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## **Functionalization of Photochromic Dithienylmaleimides**

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# **Supporting Information**

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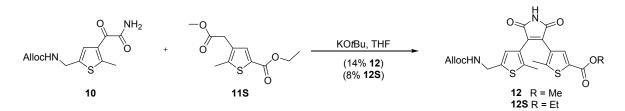
### Non-hydrolytic methyl ester deprotection of 12

Entry	LiI [eq]	Solvent	T [°C]	Isolated yield <sup>[a]</sup>
1	3.0	EtOAc	r.t.	
2	3.0	EtOAc	reflux	
3	30	EtOAc	reflux	26%
4	3.0	acetone	reflux	
5	30	acetone	reflux	35%
6	30	MeCN	reflux	
7	30	DMSO	100 °C	

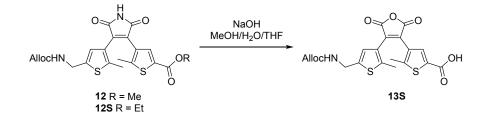
Table S1. Non-hydrolytic methyl ester deprotection of 12.

<sup>[a]</sup> If conversion was too low the product **13b** was not isolated.

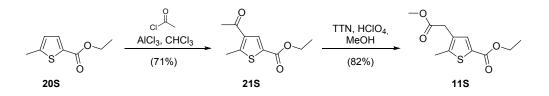
### Synthesis of compounds 11S, 12S, 13S and 21S



Scheme S1. Perkin condensation of 10 and 11S yielding dithienylmaleimide 12 and 12S.



Scheme S2. Hydrolytic ester cleavage yielding maleic anhydride 13S.



Scheme S3. Synthesis of ethyl ester 11S.

Ethvl 4-(2-methoxy-2-oxoethyl)-5-methylthiophene-2-carboxylate (11S): Thallium trinitrate (2.20 g, 4.94 mmol) and 70% HClO<sub>4</sub> (2 mL) were added to a suspension of **21S** (875 mg, 4.12 mmol) in MeOH (10 mL) at room temperature. After stirring for 24 h the mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure and diluted with water (10 mL). The aqueous phase was extracted with chloroform (3 x 15 mL) and the combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was evaporated and purification of the crude product by automated flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc, 3% - 15% EtOAc) yielded compound **11S** (816 mg, 82%) as yellowish oil.  $R_{f}$ : 0.23 (PE/EtOAc: 9/1); IR (neat)  $v_{max}$ : 3081, 2987, 2922, 1730, 1705, 1460, 1254, 1201, 1172, 1061; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.35$  (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H, O-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.42 (s, 3H, thiophene-CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.54 (s, 2H, C-CH<sub>2</sub>-CO), 3.70 (s, 3H, CO-O-CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.31 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H, O-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 7.60 (s, 1H, thiophene-H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 13.8$  (+), 14.4 (+), 33.8 (-), 52.2 (+), 61.0 (-), 129.6 (q), 130.6 (q), 135.4 (+), 143.8 (q), 162.2 (q), 171.0 (q); HR-MS (ESI): calcd. for  $C_{11}H_{14}NaO_4S$ (M+Na)<sup>+</sup> 265.0505; found 265.0502.

Methyl/Ethyl 4-(4-(5-((((allyloxy)carbonyl)amino)methyl)-2-methyl-thiophen-3-yl)-2,5dioxo-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-5-methylthiophene-2-carboxylate (12/12S): KOtBu (1 M in THF, 1.34 mL, 1.34 mmol) was added to a solution of 10 (316 mg, 1.12 mmol) in anhydrous THF (6 mL) at 0 °C under nitrogen atmosphere. After stirring for 90 min at 0 °C, diester 11S (326 mg, 1.34 mmol) was added and stirred for 15 h at room temperature. Then the reaction was heated to 60 °C for 1 h, quenched with 1 M HCl solution (4 mL) and diluted with EtOAc (10 mL). The organic phase was washed with water (3 x 5 mL), brine (5 mL) and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and purification of the crude product by automated reversed phase flash column chromatography ( $H_2O/EtOH$ , 20% -45% EtOH) yielded 12S (40 mg, 8%) as orange foam, 12 (74 mg, 14%) as yellow foam and a mixed fraction of both (65 mg). Analytical data of 12S: R<sub>i</sub>: 0.25 (PE/EtOAc: 2/1); IR (neat) v<sub>max</sub>: 3288, 3071, 2980, 1710, 1541, 1458, 1252, 995, 916, 760; UV/Vis (50 μM in MeOH): open isomer:  $\lambda_{max} = 250$  nm; closed isomer:  $\lambda_{max} = 232$  nm, 378 nm, 554 nm; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.36$  (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H, O-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.91 (s, 3H, thiophene-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.97 (s, 3H, thiophene-CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.33 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H, O-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.45 (d, J = 5.9 Hz, 2H, C-CH<sub>2</sub>-NH), 4.60 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 2H, O-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH), 5.14 – 5.26 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>=CH-CH<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>2</sub>-NH-CO), 5.31 (dd, J = 17.2, 1.1 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>=CH-CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.92 (ddt, J = 16.3, 10.8, 5.6 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>=CH-CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.90 (s, 1H, thiophene-H), 7.75 (s, 1H, thiophene-H), 7.97 (bs, 1H, CO-NH-CO); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 14.3$  (+), 15.0 (+), 15.3 (+), 39.9 (-), 61.4 (-), 65.9 (-), 117.9 (-), 125.8 (q), 126.7 (+), 127.4 (q), 131.4 (q), 132.7 (+), 132.8 (q), 134.7 (+), 139.4 (q), 142.1 (q), 148.4 (q), 156.0 (q), 161.7 (q), 170.0 (q), 170.1 (q); HR-MS (ESI): calcd. for  $C_{22}H_{23}N_2O_6S_2$  (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 475.0993; found 475.0992.

#### 4-(4-(5-((((Allyloxy)carbonyl)amino)methyl)-2-methylthiophen-3-yl)-2,5-dioxo-2,5-

dihydrofuran-3-yl)-5-methylthiophene-2-carboxylic acid (13S): A mixture of 12 and 12S (62 mg) in 10 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O/MeOH/THF (2:5:3, v/v/v) was stirred for 20 h with NaOH (78 mg, 1.95 mmol) at room temperature. After addition of water (10 mL) the reaction mixture was washed with EtOAc (2 x 10 mL) and then acidified with conc. HCl to pH 1. The aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 10 mL) and the combined organic phases were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. Evaporation of the solvent and purification of the crude product by automated reversed phase flash column chromatography (H<sub>2</sub>O/MeCN, 20% - 55% MeCN) yielded 13S  $(29 \text{ mg})^{\text{A}}$  as green solid. R<sub>f</sub>: 0.02 (PE/EtOAc: 1/1); m.p.: 84 °C; IR (neat) v<sub>max</sub>: 3327, 3164, 3020, 2925, 1764, 1702, 1541, 1458, 1254, 931, 750; UV/Vis (50 µM in MeOH): open isomer:  $\lambda_{max} = 246$  nm; closed isomer:  $\lambda_{max} = 384$  nm, 568 nm; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, DMSO $d_6$ :  $\delta = 1.90$  (s, 3H, thiophene-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.96 (s, 3H, thiophene-CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.28 (d, J = 6.1 Hz, 2H, thiophene-CH<sub>2</sub>NH), 4.49 (d, J = 5.3 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>=CHCH<sub>2</sub>O), 5.17 (dd, J = 10.5, 1.4 Hz, 1H,  $CH_2$ =CHCH<sub>2</sub>), 5.27 (dd, J = 17.2, 1.5 Hz, 1H,  $CH_2$ =CHCH<sub>2</sub>), 5.90 (ddt, J = 17.2, 10.6, 5.3 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>=CHCH<sub>2</sub>), 6.86 (s, 1H, thiophene-H), 7.65 (s, 1H, thiophene-H), 7.92 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>NHCO), 13.30 (bs, 1H, COOH); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta =$ 14.1 (+), 14.5 (+), 38.8 (-), 64.4 (-), 116.9 (-), 124.9 (q), 125.5 (+), 126.8 (q), 131.6 (q), 133.5 (+), 133.9 (q), 134.1 (+), 135.6 (q), 140.8 (q), 141.4 (q), 148.6 (q), 155.9 (q), 162.2 (q), 164.9 (q), 164.9 (q); HR-MS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO<sub>7</sub>S<sub>2</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 448.0519; found 448.0516.

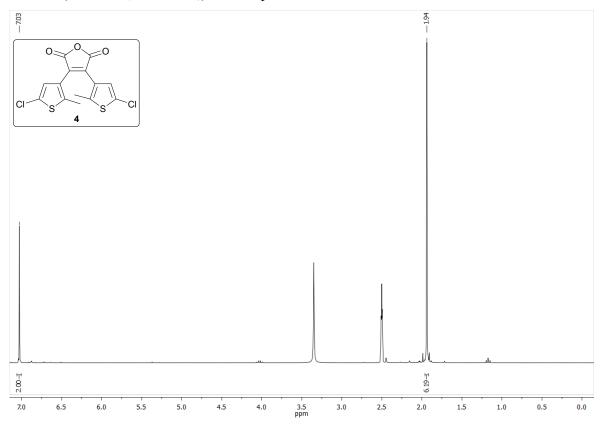
Ethyl 4-acetyl-5-methylthiophene-2-carboxylate (21S): A solution of acetyl chloride (128  $\mu$ L, 1.80 mmol) in anhydrous chloroform (2 mL) was added to AlCl<sub>3</sub> (480 mg, 3.60 mmol) at room temperature under nitrogen atmosphere. After stirring for 10 min a solution of 20S (204 mg, 1.20 mmol) in anhydrous chloroform (2 mL) was dropped to the suspension. The mixture was heated to 60 °C for 9 h, then the reaction was quenched with ice/water and the aqueous phase was extracted with chloroform (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic phases were washed with saturated aqueous solution of NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (50 mL) and brine

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>A</sup> Yield could not be determined because the ratio of **12** to **12S** in the mixture was not calculated.

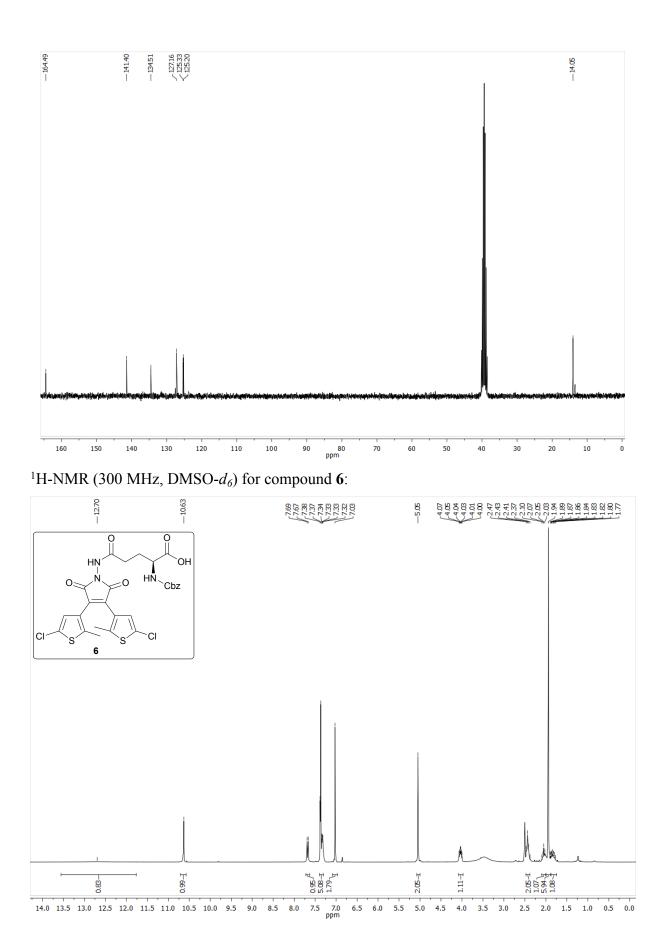
(50 mL). The organic phase was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was evaporated. The crude product was purified by automated flash column chromatography (PE/EtOAc, 8% - 30% EtOAc) and **21S** (180 mg, 71%) was obtained as colorless solid.  $R_{f}$ : 0.15 (PE/EtOAc: 9/1); m.p.: 103 °C; IR (neat)  $v_{max}$ : 3008, 2985, 2944, 1713, 1670, 1540, 1452, 1250, 1236, 1082, 1021, 747; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 1.37$  (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H, O–CH<sub>2</sub>–CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.52 (s, 3H, thiophene-CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.75 (s, 3H, acetyl-CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.34 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H, O–CH<sub>2</sub>–CH<sub>3</sub>), 8.02 (s, 1H, thiophene-H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 14.3$  (+), 16.8 (+), 29.6 (+), 61.4 (–), 129.0 (q), 134.7 (+), 136.3 (q), 155.6 (q), 161.6 (q), 193.7 (q); HR-MS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>13</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 213.0580; found 213.0581.

### <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra of all prepared compounds

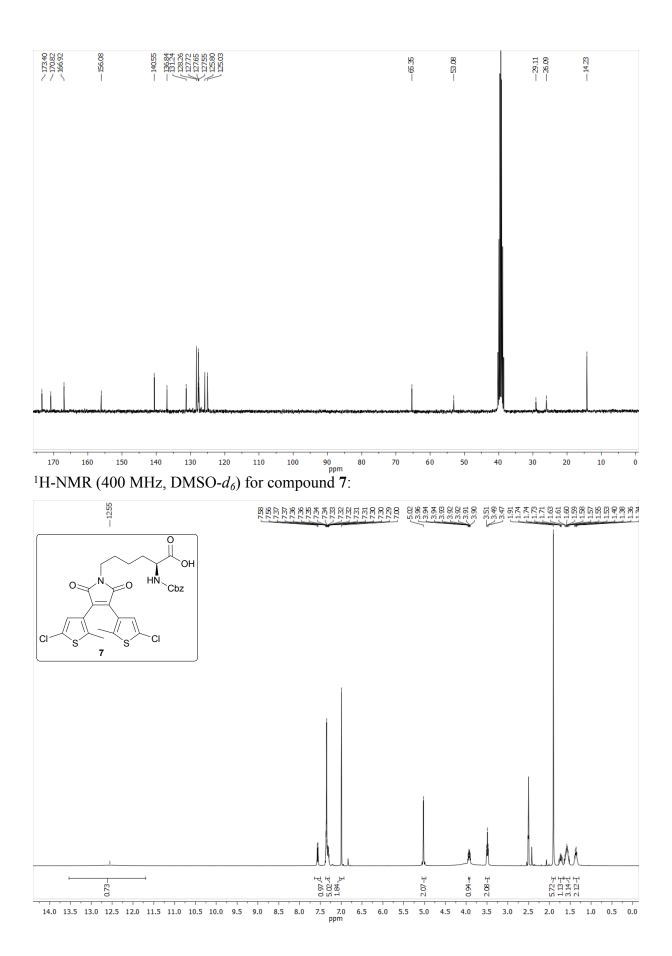




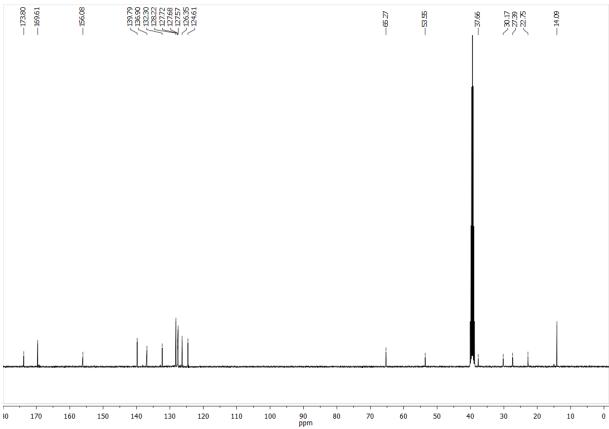
<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) for compound **4**:



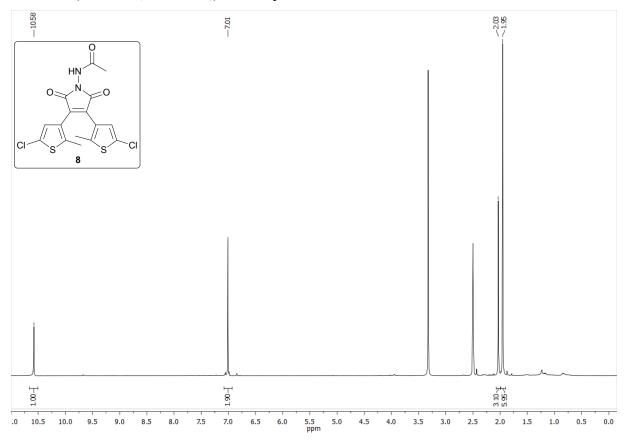
<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) for compound **6**:



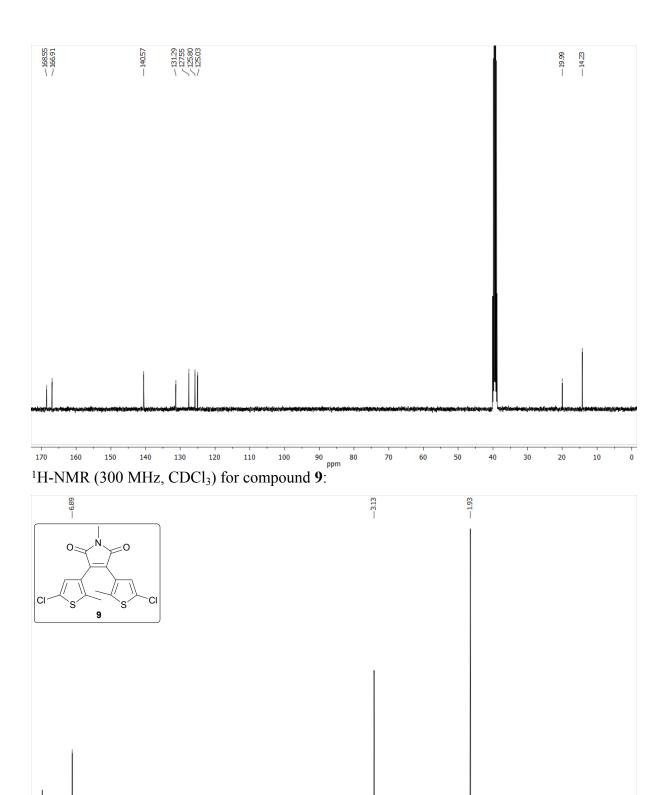
<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) for compound 7:



<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) for compound **8**:



<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) for compound **8**:





5.5

5.0

4.5

6.0

1.92 1

6.5

7.0

3.5 ppm

4.0

Н 8 м

3.0

2.5

6.13.4

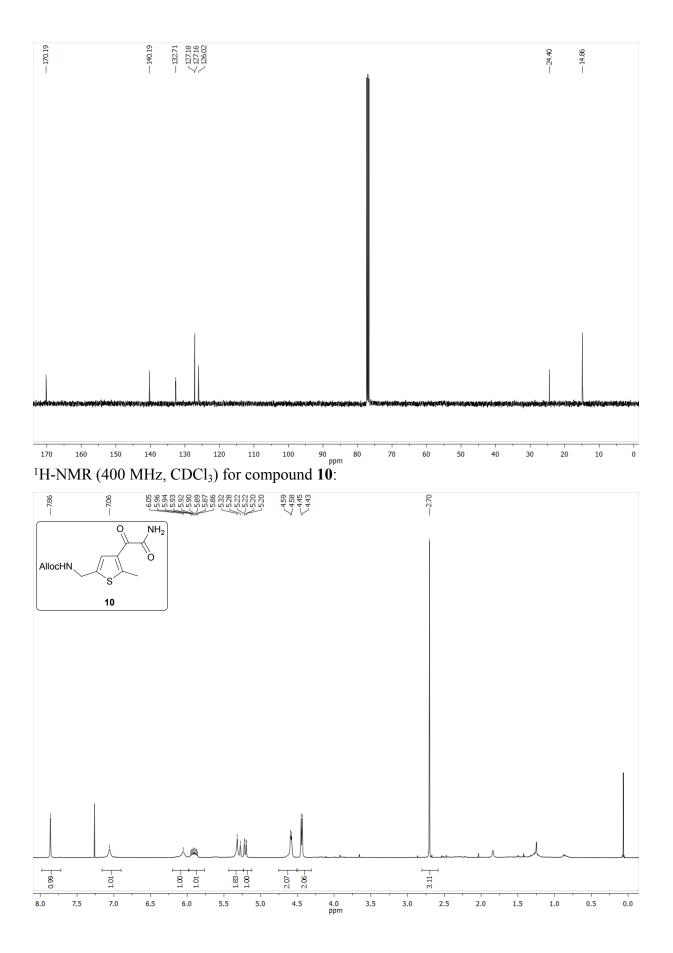
2.0

1.5

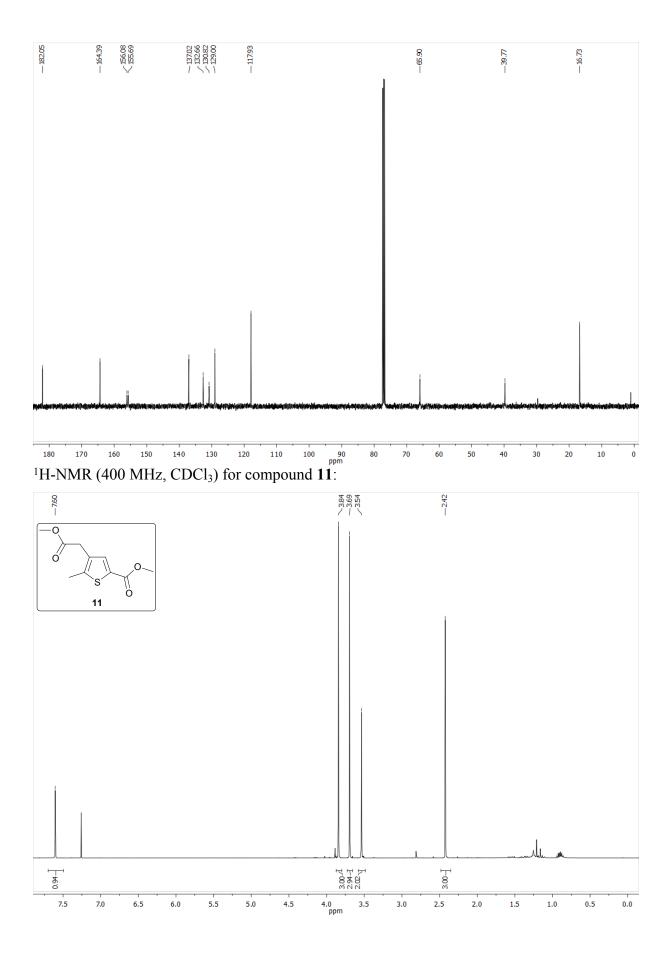
1.0

0.5

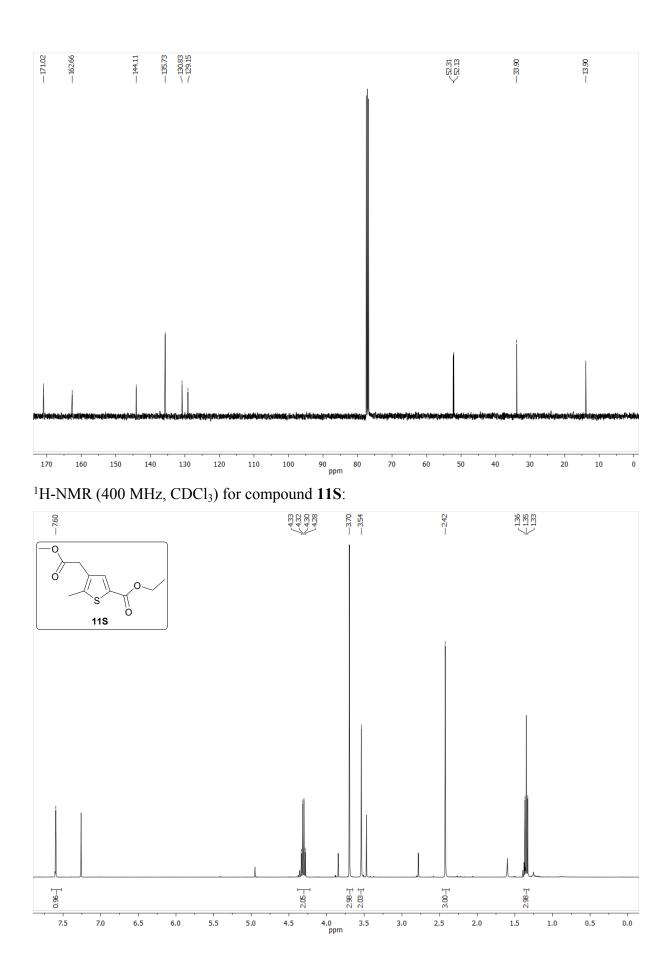
0.0



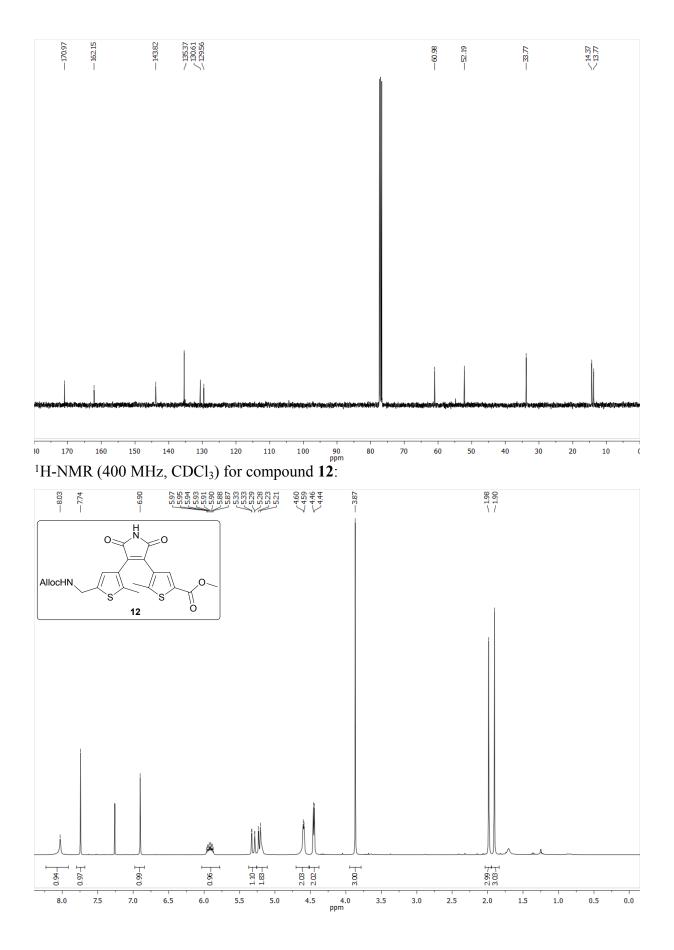
<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) for compound **10**:



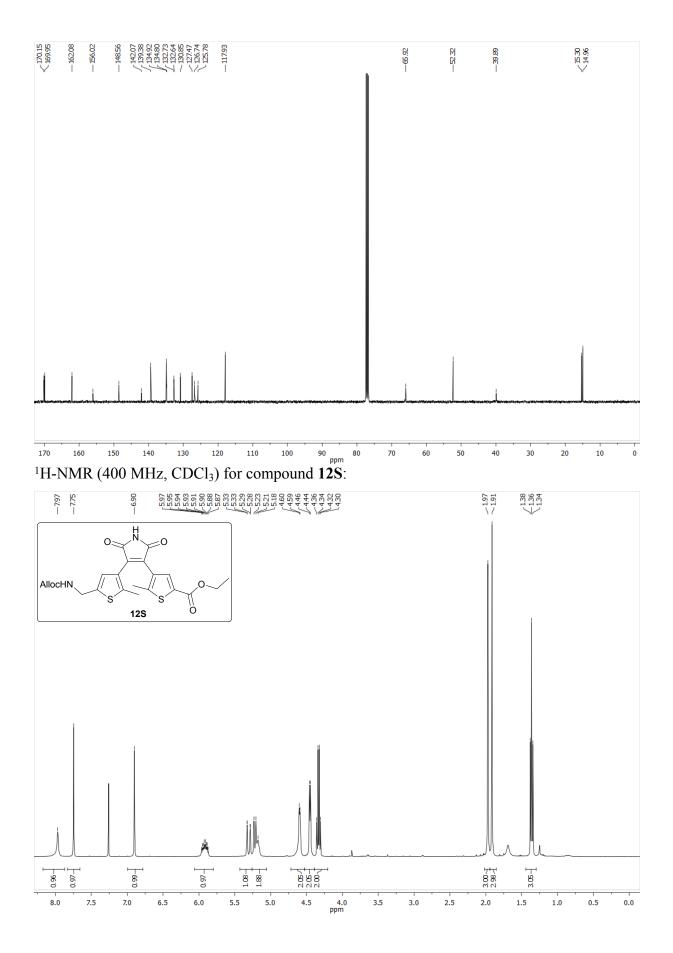
<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) for compound **11**:



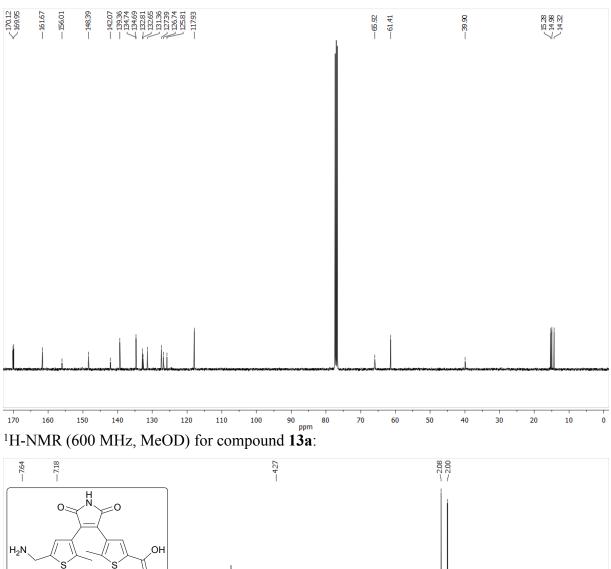
<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) for compound **11S**:

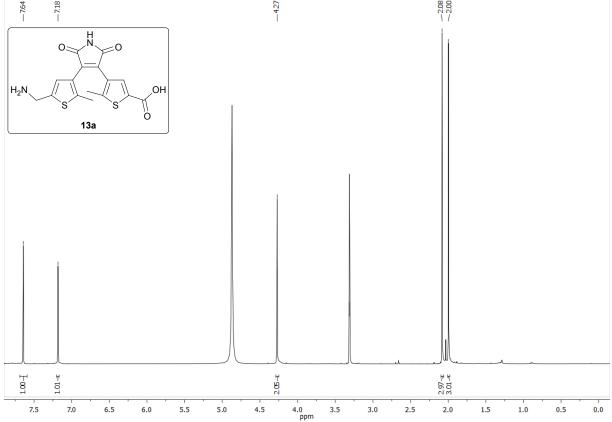


<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) for compound **12**:

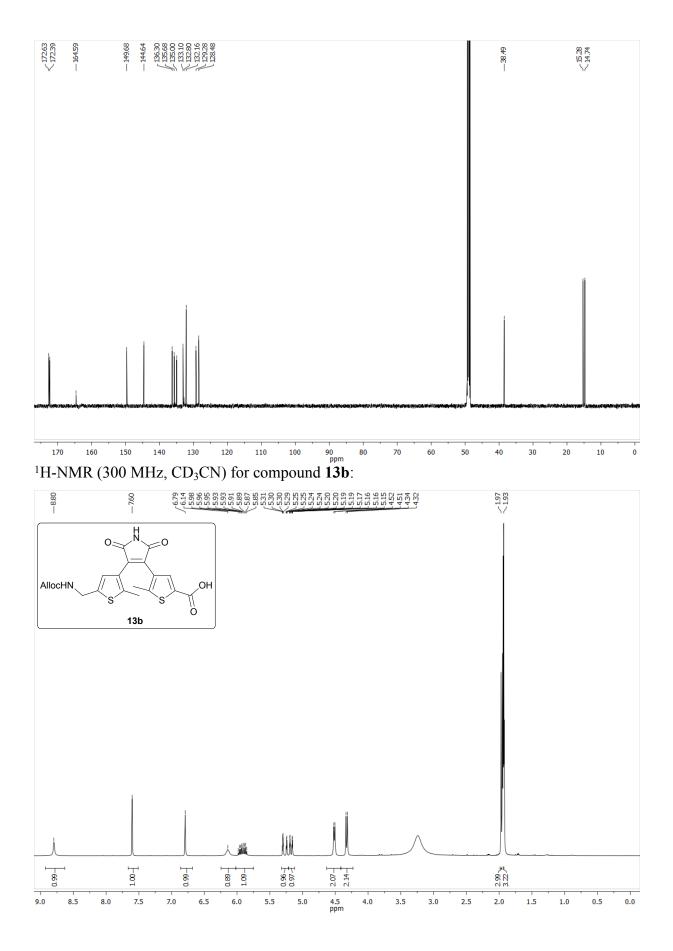


<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) for compound **12S**:

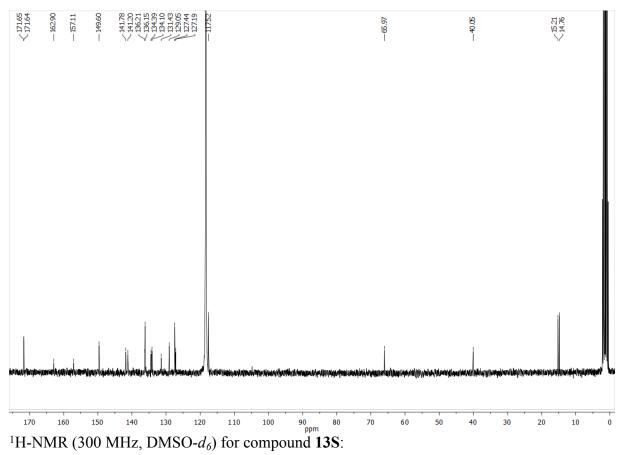


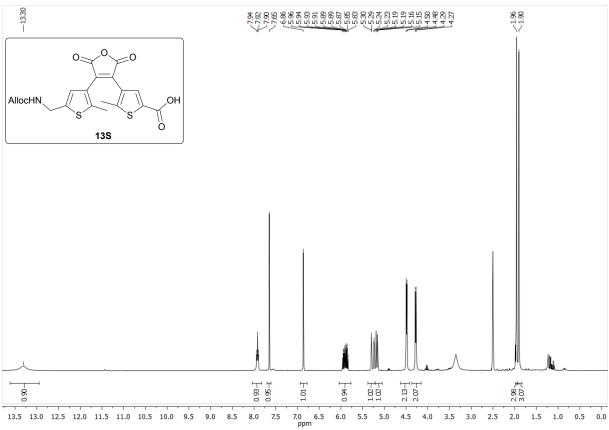


<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (151 MHz, MeOD) for compound **13a**:

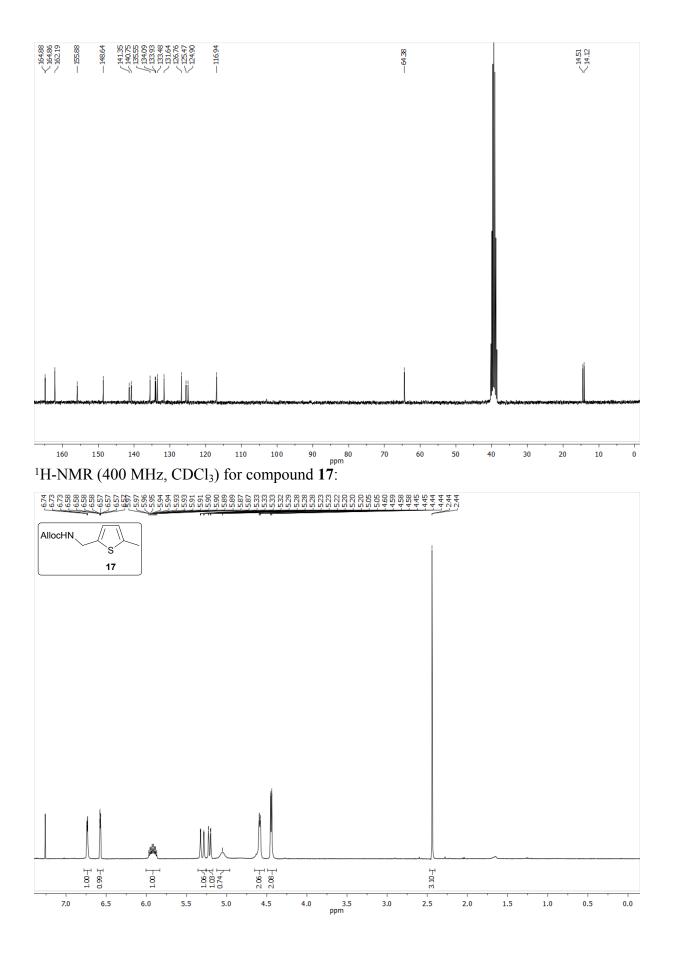


<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN) for compound **13b**:

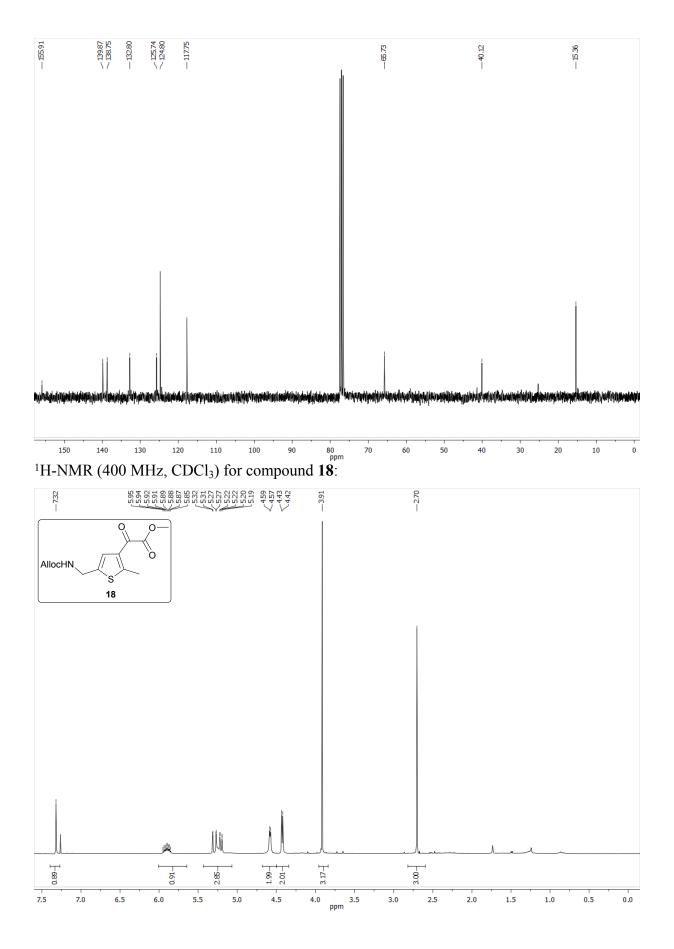




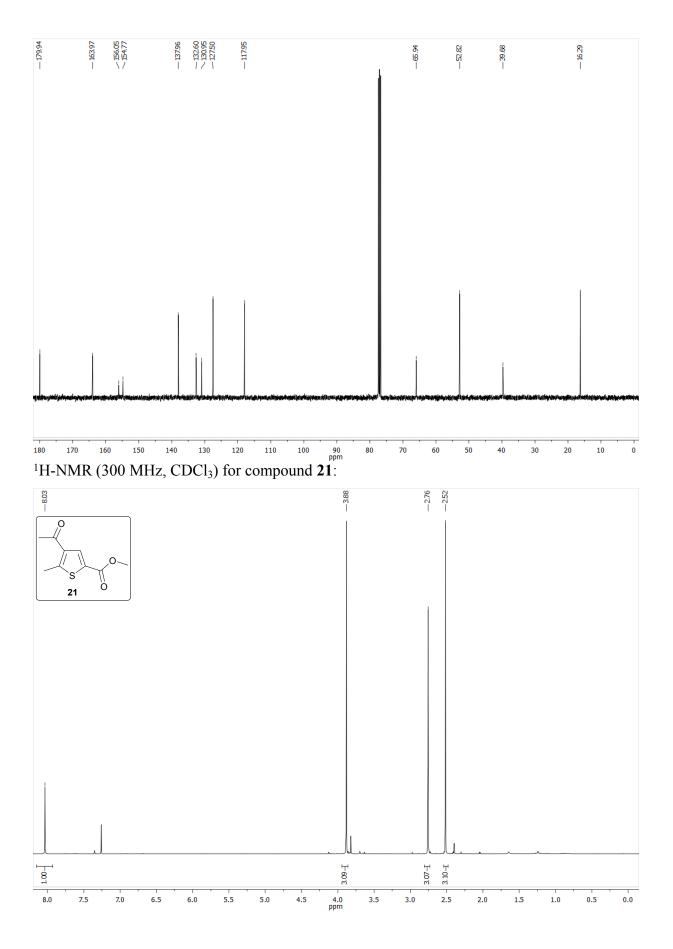
<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) for compound **13S**:



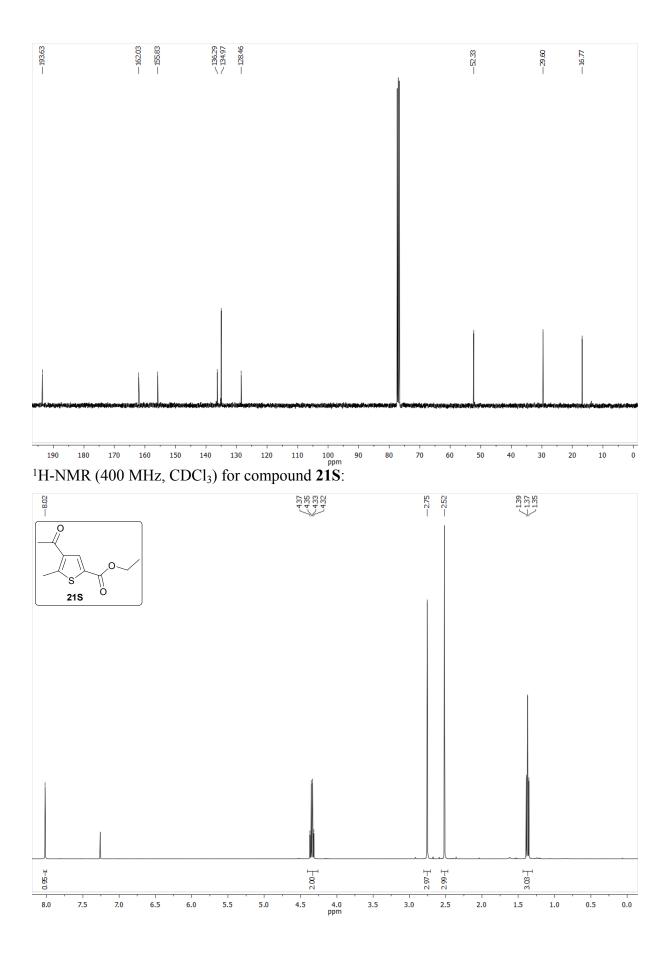
<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) for compound **17**:



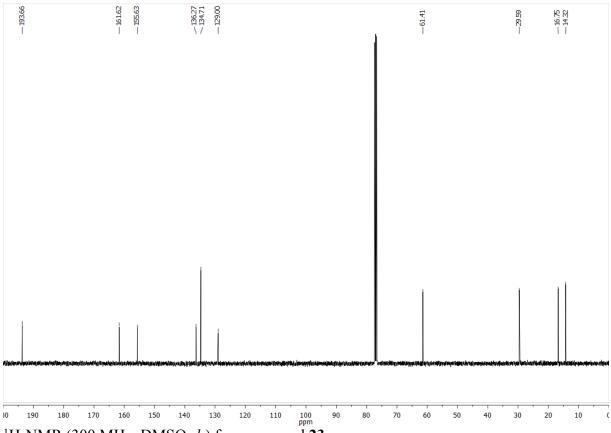
<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) for compound **18**:



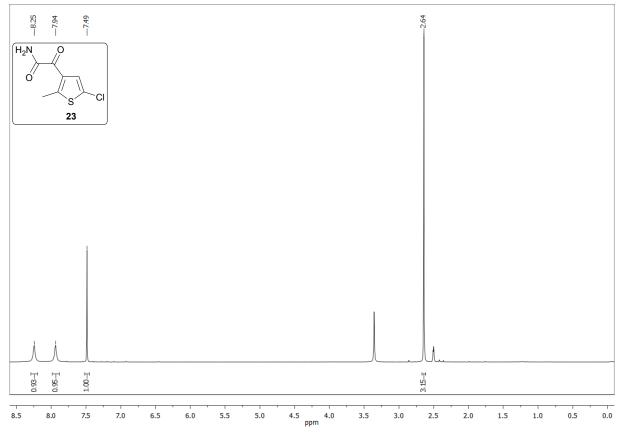
<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) for compound **21**:



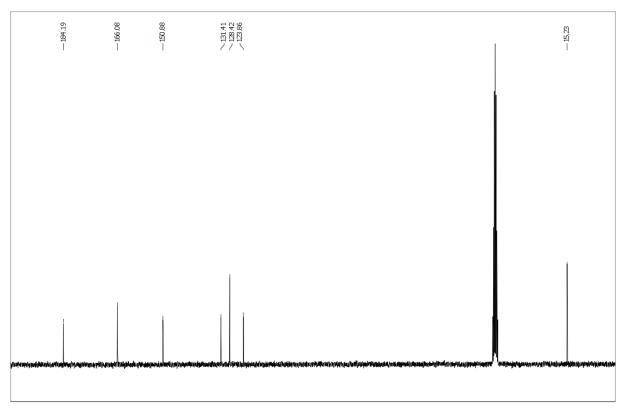
<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) for compound **21S**:



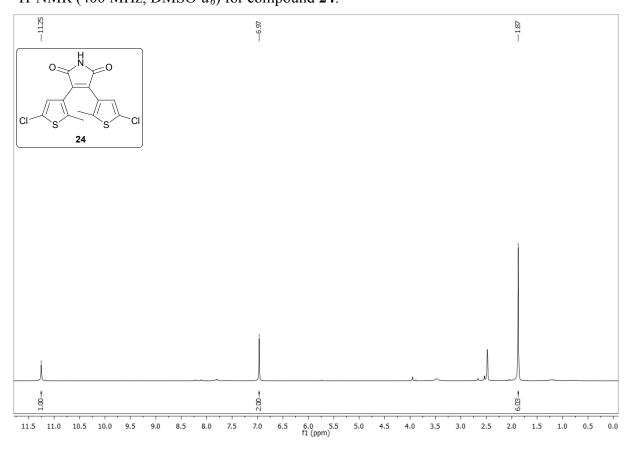
<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) for compound **23**:



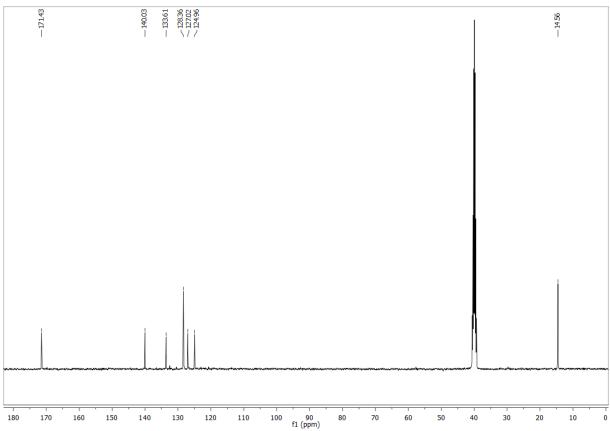
<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) for compound **23**:



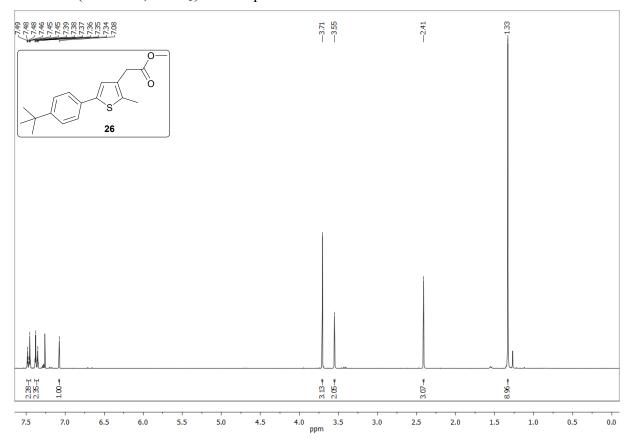
ppm 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) for compound **24**:



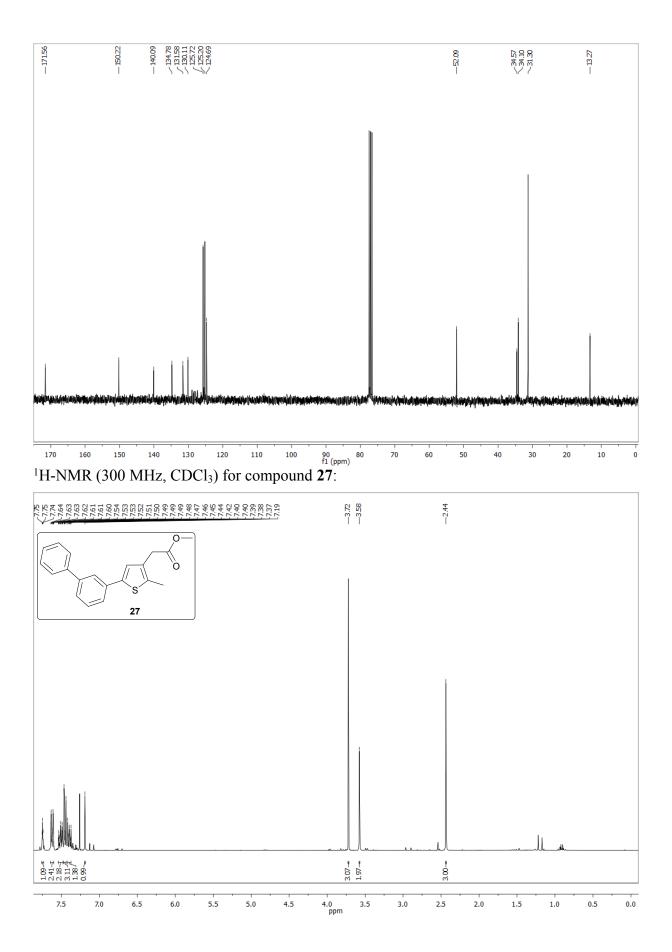
<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) for compound **24**:



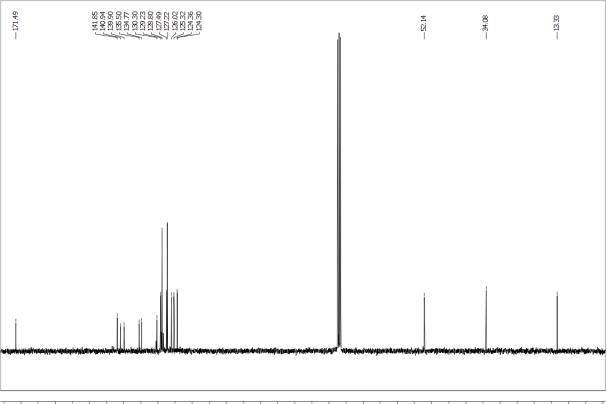
<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) for compound **26**:



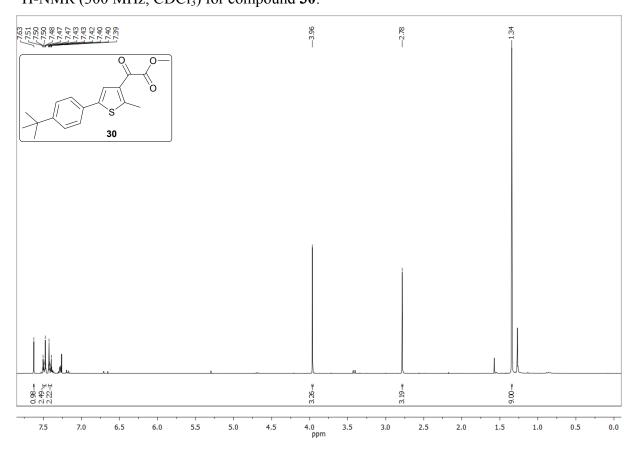
<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) for compound **26**:



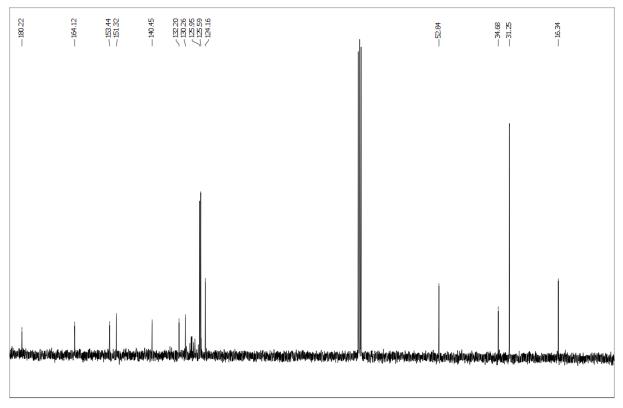
<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) for compound **27**:



ppm <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) for compound **30**:

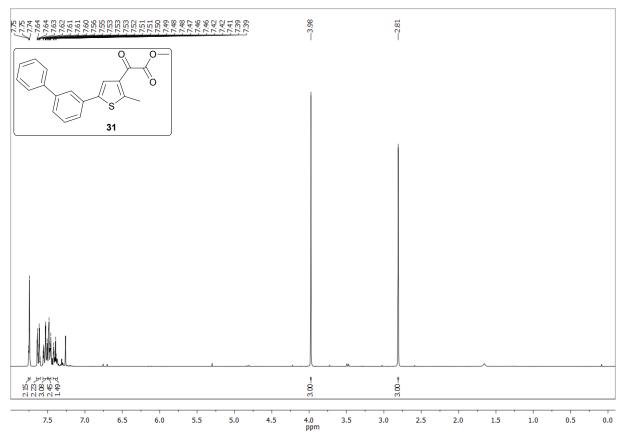


<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) for compound **30**:

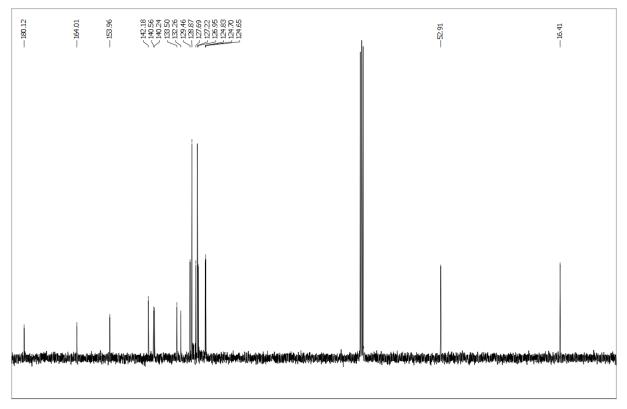


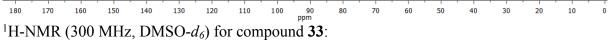
ppm o

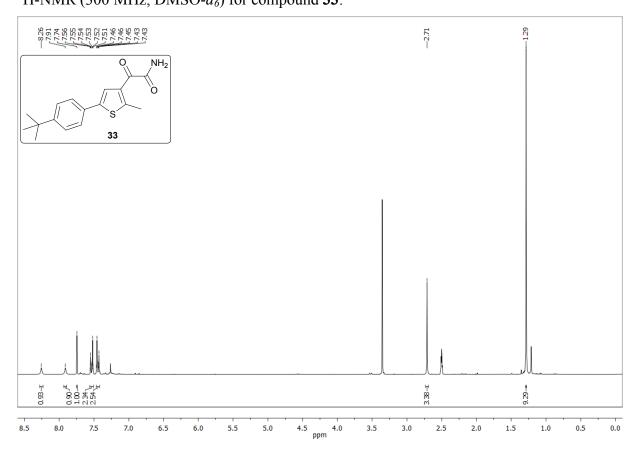
<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) for compound **31**:



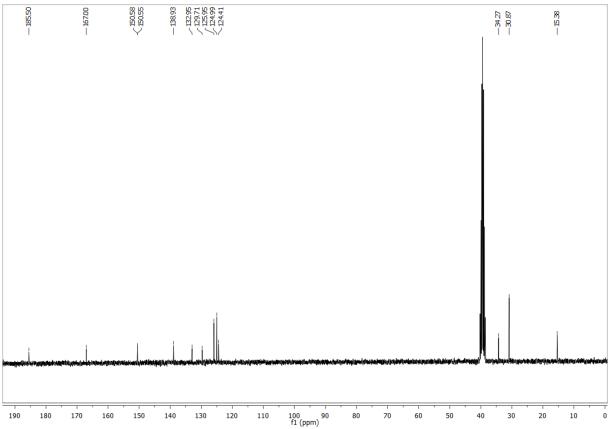
<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) for compound **31**:



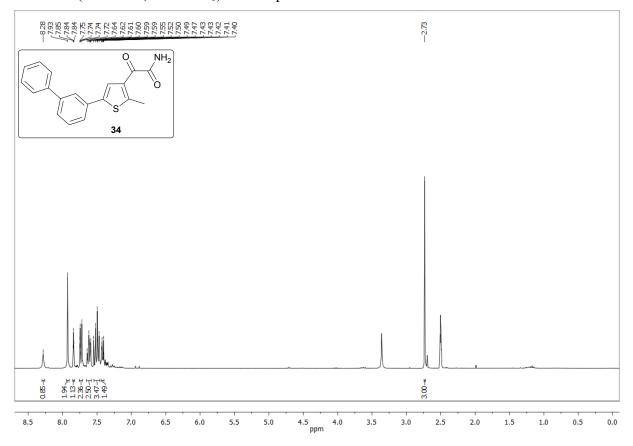




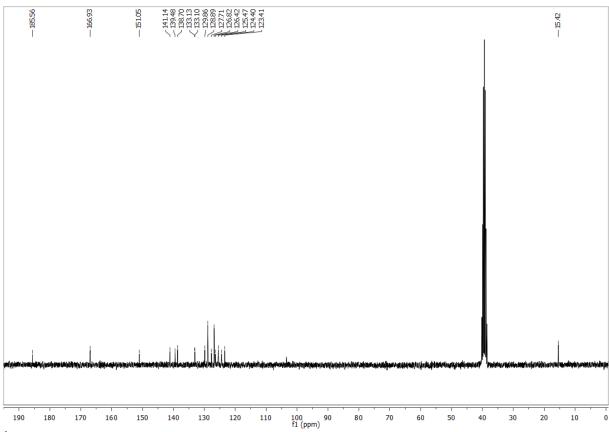
<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) for compound **33**:



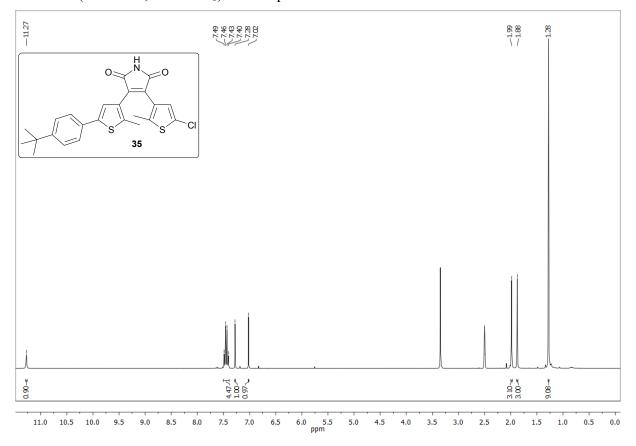
<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) for compound **34**:



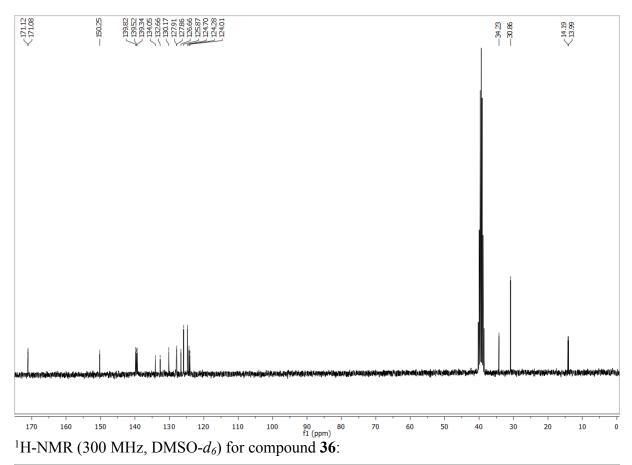
<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) for compound **34**:

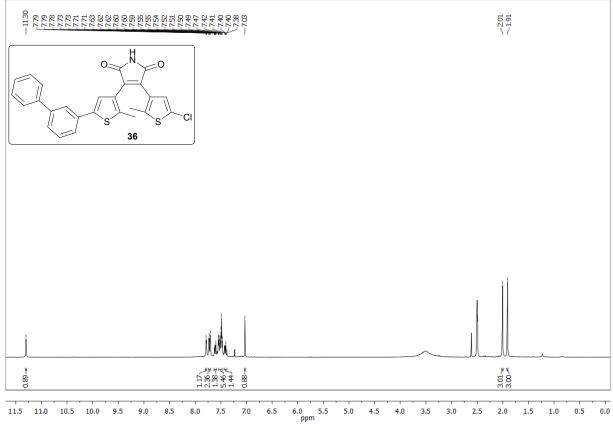


<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) for compound **35**:

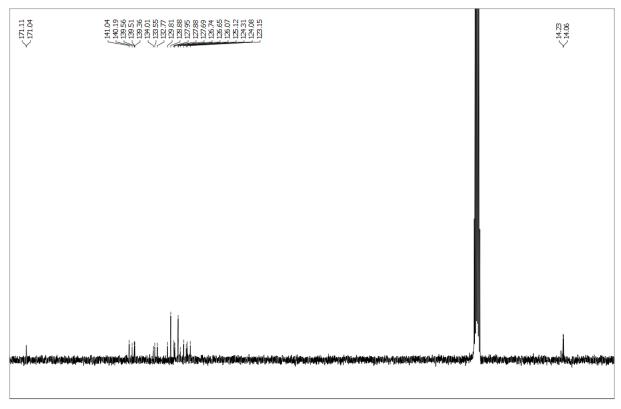


<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) for compound **35**:

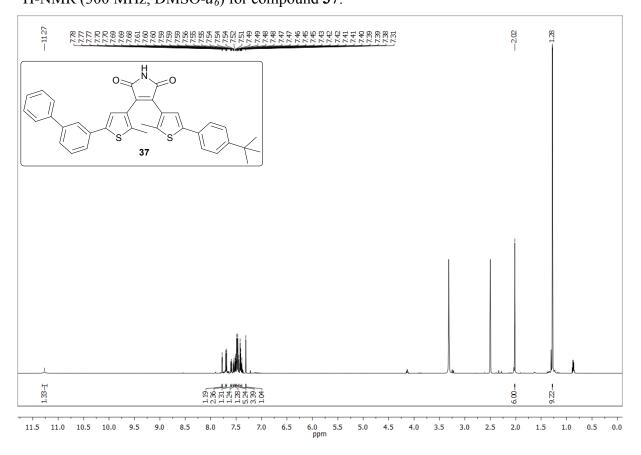




<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) for compound **36**:



ppm ò <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) for compound **37**:



<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) for compound **37**:

