

# PIFA-Mediated Selenylative Spirocyclization of Indolyl Ynones: Facile Access to Selenated Spiro[cyclopentenone-1,3'-indoles]

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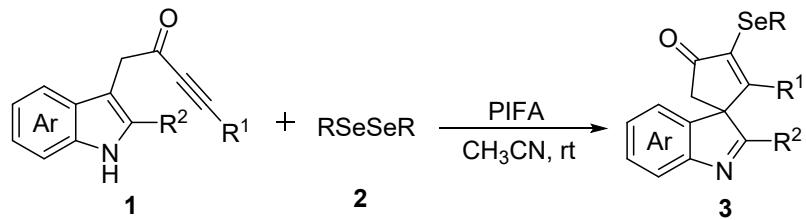
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## 1. General information

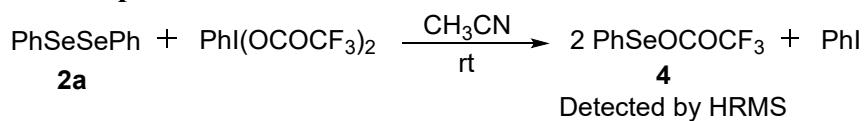
Unless otherwise stated, all commercial materials and solvents were used directly without further purification.  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were measured on a 400 MHz Bruker spectrometer ( $^1\text{H}$  400MHz,  $^{13}\text{C}$  100MHz,  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR 376 MHz), using  $\text{CDCl}_3$  (spectra were referenced to the solvent peaks  $^1\text{H}$ : residual  $\text{CDCl}_3$  = 7.26 ppm,  $^{13}\text{C}$ :  $\text{CDCl}_3$  = 77.0 ppm) as the solvent. High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were measured on ESI-TOF. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (70-230 mesh ASTM) using the reported eluent. Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out on 4×5 cm plates with a layer thickness of 0.2 mm (silica gel 60 F254). Starting materials diselenides **2**<sup>S1</sup> and indol-ynones **1**<sup>S2</sup> were prepared according to the literatures.

## 2. General procedure for the synthesis of **3**

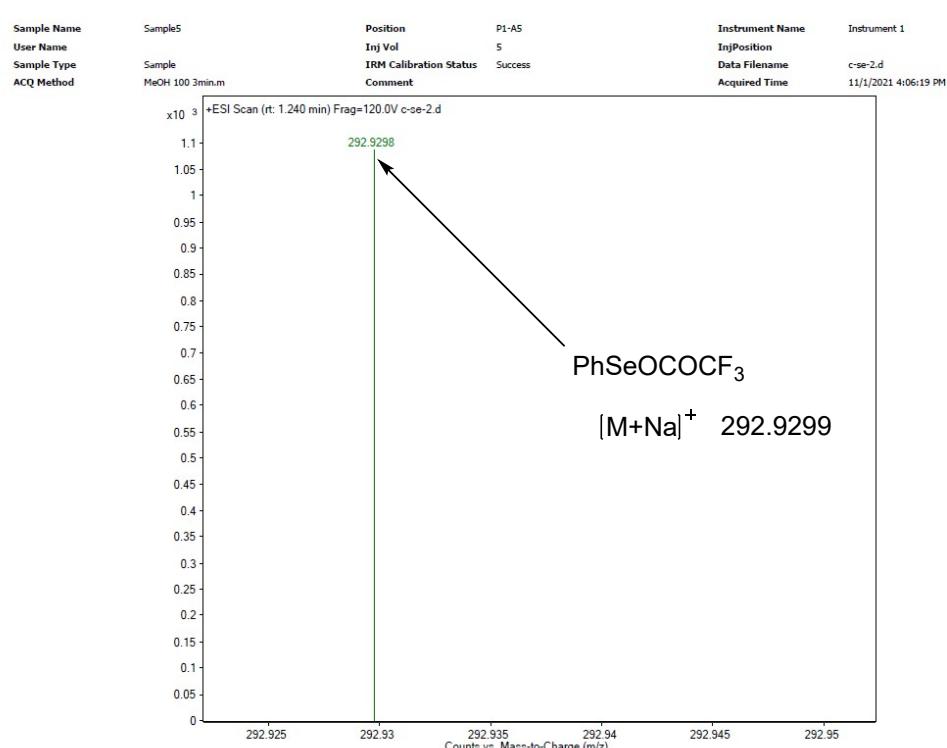


To a solution of  $\text{RSeSeR}$  (0.1 mmol) in MeCN (2 mL) was added PIFA (0.12 mmol) at rt. The mixture was stirred for 2 min. Then substrate **1** (0.2 mmol) was added to this solution in one portion and the reaction mixture was stirred for another 3 min until the completion of the starting material (monitored by TLC). The resulting mixture was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (gradient mixture ratio from 20:1 to 4:1) as eluent to afford the corresponding compounds **3**.

### 3. Mechanism Exploration



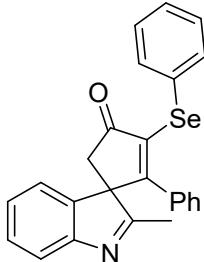
To a solution of PhSeSePh (0.1 mmol) in DCE (2 mL) was added PIFA (0.1 mmol) at rt. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 min, and compound **4** was detected by HRMS (Figure S1). HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_5\text{F}_3\text{NaO}_2\text{Se} [\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  292.9299, found 292.9298.



**Figure. S1**

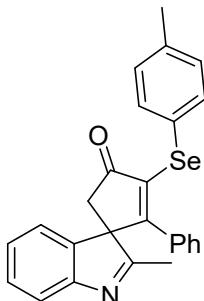
### Characterization of compounds 3

#### **2'-Methyl-2-phenyl-3-(phenylselanyl)spiro[cyclopentane-1,3'-indol]-2-en-4-one (3aa)<sup>S3</sup>**



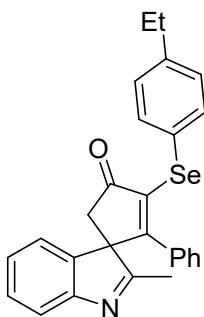
Brown solid. 76.4 mg, Yield: 89%, mp 153–155 °C. column chromatography eluent, EtOAc/PE = 1:15 → 1:3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.51 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.39 – 7.33 (m, 3H), 7.24 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 7.19 – 7.12 (m, 4H), 7.05 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.72 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 1.0 Hz, 2H), 2.94 (d, *J* = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.86 (d, *J* = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.19 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 202.2, 181.3, 173.0, 155.1, 140.5, 135.6, 133.2, 133.1, 130.0, 129.1, 129.1, 128.2, 128.1, 127.7, 126.8, 126.5, 121.8, 120.6, 68.3, 43.1, 15.9. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NOSe [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 430.0705; found: 430.0704.

#### **2'-Methyl-2-phenyl-3-(p-tolylselanyl)spiro[cyclopentane-1,3'-indol]-2-en-4-one (3ab)**



Brown solid. 77.1 mg, Yield: 87%, mp 165–166 °C. column chromatography eluent, EtOAc/PE = 1:15 → 1:3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.53 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.41 – 7.35 (m, 1H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.26 – 7.16 (m, 3H), 7.08 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.74 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.94 (d, *J* = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.86 (d, *J* = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 2.20 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 202.2, 181.3, 172.5, 155.2, 140.6, 137.8, 135.9, 133.7, 133.2, 129.9, 129.9, 129.1, 128.2, 126.9, 126.4, 124.2, 121.8, 120.6, 68.3, 43.1, 21.1, 15.9. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NOSe [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 444.0861; found: 444.0865.

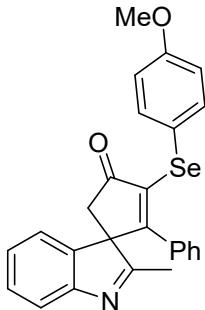
#### **3-((4-Ethylphenyl)selanyl)-2'-methyl-2-phenylspiro[cyclopentane-1,3'-indol]-2-en-4-one (3ac)**



Brown solid. 78.6 mg, Yield: 86%, mp 172–173 °C. column chromatography eluent, EtOAc/PE = 1:15 → 1:4. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.53 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.41 – 7.34 (m, 1H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H),

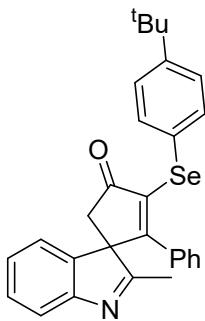
6.73 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.95 (d,  $J = 18.7$  Hz, 1H), 2.87 (d,  $J = 18.7$  Hz, 1H), 2.57 (q,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 1.18 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  202.2, 181.3, 172.3, 155.1, 144.1, 140.6, 135.9, 133.7, 133.1, 129.9, 129.1, 128.6, 128.1, 126.8, 126.4, 124.3, 121.8, 120.6, 68.3, 43.1, 28.5, 15.9, 15.4. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for  $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{24}\text{NOSe} [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 458.1018; found: 458.1015.

**3-((4-Methoxyphenyl)selanyl)-2'-methyl-2-phenylspiro[cyclopentane-1,3'-indol]-2-en-4-one (3ad)**



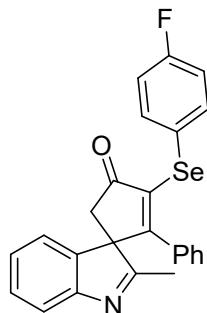
Brown solid. 74.4 mg, Yield: 81%, mp 138-140 °C. column chromatography eluent,  $\text{EtOAc/PE} = 1:15 \rightarrow 1:3$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.50 (d,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.37 – 7.29 (m, 3H), 7.23 – 7.13 (m, 3H), 7.05 (t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H), 6.70 – 6.64 (m, 4H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 2.90 (d,  $J = 18.7$  Hz, 1H), 2.82 (d,  $J = 18.7$  Hz, 1H), 2.17 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  202.3, 181.6, 171.7, 159.7, 154.8, 140.4, 136.4, 136.0, 133.1, 129.9, 129.1, 128.2, 126.8, 126.5, 121.8, 120.5, 117.6, 114.7, 68.2, 55.3, 43.1, 15.8. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_2\text{Se} [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 460.0810; found: 460.0812.

**3-((4-(Tert-butyl)phenyl)selanyl)-2'-methyl-2-phenylspiro[cyclopentane-1,3'-indol]-2-en-4-one (3ae)**



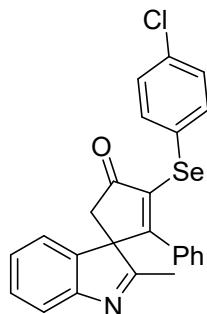
Brown solid. 80.5 mg, Yield: 83%, mp 175-177 °C. column chromatography eluent,  $\text{EtOAc/PE} = 1:20 \rightarrow 1:4$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.53 (d,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.41 – 7.34 (m, 1H), 7.30 – 7.22 (m, 4H), 7.17 – 7.11 (m, 3H), 7.03 (t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H), 6.73 – 6.67 (m, 2H), 2.97 (d,  $J = 18.7$  Hz, 1H), 2.88 (d,  $J = 18.7$  Hz, 1H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 1.26 (s, 9H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  202.3, 181.6, 171.9, 154.9, 150.9, 140.5, 136.0, 133.3, 133.0, 129.8, 129.1, 128.1, 126.8, 126.5, 126.1, 124.0, 121.8, 120.6, 68.4, 43.0, 34.5, 31.2, 15.9. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{28}\text{NOSe} [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 486.1331; found: 486.1331.

**3-((4-Fluorophenyl)selanyl)-2'-methyl-2-phenylspiro[cyclopentane-1,3'-indol]-2-en-4-one  
(3af)**



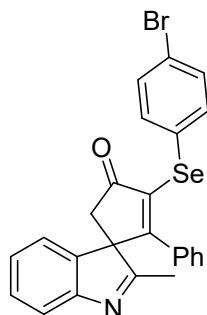
Brown solid. 81.4 mg, Yield: 91%, mp 115–116 °C. column chromatography eluent, EtOAc/PE = 1:15 → 1:3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.52 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.39 – 7.32 (m, 3H), 7.26 – 7.15 (m, 3H), 7.06 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.85 – 6.78 (m, 2H), 6.70 – 6.63 (m, 2H), 2.93 (d, *J* = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.85 (d, *J* = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.18 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 202.1, 181.4, 172.3, 162.7 (d, *J* = 248.5 Hz), 154.8, 140.3, 136.1 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 135.9, 133.0, 130.1, 129.2, 128.3, 126.7, 126.6, 122.1 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz), 121.7, 120.6, 116.2 (d, *J* = 21.8 Hz), 68.3, 43.0, 15.8. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -113.12. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>18</sub>FNOSe [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 448.0610; found: 448.0610.

**3-((4-Chlorophenyl)selanyl)-2'-methyl-2-phenylspiro[cyclopentane-1,3'-indol]-2-en-4-one  
(3ag)**



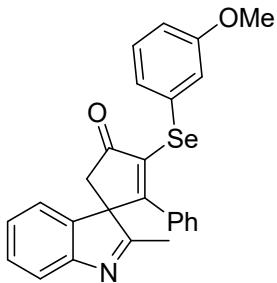
Brown solid. 81.5 mg, Yield: 88%, mp 159–161 °C. column chromatography eluent, EtOAc/PE = 1:10 → 1:3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.53 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.32 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.25 – 7.17 (m, 3H), 7.13 – 7.04 (m, 4H), 6.71 – 6.65 (m, 2H), 2.95 (d, *J* = 18.8 Hz, 1H), 2.86 (d, *J* = 18.8 Hz, 1H), 2.19 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 202.0, 181.2, 172.9, 154.9, 140.3, 135.4, 134.9, 134.2, 132.9, 130.2, 129.3, 129.2, 128.3, 126.7, 126.6, 125.9, 121.7, 120.7, 68.3, 43.0, 15.9. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>19</sub>Cl<sup>37</sup>NOSe [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 464.0315; found: 464.0314, C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>19</sub>Cl<sup>35</sup>NOSe [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 462.0323; found: 462.0325.

**3-((4-Bromophenyl)selanyl)-2'-methyl-2-phenylspiro[cyclopentane-1,3'-indol]-2-en-4-one  
(3ah)**



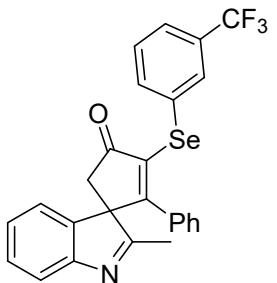
Brown solid. 85.2 mg, Yield: 84%, mp 153–154 °C. column chromatography eluent, EtOAc/PE = 1:10 → 1:3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.56 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.32 – 7.19 (m, 7H), 7.10 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.70 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.98 (d, *J* = 18.8 Hz, 1H), 2.89 (d, *J* = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.23 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 201.8, 181.5, 172.7, 154.4, 140.2, 135.4, 135.1, 132.9, 132.1, 130.2, 129.3, 128.3, 126.7, 126.7, 126.6, 122.3, 121.8, 120.6, 68.3, 43.0, 15.8. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>19</sub>Br<sup>79</sup>NOSe [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 507.9810; found: 507.9808, C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>19</sub>Br<sup>81</sup>NOSe [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 509.9789; found: 509.9790.

**3-((3-Methoxyphenyl)selanyl)-2'-methyl-2-phenylspiro[cyclopentane-1,3'-indol]-2-en-4-one (3ai)**



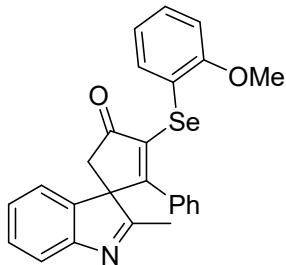
Brown solid. 73.5 mg, Yield: 80%, mp 129–130 °C. column chromatography eluent, EtOAc/PE = 1:15 → 1:4. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.52 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.39 – 7.33 (m, 1H), 7.24 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 7.17 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 3H), 6.96 – 6.91 (m, 1H), 6.90 – 6.86 (m, 1H), 6.75 – 6.67 (m, 3H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 2.96 (d, *J* = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.87 (d, *J* = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.20 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 202.2, 181.3, 173.1, 159.6, 155.0, 140.5, 135.5, 133.1, 130.0, 129.8, 129.2, 128.9, 128.2, 126.8, 126.5, 125.2, 121.8, 120.6, 118.5, 68.4, 55.2, 43.1, 15.9. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>Se [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 460.0810; found: 460.0813.

**2'-Methyl-2-phenyl-3-((3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)selanyl)spiro[cyclopentane-1,3'-indol]-2-en-4-one (3aj)**



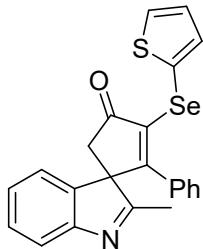
Brown solid. 84.5 mg, Yield: 85%, mp 145–146 °C. column chromatography eluent, EtOAc/PE = 1:20 → 1:4. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.52 (d, *J* = 9.7 Hz, 3H), 7.40 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.25 – 7.20 (m, 3H), 7.15 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.69 – 6.64 (m, 2H), 2.98 (d, *J* = 18.8 Hz, 1H), 2.89 (d, *J* = 18.8 Hz, 1H), 2.20 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 202.0, 180.8, 173.6, 155.2, 140.2, 136.4, 135.1, 132.8, 130.2, 129.7 (q, *J* = 3.9 Hz), 129.3, 129.0, 128.3, 126.6, 126.6, 124.4 (q, *J* = 3.7 Hz), 123.5 (q, *J* = 272.1 Hz), 121.7, 120.7, 68.4, 43.0, 15.9. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -62.84. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>19</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NOSe [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 498.0578; found: 498.0578.

**3-((2-Methoxyphenyl)selanyl)-2'-methyl-2-phenylspiro[cyclopentane-1,3'-indol]-2-en-4-one  
(3ak)**



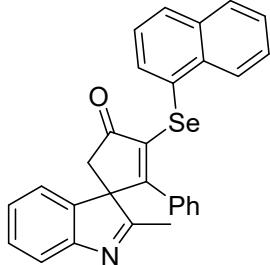
Brown solid. 67.9 mg, Yield: 74%, mp 157-159 °C. column chromatography eluent, EtOAc/PE = 1:20 → 1:4. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.55 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (td, *J* = 7.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.31 – 7.23 (m, 3H), 7.19 – 7.10 (m, 2H), 7.02 (dd, *J* = 10.6, 4.8 Hz, 2H), 6.80 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (dd, *J* = 5.2, 3.4 Hz, 2H), 6.70 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.99 (d, *J* = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.89 (d, *J* = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.24 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 202.1, 181.6, 172.3, 157.7, 155.0, 140.7, 134.3, 132.9, 132.8, 129.9, 129.1, 129.0, 128.0, 126.6, 126.4, 121.8, 121.3, 120.6, 116.8, 110.6, 68.5, 55.7, 43.1, 15.9. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>Se [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 460.0810; found: 460.0811.

**2'-Methyl-2-phenyl-3-(thiophen-2-ylselanyl)spiro[cyclopentane-1,3'-indol]-2-en-4-one (3al)**



Brown solid. 67.0 mg, Yield: 77%, mp 145-146 °C. column chromatography eluent, EtOAc/PE = 1:20 → 1:4. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.49 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.37 – 7.31 (m, 1H), 7.29 (dd, *J* = 5.3, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.24 – 7.16 (m, 3H), 7.11 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.05 (dd, *J* = 3.5, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (dd, *J* = 5.3, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 6.76 – 6.71 (m, 2H), 2.91 (d, *J* = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.83 (d, *J* = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.16 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 201.8, 181.1, 172.9, 155.1, 140.3, 136.6, 135.9, 132.9, 131.2, 130.1, 129.1, 128.3, 127.7, 126.8, 126.4, 121.9, 120.8, 120.6, 68.2, 43.0, 15.9. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NOSSe [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 436.0269; found: 436.0265.

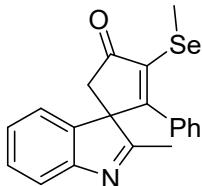
**2'-Methyl-3-(naphthalen-1-ylselanyl)-2-phenylspiro[cyclopentane-1,3'-indol]-2-en-4-one  
(3am)**



Brown solid. 69.9 mg, Yield: 73%, mp 176-178 °C. column chromatography eluent, EtOAc/PE = 1:20 → 1:4. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.12 – 8.05 (m, 1H), 7.71 (dd, *J* = 6.8, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (dd, *J* = 12.4, 5.1 Hz, 2H), 7.49 – 7.41 (m, 3H), 7.30 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.06 –

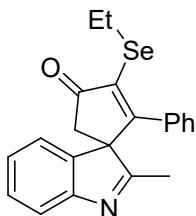
6.98 (m, 2H), 6.85 (dd,  $J$  = 10.8, 4.9 Hz, 2H), 6.48 – 6.43 (m, 2H), 2.91 (d,  $J$  = 18.8 Hz, 1H), 2.81 (d,  $J$  = 18.8 Hz, 1H), 2.09 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  202.4, 181.3, 172.0, 154.8, 140.3, 135.9, 134.6, 134.0, 133.8, 132.6, 129.5, 129.4, 129.0, 128.7, 127.8, 127.7, 126.8, 126.3, 126.3, 126.2, 126.1, 125.4, 121.9, 120.4, 68.5, 42.7, 15.8. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{22}\text{NOSe} [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 480.0861; found: 480.0863.

**2'-Methyl-3-(methylselanyl)-2-phenylspiro[cyclopentane-1,3'-indol]-2-en-4-one (3an)**



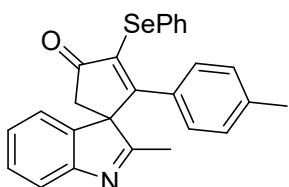
Brown solid. 67.5 mg, Yield: 92%, mp 86-88 °C. column chromatography eluent, EtOAc/PE = 1:20 → 1:4.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.53 (d,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (td,  $J$  = 7.7, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.28 – 7.21 (m, 3H), 7.17 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 6.84 (d,  $J$  = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.94 (d,  $J$  = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (d,  $J$  = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 2.21 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  203.0, 181.6, 169.4, 155.0, 140.5, 134.6, 133.5, 130.1, 129.1, 128.4, 126.8, 126.4, 121.8, 120.6, 68.0, 43.4, 15.8, 5.9. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{NOSe} [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 368.0548; found: 368.0546.

**3-(Ethylselanyl)-2'-methyl-2-phenylspiro[cyclopentane-1,3'-indol]-2-en-4-one (3ao)**



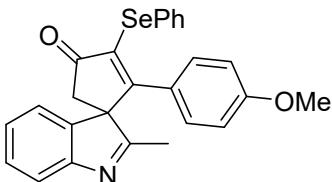
Brown solid. 68.6 mg, Yield: 90%, mp 101-103 °C. column chromatography eluent, EtOAc/PE = 1:20 → 1:4.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.52 (d,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.40 – 7.33 (m, 1H), 7.26 – 7.20 (m, 3H), 7.19 – 7.12 (m, 2H), 6.85 – 6.77 (m, 2H), 2.97 – 2.83 (m, 4H), 2.19 (s, 3H), 1.32 (t,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  203.2, 181.5, 170.6, 155.1, 140.7, 133.8, 133.6, 130.1, 129.1, 128.4, 126.8, 126.4, 121.8, 120.6, 68.2, 43.4, 19.2, 15.9, 15.8. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{20}\text{NOSe} [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 382.0705; found: 382.0705.

**2'-Methyl-3-(phenylselanyl)-2-(p-tolyl)spiro[cyclopentane-1,3'-indol]-2-en-4-one (3ba)**



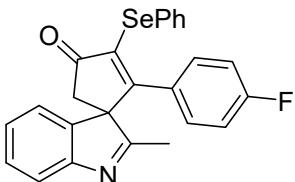
Brown solid. 79.8 mg, Yield: 90%, mp 113-114 °C. column chromatography eluent, EtOAc/PE = 1:20 → 1:4.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.53 (d,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.42 – 7.33 (m, 3H), 7.25 – 7.14 (m, 5H), 6.88 (d,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.65 (d,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 2.92 (d,  $J$  = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.84 (d,  $J$  = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  202.1, 181.6, 173.4, 155.2, 140.8, 140.6, 134.7, 133.0, 130.3, 129.1, 129.1, 129.0, 128.4, 127.6, 126.9, 126.5, 121.8, 120.6, 68.2, 43.2, 21.4, 16.0. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{22}\text{NOSe} [\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ : 444.0861; found: 444.0862.

**2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2'-methyl-3-(phenylselanyl)spiro[cyclopentane-1,3'-indol]-2-en-4-one  
(3ca)**



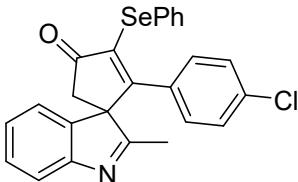
Brown solid. 79.0 mg, Yield: 86%, mp 134–136 °C. column chromatography eluent, EtOAc/PE = 1:20 → 1:4. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.55 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 3H), 7.25 – 7.13 (m, 5H), 6.77 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.59 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 2.91 (d, *J* = 18.6 Hz, 1H), 2.82 (d, *J* = 18.6 Hz, 1H), 2.16 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 202.1, 182.0, 172.6, 161.2, 155.0, 141.2, 133.6, 132.8, 129.1, 129.0, 128.6, 127.6, 126.5, 125.5, 121.7, 120.7, 113.7, 68.2, 55.2, 43.4, 15.9. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NOSe [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 460.0810; found: 460.0811.

**2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-2'-methyl-3-(phenylselanyl)spiro[cyclopentane-1,3'-indol]-2-en-4-one  
(3da)**



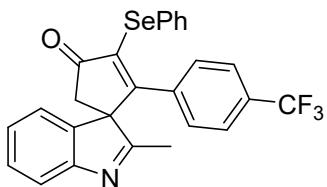
Brown solid. 77.8 mg, Yield: 87%, mp 142–143 °C. column chromatography eluent, EtOAc/PE = 1:20 → 1:4. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.55 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (dd, *J* = 19.2, 7.3 Hz, 3H), 7.30 – 7.11 (m, 5H), 6.80 – 6.68 (m, 4H), 2.97 (d, *J* = 18.8 Hz, 1H), 2.89 (d, *J* = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.20 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 202.1, 181.2, 171.3, 163.4 (d, *J* = 251.7 Hz), 155.1, 140.3, 135.9, 133.3, 129.3, 129.1, 129.0 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz), 127.8, 127.8, 126.6, 121.7, 120.8, 115.4 (d, *J* = 21.8 Hz), 68.3, 43.0, 15.9. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -109.43. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>18</sub>FNOSe [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 448.0610; found: 448.0613.

**2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2'-methyl-3-(phenylselanyl)spiro[cyclopentane-1,3'-indol]-2-en-4-one  
(3ea)**



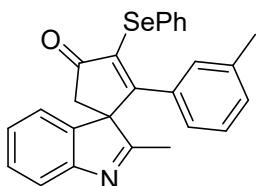
Brown solid. 77.8 mg, Yield: 84%, mp 174–175 °C. column chromatography eluent, EtOAc/PE = 1:20 → 1:4. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.51 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.39 – 7.30 (m, 3H), 7.26 – 7.10 (m, 5H), 7.02 – 6.97 (m, 2H), 6.65 – 6.59 (m, 2H), 2.94 (d, *J* = 18.8 Hz, 1H), 2.87 (d, *J* = 18.8 Hz, 1H), 2.18 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 202.1, 181.0, 171.0, 155.1, 140.2, 136.4, 136.0, 133.5, 131.4, 129.3, 129.1, 128.5, 128.1, 127.9, 127.6, 126.6, 121.8, 120.8, 68.3, 42.9, 15.9. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>19</sub>Cl<sup>37</sup>NOSe [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 464.0315; found: 464.0317, C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>19</sub>Cl<sup>35</sup>NOSe [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 462.0323; found: 462.0326.

**2'-Methyl-3-(phenylselanyl)-2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)spiro[cyclopentane-1,3'-indol]-2-en-4-one (3fa)**



Brown solid. 79.5 mg, Yield: 80%, mp 152-153 °C. column chromatography eluent, EtOAc/PE = 1:20 → 1:4. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.52 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.43 – 7.35 (m, 1H), 7.32 – 7.21 (m, 6H), 7.15 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 6.74 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.01 (d, *J* = 19.0 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (d, *J* = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.23 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 202.2, 180.6, 169.8, 155.1, 139.8, 137.7, 136.4, 133.9, 131.27 (q, *J* = 32.7 Hz), 129.4, 129.1, 128.1, 127.0, 127.0, 126.6, 125.06 (q, *J* = 3.7 Hz), 123.5 (q, *J* = 272.4 Hz), 121.8, 120.8, 68.4, 42.6, 15.9. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -63.12. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>19</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NOSe [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 498.0578; found: 498.0581.

**2'-Methyl-3-(phenylselanyl)-2-(m-tolyl)spiro[cyclopentane-1,3'-indol]-2-en-4-one (3ga)**



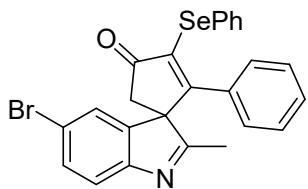
Brown solid. 75.3 mg, Yield: 85%, mp 108-109 °C. column chromatography eluent, EtOAc/PE = 1:15 → 1:3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.54 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3H), 7.28 – 7.16 (m, 5H), 7.03 – 6.89 (m, 2H), 6.50 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 2.96 (d, *J* = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (d, *J* = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 2.11 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 202.3, 181.3, 173.1, 155.2, 140.6, 137.7, 135.3, 133.2, 133.0, 130.8, 129.1, 129.0, 128.1, 127.6, 127.5, 126.4, 123.8, 121.8, 120.6, 68.3, 43.0, 21.3, 16.0. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NOSe [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 444.0861; found: 444.0864.

**2'-Methyl-3-(phenylselanyl)-2-(thiophen-2-yl)spiro[cyclopentane-1,3'-indol]-2-en-4-one (3ha)**



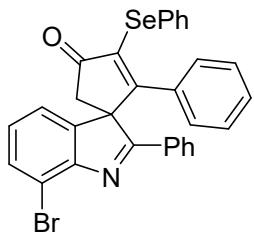
Brown solid. 63.5 mg, Yield: 73%, mp 110-112 °C. column chromatography eluent, EtOAc/PE = 1:20 → 1:4. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.54 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3H), 7.28 – 7.16 (m, 5H), 7.03 – 6.89 (m, 2H), 6.50 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 2.96 (d, *J* = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (d, *J* = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 2.11 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 202.3, 181.3, 173.1, 155.2, 140.6, 137.7, 135.3, 133.2, 133.0, 130.8, 129.1, 129.0, 128.1, 127.6, 127.5, 126.4, 123.8, 121.8, 120.6, 68.3, 43.0, 21.3, 16.0. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NOSe [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 436.0269; found: 436.0271.

**5'-Bromo-2'-methyl-2-phenyl-3-(phenylselanyl)spiro[cyclopentane-1,3'-indol]-2-en-4-one (3ja)**



Brown solid. 93.3 mg, Yield: 92%, mp 173–174 °C. column chromatography eluent, EtOAc/PE = 1:20 → 1:4. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.48 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.36 – 7.32 (m, 4H), 7.17 – 7.09 (m, 6H), 6.74 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 2.92 (d, *J* = 18.6 Hz, 1H), 2.83 (d, *J* = 18.3 Hz, 1H), 2.17 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 201.5, 181.9, 171.6, 154.1, 142.7, 136.2, 133.5, 132.8, 132.2, 130.2, 129.1, 128.4, 127.9, 127.8, 126.8, 125.1, 122.0, 120.0, 68.5, 43.0, 16.0. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>19</sub>Br<sup>79</sup>NOSe [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 507.9810; found: 507.9812, C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>19</sub>Br<sup>81</sup>NOSe [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 509.9789; found: 509.9791.

**7'-Bromo-2,2'-diphenyl-3-(phenylselanyl)spiro[cyclopentane-1,3'-indol]-2-en-4-one (3ka)**



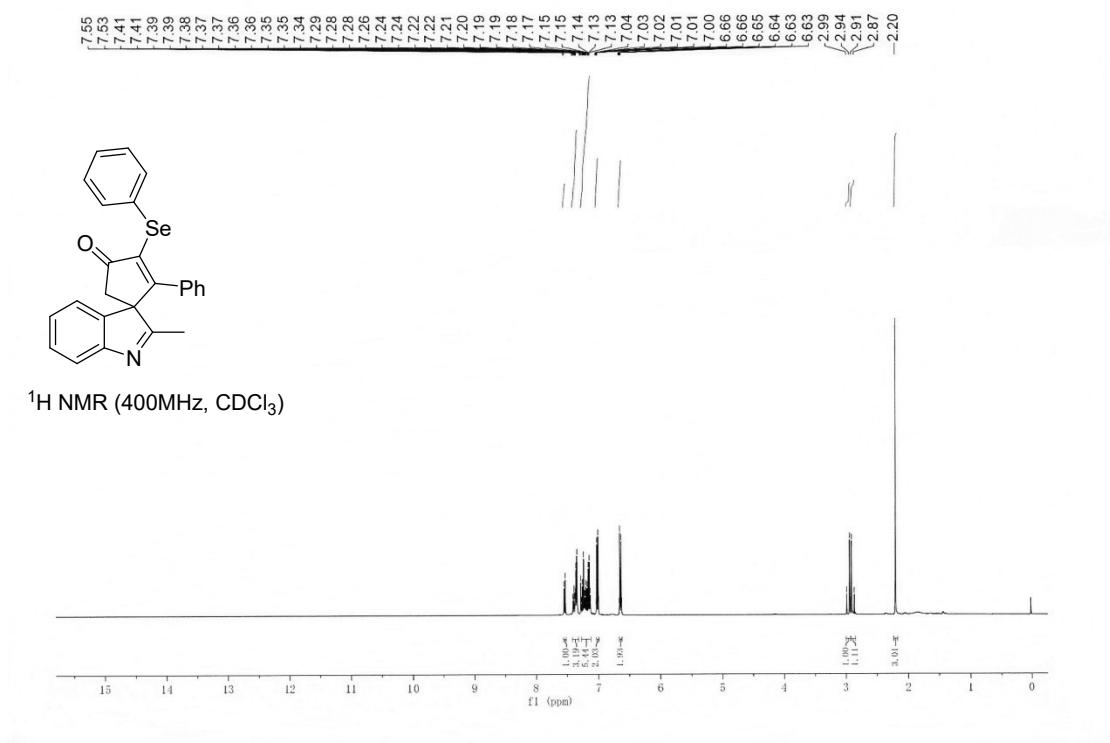
Brown solid. 85.2 mg, Yield: 84%, mp 151–153 °C. column chromatography eluent, EtOAc/PE = 1:20 → 1:4. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.51 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.38 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.21 – 7.06 (m, 8H), 6.74 (dd, *J* = 5.2, 3.4 Hz, 2H), 2.93 (d, *J* = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.84 (d, *J* = 18.7 Hz, 1H), 2.25 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 201.5, 183.0, 171.6, 153.4, 142.3, 136.2, 133.4, 132.9, 132.5, 130.2, 129.1, 128.4, 127.8, 127.8, 126.7, 120.78, 114.4, 69.8, 43.2, 16.2. HRMS (ESI): Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>19</sub>Br<sup>79</sup>NOSe [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 507.9810; found: 507.9809, C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>19</sub>Br<sup>81</sup>NOSe [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 509.9789; found: 509.9787.

## References

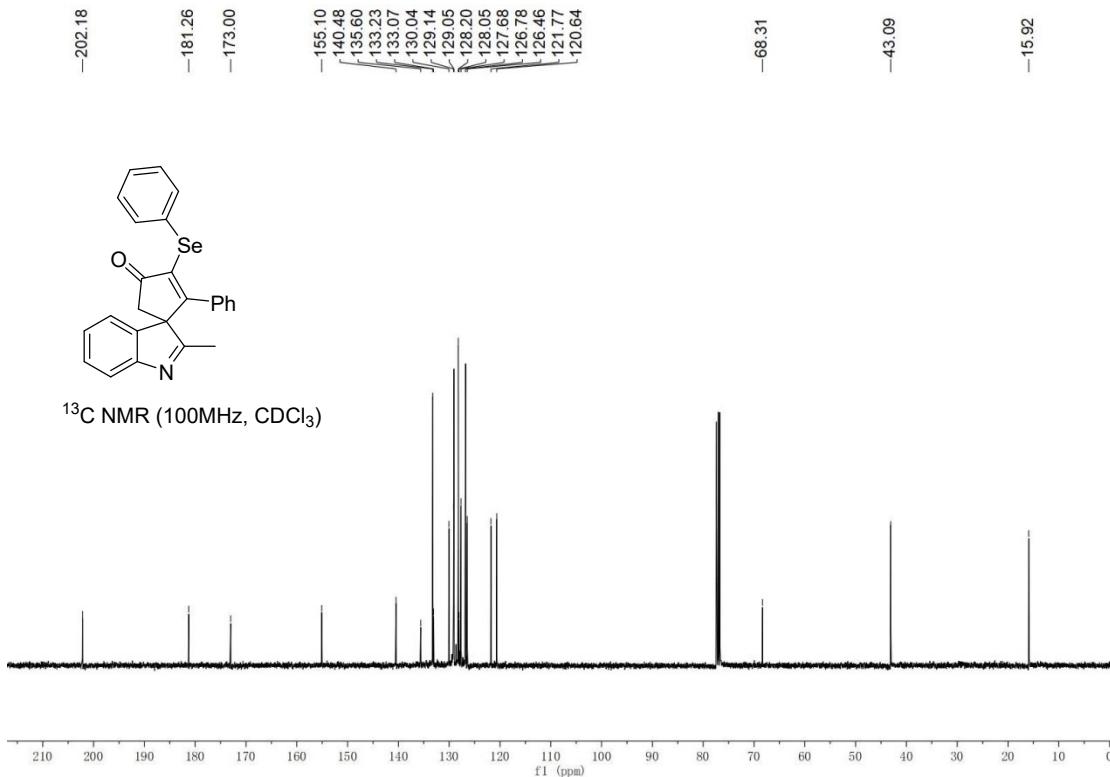
- [S1] (a) X. Ma, Q. Wang, X. Feng, Z. Mo, Y. Pan, Y. Chen, M. Xin and Y. Xu, *Green Chem.*, 2019, **21**, 3547; (b) A.-D. Sonawane, R.-A. Sonawane, M. Ninomiya and M. Koketsu, *Adv. Synth. Catal.*, 2020, **362**, 3485.
- [S2] (a) M.-J. James, J.-D. Cuthbertson, P. O'Brien, R.-J.-K. Taylor and W.-P. Unsworth, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.*, 2015, **54**, 7640; (b) A.-K. Clarke, M.-J. James, P. O'Brien, R.-J.-K. Taylor and W.-P. Unsworth, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.*, 2016, **55**, 13798; (c) S.-J. Chambers, G. Coulthard, W.-P. Unsworth, P. O'Brien and R.-J.-K. Taylor, *Chem. Eur. J.* 2016, **22**, 1.
- [S3] X. Zhou, H. Liu, Z. Mo, X. Ma, Y. Chen, H. Tang, Y. Pan and Y. Xu, *Chem. Asian J.*, 2020, **15**, 1536.

**Copies of the  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  and  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR Spectra**

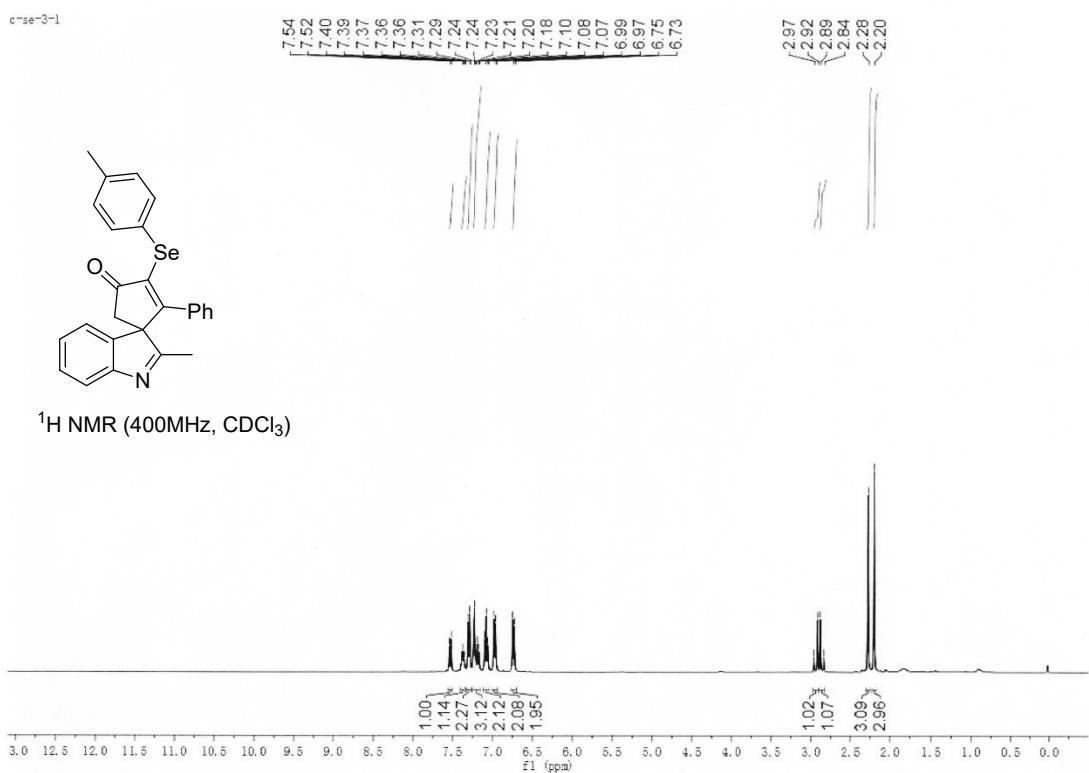
$^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **3aa**



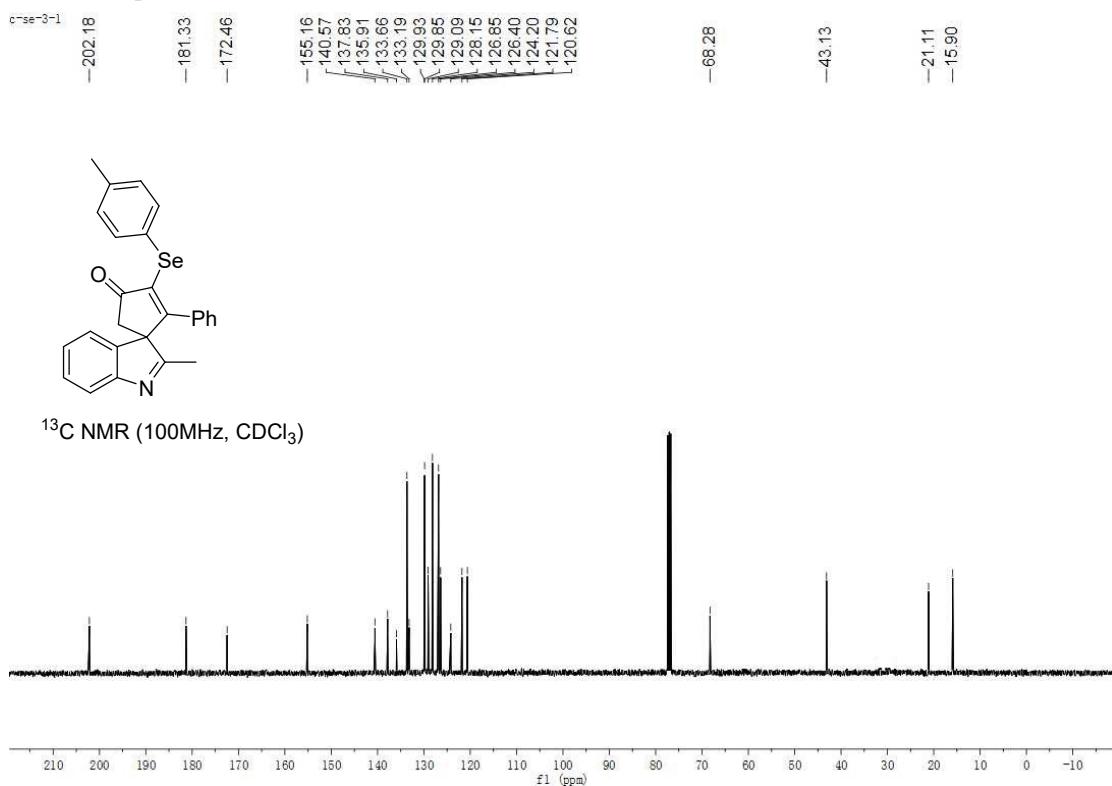
$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **3aa**



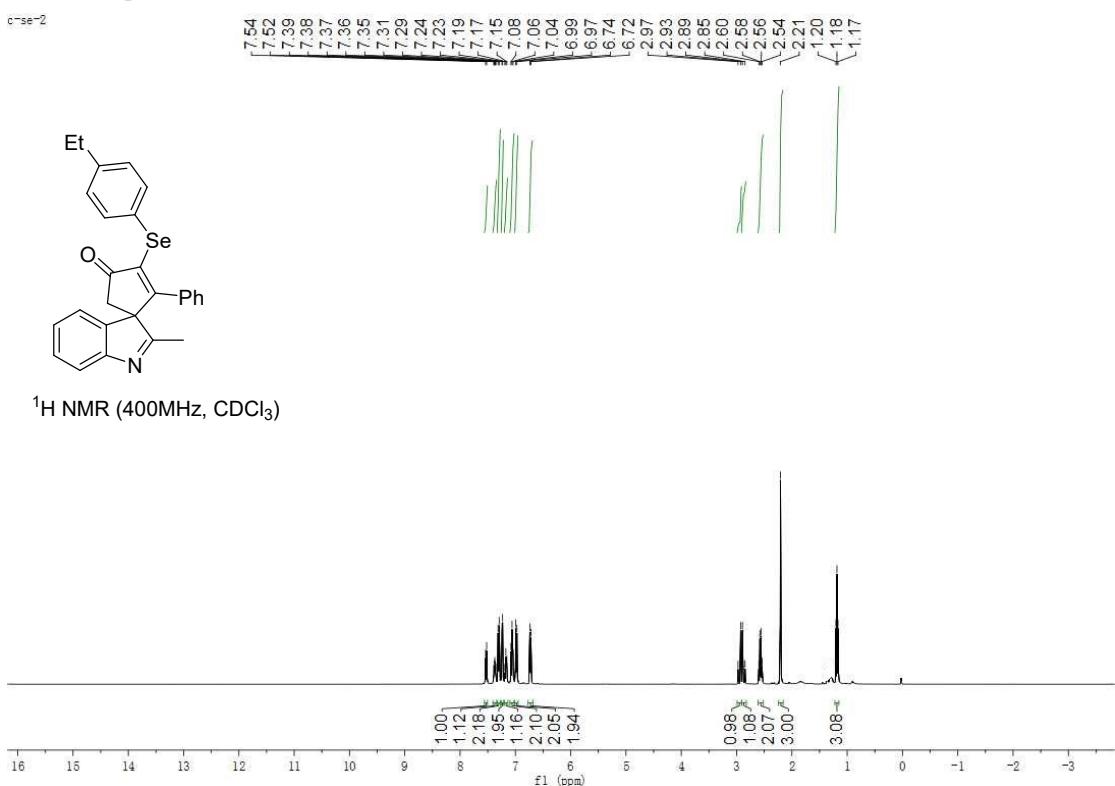
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3ab**



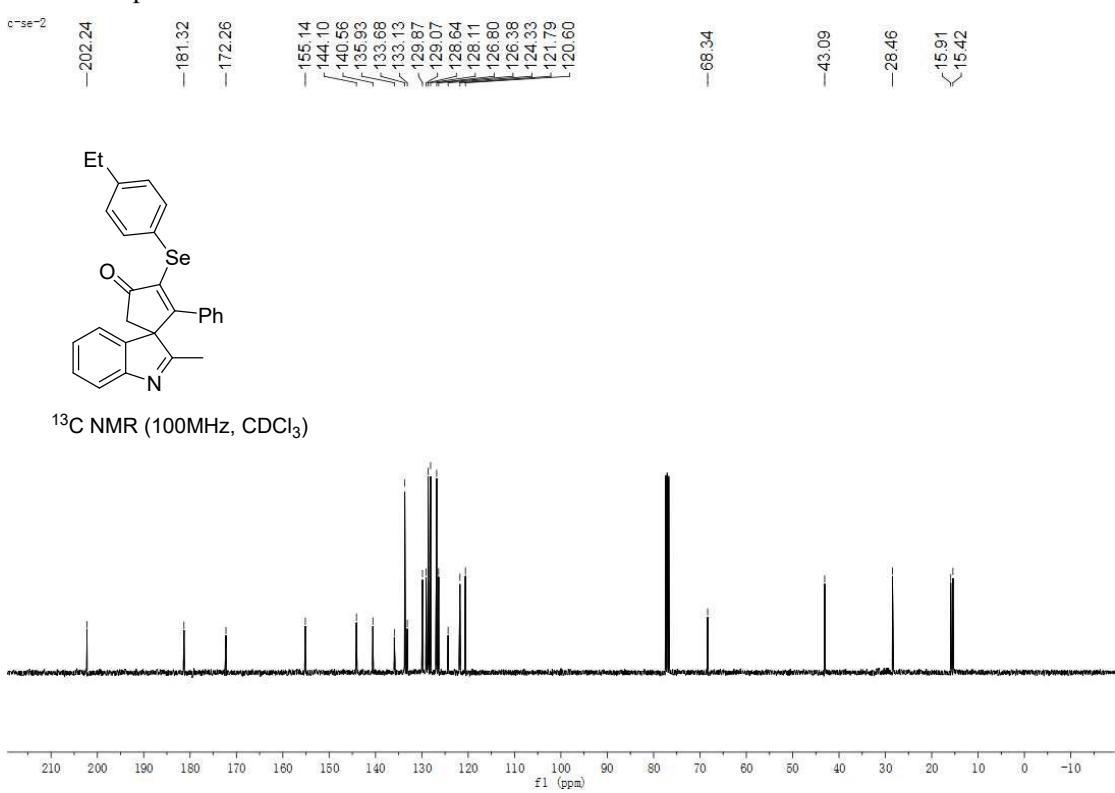
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3ab**



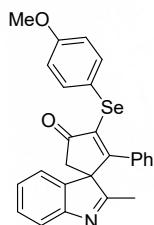
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3ac**



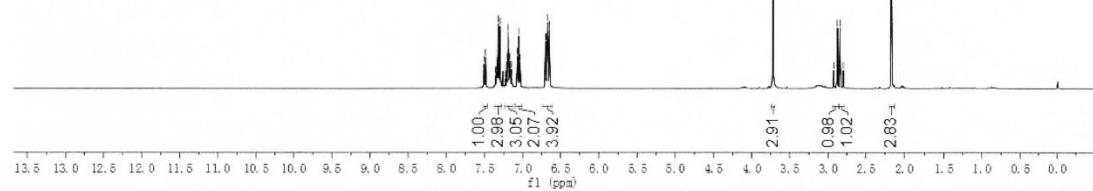
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3ac**



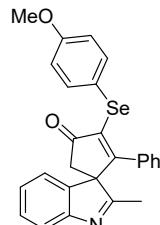
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3ad**



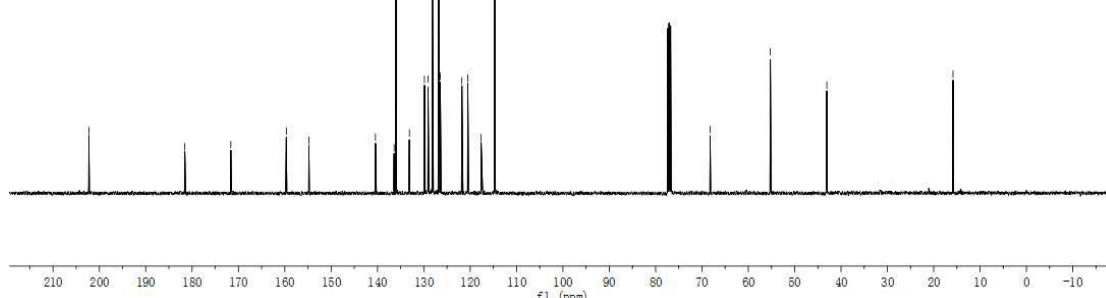
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



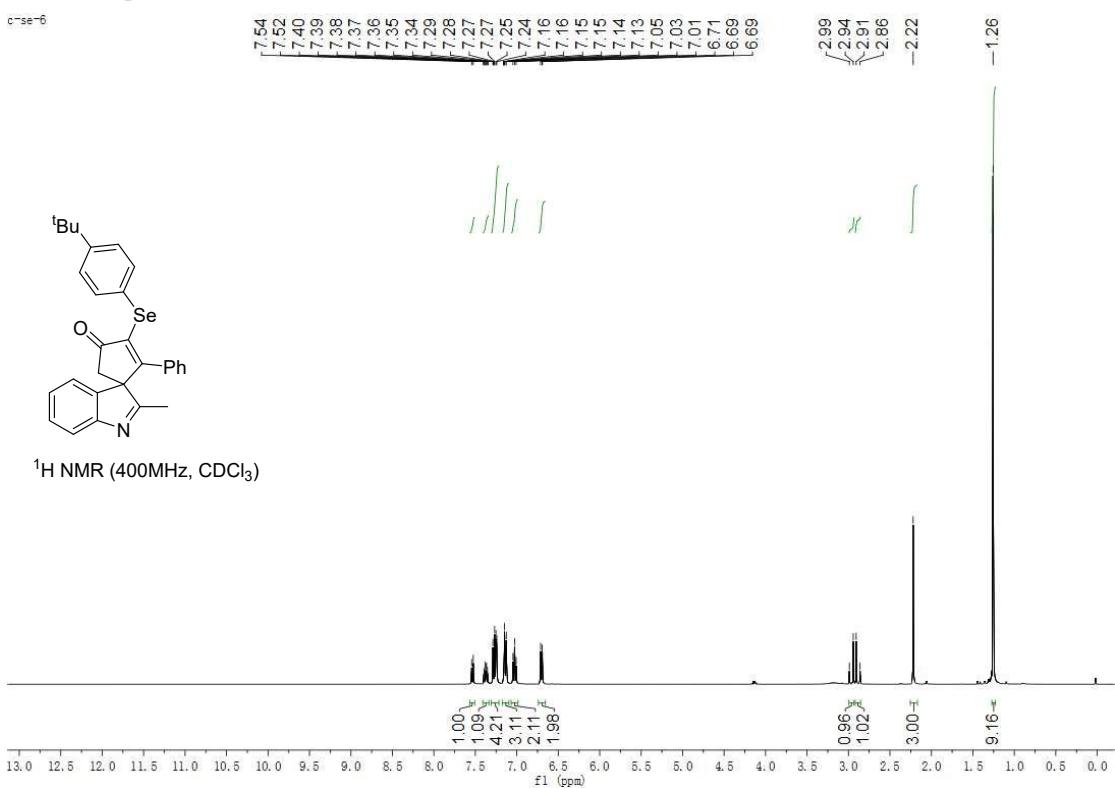
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3ad**



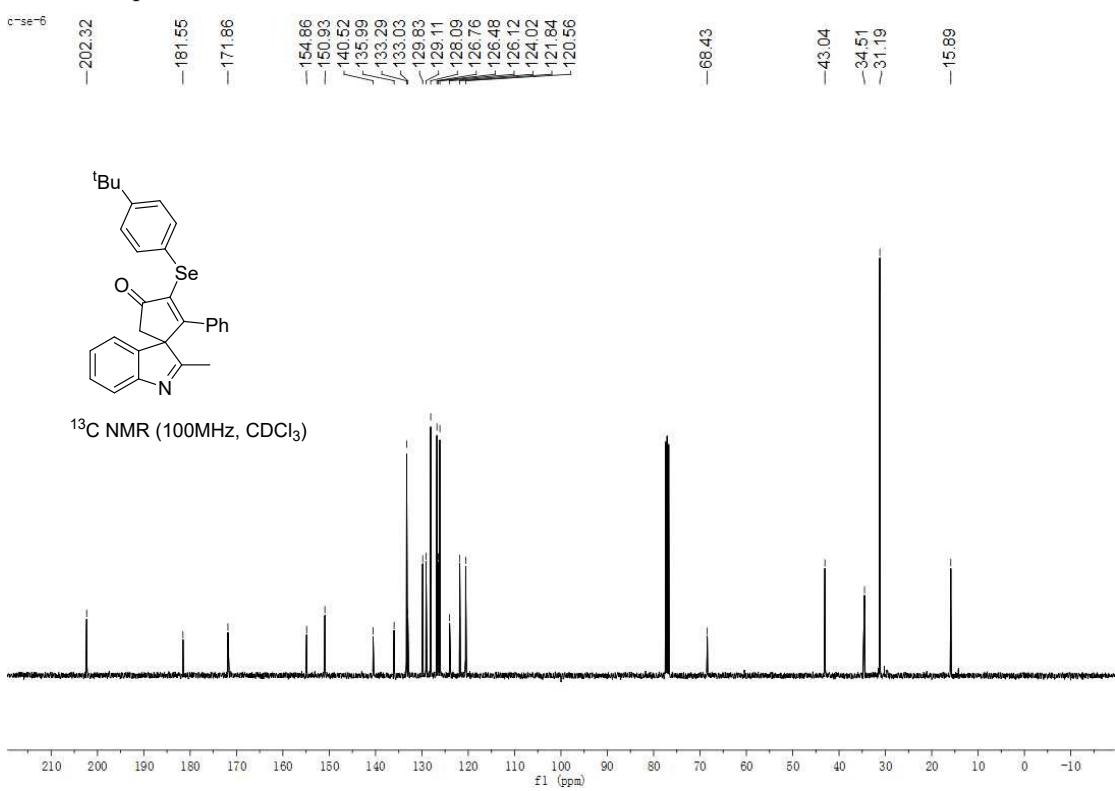
<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



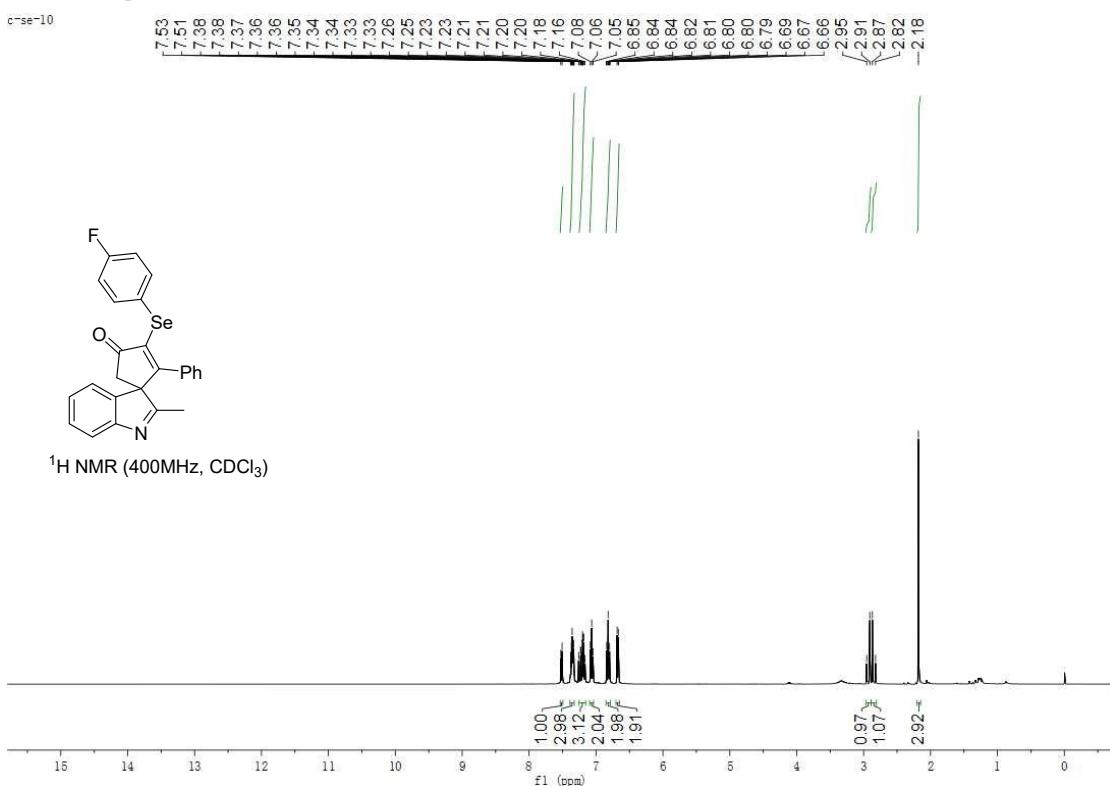
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3ae**



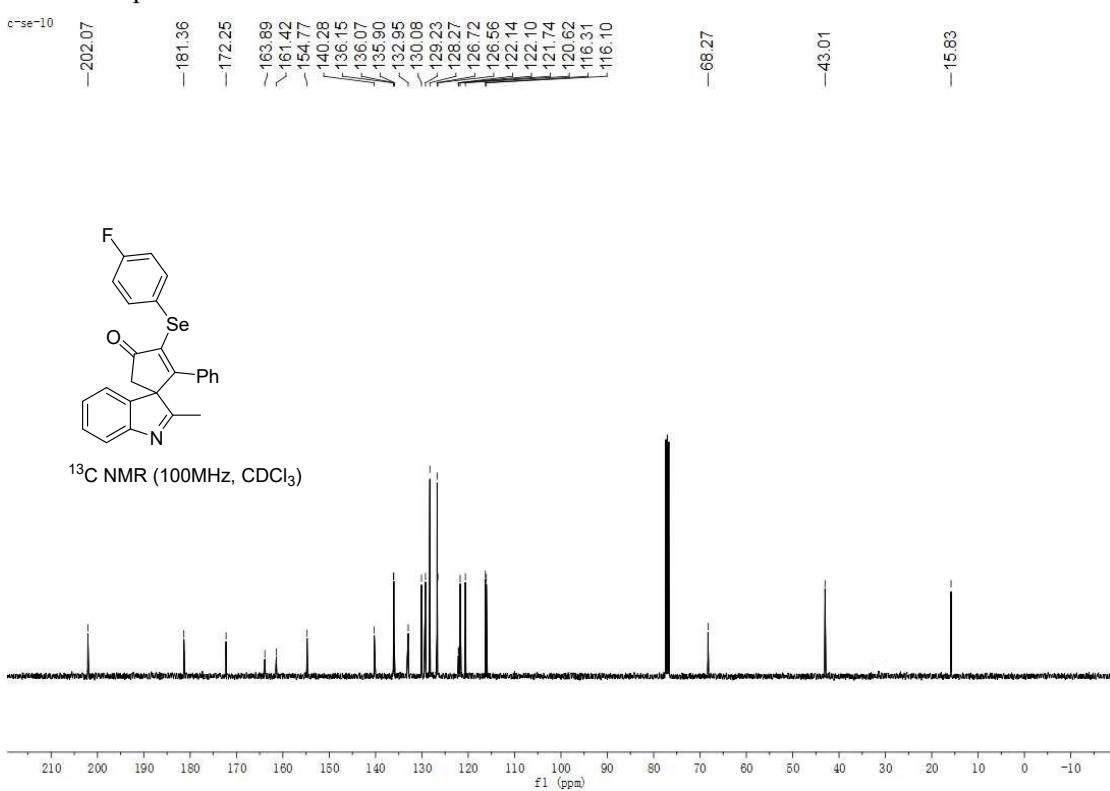
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3ae**



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3af**

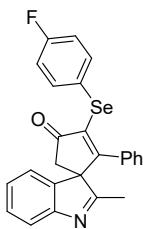


<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3af**

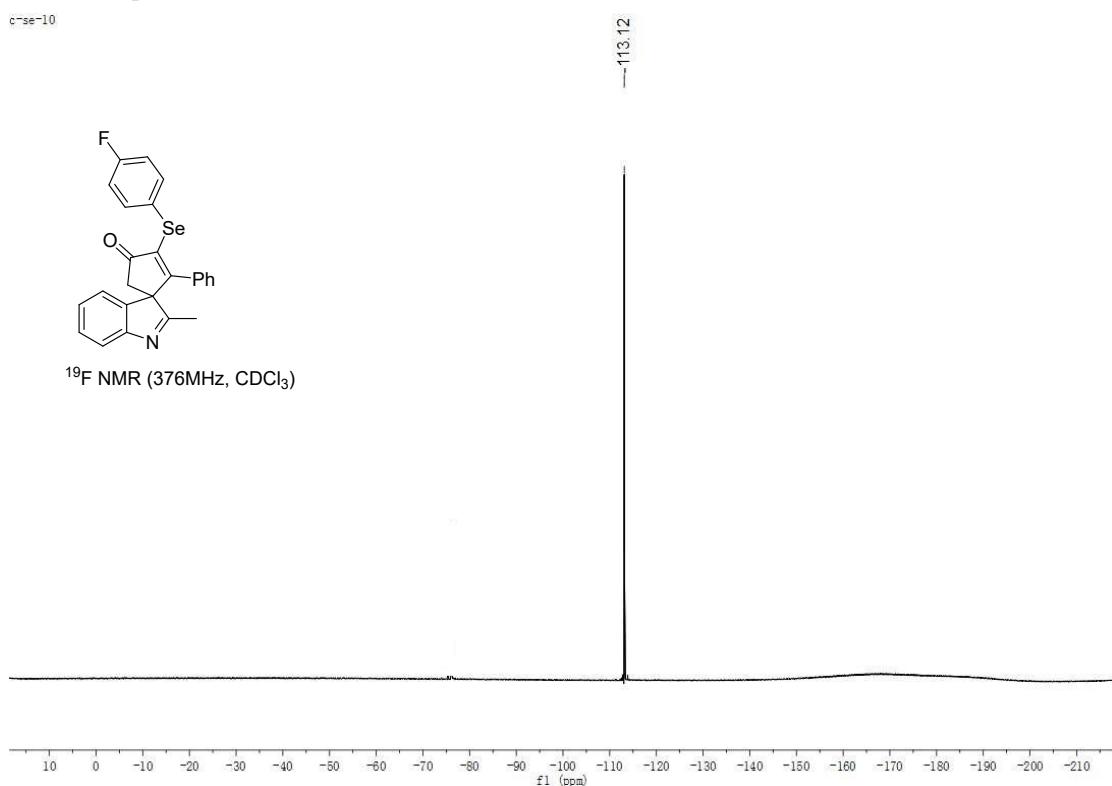


<sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of **3af**

6-58-10

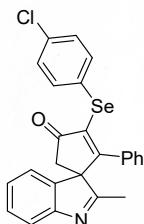


<sup>19</sup>F NMR (376MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

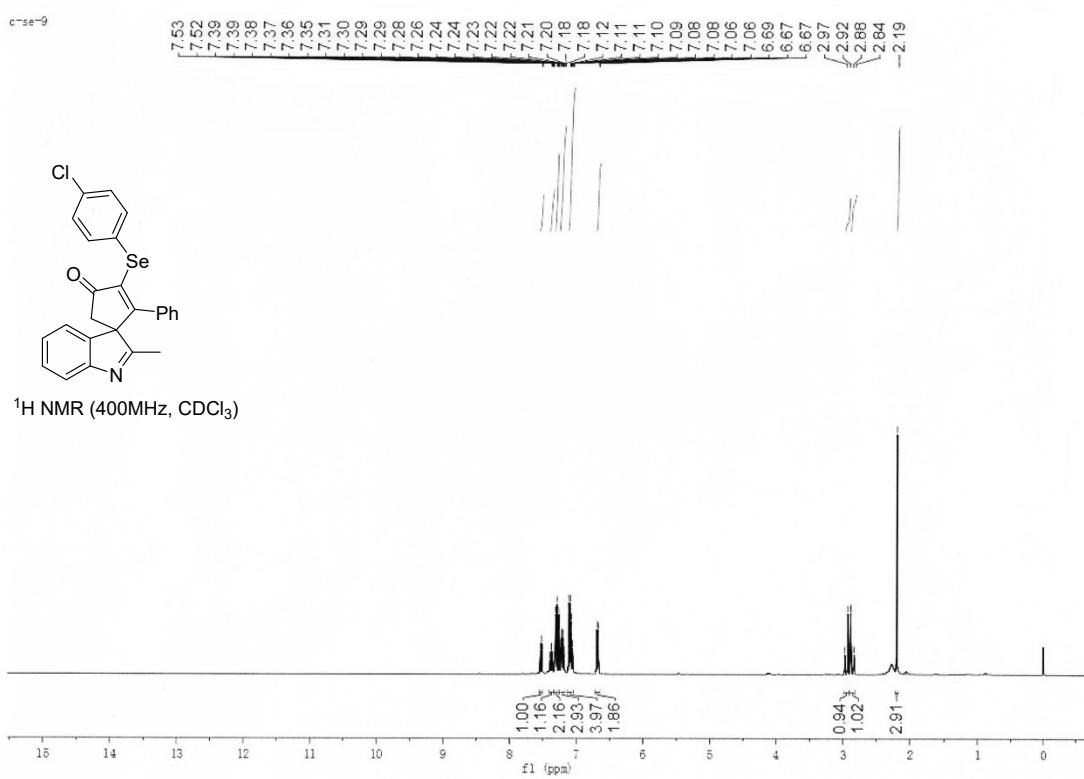


<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3ag**

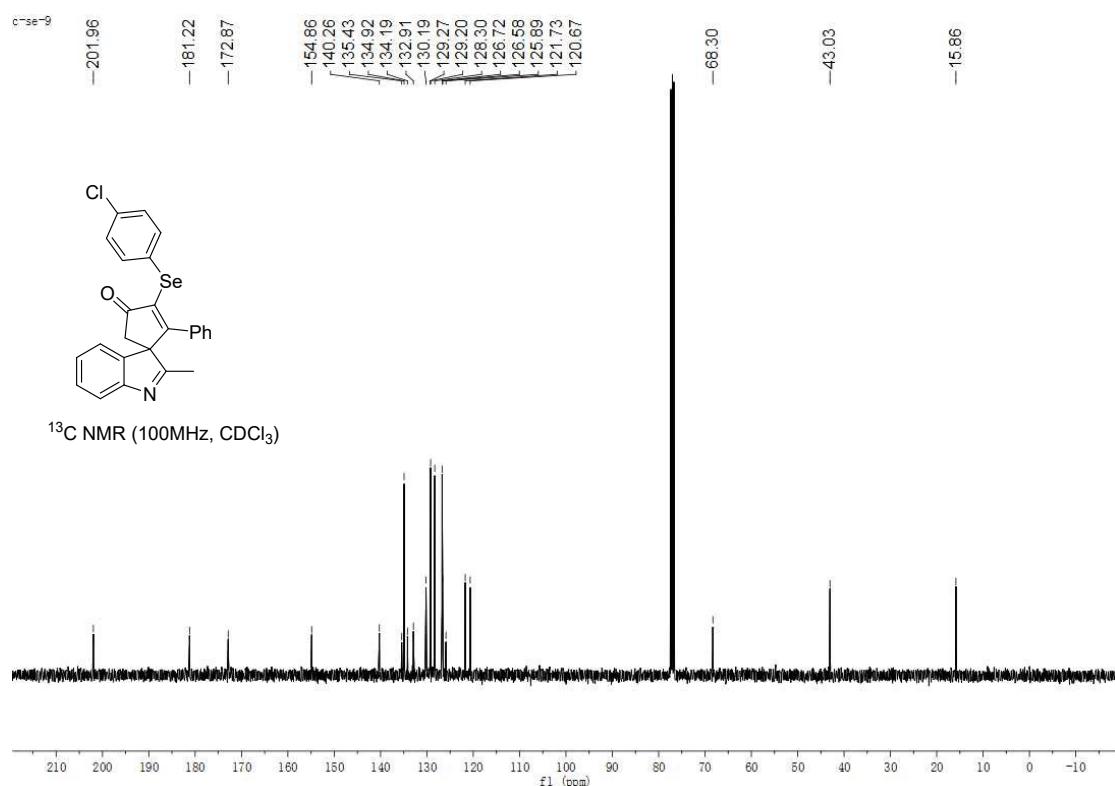
cse-9



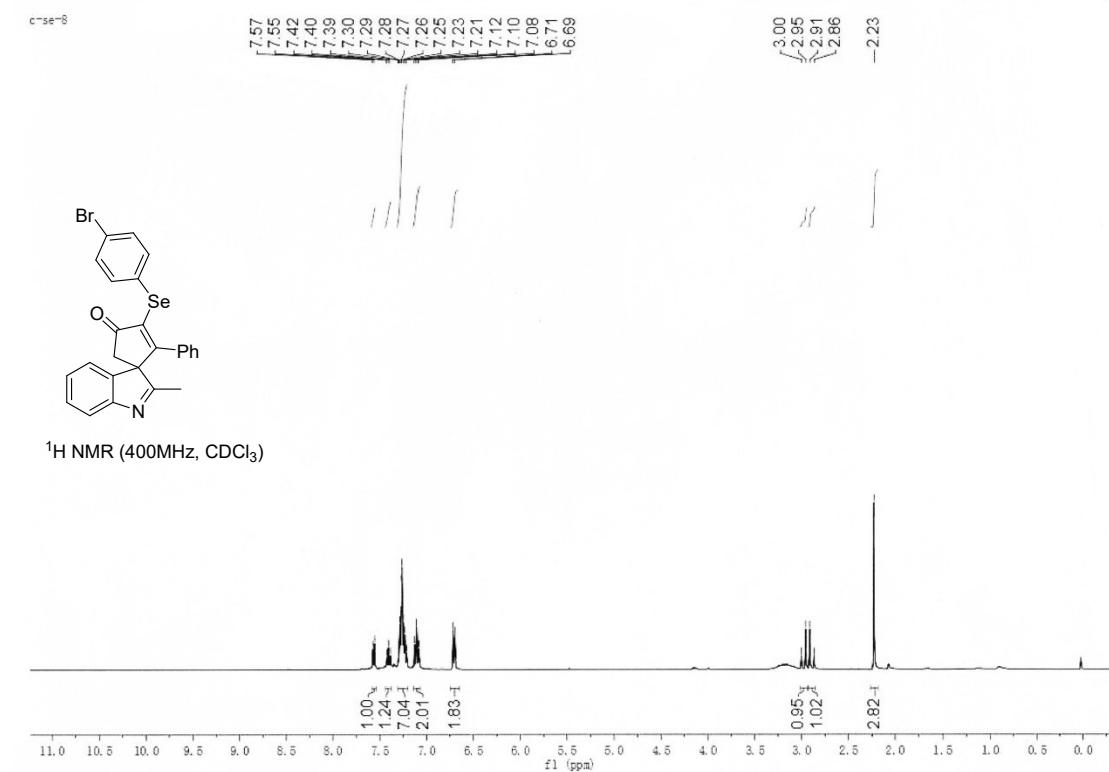
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



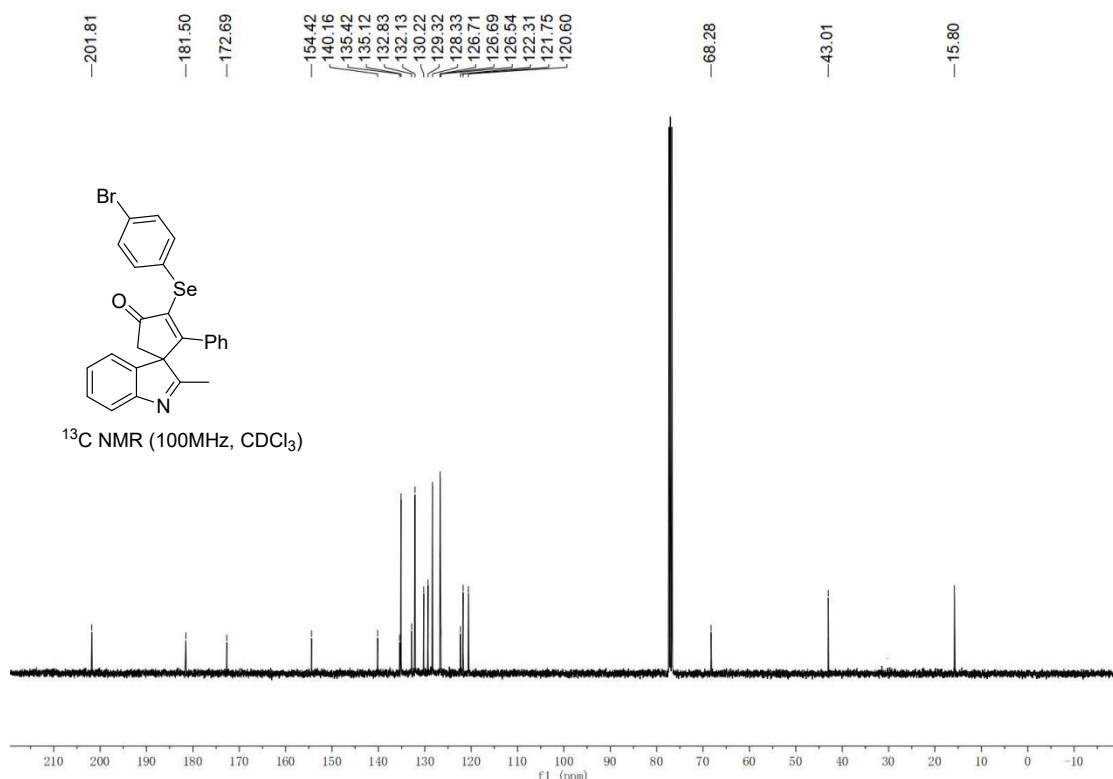
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3ag**



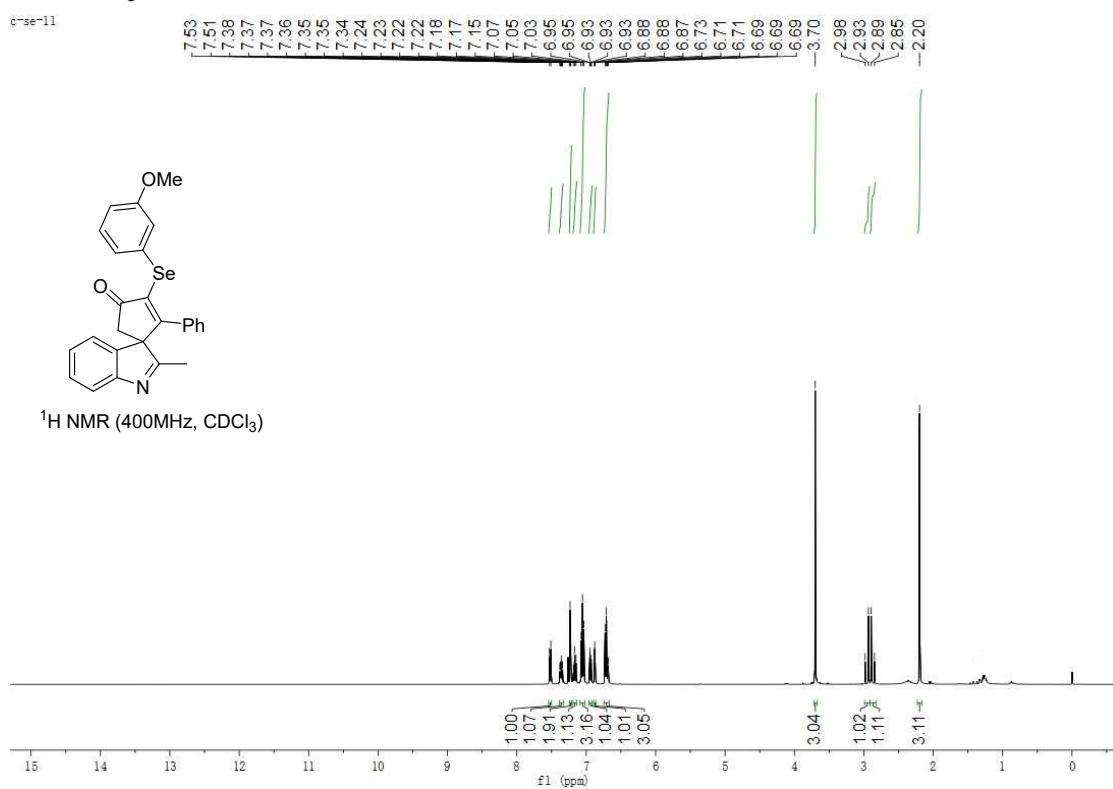
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3ah**



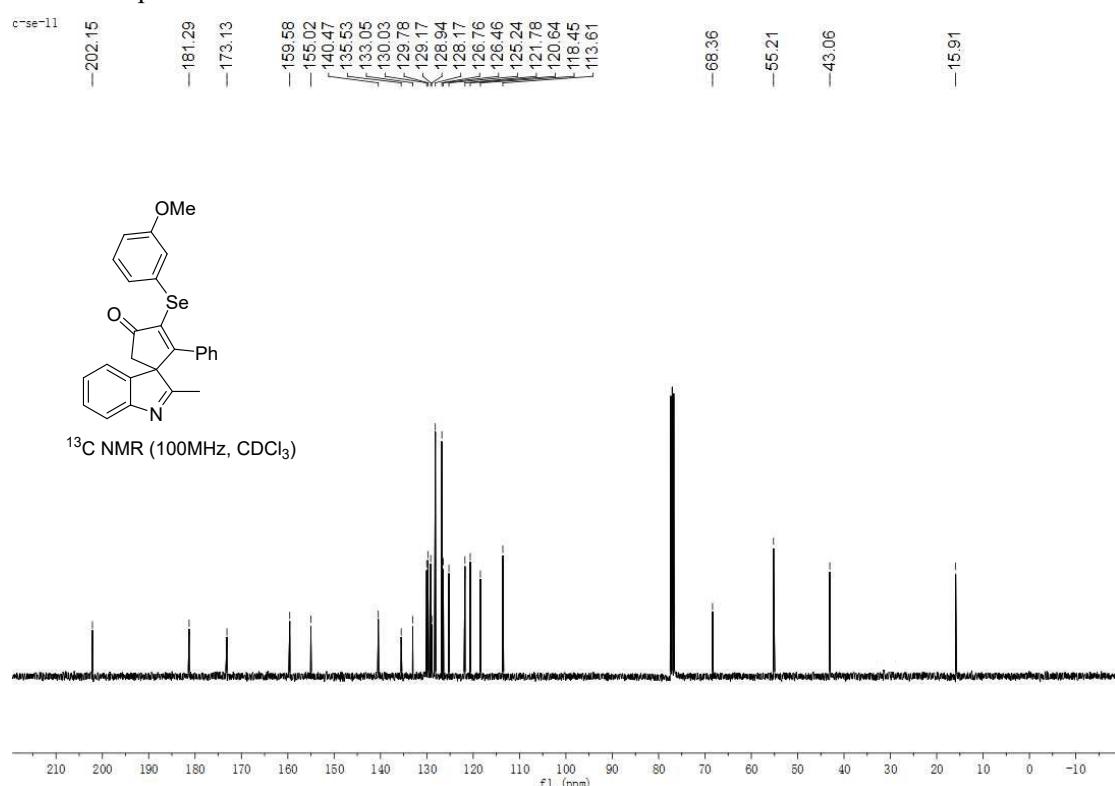
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3ah**



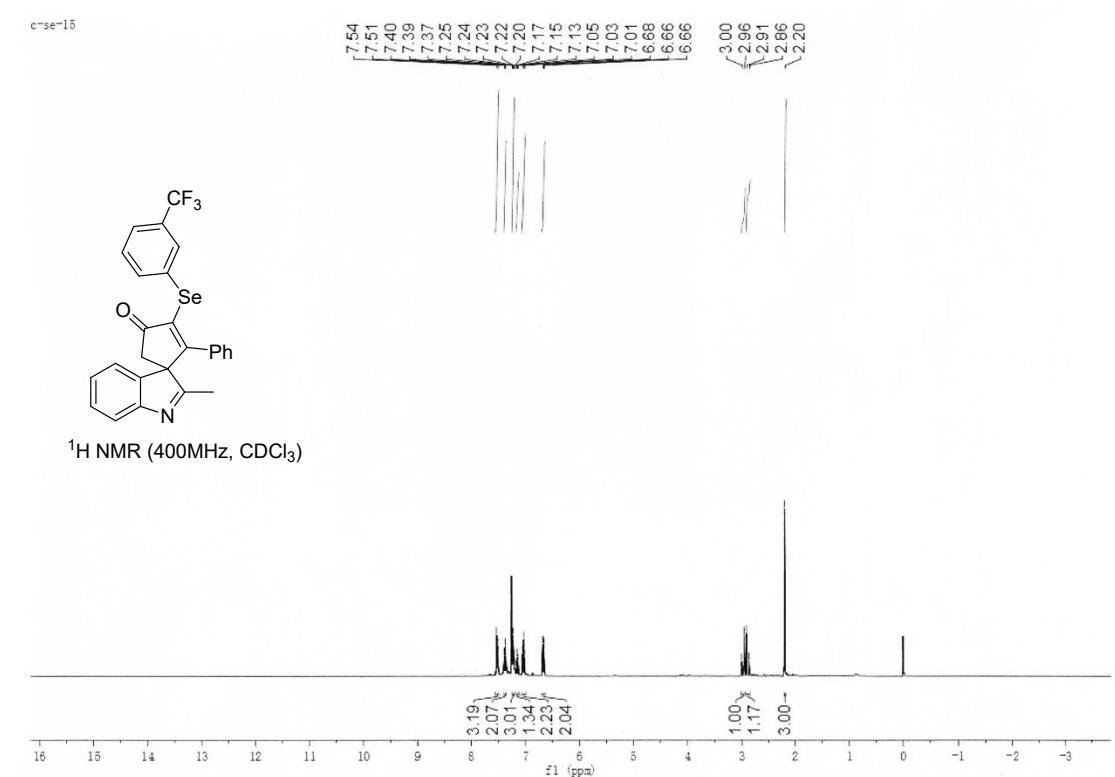
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3ai**



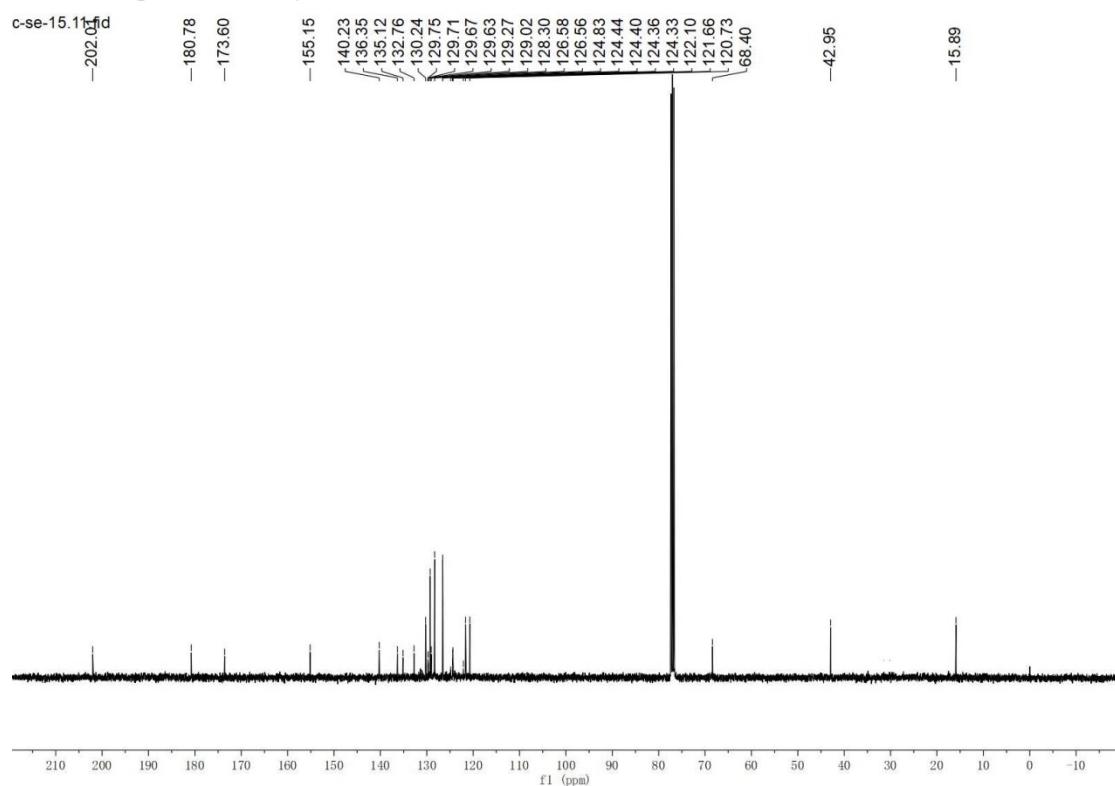
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3ai**



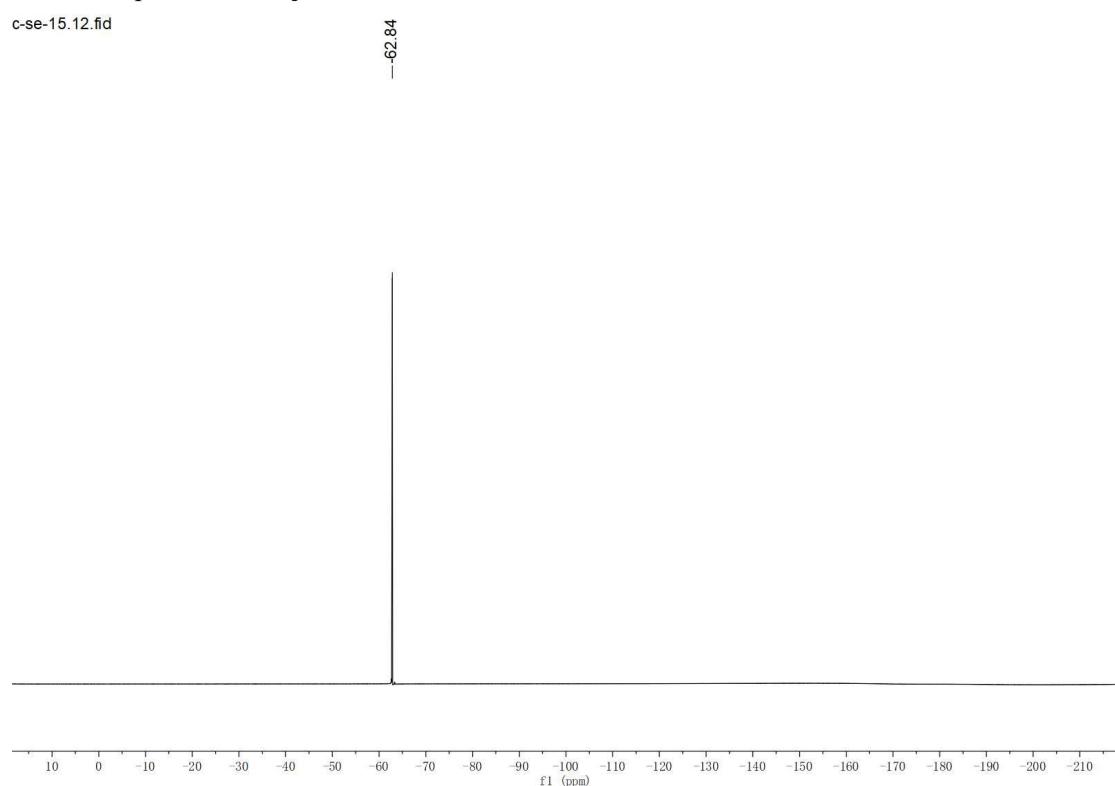
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3aj**



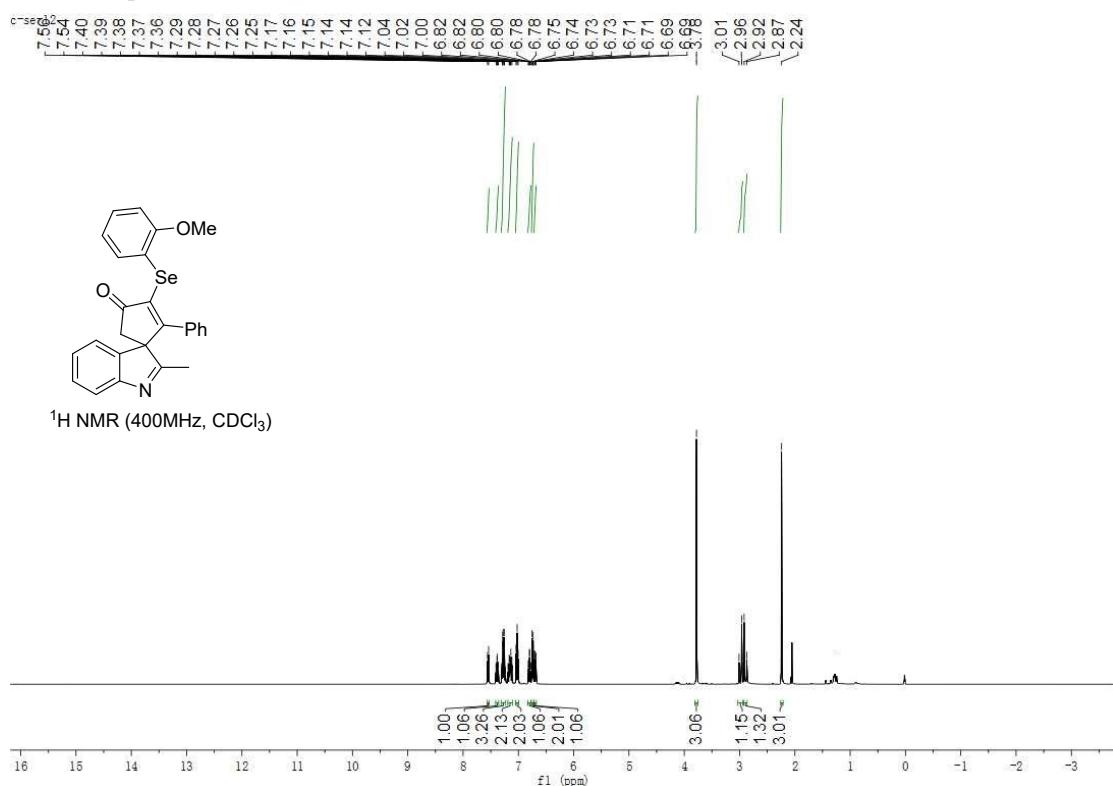
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3aj**



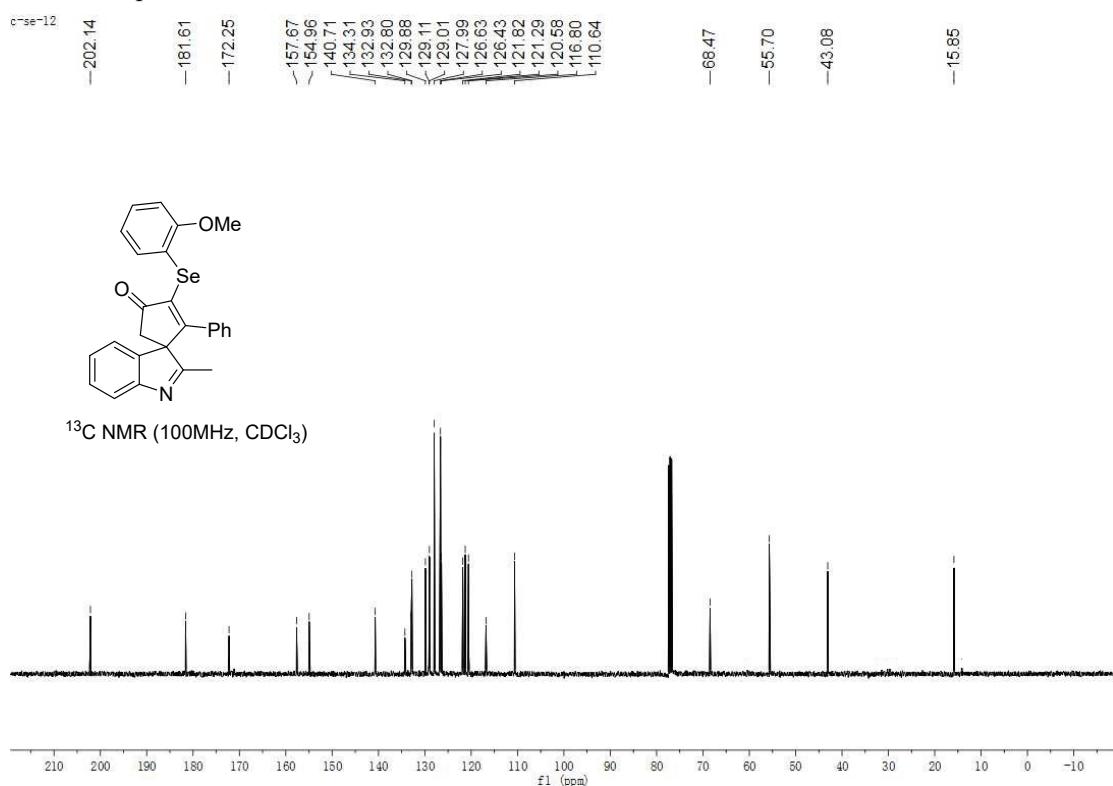
<sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of **3aj**



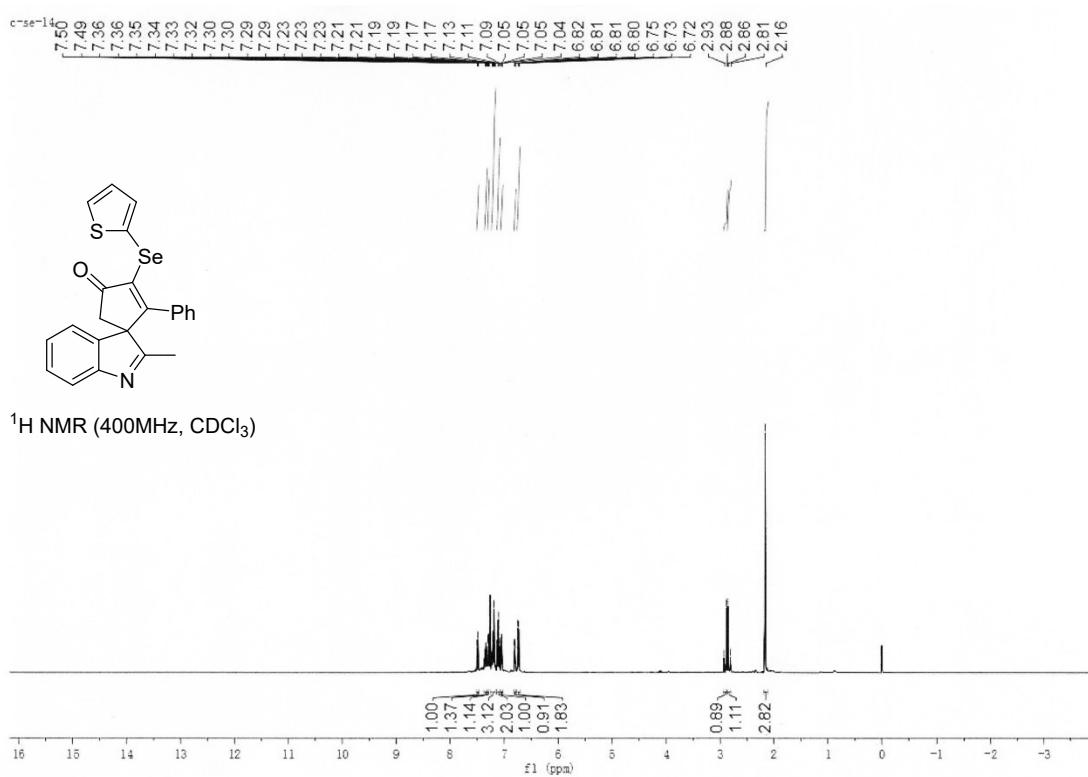
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3ak**



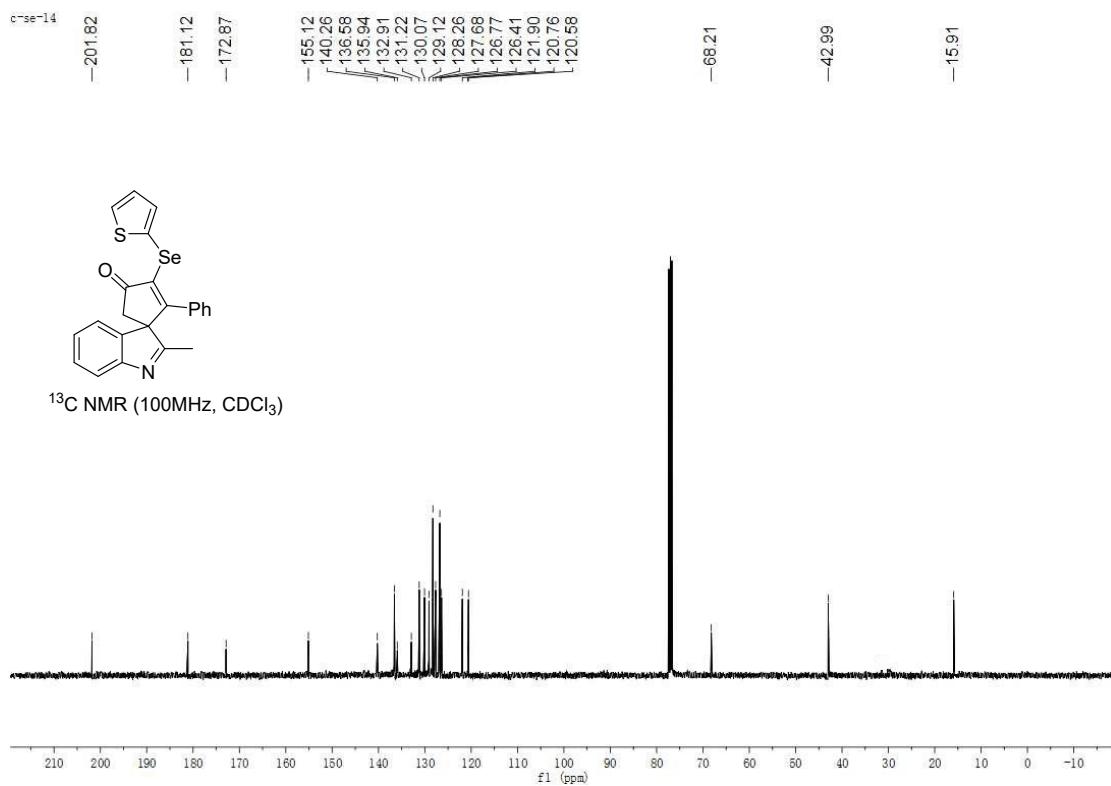
### <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3ak**



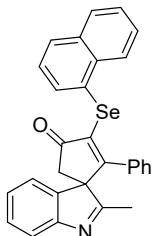
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3al**



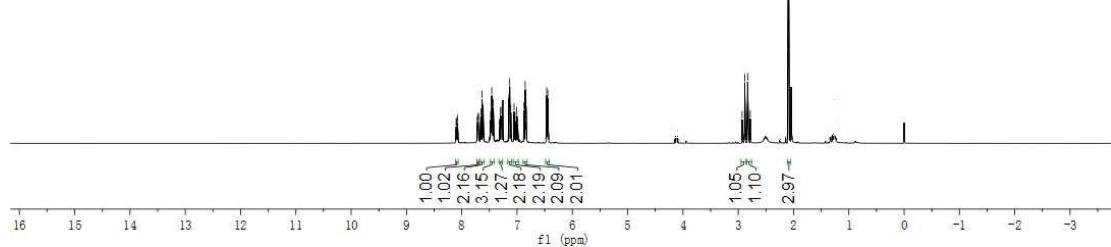
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3al**



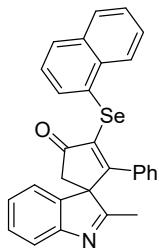
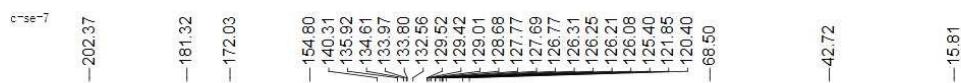
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3am**



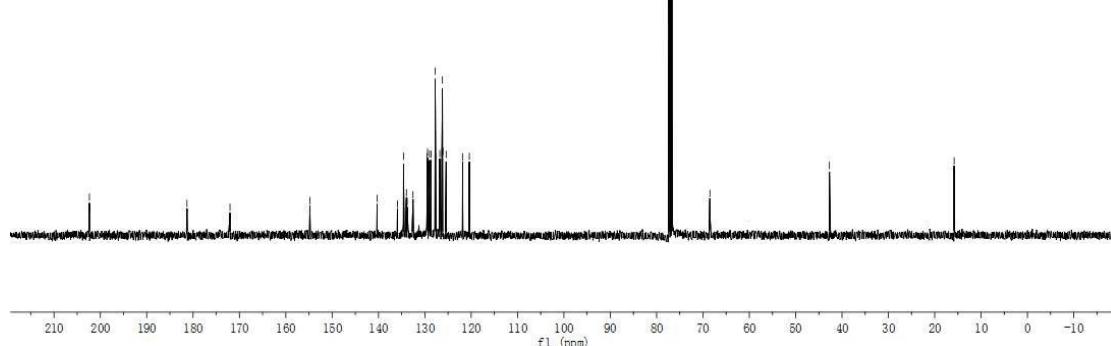
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



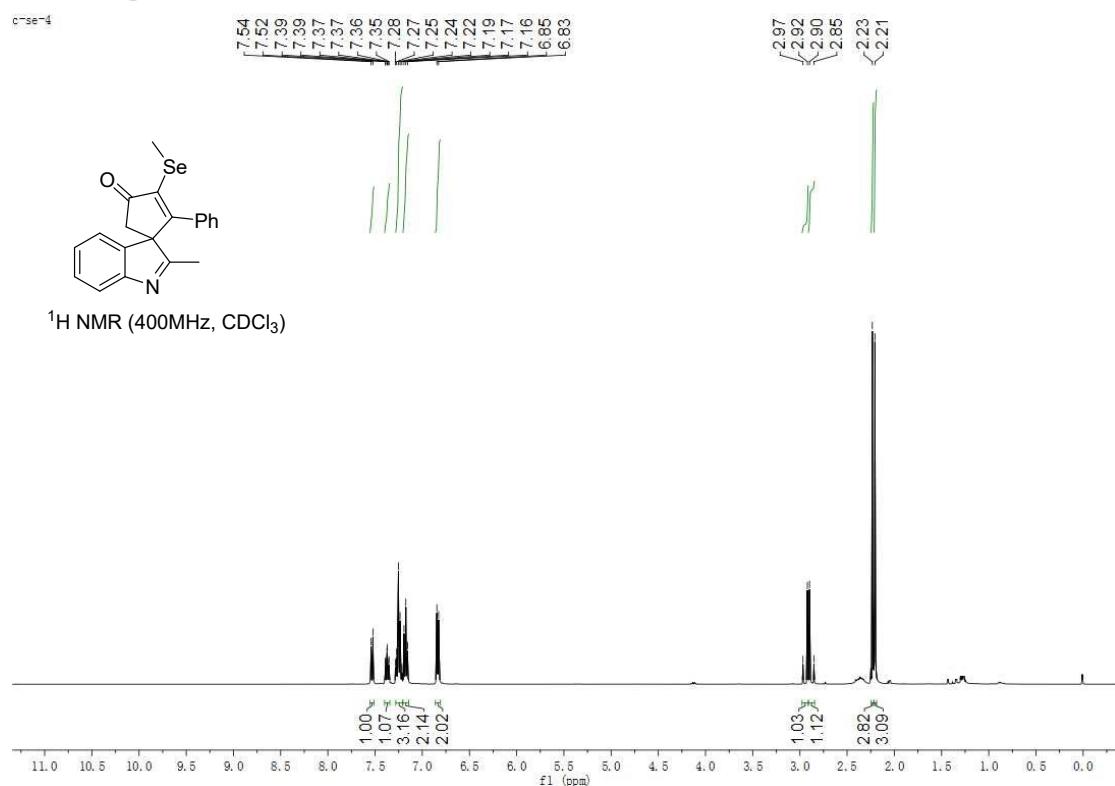
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3am**



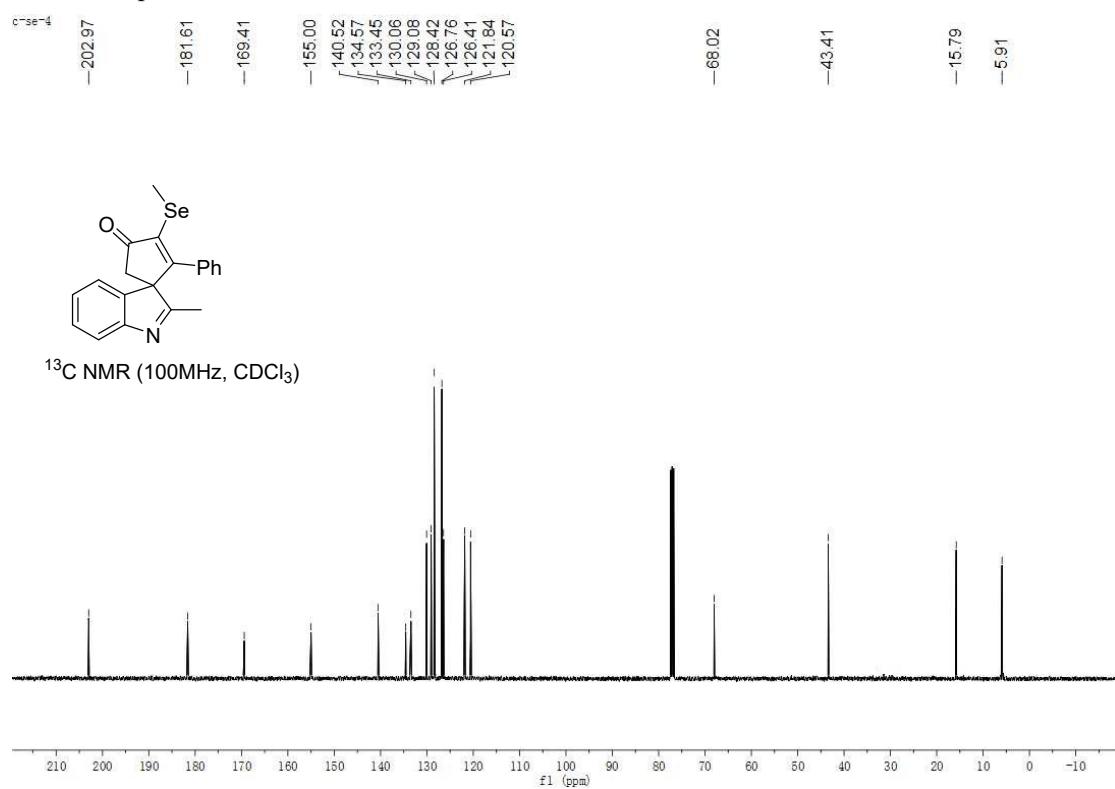
<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3an**



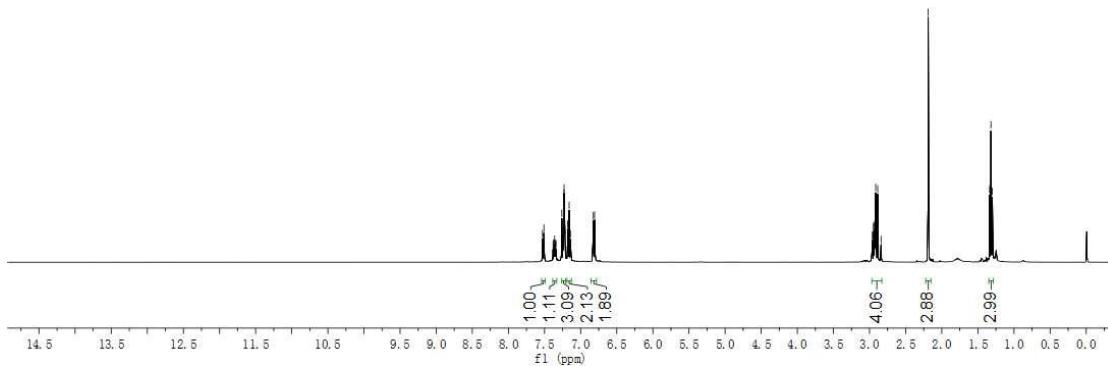
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3an**



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3ao**



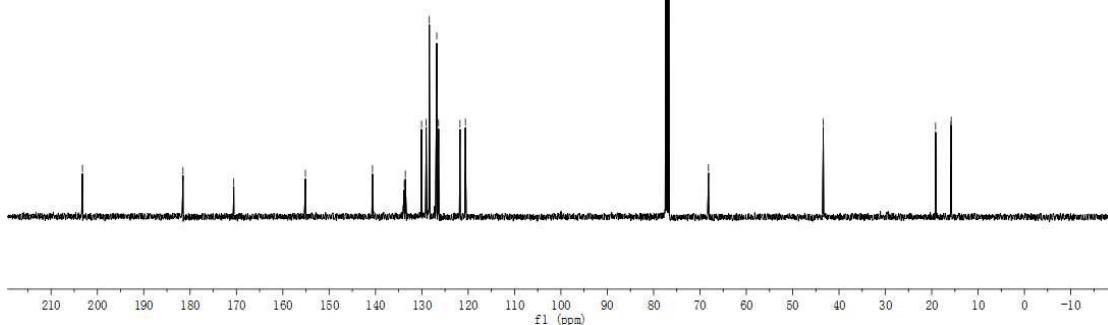
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



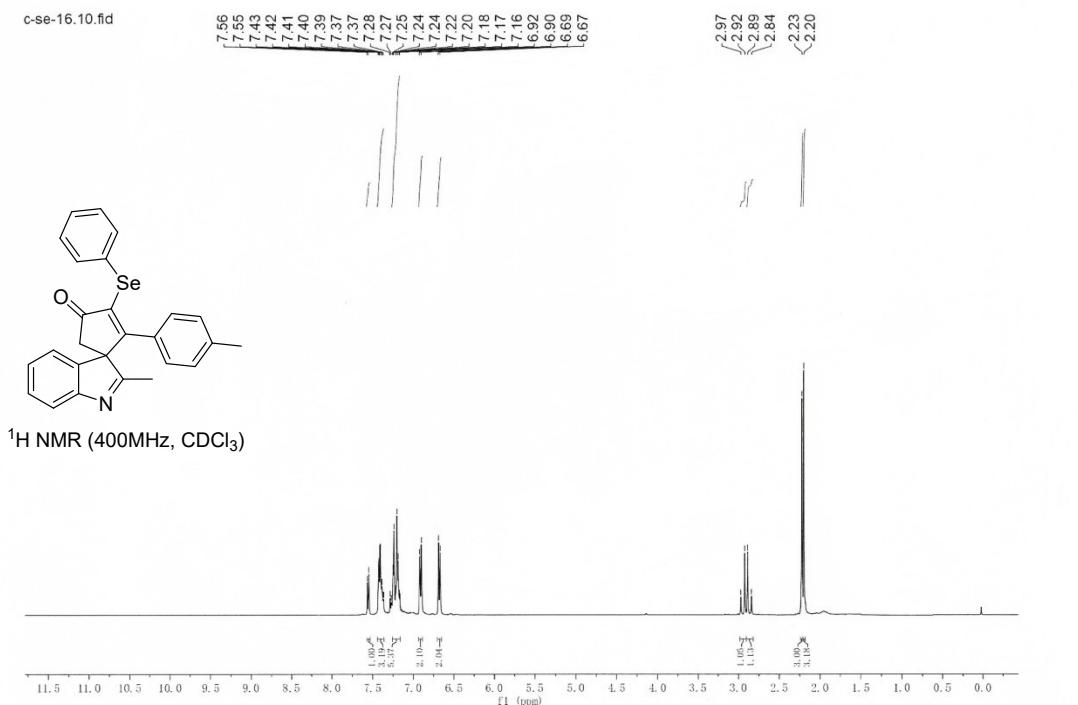
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3ao**



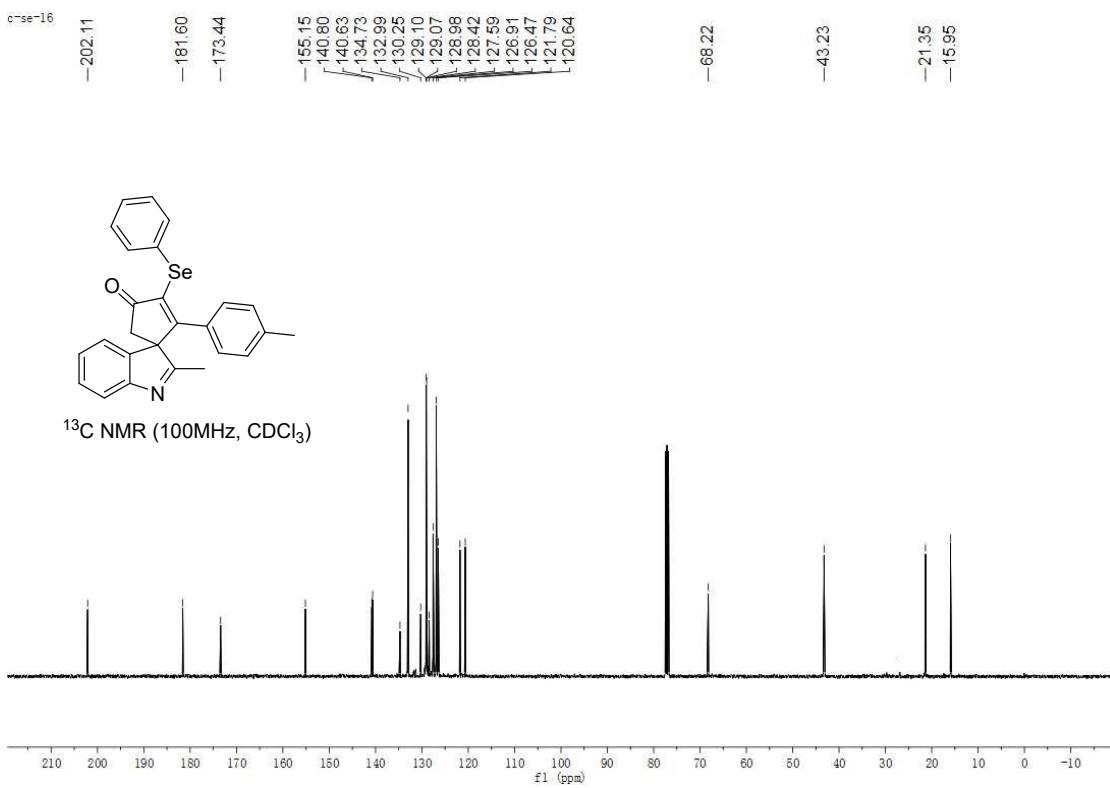
<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



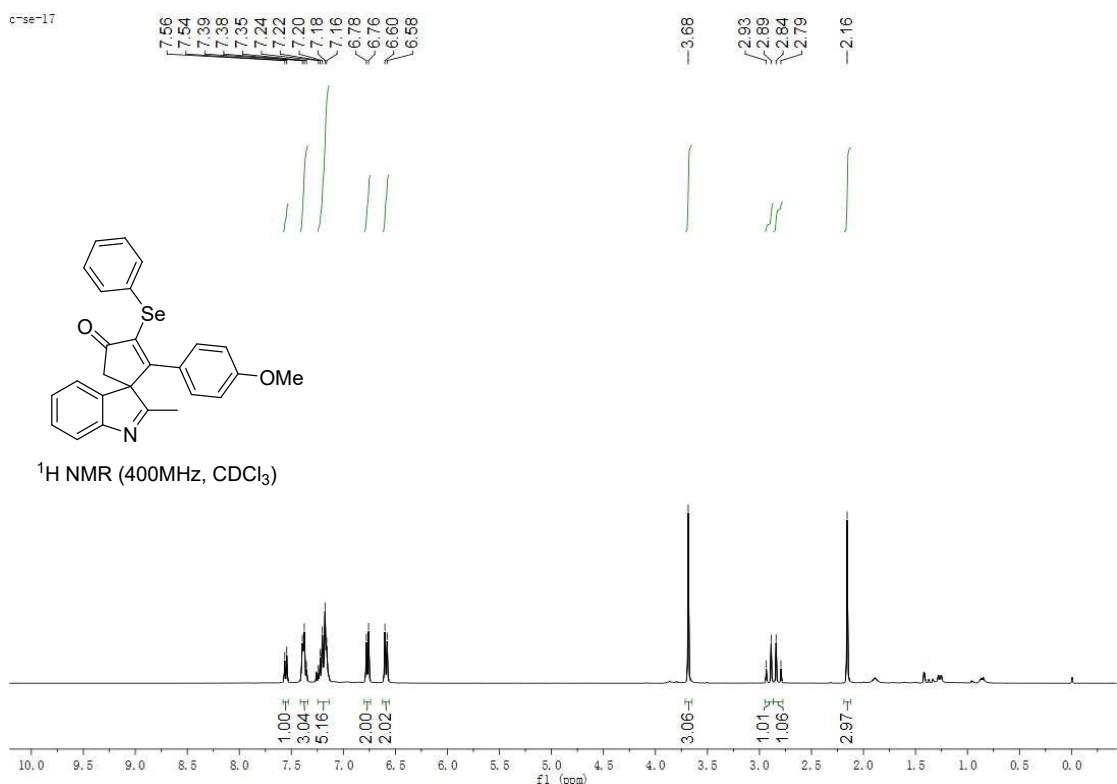
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3ba**



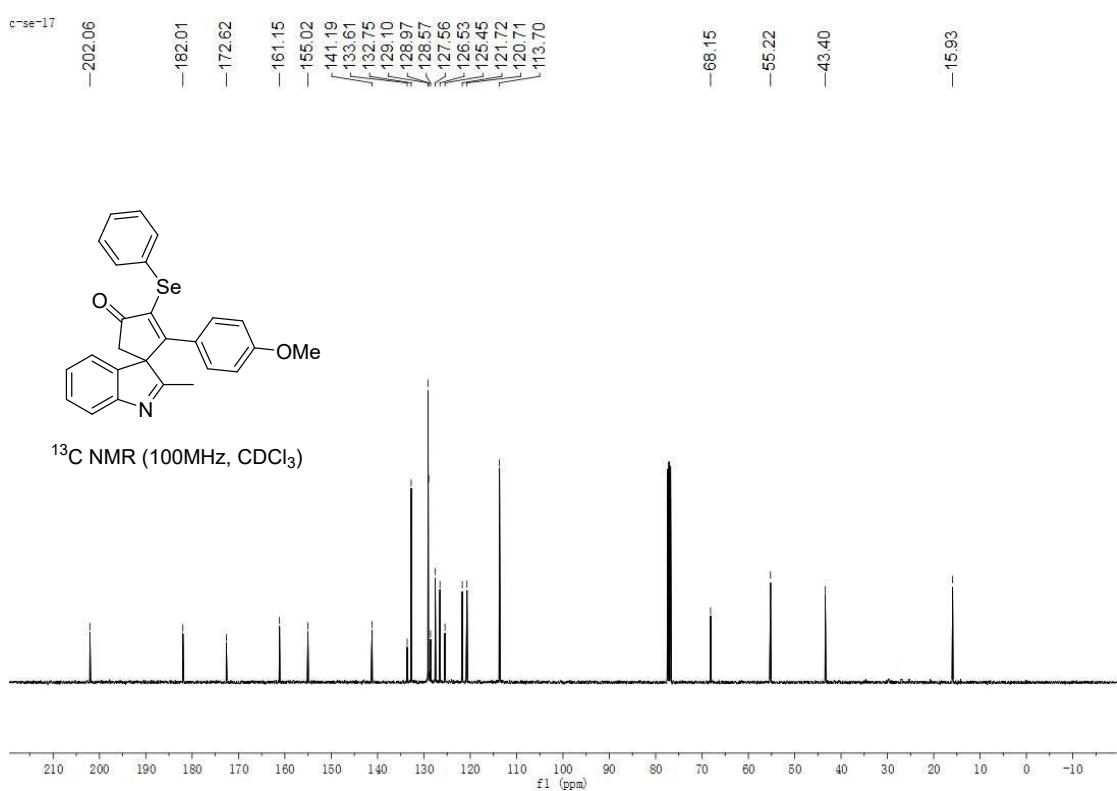
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3ba**



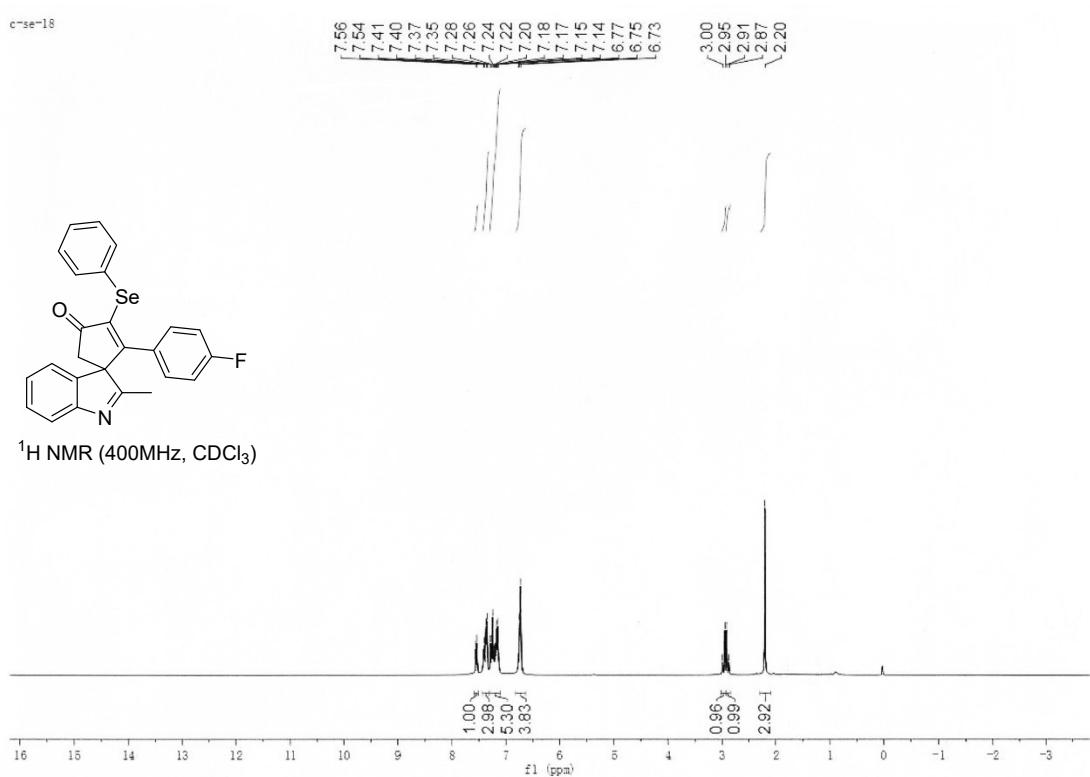
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3ca**



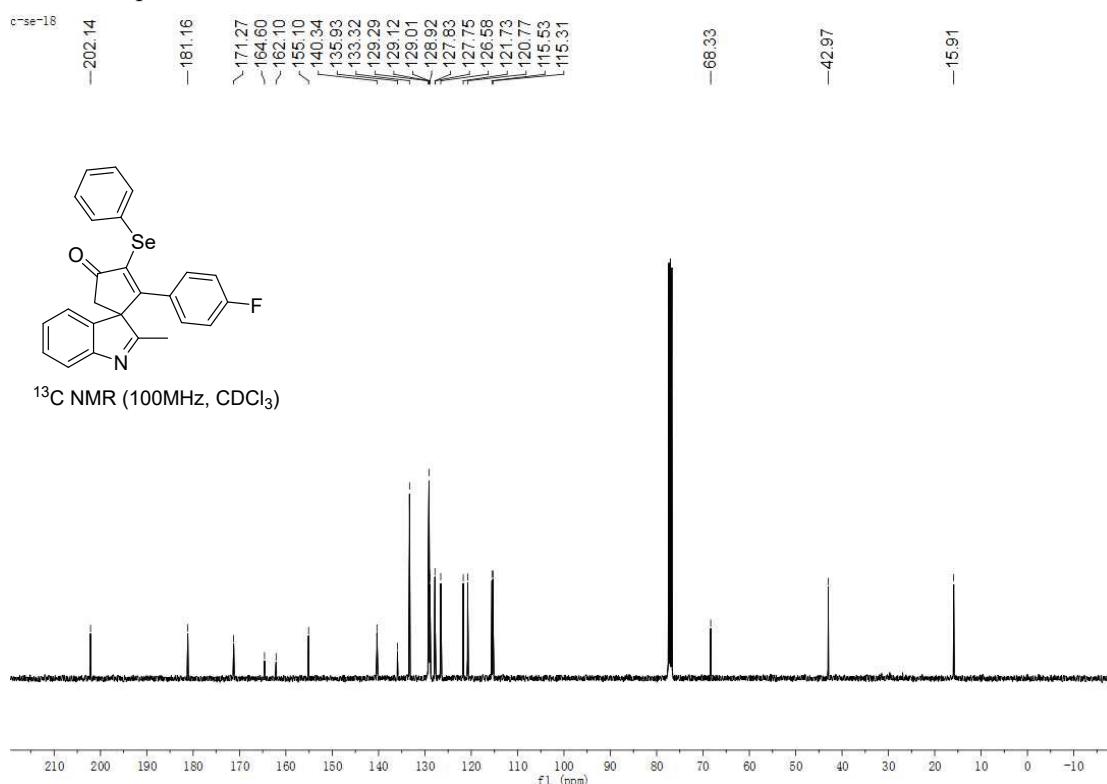
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3ca**



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3da**

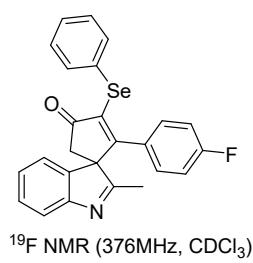


<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3da**

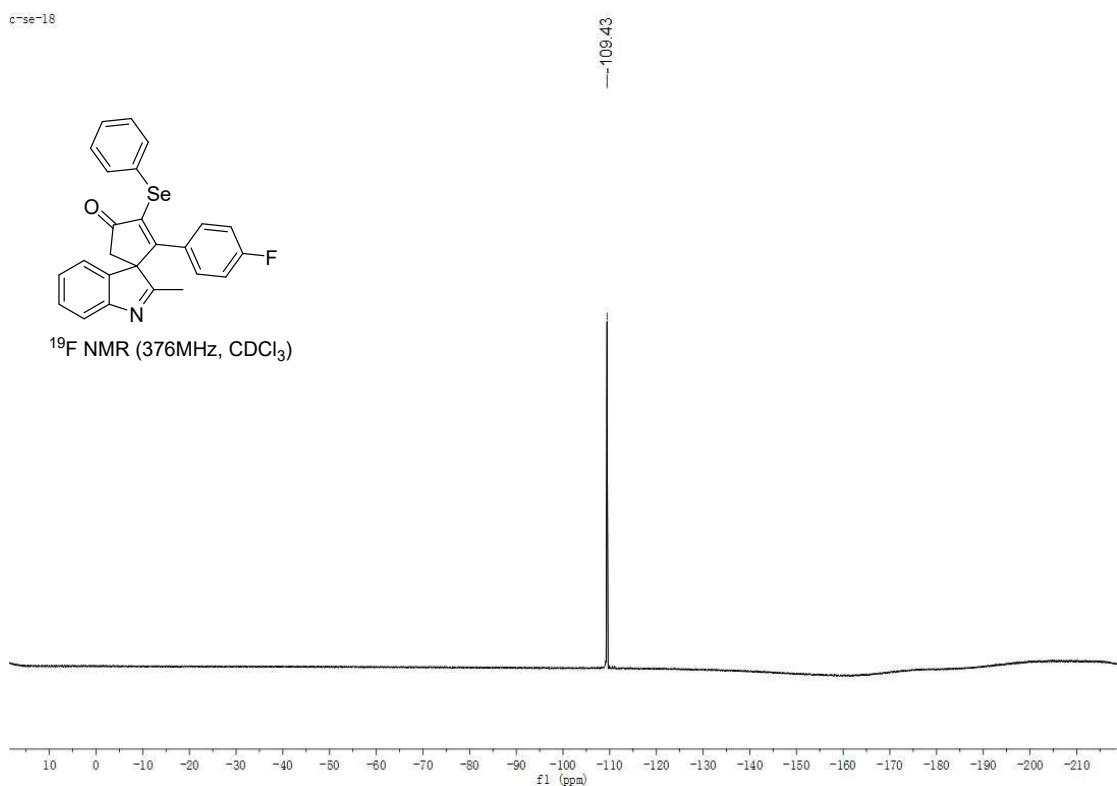


<sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of **3da**

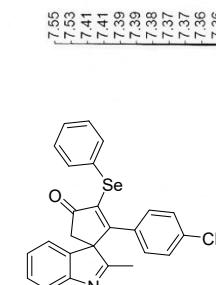
c-se-18



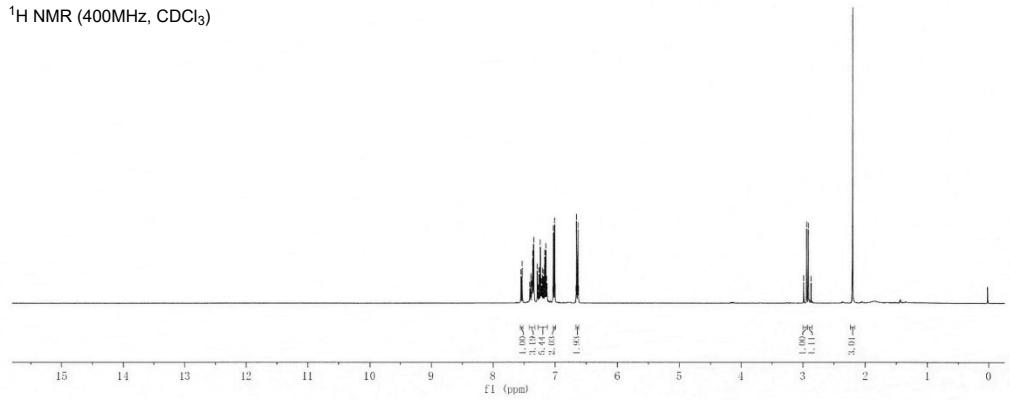
$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )



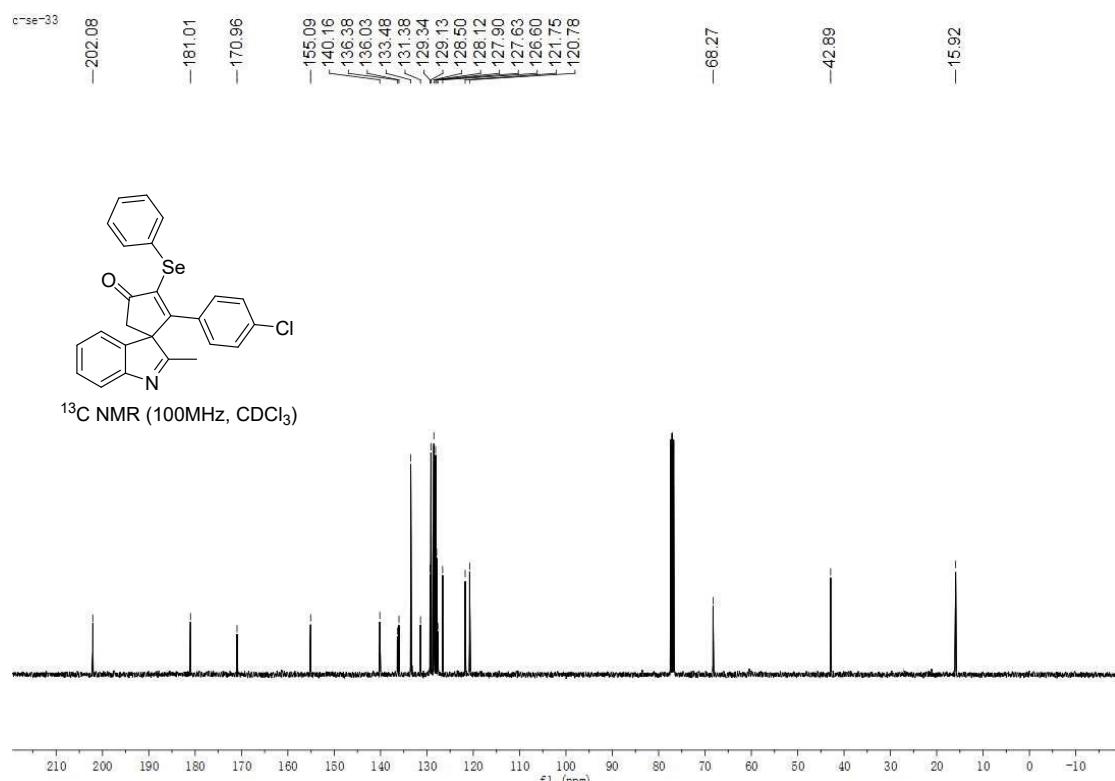
$^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of 3ea



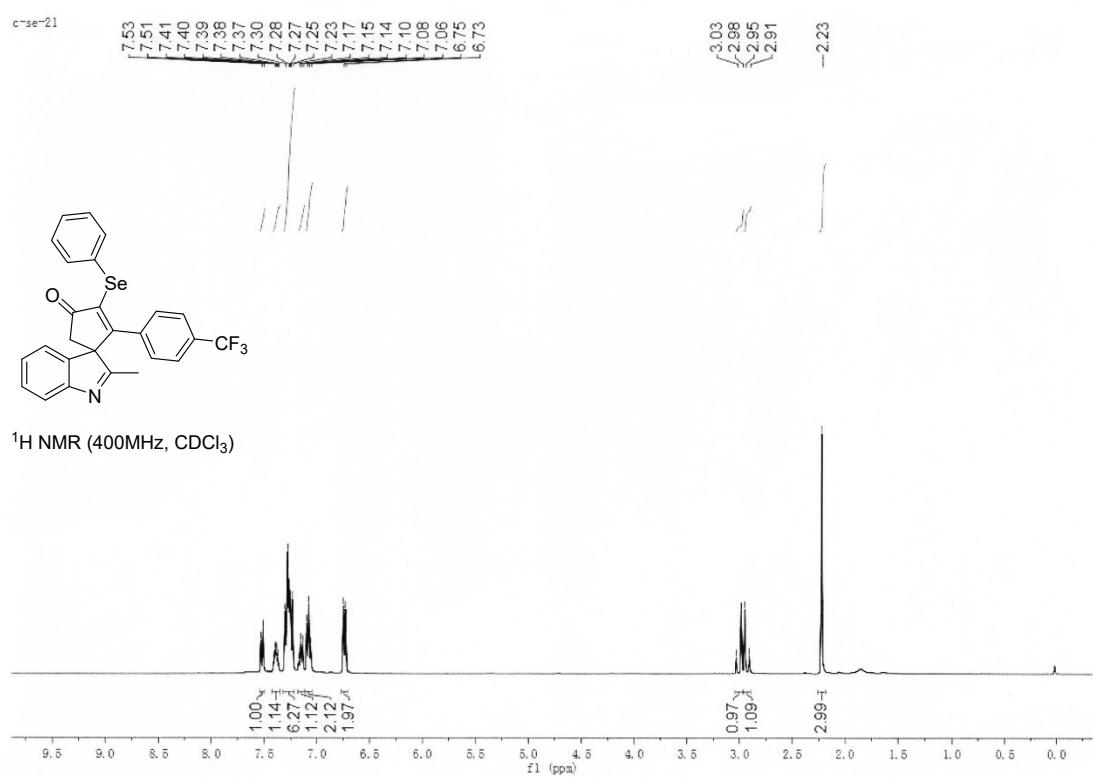
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )



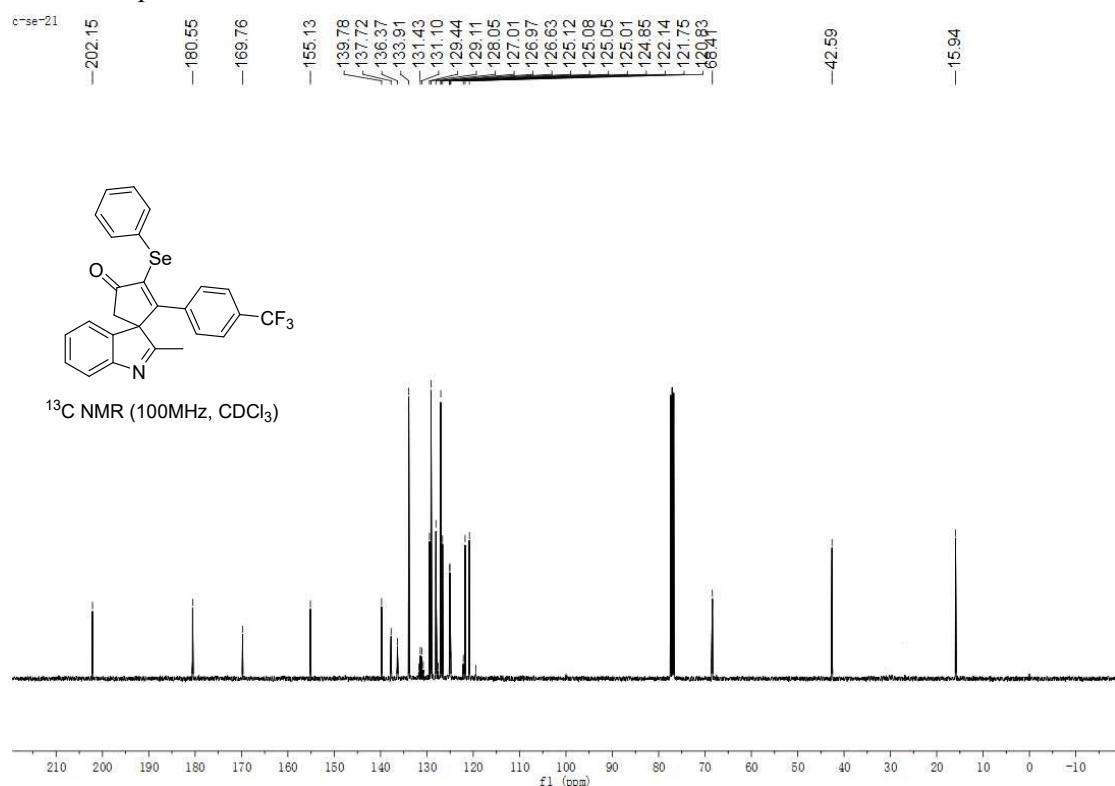
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3ea**



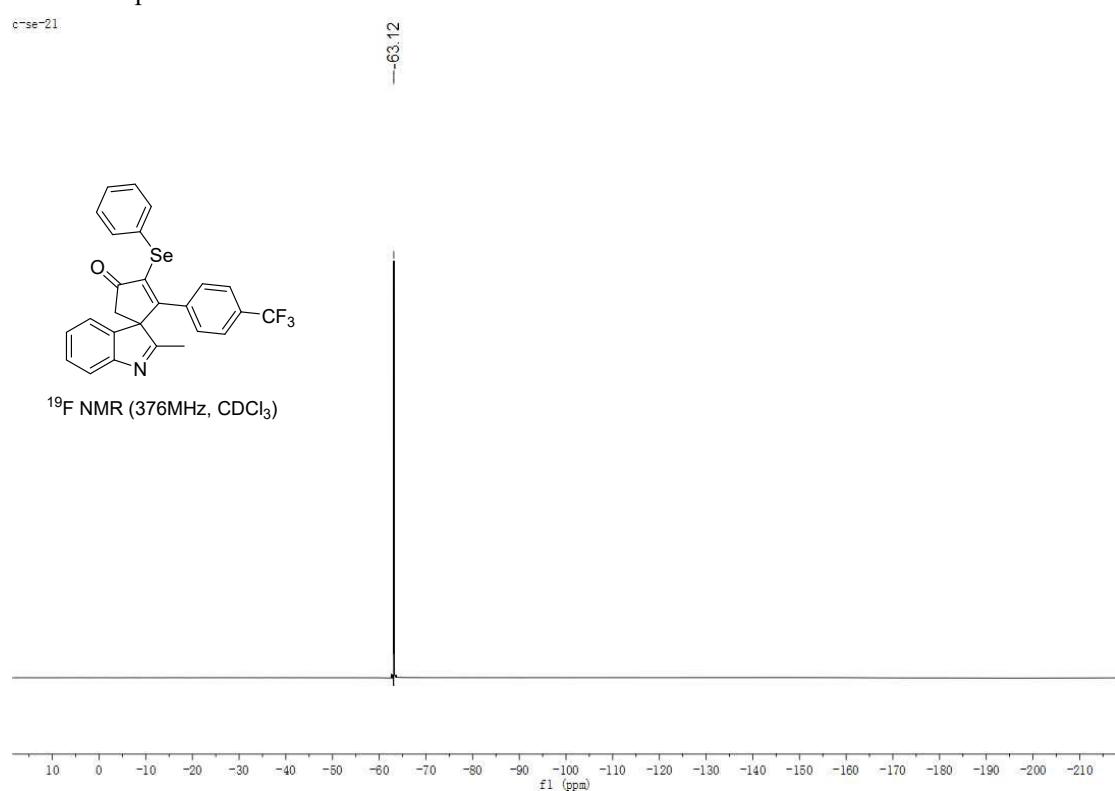
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3fa**



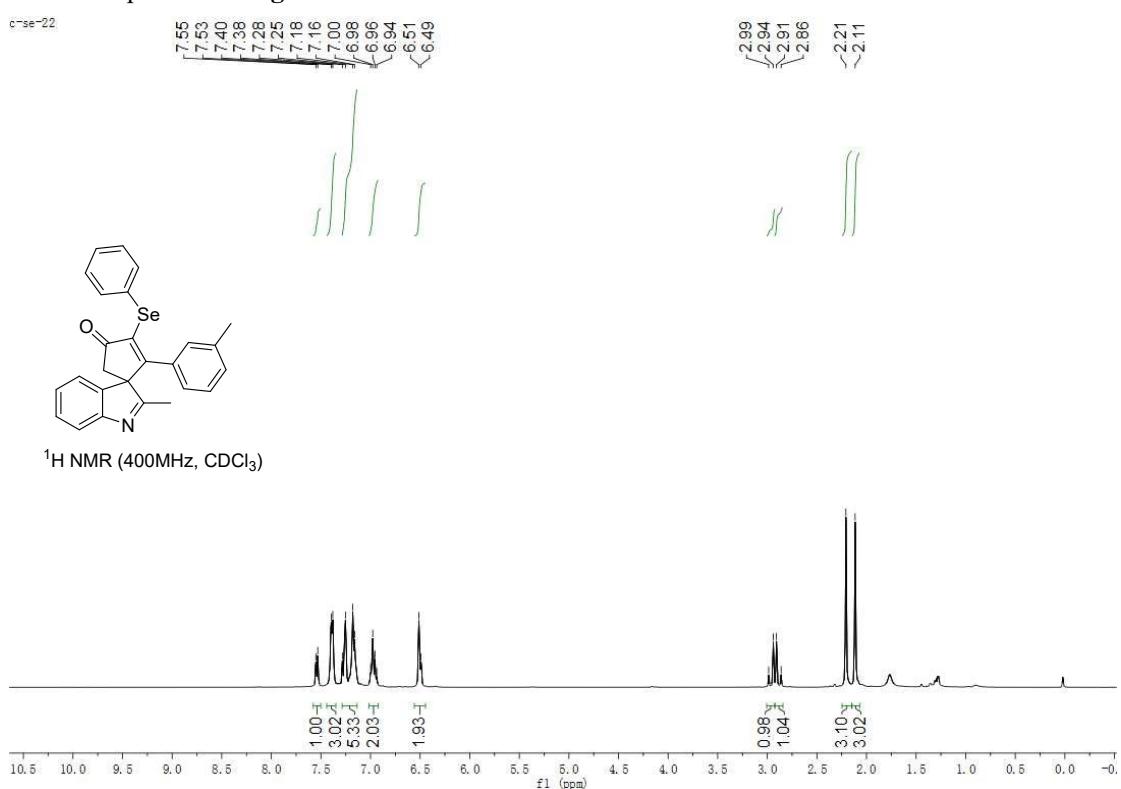
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3fa**



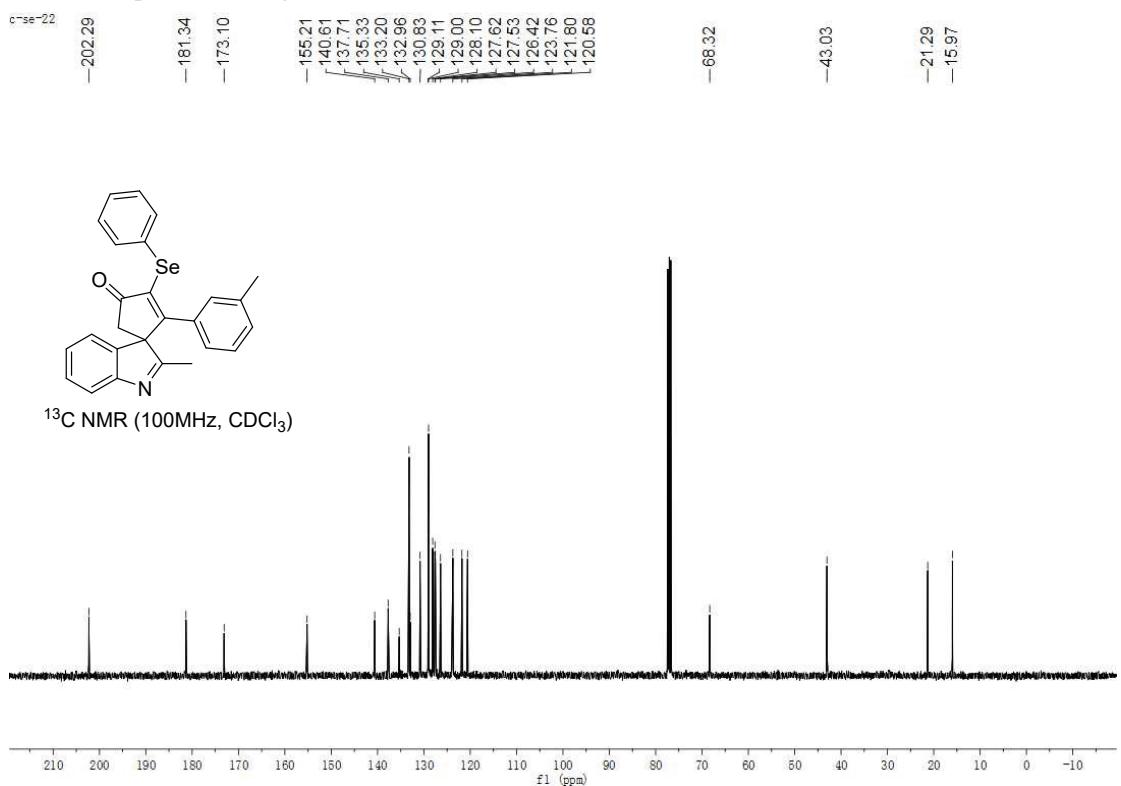
<sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of **3fa**



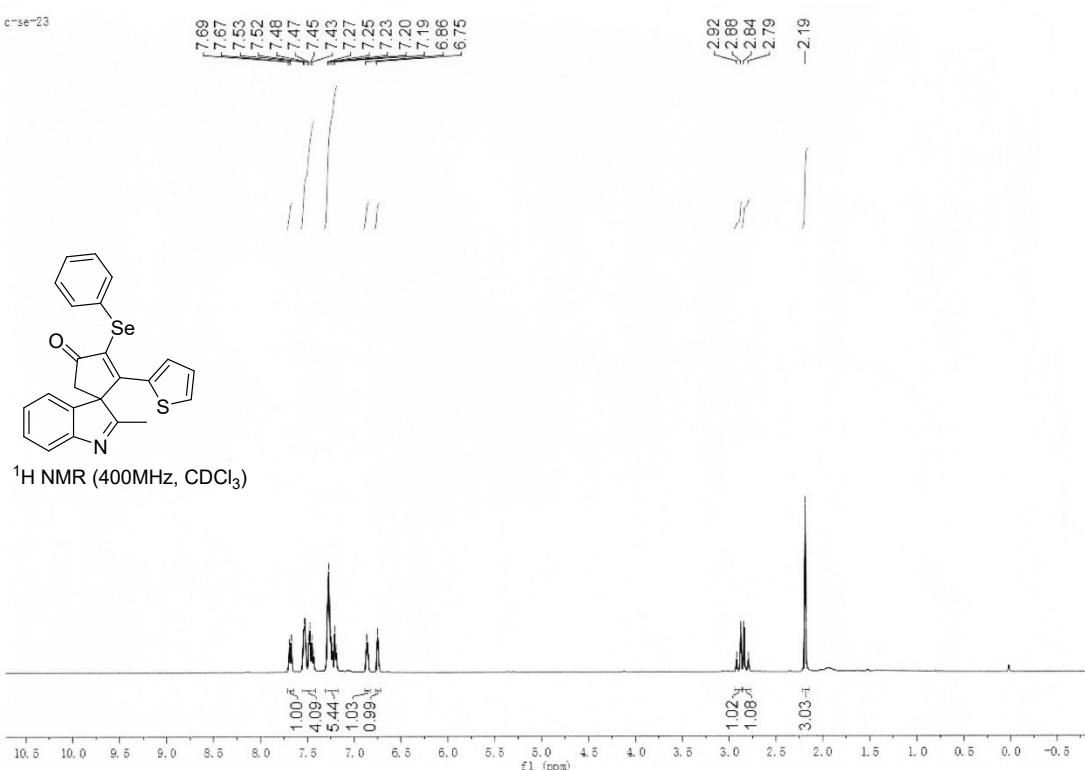
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3ga**



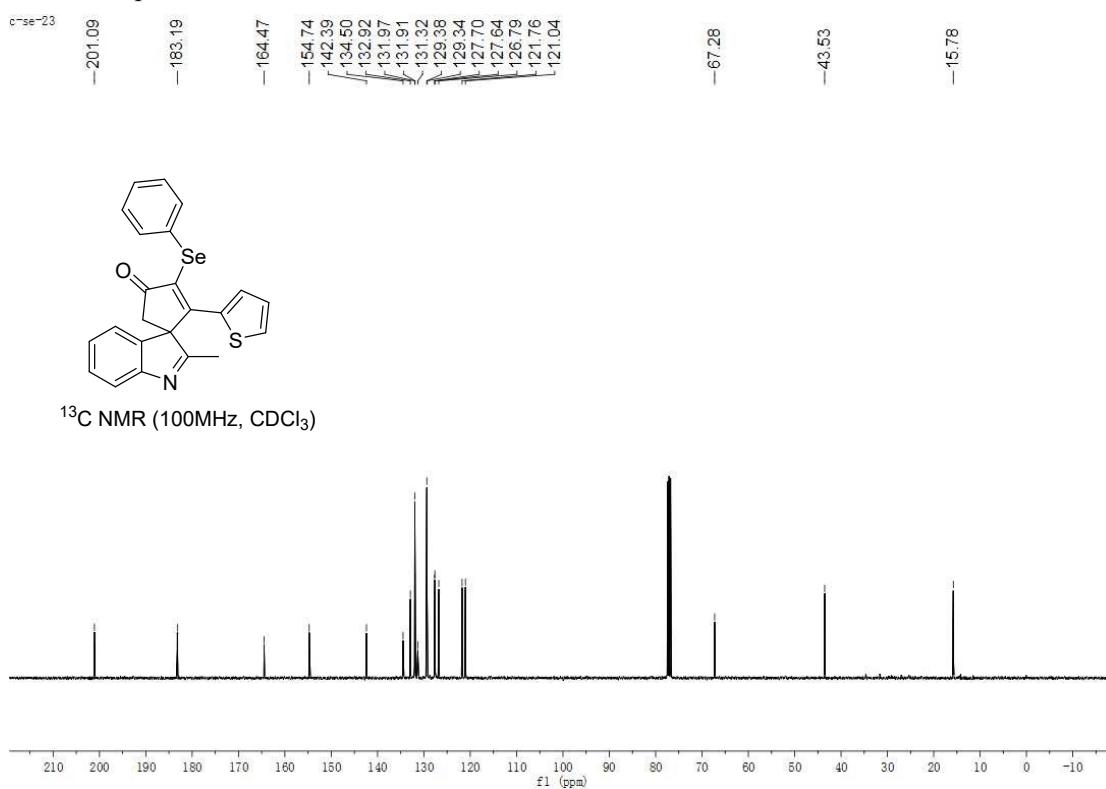
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3ga**



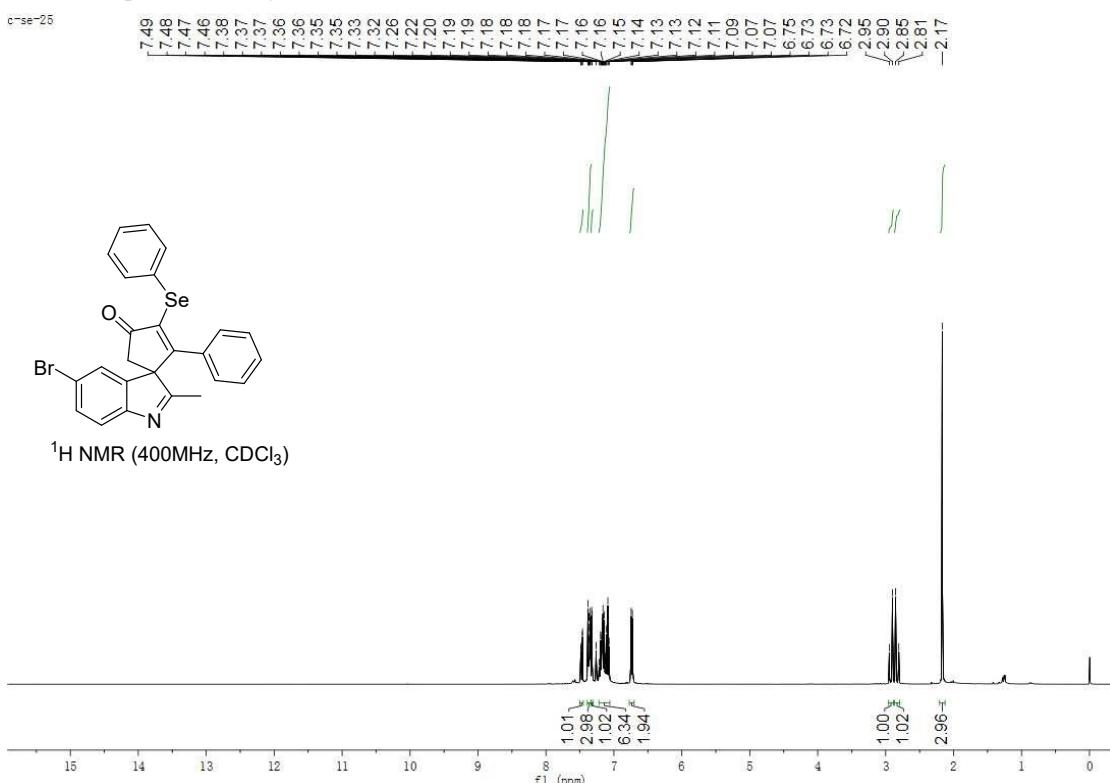
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3ha**



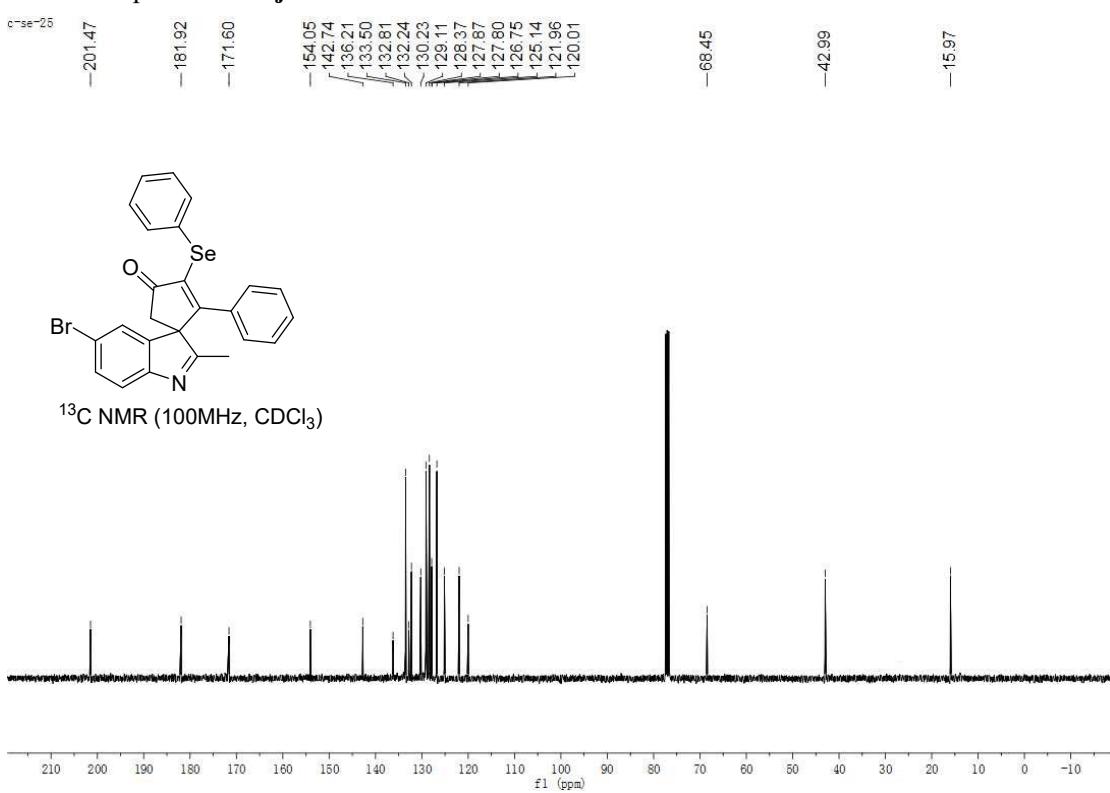
<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3ha**



<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3ja**



<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3ja**

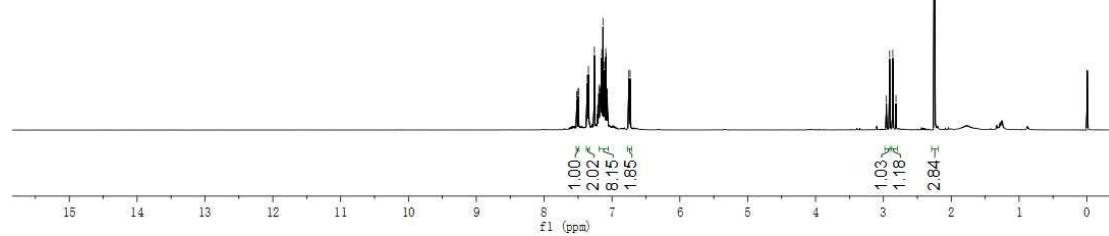


<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **3ka**

c-se-27

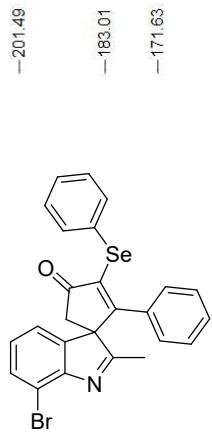


<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of **3ka**

c-se-27



<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

