

Support Information

**One-pot and catalyst-free synthesis of pyrroloquinolinediones
and quinolinedicarboxylates**

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1. General information

Chemicals and solvents were purchased from commercial suppliers and used as received. ¹H-NMR (400 MHz) and ¹³C-NMR spectra (101 MHz) were recorded on Agilent NMR spectrometers. Chemical shifts were reported in parts per million (ppm), and the residual solvent peak was used as an internal reference: proton (chloroform δ 7.26), carbon (chloroform δ 77.0). Multiplicity was indicated as follows: s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), m (multiplet), dd (doublet of doublet), br s (broad singlet). Coupling constants were reported in Hertz (Hz). LC-MS were performed on an Agilent 2100 LC with a 6130 quadrupole MS spectrometers. A C18 column (5.0 μm, 6.0 x 50 mm) was used for the separation. The mobile phases were MeOH and H₂O both containing 0.05% CF₃CO₂H. A linear gradient from 25:75 (v/v) MeOH/water to 100% MeOH over 7.0 min at a flow rate of 0.7 mL/min was used as a mobile phase. UV detections were conducted at 210 nm, 254 nm and 365 nm. Low resolution mass spectra were recorded in APCI (atmospheric pressure chemical ionization). Final products were purified on Angela HP-100 pre-LC system with a Venusil PrepG C₁₈ column (10 μm, 120 Å, 21.2 mm x 250 mm).

2. General procedure for one-pot synthesis of **1** and **2**

A solution of 2-azidebenzaldehyde **3** (1.0 mmol) and *N*-propylmaleimide **4** or dimethyl fumarate **8** (1.1 mmol) in 2.5 mL of CH₃CN was heated under microwaves at 115 °C for 35 min. The reaction mixture was concentrated and then recrystallized from 3:1 EtOH:H₂O or separated on a semi-prep HPLC with a C₁₈ column to afford purified products **1** or **2**.

3. Characterization of products **1** and **2**

*2-Methyl-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,4-*b*]quinoline-1,3(2*H*)-dione (**1a**):* white solid (89% yield). MP: 266-268 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.65 (s, 1H), 8.42 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (dd, J = 8.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (ddd, J = 8.5, 7.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.82 – 7.65 (m, 1H), 3.33 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.3, 166.1, 150.7, 150.6, 132.8, 132.5, 131.5, 129.9, 129.5, 128.7, 123.0, 24.5. APCIMS m/z: 212.1 (M⁺ + 1)

*2-Ethyl-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,4-*b*]quinoline-1,3(2*H*)-dione (**1b**):* white solid (93% yield). MP: 210-212 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.64 (s, 1H), 8.49 – 8.34 (m, 1H), 8.12 – 8.00 (m, 1H), 7.93 (ddd, J = 8.5, 7.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (ddd, J = 8.2, 7.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.35 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.1, 165.9, 150.7, 150.6, 132.7, 132.5, 131.5, 129.9, 129.5, 128.7, 123.0, 33.5, 13.8. APCIMS m/z: 226.1 (M⁺ + 1)

*2-propyl-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,4-*b*]quinoline-1,3(2*H*)-dione (**1c**):* white solid (90% yield). MP: 183-185 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.63 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 8.42 – 8.37 (m, 1H), 8.07 – 8.01 (m, 1H), 7.95 – 7.88 (m, 1H), 7.78 – 7.71 (m, 1H), 3.82 – 3.75 (m, 2H), 1.82 – 1.70 (m, 2H), 0.97 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.3, 166.1, 150.7, 150.5, 132.7, 132.6, 131.4, 129.9, 129.5, 128.7, 122.9, 40.1, 21.8, 11.3. APCIMS m/z:

240.1 ($M^+ + 1$)

*2-Cyclohexyl-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,4-*b*]quinoline-1,3(2*H*)-dione (1d):* white solid (93% yield). MP: 213–215 °C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.60 (d, $J = 0.5$ Hz, 1H), 8.40 (ddt, $J = 8.6, 1.3, 0.7$ Hz, 1H), 8.06 – 8.00 (m, 1H), 7.95 – 7.86 (m, 1H), 7.77 – 7.70 (m, 1H), 4.28 (tt, $J = 12.3, 3.9$ Hz, 1H), 2.28 (qd, $J = 12.4, 3.2$ Hz, 2H), 1.94 – 1.65 (m, 5H), 1.46 – 1.22 (m, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 166.2, 166.1, 150.8, 150.4, 132.6, 132.4, 131.4, 129.9, 129.4, 128.8, 122.8, 51.6, 29.7, 25.9, 25.0. APCIMS m/z: 280.1 ($M^+ + 1$)

*2-Benzyl-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,4-*b*]quinoline-1,3(2*H*)-dione (1e):* white solid (89% yield). MP: 248–251 °C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.62 (s, 1H), 8.40 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.03 (dd, $J = 8.2, 1.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.92 (ddd, $J = 8.5, 7.0, 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.74 (ddd, $J = 8.2, 7.0, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.49 (dt, $J = 3.6, 2.1$ Hz, 2H), 7.36 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 4.98 (s, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 165.8, 165.7, 150.8, 150.5, 135.8, 132.8, 132.7, 131.5, 129.9, 129.5, 128.8, 128.7, 128.0, 122.9, 42.1. APCIMS m/z: 288.1 ($M^+ + 1$)

*8-Bromo-2-ethyl-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,4-*b*]quinoline-1,3(2*H*)-dione (1f):* white solid (83% yield). MP: 172–175 °C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 9.08 (d, $J = 3.1$ Hz, 1H), 8.42 – 8.35 (m, 1H), 8.03 (dd, $J = 7.5, 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.83 – 7.73 (m, 1H), 3.92 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 1.40 – 1.32 (m, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 165.6, 165.4, 151.7, 151.2, 133.3, 132.8, 132.5, 132.3, 128.5, 124.1, 124.0, 33.5, 13.7. APCIMS m/z: 304.0 ($M^+ + 1$)

*7-Bromo-2-ethyl-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,4-*b*]quinoline-1,3(2*H*)-dione (1g):* white solid (93% yield). MP: 287–289 °C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.54 (s, 1H), 8.27 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.21 (d, $J = 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.99 (dd, $J = 9.0, 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.90 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 1.39 – 1.29 (m, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 165.7, 165.3, 150.8, 149.3, 136.2, 132.8, 131.8, 131.3, 129.8, 124.0, 123.8, 33.7, 13.8. APCIMS m/z: 304.0 ($M^+ + 1$)

*2-Benzyl-7-bromo-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,4-*b*]quinoline-1,3(2*H*)-dione (1h):* white solid (92% yield). MP: 281–283 °C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.56 – 8.52 (m, 1H), 8.27 (d, $J = 9.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.21 (d, $J = 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.99 (dd, $J = 9.0, 2.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.36 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 4.99 (s, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 165.5, 165.2, 150.6, 149.4, 136.3, 135.6, 132.8, 131.8, 131.5, 130.5, 129.8, 129.6, 128.9, 128.8, 128.1, 124.1, 123.7, 42.2. APCIMS m/z: 366.0 ($M^+ + 1$)

*7-Chloro-2-ethyl-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,4-*b*]quinoline-1,3(2*H*)-dione (1i):* white solid (89% yield). MP: 276–278 °C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.56 – 8.54 (m, 1H), 8.37 – 8.31 (m, 1H), 8.05 – 8.01 (m, 1H), 7.89 – 7.83 (m, 1H), 3.89 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 1.34 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 166.1, 165.6, 150.6, 148.9, 135.8, 133.6, 132.8, 131.4, 129.4, 128.4, 123.8, 24.2. APCIMS m/z: 260.1 ($M^+ + 1$)

*7-Propyl-6*H*-[1,3]dioxolo[4,5-*g*]pyrrolo[3,4-*b*]quinoline-6,8(7*H*)-dione (1j):* white solid (81% yield). MP: 201–203 °C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.38 (s, 1H), 7.65 – 7.62 (m, 1H), 7.26 – 7.22 (m, 1H), 6.22 (d, $J = 1.4$ Hz, 2H), 3.77 – 3.71 (m, 2H), 1.79 – 1.68 (m, 2H), 0.96 (td, $J = 7.4, 1.3$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 166.7, 166.6, 153.3, 150.3, 149.9, 148.8, 130.4, 126.7, 121.9, 107.6, 104.6, 102.8, 39.9, 21.9, 11.3. APCIMS m/z: 284.1

$(M^+ + 1)$

7-Ethyl-6H-[1,3]dioxolo[4,5-g]pyrrolo[3,4-b]quinoline-6,8(7H)-dione (1k): white solid (85% yield). MP: 273-276 °C. 1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.40 – 8.38 (m, 1H), 7.65 (s, 1H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 6.22 (s, 2H), 3.85 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.32 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.5, 166.4, 153.3, 150.3, 149.9, 148.9, 130.4, 126.7, 122.0, 107.7, 104.6, 102.8, 33.3, 13.9. APCIMS m/z: 270.1 (M⁺ + 1)

2-Ethyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1H-pyrrolo[3,4-b]quinoline-1,3(2H)-dione (1l): white solid (75% yield). MP: 180-182 °C. 1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.71 (s, 1H), 8.32 – 8.22 (m, 2H), 7.87 – 7.79 (m, 1H), 3.91 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.34 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.2, 164.4, 151.3, 147.3, 133.9, 132.6, 132.4, 129.1, 128.4, 124.6, 123.8, 121.9, 33.8, 13.8. ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -59.9. APCIMS m/z: 294.1 (M⁺ + 1)

Dimethyl 7-methoxyquinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (2a): white solid (83% yield). MP: 132-134 °C. 1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.68 (dd, J = 3.6, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.83 – 7.74 (m, 1H), 7.50 (t, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (tdd, J = 6.5, 4.5, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 4.04 (ddd, J = 3.6, 1.9, 0.8 Hz, 3H), 3.98 – 3.91 (m, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.4, 165.6, 163.2, 151.2, 150.3, 139.1, 129.7, 122.2, 119.7, 107.5, 55.8, 53.2, 52.7. APCIMS m/z: 275.1 (M⁺ + 1)

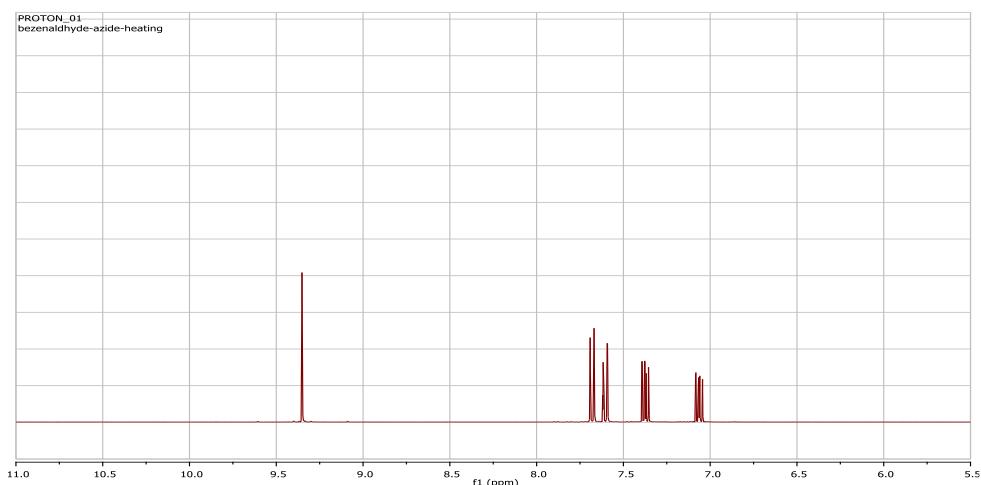
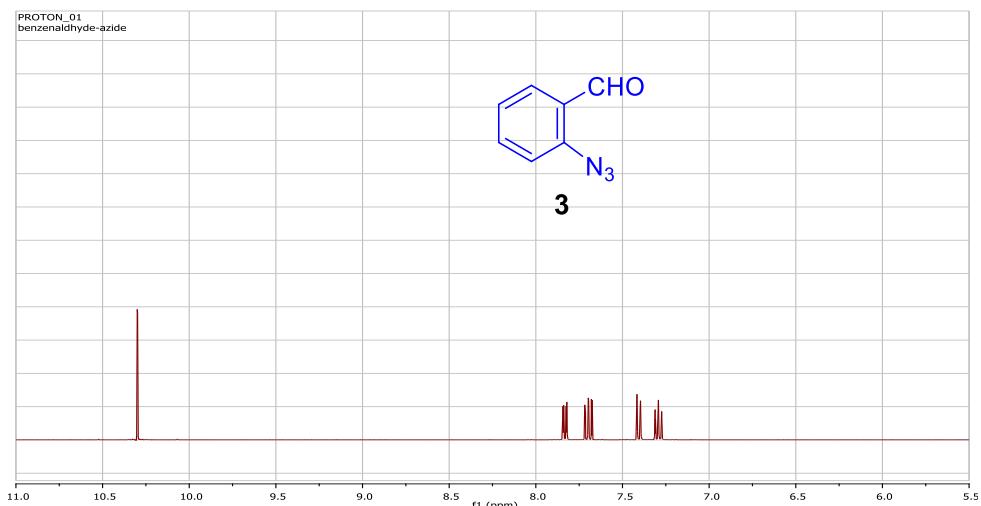
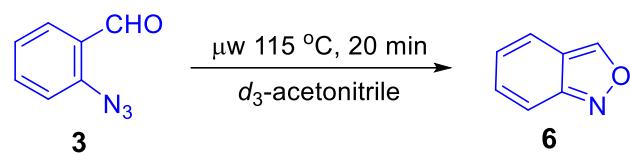
Dimethyl [1,3]dioxolo[4,5-g]quinoline-6,7-dicarboxylate (2b): white solid (75% yield). MP: 178-179 °C.² 1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.50 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (s, 1H), 7.11 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 6.20 – 6.10 (m, 2H), 4.03 – 3.99 (m, 3H), 3.95 – 3.91 (m, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.3, 165.8, 153.2, 149.6, 148.5, 147.0, 137.5, 124.7, 120.8, 106.1, 103.2, 102.5, 53.1, 52.8. APCIMS m/z: 289.0 (M⁺ + 1)

Dimethyl quinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (2c): white solid (89% yield). MP: 107-108 °C.³ 1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.76 (d, J = 0.5 Hz, 1H), 8.23 – 8.17 (m, 1H), 7.96 – 7.90 (m, 1H), 7.89 – 7.82 (m, 1H), 7.70 – 7.63 (m, 1H), 4.05 (s, 3H), 3.97 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.11, 165.5, 150.5, 148.0, 139.5, 132.4, 129.8, 128.7, 128.6, 127.0, 122.3, 53.2, 52.9. APCIMS m/z: 245.1 (M⁺ + 1)

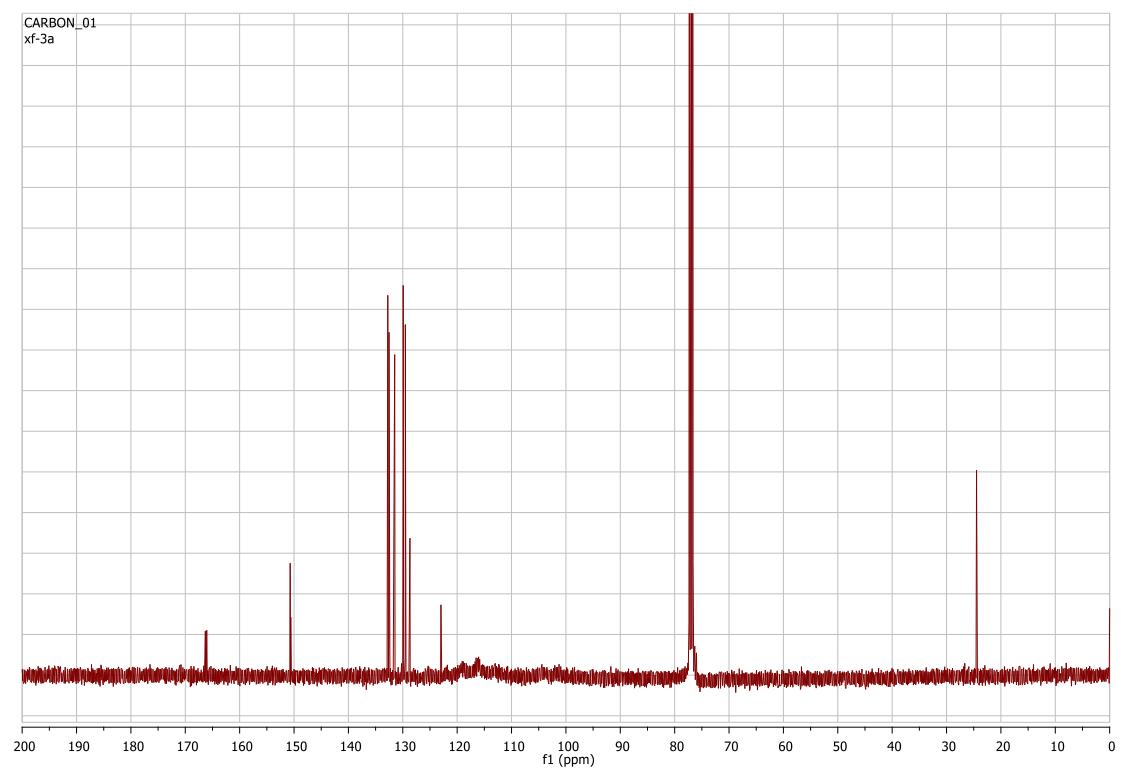
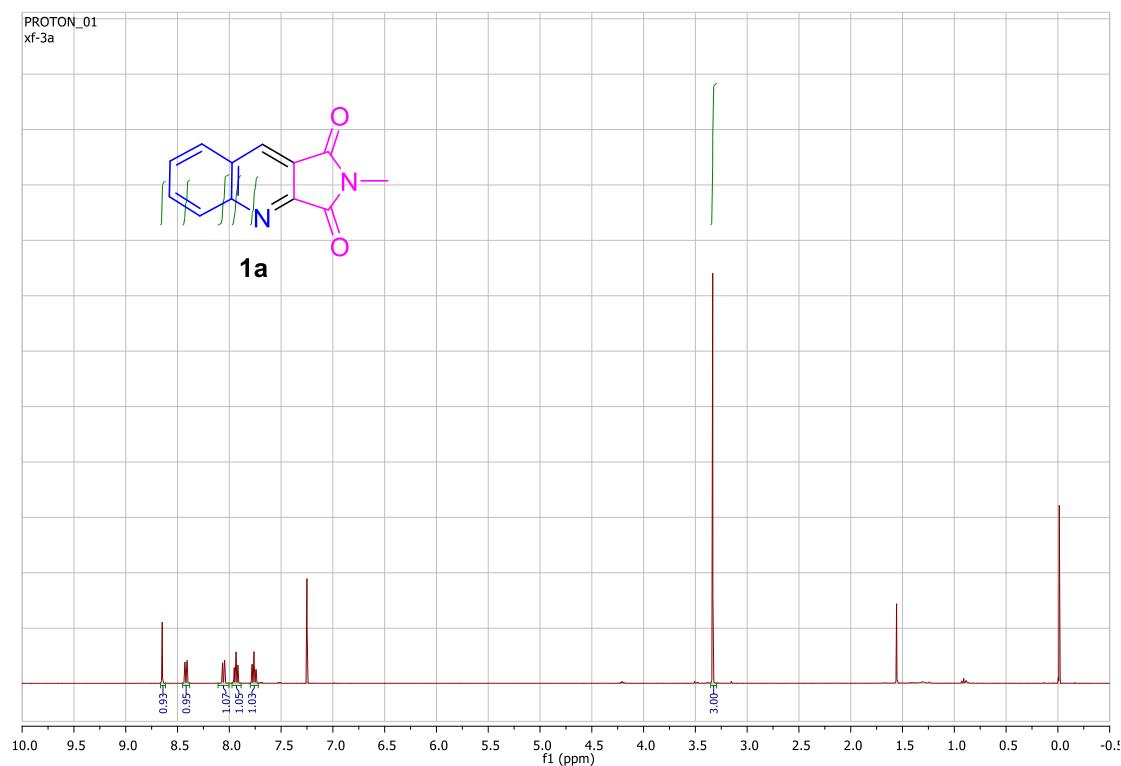
Dimethyl 6-bromoquinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (2d): white solid (90% yield). MP: 156-158 °C.⁴ 1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.67 (s, 1H), 8.09 (dd, J = 9.9, 5.6 Hz, 2H), 7.93 (dd, J = 9.0, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 4.05 (s, 3H), 3.99 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.8, 165.2, 150.7, 146.6, 138.3, 135.9, 131.4, 130.5, 128.1, 123.3, 123.0, 53.3, 53.0. APCIMS m/z: 323.0 (M⁺ + 1)

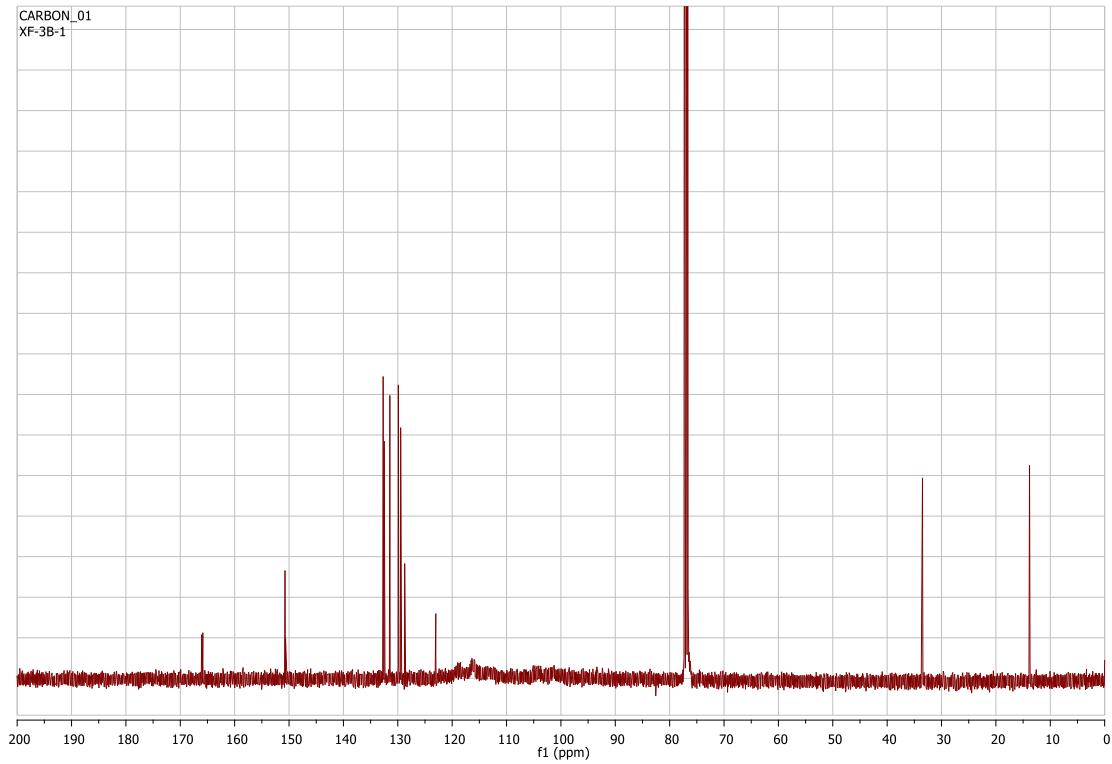
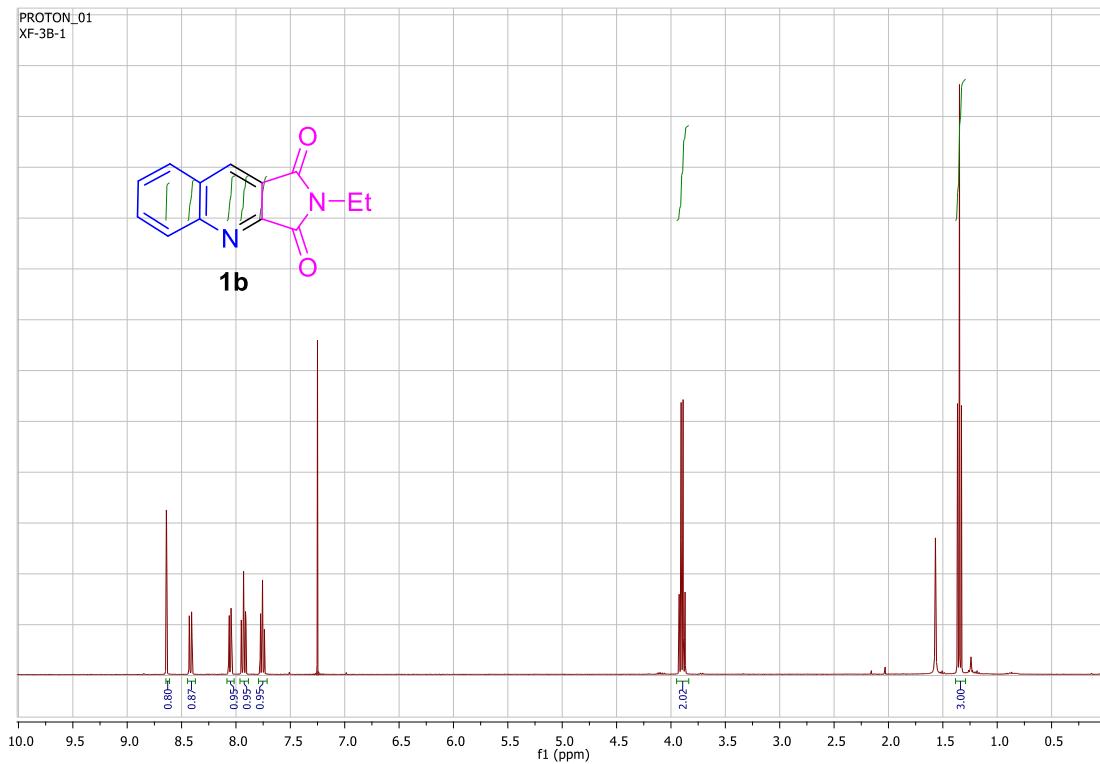
Dimethyl 6-chloroquinoline-2,3-dicarboxylate (2e): white solid (87% yield). MP: 153-155 °C.⁴ 1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.66 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 8.22 – 8.11 (m, 1H), 7.95 – 7.73 (m, 1H), 7.53 – 7.48 (m, 1H), 4.05 (s, 3H), 3.99 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.8, 165.5, 150.5, 146.3, 140.8, 138.5, 133.4, 131.8, 130.5, 127.9, 125.2, 53.3, 53.1. APCIMS m/z: 279.0 (M⁺ + 1)

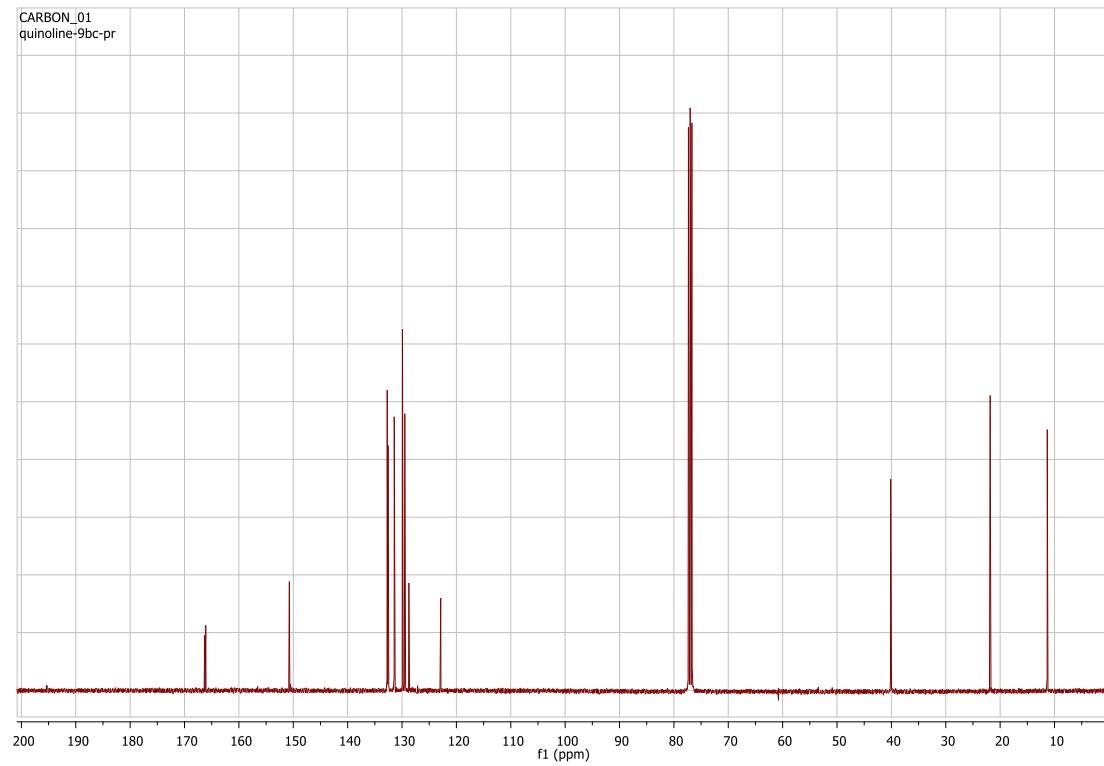
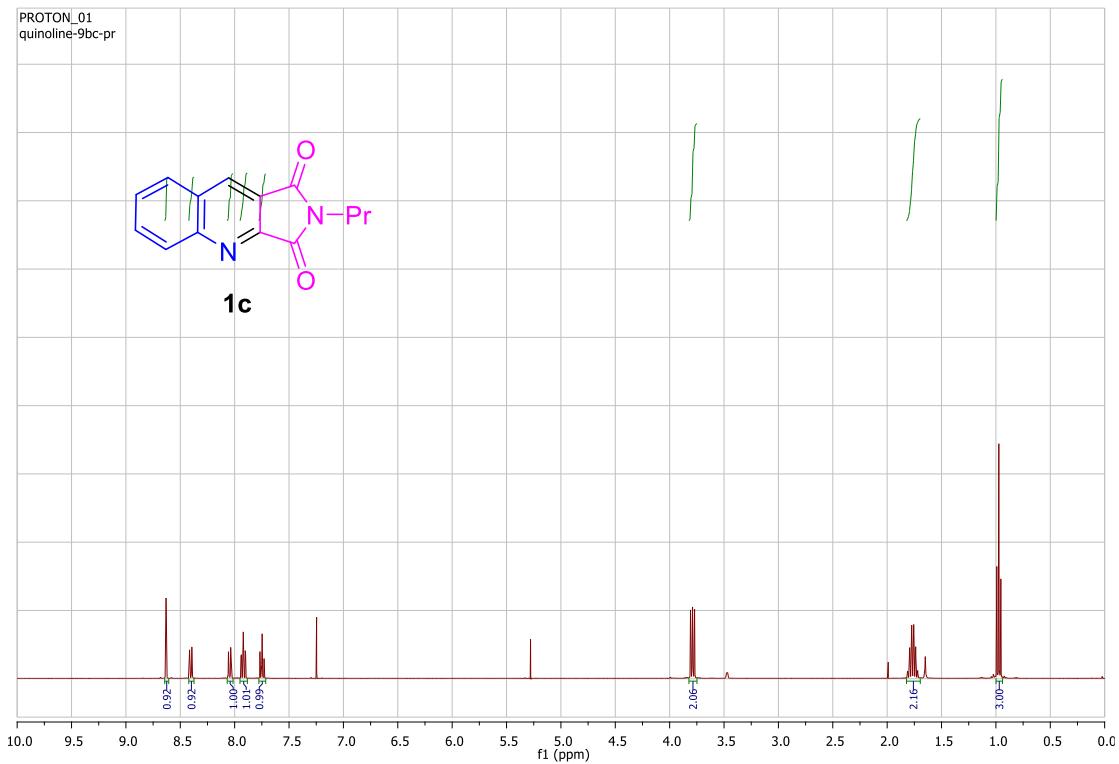
4. ^1H -NMR spectra for azidobenzaldehyde **3** and benzisoxazole **6**

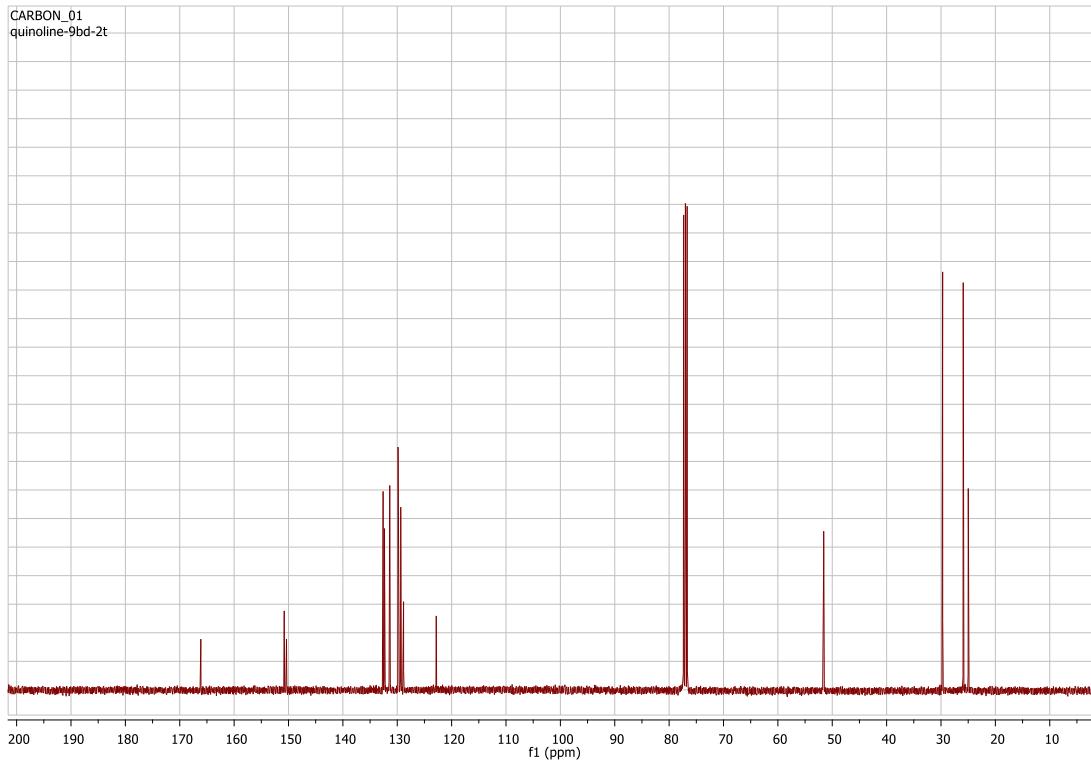
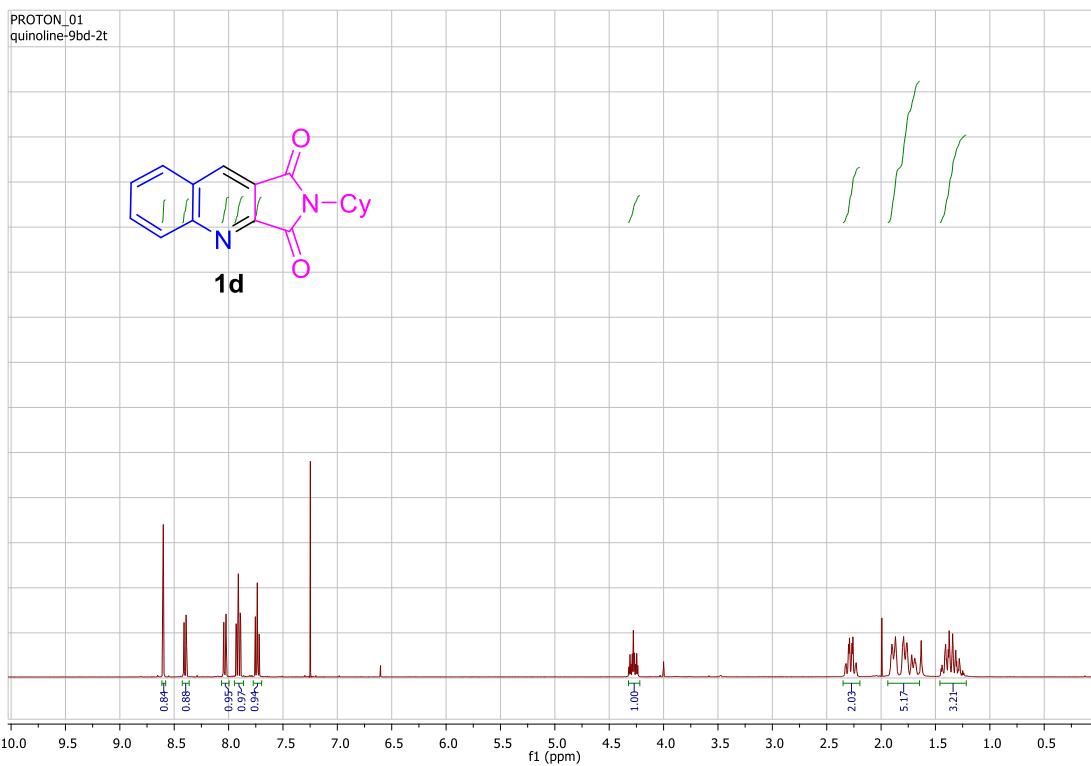


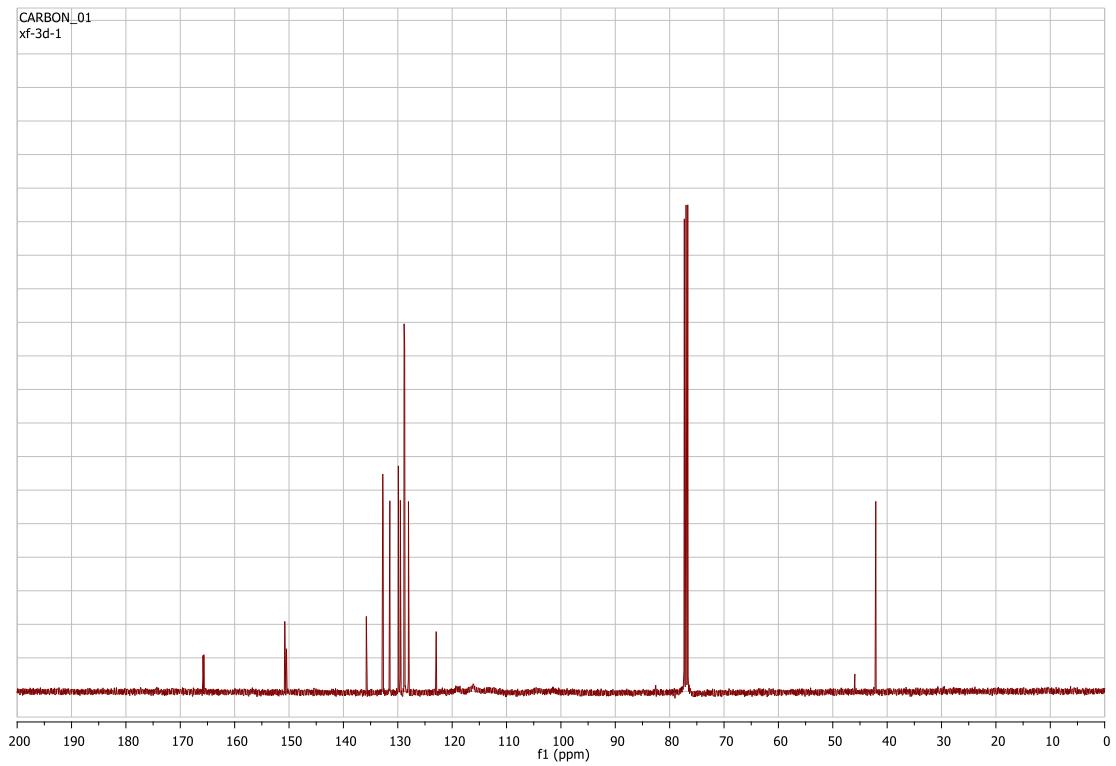
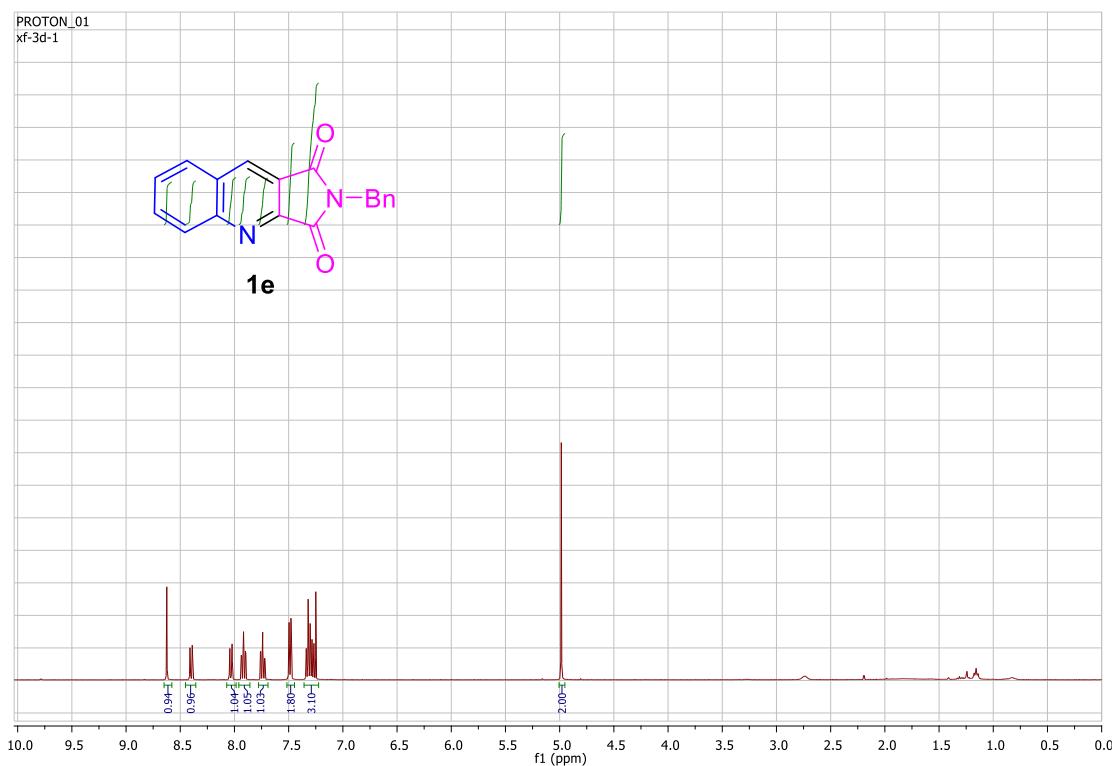
5. NMR Spectra of Products

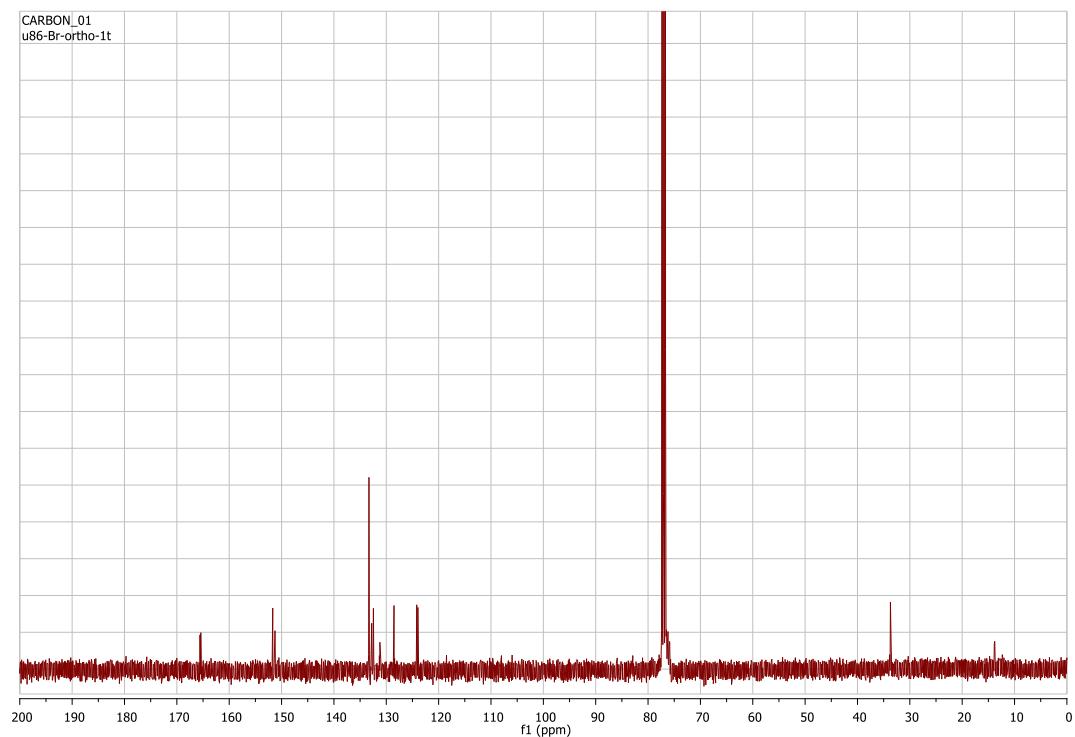
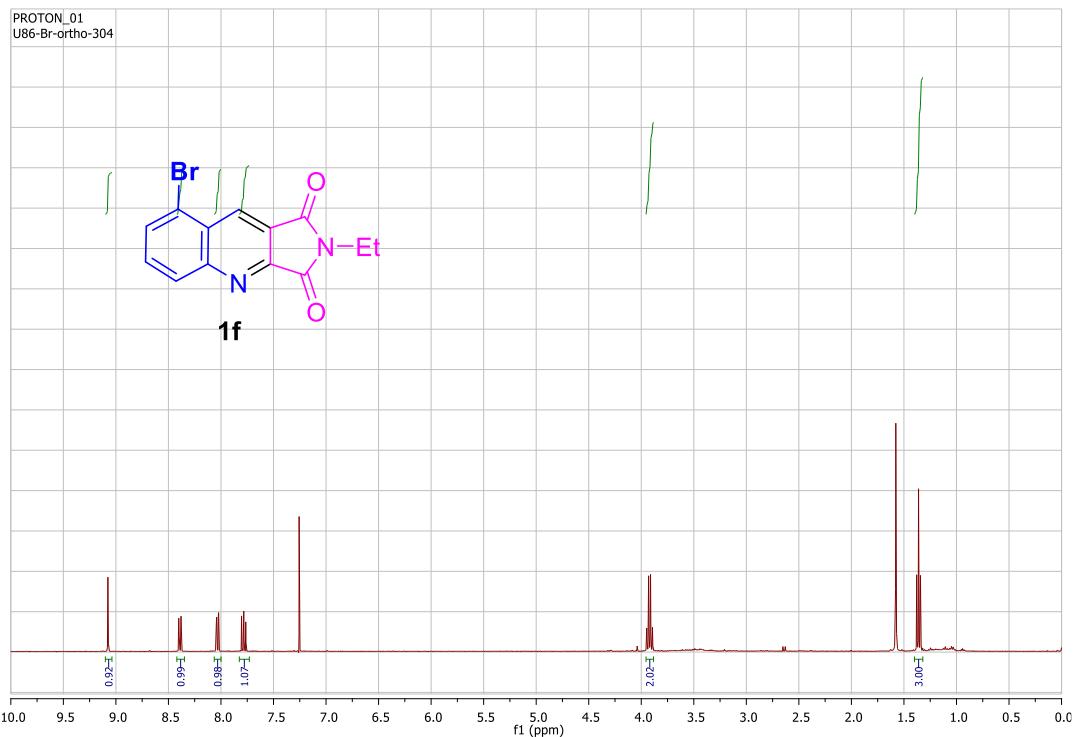


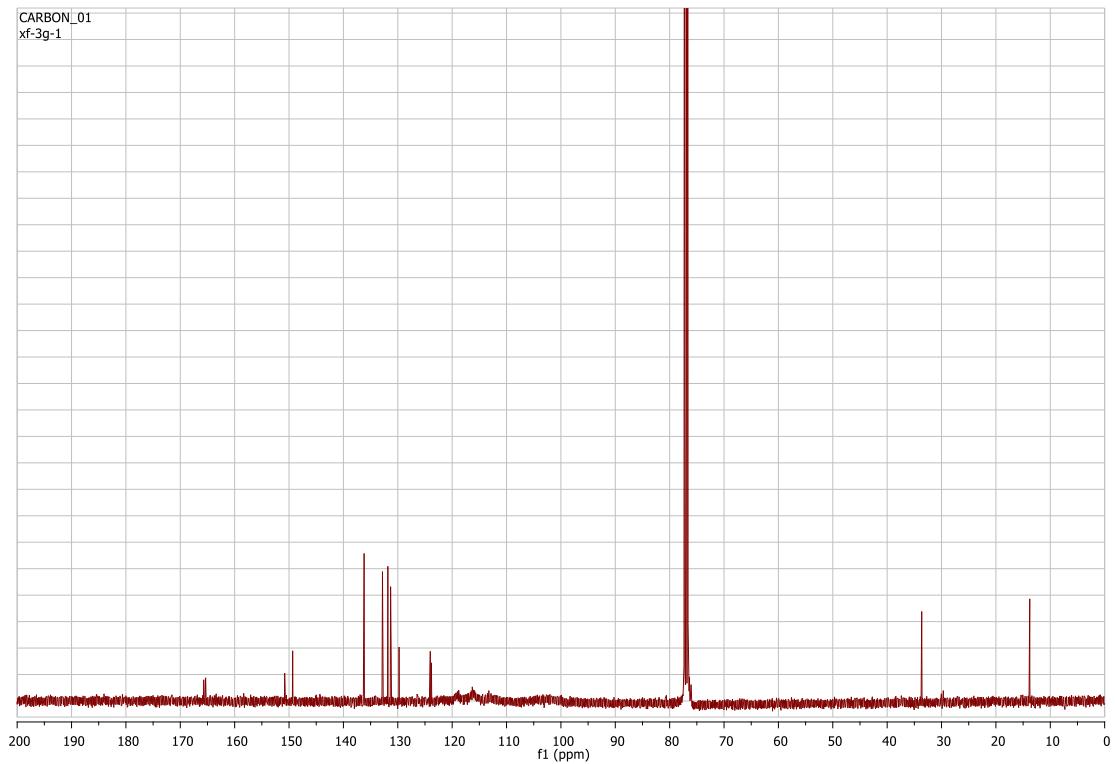
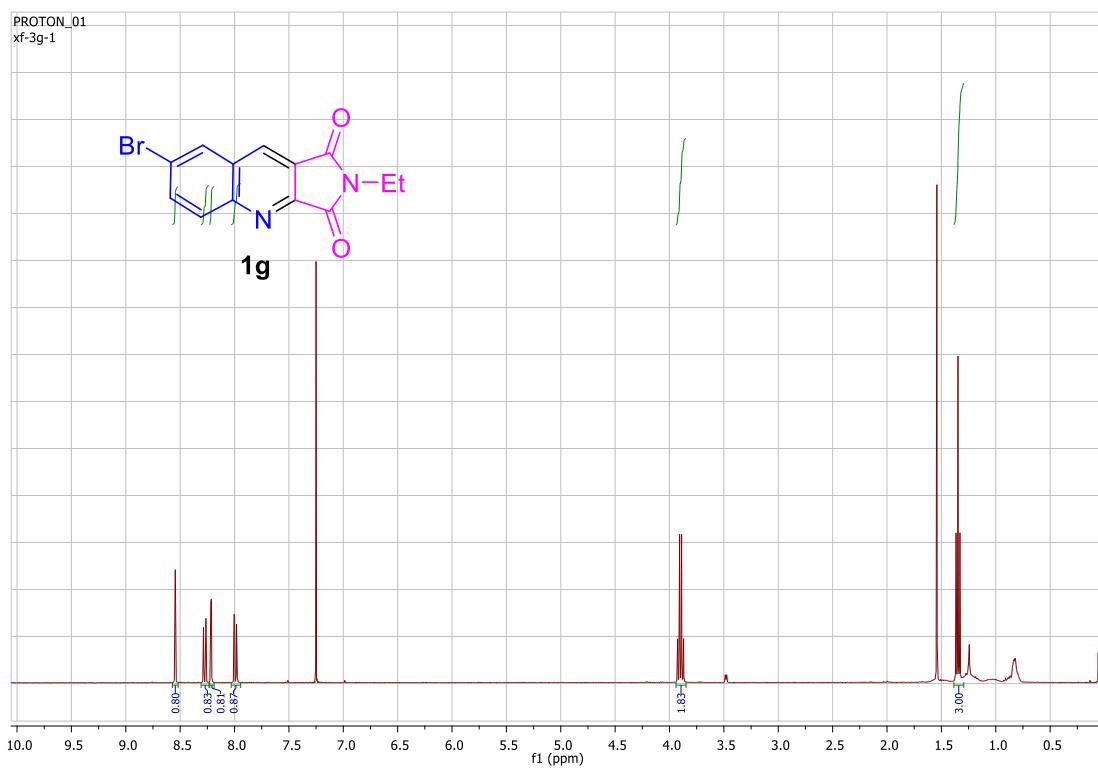


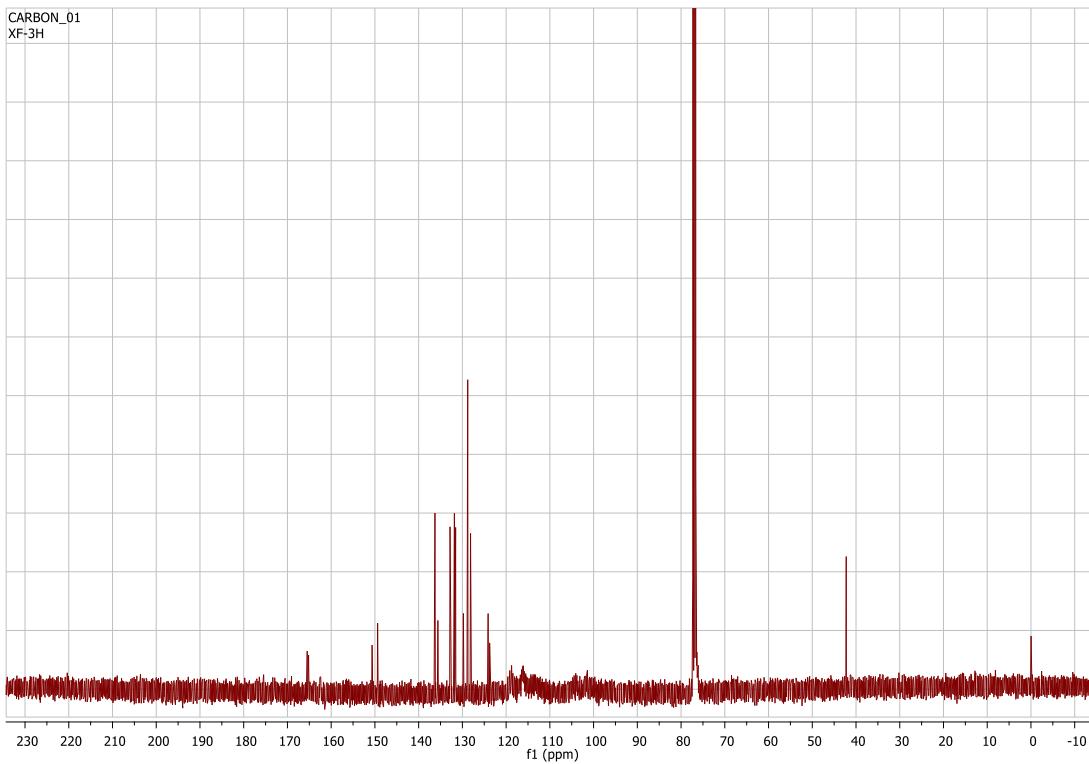
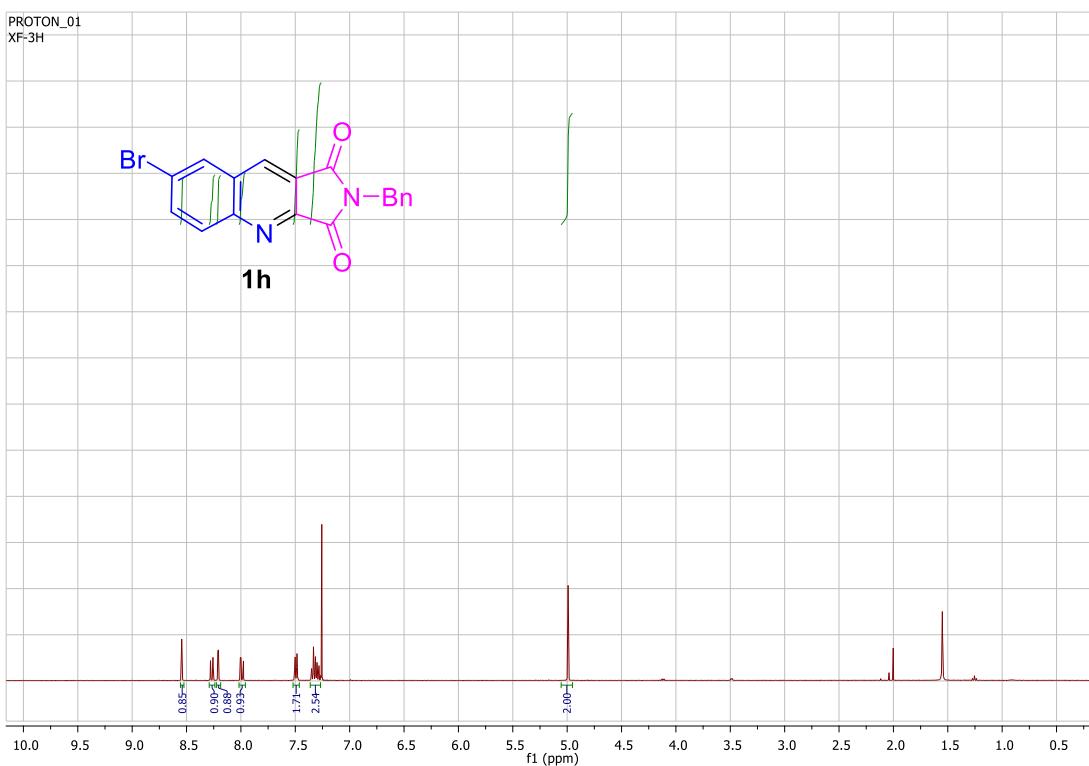


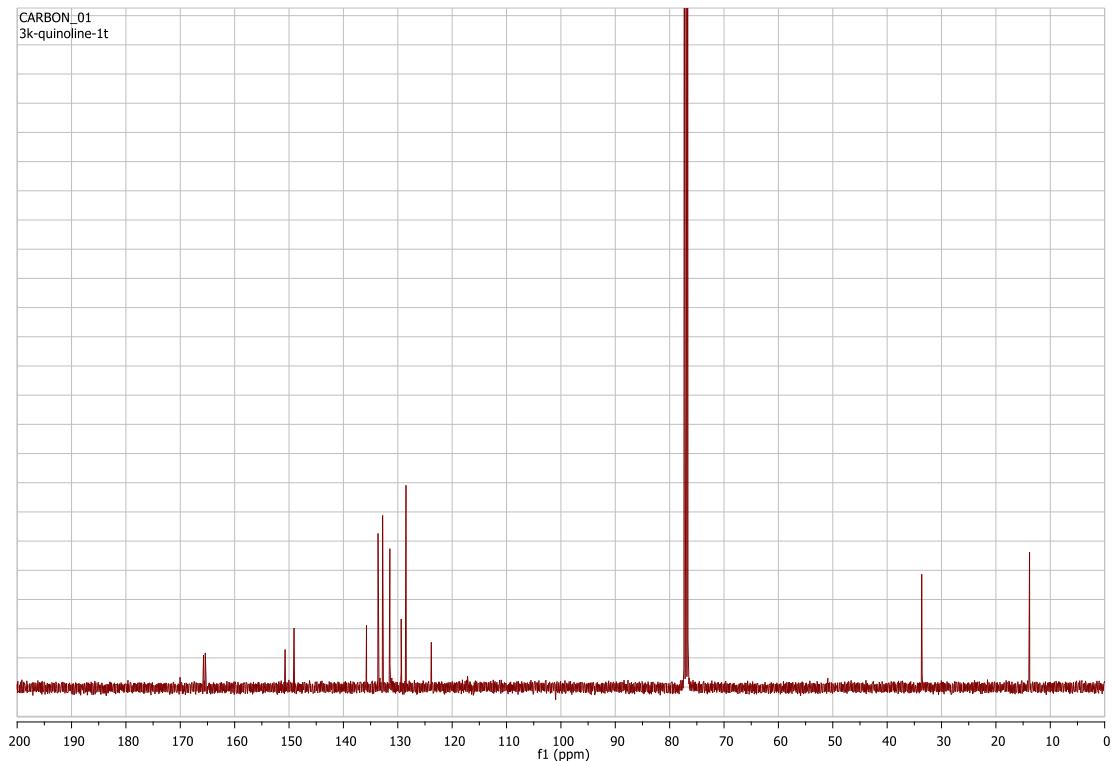
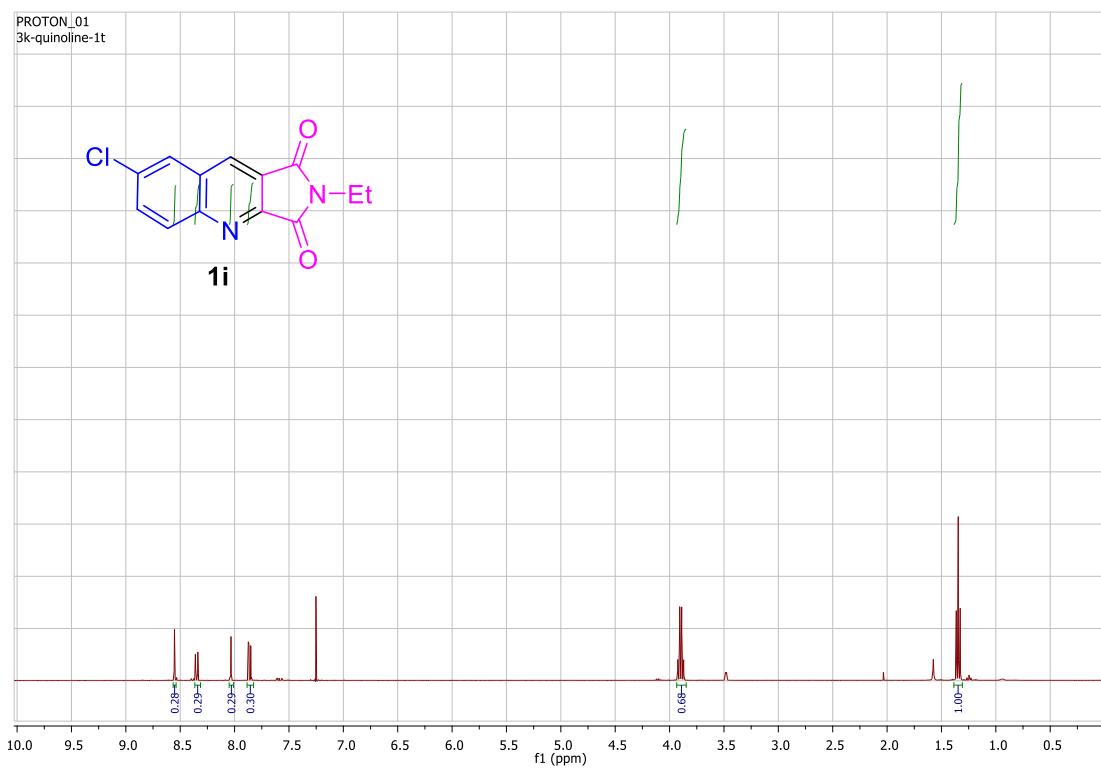


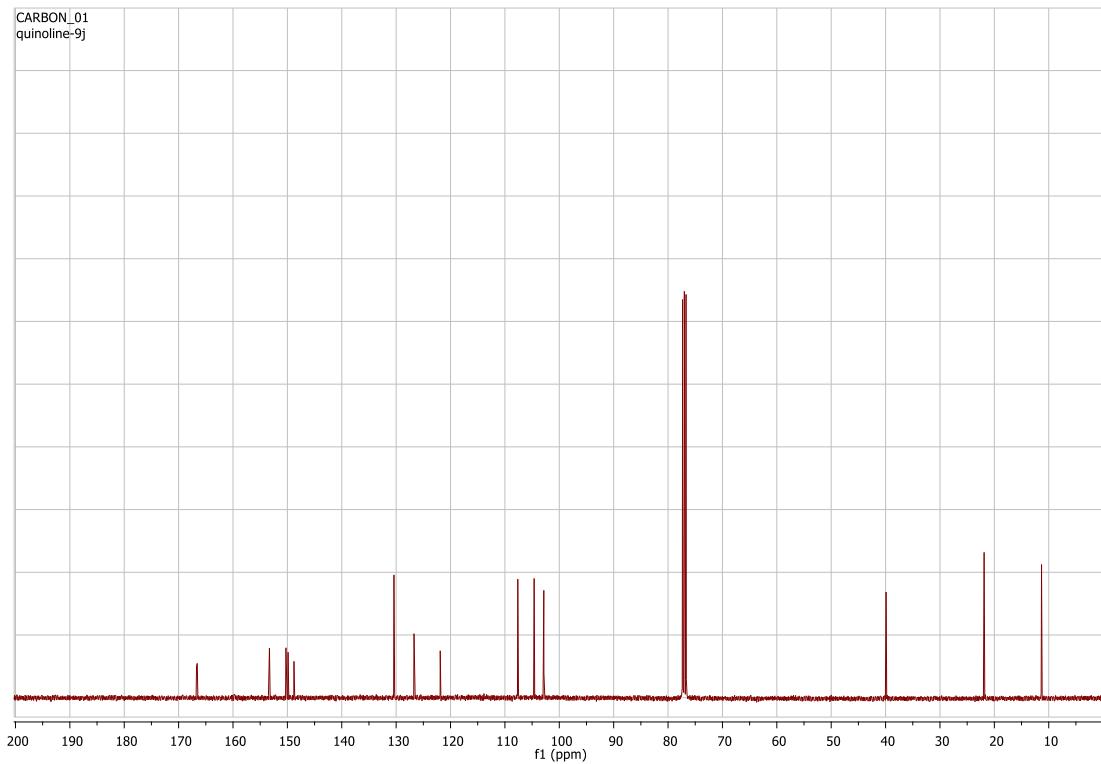
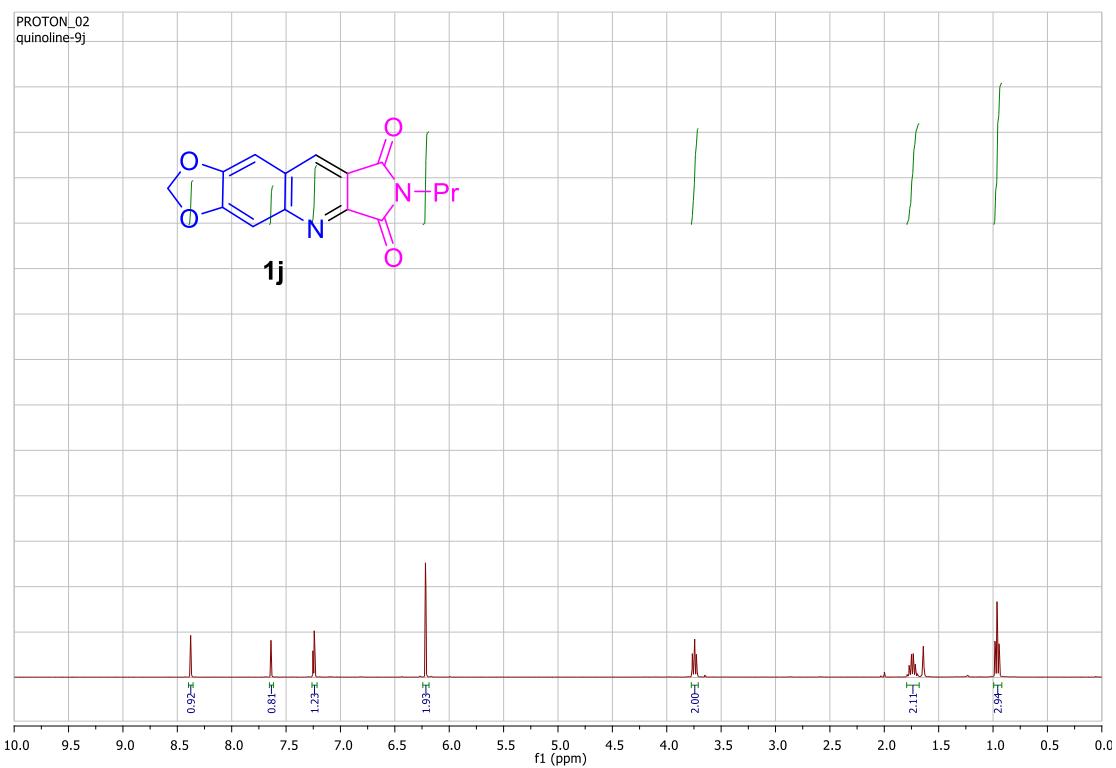


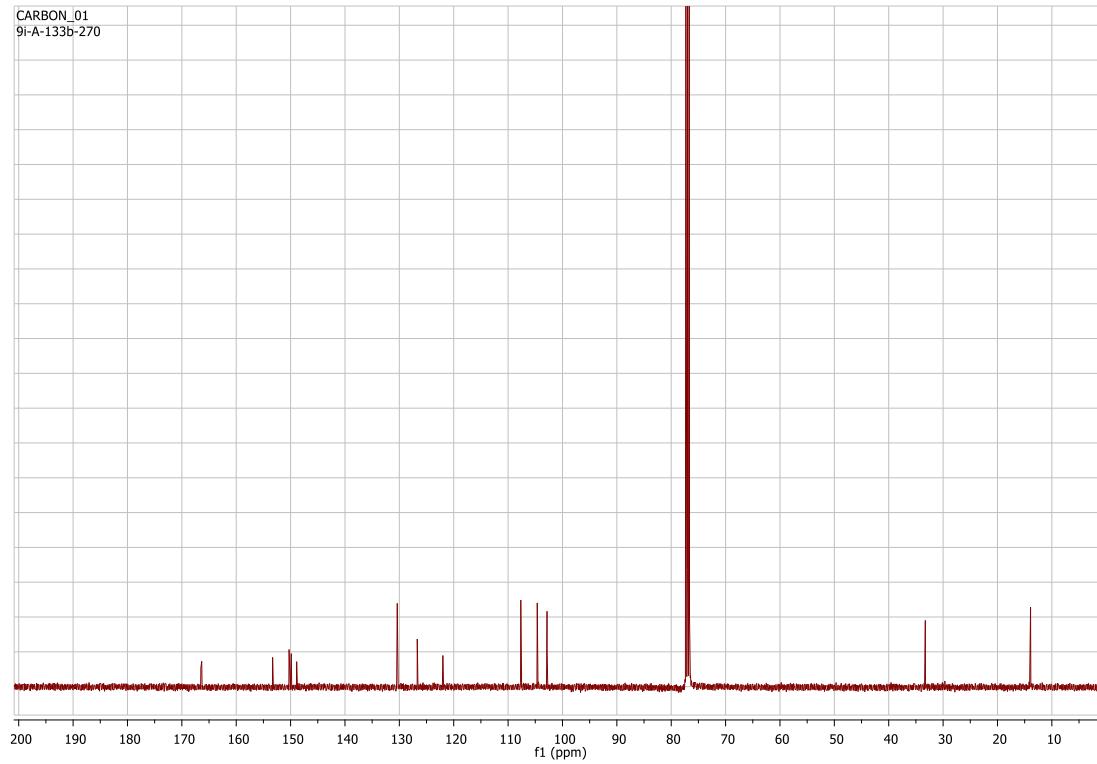
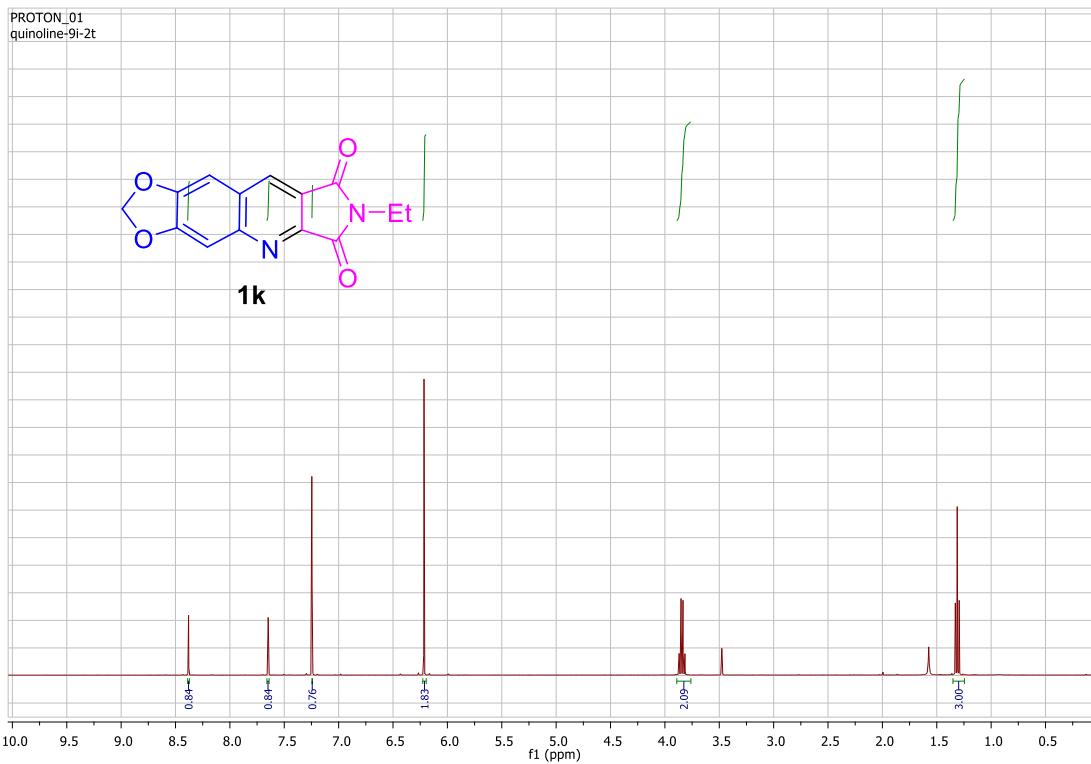


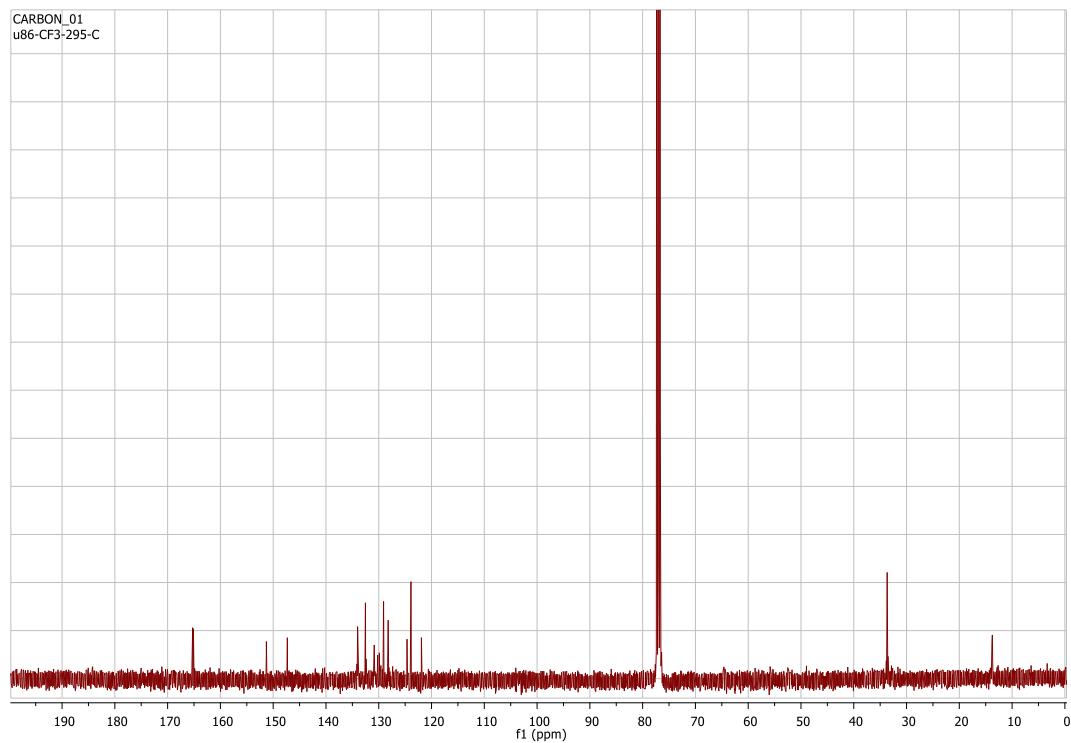
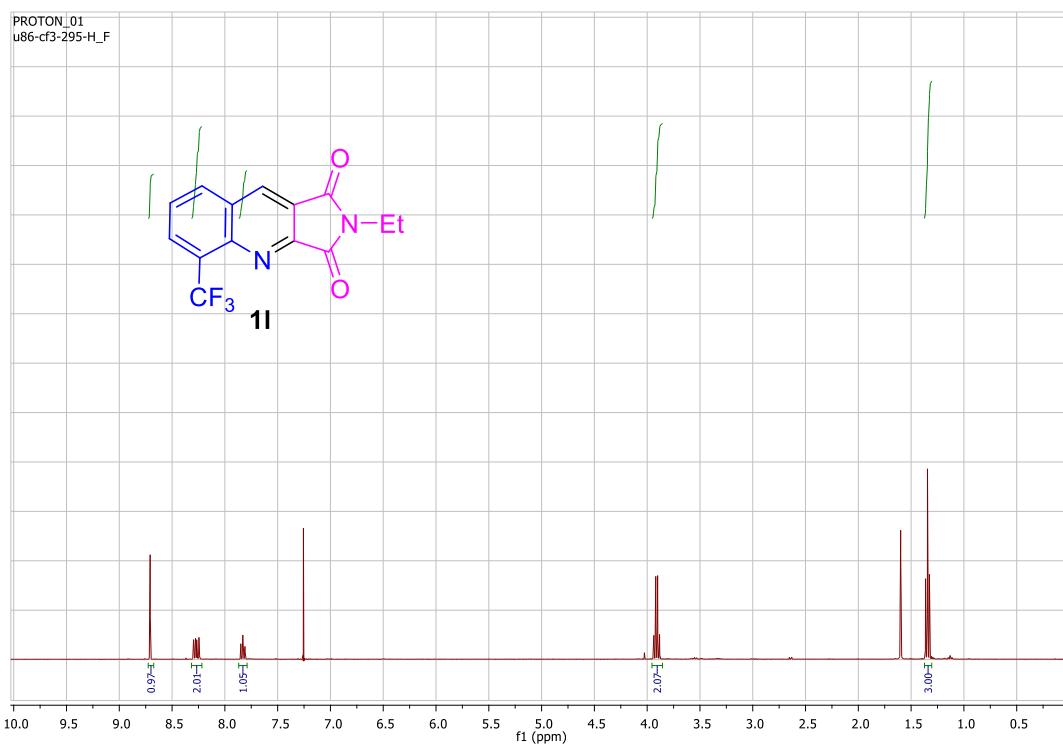


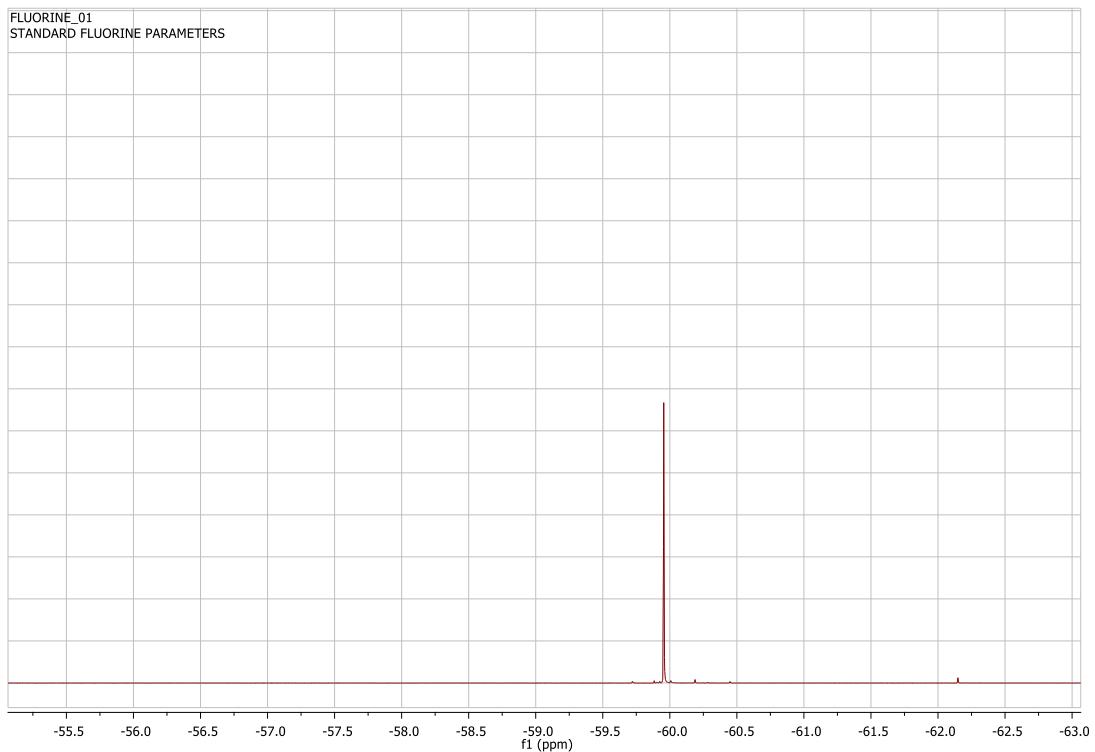


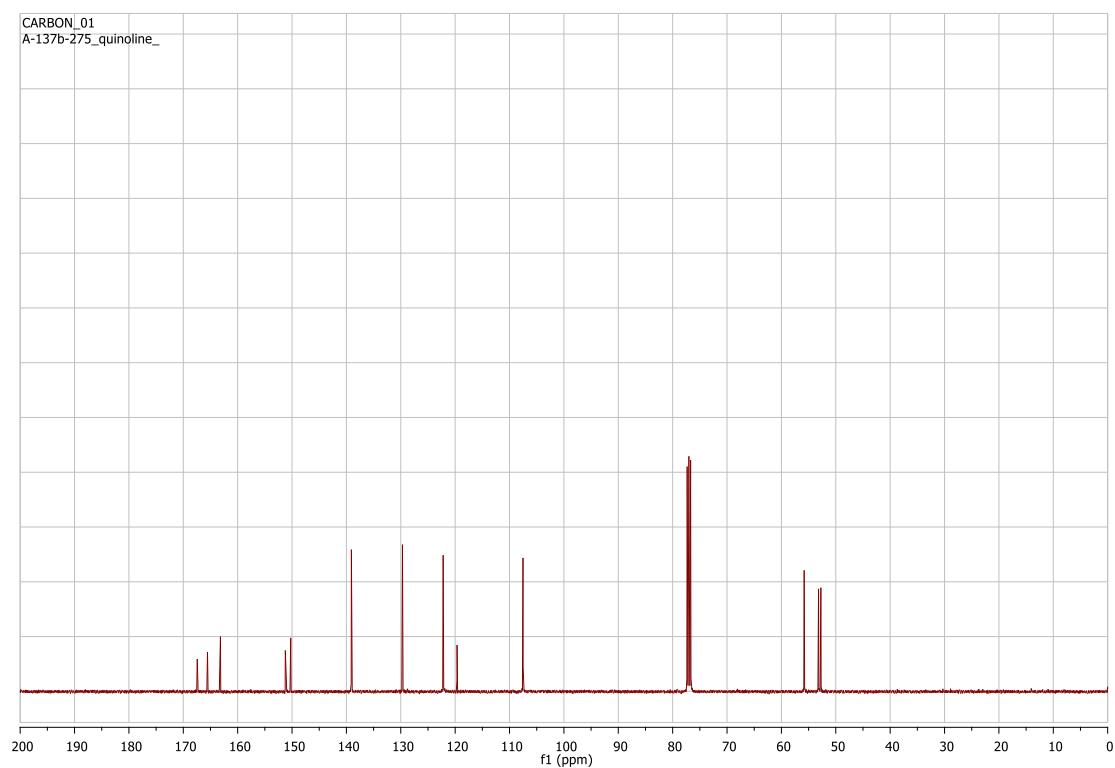
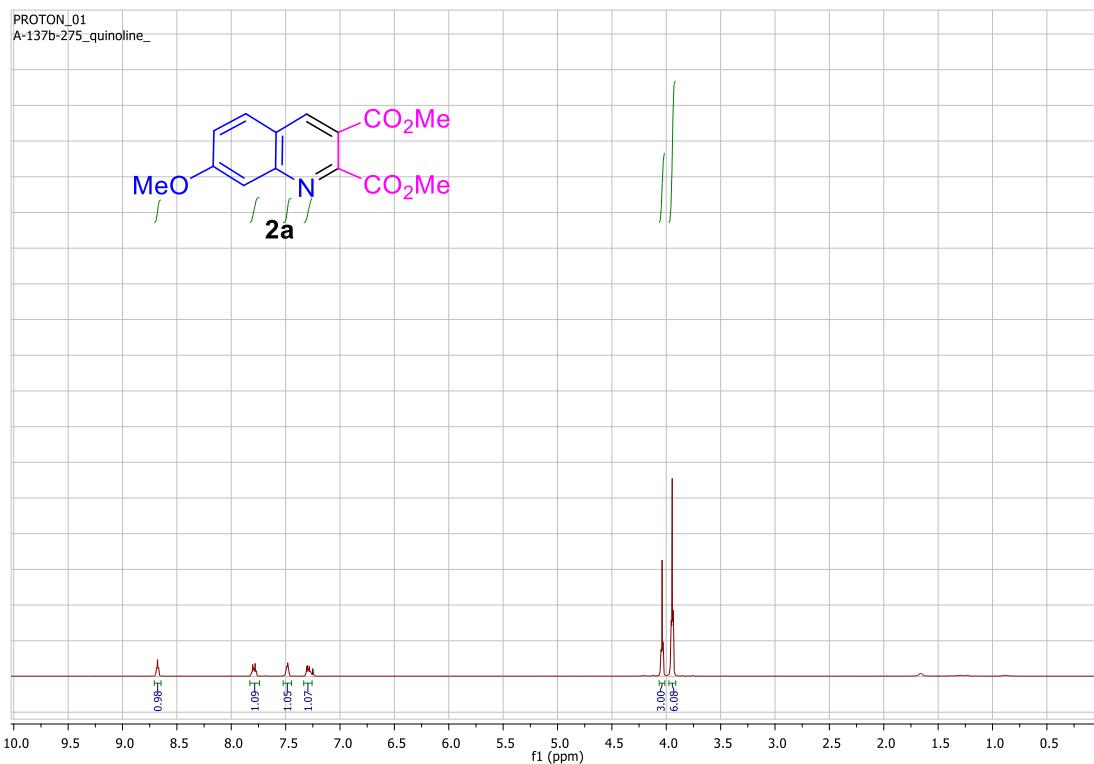


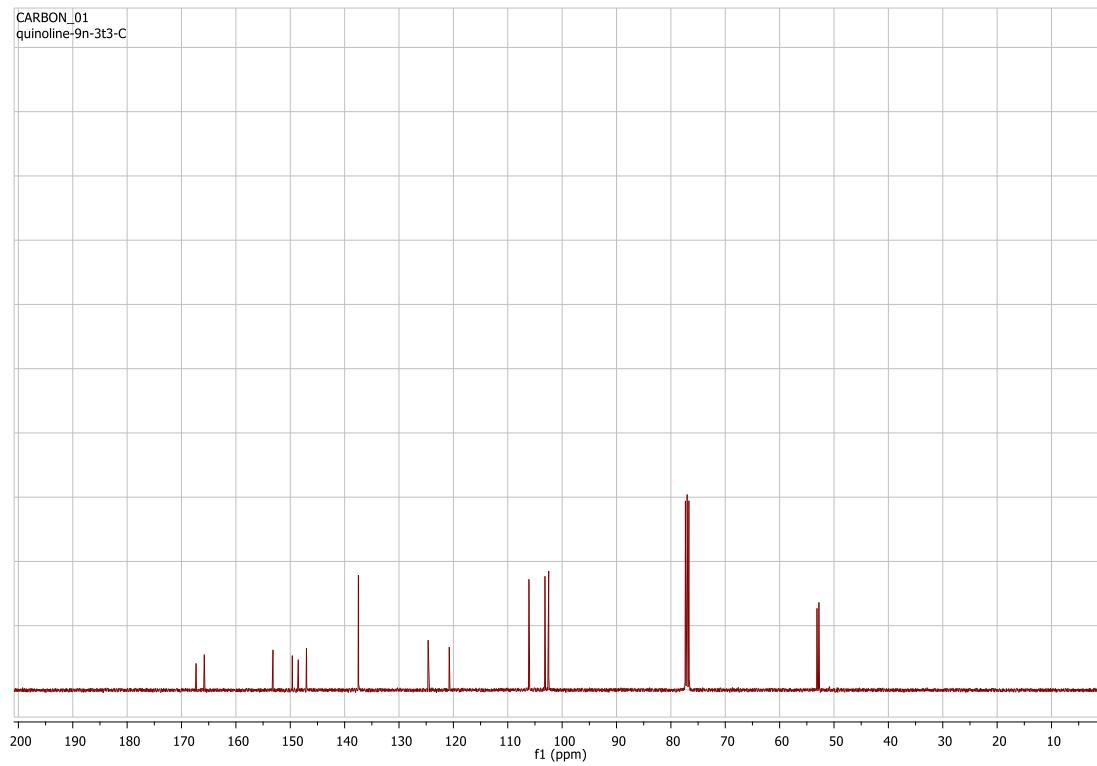
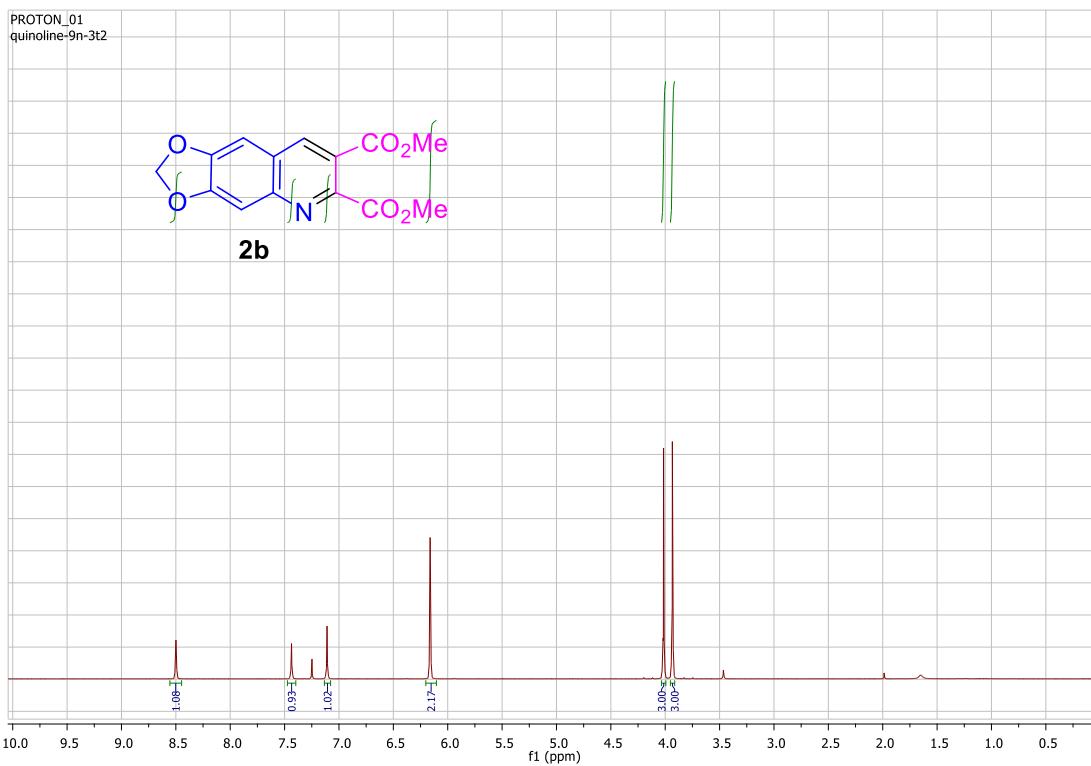


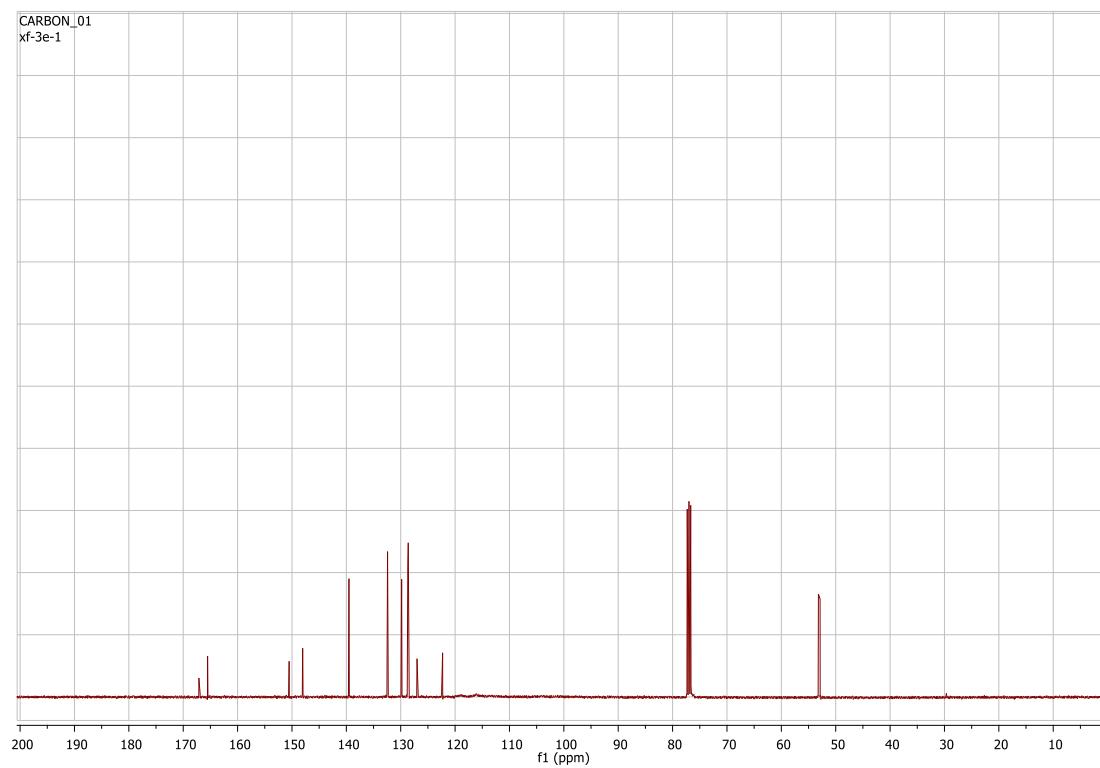
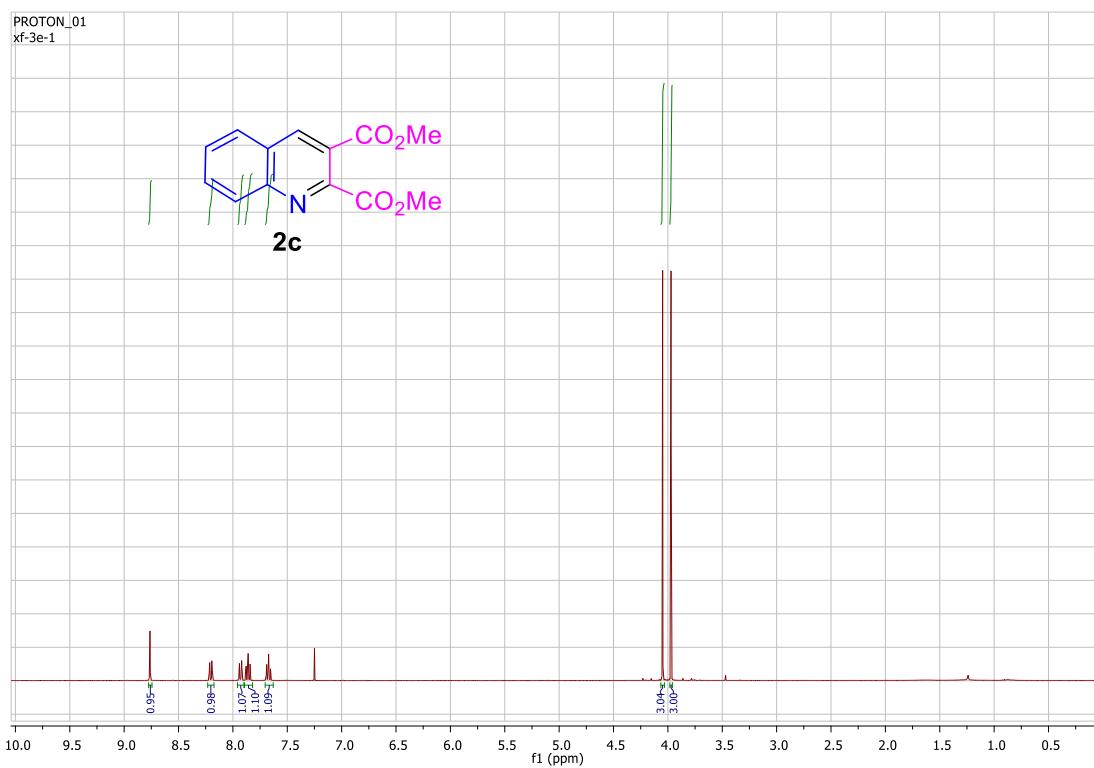


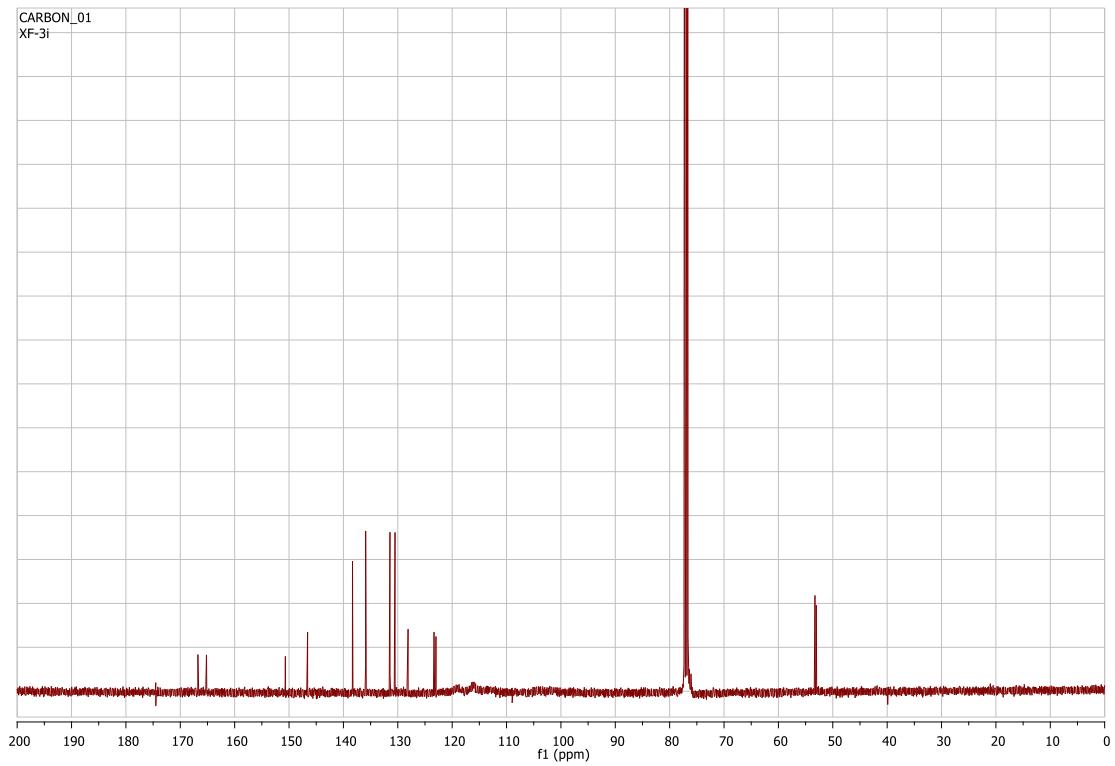
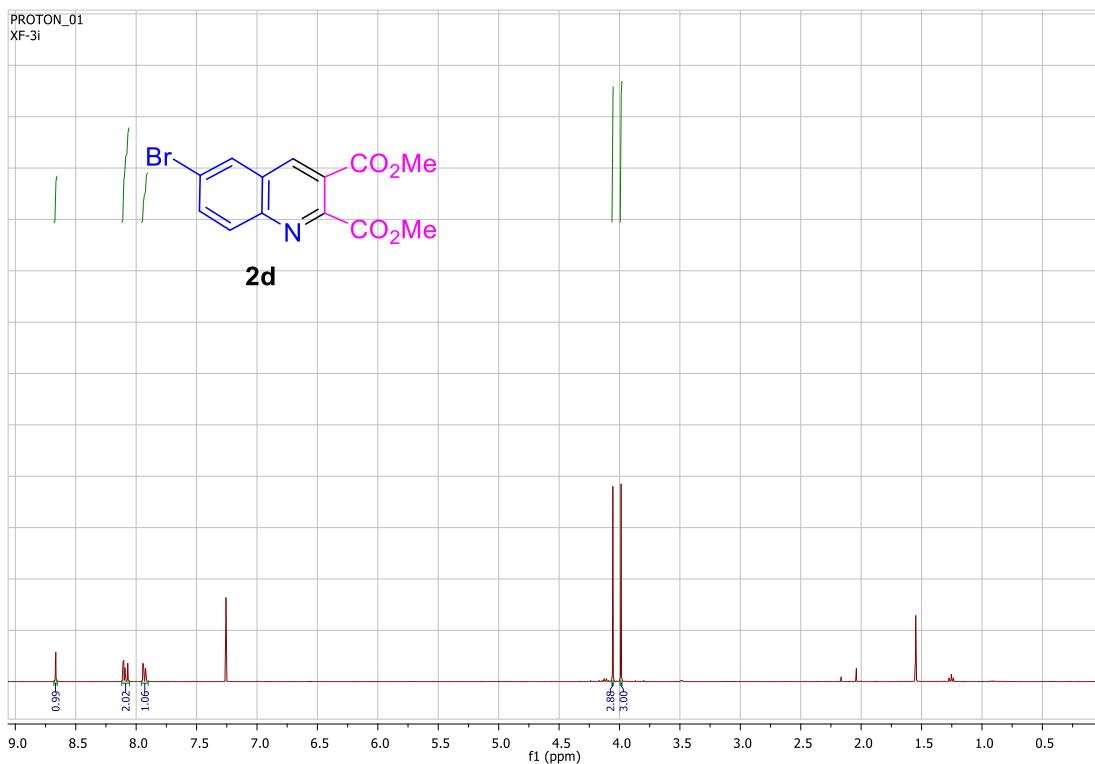




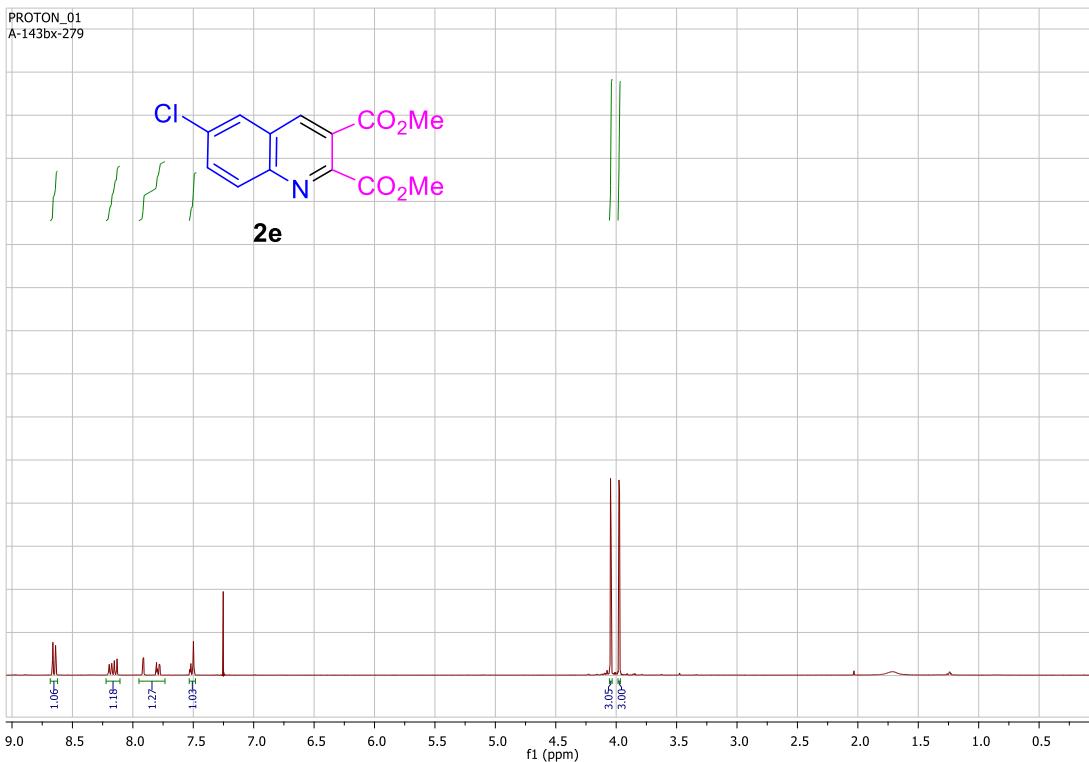




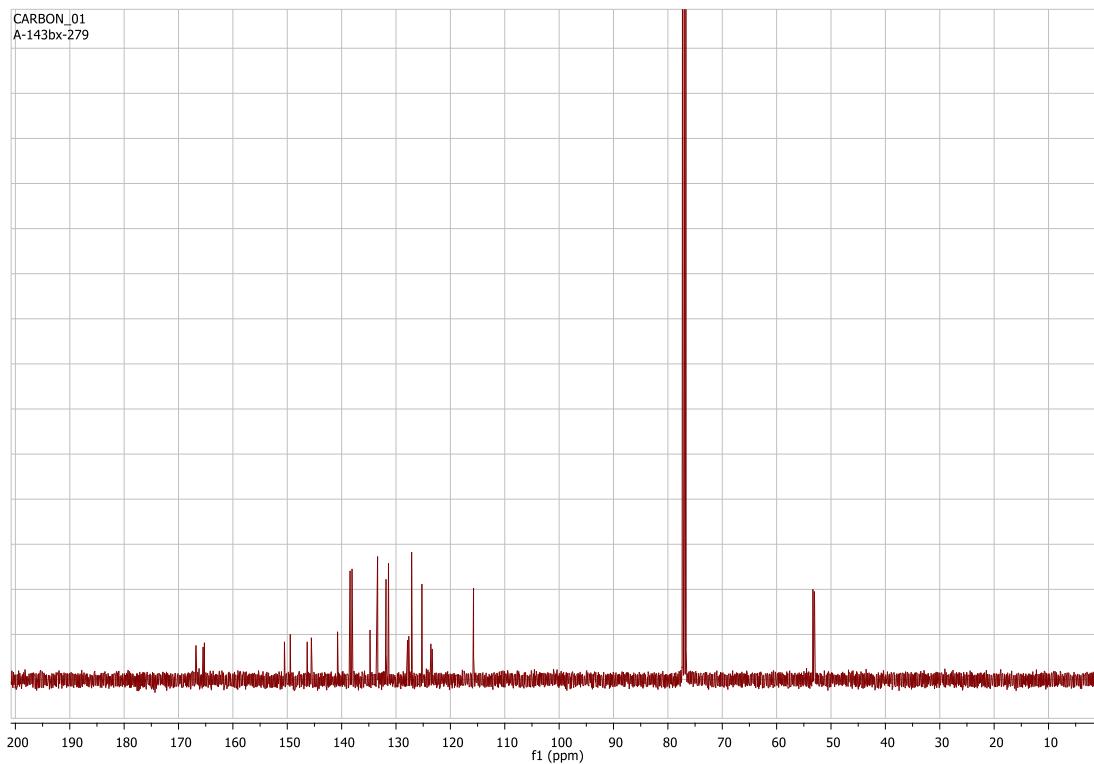




PROTON_01
A-143bx-279



CARBON_01
A-143bx-279



6. Green chemistry metrics analysis

The following formulae were used for calculating Atom Economy (AE), Atom Efficiency (AEf), Carbon Efficiency (CE), Reaction Mass Efficiency (RME), Optimum Efficiency (OE), Mass Productivity (MP), Mass Intensity (MI) and Process Mass Intensity (PMI), E factor, Solvent and Water Intensity (SI and WI).⁵⁻¹³

$$AE = \frac{\text{Molecular weight of product}}{\text{Total molecular weight of reactants}} \times 100$$

$$AEf = AE \times \text{yield\%}$$

$$CE = \frac{\text{Amount of carbon in the product}}{\text{Total carbon present in reactants}} \times 100$$

$$RME = \frac{\text{Mass of isolated product}}{\text{Total mass of reactants}} \times 100$$

$$OE = \frac{RME}{AE} \times 100$$

$$MI = \frac{\text{Total mass of input material in a process or process step}}{\text{Mass of product}}$$

$$PMI = \frac{\text{Total mass of input material in the whole process}}{\text{Mass of product}}$$

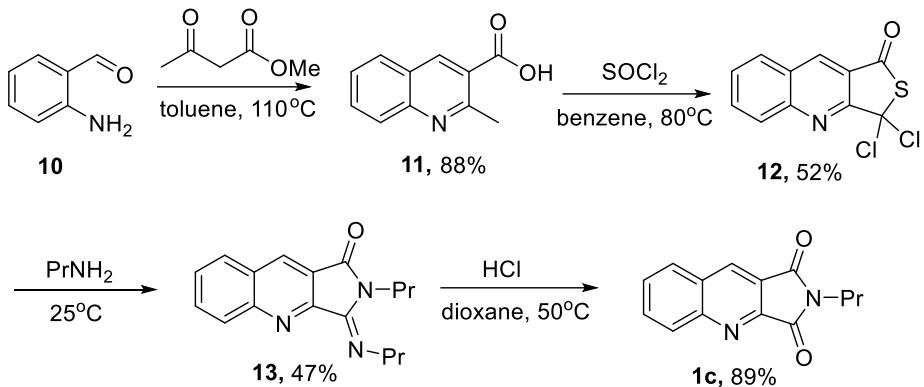
$$MP = \frac{1}{PMI} \times 100$$

$$E \text{ Factor} = PMI - 1$$

$$SI = \frac{\text{Total mass of solvents excl. water in the whole process}}{\text{Mass of product}}$$

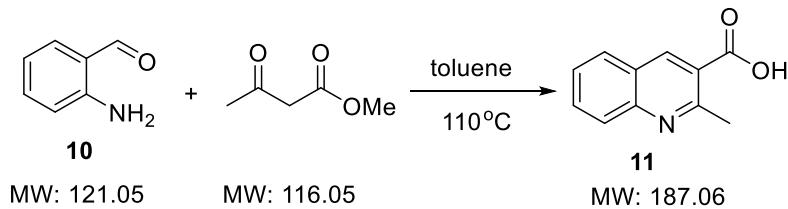
$$WI = \frac{\text{Total mass of water used in the whole process}}{\text{Mass of product}}$$

6.1. Published synthetic method - Process A (T. Van Esa, B. Staskun, S. Afr. J. Chem. 2003, 56, 40-46)



This is a four-step synthesis. Reported procedures for the synthesis of compound **1c** do not always contain all the required information; therefore, some realistic assumptions were used where appropriate and are italicized in the calculations given below. Drying agents, when used, were not included in the calculations.

Step 1: Synthesis of 2-methylquinoline-3-carboxylic acid (11)



Experimental procedure: To a stirred solution of 206 mg (1.70 mmol) of 2-aminobenzaldehyde **10** in 15 mL of toluene, was added 217 mg (1.87 mmol) of methyl acetoacetate and the solution was refluxed for 24 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, evaporated to one-half its volume, and then cooled to 0 °C in an ice bath. The solid was filtered and washed with 1:1 ether: hexane (*assuming use of each 2 mL*) to give 280 mg (88%) of compound **11**.

Materials used for metrics calculations: 2-aminobenzaldehyde **10** (206 mg, 1.70 mmol), methyl acetoacetate (217 mg, 1.87 mmol), toluene (15 mL, 12.9 g), ether (2 mL, 1.41 g), hexane (2 mL, 1.32 g), compound 14 (280 mg, 1.50 mmol).

$$\text{AE (11)} = \frac{\mathbf{187.06}}{\mathbf{121.05 + 116.05}} \times 100 = \mathbf{78.89}$$

$$\text{AEf (11)} = \frac{\mathbf{78.89}}{\mathbf{100}} \times \mathbf{88} = \mathbf{69.43}$$

$$\text{CE (11)} = \frac{\mathbf{11} \times \mathbf{0.00149}}{\mathbf{7} \times \mathbf{0.0017} + \mathbf{5} \times \mathbf{0.00187}} \times 100 = \mathbf{77.44}$$

$$\text{RME (11)} = \frac{\mathbf{280}}{\mathbf{206 + 217}} \times 100 = \mathbf{66.19}$$

$$\text{OE (11)} = \frac{\mathbf{66.19}}{\mathbf{78.89}} \times 100 = \mathbf{83.90}$$

$$\text{MI (11)} = \frac{\mathbf{0.206 + 0.217 + 12.9 + 1.41 + 1.32}}{\mathbf{0.28}} = \mathbf{57.33}$$

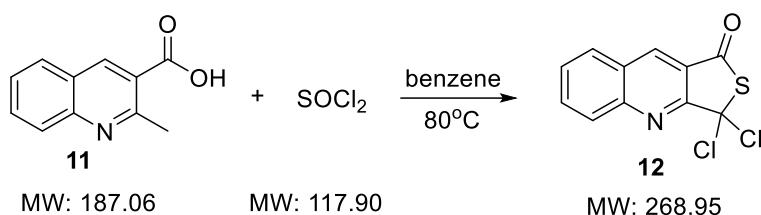
$$\text{MP (11)} = \frac{\mathbf{100}}{\mathbf{57.33}} = \mathbf{1.74}$$

$$\text{E Factor (11)} = 57.33 - 1 = \mathbf{56.33}$$

$$\text{SI (11)} = \frac{\mathbf{15.63}}{\mathbf{0.28}} = \mathbf{55.82}$$

$$\text{WI (11)} = \frac{\mathbf{0}}{\mathbf{0.28}} = \mathbf{0}$$

Step 2: Synthesis of 3, 3-Dichlorothieno[3,4-*b*]quinolin-1(3*H*)-one (12)



Experimental procedure: Compound **11** (3.00 g, 16.0 mmol) was heated with a large excess of SOCl_2 (10 mL) under reflux for 3 h. Evaporation of the reaction gave a residue of compound 15 which was freed from occluded SOCl_2 by azeotropic distillation with benzene (*assuming use of 10 mL*), to afford 2.23 g (52%) of compound **12** as colorless crystals.

Materials used for metrics calculations: Compound 14 (3.0 g, 16.0 mmol), SOCl_2 (10 mL, 16.31 g), benzene (10 mL, 8.74 g), compound 15 (2.23 g, 8.29 mmol).

$$\text{AE (12)} = \frac{\mathbf{268.95}}{\mathbf{187.06 + 117.90}} \times 100 = \mathbf{88.2}$$

$$\text{AEf (12)} = \frac{\mathbf{88.2}}{\mathbf{100}} \times \mathbf{52} = \mathbf{45.86}$$

$$\text{CE (12)} = \frac{\mathbf{11} \times \mathbf{0.00829}}{\mathbf{11} \times \mathbf{0.016}} \times 100 = \mathbf{51.70}$$

$$\text{RME (12)} = \frac{2.23}{3.0 + 16.31} \times 100 = 11.55$$

$$\text{OE (12)} = \frac{11.55}{88.2} \times 100 = 13.09$$

$$\text{MI (12)} = \frac{3.0 + 16.31 + 8.74}{2.23} = 12.58$$

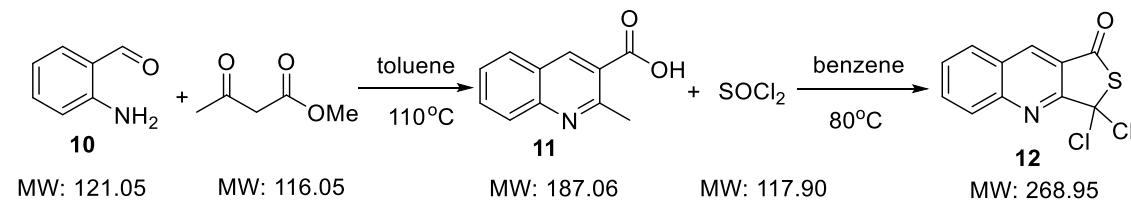
$$\text{MP (12)} = \frac{100}{12.58} = 7.95$$

$$\text{E Factor (12)} = 12.58 - 1 = 11.58$$

$$\text{SI (12)} = \frac{8.74}{2.23} = 3.92$$

$$\text{WI (12)} = \frac{0}{2.23} = 0$$

Cumulative metrics for compound 12:



$$\text{AE (12 cumulative)} = \frac{268.95}{121.05 + 116.05 + 117.90} \times 100 = 75.76$$

$$\text{AEf (12 cumulative)} = \frac{75.76}{100} \times 45.76 = 34.67$$

$$\text{CE (12 cumulative)} = \frac{11 \times 0.00077}{7 \times 0.0017 + 5 \times 0.00187} \times 100 = 40.04$$

$$\text{RME (12 cumulative)} = \frac{2.23}{\frac{3.0}{0.6619} + 16.31} \times 100 = 10.7$$

$$\text{OE (12 cumulative)} = \frac{10.7}{75.76} \times 100 = 14.12$$

$$\text{MI (12 cumulative)} = \frac{3.0 \times 57.33 + 16.31 + 8.74}{2.23} = 88.36$$

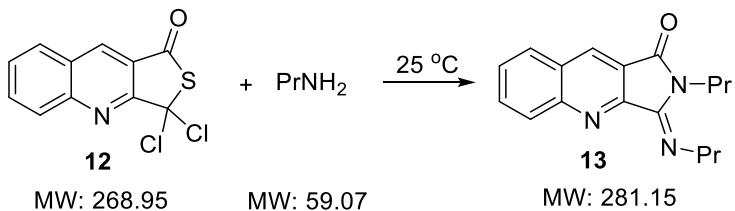
$$\text{MP (12 cumulative)} = \frac{100}{88.36} = 1.13$$

$$\text{E Factor (12 cumulative)} = 88.36 - 1 = 87.36$$

$$\text{SI (12 cumulative)} = \frac{24.37}{2.23} = 10.93$$

$$\text{WI (12 cumulative)} = \frac{0}{2.23} = 0$$

Step 3: Synthesis of 2-Propyl-3-propylimino-2,3-dihydro-pyrrolo[3,4-*b*]quinolin-1-one (13**)**



Experimental procedures: Compound **12** (422 mg, 1.56 mmol) was added batchwise (over 5–10 min) with stirring to ice-cold propylamine (5 mL), after which the reaction was kept at room temperature for 24 h. Excess amine was evaporated at reduced temperature and pressure, and the residue treated with H₂O (2 mL) and CHCl₃ (5 mL). Evaporation of the CHCl₃ extract gave a mixture of compound **16** and propylthiocarbamoyl amide. The mixture was extracted with hot hexane (5 mL) after which the sparingly soluble amide was removed by filtration. Evaporation of the hexane filtrate and washings gave crude compound **13** (207 mg, 47%).

Materials used for metrics calculations: Compound **12** (422 mg, 1.56 mmol), propylamine (5 mL, 3.60 g, 60.9 mmol), H₂O (2 mL, 2.0 g), CHCl₃ (5 mL, 7.46 g), hexane (5 mL, 3.30 g), compound **16** (207 mg, 0.73 mmol).

$$\text{AE (13)} = \frac{281.15}{268.95 + 59.07} \times 100 = 85.71$$

$$\text{AEf (13)} = \frac{85.71}{100} \times 47 = 40.28$$

$$\text{CE (13)} = \frac{17 \times 0.00073}{11 \times 0.00156 + 3 \times 0.0609} \times 100 = 6.26$$

$$\text{RME (13)} = \frac{0.207}{0.422 + 3.60} \times 100 = 5.15$$

$$\text{OE (13)} = \frac{5.15}{85.71} \times 100 = 6.0$$

$$\text{MI (13)} = \frac{0.422 + 3.60 + 2.0 + 7.46 + 3.30}{0.207} = 81.07$$

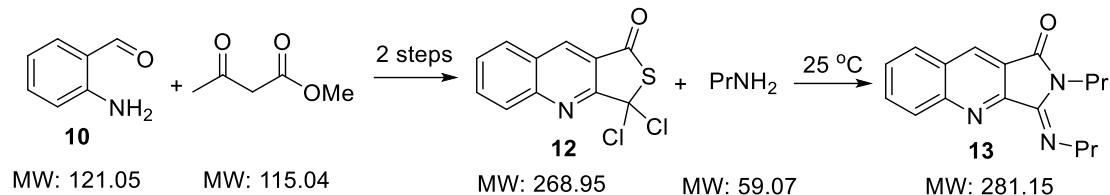
$$\text{MP (13)} = \frac{100}{81.07} = 1.23$$

$$\text{E Factor (13)} = 81.07 - 1 = 80.07$$

$$\text{SI (13)} = \frac{10.76}{0.207} = 51.98$$

$$\text{WI (13)} = \frac{2}{0.207} = 9.66$$

Cumulative metrics for compound 13:



$$\text{AE (13 cumulative)} = \frac{281.95}{\frac{268.95}{0.7576} + 59.07} \times 100 = 67.9$$

$$\text{AEf (13 cumulative)} = \frac{67.9}{100} \times 21.5 = 14.6$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CE (13 cumulative)} &= \frac{17 \times 0.00036}{7 \times 0.0017 + 5 \times 0.00187 + 3 \times 0.0609} \times 100 \\ &= 3.02 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{RME (13 cumulative)} = \frac{0.207}{\frac{0.422}{0.107} + 3.60} \times 100 = 2.74$$

$$\text{OE (13 cumulative)} = \frac{2.74}{67.9} \times 100 = 4.04$$

$$\text{MI (13 cumulative)} = \frac{0.422 \times 88.36 + 3.60 + 2.0 + 7.46 + 3.30}{0.207} = 259.17$$

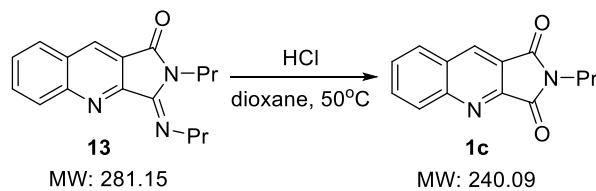
$$\text{MP (13 cumulative)} = \frac{100}{259.17} = 0.39$$

$$\text{E Factor (13 cumulative)} = 259.17 - 1 = 258.17$$

$$\text{SI (13 cumulative)} = \frac{35.13}{0.207} = 169.71$$

$$\text{WI (13 cumulative)} = \frac{2}{0.207} = 9.66$$

Step 4: Synthesis of 2-propyl-2,3-dihydro-pyrrolo[3,4-b]quinoline-1,3-dione (1c)



Experimental procedures: A mixture of compound 13 (220 mg, 0.78 mmol) and aqueous 2 mol/L HCl (1 mL) in 1,4-dioxane (3 mL) was kept at 50°C overnight. Cooling and filtering provided crude compound 1c (167 mg, 0.70 mmol; 89%). Recrystallization from EtOH: H₂O (*assuming use of EtOH:H₂O = 3:1, total 1 mL*), afford 159 mg (*assuming 95% of*

*recrystallization yield) of compound **1c**.*

Materials used for metrics calculations: Compound 16 (220 mg, 0.78 mmol), 2 mol/L HCl (1 mL, 1.0 g), 1,4-dioxane (3 mL, 3.10 g), EtOH (0.75 mL, 0.59 g), H₂O (0.25 mL, 0.25 g), compound 1c (159 mg, 0.67 mmol).

$$\text{AE } (\mathbf{1c}) = \frac{\mathbf{240.09}}{\mathbf{281.15}} \times \mathbf{100} = \mathbf{85.39}$$

$$\text{AEf } (\mathbf{1c}) = \frac{\mathbf{85.39}}{\mathbf{100}} \times \mathbf{89} = \mathbf{76.0}$$

$$\text{CE } (\mathbf{1c}) = \frac{\mathbf{14} \times \mathbf{0.00066}}{\mathbf{17} \times \mathbf{0.00078}} \times \mathbf{100} = \mathbf{69.7}$$

$$\text{RME } (\mathbf{1c}) = \frac{\mathbf{0.159}}{\mathbf{0.22}} \times \mathbf{100} = \mathbf{72.27}$$

$$\text{OE } (\mathbf{1c}) = \frac{\mathbf{72.27}}{\mathbf{85.39}} \times \mathbf{100} = \mathbf{84.63}$$

$$\text{MI } (\mathbf{1c}) = \frac{\mathbf{0.22 + 1.0 + 3.10 + 0.59 + 0.25}}{\mathbf{0.159}} = \mathbf{12.96}$$

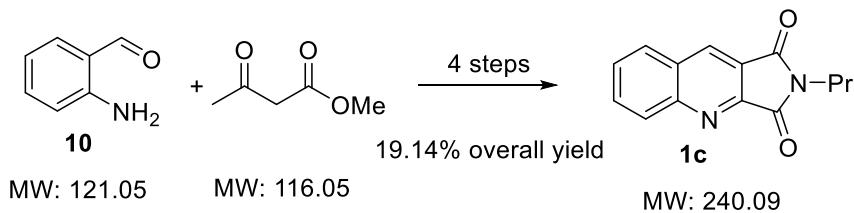
$$\text{MP } (\mathbf{1c}) = \frac{\mathbf{100}}{\mathbf{12.96}} = \mathbf{7.72}$$

$$\text{E Factor } (\mathbf{1c}) = \mathbf{12.96 - 1} = \mathbf{11.96}$$

$$\text{SI } (\mathbf{1c}) = \frac{\mathbf{4.69}}{\mathbf{0.159}} = \mathbf{29.5}$$

$$\text{WI } (\mathbf{1c}) = \frac{\mathbf{0.25}}{\mathbf{0.159}} = \mathbf{1.57}$$

Cumulative metrics for compound **1c**:



$$\text{AE } (\mathbf{1c \ cumulative}) = \frac{\mathbf{240.09}}{\mathbf{281.15/0.679}} \times \mathbf{100} = \mathbf{57.98}$$

$$\text{AEf } (\mathbf{1c \ cumulative}) = \frac{\mathbf{57.98}}{\mathbf{100}} \times \mathbf{19.14} = \mathbf{11.09}$$

$$\text{CE } (\mathbf{1c \ cumulative}) = \frac{\mathbf{14} \times \mathbf{0.00066}}{\mathbf{7} \times \mathbf{0.0017} + \mathbf{5} \times \mathbf{0.00187} + \mathbf{3} \times \mathbf{0.0609}} \times \mathbf{100} \\ = \mathbf{4.54}$$

$$\text{RME } (\mathbf{1c \ cumulative}) = \frac{\mathbf{0.159}}{\mathbf{0.22/0.0274}} \times \mathbf{100} = \mathbf{1.98}$$

$$\text{OE (1c cumulative)} = \frac{1.98}{57.98} \times 100 = 3.42$$

$$\text{PMI (1c cumulative)} = \frac{0.22 \times 259.17 + 3.10 + 1.0 + 0.59 + 0.25}{0.159} = 389.67$$

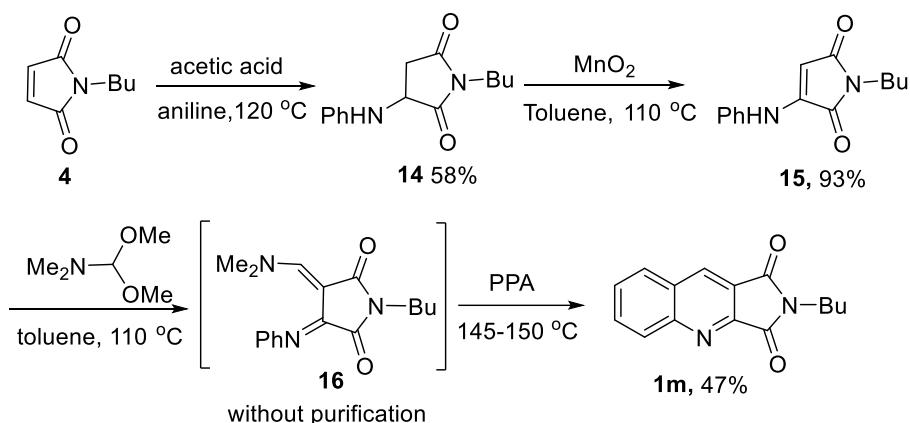
$$\text{MP (1c cumulative)} = \frac{100}{389.67} = 0.256$$

$$\text{E Factor (1c cumulative)} = 389.67 - 1 = 388.67$$

$$\text{SI (1c cumulative)} = \frac{39.82}{0.159} = 250.44$$

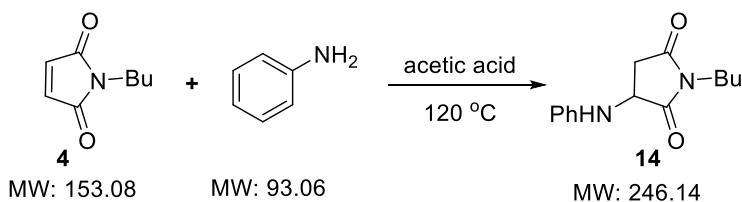
$$\text{WI (1c cumulative)} = \frac{2.25}{0.159} = 14.15$$

6.2. Published synthetic method - Process B (D. R. Maulding, *J. Heterocyclic Chem.* 1988, 25, 1777-1779)



This is a four-step synthesis, but only three separation steps. Reported procedures for the synthesis of compound **1m** do not always contain all the required information; therefore, some realistic assumptions were used where appropriate and are italicized in the calculations given below. Drying agents, when used, were not included in the calculations.

Step 1: Synthesis of 1-butyl-3-(phenylamino)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione (14)



Experimental procedures: A solution of 9.9 g (0.065 mole) of *N*-butylmaleimide **4** and 35 mL of acetic acid was treated with 6.51g (0.07 mole) of aniline and the resulting solution

was heated at 120°C for 30 min. The solution was cooled and poured into 280 mL of water. The amorphous material was collected and recrystallized from isopropyl alcohol (*assuming use of 30 mL*), gave 9.3 g (58%) of off-white crystal of compound **14**.

Materials used for metrics calculations: *N*-Butylmaleimide **4** (9.9 g, 0.065 mole), acetic acid (35 mL, 36.7 g), aniline (6.5 g, 0.07 mole), water (280 mL, 280 g), isopropyl alcohol (30 mL, 23.6 g), compound **14** (9.3 g, 0.038 mole).

$$\text{AE (14)} = \frac{246.14}{153.08 + 93.06} \times 100 = 100$$

$$\text{AEf (14)} = \frac{58}{100} \times 100 = 58$$

$$\text{CE (14)} = \frac{14 \times 0.037}{8 \times 0.065 + 6 \times 0.07} \times 100 = 56.5$$

$$\text{RME (14)} = \frac{9.3}{9.9 + 6.51} \times 100 = 56.67$$

$$\text{OE (14)} = \frac{56.67}{100} \times 100 = 56.67$$

$$\text{MI (14)} = \frac{9.9 + 36.7 + 6.51 + 280 + 23.6}{9.3} = 38.36$$

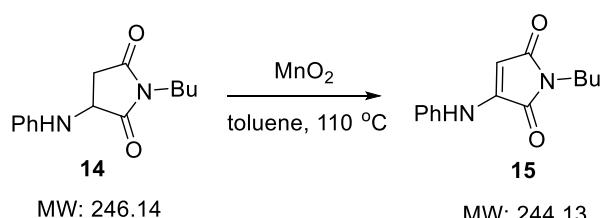
$$\text{MP (14)} = \frac{100}{38.36} = 2.61$$

$$\text{E Factor (14)} = 38.36 - 1 = 37.36$$

$$\text{SI (14)} = \frac{60.3}{9.3} = 6.48$$

$$\text{WI (14)} = \frac{280}{9.3} = 30.11$$

Step 2: Synthesis of 1-*b*Butyl-3-(phenylamino)-1*H*-pyrrole-2,5-dione (**15**)



Experimental procedures: A mixture of 2.46 g (0.01 mole) of compound **14**, 2.61 g (0.03 mole) of activated manganese dioxide and 15 mL of toluene was refluxed for 5 h. The hot mixture was filtered and the solid was washed with 5 mL of hot toluene. Cooling the filtrate gave 2.3 g (93%) of red-orange solid. Recrystallization from isopropyl alcohol (*assuming use of 7 mL*), afford 2.19 g (*assuming 95% of recrystallization yield*) of compound **15**.

Materials used for metrics calculations: Compound 10 (2.46 g, 0.01 mole), manganese dioxide (2.61 g, 0.03 mole), toluene (20 mL, 17.3 g), isopropyl alcohol (7 mL, 5.5 g), compound **15** (2.19 g, 0.009 mole).

$$\text{AE (15)} = \frac{244.12}{246.14} \times 100 = 99.18$$

$$\text{AEf (15)} = \frac{99.18}{100} \times 95 = 94.22$$

$$\text{CE (15)} = \frac{14 \times 0.009}{14 \times 0.01} \times 100 = 89.76$$

$$\text{RME (15)} = \frac{2.19}{2.46} \times 100 = 89.02$$

$$\text{OE (15)} = \frac{89.02}{99.18} \times 100 = 89.76$$

$$\text{MI (15)} = \frac{2.46 + 2.61 + 17.3 + 5.5}{2.19} = 12.73$$

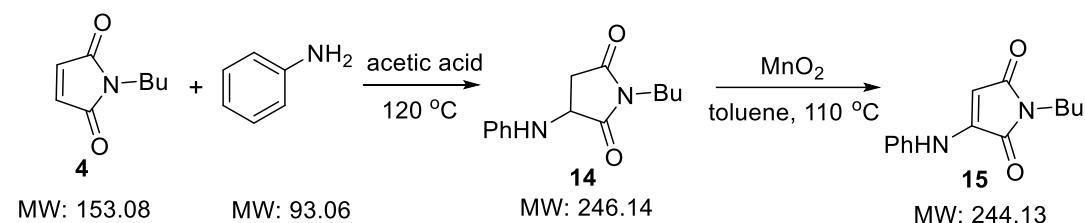
$$\text{MP (15)} = \frac{100}{12.73} = 7.86$$

$$\text{E Factor (15)} = 12.73 - 1 = 11.73$$

$$\text{SI (15)} = \frac{22.8}{2.19} = 10.41$$

$$\text{WI (15)} = \frac{0}{2.19} = 0$$

Cumulative metrics for compound **15**:



$$\text{AE (15 cumulative)} = \frac{244.12}{153.08 + 93.06} \times 100 = 99.18$$

$$\text{AEf (15 cumulative)} = \frac{99.18}{100} \times 54.10 = 54.65$$

$$\text{CE (15 cumulative)} = \frac{14 \times 0.009}{8 \times 0.065 + 6 \times 0.07} \times 100 = 13.40$$

$$\text{RME (15 cumulative)} = \frac{2.19}{2.46/0.566} \times 100 = 50.45$$

$$\text{OE (15 cumulative)} = \frac{50.45}{99.18} \times 100 = 50.87$$

$$\text{MI (15 cumulative)} = \frac{2.46 \times 38.36 + 2.61 + 17.3 + 5.5}{2.19} = 54.69$$

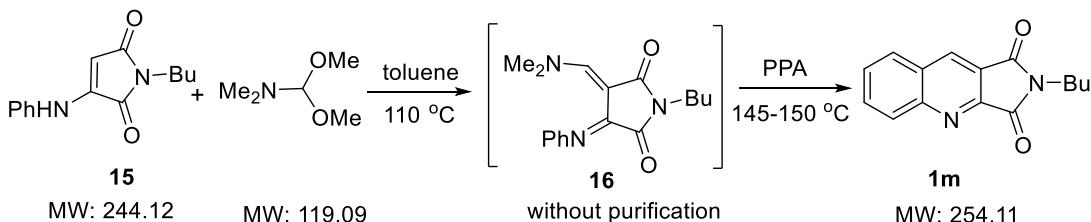
$$\text{MP (15 cumulative)} = \frac{100}{54.69} = 1.83$$

$$\text{E Factor (15 cumulative)} = 54.69 - 1 = 53.69$$

$$\text{SI (15 cumulative)} = \frac{83.1}{2.19} = 37.95$$

$$\text{WI (15 cumulative)} = \frac{280}{2.19} = 127.85$$

Steps 3&4: Synthesis of 2-butyl-1*H*-pyrrolo[3,4-b]quinoline-1,3(2*H*)-dione (**1m**)



Experimental procedures: A solution of 244 mg (1.0 mmole) of compound **15**, 238 mg (2.0 mmole) of dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal and 5 mL of toluene was refluxed for 3 h. Evaporation of toluene gave a dark red-brown gum of compound **16**, which was heated in 6 g of polyphosphoric acid at 145-150 °C for 15 min. The solution was poured into 60 mL of cold water, and the resulting dark solid was collected and heated with 8 mL of methanol. Filtration of the hot mixture and evaporation of filtrate gave 120 mg (47%) of crude product. Recrystallization from methanol (*assuming use of 0.4 mL*) gave 114 mg of white solid (*assuming 95% of recrystallization yield*) of compound **1m**.

Materials used for metrics calculations: compound **15** (0.244 g, 0.001 mole), dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (0.238 g, 0.002 mole), toluene (5 mL, 4.33 g), polyphosphoric acid (6 g, 0.062 mole), water (60 mL, 60 g), methanol (8.4 mL, 6.64 g), compound **1m** (0.114 g, 0.45 mmole).

$$\text{AE (1m)} = \frac{254.11}{244.12 + 119.09} \times 100 = 69.96$$

$$\text{AEf (1m)} = \frac{69.96}{100} \times 95 = 66.46$$

$$\text{CE (1m)} = \frac{15 \times 0.00045}{14 \times 0.001 + 5 \times 0.002} \times 100 = 28.06$$

$$\text{RME (1m)} = \frac{0.114}{0.244 + 0.238} \times 100 = 23.65$$

$$OE \ (1m) = \frac{23.65}{69.96} \times 100 = 33.81$$

$$MI \ (1m) = \frac{0.244 + 0.238 + 4.33 + 6 + 60 + 6.64}{0.114} = 679.4$$

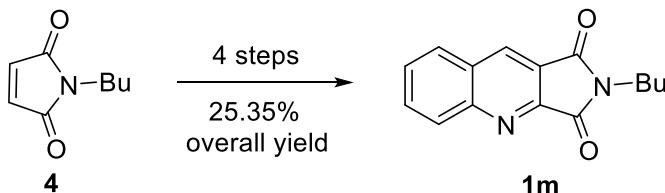
$$MP \ (1m) = \frac{100}{679.4} = 0.15$$

$$E \ Factor \ (1m) = 679.4 - 1 = 678.4$$

$$SI \ (1m) = \frac{16.97}{0.114} = 148.86$$

$$WI \ (1m) = \frac{60}{0.114} = 526.32$$

Cumulative metrics for compound 1m:



$$AE \ (1m \ cumulative) = \frac{254.11}{\frac{244.12}{0.9918} + 119.09} \times 100 = 69.58$$

$$AEf \ (1m \ cumulative) = \frac{69.58}{100} \times 25.35 = 17.64$$

$$CE \ (1m \ cumulative) = \frac{15 \times 0.00045}{8 \times 0.065 + 6 \times 0.07 + 2 \times 5} \times 100 = 61.53$$

$$RME \ (1m \ cumulative) = \frac{0.114}{\frac{0.244}{0.5045} + 0.238} \times 100 = 15.8$$

$$OE \ (1m \ cumulative) = \frac{15.8}{69.58} \times 100 = 22.71$$

$$PMI \ (1m \ cumulative) = \frac{0.244 \times 54.69 + 0.238 + 4.33 + 6 + 60 + 6.64}{0.114}$$

$$= 794.31$$

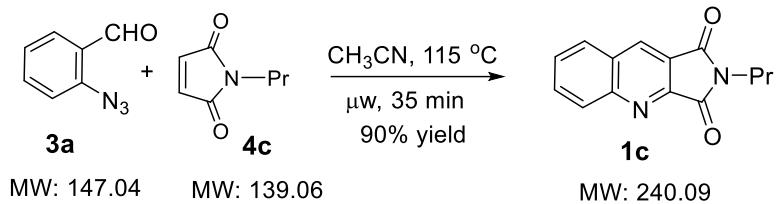
$$MP \ (1m \ cumulative) = \frac{100}{794.31} = 0.13$$

$$E \ Factor \ (1m \ cumulative) = 794.31 - 1 = 793.31$$

$$SI \ (1m \ cumulative) = \frac{60.3 + 22.8 + 16.97}{0.114} = 877.81$$

$$WI \ (1m \ cumulative) = \frac{340}{0.114} = 2982.46$$

6.3. Current Method, Process C (1c as an example)



This is a one-pot synthesis with only one step of separation for the final product.

General procedure for the synthesis of **1c**. To a solution of 2-azidobenzaldehyde **3a** (147 mg, 1.0 mmol), and N-propylmaleimide **4c** (153 mg, 1.1 mmol) in 2.5 mL of CH₃CN was heated under microwaves at 115 °C for 35 min. The reaction mixture upon the completion of the reaction as monitored by LC-MS. The reaction mixture was concentrated and then recrystallized from 3:1 EtOH:H₂O (2.0 mL), afford 216 mg (90 %) of compound **1c**.

Materials used for metrics calculations: 2-azidobenzaldehyde (0.147 g, 1.0 mmol), N-propylmaleimide (0.153 g, 1.1 mmol), CH₃CN (2.5 mL, 1.965 g), EtOH (1.13 mL, 1.18 g), water (0.5 mL, 0.5 g) and compound **1c** (0.216 g, 0.9 mmole).

$$AE \ (1c) = \frac{240.09}{147.04 + 139.06} \times 100 = 83.92$$

$$AEf \ (1c) = \frac{83.92}{100} \times 90 = 75.53$$

$$CE \ (1c) = \frac{14 \times 0.0009}{7 \times 0.0001 + 7 \times 0.0011} \times 100 = 85.68$$

$$RME \ (1c) = \frac{0.216}{0.147 + 0.153} \times 100 = 72.0$$

$$OE \ (1c) = \frac{72}{83.92} \times 100 = 85.79$$

$$PMI \ (1c) = \frac{0.147 + 0.153 + 1.965 + 1.18 + 0.5}{0.216} = 18.26$$

$$MP \ (1c) = \frac{100}{18.26} = 5.476$$

$$E \ Factor \ (1c) = 18.26 - 1 = 17.26$$

$$SI \ (1c) = \frac{3.145}{0.216} = 14.56$$

$$WI \ (1c) = \frac{0.5}{0.216} = 2.31$$

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