

**A new oxidation system for the oxidation of
Hantzsch-1,4-dihydropyridines and polyhydroquinoline derivatives
under mild conditions**

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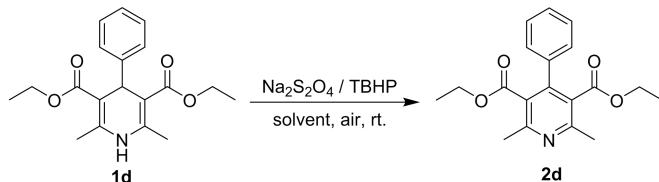
1. Experimental section

General: All solvents and chemicals are used directly from commercial sources without further purification. Analytical Thin Layer Chromatography was carried out on precoated plates (silica gel 60), visualized with UV light. NMR spectra was performed on a Bruker DPX-400 spectrometer operating at 400 MHz (¹H NMR) and 100 MHz (¹³C NMR). All spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ and the chemical shifts (δ) are reported in ppm relative to tetramethylsilane referenced to the residual solvent peaks. High-resolution mass spectral analyses (HRMS) were measured using ESI ionization.

General procedure for the aromatization of Hantzsch 1,4-dihydropyridines (1,4-DHPs) and polyhydroquinoline derivatives (PHQs)

To a mixture of Hantzsch 1,4-dihydropyridines or polyhydroquinoline derivatives (0.2 mmol), Na₂S₂O₄ (69 mg, 0.4 mmol) and ethyl acetate (5 mL), *tert*-butyl hydroperoxide (104 mg, 0.8 mmol, 70% in water) was added dropwise and the mixture stirred at room temperature. After completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was treated with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ and H₂O, extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The organic phase was dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and evaporated. The residue was separated on a silica gel column by using petroleum ether and ethyl acetate as eluent.

2. Table S1. Optimization of reaction conditions

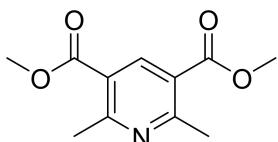


| Entry ^a | Na ₂ S ₂ O ₄ /TBHP/Sub ^b | Solvent | Time (h) | Yield (%) ^c |
|--------------------|--|----------------------------------|----------|------------------------|
| 1 | 1 / 1 / 1 | EtOAc | 3 | 52 |
| 2 | 1 / 2 / 1 | EtOAc | 3 | 61 |
| 3 | 2 / 3 / 1 | EtOAc | 3 | 80 |
| 4 | 2 / 4 / 1 | EtOAc | 3 | 96 |
| 5 | 2 / 5 / 1 | EtOAc | 3 | 93 |
| 6 | 2 / 0 / 1 | EtOAc | 3 | NR ^d |
| 7 | 0 / 4 / 1 | EtOAc | 3 | NR |
| 8 | 2 / 4 / 1 | CH ₂ Cl ₂ | 3 | 64 |
| 9 | 2 / 4 / 1 | CHCl ₃ | 4 | 70 |
| 10 | 2 / 4 / 1 | CH ₃ CN | 4 | 67 |
| 11 | 2 / 4 / 1 | C ₂ H ₅ OH | 5 | 20 |
| 12 | 2 / 4 / 1 | PhCH ₃ | 5 | 76 |
| 13 | 2 / 4 / 1 | THF | 4 | 75 |
| 14 | 2 / 4 / 1 | cyclohexane | 5 | NR |
| 15 | 2 / 4 / 1 | dioxane | 4 | 73 |
| 16 | 2 / 4 / 1 | H ₂ O | 5 | 15 |

^a Reaction conditions: **1** (0.2 mmol) and Na₂S₂O₄ (0.4 mmol) in solvent (5 mL) were stirred at room temperature.

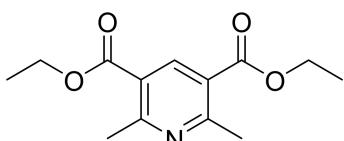
^b TBHP = *tert*-butylhydroperoxide, 70% in water. ^c Isolated yield. ^d No reaction.

3. Analytical data for compounds



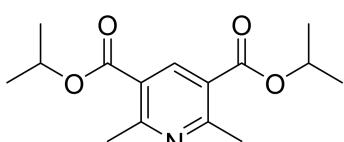
Dimethyl 2,6-dimethylpyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (2a)¹

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.70 (s, 1H), 3.93 (s, 6H), 2.85 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.19, 162.61, 141.03, 122.59, 52.28, 24.93.



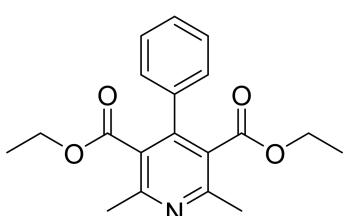
Diethyl 2,6-dimethylpyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (2b)¹

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.68 (s, 1H), 4.40 (dd, *J* = 14.28, 7.16 Hz, 4H), 2.85 (s, 6H), 1.42 (t, *J* = 7.14 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.92, 162.18, 140.85, 123.04, 61.36, 24.93, 14.26.



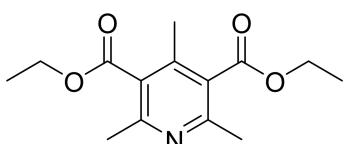
Diisopropyl 2,6-dimethylpyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (2c)¹

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.62 (s, 1H), 5.30-5.24 (m, 2H), 2.83 (s, 6H), 1.40 (d, *J* = 6.29 Hz, 12H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.63, 161.74, 140.76, 123.56, 69.08, 24.94, 21.88.



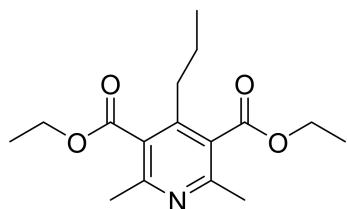
Diethyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-phenylpyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (2d)¹

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.35-7.33 (m, 2H), 7.24-7.23 (m, 2H), 3.98 (dd, *J* = 14.24, 7.12 Hz, 4H), 2.58 (s, 6H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 7.13 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.80, 155.37, 146.08, 136.57, 128.35, 128.10, 128.00, 126.90, 61.25, 22.85, 13.49; HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₉H₂₁NO₄ 328.1543; Found 328.1540.



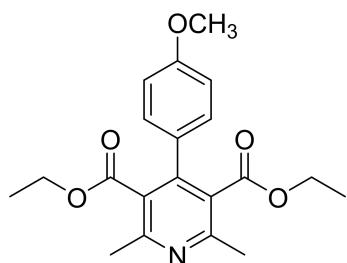
Diethyl 2,4,6-trimethylpyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (2e)²

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.41 (dd, *J* = 14.24, 7.08 Hz, 4H), 2.52 (s, 6H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 1.39 (t, *J* = 7.14 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.32, 154.88, 141.98, 127.53, 61.48, 22.87, 16.86, 14.11.



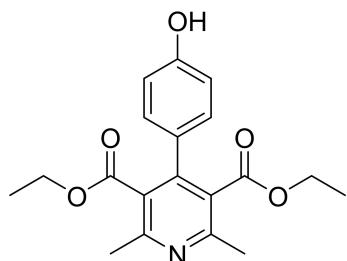
Diethyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-propylpyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (2f)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.41 (dd, *J* = 14.28, 7.12 Hz, 4H), 2.58 – 2.53 (m, 2H), 2.51 (s, 6H), 1.61 – 1.55 (m, 2H), 1.39 (t, *J* = 7.14 Hz, 6H), 0.93 (t, *J* = 7.35 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.53, 155.04, 146.34, 127.23, 61.53, 33.43, 24.19, 22.93, 14.41, 14.14.



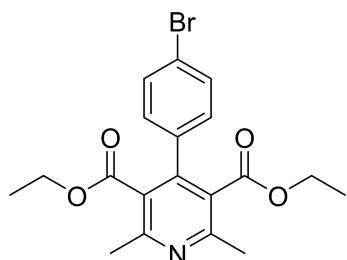
Diethyl 4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2,6-dimethylpyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (2g)²

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.19 (d, *J* = 8.62 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 8.62 Hz, 2H), 4.05 (q, *J* = 7.13 Hz, 4H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 2.59 (s, 6H), 0.99 (t, *J* = 7.13 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.00, 159.80, 155.11, 145.68, 129.42, 128.69, 127.21, 113.52, 61.24, 55.24, 22.79, 13.67.



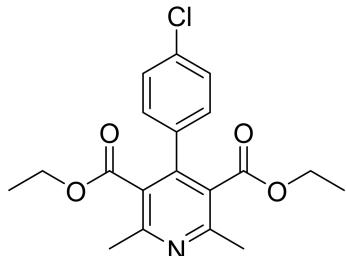
Diethyl 4-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2,6-dimethylpyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (2h)³

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.55 (s, 1H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 8.51 Hz, 2H), 6.78 (d, *J* = 8.52 Hz, 2H), 4.08 (q, *J* = 7.12 Hz, 4H), 2.60 (s, 6H), 1.01 (d, *J* = 7.13 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.17, 156.95, 156.90, 155.08, 146.36, 129.50, 127.58, 115.26, 61.61, 22.44, 13.72.



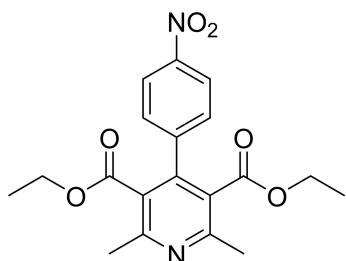
Diethyl 4-(4-bromophenyl)-2,6-dimethylpyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (2i)²

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.22 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 8.26 Hz, 2H), 4.05 (dd, *J* = 14.24, 7.12 Hz, 4H), 2.60 (s, 6H), 0.98 (d, *J* = 7.10 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.59, 155.63, 144.82, 135.45, 131.27, 129.85, 126.70, 122.84, 61.50, 22.94, 13.65.



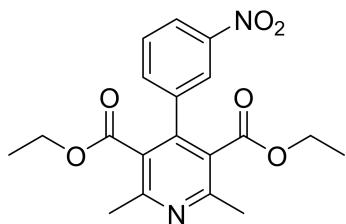
Diethyl 4-(4-chlorophenyl)-2,6-dimethylpyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (2j)²

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.43 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 8.42 Hz, 2H), 4.05 (d, *J* = 7.14 Hz, 4H), 2.60 (s, 6H), 0.98 (d, *J* = 7.14 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.59, 155.58, 144.79, 134.94, 134.69, 129.57, 128.30, 126.77, 61.47, 22.94, 13.65.



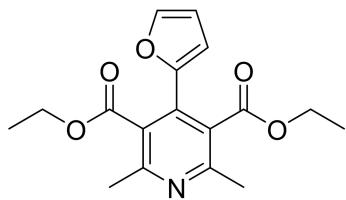
Diethyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(4-nitrophenyl)pyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (2k)³

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.26 (d, *J* = 8.71 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.73 Hz, 2H), 4.04 (dd, *J* = 14.28, 7.16 Hz, 4H), 2.63 (s, 6H), 0.98 (d, *J* = 7.14 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.09, 156.12, 147.83, 143.89, 143.27, 129.41, 126.19, 123.14, 61.60, 23.05, 13.66.



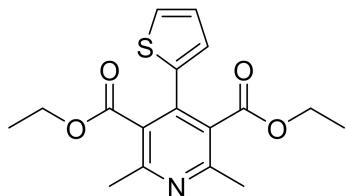
Diethyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(3-nitrophenyl)pyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (2l)²

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.28 – 8.25 (m, 1H), 8.19 (s, 1H), 7.63 – 7.57 (m, 2H), 4.06 (d, *J* = 7.13 Hz, 4H), 2.64 (s, 6H), 1.00 (d, *J* = 7.14 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.16, 156.07, 147.81, 143.48, 138.12, 134.37, 129.21, 126.55, 123.34, 61.64, 23.09, 13.71.



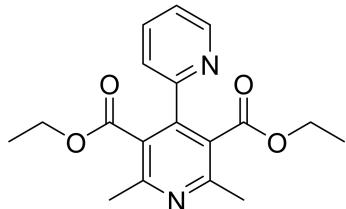
Diethyl 4-(furan-2-yl)-2,6-dimethylpyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (2m)⁴

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.50 (s, 1H), 6.62 (d, *J* = 3.40 Hz, 1H), 6.49–6.48 (m, 1H), 4.28 (dd, *J* = 14.24, 7.12 Hz, 4H), 2.58 (s, 6H), 1.23 (t, *J* = 7.14 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.16, 155.70, 148.03, 143.89, 133.76, 124.78, 111.92, 111.79, 61.77, 22.78, 13.99.



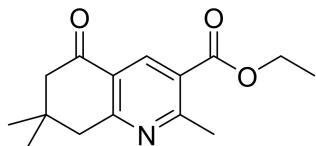
Diethyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(thiophen-2-yl)pyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate (2n)²

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.40 (d, *J* = 4.70 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (t, *J* = 2.32 Hz, 2H), 4.12 (dd, *J* = 14.28, 7.12 Hz, 4H), 2.59 (s, 6H), 1.07 (d, *J* = 7.14 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.68, 155.34, 138.80, 135.89, 128.58, 127.61, 127.38, 127.05, 61.57, 22.86, 13.71.



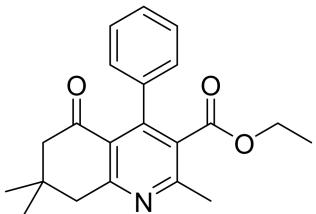
Diethyl 2',6'-dimethyl-[2,4'-bipyridine]-3',5'-dicarboxylate (2o)⁴

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.64 (d, *J* = 4.63 Hz, 1H), 7.76 – 7.72 (m, 1H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 7.84 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (dd, *J* = 7.40, 5.00 Hz, 1H), 4.06 (dd, *J* = 14.20, 7.08 Hz, 2H), 2.65 (s, 3H), 0.97 (d, *J* = 7.14 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.85, 156.63, 155.82, 149.47, 145.66, 136.24, 126.31, 123.41, 123.09, 61.41, 23.19, 13.80.



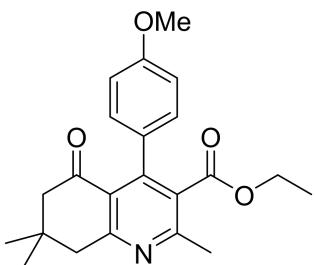
Ethyl 2,7,7-trimethyl-5-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroquinoline-3-carboxylate (4a)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.73 (s, 1H), 4.39 (dd, *J* = 13.84, 6.84 Hz, 2H), 3.03 (s, 2H), 2.88 (s, 3H), 2.56 (s, 2H), 1.41 (d, *J* = 6.91 Hz, 3H), 1.12 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.17, 165.83, 164.66, 164.30, 137.01, 124.90, 124.55, 61.46, 51.94, 46.51, 32.91, 28.29, 25.20, 14.28.



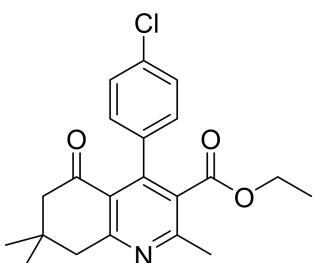
Ethyl 2,7,7-trimethyl-5-oxo-4-phenyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroquinoline-3-carboxylate (4b)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.37 – 7.35 (m, 3H), 7.14 – 7.12 (m, 2H), 3.96 (dd, *J* = 14.24, 7.12 Hz, 2H), 3.09 (s, 2H), 2.61 (s, 3H), 2.47 (s, 2H), 1.11 (s, 6H), 0.92 (t, *J* = 7.13 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.98, 167.52, 163.10, 158.29, 148.52, 137.38, 130.14, 127.66, 127.54, 122.94, 61.40, 53.66, 47.53, 32.39, 28.15, 23.21, 13.57 (s); HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₂₁H₂₃NO₃ 338.1751; Found 338.1747.



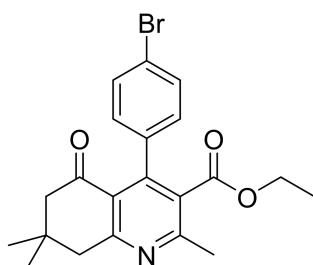
Ethyl 4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2,7,7-trimethyl-5-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroquinoline-3-carboxylate (4c)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.05 (d, *J* = 8.67 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, *J* = 8.69 Hz, 2H), 4.00 (dd, *J* = 14.24, 7.12 Hz, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.06 (s, 2H), 2.58 (s, 3H), 2.45 (s, 2H), 1.10 (s, 6H), 0.98 (t, *J* = 7.14 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.23, 167.75, 163.09, 159.28, 158.13, 148.39, 130.53, 129.48, 128.93, 123.21, 113.27, 61.42, 55.20, 53.81, 47.58, 32.41, 28.17, 23.20, 13.74 (s)



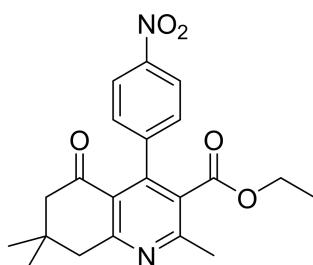
Ethyl 4-(4-chlorophenyl)-2,7,7-trimethyl-5-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroquinoline-3-carboxylate (4d)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.33 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.06 – 7.04 (m, 2H), 3.98 (dd, *J* = 14.28, 7.12 Hz, 2H), 3.07 (s, 2H), 2.58 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 2H), 1.09 (s, 6H), 0.97 (t, *J* = 7.14 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 197.00, 167.27, 163.26, 158.54, 147.20, 135.85, 133.80, 130.03, 129.05, 127.94, 122.78, 61.55, 53.62, 47.50, 32.40, 28.13, 23.25, 13.65 (s); HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₂₁H₂₂NO₃Cl 372.1361; Found 372.1359.



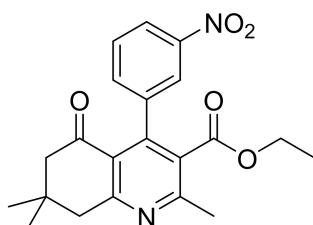
Ethyl 4-(4-bromophenyl)-2,7,7-trimethyl-5-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroquinoline-3-carboxylate(4e)

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.50 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.01 – 6.98 (m, 2H), 4.00 (dd, $J = 14.28, 7.12$ Hz, 2H), 3.08 (s, 2H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 2.46 (s, 2H), 1.10 (s, 6H), 0.98 (d, $J = 7.14$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.05, 167.28, 163.29, 158.59, 147.20, 136.35, 130.90, 129.95, 129.33, 122.72, 121.97, 61.59, 53.63, 47.51, 32.42, 28.14, 23.27, 13.66 (s).



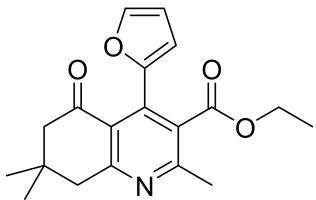
Ethyl 2,7,7-trimethyl-4-(4-nitrophenyl)-5-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroquinoline-3-carboxylate (4f)

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.23 (d, $J = 8.78$ Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, $J = 8.78$ Hz, 2H), 3.99 (dd, $J = 14.28, 7.12$ Hz, 2H), 3.11 (s, 2H), 2.62 (s, 3H), 2.47 (s, 2H), 1.12 (s, 6H), 0.97 (d, $J = 7.12$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 196.99, 166.81, 163.60, 159.13, 147.34, 146.06, 144.65, 129.32, 128.72, 122.97, 122.31, 61.75, 53.40, 47.42, 32.47, 28.11, 23.38, 13.70 (s); HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$ 383.1601; Found 383.1604.



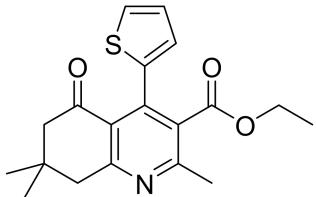
Ethyl 2,7,7-trimethyl-4-(3-nitrophenyl)-5-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroquinoline-3-carboxylate (4g)

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.24 (d, $J = 8.15$ Hz, 1H), 8.03 (s, 1H), 7.56 (d, $J = 7.92$ Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d, $J = 7.64$ Hz, 1H), 4.00 (dd, $J = 14.24, 7.12$ Hz, 2H), 3.12 (s, 2H), 2.63 (s, 3H), 2.48 (d, $J = 4.02$ Hz, 2H), 1.13 (d, $J = 6.72$ Hz, 6H), 0.97 (d, $J = 7.12$ Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.00, 166.84, 163.59, 159.08, 147.75, 145.64, 139.12, 133.88, 129.78, 128.63, 122.89, 122.64, 122.43, 61.69, 53.47, 47.45, 32.45, 28.20, 28.02, 23.35, 13.67 (s).



Ethyl 4-(furan-2-yl)-2,7,7-trimethyl-5-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroquinoline-3-carboxylate (4h)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.53 (s, 1H), 6.49 (s, 2H), 4.20 (dd, *J* = 14.28, 7.16 Hz, 2H), 3.07 (s, 2H), 2.61 (s, 3H), 2.55 (s, 2H), 1.18 (t, *J* = 7.13 Hz, 3H), 1.12 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.51, 167.58, 163.16, 158.91, 148.22, 143.33, 136.21, 129.49, 123.30, 111.16, 110.57, 61.77, 53.49, 47.37, 32.65, 28.18, 23.21, 13.95 (s); HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₉H₂₁NO₄ 328.1543; Found 328.1548.



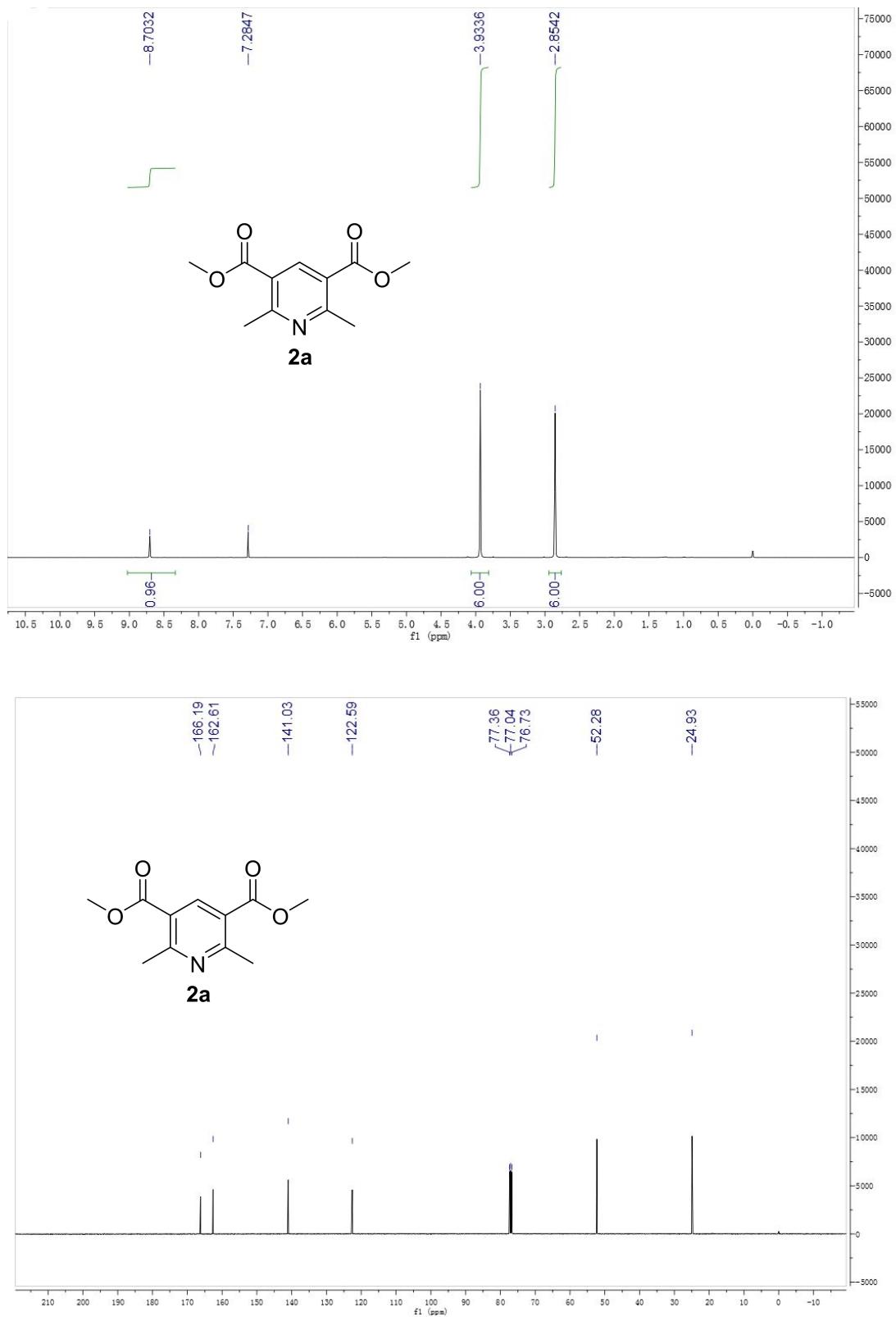
Ethyl 2,7,7-trimethyl-5-oxo-4-(thiophen-2-yl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroquinoline-3-carboxylate (4i)

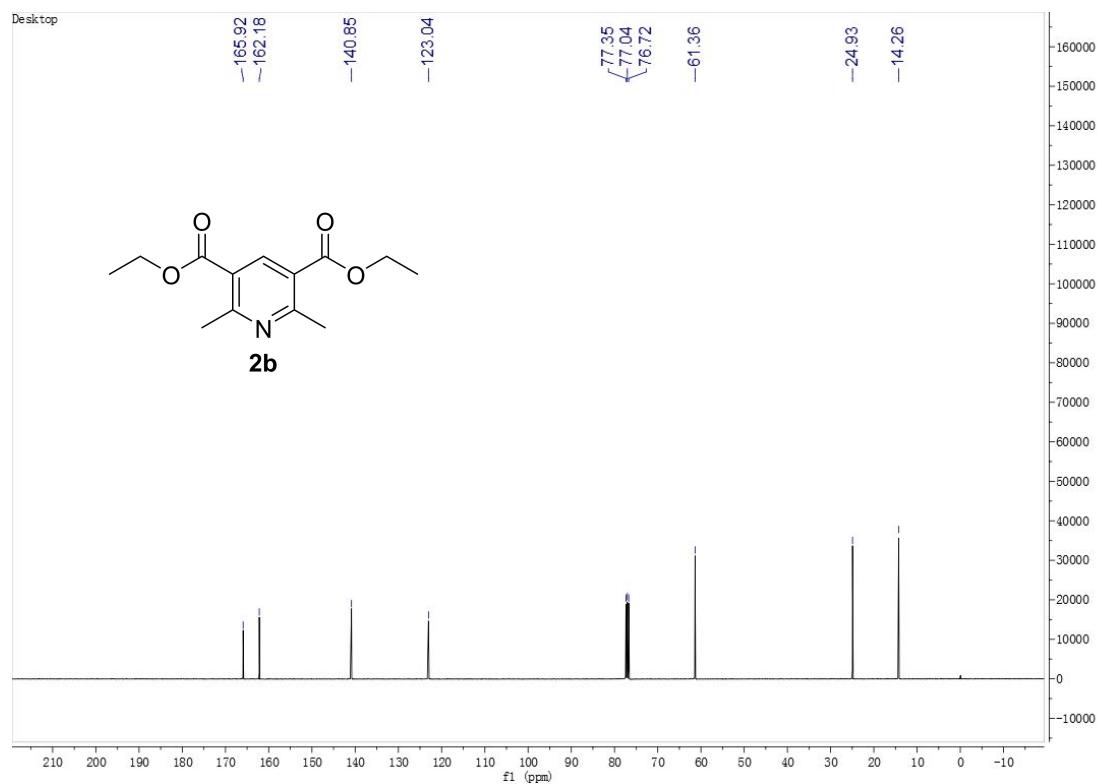
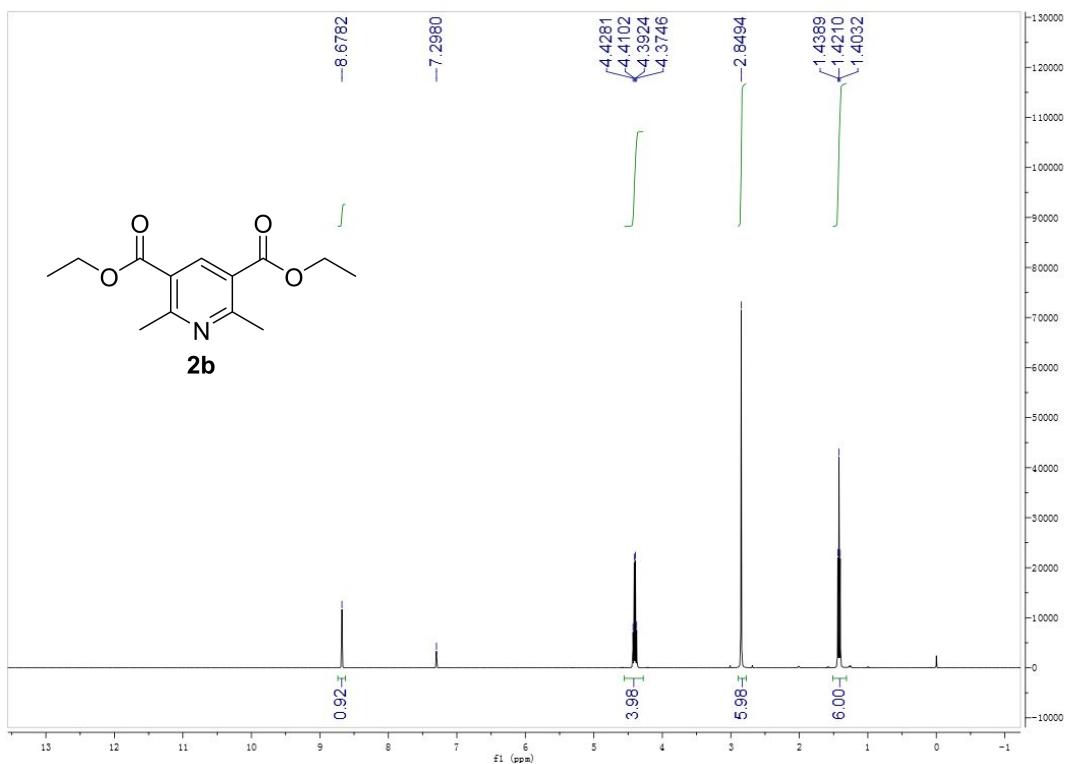
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42 (d, *J* = 4.97 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (t, *J* = 4.26 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 3.24 Hz, 1H), 4.08 (dd, *J* = 14.24, 7.12 Hz, 2H), 3.08 (s, 2H), 2.60 (s, 3H), 2.50 (s, 2H), 1.08 (s, 6H), 1.06 (d, *J* = 7.14 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 196.65, 167.33, 163.06, 158.33, 141.22, 137.24, 131.21, 126.99, 126.76, 126.46, 123.89, 61.63, 53.71, 47.49, 32.45, 28.14, 23.20, 13.75 (s); HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₉H₂₁NO₃S 344.1315; Found 344.1317.

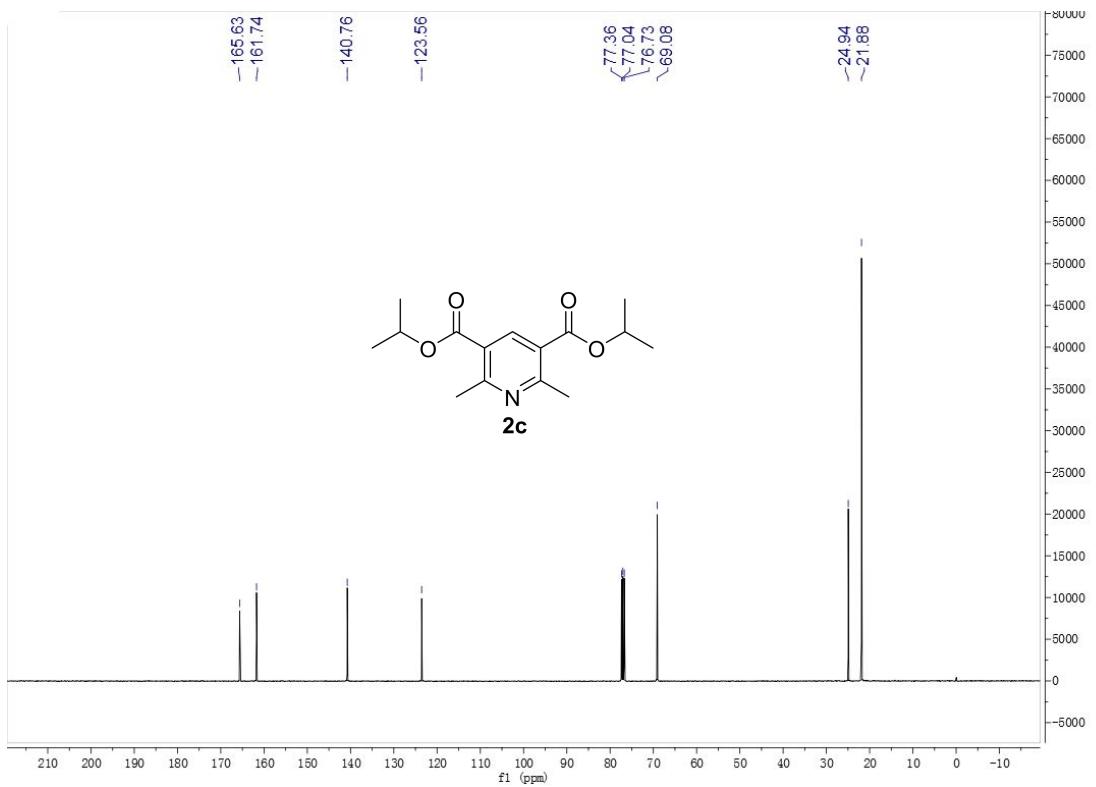
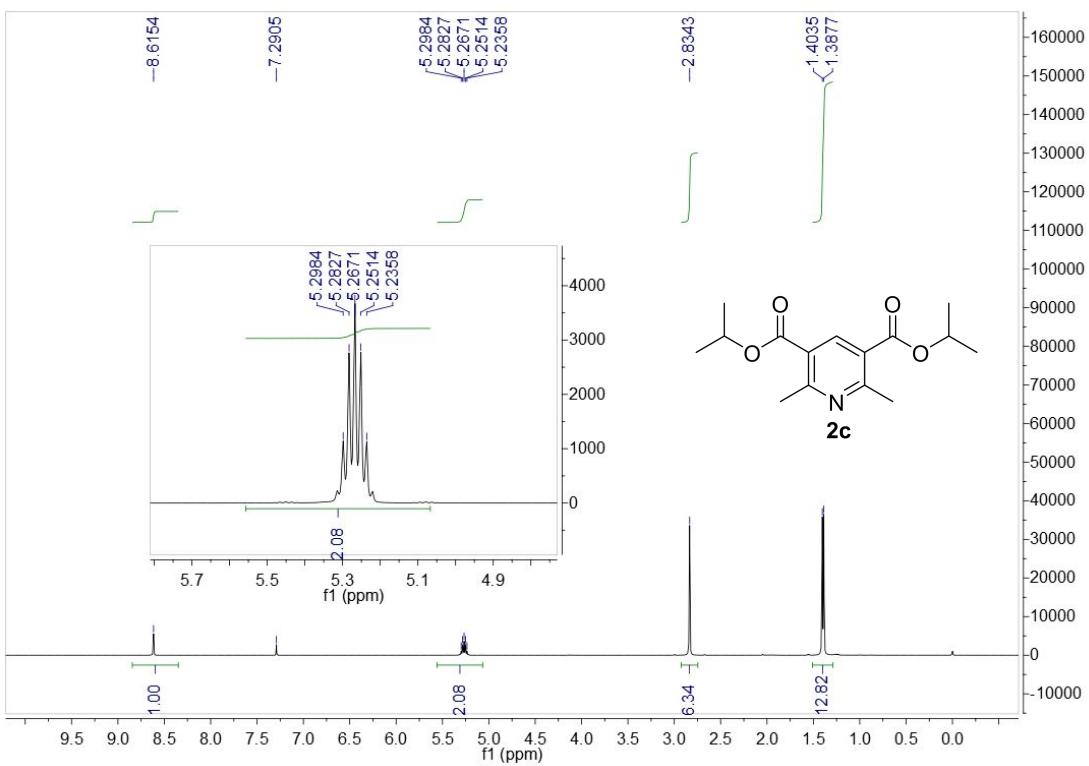
References for known compounds

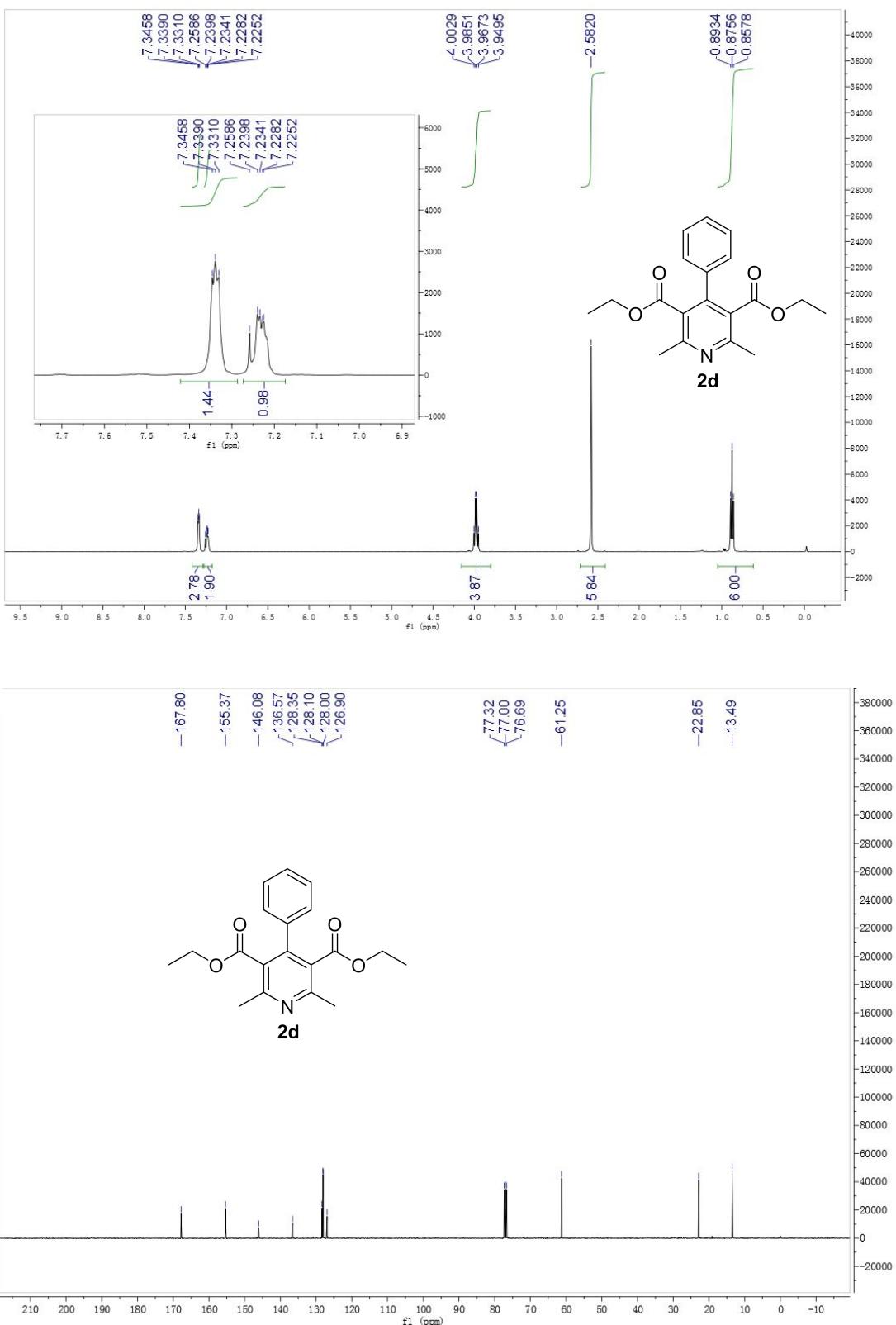
1. Abdel-Mohsen, H. T., Conrad, J., Beifuss, U. *Green Chem.*, **2012**, 14, 2686.
2. Saikh, F., De, R., Ghosh, S. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2014**, 55, 6171.
3. Nakamichi, N., Kawashita, Y., Hayashi, M. *Org. Lett.*, **2002**, 4, 3955.
4. Jia, X.-D., Yu, L.-L., Huo, C.-D., Wang, Y.-X., Liu, J., Wang, X.-C. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2014**, 55, 264.

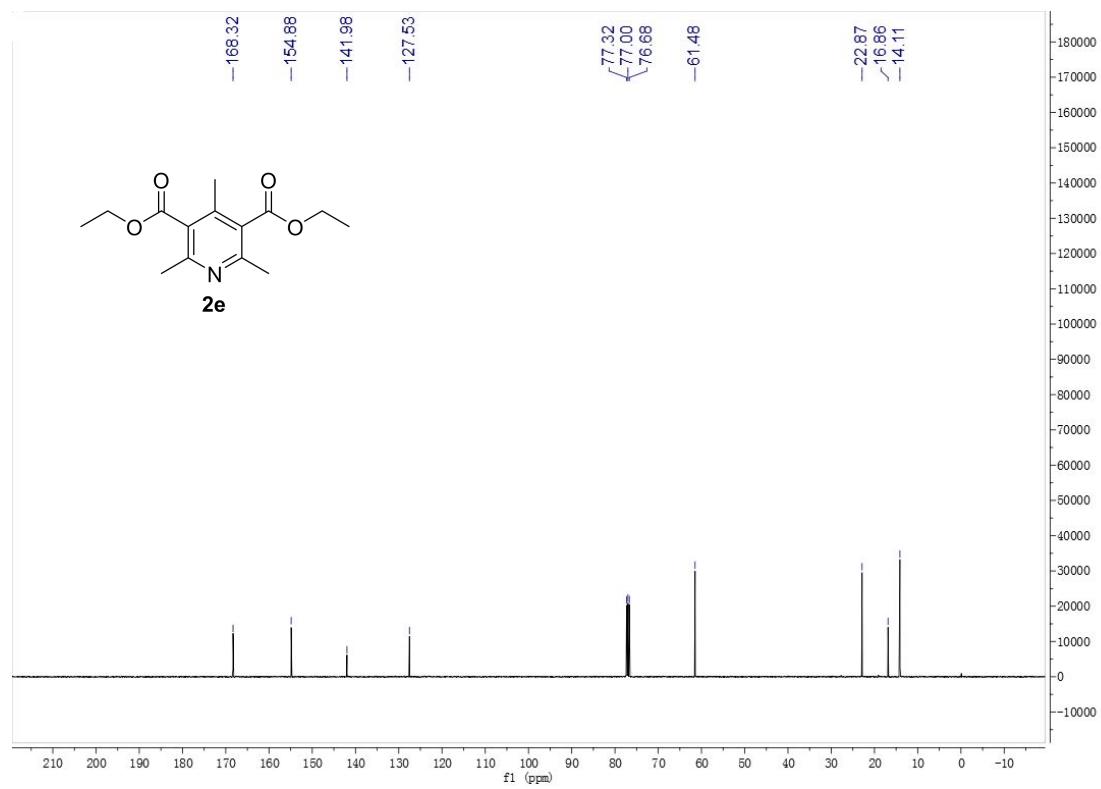
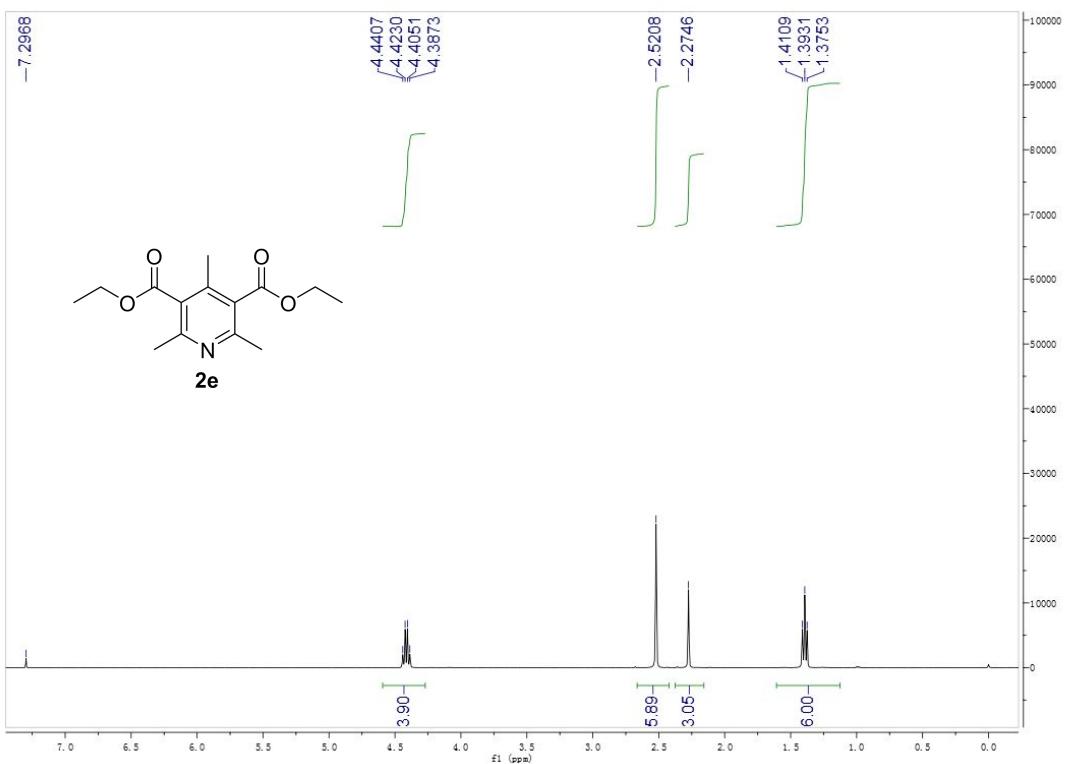
4. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra

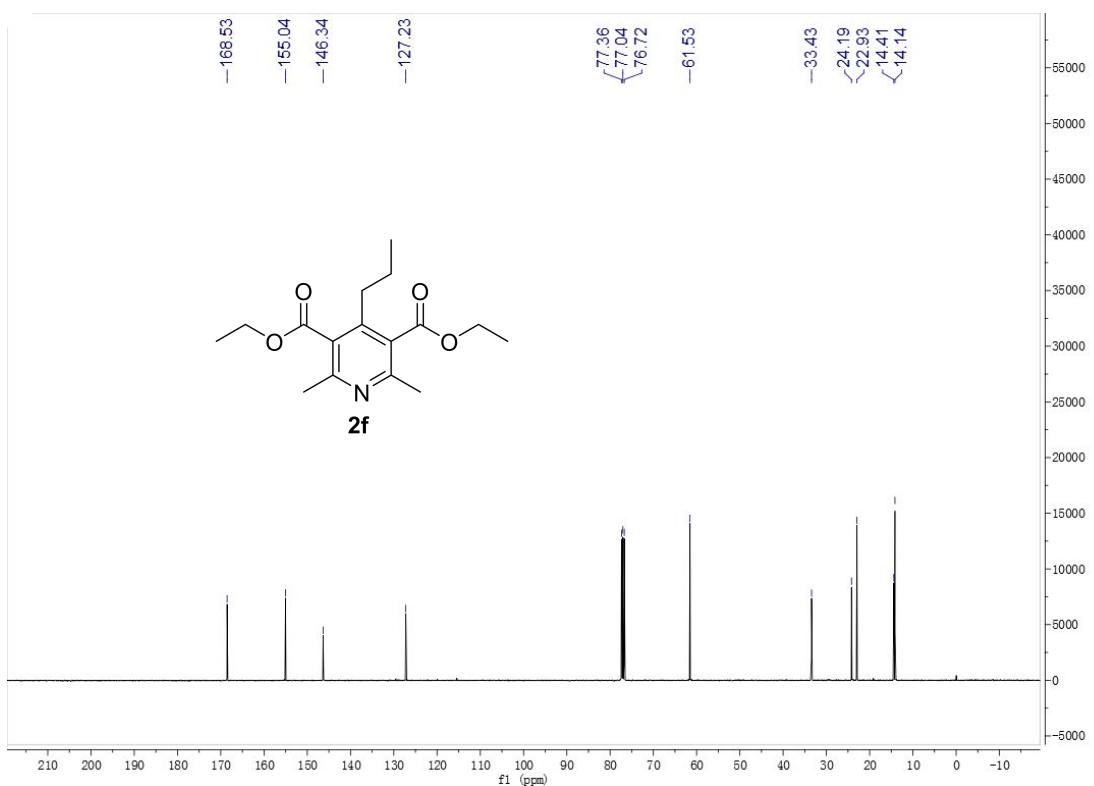
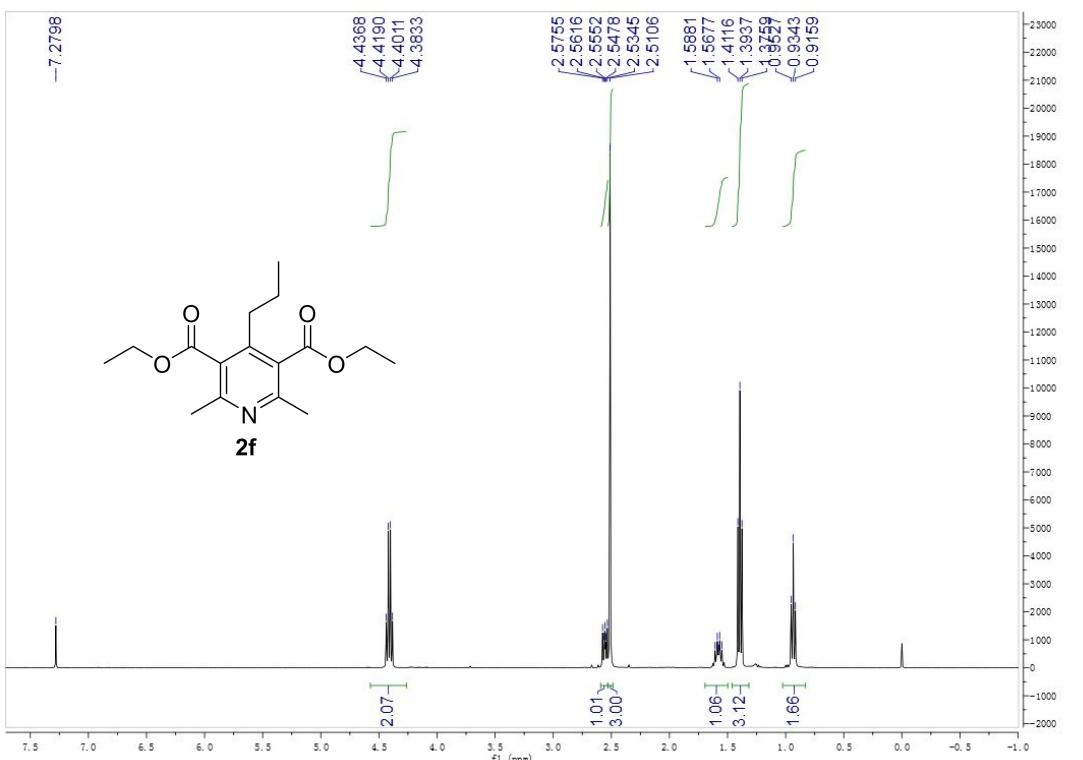


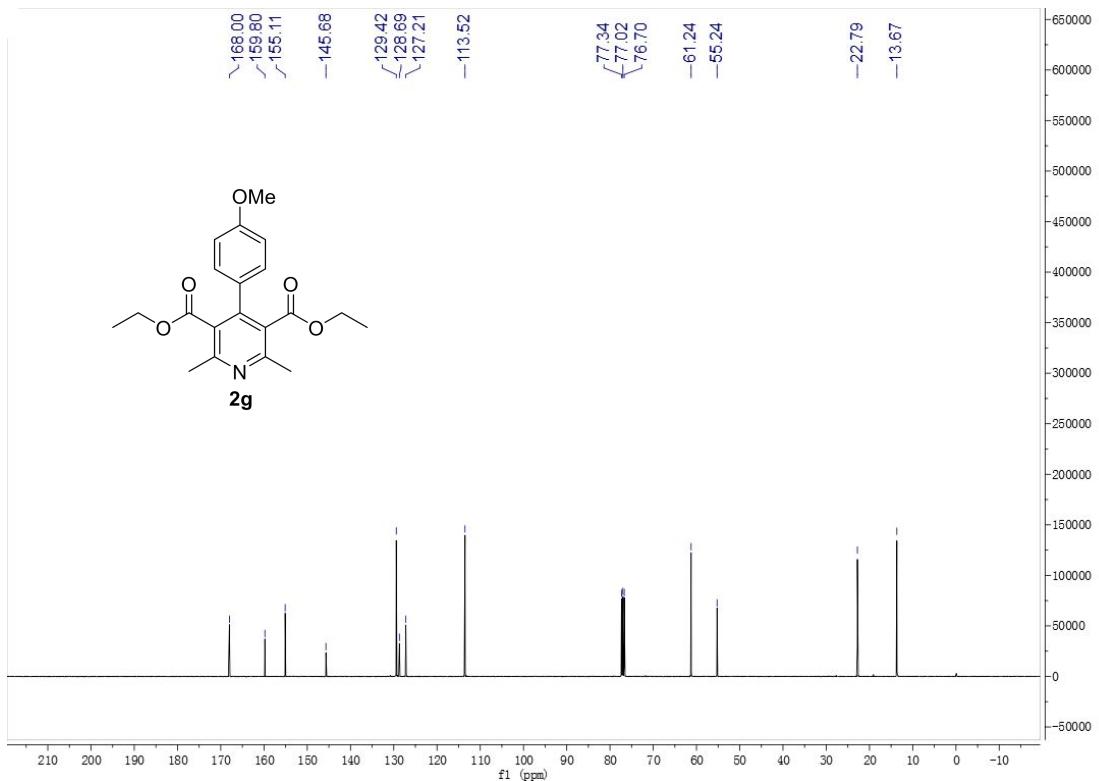
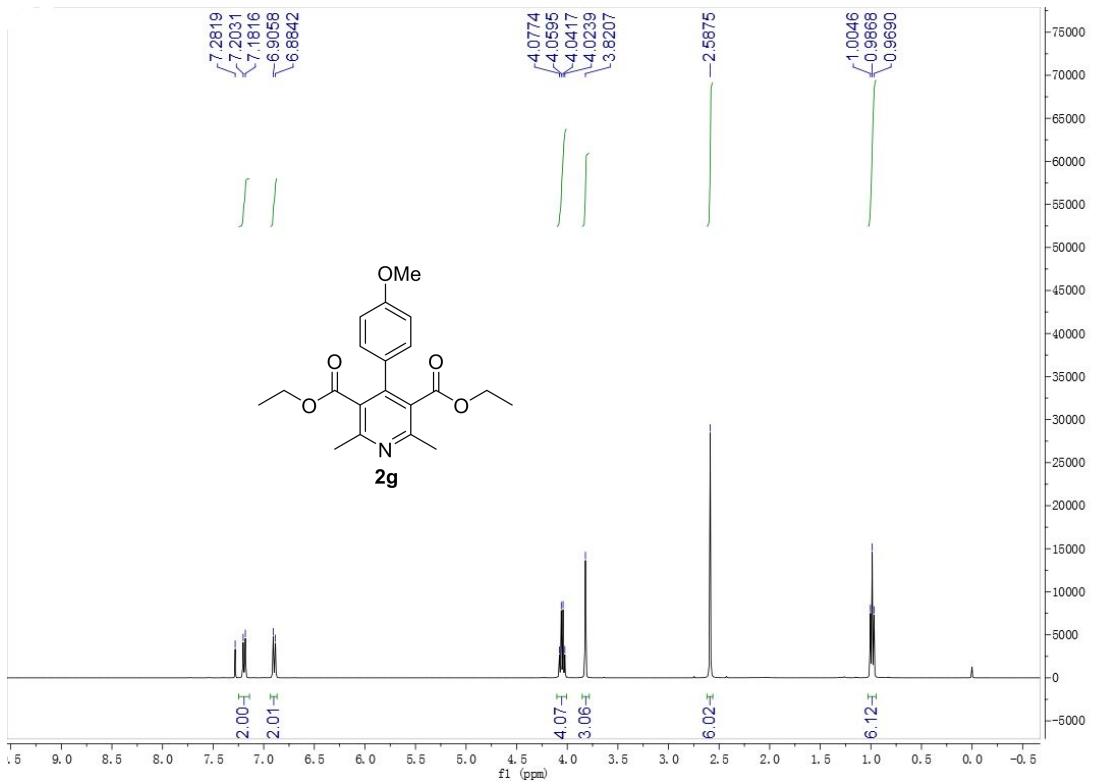


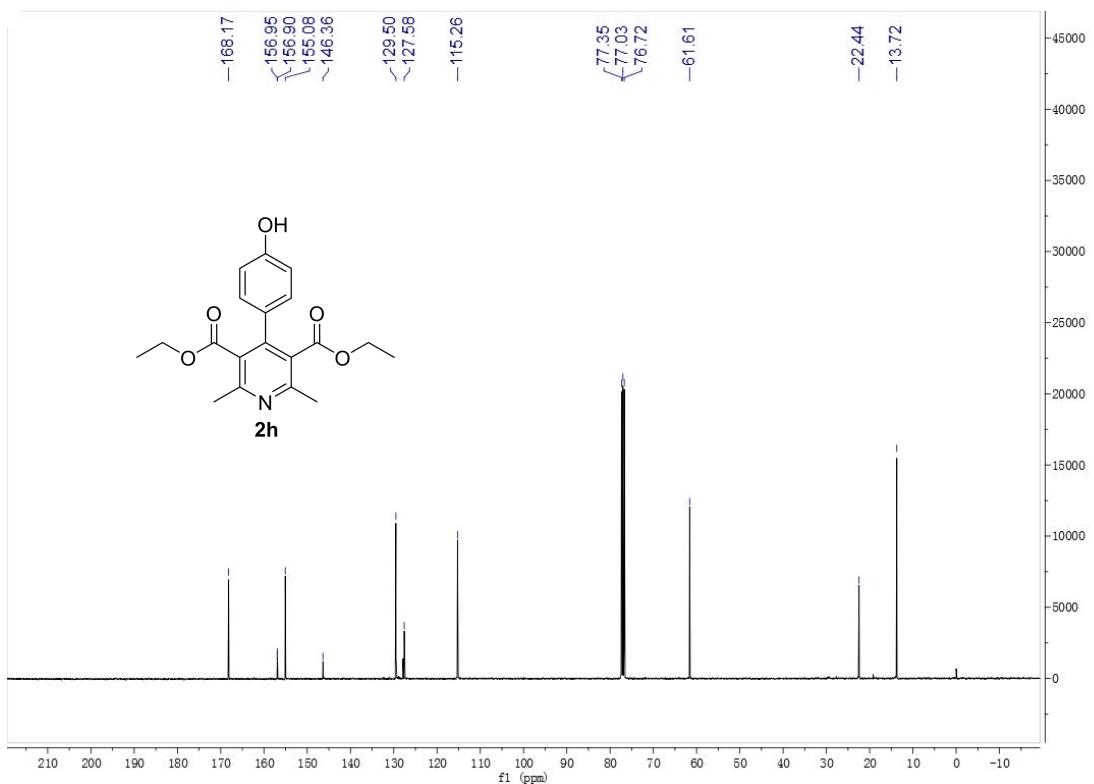
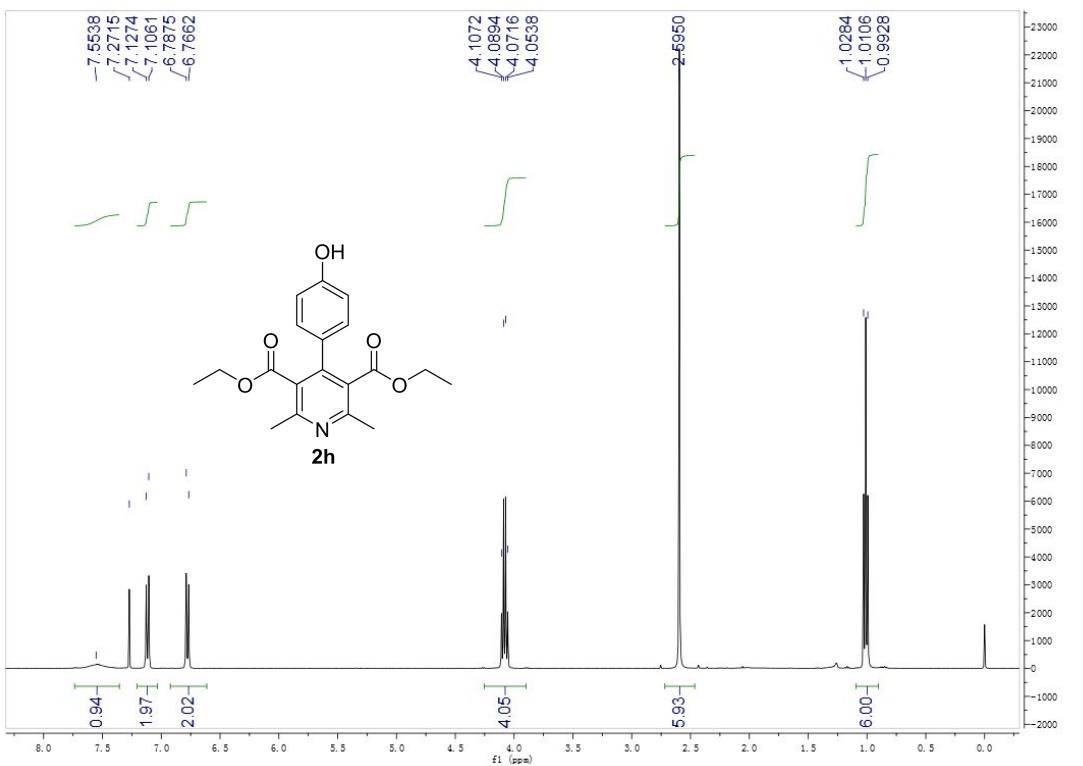


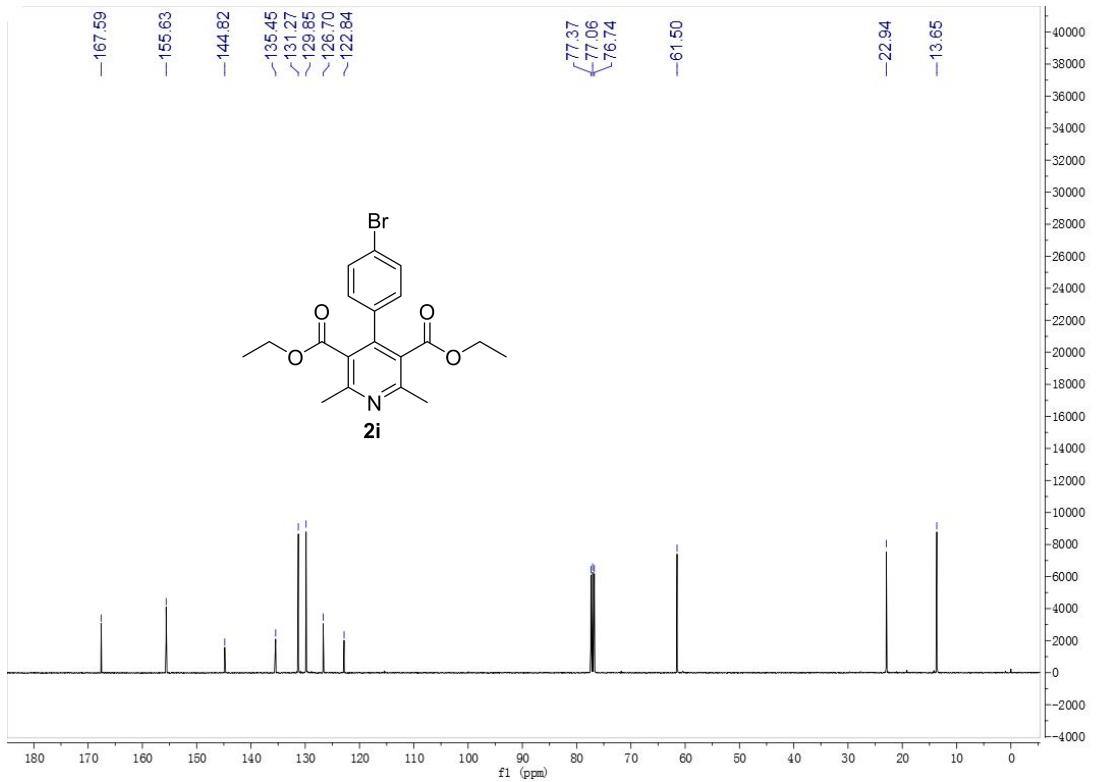
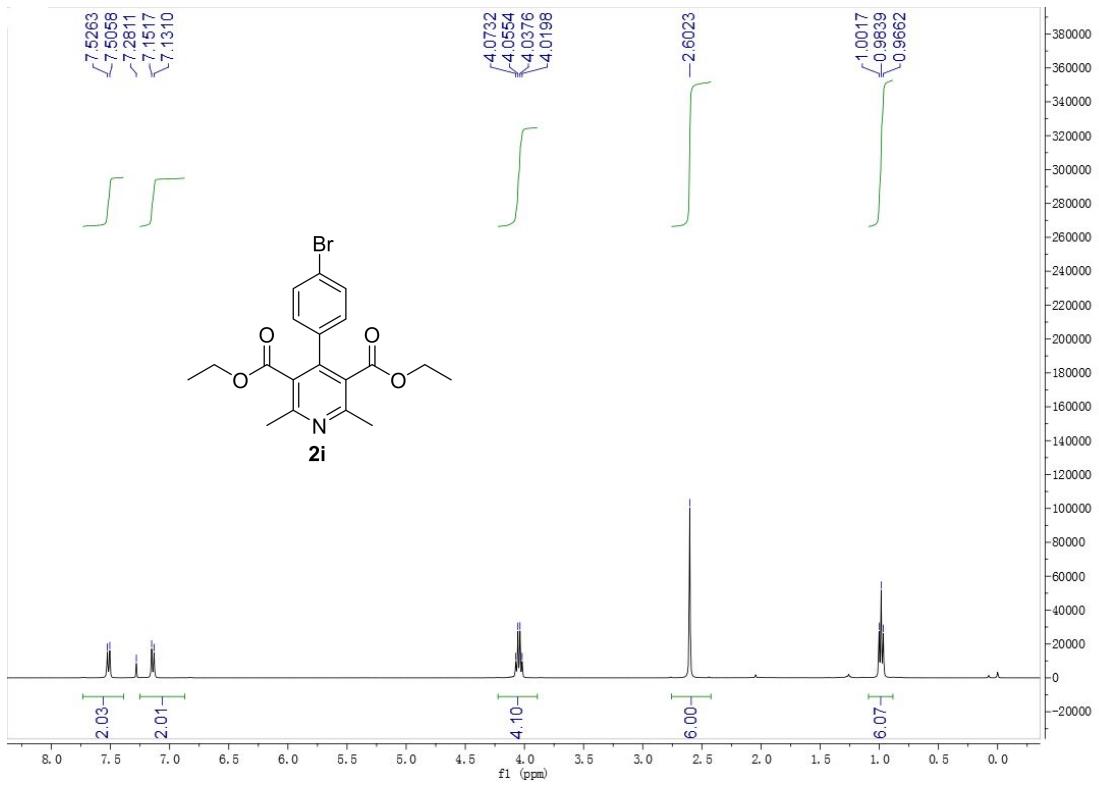


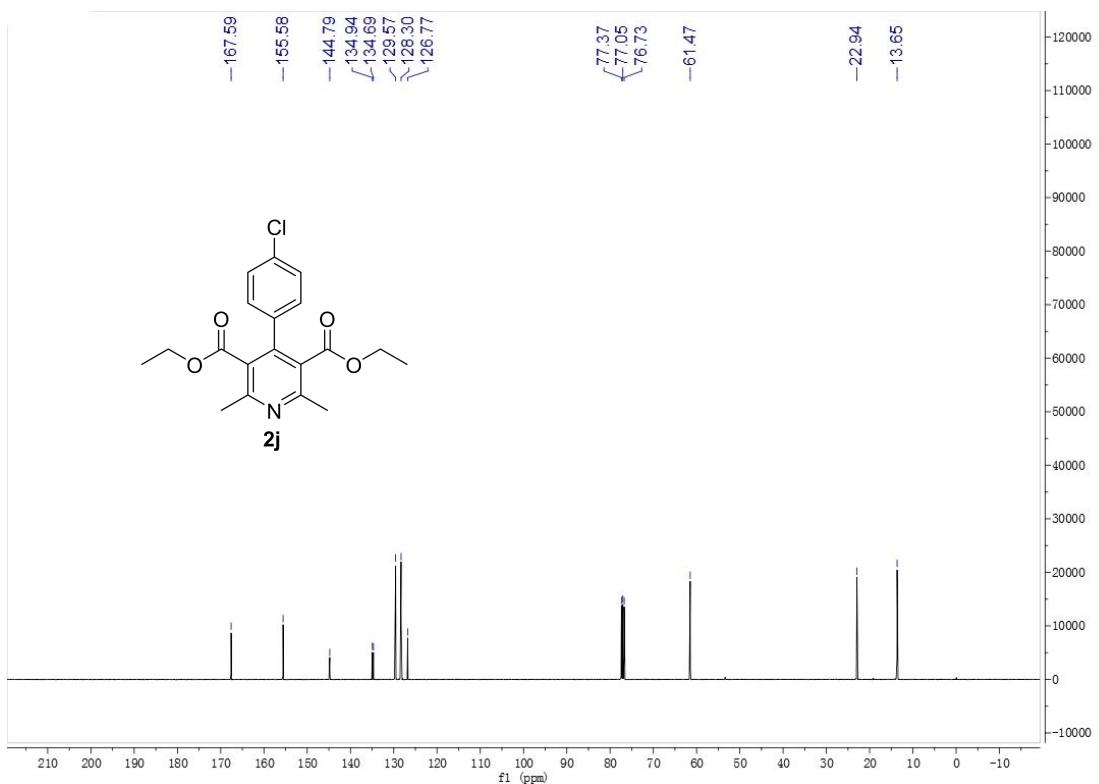
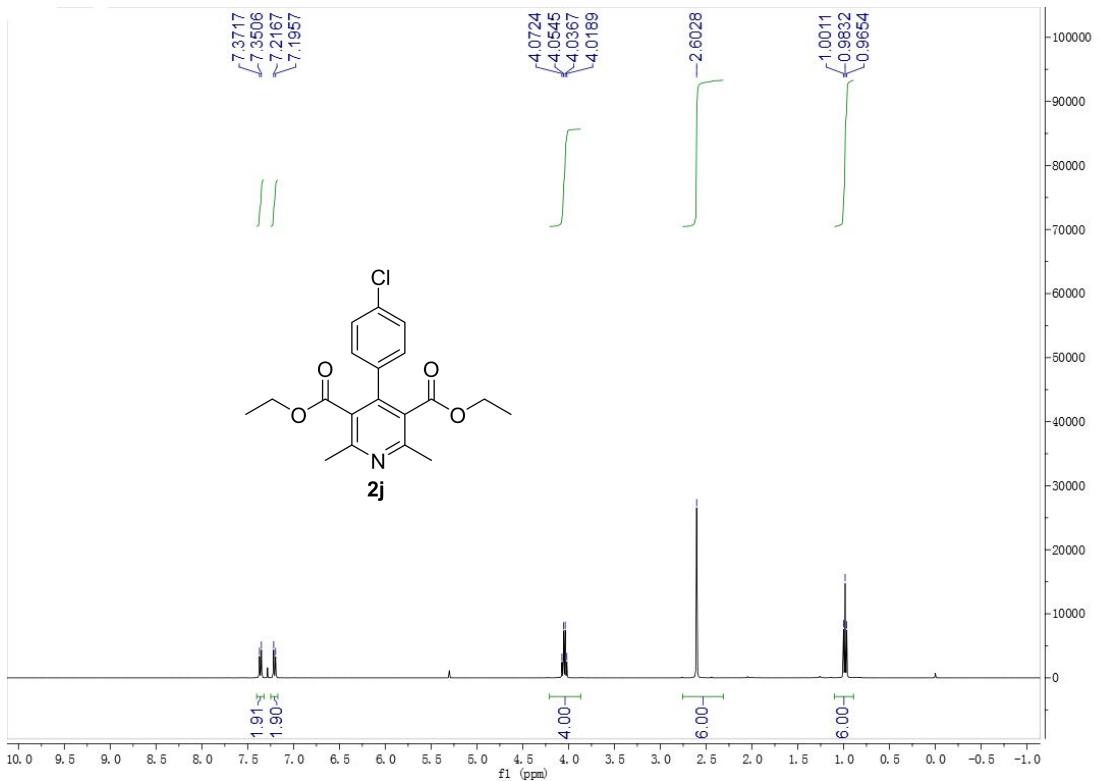


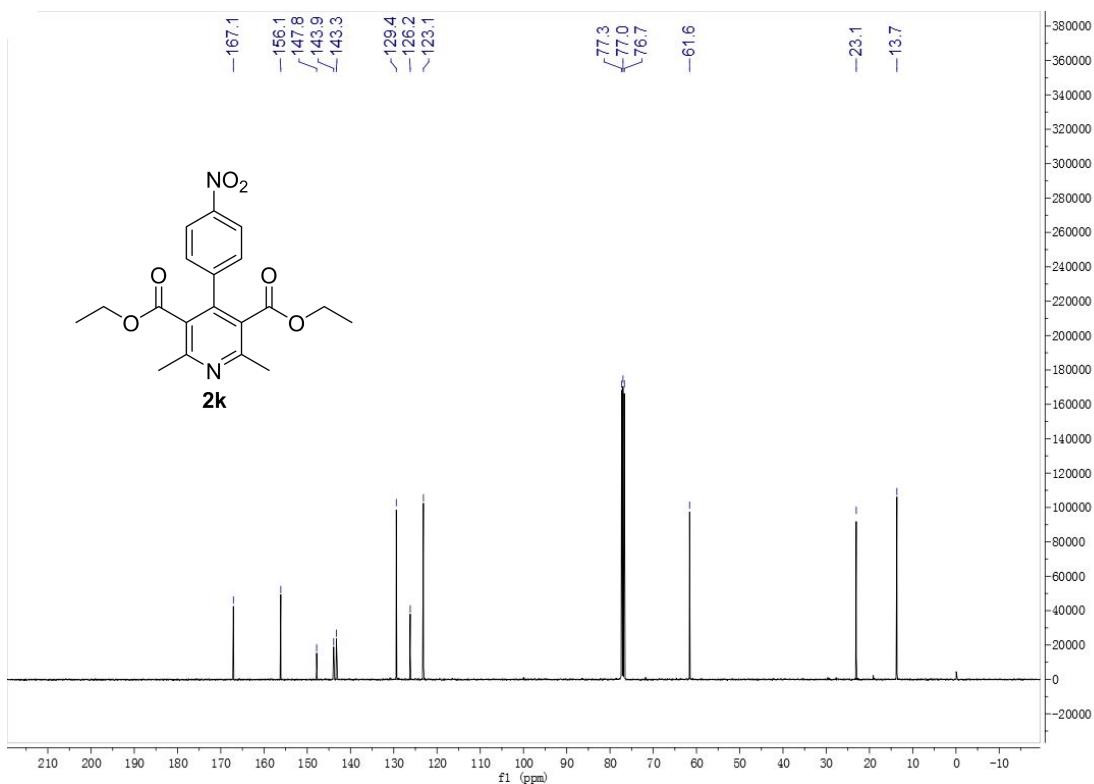
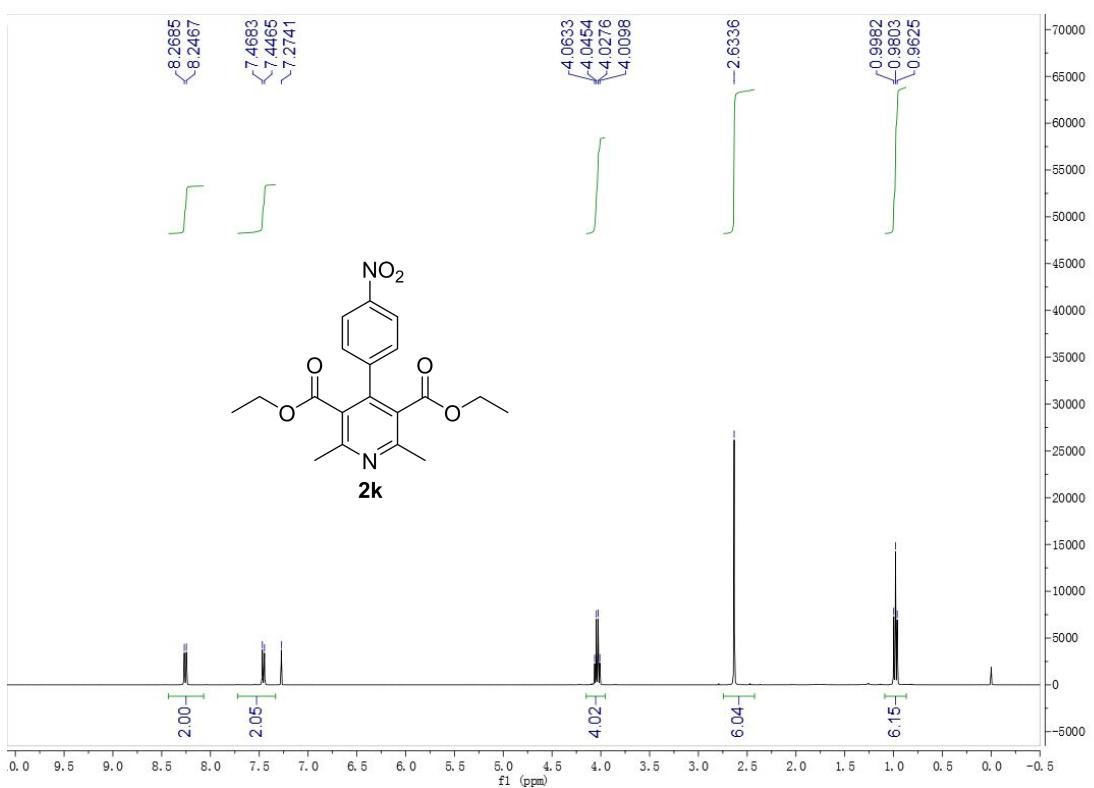


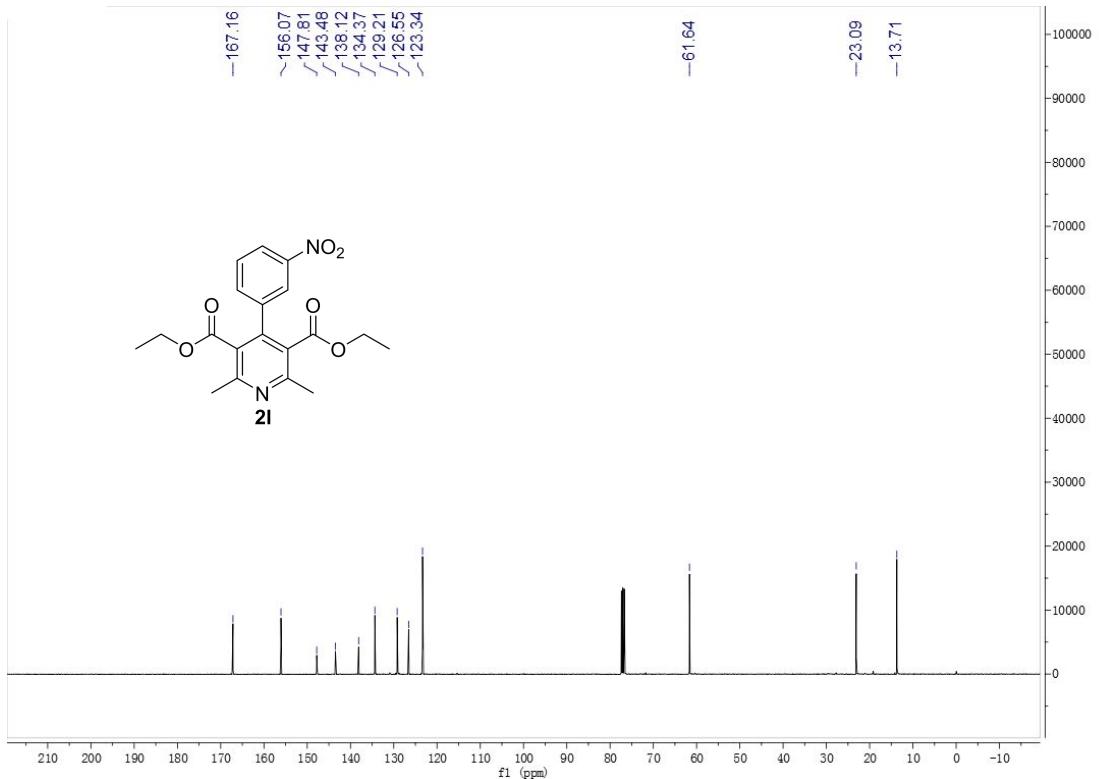
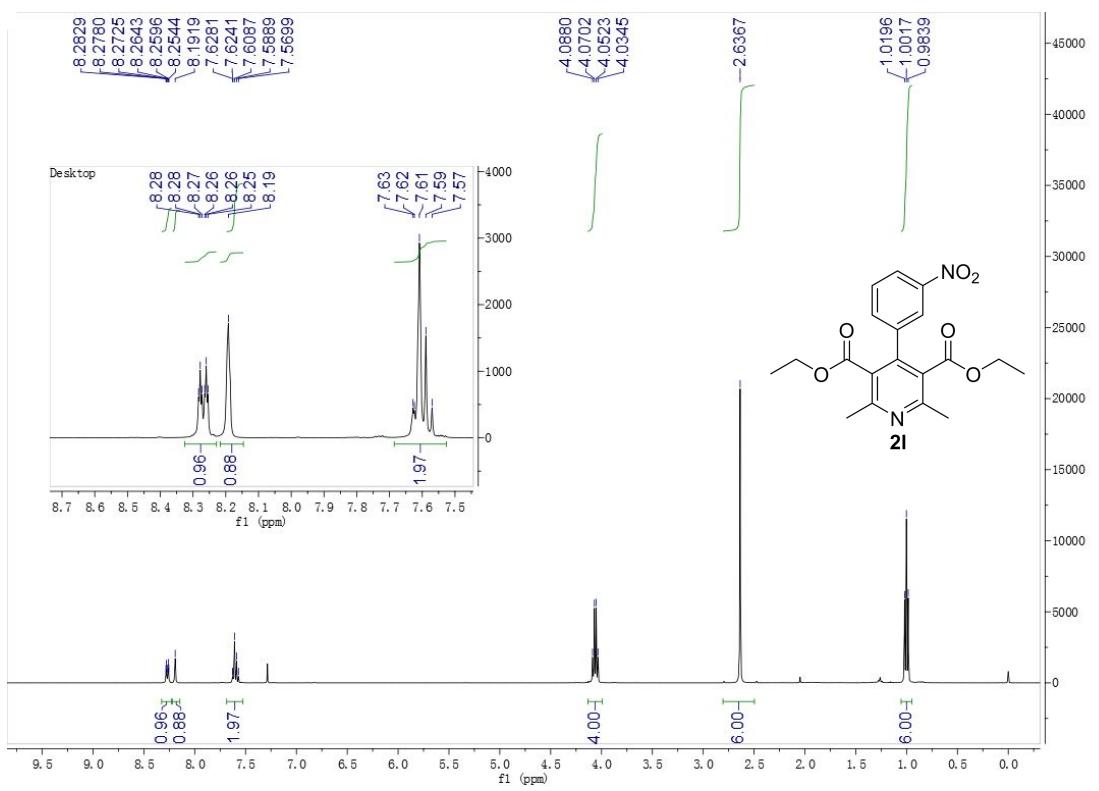


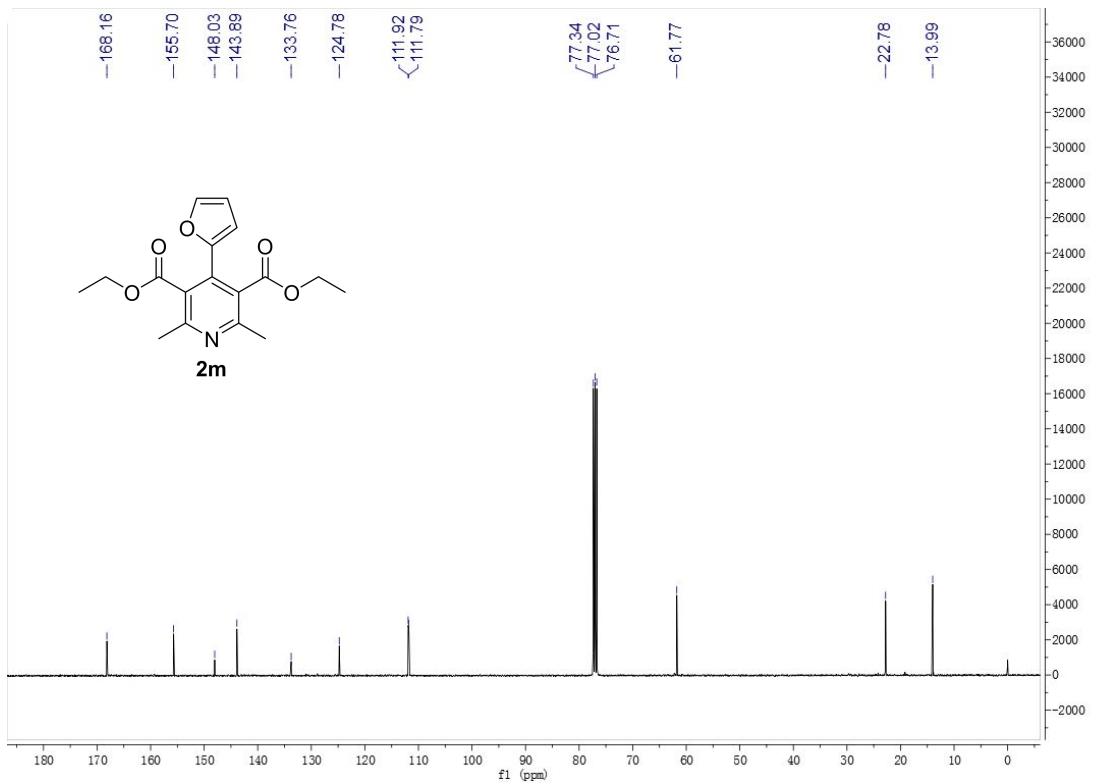
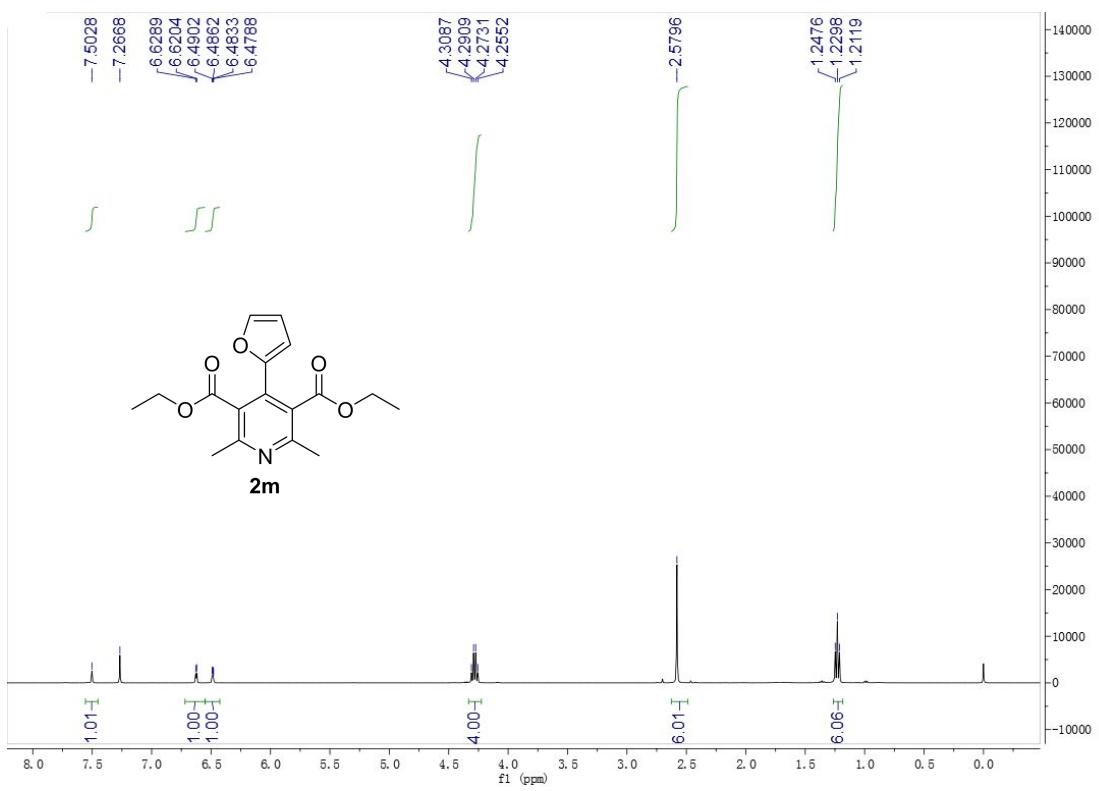


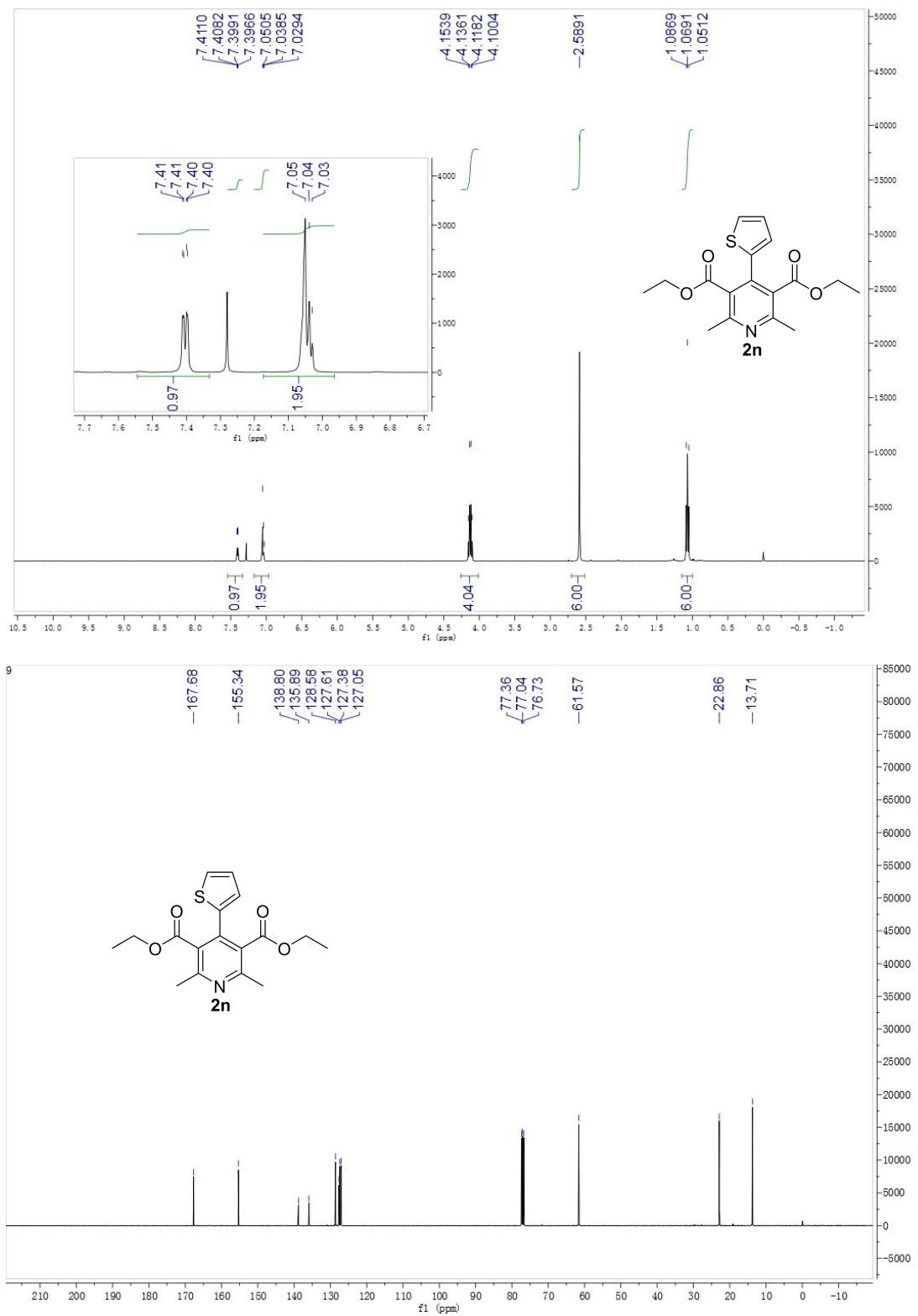


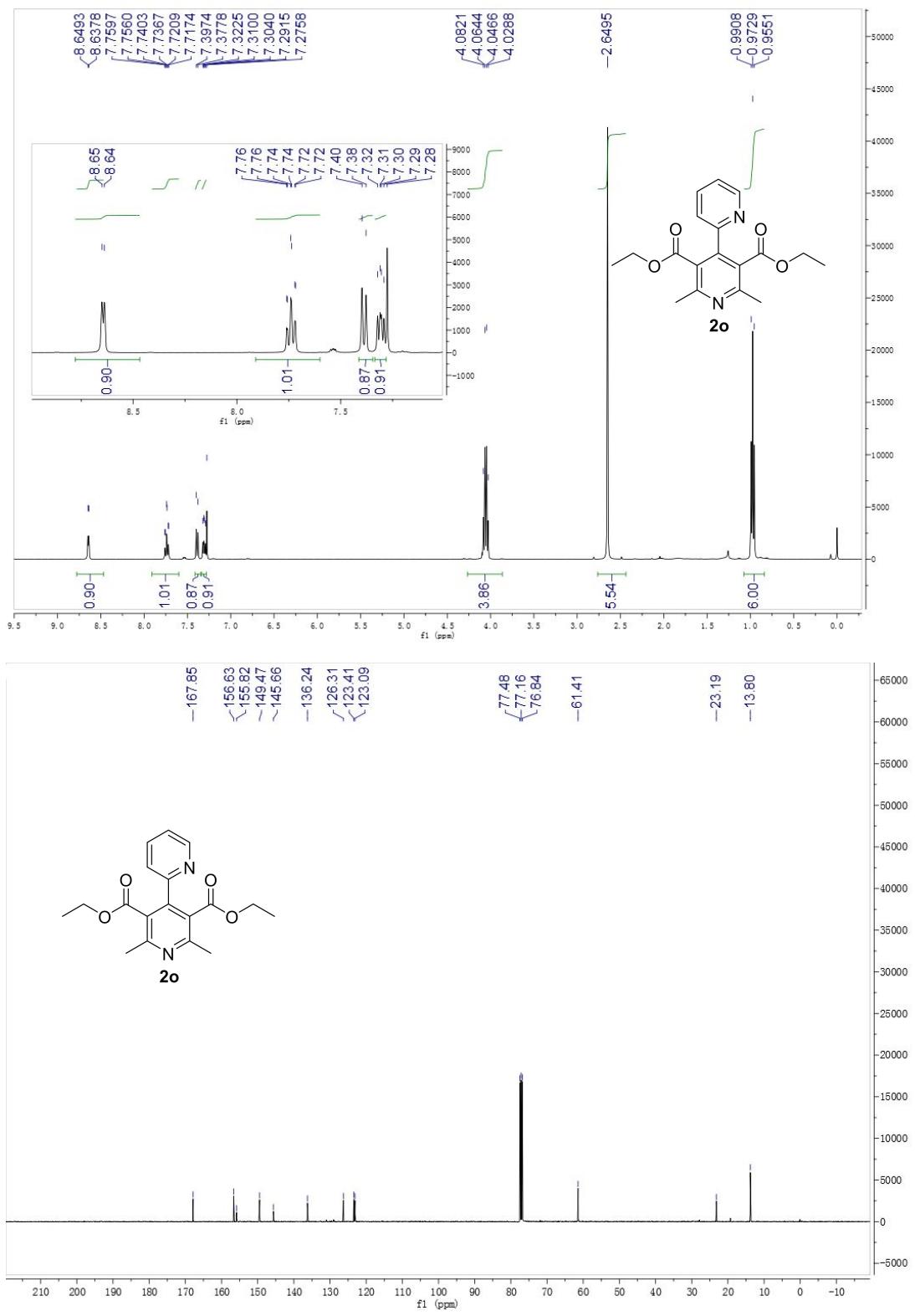


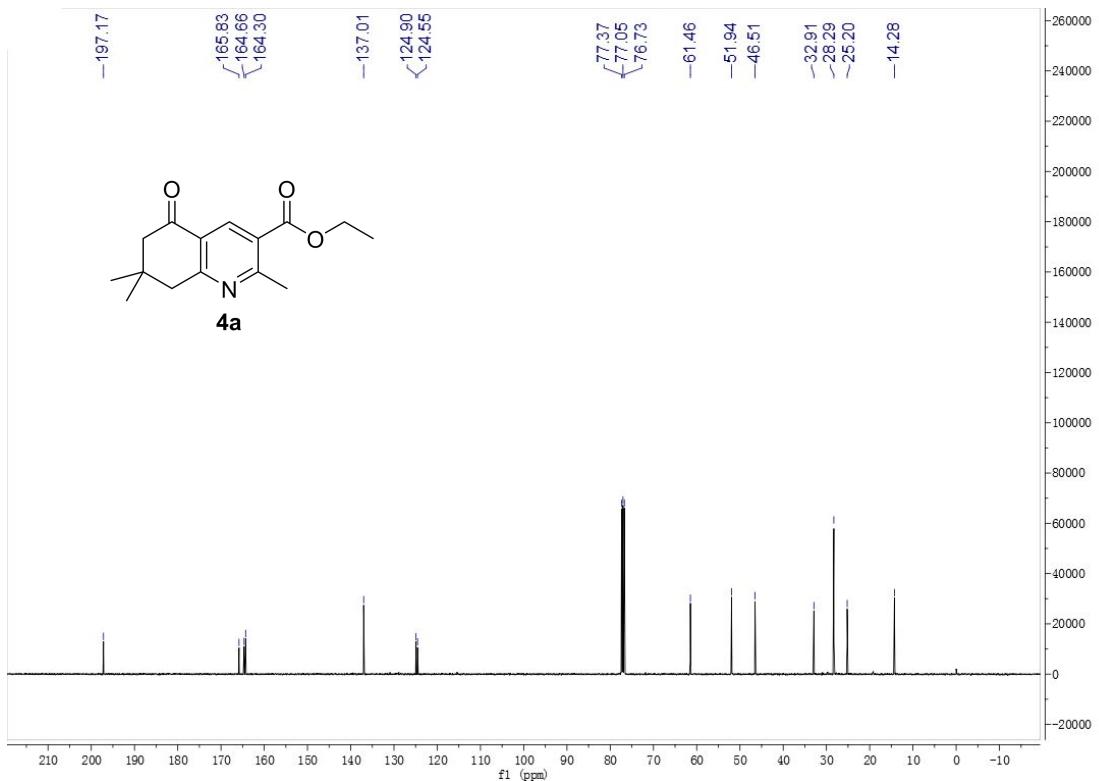
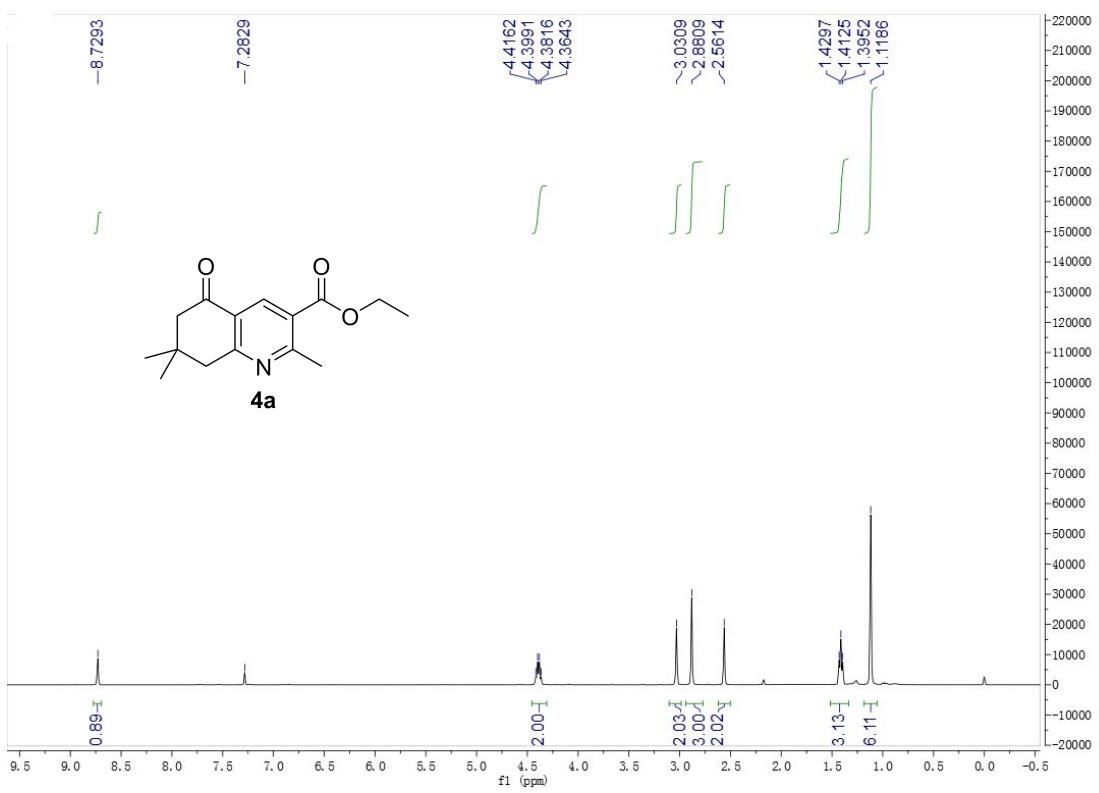


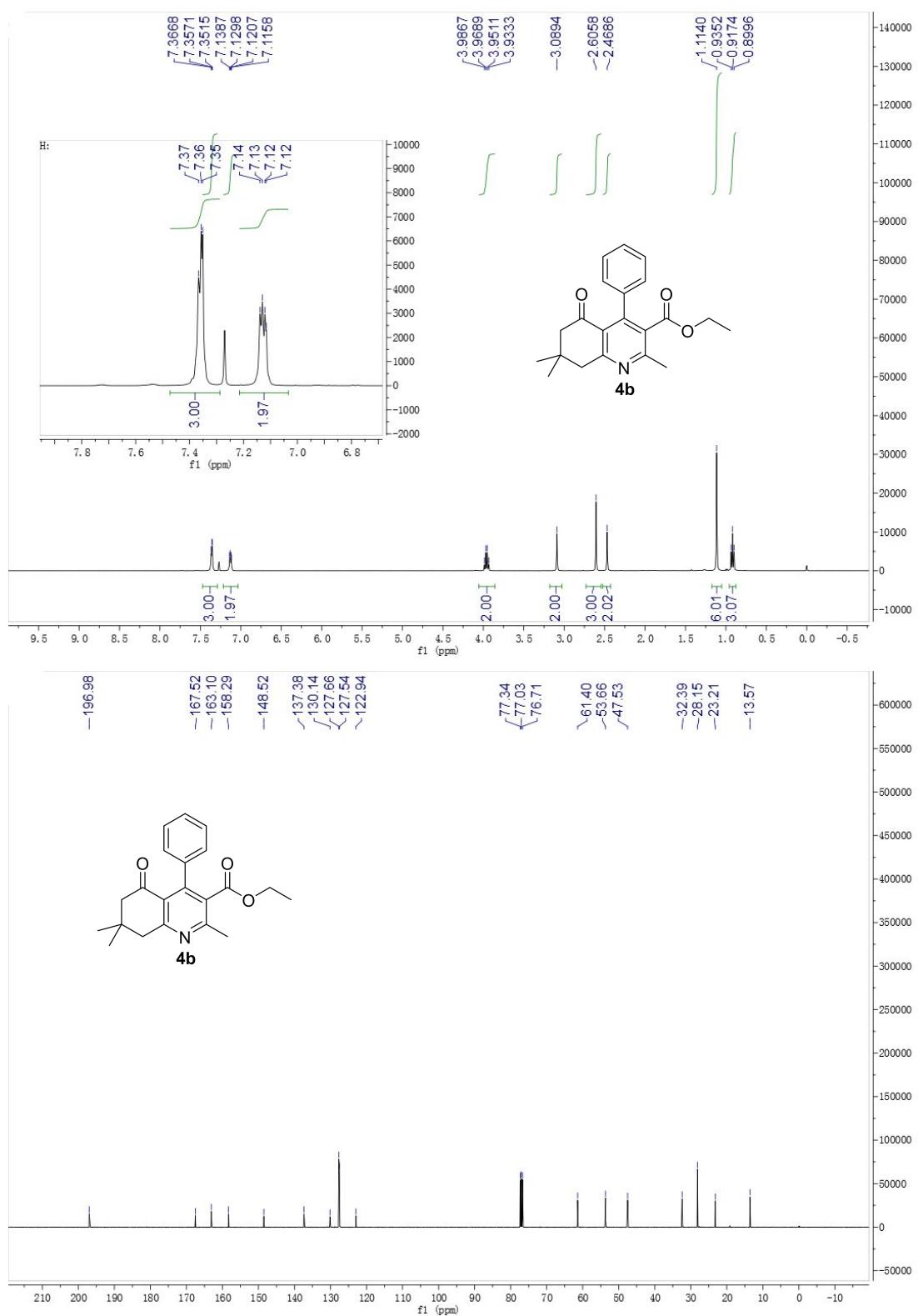


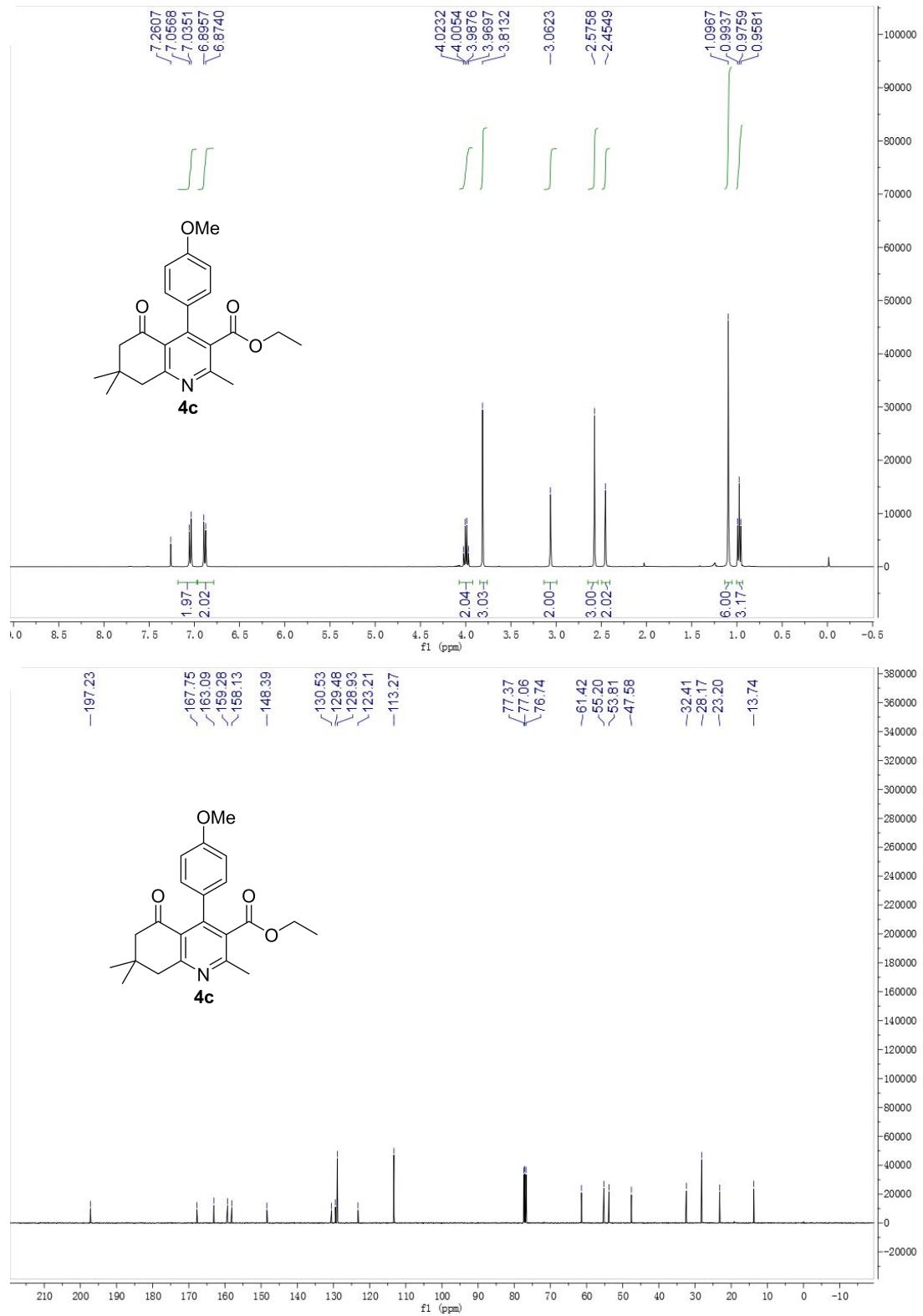


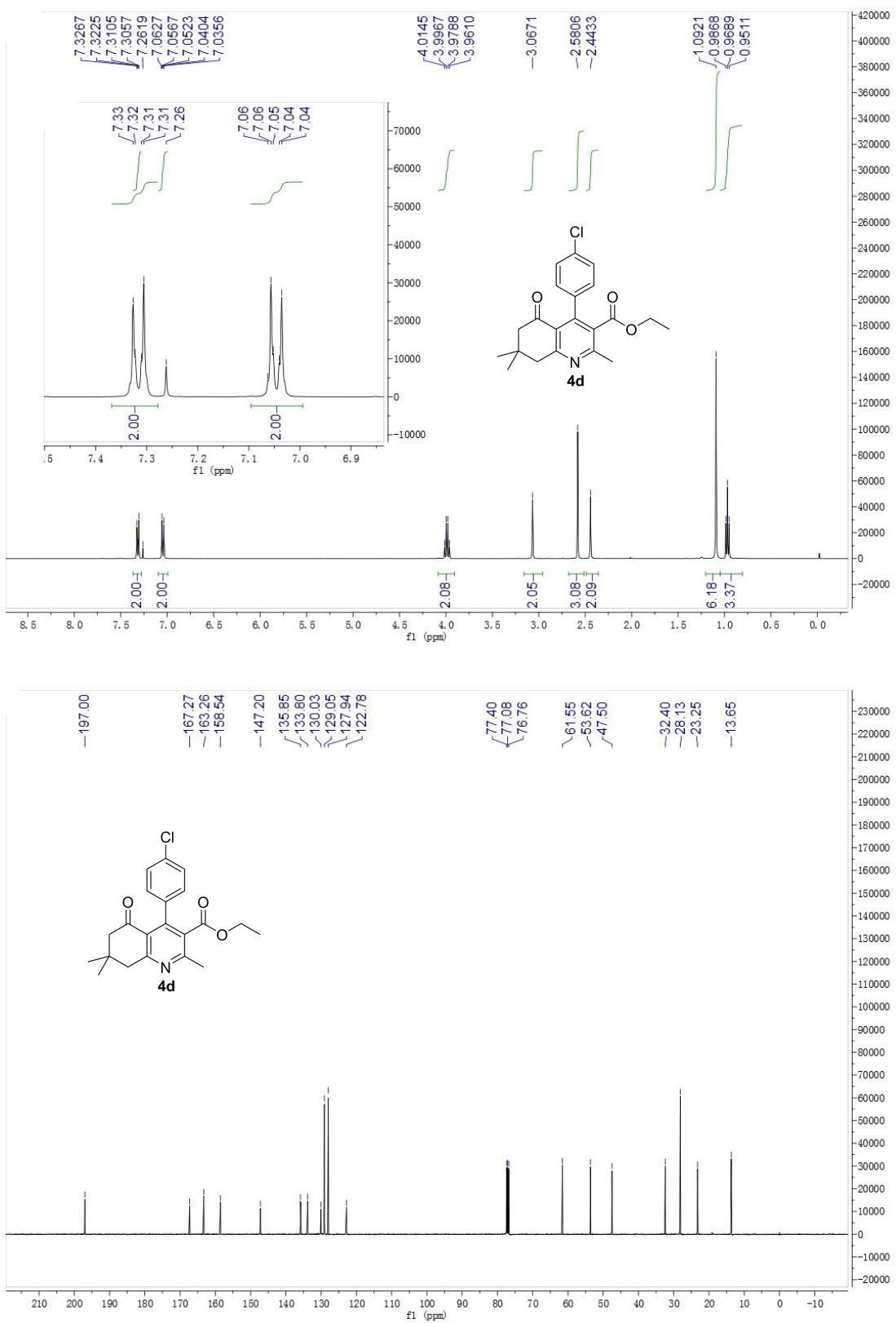


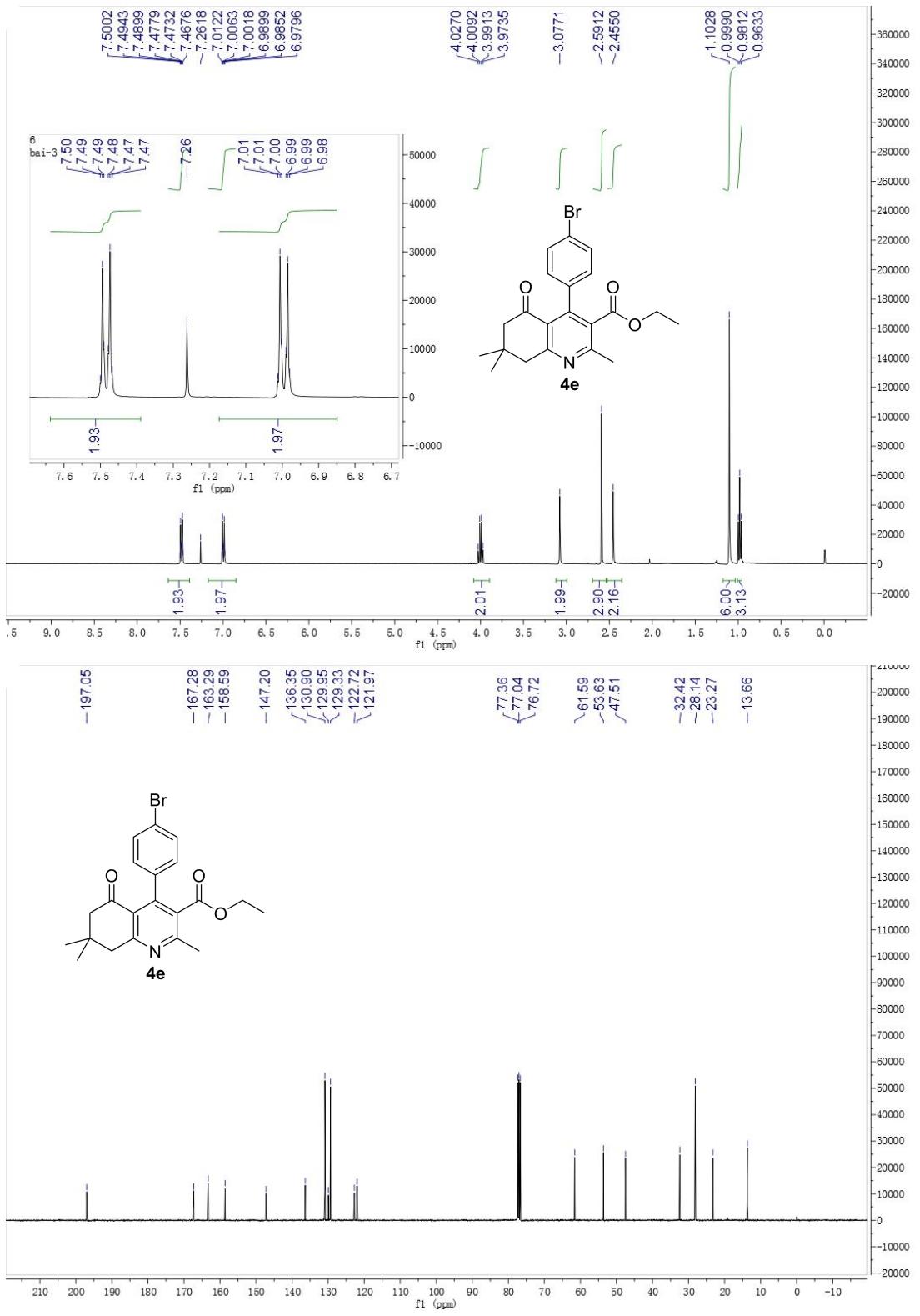


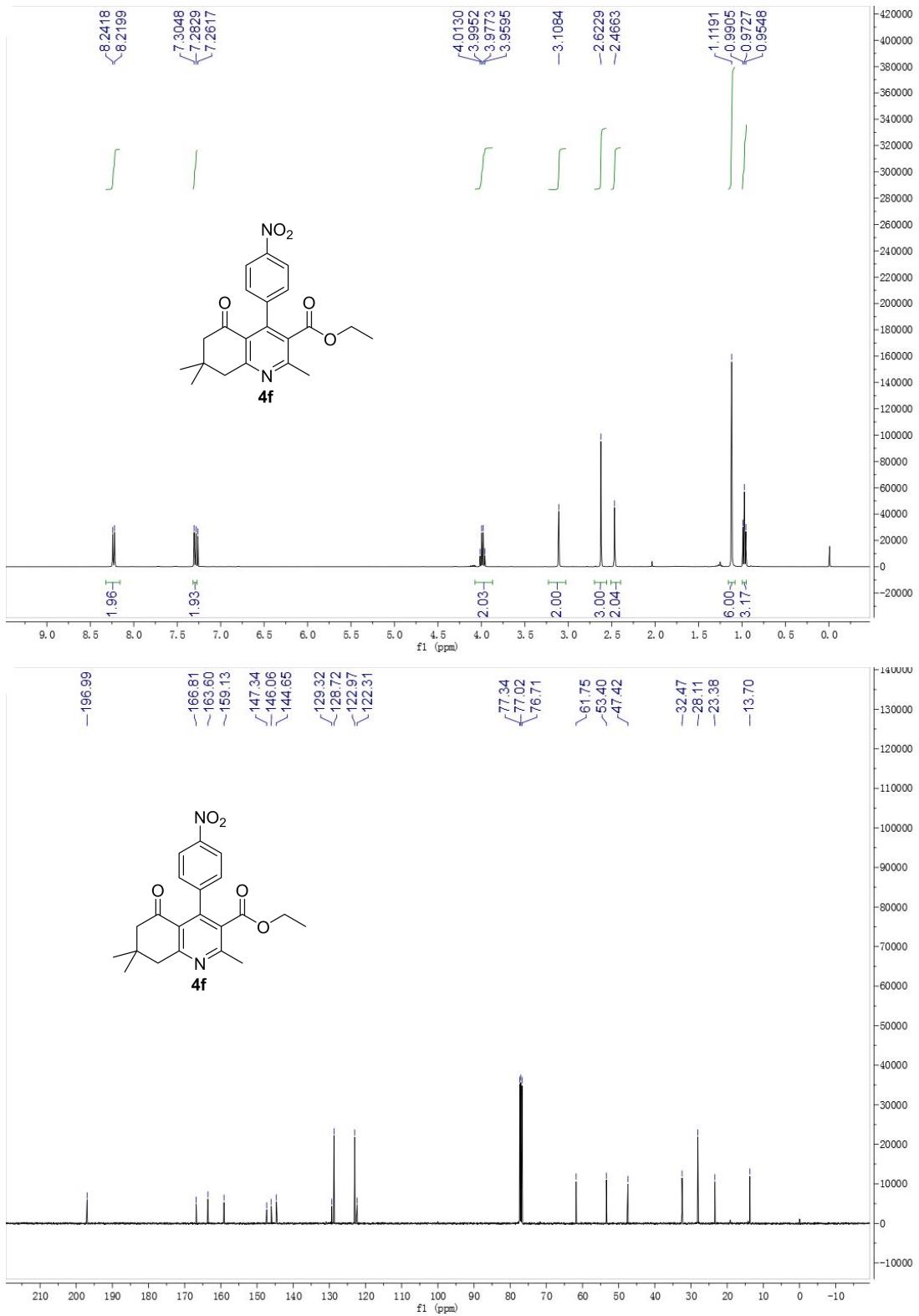


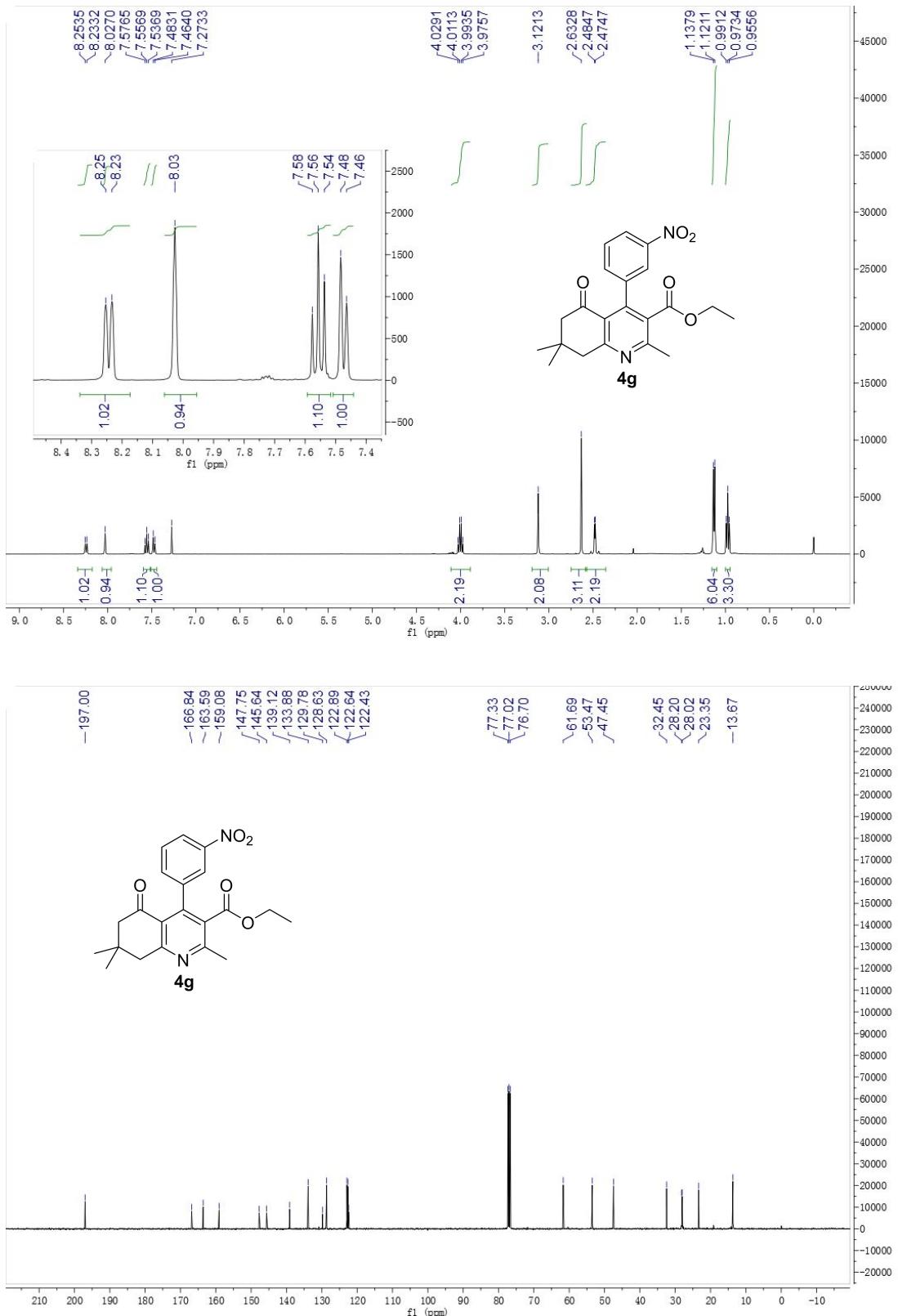


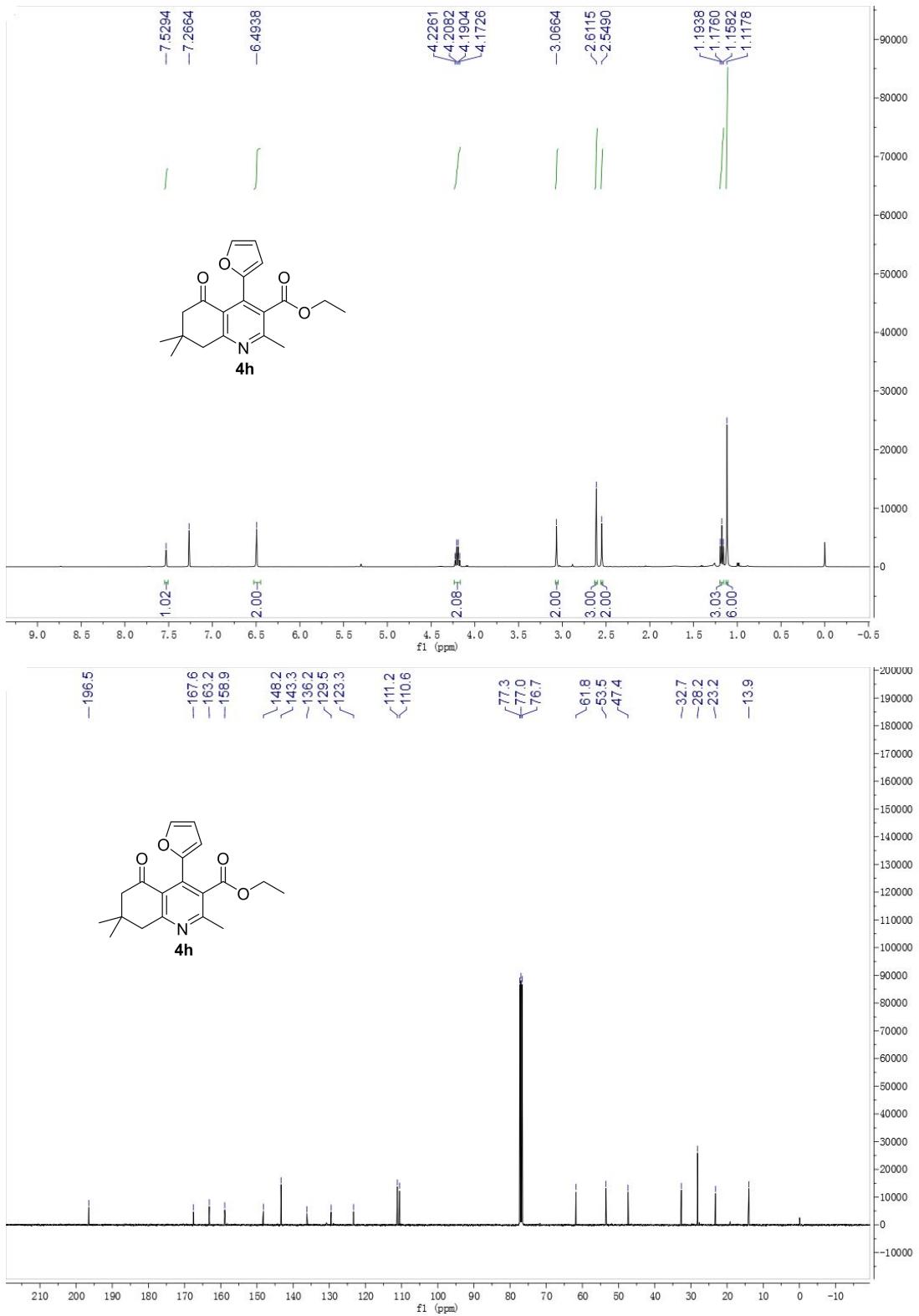


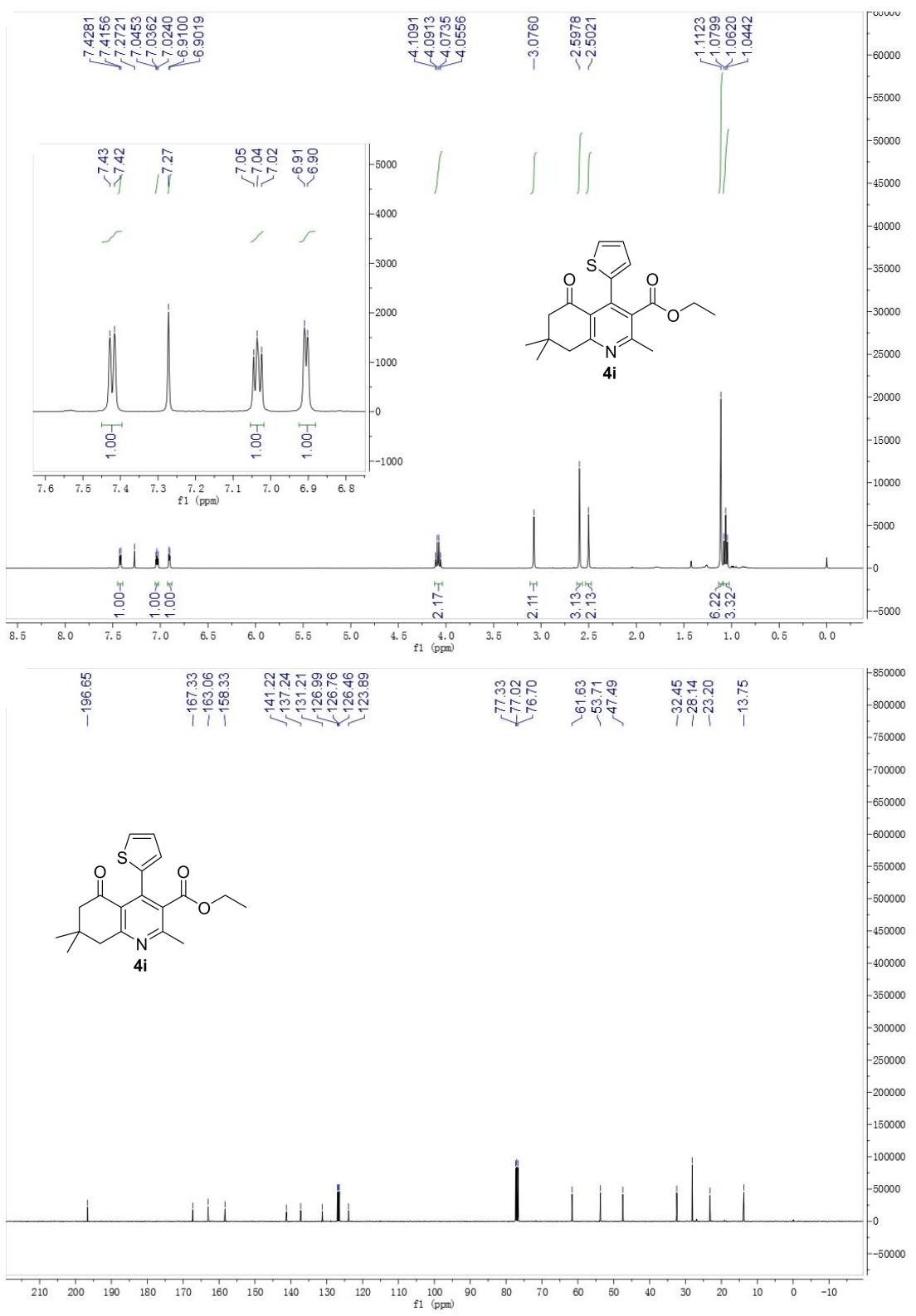




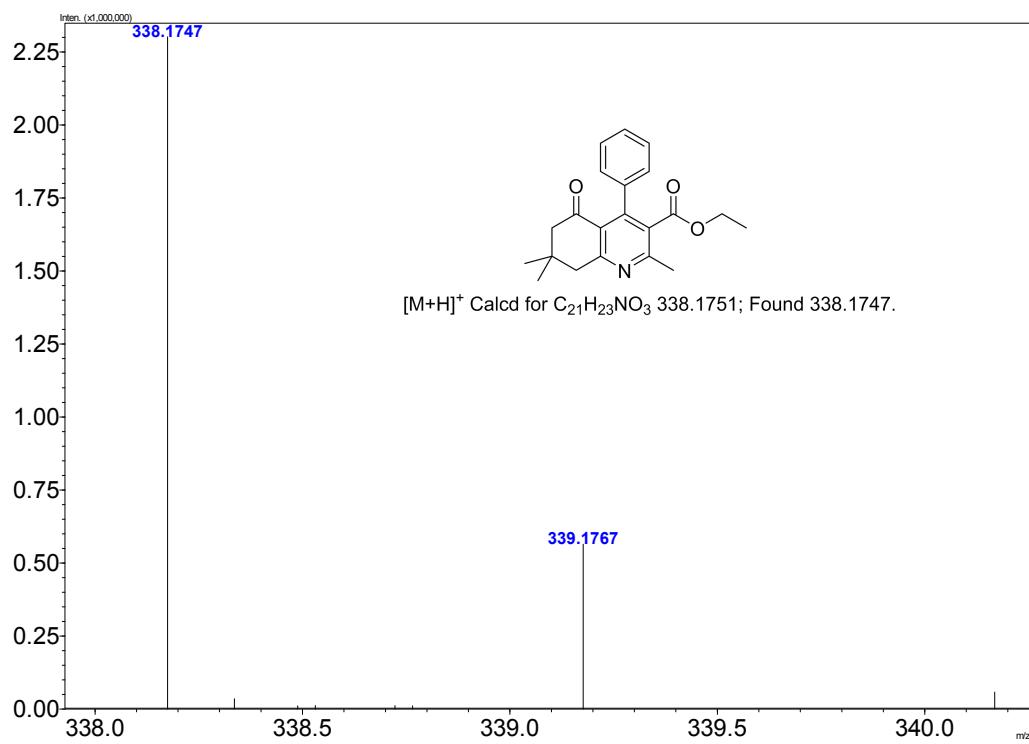
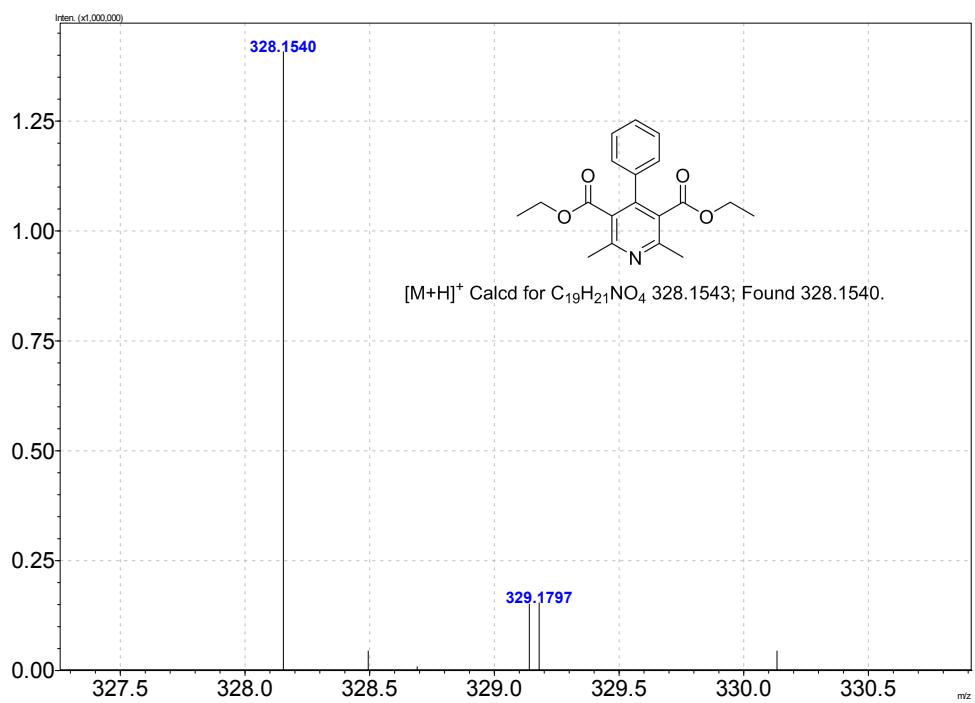


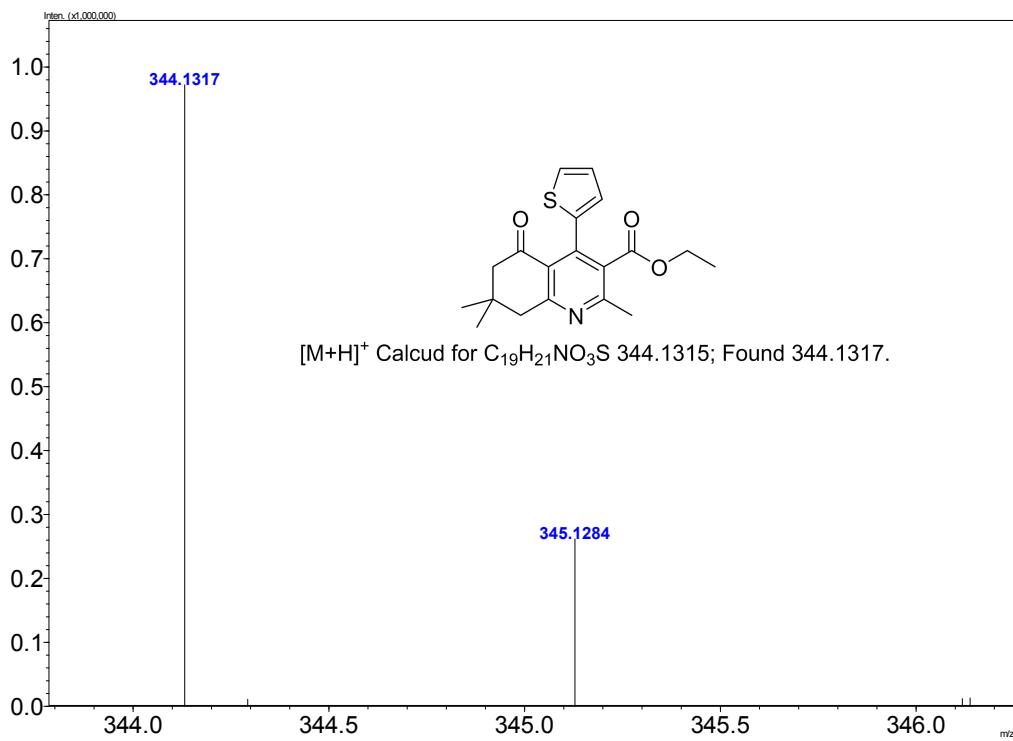
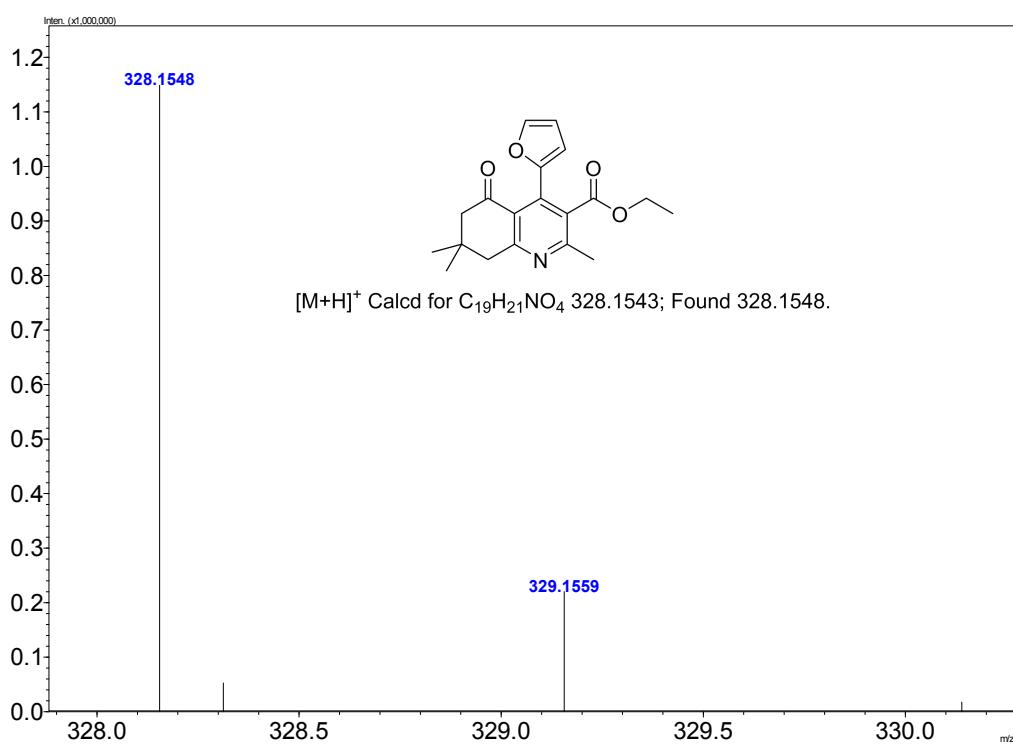


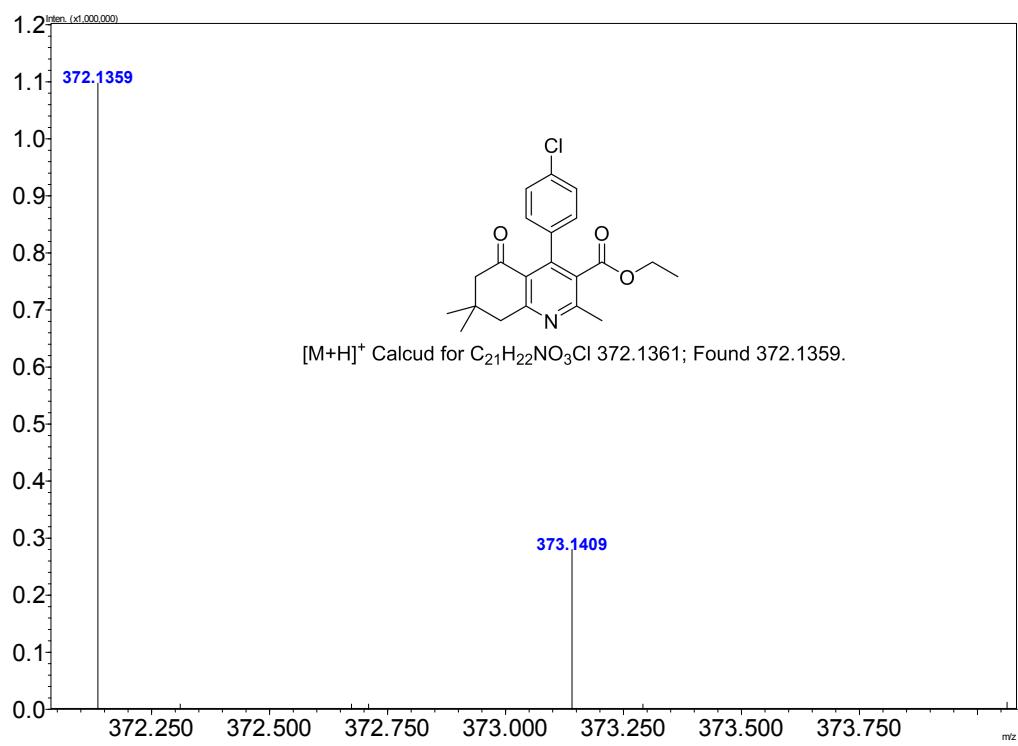
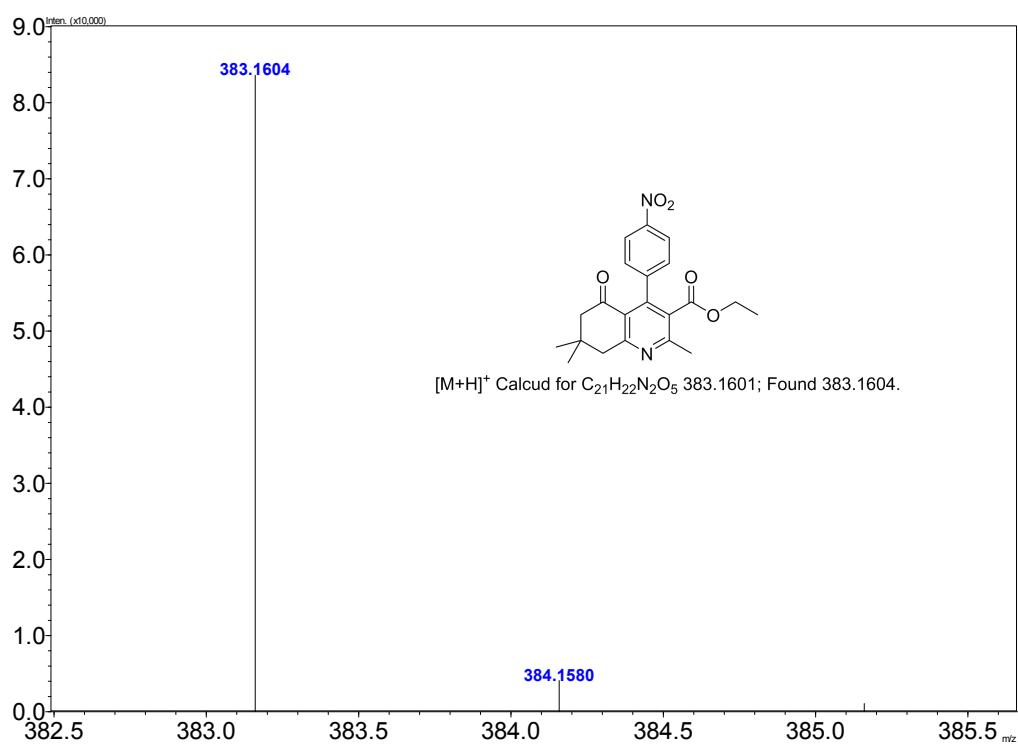


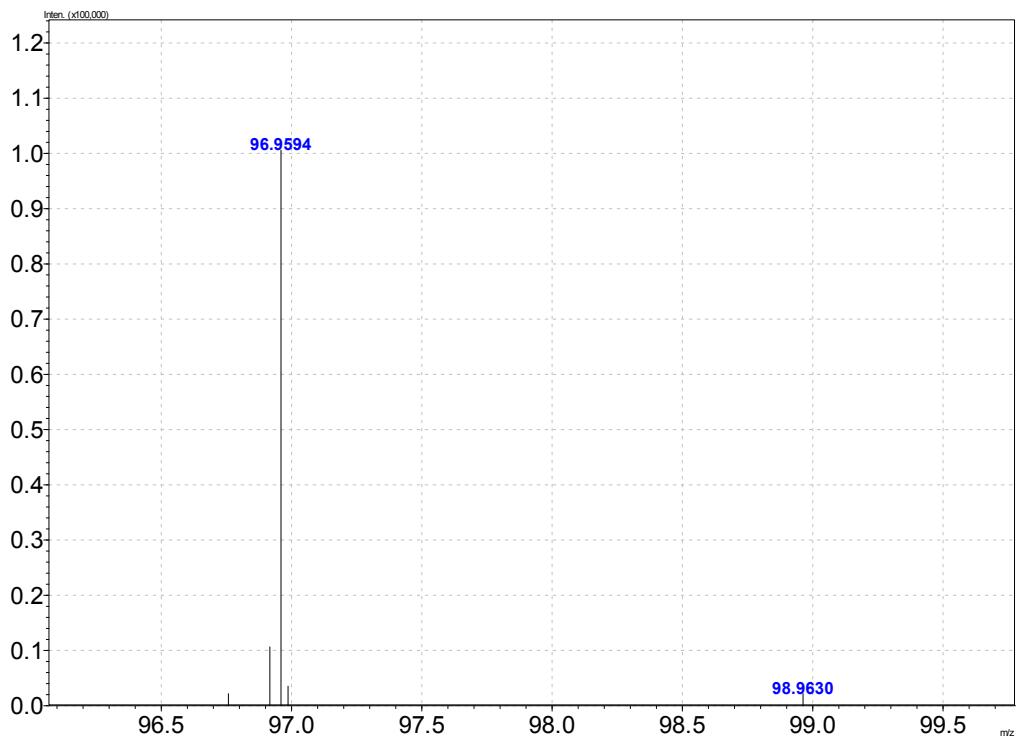


5. HRMS spectra









A signal at $m/z=96.9594$ was observed in the reaction (Table S1). That was assigned to $[\text{SO}_4^{2-}+\text{H}]^-$ (calculated: 96.9596) species.