

## 2-Hydroxyarylimidazole based Colorimetric and Ratiometric Fluoride ion Sensors

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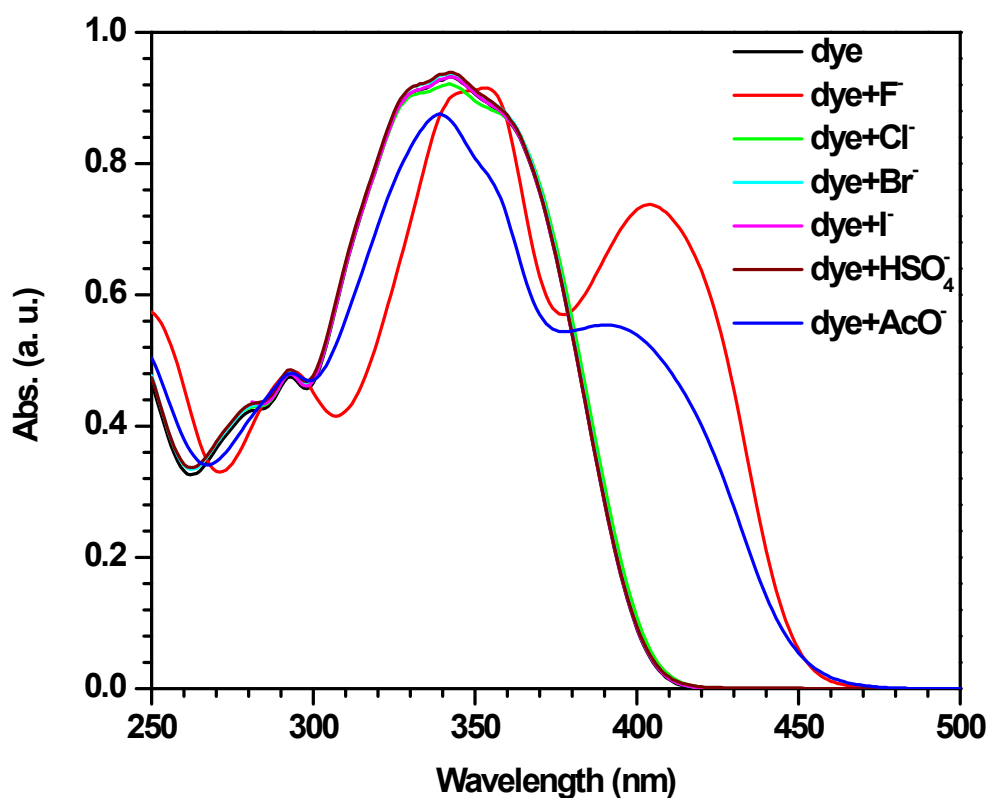


Fig. S1. Absorption spectra of **4a** after addition of 20 equiv. of different anions recorded in ACN

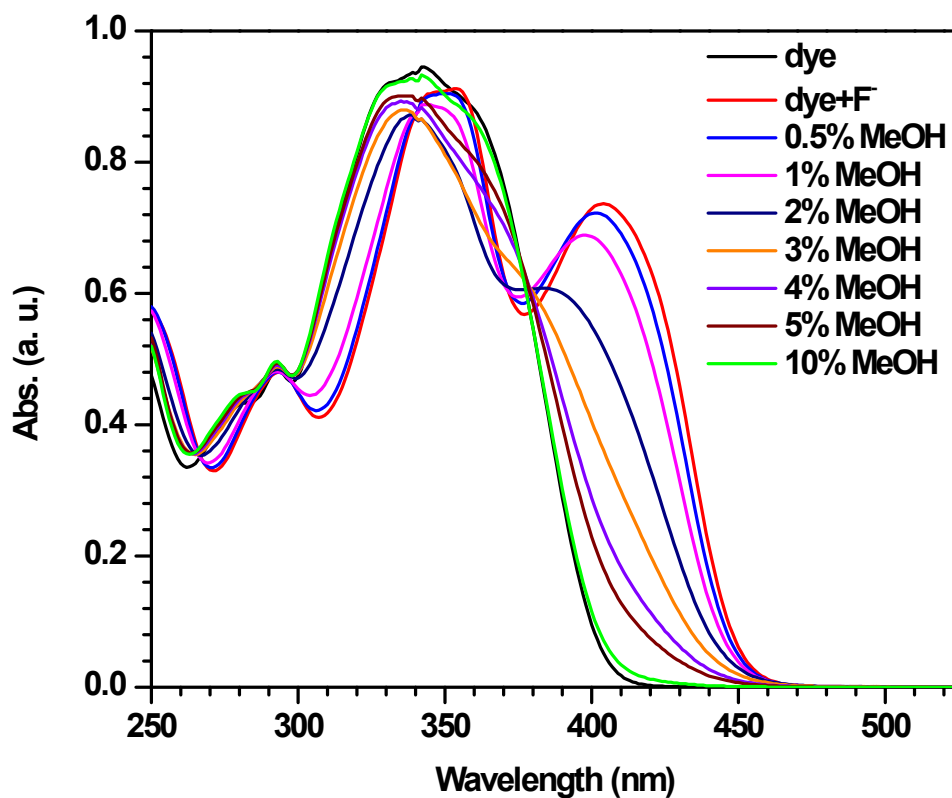


Fig. S2. Absorption spectra of **4a** + F<sup>-</sup> (20 equiv.) on addition of different amount of MeOH recorded in ACN

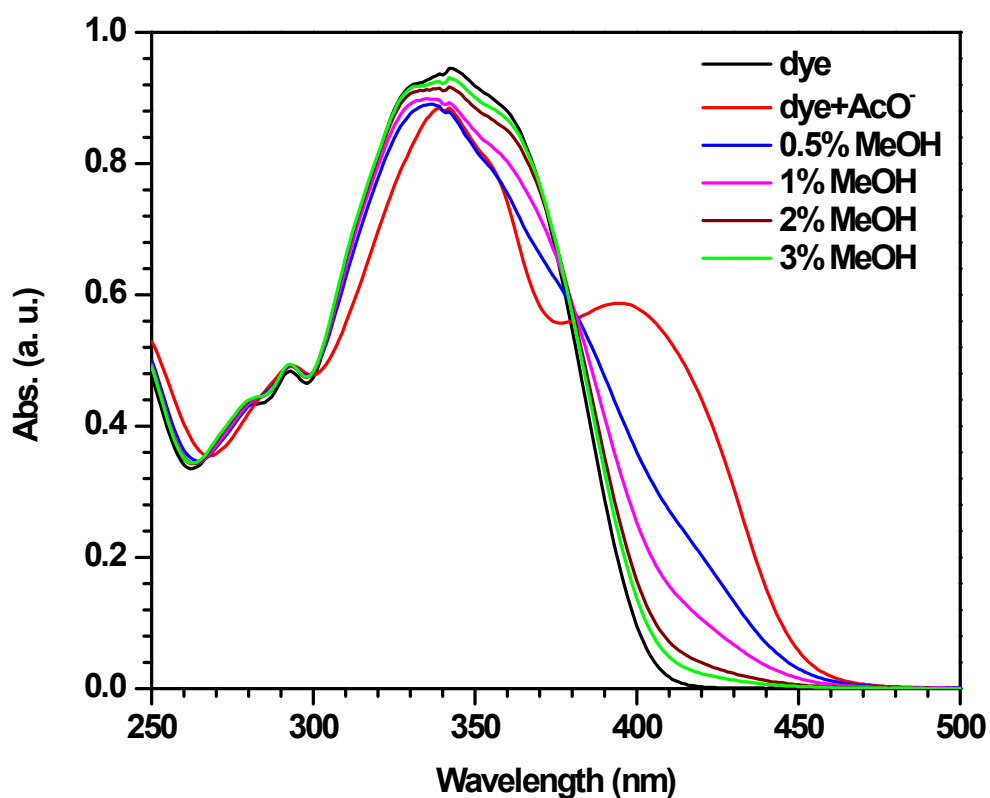


Fig. S3. Absorption spectra of **4a** +  $AcO^-$  (20 equiv.) on addition of different amount of MeOH recorded in ACN

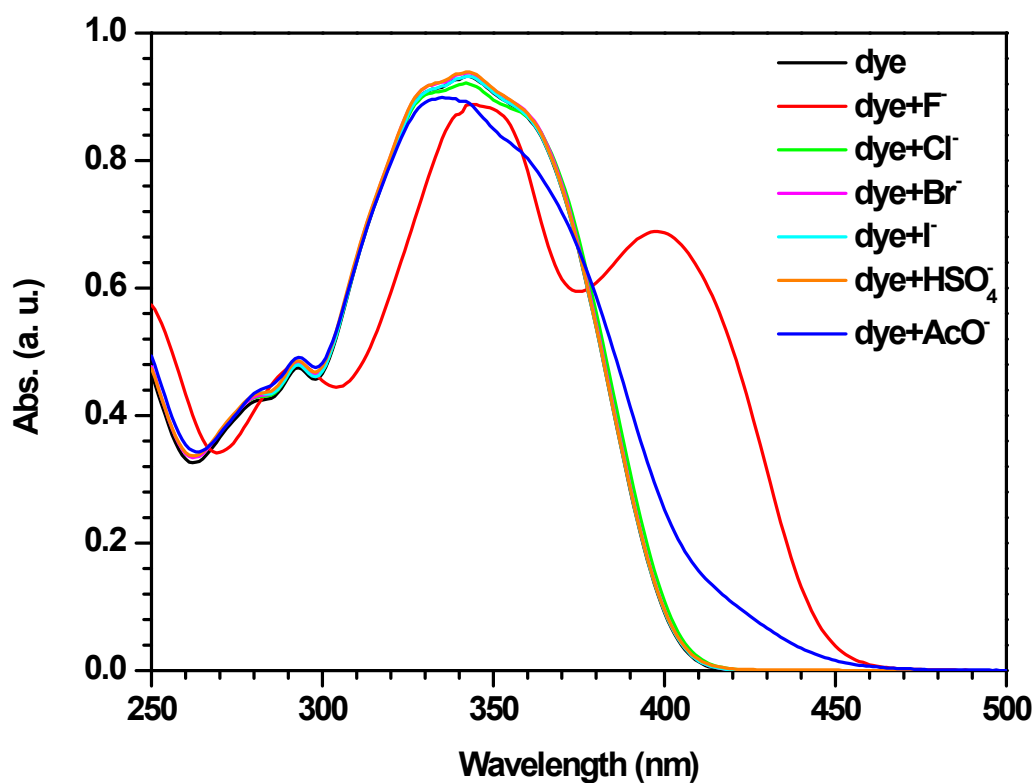


Fig. S4. Absorption spectra of **4a** after addition of 20 equiv. of different anions recorded in MeOH+ACN (1% v/v)

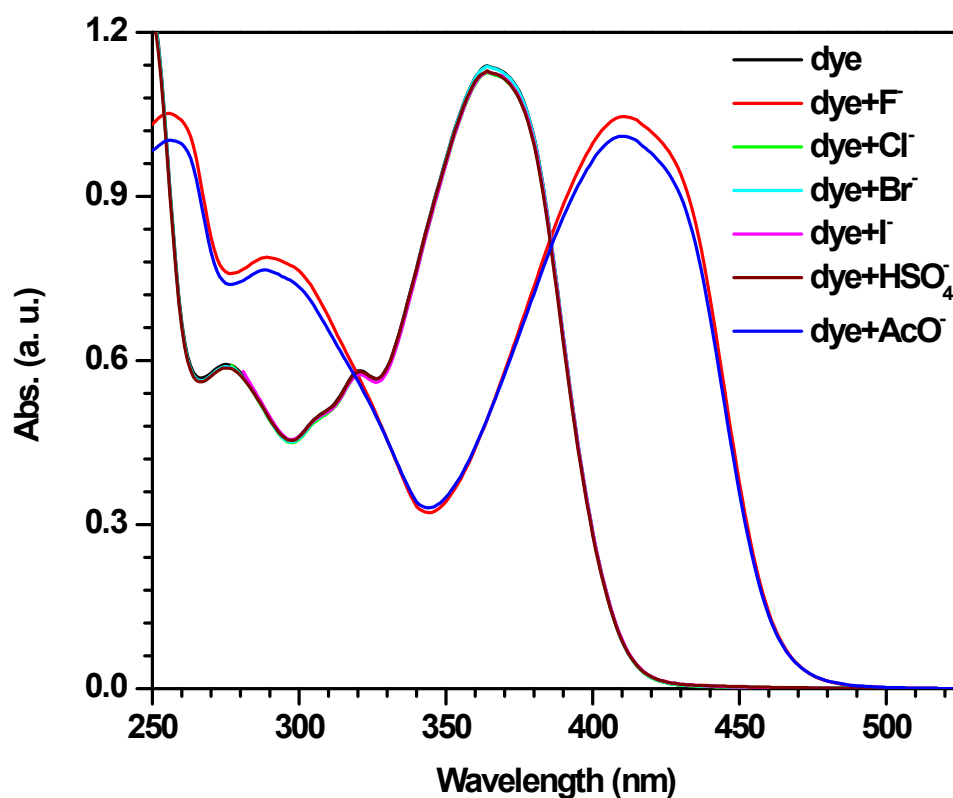


Fig. S5. Absorption spectra of **4b** after addition of 20 equiv. of different anions recorded in ACN

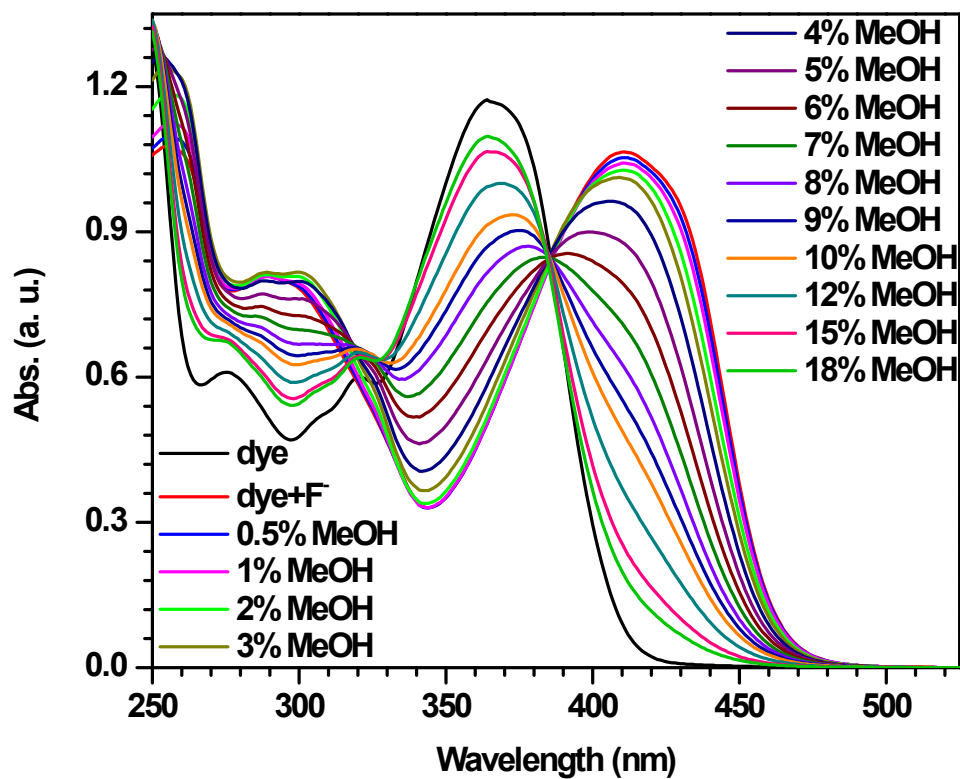


Fig. S6. Absorption spectra of **4b** + F<sup>-</sup> (20 equiv.) on addition of different amount of MeOH recorded in ACN

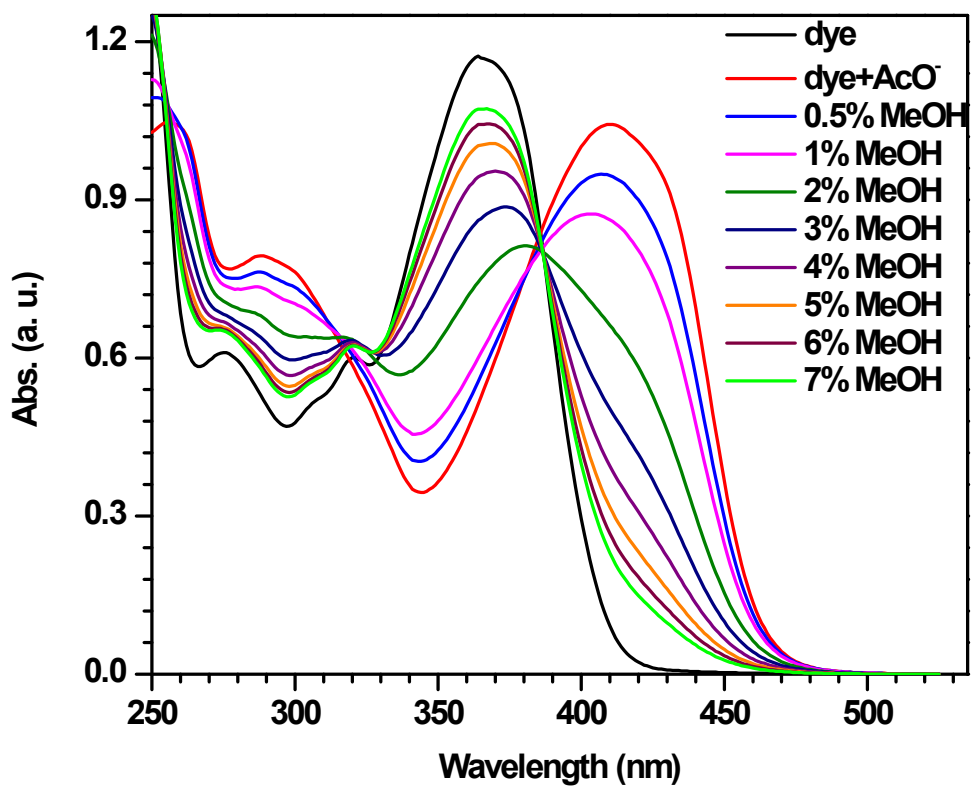


Fig. S7. Absorption spectra of **4b** +  $AcO^-$  (20 equiv.) on addition of different amount of MeOH recorded in ACN

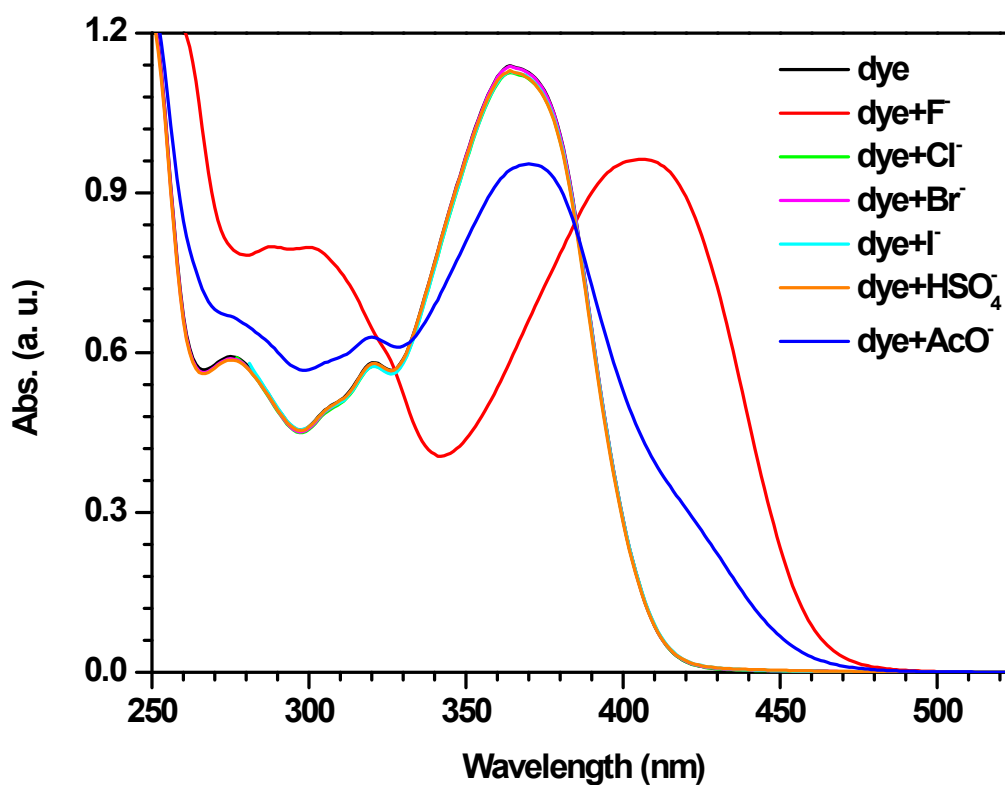


Fig. S8. Absorption spectra of **4b** after addition of 20 equiv. of different anions recorded in MeOH+ACN (4% v/v)

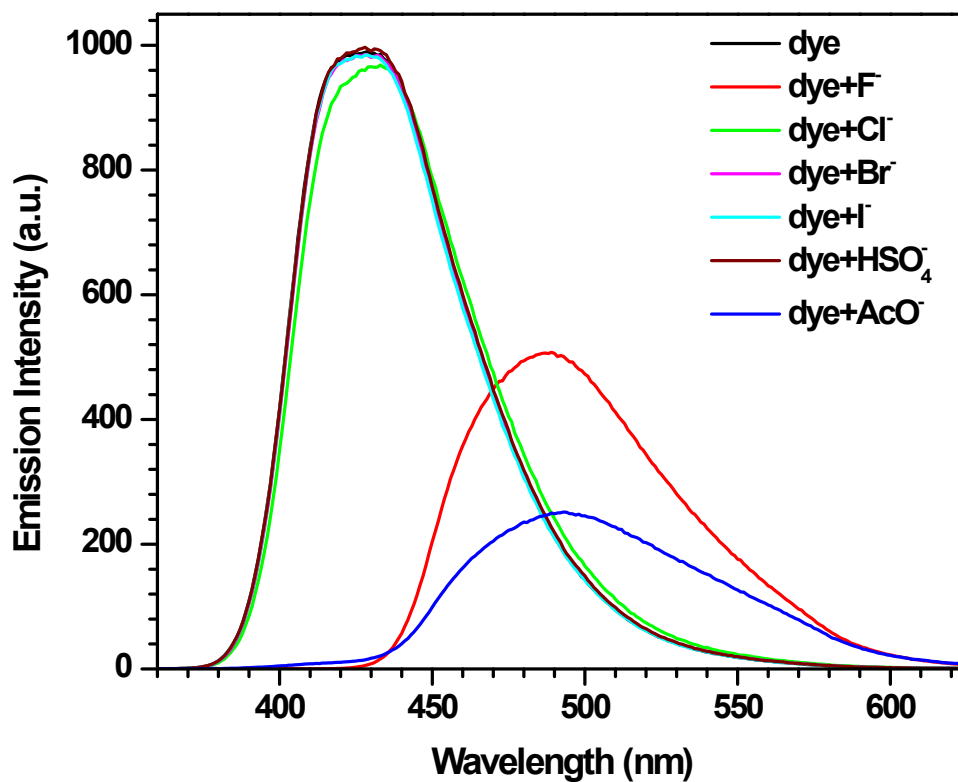


Fig. S9. Emission spectra of **4a** after addition of 20 equiv. of different anions recorded in ACN

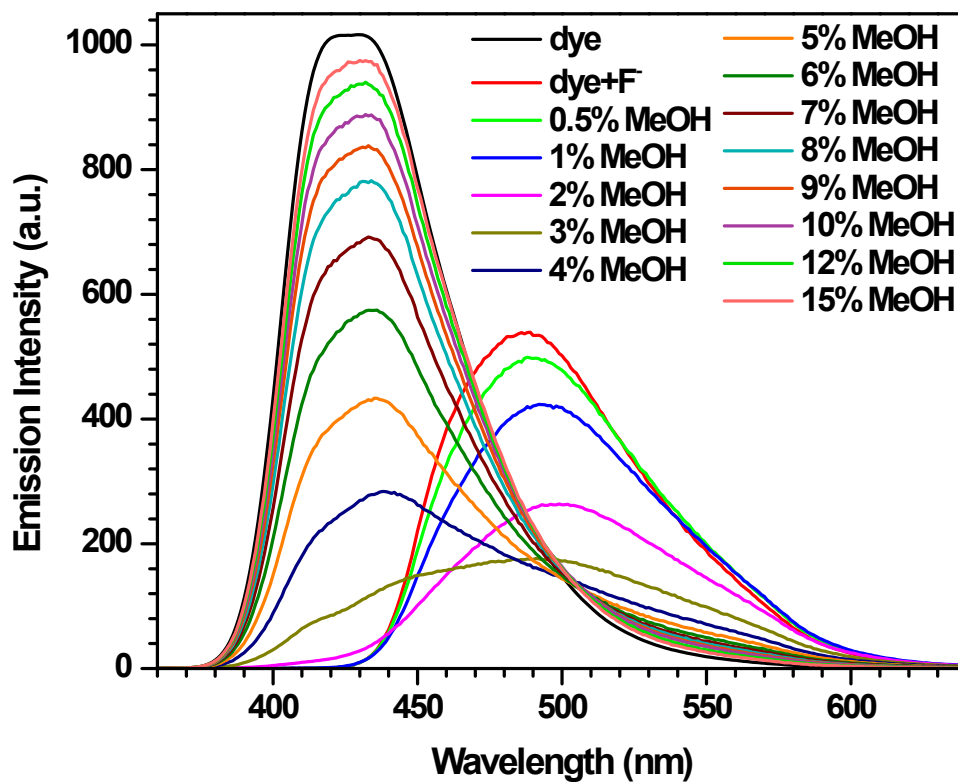


Fig. S10. Emission spectra of **4a** + F<sup>-</sup> (20 equiv.) on addition of different amount of MeOH recorded in ACN

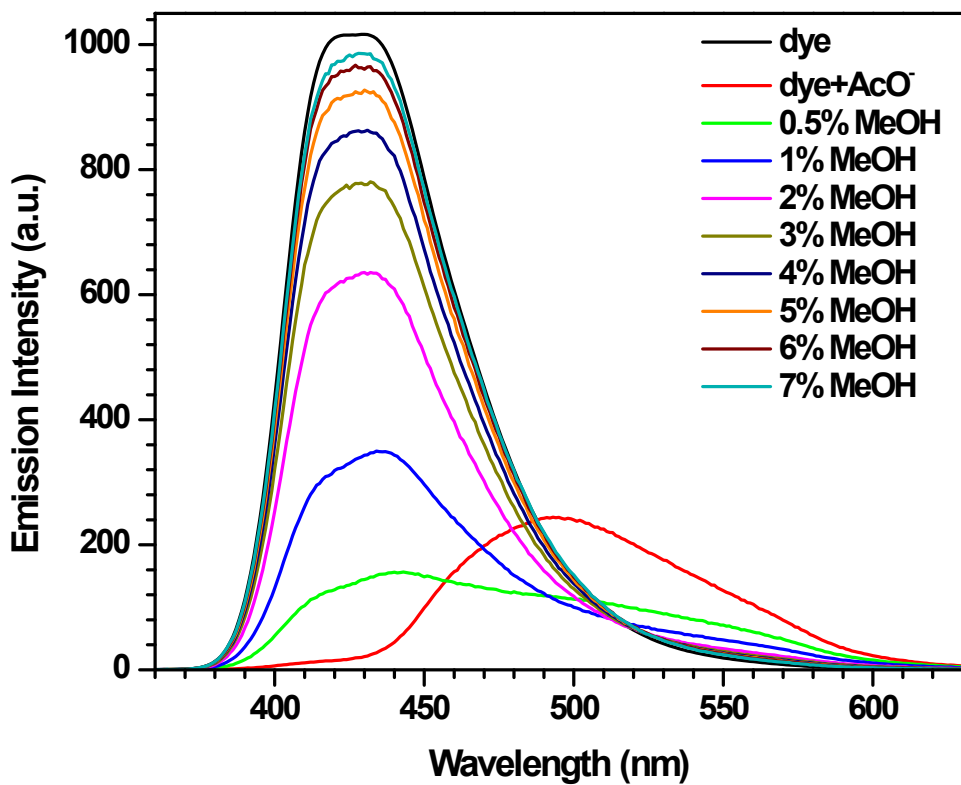


Fig. S11. Emission spectra of **4a** +  $AcO^-$  (20 equiv.) on addition of different amount of MeOH recorded in ACN

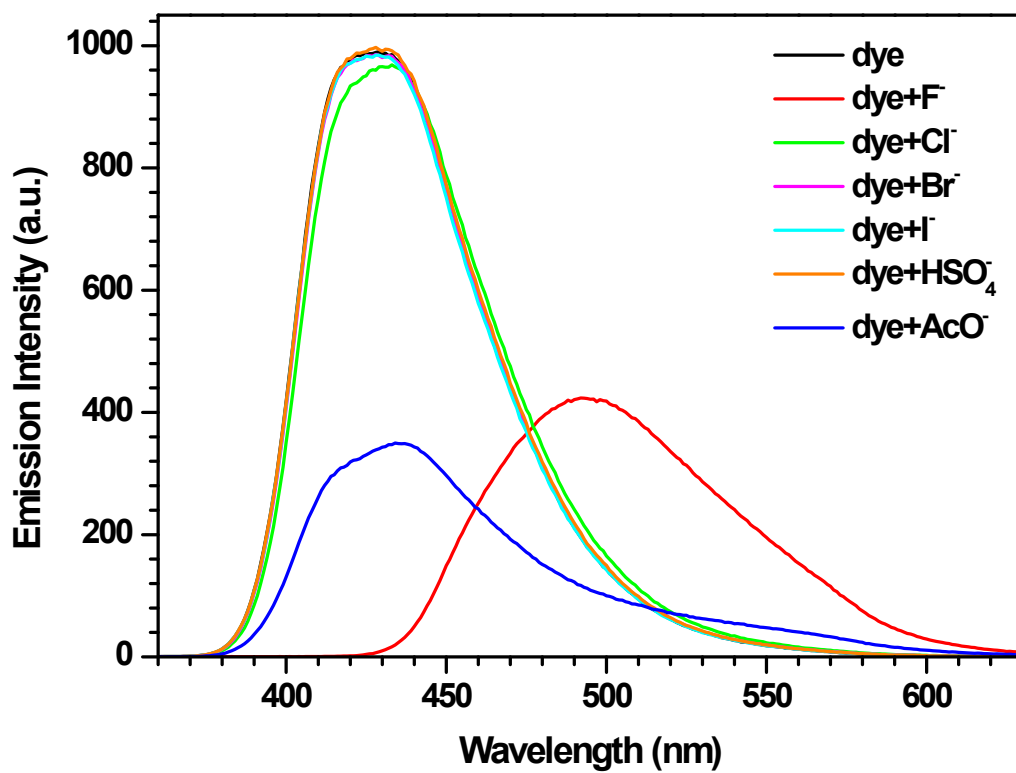


Figure S12 Emission spectra of **4a** after addition of 20 equiv. of different anions recorded in MeOH+ACN (1% v/v)



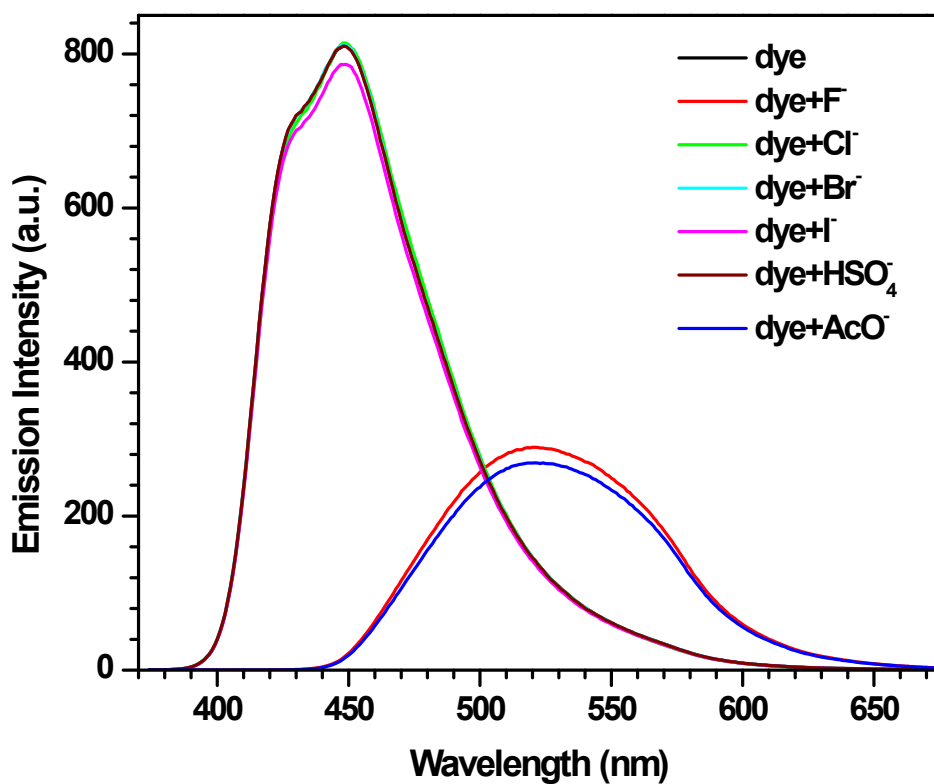


Fig. S13. Emission spectra of **4b** after addition of 20 equiv. of different anions recorded in ACN

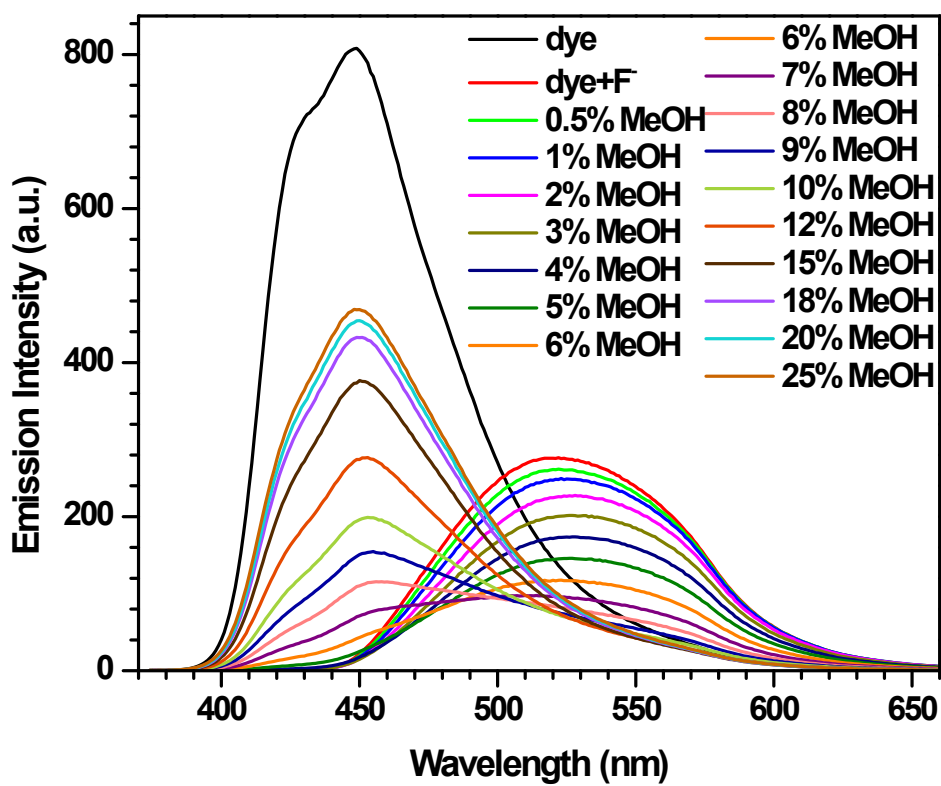


Fig. S14. Emission spectra of **4b** + F<sup>-</sup> (20 equiv.) on addition of different amount of MeOH recorded in ACN

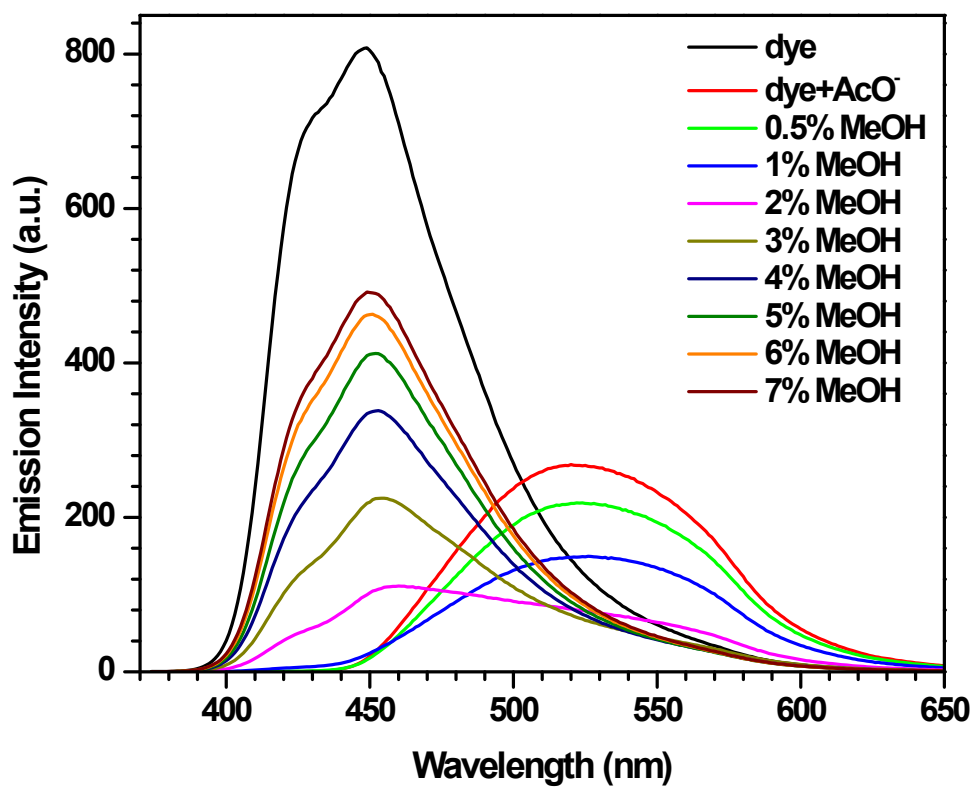


Fig. S15. Emission spectra of **4b** +  $AcO^-$  (20 equiv.) on addition of different amount of MeOH recorded in ACN

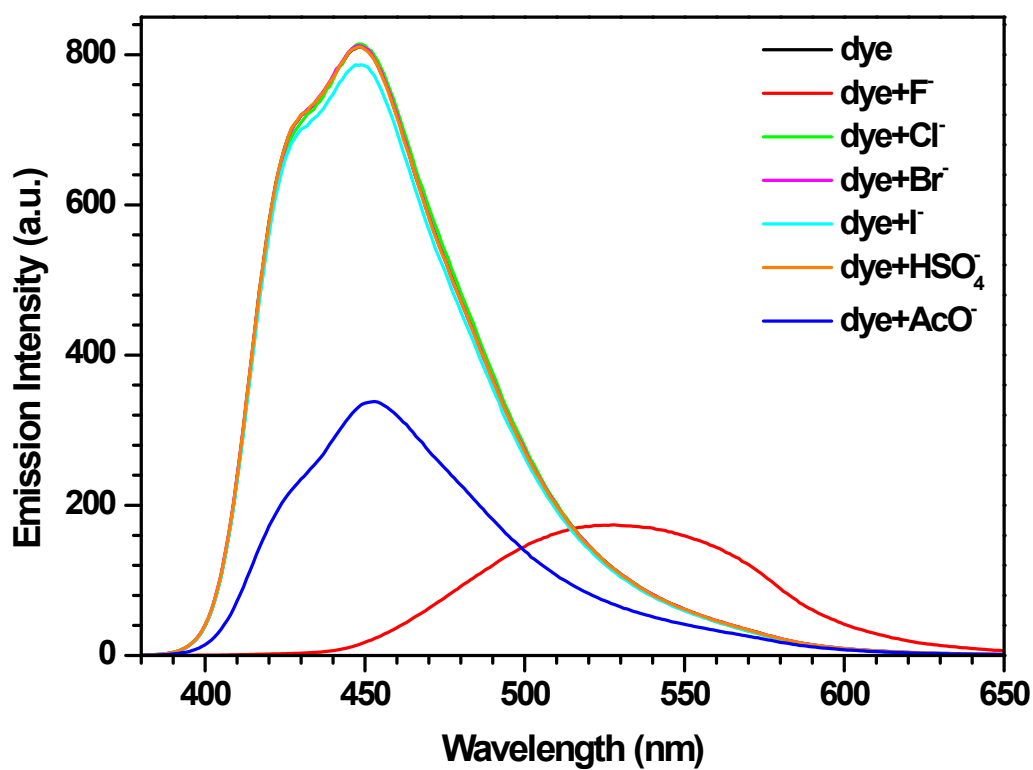


Fig. S16. Emission spectra of **4b** after addition of 20 equiv. of different anions recorded in MeOH+ACN (4% v/v)

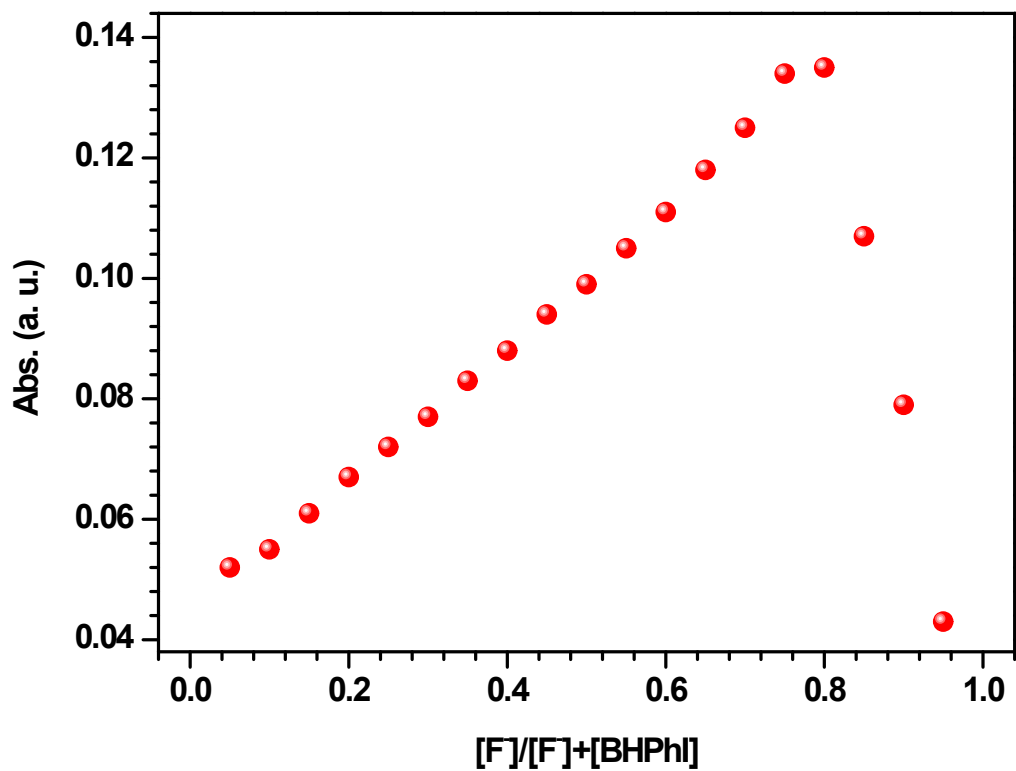


Figure S17. Job's plot for  $4a + F^-$ ;  $[receptor] + [guest] = 2 \times 10^{-5} M$

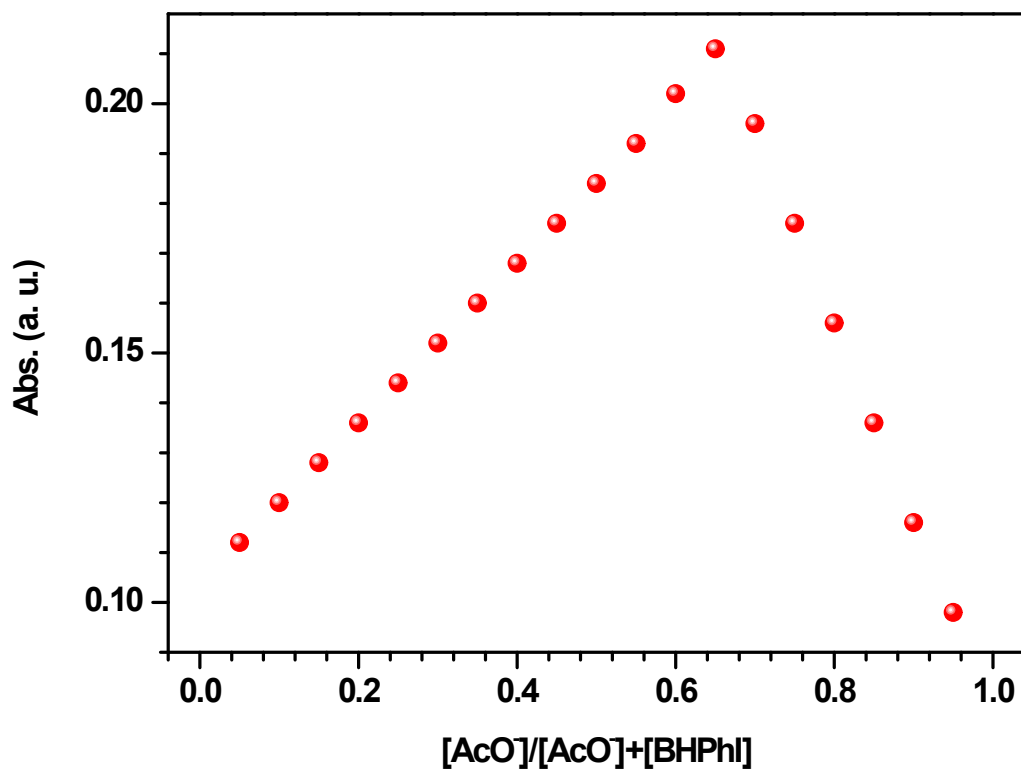


Fig. S18. Job's plot for  $4a + AcO^-$ ;  $[receptor] + [guest] = 2 \times 10^{-5} M$

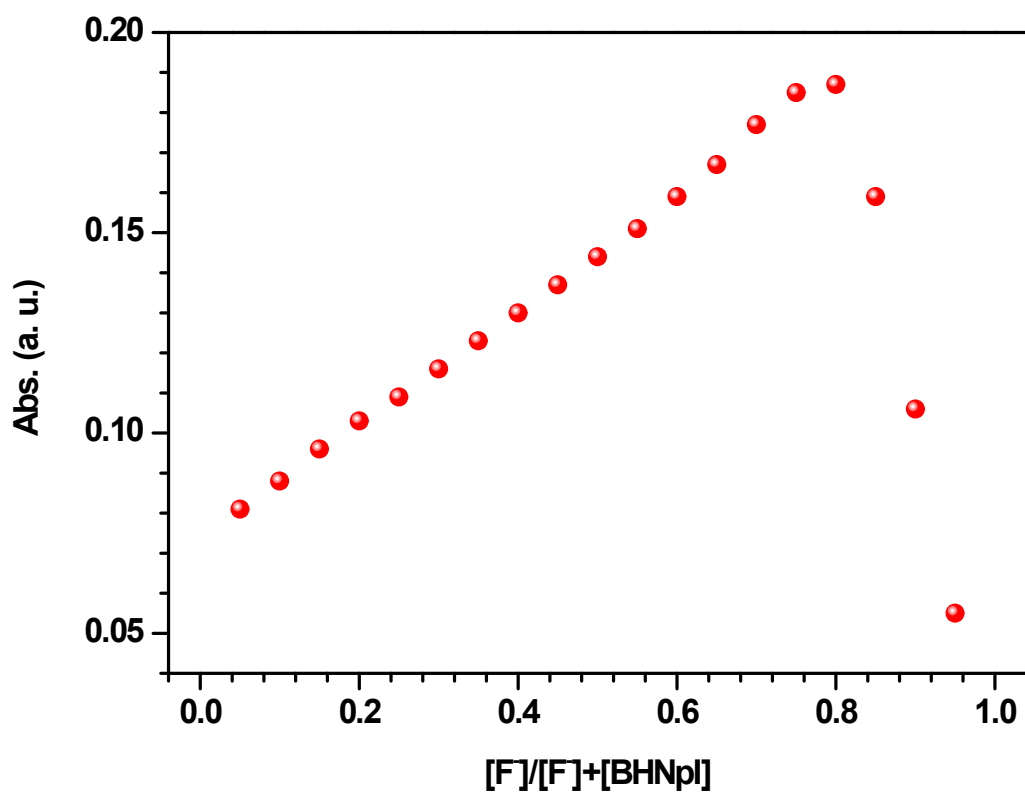


Fig. S19. Job's plot for  $4b + F^-$ ;  $[receptor] + [guest] = 2 \times 10^{-5} M$

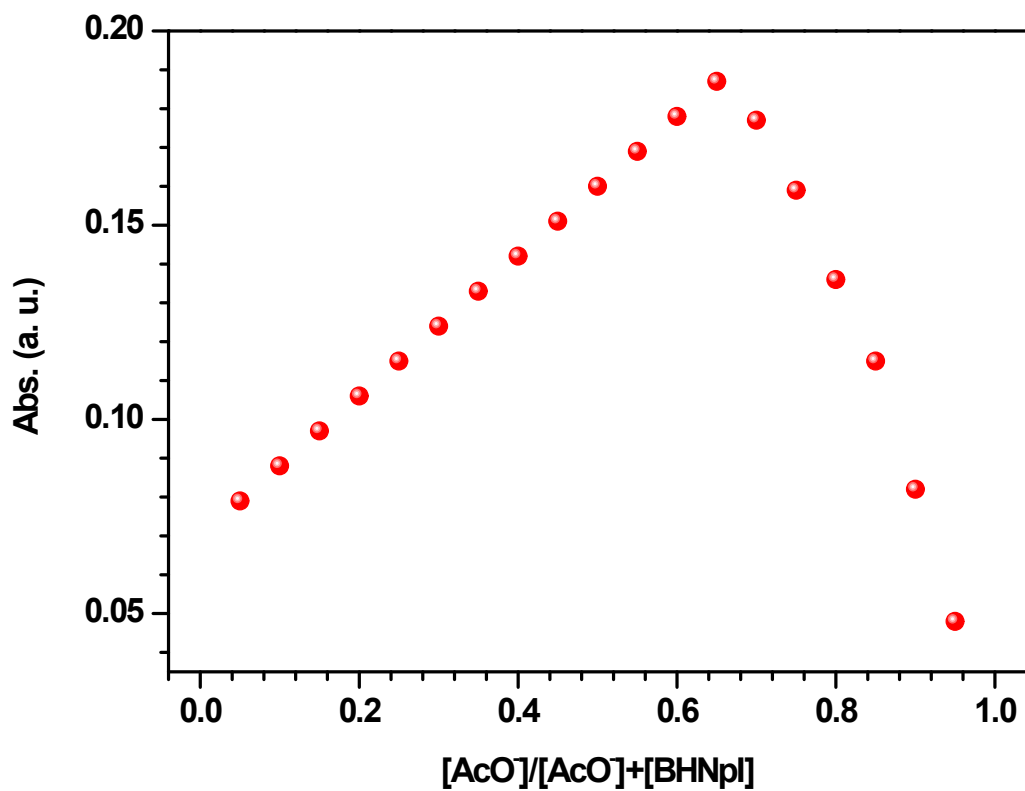
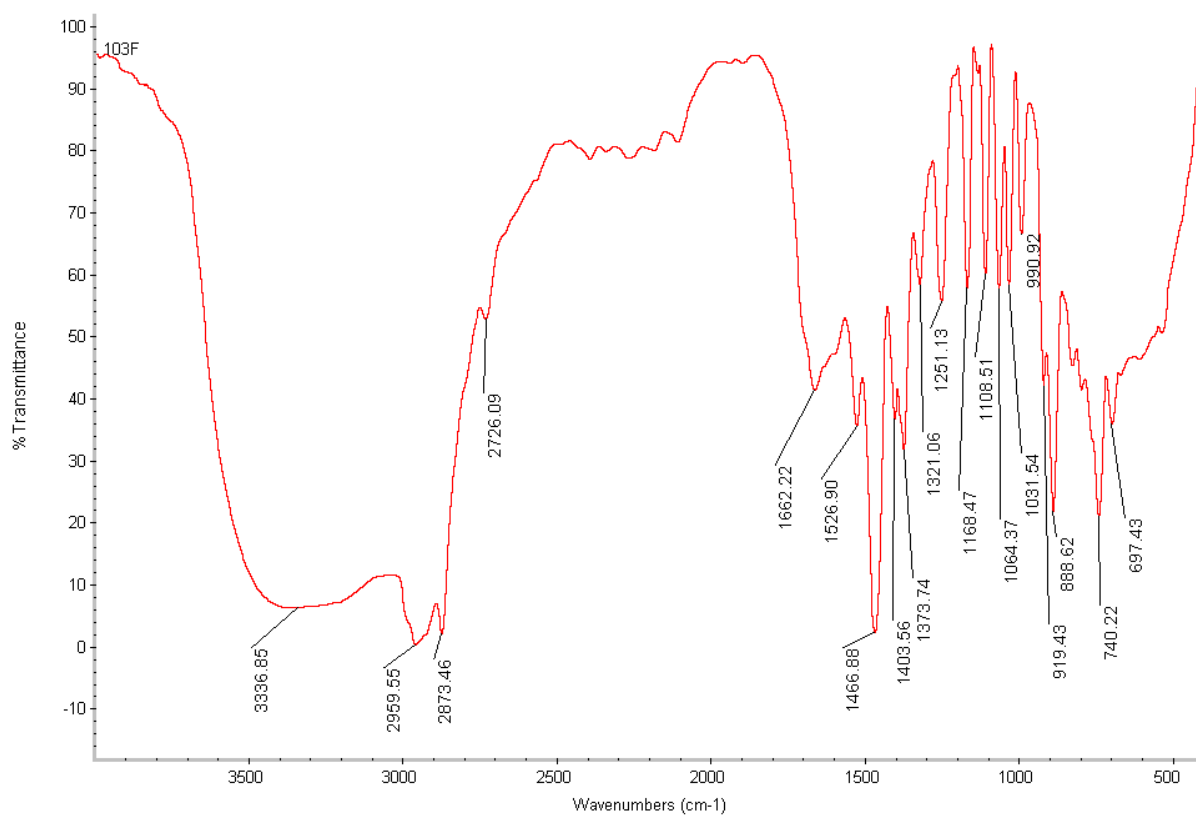
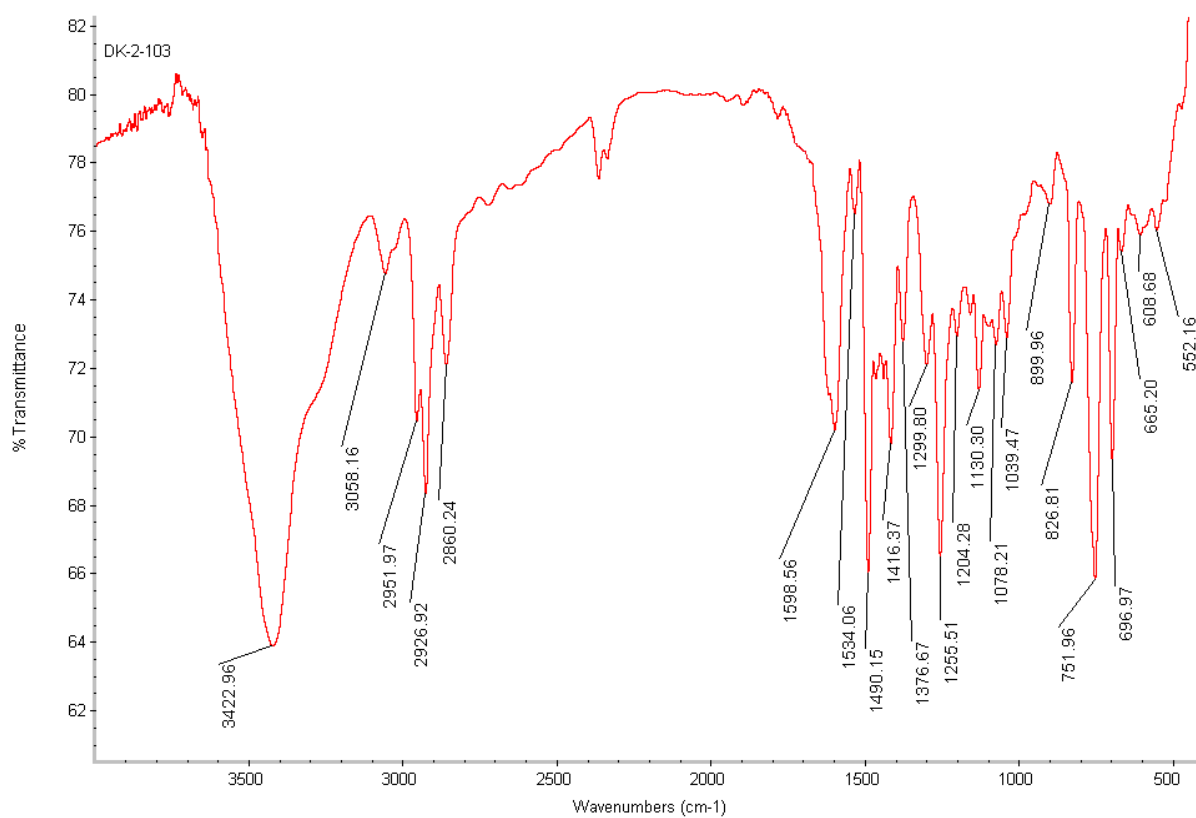
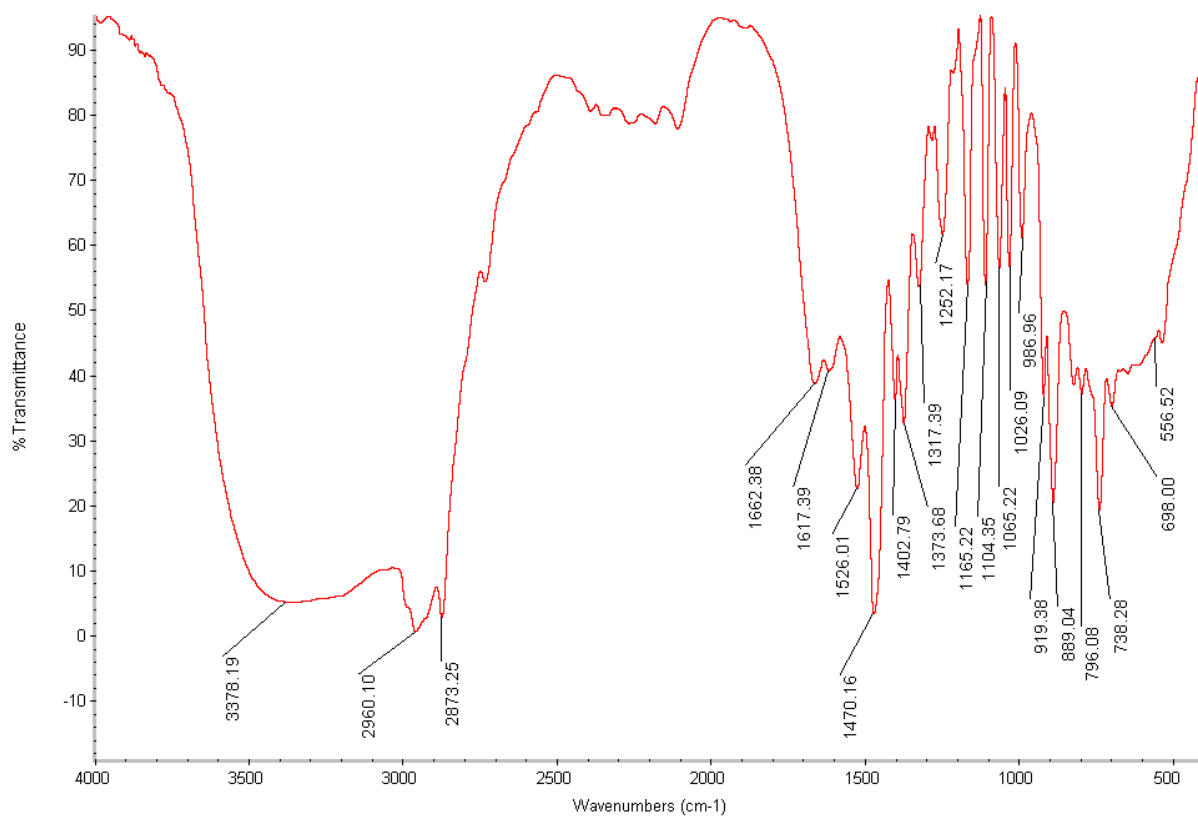
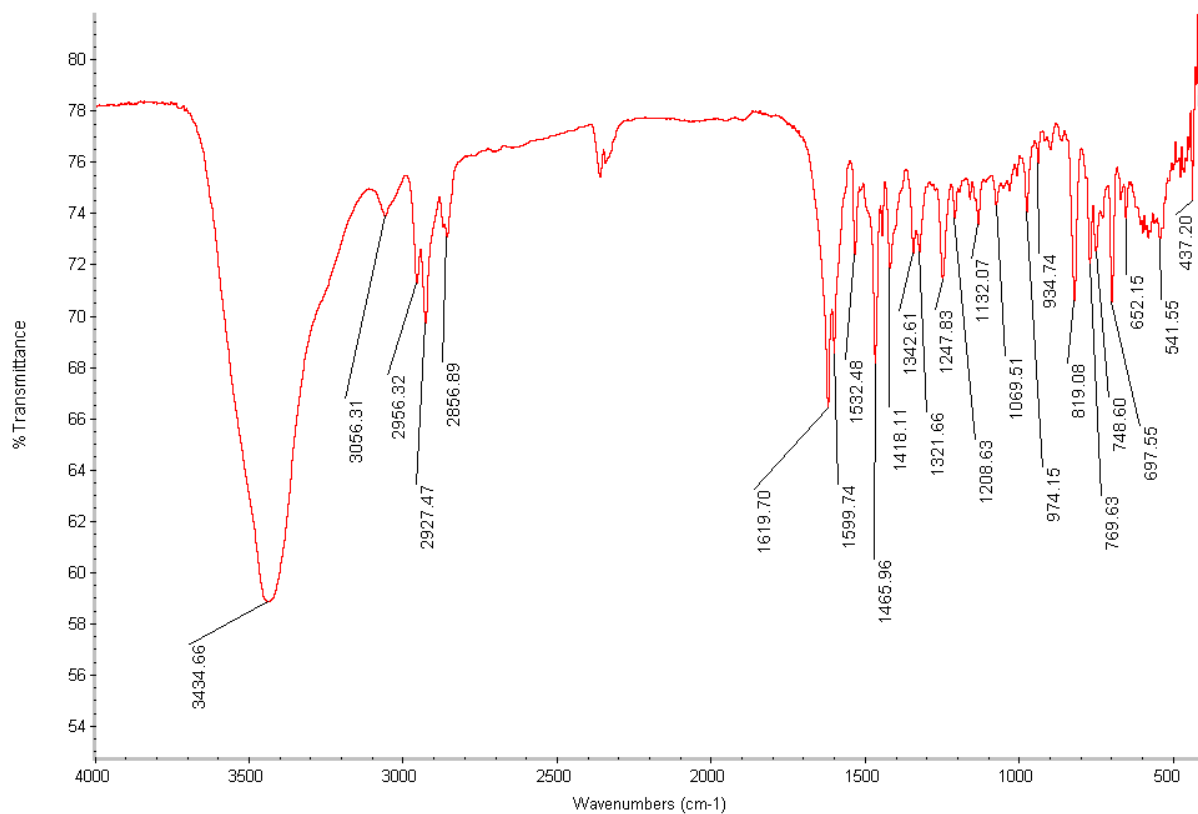


Fig. S20. Job's plot for  $4b + AcO^-$ ;  $[receptor] + [guest] = 2 \times 10^{-5} M$



**Fig. S21** IR of **4a** only (top) and **4a** + TBAF (bottom)



**Fig. S22.** IR of **4b** only (top) and **4b + TBAF** (bottom)

## Detection Limit Calculation

The limit of detection (LOD) of **4a** and **4b** in absorption as well in emission for the F<sup>-</sup> anion was estimated from the following equation

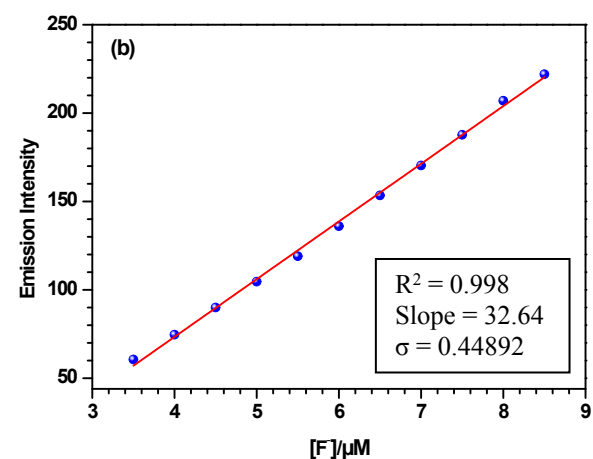
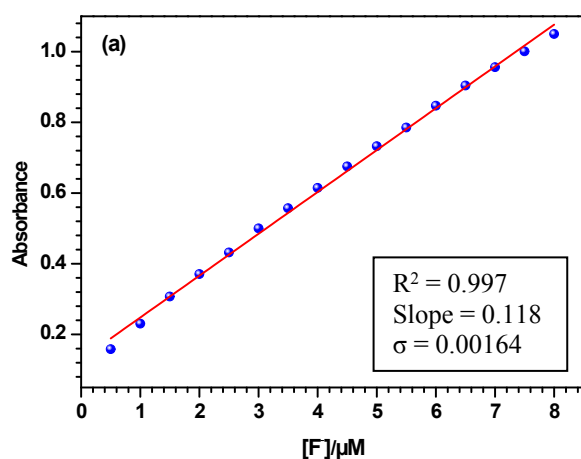
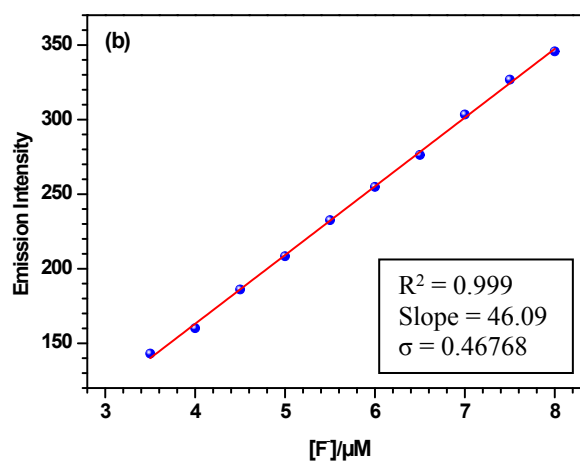
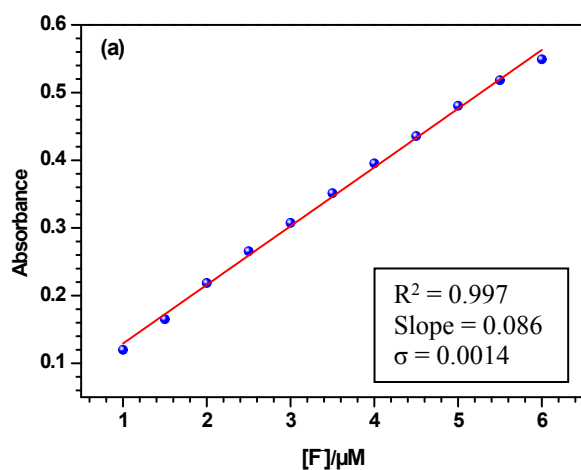
$$LOD = \frac{k \times \sigma}{slope}$$

where  $k = 3$ , and  $\sigma$  is standard deviation.

The calibration plot of absorption and emission for the **4a** and **4b** are presented below which provides the value of standard deviation ( $\sigma$ ) and slope. Thus using the above formula we got the LOD for F<sup>-</sup> anion in absorption and emission spectra.

LOD of **4a**: 0.049  $\mu\text{M}$  in absorption and 0.030  $\mu\text{M}$  in emission.

LOD of **4b**: 0.042  $\mu\text{M}$  in absorption and 0.041  $\mu\text{M}$  in emission.



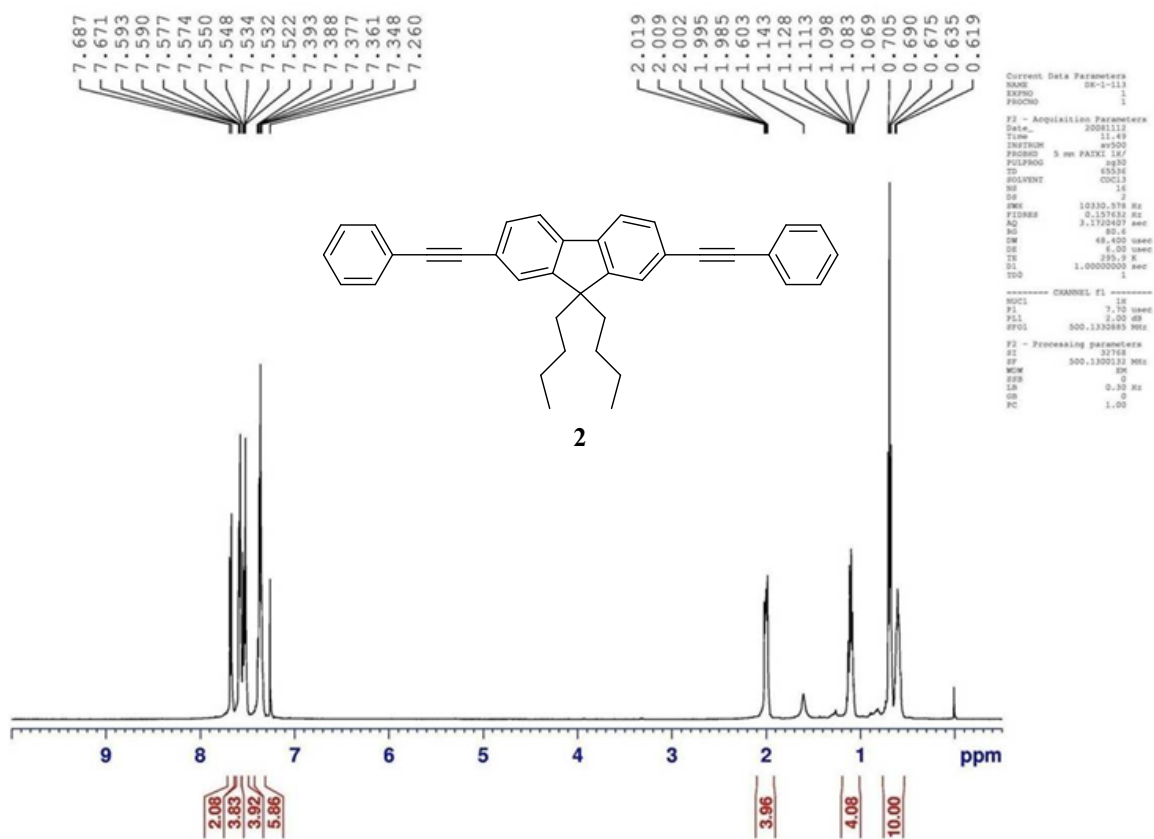


Fig. S23.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of **2** recorded in  $\text{CDCl}_3$

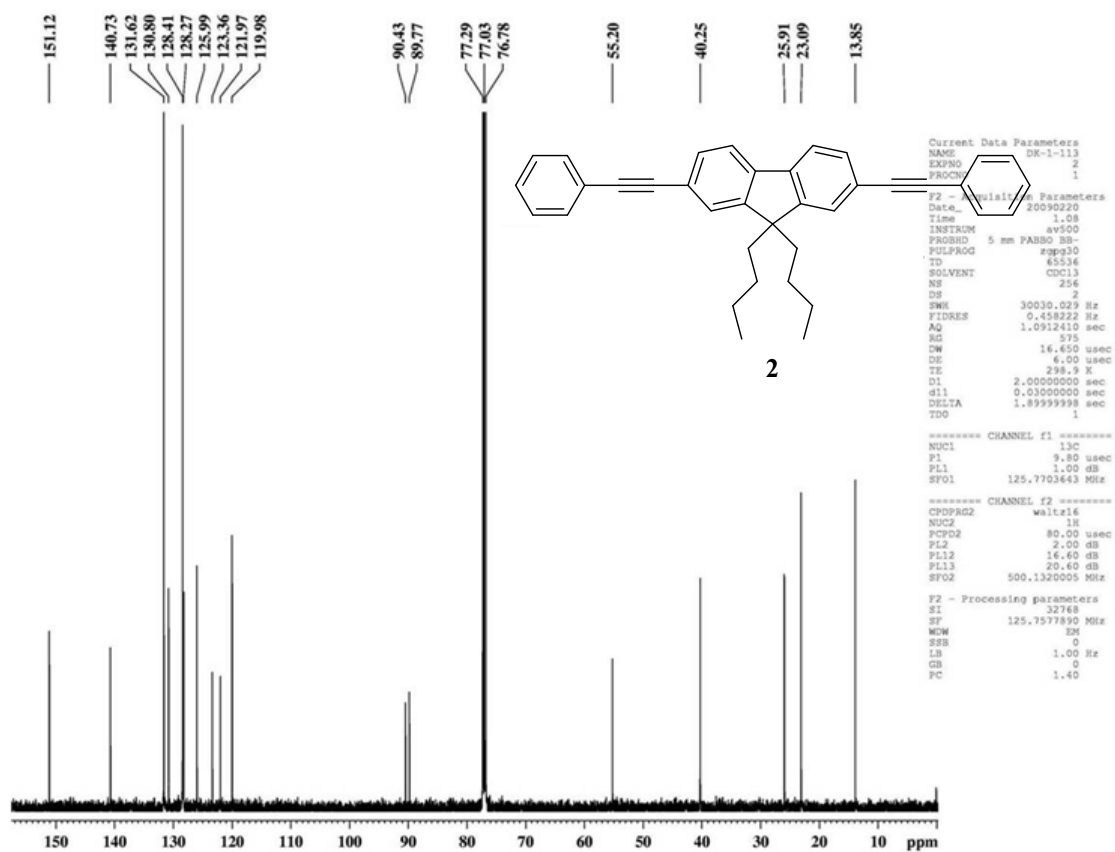


Fig. S24.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of **2** recorded in  $\text{CDCl}_3$



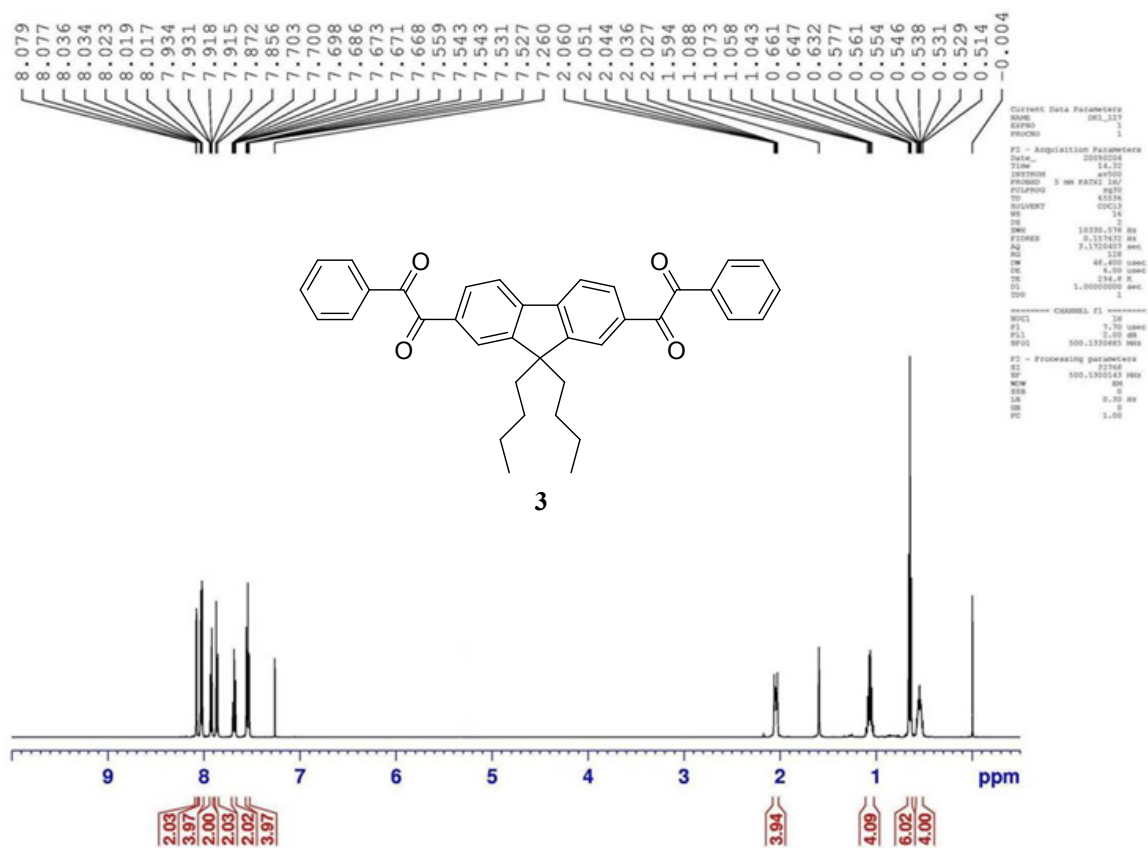


Fig. S25. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of **3** recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

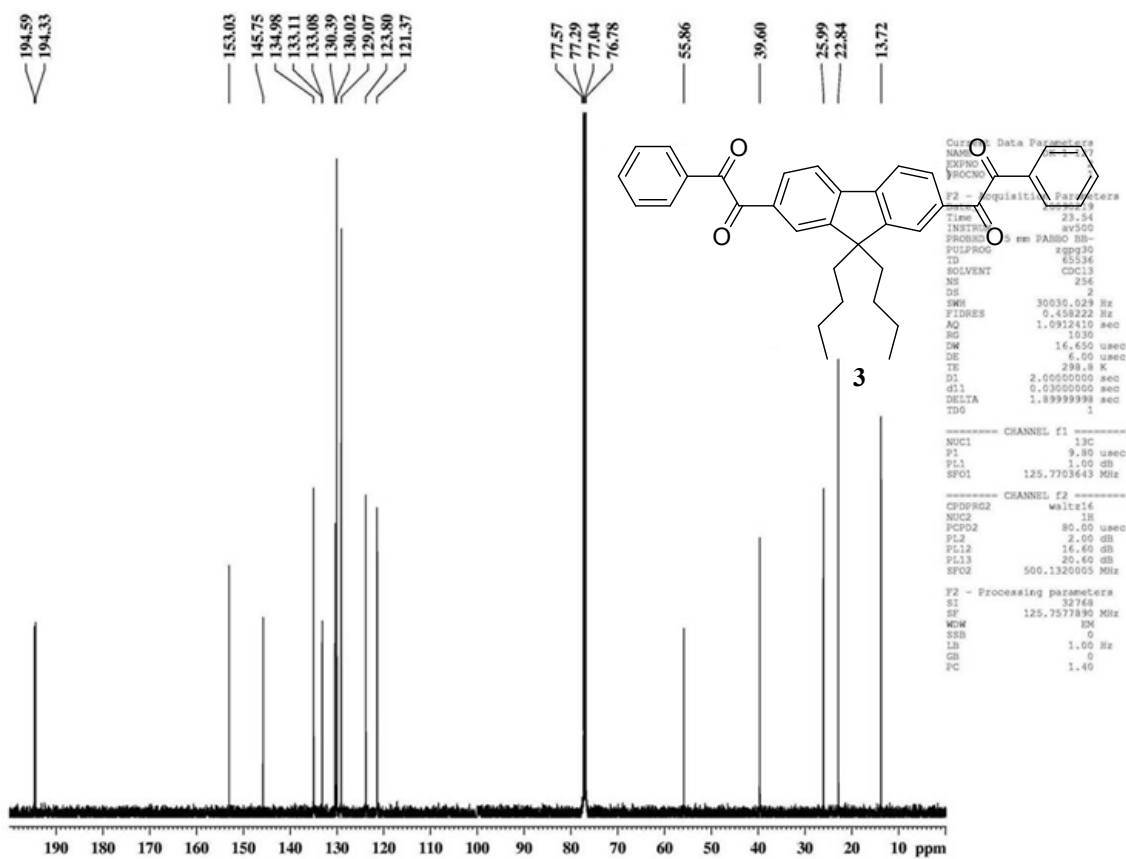


Fig. S26. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **3** recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

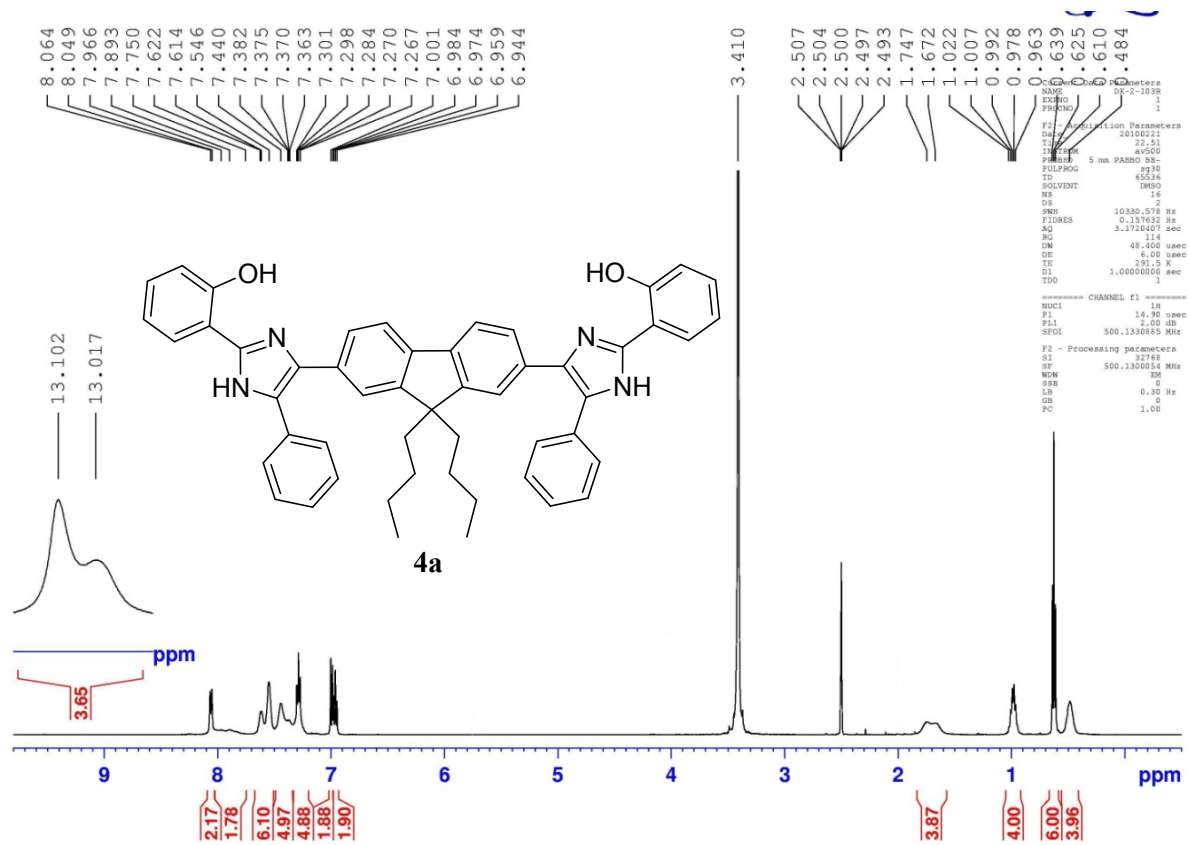


Fig. S27. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of **4a** recorded in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>

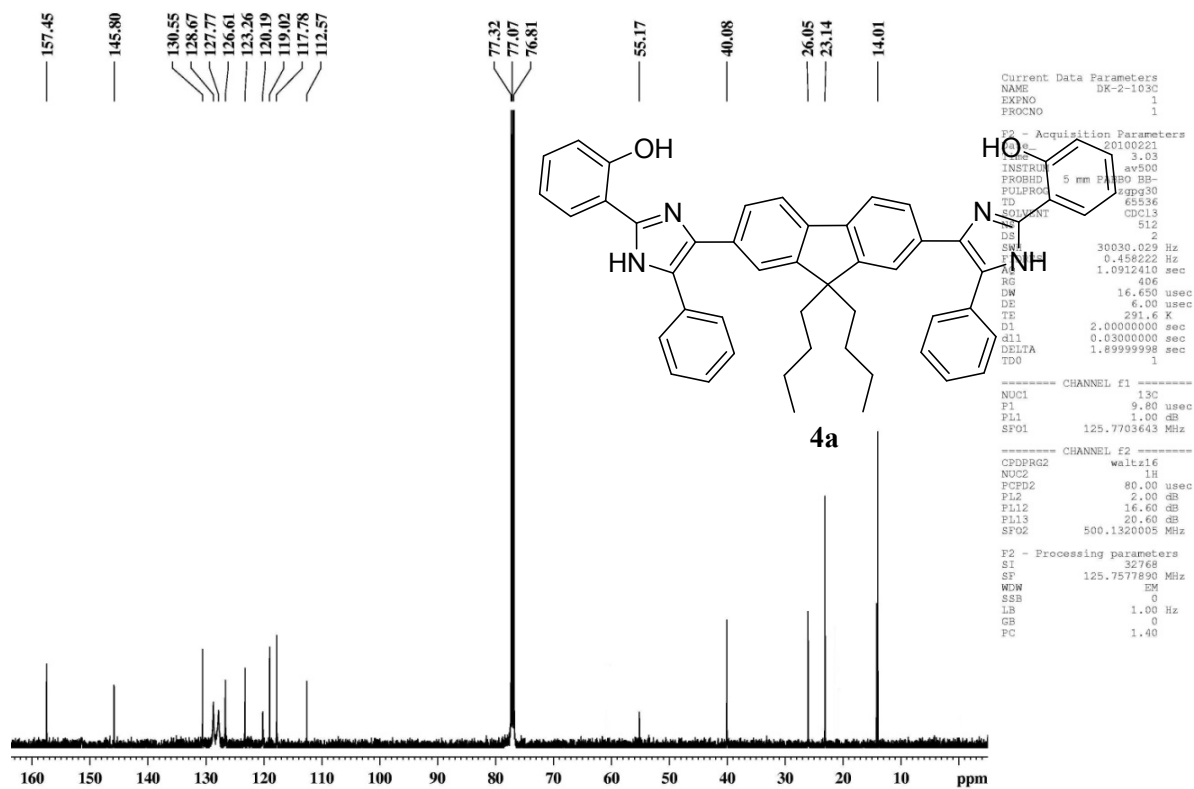


Fig. S28. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **4a** recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub>

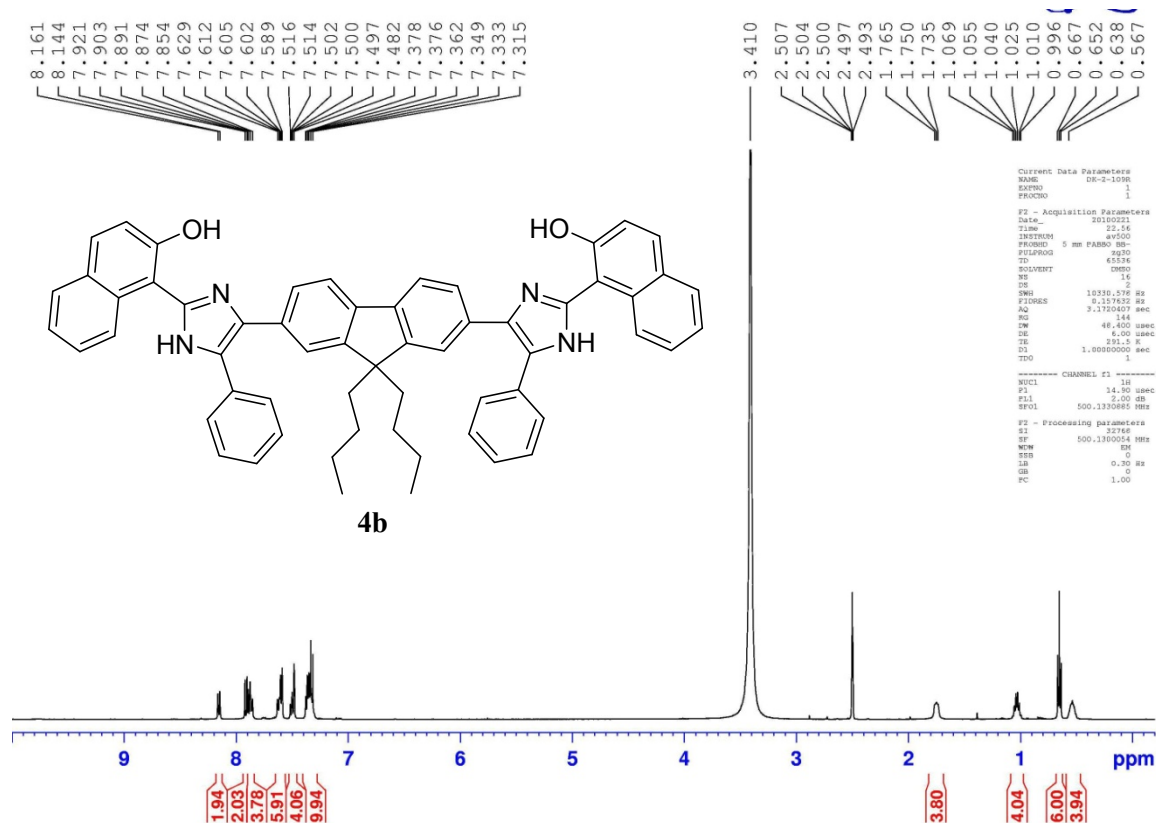


Fig. S29. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of **4b** recorded in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>

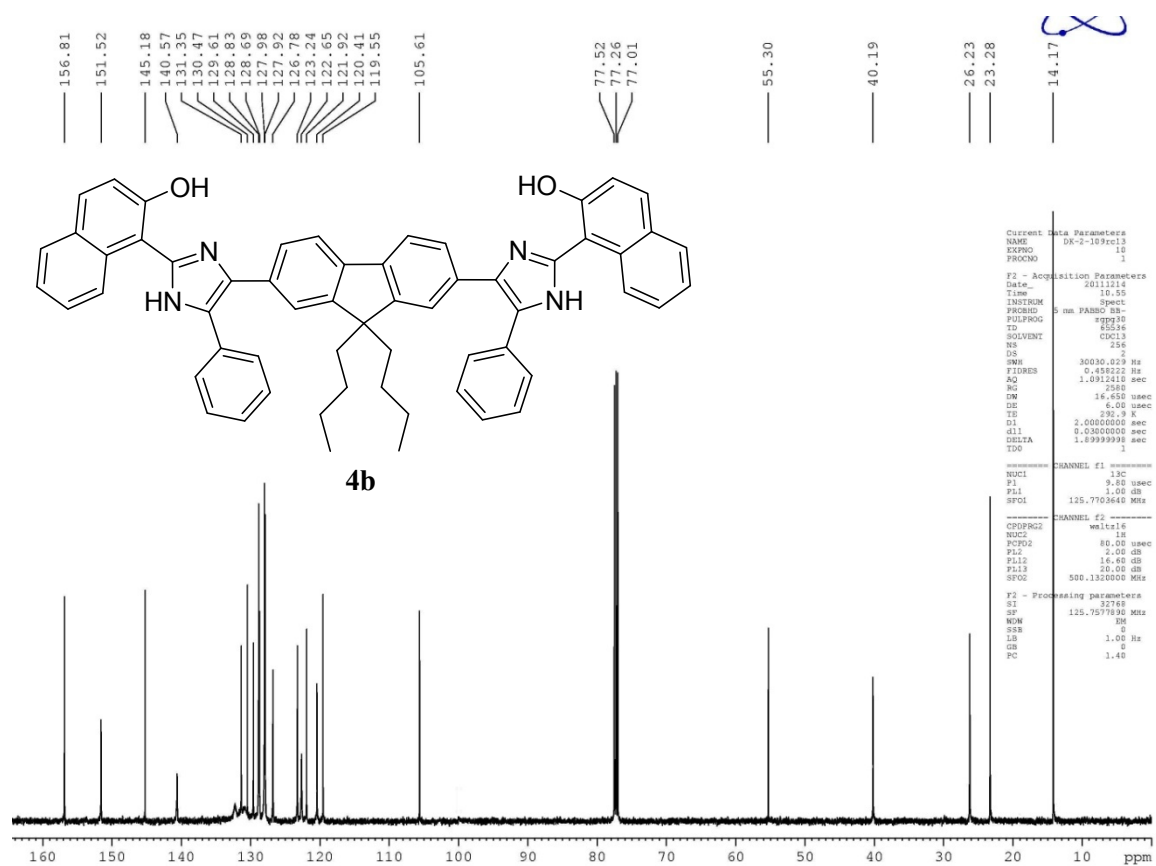


Fig. S30. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **4b** recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub>