

A Multi-component Synthesis of *N*-Substituted 2-Amino-3-Cyano Pyrroles *via* Ring-opening of Nitroepoxides

Xingyu Liu,^a Zhuang Nie,^a Jiaan Shao,^b Wenteng Chen,^{*,a} Yongping Yu^{*,a}

^a College of Pharmaceutical Science, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou 310058, P. R. China

^b Department of Chemistry, Zhejiang Sci-Tech University, Hangzhou, 310018, P.R. China.

*Corresponding authors: E-mail: wentengchen@zju.edu.cn (for W. Chen);

E-mail: yyu@zju.edu.cn (for Y. Yu)

Supporting Information

List of contents

1. General Information.....	S2
2. General procedure for the synthesis of 4	S2
3. Characterization Data of 4	S2-S7
4. General procedure for the synthesis of aminoketone II (5).....	S8
5. Characterization Data of 5	S8
6. ¹ H and ¹³ C NMR spectra	S9-S25
7. 2D ¹ H- ¹³ C HSQC and ¹ H- ¹³ C HMBC spectra of 4a	S26-S27

General information

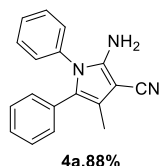
Unless otherwise noted, all reagents were obtained from commercial suppliers and used without any purification. All solvents were purified according to standard methods prior to use. Purifications of final products were carried out by chromatography using silica gel (200-300 mesh). Melting points were recorded on a melting point apparatus. NMR spectra were recorded for ^1H NMR at 500 MHz and for ^{13}C NMR at 125 MHz. For ^1H NMR, tetramethylsilane (TMS) served as internal standard ($\delta=0$) and data are reported as follows: chemical shift, integration, multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet), and coupling constant(s) in Hz. For ^{13}C NMR, TMS ($\delta=0$) or CDCl_3 ($\delta=77.26$) was used as internal standard and spectra were obtained with complete proton decoupling. HRMS of all final products were confirmed on a HPLC- Time of Flight Mass Spectrometer.

General procedure for the synthesis of 4

A solution of nitroepoxides **1** (1.0 mmol), amine **2** (1.0 mmol), malononitrile **3** (1.2 mmol), K_2CO_3 (1.0 mmol) in methanol was stirred at 60 °C for 3.0 h. Then, water was added (10 mL), and extracted three times with EtOAc. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried over MgSO_4 and concentrated under vacuum to afford a residue which was purified by silica gel chromatography (hexanes : ethyl acetate, 15:1) to give the pure product **4**.

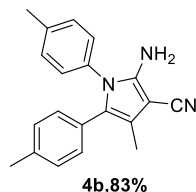
Characterization Data of 4:

2-amino-4-methyl-1, 5-diphenyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (**4a**)



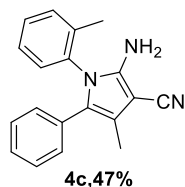
Yellow solid, mp 186.3-187.6 °C, yield 88%. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.39-7.31 (m, 3H), 7.19-7.05 (m, 5H), 7.00-6.93 (m, 2H), 5.65 (s, 2H), 2.04 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO) δ 148.1, 136.4, 131.6, 129.9, 129.7, 128.8, 128.5, 128.4, 126.6, 123.7, 118.0, 116.4, 73.6, 11.1. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $(\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_3+\text{H})^+$: 274.1339; found: 274.1340.

2-amino-4-methyl-1, 5-di-p-tolyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (**4b**)



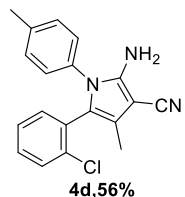
Yellow solid, mp 171.0-172.1 °C, yield 83%. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.16 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.00-6.98 (m, 4H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.03 (s, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 2.16 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 145.3, 138.4, 136.2, 133.2, 130.3, 129.6, 128.7, 128.1, 127.7, 124.6, 117.5, 116.3, 75.3, 21.2, 10.8. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for (C₂₀H₁₉N₃+H)⁺: 302.1652; found: 302.1655.

2-amino-4-methyl-5-phenyl-1-(*o*-tolyl)-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (**4c**)



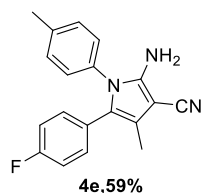
Yellow solid, mp 97.8-98.4 °C, yield 47%. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.32-7.28 (m, 1H), 7.26-7.24 (m, 3H), 7.17 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H), 5.56 (s, 2H), 2.07 (s, 3H), 1.91 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 145.2, 137.1, 134.6, 131.5, 131.0, 129.5, 129.4, 129.3, 127.9, 127.1, 126.6, 124.7, 117.5, 116.6, 75.1, 17.51, 10.9. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for (C₁₉H₁₇N₃+H)⁺: 288.1495; found: 288.1499.

2-amino-5-(2-chlorophenyl)-4-methyl-1-(*p*-tolyl)-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (**4d**)



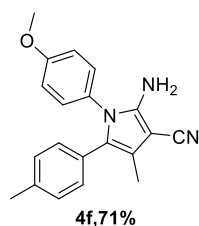
Yellow solid, mp 114.8-115.1 °C, yield 56%. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.30 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.18-7.15 (m, 1H), 7.12-7.06 (m, 4H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 4.05 (s, 2H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.00 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO) δ 147.7, 137.9, 135.0, 134.3, 133.3, 130.8, 130.1, 129.6, 128.0, 127.2, 120.9, 117.9, 117.1, 112.6, 73.1, 21.1, 10.8. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for (C₁₉H₁₆ClN₃+H)⁺: 322.1106; found: 322.1104.

2-amino-5-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-methyl-1-(*p*-tolyl)-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (**4e**)



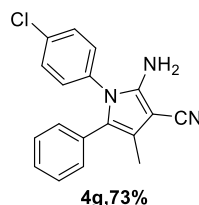
Yellow solid, mp 178.0-179.1 °C, yield 59%. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.18 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.06-6.96 (m, 6H), 5.62 (s, 2H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.00 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO) δ 160.5(d, *J* = 240.3 Hz), 147.4, 137.4, 133.0, 131.3(d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 129.8, 128.0, 122.2, 117.4, 115.7, 114.8(d, *J* = 21.5 Hz), 72.8, 20.5, 10.4. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for (C₁₉H₁₆FN₃+H)⁺: 306.1401; found: 306.1402.

2-amino-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-methyl-5-(p-tolyl)-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (**4f**)



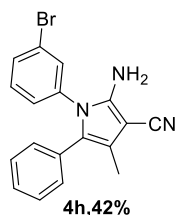
Yellow solid, mp 162.9-163.1 °C, yield 71%. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.04 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.89 -6.84 (m, 4H), 4.02 (s, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 2.16 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO) δ 159.3, 145.4, 136.2, 129.7, 129.2, 128.7, 128.4, 128.1, 124.7, 117.5, 116.1, 114.8, 75.1, 55.5, 21.2, 10.8. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for (C₂₀H₁₉N₃O+H)⁺: 318.1601; found: 318.1605.

2-amino-1-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-methyl-5-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (**4g**)



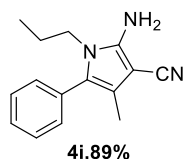
Yellow solid, mp 165.3-166.1 °C, yield 73%. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.43 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.22-7.11 (m, 5H), 6.97 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 5.80 (s, 2H), 2.02 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 141.7, 139.5, 134.4, 130.7, 129.9, 129.8, 129.2, 128.2, 126.8, 124.4, 117.3, 117.0, 76.2, 10.7. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for (C₁₈H₁₄ClN₃+H)⁺: 308.0949; found: 308.0950.

2-amino-1-(3-bromophenyl)-4-methyl-5-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (**4h**)



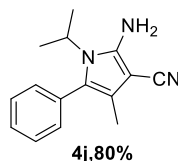
Yellow solid, mp 168.8-169.6 °C, yield 42%. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.52 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (s, 1H), 7.30 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.12 (m, 2H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 5.84 (s, 2H), 2.02 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO) δ 148.3, 137.9, 131.6, 131.5, 129.9, 128.5, 128.1, 126.9, 124.6, 123.8, 122.1, 117.8, 116.6, 88.9, 77.1, 11.0. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for (C₁₈H₁₄BrN₃+H)⁺: 352.0444; found: 352.0449.

2-amino-4-methyl-5-phenyl-1-propyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (**4i**)



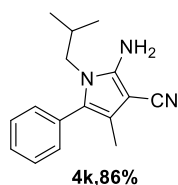
Yellow solid, mp 90.8-91.4 °C, yield 89%. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.42 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 5.92 (s, 2H), 3.65-3.58 (m, 2H), 1.88 (s, 3H), 1.37-1.26 (m, 2H), 0.59 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO) δ 147.8, 132.0, 130.4, 128.9, 127.5, 123.5, 118.6, 115.1, 72.5, 44.2, 22.5, 11.1, 10.8. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for (C₁₅H₁₇N₃+H)⁺: 240.1495; found: 240.1499.

2-amino-1-isopropyl-4-methyl-5-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (**4j**)



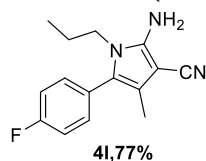
Yellow solid, mp 126.8-127.1 °C, yield 80%. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.43 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 5.60 (s, 2H), 4.17-4.07 (m, 1H), 1.81 (s, 3H), 1.28 (d, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 146.9, 132.5, 131.1, 128.9, 127.8, 124.1, 118.4, 115.1, 74.4, 47.7, 21.0, 10.8. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for (C₁₅H₁₇N₃+H)⁺: 240.1495; found: 240.1494.

2-amino-1-isobutyl-4-methyl-5-phenyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (**4k**)



Yellow solid, mp 104.5-105.1 °C, yield 86%. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.41 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 5.93 (s, 2H), 3.55 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.89 (s, 3H), 1.63-1.58 (m, 1H), 0.54 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO) δ 148.2, 132.3, 130.4, 128.9, 127.3, 123.8, 118.6, 115.2, 72.4, 49.6, 28.0, 19.8, 10.8. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for (C₁₆H₁₉N₃+H)⁺: 254.1652; found: 254.1657.

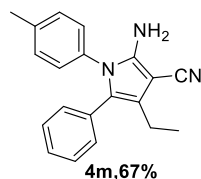
2-amino-5-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-methyl-1-propyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (**4l**)



Yellow solid, mp 176.8-177.1 °C, yield 77%. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.39-7.21 (m, 4H), 5.93 (s, 2H), 3.65-3.53 (m, 2H), 1.86 (s, 3H), 1.31 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 0.60 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO) δ 161.7(d, *J* = 242.9 Hz), 147.7,

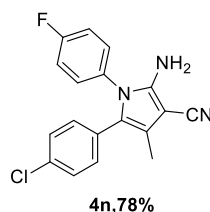
132.6(d, $J = 8$ Hz), 128.4, 122.3, 118.5, 115.9 (d, $J = 21.1$ Hz), 115.3, 72.4, 44.1, 22.5, 11.1, 10.7. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $(C_{15}H_{16}FN_3+H)^+$: 258.1401; found: 258.1404.

2-amino-4-ethyl-5-phenyl-1-(p-tolyl)-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (**4m**)



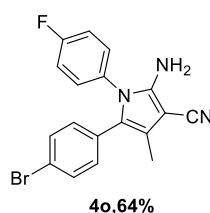
Yellow solid, mp 118.0-119.1 °C, yield 67%. 1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO) δ 7.21-7.11 (m, 5H), 7.01 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 2H), 6.97 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 2H), 5.58 (s, 2H), 2.40-2.36 (m, 2H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 1.14 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125MHz, DMSO) δ 148.3, 137.8, 133.7, 131.6, 130.3, 130.0, 129.9, 128.5, 128.4, 126.9, 122.2, 118.1, 72.0, 21.1, 18.9, 15.8. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $(C_{20}H_{19}N_3+H)^+$: 302.1652; found: 302.1654.

2-amino-5-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (**4n**)



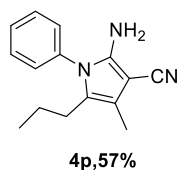
White solid, mp 163.2-164.1 °C, yield 78%. 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.11-7.07 (m, 2H), 7.03-7.01 (m, 4H), 6.84-6.78 (m, 2H), 4.01 (s, 2H), 2.08 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 161.1(d, $J = 249.1$ Hz), 144.6, 131.6, 130.5, 129.9, 128.8(d, $J = 8.5$ Hz), 128.2, 127.4, 122.4, 116.6, 116.0(d, $J = 23.0$ Hz), 115.9, 74.9, 9.7. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $(C_{18}H_{13}ClFN_3+H)^+$: 326.0855; found: 326.0857.

2-amino-5-(4-bromophenyl)-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-methyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile (**4o**)



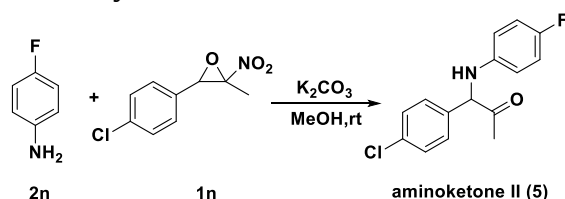
White solid, mp 208.2-209.3 °C, yield 64%. 1H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 7.25 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.03-7.01 (m, 4H), 6.75 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 4.01 (s, 2H), 2.08 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, $CDCl_3$) δ 162.3(d, $J = 248.75$ Hz), 145.7, 131.7, 131.6, 131.5, 131.3, 129.9(d, $J = 8.75$ Hz), 123.5, 120.9, 117.8, 117.1 (d, $J = 22.5$ Hz), 76.2, 10.9. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $(C_{18}H_{13}BrFN_3+H)^+$: 370.0350; found: 370.0356.

2-amino-4-methyl-1-phenyl-5-propyl-1H-pyrrole-3-carbonitrile(**4p**)



Tan liquid. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.53-7.48 (m, 3H), 7.25 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 2H), 3.79 (s, 2H), 2.25 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.07 (s, 3H), 1.19-1.15 (m, 2H), 0.71 (t, J = 5.9 Hz, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 144.3, 135.6, 129.9, 129.2, 128.4, 123.8, 117.7, 114.1, 74.2, 26.1, 22.9, 13.5, 10.0. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $(\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_3+\text{H})^+$: 240.1495; found: 240.1497.

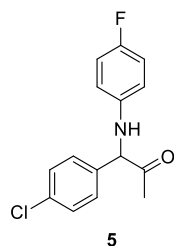
General procedure for the synthesis of **5**



A solution of nitroepoxides **1n** (1.0 mmol), amine **2n** (1.0 mmol) and K_2CO_3 (1.0 mmol) in methanol was stirred at 25 °C for 1.0 h. Then, water was added (10 mL), and extracted three times with EtOAc. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried over MgSO_4 and concentrated under vacuum to afford a residue which was purified by silica gel chromatography (hexanes : ethyl acetate, 20:1) to give the pure product **5**.

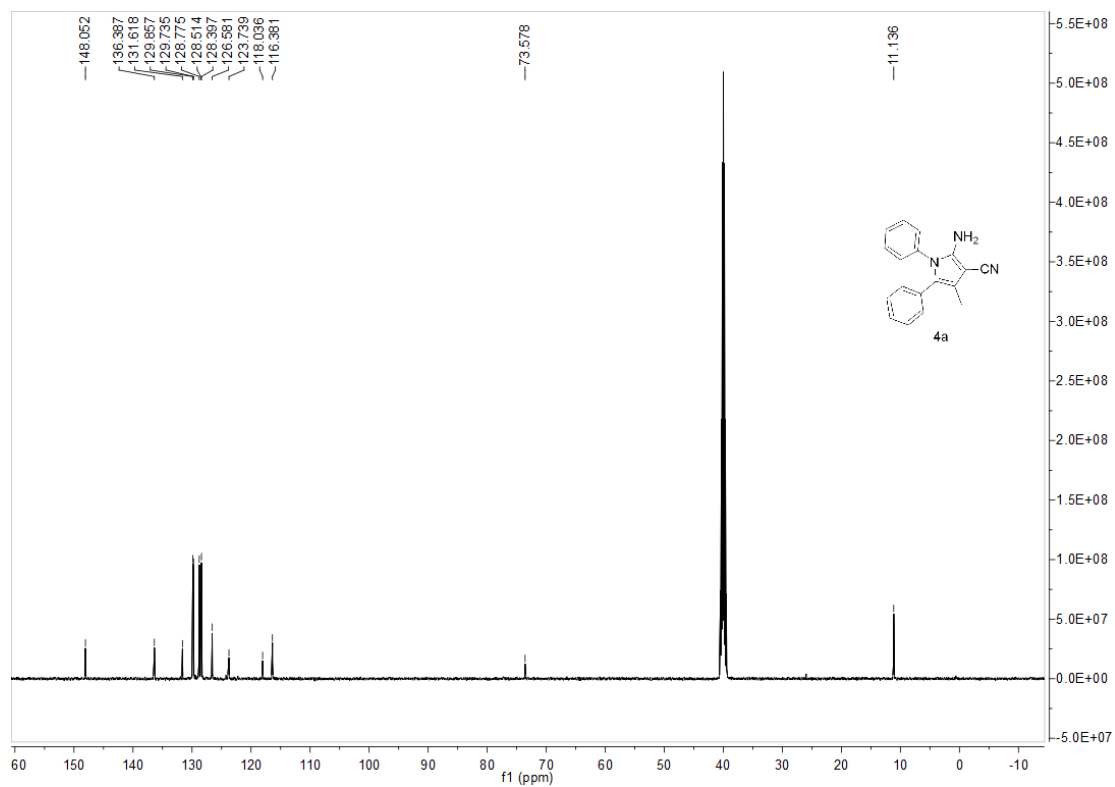
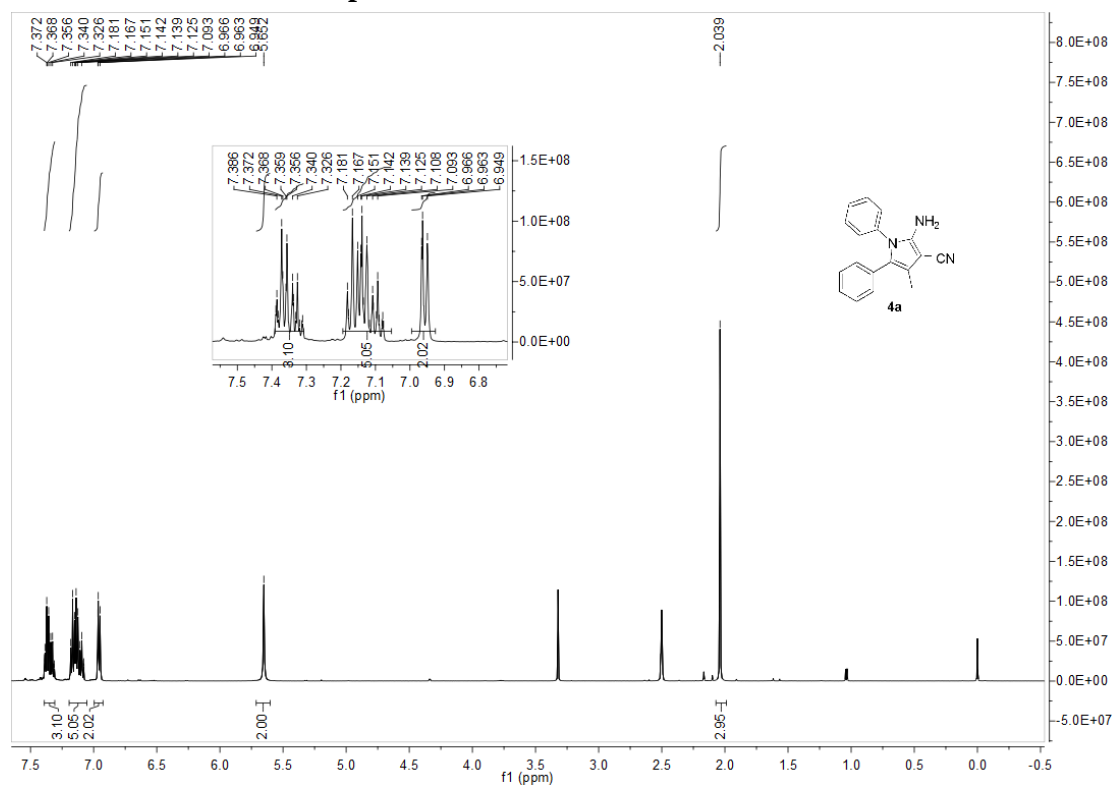
Characterization Data of **5**

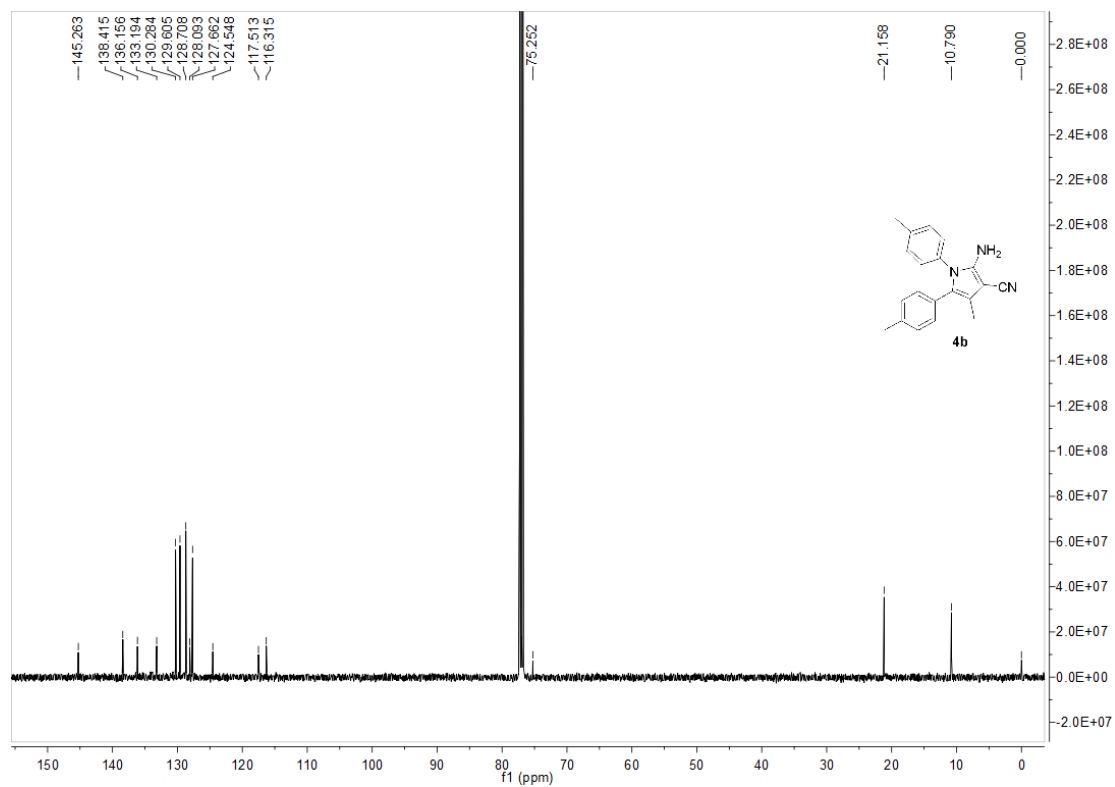
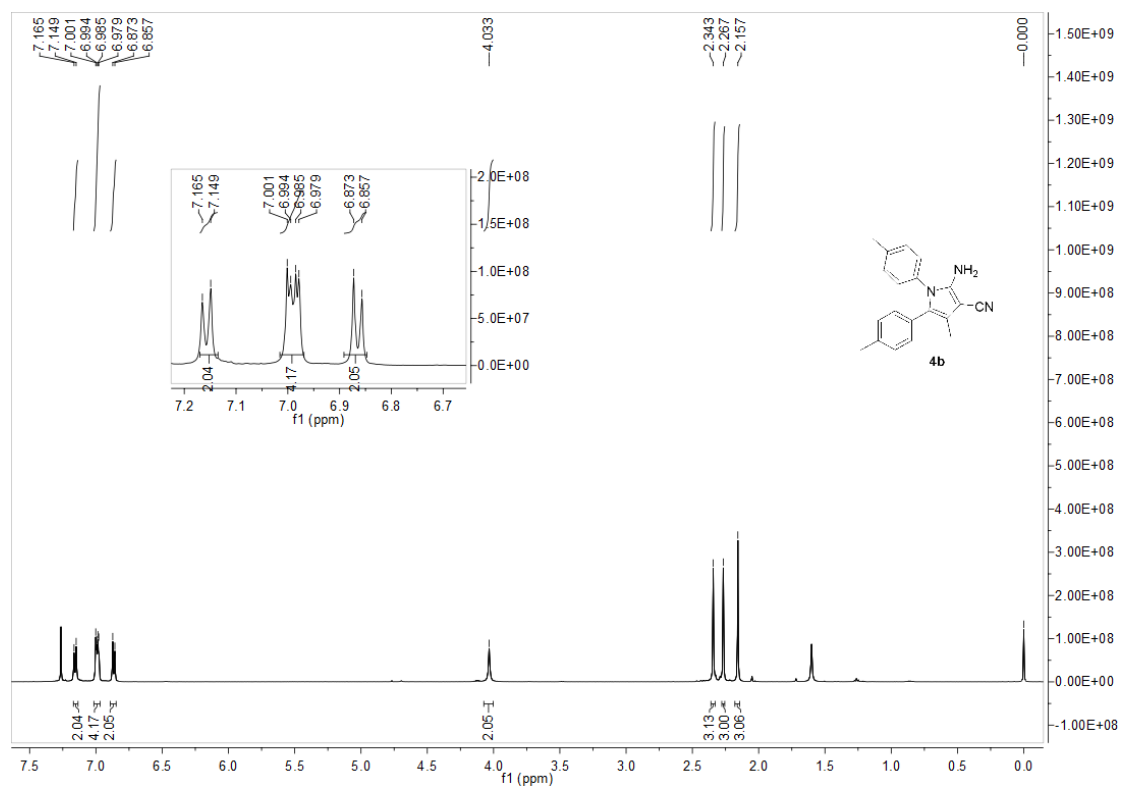
1-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-((4-fluorophenyl)amino)propan-2-one (**5**)

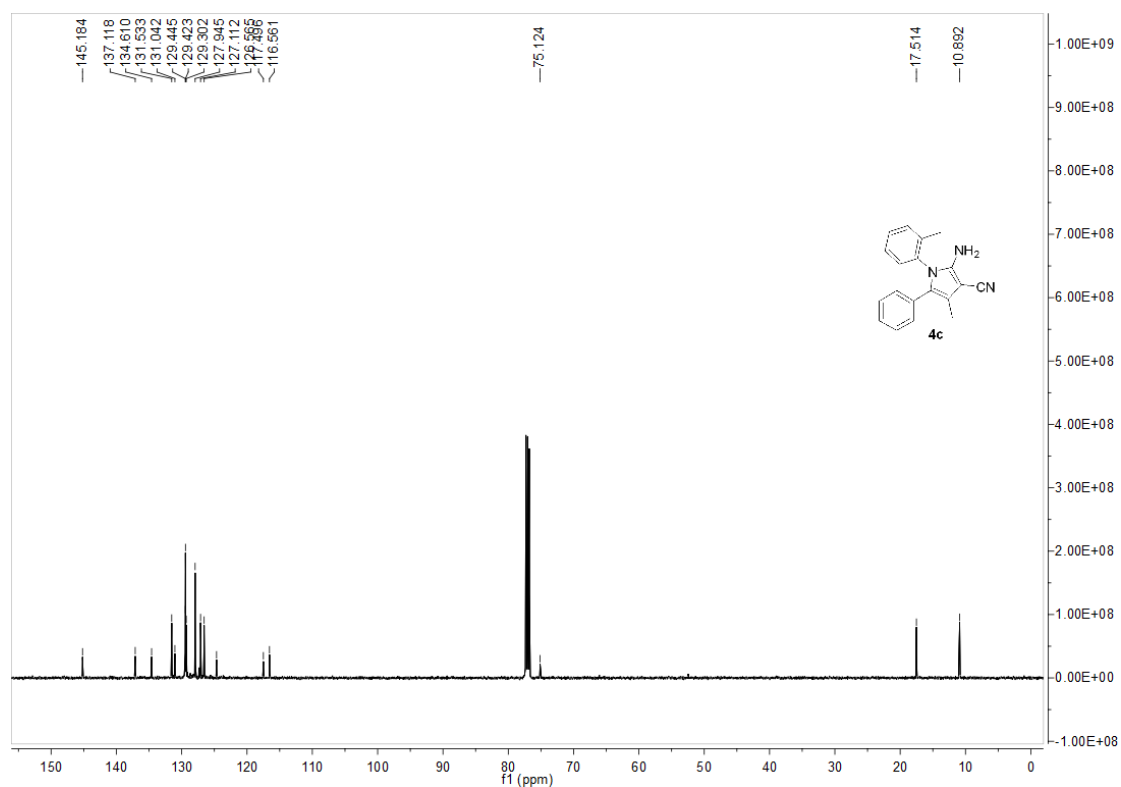
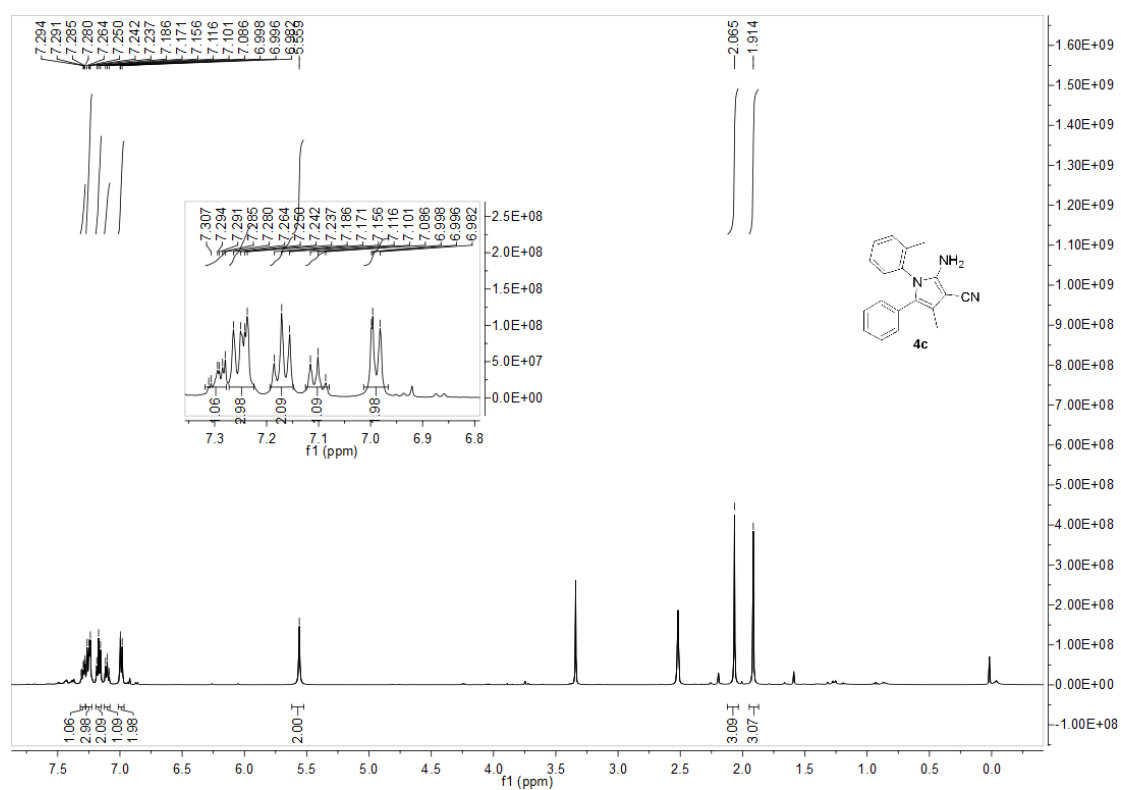


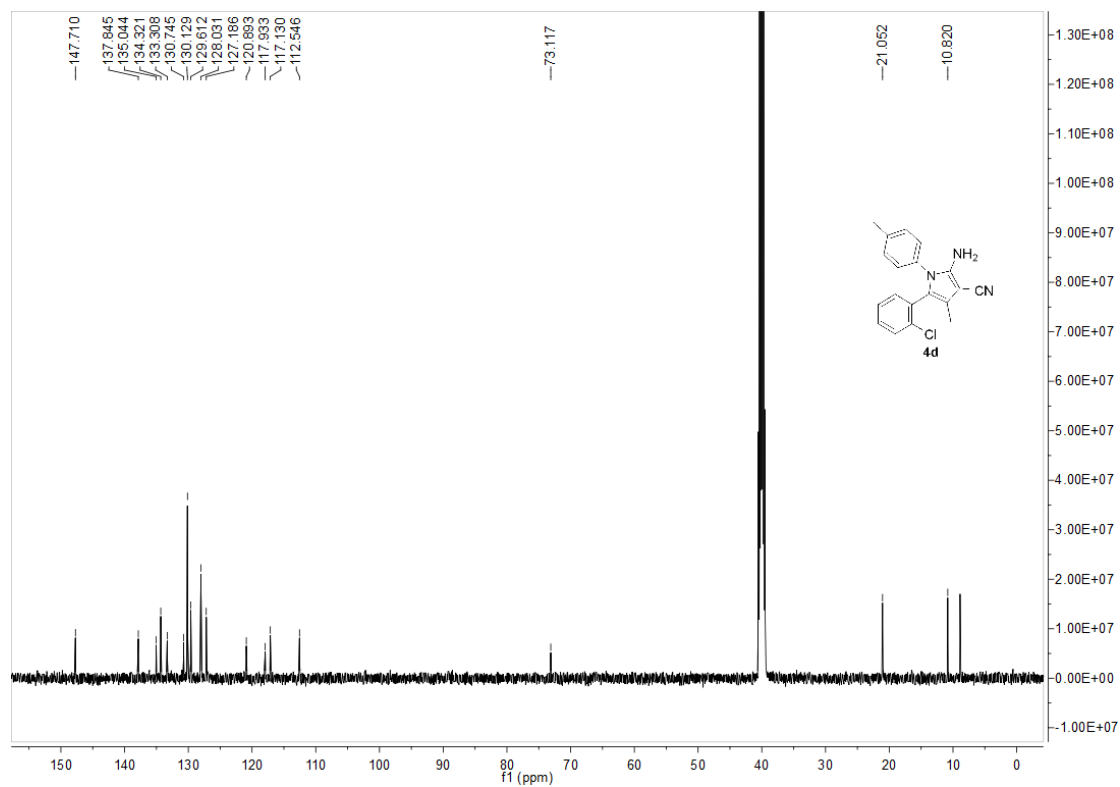
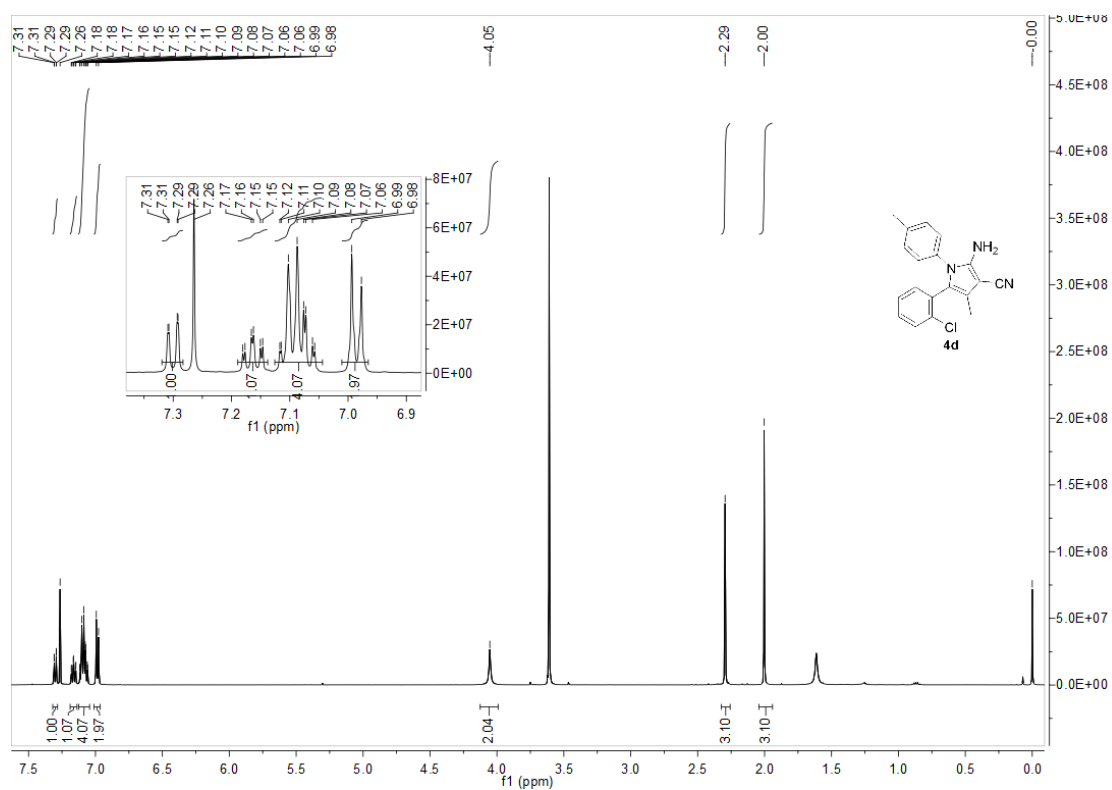
Yellow liquid. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.41-7.26 (m, 4H), 6.77-6.64 (m, 2H), 6.46-6.26 (m, 2H), 5.25 (s, 1H), 4.84 (s, 1H), 2.05 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 202.1, 155.0(d, J = 234.4 Hz), 141.0, 135.5, 133.4, 128.5, 128.1, 114.7 (d, J = 22.3 Hz), 113.1(d, J = 7.4 Hz), 67.0, 25.6. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for $(\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{13}\text{ClFNO}+\text{H})^+$: 278.0742; found: 278.0745.

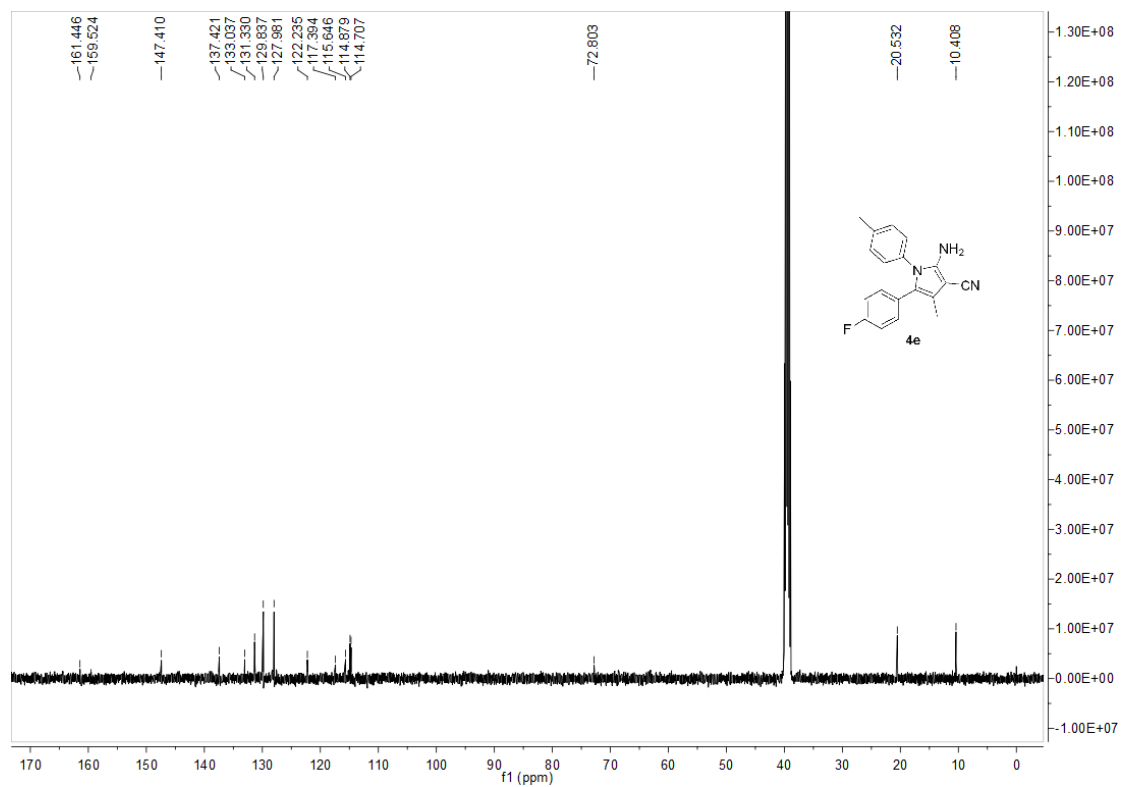
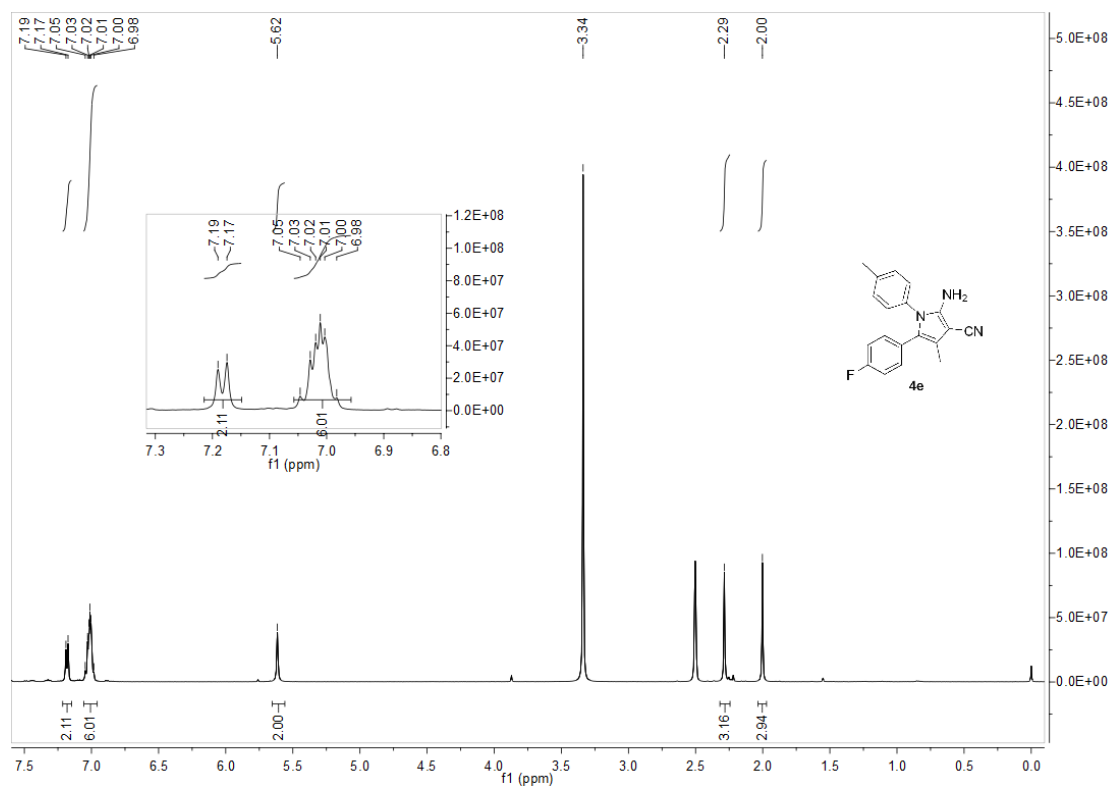
¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectrum

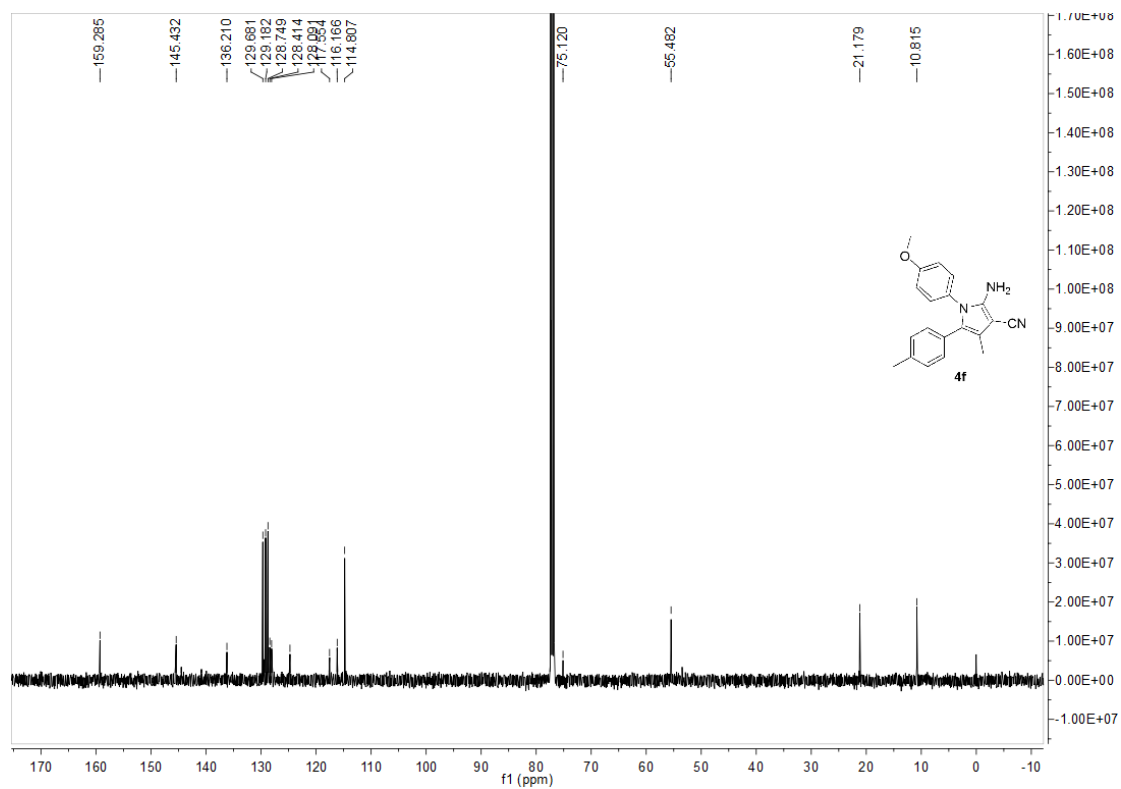
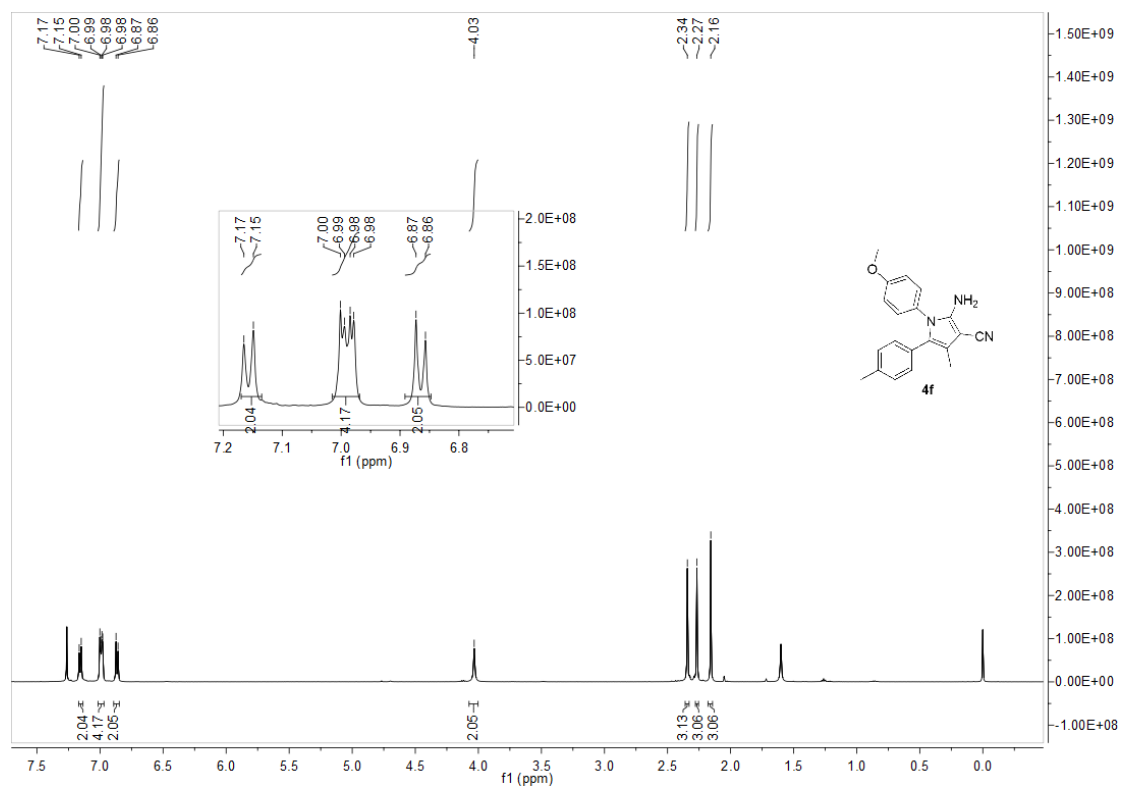


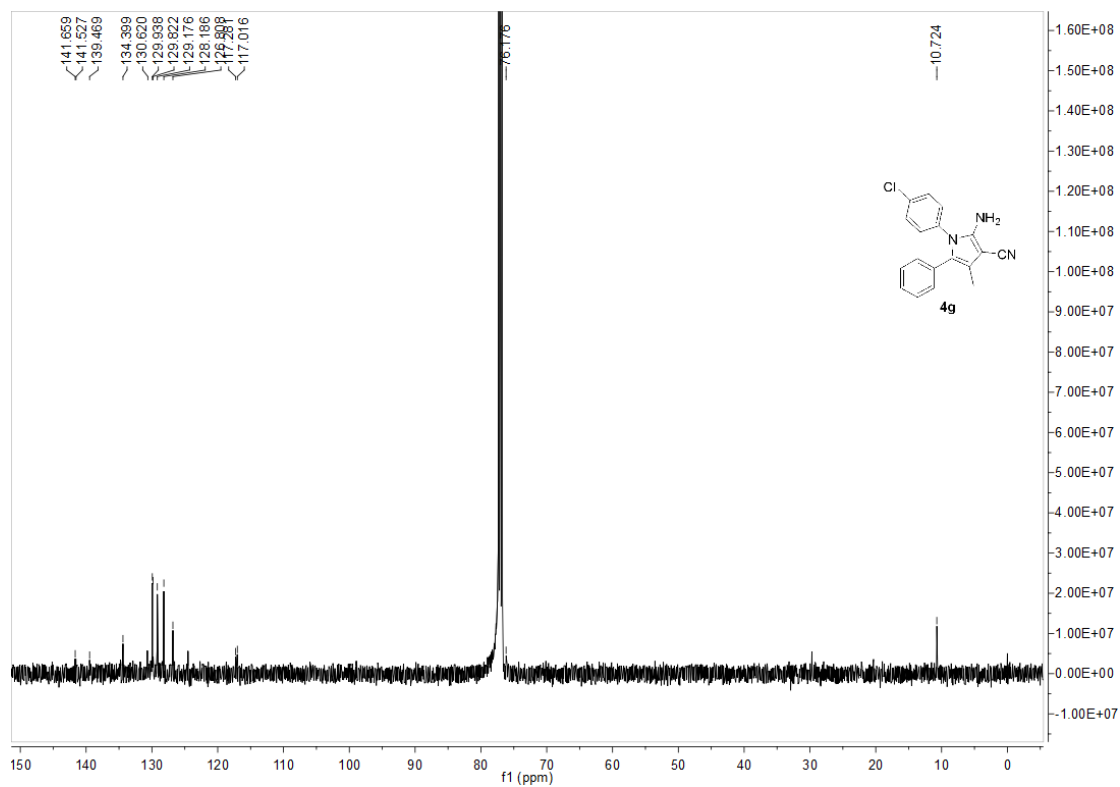
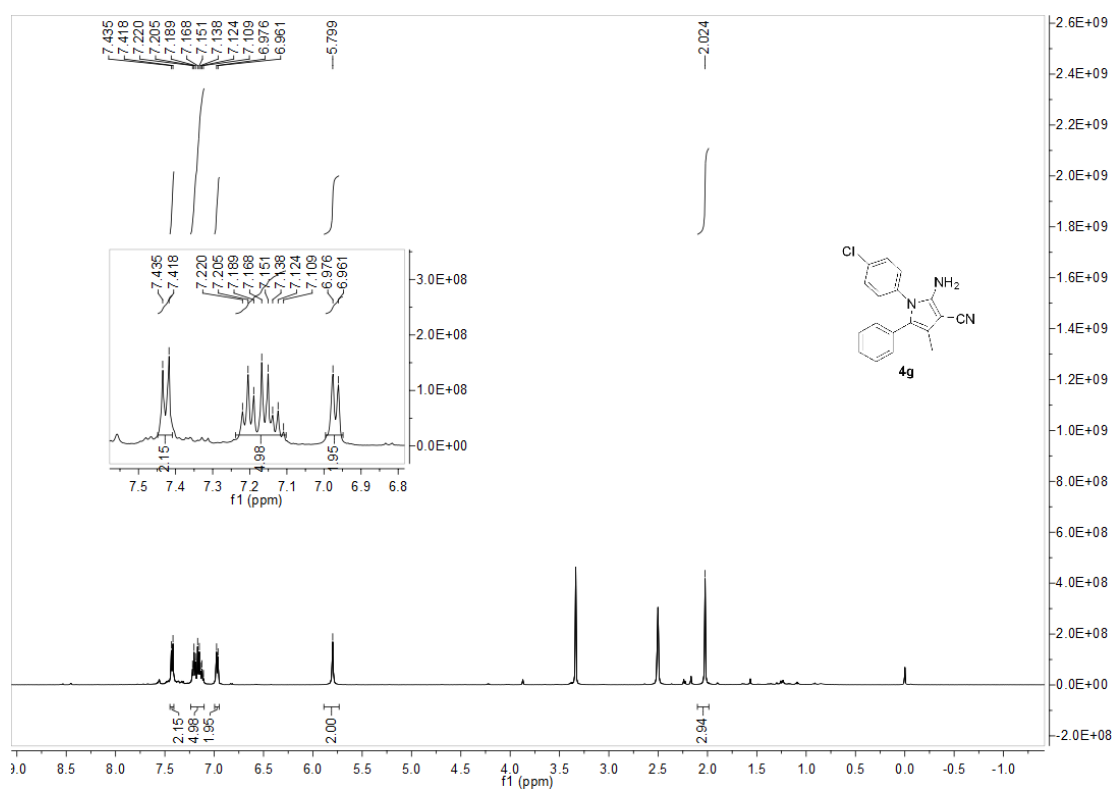


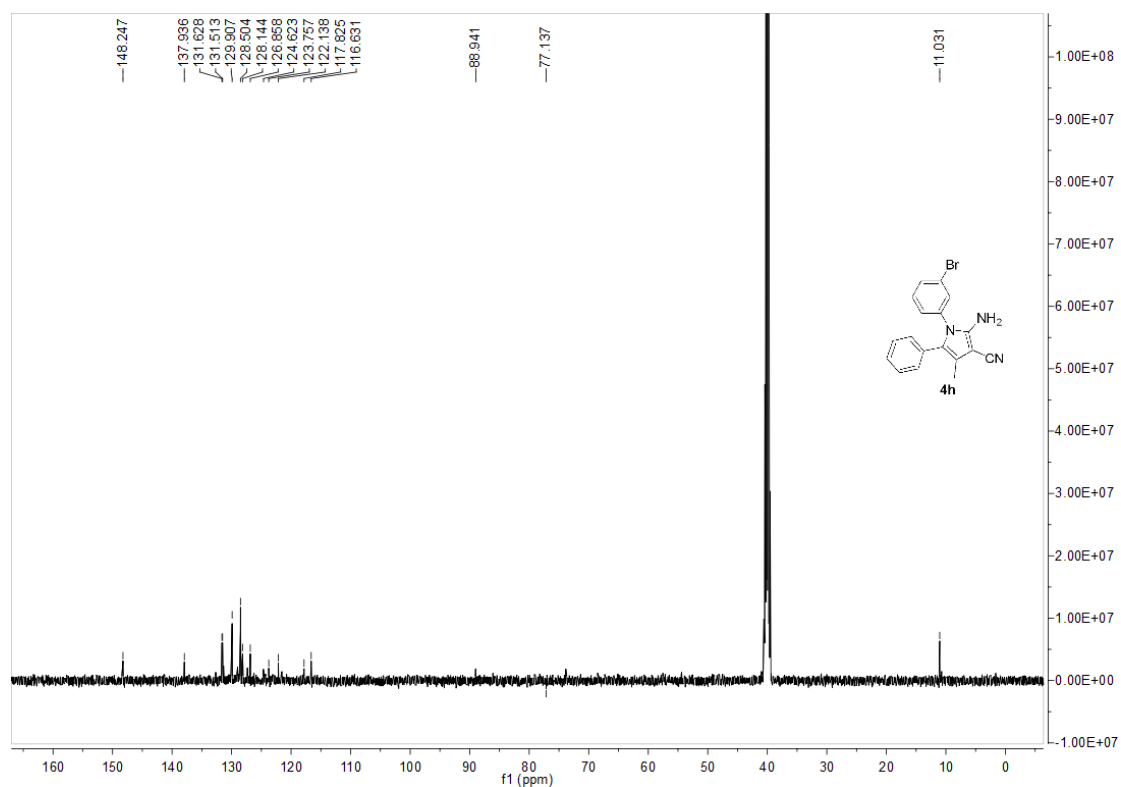
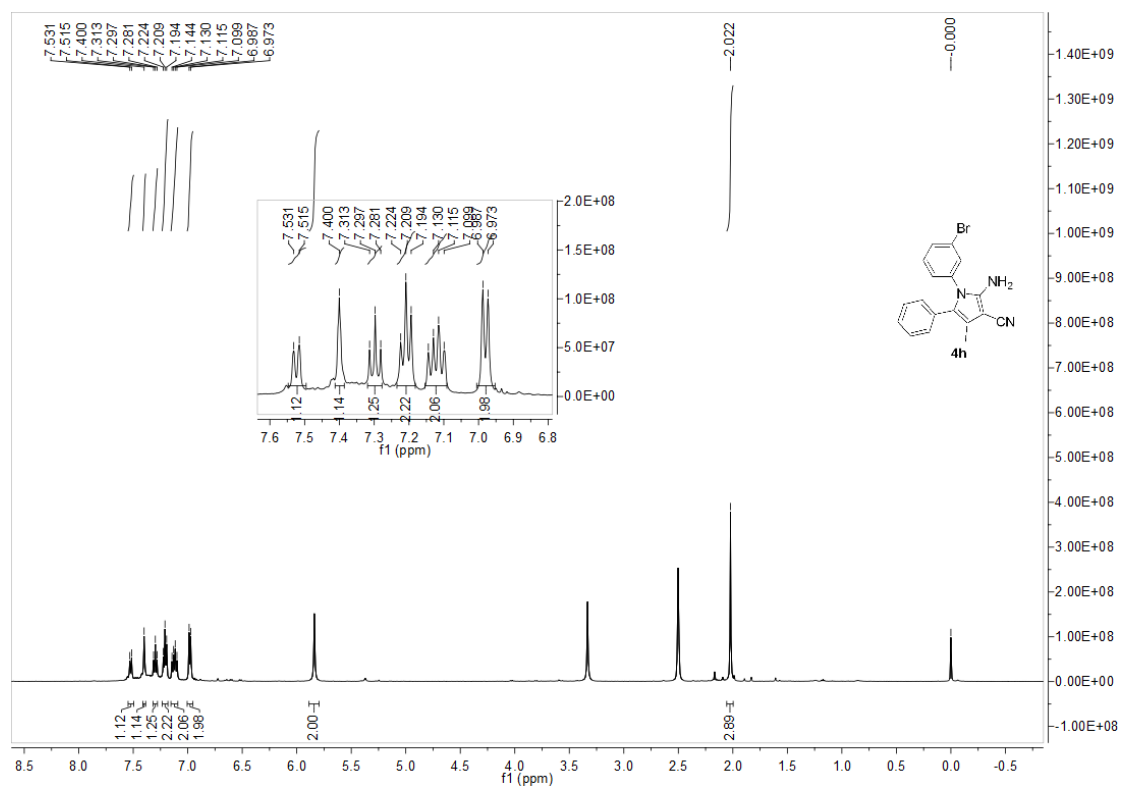


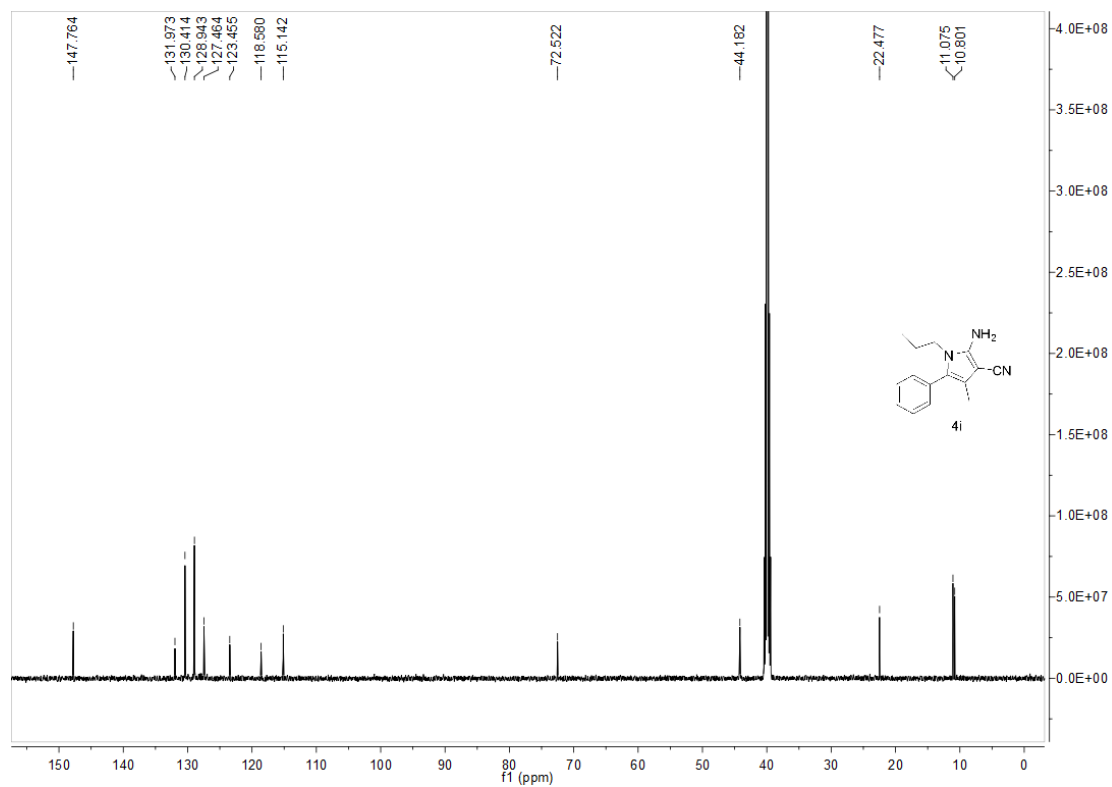
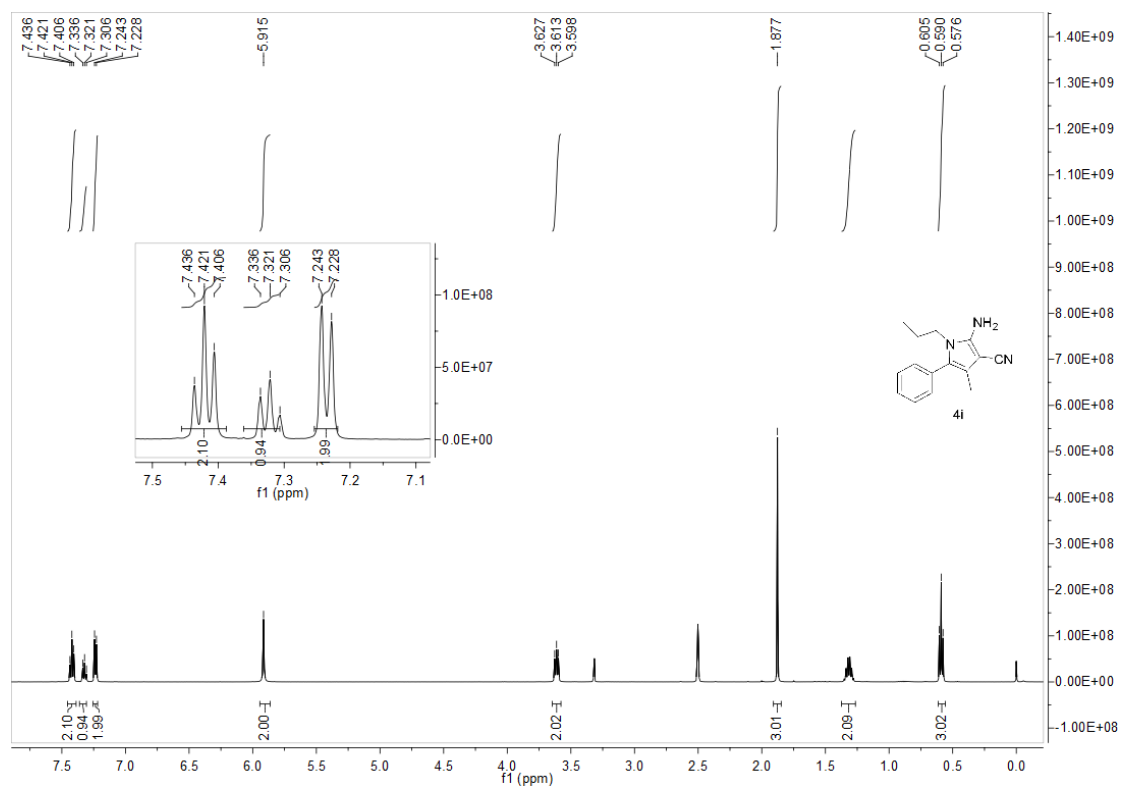


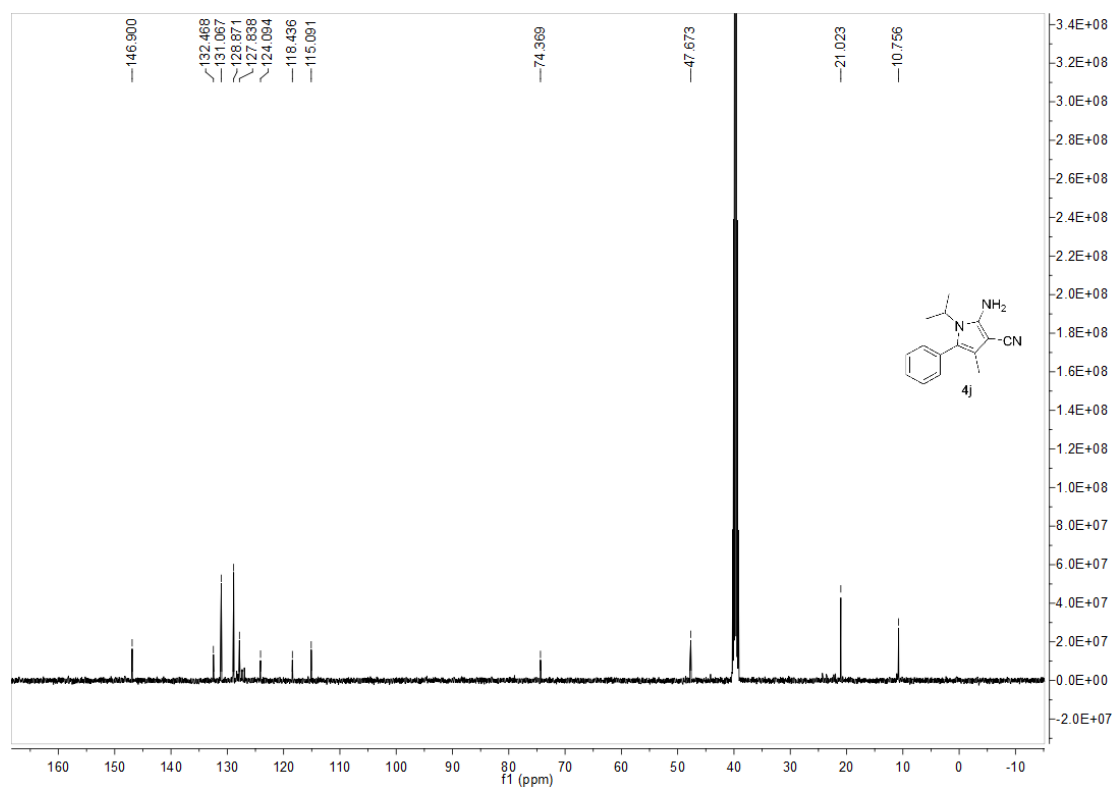
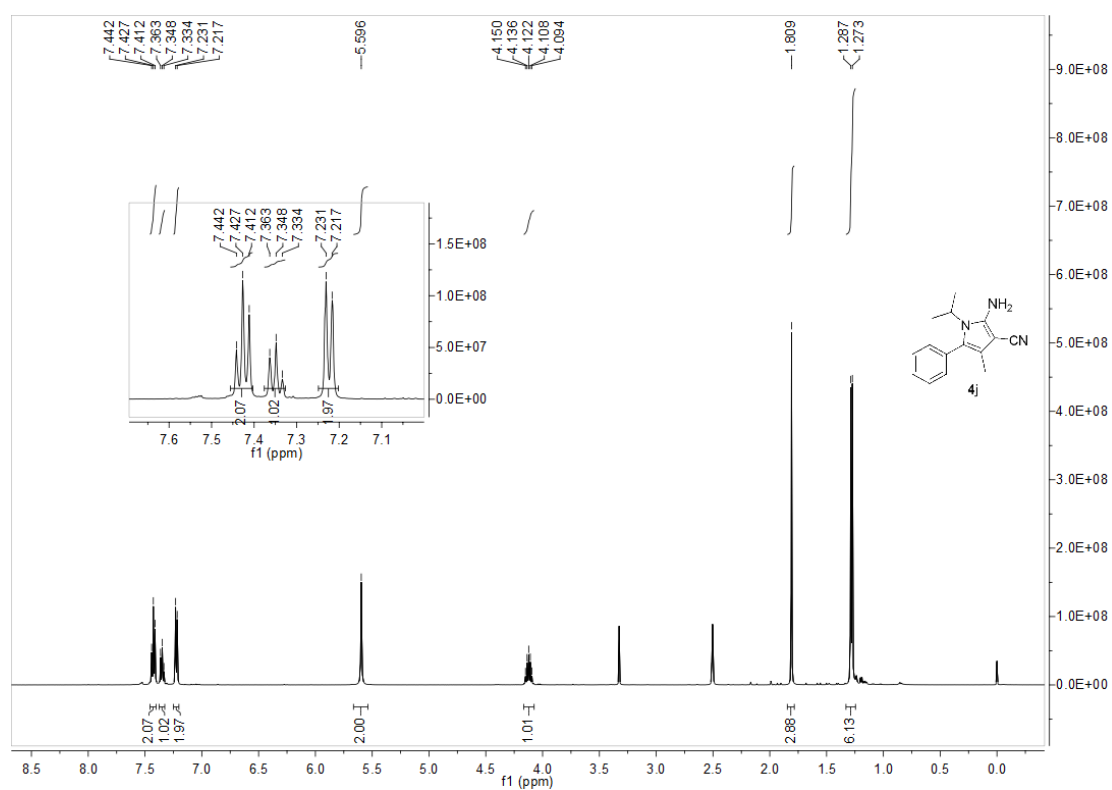


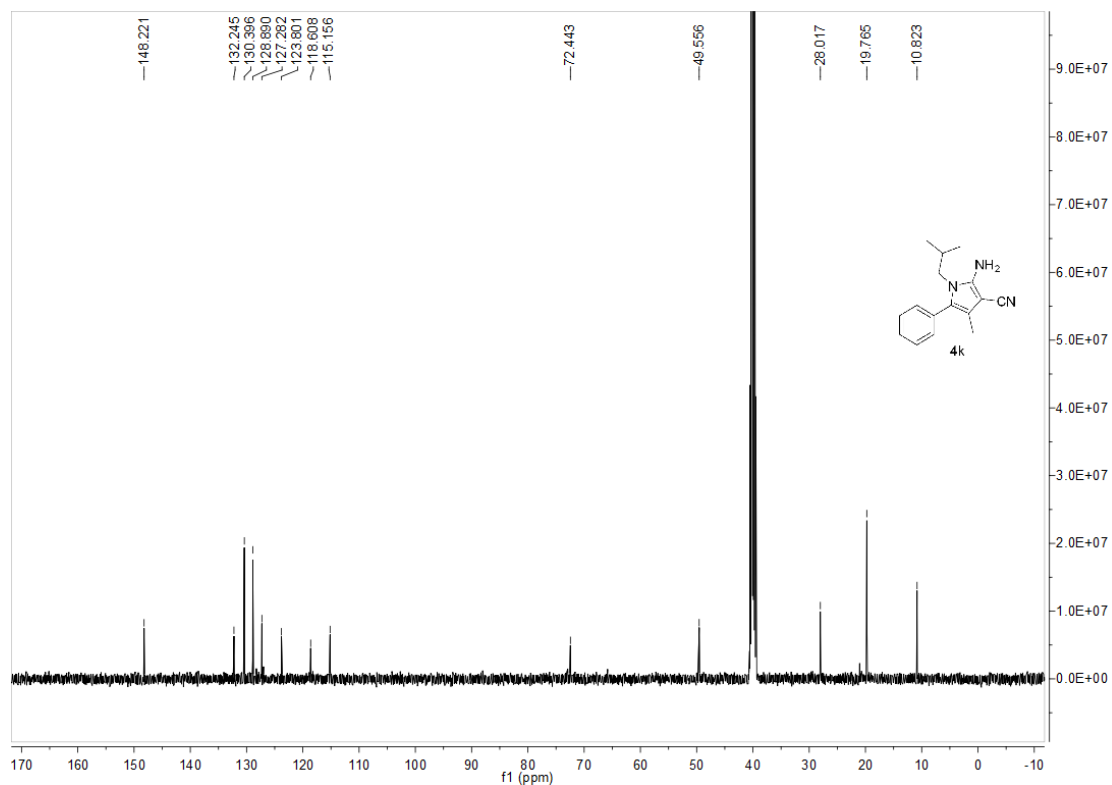
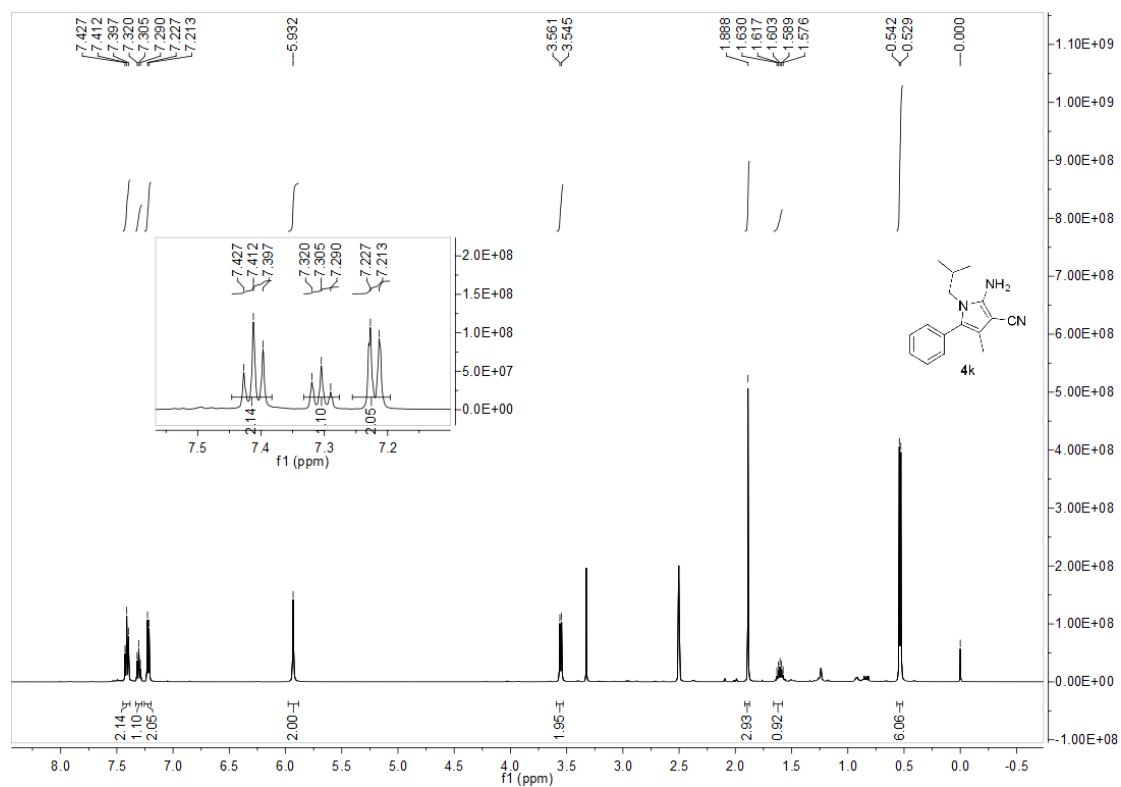


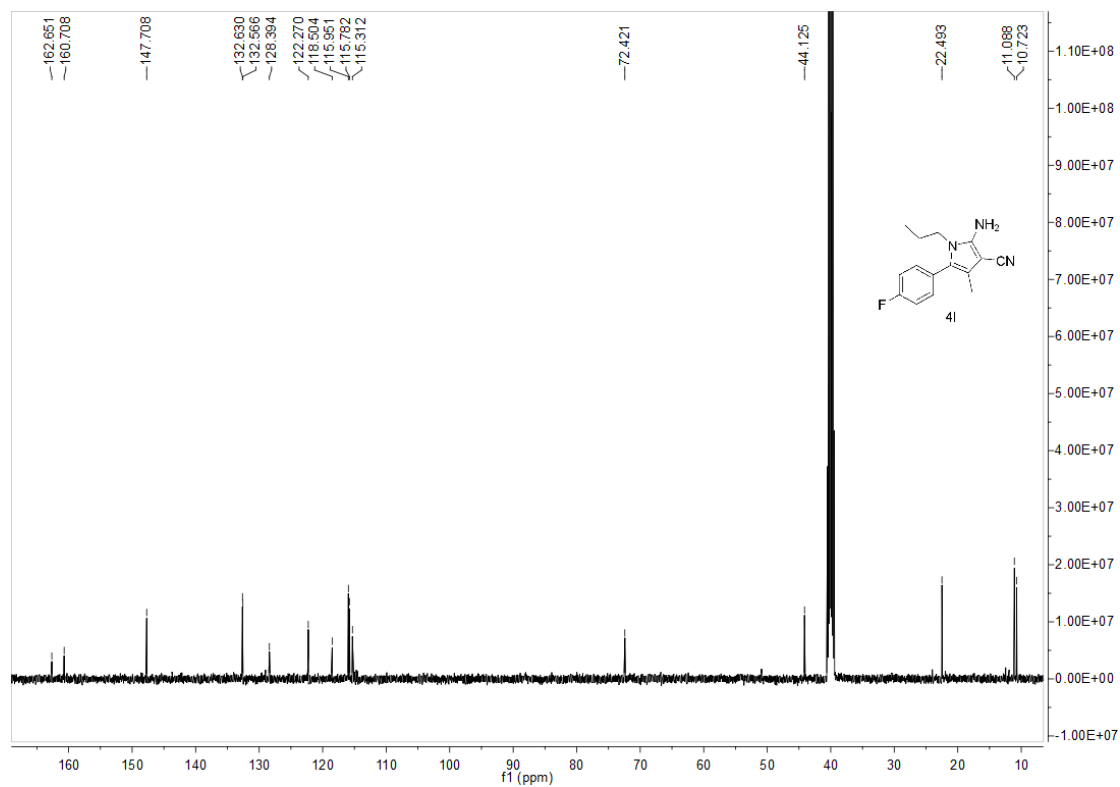
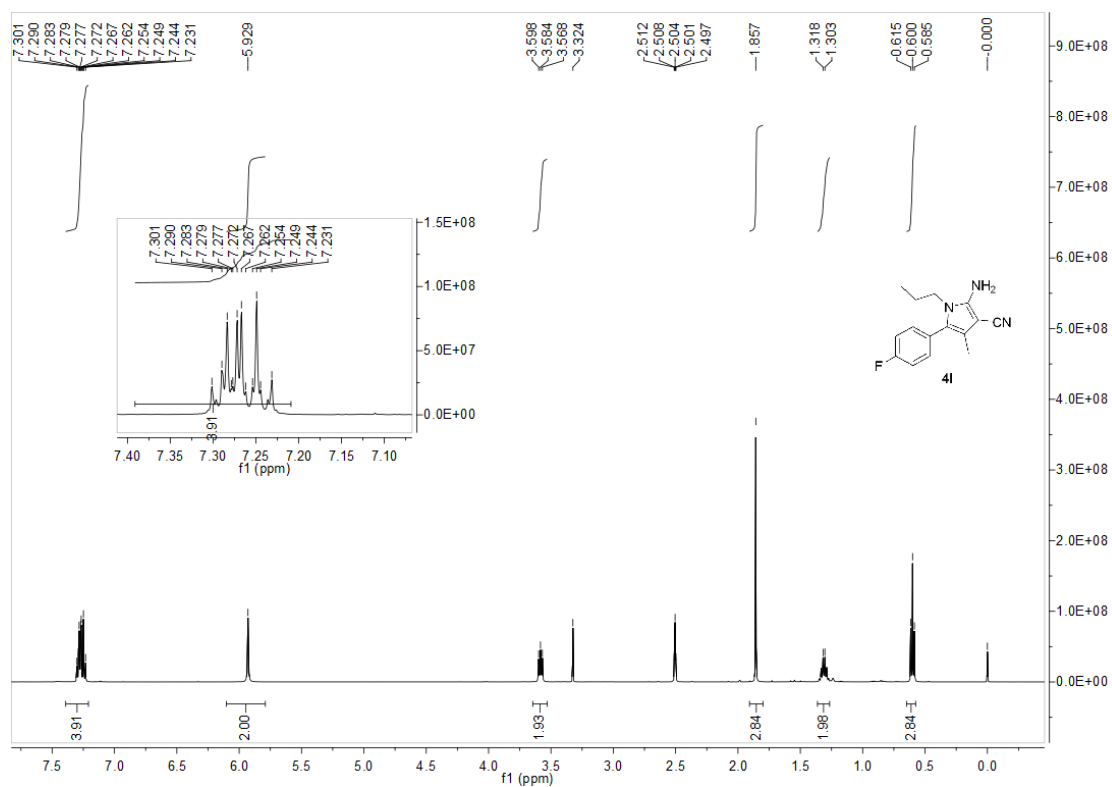


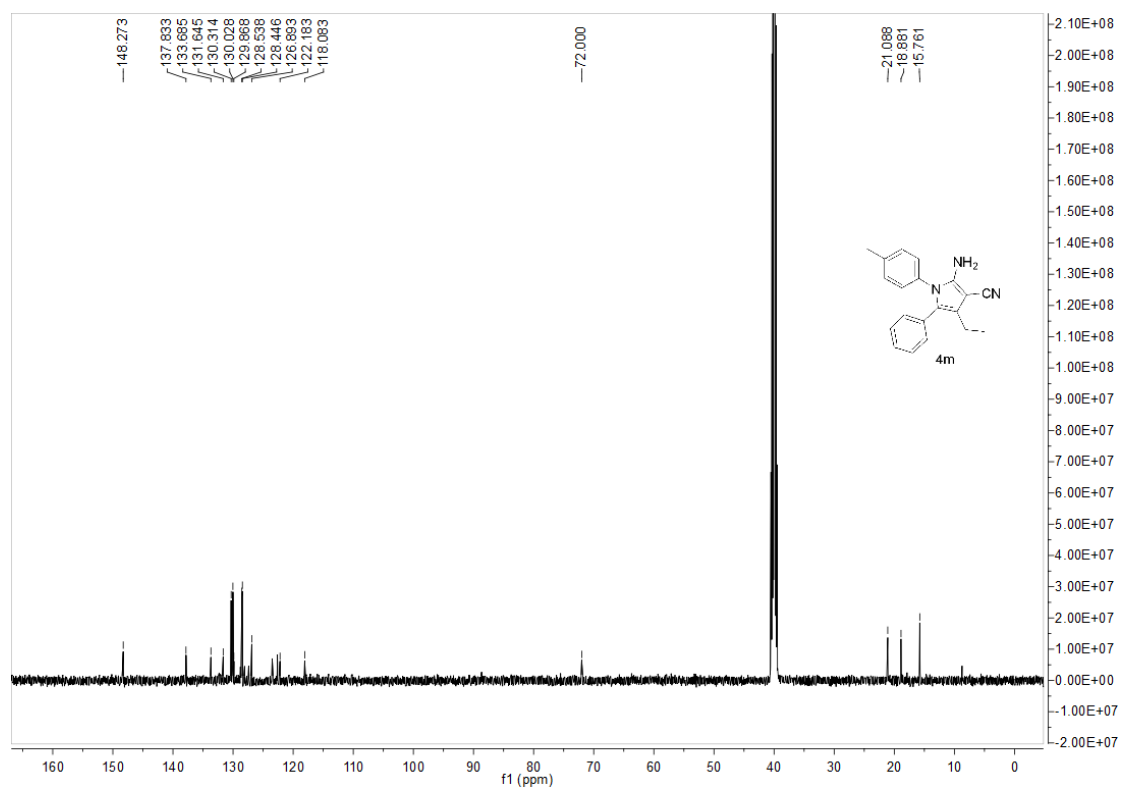
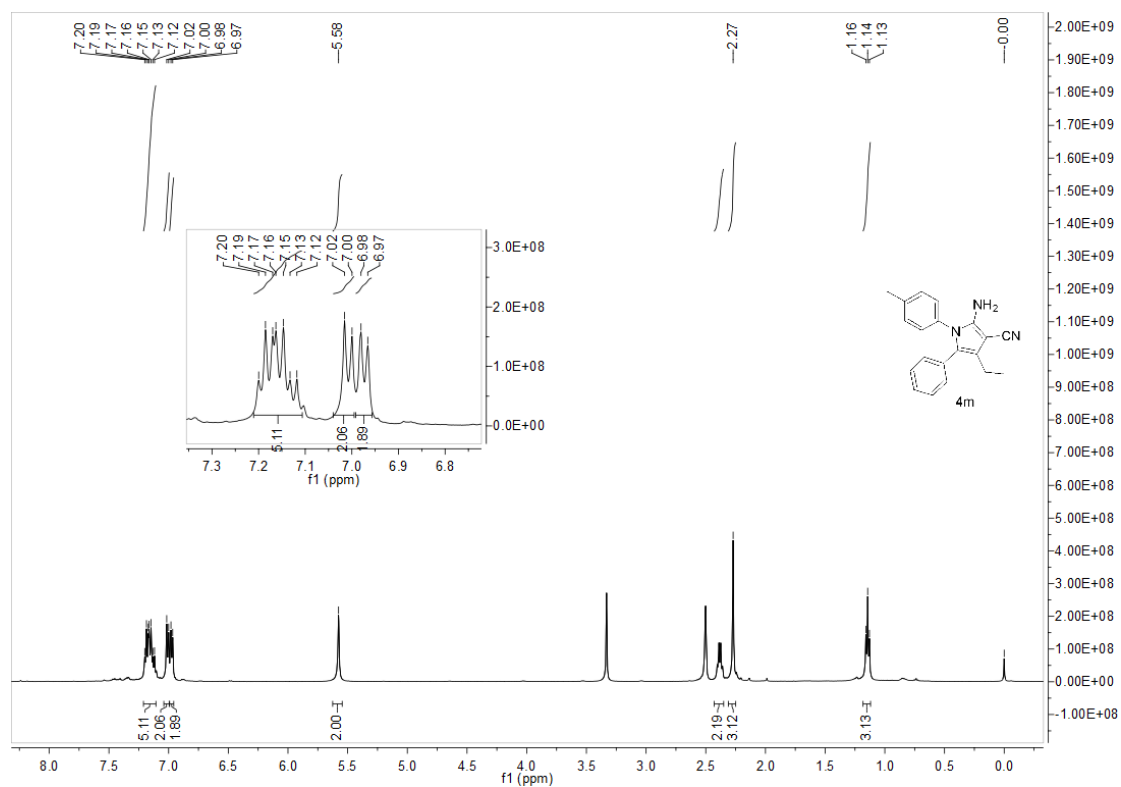


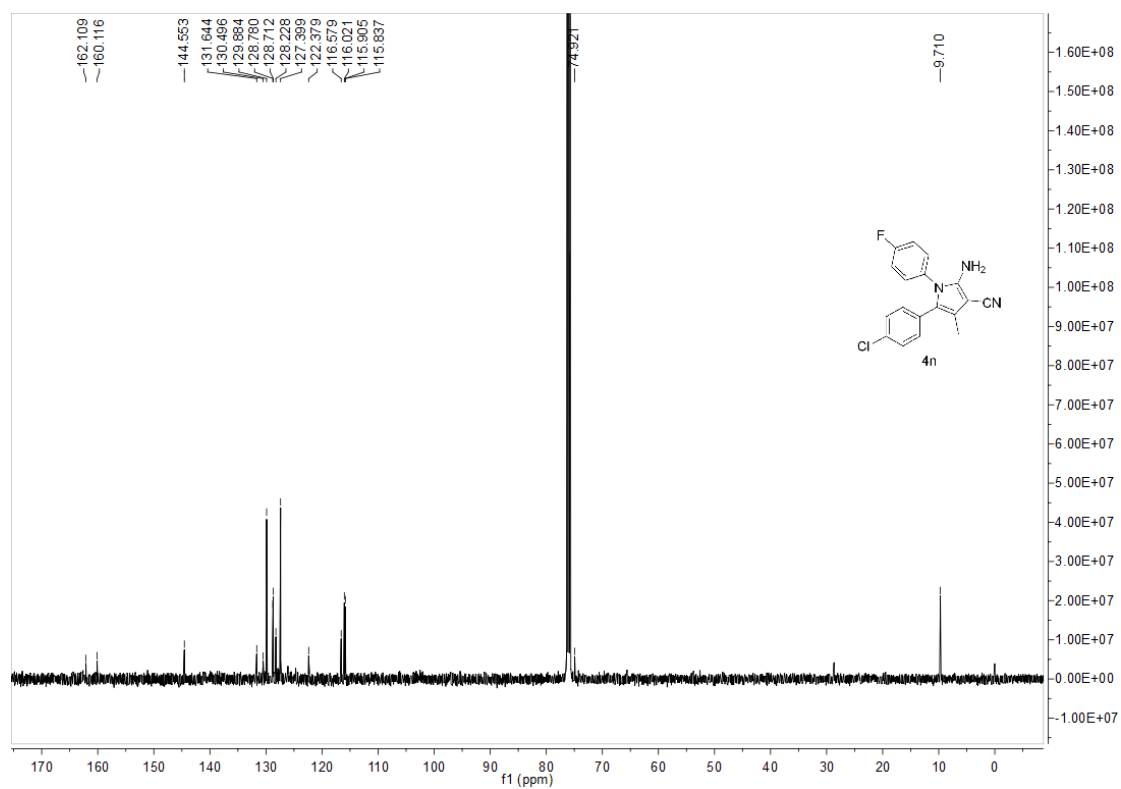
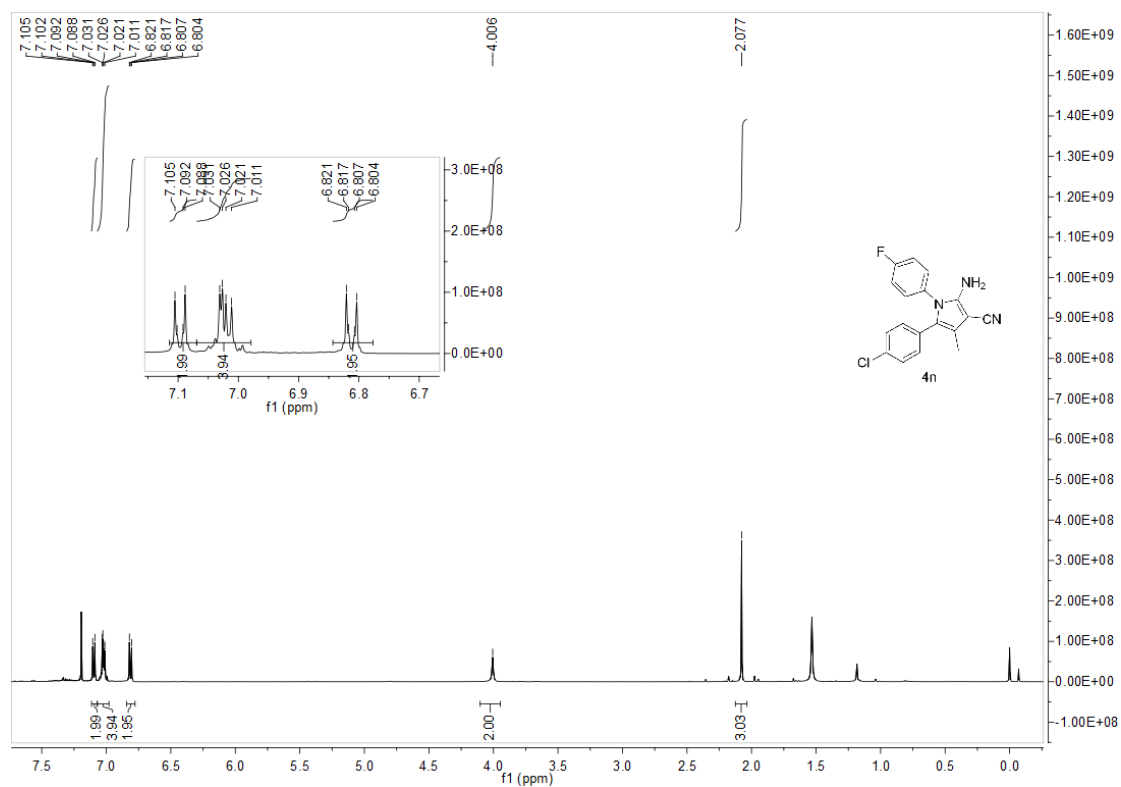


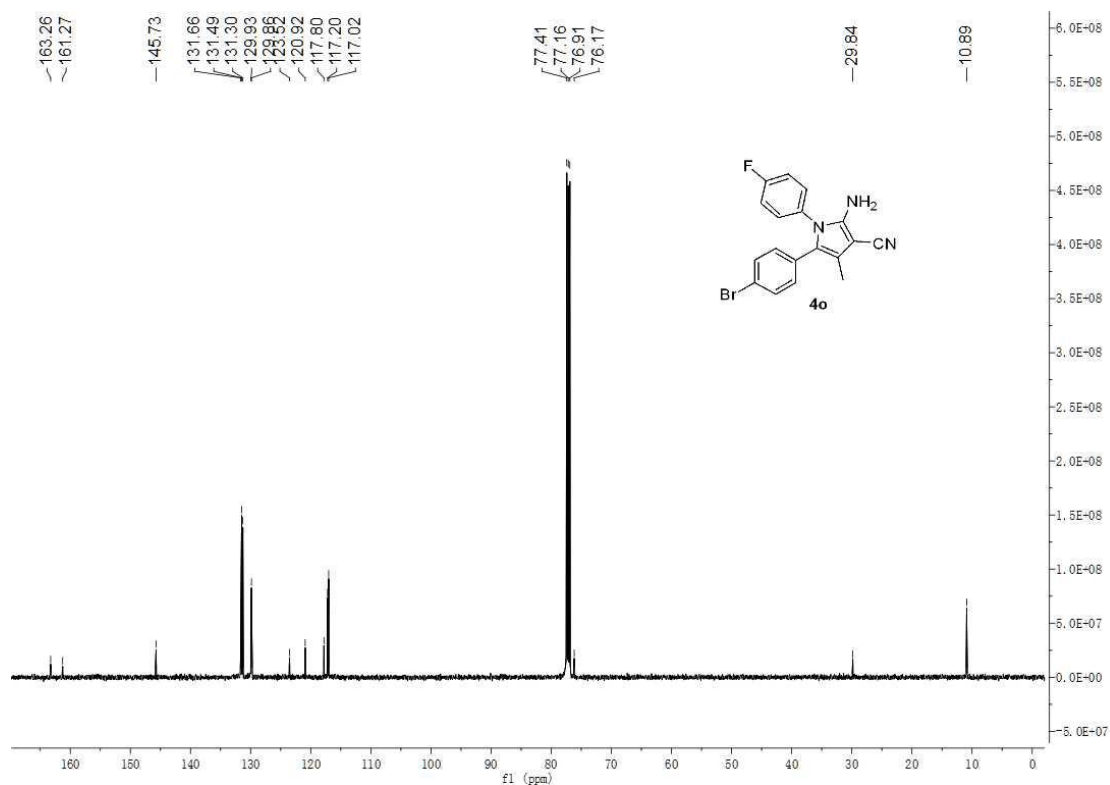
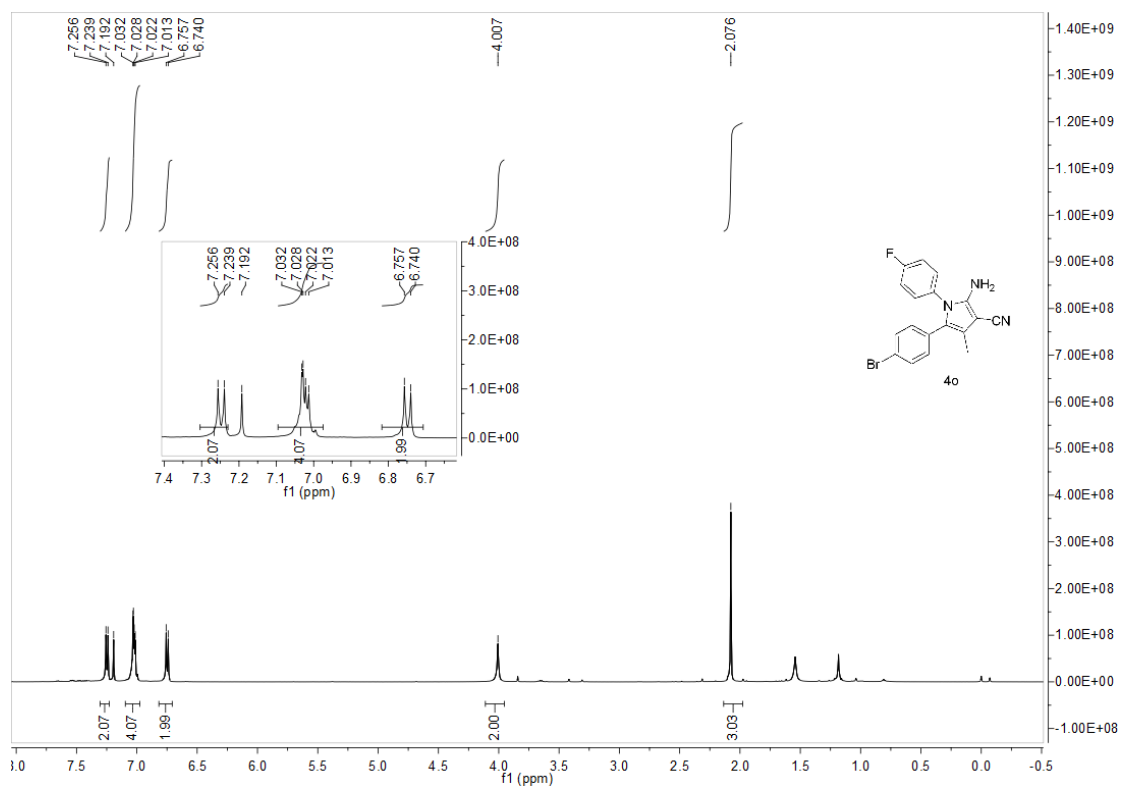


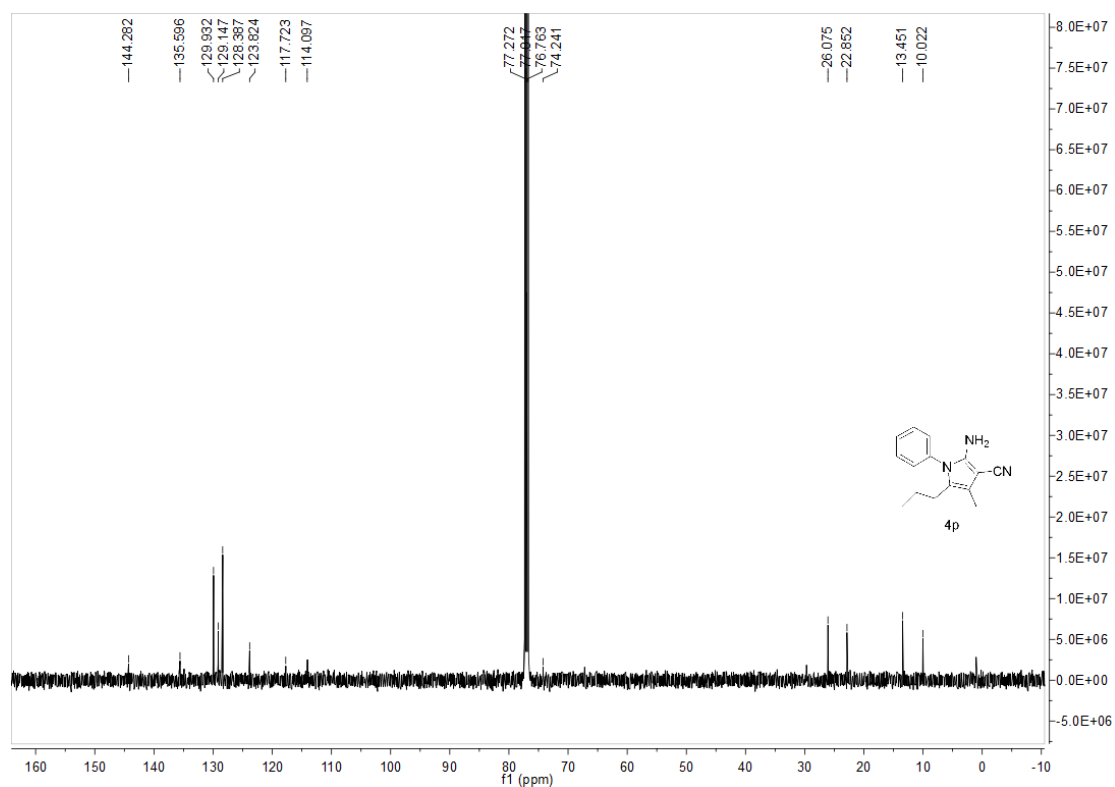
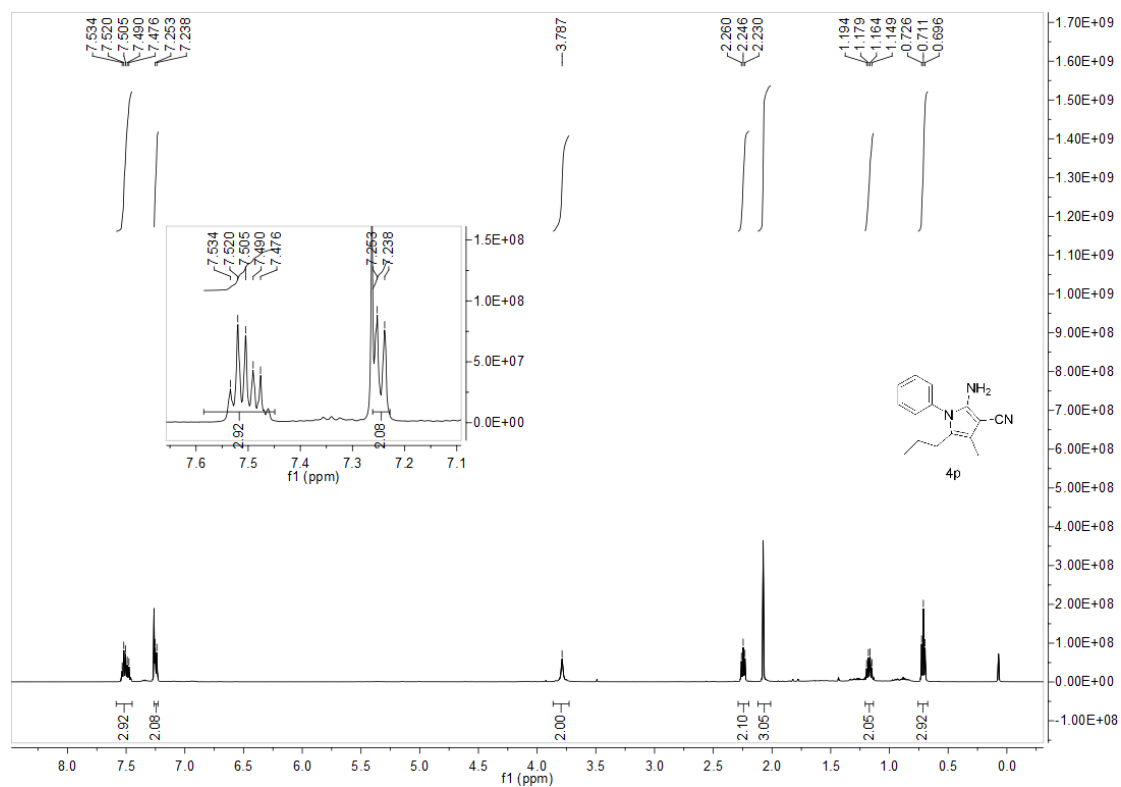


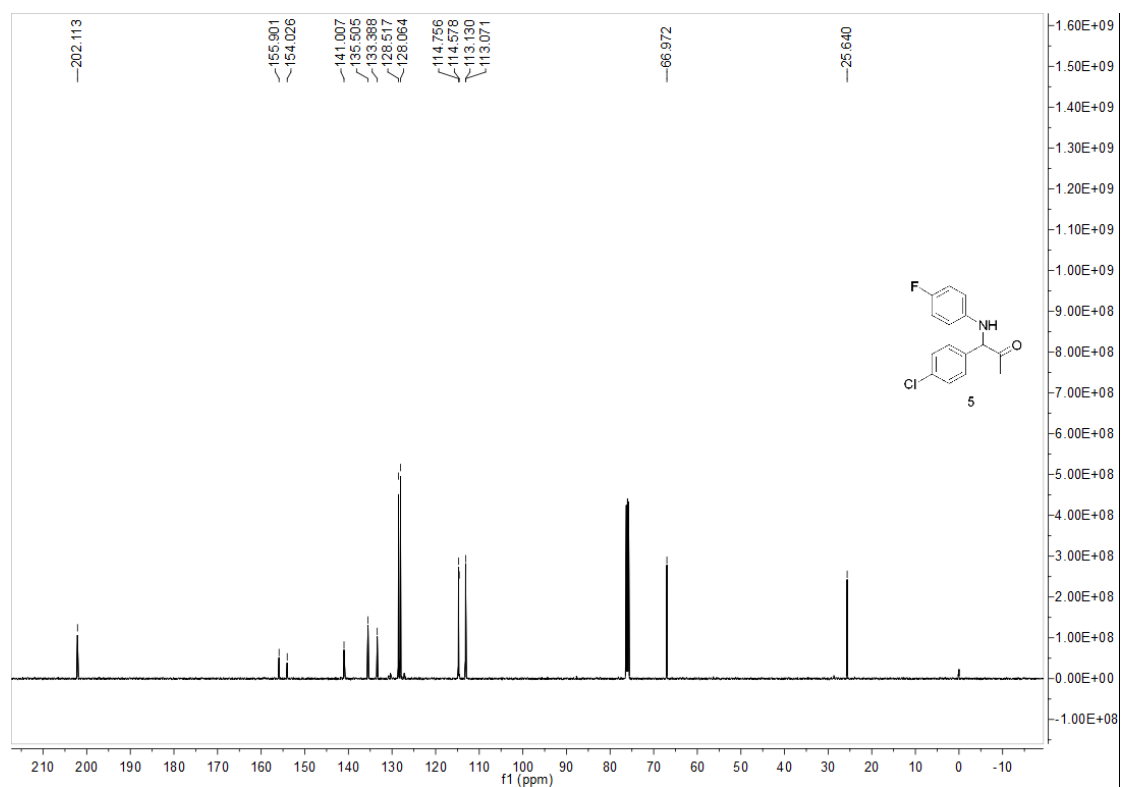
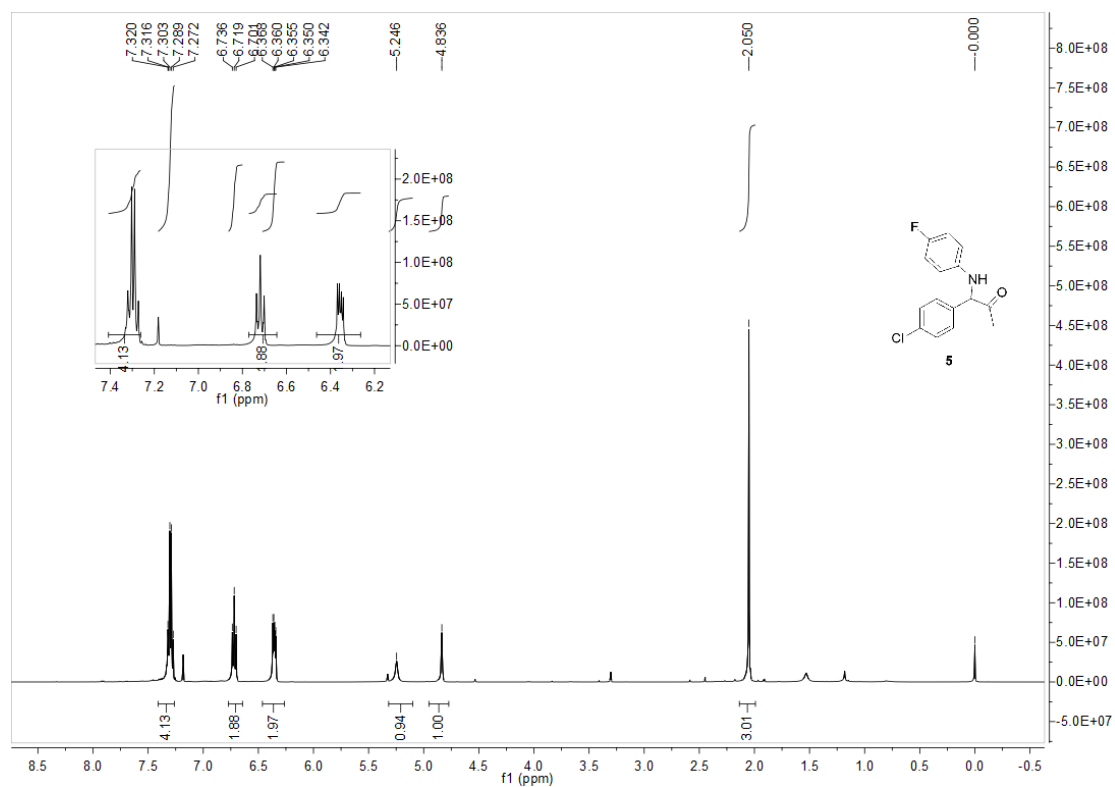




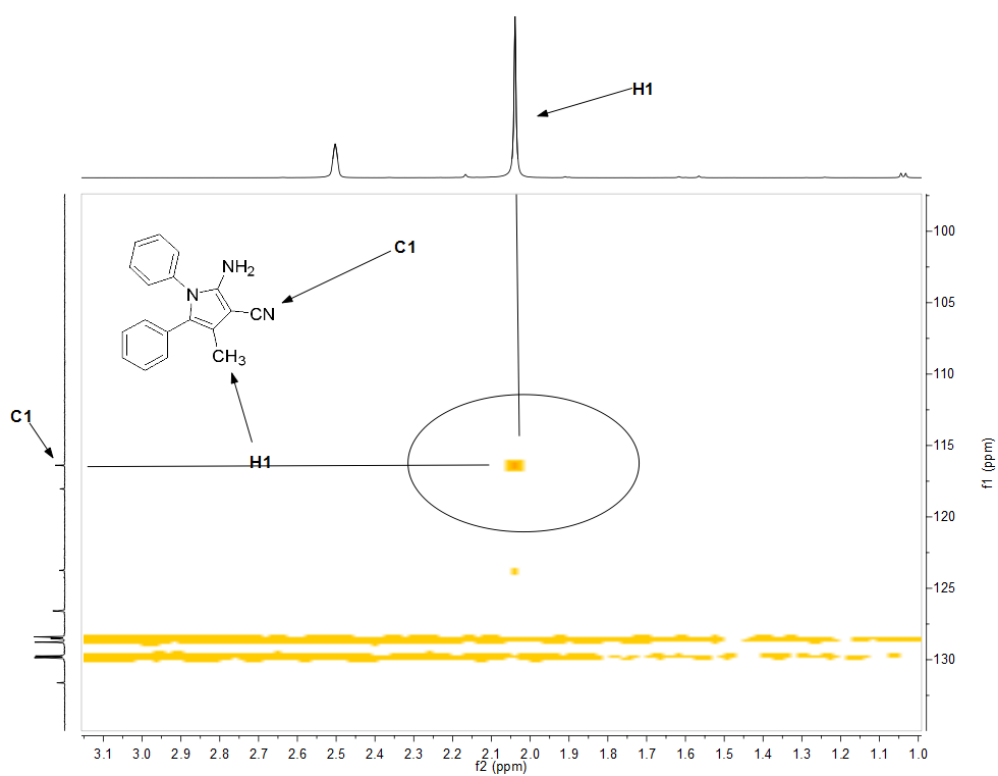
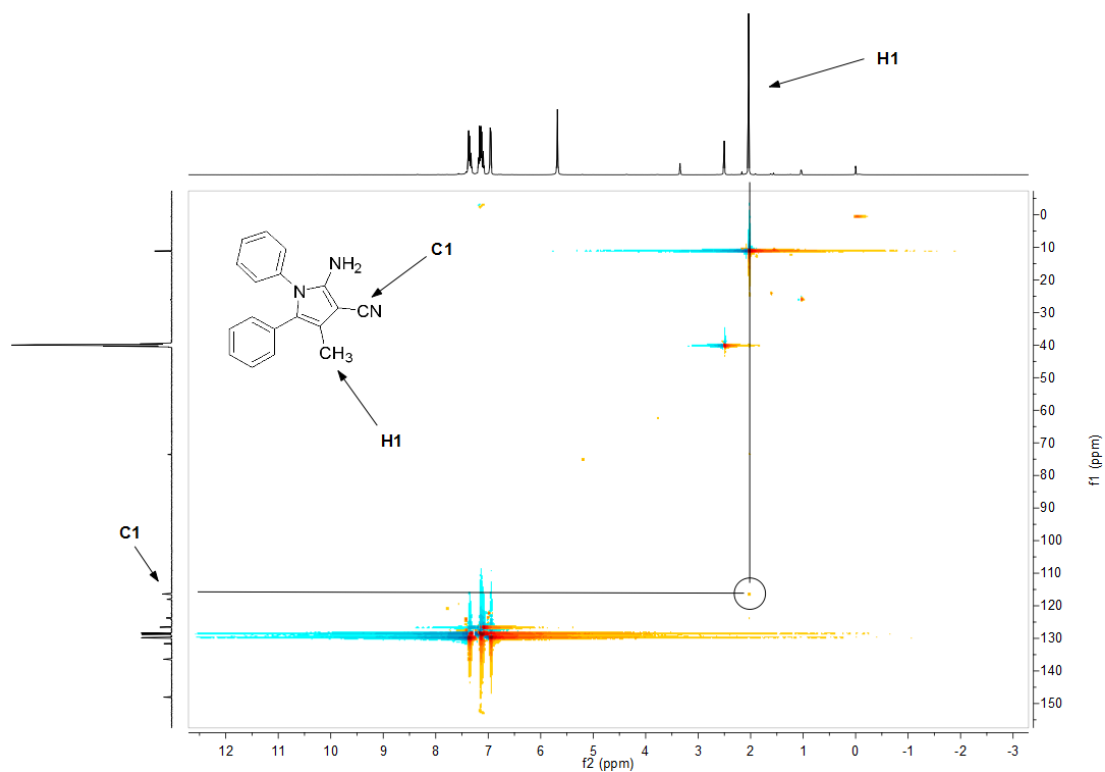








2D ^1H - ^{13}C HSQC



2D ^1H - ^{13}C HMBC

