

Sc(OTf)₃ Catalyzed Dehydrogenative Reaction of Electron-rich (hetero)aryl Nucleophiles with 9-Aryl-fluoren-9-ols

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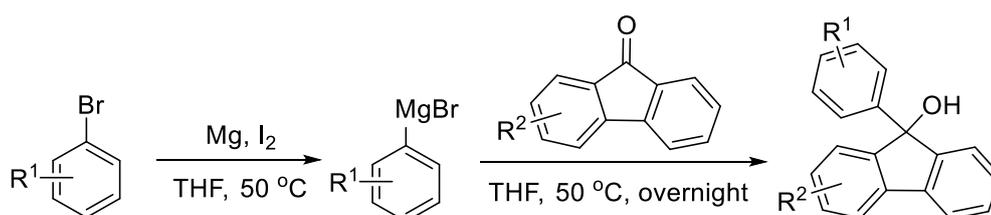
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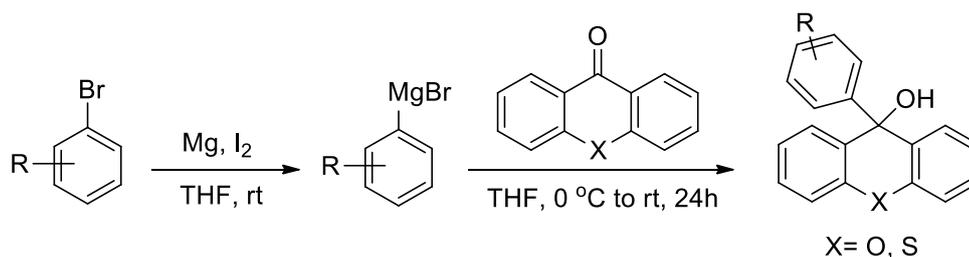
1. General Information

^1H NMR, ^{13}C NMR and ^{19}F NMR spectra were recorded at 400 MHz, 100 MHz and 376 MHz respectively using tetramethylsilane as an internal reference. Chemical shifts (δ) and coupling constants (J) were expressed in parts per million and hertz, respectively. Melting points were uncorrected. High-resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS) was performed on an ESI-TOF spectrometer. Chemicals were commercially available and used without purification. Chromatography: Column chromatography was performed with silica gel (200-300 mesh ASTM). Emission spectra were recorded on a Shimadzu RF-530XPC luminescence spectrometer upon excitation at the absorption maxima in the degassed CH_2Cl_2 solvent after saturating with argon. Absorption spectra were measured with a Shimadzu UV-3150 spectrometer at 25 °C. Differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) analyses were performed on a PerkinElmer DSC 8500. Thermogravimetric analyses (TGA) were conducted on a PerkinElmer TGA 8000.

2. Preparation of The Starting Materials



In an over-dried, argon purged round flask, the Grignard solution was prepared from magnesium turnings (15 mmol) reacting with bromobenzene (15 mmol) in anhydrous THF (30 mL). 9-fluorenone (5 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous THF (15 mL) at room temperature and then added dropwise to Grignard solution. The reaction was allowed to stir overnight at $50\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction was quenched by addition of saturated aqueous ammonium chloride (40 mL) and extracted with dichloromethane ($3\times 40\text{ mL}$). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and the solvent was evaporated under vacuum, the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to give white solid 9-phenyl-fluoren-9-ol.¹

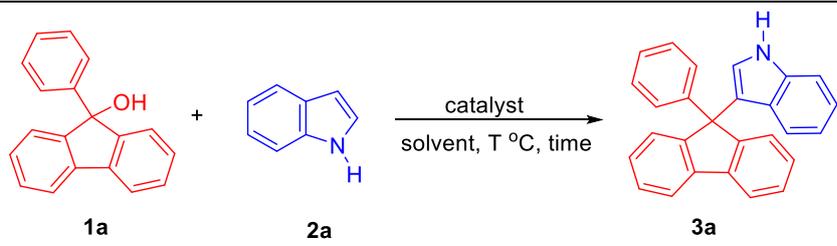


In an over-dried, argon purged round flask, the Grignard solution was prepared from magnesium turnings (15 mmol) reacting with bromobenzene (15 mmol) in anhydrous THF (30 mL). xanthenone (5 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous THF (15 mL) at room temperature and then added quickly dropwise to Grignard solution which was chilled to 0 °C in an ice-water bath, over 20 min. The mixture was removed from the ice water bath to room temperature and stirred for 24h. After complication, the reaction was quenched by addition of saturated aqueous ammonium chloride (40 mL) and extracted with dichloromethane (3×40 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and the solvent was evaporated under vacuum, the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to give white solid xanthen-9-ol.²

3. Optimization of The Reaction Conditions

Initially, the reaction of 9-phenyl-fluoren-9-ol **1a** and indole **2a** was carried out with 10 mol % Sc(OTf)₃ in dichloromethane (DCM) at 60 °C for 12 h (Table S1, entry 1). To our delight, the desired product **3a** was isolated in 97% yield. Then other rare earth Lewis acids were tested in this reaction system, and it was found that Sc(OTf)₃ was the most efficient in providing the desired product (Table S1, entries 2-7). Also, AlCl₃ and FeCl₃ were researched and produced **3a** in 88% and 79% yield respectively (Table S1, entries 8-9). Subsequently, optimization by variation of solvents and temperatures turned out to be futile (Table S1, entries 10-17). Gratifyingly, shortening the reaction time to only 4 h could still afford the product in 97% yield (Table S1, entries 18-20). Further investigation on the reaction conditions revealed that the ratio of **1a** to **2a** (1:1.2) led to a leap in the yield to 99% (Table S1, entry 21-22). Moreover, it was found that the yield remained intact when the catalyst amount was reduced to 2 mol % (Table S1, entry 23-24). Notably, using BF₃·Et₂O or CF₃SO₃H system led to 33% and 9% yields, respectively.³

Table S1 Optimization of the reaction conditions ^a



Entry	Catalyst (mol %)	Solvent	T (°C)	Time (h)	Yield ^b (%)
1	Sc(OTf) ₃ (10)	DCM	60	12	97

2	Yb(OTf) ₃ (10)	DCM	60	12	74
3	Y(OTf) ₃ (10)	DCM	60	12	53
4	La(OTf) ₃ (10)	DCM	60	12	N.D.
5	Yb(Pfb) ₃ (10)	DCM	60	12	N.D.
6	Y(Pfb) ₃ (10)	DCM	60	12	N.D.
7	Dy(Pfb) ₃ (10)	DCM	60	12	N.D.
8	AlCl ₃ (10)	DCM	60	12	88
9	FeCl ₃ (10)	DCM	60	12	79
10	Sc(OTf) ₃ (10)	CH ₃ CN	60	12	96
11	Sc(OTf) ₃ (10)	CHCl ₃	60	12	94
12	Sc(OTf) ₃ (10)	DMF	60	12	N.D.
13	Sc(OTf) ₃ (10)	Toluene	60	12	91
14	Sc(OTf) ₃ (10)	EtOH	60	12	N.D.
15	Sc(OTf) ₃ (10)	DCM	80	12	96
16	Sc(OTf) ₃ (10)	DCM	40	12	86
17	Sc(OTf) ₃ (10)	DCM	25	12	30
18	Sc(OTf) ₃ (10)	DCM	60	1	91
19	Sc(OTf) ₃ (10)	DCM	60	3	95
20	Sc(OTf) ₃ (10)	DCM	60	4	97
21 ^c	Sc(OTf) ₃ (10)	DCM	60	4	99
22 ^d	Sc(OTf) ₃ (10)	DCM	60	4	87
23 ^c	Sc(OTf) ₃ (2)	DCM	60	4	99
24 ^c	Sc(OTf) ₃ (1)	DCM	60	4	84

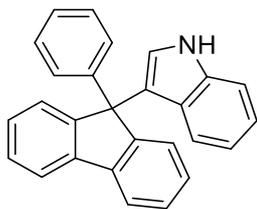
^a Standard reaction conditions: **1a** (0.25 mmol), **2a** (0.25 mmol), Lewis acid (x mol %), and solvent (2 mL), at 60 °C. N.D. = Not Detected ^b Yield of isolated product. ^c **1a** (0.25 mmol), **2a** (0.3 mmol).

^d **1a** (0.25 mmol), **2a** (0.2 mmol)

4. General Procedure A

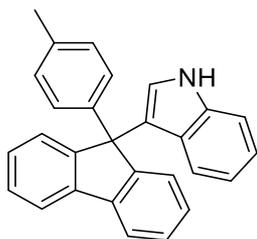
Substituted tertiary alcohols (0.25 mmol, 1 equiv), substituted indoles (0.3 mmol, 1.2 equiv), Sc(OTf)₃ (2 mol %), CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) and a stir bar were added to a sealed tube. After being stirred at 60 °C for 4 h, the mixture was evaporated under vacuum. The desired product was isolated by silica gel column chromatography with an ethyl acetate /petroleum ether mixture as eluent.

3-(9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-yl)-1H-indole (3a)



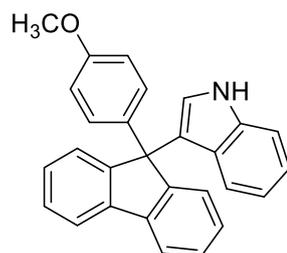
General procedure **A** was followed using 9-phenyl-fluoren-9-ol (64.58 mg, 0.25 mmol), indole (35.15 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/ petroleum ether = 2:100) afforded **3a** (88.38 mg, 99% yield) as a white solid (mp 169-171 °C). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.77 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 3H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.37–7.25 (m, 5H), 7.23–7.16 (m, 5H), 7.14–7.04 (m, 2H), 6.97–6.87 (m, 1H), 6.62 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 151.9, 144.4, 139.8, 137.2, 128.2, 127.6, 127.4, 126.6, 126.4, 125.7, 123.1, 121.9, 121.8, 120.6, 120.5, 120.1, 119.2, 111.3, 60.3; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M - H]⁻ Calcd for C₂₇H₁₈N 356.1439; Found 356.1437.

3-(9-(p-tolyl)-9H-fluoren-9-yl)-1H-indole (3b)



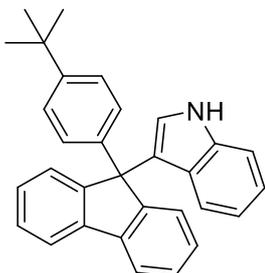
General procedure **A** was followed using 9-(p-tolyl)-9H-fluoren-9-ol (68.09 mg, 0.25 mmol), indole (35.15 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate: petroleum ether = 2:100) afforded **3b** (88.97 mg, 96% yield) as a white solid (mp 182-184 °C). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 3H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.22–7.07 (m, 6H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.92 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (s, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.1, 141.4, 139.7, 137.2, 136.1, 129.0, 127.6, 127.5, 127.3, 126.5, 125.7, 123.1, 122.0, 121.8, 120.6, 120.0, 119.2, 111.3, 60.0, 21.1; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M - H]⁻ Calcd for C₂₈H₂₀N 370.1596; Found 370.1597.

3-(9-(4-methoxyphenyl)-9H-fluoren-9-yl)-1H-indole (3c)



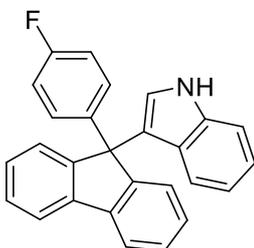
General procedure **A** was followed using 9-(4-methoxyphenyl)-9H-fluoren-9-ol (72.09 mg, 0.25 mmol), indole (35.15 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate: petroleum ether = 5:100) afforded **3c** (93.80 mg, 97% yield) as a white solid (mp 104–106 °C). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.79–7.71 (m, 3H), 7.56–7.48 (m, 2H), 7.35–7.29 (m, 2H), 7.25–7.15 (m, 5H), 7.13–7.07 (m, 2H), 6.95–6.90 (m, 1H), 6.75–6.68 (m, 2H), 6.62–6.56 (m, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.3, 152.2, 139.7, 137.2, 136.5, 128.7, 127.6, 127.3, 126.5, 125.6, 123.0, 122.0, 121.8, 120.7, 120.1, 119.2, 113.6, 111.3, 59.6, 55.2; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M - H]⁻ Calcd for C₂₈H₂₀NO 386.1545; Found 386.1547.

3-(9-(4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)-9H-fluoren-9-yl)-1H-indole (3d)



General procedure **A** was followed using 9-(4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)-9H-fluoren-9-ol (78.61 mg, 0.25 mmol), indole (35.15 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate: petroleum ether = 2:100) afforded **3d** (93.85 mg, 91% yield) as a white solid (mp 103–105 °C). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.70 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 3H), 7.47 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.22–7.19 (m, 1H), 7.16–7.10 (m, 6H), 7.06–7.00 (m, 1H), 6.95–6.90 (m, 1H), 6.86–6.80 (m, 1H), 6.63–6.59 (m, 1H), 1.18 (t, *J* = 0.9 Hz, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.1, 149.3, 141.2, 139.8, 137.1, 127.5, 127.3, 127.2, 126.5, 125.9, 125.1, 123.2, 121.9, 121.8, 120.7, 120.0, 119.1, 111.3, 59.9, 34.4, 31.4. HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z: [M - H]⁻ Calcd for C₃₁H₂₆N 412.2065; Found 412.2064.

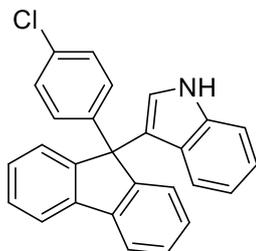
3-(9-(4-fluorophenyl)-9H-fluoren-9-yl)-1H-indole (3e)



General procedure **A** was followed using 9-(4-fluorophenyl)-9H-fluoren-9-ol (69.08 mg, 0.25 mmol), indole (35.15 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate: petroleum ether = 2:100) afforded **3e** (82.80 mg, 88% yield) as a white solid (mp 188–190 °C). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.78 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.24–7.06 (m, 6H), 6.95 (t, *J* =

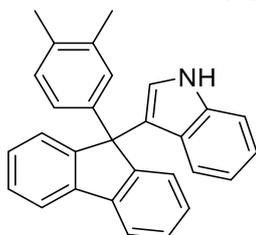
7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.91–6.82 (m, 2H), 6.61 (d, $J = 2.5$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 163.0 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 243.4$ Hz), 151.8, 140.2, 139.7, 137.2, 129.2 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 7.8$ Hz), 127.7, 127.5, 126.3, 125.6, 123.0, 122.0 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 13.2$ Hz), 120.3, 120.2, 119.3, 115.1, 114.9, 111.4, 59.7; ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -116.68; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[\text{M} - \text{H}]^-$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{17}\text{NF}$ 374.1345; Found 374.1346.

3-(9-(4-chlorophenyl)-9H-fluoren-9-yl)-1H-indole (3f)



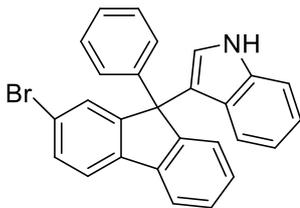
General procedure **A** was followed using 9-(4-chlorophenyl)-9H-fluoren-9-ol (73.19 mg, 0.25 mmol), indole (35.15 mg, 0.3 mmol) and $\text{Sc}(\text{OTf})_3$ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH_2Cl_2 (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 2:100) afforded **3f** (87.35 mg, 89% yield) as a white solid (mp 82–84 °C). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.78–7.67 (m, 3H), 7.44 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.30–7.20 (m, 3H), 7.16–7.02 (m, 8H), 6.93–6.86 (m, 1H), 6.55 (d, $J = 2.5$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 150.4, 142.0, 138.6, 136.2, 131.4, 128.0, 127.3, 126.7, 126.5, 125.2, 124.5, 122.0, 120.9, 120.7, 119.1, 118.9, 118.3, 110.4, 58.7; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[\text{M} - \text{H}]^-$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{17}\text{NCl}$ 390.1050; Found 390.1049.

3-(9-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-9H-fluoren-9-yl)-1H-indole (3g)



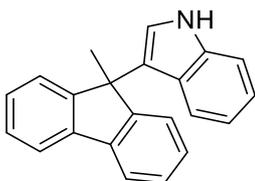
General procedure **A** was followed using 9-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-9H-fluoren-9-ol (71.59 mg, 0.25 mmol), indole (35.15 mg, 0.3 mmol) and $\text{Sc}(\text{OTf})_3$ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH_2Cl_2 (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 2:100) afforded **3g** (94.50 mg, 98% yield) as a white solid (mp 116–118 °C). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.76 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H), 7.53 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.32 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.26–7.16 (m, 3H), 7.13–7.03 (m, 3H), 7.00–6.88 (m, 3H), 6.63 (t, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.18 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 152.2, 141.7, 139.7, 137.2, 136.3, 134.8, 129.5, 128.5, 127.6, 127.3, 126.6, 125.7, 125.3, 123.0, 122.0, 121.8, 120.8, 120.0, 119.1, 111.3, 60.0, 20.0, 19.4; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[\text{M} - \text{H}]^-$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}$ 384.1752; Found 384.1753.

3-(2-bromo-9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-yl)-1H-indole (3h)



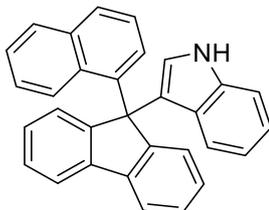
General procedure **A** was followed using 2-bromo-9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-ol (84.30 mg, 0.25 mmol), indole (35.15 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 3:100) afforded **3h** (62.07 mg, 57% yield) as a white solid (mp 97-99 °C). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 10.99 (s, 1H), 8.10–7.87 (m, 2H), 7.64–7.54 (m, 2H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.44–7.35 (m, 2H), 7.32–7.21 (m, 6H), 7.07–6.99 (m, 1H), 6.85–6.77 (m, 1H), 6.76–6.66 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 159.0, 156.5, 148.9, 143.9, 143.3, 142.5, 135.8, 133.7, 133.4, 133.3, 132.9, 132.3, 132.1, 130.8, 130.6, 129.0, 127.7, 126.3, 126.0, 125.6, 125.5, 123.8, 122.8, 117.3, 65.2; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M - H]⁻ Calcd for C₂₇H₁₇NBr 434.0544; Found 434.0545.

3-(9-methyl-9H-fluoren-9-yl)-1H-indole (**3i**)



General procedure **A** was followed using 9-methyl-9H-fluoren-9-ol (49.06 mg, 0.25 mmol), indole (35.15 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 2:100) afforded **3i** (55.50 mg, 75% yield) as a white solid (mp 180-182 °C). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.95–7.76 (m, 3H), 7.38–7.30 (m, 3H), 7.24–7.14 (m, 5H), 6.97 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.63 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.30 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 1.87 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 153.1, 139.6, 136.8, 127.6, 127.2, 125.6, 124.0, 121.8, 121.7, 120.2, 120.1, 120.0, 119.2, 110.8, 50.3, 26.7; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M - H]⁻ Calcd for C₂₂H₁₆N 294.1283; Found 294.1281.

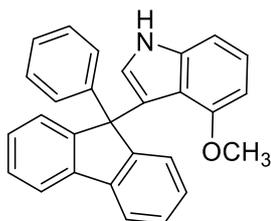
3-(9-(naphthalen-1-yl)-9H-fluoren-9-yl)-1H-indole (**3j**)



General procedure **A** was followed using 9-(naphthalen-1-yl)-9H-fluoren-9-ol (77.10 mg, 0.25 mmol), indole (35.15 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 2:100) afforded **3j** (96.67 mg, 95% yield) as a white solid (mp 120-

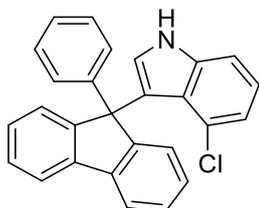
122 °C). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 10.88 (s, 1H), 8.02 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.93–7.46 (m, 5H), 7.42–7.14 (m, 9H), 7.06–6.96 (m, 2H), 6.86–6.77 (m, 1H), 6.50–6.28 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 144.1, 142.6, 139.8, 134.1, 133.9, 133.7, 133.6, 132.8, 132.7, 131.1, 130.3, 130.2 (2C), 130.1 (2C), 130.0 (2C), 126.3, 126.1 (2C), 125.1, 123.7, 117.3, 66.1; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M - H]⁻ Calcd for C₃₁H₂₀N 406.1596; Found 406.1597.

4-methoxy-3-(9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-yl)-1H-indole (3k)



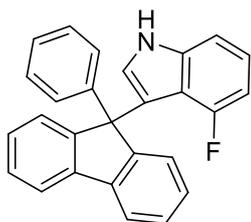
General procedure **A** was followed using 9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-ol (64.58 mg, 0.25 mmol), 4-methoxy-1H-indole (44.15 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 2:100) afforded **3k** (69.56 mg, 72% yield) as a white solid (mp 96–98 °C). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.89–7.57 (m, 5H), 7.31 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.24–7.06 (m, 8H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.43 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.24 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 153.6, 152.4, 147.6, 139.9, 139.2, 127.7, 127.6, 127.0, 126.7, 126.2, 125.4, 123.0, 122.3, 120.4, 119.8, 117.0, 104.5, 100.7, 60.7, 54.4; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M - H]⁻ Calcd for C₂₈H₂₀NO 386.1545; Found 386.1543.

4-chloro-3-(9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-yl)-1H-indole (3l)



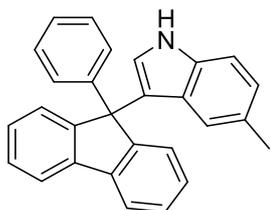
General procedure **A** was followed using 9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-ol (64.58 mg, 0.25 mmol), 4-chloro-1H-indole (45.48 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 2:100) afforded **3l** (95.91 mg, 98% yield) as a white solid (mp 258–260 °C). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 11.32 (s, 1H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.73–7.64 (m, 1H), 7.45–7.32 (m, 4H), 7.29 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.22–6.97 (m, 7H), 6.71–6.60 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 151.8, 147.2, 139.6, 139.1, 128.2, 127.7, 127.3, 126.3 (2C), 126.1, 125.6, 124.3, 122.6, 122.0, 121.2, 120.3, 117.7, 111.3, 60.3; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M - H]⁻ Calcd for C₂₇H₁₇NCl 390.1050; Found 390.1051.

4-fluoro-3-(9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-yl)-1H-indole (3m)



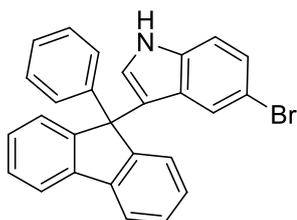
General procedure **A** was followed using 9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-ol (64.58 mg, 0.25 mmol), 4-fluoro-1H-indole (40.54 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 2:100) afforded **3m** (92.69 mg, 99% yield) as a white solid (mp 228–230 °C). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.86–7.74 (m, 3H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.26–7.22 (m, 2H), 7.21–7.14 (m, 5H), 7.10–7.05 (m, 2H), 6.73–6.66 (m, 1H), 6.52 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.0 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 246.1 Hz), 151.8, 145.8 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 3.4 Hz), 140.2 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 11.1 Hz), 139.8, 128.1, 127.8, 127.4, 126.6, 126.3, 126.0 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 5.4 Hz), 123.4, 122.9 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 8.0 Hz), 120.1, 119.3 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 4.0 Hz), 115.2 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 19.5 Hz), 107.5 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 3.6 Hz), 105.6 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 21.4 Hz), 60.2; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -111.69; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M - H]⁻ Calcd for C₂₇H₁₇NF 374.1345; Found 374.1347.

5-methyl-3-(9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-yl)-1H-indole (3n)



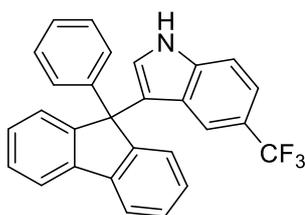
General procedure **A** was followed using 9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-ol (64.58 mg, 0.25 mmol), 5-methyl-1H-indole (39.35 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:100) afforded **3n** (87.15 mg, 94% yield) as a white solid (mp 137–139 °C). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.80–7.67 (m, 3H), 7.56–7.51 (m, 2H), 7.34 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 7.29–7.22 (m, 3H), 7.21–7.17 (m, 5H), 6.98–6.93 (m, 1H), 6.85–6.81 (m, 1H), 6.61 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 2.28 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.0, 144.4, 139.8, 135.6, 131.5, 130.8, 129.8, 128.2, 127.6, 127.3, 126.7, 126.6, 125.8, 123.5, 123.2, 121.6, 120.0, 111.0, 60.3, 21.7; HRMS (EI) Calcd for C₂₈H₂₁N [M]⁺ *m/z*: 371.1674; Found 371.1678.

5-bromo-3-(9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-yl)-1H-indole (3o)



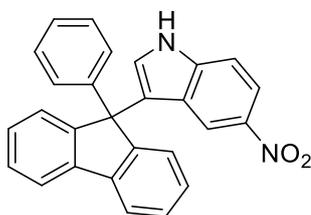
General procedure **A** was followed using 9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-ol (64.58 mg, 0.25 mmol), 5-bromo-1H-indole (58.81 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 2:100) afforded **3o** (99.15 mg, 91% yield) as a white solid (mp 220-222 °C). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.88–7.72 (m, 3H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.26–7.18 (m, 8H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 6.63 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 151.5, 143.8, 139.7, 135.8, 128.4, 128.2, 127.7, 127.5, 127.4, 126.9, 125.6, 124.8, 124.3, 124.2, 120.4, 120.2, 112.7, 112.6, 60.1; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M - H]⁻ Calcd for C₂₇H₁₇N⁸¹Br 436.0524; Found 436.0526.

3-(9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-yl)-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-indole (3p)



General procedure **A** was followed using 9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-ol (64.58 mg, 0.25 mmol), 5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-indole (55.54 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 2:100) afforded **3p** (105.63 mg, 99% yield) as a white solid (mp 249-251 °C). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 11.44 (s, 1H), 8.00–7.95 (m, 2H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.44–7.39 (m, 2H), 7.32–7.26 (m, 8H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 151.1, 144.1, 139.2, 138.5, 128.3, 127.7, 127.6, 127.1, 126.8, 126.6 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 269.5), 126.1, 125.4, 124.9, 120.5, 119.7, 119.3 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 30.5), 117.5, 117.3, 112.7, 59.5. ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ -58.78; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M - H]⁻ Calcd for C₂₈H₁₇NF₃ 424.1313; Found 424.1312.

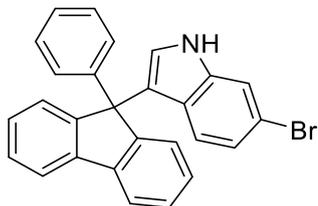
5-nitro-3-(9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-yl)-1H-indole(3q)



General procedure **A** was followed using 9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-ol (64.58 mg, 0.25 mmol), 5-nitro-1H-indole (48.64 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (dichloromethane/petroleum ether = 2:5) afforded **3q** (99.59 mg, 99% yield) as a yellow solid (mp 268-270 °C). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 11.73 (s, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.97–7.89 (m, 1H), 7.60–7.47 (m, 4H), 7.46–7.39 (m, 2H), 7.34–7.25 (m, 7H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 150.6, 143.9, 140.3, 140.1, 139.2, 128.5, 127.9, 127.8, 127.6, 127.1, 127.0, 125.4, 124.9, 121.4, 120.6,

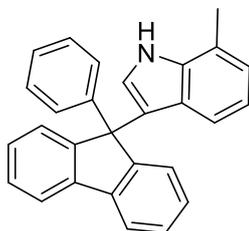
117.2, 116.4, 112.4, 59.4; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[M - H]^-$ Calcd for $C_{27}H_{17}N_2O_2$ 401.1290; Found 401.1291

6-bromo-3-(9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-yl)-1H-indole (3r)



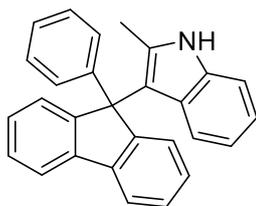
General procedure **A** was followed using 9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-ol (64.58 mg, 0.25 mmol), 6-bromo-1H-indole (58.81 mg, 0.3 mmol) and $Sc(OTf)_3$ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH_2Cl_2 (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 2:100) afforded **3r** (100.18 mg, 92% yield) as a white solid (mp 221–223 °C). 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.77 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 3H), 7.49 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.43–7.31 (m, 3H), 7.25–7.15 (m, 7H), 7.02 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.88 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.60 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 151.5, 144.1, 139.7, 138.0, 128.3, 127.7, 127.6, 127.5, 126.8, 125.6, 125.4, 123.6, 123.0, 122.6, 120.9, 120.2, 115.5, 114.2, 60.1; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[M - H]^-$ Calcd for $C_{27}H_{17}NBr$ 434.0544; Found 434.0542.

7-methyl-3-(9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-yl)-1H-indole (3s)



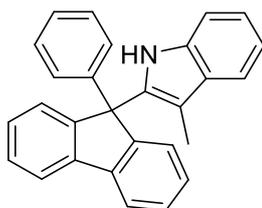
General procedure **A** was followed using 9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-ol (64.58 mg, 0.25 mmol), 7-methyl-1H-indole (39.35 mg, 0.3 mmol) and $Sc(OTf)_3$ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH_2Cl_2 (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:100) afforded **3s** (91.72 mg, 99% yield) as a white solid (mp 65–67 °C). 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.80–7.67 (m, 3H), 7.56–7.52 (m, 2H), 7.34 (td, $J = 7.5, 1.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.30–7.26 (m, 2H), 7.24–7.16 (m, 5H), 6.95–6.90 (m, 2H), 6.89–6.83 (m, 1H), 6.64 (d, $J = 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 151.9, 144.4, 139.8, 136.8, 128.2, 127.6, 127.4, 126.6, 126.0, 125.7, 122.8, 122.4, 121.1, 120.4, 120.1, 119.8, 119.4, 60.3, 16.6; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[M - H]^-$ Calcd for $C_{28}H_{20}N$ 370.1596; Found 370.1595.

2-methyl-3-(9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-yl)-1H-indole (3t)



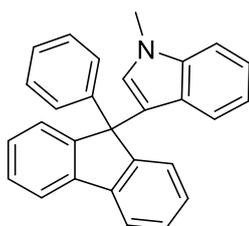
General procedure **A** was followed using 9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-ol (64.58 mg, 0.25 mmol), 2-methyl-1H-indole (39.35 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1:100) afforded **3t** (60.10 mg, 65% yield) as a yellow solid (mp 182–184 °C). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (s, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.39–7.28 (m, 4H), 7.25–7.16 (m, 6H), 7.01 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.65–6.24 (m, 1H), 1.40–1.23 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 151.8, 145.6, 139.7, 135.2, 132.2, 128.4, 128.2, 127.6, 127.4, 127.3, 126.5, 126.1, 121.4, 120.6, 120.0, 118.8, 113.8, 110.0, 60.5, 14.1; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M - H]⁻ Calcd for C₂₈H₂₀N 370.1596; Found 370.1594.

3-methyl-2-(9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-yl)-1H-indole(3u)



General procedure **A** was followed using 9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-ol (64.58 mg, 0.25 mmol), 3-methyl-1H-indole (39.35 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 2:100) afforded **3u** (89.51 mg, 96% yield) as a yellow solid (mp 77–79 °C); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.77 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.56–7.42 (m, 4H), 7.42–7.30 (m, 4H), 7.31–7.18 (m, 5H), 7.16–7.01 (m, 3H), 1.89 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 149.8, 143.6, 140.1, 135.8, 134.1, 130.4, 128.6, 128.1, 127.4, 127.2, 126.1, 121.6, 120.4, 119.2, 118.9, 118.3, 110.5, 108.8, 61.4, 10.4. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M + H]⁺ Calcd for C₂₈H₂₂N 372.1752; Found 372.1753.

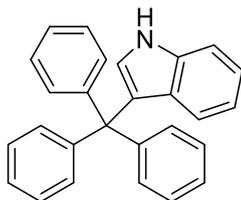
1-methyl-3-(9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-yl)-1H-indole (3v)



General procedure **A** was followed using 9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-ol (64.58 mg, 0.25 mmol), N-methyl-indole (39.35 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/

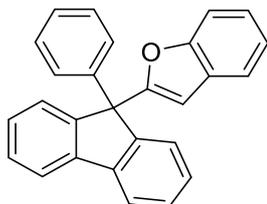
petroleum ether = 1:100) afforded **3v** (91.70 mg, 99% yield) as a white solid (mp 190–192 °C). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.78 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (q, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 3H), 7.28–7.12 (m, 8H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.50 (s, 1H), 3.60 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.1, 144.5, 139.7, 138.0, 128.2, 127.7, 127.6, 127.3, 126.9, 126.6, 125.7, 122.0, 121.4, 120.0, 118.8, 118.7, 109.4, 60.3, 32.6; HRMS (EI) Calcd for C₂₈H₂₁N [M]⁺ *m/z*: 371.1674; Found 371.1676.

3-trityl-1H-indole (3w)



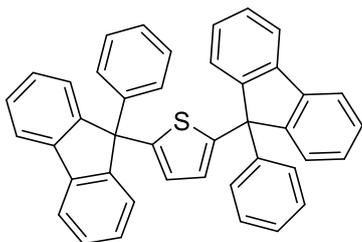
General procedure **A** was followed using triphenylmethanol (65.08 mg, 0.25 mmol), indole (35.15 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/ petroleum ether = 1:100) afforded **3w** (79.38 mg, 88% yield) as a white solid (mp 207–209 °C). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.87 (s, 1H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.23–7.19 (m, 15H), 7.10–7.06 (m, 1H), 6.80–6.76 (m, 2H), 6.68–6.65 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 146.5, 137.0, 130.8, 127.8, 127.4, 126.0, 125.5, 123.9, 122.8, 121.7, 119.2, 110.9, 59.4; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M - H]⁻ Calcd for C₂₇H₂₀N 358.1596; Found 358.1598.

2-(9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-yl)benzofuran (5a)



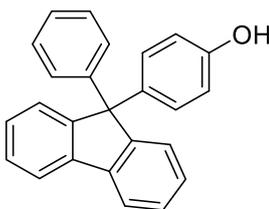
General procedure **A** was followed using 9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-ol (64.58 mg, 0.25 mmol), benzofuran (35.44 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/ petroleum ether = 2:100) afforded **5a** (49.20 mg, 55% yield) as a white solid (mp 202–204 °C). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.82–7.76 (m, 2H), 7.69–7.64 (m, 2H), 7.47–7.39 (m, 4H), 7.32 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.23–7.19 (m, 4H), 7.15 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.06–7.02 (m, 2H), 6.40 (d, *J* = 0.9 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.9, 155.7, 148.4, 143.0, 140.3, 128.5, 128.2, 128.1, 127.9, 127.2, 127.1, 126.4, 123.9, 122.7, 120.8, 120.3, 111.3, 105.1, 61.1; HRMS (EI) Calcd for C₂₇H₁₈O [M]⁺ *m/z*: 358.1358; Found 358.1355.

2,5-bis(9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-yl)thiophene (5b)



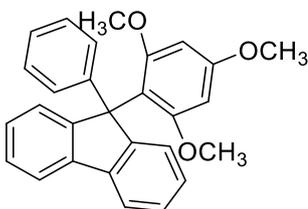
General procedure **A** was followed using 9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-ol (64.58 mg, 0.25 mmol), thiophene (25.24 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/ petroleum ether = 1:100) afforded **5b** (59.08 mg, 84% yield) as a white solid (mp 254-256 °C). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.77–7.67 (m, 4H), 7.48–7.41 (m, 4H), 7.34 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 4H), 7.27–7.22 (m, 4H), 7.20–7.08 (m, 10H), 6.59 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 150.9, 148.0, 145.6, 139.8, 128.1, 127.7, 127.6, 127.5, 126.9, 126.2, 125.6, 120.2, 62.3; HRMS (EI) Calcd for C₄₂H₂₈S [M]⁺ *m/z*: 564.1912; Found 564.1916. Spectral data match those previously reported.⁴

4-(9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-yl) phenol (**5f**)



General procedure **A** was followed using 9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-ol (64.58 mg, 0.25 mmol), phenol (28.23 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/ petroleum ether = 4:100) afforded **5f** (66.80 mg, 71% yield) as a white solid (mp 185-187 °C); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.74 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.46–7.12 (m, 12H), 7.10–7.01 (m, 2H), 6.69–6.61 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 154.3, 151.5, 146.1, 140.1, 138.1, 129.4, 128.2, 128.1, 127.7, 127.4, 126.6, 126.1, 120.2, 115.0, 64.8; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M - H]⁻ Calcd for C₂₅H₁₇O 333.1279; Found 333.1278.

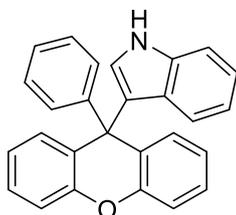
9-phenyl-9-(2,4,6-trimethoxyphenyl)-9H-fluorene (**5g**)



General procedure **A** was followed using 9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-ol (64.58 mg, 0.25 mmol), 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene (50.46 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/ petroleum ether = 2:100) afforded **5g** (101.40 mg, 99% yield) as a white solid (mp 150-152 °C); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.70 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.50 (d, *J* =

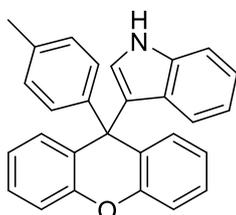
7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.28–7.24 (m, 2H), 7.21–7.13 (m, 2H), 7.11–6.98 (m, 5H), 6.09 (s, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.18 (s, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 160.2, 159.7, 152.2, 148.9, 139.5, 127.6, 127.0, 126.3, 125.7, 124.9, 124.4, 119.4, 114.5, 92.9, 61.2, 55.6, 55.2; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[\text{M} + \text{Na}]^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{24}\text{NaO}_3$ 431.1623; Found 431.1624.

3-(9-phenyl-9H-xanthen-9-yl)-1H-indole (7a)



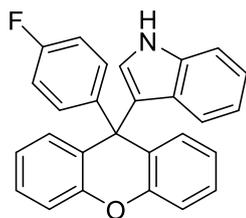
General procedure A was followed using 9-phenyl-9H-xanthen-9-ol (68.58 mg, 0.25 mmol), indole (35.15 mg, 0.3 mmol) and $\text{Sc}(\text{OTf})_3$ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH_2Cl_2 (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/ petroleum ether = 4:100) afforded **7a** (88.85 mg, 95% yield) as a white solid (mp 249–251 °C). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$) δ 11.07 (s, 1H), 7.43–7.39 (m, 1H), 7.33–7.28 (m, 2H), 7.27–7.17 (m, 5H), 7.06–6.98 (m, 3H), 6.97–6.89 (m, 4H), 6.71–6.65 (m, 1H), 6.54 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.48 (d, $J = 2.5$ Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$) δ 151.8, 145.6, 137.4, 129.4, 128.7, 128.0, 127.9, 127.1, 126.4, 125.1, 123.1, 121.0, 120.7, 118.9, 118.4, 116.1, 111.8, 48.3; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[\text{M} - \text{H}]^-$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}$ 372.1388; Found 372.1390.

3-(9-(p-tolyl)-9H-xanthen-9-yl)-1H-indole (7b)



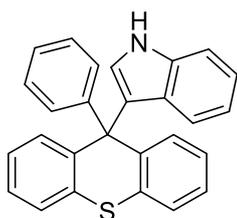
General procedure A was followed using 9-(p-tolyl)-9H-xanthen-9-ol (72.09 mg, 0.25 mmol), indole (35.15 mg, 0.3 mmol) and $\text{Sc}(\text{OTf})_3$ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH_2Cl_2 (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/ petroleum ether = 4:100) afforded **7b** (95.13 mg, 98% yield) as a white solid (mp 298–300 °C). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$) δ 10.87 (s, 1H), 7.36 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.24 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.14 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.02–6.90 (m, 7H), 6.78 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 2H), 6.68–6.55 (m, 2H), 6.44 (d, $J = 2.5$ Hz, 1H), 2.23 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$) δ 151.8, 142.6, 137.4, 135.2, 129.3, 128.9, 128.2, 127.9, 127.6, 127.0, 125.1, 122.6, 120.9, 120.8, 119.1, 118.1, 115.9, 111.5, 48.0, 20.4; HRMS (ESI-TOF) m/z : $[\text{M} - \text{H}]^-$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{20}\text{NO}$ 386.1545; Found 386.1546.

3-(9-(4-fluorophenyl)-9H-xanthen-9-yl)-1H-indole (7c)



General procedure **A** was followed using 9-(4-fluorophenyl)-9H-xanthen-9-ol (73.08 mg, 0.25 mmol), indole (35.15 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 4:100) afforded **7c** (92.18 mg, 94% yield) as a white solid (mp 226–228 °C). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 11.12 (s, 1H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.12–6.99 (m, 5H), 6.98–6.88 (m, 4H), 6.68 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.59–6.48 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 160.5 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 242.2 Hz), 151.8, 141.7 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 2.9 Hz), 137.5, 129.9 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 7.9 Hz), 129.2, 128.6, 128.2, 127.0, 125.0, 123.2, 121.1, 120.7, 118.9, 118.5, 116.2, 114.7 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 21.1 Hz), 111.8, 47.9; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ -116.56; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M - H]⁻ Calcd for C₂₇H₁₇NOF 390.1294; Found 390.1293.

3-(9-phenyl-9H-thioxanthen-9-yl)-1H-indole (**7d**)



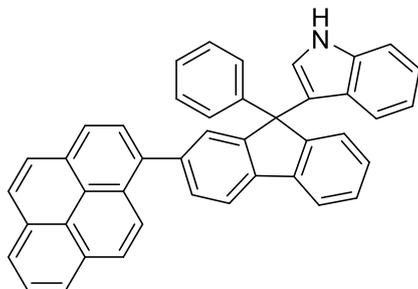
General procedure **A** was followed using 9-phenyl-9H-thioxanthen-9-ol (72.60 mg, 0.25 mmol), indole (35.15 mg, 0.3 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (2.46 mg, 0.005 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 4:100) afforded **7d** (89.60 mg, 92% yield) as a white solid (mp 230–232 °C). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 11.08 (s, 1H), 7.54–7.44 (m, 3H), 7.27 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.18–7.10 (m, 4H), 7.06 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.73 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.63–6.54 (m, 2H), 6.49 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.15 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 5.75 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 143.3, 139.5, 137.4, 132.6, 130.3, 128.4, 127.5, 126.9, 126.6, 126.3, 125.8, 125.7, 121.5, 121.2, 119.1, 118.5, 112.0, 55.3. HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M - H]⁻ Calcd for C₂₇H₁₈NS 388.1160; Found 388.1159.

5. Procedure B

2-bromo-9-phenyl-9H-fluoren-9-ol (1686.08 mg, 5.0 mmol), indole (702.90 mg, 6 mmol) and Sc(OTf)₃ (49.22 mg, 0.1 mmol, 0.02 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (15 mL) at 60 °C for 4 h. Chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 3:100) afforded **3h** (809.51 mg, 37% yield) as a white solid. **3h** (0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), pyren-1-ylboronic acid (1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.05 mmol), aqueous Na₂CO₃ (2.0 M, 1 mL), ethanol (2 mL), and toluene (4 mL) and a stir bar were added to a sealed tube. After being stirred at 110 °C for 24 h, the mixture was evaporated under vacuum, and the product was extracted with

dichloromethane (3×40 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. The target product was isolated by silica gel column chromatography with a dichloromethane/petroleum ether mixture as eluent.⁴

3-(9-phenyl-2-(pyren-1-yl)-9H-fluoren-9-yl)-1H-indole (8)



Product **8** was obtained by using **3h** (0.5 mmol, 1 equiv), pyren-1-ylboronic acid (1.5 mmol, 3 equiv), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.05 mmol), aqueous Na₂CO₃ (2.0 M, 1 mL), ethanol (2 mL), and toluene (4 mL) at 110 °C for 24 h. Chromatography (dichloromethane/petroleum ether = 25:100) afforded **8** (231.70 mg, 83% yield) yellowish white solid (mp 148-150 °C). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.19–7.98 (m, 6H), 7.97–7.83 (m, 5H), 7.82–7.69 (m, 2H), 7.60 (t, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.43–7.33 (m, 3H), 7.28–7.19 (m, 5H), 7.13–7.03 (m, 2H), 6.86 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.2, 152.1, 144.4, 140.3, 139.6, 138.9, 137.8, 137.2, 131.5, 131.0, 130.5, 130.1, 128.4, 128.3, 128.2, 127.8, 127.7, 127.6, 127.5, 127.4, 127.3, 127.2, 126.7, 126.4, 126.0, 125.9, 125.3, 125.1, 125.0, 124.9, 124.7, 124.6, 123.2, 121.9, 121.8, 120.6, 120.3, 120.1, 119.4, 111.3, 60.5; HRMS (ESI-TOF) *m/z*: [M - H]⁻ Calcd for C₄₃H₂₆N 556.2065; Found 556.2064.

6. Quantum Yields Measurements.⁵

The fluorescence quantum yields of substrates (**5a**, **5b**, **3p**, **3m**, **3e**, **3c**, **3a**, **3k**) were determined by comparing the integrated area of the corrected emission spectrum with the reference for 9,10-diphenylanthracene ($\Phi_F = 0.90$, in cyclohexane). The fluorescence quantum yields of compound **8** was determined by comparing the integrated area of the corrected emission spectrum with the reference for quinine sulfate ($\Phi_F = 0.55$ in 0.1 M H₂SO₄). The quantum yields of a sample was then calculated according to the following equation:

$$\Phi = \Phi' \times \frac{A'}{A} \times \frac{I}{I'} \times \frac{n^2}{n'^2}$$

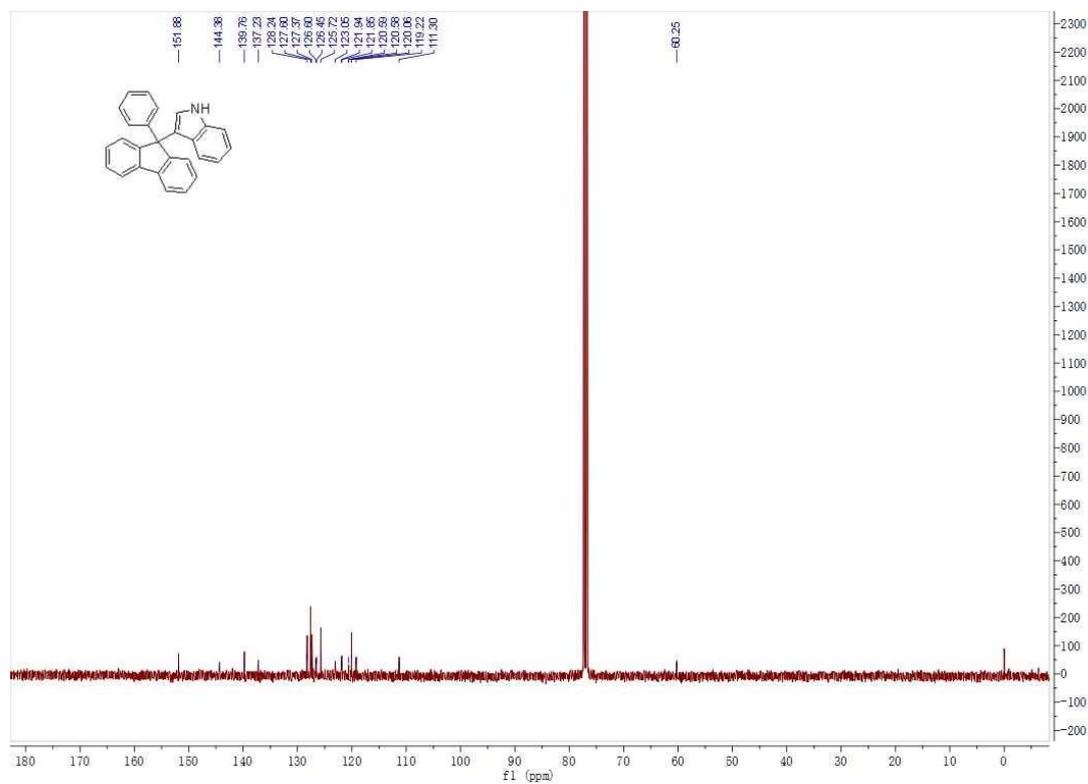
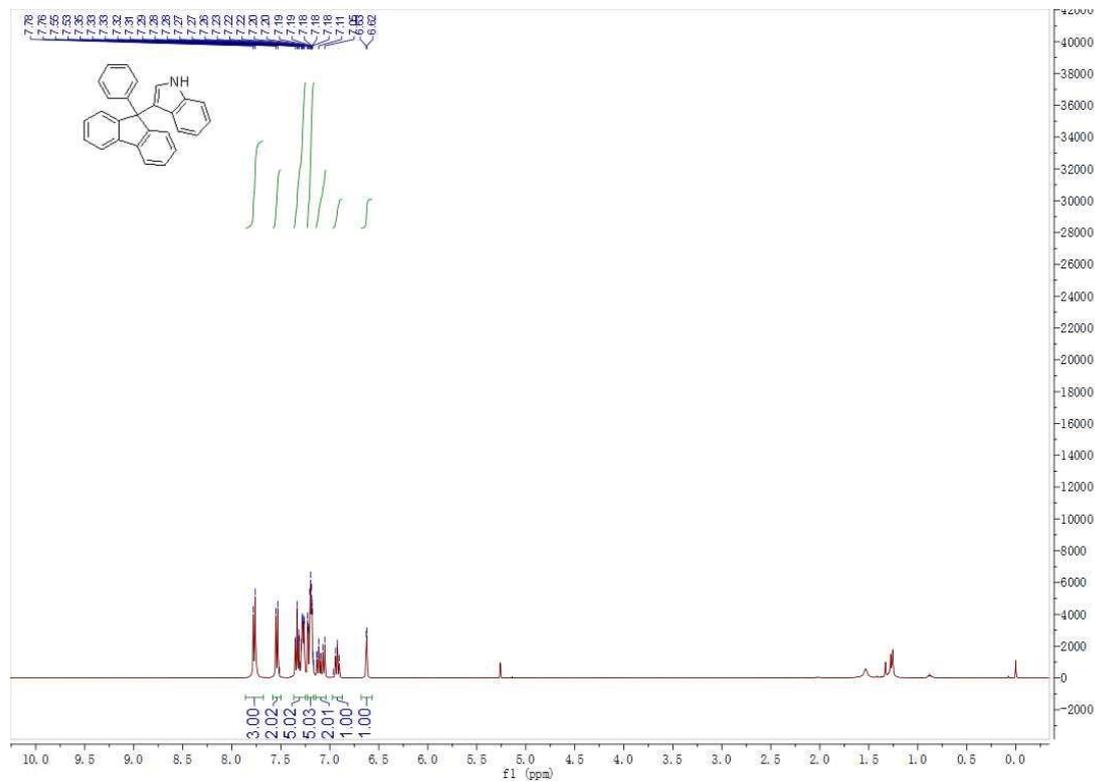
where Φ is the fluorescence quantum yield of testing sample, I is the integrated emission intensity of testing sample, n is the refractive index (1.42 for dichloromethane, 1.43 for cyclohexane and 1.33 for water), A is the optical density. The superscript “'” refers to the referenced fluorescence dyes of known quantum yields.

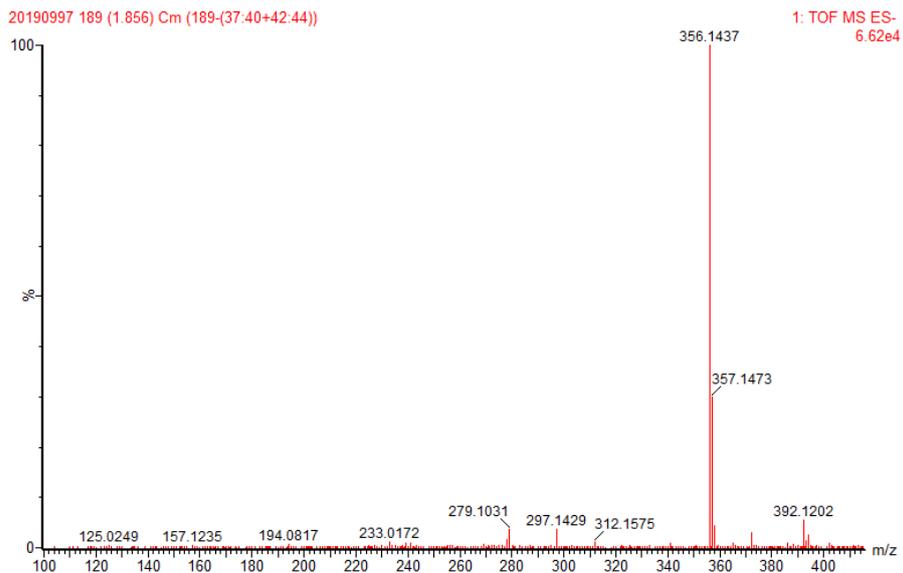
7. References

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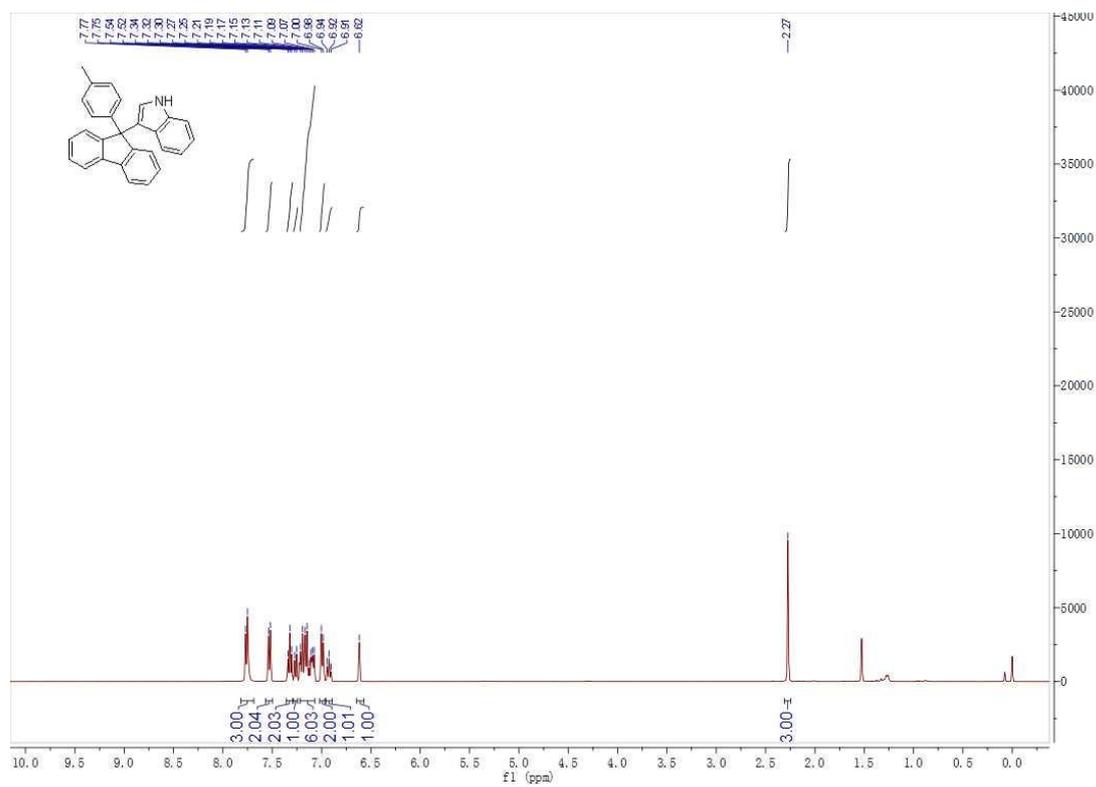
Copies of ^1H NMR, ^{13}C NMR, ^{19}F NMR, HRMS

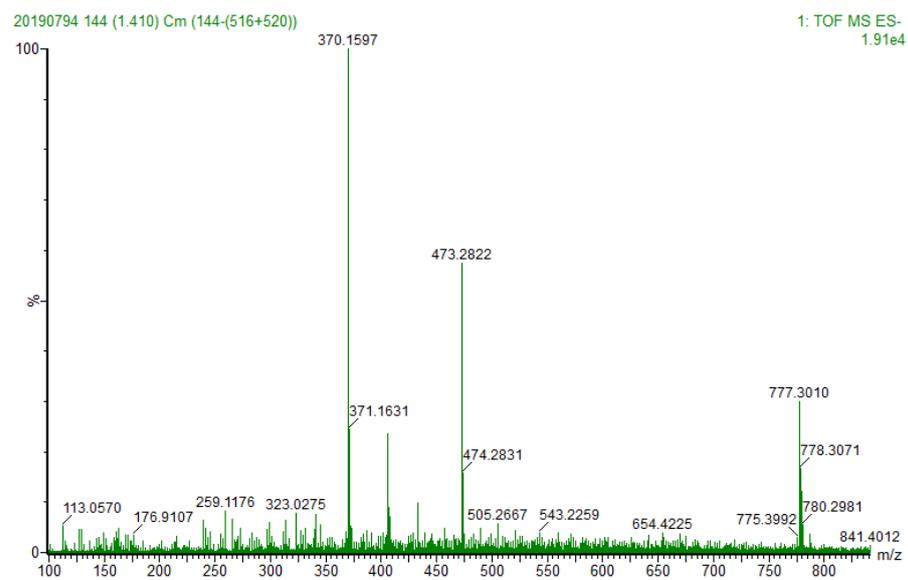
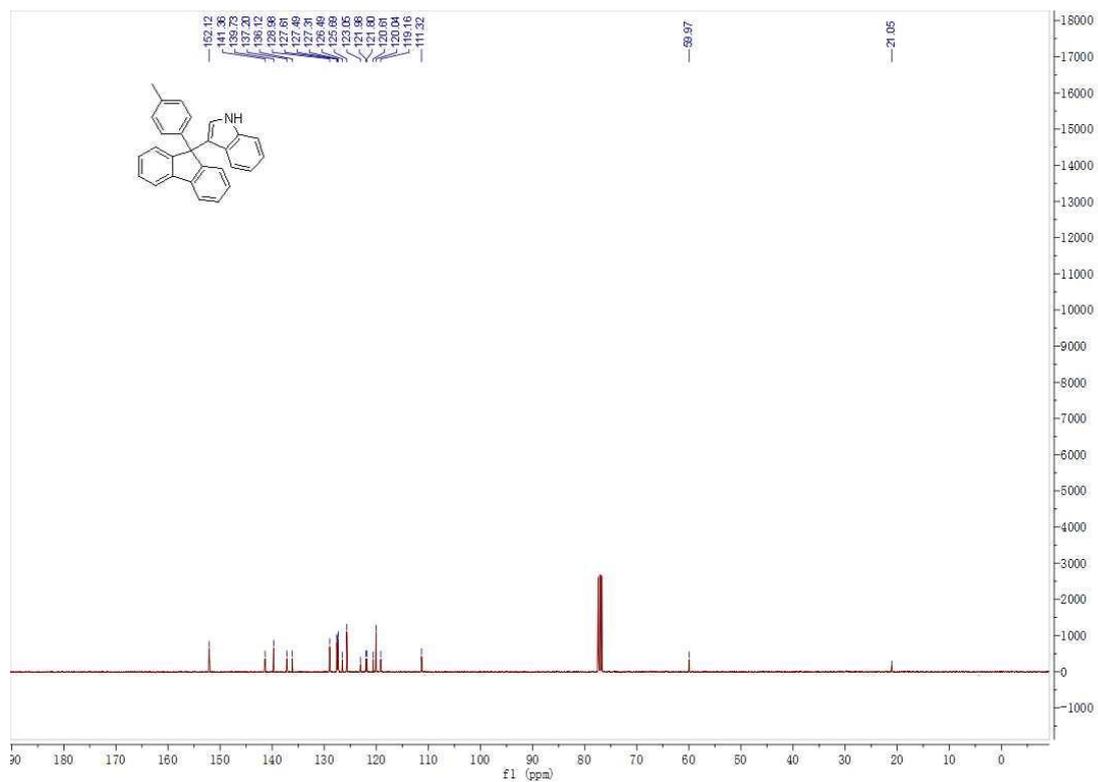
3a



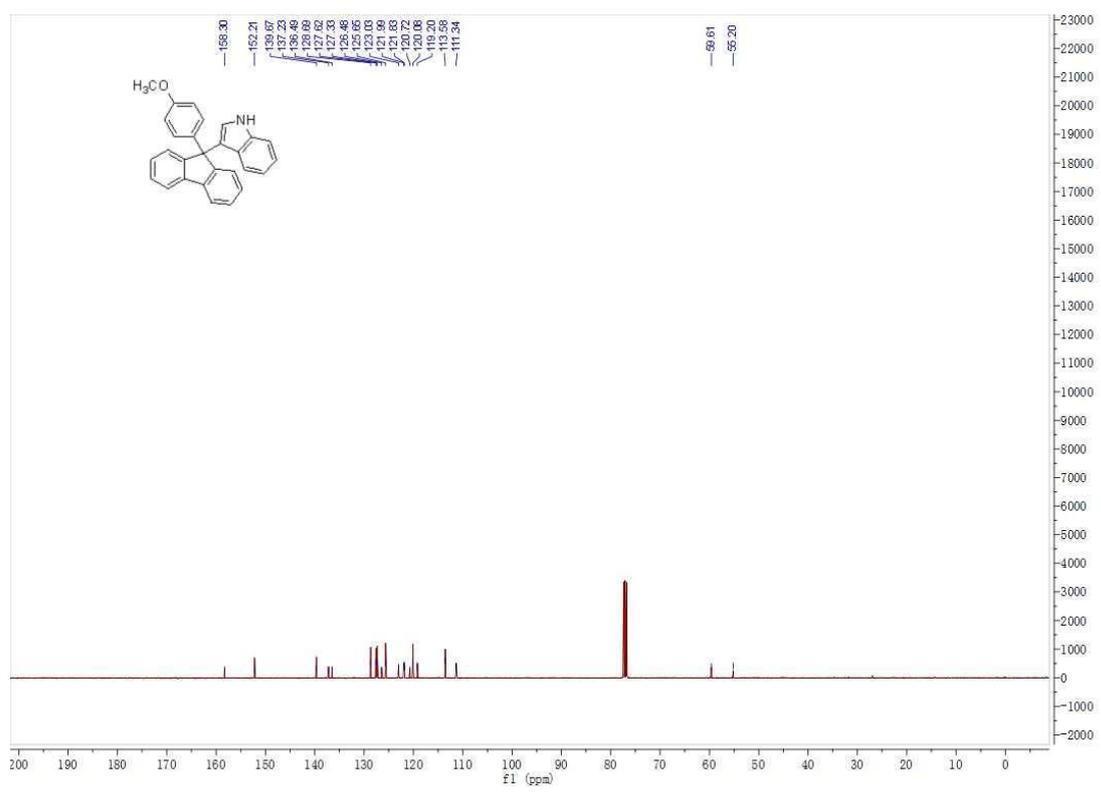
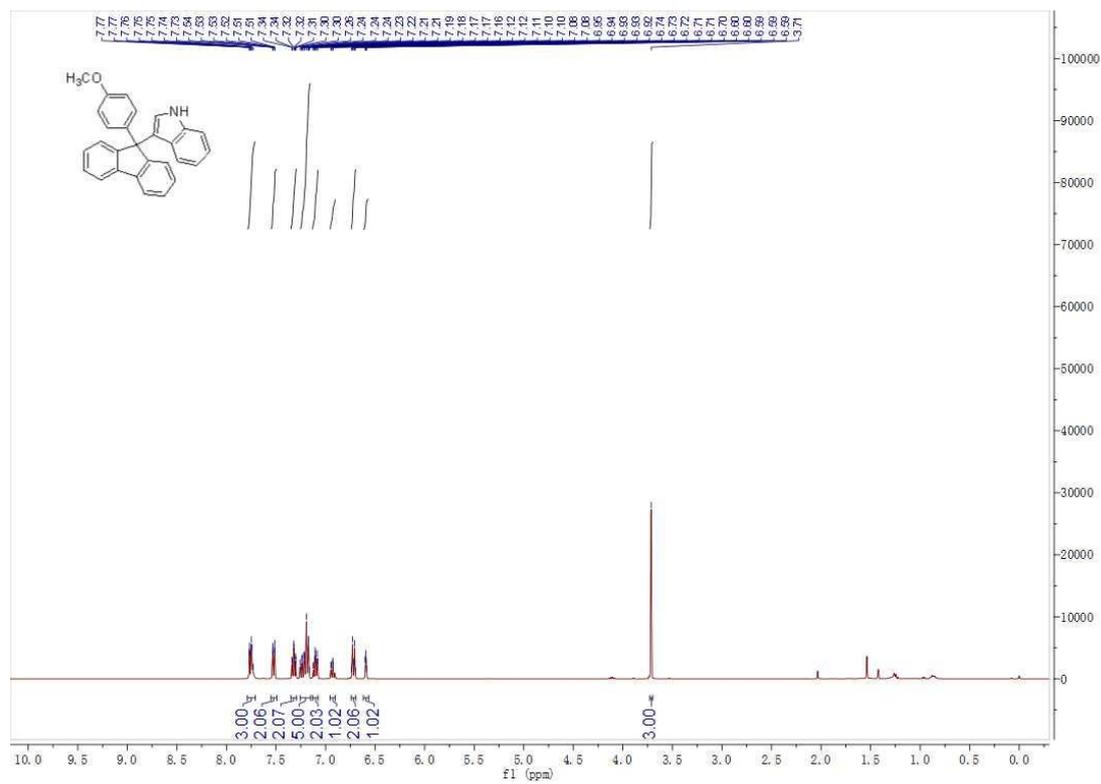


3b

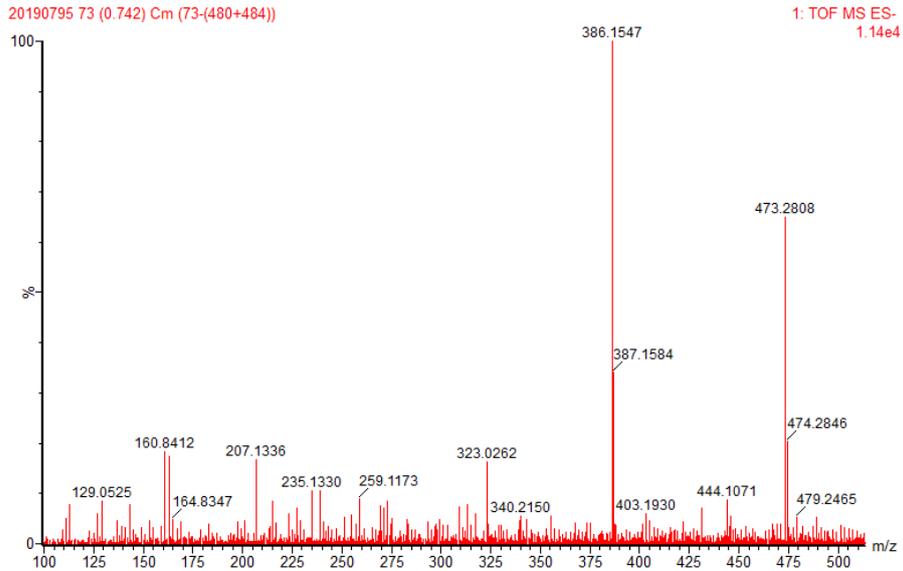




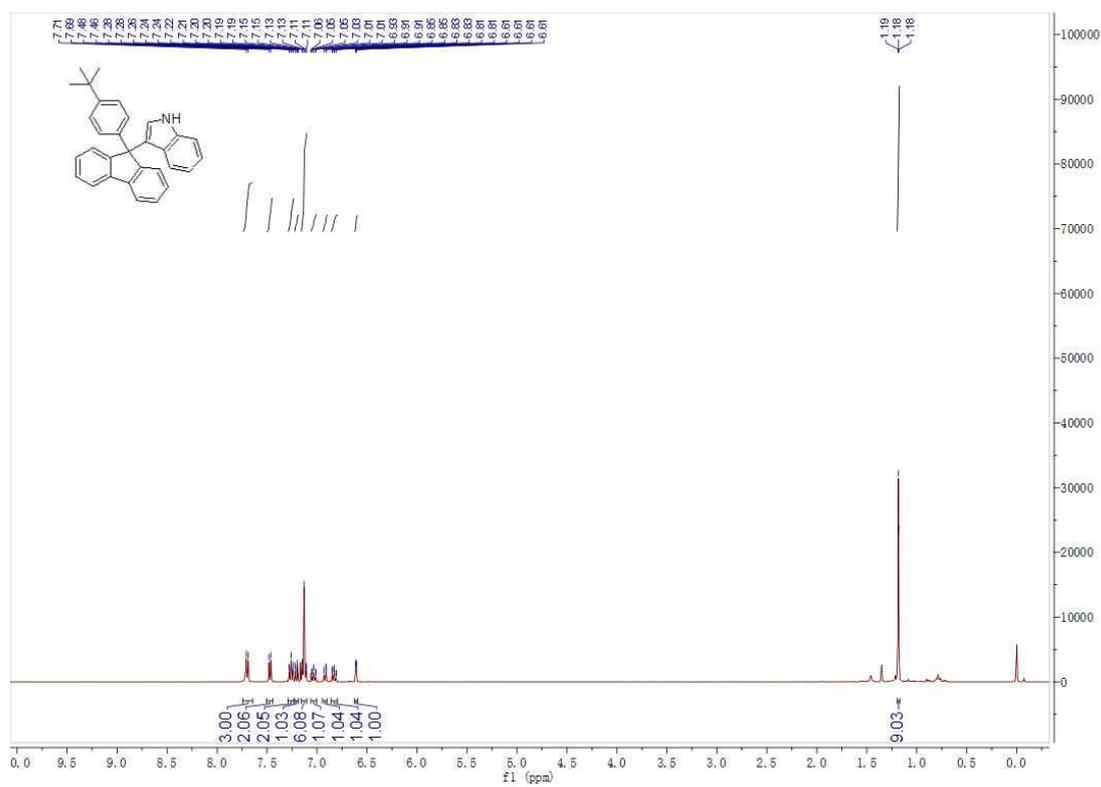
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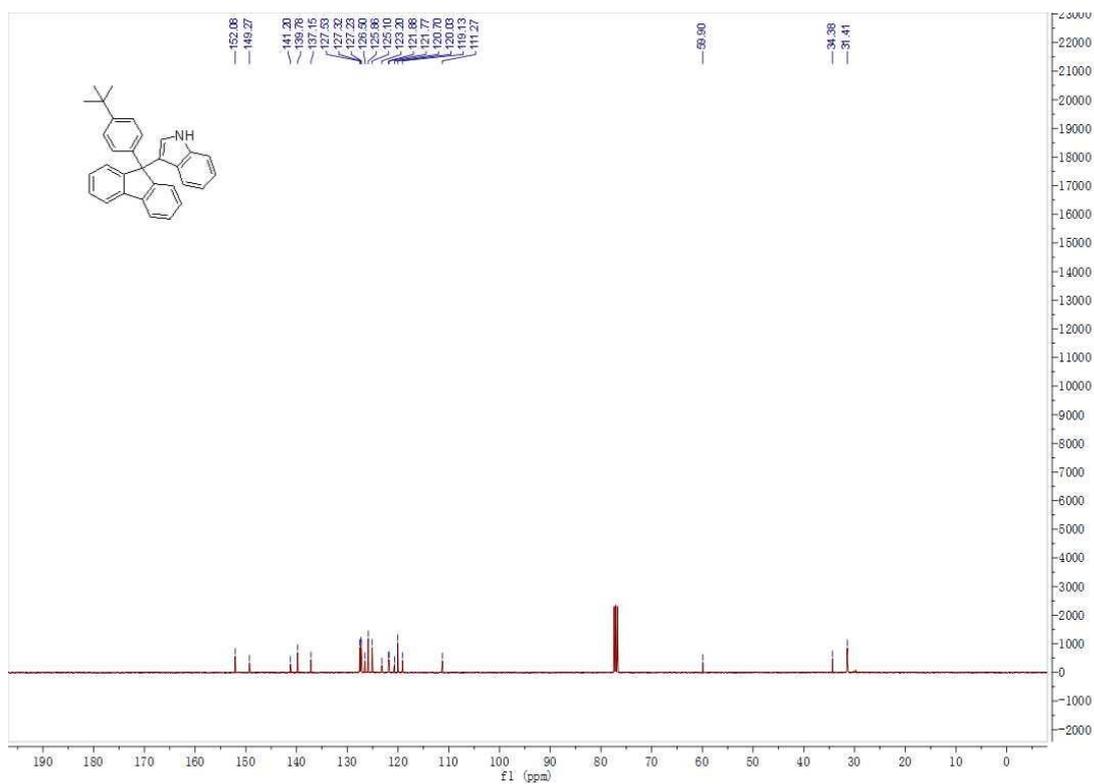


20190795 73 (0.742) Cm (73-(480+484))

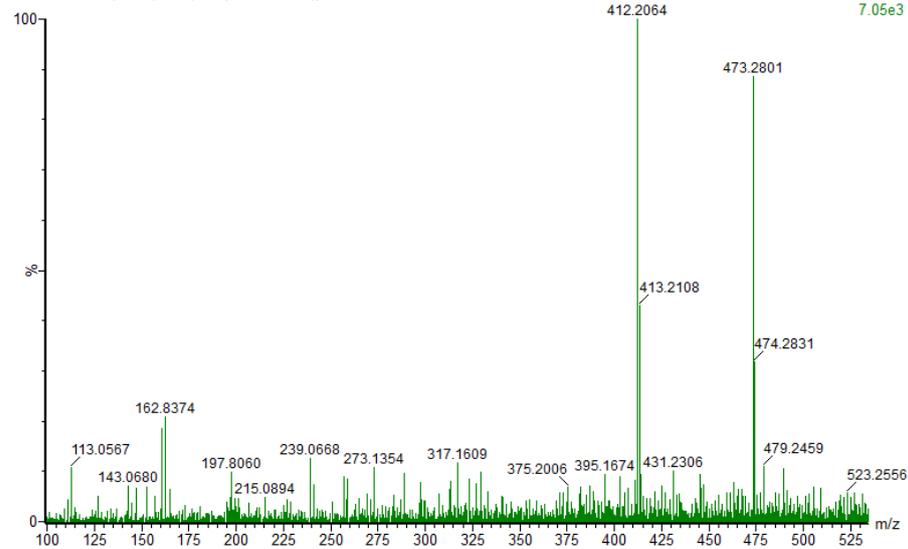


3d

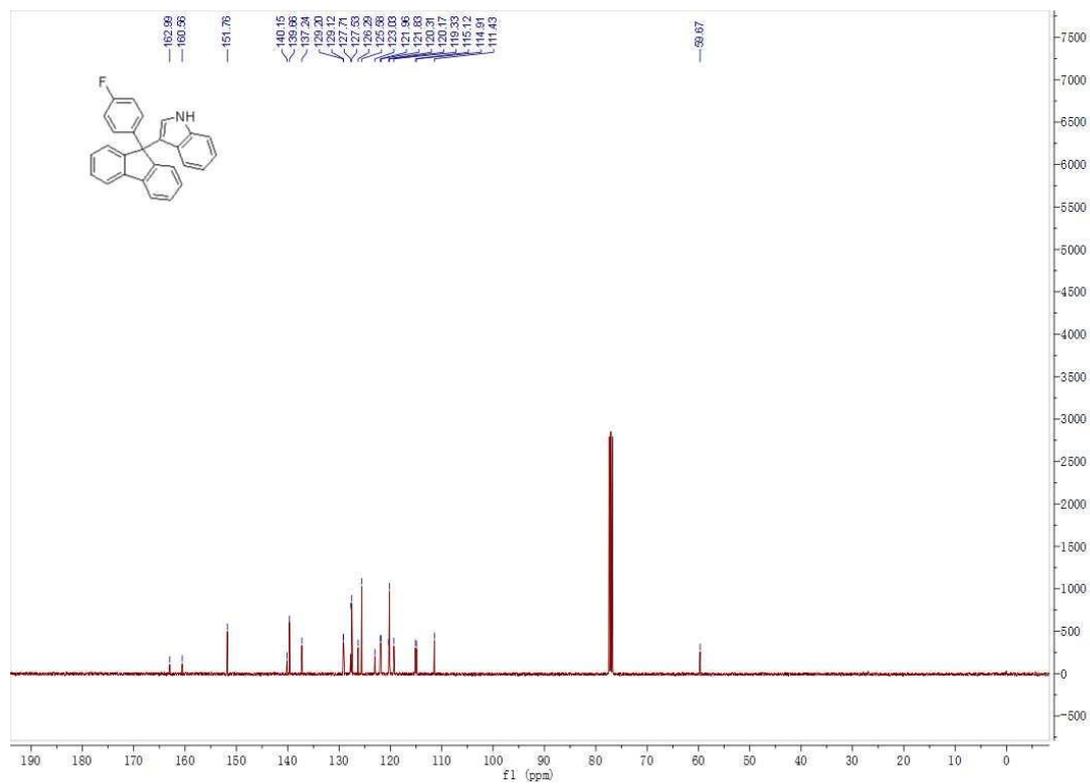
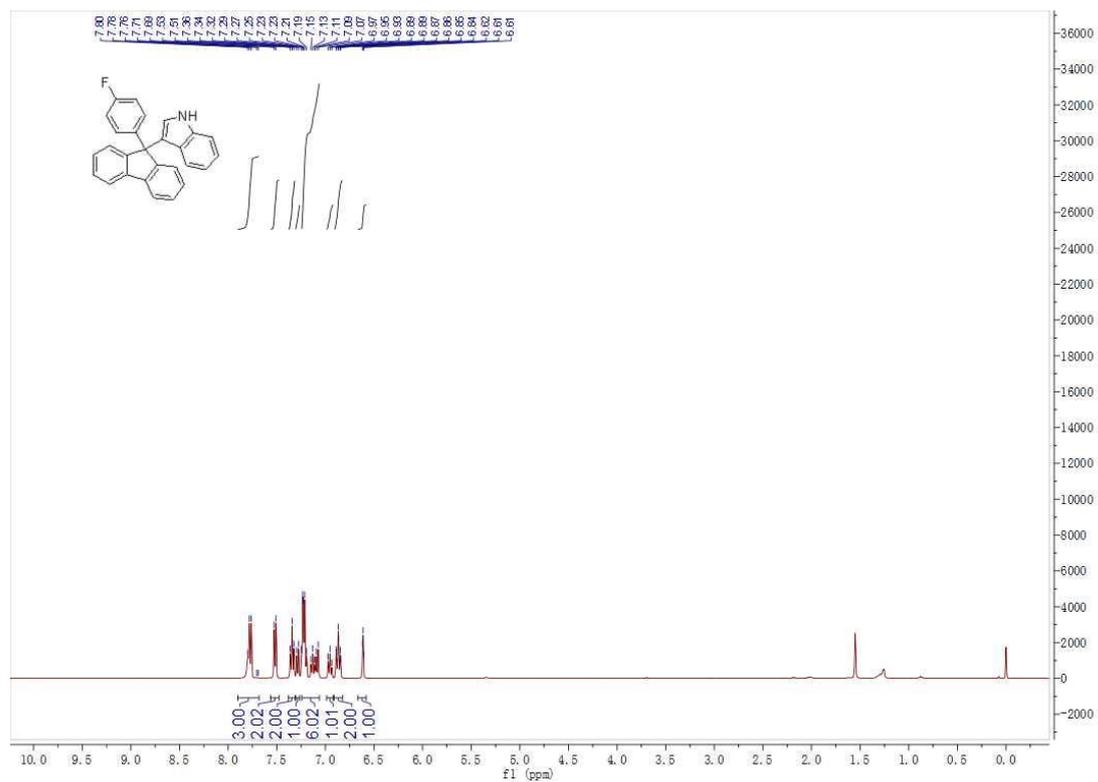


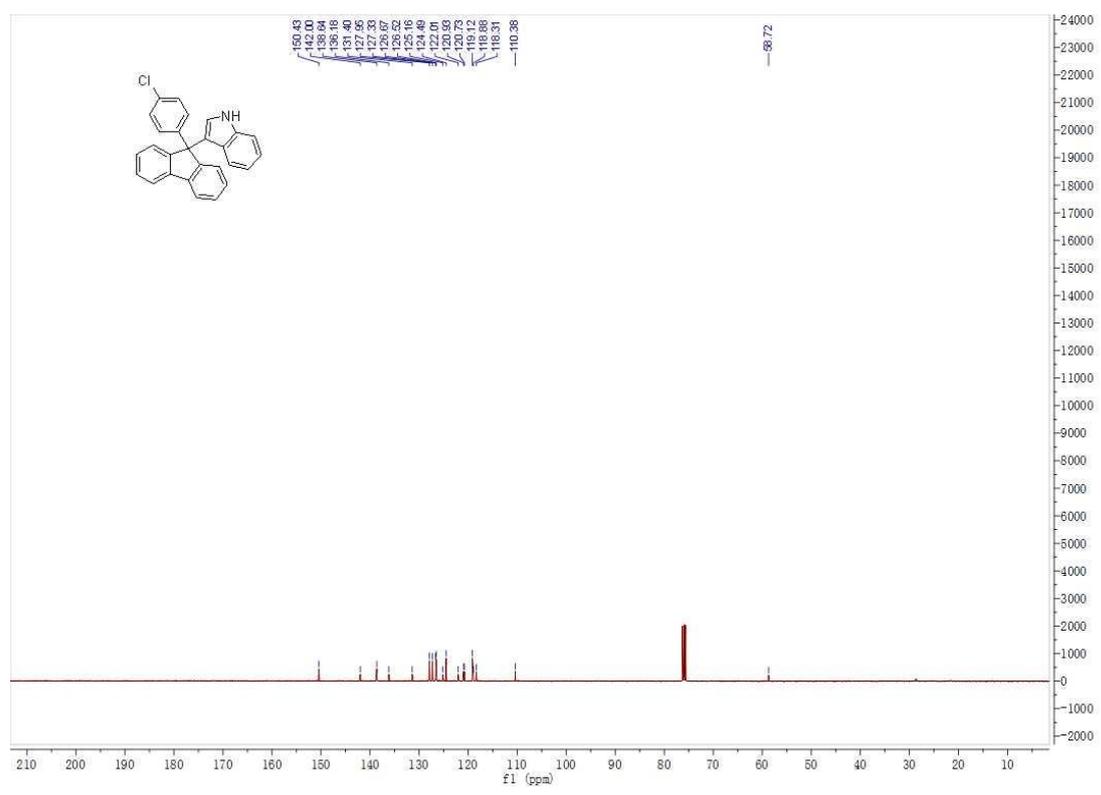
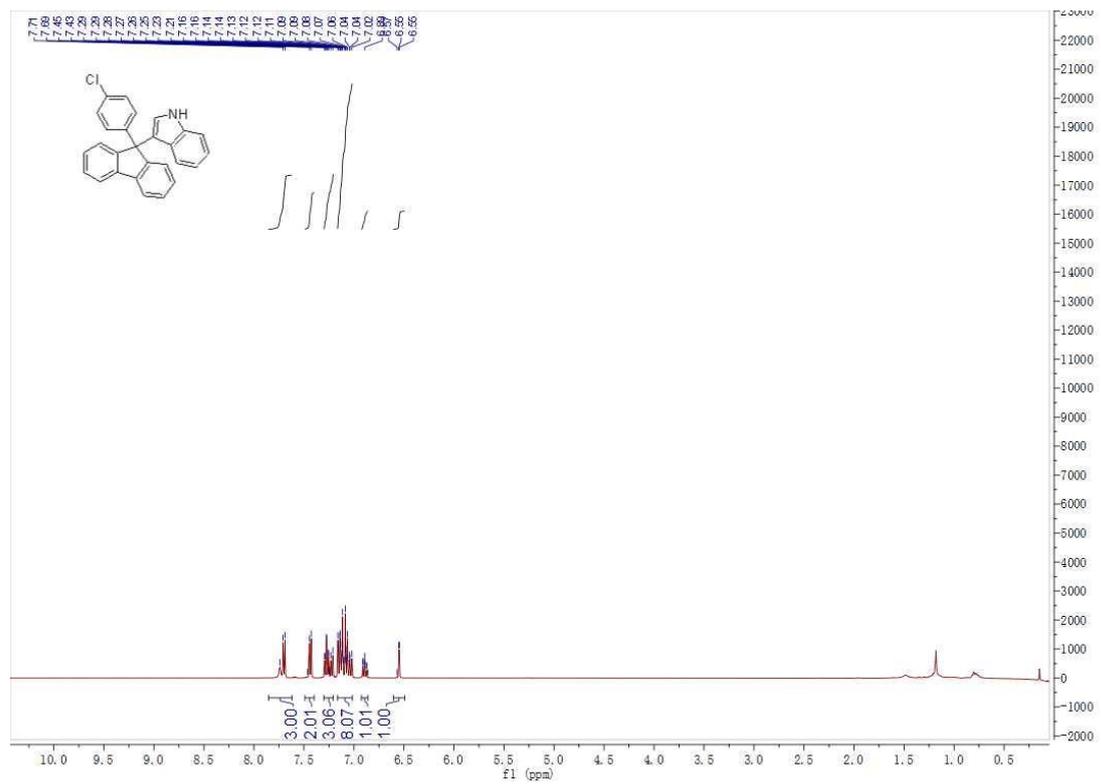


20190797 140 (1.375) Cm (140-(55.58+71.73)) 1: TOF MS ES- 7.05e3

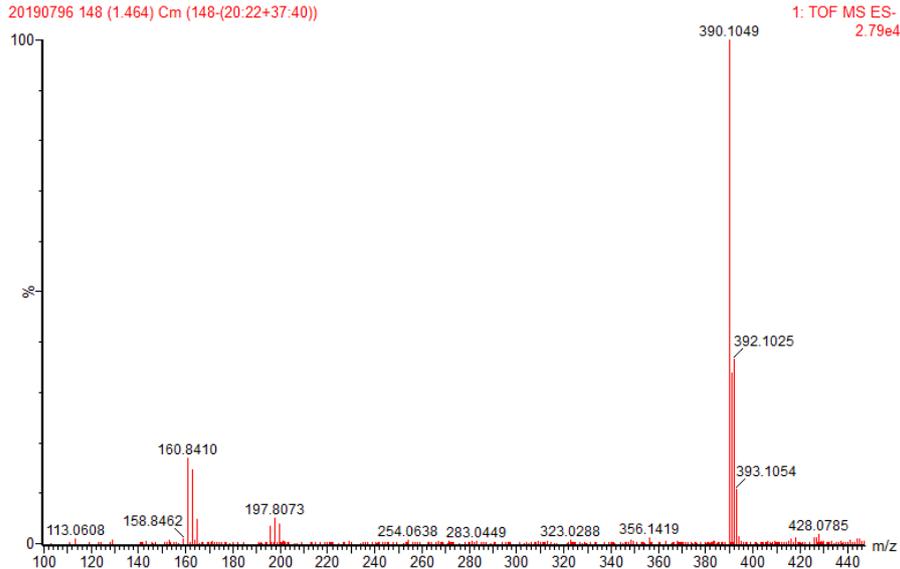


3e

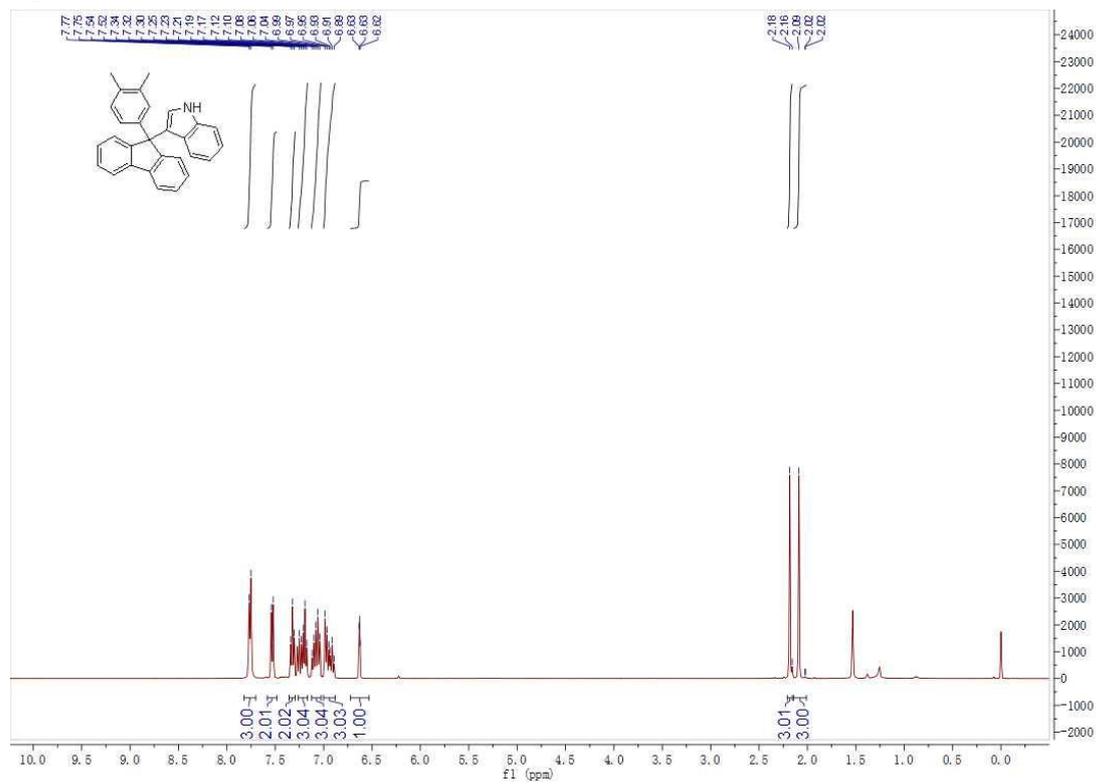


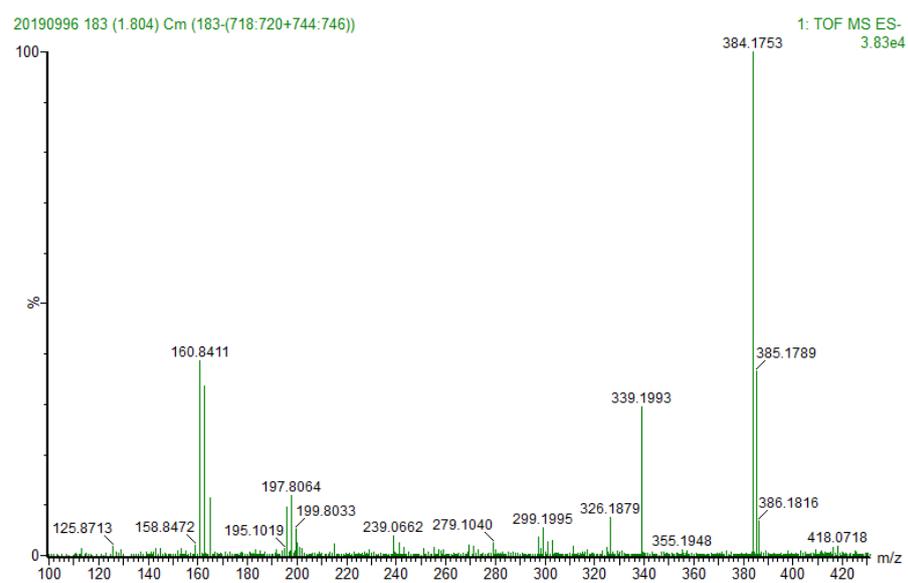
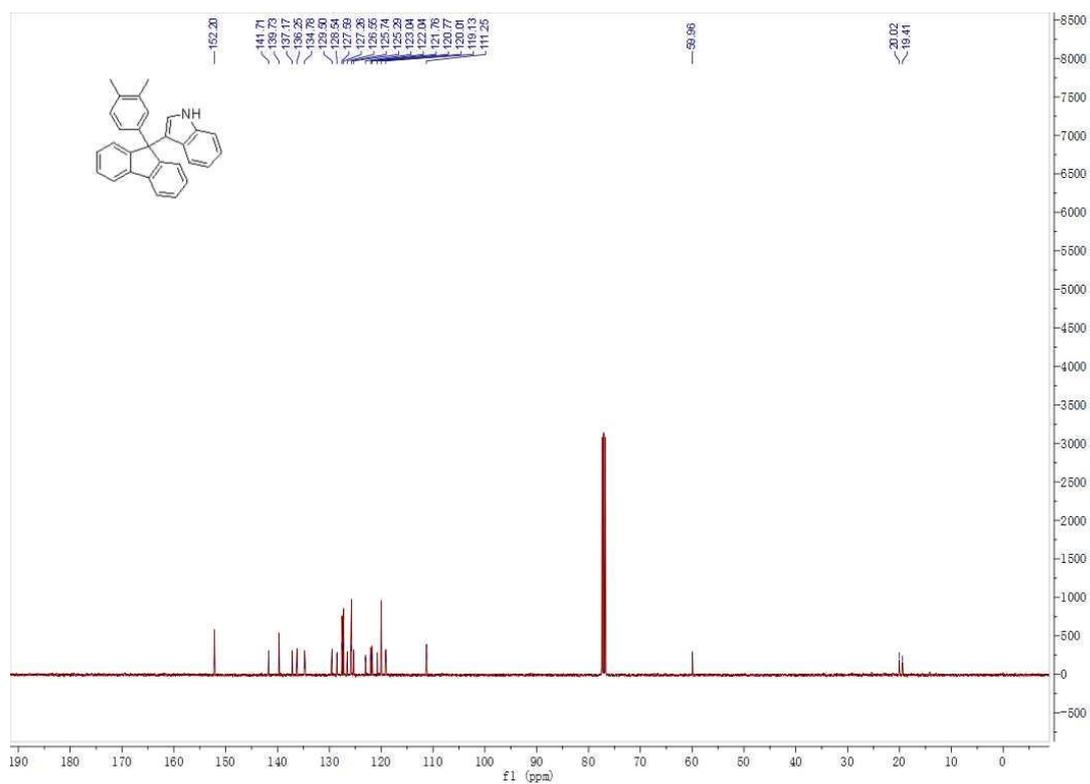


20190796 148 (1.464) Cm (148-(20:22+37:40))

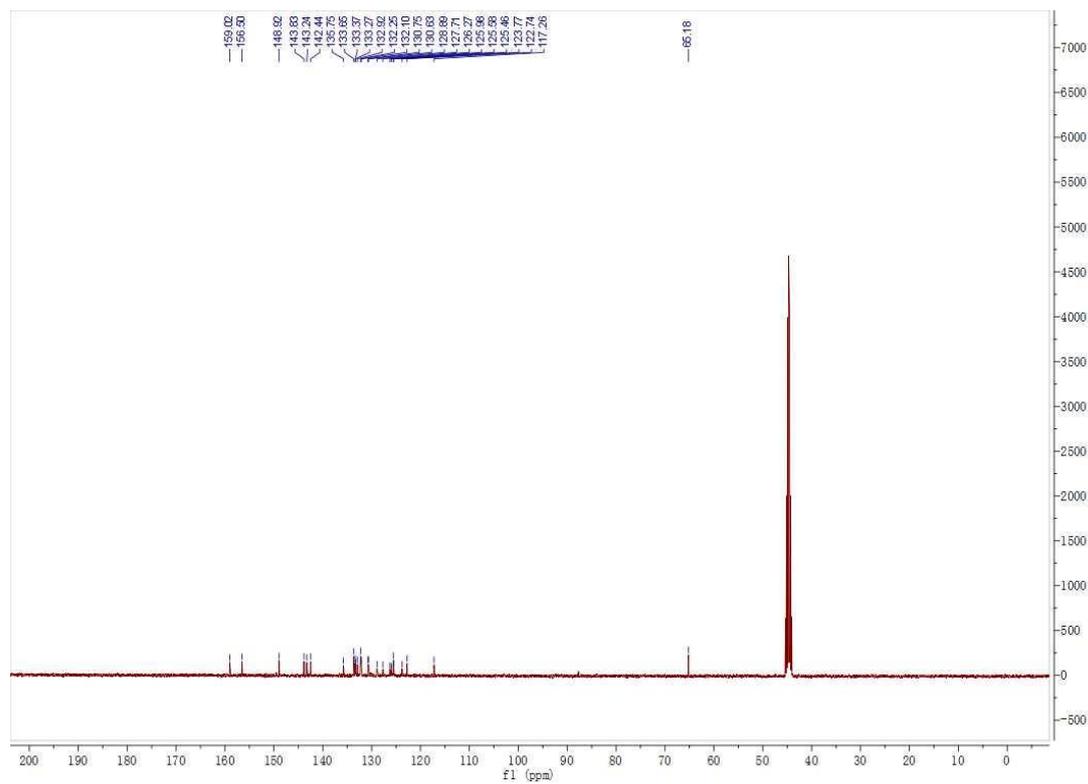
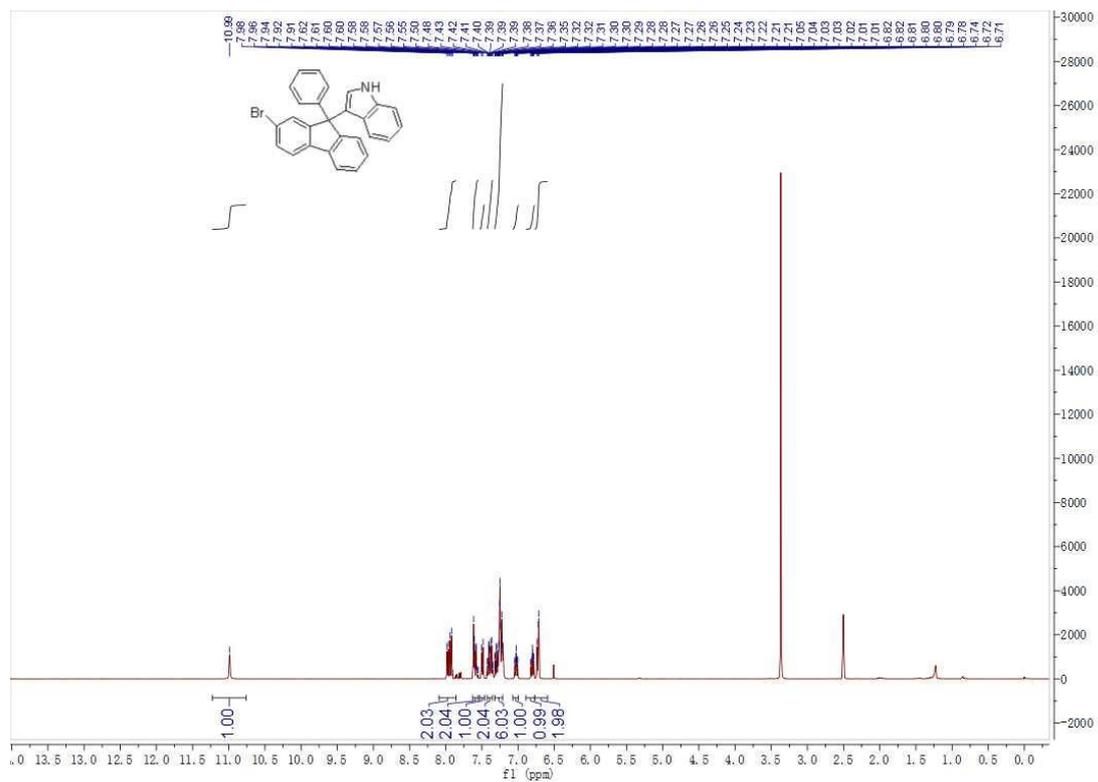


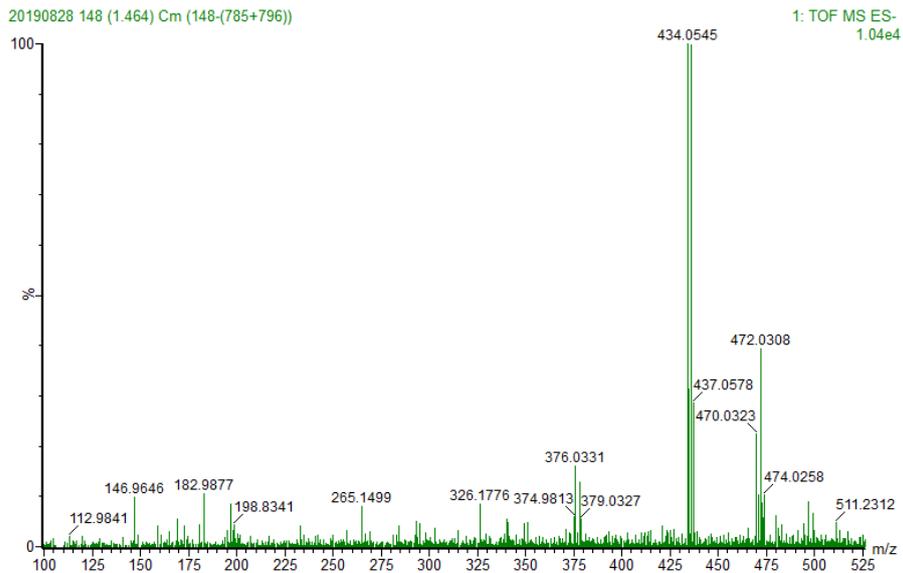
3g



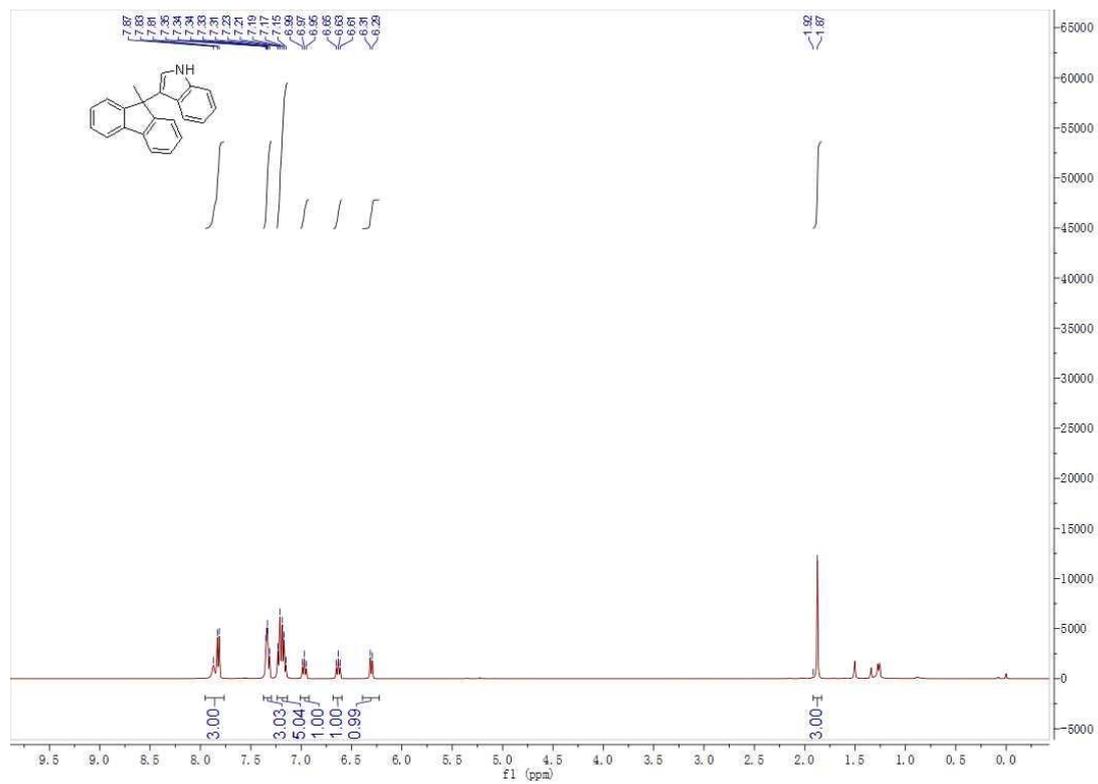


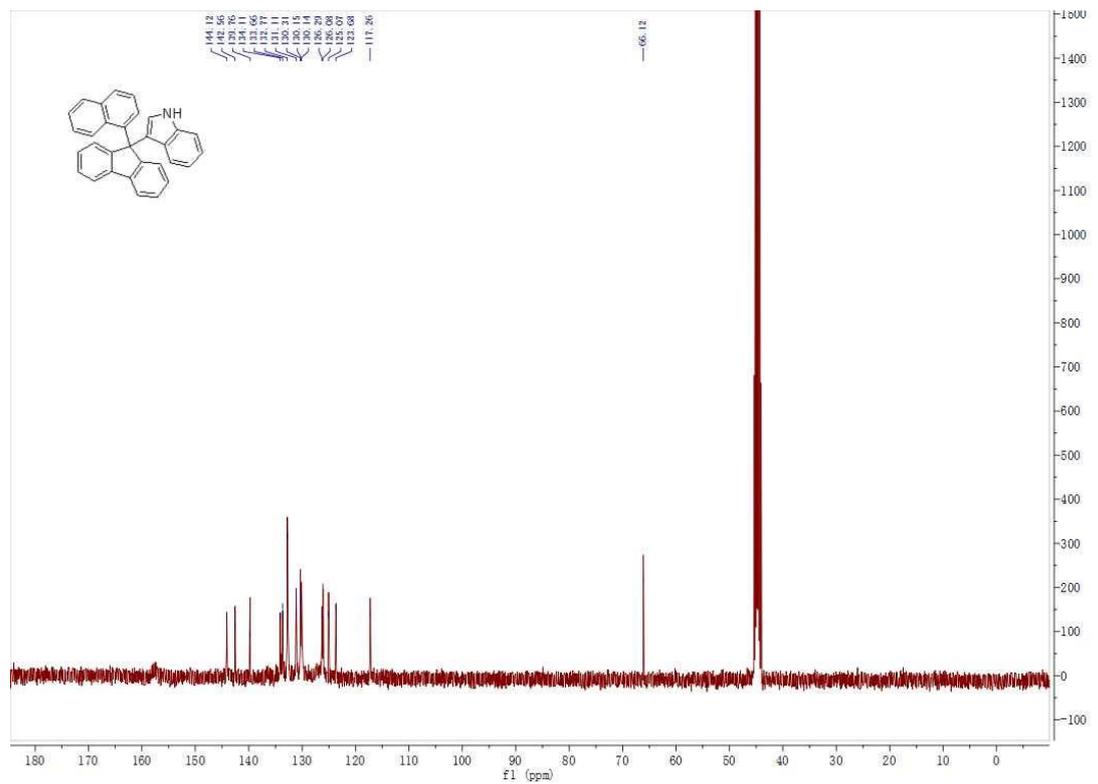
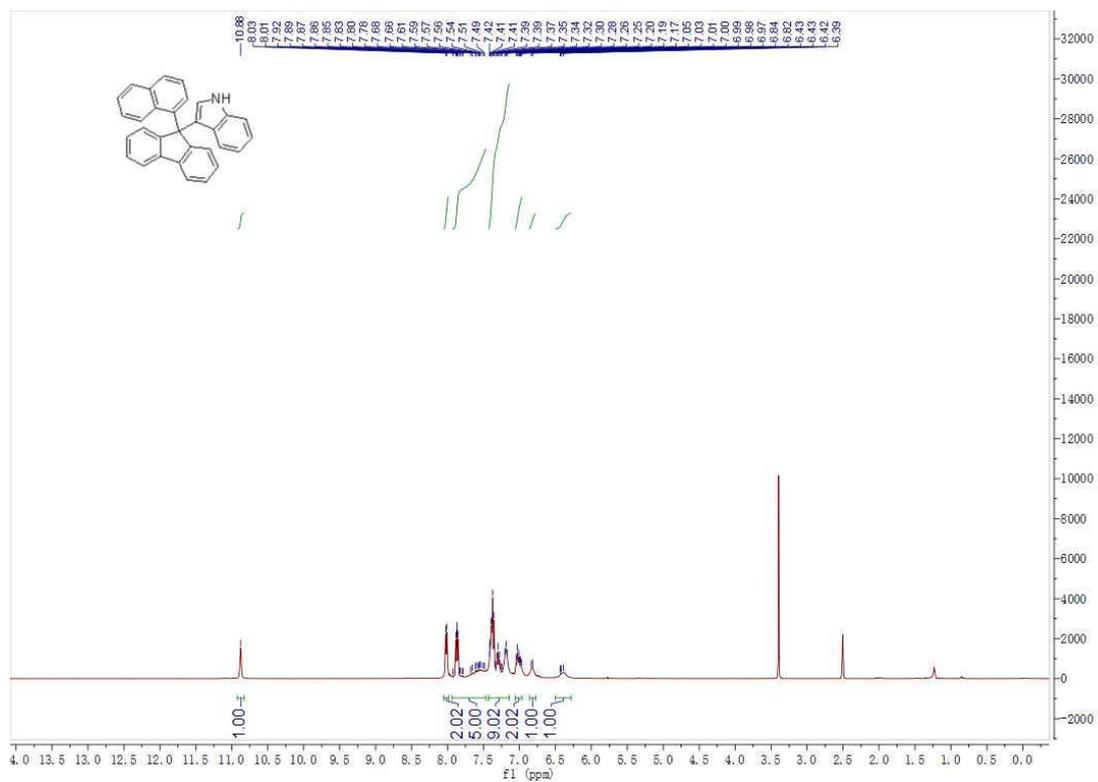
3h





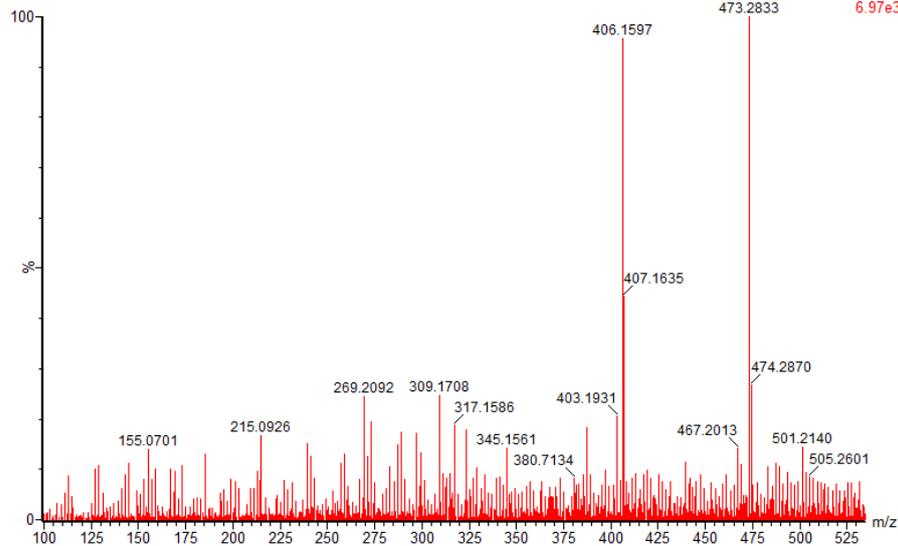
3i



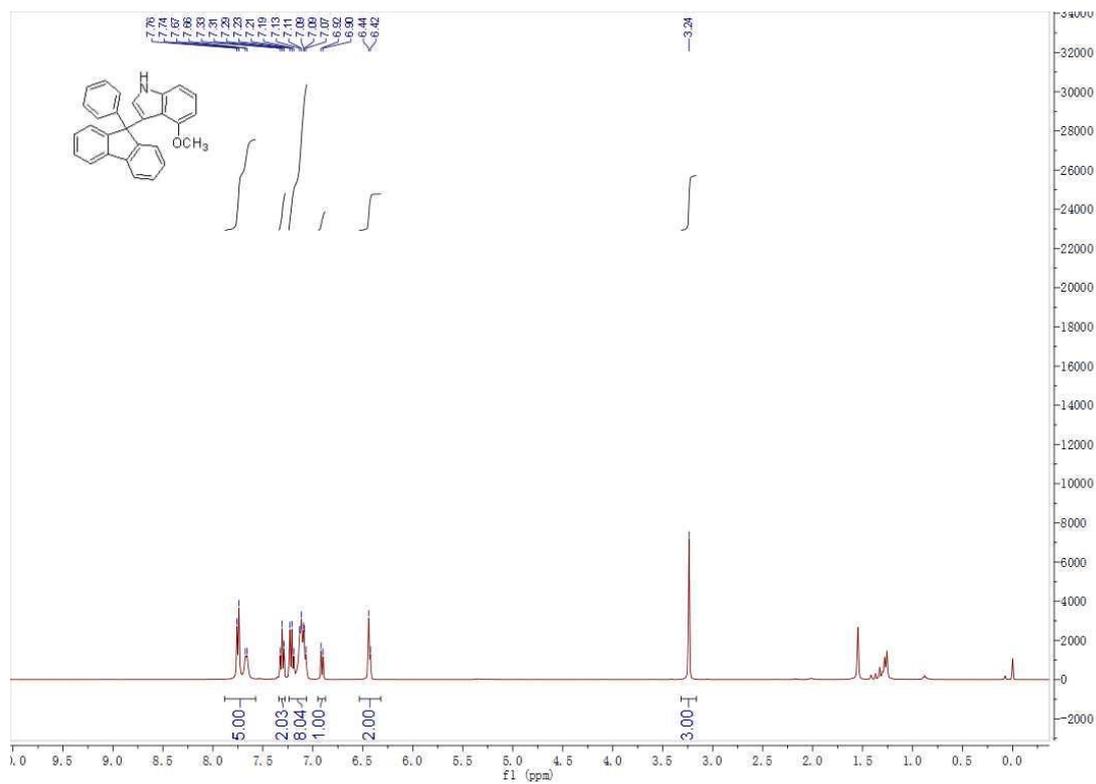


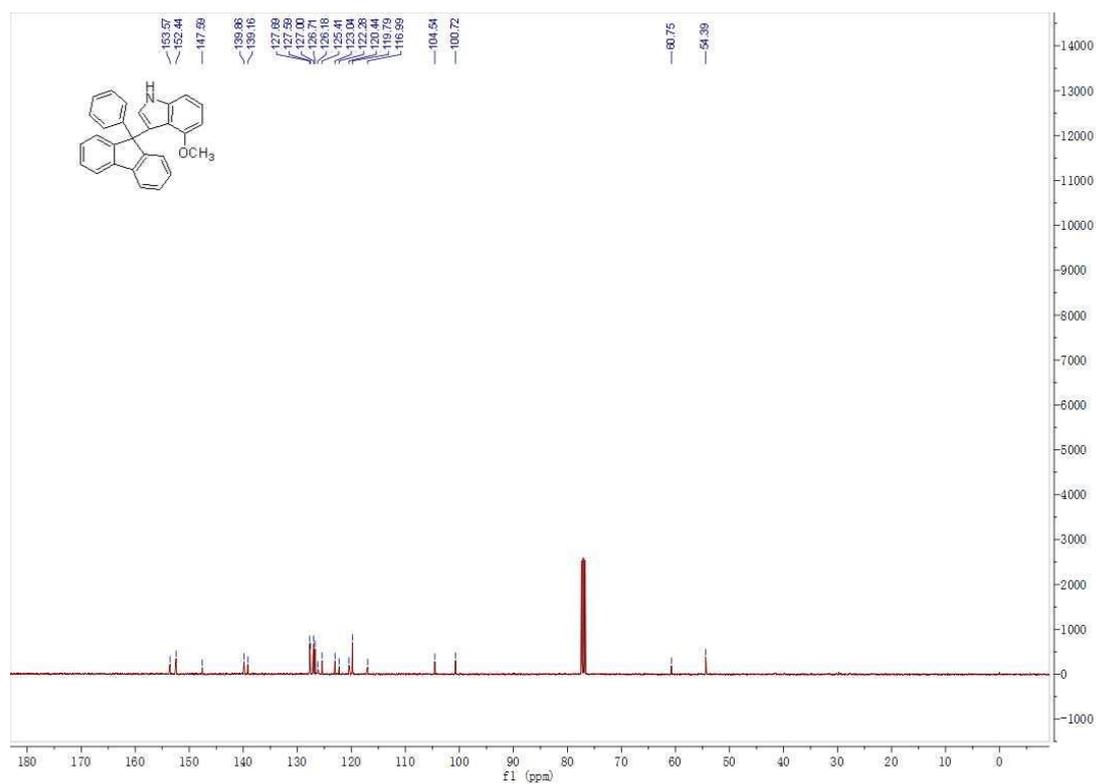
20190829 75 (0.759) Cm (75-(528-529+765))

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6.97e3



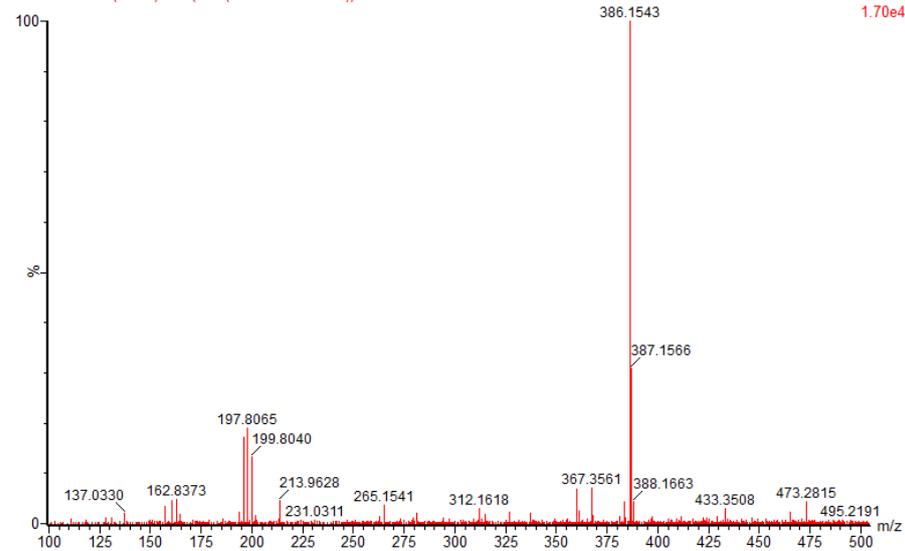
3k



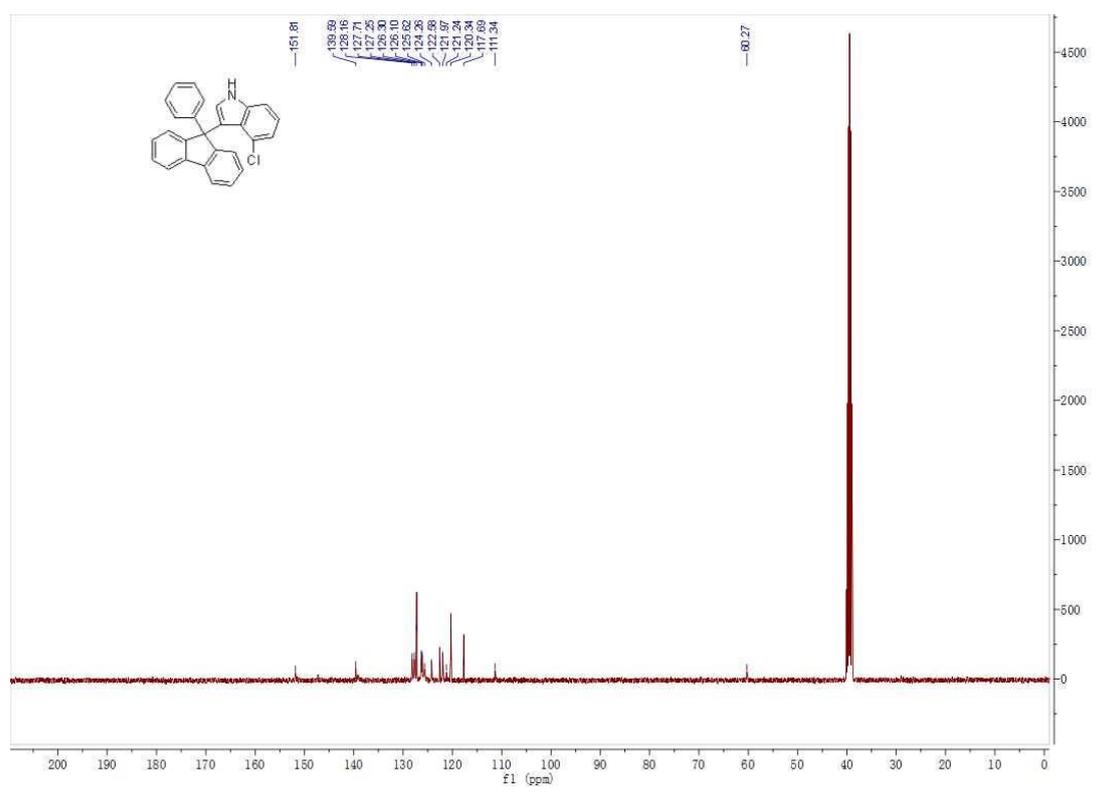
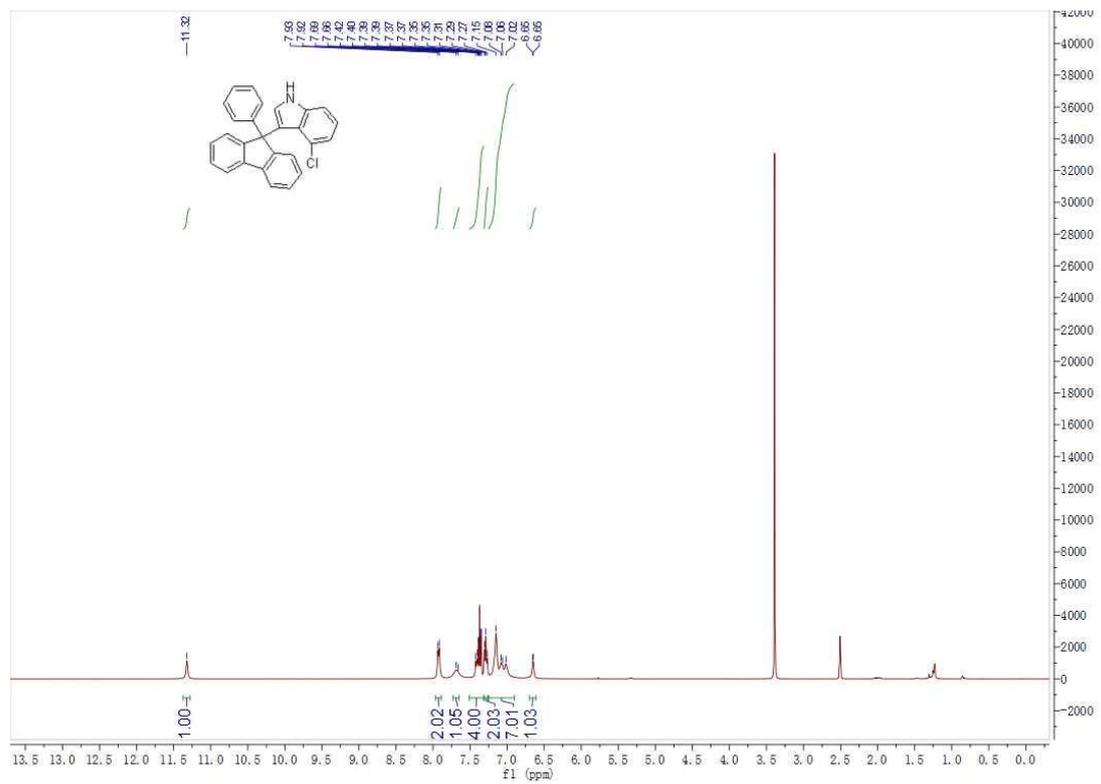


20191504 299 (2.918) Cm (299-(631.633+635.636))

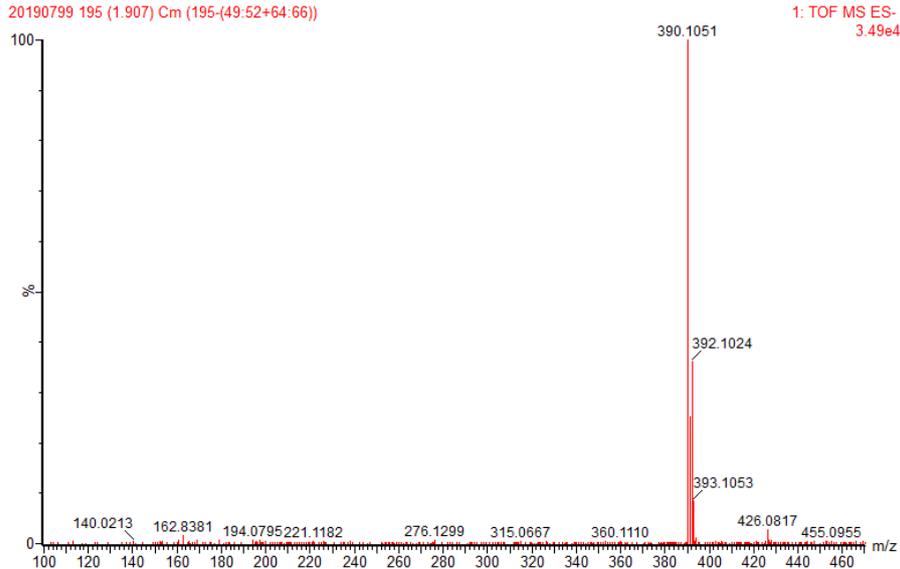
1: TOF MS ES-
1.70e4



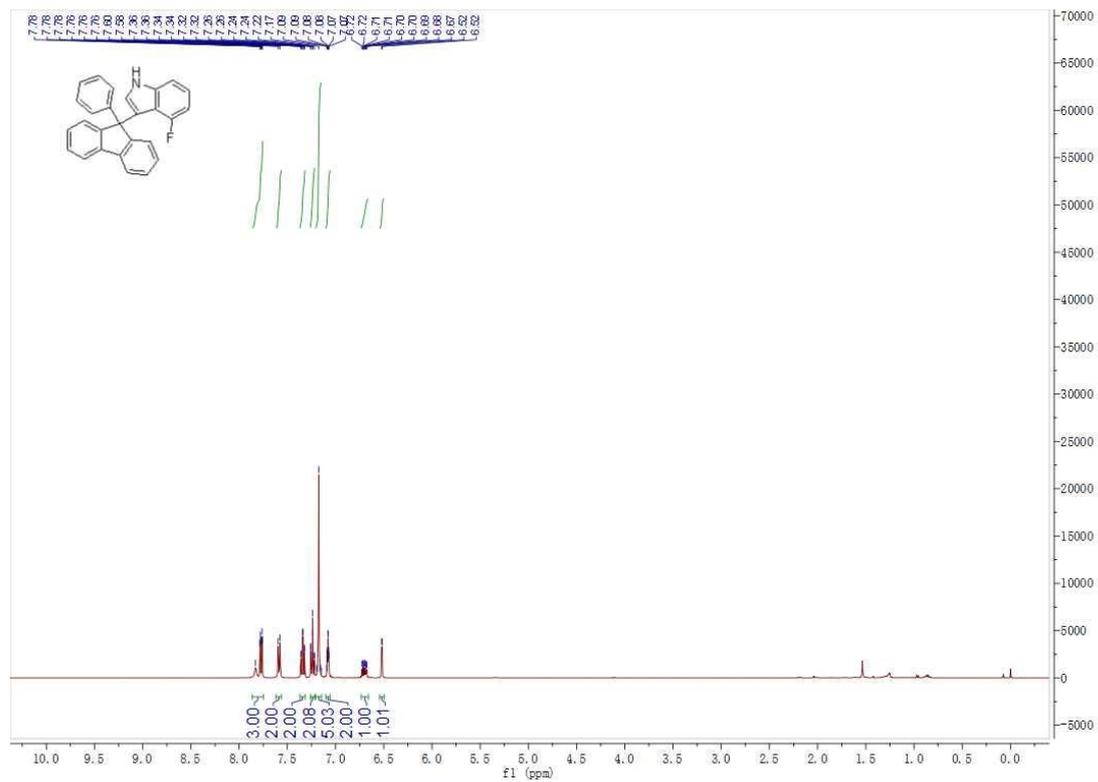
3I

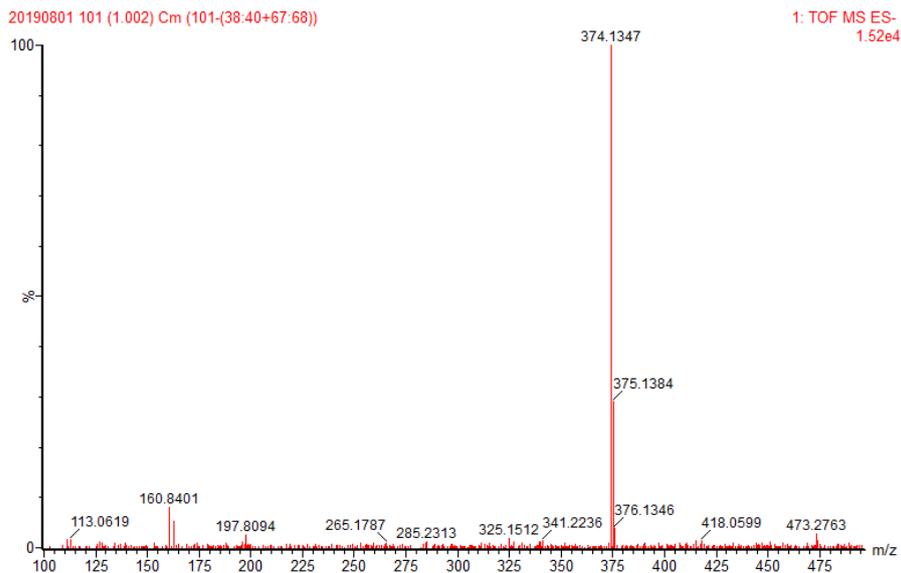


20190799 195 (1.907) Cm (195-(49:52+64:66))

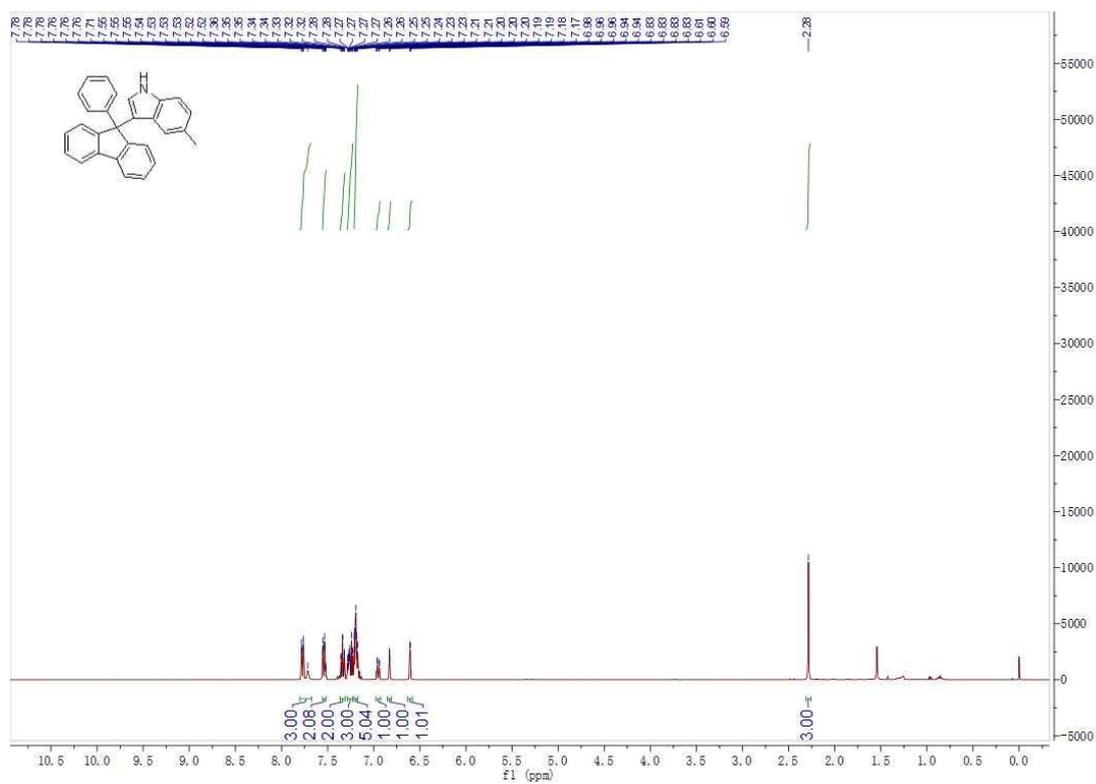


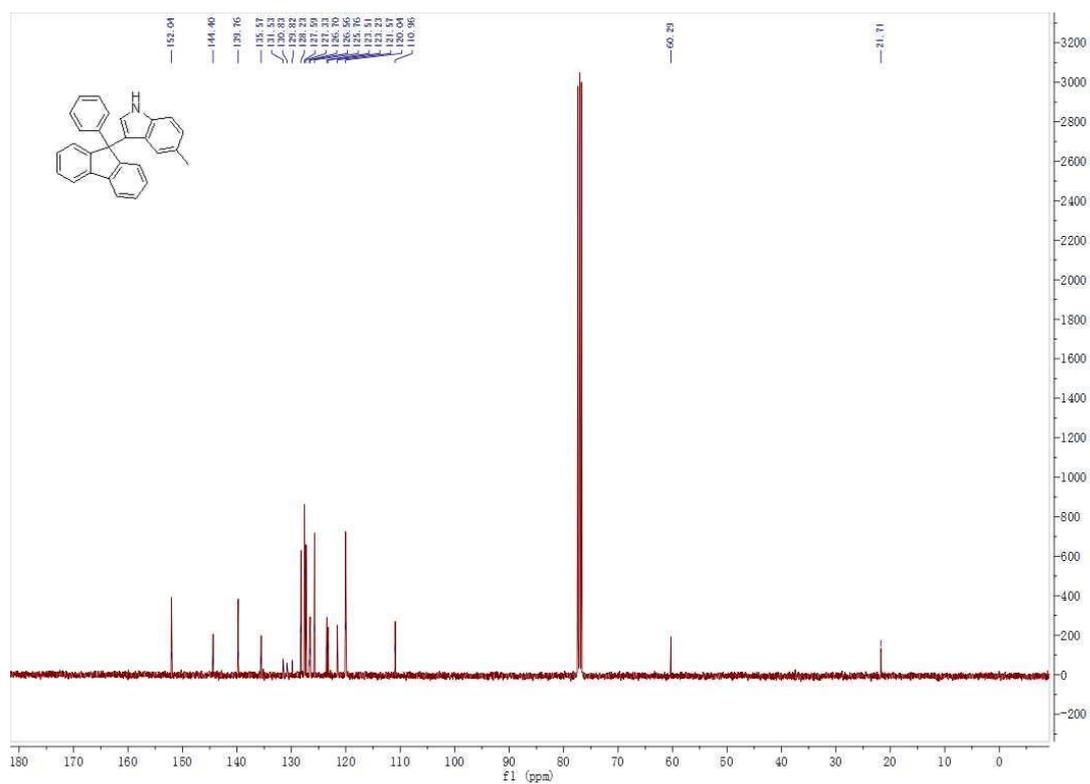
3m



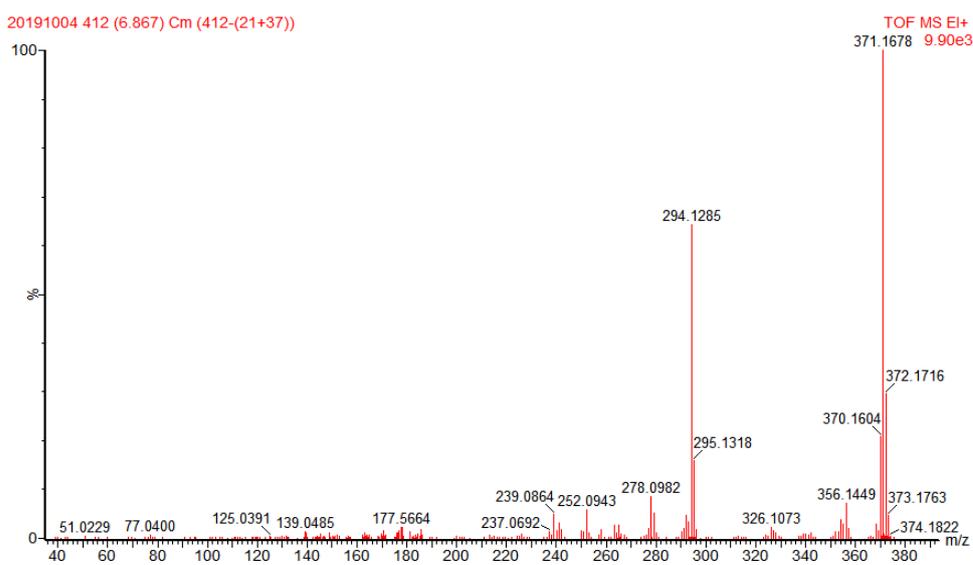


3n

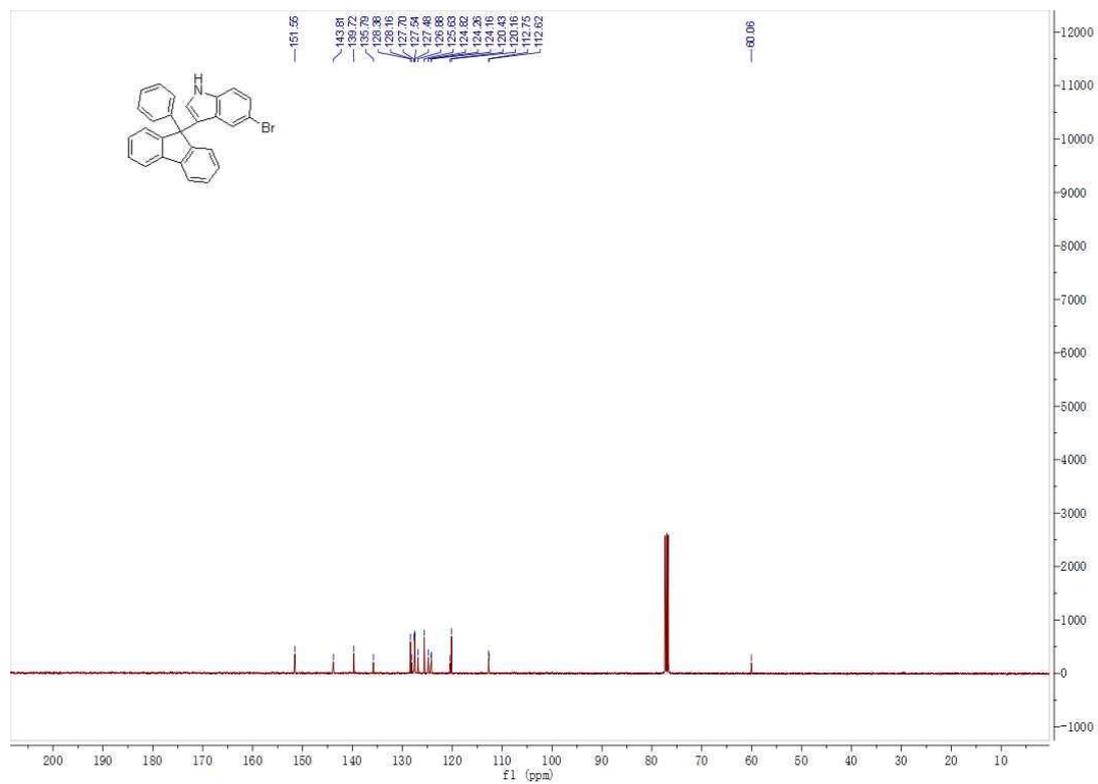
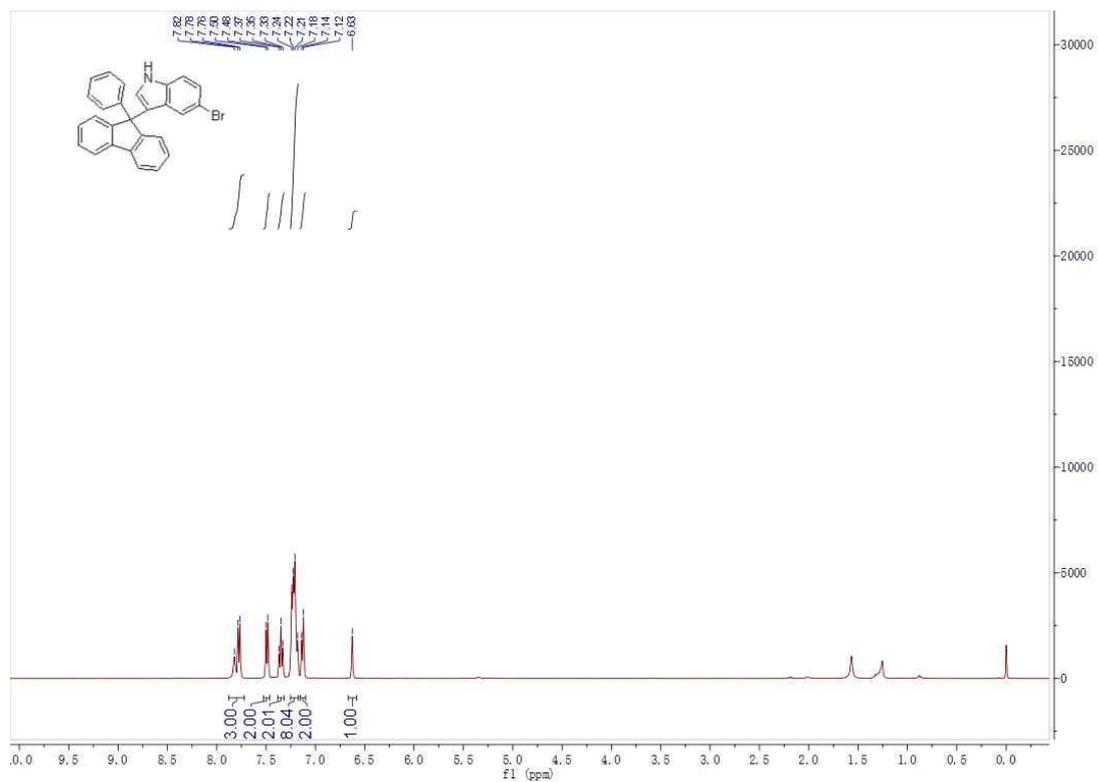




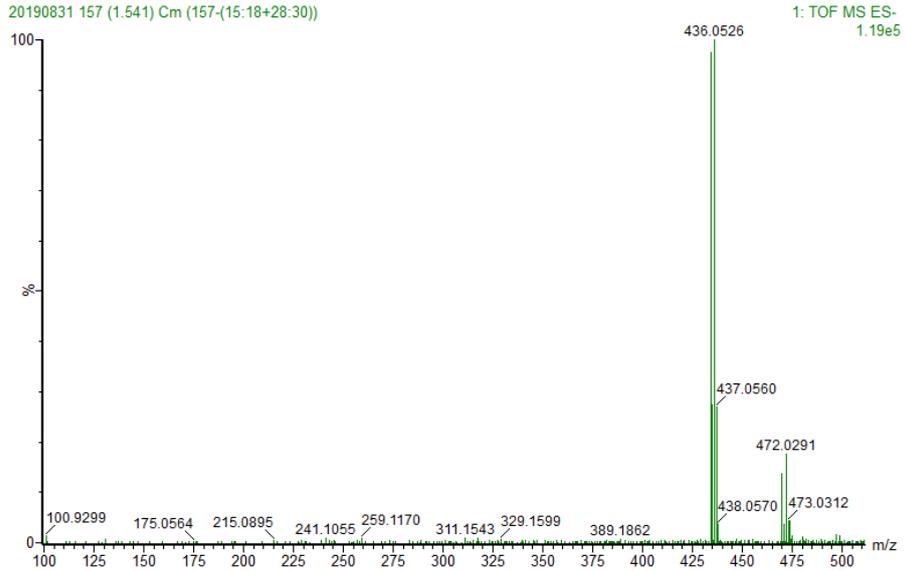
20191004 412 (6.867) Cm (412-(21+37))



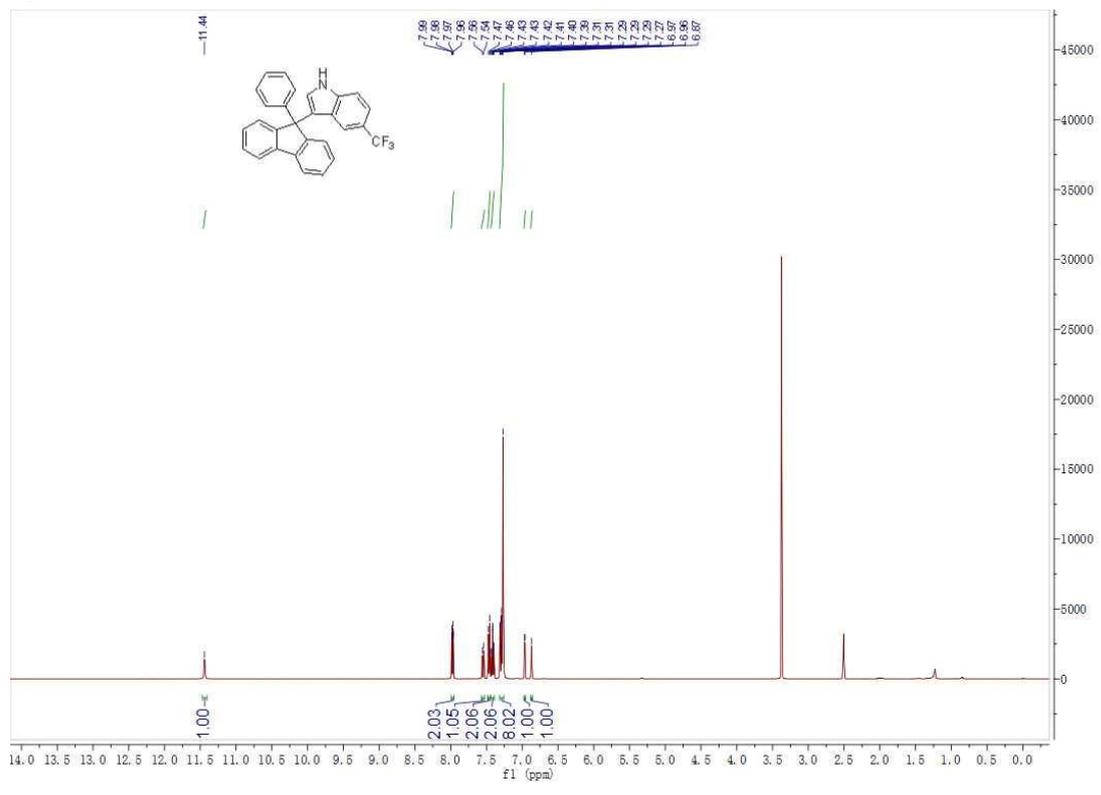
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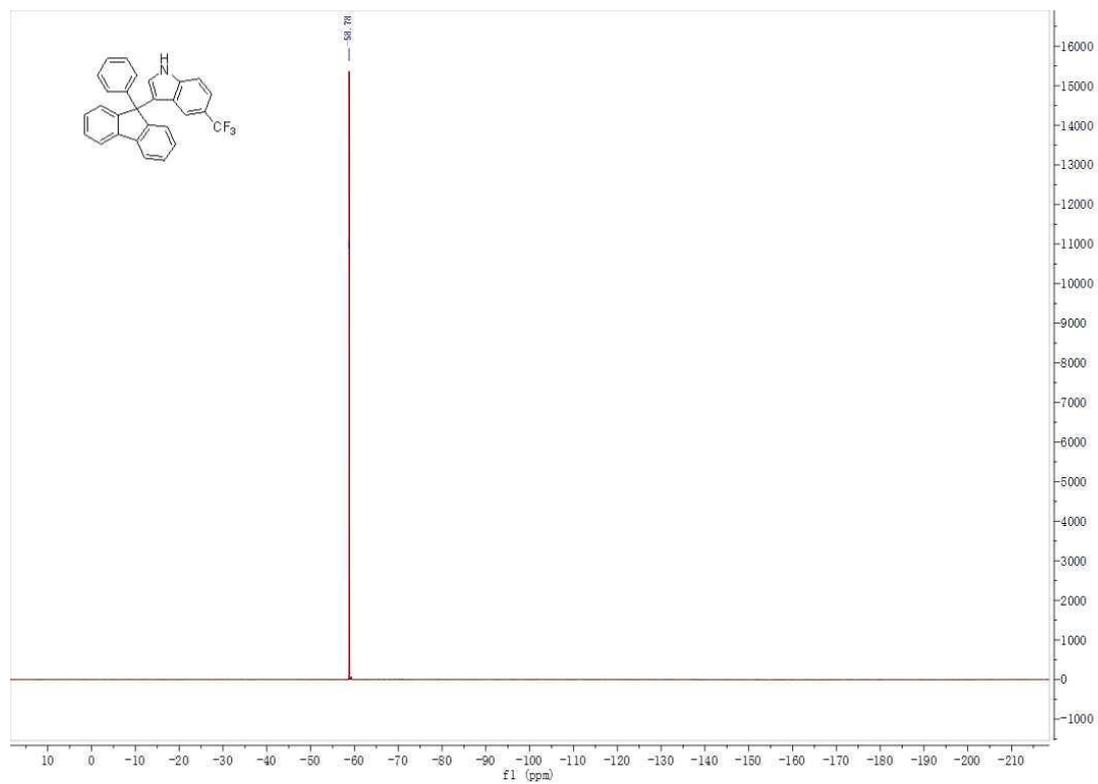
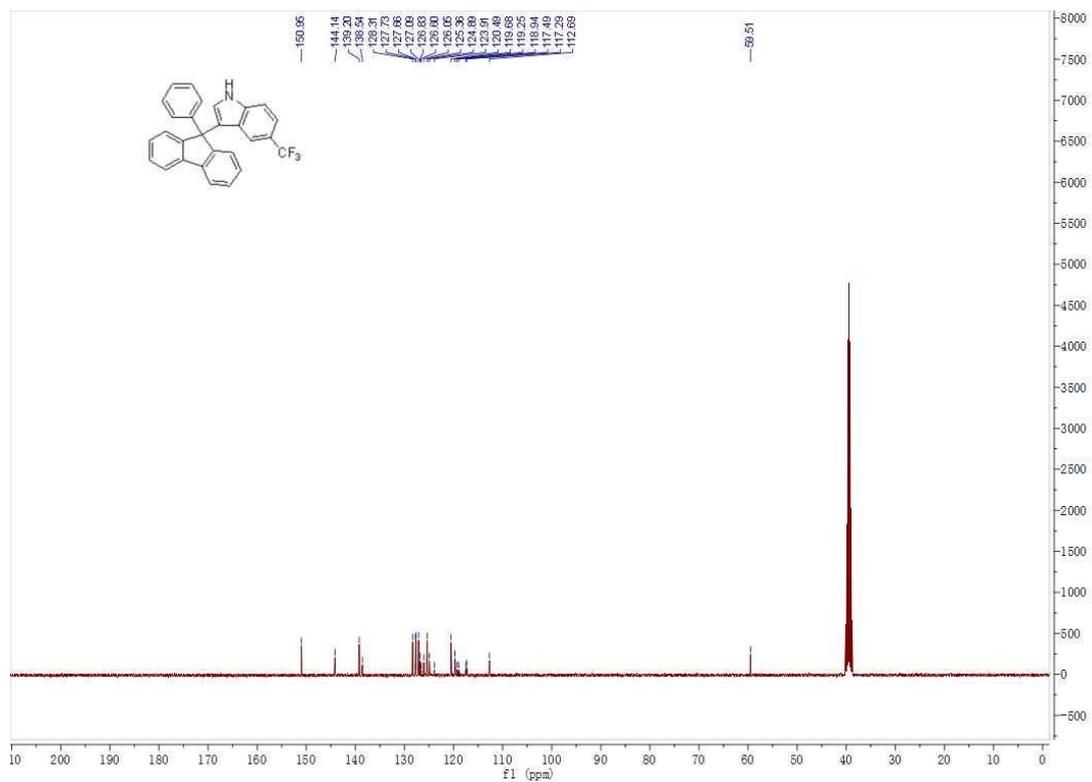


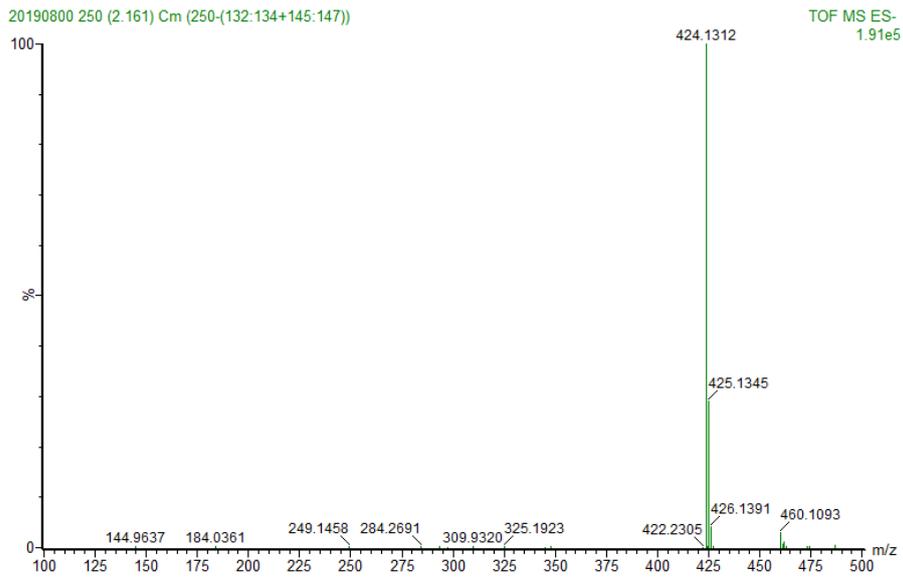
20190831 157 (1.541) Cm (157-(15:18+28:30))



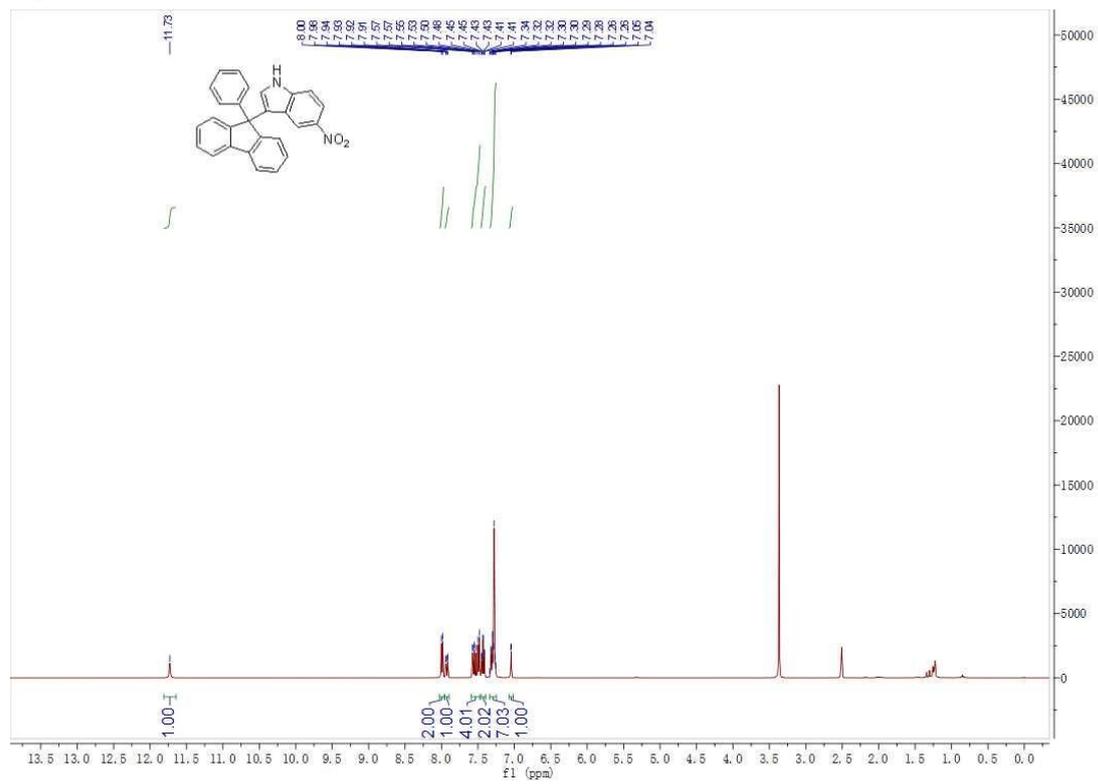
3p

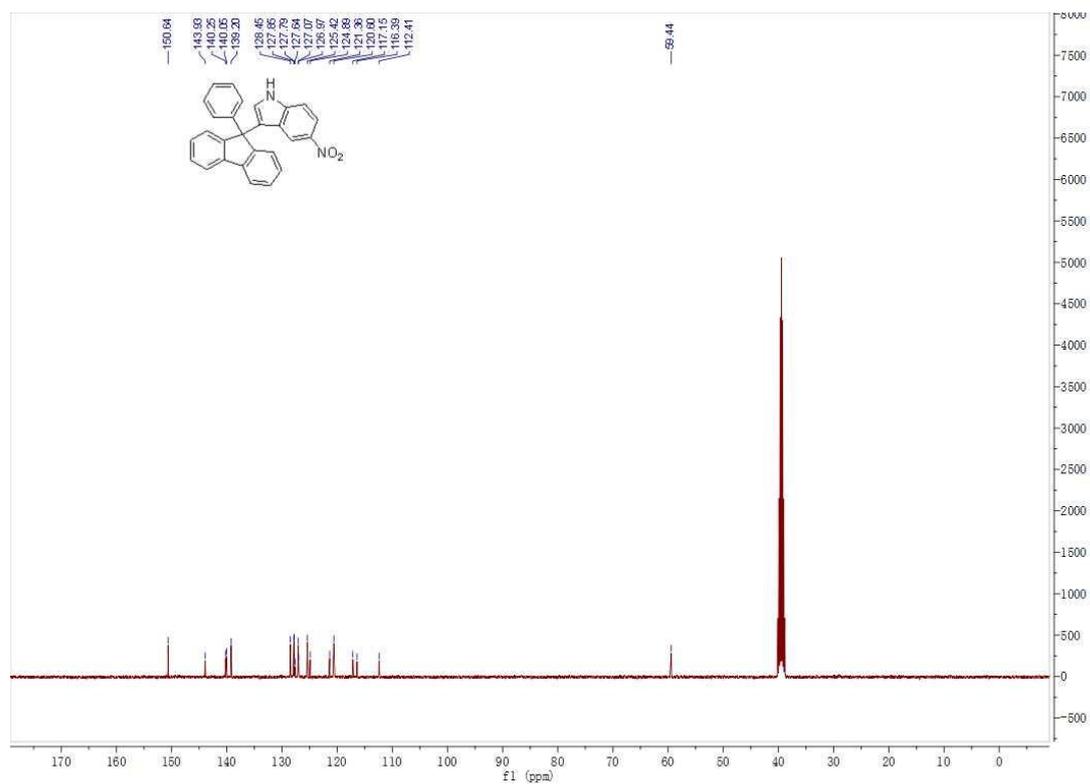






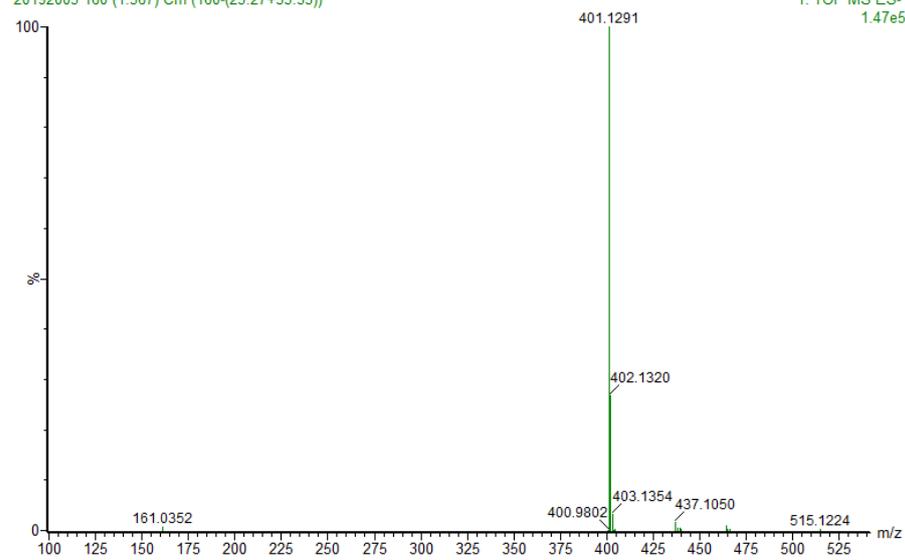
3q



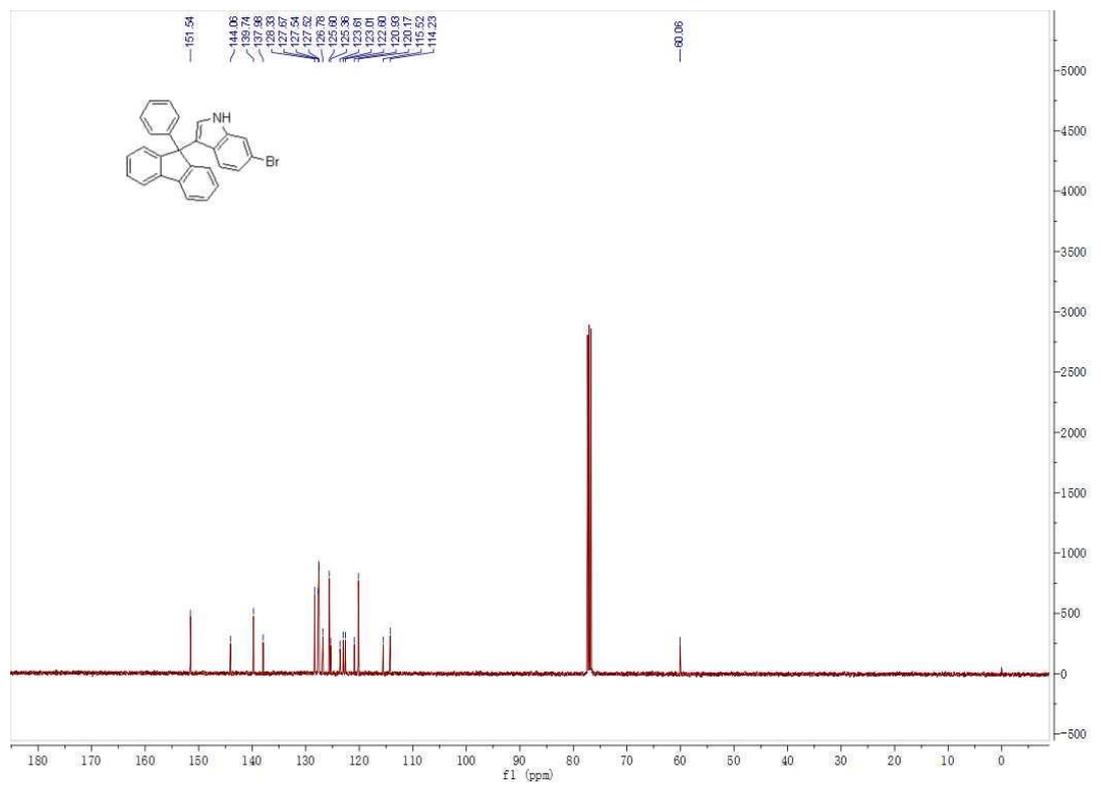
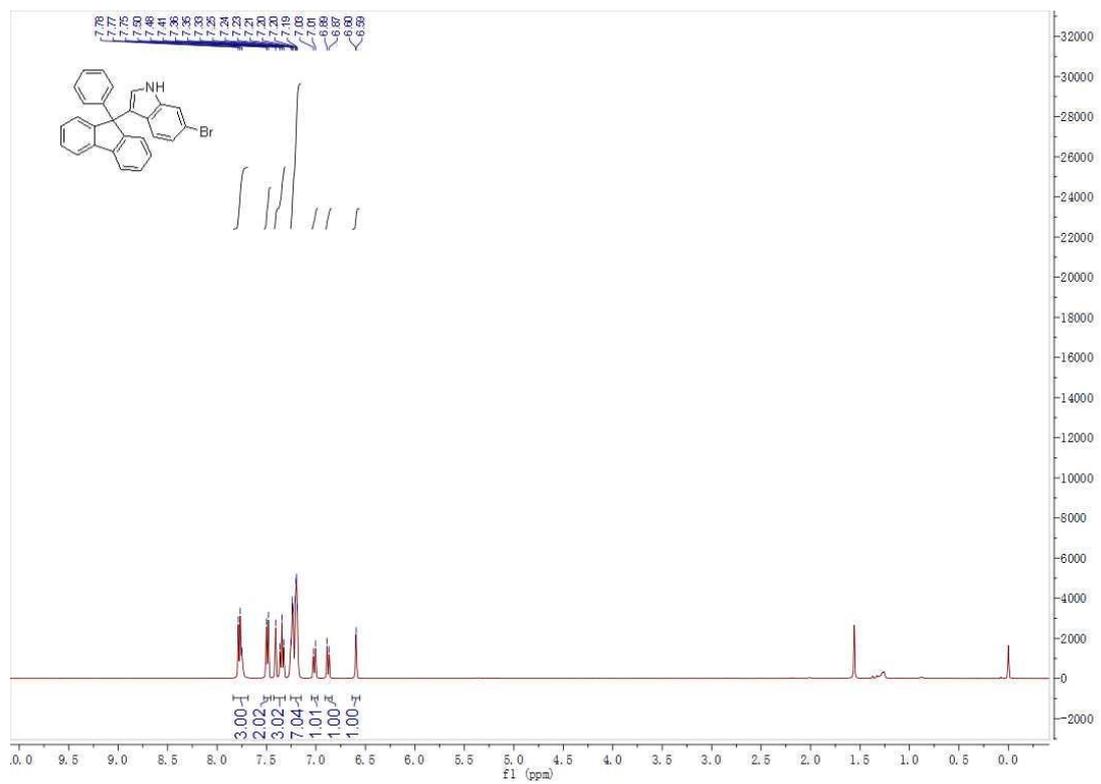


20192005 160 (1.567) Cm (160-(25:27+33:35))

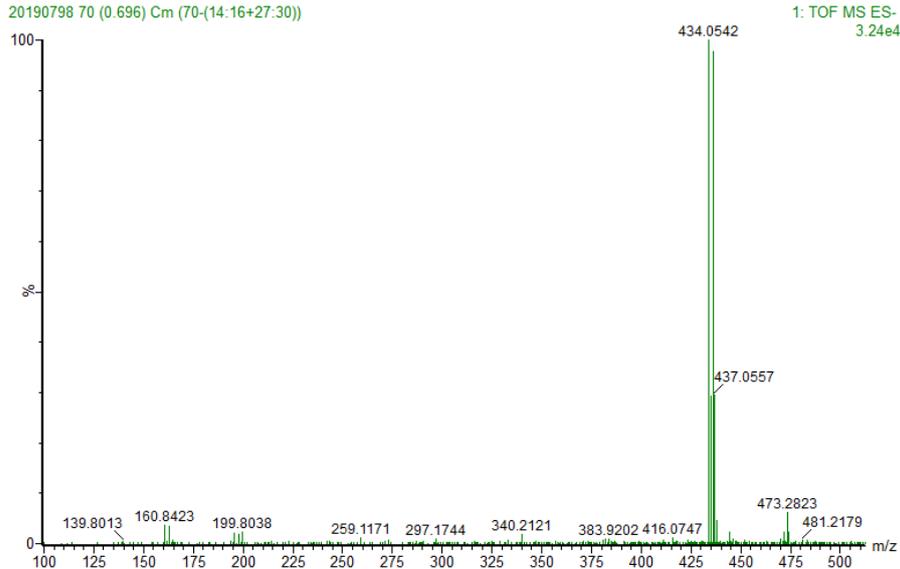
1: TOF MS ES-
1.47e5



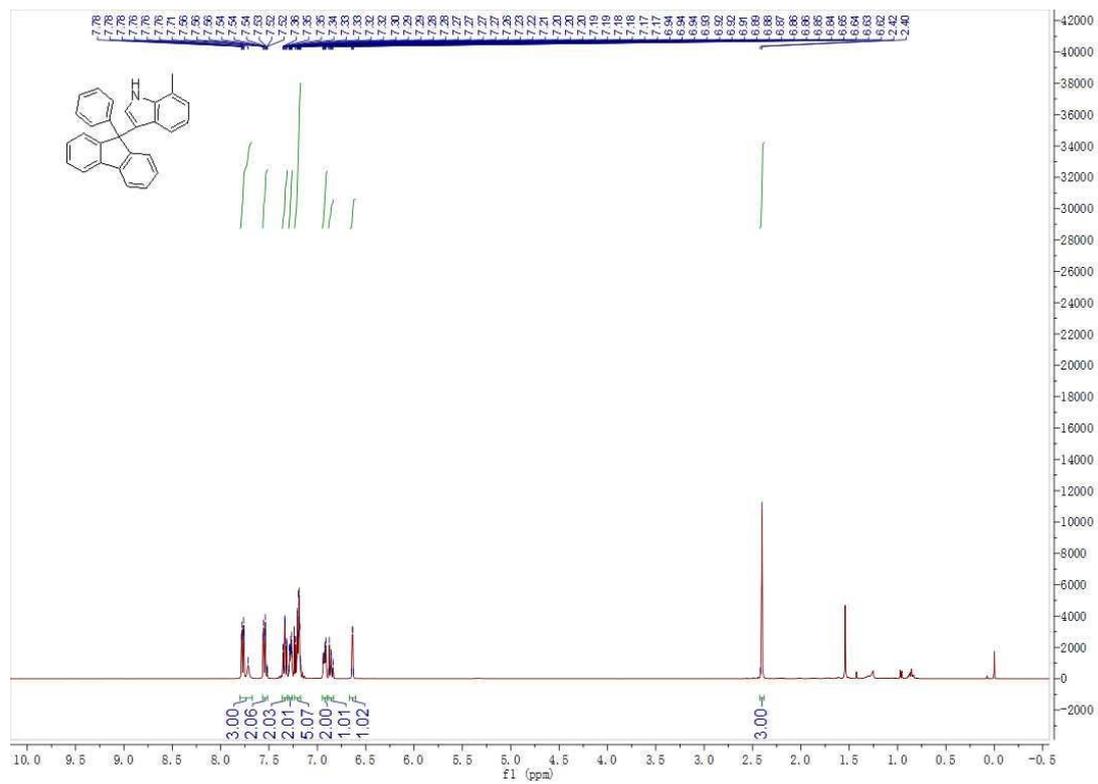
3r

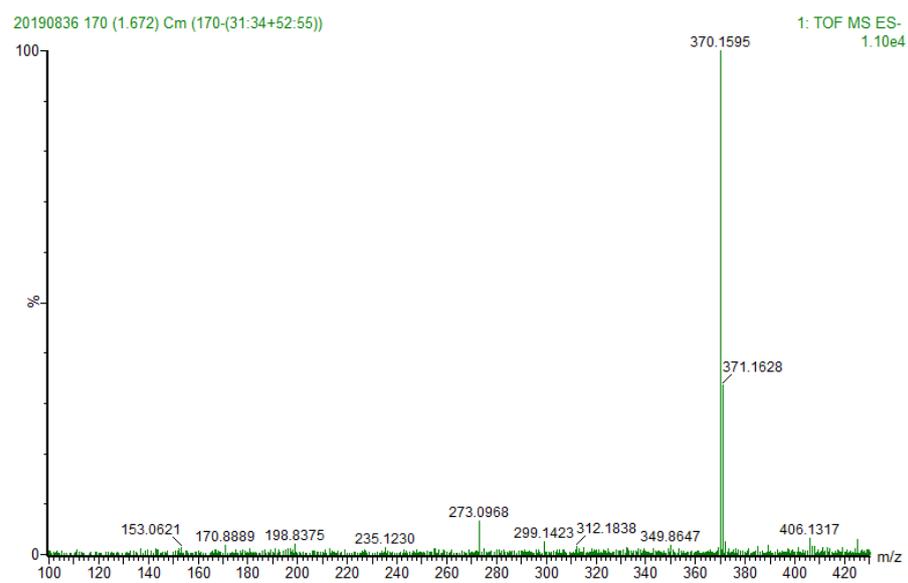
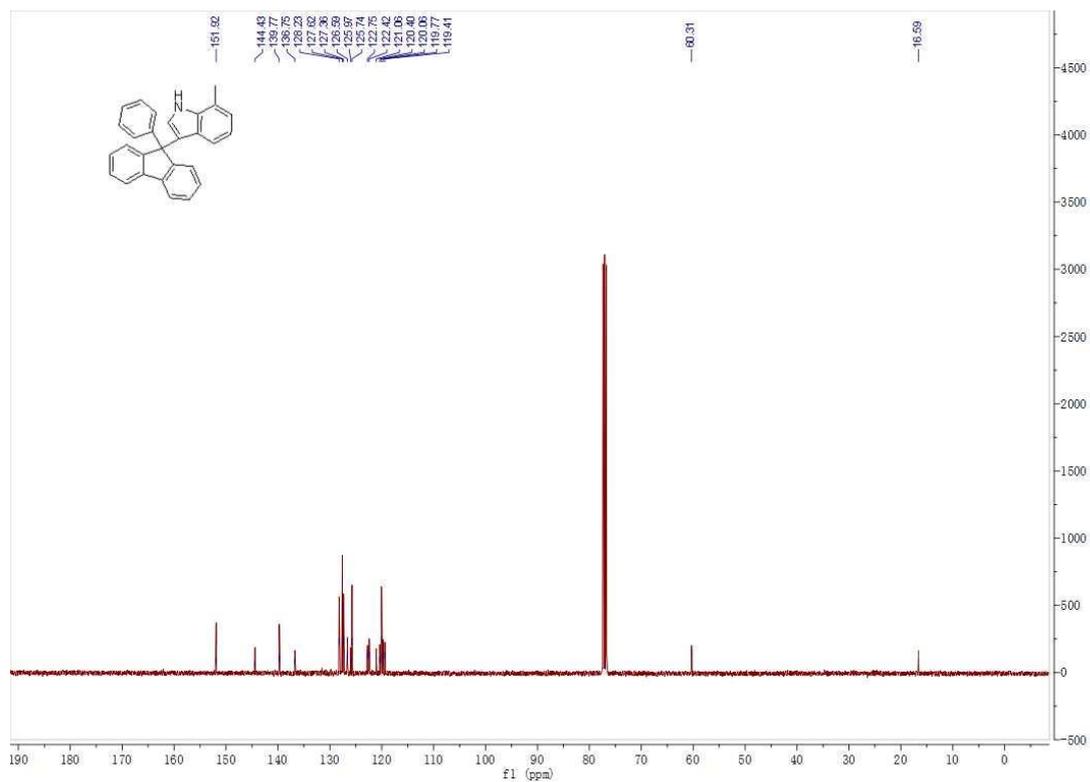


20190798 70 (0.696) Cm (70-(14:16+27:30))



3s

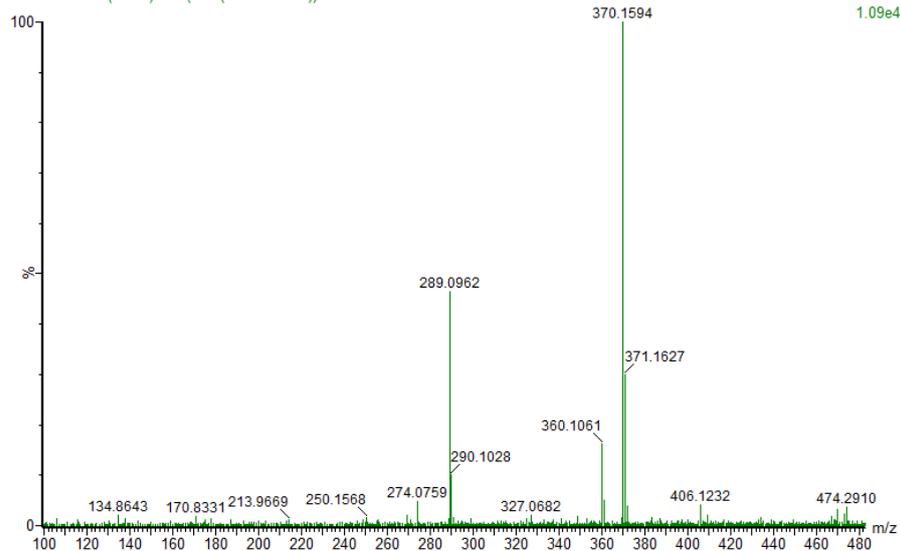




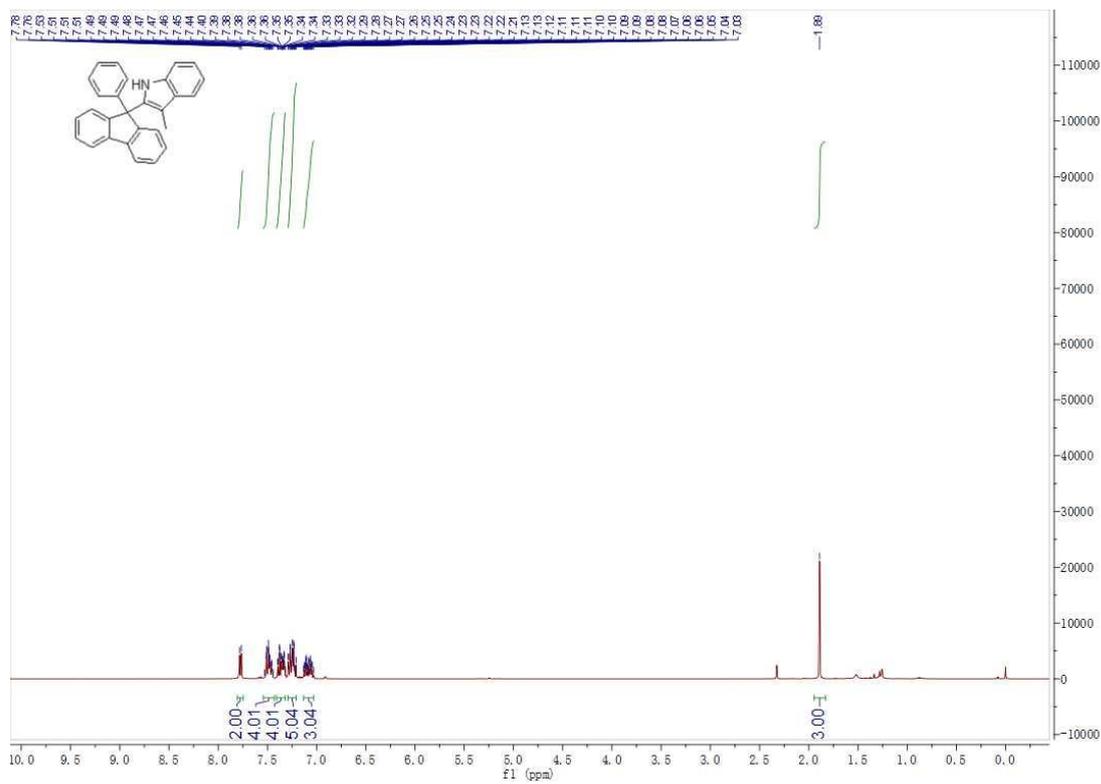
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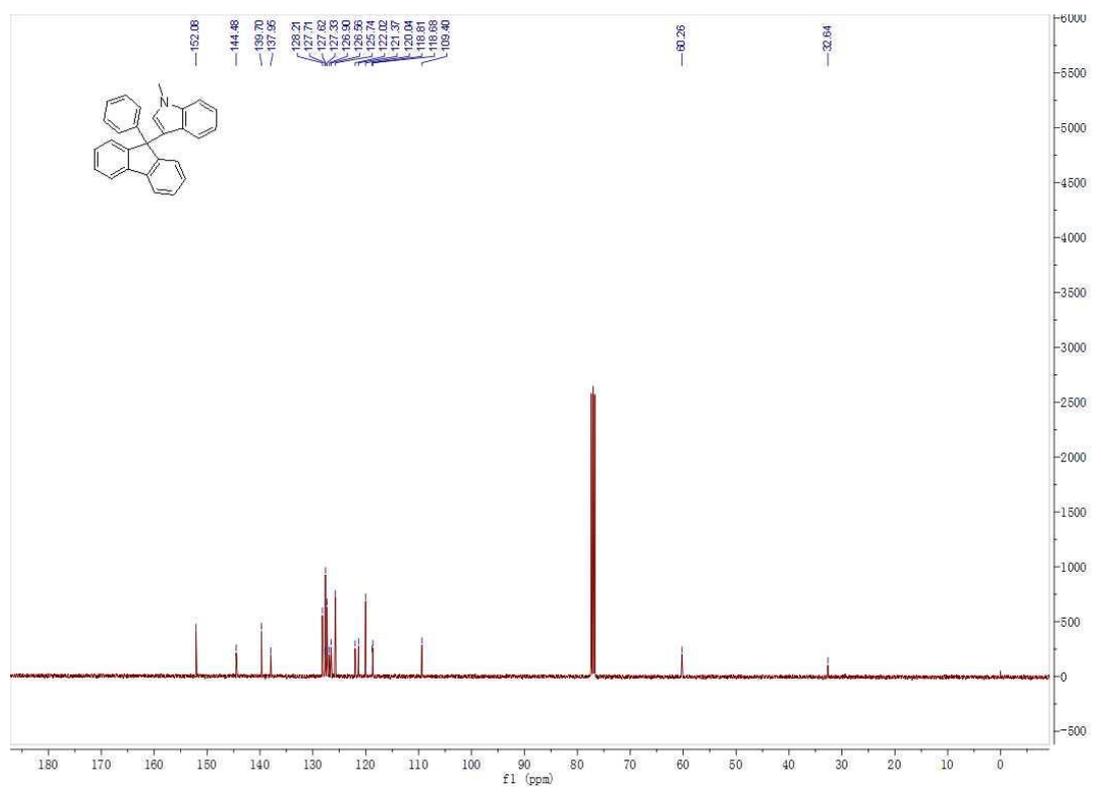
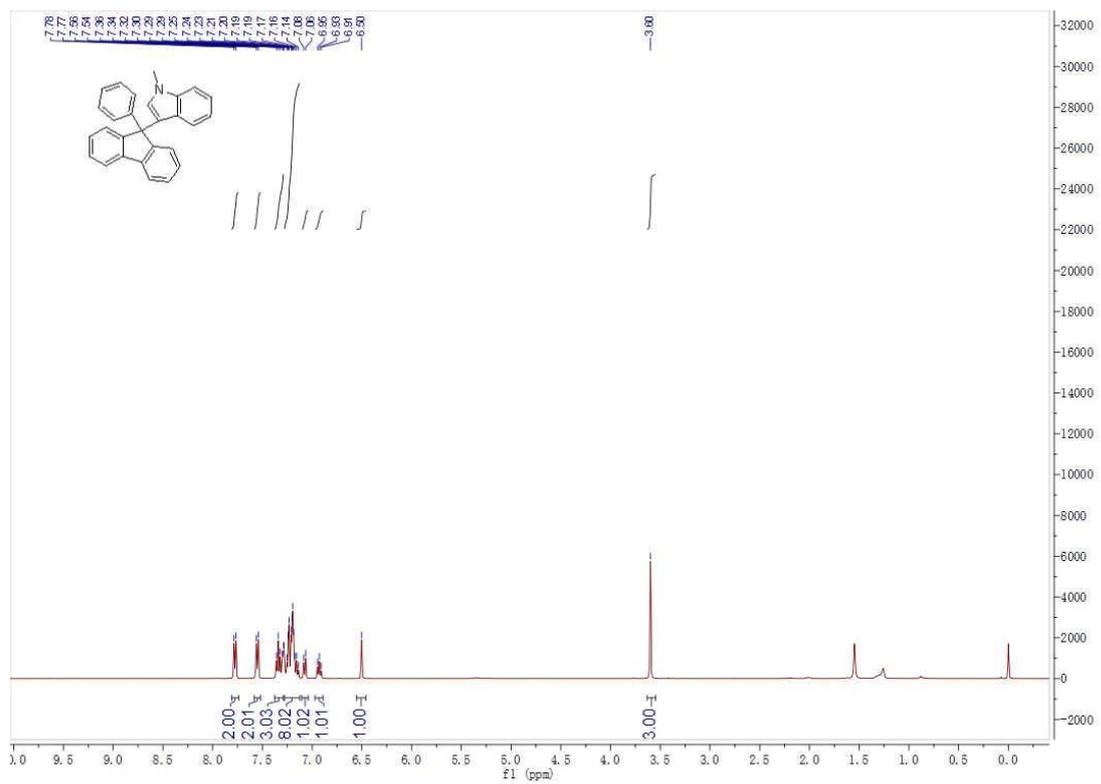
20191505 234 (2.281) Cm (234-(13:17+56:58))

1: TOF MS ES-
1.09e4



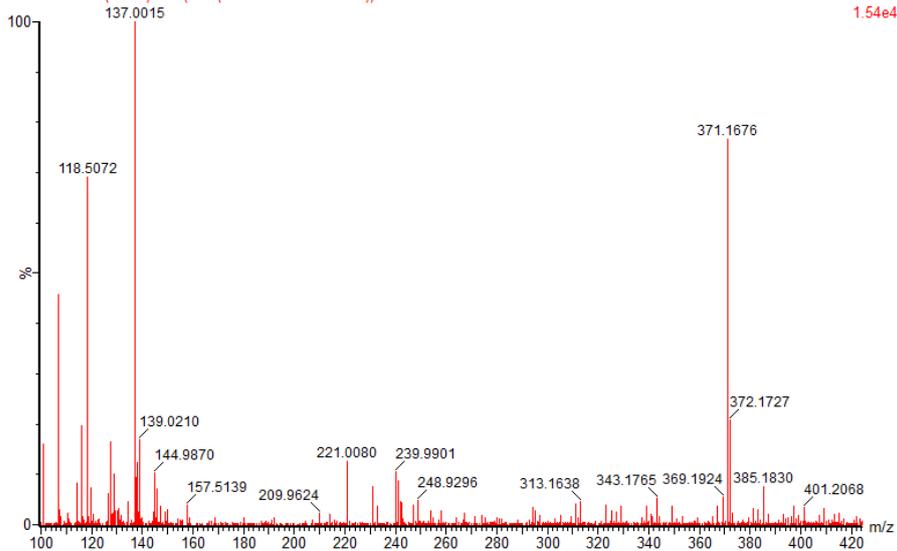
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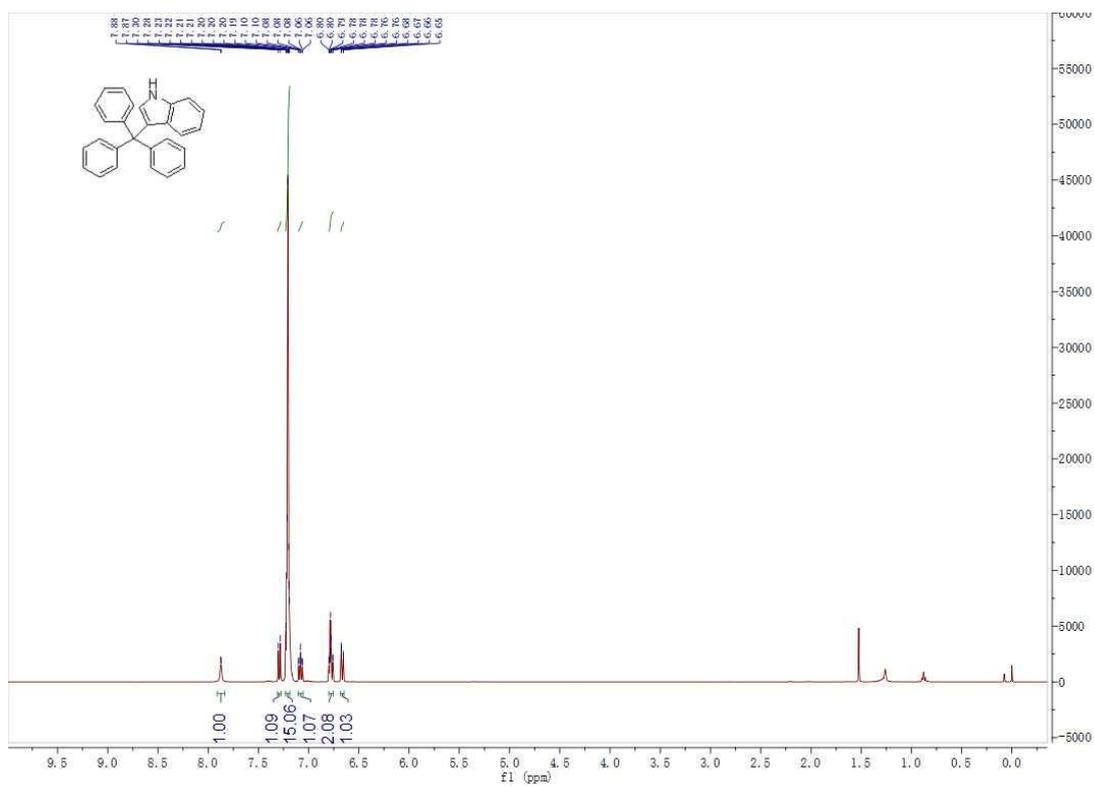


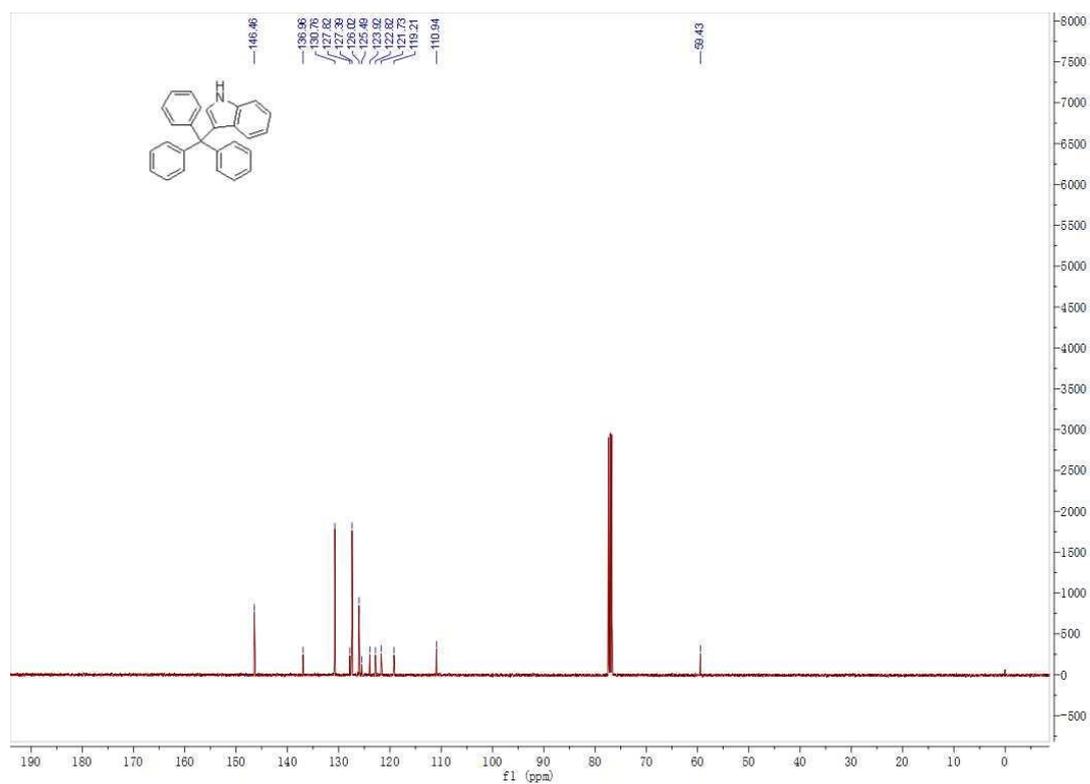
20190832 255 (2.499) Cm (255-(1143:1145+1149:1152))

1: TOF MS ES+
1.54e4



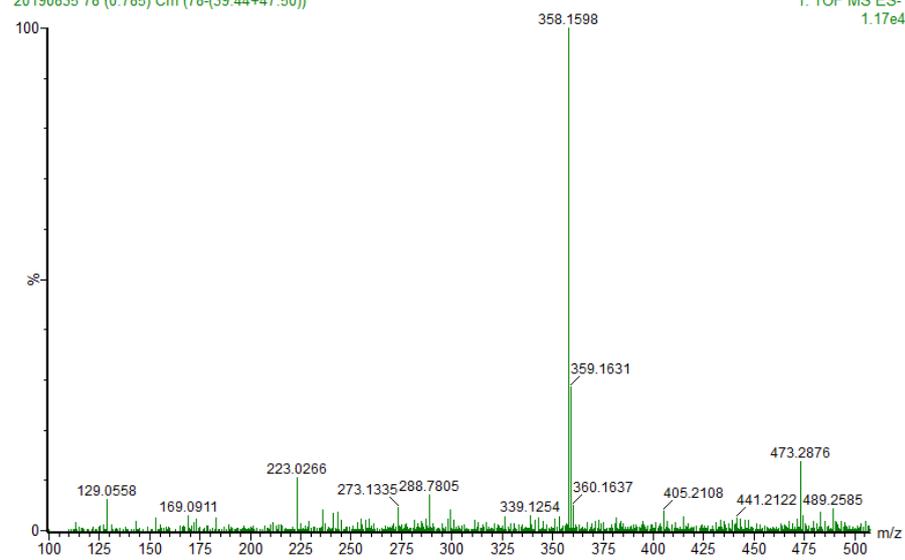
3w



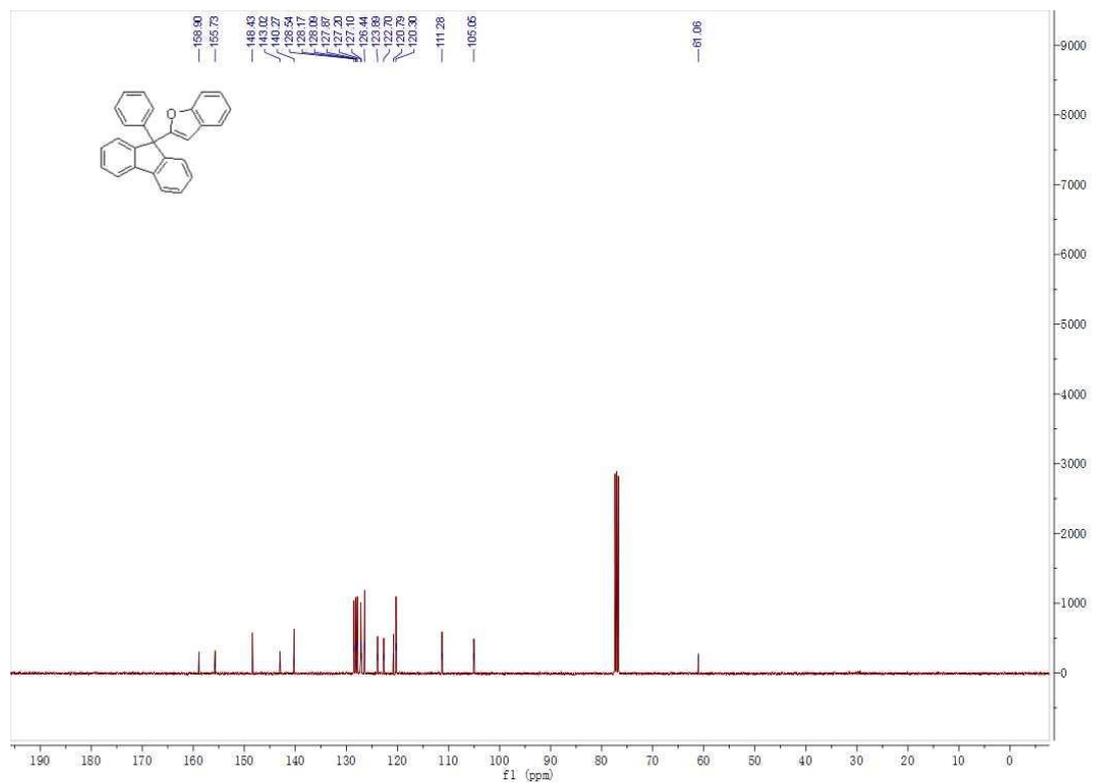
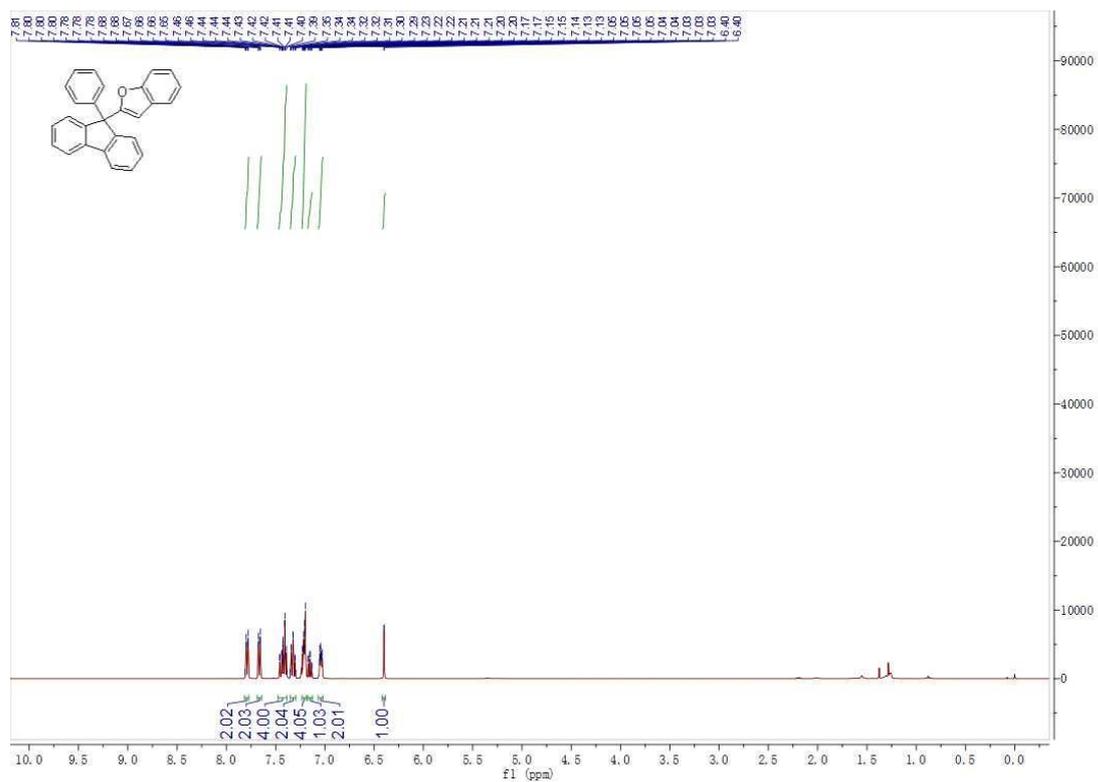


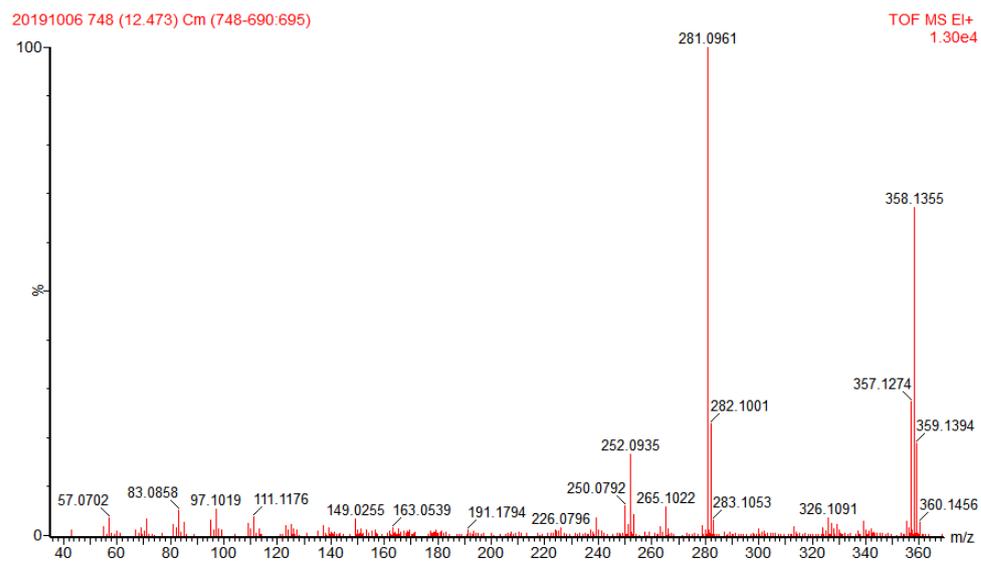
20190835 78 (0.785) Cm (78-(39.44+47.50))

1: TOF MS ES-
1.17e4

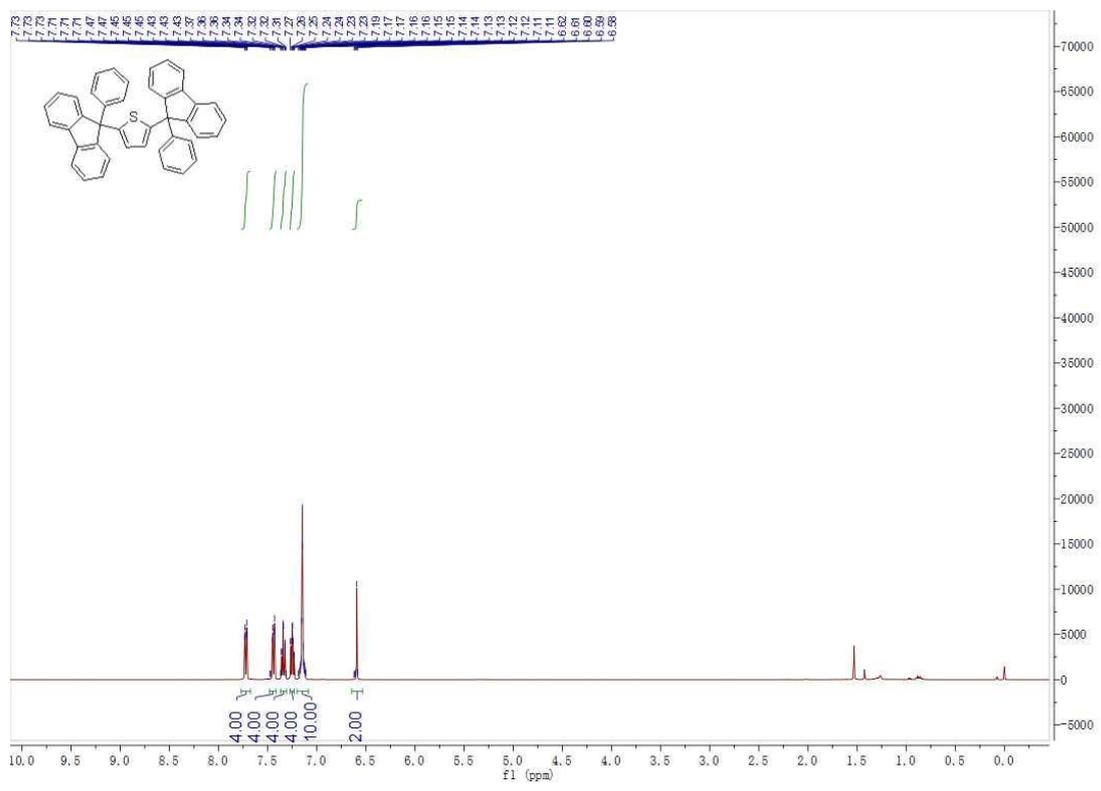


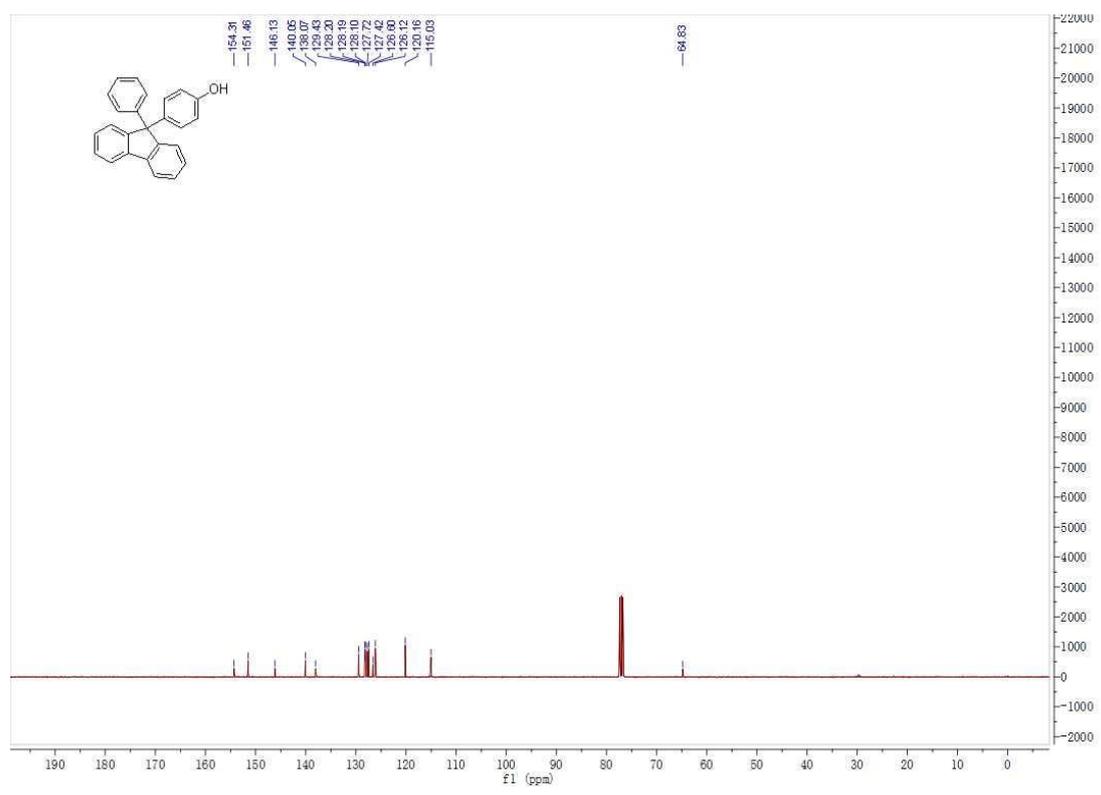
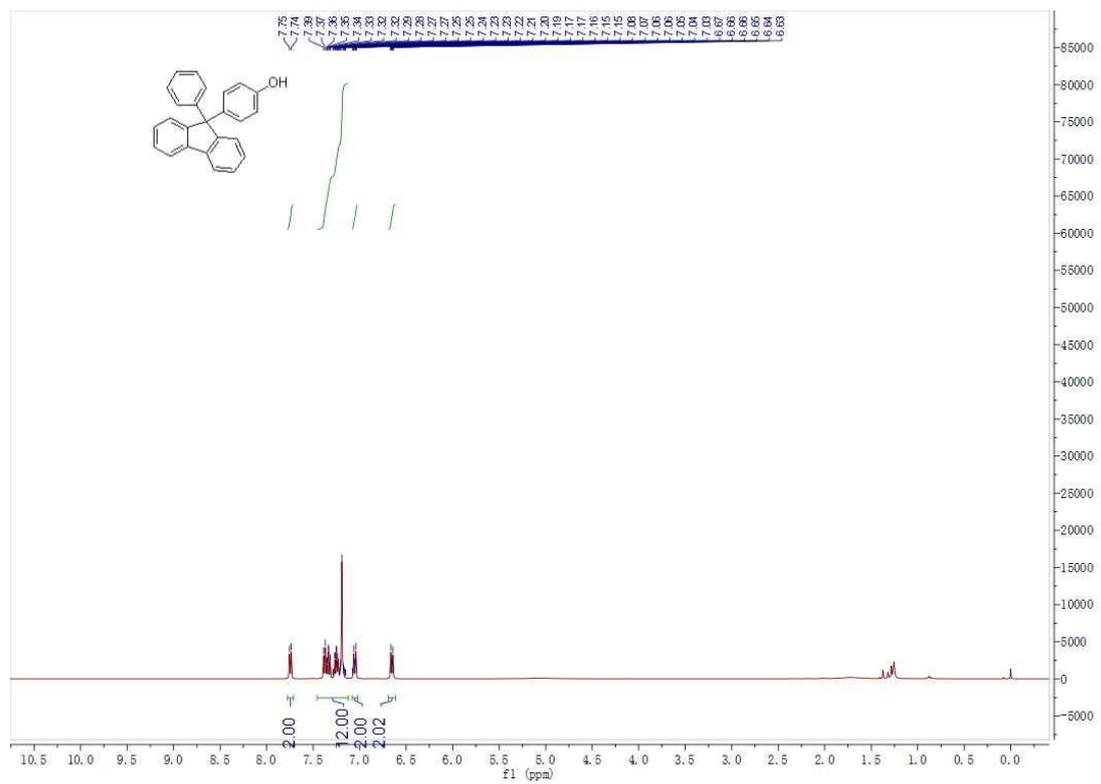
5a





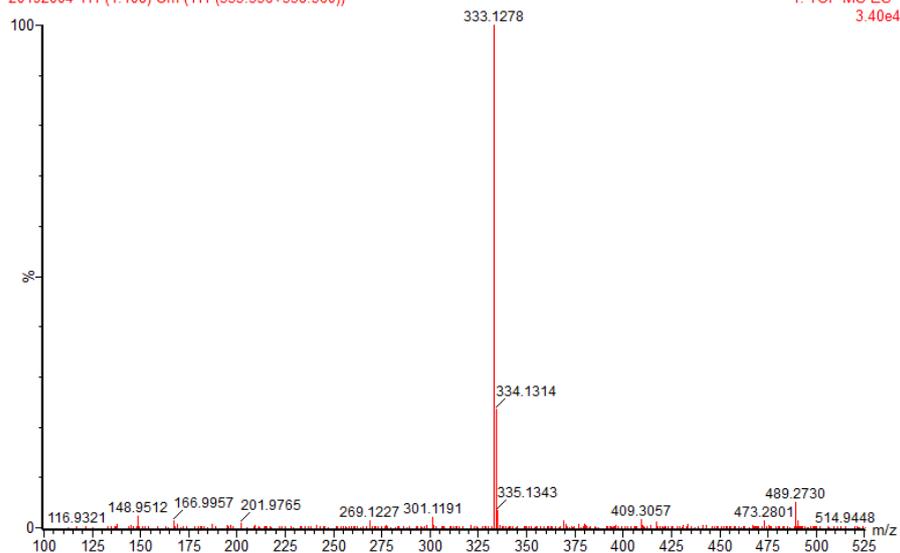
5b



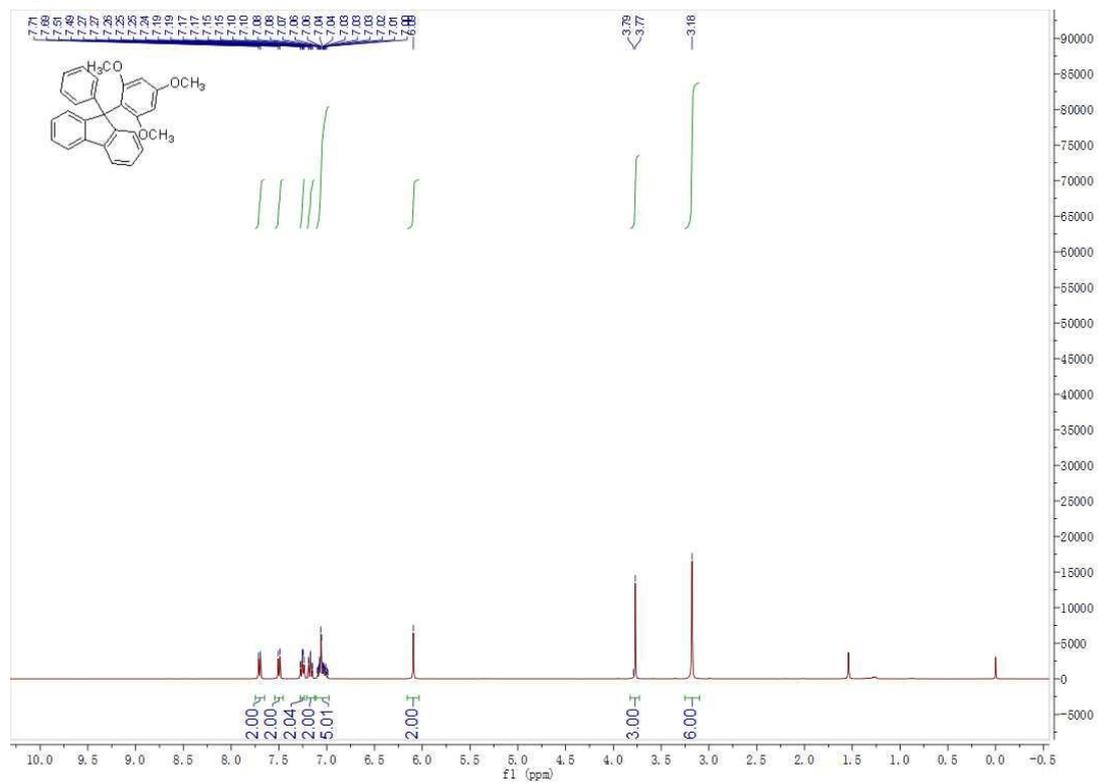


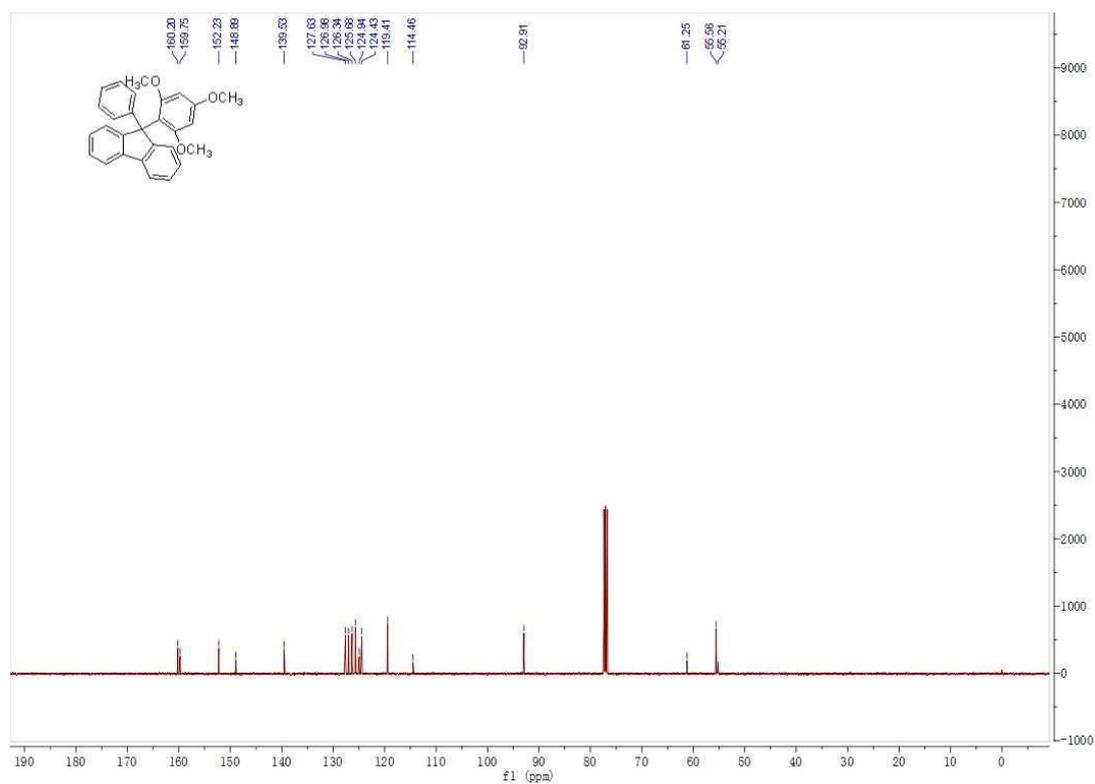
20192004 111 (1.108) Cm (111-(555:556+558:560))

1: TOF MS ES-
3.40e4



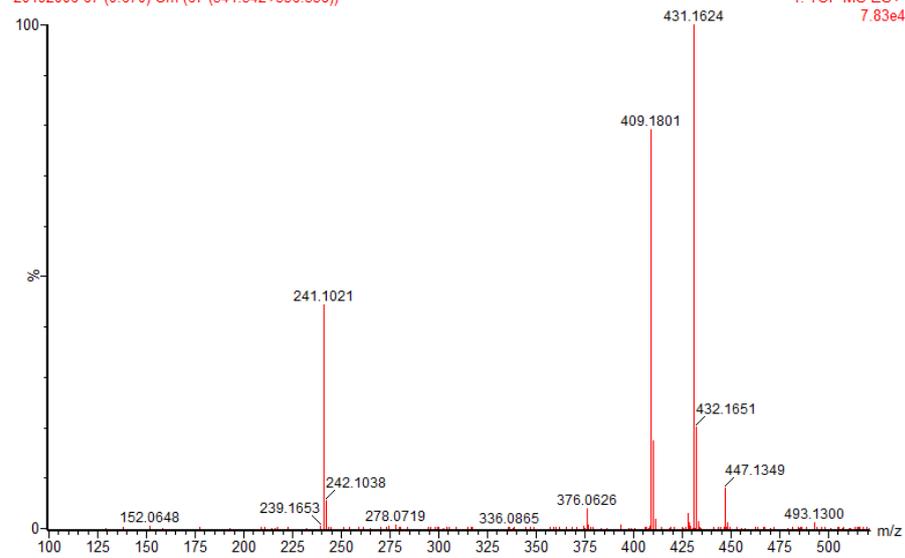
5g





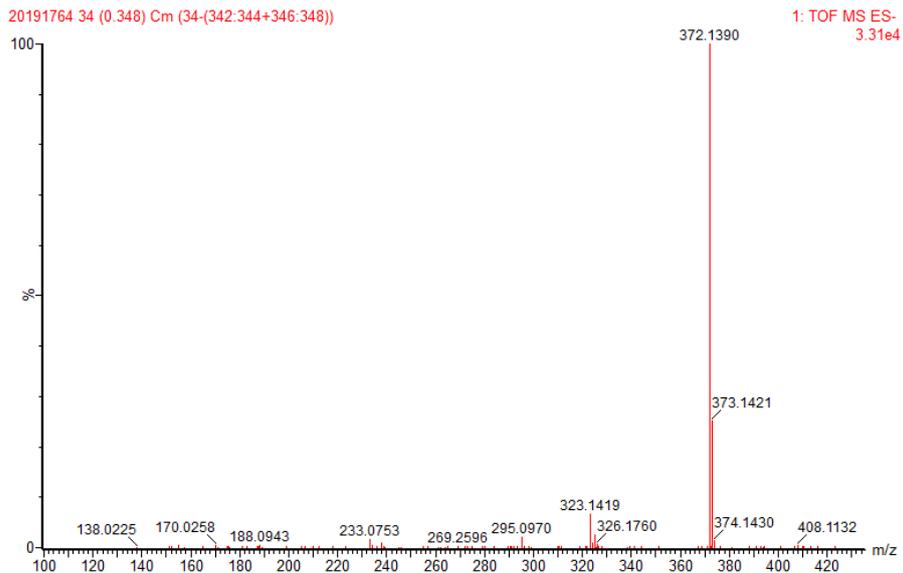
20192006 67 (0.670) Cm (67-(341:342+356:358))

1: TOF MS ES+
7.83e4

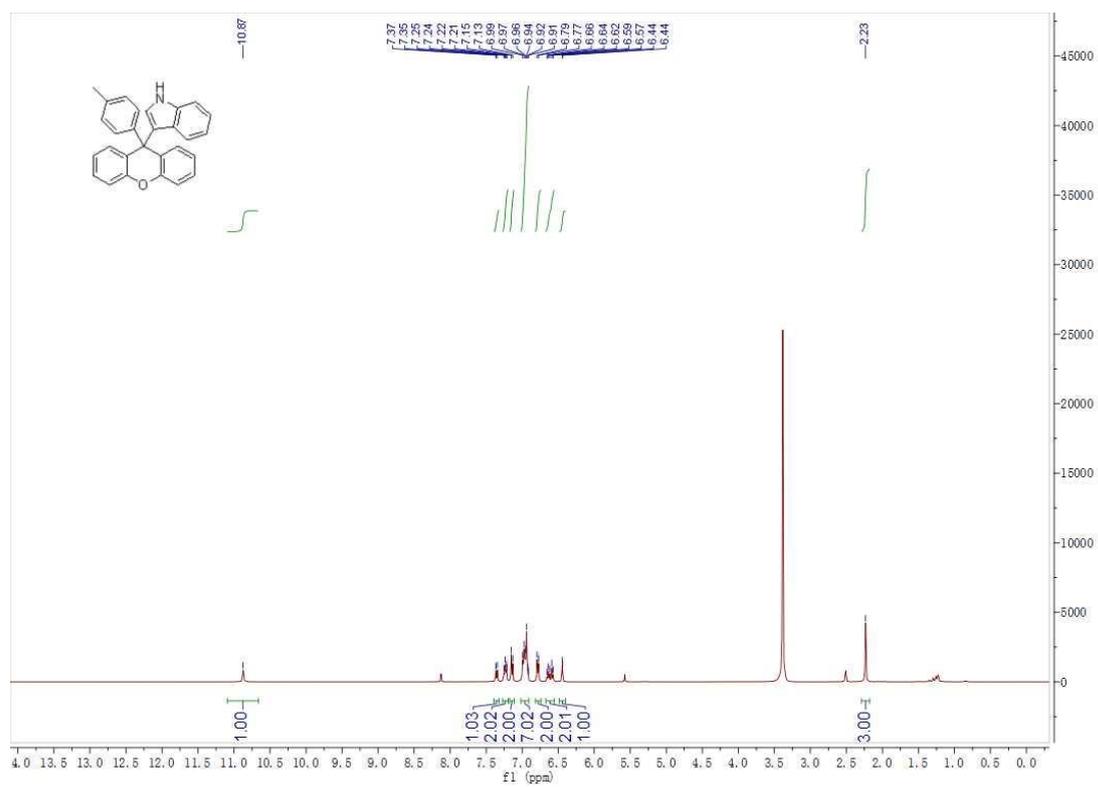


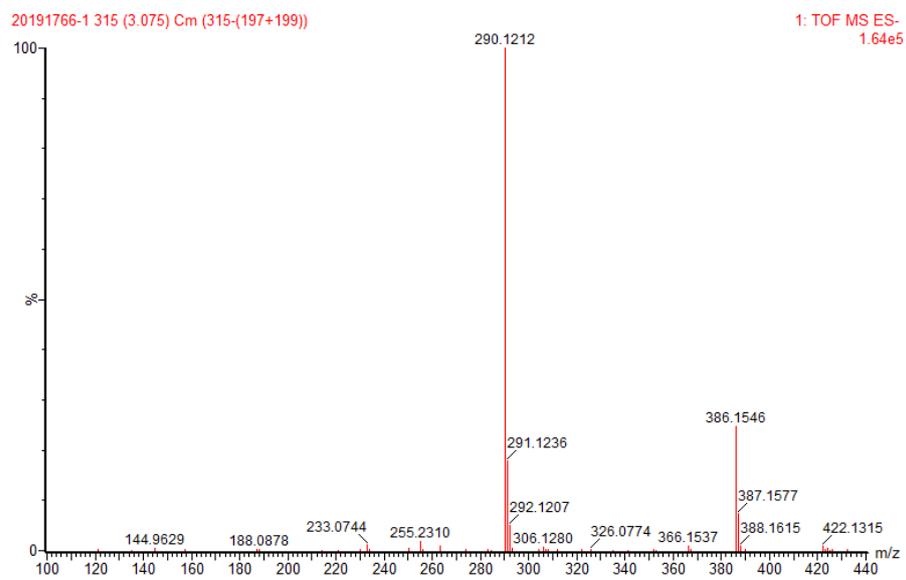
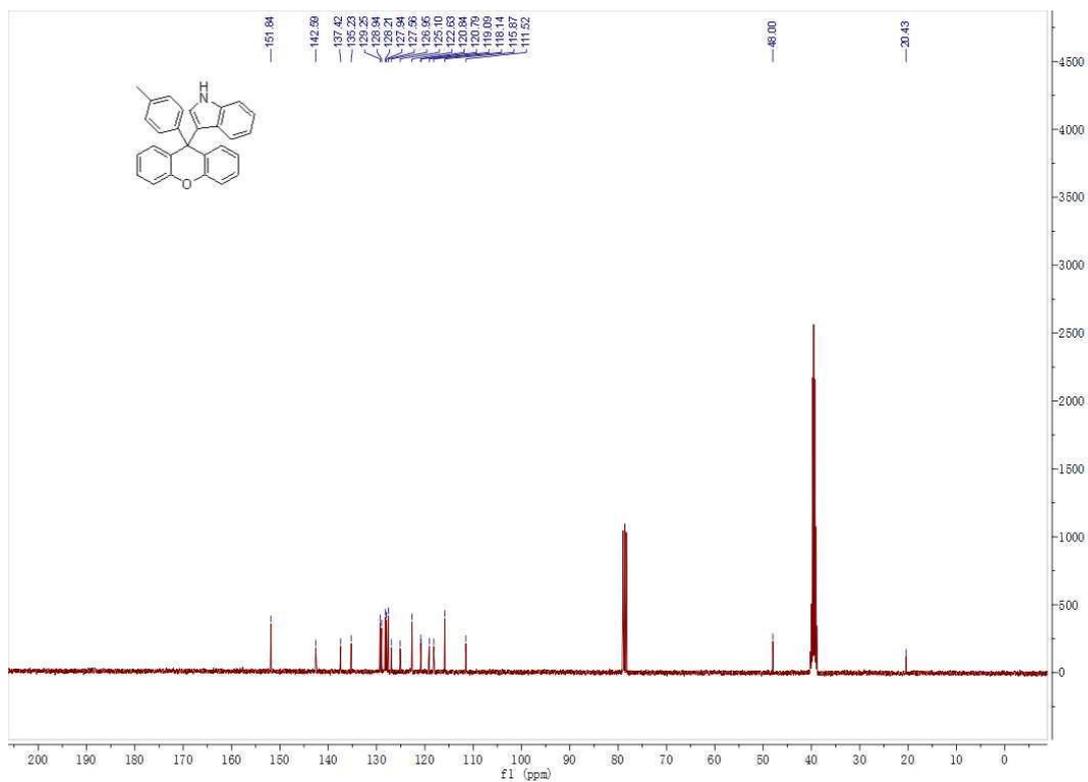
7a

20191764 34 (0.348) Cm (34-(342:344+346:348))

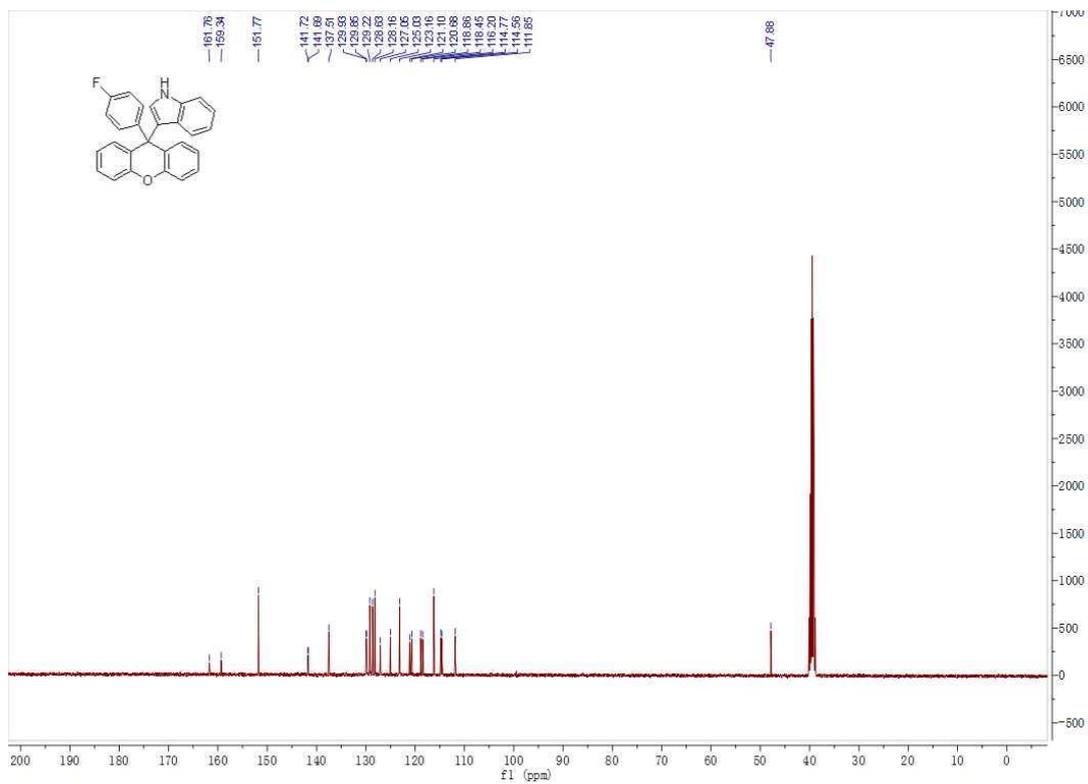
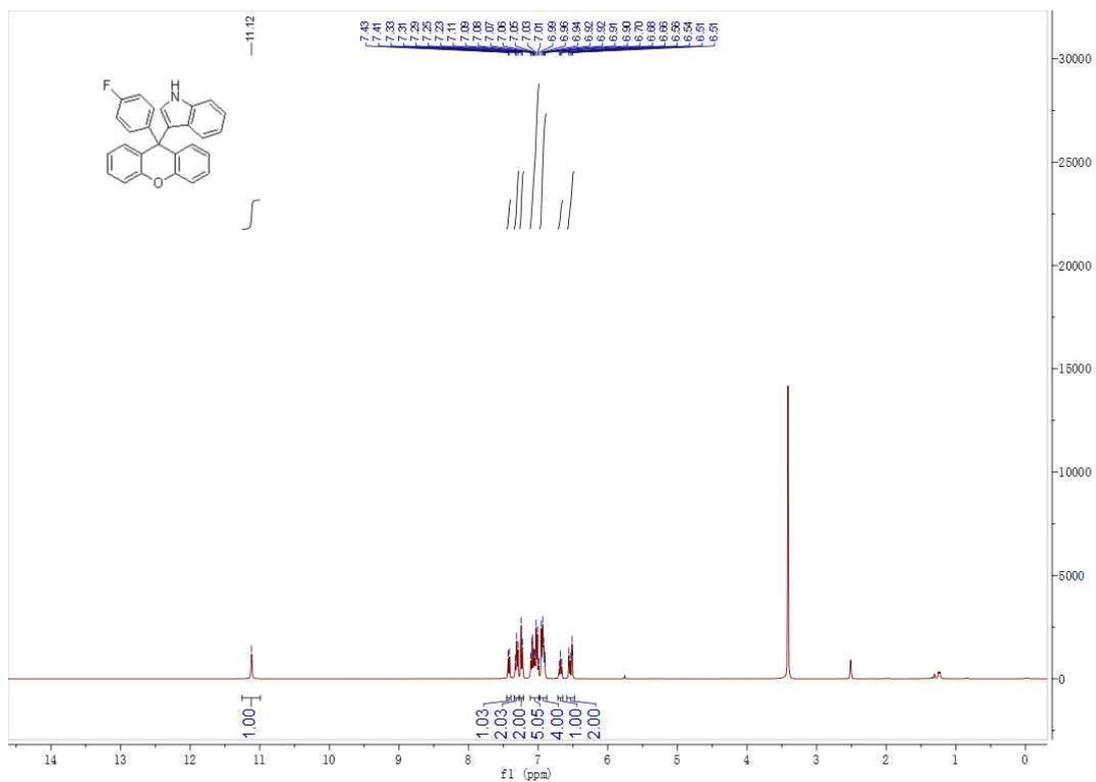


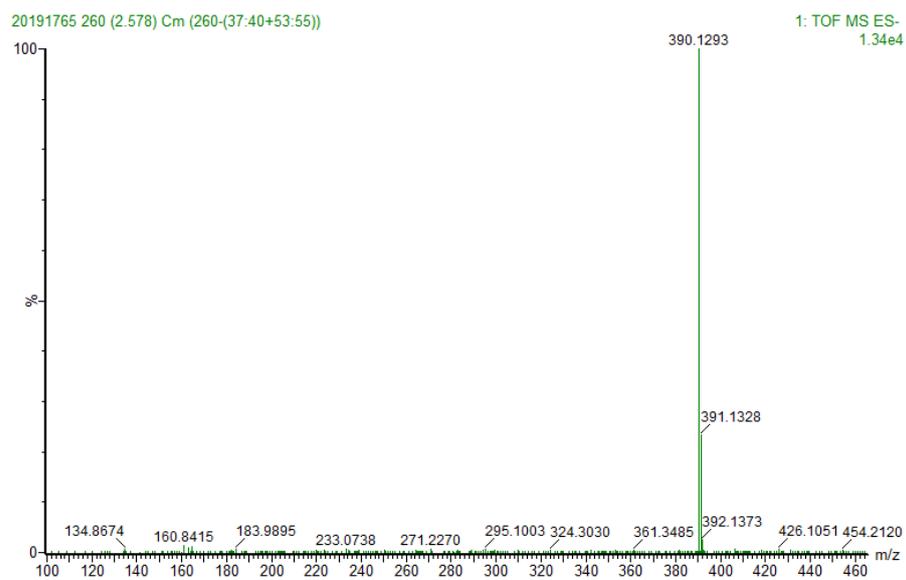
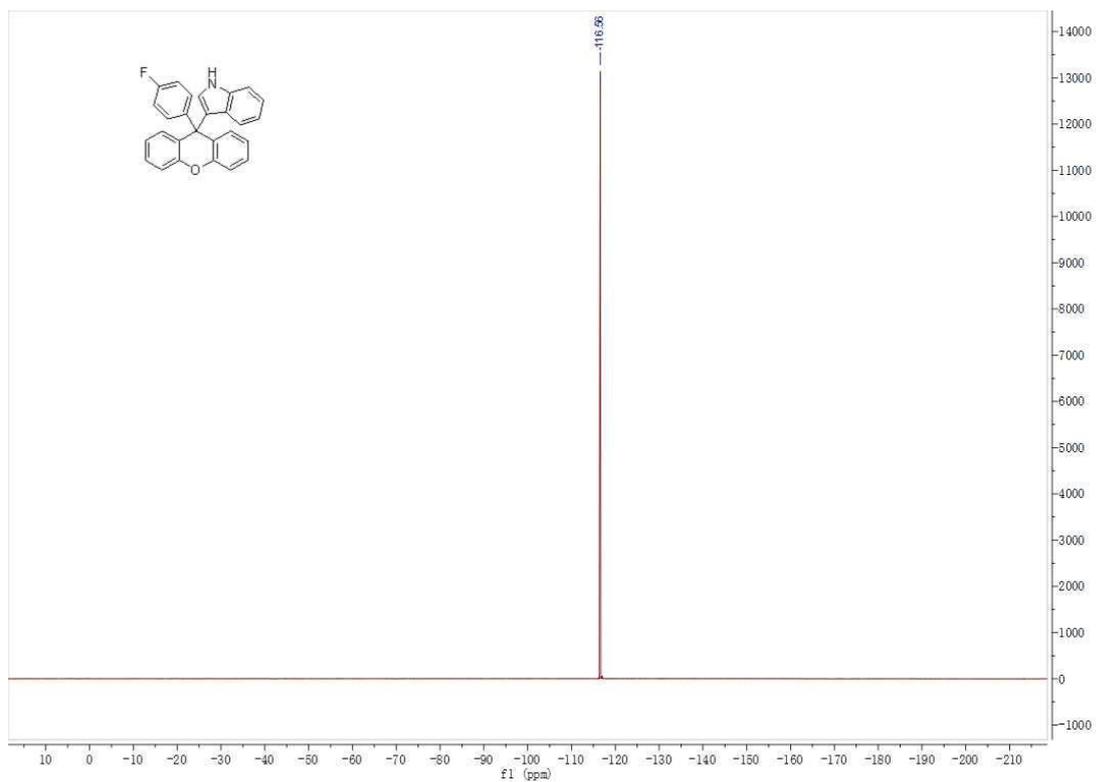
7b





7c

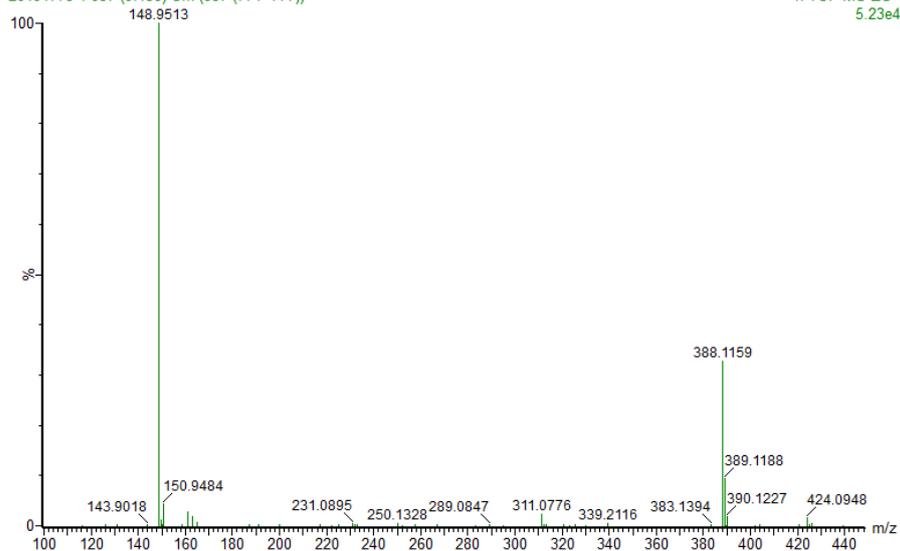




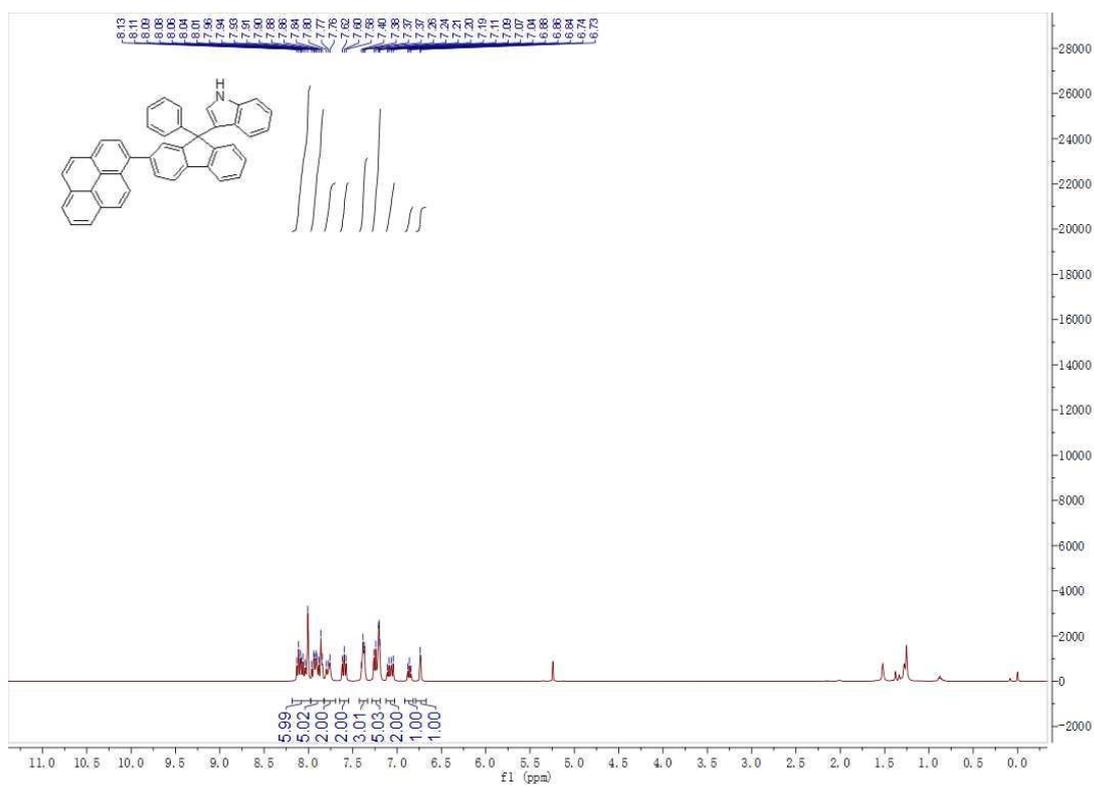
7d

20191775-1 937 (9,138) Cm (937-(774+777))

1: TOF MS ES-
5.23e4



8



DSC and TGA curves

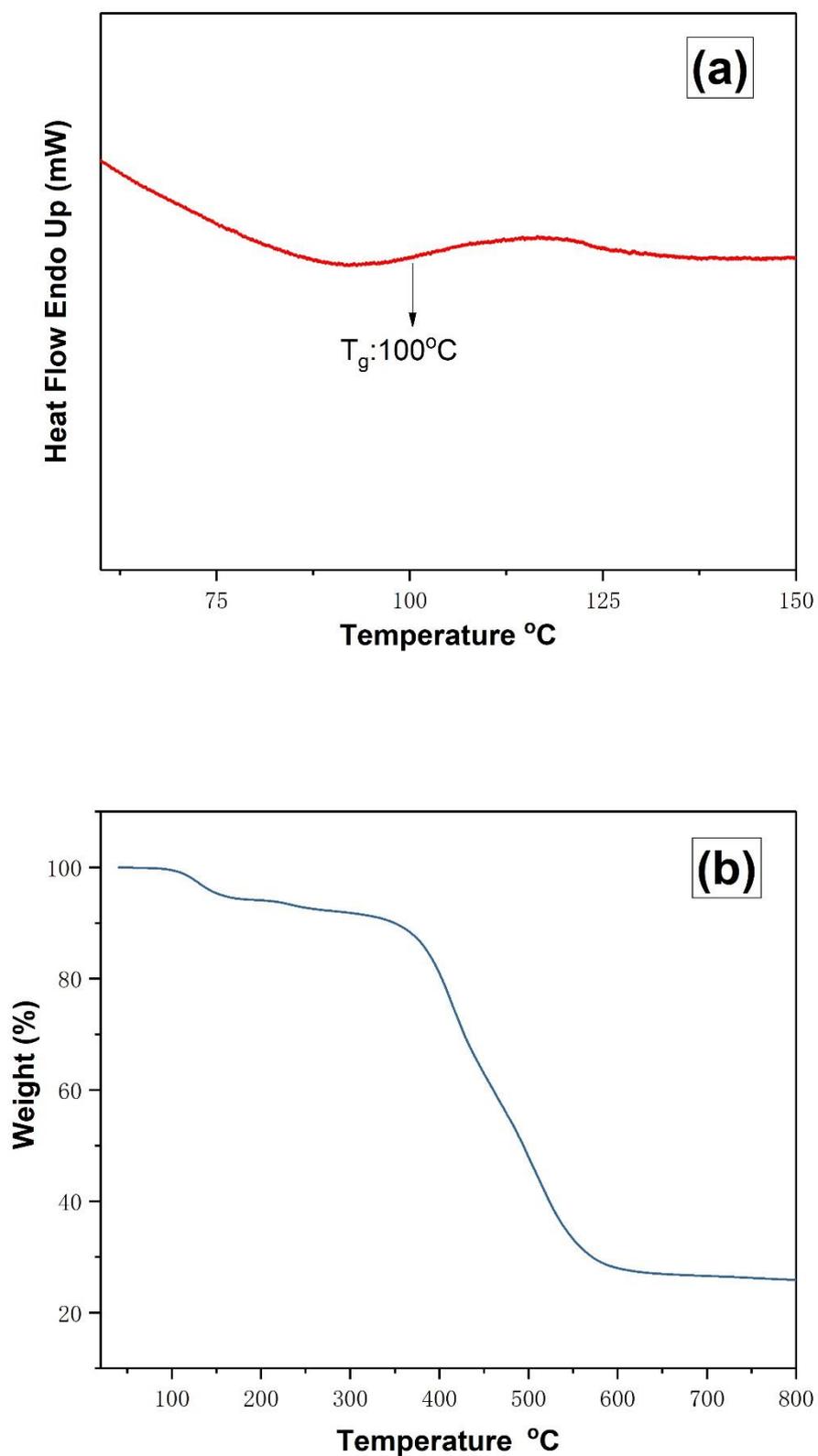


Figure S1: (a) DSC curve of product **8** and (b) TGA curve of product **8**

UV and PL Spectra of Pyrene and Product 8

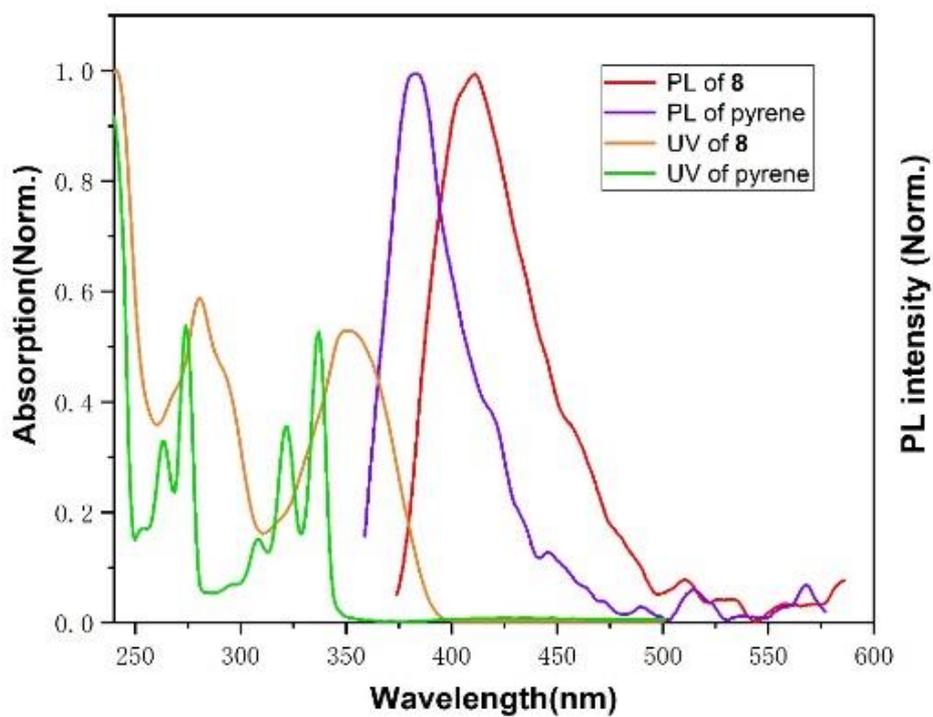


Figure S2 UV and PL spectra of pyrene and product **8** in CH₂Cl₂ solution