

**Supporting Information For:**

**Carbazole modified salicylaldimines and the difluoroboron complexes: effect of  
the terminal groups of *tert*-butyl and trifluoromethyl on the organogelation and  
piezofluorochromism**

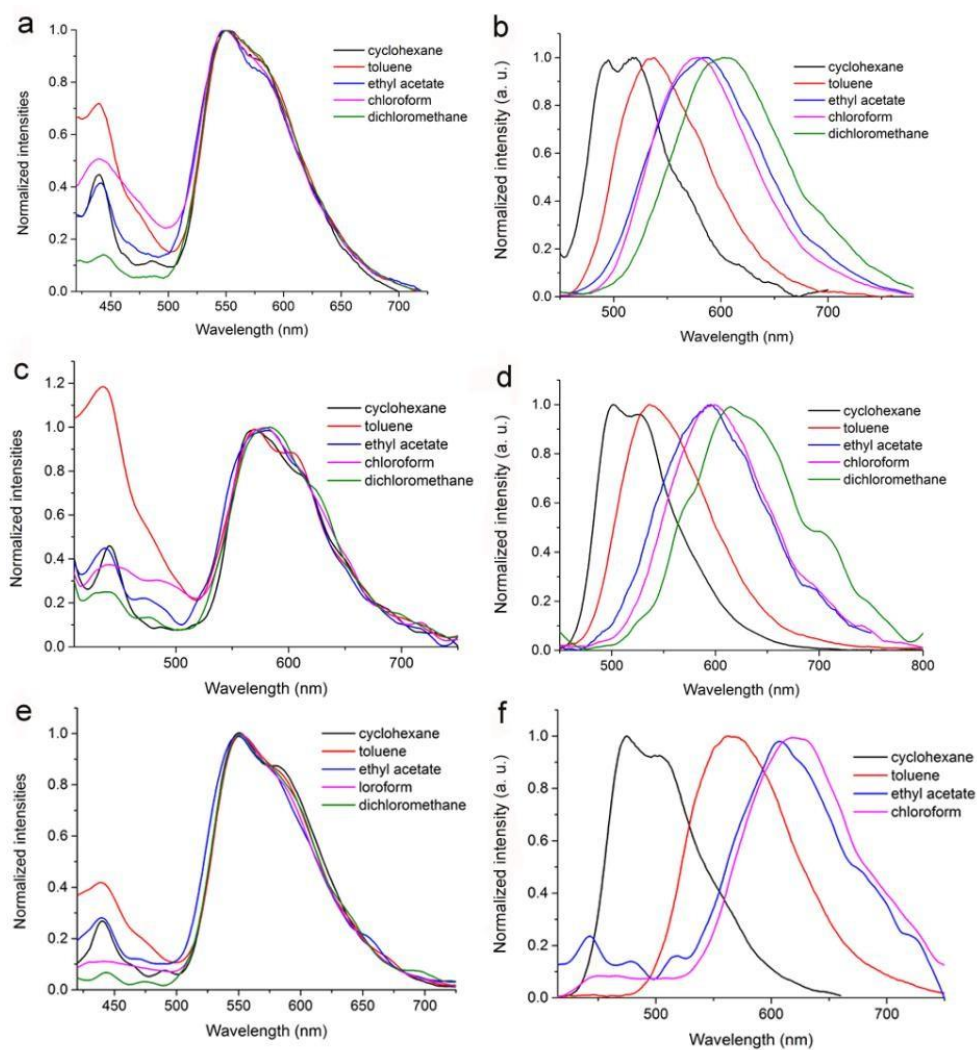
**Table S1.** Photophysical data of compounds **1a-3a** and their complexes **1b-3b**.

Compound	Solvents	$\lambda_{\text{abs}}^{\text{max}}/\text{nm}$	$\lambda_{\text{em}}/\text{nm}$	Stokes shift <sup>a</sup> /nm	$\Phi_{\text{F}}^{\text{b}}$
<b>1a</b>	Cyclohexane	371	550	179	< 0.01
	Toluene	370	551	181	< 0.01
	Ethyl acetate	363	550	187	< 0.01
	Chloroform	369	548	179	< 0.01
	Dichloromethane	366	550	184	< 0.01
<b>2a</b>	Cyclohexane	375	569	194	< 0.01
	Toluene	376	569	193	< 0.01
	Ethyl acetate	368	580	212	< 0.01
	Chloroform	375	579	204	< 0.01
	Dichloromethane	375	583	208	< 0.01
<b>3a</b>	Cyclohexane	383	550	167	< 0.01
	Toluene	381	552	171	< 0.01
	Ethyl acetate	370	549	179	< 0.01
	Chloroform	378	551	173	< 0.01
	Dichloromethane	375	550	175	< 0.01
<b>1b</b>	Cyclohexane	400	494, 517	94	0.15
	Toluene	399	535	136	0.19
	Ethyl acetate	387	586	199	0.02
	Chloroform	405	577	172	0.09
	Dichloromethane	401	605	204	0.01

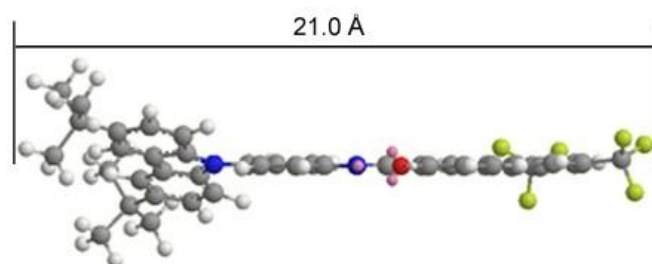
<b>2b</b>	Cyclohexane	395	502, 526	107	0.11
	Toluene	412	532	120	0.25
	Ethyl acetate	397	588	191	0.01
	Chloroform	416	599	183	0.03
	Dichloromethane	412	615	203	< 0.01
<b>3b</b>	Cyclohexane	428	514, 543	86	0.22
	Toluene	415	563	148	0.16
	Ethyl acetate	395	607	212	<0.01
	Chloroform	418	621	203	< 0.01

<sup>a</sup> Calculated from the difference of  $\lambda_{em}$  and  $\lambda_{abs}^{max}$ .

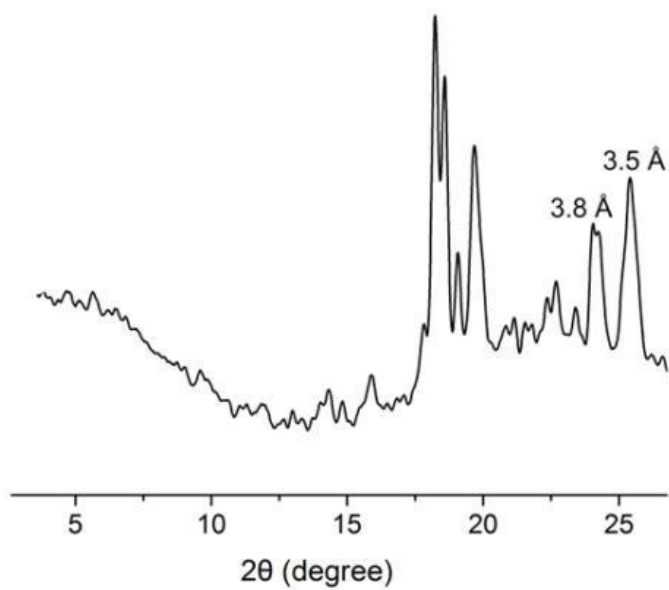
<sup>b</sup> Fluorescence quantum yields were determined by a standard method with diphenylanthracene in benzene ( $\Phi_F = 0.85$ ,  $\lambda_{ex} = 390$  nm) as reference.



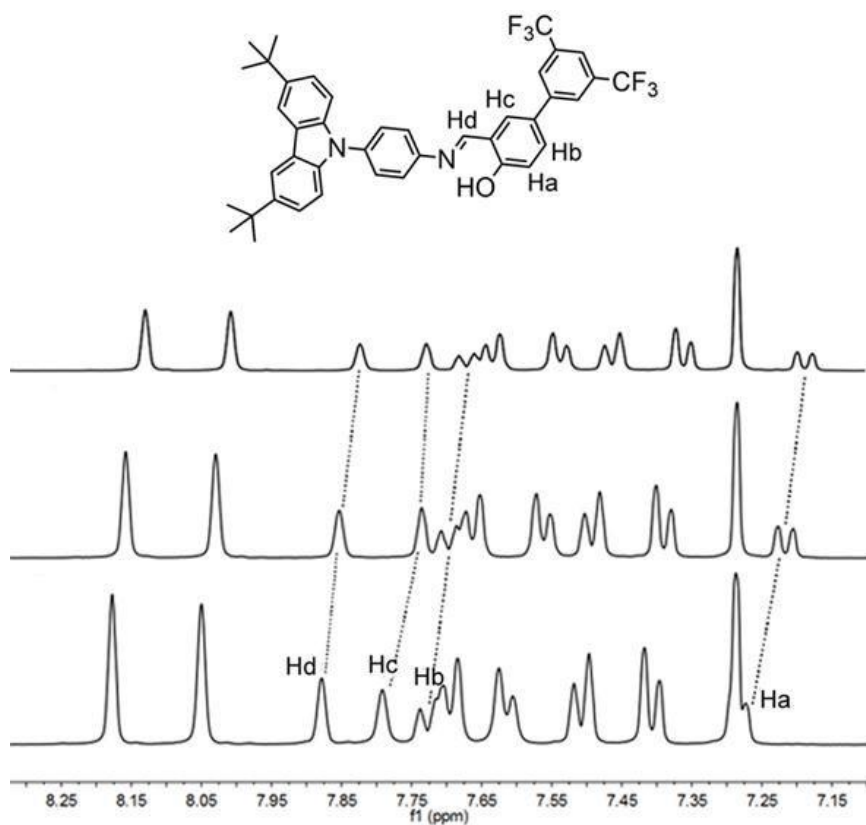
**Fig. S1** Normalized fluorescence emission spectra of **1a** (a), **1b** (b), **2a** (c), **2b** (d), **3a** (e) and **3b** (f) in different solvents ( $1.0 \times 10^{-5}M$ ,  $\lambda_{ex} = 390$  nm).



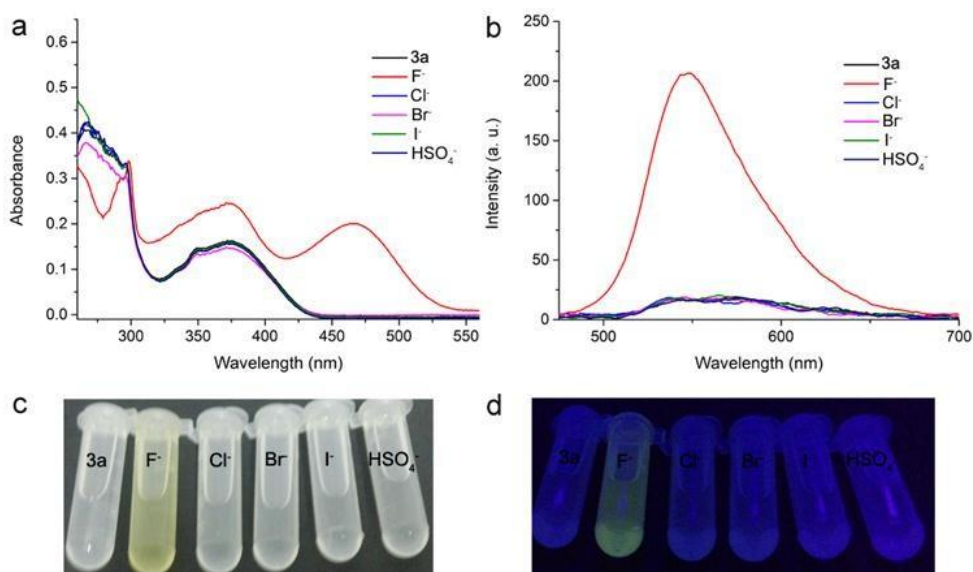
**Fig. S2** The optimized configurations for **3a** calculated by the **DFT** method (B3LYP/6-31G level) on Gaussian 09 software.



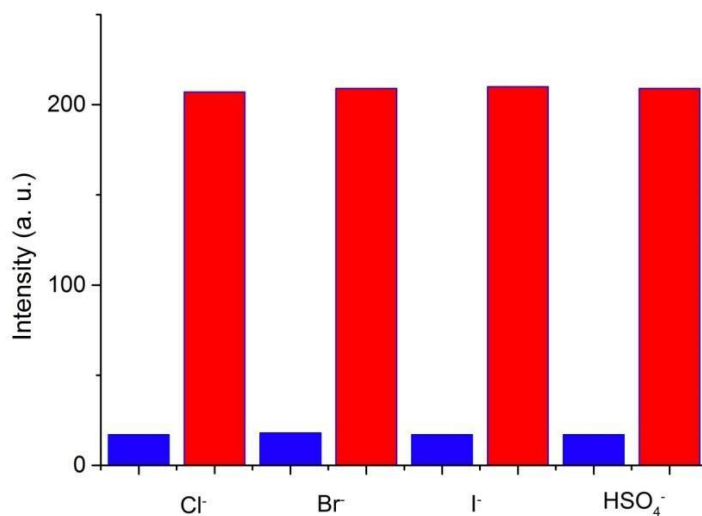
**Fig. S3** XRD pattern of xerogel **3b** obtained from cyclohexane.



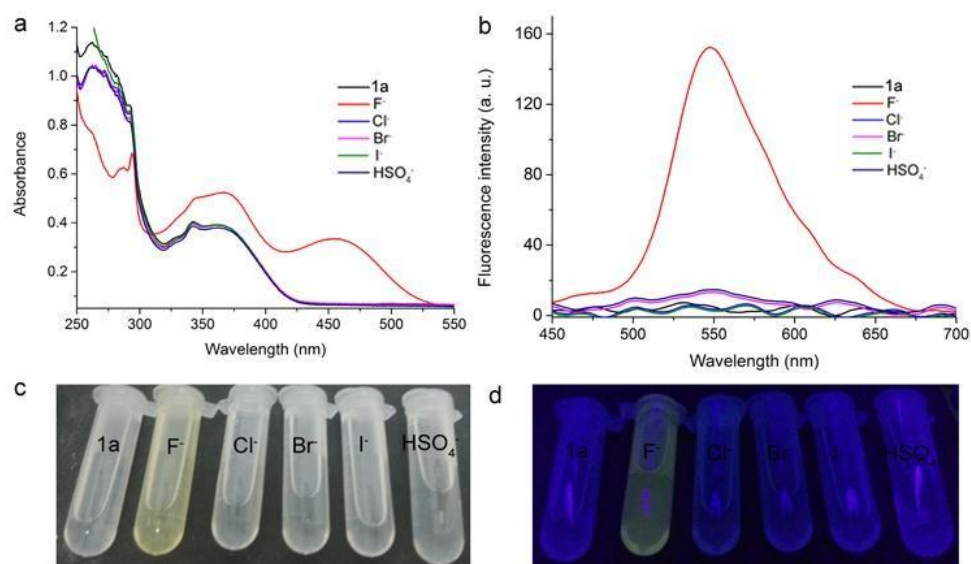
**Fig. S4** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of **3a** in the absence (a) as well as in the presence of 1.0 equiv. (b) and 2.0 equiv. (c) of TBAF.



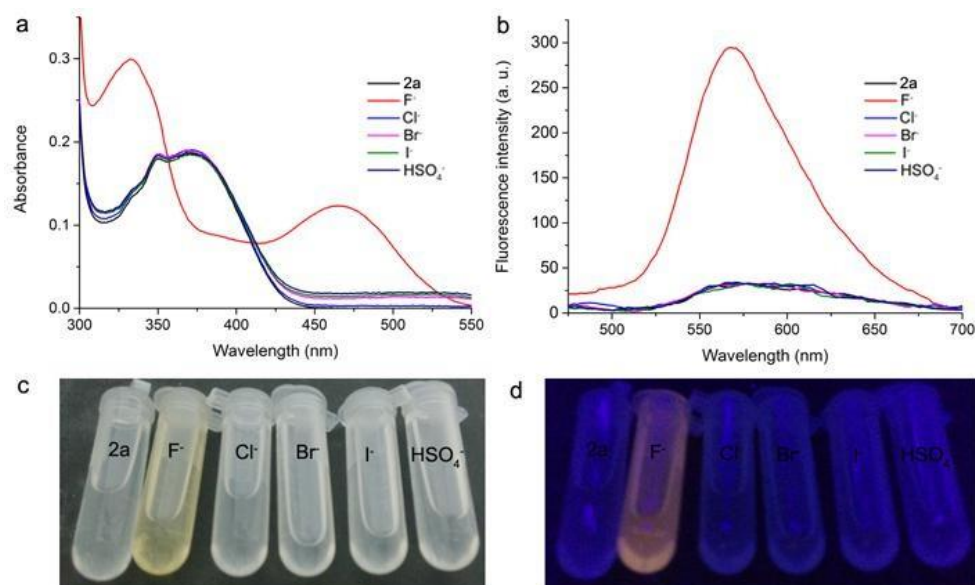
**Fig. S5** UV-vis absorption (a) and fluorescence emission (b,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 380$  nm) spectra of **3a** ( $1.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M) in the presence of various tetrabutylammonium anions (4 equiv.) in THF; Photos of **3a** in THF in the presence of 4 equiv. anions under daylight (c) and UV irradiation at 365 nm (d).



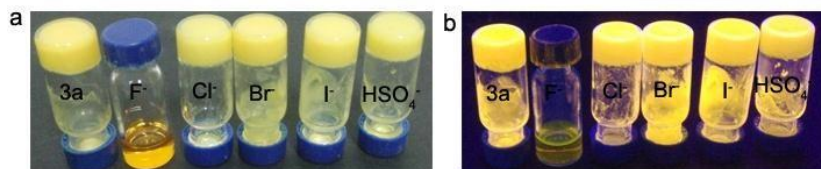
**Fig. S6** Fluorescence intensity at 567 nm for **3a** ( $1.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M) in THF upon the addition of 4 equiv. of Cl<sup>-</sup>, Br<sup>-</sup>, I<sup>-</sup> and HSO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (blue bar, from left to right) and fluorescence intensity at 567 nm for **3a** ( $1.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M) in THF upon the addition of 4 equiv. of F<sup>-</sup> in presence of 4 equiv. of Cl<sup>-</sup>, Br<sup>-</sup>, I<sup>-</sup> and HSO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> (red bar, from left to right).



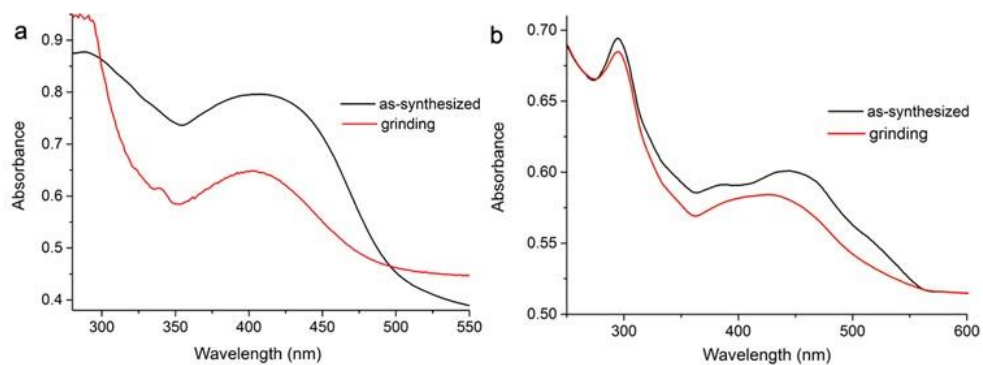
**Fig. S7** UV-vis absorption (a) and fluorescence emission (b,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 390$  nm) spectra of **1a** ( $1.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M) in the presence of various tetrabutylammonium anions (4 equiv.) in THF; Photos of **1a** in THF in the presence of 4 equiv. anions under daylight (c) and UV irradiation at 365 nm (d).



**Fig. S8** UV-vis absorption (a) and fluorescence emission (b,  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 410$  nm) spectra of **2a** ( $1.0 \times 10^{-5}$  M) in the presence of various tetrabutylammonium anions (4 equiv.) in THF; Photos of **2a** in THF in the presence of 4 equiv. anions under daylight (c) and UV irradiation at 365 nm (d).

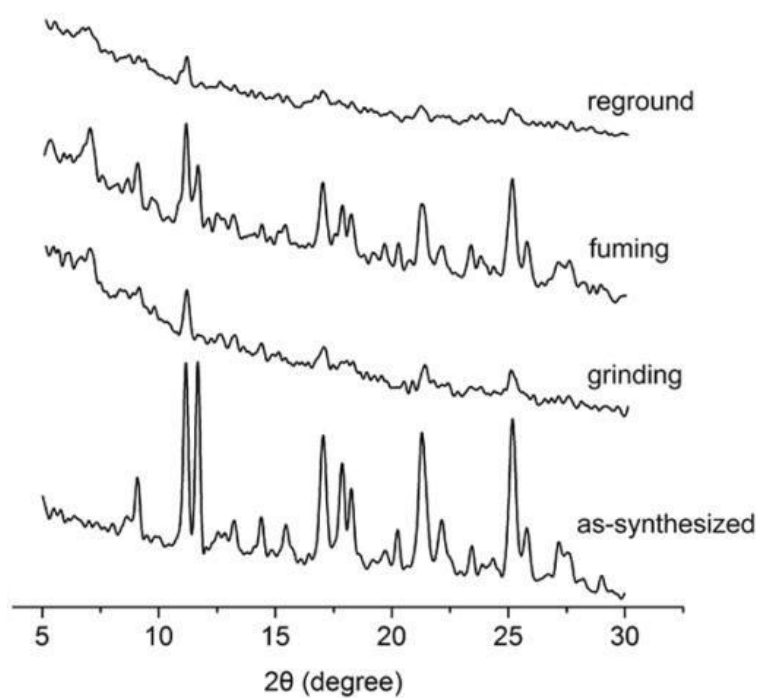


**Fig. S9** Photos of organogel **3a** in *n*-heptane in the presence of 4 equiv. anions under daylight (a) and UV irradiation at 365 nm (b).

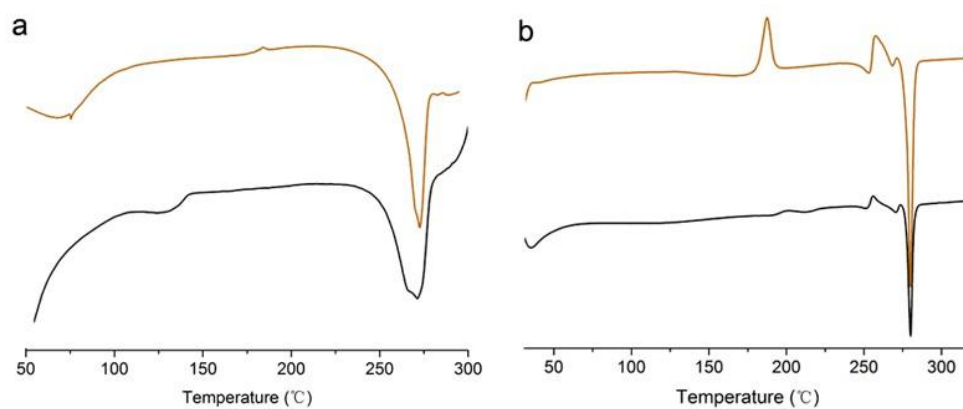


**Fig. S10** UV-vis spectra of **1b** (a) and **3b** (b) in as-prepared crystal and ground powders.

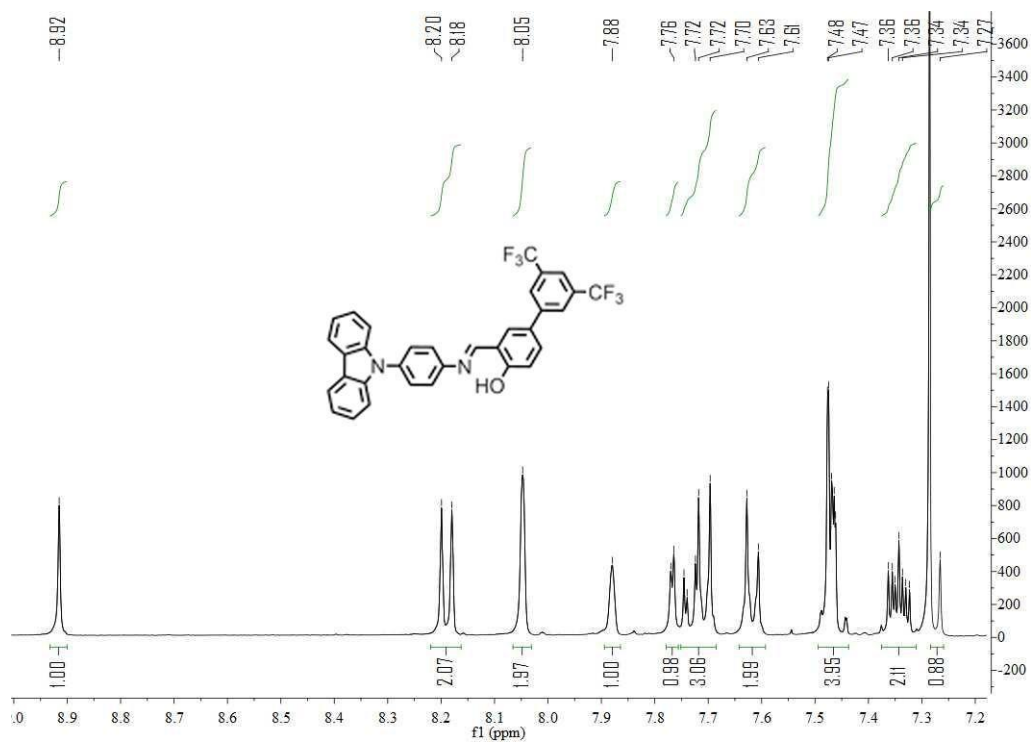




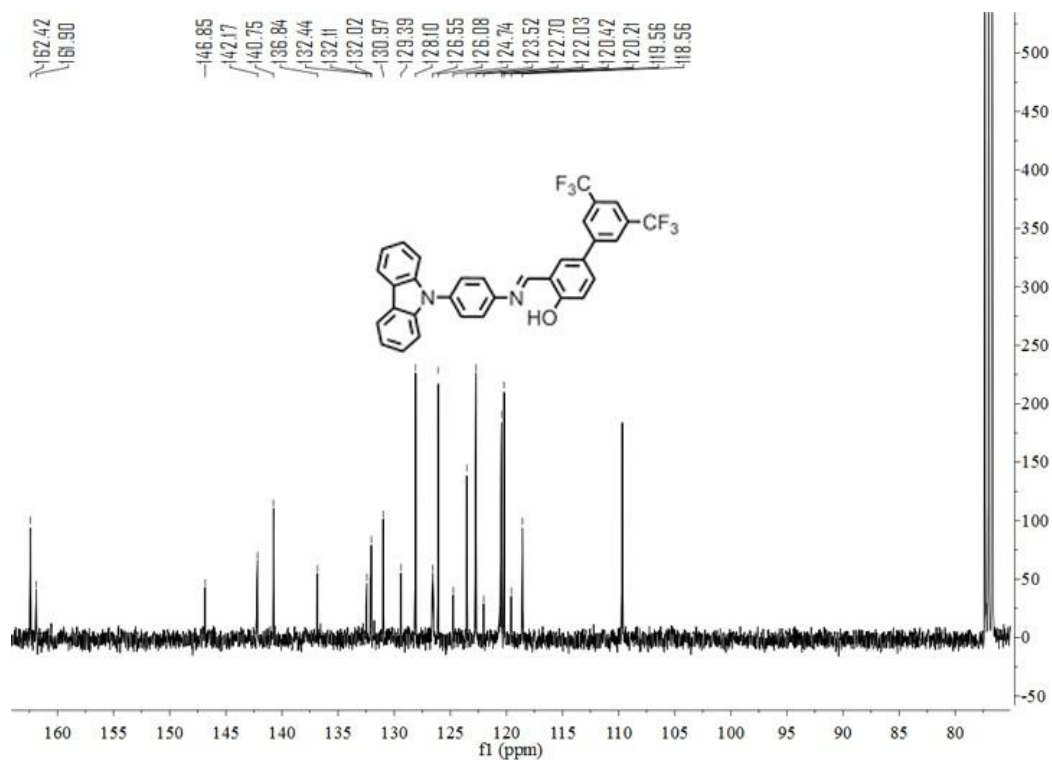
**Fig. S11** XRD patterns of compound **1b** in different solid states.



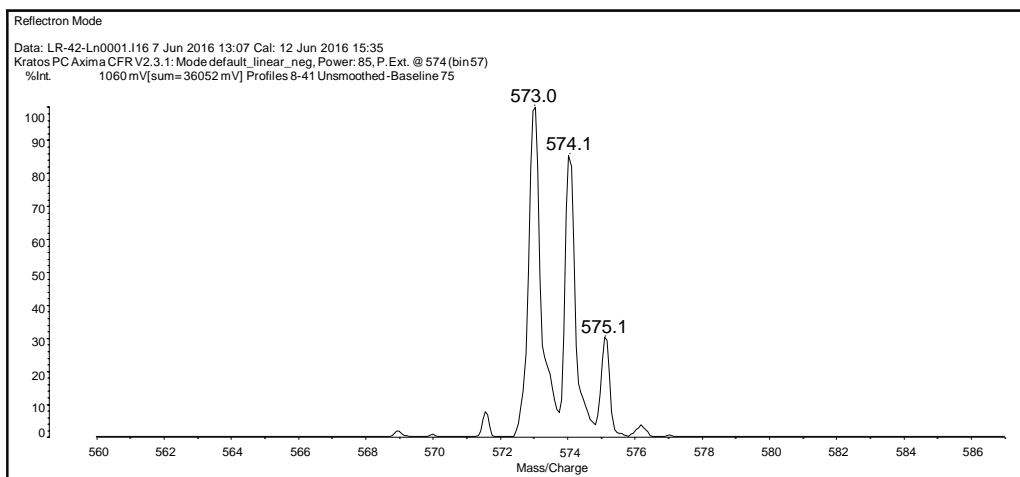
**Figure S12.** DSC thermograms of **1b** (a) and **3b** (b) in as-prepared crystal (black line) and ground powder (red line) under nitrogen atmosphere at a heating rate of 10 °C/min.



**Fig. S13** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of **1a**.



**Fig. S14** <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of **1a**.



**Fig. S15** MALDI/TOF MS spectrum of **1a**.

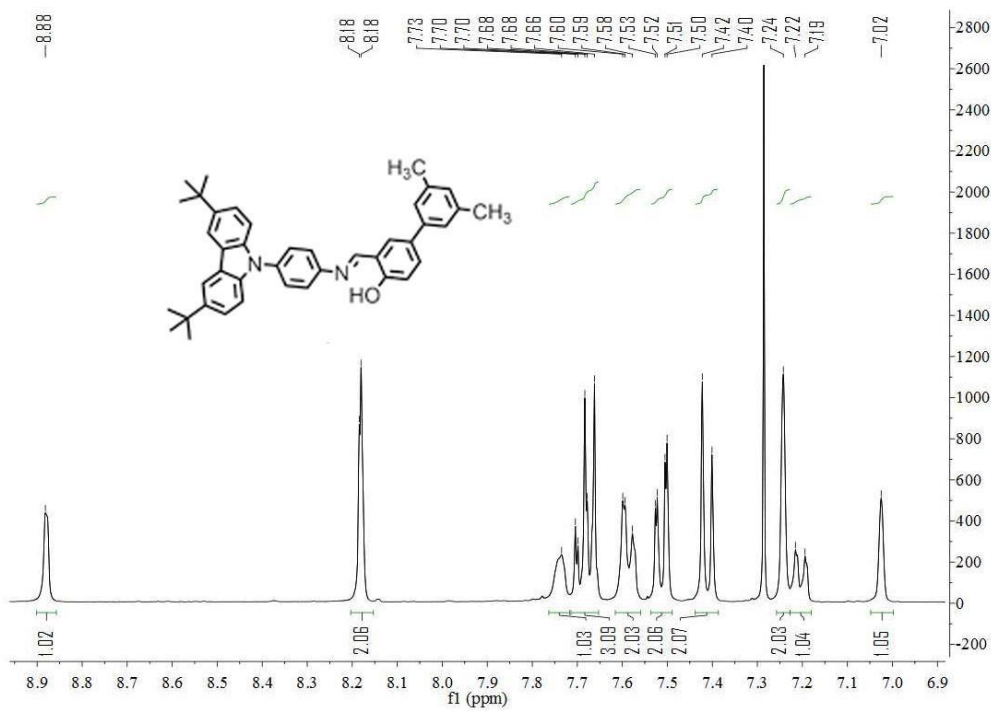
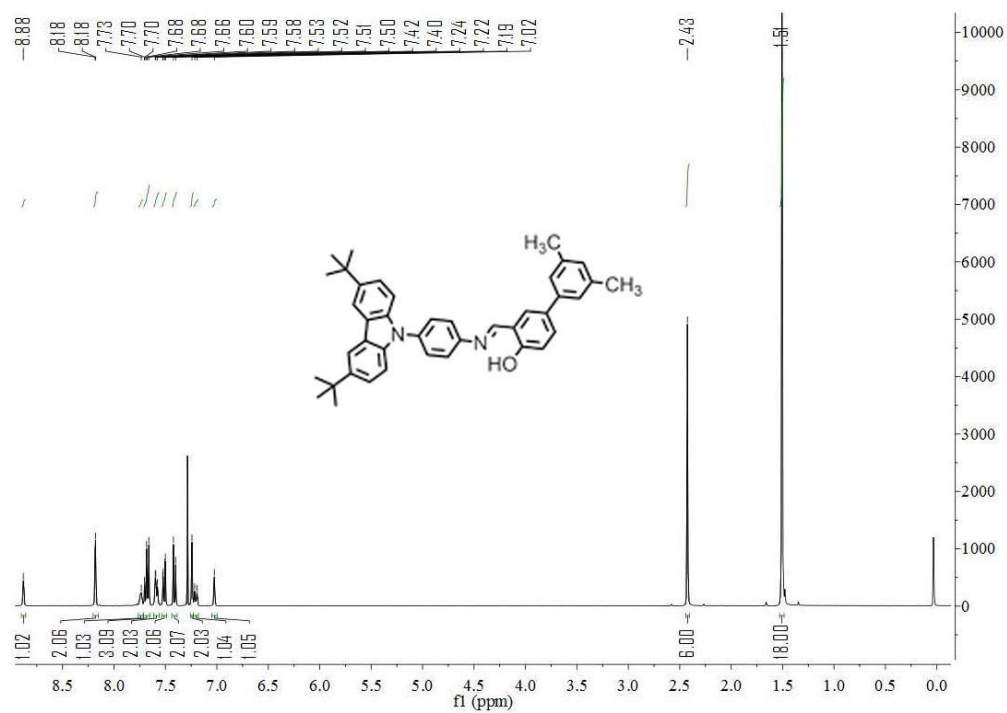
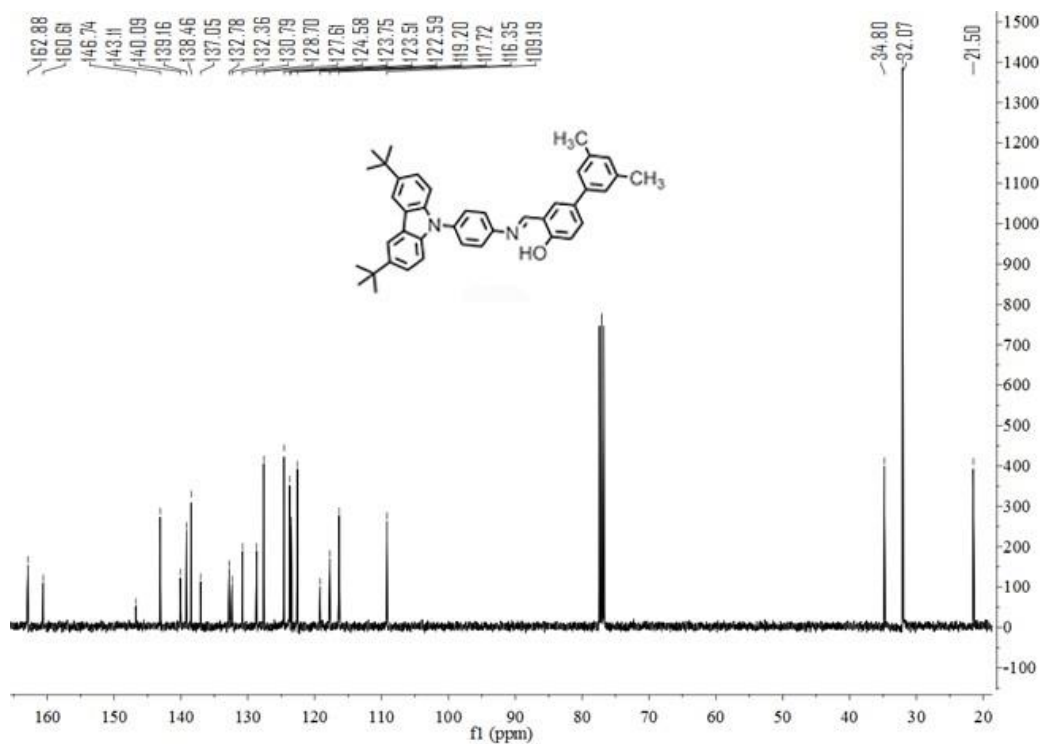
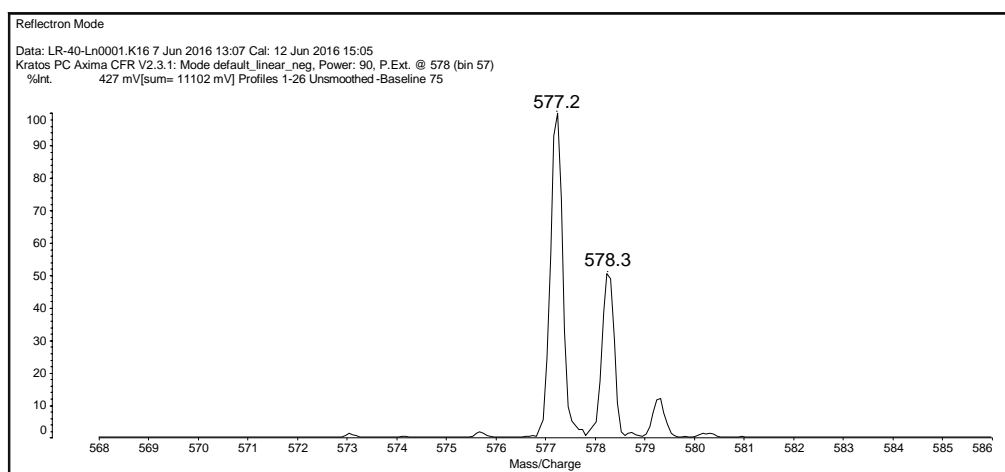


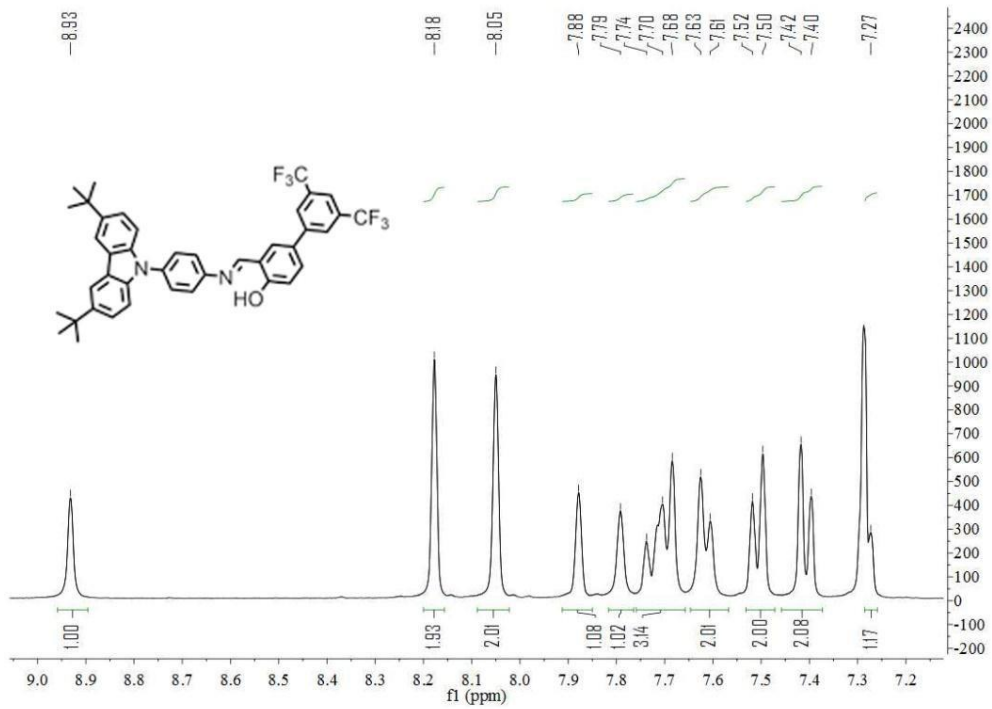
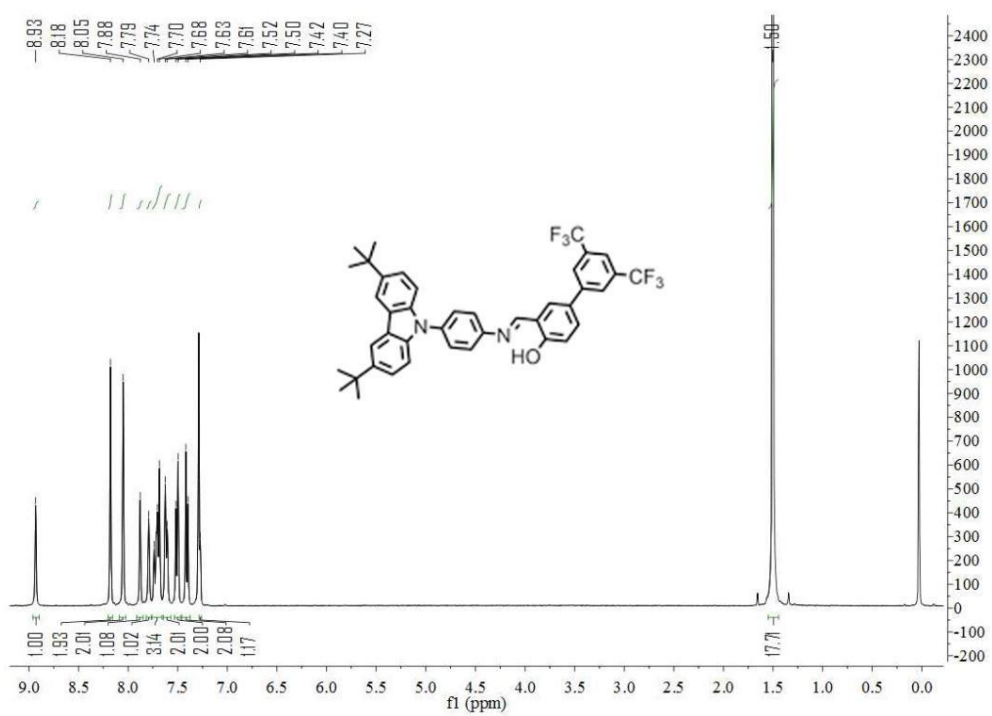
Fig. S16  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of 2a.



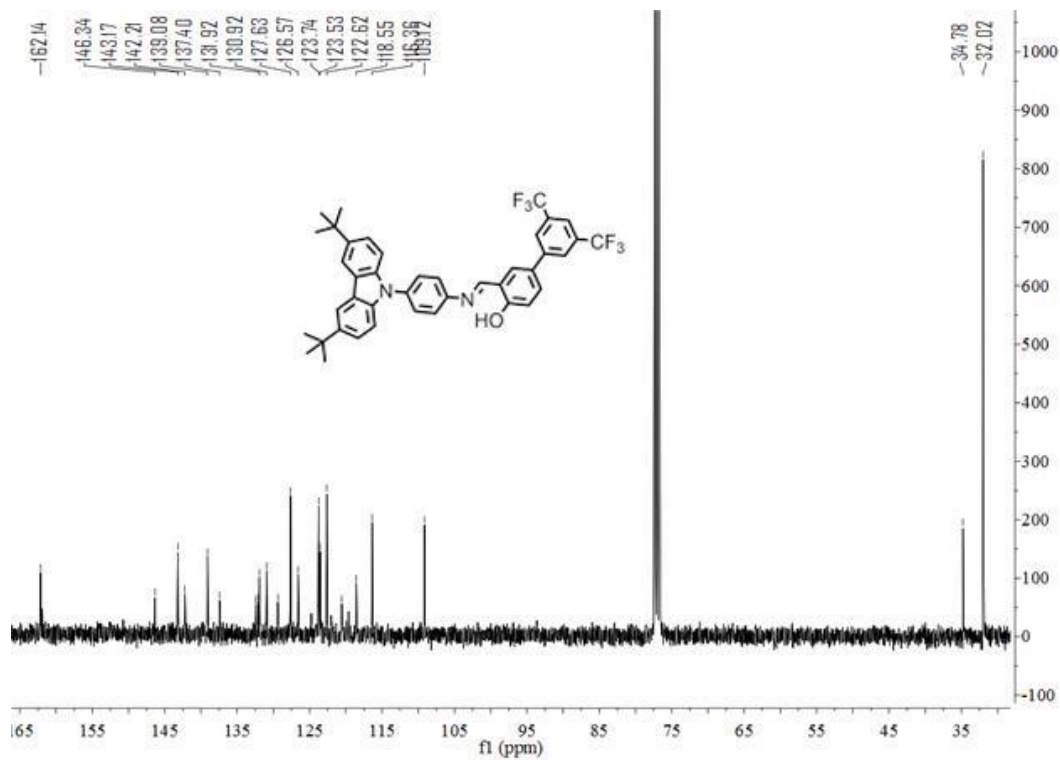
**Fig. S17**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of **2a**.



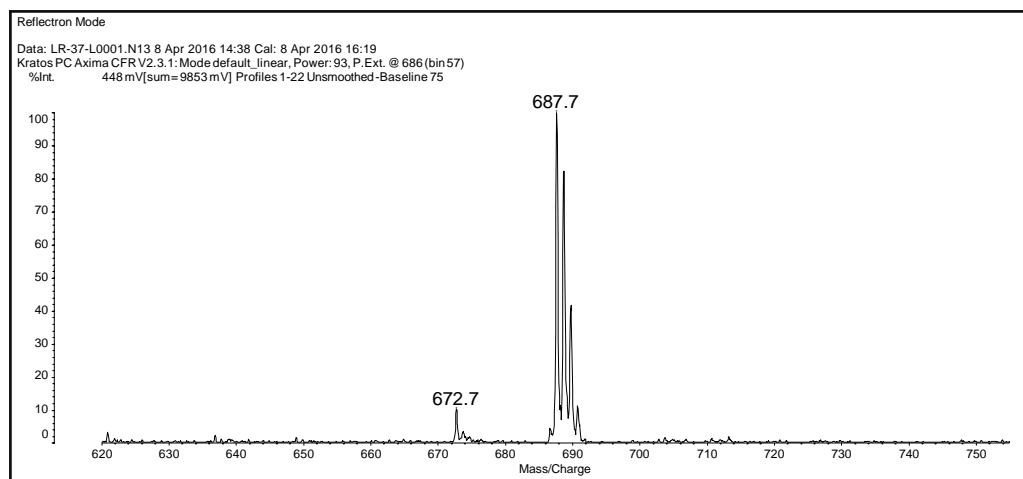
**Fig. S18** MALDI/TOF MS spectrum of **2a**.



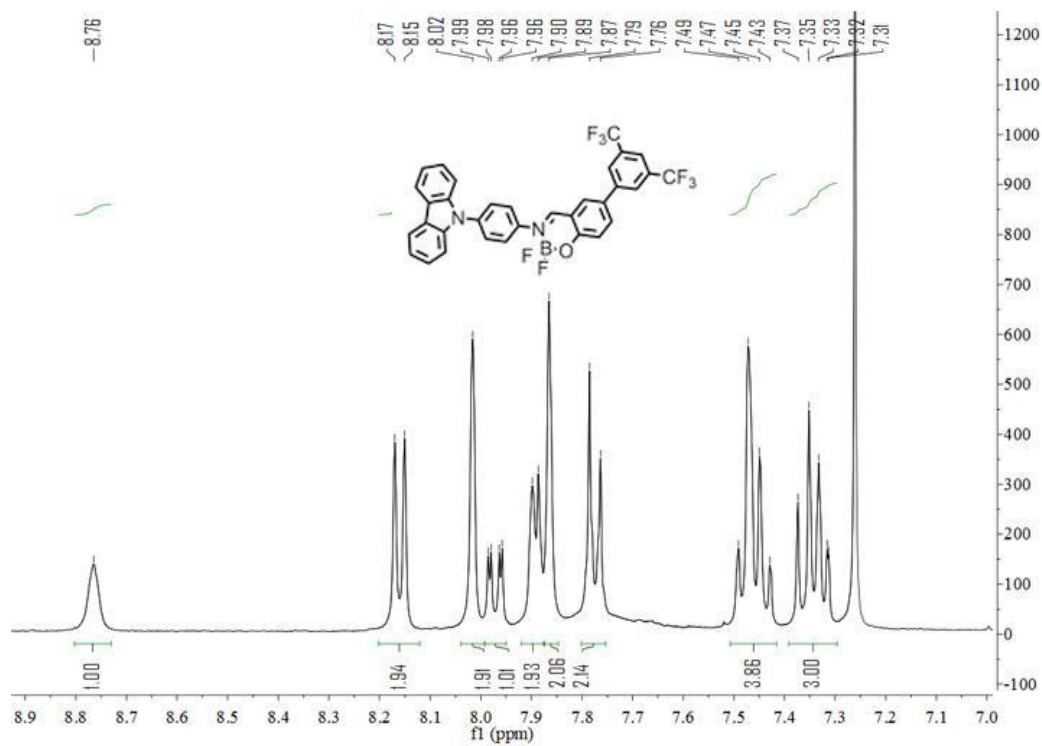
**Fig. S19**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of **3a**.



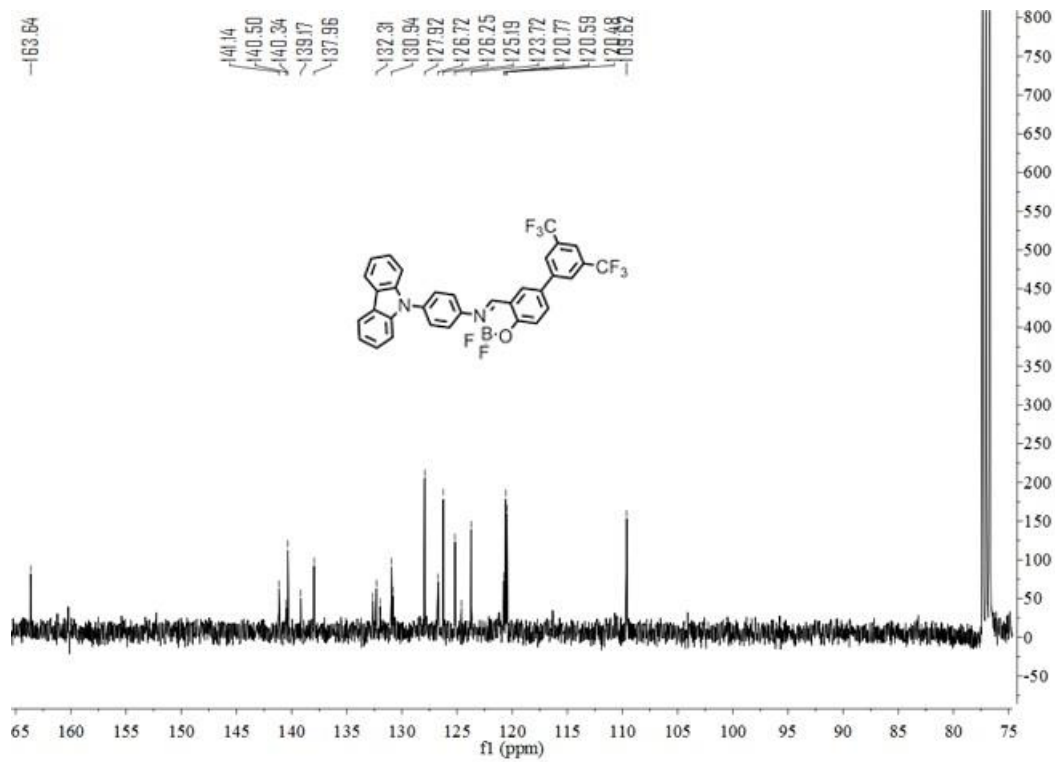
**Fig. S20** <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of **3a**.



**Fig. S21** MALDI/TOF MS spectrum of **3a**.

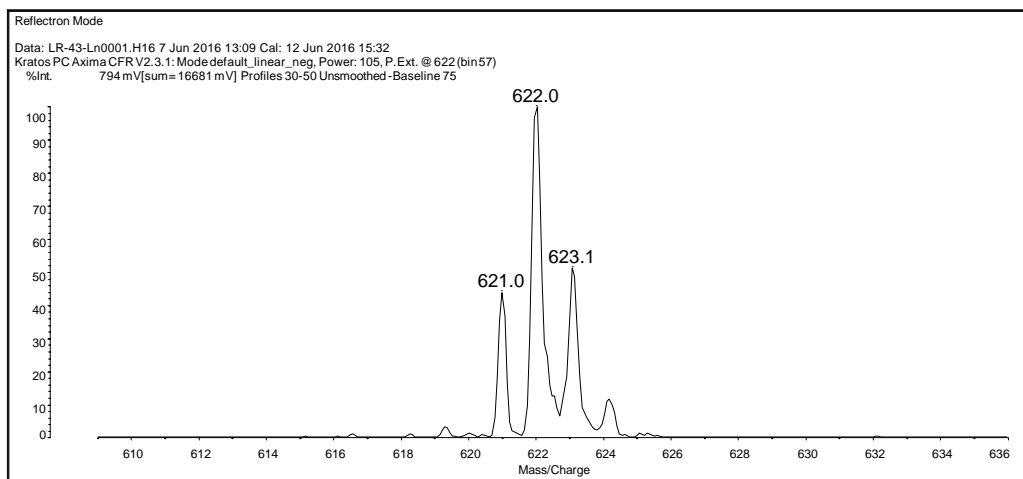


**Fig. S22**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of **1b**.

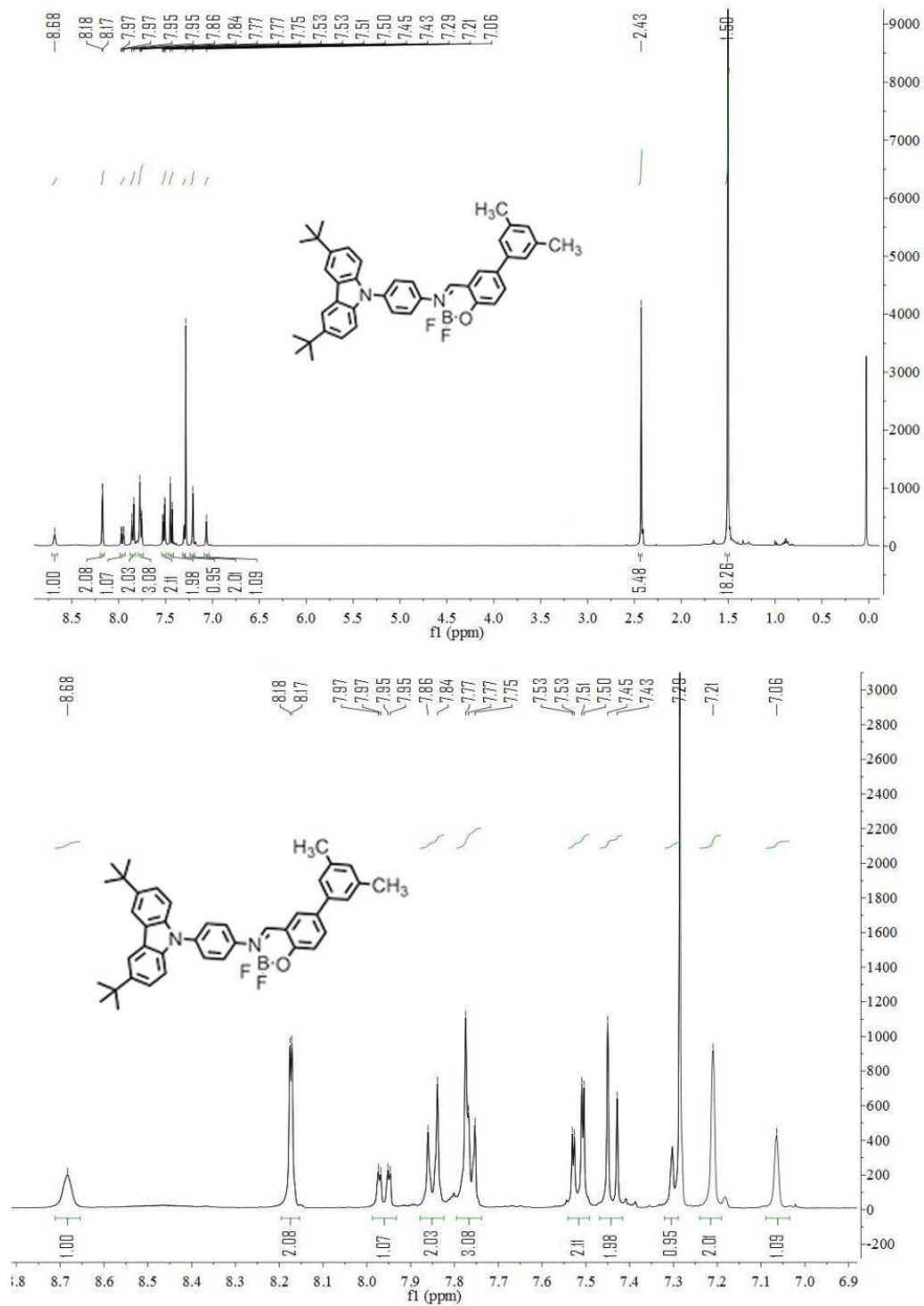


**Fig. S23**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of **1b**.

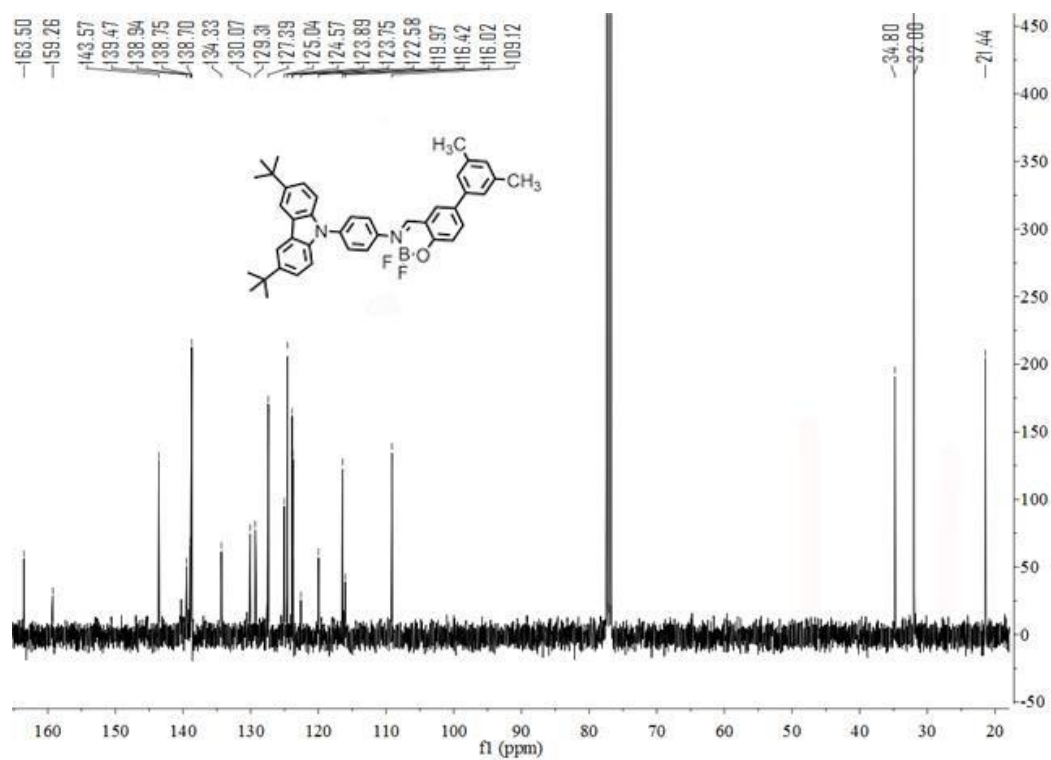




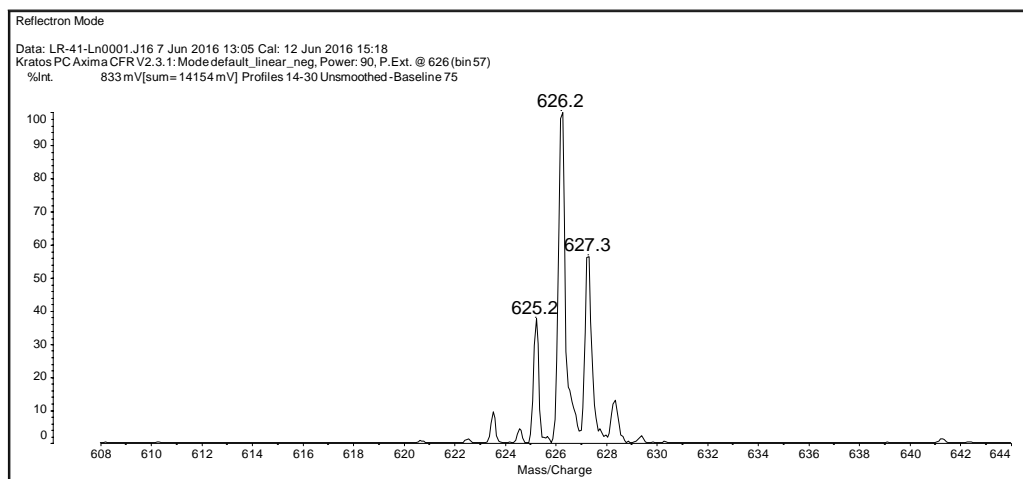
**Fig. S24** MALDI/TOF MS spectrum of **1b**.



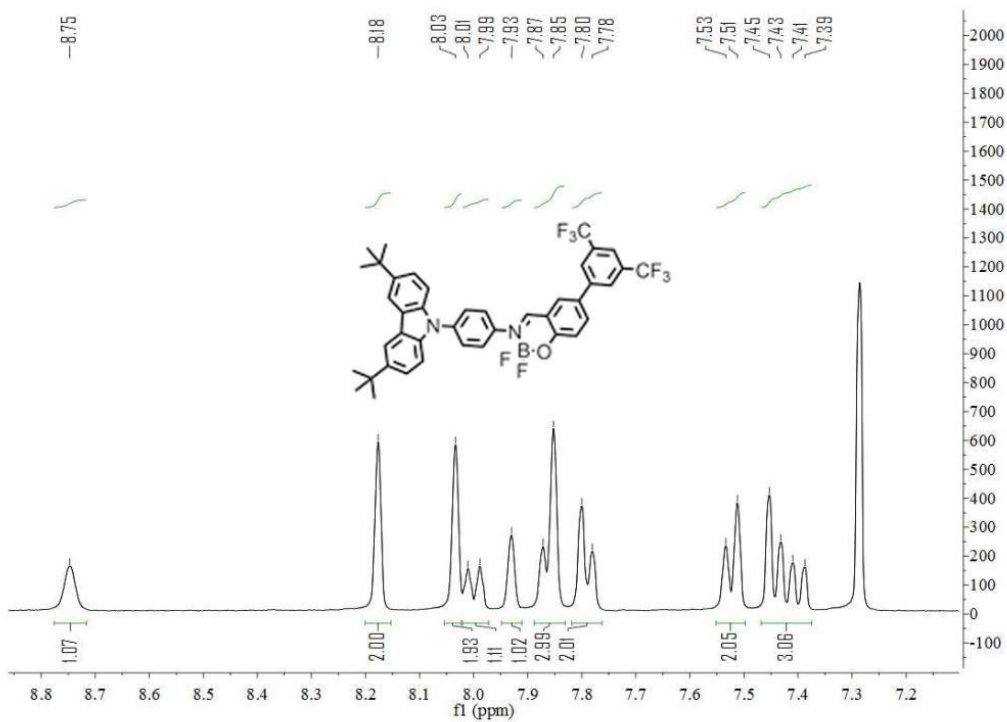
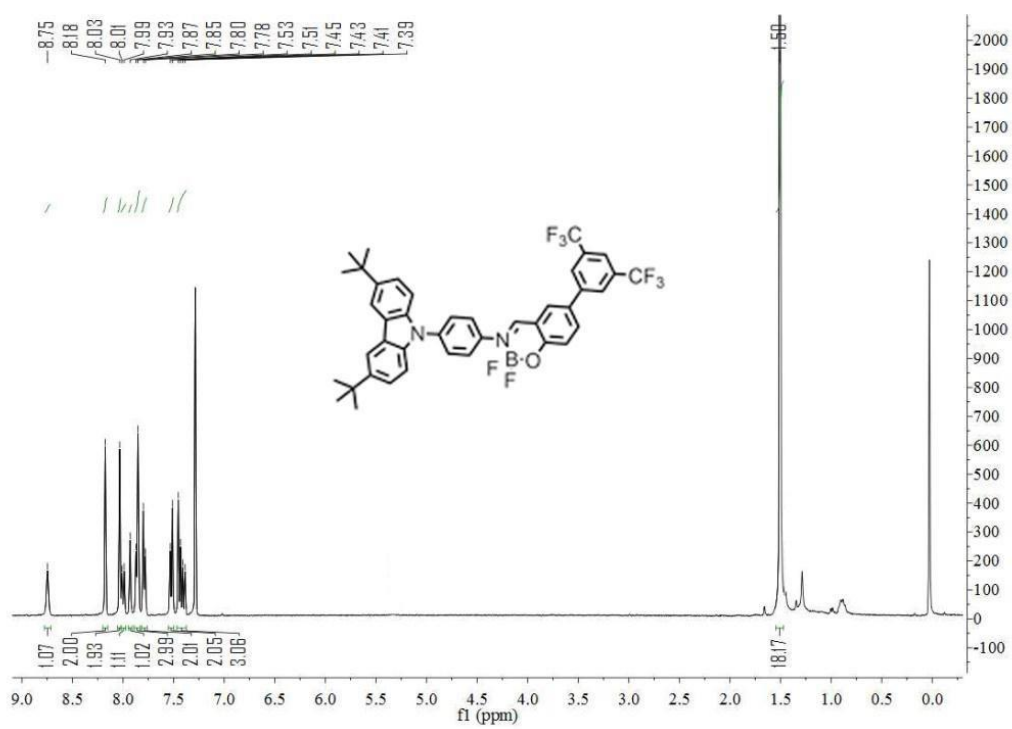
**Fig. S25**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of **2b**.



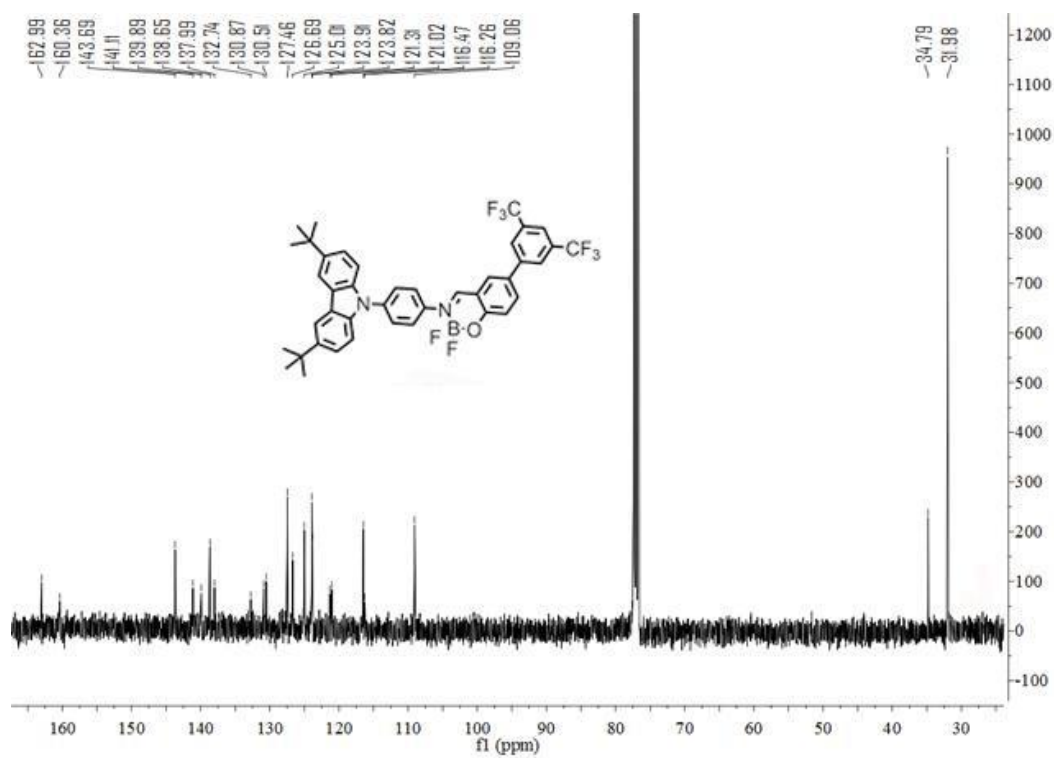
**Fig. S26** <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of **2b**.



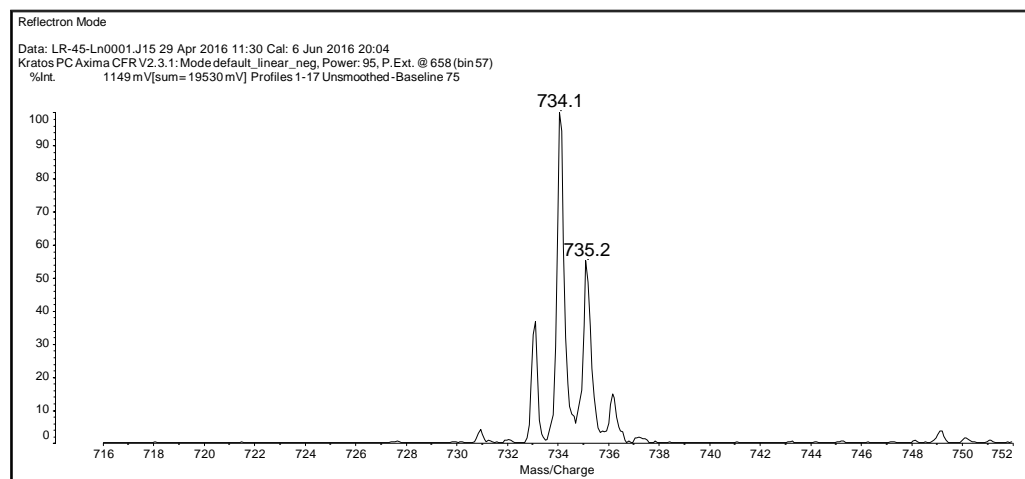
**Fig. S27** MALDI/TOF MS spectrum of **2b**.



**Fig. S28**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) spectrum of **3b**.



**Fig. S29** <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectrum of **3b**.



**Fig. S30** MALDI/TOF MS spectrum of **3b**.