

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

A simple method for the synthesis of N-difluoromethylated pyridines and 4-pyridones/quinolones by using BrCF₂COOEt as the difluoromethylation reagent.

Albert Gandioso,[‡] Mohamed El Fakiri,[‡] Anna Rovira[‡] and Vicente Marchán*

Departament de Química Inorgànica i Orgànica, Secció de Química Orgànica, IBUB,
Universitat de Barcelona, Martí i Franquès 1-11, E-08028 Barcelona (Spain).

E-mail: vmarchan@ub.edu

[‡]These authors contributed equally to this work.

Table of contents

1.- Materials and Methods	S3
2.- Synthesis of <i>N</i> -difluoromethylated pyridine derivatives and compound 9a	S4
3.- Synthesis of <i>N</i> -difluoromethylated 4-pyridone/quinolone derivatives	S7
4.- UV-HPLC-MS analysis of the <i>N</i> -difluoromethylation reaction of DMAP in ACN	S8
Figures S1-S2 and Table S1	
5.- Capillary electrophoresis analysis of the <i>N</i> -difluoromethylation reaction of DMAP	S10
Figure S3-S4	
6.- ¹ H and ¹⁹ F NMR analysis of the <i>N</i> -difluoromethylation reaction of DMAP in CD ₃ CN/D ₂ O 98:2 (v/v).	S12
Figures S5-S7 and Table S2	
7.- Stability of compound 2b in CD ₃ CN by ¹ H NMR	S15
Figure S8	
8.- ¹ H and ¹⁹ F NMR analysis of the <i>N</i> -difluoromethylation reaction of 4-6	S16
Figures S9-S11	
9.- HPLC analysis of fluorophores 8b and 9a-9b	S19
Figures S12-S14	
10.- HPLC-MS analysis of the <i>N</i> -difluoromethylation reaction of 10-11	S20
Figures S15-S16	
11.- ¹ H, ¹³ C and ¹⁹ F NMR spectra and HR ESI-MS of the compounds	S21
Figures S17-S36	

1.- Materials and Methods

Unless otherwise stated, common chemicals and solvents (HPLC grade or reagent grade quality) were purchased from commercial sources and used without further purification. Aluminium plates coated with a 0.2 mm thick layer of silica gel 60 F₂₅₄ were used for thin-layer chromatography analyses (TLC), whereas flash column chromatography purification was carried out using silica gel 60 (230-400 mesh). Microwave reactions were performed in a Biotage Initiator+ Microwave System at the stated conditions. Reversed-phase high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) analyses were carried out on a Jupiter Proteo C₁₈ column (250x4.6 mm, 90 Å 4 µm, flow rate: 1 mL/min) using linear gradients of 0.1% formic acid in H₂O (A) and 0.1% formic acid in ACN (B). Capillary electrophoresis analyses were carried out on a Hewlett Packard G1600AX-3D Capillary Electrophoresis instrument using a borate buffer solution (pH=9) as an electrolyte. Detection was performed by an UV/Vis diode-array detector operating between 190 and 600 nm. NMR spectra were recorded at 25 °C in a 400 MHz spectrometer using the deuterated solvent as an internal deuterium lock. The residual protic signal of chloroform or DMSO was used as a reference in ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra recorded in CDCl₃ or DMSO-*d*₆, respectively. Chemical shifts are reported in part per million (ppm) in the δ scale, coupling constants in Hz and multiplicity as follows: s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), qt (quintuplet), m (multiplet), dd (doublet of doublets), tt (triplet of triplets), td (triplet of doublets), etc. IR spectra (Attenuated Total Reflectance, ATR) were recorded on a Nicolet 6700 FT-IR ThermoScientific spectrometer and only the more representative frequencies (ν) are reported in cm⁻¹. Electrospray ionization mass spectra (ESI-MS) were recorded on an instrument equipped with single quadrupole detector coupled to an HPLC, and high-resolution (HR) ESI-MS on a LC/MS-TOF instrument.

2.- Synthesis of *N*-difluoromethylated pyridine derivatives and compound **9a**

2.1. *N*-Difluoromethylation general procedure

In a typical experiment, 100 mg of the pyridine derivative were dissolved in a 1:1 (v/v) mixture of ACN (HPLC quality) and THF (previously eluted through basic aluminium oxide for chromatography, Brockmann I type, 50-200 μm , 60 \AA) (20 mL). Then, 5 mol equivalents of ethyl bromodifluoroacetate (**1**) were added to the solution and left to react at 60°C for 24 h under continuous stirring.

2.1.1. Synthesis of 1-difluoromethyl-4-dimethylaminopyridinium bromide (**3**)

DMAP (100 mg, 0.82 mmol) was reacted with **1** (0.54 mL, 4.1 mmol) in a 1:1 (v/v) mixture of neutralized THF and ACN (20 mL) at 60°C for 24 h following the general procedure. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure and precipitation with cold diethyl ether (10 mL), the expected compound was obtained as a yellowish solid (0.22 g, 92% yield).

Characterization: Yellowish solid. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (ppm) 8.88 (2H, d, $J = 8$ Hz), 8.54 (1H, t, $J = 58$ Hz), 7.13 (2H, d, $J = 8$ Hz), 3.41 (6H, s). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm) 158.2, 137.9, 111.3 (t, $J = 262$ Hz), 108.3, 41.5. ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm) -95.4 (2F, d, $J = 58$ Hz). HRMS (ESI): calc. m/z for $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{11}\text{F}_2\text{N}_2^+$ $[\text{M}]^+$ 173.0885; found 173.0886. HPLC: $R_t = 7.7$ min (analytical gradient: 0 to 25 % of B in 30 min; A: 0.1 % formic acid in H_2O , B: 0.1 % formic acid in ACN).

2.1.2. Synthesis of 1-(carboxydifluoromethyl)-4-(dimethylamino)pyridinium bromide (**2b**)

Following the general procedure, 120 mg of DMAP were dissolved in 20 mL of ACN (HPLC grade) and 5 mol equivalents of **1** were added. After stirring for 24 h at 60°C, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and an aliquot of the crude was purified by analytical reversed-phase HPLC. After lyophilisation, compound **2b** was obtained as a yellowish solid.

Characterization: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3CN) δ (ppm) 8.26 (2H, d, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 6.89 (2H, d, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 3.23 (6H, s). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CD_3CN) δ (ppm) 159.2 (t, $J = 26$ Hz), 158.5, 137.9 (t, $J = 4.0$ Hz), 114.0 (t, $J = 286$ Hz), 108.0, 41.1. ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CD_3CN) δ (ppm) -90.3 (s, 2F). IR (ATR) ν (cm^{-1}) 3370, 3076, 2914, 1688, 1650, 1581, 1525, 1413, 1372, 1356, 1167, 1106, 866, 829, 796, 691, 658, 571. LRMS: calc. m/z for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{11}\text{F}_2\text{N}_2\text{O}_2^+$ $[\text{M}]^+$ 217.08; found 216.99. HRMS (ESI): calc. m/z for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{11}\text{F}_2\text{N}_2\text{O}_2^+$ $[\text{M}]^+$ 217.0783; found 217.0787. HPLC: $R_t = 12.9$ min (analytical gradient: 0 to 40 % of B in 30 min; A: 0.1 % formic acid in H_2O , B: 0.1 % formic acid in ACN).

2.1.3. Synthesis of 1-(difluoromethyl)pyridinium bromide (4a)

Following the general procedure, 10 mg of pyridine were dissolved in 2 mL of ACN/THF 1:1 and 5 mol equivalents of **1** were added. After stirring for 24 h at 60°C, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The reaction crude was dissolved in DMSO-*d*₆ and ¹H and ¹⁹F NMR spectra were recorded to assess the conversion yield and characterize **4a**

Characterization: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm) 9.48 (2H, m), 8.95 (1H, tt, *J* = 8, 1.2 Hz), 8.40 (2H, t, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 8.31 (1H, t, *J* = 58 Hz). ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm) -96.4 (d, 2F, *J* = 58 Hz). LRMS: calc. *m/z* for C₆H₆F₂N⁺ [M]⁺ 130.05; found 129.9.

2.1.4. Synthesis of 1-(difluoromethyl)-2-methylpyridinium bromide (5a)

Following the same procedure as for the synthesis of **4a**, ¹H and ¹⁹F NMR analyses were carried out with the totality of the crude after 24 h.

Characterization: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm) 9.36 (1H, d, *J* = 7.6, 1.4 Hz), 8.78 (1H, td, *J* = 7.6, 1.4 Hz), 8.41 (1H, t, *J* = 57 Hz), 8.23 (1H, d, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 8.18 (1H, t, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 2.96 (3H, s). ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm) -99.8 (2F, d, *J* = 57 Hz). LRMS: calc. *m/z* for C₇H₈F₂N⁺ [M]⁺ 144.06; found 143.9.

2.1.5. Synthesis of 1-(difluoromethyl)-2,6-dimethylpyridinium bromide (6a)

Following the same procedure as for the synthesis of **4a**, ¹H and ¹⁹F NMR analyses were carried out with the totality of the crude after 24 h.

Characterization: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm) 8.63 (1H, t, *J* = 8 Hz), 8.46 (t, 1H, *J* = 58 Hz), 8.05 (2H, d, *J* = 8 Hz), 2.08 (6H, s). ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm) -98.5 (2F, d, *J* = 58 Hz). LRMS: calc. *m/z* for C₈H₁₀F₂N⁺ [M]⁺ 158.08; found 157.8.

2.1.6. Synthesis of 2-(cyano(1-difluoromethyl(4-pyridin-1-ium))methylene)-7-(*N,N*-diethylamino)-4-methyl-coumarin bromide (8b).

Following the general procedure, 2-(cyano(4-pyridine)methylene)-7-(*N,N*-diethylamino)-4-methyl-coumarin (**8**) (40 mg, 0.12 mmol) was reacted with 30 mol equiv. of **1** (0.32 mL, 3.6 mmol; the reagent addition was divided into three portions at *t* = 0, 1 h and 4 h) in a 1:1 (v/v) mixture of neutralized THF and ACN (20 mL) at 60°C for 24 h. After evaporation under reduced pressure, compound **8b** was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, 0-8% MeOH in DCM) to give 46 mg of a dark blue solid (yield 83%).

Characterization: TLC: R_f (DCM/MeOH 9:1) 0.67. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ (ppm) 8.75 (2H, d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 8.13 (2H, br d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 8.03 (1H, t, *J* = 58 Hz), 7.85 (1H, d, *J* = 9.2 Hz), 7.12 (1H, dd, *J* = 9.2, 2.4 Hz), 7.08 (2H, m), 3.61 (4H, q, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 2.63 (3H, s),

1.20 (6H, t, $J = 7.2$ Hz). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ (ppm) 167.2, 156.3, 155.6, 152.9, 152.7, 137.5, 127.6, 118.9, 117.7, 113.4, 112.2 (t, $J = 262$ Hz), 111.7, 110.9, 96.1, 79.5, 44.5, 18.7, 12.4. ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ (ppm): -95.9 (2F, d, $J = 58$ Hz). HRMS (ESI-TOF) (m/z): $[\text{M}]^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{22}\text{F}_2\text{N}_3\text{O}^+$, 382.1725; found, 382.1727. Analytical HPLC (10–100% B in 30 min, formic acid additive): $R_t = 14.6$ min.

2.1.7. Synthesis of 10-methyl-3,6-bis(dimethylamino)acridin-10-ium triflate (9a)

Acridine orange (200 mg, 0.75 mmol) was reacted with methyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (0.34 mL, 3 mmol) in DCM (100 mL) at room temperature for 24 h. After evaporation under reduced pressure, compound **9a** was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, 0-4% MeOH in DCM) to give 173 mg of an orange solid (yield 54%).

Characterization: TLC: R_f (DCM/MeOH 9:1) 0.52. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ (ppm) 8.84 (1H, s), 7.96 (2H, d, $J = 9.2$ Hz), 7.30 (2H, dd, $J = 9.2, 2.0$ Hz), 6.76 (2H, d, $J = 2.0$ Hz), 4.15 (3H, s), 3.29 (12H, s). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ (ppm) 155.2, 143.0, 142.4, 132.7, 116.3, 114.2, 92.9, 40.3, 35.5. HRMS (ESI-TOF) (m/z): $[\text{M}]^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_3$, 280.1808; found, 280.1814. Analytical HPLC (10–100% B in 30 min, formic acid additive): $R_t = 13$ min.

2.1.8. Synthesis of 10-(difluoromethyl)-3,6-bis(dimethylamino)acridin-10-ium bromide (9b)

Following the general procedure, acridine orange (100 mg, 0.38 mmol) was reacted with 5 mol equiv. of **1** (0.25 mL, 1.9 mmol) in a 1:1 (v/v) mixture of neutralized THF and ACN (20 mL) at 60°C for 24 h. Then, an additional amount of **1** was added (0.25 mL) and the reaction was stirred at 60°C for 24 h. After evaporation under reduced pressure and precipitation from *tert*-butyl methyl ether, compound **9b** was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, 0-5% MeOH in DCM) to give 115 mg of a garnet/burgundy solid (yield 76%).

Characterization: TLC: R_f (DCM/MeOH 95:5) 0.28. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ (ppm) 8.80 (1H, s), 8.64 (1H, t, $J = 55$ Hz), 7.96 (2H, d, $J = 9.2$ Hz), 7.29 (2H, dd, $J = 9.2, 2.2$ Hz), 6.93 (2H, br s), 3.31 (12H, s). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ (ppm) 155.8, 146.2, 140.1, 134.1, 116.1, 114.3, 112.3 (t, $J = 252$ Hz), 94.4, 40.5. ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ (ppm): -102.0 (2F, d, $J = 55$ Hz). HRMS (ESI-TOF) (m/z): $[\text{M}]^+$ Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{F}_2\text{N}_3$, 316.1620; found, 316.1619. Analytical HPLC (10–100% B in 30 min, formic acid additive): $R_t = 13.6$ min.

3.- Synthesis of *N*-difluoromethylated 4-pyridone/quinolone derivatives

3.1. Synthesis of 1-(difluoromethyl)pyridin-4-one (10b)

The reaction between 4-methoxypyridine (500 mg, 4.58 mmol) and ethyl bromodifluoroacetate (6.05 mL, 45.8 mmol) was carried out following the standard procedure. After stirring at 60°C for 24 h, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the product was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, 0-5% MeOH in DCM). The appropriate fractions were collected and the solvents removed in a rotary evaporator to give 365 mg (55 % yield) of a colourless oil.

Characterization: TLC: R_f (DCM/MeOH 9:1) 0.41. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm) 7.52 (2H, d, $J = 7.8$ Hz), 6.76 (1H, t, $J = 59.6$ Hz), 6.44 (2H, d, $J = 7.8$ Hz). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm) 179.9, 134.1, 119.2, 112.1 (t, $J = 255$ Hz). ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$) δ (ppm) -92.2 (d, 2F, $J = 59.6$ Hz). HRMS (ESI): calc. m/z for $\text{C}_6\text{H}_6\text{F}_2\text{NO}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 146.0412; found 146.0412. HPLC: $R_t = 12.4$ min (analytical gradient: 0 to 40 % of B in 30 min; A: 0.1 % formic acid in H_2O , B: 0.1 % formic acid in ACN).

3.2. Synthesis of 1-(difluoromethyl)quinolin-4-one (11a)

The reaction between 4-methoxyquinoline (500 mg, 3.14 mmol) and ethyl bromodifluoroacetate (6.23 mL, 47.1 mmol) was carried out following the standard procedure (60°C, 24 h). Then, an additional amount of ethyl bromodifluoroacetate was added (4.15 mL, 31.4 mmol). After stirring at 60°C for 24 h, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the product was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, 0-1% AcOEt in DCM). The appropriate fractions were collected and the solvents removed in a rotary evaporator to give 370 mg (60 % yield) of a white solid.

Characterization: TLC: R_f (AcOEt) 0.70. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm) 8.41 (1H, d, $J = 8.4$ Hz), 7.74 (1H, d, $J = 8.0$ Hz), 7.72-7.62 (2H, m), 7.45 (1H, t, $J = 7.4$ Hz), 7.24 (1H, t, $J = 59.5$ Hz), 6.31 (1H, d, $J = 8.0$ Hz). $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm) 178.6, 137.2, 136.1, 133.0, 127.4, 126.5, 125.2, 115.2 (t, $J = 3.2$ Hz), 112.3, 111.7 (t, $J = 255$ Hz). ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$) δ (ppm) -95.3 (d, 2F, $J = 59.5$ Hz). HRMS (ESI): calc. m/z for $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_8\text{F}_2\text{NO}$ $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ 196.0574; found 196.0569. HPLC: $R_t = 15.7$ min (analytical gradient: 0 to 100 % of B in 30 min; A: 0.1 % formic acid in H_2O , B: 0.1 % formic acid in ACN).

4.- UV-HPLC-MS analysis of the N-difluoromethylation reaction of DMAP in ACN.

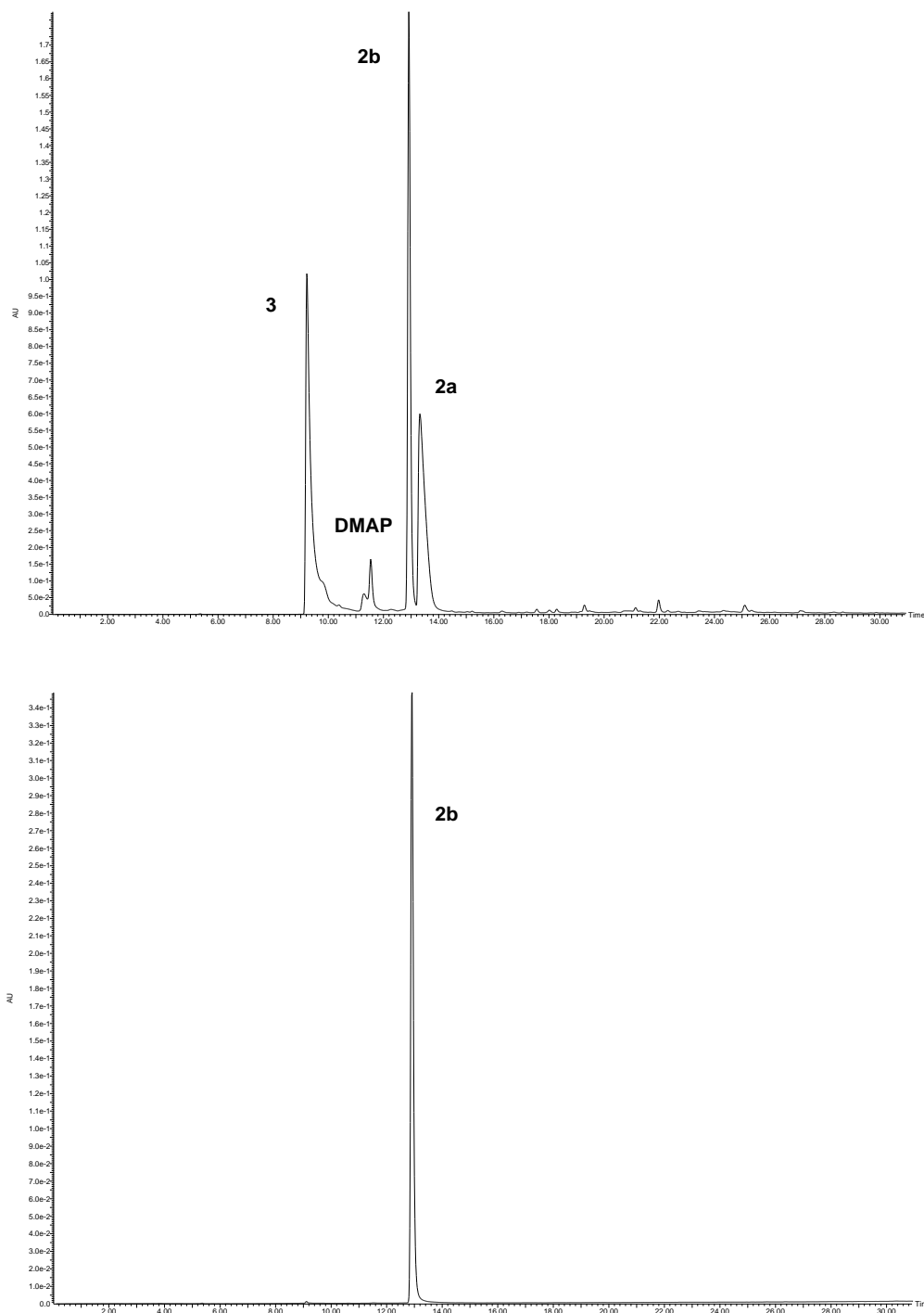


Figure S1. UV-HPLC-MS analysis of the N-difluoromethylation reaction of DMAP with **1** in ACN (HPLC quality), crude (top) and pure intermediate **2b** isolated (bottom).

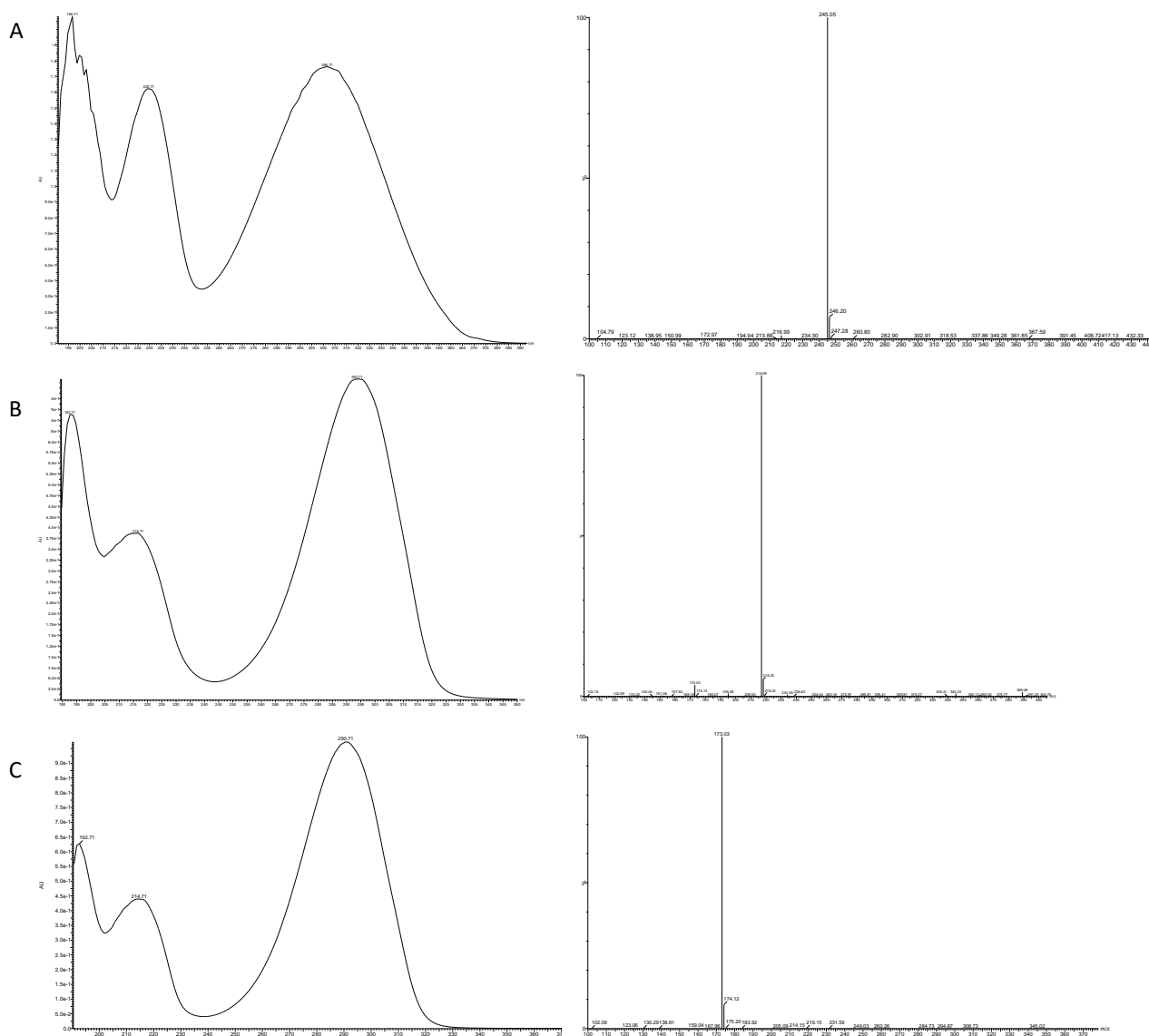


Figure S2. UV-vis spectra (left) and LR ESI-MS spectra (right) of compounds **2a** (A), **2b** (B) and **3** (C). Data was obtained from UV-HPLC-MS analysis showed in Figure S1.

Table S1. UV-vis and LR ESI-MS characterization of compounds **2a**, **2b** and **3**.^a

Compound	λ_{\max} (nm)	m/z (exp.)	m/z (calc.)
2a	307	245.05	245.11 C ₁₁ H ₁₅ F ₂ N ₂ O ₂ [M] ⁺
2b	294	216.99	217.08 C ₉ H ₁₁ F ₂ N ₂ O ₂ [M] ⁺
3	291	173.03	173.09 C ₈ H ₁₁ F ₂ N ₂ [M] ⁺

^a Data was collected from UV-vis and LR ESI-MS spectra showed in Figure S2.

5.- Capillary electrophoresis analysis of the N-difluoromethylation reaction of DMAP.

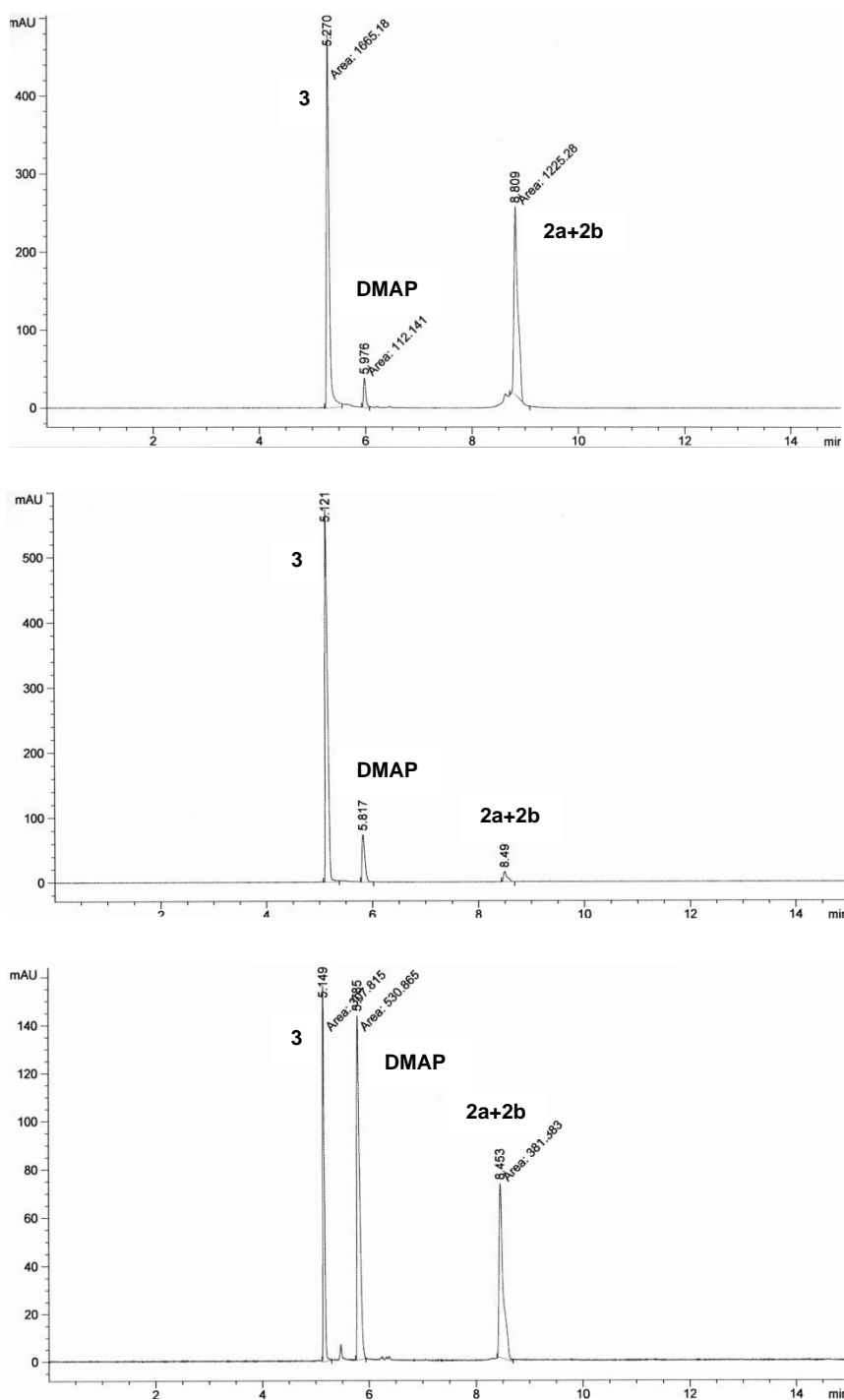


Figure S3. Electropherograms of the N-difluoromethylation reaction of DMAP with **1** in ACN (top), neutralized THF (center) and dioxane (bottom).

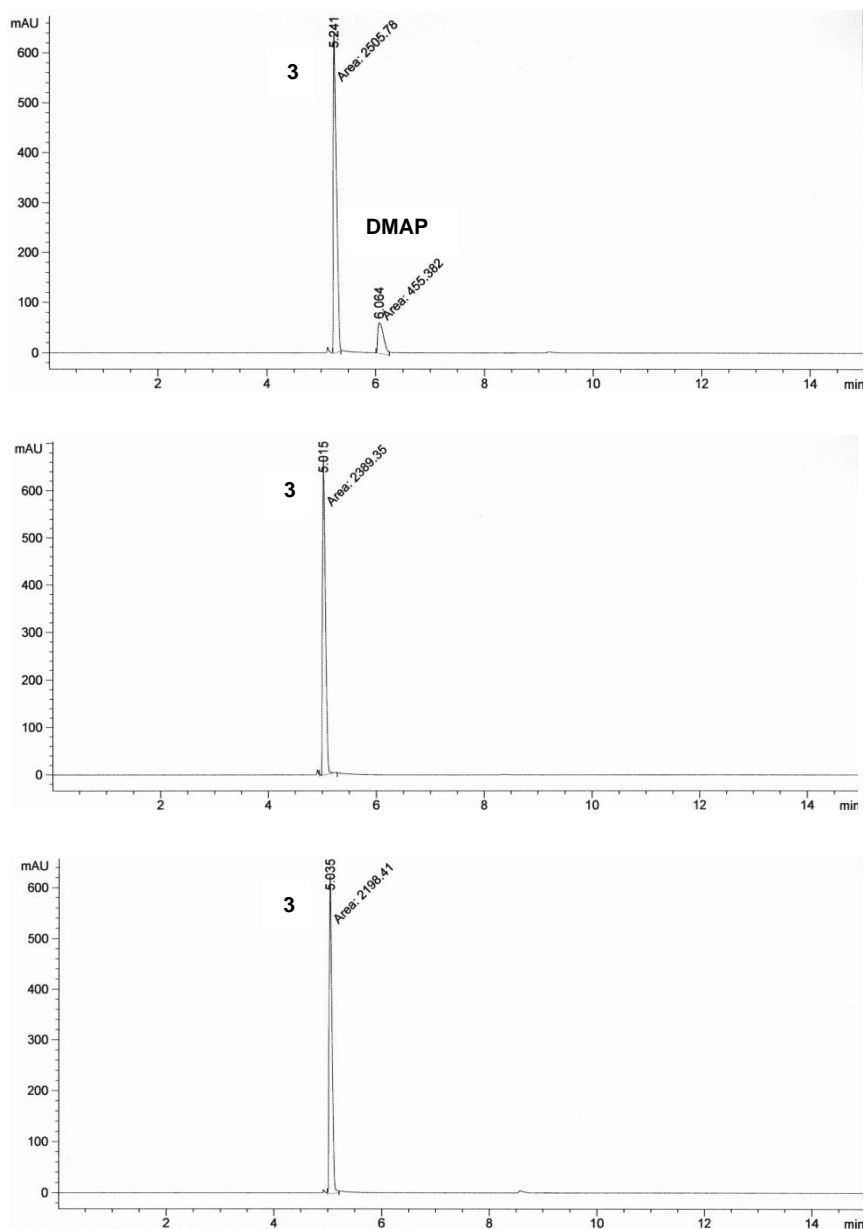


Figure S4. Electropherograms of the N-difluoromethylation reaction of DMAP with 1.1 (top), 1.5 (middle) and 3 (bottom) mol equiv. of **1** in a 1:1 mixture of neutralized THF and ACN at 60°C for 24 h.

6.- ^1H and ^{19}F NMR and HR ESI-MS analysis of the N-difluoromethylation reaction of DMAP in $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}/\text{D}_2\text{O}$ 98:2 (v/v).

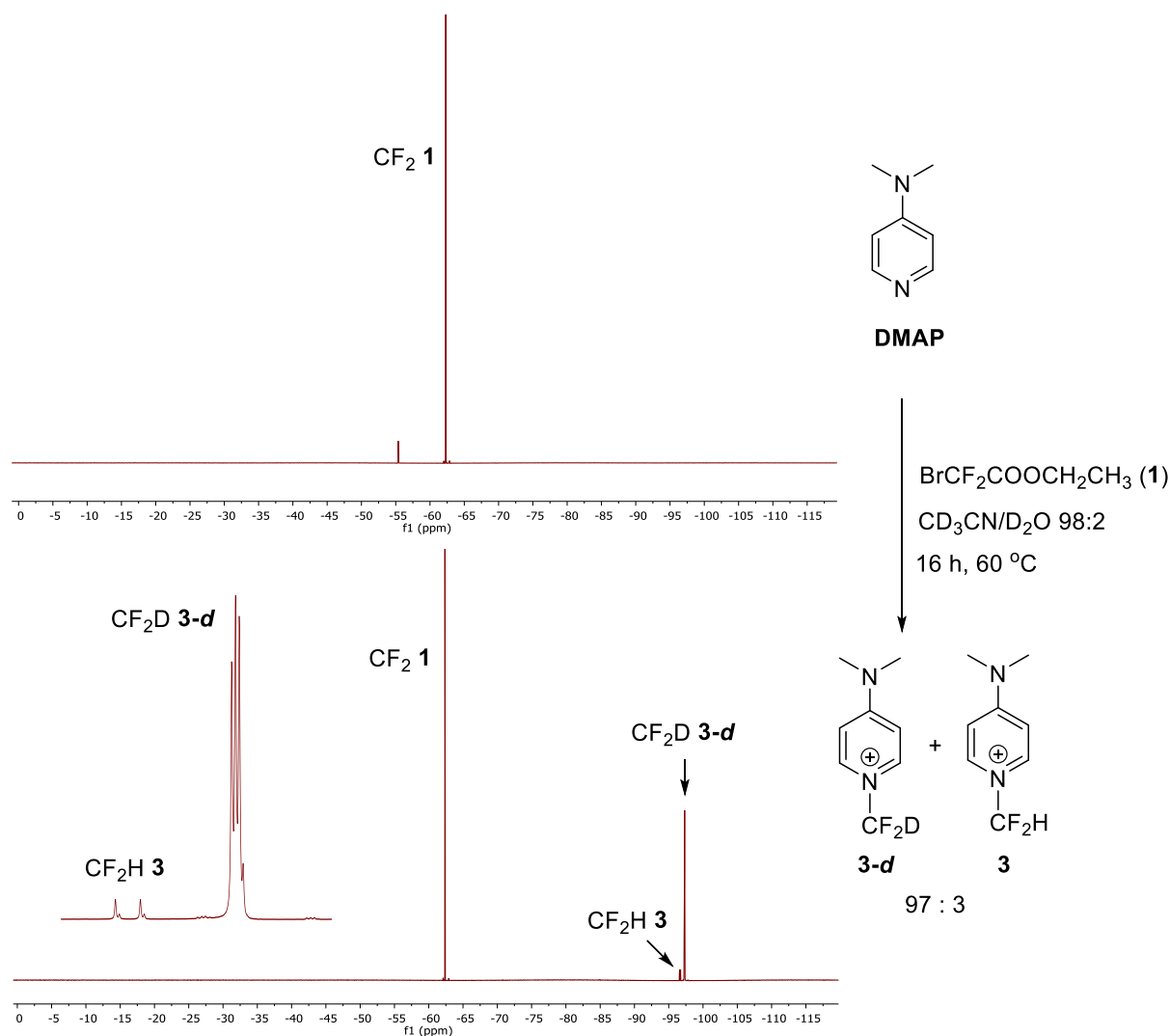


Figure S5. Top: ^{19}F NMR spectra (376 MHz) of a freshly prepared solution of DMAP (25 mg, 0.20 mmol) and ethyl bromodifluoroacetate (53 μL , 0.41 mmol) in 4 mL of a 98:2 (v/v) mixture of CD_3CN and D_2O . Bottom: ^{19}F NMR spectra (376 MHz) after heating for 16 h at 60°C.

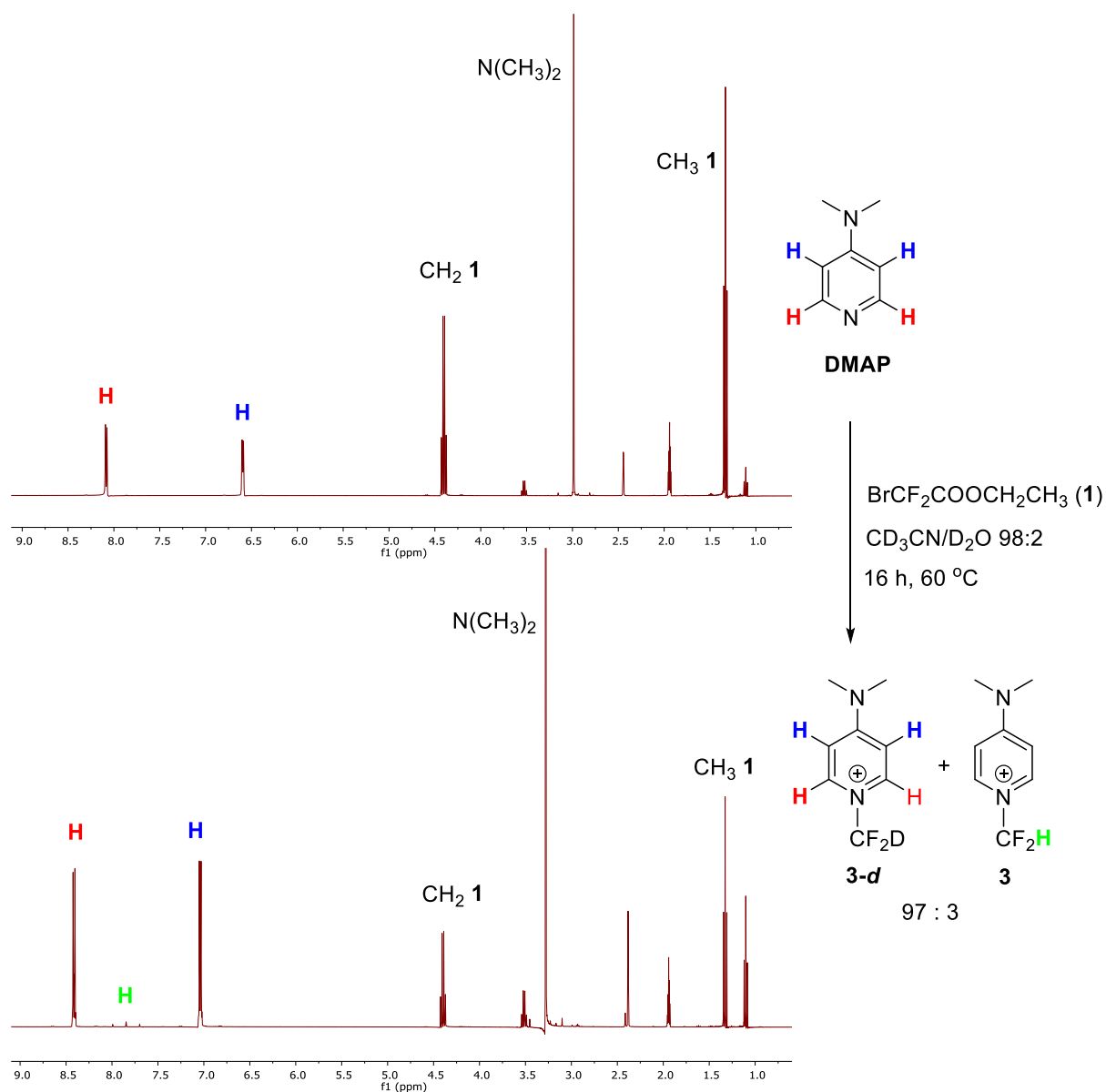


Figure S6. Top: ¹H NMR spectra (400 MHz) of a freshly prepared solution of DMAP (25 mg, 0.20 mmol) and ethyl bromodifluoroacetate (53 μL, 0.41 mmol) in 4 mL of a 98:2 (v/v) mixture of CD₃CN and D₂O. Bottom: ¹H NMR spectra (400 MHz) after heating for 16 h at 60°C.

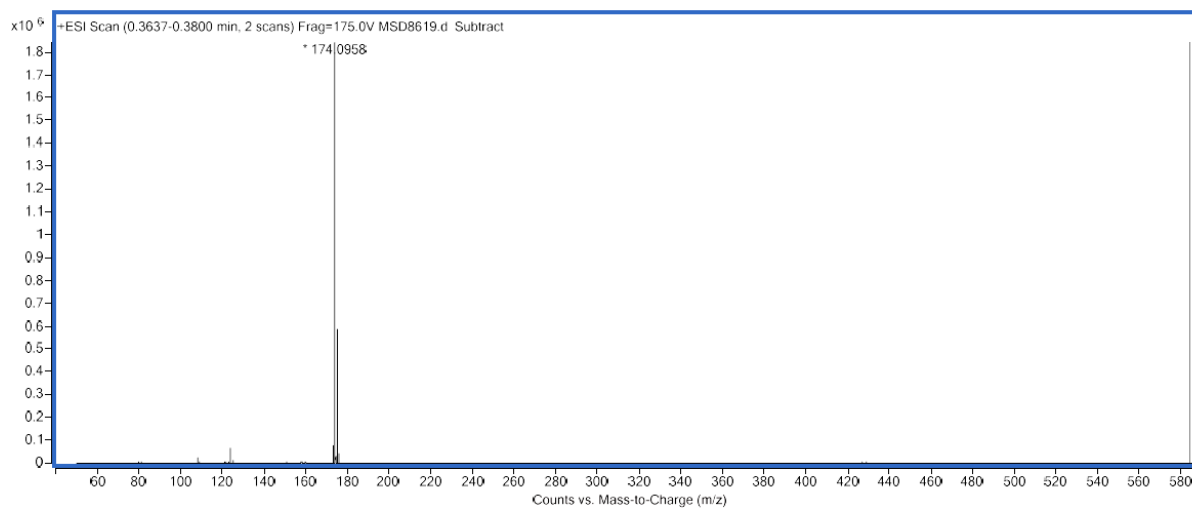


Figure S7. HR ESI-MS spectrum of reaction crude between DMAP and ethyl bromodifluoroacetate in a 98:2 (v/v) mixture of CD₃CN and D₂O after heating for 16 h at 60°C.

Table S2. HR ESI-MS characterization of compounds **3** and **3-d**.

Compound	<i>m/z</i> (exp.)	<i>m/z</i> (calc.)
3-d	174.0958	174.0948 C ₈ H ₁₀ DF ₂ N ₂ ⁺ [M] ⁺
3	173.0886	173.0885 C ₈ H ₁₁ F ₂ N ₂ [M] ⁺

7.- Stability of compound **2b** in CD₃CN by ¹H NMR.

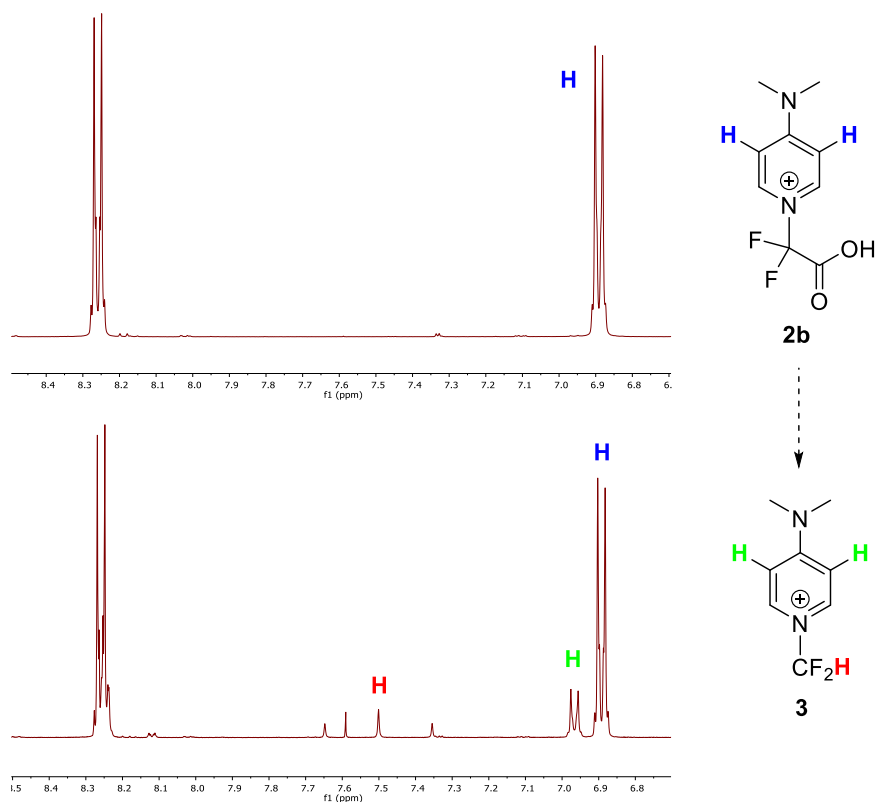


Figure S8. Comparison of the region between 6.7 and 8.5 ppm of the ¹H NMR spectra (400 MHz) of a freshly prepared solution of compound **2b** in CD₃CN (top) with the same region after standing for 96 h at room temperature (bottom).

8.- ^1H and ^{19}F NMR analysis of the N-difluoromethylation reaction of 4-6

Compound 4a

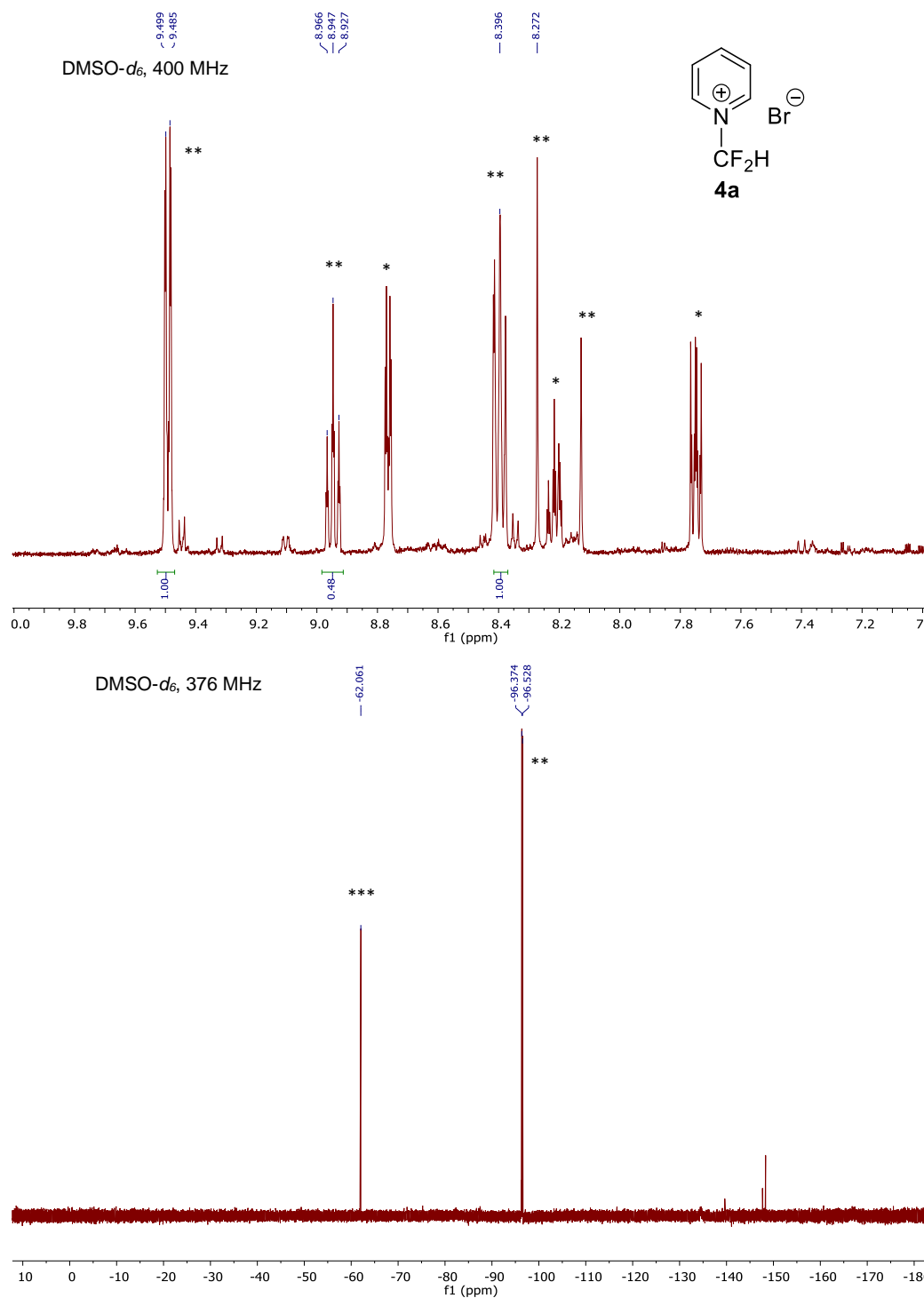


Figure S9. Aromatic region of the ^1H NMR (top) and ^{19}F NMR (bottom) spectra for the N-difluoromethylation reaction of pyridine (**4**) with 5 mol equiv. of **1** in a 1:1 mixture of neutralized THF and ACN at 60°C for 24 h. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the reaction crude was dissolved in DMSO- d_6 to register the ^1H and ^{19}F NMR spectra. * = pyridine signals. ** = compound **4a** signals. *** = compound **1** signal.

Compound 5a

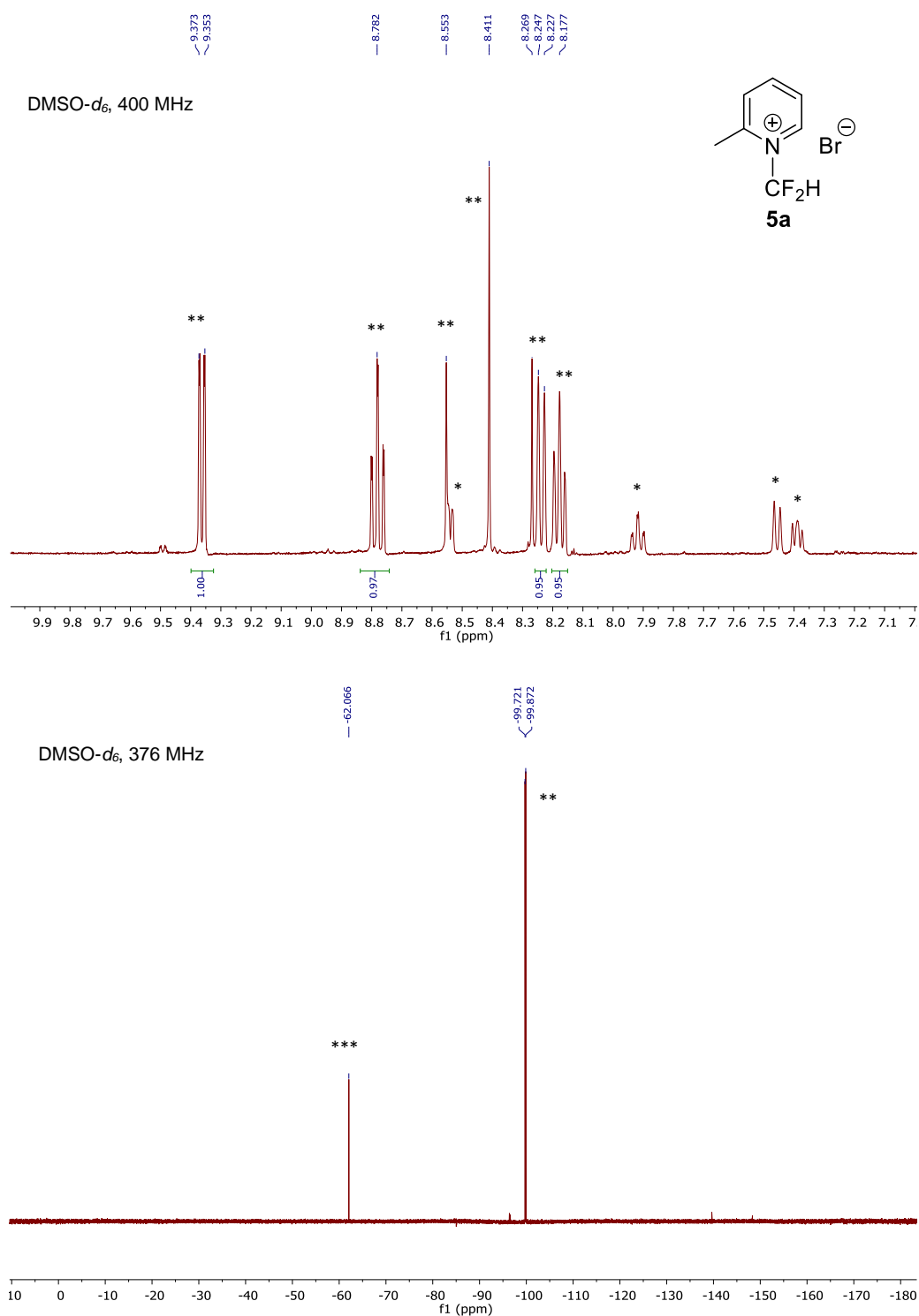


Figure S10. Aromatic region of the ¹H NMR (top) and ¹⁹F NMR (bottom) spectra for the N-difluoromethylation reaction of 2-picoline (**5**) with 5 mol equiv. of **1** in a 1:1 mixture of neutralized THF and ACN at 60°C for 24 h. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the reaction crude was dissolved in DMSO-*d*₆ to register the ¹H and ¹⁹F NMR spectra. * = 2-picoline signals. ** = compound **5a** signals. *** = compound **1** signal.

Compound 6a

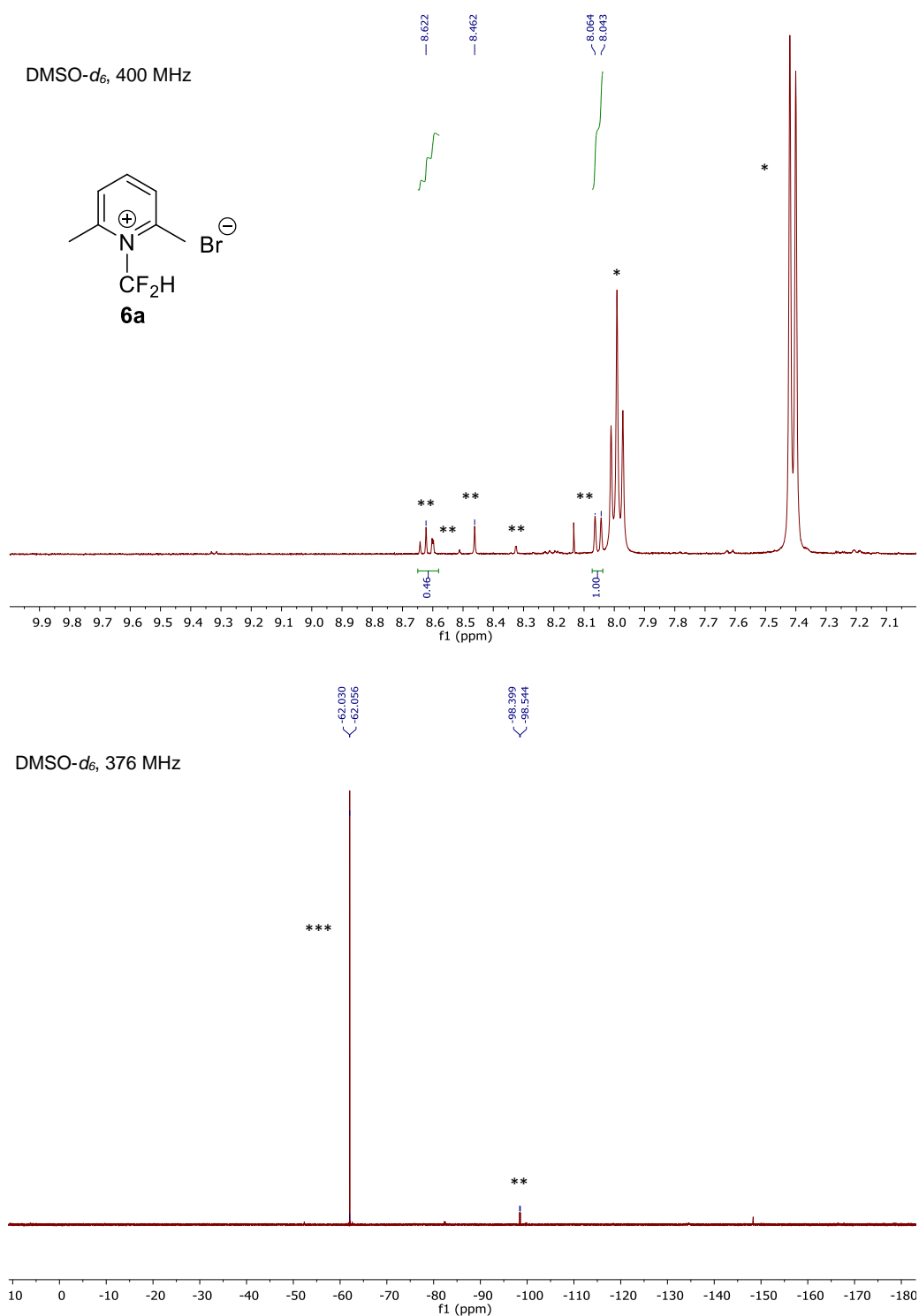


Figure S11. Aromatic region of the ¹H NMR (top) and ¹⁹F NMR (bottom) spectra for the N-difluoromethylation reaction of 2,6-lutidine (**6**) with 5 mol equiv. of **1** in a 1:1 mixture of neutralized THF and ACN at 60°C for 24 h. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the reaction crude was dissolved in DMSO-*d*₆ to register the ¹H and ¹⁹F NMR spectra. * = 2,6-lutidine signals. ** = compound **6a** signals. *** = compound **1** signal.

9.- HPLC analysis of fluorophores 8b and 9a-9b

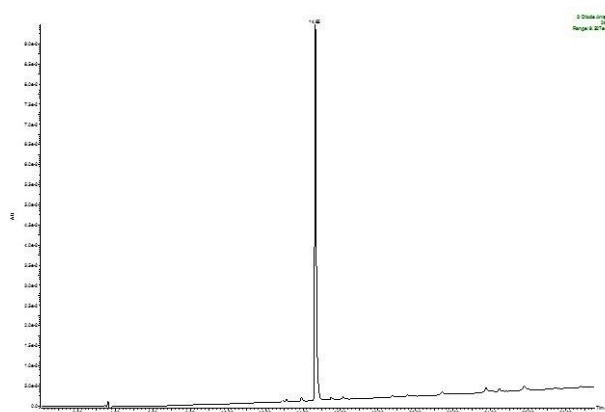


Figure S12. Reversed-phase HPLC-MS analysis of purified compound **8b**.

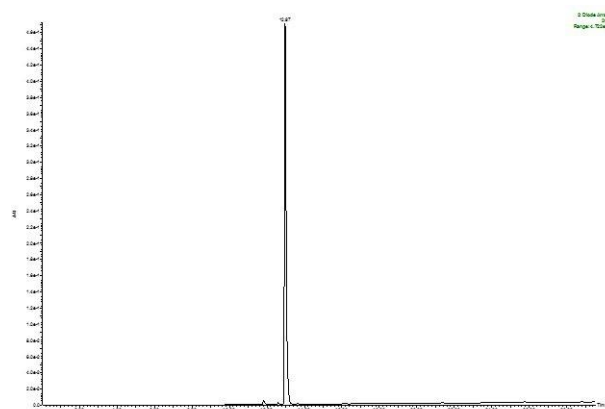


Figure S13. Reversed-phase HPLC-MS analysis of purified compound **9a**.

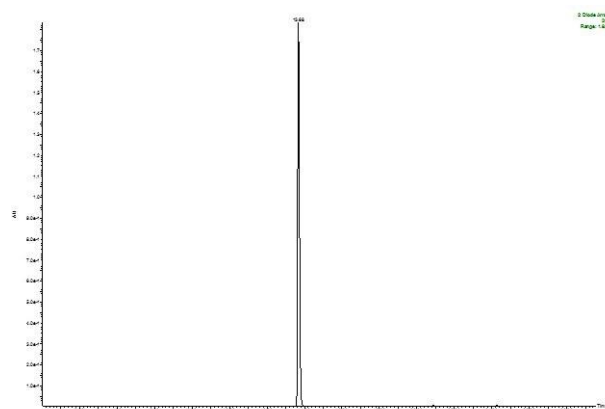


Figure S14. Reversed-phase HPLC-MS analysis of purified compound **9b**.

10.- HPLC-MS analysis of the N-difluoromethylation reaction of 10-11

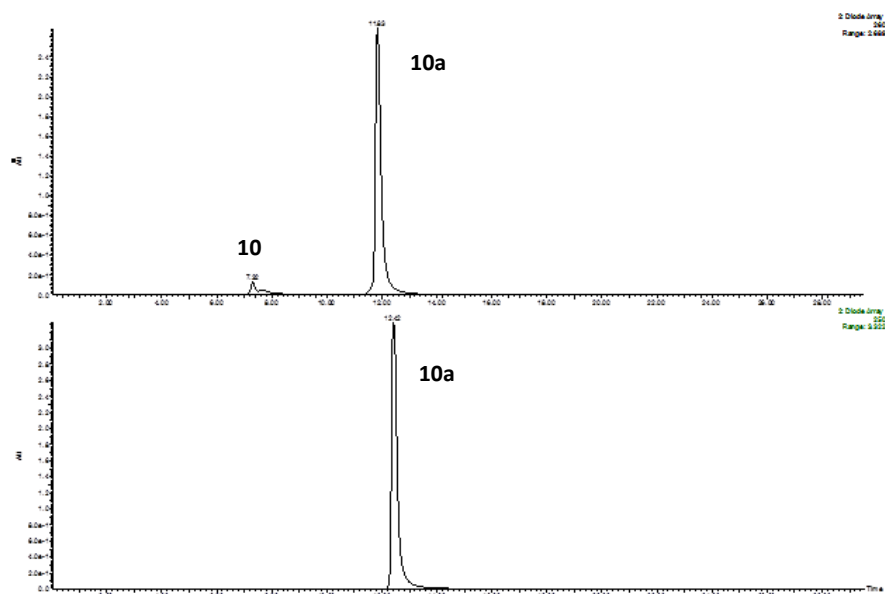


Figure S15. Reversed-phase HPLC-MS analysis for the N-difluoromethylation reaction of **10**: crude after 24 h (top) and purified compound **10b**.

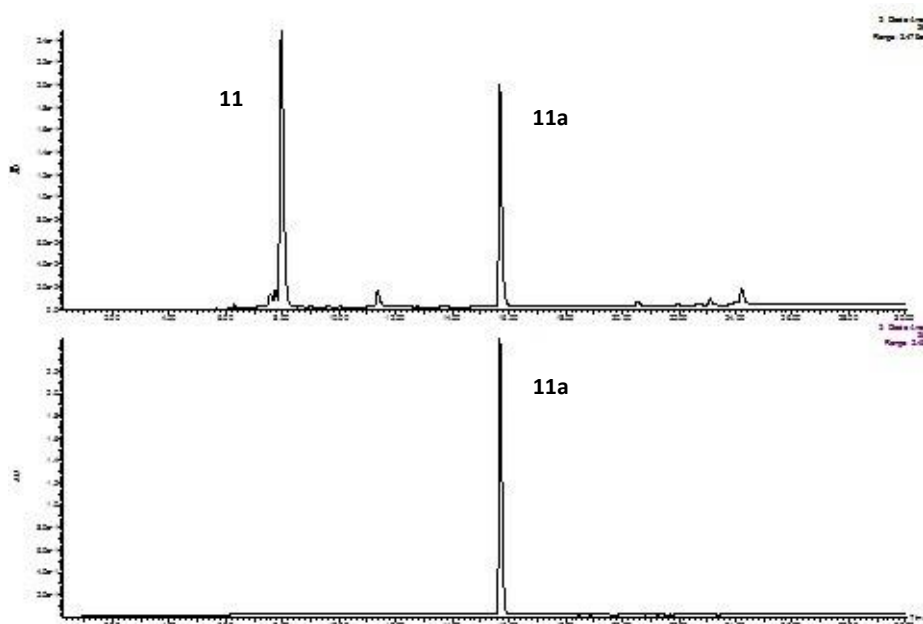


Figure S16. Reversed-phase HPLC-MS analysis for the N-difluoromethylation reaction of **11**: crude after 24 h (top) and purified compound **11a**.

11.- ^1H , ^{13}C and ^{19}F NMR spectra and HR ESI-MS of the compounds

Compound 2b

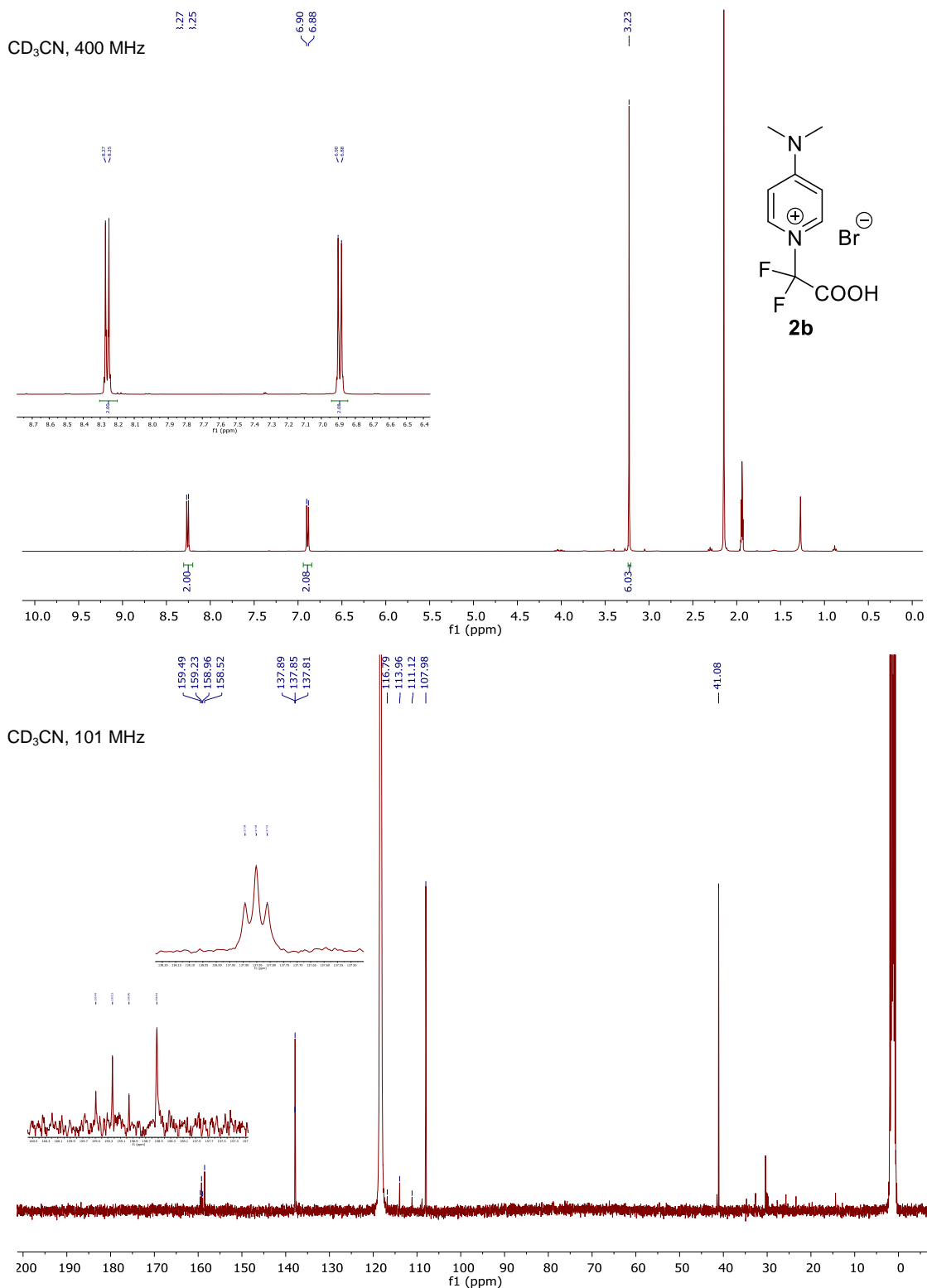


Figure S17. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of compound **2b** in CD_3CN .

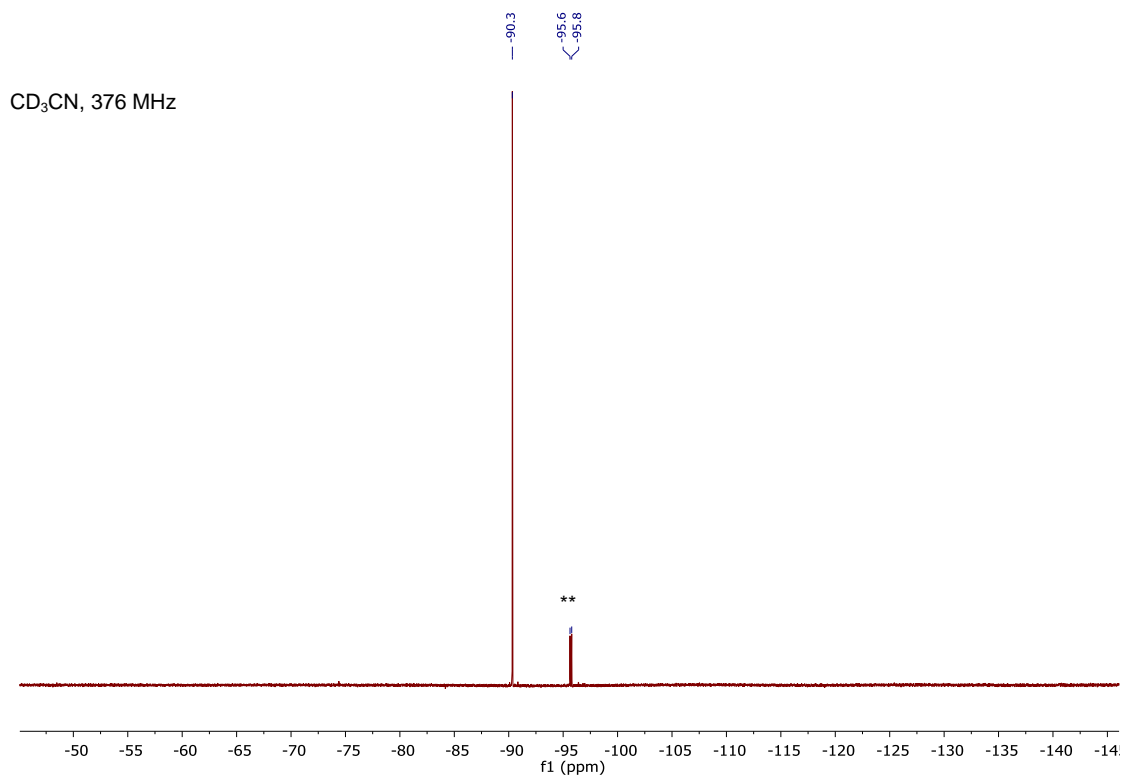


Figure S18. ¹⁹F NMR spectra of compound **2b** in CD₃CN.** This doublet corresponds to the fluorine atoms of the CF₂H group in compound **3**, which was spontaneously generated from **2b** after standing in CD₃CN solution for 48 h prior to the registration of the ¹⁹F NMR.

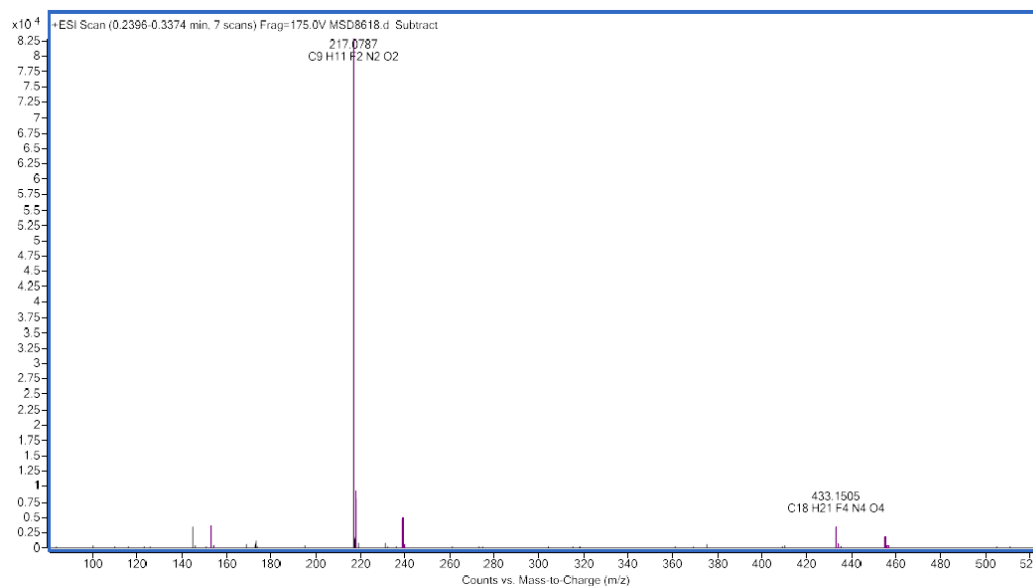


Figure S19. HR ESI-MS spectrum of compound **2b**.

Compound 3

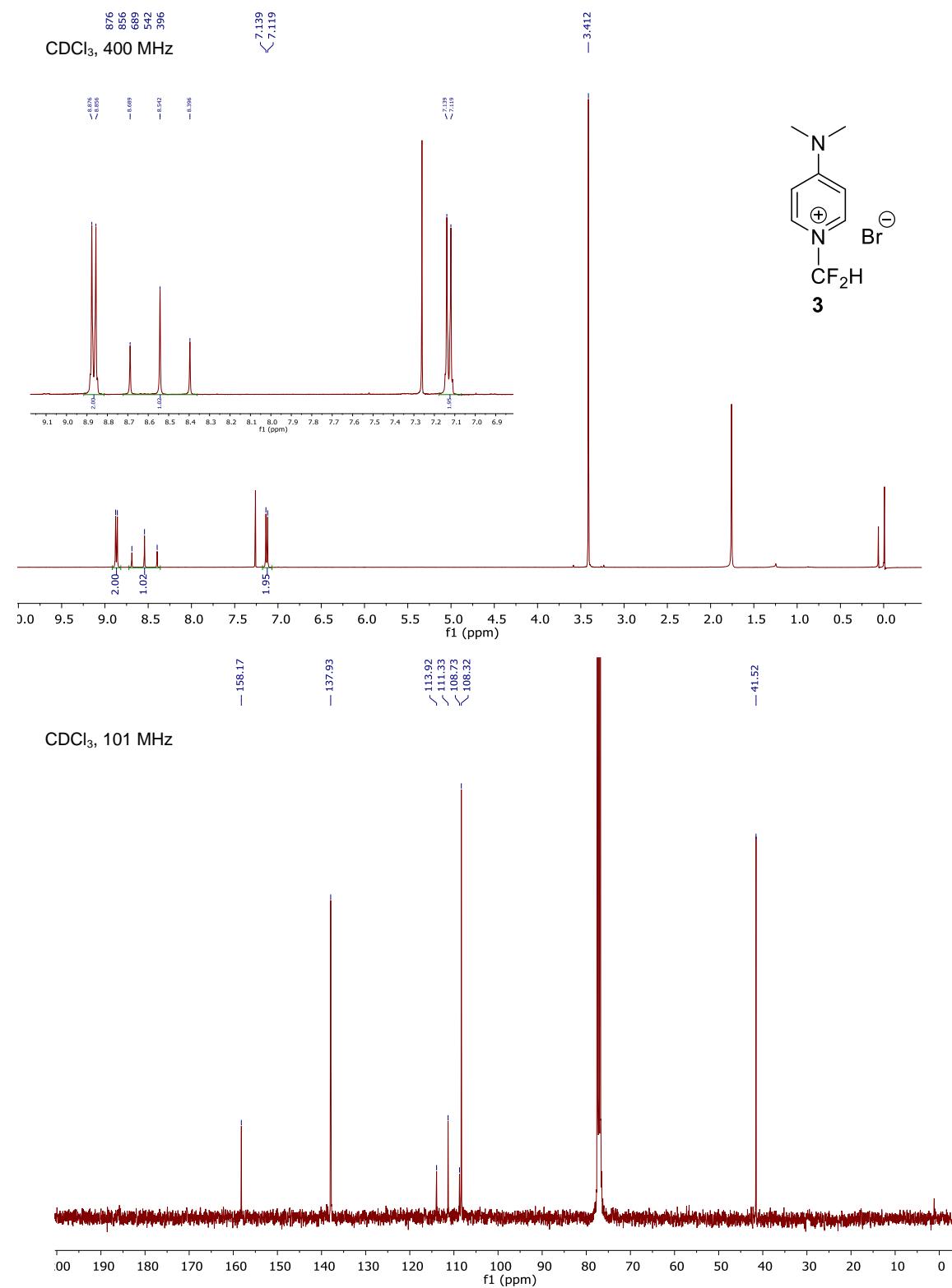


Figure S20. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of compound **3** in CDCl₃.

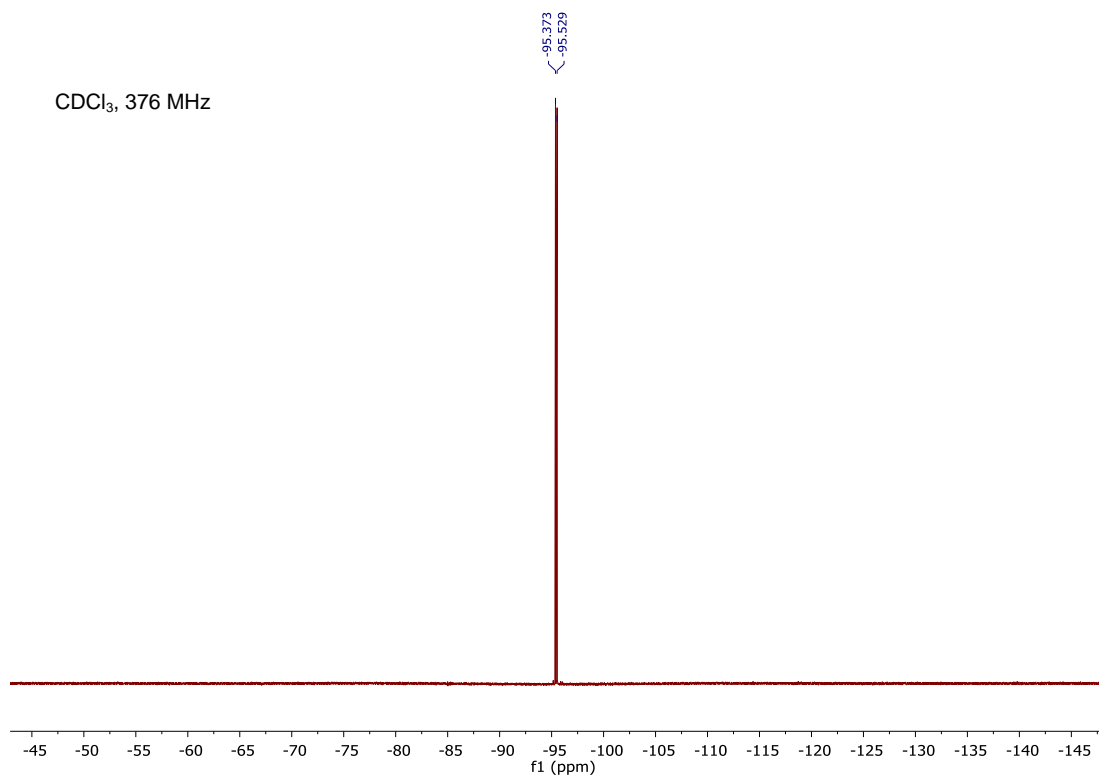


Figure S21. ¹⁹F NMR spectra of compound **3** in CDCl₃.

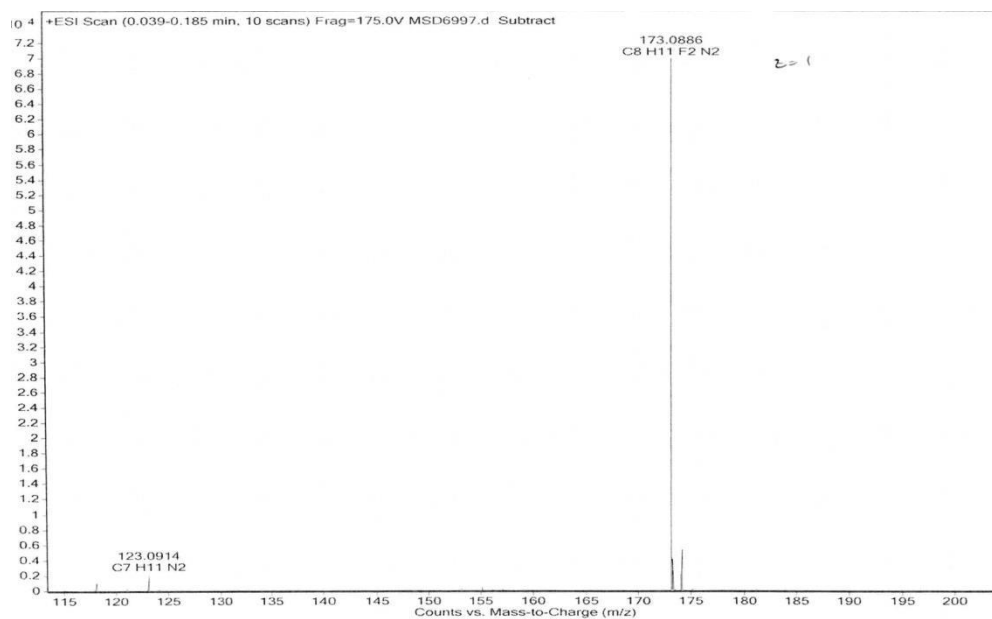


Figure S22. HR ESI-MS spectrum of compound **3**.

Compound 8b

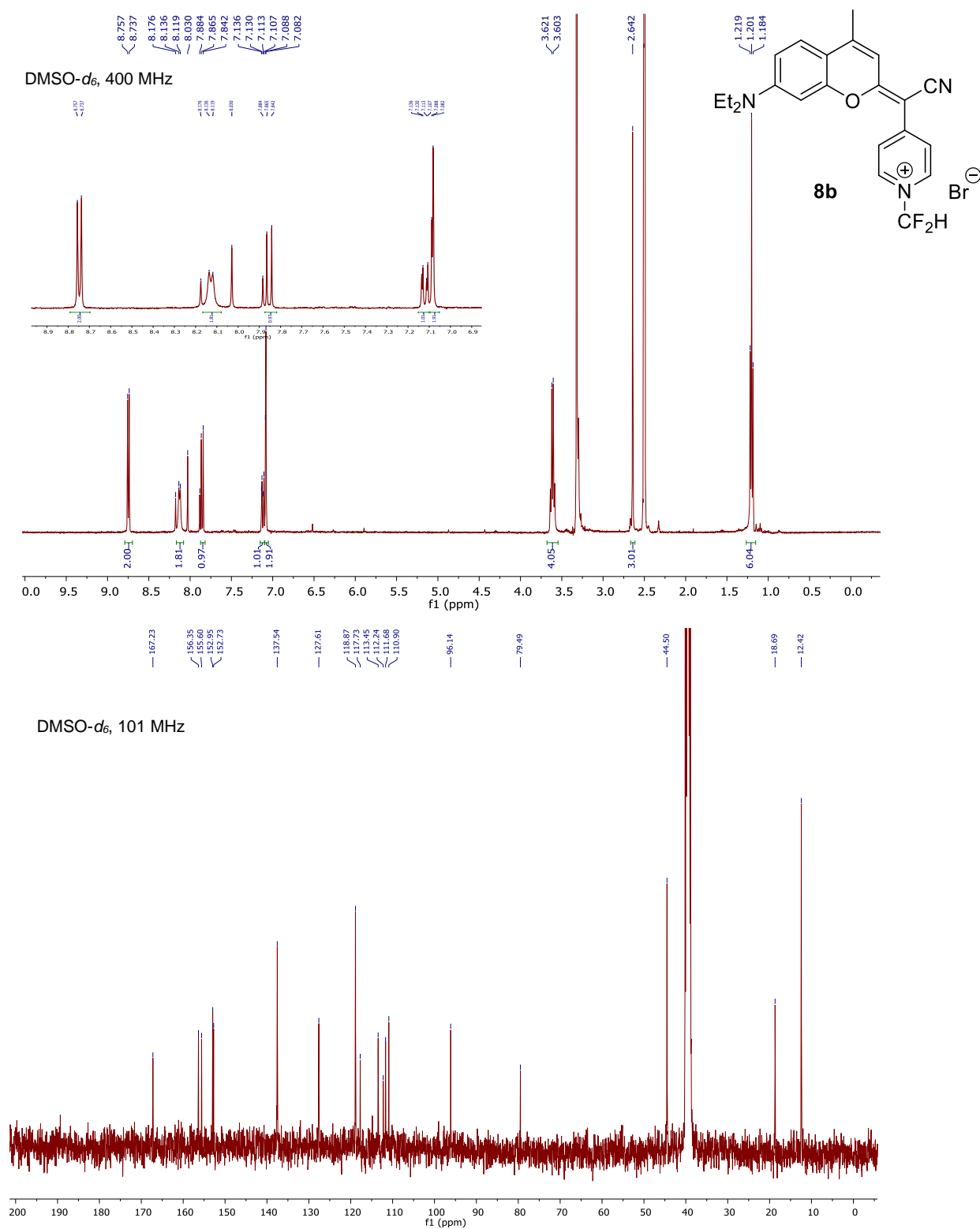


Figure S23. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of compound **8b** in DMSO-*d*₆.

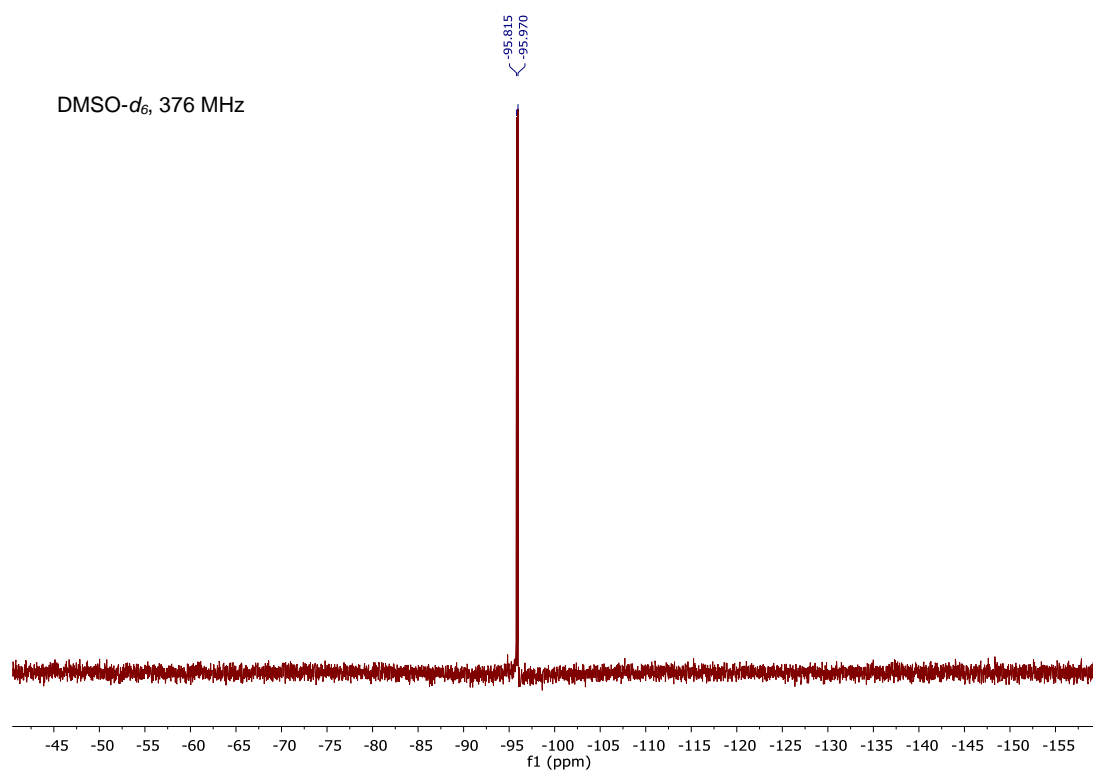


Figure S24. ¹⁹F NMR spectra of compound **8b** in DMSO-*d*₆.

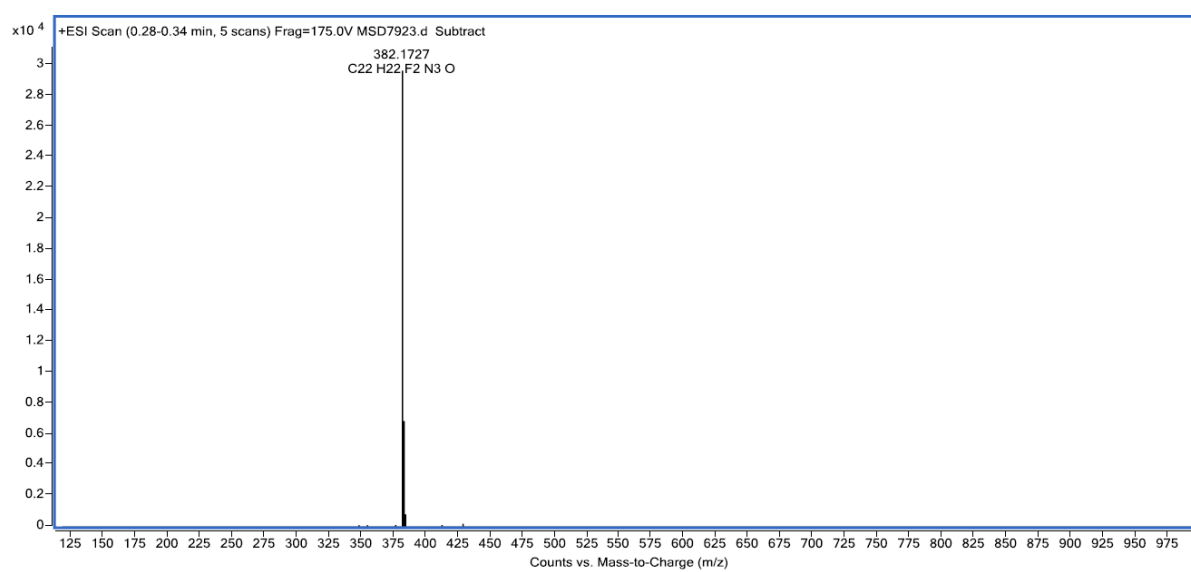


Figure S25. HR ESI-MS spectrum of compound **8b**.

Compound 9a

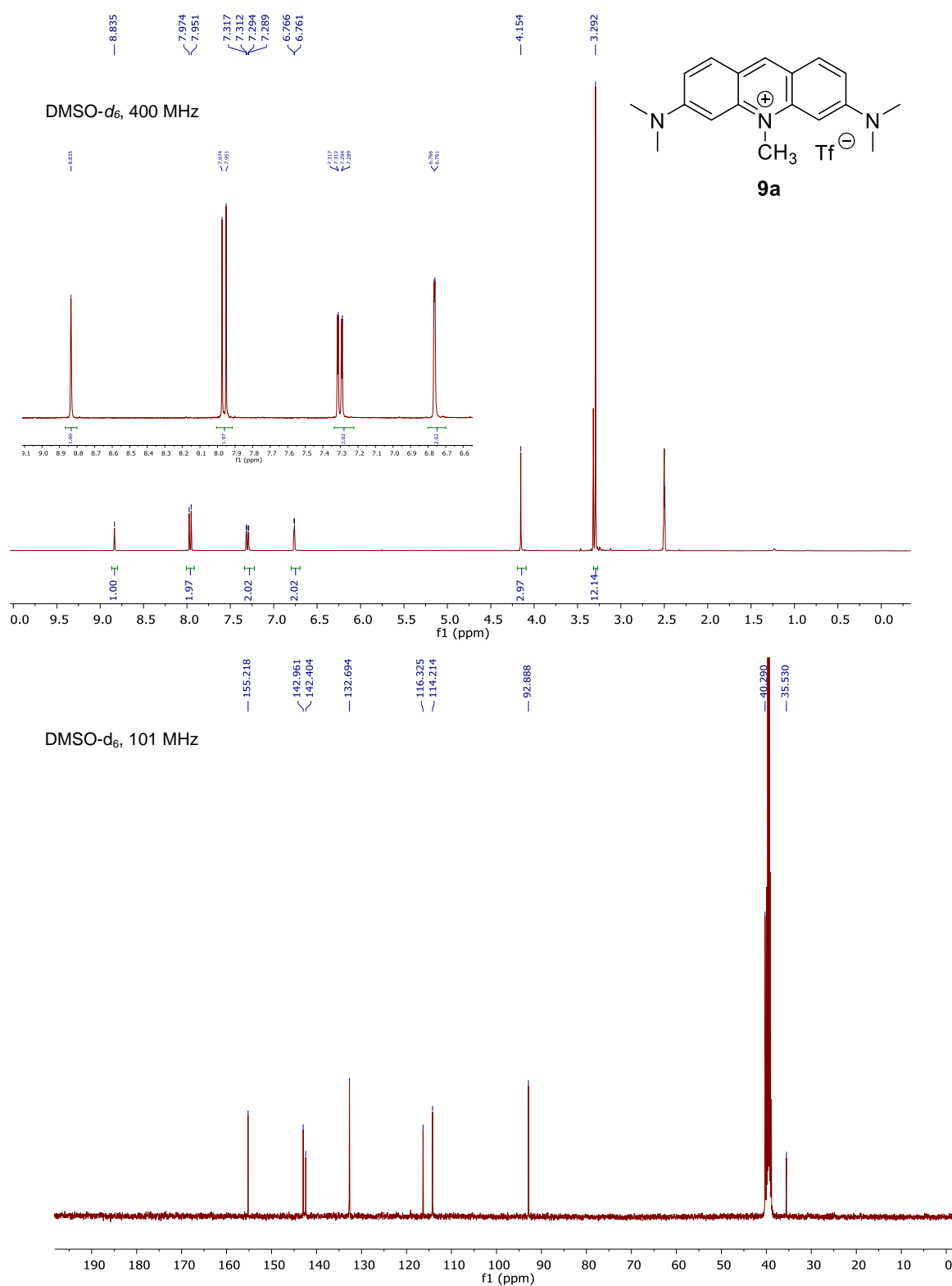


Figure S26. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of compound **9a** in DMSO-*d*₆.

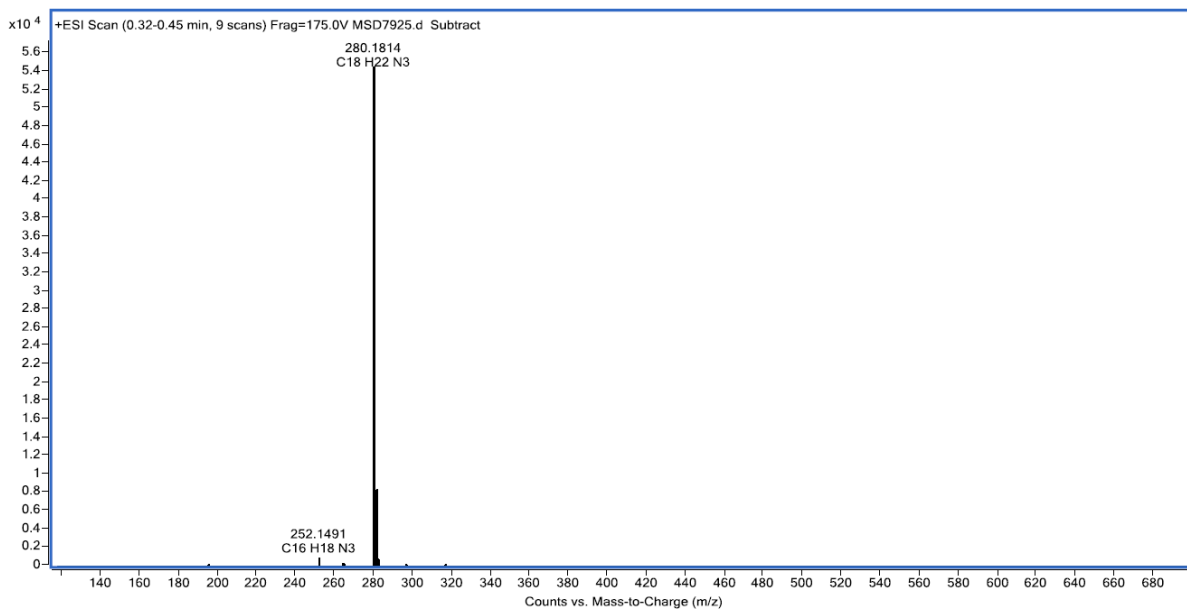


Figure S27. HR ESI-MS spectrum of compound **9a**.

Compound 9b

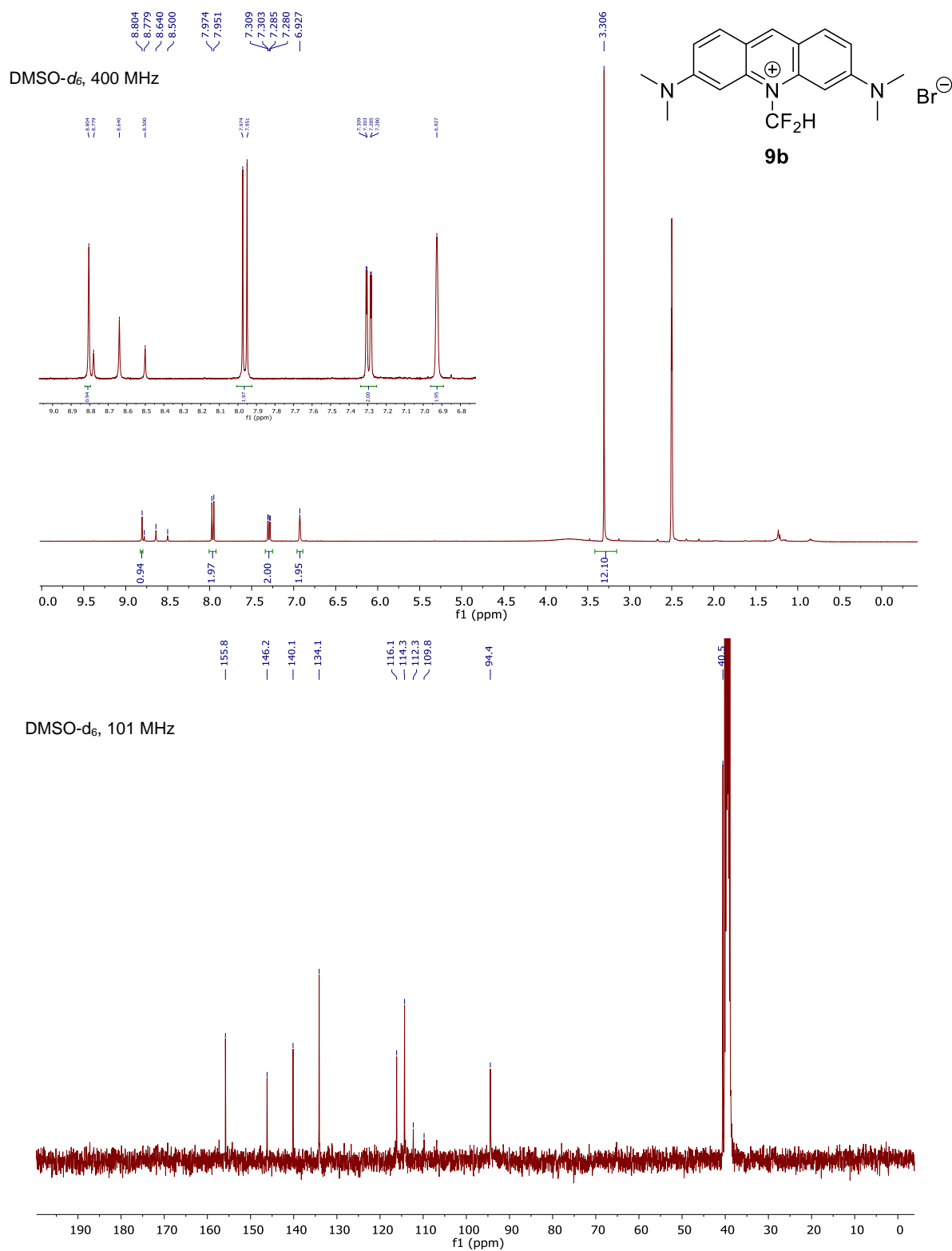


Figure S28. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of compound **9b** in DMSO-*d*₆.

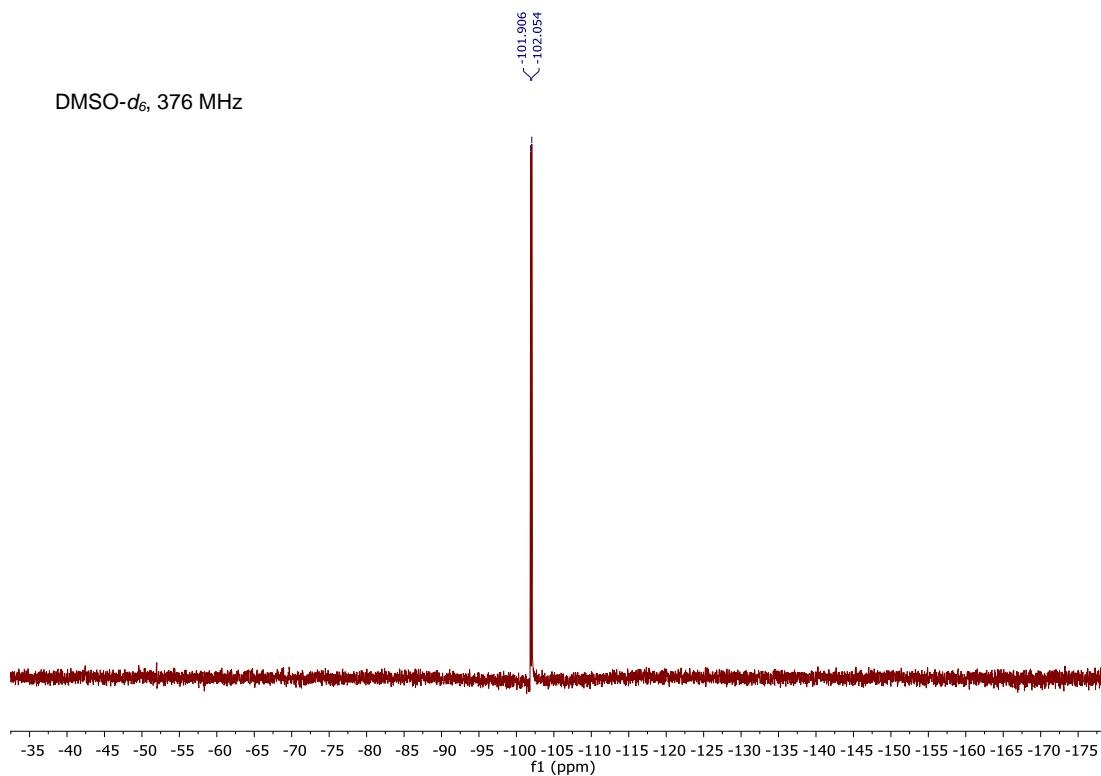


Figure S29. ¹⁹F NMR spectra of compound **9b** in DMSO-*d*₆.

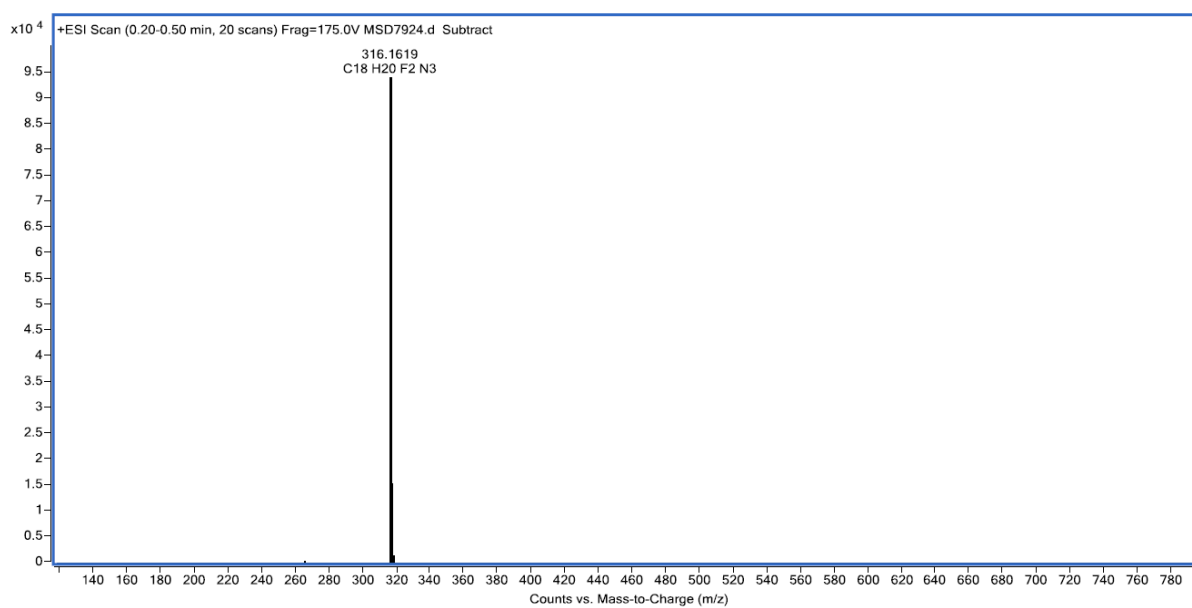


Figure S30. HR ESI-MS spectrum of compound **9b**.

Compound 10b

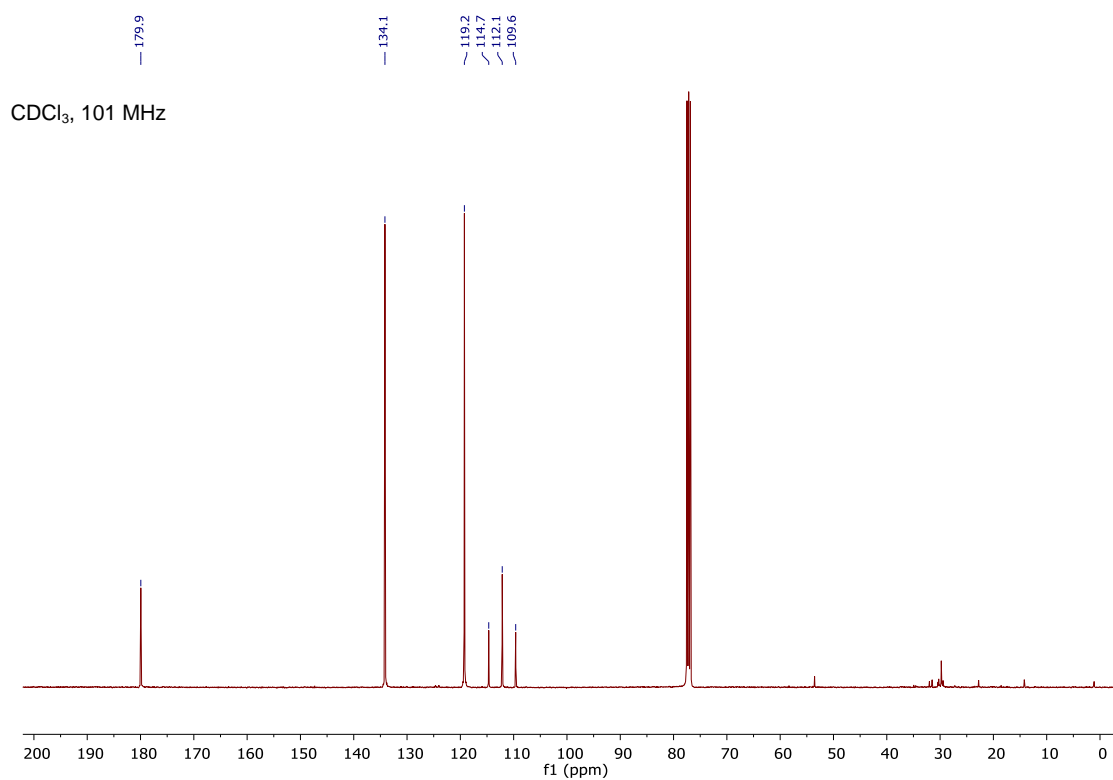
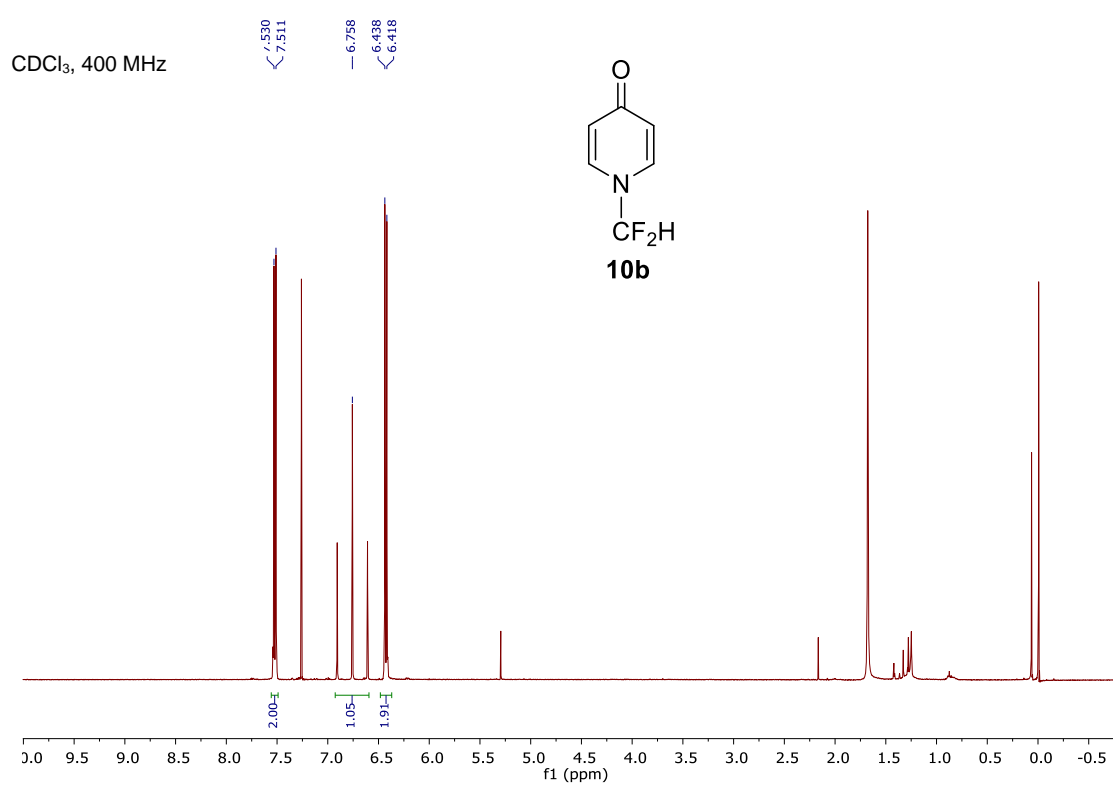


Figure S31. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of compound **10b** in CDCl₃.

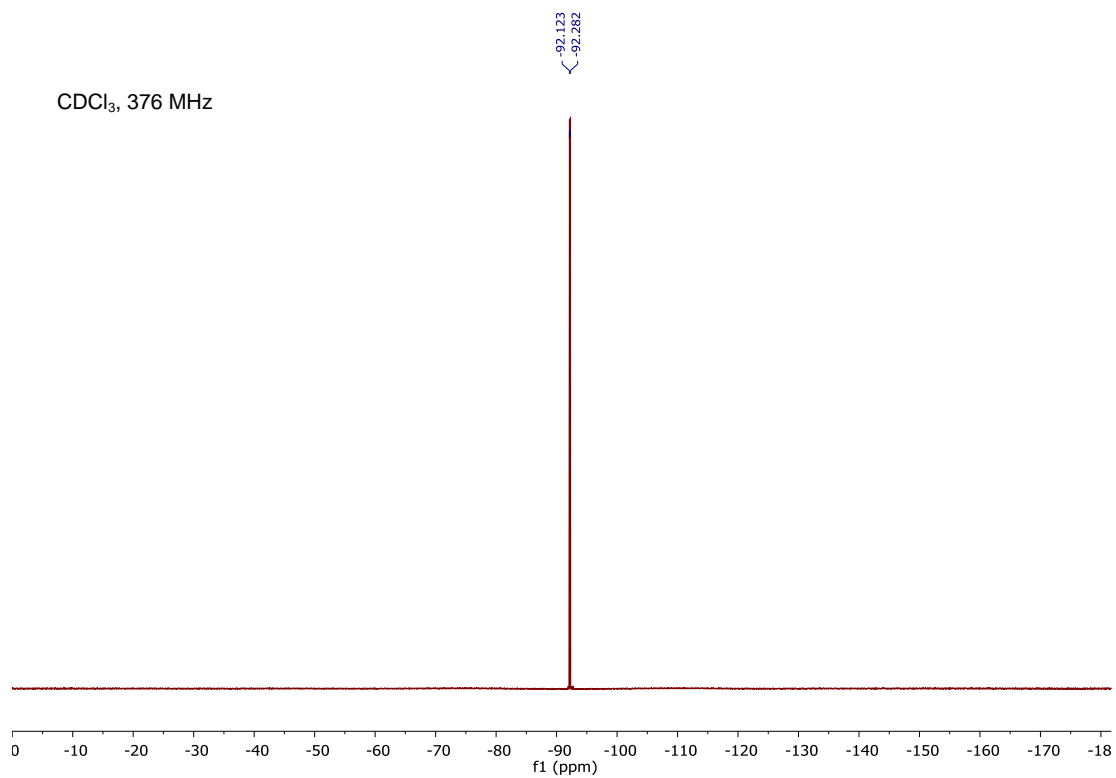


Figure S32. ¹⁹F NMR spectra of compound **10b** in CDCl₃.

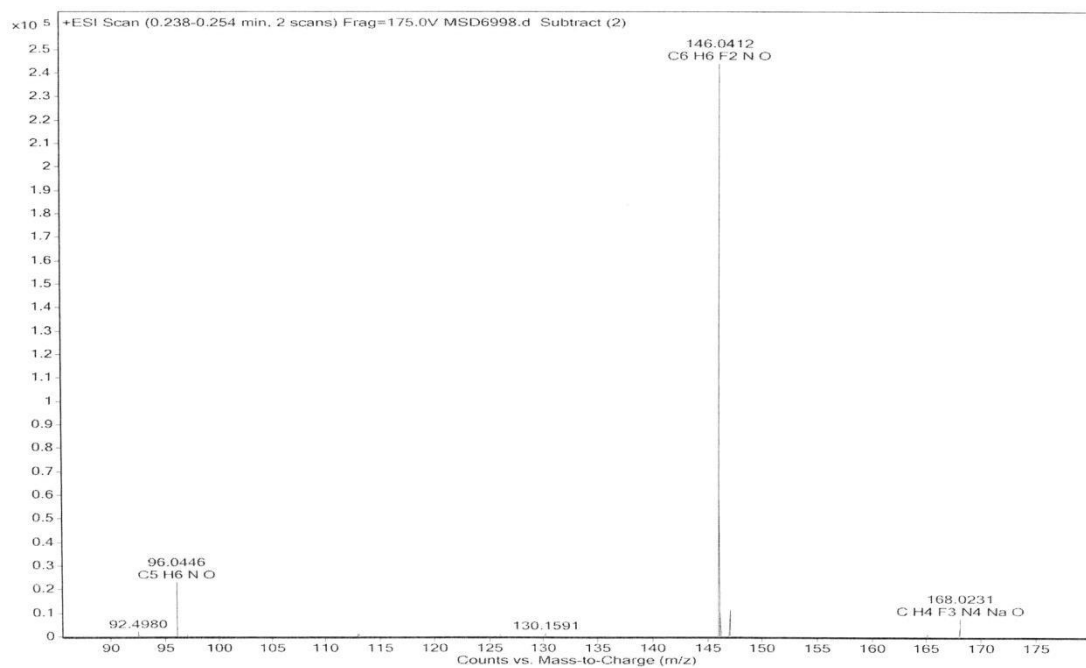


Figure S33. HR ESI-MS spectrum of compound **10b**.

Compound 11a

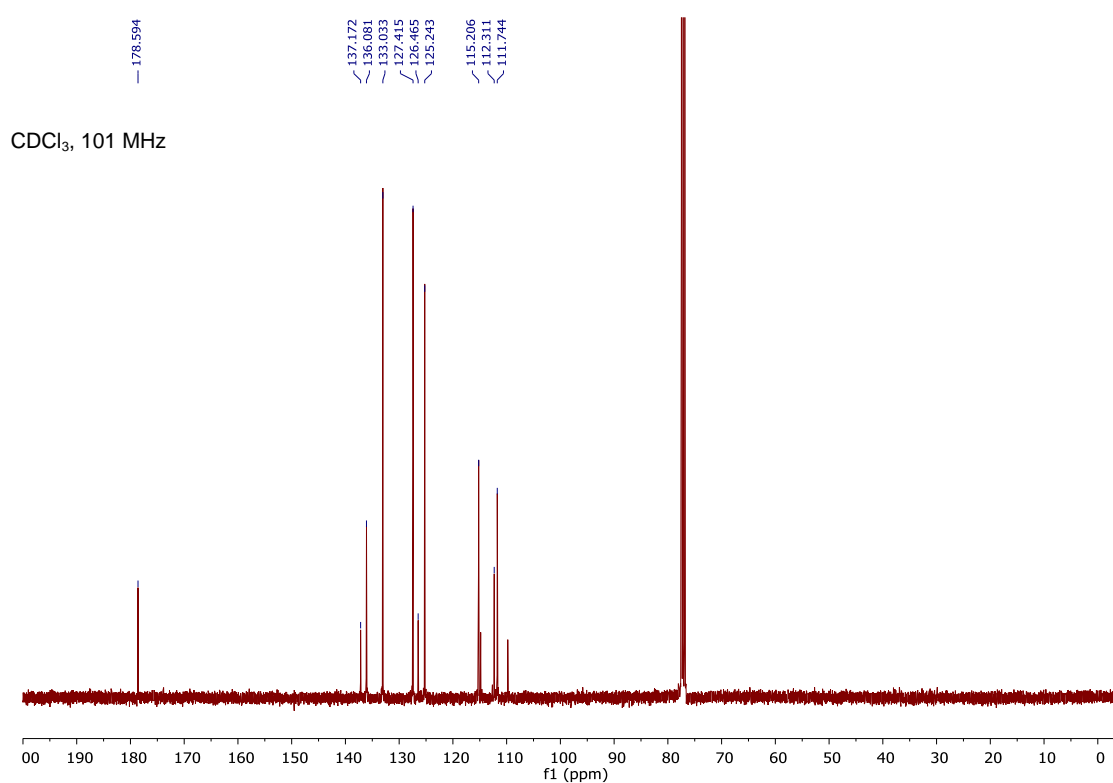
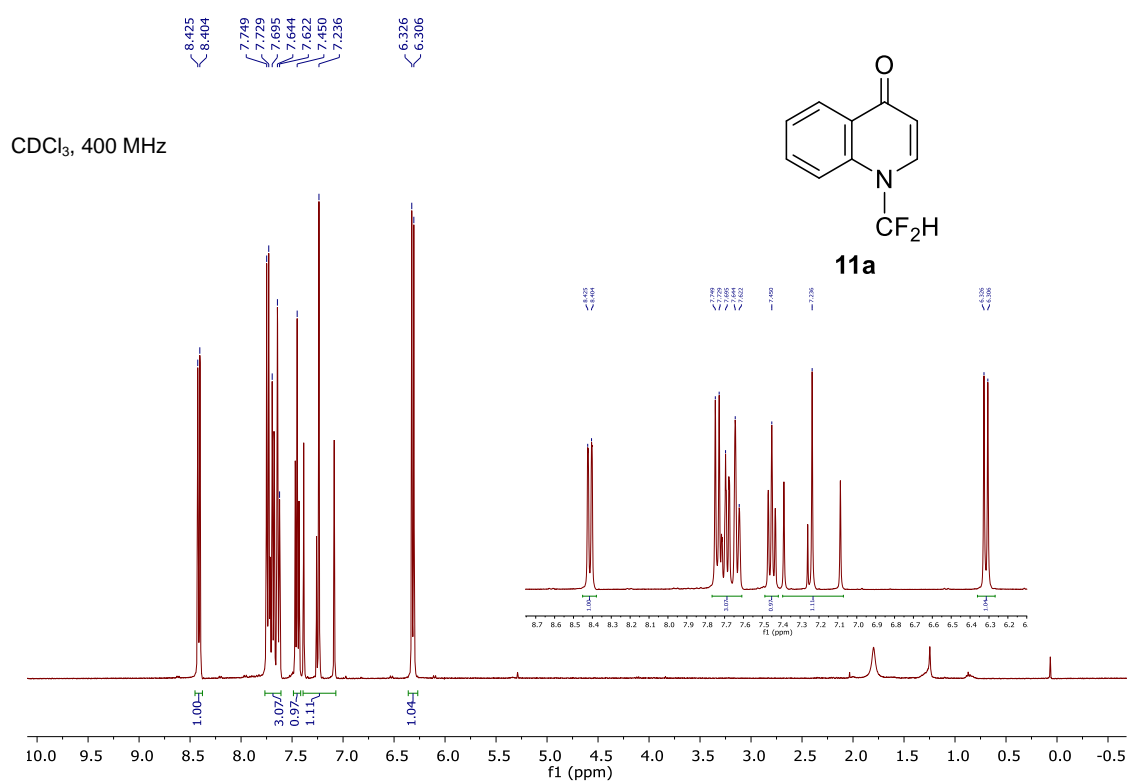


Figure S34. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of compound **11a** in CDCl₃.

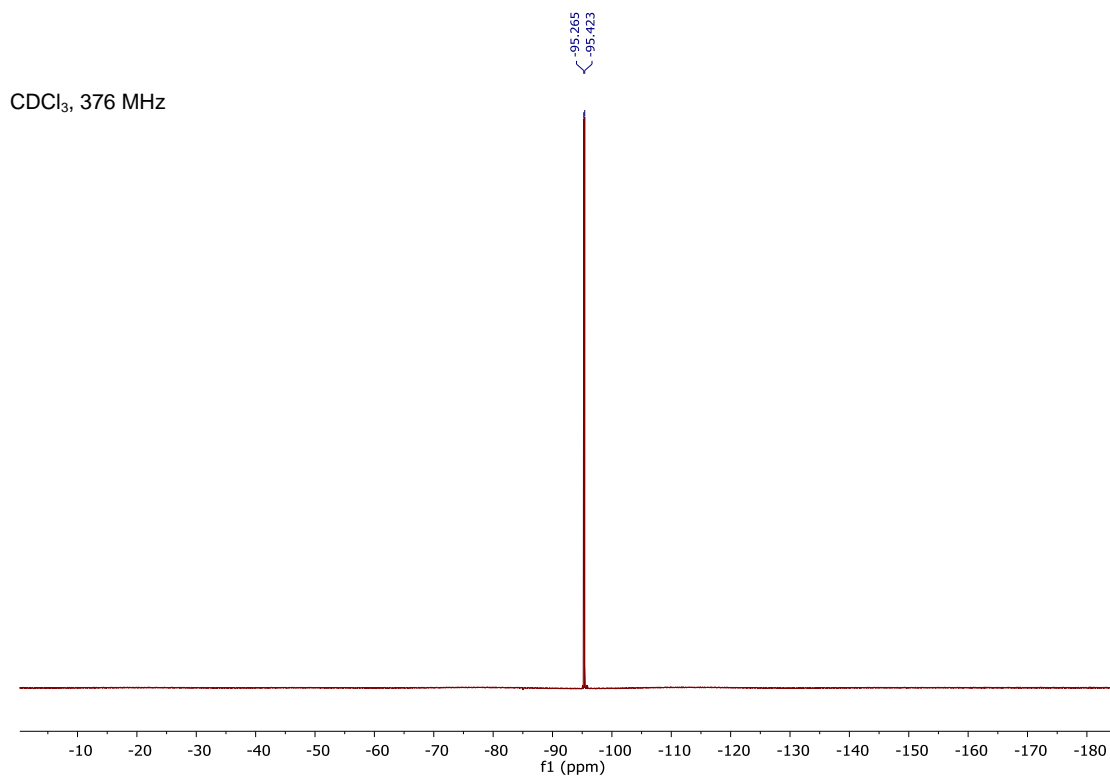


Figure S35. ¹⁹F NMR spectra of compound **11a** in CDCl₃.

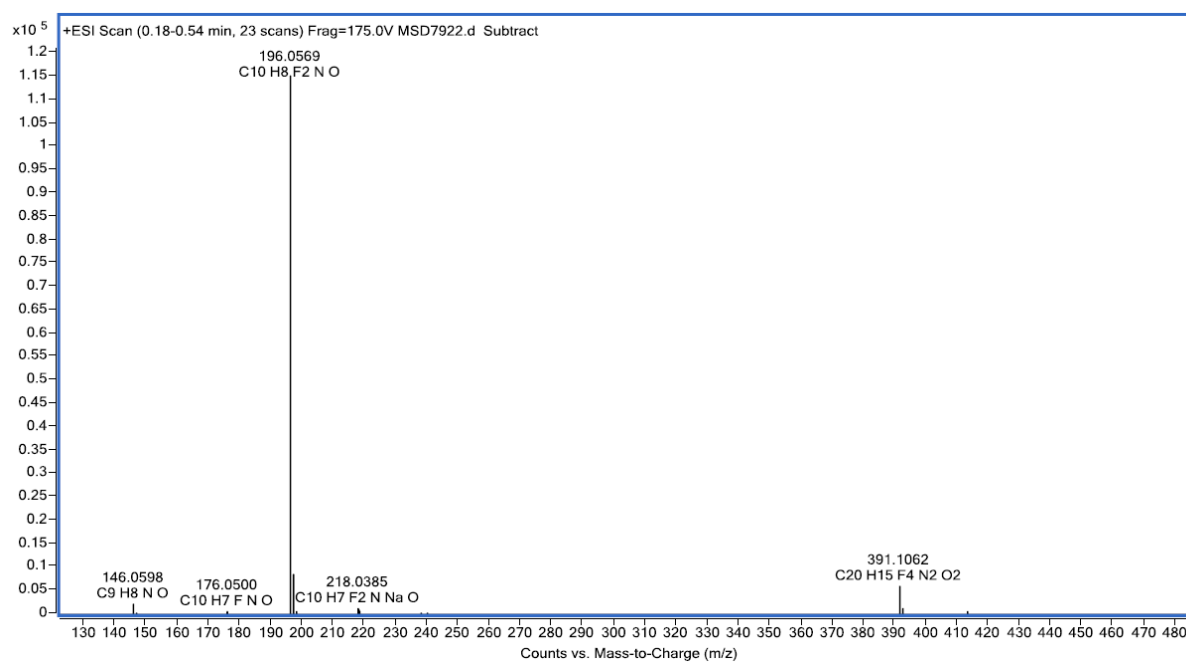


Figure S36. HR ESI-MS spectrum of compound **11a**.