

## Nickel-Catalyzed C-3 Direct Arylation of Pyridinium Ions for the Synthesis of 1-Azafluorenes

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## Key to Abbreviated Terms:

CDCl<sub>3</sub> - Deuterated chloroform  
DBU – 1,8-Diazabicycloundec-7-ene  
DMSO- Dimethylsulfoxide  
DMF- N,N-dimethylformamide  
EtOAc - Ethyl Acetate  
Hex - Hexanes  
DMF - N,N-Dimethylformamide  
Hex - Hexanes

Me-THF - 2-Methyl-Tetrahydrofuran  
MTBE–Methyl-tert-butyl-ether  
NaHMDS -Sodium hexamethyldisilazane

## General Considerations:

### General:

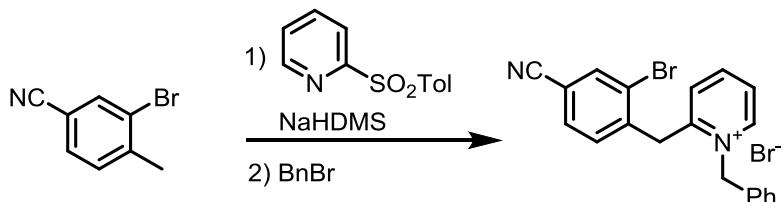
Unless stated otherwise, reactions were conducted under an atmosphere of nitrogen using standard Schlenk or glove box techniques. NMR Spectra (<sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C, <sup>19</sup>F) were performed at 298 K (unless otherwise specified) on either a Brüker Avance III Ultra Shield DPX-400 MHz NMR or Brüker Avance III Ultra Shield DRX 500 MHz NMR. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR Spectra obtained in CDCl<sub>3</sub> were referenced to residual non-deuterated chloroform (7.26 ppm) or DMSO (39.52 ppm) in the respective deuterated solvents. <sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectra obtained in CDCl<sub>3</sub> were referenced to chloroform (77.3 ppm). Reactions were monitored using a Waters Acuity UPLC, <sup>1</sup>H NMR, and/or by TLC on silica gel plates (60Å porosity, 250 µm thickness). Low-resolution mass spectra were obtained using Waters Xevo TDQ attached to a Waters Acuity UPLC. High resolution mass spectral data were acquired using an Agilent LC/MSD TOF (time-of-flight) mass spectrometer in an electrospray positive ionization mode *via* flow injection. TLC analysis was performed using hexanes/EtOAc as the eluent and visualized using UV light. Flash chromatography was accomplished using a Teledyne CombiFlash R<sub>f</sub> (visualizing at 254 & 280 nm) with Silicycle SiliaSep Flash Cartridges (60Å porosity, 40-63 µm).

### Chemicals:

Commercially obtained reagents were used as received. Deuterated NMR solvents (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, DMSO) were purchased from Sigma Aldrich. NiCl<sub>2</sub>(DME), and 1,10-phenanthroline. Ethyl acetate, and hexanes were purchased from Fischer. DMF and DBU were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich in a Sure-Seal bottle and degassed by sparging with nitrogen for 15 min prior to use.

## Synthesis of Pyridinium Ions

### General Procedure A

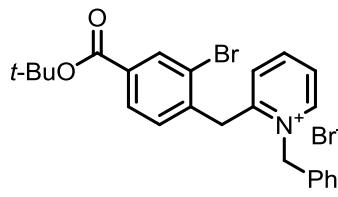


### 1-Benzyl-2-(4-cyano-2-bromobenzyl)pyridin-1-ium bromide, 4e-Br

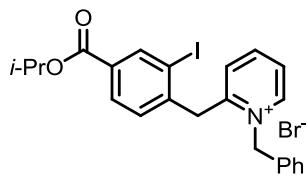
A round bottom flask containing 3-iodo-4-methylbenzonitrile (10.292 g, 52 mmol, 1.05 equiv) and 2-(phenylsulfonyl)pyridine (10.9g, 50 mmol, 1 equiv.) was purged with nitrogen. DMF (50

mL) was charged to the flask and the resulting slurry was stirred at room temperature for 30 minutes, then cooled to 10 °C. A solution of NaHMDS in THF (50 mL, 100 mmol, 2 equiv, 2M) was charged over 15 min while keeping the internal temperature below 20 °C. The reaction mixture was concentrated down under reduced pressure to remove THF, then water was added (30 mL). The organic layer was washed with 10% aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. The resulting mixture was extracted with Me-THF (100 mL). Combined organic layers were washed with water (30 mL) then concentrated. The resulting concentrated residue was dissolved in dry acetonitrile (30 mL) under nitrogen. Benzyl bromide (6.5 mL, 55 mmol, 1.1 equiv.) was then charged at room temperature and the reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C for about 12 h. The reaction mixture was cooled down to room temperature and was treated with EtOAc (10-20 mL). The slurry was stirred for 1 h at room temperature then filtered. The resulting solid was rinsed with EtOAc and dried under vacuum to afford the desired pyridinium salt **4e-Br** with 75% yield.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO, 400 MHz) δ ppm 9.53 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 8.62 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.27 (s, 1H), 8.24 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 8.05 Hz, 1H), 7.47-7.35 (m, 5H), 6.25 (s, 2H), 4.81 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO, 100 MHz) 155.0, 147.8, 147.0, 140.3, 136.7, 133.4, 133.2, 132.8, 129.7, 129.4, 129.2, 128.3, 127.1, 125.5, 117.6, 113.1, 60.9, 39.2; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M-Br]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>16</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub>: 363.0491, found: 363.0509.

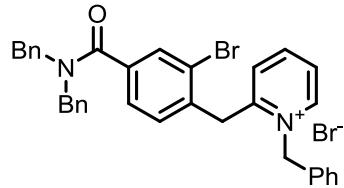


**1-Benzyl-2-(2-bromo-4-(tert-butoxycarbonyl) benzyl) pyridin-1-ium bromide, 4b** (59% yield) was prepared via General Procedure A. **5b** was obtained as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO, 400 MHz) δ ppm 9.40 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 8.55 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 8.07 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.37 (m, 4H), 7.36-7.32 (m, 2H), 6.15 (s, 2H), 4.70 (s, 2H), 1.54 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO, 100 MHz) 163.7, 155.5, 147.8, 146.9, 139.1, 133.6, 133.4, 133.3, 133.1, 129.7, 129.5, 129.4, 129.0, 128.2, 127.0, 125.0, 82.2, 60.9, 39.0, 28.1; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M-Br]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>25</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: 438.1063, found: 438.1084.

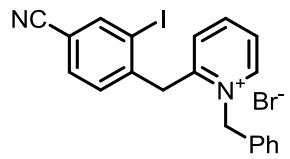


**1-Benzyl-2-(2-bromo-4-(isopropoxy carbonyl) benzyl) pyridin-1-ium iodide, 4c** (13% yield) was prepared via General Procedure A. **4c** was obtained as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO, 400 MHz) δ ppm 9.41 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 8.55 (t, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 8.37 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (dd, *J* = 1.6, 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.43 (m, 3H), 7.43-7.40 (m, 1H), 7.39-7.34 (m, 3H), 6.15 (s, 2H), 5.14 (sept, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 4.69 (s, 2H), 1.32 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO, 100 MHz) 164.0, 155.6, 147.8,

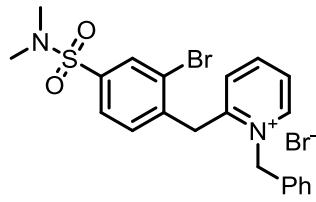
146.9, 142.9, 140.2, 133.2, 132.1, 131.8, 130.1, 129.8, 129.4, 129.2, 128.3, 127.0, 102.8, 69.3, 60.9, 43.4, 22.1; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M-Br]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>23</sub>INO<sub>2</sub>: 472.0768, found: 472.0767.



**1-Benzyl-2-(2-bromo-4-(dibenzyl carbamoyl) benzyl) pyridin-1-ium bromide, **4d**** (69% yield) was prepared *via* General Procedure A. **4d** was obtained as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO, 400 MHz) δ ppm 9.43 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 8.58 (t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (s, 1H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.43-7.26 (m, 15H), 7.21-7.15 (m, 2H), 6.16 (s, 2H), 4.66 (s, 2H), 4.61 (br s, 2H), 4.44 (br s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO, 100 MHz) 169.6, 155.7, 147.7, 146.9, 138.2, 137.2, 136.9, 135.7, 133.3, 132.7, 132.4, 129.6, 129.3, 129.3 (2), 129.1, 128.2 (2), 128.0, 127.8, 127.4; 127.0, 126.9, 124.9, 60.9, 52.2, 47.8, 38.9; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M-Br]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>30</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub>O: 561.1536, found: 561.1559.

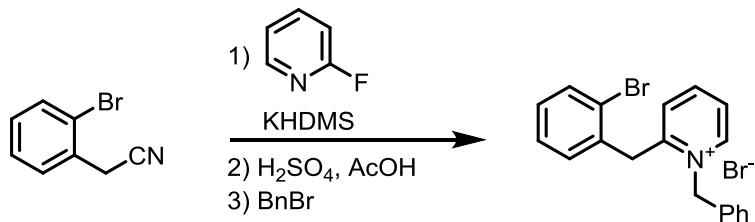


**1-Benzyl-2-(4-cyano-2-iodobenzyl) pyridin-1-ium bromide, **4e-I**** (65% yield) was prepared *via* General Procedure A. **4e-I** was obtained as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO, 400 MHz) δ ppm 9.43 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 8.58 (t, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 8.42 (s, 1H), 8.21 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.34 (m, 7H), 6.16 (s, 2H), 4.72 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO, 100 MHz) 155.3, 147.8, 146.9, 143.6, 142.9, 133.1 (2), 132.1, 129.8, 129.4, 128.3, 127.1, 117.5, 112.8, 13.7, 60.9, 43.5; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M-Br]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>16</sub>IN<sub>2</sub>: 411.0353, found: 411.0365.



**1-Benzyl-2-(2-bromo-4-(N,N-dimethyl sulfamoyl)benzyl)pyridin-1-ium, **4f**** (65% yield) was prepared *via* General Procedure A. **4f** was obtained as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO, 400 MHz) δ ppm 9.46 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 8.59 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.21 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (s, 1H), 7.76 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.33 (m, 5H), 6.19 (s, 2H), 4.77 (s, 2H), 2.66 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO, 100 MHz) 155.1, 147.8, 147.0, 139.6, 136.6, 133.5, 133.2, 131.8, 129.7, 129.4, 128.3, 127.9, 127.1, 125.6, 61.0, 39.0, 38.1; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M-Br]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>22</sub>BrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S: 445.0580, found: 445.0585.

### General Procedure B

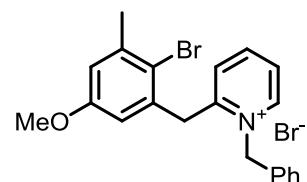


**1-Benzyl-2-(2-bromobenzyl)pyridin-1-ium bromide, 4a** A round bottom flask purged with nitrogen was charged with dry THF (2 mL). 2-bromophenylacetonitrile (3.9 g, 20 mmol, 1 equiv.) and 2-fluoropyridine (1.9 g, 20 mmol, 1 equiv.) were sequentially added to the flask. The resulting solution was then cooled to 10 °C. A solution of KHMDS in THF (20 mL, 2 equiv, 1M) was charged over 15 min while keeping the internal temperature below 20 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for about 5 h or until full consumption of the starting nitrile was observed by HPLC or UPLC. The reaction mixture was quenched with water (30 mL) and was diluted with Me-THF (50 mL) and 10% aq NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (15 mL). The reaction mixture was concentrated down under reduced pressure.

The resulting concentrated residue was dissolved in acetic acid (6 mL) and sulfuric acid (2 mL). The mixture was stirred for 15 h at 100 °C. Water (0.8 mL) was charged at 100 °C and allowed to stir for 3 h. The reaction mixture was neutralized using 25% aq. NaOH to pH = 14. The mixture was extracted with MTBE and solvent was evaporated.

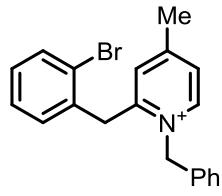
The resulting concentrated residue was dissolved in dry acetonitrile under nitrogen. Benzyl bromide (1.25g, 1.05 equiv) was then charged at room temperature and the reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C for about 12 h. The reaction mixture was cooled down to room temperature and was treated with EtOAc (or Me-THF). The slurry was stirred for 1 h at room temperature then filtered. The resulting solid was rinsed with EtOAc (or Me-THF) and dried under vacuum to afford the desired pyridinium salt **4a** with 50% yield.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO, 400 MHz) δ ppm 9.48 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 8.60 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 8.20 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.32 (m, 9H), 6.22 (s, 2H), 4.67 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO, 100 MHz) 156.2, 147.6, 146.9, 134.3, 133.6, 133.4, 132.8, 130.8, 129.7, 129.4, 129.2, 128.7, 128.2, 126.8, 124.9, 60.8, 39.0; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M-Br]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>17</sub>BrN: 338.0539, found: 338.0539.



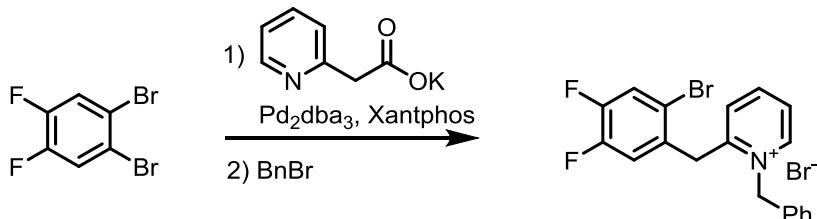
**1-Benzyl-2-(2-bromo-5-methoxy-3-methylbenzyl)-pyridin-1-ium bromide, 4h** (31% yield) was prepared via General Procedure B. **4h** was obtained as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO, 400 MHz) δ ppm 9.29

(d,  $J = 6.2$  Hz, 1H), 8.52 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 1H), 8.14 (t,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.39 (m, 3H), 7.39-7.30 (m, 3H), 7.02 (d,  $J = 2.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.80 (d,  $J = 2.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.07 (s, 2H), 4.54 (s, 2H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (DMSO, 100 MHz) 158.5, 155.9, 147.0, 146.3, 139.9, 134.9, 132.8, 129.2, 129.0, 128.9, 128.2, 128.0, 127.6, 127.5, 126.5, 117.1, 116.1, 115.6, 60.3, 55.4, 23.4; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M-Br]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>21</sub>BrNO: 382.0801, found: 382.0796.



**1-Benzyl-2-(2-bromobenzyl)-4-methylpyridin-1-ium bromide, 4i** (9% yield) was prepared *via* General Procedure B. **4i** was obtained as a white solid.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  ppm 9.15 (d,  $J = 6.5$  Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.47-7.37 (m, 4H), 7.34 (d,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.32-7.26 (m, 3H), 7.22 (s, 1H), 5.98 (s, 2H), 4.52 (s, 2H), 4.81 (s, 2H), 253 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (DMSO, 100 MHz) 160.3, 155.0, 146.6, 134.2, 133.7, 133.6, 132.5, 130.7, 129.7, 129.3, 129.1 (2), 128.0, 127.4, 124.8, 60.1, 38.7, 22.0; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M-Br]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>19</sub>BrN: 352.0695, found: 352.0704.

### Procedure C



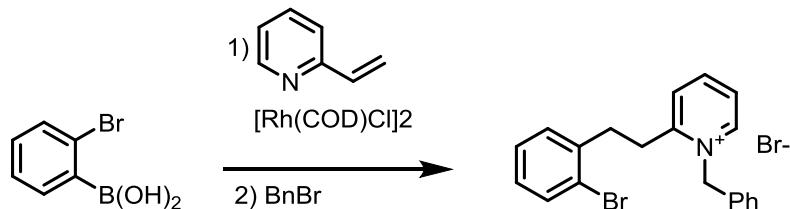
**1-Benzyl-2-(2-bromo-4,5-difluorobenzyl)pyridin-1-ium bromide, 4g** A reported protocol was followed:<sup>1</sup> A 10 ml oven-dried Schlenk tube was charged with Pd<sub>2</sub>(dba)<sub>3</sub> (67 mg, 0.074 mmol, 2 mol%), Xantphos (127 mg, 0.221 mmol, 6 mol%), potassium pyridyl-2-acetate (0.644 g, 3.6 mmol, 1 equiv) and dibromo-4,5-difluorobenzene (1 g, 3.67 mmol, 1 equiv.). The tube was evacuated and filled with argon (this procedure was repeated three times). Then diglyme (6 mL) was added with a syringe under nitrogen. The tube was sealed with a screw cap, stirred at room temperature for 10 min, and connected to the Schlenk line which was full of argon, stirred in a preheated oil bath (150 °C) for 16 h. Upon completion of the reaction, the mixture was cooled to room temperature and diluted with EtOAc and passed through celite. The mixture was washed with water and layers separated. Solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the resulting concentrated residue (0.56 g) was dissolved in dry acetonitrile (1 mL) under nitrogen. Benzyl bromide (0.246 mL, 2 mmol, 1.05 equiv) was then charged at room temperature and the

<sup>1</sup> R. Shang, Z.-W. Yang, Y. Wang, S.-L. Zhang, L.Liu *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2010**, *132*, 14391–14393.

reaction mixture was heated to 75 °C for about 6 h. The reaction mixture was cooled down to room temperature and was treated with EtOAc. The slurry was stirred for 1 h at room temperature then filtered. The resulting solid was rinsed with EtOAc or Me-THF and dried under vacuum to afford the desired pyridinium **4g** with 12% yield.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO, 400 MHz) δ ppm 9.32 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 8.56 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.56-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.47-7.37 (m, 3H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 6.11 (s, 2H), 4.60 (s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO, 100 MHz) 155.4, 150.8, 150.7, 150.6 (2), 148.3, 148.2, 147.7, 146.9, 133.3, 132.0, 131.9 (3), 129.7, 129.4, 129.2, 128.2, 127.1, 122.8, 122.6, 121.3, 121.1, 119.2 (2), 119.1 (2), 60.9, 38.2; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (DMSO, 400 MHz) -136.2, -136.3, -137.9, -138.0; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M-Br]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>15</sub>BrF<sub>2</sub>N: 374.0350, found: 374.0341.

### Procedure D



**1-Benzyl-2-(2-bromophenethyl)pyridin-1-ium bromide, **4j**** A reported protocol was followed:<sup>2</sup> To a mixture of [Rh(COD)Cl]<sub>2</sub> (23 mg, 0.048 mmol, 2 mol %) in H<sub>2</sub>O (11.5 mL, 0.2 M) at room temperature was successively added 2-bromophenylboronic acid (1.19 g, 5.94 mmol, 2.5 equiv.), Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.504 g, 5.9 mmol, 2 equiv.) and 2-vinyl pyridine (0.250 g, 2.37 mmol, 1 equiv.). The reaction mixture was heated at 80 °C for 12 h. After cooling to room temperature the colored solution was poured into MTBE (50 mL) and the reaction flask was carefully rinsed with MTBE. The heterogeneous mixture was vigorously stirred at room temperature for 2 h. The two phases were separated, the aqueous phase was extracted with MTBE (3 x 30 mL), and the combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and evaporated to dryness.

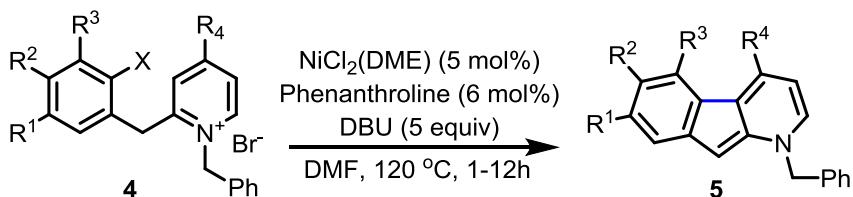
The resulting concentrated residue (0.368 g) was dissolved in dry acetonitrile (1 mL) under nitrogen. Benzyl bromide (0.2 mL, 1.65 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) was then charged at room temperature and the reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C for about 12 h. The reaction mixture was cooled down to room temperature and was treated with Me-THF (3 mL). The slurry was stirred for 1 h at room temperature then filtered. The resulting solid was rinsed with EtOAc or Me-THF and dried under vacuum to afford the desired pyridinium salt **4j** with 42% yield.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO, 500 MHz) δ ppm 9.31 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.65 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.35 (m, 4H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 6.7

<sup>2</sup> M. Lautens, A. Roy, K. Fukuoka, K. Fagnou, B. Martin-Matute *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2001**, *123*, 5358-5359.

Hz, 1H), 7.27 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.19 (dt,  $J = 8.1, 1.7$  Hz, 1 H), 6.12 (s, 2H), 3.38 (dd,  $J = 6.7, 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 3.05 (dd,  $J = 6.7, 8.6$  Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (DMSO, 125 MHz) 157.0, 146.7, 146.1, 138.1, 133.8, 132.6, 130.9, 129.6, 129.3, 129.0, 128.8, 128.1, 127.2, 126.4, 123.7, 60.0, 33.6, 32.0; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M-Br]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>19</sub>BrN: 352.0695, found: 352.0703.

## General Procedure for the Synthesis of 1-Azafluorenes



In a glove-box, a reaction vial was charged with  $\text{NiCl}_2(\text{DME})$  (10.4 mg, 0.048 mmol, 5 mol%) and 1,10-phenanthroline (10.2 mg, 0.057 mmol, 6 mol%) followed by nitrogen-sparged DMF (2.4 mL). The resulting suspension was stirred for 15-30 min at room temperature until solids dissolved and a light blue/turquoise solution is obtained. The starting pyridinium ion **4** (0.95 mmol, 1 equiv.) was added as one solid portion to the reaction mixture and the vial was sealed with a teflon-lined cap and brought out of the glove-box. Nitrogen-sparged DBU (0.7 mL, 4.77 mmol, 5 equiv) was charged to the reaction mixture and it was then heated to 120 °C for 1-12 hours or until complete conversion was observed by HPLC/UPLC.

**Work-up procedure #1** (for polar substrates):<sup>3</sup> The reaction mixture was cooled down to 40 °C and water was charged over 15 min. The resulting slurry was cooled down to 15 °C and stirred at that temperature for 1 h. The desired 1-azafluorene precipitated/crystallized out and was isolated by filtration. The resulting cake was washed with additional water. The solid was then dried under vacuum to afford the desired 1-azafluorene derivative.<sup>4</sup>

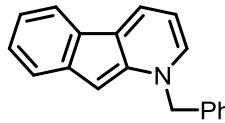
*Note:* If metallic impurities carry over in the crystallized material, they can be removed by dissolving the solid in EtOAc followed by a filtration on celite to remove insoluble impurities. Solvent was then evaporated under reduced pressure.

**Work-up procedure #2** (for non-polar substrates):<sup>3</sup> The reaction mixture was cooled down to 25 °C and water was charged. The resulting mixture was extracted with EtOAc. Combined organic layers were washed with water and concentrated down under reduced pressure. The crude mixture was purified by flash chromatography using a short silica gel column with a fast gradient of 0-80% EtOAc in Hex. Solvent was evaporated and resulting solid dried under vacuum to afford desired 1-azafluorene derivative.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>3</sup> In order to minimize decomposition of product (e.g. over-reduction), purification should be performed after completion of the reaction. Crude reaction mixtures cannot be stored and extended reaction times ( $\geq 2$  days) lead to product decomposition.

<sup>4</sup> To extend the shelf-life of these compounds, they should be stored in an amber bottle under argon, in a fridge. Alternatively, the free base can be converted to the corresponding pyridinium ion by an aq. HBr treatment followed by isolation by filtration.

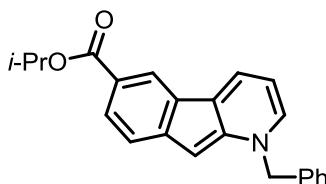
### 1-Azafluorene Product Data



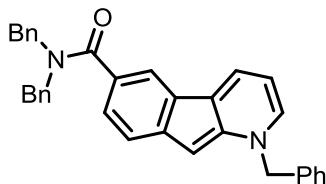
**1-Benzyl-1H-indeno[2,1-b]pyridine, 5a** ( $X=Br$ , 92% yield) was prepared via General Procedure and work-up procedure #2. **5a** was obtained as a deep purple solid.  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  ppm 8.10 (d,  $J = 2.8$  Hz, 1H), 8.05 (t,  $J = 3.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.56 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.39 (t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d,  $J = 6.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.22 (m, 3H), 7.17-7.09 (m, 2H), 6.38 (t,  $J = 6.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.03 (s, 1H), 5.23 (s, 2H);  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 100 MHz) 141.6, 138.7, 135.2, 129.0, 128.5, 127.5, 126.6, 124.9, 123.7, 120.6, 118.4, 117.5, 102.7, 85.3, 57.9; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for  $C_{19}H_{15}N$ : 258.1277, found: 258.1277.



**tert-Butyl 1-benzyl-1H-indeno[2,1-b]-pyridine-6-carboxylate, 5b** ( $X=Br$ , 81% yield) was prepared via General Procedure with work-up procedure #1. **5b** was obtained as a red solid.  $^1H$  NMR ( $DMSO$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  ppm 8.77 (s, 1H), 8.57 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 8.25 (d,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.25 (m, 5H), 6.79 (t,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.26 (s, 1H), 5.60 (s, 2H), 1.59 (s, 9H);  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $DMSO$ , 100 MHz) 166.9, 144.0, 141.1, 136.3, 136.1, 129.2, 128.4, 128.0, 127.9, 127.4, 126.8, 123.2, 122.6, 119.4, 117.5, 105.2, 86.7, 79.6, 57.9, 28.6; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for  $C_{24}H_{23}NO_2$ : 358.1802, found: 358.1810.

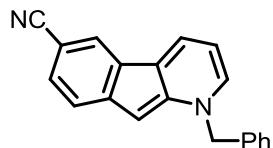


**isopropyl 1-Benzyl-1H-indeno[2,1-b]pyridine-6-carboxylate, 5c** ( $X=I$ , 94% yield) was prepared via General Procedure with work-up procedure #1. **5c** was obtained as a red solid.  $^1H$  NMR ( $DMSO$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  ppm 8.77 (s, 1H), 8.62 (d,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 1H), 8.29 (d,  $J = 6.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d,  $i = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d,  $J = 3.8$  Hz, 4H), 7.34-7.27 (m, 1H), 6.83 (t,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.27 (s, 1H), 5.63 (s, 2H), 5.15 (sept,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 1H), 1.34 (d,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, 6H);  $^{13}C$  NMR ( $DMSO$ , 100 MHz) 167.0, 144.1, 141.2, 136.2 (2), 129.2, 128.4, 128.1, 127.9, 127.4, 126.8, 123.3, 122.6, 118.1, 117.7, 105.3, 86.8, 67.3, 57.9, 22.4; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for  $C_{23}H_{21}NO_2$ : 344.1645, found: 344.1651.

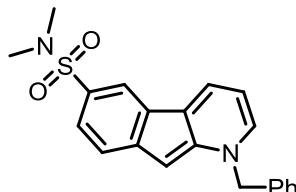


**N,N,1-Tribenzyl-1H-indeno[2,1-b]pyridine-6-carboxamide, 5d** ( $X=Br$ , 95% yield) was prepared via General Procedure with work-up procedure #1. **5d** was obtained as a deep purple solid.  $^1H$  NMR ( $CDCl_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  ppm 8.35 (s, 1H), 8.08 (d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.58

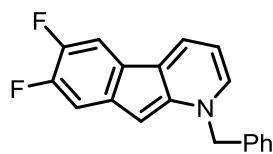
(d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.21 (m, 9H), 7.19-7.15 (m, 3H), 6.48 (t,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.08 (s, 1H), 5.30 (s, 2H), 4.67 (br s, 4H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz) 174.1, 142.5, 140.2, 137.5, 134.8, 132.1, 132.0 (2), 131.9, 129.0, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 128.3, 128.1, 127.5, 127.4, 126.0, 125.5, 124.1, 122.9, 120.9, 120.6, 117.7, 103.8, 85.6, 58.1; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for  $\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_2\text{O}$ : 481.2274, found: 481.2292.



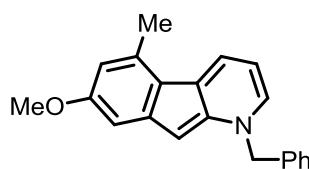
**1-Benzyl-1H-indeno[2,1-b]pyridine-6-carbonitrile, 5e** (X=Br, 77% yield' X=I, 80% yield) was prepared via General Procedure with work-up procedure #1. **5e** was obtained as deep purple solid.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  ppm 8.30 (s, 1H), 8.19 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d,  $J = 6.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.52 (s, 2H), 7.36-7.28 (m, 3H), 7.22-7.17 (m, 2H), 6.64 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.17 (s, 1H), 5.37 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz) 143.6, 141.4, 134.3, 134.2, 129.2, 128.6 (2), 127.7, 127.5, 127.2, 125.4, 122.6, 122.1, 118.7, 105.1, 98.3, 86.8, 58.4; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2$ : 283.1230, found: 283.1236.



**1-Benzyl-N,N-dimethyl-1H-indeno[2,1-b]pyridine-6-sulfonamide, 5f** (X= Br, 95% yield) was prepared via General Procedure with work-up procedure #1. **5f** was obtained as red solid.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  ppm 8.57 (s, 1H), 8.35 (d,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.39-7.32 (m, 3H), 7.27-7.24 (m, 2H), 6.70 (t,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 1H), 6.24 (s, 1H), 5.47 (s, 2H), 2.7 (s, 6H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (DMSO, 100 MHz) 143.2, 141.1, 136.8, 136.2, 129.3, 129.2, 128.4, 127.9, 126.7, 124.7, 122.1, 121.9, 121.2, 118.0, 105.6, 86.5, 58.0, 38.3; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{S}$ : 365.1318, found: 365.1321.

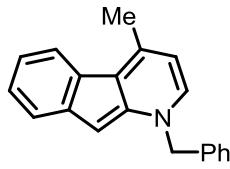


**1-Benzyl-6,7-difluoro-1H-indeno[2,1-b]pyridine, 5g** (X= Br, 51% yield) was prepared via General Procedure with work-up procedure #2. **5g** was obtained as deep purple solid.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  ppm 7.99 (d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.74 (dd,  $J = 7.0, 10.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.22 (m, 3H), 7.22-7.13 (m, 3H), 6.41 (t,  $J = 5.7$  Hz, 1H), 5.93 (s, 1H), 5.28 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz) 150.8, 150.7, 149.5, 148.4, 148.2, 145.3, 145.1, 142.9, 142.8, 138.2, 136.4, 136.3, 133.7, 131.9, 128.0, 127.3, 126.4, 124.5, 117.3, 117.2, 113.7, 113.5, 110.1, 109.9, 107.1 (2), 106.9 (2), 104.2, 104.0, 101.9, 83.3, 57.1;  $^{19}\text{F}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz) -138.4, -138.5, -150.4, -150.5; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{13}\text{F}_2\text{N}$ : 294.1089, found: 294.1096.



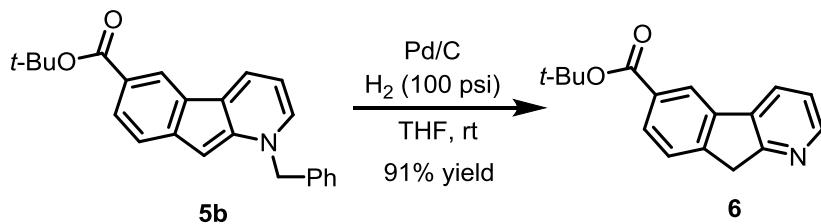
**1-Benzyl-7-methoxy-5-methyl-1H-indeno[2,1-b]pyridine, 5h** (X= Br, 48% yield) was prepared via General Procedure with work-up procedure #2. **5h** was obtained as a deep purple solid.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  ppm 8.05 (d,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d,  $J = 6.5$  Hz,

1H), 7.35-7.29 (m, 3H), 7.24-7.19 (m, 2H), 6.94 (d,  $J = 2.8$  Hz, 1H), 6.56 (d,  $J = 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.47 (t,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 1H), 6.05 (s, 1H), 5.36 (s, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 2.78 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz) 159.1, 148.3, 143.3, 135.3, 135.1, 130.8, 128.9, 128.8, 128.1, 127.3, 127.0, 125.6, 109.0, 103.3, 98.7, 85.8, 57.9, 55.3, 21.3; HRMS (ESI) m/z [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}$ : 302.1539, found: 302.1536.



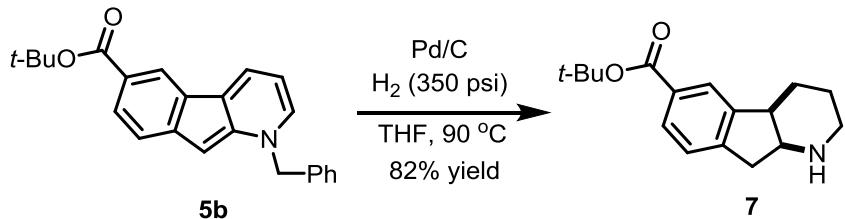
**1-Benzyl-4-methyl-1H-indeno[2,1-b]pyridine, 5i** (X=Br, 75% yield) was prepared via General Procedure with work-up procedure #2. **5i** was obtained as a red solid.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$  ppm 8.18 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 1H), 7.40-7.35 (m, 2H), 7.34-7.22 (m, 3H), 7.23-7.19 (m, 2H), 7.14 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 6.31 (d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 1H), 5.37 (s, 2H) 2.89 (s, 3H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 100 MHz) 149.8, 141.2, 135.4, 135.3, 132.1, 128.9, 128.1, 127.4, 125.5, 124.8, 123.8, 123.1, 118.4, 117.3, 107.2, 84.8, 57.7, 20.6; LRMS (ESI) m/z [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}$ : 272.13, found: 272.09.

### Procedures for Benzyl Hydrogenolysis and Pyridine Hydrogenation



**tert-Butyl 9H-indeno[2,1-b]pyridine-6-carboxylate:** **5b** (200 mg, 0.56 mmol) was added to a 10 mL vial followed by Pd/C (71.5 mg, 0.034 mmol, 10 mol % at 50% wet) and THF (2mL). The vial was placed into an Endeavor autoclave and was sealed. The mixture was purged with  $\text{N}_2$  two times and  $\text{H}_2$  two times and then pressurized to 100 psi  $\text{H}_2$  and stir at RT for 2 h. The mixture was then vented, filtered and dried with  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . The product was purified on silica with 20% EtOAc in hexanes. The desired product **6** was obtained as a tan solid after drying under vacuum (136mg, 91% yield).

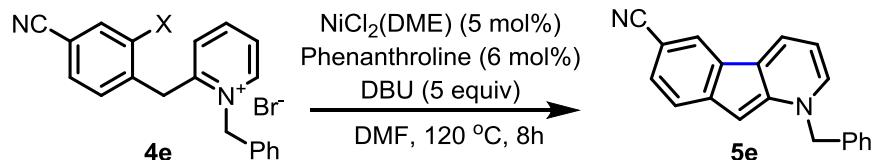
$^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 500 Hz)  $\delta$  8.54 (d,  $J = 5.2$  Hz, 1H), 8.39 (s, 1H), 8.08 (d,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 1H), 8.02 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.32 (dd,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 4.05 (s, 2H), 1.64 (s, 9H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 125 MHz)  $\delta$  165.7, 164.2, 147.7, 145.7, 139.3, 134.7, 131.3, 129.0, 127.8, 125.0, 122.0, 121.7, 81.3, 38.8, 28.2. HRMS (ESI) m/z [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}_2$ : 268.1332, found: 268.1338.



**tert-Butyl 2,3,4,4a,9,9a hexahydro-1H-indeno[2,1-b]pyridine-6-carboxylate:** **5b** (200mg, 0.56 mmol) was added to a 10 mL vial followed by Pd/C (71.5 mg, 0.034 mmol, 10 mol% at 50% wet) and THF (2 mL). The vial was placed into an Endeavor autoclave and sealed. The mixture was purged with N<sub>2</sub> two times and H<sub>2</sub> two times and then pressurized to 350 psi H<sub>2</sub> and heat to 90 °C and stir for 24 h. The mixture was then cooled to RT and vented. The mixture was filtered and dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The product was purified on silica with 15% MeOH in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The desired product **7** was obtained as a white solid after drying under vacuum (125 mg, 82% yield).

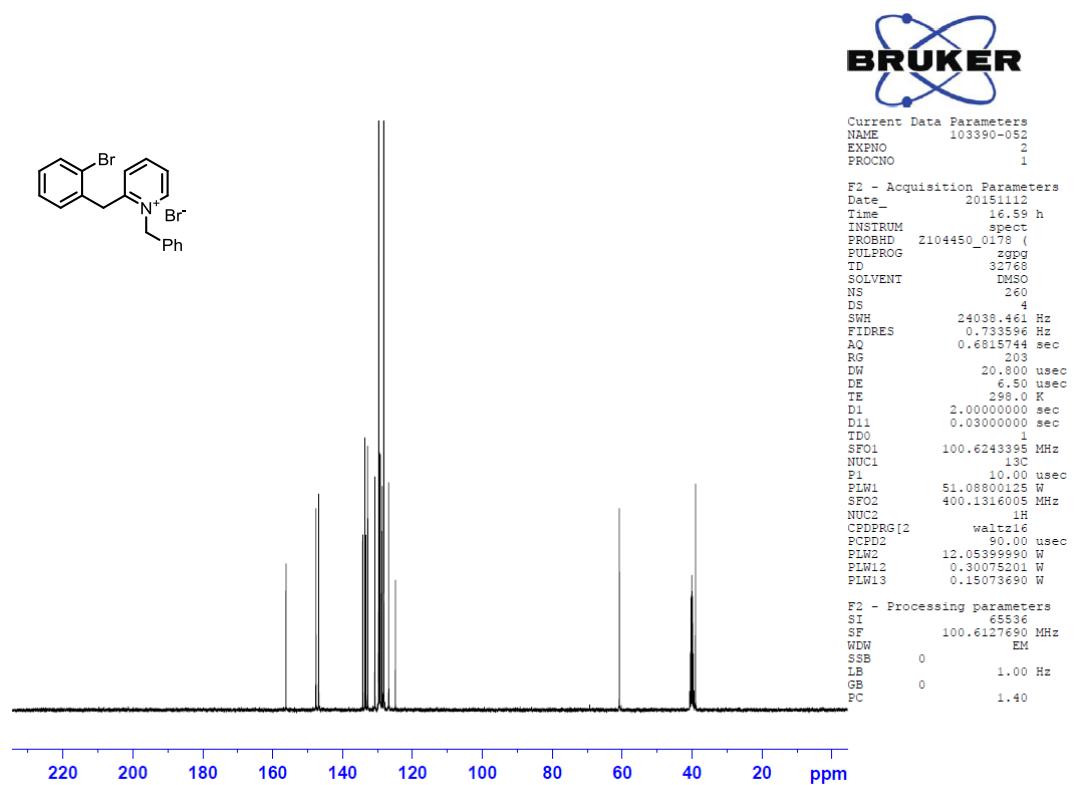
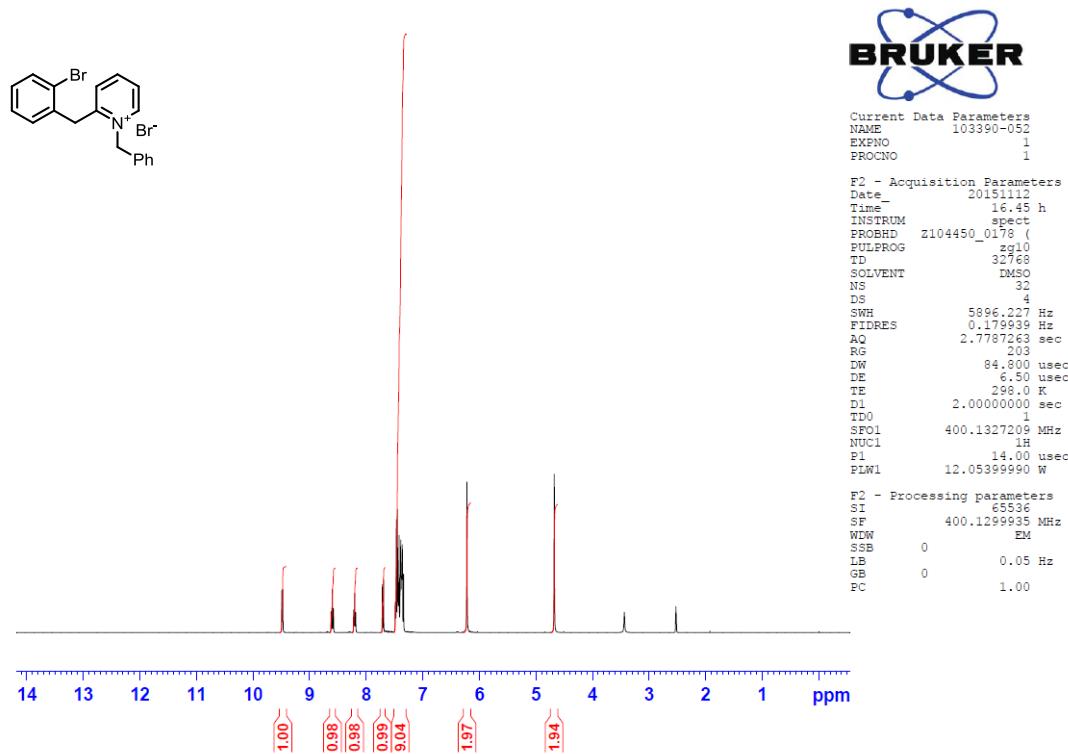
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 Hz) δ 7.80 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (s, 1H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 3.97 (m, 1H), 3.35 (m, 1H), 3.16–3.19 (m, 2H), 3.06 (m, 1H), 2.94 (m, 1H), 1.95 (m, 2H), 1.64–1.72 (m, 2H), 1.52 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz) δ 165.6, 143.9, 142.2, 131.7, 129.3, 125.5, 124.2, 81.1, 56.9, 41.4, 41.3, 35.0, 28.2, 23.8, 19.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>: 274.1802, found: 274.1792.

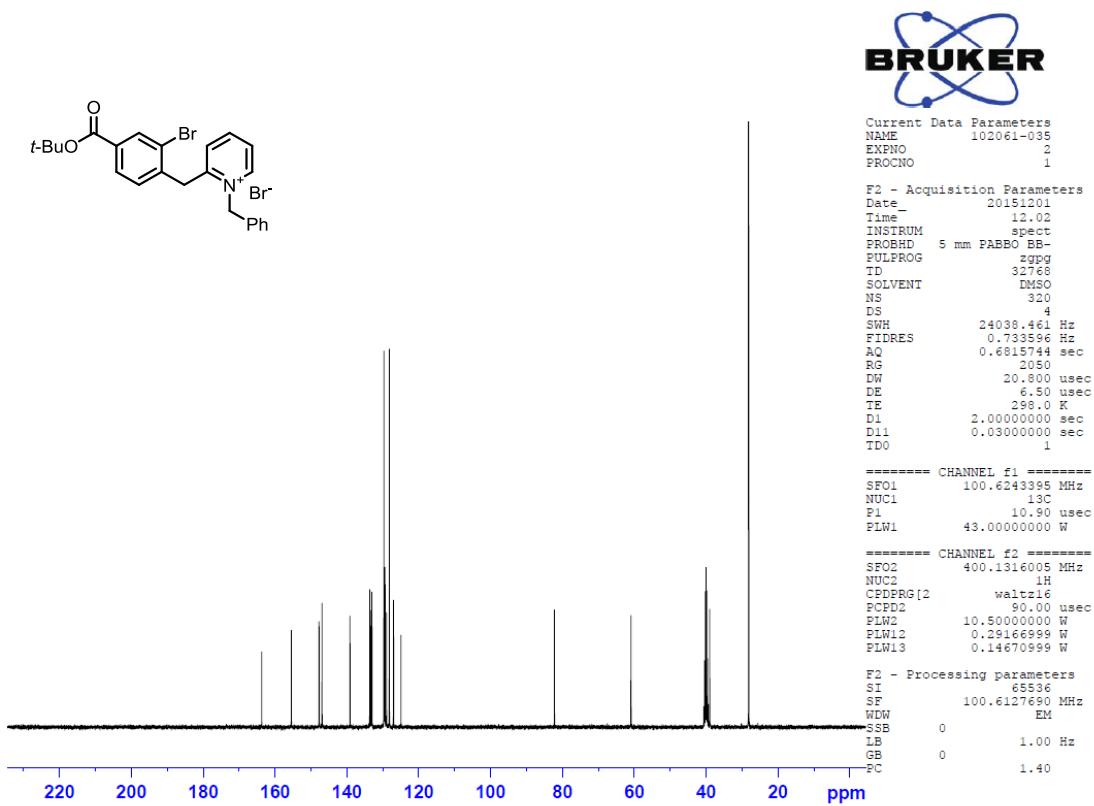
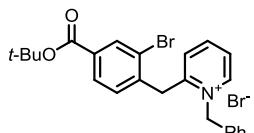
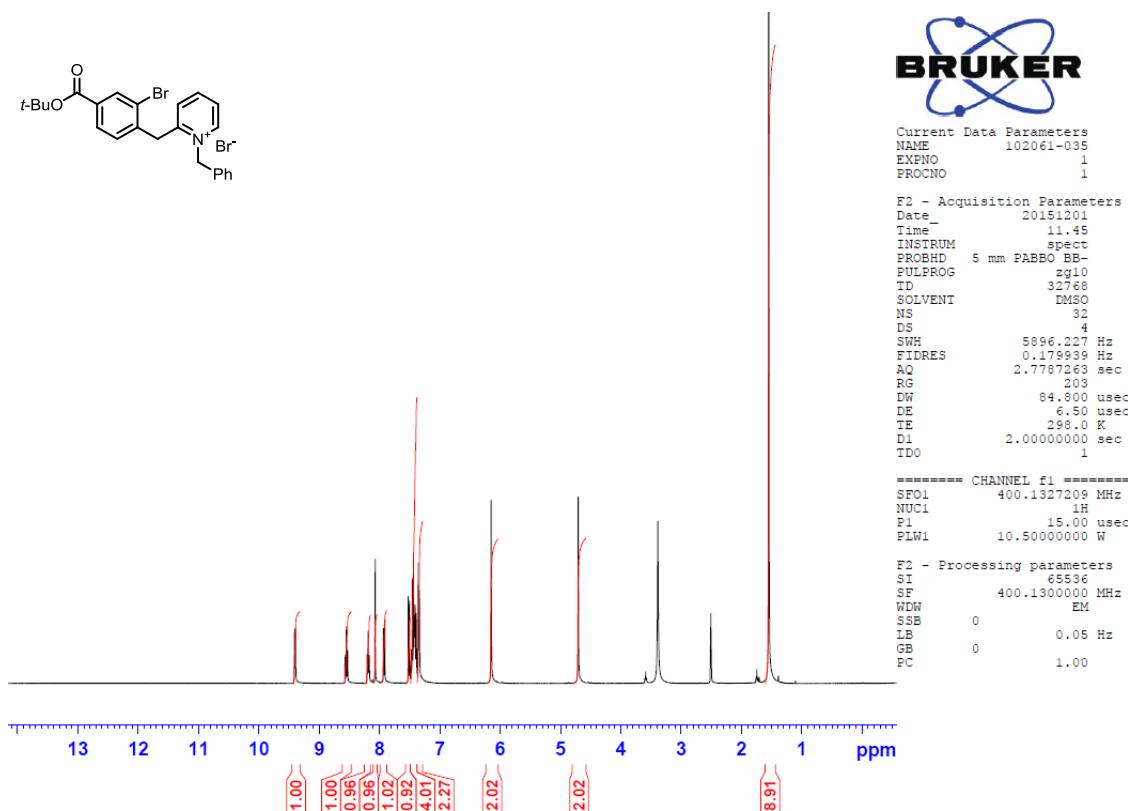
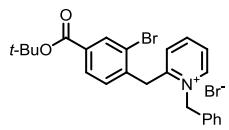
### Glove-Box-Free Procedure for the Synthesis of 1-Azafluorenes

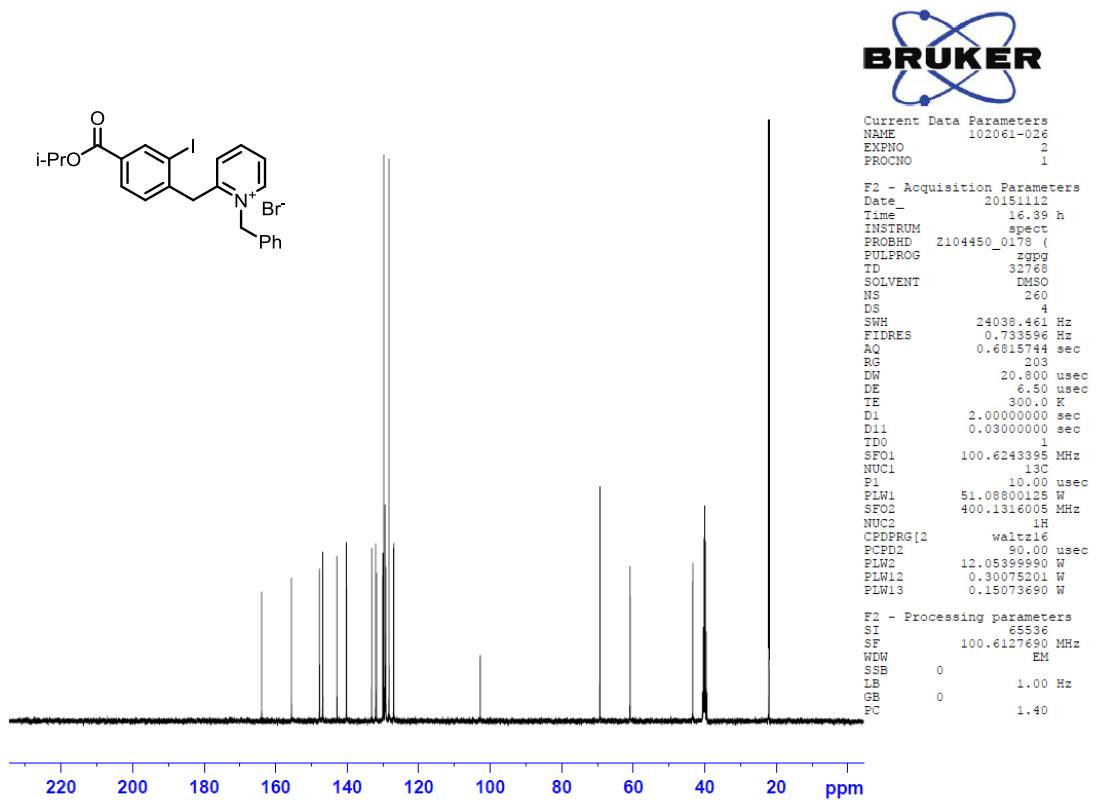
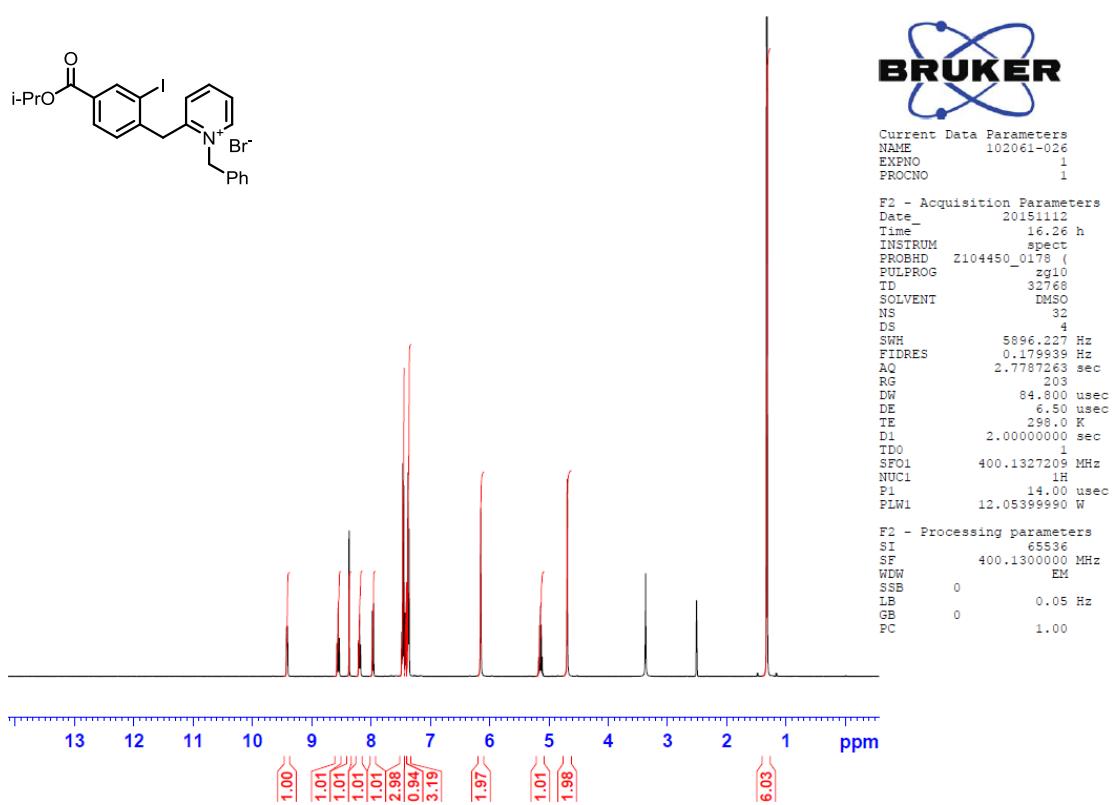


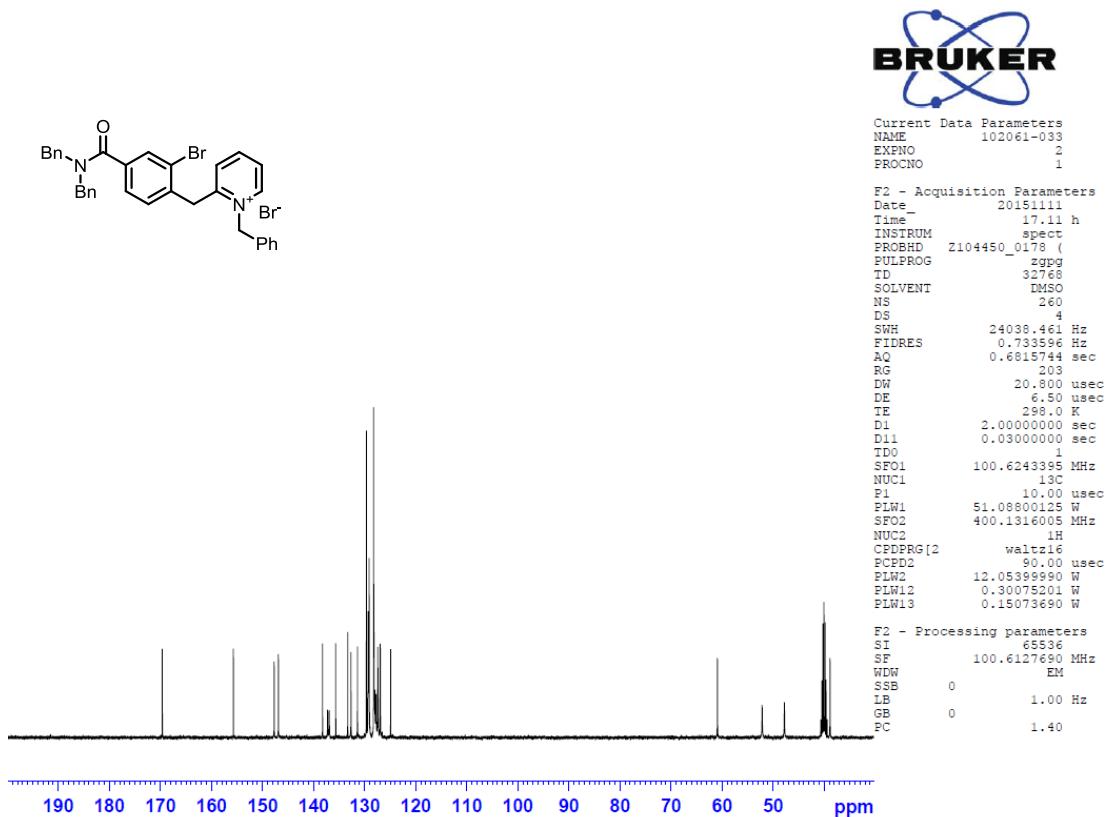
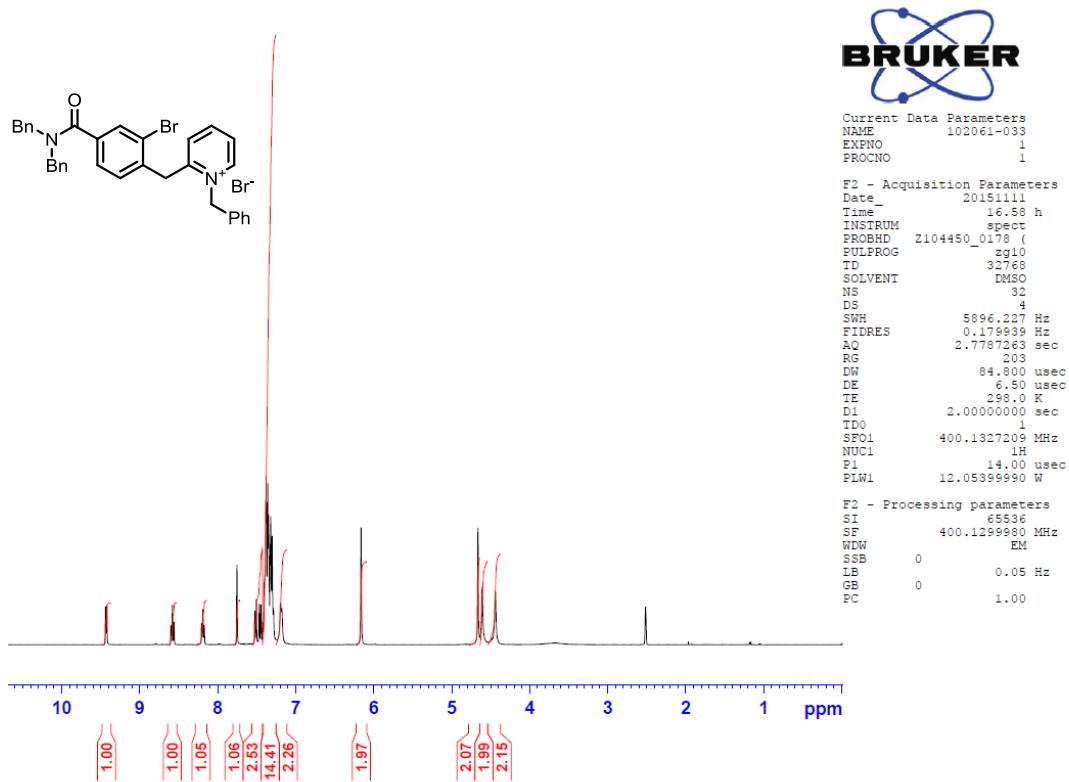
A clean and inerted 100 mL reactor equipped with an overhead stirrer was charged with NiCl<sub>2</sub>(DME) (148 mg, 0.675 mmol, 5 mol%) and 1,10-phenanthroline (146 mg, 0.810 mmol, 6 mol%). The reactor was sealed and 3 cycles of vacuum/nitrogen backfill were then performed. Nitrogen-sparged DMF (36 mL) was then charged to the reactor. The resulting suspension was stirred for about 30 min at room temperature until solids dissolved and a light blue/turquoise solution is obtained. The starting pyridinium ion **4e** (13.5 mmol, 1 equiv.) was added as one solid portion to the reaction mixture. The reactor was sealed and 2 cycles of vacuum/nitrogen backfill were then performed. Nitrogen-sparged DBU (10.1 mL, 67.5 mmol, 5 equiv) was charged to the reaction mixture and it was then heated to 120 °C for 8 hours or until complete conversion was observed by HPLC/UPLC. The reaction mixture was cooled down to 40 °C and water was charged over 15 min. The resulting slurry was cooled down to 15 °C and stirred at that temperature for 1 h. The desired 1-azafluorene **5e** precipitated/crystallized out and was isolated by filtration. The resulting cake was washed with additional water. The solid was then dried under vacuum to afford the desired 1-azafluorene derivative with 75–77% yield.

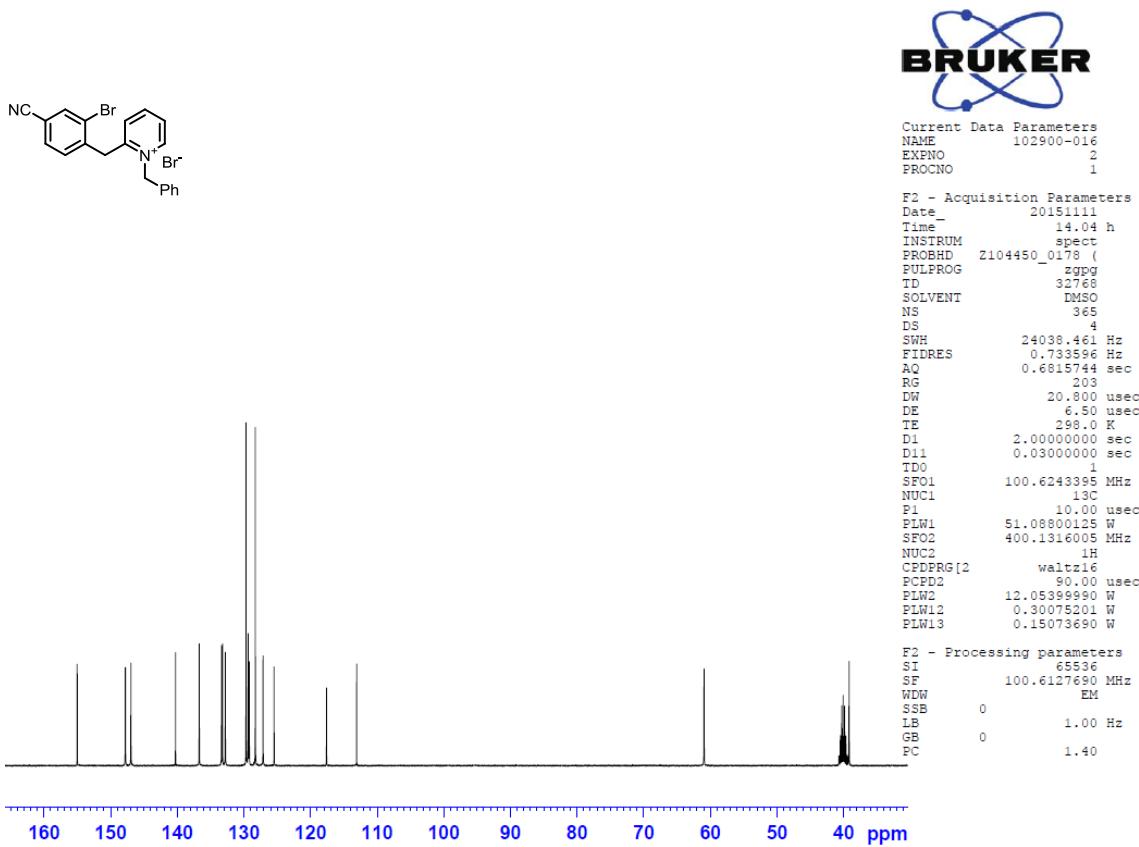
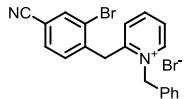
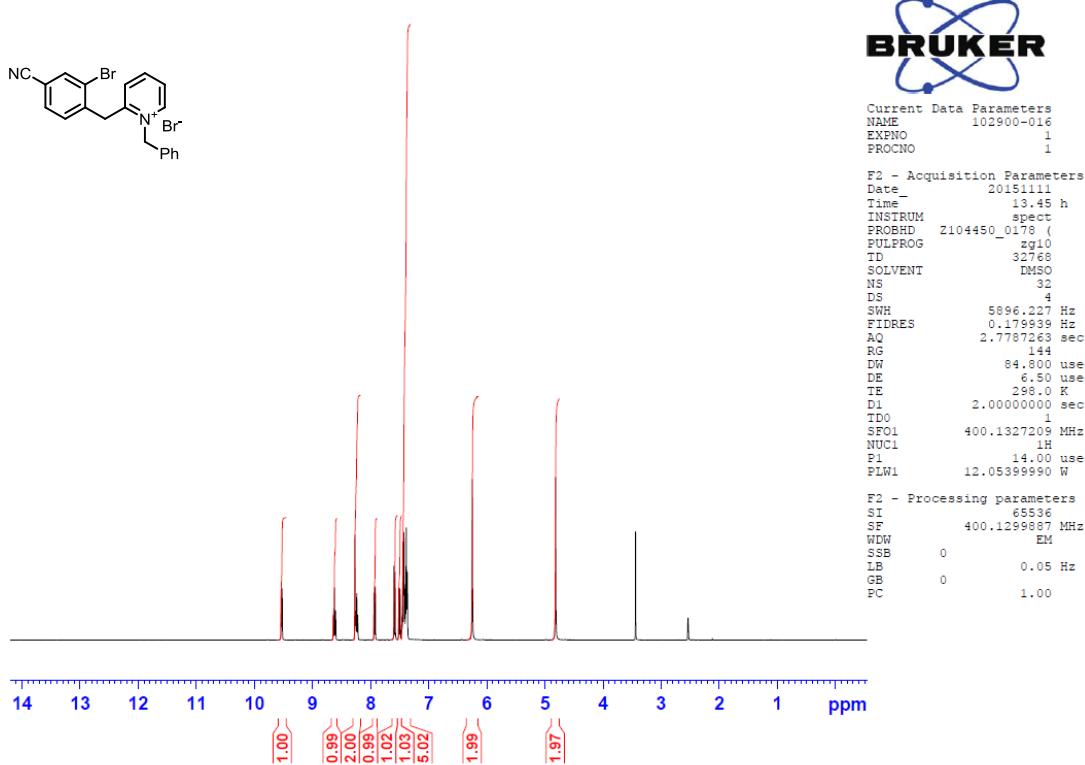
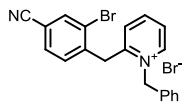
## **NMR Spectra of Synthesized Compounds**

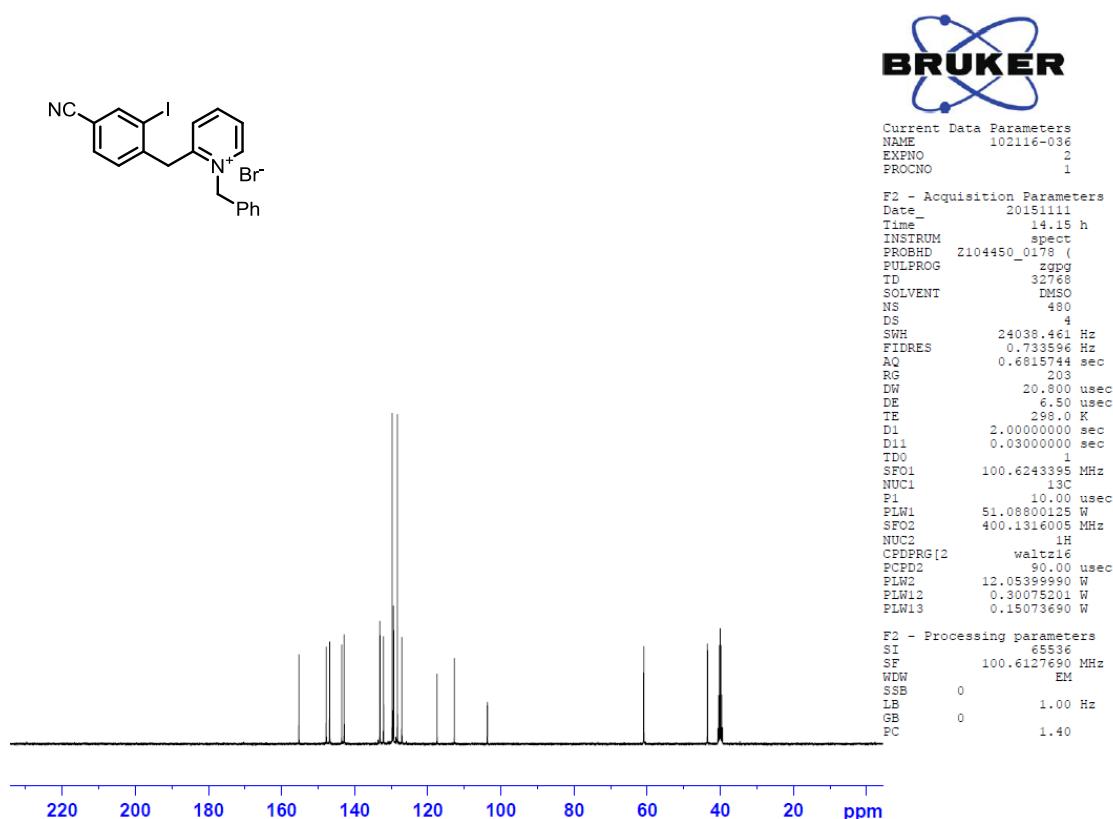
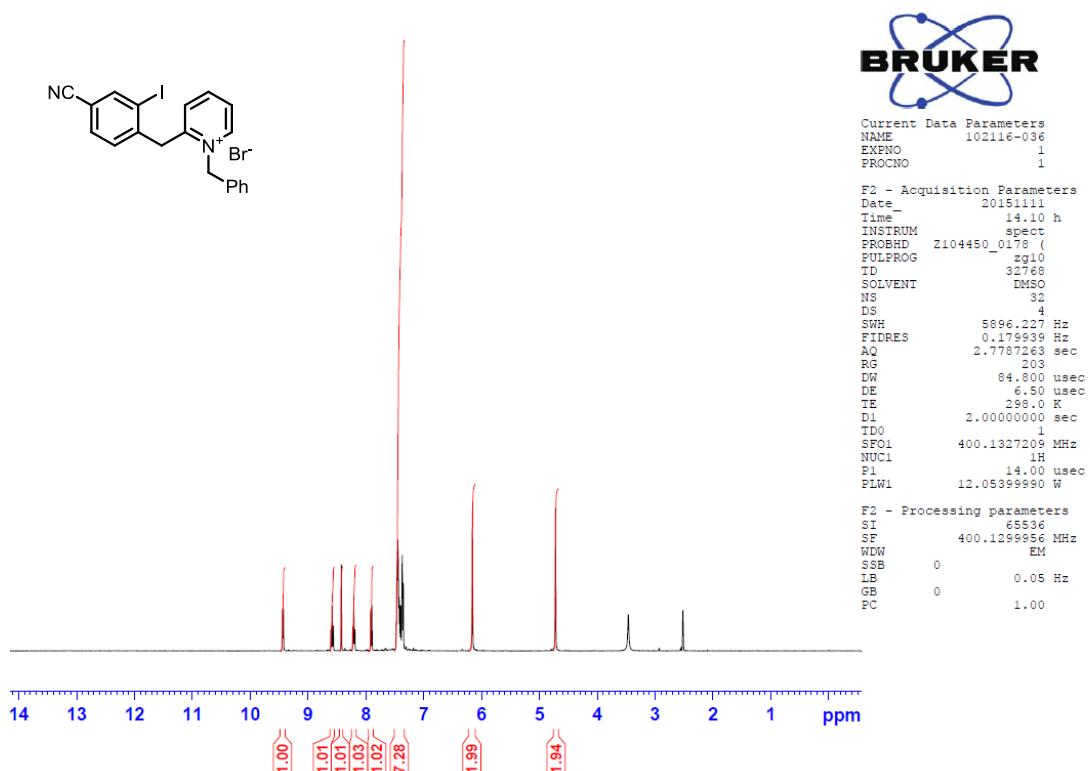


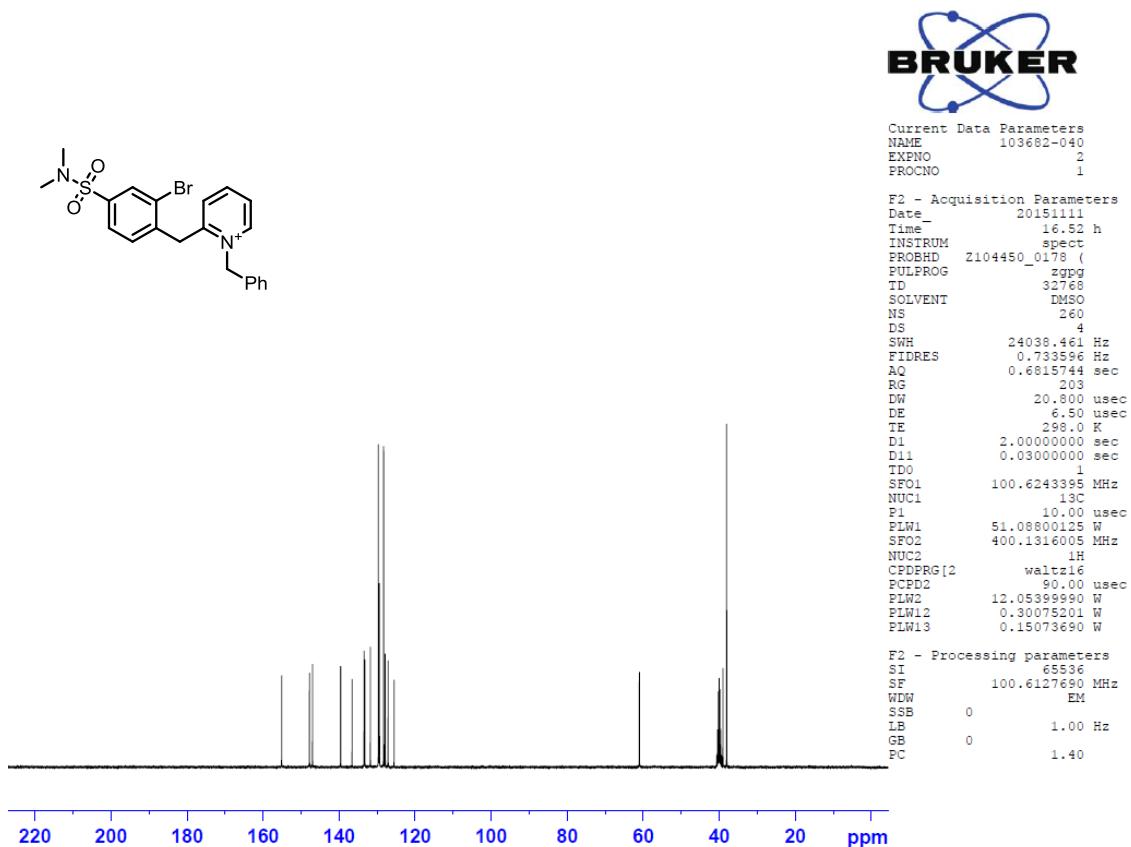
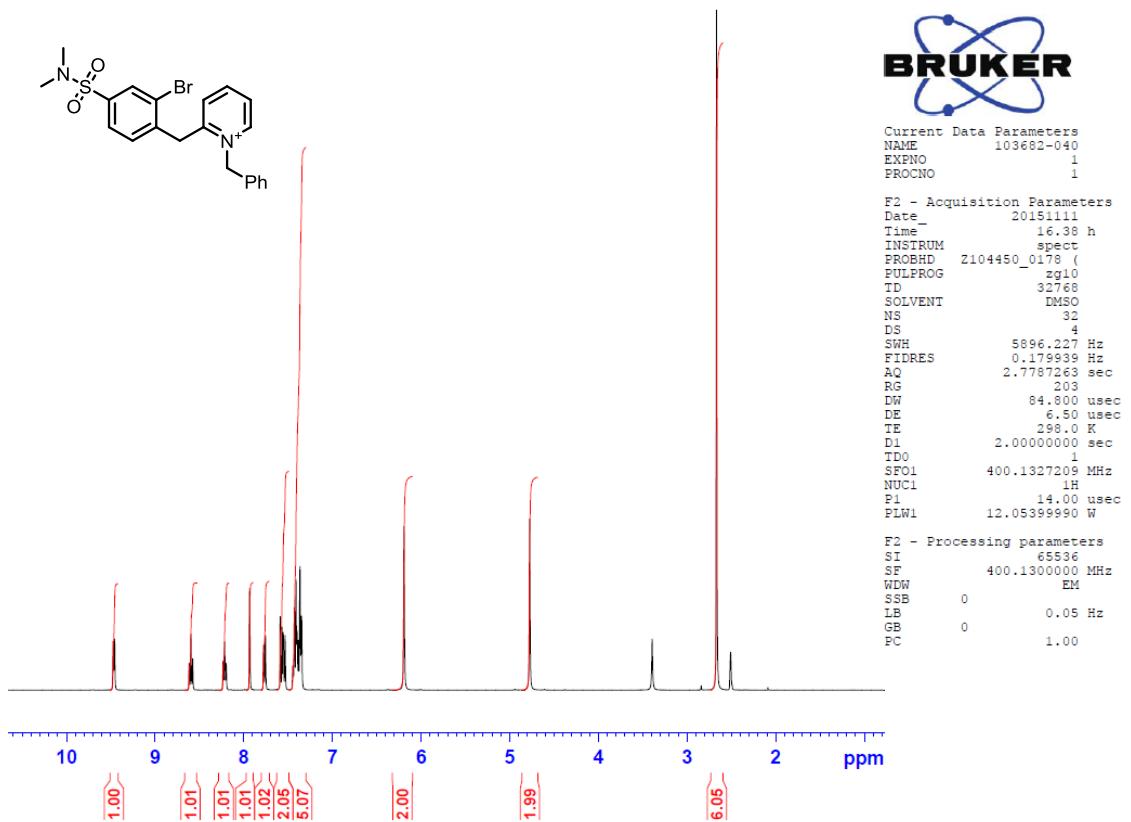


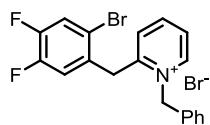










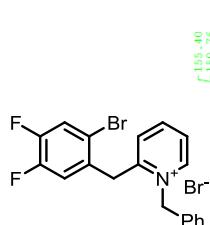
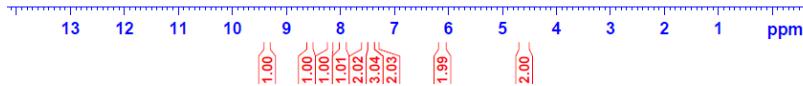


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PULPROG zg10  
TD 32768  
SOLVENT DMSO  
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DS 4  
SWH 5896.227 Hz  
FIDRES 0.179939 Hz  
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RG 456  
DW 84.800 usec  
DE 6.50 usec  
TE 298.0 K  
D1 2.0000000 sec  
TDO 1

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NUC1 1H  
P1 15.00 usec  
PLW1 10.5000000 W

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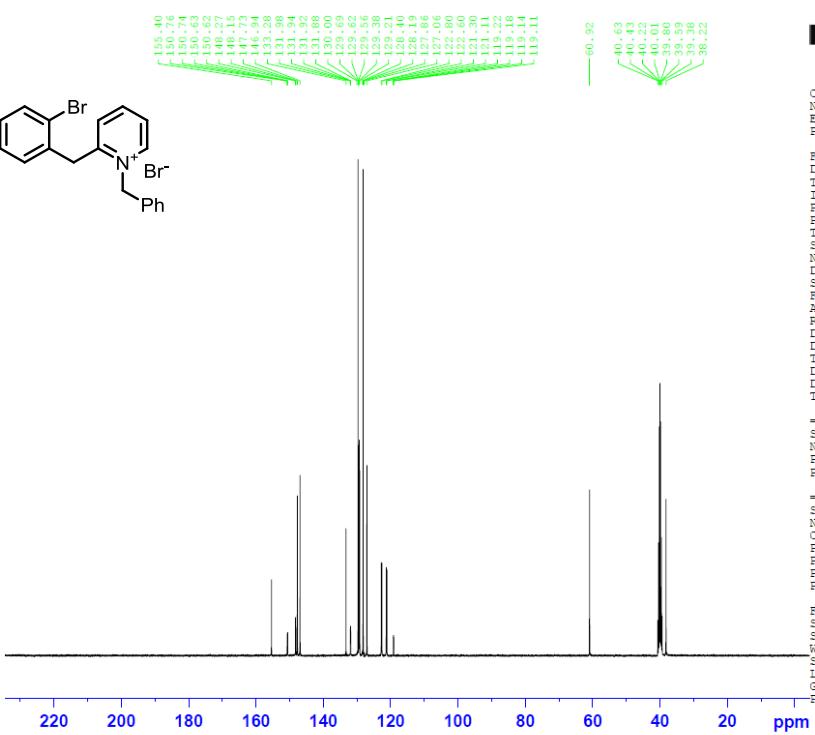
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PULPROG zgpg  
TD 32768  
SOLVENT DMSO  
NS 5120  
DS 4  
SWH 24038.461 Hz  
FIDRES 0.73388 Hz  
AQ 0.6815744 sec  
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D1 2.0000000 sec  
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TDO 1

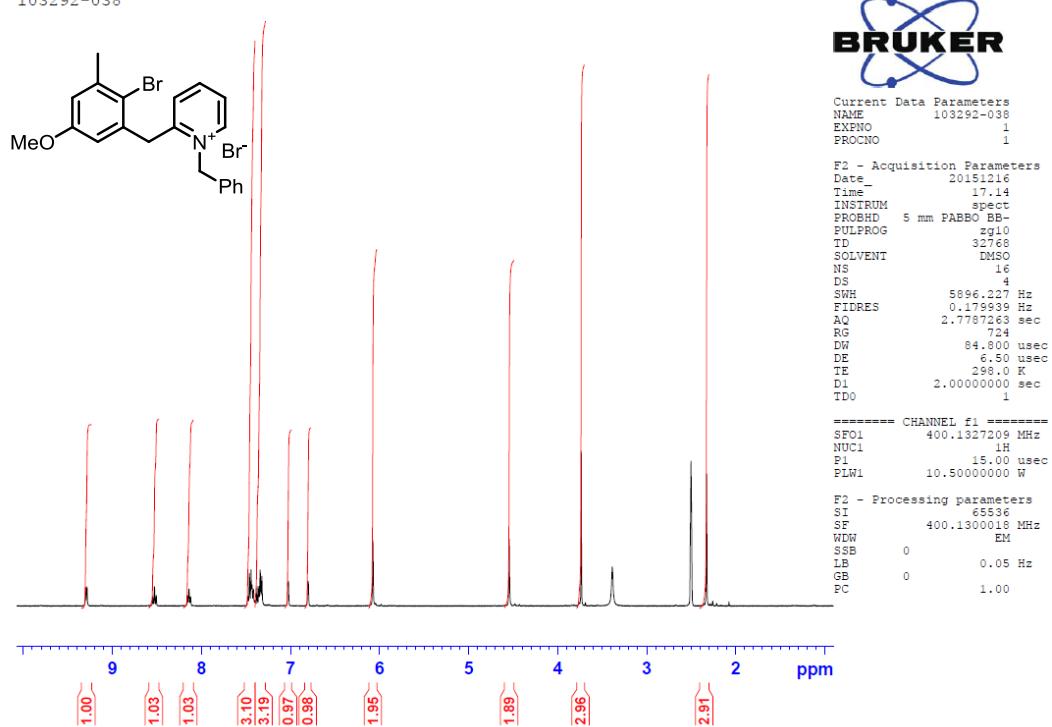
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NUC2 1H  
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PLW12 0.29166999 W  
PLW13 0.14670999 W

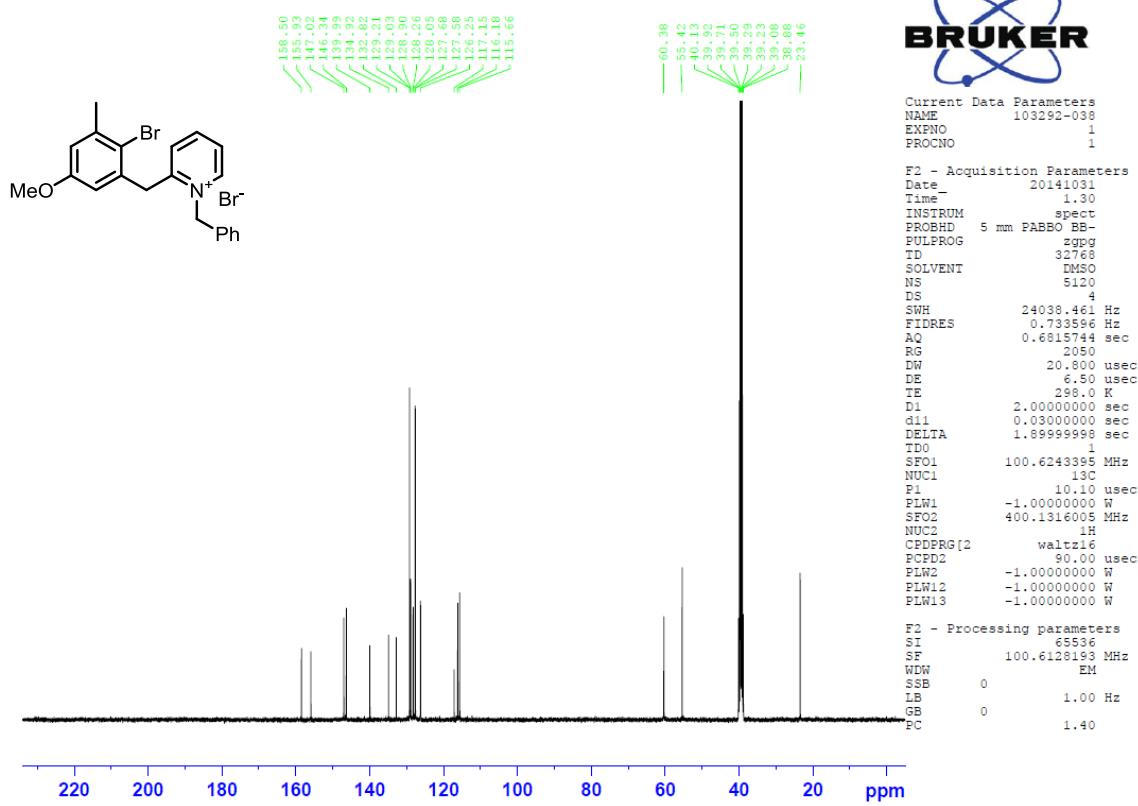
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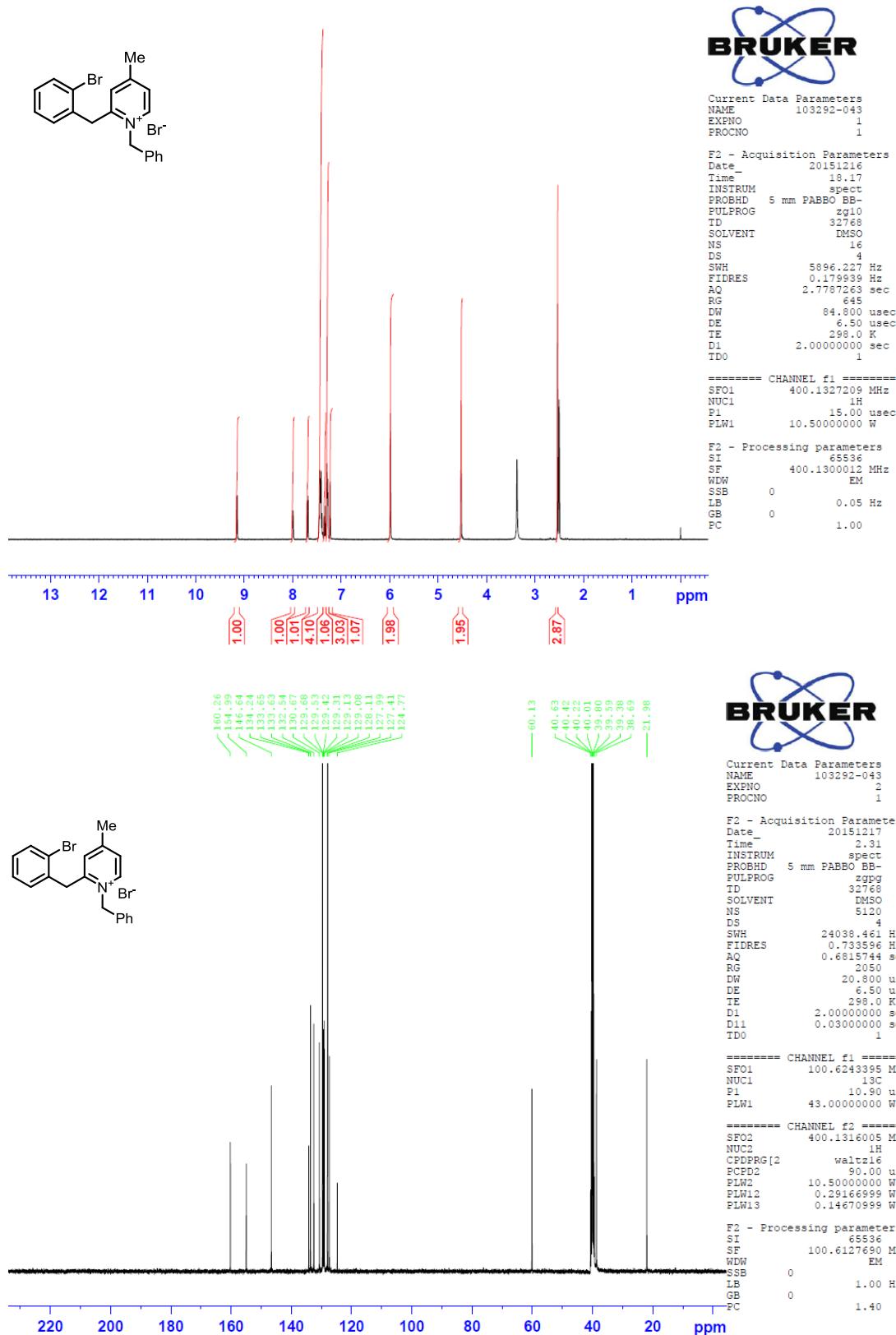


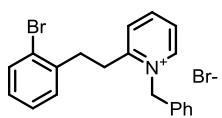
103292-038



103292-038





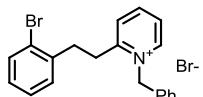
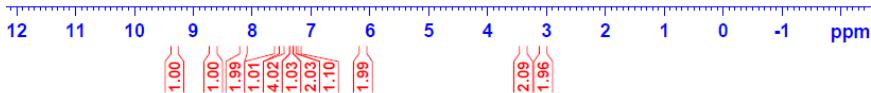


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TD 32768  
SOLVENT DMSO  
NS 32  
DS 0  
SWH 7500.000 Hz  
FIDRES 0.228882 Hz  
AQ 2.1845334 sec  
RG 144  
DW 66.667 usec  
DE 6.50 usec  
TE 299.0 K  
D1 1.0000000 sec  
TDO 1 sec

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PL1 3.00 dB  
PL1W 14.98121262 W  
SF01 500.1325007 MHz

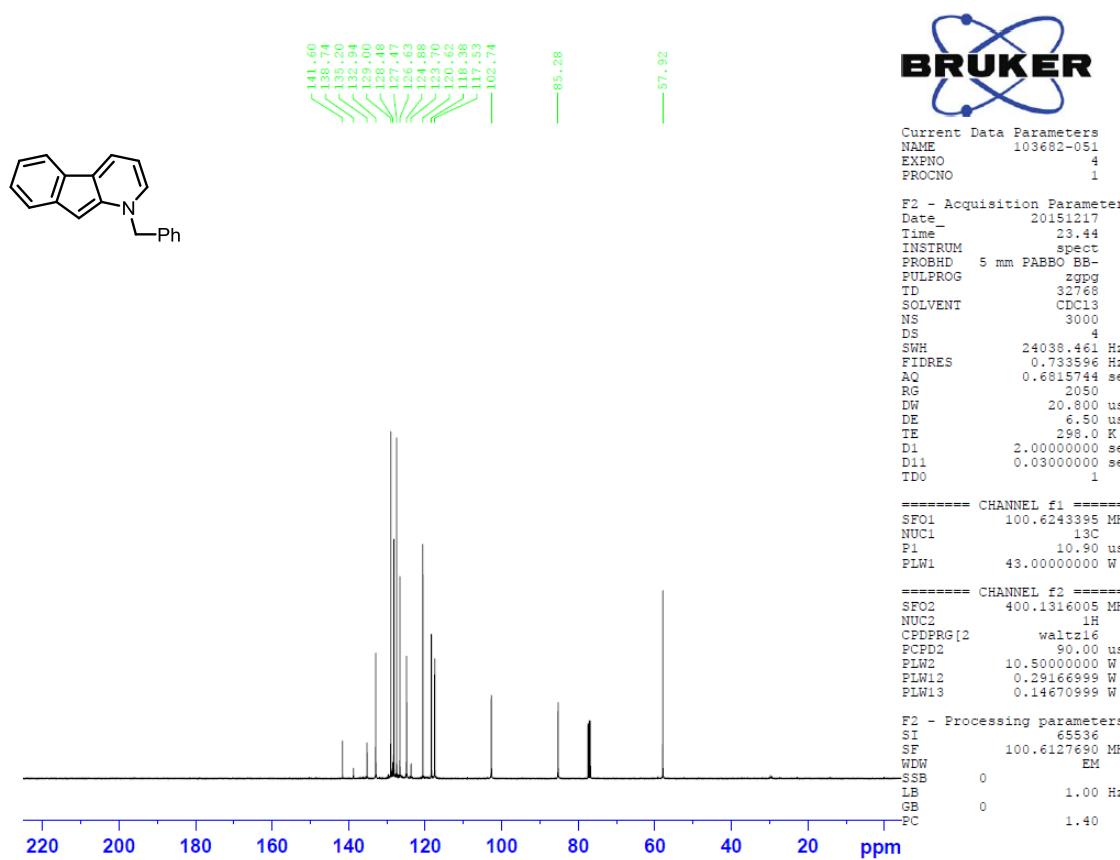
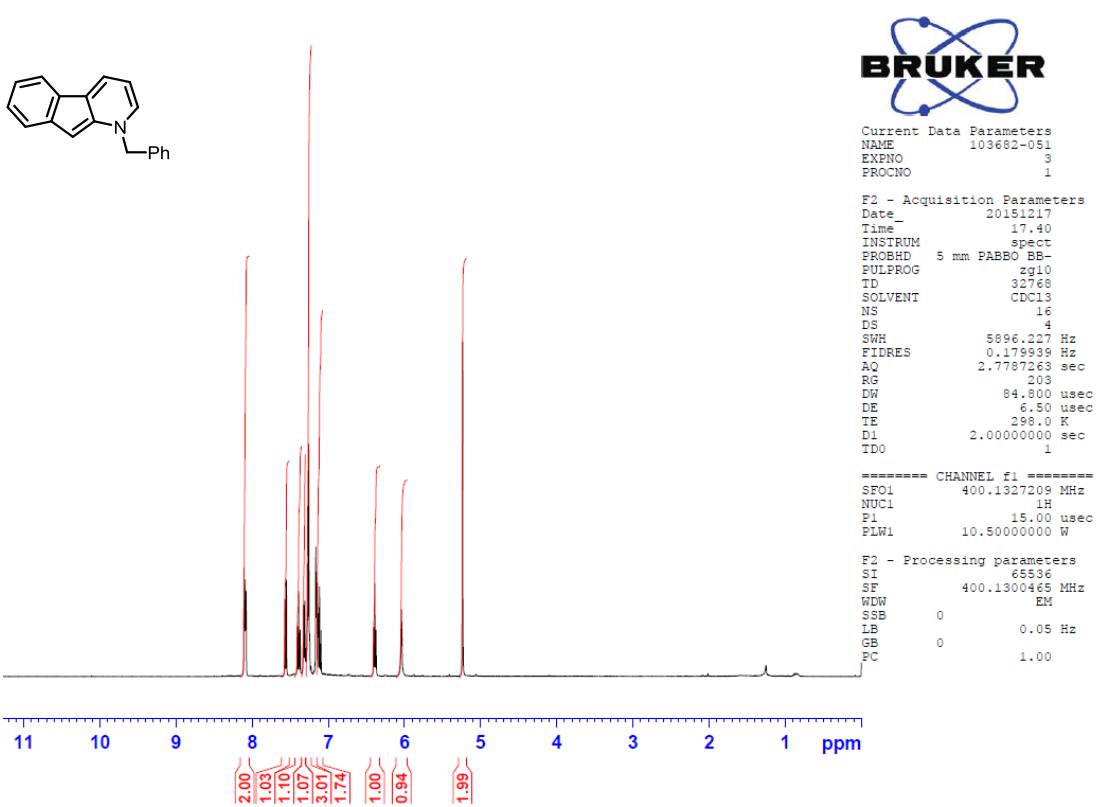
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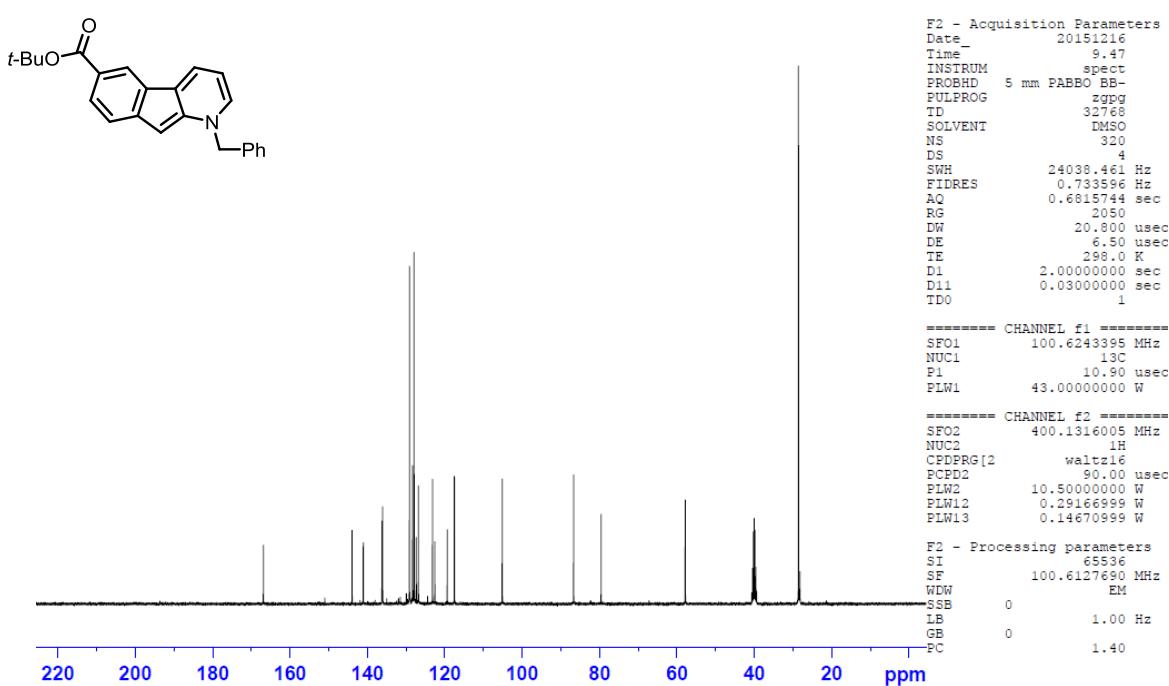
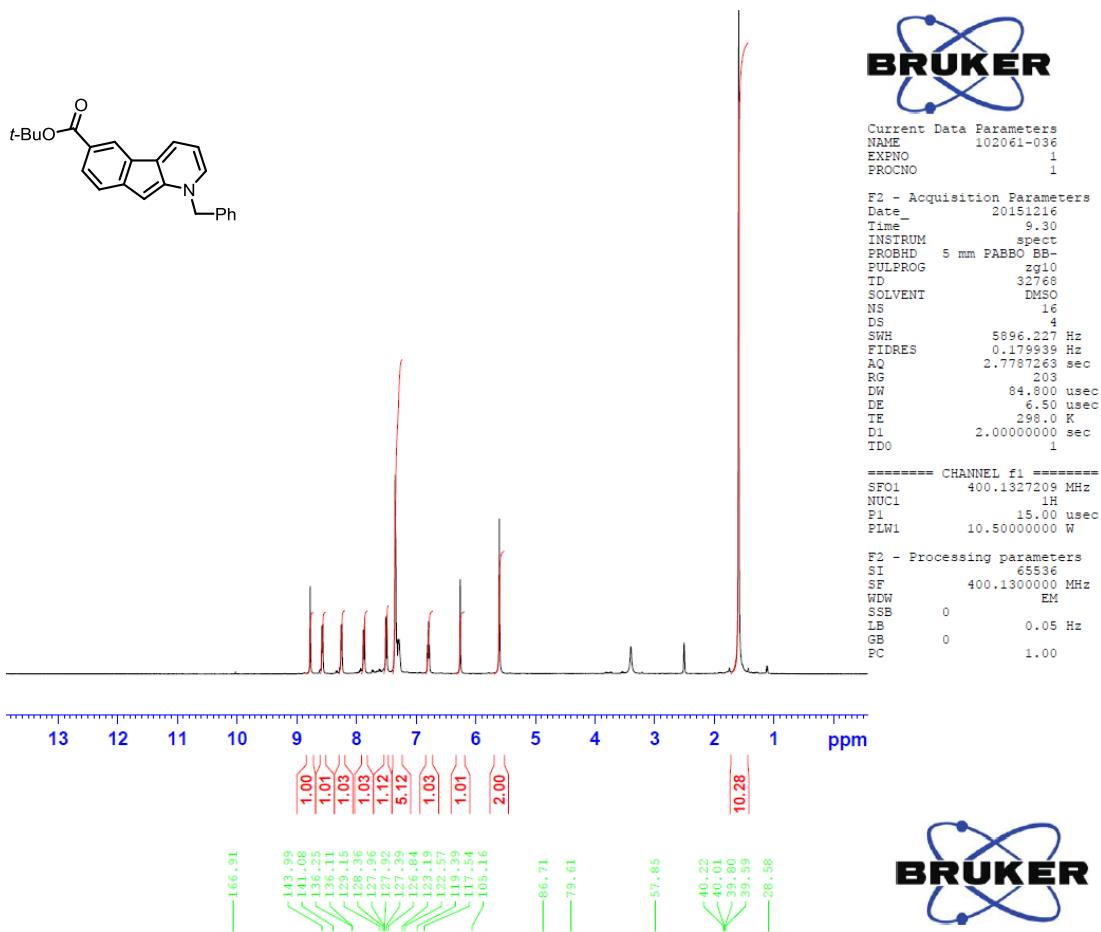


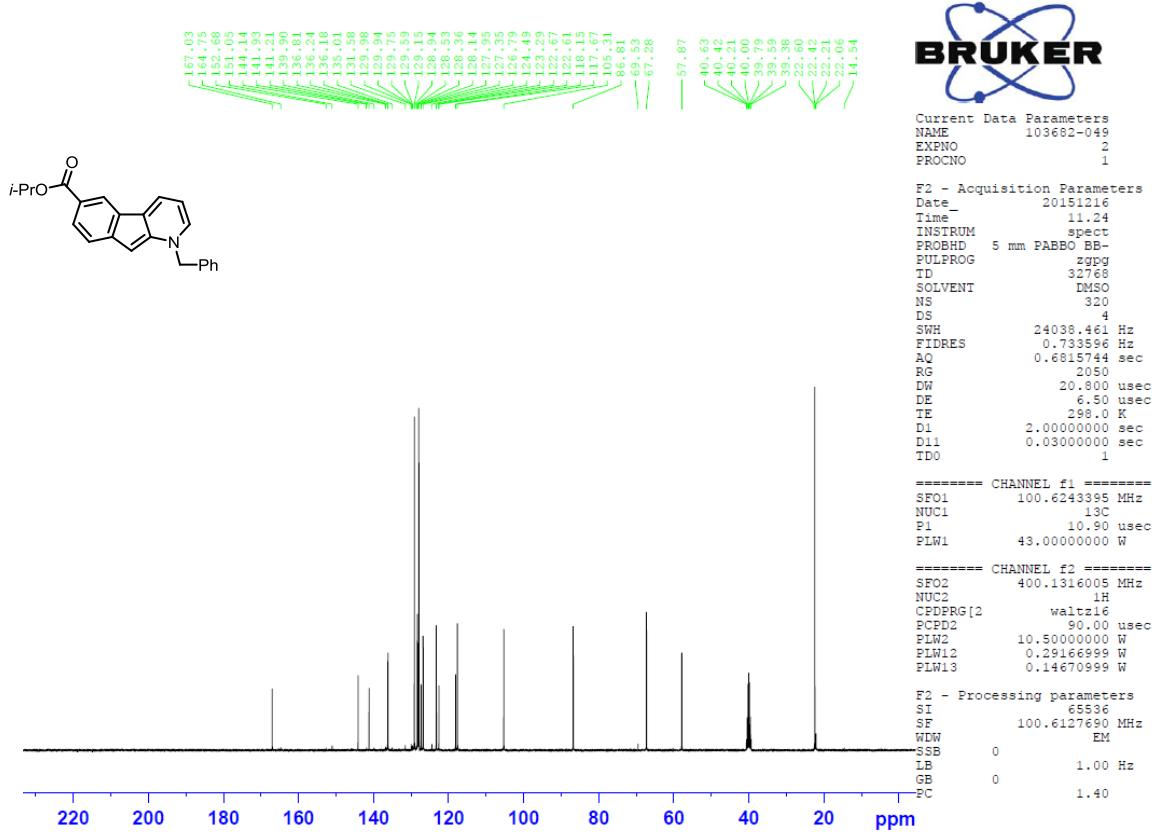
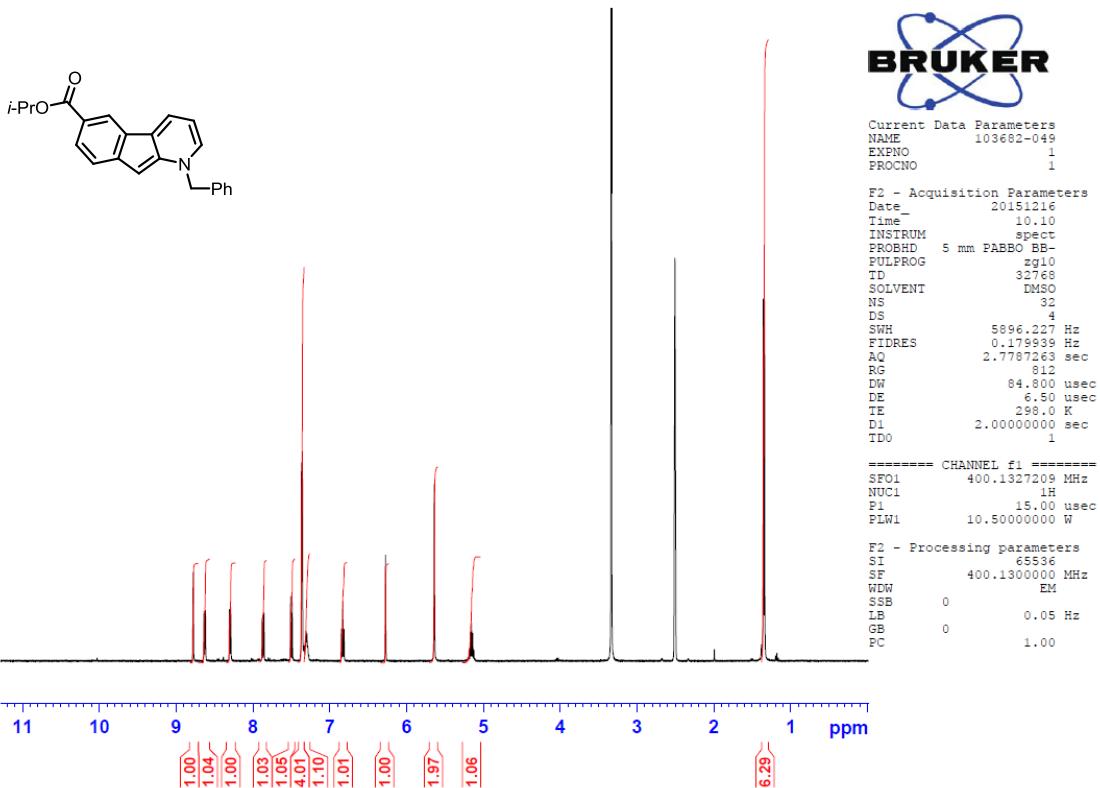
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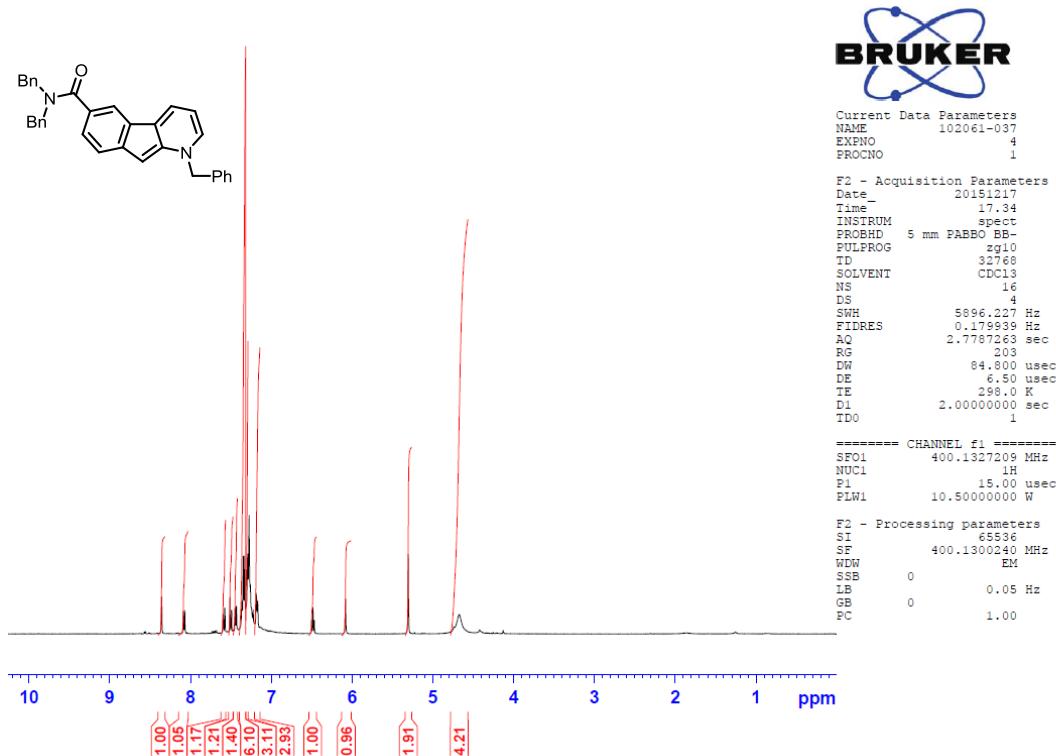
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SOLVENT DMSO  
NS 180  
DS 0  
SWH 31250.000 Hz  
FIDRES 0.119209 Hz  
AQ 4.1943040 sec  
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DE 6.50 usec  
TE 299.0 K  
D1 1.00000000 sec  
d11 0.03000000 sec  
DELTA 0.89999998 sec  
TDO 1  
SF01 125.7690617 MHz  
NUC1 13C  
P1 15.75 usec  
PLW1 -1.00000000 W  
SF02 500.1325007 MHz  
NUC2 1H  
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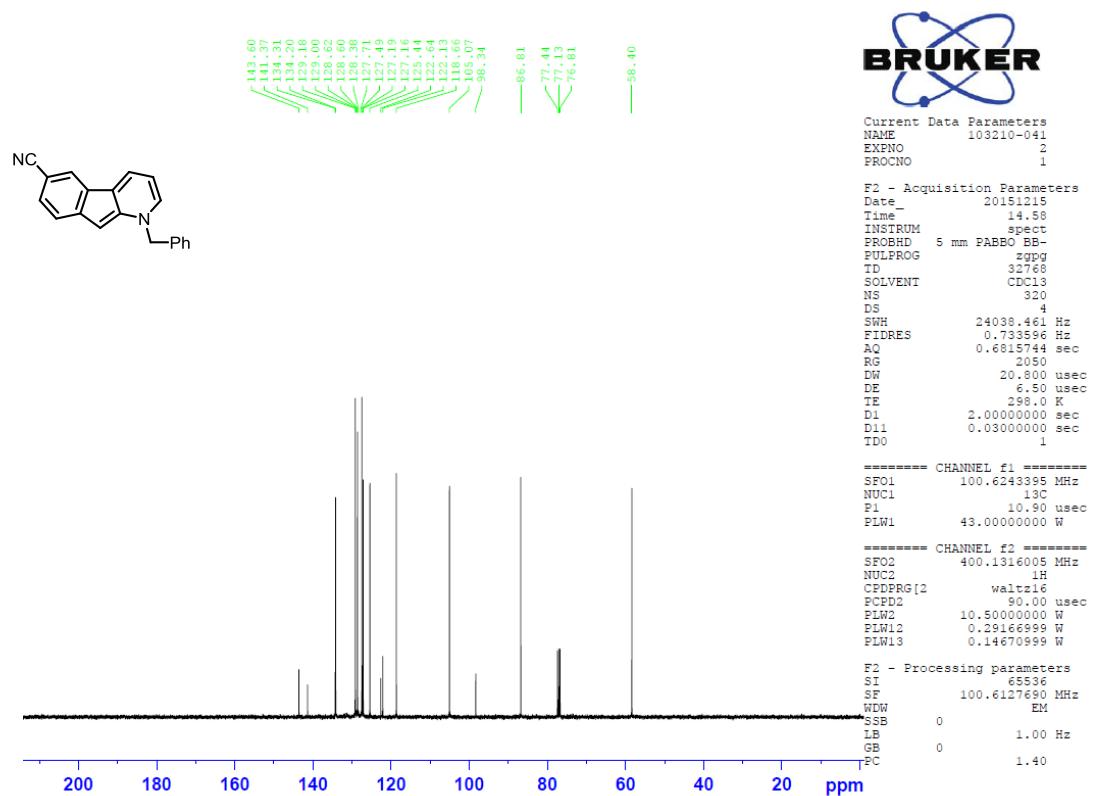
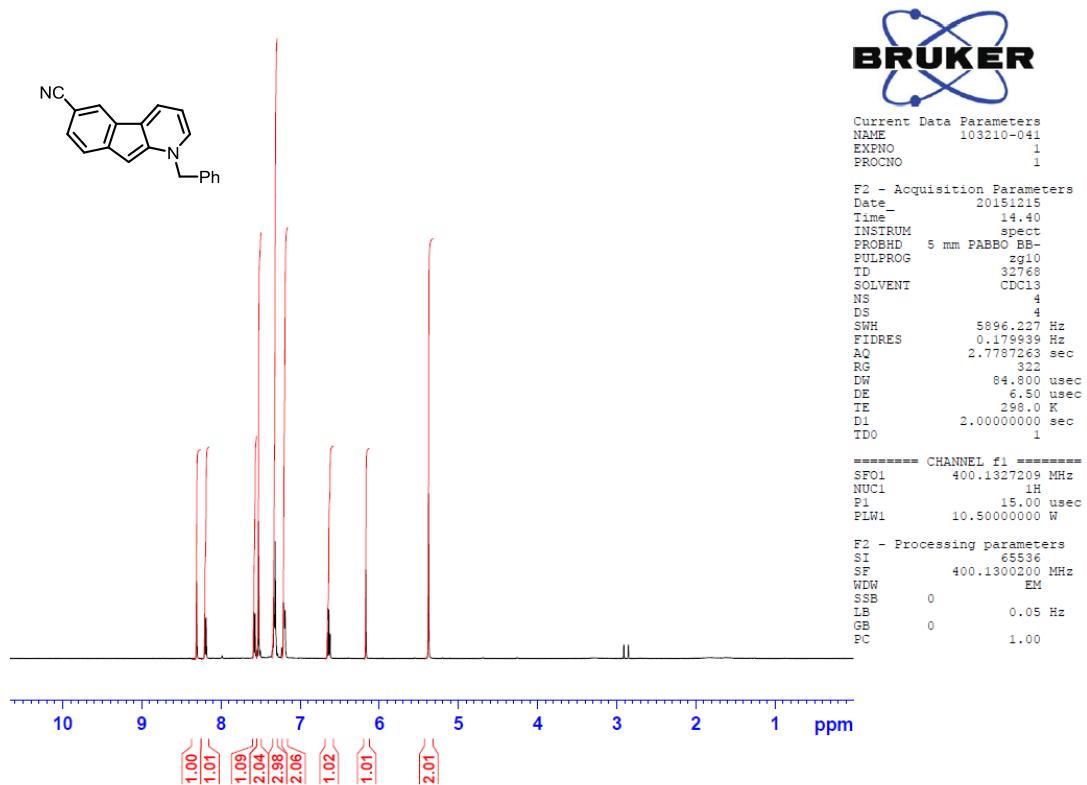
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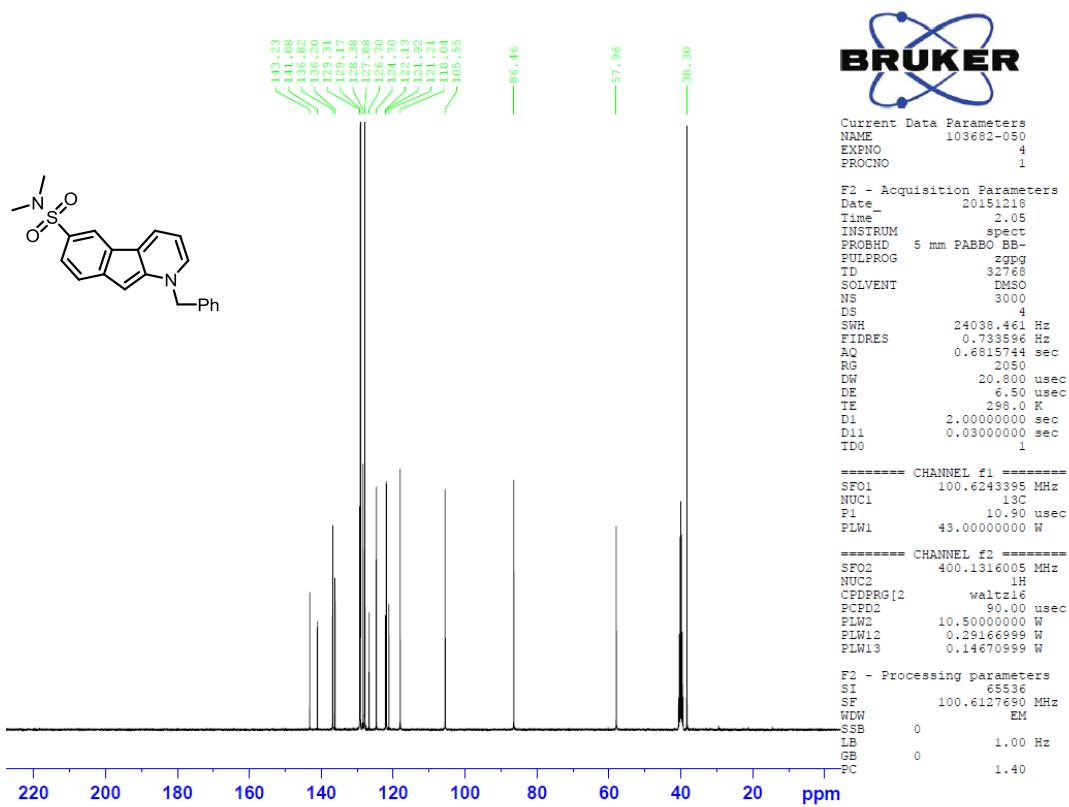
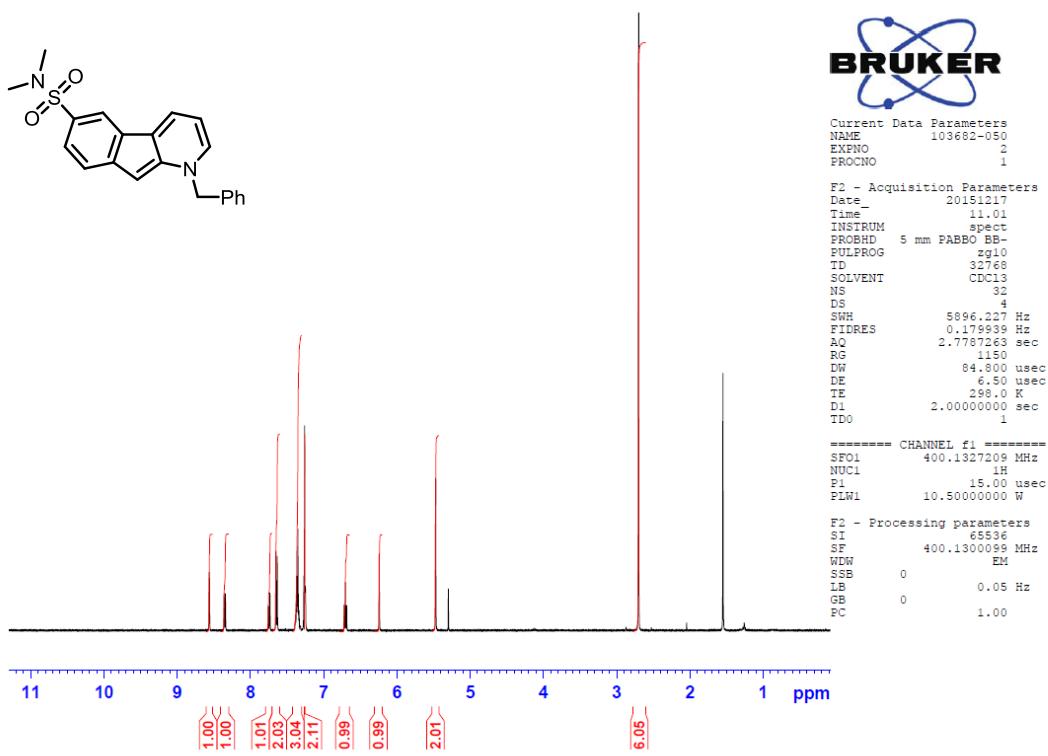


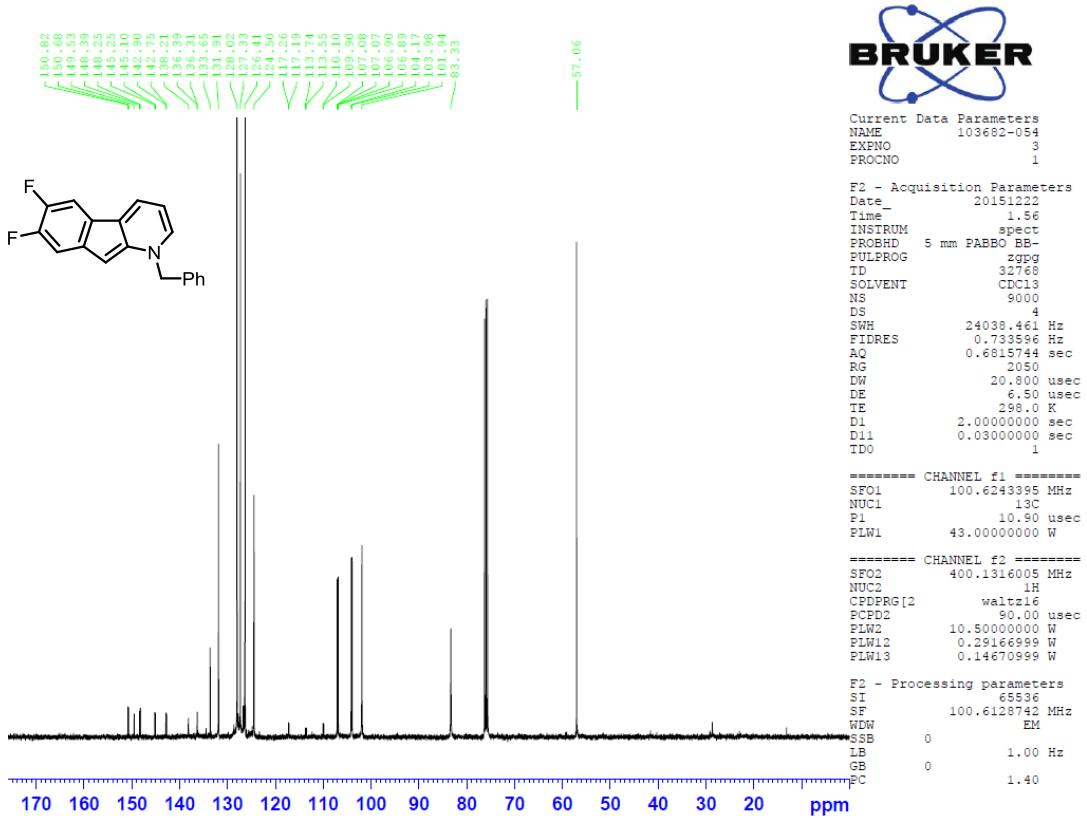
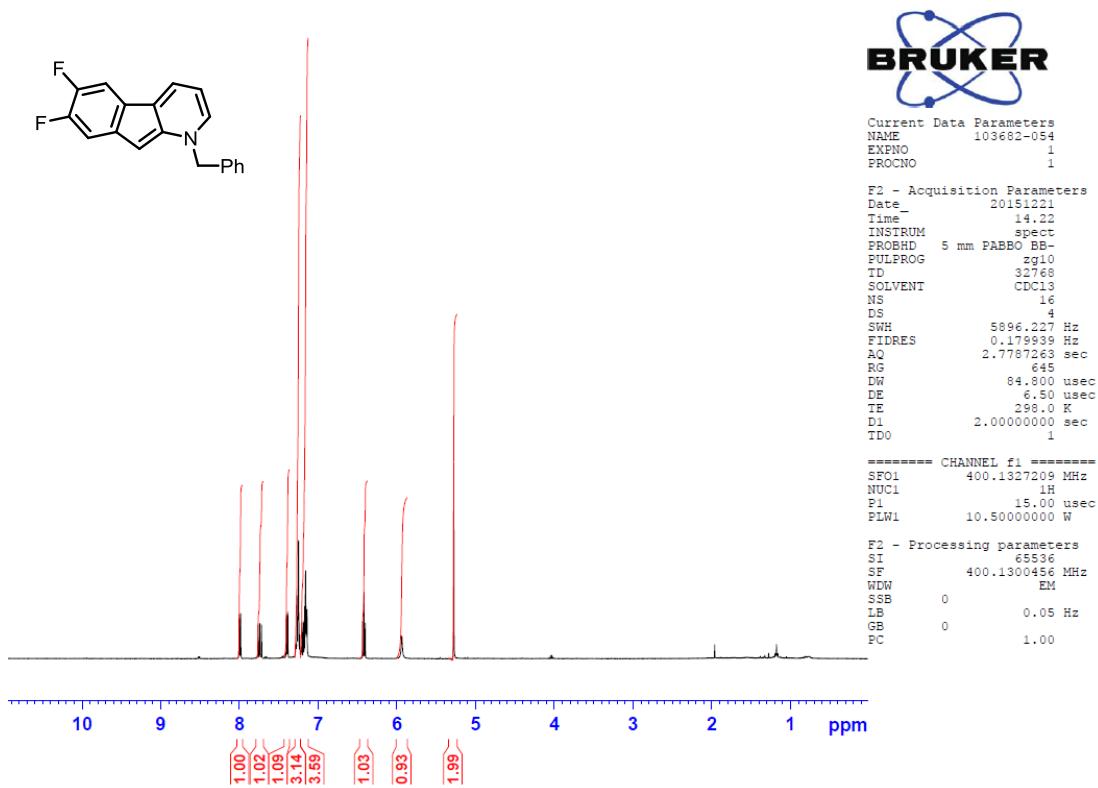


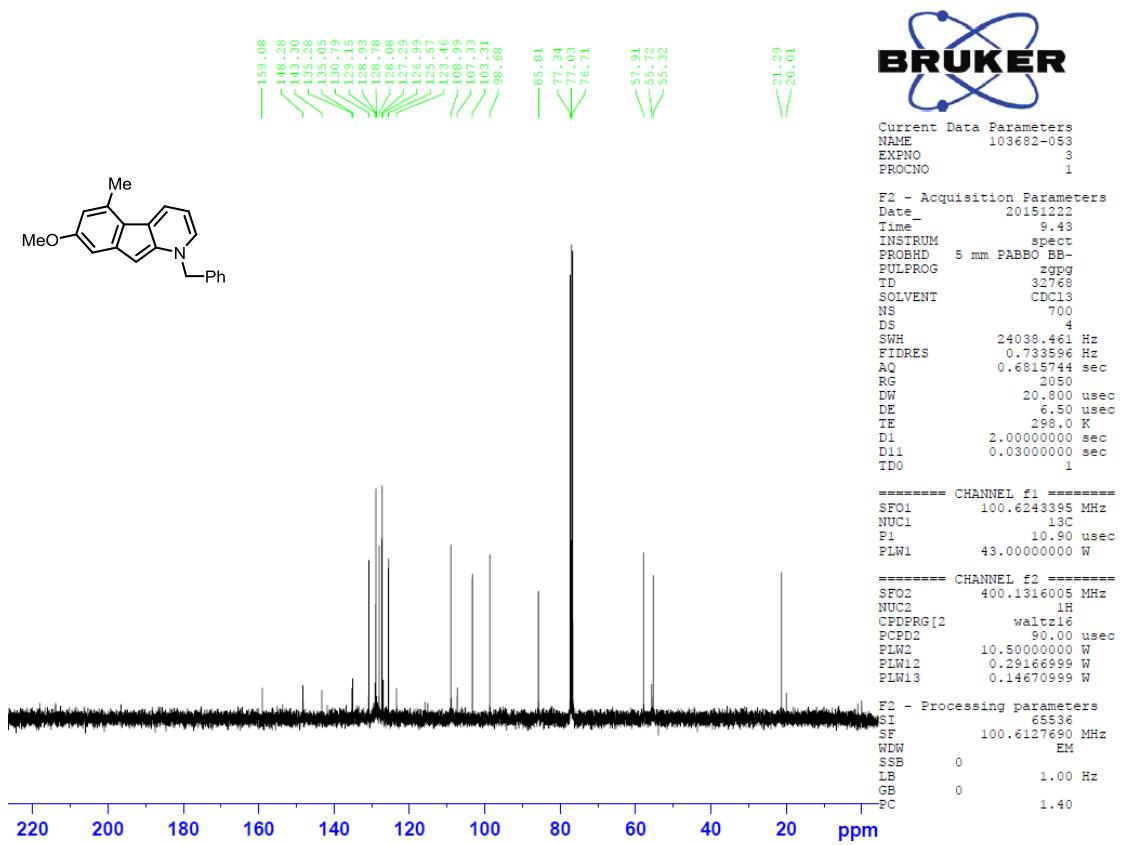
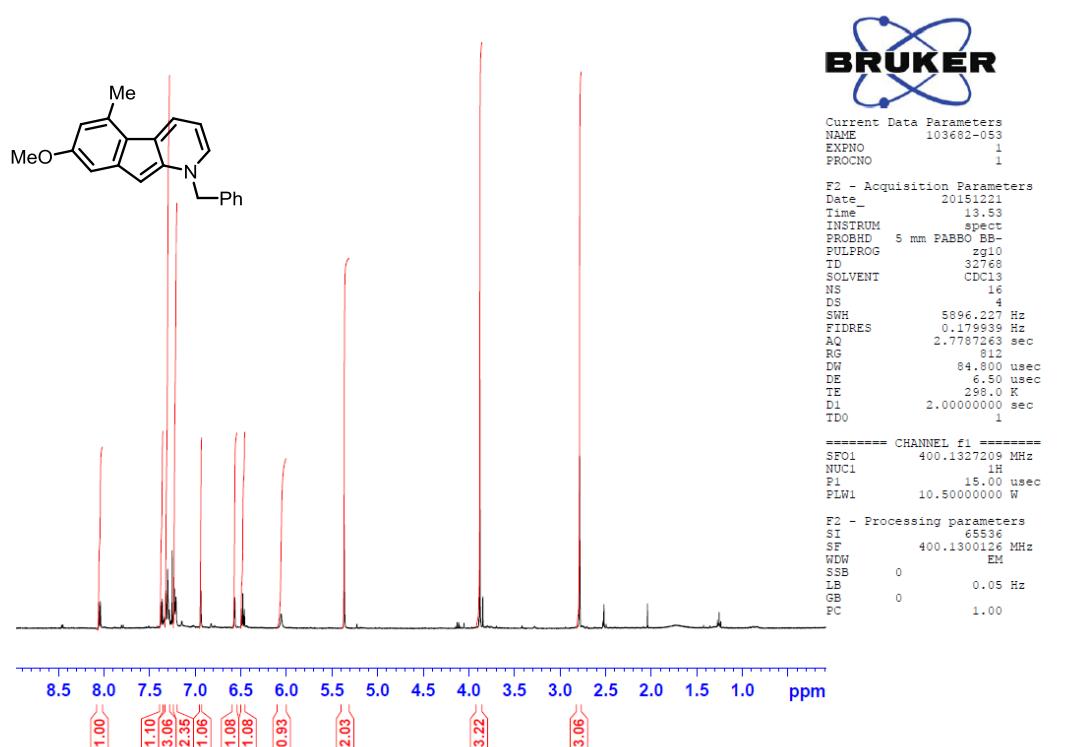


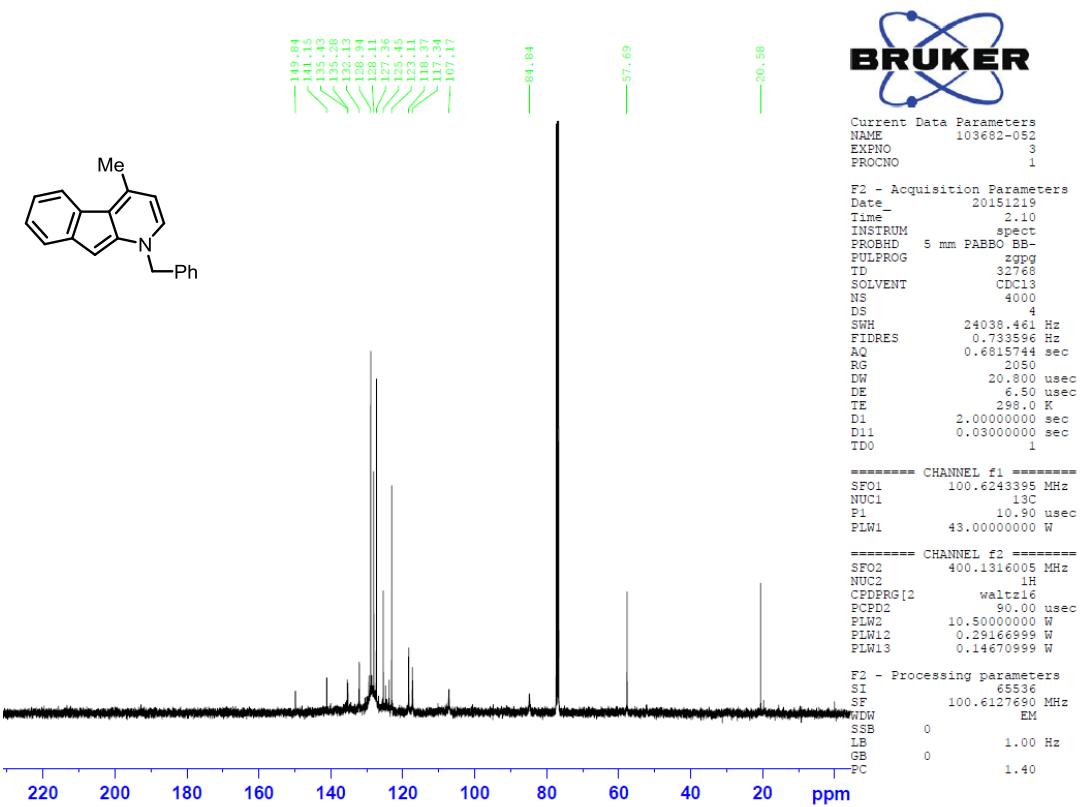
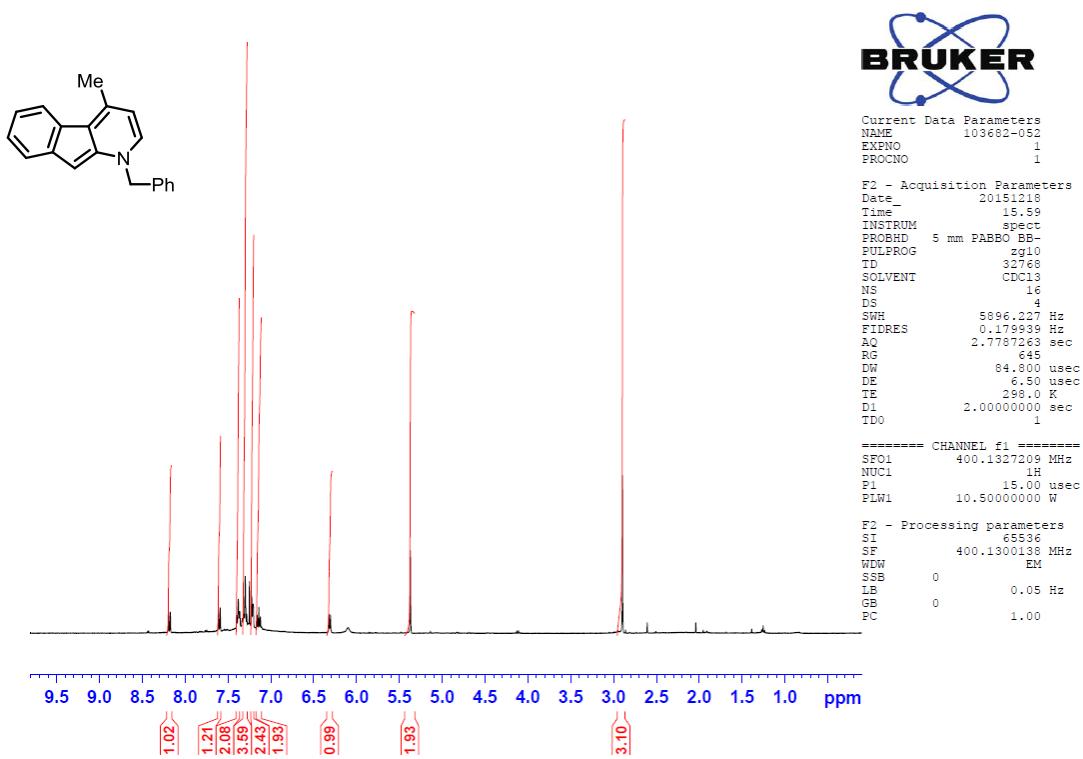


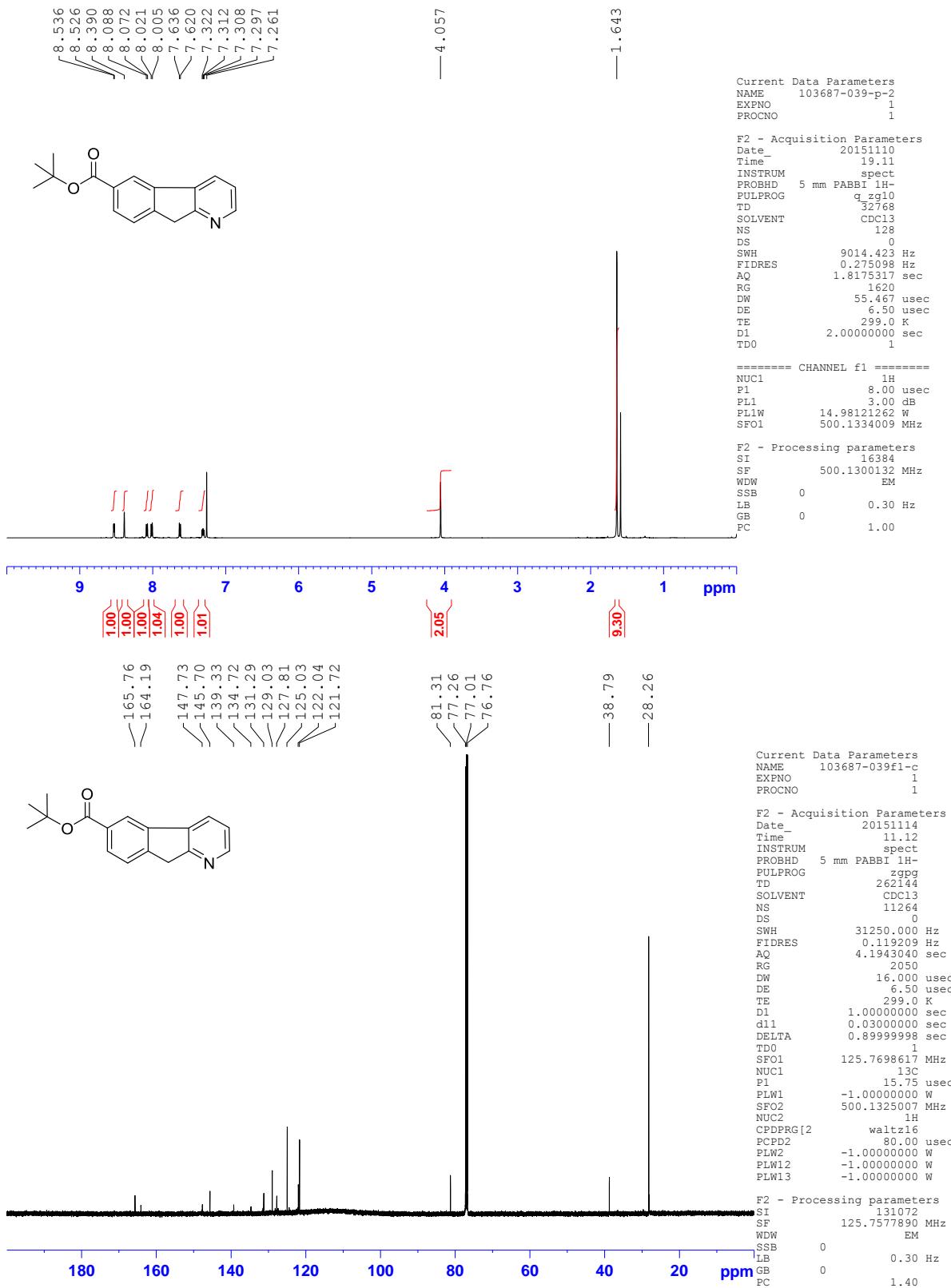


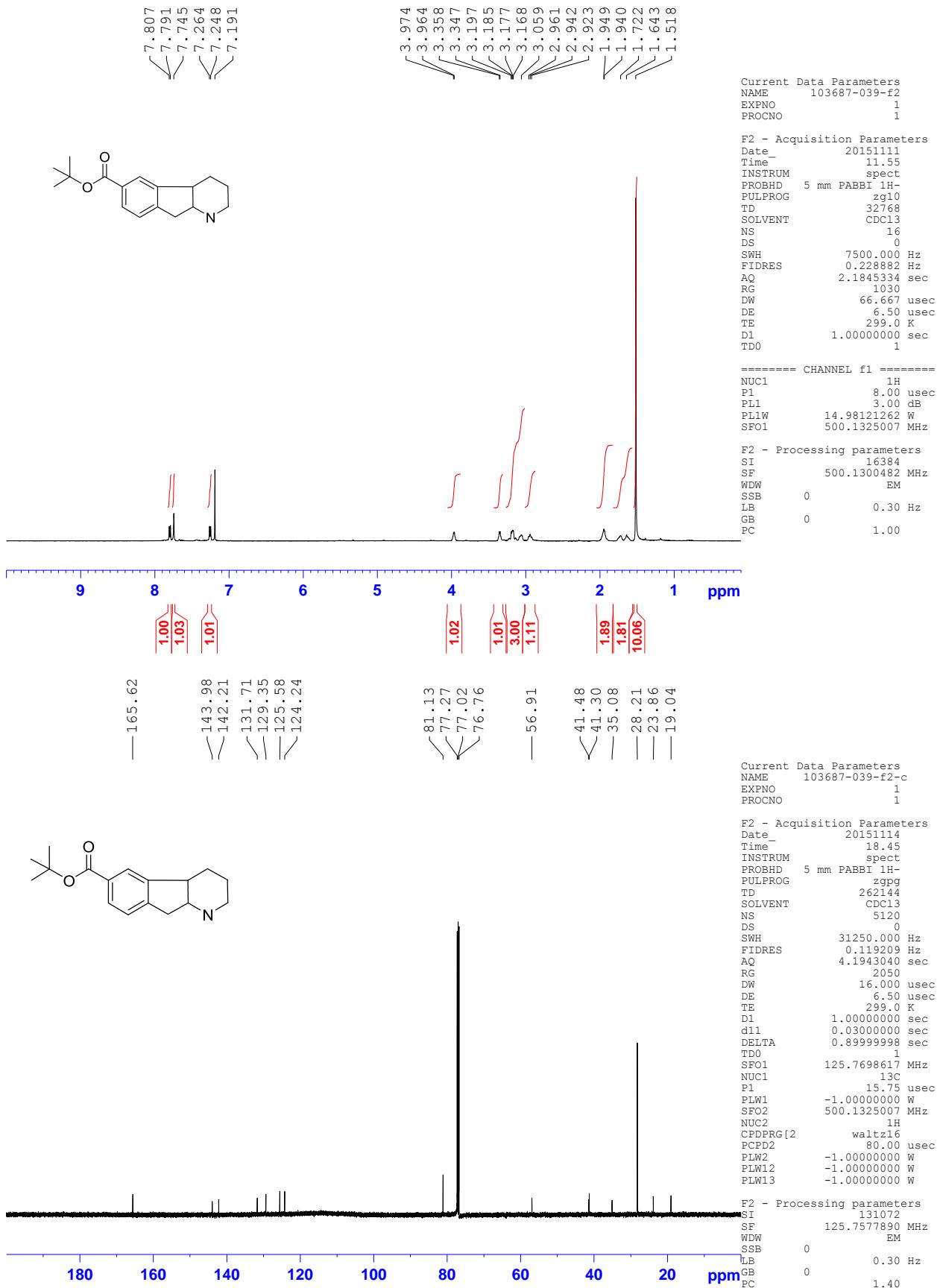












## Computational Studies

### Full Reference of Gaussian09:

Gaussian 09, Revision B.01, M. J. Frisch, G. W. Trucks, H. B. Schlegel, G. E. Scuseria, M. A. Robb, J. R. Cheeseman, G. Scalmani, V. Barone, B. Mennucci, G. A. Petersson, H. Nakatsuji, M. Caricato, X. Li, H. P. Hratchian, A. F. Izmaylov, J. Bloino, G. Zheng, J. L. Sonnenberg, M. Hada, M. Ehara, K. Toyota, R. Fukuda, J. Hasegawa, M. Ishida, T. Nakajima, Y. Honda, O. Kitao, H. Nakai, T. Vreven, J. A. Montgomery, Jr., J. E. Peralta, F. Ogliaro, M. Bearpark, J. J. Heyd, E. Brothers, K. N. Kudin, V. N. Staroverov, T. Keith, R. Kobayashi, J. Normand, K. Raghavachari, A. Rendell, J. C. Burant, S. S. Iyengar, J. Tomasi, M. Cossi, N. Rega, J. M. Millam, M. Klene, J. E. Knox, J. B. Cross, V. Bakken, C. Adamo, J. Jaramillo, R. Gomperts, R. E. Stratmann, O. Yazyev, A. J. Austin, R. Cammi, C. Pomelli, J. W. Ochterski, R. L. Martin, K. Morokuma, V. G. Zakrzewski, G. A. Voth, P. Salvador, J. J. Dannenberg, S. Dapprich, A. D. Daniels, O. Farkas, J. B. Foresman, J. V. Ortiz, J. Cioslowski, and D. J. Fox, Gaussian, Inc., Wallingford CT, 2010.

All optimizations were performed using spin-unrestricted broken-symmetry DFT at the UB3LYP<sup>5</sup>/6-31G(d) level (with the guess=mix keyword as implemented in Gaussian09) in the gas phase. Vibrational frequencies were computed at the same level to obtain thermal corrections (at 298 K) and to characterize the stationary points as transition states (one and only one imaginary frequency) or minima (zero imaginary frequencies). Single point energy calculations in solvent [nitromethane( $\epsilon=36.562$ )] were performed on optimized geometries using the SMD<sup>6</sup>-solvation model which resembles the dielectric of experimental solvent used (dimethylformamide  $\epsilon=37.219$ ) using the UM06<sup>7</sup> functional with the 6-311+G(d,p) basis set.

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<sup>5</sup> (a) Becke, A. D. *J. Chem. Phys.* **1993**, *98*, 1372-1377. (b) Becke, A. D. *J. Chem. Phys.* **1993**, *98*, 5648-5652. (c) Lee, C.; Yang, W.; Parr, R. G. *Phys. Rev. B* **1988**, *37*, 785-789. (d) Stephens, P. J.; Devlin, F. J.; Chabalowski, C. F.; Frisch, M. J. *J. Phys. Chem.* **1994**, *98*, 11623-11627.

<sup>6</sup> Marenich, A. V.; Cramer, C. J.; Thrular, D. G. *J. Phys. Chem. B* **2009**, *113*, 6378-6396.

<sup>7</sup> Zhao, Y.; Truhlar, D. G. *Theor. Chem. Acc.*, **2008**, *120*, 215-41

**Figure 1:**

### A<sup>0</sup> : Ni(pyridine)COD

Zero-point correction= 0.341621 (Hartree/Particle)  
 Thermal correction to Energy= 0.359621  
 Thermal correction to Enthalpy= 0.360565  
 Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy= 0.295892  
 Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies= -2315.290386  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Energies= -2315.272386  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies= -2315.271442  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies= -2315.336115

Single point energy (electronic) = -2315.2749059 (nitromethane)

Ni	-1.31200100	2.51441700	0.01532300
C	-2.87279500	2.54923200	-1.32235300
C	-3.33959900	2.23367600	-0.04272400
C	-1.42877800	4.55982700	-0.02071600
C	-4.07216900	3.21169100	0.87210900
C	-1.71213100	4.09688300	1.26719500
H	-2.73069200	1.72193700	-2.01785200
H	-4.61851100	3.94786400	0.27242000
H	-3.51577500	1.17819800	0.16354100
H	-0.41709300	4.92576300	-0.19470100
H	-4.83691400	2.67248500	1.44432700
H	-0.90866600	4.14645500	2.00219900
C	-2.94408200	3.92231600	-1.96694600
H	-2.29134300	3.91214100	-2.84948500
H	-3.95641100	4.13271800	-2.34921100
C	-2.48186600	5.05085100	-1.00981100
H	-3.33931600	5.46689500	-0.46955100
H	-2.07161200	5.88204400	-1.59609900
C	-3.10338300	3.92389300	1.84987700
H	-3.01032000	3.32148900	2.76261300
H	-3.52481700	4.88980800	2.17344000
C	0.51621100	0.47451000	0.70088400
C	1.08967000	-0.61518800	1.38643500
C	0.46103100	-1.14968000	2.49365700
H	2.02705400	-1.03698500	1.03922000
C	-1.27882000	0.47814500	2.20524200
C	-0.76143400	-0.58446400	2.91522300
H	0.89829000	-1.98909000	3.02588300
H	-2.21872800	0.93675900	2.49621500
H	-1.29370600	-0.96927500	3.77920500
C	1.08891100	1.10777800	-0.46593700
C	2.31299900	0.74042600	-1.06010600
C	0.80818500	2.78469700	-2.07666400
C	2.77343600	1.41058100	-2.17624500
H	2.89553300	-0.07003500	-0.63495700
C	1.99554600	2.46504100	-2.70034600
H	0.18384700	3.59156400	-2.44770100
H	3.71581700	1.13198200	-2.63818200
H	2.31459400	3.02102800	-3.57609400
N	-0.67823800	1.02590300	1.11837600
N	0.33132600	2.13939000	-0.98226000

C	1.69648200	-2.70614800	0.81118300
C	1.87242700	-3.13771200	-1.90098600
C	0.87280700	-3.75380900	0.23902000
H	1.59290400	-2.52633000	1.87334700
H	1.88716000	-3.36106900	-2.96205600
Br	2.56290200	-5.11549300	2.90651800
C	2.64235400	-2.16368700	-1.35091100
H	3.30421300	-1.57514700	-1.97448900
N	1.01757600	-3.91706400	-1.15911400
C	0.24605700	-4.95482600	-1.82463000
H	0.54477500	-5.01328800	-2.87246200
H	0.422564000	-5.92250900	-1.34200200
H	-0.82872000	-4.73972600	-1.77378500
C	-0.01940400	-4.51947000	0.94777300
H	-0.72978900	-5.13454600	0.40732200
C	-0.23372500	-4.49171700	2.40146700
C	-1.55129600	-4.31695700	2.88436500
C	0.75131800	-4.69936700	3.38980400
C	-1.86071900	-4.31164700	4.23937000
H	-2.34067700	-4.16759800	2.15183600
C	0.46269000	-4.67441700	4.75503000
C	0.84671200	-4.47658300	5.18607000
H	-2.88964500	-4.16668800	4.55779500
H	1.26308900	-4.83412300	5.46958500
H	-1.07003000	-4.46547600	6.24913700
C	2.53579000	-1.94622700	0.06049900
H	3.11901300	-1.15946200	0.53082500

### COD

Zero-point correction= 0.181167 (Hartree/Particle)  
 Thermal correction to Energy= 0.188586  
 Thermal correction to Enthalpy= 0.189531  
 Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy= 0.149675  
 Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies= -311.849240  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Energies= -311.841820  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies= -311.840876  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies= -311.880731 H

Single point energy (electronic) = -311.8611887 (nitromethane)

C	-3.85791700	2.58046000	0.96343400
C	-3.81755900	3.31795100	2.07996100
C	-1.84153900	4.68974000	-0.34794600
C	-3.62937100	4.81228000	2.23648500
C	-1.40708000	5.03781500	0.86950900
H	-3.99882800	1.50680800	1.10073700
H	-4.23174500	5.37072600	1.51561000
H	-3.90763600	2.77251300	3.01999100
H	-1.07594600	4.56714400	-1.11485600
H	-4.00981500	5.10434700	3.22327800
H	-0.33080800	5.18823000	0.97182800
C	-3.74278100	2.97664300	-0.48796600
H	-3.06788900	2.25687200	-0.97494500
H	-4.72032800	2.82054000	-0.97263100
C	-3.25254600	4.40294200	-0.81668900
H	-3.96168100	5.13874400	-0.42925100
H	-3.28106800	4.51508700	-1.90773000
C	-2.15738800	5.27177000	2.15753400
H	-1.59541200	4.77642500	2.96341100
H	-2.11197300	6.34607700	2.39955500

### A<sup>0</sup> : substrate

Zero-point correction= 0.216387 (Hartree/Particle)  
 Thermal correction to Energy= 0.229486  
 Thermal correction to Enthalpy= 0.230430  
 Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy= 0.175458  
 Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies= -3128.816865  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Energies= -3128.803767  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies= -3128.802823  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies= -3128.857795

Single point energy (electronic) = -3131.0640104 (nitromethane)

### A

Zero-point correction= 0.376928 (Hartree/Particle)  
 Thermal correction to Energy= 0.401586  
 Thermal correction to Enthalpy= 0.402530  
 Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy= 0.319374  
 Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies= -5132.231330  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Energies= -5132.206673  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies= -5132.205729  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies= -5132.288885

Single point energy (electronic) = -5134.4644507 (nitromethane)

C	-2.62018100	2.13645800	1.28977800	H	-1.44828400	-0.64074200	-1.97497700
C	-0.98694600	2.05521700	2.94784700	H	-3.42097400	-0.06505300	-3.39966100
C	-1.90426900	2.40419800	3.93162200	H	-4.87906500	1.87208400	-2.71588000
C	-3.23535000	2.61811600	3.56722500	H	-4.28742900	3.14056000	-0.66042100
C	-3.59452700	2.47809000	2.22936200	N	-0.89678000	2.14594200	1.43930700
C	-2.86241600	1.97243600	-0.15546800	N	-1.79766500	0.83980200	-0.58565400
C	-1.86246300	1.38335300	-2.17576600	Ni	-0.17859300	0.65209500	0.47818100
C	-3.02437500	1.67245500	-2.88284700	C	1.18117600	-0.42382800	1.52254500
C	-4.14721000	2.12134100	-2.18489900	C	0.13462000	-3.02357300	1.20788200
C	-4.05929200	2.28211600	-0.80467700	C	1.03389100	-1.29092500	2.64589000
H	0.05348600	1.85813100	3.18041000	H	2.01885400	0.26939500	1.54915900
H	-1.57803800	2.50169000	4.96197800	C	0.47519600	-2.54245900	2.49438900
H	-3.98054200	2.88372700	4.31087200	H	-0.26916500	-4.02963500	1.11080400
H	-4.62472500	2.62286100	1.92216000	H	1.44323100	-0.99235300	3.60959600
H	-0.94793100	1.06361300	-2.66569000	H	0.36145800	-3.20139600	3.35134900
H	-3.04142300	1.55053800	-3.96108200	Br	1.62612800	0.40417500	-1.33742300
H	-5.07003000	2.35704100	-2.70650000	C	0.26636400	-2.26614400	0.04296100
H	-4.90749800	2.65771000	-0.24249400	C	0.64593100	-0.91186600	0.26698300
N	-1.32053400	1.92380800	1.64930300	C	-0.16635000	-2.84166800	-1.25150200
N	-1.77773300	1.50463000	-0.83673400	H	-1.17930200	-3.22997900	-1.26344000
Ni	-0.25474700	1.16243600	0.26534400	C	0.65522900	-3.08296900	-2.32266200
C	1.55005500	0.73260800	0.77550200	C	2.08089900	-2.81142700	-2.33304500
C	1.18756600	-2.06232200	0.66215600	C	2.86624100	-3.08450500	3.40583800
C	1.97127000	-0.10937300	1.86465000	H	2.50155200	-2.38827400	-1.43088100
H	2.09358800	1.67445300	0.67260600	C	0.97217600	-3.93531400	-4.59099800
C	1.74972200	-1.46021500	1.82233700	C	2.30087400	-3.66100100	-4.59117600
H	0.95476500	-3.12336800	0.68991800	H	3.93115100	-2.87365000	-3.36393900
H	2.49019000	0.33715200	2.71169200	H	0.46881600	-4.38149800	-5.44189100
H	2.02440500	-2.09378200	2.66267800	H	2.90233400	-3.88298100	-5.46448500
Br	1.74758300	0.91355100	-2.20913600	C	-1.25074600	-4.00953700	-3.58736000
C	0.91289200	-1.35734400	-0.50246700	H	-1.86653900	-3.11997600	-3.40410200
C	1.05390300	0.09164700	-0.45139100	H	-1.47876700	-4.40416200	-4.57903500
C	0.39837800	-1.98431700	-1.71679200	H	-1.51469400	-4.76396900	-2.83518200
H	-0.29587700	-1.37115900	-2.27763700	N	0.15906100	-3.67288300	-3.51204000
C	0.75933200	-3.20243900	-2.23907300				
C	1.84366400	-4.03340700	-1.74964700				
C	2.16135600	-5.23056600	-2.30663500				
H	2.42732000	-3.63263200	-0.93099100				
C	0.42266100	-4.94723700	-3.92135000				
C	1.41294200	-5.73090000	-3.42414700				
H	3.00054600	-5.80221400	-1.91958800				
H	-0.17137400	-5.23944600	-4.78068300				
H	1.63151700	-6.68862700	-3.88081700				
C	-0.97420300	-2.94952600	-3.98591600				
H	-0.59399200	-1.99610600	-4.37321700				
H	-1.41366500	-3.51585000	-4.80913300				
H	-1.75164500	-2.73108400	-3.24300900				
N	0.09467100	-3.72613200	-3.38271500				

## A-TS

Zero-point correction= 0.375185 (Hartree/Particle)  
 Thermal correction to Energy= 0.399607  
 Thermal correction to Enthalpy= 0.400552  
 Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy= 0.317713  
 Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies= -5132.220386  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Energies= -5132.195963  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies= -5132.195019  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies= -5132.277858

Single point energy (electronic) = -5134.4413639 (nitromethane)

C	-2.12981100	2.55653500	1.01460100
C	-0.39576500	2.69805300	2.56582300
C	-1.07361900	3.65136200	3.30878300
C	-2.34098200	4.06651100	2.88176300
C	-2.86843100	3.51066500	1.72326600
C	-2.57892800	1.89552900	-0.21539700
C	-2.11012000	0.18084700	-1.71996600
C	-3.20796900	0.50864300	-2.50313300
C	-4.01823400	1.58319500	-2.12013500
C	-3.69429000	2.28529600	-0.96629100
H	0.58685800	2.34561500	2.85930500
H	-0.61698000	4.06170600	4.20365500
H	-2.90396100	4.80495200	3.44440800
H	-3.85454600	3.80115900	1.37692100

Zero-point correction= 0.378257 (Hartree/Particle)  
 Thermal correction to Energy= 0.402903  
 Thermal correction to Enthalpy= 0.403848  
 Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy= 0.321533  
 Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies= -5132.295835  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Energies= -5132.271189  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies= -5132.270245  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies= -5132.352560

Single point energy (electronic) = -5134.5190127 (nitromethane)

C	-2.74906100	0.27800800	1.57920000
C	-0.61754900	1.17702400	1.77836400
C	-0.97668900	2.29929400	1.03797300
C	-2.27874700	2.39889300	0.55070500
C	-3.17876100	1.37418300	0.82724400
C	-3.59369300	-0.86622900	1.94814500
C	-3.62552800	-2.95587300	2.96231700
C	-5.00051800	-3.06330400	2.79099400
C	-5.69229600	-2.02750100	2.16580200
C	-4.97384900	-0.91452700	1.74297300
H	0.37439900	1.04506300	2.19737500
H	-0.24247200	3.07596800	0.85131000
H	-2.59069400	3.25793200	-0.03610600
H	-4.19569100	1.42252700	0.45459000
H	-3.05034900	-3.74110600	3.43634300
H	-5.51118300	-3.95153400	3.14773700
H	-6.76700800	-2.07836000	2.01943800
H	-5.48183100	-0.08079500	1.27172300
N	-1.47963900	0.18216300	2.04604500
N	-2.91474000	-1.88611600	2.54790500
Ni	-1.06154200	-1.57812200	2.86112000
C	0.82977600	-2.49218100	0.46801600
C	-0.06393000	-2.19241100	-2.12329900
C	-0.33660600	-3.25545000	0.06355500
H	1.20509700	-2.66640600	1.46715300
H	-0.46063700	-2.13611800	-3.13155300
Br	0.94189400	-0.91479100	3.74734400
C	1.00288400	-1.45803800	-1.71852900
H	1.49094800	-0.78140800	-2.41002700
N	-0.72236200	-3.07051500	-1.29276100

C -1.85909200 -3.81442200 -1.80213300  
 H -2.06482700 -3.50713200 -2.82929900  
 H -1.66317300 -4.89430600 -1.78875800  
 H -2.74566700 -3.62481600 -1.18290500  
 C -1.00432800 -4.13406500 0.87698300  
 H -1.73162100 -4.80015000 0.42339100  
 C -0.75894300 -4.38858100 2.31292300  
 C -0.67647200 -5.74156400 2.71313000  
 C -0.71565300 -3.37506100 3.30838300  
 C -0.53764700 -6.10716400 4.04782500  
 H -0.72064300 -6.51268300 1.94540600  
 C -0.54488900 -3.76949400 4.64534700  
 C -0.46686200 -5.11122500 5.02410600  
 H -0.47581300 -7.15793700 4.32202300  
 H -0.48379900 -3.00699000 5.41743200  
 H -0.34981200 -5.37531900 6.07298400  
 C 1.46963300 -1.63841800 -0.37221500  
 H 2.35329200 -1.10825700 -0.02807900

## B-TS

Zero-point correction= 0.377821 (Hartree/Particle)  
 Thermal correction to Energy= 0.401442  
 Thermal correction to Enthalpy= 0.402387  
 Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy= 0.324425  
 Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies= -5132.242048  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Energies= -5132.218427  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies= -5132.217483  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies= -5132.295445

Single point energy (electronic) = -5134.471906 (nitromethane)

C 0.28834700 2.73322100 -0.88486600  
 C 0.69607800 4.05252000 -0.65170100  
 C 1.77016400 4.32946100 0.19847600  
 C 2.47779600 3.27664400 0.77571200  
 C 2.08595300 1.94792300 0.54670600  
 C 0.90859200 1.67249200 -0.20936700  
 H -0.56849300 2.53529900 -1.51985500  
 H 0.15108300 4.86489400 -1.12601400  
 H 2.07724100 5.35646700 0.37992900  
 H 3.37064700 3.47255200 1.36578900  
 C 2.88010500 0.97774200 0.93914600  
 H 3.65277500 0.85459600 1.69733200  
 C 2.54897100 -0.31739900 0.24056500  
 C 1.53923100 -0.11310200 -0.83377200  
 C 0.63837500 -1.17752700 -1.12760600  
 H 1.88906700 0.47821700 -1.67797500  
 C 2.17124500 -2.67161500 0.07886100  
 C 1.03018400 -2.49834300 -0.62030300  
 H 2.52180500 -3.65051900 0.38823000  
 H 0.45092800 -3.37655900 -0.88110300  
 C 4.07173900 -1.82878400 1.40583800  
 H 3.75233700 -1.57379800 2.42796200  
 H 4.37817300 -2.87692300 1.38150700  
 H 4.93571900 -1.20694100 1.14965800  
 N 3.00742900 -1.61547000 0.44237900  
 Br -2.20901100 0.59923900 -1.71115900  
 C -2.11236300 -1.18659100 1.90064700  
 C -2.03806000 -2.34332000 -0.10660400  
 C -3.07583900 -2.07199000 2.40351400  
 C -2.98371800 -3.25885500 0.32873900  
 H -1.65120700 -2.38237000 -1.11372600  
 C -3.50554700 -3.13107800 1.61847900  
 H -3.50280500 -1.91164800 3.38657600  
 H -3.31295900 -4.04664400 -0.34046700  
 H -4.25152700 -3.82657600 1.99120600  
 C -1.68522600 0.03086600 2.59081900  
 C -2.06213200 0.35512200 3.89946900  
 C -1.71531400 1.59140400 4.42625400  
 H -2.62448900 -0.35477200 4.49510700  
 C -0.64627100 2.08543500 2.33531200  
 C -1.01232400 2.48273900 3.61470600  
 H -1.99840300 1.85879000 5.43997000  
 H -0.09863600 2.75584400 1.68951700  
 H -0.74372100 3.47518500 3.96110400  
 N -1.56735100 -1.34570100 0.66870000  
 N -0.93933800 0.87387700 1.82318400  
 Ni -0.36799600 0.07869400 0.06926200

H 0.15643200 -1.15486400 -2.10197800

## A'

Zero-point correction= 0.375566 (Hartree/Particle)  
 Thermal correction to Energy= 0.400257  
 Thermal correction to Enthalpy= 0.401201  
 Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy= 0.320140  
 Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies= -5132.246187  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Energies= -5132.221497  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies= -5132.220552  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies= -5132.301614

Single point energy (electronic) = -5134.4607011 (nitromethane)

C -3.02806900 -2.12853700 -1.39104000  
 C -2.57762500 -2.46179600 0.89384300  
 C -1.45073400 -3.21449300 0.62764100  
 C -1.10061800 -3.43743100 -0.72509100  
 C -1.88416300 -2.89467400 -1.72022400  
 C -3.91052200 -1.50954600 -2.33981300  
 C -5.91100500 -0.30017300 -2.61806500  
 C -5.78096900 -0.27760800 -3.98929400  
 C -4.64164200 -0.89581200 -4.56793000  
 C -3.71983700 -1.50032100 -3.74212900  
 H -2.87713900 -2.24340200 1.91589600  
 H -0.85398900 -3.61169800 1.44182100  
 H -0.22610900 -4.03033100 -0.97840400  
 H -1.63435900 -3.06441900 -2.76247500  
 H -6.76488400 0.16222500 -2.12926300  
 H -6.53934200 0.19878900 -4.60193500  
 H -4.49586700 -0.88914300 -5.64427400  
 H -2.83506700 -1.96520900 -4.16570900  
 N -3.36319400 -1.92253600 -0.06274500  
 N -5.02454100 -0.89323500 -1.78125800  
 Ni -5.02279200 -0.90945700 0.18076200  
 C -8.71882500 -1.42154700 2.92083600  
 C -7.61061600 -1.09141000 2.14740900  
 C -7.33309500 0.20322800 1.68389400  
 C -8.28751700 1.18041300 2.03159000  
 C -9.41680000 0.88180300 2.78950000  
 C -9.63349400 -0.42055700 3.24534500  
 H -8.87219900 -2.44446000 3.24805300  
 H -8.11856600 2.19995900 1.69391800  
 H -10.12578700 1.66872700 3.03221700  
 H -10.50940300 -0.66206200 3.84046400  
 Br -6.40299800 -2.51378200 1.63843600  
 C -6.15223400 0.55960700 0.85250700  
 H -6.39669200 1.33216100 0.12722300  
 C -4.82494000 0.64587500 1.43417600  
 C -4.52140500 0.21909300 2.79793400  
 C -3.29670900 0.39848900 3.35869800  
 H -5.30682400 -0.28411400 3.34935300  
 C -2.62757700 1.70731800 1.47049200  
 C -2.27909500 1.11349100 2.64270600  
 H -3.09911600 0.03451000 4.36350100  
 H -1.93609800 2.32990800 0.91239800  
 H -1.27660700 1.23304900 3.03534300  
 N -3.88492400 1.60711800 0.92815800  
 C -4.19802000 2.36284500 -0.27542300  
 H -3.32295100 2.94646100 -0.56696800  
 H -4.46615200 1.69307000 -1.10002200  
 H -5.03063100 3.05455300 -0.09793300

## A'-TS

Zero-point correction= 0.374111 (Hartree/Particle)  
 Thermal correction to Energy= 0.398749  
 Thermal correction to Enthalpy= 0.399693  
 Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy= 0.318381  
 Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies= -5132.222163  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Energies= -5132.197525  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies= -5132.196581  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies= -5132.277893

Single point energy (electronic) = -5134.4407267 (nitromethane)

C -2.98256800 -2.08816700 -1.30660400  
C -2.68954700 -2.60914300 0.94702900  
C -1.51034900 -3.29533800 0.69259100  
C -1.06984800 -3.39686500 -0.63536600  
C -1.81064600 -2.79232900 -1.63804100  
C -3.83527800 -1.40400900 -2.27654700  
C -5.85652400 -0.27739200 -2.58903800  
C -5.66556000 -0.18985400 -3.96029100  
C -4.48189000 -0.71729100 -4.50085200  
C -3.56735000 -1.32409400 -3.65485000  
H -3.08090200 -2.50854300 1.95417400  
H -0.95595000 -3.74513400 1.50939700  
H -0.16313800 -3.94329200 -0.87868700  
H -1.49266500 -2.87088700 -2.67189800  
H -6.74786300 0.12608900 -2.11732000  
H -6.41727100 0.27816700 -4.58693300  
H -4.28433000 -0.65626100 -5.56708700  
H -2.64848400 -1.73711900 -4.05641400  
N -3.41450900 -2.01289800 -0.01402200  
N -4.97585200 -0.85734900 -1.75333000  
Ni -5.17081000 -1.08050100 0.22772000  
C -8.67225400 -1.27031600 3.23325400  
C -7.58560200 -0.98396700 2.42936300  
C -7.39053700 0.22283100 1.75869400  
C -8.39642000 1.19394300 1.94939100  
C -9.50507800 0.94782500 2.76029900  
C -9.64525700 -0.27943500 3.41448400  
H -8.77340100 -2.24333900 3.70908900  
H -8.29513300 2.15938100 1.45442500  
H -10.26205900 1.71857600 2.88247400  
H -10.50886800 -0.46947700 4.04847400  
Br -6.30231600 -2.75655100 1.50844900  
C -6.22600400 0.51372400 0.87209300  
H -6.48224900 1.21856200 0.08413300  
C -4.88594500 0.61889500 1.37138500  
C -4.49208500 0.13913400 2.69084900  
C -3.22056100 0.26692700 3.15392100  
H -5.25480100 -0.36021400 3.27664100  
C -2.65473600 1.59107400 1.24153800  
C -2.23821300 0.96043500 2.37132900  
H -2.95434500 -0.13028900 4.12984400  
H -1.98840200 2.20018000 0.63955800  
H -1.20346900 1.03528900 2.68403200  
N -3.95770100 1.54674200 0.80483000  
C -4.35211600 2.37756900 -0.32066700  
H -3.51689500 3.02497400 -0.59443900  
H -4.62641600 1.77036000 -1.19080600  
H -5.20693600 3.00865400 -0.05184100

H -5.63163500 -6.73975000 -3.16054900  
H -4.62749000 -4.65132400 -4.05849300  
N -3.18774700 -1.80807900 -1.44438800  
N -4.25965500 -4.01638600 -0.74312500  
Ni -3.55436900 -2.60198000 0.28286200  
Br -3.13339600 -1.76968200 2.31974400

### B': radical-substrate-open

Zero-point correction= 0.213531 (Hartree/Particle)  
Thermal correction to Energy= 0.225181  
Thermal correction to Enthalpy= 0.226126  
Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy= 0.174563  
Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies= -557.035608  
Sum of electronic and thermal Energies= -557.023958  
Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies= -557.023013  
Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies= -557.074576

Single point energy (electronic) = -556.9676734 (nitromethane)

C -0.60909000 3.33114600 1.09959500  
C -0.04854800 4.47229500 1.69871200  
C 1.25723300 4.40094000 2.19309700  
C 1.9902300 3.22626600 2.09933400  
C 1.47574900 2.04591600 1.50190500  
C 0.17061700 2.20321000 1.03628700  
H -1.62210000 3.34884300 0.70375300  
H -0.62408600 5.39137400 1.77384300  
H 1.70583900 5.27459400 2.65940800  
H 3.01424500 3.19878000 2.49267700  
C 2.30057900 0.85214200 1.43428500  
H 3.28416800 0.97922000 1.86942000  
C 1.97060800 -0.36978000 0.89342700  
C 0.69890300 -0.68524800 0.27756600  
C 0.42142500 -1.90876700 -0.24607900  
H -0.03686300 0.11141000 0.25072800  
C 2.59966300 -2.66990100 0.37172500  
C 1.40170000 -2.95098200 -0.20467700  
H 3.39454100 -3.40410600 0.44331900  
H 1.21196300 -3.93600100 -0.61343200  
C 4.20864400 -1.23279600 1.50561600  
H 4.10933800 -0.95625400 2.56205800  
H 4.79050400 -2.15272300 1.43203500  
H 4.74506600 -0.42856000 0.98809700  
N 2.89906500 -1.44168200 0.90714300  
H -0.54839800 -2.09693800 -0.69834200

### NiBr(pyr)

Zero-point correction= 0.160253 (Hartree/Particle)  
Thermal correction to Energy= 0.172550  
Thermal correction to Enthalpy= 0.173494  
Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy= 0.117685  
Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies= -4575.184258  
Sum of electronic and thermal Energies= -4575.171961  
Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies= -4575.171017  
Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies= -4575.226827

Single point energy (electronic) = -4577.4855185 (nitromethane)

C -3.58462900 -2.57578300 -2.50220000  
C -2.60659000 -0.61698100 -1.68096000  
C -2.39007000 -0.12817200 -2.96041800  
C -2.79488900 -0.90867200 -4.05209700  
C -3.39517400 -2.13879600 -3.82019000  
C -4.19805000 -3.84235900 -2.10580600  
C -4.81154000 -5.16259900 -0.27107700  
C -5.30990100 -6.15420800 -1.09398400  
C -5.24873800 -5.97948400 -2.48722100  
C -4.68741700 -4.81227200 -2.98720400  
H -2.31603600 -0.05855400 -0.79635200  
H -1.91752200 0.83823700 -3.09967500  
H -2.64248300 -0.55836100 -5.06861400  
H -3.71510400 -2.75632800 -4.65246900  
H -4.83809700 -5.25445500 0.81020800  
H -5.73960300 -7.04980500 -0.65738000

Zero-point correction= 0.211984 (Hartree/Particle)  
Thermal correction to Energy= 0.222899  
Thermal correction to Enthalpy= 0.223843  
Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy= 0.174750  
Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies= -557.019146  
Sum of electronic and thermal Energies= -557.008231  
Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies= -557.007287  
Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies= -557.056380

Single point energy (electronic) = -556.948519 (nitromethane)

C -0.60909000 3.33114600 1.09959500  
C -0.04854800 4.47229500 1.69871200  
C 1.25723300 4.40094000 2.19309700  
C 1.9902300 3.22626600 2.09933400  
C 1.47574900 2.04591600 1.50190500  
C 0.17061700 2.20321000 1.03628700  
H -1.62210000 3.34884300 0.70375300  
H -0.62408600 5.39137400 1.77384300  
H 1.70583900 5.27459400 2.65940800  
H 3.01424500 3.19878000 2.49267700  
C 2.30057900 0.85214200 1.43428500  
H 3.28416800 0.97922000 1.86942000  
C 1.97060800 -0.36978000 0.89342700  
C 0.69890300 -0.68524800 0.27756600  
C 0.42142500 -1.90876700 -0.24607900

H	-0.03686300	0.11141000	0.25072800
C	2.59966300	-2.66990100	0.37172500
C	1.40170000	-2.95098200	-0.20467700
H	3.39454100	-3.40410600	0.44331900
H	1.21196300	-3.93600100	-0.61343200
C	4.20864400	-1.23279600	1.50561600
H	4.10933800	-0.95625400	2.56205800
H	4.79050400	-2.15272300	1.43203500
H	4.74506600	-0.42856000	0.98809700
N	2.89906500	-1.44168200	0.90714300
H	-0.54839800	-2.09693800	-0.69834200

C	1.07922200	-0.78021300	-0.39624100
C	0.91521400	-1.77018200	-1.32703600
H	-0.11165300	0.15330600	-0.96777600
C	2.99219900	-2.79516700	-0.72463200
C	1.90385500	-2.78696400	-1.53714300
H	3.74022700	-3.58071500	-0.74719900
H	1.76048800	-3.57368700	-2.26874200
C	4.43617400	-1.83372900	0.98661200
H	4.21616800	-1.53266400	2.01588200
H	4.83837900	-2.84927700	0.98915100
H	5.19691800	-1.15103000	0.58393800
N	3.21645600	-1.80173400	0.19558800
C	-2.44620100	-0.89243400	1.97097800
C	-1.55681600	-2.49808600	0.56551300
C	-3.54153100	-1.71081600	2.26156600
C	-2.60405200	-3.37690000	0.82295300
H	-0.74853900	-2.77057000	-0.09925100
C	-3.62618200	-2.96904700	1.67615400
H	-4.32188800	-1.36833000	2.93088800
H	-2.61345000	-4.35358400	0.35097600
H	-4.47135900	-3.61730900	1.88747800
C	-2.21866800	0.41922900	2.59776000
C	2.99190500	0.91832500	3.64948000
C	-2.64543000	2.12931700	4.23830400
H	-3.84508700	0.35953400	4.01520700
C	-0.80332900	2.25481500	2.70814400
C	-1.52087900	2.80212700	3.76631900
H	-3.23460300	2.52991600	5.05787500
H	0.06916900	2.75015200	2.30579200
H	-1.19462900	3.73996600	4.20295700
N	-1.47326400	-1.27509100	1.10792400
N	-1.14484200	1.09609500	2.11412600
Ni	-0.24224500	0.25441000	0.56788800
H	-0.00349000	-1.79938500	-1.90904600
Br	-1.79120500	0.39541100	-1.81798200

## B1-(cyclized product)

Zero-point correction= 0.214022 (Hartree/Particle)  
 Thermal correction to Energy= 0.224968  
 Thermal correction to Enthalpy= 0.225912  
 Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy= 0.177057  
 Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies= -557.088423  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Energies= -557.077477  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies= -557.076532  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies= -557.125388  
 Single point energy (electronic) = -557.0214977 (nitromethane)

C	-1.41841800	-4.67019200	1.59288300
C	-0.09480500	-2.39921800	2.62287200
C	-1.50402800	-4.26686600	3.05723100
H	-2.25093200	-4.15682700	1.06689200
H	0.26951300	-1.44583700	2.98389800
C	0.41194300	-3.02328500	1.47842200
H	1.25388300	-2.54830400	0.98178400
N	-1.05568500	-3.01378100	3.41974000
C	-1.24654400	-2.56928400	4.79214400
H	-1.01087400	-1.50483400	4.86348800
H	-2.29035300	-2.71961200	5.08333300
H	-0.60341400	-3.12396000	5.49005400
C	-2.18255500	-6.45270200	2.97324700
C	-2.62830400	-7.74225800	3.27852300
C	-1.77914600	-6.14052500	1.65160100
C	-2.65685100	-8.70570900	2.26530500
H	-2.94259400	-7.99671900	4.28788800
C	-1.82082000	-7.09630200	0.64923500
C	-2.25610100	-8.39284800	0.96340800
H	-2.99595000	-9.71292500	2.49473500
H	-1.51697600	-6.85357200	-0.36685400
H	-2.28221300	-9.15591600	0.19025900
C	-0.12538300	-4.19619200	0.98513900
H	0.29739100	-4.70722100	0.12651500
C	-2.00035900	-5.27945000	3.82075100
H	-2.16722500	-5.26311100	4.89147700

## B'-TS-HBr

Zero-point correction= 0.372831 (Hartree/Particle)  
 Thermal correction to Energy= 0.397340  
 Thermal correction to Enthalpy= 0.398284  
 Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy= 0.316910  
 Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies= -5132.246753  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Energies= -5132.222244  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies= -5132.221300  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies= -5132.302674

Single point energy (electronic) = -5134.466805 (nitromethane)

C	0.78829300	2.81062400	-0.64195500
C	1.57157200	3.96892300	-0.54283600
C	2.83319500	3.89118700	0.05138000
C	3.33183600	2.65543200	0.45722500
C	2.57593300	1.47442300	0.30142100
C	1.23595800	1.57485400	-0.15918700
H	-0.20425500	2.88187400	-1.08477900
H	1.19153600	4.91815900	-0.91364700
H	3.44445800	4.78418300	0.16250200
H	4.34528700	2.58494400	0.84964200
C	3.22258100	0.17798200	0.44569700
H	4.23672300	0.16678500	0.83040800
C	2.70770700	-0.90454400	-0.22218200
C	1.36583900	-0.87268900	-0.81261300
C	1.11823000	-1.69105700	-1.87933300
H	-0.69835900	0.44286000	-1.24725600
C	3.15885600	-2.90562400	-1.50521200
C	2.05584600	-2.71040500	-2.27379400
H	3.86047800	-3.71640000	-1.67062400
H	1.85350100	-3.37239200	-3.10876300
C	4.71330800	-2.25657500	0.26716400
H	4.55484300	-2.11149900	1.34090800
H	5.08884100	-3.26805700	0.09567200
H	5.46988300	-1.53300100	-0.06769200
N	3.45872100	-2.07966100	-0.44321100
C	-2.08679700	-1.10910300	1.52328400
C	-0.91680000	-2.72188800	0.34362500
C	-3.05732700	-2.04358800	1.89257600
C	-1.83796700	-3.70914200	0.68190400

Zero-point correction= 0.372598 (Hartree/Particle)  
 Thermal correction to Energy= 0.396743  
 Thermal correction to Enthalpy= 0.397688  
 Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy= 0.317244  
 Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies= -5132.232586  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Energies= -5132.208440  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies= -5132.207496  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies= -5132.287940

Single point energy (electronic) = -5134.4538916 (nitromethane)

C	0.21610400	2.98074100	-0.19229500
C	0.92218200	4.18972400	-0.15615200
C	2.23769200	4.20375600	0.31550800
C	2.85644700	3.01020500	0.67938300
C	2.16601000	1.78075700	0.60743800
C	0.80096300	1.79165400	0.25175000
H	-0.80757400	2.96454500	-0.55861600
H	0.44445300	5.10933400	-0.48587800
H	2.79236700	5.13798600	0.36731700
H	3.90278600	3.01176000	0.98110600
C	2.88125700	0.52750500	0.77088900
H	3.89835500	0.58312300	1.14184400
C	2.40622800	-0.63543200	0.22788000

H -0.05655000 -2.94295900 -0.27533800  
 C -2.93595500 -3.36144700 1.46343700  
 H -3.90068400 -1.74789900 2.50515400  
 H -1.69054300 -4.72413200 0.32828400  
 H -3.68317300 -4.09939600 1.73992900  
 C -2.09083100 0.29392100 1.97583600  
 C -3.02884500 0.81496100 2.87010000  
 C -2.91381800 2.13742700 3.28721800  
 H -3.83638500 0.19671800 3.24393600  
 C -0.95802000 2.31446800 1.91204300  
 C -1.85303500 2.89832700 2.80542100  
 H -3.63550500 2.55805000 3.98125700  
 H -0.12623800 2.87208100 1.50174700  
 H -1.71062900 3.93059100 3.10701000  
 N -1.03167300 -1.44418900 0.73867200  
 N -1.07107700 1.04495800 1.48876700  
 Ni 0.12752000 0.10830700 0.17598300  
 H 0.16878200 -1.62355300 -2.40820700  
 Br -1.99405500 0.58620800 -2.12471300

Ni -0.07576600 0.08931500 0.07340200  
 H 0.23402700 -0.77216600 -2.95147300  
 Br -2.53936600 0.53224300 -1.93993200

### B'-TSa

Zero-point correction= 0.373924 (Hartree/Particle)  
 Thermal correction to Energy= 0.398650  
 Thermal correction to Enthalpy= 0.399594  
 Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy= 0.317062  
 Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies= -5132.224297  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Energies= -5132.199571  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies= -5132.198627  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies= -5132.281159

Single point energy (electronic) = -5134.442664 (nitromethane)

C -3.27581300 -1.69922100 -1.76993700  
 C -2.02332700 -1.94087900 0.20312700  
 C -0.82860800 -1.91990800 -0.48754000  
 C -0.86197200 -1.76177400 -1.89048900  
 C -2.08668100 -1.65452500 -2.52328400  
 C -4.61594500 -1.64363900 -2.31629200  
 C -6.89892300 -1.76865800 -1.78747800  
 C -7.26840400 -1.66086400 -3.11370900  
 C -6.25608300 -1.52270300 -4.08645900  
 C -4.93405900 -1.51629700 -3.68304000  
 H -2.05216300 -2.06395400 1.28241200  
 H 0.10970100 -2.03114000 0.04586000  
 H 0.05822300 -1.73587500 -2.46644400  
 H -2.13431600 -1.54684600 -3.60202600  
 H -7.63706000 -1.88605600 -0.99909400  
 H -8.31699900 -1.69057500 -3.39041000  
 H -6.50938500 -1.43014000 -5.13838800  
 H -4.14071100 -1.41894700 -4.41693700  
 N -3.23181000 -1.82340400 -0.39664000  
 N -5.61167300 -1.75456400 -1.37331700  
 Ni -4.99141100 -1.77500500 0.48759300  
 C -7.90003300 0.25111400 4.12134300  
 C -6.76899200 0.23655900 3.34024500  
 C -6.74909800 0.19086000 1.94648100  
 C -8.00167500 0.24958300 1.30933000  
 C -9.17609000 0.32834700 2.06188900  
 C -9.13798000 0.32669100 3.45841500  
 H -7.85098400 0.24395700 5.20782200  
 H -8.05369900 0.22933300 0.22223100  
 H -10.13399200 0.37993600 1.55072400  
 H -10.05856300 0.39277300 4.03337900  
 Br -5.64838100 -3.33250100 2.10725400  
 C -5.44177700 0.13727300 1.25169800  
 H -5.39192400 0.71539600 0.33158900  
 C -4.37156200 0.25719100 2.16801300  
 C -4.54385600 -0.28589600 3.50490000  
 C -3.64359200 0.05845400 4.50907300  
 H -5.10326500 -1.21477300 3.58119300  
 C -2.34398900 1.30668600 2.92771300  
 C -2.54960600 0.90125000 4.22121300  
 H -3.74943300 -0.37719000 5.49796300  
 H -1.48725600 1.89522400 2.62390400  
 H -1.82784500 1.17467400 4.98270700  
 N -3.22741100 0.99084600 1.92139000  
 C -3.02356700 1.57311800 0.59319800  
 H -2.02963300 2.01963100 0.54984600  
 H -3.09962400 0.79708900 -0.17023500  
 H -3.77640900 2.34498200 0.39907800

### C-syn-RE

Zero-point correction= 0.374200 (Hartree/Particle)  
 Thermal correction to Energy= 0.398159  
 Thermal correction to Enthalpy= 0.399103  
 Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy= 0.319188  
 Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies= -5132.278609  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Energies= -5132.254650  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies= -5132.253706  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies= -5132.333622

### B'-TS-RE

Zero-point correction= 0.374609 (Hartree/Particle)  
 Thermal correction to Energy= 0.398532  
 Thermal correction to Enthalpy= 0.399476  
 Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy= 0.319008  
 Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies= -5131.833760  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Energies= -5131.809837  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies= -5131.808893  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies= -5131.889361

Single point energy (electronic) = -5134.4517488 (nitromethane)

C 0.77586900 2.46274600 -1.31655100  
 C 1.40621000 3.69142200 -1.11257900  
 C 2.47656900 3.79822800 -0.19818200  
 C 2.96905100 2.66406700 0.44715600  
 C 2.38912700 1.40190400 0.20110300  
 C 1.19038900 1.31453600 -0.59762600  
 H -0.07730500 2.39254800 -1.98465400  
 H 1.06019800 4.57144400 -1.64711700  
 H 2.94470400 4.76334900 -0.02576300  
 H 3.84231900 2.73715800 1.09097600  
 C 3.00489400 0.12354200 0.48489200  
 H 3.91698100 0.03451700 1.060666800  
 C 2.49624800 -0.85467700 -0.34936300  
 C 1.25924400 -0.47448000 -1.08230500  
 C 1.05538100 -1.08974900 -2.31702800  
 H -1.09160400 0.30926600 -1.05113700  
 C 2.78897100 -2.72167600 -1.83880900  
 C 1.84146500 -2.21278200 -2.69861800  
 H 3.34247600 -3.63067900 -2.03472800  
 H 1.64579400 -2.72661600 -3.63256200  
 C 4.19999600 -2.54633600 1.8291600  
 H 3.89938300 -2.54095300 1.23470800  
 H 4.47259400 -3.56195200 -0.10873400  
 H 5.07280700 -1.89169500 0.06721000  
 N 3.08983600 -2.07763900 -0.65180500  
 C -2.03390700 -1.17456600 1.69164700  
 C -1.08214500 -2.69457800 0.17399000  
 C -2.88431900 -2.16712700 2.18913700  
 C -1.90671400 -3.72431200 0.62756500  
 H -0.37518700 -2.83379300 -0.63503200  
 C -2.81678700 -3.45671800 1.65545300  
 H -3.60013700 -1.93903800 2.96903700  
 H -1.84051700 -4.70786300 0.17837600  
 H -3.47328300 -4.23517500 2.02788000  
 C -2.04389400 0.23738700 2.12305700  
 C -2.87269500 0.76488500 3.11825700  
 C -2.81994000 2.13443400 3.39345000  
 H -3.55422600 0.12654100 3.66681300  
 C -1.13586300 2.36065600 1.68935800  
 C -1.94444000 2.94618000 2.66518800  
 H -3.45835000 2.56023500 4.15956500  
 H -0.44634200 2.93702800 1.08464900  
 H -1.88861800 4.01313500 2.84369300  
 N -1.13112200 -1.45374100 0.70394300  
 N -1.17701300 1.03609800 1.43455300

Single point energy (electronic) = -5134.5031565 (nitromethane)

C	-2.99373900	-3.04204700	-2.36245200	H	-7.10623900	-5.44522200	0.19099100
C	-1.37845200	-1.53927800	-1.60294900	H	-6.58839800	-6.45632300	-2.05434400
C	-1.31643700	-0.90869600	-2.83556200	N	-4.75016000	-5.46472300	-3.41325200
C	-2.13411900	-1.37192300	-3.87188000	N	-2.52328100	-2.38744300	-1.84995900
C	-2.98501200	-2.44083800	-3.62747800	Ni	-4.56092000	-3.43506400	-0.71171100
C	-3.87238900	-4.14656500	-1.96641600	C	-3.08740200	-2.27632500	-0.04410700
C	-4.57332700	-5.45600100	-0.17361200	C	-0.39537800	-3.14907800	0.60085000
C	-5.45333100	-6.16659700	-0.97687400	C	0.58010600	-0.62815800	-0.09638800
C	-5.53804800	-5.84590300	-2.33547700	C	0.58112700	-2.96856500	-0.54558400
C	-4.73814100	-4.82464700	-2.83217900	H	0.22253100	-3.20968000	1.51562600
H	-0.79438700	-1.19984200	-0.75600000	H	1.12882000	0.29991000	-0.22278100
H	-0.64965300	-0.06457600	-2.97623500	Br	-4.24924600	-1.51578900	1.79636300
H	-2.11730900	-0.89619500	-4.84777400	C	-0.60261400	-0.69229800	0.55575700
H	-3.65205100	-2.79774600	-4.40409400	H	-1.00766800	0.23081800	0.96203400
H	-4.47372600	-5.67299500	0.88352900	N	1.21389400	-1.75253200	-0.66564000
H	-6.05895900	-6.95556100	-0.54340700	C	2.22409300	-1.57395600	-1.69007800
H	-6.21498200	-6.38274500	-2.99306800	H	2.74452600	-0.62645100	-1.52706100
H	-4.78111500	-4.55875600	-3.88276700	H	2.95378200	-2.38822200	-1.63204600
N	-2.17458600	-2.59951100	-1.36760900	H	1.79449700	-1.57003600	-2.70510900
N	-3.78953300	-4.46522300	-0.64395300	C	-0.24884200	-5.09038300	-0.77426100
Ni	-2.49355700	-3.37730200	0.35240000	C	-0.53726400	-6.39365700	-1.19248100
C	-1.35635900	-4.48949300	1.73926800	C	-0.94435200	-4.53271600	0.32810000
C	-0.29441400	-2.14654600	2.87878600	C	1.51532800	-7.12384600	-0.50859100
C	-1.37342800	-4.24288300	3.21597600	H	-0.00812300	-6.83725600	-2.03305300
H	-2.83917800	-4.01484300	1.61587700	C	-1.90203200	-5.26850600	1.01224600
H	0.02455900	-1.22692900	3.35422000	C	-2.19456200	-6.57229100	0.58196700
Br	-3.50558100	-1.41750900	1.36244500	H	-1.74530700	-8.13811600	-0.82717500
C	0.00871600	-2.44476000	1.58723600	H	-2.42689900	-4.83907200	1.86269000
H	0.62261500	-1.74950400	1.02527300	H	-2.94753700	-7.15690600	1.10387900
N	-1.01027800	-3.00381200	3.68985400	C	-1.34951400	-1.94831900	0.80138500
C	-1.19298600	-2.71846800	5.10466300	H	-1.65492800	-1.94455500	1.84933800
H	-0.94671700	-1.67312200	5.29724800	C	0.68636300	-4.09997800	-1.29763200
H	-2.23726000	-2.89336200	5.38146000	H	1.31873500	-4.24796700	-2.16555500
H	-0.55013400	-3.36073900	5.72154300				
C	-1.78742200	-6.46550100	2.92337100				
C	-2.02878300	-7.83701300	3.09186800				
C	-1.51949300	-5.95830800	1.61956500				
C	-1.98508500	-8.67700200	1.97983200				
H	-2.23553700	-8.24259900	4.07933500				
C	-1.49004200	-6.80483600	0.51508600				
C	-1.71258900	-8.17226000	0.69948400				
H	-2.16439100	-9.74193300	2.10744200				
H	-1.29719500	-6.40994600	-0.47984000				
H	-1.67783400	-8.84567800	-0.15245200				
C	-0.56060900	-3.60080300	0.93726500				
H	-0.07309000	-3.98960600	0.04562800				
C	-1.70122000	-5.38909100	3.89021900				
H	-1.79029400	-5.50809600	4.96238300				

### C-anti

Zero-point correction=	0.379656 (Hartree/Particle)
Thermal correction to Energy=	0.403444
Thermal correction to Enthalpy=	0.404388
Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy=	0.325032
Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies=	-5132.301956
Sum of electronic and thermal Energies=	-5132.278169
Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies=	-5132.277225
Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies=	-5132.356581

Single point energy (electronic) = -5134.5337764 (nitromethane)

C	-3.23034800	-3.24239900	-2.64362000	C	-3.80282800	-2.52266100	-2.92429300
C	-1.63506800	-1.56705500	-2.44021900	C	-2.51688100	-0.59458800	-2.70714600
C	-1.37894500	-1.58905000	-3.80697700	C	-2.92978900	-0.12664000	-3.94925300
C	-2.05959200	-2.50102100	-4.61115800	C	-3.82006800	-0.89876900	-4.69854100
C	-3.00425700	-3.33200400	-4.01717200	C	-4.26757500	-2.10807400	-4.17706600
C	-4.29556500	-3.96024900	-1.93397900	C	-4.20882500	-3.76415300	-2.24479100
C	-5.55253100	-3.97491800	0.01724300	C	-3.95177000	-5.04833800	-0.32613000
C	-6.31069500	-5.05131100	-0.43303100	C	-4.91593800	-5.95671500	-0.74377600
C	-6.02692100	-5.60481300	-1.68142900	C	-5.53772800	-5.75665700	-1.97765100
C	-5.00470600	-5.04868300	-2.44465000	C	-5.18118100	-4.64379700	-2.73071500
H	-1.12109200	-0.88024700	-1.77809400	H	-1.861159400	-0.02401000	-2.05812800
H	-0.65314100	-0.89823800	-4.22369900	H	-2.56677500	0.82862100	-4.31396500
H	-1.87801800	-2.54980700	-5.68062000	H	-4.16623800	-0.56104800	-5.67091000
H	-3.58767100	-4.02112100	-4.61739500	H	-4.96791200	-2.71842200	-4.73637200
H	-5.72187100	-3.50081900	0.97823600	H	-3.44838200	-5.16740700	0.62606800
				H	-5.17121600	-6.79999400	-0.11062400
				H	-6.29321100	-6.44702000	-2.34026200
				H	-5.66257400	-4.45329500	-3.68338900
				N	-2.92910200	-1.77272100	-2.20836300
				N	-3.58222500	-3.97684400	-1.05304700
				Ni	-2.28111500	-2.58195600	-0.53039100
				C	-0.21795500	-3.09842500	1.64028100
				C	0.86910000	-3.04217100	-0.97182000
				C	1.26763300	-3.03328700	1.36293100
				H	-0.54551800	-2.05094500	1.74851200
				H	1.31008800	-2.90045300	-1.95268400
				Br	-2.29606600	-0.57637000	0.70895800
				C	-0.36428500	-3.64348600	-0.79613300
				H	-0.74168100	-4.21274400	-1.64338200
				N	1.68067700	-2.67465000	0.09055500
				C	3.08477300	-2.37609900	-0.14212100
				H	3.20324700	-1.94301200	-1.13828800

H 3.42968400 -1.65049600 0.60005100  
 H 3.71008800 -3.27784400 -0.06882700  
 C 1.07729400 -3.80828600 3.50388200  
 C 1.31489700 -4.28963300 4.79465700  
 C -0.25036100 -3.71537600 3.01485200  
 C 0.22697200 -4.68359900 5.57988800  
 H 2.32817200 -4.36273400 5.18313000  
 C -1.32536900 -4.09295300 3.80553200  
 C -1.08102900 -4.58972300 5.09425500  
 H 0.40127700 -5.06532400 6.58308500  
 H -2.34346000 -3.99703100 3.43468400  
 H -1.91374500 -4.89686300 5.72174800  
 C -1.02530700 -3.71680200 0.49353900  
 H -1.47337200 -4.68333600 0.73462800  
 C 1.99834800 -3.37304200 2.45848300  
 H 3.07904100 -3.38107700 2.54658600

### C-anti-TS

Zero-point correction= 0.374770 (Hartree/Particle)  
 Thermal correction to Energy= 0.399426  
 Thermal correction to Enthalpy= 0.400370  
 Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy= 0.315679  
 Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies= -5132.282079  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Energies= -5132.257423  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies= -5132.256479  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies= -5132.341170

Single point energy (electronic) = -5134.5167917 (nitromethane)

### C-syn-TS

Zero-point correction= 0.374635 (Hartree/Particle)  
 Thermal correction to Energy= 0.399323  
 Thermal correction to Enthalpy= 0.400267  
 Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy= 0.315847  
 Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies= -5132.802626  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Energies= -5132.255939  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies= -5132.254995  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies= -5132.339415  
 Single point energy (electronic) = -5134.5142473 (nitromethane)

C -3.43410600 -2.83626100 -2.57766700  
 C -1.99049800 -1.13341000 -1.87470900  
 C -1.66716400 -0.79750500 -3.17824200  
 C -2.26973000 -1.51428700 -4.22449300  
 C -3.15819800 -2.53455000 -3.91987700  
 C -4.33323100 -3.88944500 -2.11446300  
 C -5.23347000 -4.92346000 -0.21536500  
 C -5.94924300 -5.82070100 -0.98458300  
 C -5.85826800 -5.73876400 -2.38494200  
 C -5.04676700 -4.76376700 -2.94563000  
 H -1.57261400 -0.60139300 -1.02517000  
 H -0.96915200 0.00942400 -3.37442300  
 H -2.04787400 -1.27279500 -5.25965800  
 H -3.63853400 -3.09510800 -4.71455600  
 H -5.28406800 -4.93810900 0.86890200  
 H -6.56945900 -6.56883700 -0.50237300  
 H -6.41345600 -6.42360400 -3.01833600  
 H -4.96262900 -4.67825400 -4.02390000  
 N -2.84457600 -2.12955800 -1.56537400  
 N -4.43036100 -3.97023700 -0.74641800  
 Ni -3.50960900 -2.58644500 0.19680800  
 C -1.79602300 -4.43881700 1.82755600  
 C -0.62106100 -2.12127700 2.94459200  
 C -1.43826800 -4.32519900 3.29851000  
 H -2.85440000 -4.10298700 1.74376500  
 H -0.34895200 -1.17912000 3.40155400  
 Br -4.08688700 -1.23950100 1.93662600  
 C -0.45042500 -2.38055000 1.58244000  
 H 0.07911200 -1.63494300 0.99516800  
 N -1.12180400 -3.08417900 3.80546600  
 C -0.98494400 -2.91904400 5.24447700  
 H -0.94289200 -1.85387200 5.48138700  
 H -1.85327100 -3.35645800 5.74539300  
 H -0.07521100 -3.40673900 5.62203700  
 C -1.68033600 -6.56321800 2.88565500  
 C -1.73617800 -7.95726800 2.98004500  
 C -1.81436500 -5.93676300 1.62106600  
 C -1.91046500 -8.70860800 1.81349900  
 H -1.63674600 -8.45244300 3.94296700  
 C -1.99608600 -6.68658500 0.46967000  
 C -2.03610600 -8.08610300 0.56836600  
 H -1.94646100 -9.79349000 1.87714600  
 H -2.10092100 -6.20310500 -0.49890500  
 H -2.16413200 -8.68727200 -0.32778600  
 C -0.94401900 -3.52672900 0.98426200  
 H -0.71406200 -3.78453300 -0.04392200  
 C -1.44978400 -5.54595300 3.90356700  
 H -1.24491900 -5.75482500 4.94699900

### D (Ni(pry)HBr)

Zero-point correction= 0.169807 (Hartree/Particle)  
 Thermal correction to Energy= 0.181994  
 Thermal correction to Enthalpy= 0.182939  
 Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy= 0.129653  
 Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies= -4575.754681  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Energies= -4575.742494  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies= -4575.741550  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies= -4575.794835

Single point energy (electronic) = -4578.0625319 (nitromethane)

C	-3.31935500	-3.52772100	-2.09561400
C	-1.48895000	-2.10569600	-2.22972700
C	-1.28601500	-2.42718300	-3.56812900
C	-2.14490800	-3.33816100	-4.18237300
C	-3.17634800	-3.89681000	-3.43566400
C	-4.35610000	-4.03444000	-1.18877100
C	-5.18834000	-3.91038200	0.98562300
C	-6.18909900	-4.82803200	0.69745300
C	-6.27077900	-5.36660700	-0.58741400
C	-5.34019000	-4.96080100	-1.53759000
H	-0.85968000	-1.40415900	-1.69193800
H	-0.46794500	-1.96692400	-4.11202600
H	-2.01530400	-3.61031600	-5.22565500
H	-3.85869300	-4.60756500	-3.88818600
H	-5.08707000	-3.46810400	1.96659200
H	-6.89096300	-5.11196800	1.47451000
H	-7.04167000	-6.08654000	-0.84415600
H	-5.37628800	-5.36063600	-5.24461300
N	-2.48202400	-2.63911600	-1.50117000
N	-4.27672600	-3.50734900	0.07041000
Ni	-2.91799600	-2.29561200	0.37821200
H	-3.34112800	-2.11569100	1.76176100
Br	-1.25781400	-0.81503700	0.75430500

Single point energy (electronic) = -3131.5446423 (nitromethane)

C	1.50147400	-0.01500400	0.56781300
C	0.41407800	-2.49998700	1.22540300
C	1.53819600	-0.46849800	1.88782300
H	1.91581200	0.95074100	0.30066600
C	0.99473000	-1.70977700	2.21773900
H	-0.02091000	-3.46126300	1.48812200
H	1.98870600	0.15548900	2.65349000
H	1.01578200	-2.06145800	3.24432900
Br	0.87717200	-0.16607900	-2.21418000
C	0.36485700	-2.06983500	-0.10703800
C	0.91938400	-0.81782100	-0.40812600
C	0.68736900	-3.50542000	-2.17335000
C	1.91859500	-4.01429700	-1.75686100
C	2.79948500	-4.59512200	-2.66040200
H	2.17098000	-3.93322200	-0.70591200
C	1.22179900	-4.15561700	-4.39607400
C	2.44357400	-4.66330500	-4.01004700
H	3.75227400	-4.98831800	-2.32015700
H	0.88559800	-4.17394300	-5.42496700
H	3.09738400	-5.10148300	-4.75522400
C	-0.91505300	-3.04711000	-4.00818300
H	-0.92410500	-1.96881900	-3.83512800
H	-0.97725100	-3.24710100	-5.07657200
H	-1.75606200	-3.52508500	-3.50434200
N	0.36522600	-3.59818300	-3.49752600
C	-0.29470000	-2.92152900	-1.17374100
H	-1.05813700	-2.33094800	-1.68216200
H	-0.81550900	-3.76171100	-0.69449100

## D (product)

Zero-point correction=	0.204936 (Hartree/Particle)
Thermal correction to Energy=	0.215355
Thermal correction to Enthalpy=	0.216299
Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy=	0.169182
Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies=	-556.544883
Sum of electronic and thermal Energies=	-556.534464
Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies=	-556.533520
Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies=	-556.580637

Single point energy (electronic) = -556.4688763 (nitromethane)

C	-1.05342600	-4.15876700	1.58266800
C	-0.93901700	-2.20116900	3.54761100
C	-1.61404700	-4.40082400	2.91655700
H	-0.91815500	-1.46846100	4.34635300
C	-0.40847700	-1.95300400	2.30662800
H	0.04934400	-0.98992600	2.11325900
N	-1.53115200	-3.39231700	3.86079000
C	-2.08967700	-3.64011700	5.18317800
H	-1.94763200	-2.76124600	5.81420000
H	-3.15991800	-3.86063000	5.10055500
H	-1.59268700	-4.50236400	5.64184100
C	-1.96032700	-6.28552900	1.70749600
C	-2.31104000	-7.55848500	1.22942300
C	-1.28644000	-5.37264400	0.83260000
C	-1.99609600	-7.90285300	-0.08174900
H	-2.82272400	-8.26819100	1.87538000
C	-0.97800200	-5.73581400	-0.48272600
C	-1.33412100	-7.00214100	-0.93738500
H	-2.26652100	-8.88813200	-0.45434400
H	-0.46653300	-5.03957000	-1.14419600
H	-1.10125500	-7.29877300	-1.95638800
C	-0.46552500	-2.95436300	1.29768600
H	-0.04406200	-2.75383300	0.31587500
C	-2.15542800	-5.66398700	2.99804100
H	-2.63761300	-6.12331300	3.85087400

## A<sup>2</sup> (complex)

Zero-point correction=	0.391818 (Hartree/Particle)
Thermal correction to Energy=	0.416303
Thermal correction to Enthalpy=	0.417247
Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy=	0.335271
Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies=	-5132.661858
Sum of electronic and thermal Energies=	-5132.637373
Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies=	-5132.636429
Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies=	-5132.718405

Single point energy (electronic) = -5134.9437371 (nitromethane)

C	-2.48567200	2.43959000	1.23364100
C	-0.78058400	2.15404800	2.79156500
C	-1.47553100	2.88151400	3.75310600
C	-2.72934100	3.39627100	3.42702100
C	-3.24111700	3.17015100	2.15053000
C	-2.89392800	2.15134500	-0.15699300
C	-2.25006200	1.08617200	-2.12477000
C	-3.35377800	1.58624900	-2.80841000
C	-4.26407100	2.38775900	-2.12050600
C	-4.02367900	2.68208400	-0.77994700
H	0.19190600	1.72170900	2.99776200
H	-1.03849100	3.03551800	4.73380400
H	-3.30271300	3.96378700	4.15329100
H	-4.21801900	3.55396200	1.87913600
H	-1.48337600	0.49396200	-2.61303000
H	-3.48730500	1.35636300	-3.86022700
H	-5.13672900	2.79472300	-2.62171200
H	-4.69976600	3.33058200	-0.23444200
N	-1.26349800	1.93512200	1.55687600
N	-2.02863000	1.33710100	-0.82266700
Ni	-0.53471500	0.76043900	0.22316100
C	1.24721400	0.15507400	0.62620300
C	0.57075800	-2.53783800	1.10741200
C	1.70869100	-0.52662500	1.80001400
H	1.85807600	0.99762800	0.29559000
C	1.32483000	-1.81498700	2.07260300
H	0.26758000	-3.55878500	1.33643400
H	2.39085000	-0.01155500	2.47393200
H	1.63321200	-2.31015300	2.98830500
C	0.23183500	-2.00154300	-0.11835000
C	0.49387500	-0.60734100	-0.38693200
C	0.63032800	-3.50632700	-2.11167200
C	1.82148800	-4.03856600	-1.60831400
C	2.73809900	-4.66785100	-2.43615700

## A<sup>2</sup> (cationic substrate)

Zero-point correction=	0.231039 (Hartree/Particle)
Thermal correction to Energy=	0.244034
Thermal correction to Enthalpy=	0.244978
Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy=	0.189897
Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies=	-3129.226666
Sum of electronic and thermal Energies=	-3129.213671
Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies=	-3129.212727
Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies=	-3129.267808

H 2.01459600 -3.91854100 -0.54939500  
 C 1.28576900 -4.24437000 -4.27741200  
 C 2.46596100 -4.77011900 -3.80421900  
 H 3.65828300 -5.07128200 -2.02539800  
 H 1.01317800 -4.28034500 -5.32434500  
 H 3.15337700 -5.24527400 -4.49426300  
 C -0.81501600 -3.03787400 -4.05996900  
 H -0.74357900 -1.95616600 -3.92085800  
 H -0.82477100 -3.27704200 -5.12226900  
 H -1.71783100 -3.43500900 -3.59490800  
 N 0.38798900 -3.64410100 -3.44822800  
 Br 1.12527200 -0.35205700 -2.42986400  
 C -0.39957000 -2.88123700 -1.18001900  
 H -1.14135500 -2.31625900 -1.74308000  
 H -0.93216900 -3.71282600 -0.69610100

## A<sup>2</sup>-TS

Zero-point correction= 0.390368 (Hartree/Particle)  
 Thermal correction to Energy= 0.414892  
 Thermal correction to Enthalpy= 0.415836  
 Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy= 0.333231  
 Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies= -5132.649858  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Energies= -5132.625335  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies= -5132.624391  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies= -5132.706995

Single point energy (electronic) = -5134.933981 (nitromethane)

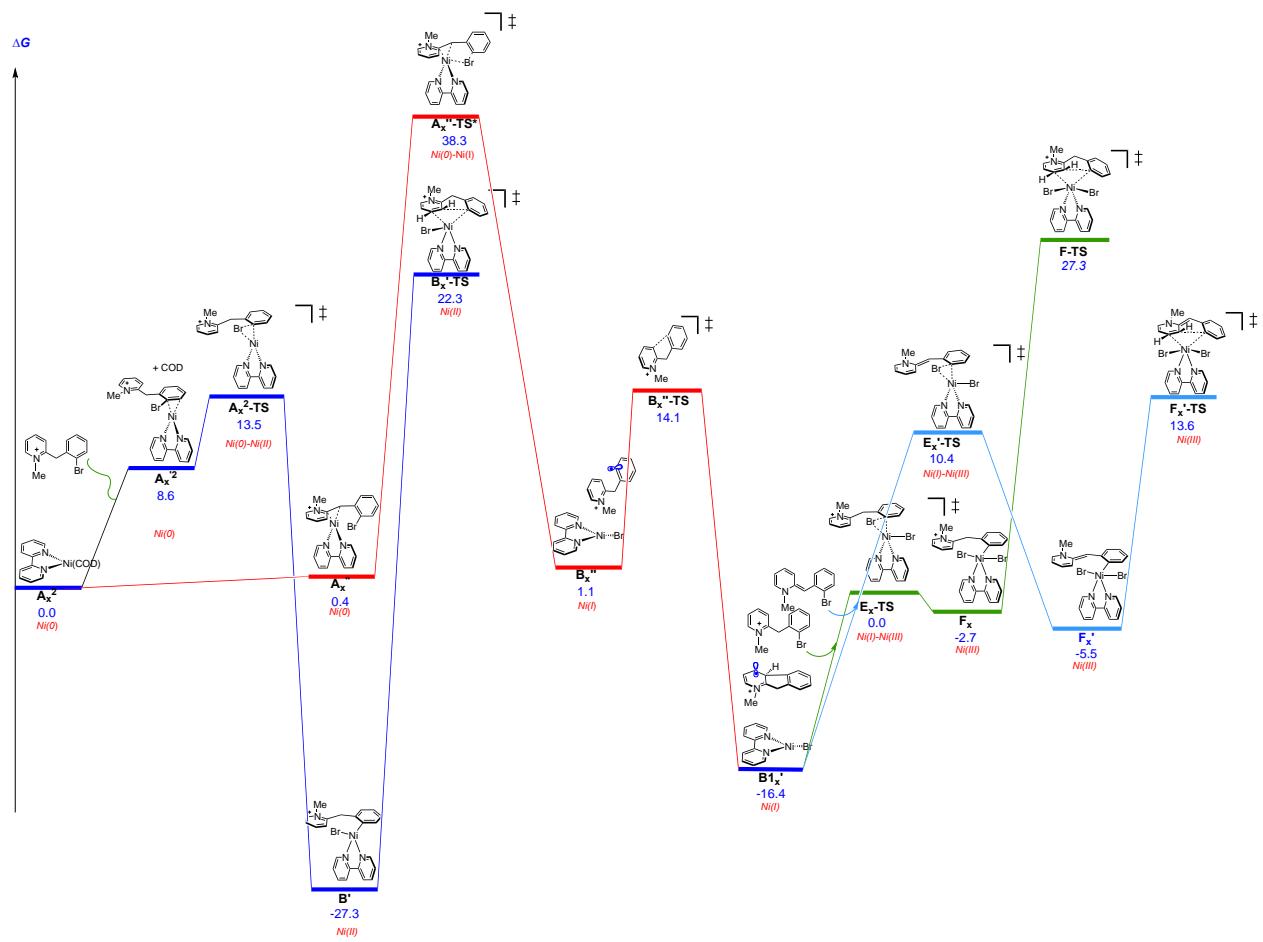
C 0.15903600 -0.00797500 0.05300200  
 C 0.09418800 0.34927300 2.35413500  
 C 1.48159300 0.35531300 2.44030200  
 C 2.22429600 0.18519400 1.27178100  
 C 1.55451700 0.00124600 0.06456200  
 C -0.67667200 -0.24311200 -1.14041500  
 C -2.86957900 -0.45680800 -1.89182600  
 C -2.44097200 -0.81040100 -3.16754900  
 C -0.17291200 -0.86709900 -3.42877400  
 C -0.17936500 -0.59511300 -2.39592700  
 H -0.52688200 0.48785600 3.23245100  
 H 1.96282100 0.49284300 3.40239500  
 H 3.30937400 0.19319900 1.29881900  
 H 2.11389000 -0.13108400 -0.85438500  
 H -3.91253800 -0.48606700 -1.59584400  
 H -3.17214400 -1.05057400 -3.93195400  
 H -0.70451500 -1.14331000 -4.41186900  
 H 0.88872100 -0.67462400 -2.56240300  
 N -0.55980000 0.17398300 1.19274800  
 N -2.01311900 -0.14684000 -0.90477600  
 Ni -2.44900700 0.41174500 0.87839300  
 C -3.59307100 1.04983000 2.49815200  
 C -5.14282100 3.20924300 1.66575800  
 C -3.84914300 2.11336900 3.38612100  
 H -3.26962500 0.09905400 2.92703300  
 C -4.60494400 3.19772200 2.96340300  
 H -5.74078400 4.06710300 1.35893600  
 H -3.53142500 2.04684800 4.42374500  
 H -4.82060800 4.01687200 3.64227600  
 Br -4.91960200 -1.39534100 0.64886800  
 C -4.90123800 2.17838100 0.75744900  
 C -4.05068600 1.12994500 1.14868100  
 C -7.01230100 2.03844800 -0.59322700  
 C -7.56515900 0.83672500 -0.13916000  
 C -8.94105100 0.671195200 -0.06445000  
 H -6.87807000 0.03689300 0.14931400  
 C -9.21373200 2.89500500 -0.88946200  
 C -9.78269900 1.72460100 -0.44204600  
 H -9.35444700 -0.26876100 0.28597700  
 H -9.80479700 3.74615600 -1.20237000  
 H -10.86271800 1.64358400 -0.39502300  
 C -7.34286500 4.33328500 -1.49043800  
 H -6.80360500 4.16693300 -2.42471300  
 H -8.18746100 4.99422000 -1.67888100  
 H -6.68314300 4.79873300 -0.75772300  
 N -7.85975600 3.04516900 -0.96708800  
 C -5.50847300 2.20984400 -0.64126500  
 H -5.10232000 1.37157200 -1.21311600  
 H -5.22360400 3.12178100 -1.17014300

## B<sup>2</sup>

Zero-point correction= 0.393276 (Hartree/Particle)  
 Thermal correction to Energy= 0.417712  
 Thermal correction to Enthalpy= 0.418657  
 Thermal correction to Gibbs Free Energy= 0.337125  
 Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies= -5132.732906  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Energies= -5132.708470  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Enthalpies= -5132.707526  
 Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies= -5132.789057

Single point energy (electronic) = -5135.0029377 (nitromethane)

C 0.17445300 -0.07849900 -0.17562400  
 C -0.02616400 -0.02825600 1.20564000  
 C 1.07121400 -0.02660000 2.06812900  
 C 2.35612300 -0.02680200 1.52736100  
 C 2.55385400 -0.02850400 0.13618200  
 C 1.45991700 -0.10463600 -0.74771900  
 H -0.70075900 -0.10820500 -0.82242700  
 H -1.03610300 -0.01014600 1.60722000  
 H 0.93052300 -0.02430900 3.14516300  
 H 3.21852400 -0.02101300 2.19335700  
 C 4.47385400 1.51958300 -0.49930500  
 C 4.01563900 2.53432700 0.34634600  
 C 4.54899300 3.81266300 0.29155100  
 H 3.21136900 2.29466200 1.02988600  
 C 5.99912600 3.08078000 -1.45169400  
 C 5.56312700 4.09421700 -0.62962600  
 H 6.77175000 3.22765900 -2.19551000  
 H 6.00601300 5.07959000 -0.71532200  
 C 5.94138800 0.82454700 -2.35849700  
 H 5.11875300 0.63613400 -3.05410100  
 H 6.79659000 1.23229500 -2.89557700  
 H 6.24044100 -0.09344300 -1.85224200  
 N 5.47832900 1.82608800 -1.37330400  
 Br 2.32512500 1.76136500 -2.89587400  
 C 0.67966600 -1.90258000 -4.81987200  
 C 1.11948500 0.26188600 -5.53338300  
 C 0.23868100 -2.26762400 -6.09287200  
 C 0.69593000 -0.03196100 -6.82636600  
 H 1.47989100 1.24626200 -5.25844800  
 C 0.24600600 -1.31859300 -7.11174500  
 H -0.11531900 -3.27296700 -6.28799600  
 H 0.71902700 0.74154300 -7.58634100  
 H -0.09733500 -1.58187400 -8.10740600  
 C 0.72086300 -2.81043900 -3.66324800  
 C 0.43977600 -4.17519900 -3.73512400  
 C 0.53357600 -4.95855600 -2.58902400  
 H 0.15868700 -4.62432700 -4.68015300  
 C 1.17550900 -2.98253100 -1.39092000  
 C 0.91398500 -4.34809100 -1.39690100  
 H 0.31825100 -6.02161500 -2.63039900  
 H 1.45968200 -2.47437900 -0.48032600  
 H 1.00700100 -4.91166500 -0.47496100  
 N 1.11573800 -0.64724100 -4.54341400  
 N 1.08177200 -2.20993200 -2.49265100  
 Ni 1.49437500 -0.34986000 -2.61754200  
 H 4.17554300 4.58780800 0.95329500  
 C 3.96694000 0.08930100 -0.40762200  
 H 4.67665300 -0.45798500 0.23374800  
 H 4.00622700 -0.37396200 -1.39403700



**Figure S1.** Cyclization Pathways Commencing from Cationic pyridine substrate.<sup>a</sup> [a] Free energies are given in kcal/mol for calculations with *UM06/6-311+G(d,p)-SMD-nitromethane//UB3LYP/6-31G(d)-gas*. \* Denotes that structure has geometric constraints about bond-breaking/forming.