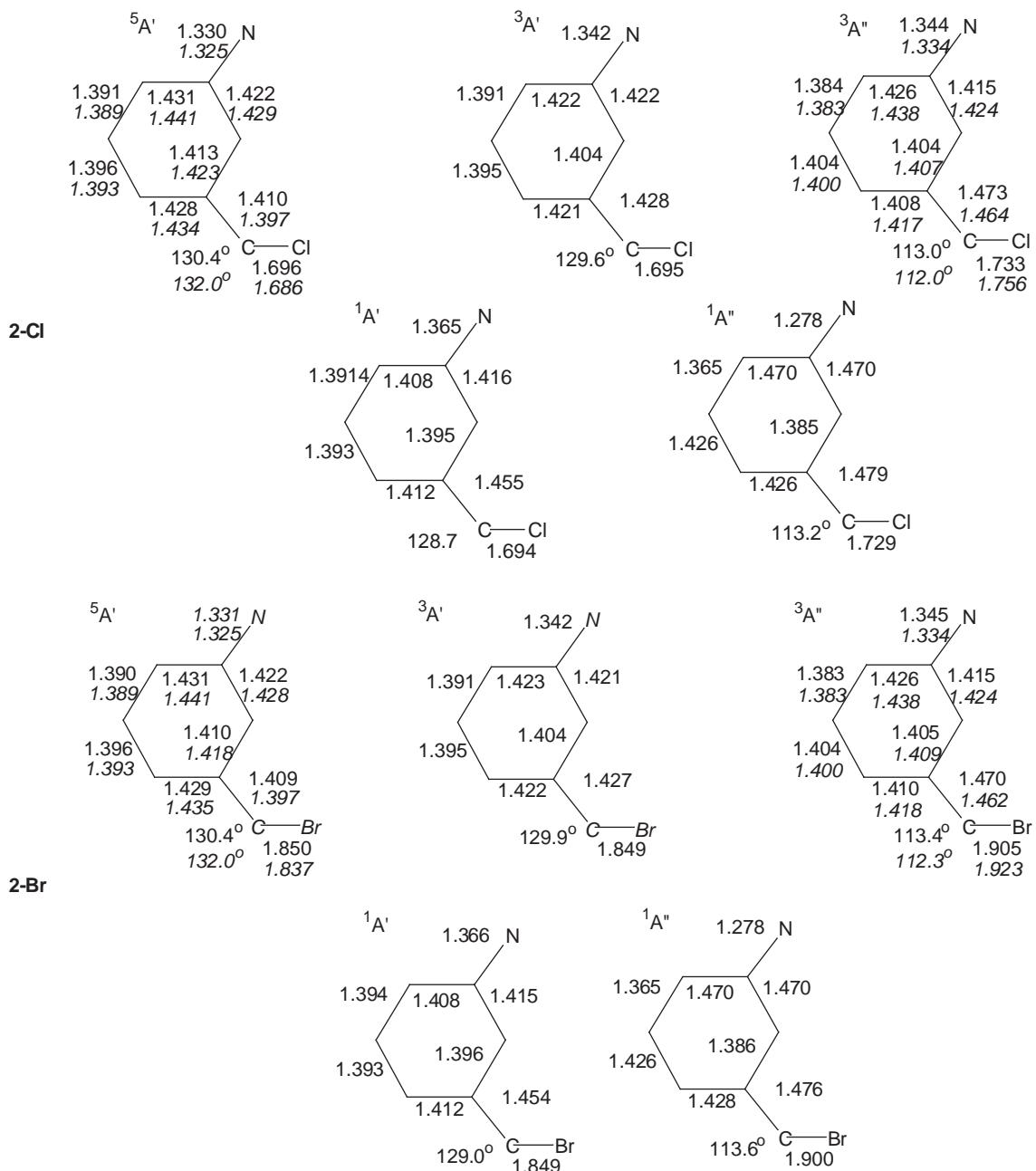
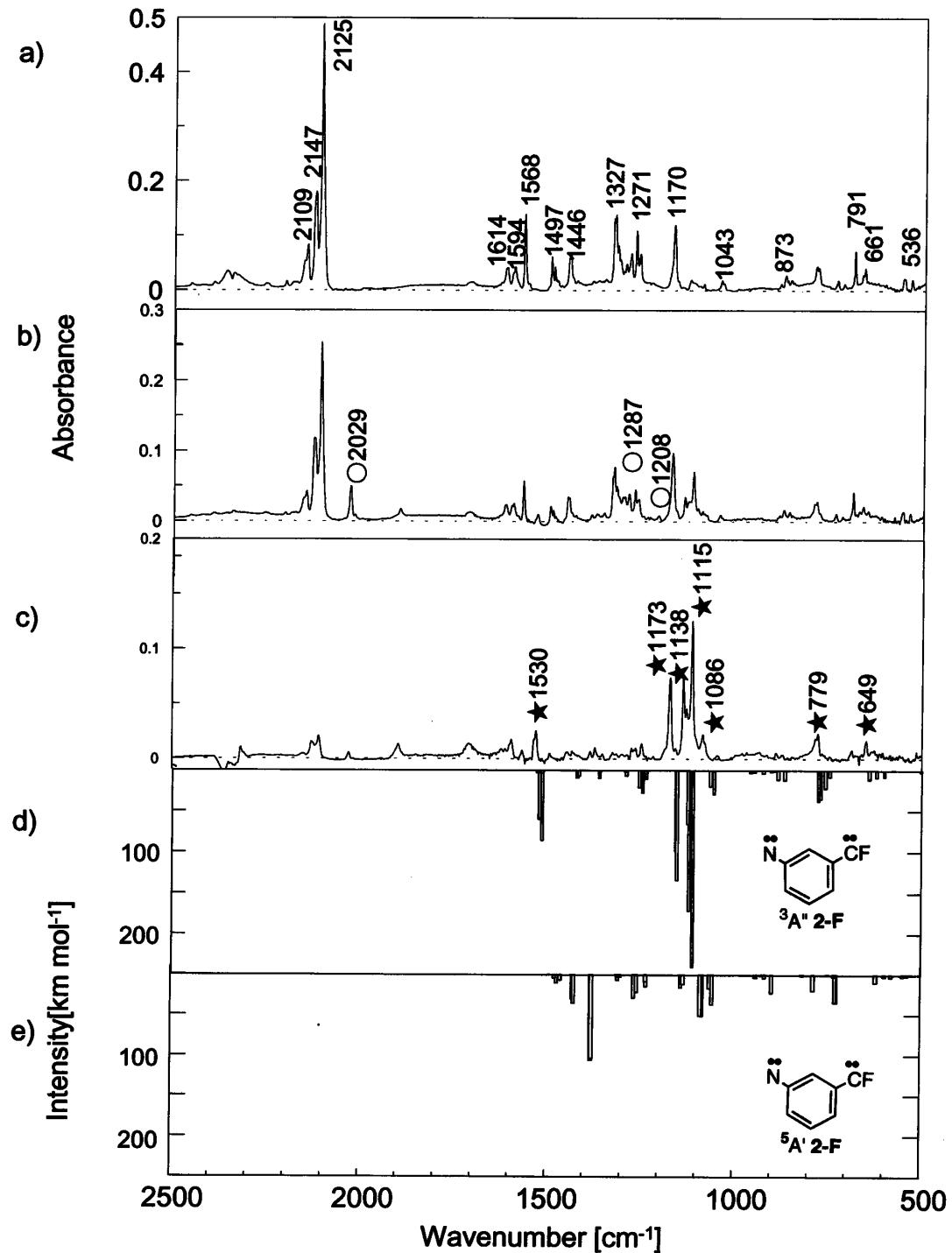
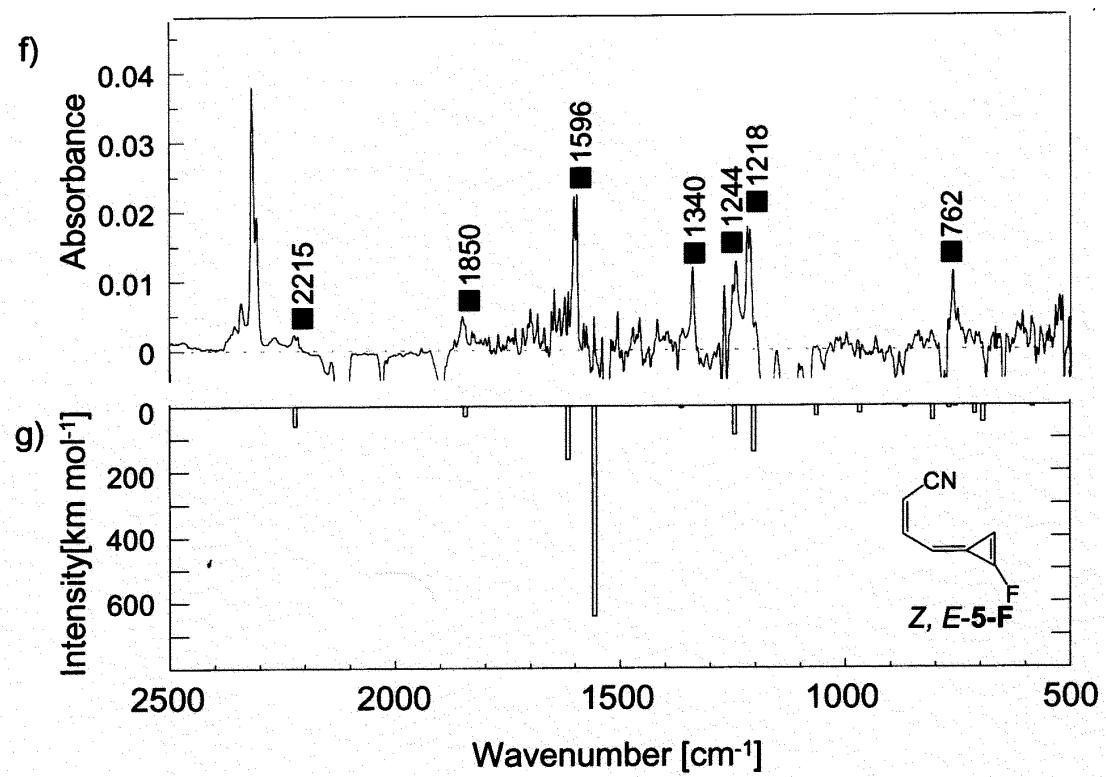
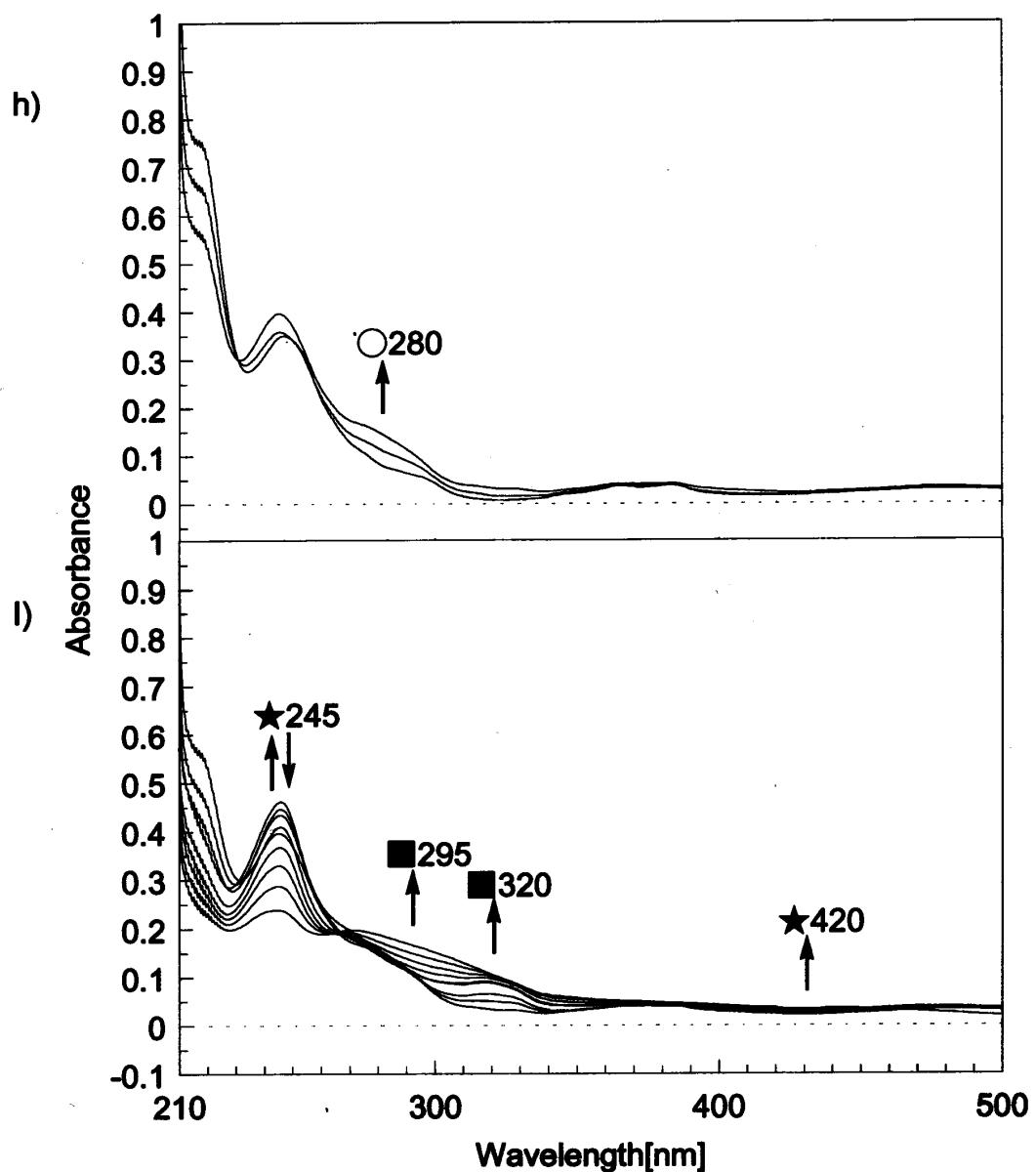


Figure S5. Photolysis ($\lambda > 300$ nm) of **6-F** in Ar matrix at 13 K. a) IR spectrum of **6-F**. b) IR spectrum obtained after 50 sec of irradiation. (Primary photoproduct (**4-F**, '○')). c) IR spectrum obtained after 6 min. (Secondary photoproduct (**2-F**, '★')). d) Calculated spectrum of $^3A''$ **2-F**. e) Calculated spectrum of $^5A'$ **2-F**. f) Difference spectrum of **2-F** (lower part) and photoproduct formed after 105 min of irradiation (**5-F**, '■'). g) Calculated spectrum of **5-F**. h) UV spectra (0-15 sec). i) UV spectra (15 sec to 23 min). j) UV spectra (triacetin, 10^{-3} M, 77 K, 0-6 min) k) ESR spectrum of **2-F** (triacetin, 10^{-3} M, 77 K, 16 min) (Freq=9.23470 GHz, St=2min, Amp=50, H₀=330 mT, H=695 mT).







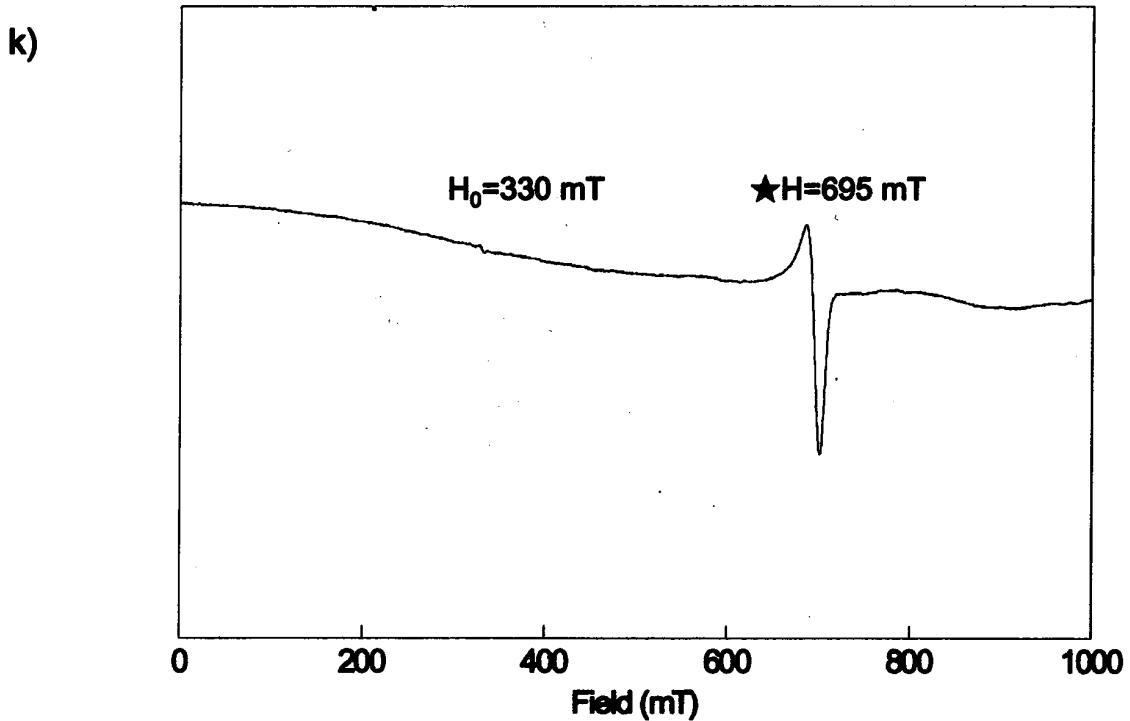
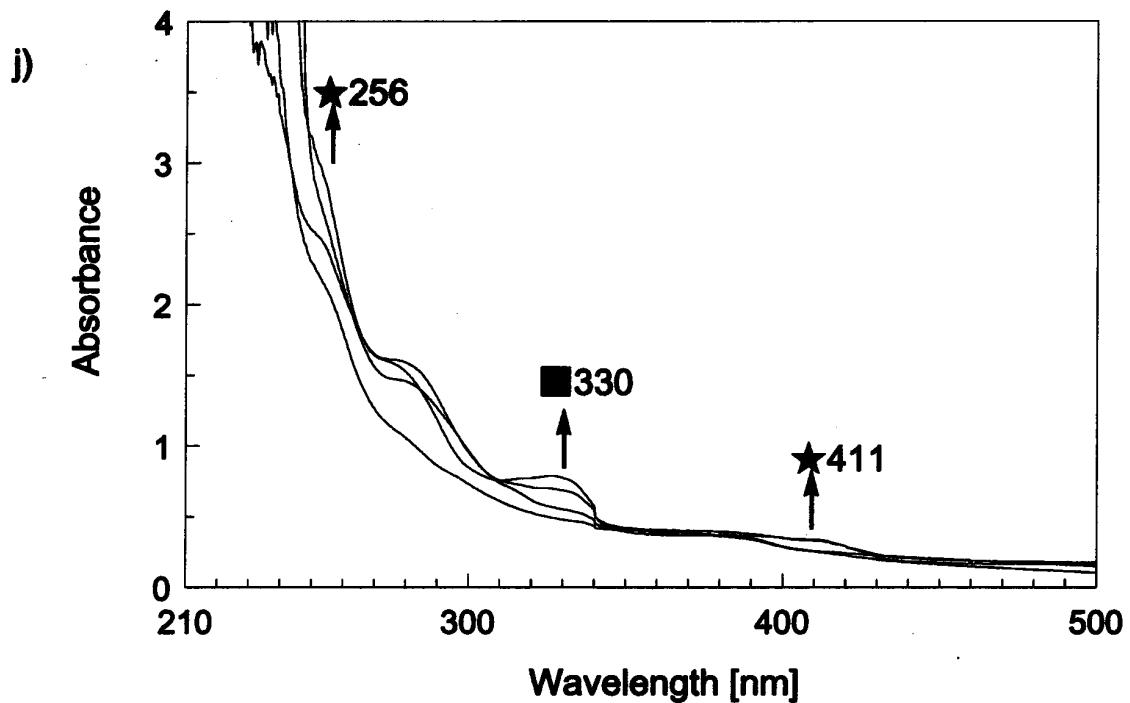
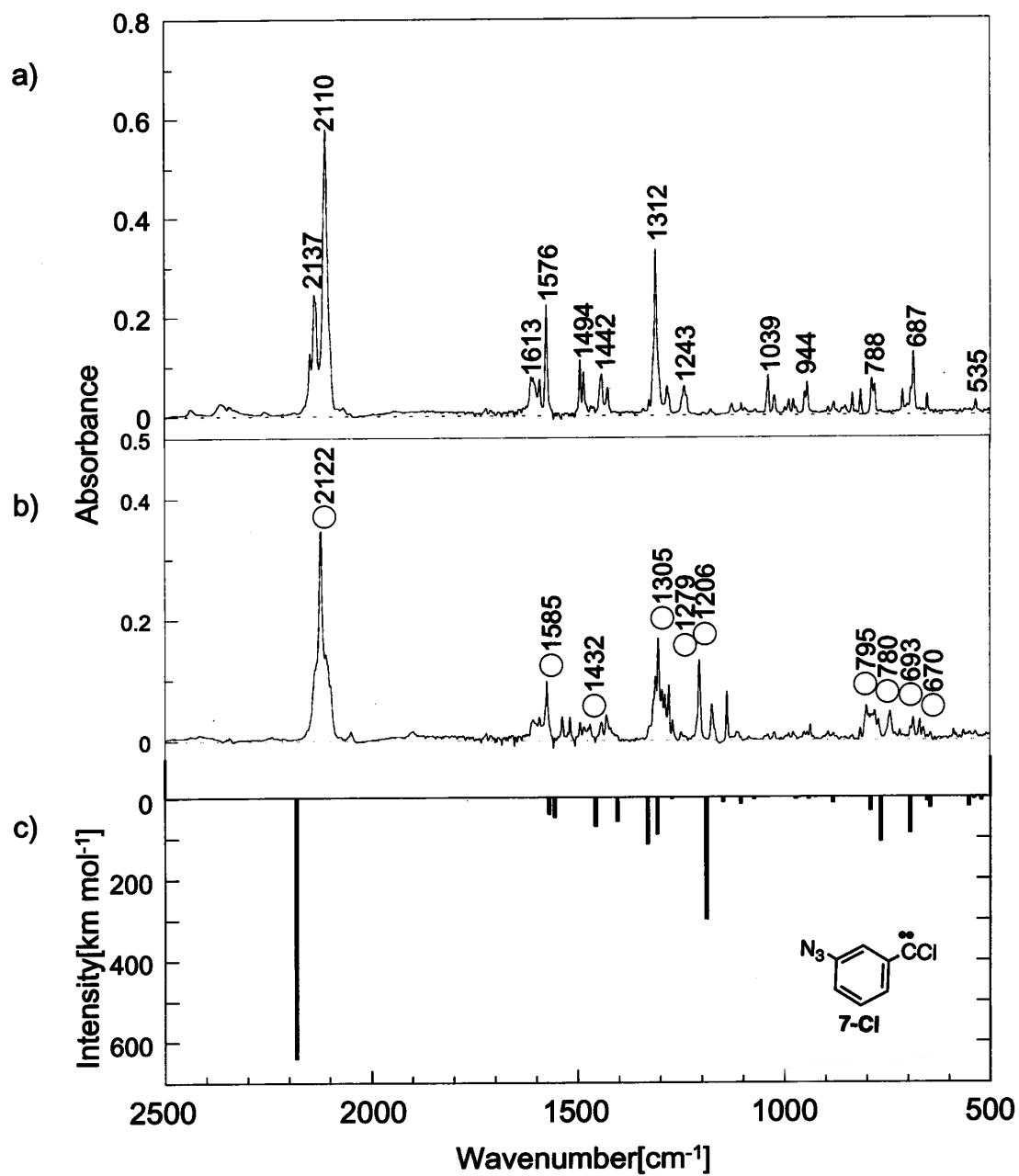
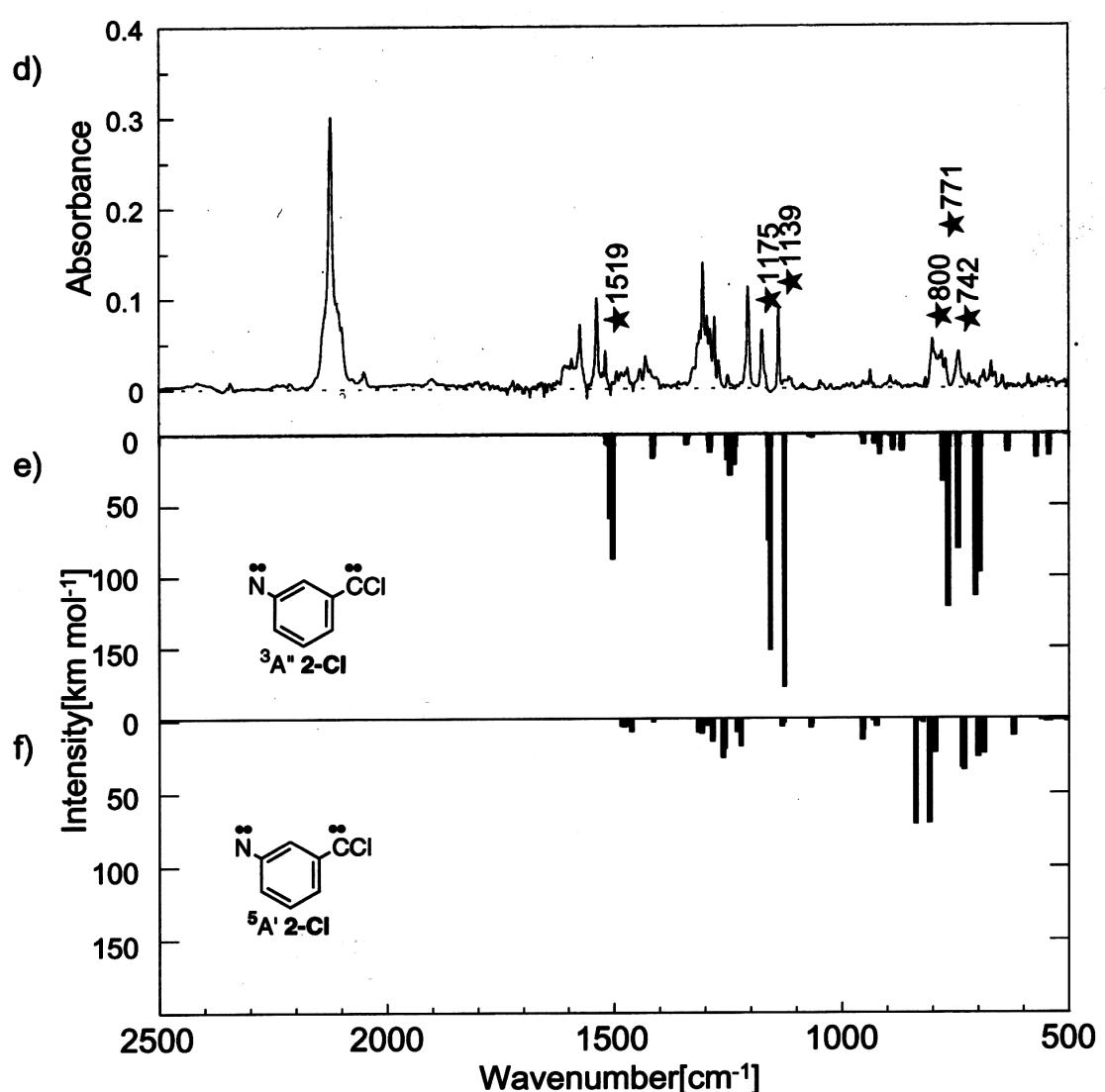
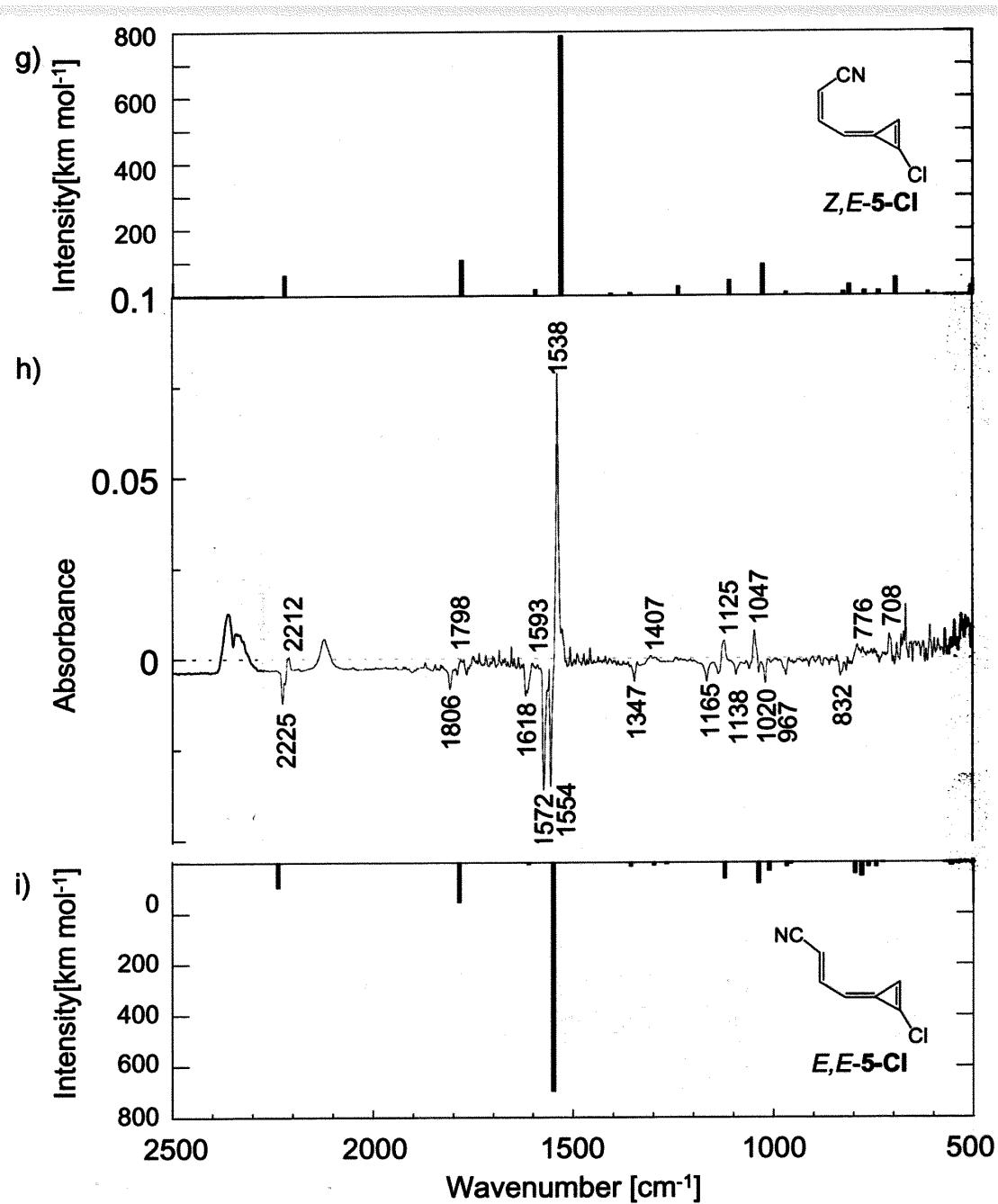
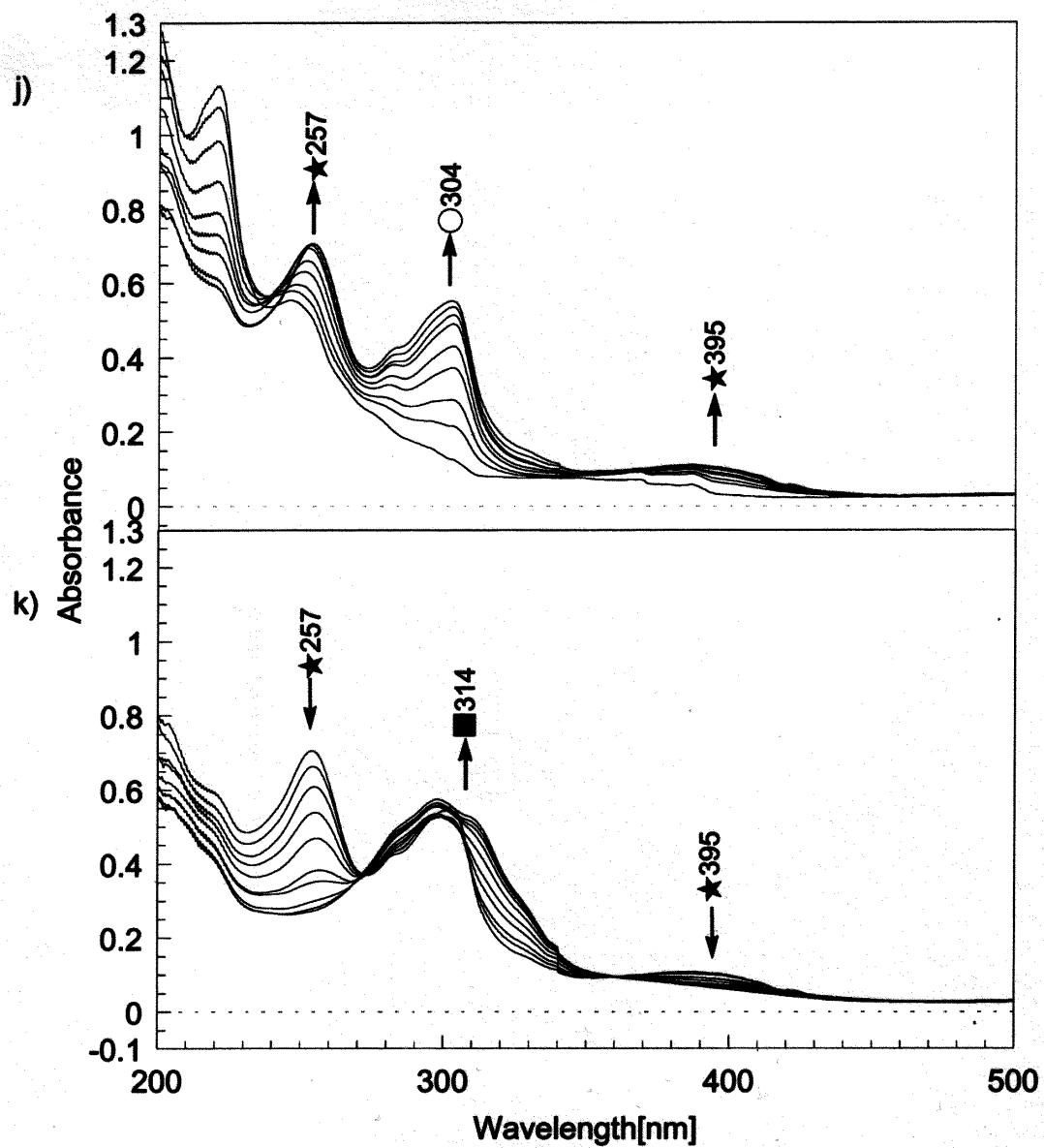


Figure S6. Photolysis ($\lambda > 350$ nm) of 6-Cl in Ar matrix at 13 K. a) IR spectrum of 6-Cl before irradiation. b) Total spectrum obtained after 5 min of irradiation. Bands due to primary photoproduct (7-Cl) are marked with '('. c) Calculated spectrum of singlet 7-Cl. d) Total spectrum obtained after 10 min of irradiation. Bands due to secondary photoproduct (2-Cl) are marked with '('. e) Calculated spectrum of 3A" 2-Cl. f) Calculated spectrum of 5A' 2-Cl. g) Calculated spectrum of Z,E 5-Cl. h) Difference spectrum obtained between photoproduct formed after 220 min of irradiation with $\lambda > 350$ nm and photoproduct formed after 95 min of irradiation with $\lambda > 300$ nm. i) Calculated spectrum of E,E 5-Cl. j) UV spectra (0-4 min). k) UV spectra (4-90 min). l) UV spectra (triacetin, 10-2M, 77 K, 0-4 min). m) ESR spectrum of 2-Cl (triacetin, 10-2M, 77 K, 10 min) (Freq=9.23231 GHz, St=2min, Amp=50, H₀=329 mT, H=695 mT).









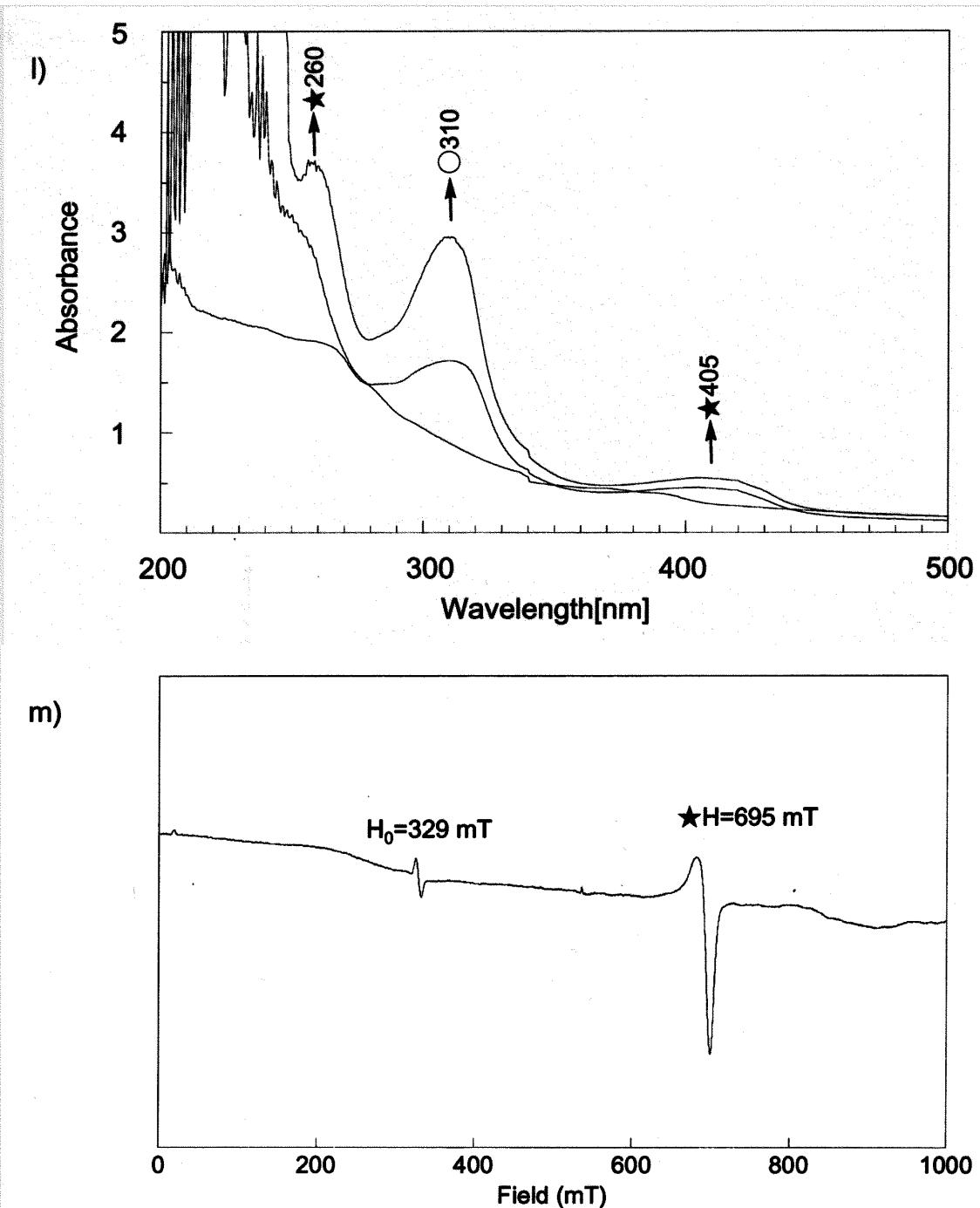


Figure S7. Photolysis ($\lambda > 350$ nm) of **6-Br** in Ar matrix at 13 K. a) IR spectrum of **6-Br**. b) IR spectrum obtained after 4 min. (Primary photoproduct (**7-Br**, 'O'). c) Calculated spectrum of singlet **7-Br**. d) IR spectrum after 10 min. (Secondary photoproduct (**2-Br**, '★') and final photoproduct (**5-Br**, '■')). e) Calculated spectrum of $^3A''$ **2-Br**. f) Calculated spectrum of $^5A'$ **2-Br**. g) Calculated spectrum of *Z,E* **5-Br**. h) Difference spectrum obtained between photoproduct (**5-Br**, upper) formed after 310 min ($\lambda > 350$ nm) and photoproduct formed after additional 540 min ($\lambda > 300$ nm). i) Calculated spectrum of *E,E* **5-Br**. j) UV spectra (0-10 min). k) UV spectra (10 - 20 min). l) UV spectra (triacetin, 10^{-2} M, 77 K, 0-2 min). m) ESR spectrum of **2-Br** (triacetin, 10^{-2} M, 77 K, 20 min) (Freq=9.20696 GHz, St=2min, Amp=50, H₀=328 mT, H=684 mT).

