

## *Supporting Information for*

# **Brønsted Acid-Catalyzed Regioselective Reactions of 2-Indolylmethanols with Cyclic Enaminone and Anhydride Leading to C3-Functionalized Indole Derivatives**

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## 1. General information

<sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra were measured respectively at 400 MHz, 100 MHz and 376 MHz, respectively. The solvents used for NMR spectroscopy were CDCl<sub>3</sub>, using tetramethylsilane as the internal reference. HRMS (ESI) was determined by a HRMS/MS instrument. Analytical grade solvents for the column chromatography were used after distillation. All starting materials commercially available were used directly. Substrates **1** and **2** were synthesized according to the literature method.<sup>1</sup>

## 2. Screening of Catalysts and optimization of reaction conditions

Table 1. Screening of Catalysts and optimization of reaction conditions<sup>a</sup>

**3a:** TsOH  
**3b:** CF<sub>3</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H  
**3c:** AcOH  
**3d:** CF<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>H  
**3e:** HCl  
**3f:** HBr

**3g:** F

**1a** + **2a**  $\xrightarrow[10 \text{ mol \% } 3]{\text{solvent, T } ^\circ\text{C}}$  **4aa**

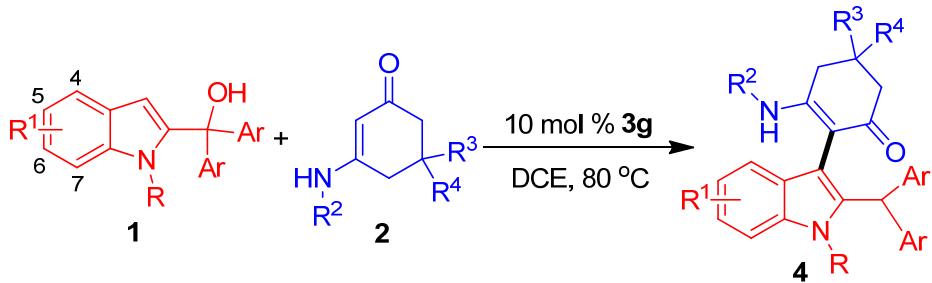
**PMP = p-MeOC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>**

entry	Cat.	solvent	T (°C)	yield (%) <sup>b</sup>
1	<b>3a</b>	toluene	80	49
2	<b>3b</b>	toluene	80	58
3	<b>3c</b>	toluene	80	No reaction
4	<b>3d</b>	toluene	80	Trace
5	<b>3e</b>	toluene	80	68
6	<b>3f</b>	toluene	80	50
7	<b>3g</b>	toluene	80	77
8	<b>3g</b>	ClCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> Cl	80	96
9	<b>3g</b>	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	80	17
10	<b>3g</b>	AcOEt	80	Trace
11	<b>3g</b>	1,4-dioxane	80	Trace
12	<b>3g</b>	ethanol	80	Trace
13	<b>3g</b>	ClCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> Cl	100	82
14	<b>3g</b>	ClCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> Cl	60	77
15	<b>3g</b>	ClCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> Cl	50	70

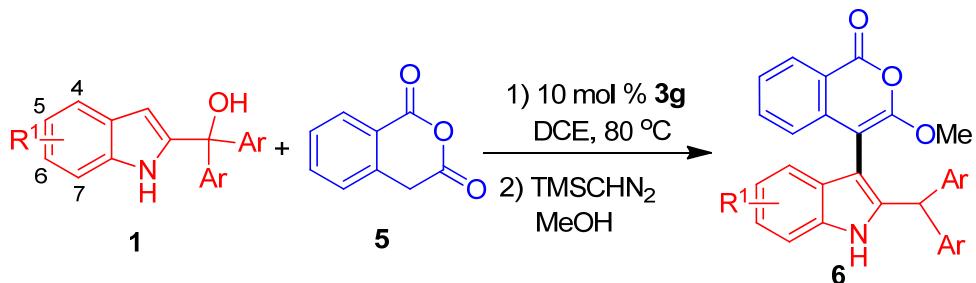
1. a) A. R. Katritzky, P. Lue, Y. X. Chen, *J. Org. Chem.* **1990**, *55*, 3688; b) K.-S. Cao, H.-X. Bian, W.-H. Zheng, *Org. Biomol. Chem.* **2015**, *13*, 6449; c) L. Wang, X. Lu, L. An, J. Zou, *Chin. J. Chem.* **2009**, *27*, 1353.

<sup>a</sup>Unless indicated otherwise, the reaction was carried out at the 0.1 mmol scale catalyzed by 10 mol% **3** in a solvent (1 mL) at T °C for 12 h, and the mole ratio of **1a**:**2a** was 1:1.2. <sup>b</sup>Isolated yield.

### 3. General procedure for the synthesis of products **4** and **6**



To the mixture of 2-indolylmethanols **1** (0.1 mmol), enaminones **2** (0.12 mmol) and the catalyst **3g** (0.01 mmol), was added 1,2-dichloroethane (1 mL). After being stirred at 80 °C for 12 h, the reaction mixture was directly purified through flash column chromatography on silica gel to afford pure products **4**.



To the mixture of 2-indolylmethanols **1** (0.1 mmol), homophthalic anhydride **5** (0.12 mmol) and the catalyst **3g** (0.01 mmol), was added 1,2-dichloroethane (1 mL). After being stirred at 80 °C for 12 h, TMSCHN<sub>2</sub> (0.1 mL) and methanol (0.1 mL) was added to the reaction mixture, which was stirred for 5 min at room temperature. Then, the resultant solution was directly purified through flash column chromatography on silica gel to afford pure products **6**.

### 4. Characterization data of products **4** and **6**

#### 2-(2-benzhydryl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-((4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-5,5-dimethylcyclohex-2-enone

**(4aa):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 96% (50.6 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 88.8–90.2 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.39 – 7.31 (m, 5H), 7.29 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.26 – 7.18 (m, 5H), 7.15 – 7.07 (m, 2H), 6.79 – 6.74 (m, 2H), 6.63 – 6.56 (m, 2H), 6.33 (s, 1H), 5.76 (s, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.39 (dd, *J* = 16.1, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 2.33 – 2.23 (m, 2H), 2.07 (d, *J* = 16.6 Hz, 1H), 1.14 (s, 3H), 0.97 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100

MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 193.7, 160.1, 157.8, 142.7, 141.8, 139.9, 135.8, 131.0, 129.3, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 128.1, 127.5, 127.0, 126.5, 121.6, 119.9, 119.1, 114.2, 111.2, 105.1, 103.9, 55.5, 50.9, 49.4, 40.0, 32.4, 28.4, 28.3; IR (KBr): 3341, 3056, 2955, 1575, 1540, 1452, 1383, 1321, 1298, 1245, 1219, 1155, 1077, 1031, 908, 829, 762, 743, 700 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>34</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 549.2512, found m/z 549.2524.

**2-(2-(bis(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl)-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-((4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-5,5-dimethylcyclohex-2-enone (**4ba**):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 90% (52.8 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 96.2-97.2 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.93 (s, 1H), 7.38 – 7.33 (m, 1H), 7.26 – 7.17 (m, 3H), 7.13 – 7.05 (m, 3H), 6.98 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.89 – 6.80 (m, 8H), 6.73 (s, 1H), 6.33 (s, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 3.44 (s, 3H), 2.35 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 2.28 (d, *J* = 16.7 Hz, 1H), 2.18 – 2.10 (m, 2H), 1.08 (s, 3H), 0.83 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 193.3, 158.9, 157.7, 157.2, 157.0, 138.3, 135.5, 131.7, 130.5, 130.2, 130.1, 129.6, 129.4, 127.9, 127.8, 121.1, 120.7, 120.6, 119.8, 119.6, 114.1, 110.7, 110.6, 105.6, 104.1, 55.7, 55.5, 55.4, 50.9, 40.2, 37.5, 32.2, 29.0, 27.2; IR (KBr): 3335, 2953, 2835, 2347, 2232, 1589, 1542, 1490, 1382, 1322, 1290, 1167, 1105, 1030, 902, 830, 754 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>38</sub>H<sub>38</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 609.2724, found m/z 609.2739.

**2-(2-(bis(3-fluorophenyl)methyl)-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-((4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-5,5-dimethylcyclohex-2-enone (**4ca**):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 80% (45.0 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 169.7-171.0 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.98 (d, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 7.39 – 7.34 (m, 1H), 7.34 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.24 – 7.19 (m, 1H), 7.17 – 7.08 (m, 3H), 7.02 – 6.87 (m, 5H), 6.82 – 6.75 (m, 2H), 6.72 – 6.65 (m, 2H), 6.37 (s, 1H), 5.78 (s, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.42 – 2.29 (m, 2H), 2.25 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 2.09 (d, *J* = 16.7 Hz, 1H), 1.13 (s, 3H), 0.93 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 193.6, 163.1 (d, *J* = 245.2 Hz), 162.9 (d, *J* = 244.7 Hz), 160.2, 158.0, 144.8 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz), 143.7 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz), 138.4, 135.9, 130.8, 130.4 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 130.0 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 127.7, 127.6, 125.1 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz), 124.5 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz), 121.9, 120.1, 119.2, 116.2, 116.0, 115.6, 115.3, 114.3, 114.1, 113.8, 113.6, 111.4, 105.6, 103.6, 55.5, 50.8, 48.8(t, *J* = 2.6 Hz), 40.0, 32.4, 28.3, 28.2; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ

-112.0, -112.7; IR (KBr): 3649, 3056, 2956, 2349, 2282, 1611, 1588, 1485, 1452, 1392, 1298, 1246, 1145, 1032, 971, 896, 829, 803, 762, 744, 684 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>32</sub>F<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 585.2324, found m/z 585.2328.

**2-(2-(di-p-tolylmethyl)-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-((4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-5,5-dimethylcyclohex-2-ene (4da):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 81% (45.0 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 90.6-91.4 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.36 – 7.33 (m, 1H), 7.28 – 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.13 – 7.10 (m, 3H), 7.09 – 7.01 (m, 5H), 6.78 – 6.73 (m, 2H), 6.57 – 6.52 (m, 2H), 6.29 (s, 1H), 5.64 (s, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.39 (d, *J* = 16.3 Hz, 1H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.30 – 2.24 (m, 2H), 2.07 (d, *J* = 16.6 Hz, 1H), 1.14 (s, 3H), 0.98 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 193.9, 160.3, 157.8, 140.3, 139.8, 138.9, 136.4, 135.9, 135.8, 131.0, 129.4, 129.1, 128.5, 128.3, 127.5, 121.5, 119.8, 119.1, 114.1, 111.1, 104.9, 103.9, 55.5, 50.8, 48.5, 40.0, 32.4, 28.5, 28.2, 21.1, 21.0; IR (KBr): 3651, 3336, 3051, 2956, 2362, 2342, 1735, 1576, 1540, 1455, 1392, 1321, 1298, 1246, 1180, 1106, 1032, 819, 743 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>38</sub>H<sub>38</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 577.2826, found m/z 577.2837.

**2-(2-(bis(4-fluorophenyl)methyl)-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-((4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-5,5-dimethylcyclohex-2-enone (4ea):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 68% (38.3 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 212.5-213.9 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.95 (s, 1H), 7.38 – 7.33 (m, 1H), 7.29 – 7.23 (m, 3H), 7.16 – 7.08 (m, 4H), 7.04 – 6.98 (m, 2H), 6.97 – 6.91 (m, 2H), 6.81 – 6.76 (m, 2H), 6.66 – 6.61 (m, 2H), 6.32 (s, 1H), 5.73 (s, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.41 – 2.34 (m, 1H), 2.31 (d, *J* = 16.7 Hz, 1H), 2.25 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 2.10 (d, *J* = 16.7 Hz, 1H), 1.14 (s, 3H), 0.96 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 193.7, 161.9 (d, *J* = 244.4 Hz), 161.6 (d, *J* = 244.1 Hz), 160.1, 158.0, 139.4, 138.4 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz), 137.3 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz), 135.9, 130.8, 130.7, 130.1, 127.9, 127.4, 121.8, 120.1, 119.1, 115.7, 115.5, 115.4, 115.2, 114.3, 111.3, 105.2, 103.8, 55.5, 50.9, 47.8, 40.0, 32.4, 28.4, 28.1; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -115.6, -116.1; IR (KBr): 3302, 3058, 2958, 1574, 1540, 1455, 1383, 1321, 1299, 1246, 1220, 1157, 1095, 1033, 1013, 837, 796, 763, 742 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>32</sub>F<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 585.2324, found m/z 585.2329.

**2-(2-(bis(4-chlorophenyl)methyl)-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-((4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-5,5-dimethylcyclohex-2-enone (**4fa**):**

Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 52% (31.0 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 102.8–103.5 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.92 (s, 1H), 7.37 – 7.33 (m, 1H), 7.32 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 7.25 – 7.19 (m, 4H), 7.15 – 7.08 (m, 4H), 6.82 – 6.77 (m, 2H), 6.64 – 6.58 (m, 2H), 6.28 (s, 1H), 5.70 (s, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.36 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 2.31 – 2.21 (m, 2H), 2.09 (d, *J* = 16.7 Hz, 1H), 1.13 (s, 3H), 0.96 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 193.7, 160.2, 158.0, 140.8, 139.7, 138.8, 135.9, 133.1, 132.5, 130.7, 130.6, 130.0, 128.9, 128.6, 127.8, 127.4, 121.9, 120.2, 119.1, 114.3, 111.3, 105.5, 103.7, 55.5, 50.8, 48.1, 40.0, 32.4, 28.6, 28.0; IR (KBr): 3339, 3216, 2955, 2927, 1577, 1540, 1490, 1454, 1383, 1321, 1288, 1246, 1218, 1179, 1090, 1032, 1013, 829, 744 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>32</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 617.1733, found m/z 617.1725.

**2-(2-benzhydryl-5-bromo-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-((4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-5,5-dimethylcyclohex-2-enone (**4ga**):**

Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 97% (58.8 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 112.9–113.2 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.01 (s, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.33 – 7.22 (m, 8H), 7.20 – 7.16 (m, 3H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.79 – 6.75 (m, 2H), 6.60 – 6.55 (m, 2H), 6.21 (s, 1H), 5.70 (s, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.37 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 2.31 – 2.20 (m, 2H), 2.04 (d, *J* = 16.7 Hz, 1H), 1.11 (s, 3H), 0.94 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 193.7, 160.5, 158.0, 142.3, 141.4, 141.3, 134.4, 130.7, 130.0, 129.2, 128.8, 128.6, 127.6, 127.1, 126.7, 124.4, 121.5, 114.2, 113.3, 112.7, 105.0, 103.1, 55.5, 50.7, 49.3, 39.9, 32.3, 28.5, 28.2; IR (KBr): 3855, 3753, 3651, 3025, 2954, 2927, 2244, 1576, 1536, 1450, 1383, 1294, 1245, 1218, 1154, 1031, 963, 903, 829, 797, 730, 698, 642 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>33</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 629.1604, found m/z 629.1608.

**2-(2-benzhydryl-6-methoxy-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-((4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-5,5-dimethylcyclohex-2-enone (**4ha**):**

Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 99% (55.1 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 117.9–118.1 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.79 (s, 1H), 7.34 – 7.29 (m, 4H), 7.28 – 7.26 (m, 0H), 7.26 – 7.18 (m, 7H), 6.80 – 6.73 (m, 4H), 6.60 – 6.55 (m, 2H), 6.33 (s, 1H), 5.69 (s, 1H), 3.78 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz, 6H), 2.38 (d, *J* =

16.5 Hz, 1H), 2.31 – 2.22 (m, 2H), 2.05 (d,  $J$  = 16.6 Hz, 1H), 1.12 (s, 3H), 0.95 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  193.6, 159.9, 157.8, 156.3, 142.8, 142.0, 138.3, 136.5, 131.0, 129.2, 128.7, 128.4, 127.4, 126.9, 126.4, 122.3, 119.7, 114.1, 109.8, 105.0, 104.0, 95.0, 55.7, 55.5, 50.9, 49.3, 39.9, 32.4, 28.4, 28.2; IR (KBr): 3334, 3025, 2954, 2833, 1626, 1591, 1542, 1453, 1383, 1298, 1245, 1157, 1104, 1031, 951, 828, 802, 729, 699  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for  $(\text{C}_{37}\text{H}_{36}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3+\text{Na})^+$  requires m/z 579.2618, found m/z 579.2624.

**2-(2-benzhydryl-6-chloro-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-((4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-5,5-dimethylcyclohex-2-enone (**4ia**):**

Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 99% (55.5 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 108.4–109.3 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.94 (s, 1H), 7.34 – 7.27 (m, 5H), 7.25 – 7.21 (m, 5H), 7.19 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 7.04 (dd,  $J$  = 8.4, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.78 – 6.74 (m, 2H), 6.60 – 6.54 (m, 2H), 6.23 (s, 1H), 5.70 (s, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.35 (dd,  $J$  = 16.2, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 2.30 – 2.20 (m, 2H), 2.04 (d,  $J$  = 16.7 Hz, 1H), 1.11 (s, 3H), 0.94 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  193.7, 160.3, 157.9, 142.3, 141.4, 140.6, 136.0, 130.7, 129.2, 128.8, 128.6, 128.5, 127.4, 127.1, 126.7, 126.6, 120.6, 119.8, 114.2, 111.2, 105.4, 103.3, 55.5, 50.7, 49.3, 39.9, 32.4, 28.4, 28.2; IR (KBr): 3752, 3713, 3677, 3650, 3630, 3059, 2956, 2347, 2244, 1578, 1540, 1451, 1383, 1298, 1246 1218, 1155, 1060, 1031, 912, 829, 803, 730, 700  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for  $(\text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{33}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_2+\text{Na})^+$  requires m/z 583.2123, found m/z 583.2115.

**2-(2-benzhydryl-7-bromo-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-((4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-5,5-dimethylcyclohex-2-enone (**4ja**):**

Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 84% (50.9 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 153.1–154.0 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.97 (s, 1H), 7.38 – 7.26 (m, 8H), 7.26 – 7.19 (m, 4H), 7.00 – 6.95 (m, 1H), 6.79 – 6.73 (m, 2H), 6.61 – 6.54 (m, 2H), 6.22 (s, 1H), 5.74 (s, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.39 (dd,  $J$  = 16.3, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 2.32 – 2.23 (m, 2H), 2.06 (d,  $J$  = 16.6 Hz, 1H), 1.13 (s, 3H), 0.97 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  193.6, 160.2, 157.9, 142.3, 141.2, 140.5, 134.4, 130.8, 129.4, 129.1, 128.9, 128.6, 127.4, 127.2, 126.7, 124.0, 121.2, 118.3, 114.2, 106.8, 104.8, 103.5, 55.5, 50.8, 49.4, 39.9, 32.4, 28.4, 28.2; IR (KBr): 3331, 3151, 3059, 2954, 1612, 1578, 1560, 1539, 1493, 1452, 1393, 1344, 1317, 1299, 1247, 1183, 1168, 1118, 1031, 829, 776, 750, 735, 698  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for

$(C_{36}H_{33}BrN_2O_2+Na)^+$  requires m/z 629.1604, found m/z 629.1614.

**2-(2-benzhydryl-1-methyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-((4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-5,5-dimethylcyclohex-2-enone (**4ka**):**

Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 85% (46.0 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 84.5–85.4 °C;  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ) δ 7.39 – 7.27 (m, 7H), 7.26 – 7.16 (m, 6H), 7.13 – 7.08 (m, 1H), 6.75 – 6.69 (m, 2H), 6.51 – 6.45 (m, 2H), 6.18 (s, 1H), 5.83 (s, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.42 (s, 3H), 2.32 (dd,  $J$  = 16.1, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 2.24 – 2.15 (m, 2H), 2.00 (d,  $J$  = 16.6 Hz, 1H), 1.15 (s, 3H), 1.04 (s, 3H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ) δ 194.4, 160.0, 157.6, 141.5, 140.8, 139.6, 137.9, 131.0, 129.4, 128.7, 128.0, 127.5, 127.1, 126.6, 126.4, 121.7, 119.6, 119.2, 114.1, 109.1, 106.5, 104.5, 55.4, 51.0, 48.9, 39.8, 32.5, 31.4, 29.5, 27.5; IR (KBr): 3346, 3054, 2955, 1579, 1536, 1467, 1394, 1379, 1288, 1245, 1218, 1167, 1149, 1105, 1031, 894, 829, 742, 701  $cm^{-1}$ ; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for  $(C_{37}H_{36}N_2O_2+Na)^+$  requires m/z 563.2669, found m/z 563.2657.

**2-(2-benzhydryl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-((4-ethoxyphenyl)amino)-5,5-dimethylcyclohex-2-enone (**4ab**):**

Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 82% (44.4 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 84.5–85.4 °C;  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ) δ 7.91 (s, 1H), 7.37 – 7.31 (m, 5H), 7.29 – 7.17 (m, 7H), 7.14 – 7.07 (m, 2H), 6.77 – 6.72 (m, 2H), 6.60 – 6.54 (m, 2H), 6.31 (s, 1H), 5.76 (s, 1H), 3.99 (q,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (dd,  $J$  = 16.1, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 2.32 – 2.23 (m, 2H), 2.05 (d,  $J$  = 16.6 Hz, 1H), 1.40 (t,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 1.13 (s, 3H), 0.95 (s, 3H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ) δ 193.7, 160.2, 157.2, 142.7, 141.8, 139.8, 135.8, 130.8, 129.3, 128.8, 128.7, 128.4, 128.1, 127.5, 126.9, 126.5, 121.5, 119.9, 119.1, 114.6, 111.2, 105.1, 103.8, 63.7, 50.8, 49.3, 39.9, 32.4, 28.4, 28.2, 14.8; IR (KBr): 3341, 3056, 2926, 2360, 1575, 1540, 1509, 1450, 1391, 1320, 1300, 1243, 1217, 1168, 1114, 1028, 1011, 826, 744, 699  $cm^{-1}$ ; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for  $(C_{37}H_{36}N_2O_2+Na)^+$  requires m/z 563.2669, found m/z 563.2681.

**2-(2-benzhydryl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-((4-isopropoxypyhenyl)amino)-5,5-dimethylcyclohex-2-enone (**4ac**):**

Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 99% (54.9 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 95.4–96.7 °C;  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ) δ 7.89 (s, 1H), 7.36 – 7.29 (m, 5H), 7.28 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.26 – 7.17 (m, 6H), 7.14 – 7.06 (m, 2H), 6.76 –

6.70 (m, 2H), 6.60 – 6.52 (m, 2H), 6.31 (s, 1H), 5.74 (s, 1H), 4.48 (p,  $J$  = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (dd,  $J$  = 16.1, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 2.30 (d,  $J$  = 16.7 Hz, 1H), 2.23 (d,  $J$  = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 2.06 (d,  $J$  = 16.6 Hz, 1H), 1.32 (dd,  $J$  = 6.0, 1.5 Hz, 6H), 1.13 (s, 3H), 0.95 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  193.7, 160.2, 156.1, 142.7, 141.8, 139.8, 135.8, 130.7, 129.2, 128.8, 128.7, 128.4, 128.1, 127.4, 127.0, 126.5, 121.6, 119.9, 119.1, 116.0, 105.1, 103.8, 70.2, 50.8, 49.3, 39.9, 32.4, 28.4, 28.2, 22.0; IR (KBr): 3351, 3057, 2959, 2359, 2340, 1683, 1652, 1573, 1540, 1508, 1449, 1392, 1323, 1243, 1219, 1116, 1027, 952, 742, 701  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for  $(\text{C}_{38}\text{H}_{38}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2+\text{Na})^+$  requires m/z 577.2826, found m/z 577.2840.

**2-(2-benzhydryl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-5,5-dimethyl-3-(*p*-tolylamino)cyclohex-2-enone (**4ad**):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 99% (51.0 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 85.1–86.2 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.94 (s, 1H), 7.38 – 7.31 (m, 5H), 7.29 – 7.18 (m, 7H), 7.15 – 7.07 (m, 2H), 7.06 – 7.02 (m, 2H), 6.60 – 6.53 (m, 2H), 6.41 (s, 1H), 5.76 (s, 1H), 2.43 – 2.34 (m, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.27 (d,  $J$  = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 2.13 (d,  $J$  = 16.7 Hz, 1H), 1.14 (s, 3H), 0.96 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  193.8, 159.6, 142.6, 141.8, 139.8, 135.8, 135.6, 129.6, 129.3, 128.8, 128.7, 128.4, 128.1, 127.0, 126.5, 125.5, 121.6, 119.9, 119.1, 111.2, 105.1, 104.4, 50.9, 49.4, 40.0, 32.5, 28.4, 28.2, 20.9; IR (KBr): 3340, 3056, 3025, 2956, 2925, 2360, 2342, 1588, 1540, 1514, 1493, 1450, 1383, 1322, 1268, 1221, 1156, 1122, 1077, 1028, 899, 810, 763, 743, 700  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for  $(\text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{34}\text{N}_2\text{O}+\text{Na})^+$  requires m/z 533.2563, found m/z 533.2571.

**2-(2-benzhydryl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-((4-(*tert*-butyl)phenyl)amino)-5,5-dimethylcyclohex-2-enone (**4ae**):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 82% (45.3 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 102.4–104.1 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.92 (s, 1H), 7.37 – 7.31 (m, 5H), 7.29 – 7.17 (m, 9H), 7.14 – 7.06 (m, 2H), 6.64 – 6.59 (m, 2H), 6.43 (s, 1H), 5.76 (s, 1H), 2.46 – 2.37 (m, 2H), 2.26 (d,  $J$  = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 2.16 (d,  $J$  = 16.6 Hz, 1H), 1.30 (s, 9H), 1.15 (s, 3H), 0.97 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  193.8, 159.3, 148.7, 142.6, 141.8, 139.8, 135.8, 135.6, 129.3, 128.8, 128.7, 128.4, 128.0, 127.0, 126.5, 125.9, 124.8, 121.6, 119.9, 119.1, 111.2, 105.1, 104.5, 50.9, 49.4, 40.1, 34.5, 32.6, 31.3, 28.3, 28.2; IR (KBr): 3649, 3344, 3057, 2959, 2867, 2360, 1619, 1516, 1493, 1453, 1322, 1269, 1226, 1155, 1121, 1077,

1028, 898, 840, 762, 743, 699  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for  $(\text{C}_{39}\text{H}_{40}\text{N}_2\text{O}+\text{Na})^+$  requires m/z 575.3033, found m/z 575.3021.

**2-(2-benzhydryl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-((4-fluorophenyl)amino)-5,5-dimethylcyclohex-2-enone**

**(4af):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 94% (48.4 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 88.7–89.8 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.96 (s, 1H), 7.37 – 7.18 (m, 12H), 7.15 – 7.07 (m, 2H), 6.95 – 6.89 (m, 2H), 6.62 – 6.54 (m, 2H), 6.29 (s, 1H), 5.73 (s, 1H), 2.41 (d,  $J$  = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 2.34 – 2.26 (m, 2H), 2.08 (d,  $J$  = 16.6 Hz, 1H), 1.15 (s, 3H), 0.99 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  194.0, 160.6 (d,  $J$  = 244.5 Hz), 159.2, 142.6, 141.6, 139.9, 135.8, 134.2, 129.2, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 128.0, 127.6, 127.5, 127.0, 126.5, 121.7, 120.0, 119.0, 115.9, 115.7, 111.3, 104.9, 104.8, 50.9, 49.3, 40.0, 32.6, 28.4, 28.2;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -115.8; IR (KBr): 3648, 3341, 3058, 2957, 2360, 2341, 1585, 1541, 1452, 1383, 1321, 1269, 1229, 1210, 1152, 1027, 1012, 899, 835, 777, 762, 744, 700  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for  $(\text{C}_{35}\text{H}_{31}\text{FN}_2\text{O}+\text{Na})^+$  requires m/z 537.2313, found m/z 537.2305.

**2-(2-benzhydryl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-((4-chlorophenyl)amino)-5,5-dimethylcyclohex-2-enone**

**(4ag):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 79% (41.9 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 167.0–168.5 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.98 (s, 1H), 7.35 – 7.26 (m, 7H), 7.26 – 7.17 (m, 7H), 7.15 – 7.07 (m, 2H), 6.58 – 6.49 (m, 2H), 6.33 (s, 1H), 5.71 (s, 1H), 2.45 – 2.33 (m, 2H), 2.29 (d,  $J$  = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 2.14 (d,  $J$  = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 1.15 (s, 3H), 1.00 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  194.1, 158.5, 142.5, 141.6, 139.9, 136.9, 135.8, 131.0, 129.2, 129.1, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 128.0, 127.0, 126.6, 126.4, 121.7, 120.1, 119.0, 111.3, 105.6, 104.8, 50.9, 49.3, 40.1, 32.7, 28.4, 28.2; IR (KBr): 3332, 3056, 2955, 2360, 2341, 1618, 1587, 1540, 1451, 1381, 1319, 1266, 1220, 1156, 1089, 1026, 1012, 743, 700  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for  $(\text{C}_{35}\text{H}_{31}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}+\text{Na})^+$  requires m/z 553.2017, found m/z 553.2023.

**2-(2-benzhydryl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-((3-methoxyphenyl)amino)-5,5-dimethylcyclohex-2-enone**

**(4ah):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 69% (36.4 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 127.4–128.5 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  7.90 (s, 1H), 7.35 – 7.27 (m, 6H), 7.25 – 7.06 (m, 9H), 6.69 – 6.65 (m, 1H), 6.42 (s, 1H), 6.28 (dd,

*J* = 7.9, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.21 – 6.16 (m, 1H), 5.72 (s, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.46 – 2.37 (m, 2H), 2.26 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 2.19 (d, *J* = 16.6 Hz, 1H), 1.15 (s, 3H), 0.97 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 194.0, 160.0, 158.8, 142.6, 141.7, 139.8, 139.4, 135.7, 129.7, 129.2, 128.8, 128.7, 128.4, 128.0, 127.0, 126.5, 121.6, 120.0, 119.1, 117.5, 111.2, 111.1, 110.8, 105.1, 105.0, 55.4, 50.9, 49.4, 40.2, 32.7, 28.4, 28.2; IR (KBr): 3649, 3337, 3057, 2956, 2360, 2341, 1577, 1541, 1493, 1450, 1382, 1319, 1283, 1262, 1196, 1155, 1078, 1031, 744, 700 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>34</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 549.2512, found m/z 549.2508.

**2-(2-benzhydryl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-5,5-dimethyl-3-(*m*-tolylamino)cyclohex-2-enone (**4ai**):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 91% (46.5 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 138.5–139.6 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.95 (s, 1H), 7.40 – 7.26 (m, 7H), 7.26 – 7.18 (m, 5H), 7.15 – 7.07 (m, 3H), 6.95 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.53 – 6.48 (m, 1H), 6.43 (s, 1H), 6.40 – 6.36 (m, 1H), 5.75 (s, 1H), 2.42 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 2H), 2.32 – 2.26 (m, 4H), 2.21 – 2.14 (m, 1H), 1.16 (s, 3H), 0.99 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 193.9, 159.2, 142.6, 141.8, 139.8, 139.0, 138.1, 135.8, 129.3, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 128.1, 127.0, 126.5, 126.4, 125.9, 122.3, 121.6, 120.0, 119.1, 111.2, 105.1, 104.7, 50.9, 49.4, 40.1, 32.6, 28.3, 21.3; IR (KBr): 3327, 3251, 3057, 2960, 2360, 2340, 1618, 1493, 1449, 1383, 1320, 1265, 1150, 1172, 1115, 1030, 1010, 786, 762, 730, 699 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>34</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 533.2563, found m/z 533.2574.

**2-(2-benzhydryl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-((3-fluorophenyl)amino)-5,5-dimethylcyclohex-2-enone (**4aj**):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 61% (31.4 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 83.5–84.8 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.37 – 7.27 (m, 6H), 7.25 – 7.06 (m, 9H), 6.85 – 6.78 (m, 1H), 6.45 – 6.36 (m, 2H), 6.34 – 6.27 (m, 1H), 5.70 (s, 1H), 2.43 (dd, *J* = 16.3, 5.1 Hz, 2H), 2.29 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 2.21 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 1.17 (s, 3H), 1.01 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 194.3, 162.7 (d, *J* = 245.6 Hz), 158.1, 142.0 (d, *J* = 88.7 Hz), 140.0, 139.9, 135.8, 130.1 (d, *J* = 9.4 Hz), 129.2, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 128.0, 127.0, 126.7, 121.8, 120.3 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz), 120.1, 118.9, 112.1 (d, *J* = 20.9 Hz), 111.9 (d, *J* = 23.2 Hz), 111.3, 106.1, 104.7, 50.9, 49.4, 40.2, 32.8, 28.4, 28.1; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -111.5; IR (KBr): 3649, 3448, 3342, 3059, 2958, 2360, 2341, 1589, 1550, 1451,

1389, 1321, 1279, 1143, 1076, 1030, 1012, 926, 898, 864, 783, 764, 744, 702 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>35</sub>H<sub>31</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 537.2313, found m/z 537.2319.

**2-(2-benzhydryl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-((2-methoxyphenyl)amino)-5,5-dimethylcyclohex-2-enone**

**(4ak):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 65% (34.2 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 136.7–138.1 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.86 (s, 1H), 7.42 – 7.39 (m, 1H), 7.37 – 7.31 (m, 4H), 7.29 – 7.22 (m, 2H), 7.22 – 7.14 (m, 5H), 7.13 – 7.04 (m, 3H), 6.89 – 6.84 (m, 1H), 6.81 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.53 (s, 1H), 5.78 (s, 1H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 2.40 – 2.32 (m, 2H), 2.17 (dd, *J* = 30.5, 16.3 Hz, 2H), 1.13 (s, 3H), 0.91 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 193.7, 159.4, 153.3, 142.7, 141.9, 139.4, 135.6, 129.4, 128.7, 128.2, 128.1, 127.6, 126.9, 126.3, 126.3, 125.4, 121.4, 120.3, 119.7, 119.5, 111.1, 110.9, 105.2, 105.1, 55.3, 50.9, 49.7, 40.0, 32.4, 28.8, 27.9; IR (KBr): 3332, 3178, 3056, 2956, 1572, 1537, 1499, 1451, 1393, 1420, 1302, 1322, 1271, 1178, 1210, 1153, 1114, 1028, 742, 698 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>34</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 549.2512, found m/z 549.2523.

**2-(2-benzhydryl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-5,5-dimethyl-3-(*o*-tolylamino)cyclohex-2-enone (4al):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 75% (38.4 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 159.5–160.2 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.87 (s, 1H), 7.41 – 7.38 (m, 1H), 7.36 – 7.31 (m, 4H), 7.29 – 7.27 (m, 1H), 7.26 – 7.16 (m, 6H), 7.13 – 7.05 (m, 5H), 6.66 – 6.60 (m, 1H), 6.14 (s, 1H), 5.79 (s, 1H), 2.41 (dd, *J* = 16.3, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 2.30 (d, *J* = 16.3 Hz, 1H), 2.17 (d, *J* = 16.6 Hz, 1H), 1.96 (d, *J* = 16.7 Hz, 1H), 1.88 (s, 3H), 1.13 (s, 3H), 0.95 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 193.6, 160.4, 142.7, 141.9, 140.1, 136.9, 135.8, 135.3, 130.7, 129.3, 128.8, 128.6, 128.5, 127.9, 127.7, 127.0, 126.9, 126.5, 126.4, 121.5, 119.9, 119.2, 111.2, 104.9, 103.9, 100.0, 50.9, 49.2, 39.9, 32.4, 28.3, 17.9; IR (KBr): 3327, 3179, 3057, 2955, 2925, 1618, 1572, 1540, 1493, 1451, 1418, 1384, 1322, 1304, 1267, 1153, 1112, 741, 716, 697 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>34</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 533.2563, found m/z 533.2563.

**2-(2-benzhydryl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-((2-fluorophenyl)amino)-5,5-dimethylcyclohex-2-enone**

**(4am):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 63% (32.4 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 210.4–211.1 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.92 (s, 1H), 7.40 – 7.37 (m, 1H), 7.35 – 7.31 (m, 4H), 7.29 – 7.27 (m, 1H), 7.25 – 7.15 (m, 6H), 7.15 – 7.00 (m, 5H), 6.75 – 6.69 (m, 1H), 6.20 (s, 1H), 5.76 (s, 1H), 2.42 – 2.33 (m, 2H), 2.25 (d, *J* = 16.1 Hz, 1H), 2.08 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 1.15 (s, 3H), 0.92 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 194.2, 159.0, 157.1 (d, *J* = 246.3 Hz), 142.5, 141.7, 139.8, 135.7, 129.3, 128.8, 128.6, 128.4, 127.9, 127.7, 127.4 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 127.0, 126.5, 126.4 (d, *J* = 12.2 Hz), 124.3 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz), 121.6, 120.0, 119.2, 116.2 (d, *J* = 19.9 Hz), 111.1, 105.8, 104.7, 50.9, 49.5, 39.6 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz), 32.5, 28.3, 28.2; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -121.8; IR (KBr): 3330, 3178, 3058, 2958, 1618, 1580, 1535, 1499, 1420, 1322, 1272, 1153, 1103, 1031, 763, 742, 716, 697 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>35</sub>H<sub>31</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 537.2313, found m/z 537.2315.

### **2-(2-benzhydryl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-((2-fluorophenyl)amino)-5,5-dimethylcyclohex-2-enone**

**(4an):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 97% (51.5 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 205.6–206.2 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.90 (s, 1H), 7.43 – 7.40 (m, 1H), 7.36 – 7.30 (m, 5H), 7.29 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.26 – 7.24 (m, 1H), 7.23 – 7.14 (m, 6H), 7.13 – 7.05 (m, 3H), 6.77 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.38 (s, 1H), 5.76 (s, 1H), 2.41 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 2.35 – 2.25 (m, 2H), 2.06 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 1.16 (s, 3H), 0.94 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 194.2, 158.5, 142.5, 141.8, 139.8, 135.7, 130.6, 130.0, 129.3, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 127.9, 127.2, 127.0, 126.9, 126.4, 121.6, 119.9, 119.4, 111.1, 106.2, 104.6, 51.0, 49.5, 40.0, 32.6, 28.4, 28.2; IR (KBr): 3338, 3176, 3058, 2956, 2926, 1619, 1481, 1417, 1321, 1276, 1227, 1155, 1061, 1030, 741, 698 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>35</sub>H<sub>31</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 553.2017, found m/z 553.2019.

**2-(2-benzhydryl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-5,5-dimethyl-3-(phenylamino)cyclohex-2-enone (4ao):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 86% (42.7 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 177.2–178.3 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.95 (s, 1H), 7.38 – 7.31 (m, 5H), 7.30 – 7.18 (m, 9H), 7.15 – 7.07 (m, 3H), 6.70 – 6.62 (m, 2H), 6.47 (s, 1H), 5.75 (s, 1H), 2.46 – 2.37 (m, 2H), 2.28 (d, *J* = 16.1 Hz, 1H), 2.17 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H), 1.15 (s, 3H), 0.98 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 194.0, 159.0, 142.6, 141.7, 139.9, 138.3, 135.8,

129.3, 129.0, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 128.1, 127.0, 126.6, 125.6, 125.2, 121.6, 120.0, 119.1, 111.2, 105.0, 50.9, 49.4, 40.1, 32.6, 28.4, 28.2; IR (KBr): 3677, 3651, 3631, 3057, 2956, 2365, 2345, 1578, 1495, 1447, 1419, 1391, 1322, 1269, 1221, 1154, 1122, 1075, 1030, 1011, 900, 762, 741, 700 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>35</sub>H<sub>32</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 519.2407, found m/z 519.2408.

**2-(2-benzhydryl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-5,5-dimethyl-3-((3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)amino)cyclohex-2-e**

**none (4ap):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 69% (40.5 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 94.3–95.1 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.95 (s, 1H), 7.37 – 7.19 (m, 10H), 7.19 – 7.06 (m, 4H), 6.31 (s, 1H), 5.85 (s, 2H), 5.73 (s, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 6H), 2.46 – 2.38 (m, 2H), 2.34 – 2.29 (m, 1H), 2.19 (d, J = 16.6 Hz, 1H), 1.17 (s, 3H), 1.01 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 193.9, 159.4, 153.2, 142.7, 141.7, 139.8, 136.2, 135.9, 134.0, 129.2, 128.8, 128.7, 128.4, 128.1, 127.0, 126.4, 121.7, 119.9, 119.1, 111.3, 105.0, 104.8, 103.3, 61.0, 56.3, 50.9, 49.2, 40.1, 32.6, 28.3, 28.2; IR (KBr): 3345, 3057, 2957, 2247, 1588, 1506, 1451, 1382, 1319, 1263, 1231, 1181, 1128, 1050, 1030, 1011, 816, 745, 702 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>38</sub>H<sub>38</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 609.2724, found m/z 609.2729.

**2-(2-benzhydryl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-5,5-dimethyl-3-((3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)amino)cyclohex-2-e**

**none (4aq):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 64% (32.7 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 139.7–140.5 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.88 (s, 1H), 7.33 – 7.28 (m, 5H), 7.27 – 7.22 (m, 5H), 7.22 – 7.18 (m, 3H), 7.18 – 7.14 (m, 2H), 7.13 – 7.09 (m, 1H), 7.09 – 7.05 (m, 1H), 6.88 – 6.80 (m, 2H), 5.73 (s, 1H), 5.24 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.22 – 4.06 (m, 2H), 2.42 – 2.32 (m, 2H), 2.27 (d, J = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 2.10 (d, J = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 1.13 (s, 3H), 0.95 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 192.9, 161.9, 142.7, 142.0, 139.9, 138.3, 135.9, 129.2, 128.7, 128.7, 128.4, 128.0, 127.2, 126.9, 126.5, 126.1, 121.5, 119.8, 119.3, 111.1, 105.1, 102.5, 50.5, 49.0, 46.3, 38.8, 32.0, 28.5, 28.4; IR (KBr): 3369, 3057, 2955, 2925, 2348, 2282, 1567, 1493, 1452, 1401, 1353, 1322, 1271, 1156, 1109, 1074, 1030, 736, 696 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>34</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 533.2563, found m/z 533.2570.

**4-(2-benzhydryl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-5-((4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-1,6-dihydro-[1,1'-biphenyl]-3(2-**

**H-one (4ar):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 82% (47.2 mg); unseparated isomers with 1:1 molar ratio; yellow solid; m.p. 127.8–128.6 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.02 – 7.90 (m, 2H), 7.47 – 7.44 (m, 1H), 7.40 – 7.36 (m, 7H), 7.35 – 7.27 (m, 14H), 7.27 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.26 – 7.19 (m, 10H), 7.17 – 7.14 (m, 2H), 7.13 – 7.05 (m, 2H), 6.78 – 6.71 (m, 4H), 6.69 – 6.63 (m, 4H), 6.42 (d, *J* = 16.6 Hz, 2H), 5.76 (d, *J* = 22.0 Hz, 2H), 3.75 (s, 6H), 3.47 – 3.38 (m, 1H), 2.87 – 2.59 (m, 6H), 2.55 – 2.41 (m, 2H), 2.32 – 2.24 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 193.3, 160.4, 157.9, 143.6, 143.5, 142.8, 142.7, 141.6, 139.8, 139.6, 135.6, 130.8, 130.7, 129.3, 128.9, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 128.3, 128.0, 127.4, 127.3, 127.1, 127.0, 126.9, 126.8, 126.7, 126.5, 121.6, 120.0, 119.1, 118.9, 114.3, 114.2, 111.2, 105.2, 105.1, 105.0, 55.5, 49.9, 44.1, 44.0, 39.8, 34.0, 33.9; IR (KBr): 3340, 3025, 2931, 2348, 2242, 1575, 1540, 1452, 1391, 1289, 1245, 1179, 1105, 1031, 911, 823, 774, 744, 699 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>34</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 597.2512, found m/z 597.2526.

**2-(2-benzhydryl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-5,5-dimethyl-3-(methyl(phenyl)amino)cyclohex-2-enone (4as):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 40% (20.4 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 87.3–88.3 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.71 (s, 1H), 7.38 – 7.35 (m, 1H), 7.34 – 7.26 (m, 8H), 7.25 – 7.18 (m, 5H), 7.15 – 7.11 (m, 1H), 7.10 – 7.02 (m, 2H), 6.98 – 6.93 (m, 2H), 5.76 (s, 1H), 2.51 (s, 3H), 2.42 (d, *J* = 16.6 Hz, 1H), 2.39 – 2.30 (m, 2H), 2.21 – 2.14 (m, 1H), 1.10 (s, 3H), 0.94 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 196.0, 162.5, 146.7, 142.5, 141.2, 137.7, 135.5, 129.8, 129.3, 129.0, 128.6, 126.7, 126.6, 125.1, 125.0, 121.3, 119.7, 119.4, 110.9, 109.7, 109.6, 51.5, 48.9, 45.2, 42.4, 31.9, 28.2, 27.9; IR (KBr): 3851, 3646, 3626, 3271, 3057, 2954, 2354, 1731, 1572, 1521, 1452, 1327, 1280, 1179, 1132, 1076, 1059, 1027, 897, 761, 743, 699 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>34</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 533.2563, found m/z 533.2570.

**4-(2-benzhydryl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-methoxy-1*H*-isochromen-1-one (6a):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 92% (42.1 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 216.5–218.2 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.23 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (s, 1H), 7.49 – 7.43 (m, 1H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.33 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 7.25 – 7.13 (m, 8H), 7.13 – 6.99 (m, 4H), 5.56 (s, 1H), 3.63 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161.4, 155.2,

141.8, 141.6, 141.5, 138.7, 135.7, 134.9, 129.7, 128.9, 128.9, 128.8, 128.6, 128.5, 126.9, 126.8, 125.1, 124.2, 122.0, 120.1, 119.3, 117.0, 111.0, 104.5, 87.8, 56.0, 49.1; IR (KBr): 3371, 3025, 2952, 1720, 1636, 1603, 1553, 1492, 1478, 1454, 1316, 1295, 1242, 1161, 1061, 1029, 762, 744, 712, 699 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 480.1570, found m/z 480.1584.

**4-(2-(bis(2-methoxyphenyl)methyl)-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-methoxy-1*H*-isochromen-1-one (6b):**

Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 60% (31.1 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 128.7-130.0 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.22 – 8.18 (m, 1H), 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.45 – 7.40 (m, 1H), 7.34 – 7.31 (m, 1H), 7.29 – 7.23 (m, 1H), 7.20 – 7.13 (m, 4H), 7.10 – 7.07 (m, 1H), 7.06 – 7.01 (m, 1H), 7.01 – 6.97 (m, 2H), 6.85 – 6.79 (m, 2H), 6.78 – 6.75 (m, 1H), 6.71 – 6.67 (m, 1H), 6.08 (s, 1H), 3.51 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 6H), 3.47 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161.7, 157.0, 156.9, 155.1, 141.7, 139.0, 135.2, 134.3, 130.3, 130.0, 129.6, 129.3, 129.2, 127.9, 127.7, 124.8, 124.7, 121.4, 120.3, 120.0, 119.7, 119.0, 117.0, 110.8, 110.6, 110.5, 103.8, 88.1, 55.6, 55.4, 55.3, 37.1; IR (KBr): 3313, 3002, 2933, 2835, 1638, 1604, 1554, 1489, 1456, 1434, 1374, 1313, 1185, 1157, 1102, 1063, 1051, 1029, 796, 752, 724, 699 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 540.1781, found m/z 540.1795.

**4-(2-(bis(3-methoxyphenyl)methyl)-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-methoxy-1*H*-isochromen-1-one (6c):**

Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 76% (39.4 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 132.1-133.2 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.21 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (s, 1H), 7.48 – 7.41 (m, 1H), 7.36 – 7.32 (m, 1H), 7.31 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.23 – 7.15 (m, 3H), 7.14 – 7.09 (m, 1H), 7.09 – 7.03 (m, 2H), 6.78 – 6.65 (m, 5H), 6.63 – 6.58 (m, 1H), 5.48 (s, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 3.65 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161.4, 159.7, 155.2, 143.2, 142.9, 141.6, 138.4, 135.6, 134.8, 129.6, 129.5, 129.4, 128.9, 125.0, 124.2, 122.0, 121.3, 121.2, 120.0, 119.3, 117.0, 115.3, 115.1, 111.7, 111.6, 111.1, 104.5, 87.8, 56.1, 55.2, 55.1, 49.1; IR (KBr): 3357, 2931, 2834, 1720, 1641, 1604, 1583, 1554, 1479, 1455, 1434, 1373, 1294, 1263, 1242, 1152, 1031, 764, 743, 696 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 540.1781, found m/z 540.1771.

**4-(2-(bis(3-fluorophenyl)methyl)-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-methoxy-1*H*-isochromen-1-one (**6d**):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 67% (33.1 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 154.7–155.2 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.23 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (s, 1H), 7.50 – 7.44 (m, 1H), 7.41 – 7.36 (m, 1H), 7.32 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 7.27 – 7.16 (m, 4H), 7.11 – 7.06 (m, 1H), 7.05 – 7.01 (m, 1H), 6.97 – 6.84 (m, 5H), 6.81 – 6.76 (m, 1H), 5.55 (s, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 162.9 (d, *J* = 245.4 Hz), 161.2, 155.2, 143.8, 143.7, 143.5, 143.4, 141.3, 137.2, 135.8, 135.0, 130.3, 130.2, 130.1, 130.0, 129.8, 128.7, 125.3, 124.5 (d, *J* = 11.3 Hz), 124.0, 122.4, 120.3, 119.5, 117.0, 116.1, 115.9, 115.6, 114.2 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz), 114.0 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz), 111.2, 105.1, 87.3, 56.0, 48.4; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -112.1, -112.3; IR (KBr): 3355, 3057, 2952, 2255, 1718, 1639, 1610, 1588, 1556, 1480, 1455, 1376, 1329, 1296, 1240, 1142, 1062, 1027, 969, 907, 881, 793, 768, 744, 686 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>21</sub>F<sub>2</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 516.1382, found m/z 516.1390.

**4-(2-(di-*p*-tolylmethyl)-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-methoxy-1*H*-isochromen-1-one (**6e**):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 91% (44.2 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 123.2–124.5 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.22 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.48 – 7.42 (m, 1H), 7.34 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.31 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 7.23 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 7.08 – 6.95 (m, 10H), 5.48 (s, 1H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.27 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161.4, 155.1, 141.6, 139.1, 139.0, 138.6, 136.4, 136.4, 135.6, 134.8, 129.6, 129.2, 129.0, 128.9, 128.8, 128.6, 125.0, 124.3, 121.9, 120.0, 119.3, 117.0, 111.0, 104.3, 87.9, 56.1, 48.4, 21.0, 21.0; IR (KBr): 3290, 3019, 2920, 1635, 1605, 1555, 1509, 1478, 1456, 1434, 1375, 1312, 1295, 1243, 1186, 1161, 1099, 1062, 1030, 820, 803, 762, 747, 698 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 508.1883, found m/z 508.1870.

**4-(2-(bis(4-fluorophenyl)methyl)-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-methoxy-1*H*-isochromen-1-one (**6f**):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 57% (28.2 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 128.2–129.4 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.23 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (s, 1H), 7.48 – 7.43 (m, 1H), 7.38 – 7.35 (m, 1H), 7.32 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 7.23 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 7.12 – 7.05 (m, 3H), 7.04 – 6.99 (m, 3H), 6.99 – 6.94 (m, 2H), 6.93 – 6.87 (m, 2H), 5.53 (s, 1H), 3.68 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161.7 (d, *J* = 244.8 Hz), 161.2,

155.2, 141.3, 138.2, 137.4 (d,  $J = 3.2$  Hz), 137.1 (d,  $J = 3.3$  Hz), 135.7, 134.9, 130.4 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz), 130.2 (d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz), 129.8, 128.8, 125.2, 124.0, 122.3, 120.3, 119.4, 117.0, 115.5 (d,  $J = 17.8$  Hz), 115.3 (d,  $J = 17.6$  Hz), 111.1, 104.7, 87.5, 56.1, 47.4;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -115.4, -115.5; IR (KBr): 3373, 3062, 2951, 1722, 1643, 1604, 1556, 1505, 1479, 1455, 1434, 1373, 1324, 1296, 1224, 1158, 1097, 1062, 1017, 903, 835, 796, 767, 746, 713  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for  $(\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{21}\text{F}_2\text{NO}_3+\text{Na})^+$  requires m/z 516.1382, found m/z 516.1375.

**4-(2-(bis(4-chlorophenyl)methyl)-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-methoxy-1*H*-isochromen-1-one (6g):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 69% (36.3 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 189.3-190.5 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.23 (dd,  $J = 8.1, 1.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.92 (s, 1H), 7.48 – 7.43 (m, 1H), 7.38 – 7.35 (m, 1H), 7.32 – 7.28 (m, 1H), 7.25 – 7.16 (m, 6H), 7.10 – 7.04 (m, 3H), 7.02 – 6.96 (m, 3H), 5.51 (s, 1H), 3.68 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  161.1, 155.1, 139.9, 139.5, 137.5, 135.8, 135.0, 133.0, 130.2, 130.0, 129.8, 128.9, 128.7, 125.3, 124.0, 122.4, 120.3, 119.5, 117.0, 111.1, 105.0, 87.4, 56.1, 47.7; IR (KBr): 3369, 3061, 2924, 1726, 1636, 1603, 1552, 1490, 1478, 1456, 1434, 1403, 1371, 1296, 1242, 1162, 1090, 1062, 1015, 826, 802, 790, 768, 745, 699  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for  $(\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{21}\text{Cl}_2\text{NO}_3+\text{Na})^+$  requires m/z 548.0791, found m/z 548.0795.

**4-(2-benzhydryl-5-bromo-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-methoxy-1*H*-isochromen-1-one (6h):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 83% (44.5 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 157.4-158.1 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.25 – 8.18 (m, 1H), 8.07 (s, 1H), 7.46 (ddd,  $J = 8.3, 7.2, 1.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.34 (dd,  $J = 7.6, 0.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.31 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.26 – 7.18 (m, 5H), 7.18 – 7.13 (m, 3H), 7.12 – 7.08 (m, 2H), 7.02 – 6.99 (m, 1H), 6.97 – 6.93 (m, 1H), 5.56 (s, 1H), 3.65 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  161.1, 155.3, 141.3, 141.1, 139.4, 134.9, 134.4, 130.0, 129.8, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 127.1, 127.0, 125.2, 124.5, 123.9, 121.3, 118.5, 117.0, 106.0, 104.6, 87.3, 56.0, 49.2; IR (KBr): 3295, 3058, 3024, 2950, 1639, 1605, 1550, 1493, 1480, 1453, 1372, 1329, 1296, 1244, 1191, 1162, 1131, 1061, 1030, 779, 768, 737, 727, 696  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for  $(\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{22}\text{BrNO}_3+\text{Na})^+$  requires m/z 560.0660, found m/z 560.0666.

**4-(2-benzhydryl-6-methoxy-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-methoxy-1*H*-isochromen-1-one (6i):** Flash

column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 95% (46.4 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 115.6–116.8 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.22 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (s, 1H), 7.49 – 7.44 (m, 1H), 7.32 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.25 – 7.14 (m, 7H), 7.12 – 7.06 (m, 4H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 5.51 (s, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.63 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161.4, 156.5, 155.2, 142.0, 141.7, 141.6, 137.3, 136.4, 134.9, 129.7, 128.9, 128.8, 128.5, 128.4, 126.8, 126.7, 125.1, 124.2, 123.1, 119.9, 117.0, 109.8, 104.3, 94.9, 87.8, 56.0, 55.7, 49.1; IR (KBr): 3373, 3025, 2953, 1723, 1626, 1604, 1583, 1555, 1479, 1494, 1451, 1424, 1366, 1325, 1298, 1244, 1198, 1155, 1125, 1061, 1029, 766, 746, 729, 700 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 510.1676, found m/z 510.1680.

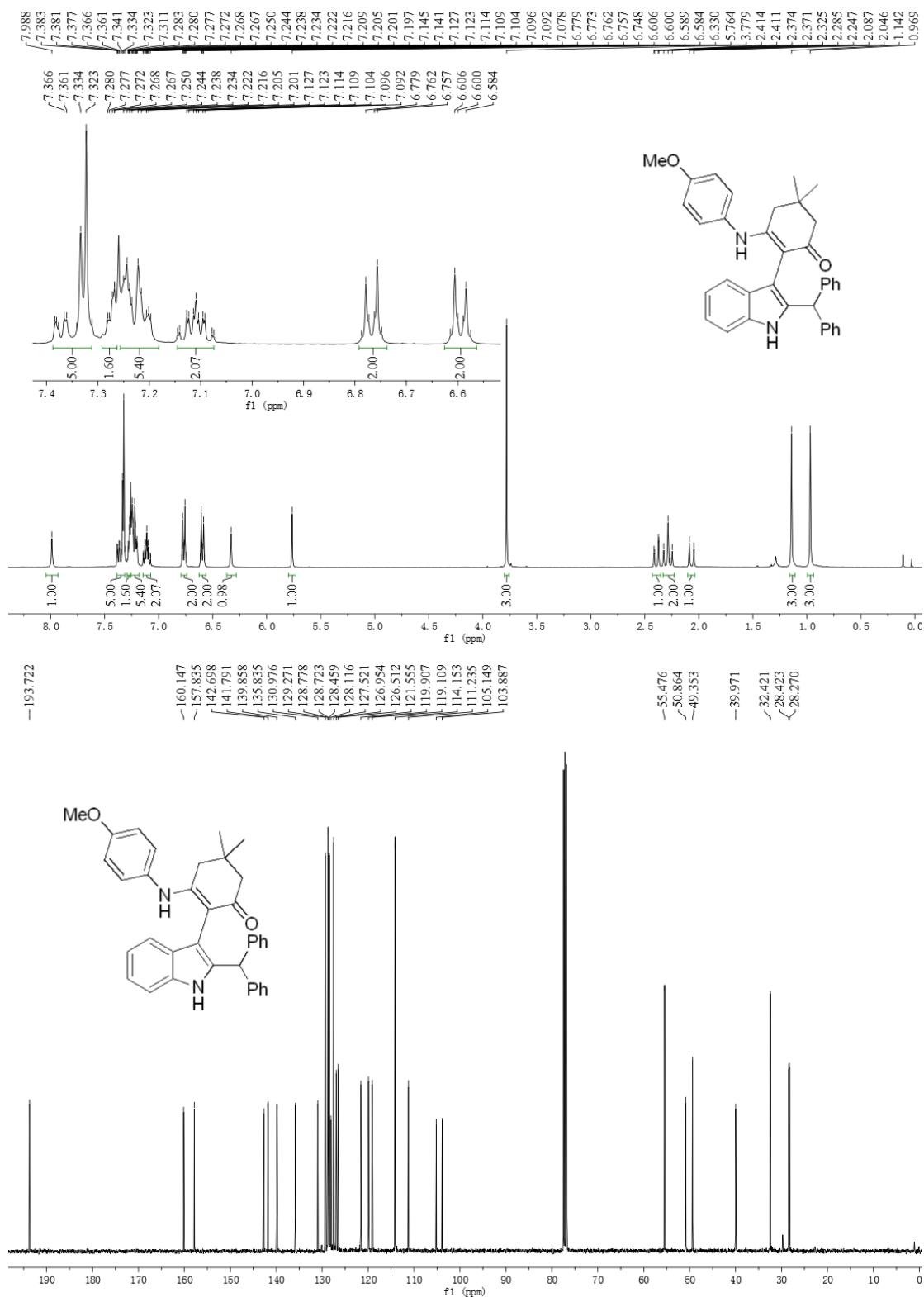
**4-(2-benzhydryl-6-chloro-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-methoxy-1*H*-isochromen-1-one (**6j**):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 94% (46.2 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 138.5–139.4 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.21 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (s, 1H), 7.49 – 7.44 (m, 1H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.31 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.26 – 7.16 (m, 5H), 7.14 – 7.10 (m, 3H), 7.06 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.7 Hz, 2H), 7.04 – 6.99 (m, 2H), 5.52 (s, 1H), 3.63 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161.2, 155.2, 141.5, 141.3, 141.2, 139.4, 136.0, 135.0, 129.8, 128.9, 128.7, 128.5, 127.9, 127.4, 127.0, 126.9, 125.2, 123.9, 120.8, 120.1, 117.0, 111.1, 104.7, 87.1, 56.0, 49.1; IR (KBr): 3355, 3060, 3025, 2951, 1722, 1642, 1605, 1556, 1493, 1478, 1451, 1363, 1323, 1297, 1241, 1161, 1060, 1029, 972, 936, 907, 802, 766, 730, 699 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>22</sub>ClNO<sub>3</sub>+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 514.1180, found m/z 514.1189.

**4-(2-benzhydryl-7-bromo-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-3-methoxy-1*H*-isochromen-1-one (**6k**):** Flash column chromatography eluent, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5/1; reaction time = 12 h; yield: 84% (45.0 mg); yellow solid; m.p. 115.2–116.1 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.21 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.48 (ddd, *J* = 8.4, 7.2, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.32 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.26 – 7.17 (m, 7H), 7.13 – 7.10 (m, 2H), 7.09 – 7.05 (m, 2H), 7.02 – 6.99 (m, 1H), 5.52 (s, 1H), 3.63 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 161.1, 155.3, 141.4, 141.3, 141.1, 140.1, 135.0, 134.3, 130.7, 129.8, 128.9, 128.7, 128.5, 127.0, 125.2, 124.9, 123.8, 121.7, 116.9, 113.4, 112.5, 104.2, 86.9, 56.0, 49.1; IR (KBr): 3851, 3346, 3059, 3025, 2950, 1643, 1604, 1556, 1493, 1479,

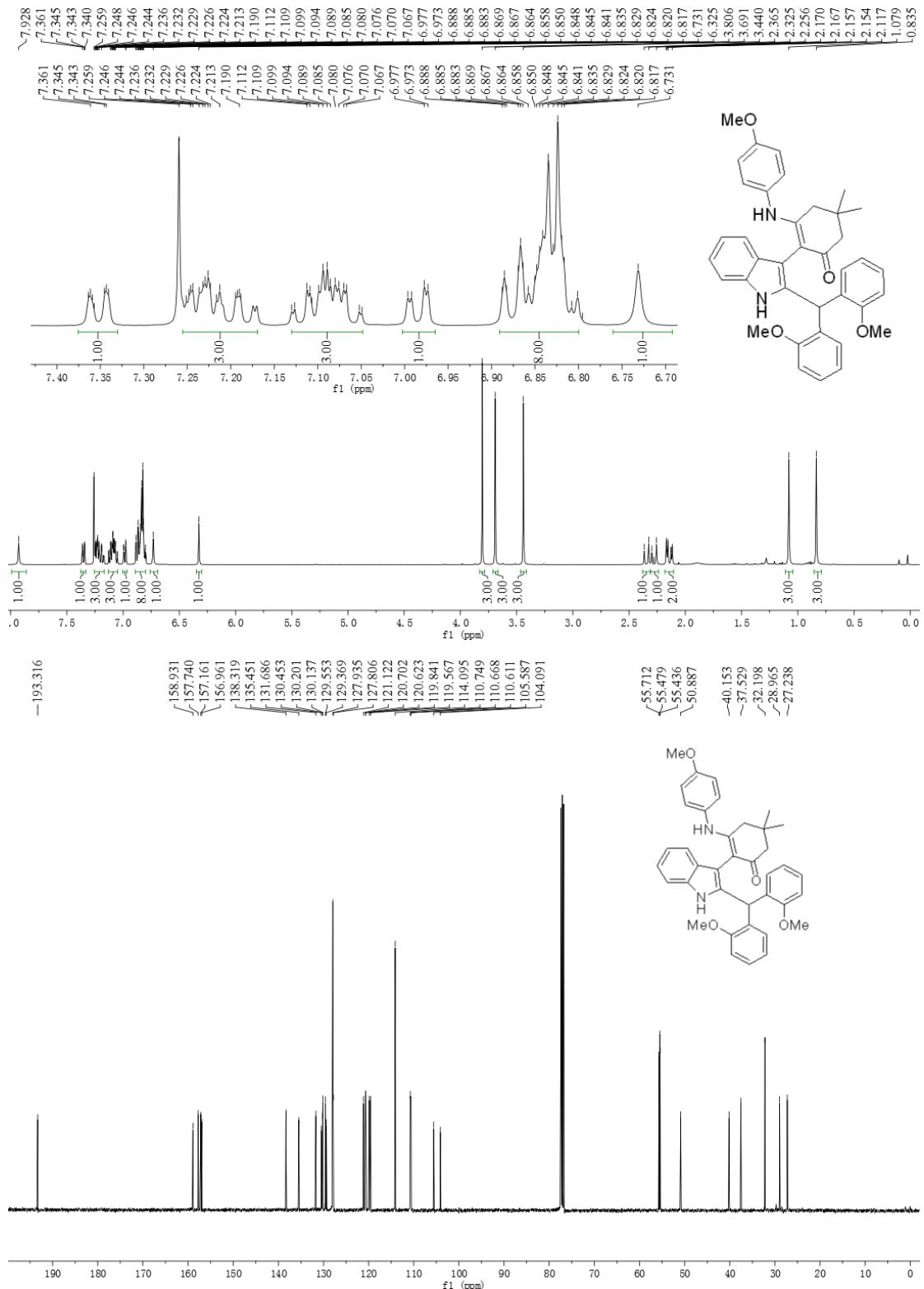
1368, 1301, 1261, 1241, 1158, 1061, 1028, 944, 902, 799, 765, 730, 698 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESI FTMS exact mass calcd for (C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>22</sub>BrNO<sub>3</sub>+Na)<sup>+</sup> requires m/z 560.0660, found m/z 560.0675.

## 5. NMR Spectra of products 4 and 6

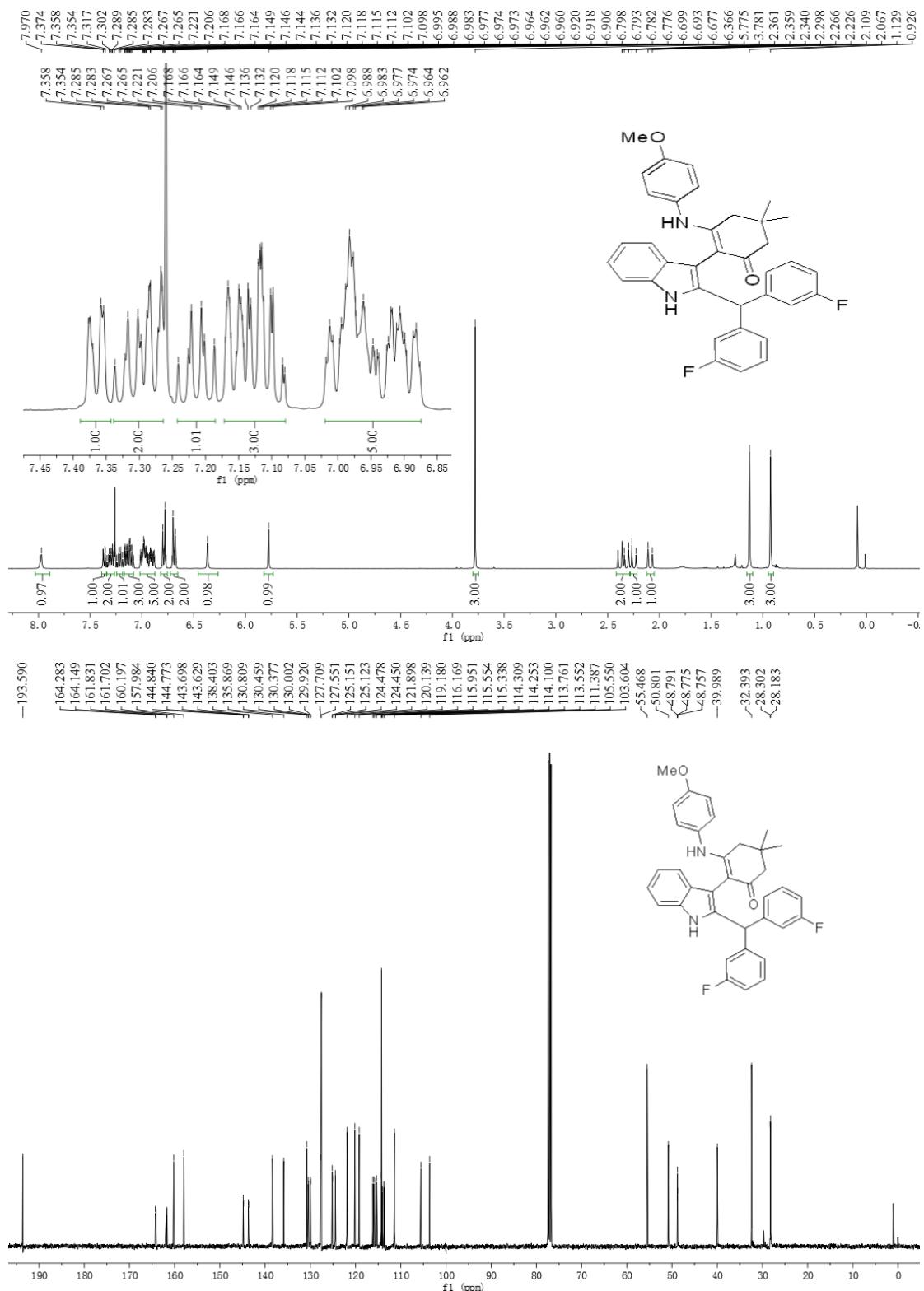
4aa

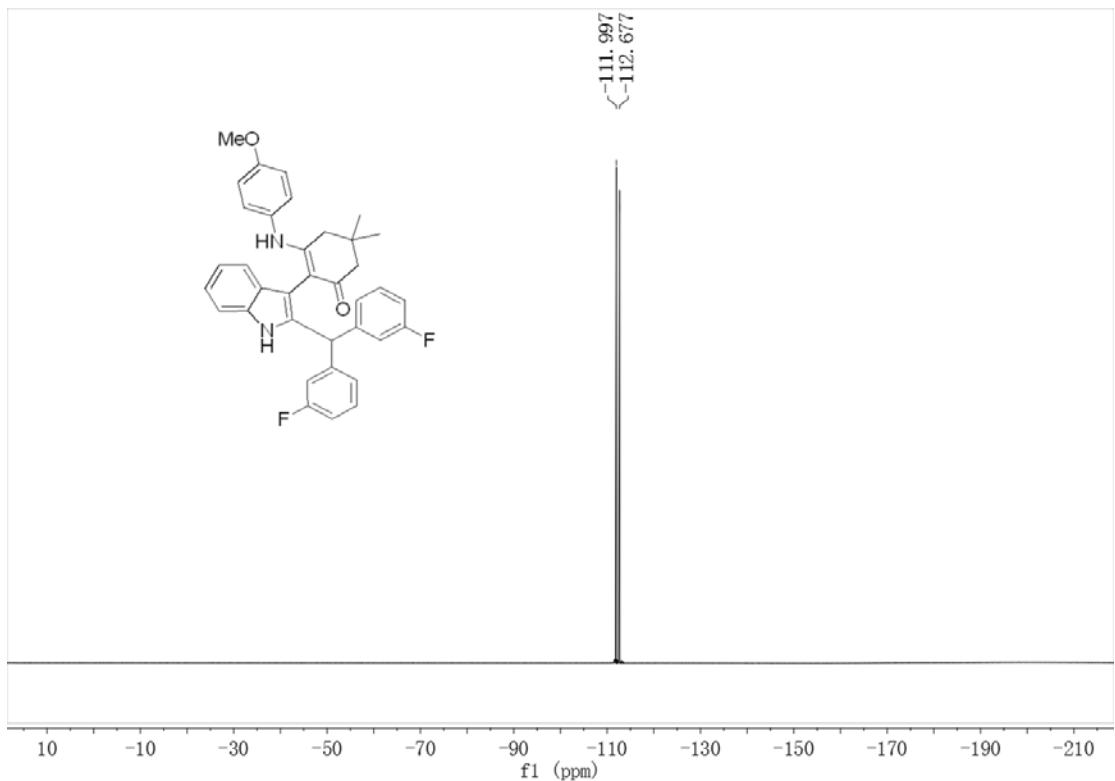


4ba

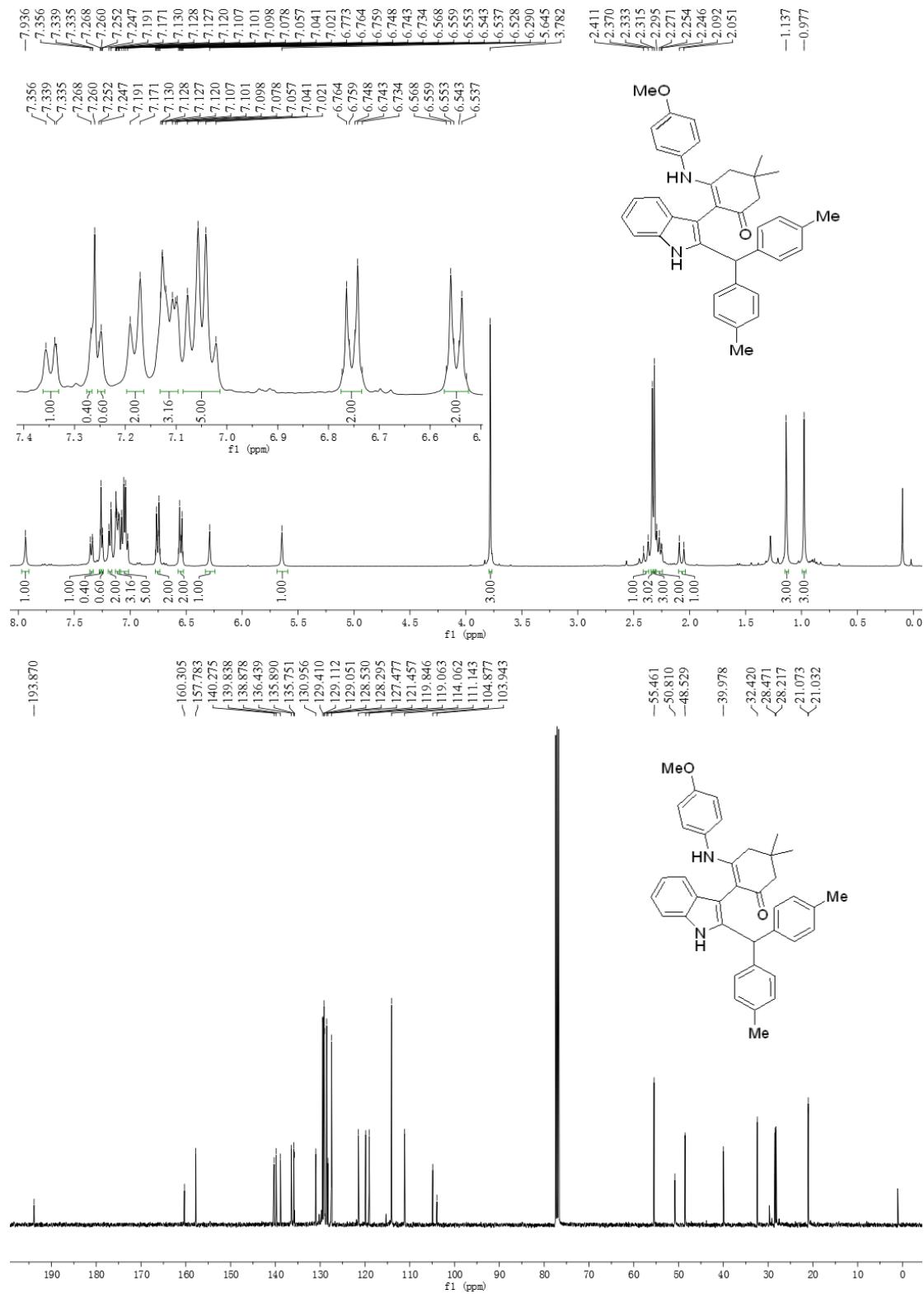


4ca

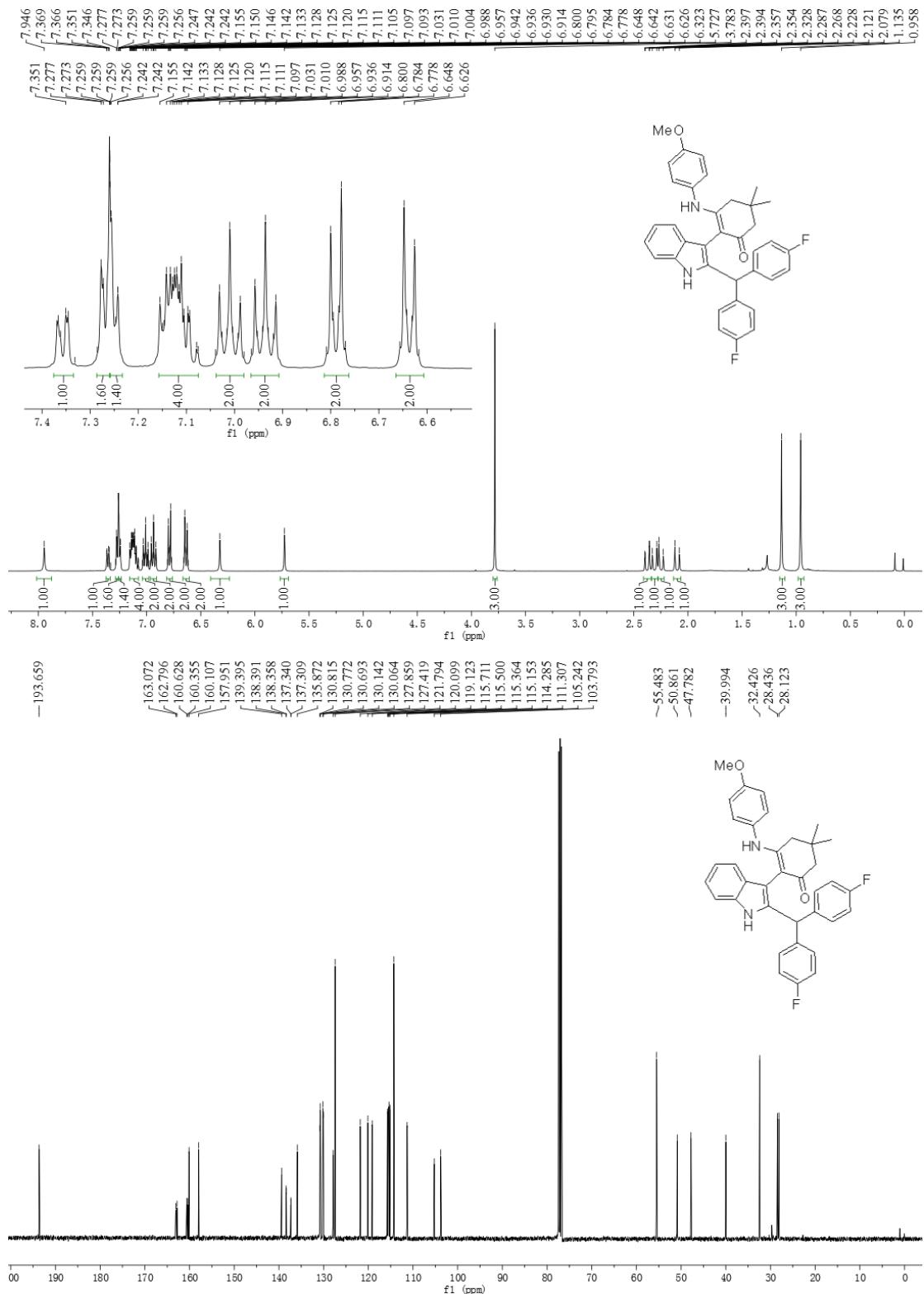


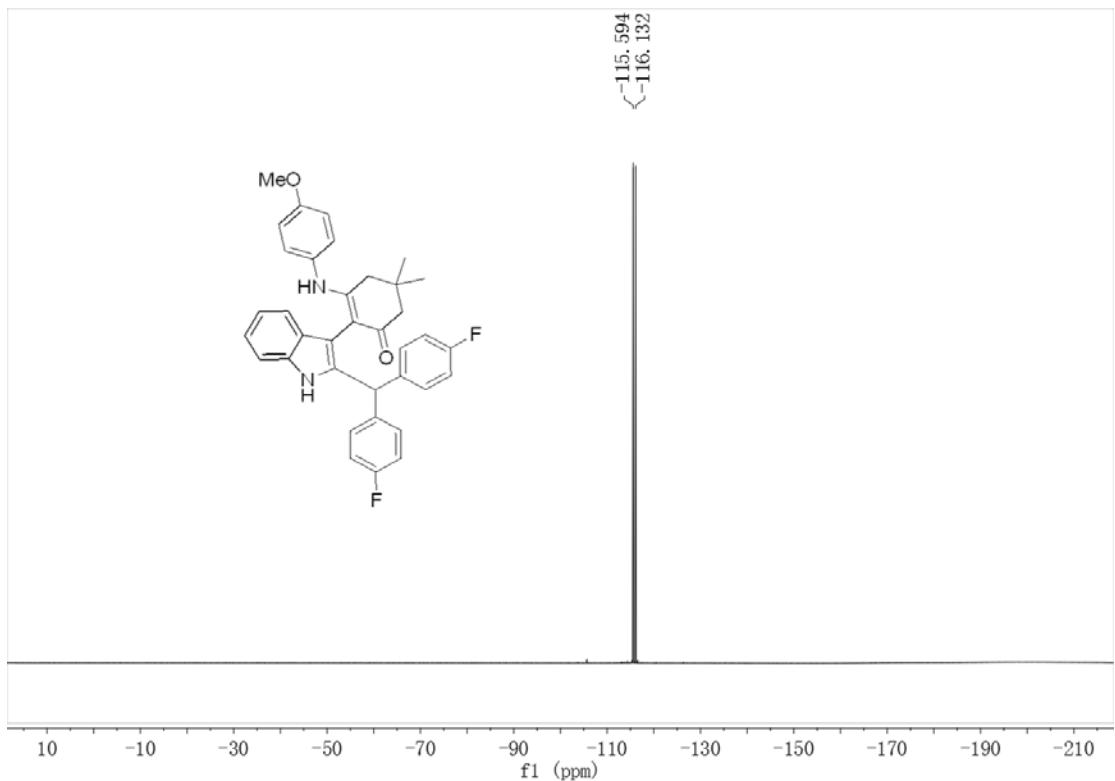


**4da**

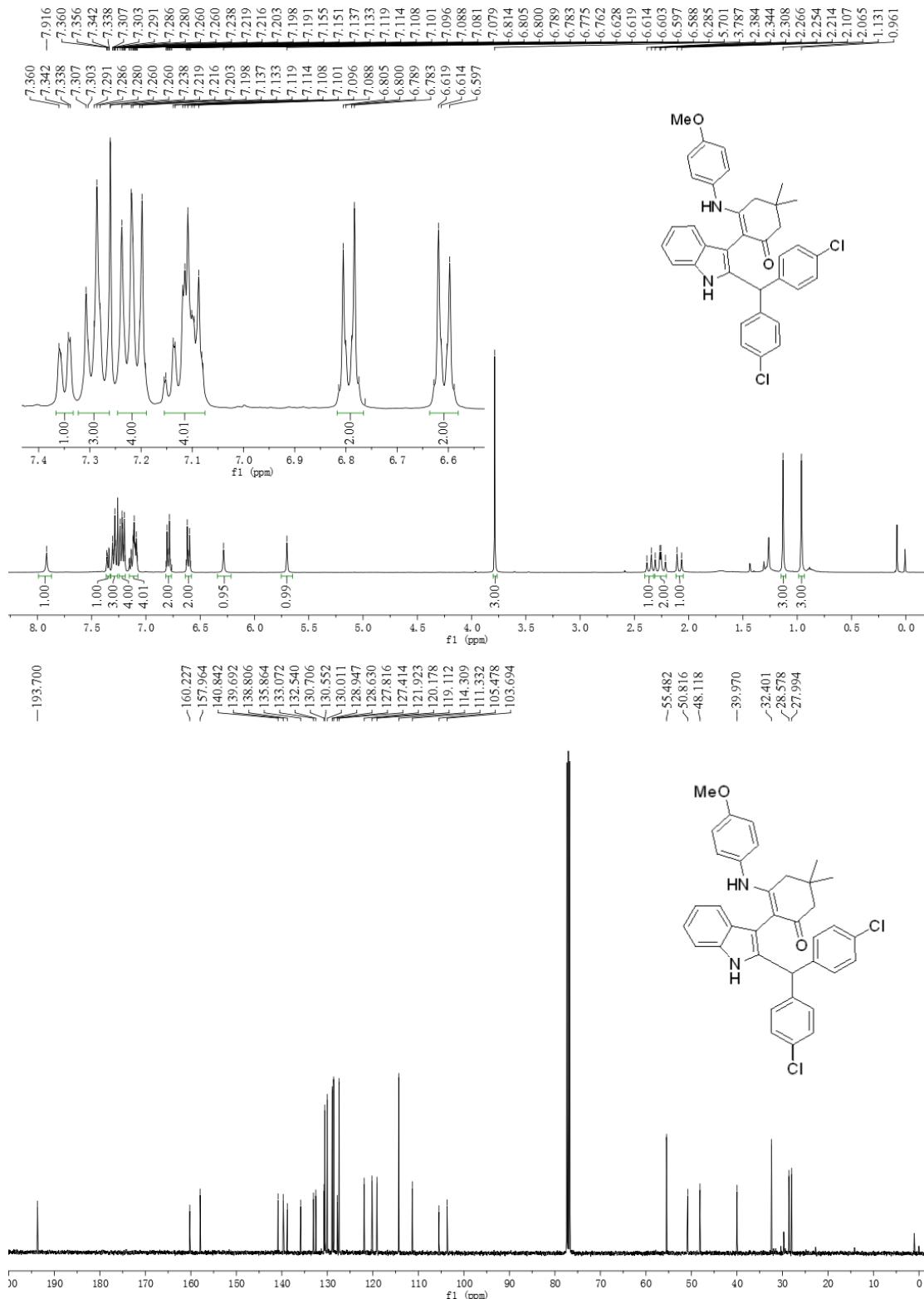


4ea

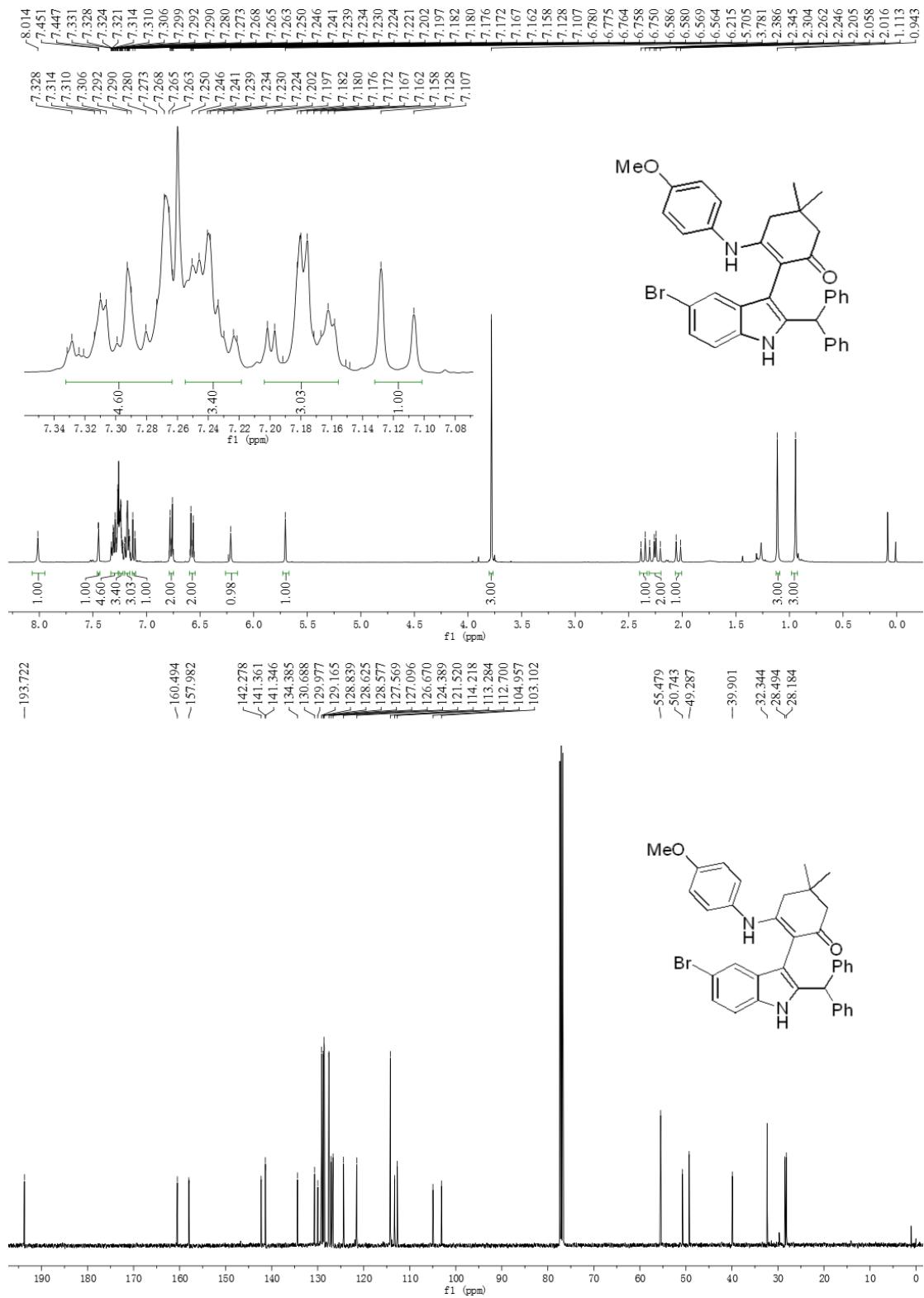




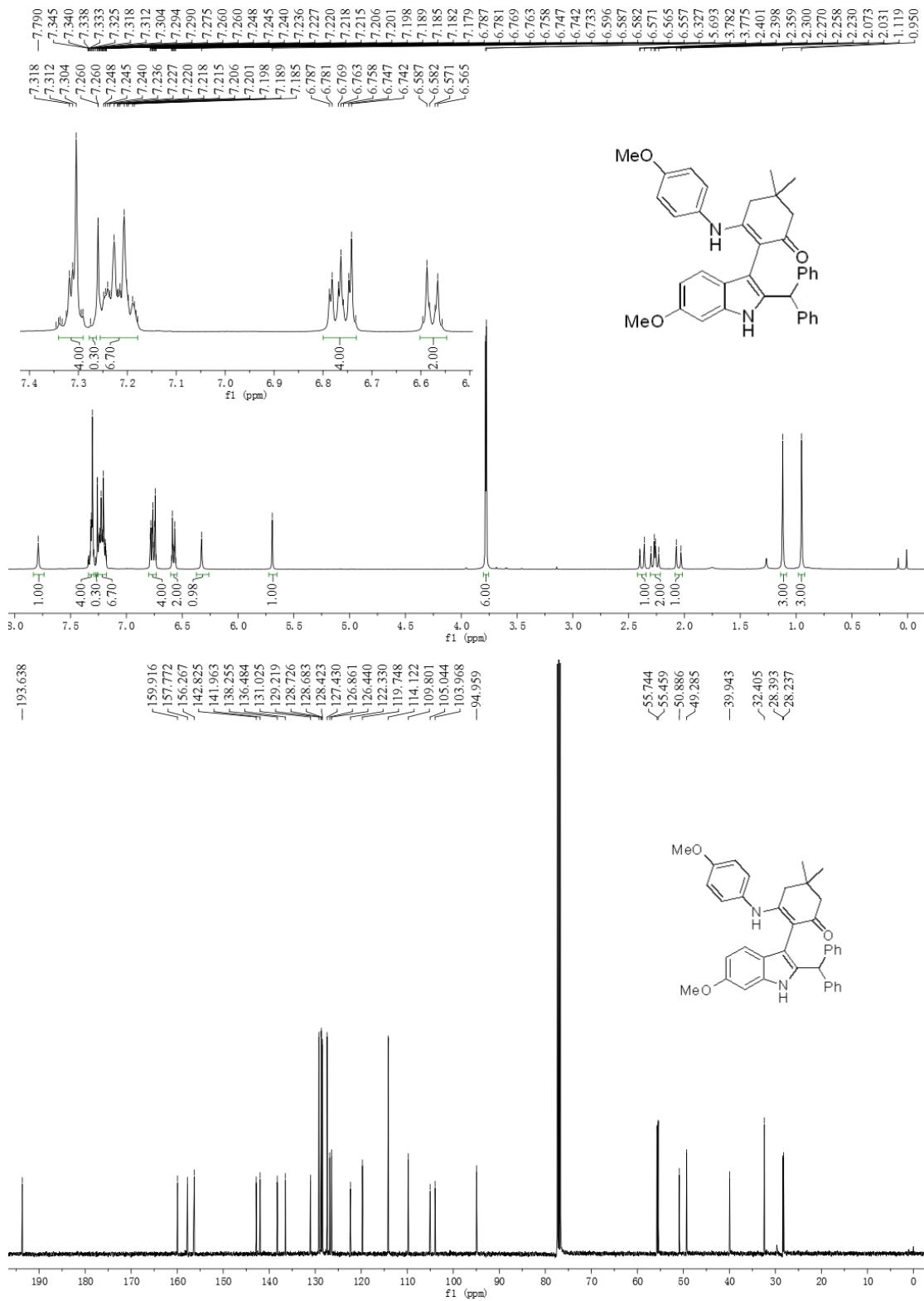
4fa



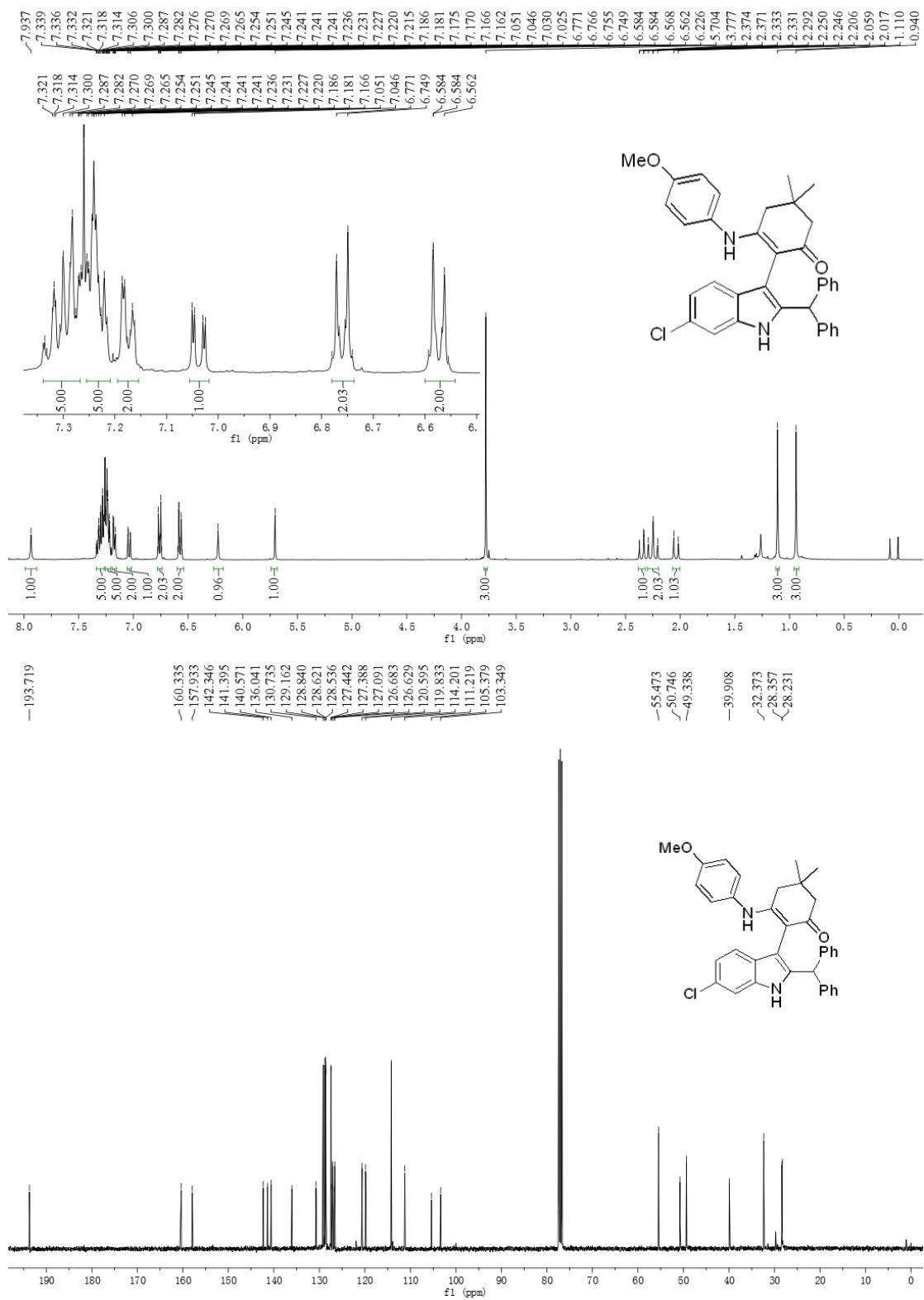
4ga



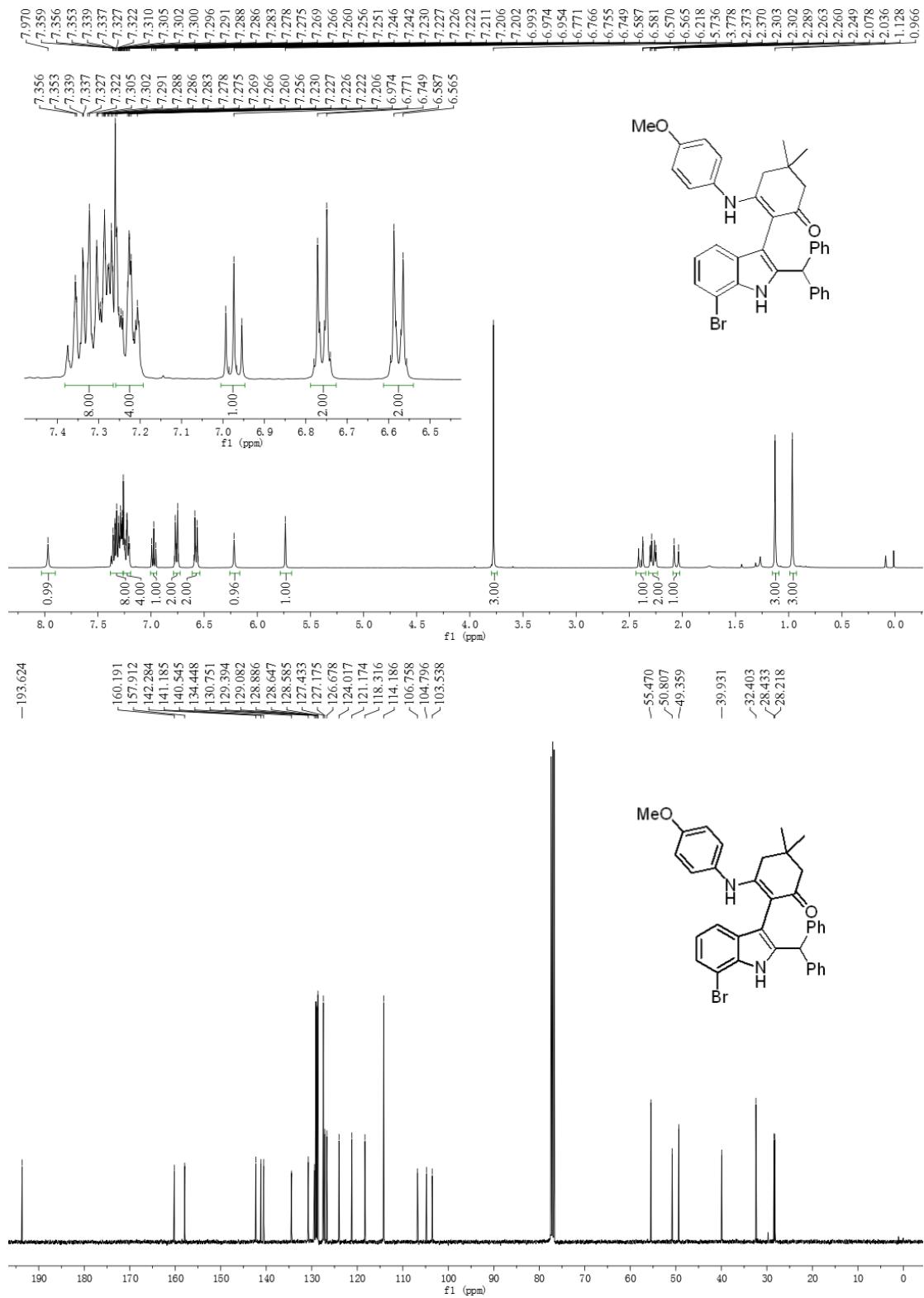
4ha



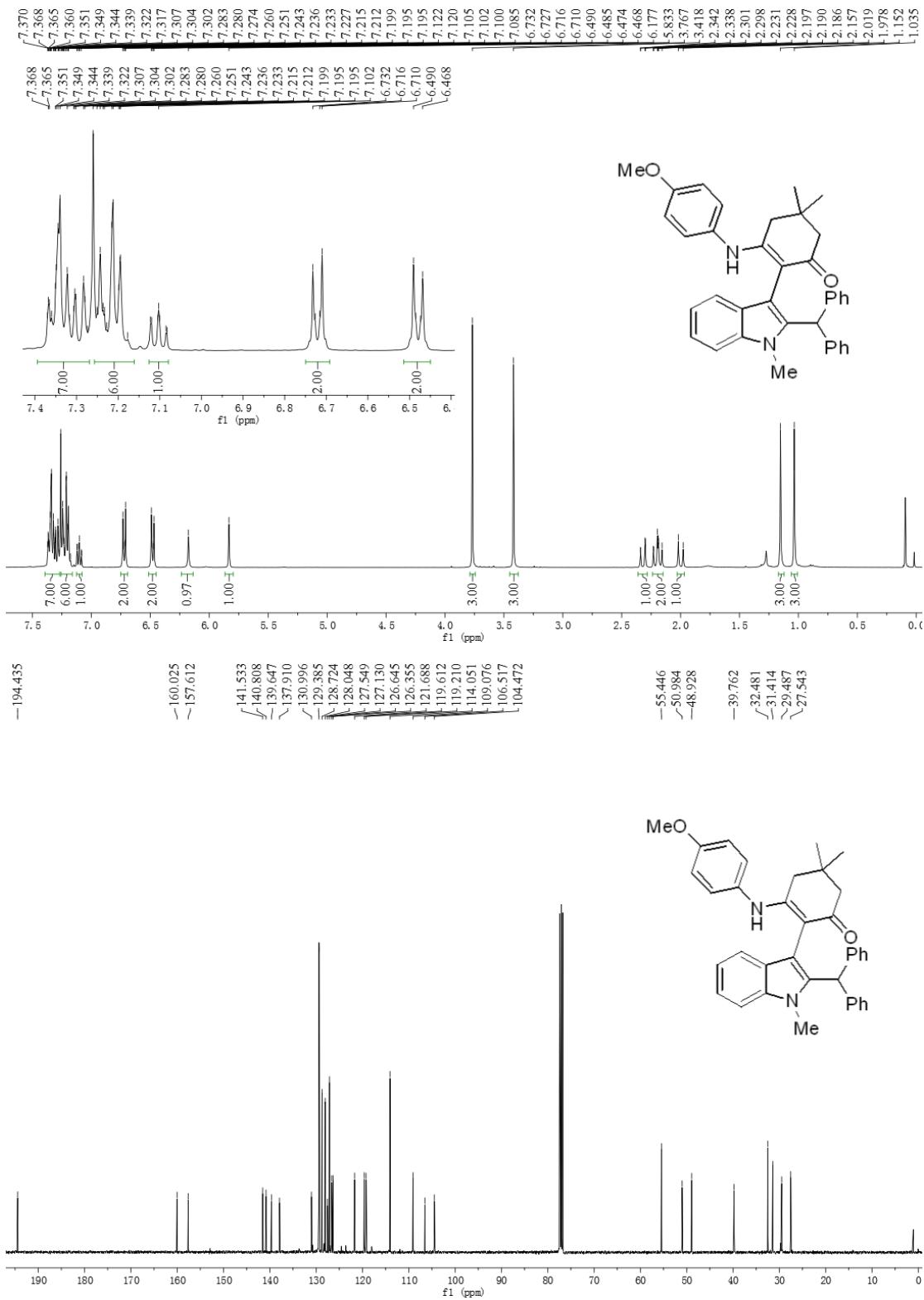
4ia



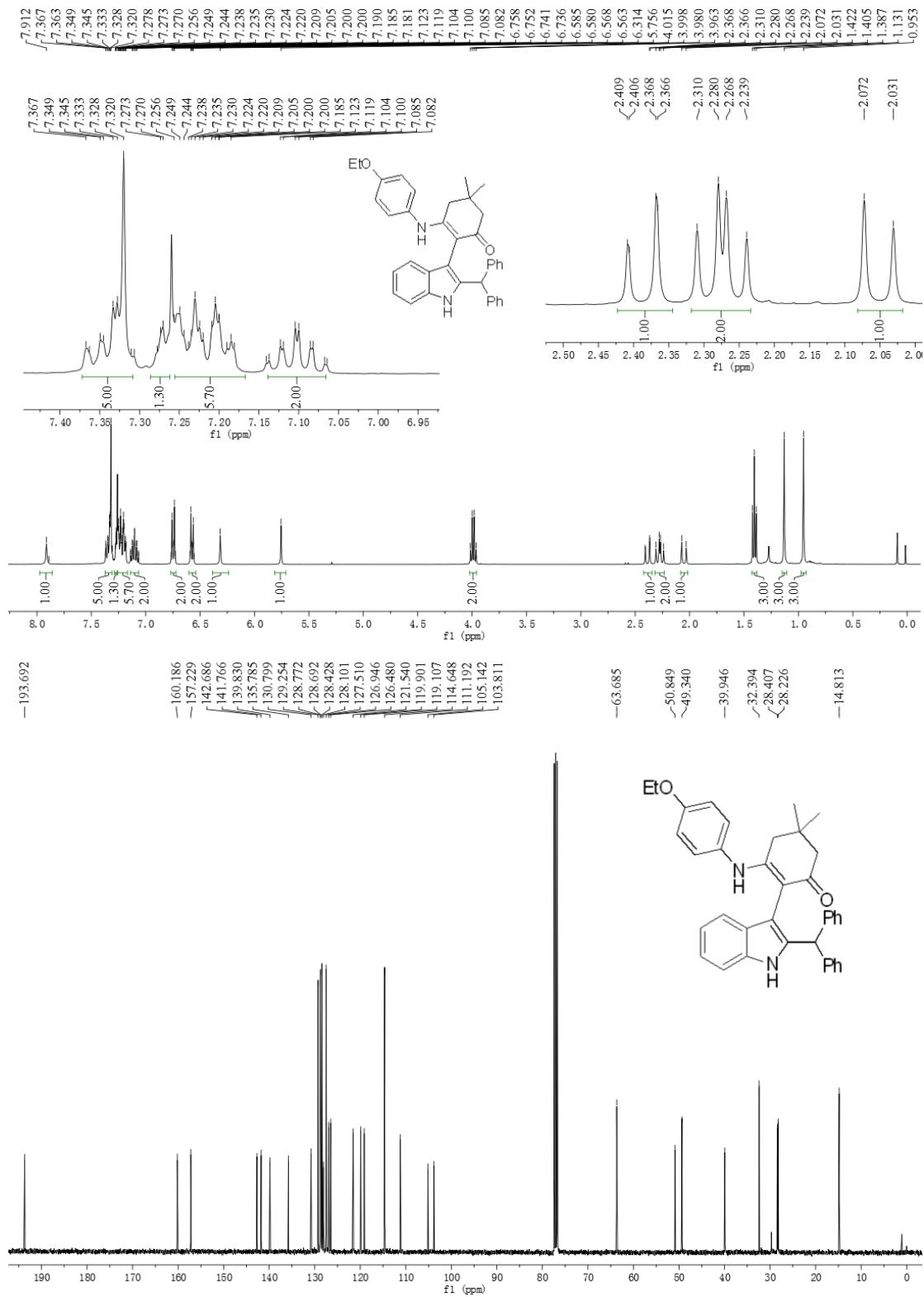
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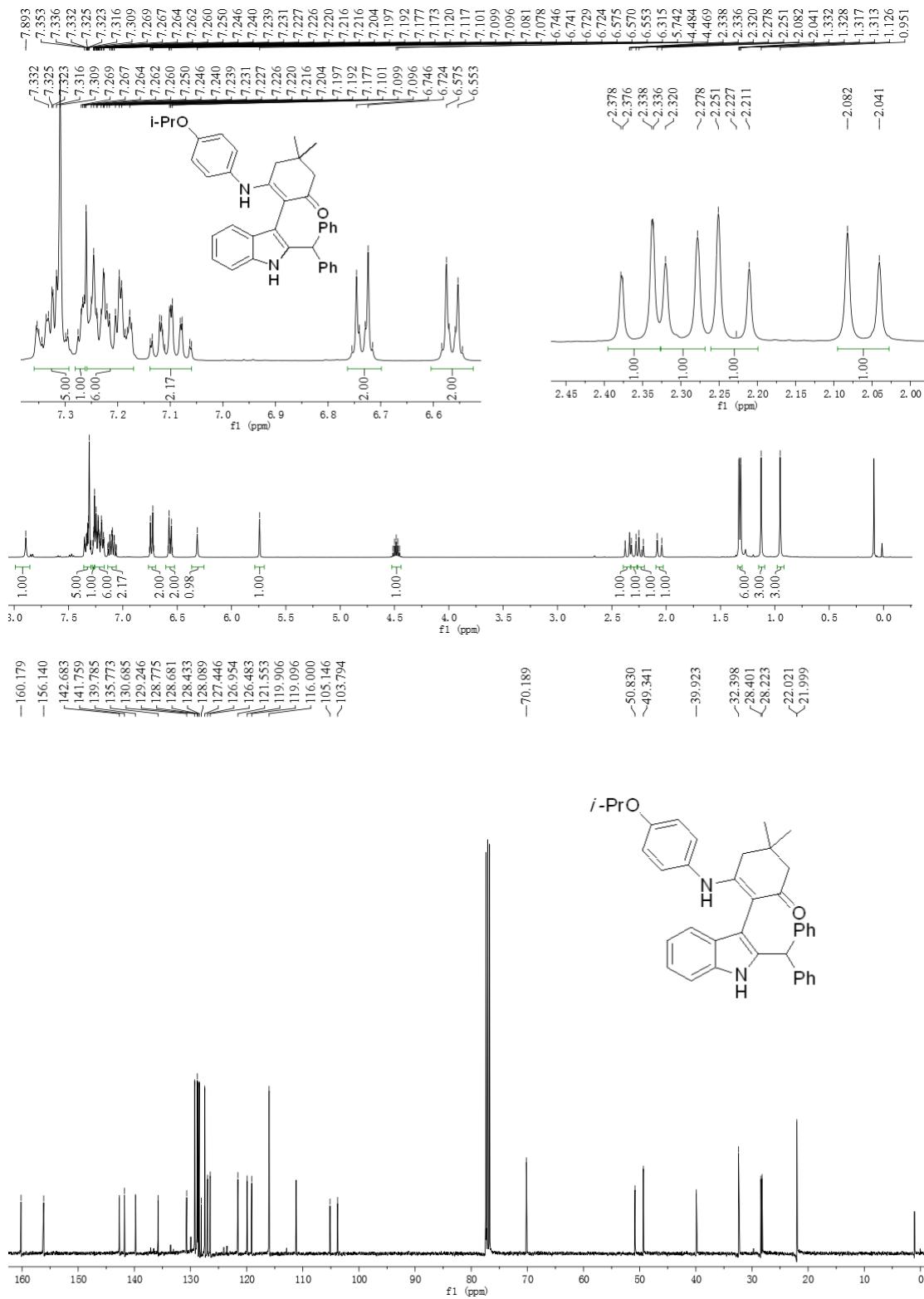
4ka



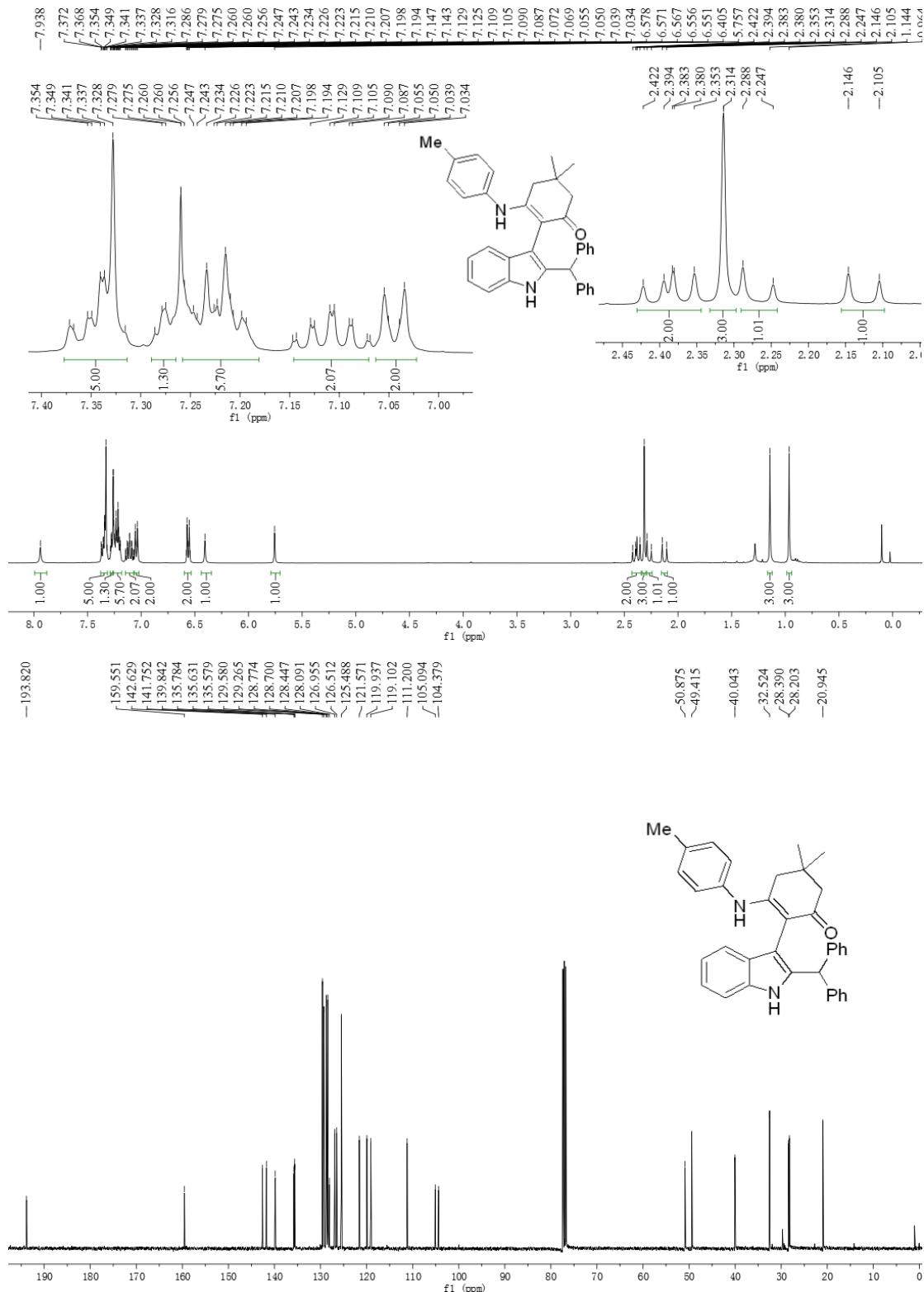
4ab



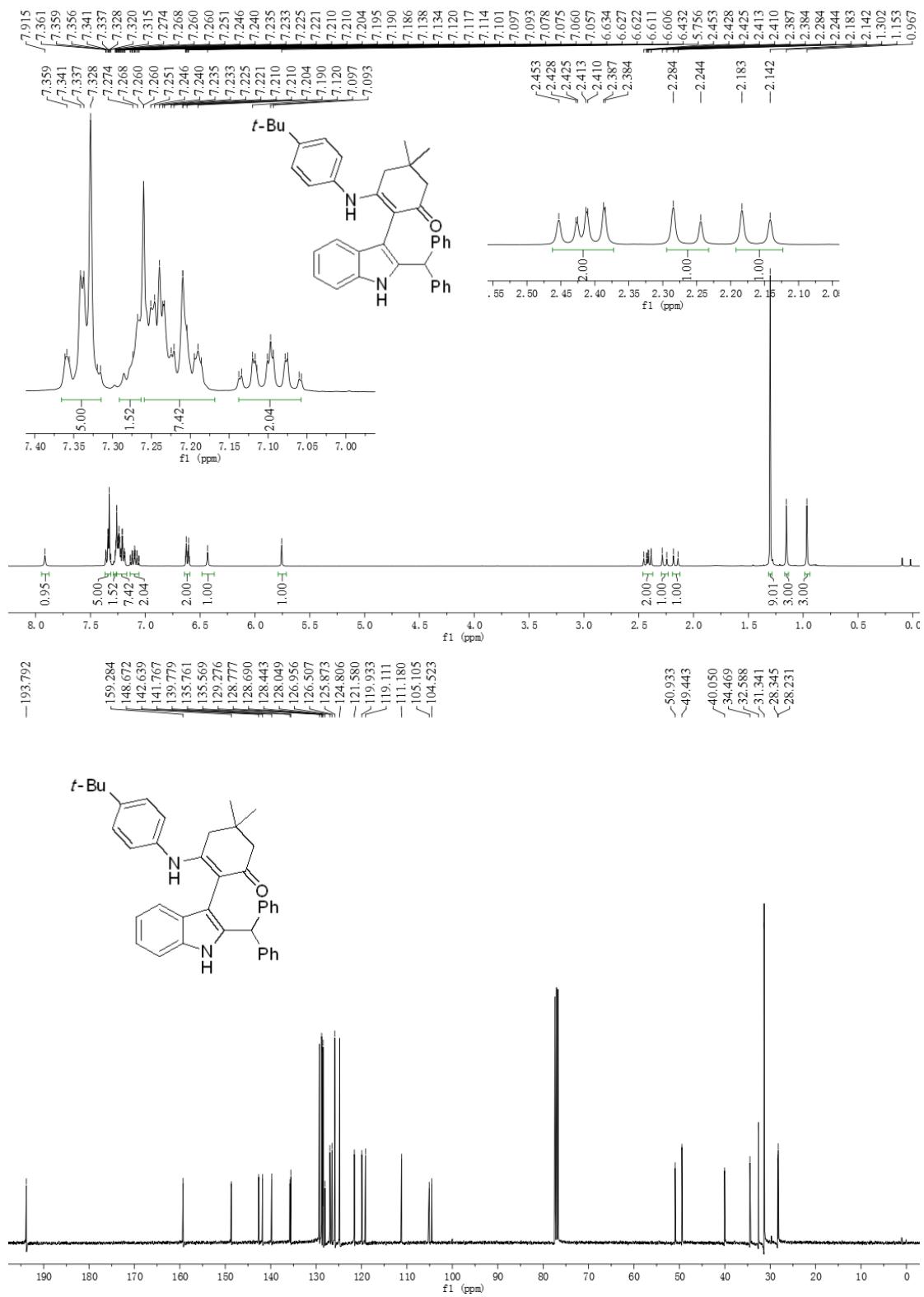
4ac



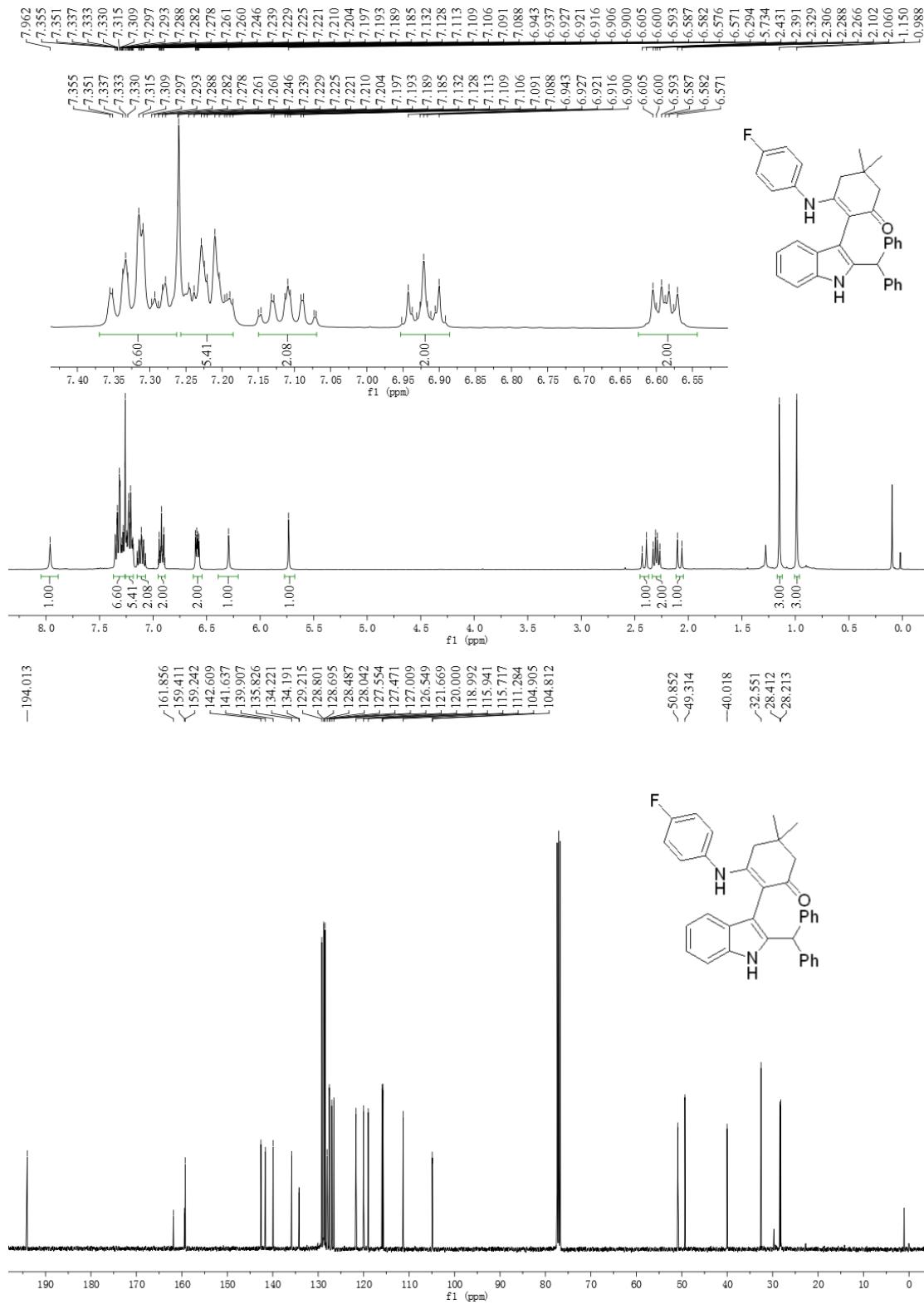
4ad

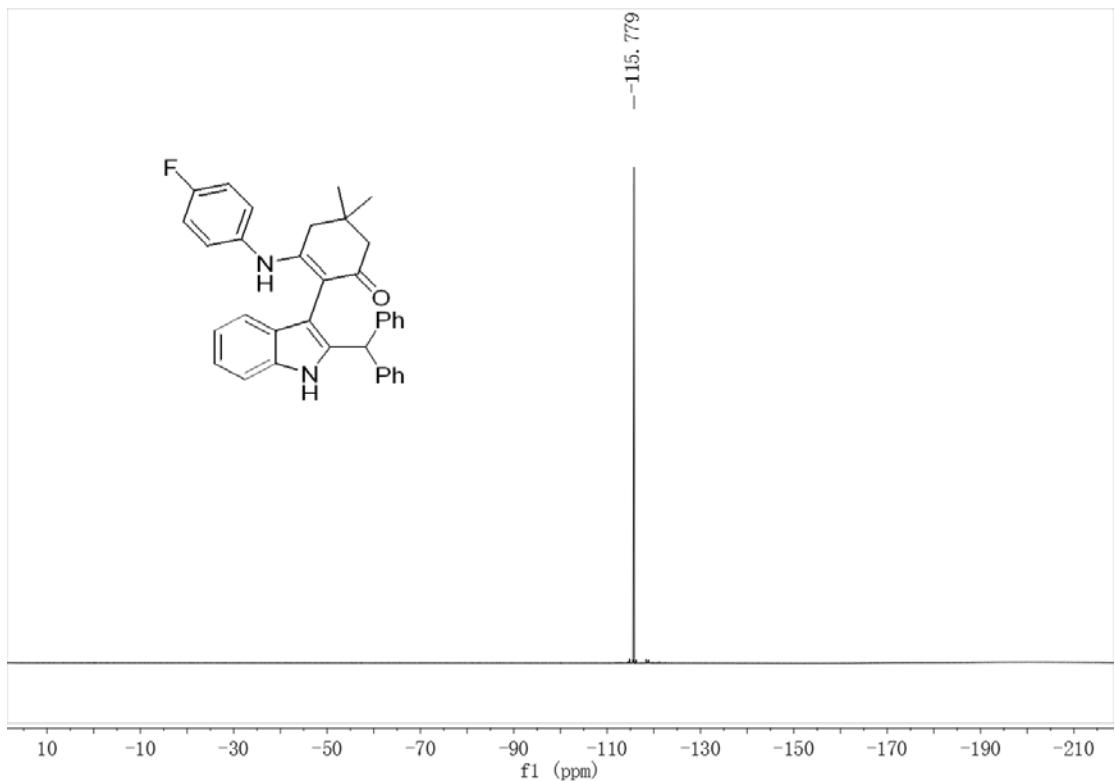


4ae

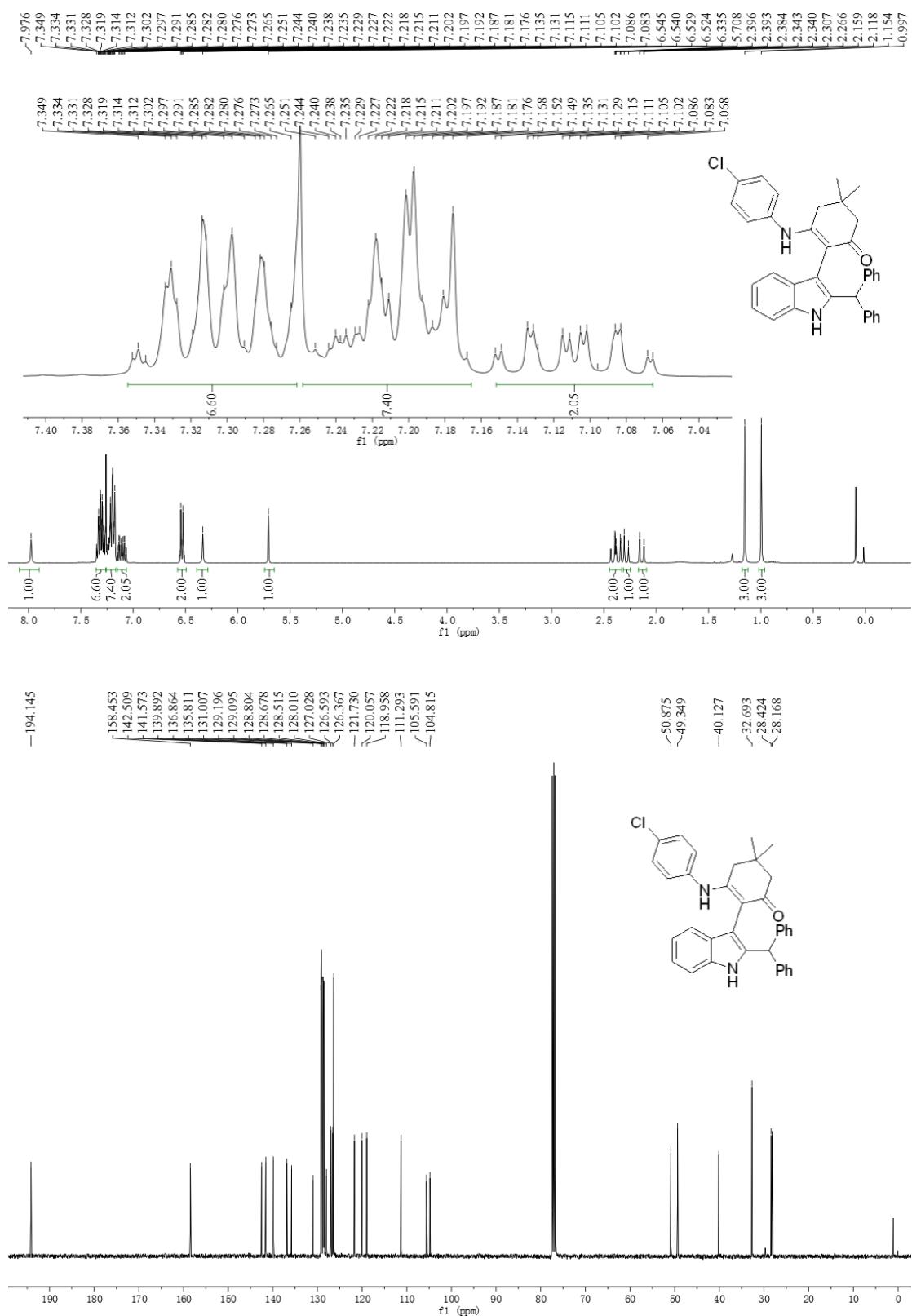


4af

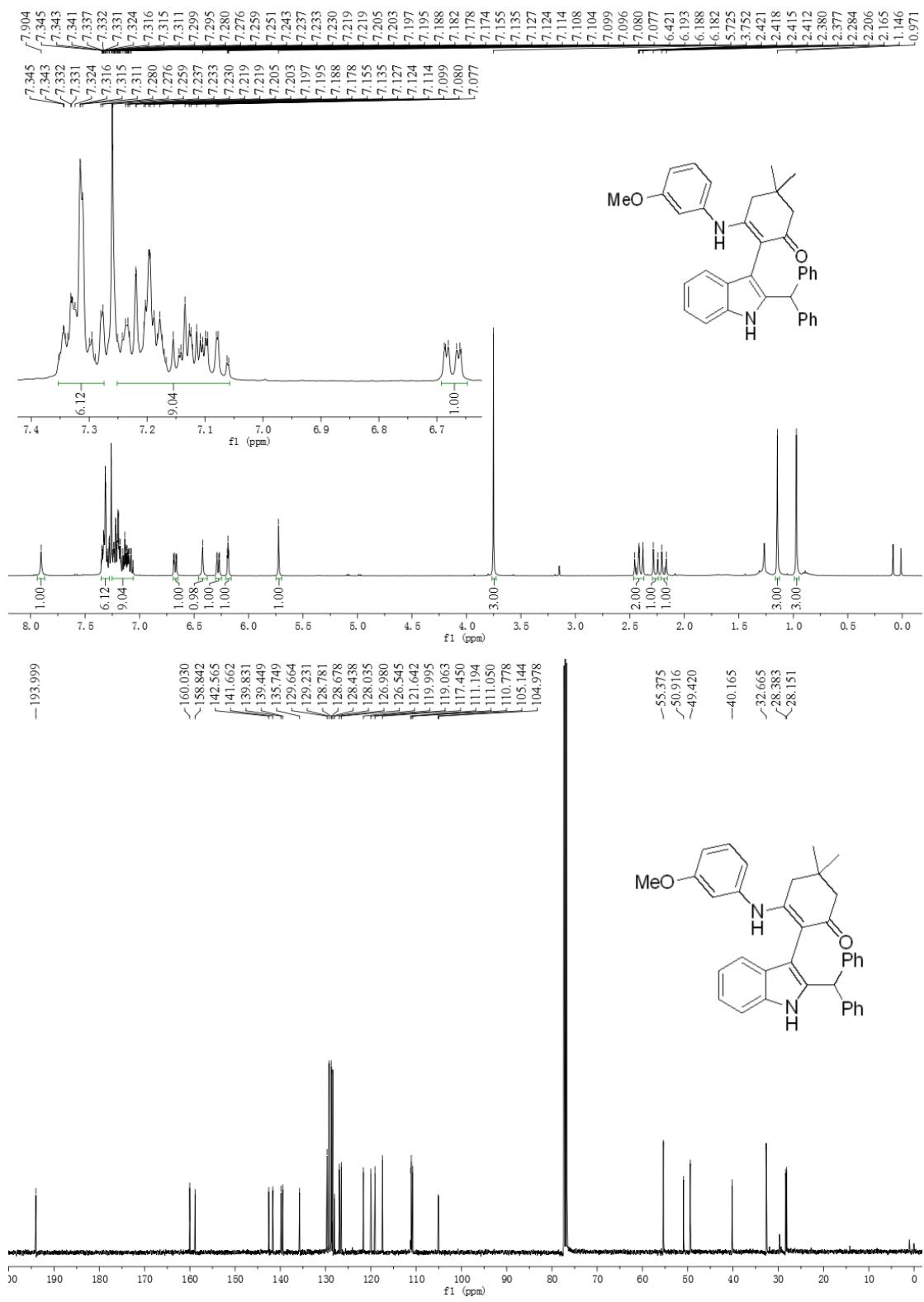




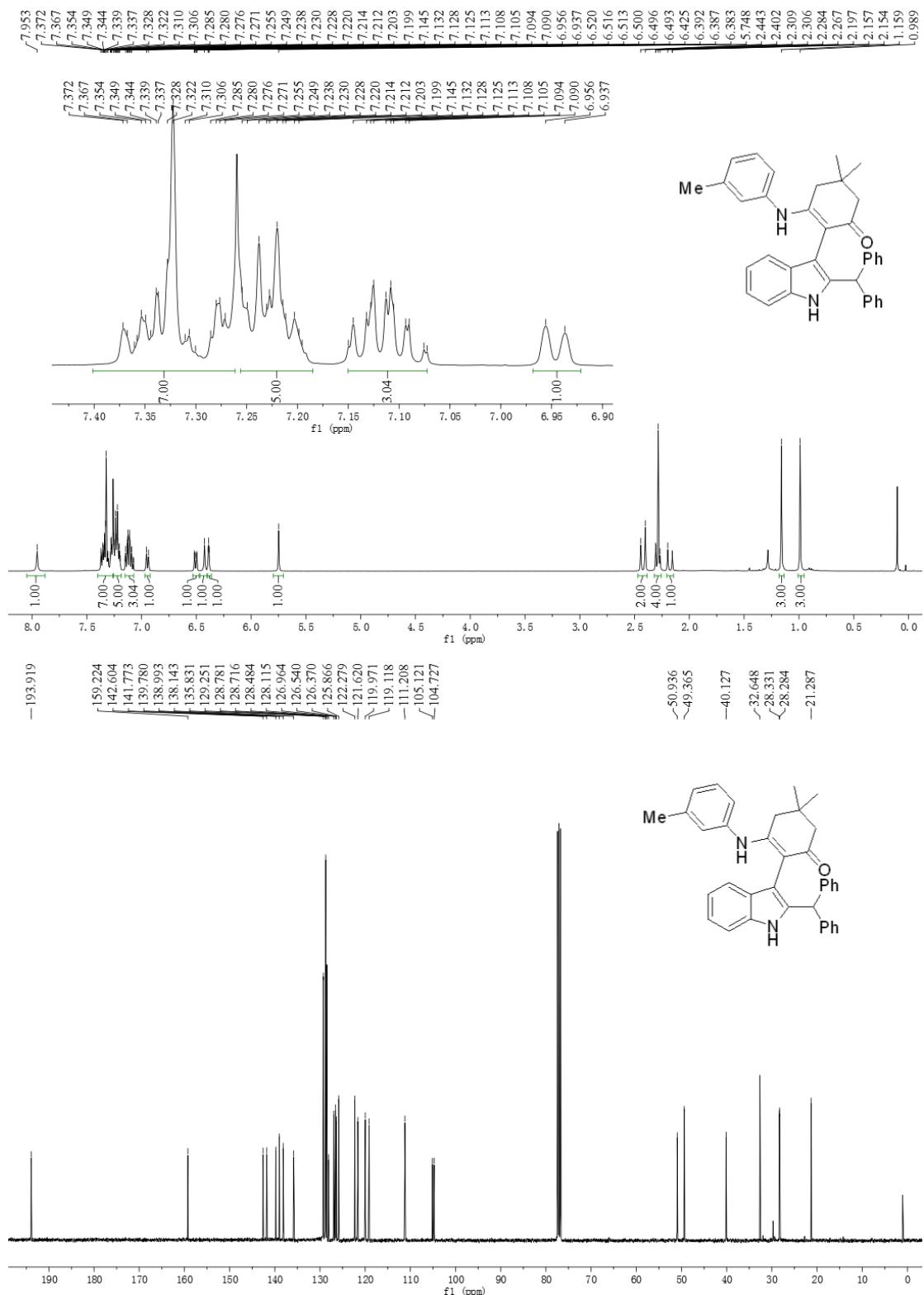
**4ag**



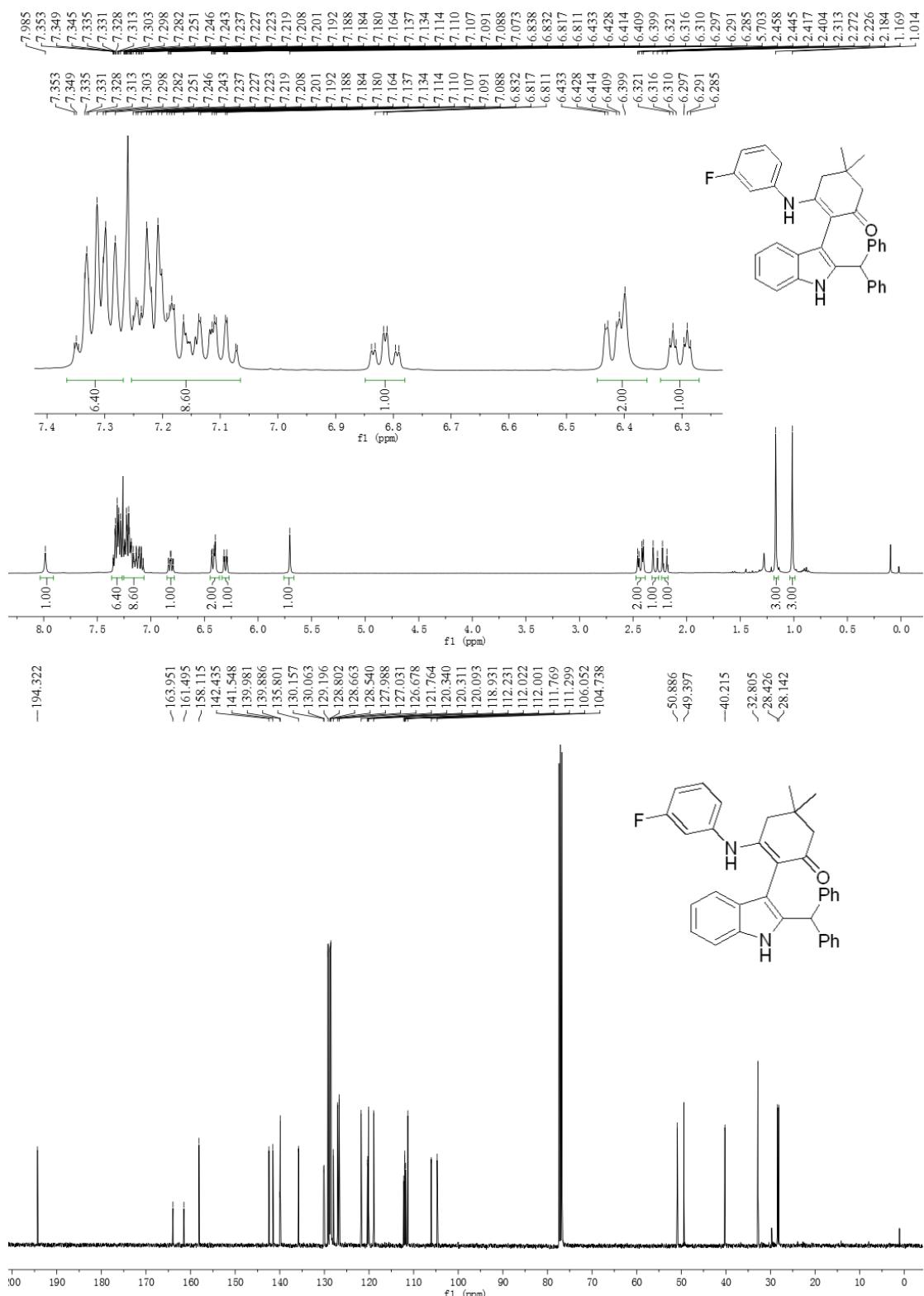
4ah

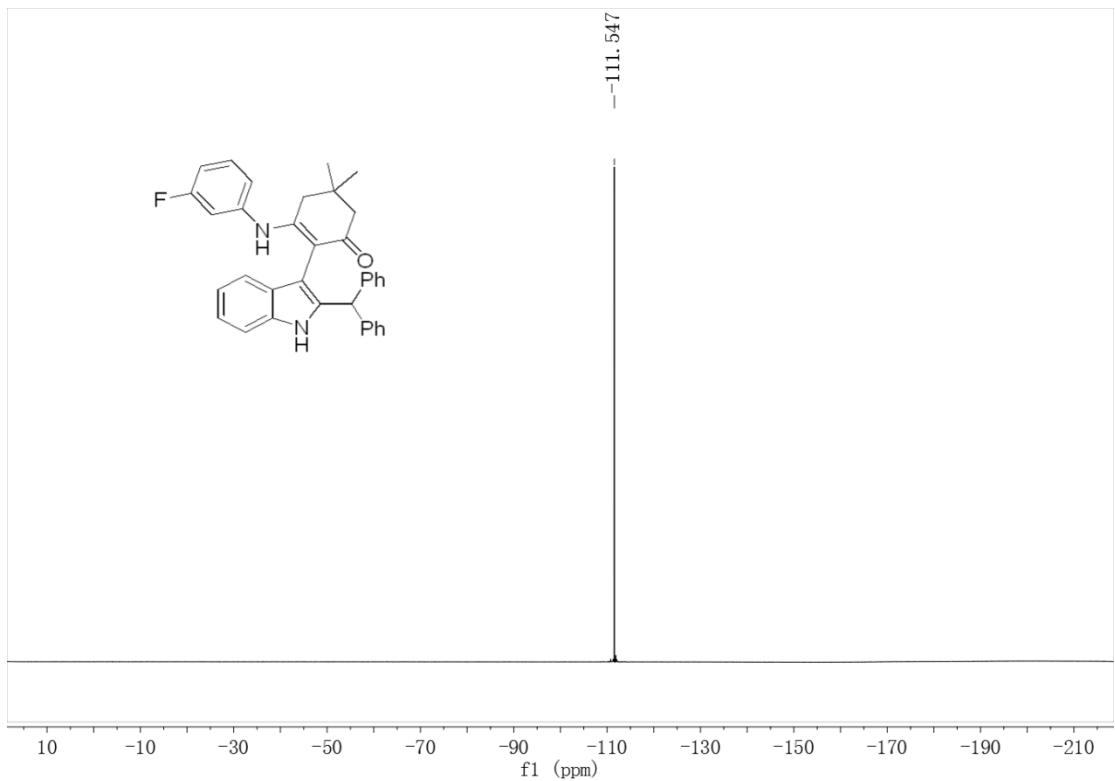


4ai

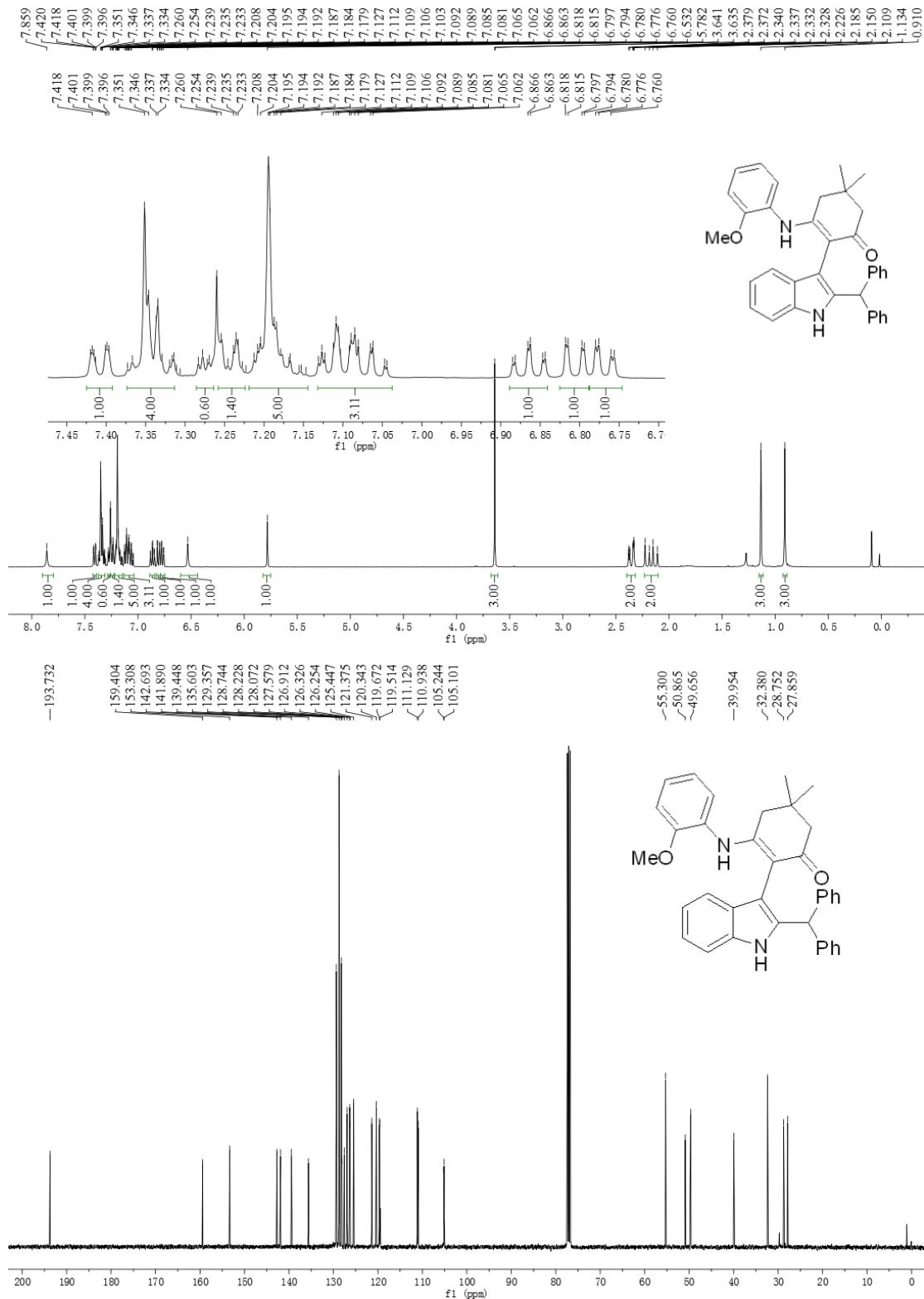


4aj

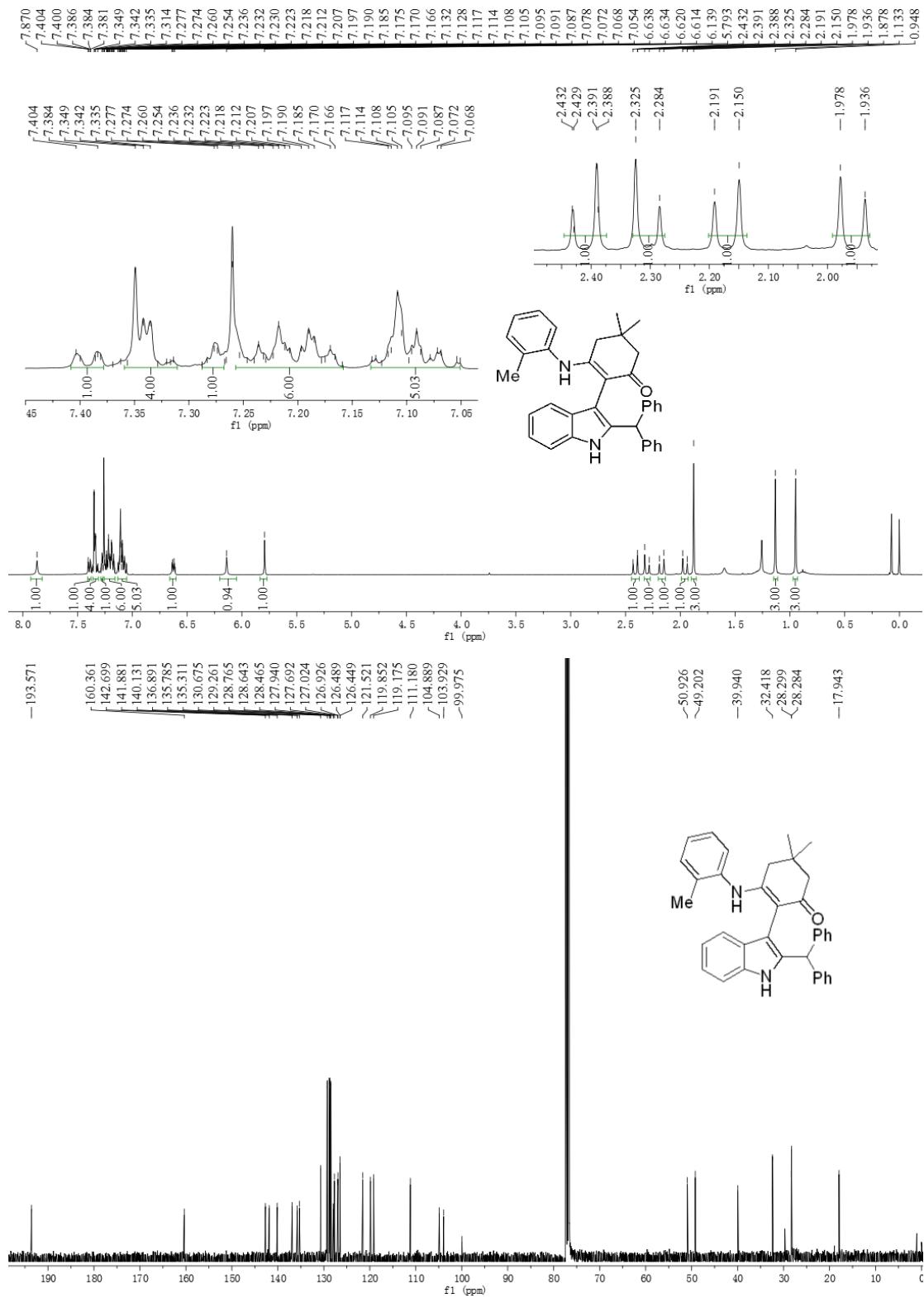




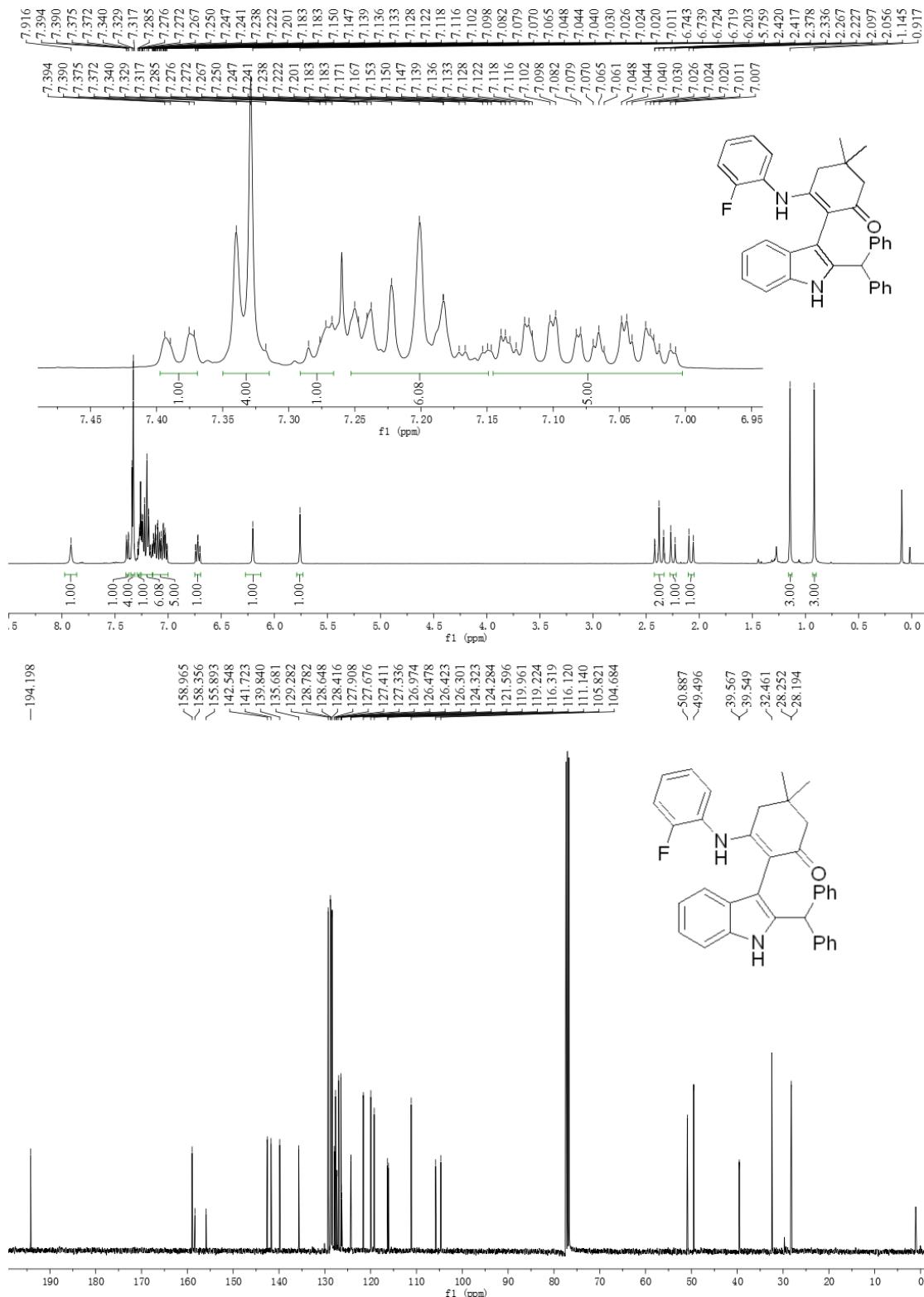
4ak

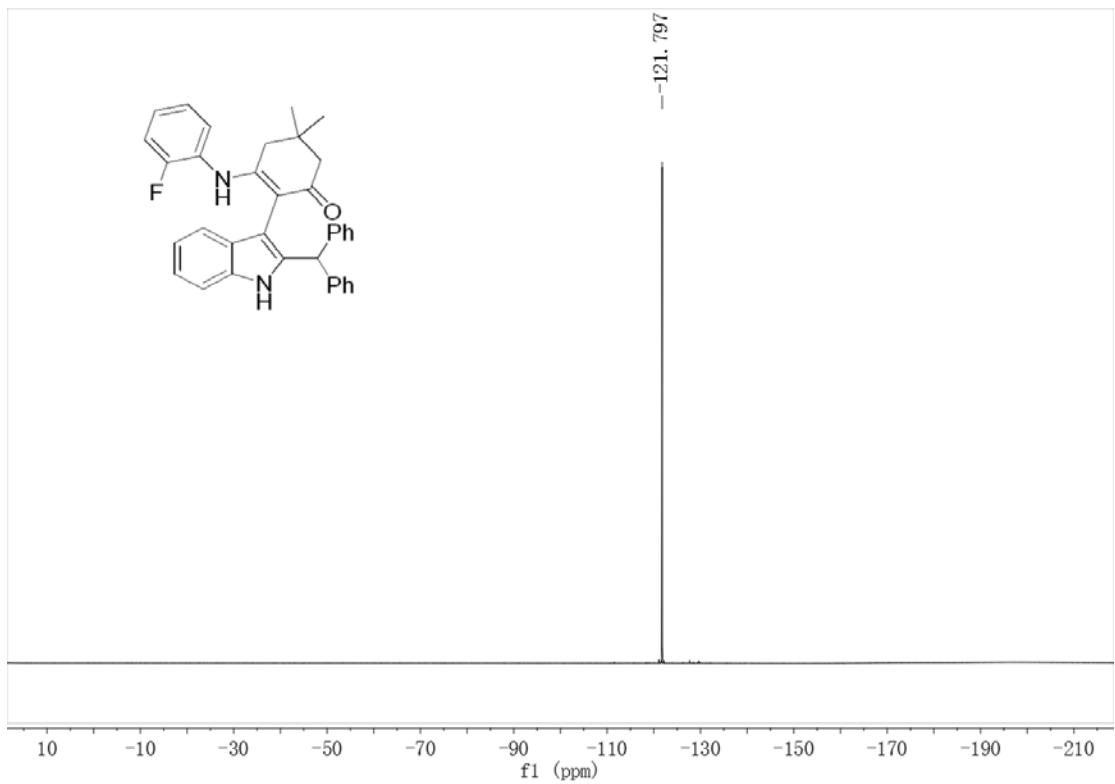


4al

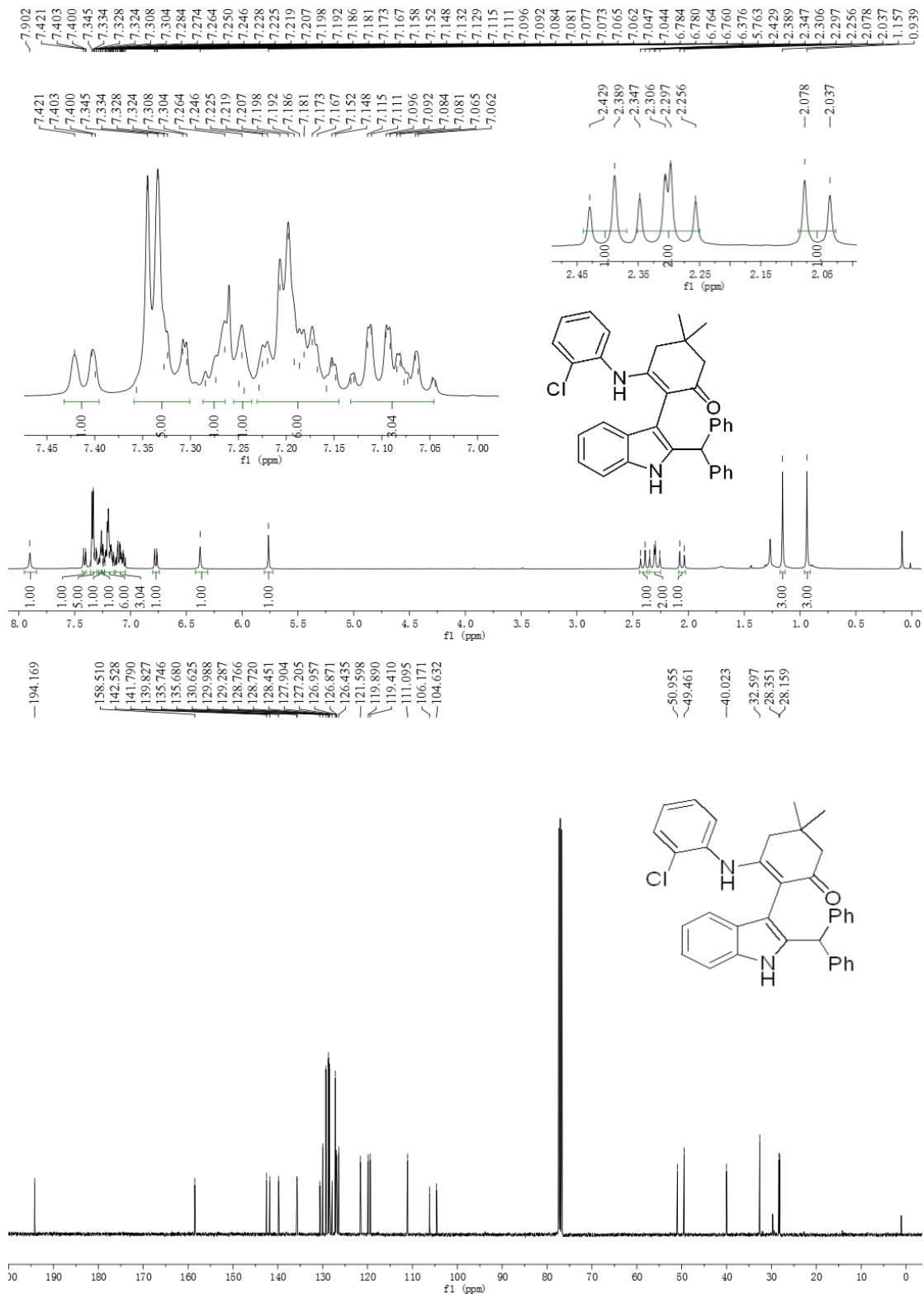


4am

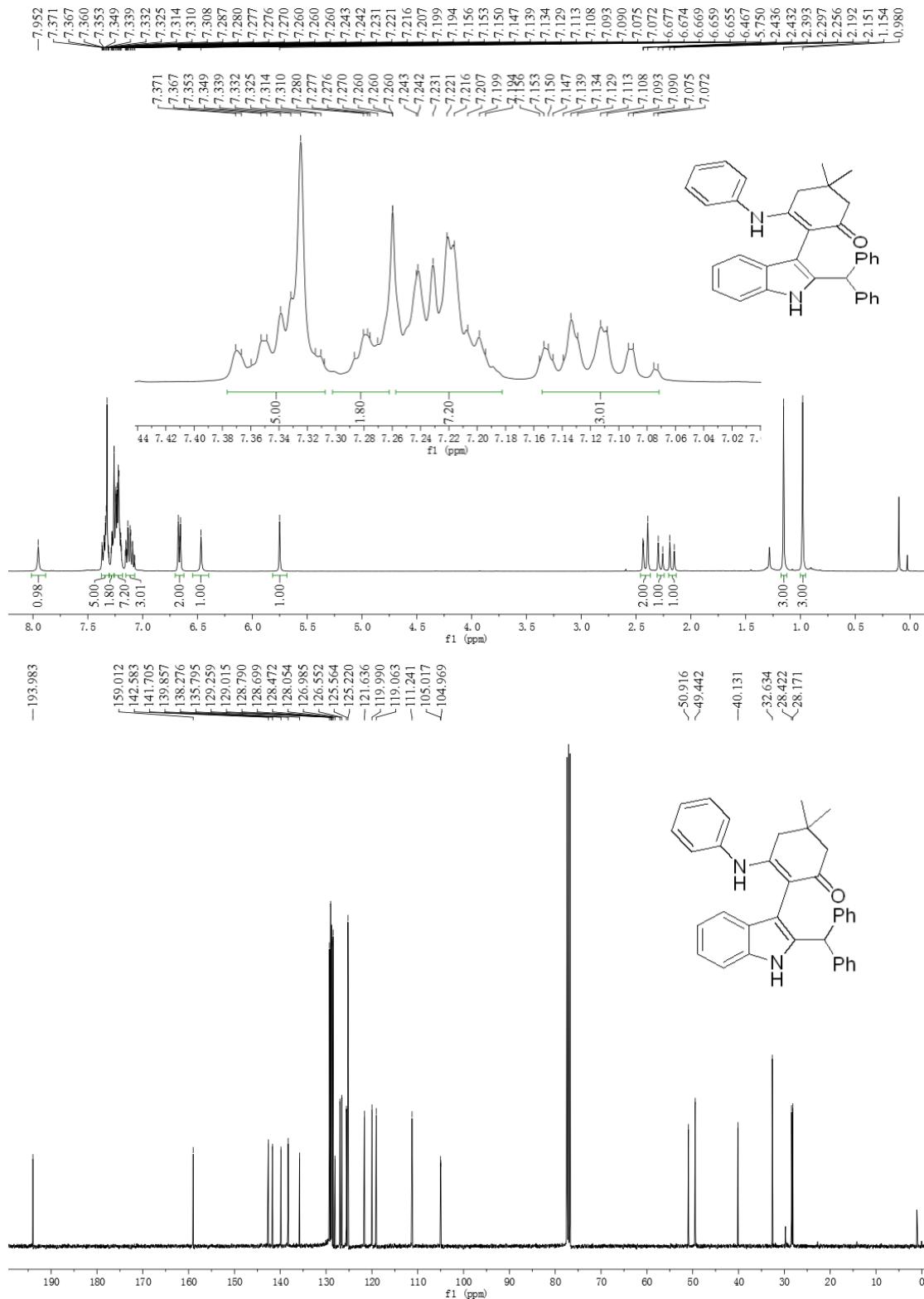




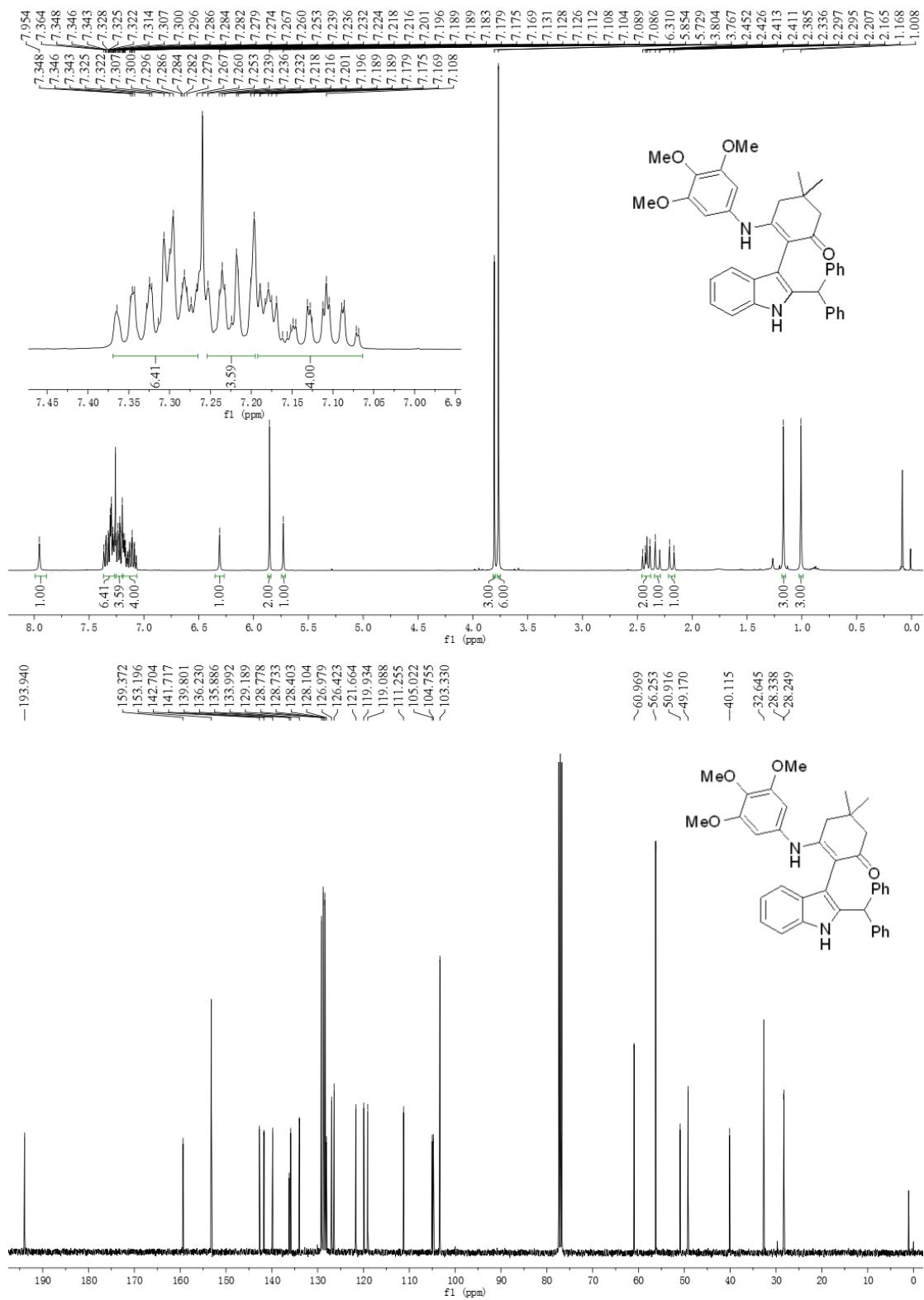
4an



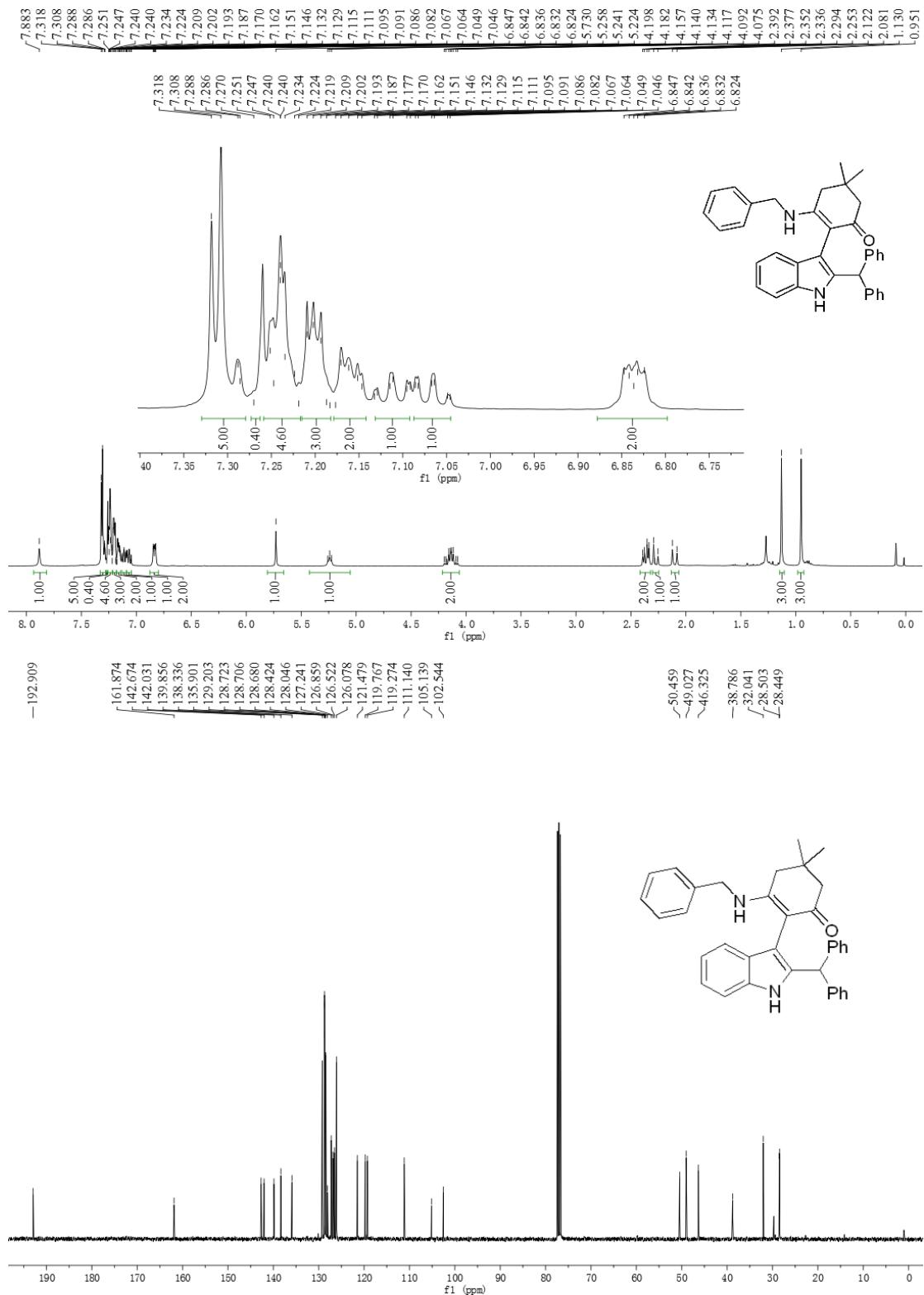
4ao



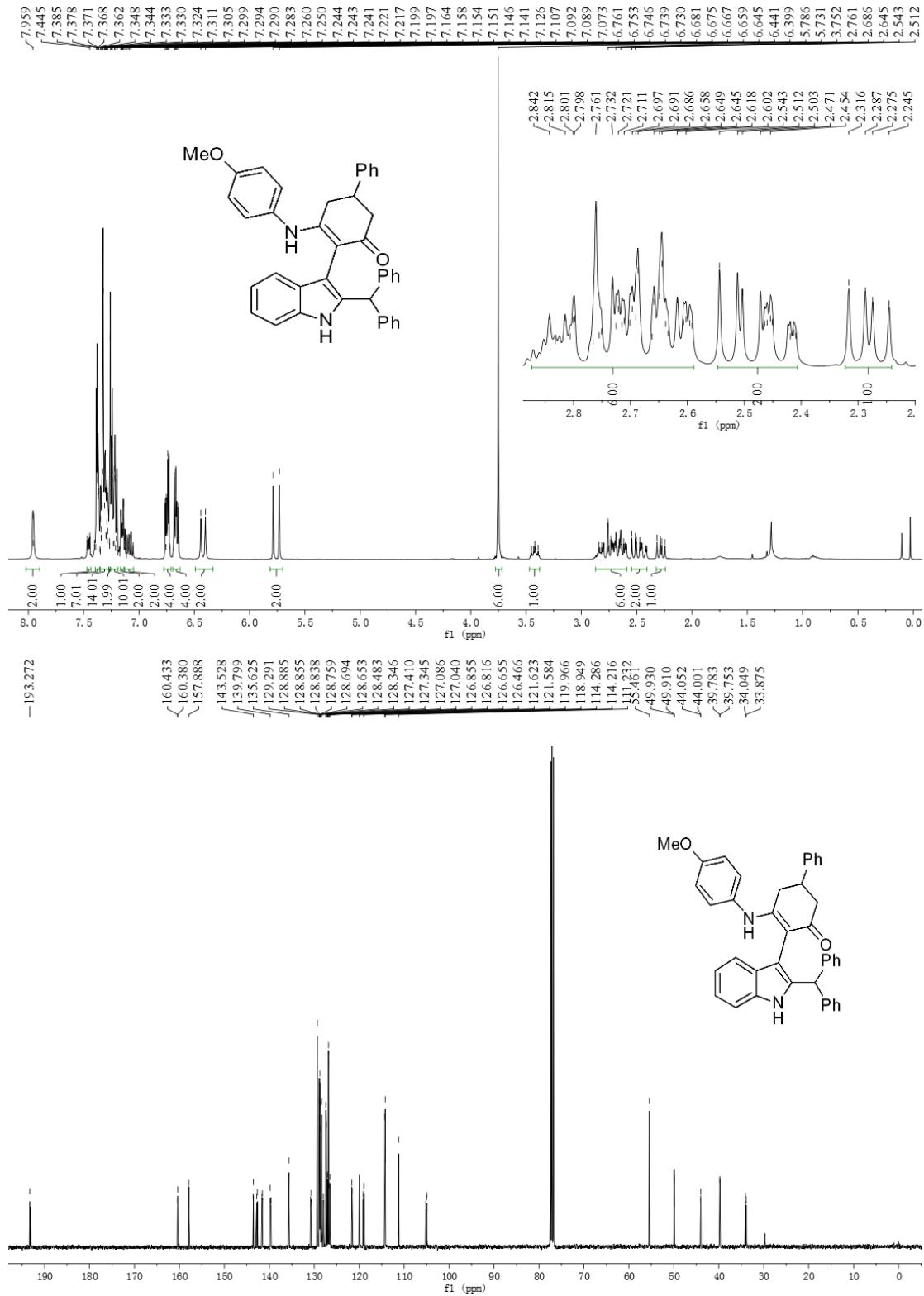
4ap



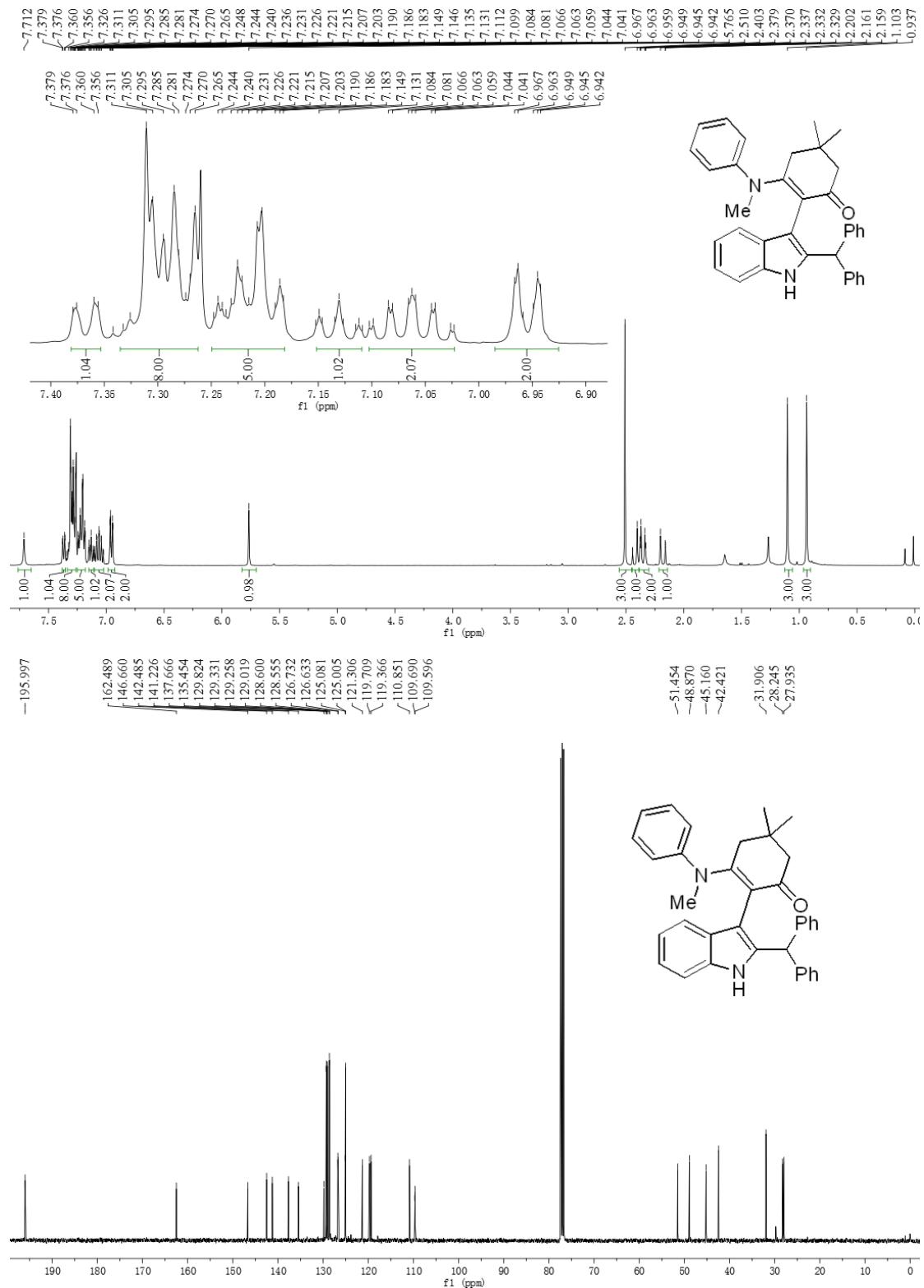
4aq



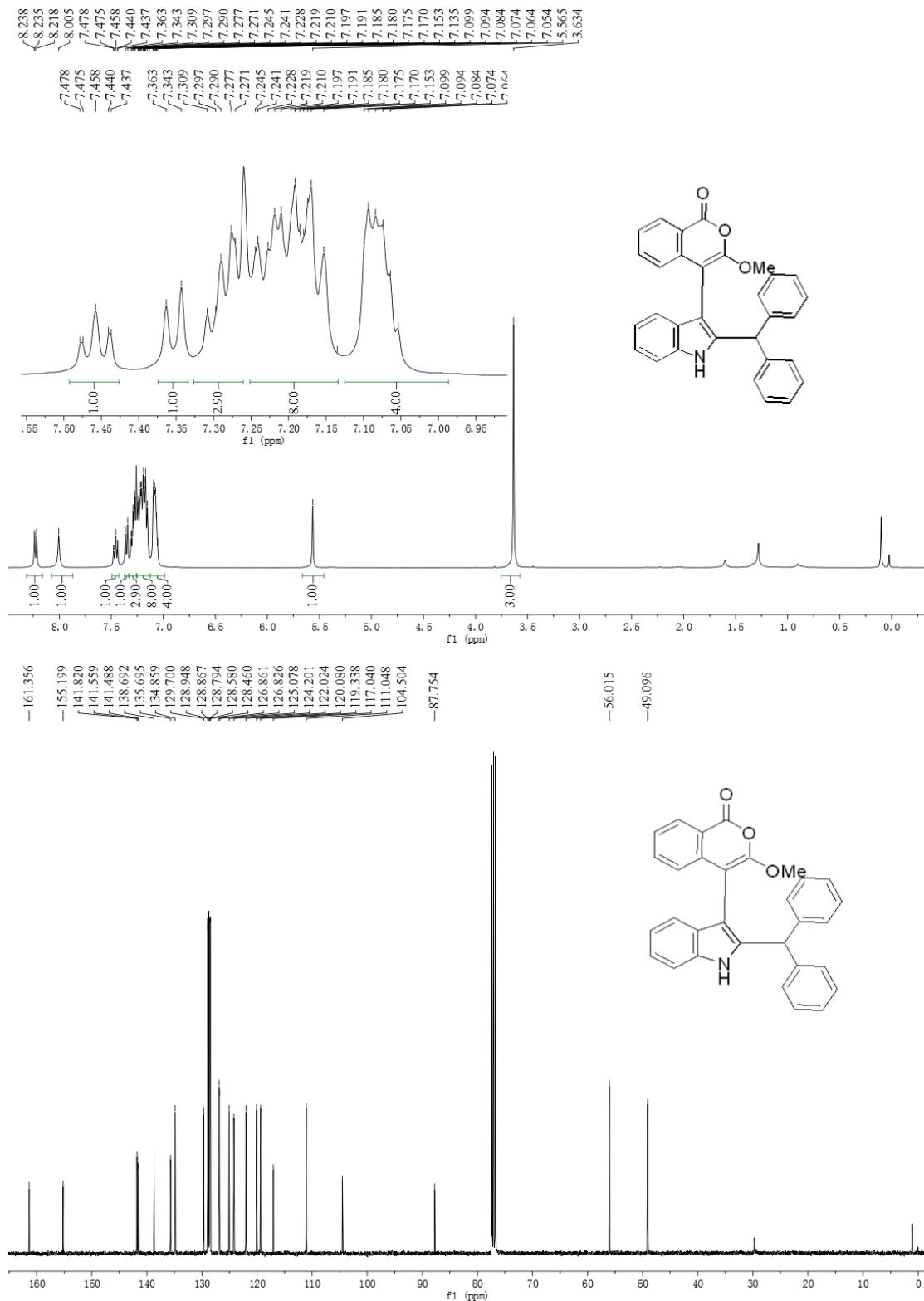
#### **4ar** (unseparable isomers with 1:1 molar ratio)



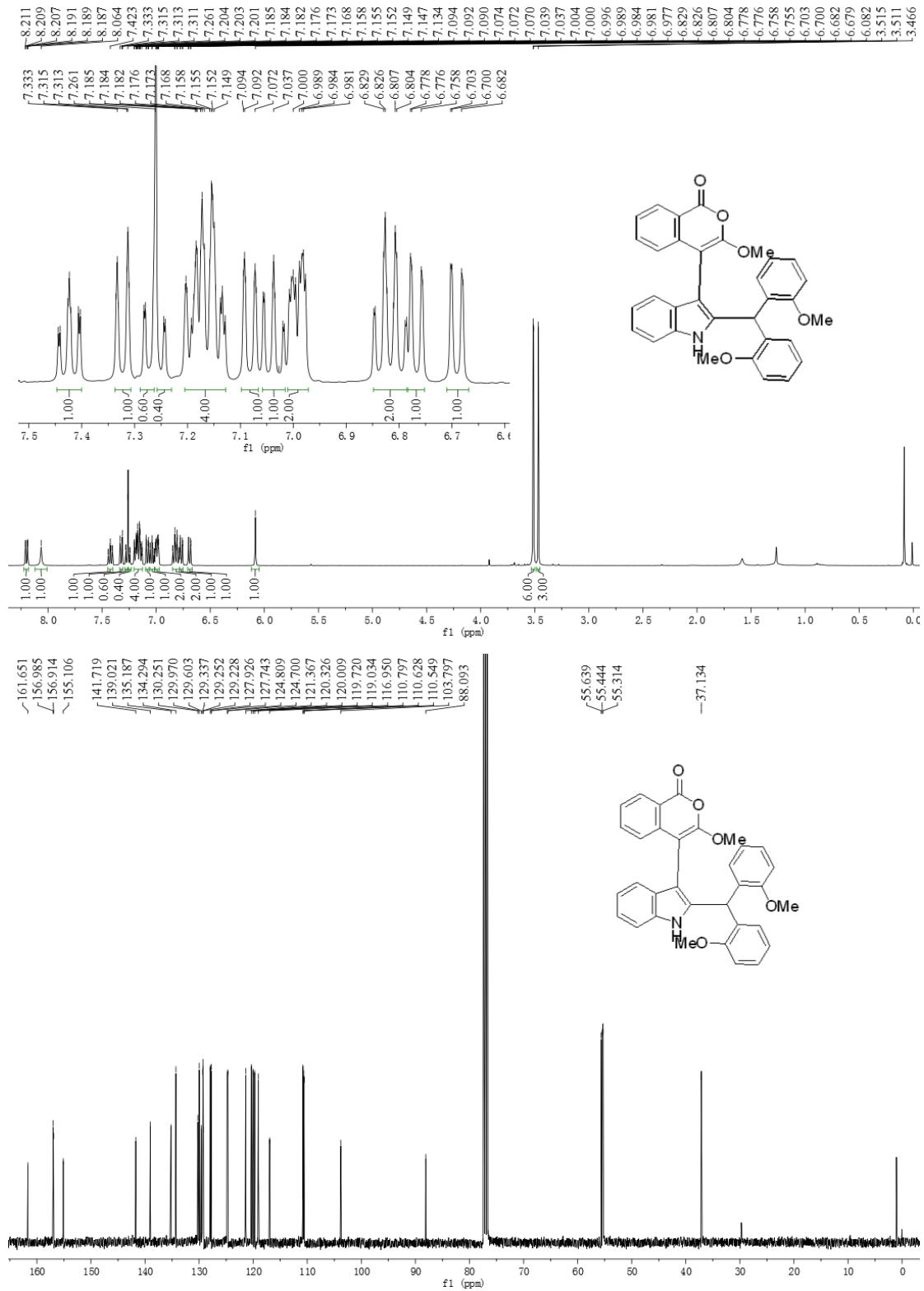
**4as**

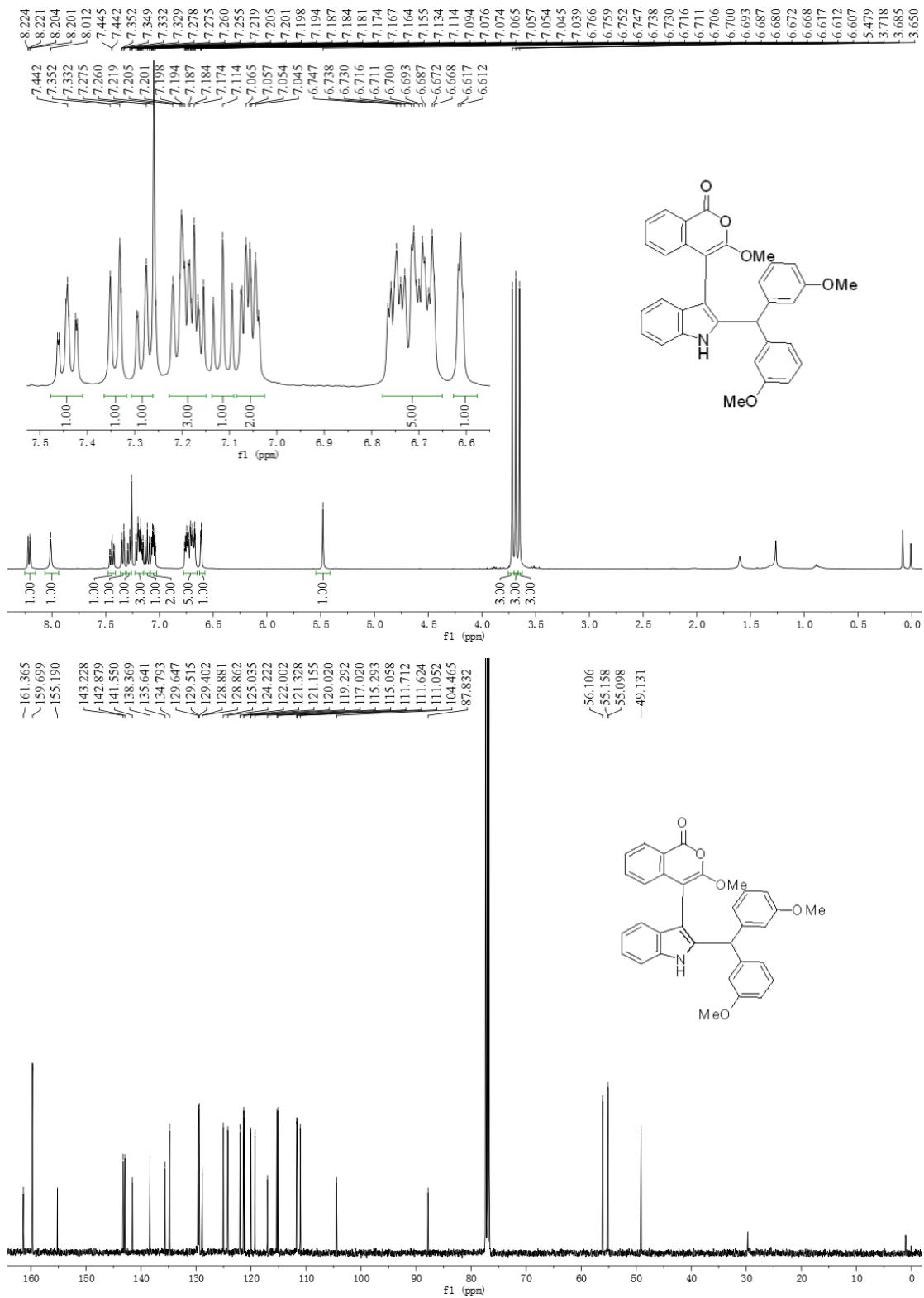


6а

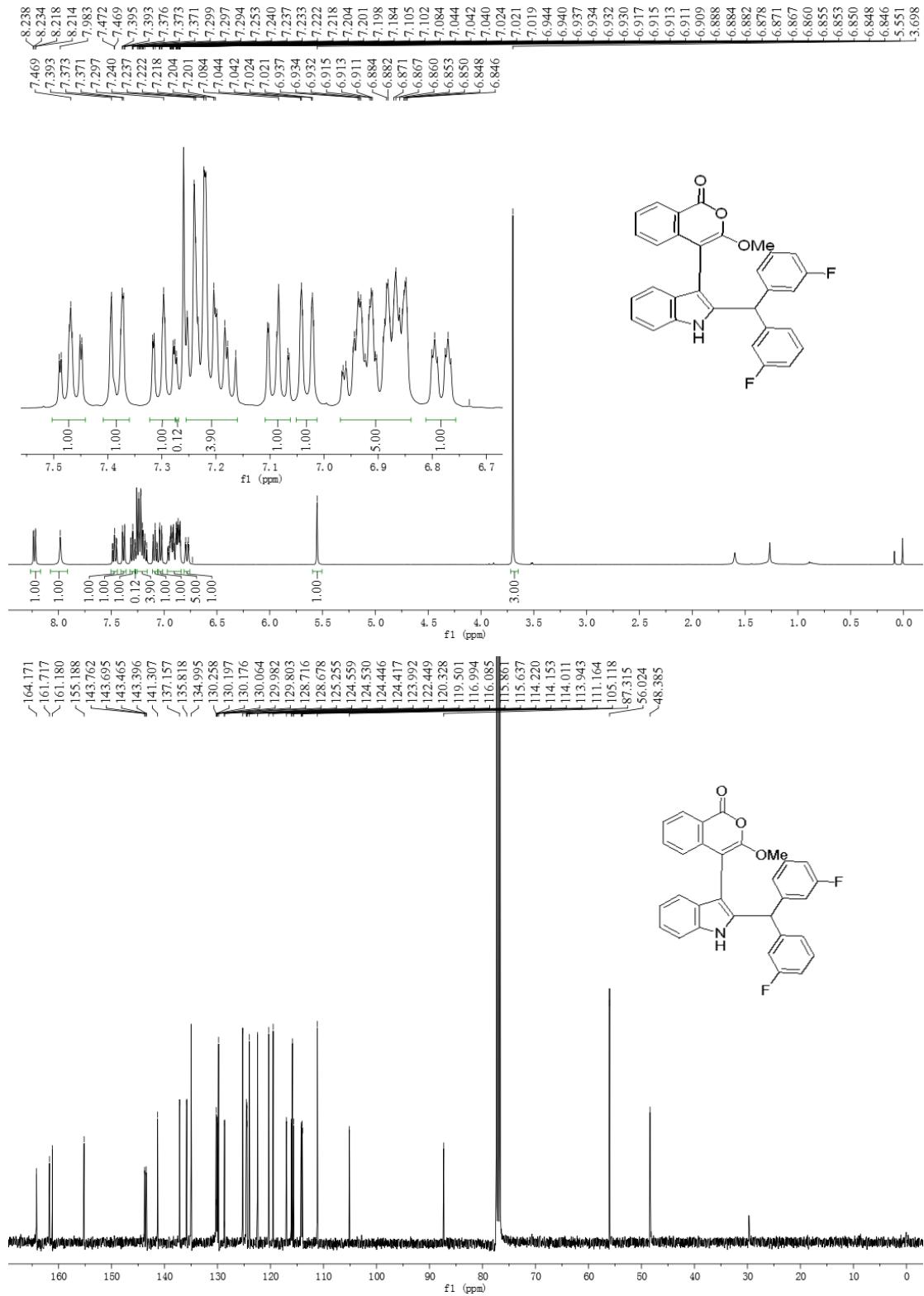


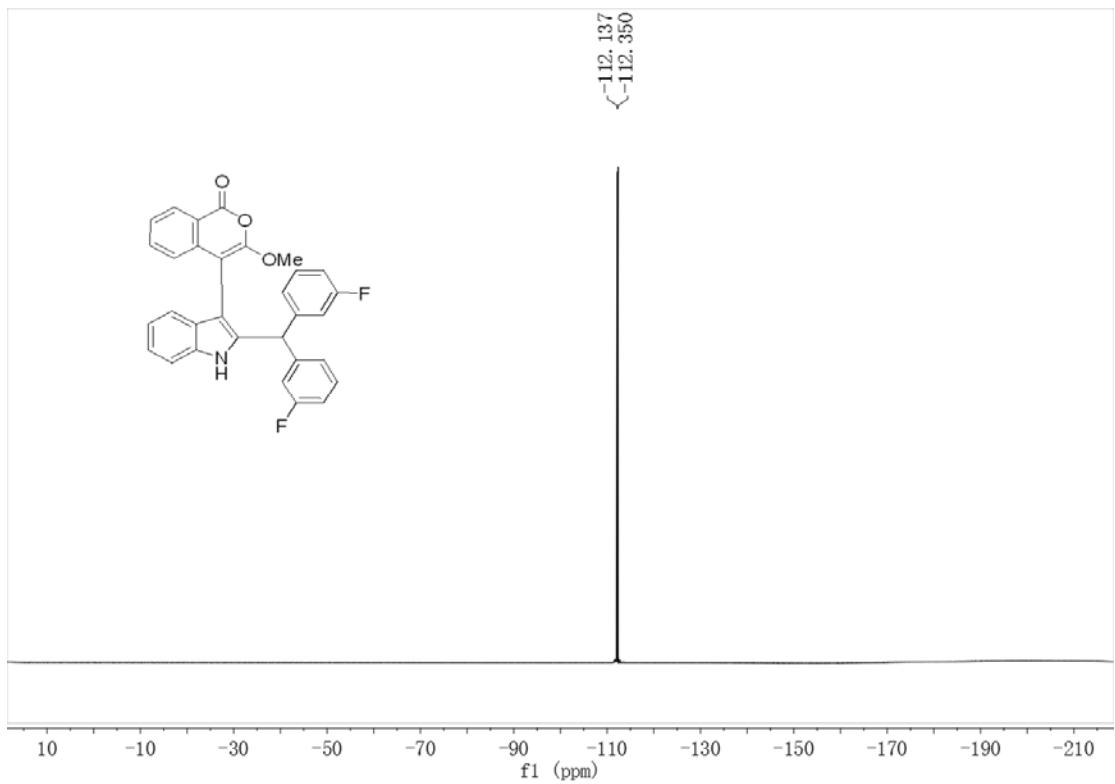
6b



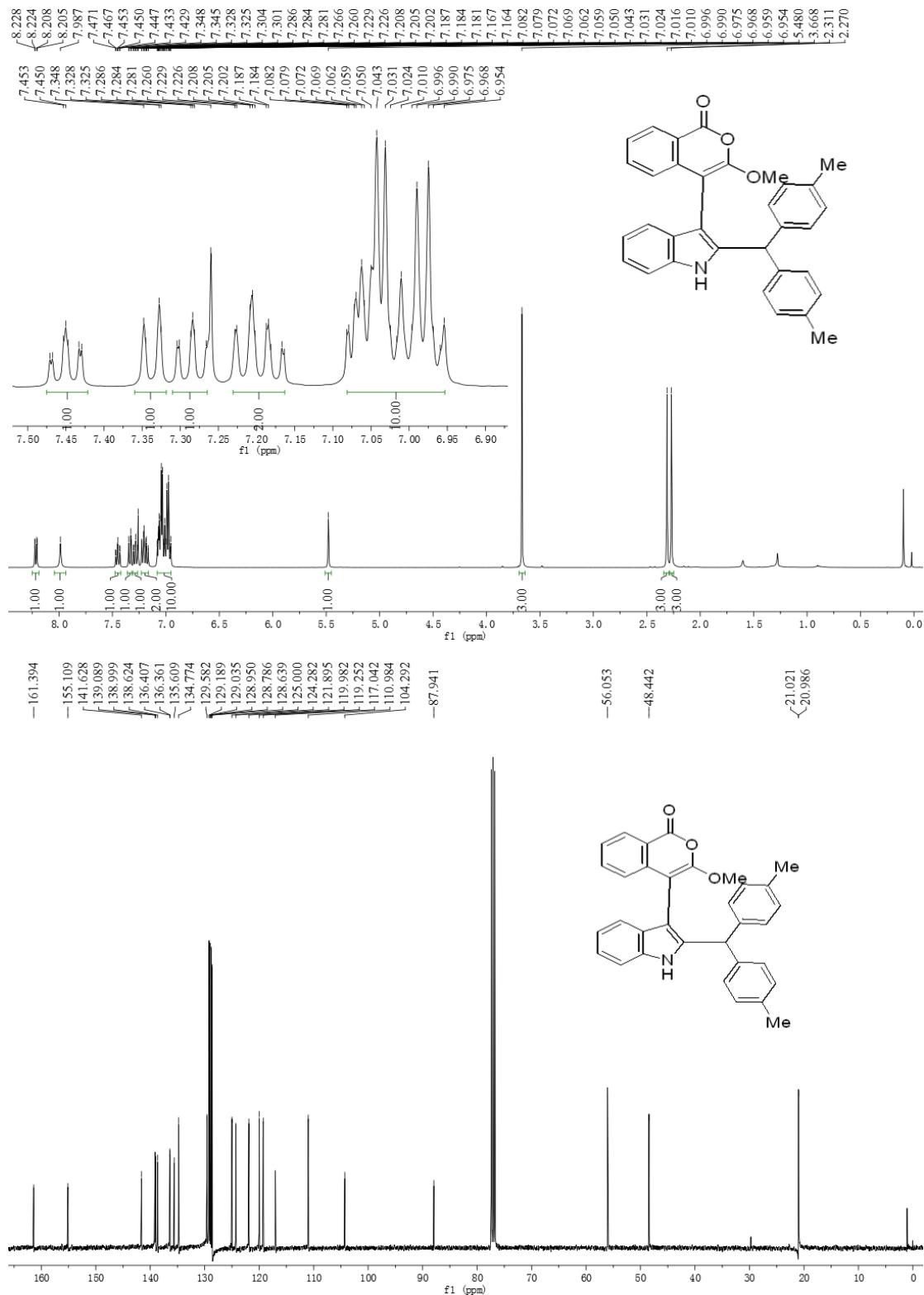
**6c**

6d

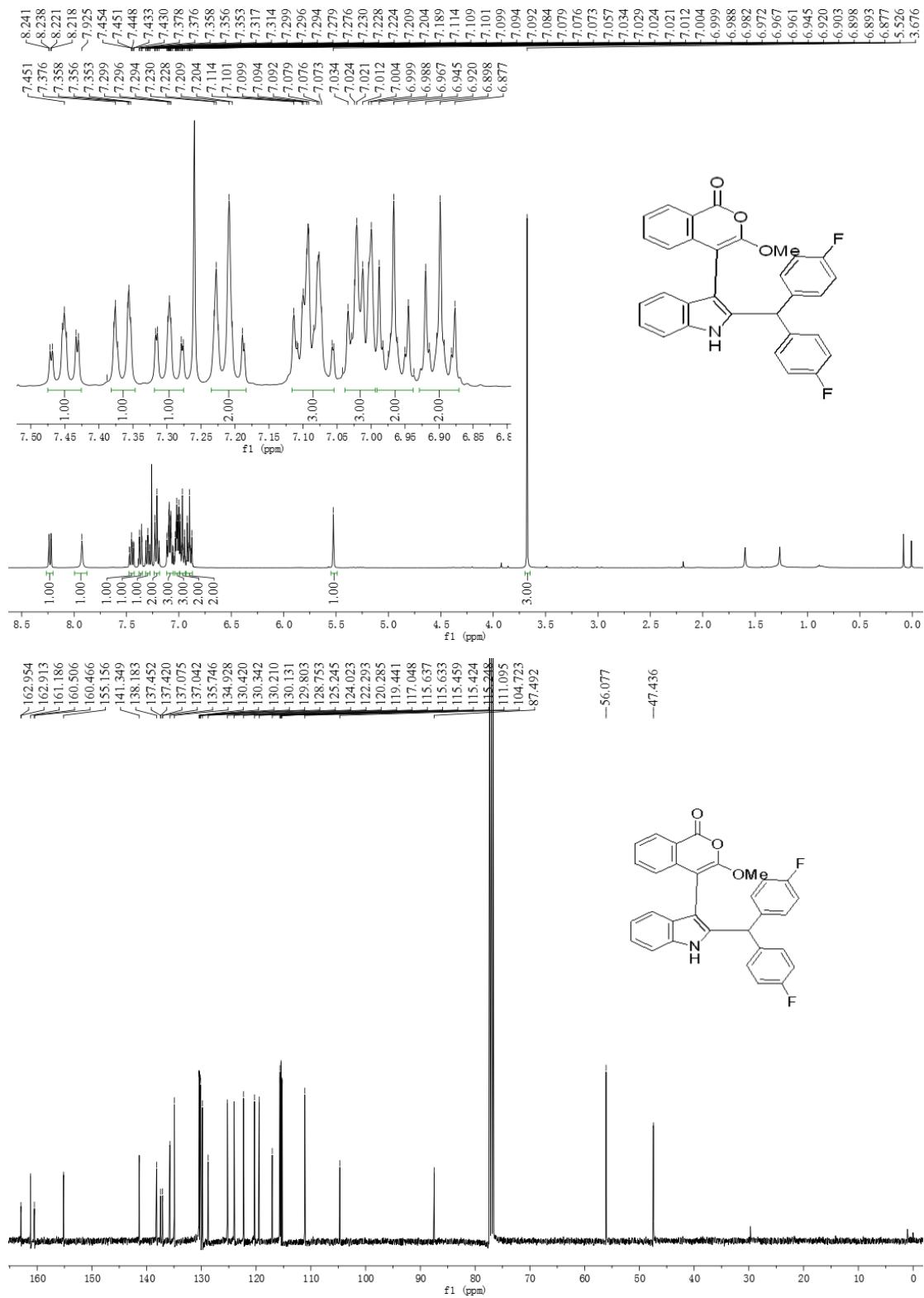


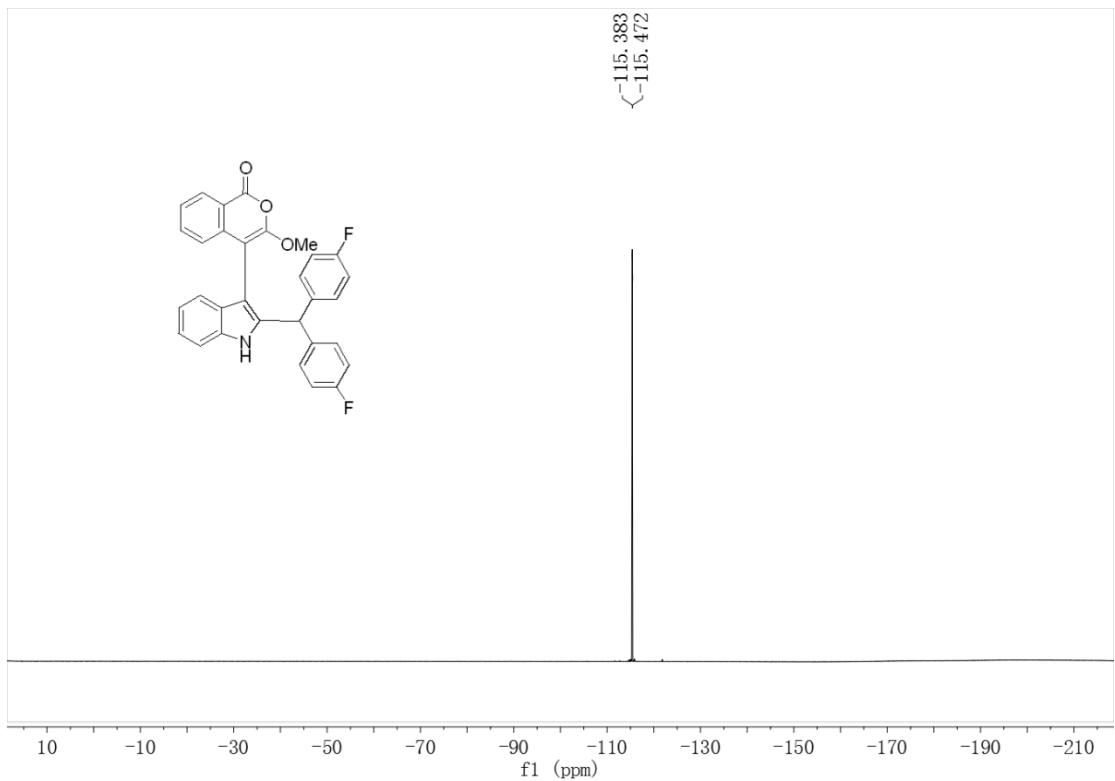


6e

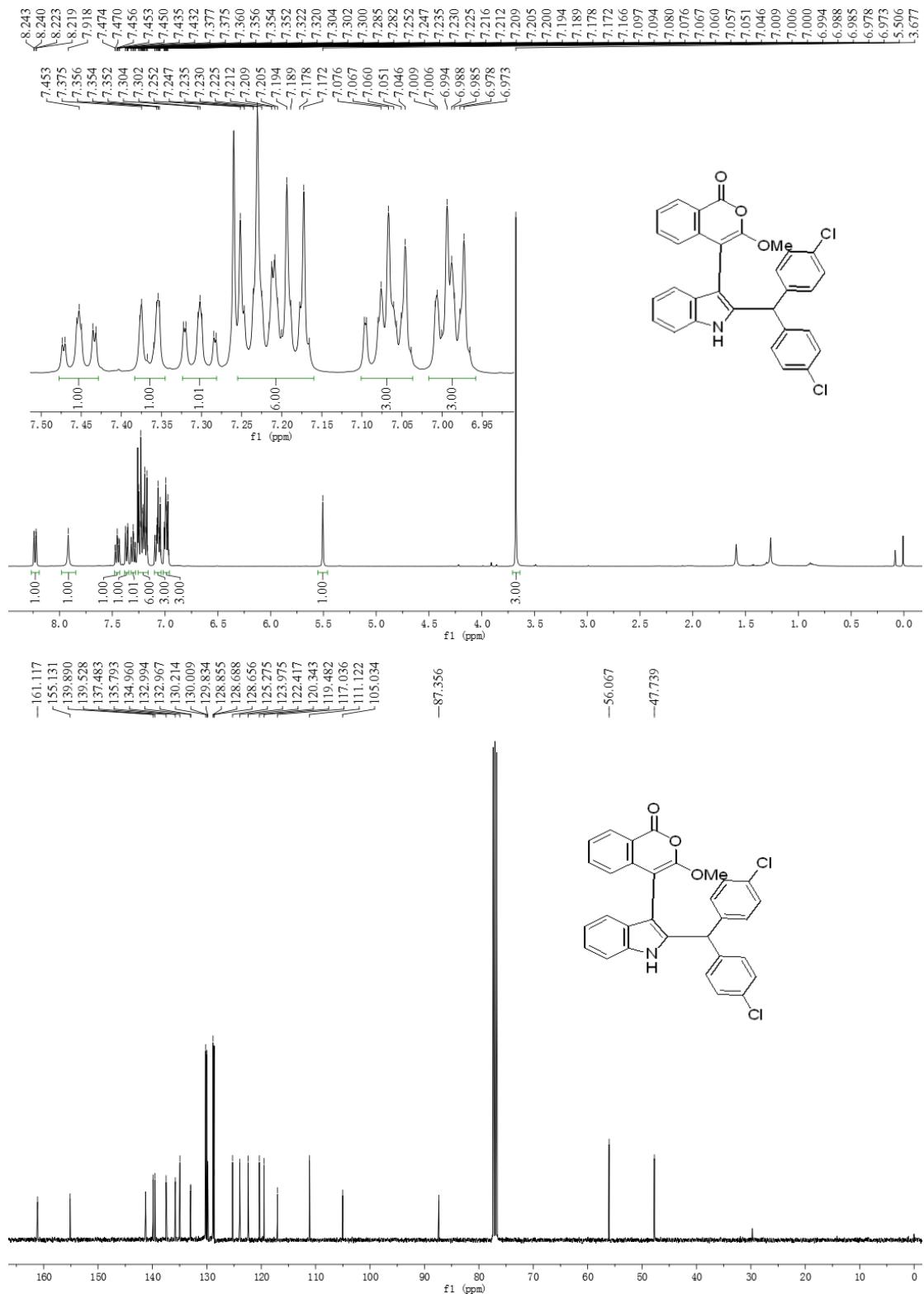


6f

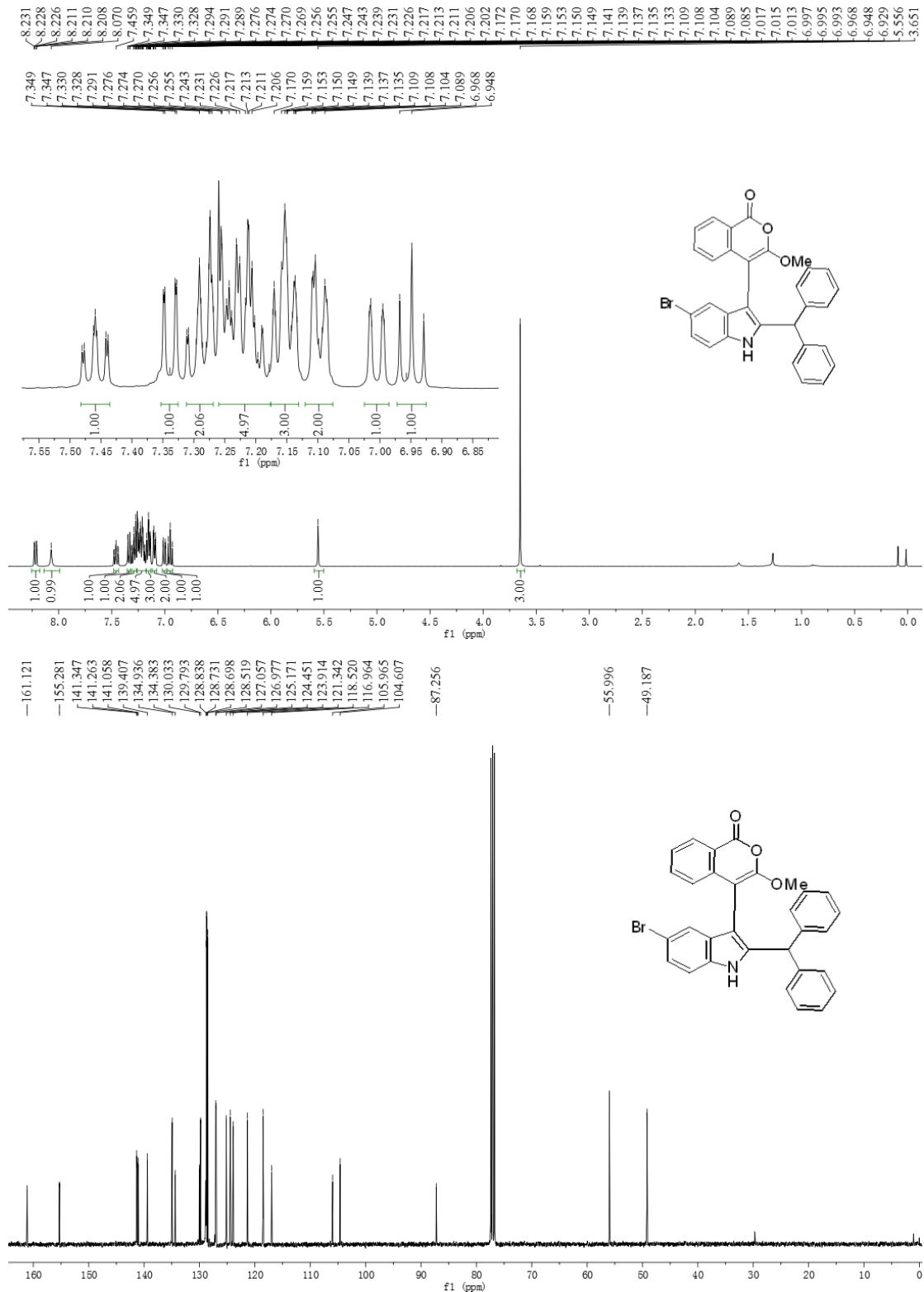




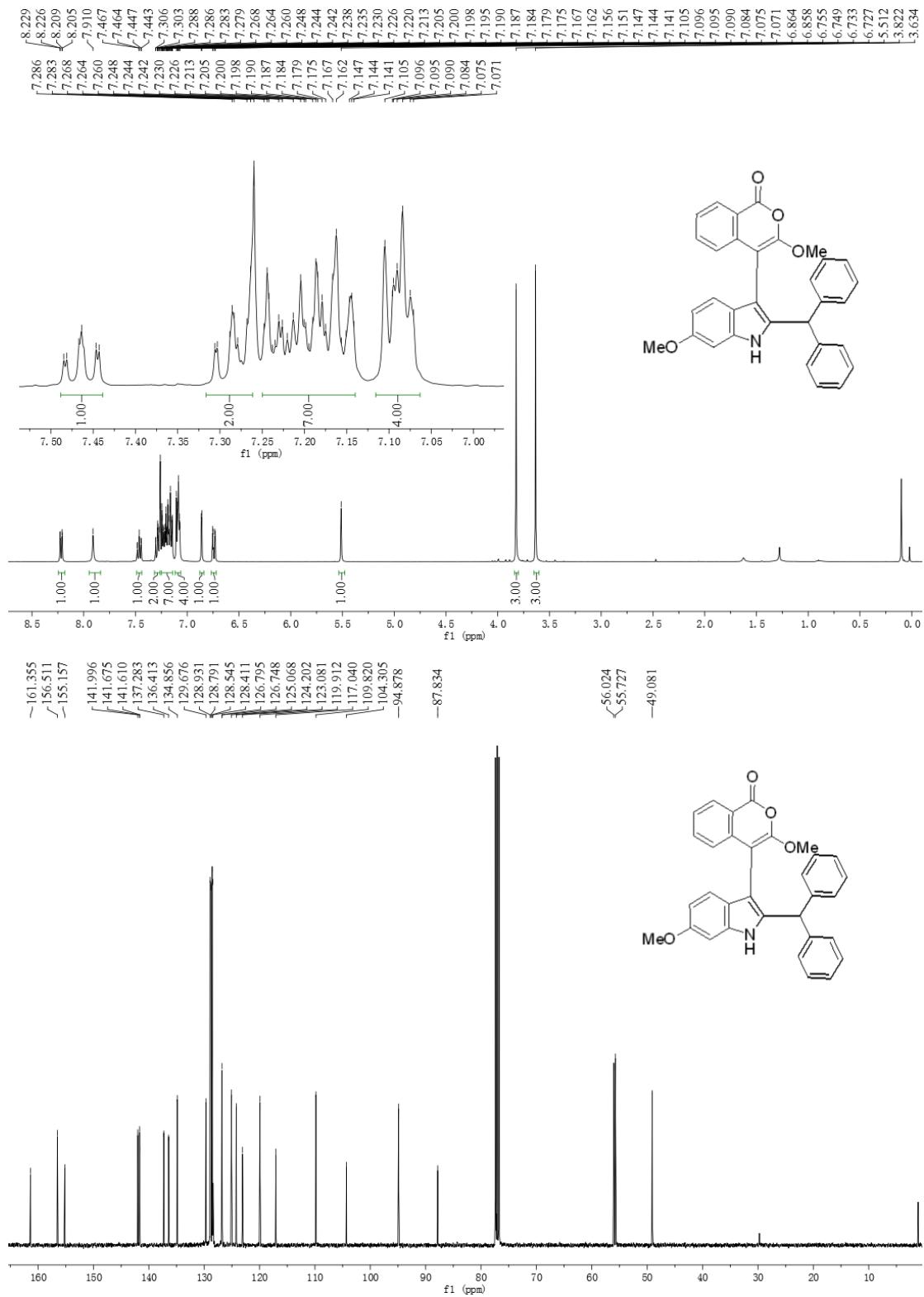
6g



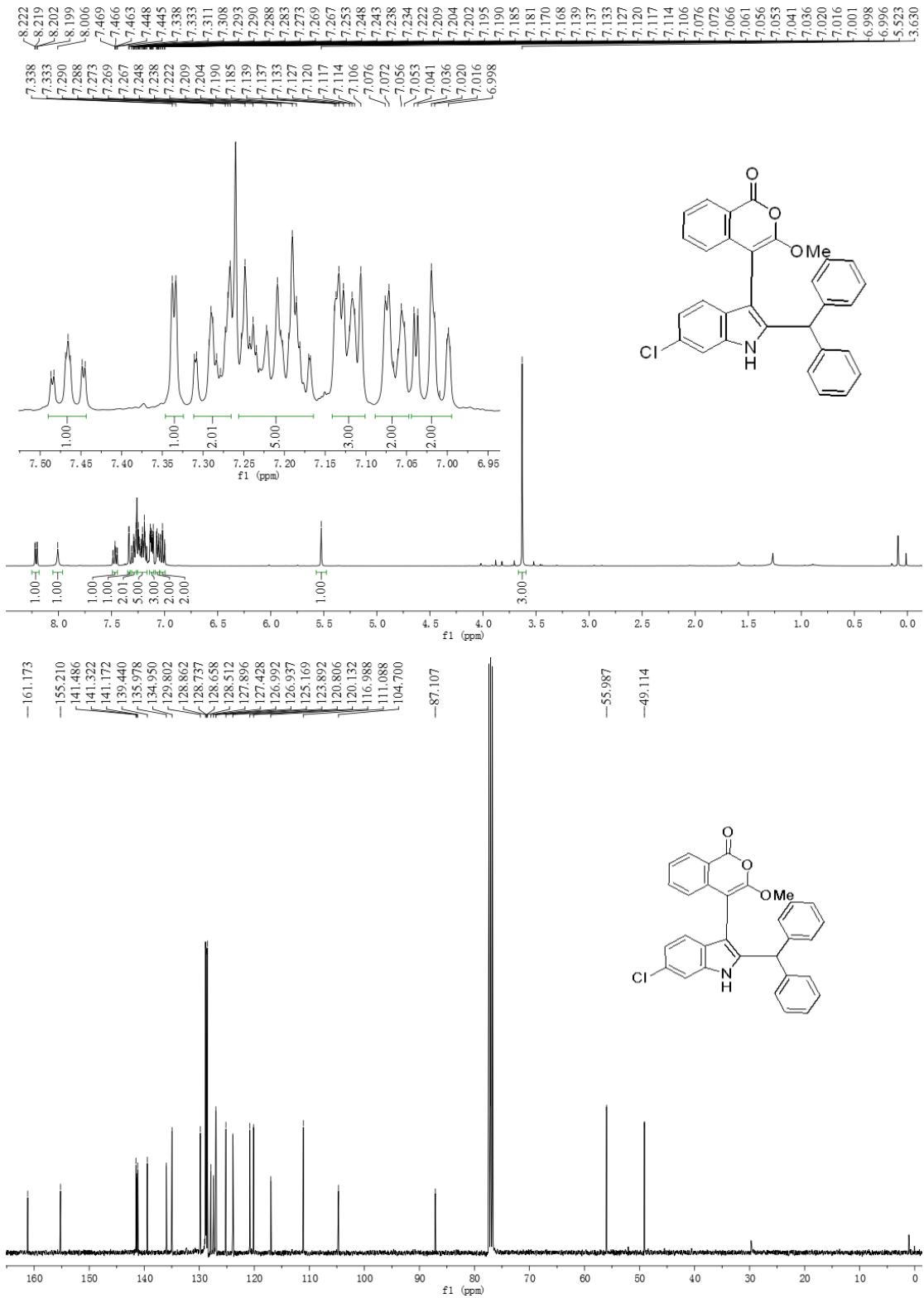
6h

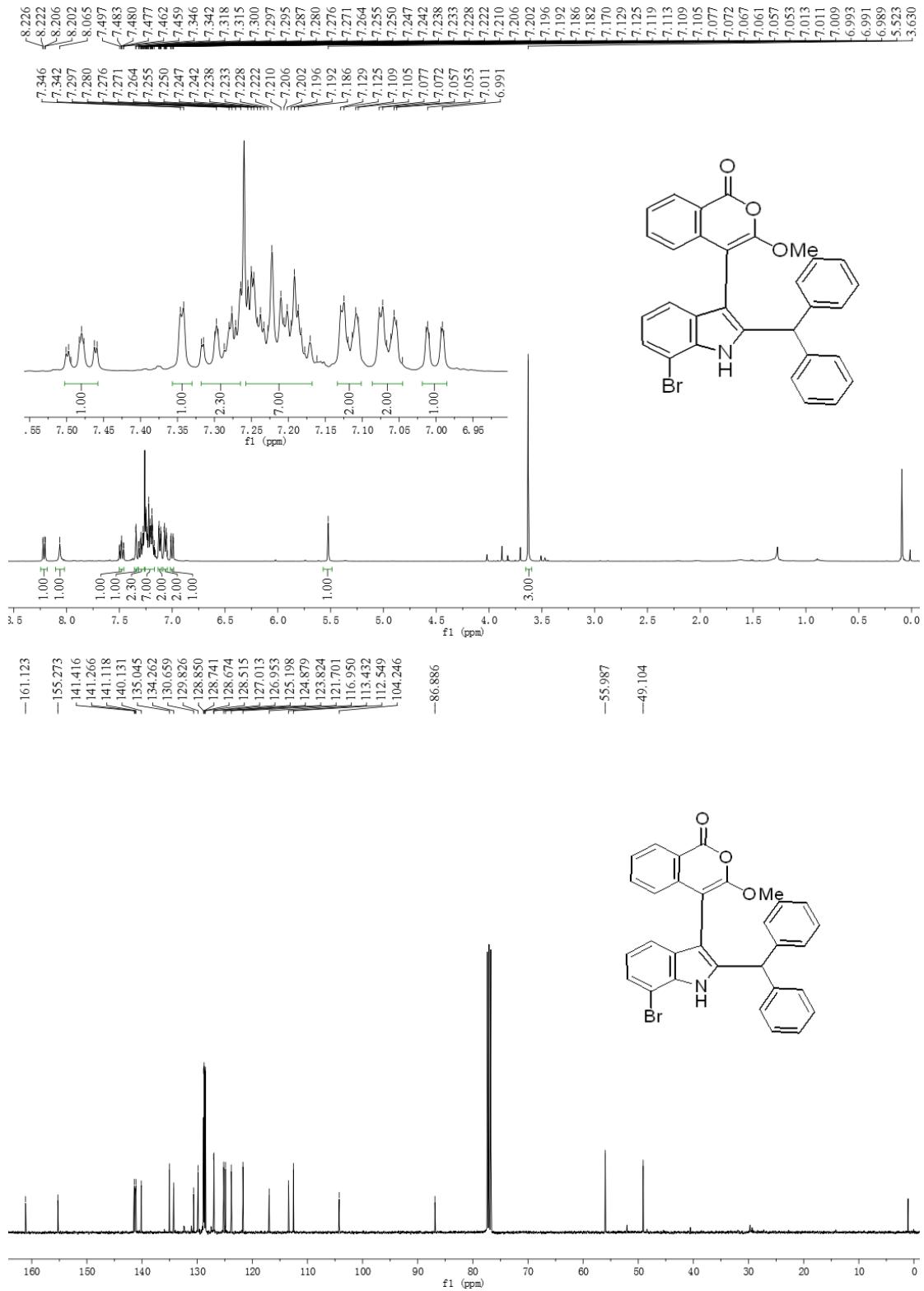


6i



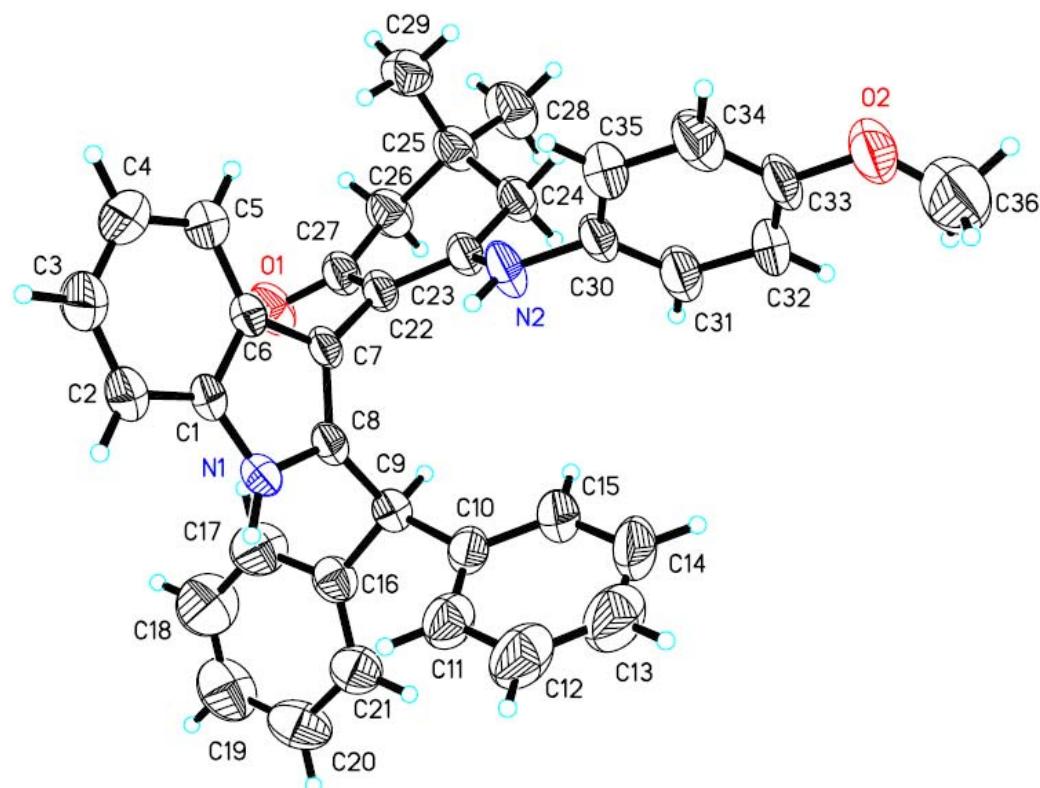
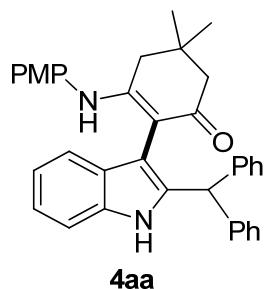
**6j**



**6k**

## 6. X-ray single crystal data for compounds 4aa and 6a

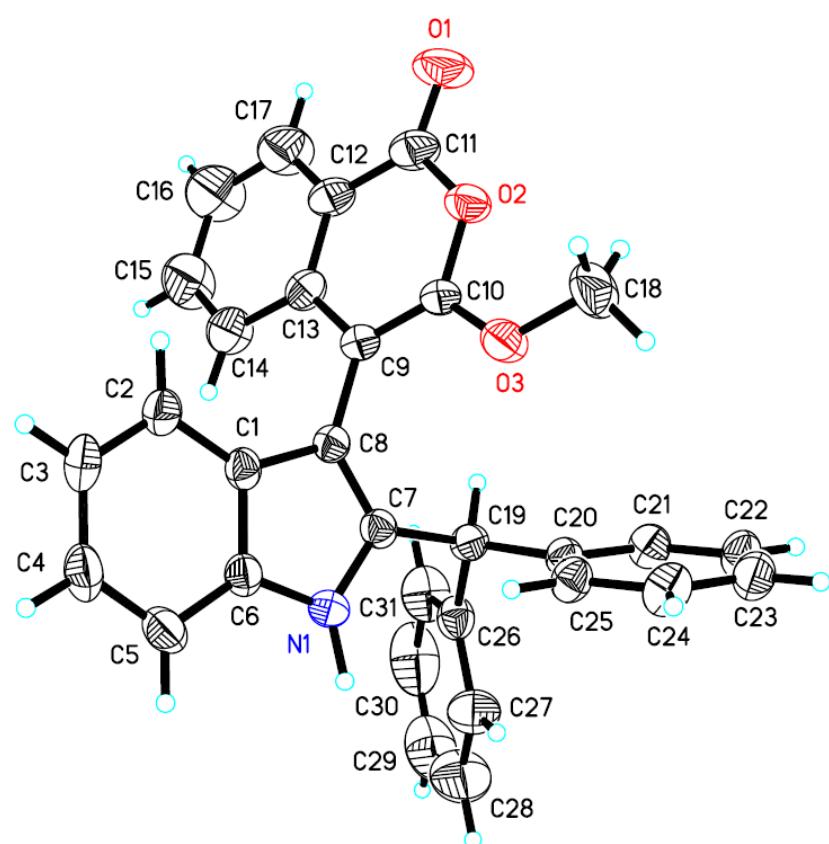
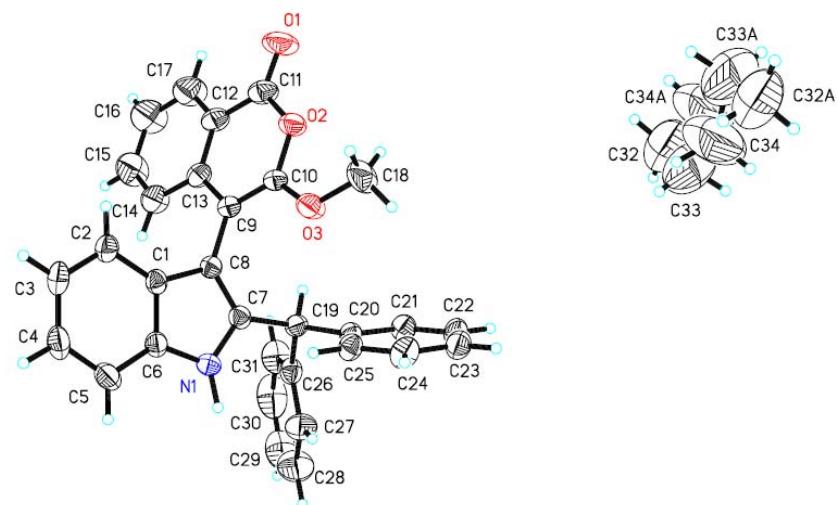
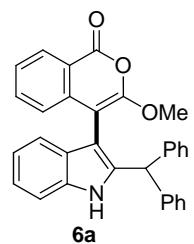
**Compound 4aa:**



The thermal ellipsoid was drawn at the 30% probability level.

Empirical formula	C36 H34 N2 O2	
Formula weight	526.65	
Temperature	296.15 K	
Wavelength	0.71073 Å	
Crystal system	Monoclinic	
Space group	C 1 2/c 1	
Unit cell dimensions	a = 23.463(5) Å	α= 90°.
	b = 12.095(2) Å	β= 96.456(7)°.
	c = 20.499(5) Å	γ = 90°.
Volume	5781(2) Å <sup>3</sup>	
Z	8	
Density (calculated)	1.210 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>	
Absorption coefficient	0.075 mm <sup>-1</sup>	
F(000)	2240	
Crystal size	0.32 x 0.28 x 0.25 mm <sup>3</sup>	
Theta range for data collection	1.747 to 25.497°.	
Index ranges	-28<=h<=24, -14<=k<=14, -24<=l<=24	
Reflections collected	19894	
Independent reflections	5384 [R(int) = 0.0466]	
Completeness to theta = 26.000°	94.6 %	
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents	
Max. and min. transmission	0.7456 and 0.6262	
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>	
Data / restraints / parameters	5384 / 26 / 364	
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.033	
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0784, wR2 = 0.2295	
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.1521, wR2 = 0.2948	
Extinction coefficient	n/a	
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.746 and -0.402 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>	

**Compound 6a:**



The thermal ellipsoid was drawn at the 30% probability level.

Empirical formula	C34 H30 N O3	
Formula weight	500.59	
Temperature	296(2) K	
Wavelength	0.71073 Å	
Crystal system	Triclinic	
Space group	P -1	
Unit cell dimensions	a = 9.861(5) Å	α = 89.660(9)°.
	b = 10.455(5) Å	β = 76.844(9)°.
	c = 15.398(8) Å	γ = 63.337(8)°.
Volume	1373.0(12) Å <sup>3</sup>	
Z	2	
Density (calculated)	1.211 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>	
Absorption coefficient	0.077 mm <sup>-1</sup>	
F(000)	530	
Crystal size	0.220 x 0.170 x 0.130 mm <sup>3</sup>	
Theta range for data collection	2.193 to 25.096°.	
Index ranges	-11<=h<=7, -12<=k<=12, -18<=l<=18	
Reflections collected	9088	
Independent reflections	4857 [R(int) = 0.0466]	
Completeness to theta = 25.242°	97.4 %	
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents	
Max. and min. transmission	0.7456 and 0.5563	
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>	
Data / restraints / parameters	4857 / 2 / 349	
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	0.959	
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0805, wR2 = 0.2057	
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.1495, wR2 = 0.2548	
Extinction coefficient	n/a	
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.452 and -0.228 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>	