

Supporting Information for

B₂(OH)₄-mediated one-pot synthesis of tetrahydroquinoxalines from 2-amino(nitro)anilines and 1, 2-dicarbonyl compounds in water

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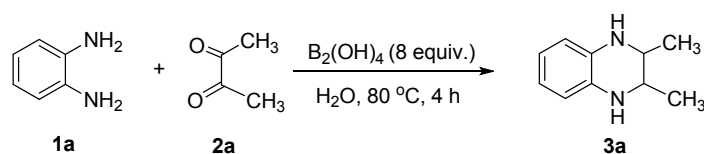
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1. General Information

Unless otherwise noted, all reagents, catalysts and solvents were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. Column Chromatography was performed with silica gel (200-300 mesh). NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker ADVANCE III (400 MHz) spectrometers. CDCl₃ was the solvent used for the NMR analysis with tetramethylsilane as the internal standard. Chemical shifts were reported up field to TMS (0.00 ppm) for ¹H NMR and relative to CDCl₃ (77.0 ppm) for ¹³C NMR.

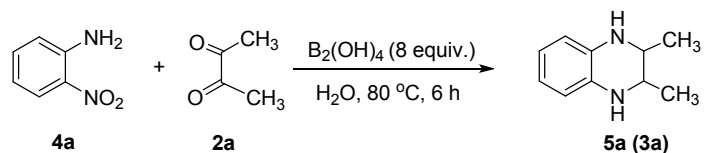
2. General Procedure for the Synthesis of Tetrahydroquinoxalines

2.1 Start from 2-Aminoanilines and 1,2-Dicarbonyl Compounds



A flask was charged with 2-aminoaniline (**1a**; 1 mmol, 108 mg), 2,3-butanedione (**2a**; 1 mmol, 86 mg), B₂(OH)₄ (8 mmol, 720 mg, 8 eq.) and water (3 mL) under N₂. The reaction was stirred at 80 °C for 4 h. When the reaction was complete monitored by TLC, the mixture was cooled to room temperature, extracted with ethyl acetate (3×20 mL). The combined organic phase was washed with water, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure to give a crude product. After determination of the diastereomeric excess by ¹H NMR, the crude product was purified by silica gel column chromatography to give the product **3a** as white solid.

2.2 Start from 2-Nitroanilines and 1,2-Dicarbonyl Compounds



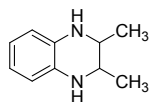
A flask was charged with 2-nitroaniline (**4a**; 1 mmol, 138 mg), 2,3-butanedione (**2a**; 1 mmol, 86 mg), B₂(OH)₄ (8 mmol, 720 mg, 8 eq.) and water (3 mL) under N₂. The reaction was stirred at 80 °C for 6 h. When the reaction was complete monitored by TLC, the mixture was cooled to room temperature, extracted with ethyl acetate (3×20 mL). The combined organic phase was

washed with water, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure to give a crude product. After determination of the diastereomeric excess by ¹H NMR, the crude product was purified by silica gel column chromatography to give the product **5a** as white solid.

2.3 Determination of *cis/trans* Ratio of the Products

The *cis/trans* ratio of the product was determined by ¹H NMR of the crude reaction mixture. For example, the reaction mixture of **3a** was extracted with ethyl acetate, and the combined organic phase was washed with water, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated to give a crude product. The diastereomeric excess (*cis/trans* of **3a** = 70/30) was determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy of the crude product according to the corresponding signals.

3. Analytical Data of the Products



2, 3-Dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoline (**3a**)

Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 3:1), 96% yield (155 mg), white solid.

cis/trans = 70/30 (separable).

2, 3-Dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoline (**5a**)

Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 3:1), 82% yield (132mg), white solid.

cis/trans = 83/17 (separable).

2, 3-Dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoline (**6**)

Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 3:1), 23% yield (37 mg), white solid.

cis/trans = 68/32 (separable).

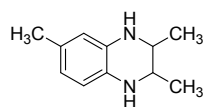
***cis* isomer (CAS: 7739-04-0)**^{1,2}

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 6.62 (dd, J_1 = 3.6 Hz, J_2 = 3.2 Hz, 2H), 6.53 (dd, J_1 = 3.6 Hz, J_2 = 3.2 Hz, 2H), 3.54-3.52 (m, 2H), 1.17-1.16 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 132.66, 118.56, 114.42, 49.04, 17.28.

***trans* isomer (CAS: 7739-05-1)**^{1,2}

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 6.62 (dd, J_1 = 3.6 Hz, J_2 = 3.2 Hz, 2H), 6.54 (dd, J_1 = 3.2 Hz, J_2 = 3.6 Hz, 2H), 3.06 (q, J = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 1.21 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ

= 133.50, 118.59, 113.93, 52.05, 19.04.



2,3,6-Trimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoxaline (3b)

Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 3:1), 95% yield (167 mg), white solid.

cis/trans = 65/35 (separable).

2,3,6-Trimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoxaline (5b)

Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 3:1), 85% yield (149 mg), white solid.

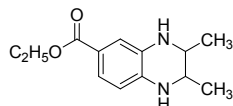
cis/trans = 67/33 (separable).

cis isomer (CAS: 1350827-80-3) ²

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 6.45 (t, J = 3.6 Hz, 2H), 6.38 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.52-3.49 (m, 4H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 1.16 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 132.70, 130.12, 128.17, 118.96, 115.15, 114.69, 49.18, 49.15, 20.75, 17.24, 17.21.

trans isomer (CAS: 1350827-88-1) ²

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 6.45 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.37 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.09 (s, 2H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 1.19 (dd, J_1 = 2.0 Hz, J_2 = 1.6 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 133.55, 130.94, 128.20, 118.92, 114.66, 114.21, 52.21, 20.71, 19.08.



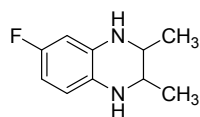
Ethyl 2,3-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoxaline-6-carboxylate (3c)

Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 5:1), 93% yield (217 mg), white solid.

cis/trans = 69/31 (inseparable).

Mixture of *cis* and *trans* isomer of 3c (inseparable)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.36 (dd, J_1 = 1.6 Hz, J_2 = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (dd, J_1 = 2.0 Hz, J_2 = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.46 (dd, J_1 = 3.6 Hz, J_2 = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 4.33 (dd, J_1 = 7.6 Hz, J_2 = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 3.63-3.48 (m, 2H, *cis*), 3.16-2.99 (m, 1H, *trans*), 1.38 (dd, J_1 = 6.4 Hz, J_2 = 8.0 Hz, 3H), 1.22 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H, *trans*), 1.17 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 4H, *cis*); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 167.09, 138.05 (*trans*), 137.44 (*cis*), 132.21 (*trans*), 131.43 (*cis*), 121.61 (*trans*), 121.53 (*cis*), 119.49 (*trans*), 119.45 (*cis*), 115.19 (*trans*), 114.76 (*cis*), 112.42 (*trans*), 112.02 (*cis*), 60.14, 52.24 (*trans*), 51.40 (*trans*), 49.22 (*cis*), 48.49 (*cis*), 19.06 (*trans*), 18.89 (*trans*), 17.35 (*cis*), 17.09 (*cis*), 14.49.



6-Fluoro-2,3-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoxaline (3d)²

Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 5:1), 90% yield (162 mg), white solid.

cis/trans = 56/44 (inseparable).

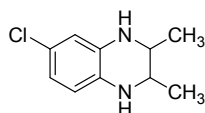
6-Fluoro-2,3-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoxaline (5c)²

Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 5:1), 76% yield (137 mg), white solid.

cis/trans = 67/33 (inseparable).

Mixture of *cis* and *trans* isomer of 3d (inseparable)²

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 6.40-6.37 (m, 1H), 6.27-6.19 (m, 2H), 3.48-3.41 (m, 2H, *cis*), 3.04-2.92 (m, 1H, *trans*), 1.16 (dd, *J*₁ = 1.6 Hz, *J*₂ = 1.6 Hz, 3H, *trans*), 1.11 (dd, *J*₁ = 1.6 Hz, *J*₂ = 1.2 Hz, 6H, *cis*); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 157.41 (d, *J* = 300 Hz, 1C), 134.59 (d, *J* = 11.0 Hz, 1C, *trans*), 133.82 (d, *J* = 11.0 Hz, 1C, *cis*), 129.15 (*trans*), 128.26 (*cis*), 114.80 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1C, *cis*), 114.30 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 1C, *trans*), 103.86 (d, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1C, *cis*), 103.64 (d, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1C, *trans*), 101.00 (d, *J* = 25.9 Hz, 1C, *cis*), 100.55 (d, *J* = 25.9 Hz, 1C, *trans*), 52.14 (*trans*), 51.87 (*trans*), 49.07(*cis*), 48.91(*cis*), 18.99 (*trans*), 18.88 (*trans*), 17.11(*cis*).



6-Chloro-2,3-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoxaline (3e)²

Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 5:1), 92% yield (180 mg), white solid.

cis/trans = 66/34 (separable).

6-Chloro-2,3-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoxaline (5d)²

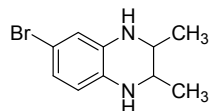
Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 5:1), 81% yield (159 mg), white solid.

cis/trans = 63/37 (separable).

***cis* isomer:** ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 6.67 (dd, *J*₁ = 2.4 Hz, *J*₂ = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.37 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H) 3.63 (s, 2H), 3.53-3.48 (m, 2H), 1.14 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 134.12, 131.62, 120.69, 116.39, 115.28, 109.99, 48.85, 48.80, 17.23, 17.16.

***trans* isomer:** ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 6.54 (dd, *J*₁ = 2.4 Hz, *J*₂ = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.43 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.05-2.99 (m, 2H), 1.19 (dd, *J*₁ = 1.2 Hz, *J*₂ = 1.2 Hz, 6H),

^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 134.51, 131.85, 123.03, 117.79, 114.46, 113.26, 51.90, 18.95, 18.92$.



6-Bromo-2,3-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoxaline (3f)²

Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 5:1), 89% yield (213 mg), white solid.

cis/trans = 62/38(separable).

6-Bromo-2,3-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoxaline (5e)²

Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 5:1), 65% yield (156 mg), white solid.

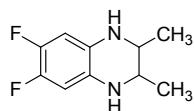
cis/trans = 64/36(separable).

***cis* isomer (CAS: 2095787-12-3)^{1,2}**

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 6.54$ (dd, $J_1 = 3.2$ Hz, $J_2 = 2.8$ Hz, 1H), 6.48 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.42 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.71 (s, 2H), 3.54-3.49 (m, 2H), 1.15 (d, $J = 3.2$ Hz, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 133.76, 131.13, 122.93, 117.77, 114.88, 113.65, 48.89, 48.84, 17.21, 17.16$.

***trans* isomer (CAS: 2095787-26-9)^{1,2}**

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 6.68$ (dd, $J_1 = 2.0$ Hz, $J_2 = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 6.63 (d, $J = 3.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.39 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.07-3.00 (m, 2H), 1.21 (d, $J = 4.4$ Hz, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 134.85, 132.35, 120.72, 116.00, 114.84, 110.03, 51.84, 51.79, 29.70, 18.94$.



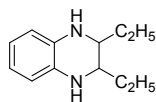
6,7-Difluoro-2,3-dimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoxaline (3g)

Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 5:1), 78% yield (154 mg), white solid.

cis/trans = 79/21 (separable).

***cis* isomer:** ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 6.46$ (dd, $J_1 = 5.2$ Hz, $J_2 = 5.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.30-6.24 (m, 1H), 3.54-3.47 (m, 2H), 1.16 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 6H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 157.28$ (d, $J = 233$ Hz, 1C), 133.90 (d, $J = 10$ Hz, 1C), 127.76, 115.11 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 1C), 103.86 (d, $J = 22.3$ Hz, 1C), 101.01 (d, $J = 25.9$ Hz, 1C), 49.03, 48.87, 17.07, 16.86.

***trans* isomer:** ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 6.33$ (t, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 3.00 (s, 2H), 1.19 (d, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 6H), ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): $\delta = 144.22$ (d, $J = 15$ Hz, 1C), 141.90 (d, $J = 16$ Hz, 1C), 129.18, 102.39 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1C), 102.29 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1C), 51.87, 18.87.



2,3-Diethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoxaline (3h)

Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 5:1), 76% yield (144 mg), yellow solid.

cis/trans = 0/100 (*cis* isomer was not detected).

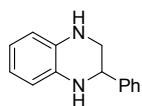
2,3-Diethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoxaline (5f)

Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 5:1), 74% yield (141 mg), yellow solid.

cis/trans = 0/100 (*cis* isomer was not detected).

***trans*-2,3-Diethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoxaline (CAS: 2095787-23-6)**³

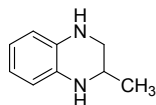
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 6.62 (dd, J = 3.2 Hz, 2H), 6.54 (dd, J = 3.2 Hz, 2H), 3.78 (s, 2H), 3.30 (dd, J_1 = 6.4 Hz, J_2 = 2.4 Hz, 2H), 1.50 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 4H), 1.02 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 132.90, 118.45, 114.31, 54.61, 23.01, 10.50 .



2-Phenyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoxaline (3i)^{1, 2}

Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 10:1), 75% yield (157 mg), yellow solid.

CAS: 5021-47-6. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.45-7.34 (m, 5H), 6.70-6.67 (m, 2H), 6.65-6.61 (m, 2H), 4.53 (dd, J_1 = 3.2 Hz, J_2 = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.39 (s, 1H), 3.50 (dd, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 3.37 (dd, J_1 = 8.0 Hz, J_2 = 8.4 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 141.84, 134.18, 132.70, 128.67, 127.94, 127.92, 127.03, 127.00, 119.03, 118.81, 114.81, 114.48, 54.76, 49.16.



2-Methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoxaline (3j)^{1, 2}

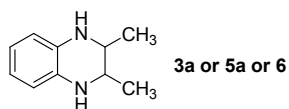
Purified by flash column chromatography (PE: EA = 5:1), 81% yield (119 mg), yellow solid.

CAS: 6640-55-7. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 6.65 (dd, J_1 = 3.2 Hz, J_2 = 3.6 Hz, 2H), 6.56 (dd, J_1 = 2.8 Hz, J_2 = 2.8 Hz, 2H), 3.58-3.34 (m, 4H), 3.08 (dd, J_1 = 2.8 Hz, J_2 = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 1.23 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 133.62, 133.25, 118.71, 114.53, 114.48, 48.28, 45.74, 19.96.

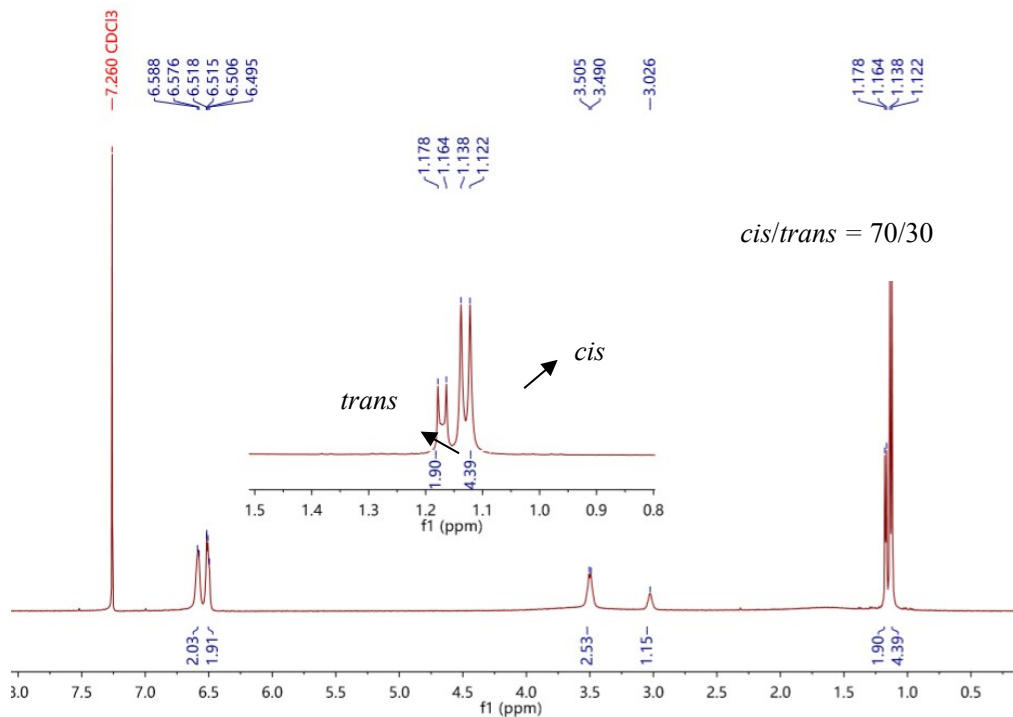
References

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- [3] Shi, F.; Tan, W.; Zhang, H. H.; Li, M.; Q. Ye, G.; Ma, H.; Tu, S. J.; Li, G., *Adv. Synth. Catal.*, **2013**, *355*, 3715.
- [4] George, H. F.; Harry, P. S. *J. Org. Chem.*, **1974**, *39*, 635.
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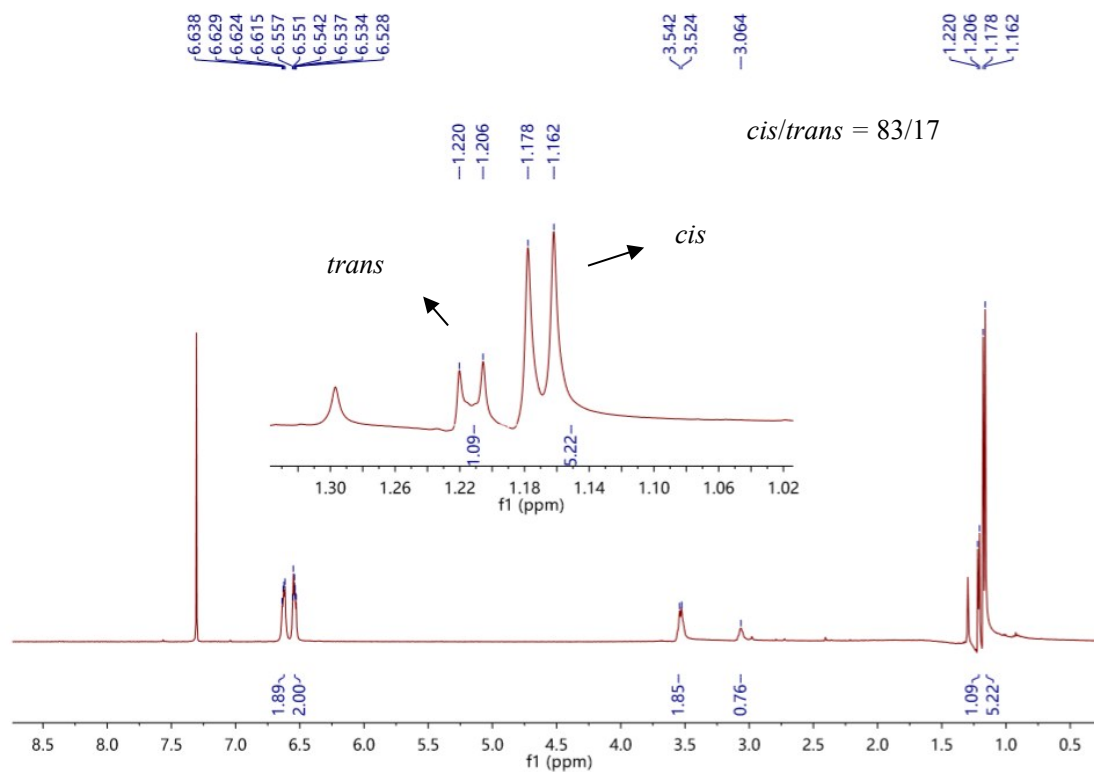
4. ^1H NMR & ^{13}C NMR Spectra of the Products



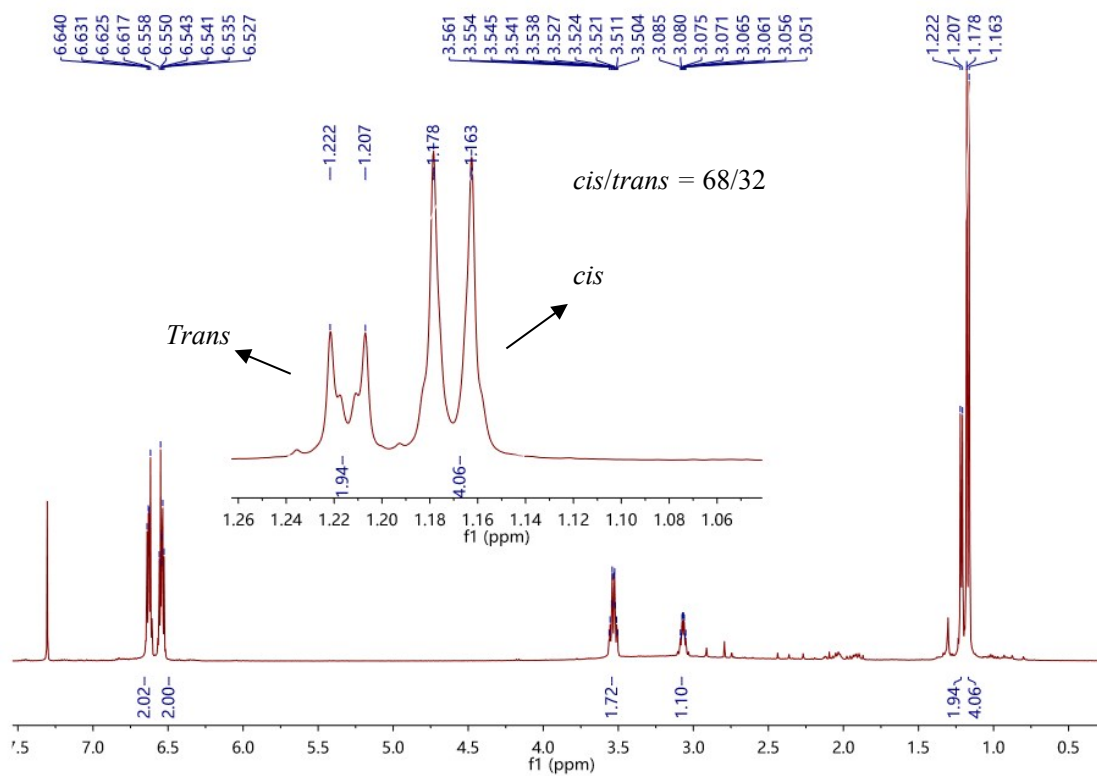
cis/trans of **3a** = 70/30 determined by ^1H NMR of the crude product

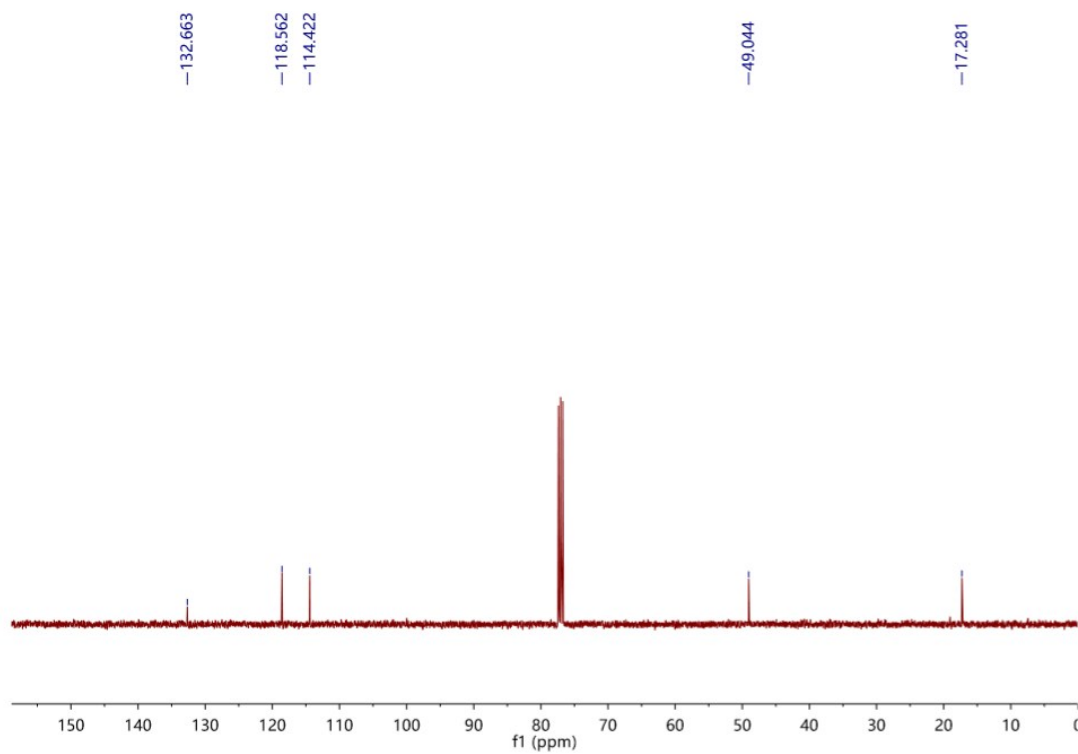
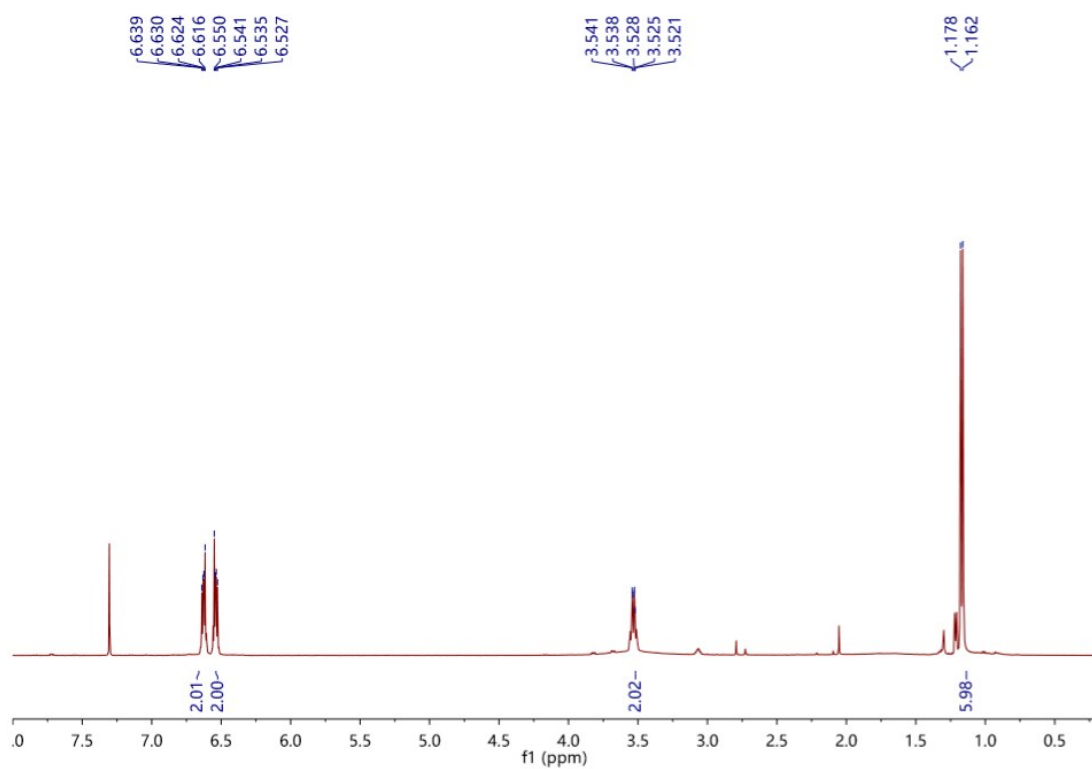
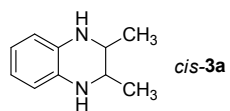


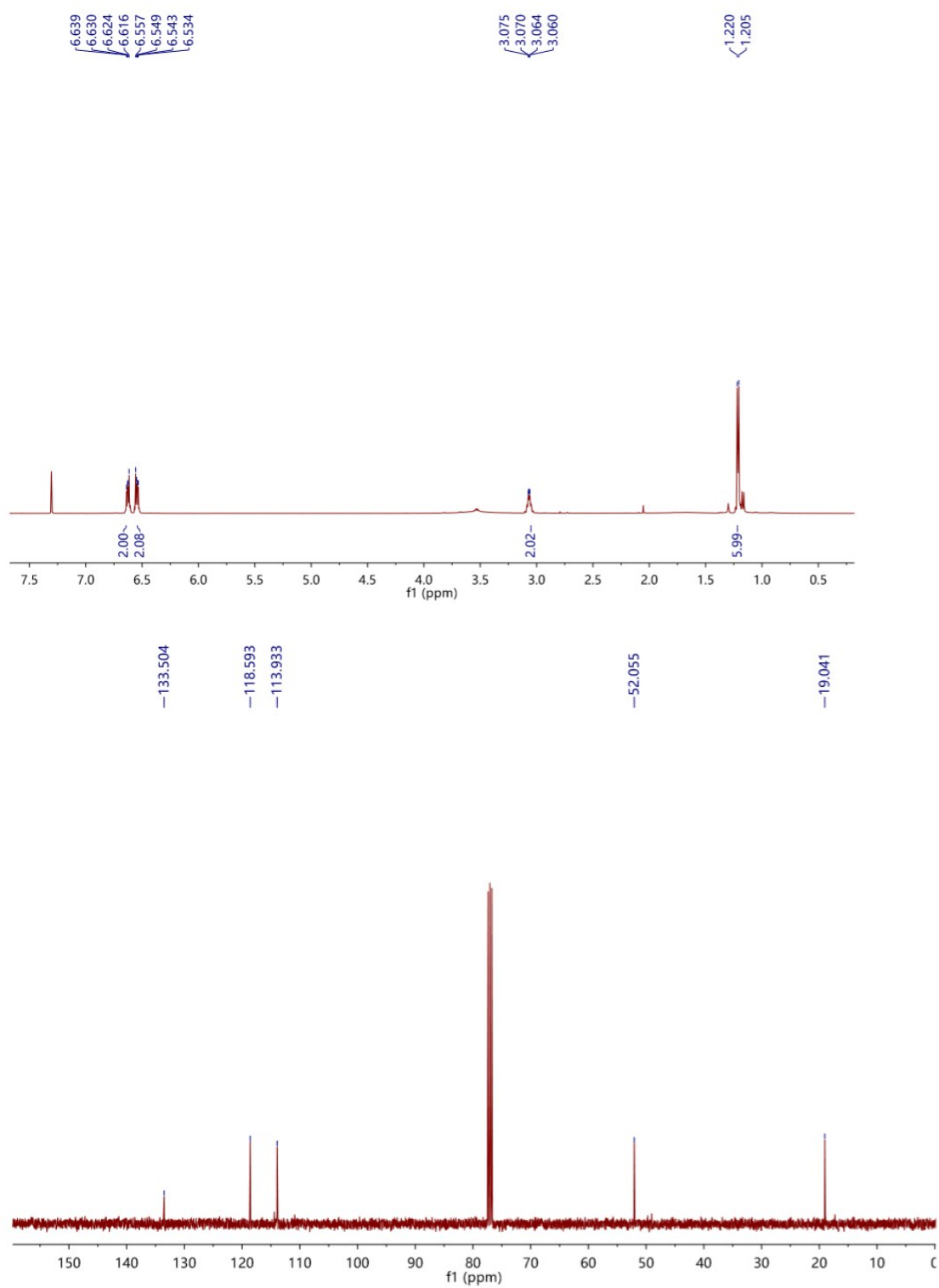
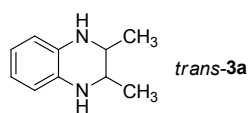
cis/trans of **5a** = 83/17 determined by ^1H NMR of the crude product

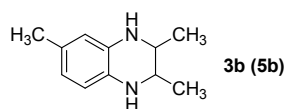


cis/trans of **6** = 68/32 determined by ¹H NMR of the crude product

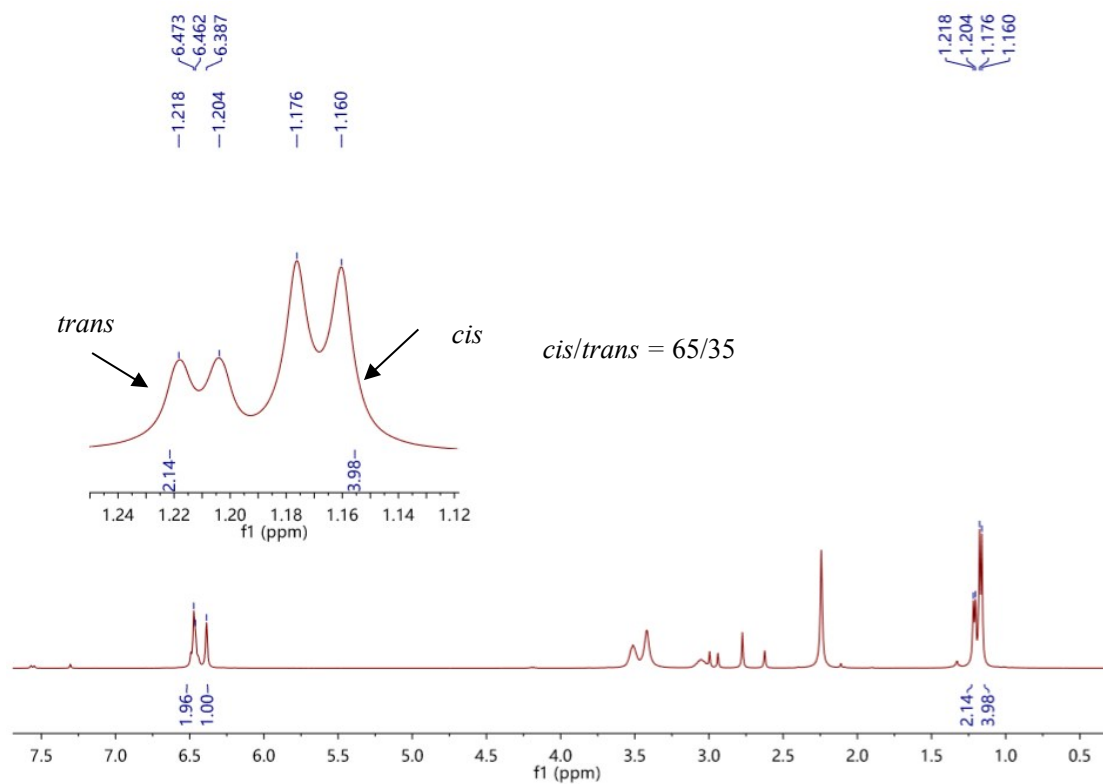




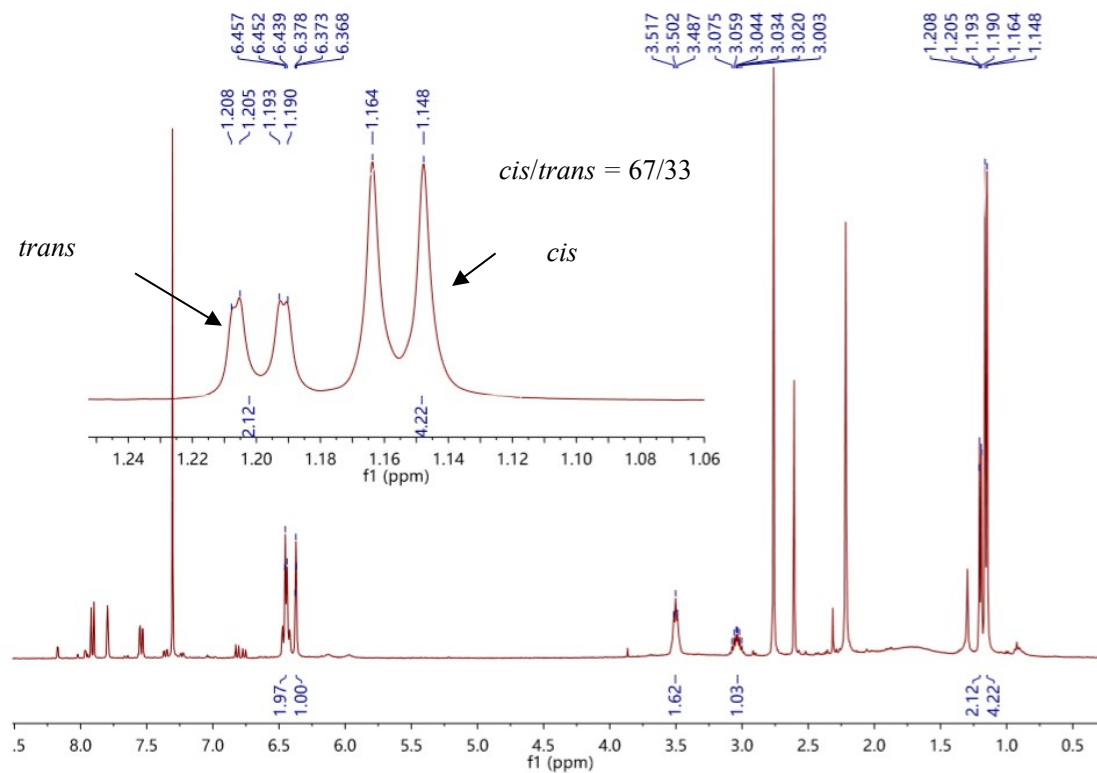


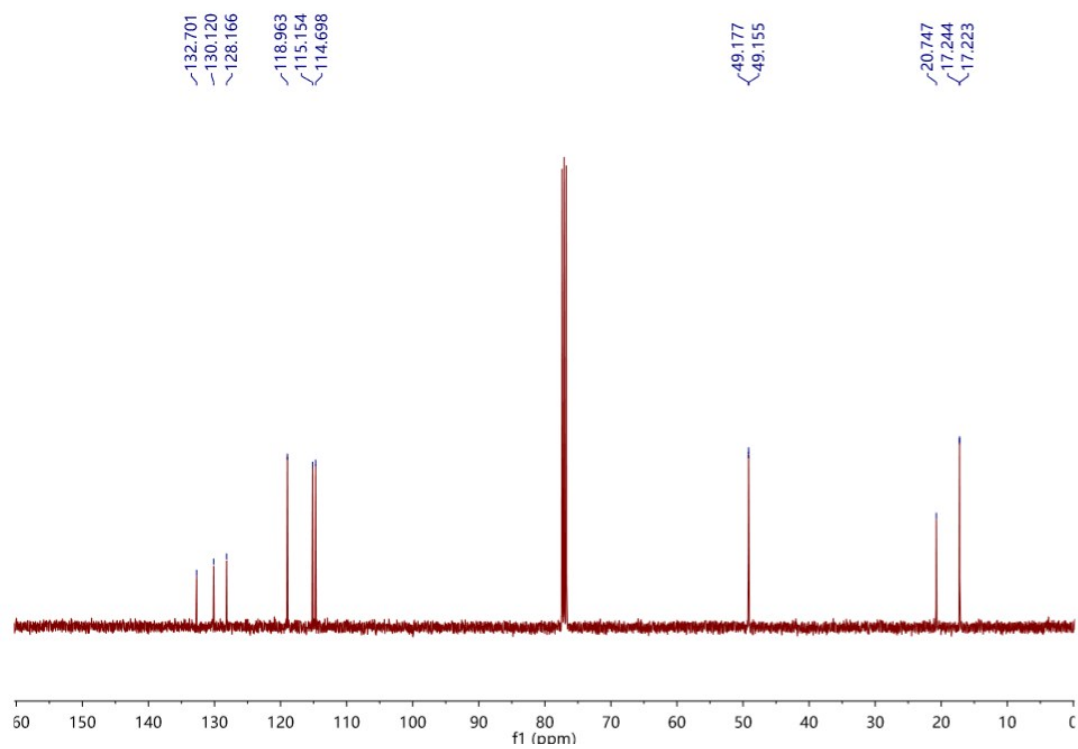
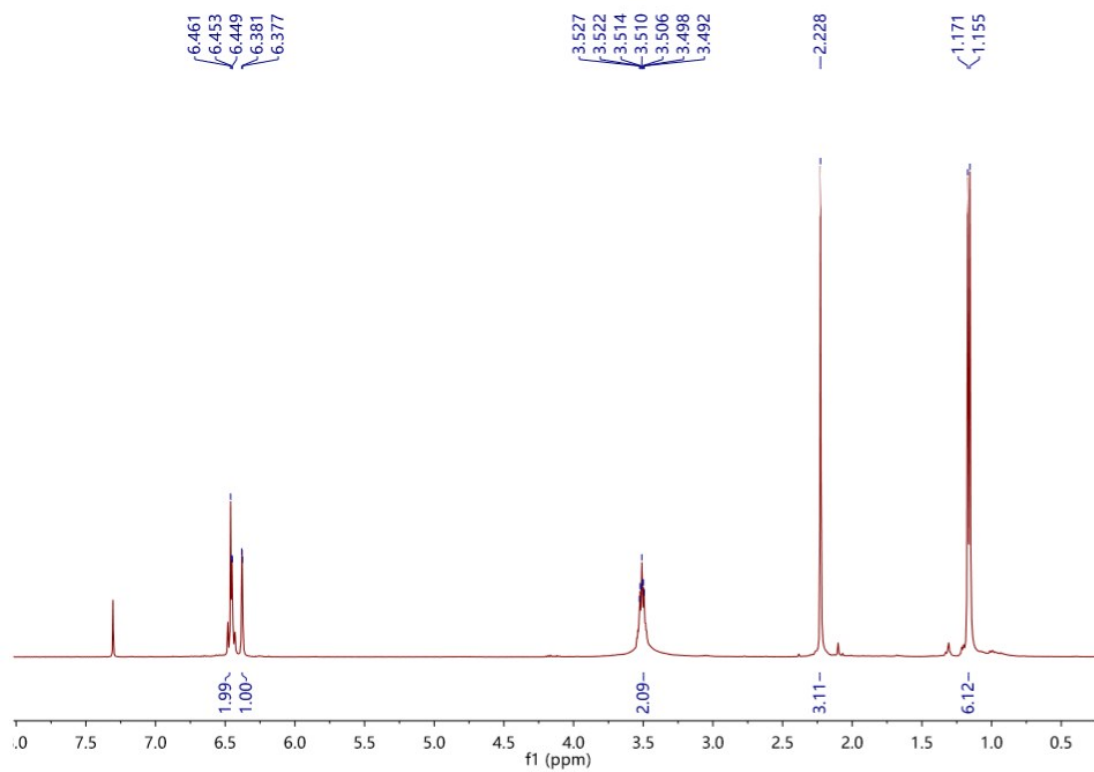
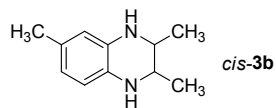


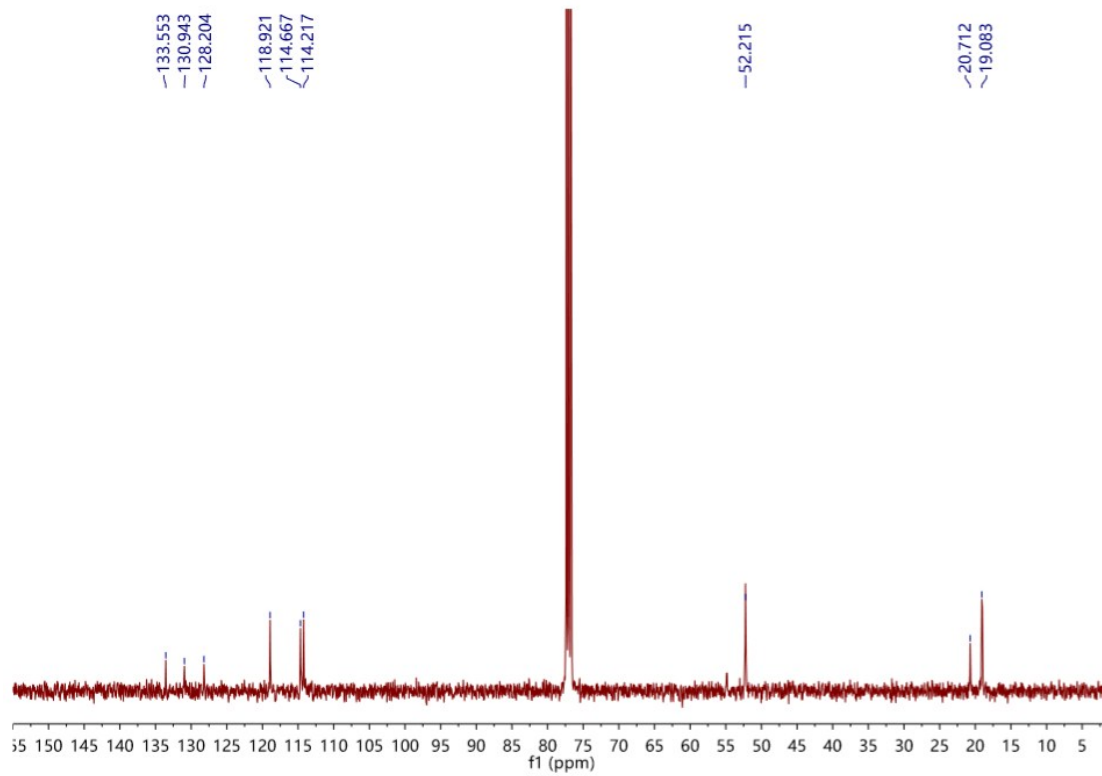
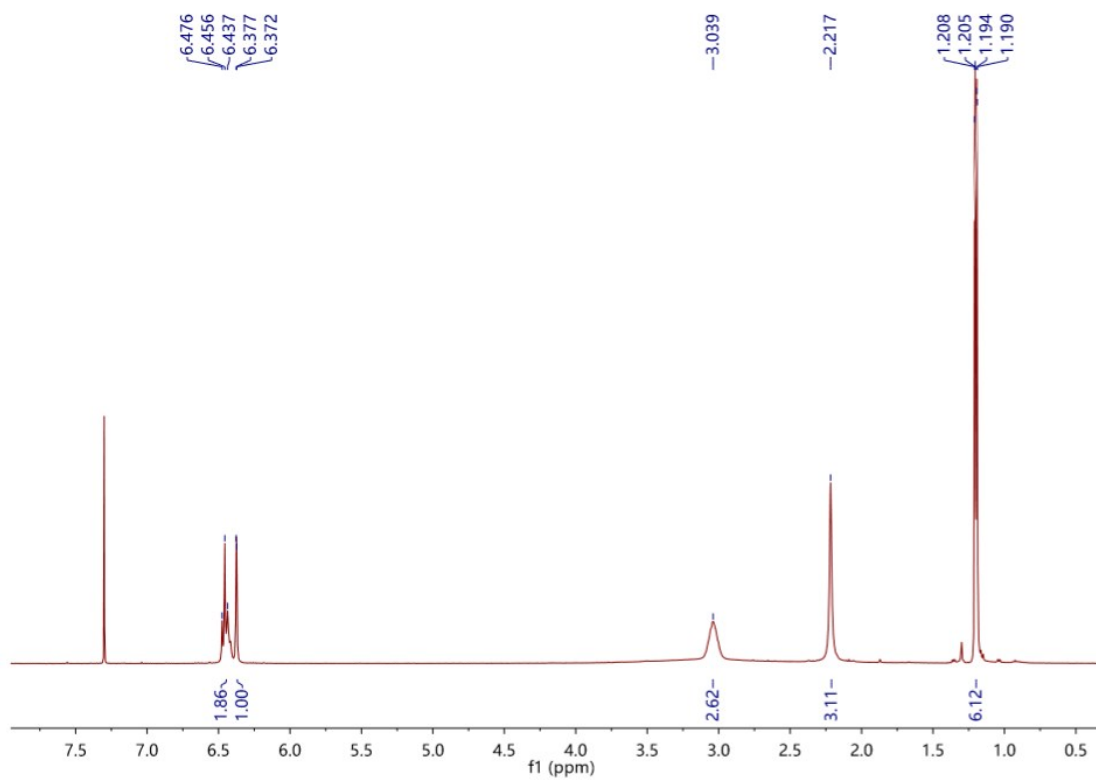
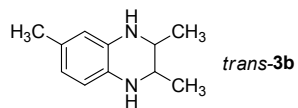
cis/trans of **3b** = 65/35 determined by ¹H NMR of the crude product.

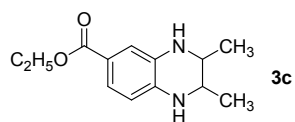


cis/trans of **5b** = 67/33 determined by ¹H NMR of the crude product.

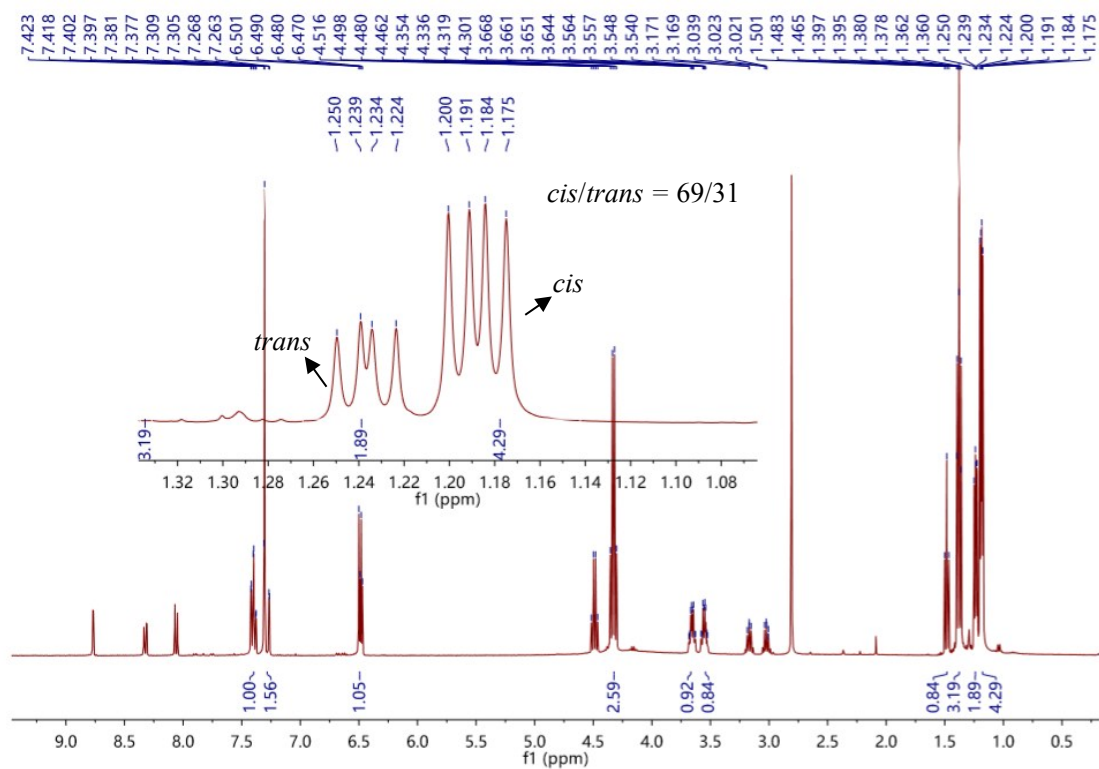


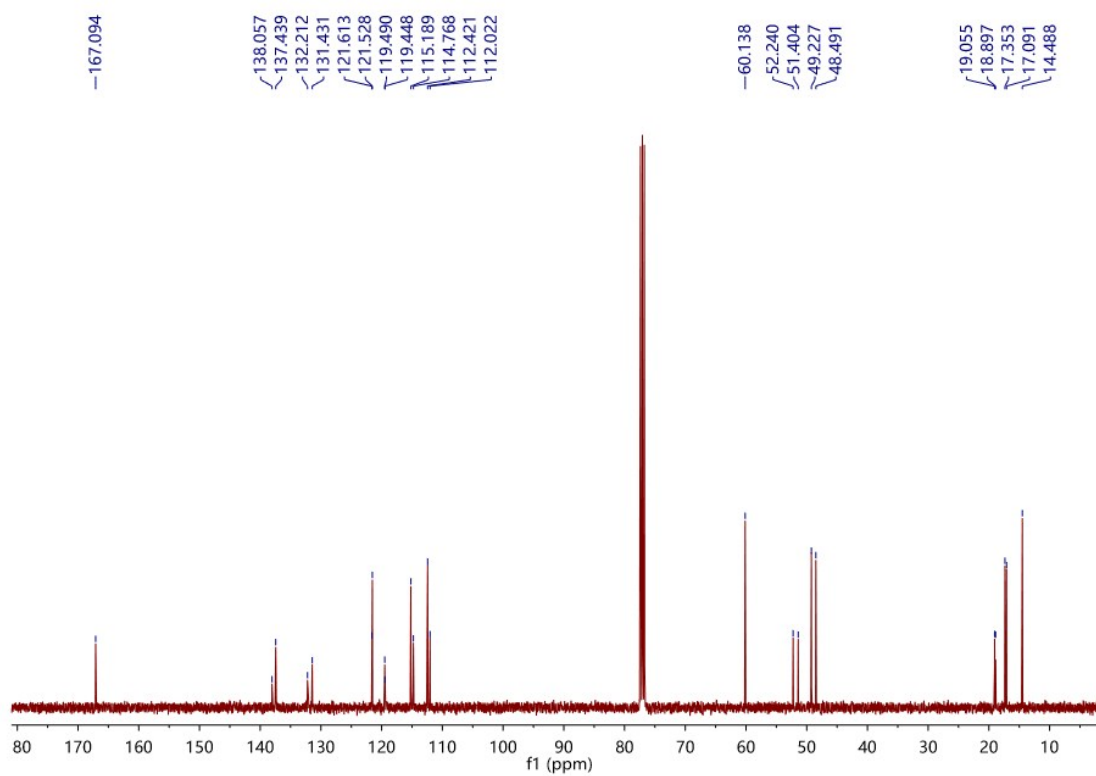
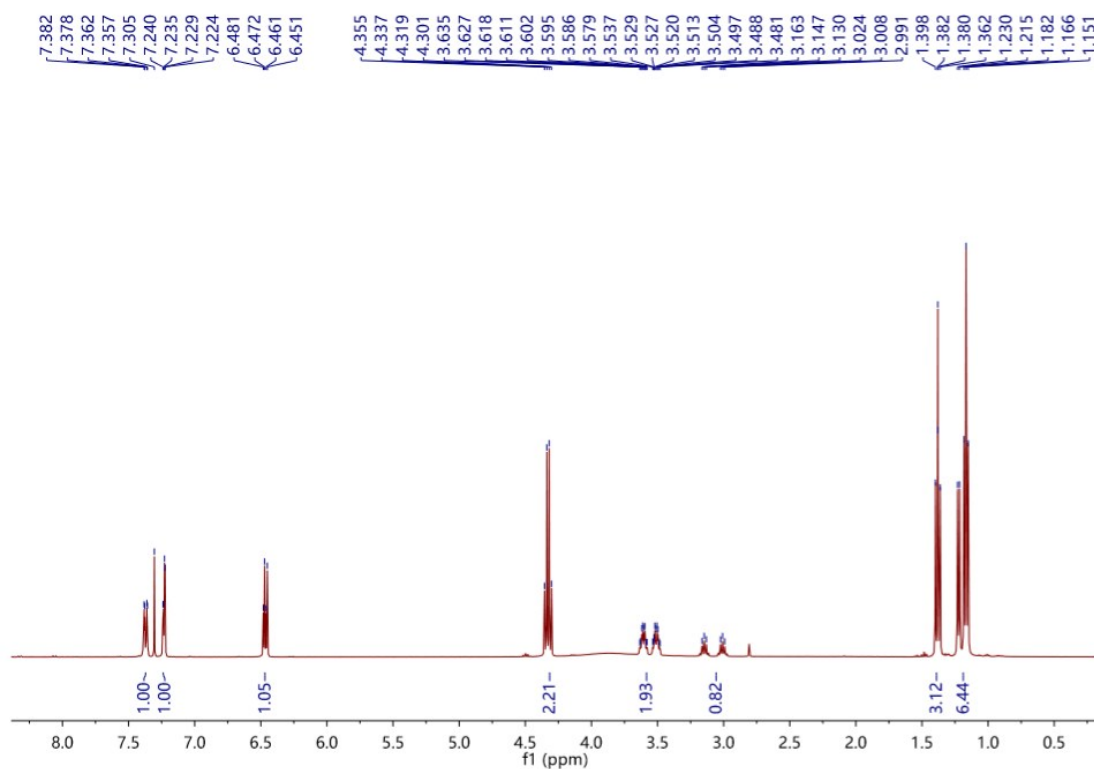
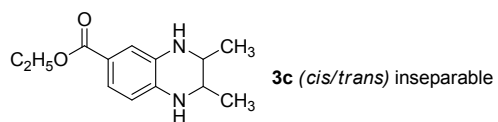


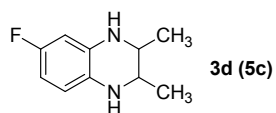




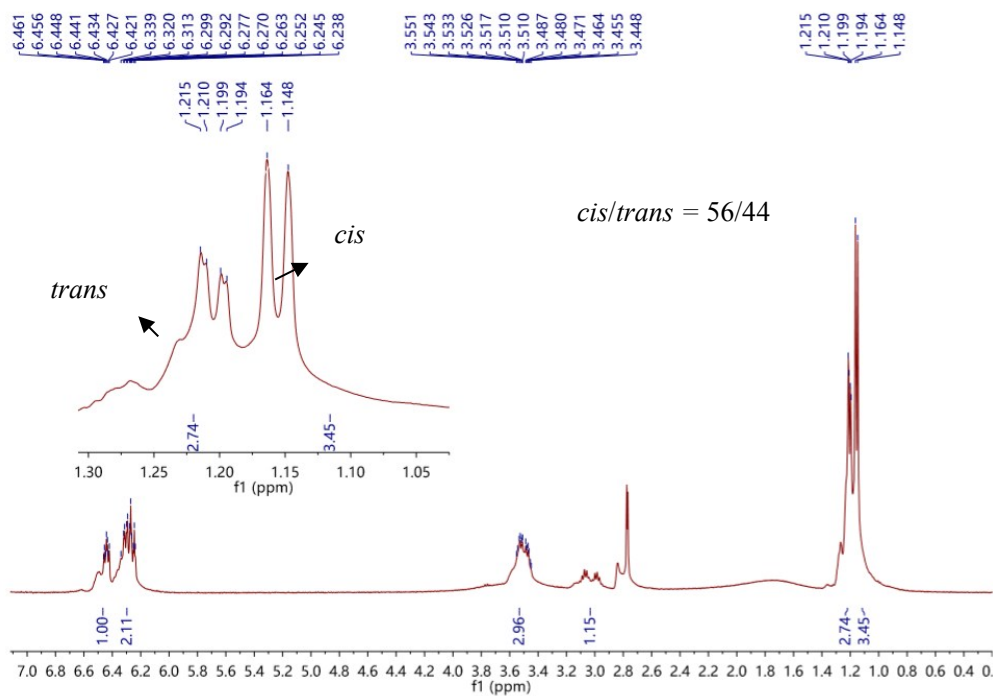
cis/trans of **3c** = 69/31 determined by ¹H NMR of the crude product.



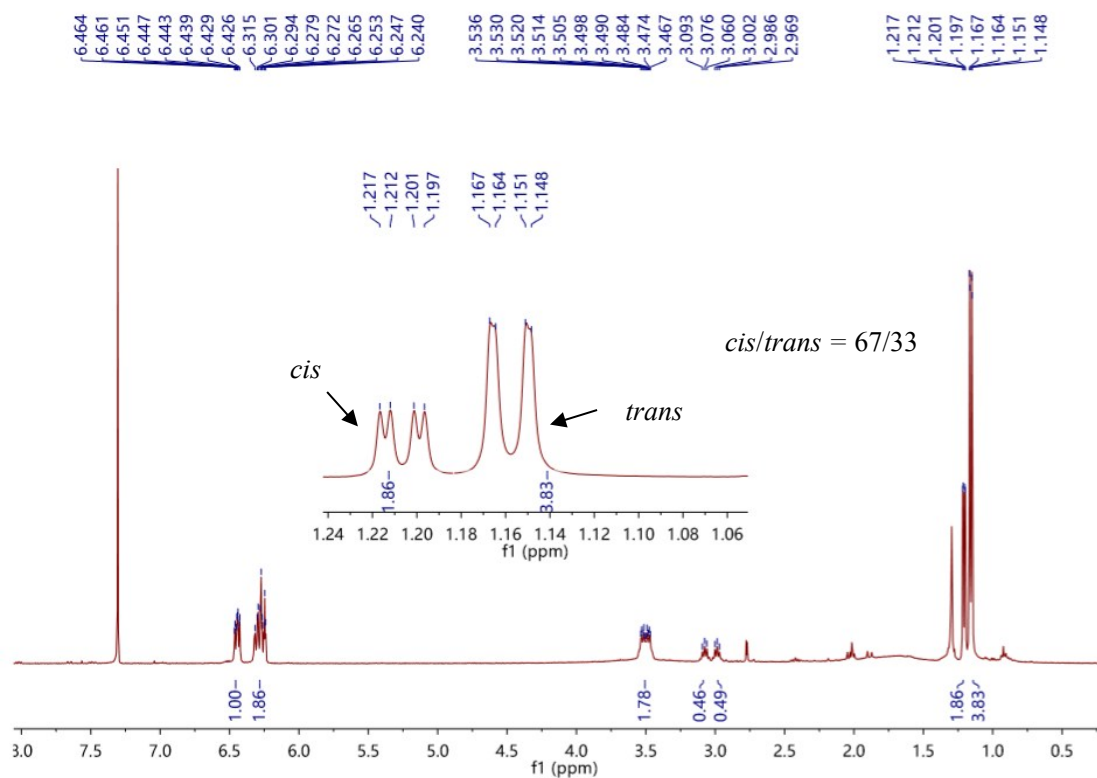


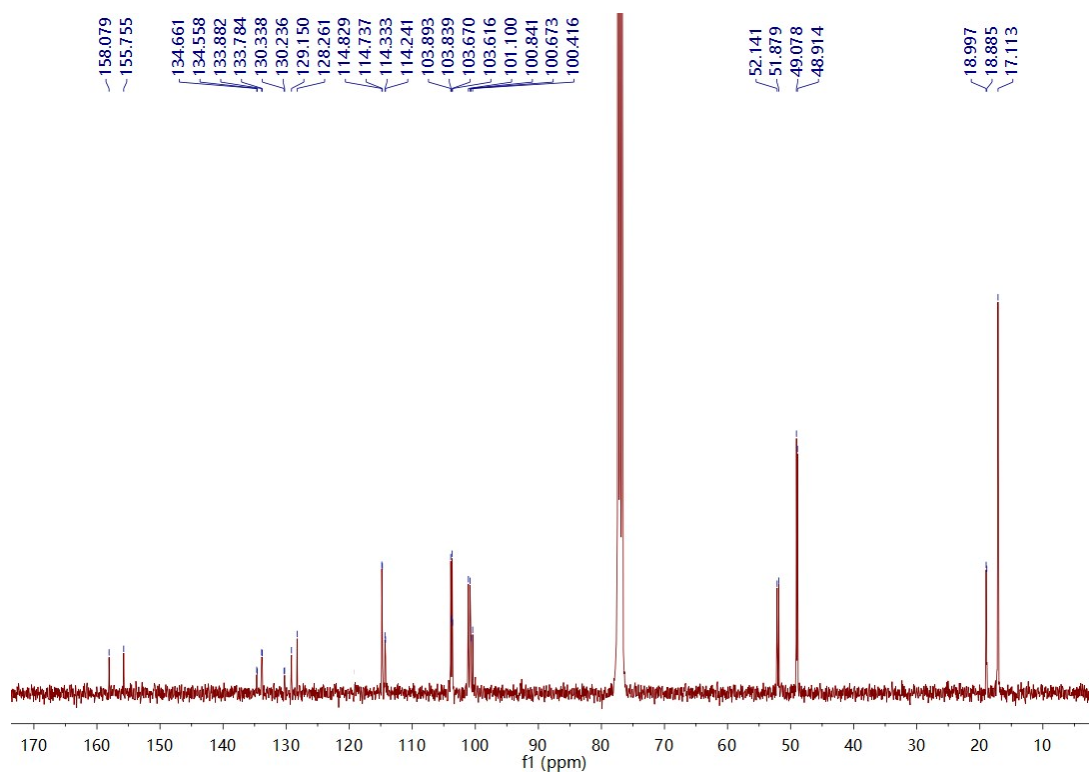
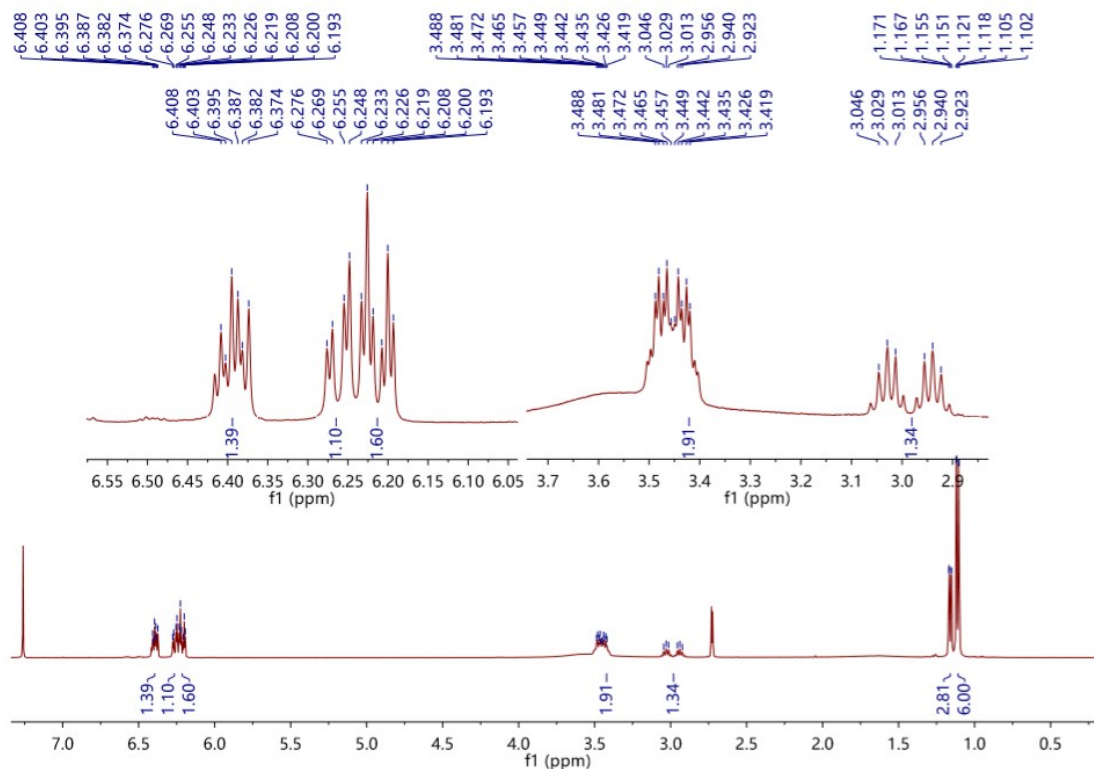
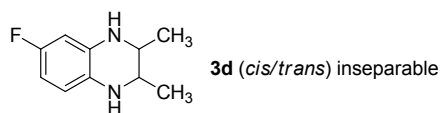


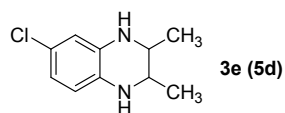
cis/trans of **3d** = 56/44 determined by ¹H NMR of the crude product.



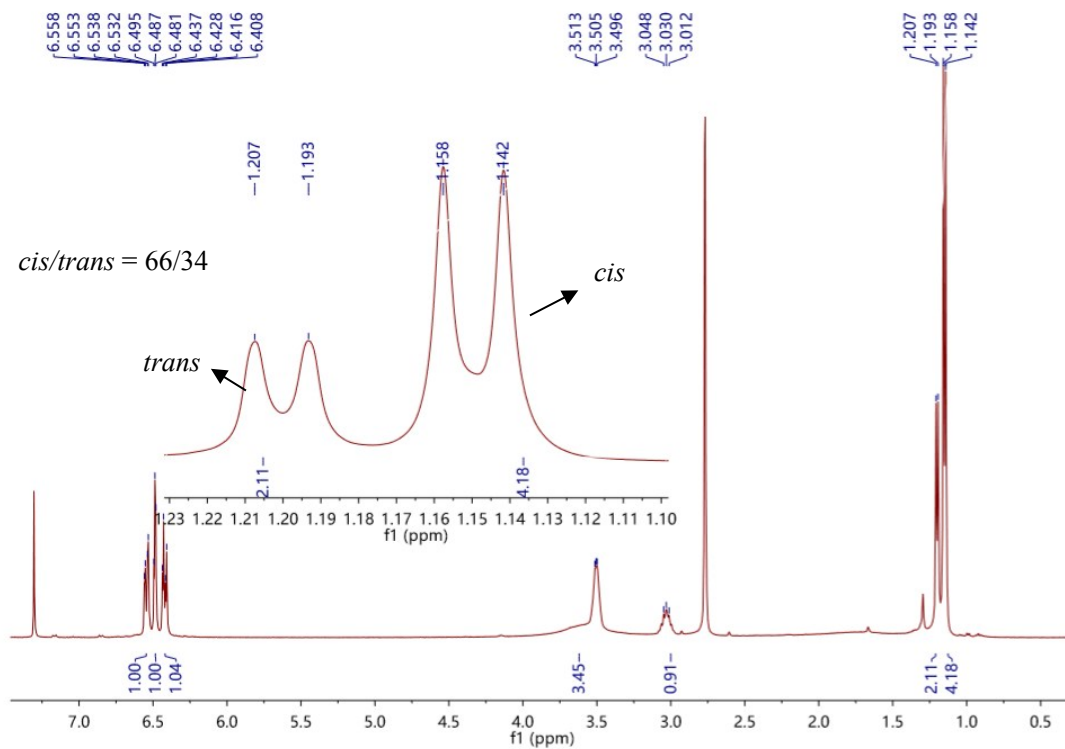
cis/trans of **5c** = 67/33 determined by ¹H NMR of the crude product.



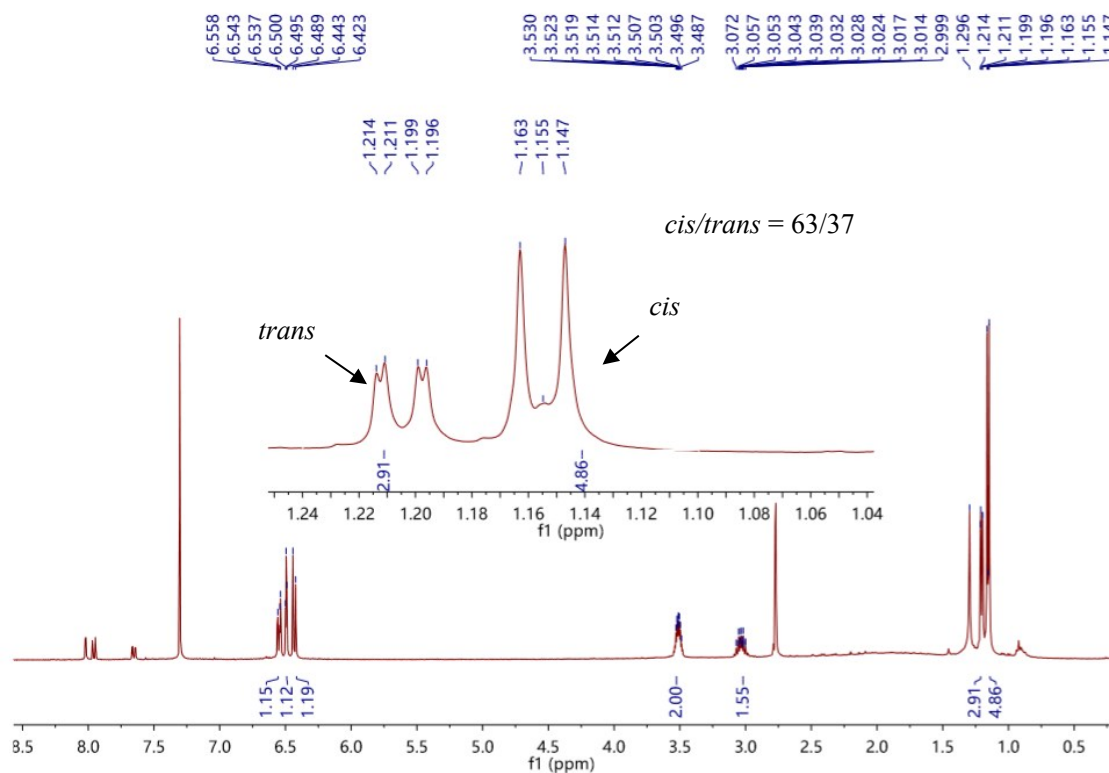


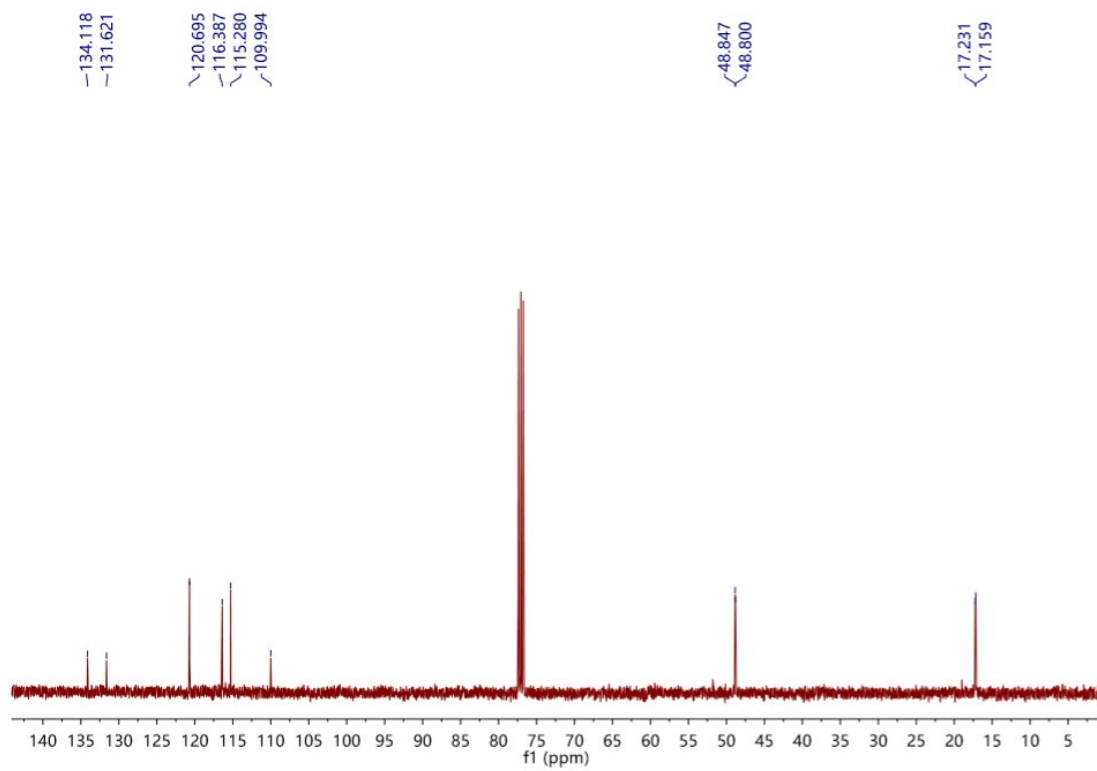
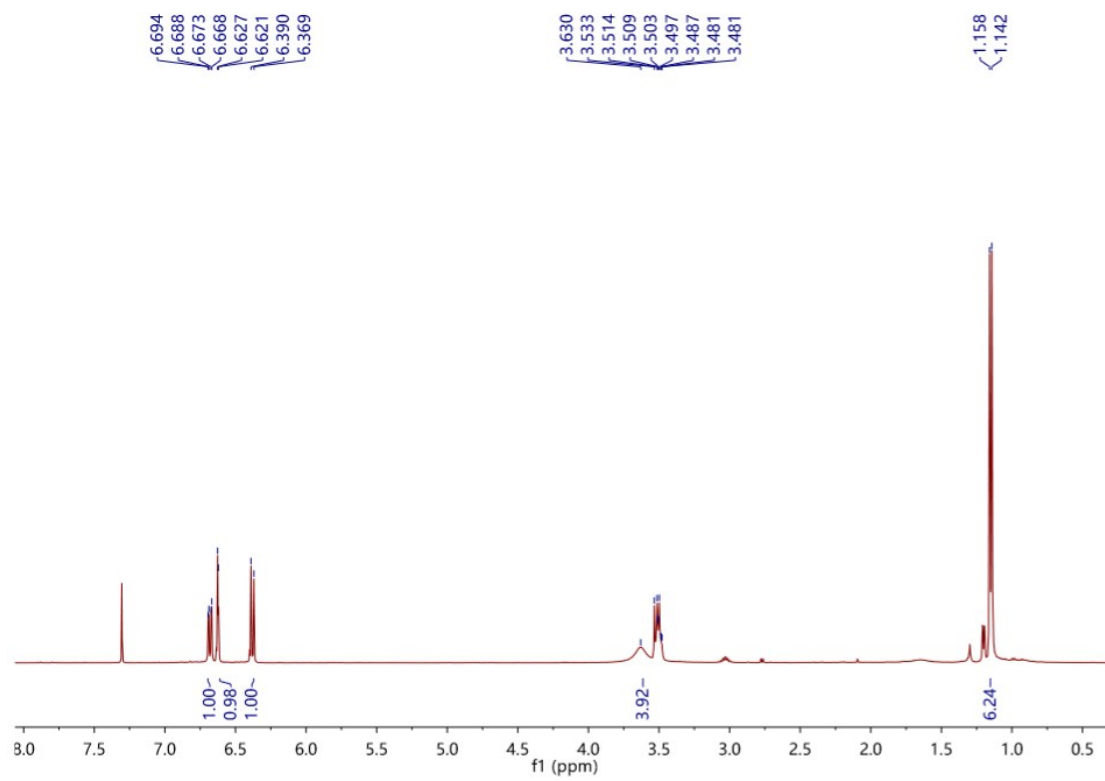
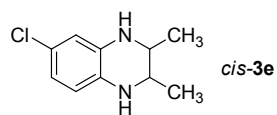


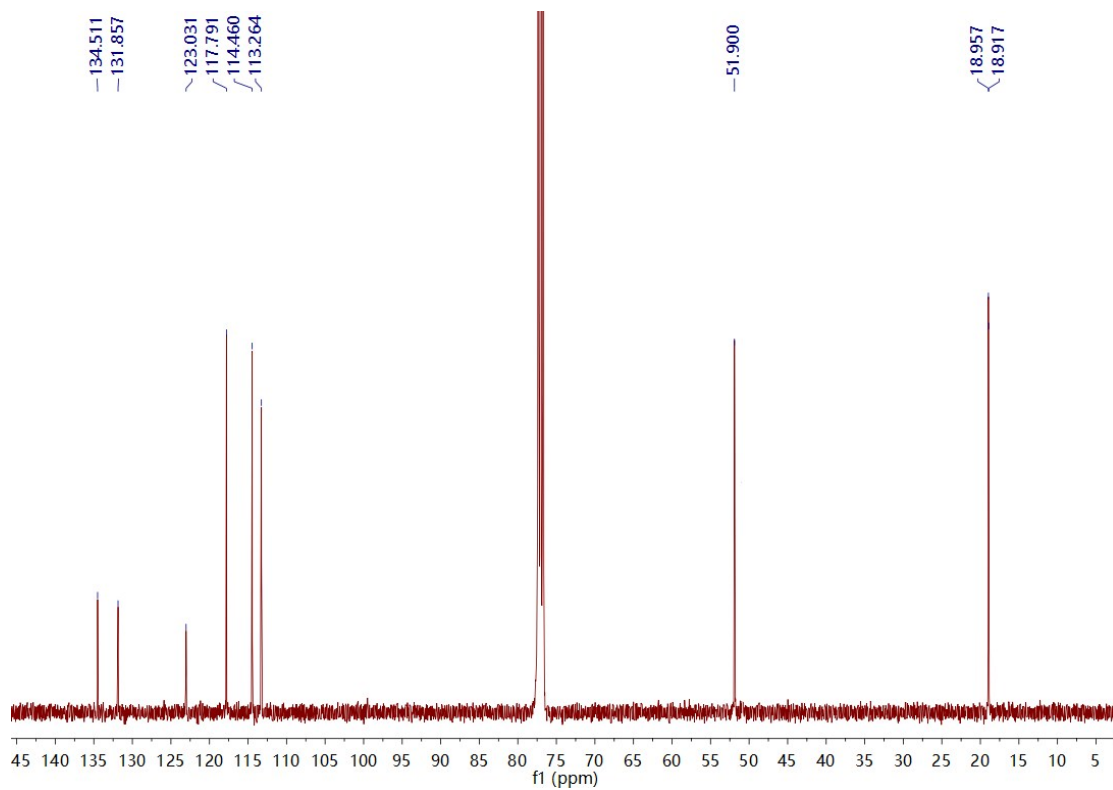
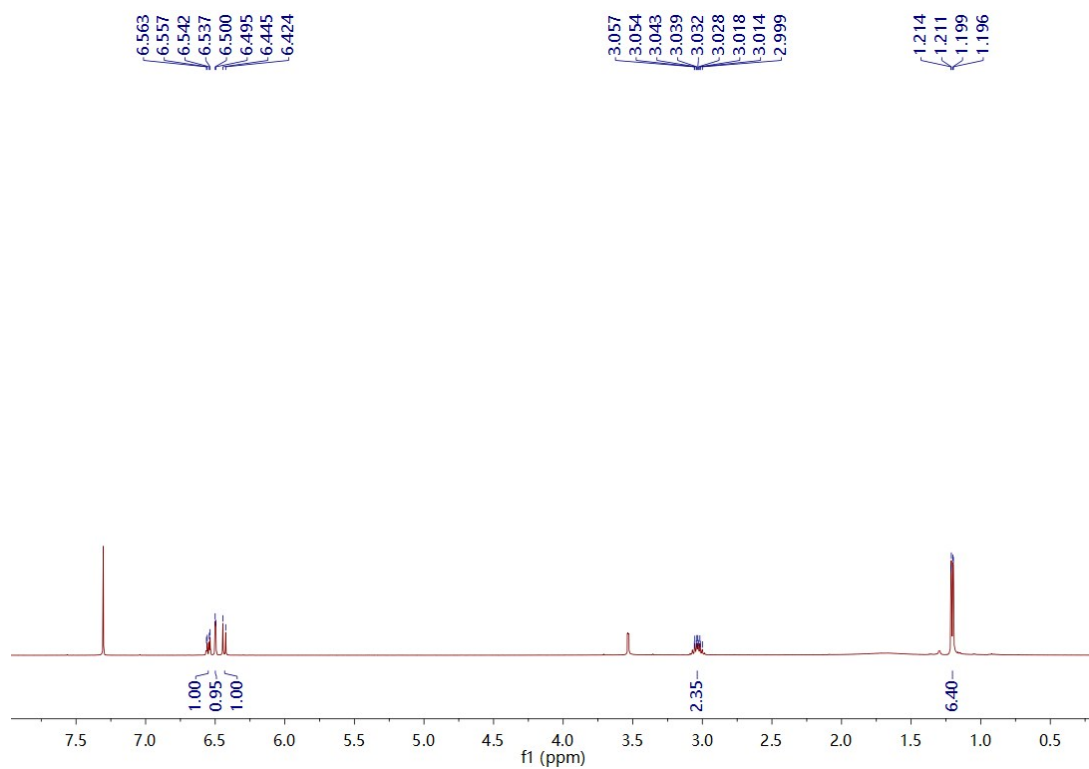
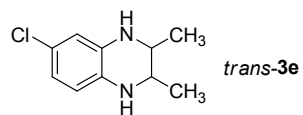
cis/trans of **3e** = 66/34 determined by ^1H NMR of the crude product.

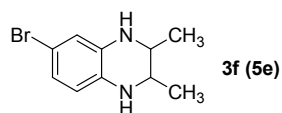


cis/trans of **5d** = 63/37 determined by ^1H NMR of the crude product.

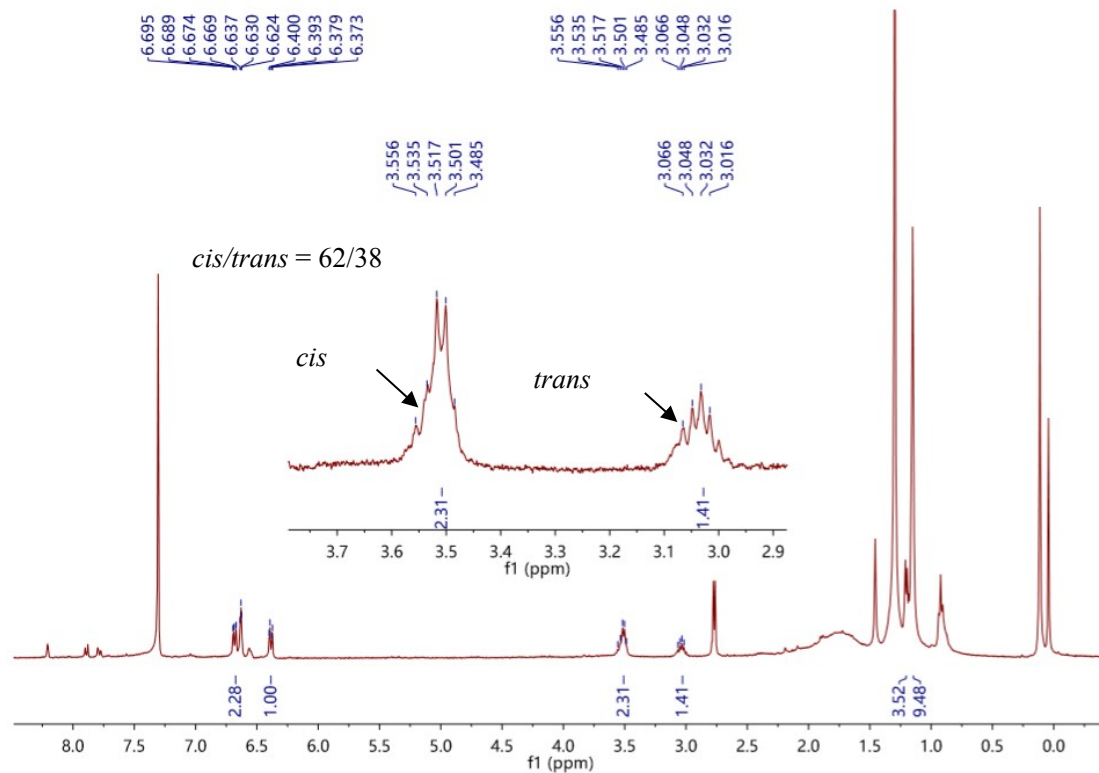




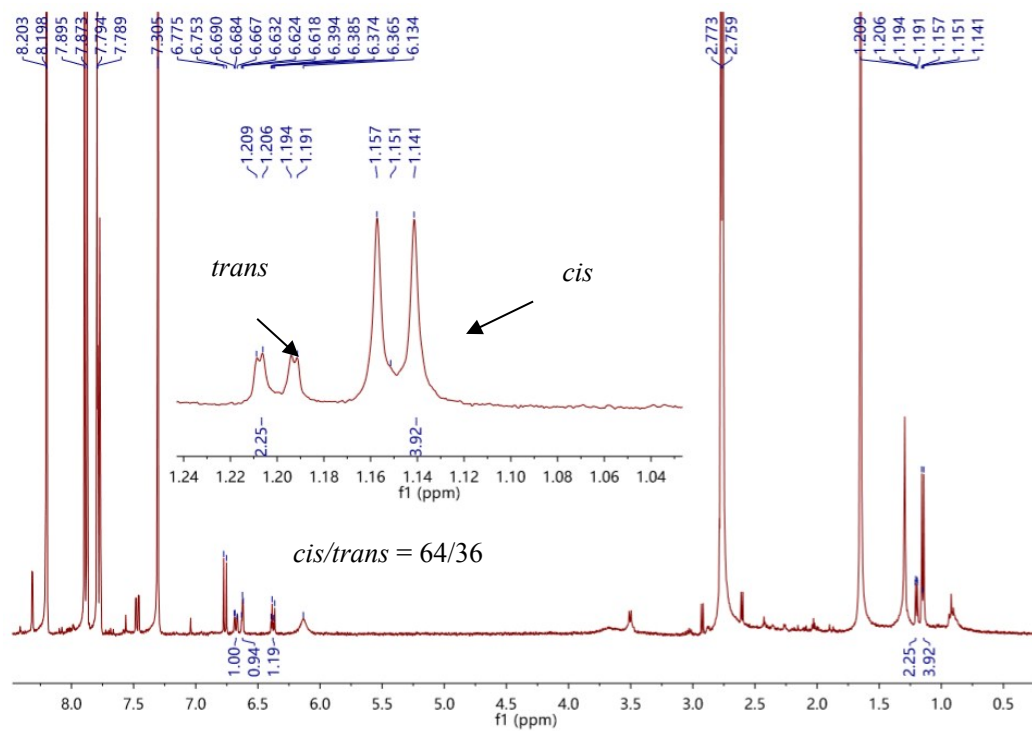


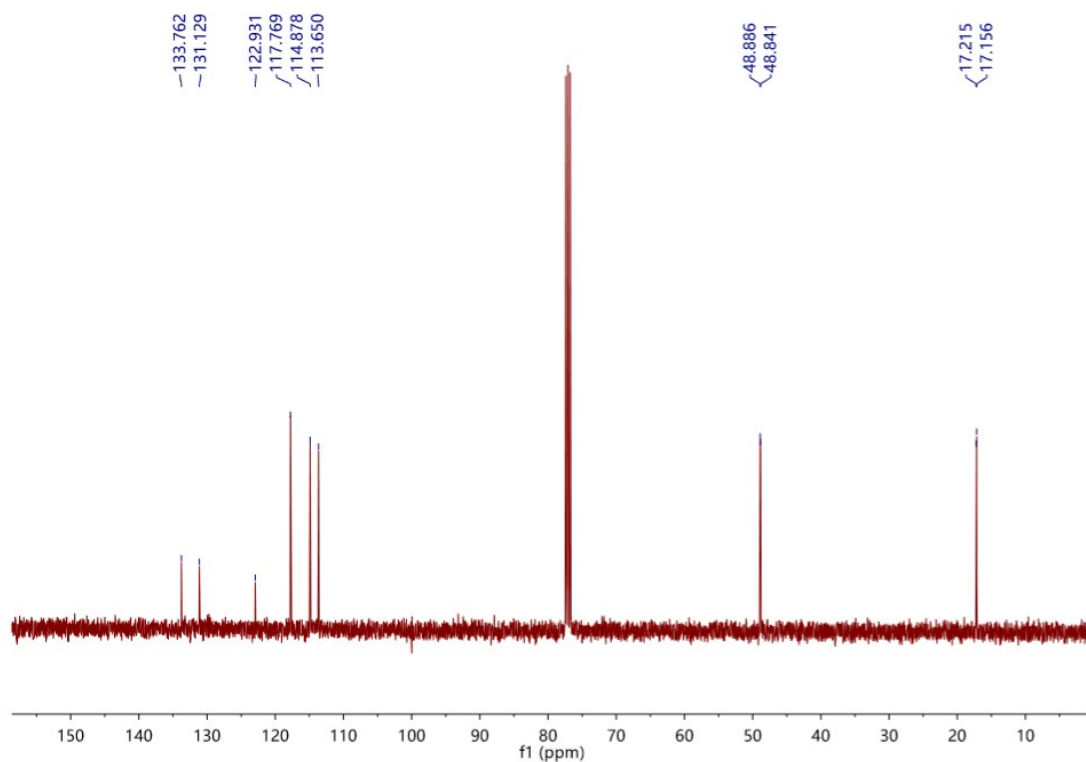
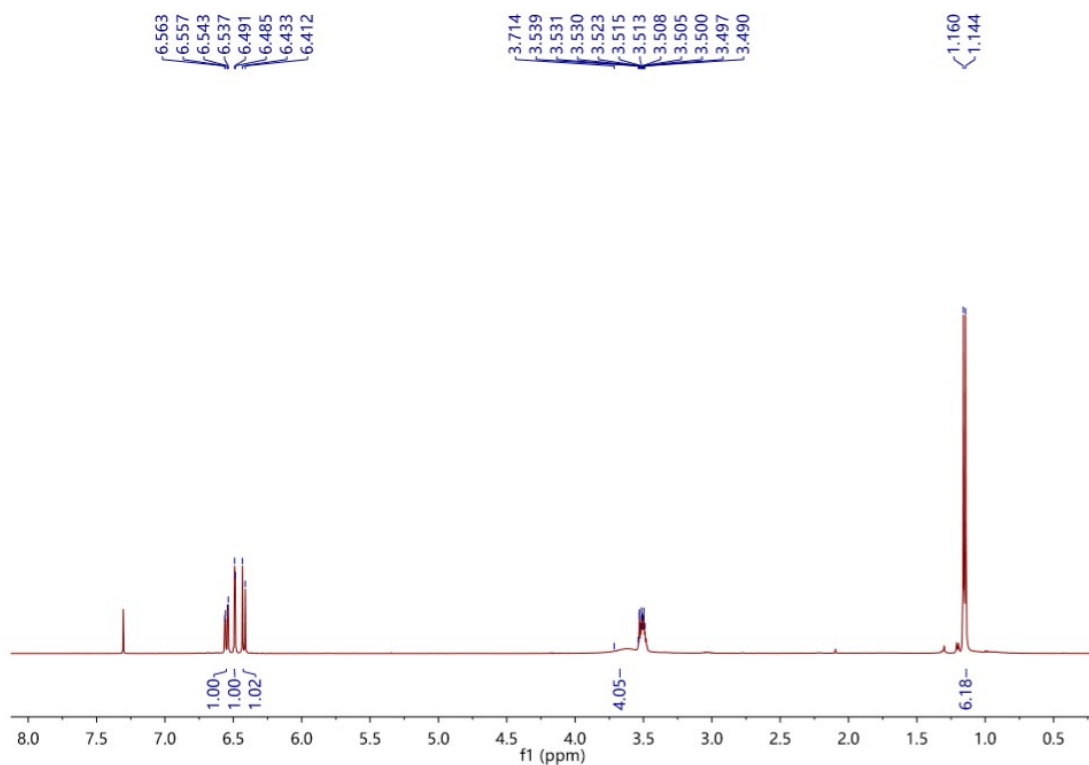
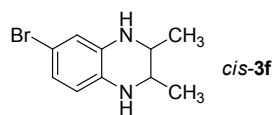


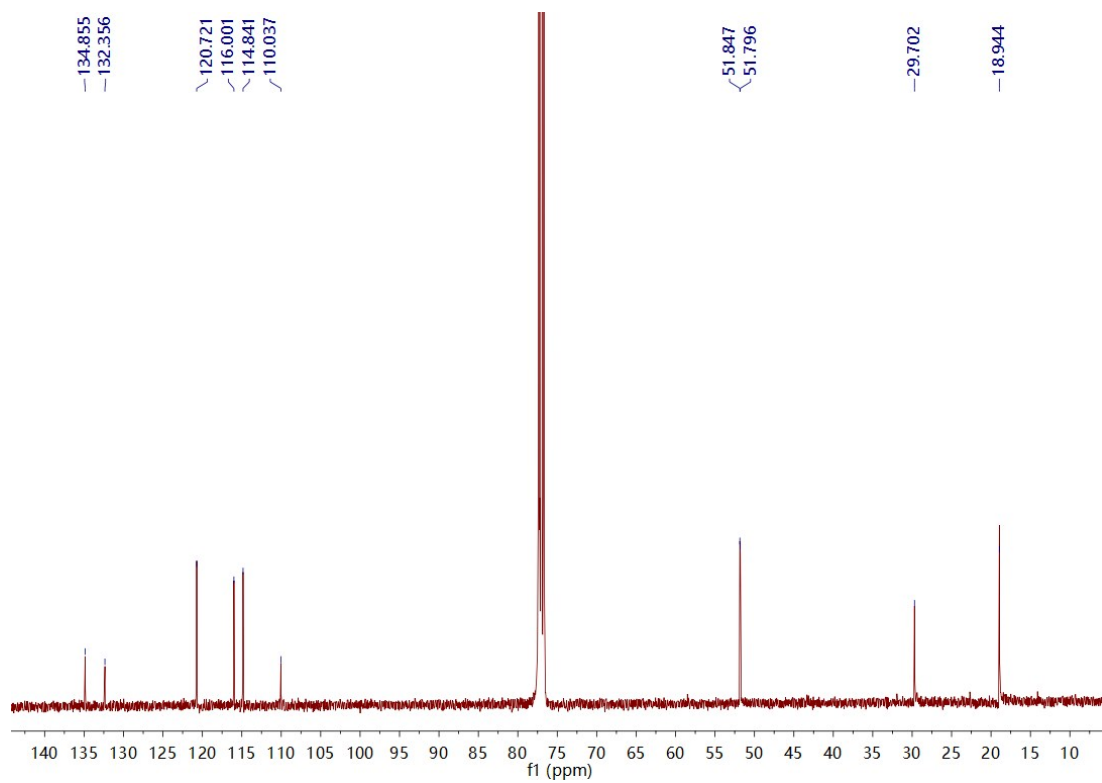
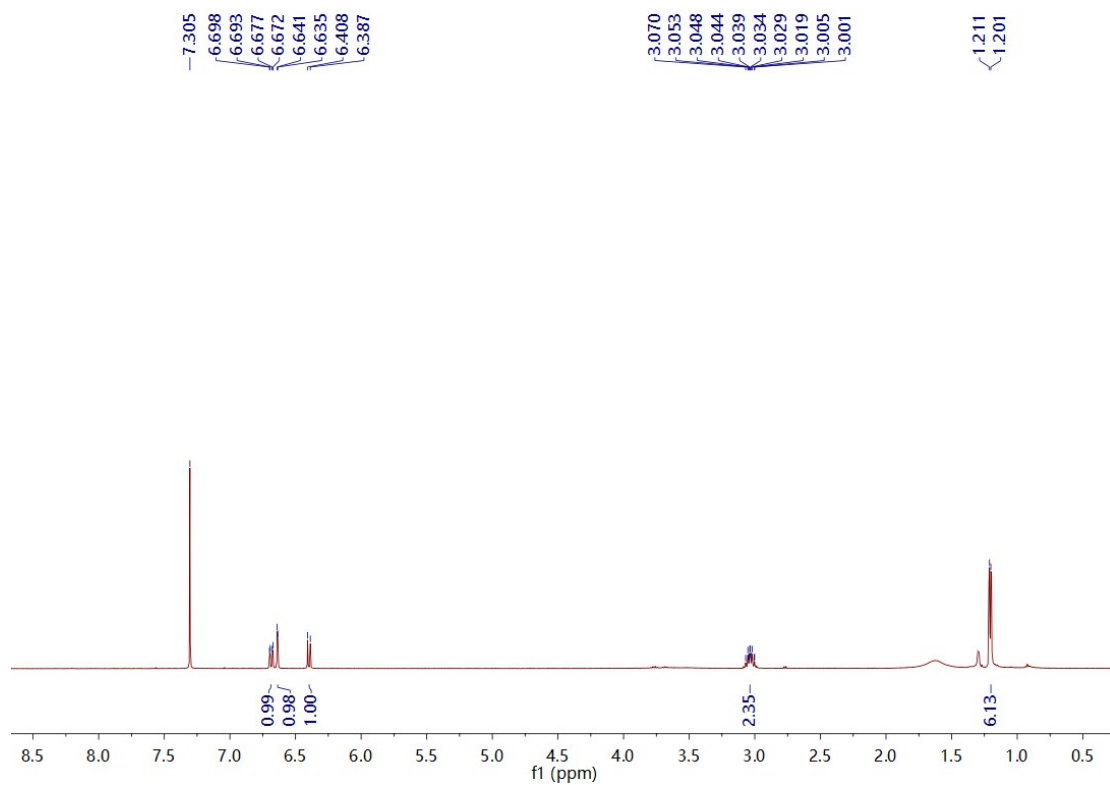
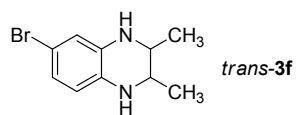
cis/trans of **3f** = 62/38 determined by ¹H NMR of the crude product.

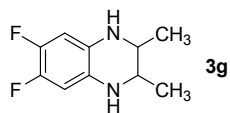


cis/trans of **5e** = 64/36 determined by ¹H NMR of the crude product.

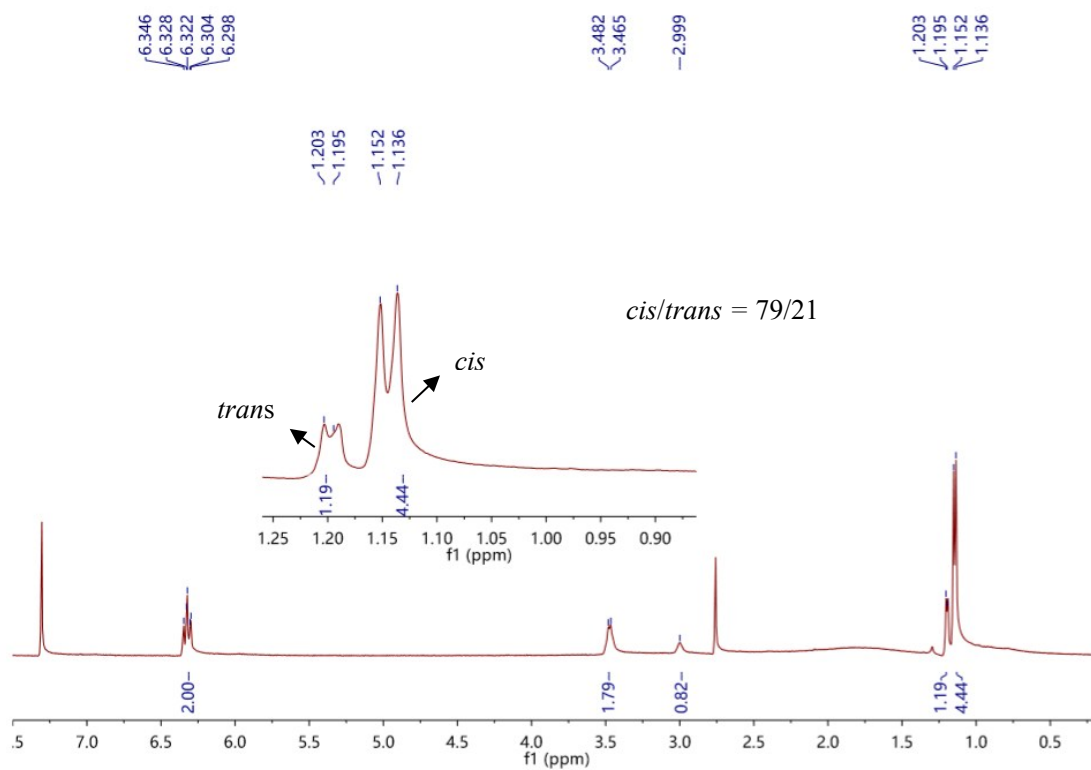


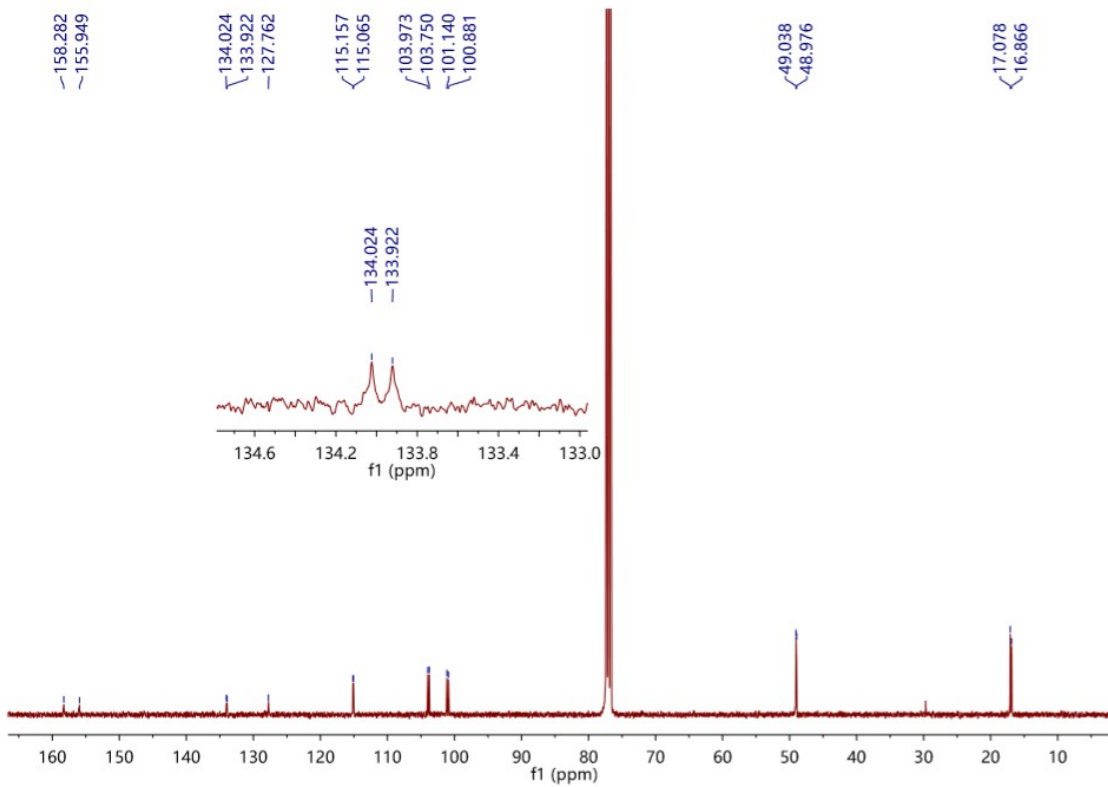
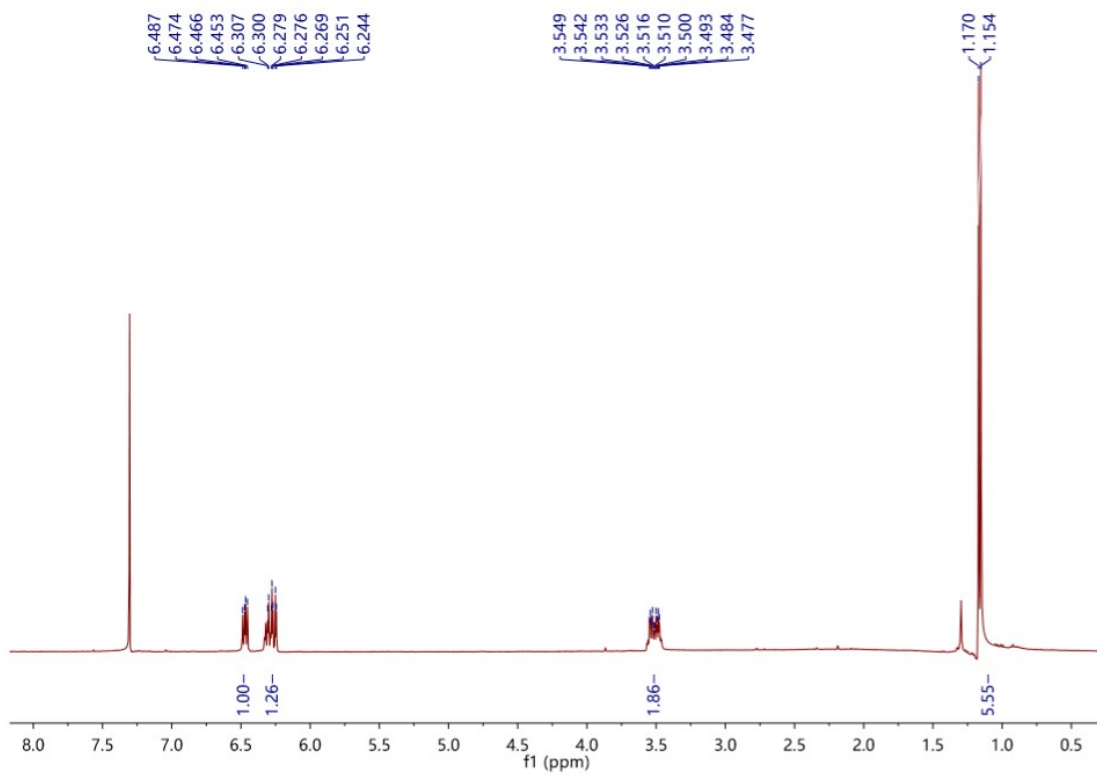
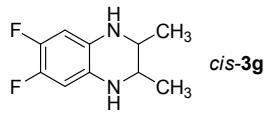


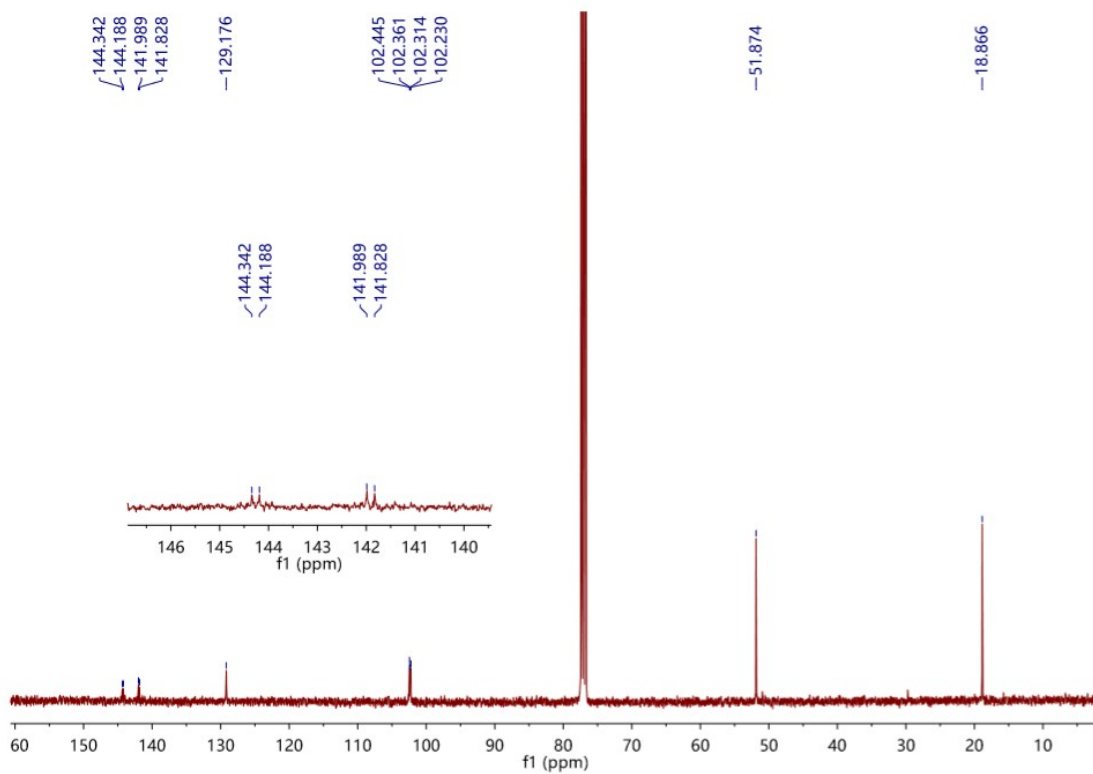
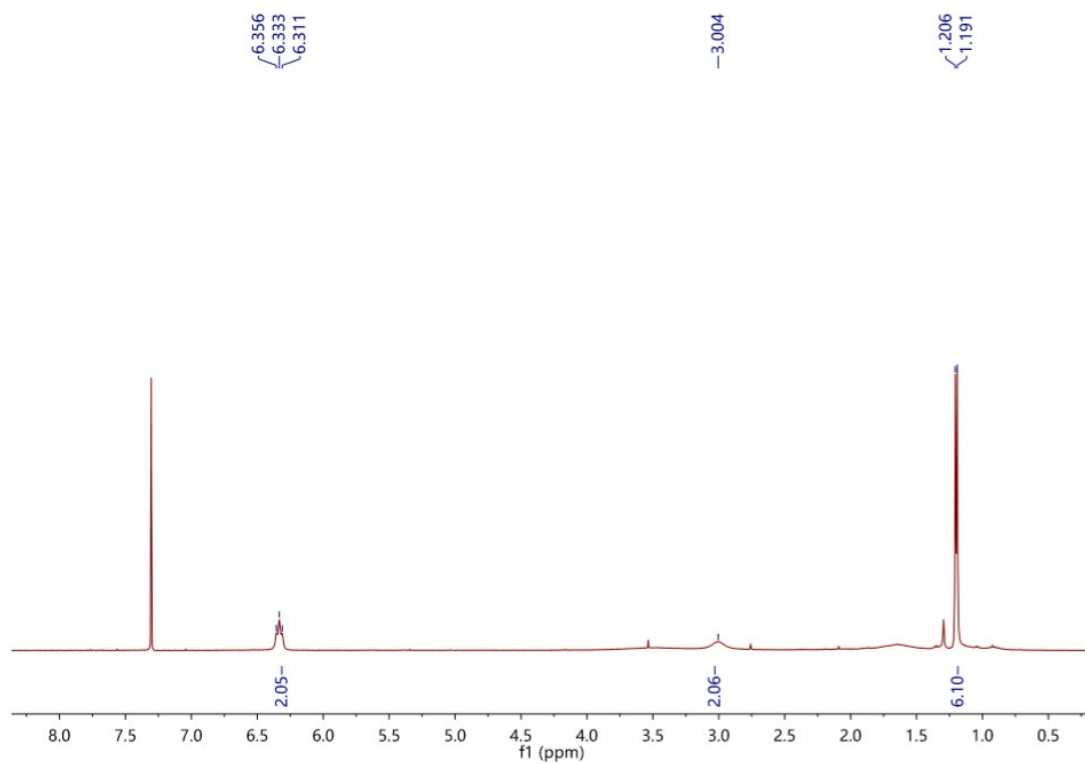
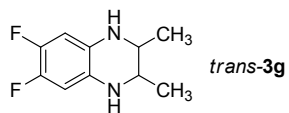


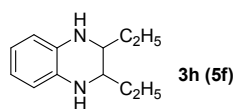


cis/trans of **3g** = 79/21 determined by ¹H NMR of the crude product.

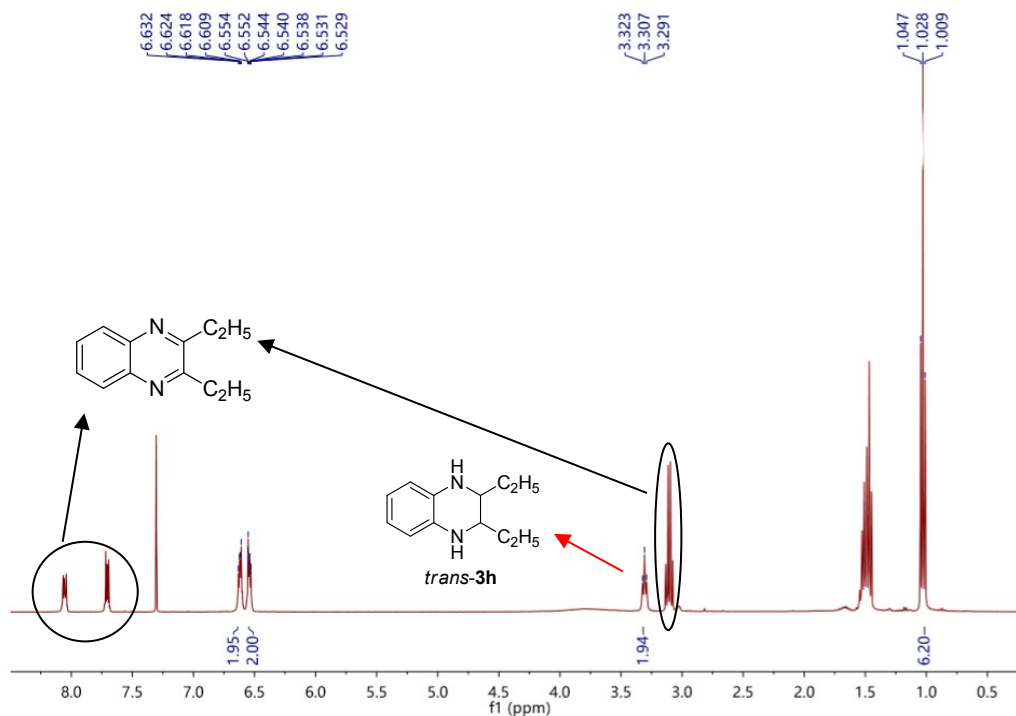




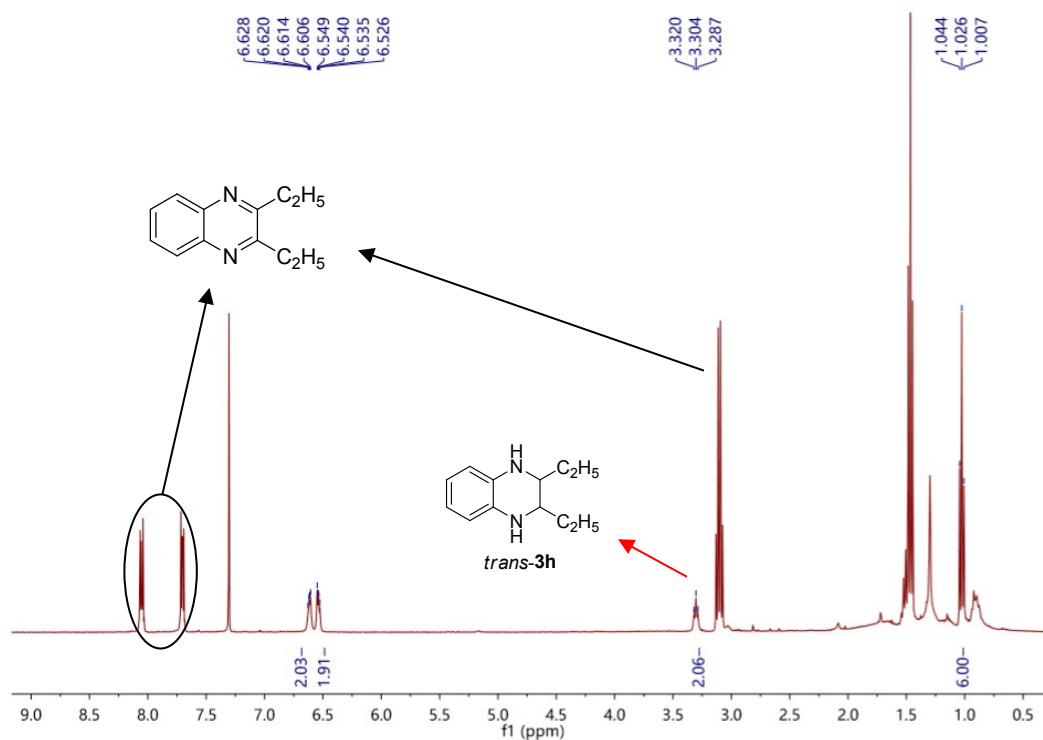


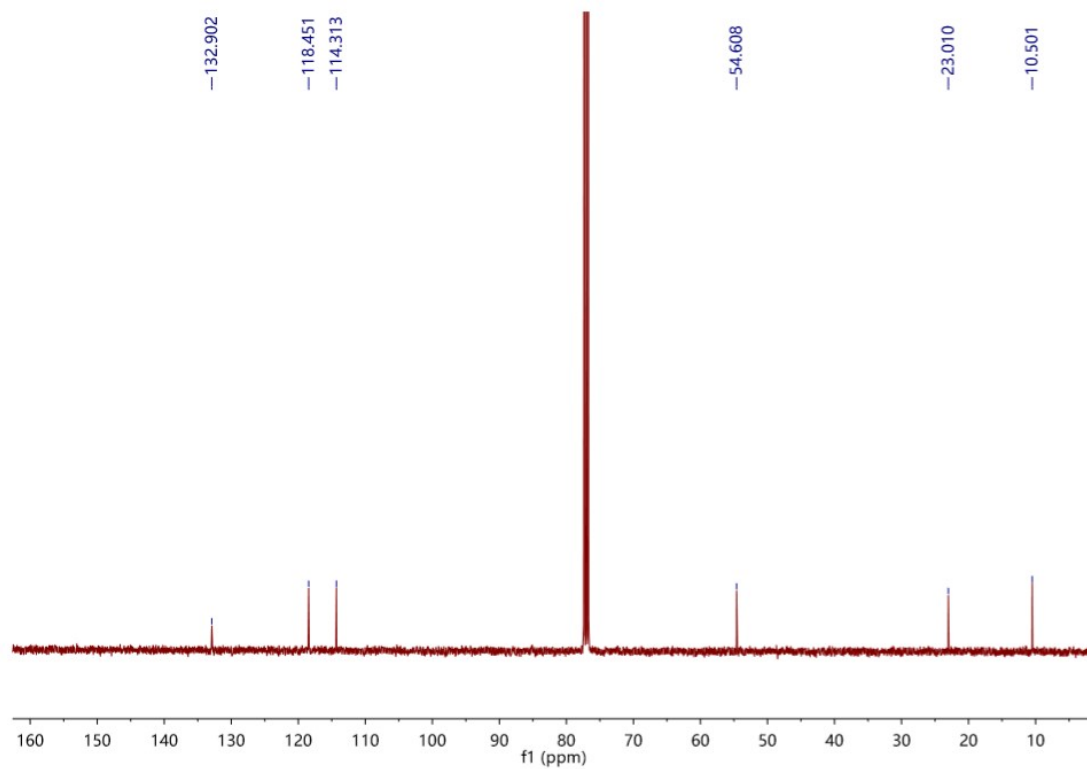
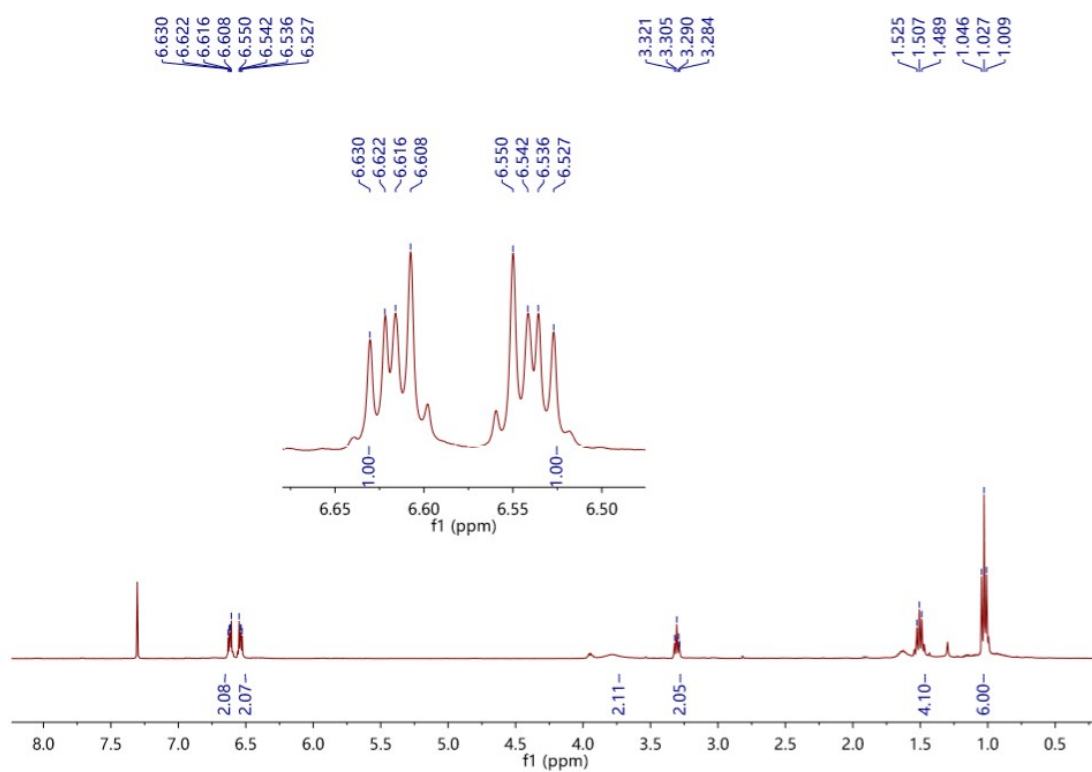
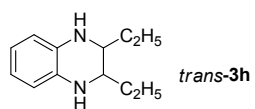


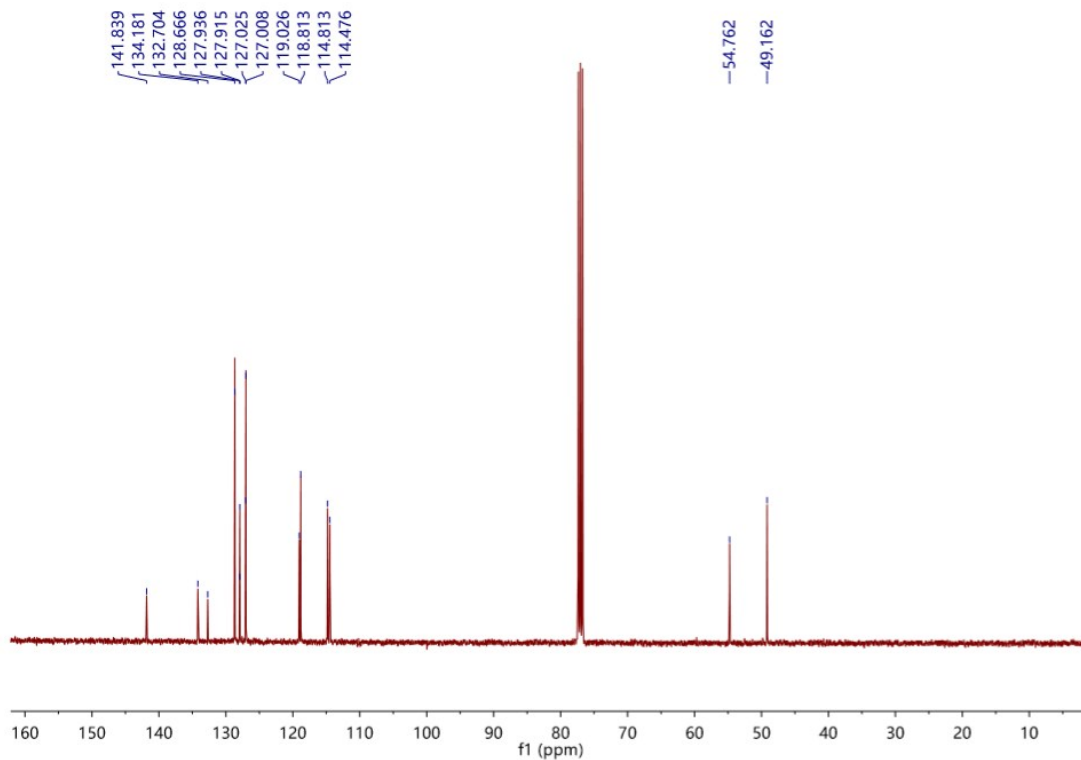
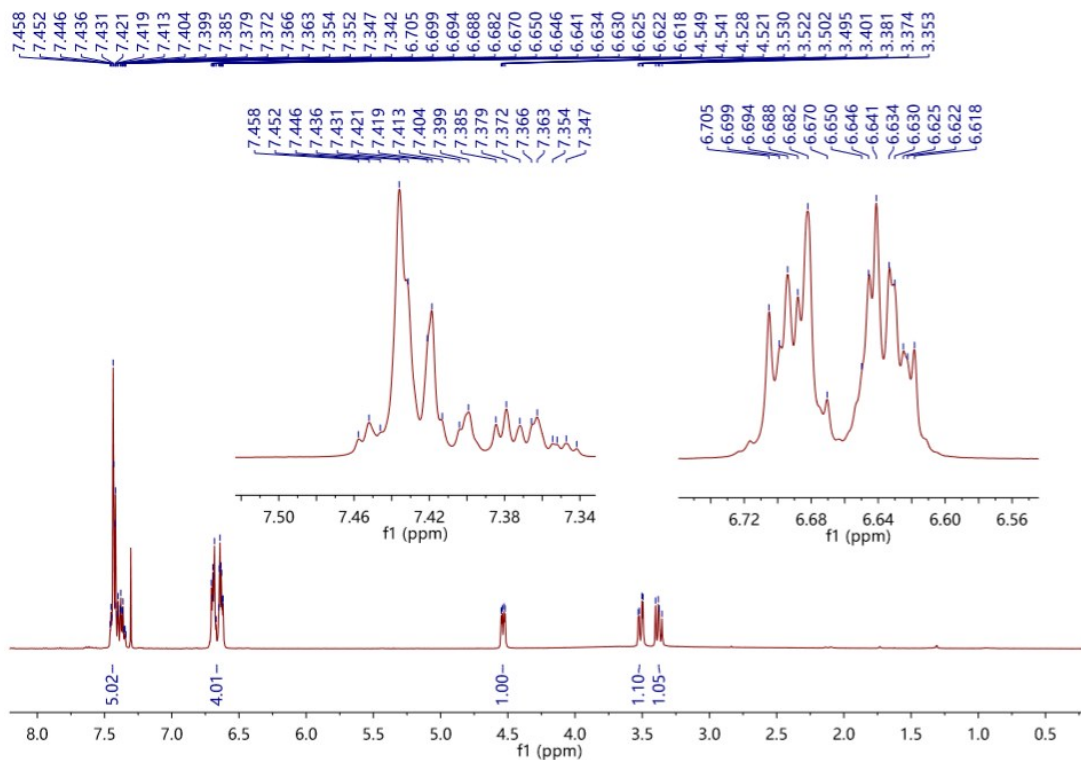
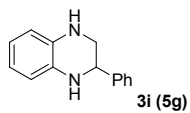
cis/trans of **3h** = 0/100 determined by ¹H NMR of the crude product (*cis* isomer was not detected).

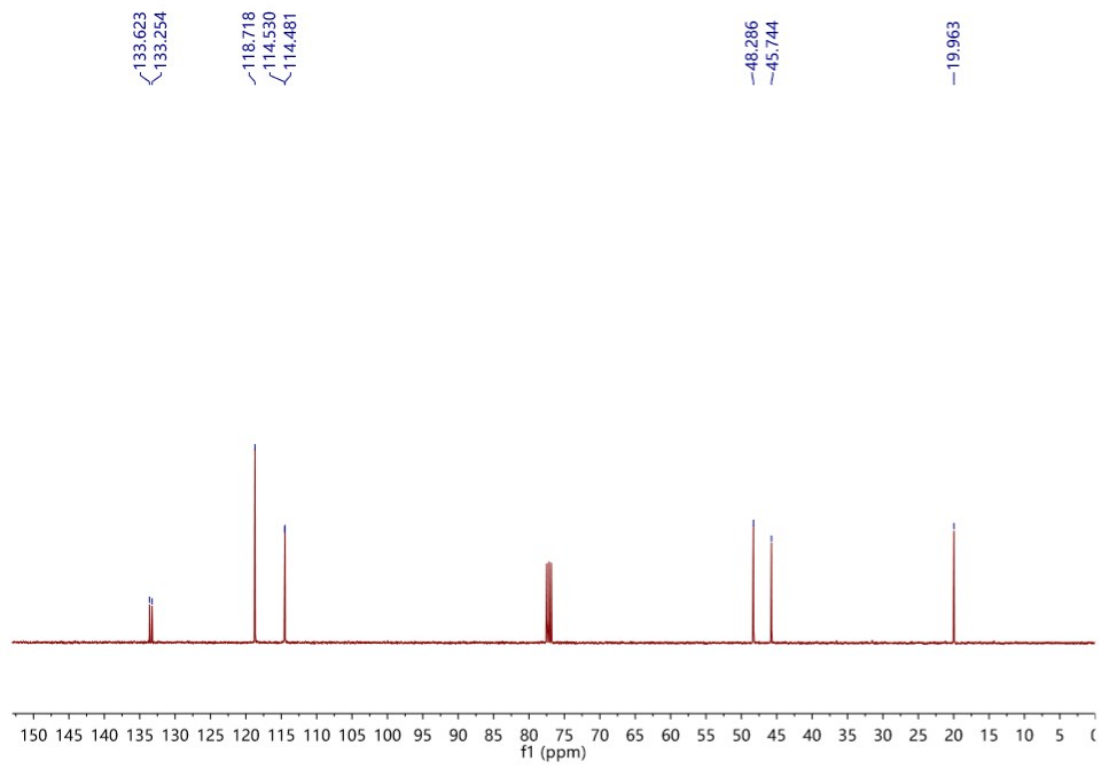
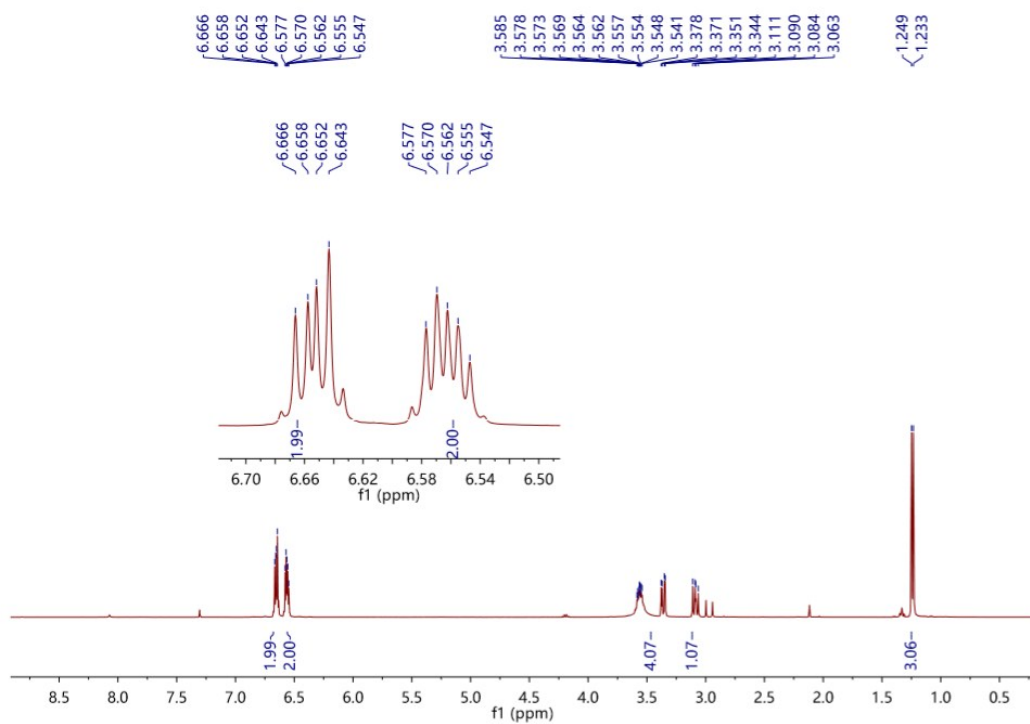
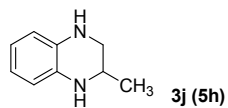


cis/trans of **5f** = 0/100 determined by ¹H NMR of the crude product (*cis* isomer was not detected).

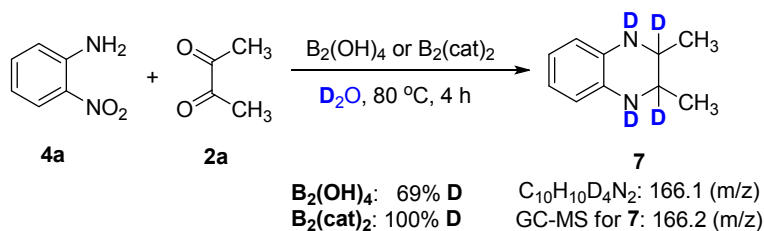






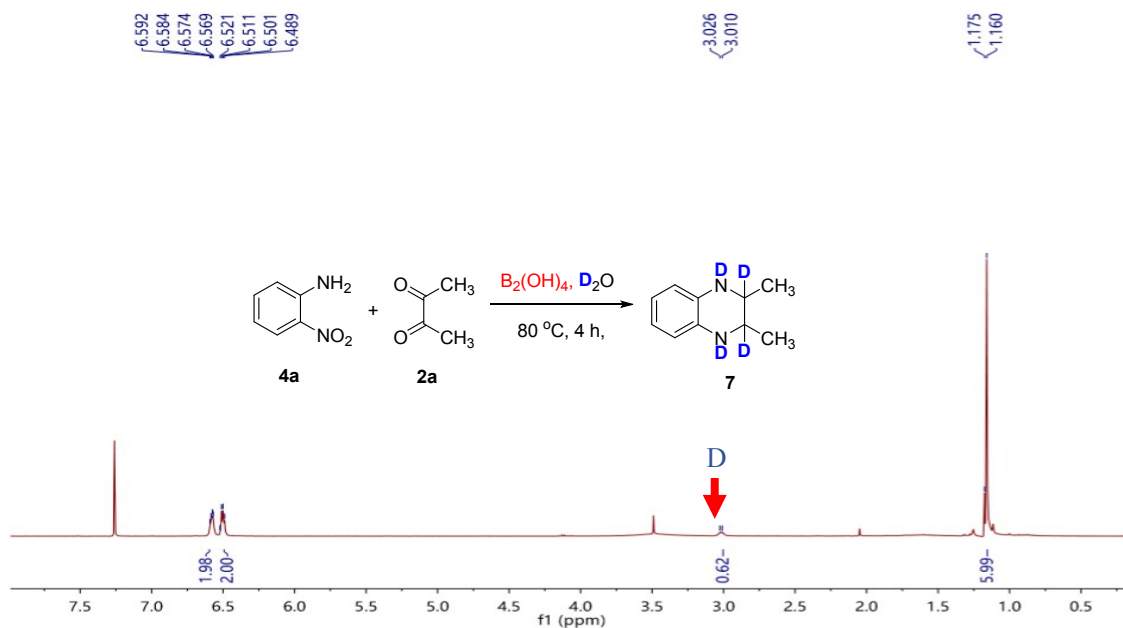
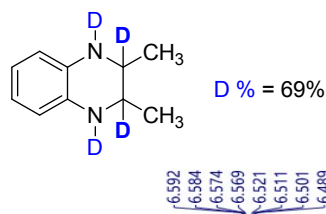


5. The Deuterium Labeling Experiment

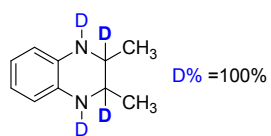


A flask was charged with 2-nitroaniline (**4a**, 1 mmol, 138 mg), 2,3-butanedione (**2a**, 1 mmol, 86 mg), $\text{B}_2(\text{OH})_4$ or $\text{B}_2(\text{cat})_2$ (8 mmol) and D_2O (3 mL) under N_2 . The reaction was stirred at 80 °C for 4 h. When the reaction was complete monitored by TLC, the mixture was cooled to room temperature, extracted with ethyl acetate (3×20 mL). The combined organic phase was washed with water, dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 , filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to give the product **7**. The products were determined by ^1H NMR and GC-MS.

$\text{B}_2(\text{OH})_4$:

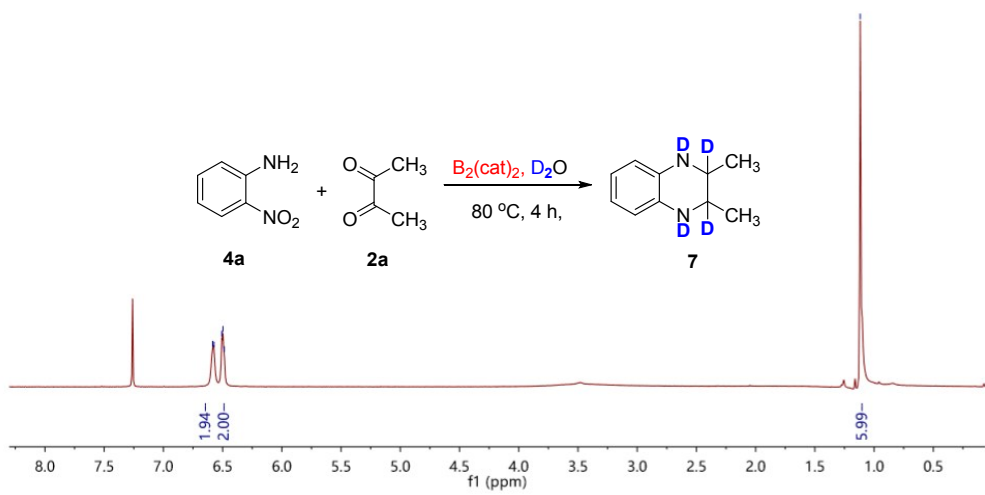


B₂(cat)₂:



6.584
6.572
6.508
6.497
6.486

1.117



GC-MS:

