

Supporting Information

Transition-Metal-Free catalyzed [3+2] Cycloadditions/Oxidative

Aromatization Reactions for the synthesis of Annulated Indolizines

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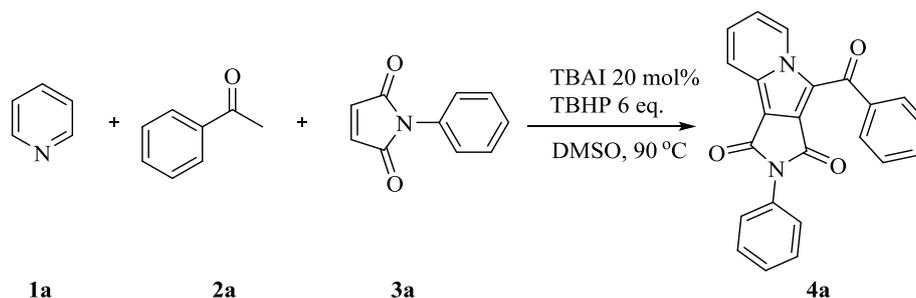
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1. General information

All reagents and solvents were purchased from Adamas were used without further purification. The progress of the reaction was examined by thin-layer chromatography (TLC). Column chromatography was carried out using silica gel (200–400 mesh). NMR spectra (^1H NMR at 400 MHz, ^{13}C NMR at 100 MHz) were recorded on a Bruker Inova-400 instrument using tetramethylsilane (TMS) as an internal standard. High-resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS) data were obtained using a Micromass Q-TOF Global Tandem Mass Spectrometer. All the spectra data of compounds **4** and **5** are deposited in supporting information.

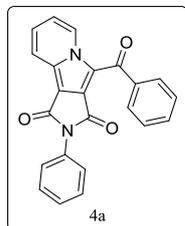
2. General procedure for the synthesis of **4** and **5** (**4a** as an example)



A sealed tube was charged with pyridine **1a** (1.0 mmol), acetophenone **2a** (0.5 mmol), N-phenylmaleimide **3a** (0.75 mmol), TBAI (20 mmol%) and TBHP (6.0 equiv, 3 mmol) at room temperature, and DMSO (3 mL) was added. The resulting mixture was stirred for 18 hours at 90 °C and monitored by TLC. After the reaction completed, added 60 mL 10% $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$ solution (w/w) to the mixture and extracted with EtOAc 3 times (3×60 mL). Combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous MgSO_4 , and evaporated in vacuo to afford crude product. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 8:1) to yield the desired product **4a** as a yellow solid.

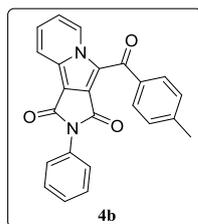
3. Spectral data of compounds obtained in this study:

4-benzoyl-2-phenyl-1H-pyrrolo[3,4-a]indolizine-1,3(2H)-dione (4a):



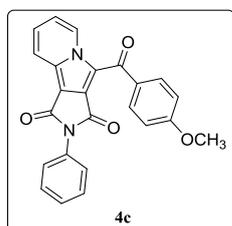
Yellow solid (159.6 mg, 87%); mp 222-224 °C; $R_f = 0.51$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 1:1); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.63 (dt, $J = 7.3, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.01 (dt, $J = 8.9, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.91-7.81 (m, 2H), 7.63-7.58 (m, 1H), 7.52-7.45 (m, 3H), 7.40 (ddd, $J = 8.8, 3.5, 1.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.34-7.27 (m, 3H), 7.14 (td, $J = 7.1, 1.4$ Hz, 1H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 185.54, 162.56, 161.95, 138.71, 133.02, 132.49, 132.15, 130.03, 129.45, 128.85, 128.59, 128.32, 127.67, 126.92, 118.81, 117.66, 116.53, 110.62, 77.31, 76.99, 76.67. HRMS (TOF MS ES⁺): m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$: 367.1006; found: 367.1008.

4-(4-methylbenzoyl)-2-phenyl-1H-pyrrolo[3,4-a]indolizine-1,3(2H)-dione (4b):



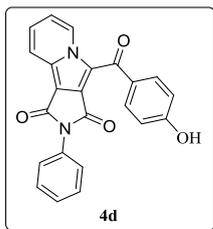
Yellow solid (163.6 mg, 86%); mp 238-240 °C; $R_f = 0.46$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 1:1); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.55 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.50-7.45 (m, 1H), 7.44-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.36-7.30 (m, 3H), 7.27 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.10 (td, $J = 7.1, 1.3$ Hz, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 185.09, 162.60, 162.13, 144.04, 135.86, 132.38, 132.22, 129.97, 129.81, 129.59, 129.07, 128.85, 128.36, 127.66, 126.93, 118.78, 117.88, 116.30, 110.29, 21.84. HRMS (TOF MS ES⁺): m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$: 381.1163; found: 381.1166.

4-(4-methoxybenzoyl)-2-phenyl-1H-pyrrolo[3,4-a]indolizine-1,3(2H)-dione (4c):



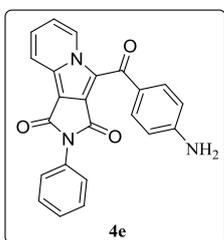
Yellow solid (166.5 mg, 84%); mp 276-277 °C; $R_f = 0.28$ (dichloromethane); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.47 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.50-7.39 (m, 3H), 7.36-7.29 (m, 3H), 7.09 (dd, $J = 10.0, 4.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.95 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 183.86, 163.92, 162.61, 162.28, 132.20, 131.01, 129.91, 129.09, 128.85, 128.16, 127.64, 126.88, 124.41, 123.93, 118.78, 118.03, 116.09, 113.66, 109.97, 55.38. HRMS (TOF MS ES⁺): m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$: 397.1112; found: 397.1115.

4-(4-hydroxybenzoyl)-2-phenyl-1H-pyrrolo[3,4-a]indolizine-1,3(2H)-dione (4d):



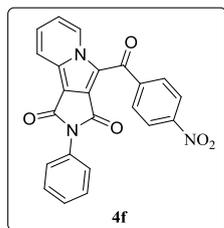
Yellow solid (156.8 mg, 82%); mp 278-280 °C; $R_f = 0.45$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 1:1); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6) δ 10.40 (s, 1H), 9.25 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.80 (t, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.62-7.56 (m, 1H), 7.44 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.38-7.29 (m, 3H), 7.24 (td, $J = 7.1, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.80 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 2H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, DMSO-d_6) δ 183.27, 162.96, 162.66, 162.32, 133.15, 132.88, 131.79, 131.14, 130.26, 129.50, 129.46, 129.06, 128.89, 127.99, 127.85, 118.40, 118.09, 116.72, 115.54, 115.42, 109.31. HRMS (TOF MS ES⁺): m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$; 383.0956; found: 383.0960.

4-(4-aminobenzoyl)-2-phenyl-1H-pyrrolo[3,4-a]indolizine-1,3(2H)-dione (4e):



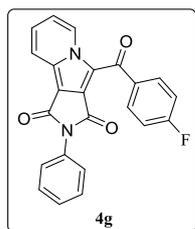
Yellow solid (143.0 mg, 75%); mp 268-270 °C; $R_f = 0.40$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 1:1); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.36 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.45-7.38 (m, 3H), 7.36 (t, $J = 4.3$ Hz, 2H), 7.31 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.03 (td, $J = 7.2, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.65 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 2H), 4.16 (s, 2H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 183.14, 162.70, 162.50, 151.82, 132.71, 132.36, 132.12, 130.75, 129.84, 128.81, 128.35, 128.10, 127.78, 127.55, 126.91, 118.71, 118.53, 115.71, 113.71, 109.99, 109.47. HRMS (TOF MS ES⁺): m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3$; 382.1115; found: 382.1117.

4-(4-nitrobenzoyl)-2-phenyl-1H-pyrrolo[3,4-a]indolizine-1,3(2H)-dione (4f):



Yellow solid (154.3 mg, 75%); mp 289-290 °C; $R_f = 0.48$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 2:1); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.79 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 8.31 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 8.07 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.63-7.57 (m, 1H), 7.45-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.36-7.25 (m, 4H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 183.57, 162.22, 161.86, 149.98, 144.21, 133.02, 131.81, 131.07, 130.32, 130.27, 129.93, 129.56, 129.01, 127.99, 126.80, 123.60, 119.01, 117.38, 116.66, 111.66. HRMS (TOF MS ES⁺): m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_3\text{O}_5$; 412.0857; found: 412.0860.

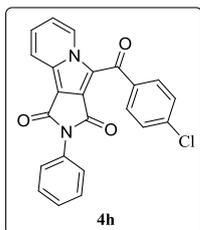
4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)-2-phenyl-1H-pyrrolo[3,4-a]indolizine-1,3(2H)-dione (4g):



Yellow solid (138.4 mg, 72%); mp 223-224 °C; $R_f = 0.24$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3:1); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.58 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.93-7.85 (m, 2H), 7.52-7.46 (m, 1H), 7.45-7.39 (m, 2H), 7.36-7.29 (m, 3H), 7.13 (ddd, $J = 6.9, 6.4, 1.7$ Hz, 3H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 183.88, 167.09, 163.33 (d,

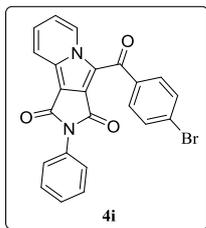
$J = 245.0$ Hz), 162.45, 134.87 (d, $J = 3.0$ Hz), 132.56, 132.16, 132.10, 132.07, 130.01, 129.94, 128.92, 128.70, 127.78, 126.86, 118.83, 117.40, 116.60, 115.57 (d, $J = 22.0$ Hz), 110.62. HRMS (TOF MS ES⁺): m/z [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₂₃H₁₃FN₂O₃: 385.0912; found: 385.0914.

4-(4-chlorobenzoyl)-2-phenyl-1H-pyrrolo[3,4-a]indolizine-1,3(2H)-dione (4h):



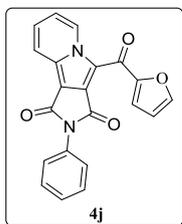
Yellow solid (150.3 mg, 75%); mp 269-270 °C; $R_f = 0.56$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 2:1); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.62 (dt, $J = 7.2, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.02 (dt, $J = 8.9, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.85-7.77 (m, 2H), 7.52 (ddd, $J = 8.8, 6.9, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.47-7.39 (m, 4H), 7.36-7.27 (m, 3H), 7.15 (td, $J = 7.1, 1.4$ Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.11, 162.43, 162.06, 139.49, 136.94, 132.64, 132.05, 130.87, 130.05, 128.94, 128.80, 128.68, 127.83, 126.88, 118.87, 117.27, 116.70, 110.77. HRMS (TOF MS ES⁺): m/z [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₂₃H₁₃ClN₂O₃: 401.0617; found: 401.0619.

4-(4-bromobenzoyl)-2-phenyl-1H-pyrrolo[3,4-a]indolizine-1,3(2H)-dione (4i):



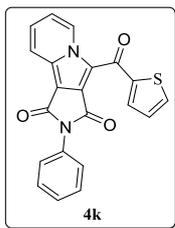
Yellow solid (155.8 mg, 70%); mp 281-282 °C; $R_f = 0.37$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3:1); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.62 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 8.02 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.76-7.71 (m, 2H), 7.63-7.59 (m, 2H), 7.55-7.50 (m, 1H), 7.43 (dd, $J = 10.3, 4.9$ Hz, 2H), 7.36-7.30 (m, 3H), 7.16 (td, $J = 7.1, 1.3$ Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.25, 162.43, 162.06, 137.38, 132.66, 132.05, 131.65, 130.97, 130.07, 128.96, 128.83, 128.22, 127.85, 126.89, 118.88, 117.21, 116.73, 110.81. HRMS (TOF MS ES⁺): m/z [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₂₃H₁₃BrN₂O₃: 445.0112; found: 445.0115.

4-(furan-2-carbonyl)-2-phenyl-1H-pyrrolo[3,4-a]indolizine-1,3(2H)-dione (4j):



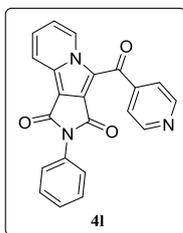
Yellow solid (149.6 mg, 84%); mp 261-263 °C; $R_f = 0.28$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3:1); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.41 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.96 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.66 (dd, $J = 1.5, 0.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.47-7.42 (m, 3H), 7.40-7.30 (m, 4H), 7.07 (td, $J = 7.1, 1.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.61 (dd, $J = 3.6, 1.7$ Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.56, 162.52, 162.30, 152.07, 147.61, 132.27, 129.65, 129.45, 128.96, 128.92, 128.85, 128.34, 127.73, 126.99, 126.92, 126.88, 120.12, 118.87, 116.31, 112.64, 110.60. HRMS (TOF MS ES⁺): m/z [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₂₁H₁₂N₂O₄: 357.0799; found: 357.0801.

2-phenyl-4-(thiophene-2-carbonyl)-1H-pyrrolo[3,4-a]indolizine-1,3(2H)-dione (4k):



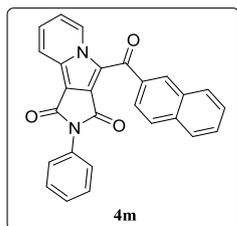
Yellow solid (128.5 mg, 69%); mp 275 °C; R_f = 0.29 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.36 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (dd, J = 3.8, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (dd, J = 4.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (dd, J = 15.1, 7.2 Hz, 3H), 7.35 (dd, J = 16.7, 7.9 Hz, 3H), 7.15 (dd, J = 4.9, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (td, J = 7.1, 1.2 Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 176.60, 162.47, 162.21, 142.91, 135.65, 135.09, 135.02, 132.31, 132.13, 129.82, 128.93, 128.79, 128.35, 128.11, 127.77, 126.90, 118.89, 117.65, 116.25, 115.08, 110.31. HRMS (TOF MS ES⁺): m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}$: 373.0571; found: 373.0575.

4-isonicotinoyl-2-phenyl-1H-pyrrolo[3,4-a]indolizine-1,3(2H)-dione (4l):



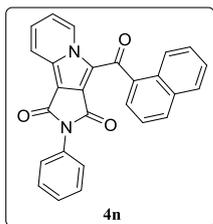
Yellow solid (132.2 mg, 72%); mp 265-267 °C; R_f = 0.29 (dichloromethane/ethyl acetate = 2:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.77 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 8.76 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 8.02 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.62-7.54 (m, 3H), 7.40 (dd, J = 10.5, 4.7 Hz, 2H), 7.34-7.30 (m, 1H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 2H), 7.21 (td, J = 7.1, 1.3 Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 183.81, 162.25, 161.69, 150.90, 149.94, 145.84, 132.96, 131.84, 131.13, 130.26, 129.67, 128.97, 127.93, 126.83, 122.32, 121.23, 118.94, 117.48, 116.37, 111.73. HRMS (TOF MS ES⁺): m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3$: 368.0959; found: 368.0962.

4-(2-naphthoyl)-2-phenyl-1H-pyrrolo[3,4-a]indolizine-1,3(2H)-dione (4m):



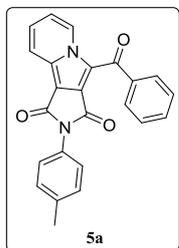
Yellow solid (170.7mg, 82%); mp 277-278 °C; R_f = 0.35 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.62 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 8.40 (s, 1H), 8.02 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.95-7.91 (m, 2H), 7.87 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.58-7.53 (m, 1H), 7.52-7.46 (m, 2H), 7.36 (dd, J = 8.2, 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.31-7.25 (m, 3H), 7.13 (td, J = 7.1, 1.3 Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 185.26, 162.60, 161.97, 135.80, 135.68, 132.53, 132.40, 132.19, 131.89, 130.09, 129.94, 129.62, 129.05, 128.83, 128.55, 128.35, 128.27, 127.91, 127.62, 126.81, 126.67, 124.93, 119.67, 118.85, 117.90, 116.47, 110.59. HRMS (TOF MS ES⁺): m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$: 417.1163; found: 417.1165.

4-(1-naphthoyl)-2-phenyl-1H-pyrrolo[3,4-a]indolizine-1,3(2H)-dione (4n):



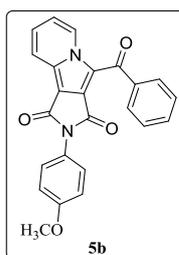
Yellow solid (179.1 mg, 86%); mp 215 °C; R_f = 0.41 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 2:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 10.03 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (dd, J = 6.1, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (dd, J = 6.2, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 7.78-7.70 (m, 1H), 7.61-7.43 (m, 4H), 7.34 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.28-7.15 (m, 4H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 186.45, 162.58, 161.22, 136.82, 133.83, 132.60, 132.10, 132.02, 131.02, 130.67, 130.48, 129.06, 128.81, 128.66, 128.23, 127.63, 127.24, 126.95, 126.20, 124.80, 124.78, 124.30, 119.67, 118.82, 118.78, 117.02, 111.35. HRMS (TOF MS ES+): m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$: 417.1163; found: 417.1167.

4-benzoyl-2-(p-tolyl)-1H-pyrrolo[3,4-a]indolizine-1,3(2H)-dione (5a):



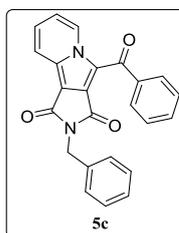
Yellow solid (163.6 mg, 86%); mp 227-229 °C; R_f = 0.33 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.62 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.89-7.81 (m, 2H), 7.59 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 7.23-7.16 (m, 4H), 7.12 (td, J = 7.1, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 2.34 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 185.53, 162.72, 162.09, 138.71, 137.68, 132.98, 132.44, 130.17, 130.01, 129.51, 129.46, 128.53, 128.31, 126.81, 119.70, 118.78, 117.60, 116.47, 110.71, 21.13. HRMS (TOF MS ES+): m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$: 381.1163; found: 381.1166.

4-benzoyl-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1H-pyrrolo[3,4-a]indolizine-1,3(2H)-dione (5b):



Yellow solid (166.5 mg, 84%); mp 240 °C; R_f = 0.46 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 2:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.62 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.91-7.78 (m, 2H), 7.59 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (dt, J = 13.8, 4.1 Hz, 3H), 7.24-7.16 (m, 2H), 7.12 (td, J = 7.1, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 185.54, 162.87, 162.25, 158.95, 138.73, 132.98, 132.44, 130.16, 130.02, 129.45, 128.53, 128.30, 124.86, 118.78, 117.62, 116.45, 114.23, 110.67, 55.45. HRMS (TOF MS ES+): m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$: 397.1112; found: 397.1114.

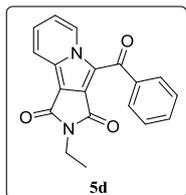
4-benzoyl-2-benzyl-1H-pyrrolo[3,4-a]indolizine-1,3(2H)-dione (5c):



Yellow solid (171.2 mg, 90%); mp 209 °C; R_f = 0.51 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 2:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.55 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (dt, J = 8.9, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.86-7.79 (m, 2H), 7.68-7.62 (m, 1H), 7.53-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.42 (ddd, J = 8.8, 6.9, 0.9

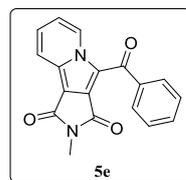
Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.30 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.18 (m, 3H), 7.05 (td, $J = 7.1, 1.3$ Hz, 1H), 4.69 (s, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 185.35, 163.42, 162.65, 138.73, 136.89, 133.00, 132.12, 130.59, 129.90, 129.58, 128.49, 128.38, 128.25, 127.51, 118.56, 117.39, 116.20, 110.88, 41.66. HRMS (TOF MS ES+): m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$: 381.1163; found: 381.1164.

4-benzoyl-2-ethyl-1H-pyrrolo[3,4-a]indolizine-1,3(2H)-dione (5d):



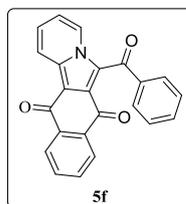
Yellow solid (149.6 mg, 94%); mp 204-205 °C; $R_f = 0.44$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.58 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.81 (dd, $J = 8.2, 1.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.64 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.49 (t, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.46-7.41 (m, 1H), 7.06 (td, $J = 7.0, 1.3$ Hz, 1H), 3.56 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 1.15 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 185.46, 163.53, 162.80, 138.89, 132.84, 132.03, 130.92, 129.93, 129.45, 128.31, 128.21, 118.52, 117.25, 116.11, 111.18, 32.99, 14.04. HRMS (TOF MS ES+): m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$: 319.1006; found: 381.1170.

4-benzoyl-2-methyl-1H-pyrrolo[3,4-a]indolizine-1,3(2H)-dione (5e):



Yellow solid (140.0 mg, 92%); mp 246-247 °C; $R_f = 0.33$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.58 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.85-7.73 (m, 2H), 7.63 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.48 (t, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.46-7.40 (m, 1H), 7.06 (td, $J = 7.1, 1.3$ Hz, 1H), 2.99 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 185.54, 163.74, 163.11, 138.93, 132.84, 132.08, 130.90, 129.94, 129.40, 128.37, 128.24, 118.56, 117.32, 116.15, 111.10, 24.15. HRMS (TOF MS ES+): m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$: 305.0850; found: 305.0855.

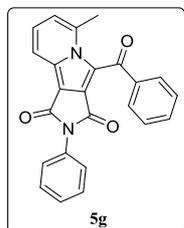
6-benzoylbenzo[f]pyrido[2,1-a]isoindole-7,12-dione (5f):



Red solid (158.1 mg, 90%); mp 253-255 °C; $R_f = 0.41$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3:1); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.80 (d, $J = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.24 (dd, $J = 7.7, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.00 (dd, $J = 7.7, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.93 (d, $J = 9.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.90-7.85 (m, 2H), 7.71 (td, $J = 7.6, 1.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.62 (td, $J = 7.5, 1.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.59-7.54 (m, 1H), 7.43 (t, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.37 (ddd, $J = 9.0, 6.9, 1.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.17 (td, $J = 6.9, 1.2$ Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 191.65, 180.80, 174.87, 139.10, 138.92, 134.32, 133.73, 133.57, 133.01, 132.91, 129.23, 128.35, 128.28, 128.17,

127.58, 127.11, 126.28, 121.29, 120.35, 117.62, 113.71. HRMS (TOF MS ES⁺): m/z [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₂₃H₁₃NO₃: 352.0897; found: 352.0898.

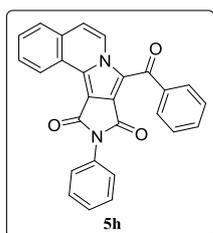
4-benzoyl-6-methyl-2-phenyl-1H-pyrrolo[3,4-a]indolizine-1,3(2H)-dione (5g):



Yellow solid (144.6 mg, 76%); mp 178-180 °C; R_f = 0.28 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3:1); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.14-8.03 (m, 2H), 7.94 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (ddd, J = 15.2, 8.1, 4.5 Hz, 3H), 7.34-7.26 (m, 3H), 6.93 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.51 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100

MHz, CDCl₃) δ 184.19, 162.68, 162.34, 140.22, 137.59, 134.05, 133.99, 132.26, 130.52, 129.74, 128.78, 128.58, 127.96, 127.55, 126.88, 120.54, 117.63, 116.71, 109.39, 23.30. HRMS (TOF MS ES⁺): m/z [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₂₄H₁₆N₂O₃: 381.1163; found: 381.1165.

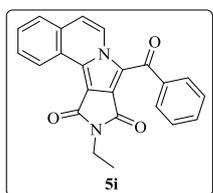
8-benzoyl-10-phenyl-9H-pyrrolo[3',4':3,4]pyrrolo[2,1-a]isoquinoline-9,11(10H)-dione (5h):



Light yellow solid (177.0 mg, 85%); mp 297-298 °C; R_f = 0.46 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3:1); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.35 (dd, J = 6.9, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 9.15 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (dd, J = 8.2, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 7.83-7.77 (m, 1H), 7.76-7.70 (m, 2H), 7.63 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.46-7.40 (m, 2H), 7.39-7.30 (m,

4H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 185.73, 162.97, 161.76, 138.47, 133.43, 132.36, 132.29, 130.62, 129.82, 129.71, 129.16, 128.85, 128.40, 128.05, 127.77, 127.74, 126.98, 126.71, 125.35, 123.90, 119.73, 116.64, 112.65. HRMS (TOF MS ES⁺): m/z [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₂₇H₁₆N₂O₃: 417.1163; found: 417.1166.

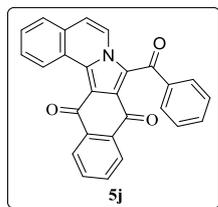
8-benzoyl-10-ethyl-9H-pyrrolo[3',4':3,4]pyrrolo[2,1-a]isoquinoline-9,11(10H)-dione (5i):



Yellow solid (163.9 mg, 89%); mp 228-229 °C; R_f = 0.51 (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3:1); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.23 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 9.09 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.95-7.85 (m, 2H), 7.77-7.73 (m, 1H), 7.72-7.63 (m, 3H), 7.52 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.19 (t, J =

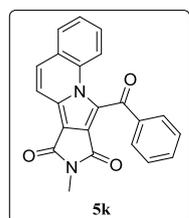
7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 185.71, 163.80, 162.63, 138.63, 133.28, 131.82, 130.43, 129.72, 129.00, 128.91, 128.30, 127.60, 126.62, 125.34, 123.77, 119.20, 116.20, 113.22, 33.28, 14.03. HRMS (TOF MS ES⁺): m/z [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₂₃H₁₆N₂O₃: 369.1163; found: 369.1164.

8-benzoylbenzo[5,6]isoindolo[1,2-a]isoquinoline-9,14-dione (5j):



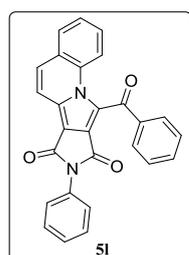
Red solid (170.6 mg, 85%); mp 311-312 °C; $R_f = 0.56$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3:1); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.49 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.25 (dd, $J = 7.7, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.09-7.99 (m, 3H), 7.90 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.72 (ddd, $J = 9.0, 5.6, 1.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.66-7.51 (m, 3H), 7.49-7.38 (m, 3H), 7.32 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 194.92, 180.76, 175.22, 137.34, 134.52, 134.04, 133.77, 133.19, 133.16, 132.92, 129.51, 129.47, 129.23, 129.05, 128.90, 127.67, 126.90, 126.57, 124.74, 124.44, 124.40, 122.54, 117.60, 116.83, 109.98. HRMS (TOF MS ES+): m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_3$: 402.1054; found: 402.1055.

10-benzoyl-8-methyl-7H-pyrrolo[3',4':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]quinoline-7,9(8H)-dione (5k):



Yellow solid (157.7 mg, 89%); mp 256-257 °C; $R_f = 0.47$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3:1); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.13 (dd, $J = 8.3, 1.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.79 (dd, $J = 7.6, 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.77-7.70 (m, 3H), 7.65 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.57 (td, $J = 7.5, 1.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.54-7.45 (m, 2H), 3.01 (s, 3H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 185.95, 163.88, 163.13, 137.25, 134.50, 133.40, 131.54, 130.48, 129.64, 129.54, 129.51, 129.35, 128.71, 126.19, 125.19, 123.02, 119.30, 116.42, 112.10, 24.20. HRMS (TOF MS ES+): m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$: 355.1006; found: 355.1009.

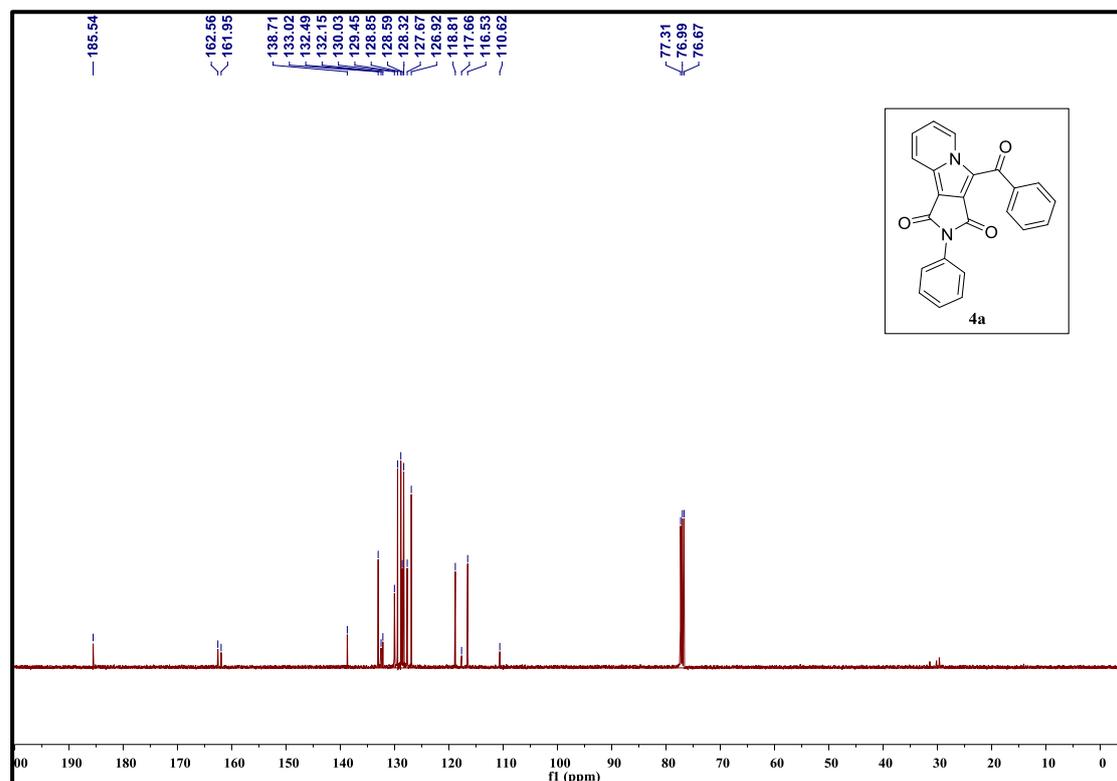
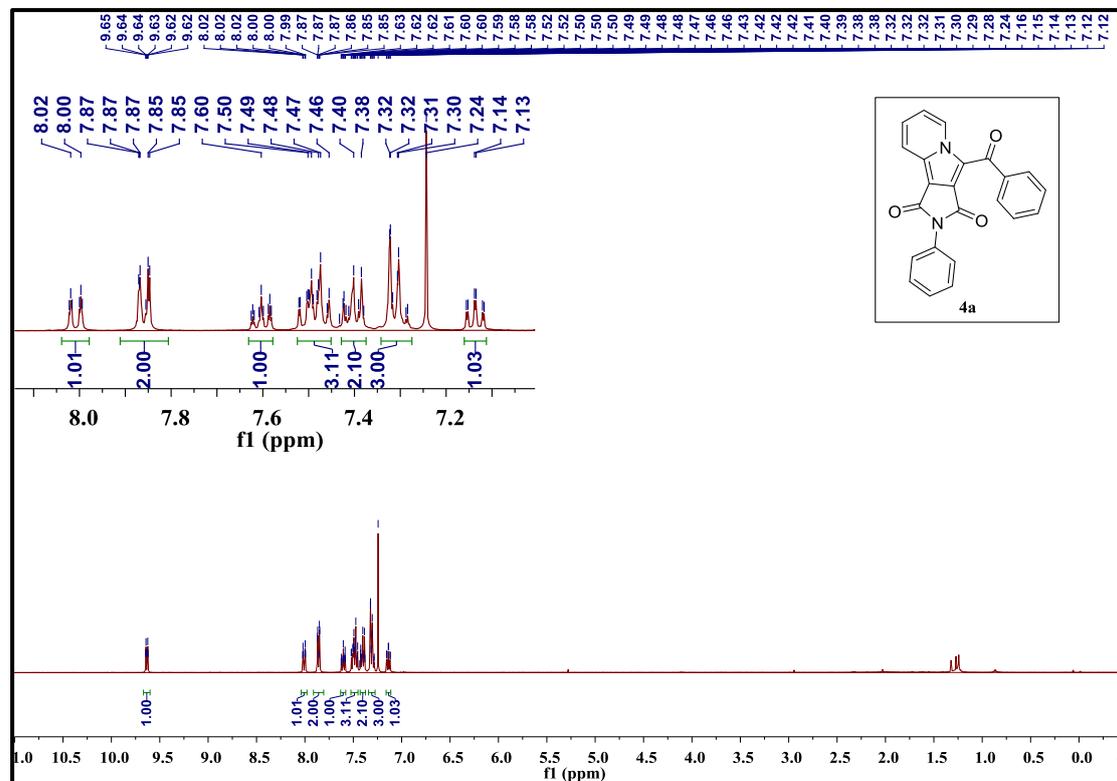
10-benzoyl-8-phenyl-7H-pyrrolo[3',4':3,4]pyrrolo[1,2-a]quinoline-7,9(8H)-dione (5l):



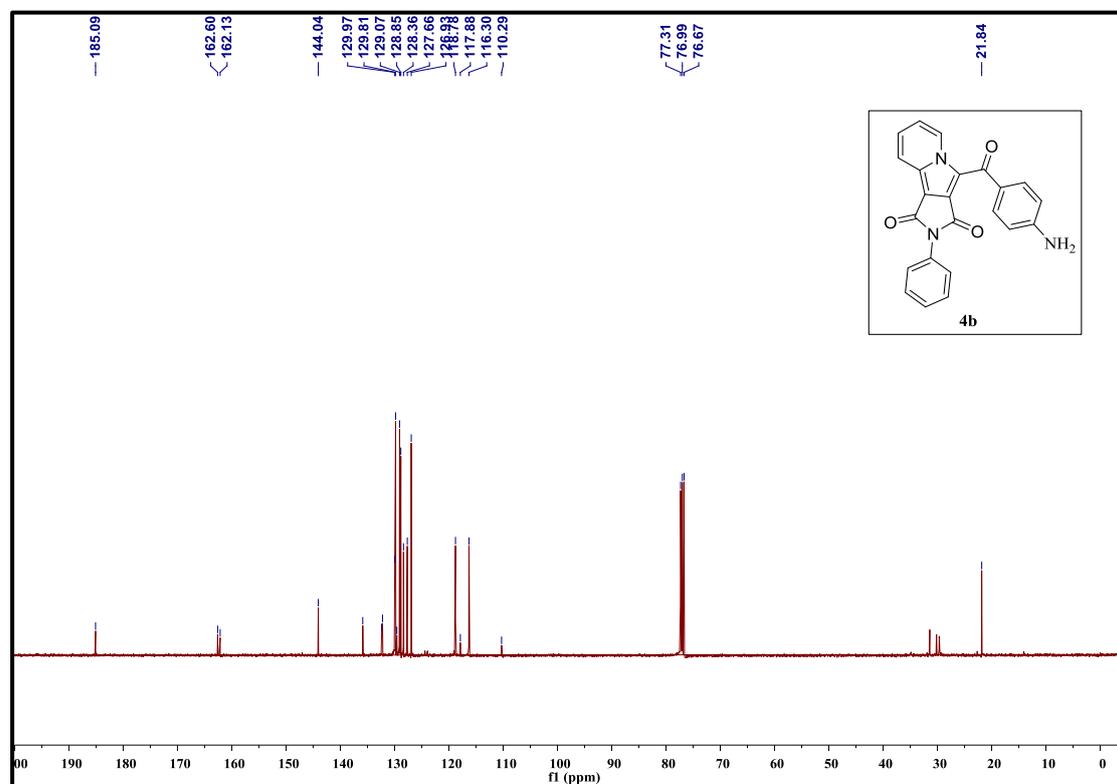
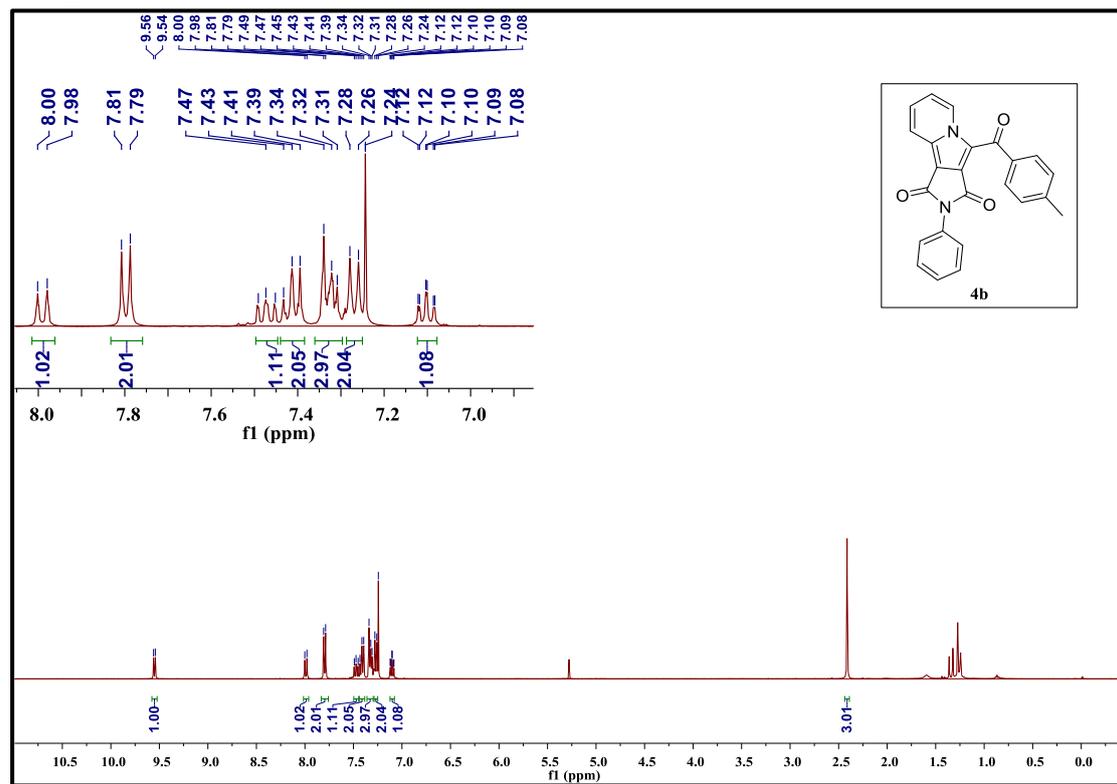
Yellow solid (172.8 mg, 83%); mp 220-222 °C; $R_f = 0.45$ (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 3:1); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.23- 8.14 (m, 2H), 7.82 (s, 2H), 7.78 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.73-7.66 (m, 2H), 7.58-7.48 (m, 4H), 7.44-7.38 (m, 2H), 7.36-7.27 (m, 3H). $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 186.09, 162.67, 161.95, 137.09, 134.57, 133.41, 132.21, 131.92, 130.50, 129.74, 129.62, 128.83, 128.80, 128.78, 128.45, 127.68, 126.87, 126.35, 125.31, 123.41, 119.33, 116.52, 111.64. HRMS (TOF MS ES+): m/z $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$: 417.1163; found: 417.1166.

4. Appendix: spectral copies of ¹H NMR, and ¹³C NMR

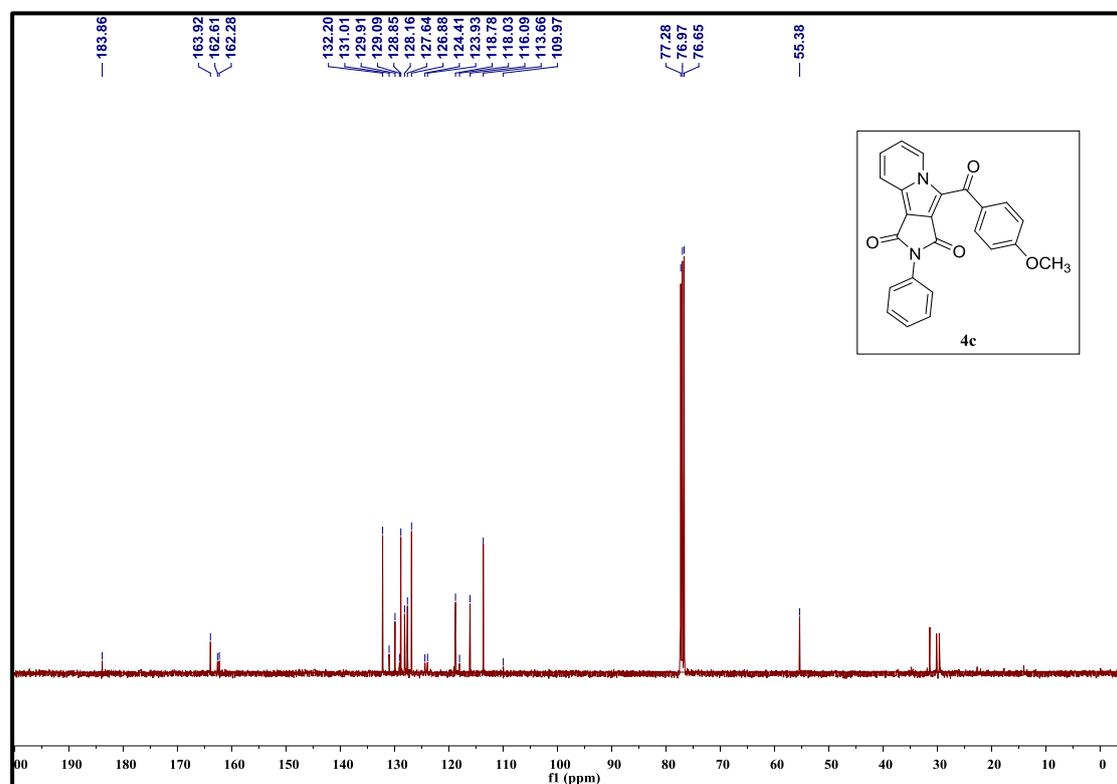
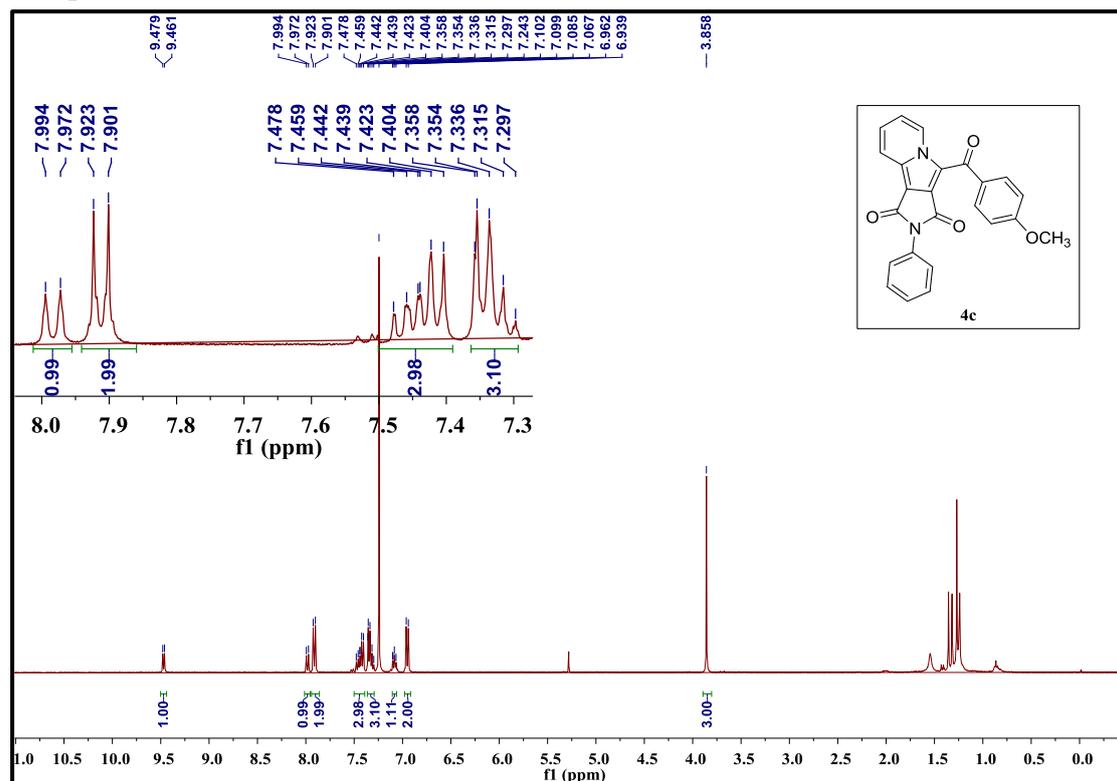
Compound 4a



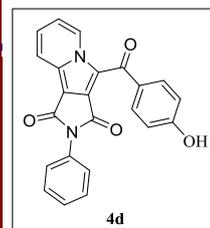
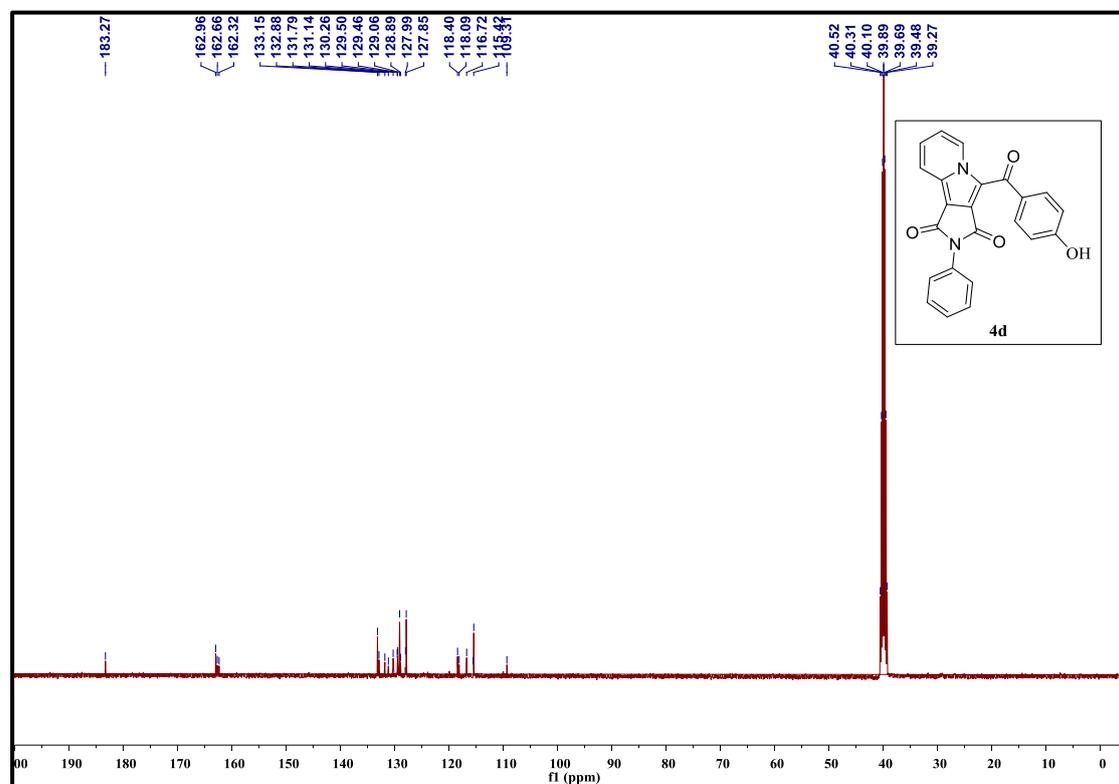
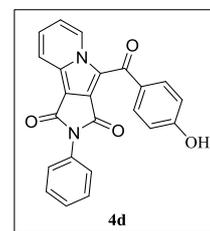
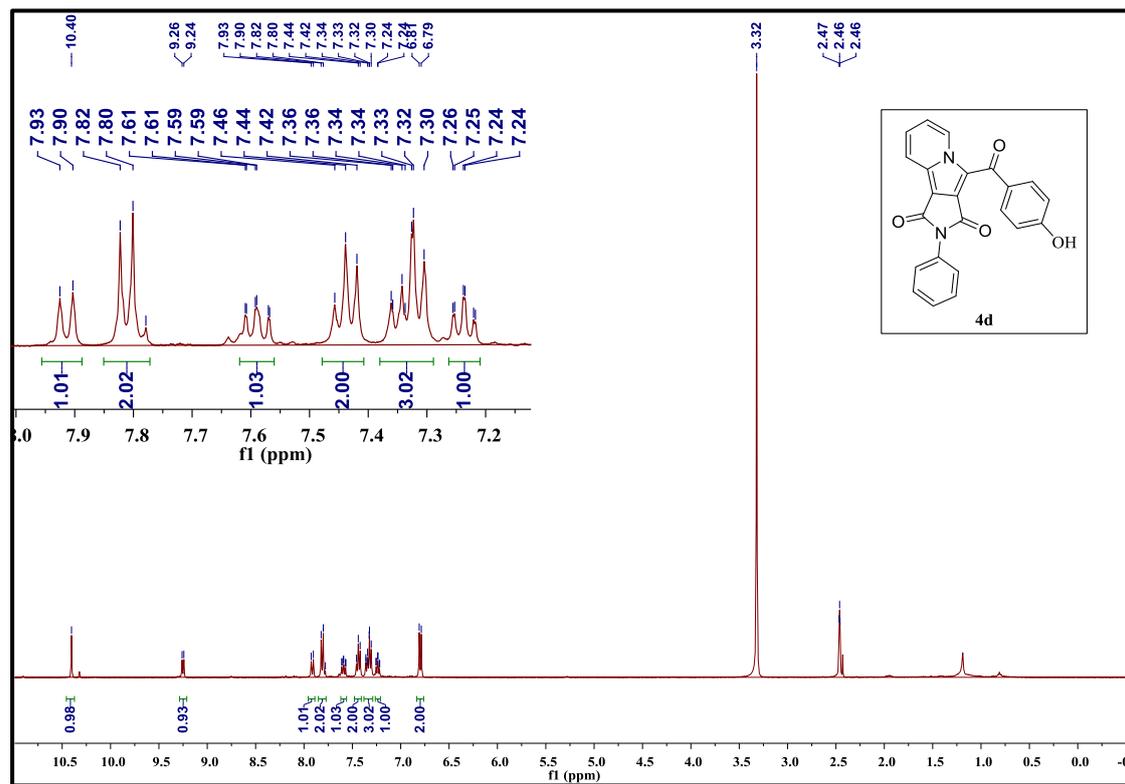
Compound 4b



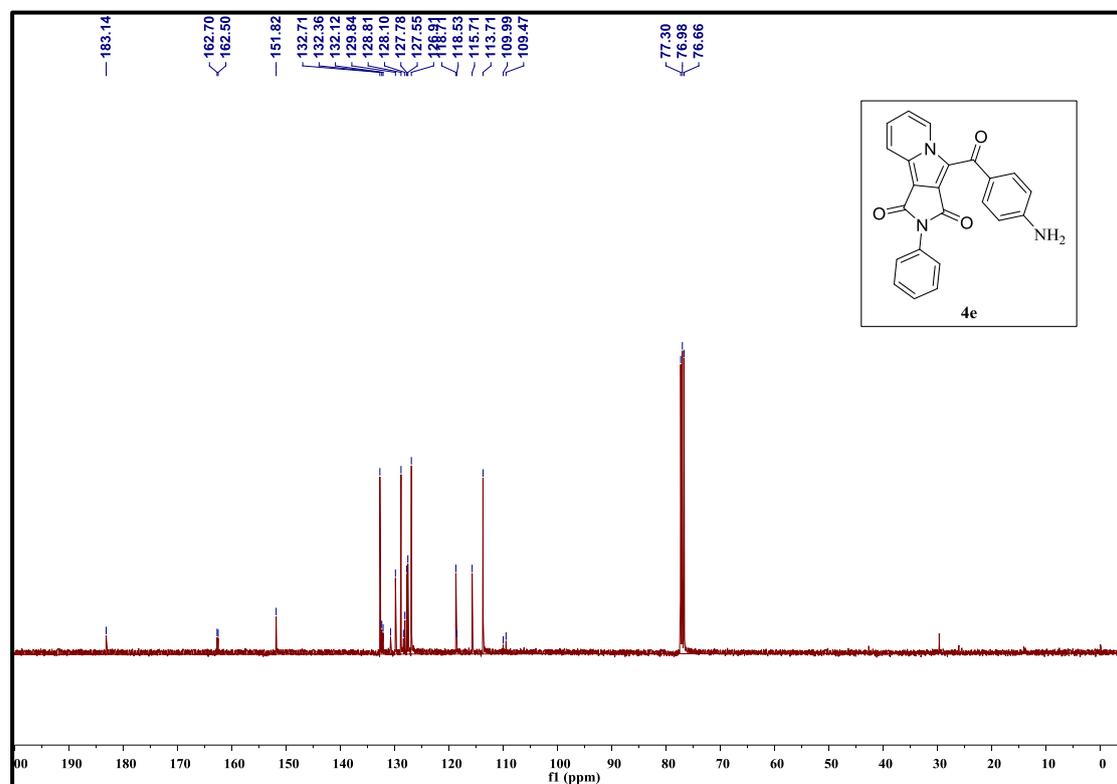
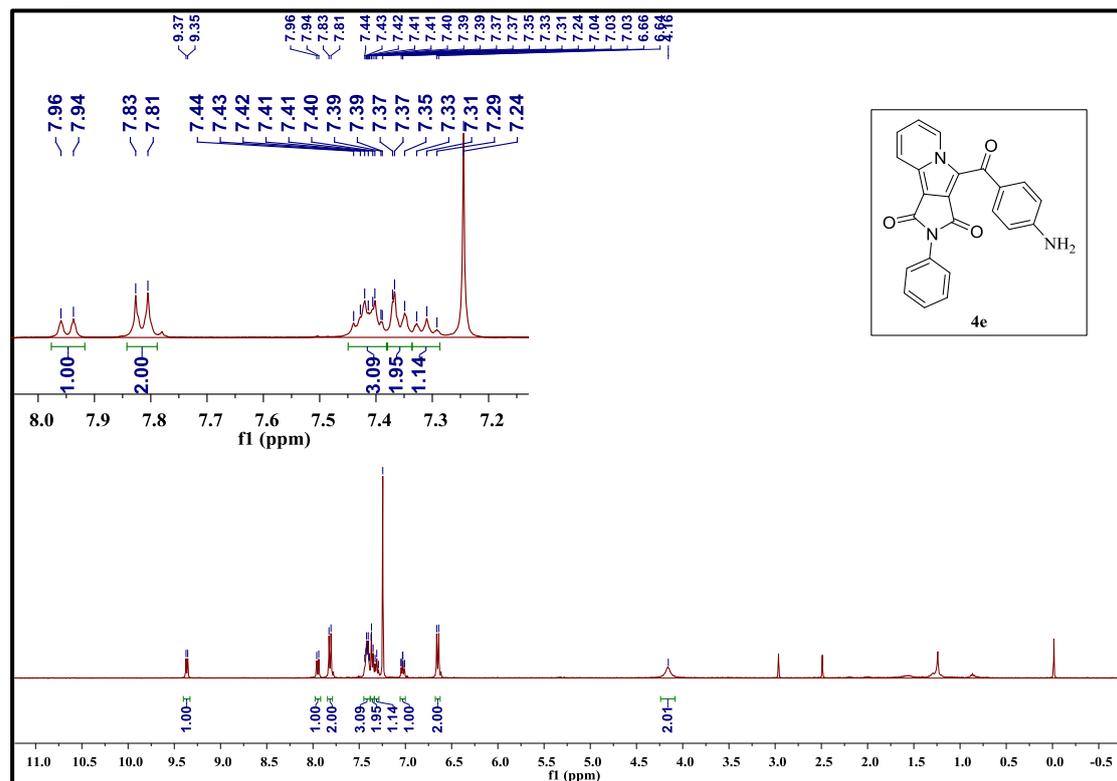
Compound 4c



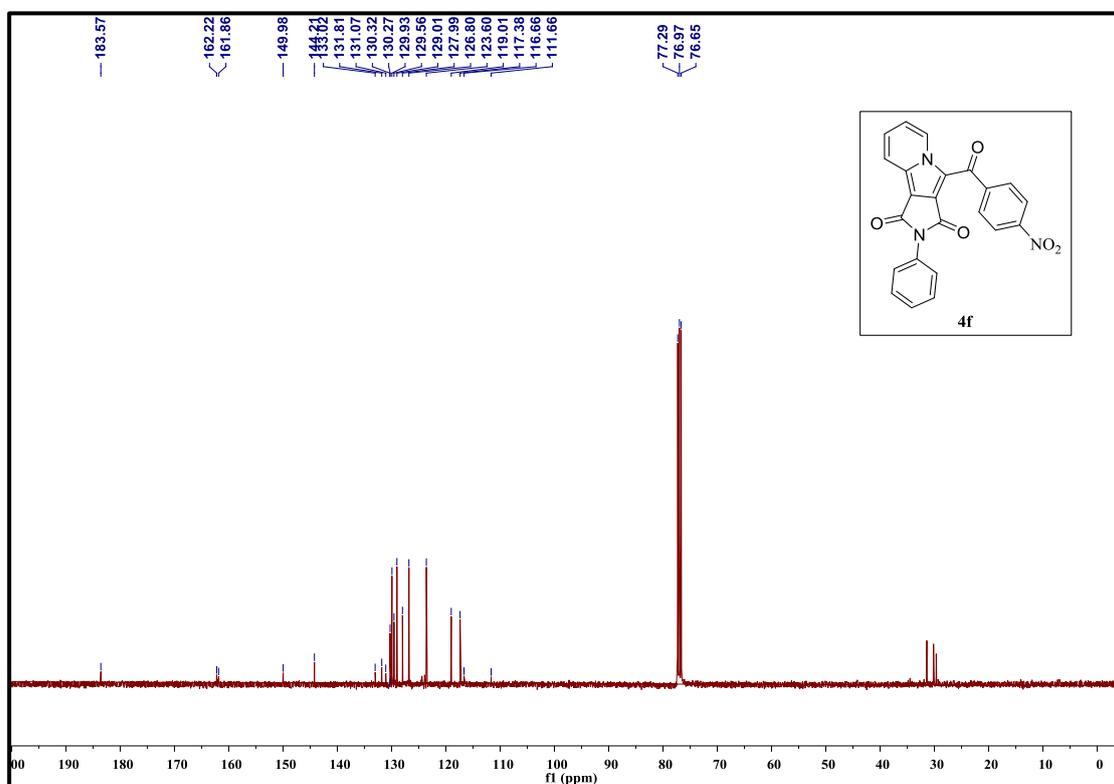
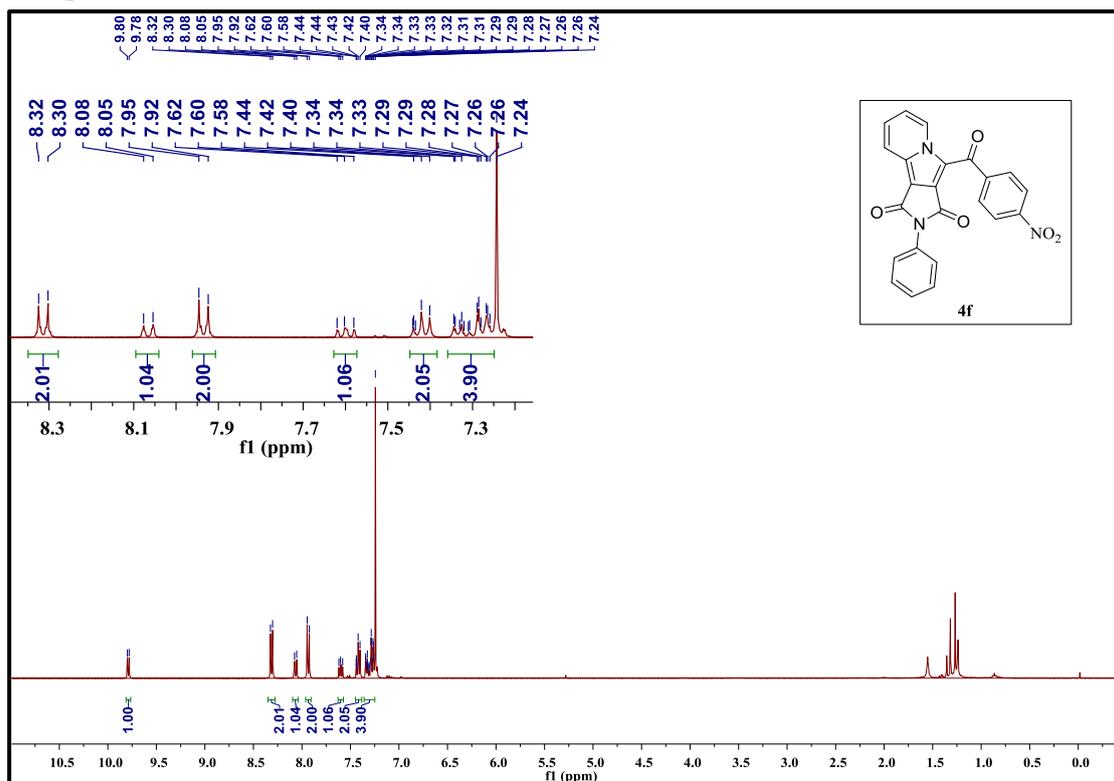
Compound 4d



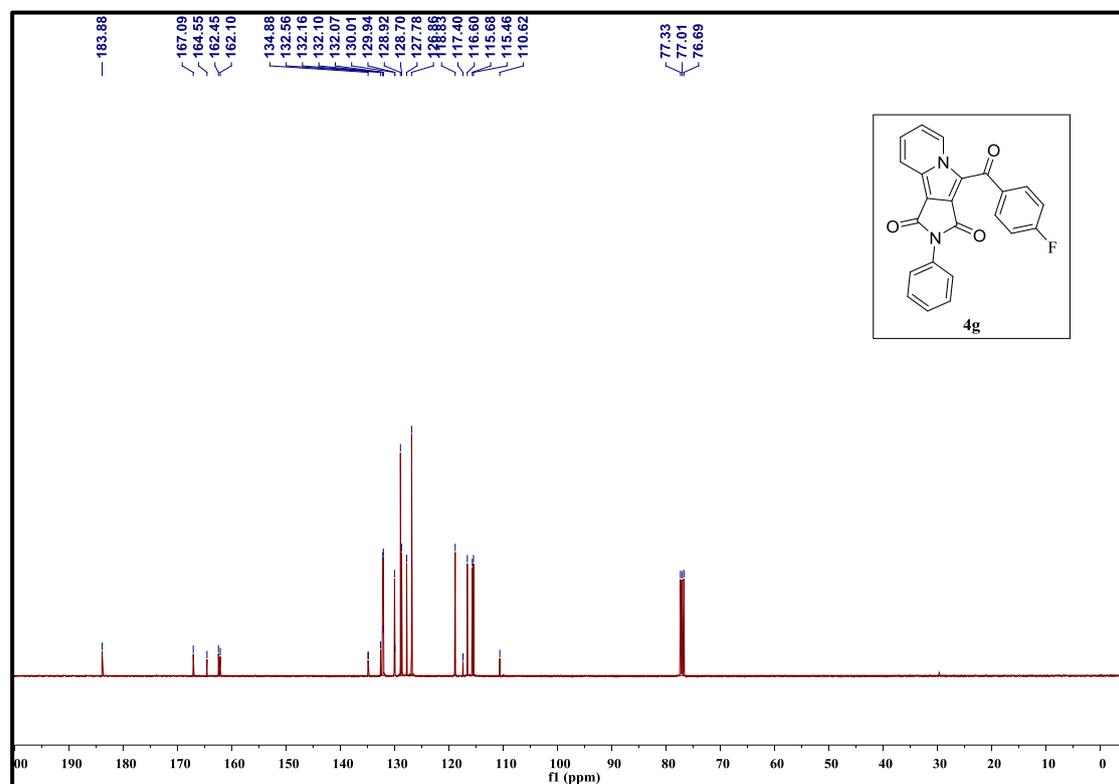
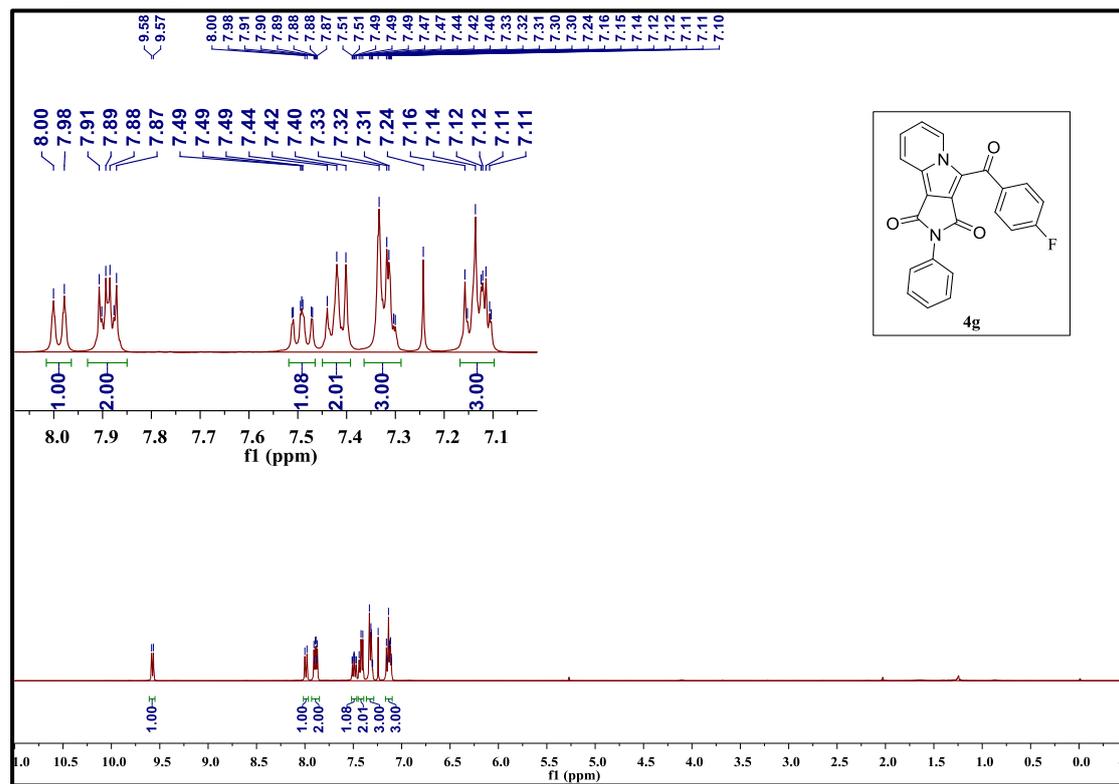
Compound 4e



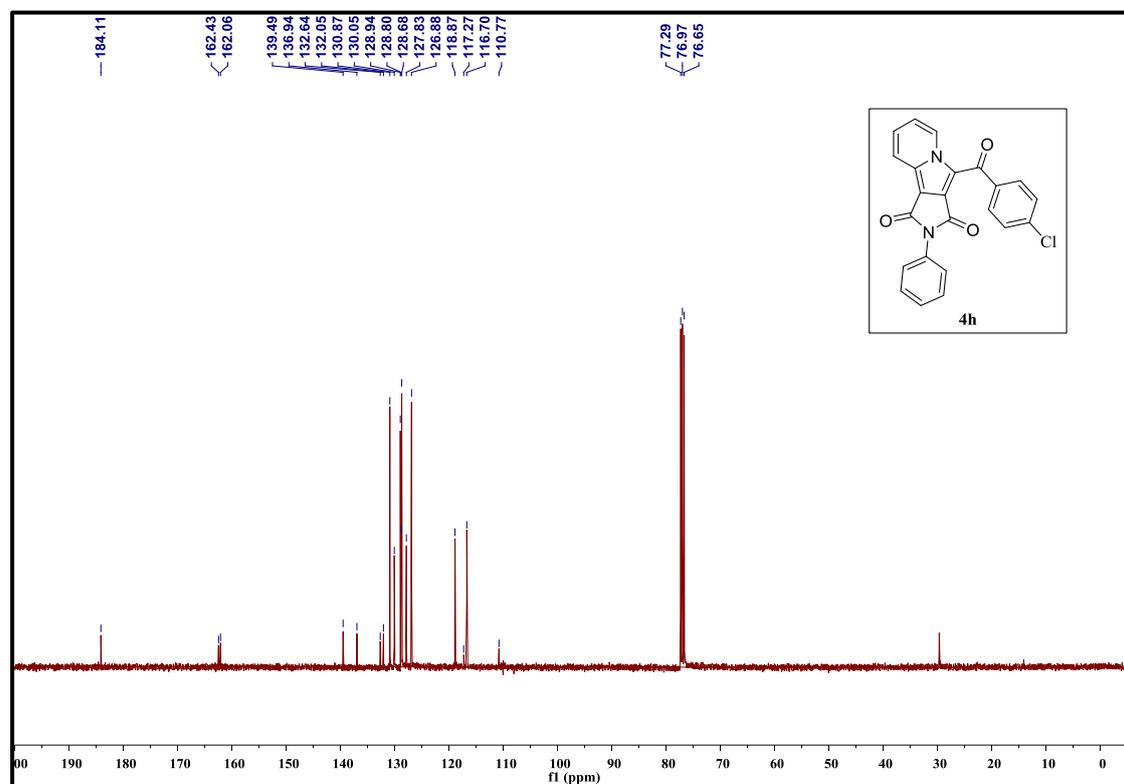
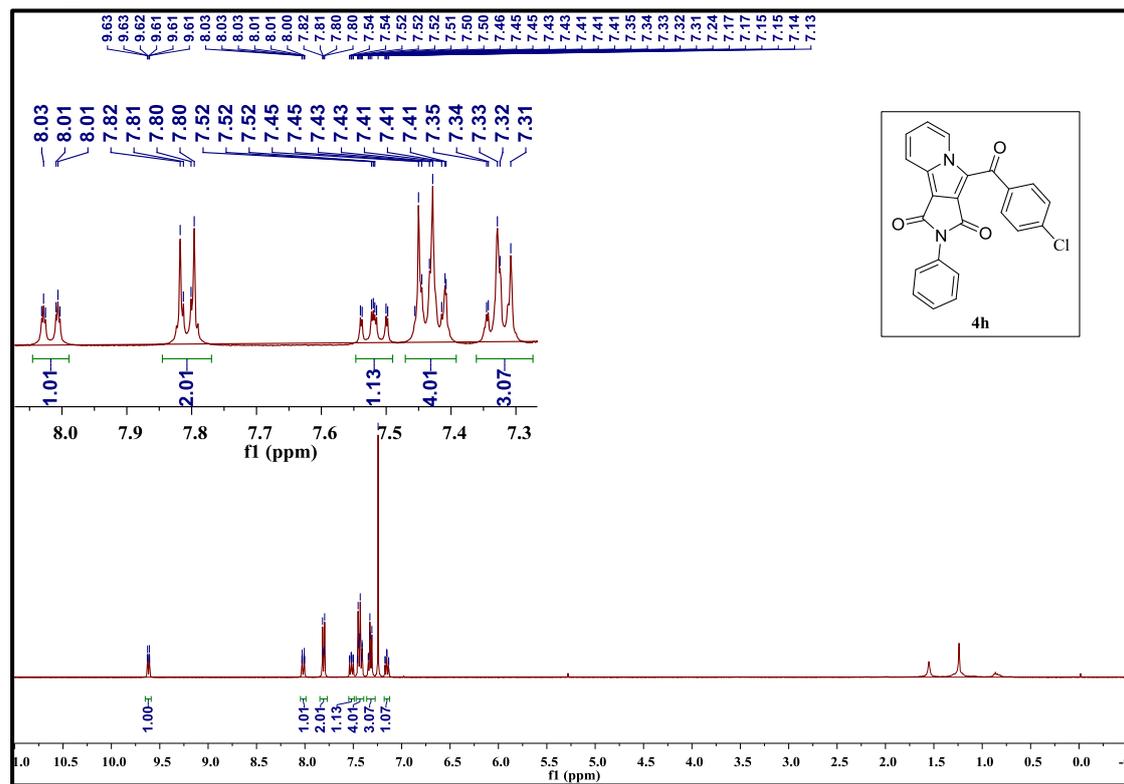
Compound 4f



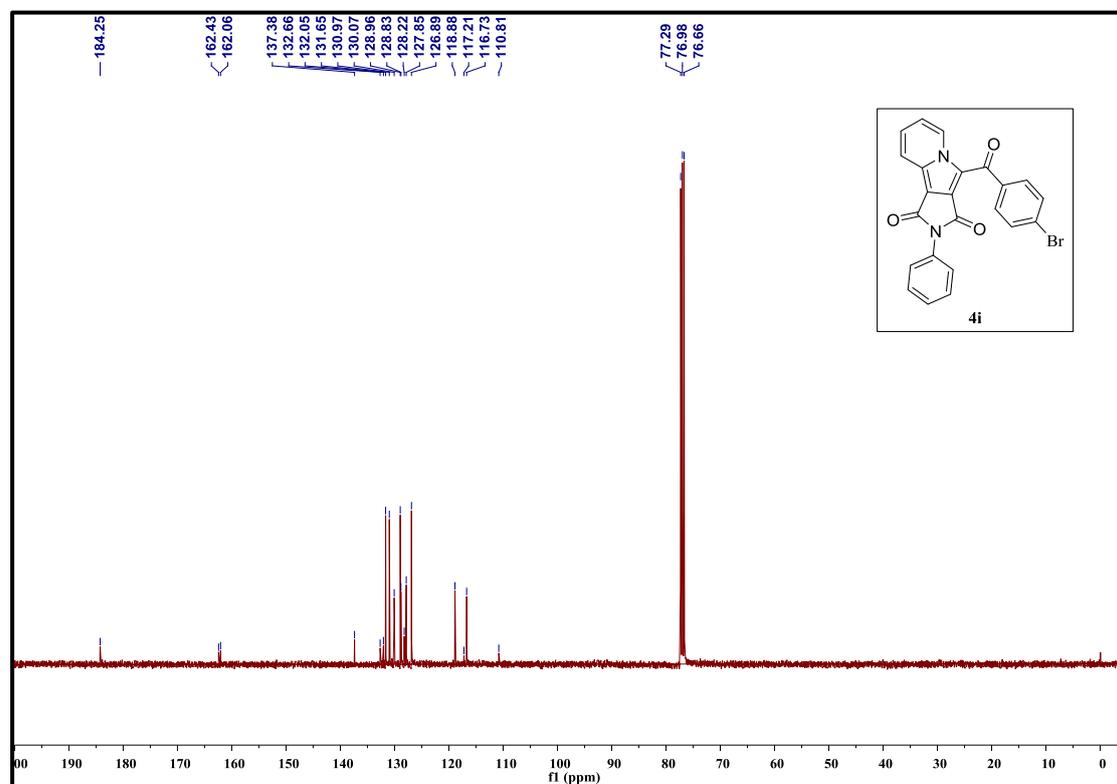
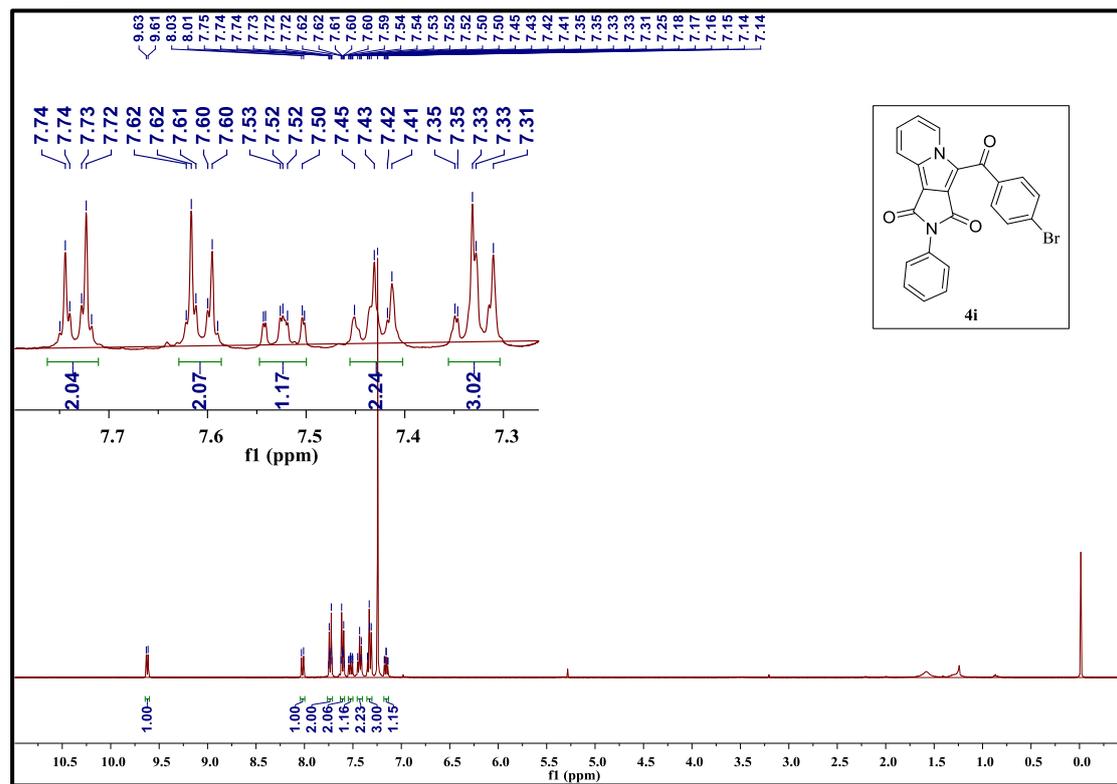
Compound 4g



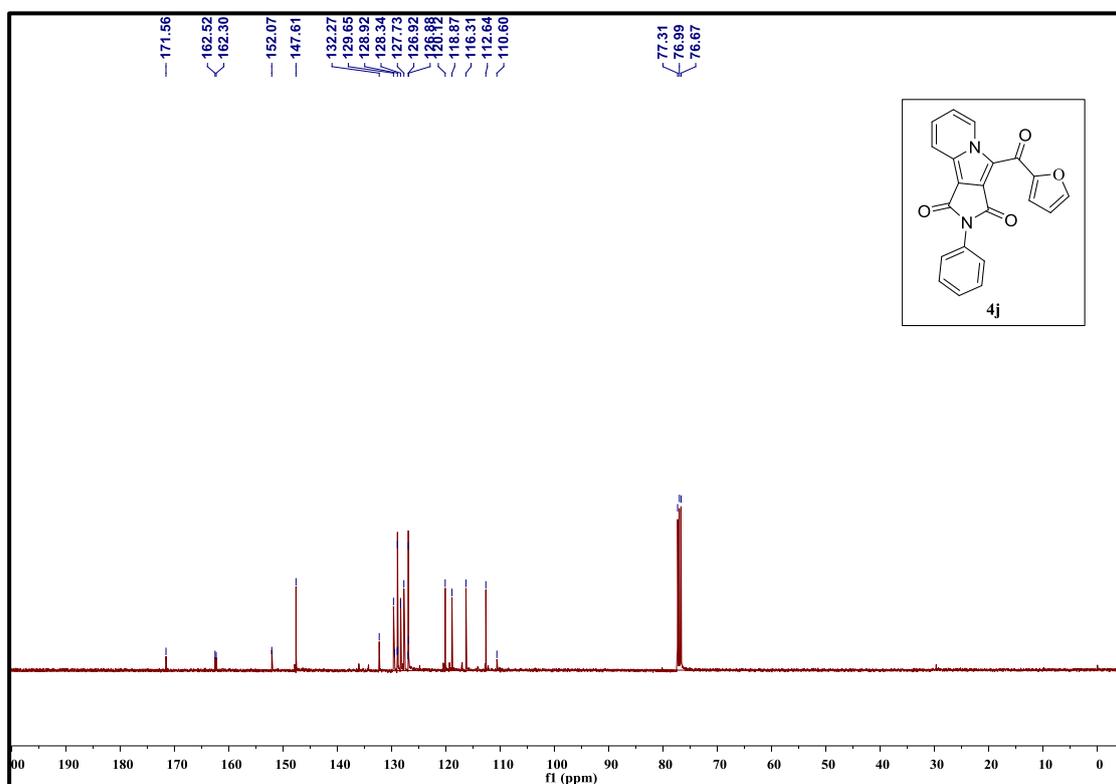
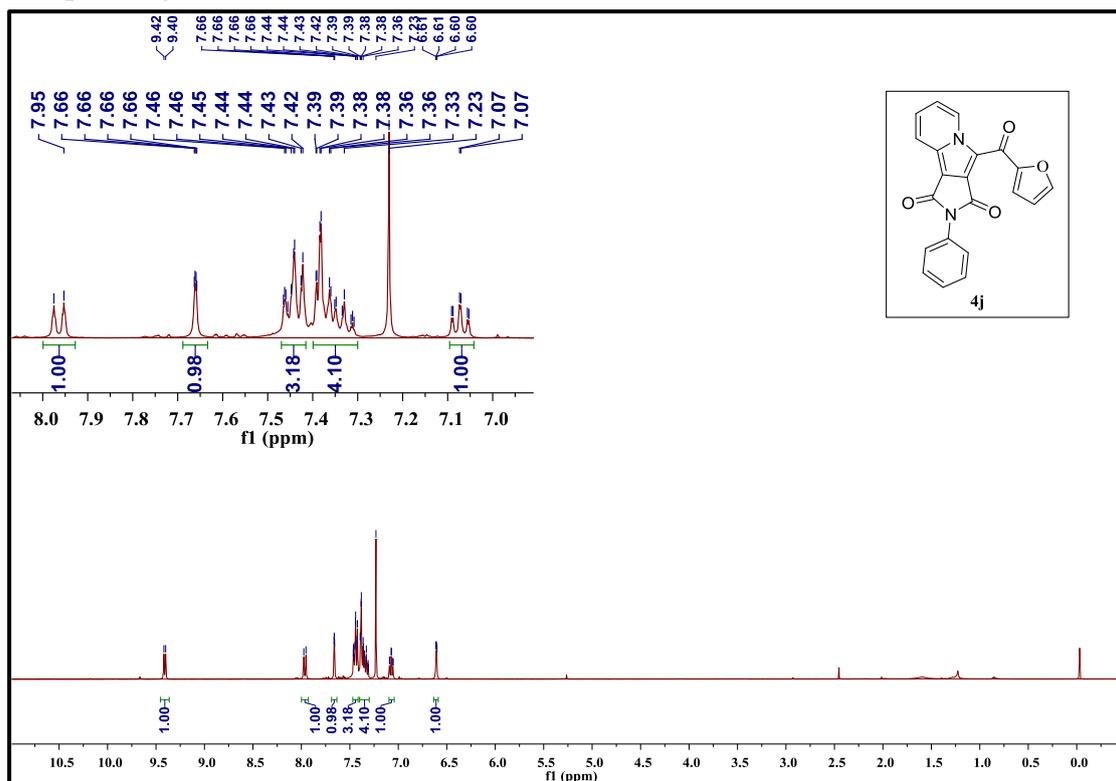
Compound 4h



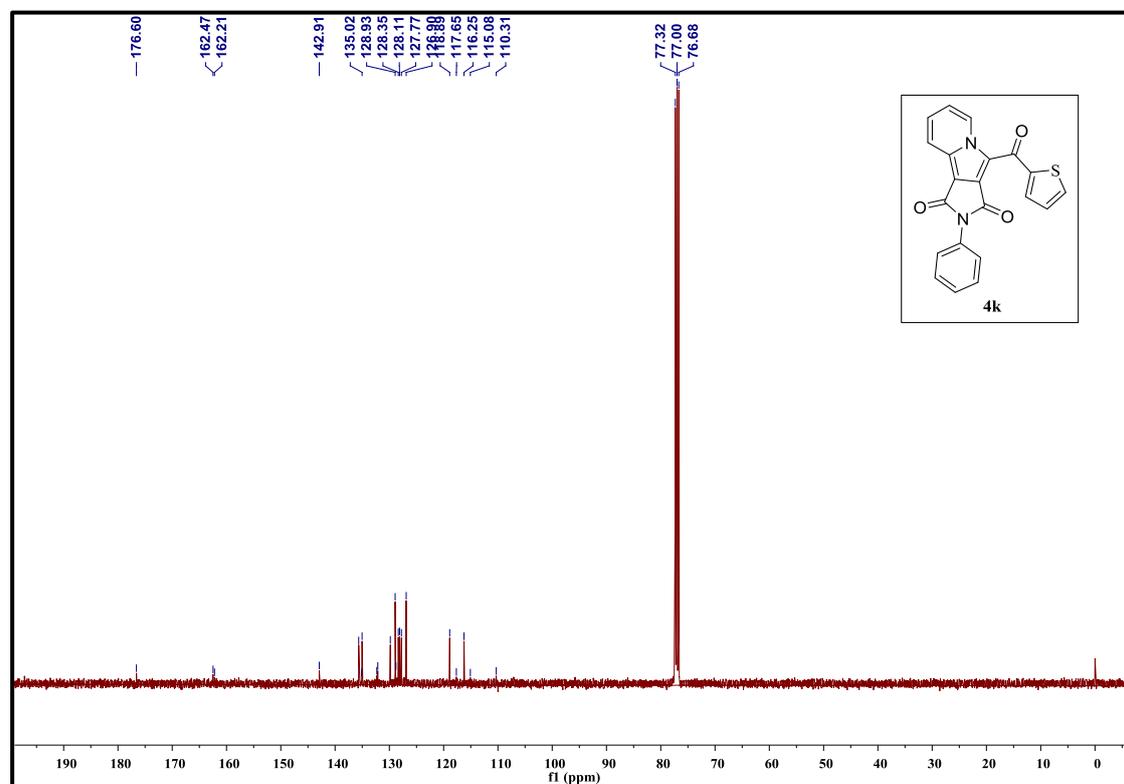
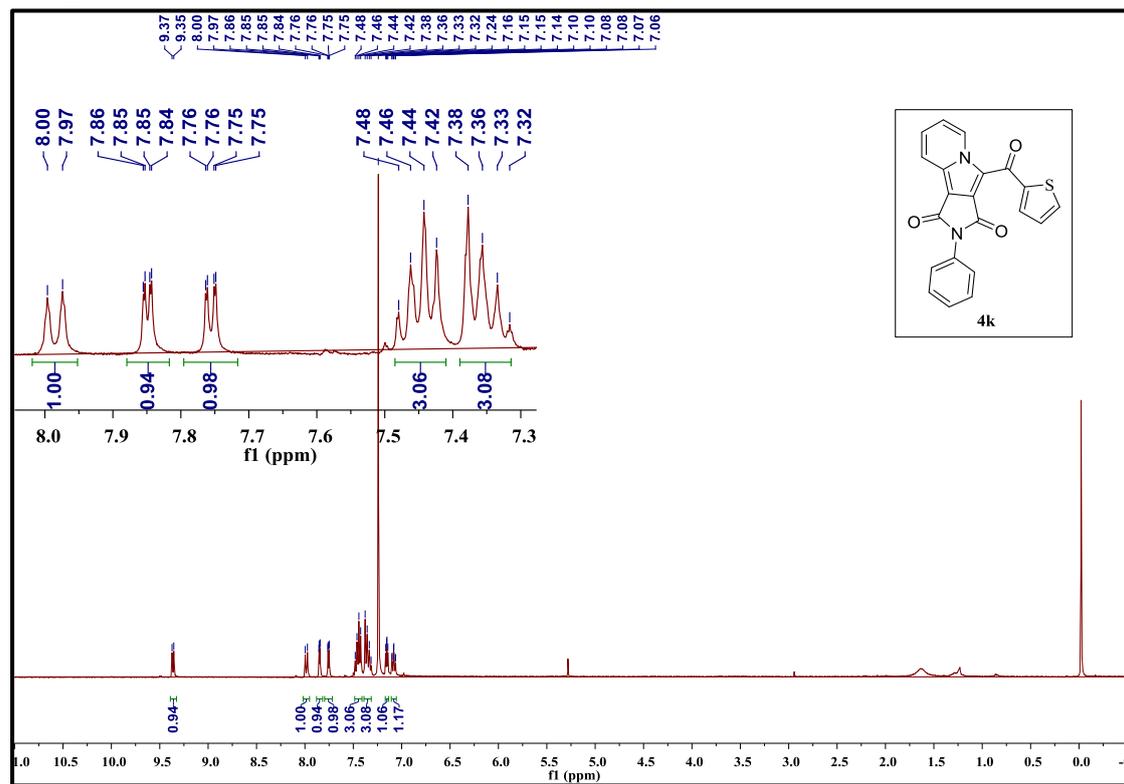
Compound 4i



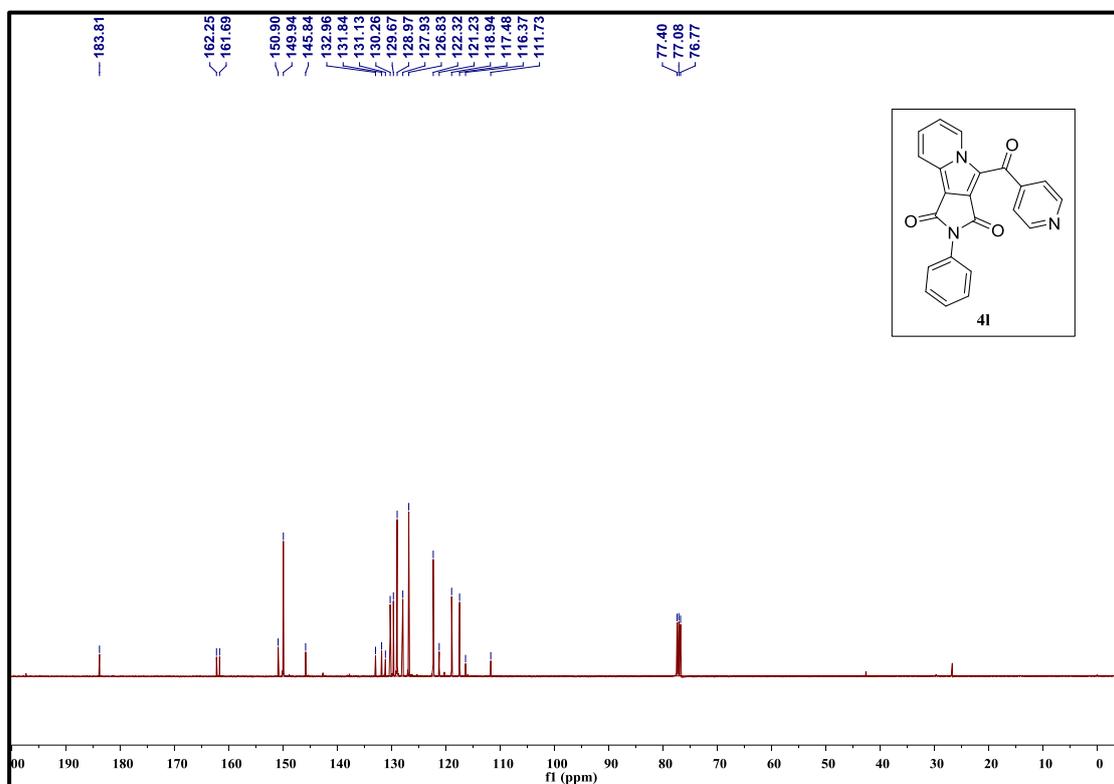
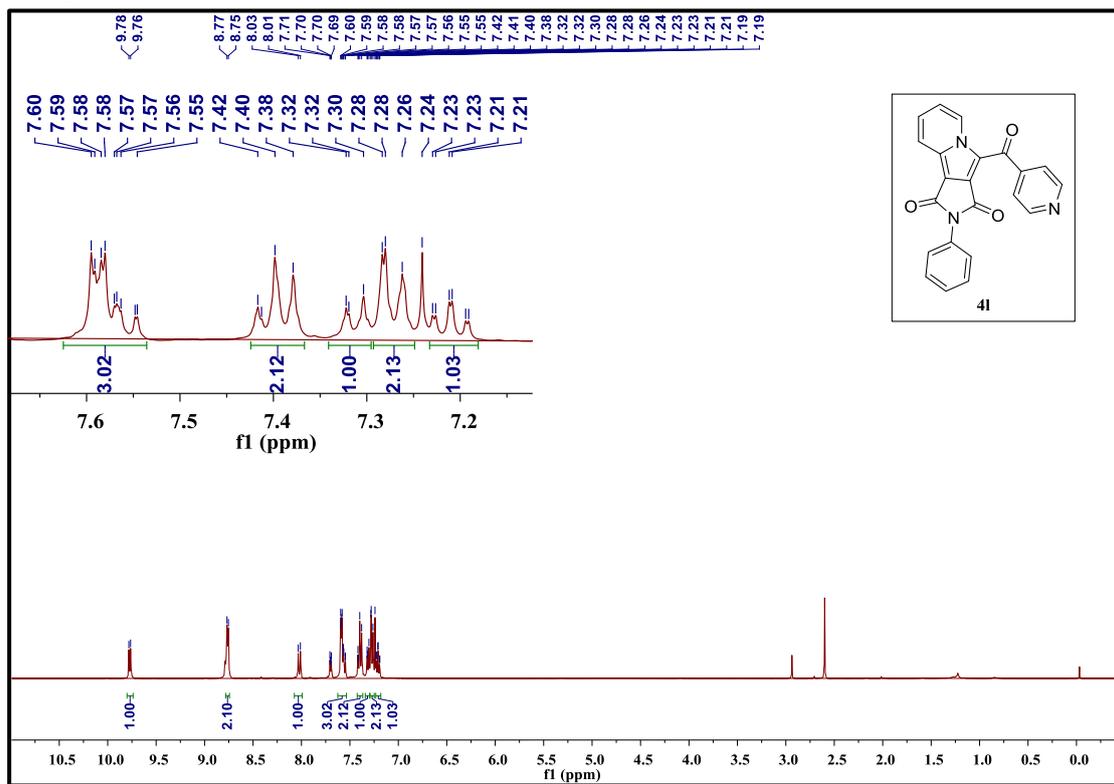
Compound 4j



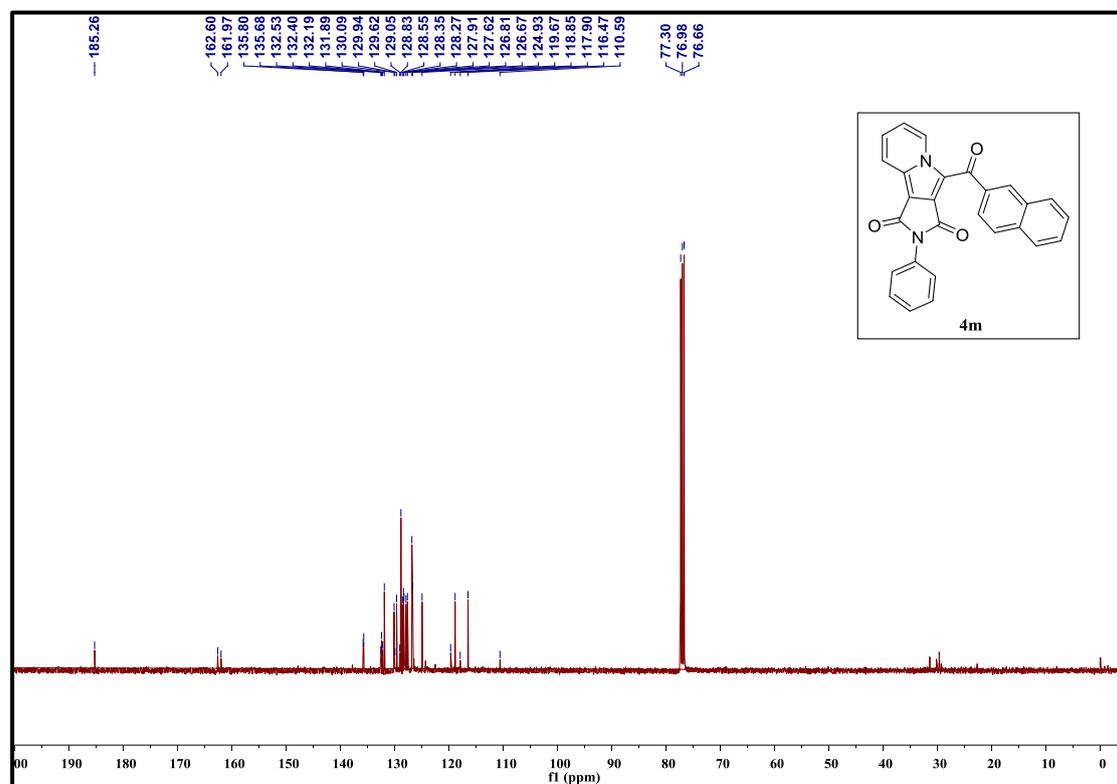
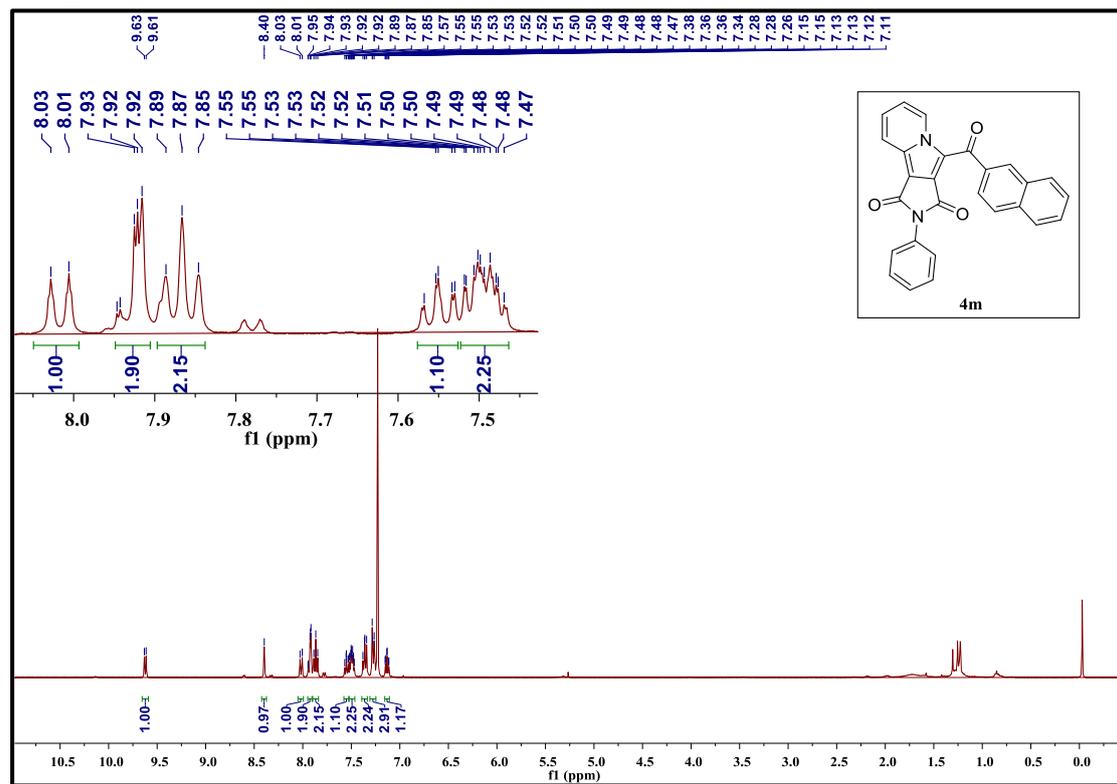
Compound 4k



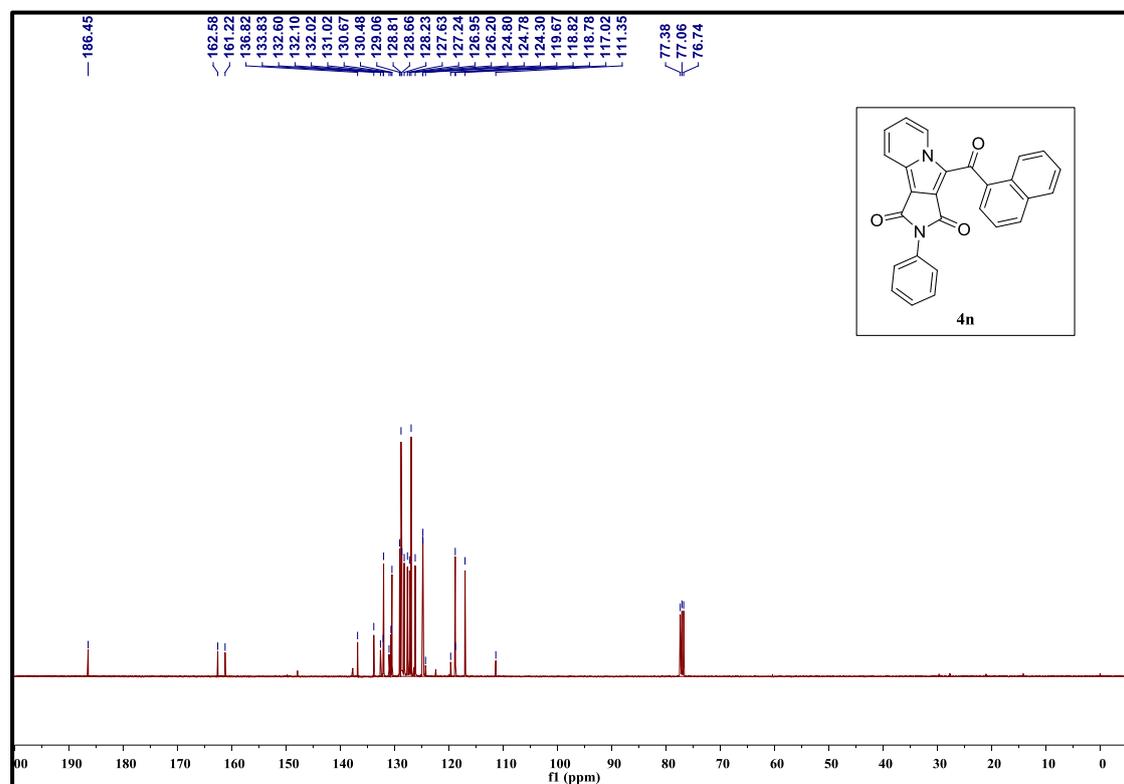
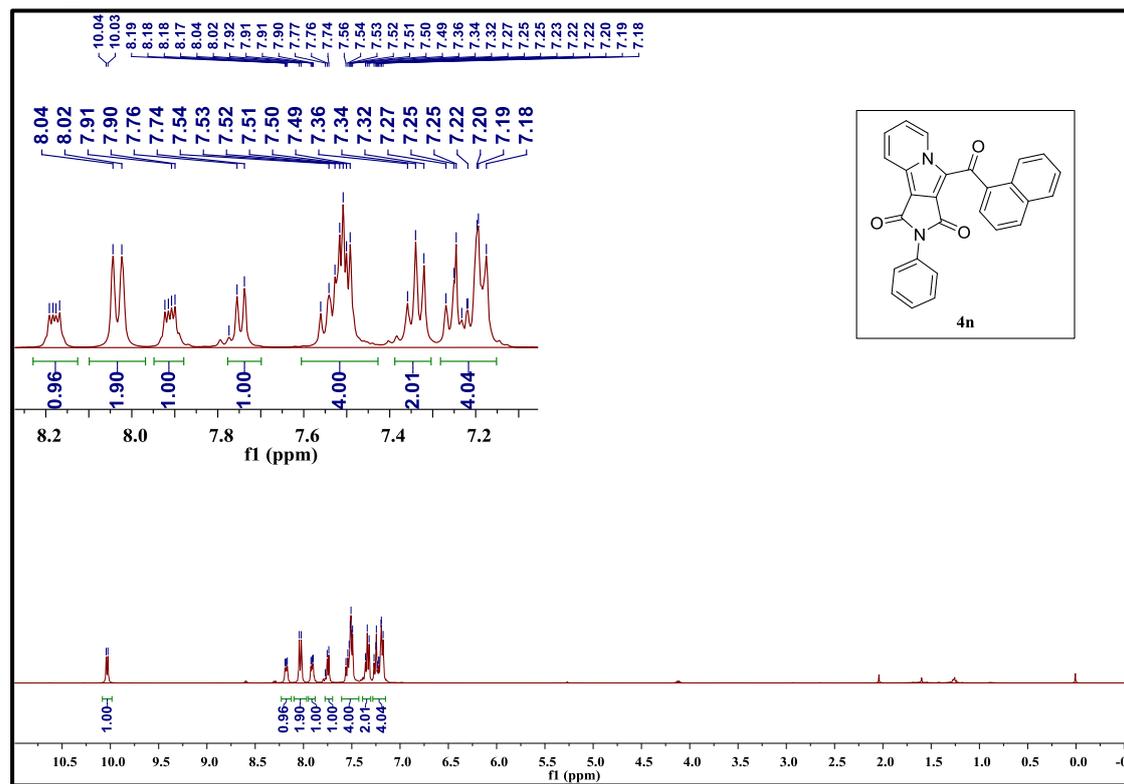
Compound 4l



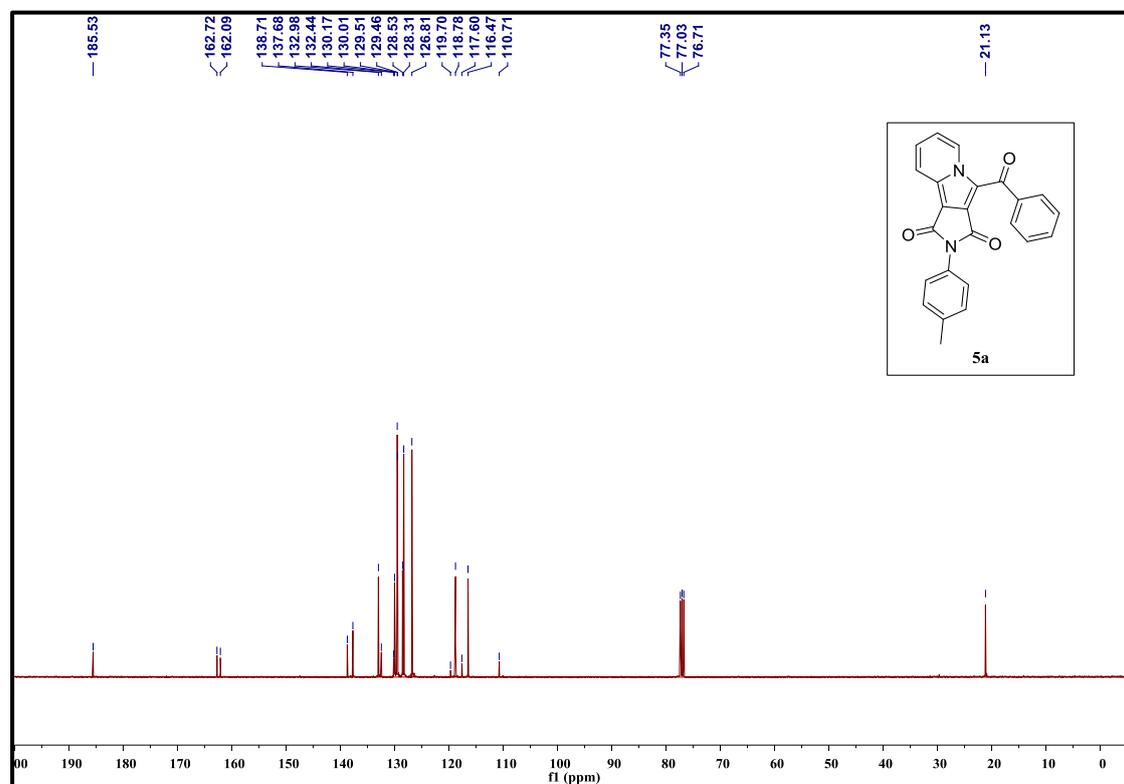
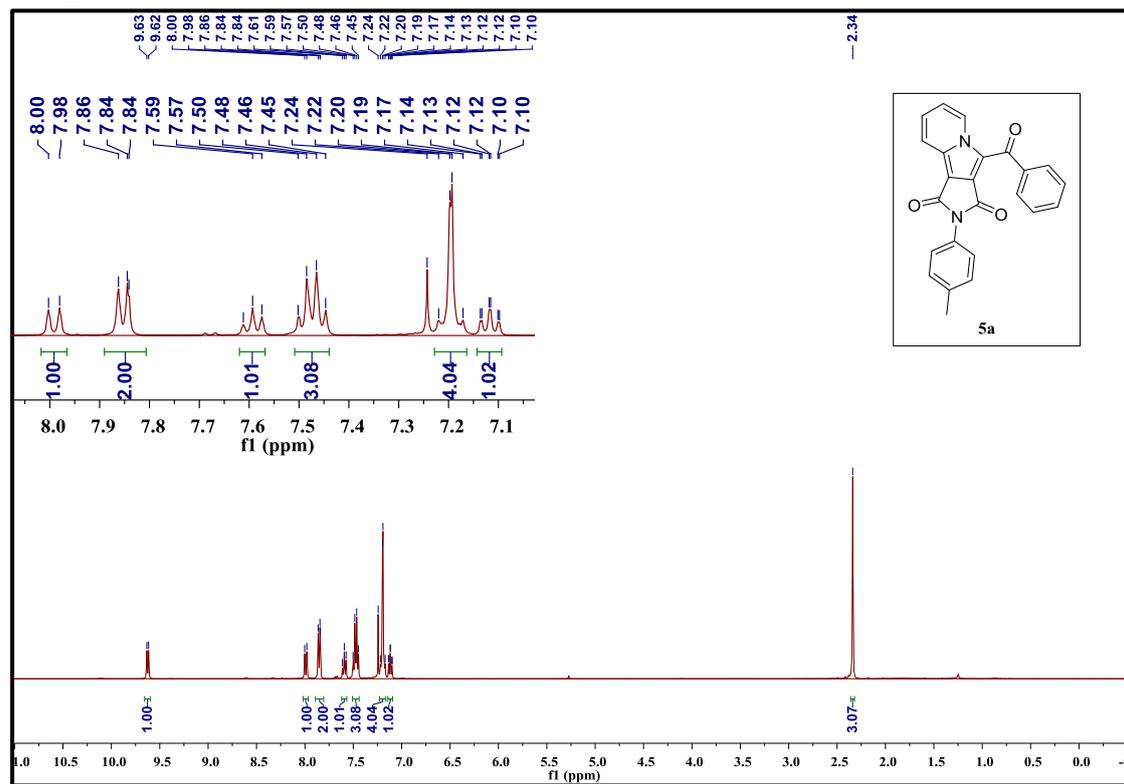
Compound 4m



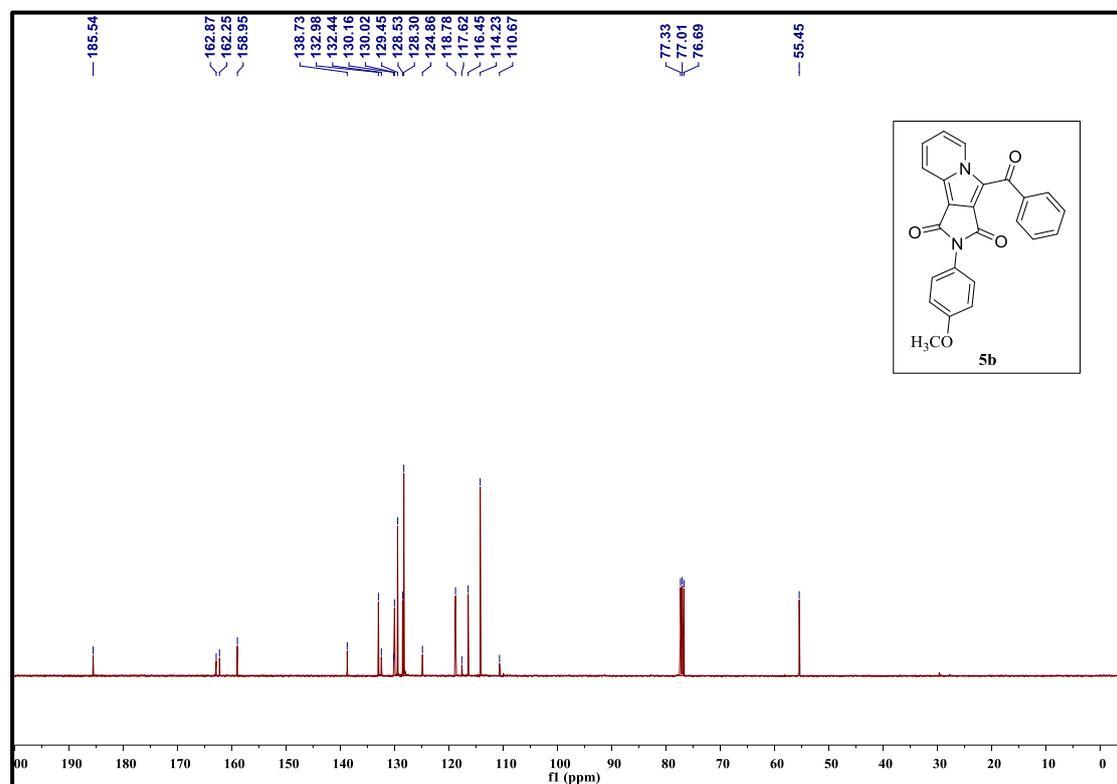
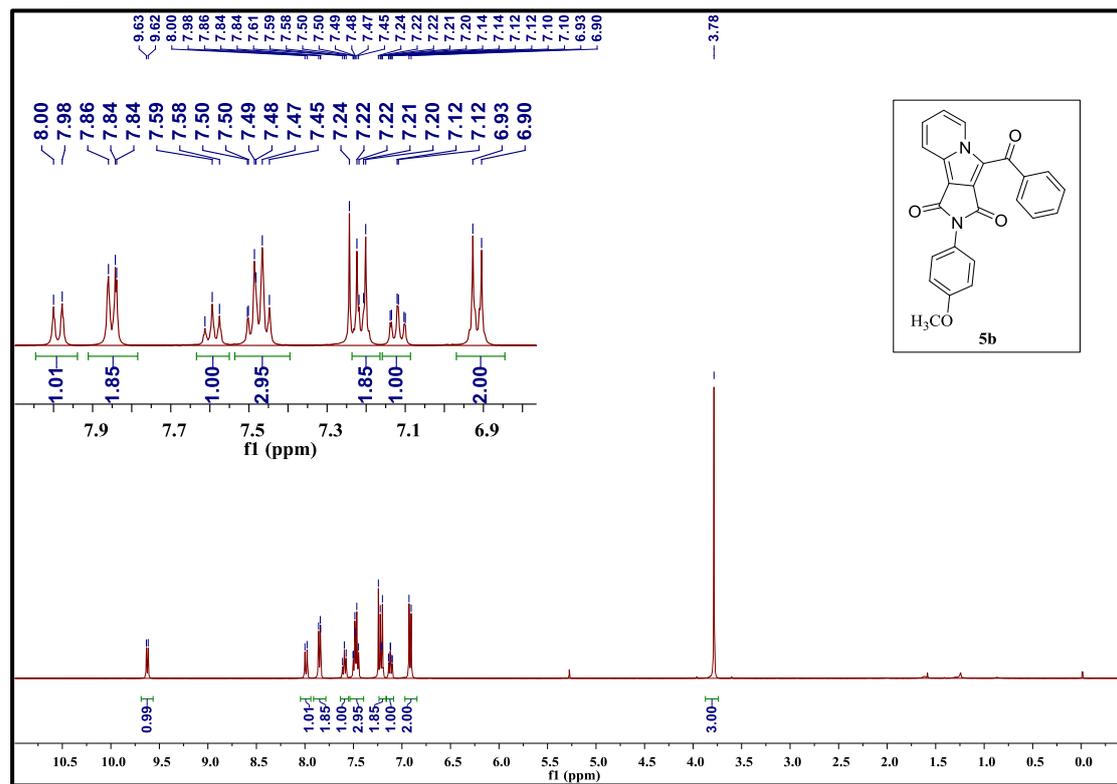
Compound 4n



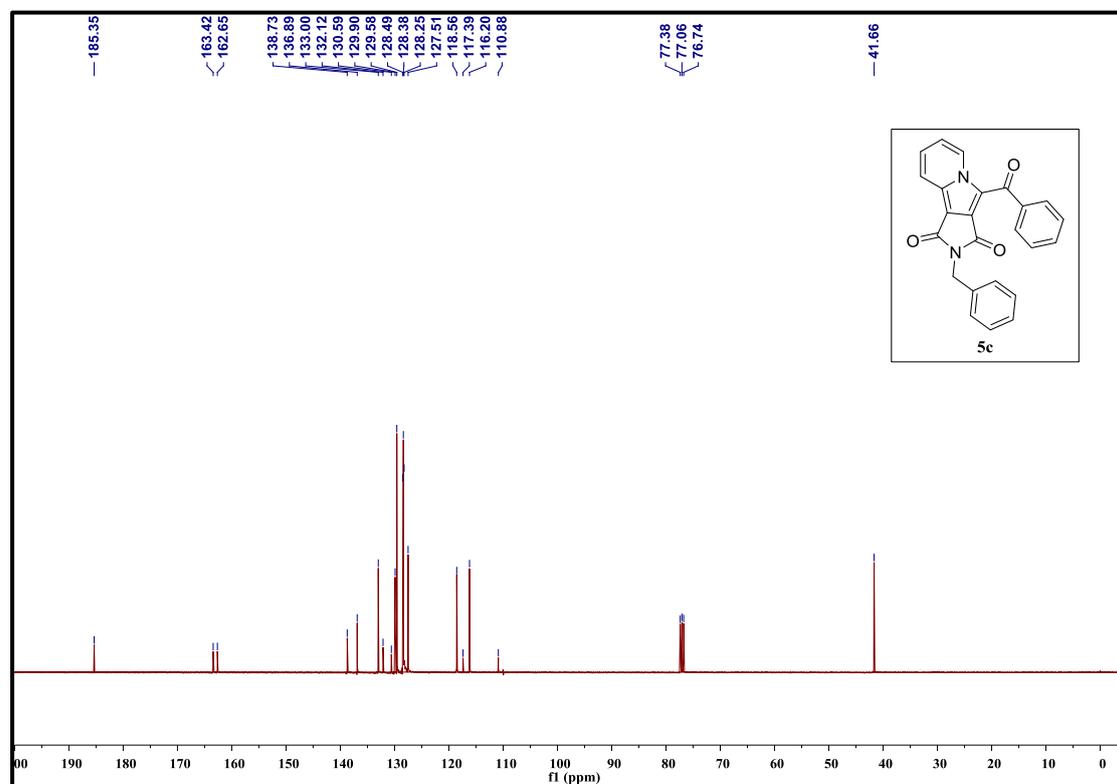
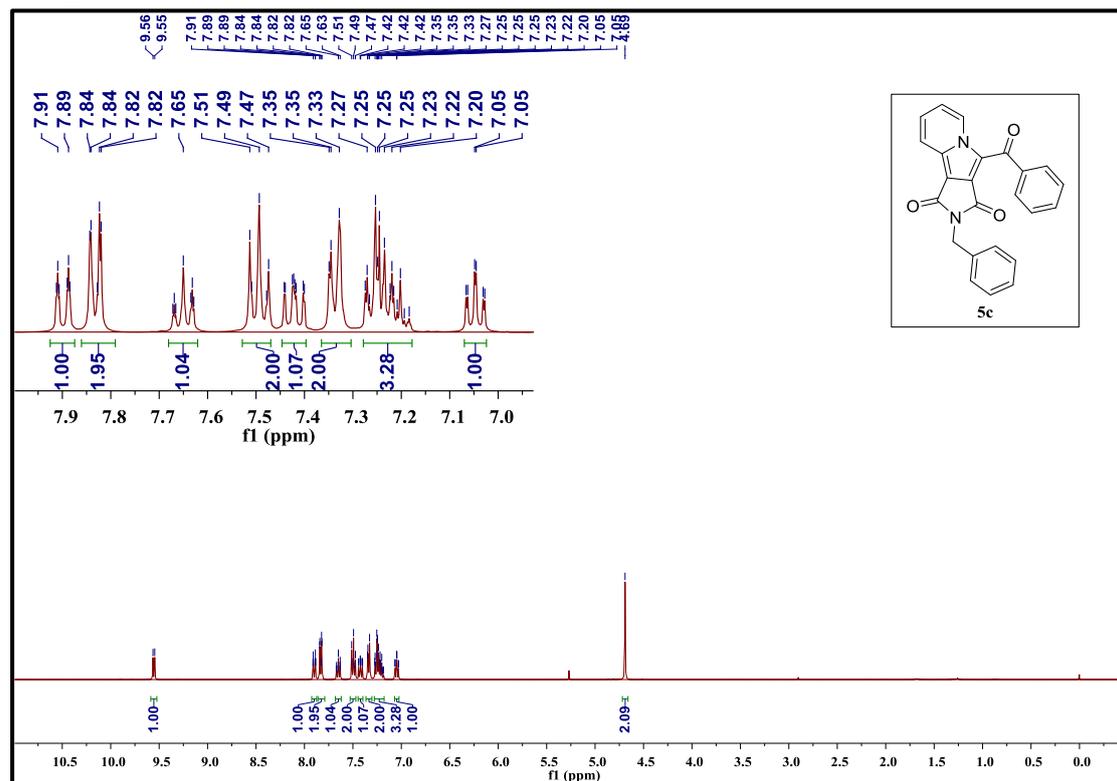
Compound 5a



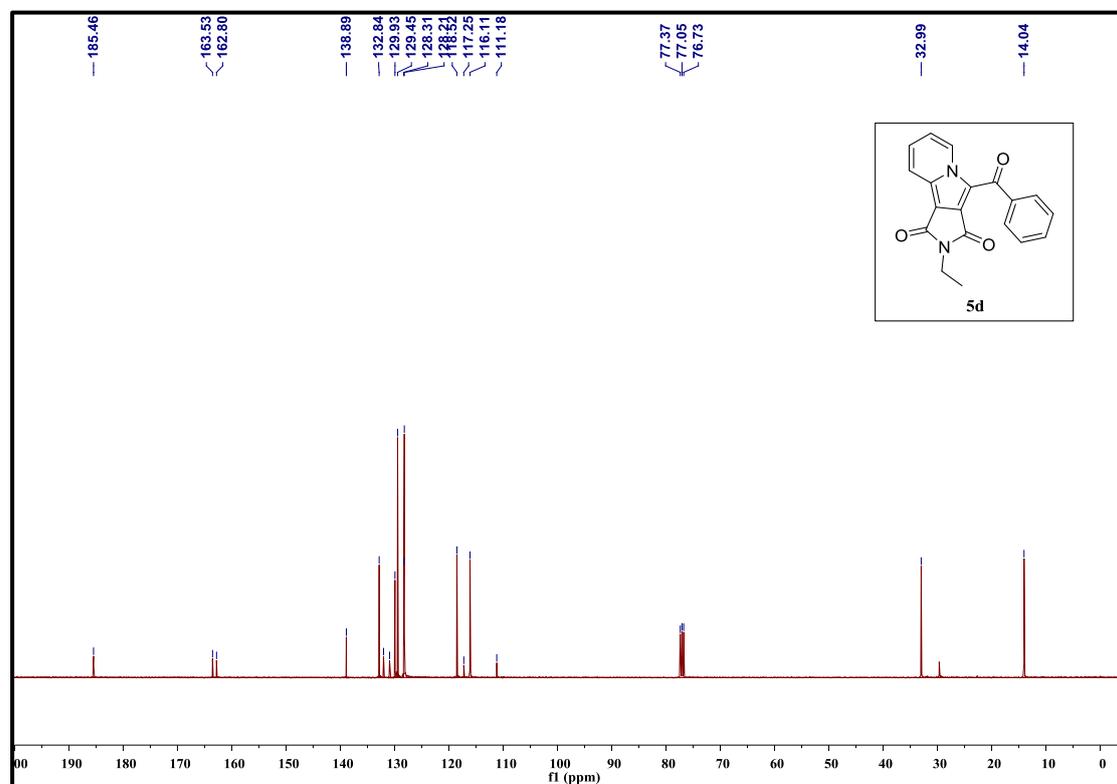
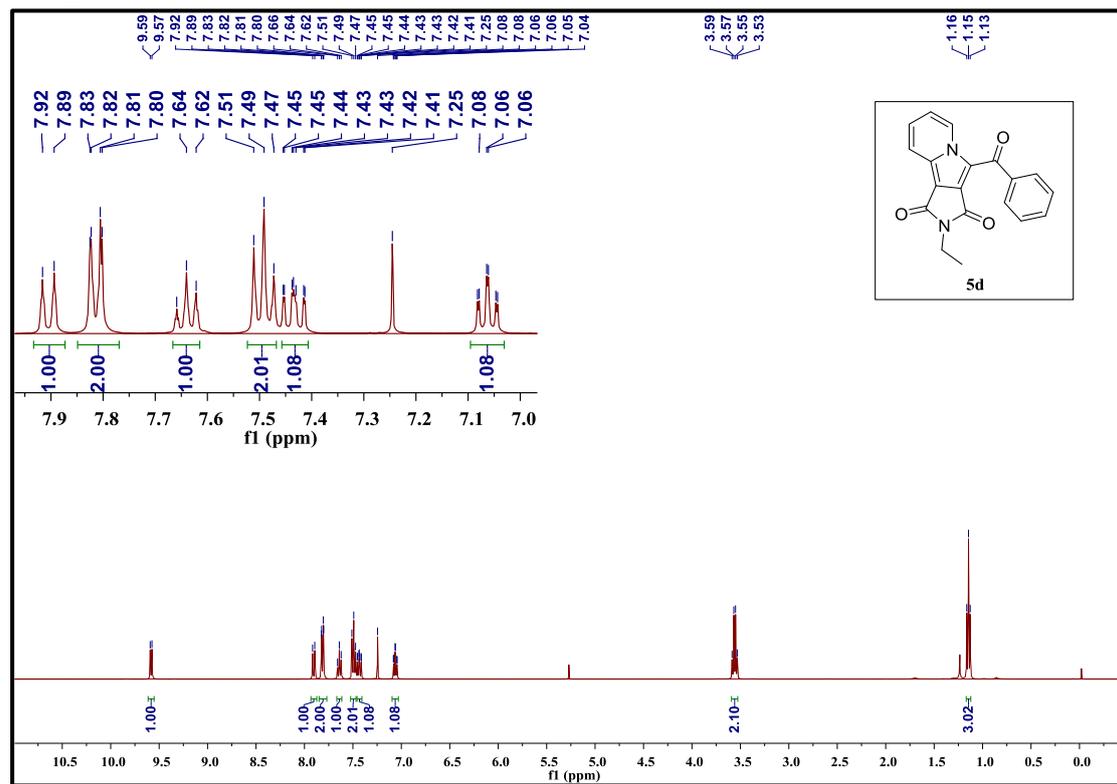
Compound 5b



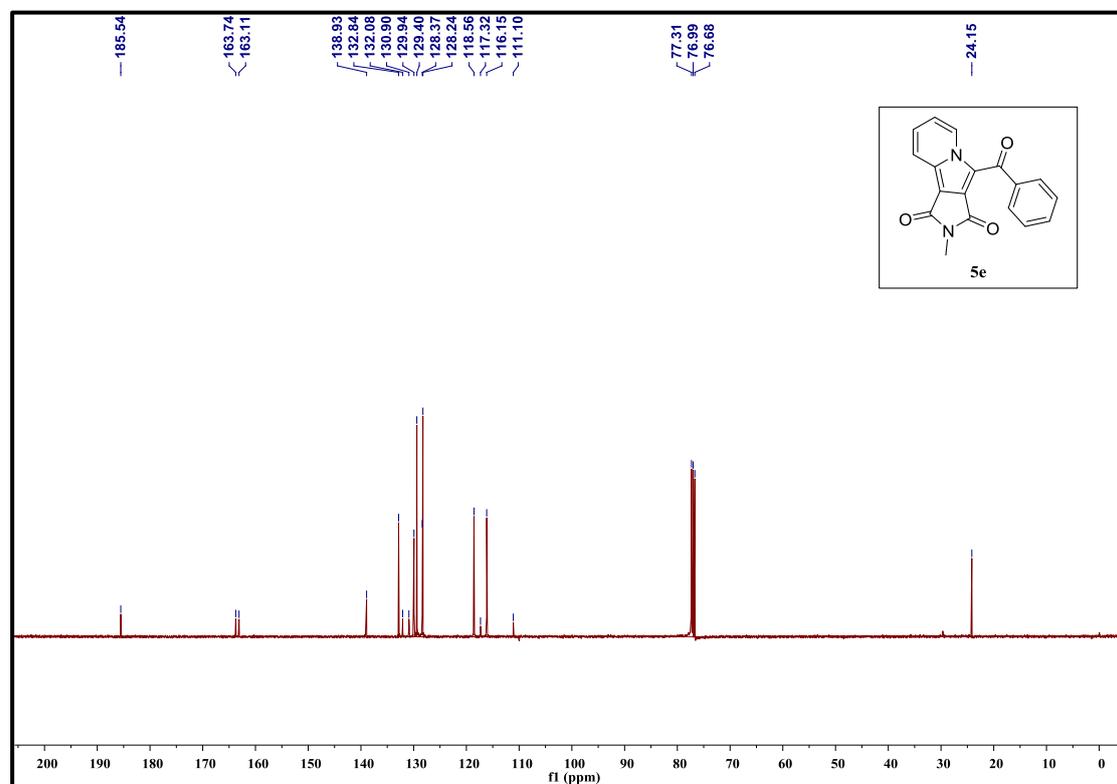
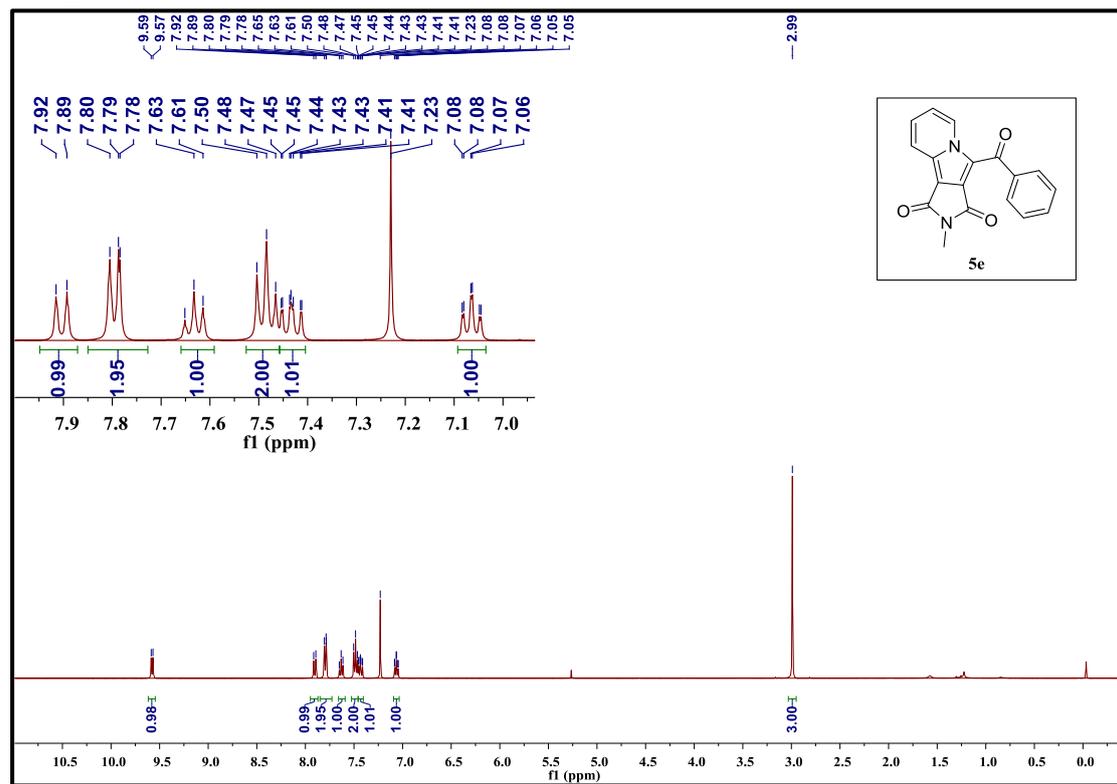
Compound 5c



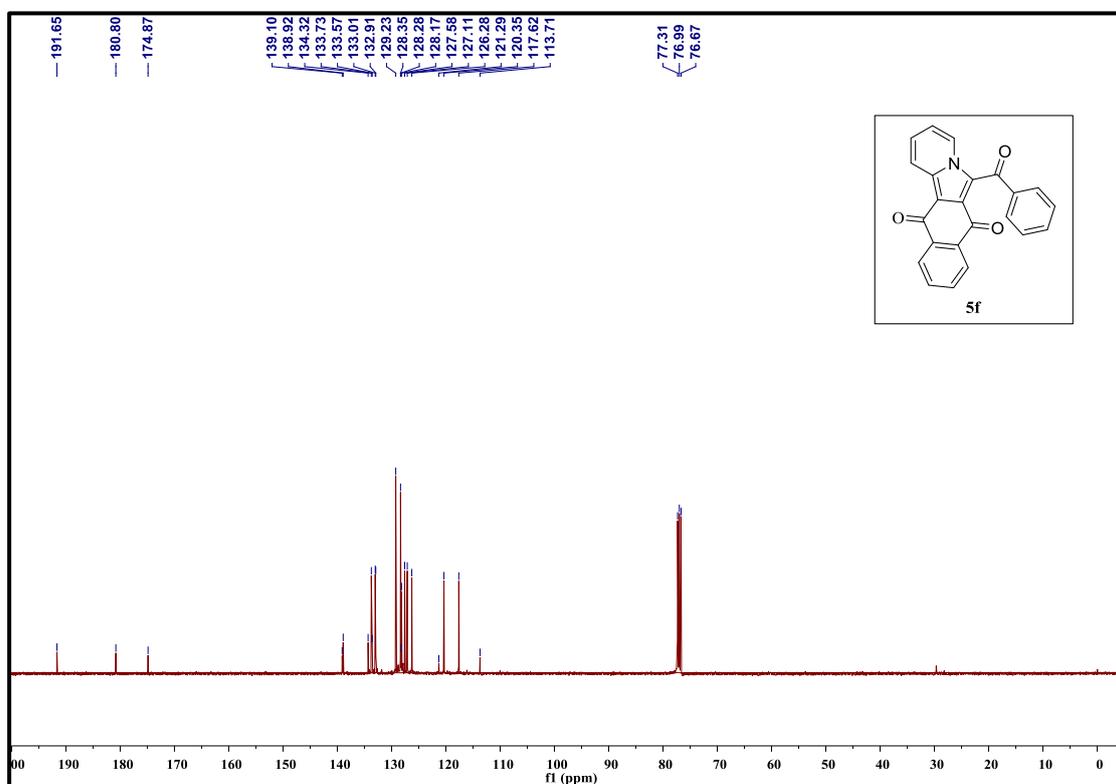
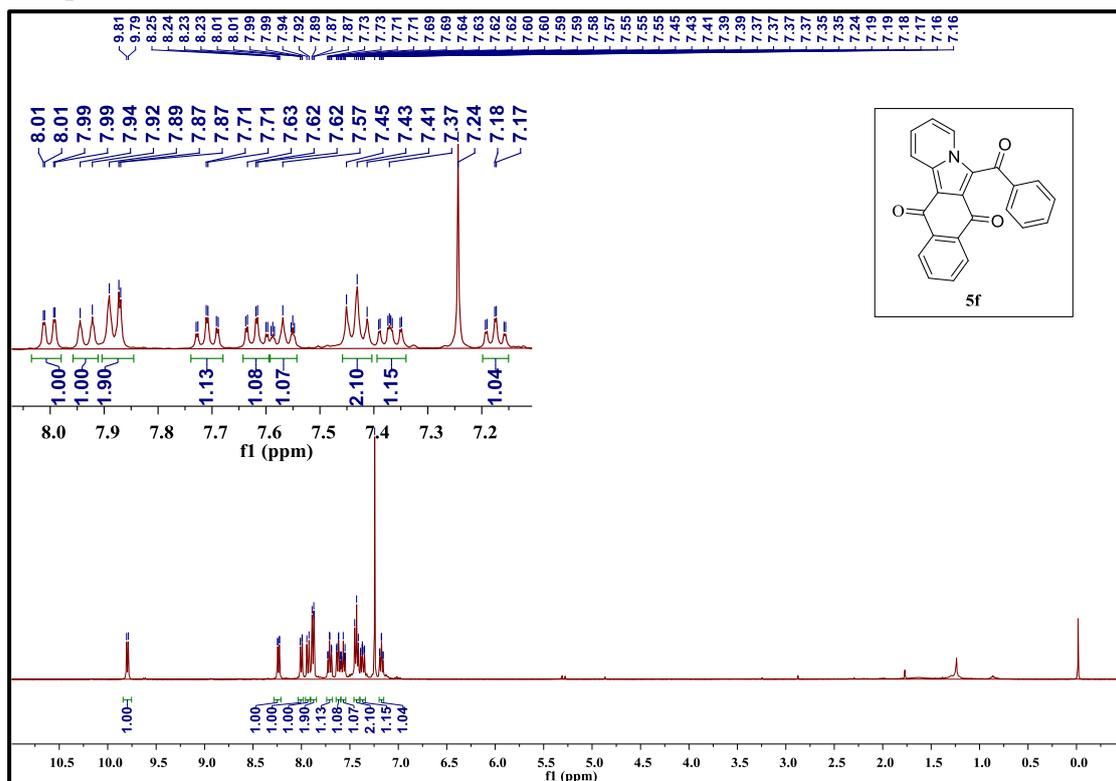
Compound 5d



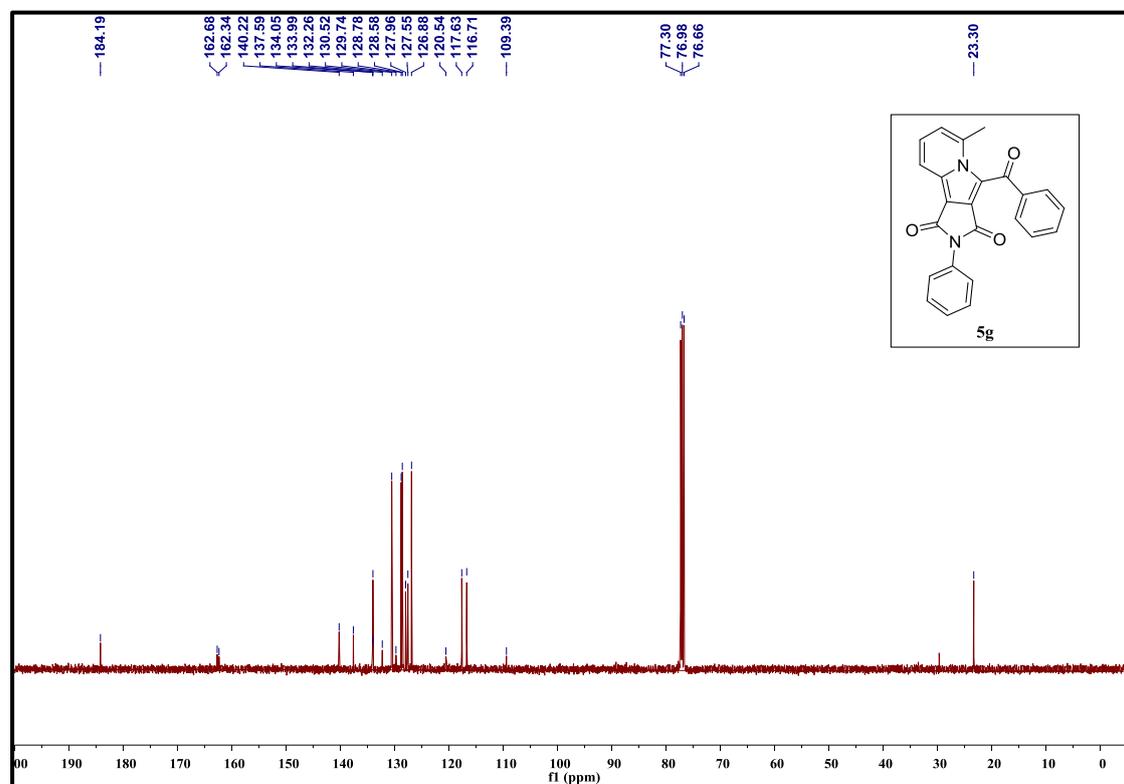
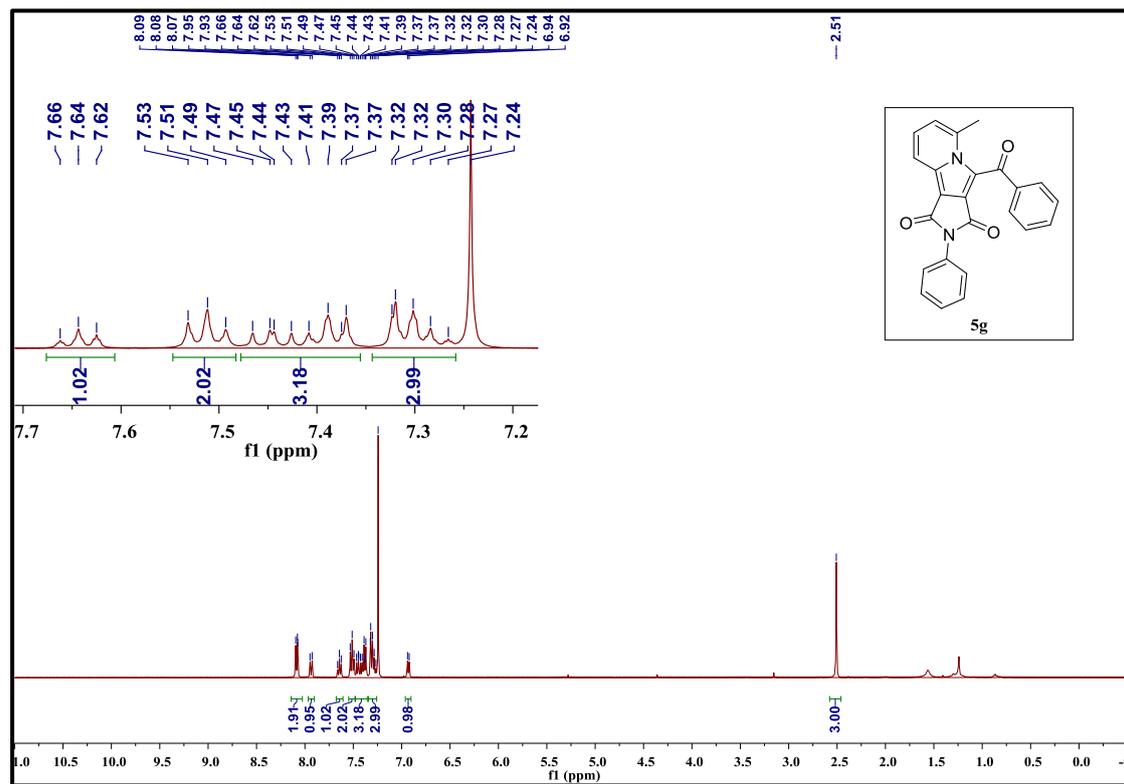
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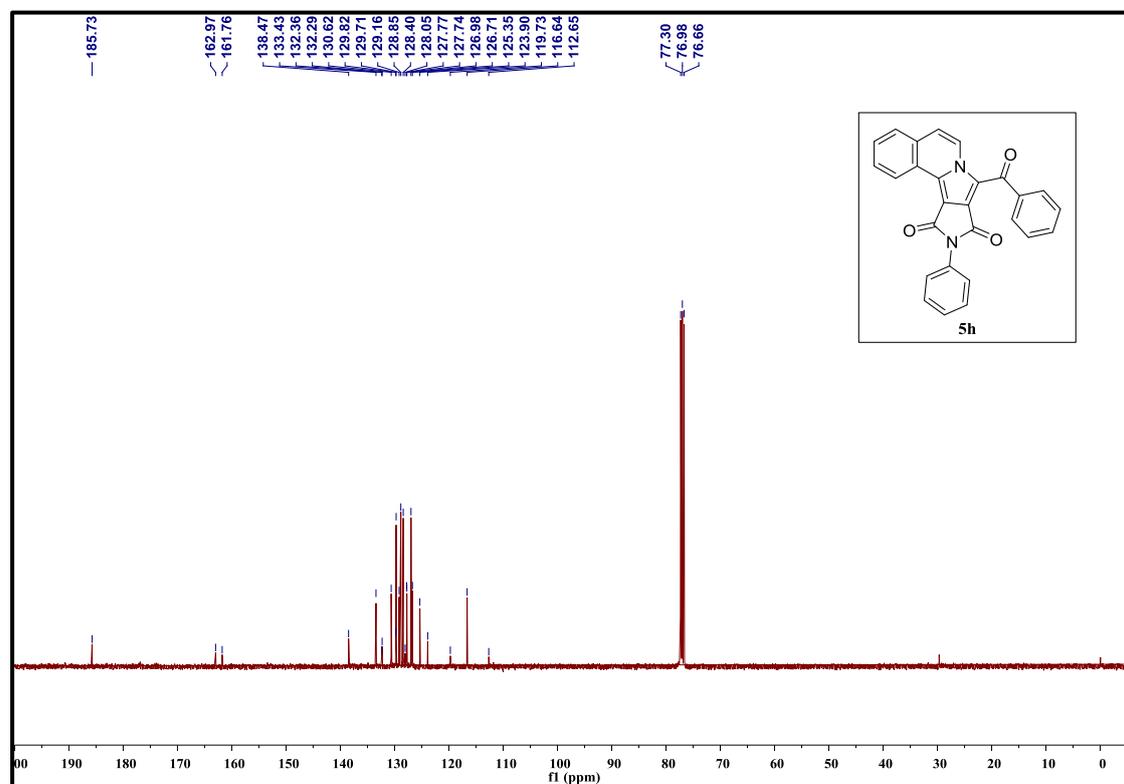
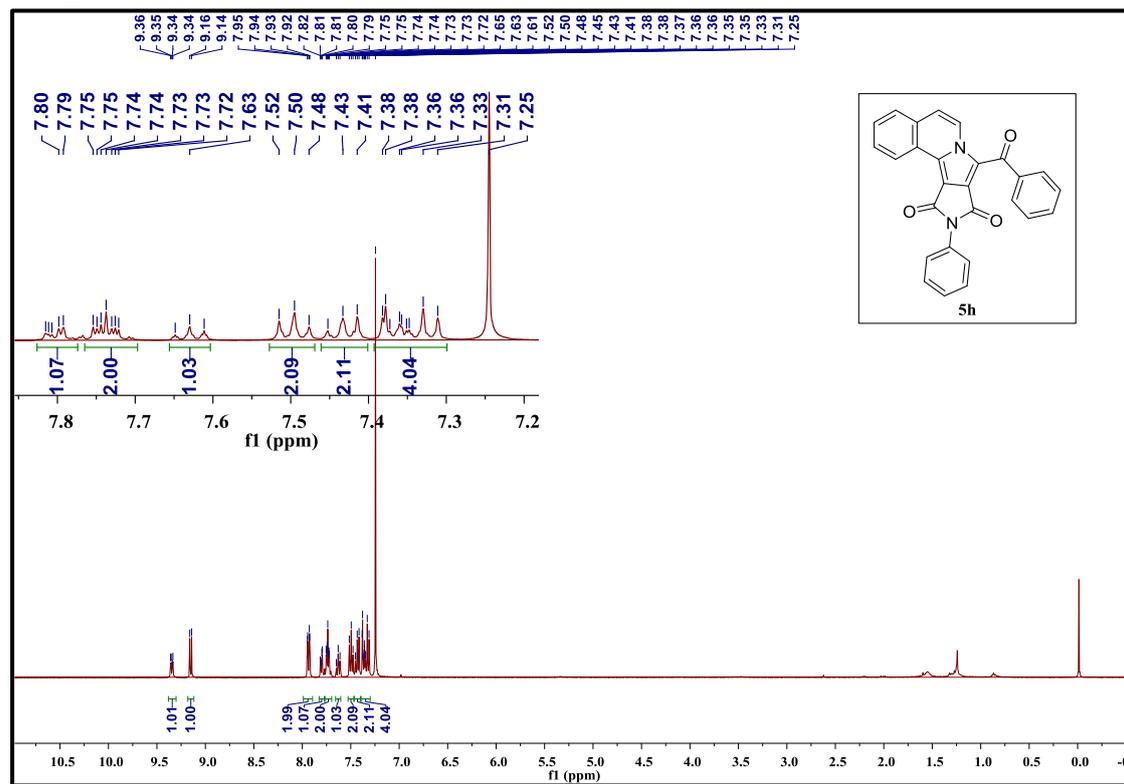
Compound 5f



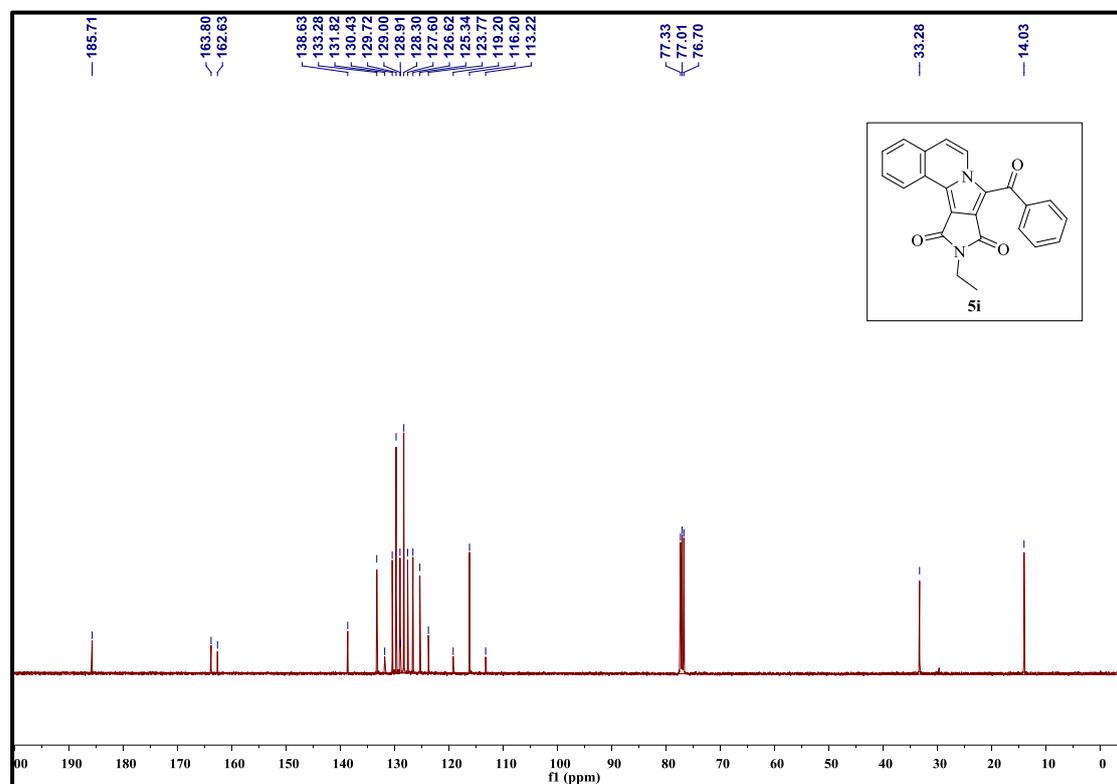
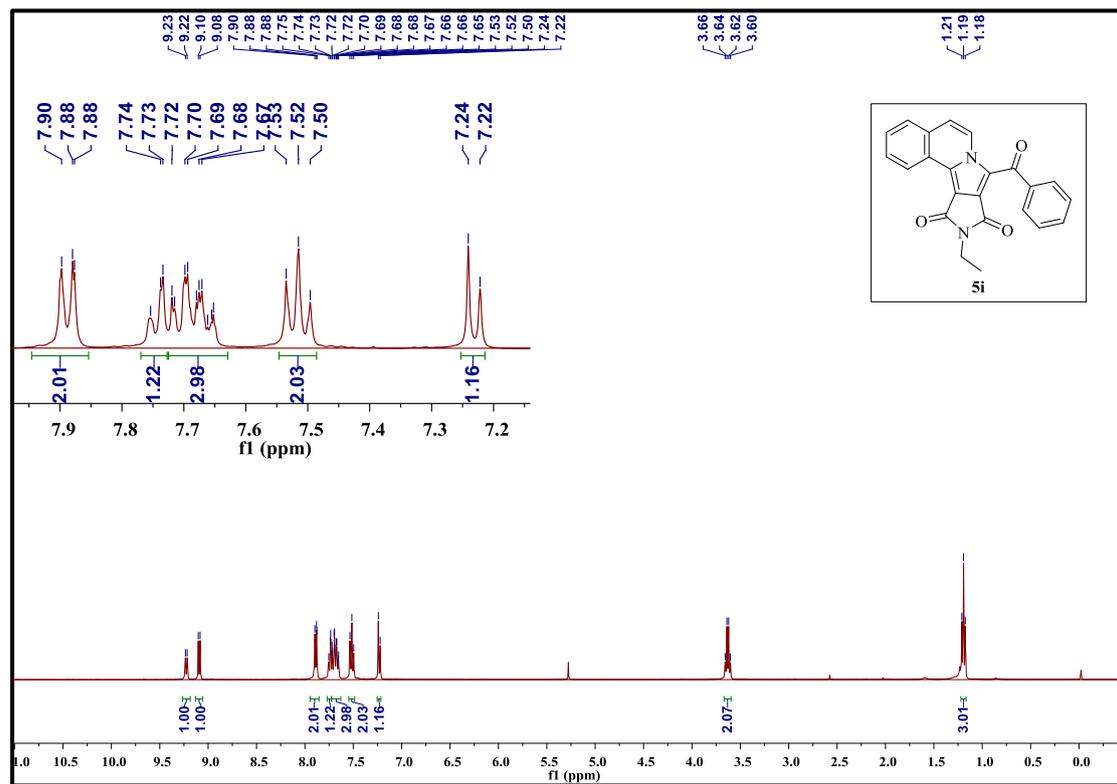
Compound 5g



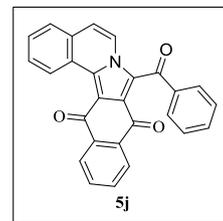
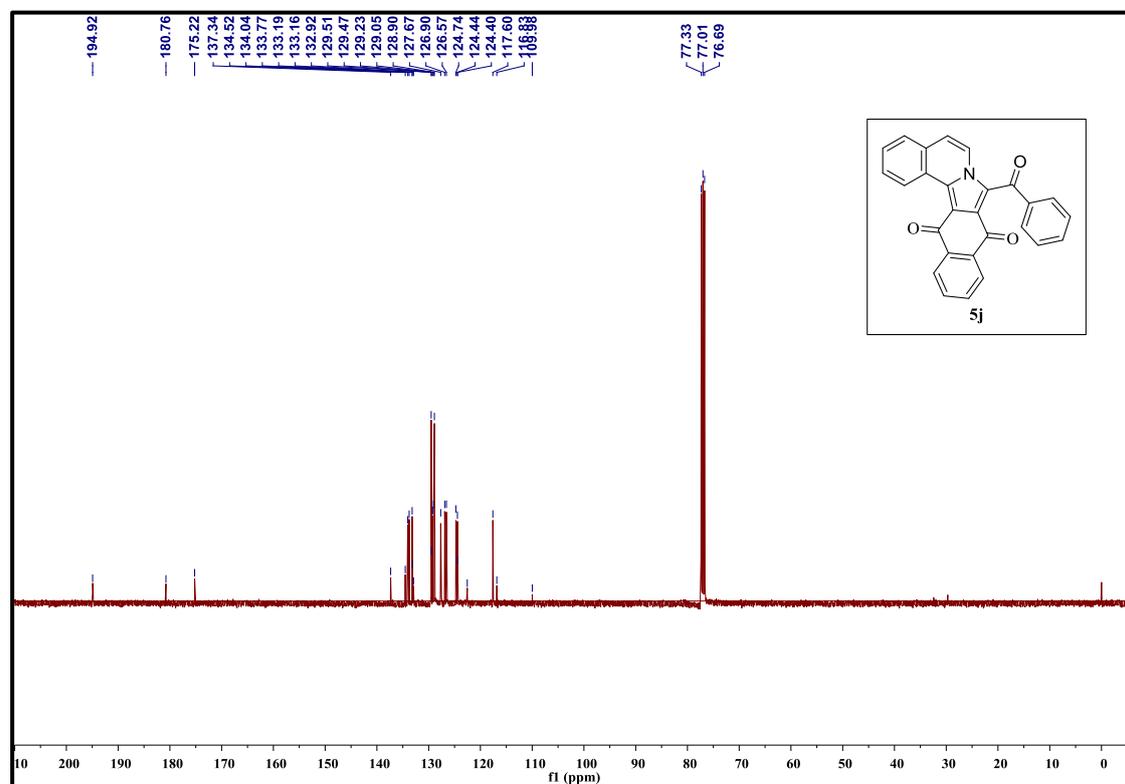
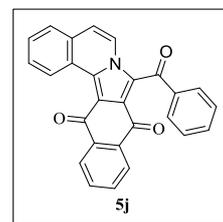
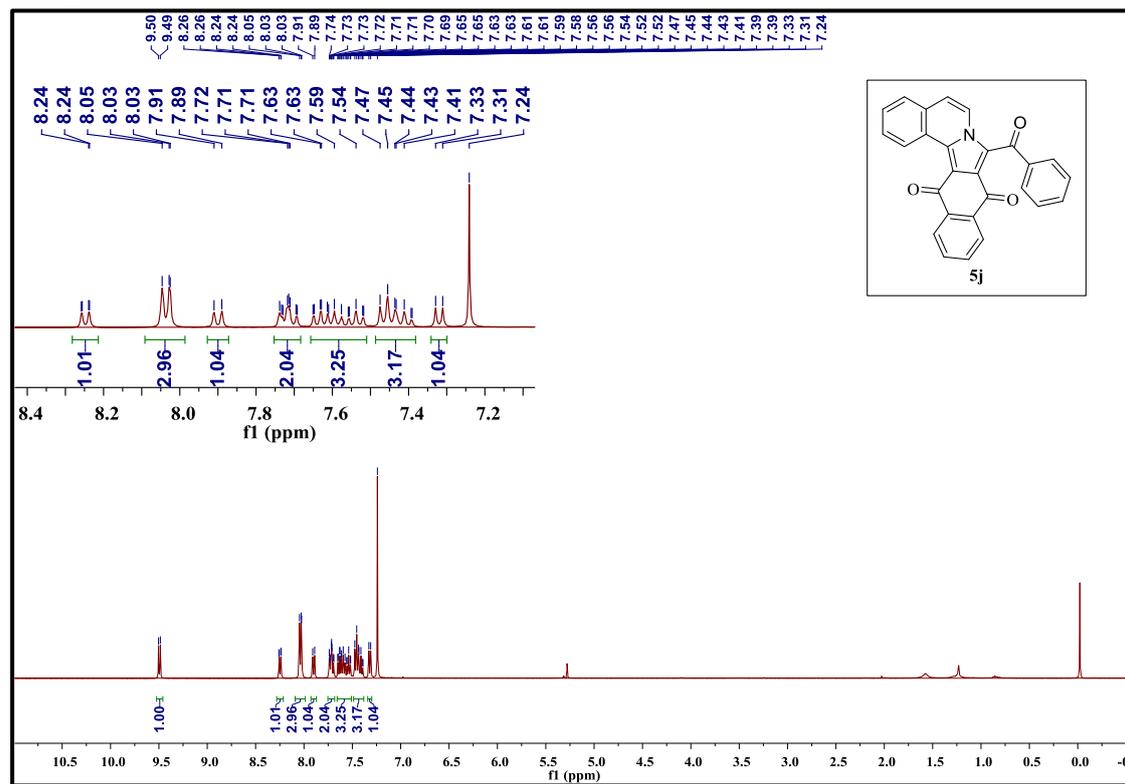
Compound 5h



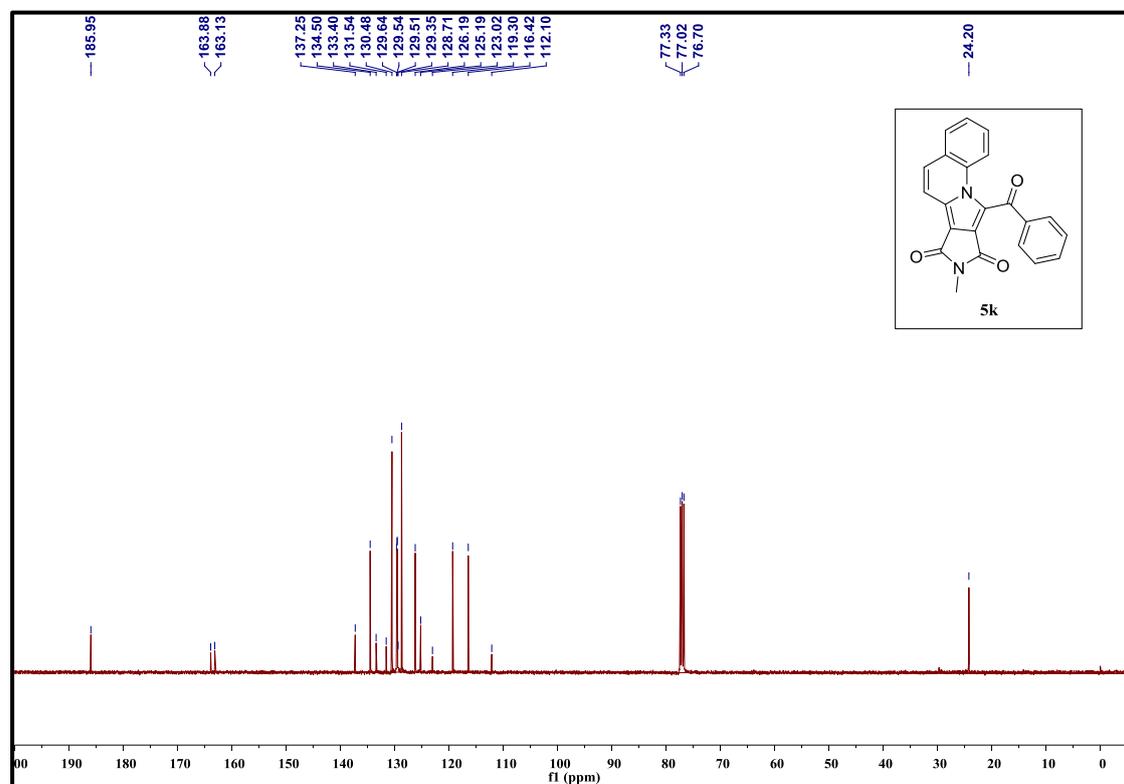
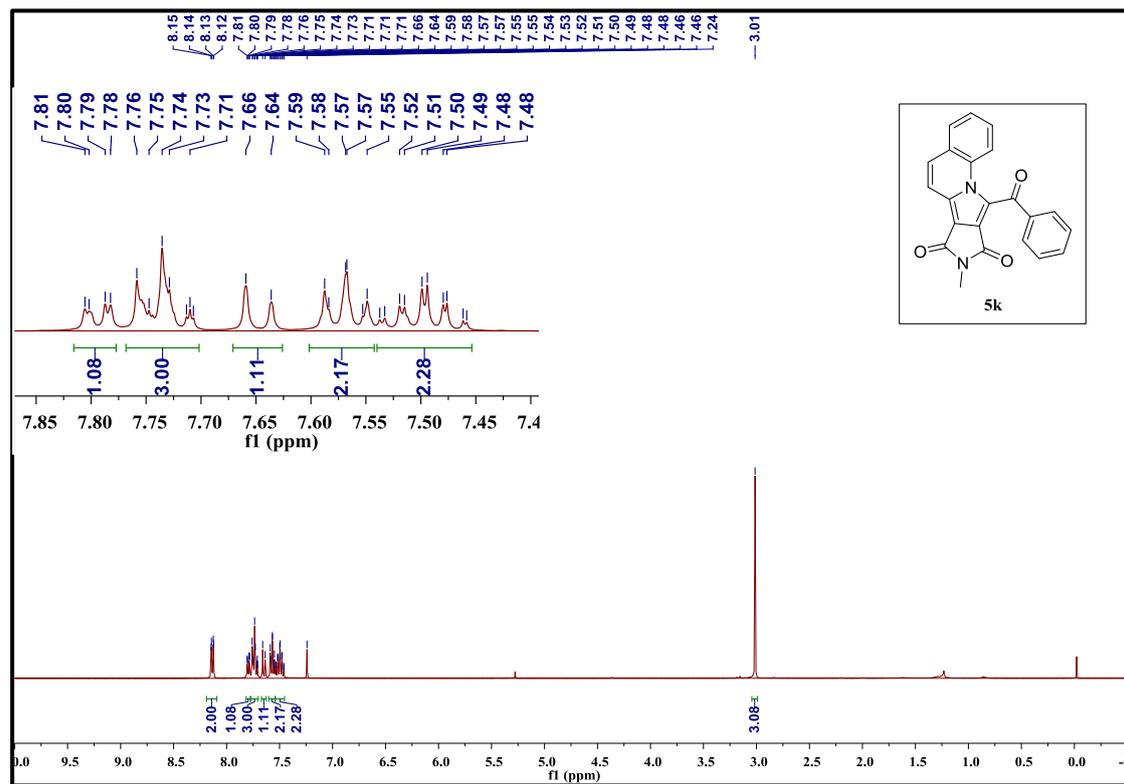
Compound 5i



Compound 5j



Compound 5k



Compound 5l

