

# **Direct fluoroalkylthiolation of indoles with iodofluoroethane enabled by Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>**

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## General information

Unless otherwise mentioned, solvents and reagents were purchased from commercial sources and used as received. All manipulations were carried out in glass reaction tube equipped with a magnetic stir bar.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR,  $^{19}\text{F}$ -NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AM500/300 spectrometer using  $\text{d}^6\text{-DMSO}$  or  $\text{CDCl}_3$  as solvent, TMS as internal standard substance. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are reported in ppm, and coupling constants ( $J$ ) are in Hertz (Hz). The following abbreviations were used to explain the multiplicities: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet. The Mass spectrum was received via Agilent (7000C) GC-MS/Waters (Quattro Micro).

## General procedure

### Synthesis of fluoroethylthiolated indoles<sup>1, 2</sup>

Indoles(0.3mmol) 1a,  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_4$ (0.5-2.7mmol), additives and 3 ml solvent were added to a Schlenk sealed tube, following iodofluoroethane 2 (0.9 mmol) was added to the mixture solution. After addition, the mixture was allowed for string 4 h under set temperature. Then, 10ml water was added, and the reaction mixture was extracted by ethyl acetate 3 times. The organic layer was combined, washed with brine for once and dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . The solvent was removed by reduce pressure rotary evaporation and purified by column chromatography on silica gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate to give 3/4/5.

### Synthesis of perfluoroalkylated indoles

Indoles(0.3mmol) 1a,  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_4$ (2.7mmol), DMSO/ $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (1/2/1) 3 ml solvent were added to a Schlenk sealed tube, following iodofluoroalkane 2 (0.9 mmol) was added to the mixture solution. After addition, the mixture was allowed for string 4-8 h under 70 °C. Then, 10ml water was added, and the reaction mixture was extracted by ethyl acetate 3 times. The organic layer was combined, washed with brine for once and dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . The solvent was removed by reduce pressure rotary evaporation and purified by column chromatography on silica gel with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate to give 5c and 5d.

### Control experiments of 2-methyl-3-((2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)thio)-1H-indole

2-methyl-3-((2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)thio)-1H-indole (0.3 mmol),  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_4$ (2.7 mmol), and 3 mL DMSO/ $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}/\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (1/2/1) solvent were added to a Schlenk sealed tube, following iodofluoroethane 2a ( 0.9 mmol) was added to the mixture solution and then the resulting mixture was string for 10 min. After addition, the mixture was allowed for string under 80 °C. Then, the reaction mixture was checked by  $\text{F}^{19}$  NMR at 1h, 2h, 3h, 4h.

## Optimization of reaction condition

**S-Table 1** Solvent effect<sup>a</sup>

| Entry | Solvent  | Yield (%) |
|-------|--|-----------|
| 1     | 1,4-dioxane  | n.d.      |
| 2     | H <sub>2</sub> O                                   | n.d.      |
| 4     | CH <sub>3</sub> CN                                 | trace     |
| 5     | DMF  | trace     |
| 6     | DMSO/H <sub>2</sub> O(1/2)                         | trace     |
| 7     | DMSO/CH <sub>3</sub> CN/H <sub>2</sub> O(1/1/1)    | 45        |
| 8     | DMSO/CH <sub>3</sub> CN/H <sub>2</sub> O(1/0/1)    | 14        |
| 9     | DMSO/CH <sub>3</sub> CN/H <sub>2</sub> O(0/1/1)    | 0         |
| 10    | DMSO/CH <sub>3</sub> CN/H <sub>2</sub> O(1/2/0.75) | 47        |
| 11    | DMSO/CH <sub>3</sub> CN/H <sub>2</sub> O(1/2/0.25) | 23        |

<sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.3 mmol, 1.0 eq), **CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>I** (0.9 mmol, 3.0 eq), Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (2.7 mmol 9 eq), solvent (3.0 mL), 80°C, 4h, <sup>19</sup>F NMR yields using PhCF<sub>3</sub> as an internal standard.

**S-Table 2** Additives effect<sup>a</sup>

| Entry | additives  | Yield (%) |
|-------|--|-----------|
| 1     | Na <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /NaHCO <sub>3</sub>              | 26        |
| 2     | Na <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /Cs <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> | 27        |
| 3     | Na <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> /NaHSO <sub>4</sub>              | 23        |
| 6     | Na <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> (6.0 equiv)                      | 76        |
| 8     | Na <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> (8.0 equiv)                      | 88        |

<sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.3 mmol, 1.0 eq), **CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>I** (0.9 mmol, 3.0 eq), Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (2.7 mmol 9 eq), DMSO/CH<sub>3</sub>CN/H<sub>2</sub>O(1/2/1) (3.0 mL), 80°C, 4h, <sup>19</sup>F NMR yields using PhCF<sub>3</sub> as an internal standard.

**S-Table 3** Reaction ratio<sup>a</sup>

| Entry | <b>1</b> (mmol) | <b>2</b> (mmol) | Na <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> (mmol) | Yield (%) |
|-------|-----------------|-----------------|--|-----------|
| 1     | 1               | 1.5             | 3.0  | 24        |
| 2     | 1               | 1.5             | 9.0  | 29        |
| 3     | 1               | 6               | 3.0  | 44        |

<sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions: **1a**, **CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>I**, Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, DMSO/CH<sub>3</sub>CN/H<sub>2</sub>O(1/2/1) solvent (3.0 mL), 80°C, 4h, <sup>19</sup>F NMR yields using PhCF<sub>3</sub> as an internal standard.

**S-Table 4** Temperature effect<sup>a</sup>

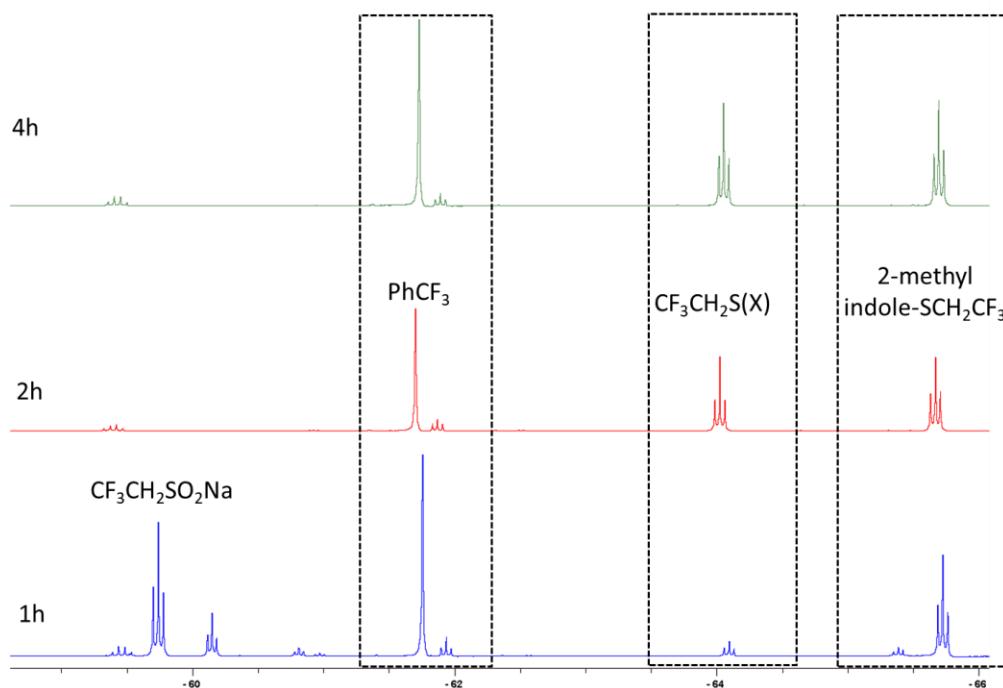
| Entry | Temperature(°C)   | Yield (%) |
|-------|---|-----------|
| 1     | 25  | n.d       |
| 2     | 60  | trace     |
| 3     | 70  | 77        |
| 4     | 80  | 99        |
| 9     | Na <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> (9.0 equiv) | 99        |

<sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.3 mmol, 1.0 eq), **CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>I** (0.9 mmol, 3.0 eq), Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (2.7 mmol 9 eq), DMSO/CH<sub>3</sub>CN/H<sub>2</sub>O(1/2/1) (3.0 mL), 4h, <sup>19</sup>F NMR yields using PhCF<sub>3</sub> as an internal standard.

**S-Table 5** Reaction time<sup>a</sup>

| Entry | Time(h) | Yield (%) |
|-------|---------|-----------|
| 1     | 1       | 76        |
| 2     | 2       | 87        |
| 3     | 3       | 97        |
| 4     | 4       | 99        |

<sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.3 mmol, 1.0 eq), **CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>I** (0.9 mmol, 3.0 eq), Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (2.7 mmol 9 eq), DMSO/CH<sub>3</sub>CN/H<sub>2</sub>O(1/2/1) (3.0 mL), 80°C, <sup>19</sup>F NMR yields using PhCF<sub>3</sub> as an internal standard.

**S-Figure 1. F<sup>19</sup>-NMR of Control experiments 3a<sup>2</sup>**

## Characterization data of Compounds

2-methyl-3-((2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)thio)-1H-indole 3a,<sup>3</sup> <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d, 293K, TMS): δ ppm 11.45 (s, 1H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 7.35 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 7.50Hz, 1H), 7.12-7.02 (m, 2H), 3.40(q, *J* = 10.55 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d): δ ppm 142.37, 135.73, 130.00, 126.67 (q, *J* = 275.03 Hz), 121.67, 120.20, 118.01, 111.64, 98.36, 38.23 (q, *J* = 29.69 Hz). <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-d) δ ppm -65.11 (t, *J* = 10.43 Hz). Calculated MS: 231.0, GC-MS(EI): 230.9.

5-methoxy-2-methyl-3-((2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)thio)-1H-indole 3b,<sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d, 293K, TMS): δ ppm 11.27 (s, 1H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 8.50 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (s, 1H), 6.69 (d, *J* = 8.50 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.40 (q, *J* = 10.50 Hz, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d): δ ppm 154.53, 142.83, 130.70, 126.73 (q, *J* = 275.13 Hz), 112.34, 111.23, 100.27, 97.96, 55.73, 37.56 (q, *J* = 29.50 Hz). <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-d) δ ppm -64.88 (t, *J* = 10.72 Hz). Calculated MS: 275.1, GC-MS(EI): 275.0.

5-fluoro-2-methyl-3-((2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)thio)-1H-indole 3c, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d, 293K, TMS): δ ppm 11.56 (s, 1H), 7.34-7.27 (m, 1H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 9.00 Hz, 1H), 6.94-6.86 (m, 1H), 3.42 (q, *J* = 10.55 Hz, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d): δ ppm 157.16, 144.56, 132.24, 130.24, 130.85 (d, *J* = 9.89 Hz), 126.67 (q, *J* = 274.71 Hz), 112.67 (d, *J* = 9.49 Hz), 109.54 (d, *J* = 25.75 Hz), 103.02 (d, *J* = 23.80 Hz), 98.61 (d, *J* = 4.38 Hz), 37.59 (q, *J* = 29.78 Hz), 12.13. <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-d) δ ppm -65.11 (t, *J* = 10.53 Hz), 123.85-123.97(m, 1F). HRMS (EI-TOF) m/z: [M<sup>+</sup>] + Calculated for 263.0392, Found 263.0397.

2-methyl-5-nitro-3-((2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)thio)-1H-indole 3d, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d, 293K, TMS): δ ppm 11.17 (s, 1H), 8.35 (s, 1H), 7.96 (d, *J* = 8.90 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 9.00 Hz, 1H), 3.51 (q, *J* = 10.50 Hz, 2H), 2.48 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d): δ ppm 146.86, 141.81, 139.07, 129.70, 126.60 (q, *J* = 274.98 Hz), 117.27, 114.69, 112.13, 101.32, 37.60 (q, *J* = 29.88 Hz), 12.20. <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-d) δ ppm -65.13 (t, *J* = 10.49 Hz). HRMS (EI-TOF) m/z: [M<sup>+</sup>] + Calculated for 290.0337, Found 290.0346.

2-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-((2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)thio)-1H-indole 3e, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d, 293K, TMS): δ ppm 11.90 (s, 1H), 7.98-7.93 (m, 2H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 7.60 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 8.00 Hz, 1H), 7.39-7.33-7.93 (m, 2H), 7.22-7.12 (m, 2H), 3.50 (q, *J* = 10.51 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d): δ ppm 163.52, 161.57, 141.18, 136.24, 131.10(d, *J* = 8.23 Hz), 130.67, 128.36, 126.44 (q, *J* = 274.69 Hz), 123.06, 120.82, 119.06, 115.99, 115.81, 112.35, 98.88, 37.78 (q, *J* = 30.10 Hz). <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-d) δ ppm -64.76 (t, *J* = 10.46 Hz). HRMS (EI-TOF) m/z: [M<sup>+</sup>] + Calculated for 325.0548, Found 325.0553.

1-methyl-2-phenyl-3-((2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)thio)-1H-indole 3f,<sup>3</sup> <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d, 293K, TMS): δ ppm 7.71 (d, *J* = 7.56 Hz, 1H), 7.63-7.49(m, 6H), 7.35-7.18(m, 2H), 3.63(s, 3H), 3.42 (q, *J* = 10.61 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d): 145.85, 137.17, 131.21, 130.55, 129.31, 129.24, 128.71, 126.37 (q, *J* = 274.88Hz), 122.91, 121.07, 119.06, 111.13, 100.06, 38.05(q, *J* = 30.11Hz), 31.86. <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-d) δ ppm -64.87 (t, *J* =

10.74 Hz), Calculated MS: 321.1, GC-MS(EI): 320.8.

4-methyl-3-((2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)thio)-1H-indole 3g,<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d, 293K, TMS): δ ppm 11.50 (s, 1H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 2.67 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.08 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (t, *J* = 7.95 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (d, *J* = 7.08 Hz, 1H), 3.55 (q, *J* = 10.59 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d): 136.58, 132.80, 129.99, 126.34 (q, *J* = 275.03 Hz), 126.12, 121.92, 121.65, 110.15, 101.14, 39.97(covered), 18.83. <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-d) δ ppm -64.36 (t, *J* = 10.50 Hz), Calculated MS: 231.0, GC-MS(EI): 230.9.

7-methyl-3-((2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)thio)-1H-indole 3h,<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d, 293K, TMS): δ ppm 11.52(s, 1H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 2.73Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 7.68 Hz, 1H), 7.11-7.68(m, 2H), 3.52(q, *J* = 10.56Hz, 2H), 2.49(s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d): 135.71, 131.51, 128.32, 126.23 (q, *J* = 274.77Hz), 122.46, 121.47, 120.15, 115.79, 105.38, 37.98(q, *J*= 29.69Hz), 16.58. <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-d) δ ppm -64.93 (t, *J* = 10.41 Hz), Calculated MS: 245.0, GC-MS(EI): 244.8.

3-((2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)thio)-1H-indole 3i,<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d, 293K, TMS): δ ppm 11.54 (s, 1H), 7.66-7.60 (m, 2H), 7.48-7.38 (m, 1H), 7.23-7.04 (m, 2H) 3.53(q, *J* =10.56 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d): δ ppm 136.25, 131.92, 128.60, 126.24 (q, *J* = 274.63 Hz), 121.99, 119.97, 118.22, 112.22, 101.06, 38.00 (q, *J* = 29.78 Hz). <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-d) δ ppm -64.96 (t, *J* = 10.02 Hz), Calculated MS: 231.0, GC-MS(EI): 230.9.

5-methoxy-3-((2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)thio)-1H-indole 3j,<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d, 293K, TMS): δ ppm 11.38 (s, 1H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 2.71 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.76 Hz, 1H), 7.06(d, *J* = 2.22 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub>= 2.40Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub>= 8.76Hz , 1H), 3.79(s, 3H), 3.51(q, *J* = 10.59 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d): 154.24, 132.41, 131.17, 129.29, 126.30(q, *J* = 274.63Hz), 113.04, 112.22, 100.55, 99.77, 55.29, 37.92(q, *J* = 29.56Hz). <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-d) δ ppm -64.88 (t, *J* = 10.74 Hz), Calculated MS: 261.0, GC-MS(EI): 260.8.

7-methoxy-3-((2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)thio)-1H-indole 3k,<sup>3</sup> <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d, 293K, TMS): δ ppm 11.67 (s, 1H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 2.70 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 7.95 Hz, 1H), 7.06(t, *J* = 7.86 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (d, *J* = 7.59Hz, 1H), 3.90(s, 3H), 3.51(q, *J* = 10.56 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d): 146.53, 131.30, 130.21, 126.30, 126.24(q, *J* = 274.65Hz), 120.77, 110.91, 102.47, 101.91, 55.26, 37.99(q, *J* = 29.89Hz). <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-d) δ ppm -64.94 (t, *J* = 10.54 Hz), Calculated MS: 261.0, GC-MS(EI): 260.8.

3-((2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)thio)-1H-indole-5-carbonitrile 3l,<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d, 293K, TMS): δ ppm 12.06(s, 1H), 8.06(s, 1H), 7.85(d, *J* = 2.58 Hz, 1H), 7.60(d, *J* = 8.31 Hz, 1H), 7.53(dd, *J*<sub>1</sub>=1.44Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub>=8.49Hz , 2H), 3.62(q, *J* = 10.35 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d): 138.14, 134.58, 128.50, 126.06(q, *J* = 275.27 Hz), 124.79, 123.88, 120.38, 114.22, 102.55, 102.25, 37.97(q, *J* = 29.44Hz). <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-d) δ ppm -64.88 (t, *J* = Hz), Calculated MS: 256.0, GC-MS(EI): 255.8.

fluoro-3-((2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)thio)-1H-indole 3m,<sup>3</sup> <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d, 293K,

TMS):  $\delta$  ppm 11.64(s, 1H), 7.69-7.45(d,  $J$  = 2.67Hz, 2H), 7.43(dd,  $J_1$ = 4.55 Hz,  $J_2$  = 8.76Hz , 1H), 7.30 (dd,  $J_1$ =2.40Hz,  $J_2$ = 9.60Hz , 1H), 3.53(q,  $J$  = 10.56 Hz, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d): 158.08(d,  $J$  = 231.81Hz), 134.44, 133.26, 129.77(d,  $J$  = 9.89Hz), 126.64(q,  $J$  = 274.79Hz), 125.79(s), 113.87(d,  $J$  = 9.53Hz), 110.70(d,  $J$  = 26.02Hz), 103.46(d,  $J$  = 23.73Hz), 101.61(d,  $J$  = 4.75Hz), 38.30(q,  $J$  = 29.74Hz).  $^{19}\text{F}$ -NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-d)  $\delta$  ppm -64.93 (t,  $J$  = 10.59 Hz, 3F), -123.44~-123.56(m, 1F) Calculated MS: 249.0, GC-MS(EI): 248.8.

5-chloro-3-((2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)thio)-1H-indole 3n,<sup>2</sup>  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d, 293K, TMS):  $\delta$  ppm 11.74(s, 1H), 7.72(d,  $J$  = 2.64 Hz, 1H), 7.61(d,  $J$  = 1.83 Hz, 1H), 7.47(d,  $J$  = 8.58Hz, 1H), 7.18(dd,  $J_1$  = 2.01 Hz,  $J_2$  = 8.58 Hz , 1H), 3.57(q,  $J$  = 10.56 Hz, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d): 134.73, 133.80, 129.99, 126.21(q,  $J$  = 274.74Hz), 124.91, 122.07, 117.51, 113.89, 100.98, 37.93(q,  $J$  = 29.83Hz).  $^{19}\text{F}$ -NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-d)  $\delta$  ppm -64.96 (t,  $J$  = 10.36 Hz), Calculated MS: 265.0, GC-MS(EI): 264.8.

5-bromo-3-((2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)thio)-1H-indole 3o,<sup>2</sup>  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d, 293K, TMS):  $\delta$  ppm 11.74(s, 1H), 7.75(d,  $J$  = 1.56 Hz, 1H), 7.71(d,  $J$  = 2.64 Hz, 1H), 7.43(d,  $J$  = 8.58Hz, 1H), 7.30(dd,  $J_1$ =1.86Hz,  $J_2$ =8.55Hz , 1H), 3.57(q,  $J$  = 10.56 Hz, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d): 134.98, 133.63, 130.61, 126.21(q,  $J$  = 274.50Hz), 124.59, 120.55, 114.33, 112.74, 100.77, 37.92(q,  $J$  = 29.67Hz).  $^{19}\text{F}$ -NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-d)  $\delta$  ppm -64.93 (t,  $J$  = Hz), Calculated MS: 308.9, GC-MS(EI): 308.9.

5,5'-difluoro-3-((2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)thio)-1H,1'H-2,3'-biindole 4m,  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d, 293K, TMS):  $\delta$  ppm 11.82 (s, 1H), 11.22 (s, 1H), 7.89 (s, 1H), 7.49-7.45 (m, 1H), 7.24-7.17 (m, 3H), 7.03-6.97 (m, 1H), 6.91-6.86 (m, 1H), 3.55 (q,  $J$  = 10.50 Hz, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d):  $\delta$  ppm 158.19 (d,  $J$  = 232.36 Hz), 158.14 (d,  $J$  = 232.46 Hz) 140.97, 135.04, 133.61, 133.40, 130.98 (d,  $J$  = 10.15 Hz), 129.75 (d,  $J$  = 10.01 Hz), 126.55 (q,  $J$  = 274.88 Hz), 114.06 (d,  $J$  = 9.68 Hz), 110.92 (d,  $J$  = 23.99 Hz), 110.37 (d,  $J$  = 25.83 Hz), 103.40 (d,  $J$  = 23.86 Hz), 102.96 (d,  $J$  = 23.99Hz), 101.24 (d,  $J$  = 4.24 Hz), 98.42 (d,  $J$  = 4.61 Hz), 37.542 (q,  $J$  = 30.09 Hz), 12.13.  $^{19}\text{F}$ -NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-d)  $\delta$  ppm -64.84 (t,  $J$  = 10.49 Hz, -CF<sub>3</sub>), -122.92~123.00 (m, Ph-F), -123.11~123.22(m, Ph-F). HRMS (EI-TOF) m/z: [M+] Calculated for 382.0563, Found 382.0575.

5,5'-dichloro-3-((2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)thio)-1H,1'H-2,3'-biindole 4n,  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d, 293K, TMS):  $\delta$  ppm 11.92 (s, 1H), 11.29 (s, 1H), 7.92 (s, 1H), 7.53-7.45 (m, 3H), 7.23 (d,  $J$  = 8.55 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d,  $J$  = 8.77 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d,  $J$  = 8.60 Hz, 1H), 3.59 (q,  $J$  = 10.45 Hz, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d):  $\delta$  ppm 140.97, 135.55, 135.34, 134.95, 131.56, 130.40, 126.54 (q,  $J$  = 274.66 Hz), 125.64, 125.51, 122.73, 122.28, 117.80, 117.20, 114.49, 113.56, 100.74, 97.87, 37.43 (q,  $J$  = 30.38 Hz).  $^{19}\text{F}$ -NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-d)  $\delta$  ppm -64.83 (t,  $J$  = 10.66 Hz). HRMS (EI-TOF) m/z: [M+] Calculated for 413.9972, Found 413.9981.

5,5'-dibromo-3-((2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)thio)-1H, 1'H-2,3'-biindole 4o,  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d, 293K, TMS):  $\delta$  ppm 11.92 (s, 1H), 11.27 (s, 1H), 7.89 (s, 1H), 7.61-7.57 (m, 2H),

7.27 (d,  $J = 8.60$  Hz, 1H), 7.19-7.14 (m, 2H), 3.58 (q,  $J = 10.50$  Hz, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d):  $\delta$  ppm 140.80, 135.79, 135.59, 134.82, 132.14, 131.01, 126.54 (q,  $J = 274.54$  Hz), 125.26, 124.84, 120.80, 114.93, 113.98, 113.54, 113.40, 100.55, 97.65, 37.38 (q,  $J = 30.48$  Hz).  $^{19}\text{F}$ -NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-d)  $\delta$  ppm -64.83 (t,  $J = 10.35$  Hz). HRMS (EI-TOF) m/z: [M+] Calculated for 501.8962, Found 501.8970.

3-((2,2-difluoroethyl)thio)-2-methyl-1H-indole 5a,<sup>3</sup>  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 293K, TMS):  $\delta$  ppm 11.44 (s, 1H), 7.59-7.44 (m, 1H), 7.40-7.30 (m, 1H), 7.16-7.00 (m, 2H), 5.97 (tt,  $J_1 = 4.38$  Hz,  $J_2 = 56.43$  Hz, 1H), 3.02 (td,  $J_1 = 4.38$  Hz,  $J_2 = 16.20$  Hz, 2H), 2.50 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  ppm 141.44, 135.20, 129.77, 121.16, 117.47, 116.17 (t,  $J = 239.21$  Hz), 111.15, 98.17, 38.14 (q,  $J = 22.20$  Hz), 11.65.  $^{19}\text{F}$ -NMR (282 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  ppm -114.80 (dt,  $J_1 = 16.11$  Hz,  $J_2 = 56.53$  Hz), Calculated MS: 227.1, GC-MS(EI): 227.0.

3-((2-fluoroethyl)thio)-2-methyl-1H-indole 5b,<sup>3</sup>  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 293K, TMS):  $\delta$  ppm 11.39 (s, 1H), 7.54-7.44 (m, 1H), 7.36-7.24 (m, 1H), 7.13-7.00 (m, 2H), 4.37 (dt,  $J_1 = 6.31$  Hz,  $J_2 = 47.42$  Hz, 2H), 2.86 (dt,  $J_1 = 6.35$  Hz,  $J_2 = 20.42$  Hz, 2H), 2.46 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  ppm 141.33, 135.28, 130.12, 121.06, 120.57, 117.56, 111.07, 98.43, 81.63 (d,  $J = 167.37$  Hz), 35.33 (d,  $J = 19.61$  Hz), 11.63.  $^{19}\text{F}$ -NMR (282 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  ppm -212.90 (tt,  $J_1 = 20.41$  Hz,  $J_2 = 47.32$  Hz), Calculated MS: 209.1, GC-MS(EI): 208.9.

2-methyl-3-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-indole 5c,<sup>4</sup>  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d, 293K, TMS):  $\delta$  ppm 11.75 (s, 1H), 7.50 (d,  $J = 12.40$  Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d,  $J = 12.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.18-7.06 (m, 2H), 2.50 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d):  $\delta$  ppm 137.61 (q,  $J = 4.08$  Hz), 135.06, 126.18 (q,  $J = 264.34$  Hz), 125.04, 122.25, 121.08, 118.12, 111.91, 100.66 (q,  $J = 34.48$  Hz), 12.57.  $^{19}\text{F}$ -NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-d)  $\delta$  ppm -52.68 (s, -CF<sub>3</sub>). Calculated MS: 199.1, GC-MS(EI): 199.0.

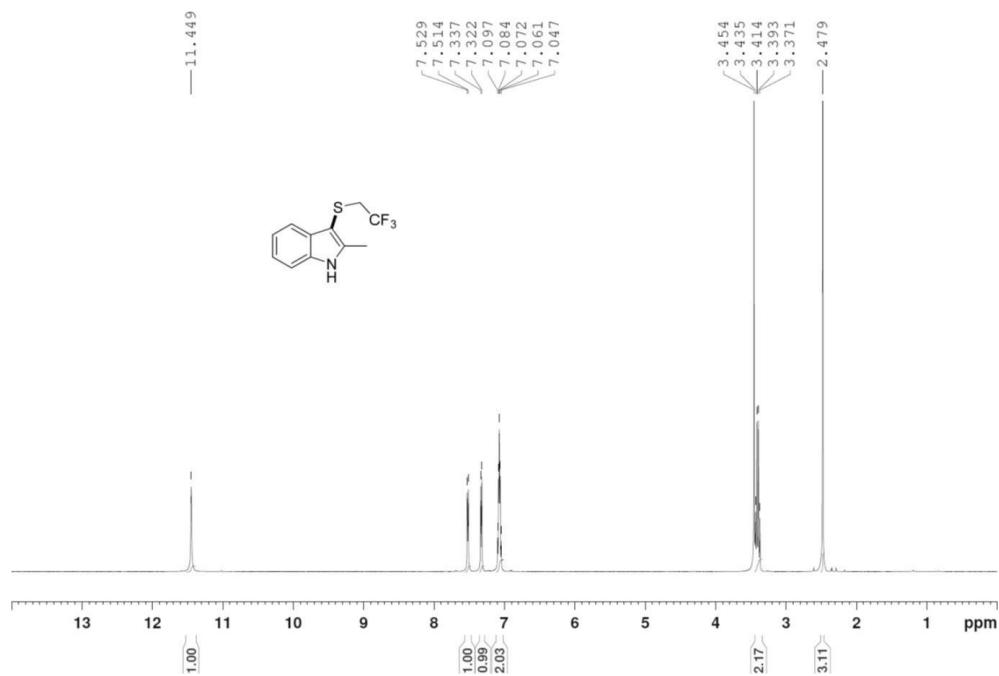
2-methyl-3-(perfluorobutyl)-1H-indole 5d,<sup>4</sup>  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d, 293K, TMS):  $\delta$  ppm 11.85 (s, 1H), 7.42 (d,  $J = 7.89$  Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d,  $J = 8.25$  Hz, 1H), 7.14-7.01 (m, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d):  $\delta$  ppm 139.22 (q,  $J = 4.96$  Hz), 135.33, 126.10, 122.18, 121.09, 118.63, 111.92, 98.09 (q,  $J = 26.78$  Hz), 12.68, 122.00-110.00 (m, C<sub>4</sub>F<sub>9</sub>).  $^{19}\text{F}$ -NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-d)  $\delta$  ppm -80.79~-80.89 (m, -CF<sub>3</sub>), -123.48 (q,  $J = 11.89$  Hz, -CF<sub>2</sub>-), 122.89 (q,  $J = 8.72$  Hz, -CF<sub>2</sub>-), -125.72~-125.83 (m, -CF<sub>2</sub>-). Calculated MS: 349.1, GC-MS(EI): 348.9.

## Reference

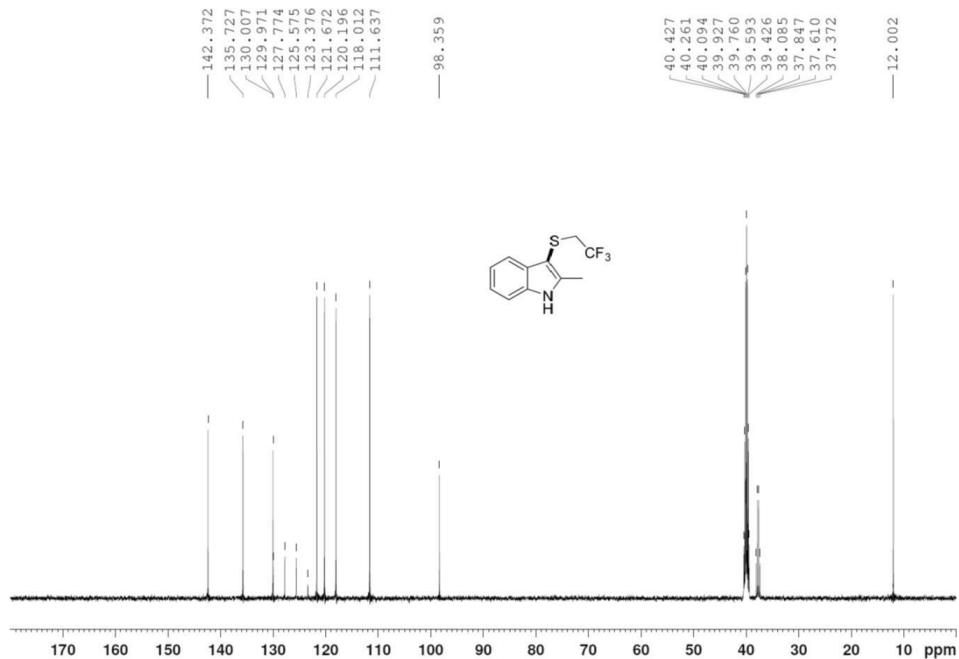
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## Copies of NMR spectra

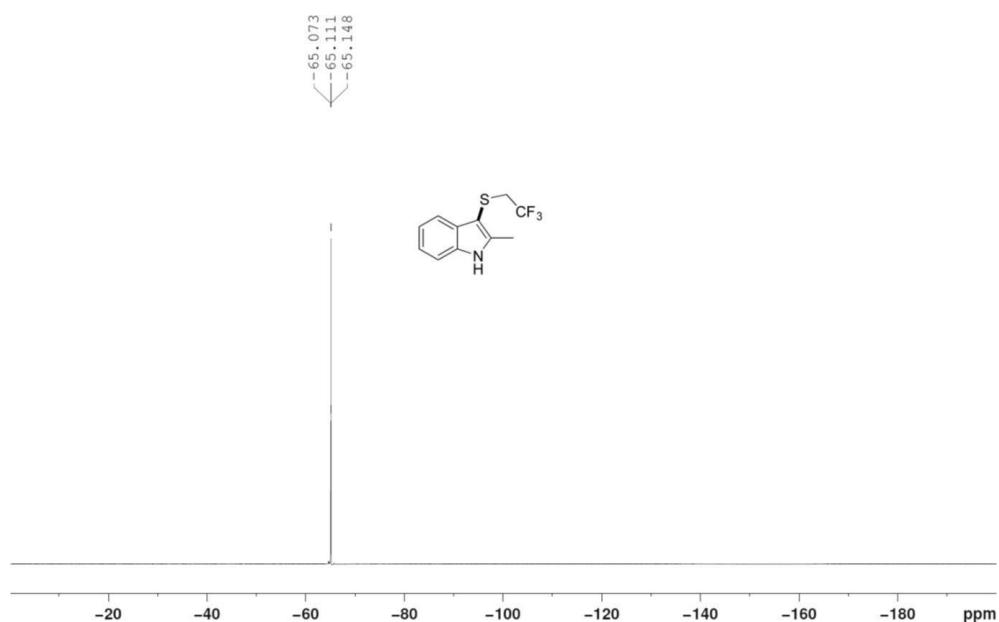
<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(d-DMSO, 500MHz) of 3a



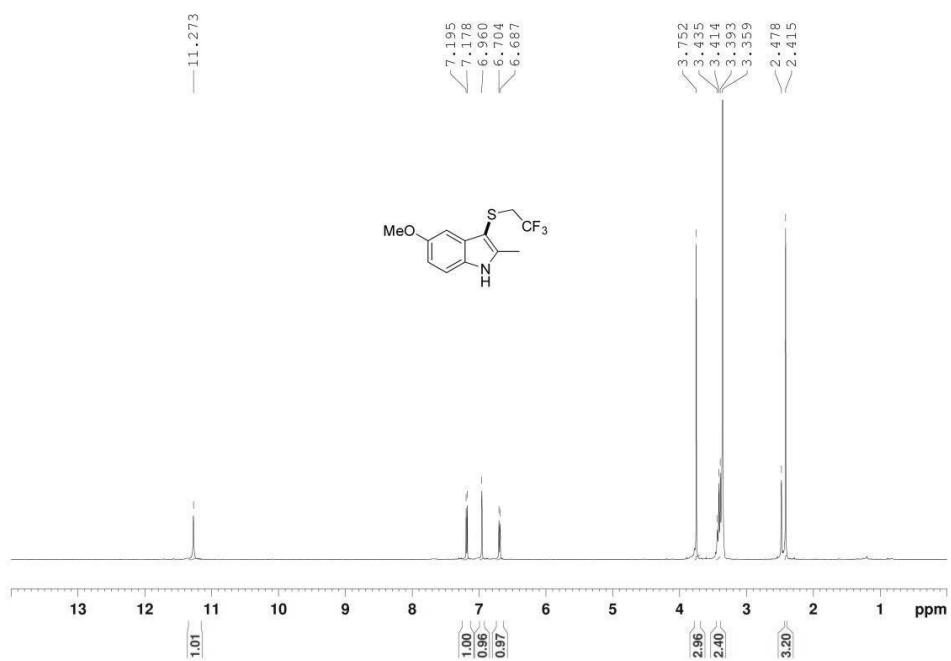
<sup>13</sup>C-NMR(d-DMSO, 125MHz) of 3a



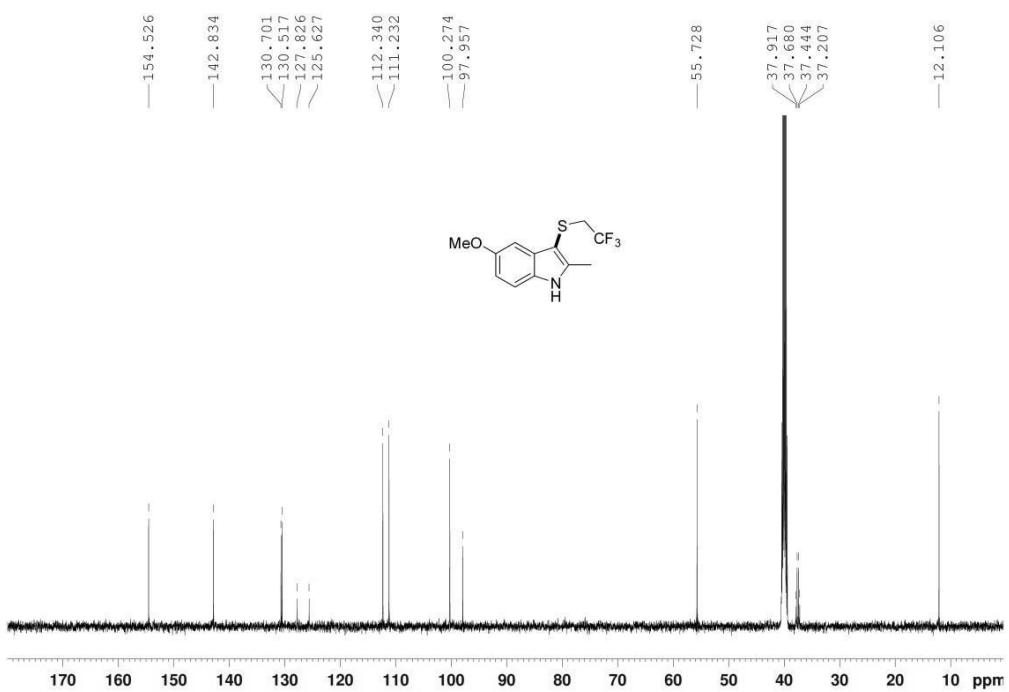
**<sup>19</sup>F-NMR(d-DMSO, 282MHz) of 3a**



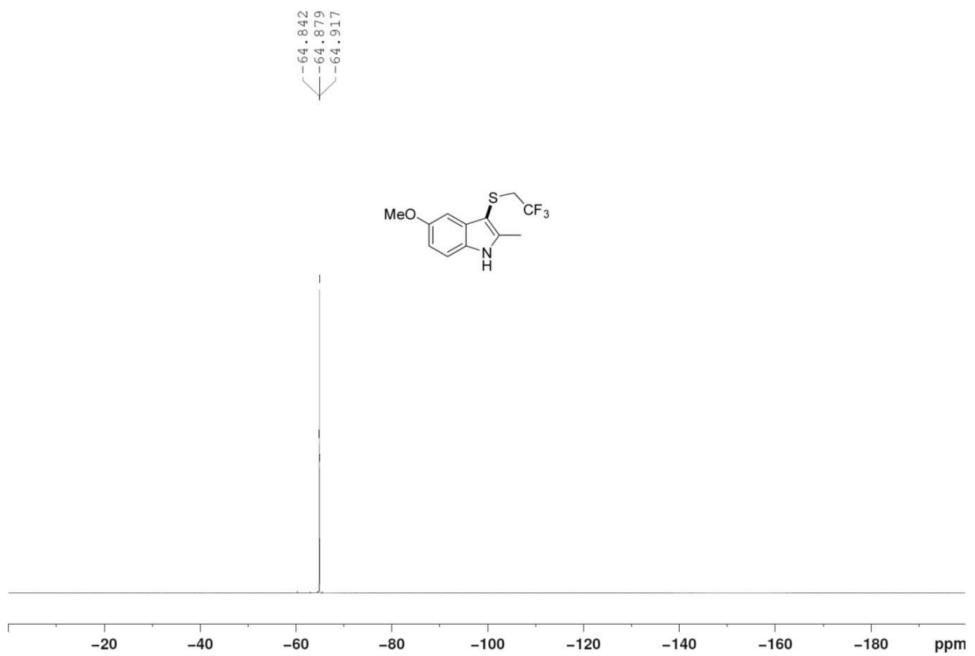
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(d-DMSO, 500MHz) of 3b**



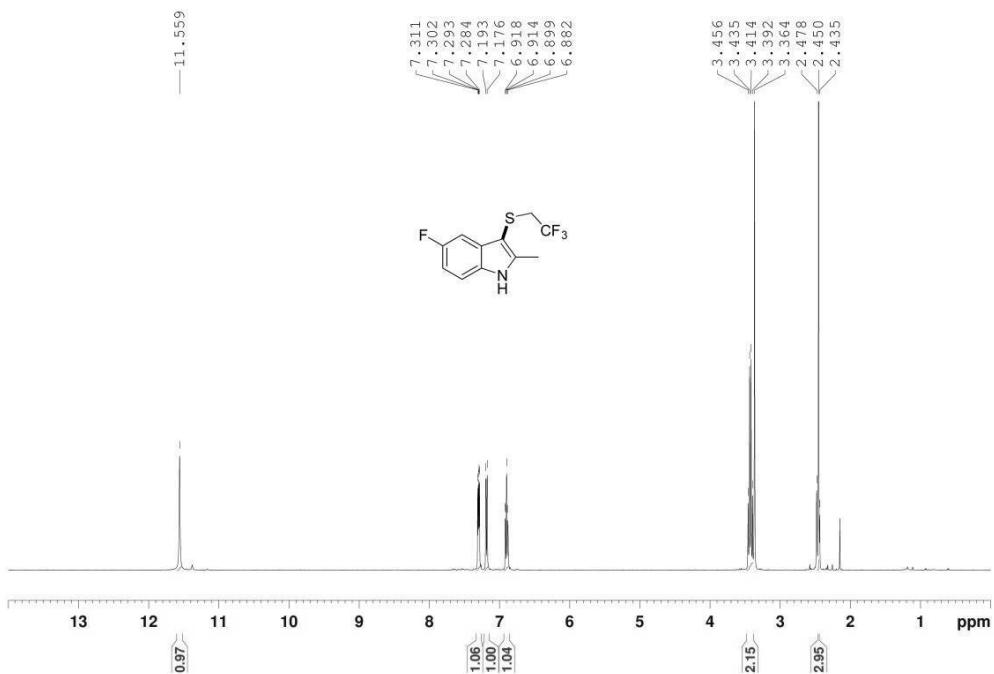
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR(d-DMSO, 125MHz) of 3b**



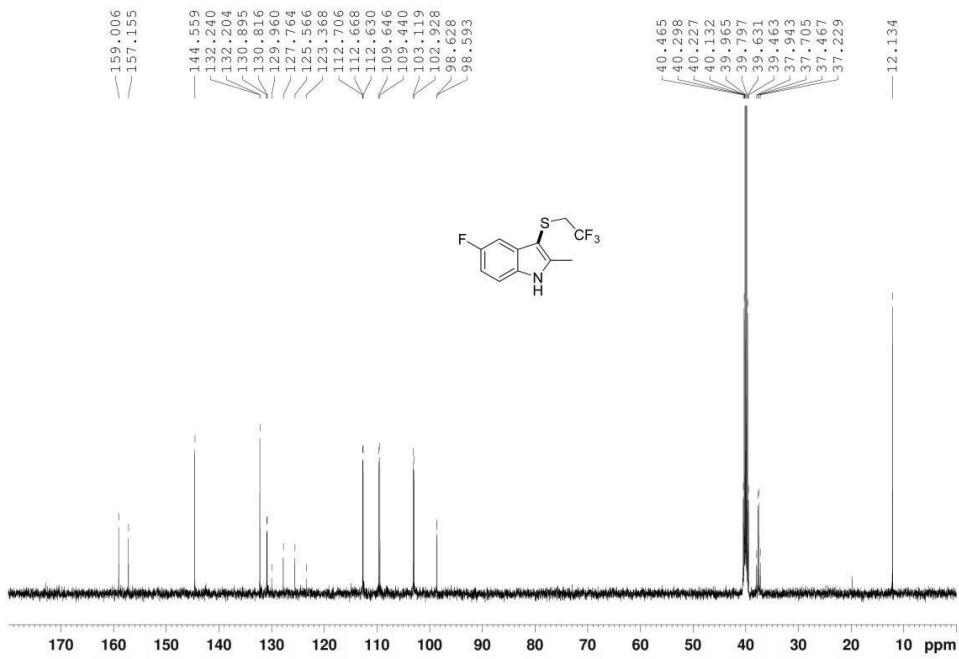
**<sup>19</sup>F-NMR(d-DMSO, 282MHz) of 3b**



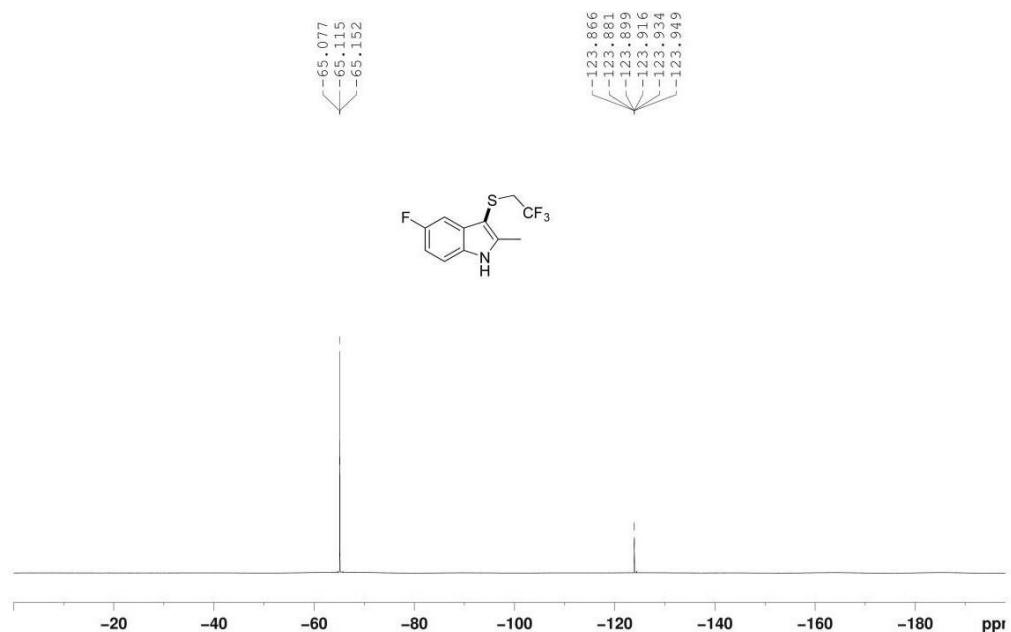
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(d-DMSO, 500MHz) of 3c**



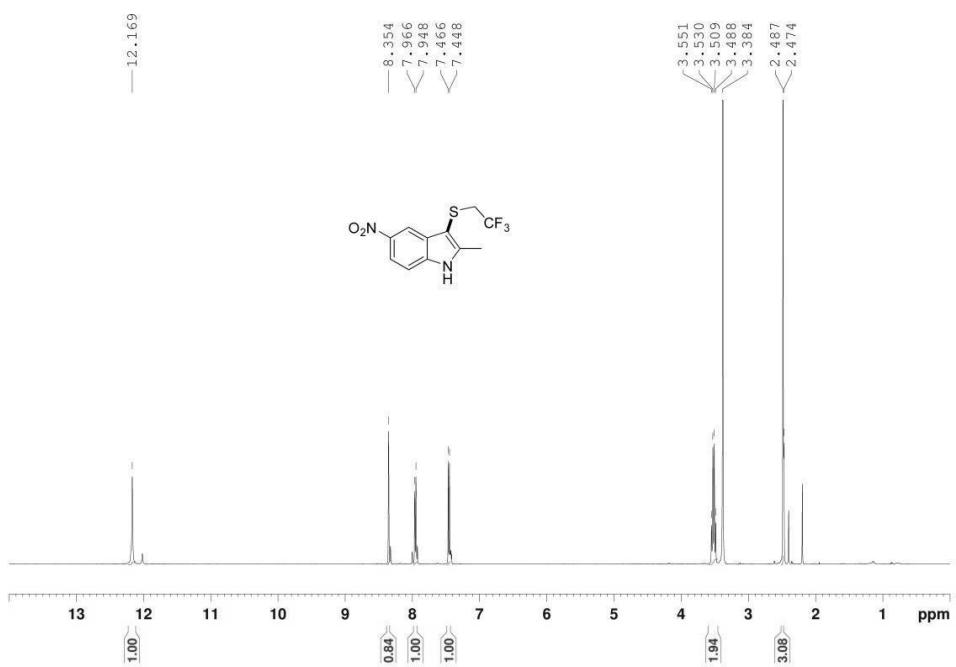
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR(d-DMSO, 125MHz) of 3c**



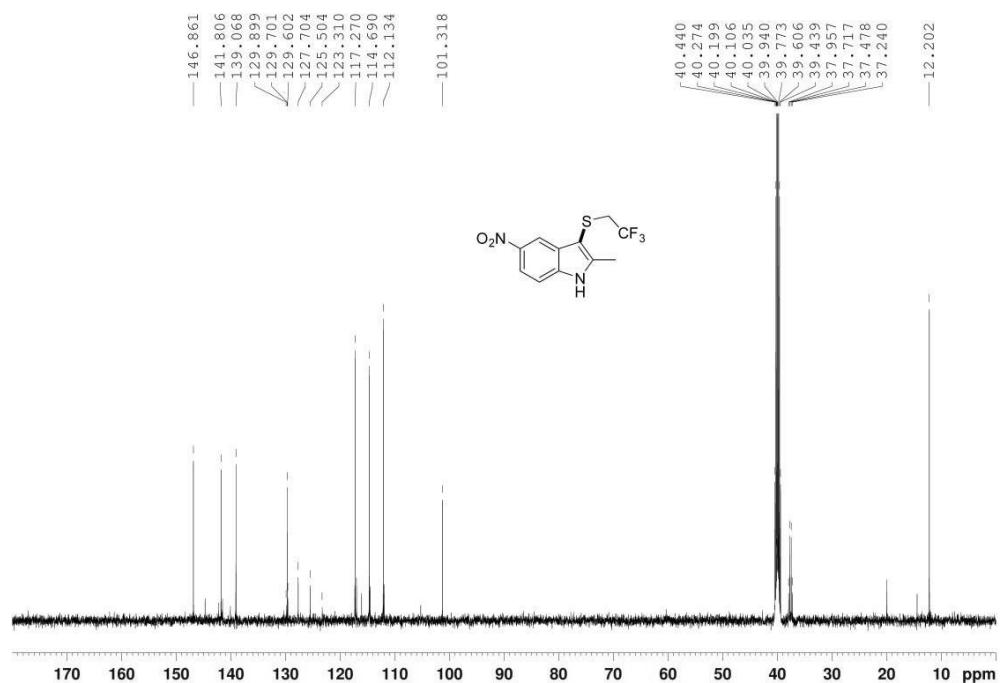
**<sup>19</sup>F-NMR(d-DMSO, 282MHz) of 3c**



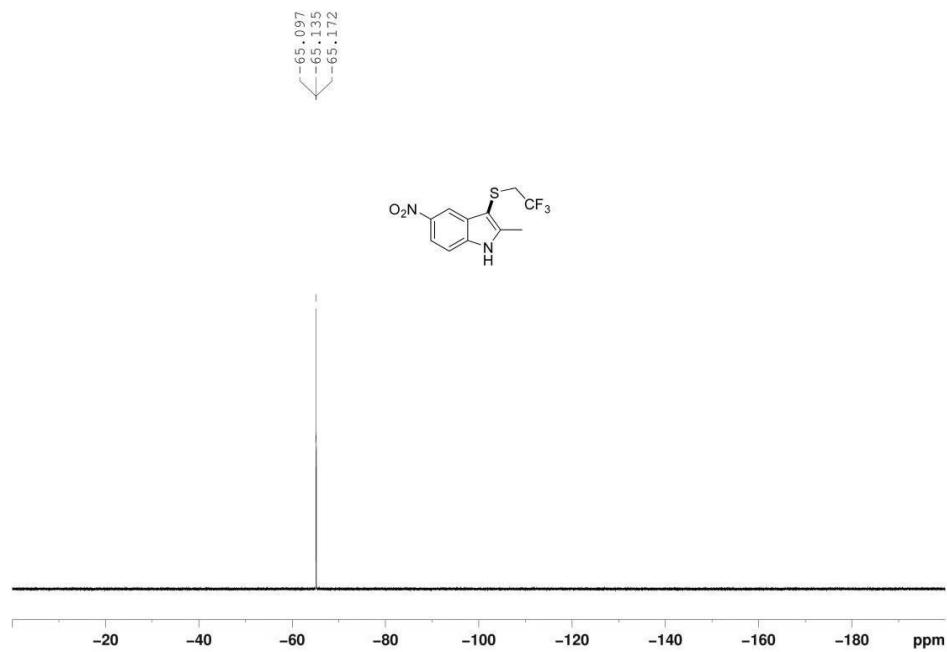
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(d-DMSO, 500MHz) of 3d**



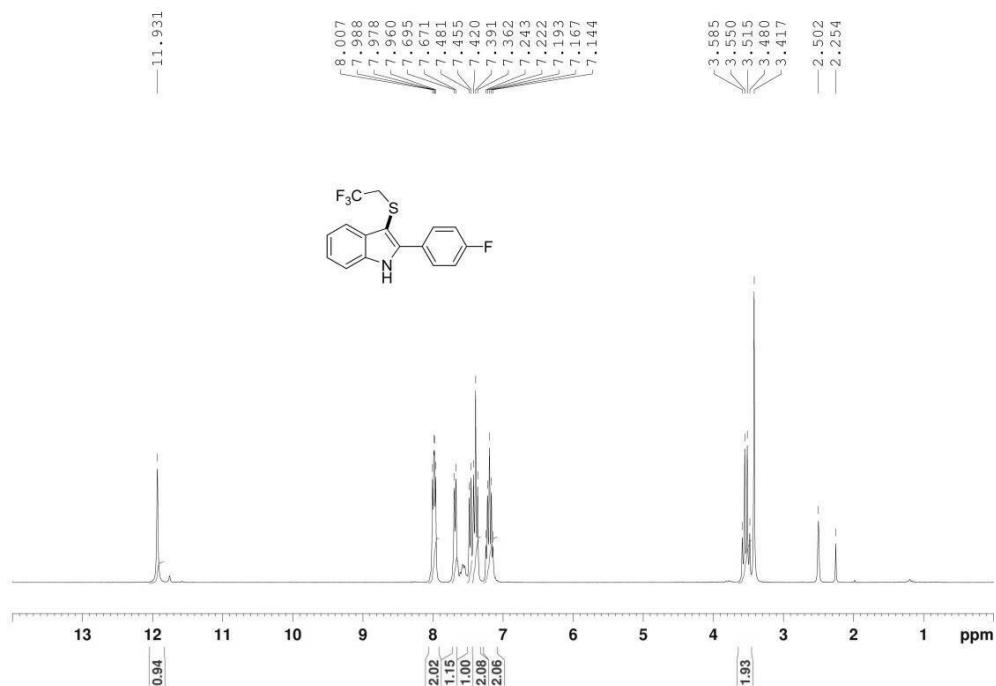
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR(d-DMSO, 125MHz) of 3d**



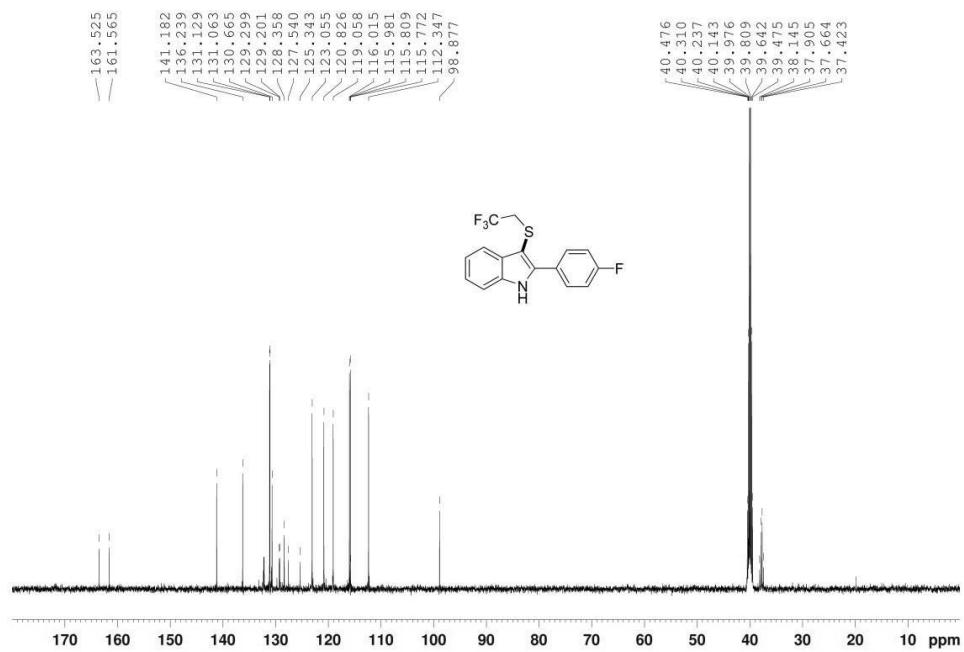
**<sup>19</sup>F-NMR(d-DMSO, 282MHz) of 3d**



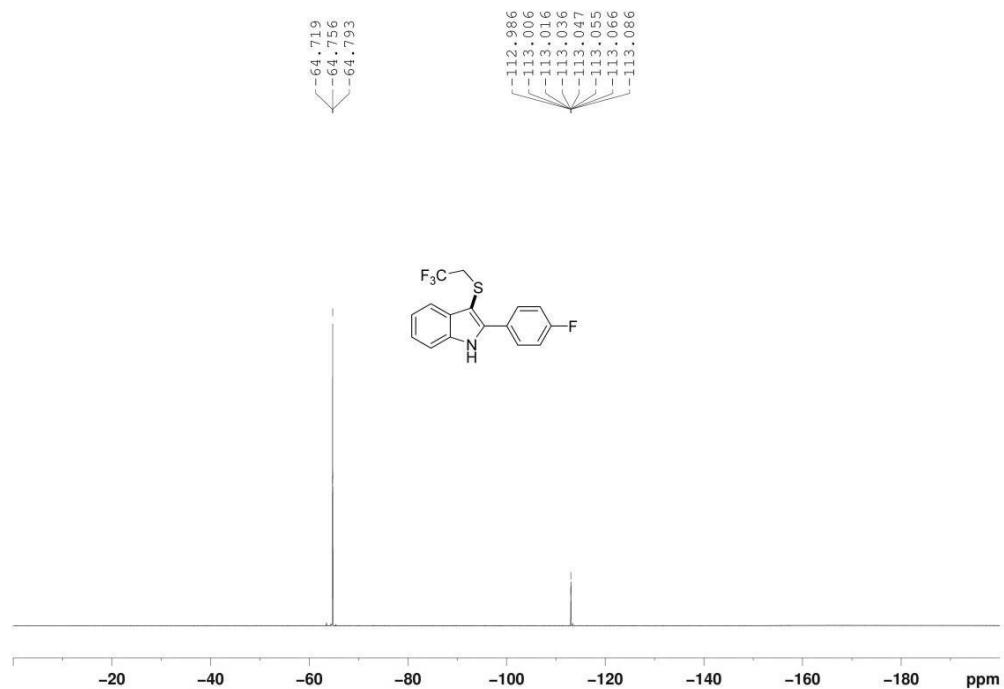
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(d-DMSO, 500MHz) of 3e**



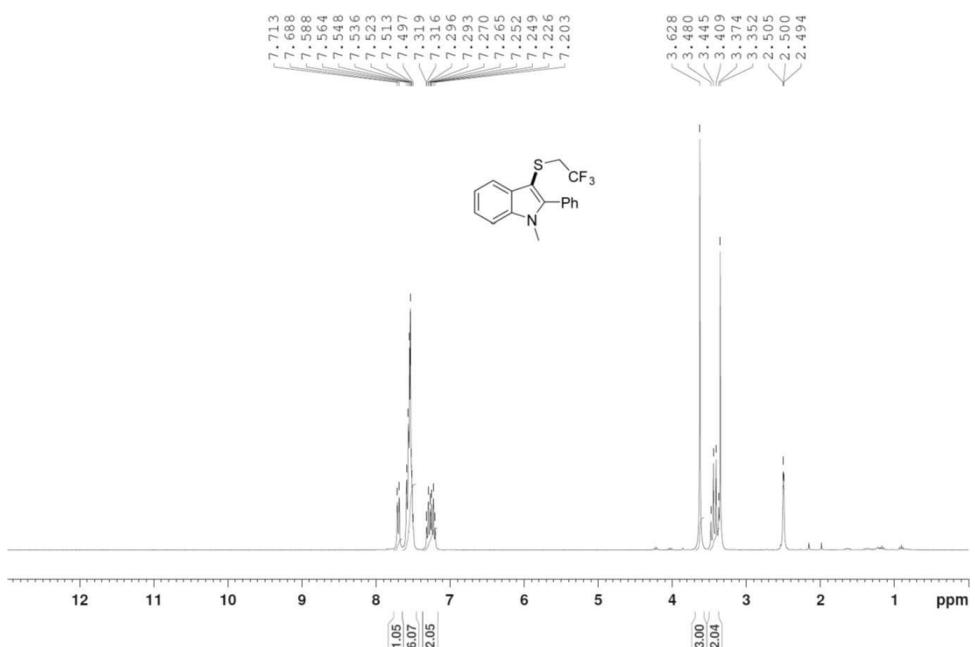
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR(d-DMSO, 125MHz) of 3e**



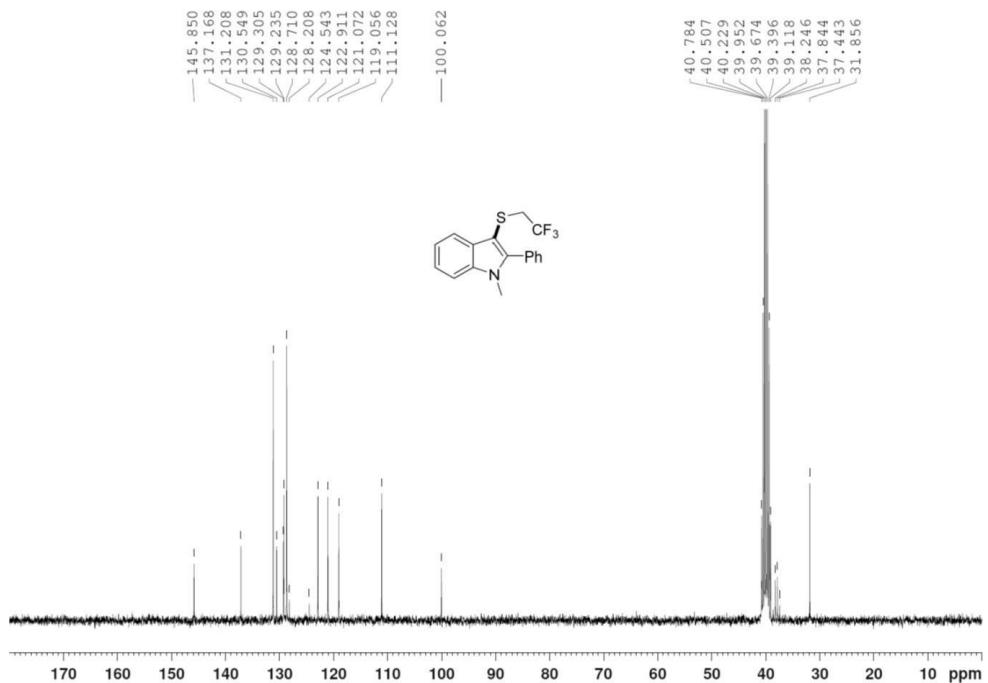
### **<sup>19</sup>F-NMR(d-DMSO, 282MHz) of 3e**



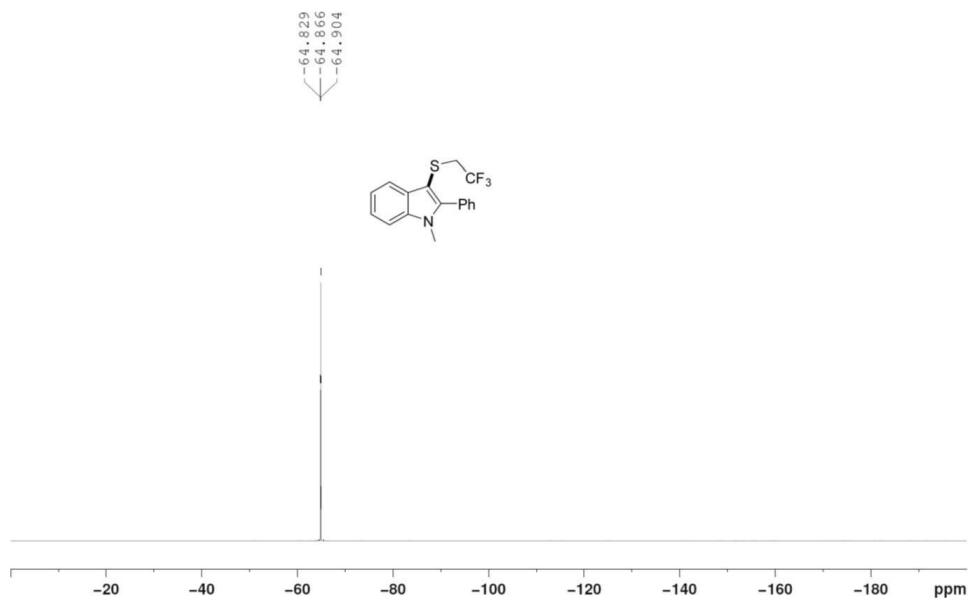
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(d-DMSO, 300MHz) of 3f**



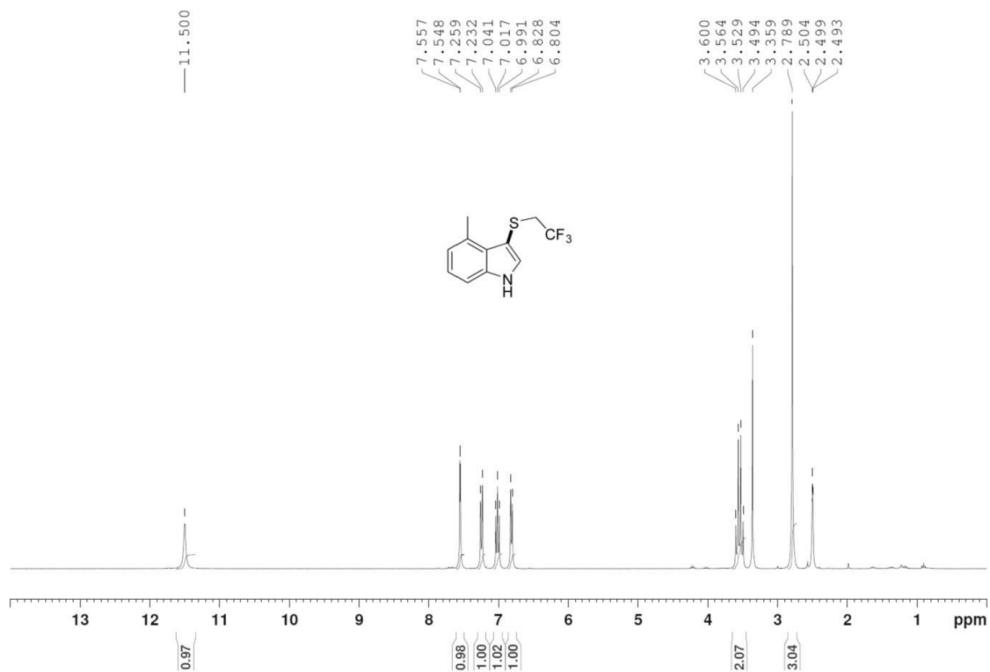
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR(d-DMSO, 75MHz) of 3f**



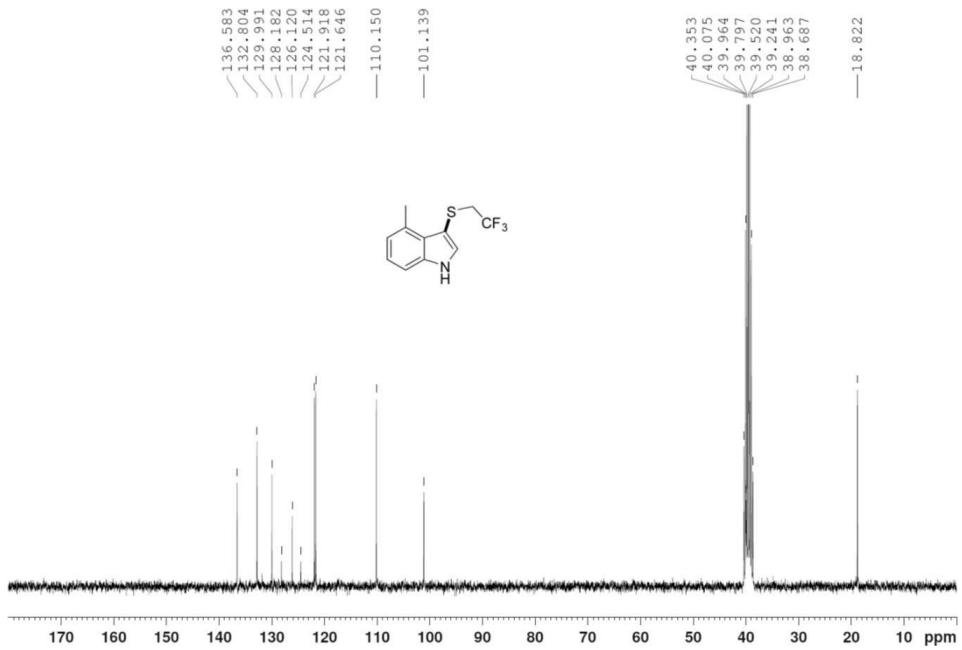
**<sup>19</sup>F-NMR(d-DMSO, 282MHz) of 3f**



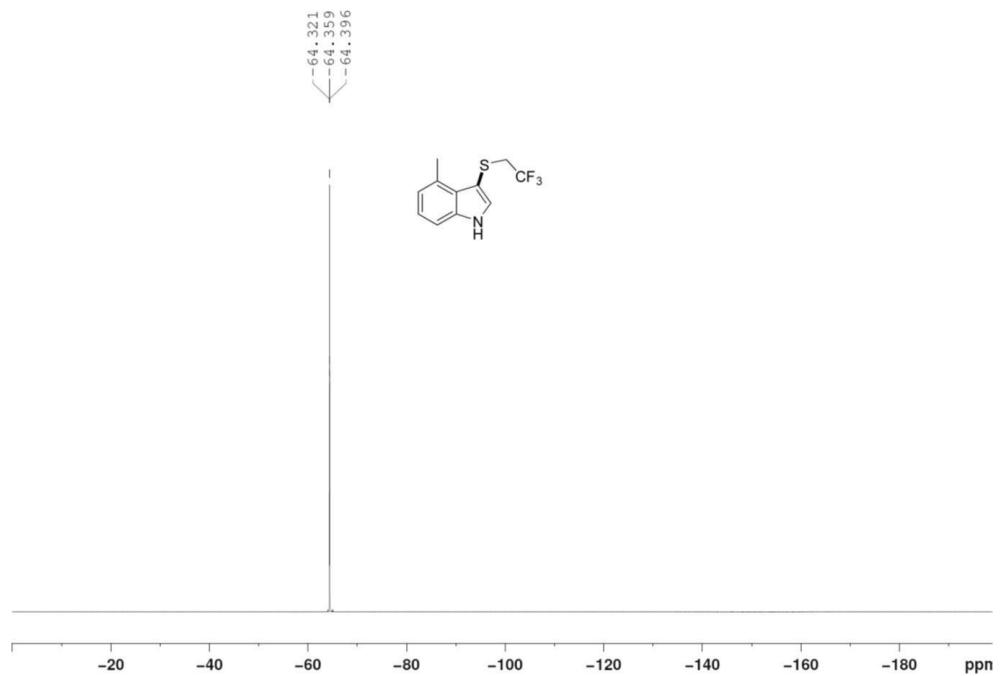
<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(d-DMSO, 300MHz) of 3g



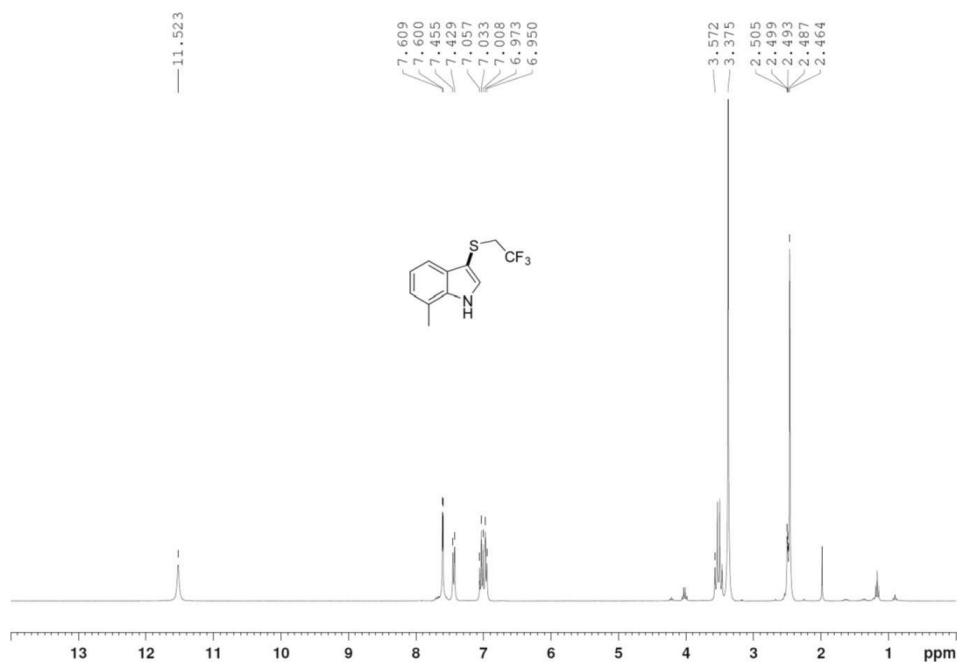
<sup>13</sup>C-NMR(d-DMSO, 75MHz) of 3g



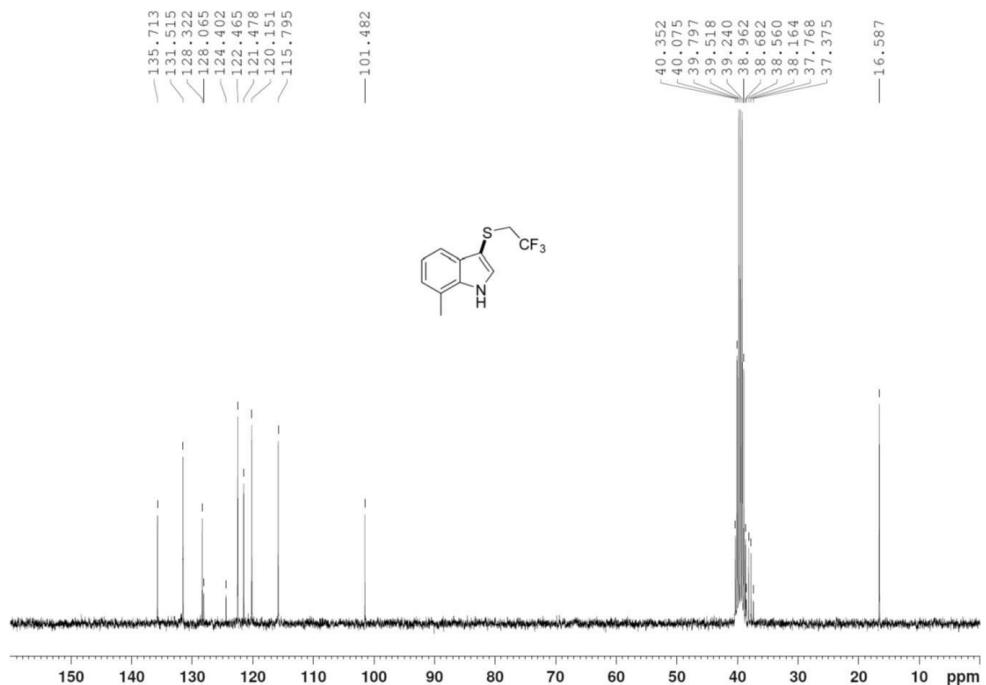
**<sup>19</sup>F-NMR(d-DMSO, 282MHz) of 3g**



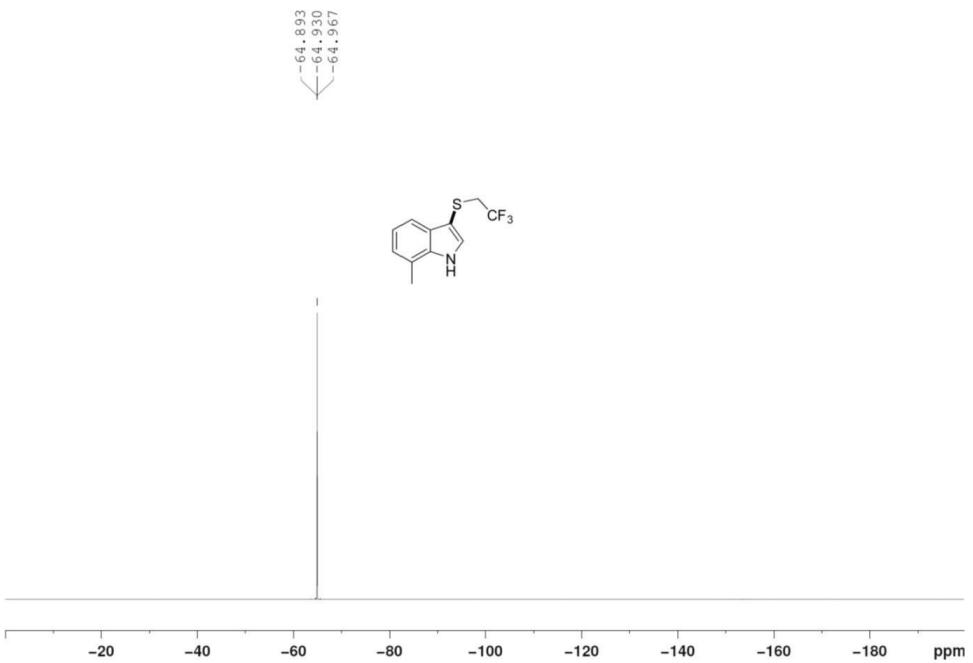
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(d-DMSO, 300MHz) of 3h**



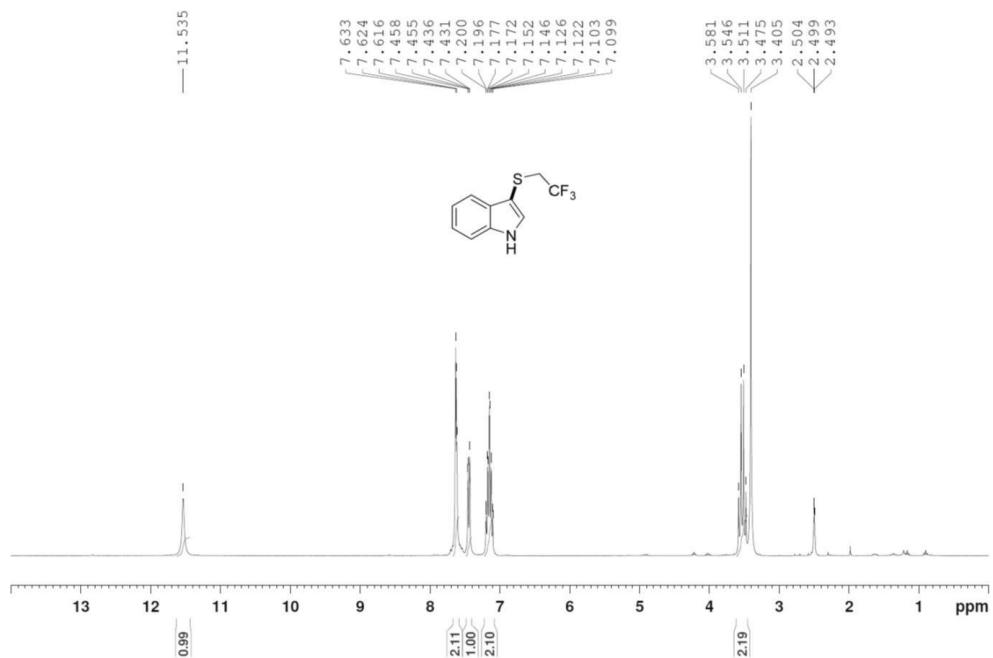
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR(d-DMSO, 75MHz) of 3h**



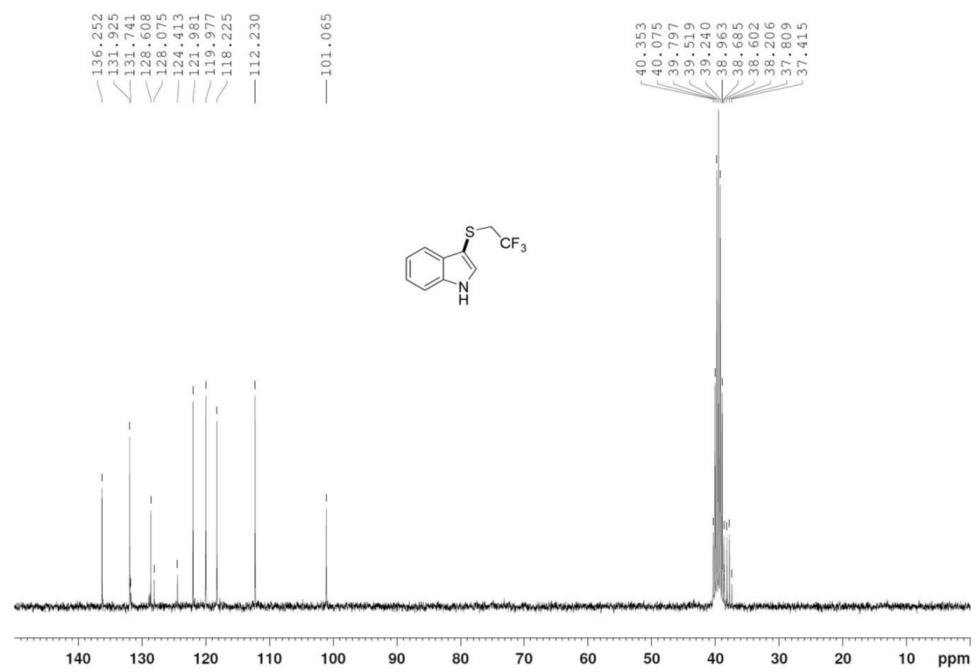
**<sup>19</sup>F-NMR(d-DMSO, 282MHz) of 3h**



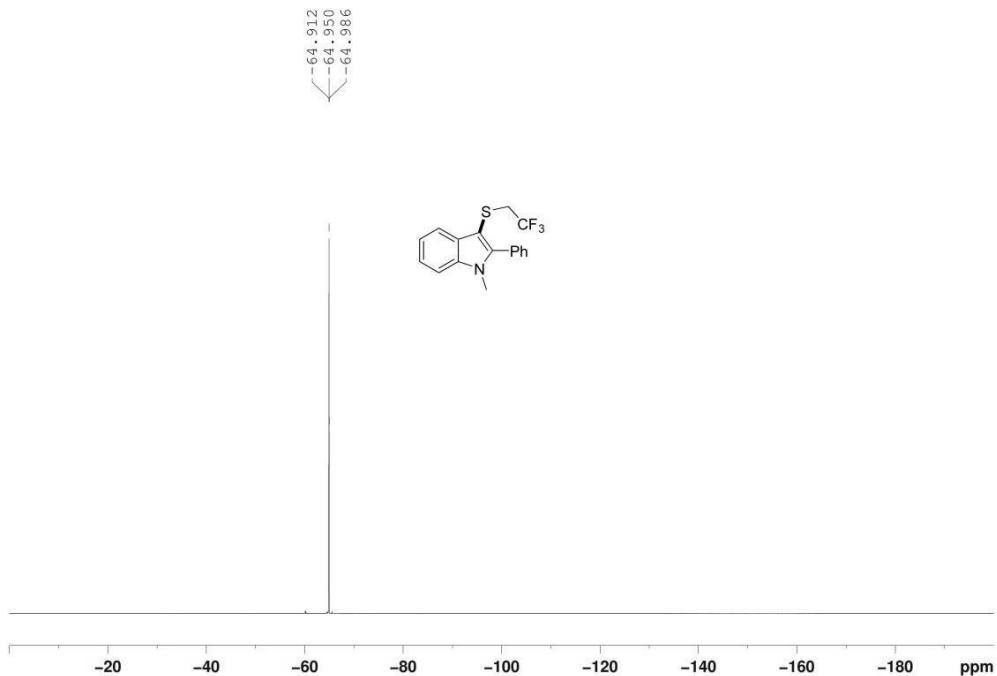
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(d-DMSO, 300MHz) of 3i**



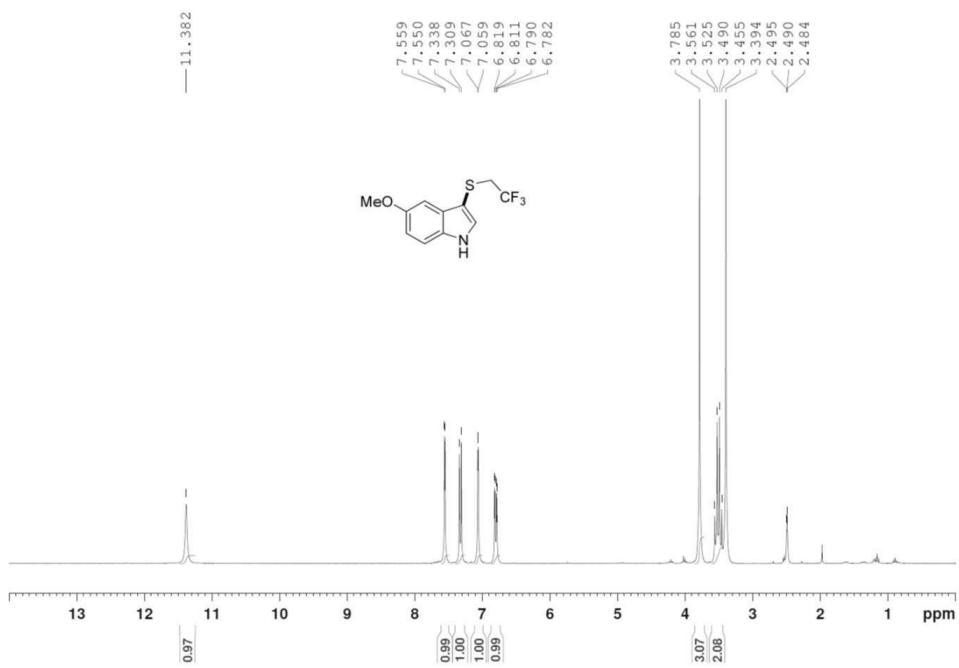
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR(d-DMSO, 75MHz) of 3i**



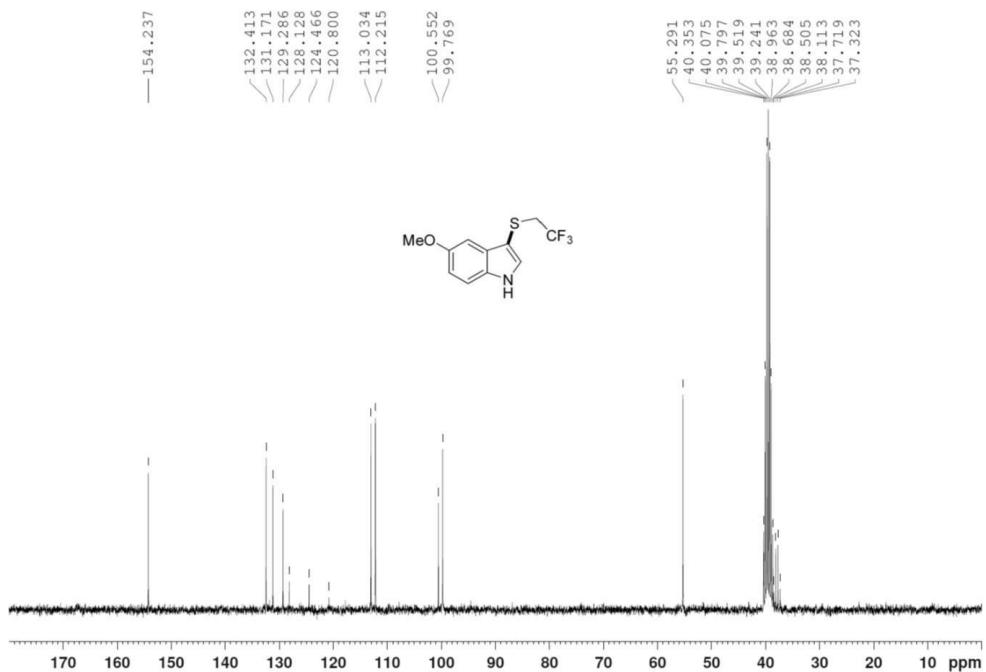
**<sup>19</sup>F-NMR(d-DMSO, 282MHz) of 3i**



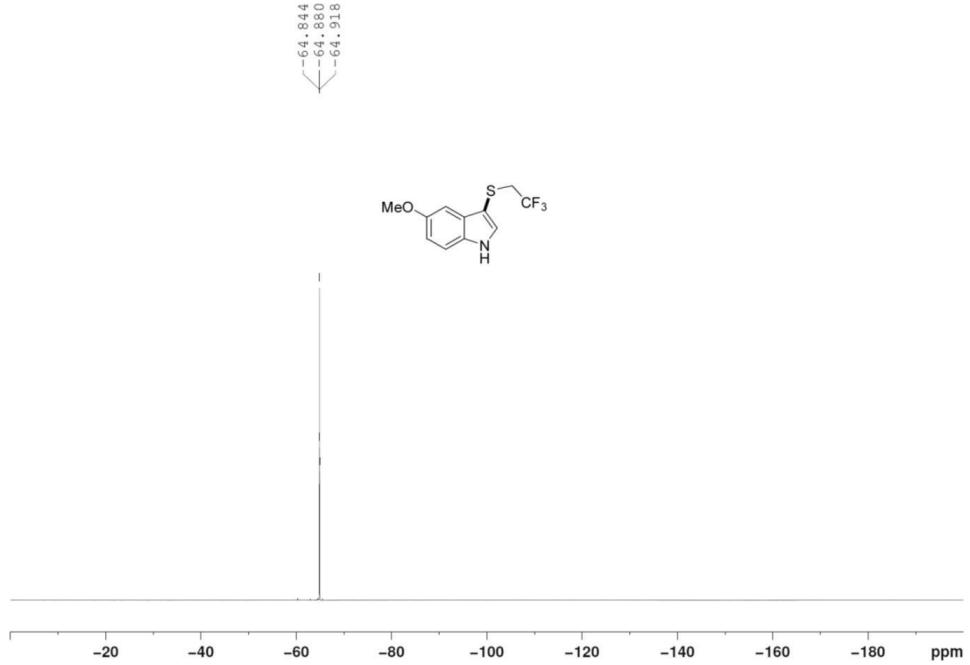
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(d-DMSO, 300MHz) of 3j**



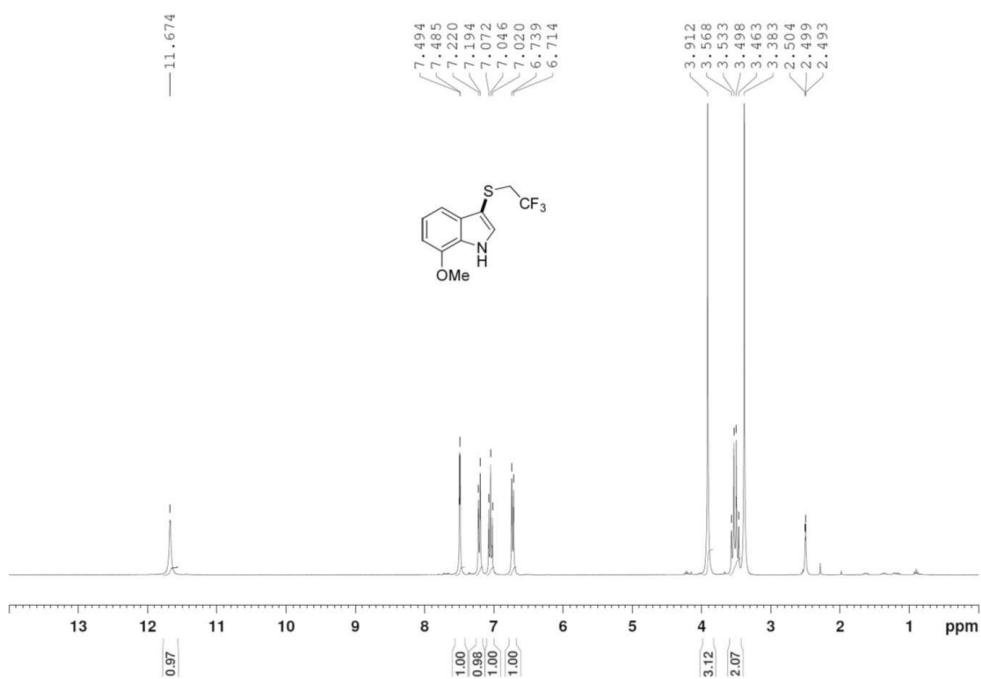
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR(d-DMSO, 75MHz) of 3j**



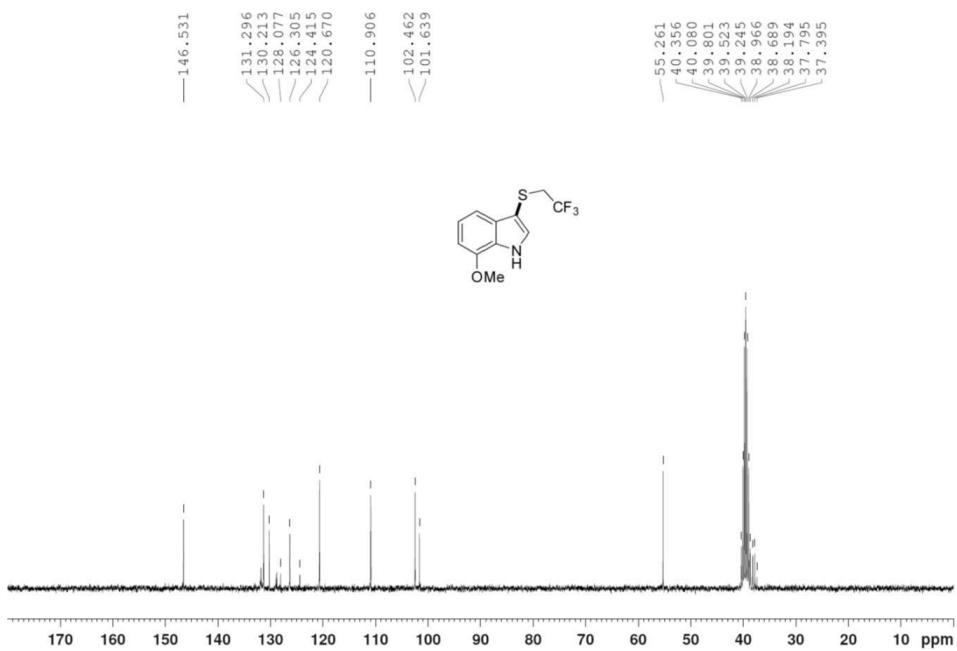
**<sup>19</sup>F-NMR(d-DMSO, 282MHz) of 3j**



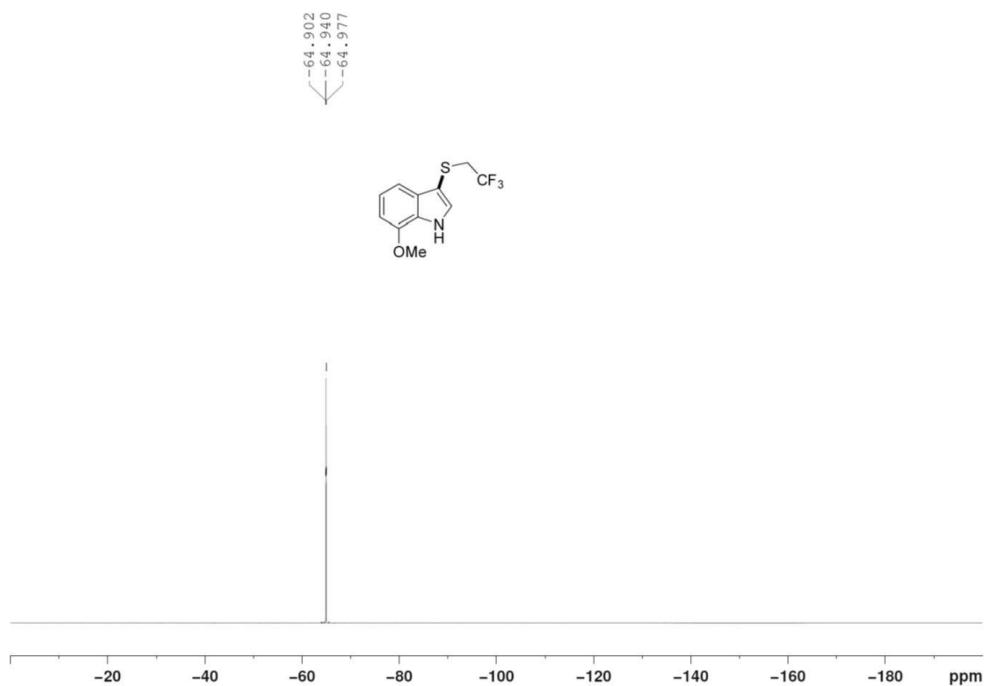
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(d-DMSO, 300MHz) of 3k**



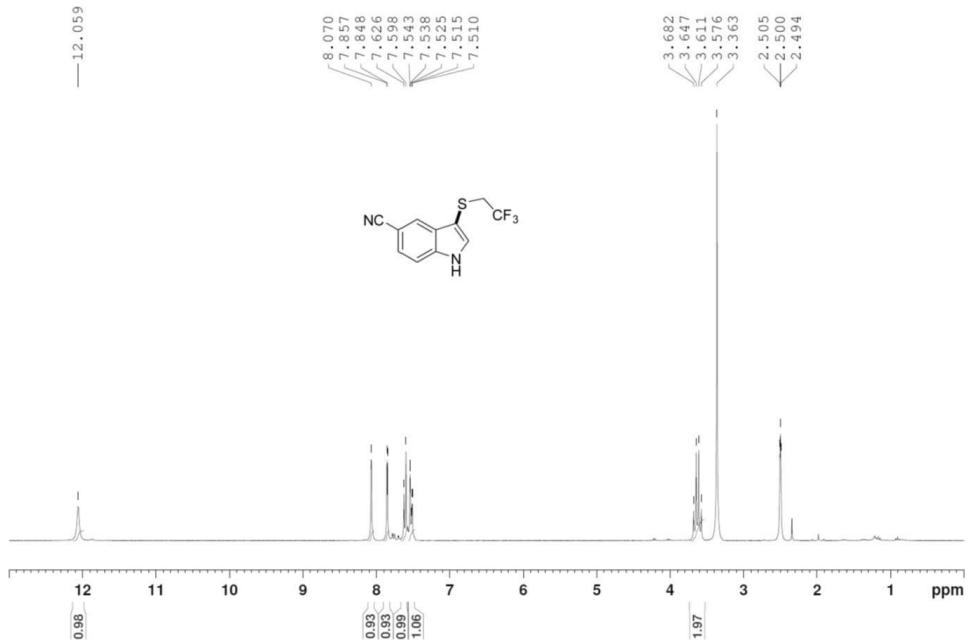
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR(d-DMSO, 75MHz) of 3k**



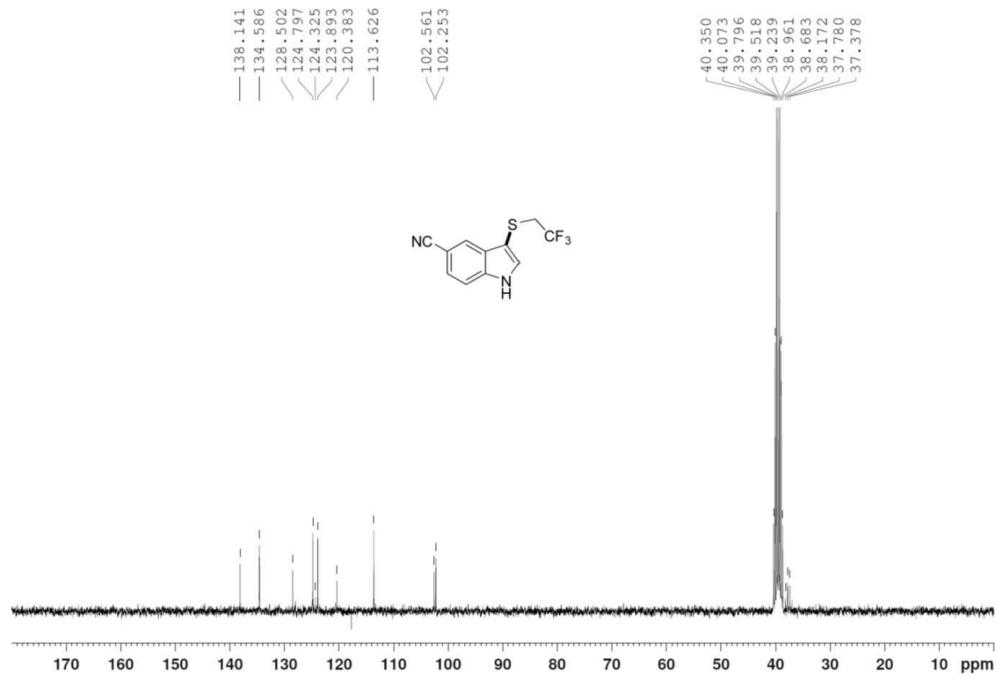
**<sup>19</sup>F-NMR(d-DMSO, 282MHz) of 3k**



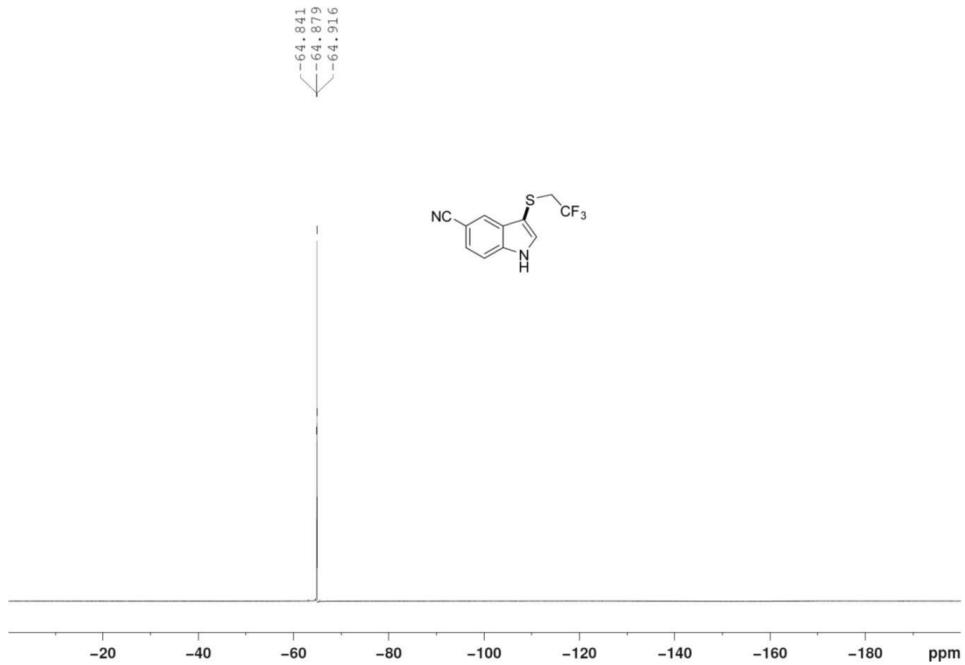
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(d-DMSO, 300MHz) of 3l**



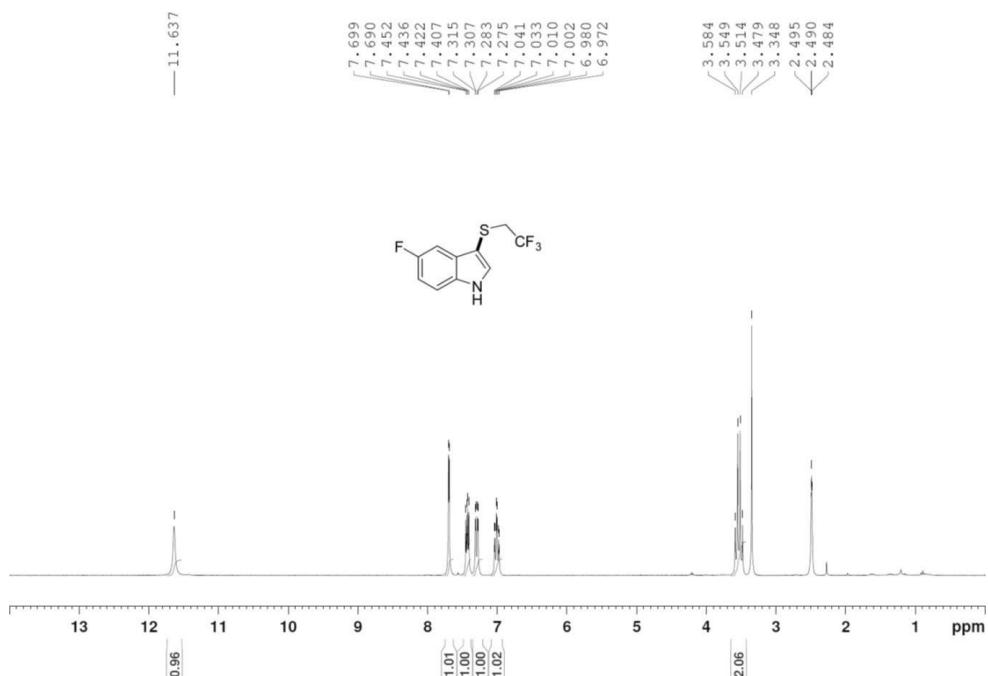
<sup>13</sup>C-NMR(d-DMSO, 75MHz) of 3l



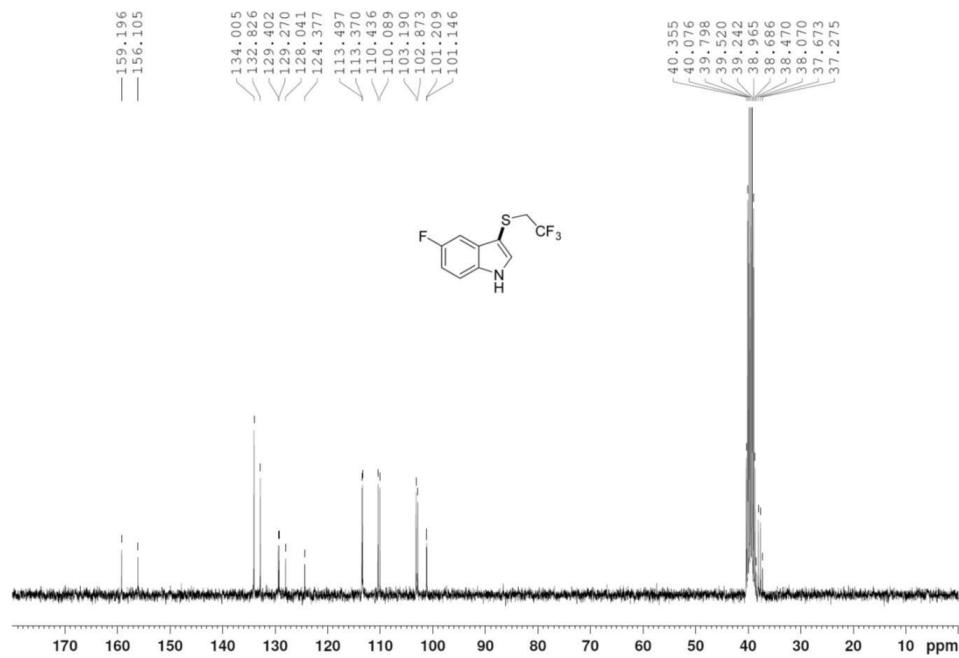
<sup>19</sup>F-NMR(d-DMSO, 282MHz) of 3l



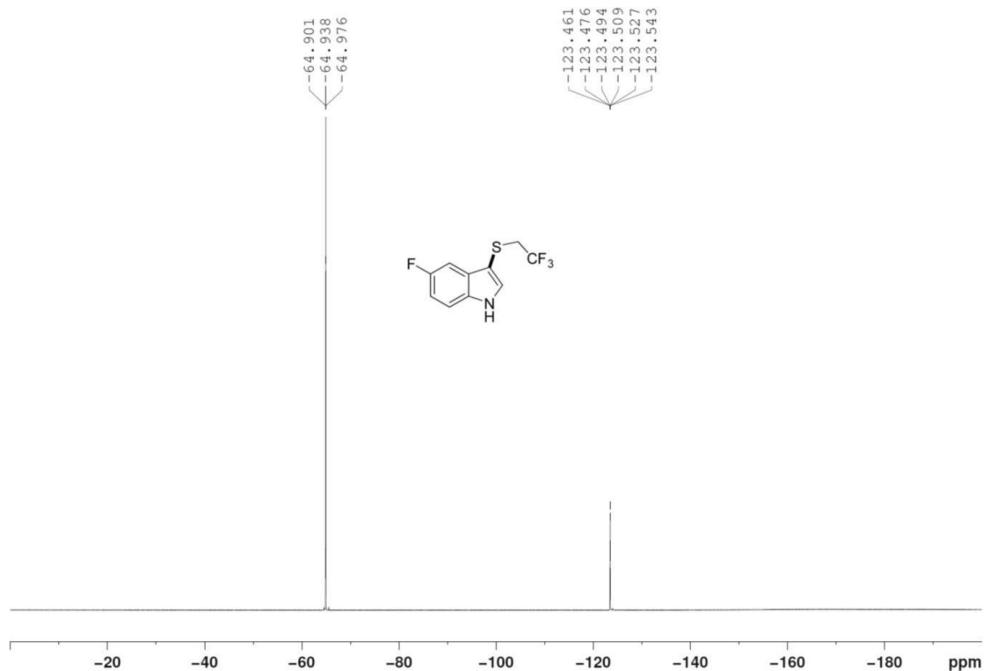
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(d-DMSO, 300MHz) of 3m**



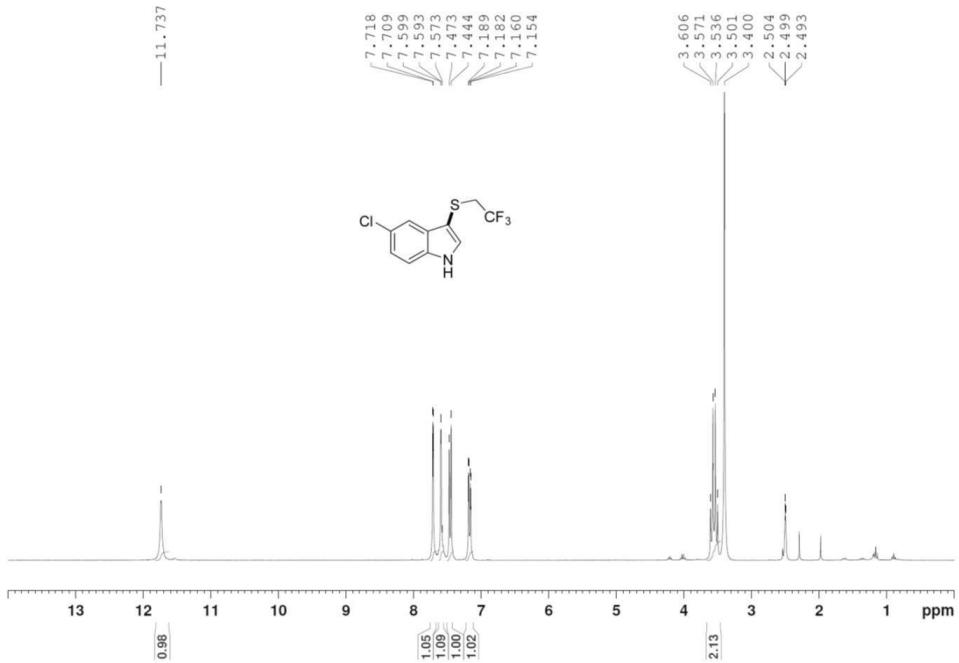
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR(d-DMSO, 75MHz) of 3m**



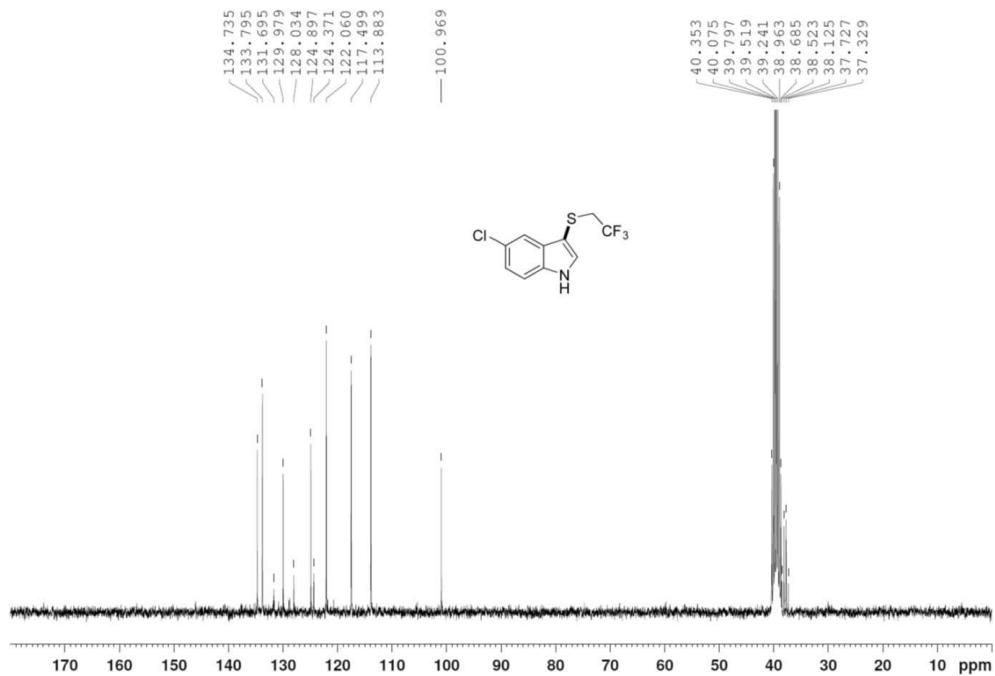
**<sup>19</sup>F-NMR(d-DMSO, 282MHz) of 3m**



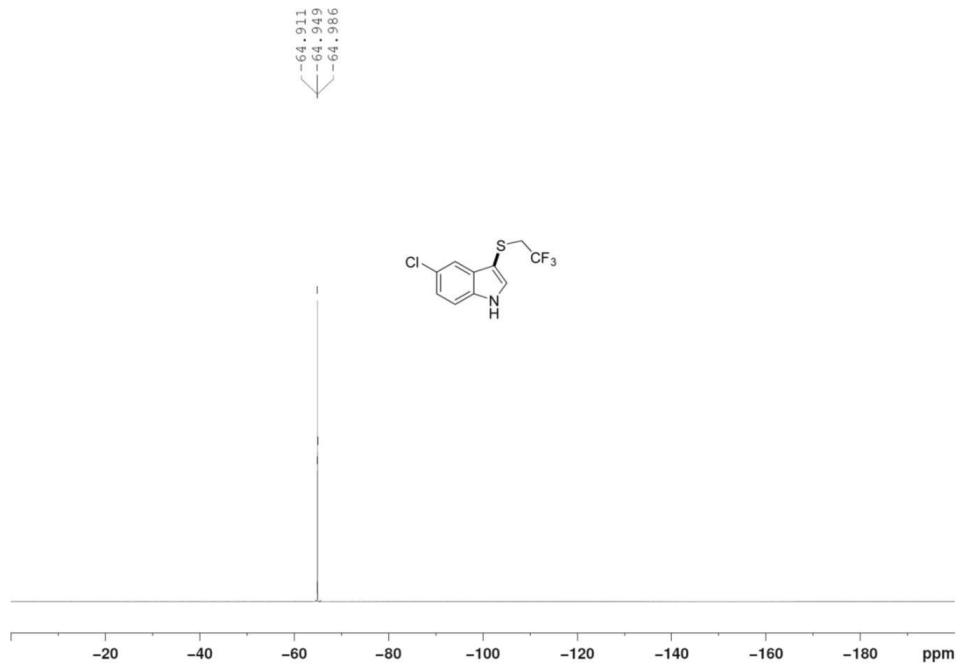
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(d-DMSO, 300MHz) of 3n**



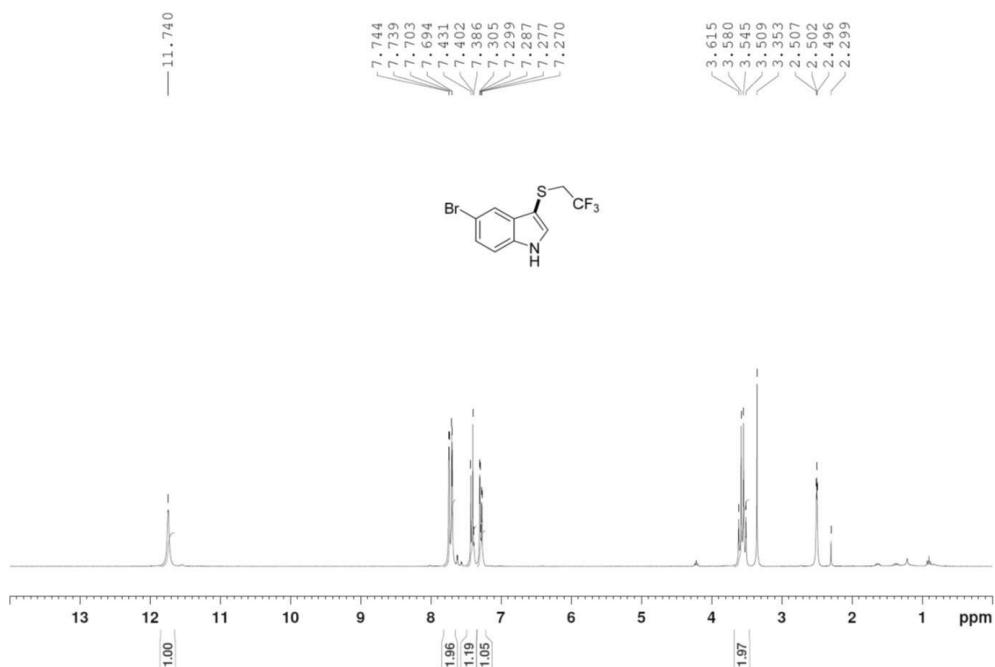
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR(d-DMSO, 75MHz) of 3n**



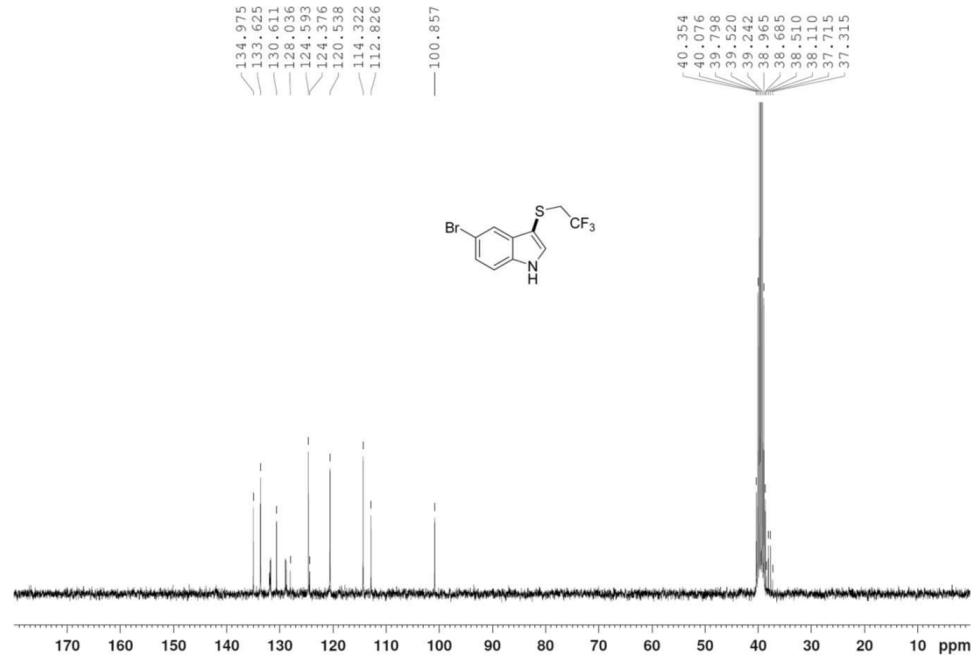
**<sup>19</sup>F-NMR(d-DMSO, 282MHz) of 3n**



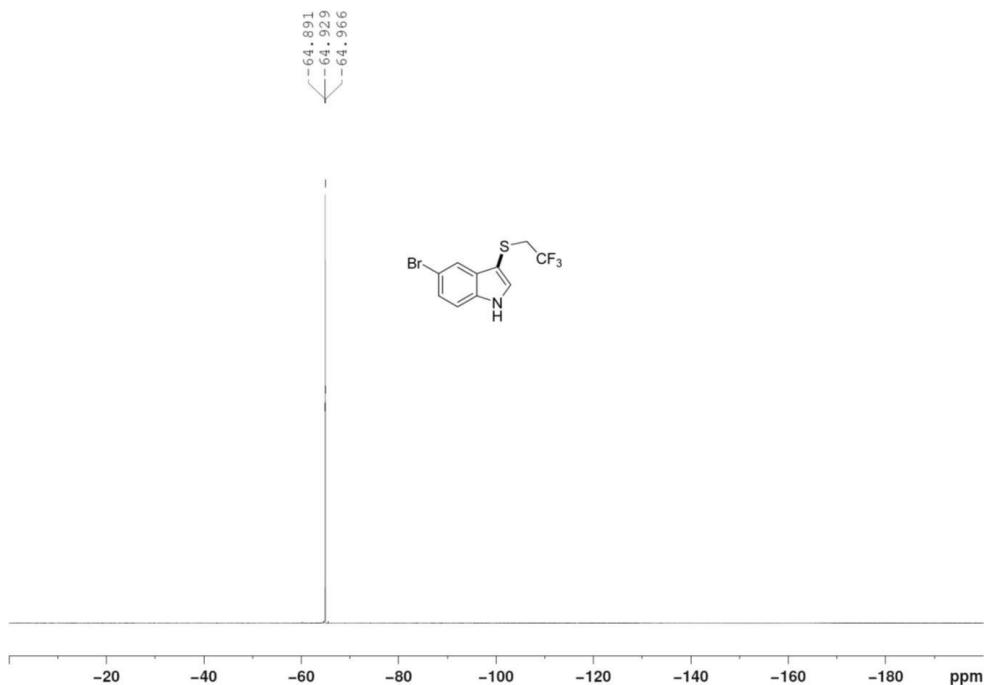
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(d-DMSO, 300MHz) of 3o**



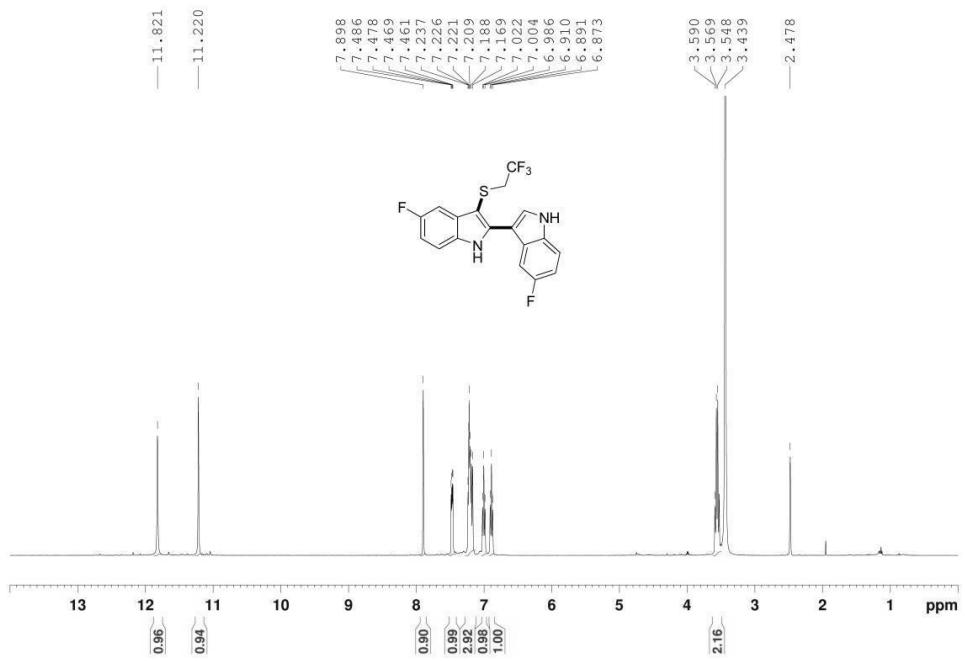
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR(d-DMSO, 75MHz) of 3o**



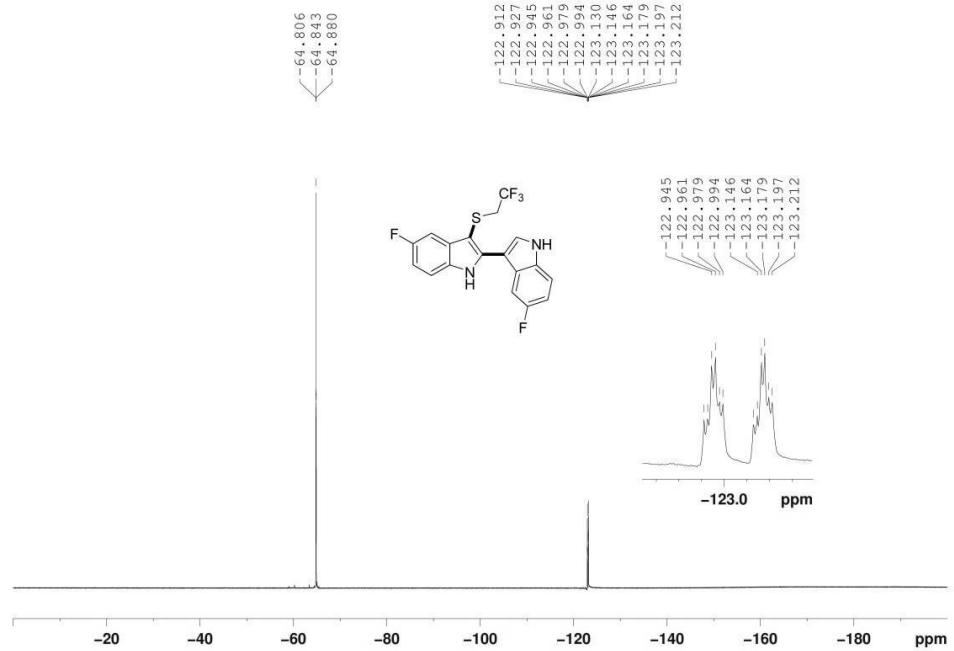
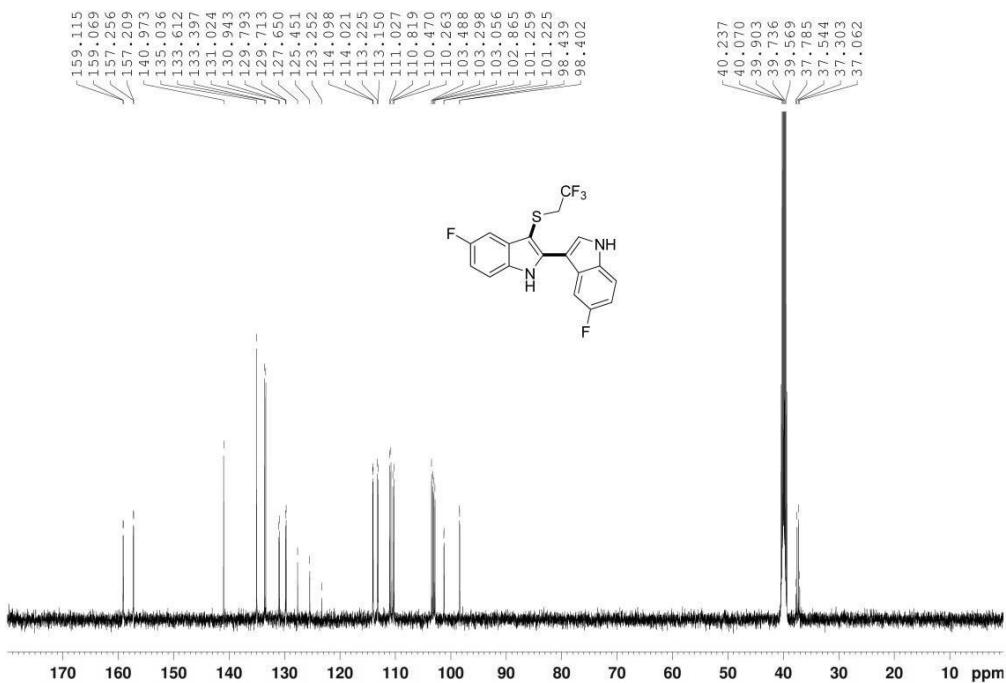
**<sup>19</sup>F-NMR(d-DMSO, 282MHz) of 3o**



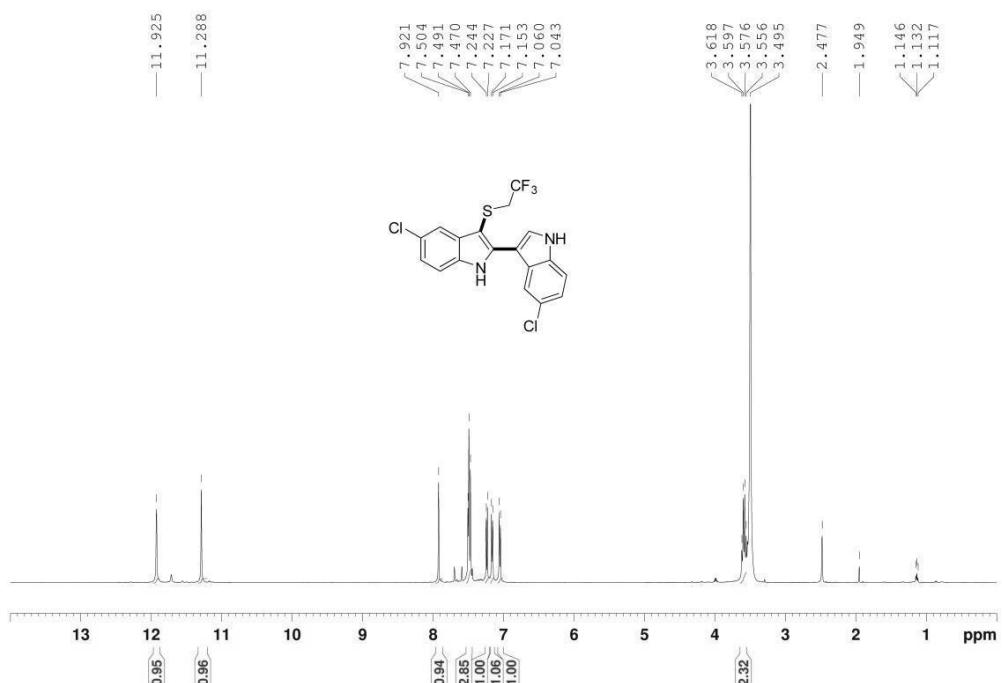
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(d-DMSO, 500MHz) of 4m**



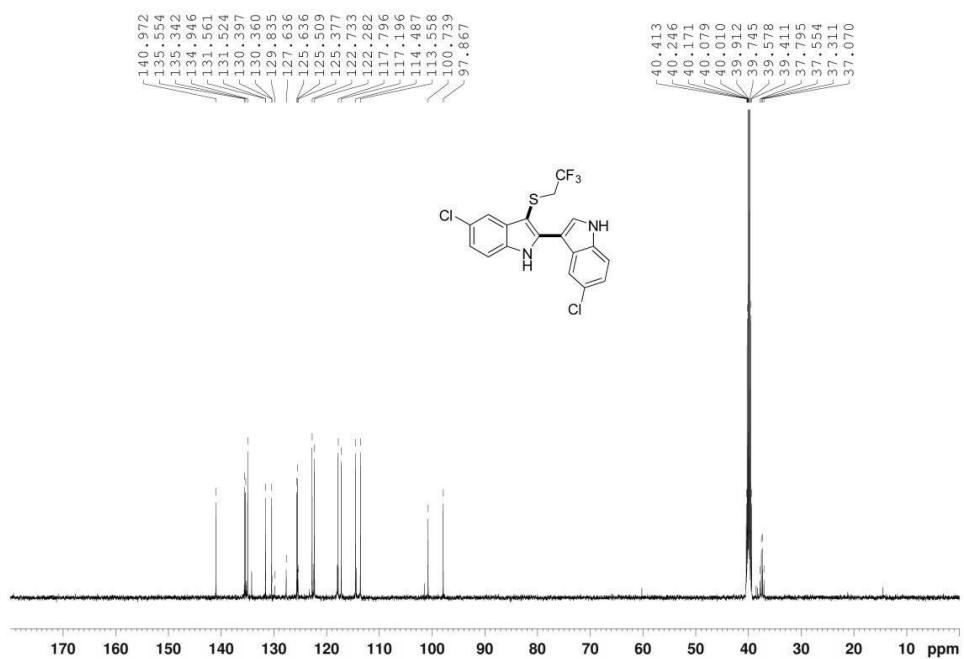
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR(d-DMSO, 125MHz) of 4m**



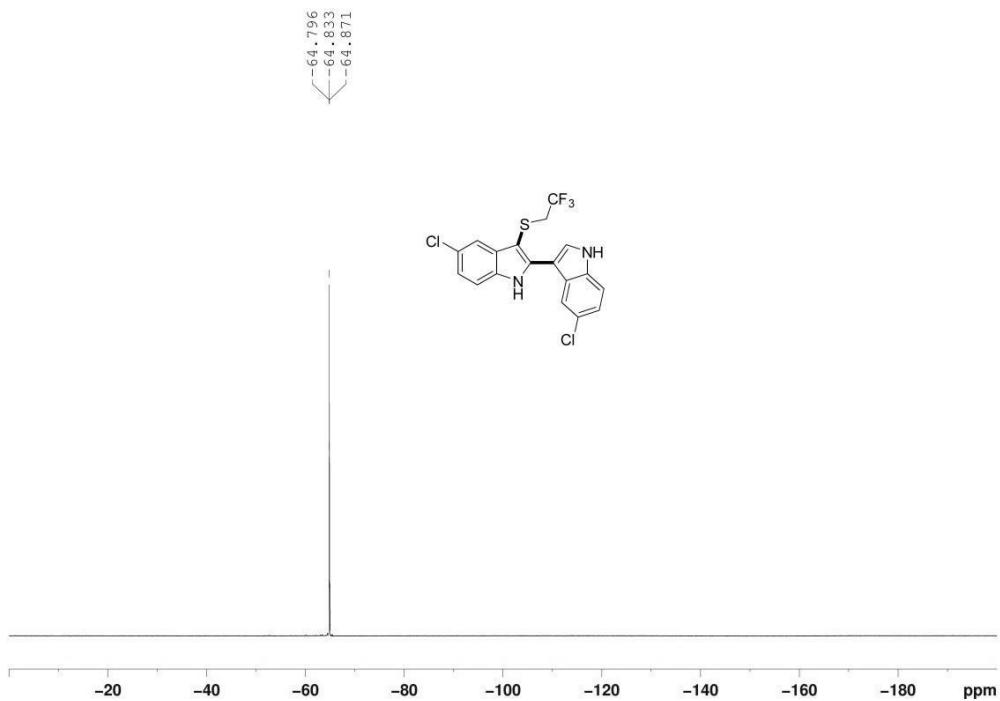
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(d-DMSO, 500MHz) of 4n**



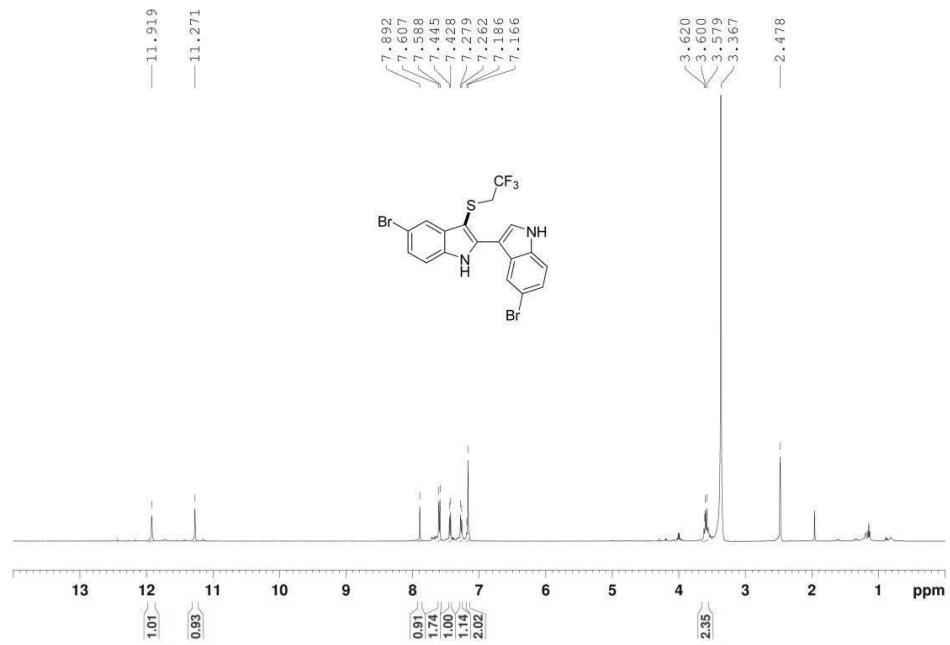
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR(d-DMSO, 125MHz) of 4n**



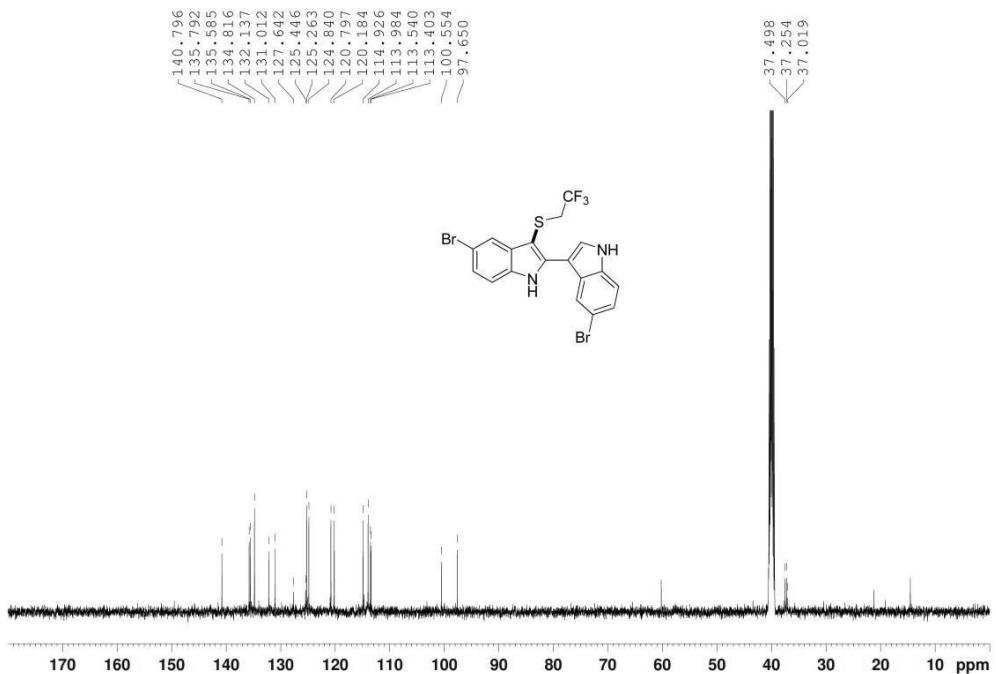
<sup>19</sup>F-NMR(d-DMSO, 282MHz) of 4n



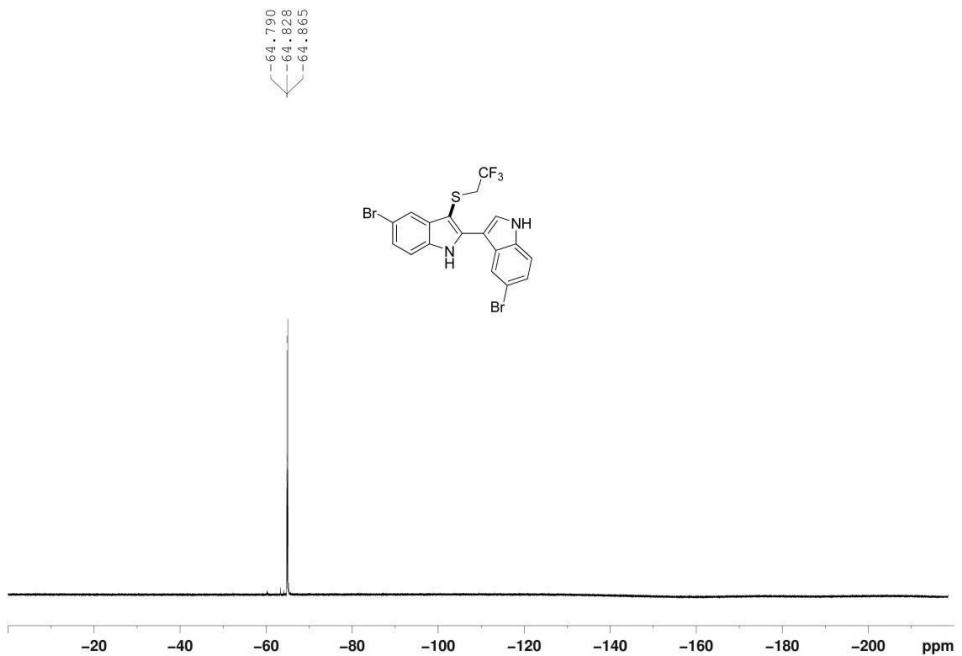
<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(d-DMSO, 500MHz) of 4o



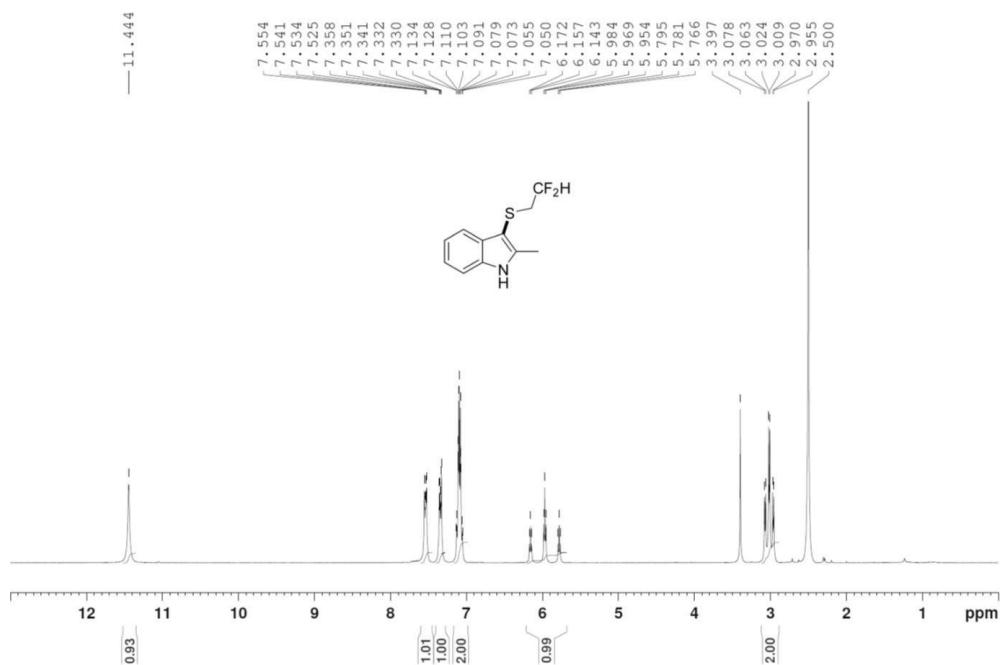
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR(d-DMSO, 125MHz) of 4o**



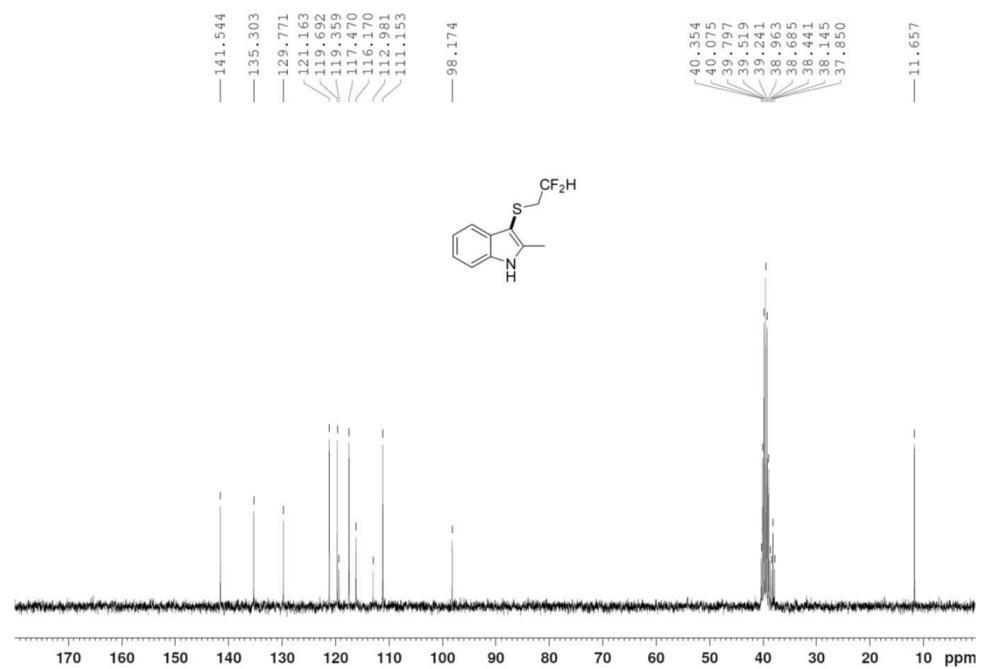
**<sup>19</sup>F-NMR(d-DMSO, 282MHz) of 4o**



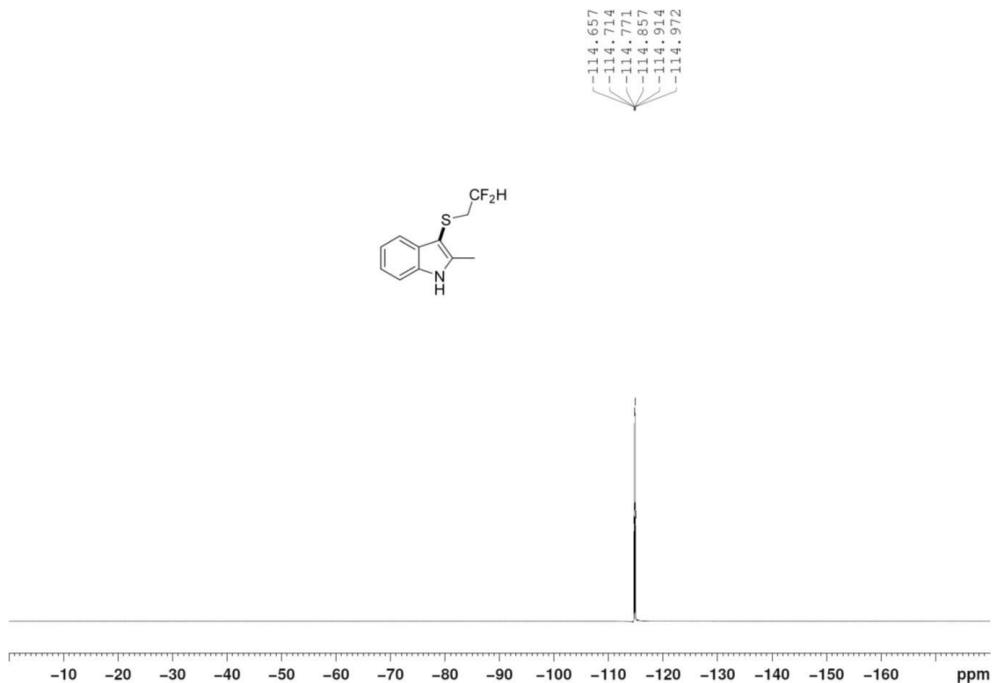
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(d-DMSO, 300MHz) of 5a**



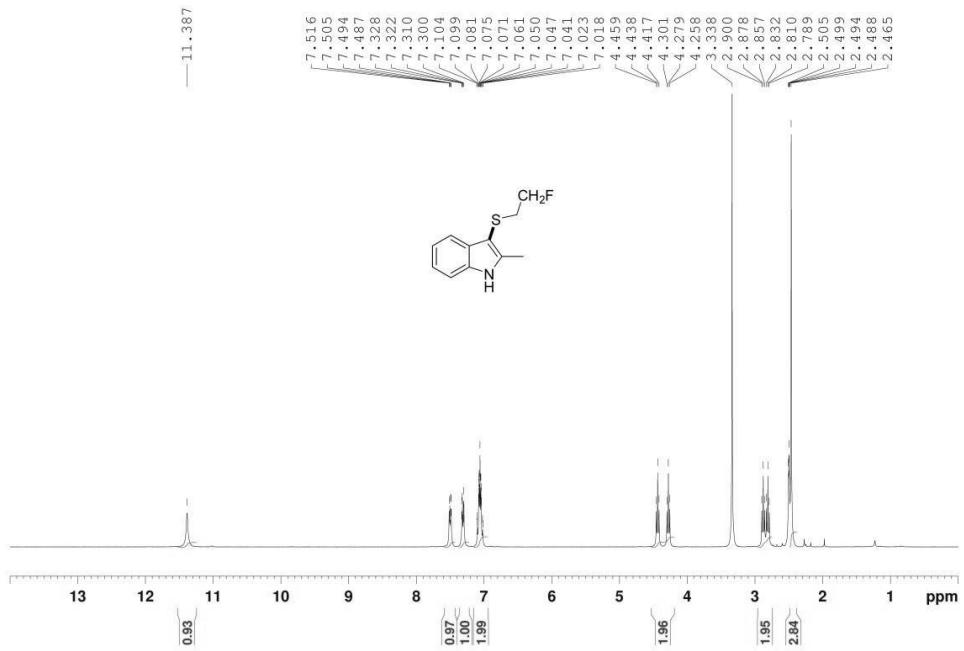
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR(d-DMSO, 75MHz) of 5a**



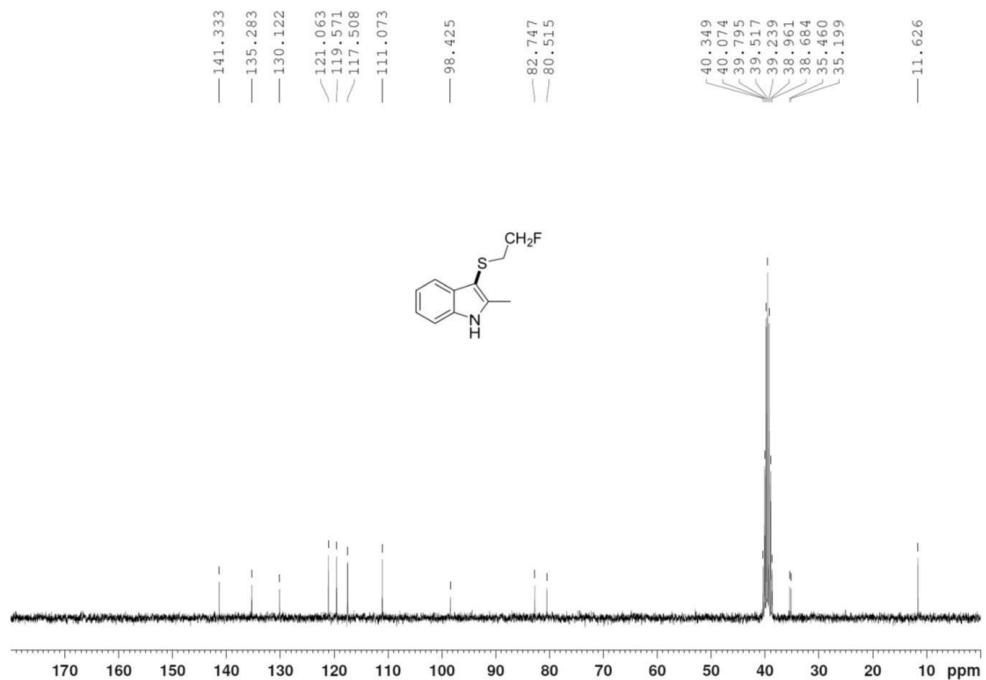
<sup>19</sup>F-NMR(d-DMSO, 282MHz) of 5a



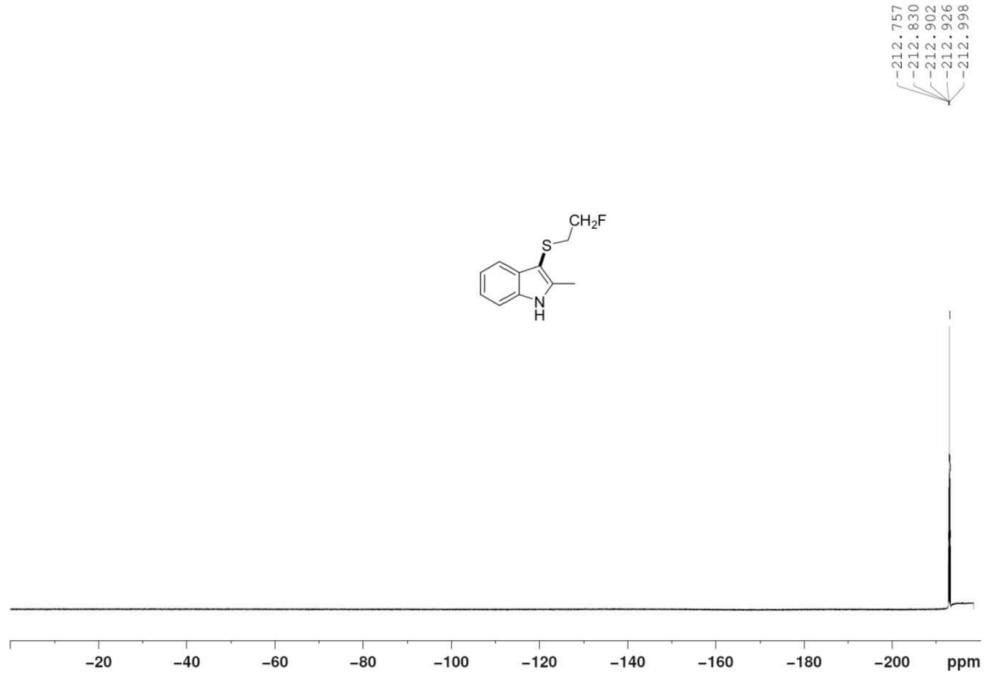
<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(d-DMSO, 300MHz) of 5b



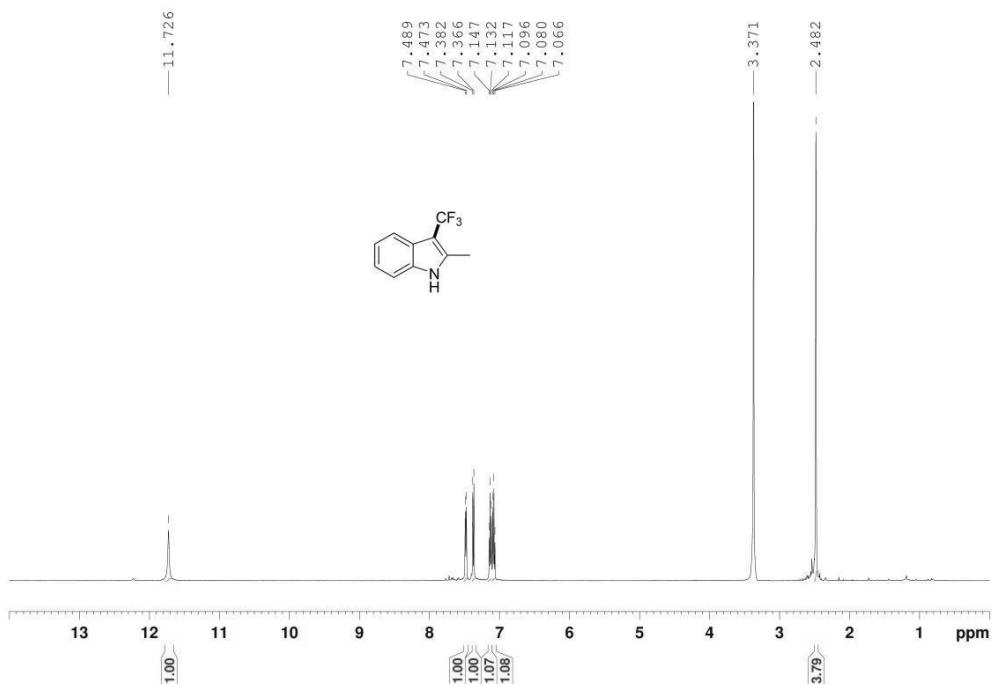
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR(d-DMSO, 75MHz) of 5b**



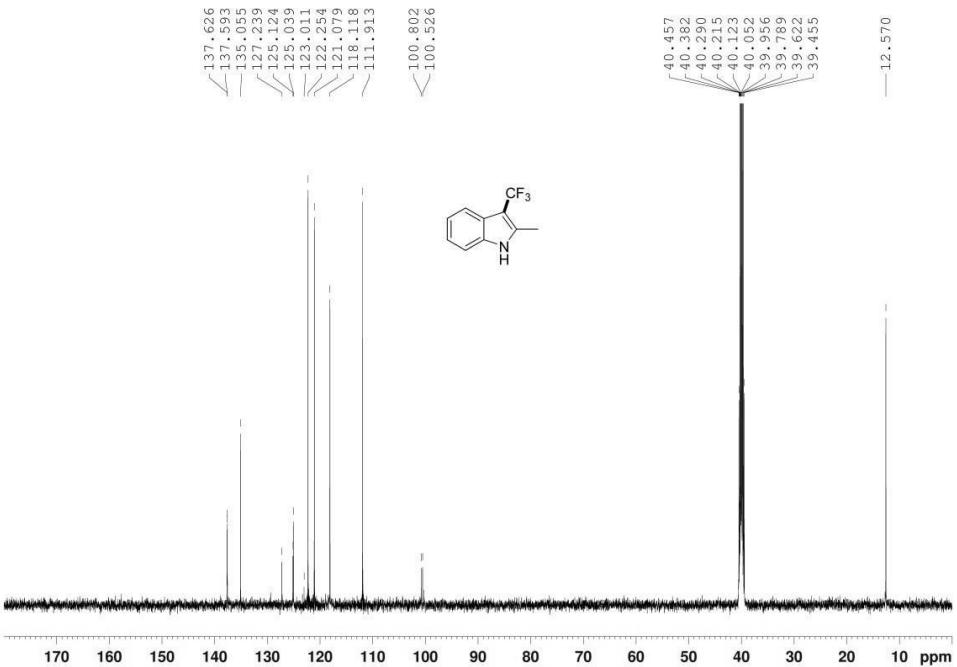
**<sup>19</sup>F-NMR(d-DMSO, 282MHz) of 5b**



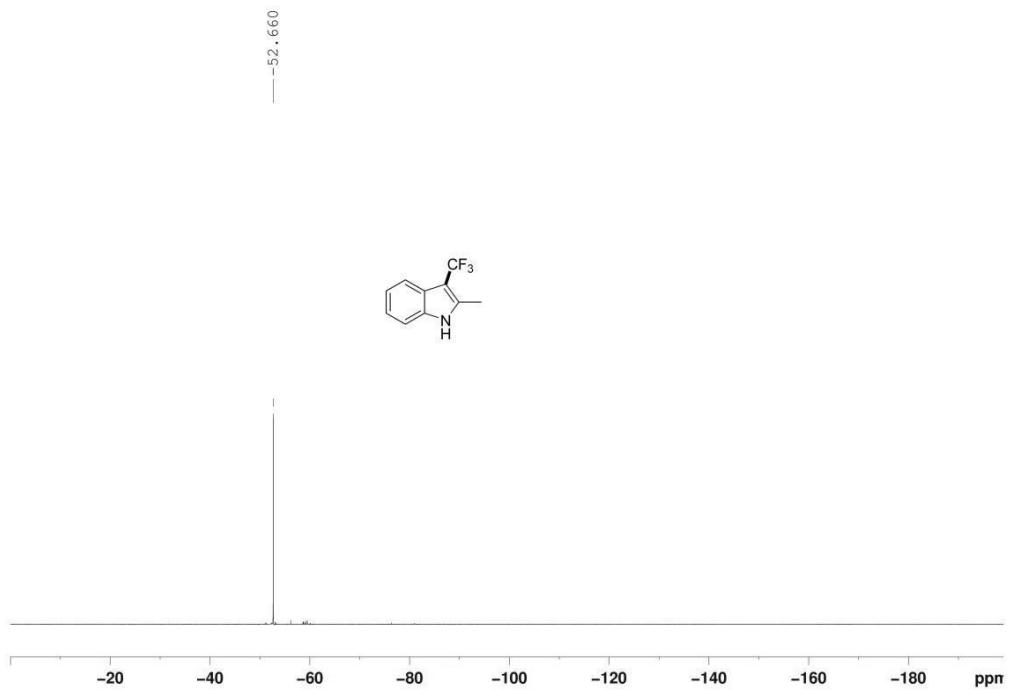
**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(d-DMSO, 500MHz) of 5c**



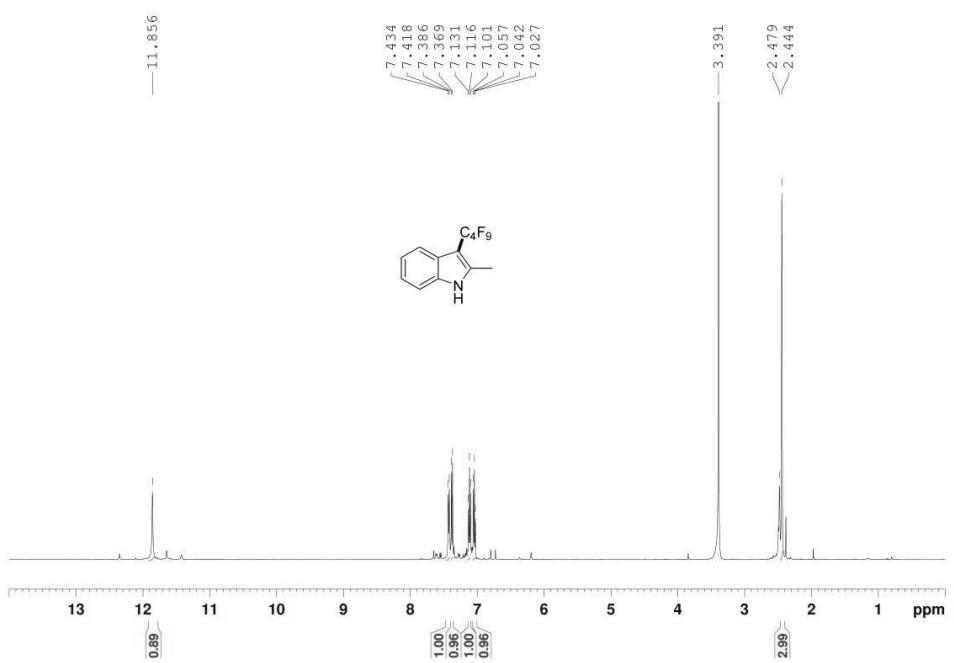
**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR(d-DMSO, 125MHz) of 5c**



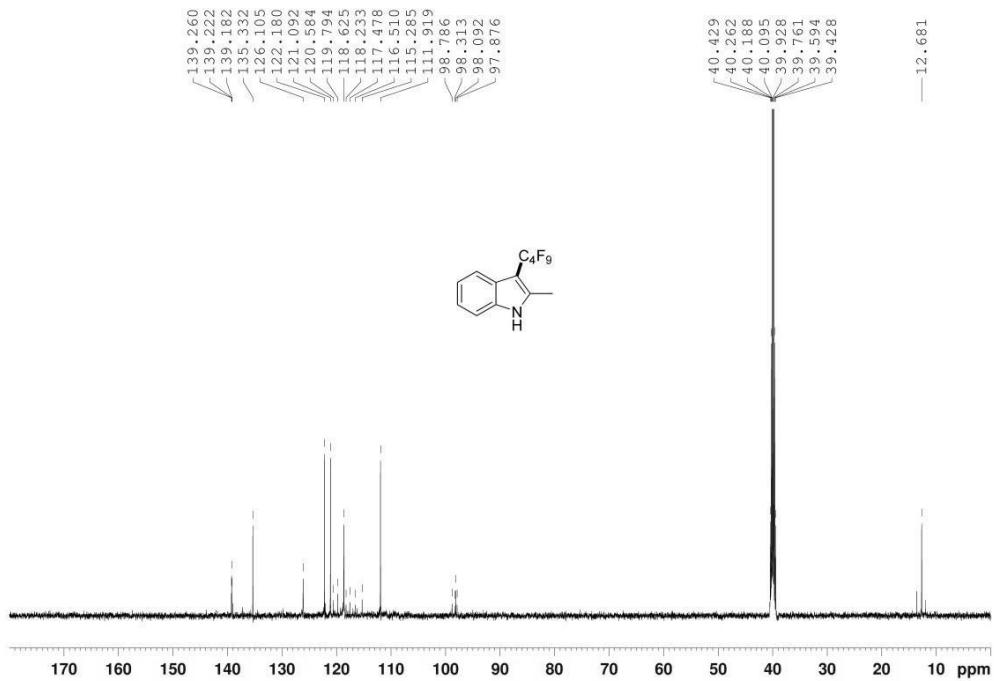
**<sup>19</sup>F-NMR(d-DMSO, 282MHz) of 5c**



**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR(d-DMSO, 500MHz) of 5d**



**<sup>13</sup>C-NMR(d-DMSO, 125MHz) of 5d**



**<sup>19</sup>F-NMR(d-DMSO, 282MHz) of 5d**

