

Supporting Information for the Paper

# Synthesis of BN-Embedded Tetraphenes and Their Photophysical Properties

Huanan Huang, Zexiong Pan, Chunming Cui\*

*State Key Laboratory of Elemento-Organic Chemistry; Cooperative Innovation Center of Chemical Science and Engineering (Tianjin), Nankai University, Tianjin 300071, People's Republic of China*

Corresponding author: Chunming Cui

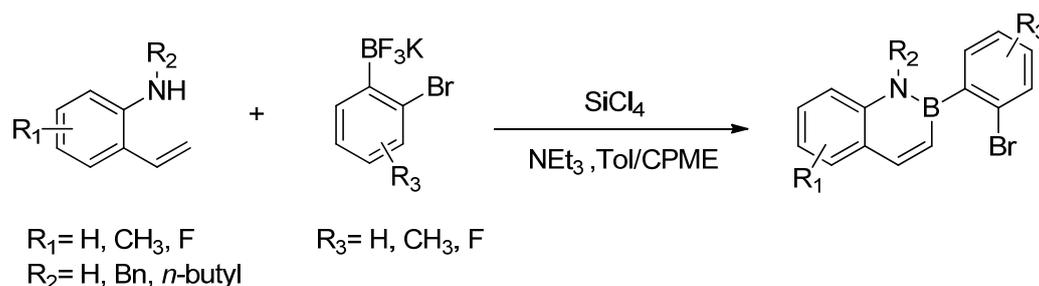
[cmcui@nankai.edu.cn](mailto:cmcui@nankai.edu.cn)

## Contents

<b>1 General Information.....</b>	<b>S2</b>
<b>2 Synthesis of BN Naphthalenes 2a-2i.....</b>	<b>S2</b>
<b>3 Typical Procedures for the Synthesis of Compound 3-15.....</b>	<b>S2</b>
<b>4 Procedure for the Bromination of 3.....</b>	<b>S3</b>
<b>5 Reaction of 16 with Phenylacetylene (Sonogashira Reaction).....</b>	<b>S3</b>
<b>6 Characterization Data for the New Compounds .....</b>	<b>S4</b>
<b>7 Reaction Condition Optimization.....</b>	<b>S15</b>
<b>8 X-ray Crystallographic Studies of Compound 3 and 17.....</b>	<b>S15</b>
<b>9 UV-Vis and FL Studies of Compound 3 -15.....</b>	<b>S17</b>
<b>10 CV experiments and DFT Calculations.....</b>	<b>S21</b>
<b>11 Reference.....</b>	<b>S27</b>
<b>12 Scanned NMR Spectra for the New Compounds.....</b>	<b>S28</b>
<b>13. HMQC, HMBC and COSY Spectra for 3.....</b>	<b>S47</b>

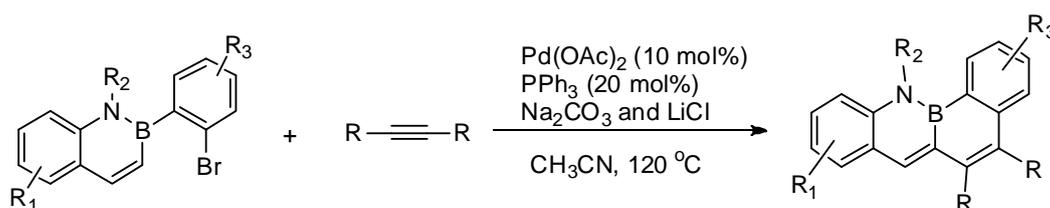
**General Information.** All operations involving air- and moisture-sensitive compounds were carried out under an atmosphere of dry argon by using a modified Schlenk line and glovebox techniques. All solvents were freshly distilled from Na or P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>. The <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C, <sup>11</sup>B and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra were recorded on a 400 MHz NMR spectrometer. Chemical shifts are referenced against external BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O (<sup>11</sup>B), and CFCl<sub>3</sub> (<sup>19</sup>F). High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained on a Varian 7.0T FTMS spectrometer. The UV-vis spectra were recorded on a Shimadzu UV-2450 spectrometer. Fluorescence spectra were obtained with a VARIAN CARY Eclipse spectrometer. Cyclic voltammetry (CV) experiments were performed with a LK98B II Microcomputer-based Electrochemical Analyzer in dichloromethane solutions. All measurements were carried out at room temperature with a conventional three-electrode (the working electrode: glassy carbon electrode, the reference electrode: saturated calomel electrode (SCE), and a Pt wire as the counter electrode). Ferrocene/ferrocenium redox couple (Fc/Fc<sup>+</sup>) was used as an internal reference for all measurements. The commercially available catalysts and reagents were purchased from J&K Scientific.

### Synthesis of BN Naphthalenes 2a-2i



These BN-naphthalene derivatives are new compounds and have been prepared by a modified procedure<sup>S1</sup>. To an oven-dried Schlenk flask with a stir bar was added a potassium organotrifluoroborate. After the flask was evacuated under vacuum and purged with argon, cyclopentyl methyl ether (CPME) in toluene were added (0.5 M, CPME/toluene = 1:1) followed by the addition of 2-vinylaniline derivatives (1.2 or 1.5 equivalents), SiCl<sub>4</sub> (1 equivalent), and NEt<sub>3</sub> (1.5 equivalents if required). The mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 18 h. It was filtered and the remaining residues were washed with *n*-hexane. The combined solution was evaporated to dryness under vacuum to give the crude product, which was purified by flash column chromatography.

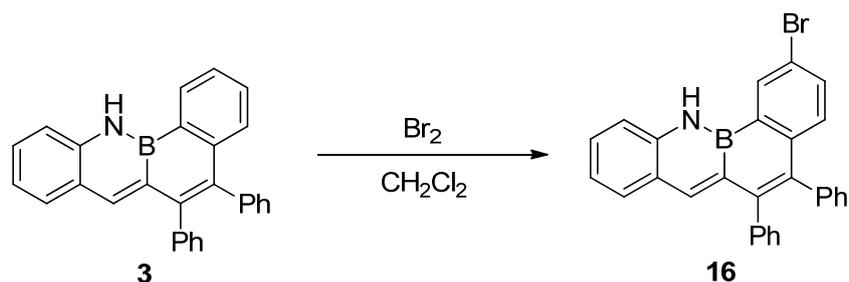
### Typical Procedures for the Synthesis of Compound 3-15.



To a sealed tube was added an alkyne (0.5 mmol for compounds **3-6** and **8-15**, 1.0 mmol for **7**),

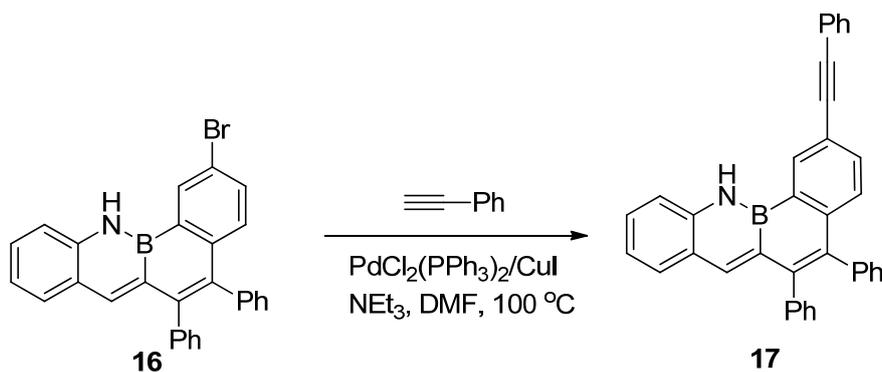
Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (10 mol%), PPh<sub>3</sub> (20 mol%), Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (2 equiv), LiCl (1 equiv) and acetonitrile (2 mL) under argon followed by the addition of a borazonaphthalene **2** (0.75 mmol for compounds **3-6** and **8-15**, 0.5 mmol for **7**). After the mixture was stirred at 120 °C for 8-24 h, it was cooled down to room temperature. It was filtered and washed with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The combined filtrate was evaporated to dryness to give a crude product, which was purified by silica gel chromatography. The yields for compounds **3-6** and **8-15** were obtained based on the alkynes, whereas the yield for **7** was obtained based on the BN-naphthalene.

### Procedure for the Bromination of **3**



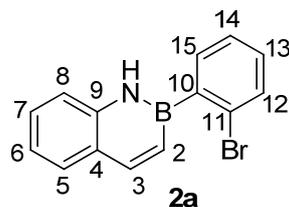
To a cooled solution (0 °C) of **3** (190 mg, 0.50 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 mL) was slowly added a solution of bromine (1M in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0.65 mL, 1.0-1.3 equivalents) diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 mL). After the addition, the mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 45 min, and then at room temperature for 2 h. The resulting mixture was evaporated to dryness to give the crude product, which was purified by flash column chromatography to give **16** as yellow solid (60%).

### Sonogashira-Coupling of **16** with Phenylacetylene

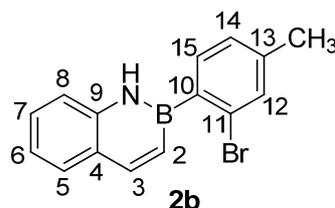


To a dried Schlenk flask charged with **16** (230 mg, 0.5 mmol), phenylacetylene (153 mg, 1.5 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (18 mg, 5 mol %), and CuI (5.0 mg, 5 mol %) was added triethylamine (153 mg, 1.5 mmol) and DMF (5 mL). The mixture was heated and stirred at 80°C for 17 h. The resulting mixture was successively washed with water (50 mL) and extracted twice with EtOAc (30 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Analytically pure **17** was obtained as yellow powder (82%) by silica gel chromatography.

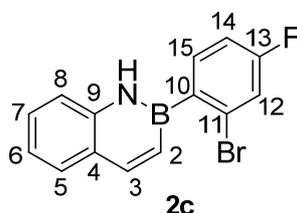
## Characterization Data for the New Compounds Reported in the Paper



**2-(2-bromophenyl)-1, 2-dihydrobenzo[e][1, 2] azaborinine (2a).** **2a** was obtained as white solid (75%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.37 (1H, br s, *NH*), 8.12 (1H, d,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 2-*CH*), 7.65 (1H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, Ar-H), 7.59 (2H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, Ar-H), 7.41 (1H, t,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, Ar-H), 7.33 (1H, t,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, Ar-H), 7.27 (1H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, Ar-H), 7.14-7.23 (3H, m, Ar-H).  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  34.1 (br, s).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  145.3 (s, CH, C-3), 139.6 (s, quaternary-C, C-9), 135.8 (s, Ar-C), 132.7 (s, Ar-C), 130.4 (s, CH), 129.6 (s, CH, C-13), 128.5 (s, Ar-C), 127.5 (s, quaternary-C, C-4), 126.9 (s, Ar-C), 125.5 (s, quaternary-C, C-11), 121.5 (s, Ar-C), 118.6 (s, Ar-C), C-2, C-10 were not observed. EI-MS ( $m/z$ ): calcd for  $[\text{M}]^+ \text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{11}\text{BBrN}$ : 283.01; Found: 283.07.

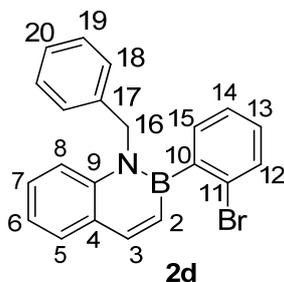


**2-(2-bromo-4-methylphenyl)-1, 2-dihydrobenzo[e][1, 2] azaborinine (2b).** **2b** was obtained as white solid (72%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.41 (1H, br s, *NH*), 8.12 (1H, d,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 2-*CH*), 7.66 (1H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, Ar-H), 7.54 (1H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, Ar-H), 7.45 (1H, s, 12-*CH*), 7.42 (1H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, Ar-H), 7.30 (1H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, Ar-H), 7.15-7.22 (3H, m, Ar-H), 2.36 (3H, s,  $\text{CH}_3$ ).  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  34.2 (br, s).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  145.1 (s, C-7), 140.7 (s, quaternary-C, C-13), 139.7 (s, quaternary-C, C-9), 135.8 (s, Ar-C), 133.3 (s, Ar-C), 129.5 (s, Ar-C), 128.4 (s, Ar-C), 127.8 (s, Ar-C), 127.5 (s, quaternary-C, C-4), 125.4 (s, quaternary-C, C-11), 121.4 (s, Ar-C), 118.5 (s, Ar-C), 21.0 (s,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), C-2 and C-10 could not be not observed. EI-MS ( $m/z$ ): calcd for  $[\text{M}]^+ \text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{11}\text{BBrN}$ : 297.03; Found: 297.07.

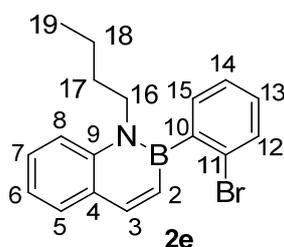


**2-(2-bromo-4-fluorophenyl)-1, 2-dihydrobenzo[e][1, 2] azaborinine (2c).** **2c** was obtained as white solid (63%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.37 (1H, br s, *NH*), 8.13 (1H, d,  $J = 12$  Hz, 2-*CH*), 7.66 (1H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, Ar-H), 7.58 (1H, t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, Ar-H), 7.44 (1H, t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, Ar-H), 7.36 (1H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, Ar-H), 7.21 (1H, t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, Ar-H), 7.06-7.13 (2H, m, Ar-H).  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  34.1 (br, s).

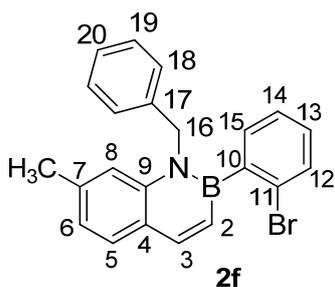
3):  $\delta$  34.2 (s, br).  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  -110.8.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  161.8 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 253.5 Hz, quaternary-C, C-13), 144.3 (s, CH, C-3), 138.4 (s, quaternary-C, C-9), 135.7 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 8.1 Hz, C-15), 128.4 (s, Ar-C), 127.5 (s, Ar-C), 126.2 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 10.1 Hz, quaternary-C, C-11), 124.3 (s, quaternary-C, C-4) 120.5 (s, Ar-C), 119.0 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 23.2 Hz, Ar-C), 117.4 (s, Ar-C), 113.2 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 19.2 Hz, Ar-C), C-2, C-10 were not observed. EI-MS ( $m/z$ ): calcd for  $[\text{M}]^+$   $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{10}\text{BBrFN}$ : 301.01; Found: 301.02.



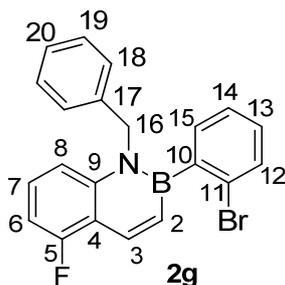
**1-benzyl-2-(2-bromophenyl)-1,2-dihydrobenzo[e][1,2]azaborinine (2d).** **2d** was obtained as white solid (53%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.12 (1H, d,  $J$  = 12 Hz, 2-CH), 7.71 (1H, d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, Ar-H), 7.55 (1H, d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, Ar-H), 7.06-7.35 (11H, m, Ar-H), 6.96 (1H, d,  $J$  = 12 Hz, Ar-H), 5.29 (2H, q,  $J$  = 18.67 Hz, 16- $\text{CH}_2$ ).  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  36.7 (s, br).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  145.4 (s, CH, C-3), 140.8 (s, quaternary-C, C-17), 138.6 (s, quaternary-C, C-9), 132.9 (s, Ar-C), 131.8 (s, Ar-C), 130.4 (s, Ar-C), 129.4 (s, Ar-C), 128.7 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 128.6 (s, Ar-C), 127.5 (s, quaternary-C, C-4), 126.9 (s, Ar-C), 126.5 (s, Ar-C), 126.4 (s, quaternary-C, C-11), 125.9 (s, 2\* Ar-C, overlap), 121.3 (s, Ar-C), 117.2 (s, Ar-C), 52.6 (s, C-16), C-2, C-10 were not observed. EI-MS ( $m/z$ ): calcd for  $[\text{M}]^+$   $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{17}\text{BBrN}$ : 373.06; Found: 373.08.



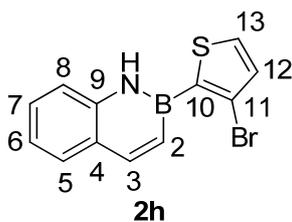
**2-(2-bromophenyl)-1-butyl-1,2-dihydrobenzo[e][1,2]azaborinine (2e).** **2e** was obtained as white solid (53%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.04 (1H, d,  $J$  = 12 Hz, 2-CH), 7.71 (1H, d,  $J$  = 4.0 Hz, Ar-H), 7.51-7.59 (3H, m, Ar-H), 7.19-7.33 (4H, m, Ar-H), 6.83-6.85 (1H, m, Ar-H), 3.88-4.09 (2H, m, 16- $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.81-1.86 (2H, m, 17- $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.20-1.26 (2H, m, 18- $\text{CH}_2$ ), 0.75-0.79 (3H, m, 19- $\text{CH}_3$ ).  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  36.2 (s, br).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  144.9 (s, CH, C-3), 140.9 (s, quaternary-C-9), 133.1 (s, Ar-C), 131.8 (s, Ar-C), 130.7 (s, Ar-C), 129.1 (s, Ar-C), 128.6 (s, Ar-C), 127.4 (s, quaternary-C, C-4), 126.4 (s, Ar-C), 126.2 (s, quaternary-C-11), 120.9 (s, Ar-C), 115.6 (s, Ar-C), 48.2 (s, C-16), 31.9 (s, C-17), 20.3 (s, C-18), 13.7 (s, C-19), C-2, C-10 were not observed. EI-MS ( $m/z$ ): calcd for  $[\text{M}]^+$   $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{19}\text{BBrN}$ : 339.08; Found: 339.08.



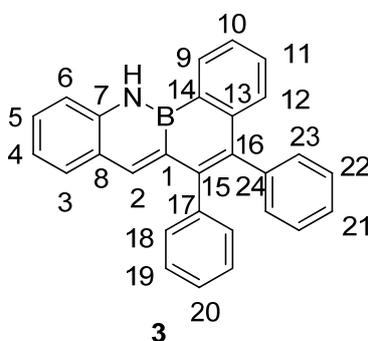
**1-benzyl-2-(2-bromophenyl)-7-methyl-1, 2-dihydrobenzo[e][1, 2] azaborinine (2f).** **2f** was obtained as white solid (53%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.10 (1H, d,  $J = 8$  Hz, Ar-H), 7.61 (1H, d,  $J = 8$  Hz, Ar-H), 7.6056 (1H, d,  $J = 8$  Hz, Ar-H), 7.13-7.24 (7H, m, Ar-H), 7.03-7.09 (2H, m, Ar-H), 6.90 (1H, d,  $J = 12$  Hz, Ar-H), 5.29 (2H, q,  $J = 20$  Hz, 16- $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.34 (3H, s,  $\text{CH}_3$ ).  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  36.7 (s, br).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  145.2 (s, CH, C-3), 141.0 (s, quaternary-C-17), 13 8.8 (s, quaternary- C-7 + C-9, overlap), 132.9 (s, Ar-C), 131.8 (s, Ar-C), 130.2 (s, Ar-C), 129.3 (s, Ar-C), 128.6 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 126.8 (s, Ar-C), 126.5 (s, Ar-C), 126.4 (s, quaternary-C-4), 126.0 (s, 2\* Ar-C, overlap), 125.3 (s, quaternary-C-11), 122.7 (s, Ar-C), 117.2 (s, Ar-C), 52.4 (s, C-16), 22.2 (s,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), C-2, C-10 were not observed. EI-MS ( $m/z$ ): calcd for  $[\text{M}]^+$   $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{19}\text{BBrN}$ : 387.08; Found: 387.06.



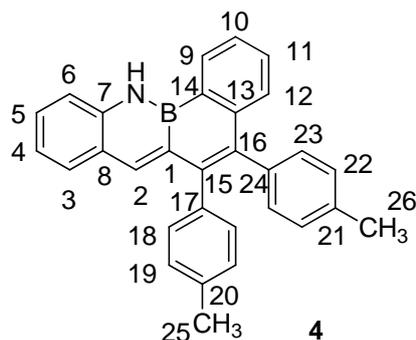
**1-benzyl-2-(2-bromophenyl)-5-fluoro-1, 2-dihydrobenzo[e][1, 2] azaborinine (2g).** **2g** was obtained as white solid (47%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.45 (1H, d,  $J = 12$  Hz, 2- $\text{CH}$ ), 7.55 (1H, d,  $J = 8$  Hz, Ar-H), 7.13-7.24 (8H, m, Ar-H), 7.01-7.06 (3H, m, Ar-H), 6.89 (1H, t,  $J = 8$  Hz, Ar-H), 5.28 (2 H, q,  $J = 16$  Hz, 16- $\text{CH}_2$ ).  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  36.8 (s, br).  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  -120.2.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  160.1 (d, quaternary-C-5,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 250.48$  Hz), 142.1 (d, quaternary-C-9,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 6.1$  Hz), 138.3 (s, quaternary-C-17), 136.7 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 7.1$  Hz, C-3), 132.8 (s, Ar-C), 131.9 (s, Ar-C), 129.5 (s, Ar-C), 128.7 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 128.4 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 10.1$  Hz, Ar-C), 127.0 (s, Ar-C), 126.6 (s, Ar-C), 126.3 (s, quaternary-C-11), 125.9 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 117.0 (d, quaternary-C-4,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 16.2$ ), 113.1 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 3.0$  Hz, C-8), 106.8 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 21.2$  Hz, C-6), 53.0 (s, C-16), C-2, C-10 were not observed. EI-MS ( $m/z$ ): calcd for  $[\text{M}]^+$   $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{19}\text{BBrN}$ : 391.05; Found: 391.06.



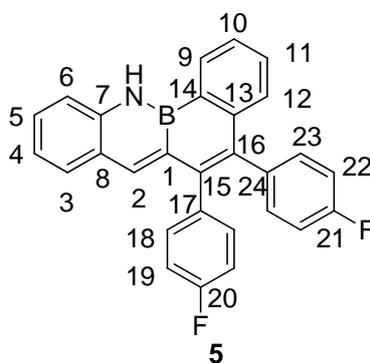
**2-(3-bromothiophen-2-yl)-1,2-dihydrobenzo[e][1,2] azaborinine (2h).** **2h** was obtained as white solid (45%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  9.01 (1H, br s, NH), 8.09 (1H, d,  $J = 12.0$  Hz, 2-CH), 7.63 (1H, d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, Ar-H), 7.54 (1H, d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, Ar-H), 7.42-7.46 (1H, m, Ar-H), 7.33-7.35 (1H, m, v), 7.16-7.23 (3H, m, Ar-H).  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  36.68 (s, br).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  145.8 (s, CH, C-3), 140.5 (s, quaternary-C-9), 132.9 (s, Ar-C), 131.2 (s, Ar-C), 129.5 (s, Ar-C), 128.7 (s, Ar-C), 125.5 (s, quaternary-C-4), 121.4 (s, Ar-C), 118.7 (s, Ar-C), 115.3 (s, quaternary-C-11), C-2, C-10 were not observed. EI-MS ( $m/z$ ): calcd for  $[\text{M}]^+$  288.97; Found: 289.05.



**5,6-diphenyl-12H-benzo[e]benzo[5,6]borinino[1,2-b][1,2] azaborinine (3).** **3** was obtained as yellow-green solid (73%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.90 (1H, br s, NH), 8.42 (1H, q,  $J = 2.7$  Hz, 5-CH), 8.00 (1H, s, 2-CH), 7.69 (1H, d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 3-CH), 7.49-7.57 (4H, m), 7.33-7.36 (1H, m, 4-CH), 7.12-7.22 (11H, m, Ar-H).  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  29.13.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  143.1 (s, quaternary-C), 142.4 (s, C-2), 141.3 (s, quaternary-C), 140.3 (s, quaternary-C), 140.2 (s, quaternary-C), 139.2 (s, quaternary-C), 138.5 (s, quaternary-C), 131.2 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 131.0 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 130.6 (s, C-3), 130.1 (s, Ar-C), 129.5 (s, C-5), 129.0 (s, C-4), 128.9 (s, Ar-C), 127.6 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 127.4 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 126.1 (s, Ar-C), 126.0 (s, Ar-C), 125.5 (s, quaternary-C), 125.2 (s, Ar-C), 121.1 (s, Ar-C), 118.5 (s, C-6), C-1, C-14 were not observed. HR-MS ( $m/z$ ) calcd for  $[\text{M}]^+$   $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{20}\text{BN}$ : 381.1689; Found: 381.1688.

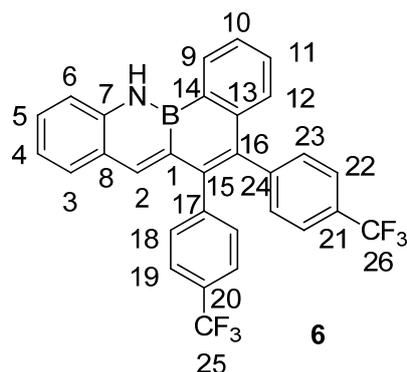


**5, 6-di-p-tolyl-12 H-benzo[e]benzo[5, 6]borinino[1, 2-b][1, 2] azaborinine (4).** **4** was obtained as yellow-green solid (66%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.93 (1H, br s, NH), 8.38-8.41 (1H, q,  $J = 4$  Hz, 5-CH), 8.01 (1H, s, 2-CH), 7.71 (1H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 3-CH), 7.48-7.60 (4H, m, Ar-H), 7.33-7.35 (1 H, m, 4-CH), 7.22-7.25 (1H, m, Ar-H), 7.03 (8H, s, 18-CH + 19-CH + 22-CH + 23-CH), 2.32-2.30 (6 H, d, 25- $\text{CH}_3$  + 26- $\text{CH}_3$ ).  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  30.7 (br, s).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  143.5 (s, quaternary-C), 142.21 (s, C-2), 140.2 (s, quaternary-C), 139.2 (s, quaternary-C), 138.4 (s, quaternary-C), 138.4 (s, quaternary-C), 137.2 (s, quaternary-C), 135.3 (s, quaternary-C), 135.2 (s, quaternary-C), 131.0 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 130.8 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 130.6 (s, C-3), 130.0 (s, C-11), 129.3 (s, C-5), 129.0 (s, C-4), 128.7 (s, Ar-C), 128.3 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 128.1 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 125.6 (s, quaternary-C), 125.0 (s, Ar-C), 121.0 (s, Ar-C), 118.3 (s, C-6), 21.3 (s,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 21.3 (s,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), C-1, C-14 were not observed. HR-MS ( $m/z$ ) calcd for  $[\text{M}]^+$   $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{24}\text{BN}$ : 409.2002, Found: 409.2001.

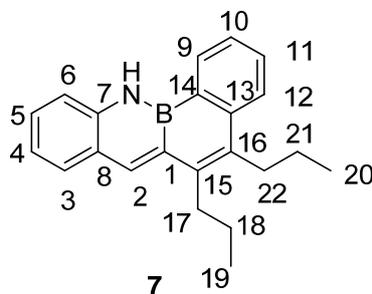


**5, 6-bis(4-fluorophenyl)-12 H-benzo[e]benzo[5, 6]borinino[1, 2-b][1, 2] azaborinine (5).** **5** was obtained as yellow-green solid (68%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.96 (1H, br s, NH), 8.41-8.43 (1 H, q,  $J = 2.7$  Hz, 5-CH), 7.97 (1H, s, 2-CH), 7.72 (1H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 3-CH), 7.52-7.63 (4H, m, Ar-H), 7.25-7.32 (2H, m, Ar-H), 7.05-7.10 (4H, m, Ar-H), 6.90-6.96 (4H, m, Ar-H).  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  29.6 (br, s).  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ): -115.4, -115.3.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  162.5 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 245.4$  Hz, CF, quaternary-C), 160.1 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 245.4$  Hz, CF, quaternary-C), 142.9 (s, quaternary-C), 142.4 (s, C-2), 139.7 (s, quaternary-C), 139.3 (s, quaternary-C), 137.8 (s, quaternary-C), 137.0 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 3.0$  Hz, quaternary-C), 136.0 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 4.0$  Hz, quaternary-C), 132.5 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 26.3$  Hz, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 132.4 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 27.3$  Hz, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 130.6 (s, C-3), 130.1 (s, Ar-C), 129.5 (s, C-5), 129.1 (s, C-4), 128.8 (s, Ar-C), 125.43 (s, quaternary-C), 125.41 (s, Ar-C), 121.2 (s, Ar-C), 118.4 (s, C-6), 114.7 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 21.2$  Hz, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 114.5 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 20.2$  Hz, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), C-1, C-14 we

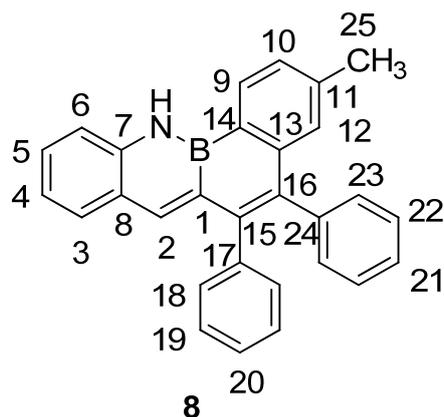
re not observed. HR-MS ( $m/z$ ) calcd for  $[M]^+ C_{28}H_{18}BF_2N$ : 417.1500; Found: 417.1501.



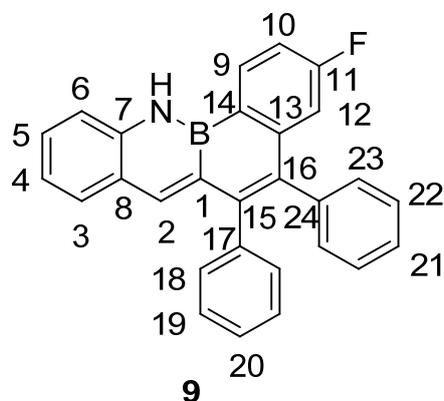
**5,6-bis(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-12 H-benzo[e]benzo[5,6]borinino[1,2-b][1,2] azaborinine (6).** **6** was obtained as yellow-green solid (70%).  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  9.02 (1H, br s, *NH*), 8.46 (1H, d,  $J = 8$  Hz, Ar-H), 7.91 (1H, s, 2-*CH*), 7.74 (1H, d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 3-*CH*), 7.49-7.66 (8H, m, Ar-H), 7.21-7.31 (6H, m, Ar-H).  $^{11}B$  NMR (128 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  31.0 (br, s).  $^{19}F$  NMR (376 MHz,  $CHCl_3$ ): -62.4, -62.5.  $^{13}C$  NMR (101 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  144.8 (s, quaternary-C), 143.7 (s, quaternary-C), 142.6 (s, C-2), 142.0 (s, quaternary-C), 139.4 (s, quaternary-C), 139.3 (s, quaternary-C), 137.4 (s, quaternary-C), 131.4 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 131.1 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 130.7 (s, C-3), 130.3 (s, Ar-C), 129.7 (s, C-5), 129.5 (s, Ar-C), 128.7 (s, Ar-C), 125.8 (s, Ar-C), 125.4 (s, quaternary-C), 124.8 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 124.6 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 124.4 ( $J_{C-F} = 272.7$  Hz,  $CF_3$ ), 124.3 ( $J_{C-F} = 273.7$  Hz,  $CF_3$ ), 121.4 (s, Ar-C), 118.5 (s, C-6), C-1, C-14 were not observed. HR-MS ( $m/z$ ) calcd for  $[M]^+ C_{30}H_{18}BF_6N$ : 517.1436; Found: 517.1435.



**5,6-dipropyl-12 H-benzo[e]benzo[5,6]borinino[1,2-b][1,2] azaborinine (7).** **7** was obtained as yellow-green solid (20%).  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.81 (1H, br s, *NH*), 8.50 (1H, s, 2-*CH*), 8.30 (1H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 3-*CH*), 7.93 (2H, t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, Ar-H), 7.66 (1H, t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, Ar-H), 7.52-7.57 (2H, m, Ar-H), 7.45 (1H, t,  $J = 8$  Hz, Ar-H), 7.30 (1H, t,  $J = 8$  Hz, Ar-H), 2.95-3.04 (4H, m, 17- $CH_2$  + 22- $CH_2$ ), 1.68-1.78 (4H, m, 18- $CH_2$  + 21- $CH_2$ ), 1.13-1.18 (6H, m, 19- $CH_3$  + 20- $CH_3$ ).  $^{11}B$  NMR (128 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  22.4 (br, s).  $^{13}C$  NMR (101 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  142.6 (s, quaternary-C), 138.7 (s, quaternary-C), 138.1 (s, C-2), 136.7 (s, quaternary-C), 135.1 (s, quaternary-C), 130.4 (s, C-3), 130.2 (s, C-11), 129.5 (s, C-5), 128.2 (s, C-4), 125.6 (s, quaternary-C), 125.6 (s, Ar-C), 124.4 (s, Ar-C), 120.9 (s, Ar-C), 118.2 (s, C-6), 32.5 (s,  $CH_2$ ), 31.2 (s,  $CH_2$ ), 24.2 (s,  $CH_2$ ), 23.6 (s,  $CH_2$ ), 15.0 (s,  $CH_3$ ), 14.9 (s,  $CH_3$ ), C-1, C-14 were not observed. HR-MS ( $m/z$ ) calcd for  $[M]^+ C_{22}H_{24}BN$ : 314.2080; Found: 314.2078.



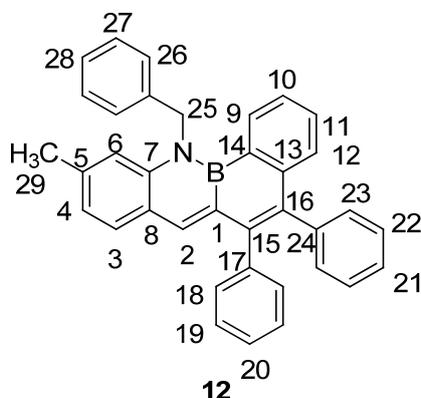
**3-methyl-5,6-diphenyl-12 H-benzo[e]benzo[5,6]borinino[1,2-b][1,2] azaborinine (8).** **8** was obtained as yellow-green solid (66%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.81 (1H, br s, *NH*), 8.23 (1H, d,  $J = 4\text{ Hz}$ , Ar-H), 7.89 (1H, s, 2-*CH*, Ar-H), 7.62 (1H, d,  $J = 4\text{ Hz}$ , Ar-H), 7.44-7.52 (2H, m, Ar-H), 7.27 (1H, d,  $J = 4\text{ Hz}$ , Ar-H), 7.04-7.16 (12H, m, Ar-H).  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  29.2 (br, s).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  143.3 (s, quaternary-C-7), 142.1 (s, CH), 141.3 (s, quaternary-C), 140.4 (s, quaternary-C), 140.4 (s, quaternary-C), 140.1 (s, quaternary-C), 139.3 (s, quaternary-C), 138.5 (s, quaternary-C), 131.2 (s, 2\*CH, overlap), 131.0 (s, 2\*CH, overlap), 130.6 (s, C-3), 129.5 (s, C-4), 129.4 (s, C-5), 128.7 (s, Ar-C), 127.5 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 127.3 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 126.4 (s, Ar-C), 126.0 (s, Ar-C), 125.9 (s, Ar-C), 125.5 (s, quaternary-C), 120.9 (s, Ar-C), 118.3 (s, C-6), 22.2 (s, C-25), C-1, C-14 were not observed. HR-MS ( $m/z$ ) calcd for  $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{22}\text{BN}$ : 418.1743; Found: 418.1740.



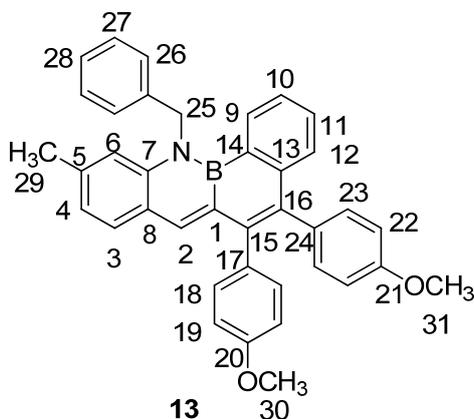
**3-fluoro-5,6-diphenyl-12 H-benzo[e]benzo[5,6]borinino[1,2-b][1,2] azaborinine (9).** **9** was obtained as yellow-green solid (45%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.91 (1H, br s, *NH*), 8.40 (1H, t,  $J = 8\text{ Hz}$ , 5-*CH*), 8.05 (s, 2-*CH*), 7.74 (1H, d,  $J = 8\text{ Hz}$ , 3-*CH*), 7.57-7.64 (2H, m, Ar-H), 7.15-7.29 (12H, m, Ar-H), 7.03-7.06 (1H, d,  $J = 12\text{ Hz}$ , Ar-H).  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  29.4 (s, br).  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): -109.2.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  164.3 (d, quaternary-C,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 248.5\text{ Hz}$ , C-11), 145.7 (d, quaternary-C-13,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 8.1\text{ Hz}$ ), 143.0 (s, C-2), 141.6 (s, quaternary-C), 140.7 (s, quaternary-C), 139.9 (s, quaternary-C), 139.3 (s, quaternary-C), 137.7 (d, quaternary-C-16,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 2.0\text{ Hz}$ ), 131.5 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 8.1\text{ Hz}$ , C-9), 131.0 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 130.8 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 130.7 (s, Ar-C), 129.1 (s, Ar-C), 127.8 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 127.4 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 126.4 (s, Ar-C), 126.1 (s, Ar-C), 125.4 (s, quaternary-C), 121.1 (s, Ar-C), 118.4 (s, CH, C-6), 115.0 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}} = 21.2\text{ Hz}$ , Ar-C), 112.8 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$



ry-C), 133.438 (s, Ar-C), 131.5 (s, Ar-C), 131.0 (s, Ar-C), 129.5 (s, C-5), 129.3 (s, C-4), 129.2 (s, Ar-C), 127.6 (s, Ar-C, overlap), 127.3 (s, Ar-C), 126.2 (s, quaternary-C), 126.0 (s, Ar-C), 125.9 (s, Ar-C), 125.1 (s, Ar-C), 120.6 (s, Ar-C), 115.4 (s, C-6), 49.2 (s, C-25), 32.1 (s, C-26), 20.3 (s, C-27), 14.1 (s, C-28), C-1, C-14 were not observed. HR-MS ( $m/z$ ) calcd for  $[M]^+$  C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>28</sub>BN: 437.2315; Found: 437.2312.



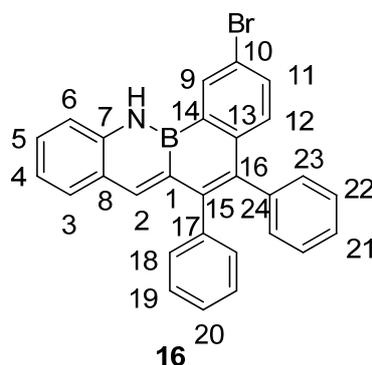
**12-benzyl-10-methyl-5,6-diphenyl-12 H-benzo[e]benzo[5,6]borinino[1,2-b][1,2]azaborinine (12).** **12** was obtained as yellow-green solid (58%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.22 (1H, d,  $J$  = 8 Hz, Ar-H), 8.00 (1H, s, 2-CH), 7.60 (1H, d,  $J$  = 4 Hz, Ar-H), 7.36-7.44 (8H, m, Ar-H), 7.06-7.25 (12H, m, Ar-H), 6.45 (1H, d,  $J$  = 16 Hz, 25-CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.59 (1H, d,  $J$  = 16 Hz, 25-CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.40 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 31.4 (s, br). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 144.3 (s, quaternary-C), 142.9 (s, C-2), 142.0 (s, quaternary-C), 141.7 (s, quaternary-C), 140.6 (s, quaternary-C), 140.6 (s, quaternary-C), 139.8 (s, quaternary-C), 138.7 (s, quaternary-C), 137.9 (s, quaternary-C), 133.6 (s, Ar-C), 131.6 (s, Ar-C), 131.3 (s, Ar-C), 131.1 (s, Ar-C), 130.9 (s, Ar-C), 129.4 (s, Ar-C), 129.2 (s, Ar-C, overlap), 127.6 (s, Ar-C, overlap), 127.4 (s, Ar-C), 127.3 (s, Ar-C), 126.3 (s, Ar-C, overlap), 126.0 (s, Ar-C), 125.9 (s, Ar-C), 125.1 (s, Ar-C), 124.2 (s, quaternary-C), 122.7 (s, Ar-C), 116.7 (s, C-6), 54.4 (s, C-25), 22.6 (s, C-29), C-1, C-14 were not observed. HR-MS ( $m/z$ ) calcd for  $[M]^+$  C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>28</sub>BN: 485.2315; Found: 485.2312.



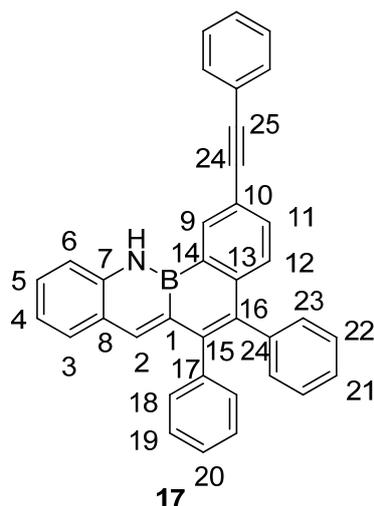
**12-benzyl-5,6-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-10-methyl-12 H-benzo[e]benzo[5,6]borinino[1,2-b][1,2]azaborinine (13).** **13** was obtained as yellow-green solid (61%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.20 (1H, d,  $J$  = 8 Hz, 3-CH), 8.01 (1H, s, 2-CH), 7.61 (1H, d,  $J$  = 8 Hz, 4-CH), 7.35-7.43 (8H, m, Ar-H), 7.21



**4, 5-diphenyl-11 H-benzo[e]thieno[3', 2': 5, 6]borinino[1, 2-b][1, 2] azaborinine (15).** **15** was obtained as yellow-green solid (23%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.79 (1H, s br, *NH*), 8.24 (1H, s, 2-*CH*), 7.74 (1H, d, *J* = 8 Hz, Ar-H), 7.69 (1H, d, *J* = 4 Hz, Ar-H), 7.58-7.62 (2H, m, Ar-H), 7.11-7.27 (1 2H, m, Ar-H). <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 27.7 (s, br). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 151.1 (s, quaternary-C), 144.7 (s, C-2), 141.6 (s, quaternary-C), 139.7 (s, quaternary-C), 139.1 (s, quaternary-C), 138.2 (s, quaternary-C), 135.1 (s, quaternary-C), 131.4 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 130.9 (s, Ar-C), 130.6 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 130.0 (s, Ar-C), 129.3 (s, Ar-C), 129.2 (s, Ar-C), 127.5 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 127.4 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 126.2 (s, Ar-C), 126.1 (s, Ar-C), 125.1 (s, quaternary-C), 121.0 (s, Ar-C), 118.3 (s, C-6). HR-MS (*m/z*) calcd for [M]<sup>+</sup> C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>18</sub>BNS: 387.1253; Found:387.1250.

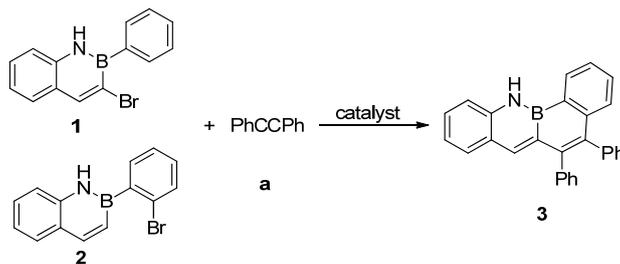


**2-bromo-5, 6-diphenyl-12 H-benzo[e]benzo[5, 6]borinino[1, 2-b][1, 2] azaborinine (16).** **16** was obtained as yellow-green solid (60%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.91 (1H, s, *NH*), 8.84 (1H, s, 9-*CH*), 8.02 (1H, s, 2-*CH*), 7.72 (1H, d, *J* = 8 Hz, Ar-H), 7.57-7.60 (3H, m, Ar-H), 7.10-7.27 (12H, m, Ar-H). <sup>11</sup>B NMR (128 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 29.0. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 142.9 (s, C-2), 141.6 (s, quaternary-C), 140.8 (s, quaternary-C), 140.8 (s, quaternary-C), 139.9 (s, quaternary-C), 139.1 (s, quaternary-C), 137.6 (s, quaternary-C), 132.7(s, Ar-C), 132.1(s, Ar-C), 131.1 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 130.83 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 130.78 (s, Ar-C), 130.7 (s, Ar-C), 129.2 (s, Ar-C), 127.7 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 127.4 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 126.3 (s, Ar-C), 126.1 (s, Ar-C), 125.6 (s, quaternary-C), 121.4 (s, Ar-C), 119.9 (s, quaternary-C), 118.5 (s, C-6).



**5, 6-diphenyl-2-(phenylethynyl)-12 H-benzo[e]benzo[5, 6]borinino[1, 2-b][1, 2] azaborinine (17).** **17** was obtained as yellow-green solid (82%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  9.02 (1H, s, *NH*), 8.61 (1H, s, 9-*CH*), 8.04 (1H, s, 2-*CH*), 7.73 (1H, d,  $J = 8$  Hz, 3-*CH*), 7.59-7.66 (5H, m, Ar-H), 7.32-7.39 (5H, m, Ar-H), 7.13-7.29 (10H, m, Ar-H).  $^{11}\text{B}$  NMR (128 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  31.1.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  142.8 (s, C-2), 142.6 (s, quaternary-C), 141.3 (s, quaternary-C), 140.9 (s, quaternary-C), 140.0 (s, quaternary-C), 139.3 (s, quaternary-C), 138.1 (s, quaternary-C), 132.9 (s, Ar-C), 132.6 (s, Ar-C), 131.7 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 131.1 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 130.9 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 130.7 (s, Ar-C), 129.1 (s, Ar-C), 128.8 (s, Ar-C), 128.4 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 128.3 (s, Ar-C), 127.7 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 127.4 (s, 2\*Ar-C, overlap), 126.2 (s, Ar-C), 126.1 (s, Ar-C), 125.655 (s, quaternary-C), 123.5 (s, quaternary-C), 121.2 (s, CH), 119.7 (s, quaternary-C), 118.5 (s, C-6), 90.3 (s, quaternary-C,  $\text{C}\equiv\text{C}$ ), 90.1 (s, quaternary-C,  $\text{C}\equiv\text{C}$ ). HR-MS ( $m/z$ ) calcd for  $[\text{M}]^+$   $\text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{24}\text{BN}$ : 481.2002; Found: 481.1998.

**Table S1.** Optimization of Cyclization Conditions

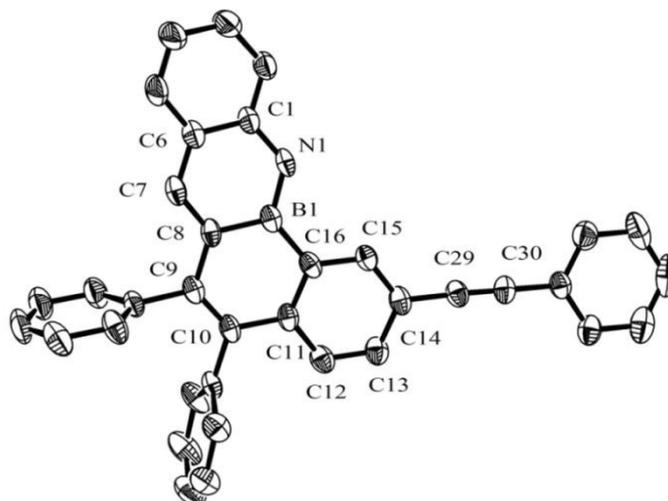


entry	cat	ligand	base	additive	time/h	yield <sup>c</sup>
1 <sup>a</sup>	5%Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	10%P(Cy) <sub>3</sub>	100%Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	----	24h	43%
2 <sup>a</sup>	5%[Cp*RhCl <sub>2</sub> ] <sub>2</sub>	----	100%Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	----	24h	0%
3 <sup>a</sup>	5%[RuCl <sub>2</sub> (p-cymene)] <sub>2</sub>	----	100%Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	----	24h	0%
4 <sup>a</sup>	10%Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	20%P(Cy) <sub>3</sub>	100%Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	----	24h	50%
5 <sup>b</sup>	10%Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	20%P(Cy) <sub>3</sub>	100%Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	----	24h	58%
6 <sup>b</sup>	10%Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	20%P(Cy) <sub>3</sub>	200%Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	----	24h	68%
7 <sup>b</sup>	10%Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	20%P(Ph) <sub>3</sub>	200%Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	----	24h	58%
8 <sup>b</sup>	10%Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>		200%Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>		24h	32%
9 <sup>b</sup>	10%Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	20%P(Ph) <sub>3</sub>	200%Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	100%LiCl	24h	74%
10 <sup>b</sup>	10%Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	20%P(Ph) <sub>3</sub>	200%Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	100%LiCl	8h	73%
11 <sup>d</sup>	10%Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	20%P(Ph) <sub>3</sub>	200%Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	100%LiCl	8h	10%

<sup>a</sup> **a**/2 = 1/1, <sup>b</sup> **a**/2 = 1/1.5. <sup>c</sup> Isolated yields. <sup>d</sup> Compound **1** as starting material.

#### X-ray Crystallographic Studies of Compound **3** and **17**:

Data collections for compounds **3** and **17** were performed at 113 K on a Rigaku Saturn CCD diffractometer using graphite-monochromated MoK $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å). The structures of **3** and **17** were solved by use of SHELXTL program<sup>S2</sup>. Refinements were performed on  $F^2$  anisotropically for all the non-hydrogen atoms by the full-matrix least-squares method. CCDC numbers: 1406577 for compound **3** and 1406578 for compound **17**.



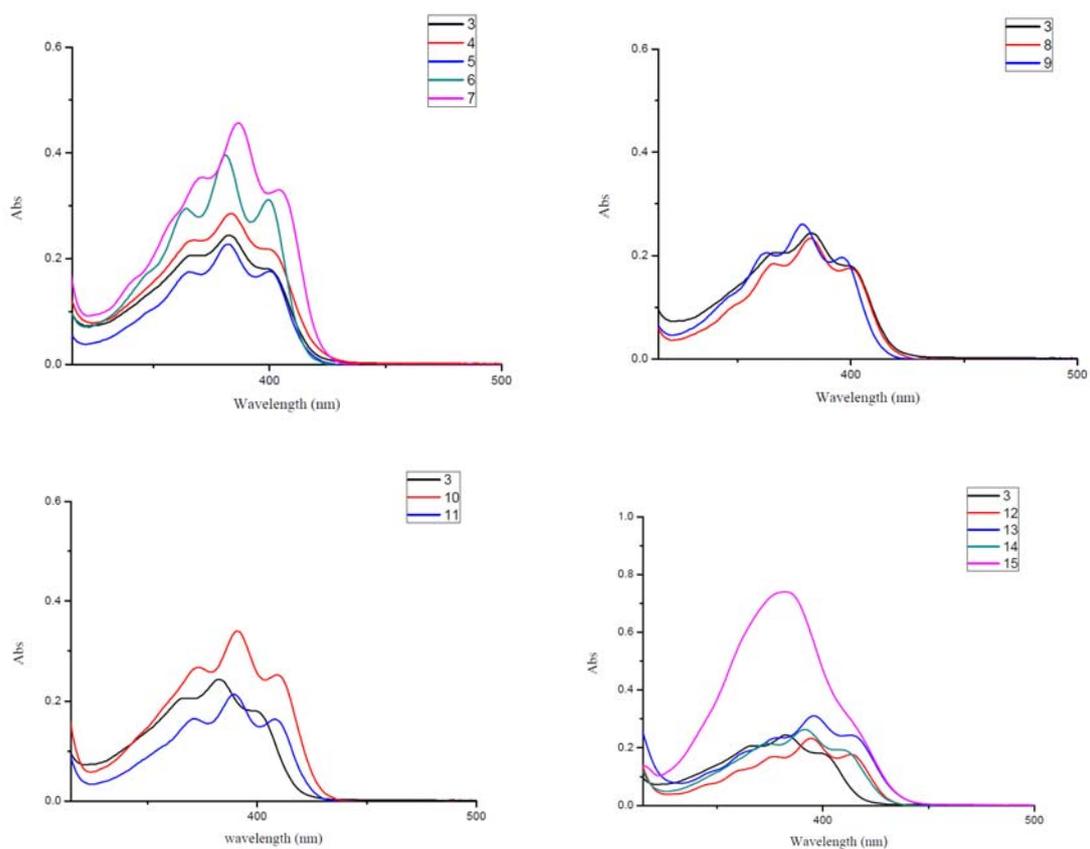
**Figure S1.** Molecular structure of **17**. **Hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity.** Selected bond lengths (Å) and bond angles (deg) for **17**: B1–N1 1.417(5), B1–C8 1.526(5), B1–C16 1.542(5), C29–C30 1.200(4); N1–B1–C8 116.6(3), N1–B1–C16 124.8(3), C8–B1–C16 118.6(3).

**Table S2.** Crystallographic data and structure refinement details for **3** and **17**.

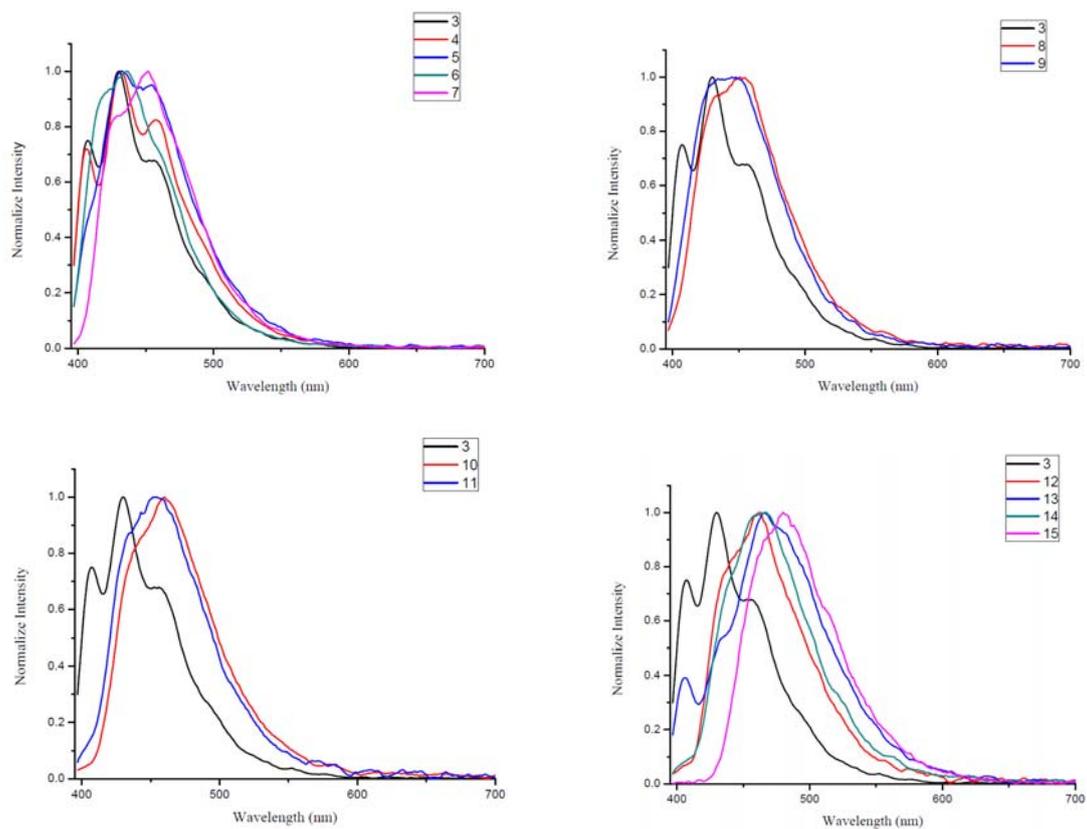
	<b>3</b>	<b>17</b>
--	----------	-----------

Empirical formula	C <sub>28</sub> H <sub>20</sub> BN	C <sub>36</sub> H <sub>24</sub> BN
Formula weight	381.25	481.37
Temperature	113(2) K	113(2) K
Wavelength	0.71073 Å	0.71073 Å
Crystal system, space group	Triclinic, P-1	Triclinic, P-1
Unit cell dimensions	$a = 11.899(2) \text{ \AA}$ $b = 13.110(3) \text{ \AA}$ $c = 18.036(4) \text{ \AA}$ $\alpha = 73.51(3) \text{ deg.}$ $\beta = 89.05(3) \text{ deg.}$ $\gamma = 64.38(3) \text{ deg.}$	$a = 9.942(2) \text{ \AA}$ $b = 16.900(4) \text{ \AA}$ $c = 18.738(4) \text{ \AA}$ $\alpha = 105.481(6) \text{ deg.}$ $\beta = 92.118(4) \text{ deg.}$ $\gamma = 92.215(5) \text{ deg.}$
Volume	2414.0(8) Å <sup>3</sup>	3028.2(12) Å <sup>3</sup>
Z, Calculated density	4, 1.046 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>	4, 1.056 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Absorption coefficient	0.060 mm <sup>-1</sup>	0.060 mm <sup>-1</sup>
<i>F</i> (000)	796	1008
Crystal size	0.22 x 0.20 x 0.18 mm	0.220 x 0.180 x 0.160 mm
Theta range for data collection	1.19 to 27.98 deg	3.011 to 25.004 deg.
Limiting indices	-15 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 13, -17 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 17, -23 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 23	-11 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 11, -20 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 20, -22 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 22
Reflections collected / unique	25245 / 11371 [ <i>R</i> (int)= 0.0448]	33253/10571 [ <i>R</i> (int)=0.0712]
Completeness to theta = 27.98	97.7 %	(Completeness to theta = 25.004) 99.1 %
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents	Semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.9893 and 0.9870	1.000 and 0.887
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>	Full-matrix least-squares on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	11371 / 0 / 542	10571 / 2 / 692
Goodness-of-fit on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>	0.952	1.060
Final <i>R</i> indices [ <i>I</i> > 2 σ( <i>I</i> )]	<i>R</i> 1 = 0.0693, <i>wR</i> 2 = 0.192	<i>R</i> 1 = 0.0769, <i>wR</i> 2 = 0.1838
<i>R</i> indices (all data)	<i>R</i> 1 = 0.1141, <i>wR</i> 2 = 0.2158	<i>R</i> 1 = 0.1450, <i>wR</i> 2 = 0.2095
Extinction coefficient	0.013(2)	0.0007(9)

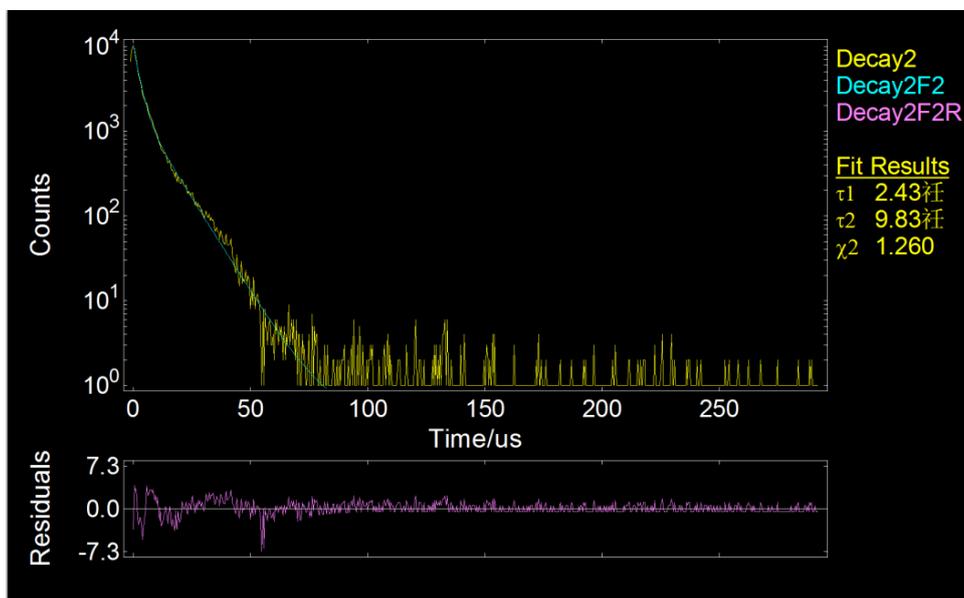
## UV-Vis and FL Studies of Compound 3-15



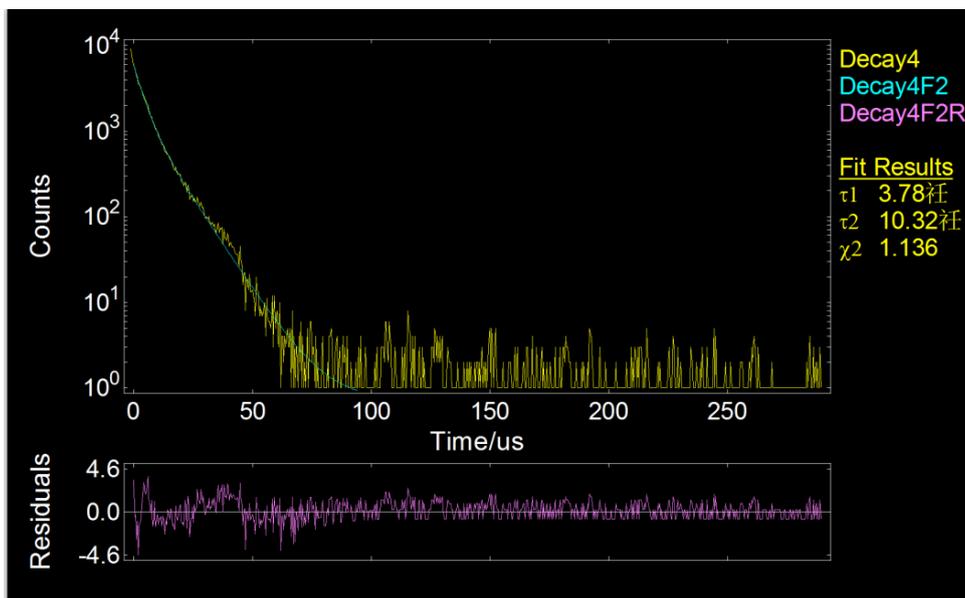
**Figure S2.** UV-vis spectra of 3-15. All experiments were performed in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  solution at  $10^{-5}$  M.



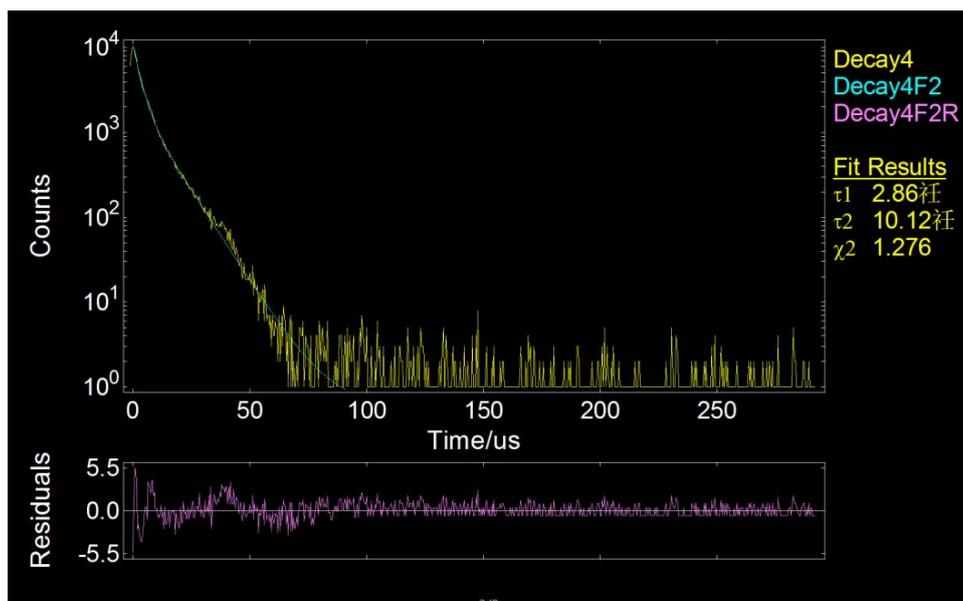
**Figure S3.** Normalized fluorescence emission spectra of **3-15**. All experiments were performed in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  solution at  $10^{-6}$  M and  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 383$  nm.



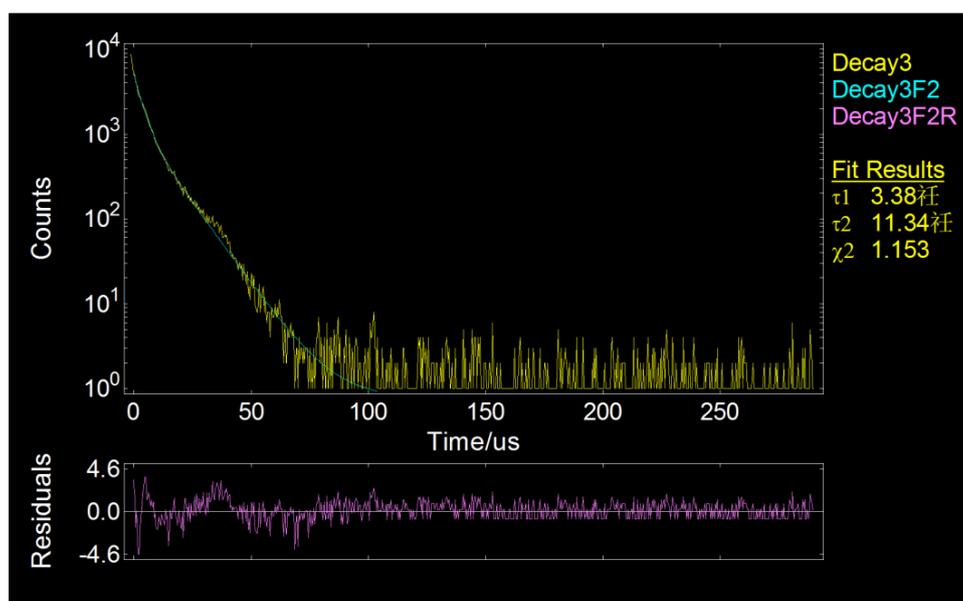
**Figure S4.** The fluorescence decay of **3** was measured in dichloromethane excited at 383 nm and emission was monitored at 430 nm.



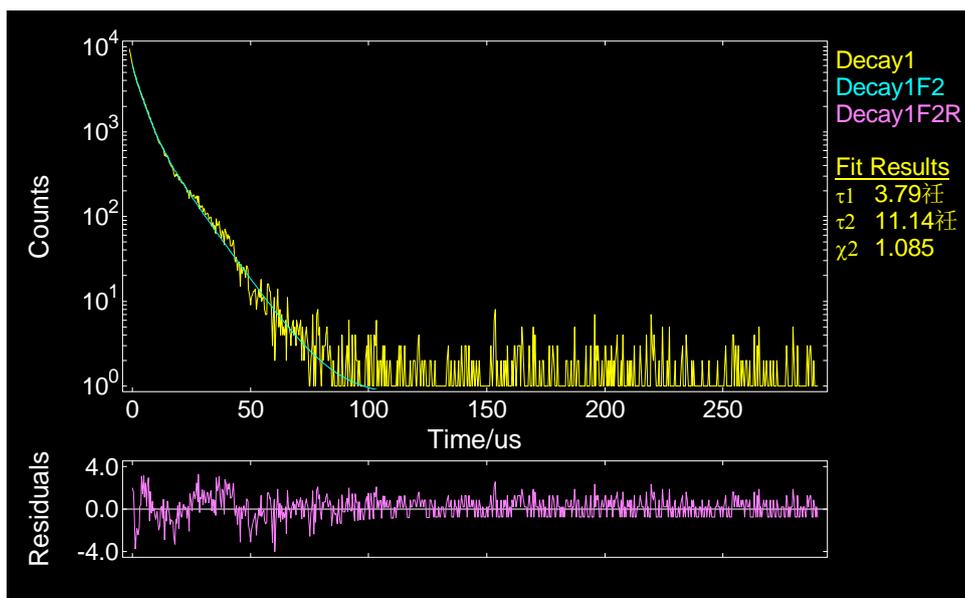
**Figure S5.** The fluorescence decay of **4** was measured in dichloromethane excited at 384 nm and emission was monitored at 458 nm.



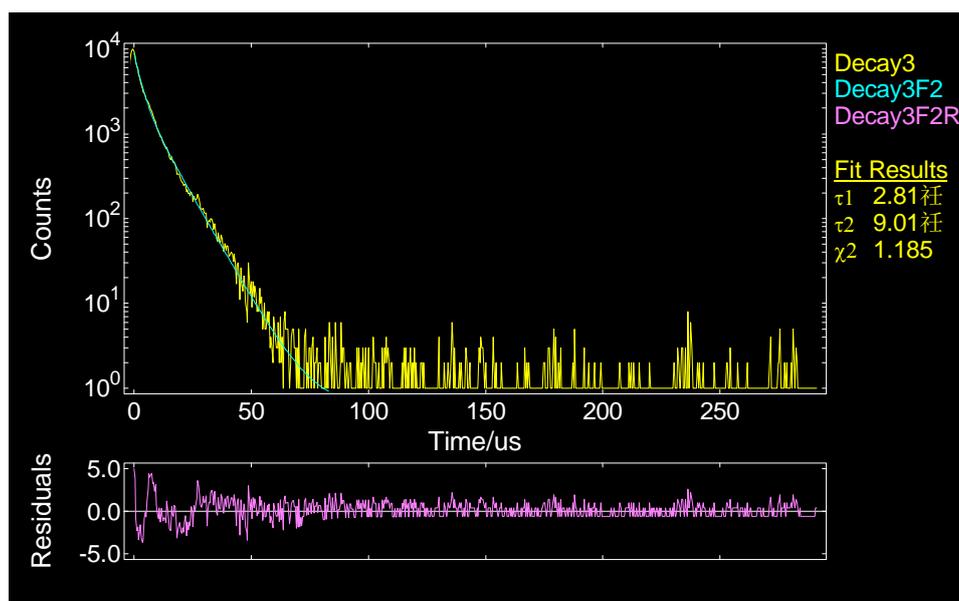
**Figure S6.** The fluorescence decay of **10** was measured in dichloromethane excited at 391 nm and emission was monitored at 460 nm.



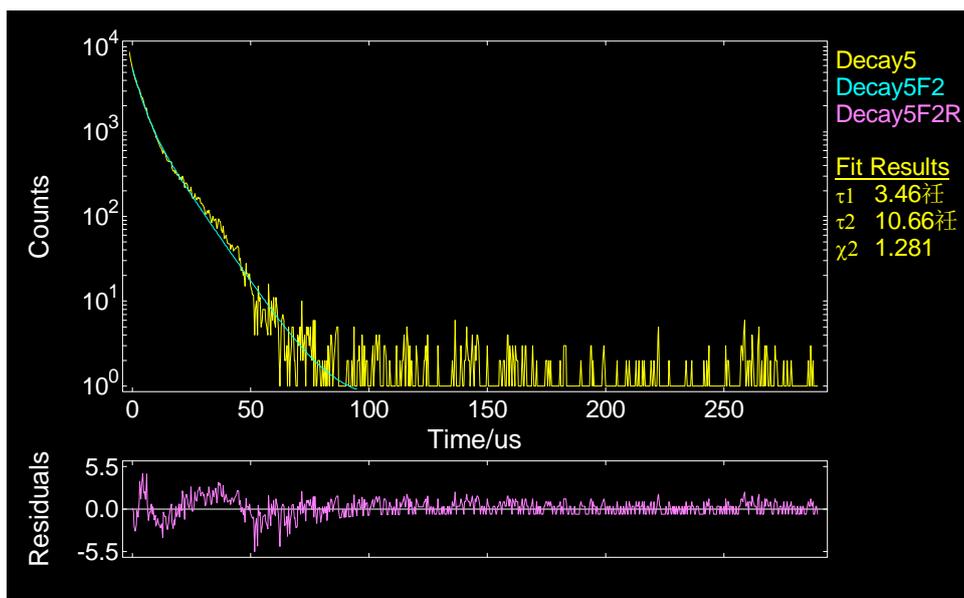
**Figure S7.** The fluorescence decay of **12** was measured in dichloromethane excited at 394 nm and emission was monitored at 463 nm.



**Figure S8.** The fluorescence decay of **13** was measured in dichloromethane excited at 396 nm and emission was monitored at 466 nm.

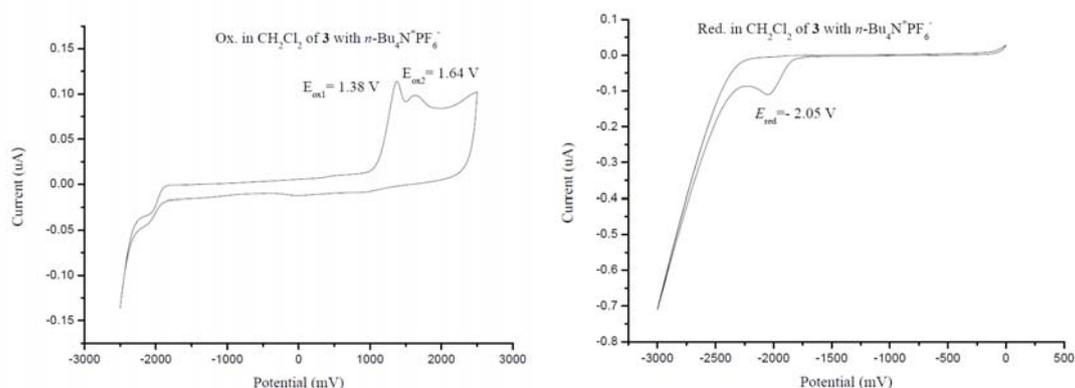


**Figure S9.** The fluorescence decay of **14** was measured in dichloromethane excited at 392 nm and emission was monitored at 468 nm.



**Figure S10.** The fluorescence decay of **15** was measured in dichloromethane excited at 390 nm and emission was monitored at 460 nm.

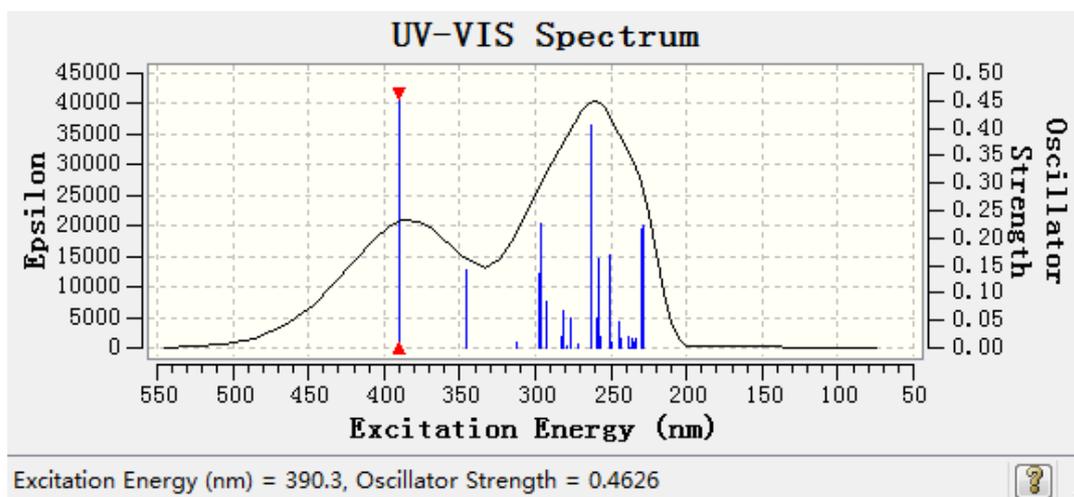
**Cyclic Voltammetry.** All measurements were carried out at room temperature with a conventional three-electrode (glassy carbon electrode as the working electrode, saturated calomel electrode (SCE) as the reference electrode, and a platinum wire as the auxiliary electrode) with ferrocene/ferrocenium redox couple ( $\text{Fc}/\text{Fc}^+$ ) as an internal reference



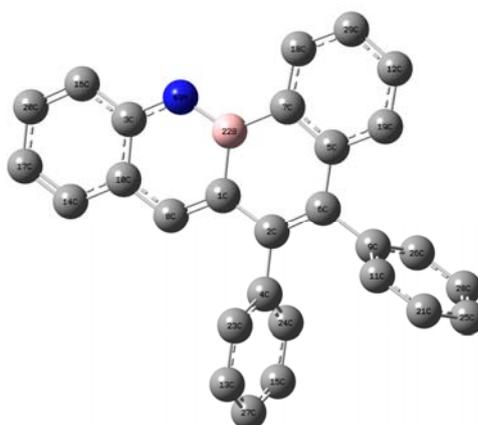
**Figure S11.** Cyclic voltammograms of 2 mM **3** measured in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  solution, containing 0.1 M  $\text{TBAPF}_6$  as the supporting electrolyte at room temperature. Ferrocene/ferrocenium redox couple ( $\text{Fc}/\text{Fc}^+$ ) was used as an internal reference and the scan rate at  $100 \text{ mVs}^{-1}$ .

**DFT Calculations.** All calculations carried out on **3** and **3'** were performed using the Gaussian 03 suite of programs, revision C. 02.<sup>S3</sup> The structures of **3** and **3'** were optimized at the RB3LYP/6-311+G (d, p) level of theory, using the geometry obtained from X-ray single crystal analysis and verified by harmonic vibrational analysis. TD-DFT calculations were carried out at the RTD-B3LYP/6-311G (d, p)

level of theory.



**Figure S12.** Calculated UV-vis absorption for **3**



**Table S3.** Cartesian coordinates for reorganization energy

**3**

Center	Atomic	Atomic	Coordinates (Angstroms)		
Number	Number	Type	X	Y	Z
1	6	0	1.077853	-0.124837	0.018526
2	6	0	-0.355909	-0.394940	-0.015332
3	6	0	3.876868	0.526651	0.115708
4	6	0	-0.798257	-1.834307	-0.050977
5	6	0	-0.871784	2.056403	-0.035896
6	6	0	-1.261515	0.618325	-0.005459
7	6	0	0.491085	2.448935	0.054850
8	6	0	2.027313	-1.108739	0.005895
9	6	0	-2.729787	0.325643	0.026843
10	6	0	3.429606	-0.812075	0.030302
11	6	0	-3.464824	0.182582	-1.142680
12	6	0	-1.522410	4.383098	-0.269712
13	6	0	-0.900053	-3.946389	-1.234159
14	6	0	4.397499	-1.835265	-0.031377
15	6	0	-1.615669	-3.820063	1.055714
16	6	0	5.246587	0.789260	0.165673
17	6	0	5.739424	-1.559900	0.004347
18	6	0	0.791096	3.814477	0.005760
19	6	0	-1.862569	3.043395	-0.198118
20	6	0	6.160671	-0.221764	0.106363
21	6	0	-4.832561	-0.047946	-1.098817
22	5	0	1.550531	1.328478	0.098619
23	6	0	-0.604549	-2.593714	-1.205152
24	6	0	-1.312941	-2.463471	1.071250
25	6	0	-5.466686	-0.166916	0.139759
26	6	0	-3.381476	0.231319	1.251064
27	6	0	-1.401324	-4.563728	-0.087493
28	6	0	-4.746758	-0.033176	1.297207
29	6	0	-0.191095	4.780696	-0.157224
30	1	0	1.747733	-2.017111	-0.019312

31	1	0	-3.026366	0.243748	-1.983734
32	1	0	-2.201759	5.035640	-0.396000
33	1	0	-0.764300	-4.449025	-2.028080
34	1	0	4.113058	-2.737602	-0.100046
35	1	0	-1.969635	-4.235273	1.833874
36	1	0	5.548324	1.687727	0.242270
37	1	0	6.375471	-2.262948	-0.039705
38	1	0	1.695622	4.089348	0.086328
39	1	0	-2.775517	2.786720	-0.259502
40	1	0	7.088586	-0.020079	0.134991
41	1	0	-5.331192	-0.124933	-1.902463
42	1	0	-0.263225	-2.174058	-1.987241
43	1	0	-1.462729	-1.959218	1.862271
44	1	0	-6.399707	-0.342032	0.178251
45	1	0	-2.894380	0.347275	2.057776
46	1	0	-1.595066	-5.494194	-0.092166
47	1	0	-5.182762	-0.121695	2.137339
48	1	0	0.041341	5.701378	-0.192175
49	7	0	2.948504	1.558444	0.156399
50	1	0	3.357313	2.453509	-0.021746

-----  
**Table S4.** Cartesian coordinates for reorganization energy

**3'**

Center	Atomic	Atomic	Coordinates (Angstroms)		
Number	Number	Type	X	Y	Z
1	6	0	1.084914	-0.121180	0.019076
2	6	0	-0.348145	-0.394946	-0.015094
3	6	0	3.882235	0.537453	0.116884
4	6	0	-0.786802	-1.835435	-0.051034
5	6	0	-0.870287	2.055071	-0.035395
6	6	0	-1.256343	0.615997	-0.005243
7	6	0	0.491555	2.451076	0.055668
8	6	0	2.036891	-1.102648	0.006479
9	6	0	-2.723868	0.319554	0.026737
10	6	0	3.438416	-0.802400	0.031196
11	6	0	-3.458315	0.174785	-1.142946

12	6	0	-1.526821	4.380129	-0.268991
13	6	0	-0.882970	-3.947596	-1.234547
14	6	0	4.408935	-1.823102	-0.030451
15	6	0	-1.599340	-3.823440	1.055209
16	6	0	5.251268	0.803559	0.167147
17	6	0	5.750144	-1.544309	0.005569
18	6	0	0.788080	3.817389	0.006836
19	6	0	-1.863564	3.039550	-0.197658
20	6	0	6.167946	-0.205114	0.107861
21	6	0	-4.825467	-0.059248	-1.099375
22	6	0	-0.590934	-2.594173	-1.205285
23	6	0	-1.300087	-2.466080	1.071003
24	6	0	-5.459519	-0.180023	0.139063
25	6	0	-3.375545	0.223382	1.250821
26	6	0	-1.382876	-4.566385	-0.088067
27	6	0	-4.740154	-0.044612	1.296667
28	6	0	-0.196549	4.781116	-0.156192
29	1	0	1.759640	-2.011729	-0.018914
30	1	0	-3.019857	0.237198	-1.983907
31	1	0	-2.207813	5.030949	-0.395311
32	1	0	-0.745781	-4.449765	-2.028516
33	1	0	4.126817	-2.726153	-0.099306
34	1	0	-1.952389	-4.239669	1.833241
35	1	0	5.550690	1.702783	0.243934
36	1	0	6.387996	-2.245721	-0.038467
37	1	0	1.691885	4.094562	0.087615
38	1	0	-2.775841	2.780548	-0.259253
39	1	0	7.095337	-0.001060	0.136694
40	1	0	-5.323746	-0.137391	-1.903127
41	1	0	-0.250537	-2.173530	-1.987247
42	1	0	-1.451314	-1.962329	1.862070
43	1	0	-6.392095	-0.357532	0.177352
44	1	0	-2.888899	0.340464	2.057643
45	1	0	-1.574236	-5.497342	-0.092913
46	1	0	-5.176089	-0.134370	2.136704
47	1	0	0.033537	5.702395	-0.190963
48	6	0	2.951226	1.566861	0.157551
49	1	0	3.405418	2.516335	-0.035085

50 6 0 1.553856 1.333328 0.099472

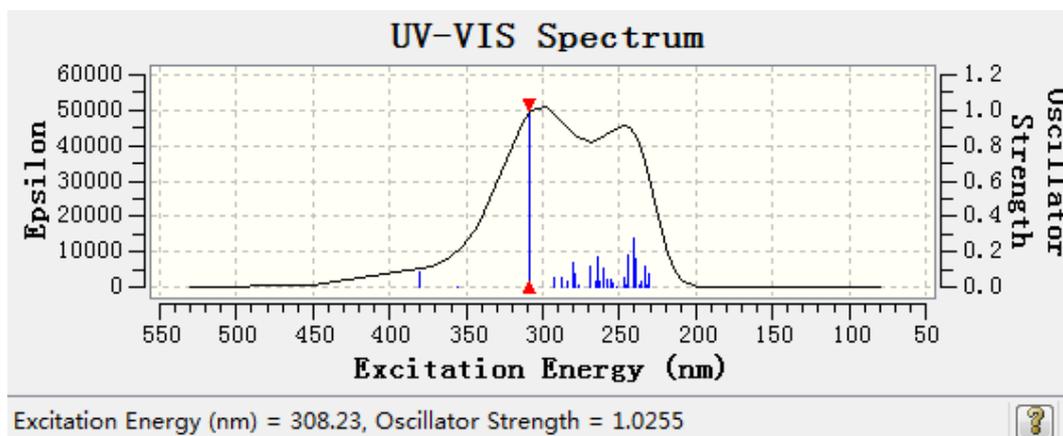
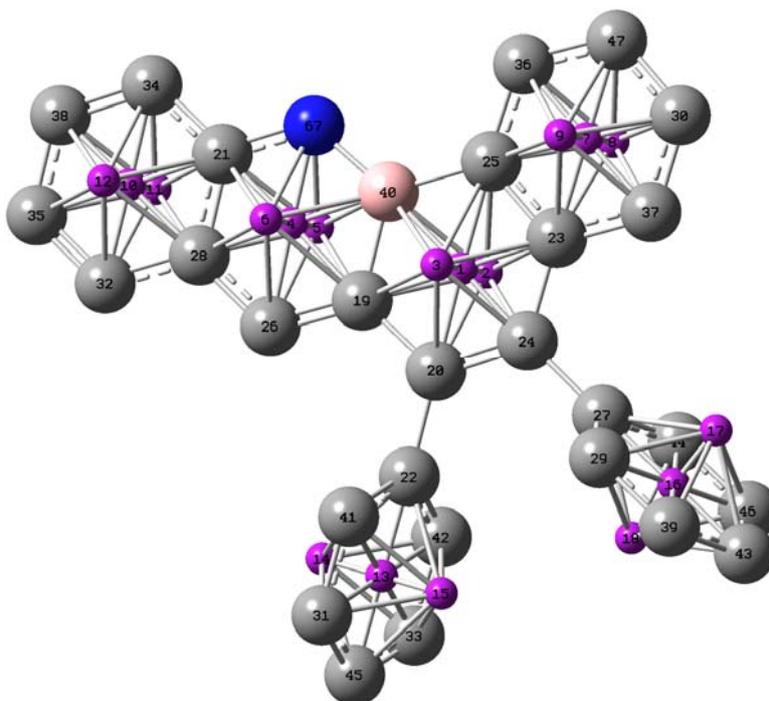
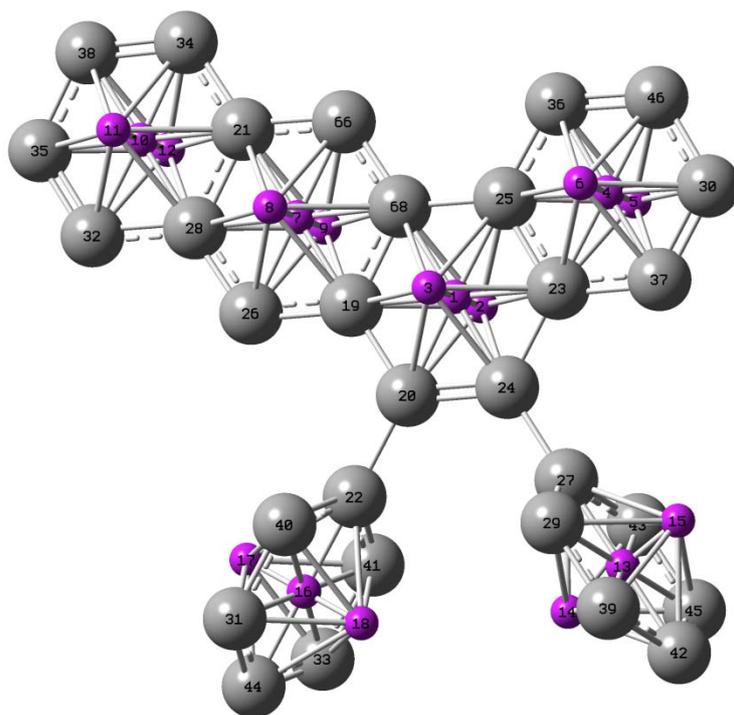


Figure S15. Calculated UV-vis absorption for 3'



**3** Bq Isotropic = 2.6456, NICS(1) = -2.6456. **6** Bq Isotropic = 7.2765, NICS(1) = -7.2765, **9** Bq Isotropic = 10.0142, NICS(1) = -10.0142, **12** Bq Isotropic = 10.4429, NICS(1) = -10.4429, **15** Bq Isotropic = 10.0811, NICS(1) = -10.0811, **17** Bq Isotropic = 9.1955, NICS(1) = -9.1955.



**2** Bq Isotropic = 5.3250, NICS(1) = -5.3250, **5** Bq Isotropic = 9.8588, NICS(1) = -9.8588, **9** Bq Isotropic = 11.9530, NICS(1) = -11.9530, **12** Bq Isotropic = 10.1199, NICS(1) = -10.1199, **15** Bq Isotropic = 9.2058, NICS(1) = -9.2058, **18** Bq Isotropic = 10.0280, NICS(1) = -10.0280.

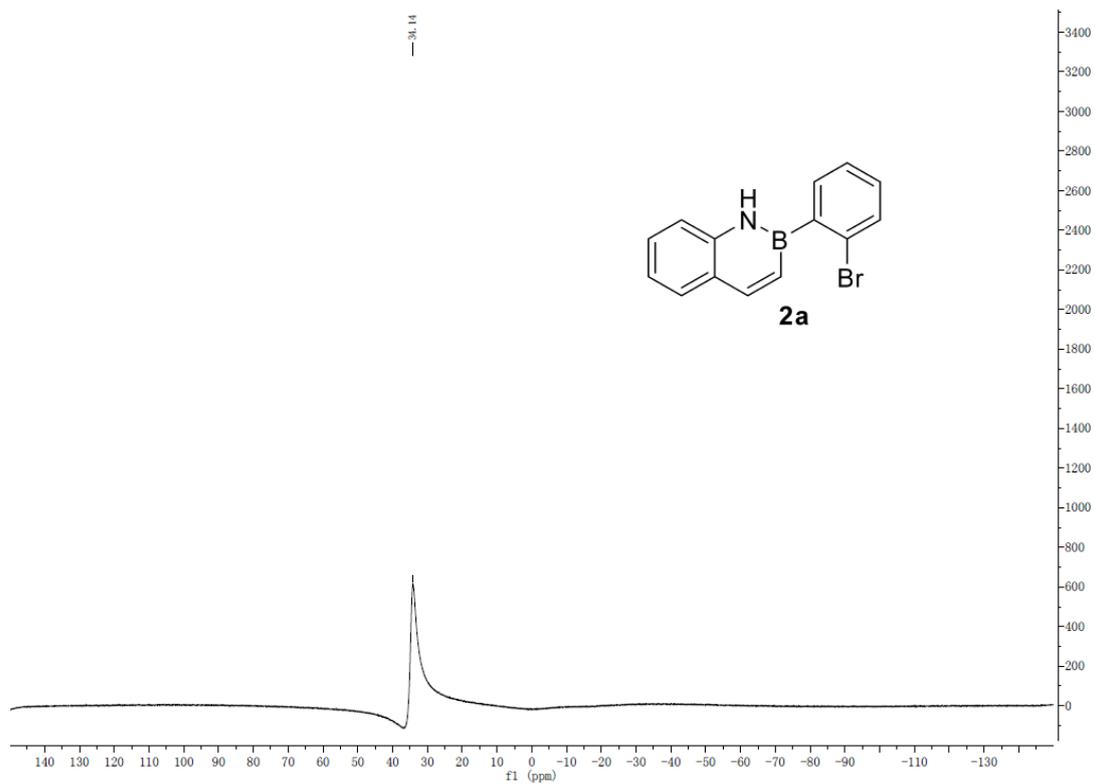
**Figure S16.** NICS(1)zz values (in ppm) of **3** (up) and **3'** (down) calculated at the GIAO-B3LYP/6-311+G(d,p) level.

## Reference

- S1 S. R. Wisniewski, C. L. Guenther, O. A. Argintaru, G. A. Molander. *J. Org. Chem.* **2014**, 79, 365.
- S2 G. M. Sheldrick. SHELXS-90/96, Program for Structure Solution, *Acta. Crystallogr. Sect. A* **1990**, 46, 467.
- S3 M. J. Frisch, G. W. Trucks, H. B. Schlegel, G. E. Scuseria, M. A. Robb, J. R. Cheeseman, J. A. Montgomery, T. Vreven, Jr., K. N. Kudin, J. C. Burant, J. M. Millam, S. S. Iyengar, J. Tomasi, V. Barone, B. Mennucci, M. Cossi, G. Scalmani, N. Rega, G. A. Petersson, H. Nakatsuji, M. Hada, M. Ehara, K. Toyota, R. Fukuda, J. Hasegawa, M. Ishida, T. Nakajima, Y. Honda, O. Kitao, H. Nakai, M. Klene, X. Li, J. E. Knox, H. P. Hratchian, J. B. Cross, C. Adamo, J. Jaramillo, R. Gomperts, R. E. Stratmann, O. Yazyev, A. J. Austin, R. Cammi, C. Pomelli, J. W. Ochterski, P. Y. Ayala, K. Morokuma, G. A. Voth, P. Salvador, J. J. Dannenberg, V. G. Zakrzewski, S. Dapprich, A. D. Daniels, M. C. Strain, O. Farkas, D. K. Malick, A. D. Rabuck, K. Raghavachari, J. B. Foresman, J. V. Ortiz, Q. Cui, A. G. Baboul, S. Clifford, J. Cioslowski, B. B. Stefanov, G. Liu, A. Liashenko, P. Piskorz, I. Komaromi, R. L. Martin, D. J. Fox, T. Keith, M. A. Al-Laham, C. Y.

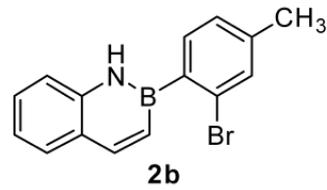
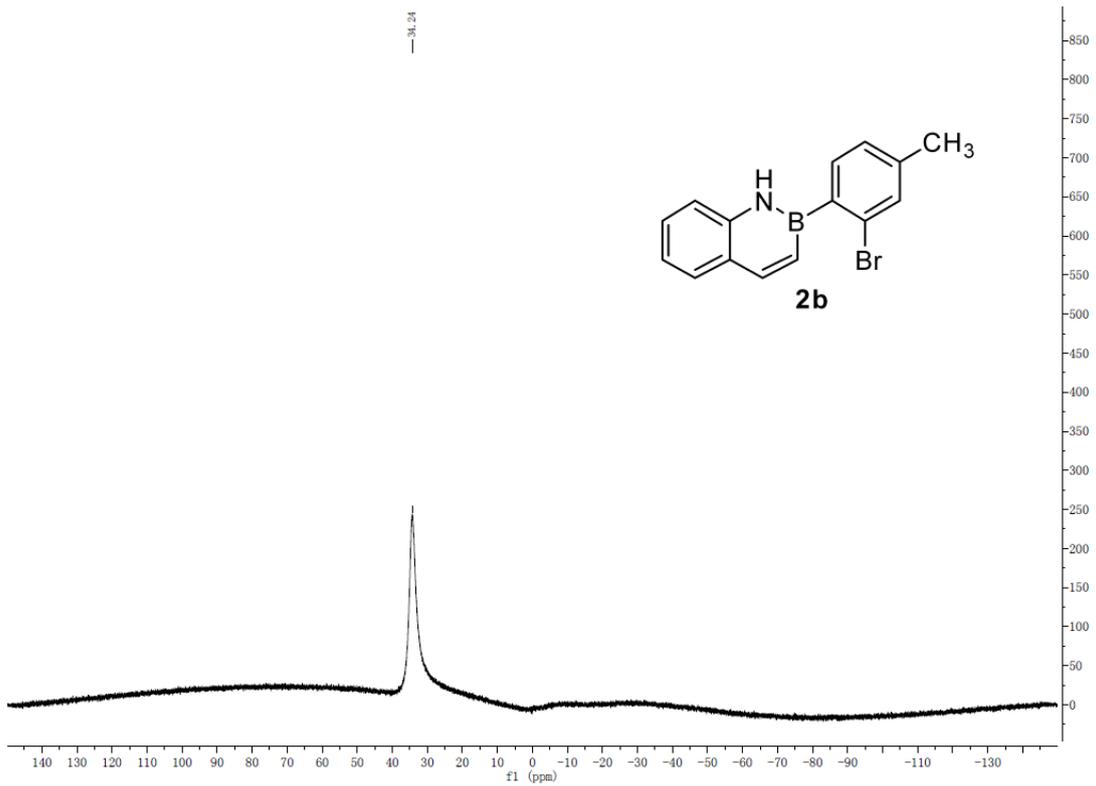
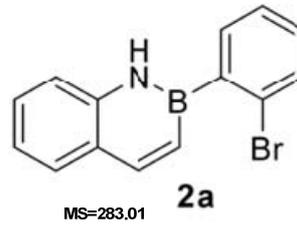
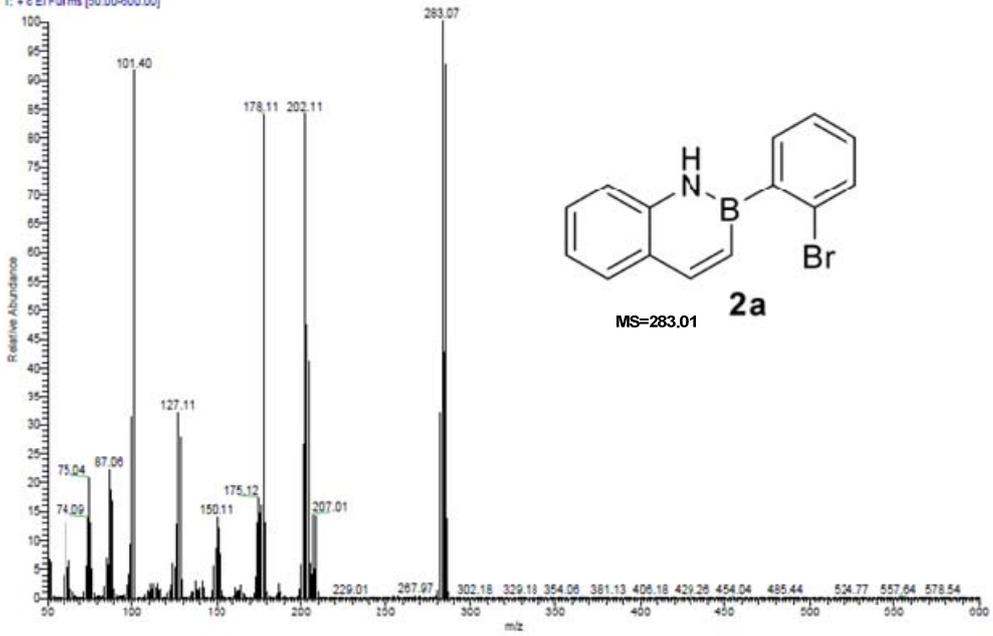
Peng, A. Nanayakkara, M. Challacombe, P. M. W. Gill, B. Johnson, W. Chen, M. W. Wong, C. Gonzalez, J. A. Pople, *Gaussian 03, Revision C.02*, Gaussian, Inc., Wallingford CT, **2004**.

### Scanned NMR Spectra of All New Compounds



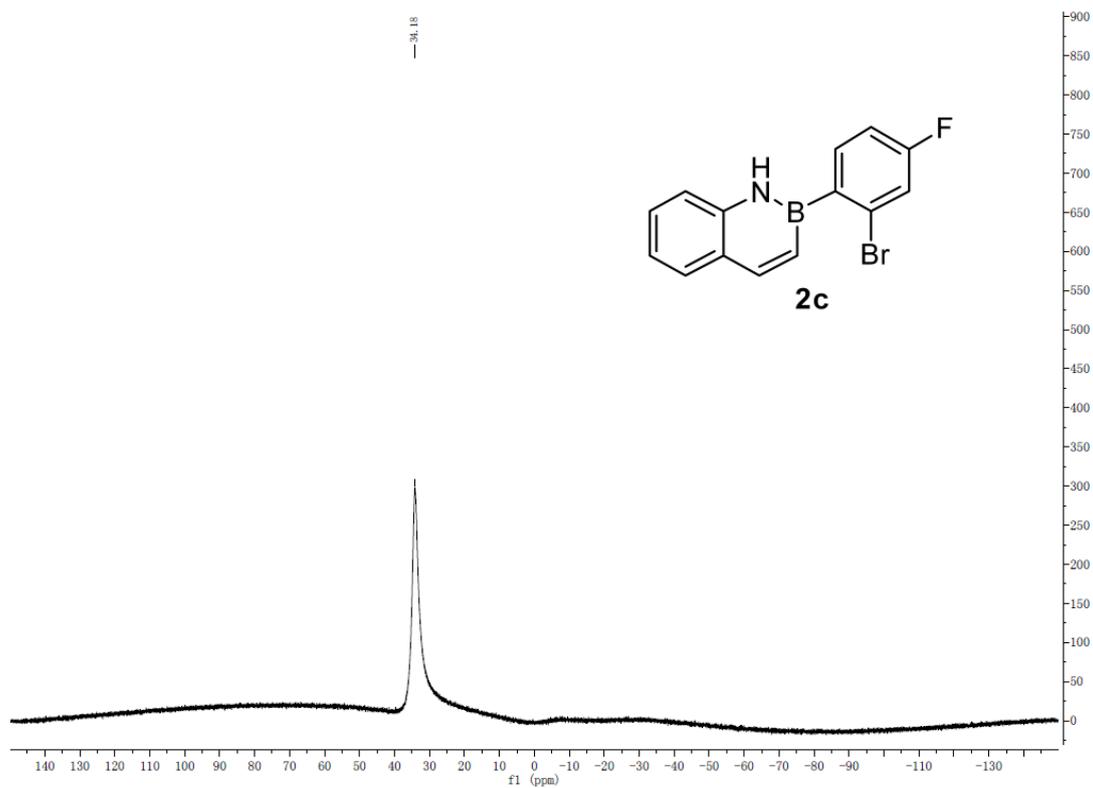
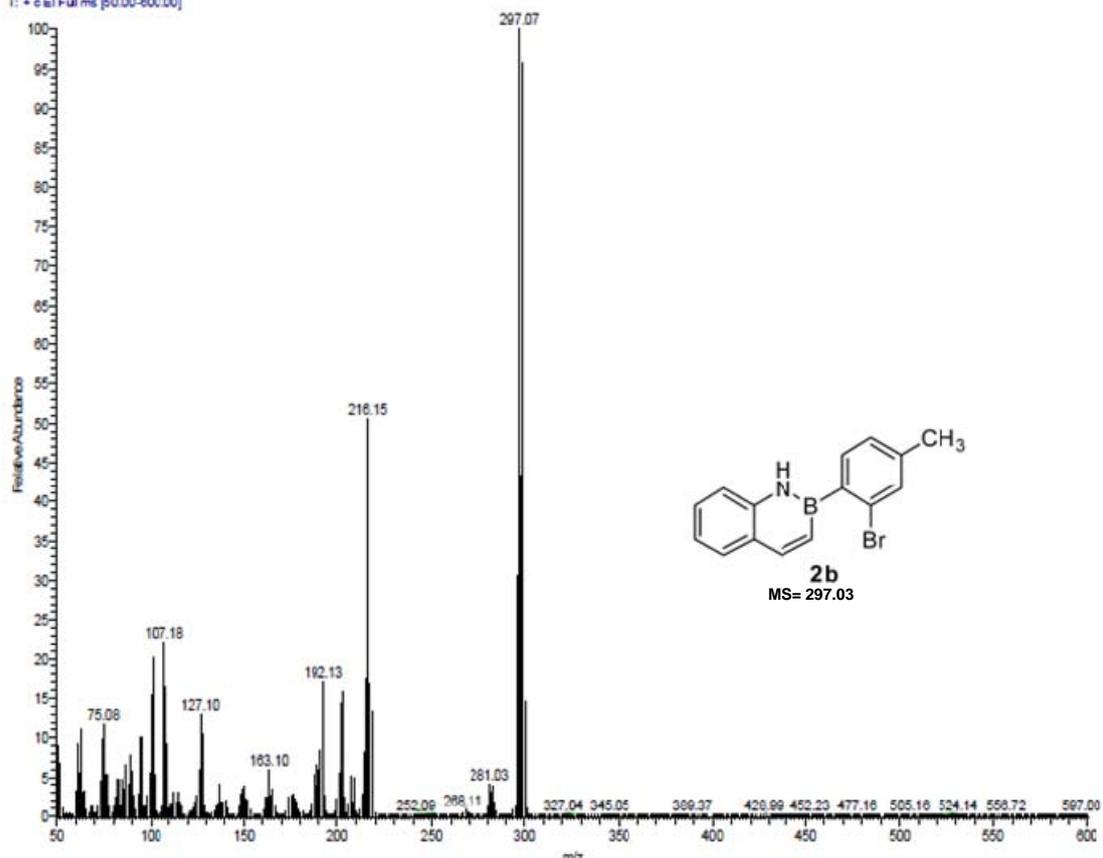


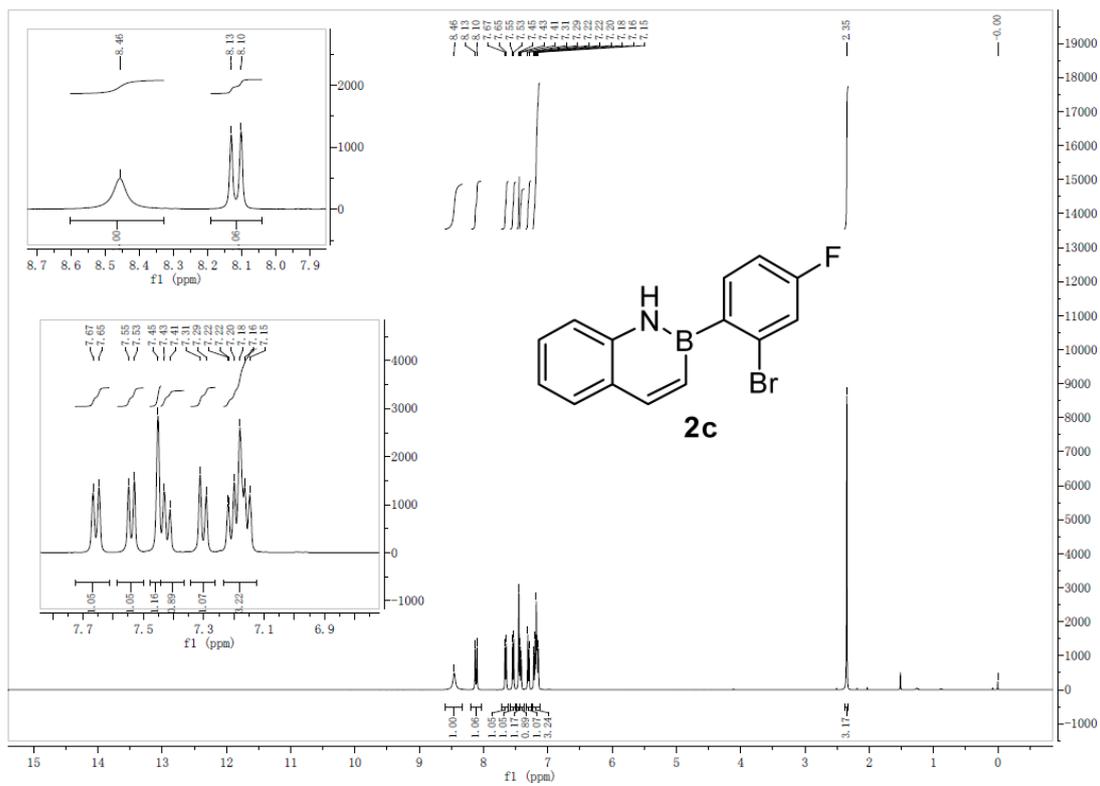
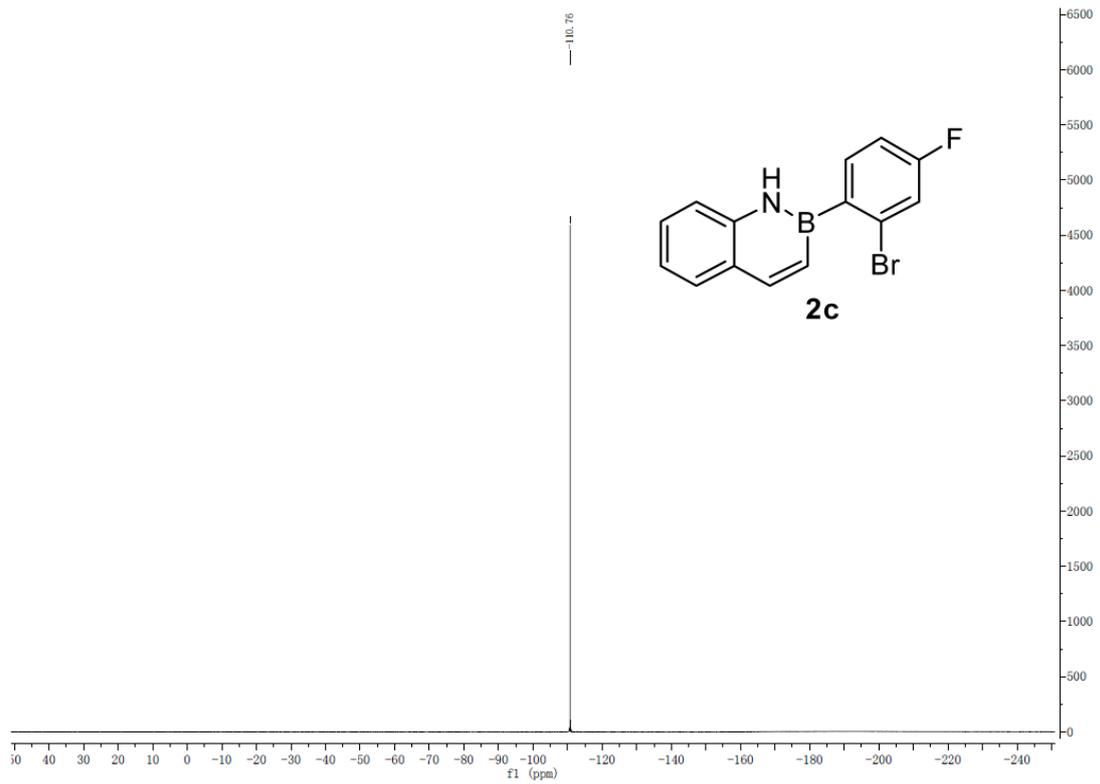
Yuanhao-B-Br #4045 RT: 17.75 AV: 1 NL: 3.36E7  
T: + c EI Fullms [50.00-600.00]

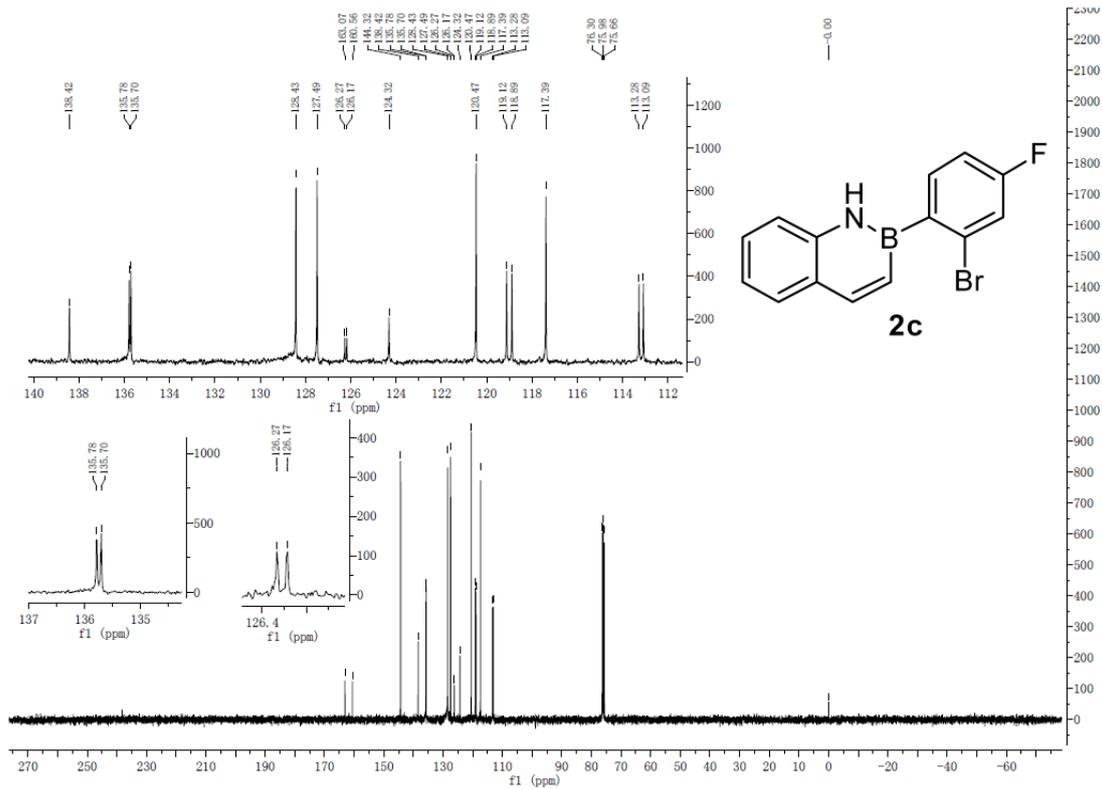




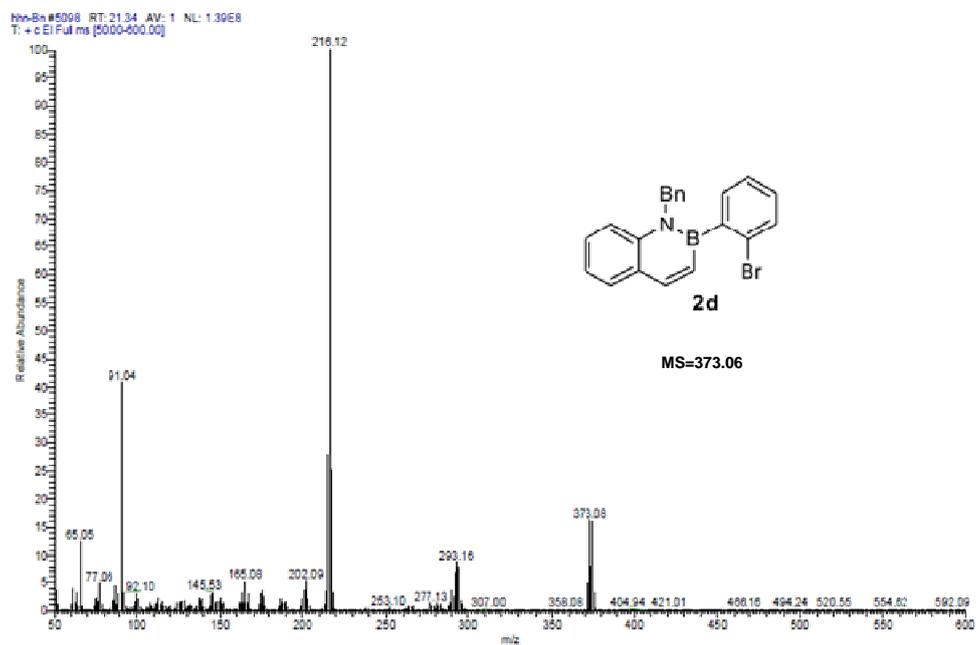
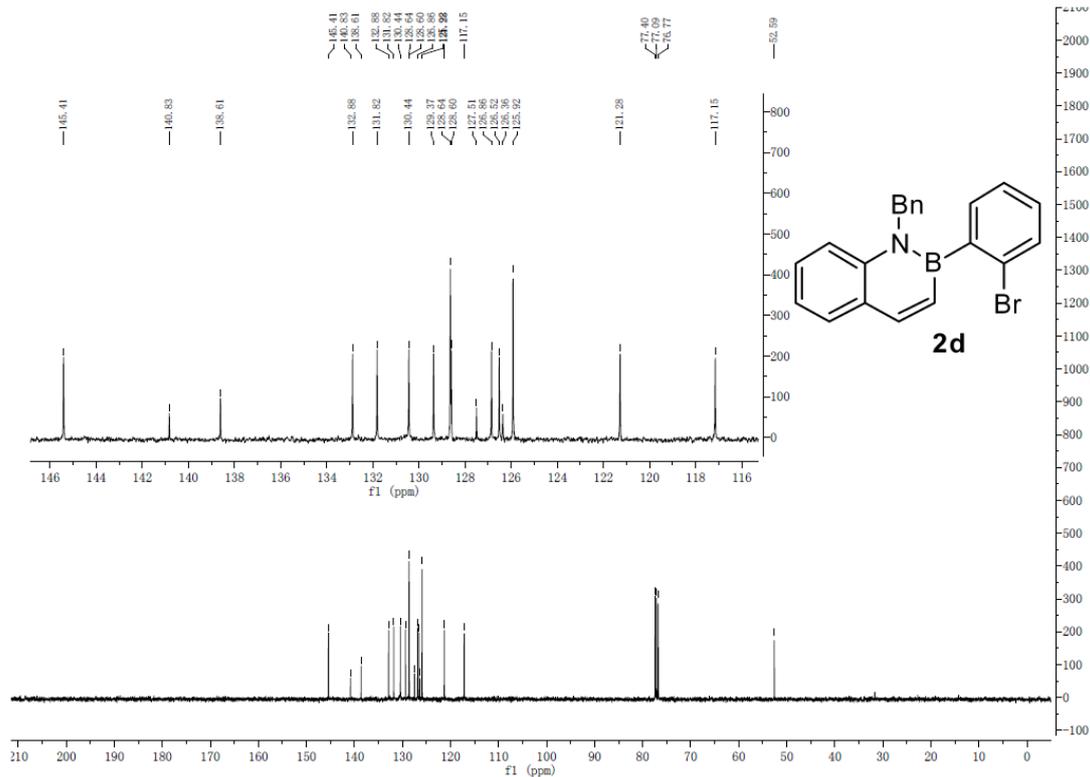
hn-B-CH3 #4238 RT: 18.41 AV: 1 NL: 5.07E7  
T: + e El Full ms [50.00-600.00]

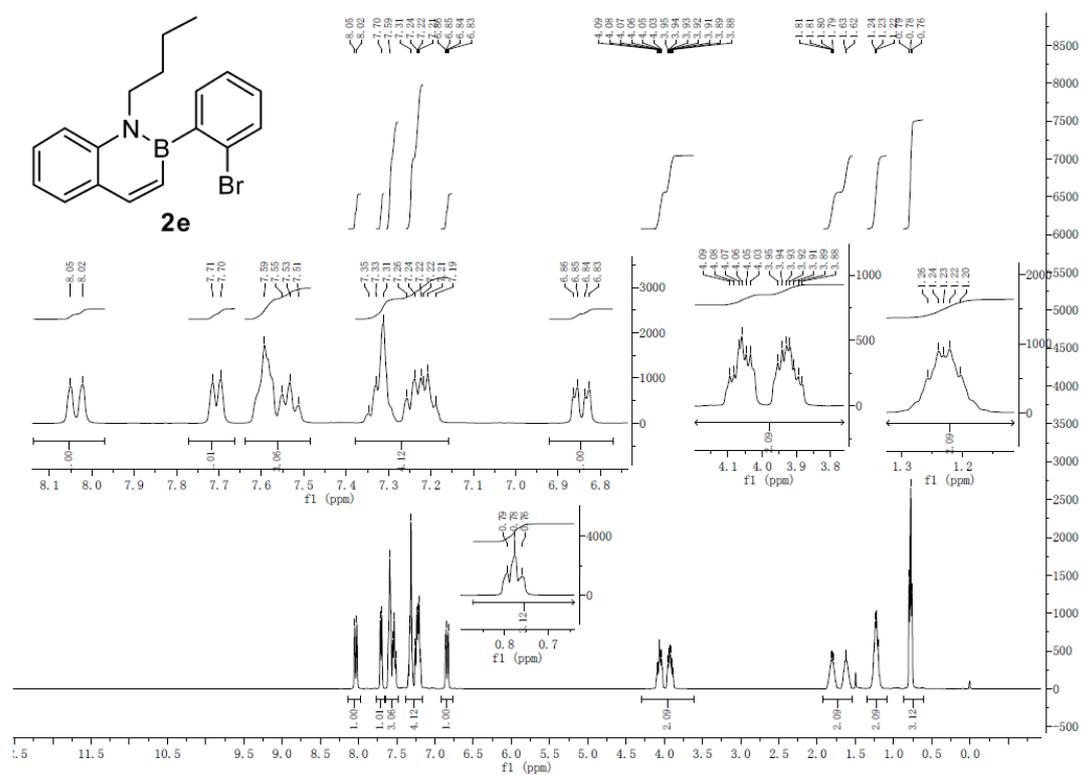
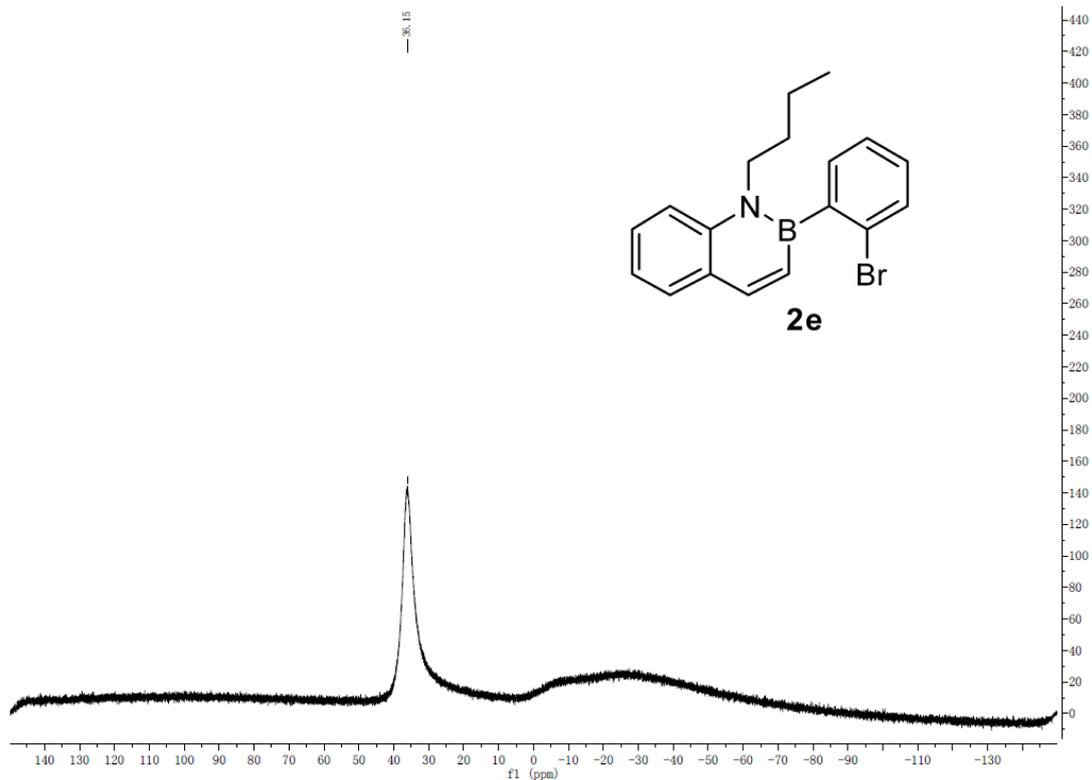


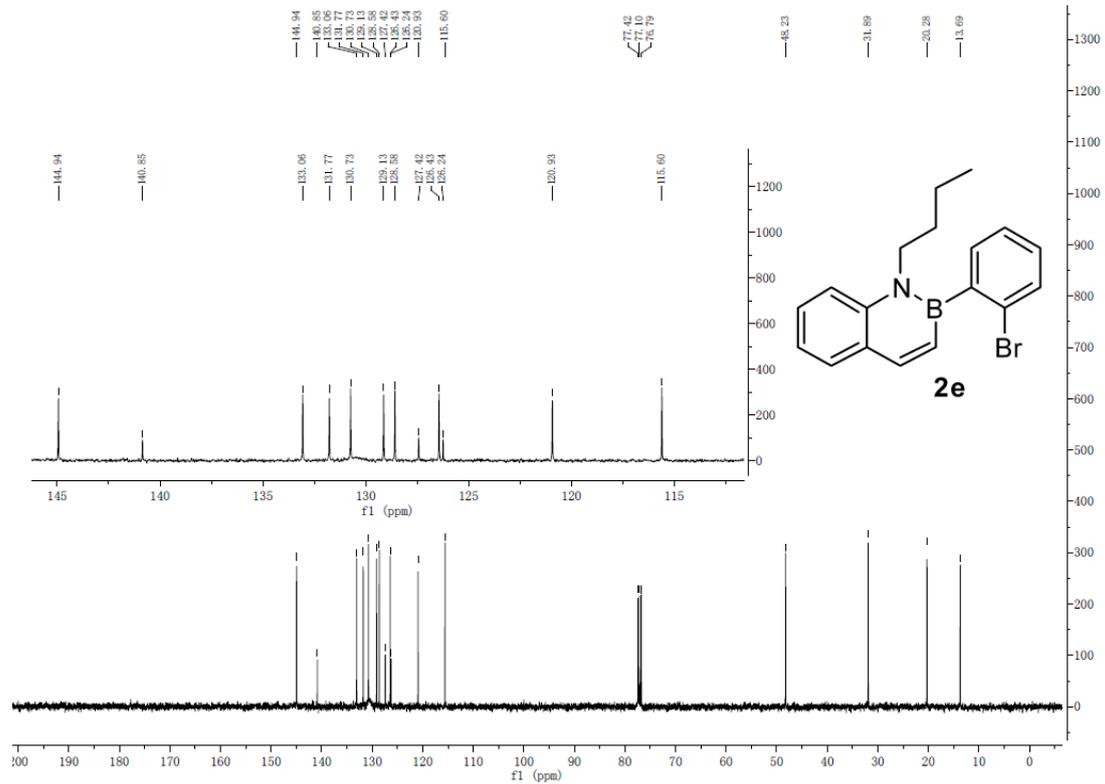




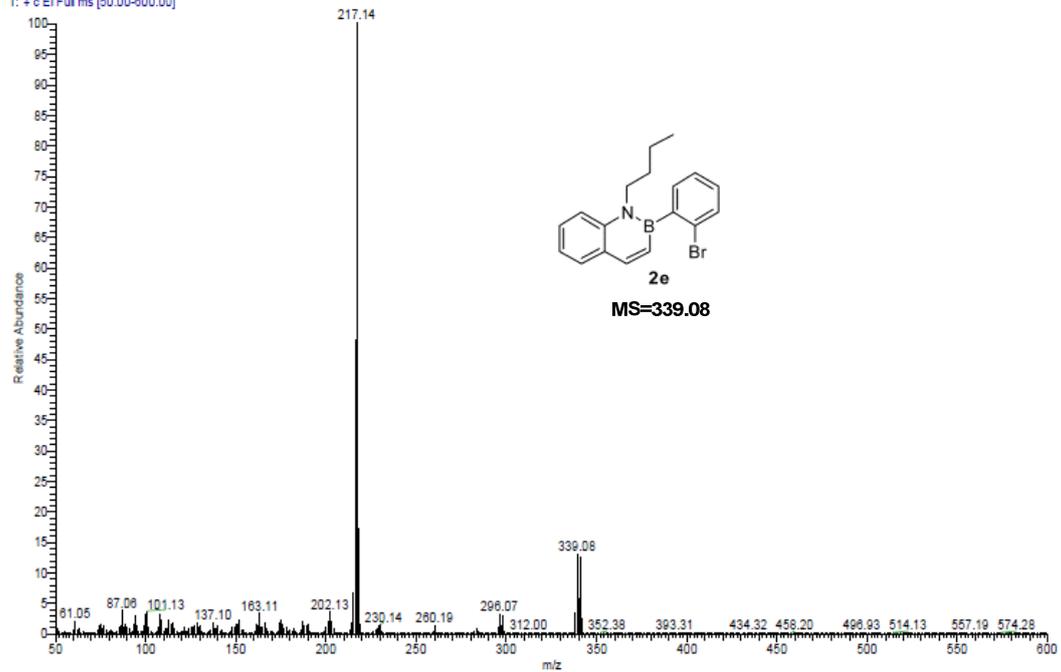


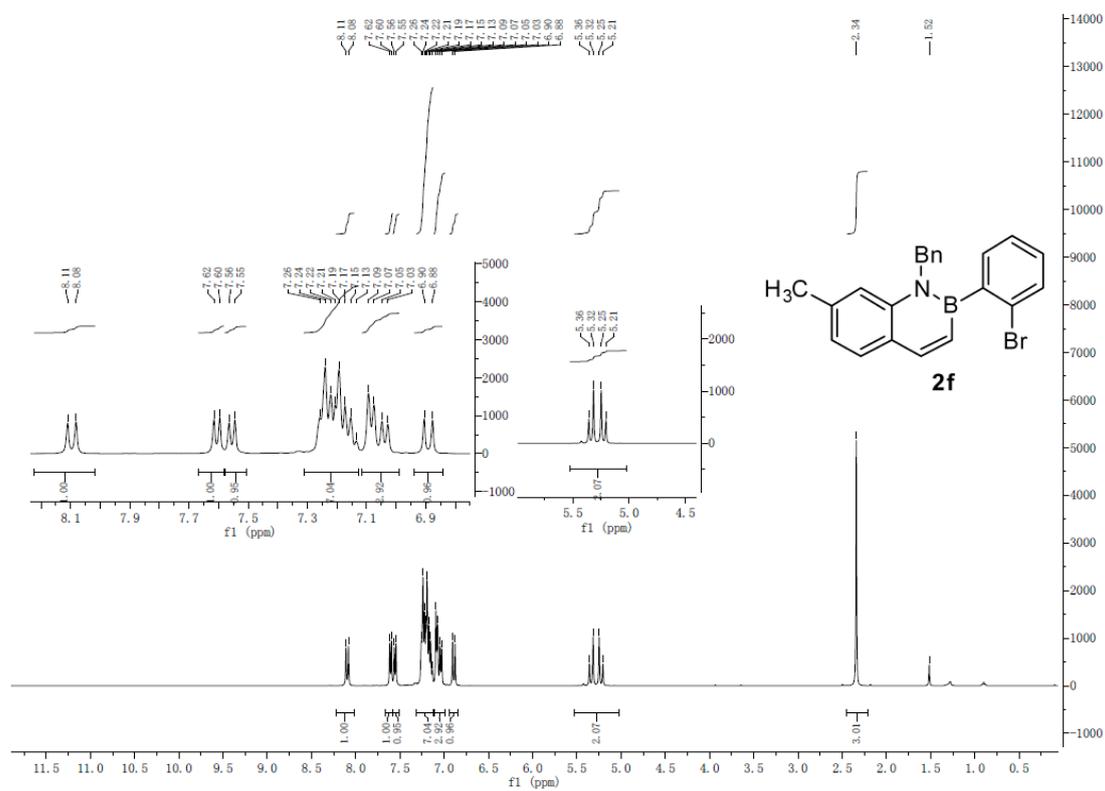
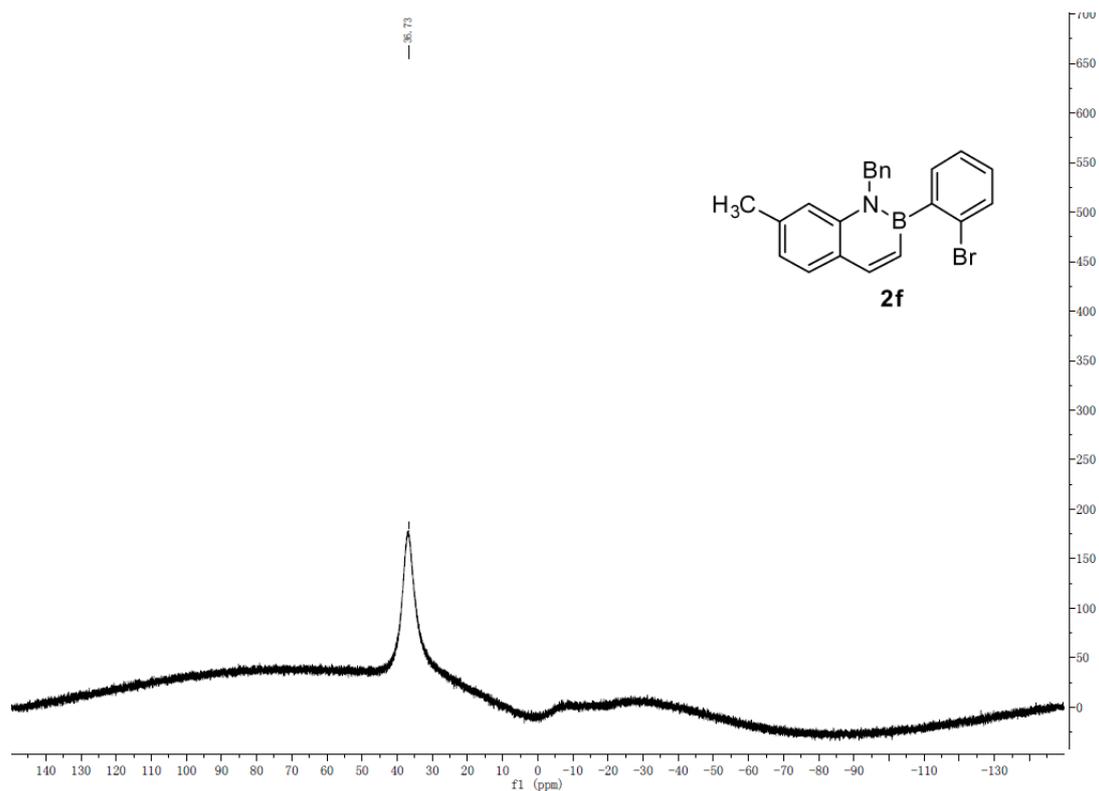


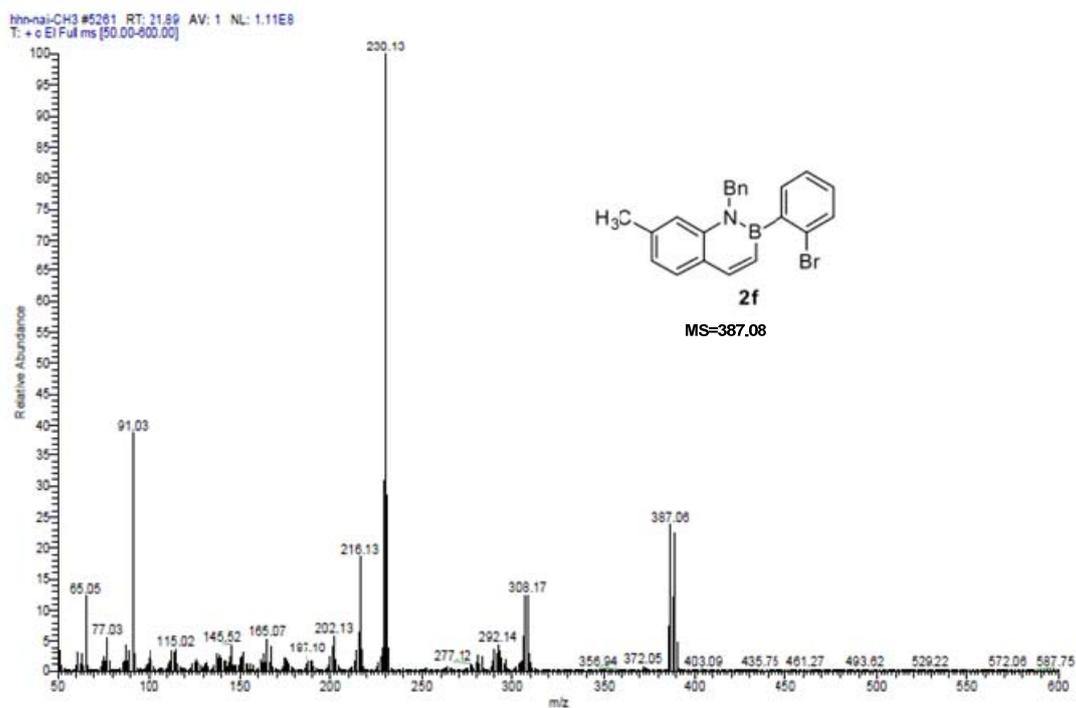
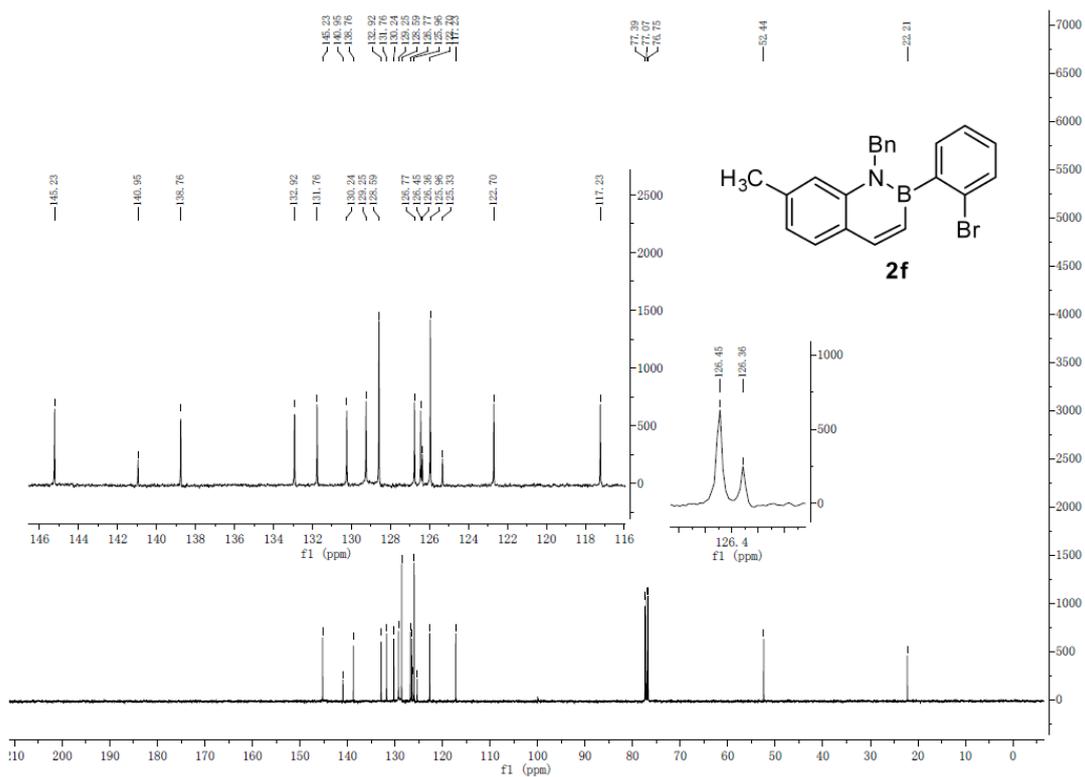


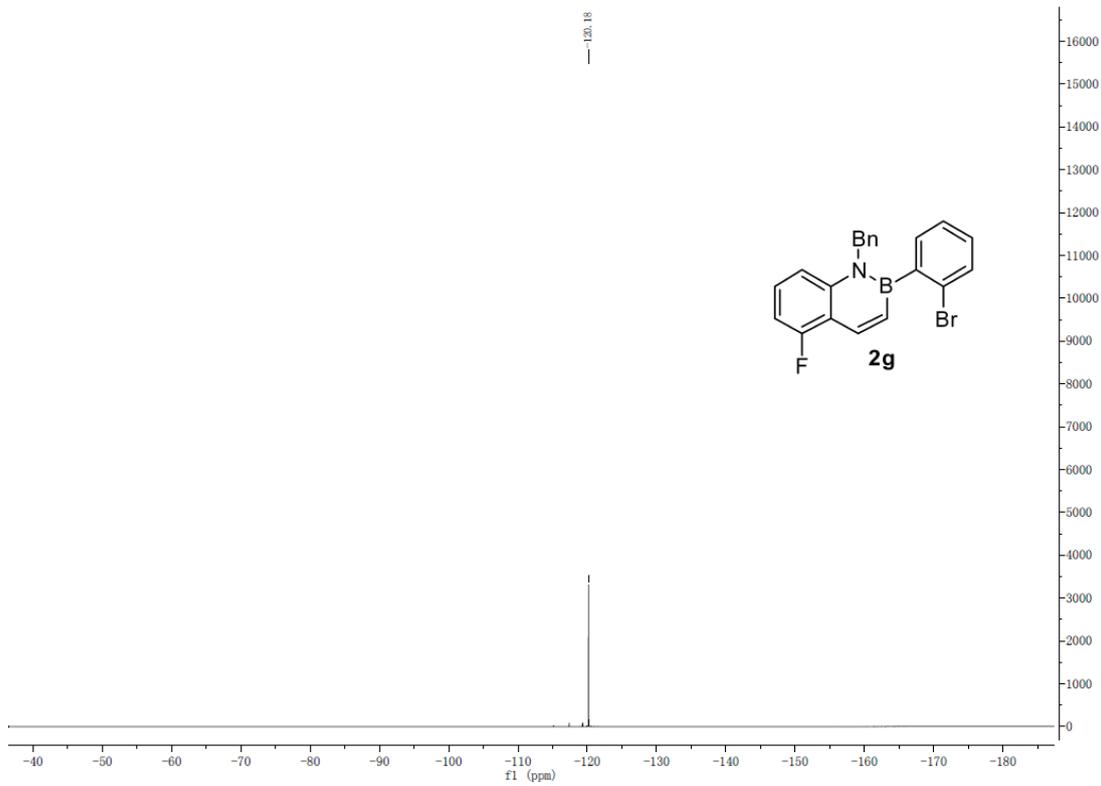
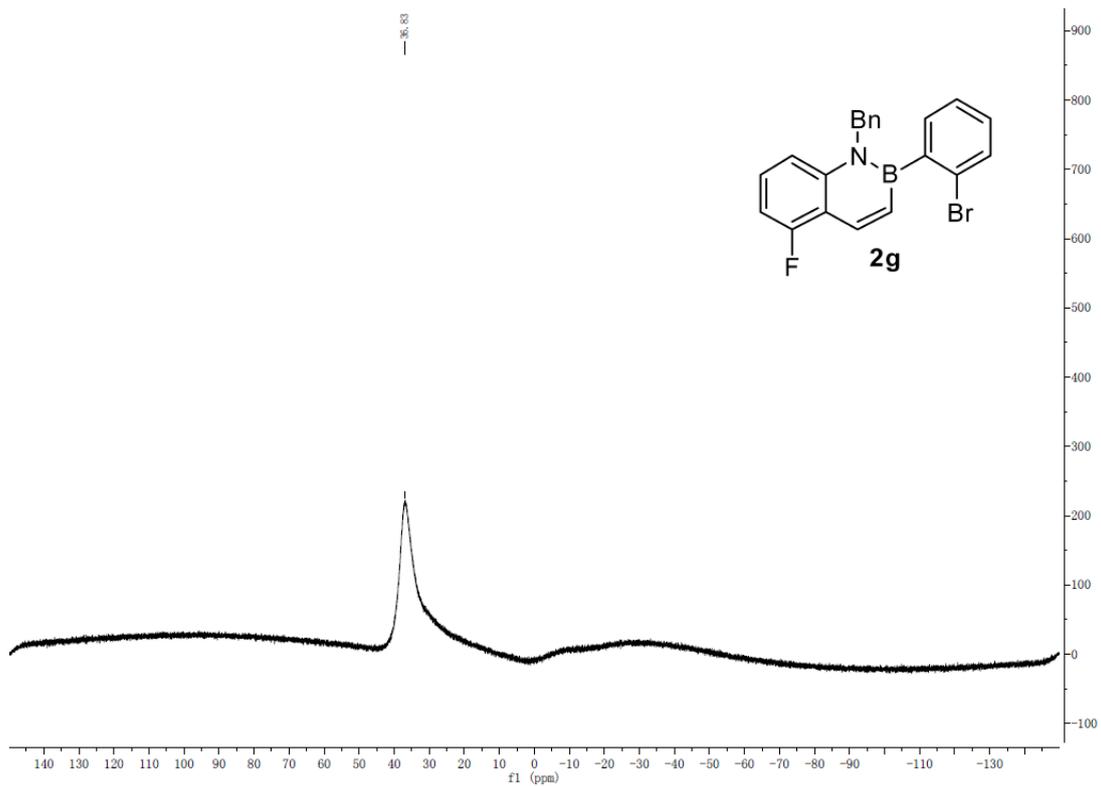


hlm-N-dingji #4309 RT: 18.85 AV: 1 NL: 8.32E7  
T: + c EI Full ms [50.00-800.00]

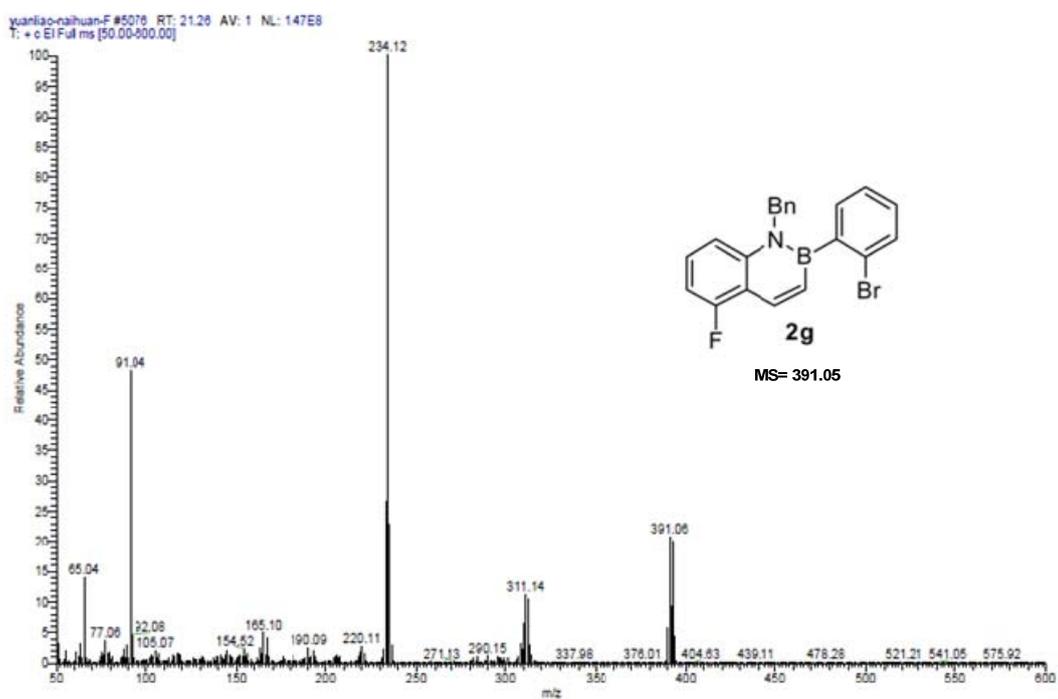
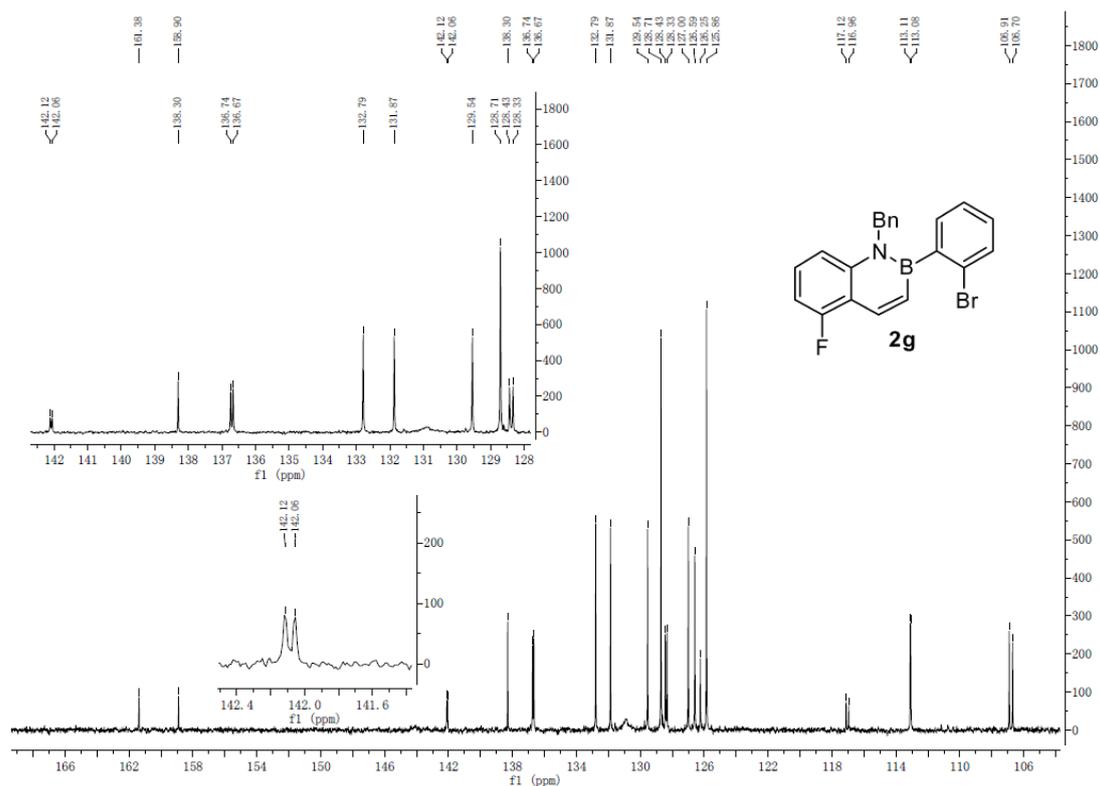






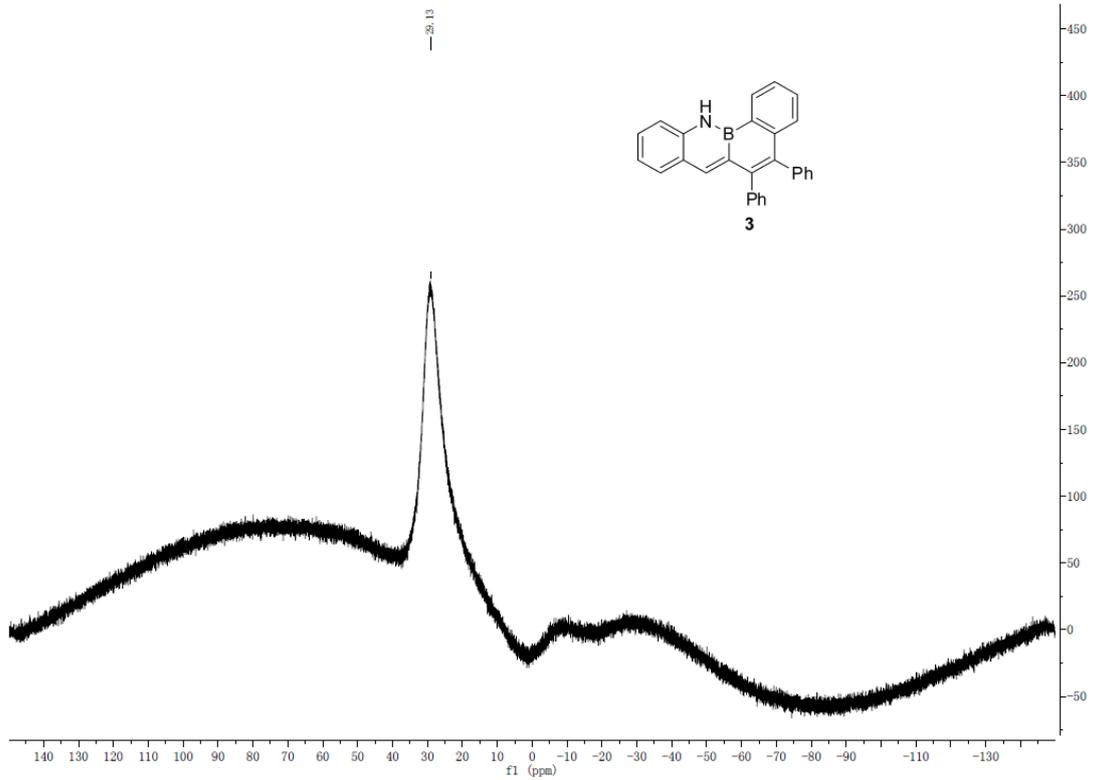
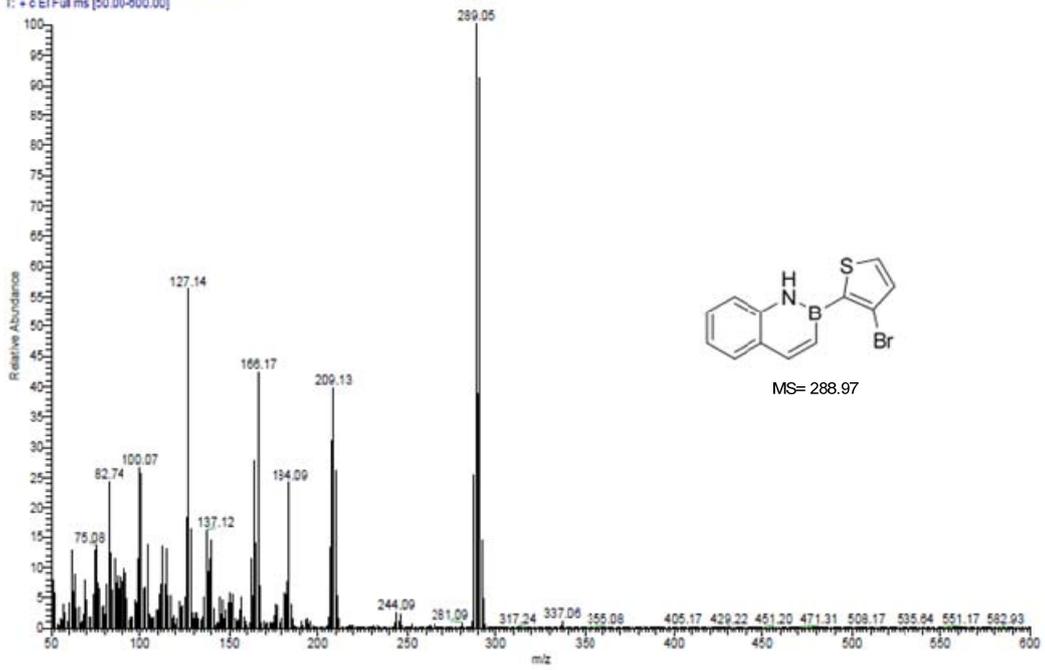


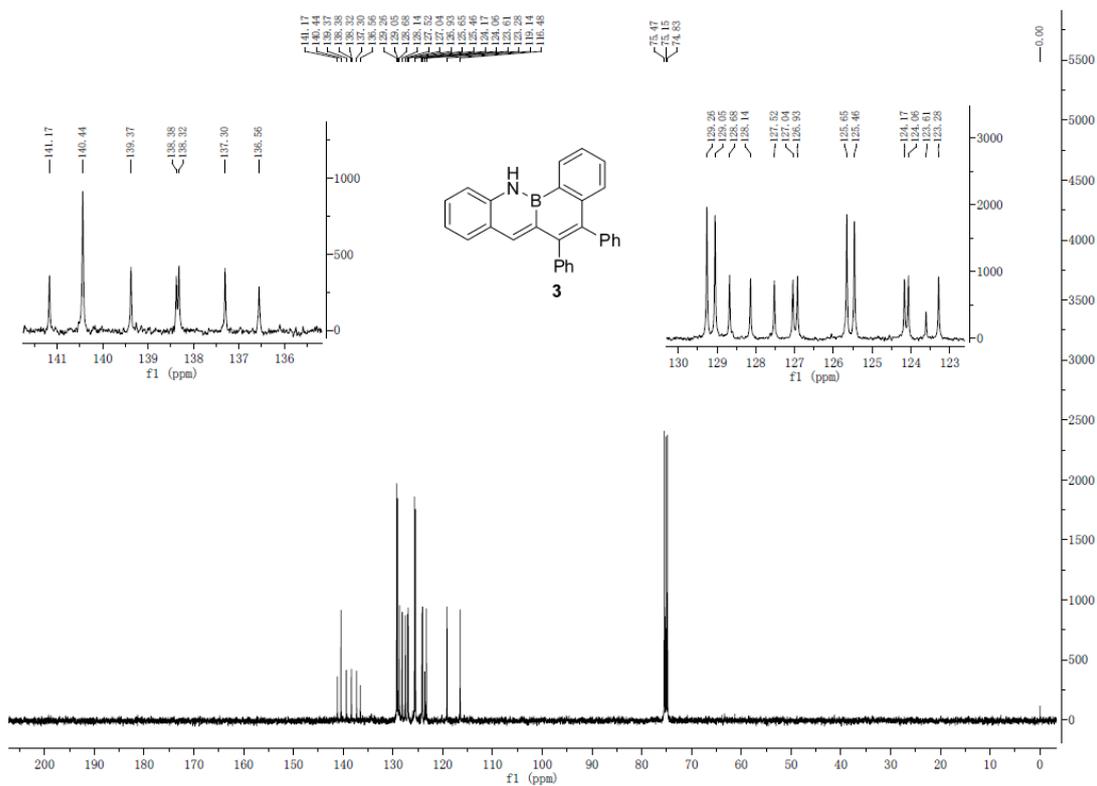
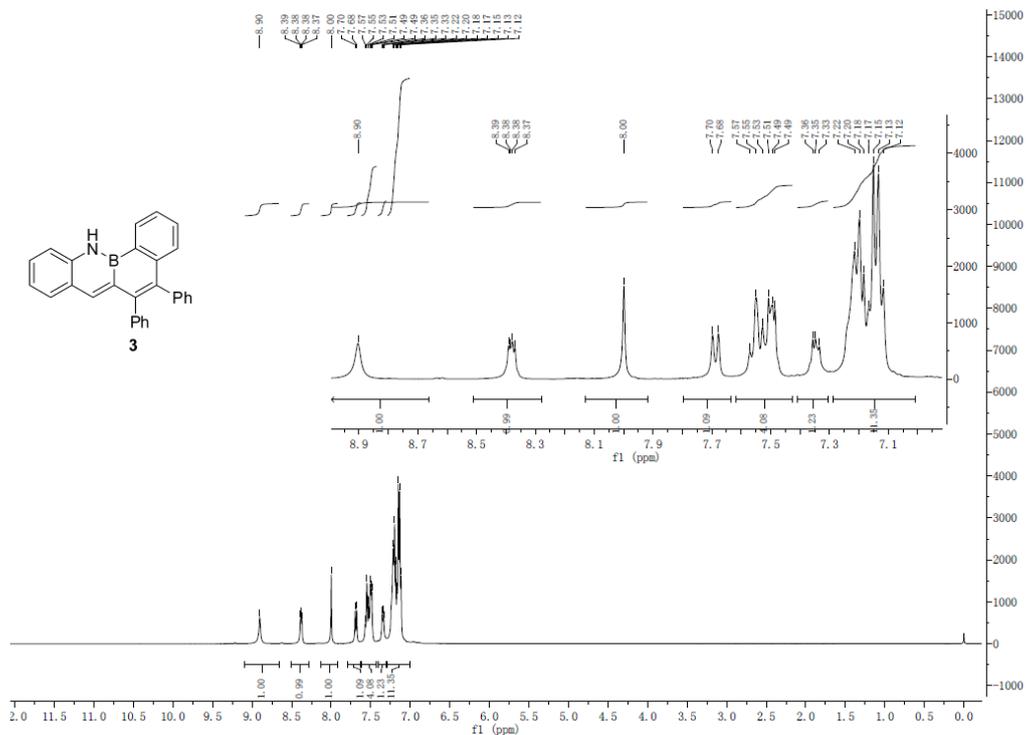


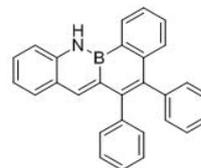
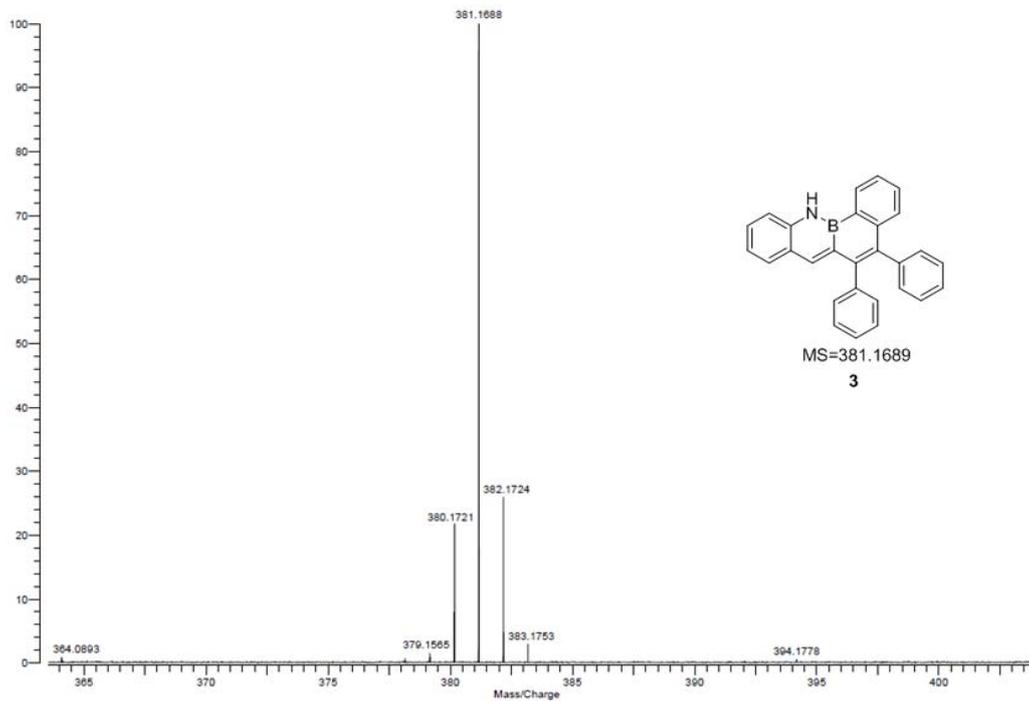




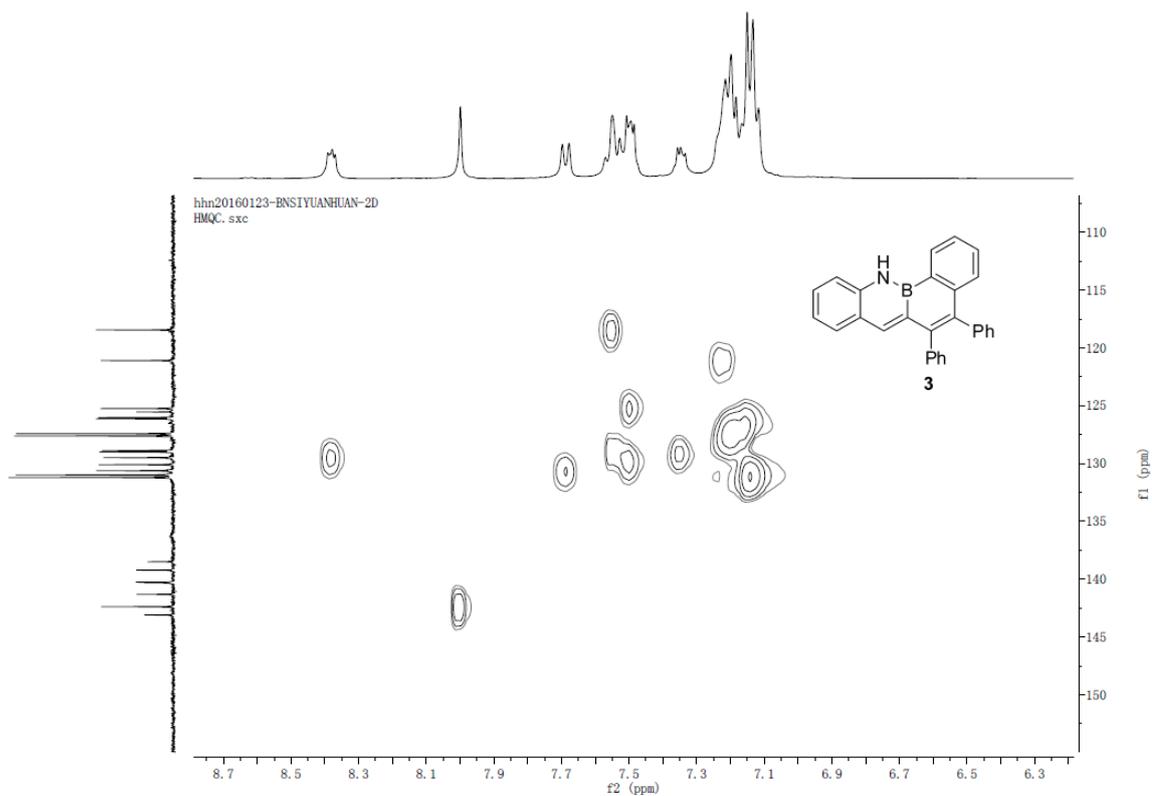
saifen #4036 RT: 17.72 AV: 1 NL: 2.05E7  
T: + c EI Full ms [50.00-600.00]

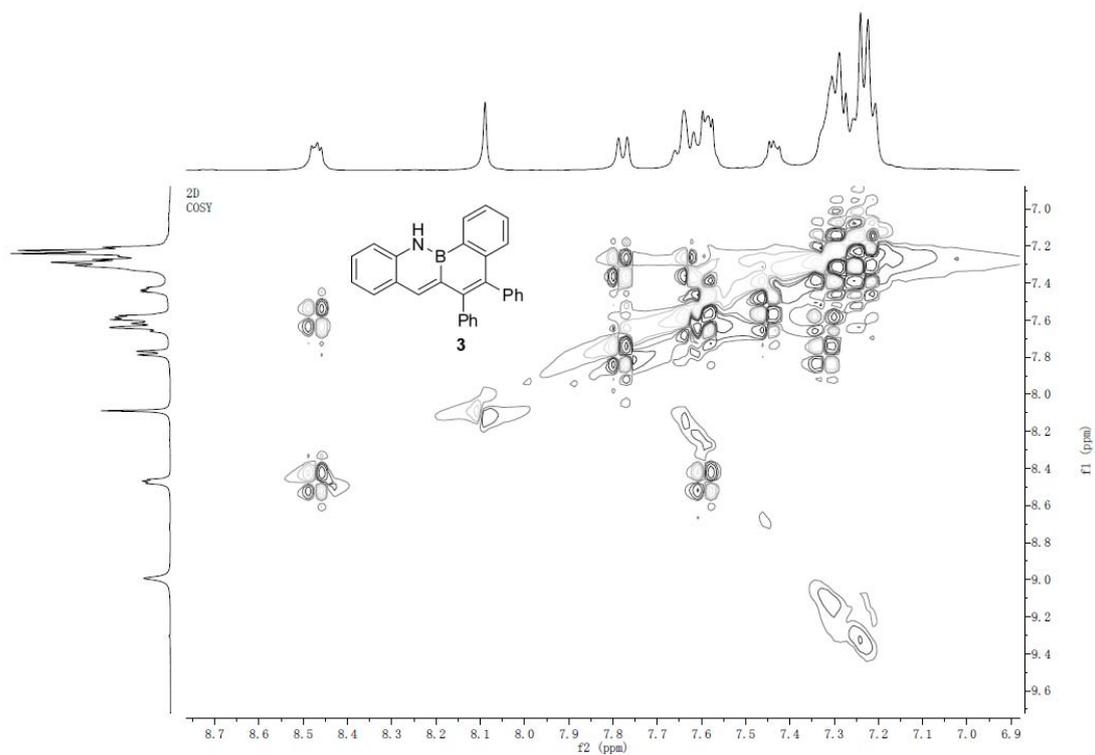
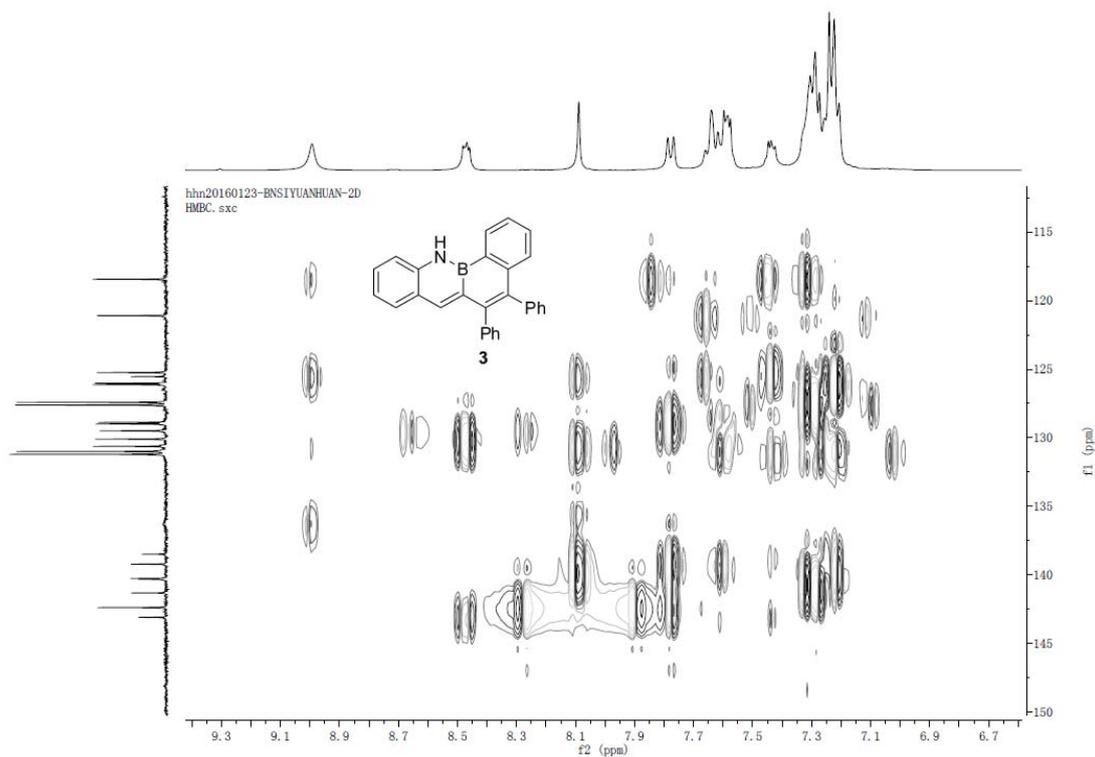


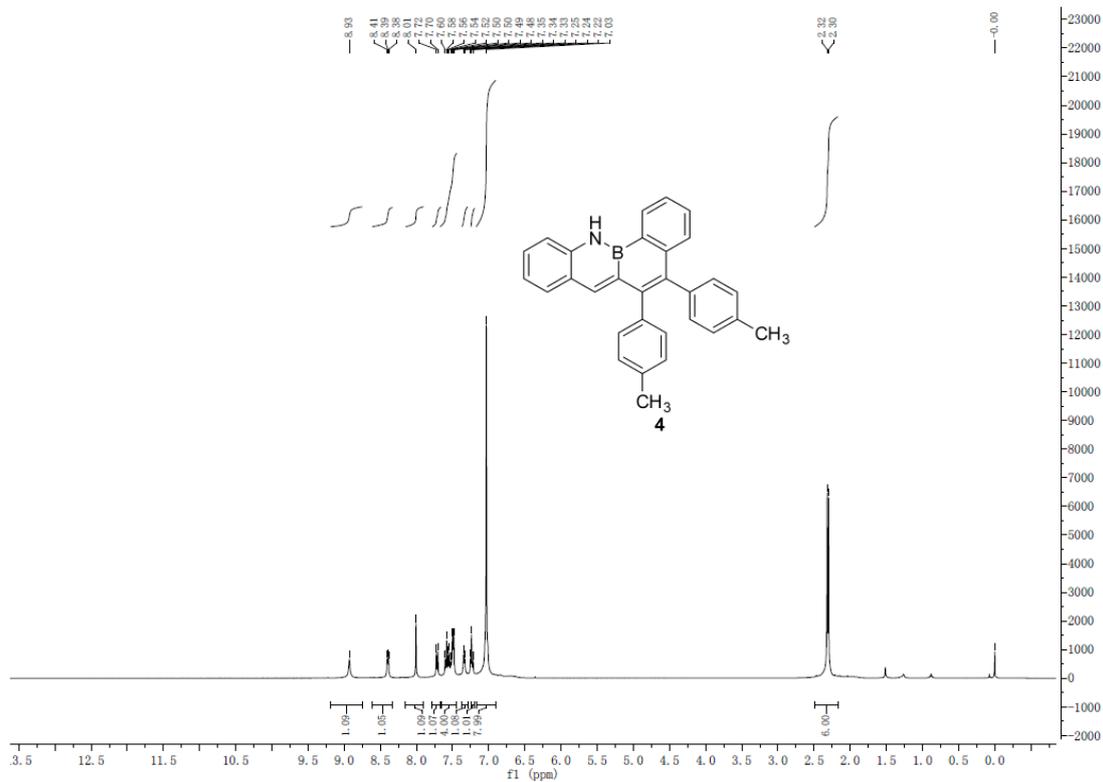
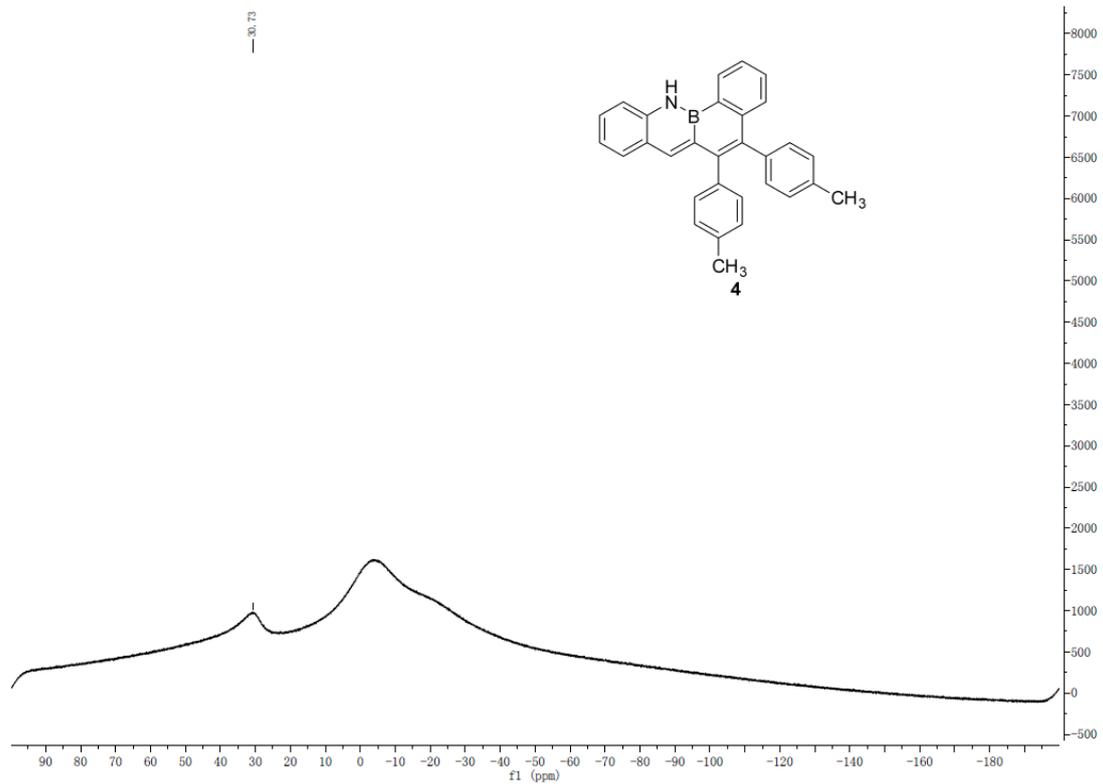




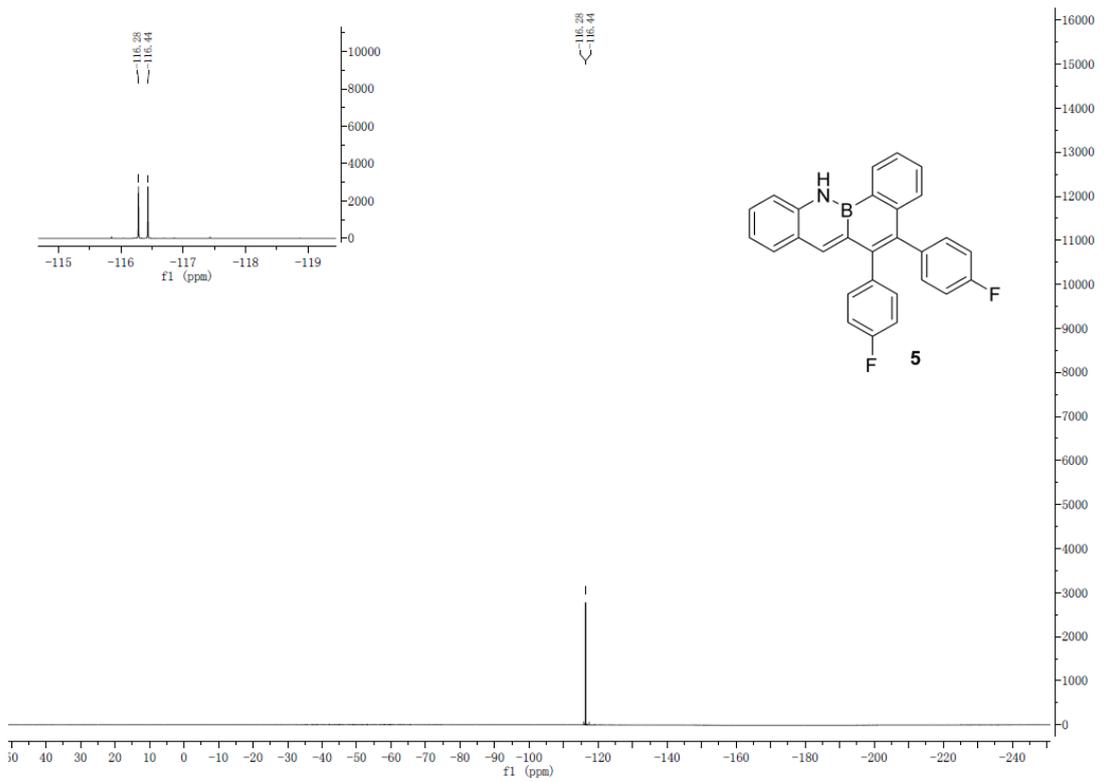
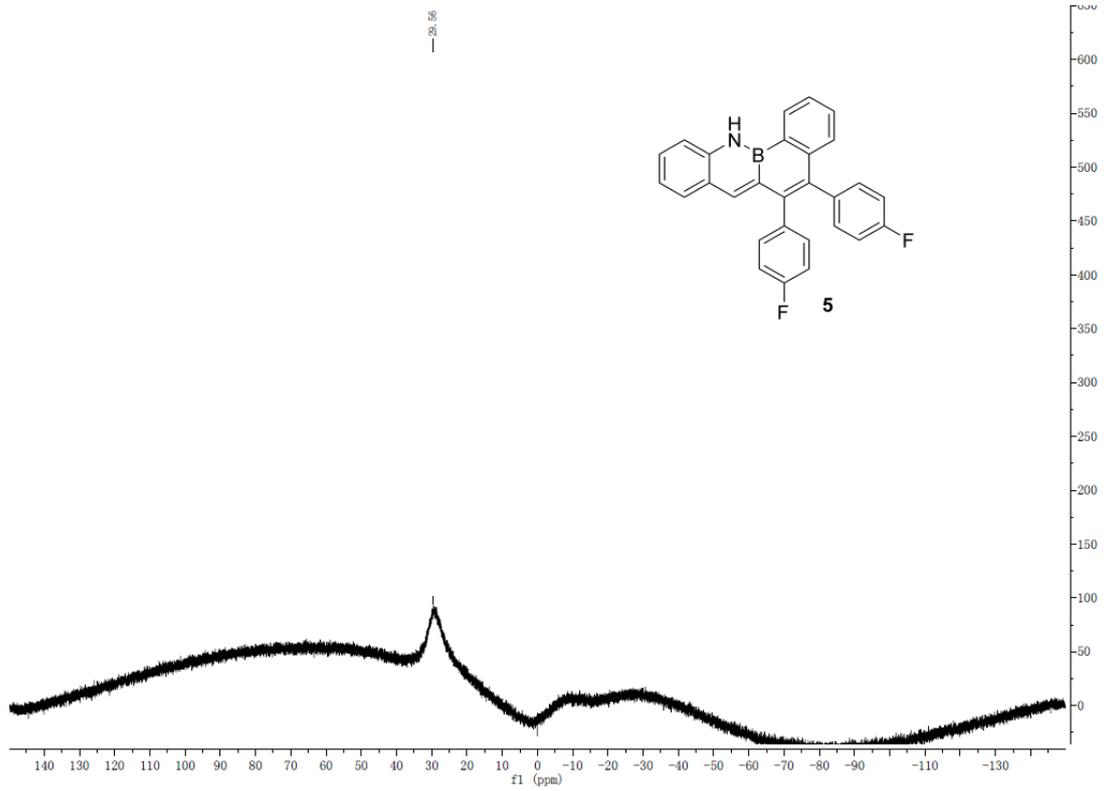
MS=381.1689  
3

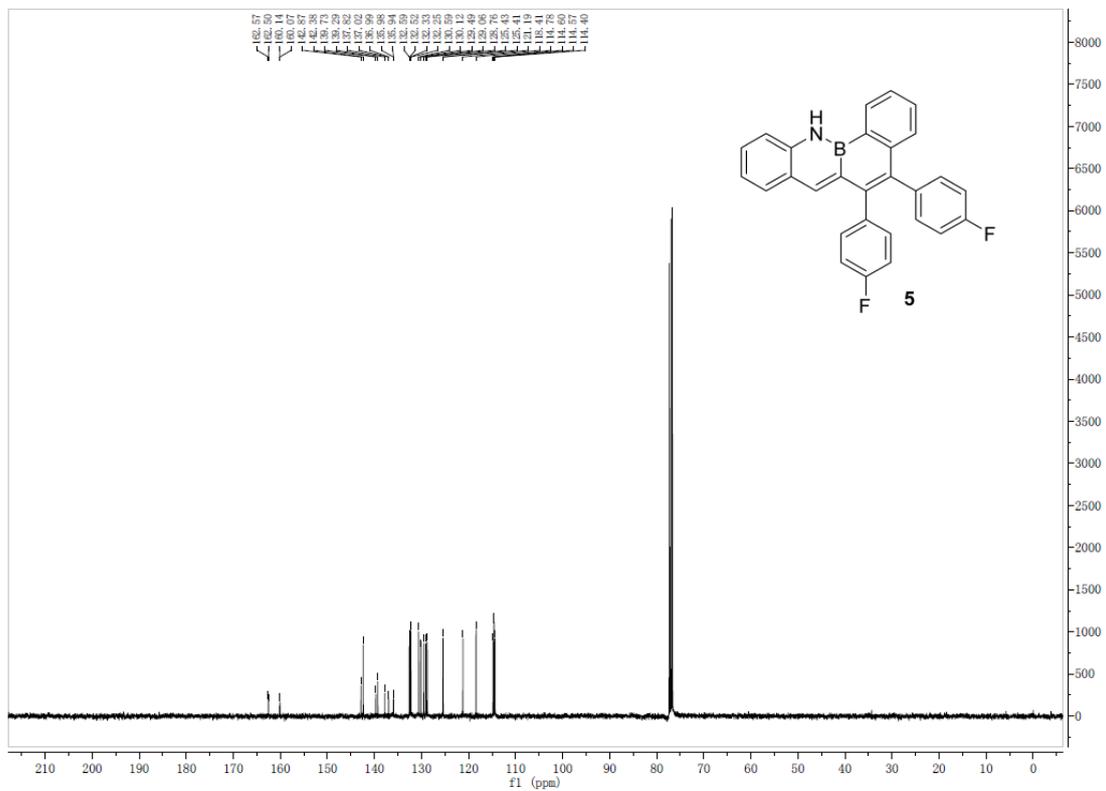
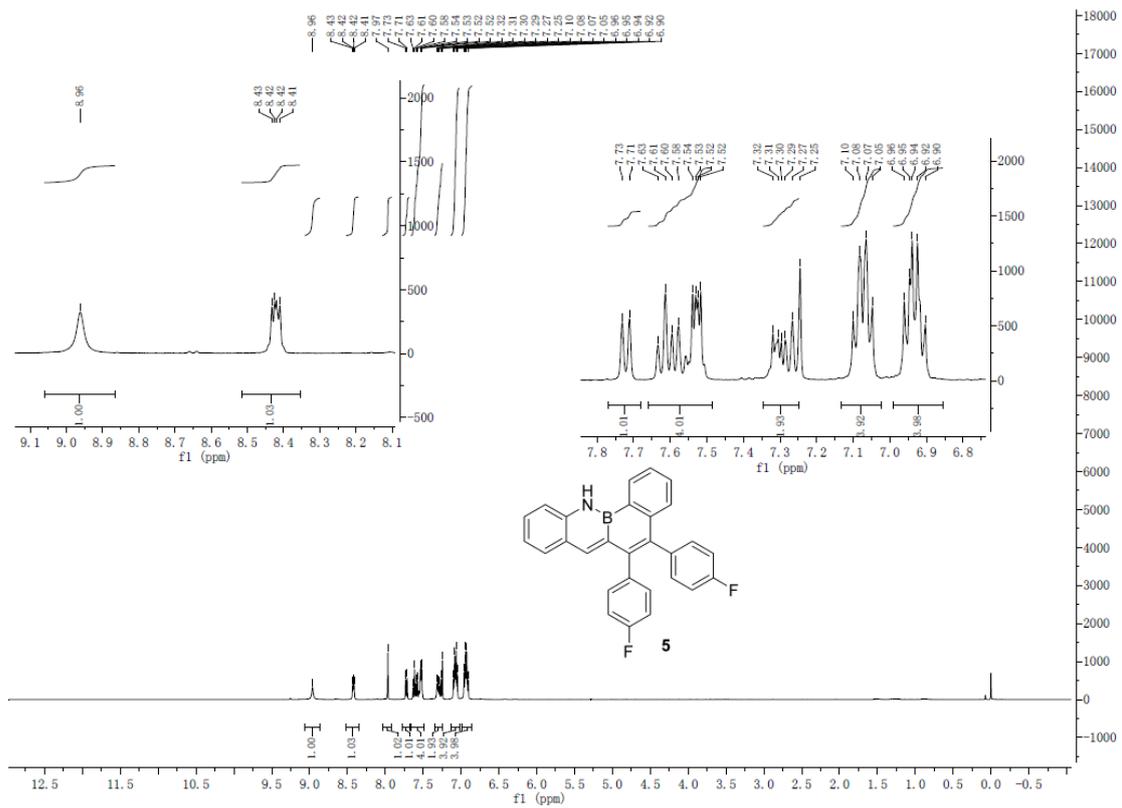


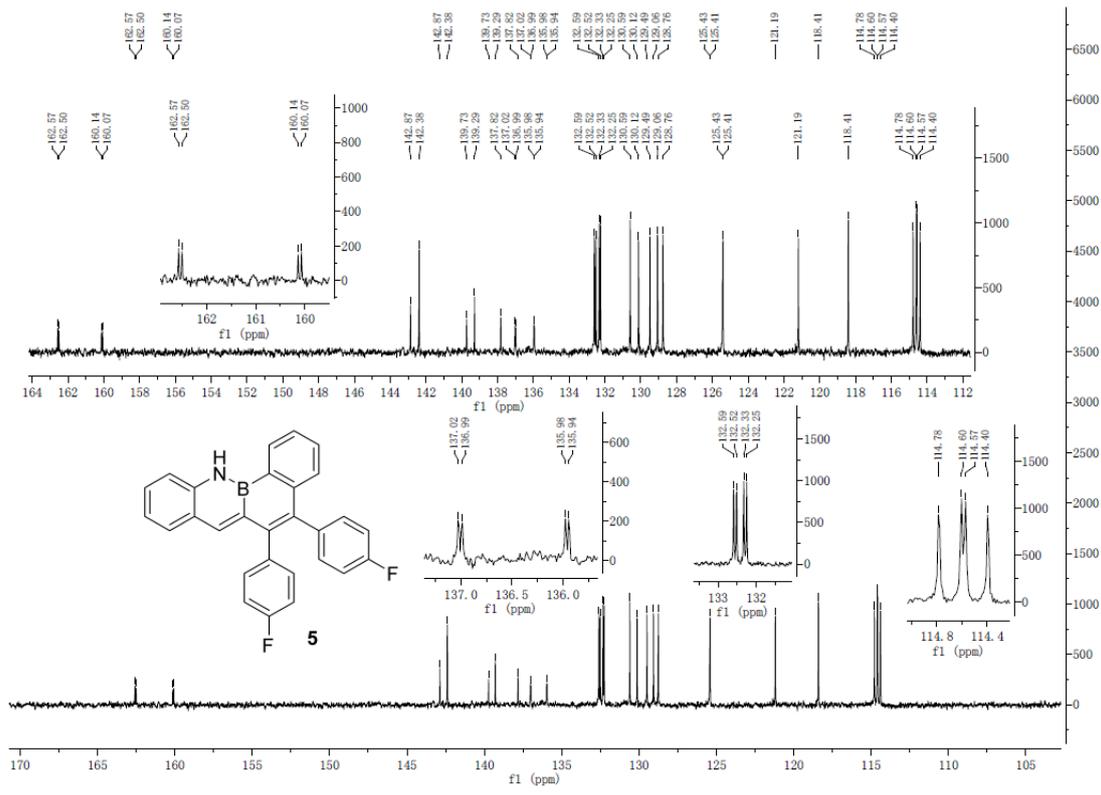






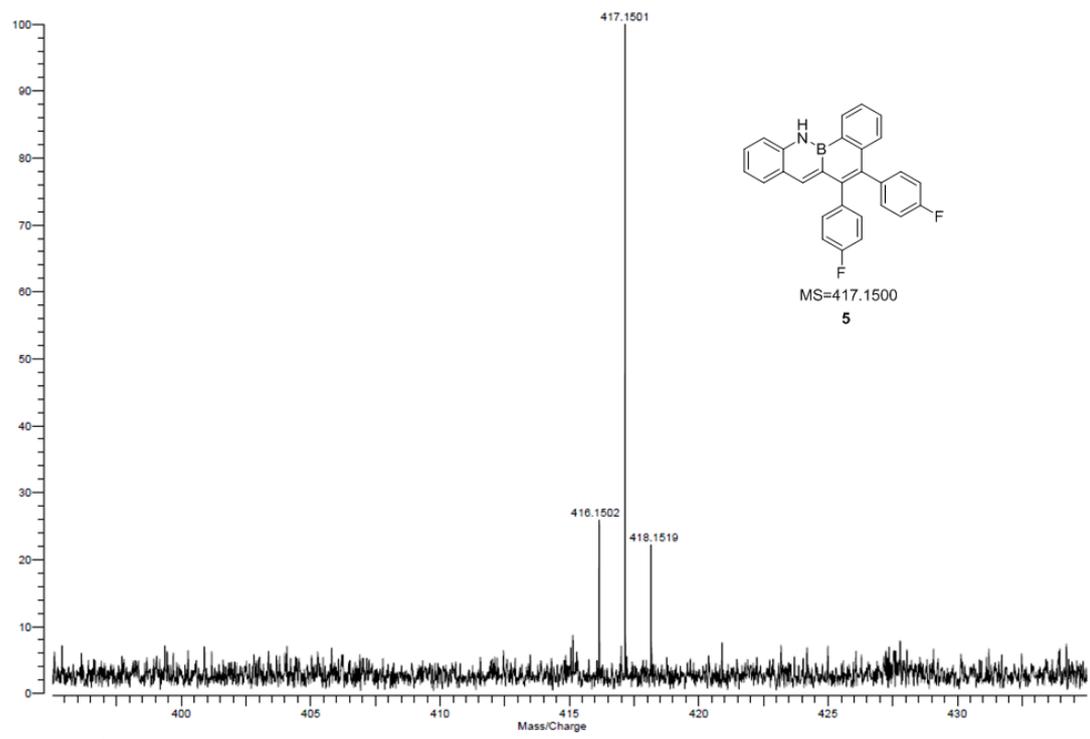


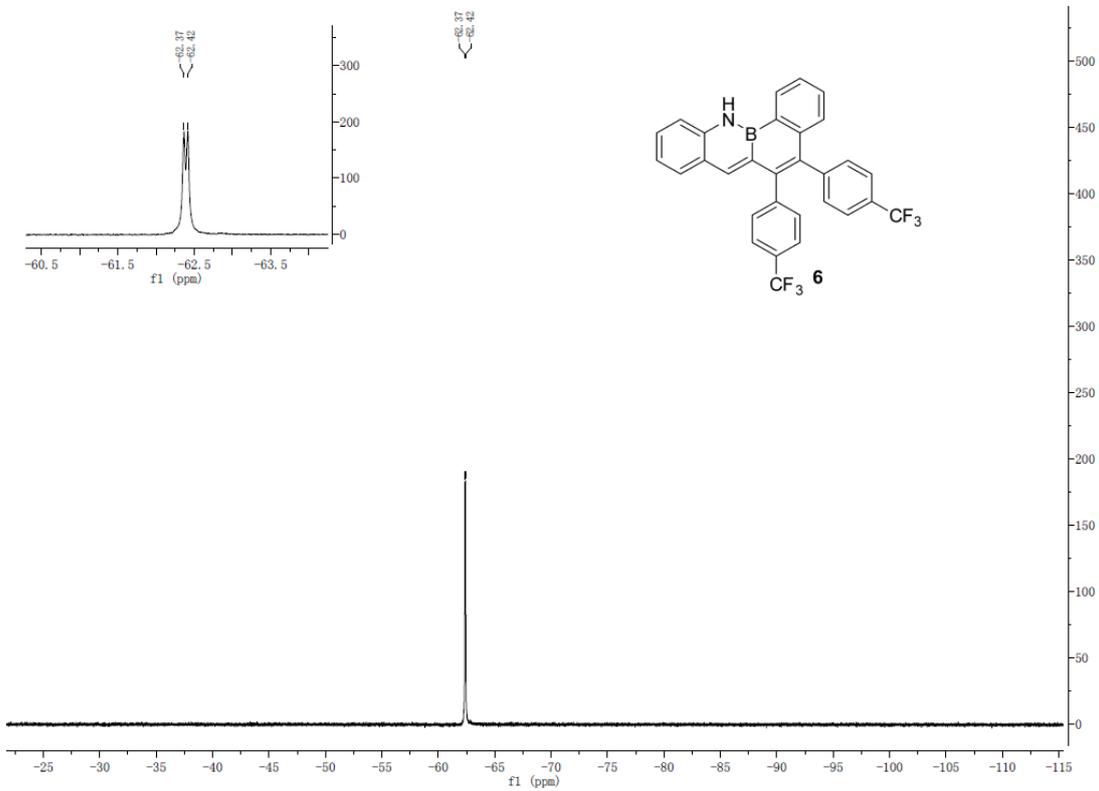
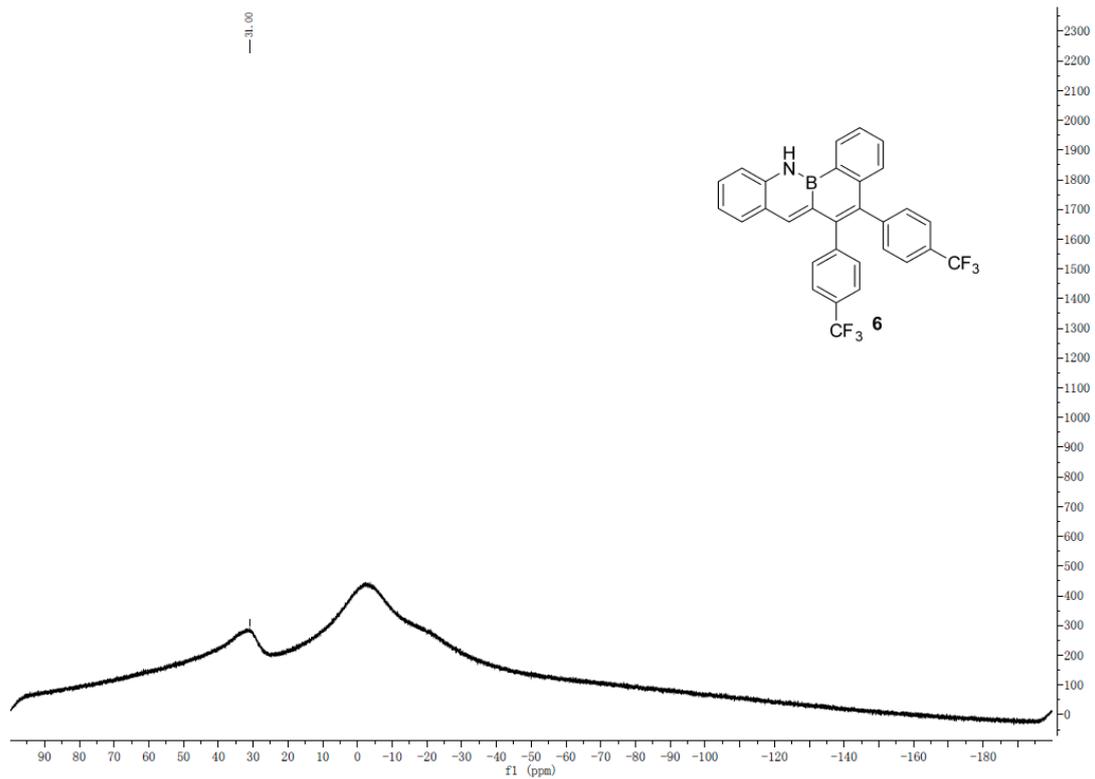




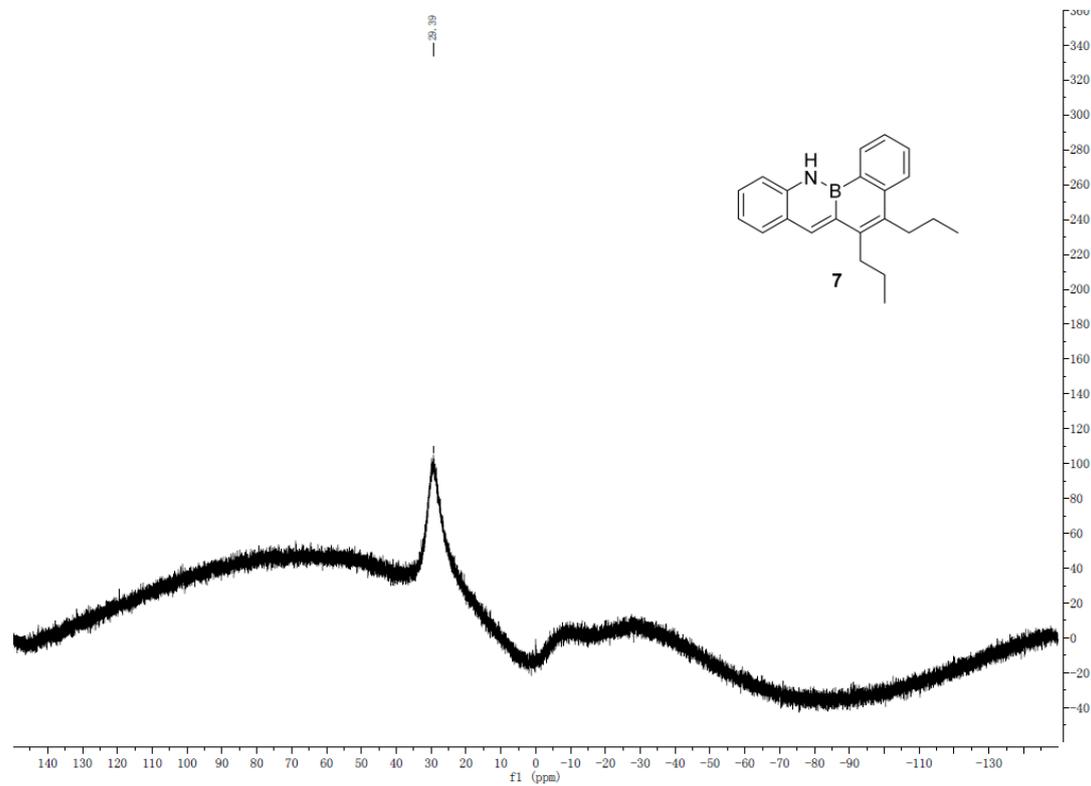
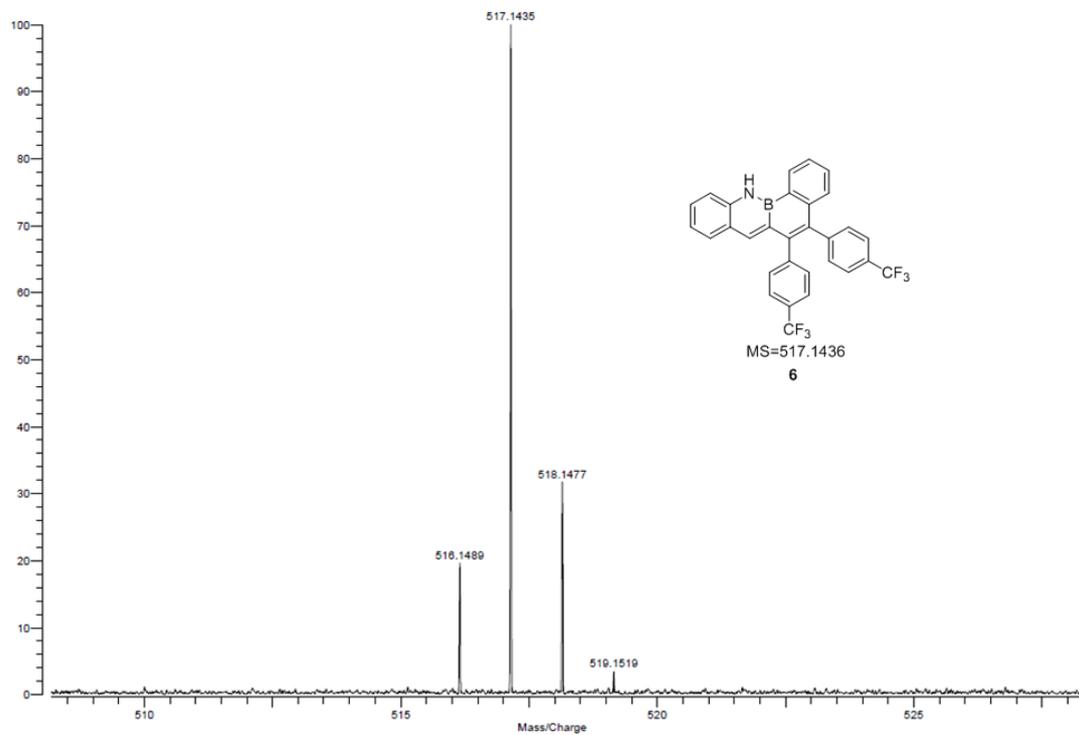
Varian ProMALDI  
File: HHN-201512-2\_MALDI.trans

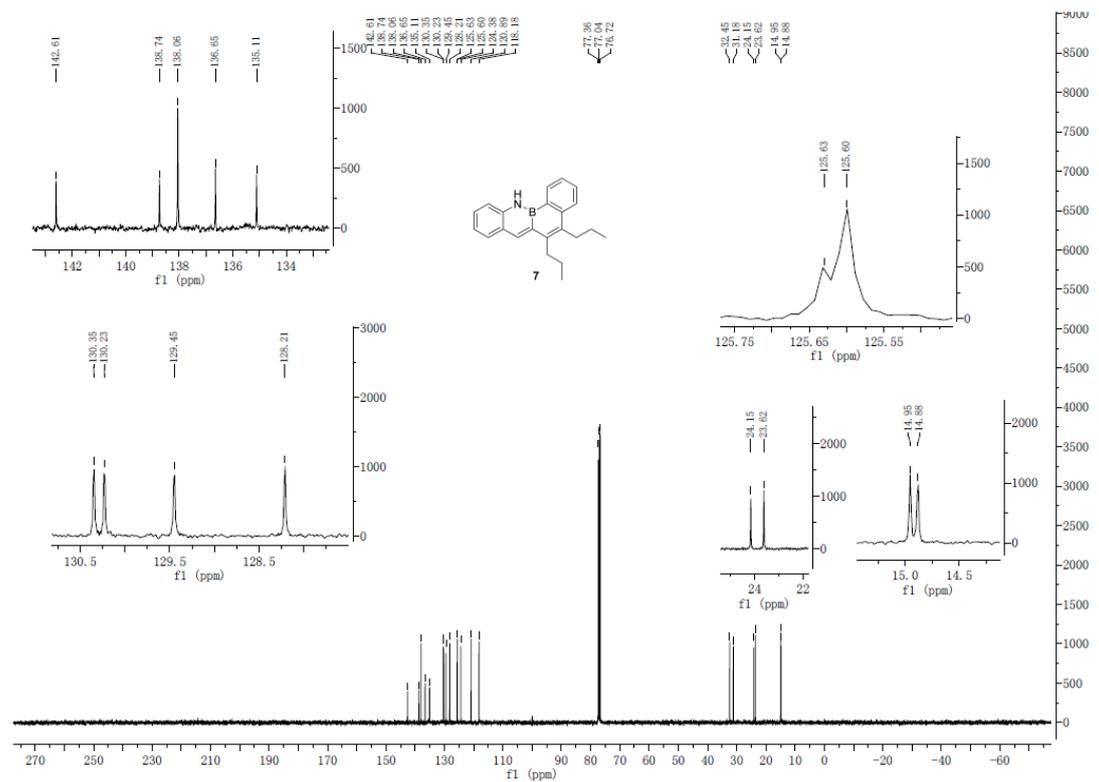
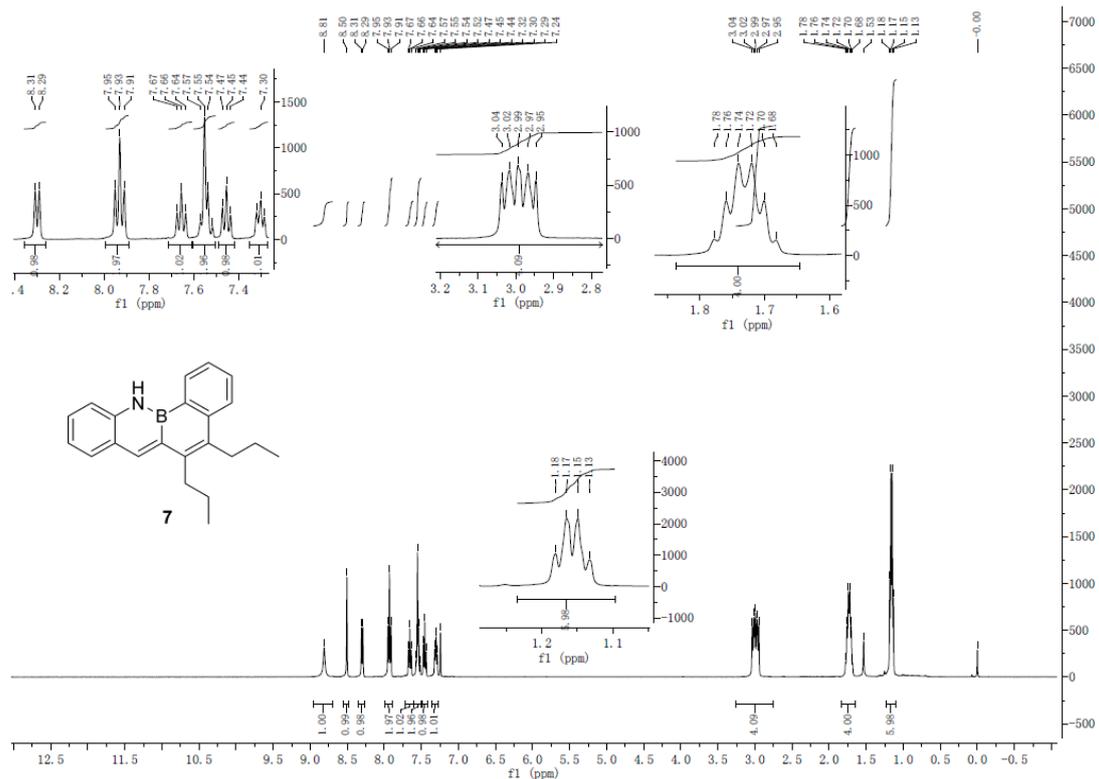
Mode: Positive Date: 12-MAY-2015  
Scans: 1 Time: 19:50:00  
Scale: 88.7721

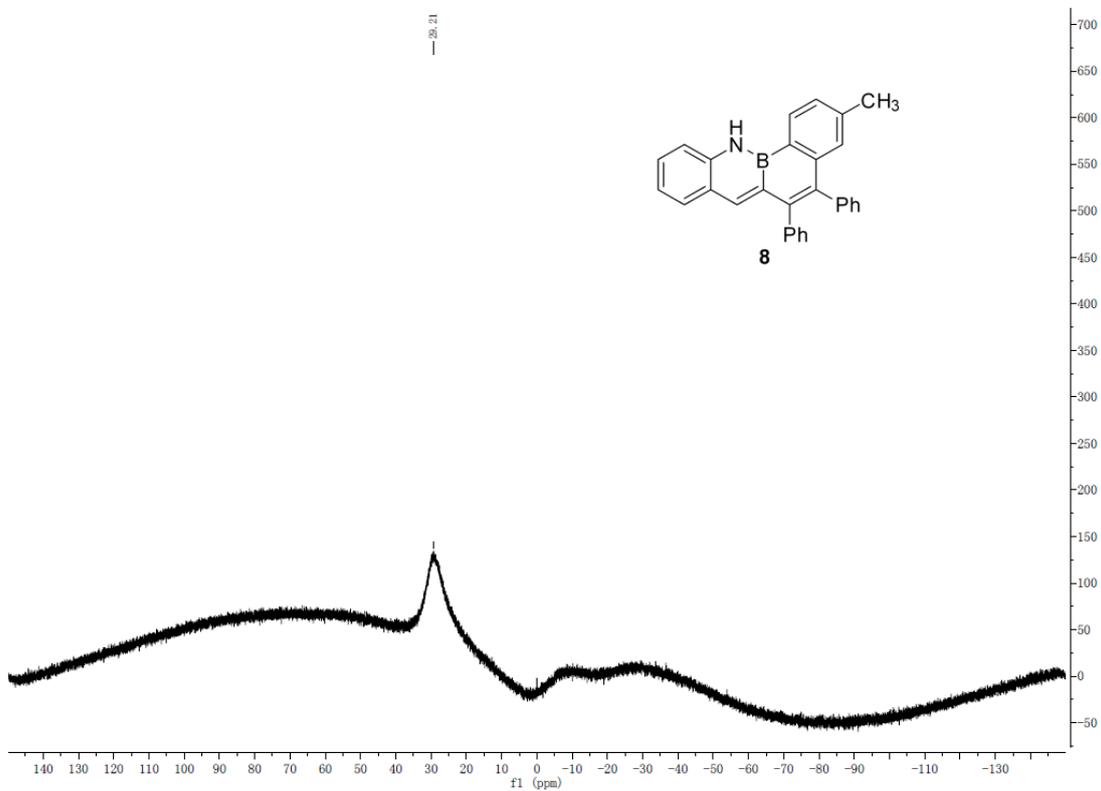
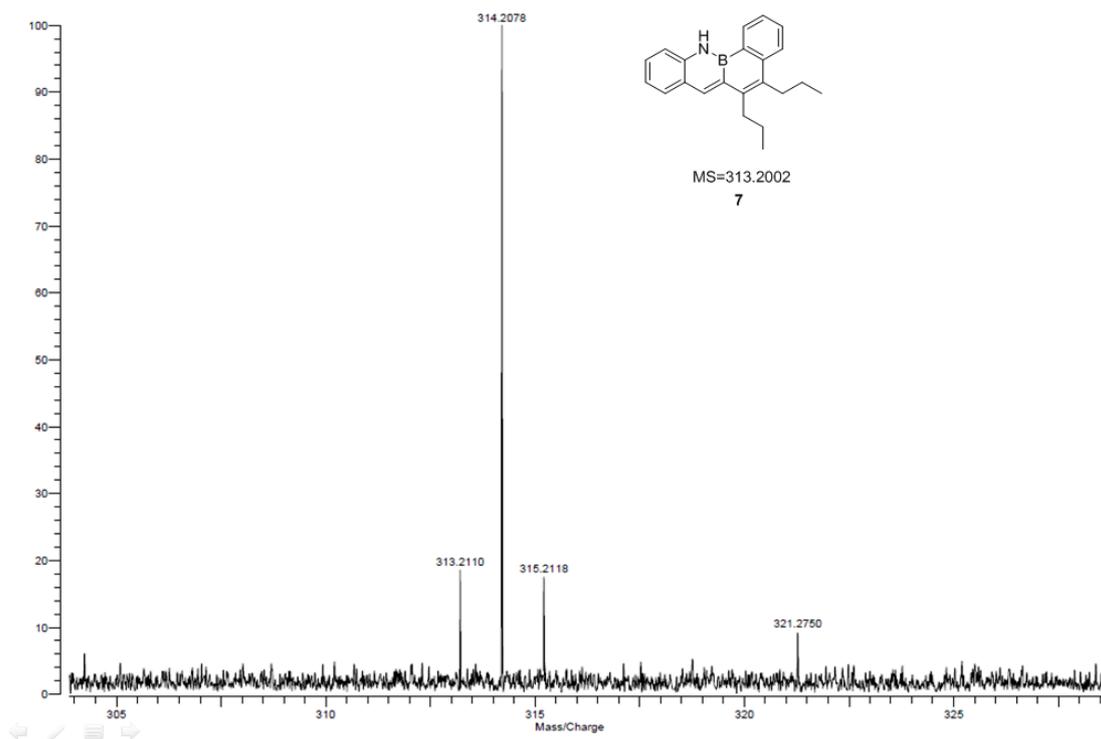




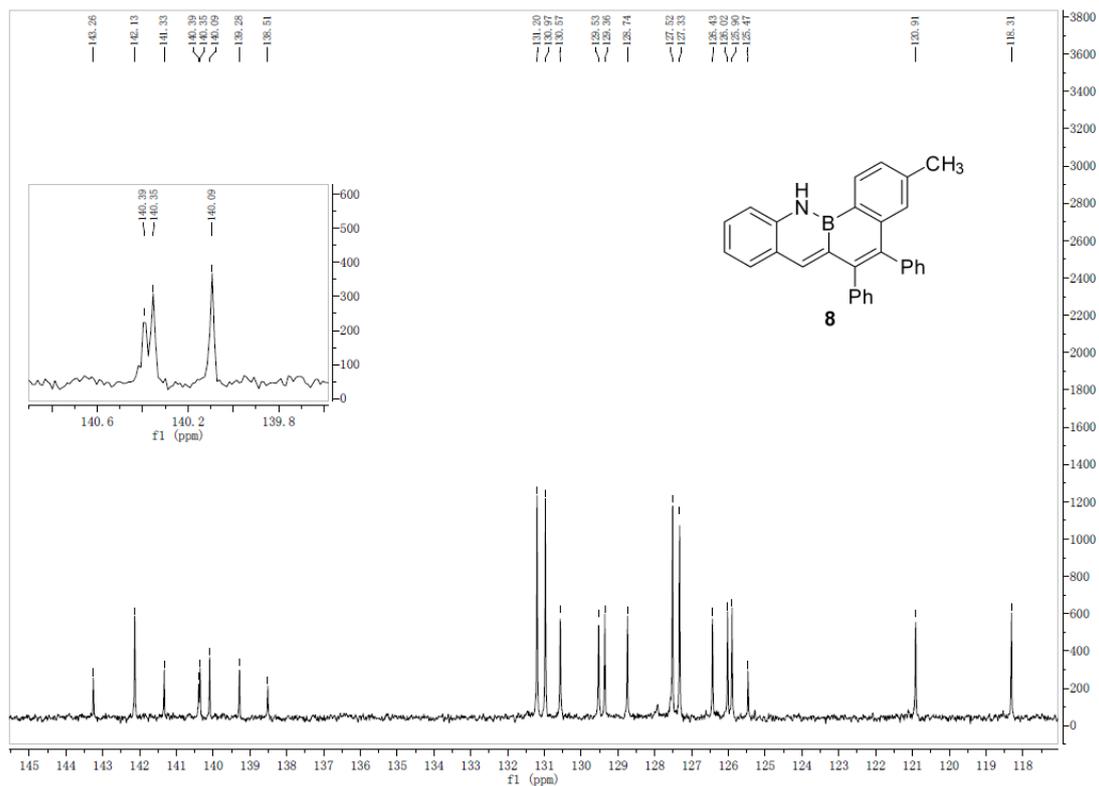






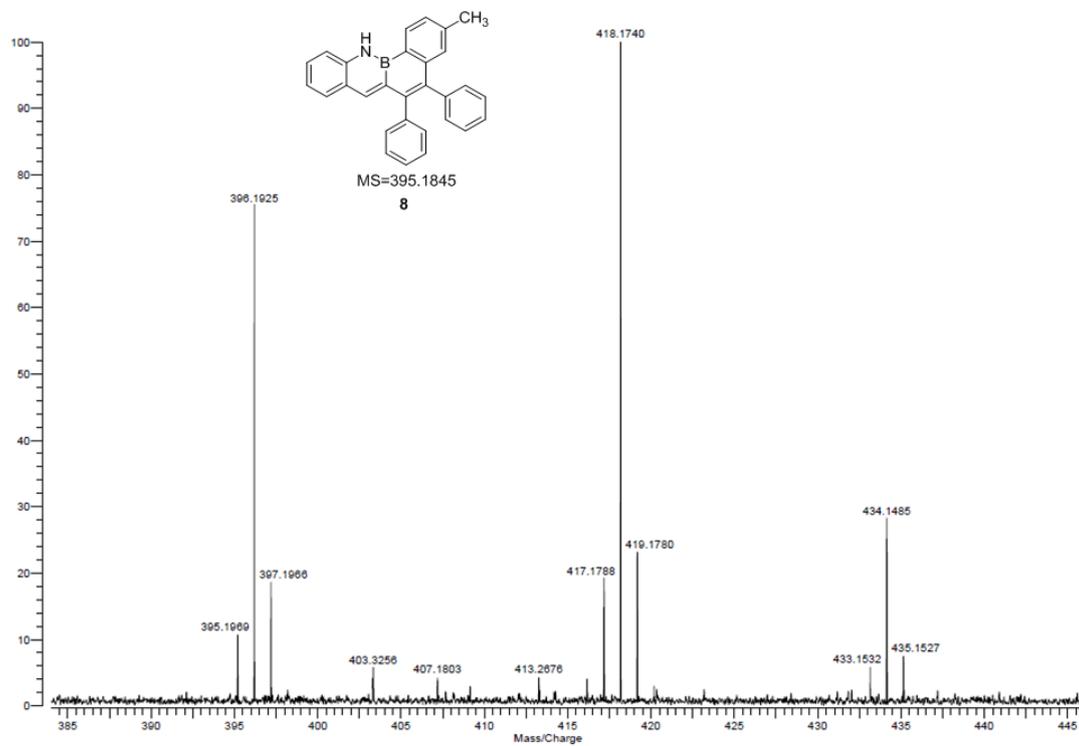


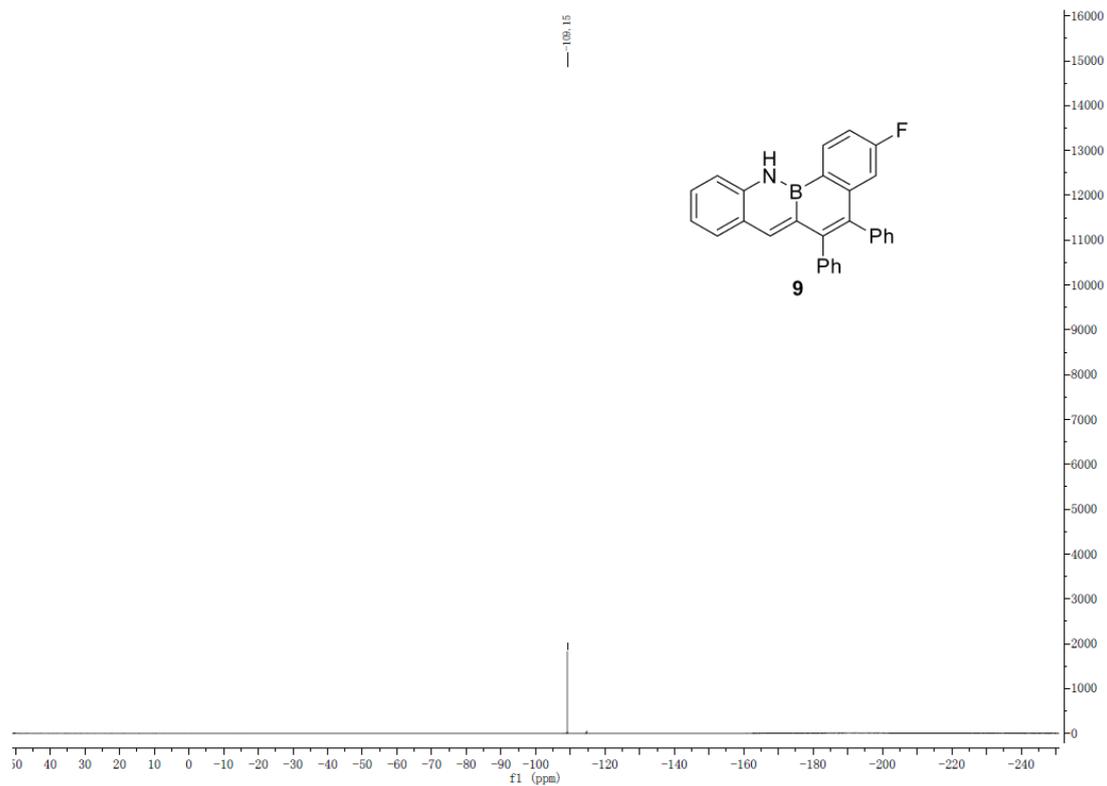
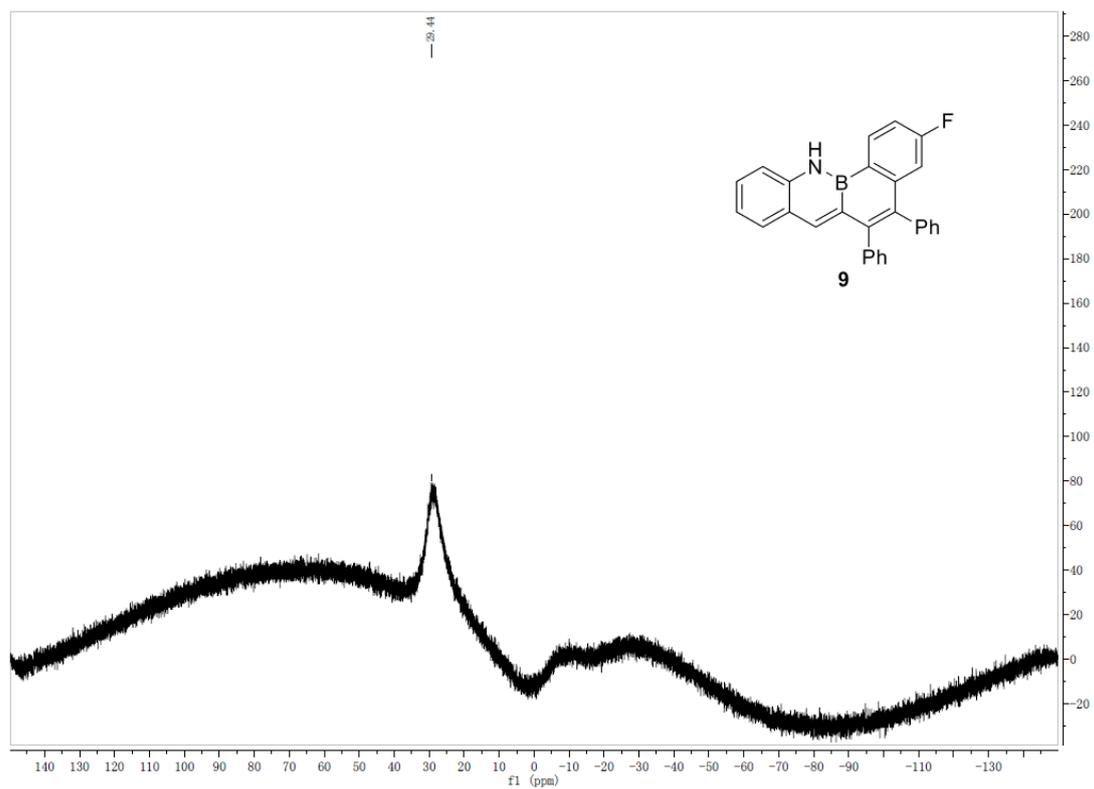


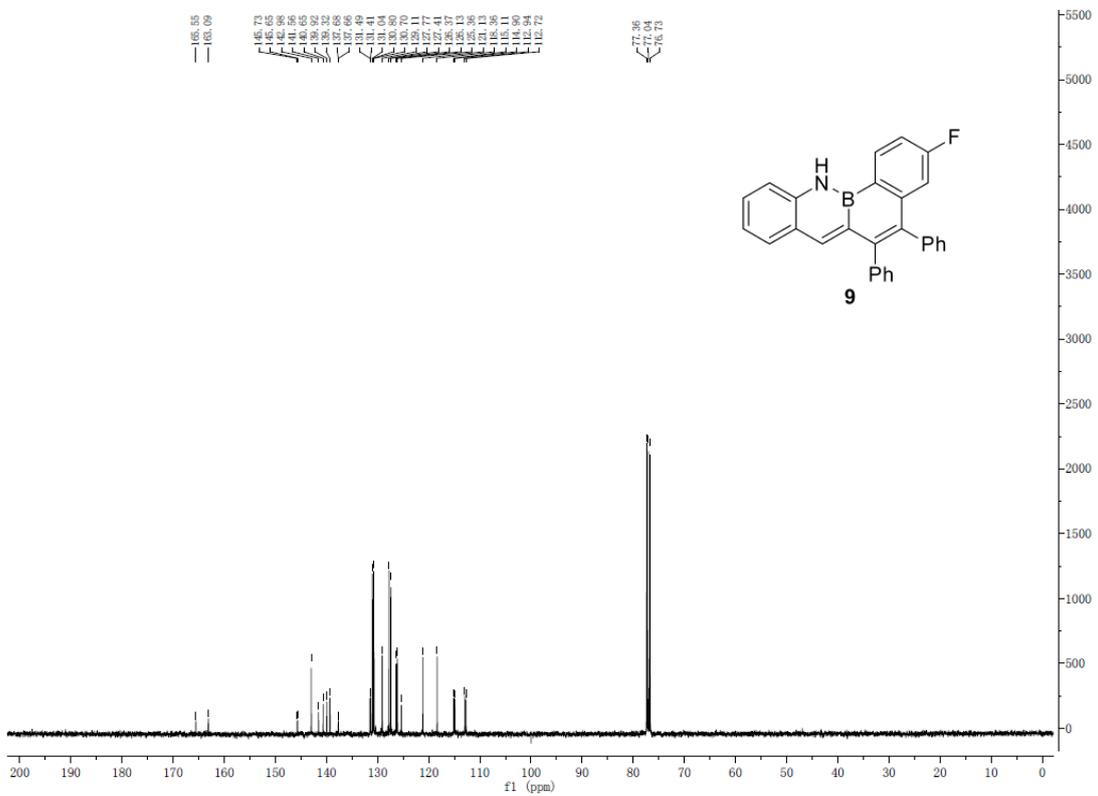
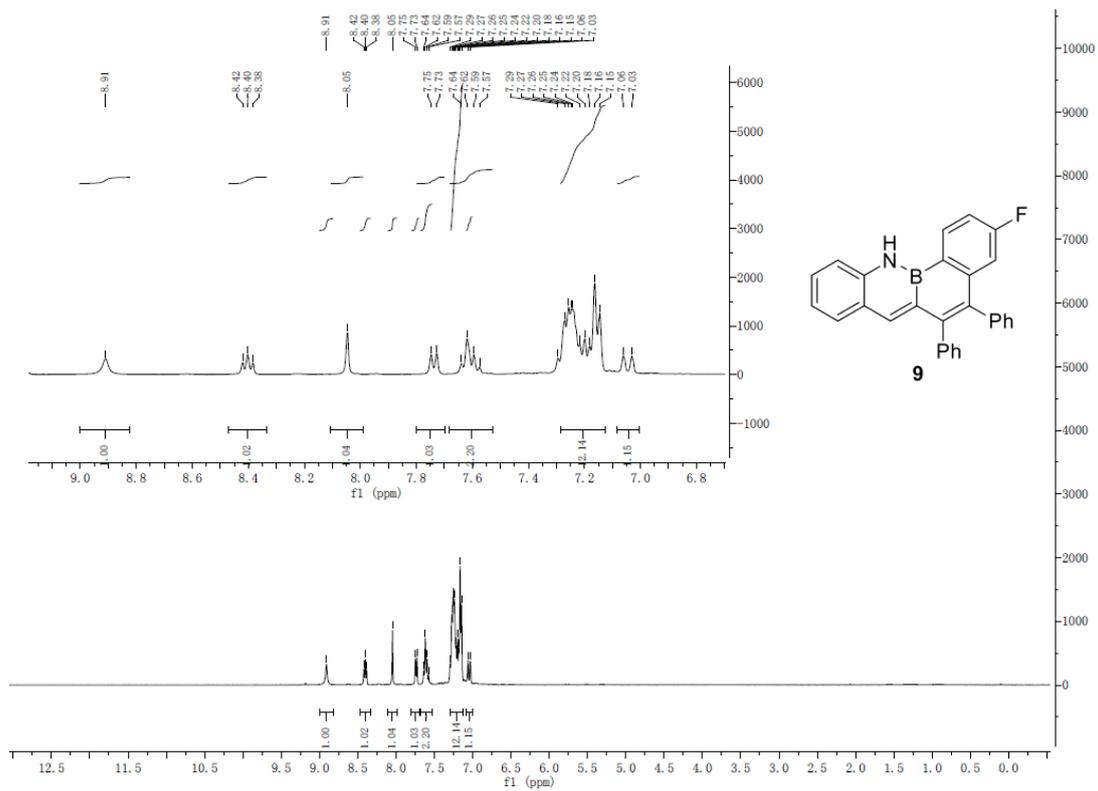


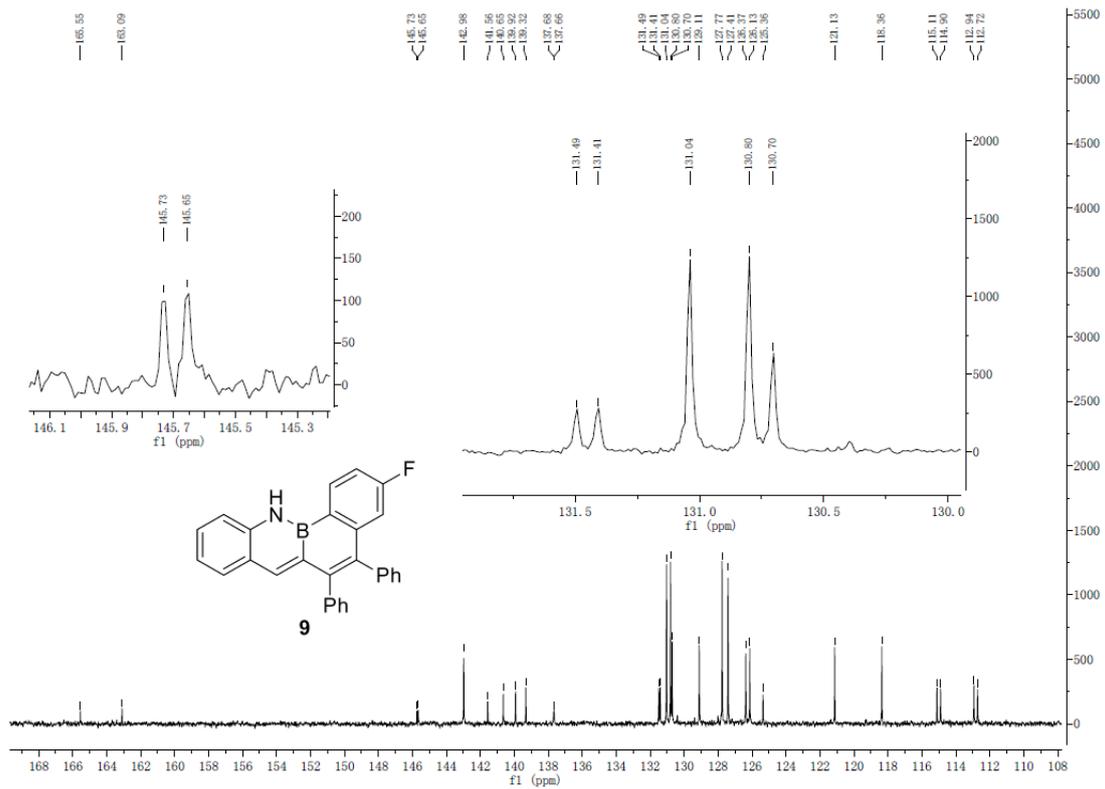
Varian QFT-ESI  
File: HHN-9\_ESI.trans

Mode: Positive  
Scans: 1  
Date: 08-MAY-2015  
Time: 15:08:10  
Scale: 20.7880



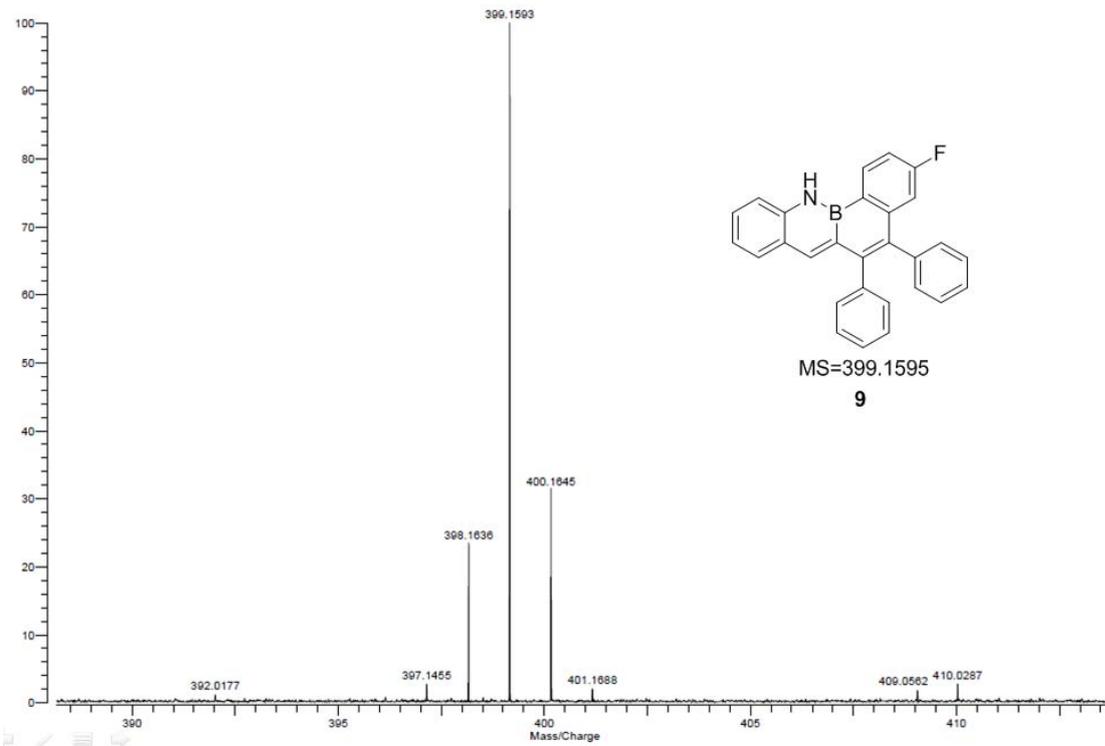






Varian ProMALDI  
File: HHN-201512-6\_MALDI.trans

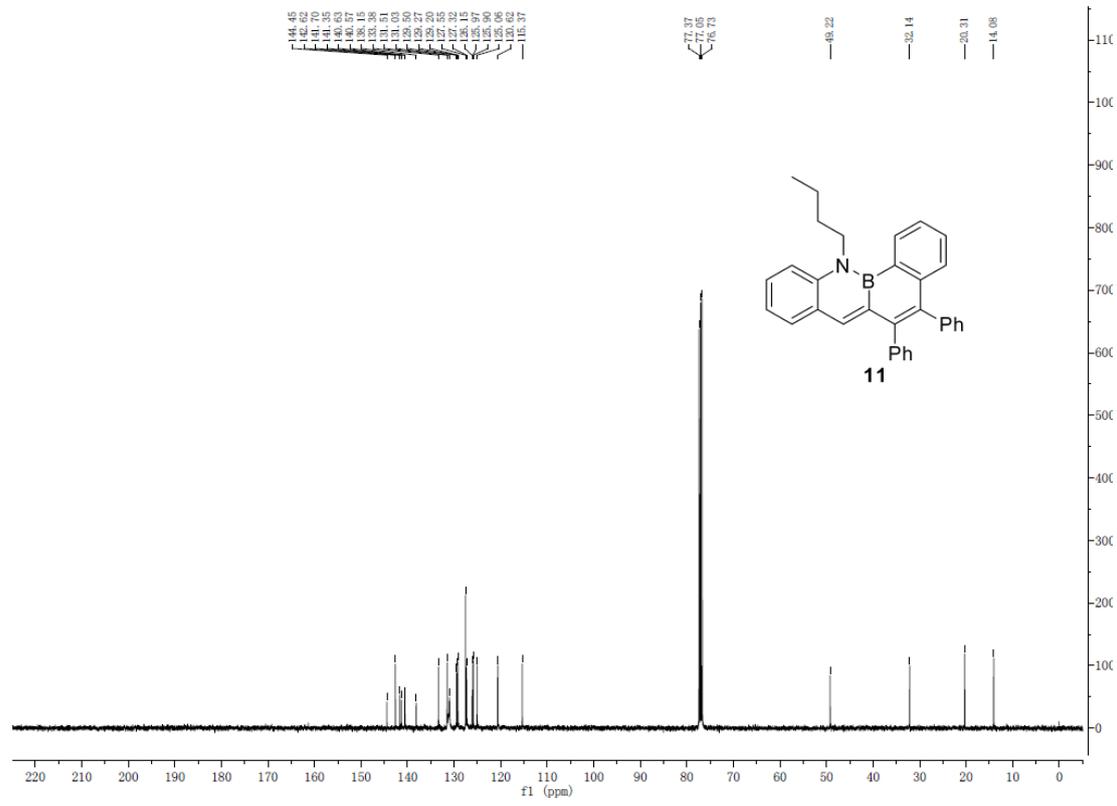
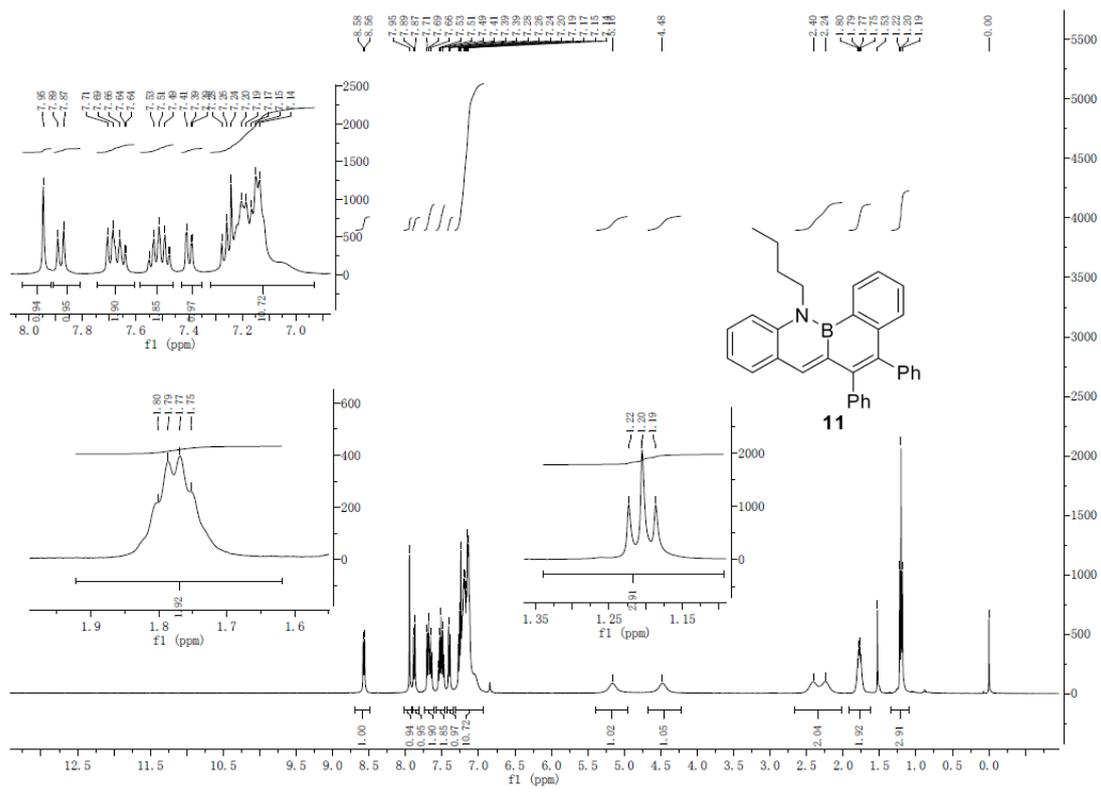
Mode: Positive  
Scans: 1  
Date: 12-MAY-2015  
Time: 19:57:34  
Scale: 6.5138

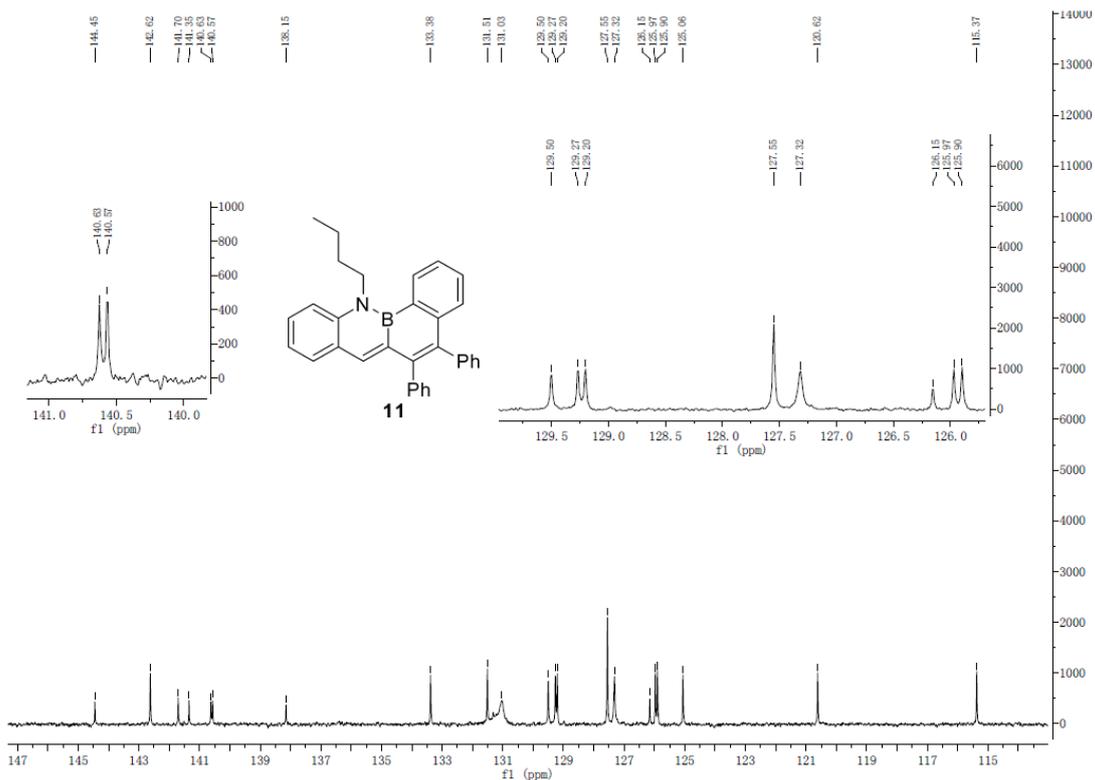






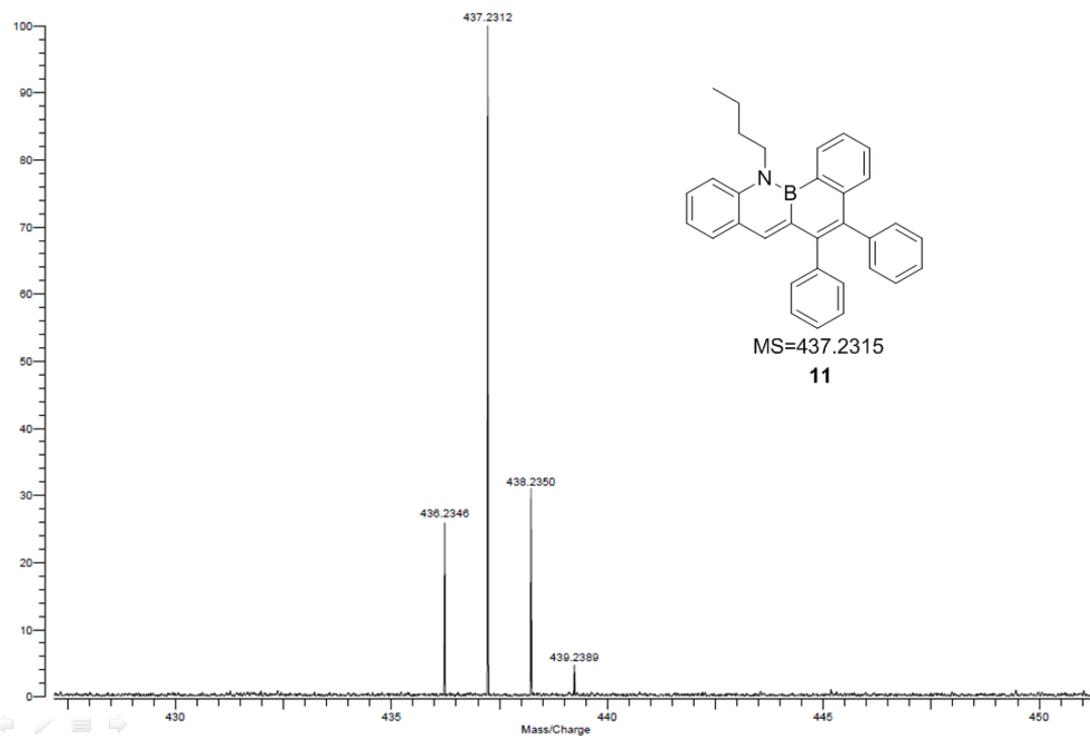


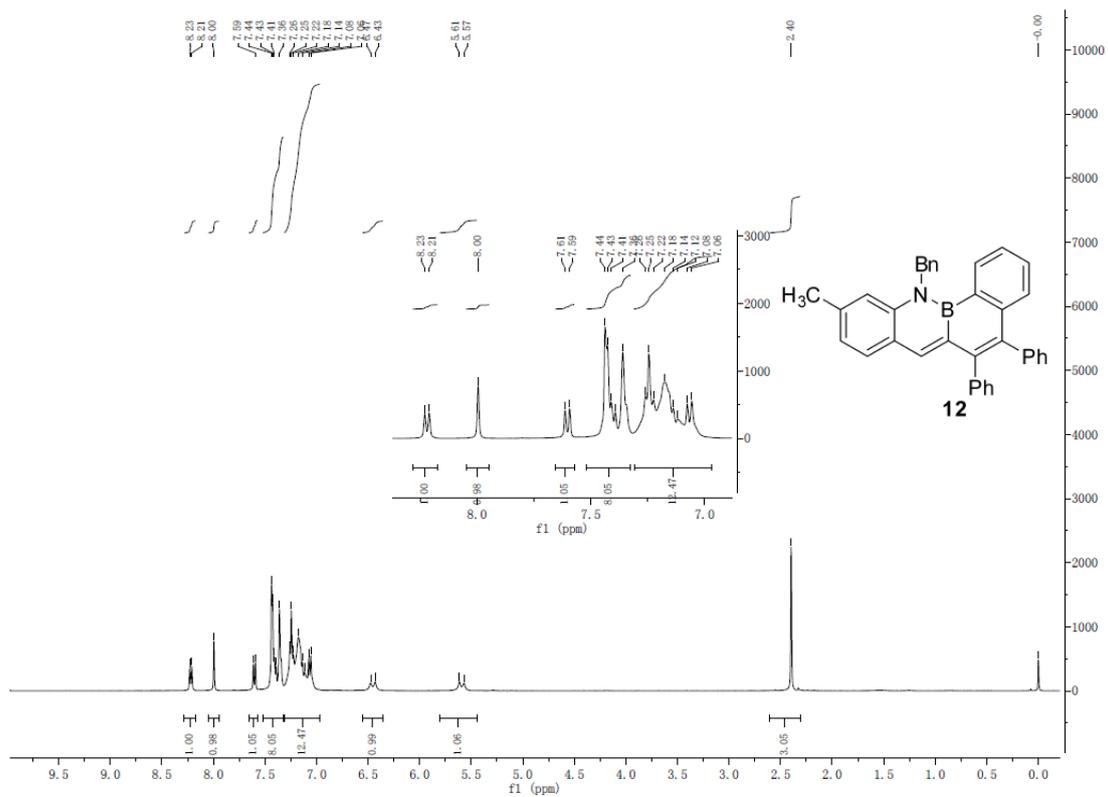
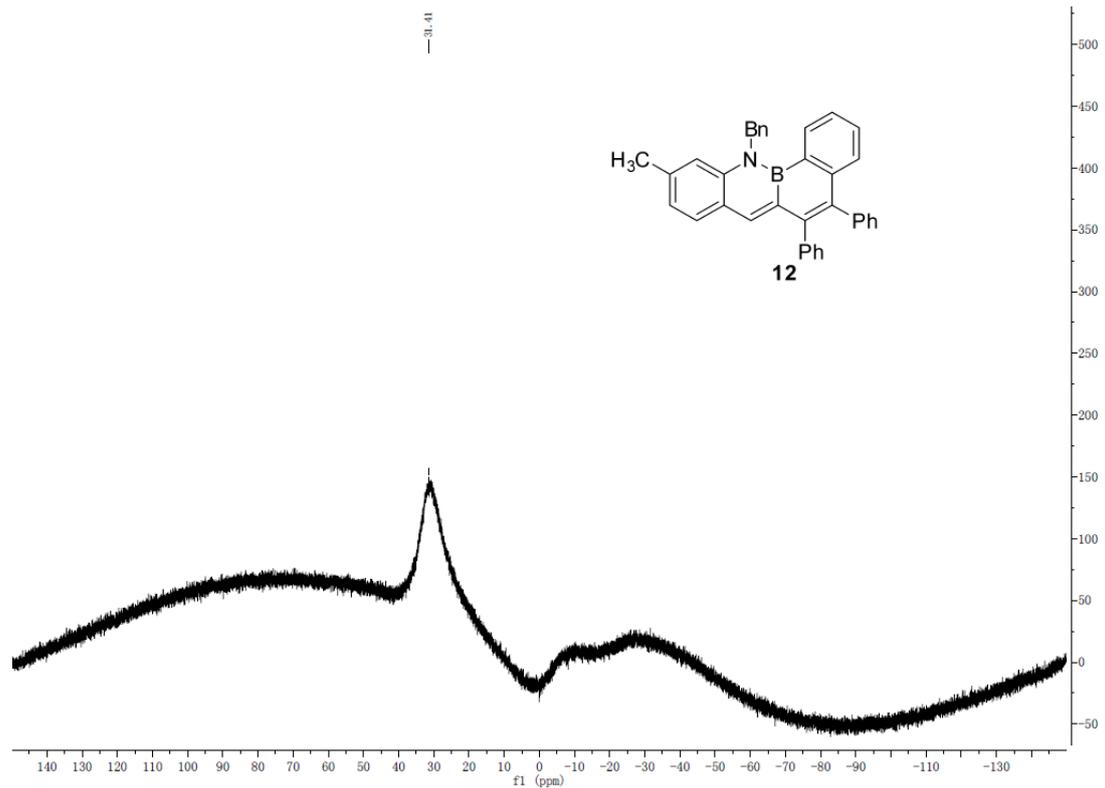


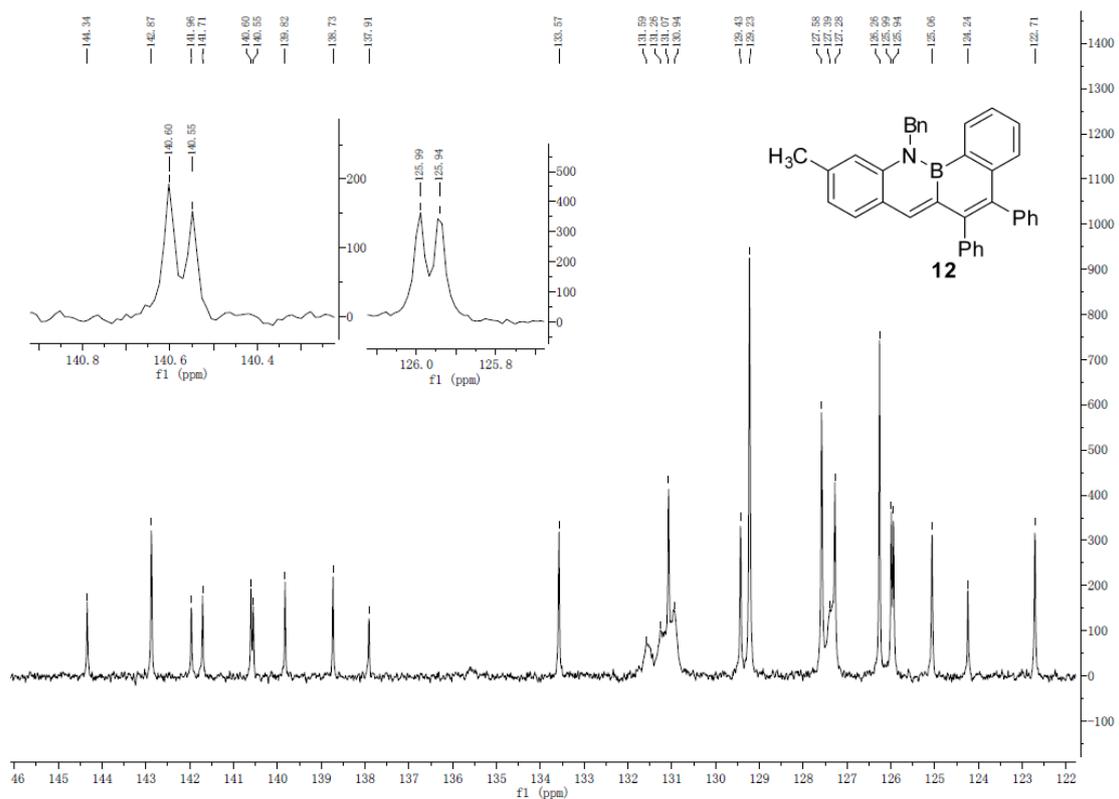
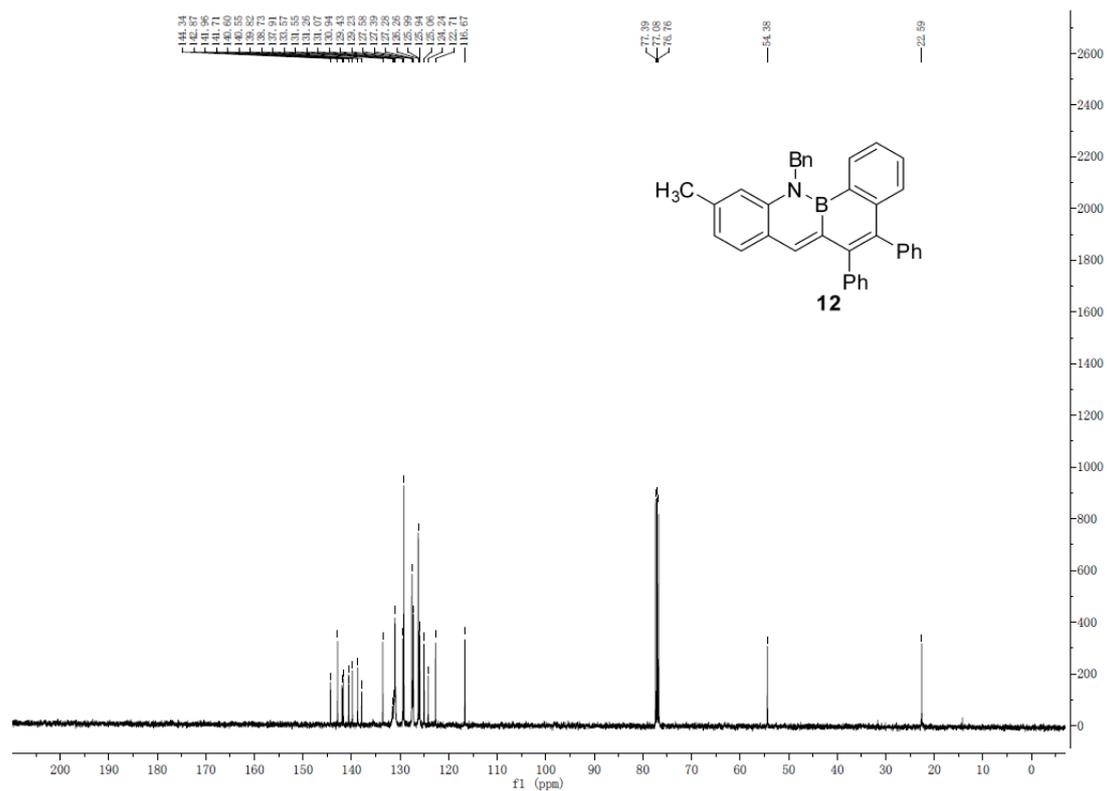


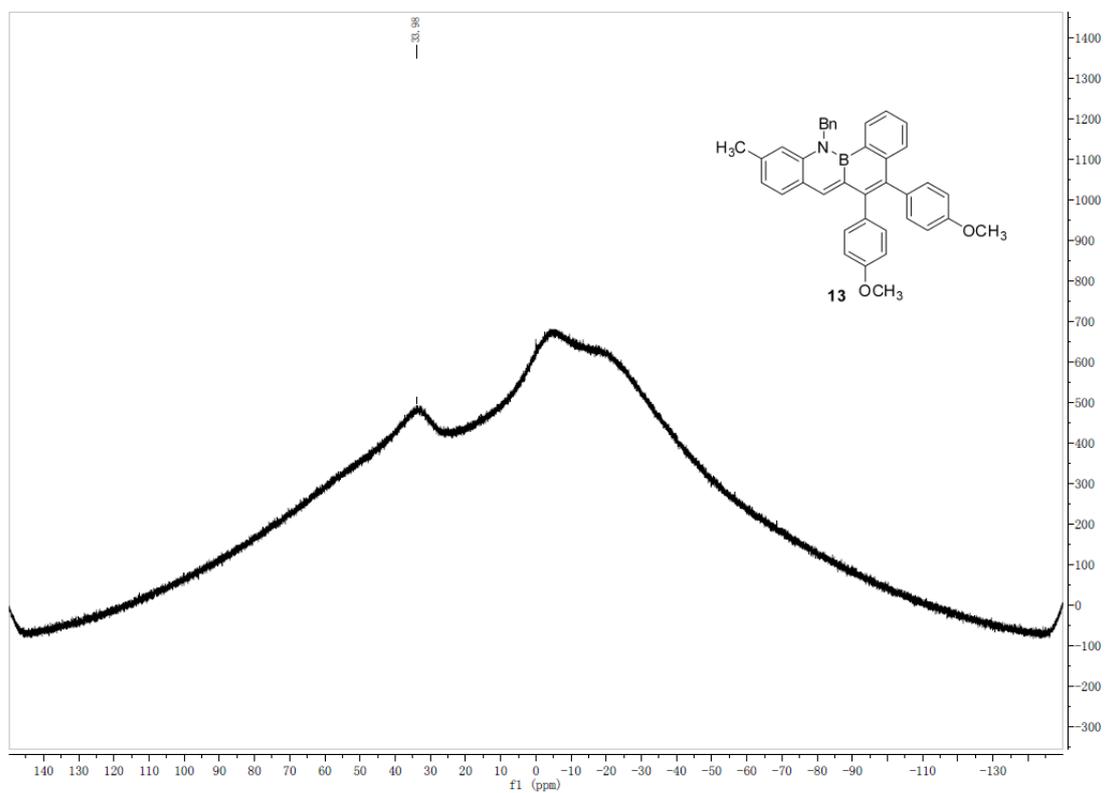
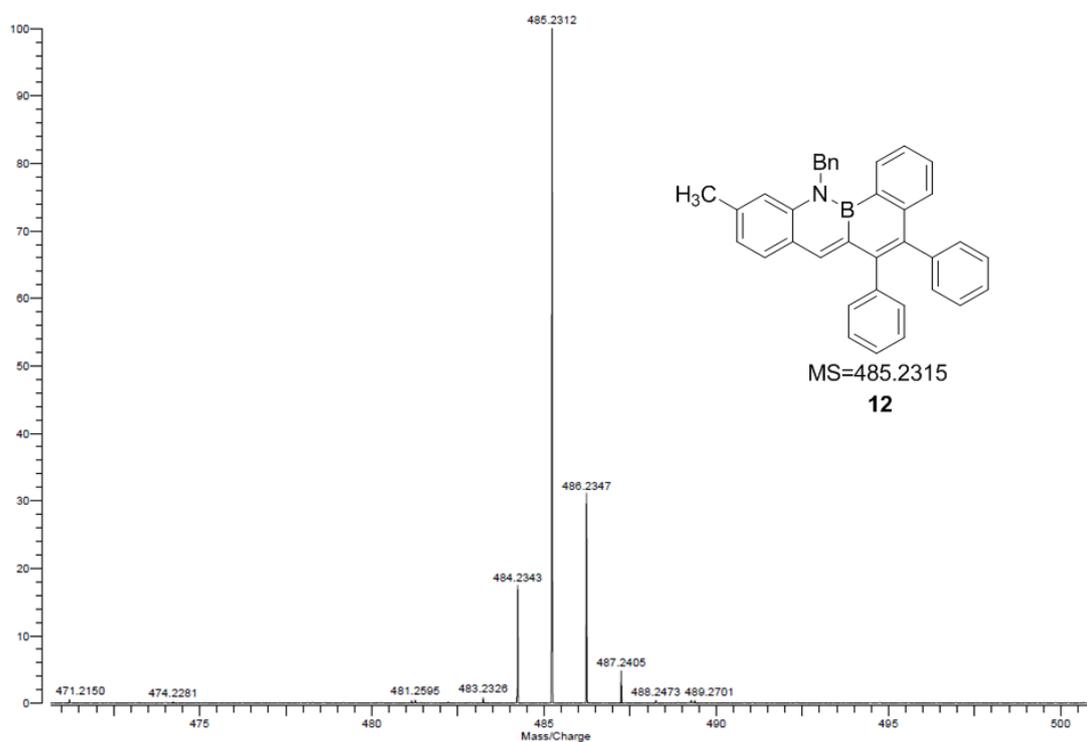
Varian ProMALDI  
File: 1\_MALDI.trans

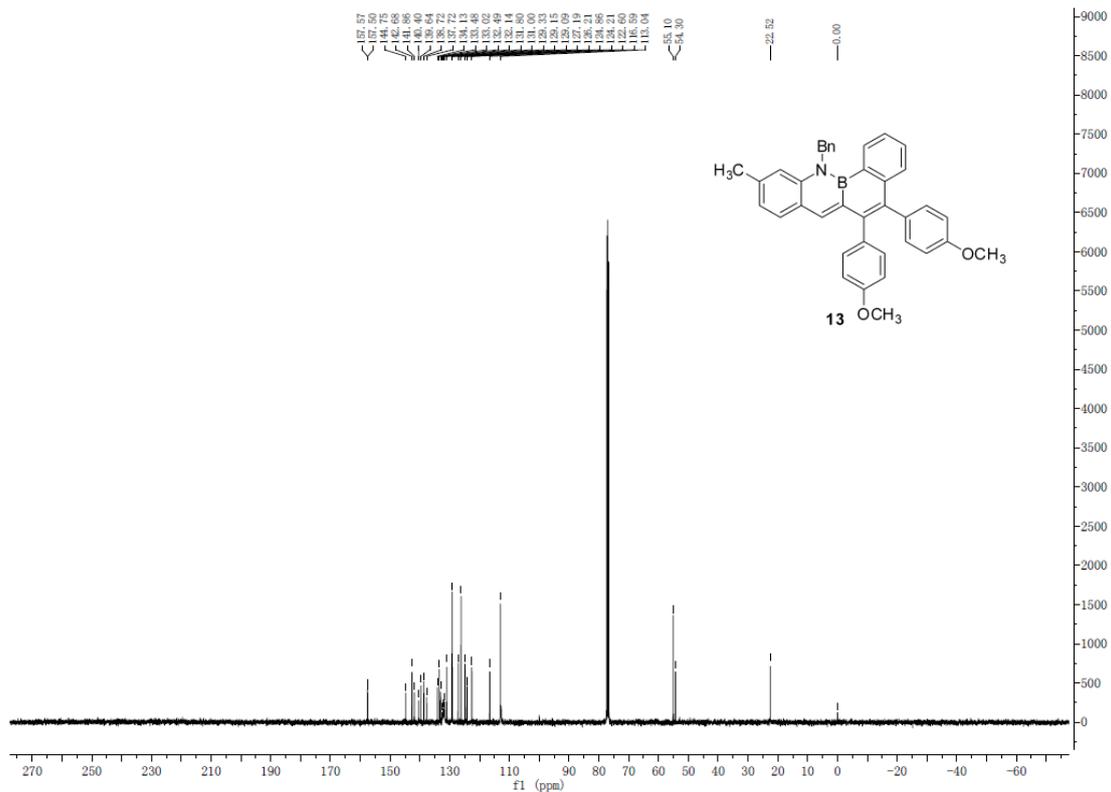
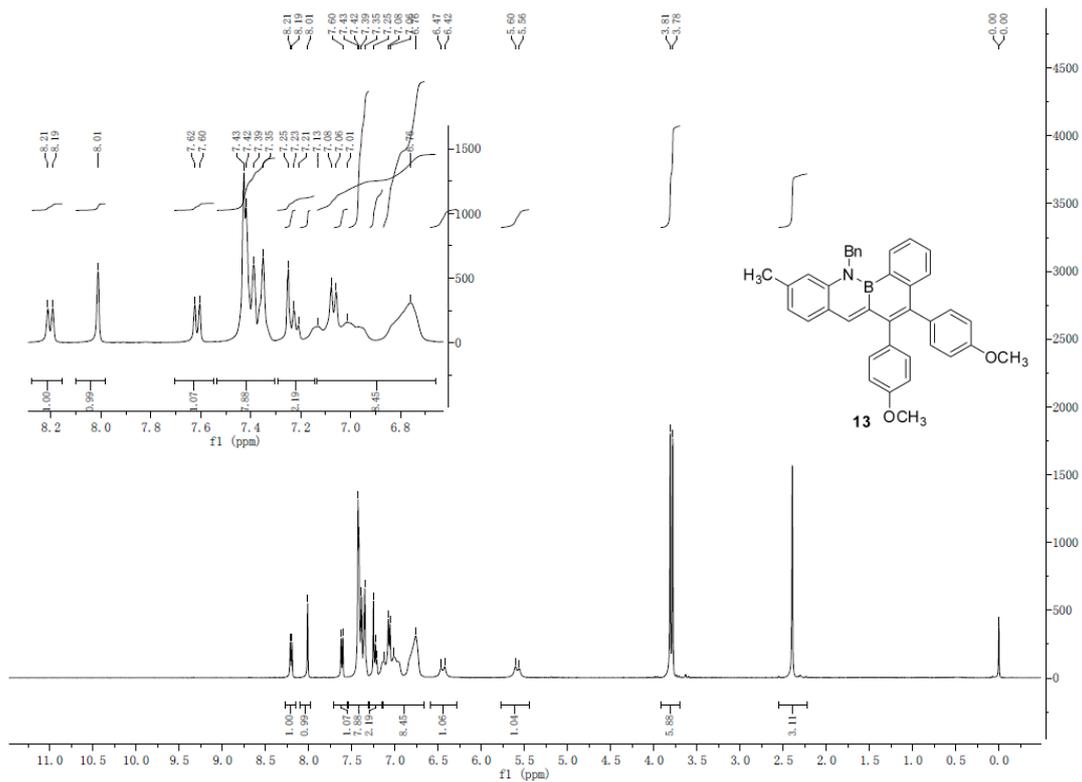
Mode: Positive  
Scans: 1  
Date: 14-MAY-2015  
Time: 18:02:18  
Scale: 10.5401

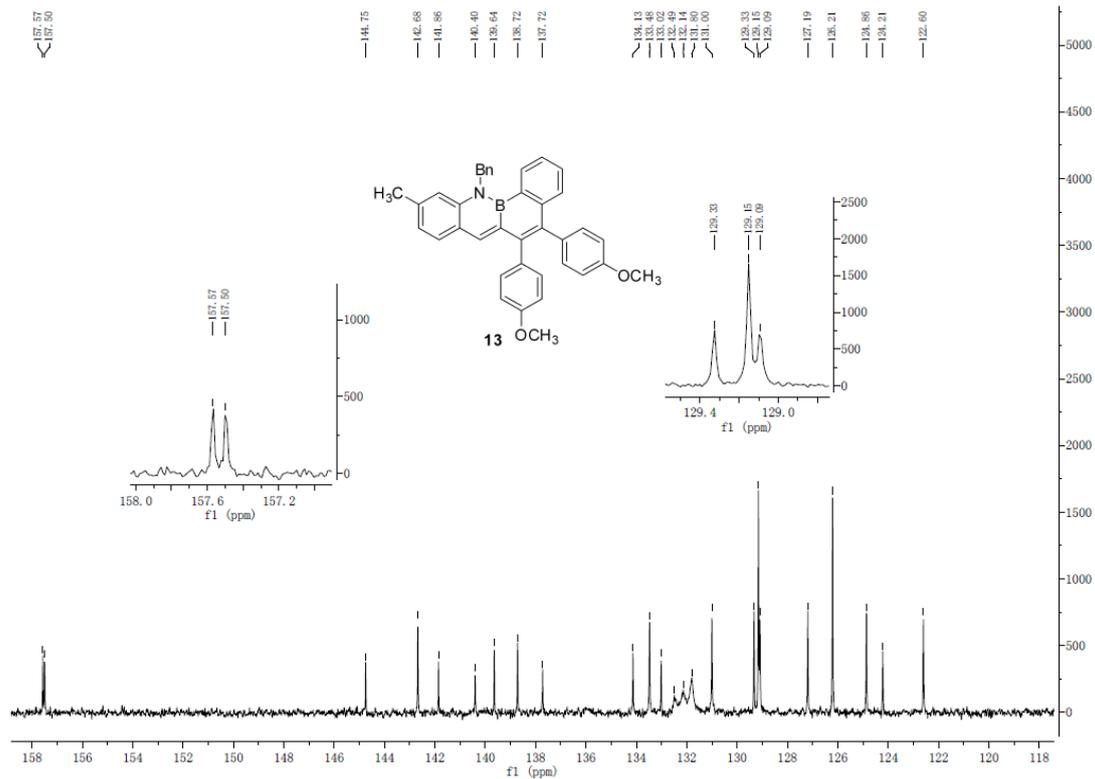












Varian ProMALDI  
 File: 2\_MALDI.trans

Mode: Positive  
 Scans: 1  
 Date: 14-MAY-2015  
 Time: 18:01:09  
 Scale: 57.5292

