

Supporting Information

Copper-Catalysed Aerobic Oxidative Esterification of *N*-Heteroaryl Methanes with Alcohols

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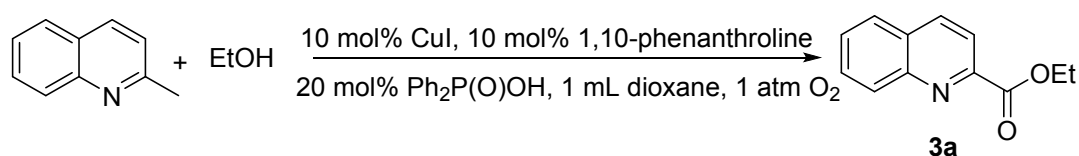
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General information

All reactions were carried out in oven-dried Schlenk tubes under O₂ atmosphere. Dry solvents were obtained by purification according to standard methods. Reagents were used as received unless otherwise noted. ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR and ³¹P NMR data were obtained on a Bruker-400 spectrometer (400 MHz for ¹H, 100 MHz for ¹³C, and 162 MHz for ³¹P NMR spectroscopy). Data are reported as follows: Chemical shift, multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet), Coupling constants (J) are reported in hertz. Mass spectra were measured on a Shimadzu GCMS-QP2010 Plus spectrometer (EI).

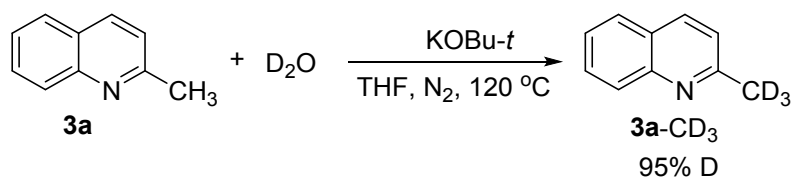
A typical procedure for the synthesis of esters



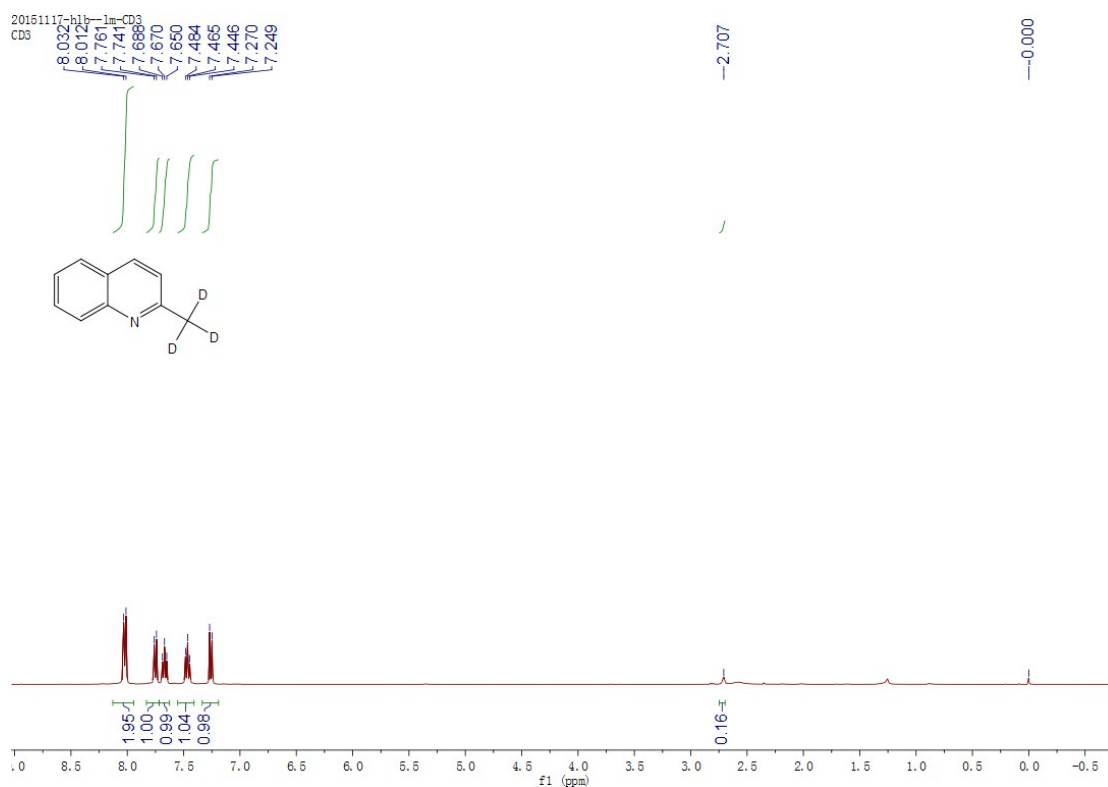
Under O₂ atmosphere, 0.2 mmol 2-methylquinoline, 1 mL EtOH, 10 mol% CuI and 10 mol% 1,10-phenanthroline, 20 mol% Ph₂P(O)OH, 1 mL dioxane were charged into a 10 mL schlenk tube, and then the mixture was stirred at 120 °C for 24 h. After removal of the volatiles, the residues were passed through a short silica chromatography (particle size 37–54 μm, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate as eluent) to

afford analytically pure product **3a**.

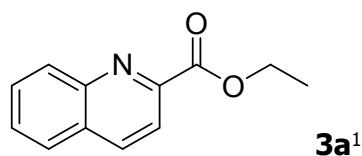
Preparation of 2-CD₃-quinolines



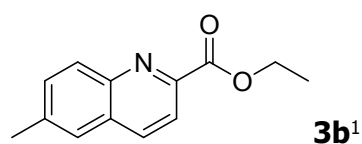
Under N₂ atmosphere, 4 mmol KOBu-*t*, 1 mmol 2-methylquinoline, 3 mL D₂O and 0.3 mL THF were charged into a 25 mL glass tube, the mixture was heated at 120 °C for 16 h. The solution was extracted by ethyl acetate (10 mL), dried by Na₂SO₄ and evaporated under high vacuum to give an oil mixture. Redeuteration of the resulting oil mixture produced the 2-CD₃-quinoline in 68% yield with ca. 95% D.



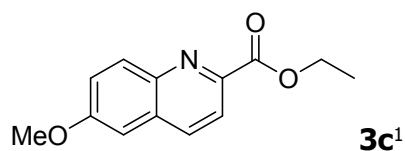
Characterization data of product **3**



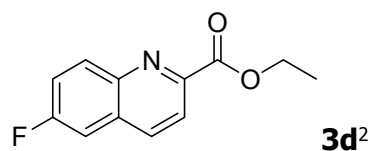
Following the general procedure, **3a** was isolated as a yellow liquid. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 8.31 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.29 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H); 4.56 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H); 1.49 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 165.4, 148.2, 147.6, 137.2, 130.7, 130.2, 129.3, 128.5, 127.5, 121.0, 62.2, 14.4.



Following the general procedure, **3b** was isolated as a white solid. ¹H NMR(CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 8.14-8.22 (m, 3H), 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.56 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.57 (s, 3H), 1.50 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 165.5, 147.4, 146.2, 138.9, 136.4, 132.6, 130.4, 129.4, 126.3, 121.1, 62.1, 21.8, 14.4.

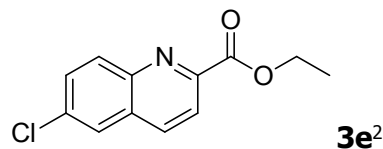


Following the general procedure, **3c** was isolated as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR(CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 8.21 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 8.17 (s, 2H), 7.44 (dd, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.56 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.97 (s, 3H); 1.50 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz, TMS) δ 165.6, 159.4, 145.8, 143.8, 135.6, 132.3, 130.8, 123.4, 121.5, 104.6, 62.1, 55.6, 14.4.

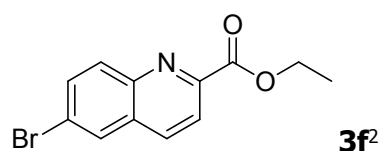


Following the general procedure, **3d** was isolated as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz, TMS) δ 8.32 (dd, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 9.6 Hz, 1H), 8.22 (dd, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 20.0 Hz, 1H), 8.22 (d, *J* = 11.6 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (ddd, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 8.8 Hz, 11.2 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (dd, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 4.57 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.50 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR

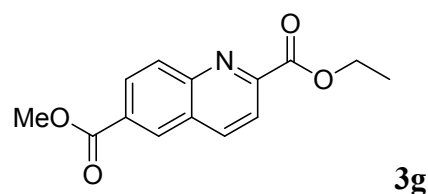
(CDCl₃, 100 MHz, TMS) δ 165.2, 162.8 (d, $J_{\text{F-C}} = 250.5$ Hz), 147.7 (d, $J_{\text{F-C}} = 2.9$ Hz), 144.7, 136.5 (d, $J_{\text{F-C}} = 5.7$ Hz), 133.5 (d, $J_{\text{F-C}} = 9.5$ Hz), 130.1 (d, $J_{\text{F-C}} = 10.4$ Hz), 121.7, 120.8 (d, $J_{\text{F-C}} = 25.9$ Hz), 110.5 (d, $J_{\text{F-C}} = 21.8$ Hz), 62.3, 14.3.



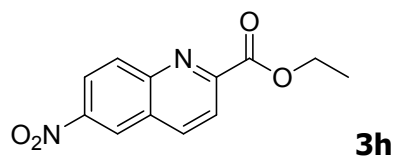
Following the general procedure, **3h** was isolated as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR(CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 8.25 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 8.21 (s, 2H), 7.86 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.72 (dd, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 4.56 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 1.50 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 165.1, 148.5, 146.0, 136.3, 134.6, 132.3, 131.3, 129.8, 126.2, 121.9, 62.4, 14.4.



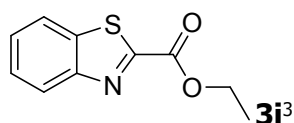
Following the general procedure, **3f** was isolated as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR(CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 8.19 (s, 2H), 8.17 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.84 (dd, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 9.2 Hz, 1H), 4.56 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 1.49 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz, TMS) δ 165.1, 148.5, 146.1, 136.2, 133.8, 132.3, 130.2, 129.6, 122.9, 121.9, 62.4, 14.3.



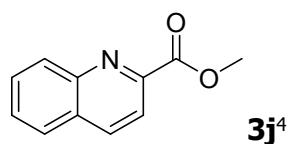
Following the general procedure, **3g** was isolated as a white solid. ¹H NMR(CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 8.63 (s, 1H), 8.41 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 8.36 (s, 2H), 8.24 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 4.58 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 4.01 (s, 3H), 1.51 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 166.2, 165.0, 150.2, 149.3, 138.6, 131.0, 130.5, 129.8, 129.6, 128.4, 121.7, 62.5, 52.6, 14.3. HRMS Calcd. for C₁₄H₁₃O₄ (M⁺) 259.0845, found 259.0841, M.P. 96.1-98.3 °C.



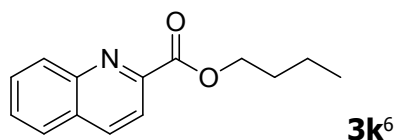
Following the general procedure, **3h** was isolated as a yellow solid. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 8.86 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.54 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 8.46 (d, $J = 9.6$ Hz, 1H), 8.34 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 4.60 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 1.52 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 164.6, 151.4, 149.4, 146.7, 139.3, 132.6, 128.0, 124.2, 123.6, 122.7, 62.8, 14.3. HMS:246.0623, bp: 163.0-164.2



Following the general procedure, **3i** was isolated as a white solid. ^1H NMR(CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 8.27 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.62 (m, 2H), 4.57 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 1.51 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 160.7, 158.6, 153.2, 136.8, 127.5, 127.1, 125.5, 122.1, 63.1, 14.3.

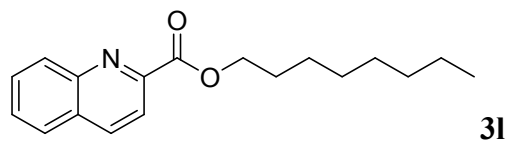


Following the general procedure, **3j** was isolated as a yellow solid. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz, TMS) δ 8.28-8.32 (m, 2H), 8.20 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.79 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.65 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.09 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz, TMS) δ 165.9, 147.9, 147.5, 137.3, 130.7, 130.3, 129.3, 128.6, 127.6, 121.0, 53.2.

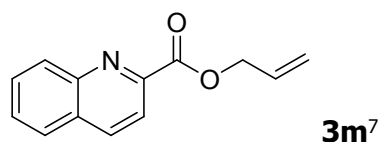


Following the general procedure, **3k** was isolated as a yellow liquid. ^1H NMR(CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 8.32 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.28 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.16 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.77 (dd, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (dd, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.50 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2H), 1.82-1.89 (m, 2H), 1.46-1.55 (m, 2H), 1.00 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 165.4, 148.3, 147.6, 137.2, 130.8,

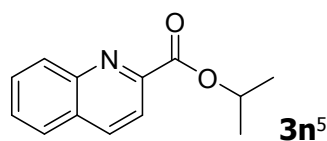
130.2, 129.2, 128.5, 127.5, 121.0, 66.0, 30.7, 19.2, 13.8.



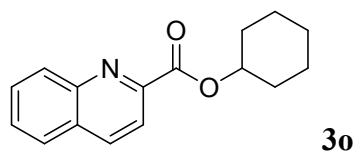
Following the general procedure, **3l** was isolated as a yellow liquid. ^1H NMR(CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 8.32 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.30 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (dd, J = 7.6 Hz, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.49 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.84-1.91 (m, 2H), 1.29-1.50 (m, 10H), 0.88 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 165.5, 148.3, 147.7, 137.2, 130.9, 130.2, 129.3, 128.5, 127.5, 121.0, 66.4, 31.8, 29.3, 29.2, 28.7, 25.9, 22.6, 14.1. HRMS Calcd. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{23}\text{O}_2$ (M $^{+}$) 285.1729, found 285.1722



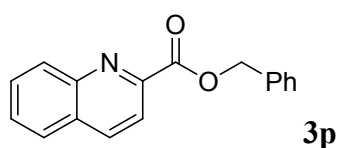
Following the general procedure (9 equiv alcohol, 25 mL glass tube), **3m** was isolated as a yellow liquid. ^1H NMR(CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 8.30-8.33 (m, 2H), 8.20 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (dd, J = 8.4 Hz, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (dd, J = 7.2 Hz, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 5.49 (dd, J = 1.2 Hz, 17.2 Hz, 1H), 5.35 (dd, J = 0.8 Hz, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 5.00 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 165.1, 148.0, 147.6, 137.3, 131.8, 130.8, 130.3, 129.3, 128.6, 127.5, 121.1, 119.2, 66.8.



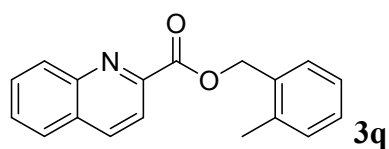
Following the general procedure, **3n** was isolated as a yellow liquid. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.32 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.15 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (dd, J = 8.4 Hz, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (dd, J = 8.0 Hz, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 5.35-5.45 (m, 1H), 1.47 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 164.8, 148.6, 147.7, 137.1, 130.9, 130.1, 129.2, 128.4, 127.4, 121.0, 69.9, 21.9.



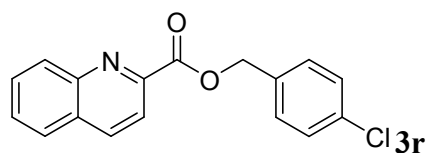
Following the general procedure (9 equiv alcohol, 25 mL glass tube), **3o** was isolated as a yellow liquid. ^1H NMR(CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 8.19-8.25 (m, 2H), 8.07 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (dd, J = 7.6 Hz, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (dd, J = 7.6 Hz, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 5.05-5.11 (m, 1H), 1.18-2.01 (m, 10H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 164.6, 148.7, 147.7, 137.1, 130.9, 130.1, 129.2, 128.4, 127.4, 121.0, 74.7, 31.6, 25.4, 23.9; HMS: HRMS Calcd. for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_2$ (M^+) 255.1259, found 255.1262



Following the general procedure (9 equiv alcohol, 25 mL glass tube), **3p** was isolated as a yellow liquid. ^1H NMR(CDCl_3 , 400 MHz, TMS) δ 8.29-8.32 (m, 2H), 8.16 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.34-7.41 (m, 3H), 5.53 (s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 165.2, 147.9, 147.6, 137.2, 135.7, 130.8, 130.2, 129.3, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 127.5, 121.1, 67.7. HRMS Calcd. for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}_2$ (M^+) 263.0946, found 263.0937



Following the general procedure (9 equiv alcohol, 25 mL glass tube), **3q** was isolated as a yellow liquid. ^1H NMR(CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 8.26-8.32 (m, 2H), 8.15 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (dd, J = 8.0 Hz, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (dd, J = 7.2 Hz, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.29 (m, 3H), 5.54 (s, 2H), 2.46 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 100 MHz) δ 165.1, 148.0, 147.7, 137.2, 137.1, 133.7, 130.9, 130.4, 130.3, 129.5, 129.3, 128.7, 128.6, 127.5, 126.1, 121.0, 66.1, 19.1; HRMS Calcd. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_2$ (M^+) 277.1103, found 277.1105.

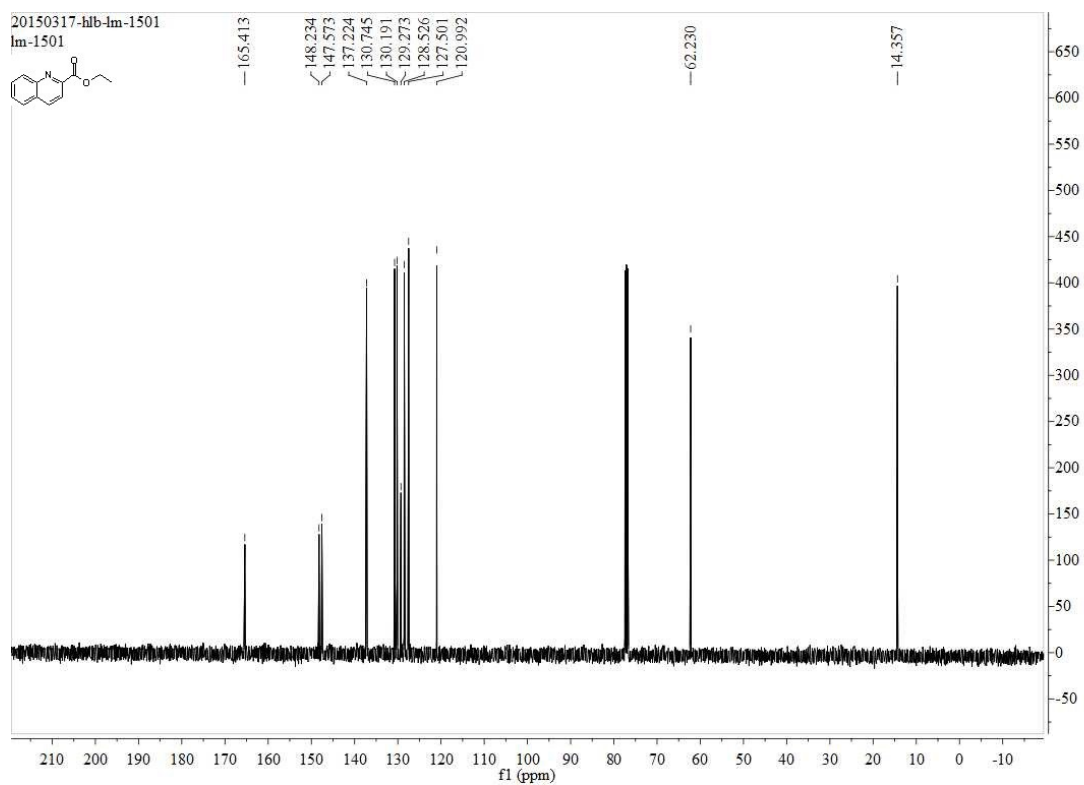
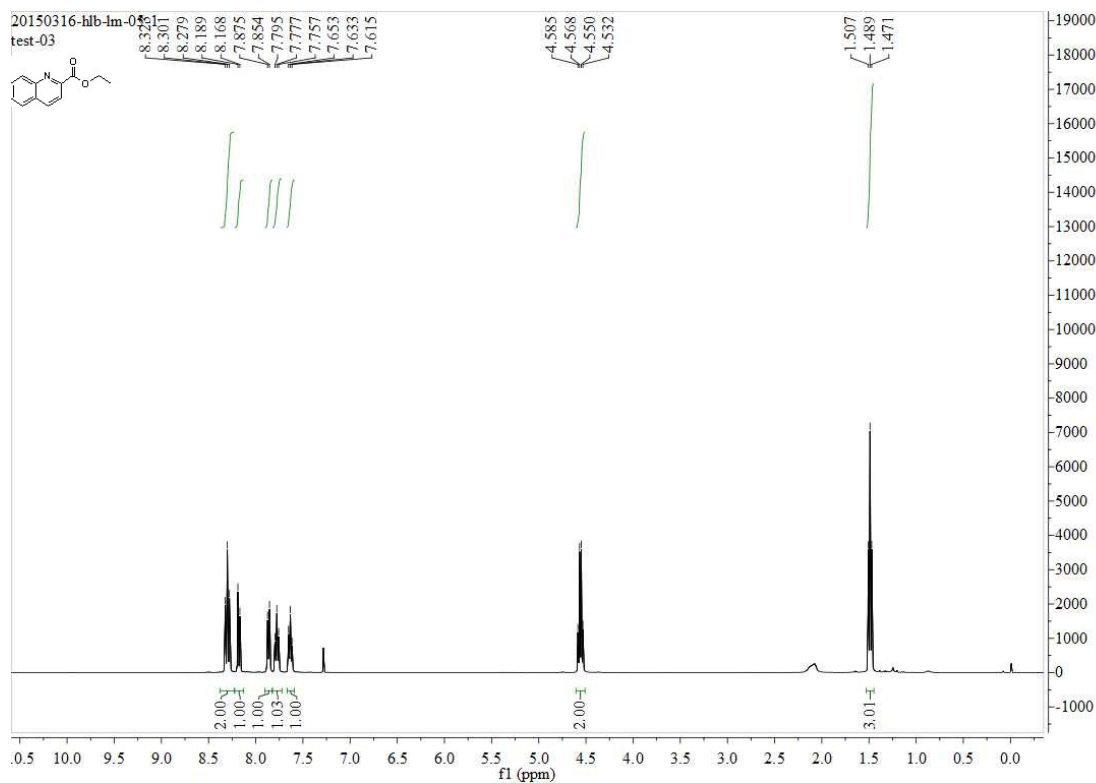


Following the general procedure (9 equiv alcohol, 25 mL glass tube), **3r** was isolated as a white liquid. ¹H NMR(CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 8.29-8.33 (m, 2H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (dd, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (dd, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.50 (s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 165.2, 147.8, 147.7, 137.3, 134.4, 134.2, 130.8, 130.3, 130.0, 129.4, 128.8, 128.7, 127.5, 121.1, 66.9; HRMS Calcd. for C₁₇H₁₂NO₂ (M⁺) 297.0557, found 297.0561

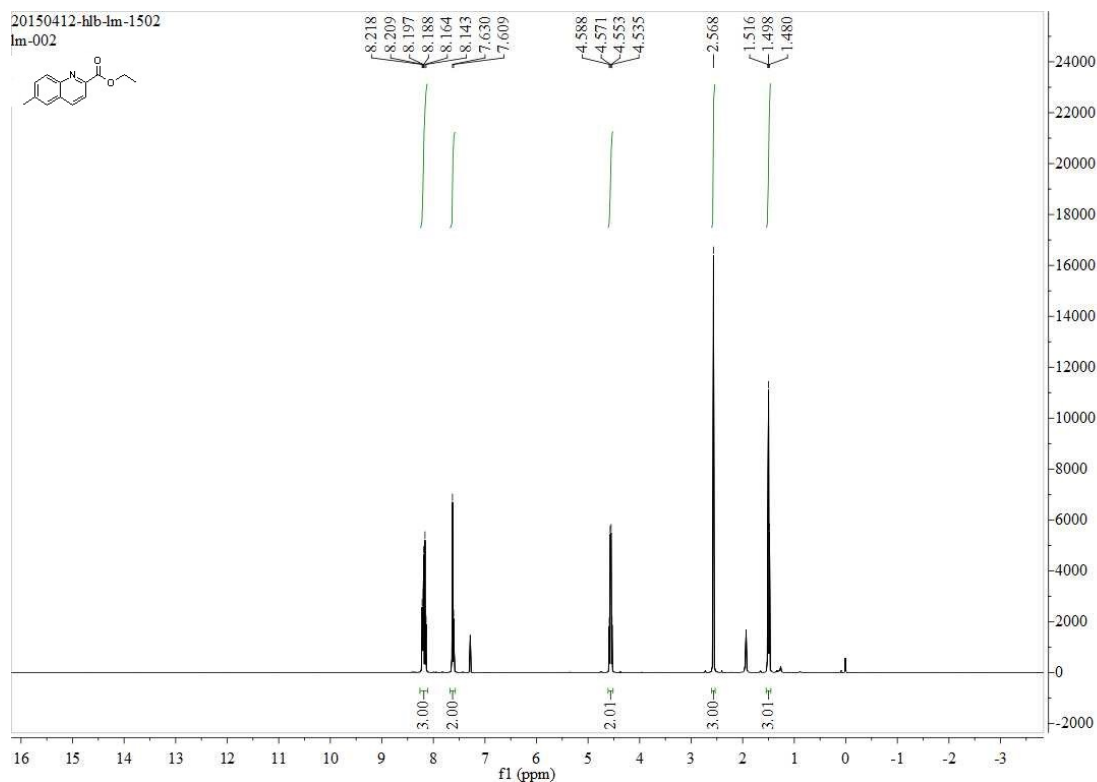
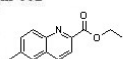
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Copies of ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra



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