

Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

Cu(0) onto sulfonic acid functionalized silica/carbon composites as bifunctional heterogeneous catalysts for the synthesis of polysubstituted pyridines and nitriles under benign reaction media

Madhvi Bhardwaj^a, Manmeet Kour^a and Satya Paul^{a*}

^a*Department of Chemistry, University of Jammu, Jammu 180006, India. Fax: +91-191-2431365; Tel: +91-191-2453969; *Email: pual7@rediffmail.com.*

List of contents

1. Fig. S1 XPS of the recovered catalyst.....Page 2
2. Table S1 Comparison of the e-factor for the Cu(0)-SiI_{C_{cell}}-SO₃H catalyzed synthesis of polysubstituted pyridines and nitriles with reported protocols in the literature....Page 3-4
3. Spectral data of synthesized compounds listed in Table 6 and Table 8.....Page 5-15
4. Copies of ¹H, D₂O and ¹³C NMR spectra of selected compounds.....Page 16-37
5. References.....Page 38

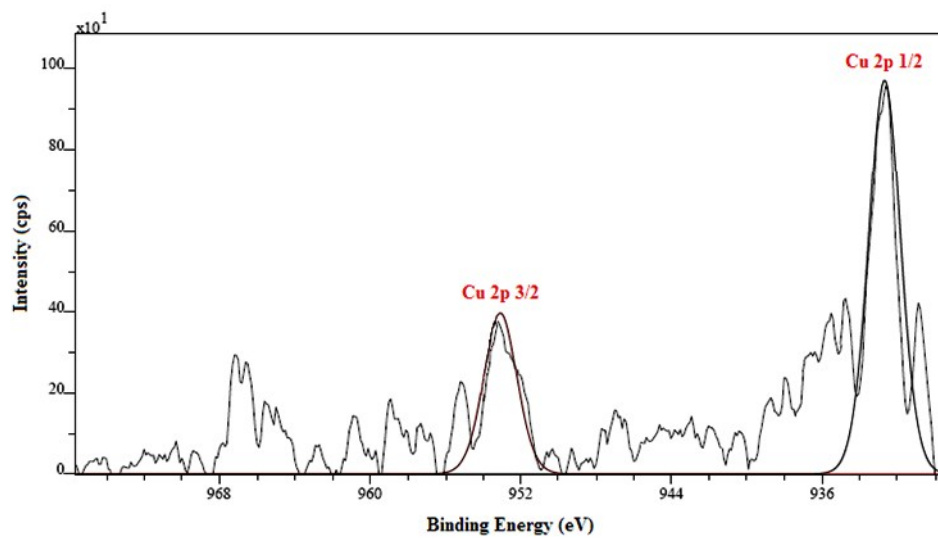


Fig. S1 XPS of the recovered Cu(0)-SiIC_{cell}-SO₃H after 6th run.

Table S1 Comparison of the e-factor for the Cu(0)-SiI_{C_{cell}}-SO₃H catalyzed synthesis of polysubstituted pyridines and nitriles with reported protocols in the literature

Entry	Catalyst	E-factor (kg waste/kg Product) ^c	Reference
Pyridines ^a	FeCl ₃ (Homogeneous)	9.81	<i>J. Org. Chem.</i> , 2014, 79, 8882
	SnCl ₂ .2H ₂ O (Homogeneous)	14.21	<i>Tetrahedron Lett.</i> , 2015, 46, 4586
	Cu(0)-SiI_{C_{cell}}-SO₃H (Heterogeneous)	0.19	<i>Present work</i>
Nitriles ^b	Cu(OTf) ₂ /Bipy (Homogeneous)	32.4	<i>Chem. Commun.</i> , 2013, 49, 6030
	Polymer-PhI(OAc) ₂ (Heterogeneous)	26.4	<i>Synthesis</i> , 2010, 3121
	Cu(0)-SiI_{C_{cell}}-SO₃H (Heterogeneous)	11	<i>Present work</i>

^aReaction using benzaldehyde, malononitrile, ethyl acetoacetate and aniline as substrates.

^bReaction using benzaldehyde as substrate.

^cAmount of recyclable catalysts are excluded from the calculation part as per R. A. Sheldon guidelines.

E-factor calculations

J. Org. Chem., 2014, 79, 8882 (Homogeneous catalyst)

$$E = 0.106 \text{ g (benzaldehyde)} + 0.066 \text{ g (malanitrile)} + 0.130 \text{ g (ethylacetoacetate)} + 0.09 \text{ g (aniline)} + 0.08 \text{ g (FeCl}_3\text{)} + 2.34 \text{ g (ethanol)} - 0.26 \text{ g (product} \times \text{yield)}/0.26 \text{ g} \\ = 9.81$$

Tetrahedron Lett., 2015, 46, 4586 (Homogeneous catalyst)

$$E = 0.106 \text{ g (benzaldehyde)} + 0.066 \text{ g (malanitrile)} + 0.130 \text{ g (ethylacetoacetate)} + 0.09 \text{ g (aniline)} + 0.02 \text{ g (SnCl}_2\text{.2H}_2\text{O)} + 4.0 \text{ g (water)} - 0.29 \text{ g (product} \times \text{yield)}/0.29 \text{ g} \\ = 14.21$$

Present work (Heterogeneous catalyst)

$$E = 0.106 \text{ g (benzaldehyde)} + 0.066 \text{ g (malanonitrle)} + 0.130 \text{ g (ethylacetoacetate)} + 0.09 \text{ g (aniline)} - 0.328 \text{ g (product} \times \text{yield)/0.328 g} \\ = 0.19$$

Chem. Commun., 2013, 49, 6030 (Homogeneous catalyst)

$$E = 0.318 \text{ g (benzaldehyde)} + 0.519 \text{ g (TEMPO-OH)} + 0.91 \text{ g (aqueous NH}_3\text{)} + 0.02 \text{ g (NaOH)} + 7.8 \text{ g (CH}_3\text{CN)} + 0.11 \text{ g [Cu(OTf)}_2\text{]} + 0.046 \text{ g (bipyridine)} - 0.29 \text{ g (product} \times \text{yield)/0.29 g} \\ = 32.48$$

Synthesis, 2010, 3121 (Heterogeneous catalyst)

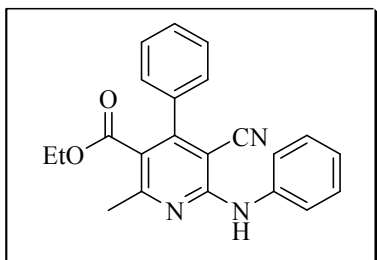
$$E = 0.106 \text{ g (benzaldehyde)} + 2.31 \text{ g (NH}_4\text{OAc)} + 0.06 \text{ g (SDS)} - 0.09 \text{ g (product} \times \text{yield)/0.09 g} \\ = 26.4$$

Present work (Heterogeneous catalyst)

$$E = 0.106 \text{ g (benzaldehyde)} + 0.91 \text{ g (aqueous NH}_3\text{)} + 0.11 \text{ g (H}_2\text{O}_2\text{)} - 0.09 \text{ g (product} \times \text{yield)/0.09 g} \\ = 11$$

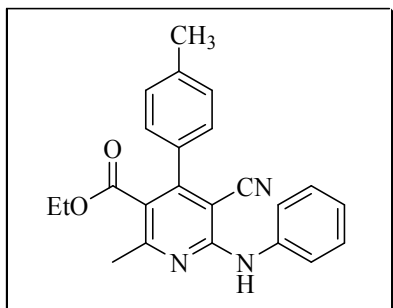
3. Spectral data of synthesized compounds listed in Table 6

Ethyl 5-cyano-2-methyl-4-phenyl-6-(phenylamino)nicotinate (5a)



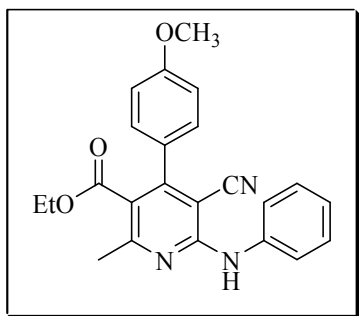
White solid; m.p./lit. m.p. 203-205/205-206 °C¹; IR (KBr): 3344 (N-H stretch), 3064 (aromatic C-H stretch), 2222 (CN stretch), 1707 (C=O stretch) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.88-0.91 (t, 3H, *J* = 8 Hz, CH₃), 2.62 (s, 3H, CH₃), 3.97-4.02 (q, 2H, OCH₂), 7.15-7.19 (t, 1H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.26 (bs, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D₂O), 7.39-7.43 (m, 4H, H_{arom}), 7.49-7.50 (m, 3H, H_{arom}), 7.69-7.71 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 13.4, 23.8, 61.3, 90.8, 115.9, 120.5, 120.7, 124.0, 127.9, 128.6, 128.9, 129.5, 135.9, 138.3, 154.0, 155.4, 160.3, 167.2; ESI-MS: *m/z* = 358 (M)⁺.

Ethyl 5-cyano-2-methyl-6-(phenylamino)-4-(p-tolyl)nicotinate (5b)



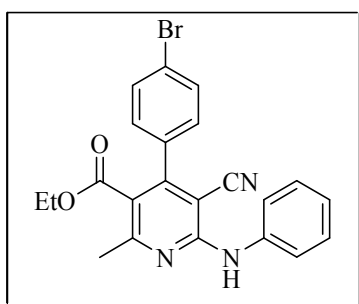
White solid; m.p./lit. m.p. 210-212/211-212 °C¹; IR (KBr): 3342 (N-H stretch), 3054 (aromatic C-H stretch), 2222 (CN stretch), 1704 (C=O stretch) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.86-0.89 (t, 3H, *J* = 8 Hz, CH₃), 2.38 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.55 (s, 3H, CH₃), 3.97-4.02 (q, 2H, OCH₂), 7.18-7.25 (m, 4H, H_{arom}), 7.08-7.13 (m, 1H, H_{arom}), 7.24 (bs, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D₂O), 7.34-7.38 (t, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.65-7.67 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 13.5, 21.3, 23.8, 90.9, 116.0, 120.7, 127.9, 128.5, 128.9, 129.3, 130.9, 132.9, 138.4, 139.6, 146.3, 159.7, 160.0, 167.4; ESI-MS: *m/z* = 372 (M)⁺.

Ethyl 5-cyano-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-methyl-6-(phenylamino)nicotinate (5c)



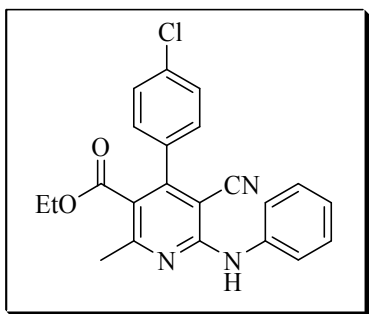
White solid; 178-179/179-180 °C¹; IR (KBr): 3317 (N-H stretch), 3068 (aromatic C-H stretch), 2220 (CN stretch), 1712, (C=O stretch) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.93-0.96 (t, 3H, *J* = 8 Hz, CH₃), 2.70 (s, 3H, CH₃), 3.80 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 4.00-4.05 (q, 2H, OCH₂), 6.95-6.97 (d, 3H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.04-7.06 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.16 (bs, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D₂O), 7.23-7.26 (t, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.55-7.56 (d, 2H, *J* = 4 Hz, H_{arom}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 13.7, 23.8, 55.3, 61.4, 88.0, 110.0, 113.6, 115.0, 120.8, 123.6, 127.6, 129.0, 131.4, 141.1, 144.6, 159.7, 162.6, 165.1; ESI-MS: *m/z* = 388 (M)⁺.

Ethyl 4-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyano-2-methyl-6-(phenylamino)nicotinate (5d)



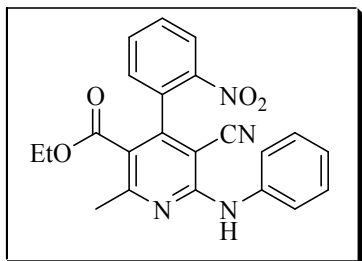
Pale Yellow solid; 175-177/176-178 °C¹; IR (KBr): 3329 (N-H stretch), 3068 (aromatic C-H stretch) 2216 (CN stretch), 1714 (C=O stretch) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.01-1.05 (t, 3H, *J* = 8 Hz, CH₃), 2.34 (s, 3H, CH₃), 4.02-4.07 (q, 2H, OCH₂), 7.06-7.17 (m, 3H, H_{arom}), 7.20 (bs, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D₂O), 7.26-7.30 (t, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.46-7.48 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.65-7.67 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 14.0, 21.0, 60.0, 88.0, 113.3, 114.6, 122.9, 123.5, 126.6, 129.8, 131.5, 131.7, 132.4, 134.7, 135.2, 136.8, 137.0, 155.3, 168.4; ESI-MS: *m/z* = 438 (M)⁺, 440 (M+2)⁺.

Ethyl 4-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-cyano-2-methyl-6-(phenylamino)-nicotinate (5e)



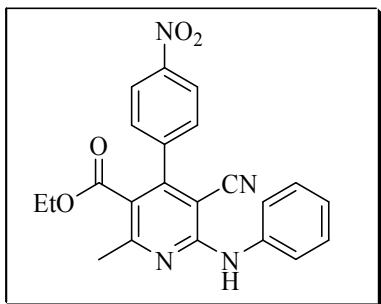
Yellow solid; 190-192/192-194 °C¹; IR (KBr): 3331 (N-H stretch), 3069 (aromatic C-H stretch), 2216 (CN stretch), 1714 (C=O stretch) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.96-1.0 (t, 3H, *J* = 8 Hz, CH₃), 2.31 (s, 3H, CH₃), 4.01-4.06 (q, 2H, OCH₂), 7.04-7.15 (m, 3H, H_{arom}), 7.18-7.22 (t, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.24 (bs, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D₂O), 7.38-7.40 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.62-7.64 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 13.6, 23.9, 61.4, 90.6, 115.9, 120.8, 124.2, 129.0, 129.4, 134.3, 135.8, 138.2, 152.7, 155.4, 160.6, 167.0; ESI-MS: *m/z* = 392 (M)⁺, 394 (M+2)⁺.

Ethyl 5-cyano-2-methyl-4-(2-nitrophenyl)-6-(phenylamino)nicotinate (5f)



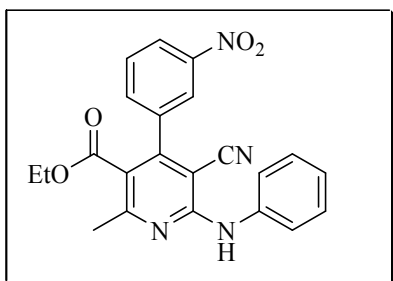
Yellow solid; 186-188/187-189 °C¹; IR (KBr): 3361 (N-H stretch), 3058 (aromatic C-H stretch), 2216 (CN stretch), 1708 (C=O stretch) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.94-0.98 (t, 3H, *J* = 8 Hz, CH₃), 2.73 (s, 3H, CH₃), 4.01-4.07 (q, 2H, OCH₂), 7.19-7.23 (m, 1H, H_{arom}), 7.25 (bs, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D₂O), 7.34-7.38 (t, 1H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.46-7.50 (t, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.73-7.84 (m, 4H, H_{arom}), 8.36-8.38 (m, 1H, H_{arom}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): 13.6, 24.3, 61.6, 90.5, 115.3, 119.8, 121.0, 123.2, 124.3, 124.5, 129.0, 134.1, 137.5, 137.9, 148.1, 151.4, 155.4, 161.6, 166.4; ESI-MS: *m/z* = 403 (M)⁺.

Ethyl 5-cyano-2-methyl-4-(4-nitrophenyl)-6-(phenylamino)nicotinate (5g)



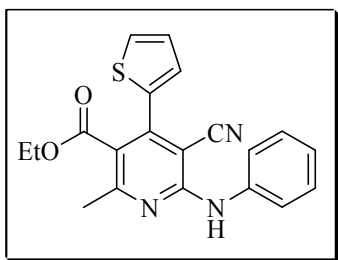
Yellow solid; 219-221/220-221 °C¹; IR (KBr): 3327 (N-H stretch), 3055 (aromatic C-H stretch), 2221 (CN stretch), 1712 (C=O stretch) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.94-0.98 (t, 3H, *J* = 8 Hz, CH₃), 2.65 (s, 3H, CH₃), 4.0-4.05 (q, 2H, OCH₂), 7.18-7.22 (t, 1H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.29 (bs, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D₂O), 7.40-7.44 (t, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.57-7.59 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.68-7.70 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 8.37-8.39 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 13.6, 24.3, 61.6, 90.2, 115.2, 119.5, 123.8, 124.5, 129.0, 129.2, 137.8, 142.4, 148.3, 151.8, 155.3, 161.5, 166.4; ESI-MS: *m/z* = 403 (M)⁺.

Ethyl 5-cyano-2-methyl-4-(3-nitrophenyl)-6-(phenylamino)-nicotinate (5h)



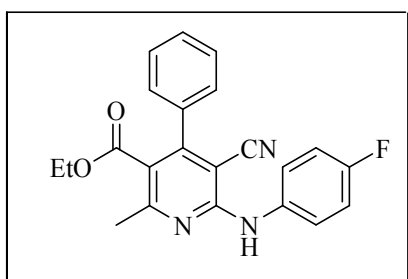
Yellow solid; 196-198/198-200 °C¹; IR (KBr): 3361 (N-H stretch), 3058 (aromatic C-H stretch), 2218 (CN stretch), 1714, (C=O stretch) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.96-1.0 (t, 3H, *J* = 8 Hz, CH₃), 2.65 (s, 3H, CH₃), 4.02-4.07 (q, 2H, OCH₂), 7.18-7.23 (m, 1H, H_{arom}), 7.18-7.22 (t, 1H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.32 (bs, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D₂O), 7.40-7.44 (t, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.68-7.74 (m, 4H, H_{arom}), 8.29-8.39 (m, 1H, H_{arom}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): 13.6, 24.3, 61.6, 90.5, 115.3, 119.8, 121.0, 123.2, 124.3, 124.5, 129.0, 129.9, 134.1, 137.5, 137.9, 148.1, 151.4, 155.4, 161.4, 166.4; ESI-MS: *m/z* = 403 (M)⁺.

Ethyl 5-cyano-2-methyl-6-(phenylamino)-4-(thiophen-2-yl)nicotinate (5i)



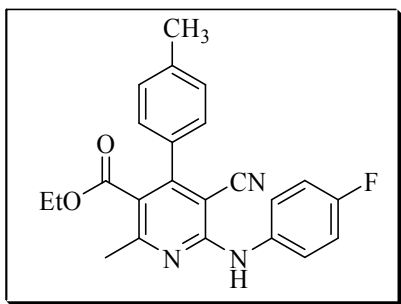
White solid; 188-190/191-192 °C²; IR (KBr): 3421 (N-H stretch), 3085 (aromatic C-H stretch), 2215 (CN stretch), 1719 (C=O stretch) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.26-1.29 (t, 3H, *J* = 8 Hz, CH₃), 2.19 (s, 3H, CH₃), 4.11-4.16 (q, 2H, OCH₂), 7.24-7.26 (t, 1H, *J* = 4 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.30 (bs, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D₂O), 7.81-7.91 (m, 5H, H_{arom}), 8.37-7.38 (d, 2H, *J* = 4 Hz, H_{arom}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 14.1, 21.0, 60.4, 62.5, 109.2, 116.0, 128.6, 129.0, 135.1, 136.0, 136.8, 137.1, 141.1, 146.7, 151.0, 162.7, 171.1; ESI-MS: *m/z* = 364 (M)⁺.

Ethyl 6-(4-fluorophenylamino)-5-cyano-2-methyl-4-phenyl-nicotinate (5j)



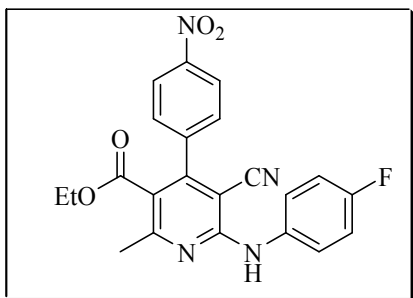
White solid; 192-194 °C; IR (KBr): 3408 (N-H stretch), 3085 (aromatic C-H stretch), 2218 (CN stretch), 1691 (C=O stretch) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.94-0.98 (t, 3H, *J* = 8 Hz, CH₃), 2.59 (s, 3H, CH₃), 3.94-3.99 (q, 2H, OCH₂), 7.18-7.20 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.23 (bs, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D₂O), 7.39-7.41 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.47-7.50 (m, 3H, H_{arom}), 7.56-7.58 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 13.4, 20.9, 61.3, 90.4, 116.0, 120.3, 121.0, 125.1, 126.9, 128.4, 129.5, 129.9, 133.8, 135.4, 153.7, 154.5, 161.4, 167.7; ESI-MS: *m/z* = 376 (M)⁺.

Ethyl 6-(4-fluorophenylamino)-5-cyano-2-methyl-4-(4-methylphenyl)nicotinate (5k)



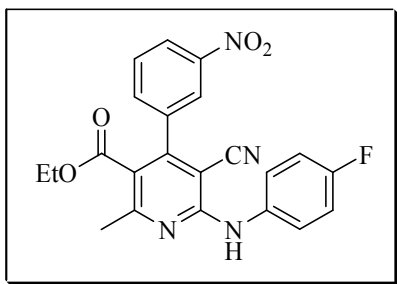
White solid; 175-176 °C; IR (KBr): 3420 (N-H stretch), 3072 (aromatic C-H stretch), 2221 (CN stretch), 1694 (C=O stretch) cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 0.91-0.93 (t, 3H, $J = 8$ Hz, CH_3), 2.40 (s, 3H, CH_3), 2.55 (s, 3H, CH_3), 4.02-4.08 (q, 2H, OCH_2), 7.15-7.17 (d, 2H, $J = 8$ Hz, H_{arom}), 7.18-7.20 (d, 2H, $J = 8$ Hz, H_{arom}), 7.22 (bs, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D_2O), 7.25-7.27 (d, 2H, $J = 8$ Hz, H_{arom}), 7.53-7.55 (d, 2H, $J = 8$ Hz, H_{arom}); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 13.5, 20.8, 21.3, 61.2, 90.5, 116.1, 119.7, 121.0, 126.0, 127.8, 129.2, 129.4, 133.0, 133.7, 135.7, 139.5, 155.6, 160.1, 167.4; ESI-MS: $m/z = 390$ (M) $^+$.

Ethyl 6-(4-fluorophenylamino)-5-cyano-2-methyl-4-(4-nitrophenyl)nicotinate (5l)



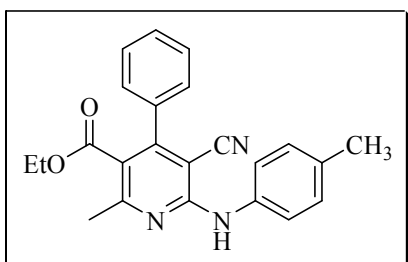
Pale Yellow solid; 213-215 °C; IR (KBr): 3273 (N-H stretch), 3054 (aromatic C-H stretch), 2181 (CN stretch), 1654 (C=O stretch) cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 1.42-1.46 (t, 3H, $J = 8$ Hz, CH_3), 2.19 (s, 3H, CH_3), 4.41-4.47 (q, 2H, OCH_2), 7.22-7.24 (d, 2H, $J = 8$ Hz, H_{arom}), 7.26 (bs, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D_2O), 7.34-7.36 (d, 2H, $J = 8$ Hz, H_{arom}), 7.64-7.66 (d, 2H, $J = 8$ Hz, H_{arom}), 8.14-8.16 (d, 2H, $J = 8$ Hz, H_{arom}); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 14.0, 29.7, 30.9, 41.6, 61.5, 63.3, 107.3, 114.5, 123.4, 124.3, 127.8, 129.8, 131.5, 136.9, 149.7, 151.7, 161.4, 166.6; ESI-MS: $m/z = 421$ (M) $^+$.

Ethyl 6-(4-fluorophenylamino)-5-cyano-2-methyl-4-(3-nitrophenyl)nicotinate (5m)



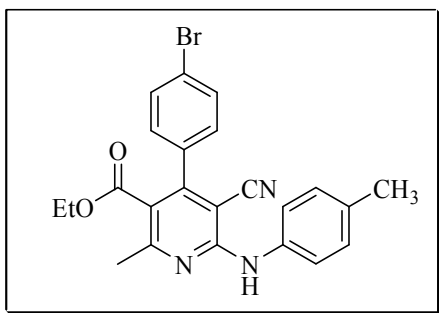
Yellow solid; 196-198 °C; IR (KBr): 3332 (N-H stretch), 3057 (aromatic C-H stretch), 2214 (CN stretch), 1714 (C=O stretch) cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 0.97-1.0 (t, 3H, $J = 8$ Hz, CH_3), 2.63 (s, 3H, CH_3), 4.02-4.08 (q, 2H, OCH_2), 7.09-7.13 (t, 2H, $J = 8$ Hz, H_{arom}), 7.25 (bs, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D_2O), 7.60-7.63 (m, 2H, H_{arom}), 7.70-7.76 (m, 2H, H_{arom}), 8.37-8.39 (d, 2H, $J = 8$ Hz, H_{arom}); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 13.6, 24.2, 30.9, 61.6, 90.3, 115.2, 115.6, 115.8, 120.0, 123.2, 123.3, 124.3, 129.9, 133.7, 133.8, 134.0, 137.4, 148.1, 151.4, 155.4, 158.4, 160.8, 161.4, 166.3; ESI-MS: $m/z = 421$ (M) $^+$.

Ethyl 5-cyano-2-methyl-4-phenyl-6-(4-methylphenylamino)nicotinate (5n)



White solid; 139-141/141-142 °C 1 ; IR (KBr): 3331 (N-H stretch), 3061 (aromatic C-H stretch), 2220 (CN stretch), 1712 (C=O stretch) cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 0.84-0.88 (t, 3H, $J = 8$ Hz, CH_3), 2.36 (s, 3H, CH_3), 2.58 (s, 3H, CH_3), 3.96-4.01 (q, 2H, OCH_2), 7.14-7.16 (d, 2H, $J = 8$ Hz, H_{arom}), 7.22 (bs, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D_2O), 7.34-7.36 (d, 2H, $J = 8$ Hz, H_{arom}), 7.45-7.48 (m, 3H, H_{arom}), 7.55-7.57 (d, 2H, $J = 8$ Hz, H_{arom}); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 13.4, 20.9, 23.9, 61.3, 90.4, 116.0, 120.1, 121.0, 127.9, 128.6, 129.4, 126.1, 129.9, 133.8, 135.6, 153.9, 155.5, 160.4, 167.3; ESI-MS: $m/z = 372$ (M) $^+$.

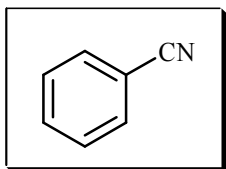
Ethyl 4-(4-bromophenyl)-5-cyano-2-methyl-6-(4-methylphenylamino)nicotinate (5o)



Pale Yellow solid; 164-166/166-168 °C¹; IR (KBr): 3323 (N-H stretch), 3064 (aromatic C-H stretch), 2222 (CN stretch), 1708 (C=O stretch) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.94-0.98 (t, 3H, *J* = 8 Hz, CH₃), 2.36 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.56 (s, 3H, CH₃), 4.02-4.08 (q, 2H, OCH₂), 7.16-7.25 (m, 4H, H_{arom}), 7.25 (bs, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D₂O), 7.53-7.55 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.62-7.64 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 13.5, 20.9, 24.0, 61.4, 90.1, 115.8, 119.8, 121.1, 123.9, 129.5, 129.6, 131.3, 134.0, 134.8, 135.4, 152.7, 155.5, 160.7, 167.0; ESI-MS: *m/z* = 451 (M)⁺, 453 (M+2)⁺.

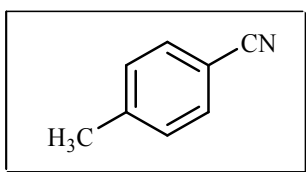
Spectral data of synthesized compounds listed in Table 8

Benzonitrile (2a)



Liquid³, IR (KBr): 2228 (CN stretch) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.43-7.46. (t, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.50-7.53 (t, 1H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.58-7.59 (d, 2H, *J* = 4 Hz, H_{arom}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 113.1, 119.1, 129.0, 132.0, 133.1; ESI-MS: *m/z* = 104 (M)⁺.

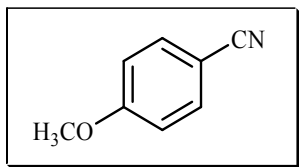
4-Methylbenzonitrile (2b)



Pale Yellow solid; 19-21/21-22 °C⁴; IR (KBr): 2226 (CN stretch) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.36 (s, 3H, CH₃), 7.23-7.25 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.46-7.48 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz,

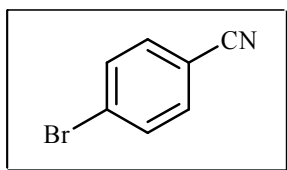
H_{arom}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 22.6, 108.1, 119.4, 128.9, 132.8, 144.5; ESI-MS: m/z = 118 (M)⁺.

4-Methoxybenzonitrile (2c)



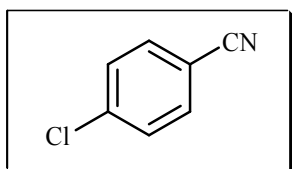
White solid; 60-62/63-64 °C⁴; IR (KBr): 2227 (CN stretch) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.88 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 6.96-6.98 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.60-7.62 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 55.5, 103.9, 114.7, 119.2, 134.0, 162.8; ESI-MS: m/z = 134 (M)⁺.

4-Bromobenzonitrile (2d)



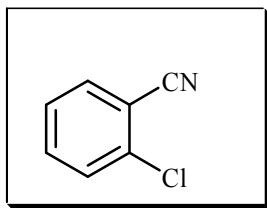
White solid; 110-112/110-115 °C⁵; IR (KBr): 2227 (CN stretch) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.54-7.56 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.64-7.66 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 111.2, 118.1, 128.1, 132.6, 133.4; ESI-MS: m/z = 182 (M)⁺, 184 (M+2)⁺.

4-Chlorobenzonitrile (2e)



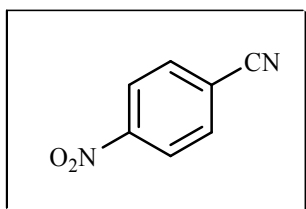
White solid; 90-92/90-91 °C⁴; IR (KBr): 2229 (CN stretch) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.48-7.50 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.62-7.64 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 110.9, 118.1, 129.9, 133.7, 139.7; ESI-MS: m/z = 139 (M)⁺, 141 (M+2)⁺.

2-Chlorobenzonitrile (2f)



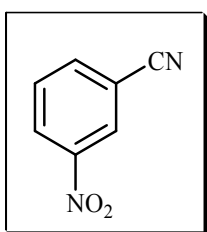
Pale yellow solid; 40-42/42-43 °C⁶; IR (KBr): 2231 (CN stretch) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.39-7.43 (d, 1H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.48-7.61 (m, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 7.67-7.69 (d, 1H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 113.4, 116.2, 127.1, 130.4, 133.8, 134.2, 136.8; ESI-MS: *m/z* = 139 (M)⁺, 141 (M+2)⁺.

4-Nitrobenzonitrile (2g)



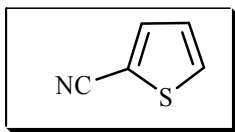
Pale yellow solid; 115-117/116-117 °C⁴; IR (KBr): 2233 (CN stretch) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.91-7.93 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 8.38-8.40 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 116.8, 118.3, 123.6, 124.3, 133.4; ESI-MS: *m/z* = 152 (M)⁺.

3-Nitrobenzonitrile (2h)



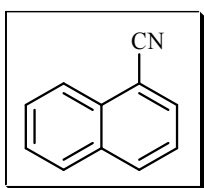
Pale yellow solid; 116-118/118 °C⁷; IR (KBr): 2235 (CN stretch) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.95 (s, 1H, H_{arom}), 8.01-8.03 (d, 2H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}), 8.07-8.11 (t, 1H, *J* = 8 Hz, H_{arom}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 114.2, 116.2, 127.3, 130.6, 133.3, 137.5, 148.2; ESI-MS: *m/z* = 152 (M)⁺.

2-Thiophenecarbonitrile (2i)



Liquid⁴, IR (KBr): 2221 (CN stretch) cm^{-1} ; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.09-7.12 (t, 1H, $J = 8$ Hz, H_{arom}), 7.49-7.50 (d, 1H, $J = 4$ Hz, H_{arom}), 7.54-7.56 (d, 1H, $J = 8$ Hz, H_{arom}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 109.5, 114.5, 127.8, 129.5, 138.2; ESI-MS: $m/z = 110$ (M)⁺.

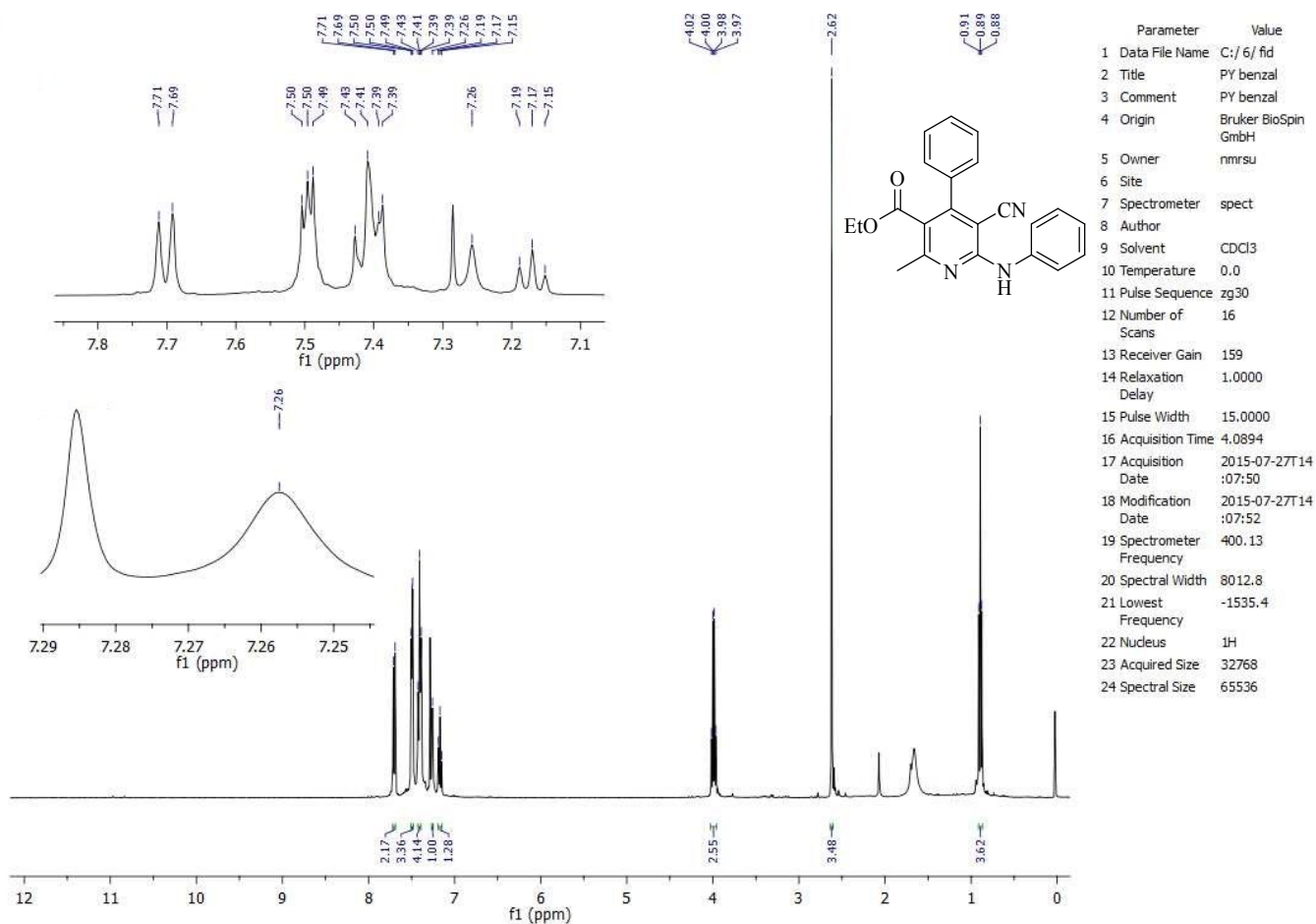
1-Naphthalenecarbonitrile (2j)



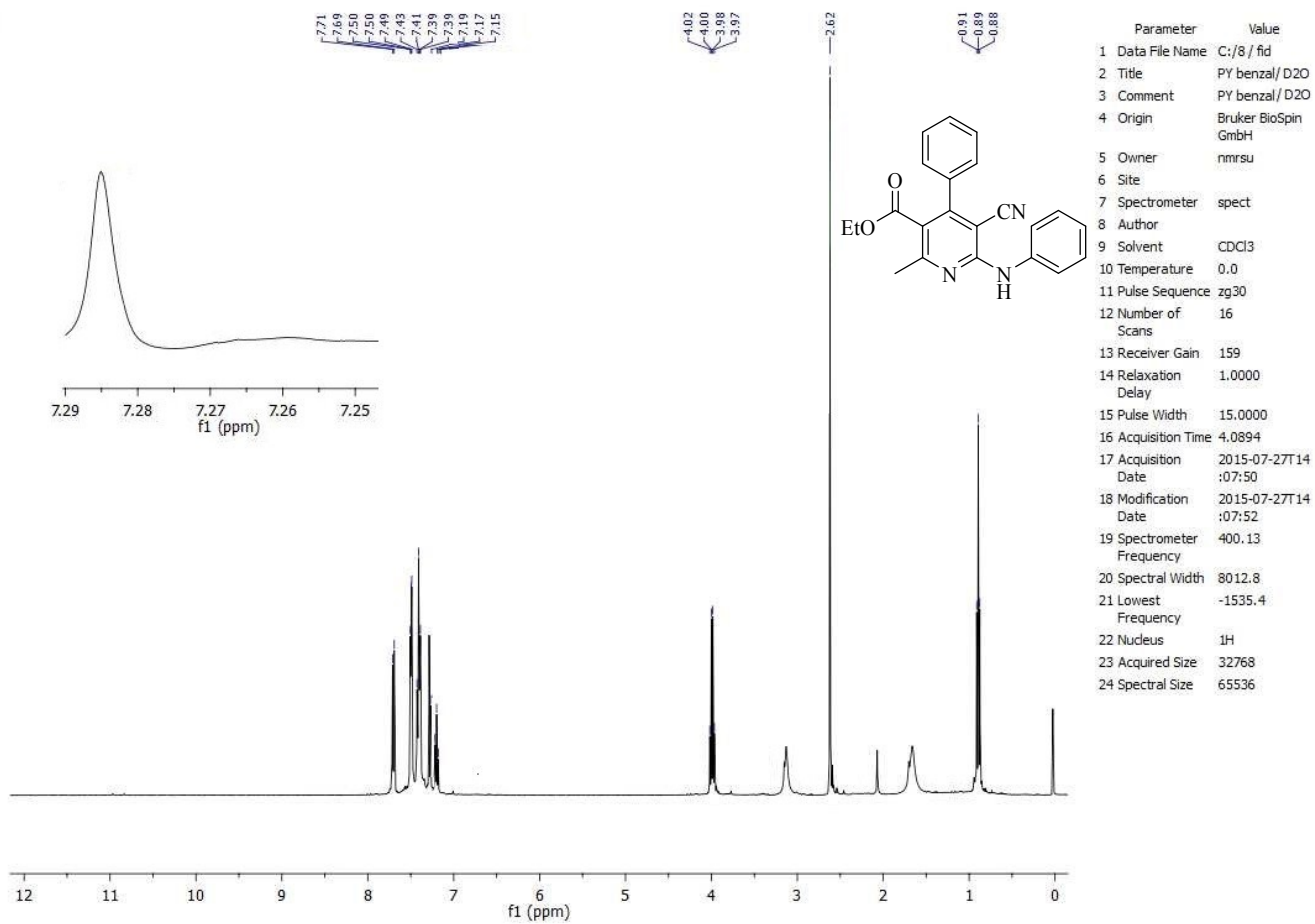
Pale yellow solid; 116-118/118 °C³; IR (KBr): 2219 (CN stretch) cm^{-1} ; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.53-7.55 (d, 1H, $J = 8$ Hz, H_{arom}), 7.64-7.66 (d, 1H, $J = 8$ Hz, H_{arom}), 7.75-7.92 (m, 5H, H_{arom}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 110.3, 117.7, 124.6, 125.1, 127.4, 128.5, 128.6; ESI-MS: $m/z = 154$ (M)⁺.

4. Spectral data of some selected compounds

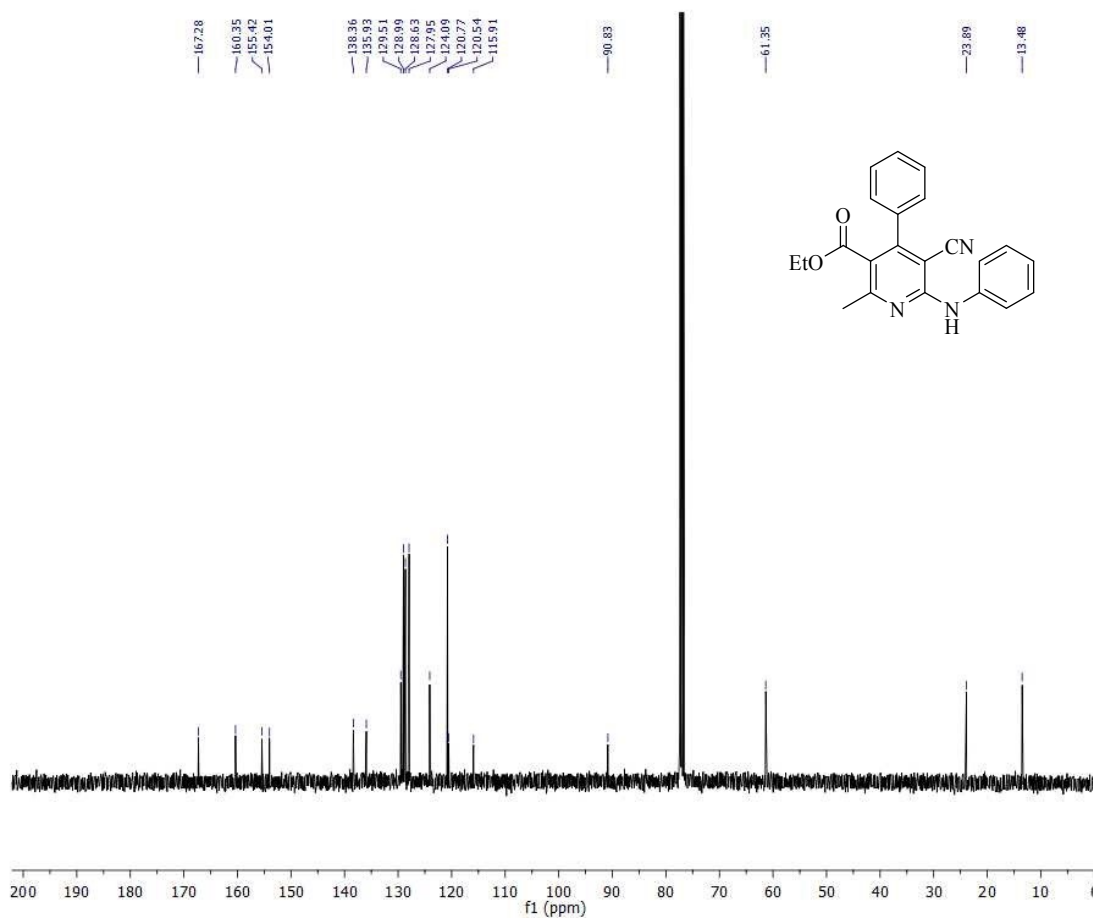
¹H spectrum of 5a



D₂O spectrum of 5a

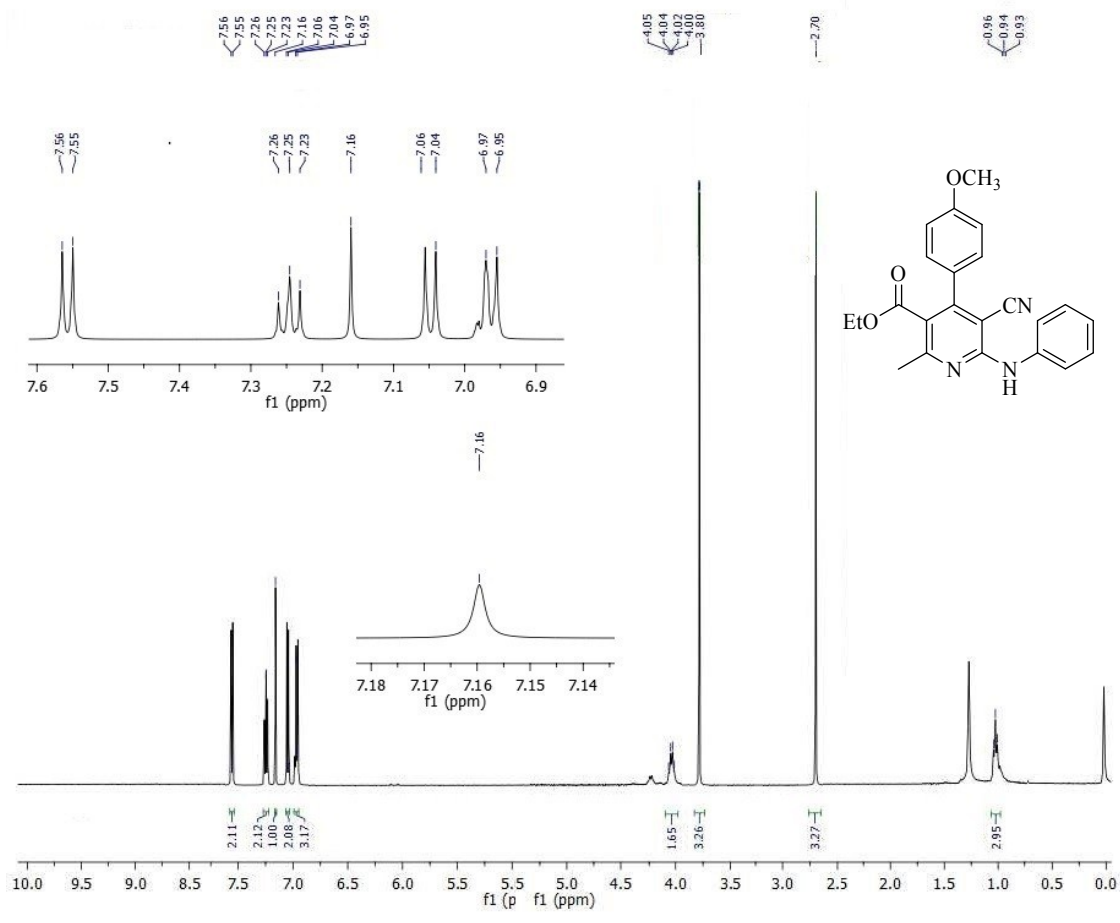


¹³C spectrum of 5a



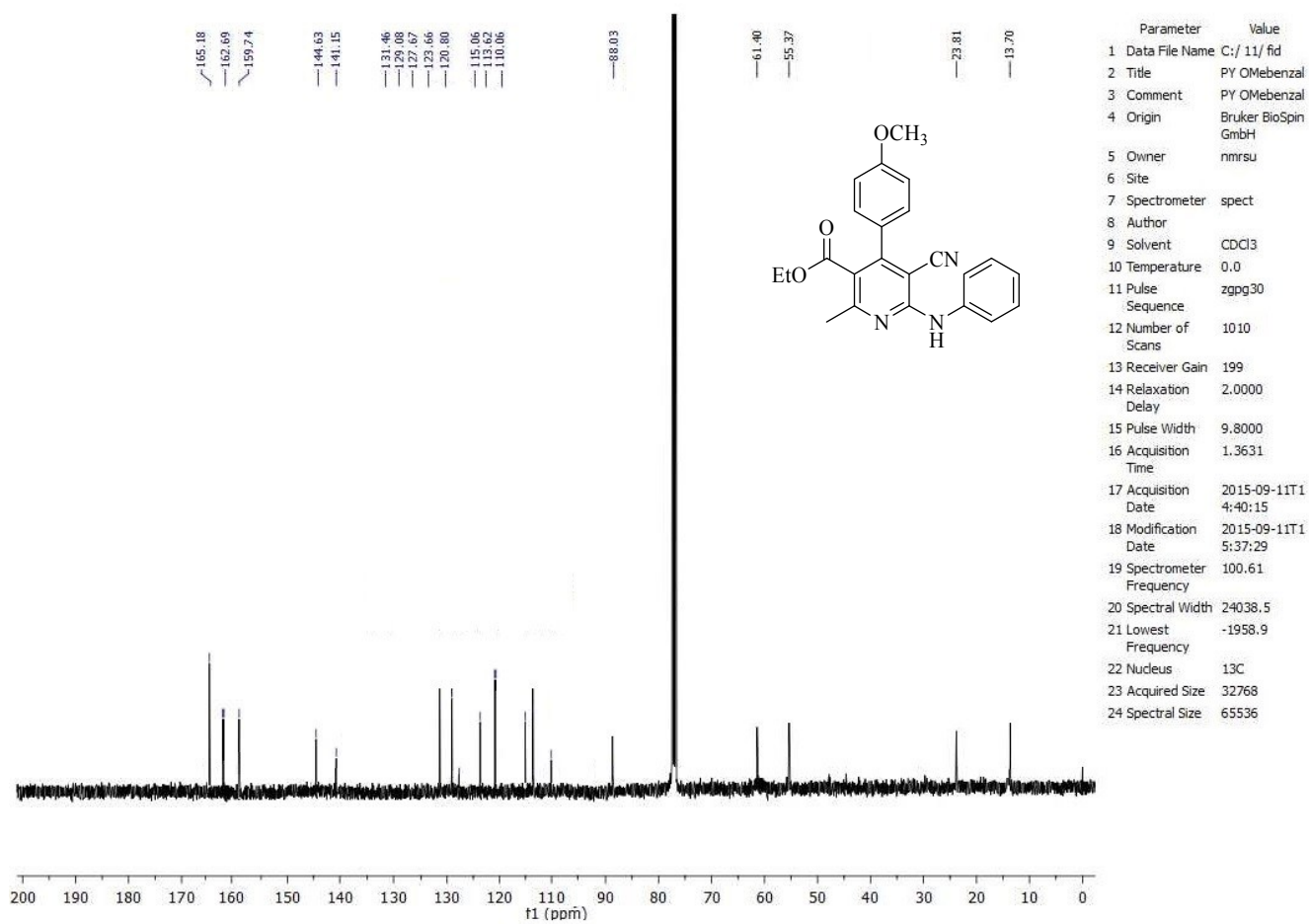
Parameter	Value
1 Data File Name	C:/ 7/ fid
2 Title	PY benzal
3 Comment	PY benzal
4 Origin	Bruker BioSpin GmbH
5 Owner	nmrsu
6 Site	
7 Spectrometer	spect
8 Author	
9 Solvent	CDCl3
10 Temperature	0.0
11 Pulse Sequence	zgpg30
12 Number of Scans	326
13 Receiver Gain	199
14 Relaxation Delay	2.0000
15 Pulse Width	9.8000
16 Acquisition Time	1.3631
17 Acquisition Date	2015-07-27T14:27:09
18 Modification Date	2015-07-27T14:27:18
19 Spectrometer Frequency	100.61
20 Spectral Width	24038.5
21 Lowest Frequency	-1958.9
22 Nucleus	13C
23 Acquired Size	32768
24 Spectral Size	65536

¹H spectrum of 5c

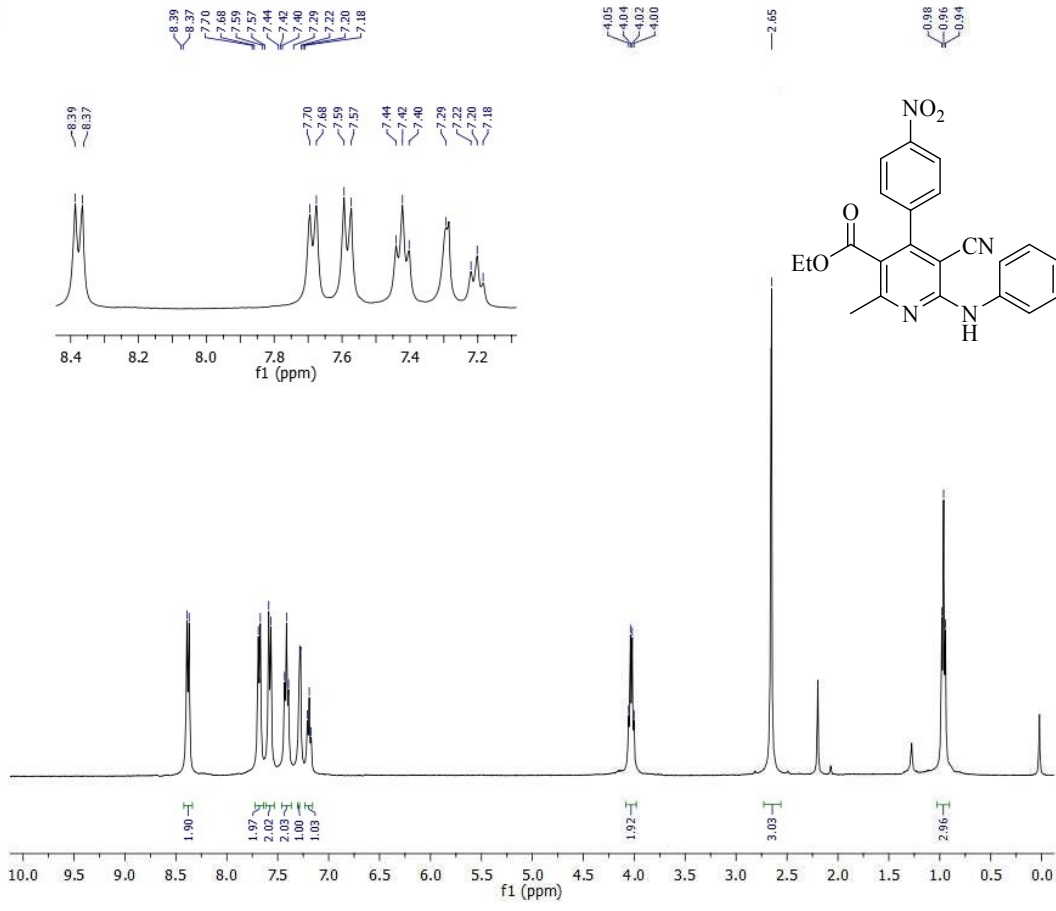


Parameter	Value
1 Data File Name	C:/ 11/ fid
2 Title	PY-OMe benzal
3 Comment	PY-OMe benzal
4 Origin	Bruker BioSpin GmbH
5 Owner	nmsu
6 Site	
7 Spectrometer	spect
8 Author	
9 Solvent	CDCl3
10 Temperature	0.0
11 Pulse Sequence	zg30
12 Number of Scans	16
13 Receiver Gain	159
14 Relaxation Delay	1.0000
15 Pulse Width	15.0000
16 Acquisition Time	4.0894
17 Acquisition Date	2015-06-26T14:34:17
18 Modification Date	2015-06-26T14:34:18
19 Spectrometer Frequency	400.13
20 Spectral Width	8012.8
21 Lowest Frequency	-1535.4
22 Nucleus	¹ H
23 Acquired Size	32768
24 Spectral Size	65536

¹³C spectrum of 5c

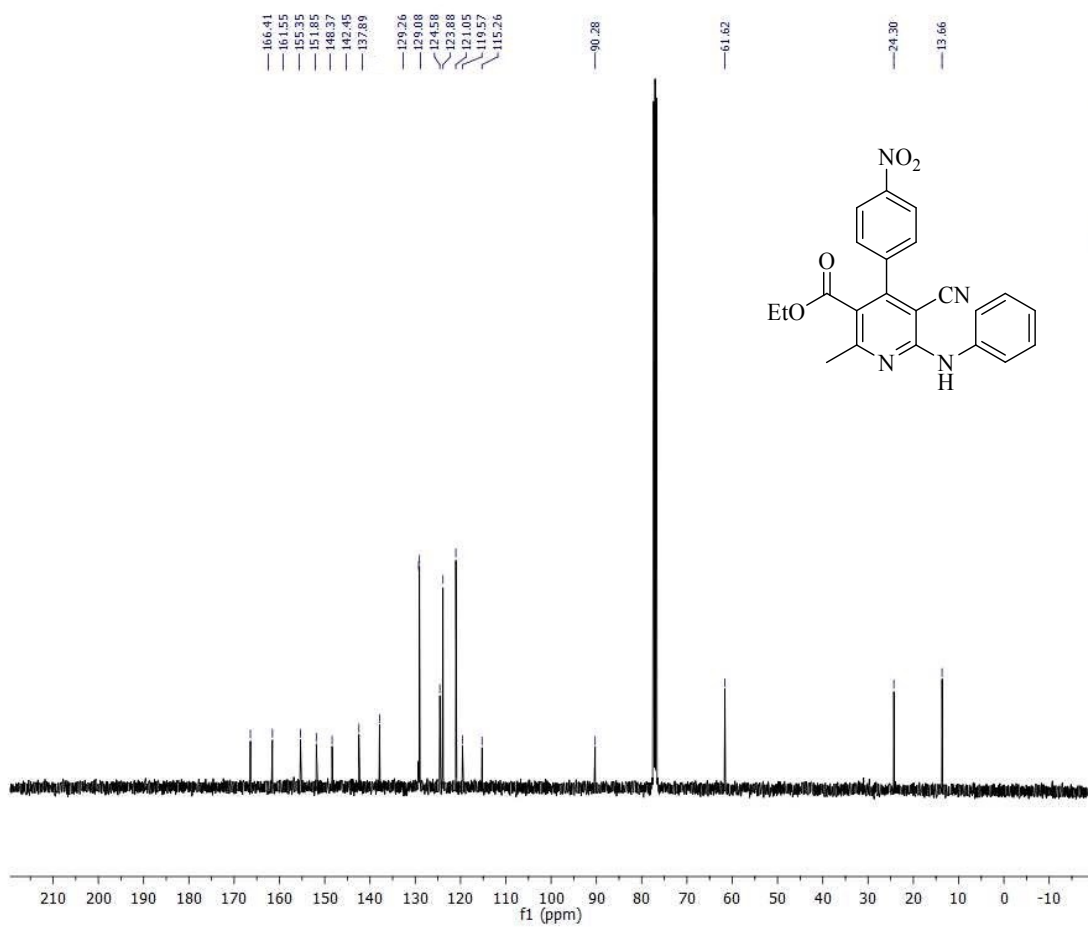


¹H spectrum of 5g



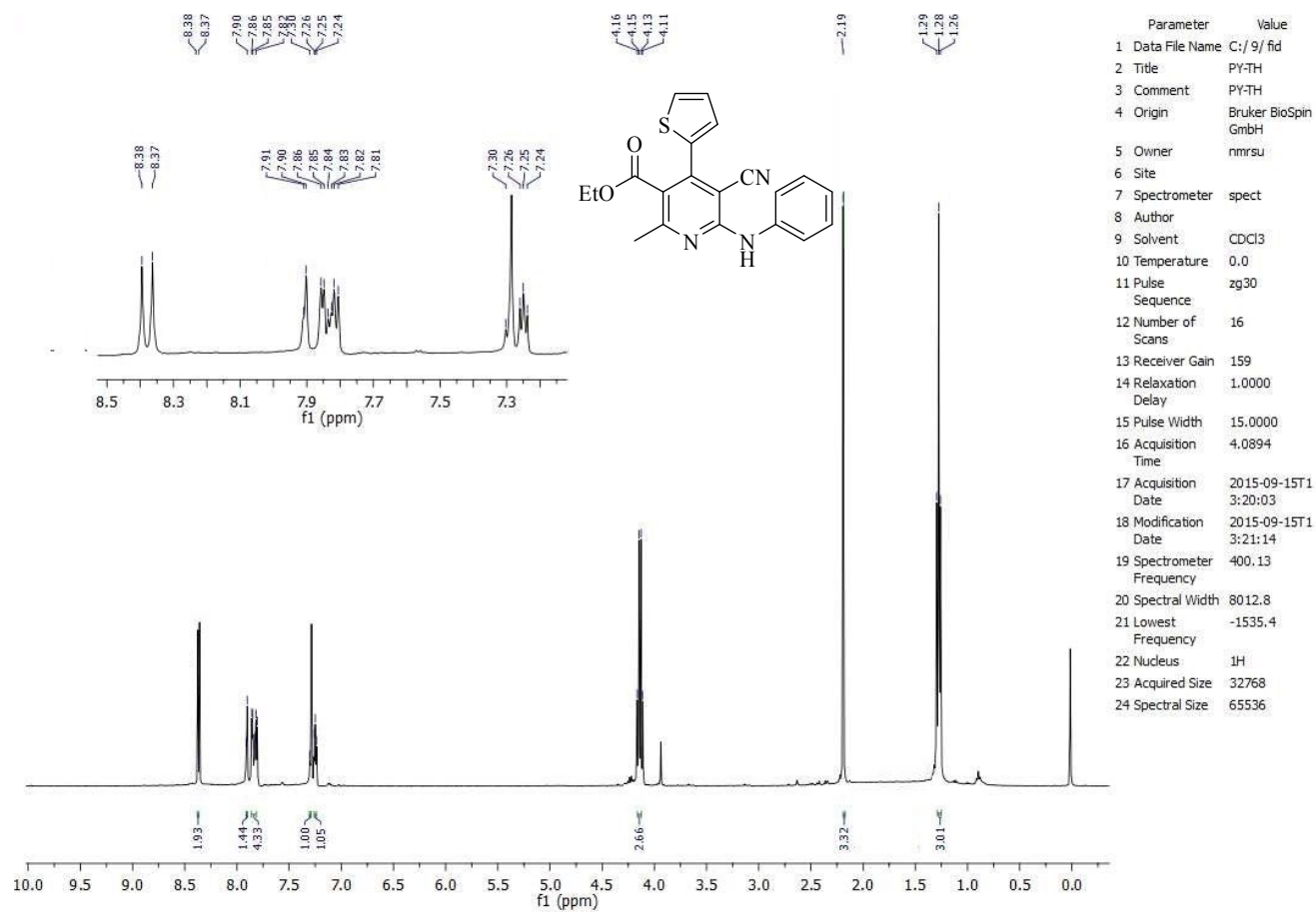
Parameter	Value
1 Data File Name	C:/ 10/ fid
2 Title	May29-2015
3 Comment	PY-PN
4 Origin	Bruker BioSpin GmbH
5 Owner	nmrsu
6 Site	
7 Spectrometer	spect
8 Author	
9 Solvent	CDCl3
10 Temperature	0.0
11 Pulse Sequence	zg30
12 Number of Scans	16
13 Receiver Gain	159
14 Relaxation Delay	1.0000
15 Pulse Width	15.0000
16 Acquisition Time	4.0894
17 Acquisition Date	2015-05-29T13:34:00
18 Modification Date	2015-05-29T13:34:20
19 Spectrometer Frequency	400.13
20 Spectral Width	8012.8
21 Lowest Frequency	-1535.4
22 Nucleus	¹ H
23 Acquired Size	32768
24 Spectral Size	65536

¹³C spectrum of 5g

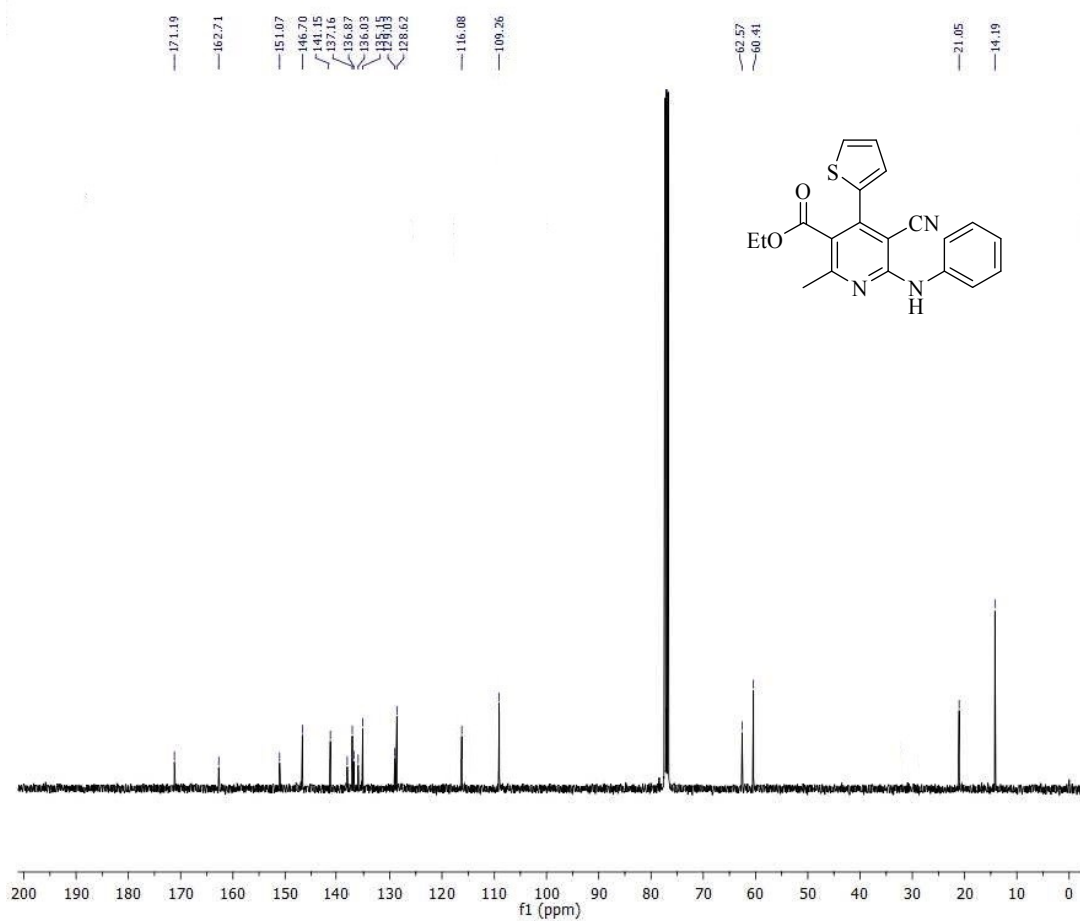


Parameter	Value
1 Data File Name	C:/ 11/ fid
2 Title	May29-2015
3 Comment	PY-PN
4 Origin	Bruker BioSpin GmbH
5 Owner	nmrsu
6 Site	
7 Spectrometer	spect
8 Author	
9 Solvent	CDCl3
10 Temperature	0.0
11 Pulse Sequence	zgpg30
12 Number of Scans	694
13 Receiver Gain	199
14 Relaxation Delay	2.0000
15 Pulse Width	9.8000
16 Acquisition Time	1.3631
17 Acquisition Date	2015-05-29T13:53:00
18 Modification Date	2015-05-29T14:15:09
19 Spectrometer Frequency	100.61
20 Spectral Width	24038.5
21 Lowest Frequency	-1958.9
22 Nucleus	13C
23 Acquired Size	32768
24 Spectral Size	65536

¹H spectrum of 5i

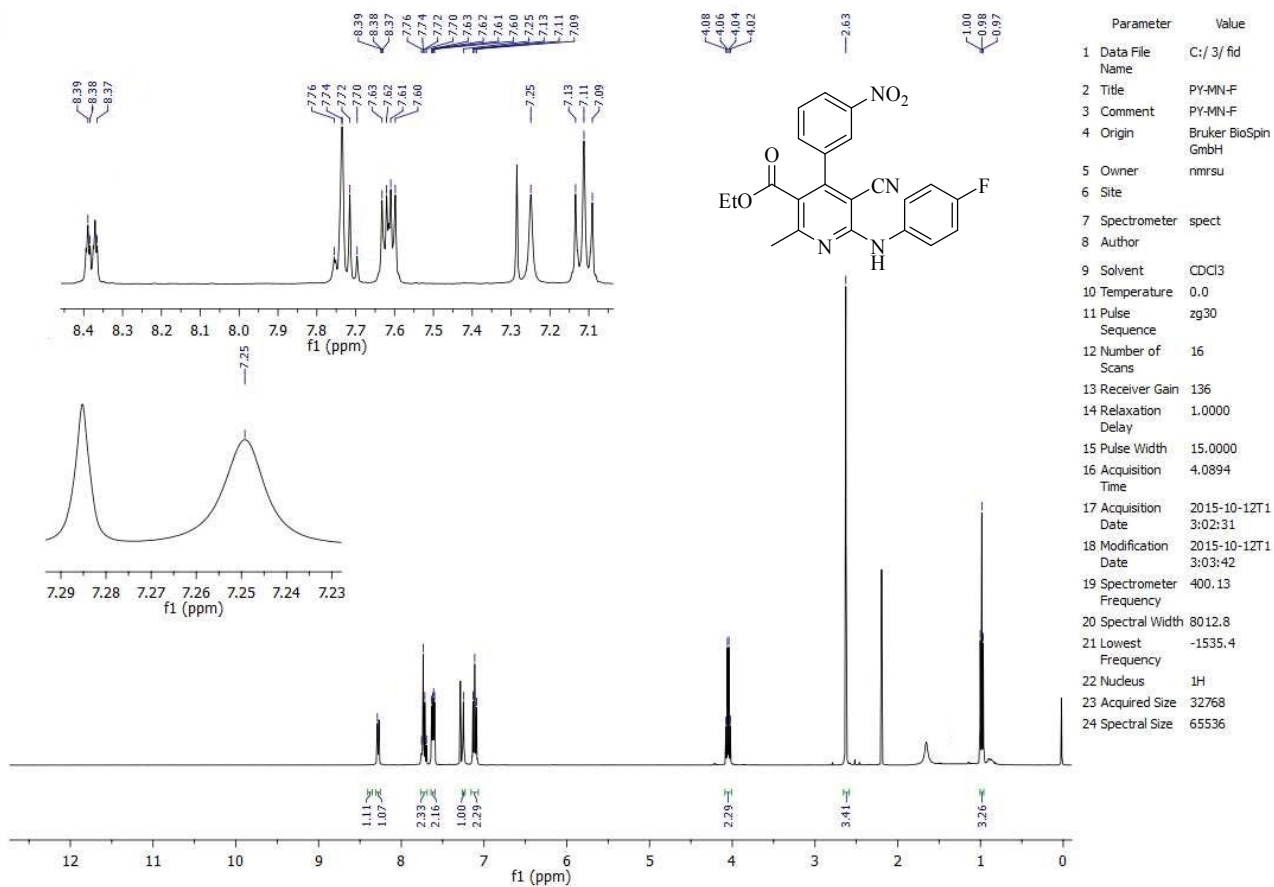


¹³C spectrum of 5i

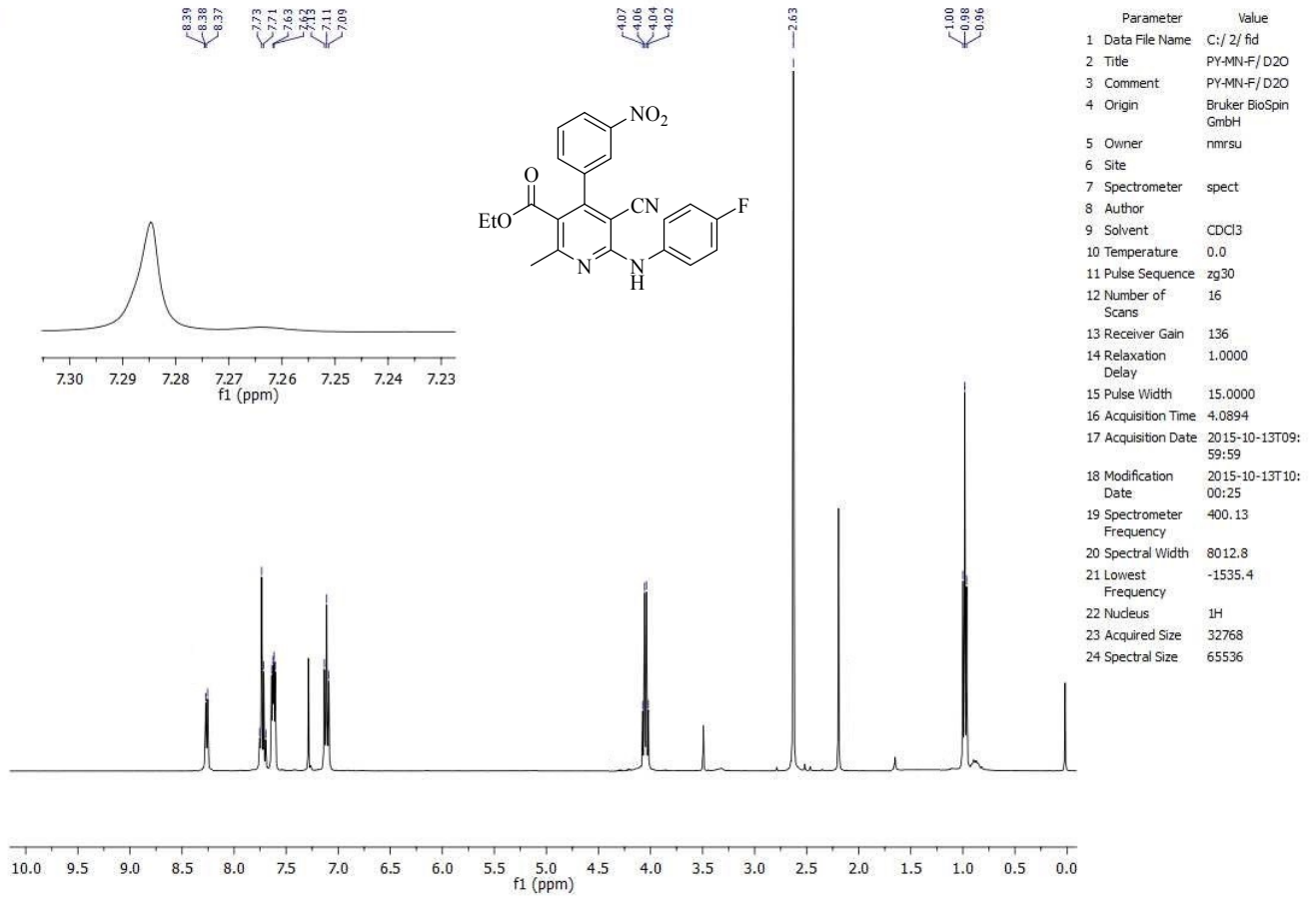


Parameter	Value
1 Data File Name	C:/10/fid
2 Title	PY-TH
3 Comment	PY-TH
4 Origin	Bruker BioSpin GmbH
5 Owner	nmrsu
6 Site	
7 Spectrometer	spect
8 Author	
9 Solvent	CDCl3
10 Temperature	0.0
11 Pulse Sequence	zgpg30
12 Number of Scans	1024
13 Receiver Gain	199
14 Relaxation Delay	2.0000
15 Pulse Width	9.8000
16 Acquisition Time	1.3631
17 Acquisition Date	2015-09-15T13:49:58
18 Modification Date	2015-09-15T14:20:26
19 Spectrometer Frequency	100.61
20 Spectral Width	24038.5
21 Lowest Frequency	-1958.9
22 Nucleus	13C
23 Acquired Size	32768
24 Spectral Size	65536

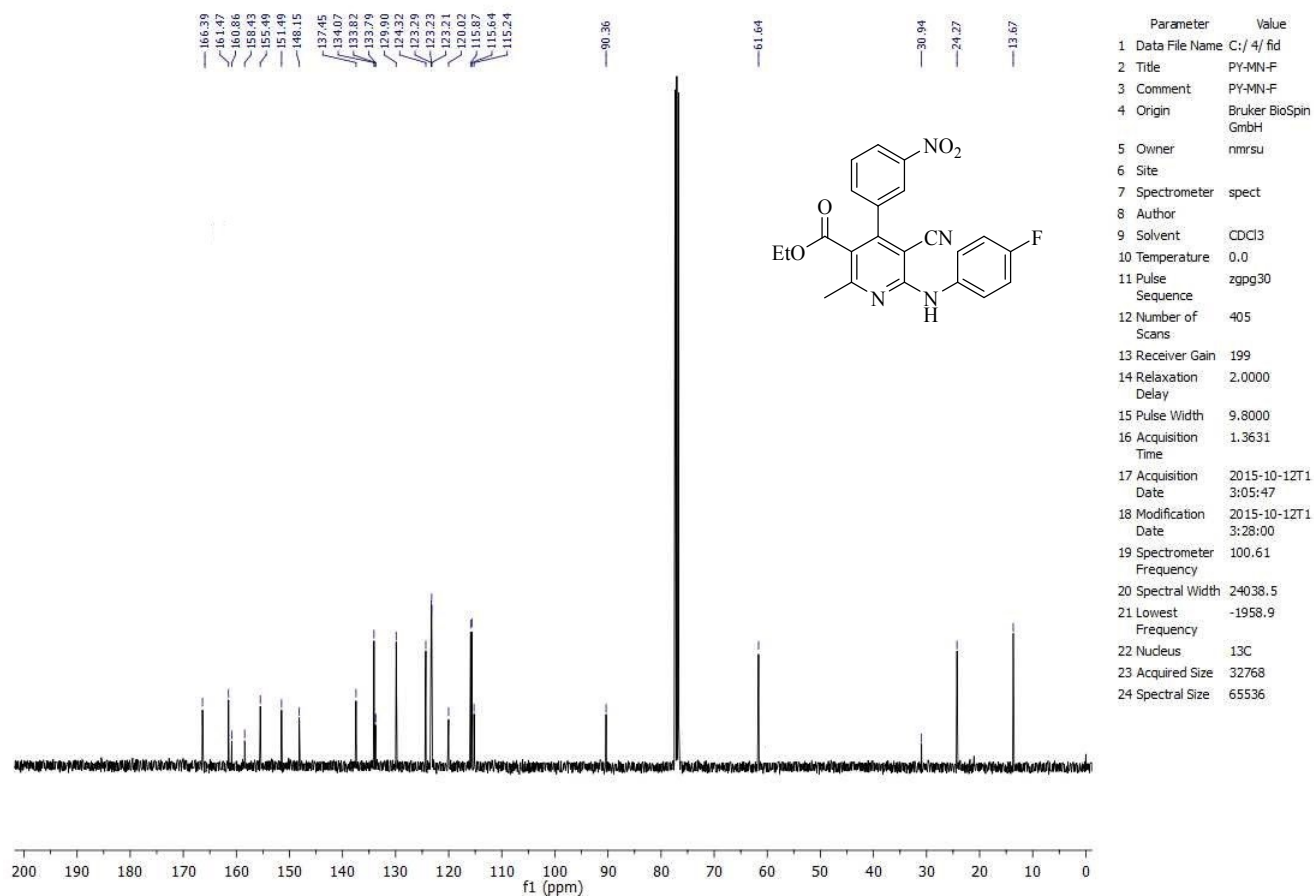
¹H spectrum of 5m



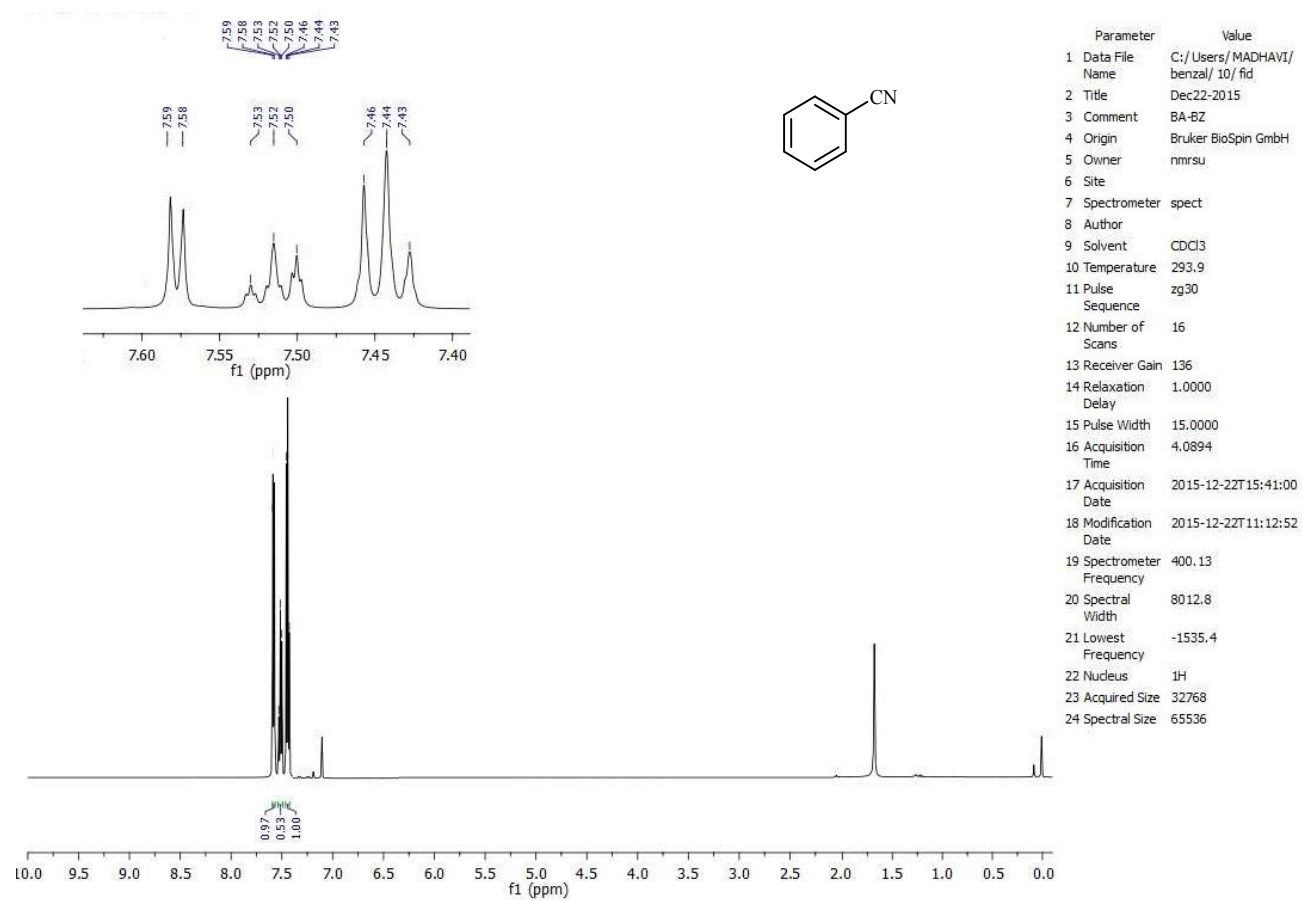
D₂O spectrum of 5m



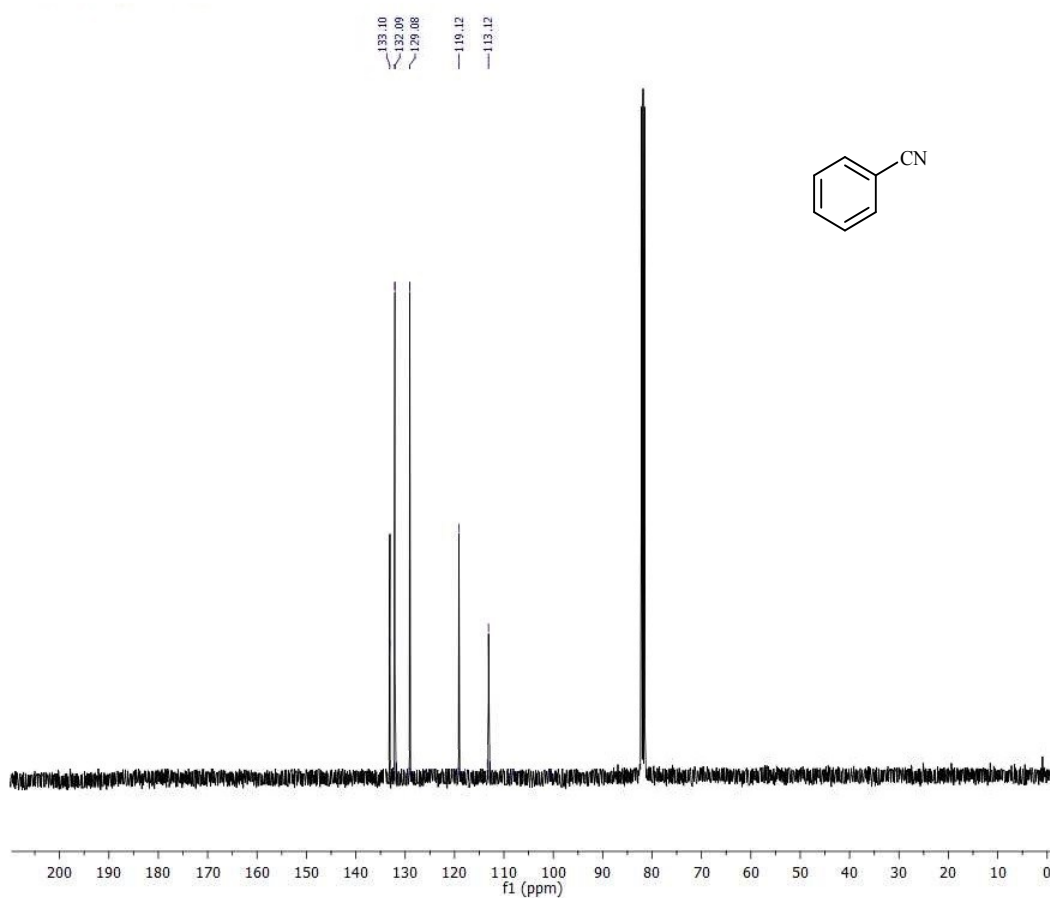
¹³C spectrum of 5m



¹H spectrum of 2a

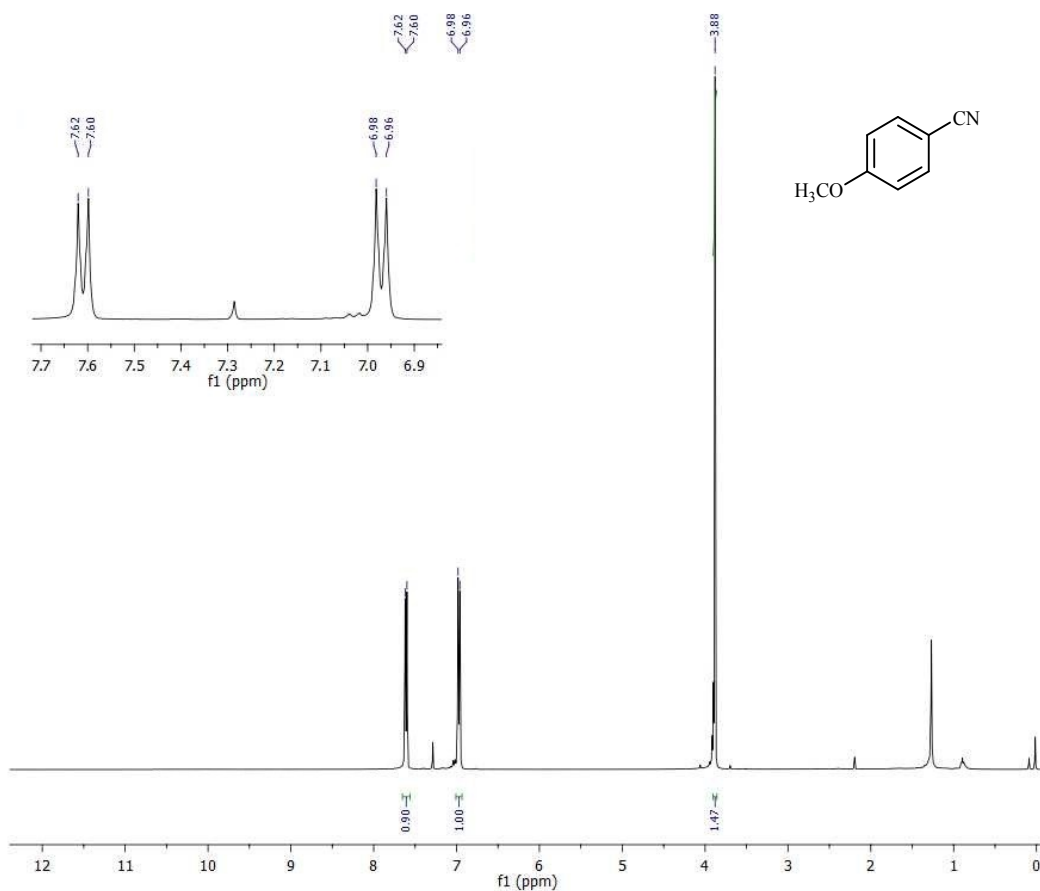


¹³C spectrum of 2a



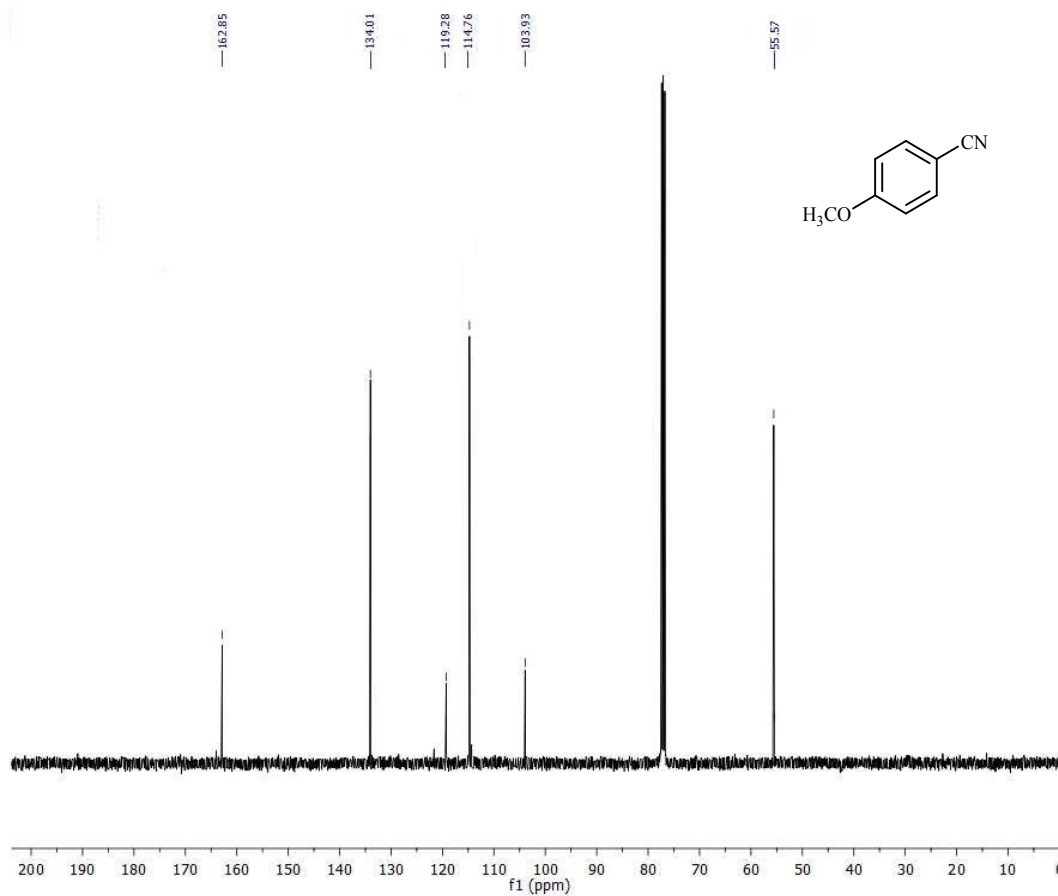
Parameter	Value
1 Data File Name	C:/Users/MADHAVI/benzal/11/fid
2 Title	Dec22-2015
3 Comment	BA-BZ
4 Origin	Bruker BioSpin GmbH
5 Owner	nmrsu
6 Site	
7 Spectrometer	spect
8 Author	
9 Solvent	CDCl3
10 Temperature	292.6
11 Pulse Sequence	zgpg30
12 Number of Scans	214
13 Receiver Gain	199
14 Relaxation Delay	2.0000
15 Pulse Width	9.8000
16 Acquisition Time	1.3631
17 Acquisition Date	2015-12-22T14:59:00
18 Modification Date	2015-12-22T10:38:12
19 Spectrometer Frequency	100.61
20 Spectral Width	24038.5
21 Lowest Frequency	-1958.9
22 Nucleus	13C
23 Acquired Size	32768
24 Spectral Size	65536

¹H spectrum of 2c



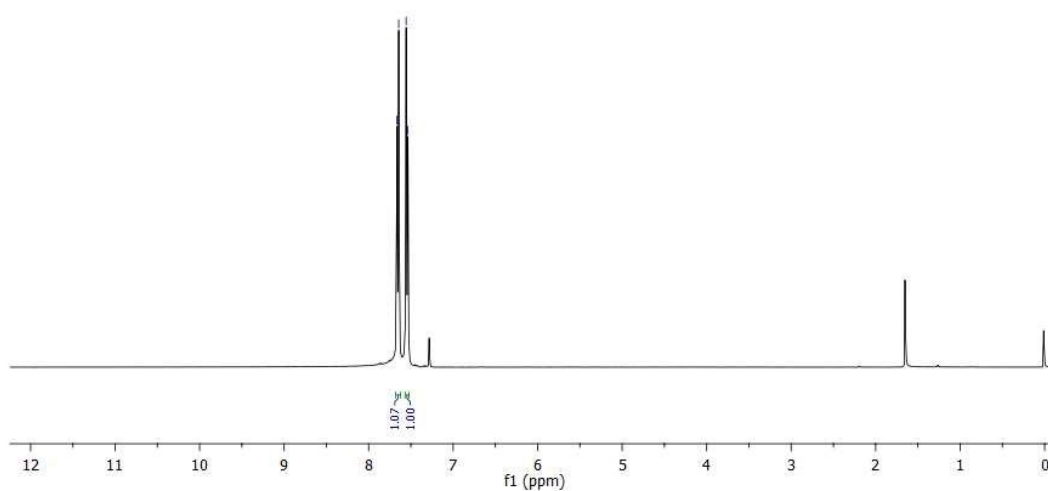
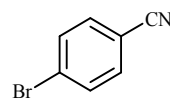
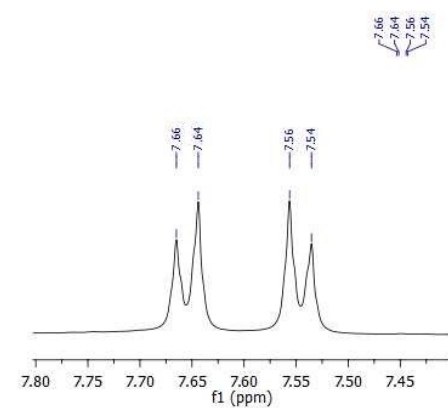
Parameter	Value
1 Data File Name	C:/Users/MADHAVI/20/fid
2 Title	Mar24-2015
3 Comment	1H
4 Origin	Bruker BioSpin GmbH
5 Owner	nmrsu
6 Site	
7 Spectrometer	spect
8 Author	
9 Solvent	CDCl ₃
10 Temperature	291.2
11 Pulse Sequence	zg30
12 Number of Scans	16
13 Receiver Gain	114
14 Relaxation Delay	1.0000
15 Pulse Width	15.0000
16 Acquisition Time	4.0894
17 Acquisition Date	2015-03-24T16:06:00
18 Modification Date	2015-03-24T11:36:40
19 Spectrometer Frequency	400.13
20 Spectral Width	8012.8
21 Lowest Frequency	-1535.4
22 Nucleus	1H
23 Acquired Size	32768
24 Spectral Size	65536

¹³C spectrum of 2c



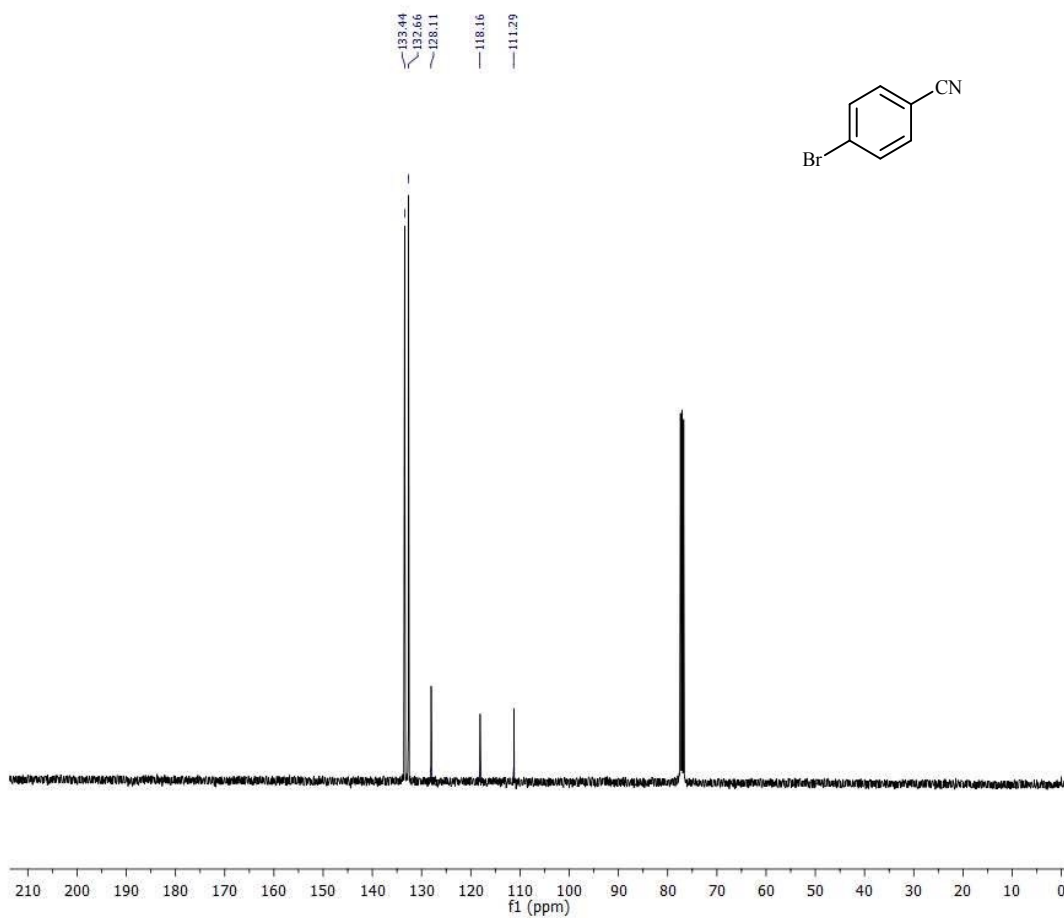
Parameter	Value
1 Data File Name	C:/Users/MADHAVI/21/fid
2 Title	Mar24-2015
3 Comment	¹³ C
4 Origin	Bruker BioSpin GmbH
5 Owner	nmrsu
6 Site	
7 Spectrometer	spect
8 Author	
9 Solvent	CDCl3
10 Temperature	291.9
11 Pulse Sequence	zgpg30
12 Number of Scans	353
13 Receiver Gain	199
14 Relaxation Delay	2.0000
15 Pulse Width	9.8000
16 Acquisition Time	1.3631
17 Acquisition Date	2015-03-24T16:12:00
18 Modification Date	2015-03-24T11:57:36
19 Spectrometer Frequency	100.61
20 Spectral Width	24038.5
21 Lowest Frequency	-1958.9
22 Nucleus	¹³ C
23 Acquired Size	32768
24 Spectral Size	65536

¹H spectrum of 2d



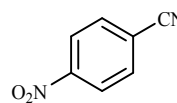
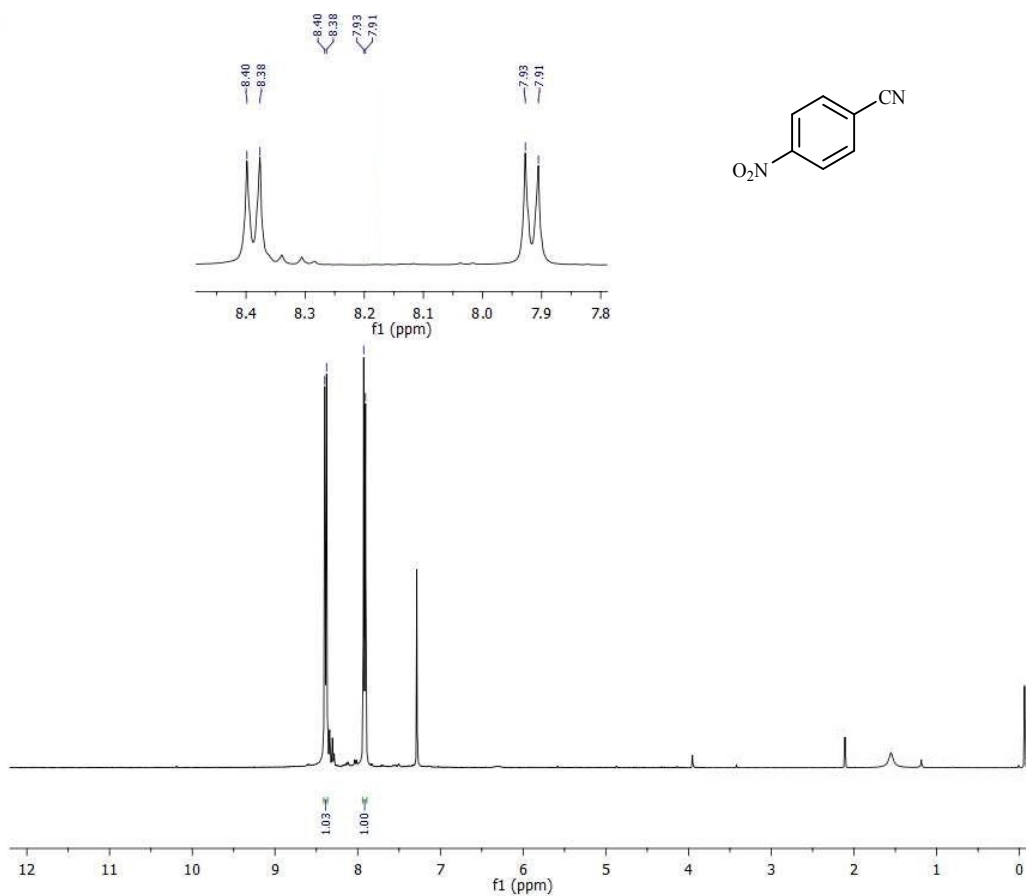
Parameter	Value
1 Data File Name	C:/Users/MADHAVI/1/fid
2 Title	Nitile series-P-bromo benzal
3 Comment	P-BR-CN
4 Origin	Bruker BioSpin GmbH
5 Owner	nmrsu
6 Site	
7 Spectrometer	spect
8 Author	
9 Solvent	CDCl3
10 Temperature	0.0
11 Pulse Sequence	zg30
12 Number of Scans	16
13 Receiver Gain	178
14 Relaxation Delay	1.0000
15 Pulse Width	15.0000
16 Acquisition Time	4.0894
17 Acquisition Date	2015-07-03T11:16:35
18 Modification Date	2015-07-03T11:16:36
19 Spectrometer Frequency	400.13
20 Spectral Width	8012.8
21 Lowest Frequency	-1535.4
22 Nucleus	¹ H
23 Acquired Size	32768
24 Spectral Size	65536

¹³C spectrum of 2d



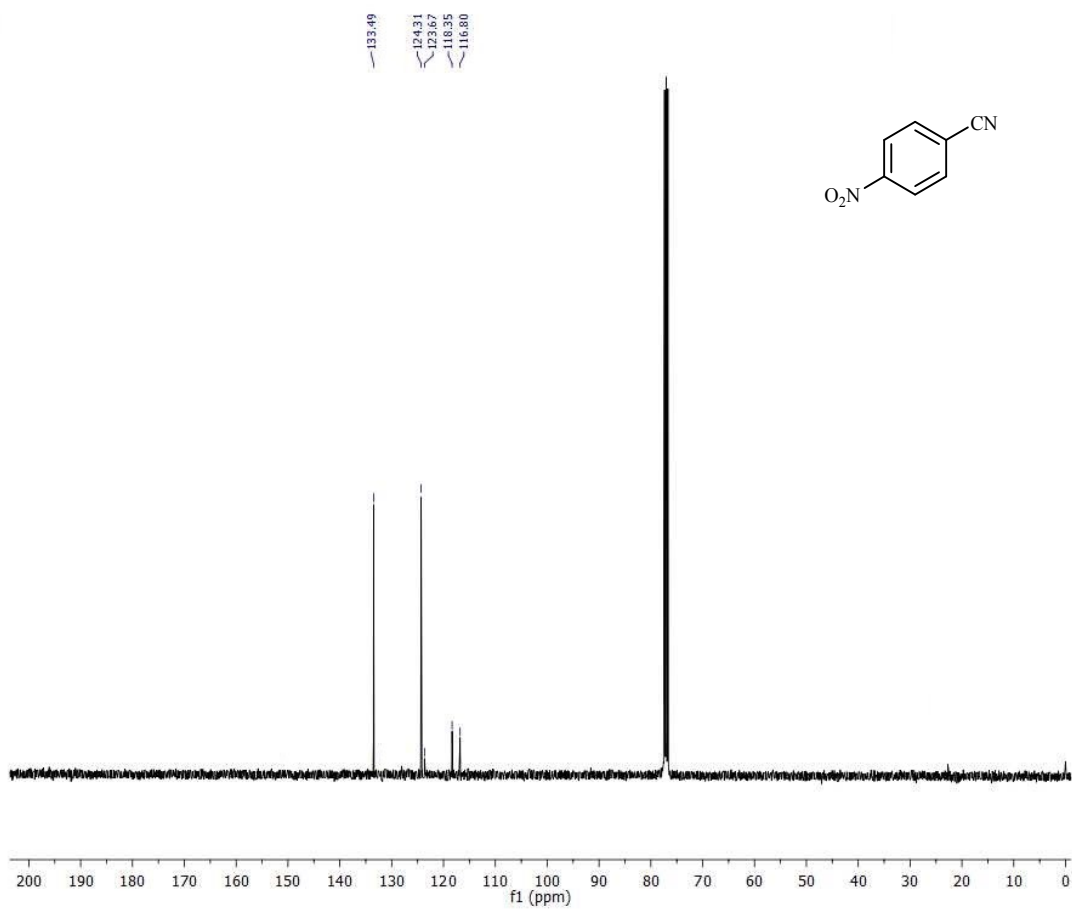
Parameter	Value
1 Data File Name	C:/Users/MADHAVI/2/fid
2 Title	Nitile series-P-bromo benzal
3 Comment	P-BR-CN
4 Origin	Bruker BioSpin GmbH
5 Owner	nmrsu
6 Site	
7 Spectrometer	spect
8 Author	
9 Solvent	CDCl3
10 Temperature	0.0
11 Pulse Sequence	zgpg30
12 Number of Scans	1002
13 Receiver Gain	199
14 Relaxation Delay	2.0000
15 Pulse Width	9.8000
16 Acquisition Time	1.3631
17 Acquisition Date	2015-07-03T12:15:16
18 Modification Date	2015-07-03T12:15:18
19 Spectrometer Frequency	100.61
20 Spectral Width	24038.5
21 Lowest Frequency	-1958.9
22 Nucleus	13C
23 Acquired Size	32768
24 Spectral Size	65536

¹H spectrum of 2g



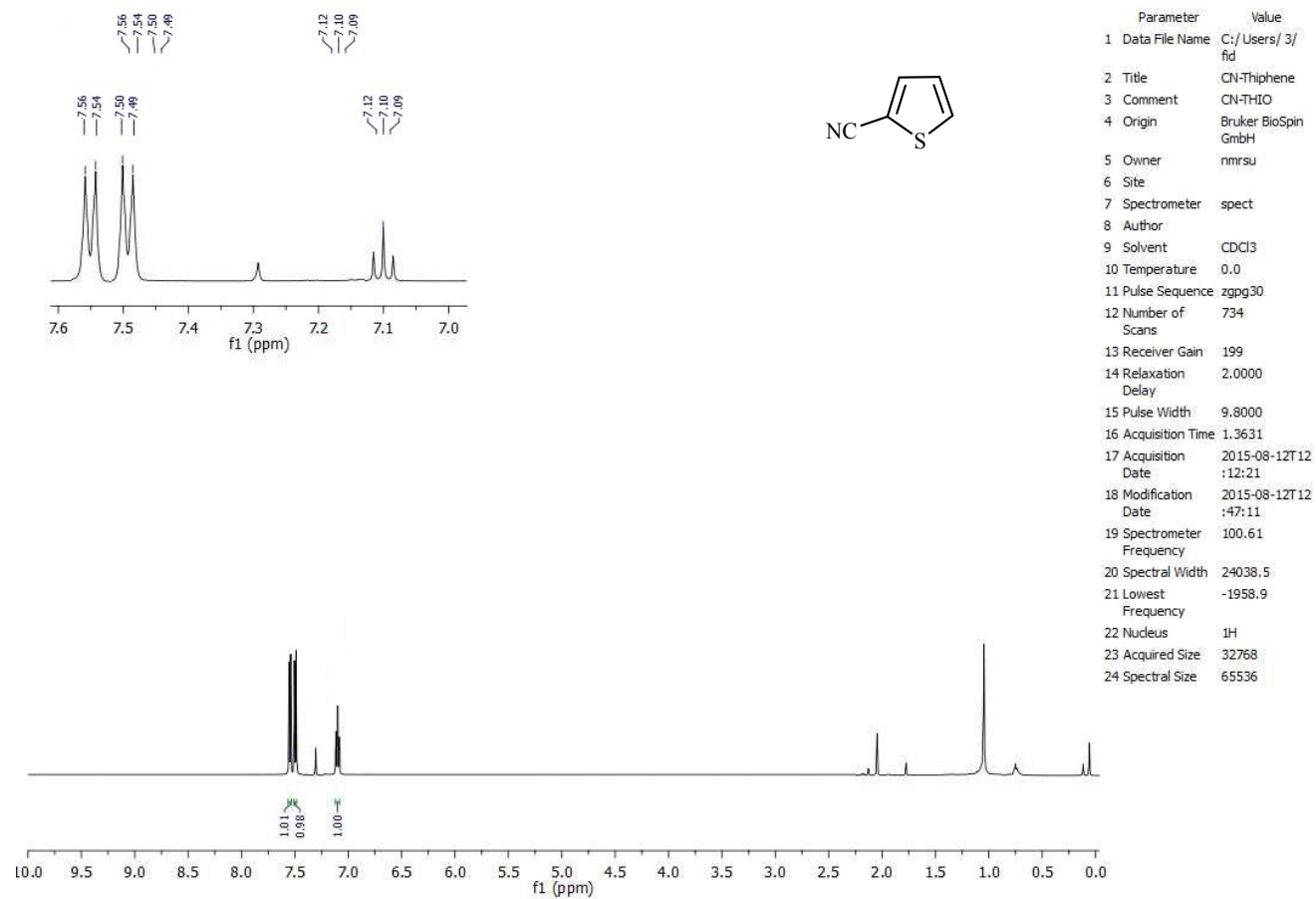
Parameter	Value
1 Data File Name	C:/Users/MADHAVI/4/ fid
2 Title	Dec17-2014
3 Comment	PNO2
4 Origin	Bruker BioSpin GmbH
5 Owner	nmrsu
6 Site	
7 Spectrometer	spect
8 Author	
9 Solvent	CDCl3
10 Temperature	292.9
11 Pulse Sequence	zg30
12 Number of Scans	16
13 Receiver Gain	199
14 Relaxation Delay	1.0000
15 Pulse Width	15.0000
16 Acquisition Time	4.0894
17 Acquisition Date	2014-12-17T12:55:00
18 Modification Date	2014-12-17T08:26:38
19 Spectrometer Frequency	400.13
20 Spectral Width	8012.8
21 Lowest Frequency	-1535.4
22 Nucleus	¹ H
23 Acquired Size	32768
24 Spectral Size	65536

¹³C spectrum of 2g

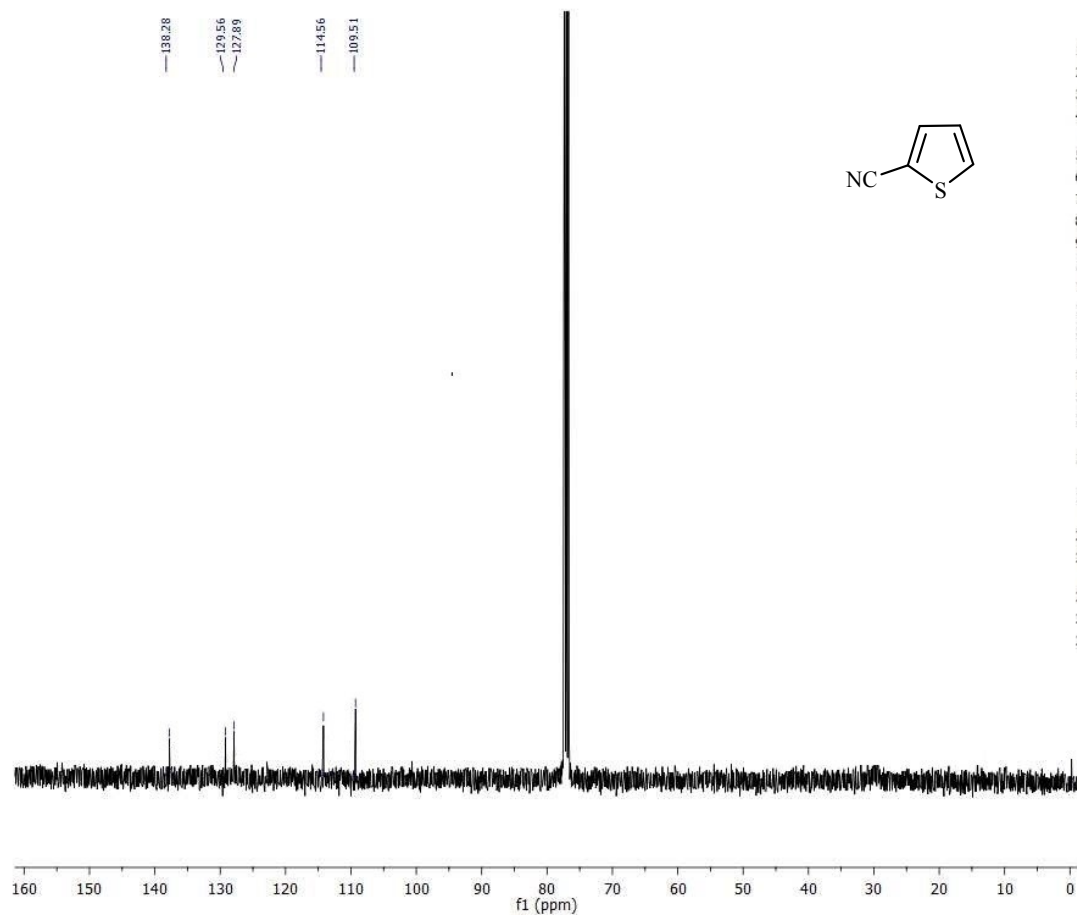


Parameter	Value
1 Data File Name	C:/Users/MADHAVI/Desktop/5/fid
2 Title	Dec17-2014
3 Comment	13C
4 Origin	Bruker BioSpin GmbH
5 Owner	nmrsu
6 Site	
7 Spectrometer	spect
8 Author	
9 Solvent	CDCl3
10 Temperature	294.4
11 Pulse Sequence	zgpg30
12 Number of Scans	802
13 Receiver Gain	199
14 Relaxation Delay	2.0000
15 Pulse Width	9.8000
16 Acquisition Time	1.3631
17 Acquisition Date	2014-12-17T13:42:00
18 Modification Date	2014-12-17T09:13:14
19 Spectrometer Frequency	100.61
20 Spectral Width	24038.5
21 Lowest Frequency	-1958.9
22 Nucleus	13C
23 Acquired Size	32768
24 Spectral Size	65536

¹H spectrum of 2i



¹³C spectrum of 2i



Parameter	Value
1 Data File Name	C:/Users/2/ fid
2 Title	CN-Thiophene
3 Comment	CN-THIO
4 Origin	Bruker BioSpin GmbH
5 Owner	nmrsu
6 Site	
7 Spectrometer	spect
8 Author	
9 Solvent	CDCl3
10 Temperature	0.0
11 Pulse Sequence	zgpg30
12 Number of Scans	734
13 Receiver Gain	199
14 Relaxation Delay	2.0000
15 Pulse Width	9.8000
16 Acquisition Time	1.3631
17 Acquisition Date	2015-08-12T12:12:21
18 Modification Date	2015-08-12T12:47:11
19 Spectrometer Frequency	100.61
20 Spectral Width	24038.5
21 Lowest Frequency	-1958.9
22 Nucleus	13C
23 Acquired Size	32768
24 Spectral Size	65536

5. References

1. X. He, Y. Shang, Zhiyu Yu, M. Fang, Y. Zhou, G. Han and F. Wu, *J. Org. Chem.*, 2014, **79**, 8882.
2. D. N. K. Reddy, K. B. Chandrasekhar, Y. S. S. Ganesh, B. S. Kumar, R. Adepu and M. Pal, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 2015, **56**, 4586.
3. C. Tao, F. Liu, Y. Zhu, W. Liu and Z. Cao, *Org. Biomol. Chem.*, 2013, **11**, 3349.
4. S. Enthaler, *Eur. J. Org. Chem.*, 2011, 4760.
5. *Aldrich Advancing Science Handbook of Fine Chemicals*, 2015.
6. F. Drouet, P. Fontaine, G. Masson and J. Zhu, *Synthesis*, 2009, 1370.
7. C. S. Rao, M. Rambabu and P. S. Srinivasan, *Synth. Commun.*, 1989, **19**, 1431.