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## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

#### for

# HOAc catalyzed three-component reaction for the synthesis of 3,3'- (arylmethylene)bis(1*H*-indoles)

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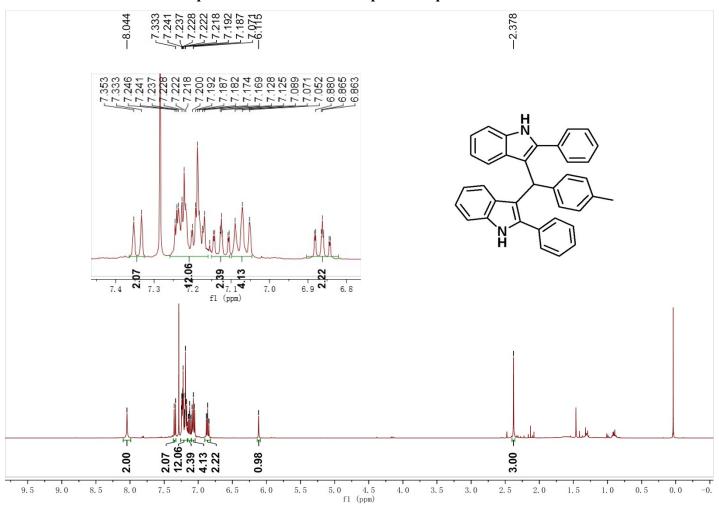
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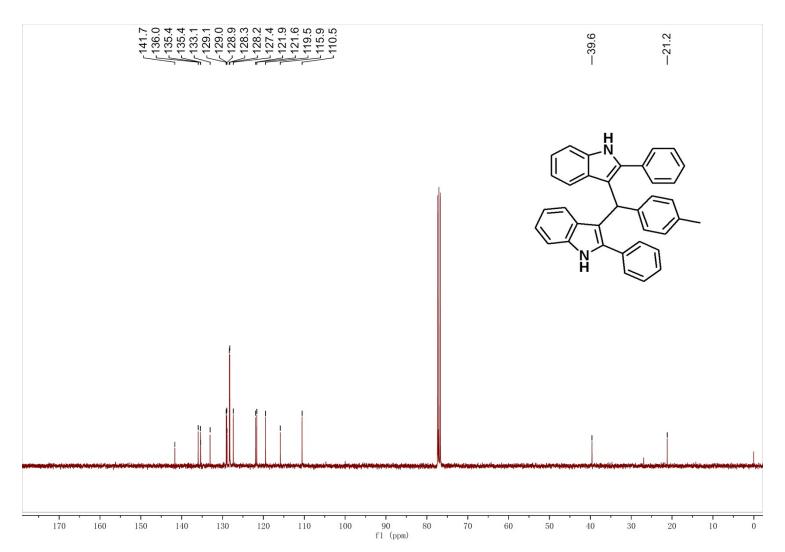
### 1. Mechanistic investigation

To a 25 mL sealed reaction tube, 4-methylbenzaldehyde (1a, 0.6 mmol, 72.1 mg), 2-phenylindole (6a, 1.0 mmol, 193.1 mg), HOAc (15 mol%, 4.5 mg) and DCM (5.0 mL) were added. The reaction mixture was heated at 100 °C under Ar conditions until TLC (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 10:1, v/v) revealed that the reaction completed (about 6 hours). Then the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and diluted with 10 mL water. The mixture was extracted with DCM. The combined organic layers were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuum, and the resulting residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, mixtures of petroleum ether/ethyl acetate, 20:1, v/v) to afford the product 3a (180.8 mg, 74%) as a white solid.

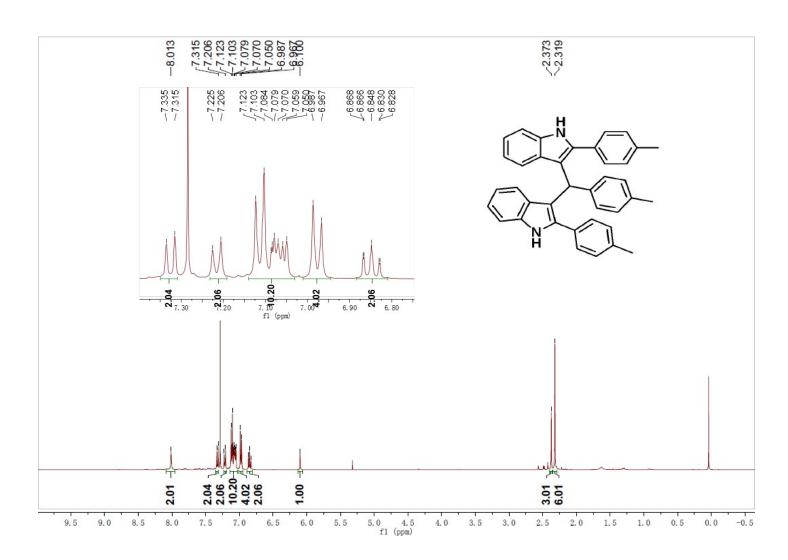
## 2. Copies of <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of products 3 and 5a



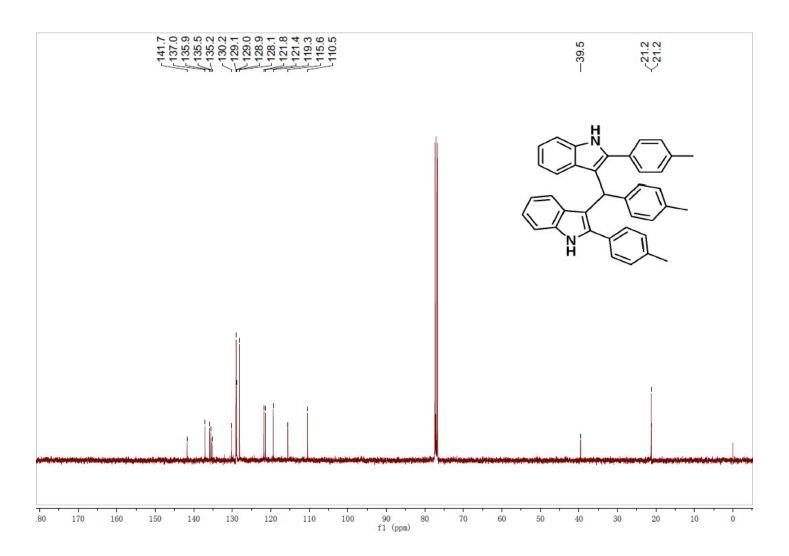
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3a



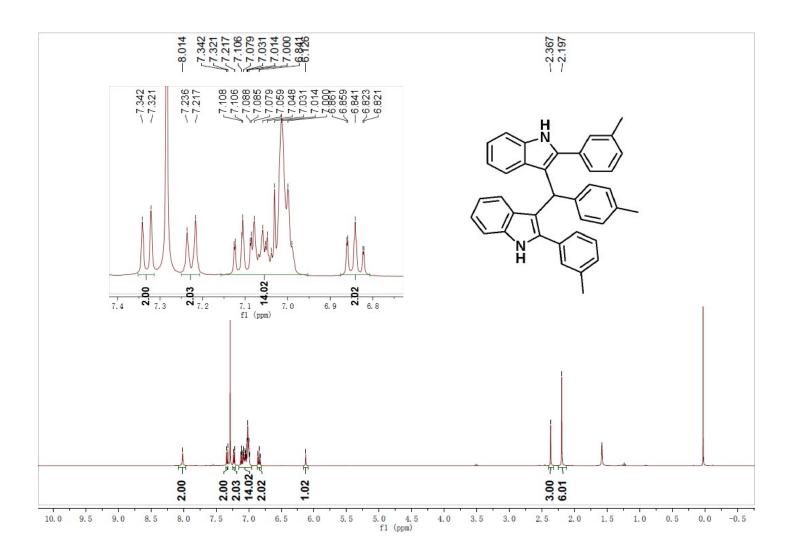
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3a



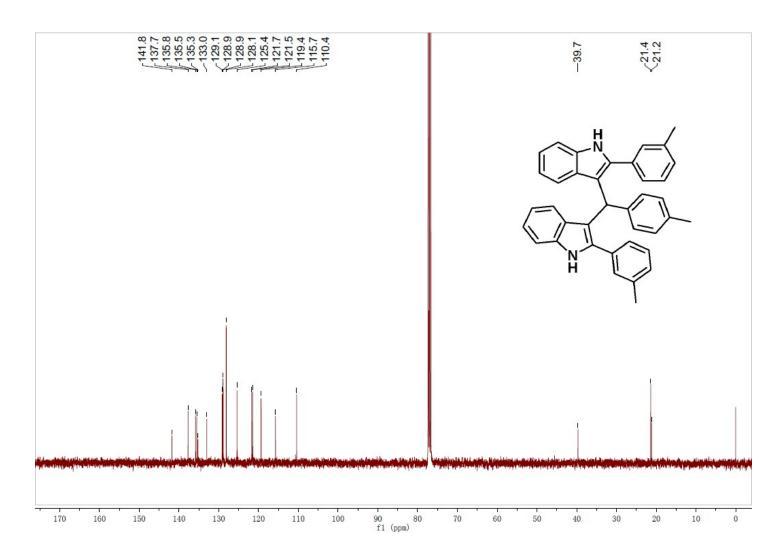
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3b



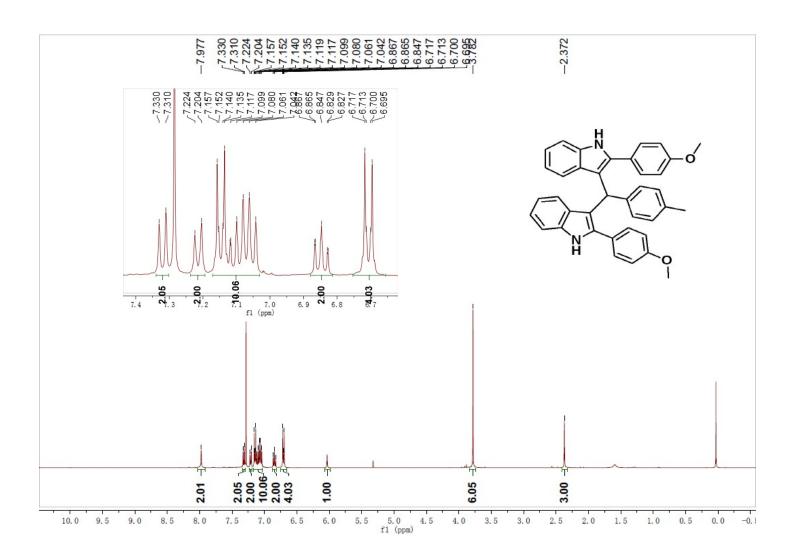
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3b



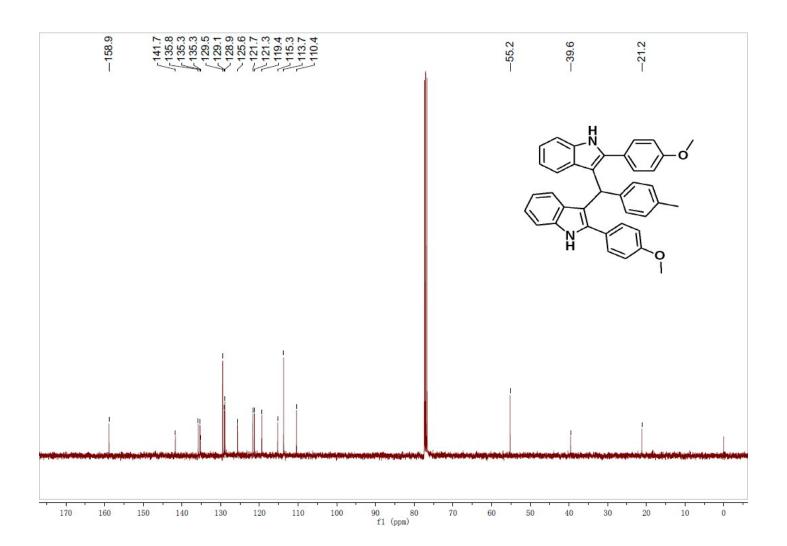
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3c



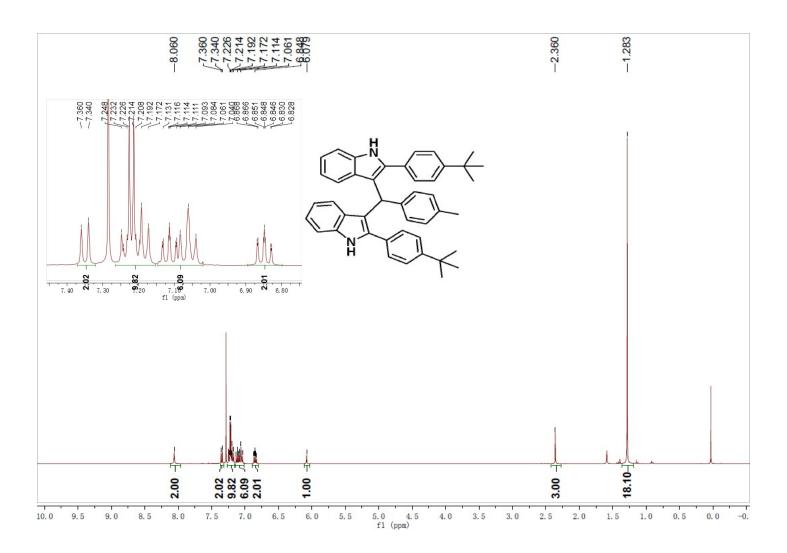
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3c



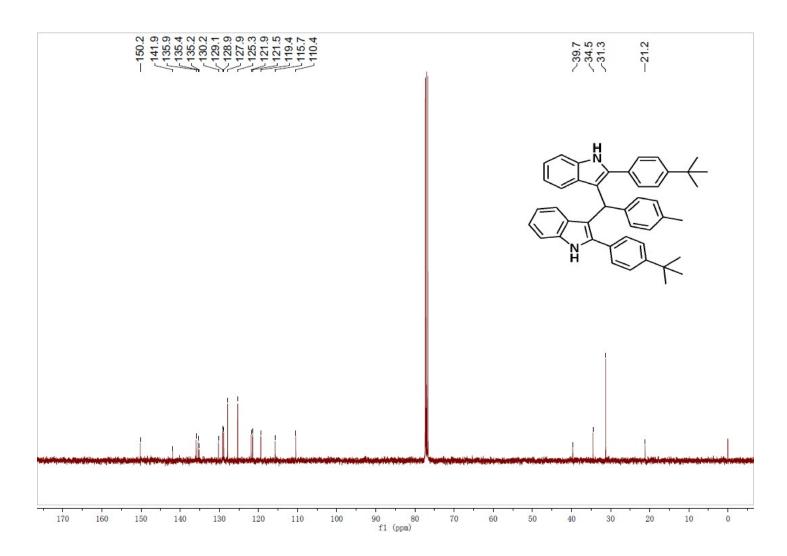
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3d



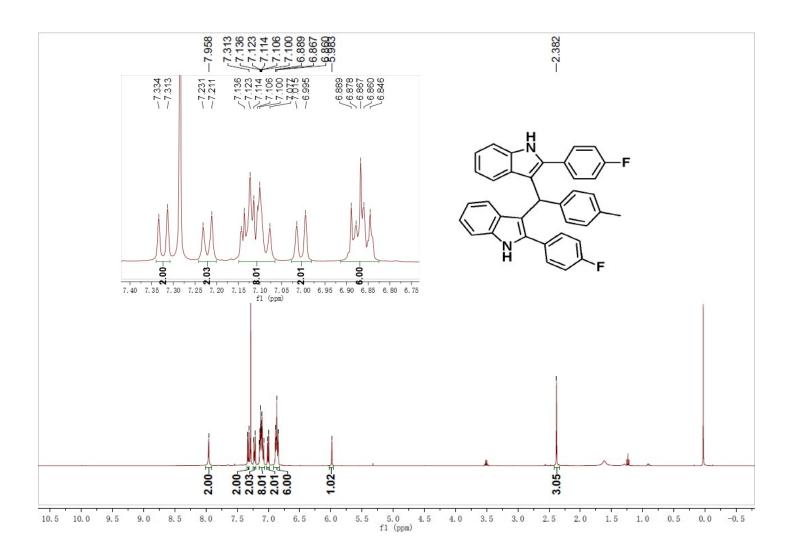
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3d



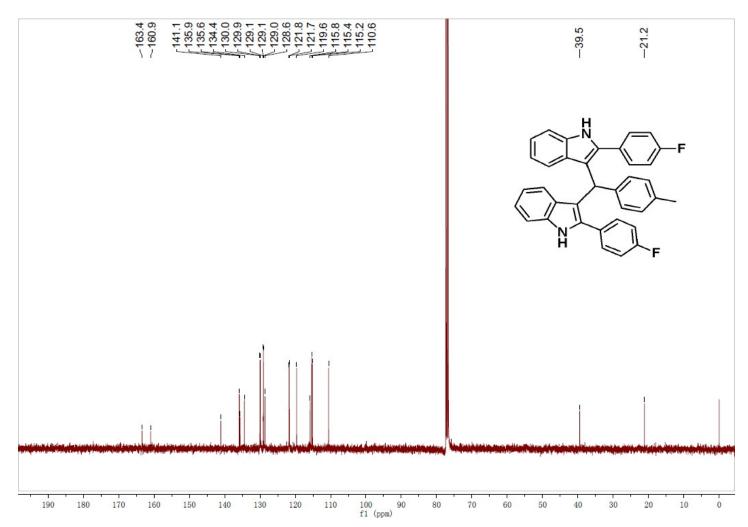
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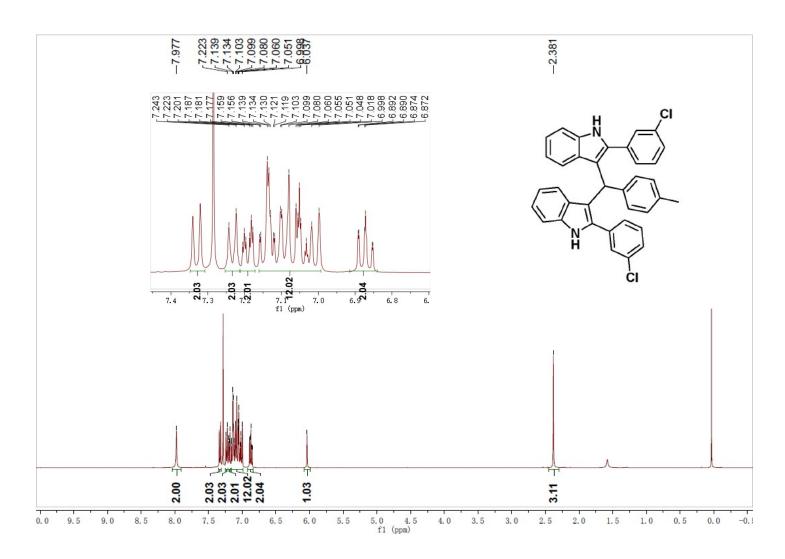
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3e



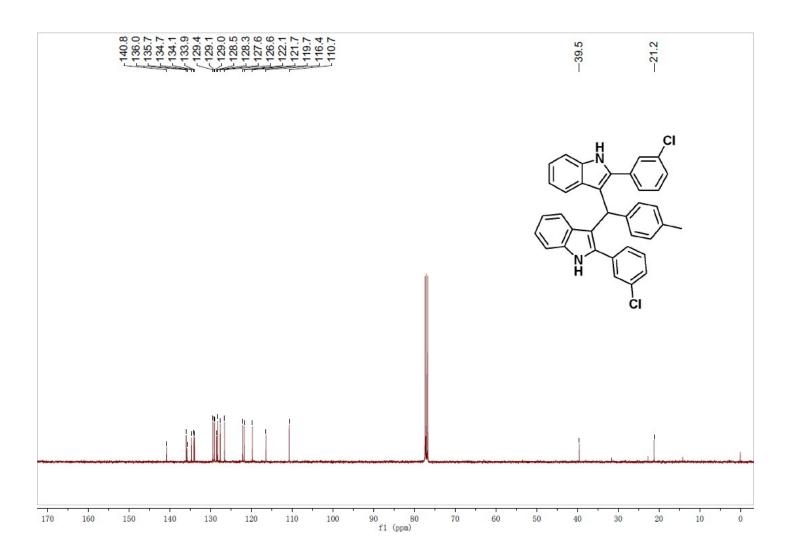
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3f



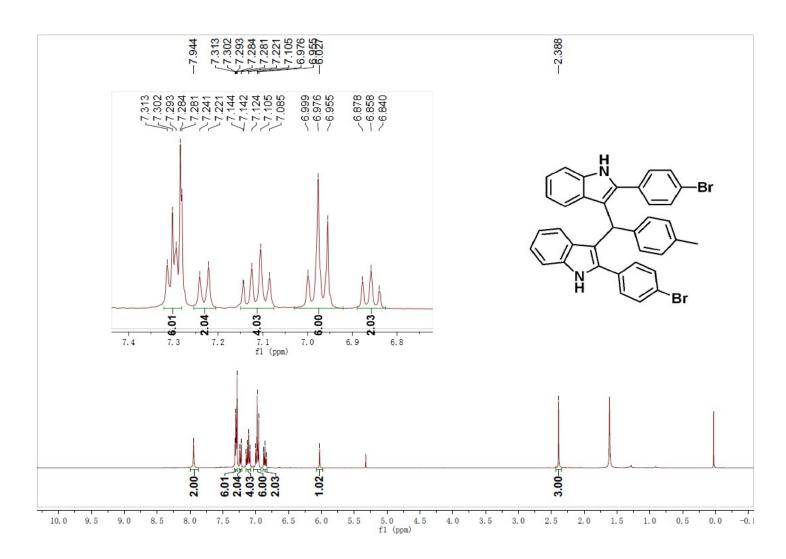
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3f



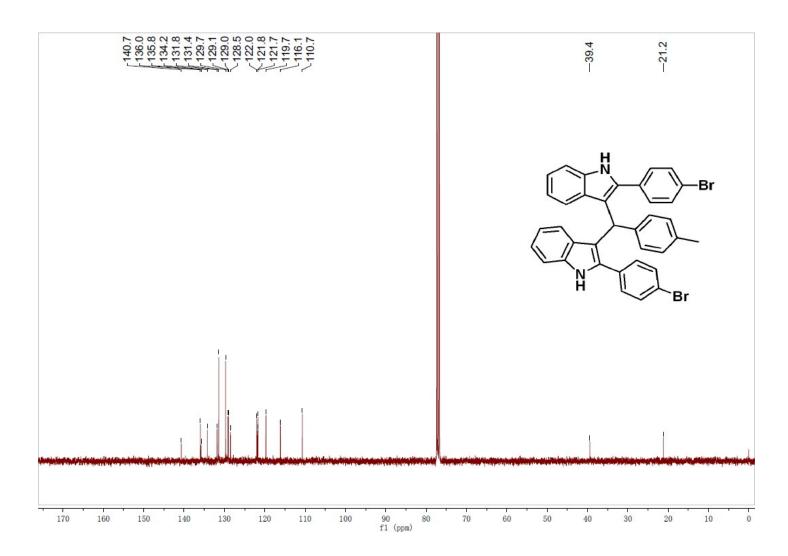
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3g



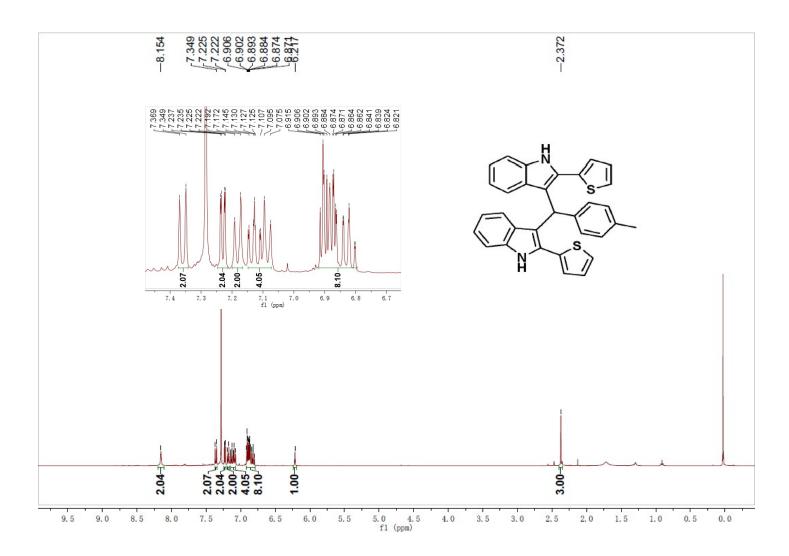
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3g



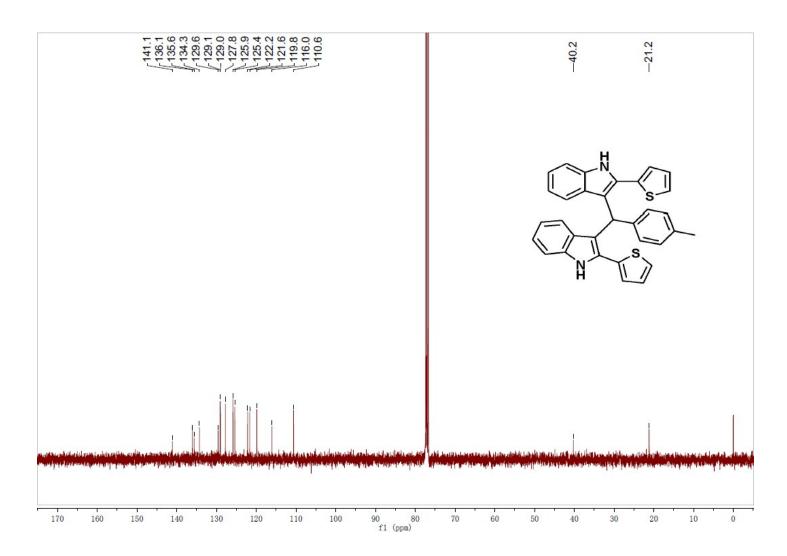
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3h



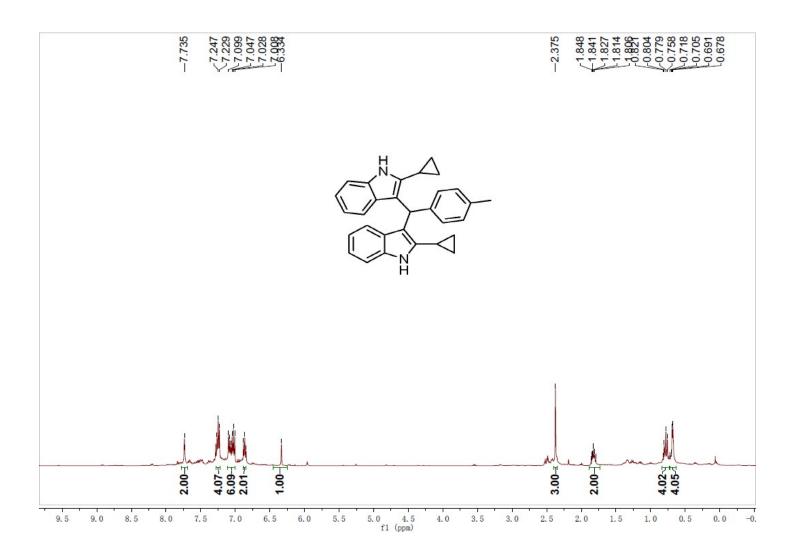
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3h



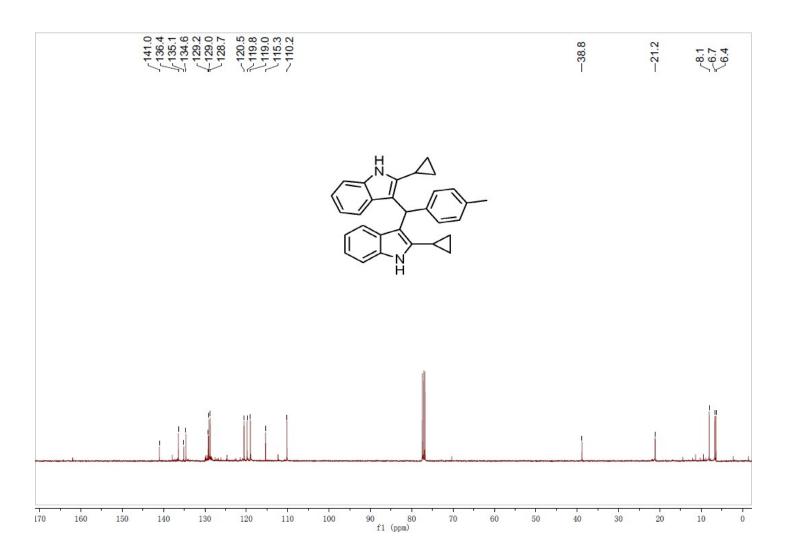
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3i



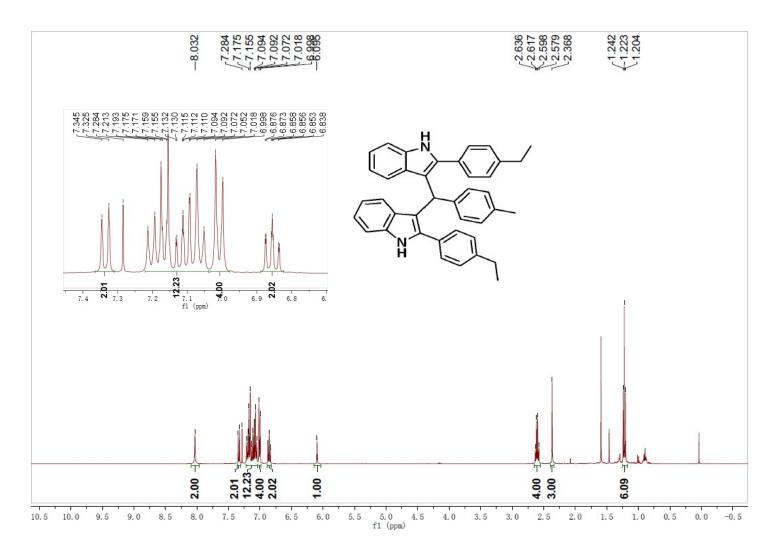
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3i



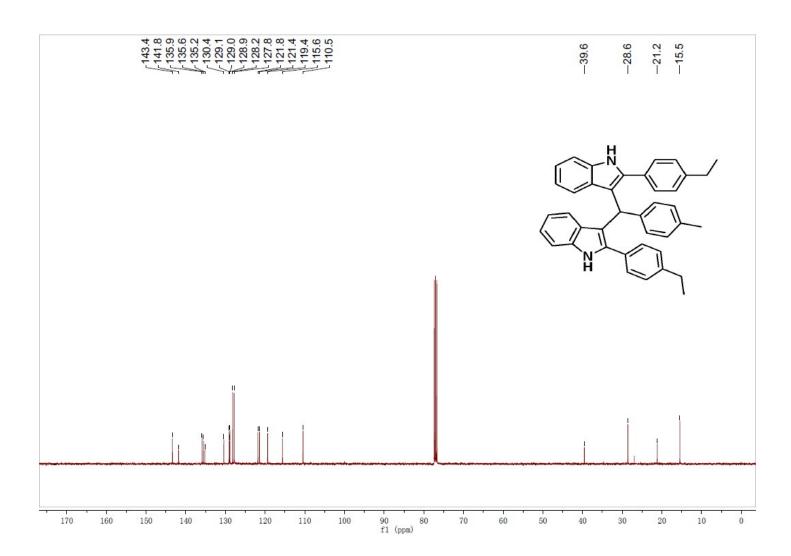
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3j



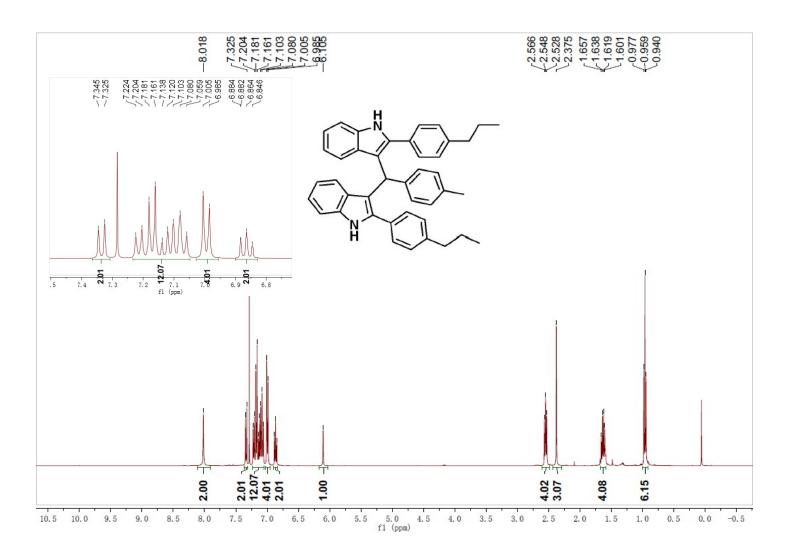
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3j



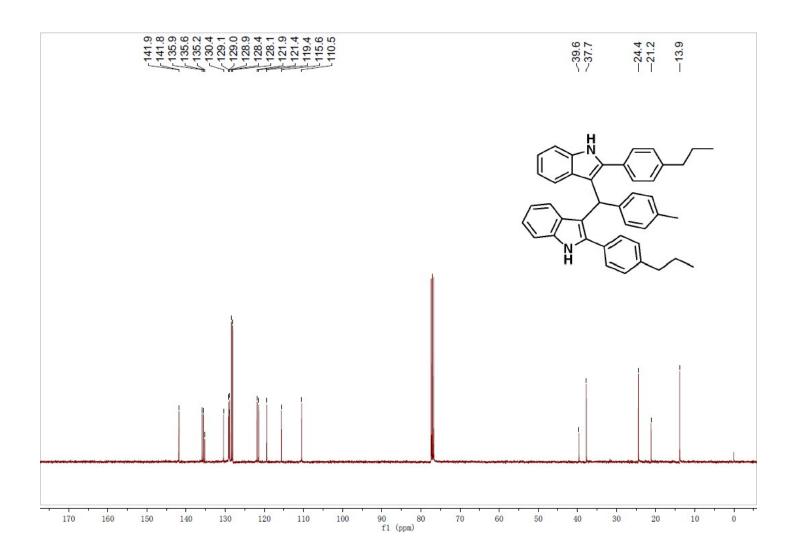
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3k



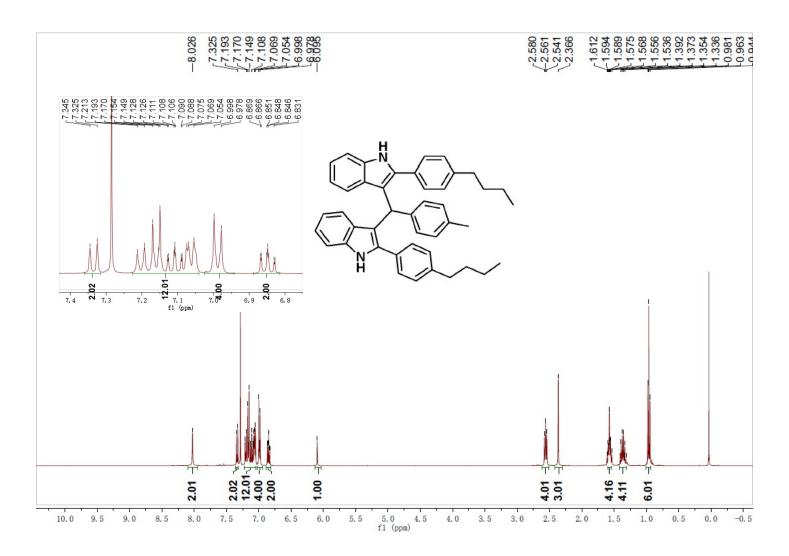
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3k



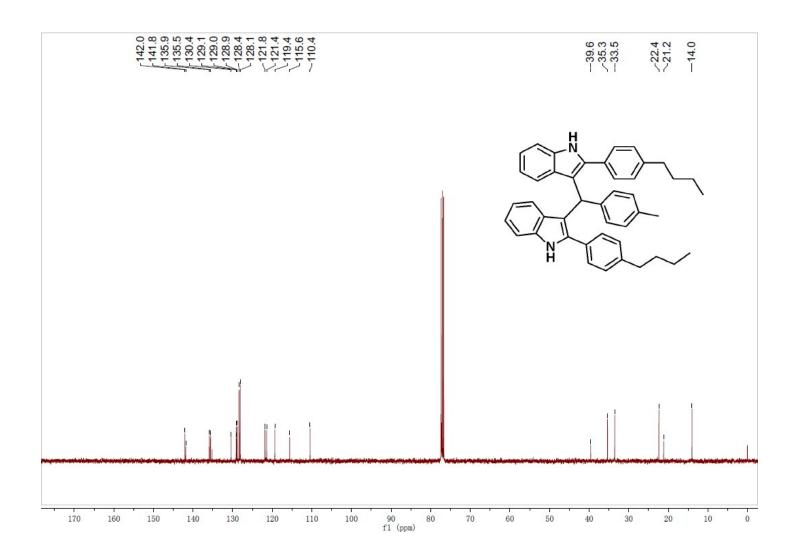
 $^{1}H$  NMR Spectrum of Compound 31



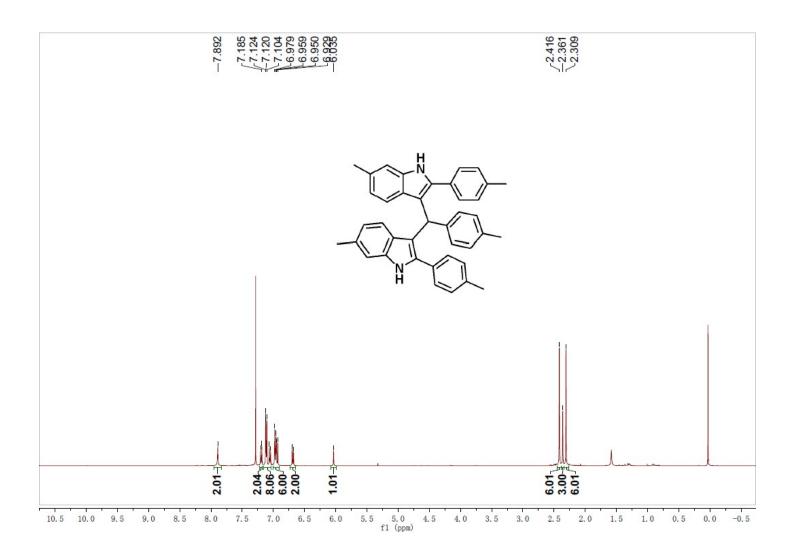
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 31



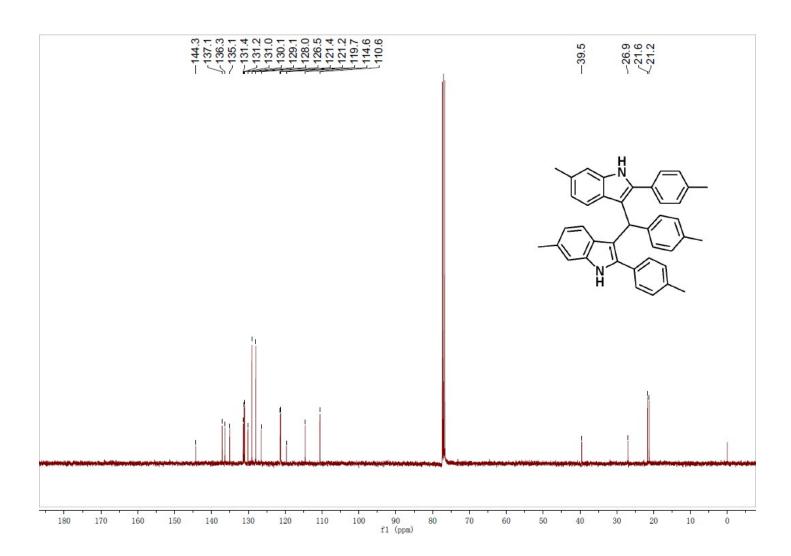
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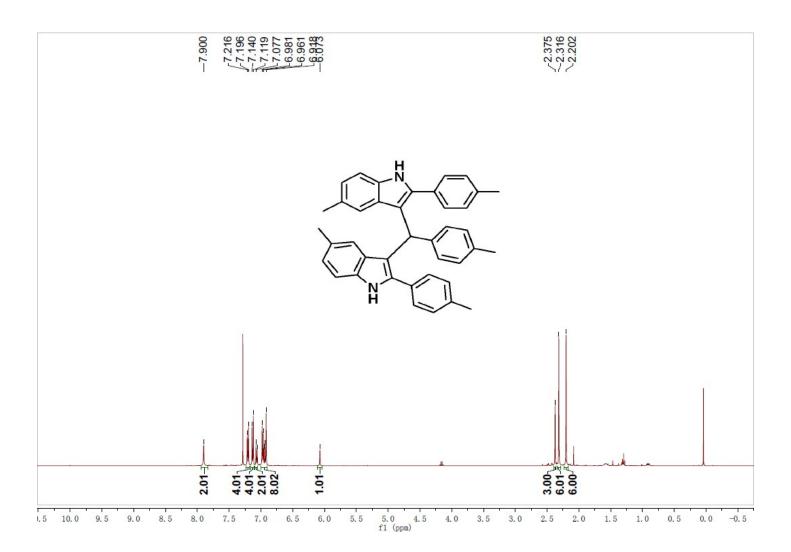
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3m



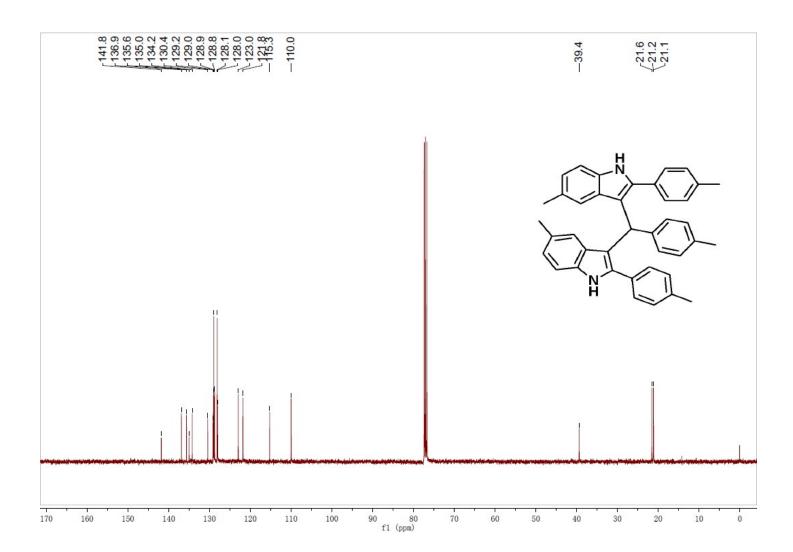
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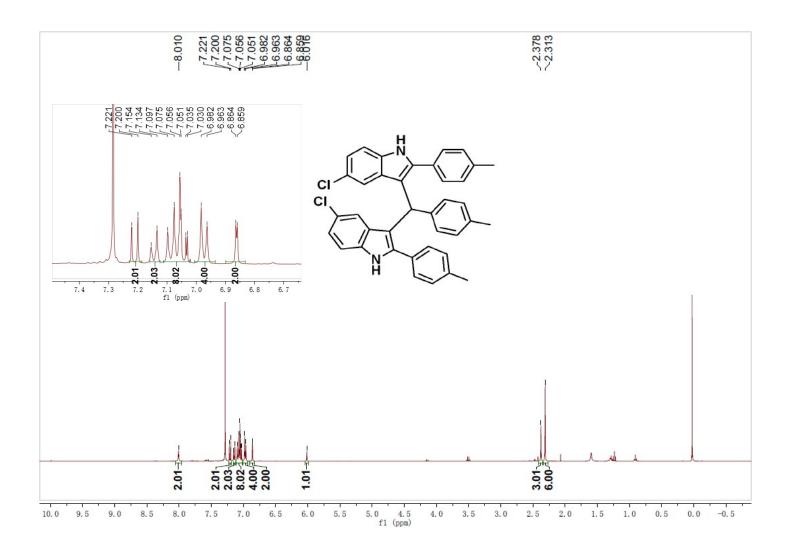
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3n



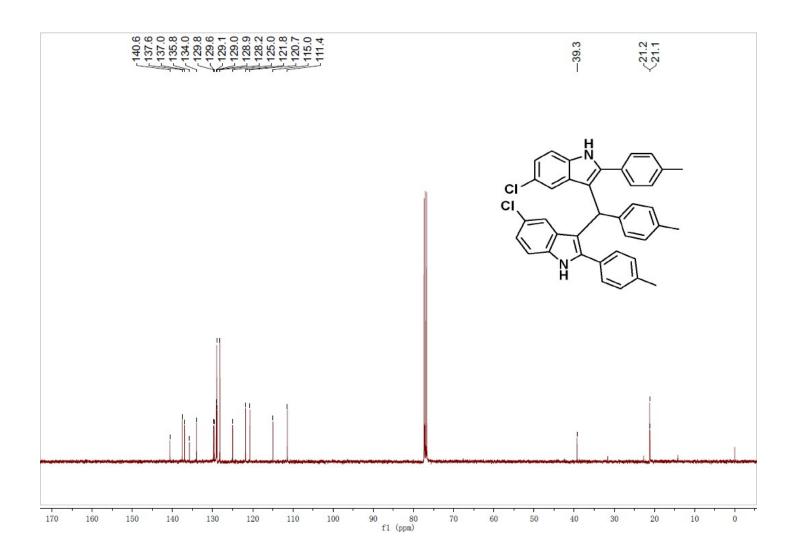
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 30



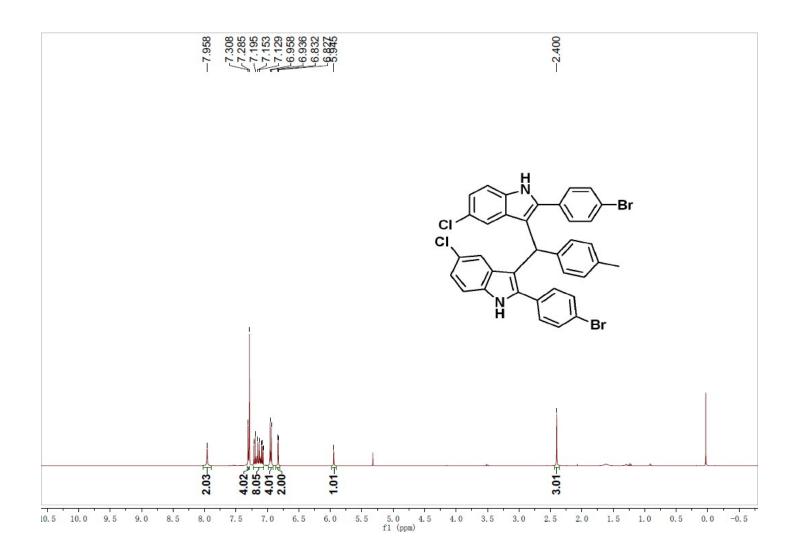
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 30



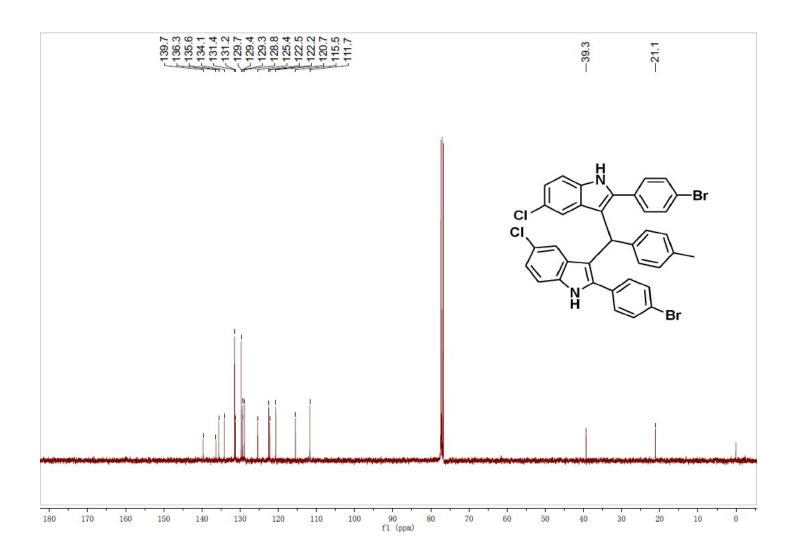
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3p



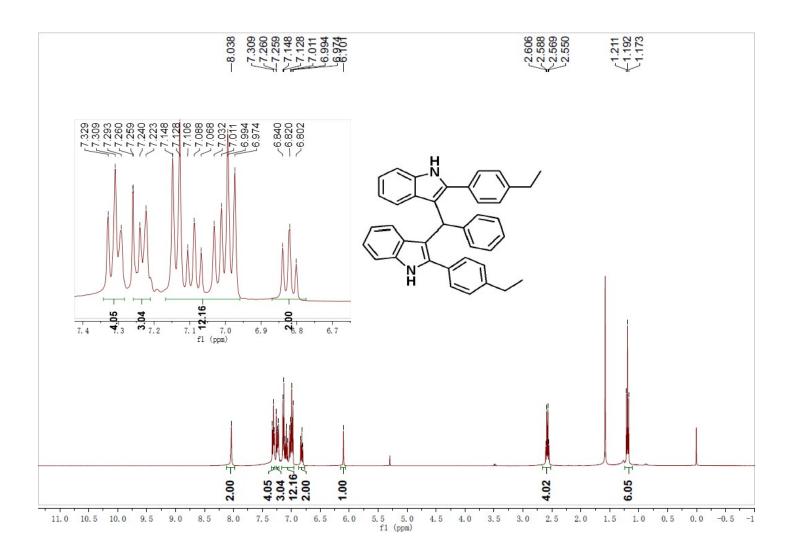
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3p



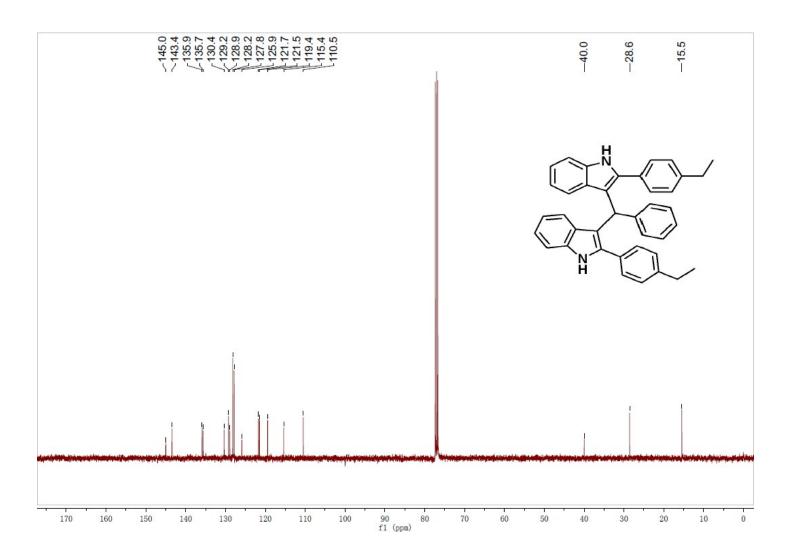
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3q



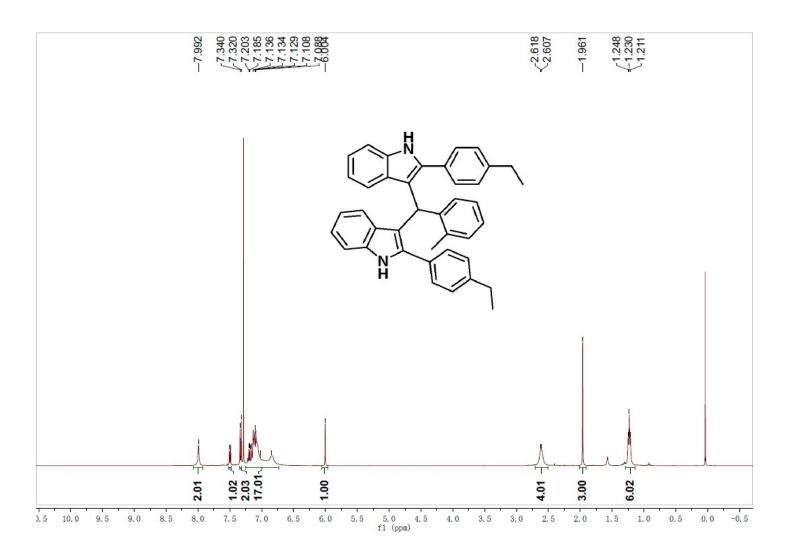
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3q



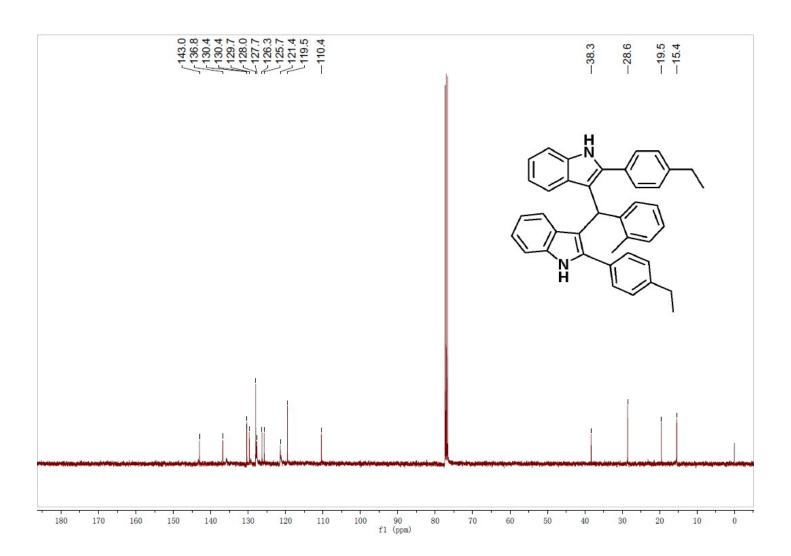
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3r



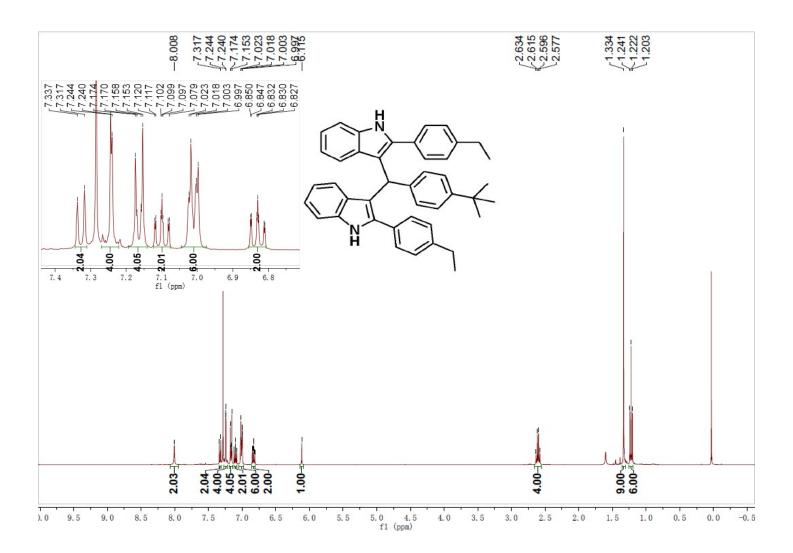
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3r



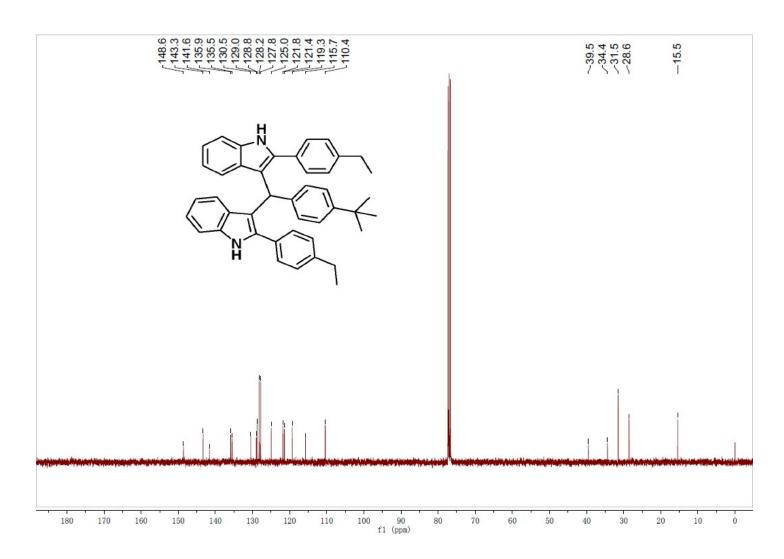
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3s



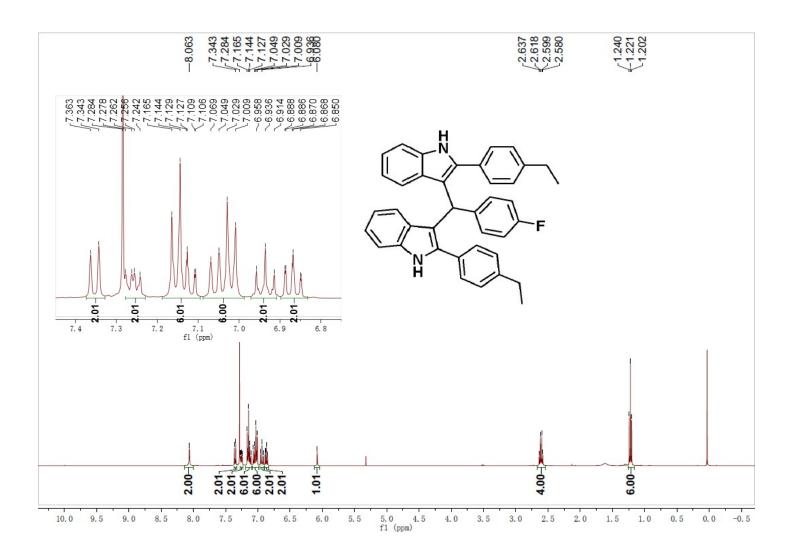
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3s



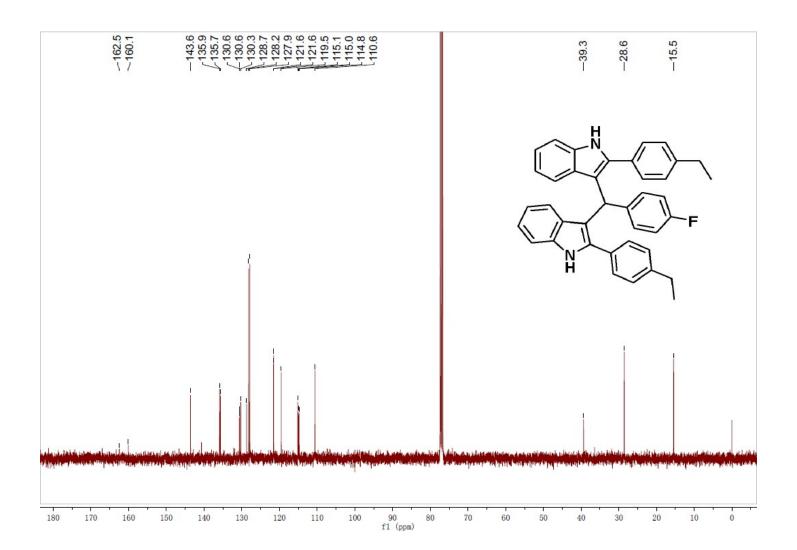
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3t



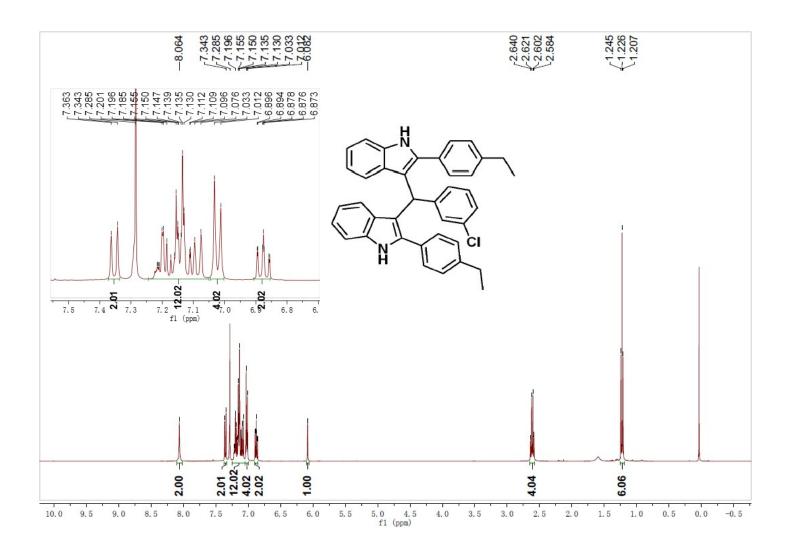
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3t



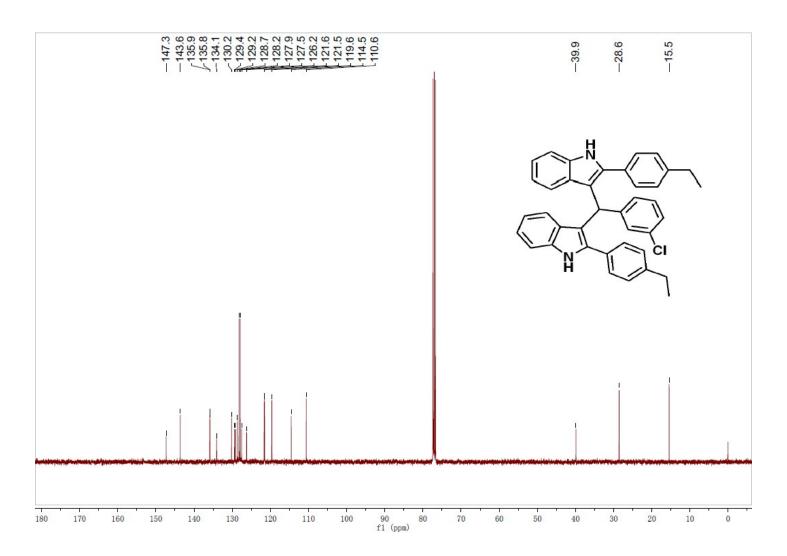
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3u



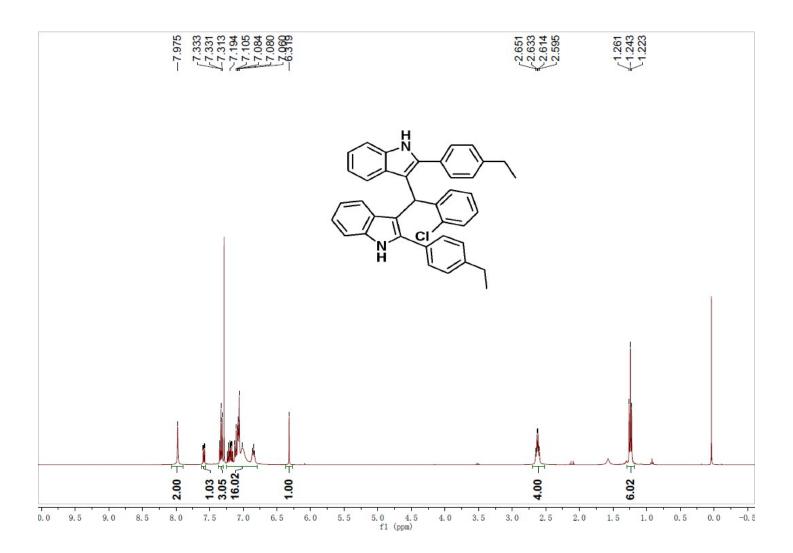
 $^{13}\mathrm{C}$  NMR Spectrum of Compound 3u



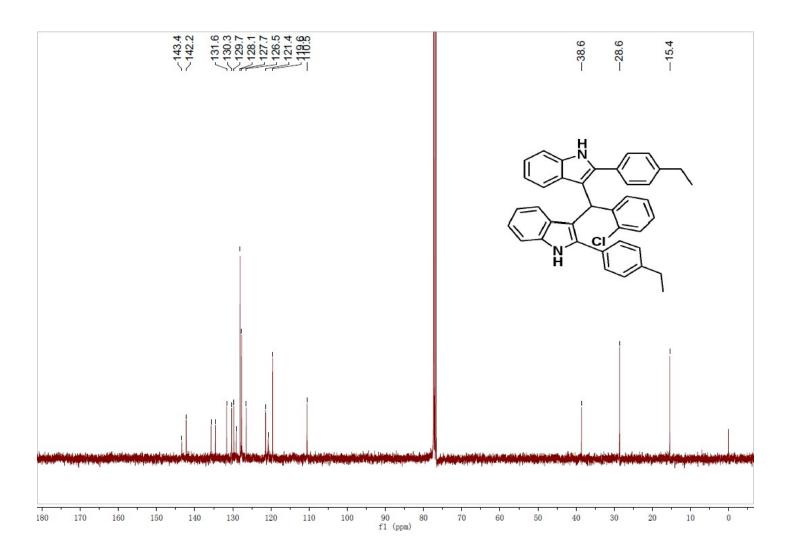
 $^{1}H$  NMR Spectrum of Compound 3v



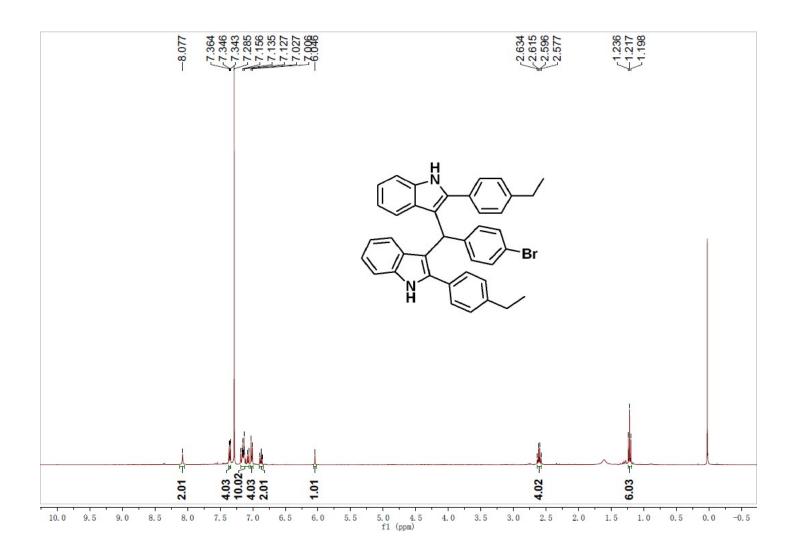
 $^{13}C$  NMR Spectrum of Compound 3v



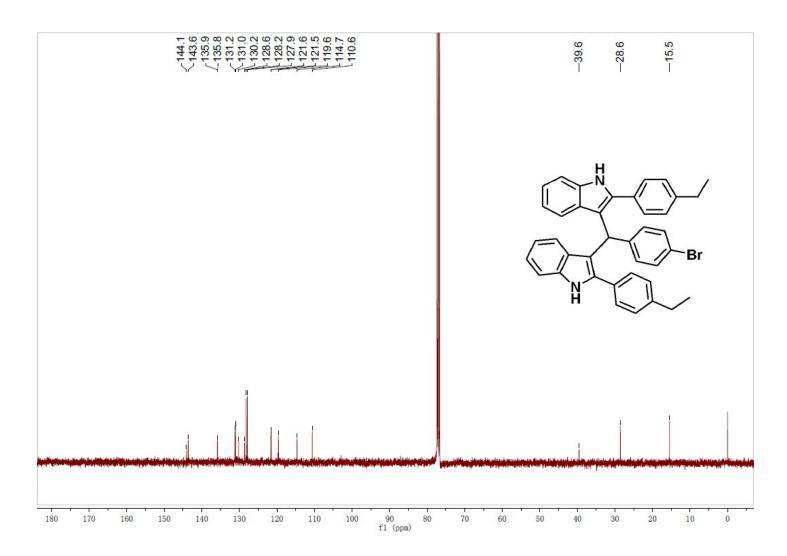
 $^{1}H$  NMR Spectrum of Compound 3w



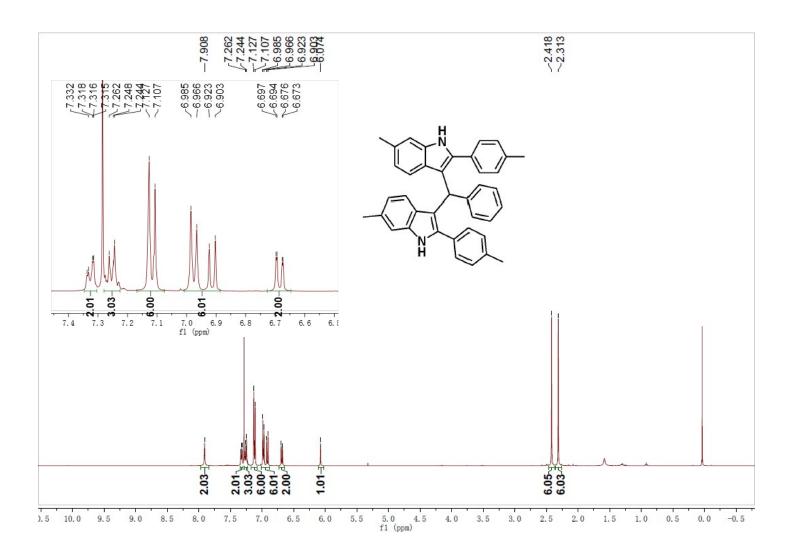
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3w



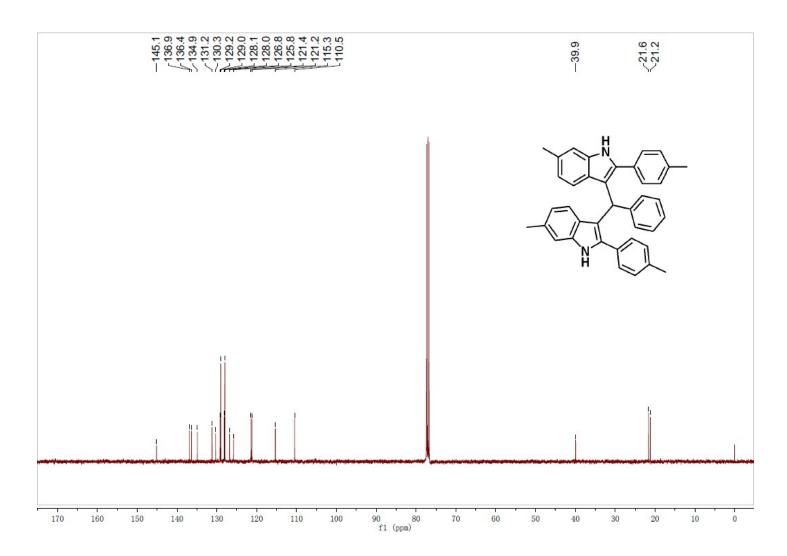
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3x



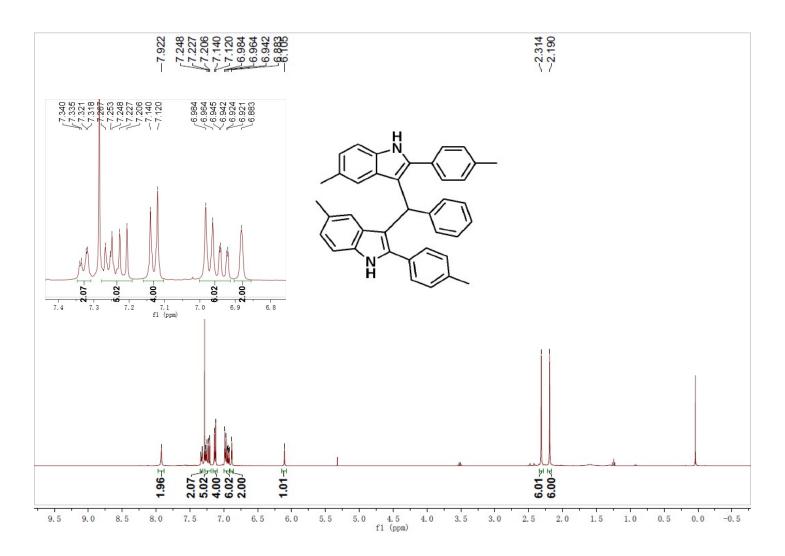
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3x



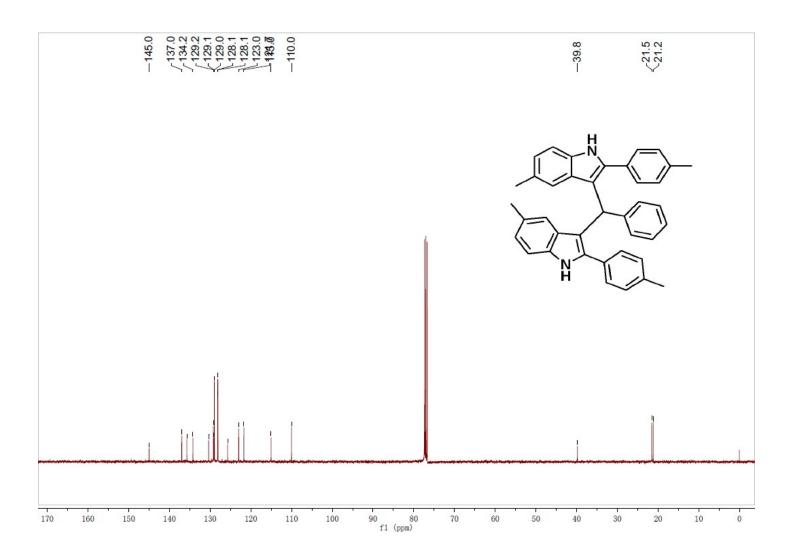
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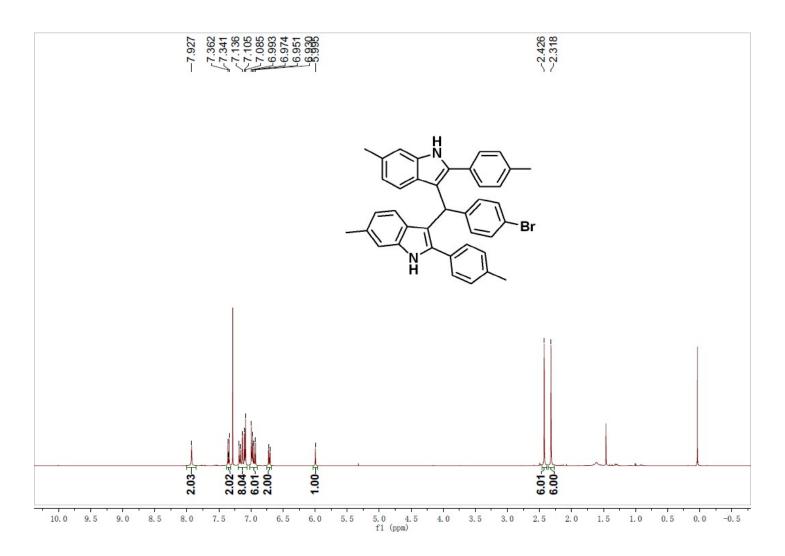
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3y



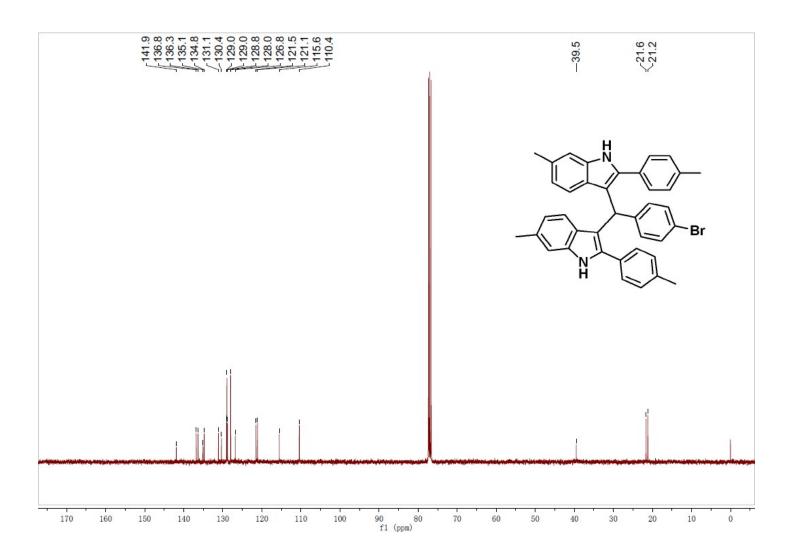
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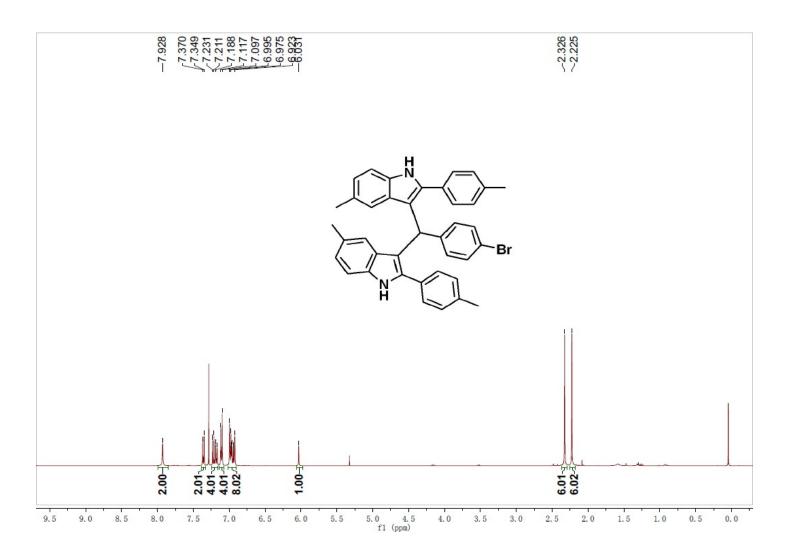
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3z



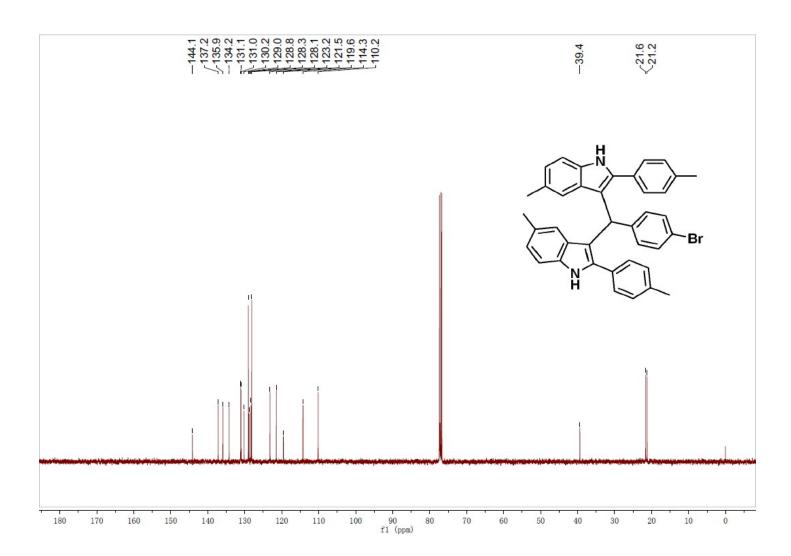
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3aa



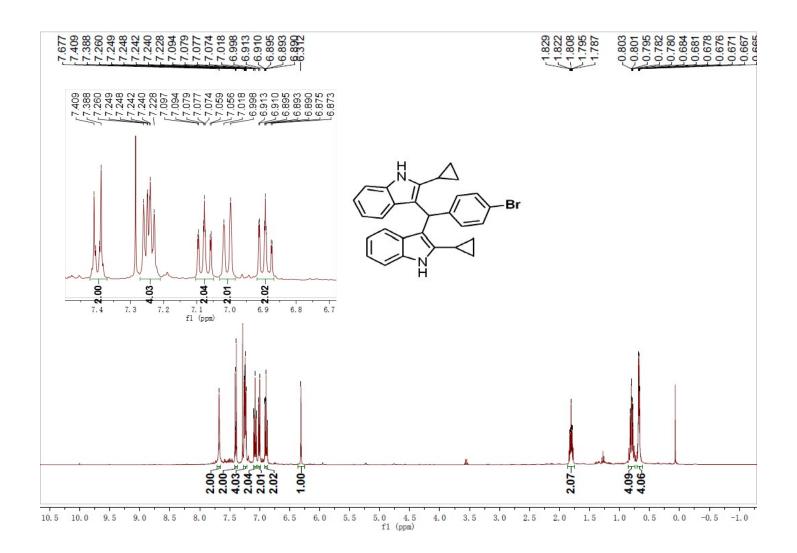
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3aa



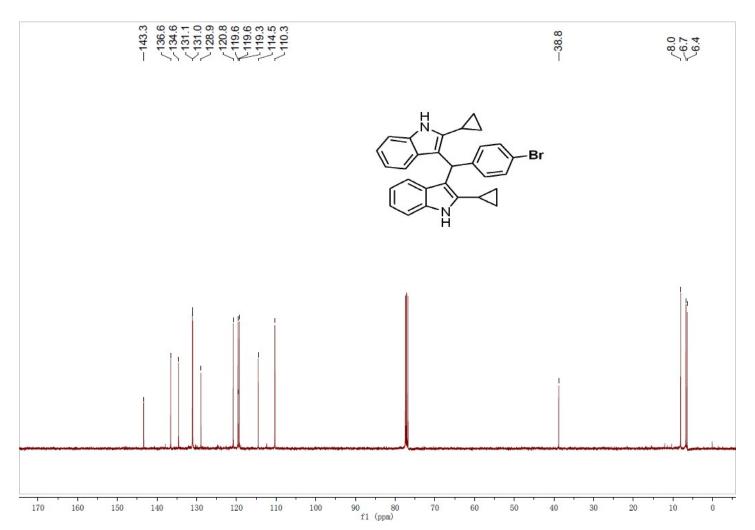
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3ab



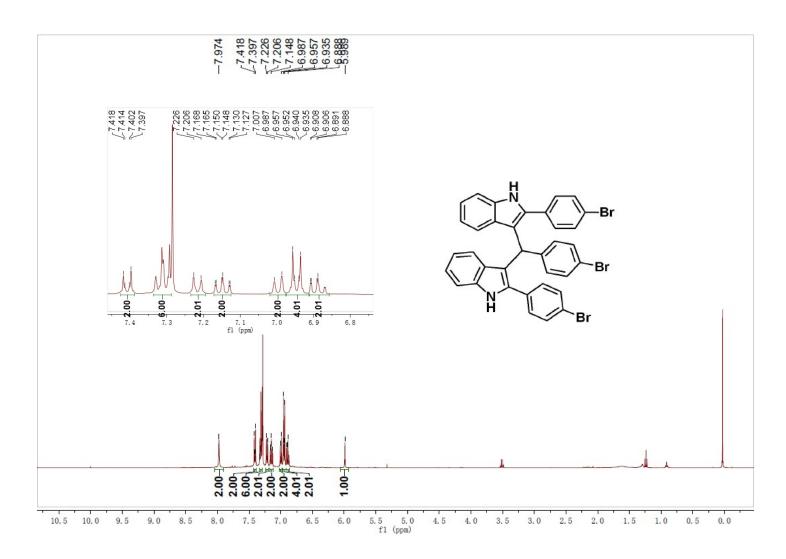
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3ab



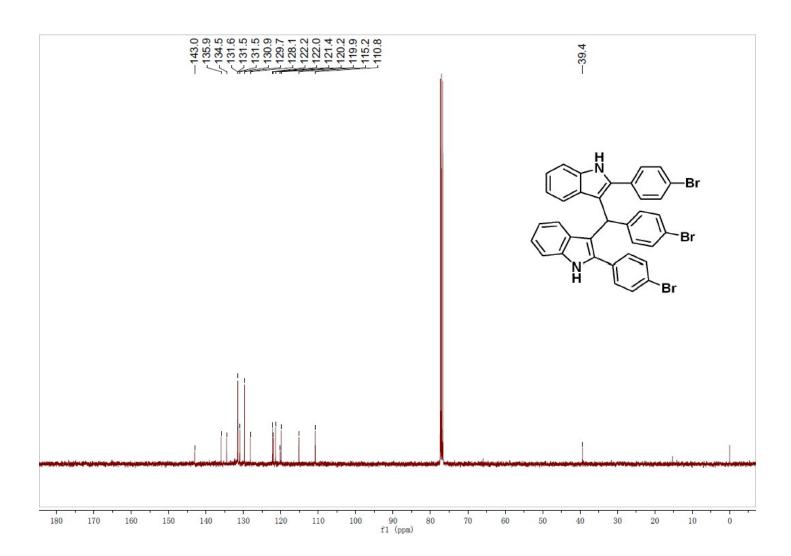
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3ac



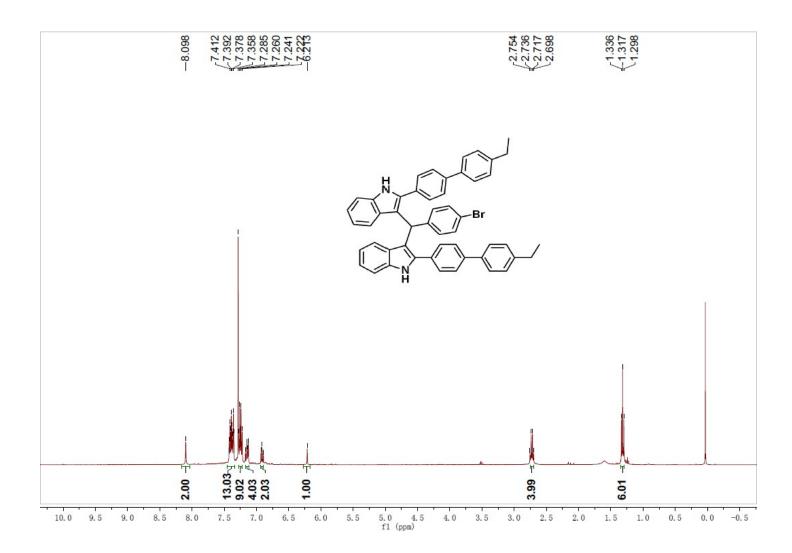
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3ac



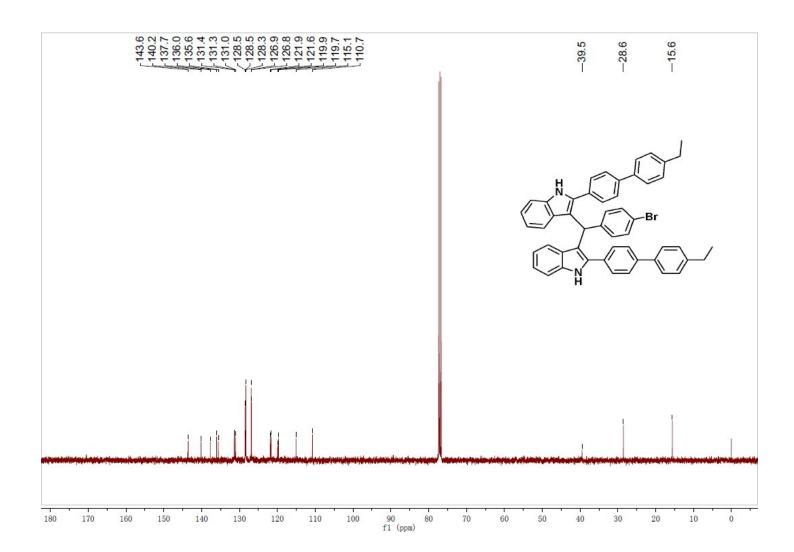
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3ad



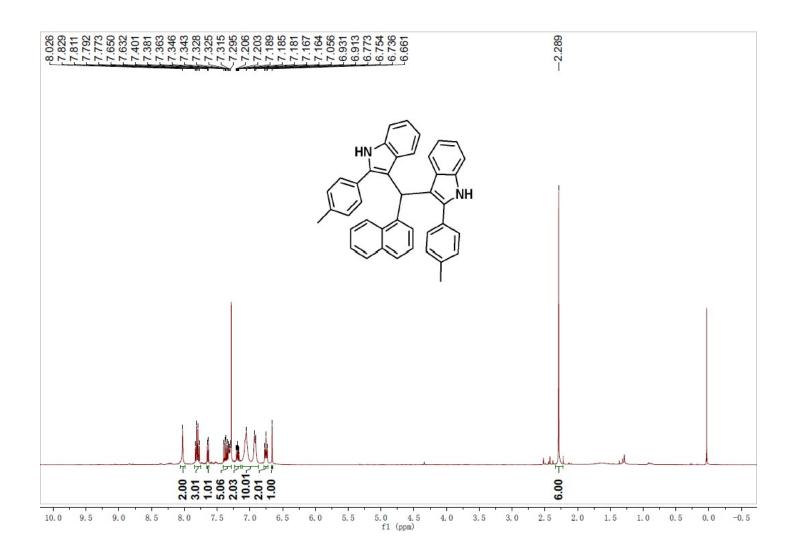
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3ad



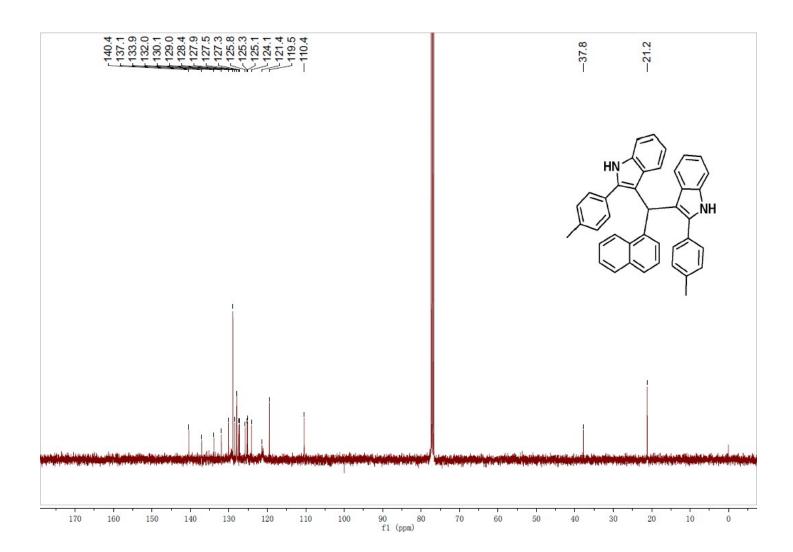
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3ae



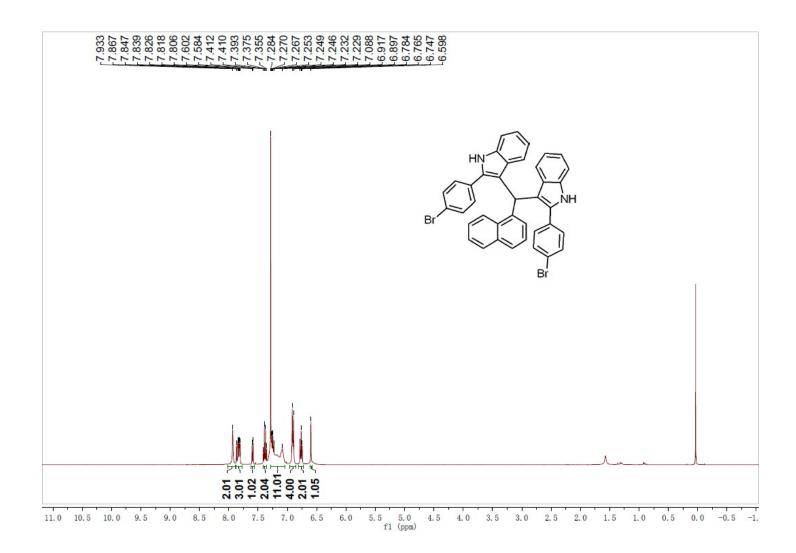
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3ae



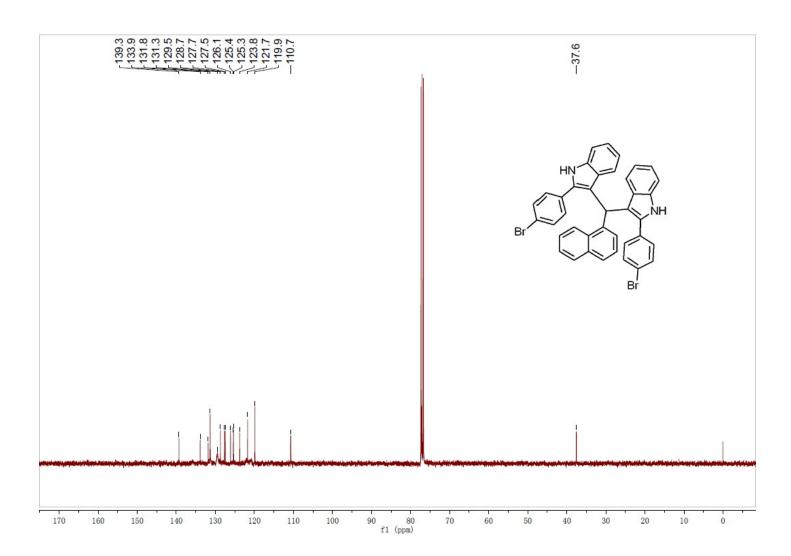
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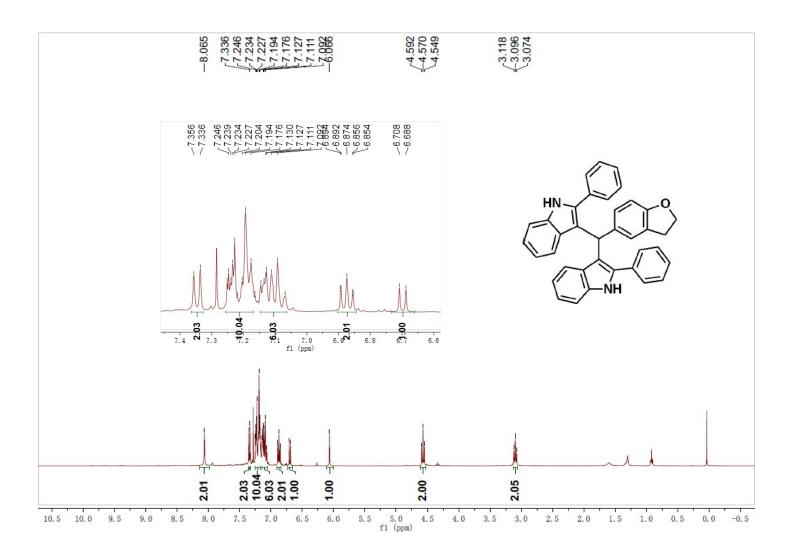
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3af



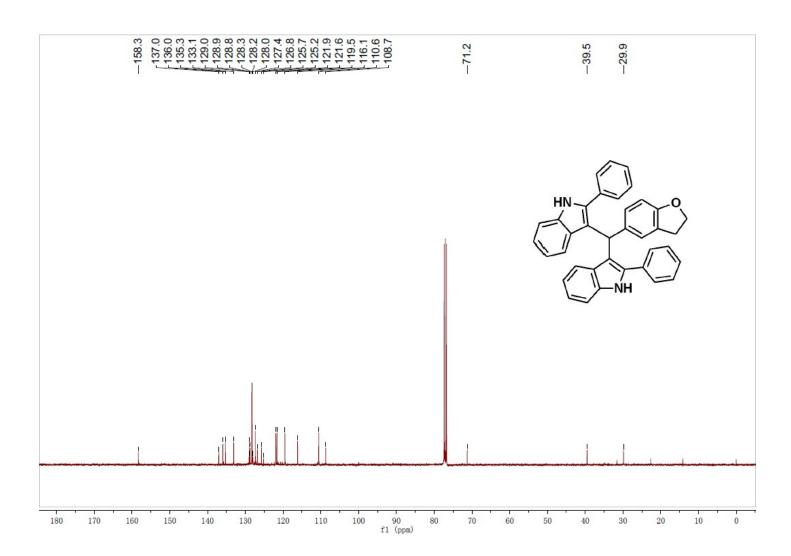
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3ag



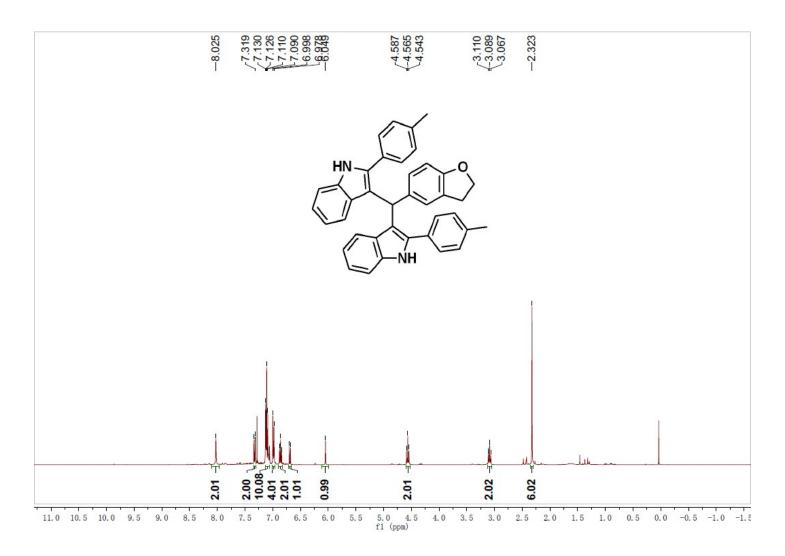
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3ag



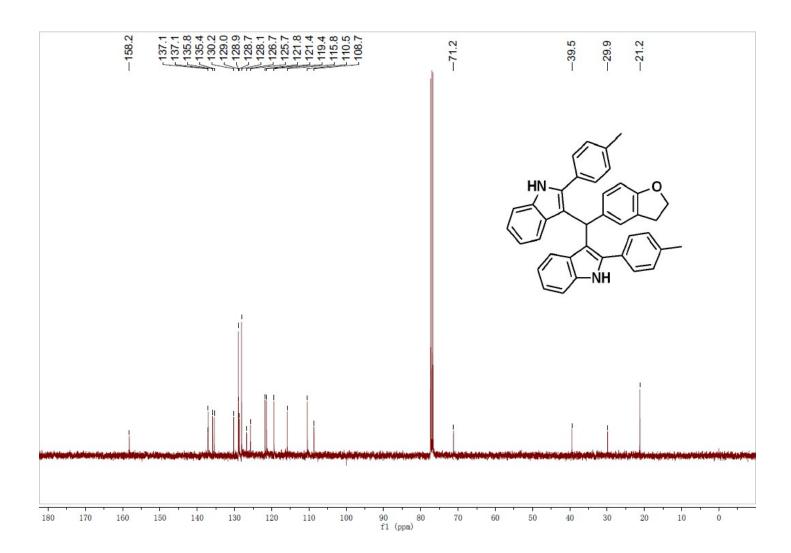
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3ah



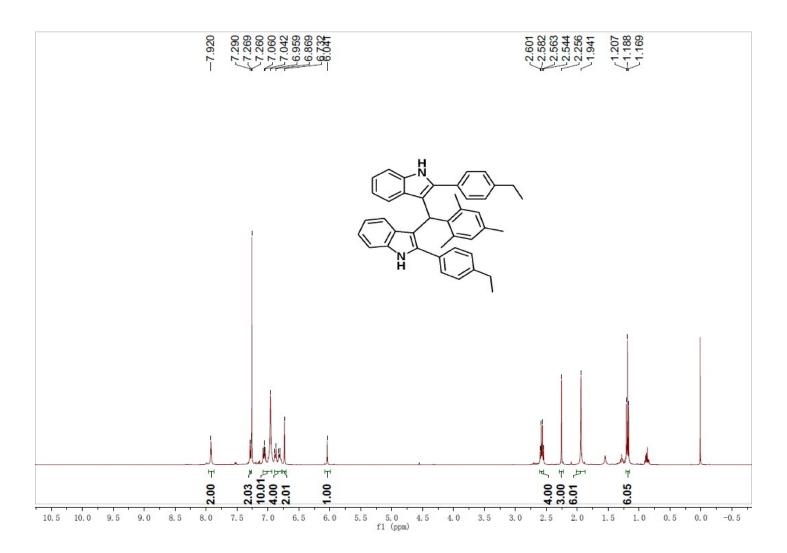
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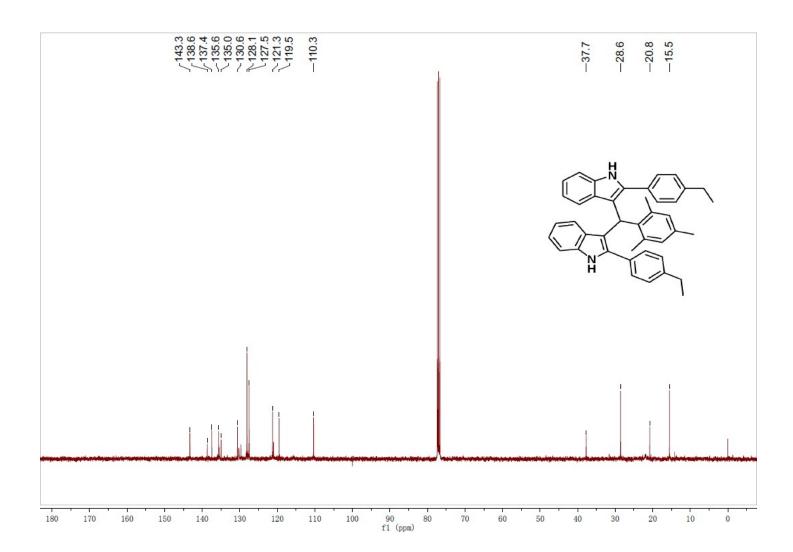
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3ai



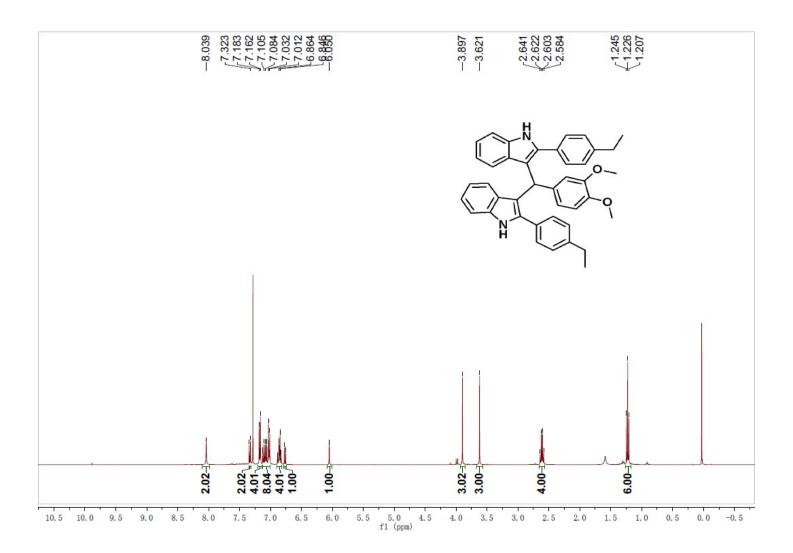
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3ai



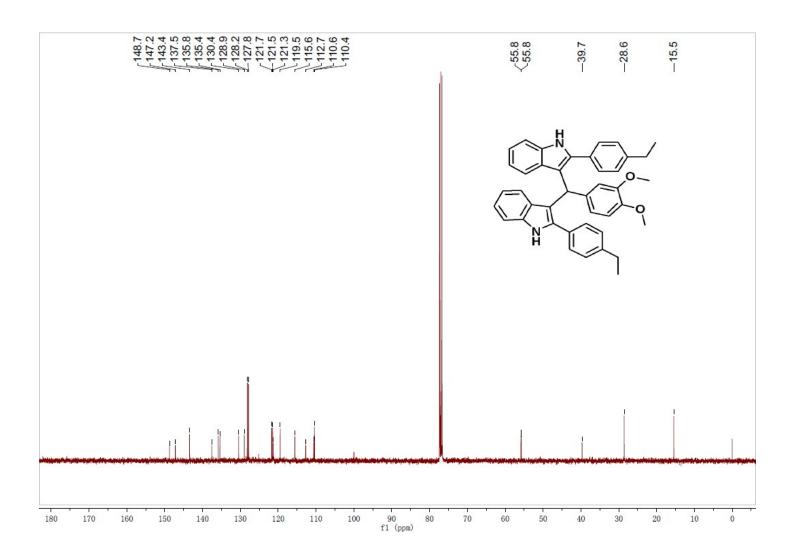
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3aj



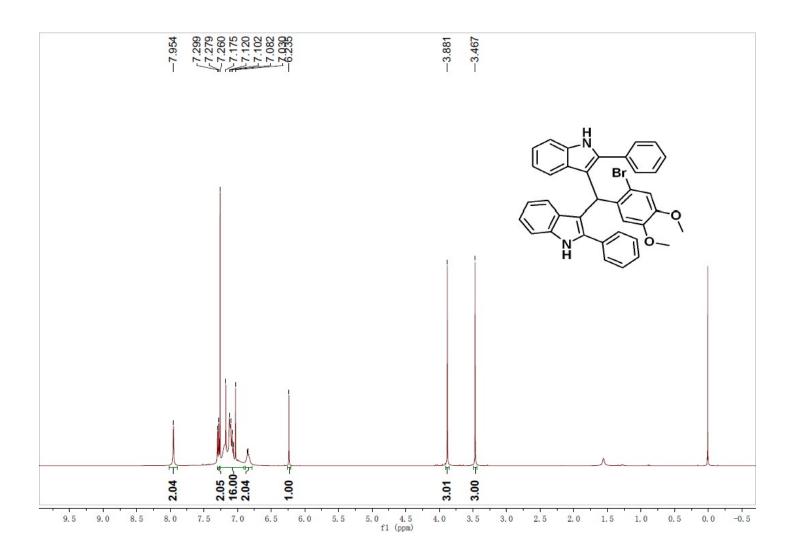
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3aj



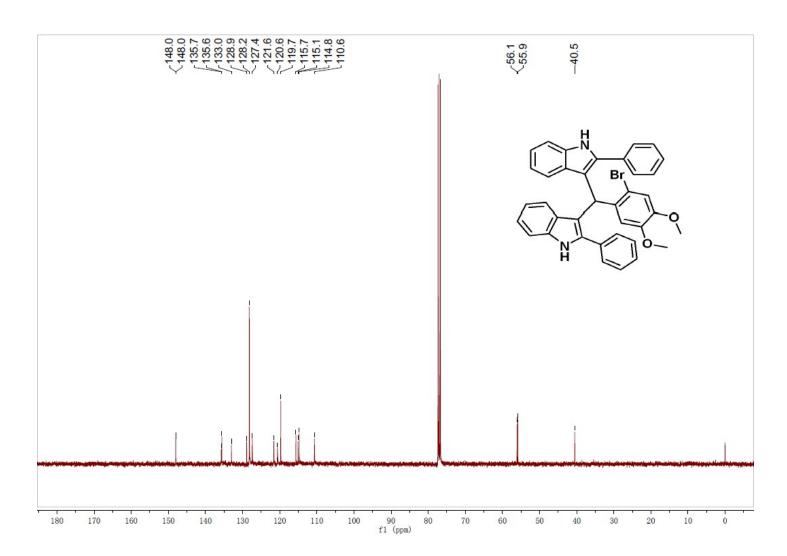
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3ak



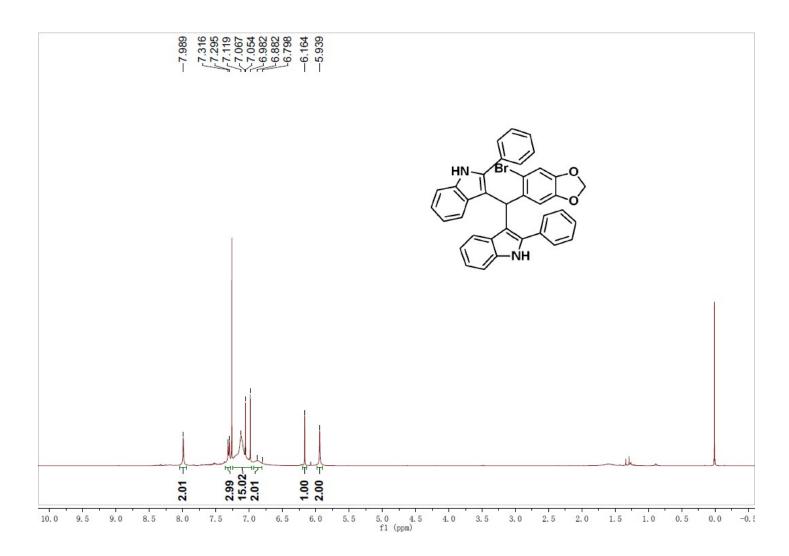
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3ak



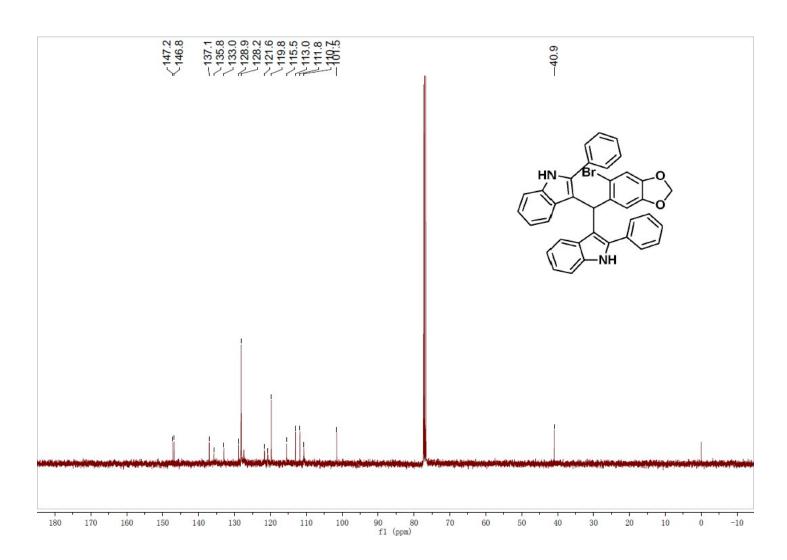
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3al



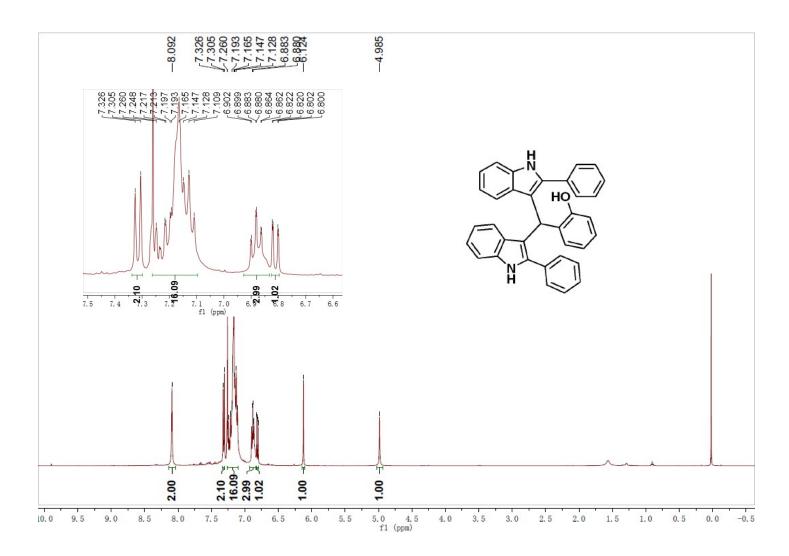
<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3al



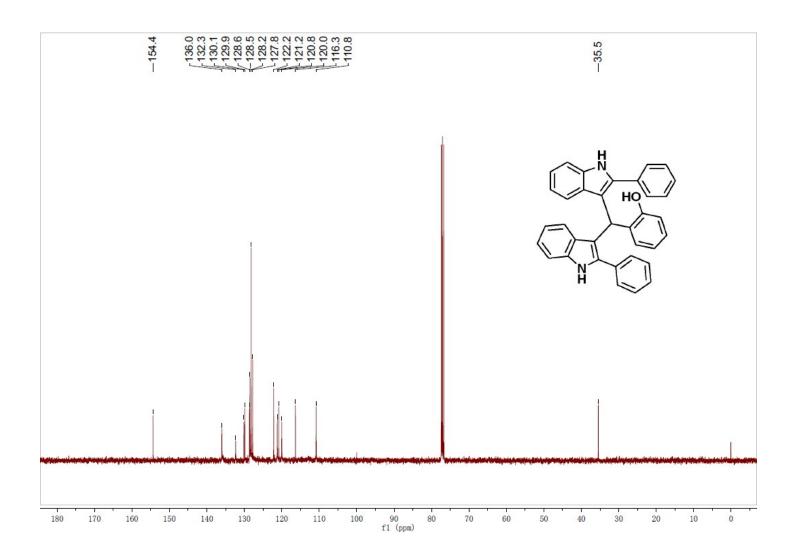
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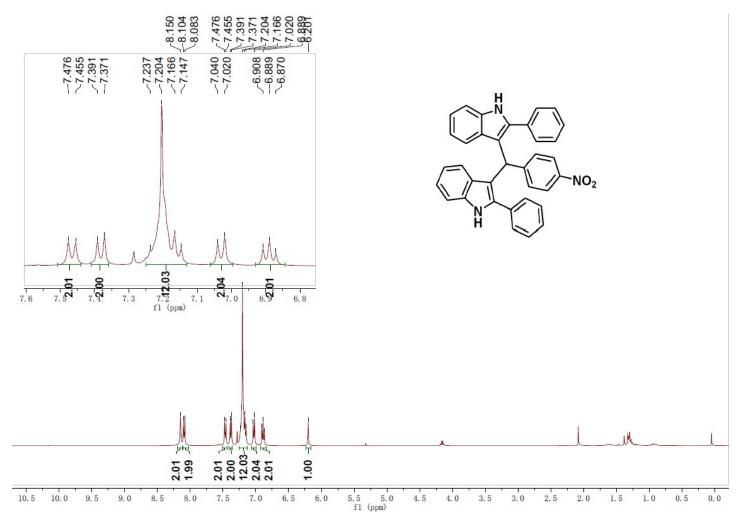
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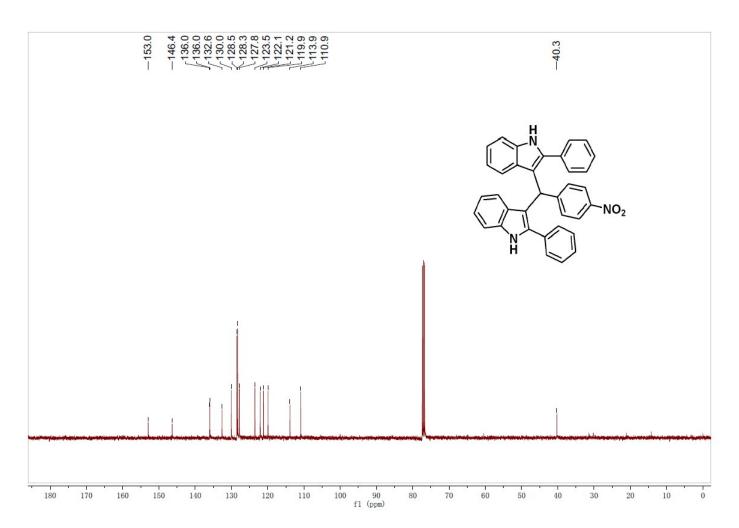
<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 3an



<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3an

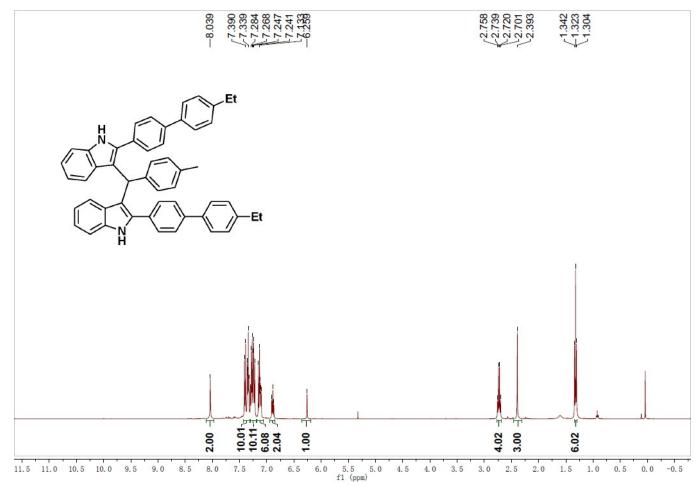


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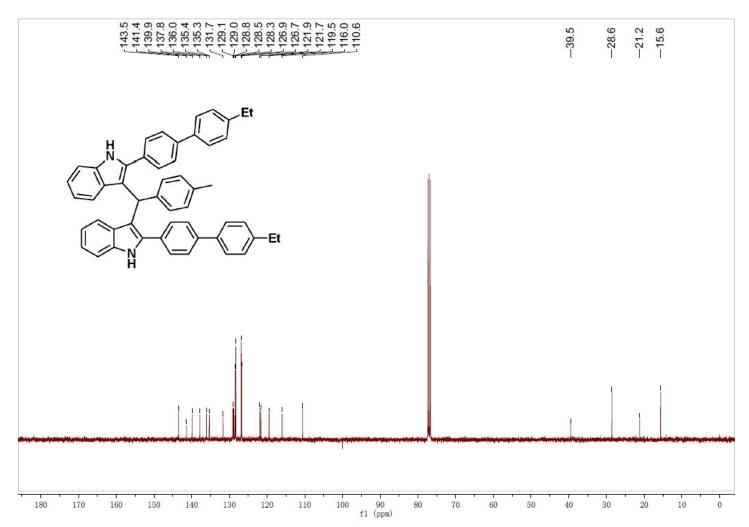


<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 3ao

## Copies of <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectra for Compound 5a



<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of Compound 5a



<sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectrum of Compound 5a