

*Electronic Supplementary Information*

**Pd-catalyzed C(sp<sup>2</sup>)-H carbonylation of 2-benzylpyridines  
for the synthesis of pyridoisquinolinones**

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## I. General Information

All reagents were purchased without further purification unless otherwise noted. Reactions were monitored using thin-layer chromatography (TLC) on commercial silica gel plates (GF254). Visualization of the developed plates was performed under UV light (254 nm). Flash column chromatography was performed on silica gel (200-300 mesh).  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded on a 400 or 500 MHz spectrometer. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) were reported in ppm referenced to an internal tetramethylsilane standard or the DMSO- $d_6$  residual peak ( $\delta$  2.50) for  $^1\text{H}$  NMR. Chemical shifts of  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR were reported relative to DMSO- $d_6$  ( $\delta$  39.5). The following abbreviations were used to describe peak splitting patterns when appropriate: br = broad, s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet. Coupling constants,  $J$ , were reported in Hertz unit (Hz). High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained on an ESI-LC-MS/MS spectrometer. Melting points were measured on a Mel-Temp apparatus and are uncorrected. IR was recorded on a Bruker Tensor 27 FT-IR spectrometer.

## II. General Procedures

### (a) General Procedure for the Synthesis of 2

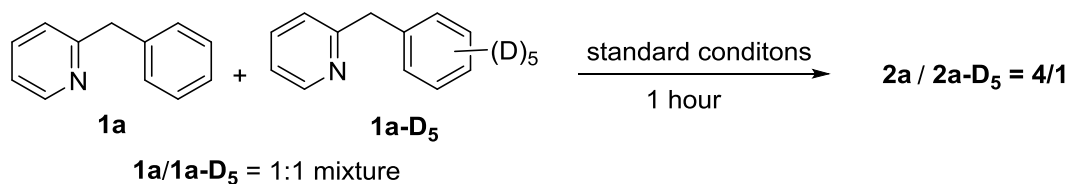
Substrates **1** were prepared according to literature reported procedures.<sup>1a-c</sup> To a Schlenk tube were added 2-benzyl heterocycle **1** (0.2 mmol), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.02 mmol), and Cu(TFA)<sub>2</sub>·xH<sub>2</sub>O (0.24 mmol). Then, the tube was vacuumed and refilled with CO for 3 times followed by injection a solution of PivOH (0.2 mmol) in 2 mL of toluene. The reaction mixture was stirred at 110 °C for 6 h under a balloon pressure of CO. Finally, the reaction was cooled down to room temperature before addition of saturated aqueous NaCl (10 mL), NH<sub>4</sub>OH (1 mL) and EtOAc (10 mL) to the reaction mixture. The aqueous phase was further extracted with EtOAc (3 × 10 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash chromatography to provide the desired product **2**.

### (b) Isotope labelling experiments

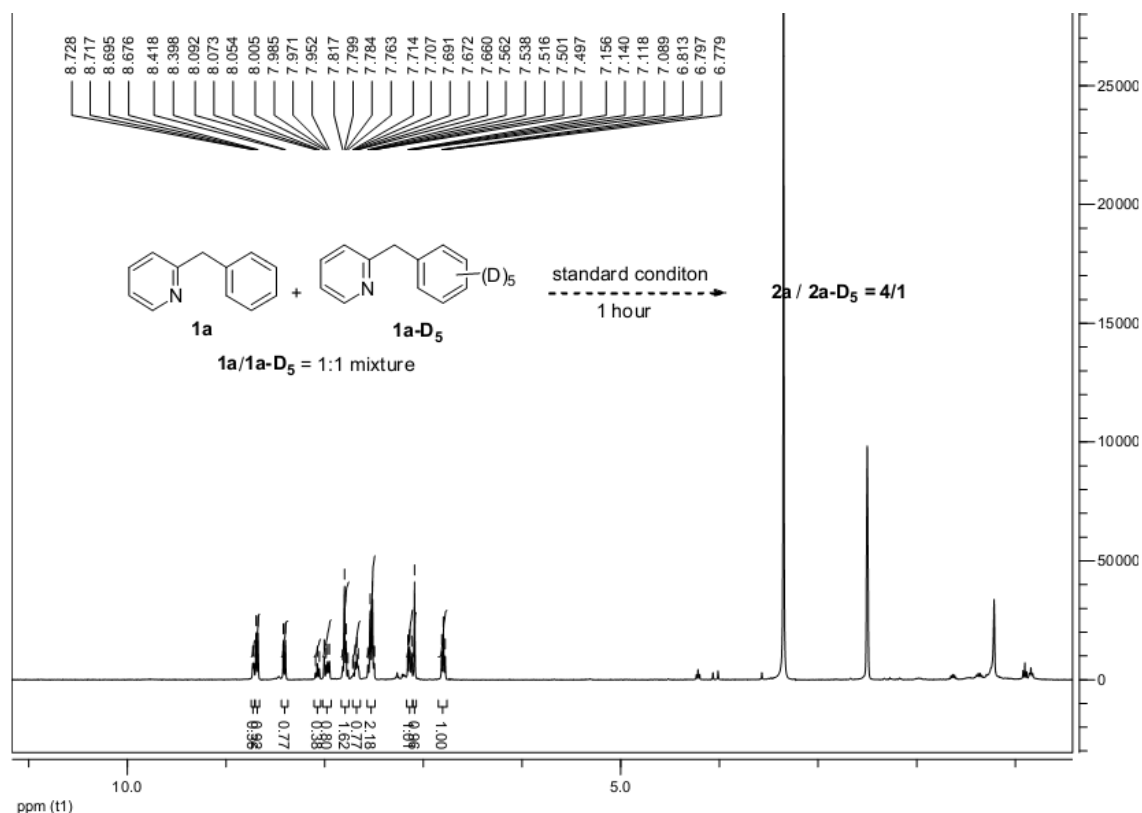
Deuterated substrate **1a-D<sub>5</sub>** was synthesized according to the literature reported method<sup>1a</sup> using potassium 2-(pyridin-2-yl)acetate and pentadeuterated bromobenzene as substrates. **1a-D<sub>5</sub>** was obtained in 80% yield as a liquid.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,

CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 8.55 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H); 7.57 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 4.8 Hz, 2H); 4.16 (s, 2H).

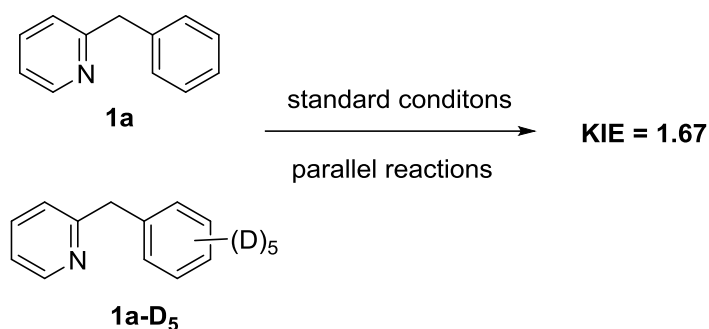
Intermolecular competition reaction of a mixture of **1a** and **1a-D<sub>5</sub>**:



A mixture of **1a** (0.1 mmol), **1a-D<sub>5</sub>** (0.1 mmol), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.02 mmol), PivOH (0.2 mmol), Cu(TFA)<sub>2</sub>·xH<sub>2</sub>O (0.24 mmol) in Toluene (2 mL) was stirred at 110 °C under balloon pressure of CO for 1.0 h. The mixture was diluted with EtOAc (20 mL), washed with saturated aqueous NaCl (10 mL), NH<sub>4</sub>OH (1 mL) and EtOAc (10 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The concentrated residue was purified by column chromatography to give a mixture of **2a** and **2a-D<sub>4</sub>** in a ratio of 4:1 as determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR in a total yield of 38%.



Parallel competition reactions of **1a** and **1a-D<sub>5</sub>**:



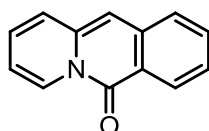
Two identical reactions were set side by side with **1a** and **1a-D<sub>5</sub>** as substrates respectively. A tube was charged with **1a** (0.2 mmol), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.02 mmol), PivOH (0.2 mmol), and Cu(TFA)<sub>2</sub>·xH<sub>2</sub>O (0.24 mmol). Toluene (2.0 mL) was added to the mixture and it was stirred at 110 °C under balloon pressure of CO. Take 0.1 mL of reaction solution from the tube in 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 min, respectively. Each of the aliquot was treated by following the procedure mentioned above. The crude reaction mixture was analyzed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR. In a parallel experiment, the same reaction was performed using **1a-D<sub>5</sub>** (0.1 mmol) as a substrate with the identical operation. The yields of **2a** and **2a-D<sub>4</sub>** of the 10 samples were plotted against reaction time. The ratio of product formation was determined to be 1.67 by comparing the slopes.

| Time (x min)                           | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 | Equation<br>(C=Ax+B) | KIE=(A <sub>y</sub> /A <sub>z</sub> ) |
|----------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Yield of <b>2a</b> (y %)               | 2  | 4  | 7  | 10 | 13 | y = 0.25x-0.4        | 1.67                                  |
| Yield of <b>2a-D<sub>4</sub></b> (z %) | 1  | 2  | 4  | 6  | 10 | z = 0.15x-0.4        |                                       |

**Figure S1:** the relationship between reaction time and yield.

### III. Analytical Data

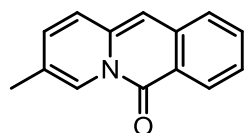
6*H*-pyrido[1,2-*b*]isoquinolin-6-one (**2a**)



Yellow solid, 34 mg, 87% yield, eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 15/1. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 8.68 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 8.41 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.81-7.77 (m, 2H), 7.53-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.15-7.12 (m, 1H), 7.09 (s, 1H), 6.81-6.78

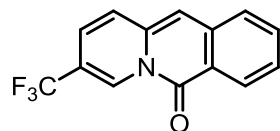
(m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) 158.7, 137.6, 136.6, 133.0, 127.9, 127.1, 126.4, 126.3, 125.8, 125.5, 119.6, 113.1, 100.9; FT-IR (film) 3435, 3115, 3049, 2921, 1669, 1634, 1614, 1573, 1528, 1469, 1351, 1251, 1157, 1138, 800, 724, 670, 556  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_9\text{NO}$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  196.0757, found 196.0758; mp 166-169  $^\circ\text{C}$ .

3-methyl-6*H*-pyrido[1,2-*b*]isoquinolin-6-one (**2b**)



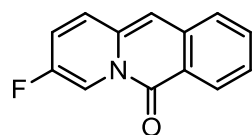
Yellow solid, 36 mg, 86% yield, eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 15/1.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.53 (s, 1H), 8.40 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.80-7.74 (m, 2H), 7.51-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.08 (s, 1H), 7.06-7.03 (m, 1H), 2.25 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) 158.3, 136.6, 136.3, 132.6, 130.3, 127.8, 126.3, 125.9, 125.4, 122.3, 122.2, 119.6, 100.7, 18.5; FT-IR (film) 3425, 3101, 3056, 2918, 1661, 1635, 1611, 1576, 1533, 1471, 1460, 1282, 1244, 1038, 821, 745, 704, 673, 556  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  210.0913, found 210.0915; mp 93-96  $^\circ\text{C}$ .

3-(trifluoromethyl)-6*H*-pyrido[1,2-*b*]isoquinolin-6-one (**2c**)



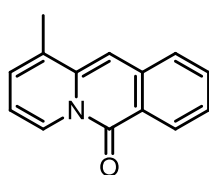
Yellow solid, 38 mg, 72% yield, eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 12/1.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.92 (s, 1H), 8.41 (dd,  $J$  = 8.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.65-7.63 (m, 2H), 7.61-7.60 (m, 2H), 7.21-7.17 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) 159.0, 136.7, 136.3, 133.9, 128.4, 128.2, 126.9, 126.8, 125.9 (q,  $J$  = 6.6 Hz), 125.0, 120.7, 120.4, 114.8 (q,  $J$  = 34.9 Hz), 102.7; FT-IR (film) 3441, 3105, 3064, 2919, 1670, 1645, 1613, 1587, 1540, 1471, 1334, 1153, 1123, 1056, 969, 896, 753, 685, 670, 612  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_8\text{F}_3\text{NO}$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  264.0631, found 264.0633; mp 189-191  $^\circ\text{C}$ .

3-fluoro-6*H*-pyrido[1,2-*b*]isoquinolin-6-one (**2d**)



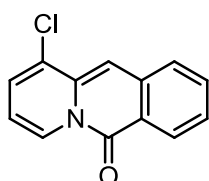
Yellow solid, 31 mg, 73% yield, eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 15/1.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.74 (dd,  $J = 6.0, 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 8.60 (d,  $J = 4.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.73-7.68 (m, 2H), 7.56-7.52 (m, 1H), 7.33-7.29 (m, 1H), 6.97-6.92 (m, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) 135.8, 135.3, 132.4, 128.2, 127.8 (d,  $J = 7.3$  Hz), 125.9 (d,  $J = 5.6$  Hz), 120.4 (d,  $J = 28.3$  Hz), 120.0, 111.3 (d,  $J = 42.8$  Hz), 102.5; FT-IR (film) 3424, 3112, 3074, 2925, 2853, 1652, 1612, 1575, 1526, 1473, 1457, 1426, 1220, 1154, 1127, 1109, 815, 803, 743, 697, 670, 561  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_8\text{FNO}$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  214.0663, found 214.0664; mp 159-162  $^\circ\text{C}$ .

1-methyl-6*H*-pyrido[1,2-*b*]isoquinolin-6-one (**2e**)



Yellow solid, 26 mg, 62% yield, eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 15/1.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ )  $\delta$  8.66 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 8.38 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.79-7.76 (m, 1H), 7.53-7.49 (m, 1H), 7.05 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 2H), 6.74 (t,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 1H); 2.40 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ ) 159.1, 137.8, 136.3, 132.9, 132.2, 127.8, 126.8, 126.6, 125.7, 124.5, 119.4, 112.5, 98.1, 19.2; FT-IR (film) 3423, 3118, 2976, 2919, 2851, 1655, 1637, 1614, 1569, 1472, 1454, 1439, 1372, 1271, 1249, 1166, 1133, 1070, 801, 740, 707, 674, 559  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  210.0913, found 210.0913; mp 119-121  $^\circ\text{C}$ .

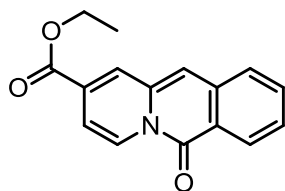
1-chloro-6*H*-pyrido[1,2-*b*]isoquinolin-6-one (**2f**)



Yellow solid, 36 mg, 79% yield, eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10/1.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ )  $\delta$  8.70 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 8.41 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.96 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.87-7.83 (m, 1H), 7.60 (t,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.36 (s, 1H), 6.76 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ ) 158.9, 136.1, 134.7, 133.5, 128.1, 128.0, 127.3, 127.3, 126.8, 125.9, 119.9, 111.3, 99.0; FT-IR (film) 3090, 2923, 2852, 1688, 1631, 1609, 1582, 1550, 1522, 1440, 1405, 1164, 1148, 805, 742, 696, 670, 554  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_8\text{ClNO}$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  230.0367, found

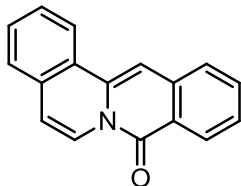
230.0365; mp 141-144 °C.

ethyl 6-oxo-6*H*-pyrido[1,2-*b*]isoquinoline-2-carboxylate (**2g**)



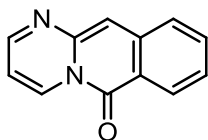
Yellow solid, 50 mg, 93% yield, eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 8/1. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 8.64 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.43 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.13 (s, 1H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 3.5 Hz, 2H), 7.63-7.60 (m, 1H), 7.41 (s, 1H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.34 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) 164.2, 158.5, 136.1, 136.0, 133.4, 130.5, 128.0, 127.4, 127.1, 127.1, 126.7, 121.2, 110.0, 105.7, 61.9, 14.6; FT-IR (film) 1711, 1651, 1637, 1614, 1578, 1469, 1437, 1293, 1241, 1097, 1023, 740, 699, 666, 572 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 268.0968, found 268.0969; mp 132-135 °C.

8*H*-isoquinolino[3,2-*a*]isoquinolin-8-one (**2h**)



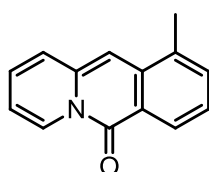
Yellow solid, 30 mg, 57% yield, eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10/1. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 8.54 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.40 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (s, 1H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.69-7.56 (m, 4H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) 158.9, 135.8, 134.9, 133.0, 130.3, 129.5, 128.6, 127.5, 127.2, 126.8, 126.7, 126.2, 124.0, 122.6, 120.9, 112.6, 98.7; FT-IR (film) 3442, 3122, 3058, 3020, 1657, 1614, 1587, 1548, 1458, 1445, 1328, 1285, 1269, 1136, 1103, 1085, 1025, 975, 761, 742, 686, 529 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NO [M+H]<sup>+</sup> 246.0913, found 246.0916; mp 149-152 °C.

6*H*-pyrimido[1,2-*b*]isoquinolin-6-one (**2i**)



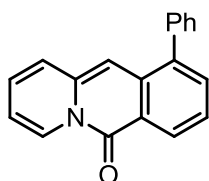
Orange solid, 24 mg, 61% yield, eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10/1.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.91 (dd,  $J$  = 7.5, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.45 (dd,  $J$  = 3.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.40 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.89-7.82 (m, 1H), 7.58-7.55 (m, 1H), 7.15 (s, 1H), 6.80 (dd,  $J$  = 7.5, 3.5 Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) 158.7, 155.5, 142.9, 137.7, 134.0, 133.6, 128.0, 127.0, 126.2, 119.9, 109.1, 101.2; FT-IR (film) 3430, 1676, 1629, 1614, 1584, 1553, 1470, 1445, 1404, 1203, 936, 808, 747, 715, 677, 552  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_8\text{N}_2\text{O}$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  197.0709, found 197.0708; mp 188-191  $^\circ\text{C}$ .

10-methyl-6*H*-pyrido[1,2-*b*]isoquinolin-6-one (**2j**)



Yellow solid, 40 mg, 81% yield, eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 15/1.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.68 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.64-7.59 (m, 2H), 7.40 (dd,  $J$  = 8.0, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17-7.13 (m, 2H), 6.80 (t,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 2.60 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) 158.9, 137.4, 135.7, 133.2, 133.1, 127.1, 126.7, 125.9, 125.7, 125.1, 119.7, 113.3, 97.9, 19.3; FT-IR (film) 3424, 3113, 2967, 1923, 1659, 1631, 1606, 1583, 1525, 1467, 1456, 1433, 1387, 1377, 1279, 1212, 1212, 1212, 1163, 1138, 1007, 800, 732, 673, 561  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  210.0913, found 214.0913; mp 153-156  $^\circ\text{C}$ .

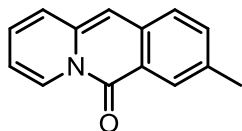
10-phenyl-6*H*-pyrido[1,2-*b*]isoquinolin-6-one (**2k**)



Yellow solid, 48 mg, 88% yield, eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10/1.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.69 (d,  $J$  = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.48 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (dd,  $J$  = 7.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.60-7.47 (m, 7H), 7.11-7.08 (m, 1H), 6.88 (s, 1H), 6.83-6.79 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) 158.8, 139.8, 138.3, 137.6, 134.4, 133.6, 133.0, 129.1, 128.1, 127.6, 127.2, 126.8, 125.8, 125.2, 120.2, 113.5, 98.6; FT-IR (film) 3424, 3115, 3033, 2919, 1947, 1658, 1635, 1595, 1574, 1432, 1420, 1388, 1339, 1181, 1077,

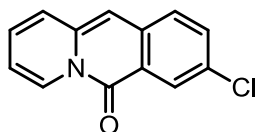
889, 847, 761, 737, 700, 681, 601, 563  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  272.1070, found 272.1093; mp 151-153  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

8-methyl-6*H*-pyrido[1,2-*b*]isoquinolin-6-one (**2l**)



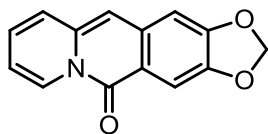
Yellow solid, 24 mg, 57% yield, eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 15/1.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ )  $\delta$  8.67 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.21 (s, 1H), 7.73 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (dd,  $J$  = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.11-7.06 (m, 2H), 6.78-6.75 (m, 1H), 2.5 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ ) 136.9, 135.2, 134.8, 134.5, 126.9, 126.5, 126.4, 126.3, 125.7, 113.0, 100.9, 21.7; FT-IR (film) 3421, 2922, 2853, 1661, 1636, 1581, 1518, 1490, 1382, 1079, 940, 822, 787, 738, 561, 466  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  210.0913, found 214.0913; mp 157-161  $^{\circ}\text{C}$

8-chloro-6*H*-pyrido[1,2-*b*]isoquinolin-6-one (**2m**)



Yellow solid, 18 mg, 39% yield, eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10/1.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ )  $\delta$  8.70 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.34 (d,  $J$  = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (dd,  $J$  = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d,  $J$  = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.18 (m, 1H), 7.14 (s, 1H), 6.86 (t,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ ) 157.8, 138.0, 135.1, 133.2, 129.7, 128.9, 127.7, 126.6, 126.4, 125.9, 120.2, 113.8, 100.5; FT-IR (film) 3069, 2958, 2922, 2851, 1726, 1666, 1633, 1573, 1510, 1469, 1305, 1157, 1146, 839, 824, 736, 677, 558  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_8\text{ClNO}$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  230.0367, found 230.0368; mp 144-146  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

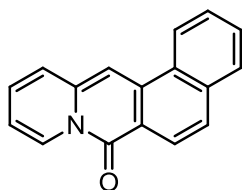
5*H*-[1,3]dioxolo[4,5-*g*]pyrido[1,2-*b*]isoquinolin-5-one (**2n**)



Yellow solid, 30 mg, 63% yield, eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10/1.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ )  $\delta$  8.65 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (s, 1H), 7.47 (d,  $J$  = 9.2 Hz,

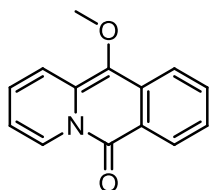
1H), 7.24 (s, 1H), 7.11-7.07 (m, 1H), 6.98 (s, 1H), 6.78 (dd,  $J = 7.2, 6.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.20 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) 157.4, 152.7, 147.4, 136.5, 134.6, 126.4, 125.9, 125.6, 115.0, 113.2, 104.0, 103.0, 102.5, 101.0; FT-IR (film) 3423, 3122, 2920, 1660, 1637, 1608, 1571, 1531, 1478, 1242, 1233, 1143, 1030, 935, 816, 649, 543  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_9\text{NO}_3$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  240.0655, found 240.0652; mp 233-235  $^\circ\text{C}$ .

7H-benzo[*f*]pyrido[1,2-*b*]isoquinolin-7-one (**2o**)



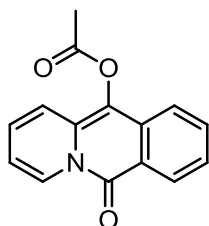
Yellow solid, 30 mg, 61% yield, eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 15/1.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.89 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 8.81 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 8.33 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 1H), 8.11 (s, 1H), 8.06 (dd,  $J = 7.0, 2.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.80-7.75 (m, 3H), 7.37 (dd,  $J = 8.0, 6.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.03 (dd,  $J = 12.5, 6.5$  Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) 158.2, 138.7, 135.6, 134.8, 129.5, 129.1, 128.4, 128.3, 127.4, 126.7, 126.2, 125.7, 125.0, 124.2, 116.0, 114.5, 97.4; FT-IR (film) 3425, 3055, 2920, 2851, 1651, 1626, 1597, 1567, 1411, 1391, 1159, 1135, 822, 759, 732, 535  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  246.0913, found 246.0914; mp 198-201  $^\circ\text{C}$ .

11-methoxy-6H-pyrido[1,2-*b*]isoquinolin-6-one (**2p**)



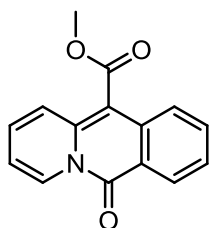
Orange solid, 38 mg, 84% yield, eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10/1.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.68 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 8.47 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.92-7.89 (m, 1H), 7.68 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.60 (dd,  $J = 7.5, 7.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.19-7.16 (m, 1H), 6.80-6.77 (m, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) 157.8, 132.4, 132.1, 131.9, 130.1, 128.9, 126.3, 125.5, 120.4, 120.0, 111.7, 62.1; FT-IR (film) 3424, 3106, 3064, 2928, 1658, 1632, 1607, 1572, 1549, 1525, 1472, 1443, 1424, 1389, 1343, 1120, 1082, 964, 765, 686, 592  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  226.0863, found 226.0862; mp 148-151  $^\circ\text{C}$ .

6-oxo-6*H*-pyrido[1,2-*b*]isoquinolin-11-yl acetate (**2q**)



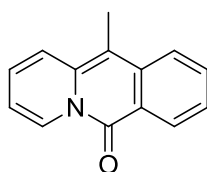
Yellow solid, 34 mg, 67% yield, eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10/1.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.82 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 8.65 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.78 (dd,  $J = 8.4, 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.59-7.52 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.03 (dd,  $J = 9.2, 6.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.63 (t, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 2.54 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) 169.5, 158.2, 132.9, 131.1, 130.0, 128.8, 127.0, 126.4, 125.6, 122.5, 119.6, 119.5, 119.1, 111.6, 20.5; FT-IR (film) 3421, 3109, 2927, 2852, 1753, 1667, 1635, 1610, 1575, 15828, 1477, 1452, 1427, 1390, 1343, 1279, 1071, 758, 700, 679, 576  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}_3$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  254.0812, found 254.0811; mp 196-199  $^\circ\text{C}$ .

methyl 6-oxo-6*H*-pyrido[1,2-*b*]isoquinoline-11-carboxylate (**2r**)



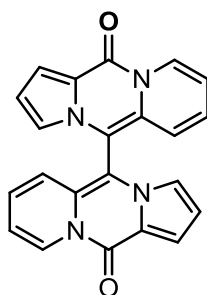
Yellow solid, 28 mg, 55% yield, eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10/1.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ )  $\delta$  8.87 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 8.47 (dd,  $J = 8.0, 0.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.88-7.81 (m, 2H), 7.60-7.56 (m, 1H), 7.44-7.39 (m, 1H), 6.99-6.96 (m, 1H), 3.99 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ ) 167.5, 158.6, 138.0, 133.9, 130.8, 128.3, 126.9, 126.0, 124.3, 123.3, 118.8, 113.7, 103.1, 52.9; FT-IR (film) 3409, 3114, 3038, 2955, 1716, 1677, 1641, 1609, 1525, 1472, 1428, 1385, 1226, 1210, 1114, 1025, 779, 745, 707, 573  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}_3$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  254.0812, found 254.0814; mp 175-177  $^\circ\text{C}$ .

11-methyl-6*H*-pyrido[1,2-*b*]isoquinolin-6-one (**2s**)<sup>2</sup>



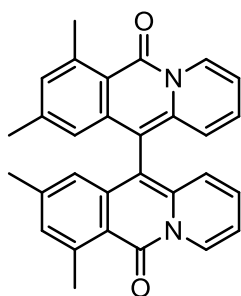
Yellow solid, 34 mg, 82% yield, eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10/1.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.89 (d,  $J$  = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 8.70 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d,  $J$  = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.81-7.77 (m, 1H), 7.58 (d,  $J$  = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (dd,  $J$  = 8.0, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (dd,  $J$  = 9.0, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (t,  $J$  = 6.5 Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) 159.0, 136.2, 133.9, 132.3, 128.7, 126.8, 125.6, 124.9, 122.8, 122.4, 120.3, 111.3, 104.3, 12.2.

11*H*,11'*H*-[5,5'-bipyrido[1,2-*a*]pyrrolo[1,2-*d*]pyrazine]-11,11'-dione (**2t**)



Orange solid, 22 mg, 60% yield, eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 8/1.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (500 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ )  $\delta$  8.366 (d,  $J$  = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d,  $J$  = 3.0 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (s, 2H), 6.73-6.67 (m, 6H), 6.41 (t,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ ) 152.3, 128.4, 127.1, 125.4, 121.1, 121.0, 121.0, 117.5, 113.9, 110.9, 110.3, 101.6; FT-IR (film) 3420, 3104, 2924, 2853, 1668, 1640, 1354, 1316, 1197, 1095, 800, 755, 728, 692, 465  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_4\text{O}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  367.1190, found 367.1174; mp 235-238  $^\circ\text{C}$ .

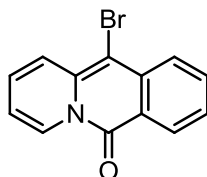
7,7',9,9'-tetramethyl-6*H*,6'*H*-[11,11'-bipyrido[1,2-*b*]isoquinoline]-6,6'-dione (**2u**)



Orange solid, 21 mg, 47% yield, eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 8/1.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ )  $\delta$  8.85 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (s, 2H), 6.95-6.91 (m, 2H),

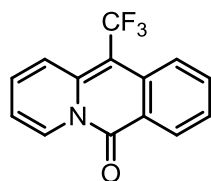
6.77-6.71 (m, 6H), 2.99 (s, 6H), 2.16 (s, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) 159.2, 142.7, 130.3, 128.7, 126.8, 123.6, 121.7, 112.4, 24.8, 21.9; FT-IR (film) 3442, 3108, 2964, 2923, 1656, 1632, 1608, 1577, 1525, 1453, 1316, 1295, 1135, 886, 847, 760, 695, 566  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  445.1911, found 445.1913; mp 158-161  $^\circ\text{C}$ .

11-bromo-6H-pyrido[1,2-*b*]isoquinolin-6-one (**3a**)<sup>3</sup>



Yellow solid, 34 mg, 62% yield, eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10/1.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.81(d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.49 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (dd,  $J$  = 8.0, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d,  $J$  = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (dd,  $J$  = 7.6, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (dd,  $J$  = 8.4, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (t,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) 158.2, 135.1, 135.1, 134.5, 130.8, 128.6, 127.2, 126.4, 125.7, 124.6, 120.0, 113.2, 93.5; FT-IR (film) 3424, 1674, 1661, 1632, 1603, 1561, 1519, 1462, 1446, 1343, 1167, 918, 750, 675, 562  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_8\text{BrNO}$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  273.9862, found 273.9862; mp 199-202  $^\circ\text{C}$ .

11-(trifluoromethyl)-6H-pyrido[1,2-*b*]isoquinolin-6-one (**3b**)<sup>4</sup>



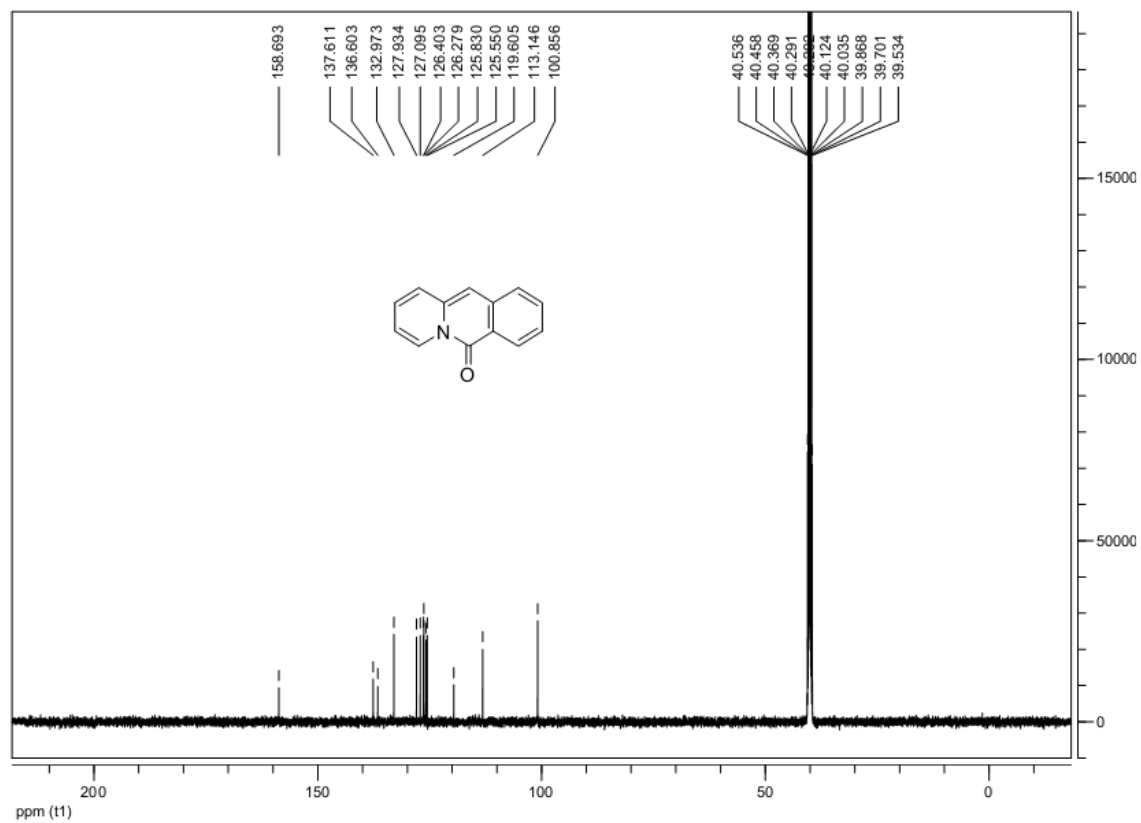
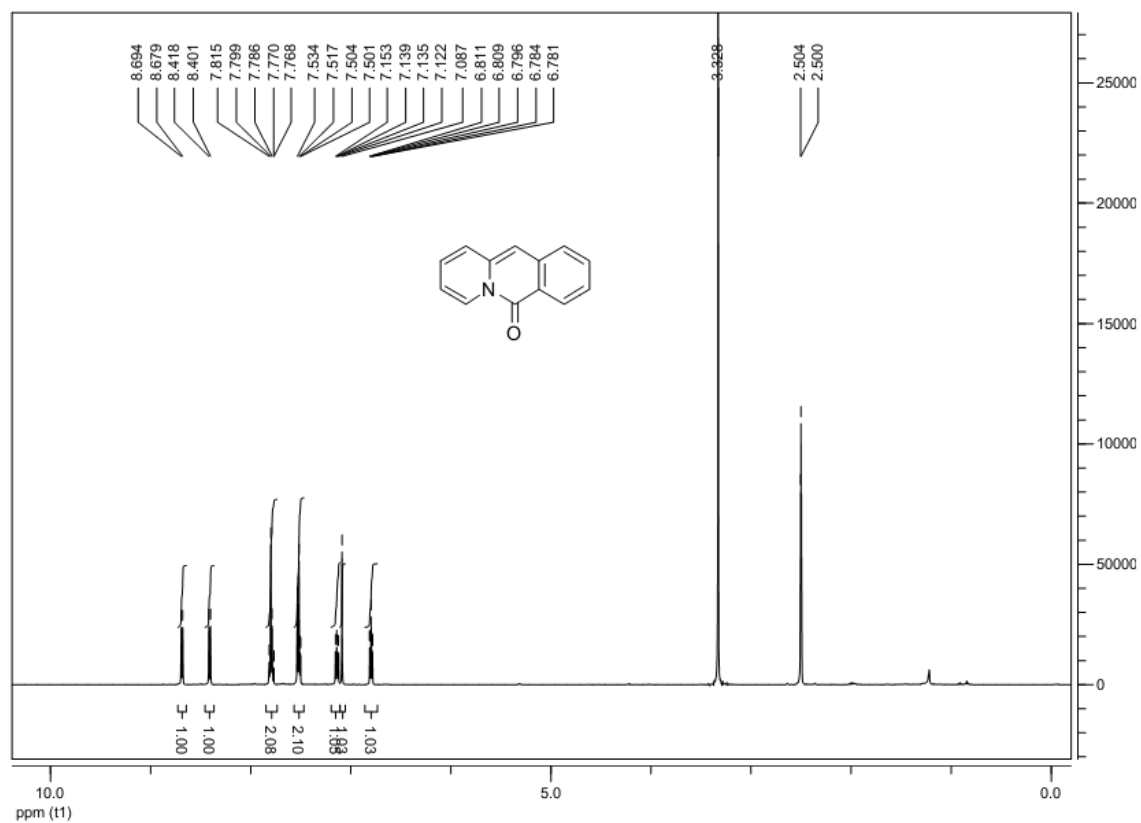
Yellow solid, 30 mg, 57% yield, eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 10/1.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  9.03 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.65 (dd,  $J$  = 8.0, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d,  $J$  = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 7.82-7.77 (m, 1H), 7.54 (dd,  $J$  = 7.6, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 1H), 6.81-6.78 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) 159.4, 138.1, 133.5, 133.3, 130.2, 128.8, 127.6, 125.6, 123.5 (q,  $J$  = 6.1 Hz), 118.8 (q,  $J$  = 6.7 Hz), 119.4; FT-IR (film) 3086, 2959, 2923, 2851, 1691, 1639, 1607, 1571, 1474, 1430, 1333, 1320, 1242, 1216, 1083, 946, 769, 687  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_9\text{F}_3\text{NO}$   $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  264.0631, found 264.0635; mp 133-137  $^\circ\text{C}$ .

## IV References

- (1) (a) Shang, S.; Yang, Z. W.; Wang, Y.; Zhang, S. L.; Liu, L. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2010**, *132*, 14391; (b) Desai, L. V.; Stowers, K. J.; Sanford, M. S. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2008**, *130*, 13285; (c) Xu, Z.; Zhang, C.; Jiao, N. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 11367;
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- (3) S. Song, X. Sun, X. Li, Y. Yuan, N. Jiao, *Org. Lett.*, **2015**, *17*, 2886.
- (4) B. Zhang, C. M. Lichtenfeld, C. G. Daniliuc, A. Studer, *Angew Chem., Ed. Int.*, **2013**, *52*, 10792.

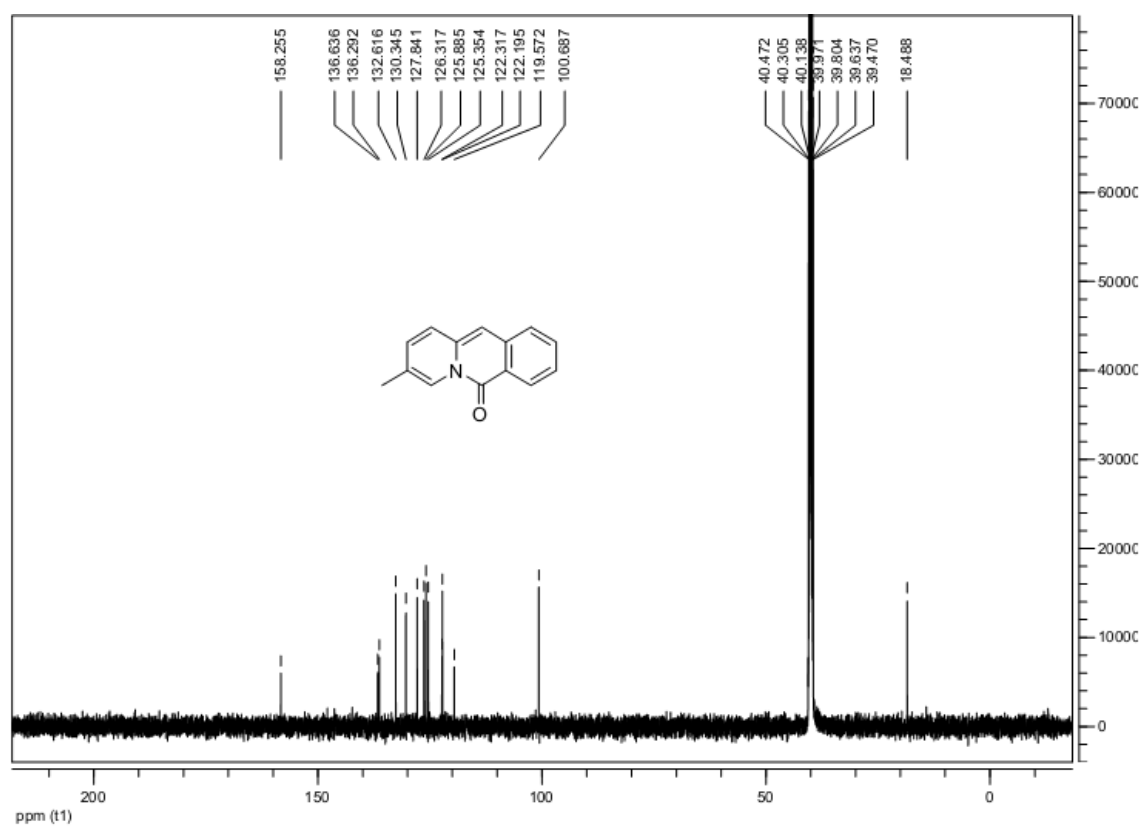
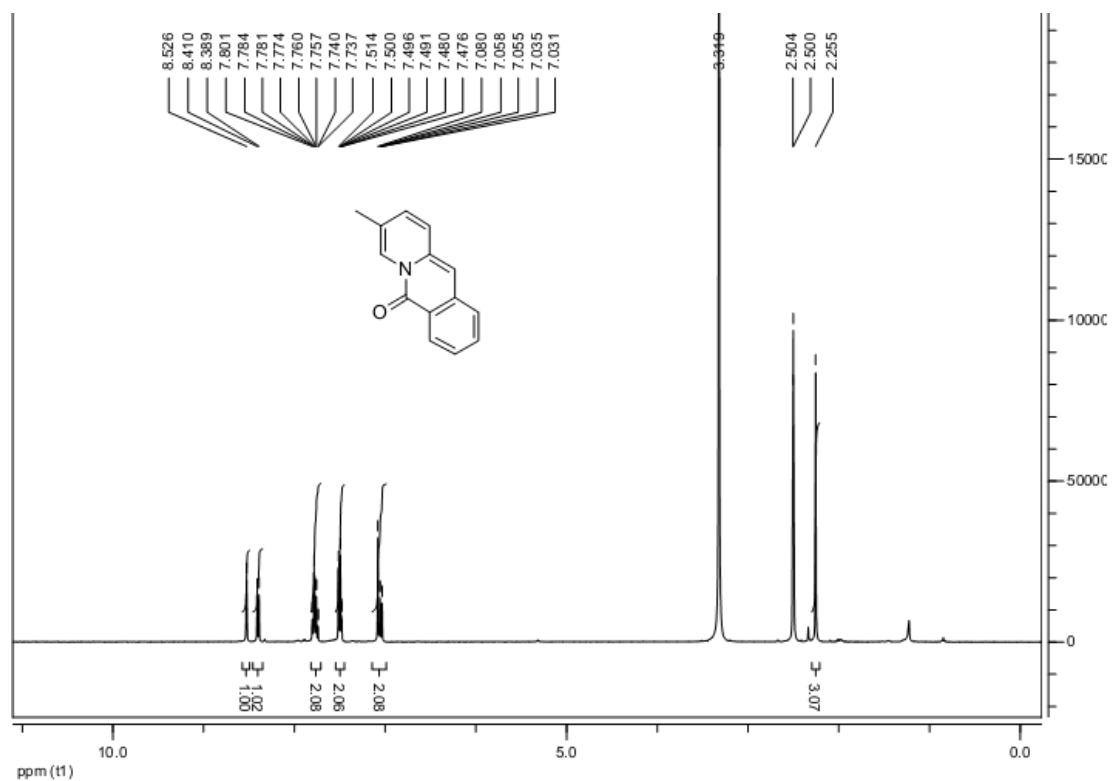
## V. Copies of NMR Spectra

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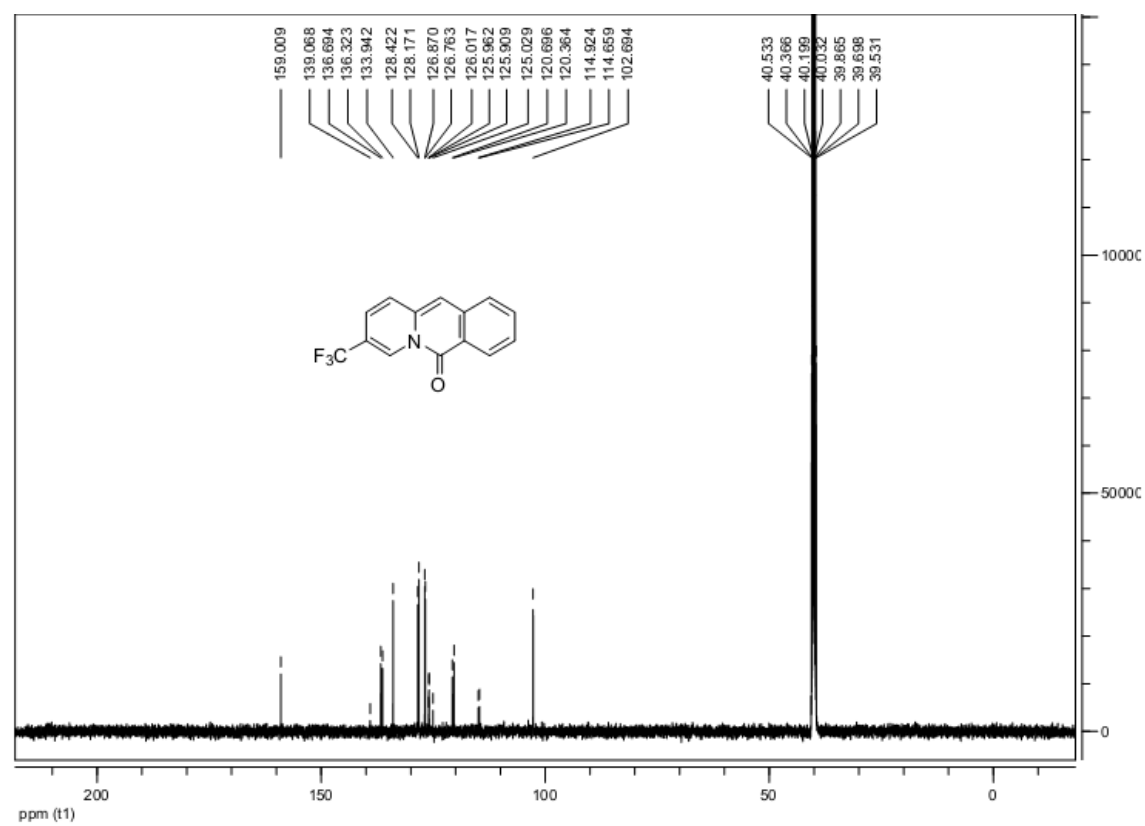
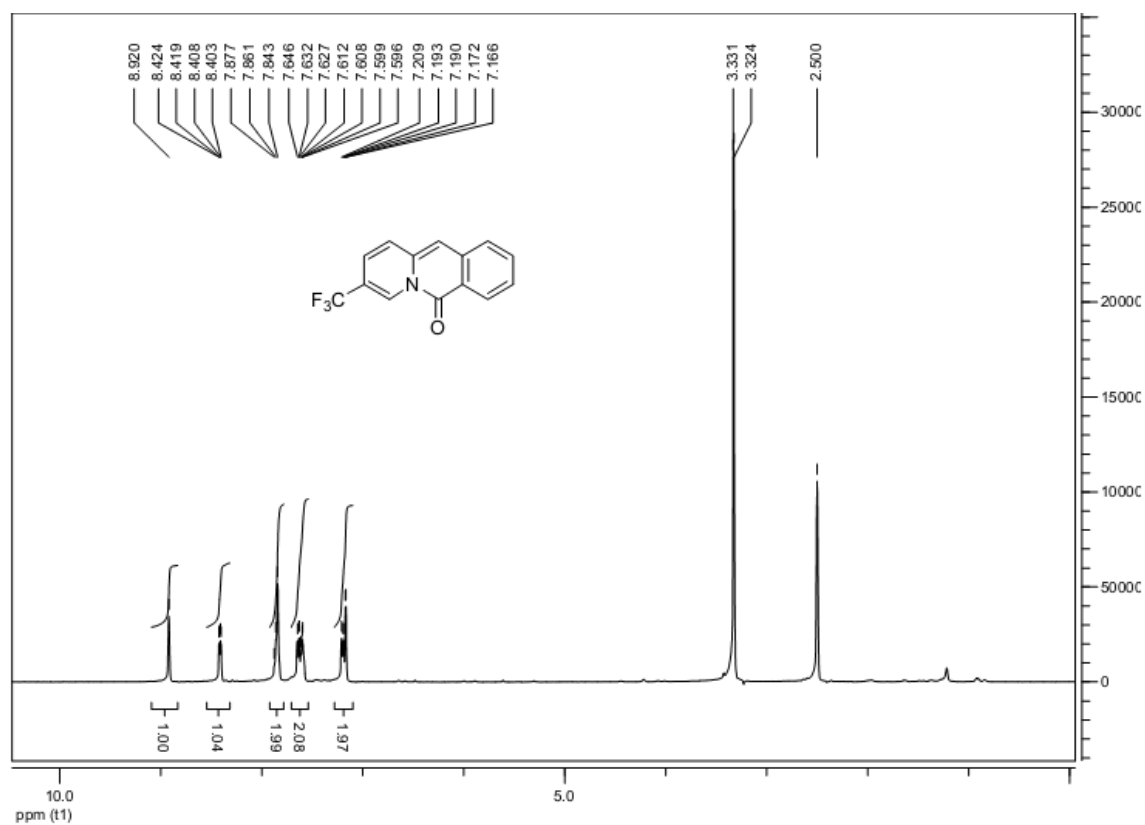


S14

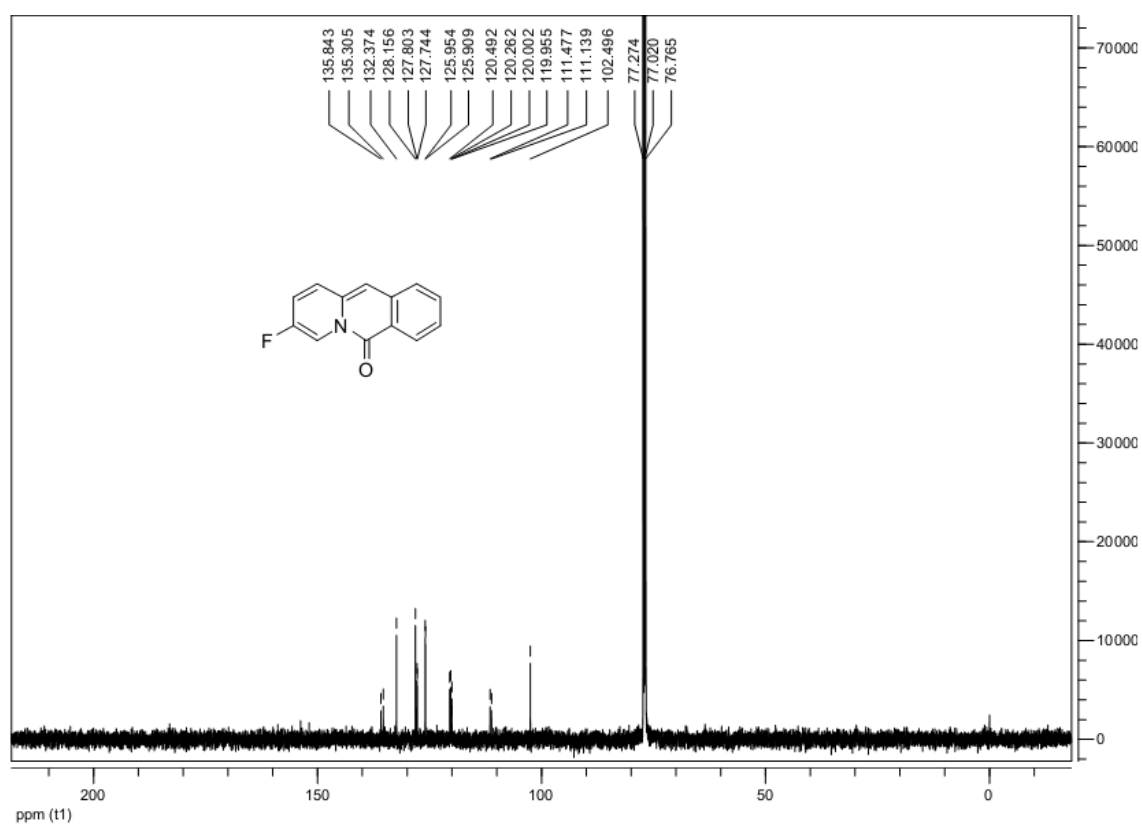
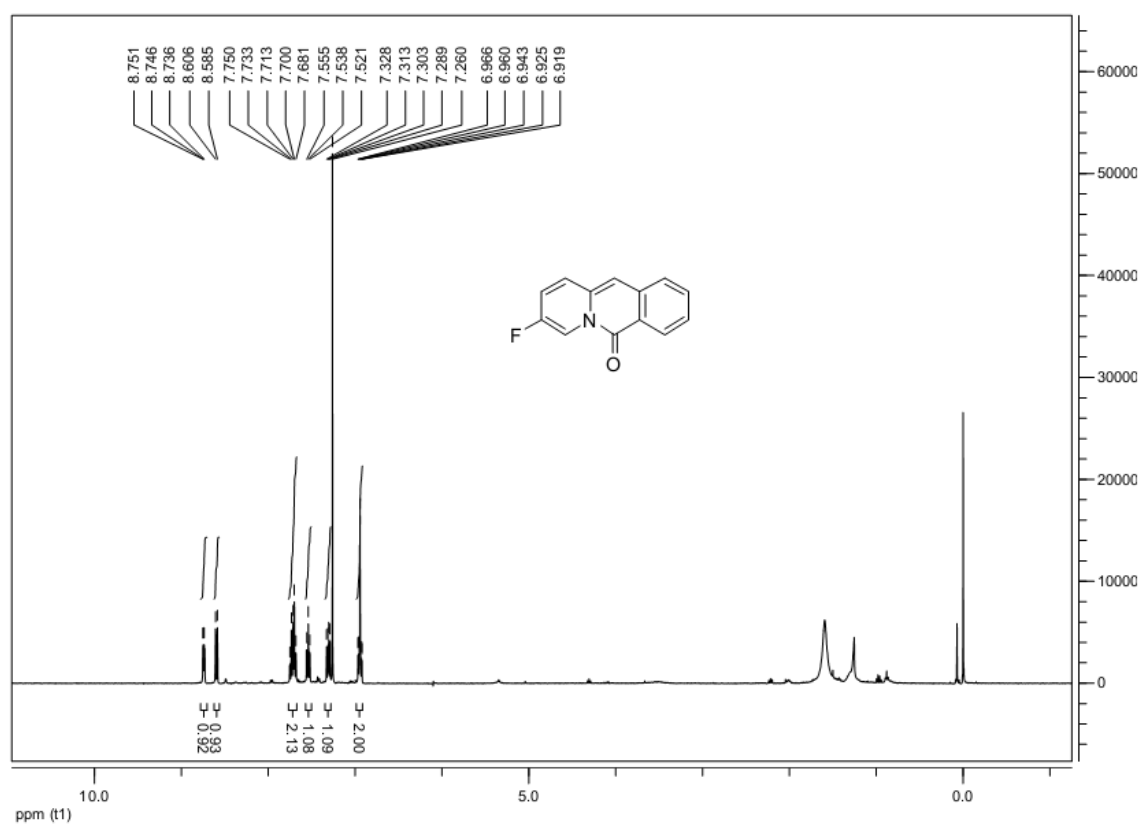
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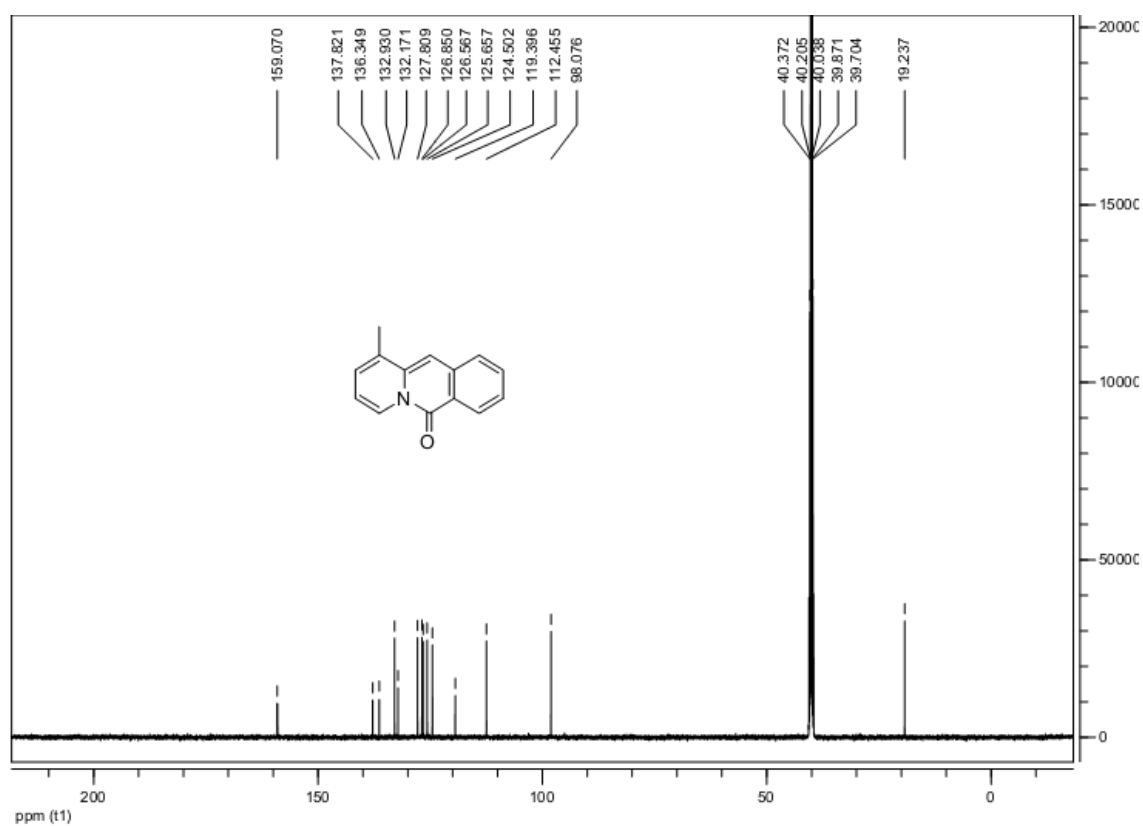
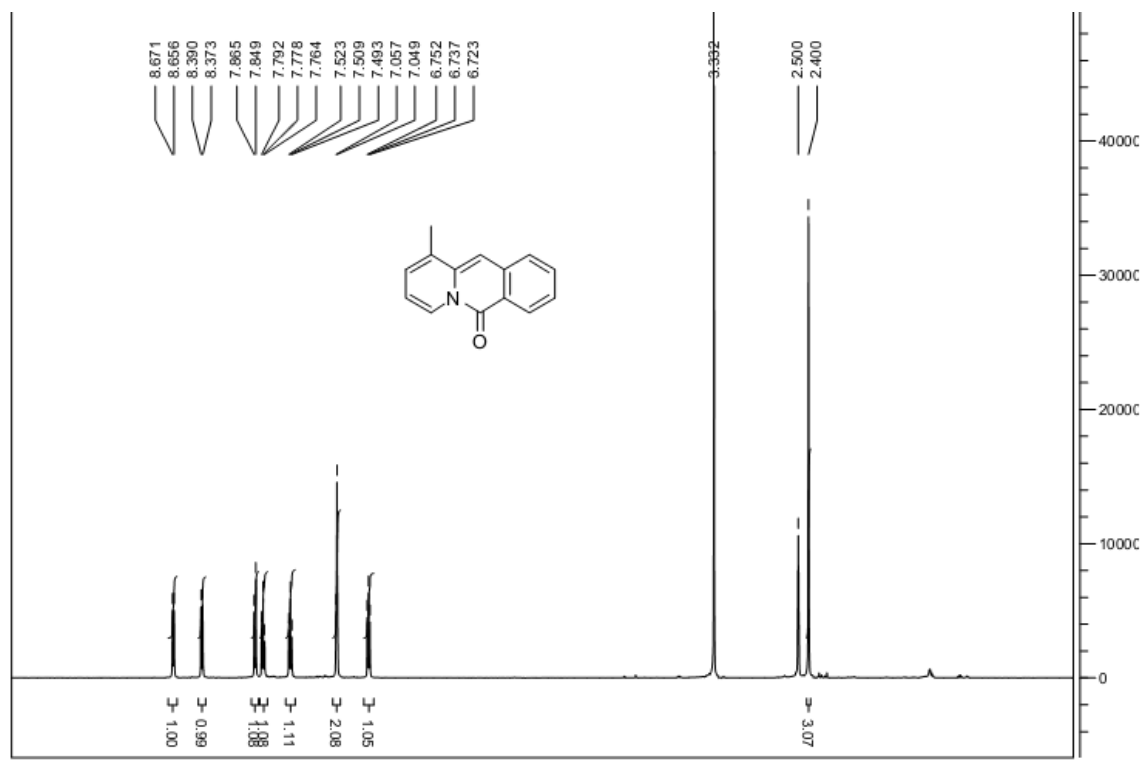
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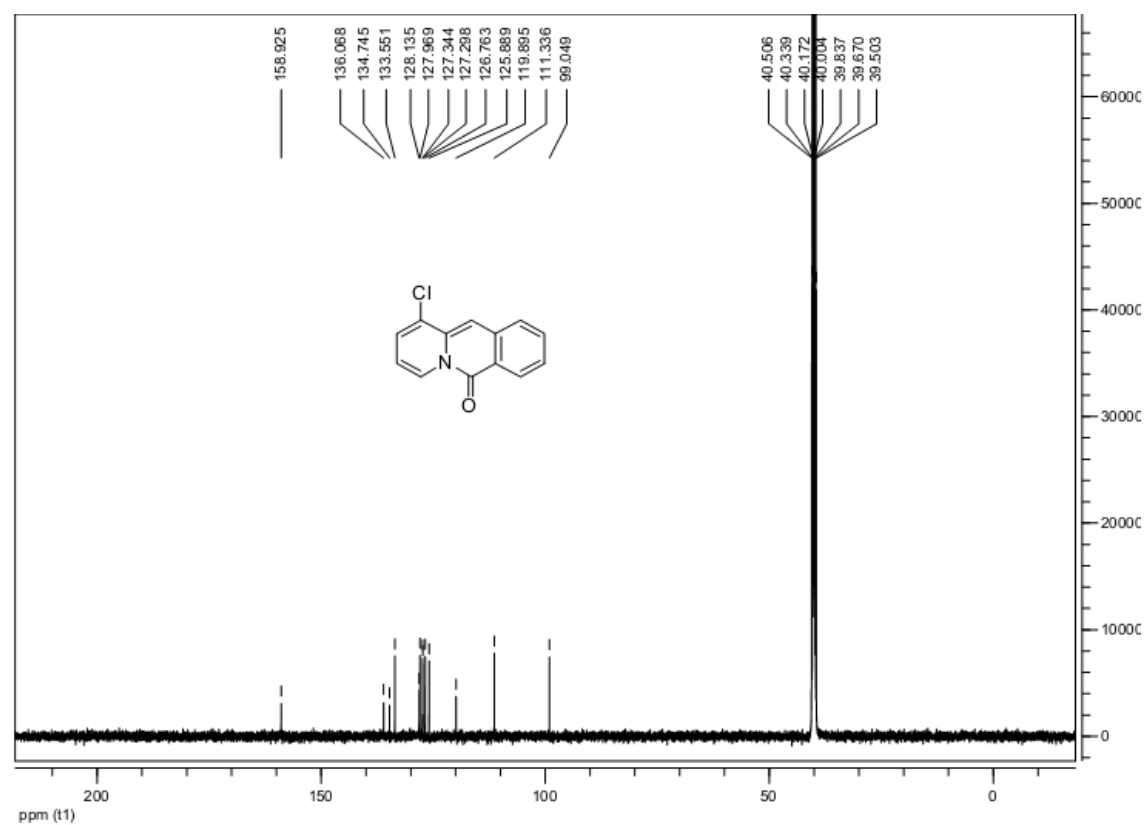
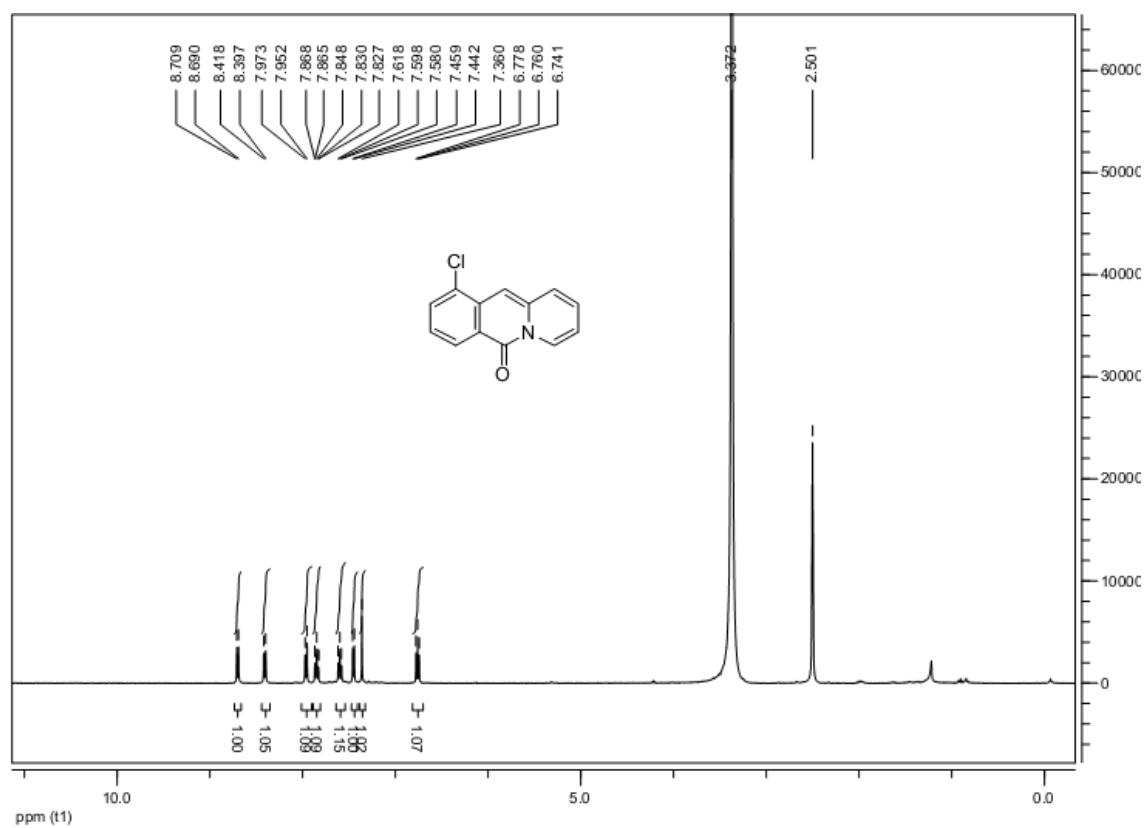
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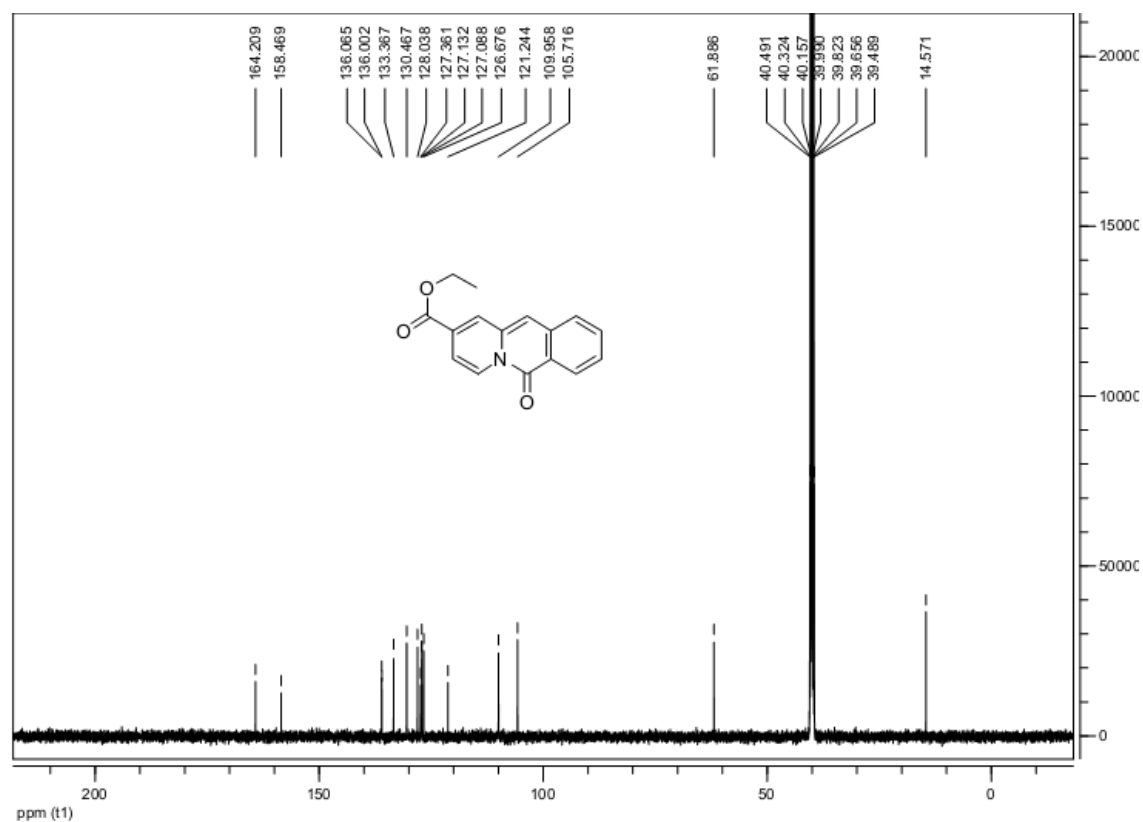
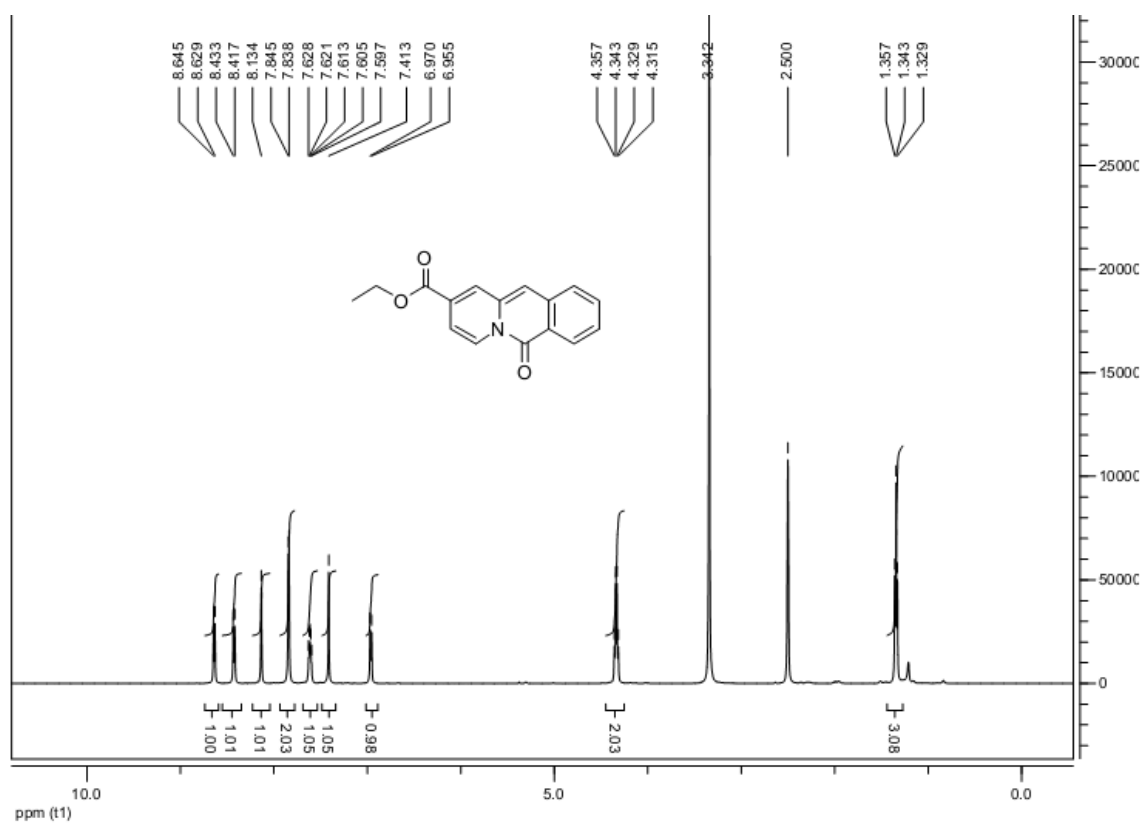
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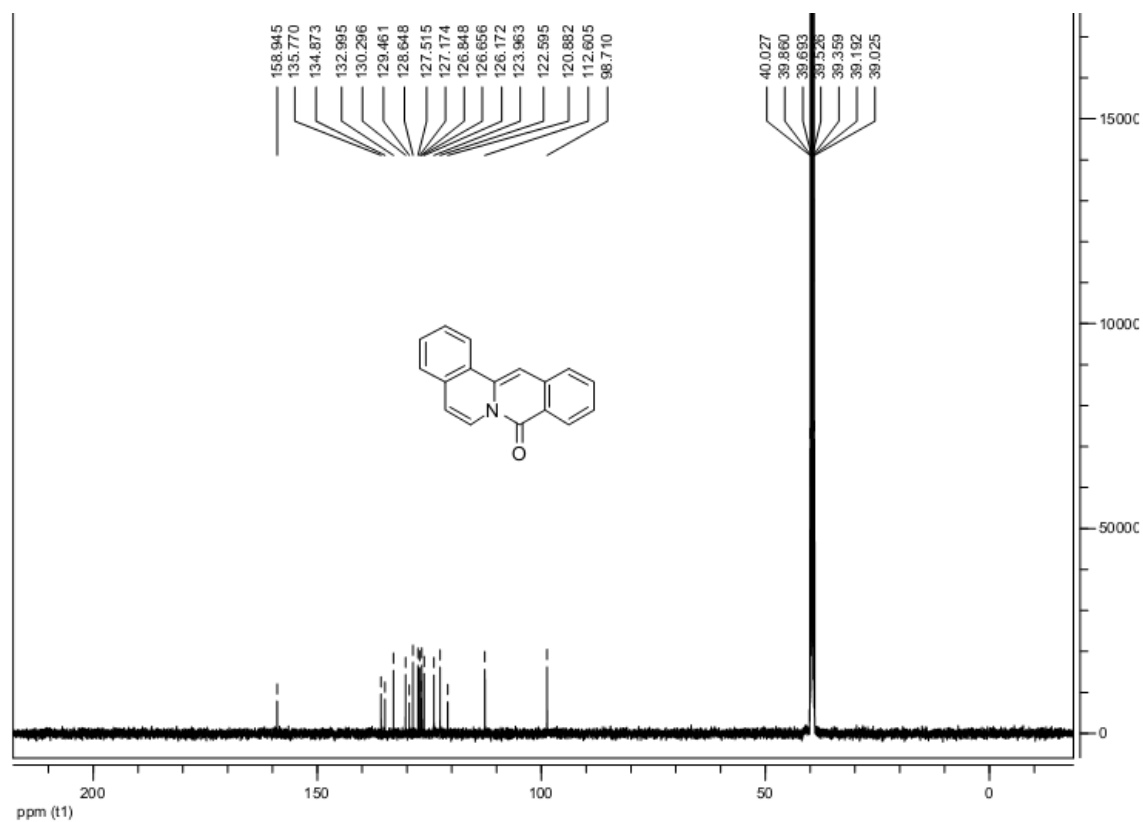
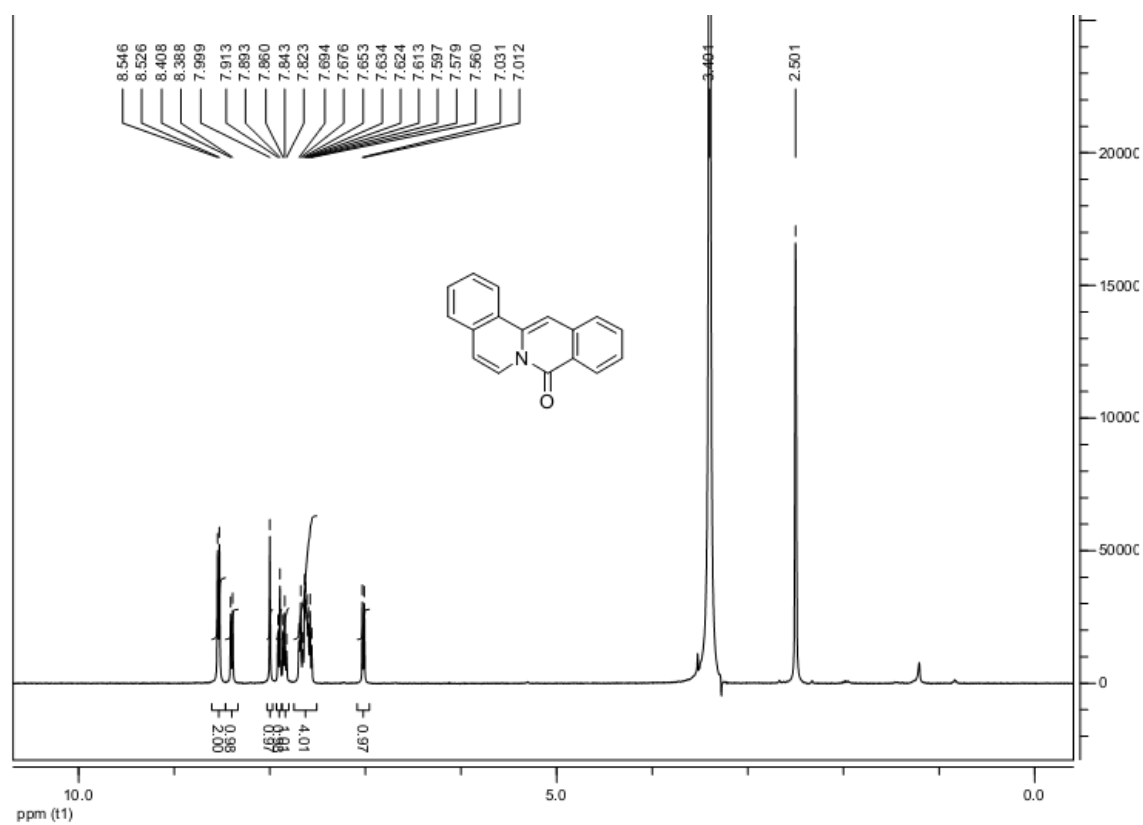
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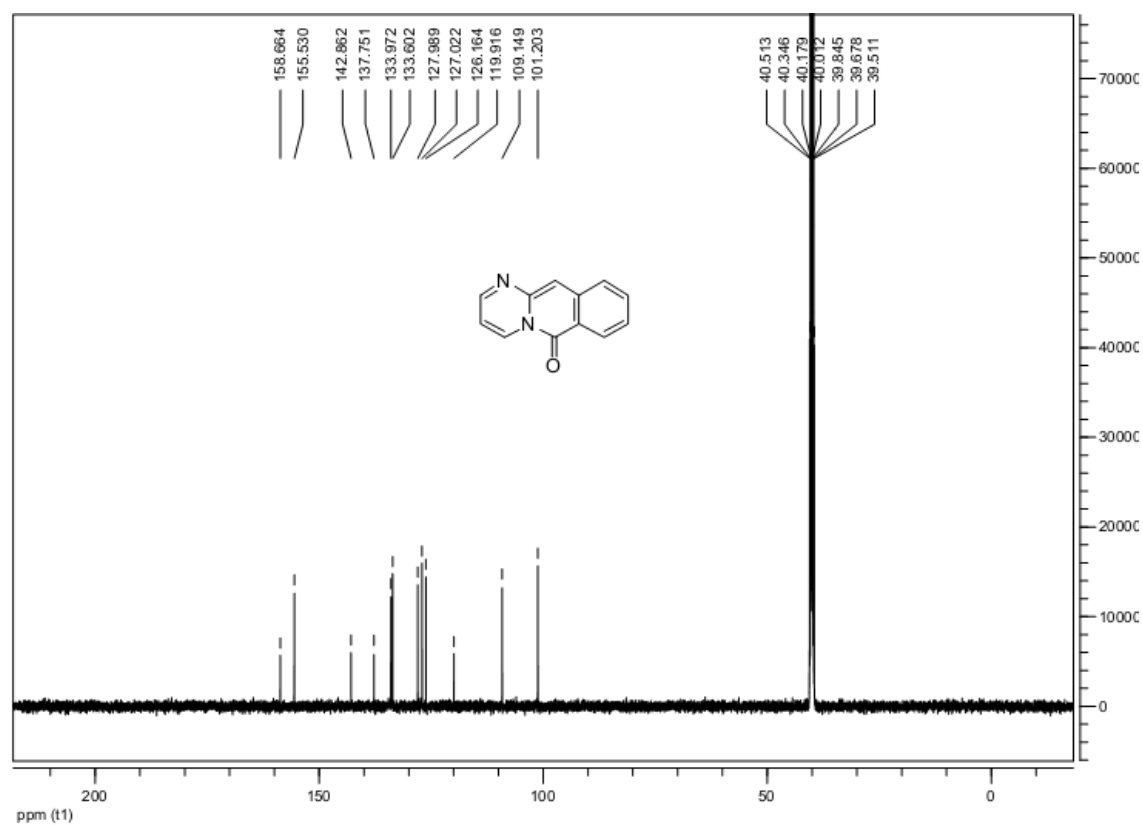
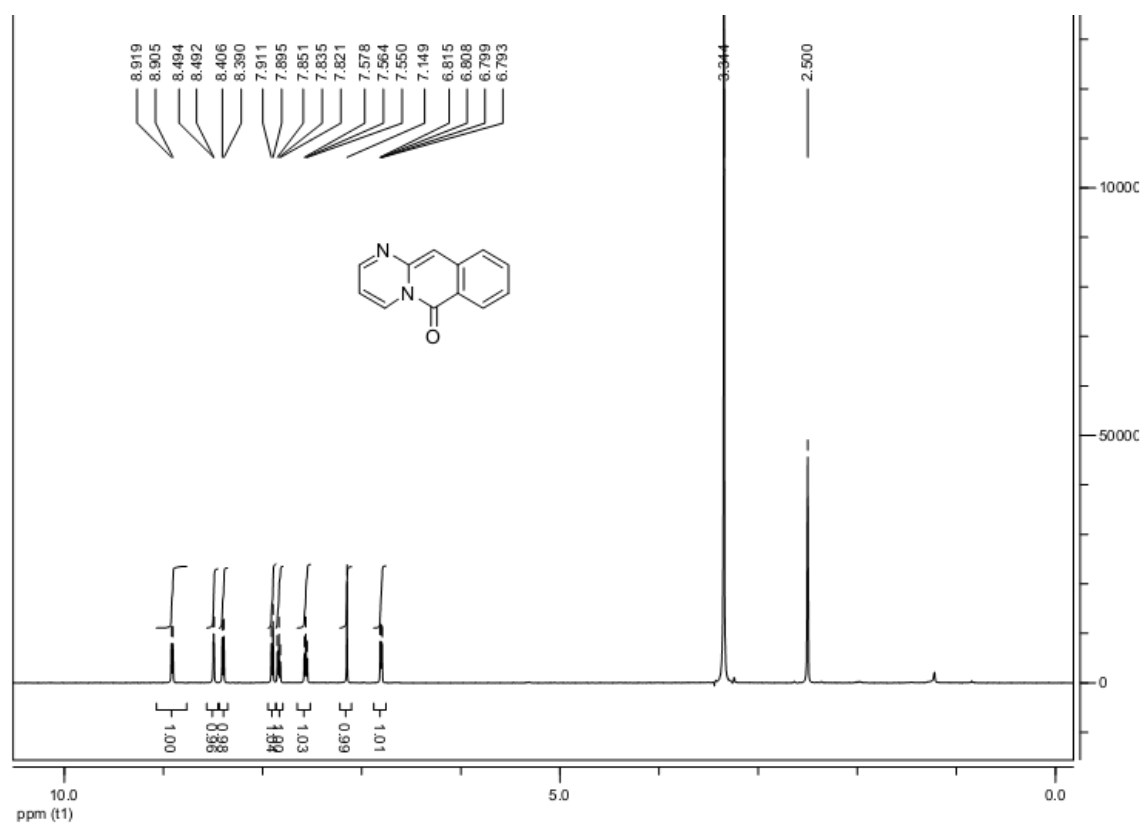
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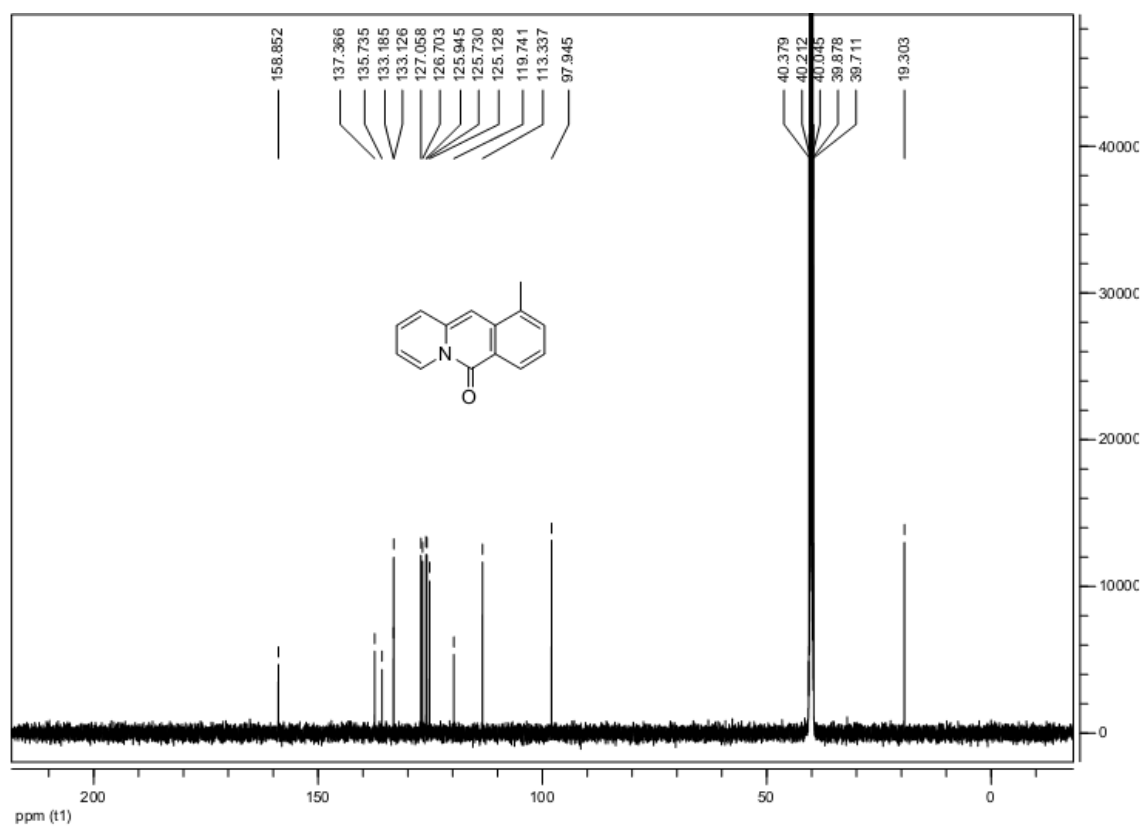
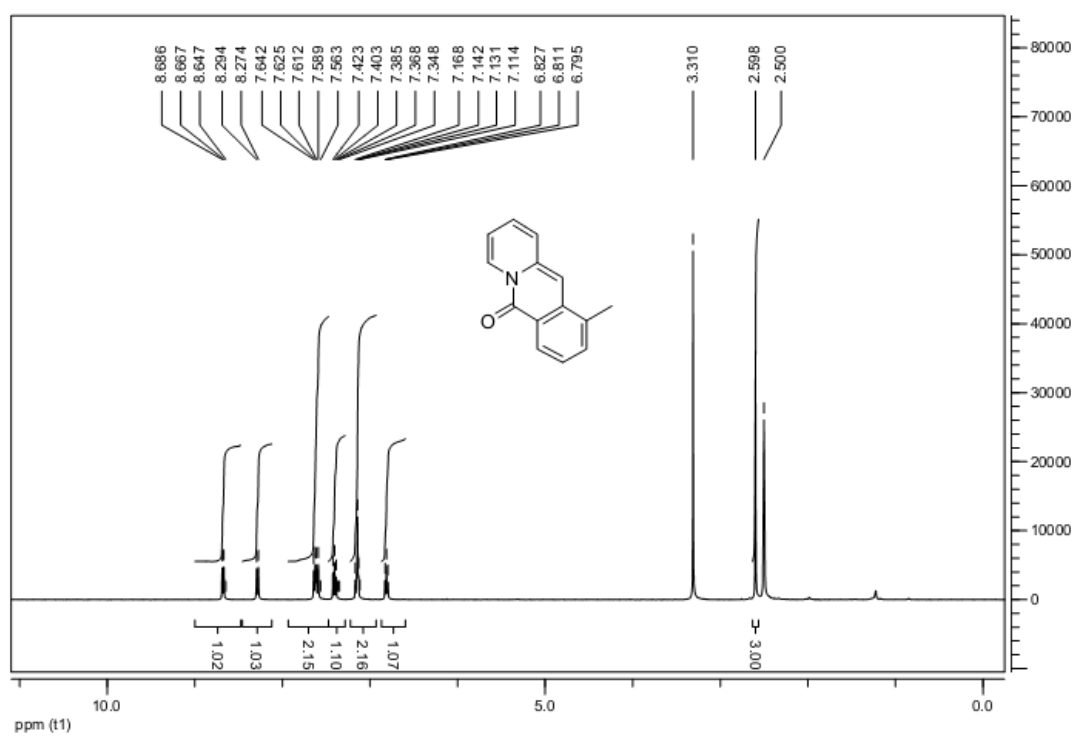
2h



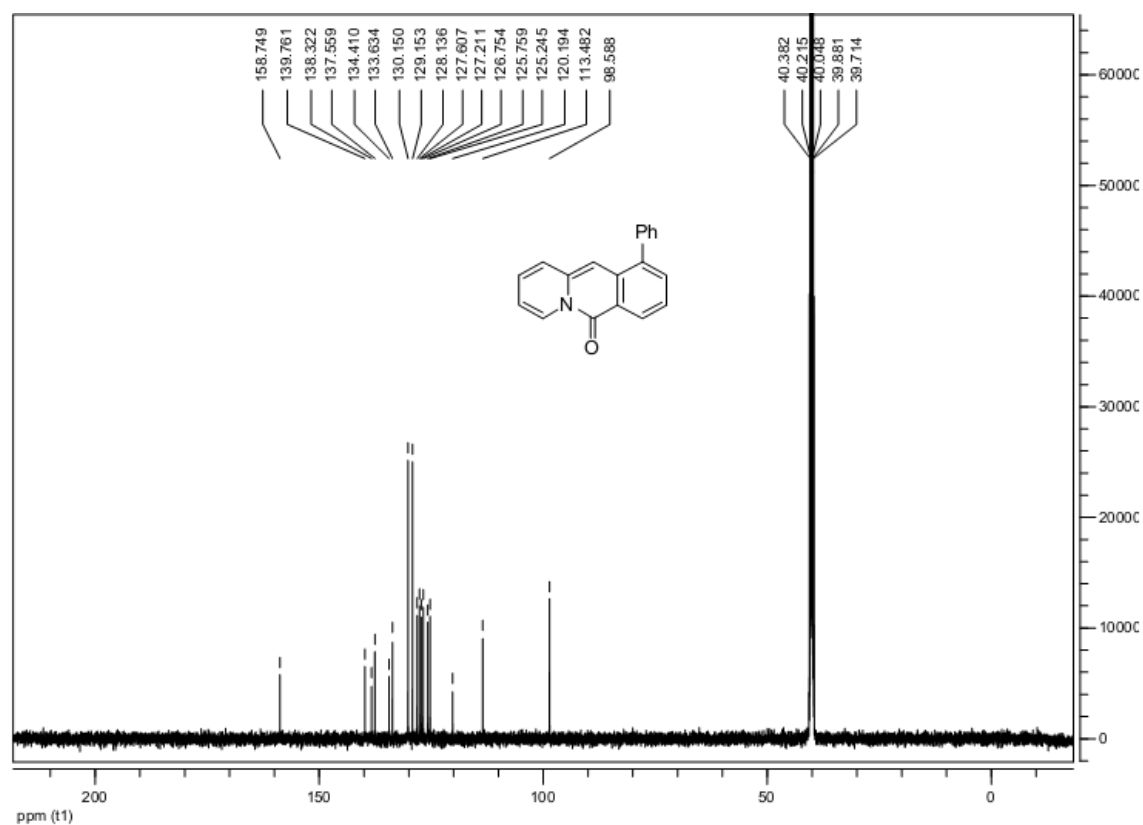
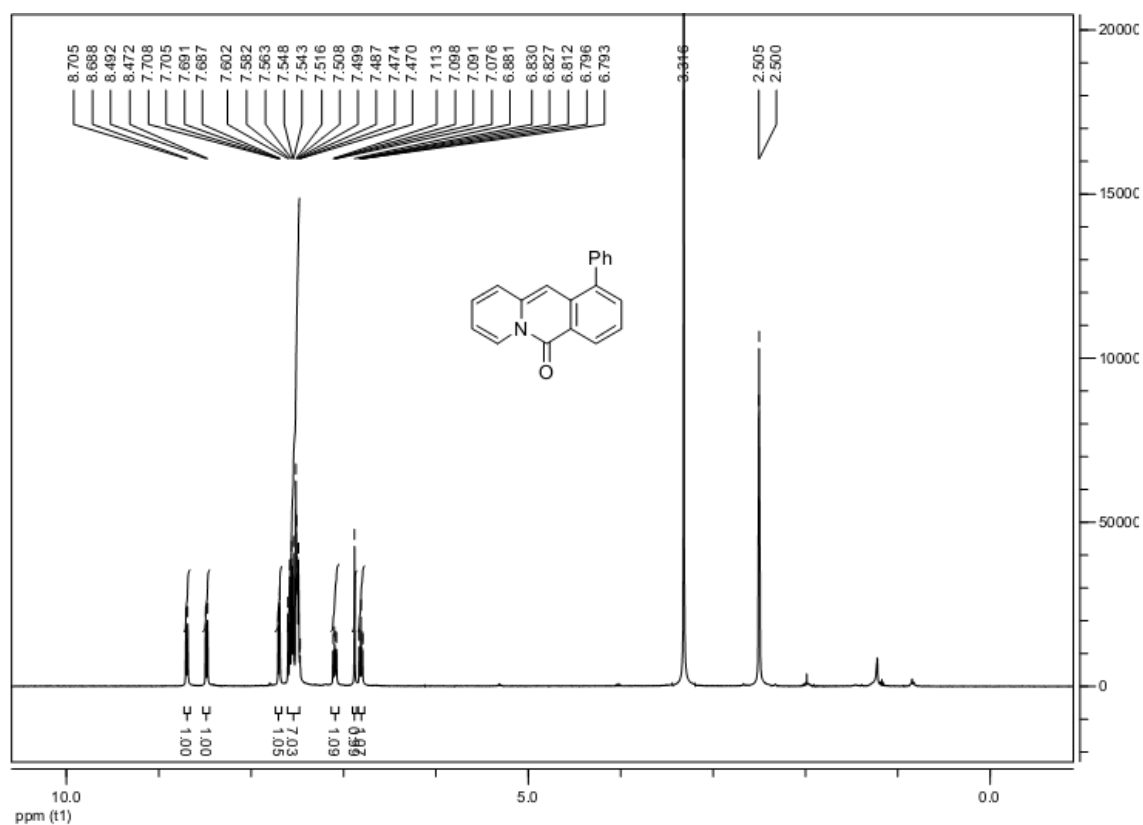
2i



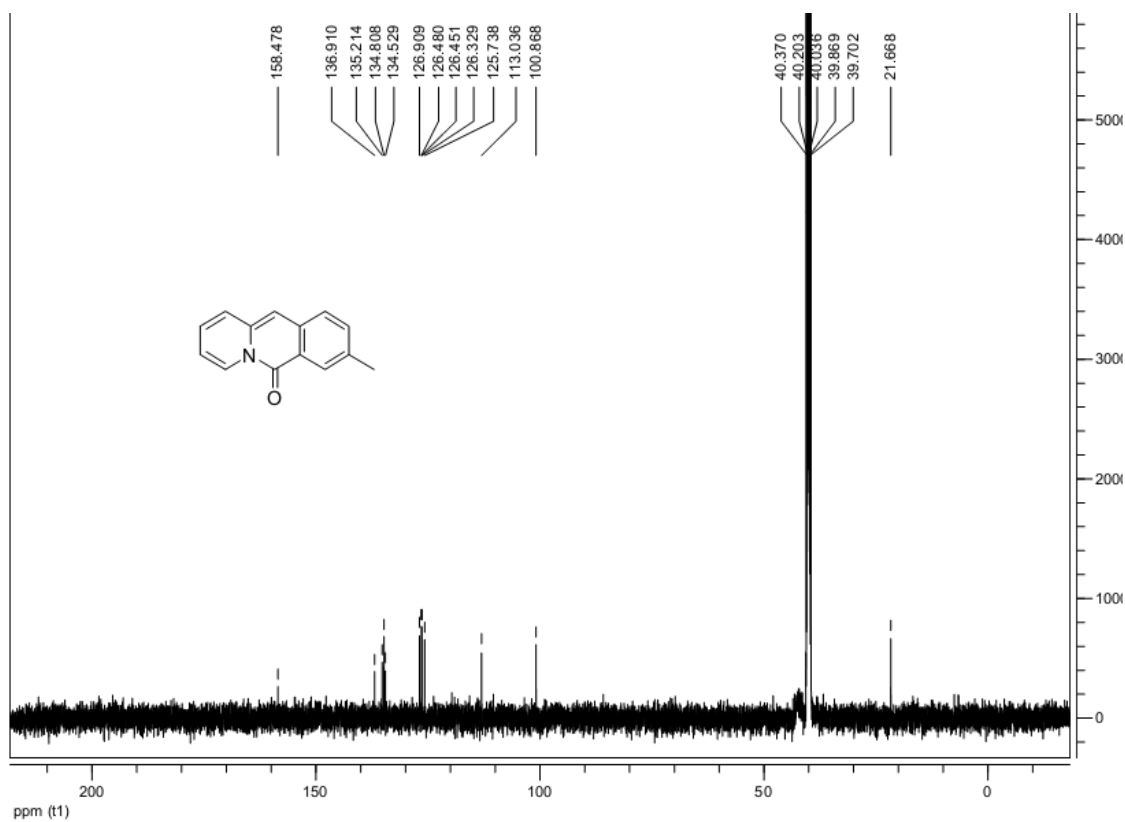
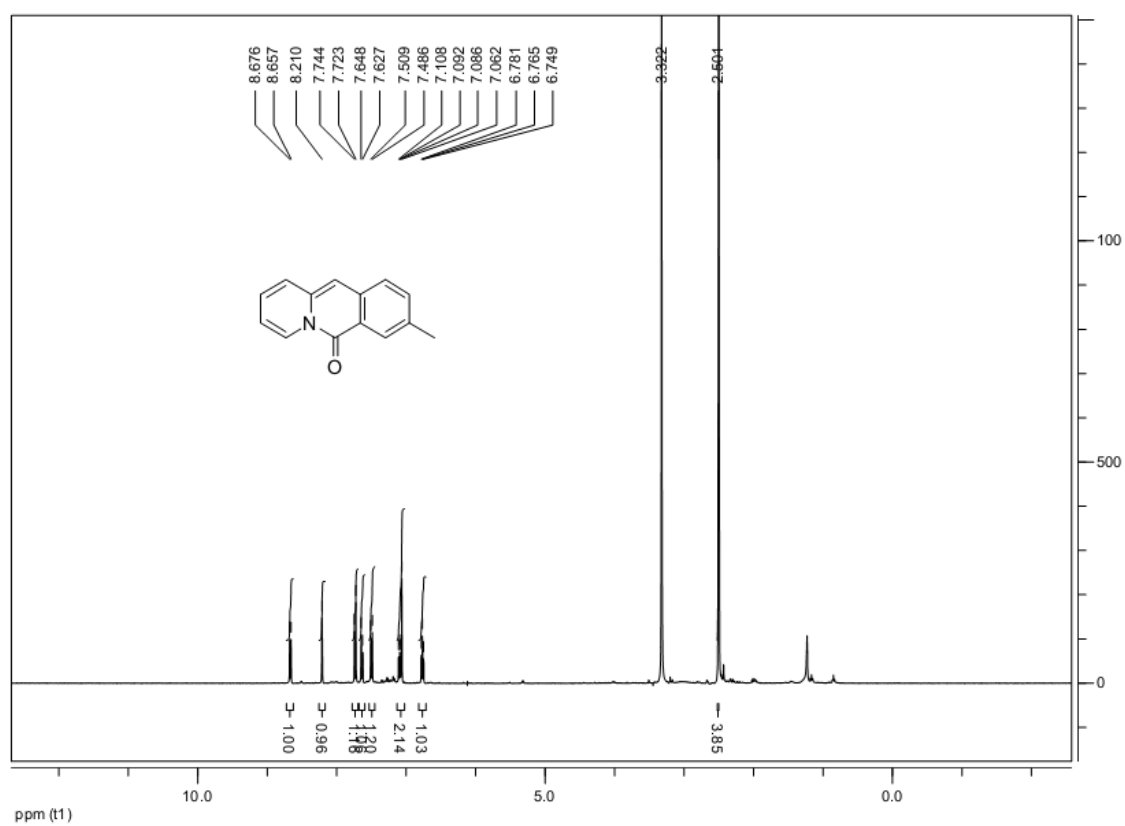
2j

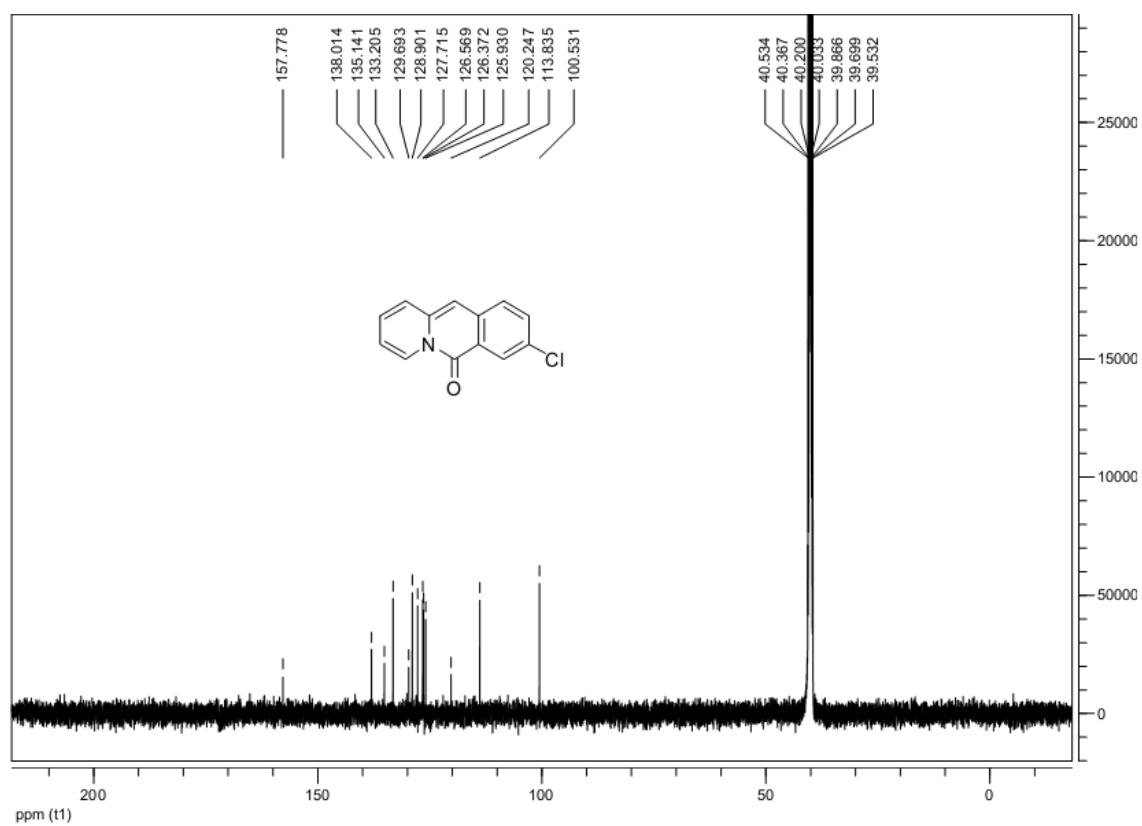
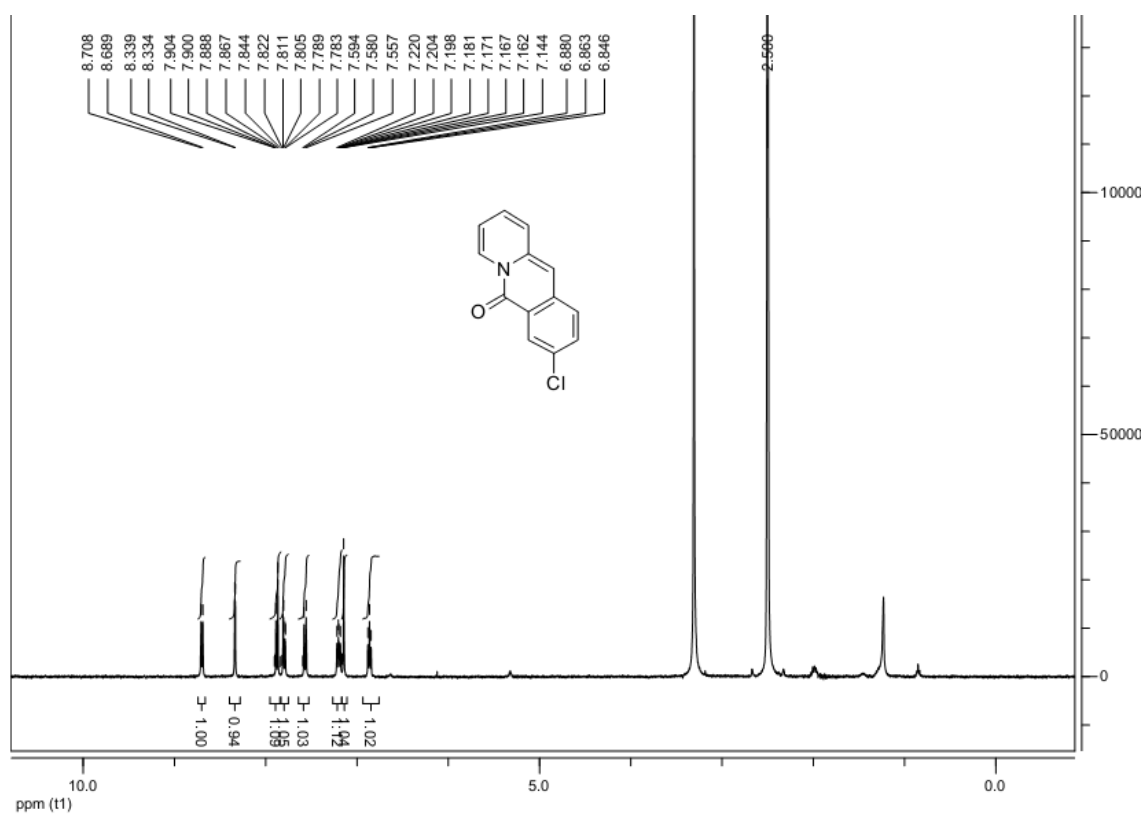


2k

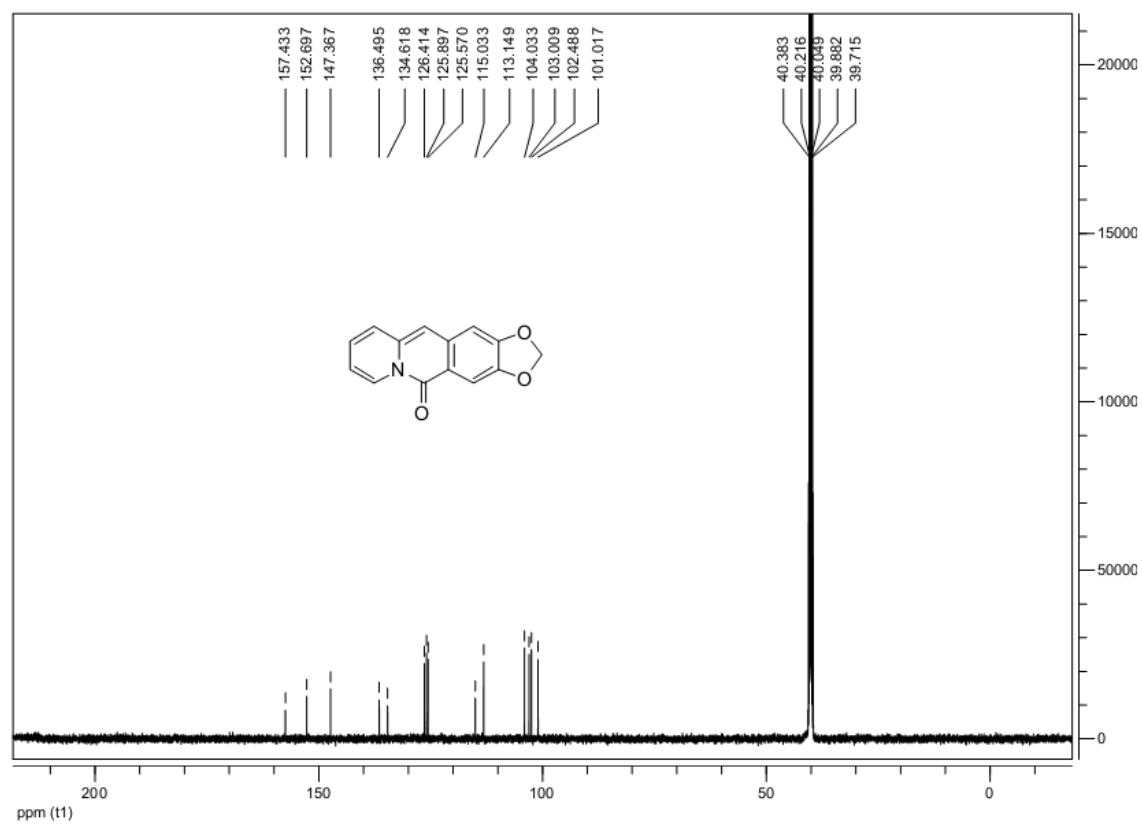
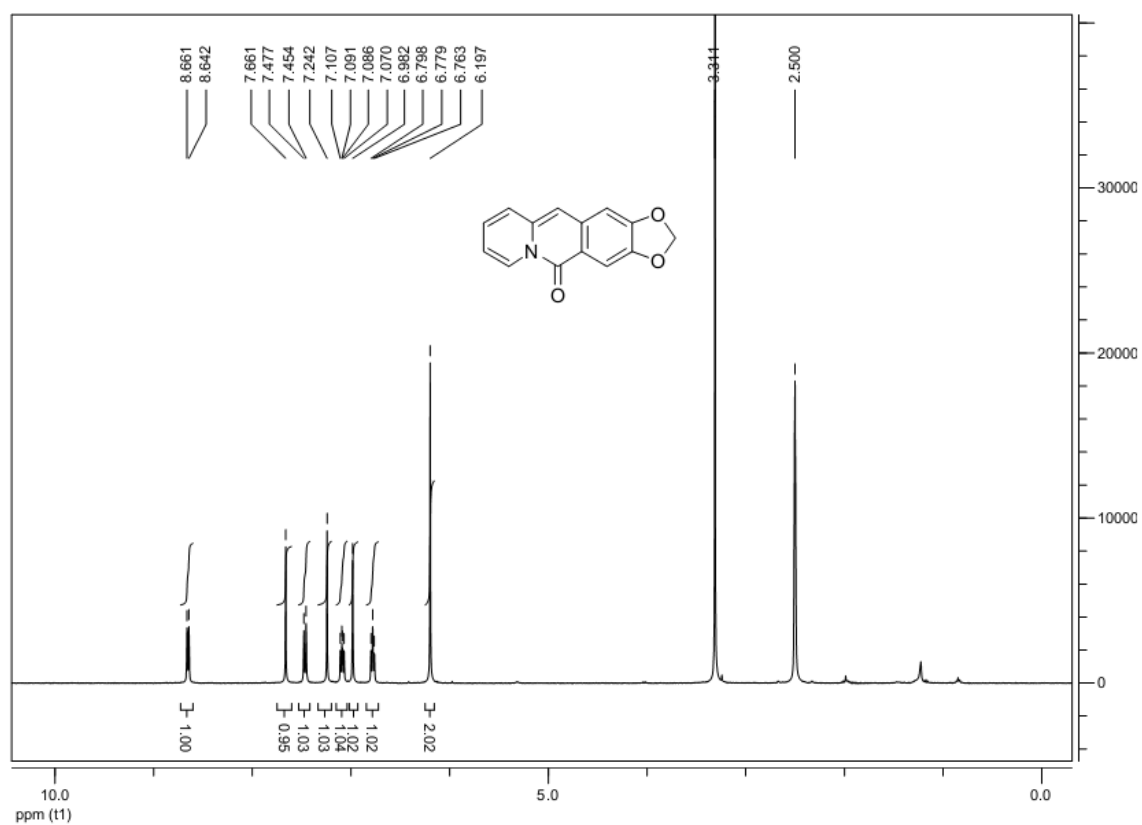


21

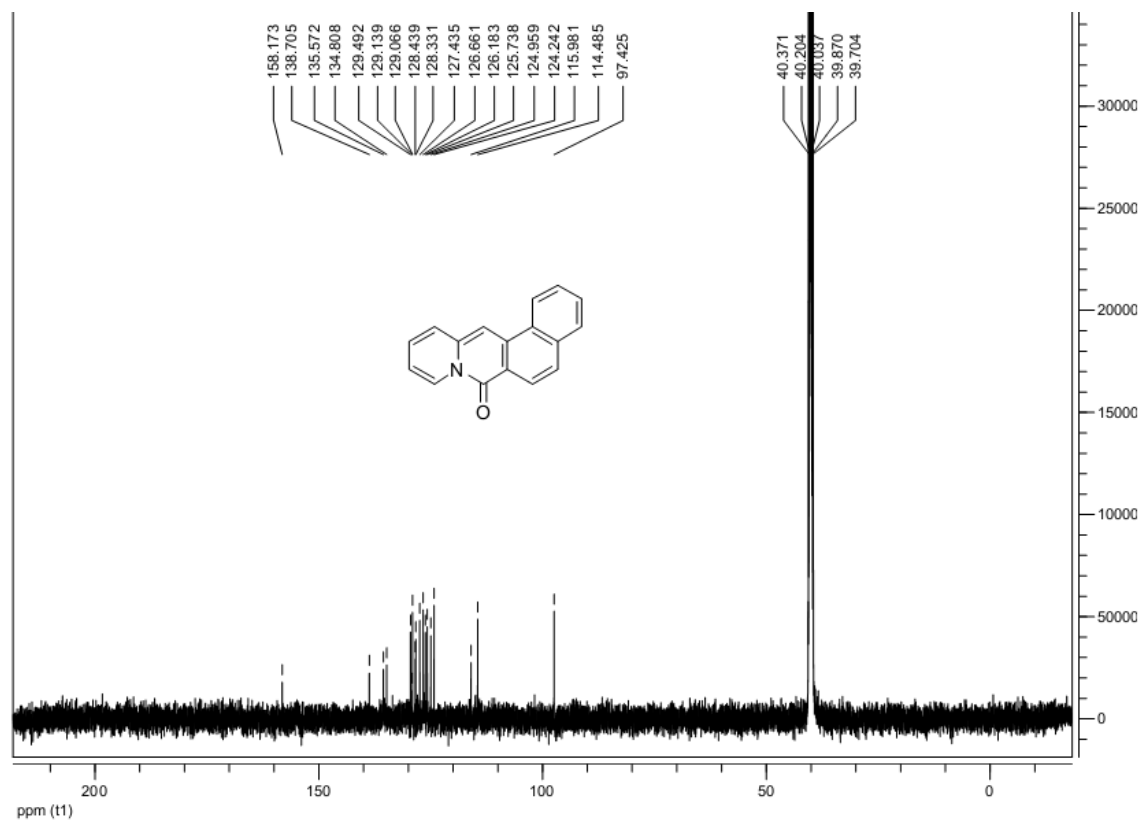
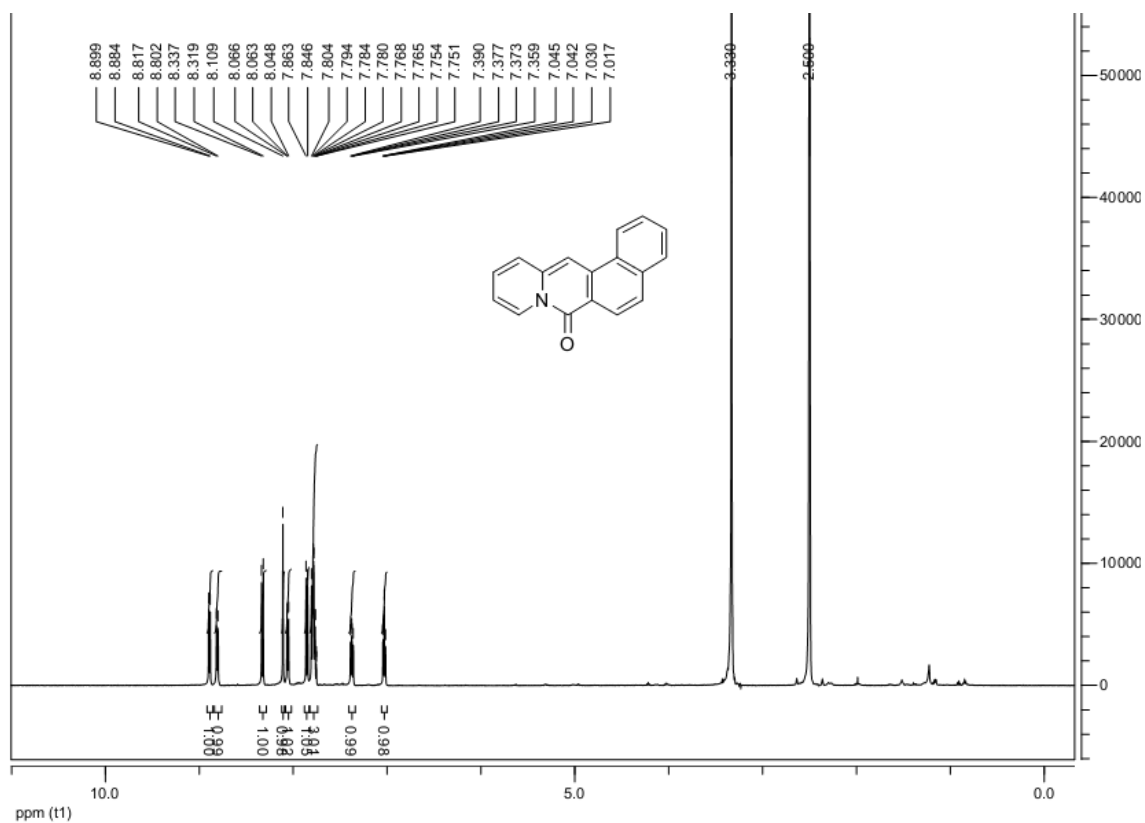


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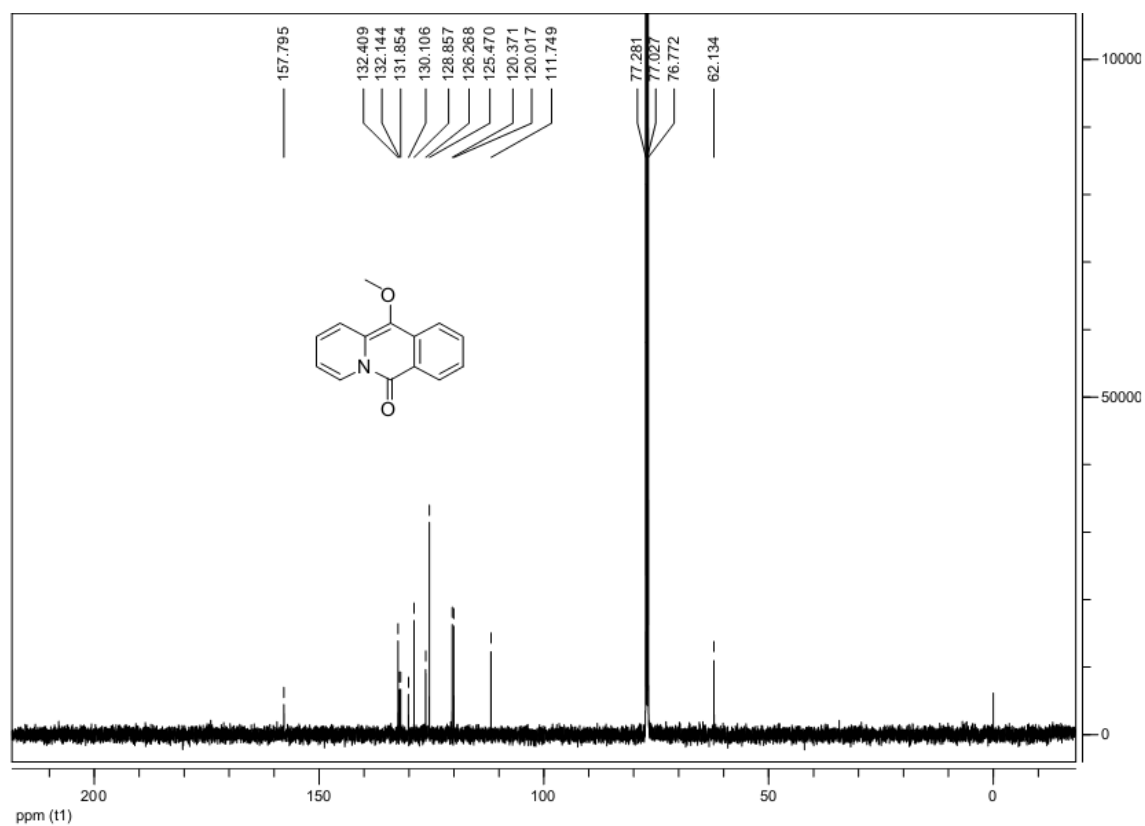
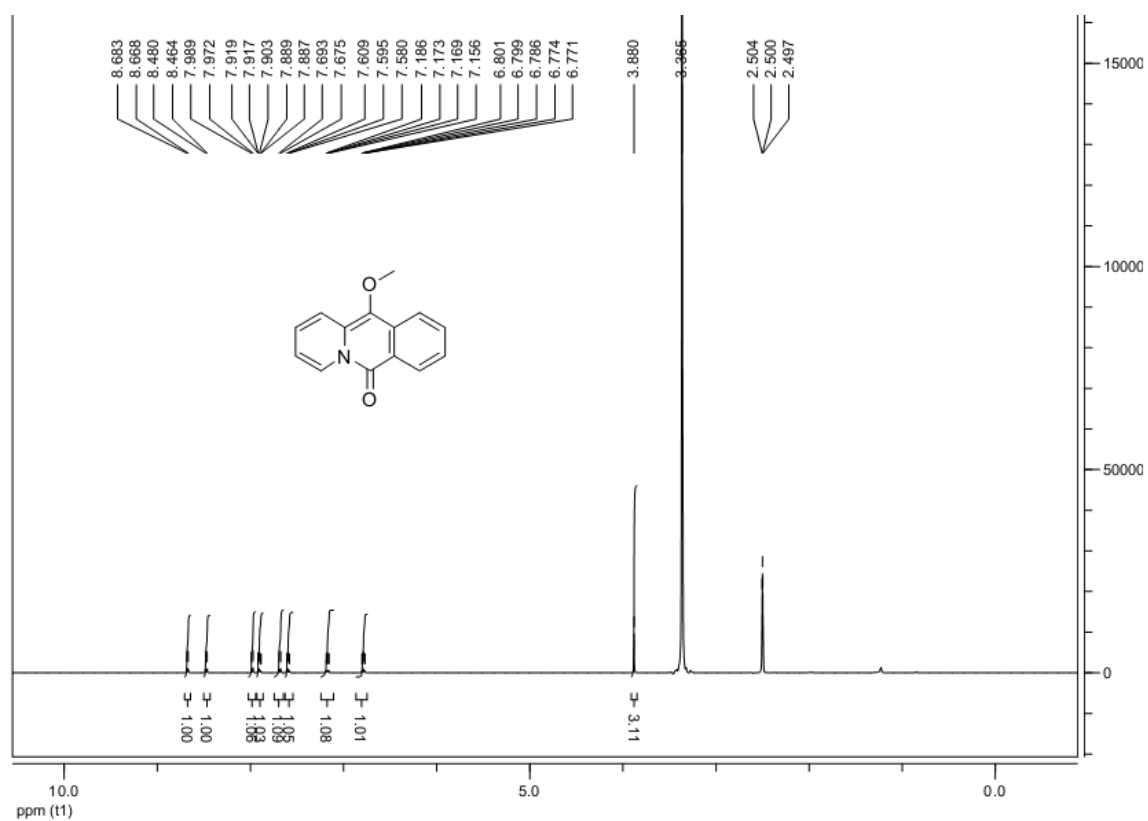
2n



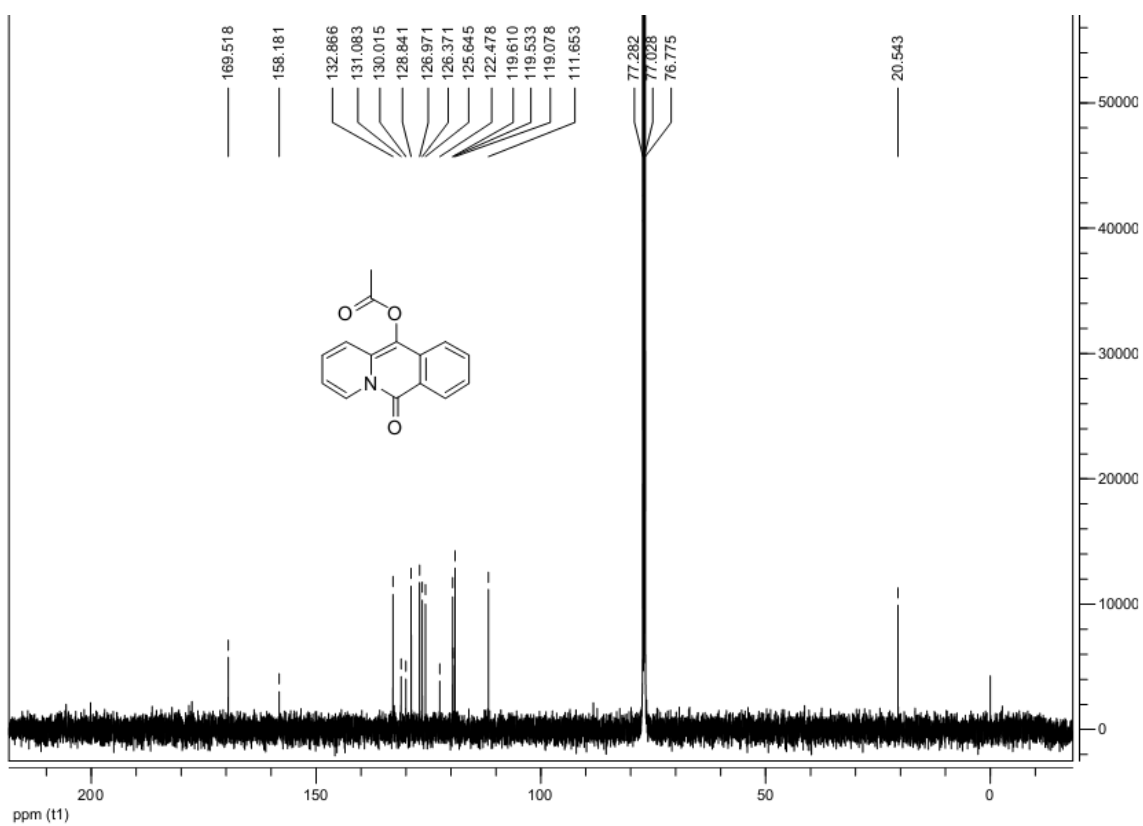
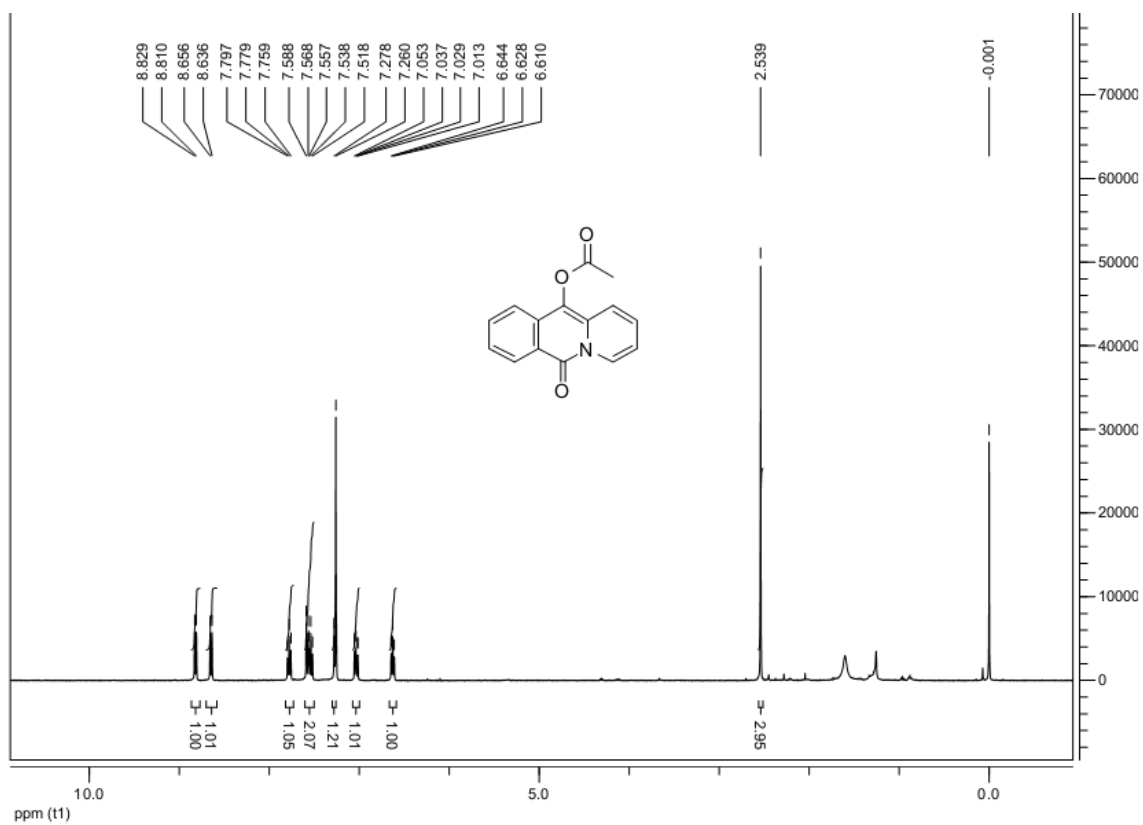
2o



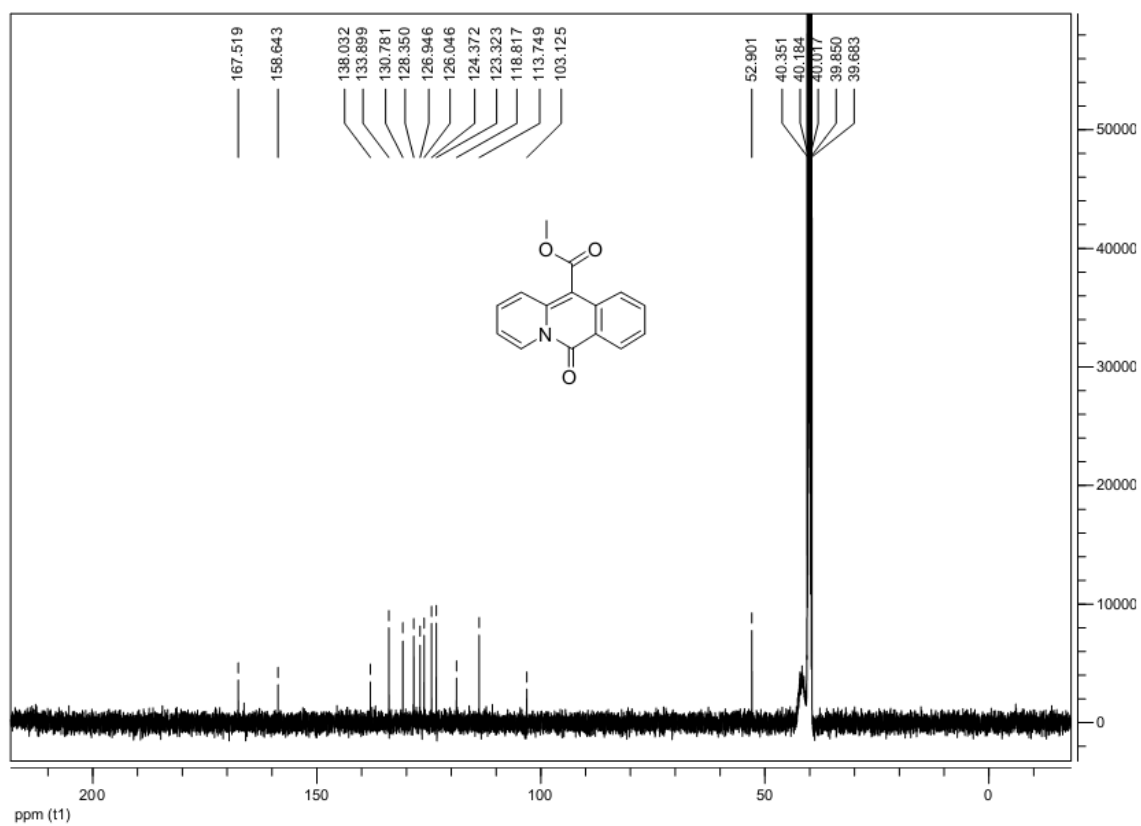
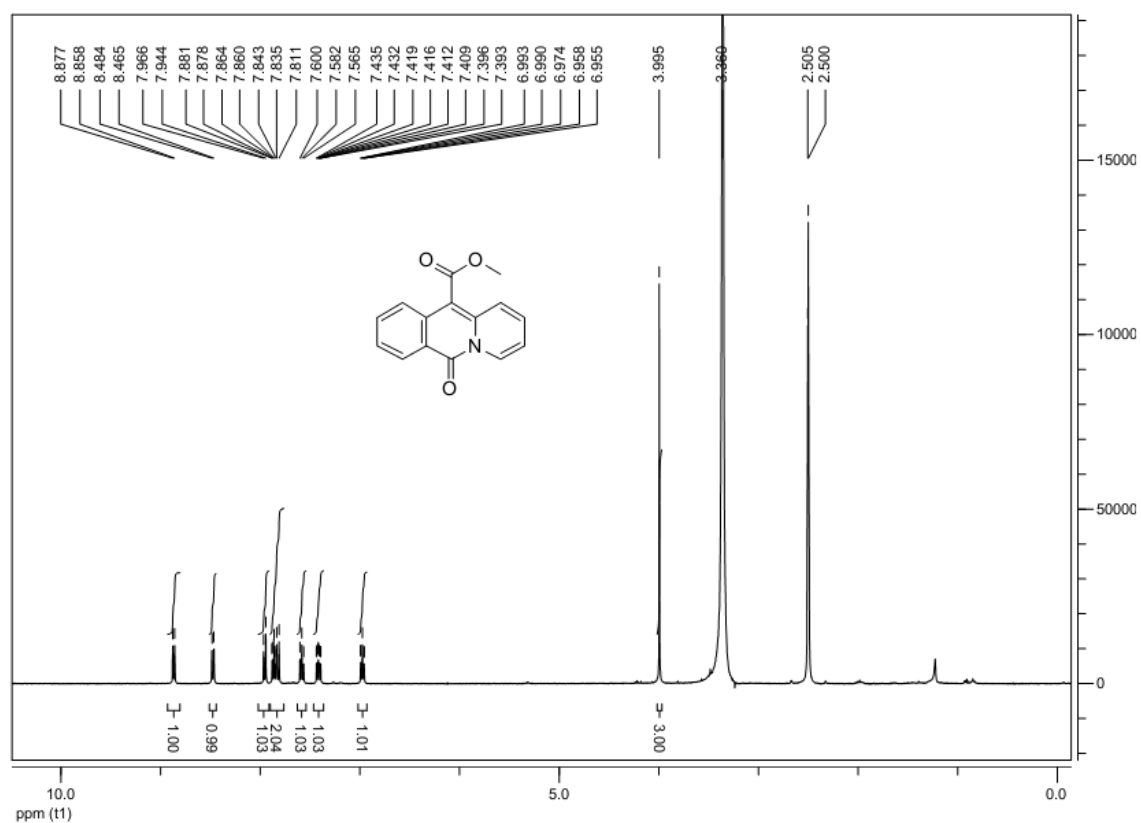
2p



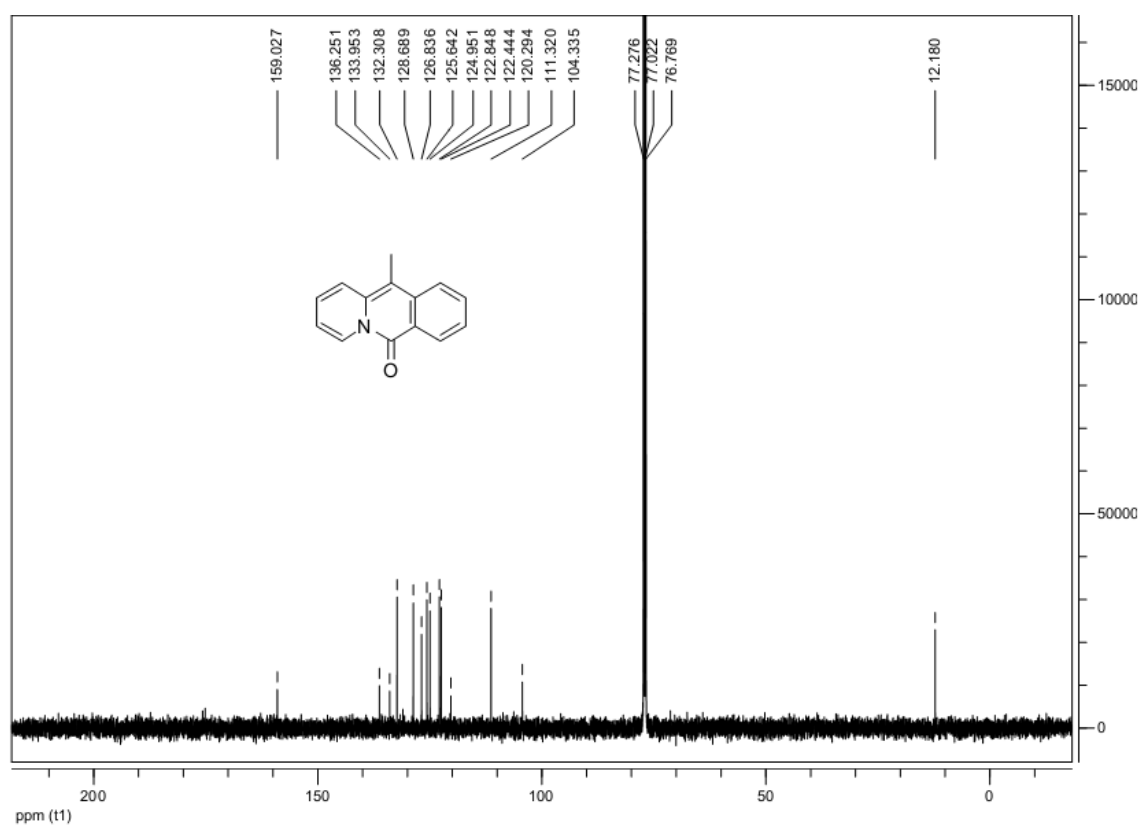
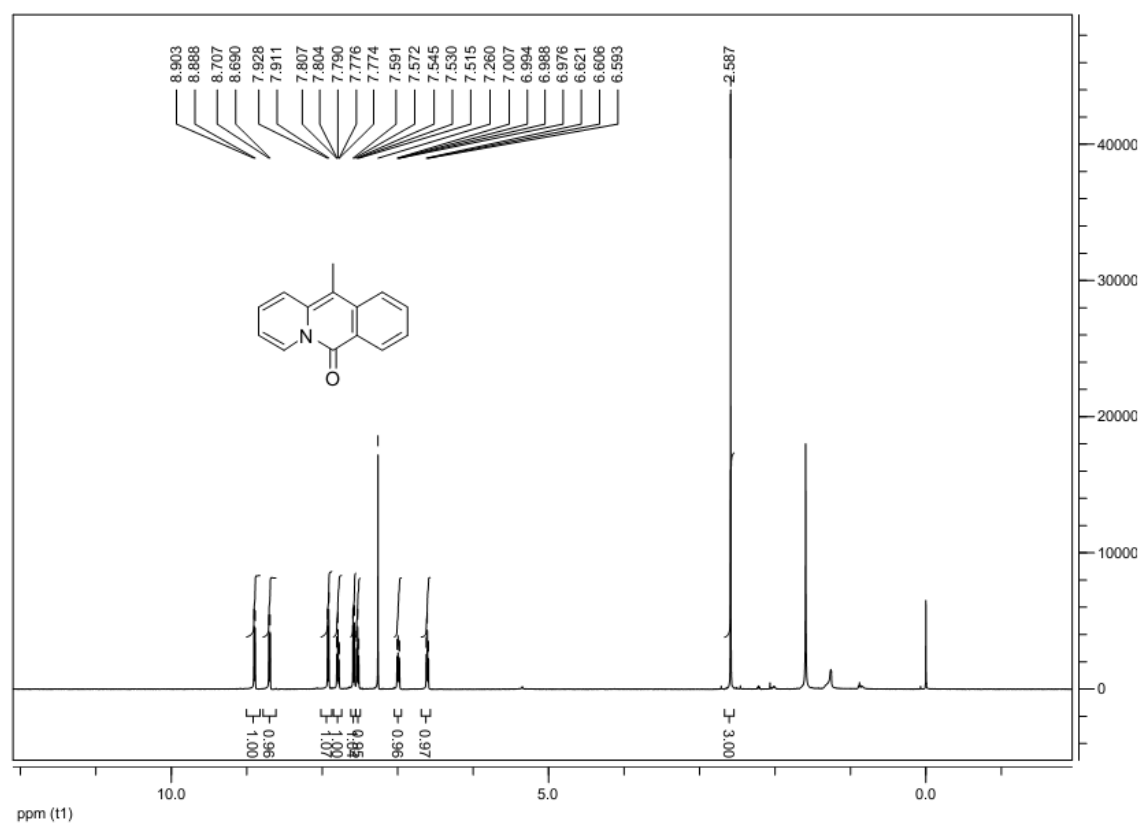
2q



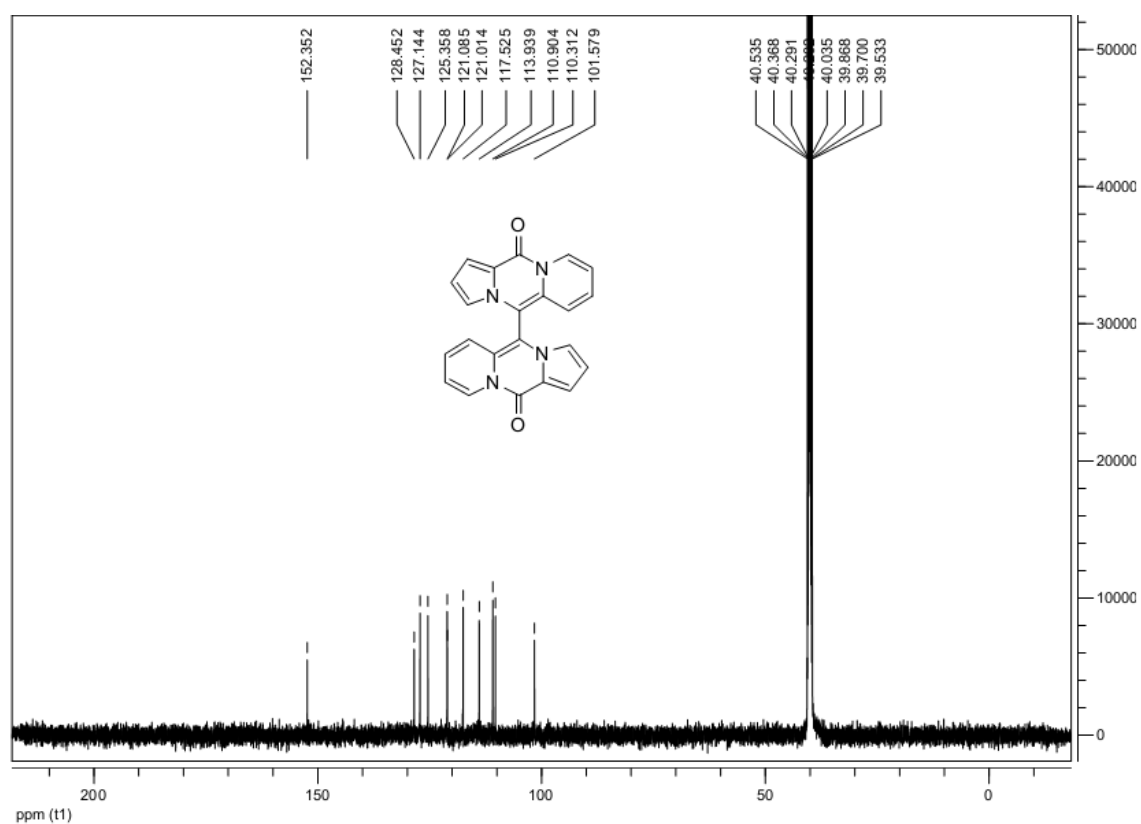
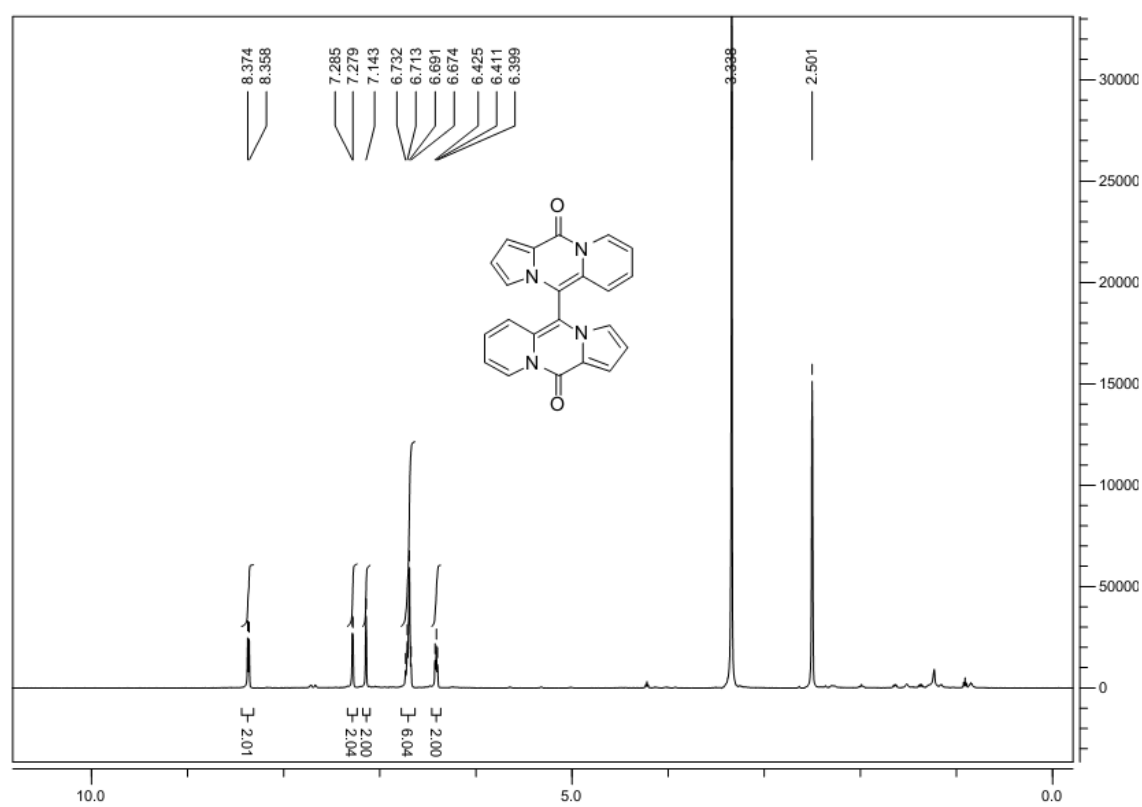
2r



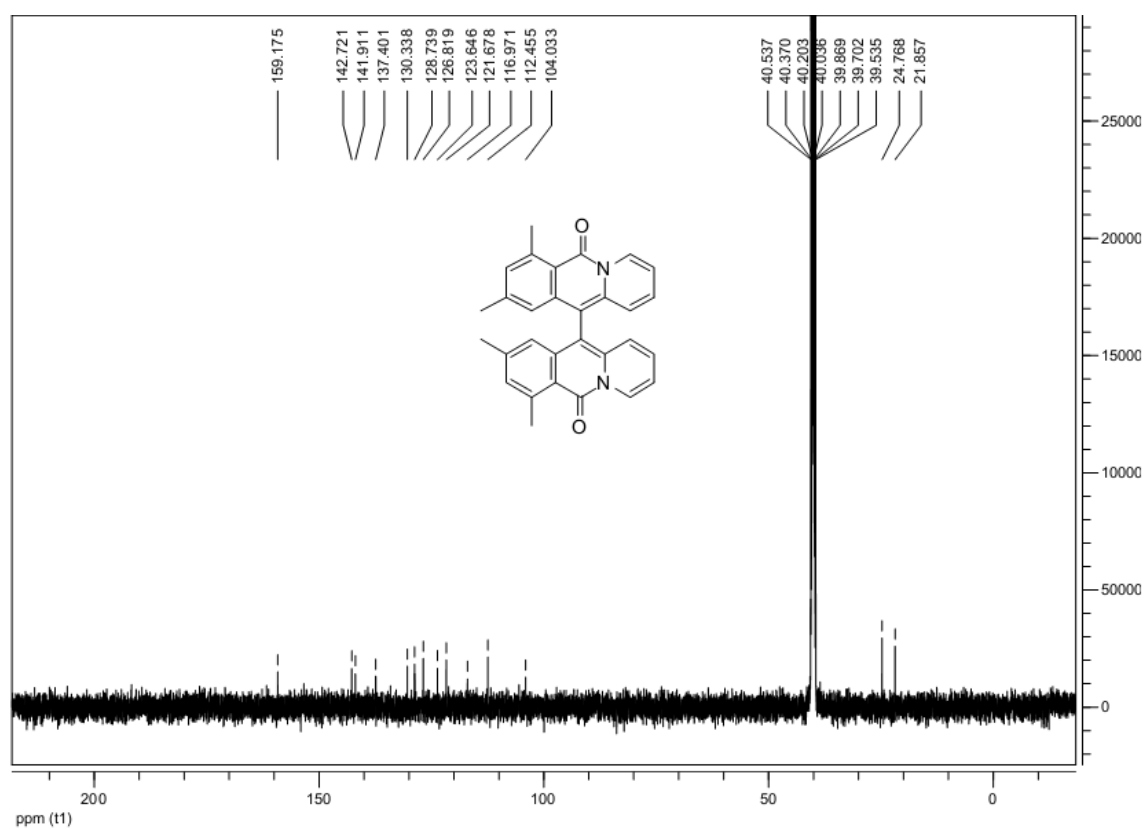
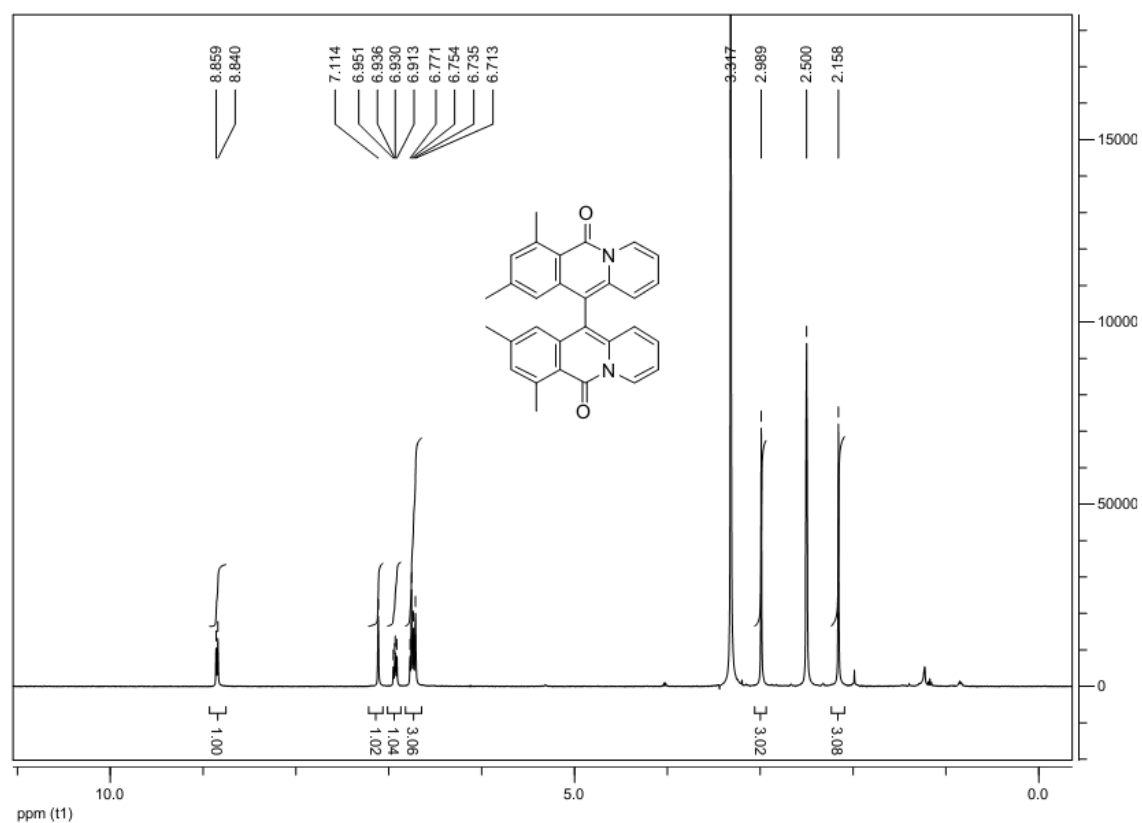
2s



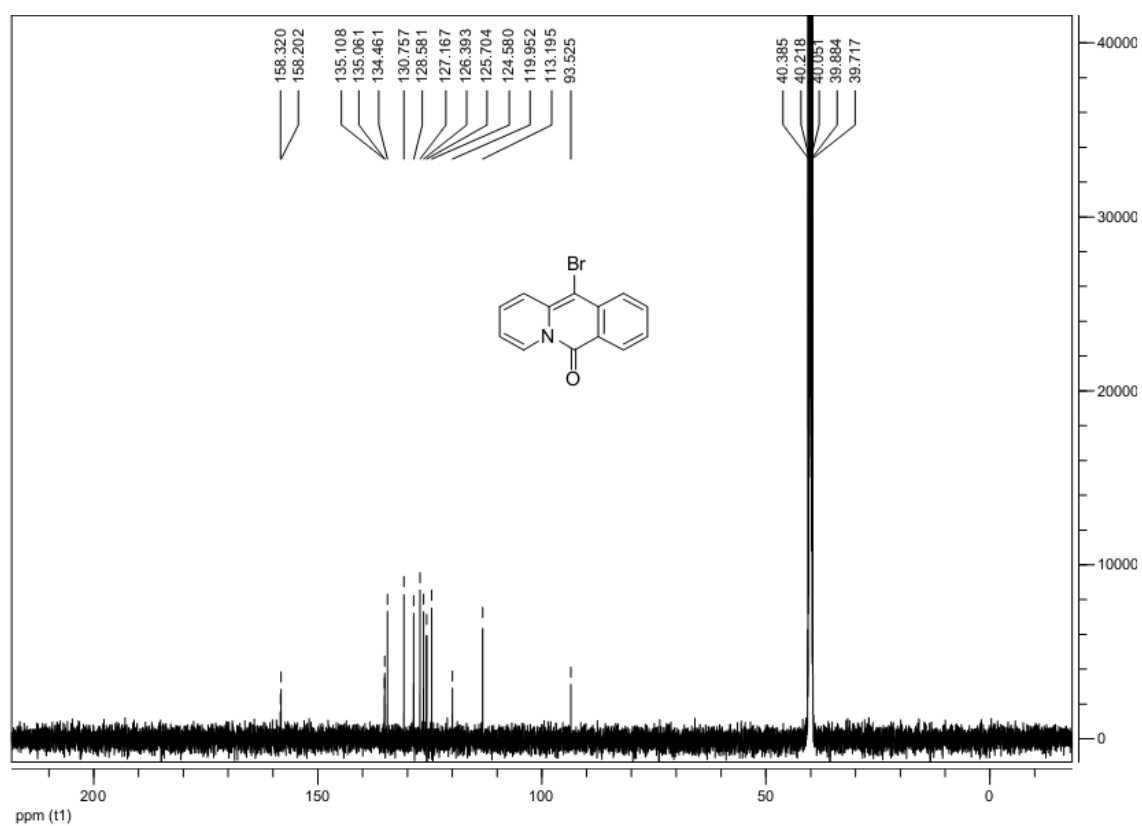
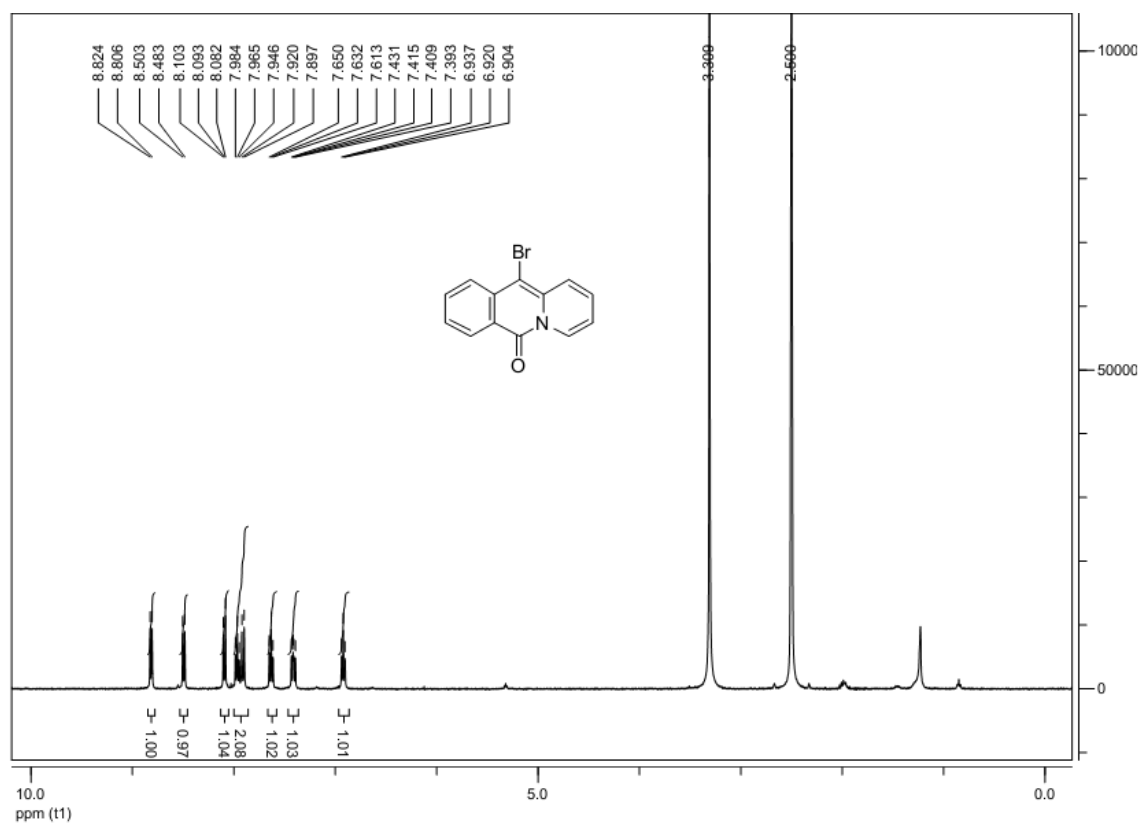
2t



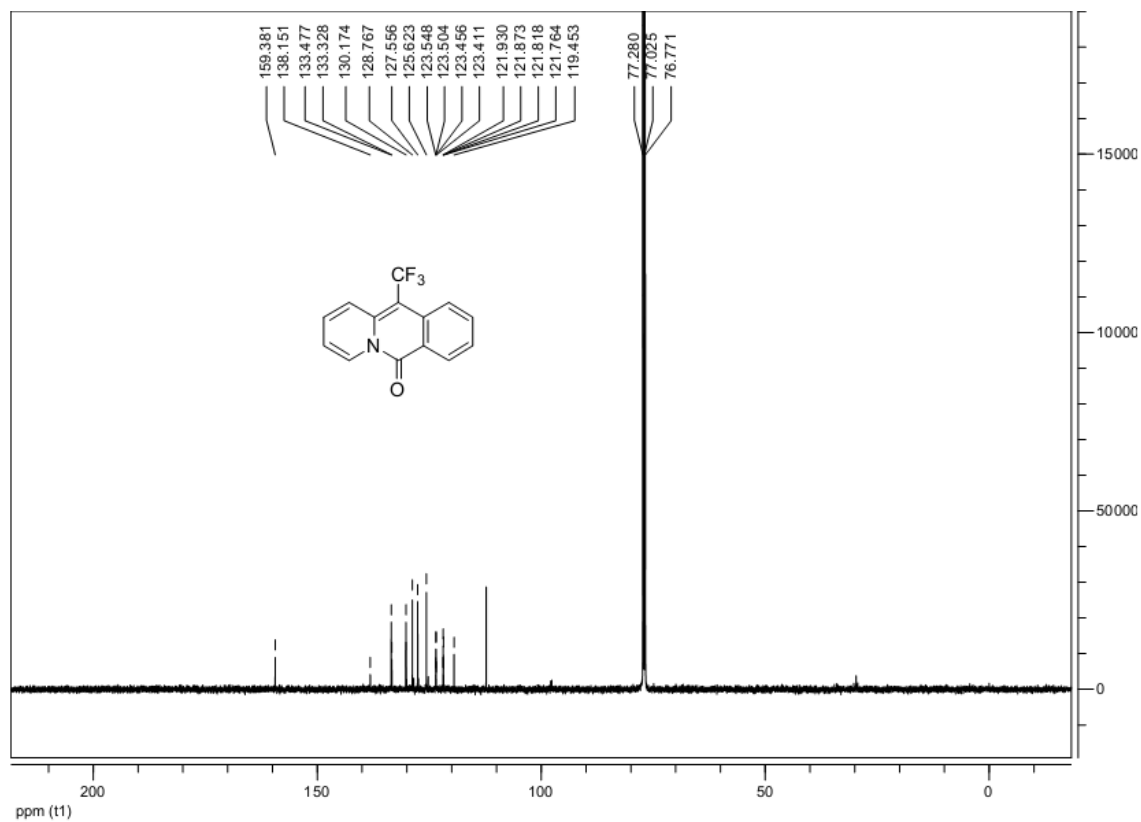
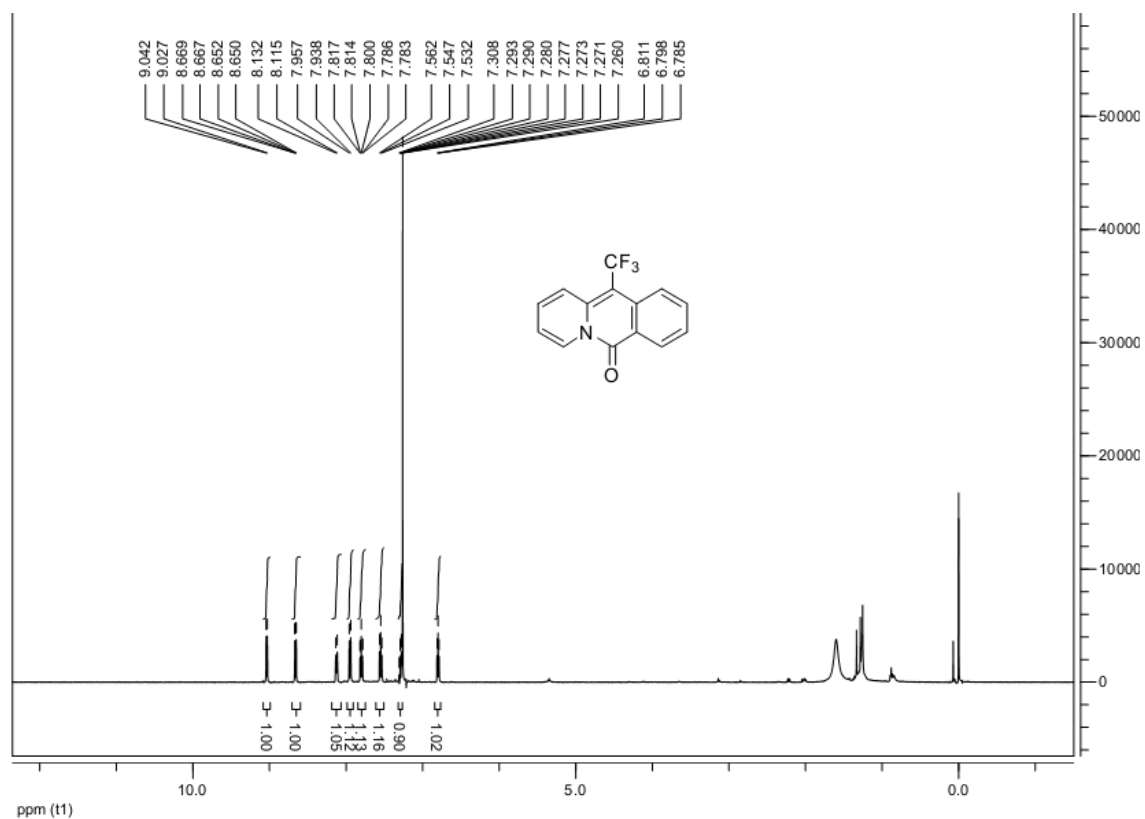
2u



3a



**3b**

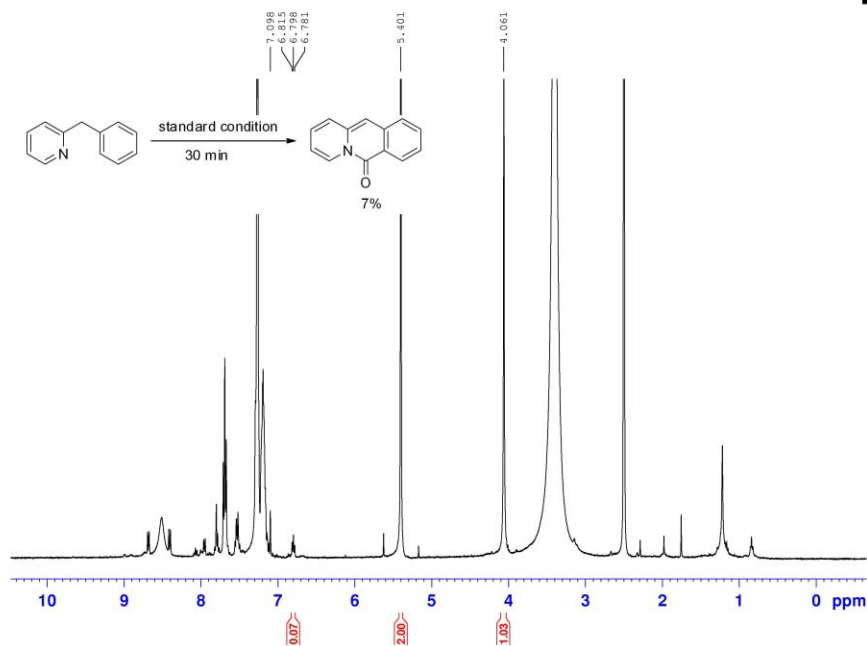




|                        |                  |
|------------------------|------------------|
| NAME                   | 62               |
| EXPNO                  | 1                |
| PROCNO                 | 1                |
| TIME                   | 20160404         |
| Date_                  | 20.23            |
| INSTRUM                | aspect           |
| PROBHD                 | 5 mm PABBO 1H-13 |
| PULPROG                | zgpg30           |
| TD                     | 65536            |
| SOLVENT                | DMSO             |
| NS                     | 8                |
| DS                     | 2                |
| SWH                    | 8278.144 Hz      |
| F2FIDRES               | 0.126314 Hz      |
| AQ                     | 3.95848243 sec   |
| RG                     | 90.5             |
| RM                     | 600 4000         |
| DE                     | 6.80 k sec       |
| TE                     | 295.1 K          |
| DQ                     | 1.000000000 sec  |
| TD0                    | 1                |
| ===== CHANNEL f1 ===== |                  |
| NUC1                   | 130              |
| P1                     | 12.58 usec       |
| PL1                    | 0.00 dB          |
| PL1M                   | 10.87446866 W    |
| SFO1                   | 400.1324170 MHz  |
| CF                     | 312748           |
| SF                     | 400.1300004 MHz  |
| MCW                    | 320              |
| LB                     | 0.30 Hz          |
| GB                     | 0                |
| OB                     | 0                |



|                        |                 |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| NAME                   | 63              |
| EXPO                   | 1               |
| PROCNO                 | 1               |
| DATE                   | 20160104        |
| TIME                   | 20.29           |
| INSTRUM                | spect           |
| PROBHD                 | 5 mm PABO BH    |
| PULPROG                | zg30            |
| TD                     | 65536           |
| SOLVENT                | DMSO            |
| DS                     | 8               |
| SWH                    | 5278.144 Hz     |
| FIDRES                 | 0.126314 Hz     |
| AQ                     | 3.9584243 sec   |
| RG                     | 21.6            |
| IN                     | 400.600 usec    |
| DE                     | 6.50 usec       |
| TE                     | 295.4 K         |
| TD0                    | 1.0006900 sec   |
| TD0                    | 1               |
| ===== CHANNEL f1 ===== |                 |
| NUC1                   | 1H              |
| F1                     | 12.258 usec     |
| PL1                    | 0.00 dB         |
| PLW                    | 10.8746686 W    |
| NUC2                   | 13C             |
| S1                     | 32768           |
| RF                     | 400.1300007 MHz |
| NEW                    | SM              |
| ASB                    | 0               |
| LB                     | 0.30 Hz         |
| GB                     | 0               |
| PC                     | 1.00 usec       |

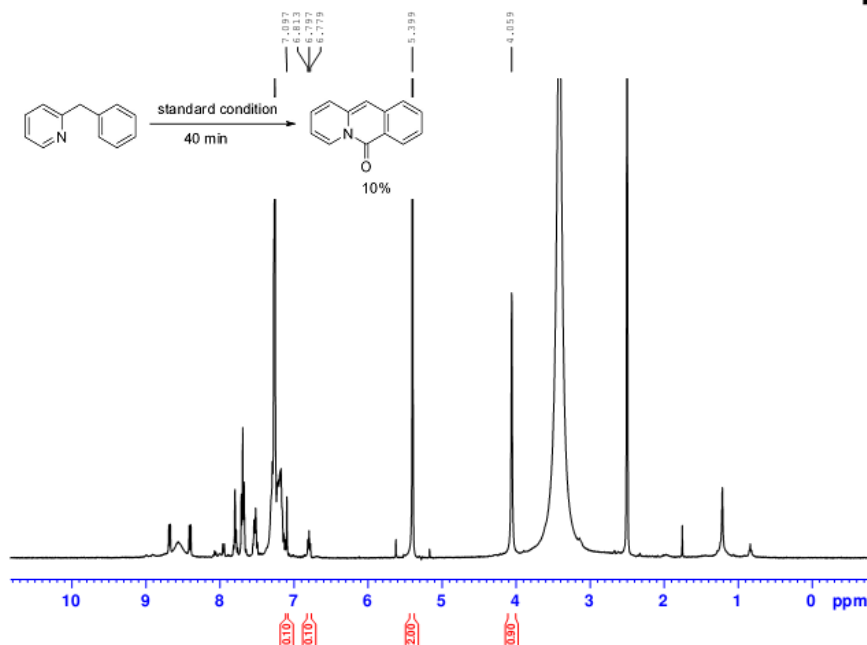


```

NAME          64
EXPNO         1
PROCNO        1
Date_         20160104
Time          20.36
INSTRUM       spect
PROBHD        5 mm PABBO BB-
PULPROG       zg30
TD            65536
SOLVENT       DMSO
NS            8
DS            2
SWH           8278.146 Hz
FIDRES       0.126314 Hz
AQ           3.9584243 sec
RG           361.3
DS           60.400 usec
DE           6.50 usec
TE           293.2 K
D1           1.00000000 sec
TD0          1

===== CHANNEL f1 =====
NUC1          1H
P1            12.58 usec
PL1           0.00 dB
PL12          10.87466866 W
SFO1          400.1324710 MHz
SI            32768
SF            400.1300007 MHz
WDW           EM
SSB           0
LB            0.30 Hz
GB            0
PC            1.00

```

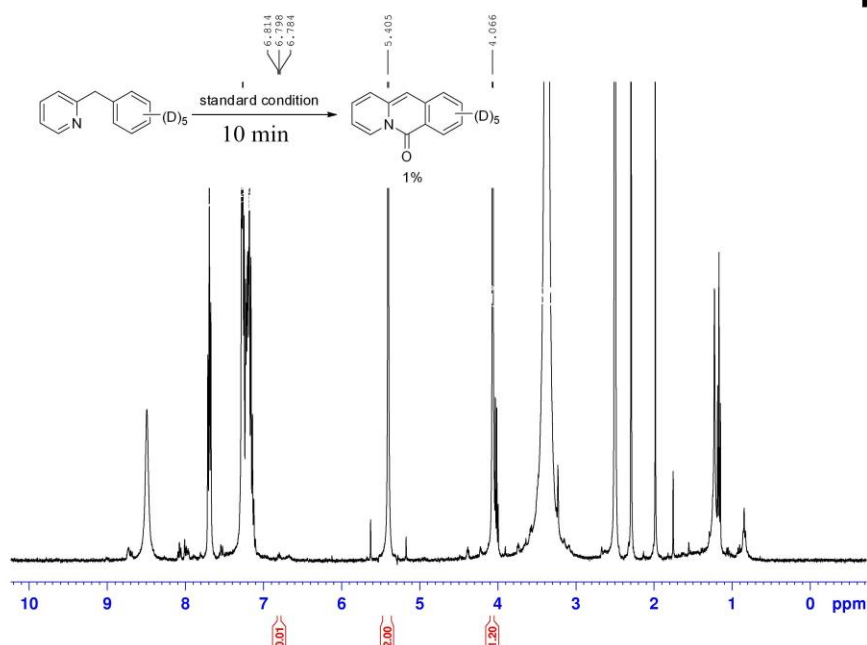
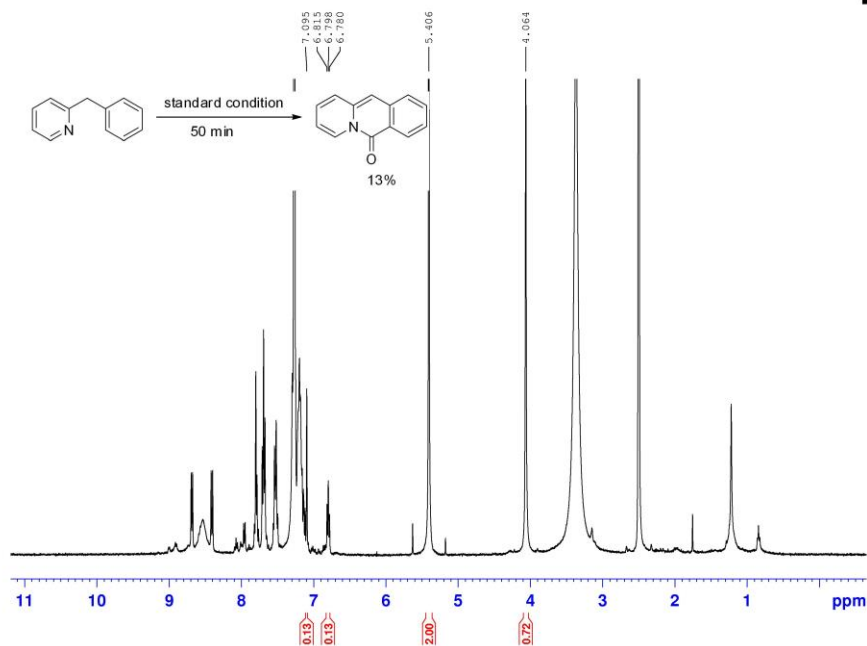


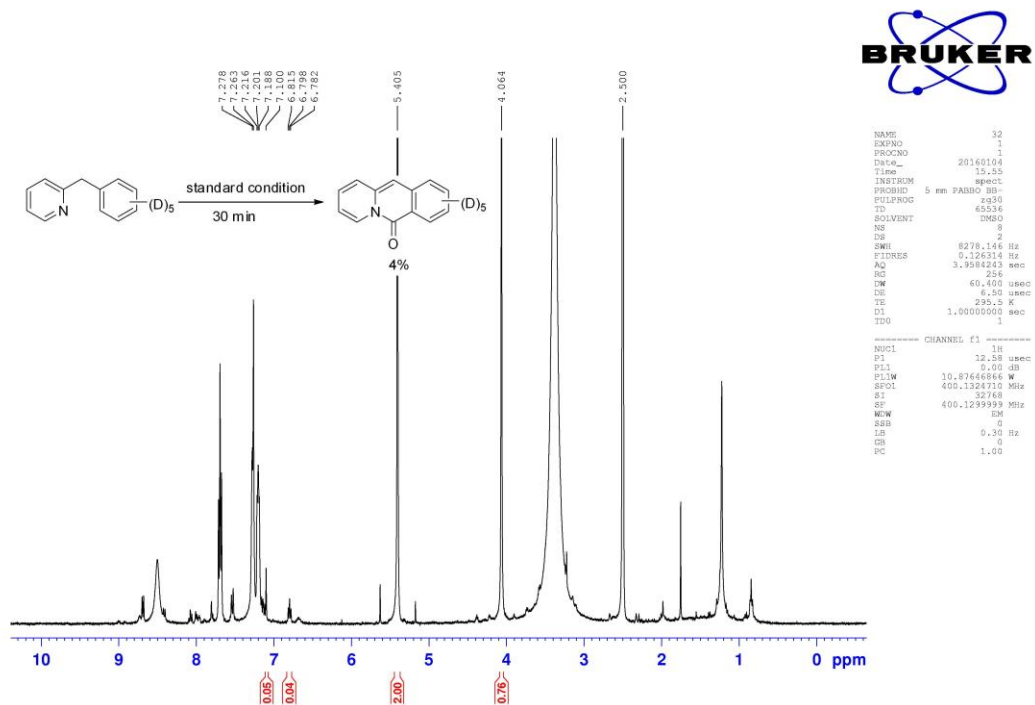
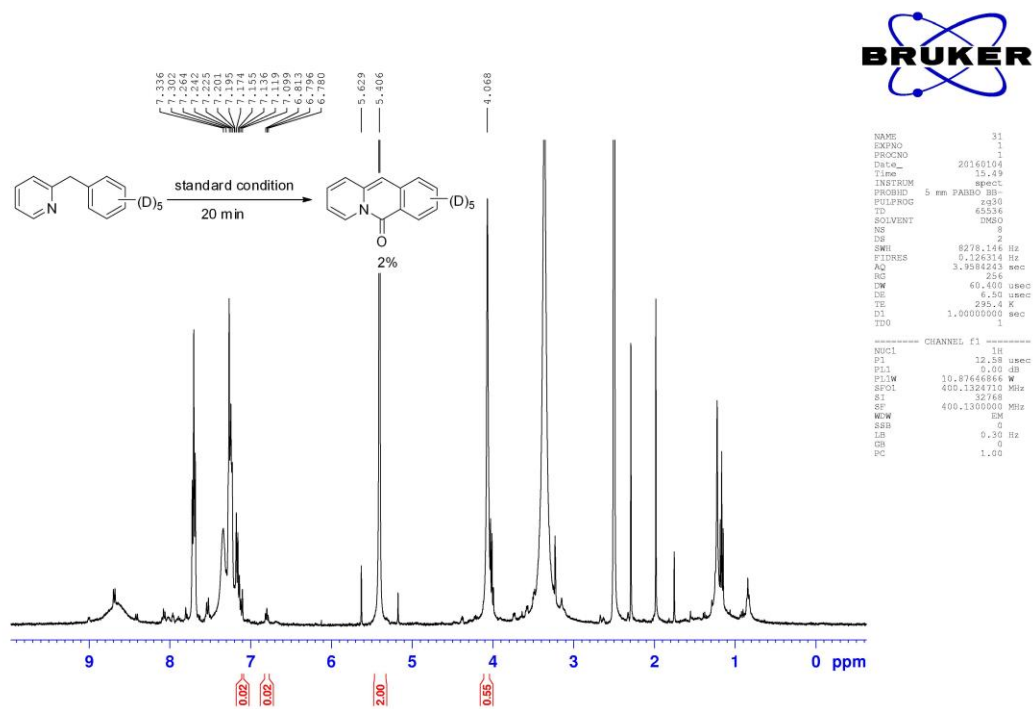
```

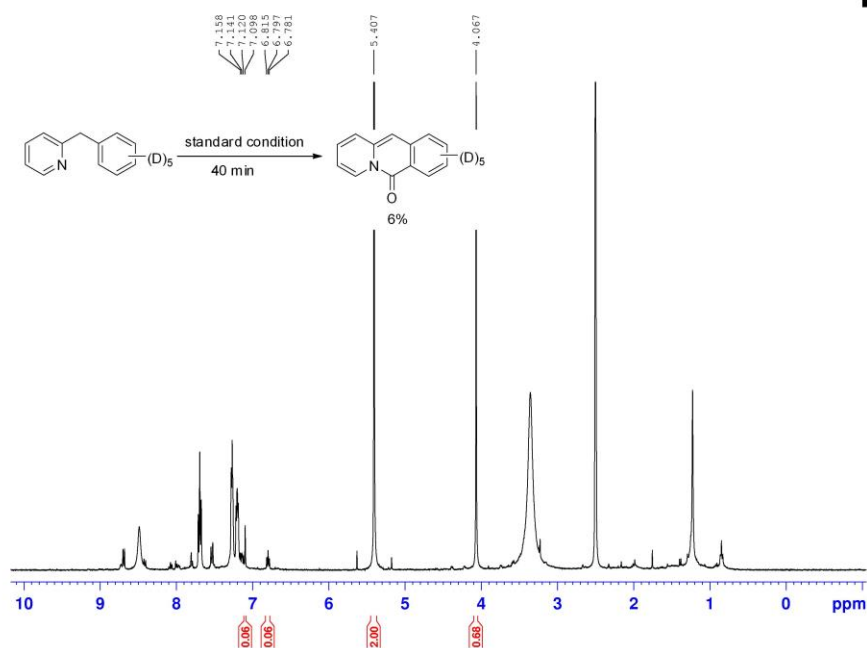
NAME          65
EXPNO         1
PROCNO        1
Date_         20160104
Time          20.42
INSTRUM       spect
PROBHD        5 mm PABBO BB-
PULPROG       zg30
TD            65536
SOLVENT       DMSO
NS            8
DS            2
SWH           8278.146 Hz
FIDRES       0.126314 Hz
AQ           3.9584243 sec
RG           361.3
DS           60.400 usec
DE           6.50 usec
TE           293.2 K
D1           1.00000000 sec
TD0          1

===== CHANNEL f1 =====
NUC1          1H
P1            12.58 usec
PL1           0.00 dB
PL12          10.87466866 W
SFO1          400.1324710 MHz
SI            32768
SF            400.1300006 MHz
WDW           EM
SSB           0
LB            0.30 Hz
GB            0
PC            1.00

```





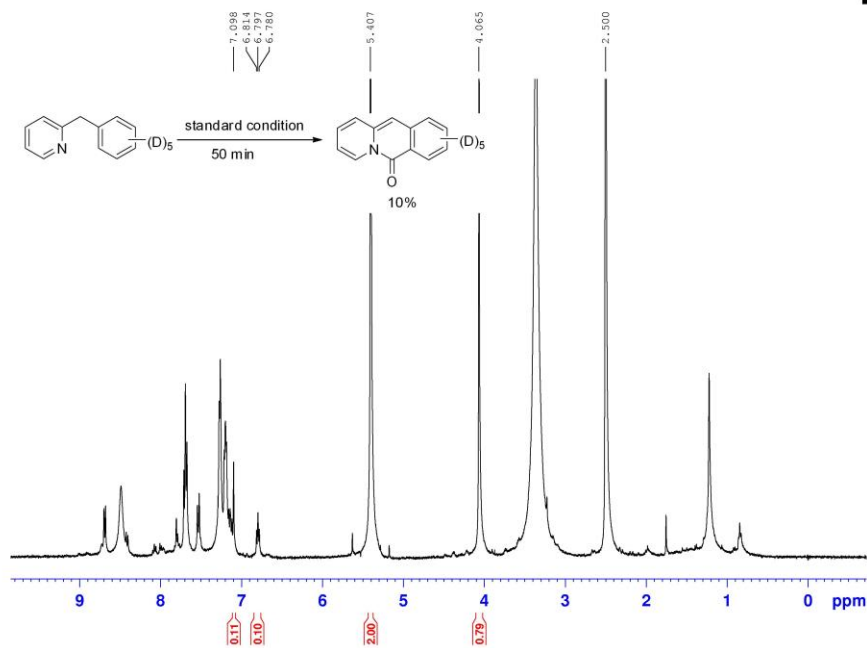


```

NAME      33
EXPNO     1
PROCNO    1
Date_     20160104
Time      16.01
INSTRUM   spect
PROBHD    5 mm PABBO BB-
PULPROG   zgpg30
TD         65536
SOLVENT   DMSO
NS         8
DS         2
SWH        8278.144 Hz
FIDRES     0.126314 Hz
AQ         3.9584243 sec
RG         256
WDW         60.400 usec
DE         6.50 usec
TE         295.3 K
D1         1.00000000 sec
TD0        1

===== CHANNEL f1 =====
NUC1       1H
P1         12.58 usec
PL1        0.00 dB
PT1W       10.87646686 W
SFO1       400.1324710 MHz
SI         32768
SF         400.1300000 MHz
WDW         EM
SSB         0
LB         0.30 Hz
GB         0
PC         1.00

```



```

NAME      34
EXPNO     1
PROCNO    1
Date_     20160104
Time      16.09
INSTRUM   spect
PROBHD    5 mm PABBO BB-
PULPROG   zgpg30
TD         65536
SOLVENT   DMSO
NS         8
DS         2
SWH        8278.144 Hz
FIDRES     0.126314 Hz
AQ         3.9584243 sec
RG         256
WDW         60.400 usec
DE         6.50 usec
TE         295.4 K
D1         1.00000000 sec
TD0        1

===== CHANNEL f1 =====
NUC1       1H
P1         12.58 usec
PL1        0.00 dB
PT1W       10.87646686 W
SFO1       400.1324710 MHz
SI         32768
SF         400.1309011 MHz
WDW         EM
SSB         0
LB         0.30 Hz
GB         0
PC         1.00

```