

## Synthesis of Indenophenanthridine *via* [4+2] Annulation Strategy: “Turn-Off” Fe<sup>3+</sup> Ion Sensor, Practical Application in Live Cell Imaging and Reversible Acidochromism Studies†

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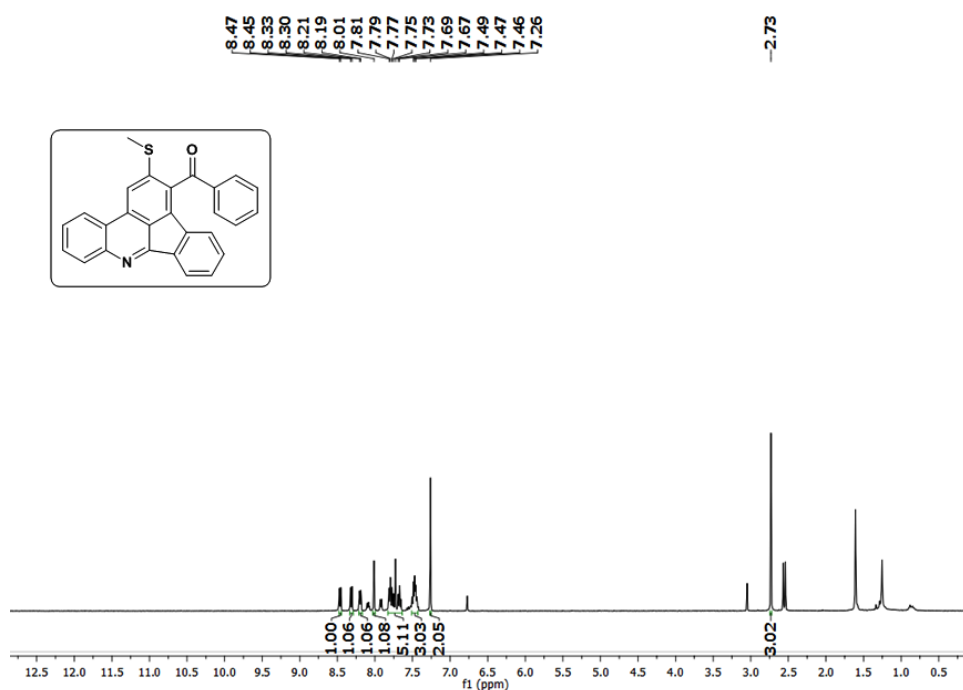


Figure S.1: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound 4a

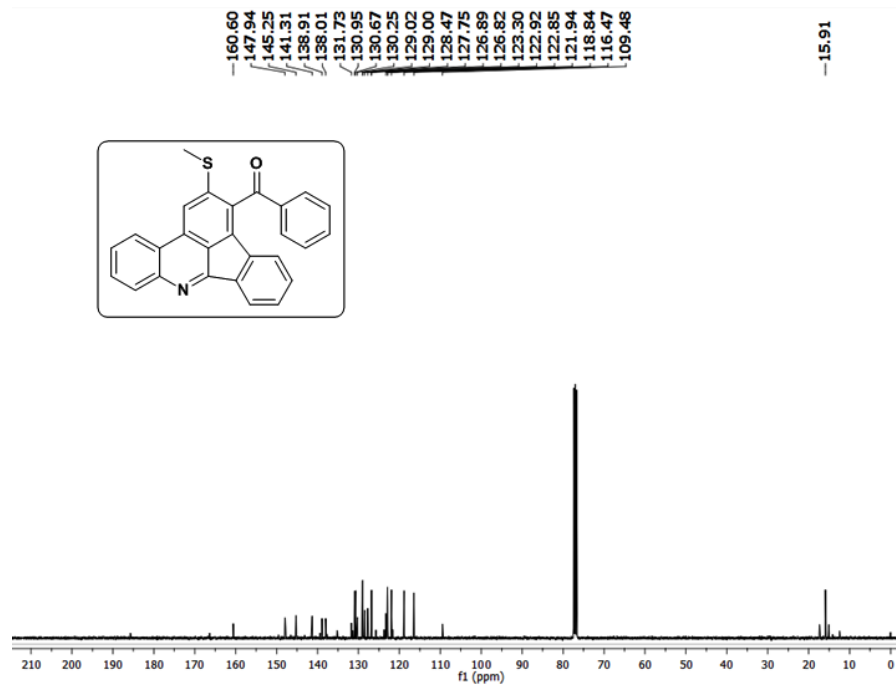


Figure S.2:  $^{13}\text{C}$  spectrum of compound 4a

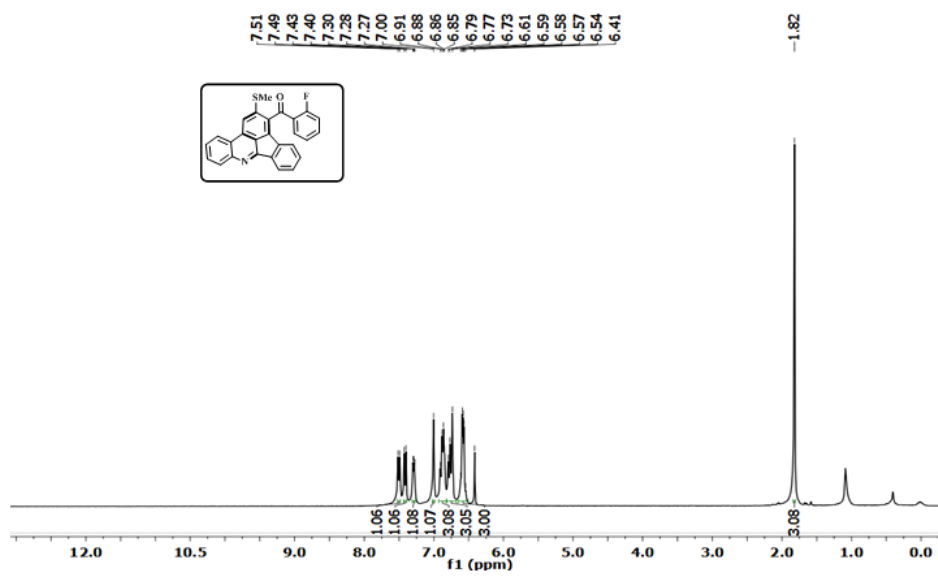


Figure S.3:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound 4b

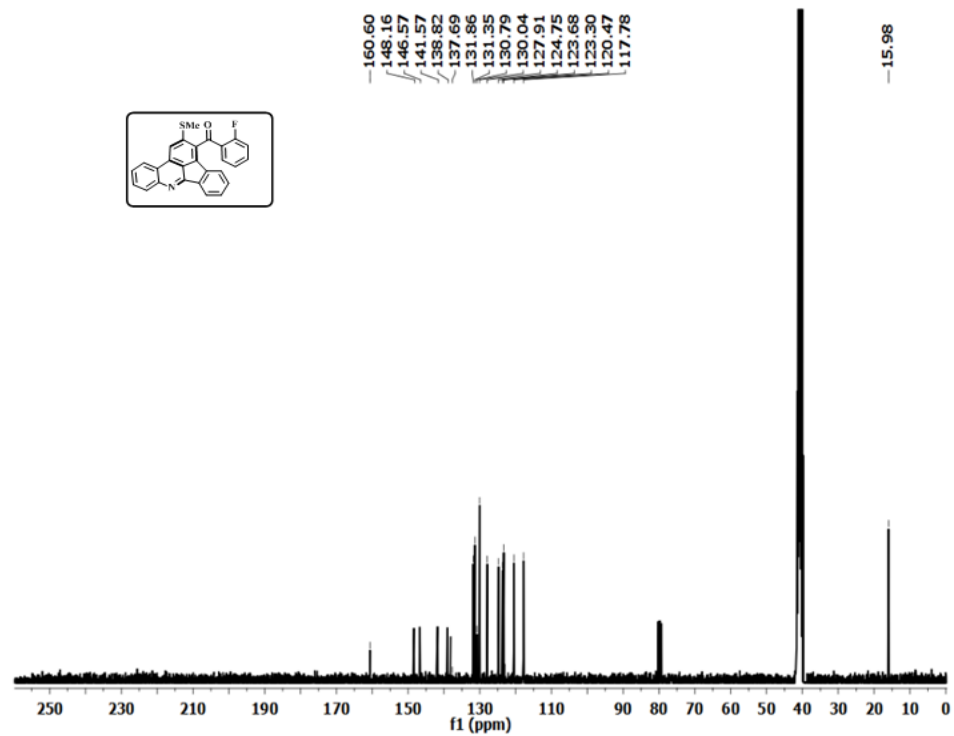


Figure S.4:  $^{13}\text{C}$  spectrum of compound 4b

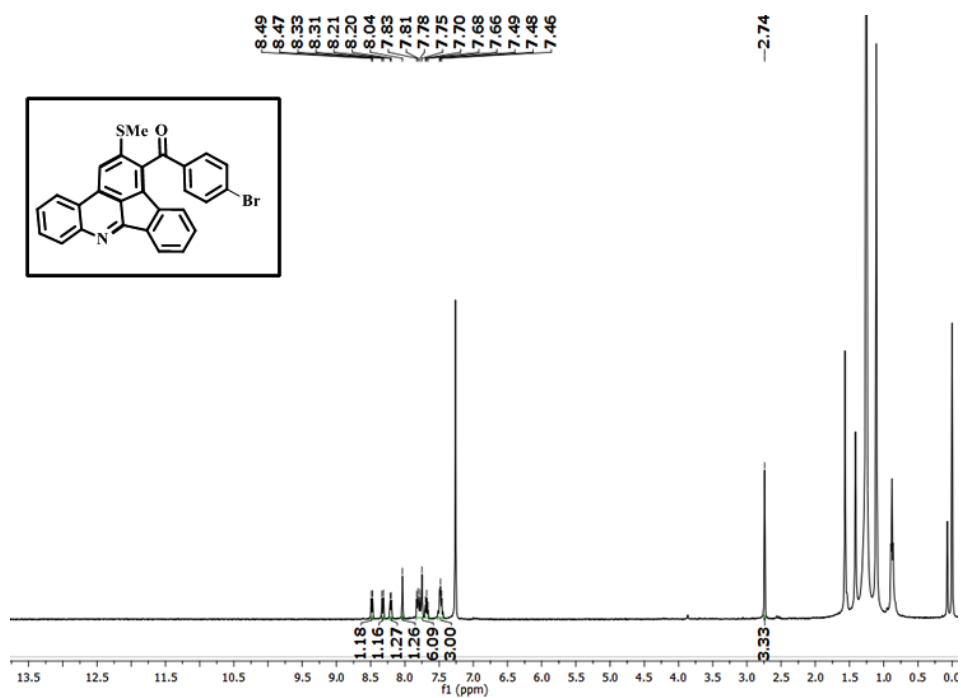


Figure S.5:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound 4c

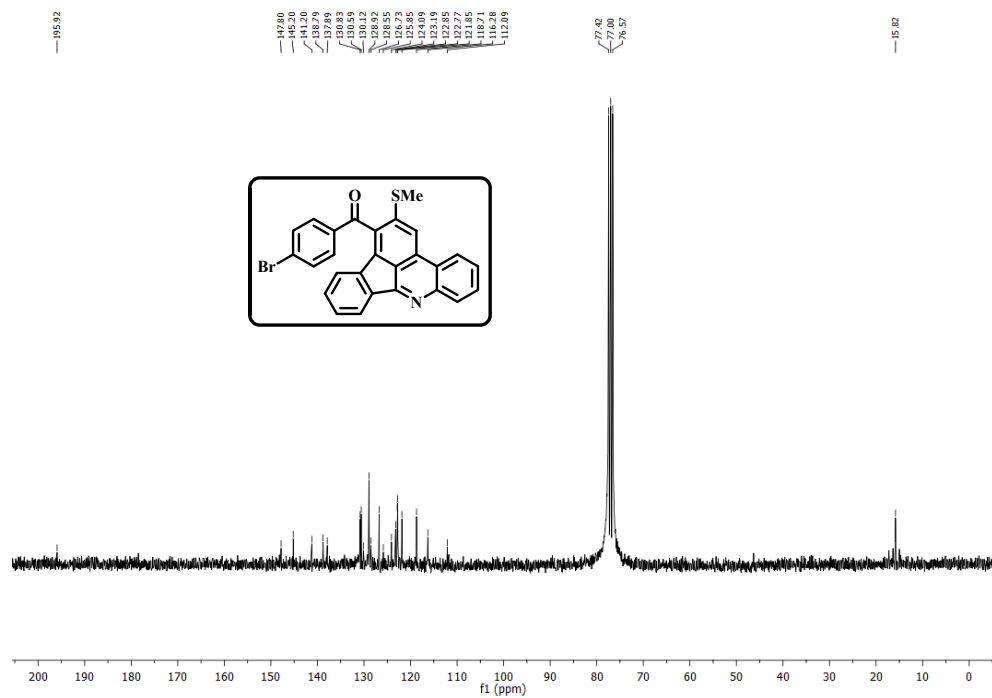


Figure S.6:  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of compounds 4c

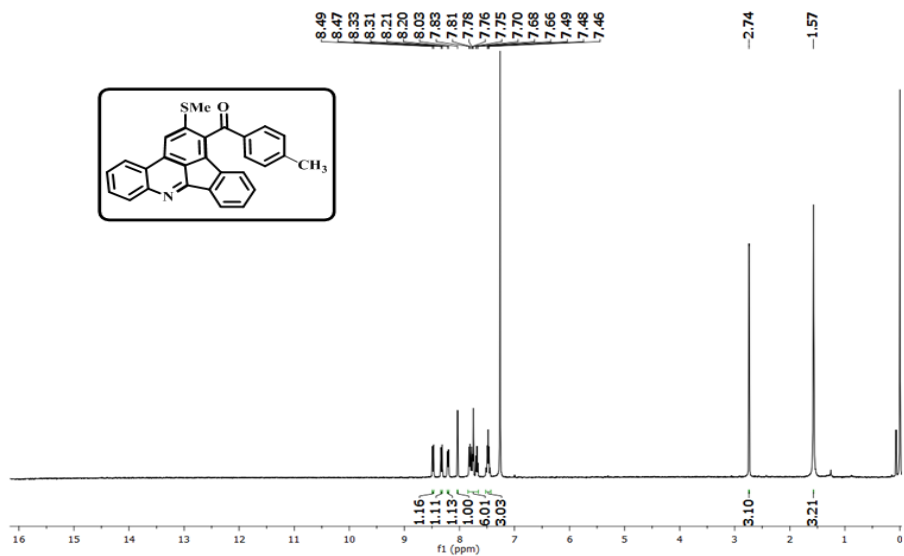


Figure S.7:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound 4d

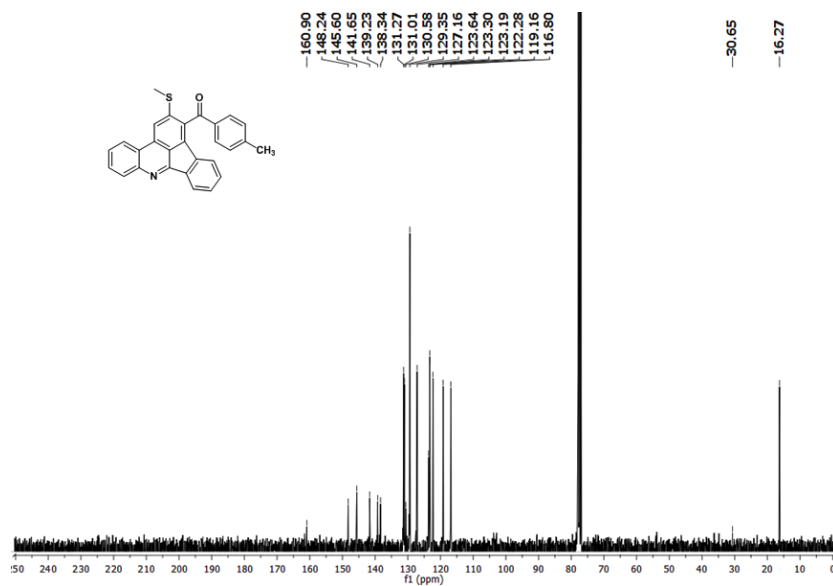


Figure S.8:  $^{13}\text{C}$  spectrum of compound 4d

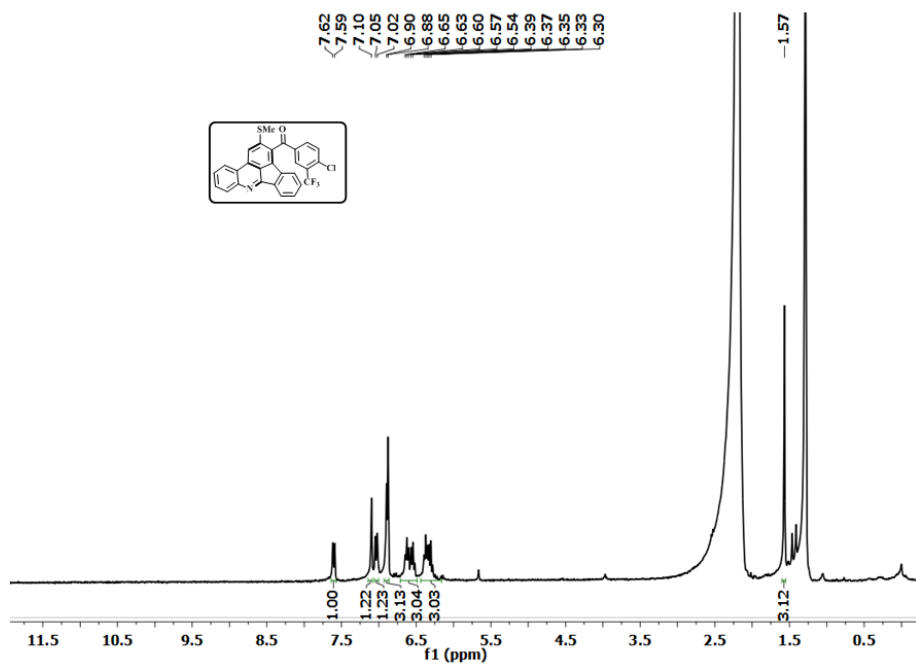


Figure S.9:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound 4e

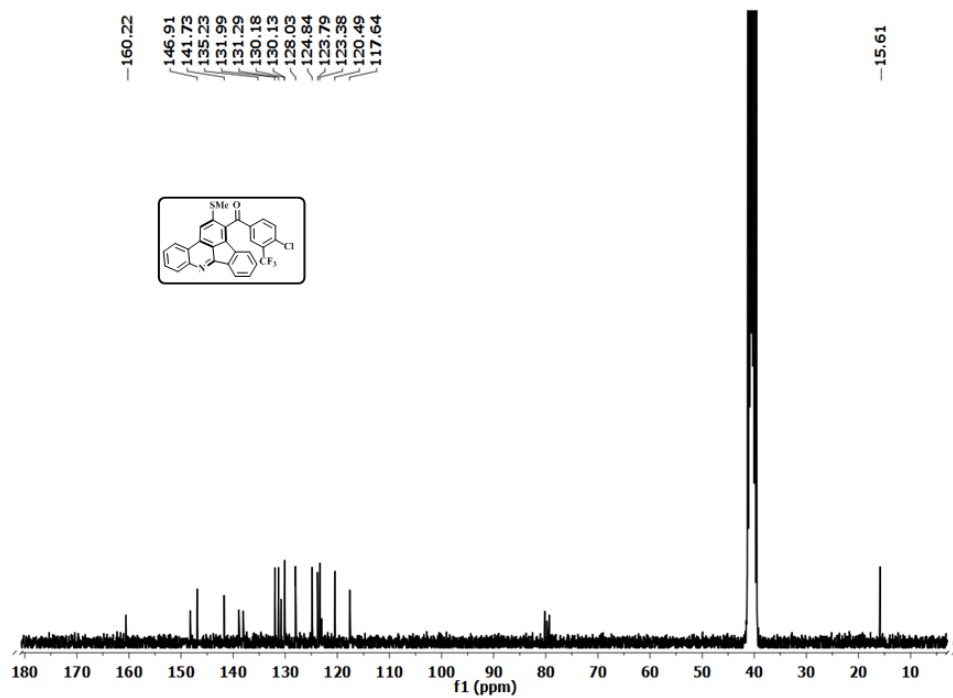


Figure S.10:  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of compound 4e

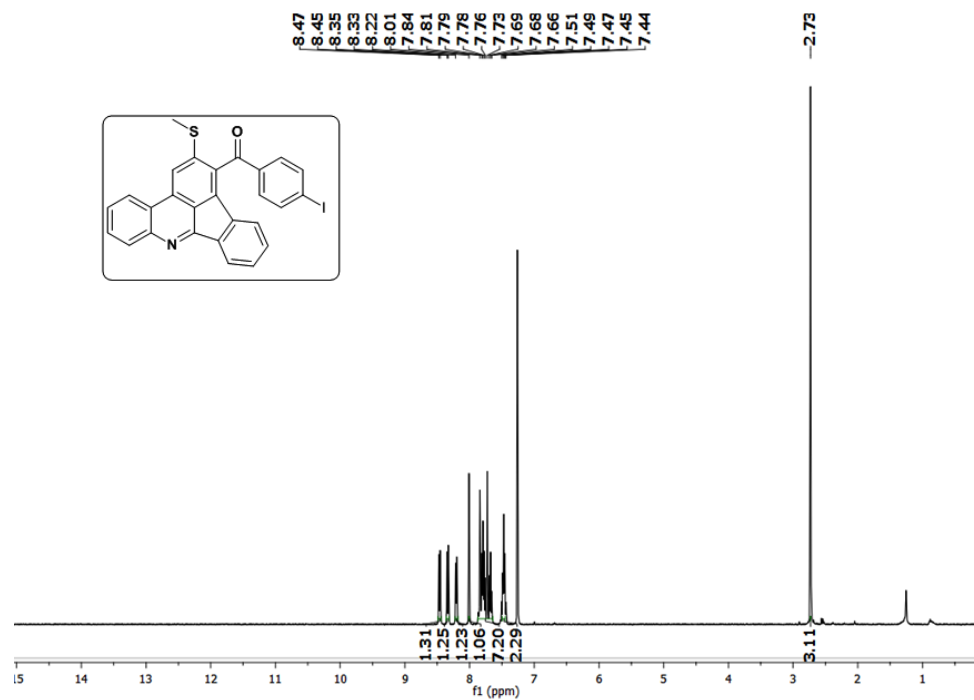


Figure S.11:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound 4f

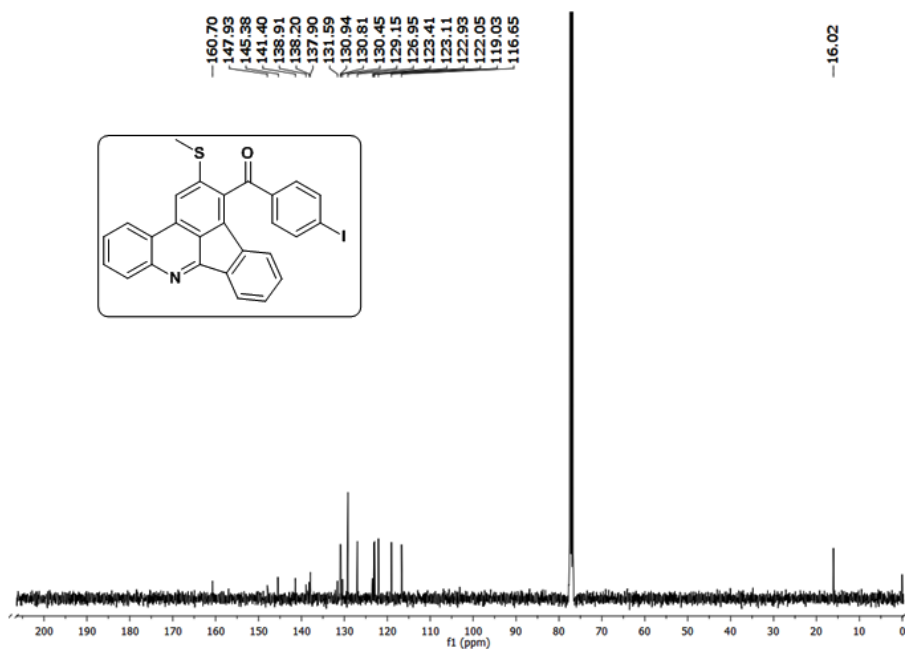


Figure S.12: <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of compound 4f

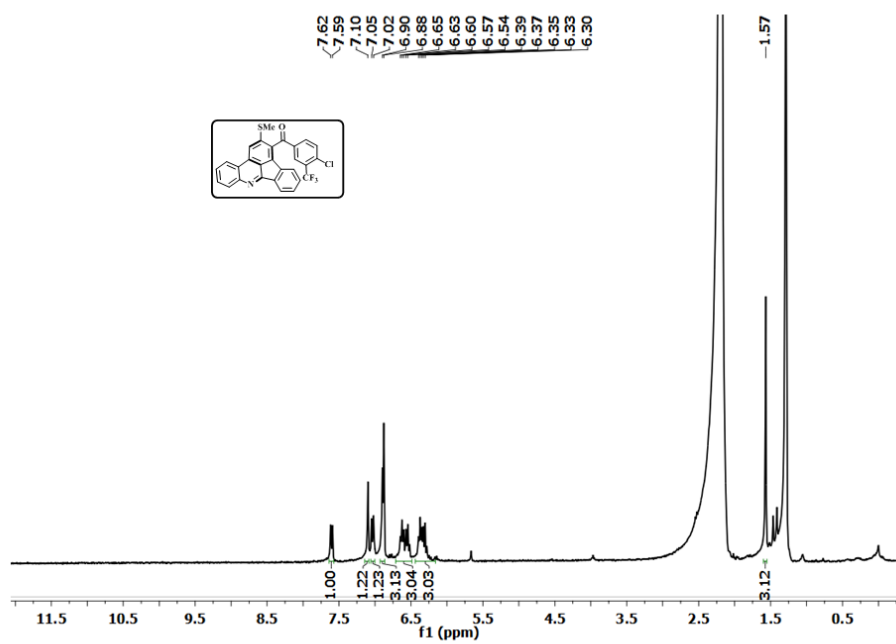


Figure S.13: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound 4g

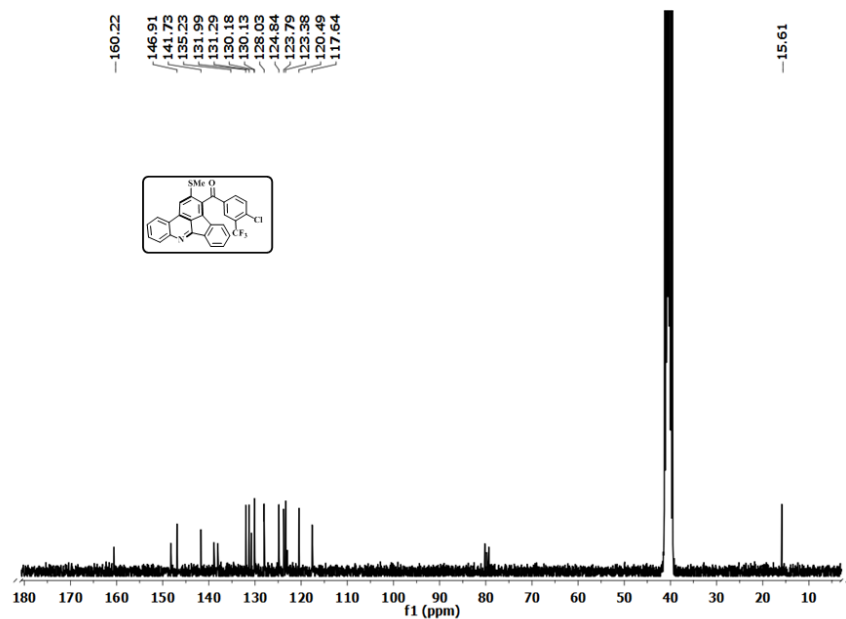


Figure S.14: <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of compound 4g

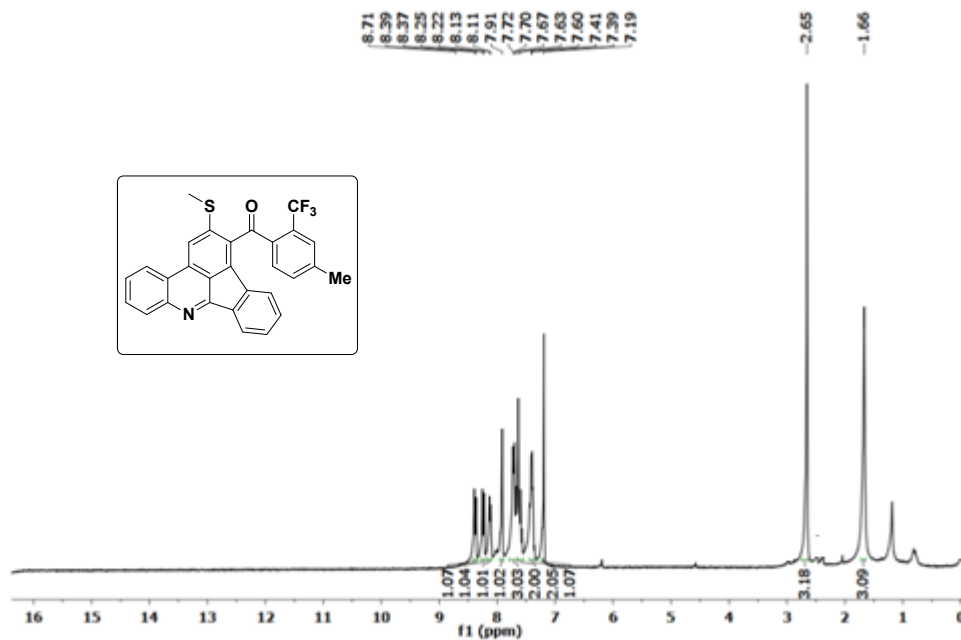


Figure S.15: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound 4h



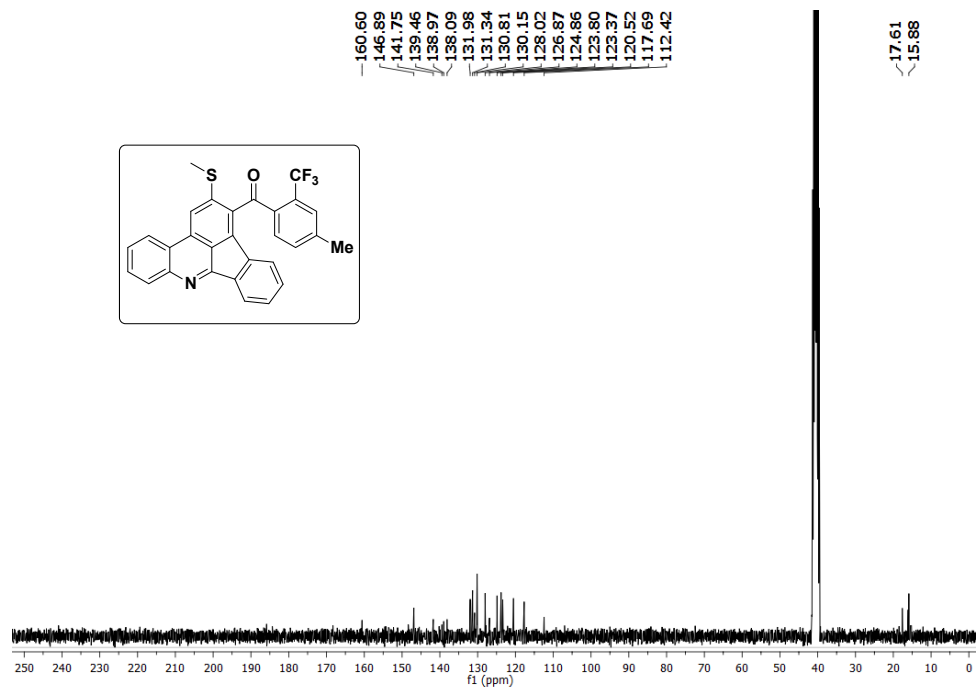


Figure S.16: <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of compound 4h

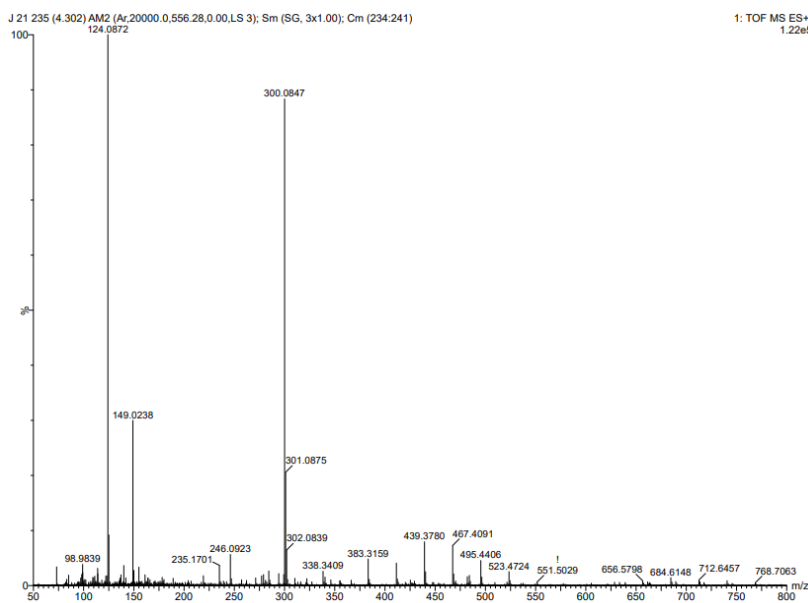


Figure S.17: HRMS spectrum of compound 4a

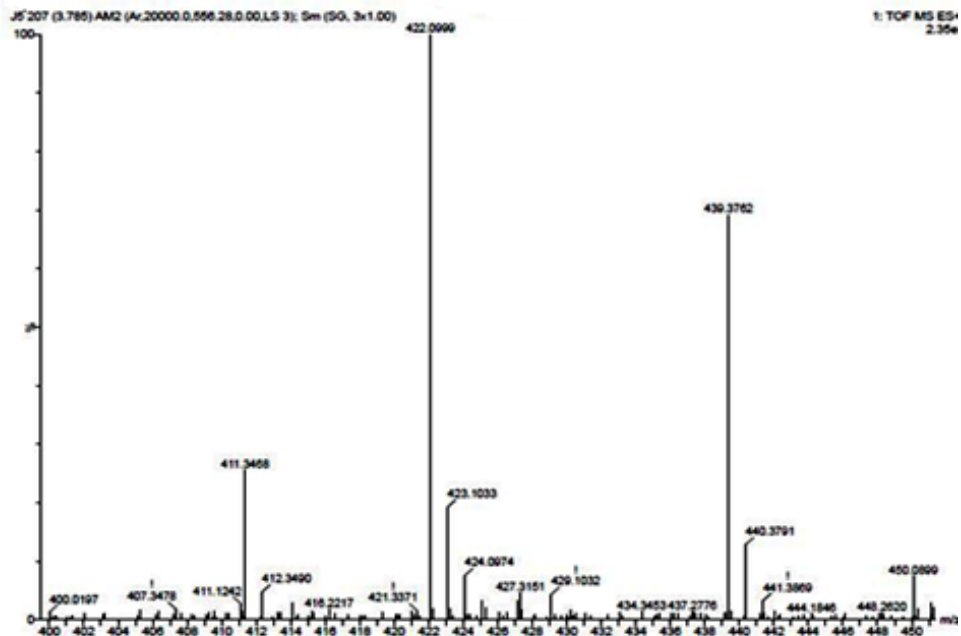


Figure S.18: HRMS spectrum of compound 4b

1A1 #13 RT: 0.16 AV: 1 NL: 7.67E4  
T: ITMS + c ESI Full ms [50.00-1000.00]

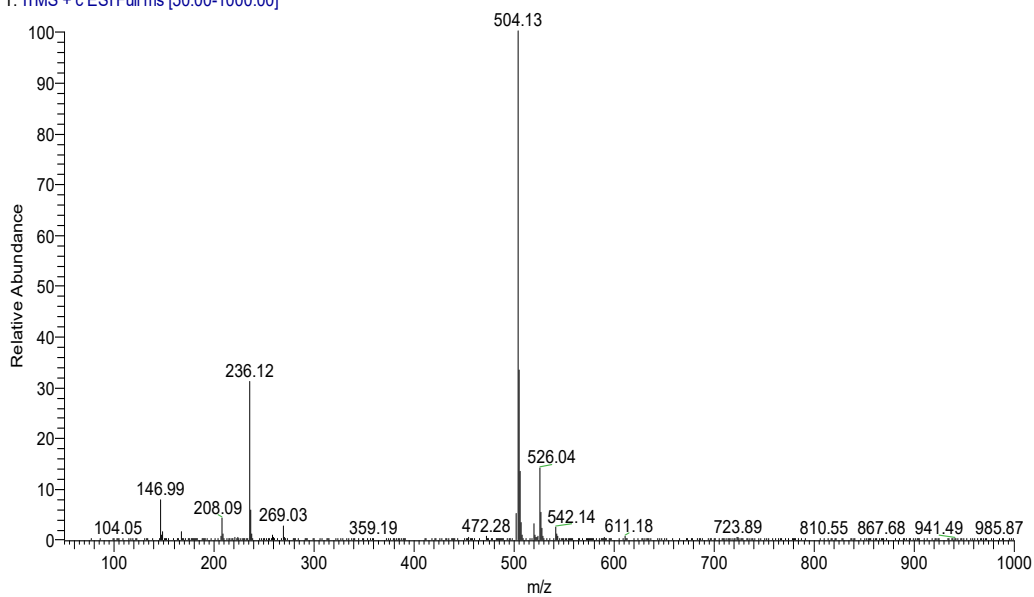


Figure S.19: ESI-MS spectrum of compound 4c

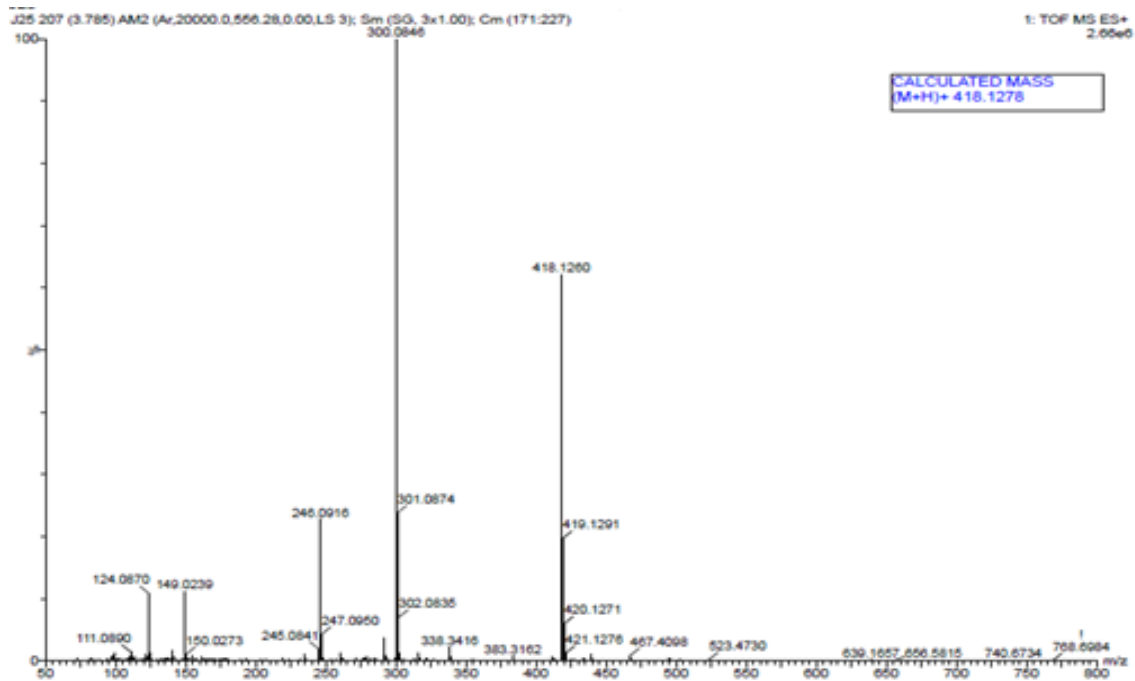


Figure S.20: HRMS spectrum of compound 4d

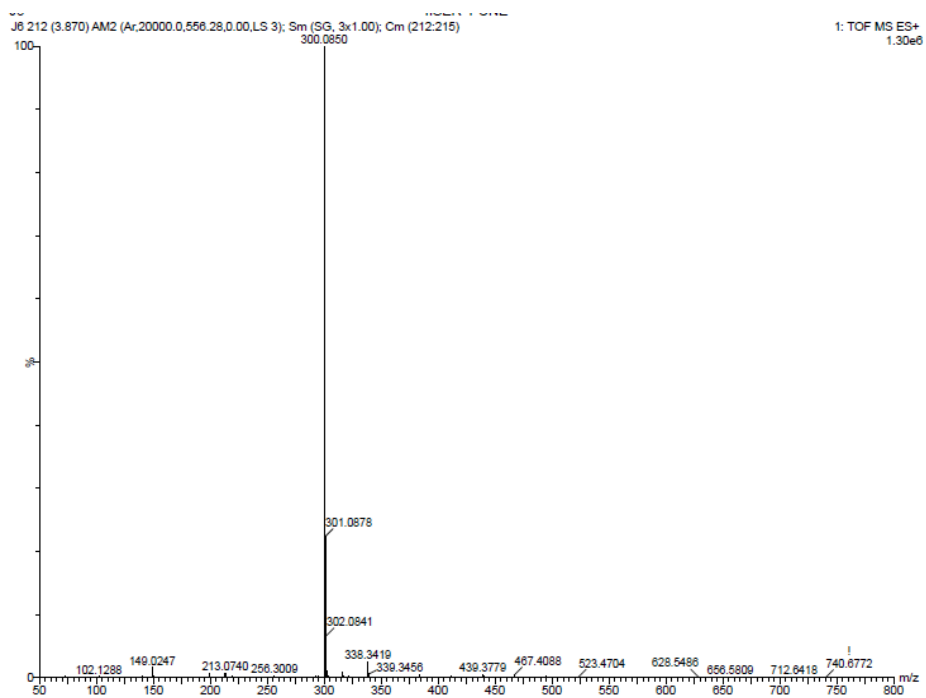


Figure S.21: HRMS spectrum of compound 4e

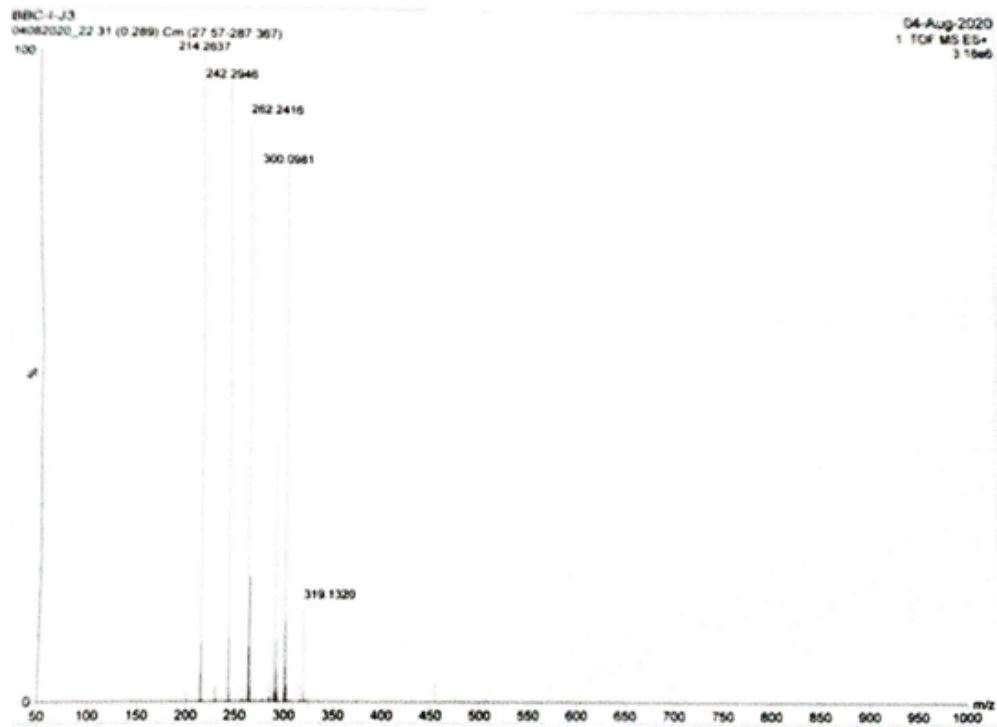


Figure S.22: HRMS spectrum of compound 4f

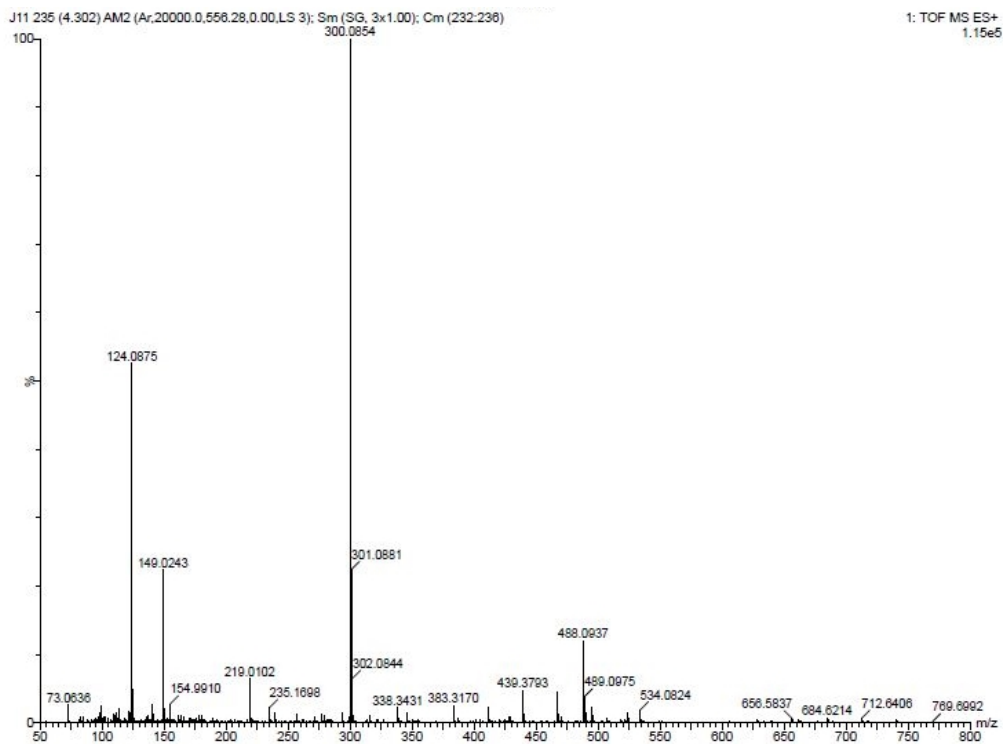
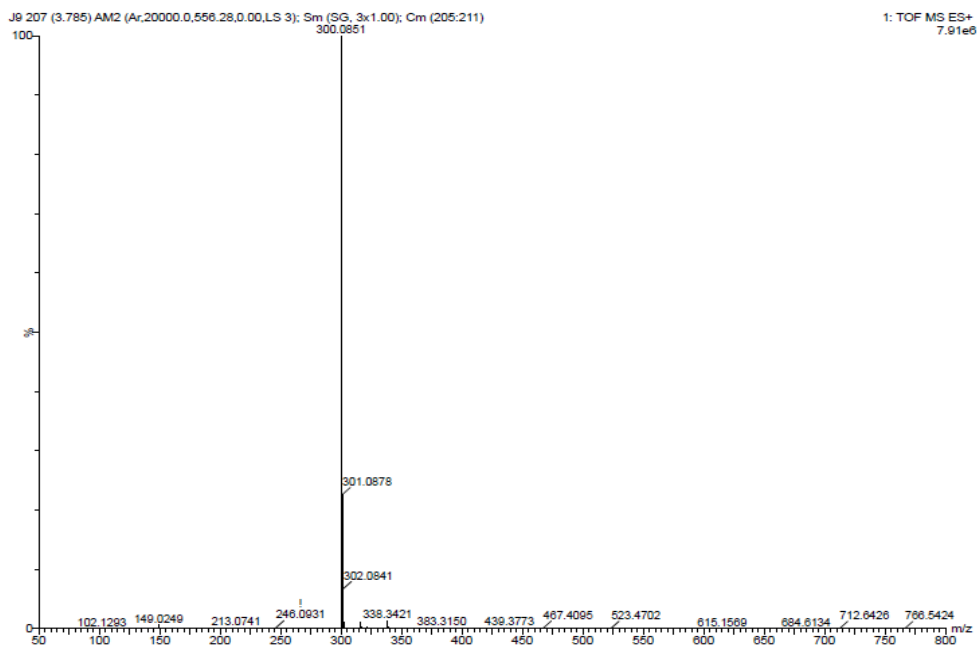
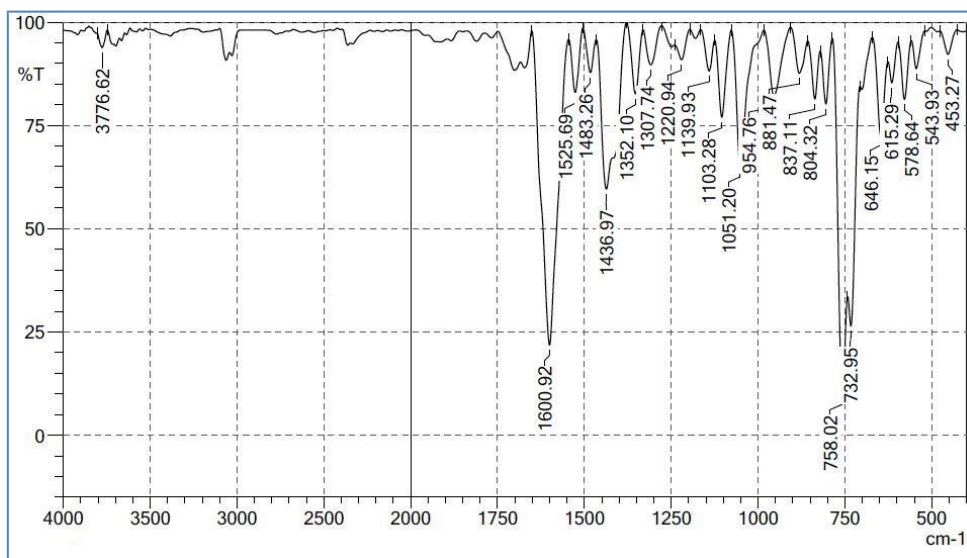


Figure S.23: HRMS spectrum of compound 4g



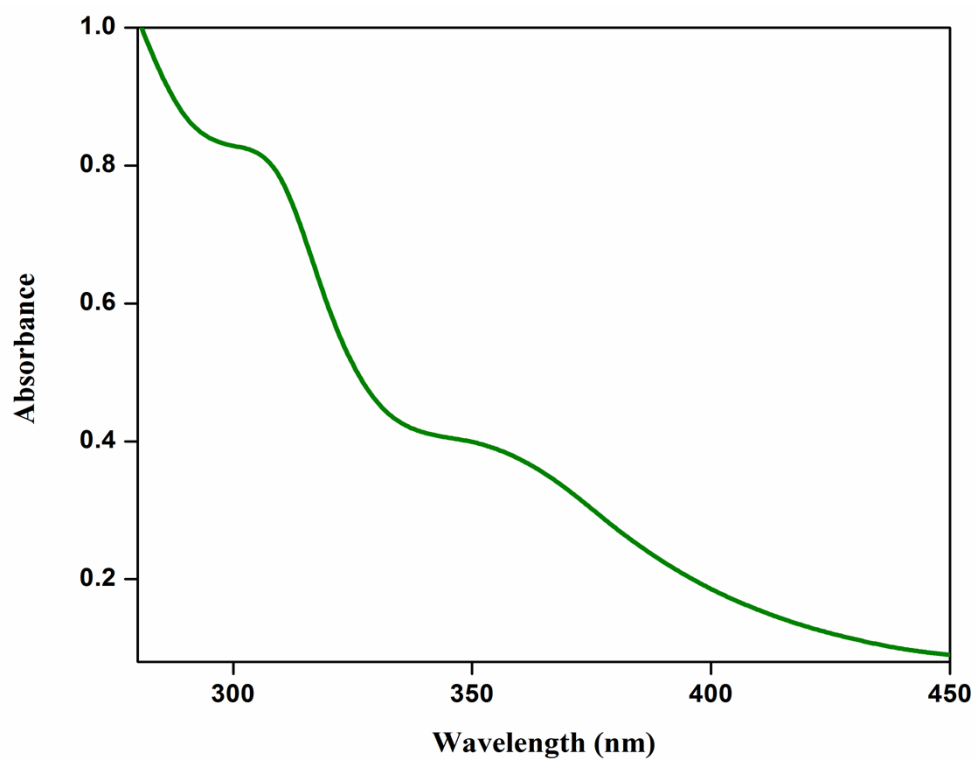
**Figure S.24: HRMS spectrum of compound 4h**



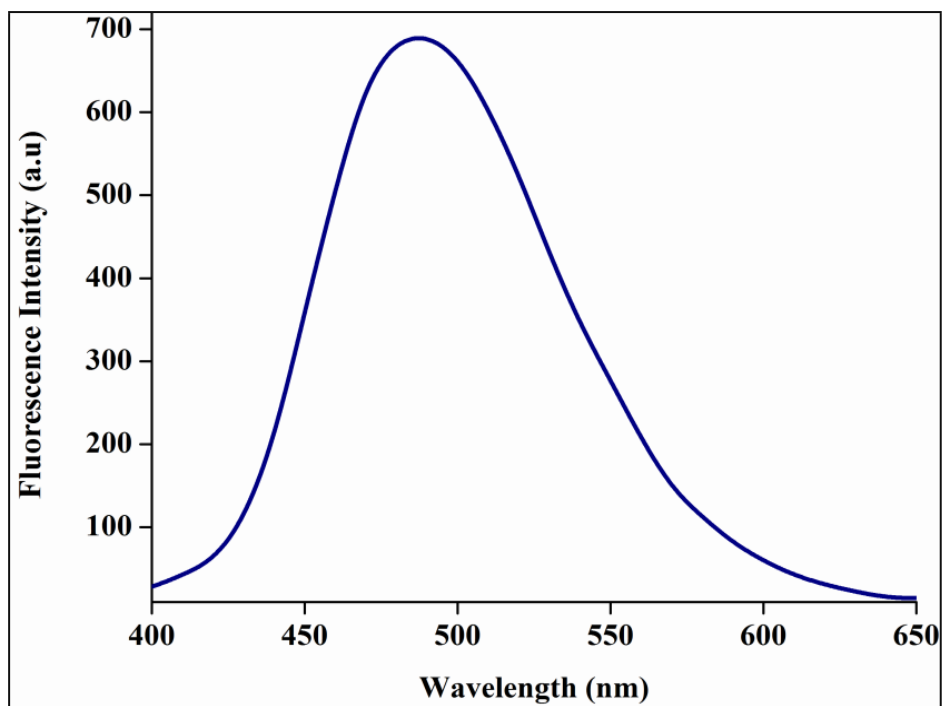
**Figure S.25: IR Spectrum of compound 4b**

**Table S.1:** Relative quantum yield of compound 4a- h

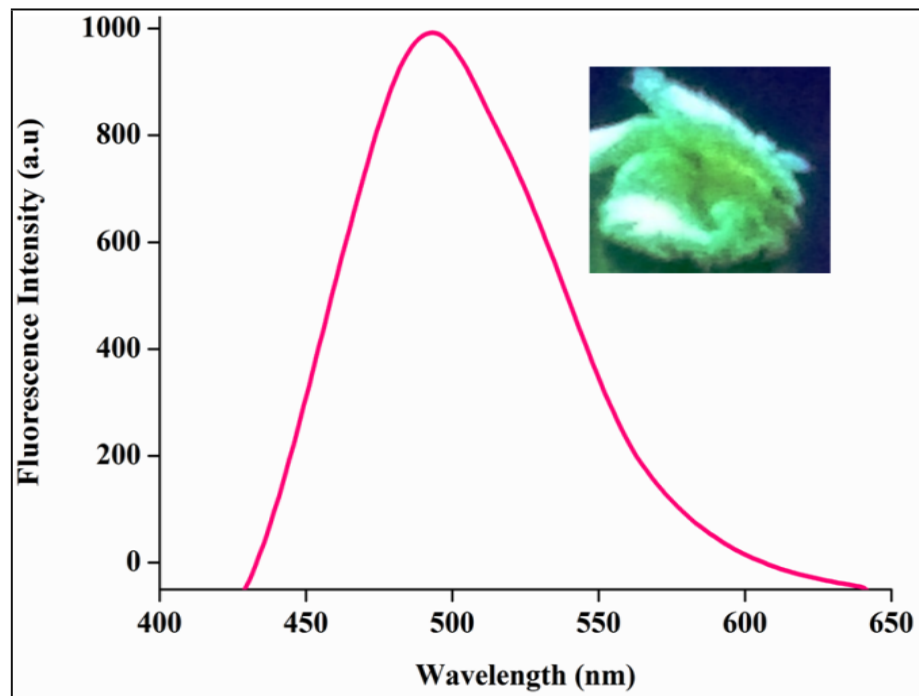
| Entry | Compound | Quantum yield $\Phi_S$ (%) |
|-------|----------|----------------------------|
| 1.    | 4a       | 0.17                       |
| 2.    | 4b       | 0.23                       |
| 3.    | 4c       | 0.13                       |
| 4.    | 4d       | 0.08                       |
| 5.    | 4e       | 0.20                       |
| 6.    | 4f       | 0.13                       |
| 7.    | 4g       | 0.22                       |
| 8.    | 4h       | 0.12                       |



**Figure S.26:** UV spectra of compound **4b** ( $1 \times 10^{-5} \text{M}$ ) in DMSO

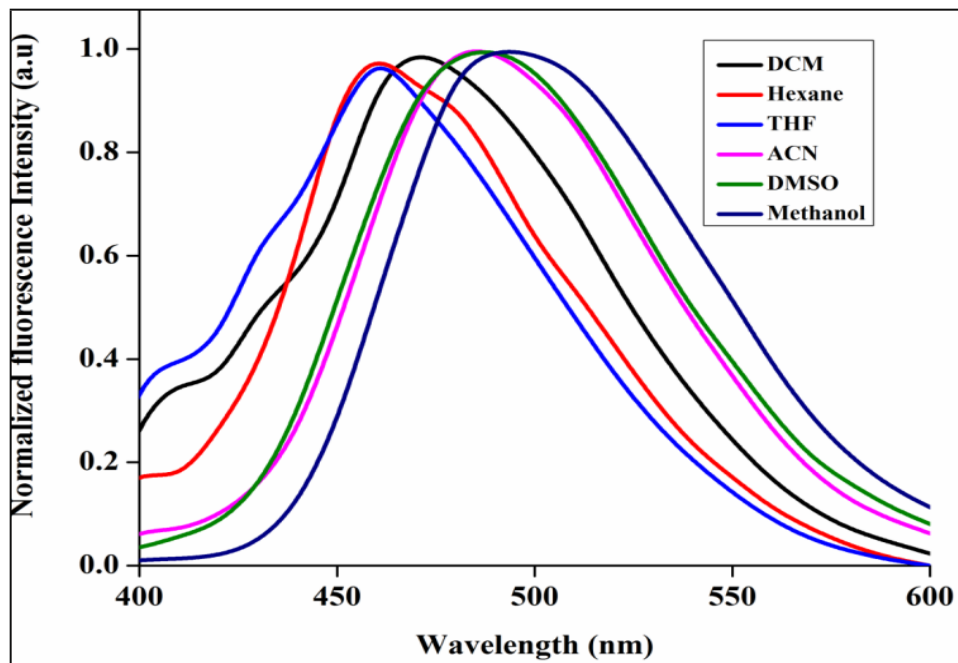


**Figure S.27:** Emission spectrum of **4b** ( $1 \times 10^{-5} \text{M}$ ) in DMSO



**Figure S.28:** Solid state emission spectrum of compound **4b**





**Figure S.29:** Emission spectrum of compound **4b** in various solvents

**Table S.2:** Solvatochromism studies results

| S.No. | Solvent list | $\lambda_{UV\ max}$ (nm) | $\epsilon$ ( $M^{-1}cm^{-1}$ ) | $\lambda_{PL\ max}$ (nm) | Stokes shift $cm^{-1}$ & eV |
|-------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1.    | Hexane       | 310                      | 32000                          | 460                      | 19,518.93, (1.30)           |
| 2.    | CAN          | 310                      | 61000                          | 480                      | 11,424.73, (1.41)           |
| 3.    | THF          | 310                      | 64000                          | 470                      | 10,981.47, (1.36)           |
| 4.    | DCM          | 310                      | 68000                          | 470                      | 10,981.47, (1.36)           |
| 5.    | DMSO         | 310                      | 84000                          | 480                      | 11,424.73, (1.41)           |
| 6.    | MeOH         | 310                      | 61000                          | 500                      | 12,258.06, (1.51)           |

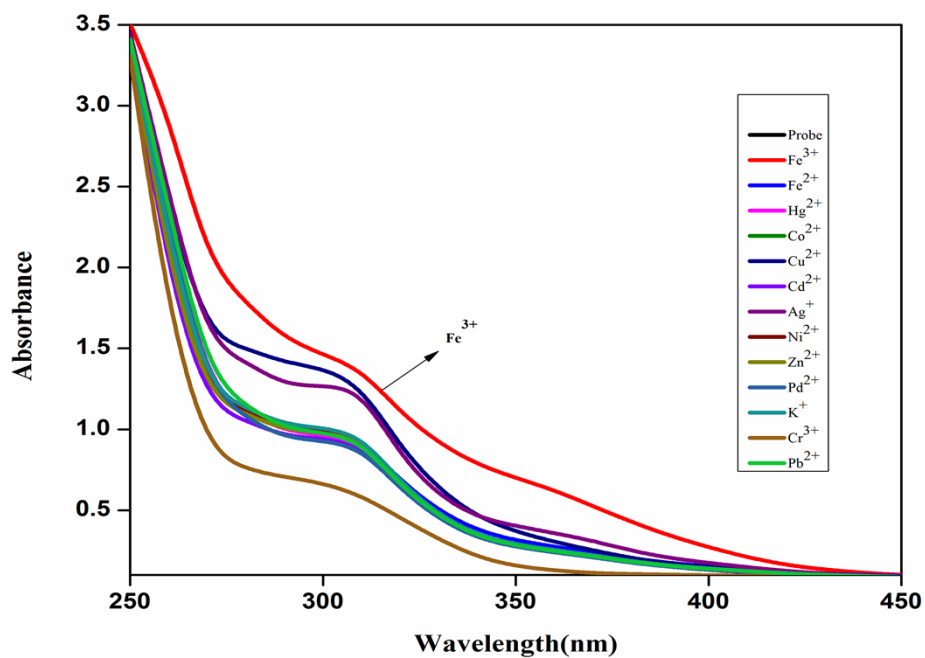


Figure S.30: UV-Vis spectra of **4b** ( $2 \times 10^{-5}$  M) in different metal cations (150  $\mu$ l)

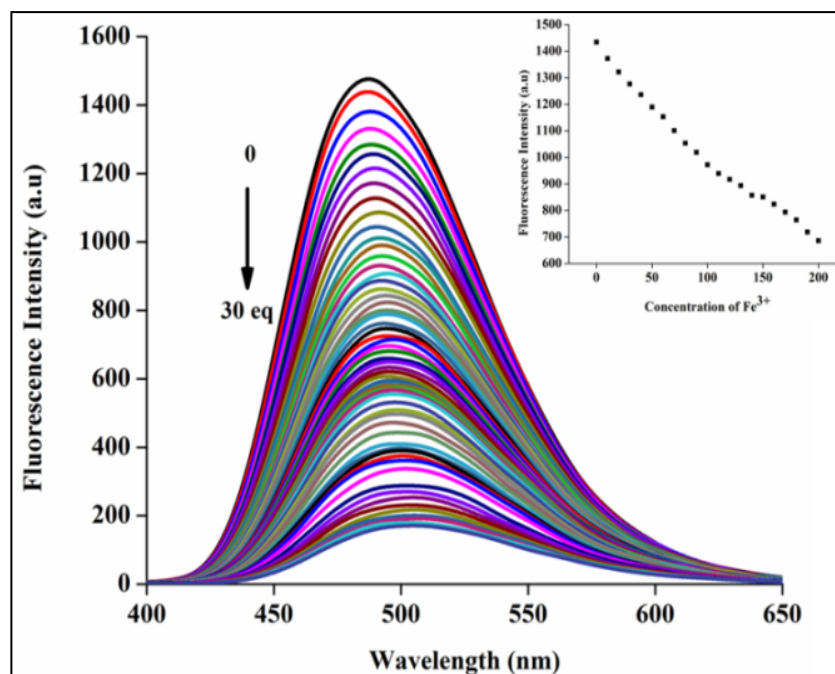


Figure S.31: Emission spectra of **4b** ( $2 \times 10^{-5}$  M) in various concentrations of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  (0-300  $\mu$ l) in DMSO and (inset) plot of P.L intensity vs metal ion concentration.

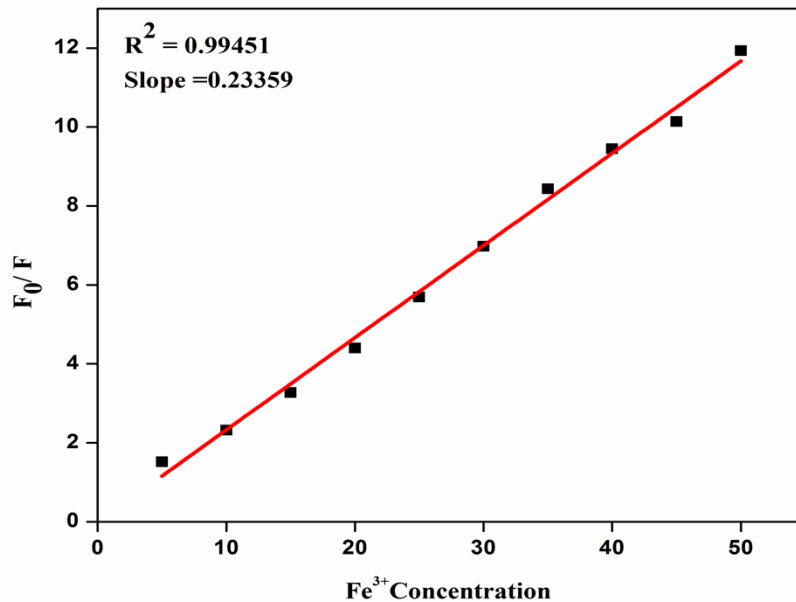


Figure S.32: Stern-Volmer plot for **4b** with Fe<sup>3+</sup> in DMSO

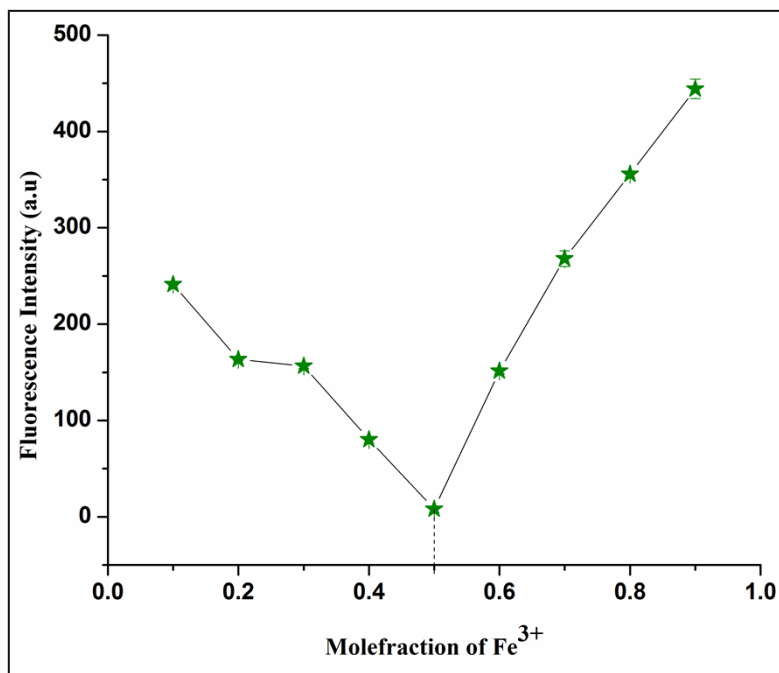
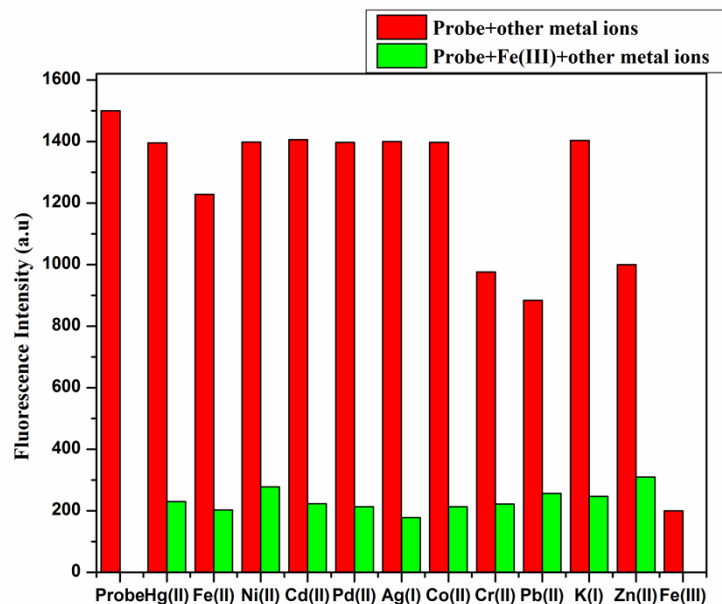
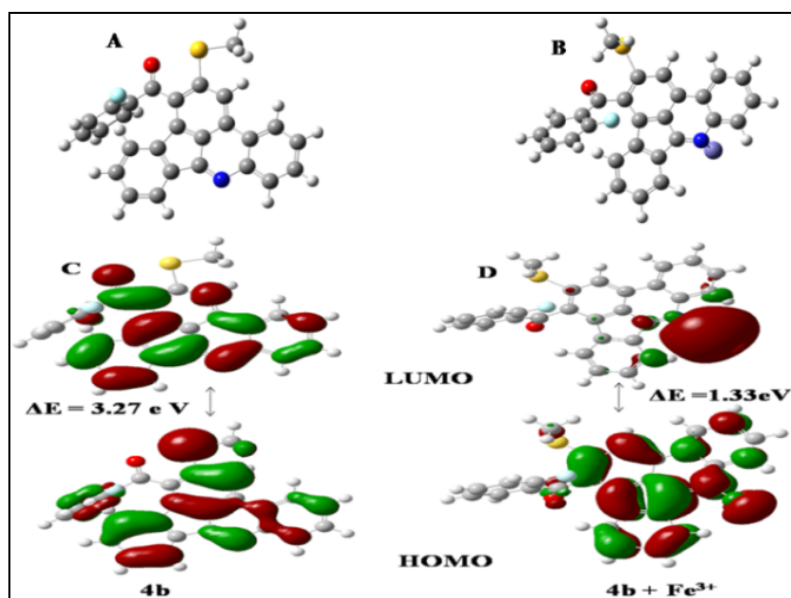


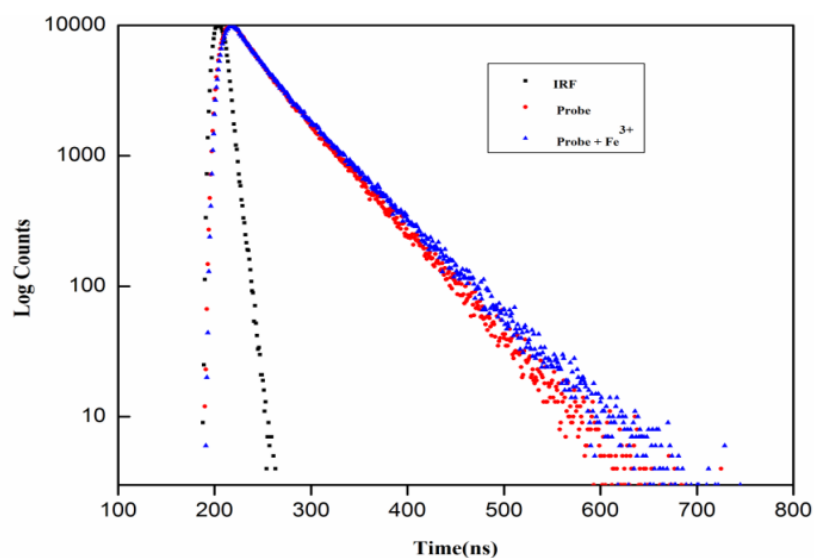
Figure S.33: Job's plot



**Figure S.34:** The selectivity of **4b** ( $2 \times 10^{-5}M$ ) in the presence of various metal ions in DMSO



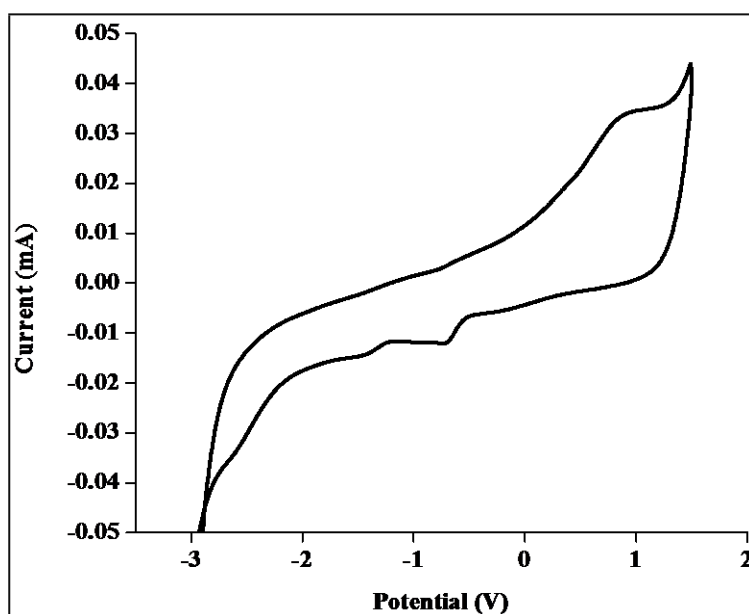
**Figure S.35:** Optimized structure of A (**4b**) & B (**4b** +  $Fe^{3+}$ ) and Frontier orbital diagram of probe C (**4b**) & D (**4b** +  $Fe^{3+}$ ).



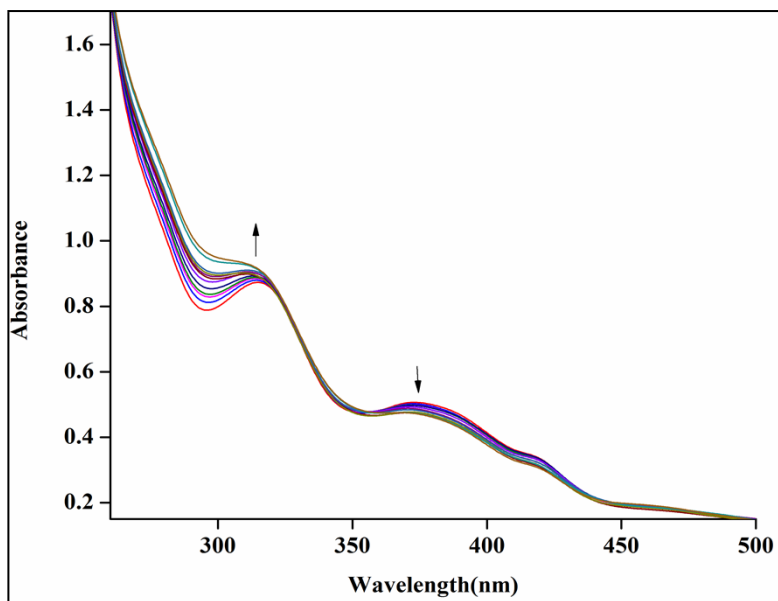
**Figure S.36:** Time-correlated single photon counting spectrometer for probe **4b** and **4b+ Fe<sup>3+</sup>**  
 $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 350 \text{ nm}$  and  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 480 \text{ nm}$

Table S.3 Fluorescence lifetime Parameters of compound **4b** and **4b+ Fe<sup>3+</sup>**

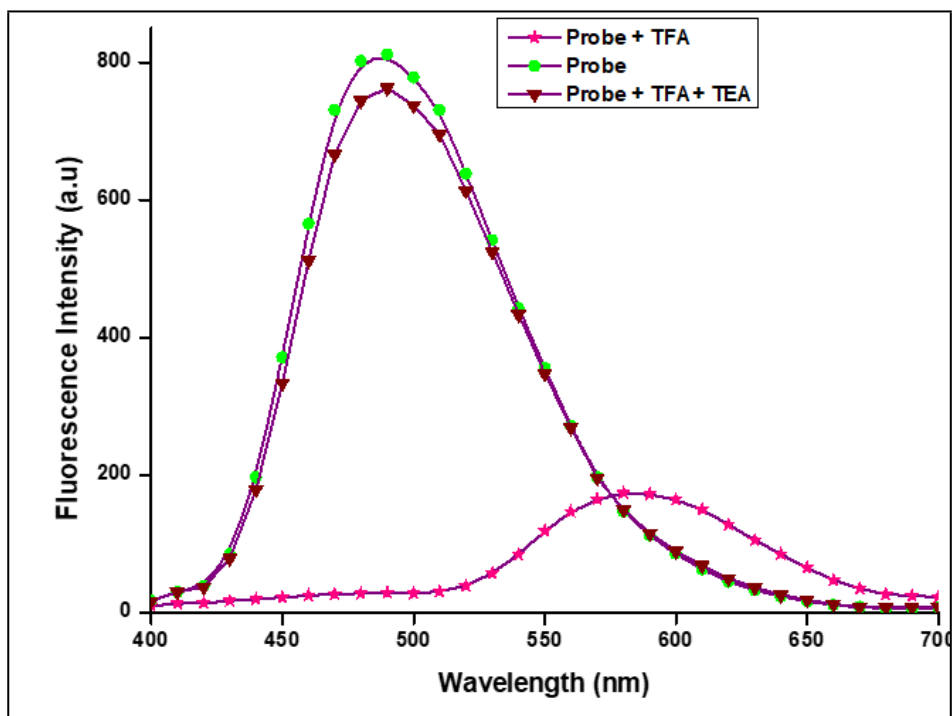
| System                    | $\lambda_{\text{ex}}$ | $\lambda_{\text{em}}$ | $\tau_1(\text{ns})$<br>(Rel%) | $\tau_2(\text{ns})$<br>(Rel%) | $\tau_{\text{average}}(\text{ns})$ | $\chi^2$ |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------|
| <b>4b</b>                 | 350 nm                | 480 nm                | 1.57 (24.5)                   | 3.06 (75.50)                  | 2.7                                | 1.19     |
| <b>4b+Fe<sup>3+</sup></b> | 350 nm                | 480 nm                | 1.34 (24.73)                  | 3.34 (75.27)                  | 2.8                                | 1.13     |



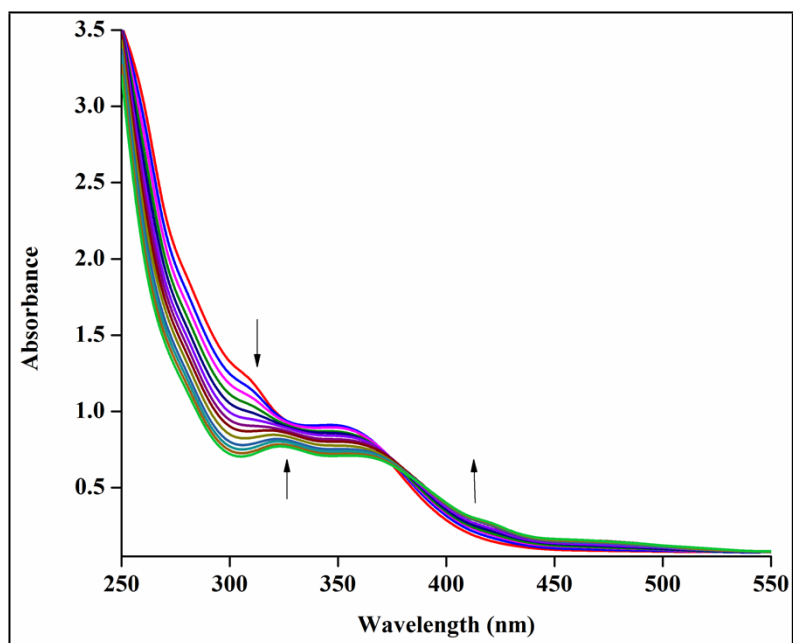
**Figure S.37:** Cyclic voltammogram of probe **4b** in DMSO with 0.1 M of LiClO<sub>4</sub>



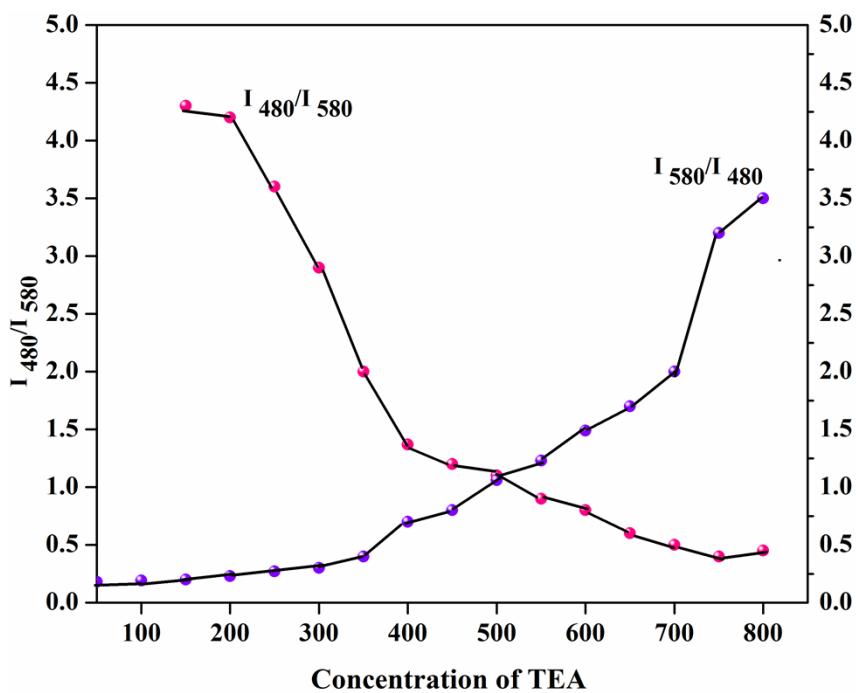
**Figure S.38:** UV-Vis spectra of probe **4b** ( $1 \times 10^{-5}$  M) with addition various concentrations of TFA in DMSO



**Figure S.39:** Reversible emission spectra of probe **4b** ( $1 \times 10^{-5}$  M) with the addition of different volumes of TFA and TEA in DMSO



**Figure S.40:** Reversible UV-vis spectra of probe **4b** ( $1 \times 10^{-5}$  M) with the addition of a different volumes of TFA and TEA in DMSO



**Figure S.41:** Sigmoidal graph.

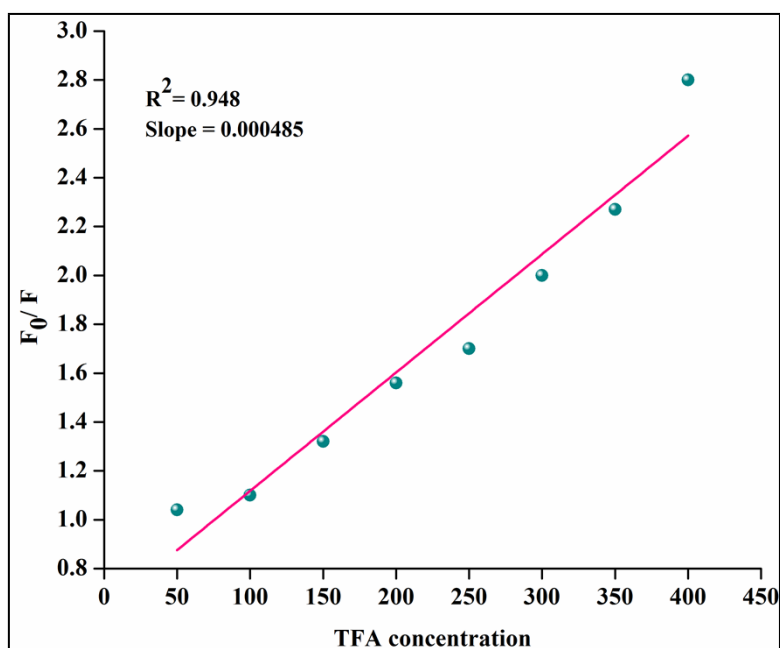


Figure S.42: Stren-Volmer plot of acidochromism studies of probe **4b**

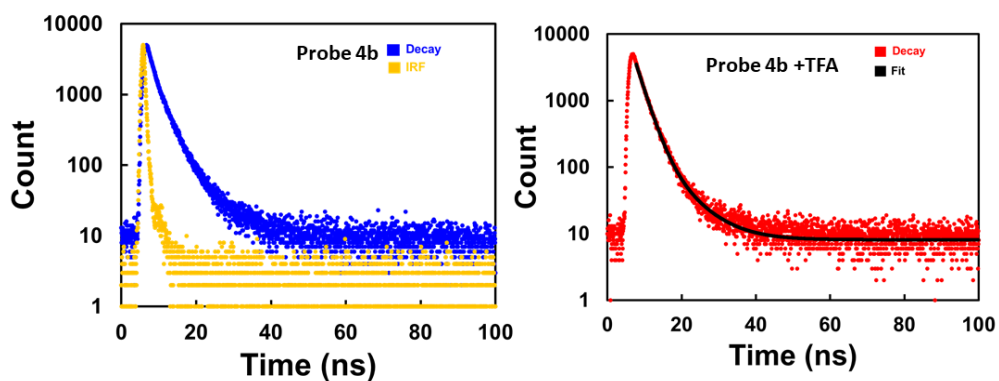


Figure S.43: Time-correlated single photon counting spectrometer for probe **4b** and **4b+TFA**

$\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 375 \text{ nm}$  and  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 480 \text{ nm}$  for probe **4b** and  $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 375 \text{ nm}$  and  $\lambda_{\text{em}} = 580 \text{ nm}$  for probe **4b+TFA**

|                     | $\lambda_{\text{ex}}$ | $\lambda_{\text{em}}$ | $\tau_1$ (Rel%) | $\tau_2$ (Rel%) | $T_{\text{average}}$ (ns) | $\chi^2$ |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|----------|
| <b>2F-IND</b>       | 375 nm                | 480 nm                | 2.06 ns (56.42) | 5.52(43.58)     | 3.5                       | 1.229    |
| <b>2F-IND + TFA</b> | 375 nm                | 580 nm                | 2.35 ns (82.71) | 6.94 ns (17.29) | 3.1                       | 1.192    |

Table S.4: Fluorescence lifetime Parameters of compound **4b** and **4b+TFA**