

Supplementary Information

Regioselective Alkyl Transfer from Phosphonium Ylide to Functionalized Polyfluoroarenes

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Contents	Page
General Information.....	S2
Preparation of Starting Materials	S3
Alkyl Transfer to Heterocyclic and Fused Ring Polyfluoroarenes	S17
X-Ray Crystal Structure of 2q	S22
Mechanistic Investigation by NMR Spectroscopy	S23
Deuteration Experiment	S26
Synthesis of Tefluthrin	S26
References.....	S28
NMR Spectra of All the New Compounds	S29

Supplementary Information

General Information

All the reactions were performed using standard schlenk techniques under an atmosphere of dry nitrogen or argon. All the commercial reagents unless otherwise annotated were purchased from Sigma Aldrich, Alfa Aesar and were used without further purification. Dimethoxyethane was distilled from Na/benzophenone under the protection of Argon. THF and 1,4-dioxane were dried by refluxing with Na/benzophenone and oxygen was removed by bubbling with dry nitrogen. NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker Avance 300, Bruker AvanceIII 500 and Bruker Avance 600 spectrometers. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm, and coupling constants (*J*) are in Hertz (Hz). The multiplicities are abbreviated as follows: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, dd = doublet of doublets, td = triplet of doublets, qd = quartet of doublets, br = broad, ddd = doublet of doublet of doublets. Mass spectroscopy was obtained using a GCT-MS (Micromass, UK). HRMS experiments were carried on Waters GCT Premier (EI source, TOF), Bruker Apex IV FTMS (positive-ion mode ESI) or Thermo Scientific LTQ Orbitrap Discovery (negative-ion mode ESI) mass spectrometer. IR analysis was performed on a Bruker Tensor27 spectrometer and a Thermo Scientific Nicolet iZ10 spectrometer. X-ray diffraction study was carried on an Oxford Diffraction Gemini E diffractometer using graphite monochromatic Mo K α ($\lambda = 0.7107 \text{ \AA}$) radiation at 293 K. Column chromatography was performed on 300–400 mesh silica gel (innochem). Purification by preparative HPLC was conducted on a SHIMAZDU LC-6AD chromatography equipped with a LC-6AD UV-Vis detector and a shim-pack PRC-ODS column. The ^{19}F NMR yield of the product was determined by integration of the peaks in the ^{19}F NMR spectra using α,α,α -trifluorotoluene as an internal standard.

HPLC condition:

Flow: 4.0 mL/min

Temperature: ambient temperature

Run time: 100 min

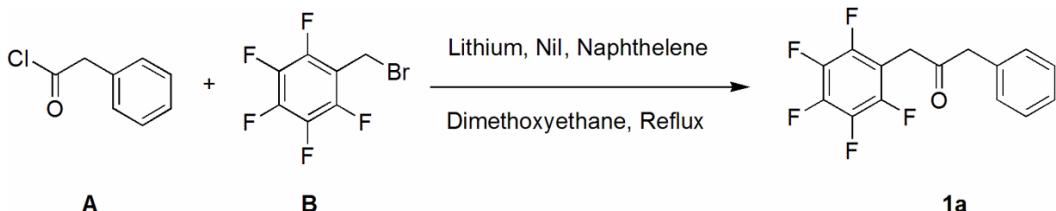
Supplementary Information

Detection wavelength: 254 nm

Gradient eluent:

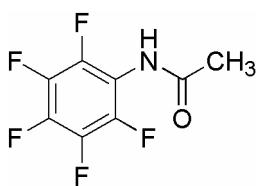
Time (min)	Acetonitrile (%)	Water (%)
0	5	95
60	100	0
90	100	0
100	5	95

Preparation of Starting Materials



1-Pentafluorophenyl-3-phenylpropan-2-one (1a):

1a was prepared according to the literature procedure¹ using phenylacetyl chloride (**A**) and 1-bromomethyl-2,3,4,5,6-pentafluoro-benzene (**B**) and obtained as a light yellow solid. The NMR spectral data were in line with the literature values². ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.41 – 7.22 (m, 5H), 3.84 (s, 2H), 3.81 (t, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 2H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -142.25 – -142.45 (m, 2F), -155.39 (t, *J* = 20.8 Hz, 1F), -162.32 – -162.61 (m, 2F). LRMS (+EI): *m/z* calculated for [M]⁺: 300.05, found 300.00.

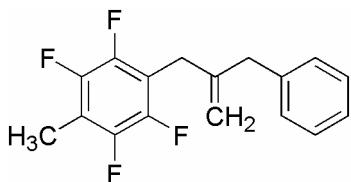


N-(2,3,4,5,6-pentafluoro-phenyl)acetamide (1g):

1g was prepared according to the literature procedure³ by reacting 2,3,4,5,6-pentafluorobenzamide (1.744 g, 9.53 mmol) with acetic anhydride (9.729 g, 95.3 mmol) at 90 °C for 17 h. The crude product was poured into cooled water and extracted with dichloromethane. The organic phase was dried over anhydrous sodium

Supplementary Information

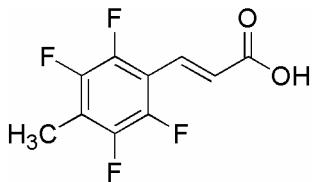
sulfate, concentrated and recrystallized from petro ether to afford the title compound as a white solid (1.633 g, 76%). The NMR spectral data were in line with the literature values⁴. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.18 (s, 1H), 2.23 (s, 3H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -144.91 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 2F), -156.32 (t, *J* = 21.2 Hz, 1F), -162.31 (t, *J* = 19.6 Hz, 2F).



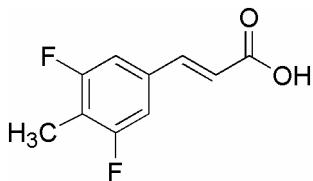
General procedure: 1-(2-Benzylallyl)-2,3,5,6-tetrafluoro-4-methylbenzene (2a):
In a 25 mL two-neck round bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar, methyltriphenylphosphonium bromide (**Y1**, 0.625 g, 1.66 mmol) and NaH (0.067 g, 1.66 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil) were added. The flask was evacuated and filled with nitrogen for three times. 5 mL THF was subsequently added by syringe. The mixture was heated to reflux for 48 h, and then cooled down to ambient temperature. To the mixture was added a THF solution of 1-pentafluorophenyl-3-phenylpropan-2-one (**1a**, 0.1 g, 0.333 mmol) dropwise at room temperature. The mixture was then heated to reflux for another 48 h and cooled down to ambient temperature. The reaction mixture was then dissolved in ethyl acetate (20 mL) and deionized water (20 mL). The organic phase was washed with brine (20 mL), and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. The organic phase was concentrated and purified by Silica gel chromatography (eluent: petrol ether) and subsequent HPLC (collected between 83-84.5 min) purification afforded the title compound as a colorless oil (42.1 mg, 43%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.33 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.23 – 7.17 (m, 3H), 4.85 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 4.73 (s, 1H), 3.40 (s, 2H), 3.33 (s, 2H), 2.24 (t, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 3H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -144.86 – -144.87 (m, 2F), -144.68 – -145.30 (m, 2F). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 146.09 – 145.45 (m), 144.63 (s), 144.02 – 143.59 (m), 138.78 (s), 128.91 (s), 128.35 (s), 126.31 (s), 115.13 (t, *J* = 18.6 Hz), 114.05 (t, *J* = 20.16 Hz), 113.39 (s), 42.92 (s), 28.59 (s), 7.41 (s). IR: 3083.1,

Supplementary Information

3061.0, 3026.2, 2954.3, 2926.9, 2867.1, 1729.7, 1651.1, 1600.7, 1486.6, 1454.2, 1379.6, 1274.5, 1121.3, 1064.6, 1030.2, 956.2, 926.6, 866.6, 758.0, 748.2, 735.2, 699.0, 592.0. HRMS (EI) Exact mass calcd for C₁₇H₁₄F₄: 294.1023, found 294.1035.



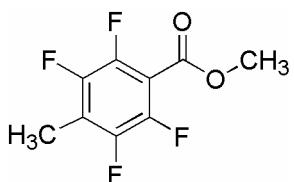
3-(2,3,5,6-Tetrafluoro-4-methylphenyl)acrylic acid (2b): The general procedure was applied using 3-pentafluorophenyl-acrylic acid (**1b**, 0.2 g, 0.84 mmol), phosphonium salt **Y1** (1.5 g, 4.2 mmol) and NaH (0.168 g, 4.2 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil). Silica gel chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/petrol ether=1/20, and 1% acetic acid) of the crude product afforded the title compound as a white solid (192.6 mg, 98%). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, MeOD-d₄) δ 7.61 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 6.64 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 2.29 (s, 3H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, MeOD-d₄) δ -142.81 (dd, *J* = 22.0, 12.4 Hz, 2F), -143.72 – -143.95 (m, 2F). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, MeOD-d₄) δ 167.75 (s), 146.63 – 145.14 (m), 145.06 – 143.40 (m), 128.89 (s), 125.73 (s), 118.08 (s), 111.54 (s), 6.32 (s). IR: 1696.6, 1635.1, 1487.5, 1475.9, 1424.3, 1397.5, 1325.4, 1314.9, 1272.2, 1222.1, 1068.2, 1110.5, 993.6, 946.6, 903.6, 882.7, 520.7. HRMS (ESI) Exact mass calcd for C₁₀H₇F₄O₂ [M+H]⁺: 235.0377, found 235.0374.



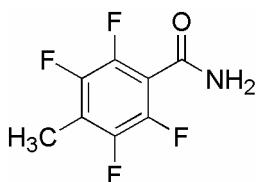
3-(3,5-Difluoro-4-methyl-phenyl)acrylic acid (2c): The general procedure was applied using 3-(3,4,5-trifluorophenyl)acrylic acid (**1c**, 0.202 g, 1 mmol), phosphonium salt **Y1** (1.786 g, 5 mmol) and NaH (0.2 g, 5 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil). Silica gel chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/petrol ether = 1/20, and 1% acetic acid) of the crude product afforded the title compound as a white solid

Supplementary Information

(140.6 mg, 71%). ^1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 7.56 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.25 – 7.12 (m, 2H), 6.48 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 2.19 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 3H). ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ -116.36 (s, 2F). ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 167.81 (s), 161.46 (d, J = 244.1 Hz), 142.15 (s), 134.98 (s), 121.79 (s), 116.67 – 112.95 (m), 111.27 (d, J = 20.9 Hz), 7.60 (s). IR: 3431.8, 2927.8, 1682.4, 1635.7, 1575.5, 1438.1, 1421.3, 1309.8, 1287.5, 1088.8, 988.6, 930.9, 849.7, 625.6. HRMS (ESI) Exact mass calcd for C₁₀H₇F₂O₂ [M-H]⁻: 197.0408, found 197.0416.



2,3,5,6-Tetrafluoro-4-methylbenzoic acid methyl ester (2d): The general procedure was applied using methyl pentafluorobenzoate (**1d**, 0.226 g, 1 mmol), phosphonium salt **Y1** (1.786 g, 5 mmol) and NaH (0.2 g, 5 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil) at ambient temperature for 48 h. Silica gel chromatography (eluent: petrol ether) of the crude product afforded the title compound as a colorless oil (193.1 mg, 87%). The NMR spectral data were in line with the literature values⁵. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.97 (s, 3H), 2.32 (t, J = 2.2 Hz, 3H). ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -140.80 (qd, J = 5.9, 3.0 Hz, 2F), -142.31 (qd, J = 6.2, 3.3 Hz, 2F). IR: 2960.6, 1743.5, 1655.2, 1437.1, 1488.3, 1312.4, 1227.7, 1071.6, 976.1, 933.7, 879.8, 788.5, 756.8, 581.2. HRMS (ESI) Exact mass calcd for C₉H₅F₄O₂ [M-H]⁻: 221.0220, found 221.0212.



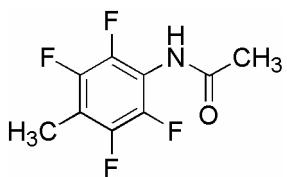
2,3,5,6-Tetrafluoro-4-methylbenzamide (2e): The general procedure was applied to 2,3,4,5,6-pentafluorobenzamide (**1e**, 0.211 g, 1 mmol), phosphonium salt **Y1** (1.786 g, 5 mmol) and NaH (0.2 g, 5 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil) at 80 °C for 48 h.

Supplementary Information

Silica gel chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/petrol ether = 1/20) of the crude product afforded the title compound as a white solid (186.3 mg, 90%). ^1H NMR (300 MHz, MeOD-d₄) δ 2.30 (t, J = 2.2 Hz, 3H). ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, MeOD-d₄) δ -141.73 --141.92 (m, 2F), -141.99 --142.18 (m, 2F). ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, MeOD-d₄) δ 161.71 (s), 144.90 (d, J = 244.0 Hz), 143.19 (d, J = 253.5 Hz), 117.87 (t, J = 19.3 Hz), 114.23 (t, J = 20.2 Hz), 6.17 (s). IR: 3389.8, 3195.5, 2945.0, 2836.1, 1659.2, 1479.7, 1413.5, 1273.6, 1114.1, 1069.5, 1028.9, 933.1, 673.0. HRMS (ESI) Exact mass calcd for C₈H₆F₄NO [M+H]⁺: 208.03800, found 208.03760.



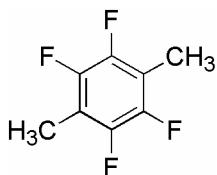
3,5-Difluoro-4-methylbenzonitrile (2f): The general procedure was applied using 3,4,5-trifluorobenzonitrile (**1f**, 0.157 g, 1 mmol), phosphonium salt **Y1** (1.786 g, 5 mmol) and NaH (0.2 g, 5 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil). Basic aluminum oxide column chromatography (eluent: petrol ether) of the crude product afforded the title compound as a white solid (116.3 mg, 76%). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.16 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 2.26 (t, J = 1.8 Hz, 3H). ^{19}F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -110.61 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 2F). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.37 (dd, J = 250.2, 9.6 Hz), 120.24 (t, J = 20.9 Hz), 116.83 (t, J = 3.4 Hz), 114.94 (dd, J = 21.5, 8.7 Hz), 110.74 (t, J = 12.1 Hz), 7.46 (t, J = 3.7 Hz). IR: 2954.9, 2925.8, 2854.4, 2231.3, 1732.1, 1694.1, 1484.8, 1420.5, 1323.3, 1242.5, 1226.1, 1024.1, 851.3, 747.3, 688.7, 628.9. HRMS (EI) Exact mass calcd for C₈H₅F₂N: 153.0390, found 153.0392.



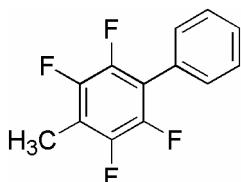
N-(2,3,5,6-Tetrafluoro-4-methylphenyl)acetamide (2g): The general procedure was applied using N-(2,3,4,5,6-pentafluoro-phenyl)acetamide (**1g**, 0.225 g, 1 mmol),

Supplementary Information

phosphonium salt **Y1** (1.786 g, 5 mmol) and NaH (0.2 g, 5 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil). Silica gel chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/petrol ether = 1/20) of the crude product afforded the title compound as a white solid (187.9 mg, 85%). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.78 (s, 1H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 2.17 (s, 3H). ¹⁹F NMR (565 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -144.13 (s, 2F), -147.29 (s, 2F). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.39 (s), 145.06 (d, *J* = 243.6 Hz), 142.31 (d, *J* = 246.7 Hz), 114.46 (s), 113.51 (s), 22.80 (s), 7.38 (s). IR: 3207.8, 3042.2, 2997.2, 1684.5, 1654.8, 1527.6, 1503.4, 1476.2, 1367.4, 1285.2, 1256.7, 1131.8, 1072.5, 1013.3, 953.1, 909.5. HRMS (ESI) Exact mass calcd for C₉H₆F₄NO [M-H]⁻: 220.0380, found 220.0382.



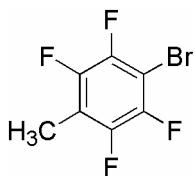
1,2,4,5-Tetrafluoro-3,6-dimethylbenzene (2h): The general procedure was applied using 1,2,3,4,5-pentafluoro-6-methylbenzene (**1h**, 0.910 g, 5 mmol), phosphonium salt **Y1** (8.93 g, 25 mmol) and NaH (1.0 g, 25 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil). Crude product was purified by distillation at reduced pressure to afford the title compound as a white solid (84%), the yield of the product was determined by ¹⁹F NMR. The NMR spectral data were in line with the literature values⁶. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.24 – 2.22 (quintet, *J* = 0.9 Hz, 6H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -145.57 (s, 4F). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 145.80 – 143.85 (m), 113.02 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz), 7.23 (s). IR: 2954.5, 2924.1, 2853.4, 1654.2, 1592.6, 1484.2, 1466.2, 1437.8, 1377.7, 1120.7.



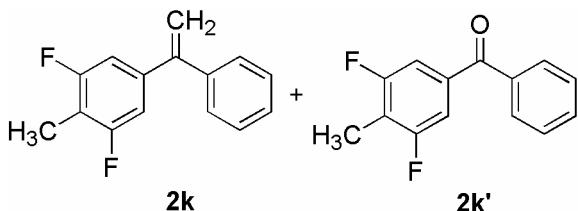
2,3,5,6-Tetrafluoro-4-methylbiphenyl (2i): The general procedure was applied using 2,3,4,5,6-pentafluorobiphenyl (**1i**, 0.244 g, 1 mmol), phosphonium salt **Y1** (1.786 g, 5

Supplementary Information

mmol) and NaH (0.2 g, 5 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil). Silica gel chromatography (eluent: petrol ether) of the crude product afforded the title compound as a white solid (196.8 mg, 82%). NMR spectral data were in line with the literature values⁷. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.51 – 7.38 (m, 5H), 2.31 (t, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 3H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -144.01 – -144.19 (m, 2F), -145.55 – -145.73 (m, 2F). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 146.28 – 144.57 (d, *J* = 258.2 Hz), 144.49 – 142.86 (dd, *J* = 246.13, 14.6 Hz), 130.28 (s), 128.97 (s), 128.62 (s), 127.86 (s), 118.05 (t, *J* = 16.8 Hz), 115.18 (t, *J* = 19.3 Hz), 7.64 (s).



1-Bromo-2,3,5,6-tetrafluoro-4-methylbenzene (2j): The general procedure was applied using 1-bromo-2,3,4,5,6-pentafluorobenzene (**1j**, 2.459 g, 10 mmol), phosphonium salt **Y1** (17.86 g, 50 mmol) and NaH (2.0 g, 50 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil). The crude product was purified by distillation at reduced pressure to afford the title compound as colorless oil (80%). The yield of the product was determined by ¹⁹F NMR. NMR spectral data were in line with the commercially available compound. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.26 (t, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 3H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -141.74 (dd, *J* = 21.4, 13.1 Hz, 2F), -145.09 (dd, *J* = 21.4, 13.1 Hz, 2F). IR: 2956.8, 2922.8, 2851.9, 1659.1, 1632.7, 1507.5, 1468.5, 1260.8, 1098.1, 1047.1, 913.2, 733.6, 646.8, 472.3, 457.1. HRMS (EI) Exact mass calcd for C₇H₃BrF₄: 241.9354, found 241.9353.

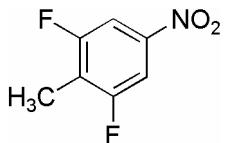


1,3-Difluoro-2-methyl-5-(1-phenylvinyl)benzene **(2k)** **and**

Supplementary Information

(3,5-Difluoro-4-methylphenyl)phenylmethanone (2k'): The general procedure was applied using 3,4,5-trifluorobenzophenone (**1k**, 0.236 g, 1 mmol), phosphonium salt **Y1** (3.572 g, 10 mmol) and NaH (0.4 g, 10 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil). Silica gel chromatography (eluent: petrol ether) of the crude product afforded the title compound **2k** (80.5 mg, 35%) and trace amount of **2k'** as colorless oil. **(2k)** ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.37 – 7.26 (m, 5H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 5.45 (d, *J* = 4.1 Hz, 2H), 2.20 (t, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 3H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -115.28 (s, 2F). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.36 (d, *J* = 9.8 Hz), 160.40 (d, *J* = 9.8 Hz), 148.37 (s), 140.96 (t, *J* = 9.6 Hz), 140.52 (s), 128.31 (d, *J* = 10.1 Hz), 128.09 (s), 115.14 (s), 112.63 (t, *J* = 21.5 Hz), 110.54 (dd, *J* = 20.0, 6.9 Hz), 7.02 (t, *J* = 3.8 Hz). IR: 3056.8, 3023.8, 2952.6, 2925.6, 2866.8, 1665.0, 1636.2, 1575.2, 1495.4, 1446.8, 1418.2, 1377.4, 1343.0, 1324.3, 1086.6, 954.6, 937.4, 902.2, 866.0, 777.1, 740.1, 698.7, 613.1. HRMS (EI) Exact mass calcd for C₁₅H₁₂F₂: 230.0907, found 230.0913.

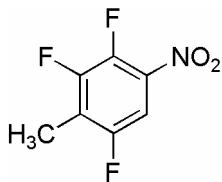
(2k') ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.82 – 7.74 (m, 2H), 7.61 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.28 (t, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 3H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -112.98 (s, 2F).



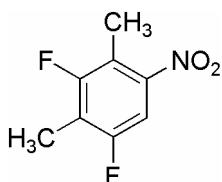
2,6-Difluoro-4-nitrotoluene (2l): The general procedure was applied using 3,4,5-trifluoronitrobenzene (**1l**, 0.177 g, 1 mmol), phosphonium salt **Y1** (1.786 g, 5 mmol) and NaH (0.2 g, 5 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil) at ambient temperature for 48 h. Silica gel chromatography (eluent: petrol ether) of the crude product afforded the title compound as a light yellow oil (99%). The yield of the product was determined by ¹⁹F NMR. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84 – 7.68 (m, 2H), 2.30 (t, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 3H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -109.66 (s, 2F). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.96 (dd, *J* = 250.7, 9.4 Hz), 146.52 (s), 121.51 (t, *J* = 21.3 Hz), 109.22 – 105.49 (m), 7.66 (t, *J* = 3.5 Hz). IR: 3116.3, 3082.7, 2962.8, 2929.1, 2867.5, 2649.7, 1726.8, 1617.2, 1556.5, 1536.7, 1484.8, 1434.8, 1378.1,

Supplementary Information

1353.1, 1299.1, 1197.6, 1098.8, 1068.6, 1031.8, 943.7, 876.9, 800.9, 746.3, 731.1, 695.91, 542.2, 518.3. HRMS (EI) Exact mass calcd for C₇H₅F₂NO₂: 173.0288, found 173.0290.



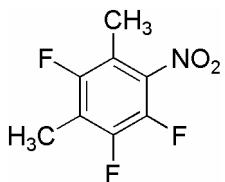
1,3,4-Trifluoro-2-methyl-5-nitrobenzene (2m): The general procedure was applied using 2,3,4,5-tetrafluoronitrobenzene (**1m**, 0.780 g, 4 mmol), phosphonium salt **Y1** (7.145 g, 20 mmol) and NaH (0.8 g, 20 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil) at ambient temperature for 48 h. Silica gel chromatography (eluent: petrol ether) of the crude product afforded the title compound as a light yellow oil (69%). The yield of the product was determined by ¹⁹F NMR. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.61 (ddd, *J* = 8.1, 5.6, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 2.34 (t, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 3H). ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -116.12 (dd, *J* = 14.2, 5.3 Hz, 1F), -132.36 (dd, *J* = 20.7, 5.2 Hz, 1F), -146.67 (dd, *J* = 20.9, 14.1 Hz, 1F). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.11 (dd, *J* = 247.9, 7.9 Hz), 150.17 (dd, *J* = 251.6, 13.2 Hz), 142.22 (dd, *J* = 265.2, 16.7 Hz), 135.56 – 135.12 (m), 123.06 (dd, *J* = 23.2, 17.6 Hz), 107.13 (dt, *J* = 29.4, 3.8 Hz), 8.09 (s). IR: 3086.6, 2930.8, 2869.7, 1540.8, 1490.1, 1467.9, 1351.3, 1302.7, 1257.5, 1176.2, 1104.7, 1060.5, 963.4, 884.5, 867.5, 772.1, 757.6, 719.8, 703.4, 615.7. HRMS (EI) Exact mass calcd for C₇H₄F₃NO₂: 191.0194, found 191.0195.



1,3-Difluoro-2,4-dimethyl-5-nitrobenzene (2m'): The general procedure was applied using 2,3,4,5-tetrafluoronitrobenzene (**1m**, 0.195 g, 1 mmol), phosphonium salt **Y1** (3.572 g, 10 mmol) and NaH (0.4 g, 10 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil). Silica gel chromatography (eluent: petrol ether) of the crude product afforded the title

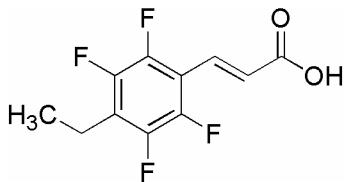
Supplementary Information

compound as a light yellow oil (71%). The yield of the product was determined by ^{19}F NMR. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.52 (dd, $J = 8.8, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 2.45 (dd, $J = 2.5, 1.2$ Hz, 3H), 2.26 (t, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 3H). ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -111.94 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 1F), -115.23 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 1F). ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 159.95 (dd, $J = 193.2, 9.5$ Hz), 158.31 (dd, $J = 193.2, 9.3$ Hz), 147.37 (s), 119.49 (dd, $J = 23.1, 21.0$ Hz), 117.58 (dd, $J = 22.1, 3.8$ Hz), 107.52 (dd, $J = 27.6, 3.8$ Hz), 11.00 (d, $J = 5.9$ Hz), 7.81 (s). IR: 3118.8, 3080.8, 2940.1, 2869.7, 1630.1, 1599.7, 1533.5, 1482.5, 1457.8, 1420.1, 1384.4, 1353.1, 1298.3, 1233.3, 1172.2, 1101.8, 1035.9, 931.3, 863.4, 768.1, 755.5, 690.6, 603.8, 474.7. HRMS (EI) Exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_8\text{H}_7\text{F}_2\text{NO}_2$: 187.0445, found 187.0452.

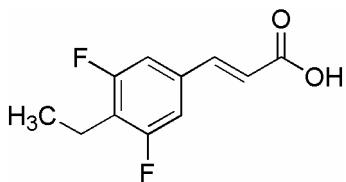


1,2,4-Trifluoro-3,5-dimethyl-6-nitrobenzene (2n): The general procedure was applied using 2,3,4,5,6-pentafluoronitrobenzene (**1n**, 0.213 g, 1 mmol), phosphonium salt **Y1** (3.572 g, 10 mmol) and NaH (0.4 g, 10 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil). Silica gel chromatography (eluent: petrol ether) of the crude product afforded the title compound as a light yellow oil (58%). The yield of the product was determined by ^{19}F NMR. ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 2.27 (t, $J = 2.2$ Hz, 3H), 2.25 (dd, $J = 2.5, 1.3$ Hz, 3H). ^{19}F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -118.43 (dd, $J = 13.9, 4.7$ Hz, 1F), -137.67 (dd, $J = 21.7, 4.7$ Hz, 1F), -151.69 (dd, $J = 21.7, 13.9$ Hz, 1F). ^{13}C NMR (151 MHz, Acetonitrile- d_3) δ 154.21 (d, $J = 243.5$ Hz), 147.21 (d, $J = 249.3$ Hz), 140.10 (dd, $J = 258.4, 18.6$ Hz), 138.26 (s), 118.76 (dd, $J = 24.3, 17.4$ Hz), 114.92 (d, $J = 24.2$ Hz), 9.96 (s), 7.85 (s). IR: 2956.1, 2927.6, 2868.7, 1635.0, 1544.3, 1488.8, 1464.4, 1365.6, 1291.5, 1267.3, 1127.3, 1065.6, 916.3, 884.2, 812.2, 769.8, 753.4, 580.9. HRMS (EI) Exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_8\text{H}_6\text{F}_3\text{NO}_2$: 205.0351, found 205.0354.

Supplementary Information



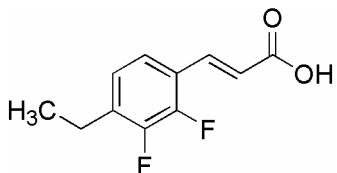
3-(4-Ethyl-2,3,5,6-tetrafluorophenyl)acrylic acid (2o): The general procedure was applied using 3-pentafluorophenyl-acrylic acid (**1b**, 0.238 g, 1 mmol), ethyltriphenylphosphonium bromide (**Y2**, 1.856 g, 5 mmol) and NaH (0.2 g, 5 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil). Silica gel chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/petrol ether = 1/20, and 1% acetic acid) of the crude product afforded the title compound as a white solid (166.2 mg, 67%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, MeOD-d₄) δ 7.42 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 6.54 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 2.71 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.15 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 3H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, MeOD-d₄) δ -141.96 – -142.24 (m, 2F), -145.61 – -145.85 (m, 2F). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, MeOD-d₄) δ 167.71 (s), 145.82 (d, *J* = 19.4 Hz), 144.11 (s), 128.85 (s), 125.81 (t, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 123.82 (t, *J* = 18.8 Hz), 111.75 (t, *J* = 13.3 Hz), 16.11 (s), 12.66 (s). IR: 3091.9, 2981.8, 2943.3, 1697.28, 1635.2, 1488.2, 1475.3, 1419.0, 1389.3, 1332.2, 1312.0, 1294.3, 1272.8, 1220.2, 1113.7, 1097.3, 995.1, 966.2, 929.1, 900.6, 631.9, 518.4. HRMS (ESI) Exact mass calcd for C₁₁H₉F₄O₂ [M+H]⁺: 249.0533, found 249.0536.



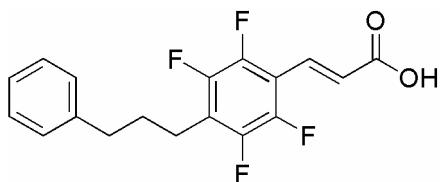
3-(4-Ethyl-3,5-difluorophenyl)acrylic acid (2p): The general procedure was applied using 3-(3,4,5-trifluorophenyl)acrylic acid (**1c**, 0.202 g, 1 mmol), phosphonium salt **Y2** (1.856 g, 5 mmol) and NaH (0.2 g, 5 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil). Silica gel chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/petrol ether = 1/20, and 1% acetic acid) of the crude product afforded the title compound as a white solid (125.1 mg, 59%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 12.54 (br, 1H), 7.52 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.61 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 2.62 (q, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.12 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ -116.55 (s, 2F). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz,

Supplementary Information

DMSO-d₆) δ 167.77 (s), 161.29 (dd, *J* = 244.6, 10.0 Hz), 142.05 (s), 135.29 (s), 121.91 (s), 120.86 (s), 111.49 (d, *J* = 27.1 Hz), 16.02 (s), 14.37 (s). IR: 3069.9, 2977.1, 2938.9, 2878.6, 1689.2, 1634.4, 1572.5, 1499.7, 1436.5, 1341.8, 1321.5, 1294.9, 1099.4, 983.0, 943.6, 850.0. HRMS (ESI) Exact mass calcd for C₁₁H₉F₂O₂ [M-H]⁺: 211.0565, found 211.0571.

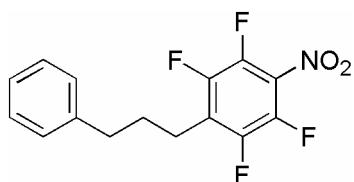


3-(4-Ethyl-2,3-difluorophenyl)acrylic acid (2q): The general procedure was applied using 3-(2,3,4-trifluorophenyl)acrylic acid (**1n**, 0.404 g, 2 mmol), phosphonium salt **Y2** (3.712 g, 10 mmol) and NaH (0.4 g, 10 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil). Silica gel chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/petrol ether = 1/20, and 1% acetic acid) of the crude product afforded the title compound as a white solid (220.5mg, 52%). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, MeOD-d₄) δ 7.68 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.50 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 2.68 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.21 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, MeOD-d₄) δ -144.10 (dd, *J* = 18.5, 0.8 Hz, 1F), -146.69 (dd, *J* = 18.5, 0.7 Hz, 1F). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, MeOD-d₄) δ 168.39 (s), 149.85 (dd, *J* = 28.7, 13.3 Hz), 148.19 (dd, *J* = 20.9, 13.4 Hz), 135.94 (s), 135.28 (d, *J* = 13.0 Hz), 124.51 (d, *J* = 12.3 Hz), 123.03 (d, *J* = 13.8 Hz), 121.91 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz), 121.06 (s), 21.72 (s), 13.15 (s). IR: 2979.6, 2923.1, 2878.6, 2832.8, 1692.5, 1627.7, 1573.0, 1473.3, 1457.5, 1418.0, 1336.8, 1324.7, 1289.5, 1243.1, 1223.2, 1206.2, 1009.6, 981.4, 935.6, 917.3, 872.2, 816.1, 707.8, 610.9, 585.3, 483.0. HRMS (ESI) Exact mass calcd for C₁₁H₁₁F₂O₂ [M+H]⁺: 213.0722, found 213.0717.



Supplementary Information

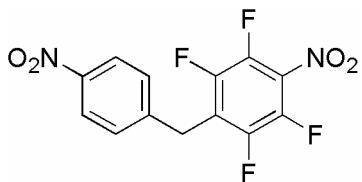
3-[2,3,5,6-Tetrafluoro-4-(3-phenylpropyl)phenyl]acrylic acid (2r): The general procedure was applied using 3-pentafluorophenyl-acrylic acid (**1b**, 0.238 g, 1 mmol), triphenyl-(3-phenylpropyl)phosphonium bromide (**Y3**, 2.306 g, 5 mmol) and NaH (0.2 g, 5 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil). Silica gel chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/petrol ether = 1/20, and 1% acetic acid) and subsequent HPLC (collected between 73.5-75.5 min) purification afforded the title compound as white solid (57.5 mg, 17%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 7.42 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 7.29 – 7.09 (m, 5H), 6.54 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 2.72 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.63 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.93 – 1.78 (m, 2H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ -142.09 – -142.33 (m, 2F), -144.67 – -144.92 (m, 2F). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 167.02 (s), 145.83 (s), 143.79 (d, *J* = 19.2 Hz), 141.51 (s), 128.79 – 128.58 (m), 128.49 (s), 127.19 (s), 126.33 (s), 122.10 (s), 112.05 (s), 34.99 (s), 30.43 (s), 22.71 (s). IR: 3415.6, 3022.3, 2945.1, 2924.4, 2861.3, 1697.4, 1635.5, 1486.3, 1420.1, 1297.8, 1273.5, 1256.5, 1045.6, 1025.0, 992.6, 979.6, 949.2, 927.3, 750.7, 698.3, 632.1, 506.8. HRMS (ESI) Exact mass calcd for C₁₈H₁₃F₄O₂ [M-H]⁻: 337.0846, found 337.0847.



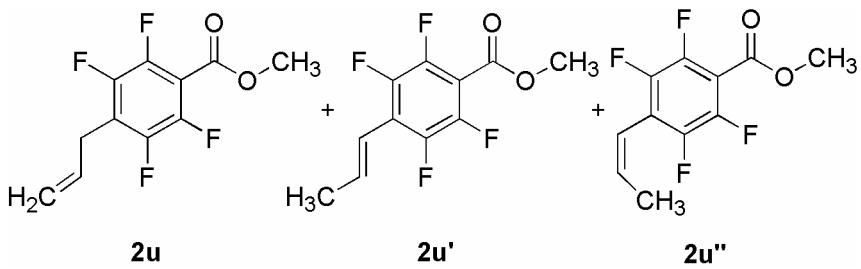
1,2,4,5-Tetrafluoro-3-nitro-6-(3-phenylpropyl)benzene (2s): The general procedure was applied to 2,3,4,5,6-pentafluoronitrobenzene (**1n**, 0.213 g, 1 mmol), phosphonium salt **Y3** (2.306 g, 5 mmol) and NaH (0.2 g, 5 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil). Silica gel chromatography (eluent: petrol ether) of the crude product afforded the title compound as a light yellow oil (162.8 mg, 52%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.33 – 7.14 (m, 5H), 2.87 – 2.78 (m, 2H), 2.71 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.04 – 1.92 (m, 2H). ¹⁹F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -140.30 – -140.58 (m, 2F), -147.16 – -147.41 (m, 2F). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 145.74 (s), 144.09 (s), 141.00 (d, *J* = 13.5 Hz), 140.65 (s), 139.26 (d, *J* = 13.6 Hz), 128.58 (s), 128.34 (s), 126.36 (s), 125.54 (t, *J* = 18.6 Hz), 35.43 (s), 30.21 (s), 22.96 (s). IR: 3027.9, 2927.9,

Supplementary Information

2858.4, 1551.4, 1494.2, 1455.6, 1354.5, 972.5, 763.5, 699.6. HRMS (EI) Exact mass calcd for C₁₅H₁₁F₄NO₂: 313.0726, found 313.0729.



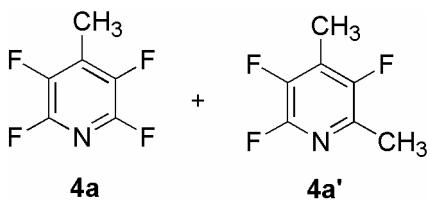
1,2,4,5-Tetrafluoro-3-nitro-6-(4-nitrobenzyl)benzene (2t): Briefly, a mixture of (4-nitrobenzyl)triphenylphosphonium bromide (**Y4**, 1.505 g, 3.15 mmol), NaH (0.12 g, 3.15 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil) and 1,4-dioxane (10 mL) was stirred at ambient temperature for 48 h, followed by a 1,4-dioxane solution of 2,3,4,5,6-pentafluoronitrobenzene (**1n**, 0.134 g, 0.63 mmol) dropwise at room temperature. Then, the mixture was heated to 110 °C for another 48 h. The mixture was then cooled to ambient temperature, washed with deionized water and extracted with ethyl acetate. Silica gel chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/petrol ether = 1:20) of the crude product afforded the title compound as a white crystal (58%). The yield of the product was determined by ¹⁹F NMR. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.22 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.25 (s, 2H). ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -139.08 (td, *J* = 16.5, 8.7 Hz), -145.75 (s). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 147.41 (s), 145.91 – 145.67 (m), 143.91 – 143.67 (m), 143.04 (s), 141.33 (dd, *J* = 17.8, 4.7 Hz), 139.23 (dd, *J* = 17.8, 4.9 Hz), 129.43 (s), 124.33 (s), 122.40 (t, *J* = 18.1 Hz), 28.67 (s). IR: 3113.1, 3084.1, 1629.1, 1602.8, 1554.5, 1513.1, 1492.2, 1435.7, 1416.1, 1344.4, 1292.7, 1110.8, 1011.4, 916.1, 843.3, 768.2, 724.1. HRMS (EI) Exact mass calcd for C₁₃H₆F₄N₂O₄: 330.0264, found 330.0269.



Supplementary Information

4-Allyl-2,3,5,6-tetrafluorobenzoic acid methyl ester (2u), (E)-2,3,5,6-Tetrafluoro-4-propenylbenzoic acid methyl ester (2u'), and (Z)-2,3,5,6-Tetrafluoro-4-propenylbenzoic acid methyl ester (2u''): Preparation procedure of **2t** was applied using 2,3,4,5,6-pentafluorobenzoic acid methyl ester (**1d**, 0.452 g, 2 mmol), allyltriphenylphosphonium bromide (**Y5**, 3.833 g, 10 mmol) and NaH (0.4 g, 10 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil) in THF at 80 °C for 48 h. Silica gel chromatography (eluent: petrol ether) of the crude product afforded the title compounds as a light yellow oil (218.2 mg, 44%). The ratio of the isomers was determined to be 2.2:1.2:1.0 by ¹H NMR integrations of characteristic signals at 5.889 – 5.803, 6.374 – 6.345 and 6.345 – 6.316 ppm. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.72 (q, J = 6.8 Hz, 0.48H) (**2u''**), 6.69 (q, J = 6.8 Hz, 0.52H) (**2u'**), 6.36 (q, J = 1.6 Hz, 0.54H) (**2u'**), 6.33 (q, J = 1.6 Hz, 0.46H) (**2u''**), 5.91 – 5.79 (m, 1H) (**2u**), 5.08 (dt, J = 17.6, 8.9 Hz, 2H) (**2u**), 3.94 (s, 3H) (**2u'**, **2u''**), 3.93 (s, 3H) (**2u**), 3.50 – 3.42 (m, 2H) (**2u**), 1.95 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H) (**2u'**, **2u''**). ¹⁹F NMR (565 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -140.54 (d, J = 376.3 Hz, 2F), -143.40 (d, J = 168.2 Hz, 2F). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.35 (s), 146.06 – 145.01 (m), 143.99 – 142.99 (m), 138.56 (t, J = 7.9 Hz), 132.22 (s), 121.89 (t, J = 18.4 Hz), 120.24 (t, J = 14.5 Hz), 117.56 (s), 116.14 (s), 110.64 (t, J = 15.9 Hz), 109.31 (t, J = 15.7 Hz), 53.12 (s), 53.04 (s), 27.01 (s), 19.98 (s). IR: 3088.1, 2958.6, 2928.8, 2855.3, 1743.0, 1687.0, 1654.3, 1640.0, 1484.9, 1436.9, 1318.9, 1225.3, 1110.7, 1083.3, 1061.4, 989.5, 975.5, 921.8, 872.2, 786.1, 755.7. HRMS (ESI) Exact mass calcd for C₁₁H₉F₄O₂ [M+H]⁺: 249.0533, found 249.0540.

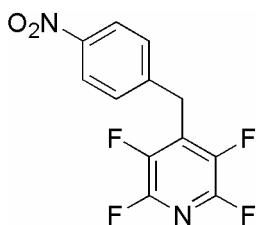
Alkyl Transfer to Heterocyclic and Fused Ring Polyfluoroarenes



2,3,5,6-Tetrafluoro-4-methyl-pyridine (4a) and
2,3,5-trifluoro-4,6-dimethyl-pyridine (4a'): The general procedure was applied

Supplementary Information

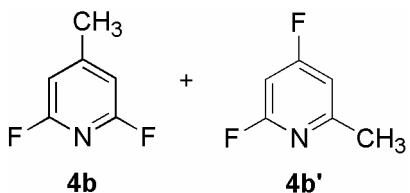
using 2,3,4,5,6-pentafluoropyridine (**3a**, 0.845 g, 5 mmol), phosphonium salt **Y1** (5.36 g, 15 mmol) and NaH (0.6 g, 15 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil). Silica gel chromatography (eluent: petrol ether) of the crude product afforded the title compounds as colorless oil (**4a**, 60.2%; **4a'**, 5.8%). The yield of the product was determined by ¹⁹F NMR. The NMR spectral data were in line with the literature values.⁸ **4a**: ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -95.05 (s, 2F), -145.99 – -146.26 (m, 2F). **4a'**: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.29 (s, 3H). ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -91.61 (t, *J* = 28.2 Hz, 1F), -129.22 (d, *J* = 30.8 Hz, 1F), -144.60 (d, *J* = 26.1 Hz, 1F). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 153.39 (dd, *J* = 251.9, 4.1 Hz), 146.47 (ddd, *J* = 234.3, 15.9, 8.5 Hz), 141.82 (ddd, *J* = 258.4, 31.1, 3.9 Hz), 136.85 (ddd, *J* = 21.2, 13.6, 5.9 Hz), 126.23 (ddd, *J* = 21.6, 15.3, 3.5 Hz), 17.08 (s), 8.06 (q, *J* = 2.6 Hz).



2,3,5,6-Tetrafluoro-4-(4-nitrobenzyl)pyridine (4a''): The general procedure was applied using 2,3,4,5,6-pentafluoropyridine (**3a**, 0.169 g, 1 mmol), phosphonium salt **Y4** (2.389 g, 5 mmol) and NaH (0.2 g, 5 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil) in 1,4-dioxane at 110 °C for 48 h. Silica gel chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/petrol ether=1:20) of the crude product afforded the title compound as a colorless crystal (41%). The yield of the product was determined by ¹⁹F NMR. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.21 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 4.27 (s, 2H). ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -89.95 (td, *J* = 28.7, 13.4 Hz, 2F), -144.08 (td, *J* = 28.7, 13.4 Hz, 2F). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 147.39 (s), 144.73 – 142.25 (m), 142.77 (s), 141.67 – 139.03 (m), 131.93 (t, *J* = 16.6 Hz), 129.55 (s), 124.28 (s), 29.21 (s). IR: 3116.9, 3088.2, 2959.4, 2943.4, 2854.5, 2452.5, 1937.1, 1806.3, 1651.6, 1599.2, 1526.6, 1492.6, 1443.7, 1405.5, 1345.9, 1291.5, 1252.1, 1184.4, 1009.9, 1109.5,

Supplementary Information

989.8, 868.6, 855.2, 811.9, 761.9, 737.6, 698.6. HRMS (EI) Exact mass calcd for C₁₂H₆F₄N₂O₂: 286.0365, found 286.0360.

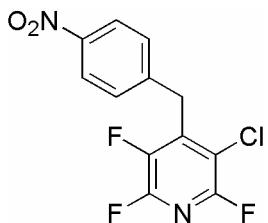


2,6-Difluoro-4-methylpyridine (4b**) and 2,4-difluoro-6-methylpyridine (**4b'**):** The general procedure was applied using 2,4,6-trifluoropyridine (**3b**, 0.665 g, 5 mmol), phosphonium salt Y1 (8.93 g, 25 mmol) and NaH (1.0 g, 25 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil). Silica gel chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/petrol ether = 1:200) of the crude product afforded the title compounds as colorless oil (**4b**, 53.7%; **4b'**, 46.3%). The yield of the product was determined by ¹⁹F NMR. **4b**: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.63 (s, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H). ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -70.23 (d, *J* = 31.9 Hz, 2F). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.83 (dd, *J* = 245.6, 16.3 Hz), 157.54 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz), 106.35 (dd, *J* = 27.6, 11.8 Hz), 21.14 (t, *J* = 2.9 Hz). IR: 3054.4, 2954.3, 2923.8, 2852.3, 1737.3, 1589.8, 1459.7, 1435.8, 1377.0, 1260.5, 1184.3, 1119.2, 1027.0, 802.7, 742.8, 721.5, 694.9, 541.5. HRMS (EI) Exact mass calcd for C₆H₅F₂N: 129.0390, found 129.0395. **4b'**: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.79 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.47 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 2.50 (s, 3H). ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -64.29 (d, *J* = 22.0 Hz, 1F), -98.17 (d, *J* = 22.1 Hz, 1F). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.32 (dd, *J* = 262.2, 12.5 Hz), 164.03 (dd, *J* = 237.1, 13.9 Hz), 159.94 (dd, *J* = 17.4, 9.5 Hz), 108.96 (dd, *J* = 18.1, 5.4 Hz), 94.68 (dd, *J* = 42.0, 22.3 Hz), 24.10 (d, *J* = 2.7 Hz). IR: 2954.5, 2924.1, 2853.2, 2359.2, 1732.9, 1621.8, 1489.9, 1456.8, 1351.5, 1126.4, 1210.9, 1042.8, 957.4, 850.4, 651.8. HRMS (EI) Exact mass calcd for C₆H₅F₂N: 129.0390, found 129.0396.



Supplementary Information

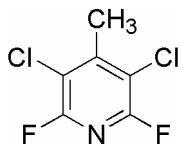
3-Chloro-2,5,6-trifluoro-4-methylpyridine (4c): The general procedure was applied using 3-chloro-2,4,5,6-tetrafluoropyridine (**3c**, 0.185 g, 1 mmol), phosphonium salt **Y1** (1.786 g, 5 mmol) and NaH (0.2 g, 5 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil) at ambient temperature for 41 h. Silica gel chromatography (eluent: petrol ether) of the crude product afforded the title compound as a colorless oil (98%). The yield of the product was determined by ^{19}F NMR. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 2.46 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 3H). ^{19}F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -74.76 (dd, $J = 27.5, 12.4$ Hz, 1F), -90.21 (dd, $J = 20.4, 13.0$ Hz, 1F), -144.42 – -144.57 (m, 1F). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 150.85 (dd, $J = 242.3, 12.7$ Hz), 146.85 (ddd, $J = 245.9, 17.7, 13.9$ Hz), 141.77 – 141.38 (m), 141.32 (ddd, $J = 255.7, 26.3, 6.1$ Hz), 113.55 (dd, $J = 33.9, 6.3$ Hz), 13.05 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz). IR: 2959.5, 2924.5, 2853.0, 1624.0, 1540.8, 1507.3, 1465.4, 1223.5, 1005.9, 913.1, 846.9, 743.3, 668.8, 418.5. HRMS (EI) Exact mass calcd for $\text{C}_6\text{H}_3\text{ClF}_3\text{N}$: 180.9906, found 180.9910.



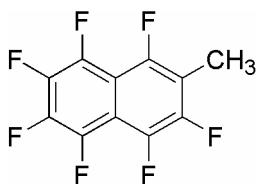
3-Chloro-2,5,6-trifluoro-4-(4-nitrobenzyl)pyridine (4c'): The general procedure was applied using 3-chloro-2,4,5,6-tetrafluoropyridine (**3c**, 0.185 g, 1 mmol), phosphonium salt **Y4** (2.389 g, 5 mmol) and NaH (0.2 g, 5 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil) in 1,4-dioxane at 110 °C for 48 h. Silica gel chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/petrol ether = 1:20) of the crude product afforded the title compound as a colorless crystal (292.9 mg, 97%). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.19 (dd, $J = 8.8, 2.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.46 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 4.37 (d, $J = 1.2$ Hz, 2H). ^{19}F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -72.40 (dd, $J = 28.1, 12.5$ Hz, 1F), -88.00 (dd, $J = 21.4, 12.6$ Hz, 1F), -143.66 (dd, $J = 28.2, 21.5$ Hz, 1F). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 151.27 (ddd, $J = 244.7, 12.2, 2.6$ Hz), 147.30 (s), 148.42 – 146.04 (m), 142.63 (s), 142.01 (d, $J = 15.0$ Hz), 141.21 (ddd, $J = 257.5, 26.6, 6.3$ Hz), 129.55 (s), 124.15 (s), 113.45 (dd, $J = 34.2,$

Supplementary Information

6.6 Hz), 32.60 (s). IR: 3086.9, 2958.7, 2942.1, 2452.5, 2359.9, 2339.9, 1806.2, 1627.0, 1598.1, 1524.3, 1492.7, 1463.0, 1445.4, 1429.5, 1382.4, 1348.8, 1221.5, 1158.5, 1110.5, 1002.2, 702.4, 868.6, 856.0, 842.7, 812.0, 739.4, 761.9. HRMS (EI) Exact mass calcd for C₁₂H₆ClF₃N₂O₂: 302.0070, found 302.0073.



3,5-Dichloro-2,6-difluoro-4-methylpyridine (4d): The general procedure was applied using 3,5-dichloro-2,4,6-trifluoropyridine (**3d**, 0.201 g, 1 mmol), phosphonium salt **Y1** (1.786 g, 5 mmol) and NaH (0.2 g, 5 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil) at ambient temperature for 41 h. Silica gel chromatography (eluent: petrol ether) of the crude product afforded the title compound as a colorless oil (97%). The yield of the product was determined by ¹⁹F NMR. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.58 (s, 3H). ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -72.07 (s, 2F). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 154.50 (dd, *J* = 245.0, 14.7 Hz), 152.42 (t, *J* = 1.7 Hz), 114.23 – 113.88 (m), 18.03 (t, *J* = 2.8 Hz). IR: 2958.0, 2929.0, 2855.6, 1600.6, 1559.5, 1420.4, 1406.2, 1373.8, 1257.9, 1113.0, 1077.8, 998.3, 913.0, 755.6, 735.9, 615.9, 566.2, 405.1. HRMS (EI) Exact mass calcd for C₆H₃Cl₂F₂N: 196.9611, found 196.9611.



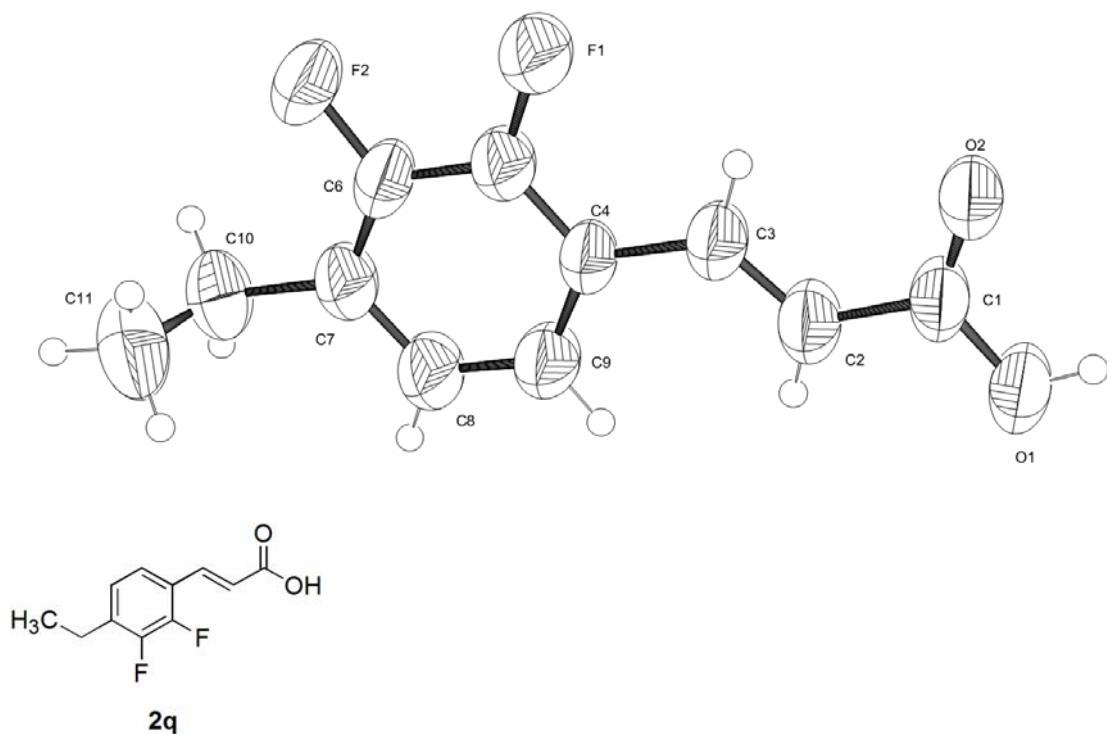
1,2,3,4,5,6,8-Heptafluoro-7-methylnaphthalene (4e): The general procedure was applied using octafluoronaphthalene (**3e**, 0.272 g, 1 mmol), phosphonium salt **Y1** (1.0716 g, 3 mmol) and NaH (0.12 g, 3 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil) at 60 °C for 48 h. Silica gel chromatography (eluent: petrol ether) of the crude product afforded the title compound as a colorless crystal (71%). The yield of the product was determined by ¹⁹F NMR. The NMR spectral data were in line with the literature

Supplementary Information

values.⁹ ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.41 (s, 1H). ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -121.33 – -122.23 (m, 1F), -137.27 (s, 1F), -145.17 (dd, *J* = 67.2, 16.2 Hz, 1F), -146.31 – -147.10 (m, 1F), -149.78 – -150.76 (m, 1F), -155.12 (d, *J* = 17.9 Hz, 1F), -156.45 (d, *J* = 14.6 Hz, 1F). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 150.19 (d, *J* = 257.9 Hz), 146.91 (d, *J* = 250.4 Hz), 142.01 (s), 141.28 (s), 140.11 (t, *J* = 14.9 Hz), 139.66 – 138.97 (m), 137.76 (dt, *J* = 29.1, 14.8 Hz), 115.19 (t, *J* = 21.2 Hz), 109.83 (s), 107.62 (s), 7.49 (s). IR: 3014.5, 2934.3, 2870.0, 1655.2, 1614.4, 1496.7, 1439.2, 1409.0, 1381.7, 1265.5, 1176.5, 1150.0, 1117.2, 1091.6, 1021.6, 1003.3, 951.7, 910.3, 774.7, 735.5, 530.9. HRMS (EI) Exact mass calcd for C₁₁H₃F₇: 268.0123, found 268.0121.

X-Ray Crystal Structure of 2q

The structure of compound **2q** was determined by X-ray crystallography (deposition number CCDC 953222):



Mechanistic Investigation by NMR Spectroscopy

To explore the mechanism of the phosphonium ylide-assisted alkyl transfer reaction, we used NMR spectroscopy to monitor the reaction intermediates. It was known that nitro-group might help stabilize the intermediate complexes of nucleophilic substitution, we carried out the alkyl transfer reaction between 3,4,5-trifluoronitrobenzene and methyltriphenylphosphonium bromide. The ^1H , ^{31}P and ^{13}C spectra were obtained and shown in Figures S1, S2 and S3. The reaction pathways were proposed in Scheme S1. It was clear that all the reaction intermediates could be found on the NMR spectra (Figures S1-3).

Phosphonium Ylide (C)

In a three-neck round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar, methyltriphenylphosphonium bromide (1.786 g, 5.0 mmol) and potassium tert-butoxide (0.56 g, 5.0 mmol) were added. The flask was evacuated and re-filled with nitrogen for three times. THF (10 mL) was then added by syringe and the mixture was heated to reflux for 3 h. Part of the supernatant (0.5 mL) was taken from the cooled reaction mixture and the solvent was removed under vacuum to afford a yellow solid. The solid was then dissolved in 0.6 mL THF- d_8 and transferred into a NMR tube. The ^1H , ^{31}P and ^{13}C spectra were recorded.

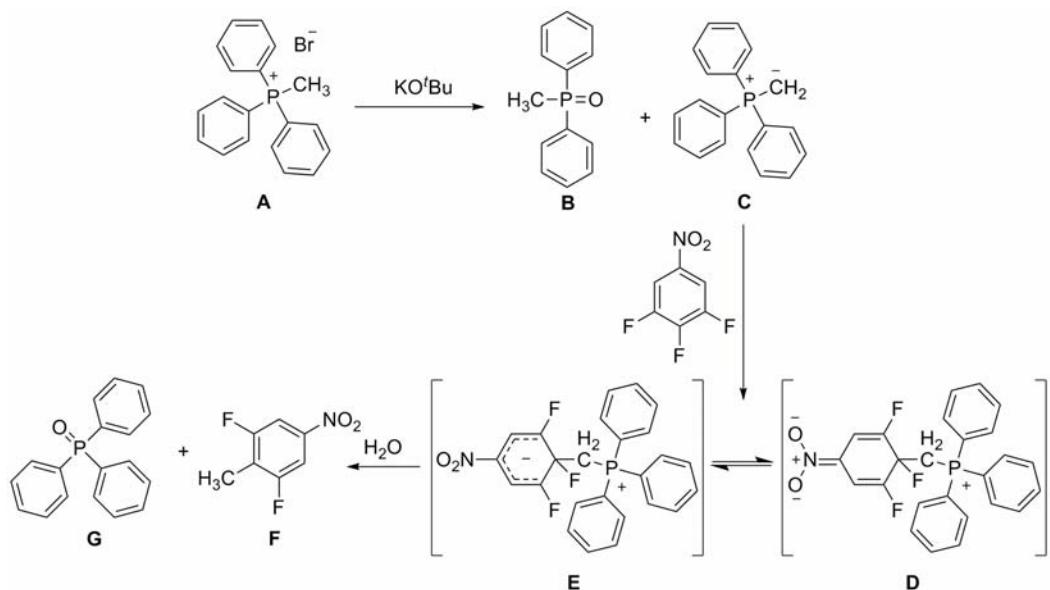
Meisenheimer Complexes (D, E)

To the mixture of the phosphonium ylide and THF- d_8 0.01 mL 3,4,5-trifluoronitrobenzene was added. A dark red mixture formed immediately. The ^1H , ^{31}P and ^{13}C spectra were rapidly obtained.

Hydrolysis of the Meisenheimer Complexes

The mixture of Meisenheimer complexes and THF- d_8 was concentrated under vacuum. To the concentrated mixture were added 1.5 mL CDCl_3 , 2 drops of D_2O and a small amount of silica gel. The mixture was stirred for 10 min and filtrated. The ^1H , ^{31}P and ^{13}C spectra were recorded.

Supplementary Information



Scheme S1. Proposed reaction pathways for alkyl transfer from phosphonium ylide to 3,4,5-trifluoronitrobenzene.

Figure S1-3: spectrum 1, phosphonium salt; spectrum 2, base added; spectrum 3, polyfluoroarene added; spectrum 4, hydrolysis.

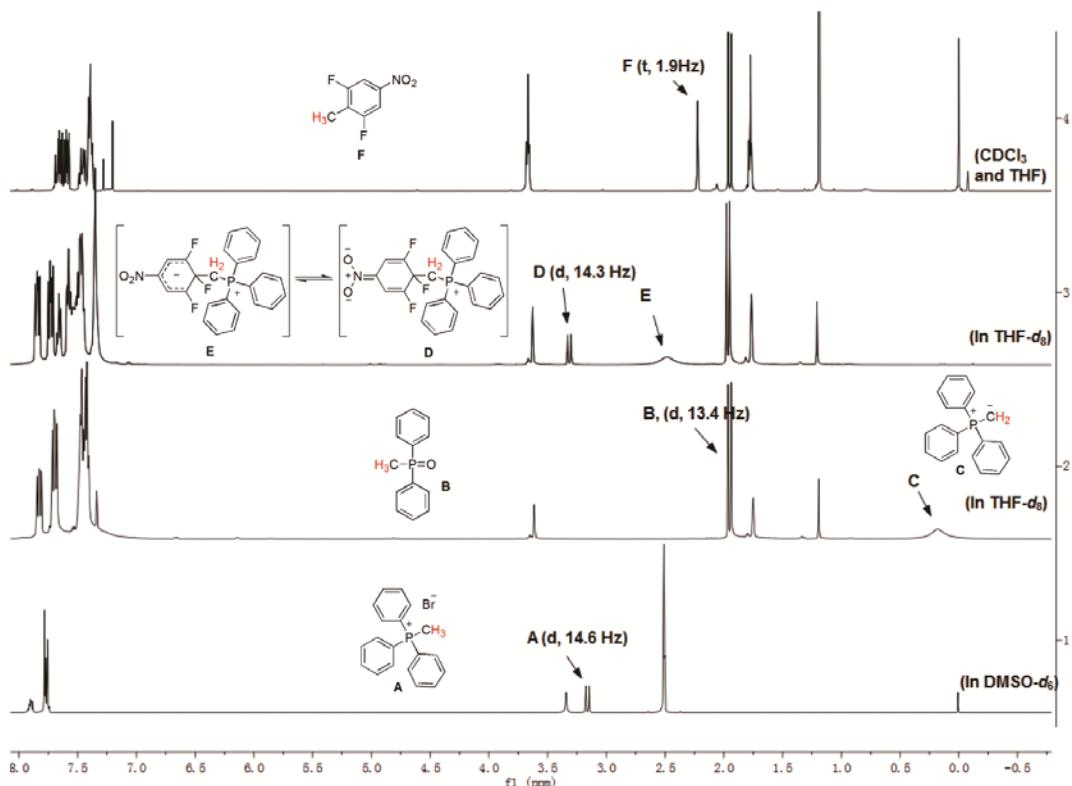


Figure S1. ¹H NMR spectra recorded during the reaction of 3,4,5-trifluoronitrobenzene with phosphonium ylide.

Supplementary Information

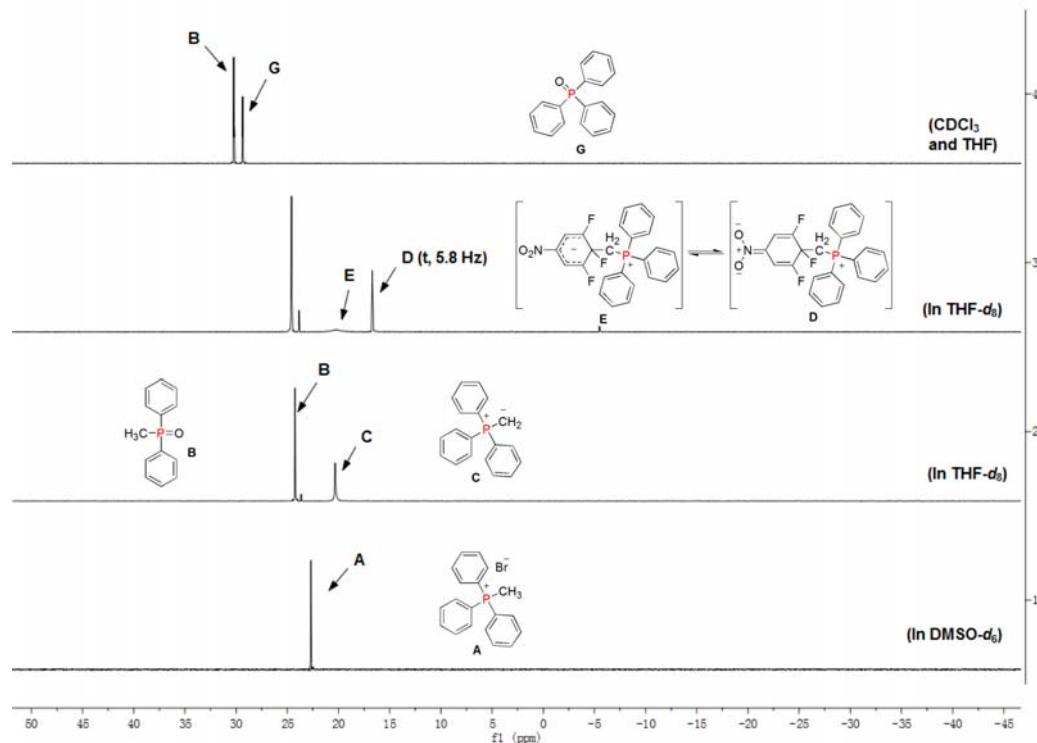


Figure S2. ^{31}P NMR spectra recorded during the reaction of 3,4,5-trifluoronitrobenzene with phosphonium ylide.

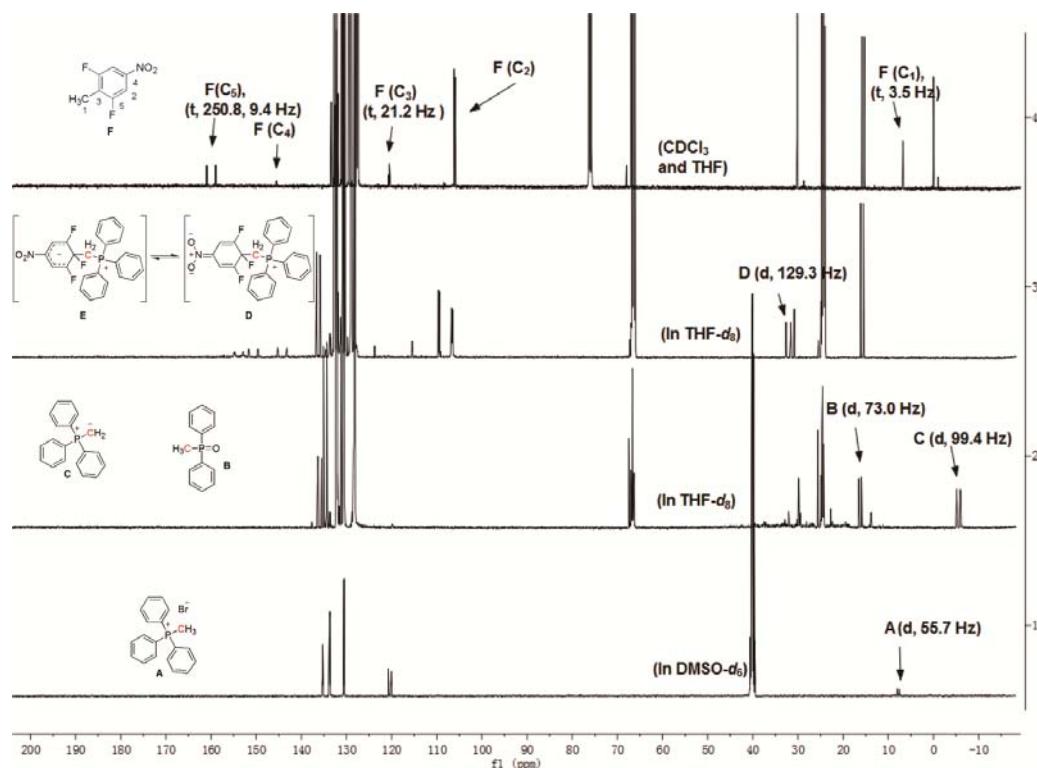
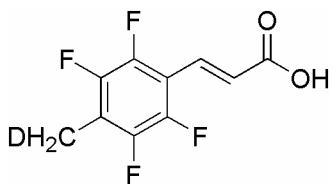


Figure S3. ^{13}C NMR spectra recorded during the reaction of 3,4,5-trifluoronitrobenzene with phosphonium ylide.

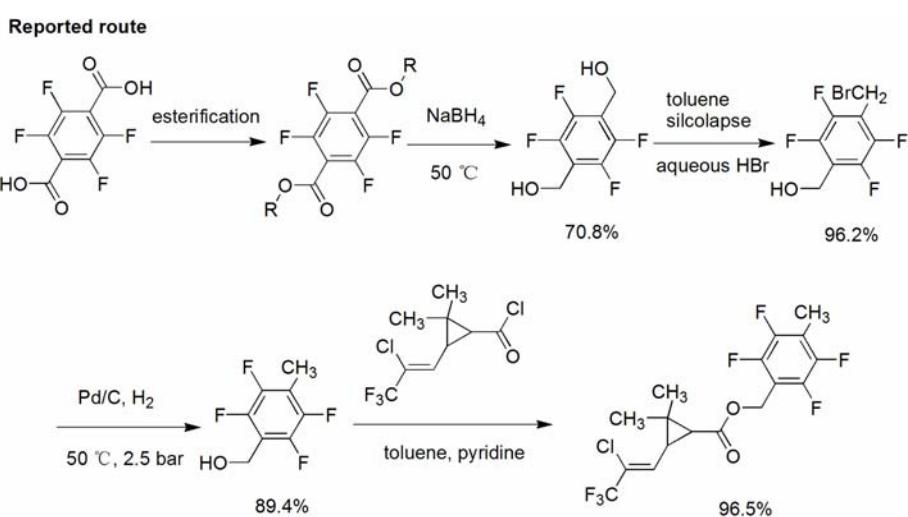
Deuteration Experiment



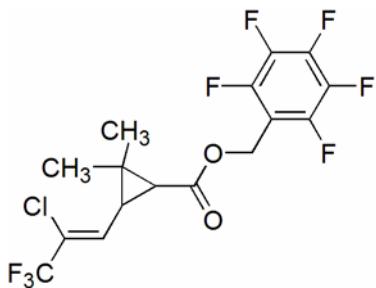
The general procedure was applied using 3-pentafluorophenyl-acrylic acid (**1b**, 0.238 g, 1 mmol), phosphonium salt **Y1** (1.785 g, 5 mmol) and NaH (0.2 g, 5 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil) at 80 °C for 24 h. After the reaction was completed, the workup was conducted using D₂O (0.6 mL) at ambient temperature. The crude product was then purified by silica gel chromatography (eluent: ethyl acetate/petrol ether = 1/20, and 1% acetic acid) to afford the target product **5** as a white solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, MeOD-*d*₄) δ 7.65 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 6.69 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 2.33 (s, 2H).

Synthesis of Tefluthrin

Scheme S2. Traditional Synthesis Route of Tefluthrin¹⁰

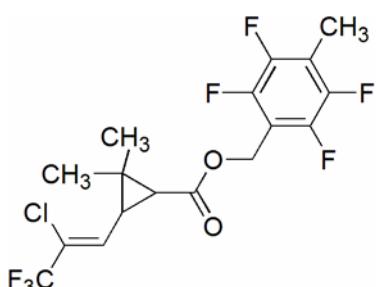


Supplementary Information



3-(2-Chloro-3,3,3-trifluoropropenyl)-2,2-dimethylcyclopropanecarboxylic acid

pentafluorophenylmethyl ester (10): A THF solution of 4-dimethylamino pyridine (122.2 mg, 1 mmol), N,N'-dicyclohexyl carbodiimide (4.4 g, 22 mmol), (2,3,4,5,6-pentafluorophenyl)methanol (3.9 g, 20 mmol) and 3-(2-chloro-3,3,3-trifluoropropenyl)-2,2-dimethylcyclopropanecarboxylic acid (**9**, 7.9 g, 32 mmol) was stirred at ambient temperature for 39 h. The mixture was then concentrated and purified by Silica gel chromatography (eluent: petrol ether) afforded the title compound as a colorless oil (7.78 g, 93%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.88 (d, *J* = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 5.22 (q, *J* = 12.2 Hz, 2H), 2.21 (t, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 2.09 – 1.87 (m, 1H), 1.31 (s, 3H), 1.30 (s, 3H). ¹⁹F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -68.87 (s, 3F), -141.98 (dd, *J* = 21.9, 8.2 Hz, 2F), -152.54 (t, *J* = 20.6 Hz, 1F), -161.63 (td, *J* = 21.6, 7.8 Hz, 2F). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.42 (s), 146.79 – 144.57 (m), 143.34 – 139.85 (m), 137.52 (ddd, *J* = 34.4, 29.1, 16.6 Hz), 130.49 – 127.83 (m), 122.10 (q, *J* = 37.6 Hz), 120.36 (q, *J* = 271.6 Hz), 109.43 (t, *J* = 17.4 Hz), 53.15 (s), 32.44 (s), 31.05 (s), 28.88 (s), 28.02 (s), 14.63 (s).



3-(2-Chloro-3,3,3-trifluoropropenyl)-2,2-dimethylcyclopropanecarboxylic acid

2,3,5,6-tetrafluoro-4-methylbenzyl ester (11): According to the general procedure, a THF solution of phosphonium salt **Y1** (1.785 g, 5 mmol) and NaH (0.2 g, 5 mmol) (60% dispersion in mineral oil) was heated to reflux for 48 h, cooled down and

Supplementary Information

filtrated. To the filtrate was added a THF solution of polyfluoroarene **10** (0.422 g, 1 mmol). Further reaction was carried out at ambient temperature for 48 h, then purified by Silica gel chromatography (eluent: petrol ether) afforded the title compound as a colorless oil (44%). The yield of the product was determined by ^{19}F NMR. The NMR spectral data were in line with the literature values. ^{11}H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 6.89 (dd, $J = 9.4, 0.7$ Hz, 1H), 5.21 (dd, $J = 28.3, 12.1$ Hz, 2H), 2.29 (t, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 3H), 2.18 (t, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 1.97 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 1.30 (s, 3H), 1.29 (s, 3H). ^{19}F NMR (471 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -68.81 (d, $J = 4.1$ Hz), -143.49 – -143.58 (m), -144.42 – -144.62 (m). ^{13}C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.55 (s), 146.22 – 145.65 (m), 144.19 – 143.74 (m), 129.74 (q, $J = 4.4$ Hz), 122.05 (q, $J = 37.9$ Hz), 120.38 (q, $J = 271.9$ Hz), 117.36 (t, $J = 19.1$ Hz), 111.32 (t, $J = 17.1$ Hz), 53.72 (s), 32.59 (s), 31.02 (s), 28.85 (s), 28.25 (s), 14.86 (s), 7.63 (s).

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Supplementary Information

NMR Spectra of All the New Compounds

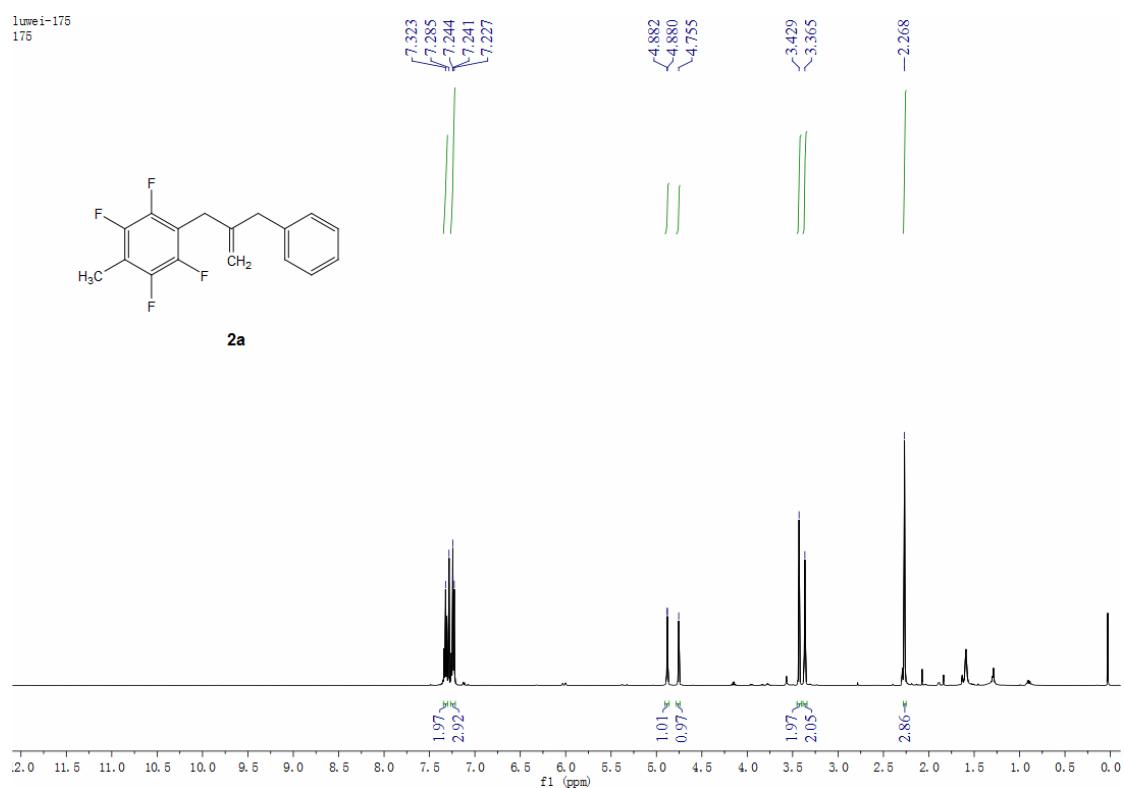


Figure S4. ^1H NMR spectrum of **2a**.



Figure S5. ^{19}F NMR spectrum of **2a**.

Supplementary Information

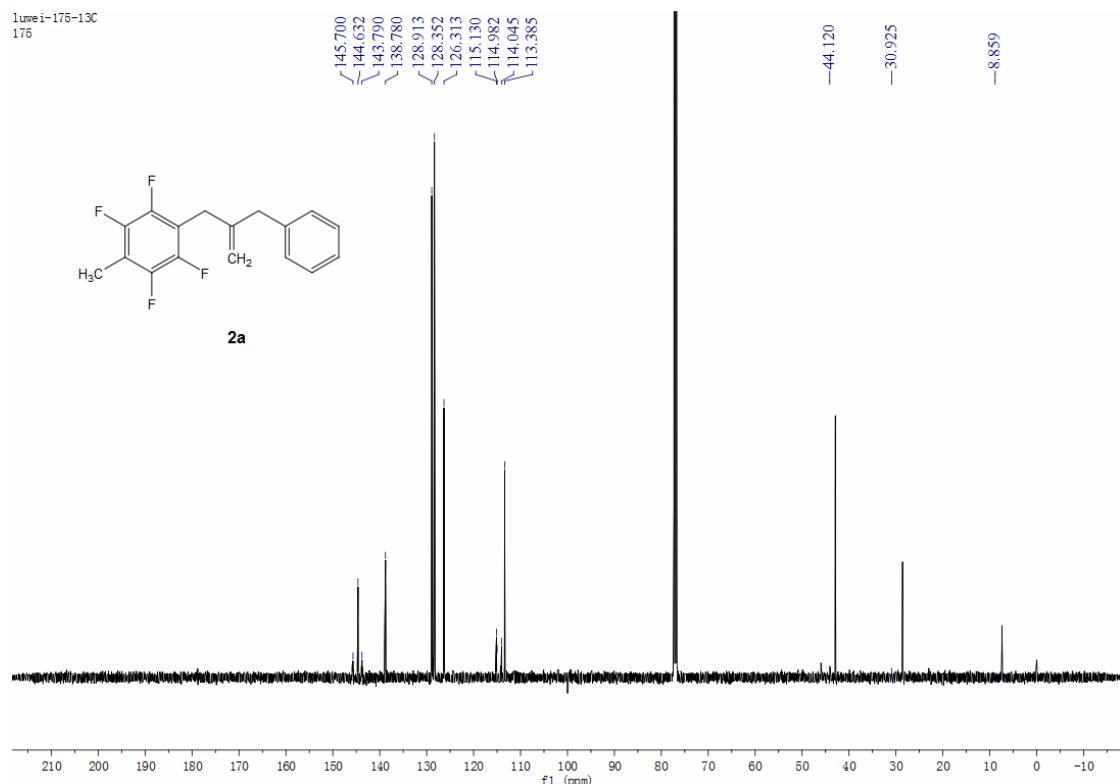


Figure S6. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of **2a**.

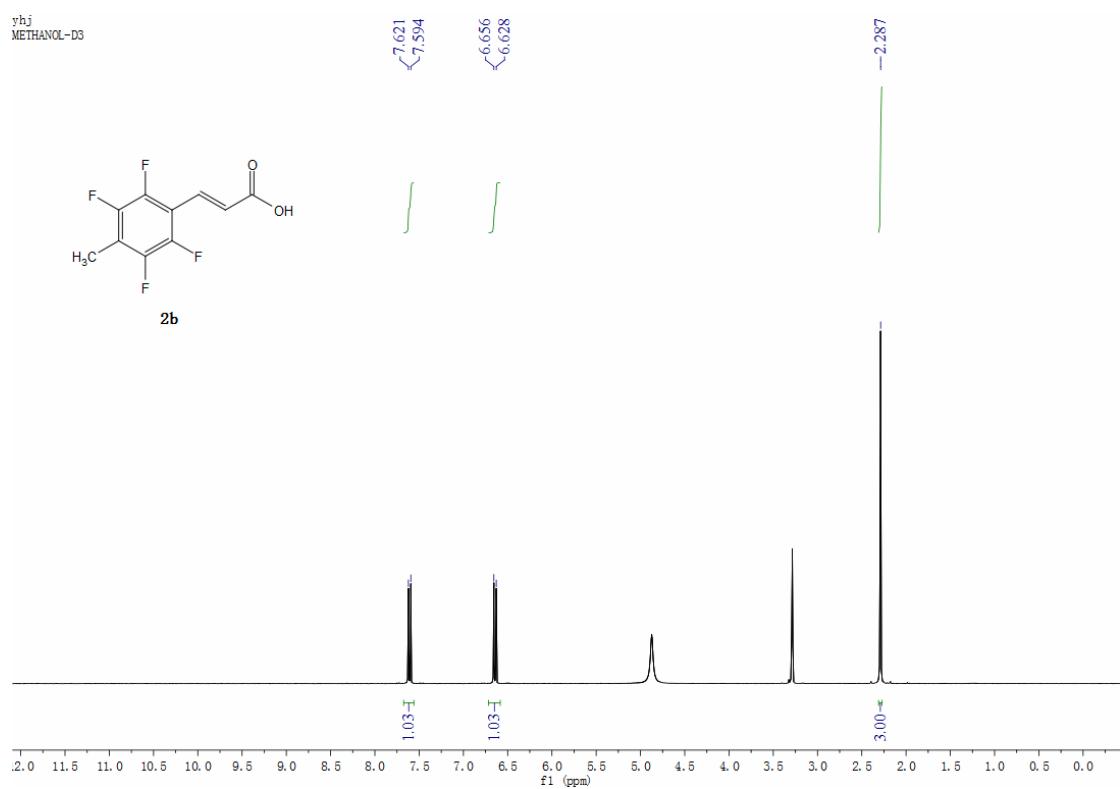


Figure S7. ^1H NMR spectrum of **2b**.

Supplementary Information

huangbiyu-19F
13F NMR of 120913-LW-191

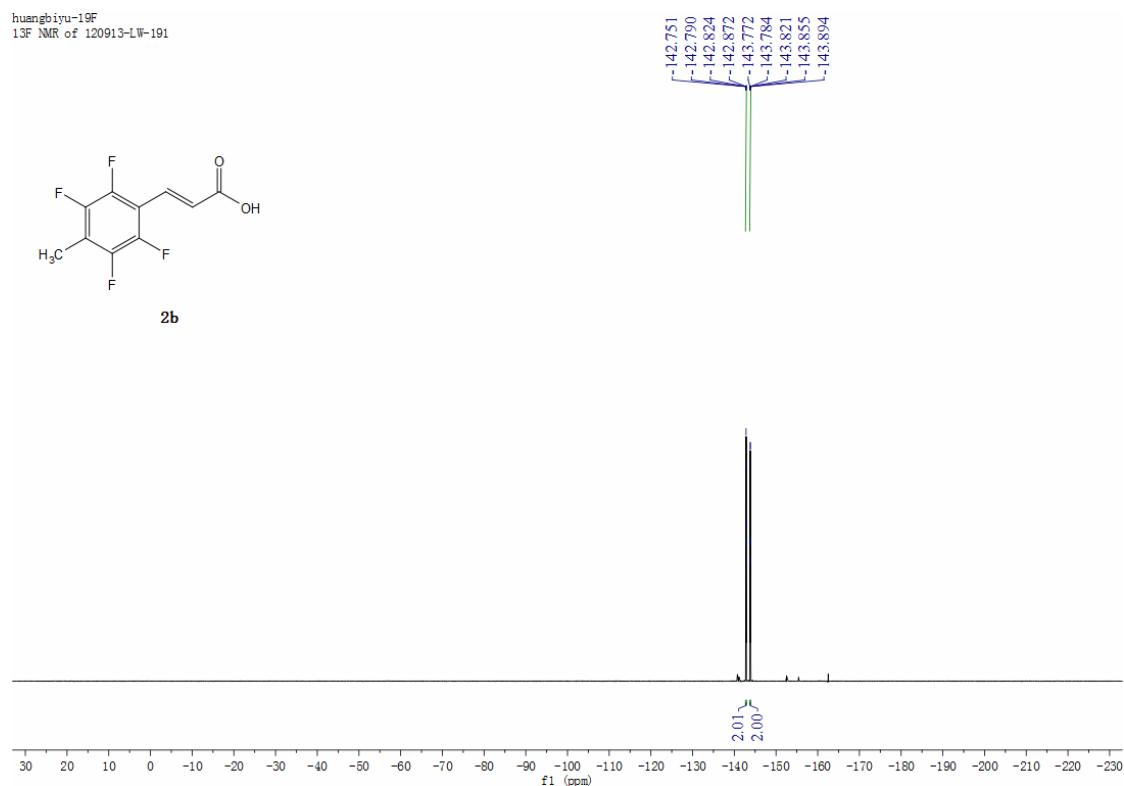
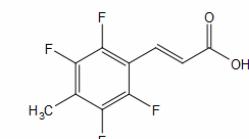


Figure S8. ^{19}F NMR spectrum of **2b**.

yhj
METHANOL-D3

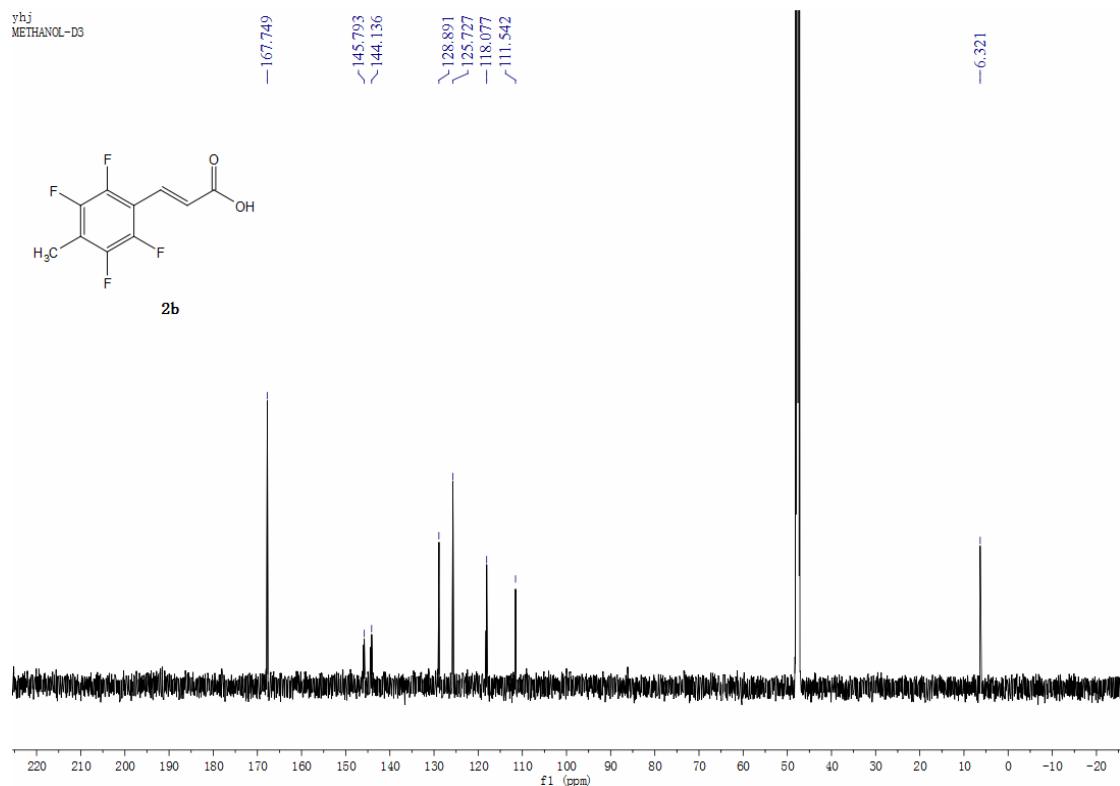
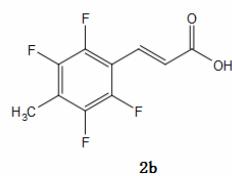


Figure S9. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of **2b**.

Supplementary Information

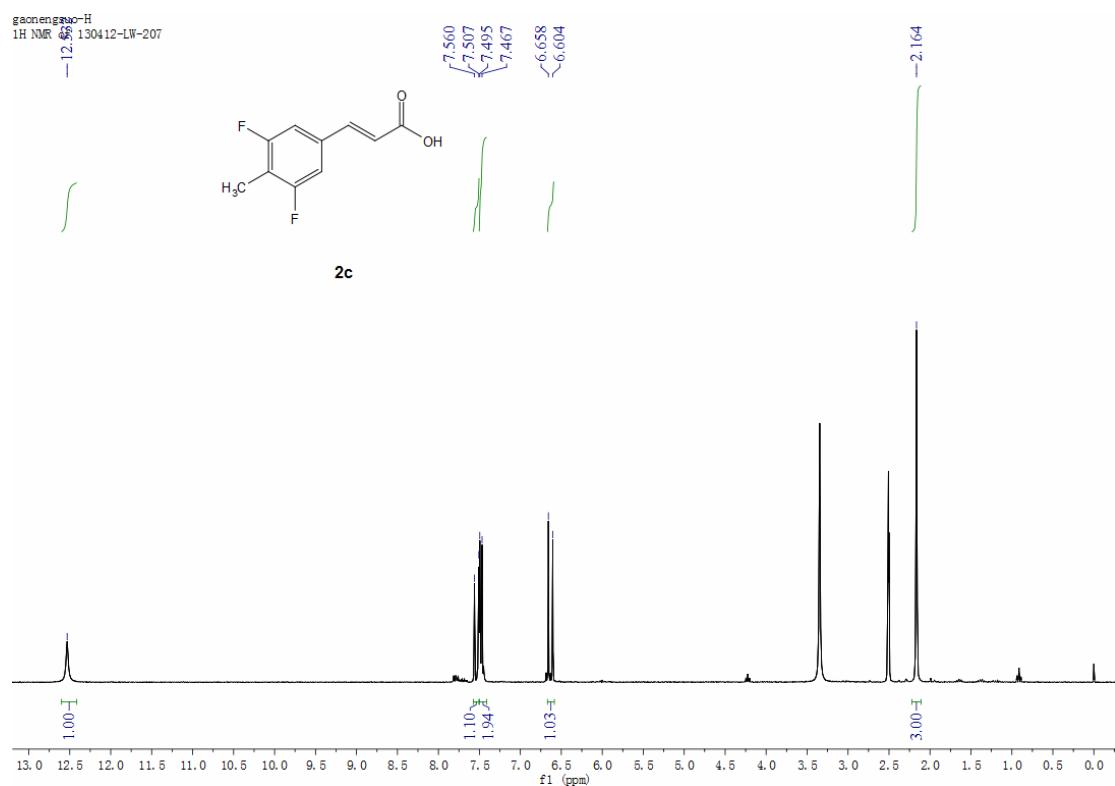


Figure S10. ^1H NMR spectrum of **2c**.

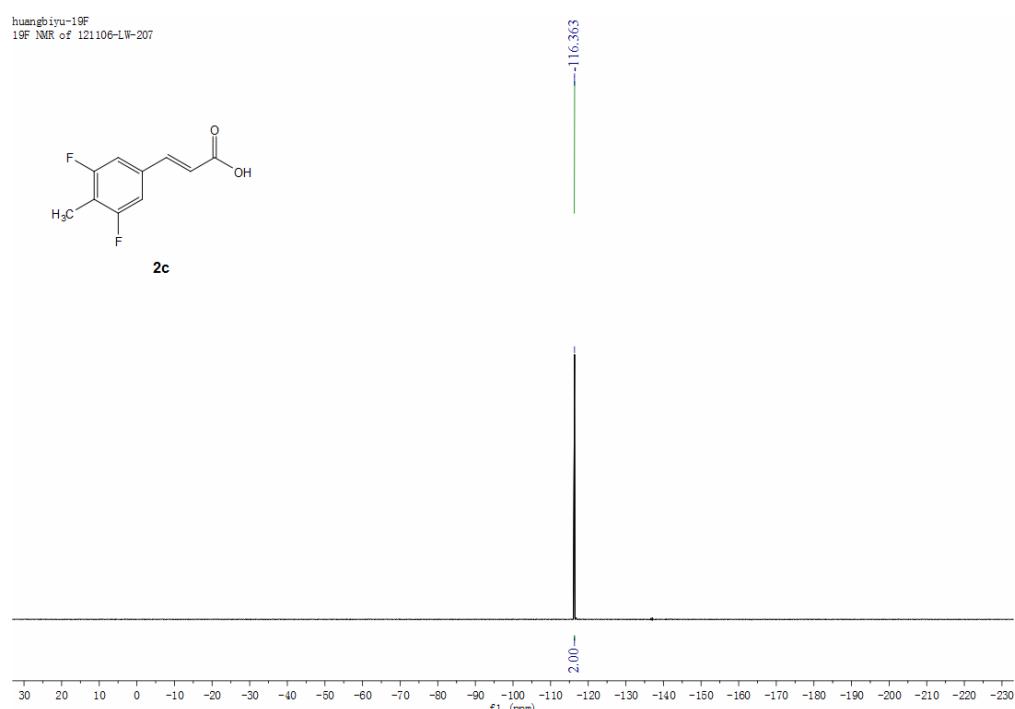


Figure S11. ^{19}F NMR spectrum of **2c**.

Supplementary Information

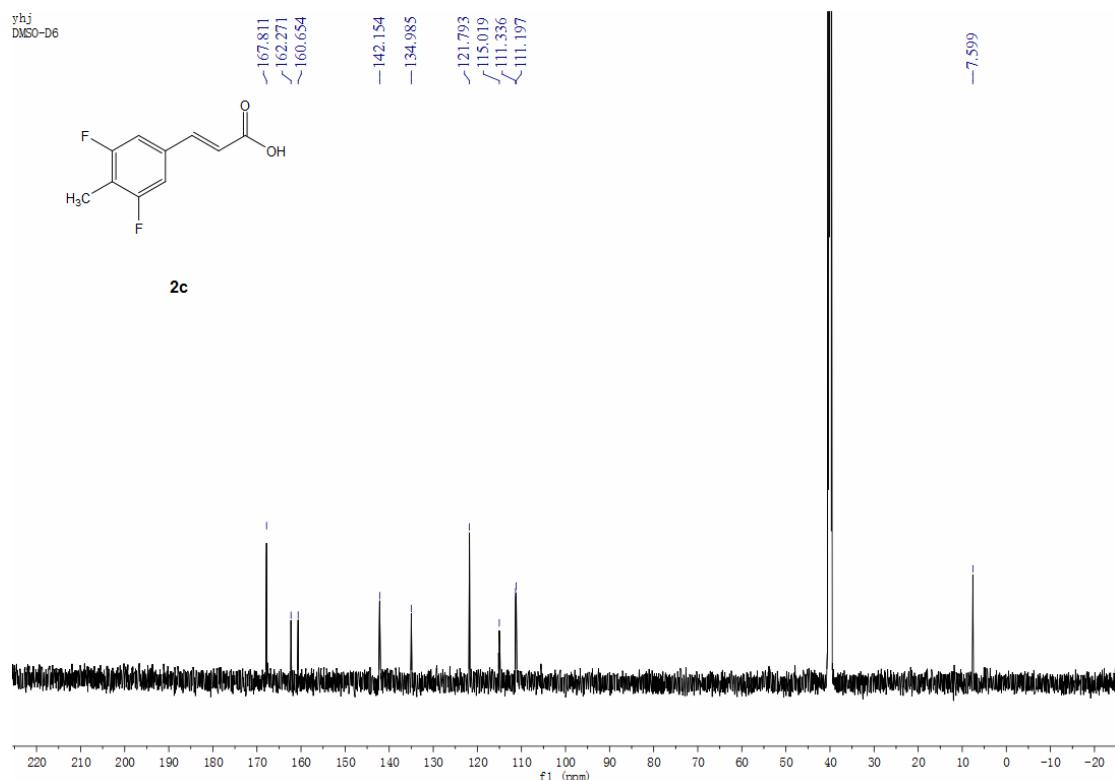


Figure S12. ¹³C NMR spectrum of **2c**.

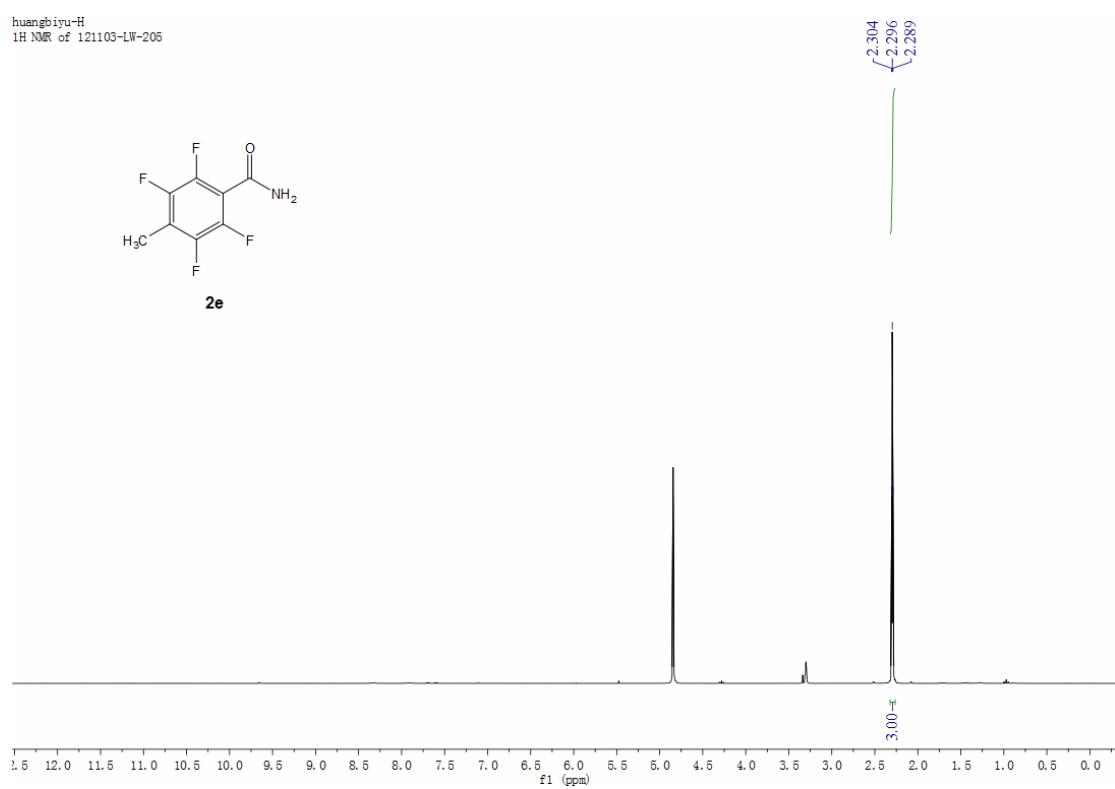


Figure S13. ¹H NMR spectrum of **2e**.

Supplementary Information

huangbiyu-19F
19F NMR of 2e

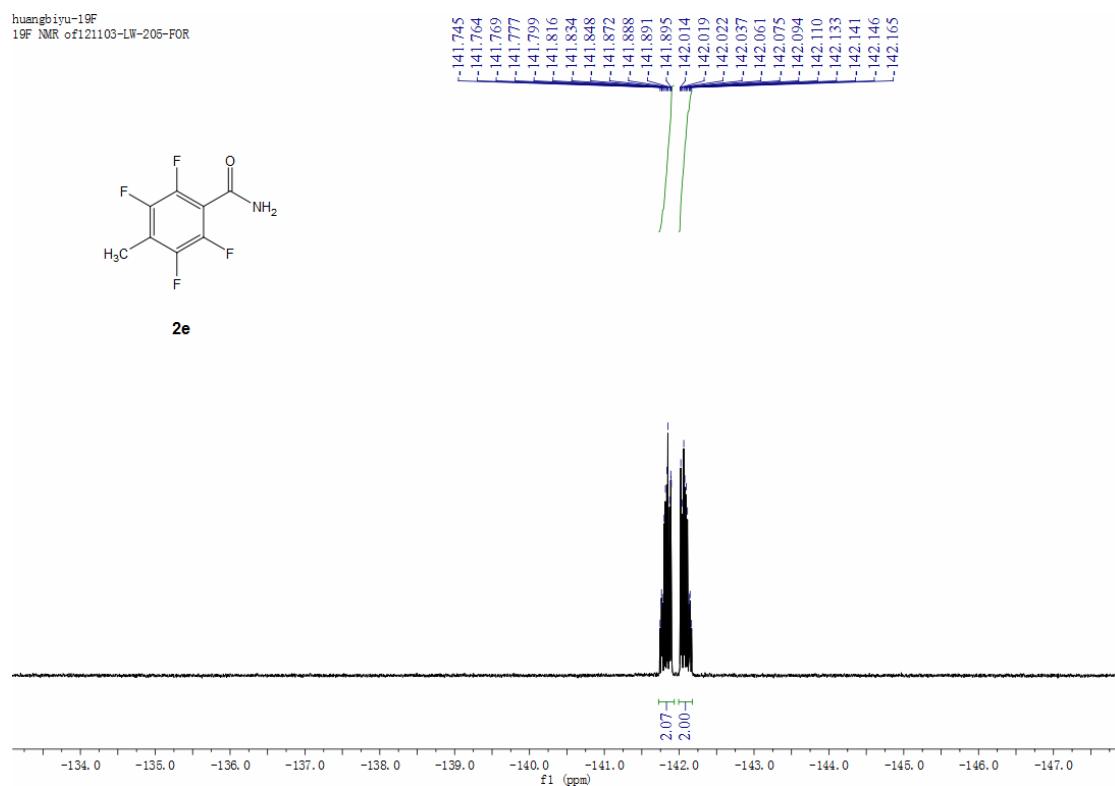


Figure S14. ¹⁹F NMR spectrum of **2e**.

y_{hj}
METHANOL-D3

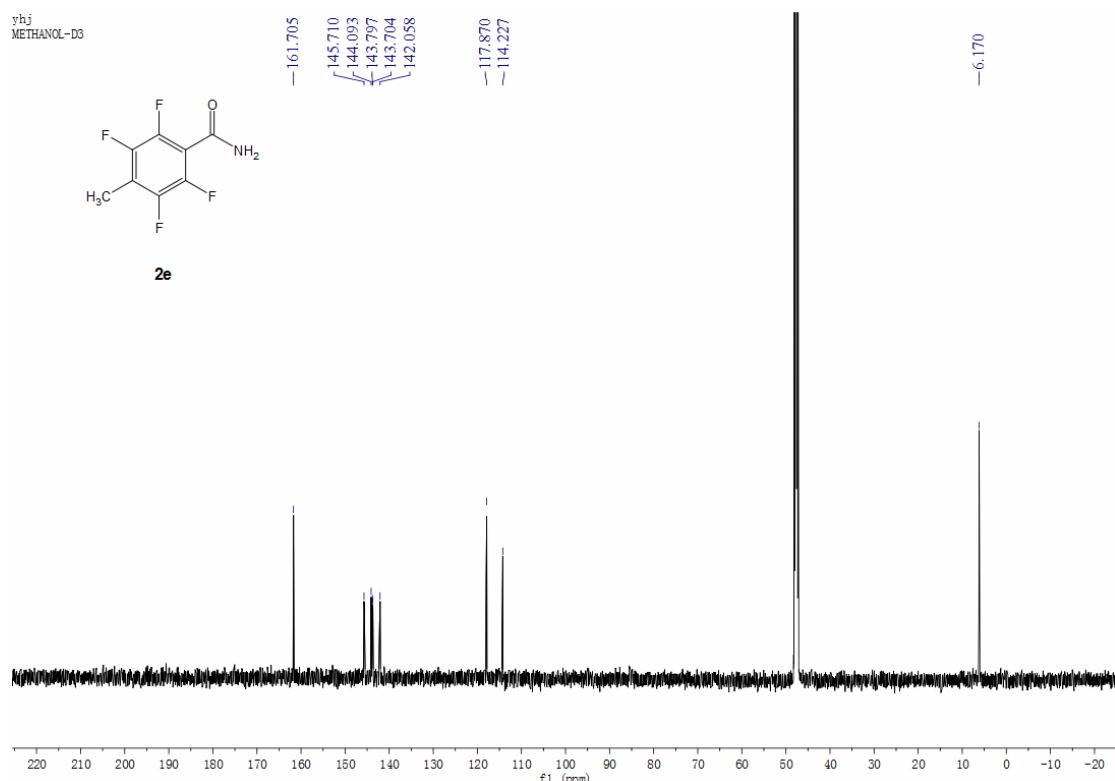
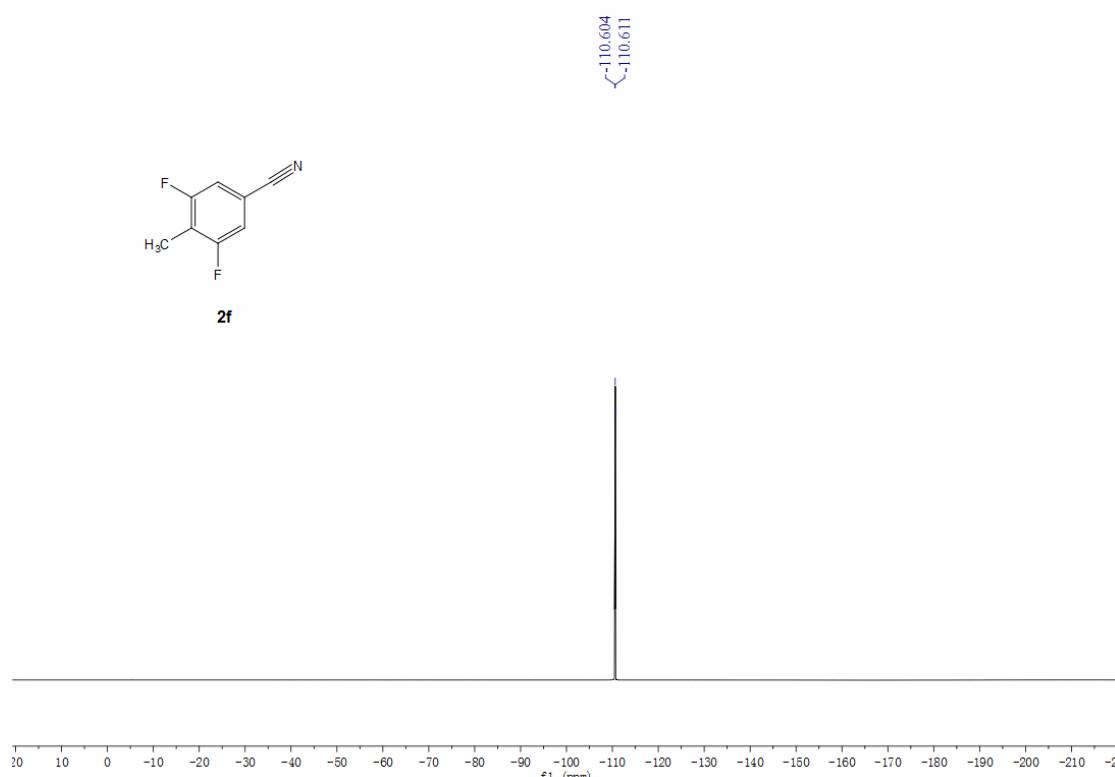
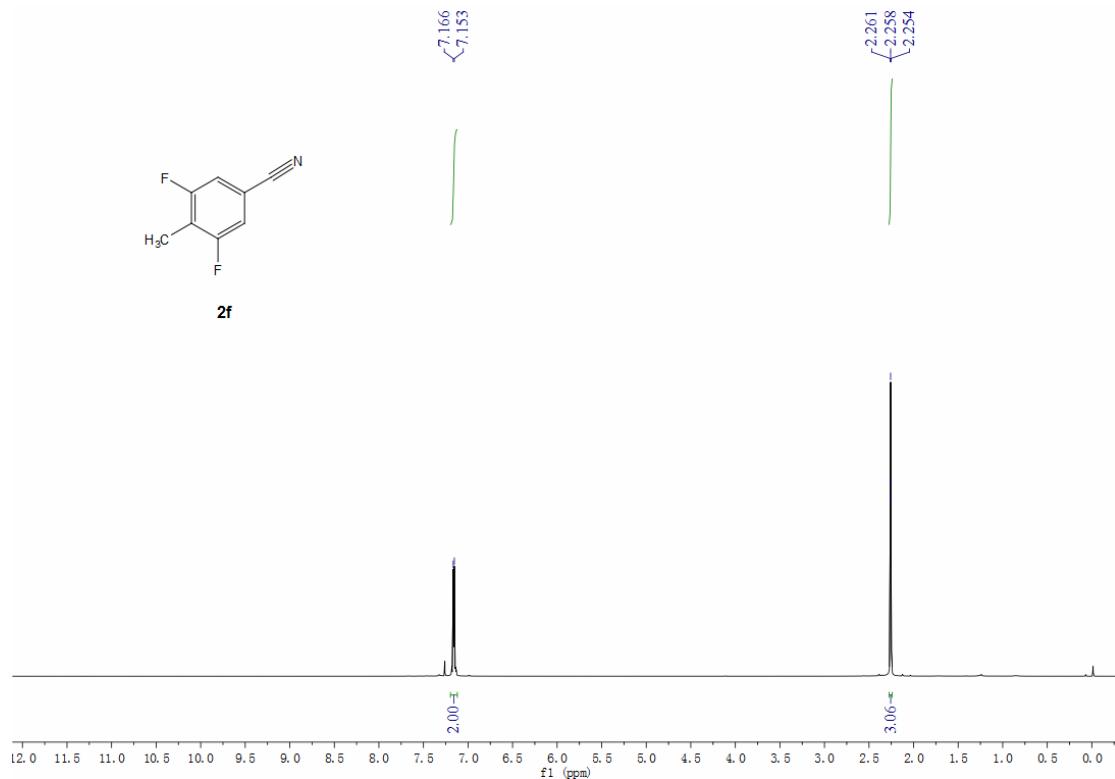


Figure S15. ¹³C NMR spectrum of **2e**.

Supplementary Information



Supplementary Information

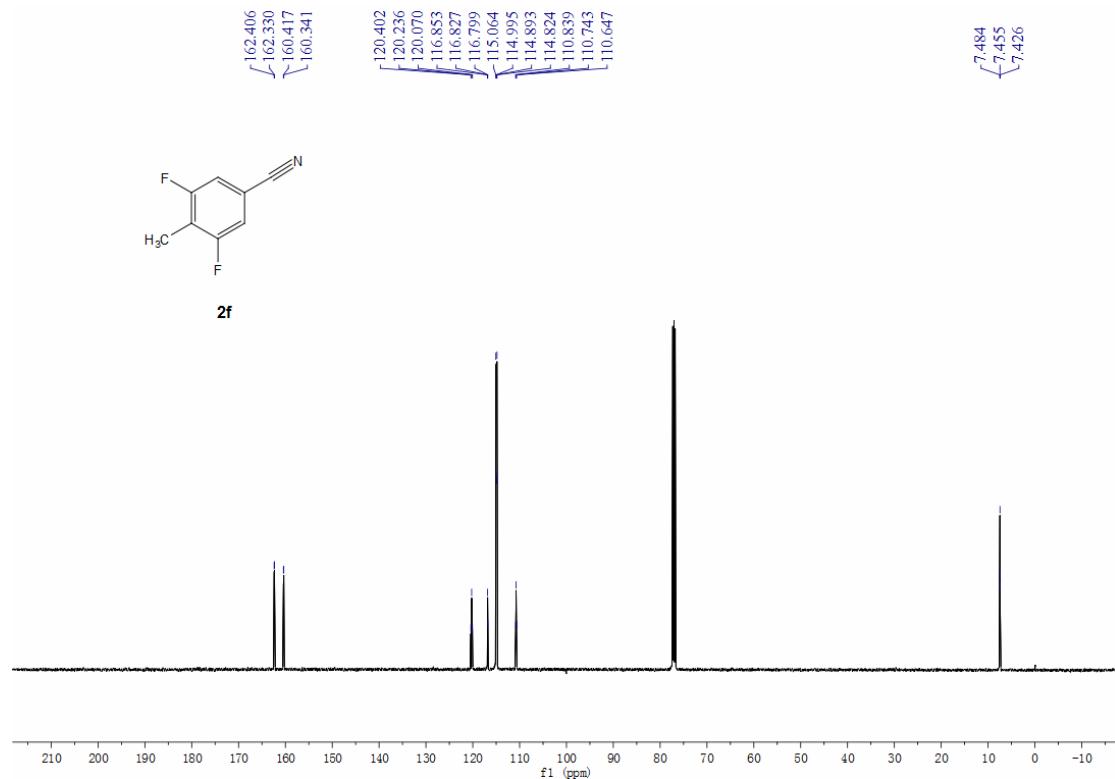


Figure S18. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of **2f**.

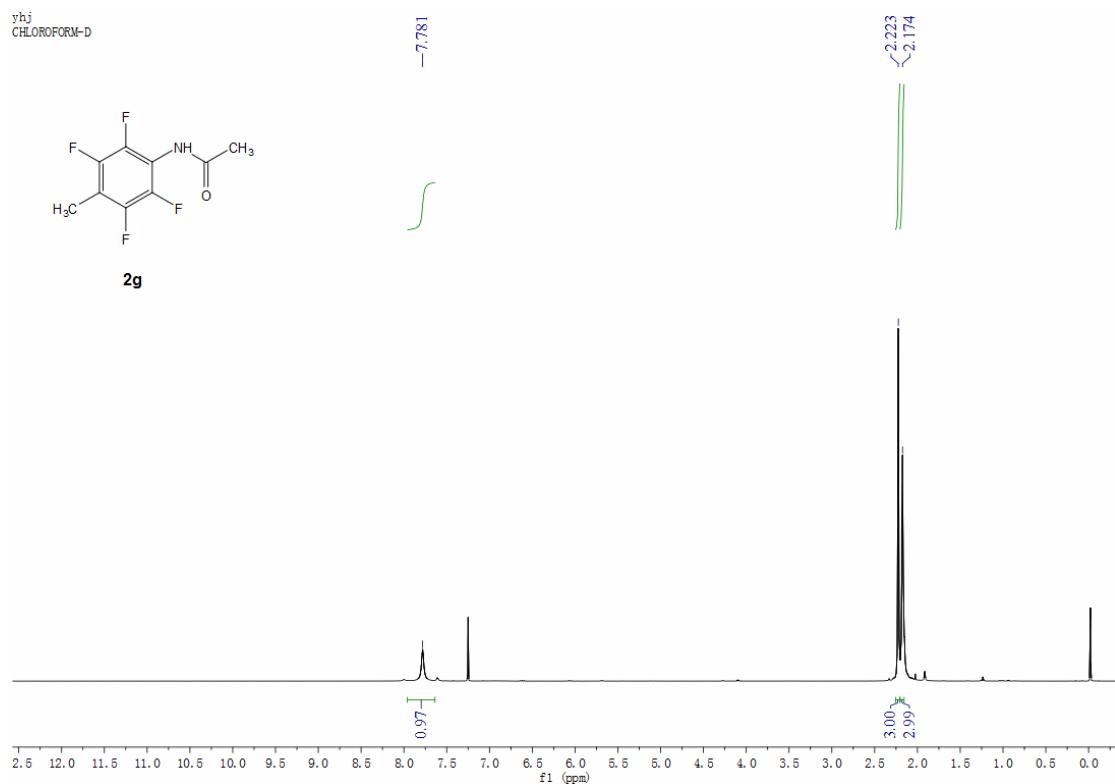


Figure S19. ^1H NMR spectrum of **2g**.

Supplementary Information

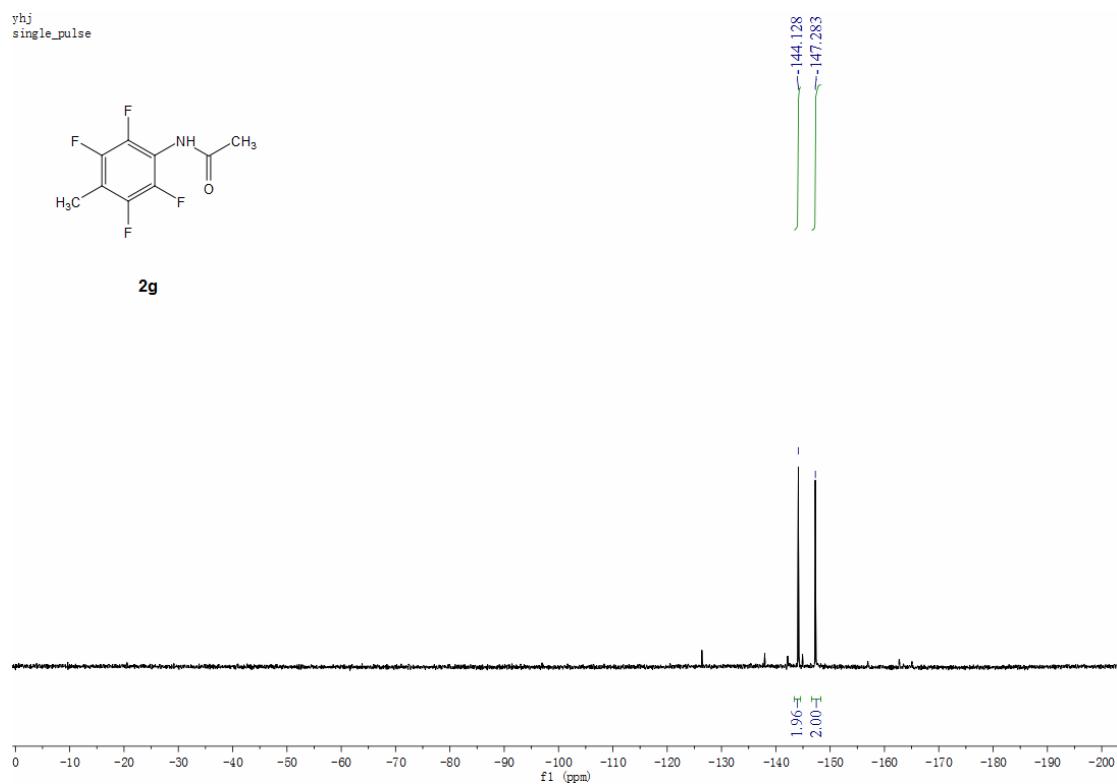


Figure S20. ¹⁹F NMR spectrum of 2g.

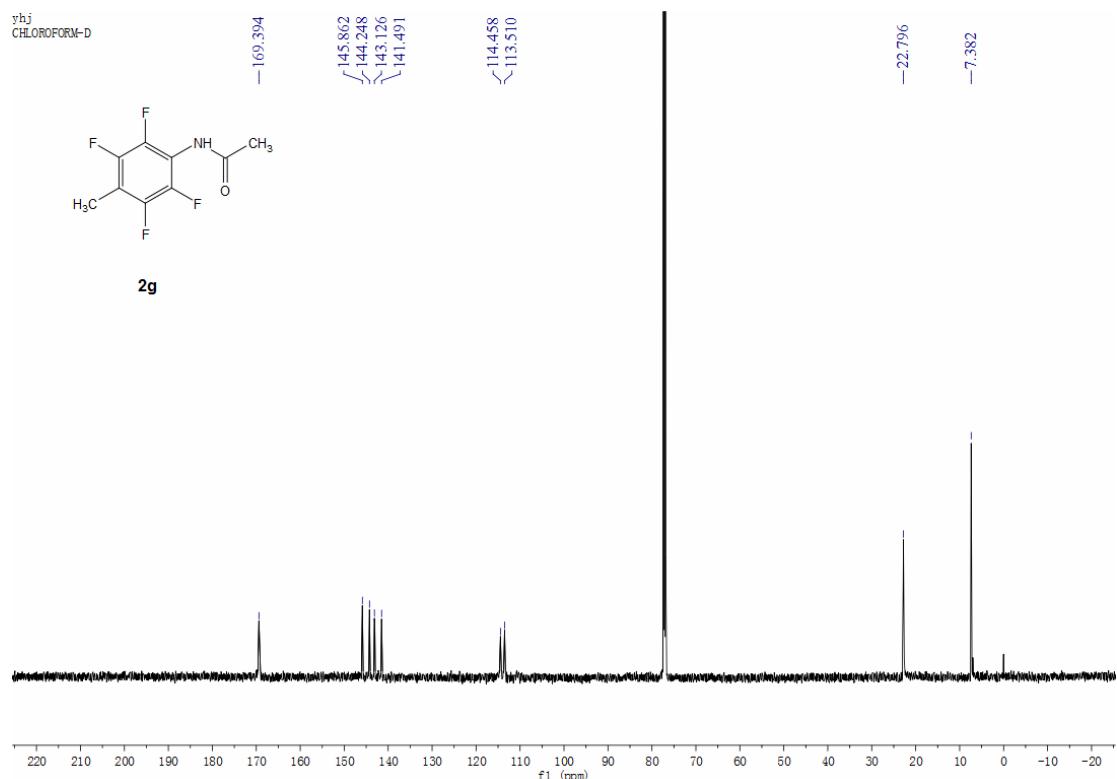


Figure S21. ¹³C NMR spectrum of 2g.

Supplementary Information

gaonengsuo-19F
19F NM Ref 130310-LW-243

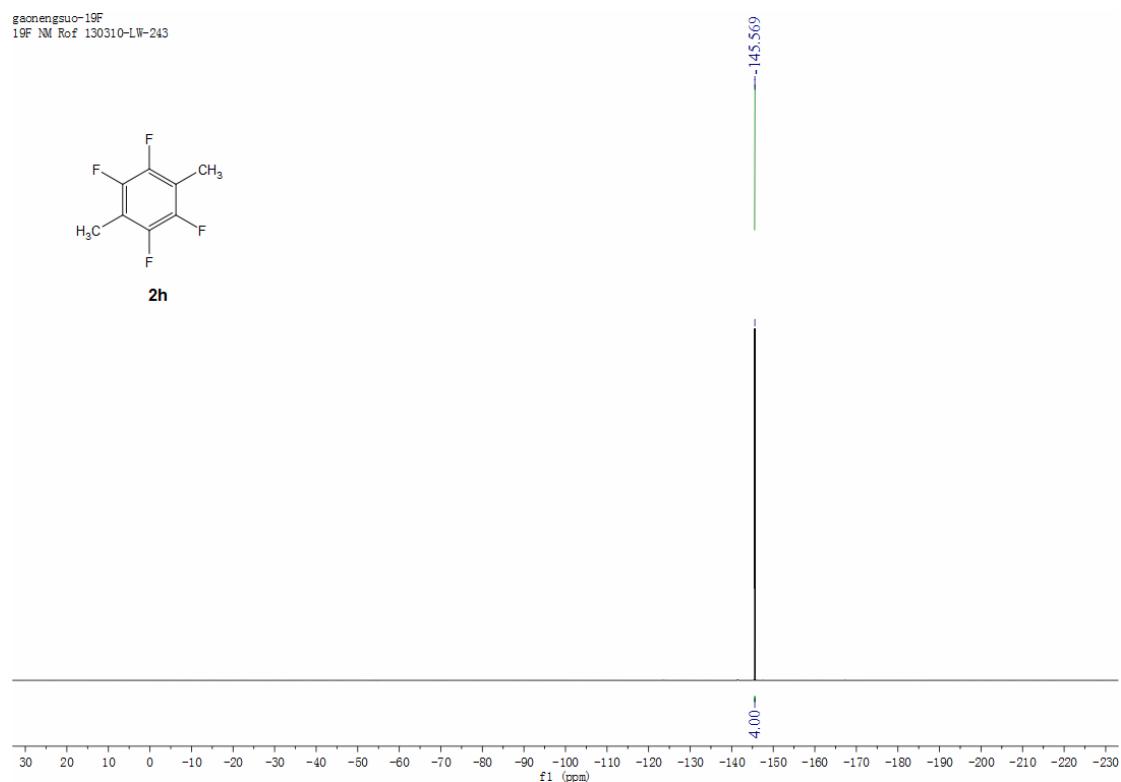
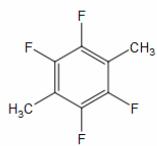


Figure S22. ¹⁹F NMR spectrum of **2h**.

y_{hj}
CHLOROFORM-D

145.755
145.719
145.678
145.615
145.567
144.126
144.076
144.042
143.980
143.938
113.038
113.009

-7.234



2h

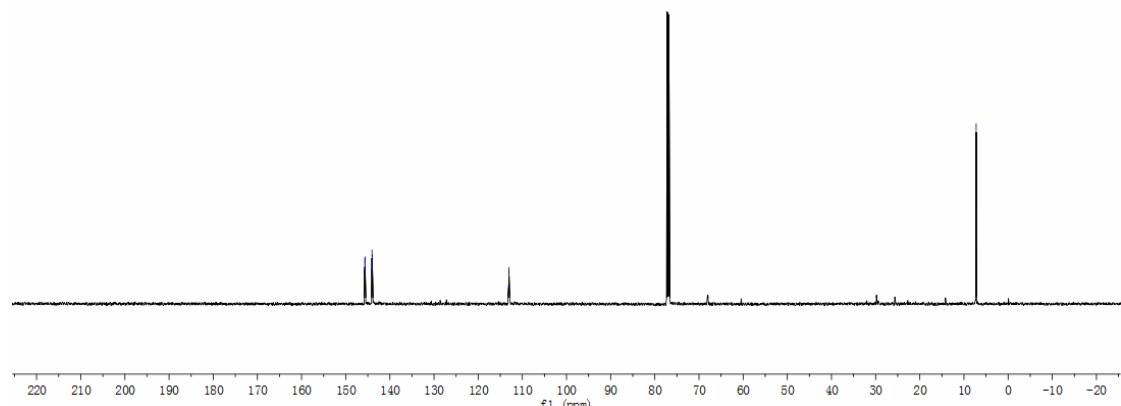


Figure S23. ¹³C NMR spectrum of **2h**.

Supplementary Information

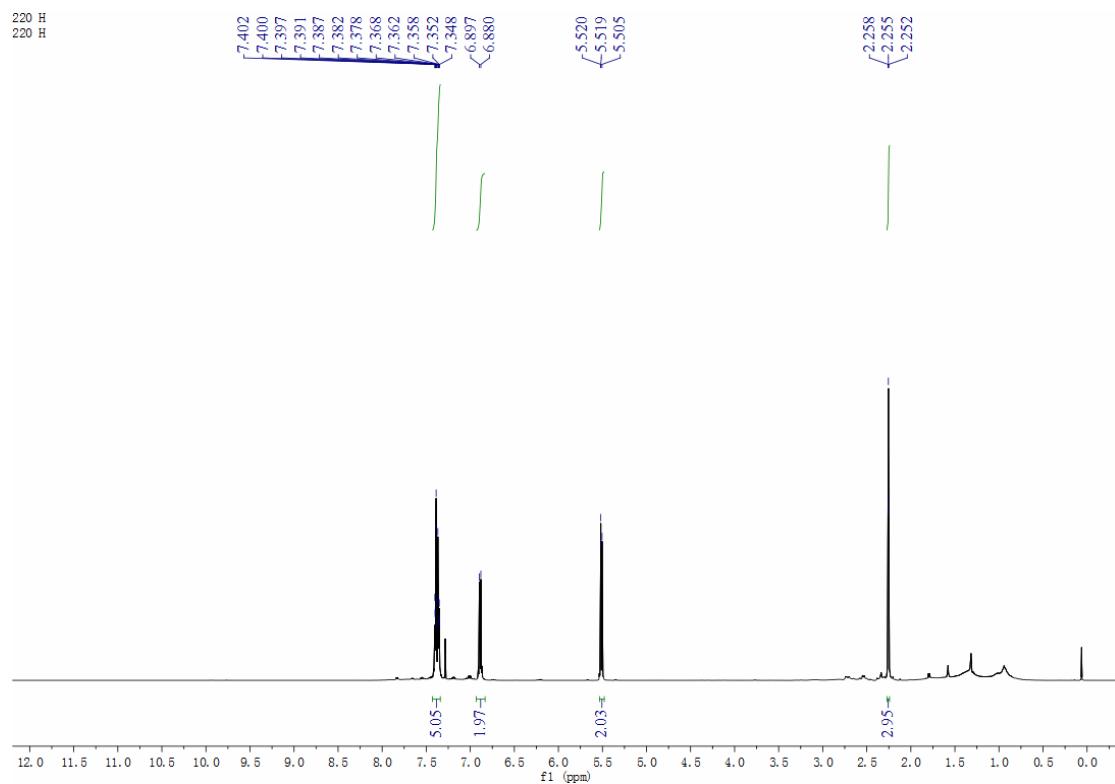


Figure S24. ^1H NMR spectrum of **2k**.

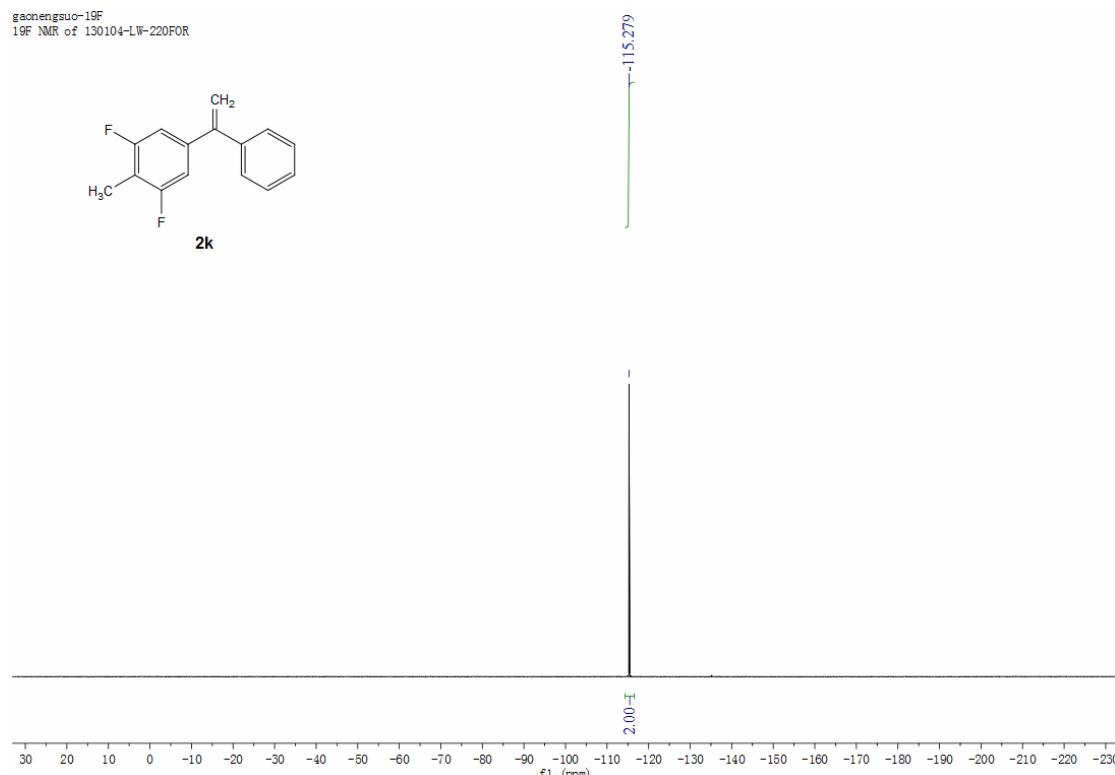


Figure S25. ^{19}F NMR spectrum of **2k**.

Supplementary Information

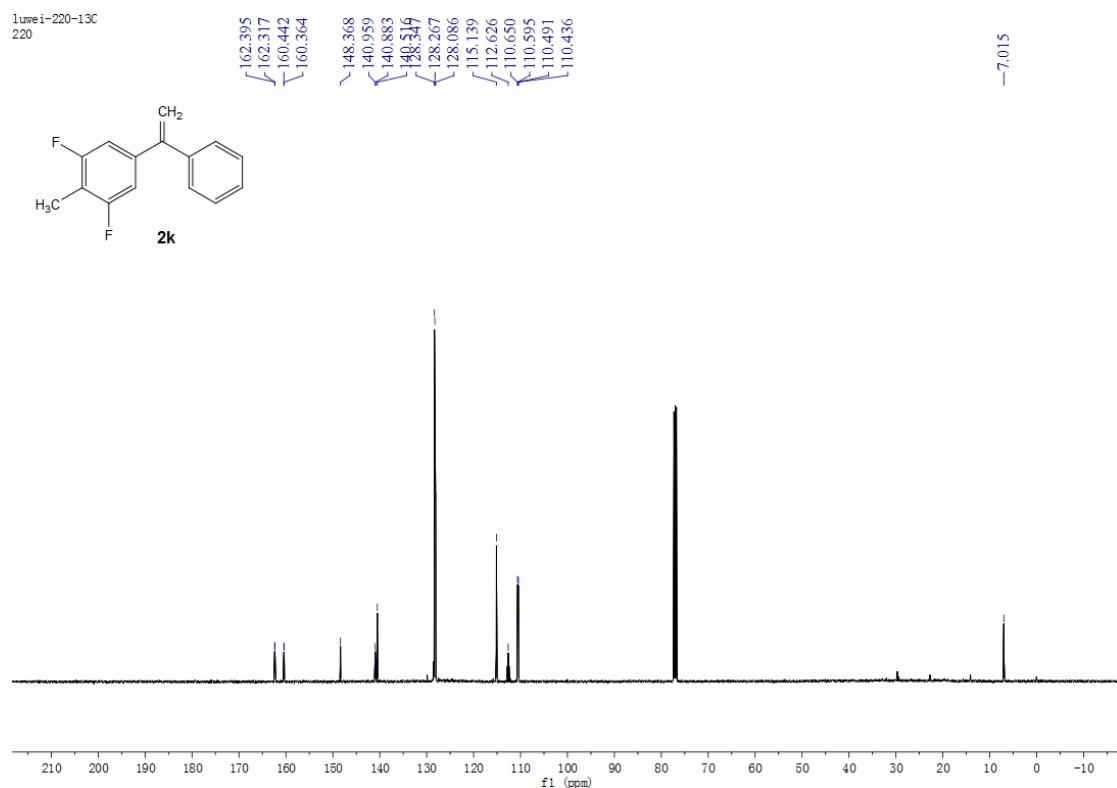


Figure S26. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of **2k**.

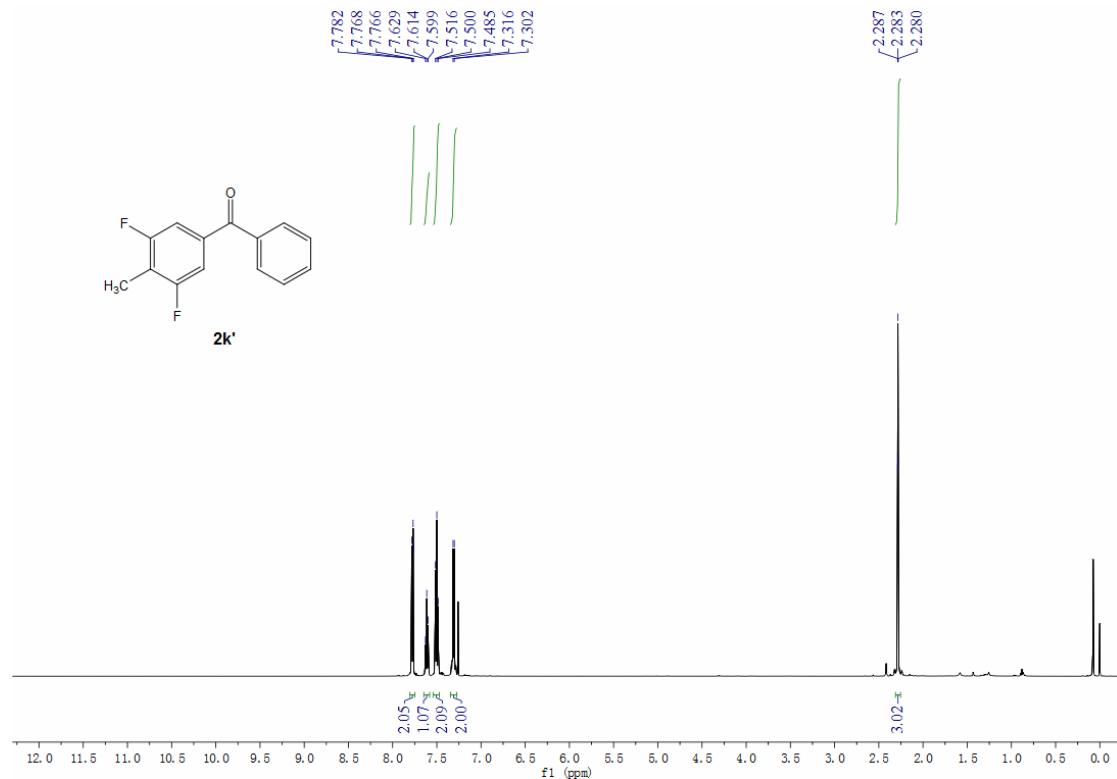


Figure S27. ^1H NMR spectrum of **2k'**.

Supplementary Information

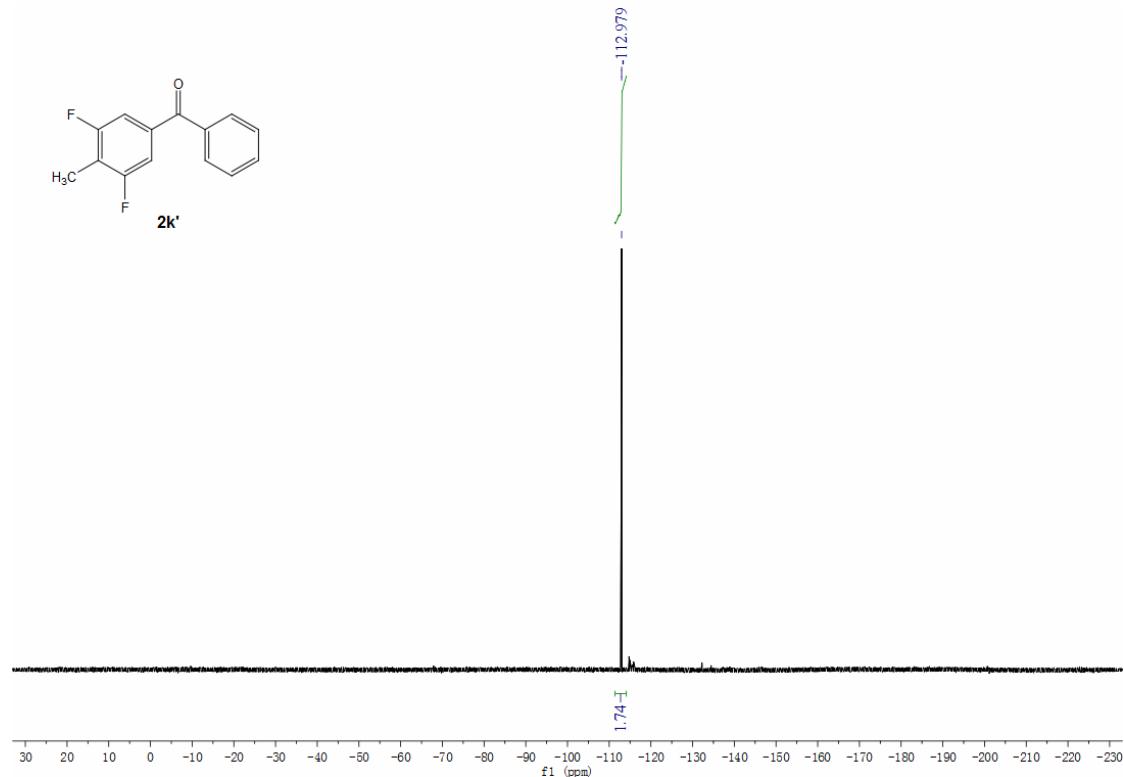


Figure S28. ¹⁹F NMR spectrum of **2k'**.

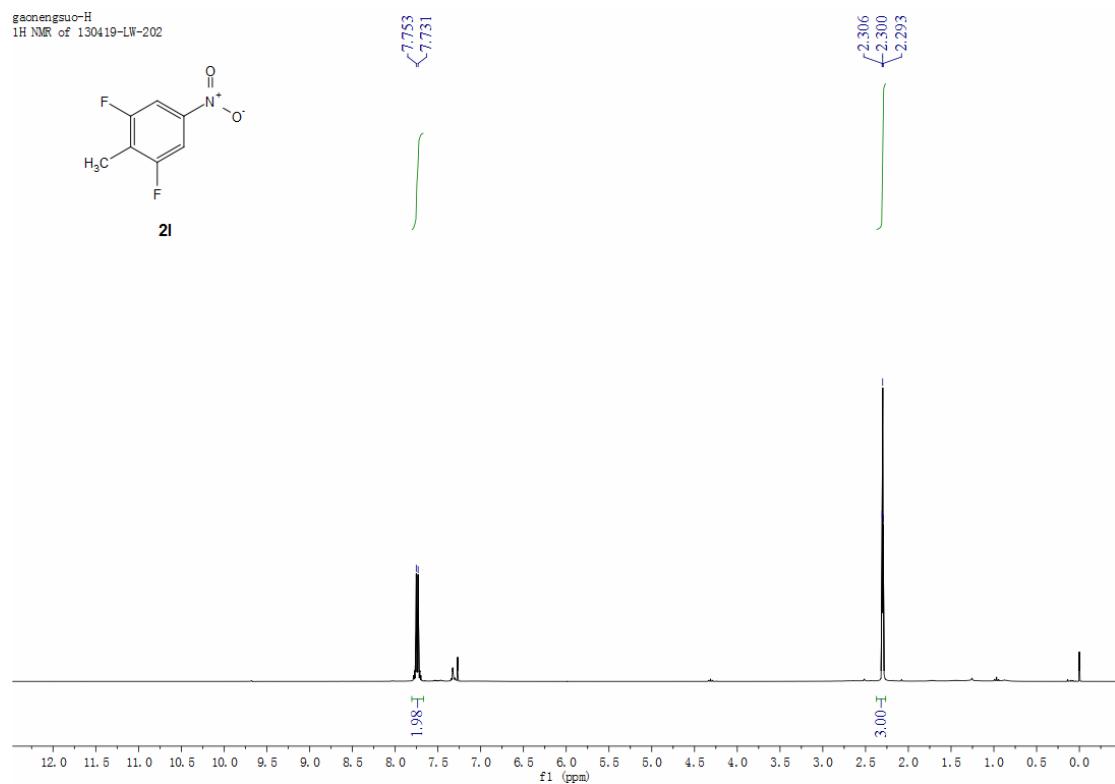


Figure S29. ¹H NMR spectrum of **2l**.

Supplementary Information

huangbiyu-19F
19F NMR of 121126-LW-202

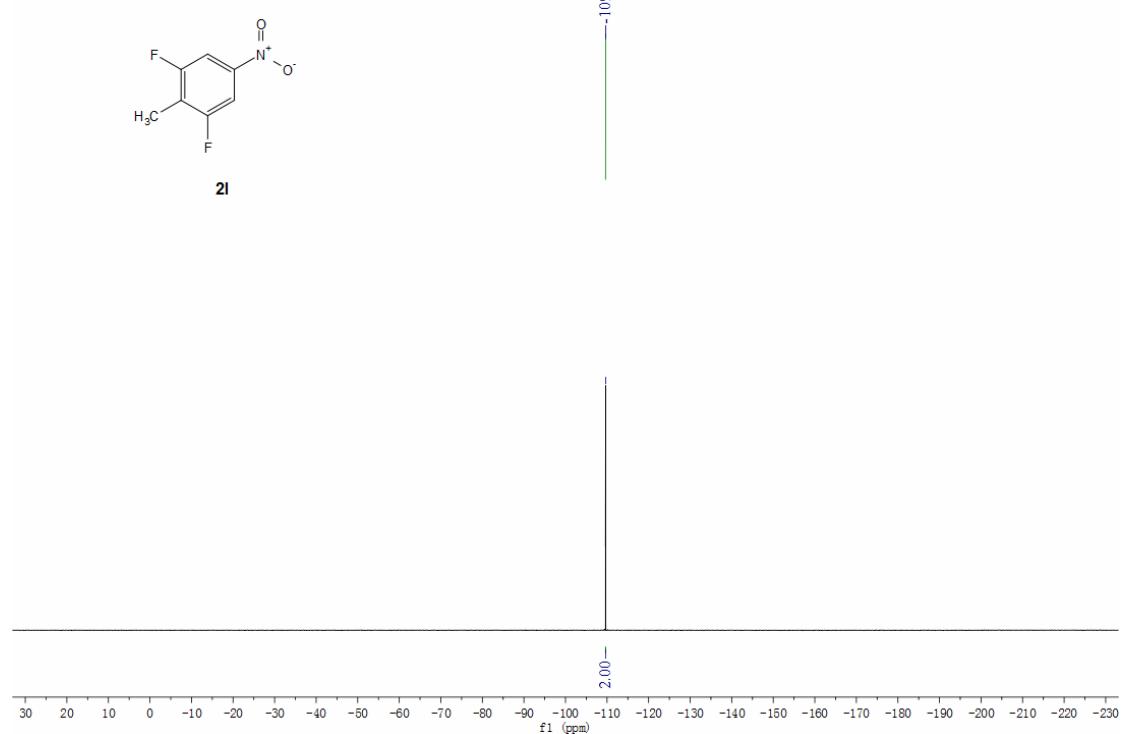


Figure S30. ¹⁹F NMR spectrum of **2l**.

130710-1w-202-4C
130710-1w-202-4C

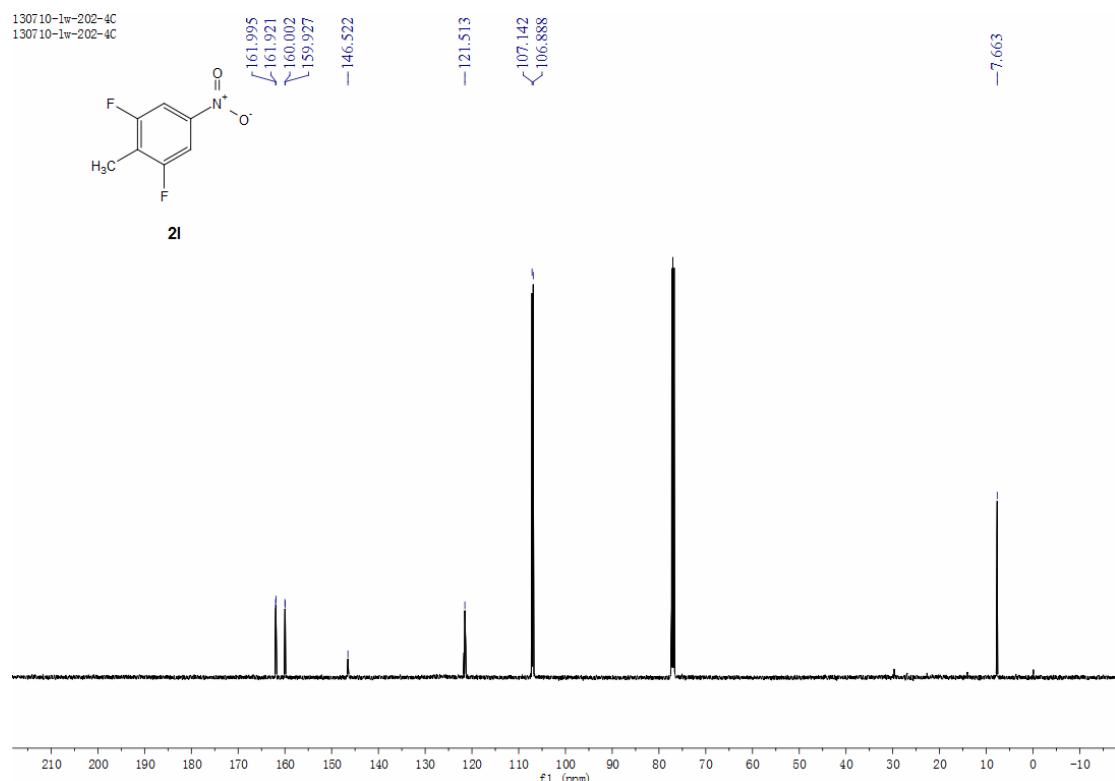


Figure S31. ¹³C NMR spectrum of **2l**.

Supplementary Information

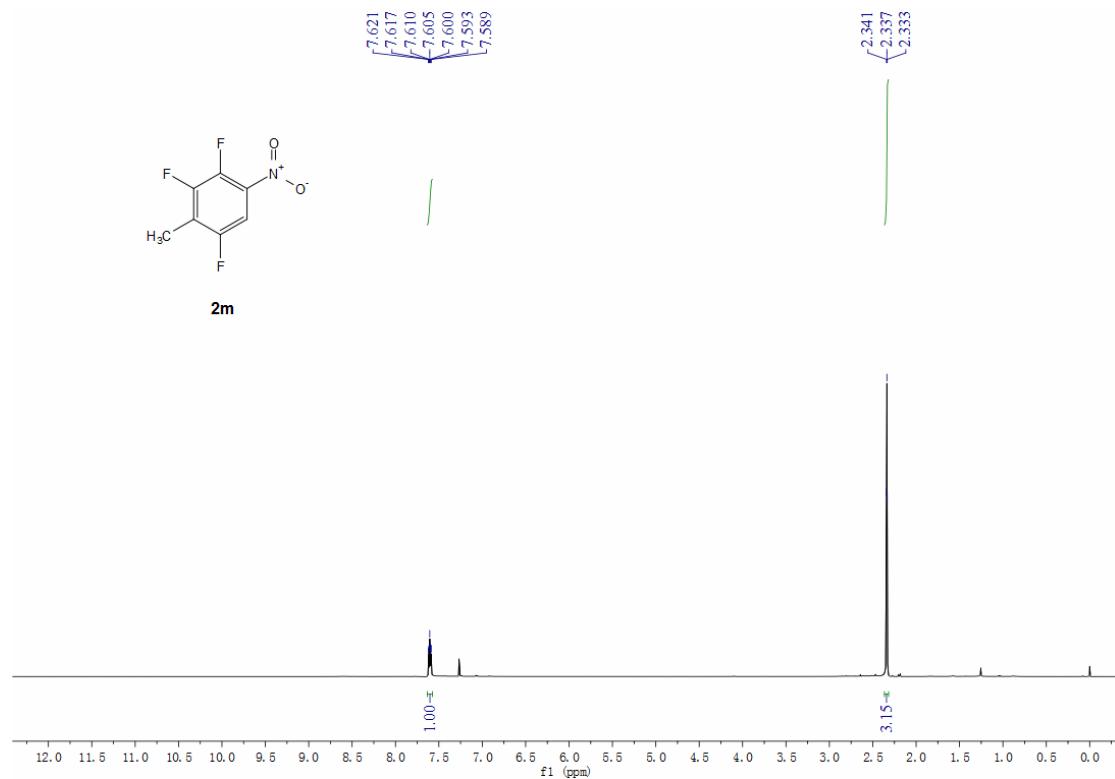


Figure S32. ^1H NMR spectrum of **2m**.

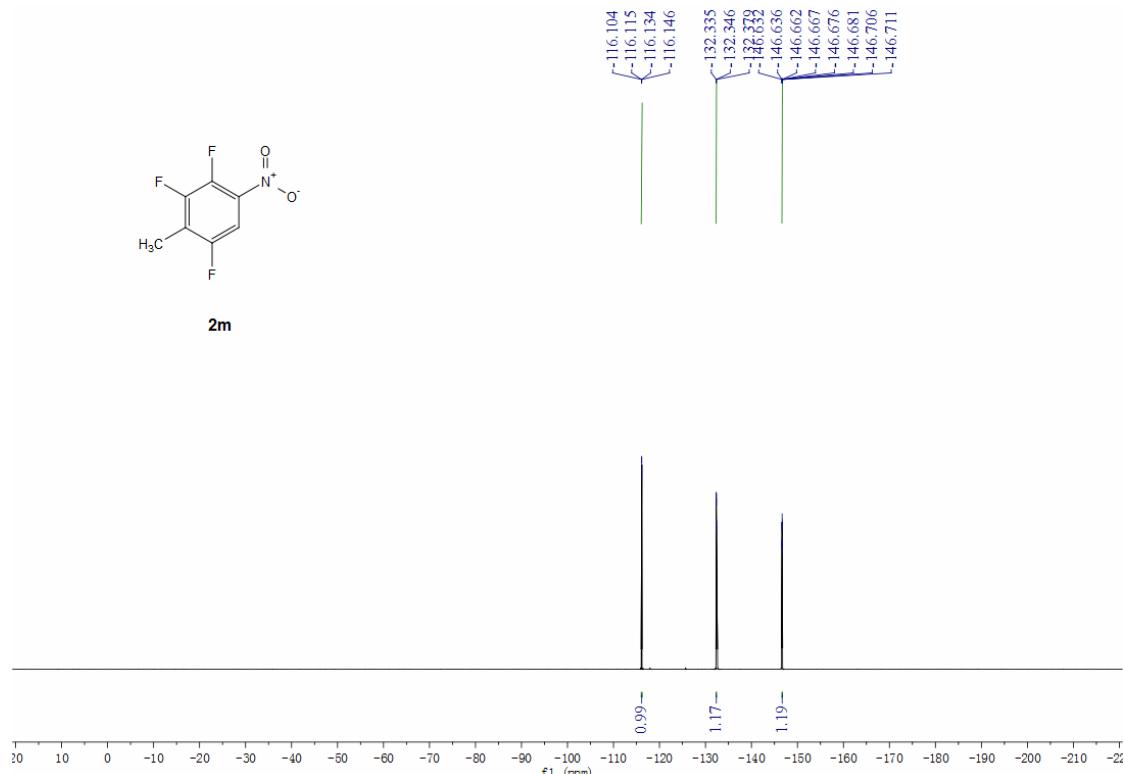


Figure S33. ^{19}F NMR spectrum of **2m**.

Supplementary Information

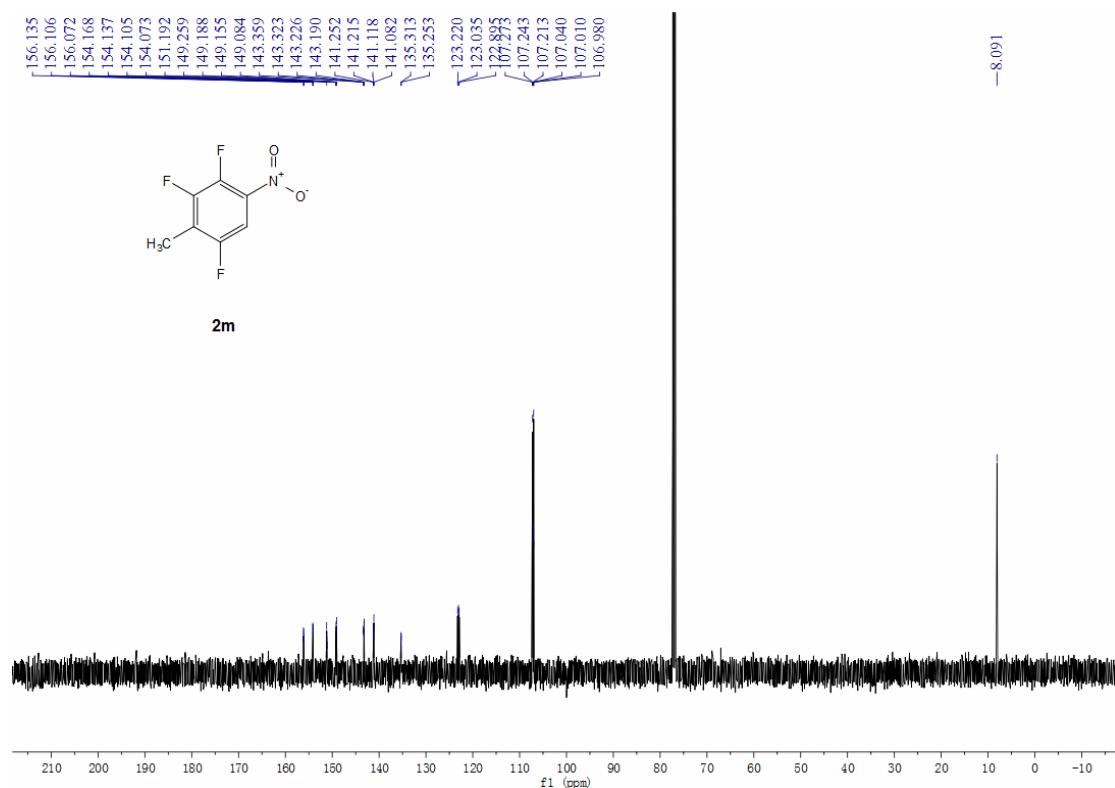


Figure S34. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of **2m**.

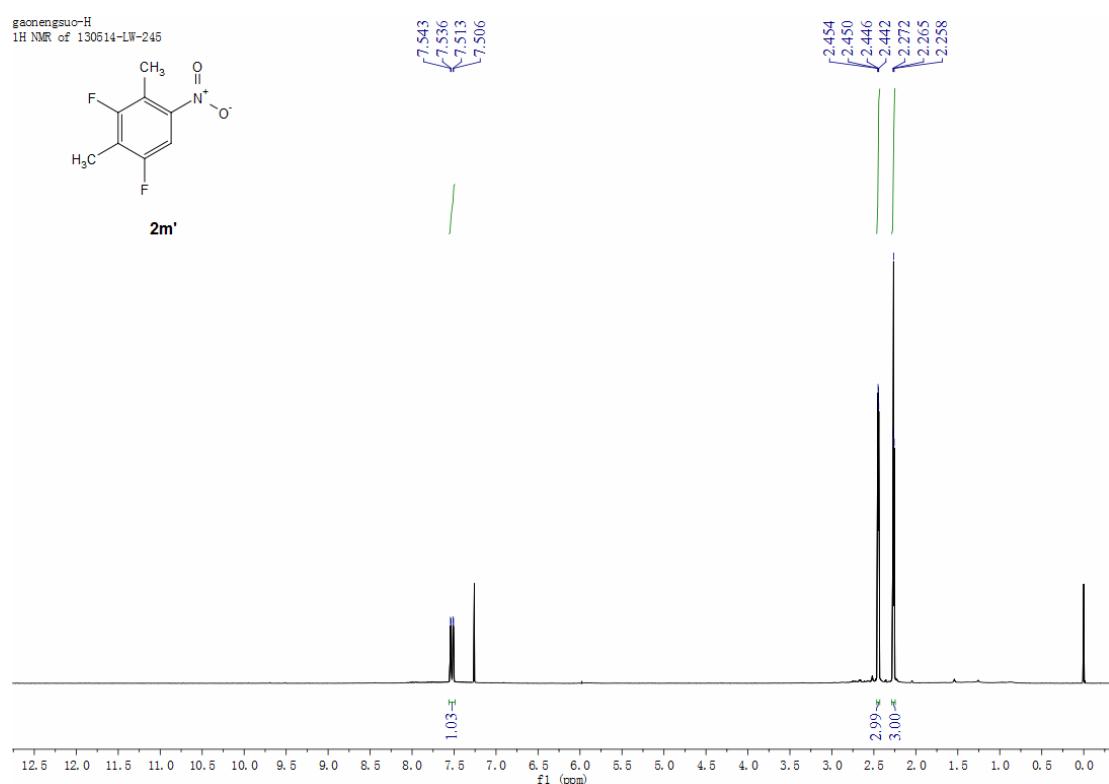


Figure S35. ^1H NMR spectrum of **2m'**.

Supplementary Information

gaonengsuo-19F
19F NMR of 130514-LW-245

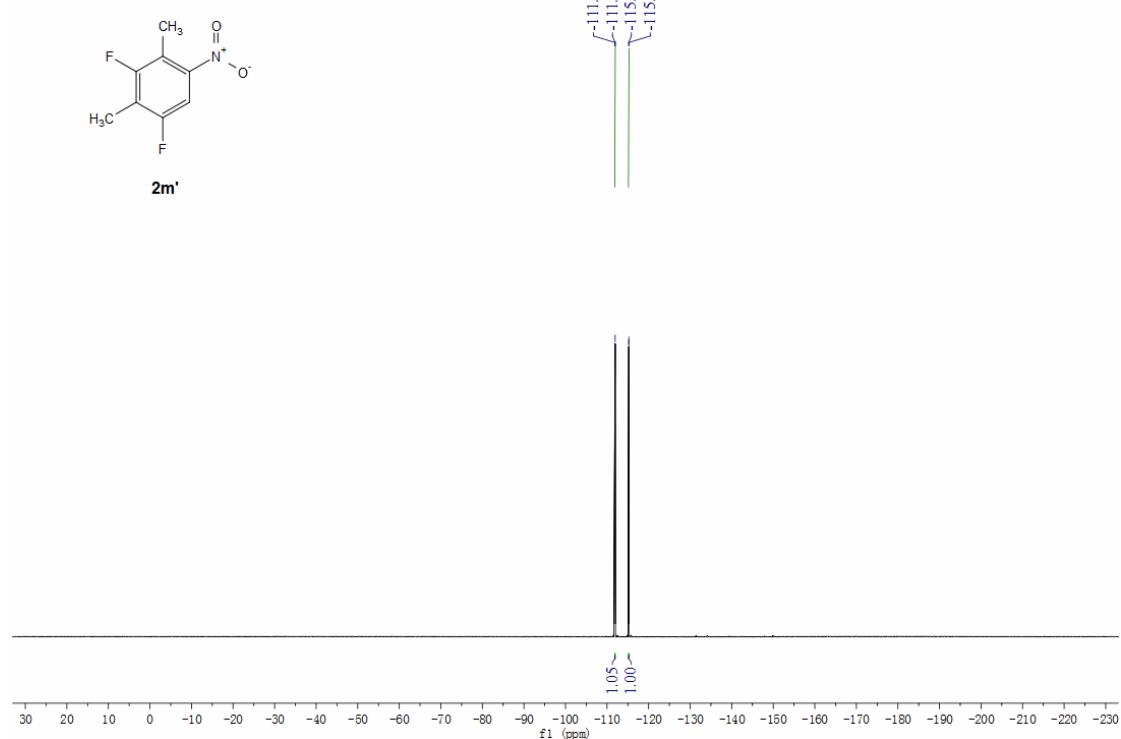


Figure S36. ¹⁹F NMR spectrum of **2m'**.

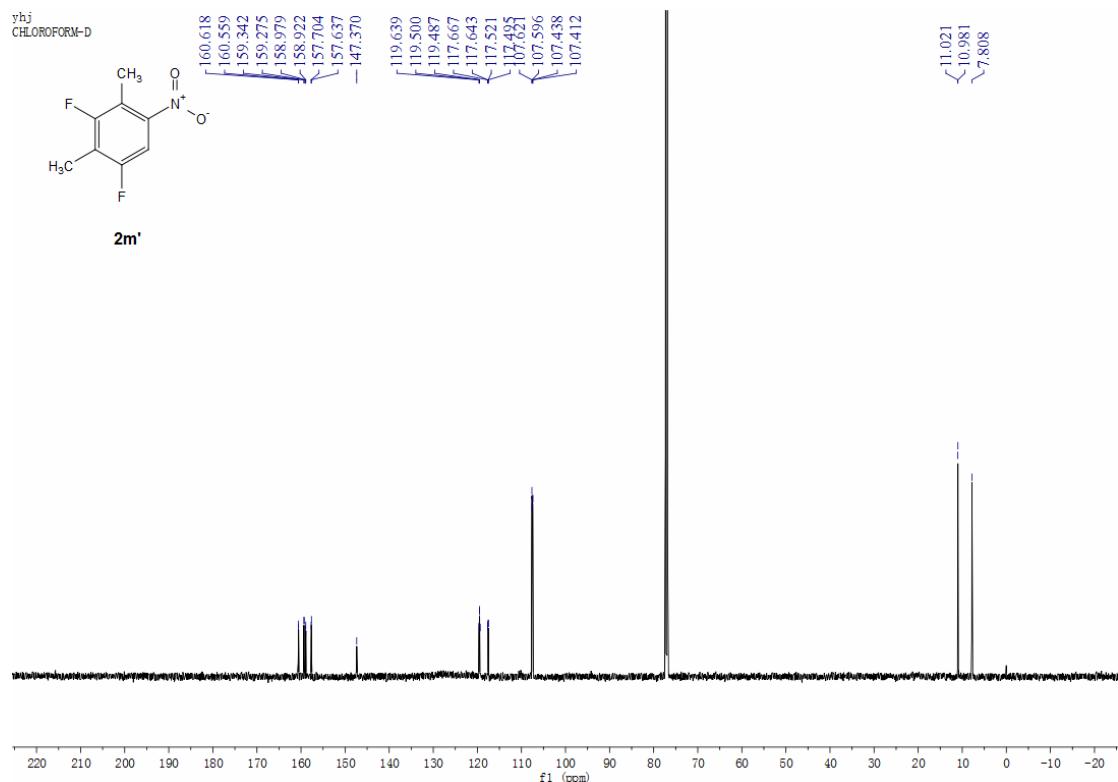


Figure S37. ¹³C NMR spectrum of **2m'**.

Supplementary Information

gaonengsuo-H
1H NMR of 130516-LW-198Fr

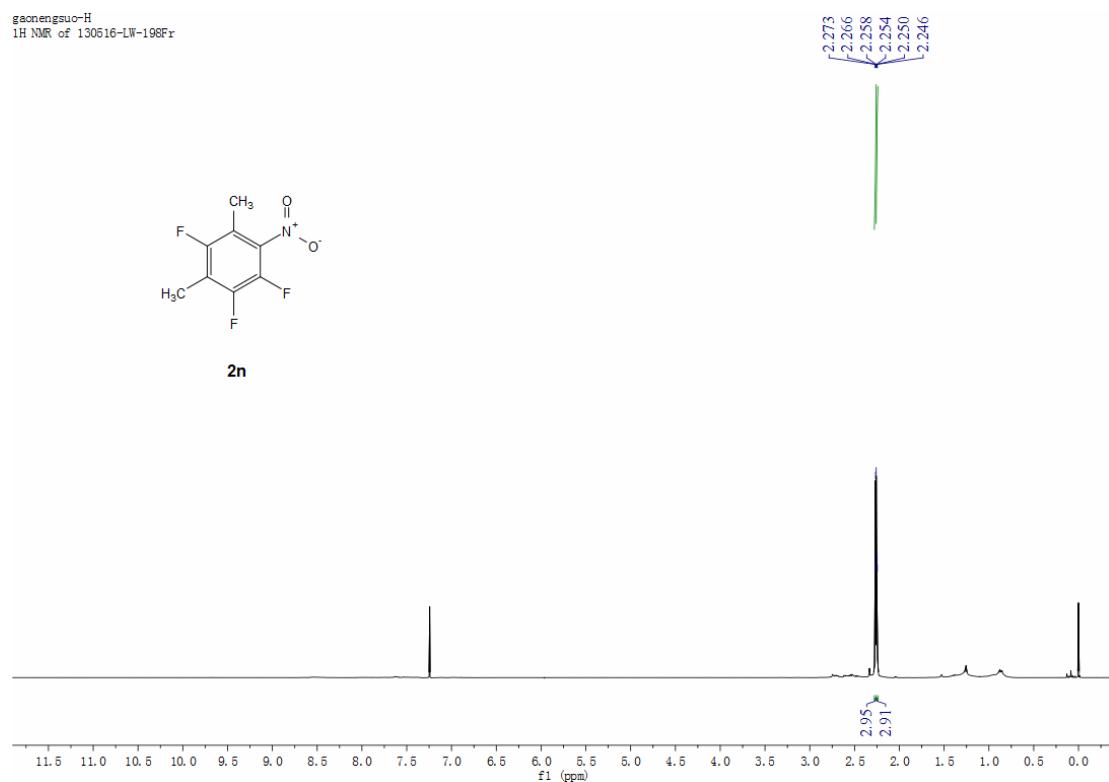


Figure S38. ¹H NMR spectrum of **2n**.

gaonengsuo-19F
19F NMR of 130516-LW-198Fr

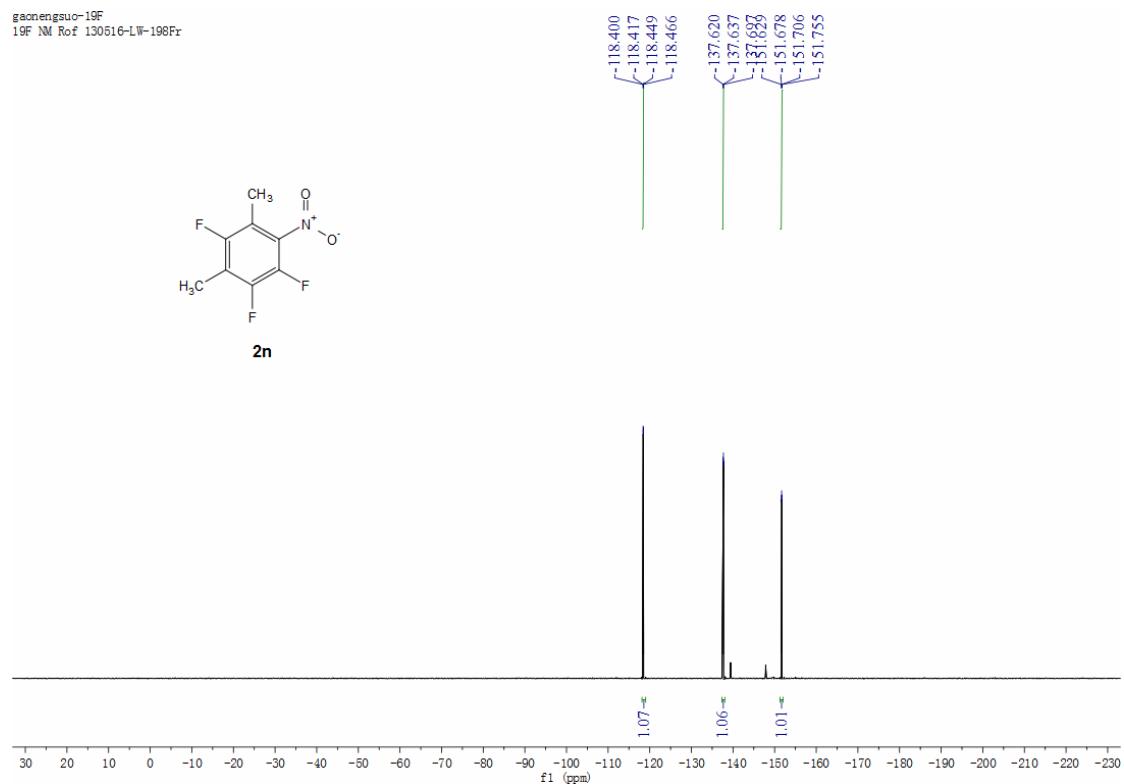


Figure S39. ¹⁹F NMR spectrum of **2n**.

Supplementary Information

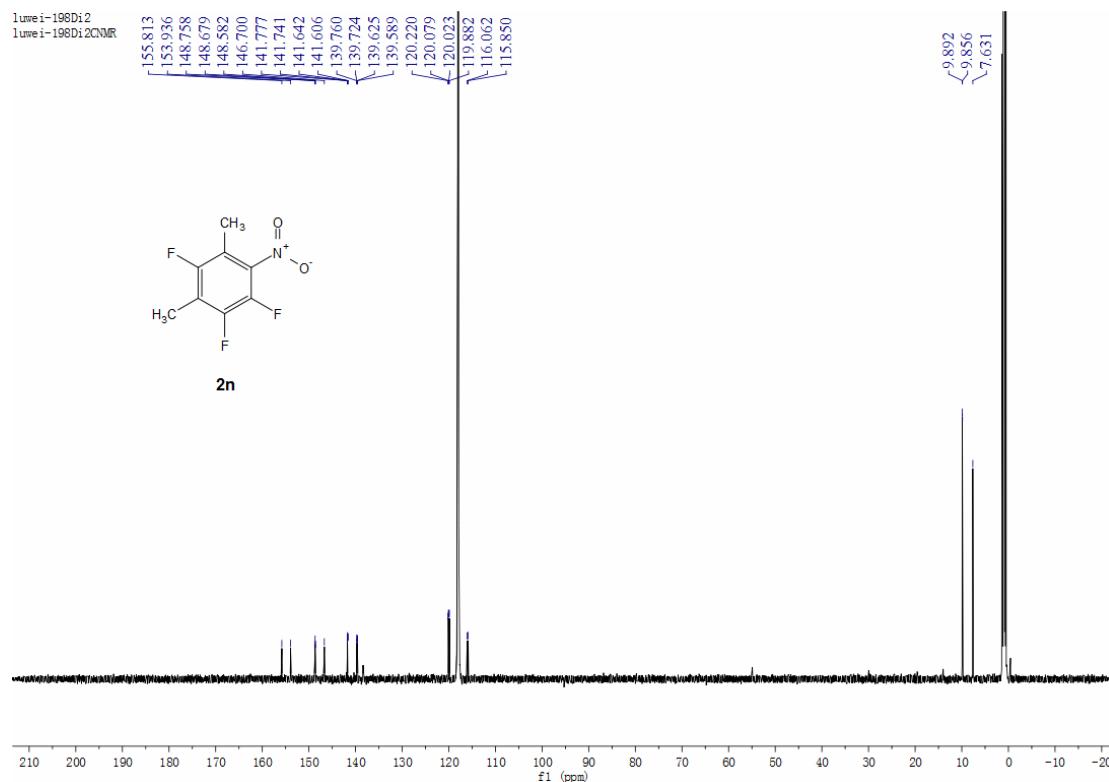


Figure S40. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of **2n**.

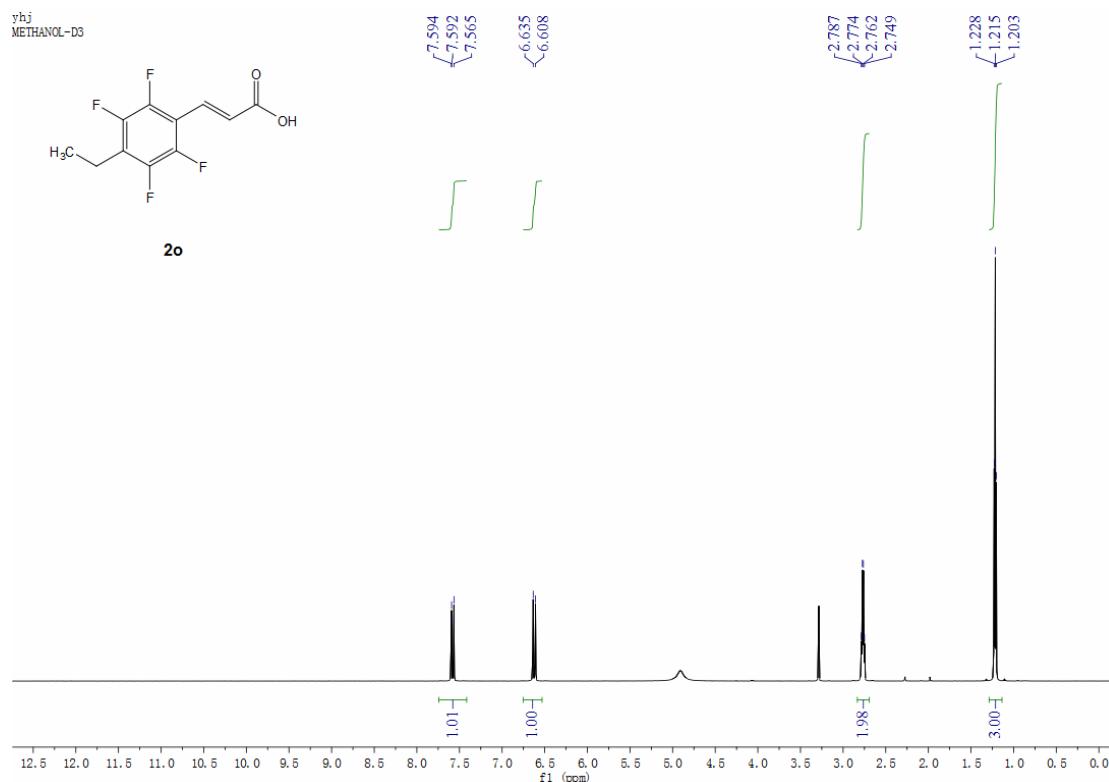


Figure S41. ^1H NMR spectrum of **2o**.

Supplementary Information

huangbiyu-19F
19F NMR of 121218-LW-216

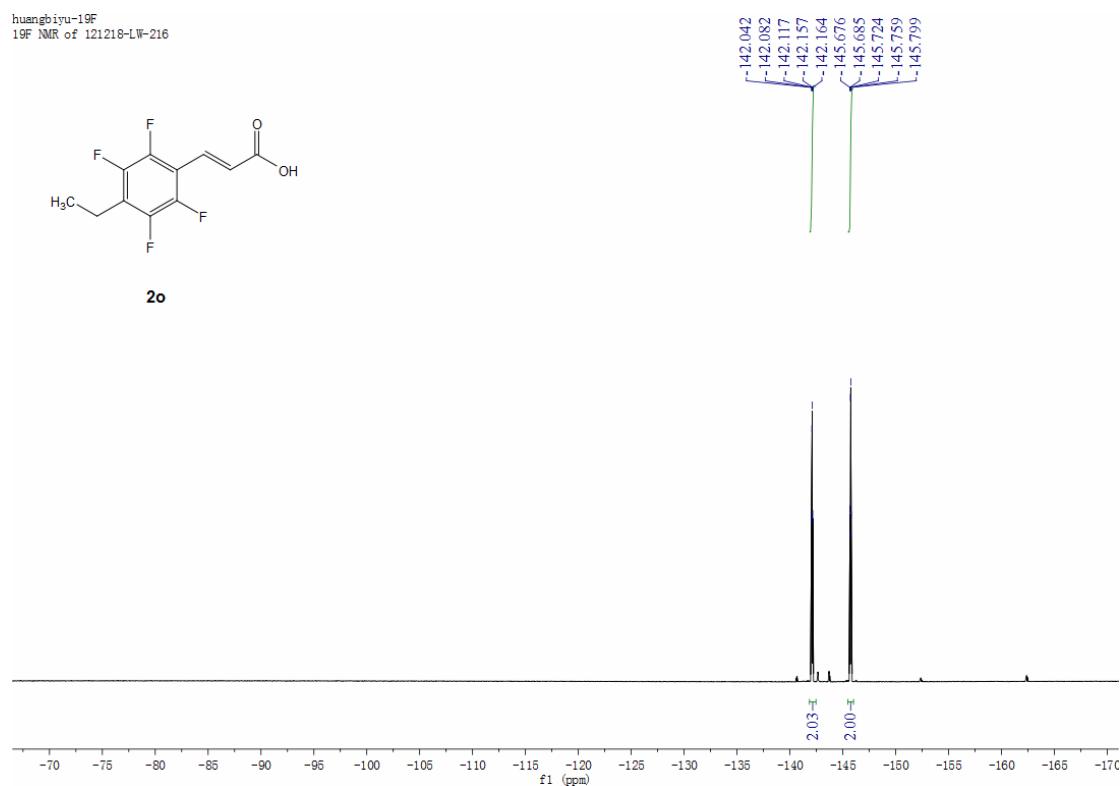


Figure S42. ¹⁹F NMR spectrum of **2o**.

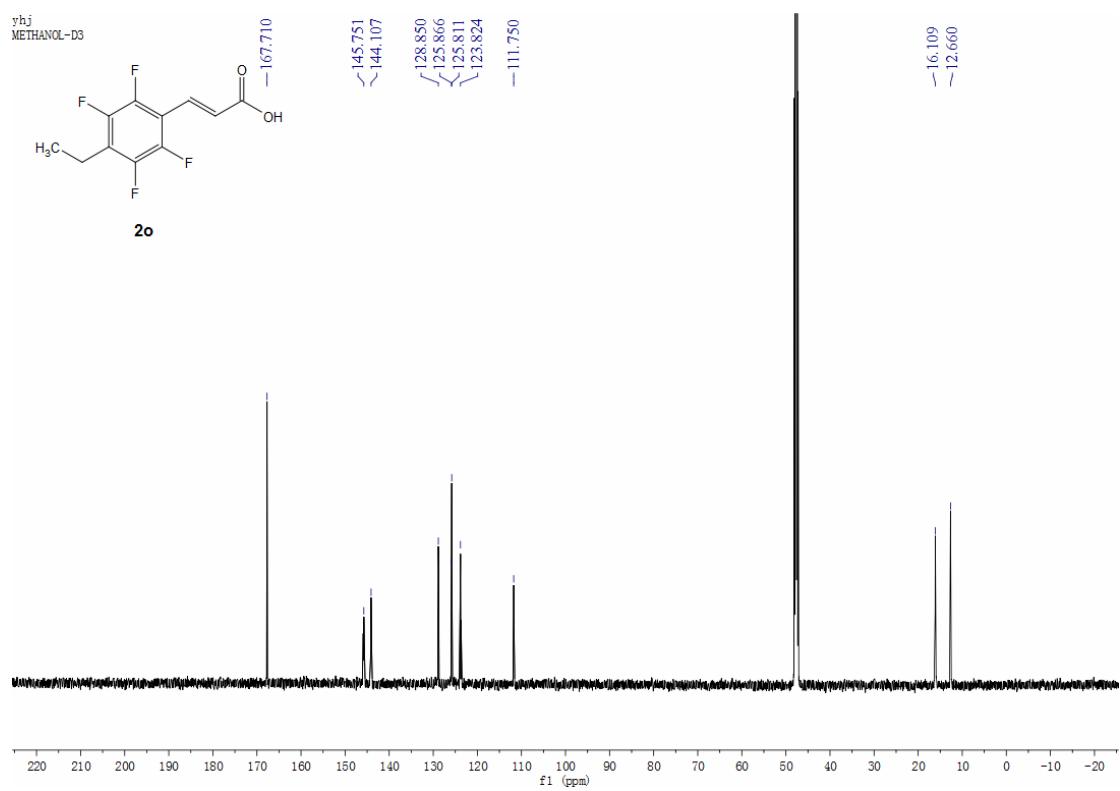


Figure S43. ¹³C NMR spectrum of **2o**.

Supplementary Information

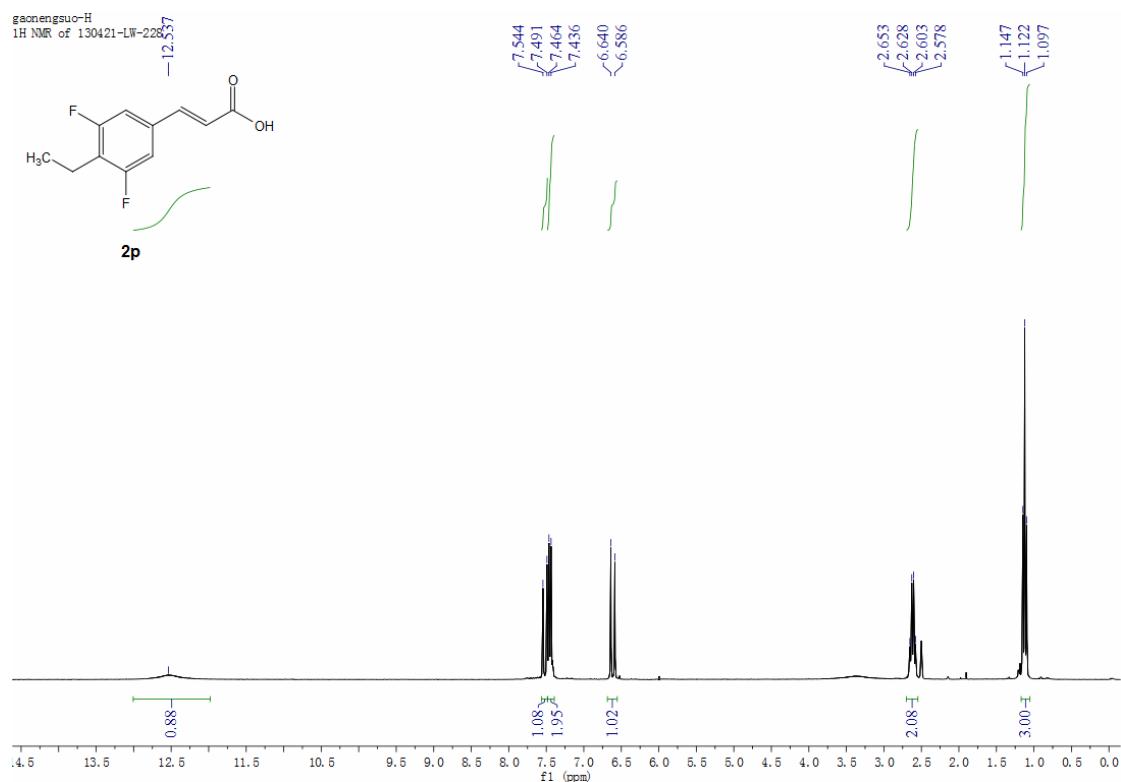


Figure S44. ^1H NMR spectrum of **2p**.

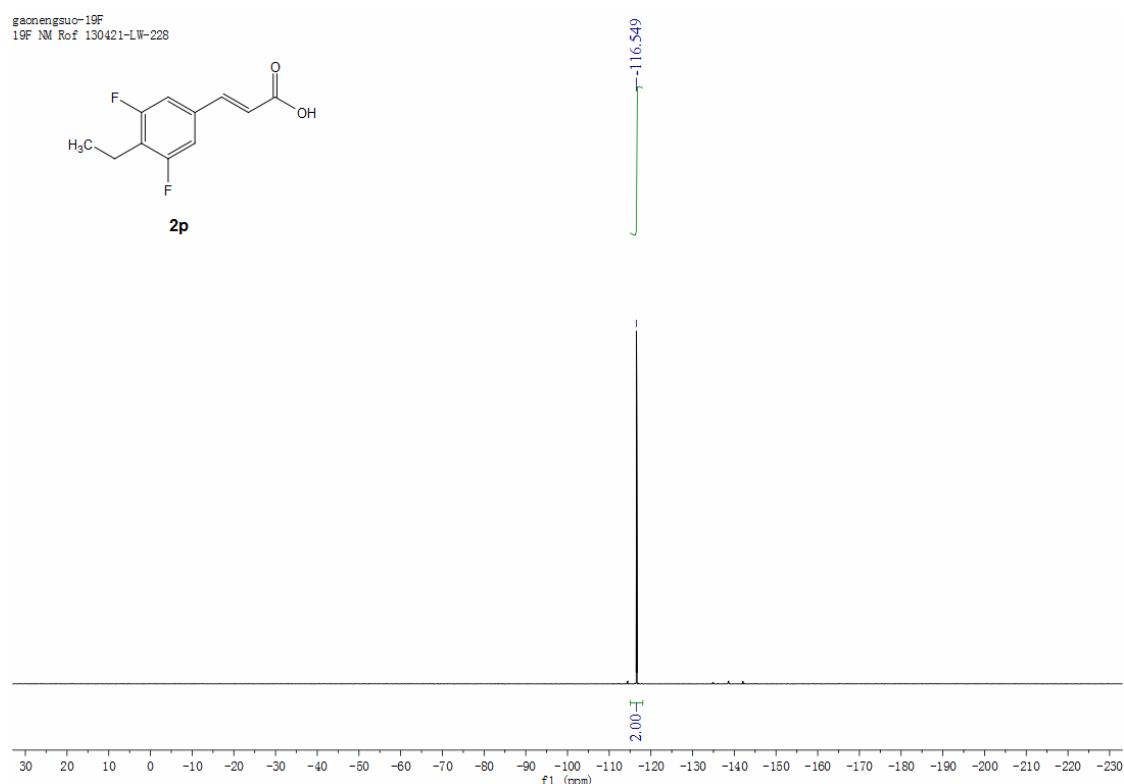


Figure S45. ^{19}F NMR spectrum of **2p**.

Supplementary Information

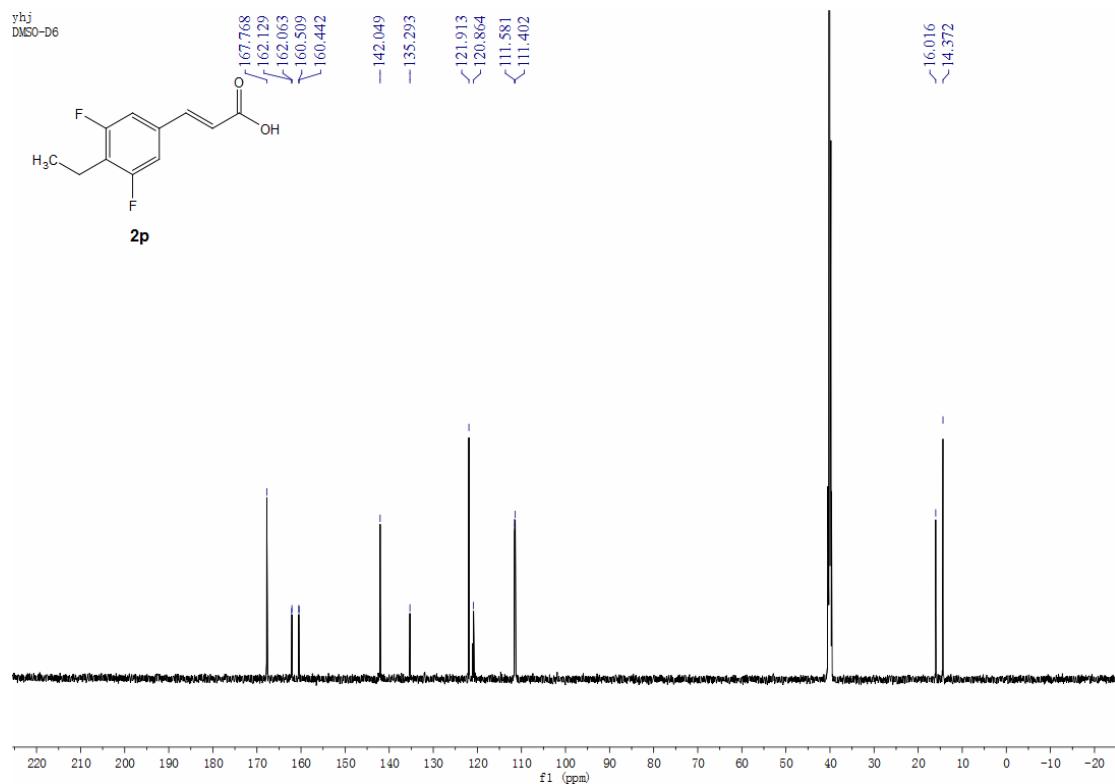


Figure S46. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of **2p**.

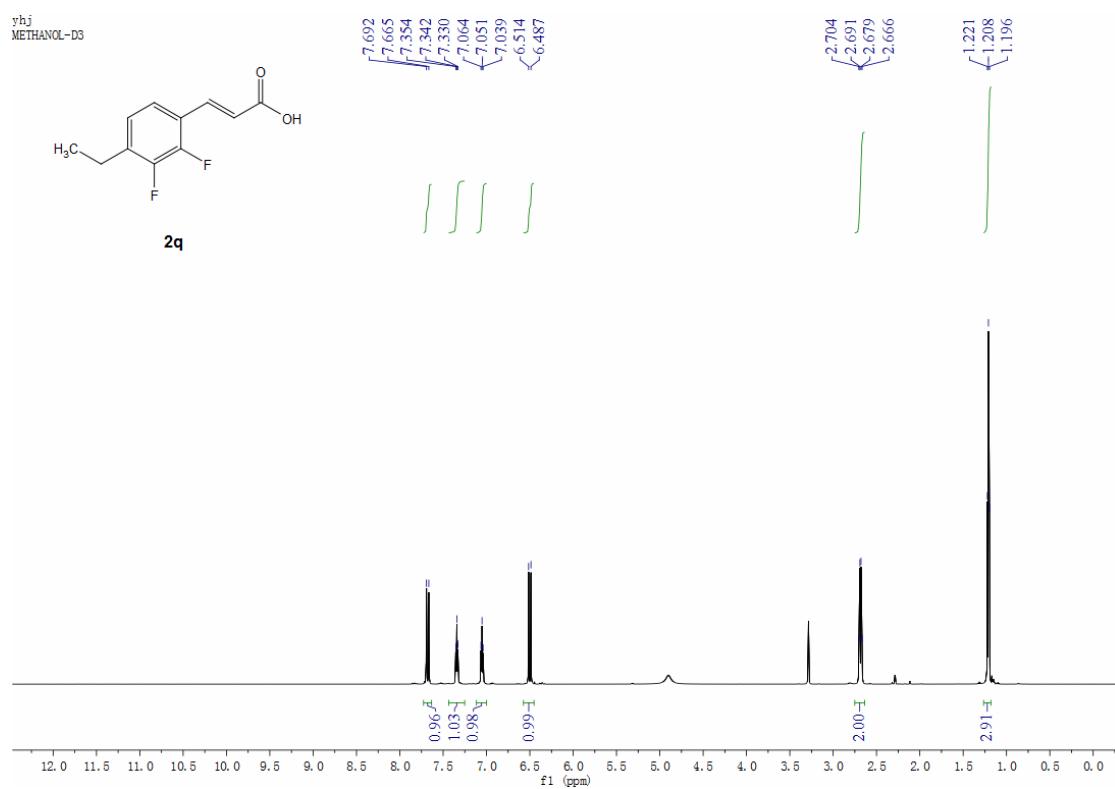


Figure S47. ^1H NMR spectrum of **2q**.

Supplementary Information

gaonengsuo-19F
19F NMR of 121230-LW-219

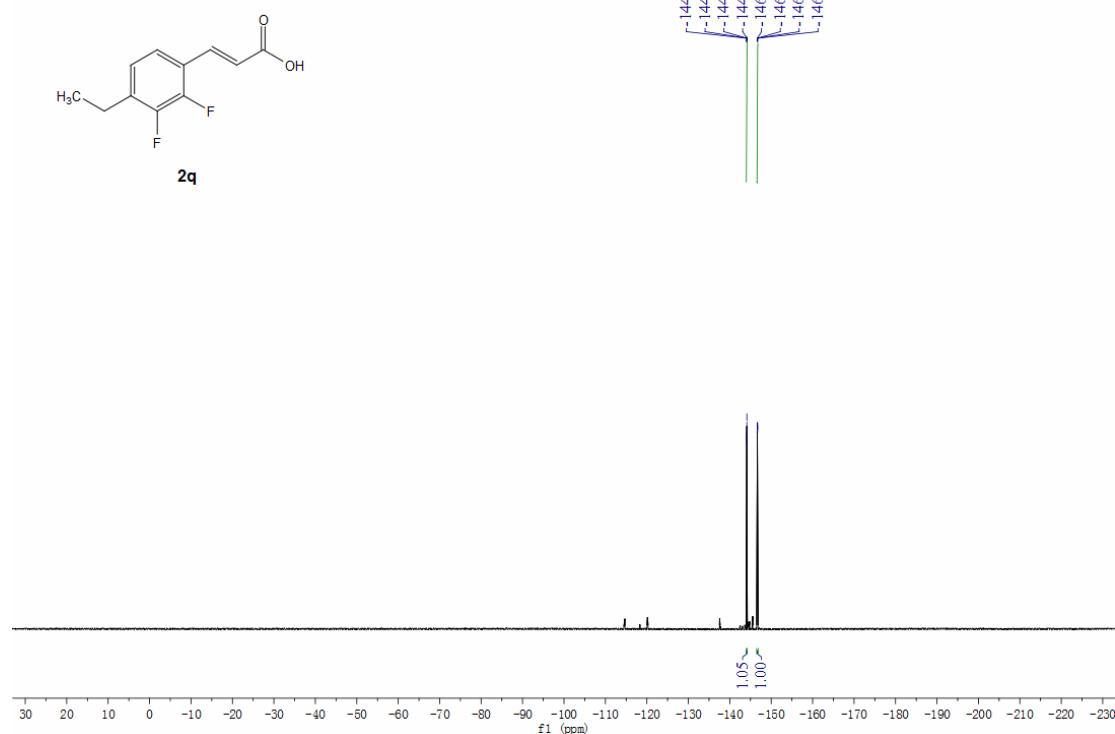


Figure S48. ¹⁹F NMR spectrum of **2q**.

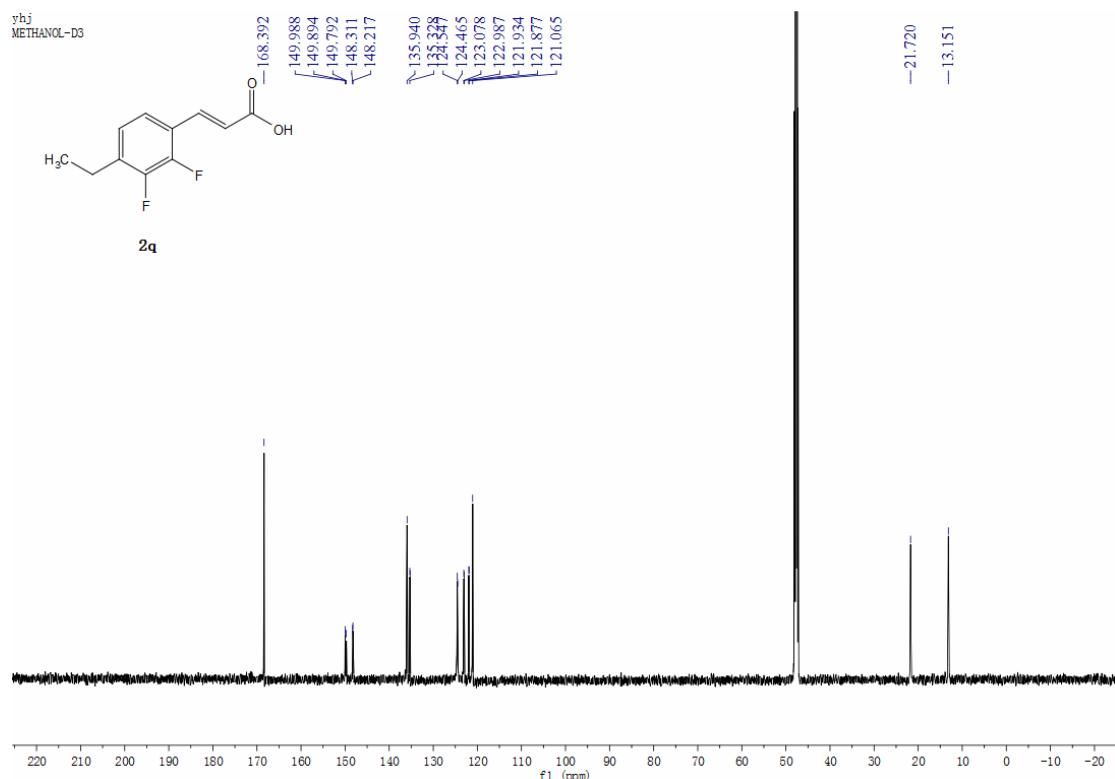


Figure S49. ¹³C NMR spectrum of **2q**.

Supplementary Information

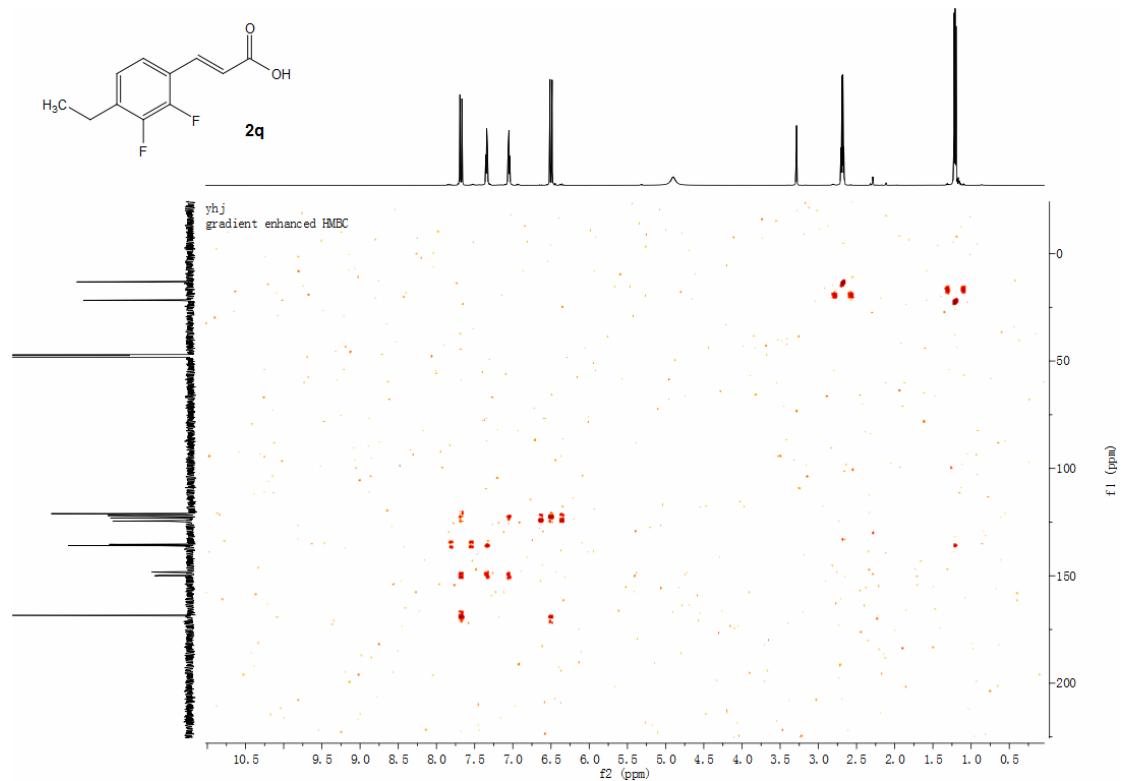


Figure S50. HMBC spectrum of **2q**.

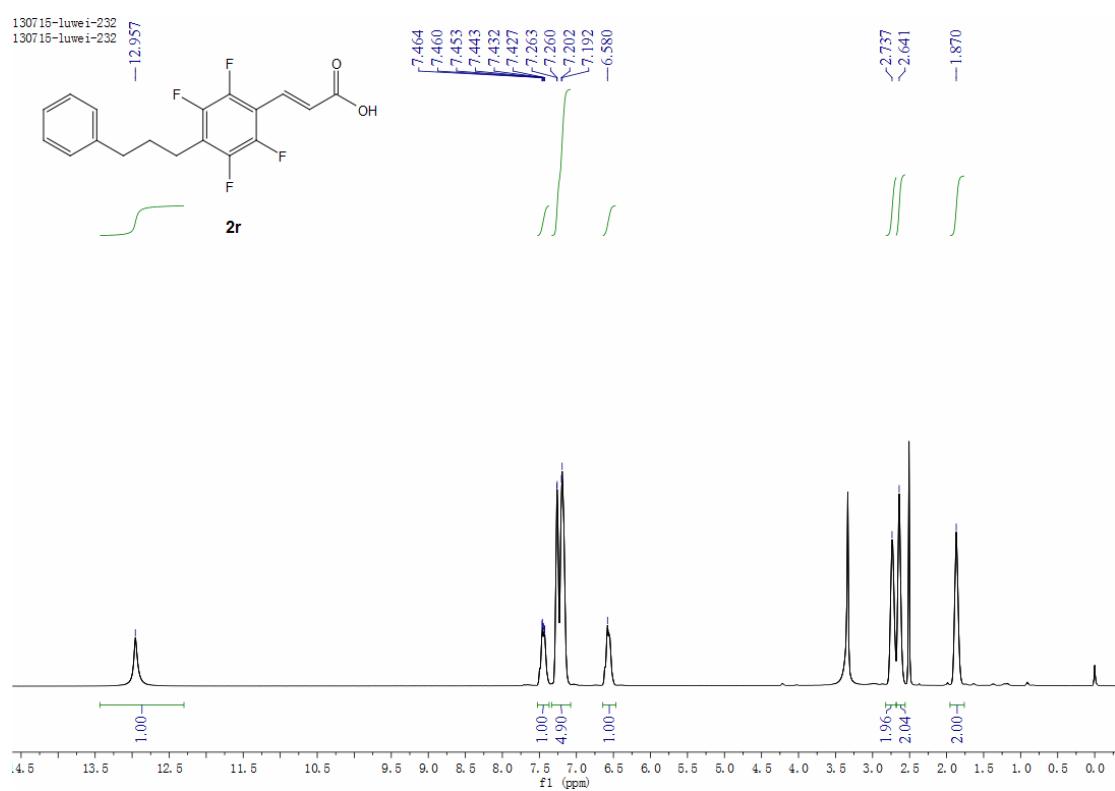


Figure S51. ^1H NMR spectrum of **2r**.

Supplementary Information

gaonengsuo-19F
19F NW Ref 20130509-GJ-232-1

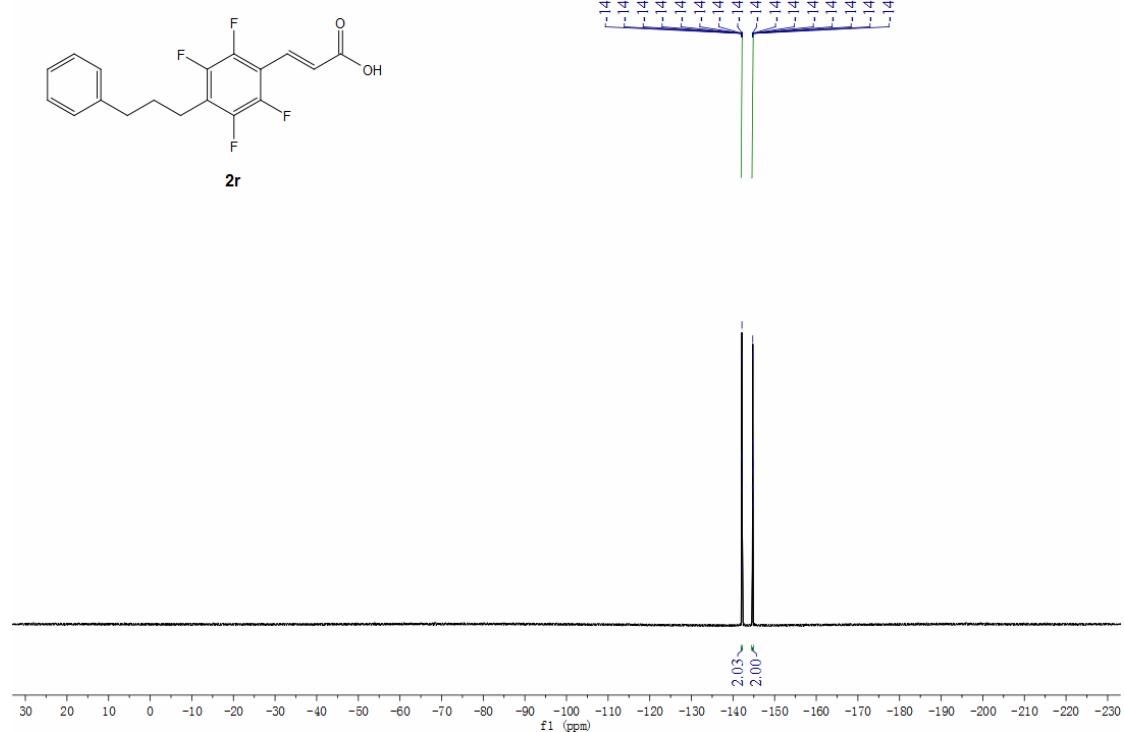


Figure S52. ¹⁹F NMR spectrum of **2r**.

130715-luwei-232C
130715-luwei-232C

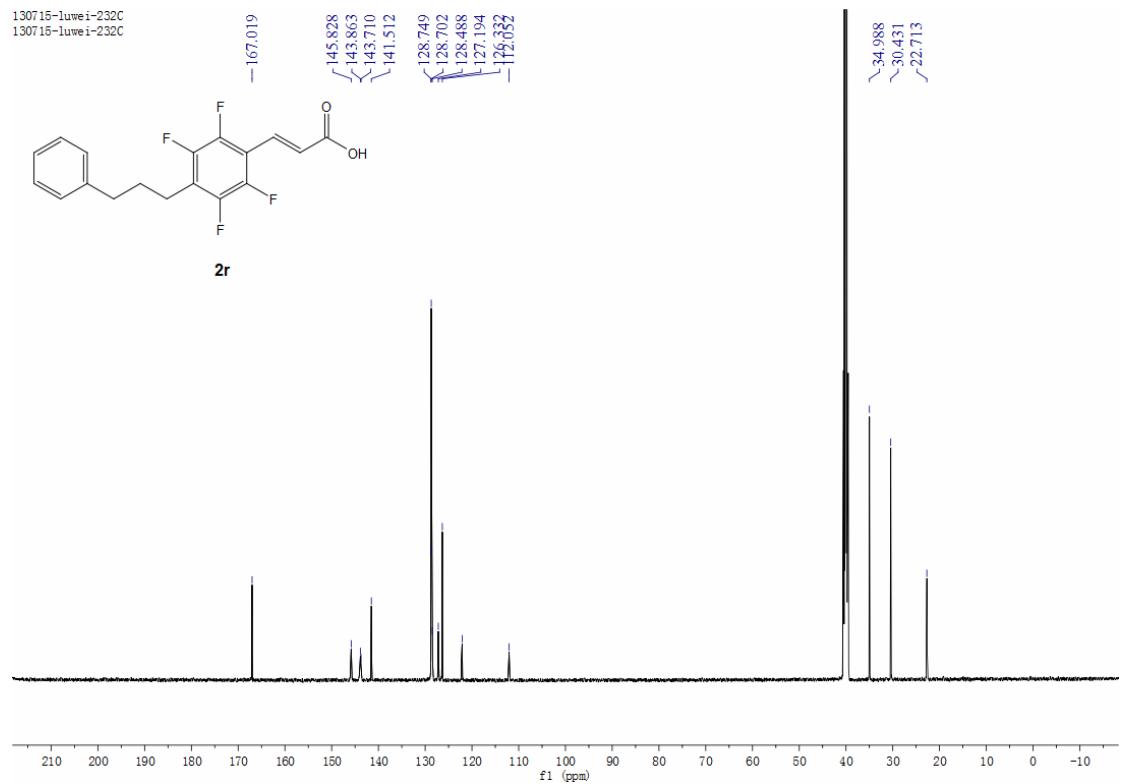


Figure S53. ¹³C NMR spectrum of **2r**.

Supplementary Information

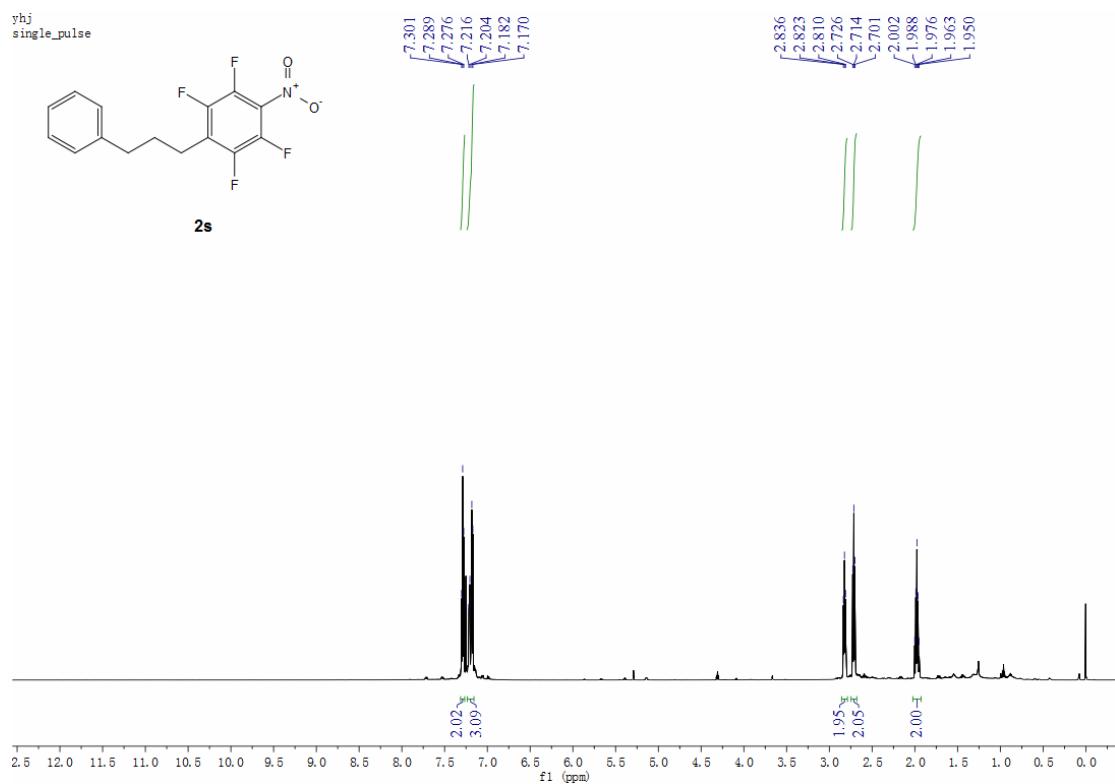


Figure S54. ^1H NMR spectrum of **2s**.

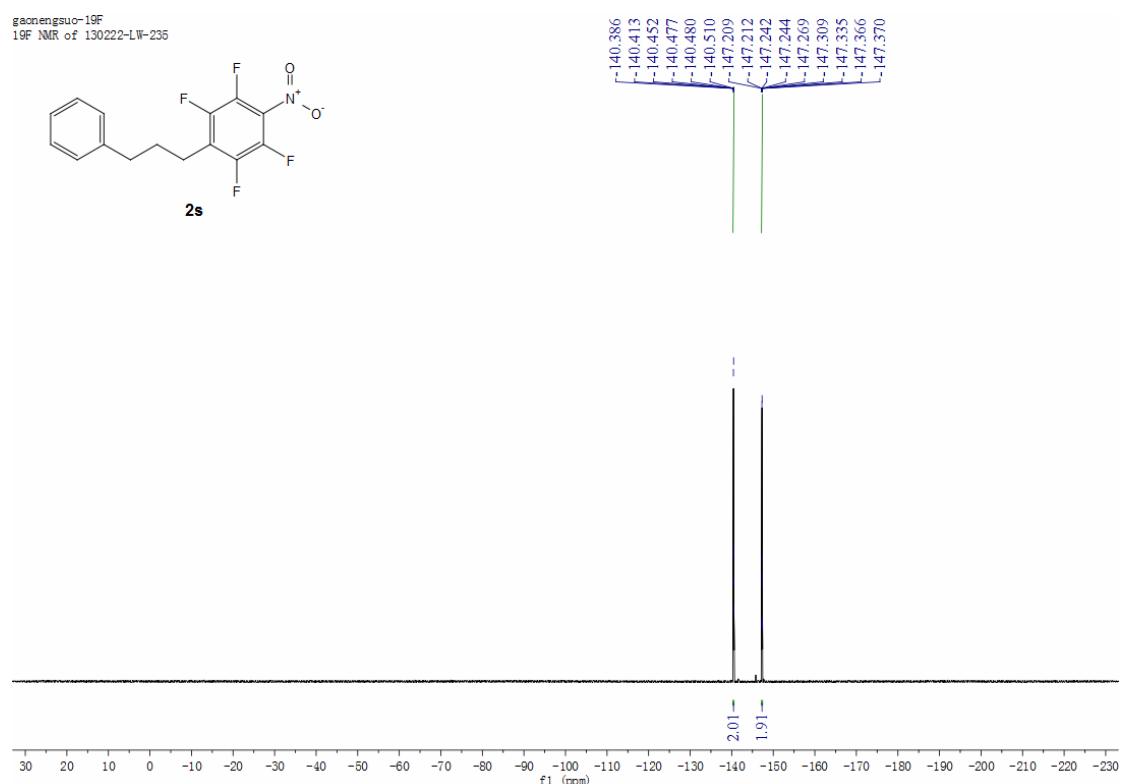


Figure S55. ^{19}F NMR spectrum of **2s**.

Supplementary Information

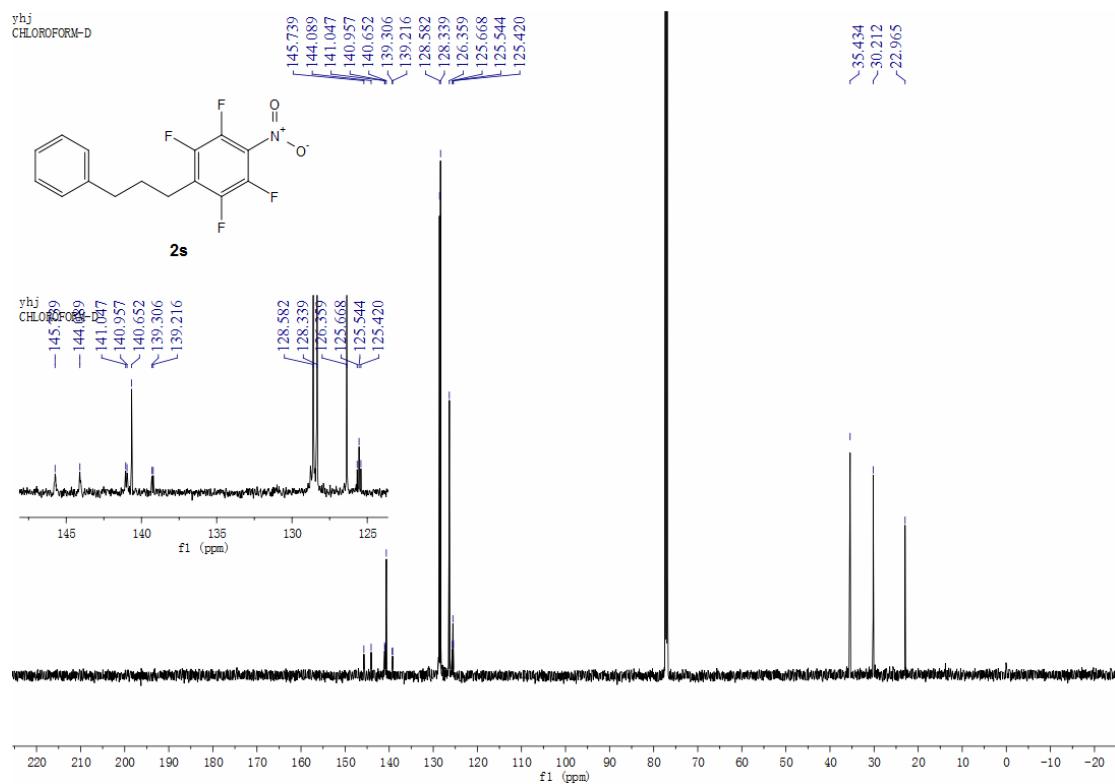


Figure S56. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of **2s**.

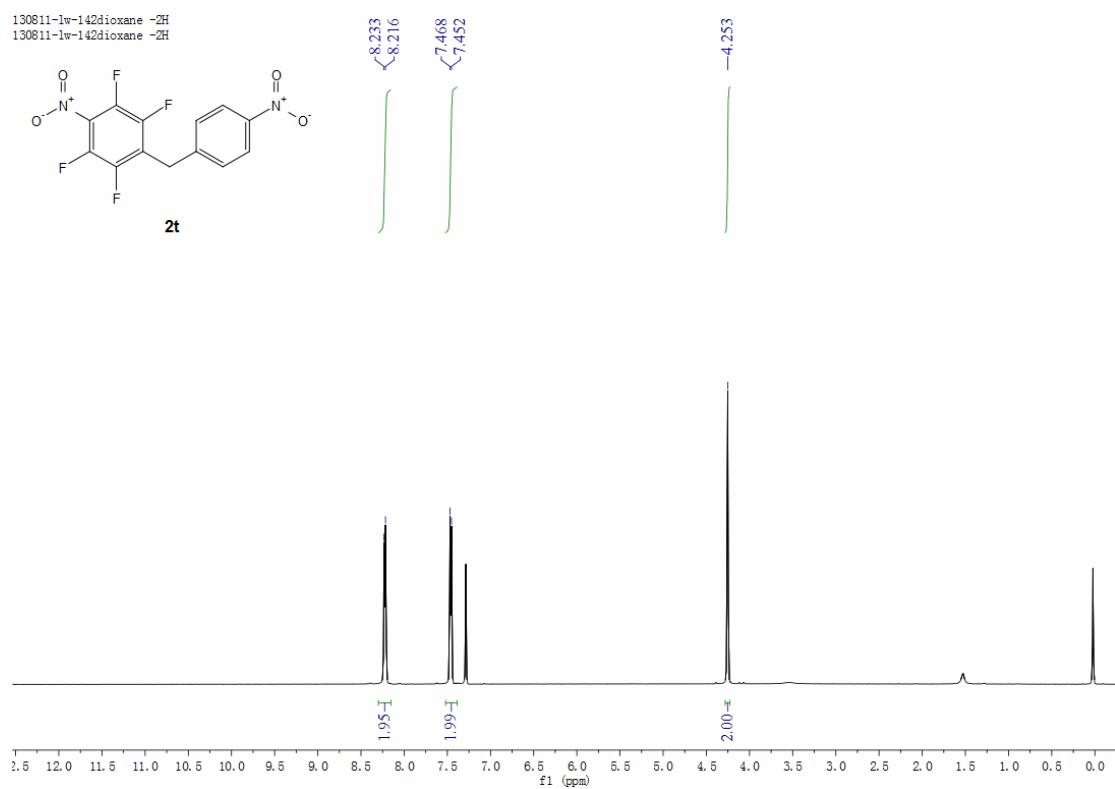


Figure S57. ^1H NMR spectrum of **2t**.

Supplementary Information

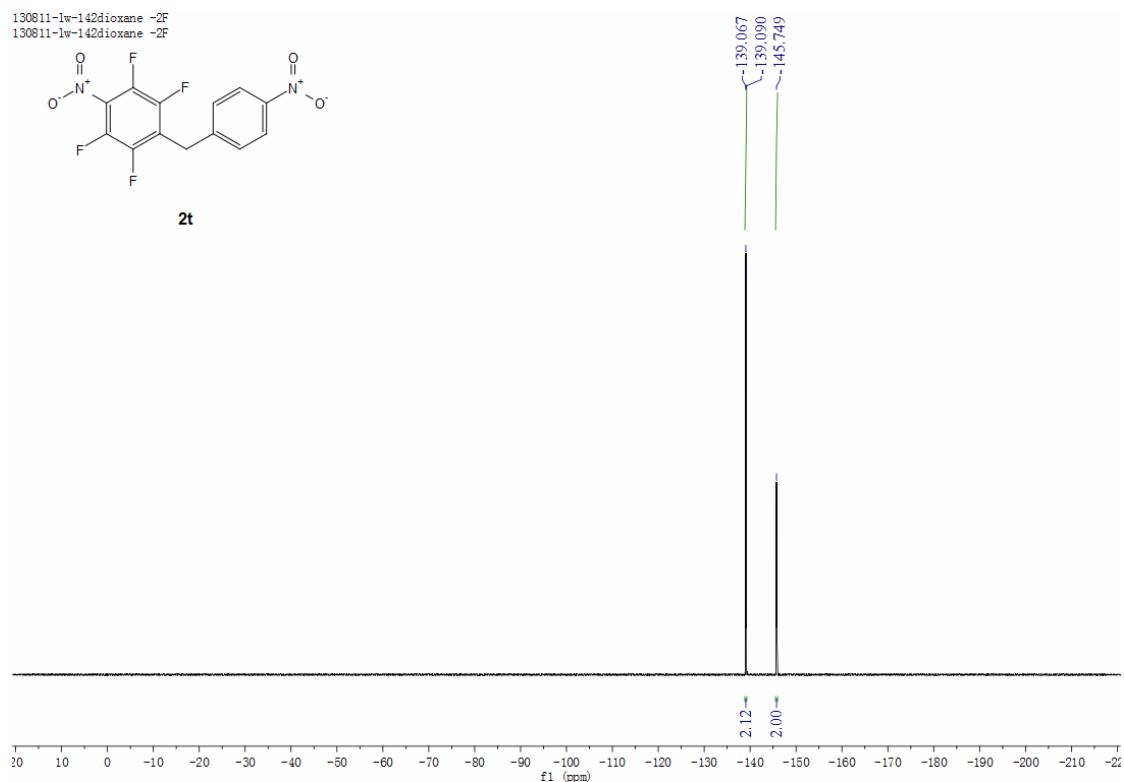


Figure S58. ¹⁹F NMR spectrum of **2t**.

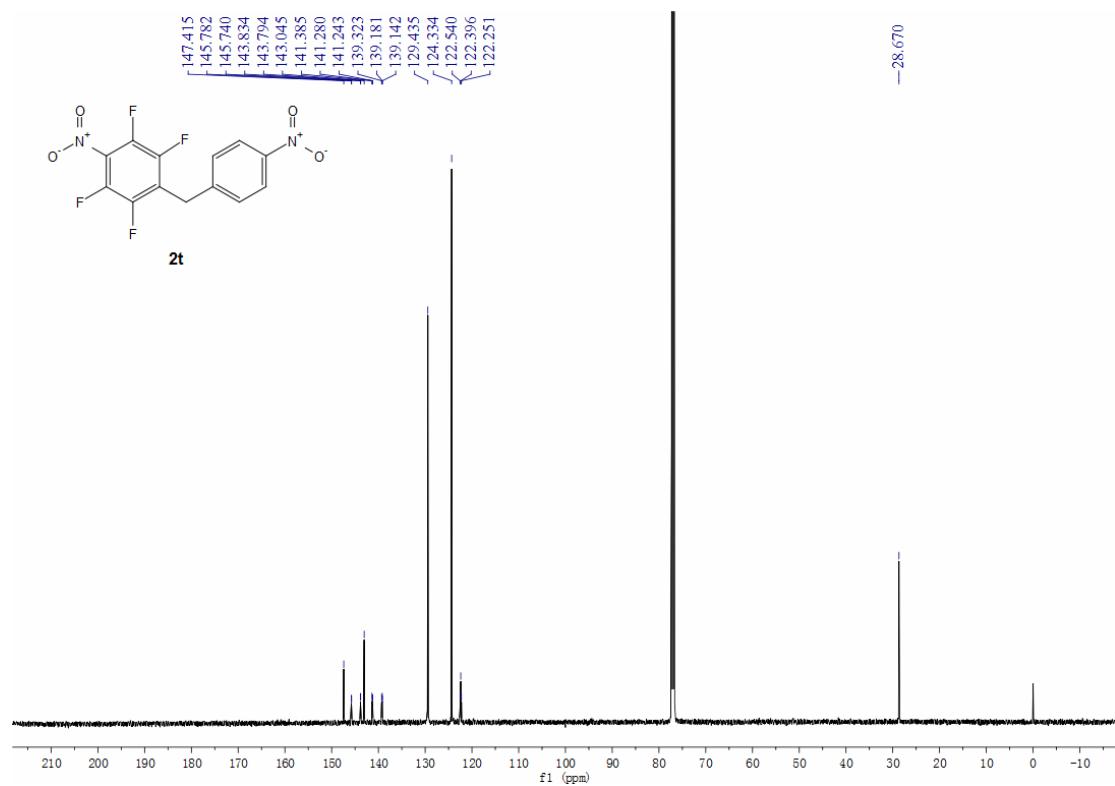


Figure S59. ¹³C NMR spectrum of **2t**.

Supplementary Information

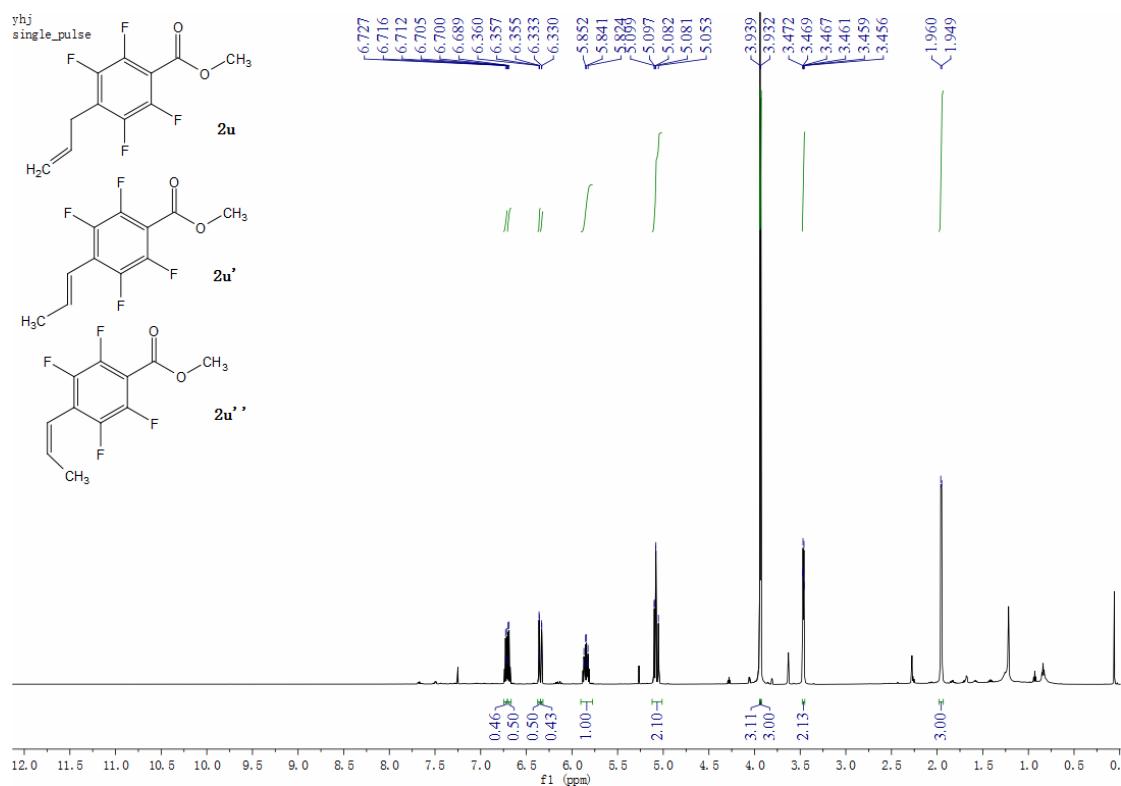


Figure S60. ¹H NMR spectrum of **2u**, **2u'** and **2u''**.

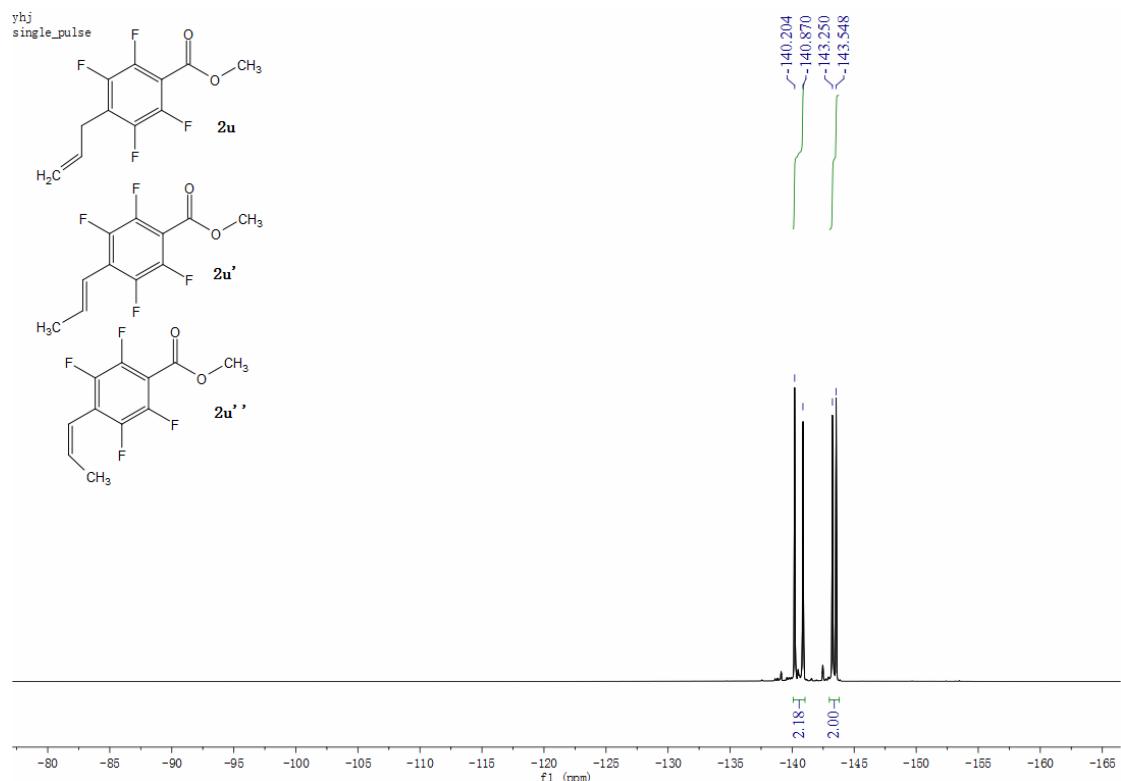


Figure S61. ¹⁹F NMR spectrum of **2u**, **2u'** and **2u''**.

Supplementary Information

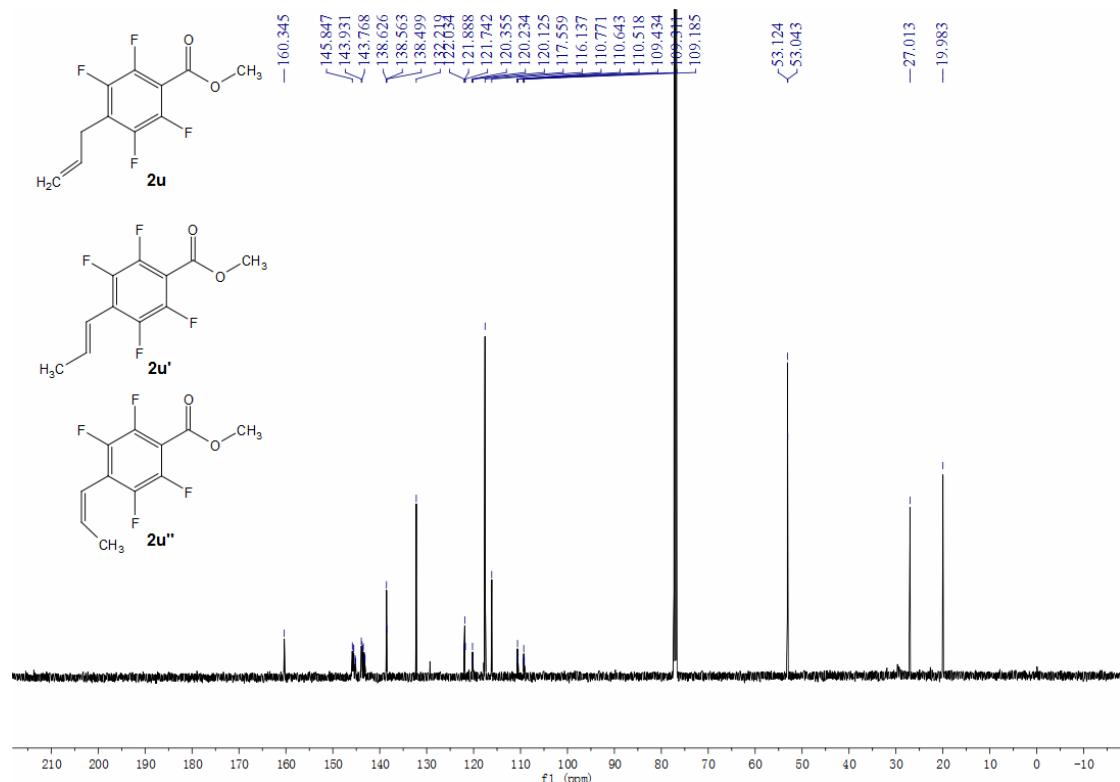


Figure S62. ¹³C NMR spectrum of **2u**, **2u'** and **2u''**.

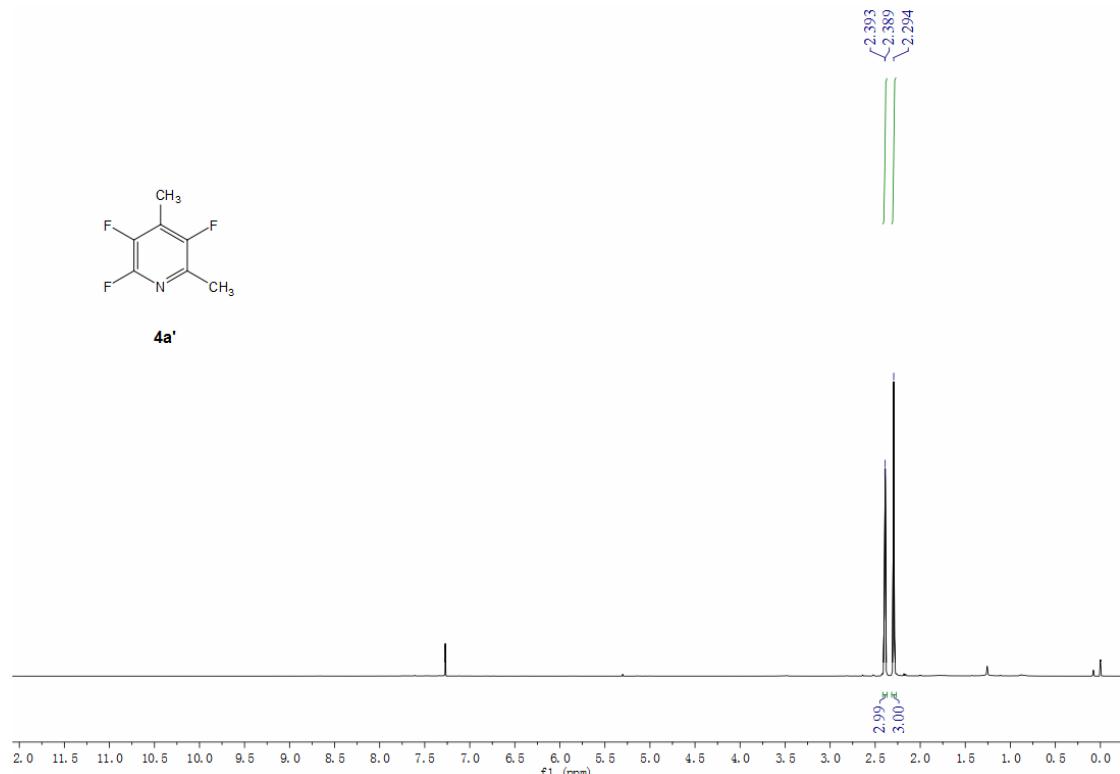


Figure S63. ¹H NMR spectrum of **4a'**.

Supplementary Information

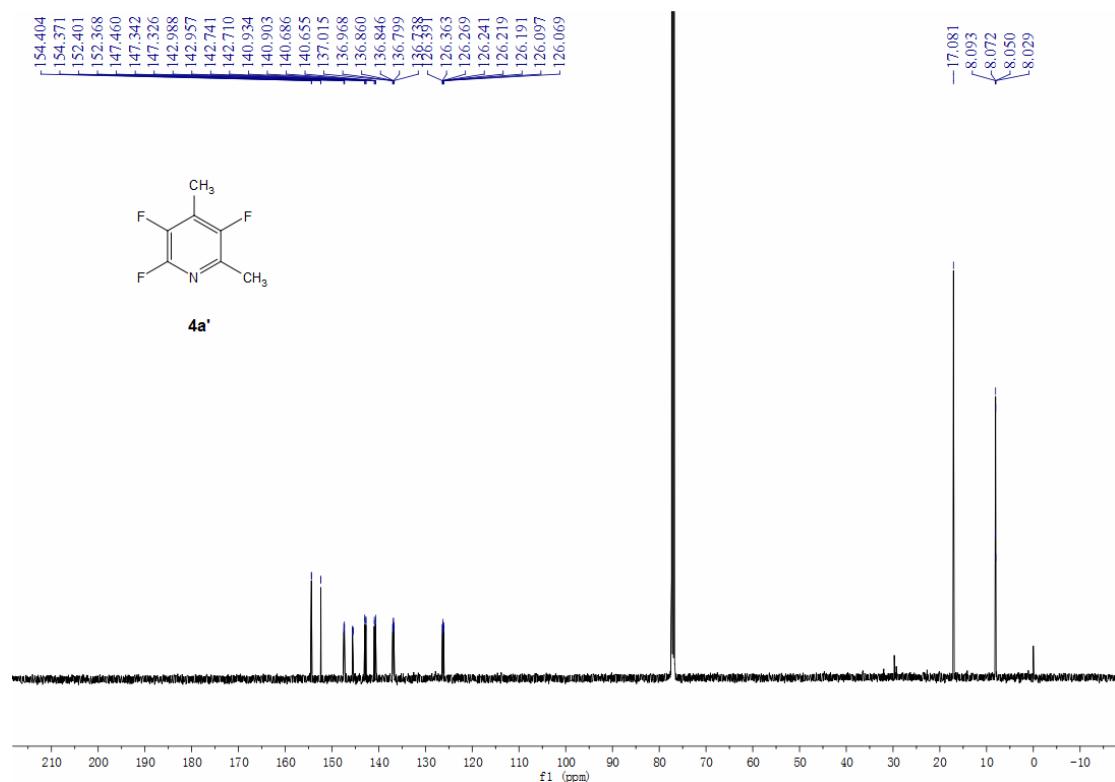


Figure S64. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of **4a'**.

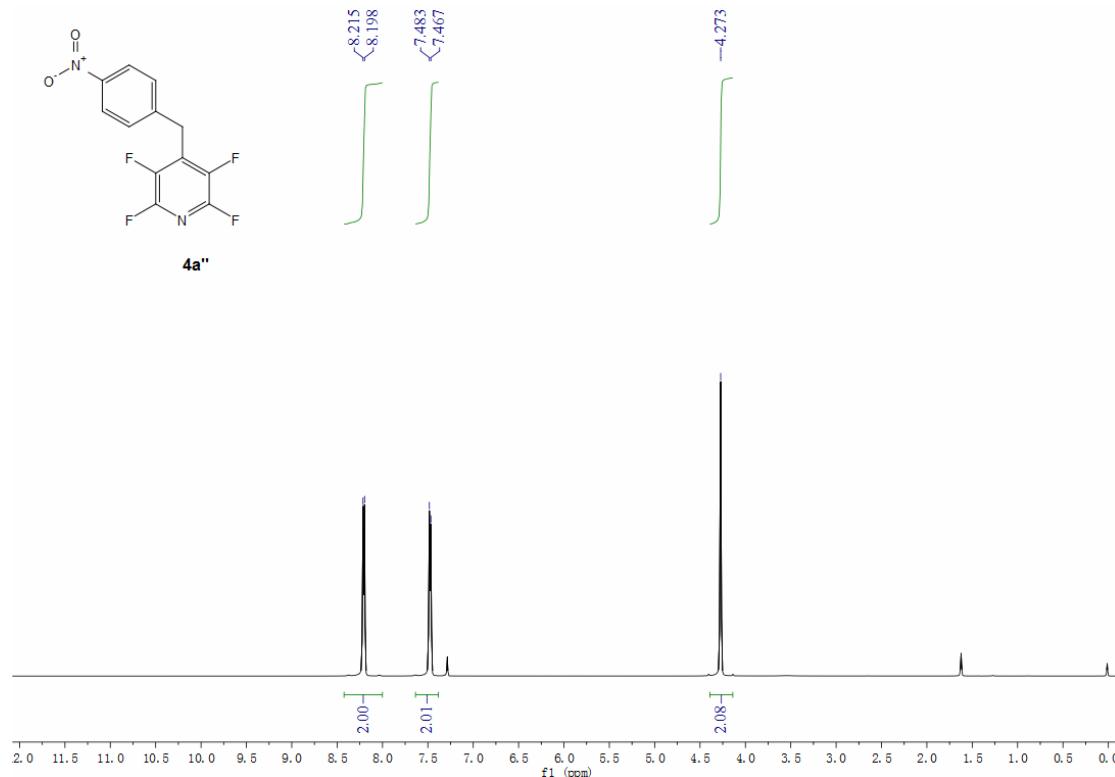


Figure S65. ^1H NMR spectrum of **4a''**.

Supplementary Information



Figure S66. ${}^{19}\text{F}$ NMR spectrum of **4a''**.

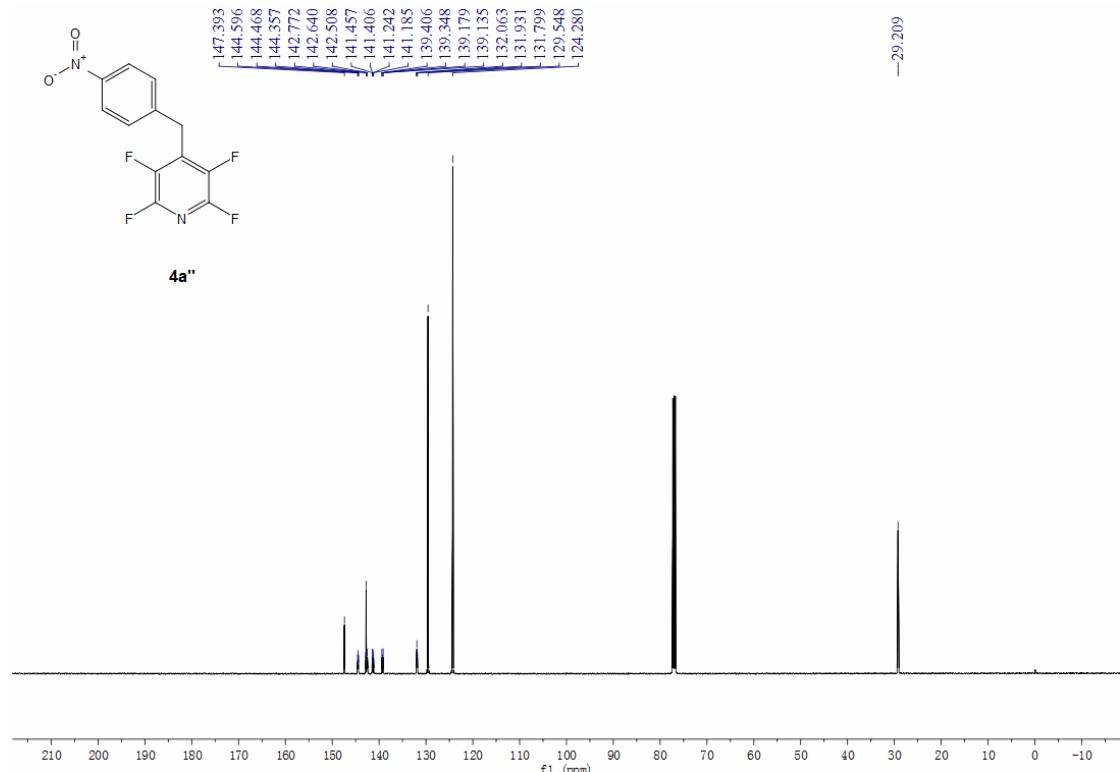


Figure S67. ${}^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectrum of **4a''**.

Supplementary Information

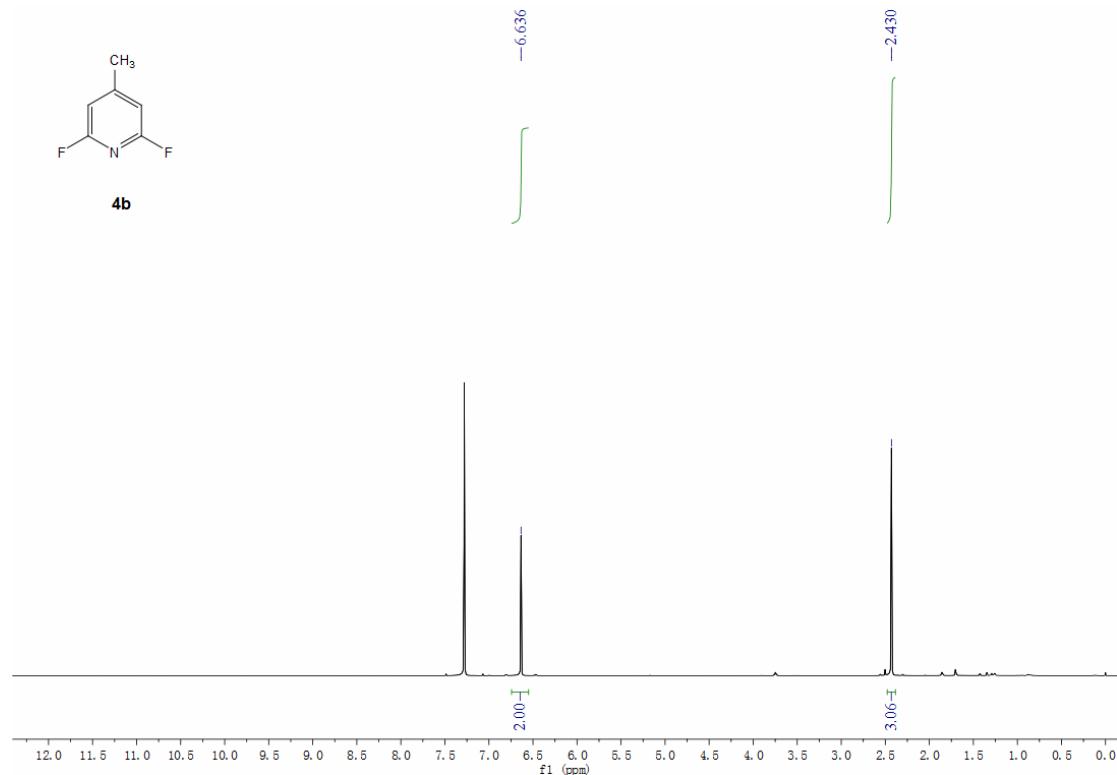


Figure S68. ¹H NMR spectrum of **4b**.

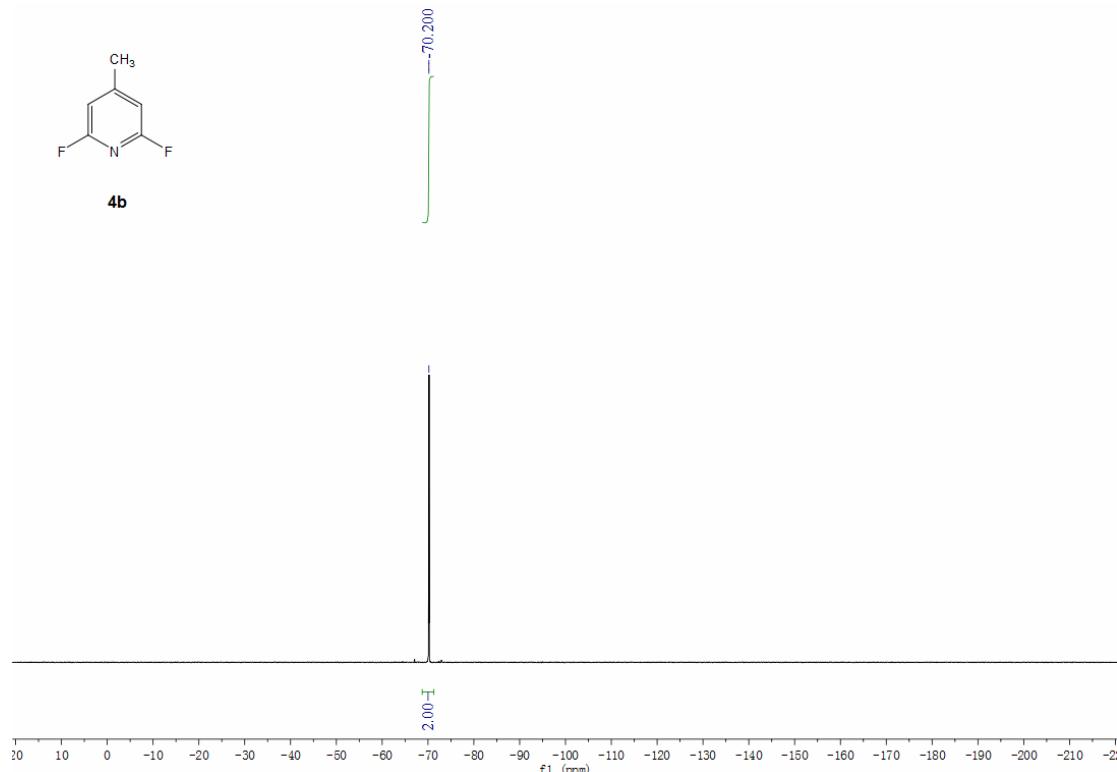


Figure S69. ¹⁹F NMR spectrum of **4b**.

Supplementary Information

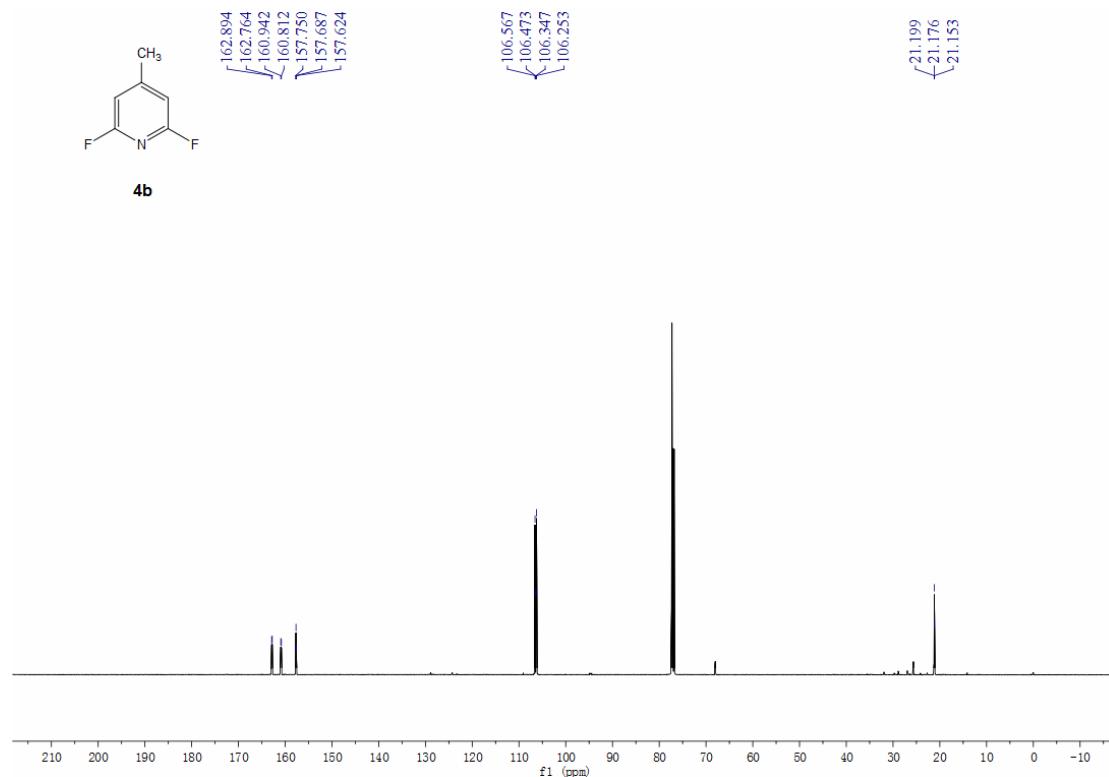


Figure S70. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of **4b**.

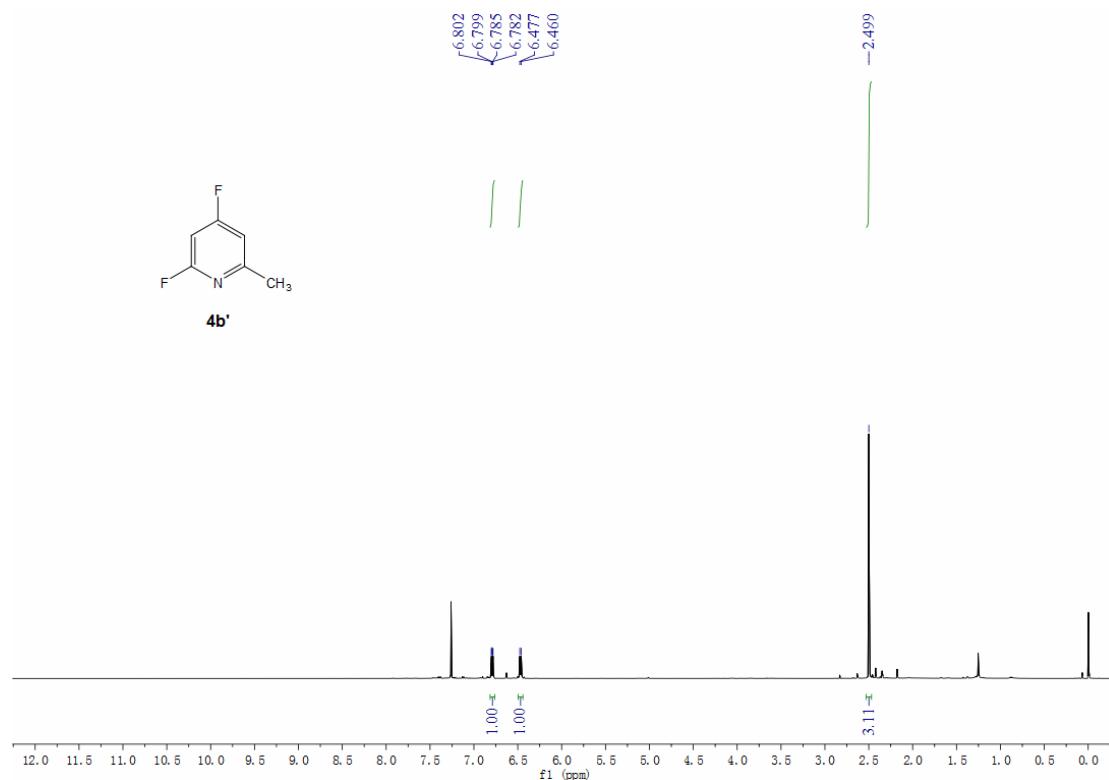


Figure S71. ^1H NMR spectrum of **4b'**.

Supplementary Information

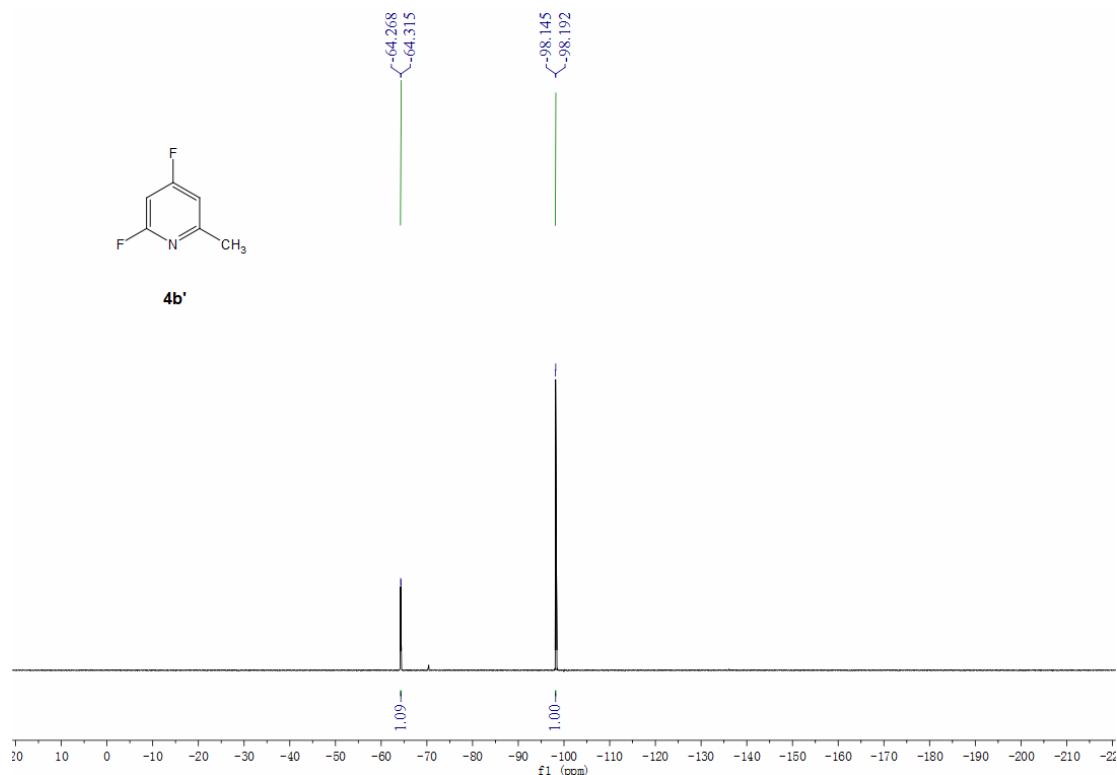


Figure S72. ^{19}F NMR spectrum of **4b'**.

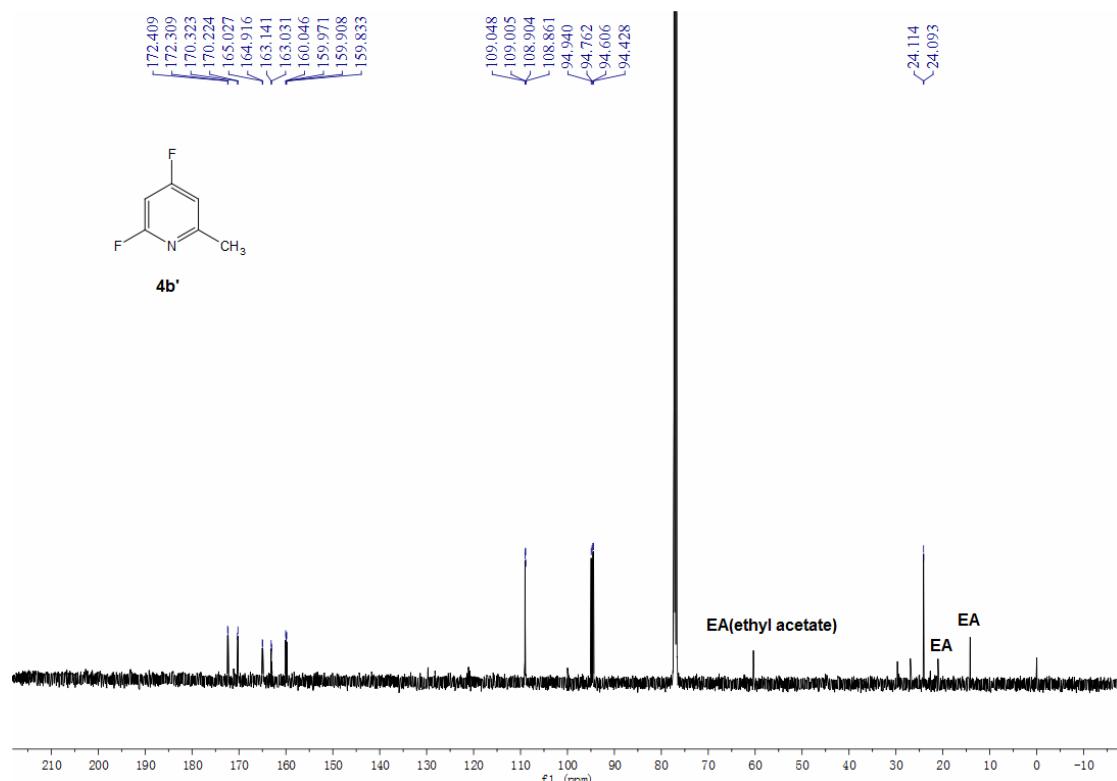


Figure S73. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of **4b'**.

Supplementary Information

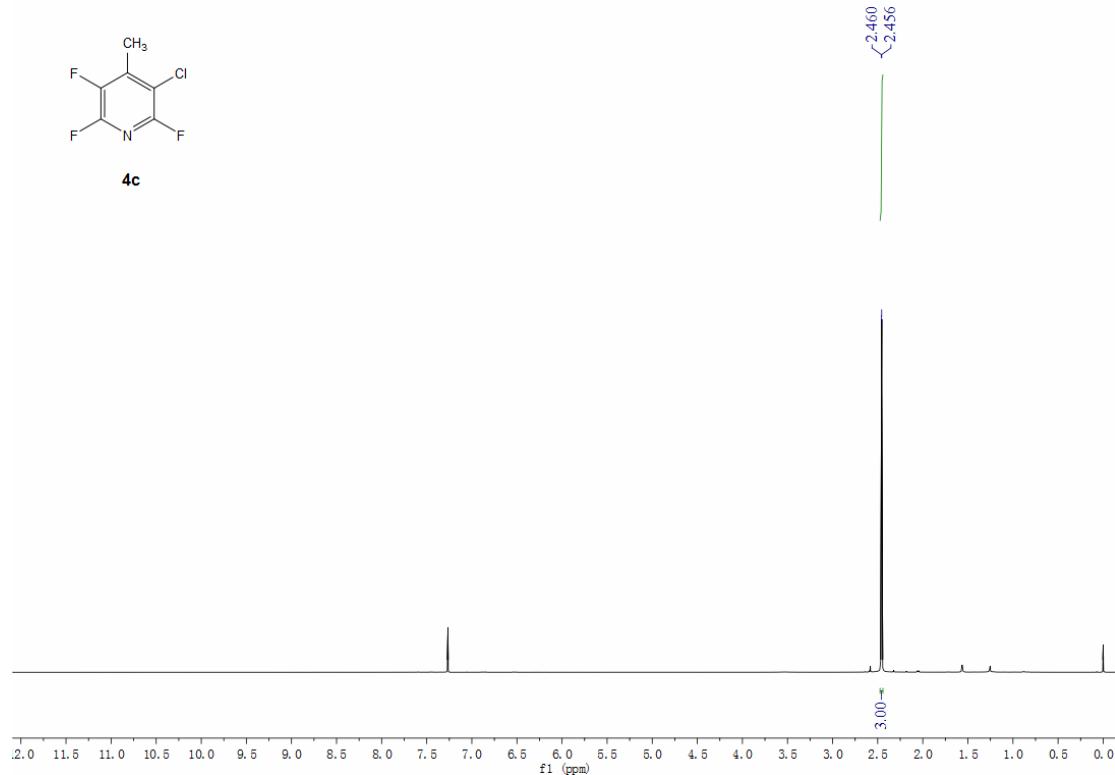


Figure S74. ¹H NMR spectrum of **4c**.

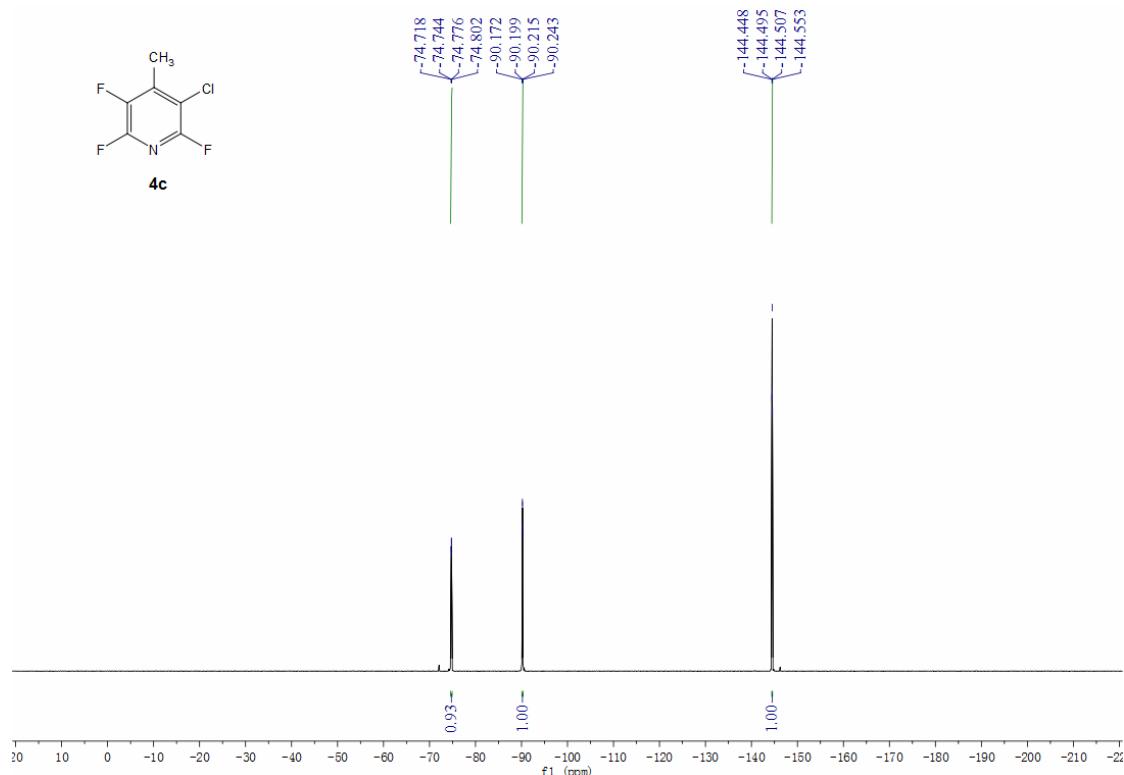


Figure S75. ¹⁹F NMR spectrum of **4c**.

Supplementary Information

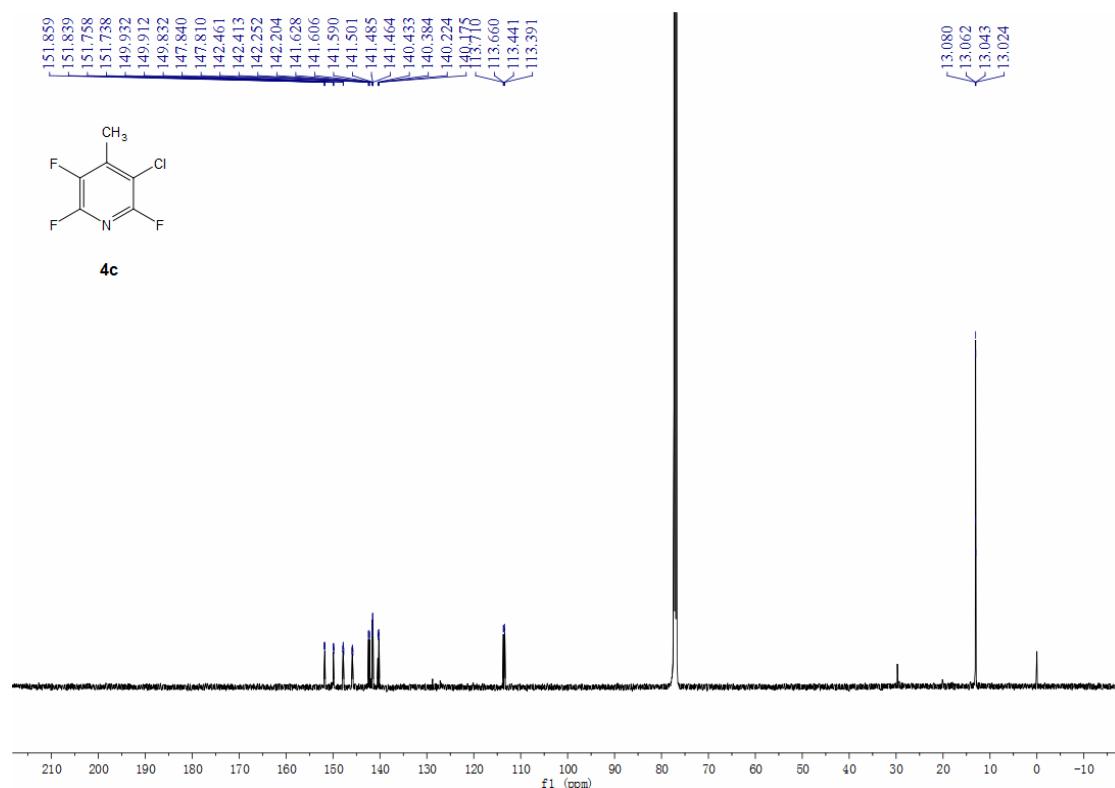


Figure S76. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of **4c**.

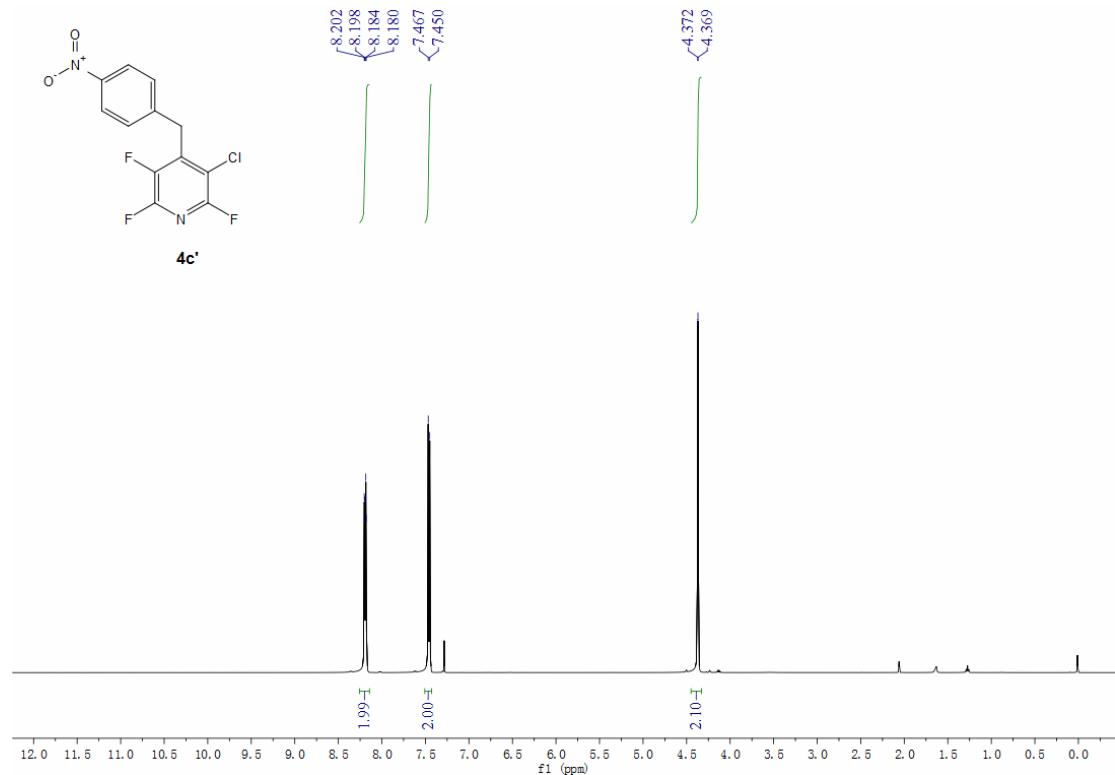


Figure S77. ^1H NMR spectrum of **4c'**.

Supplementary Information

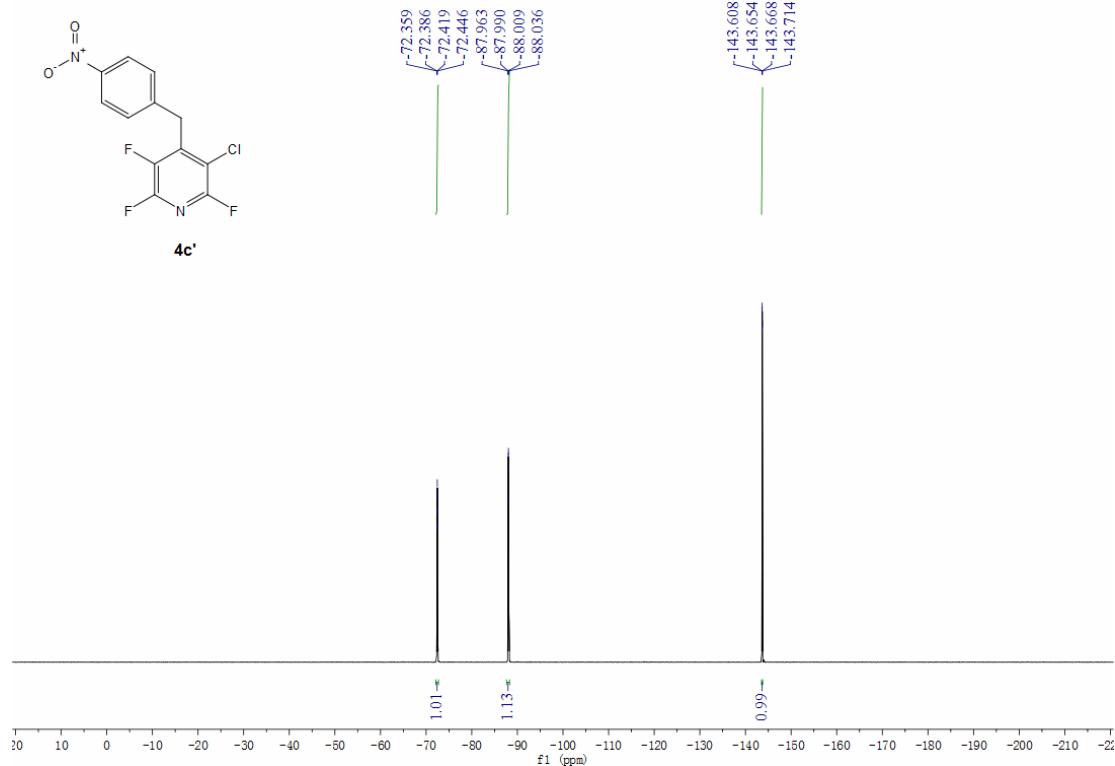


Figure S78. ^{19}F NMR spectrum of **4c'**.

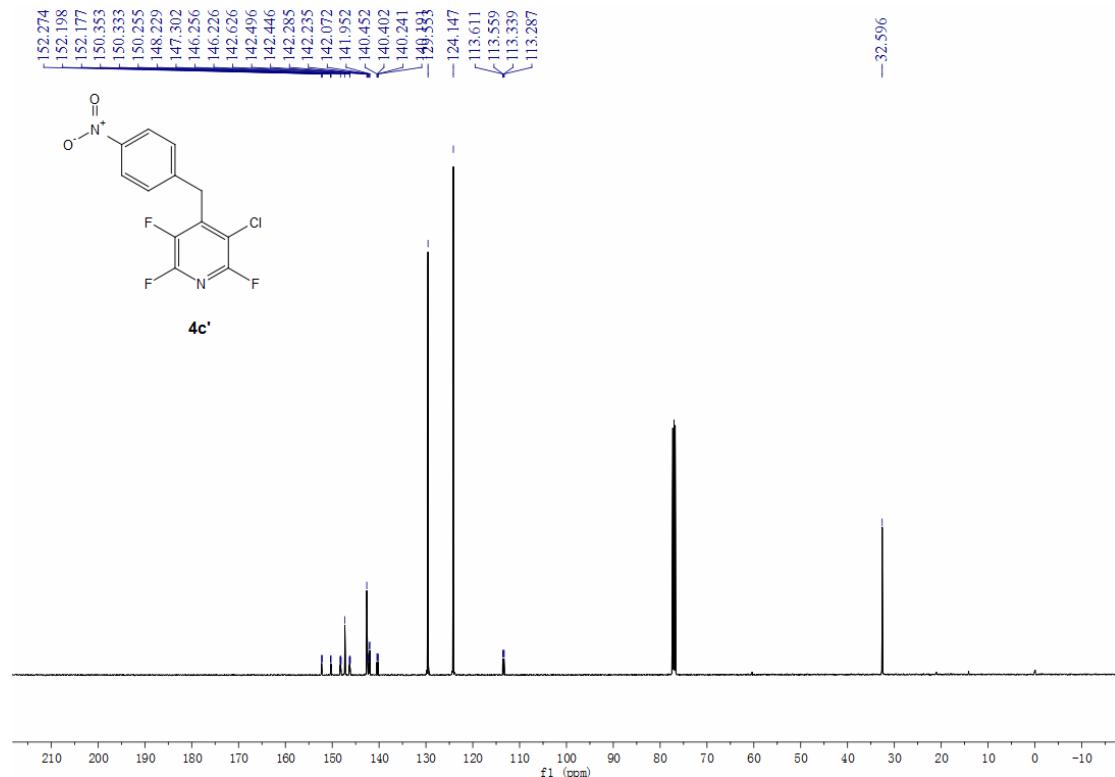


Figure S79. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of **4c'**.

Supplementary Information

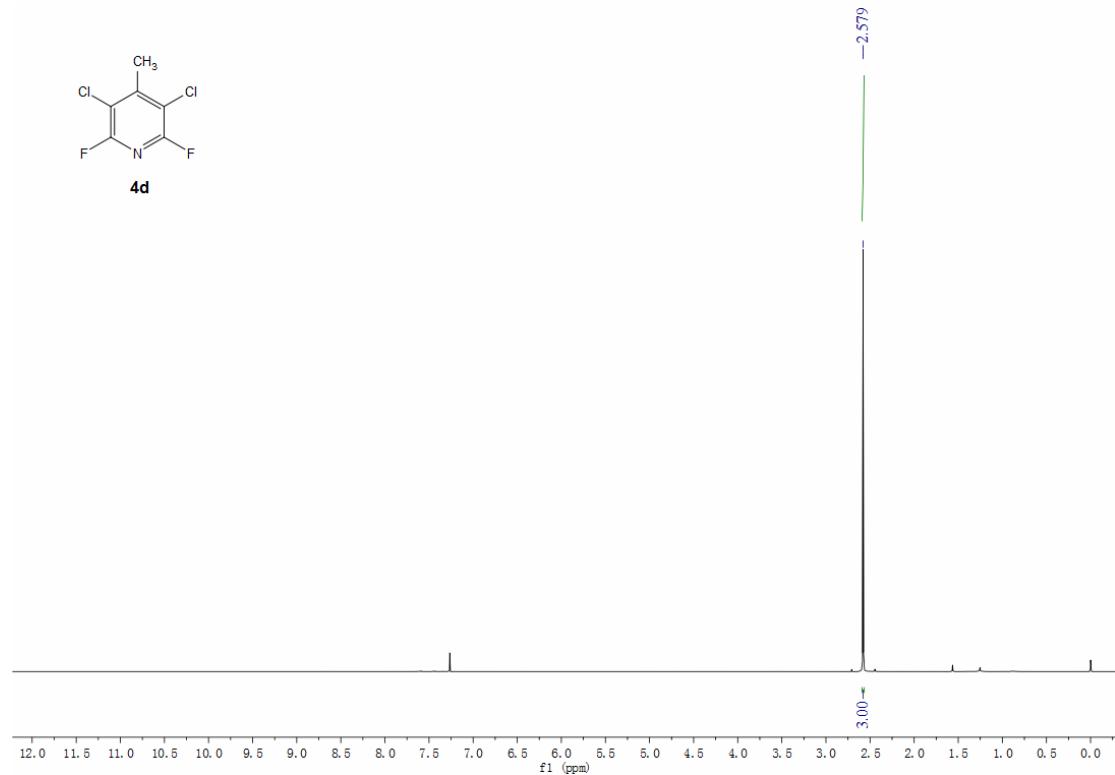


Figure S80. ¹H NMR spectrum of **4d**.

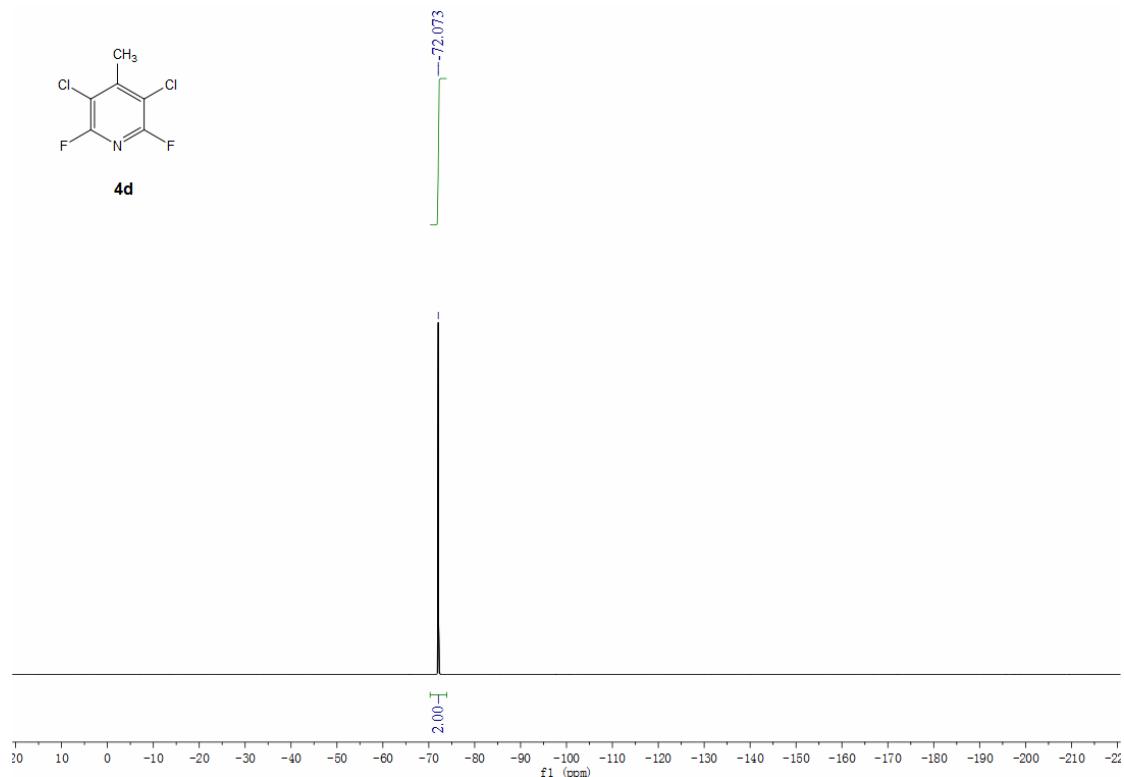


Figure S81. ¹⁹F NMR spectrum of **4d**.

Supplementary Information

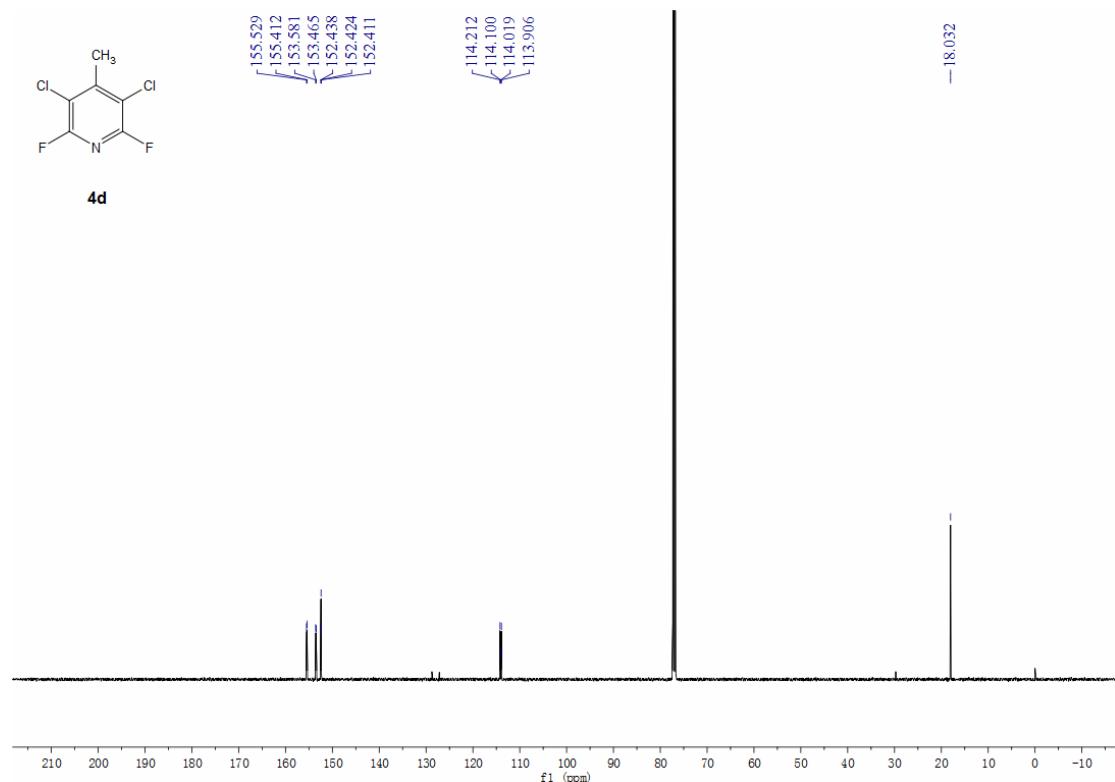


Figure S82. ¹³C NMR spectrum of **4d**.

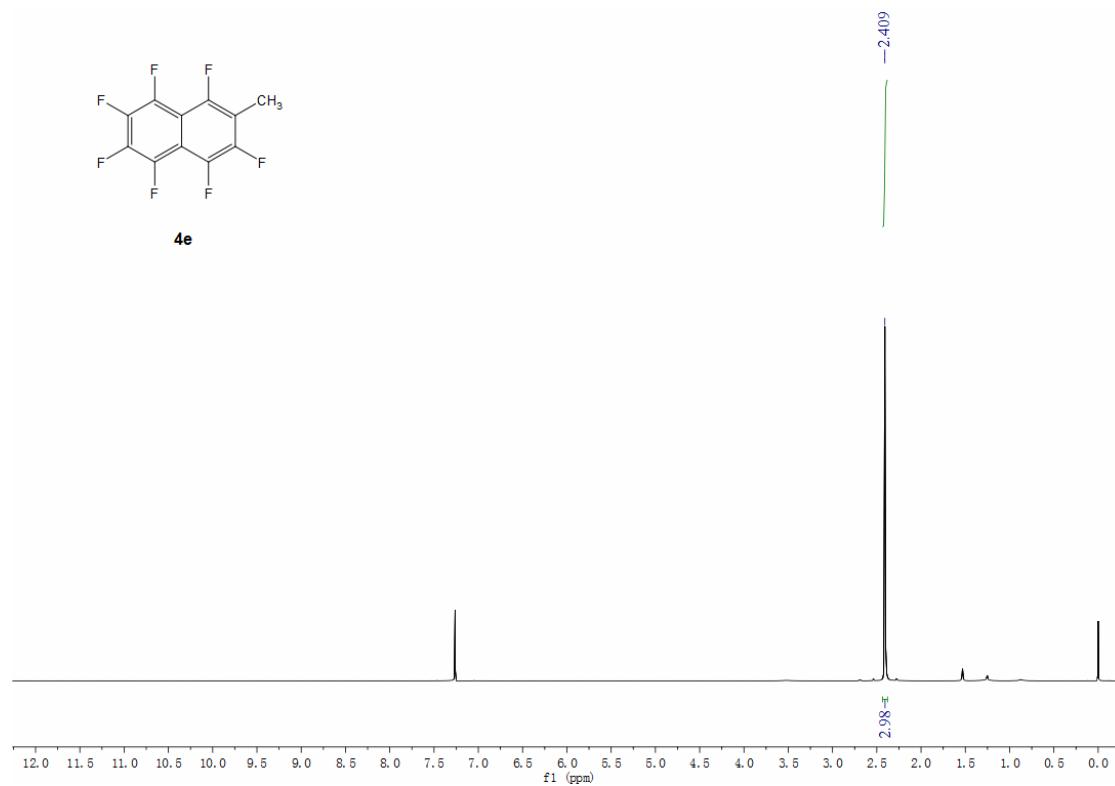


Figure S83. ¹H NMR spectrum of **4e**.

Supplementary Information

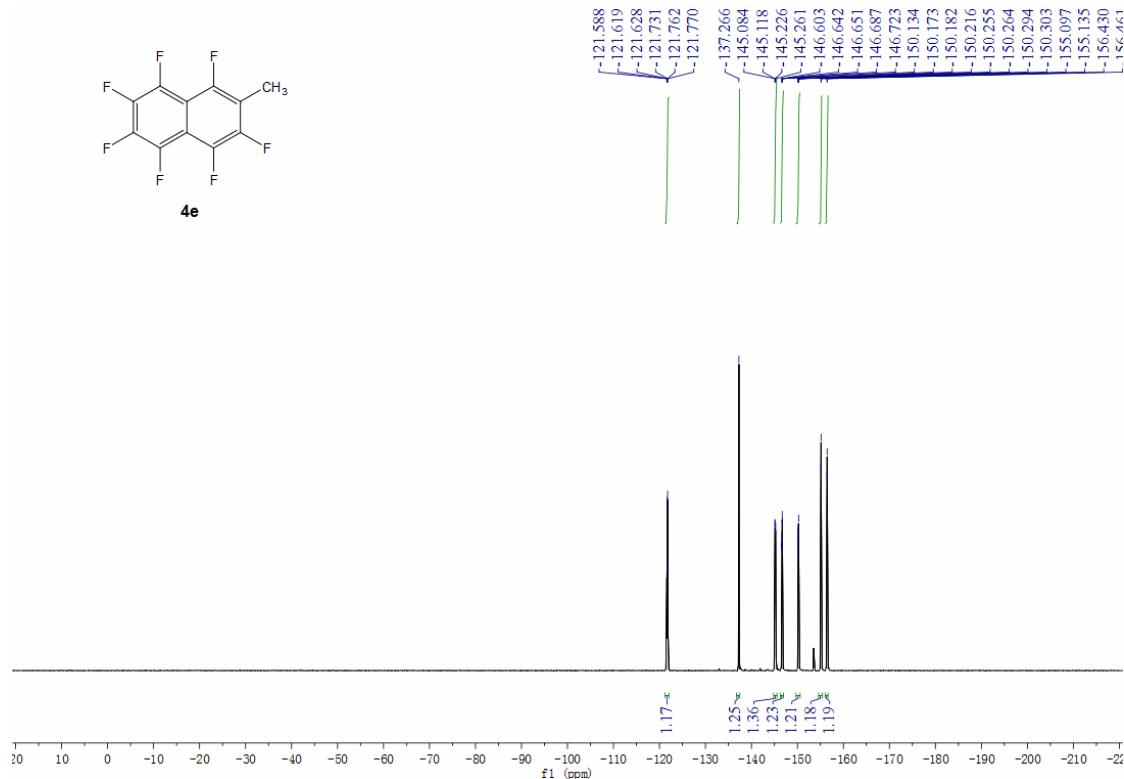


Figure S84. ¹⁹F NMR spectrum of **4e**.

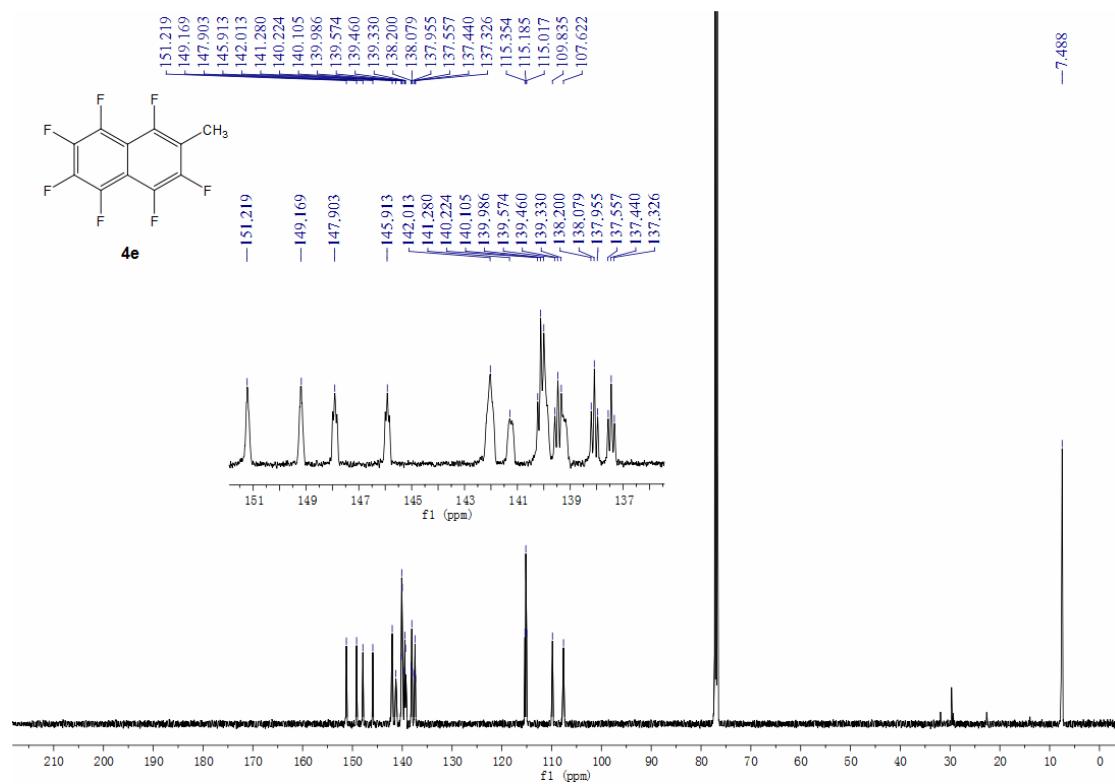


Figure S85. ¹³C NMR spectrum of **4e**.

Supplementary Information

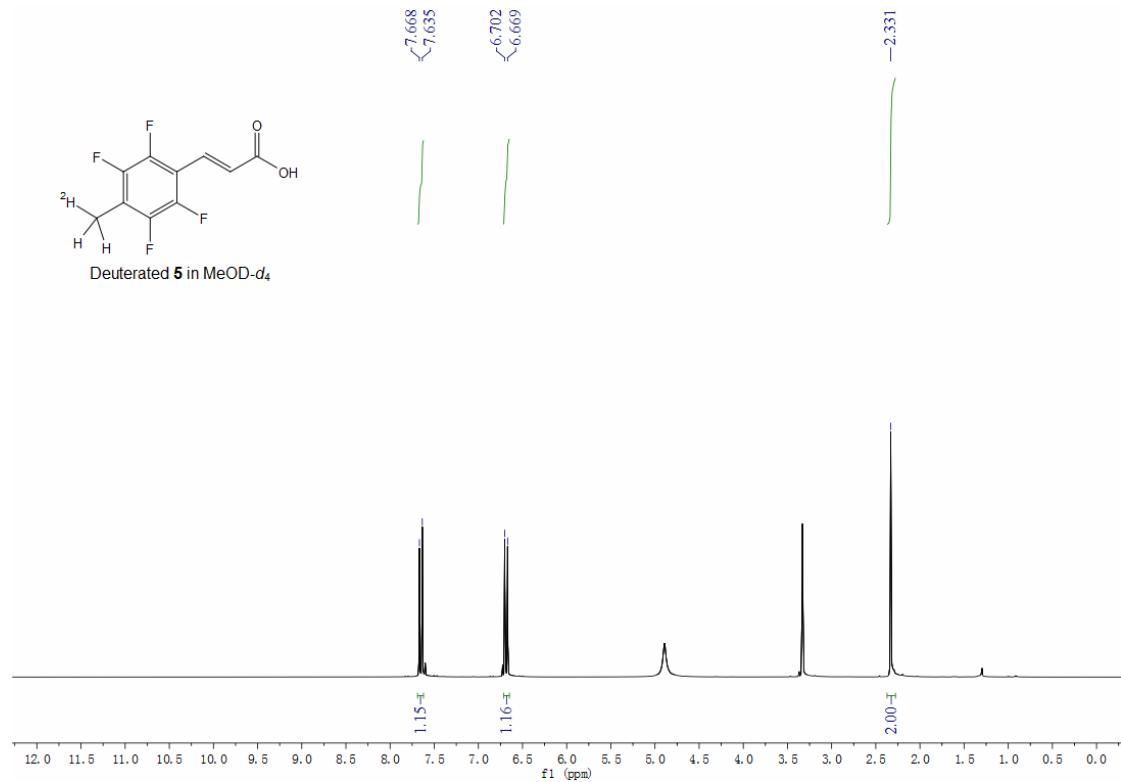


Figure S86. ^1H NMR spectrum of **5**.