

**One-step synthesis of polysubstituted benzenes by multi-component cyclization
of α -bromoacetate, malonitrile and aromatic aldehydes**

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General Experimental Methods and

Characterization of compounds **5-21**

X-Ray Crystallographic Data **CIF in separate file.**

Crystallographic data (**1a**: CCDC 663309; **1b**: CCDC 663310; **1c**: CCDC 663311; **1h** CCDC 663312. **D1**: CCDC 663313; **D2**: CCDC 663314. **F** CCDC 663315.) have been deposited at the Cambridge Crystallographic Database Centre and is available on request from the Director, CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge, CB2 1EZ, UK (Fax: +44-1223-336033; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk or [www:http//www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk](http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk)).

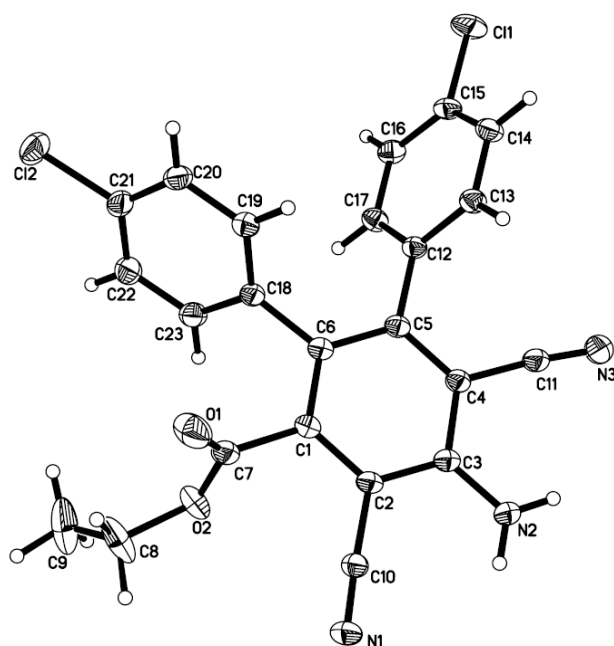


Figure 1 Molecular structure of **1c** in the crystal

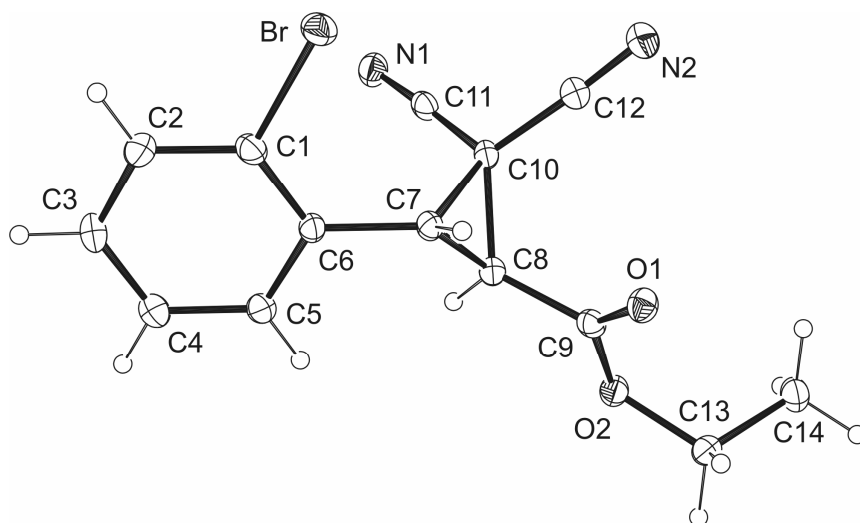


Figure 2 Molecular structure of cyclopropane derivative **D2** in the crystal

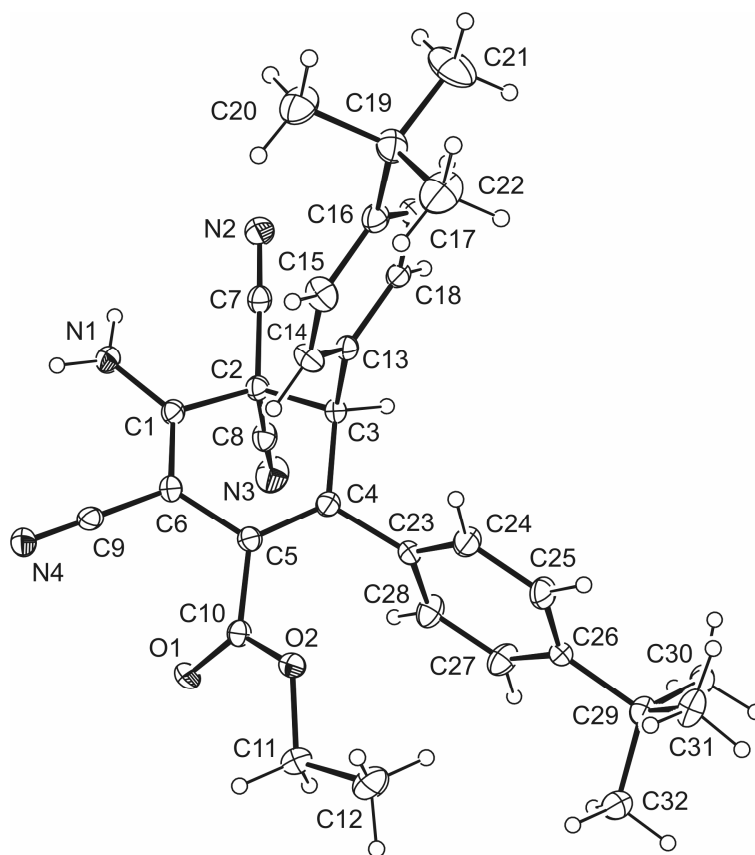


Figure 3 Molecular structure of intermediate **F** in the crystal

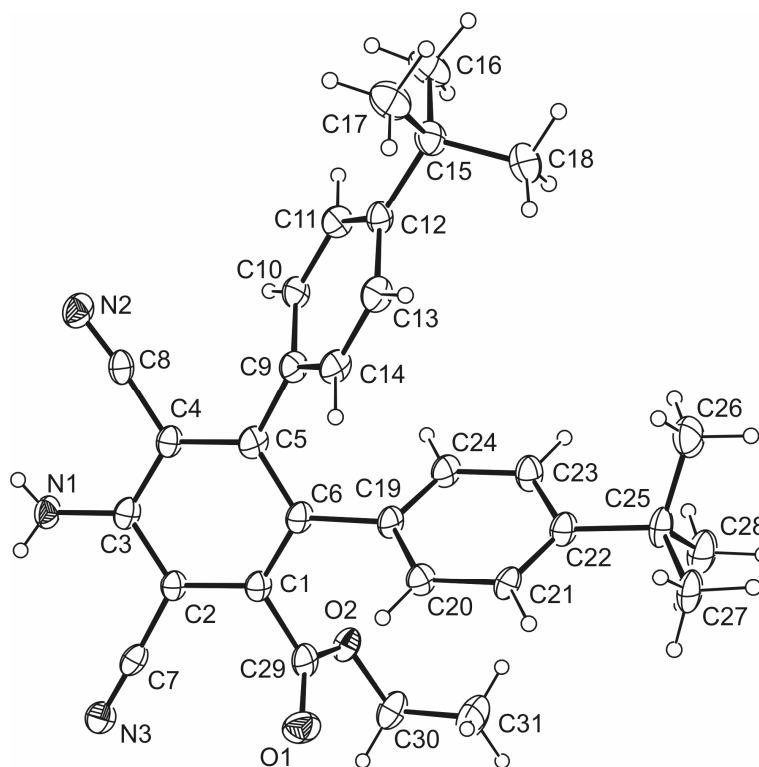
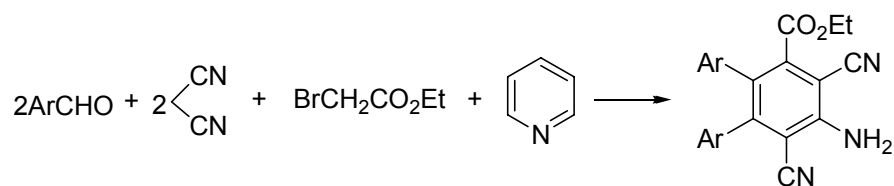
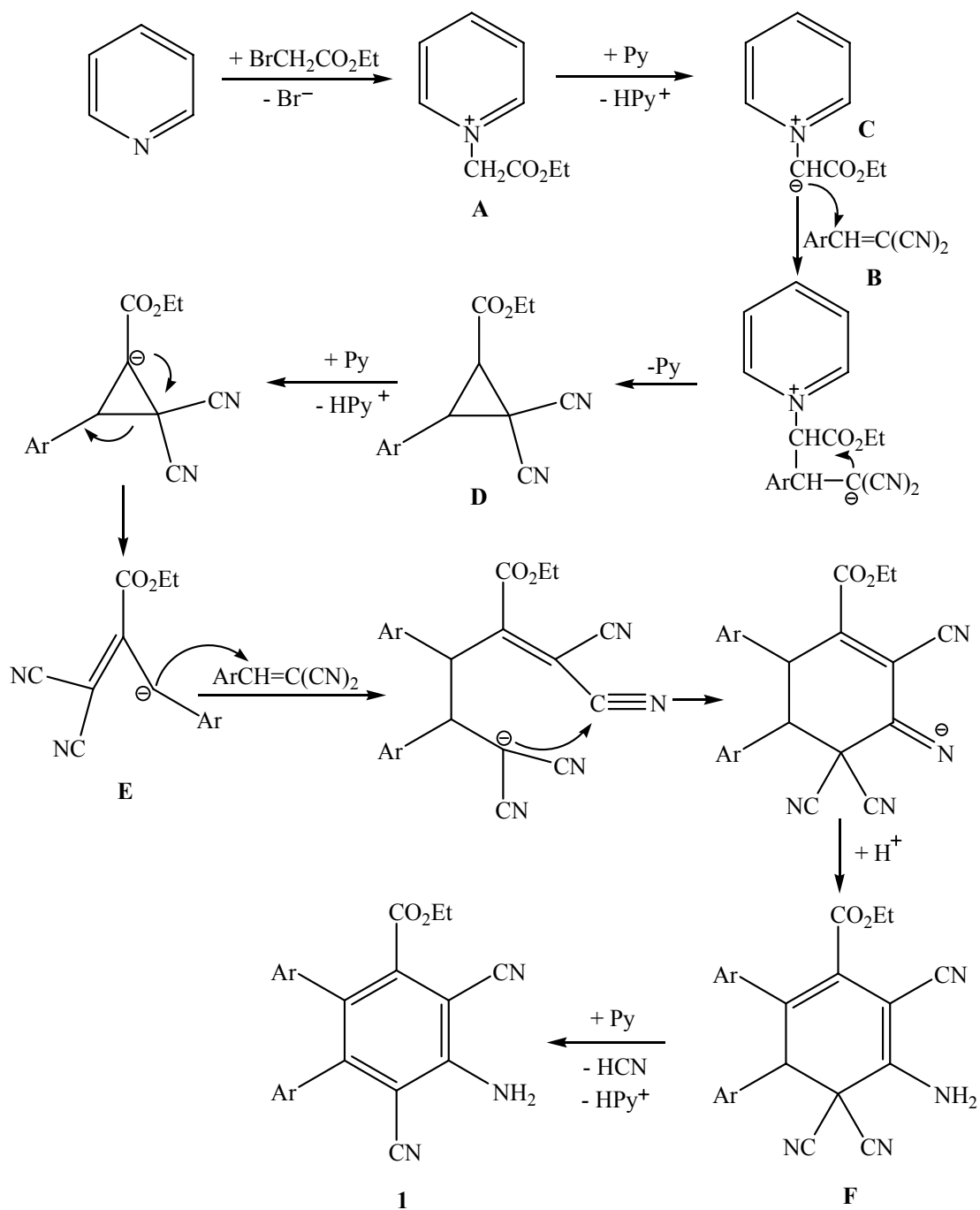


Figure 4 Molecular structure of **1h** in the crystal



Scheme 1 One-pot four-component reaction affording polysubstituted benzene derivatives

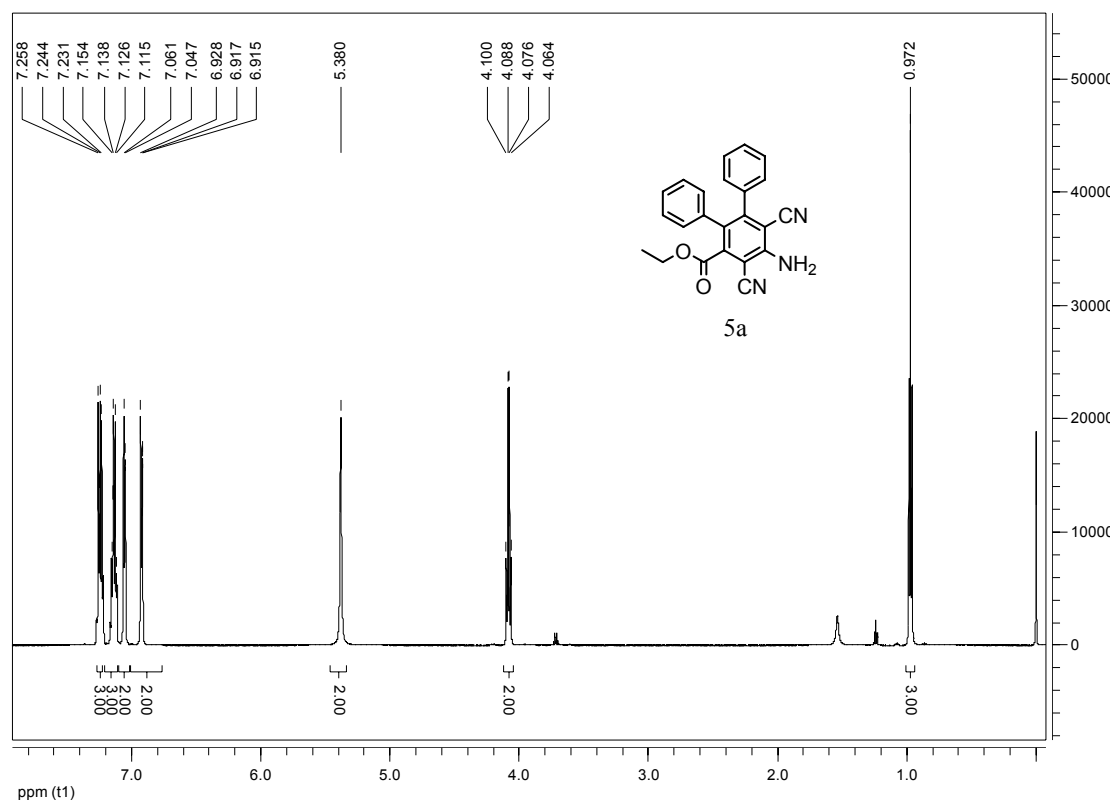


Scheme 2 Proposed mechanism for the formation of polysubstituted benzenes **1**

General procedure for the synthesis of polysubstituted Benzenes

A mixture of pyridine (20.0mmol, 1.58g), ethyl α -bromoacetate (4.0mmol, 0.668g), aromatic aldehyde (4.0mmol, 0.562g) and malononitrile (4.0mmol, 0.264g) in acetonitrile (20mL) was refluxed for 12 hours. The solvent was removed by evaporation and the residue was titrated with ethanol (10mL) to give the crude product, which is recrystallized in ethanol to give light yellow solid

1a: mp151~152 $^{\circ}$. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 7.273 (m, $J = 8.4\text{Hz}$, 3H, C_6H_5), 7.132 (m, $J = 7.2\text{ Hz}$, 3H, C_6H_5), 7.054 (d, $J = 8.4\text{ Hz}$, 2H, C_6H_5), 6.921 (d, $J = 8.4\text{ Hz}$, 2H, C_6H_5), 5.380 (s, 2H, NH_2), 4.082 (q, $J = 7.2\text{ Hz}$, 2H, CH_2), 0.972 (t, $J = 7.2\text{ Hz}$, 3H, CH_3); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 147.81, 147.48, 146.97, 131.34, 131.14, 128.82, 127.86, 127.24, 126.55, 124.80, 124.52, 124.23, 109.93, 38.44, 34.54, 34.13, 27.43, 27.05, 19.78; IR(KBr) ν 3432, 3355, 3254, 2220, 1727, 1648, 1565, 1568, 1454, 1374, 1267, 1231, 1034, 754, 703; Found: C,75.15; H,4.47; N,11.39. $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2$ requires C,75.19; H,4.66; N,11.44. The structure of **1a** was further proved by X-ray crystallographic analysis (Figure 1).



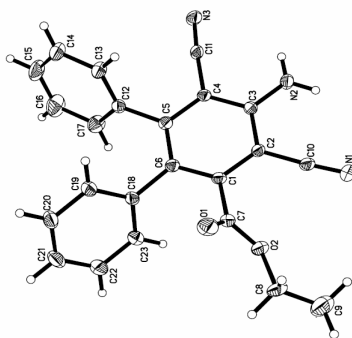
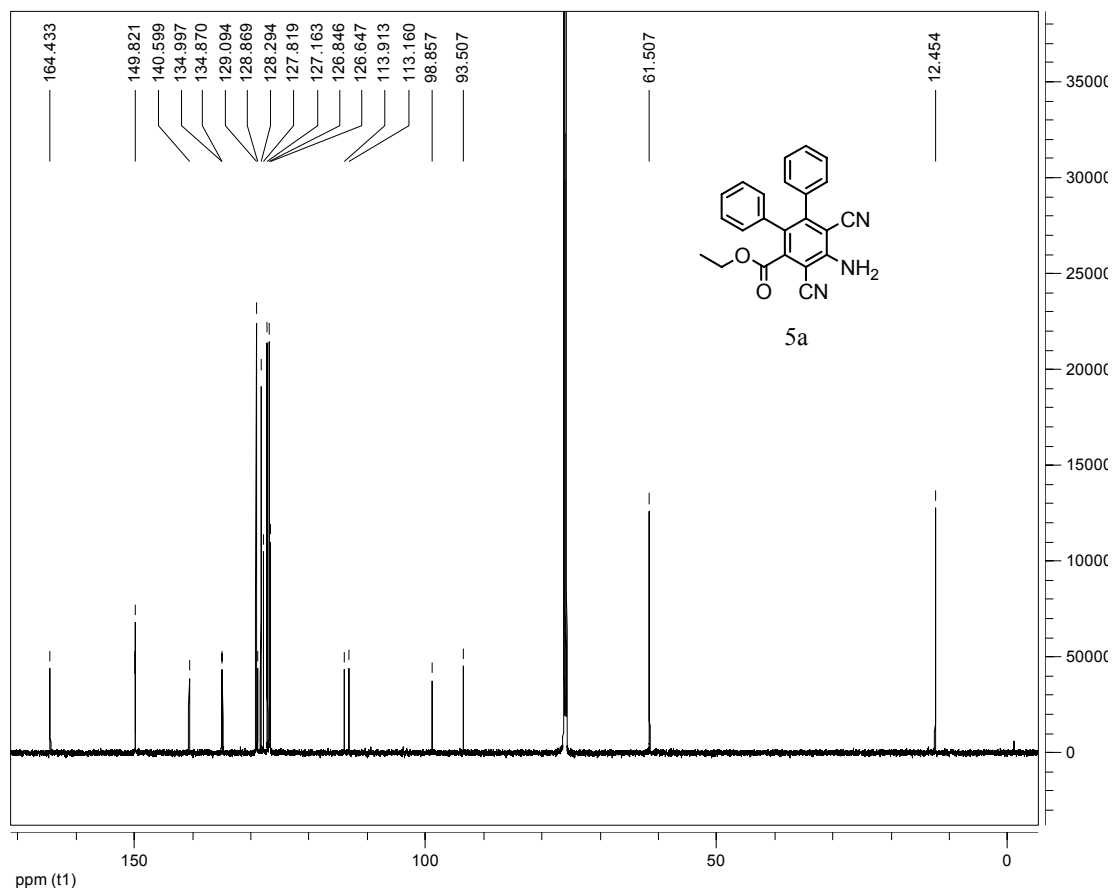


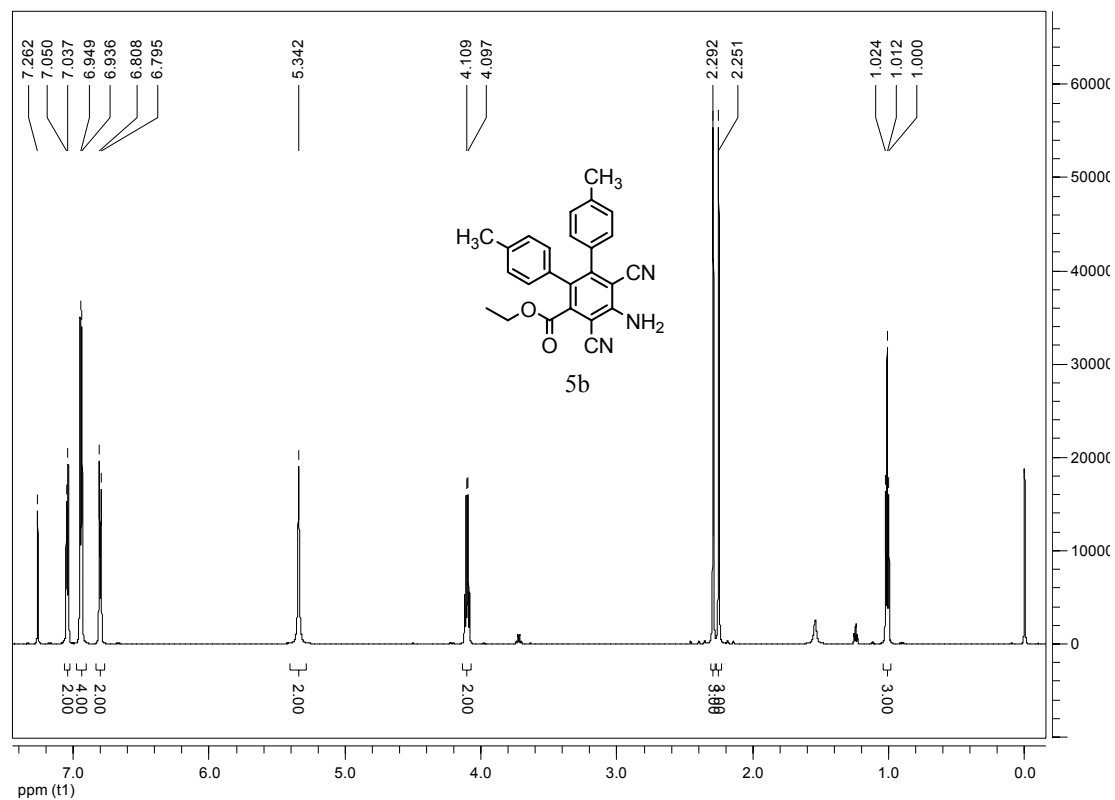
Figure 1 X-ray crystallographic structure of **1a**

1b mp190~191°. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ 7.049 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H, $p\text{-CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$), 6.942 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 4H, $p\text{-CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$), 6.801 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H, $p\text{-CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4$) 5.342 (s, 2H, NH_2), 4.103 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H, CH_2), 2.292 (s, 3H, CH_3), 2.251 (s, 3H, CH_3), 0.972 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H, CH_3); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 164.23, 150.18, 148.60, 140.93, 134.66, 133.42, 133.29, 133.25, 130.57, 129.80, 128.02, 127.59, 113.79, 113.04, 96.97, 94.24, 61.57, 12.74; IR(KBr) ν 3467,

3356, 3256, 2225, 1741, 1640, 1588, 1560, 1449, 1376, 1266, 1232, 1031, 795, 762;

Found: C,76.12; H,5.11; N,10.60. C₂₅H₂₁N₃O₂ requires C,75.93; H,5.35; N,10.63.

The structure of 5b was further proved by X-ray crystallographic analysis (Figure 2).



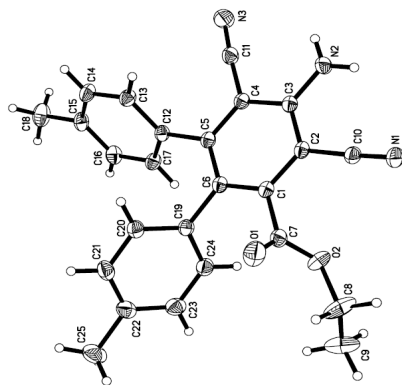
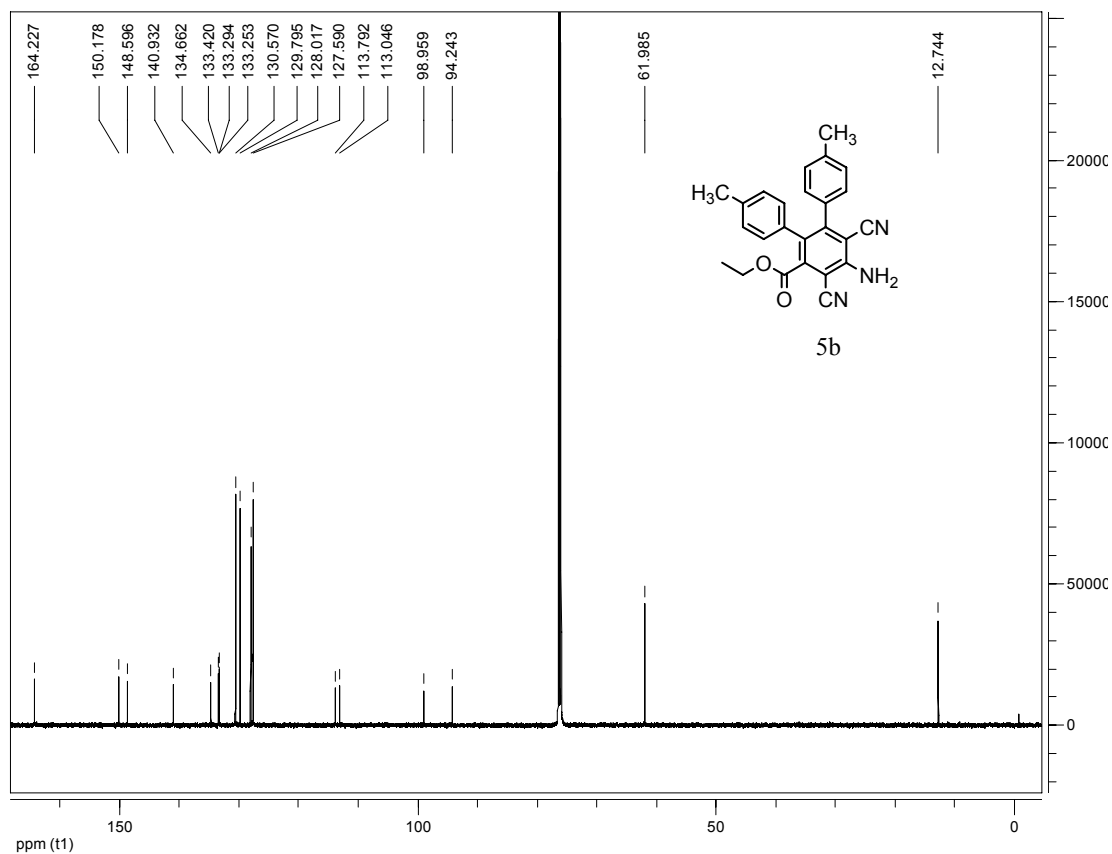
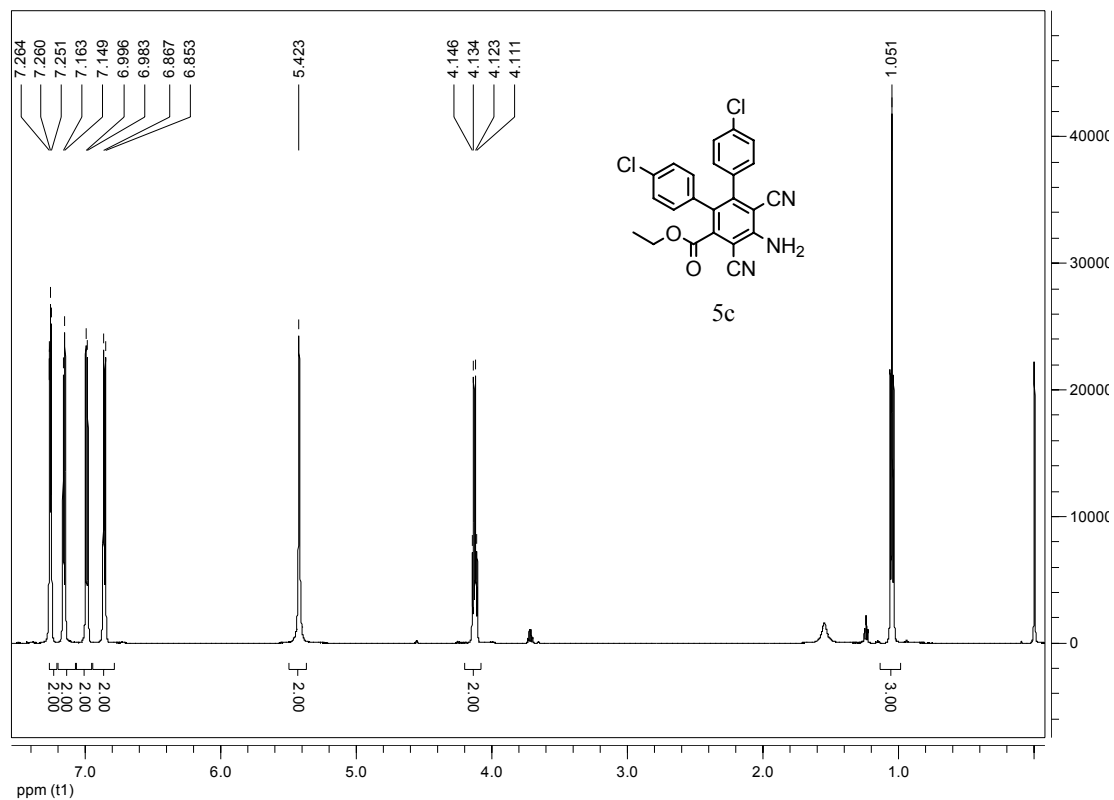


Figure 2 X-ray crystallographic structure of **1b**

1c mp231~232°. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ 7.257 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H, *p*-ClC₆H₄), 7.156 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, *p*-ClC₆H₄), 6.990 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H, *p*-ClC₆H₄), 6.860 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, *p*-ClC₆H₄), 5.423 (s, 2H, NH₂), 4.129 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 1.051 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ(ppm) 162.84, 148.82, 147.13, 139.53, 132.40, 132.36, 129.63, 129.49, 129.21, 126.67, 125.19,

121.60, 120.25, 112.42, 111.67, 97.54, 92.93, 60.66, 11.37; IR(KBr) ν 3469, 3351, 3244, 2221, 1743, 1642, 1557, 1493, 1447, 1375, 1276, 1218, 1016, 789, 743; Found: C, 63.09; H, 3.22; N, 9.54. $C_{23}H_{15}Cl_2N_3O_2$ requires C, 63.32; H, 3.47; N, 9.63. The structure of 5c was further proved by X-ray crystallographic analysis (Figure 3).



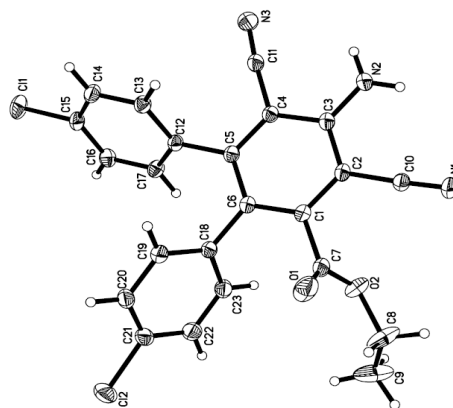
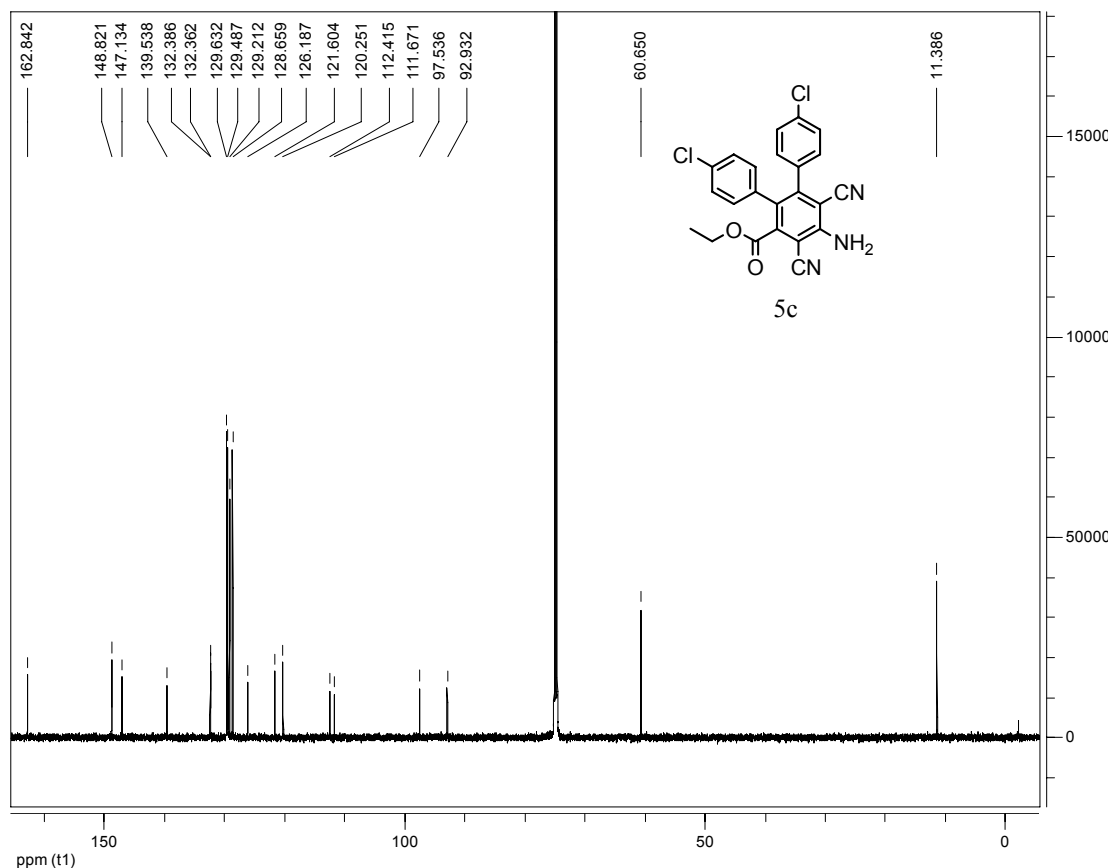
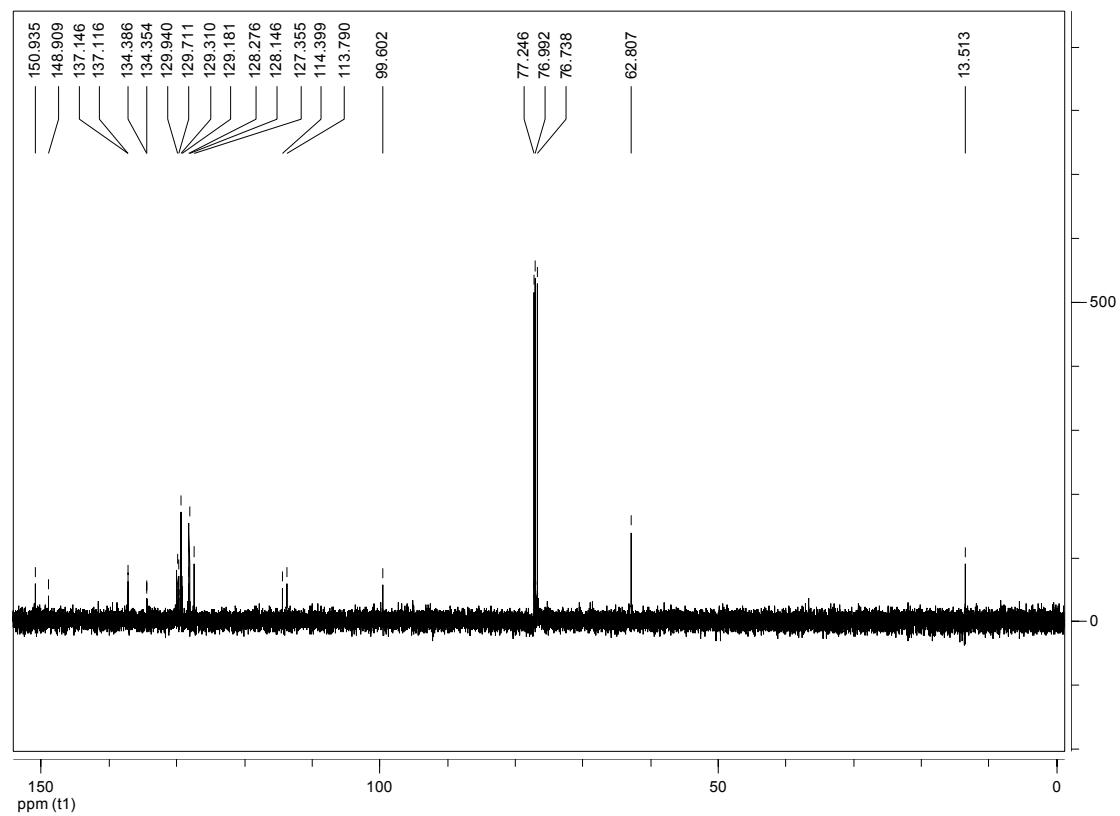
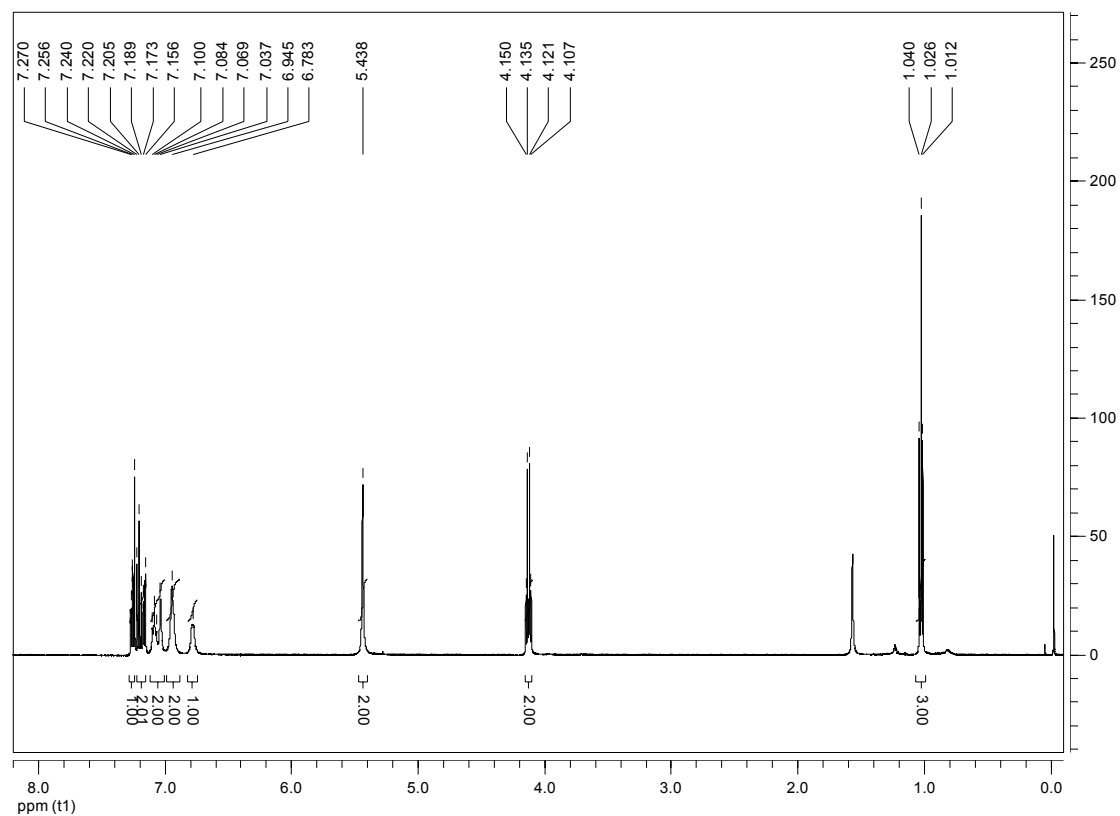


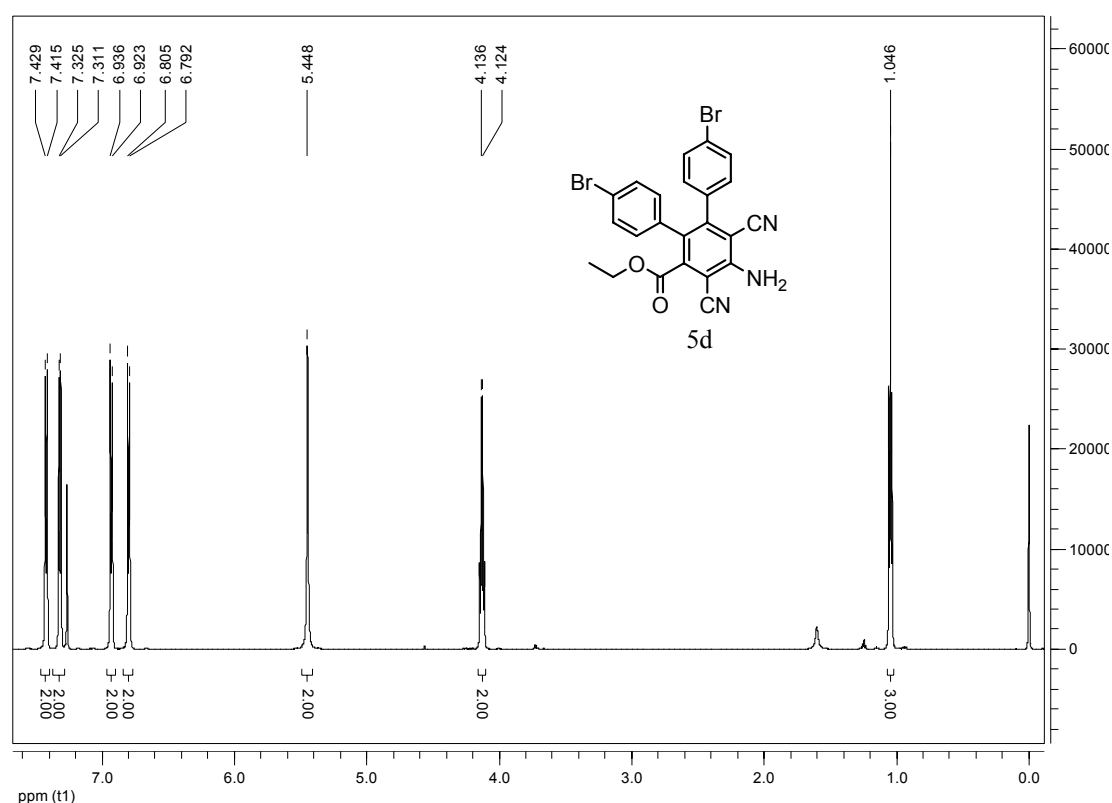
Figure 3 X-ray crystallographic structure of **1c**

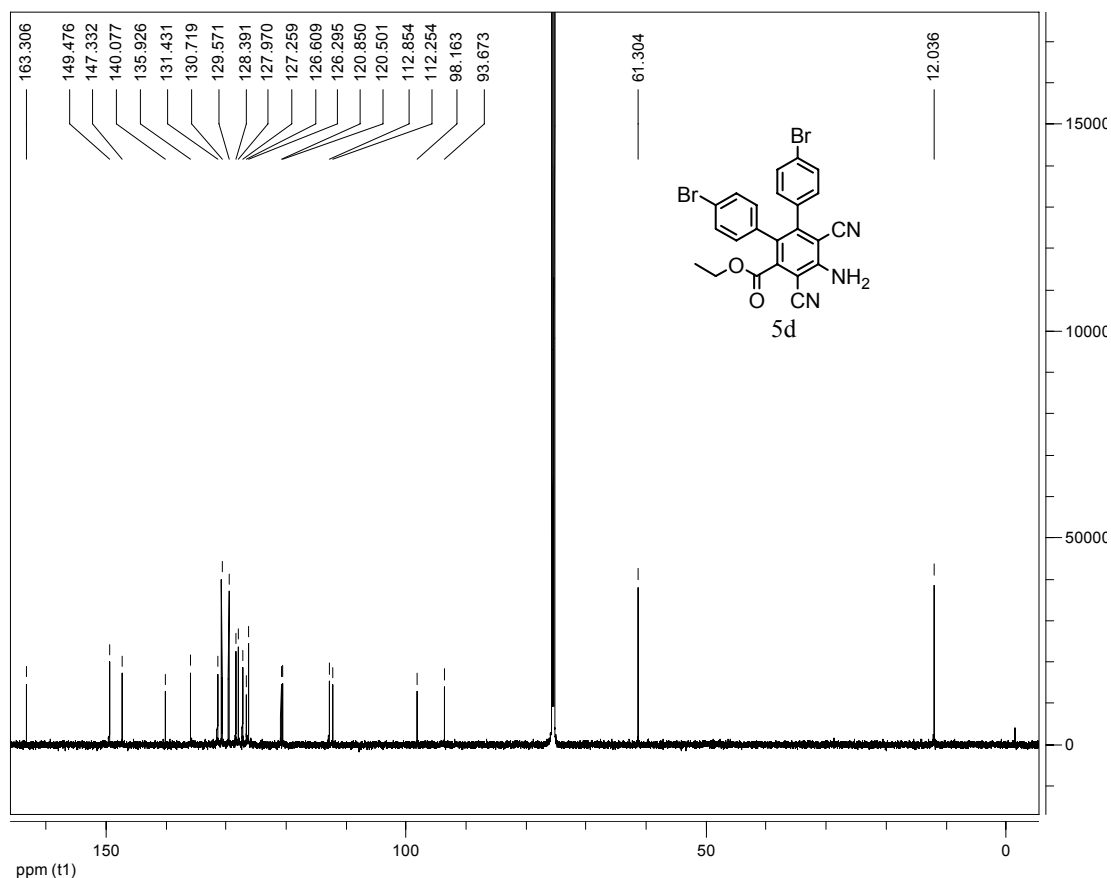
1d mp201~202 °C. ^1H NMR (600MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm) 7.27~7.25 (m, 1H, m- ClC_6H_4), 7.22~7.16 (m, 2H, m- ClC_6H_4), 7.10~7.04 (m, 2H, m- ClC_6H_4), 6.95 (s, 2H, m- ClC_6H_4), 6.78 (s, 1H, m- ClC_6H_4), 5.44 (s, 2H, NH_2), 4.13 (q, $J = 8.4\text{Hz}$, 2H, CH_2), 1.03 (t, $J = 8.4\text{Hz}$, 3H, CH_3). ^{13}C NMR (600MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm) 150.9, 148.9, 137.1, 137.1, 134.4, 134.4, 129.9, 129.7, 129.3, 129.2, 128.3, 128.2, 127.4, 114.4, 113.8,

99.6, 62.8, 16.5.

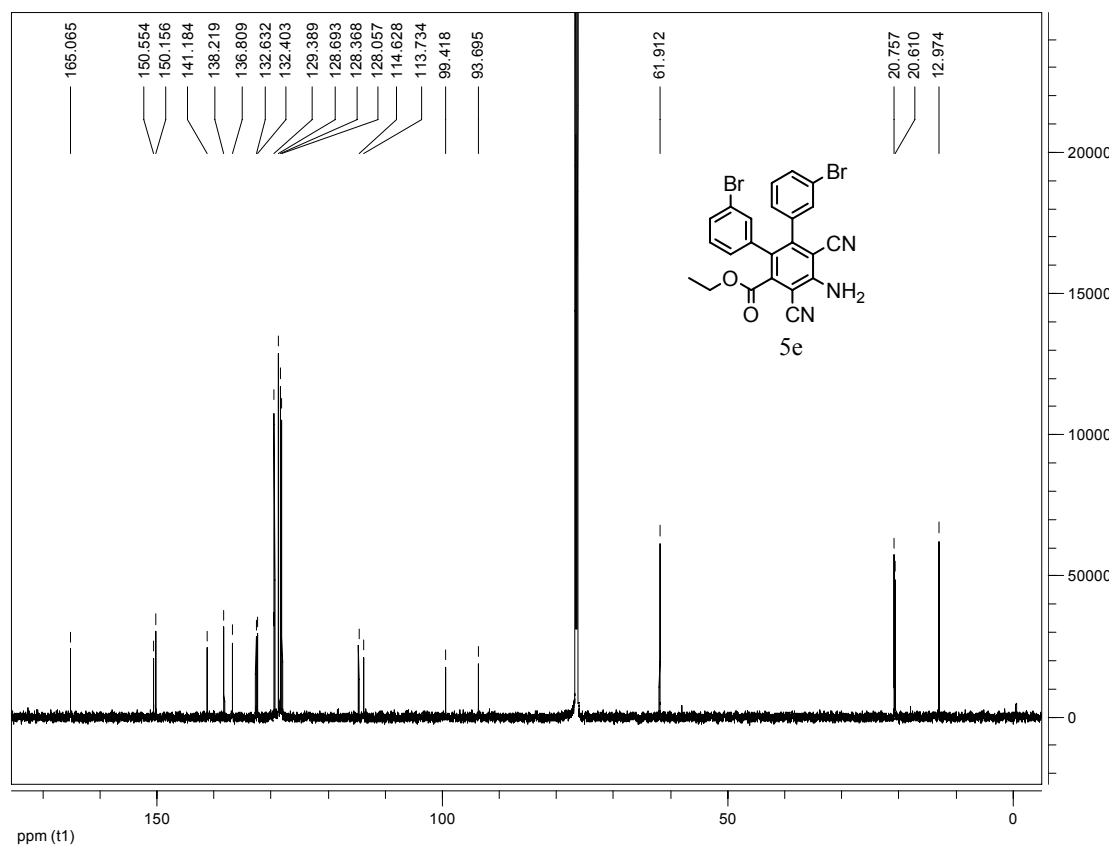
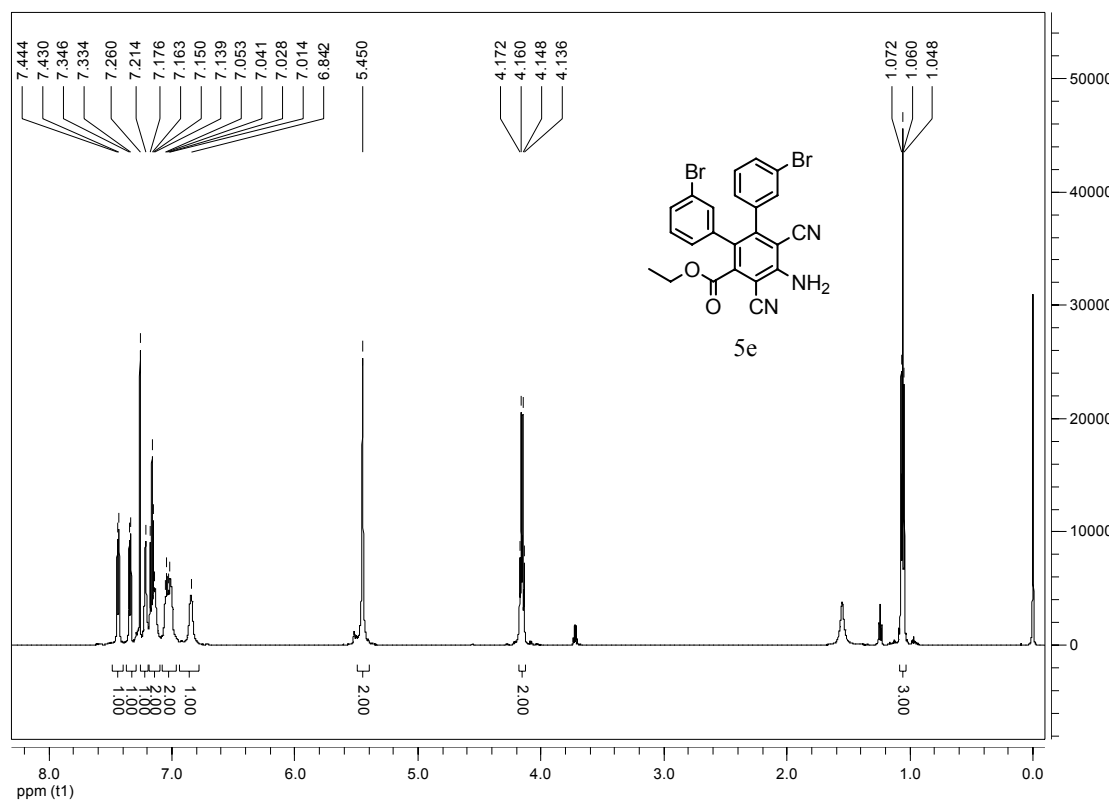


1e mp252~253°. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ 7.419 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H, $p\text{-BrC}_6\text{H}_4$), 7.315 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H, $p\text{-BrC}_6\text{H}_4$), 6.926 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H, $p\text{-BrC}_6\text{H}_4$), 6.797 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H, $p\text{-BrC}_6\text{H}_4$), 5.423 (s, 2H, NH_2), 4.129 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H, CH_2), 1.052 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3H, CH_3); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 600 MHz) δ (ppm) 163.31, 149.48, 147.33, 140.08, 135.93, 131.43, 130.72, 129.57, 128.39, 127.97, 127.26, 125.61, 125.30, 120.85, 120.50, 112.85, 112.25, 96.16, 93.67, 61.30, 12.03; IR(KBr) ν 3469, 3352, 3243, 2221, 1742, 1639, 1558, 1445, 1376, 1305, 1262, 1219, 1025, 785, 734; Found: C,52.49; H,2.68; N,7.87. $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{15}\text{Br}_2\text{N}_3\text{O}_2$ requires C,52.60; H,2.88; N,8.00.



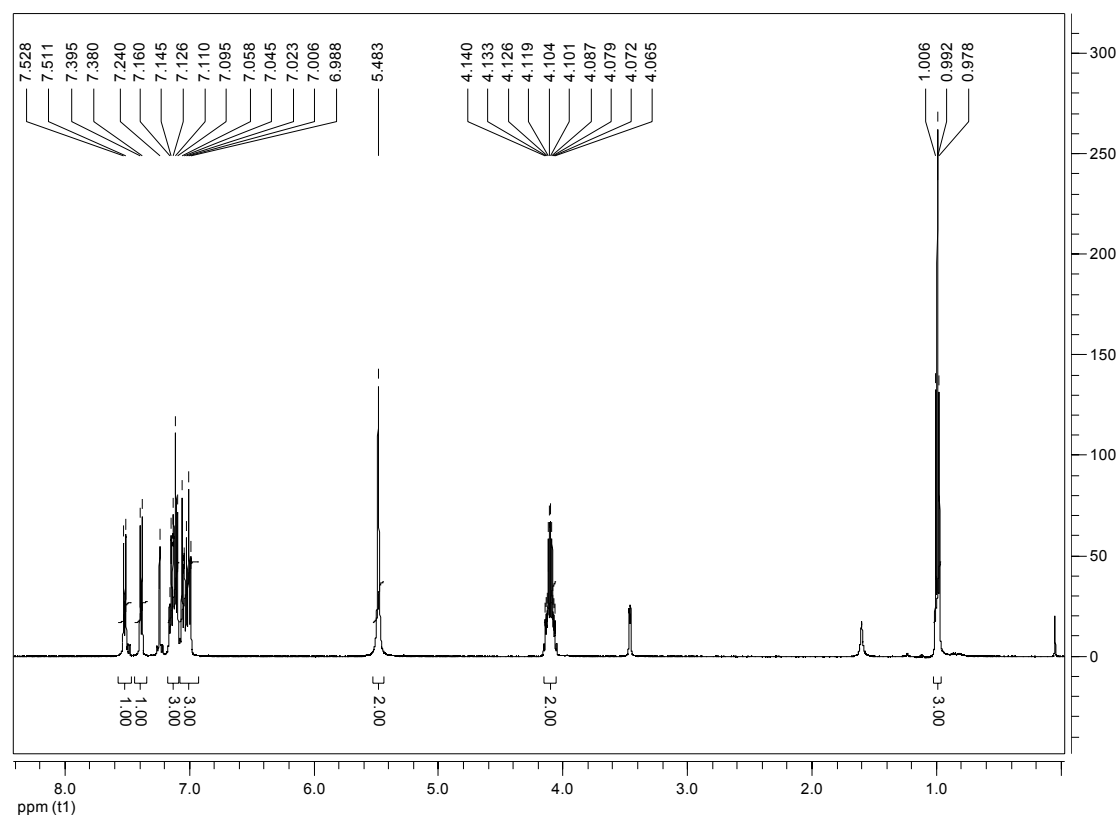


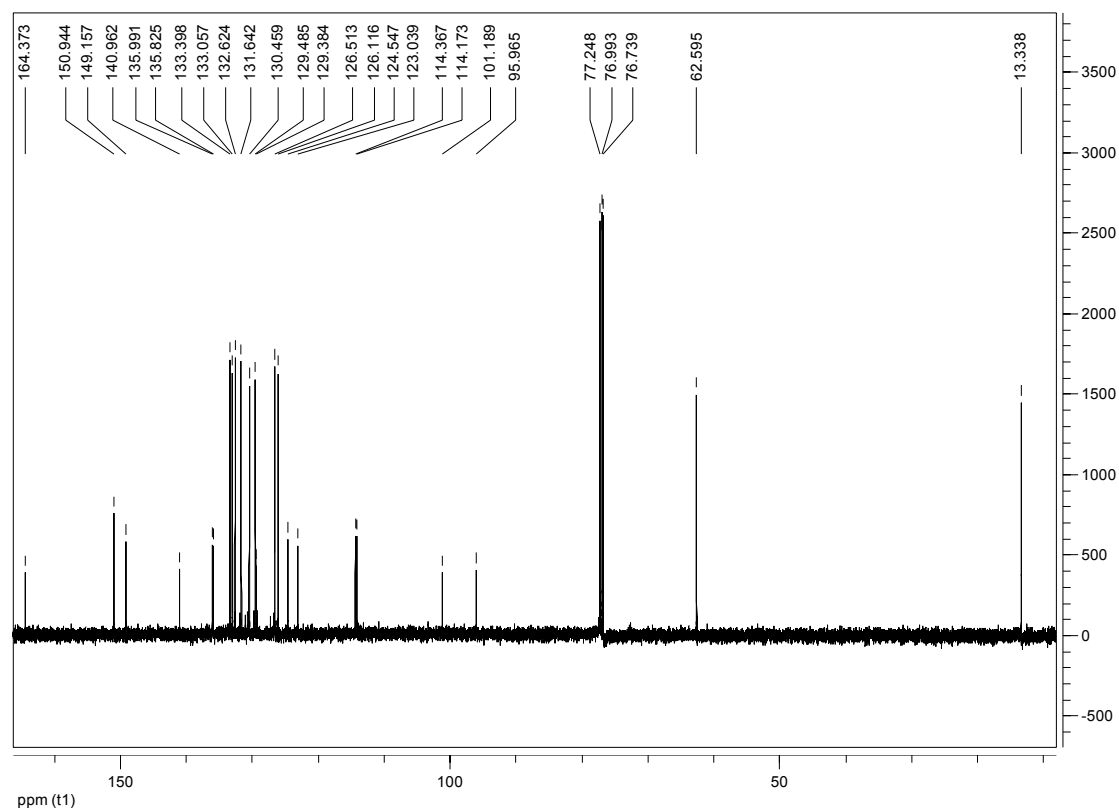
1f mp187~188°. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ 7.437 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H, m-BrC₆H₄), 7.340 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H, m-BrC₆H₄), 7.214 (s, 1H, m-BrC₆H₄), 7.163 (q, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H, m-BrC₆H₄), 7.028 (q, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H, m-BrC₆H₄), 6.846 (s, 1H, m-BrC₆H₄), 5.450 (s, 2H, NH₂), 4.154 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 1.060 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz) δ(ppm) 165.05, 150.55, 150.15, 141.18, 138.22, 136.81, 132.53, 132.40, 129.40, 126.69, 126.36, 126.06, 114.63, 113.73, 99.42, 93.70, 61.91, 20.75, 20.61, 12.97; IR(KBr) ν 3464, 3348, 3238, 2223, 1728, 1636, 1563, 1448, 1384, 1275, 1232, 1029, 775, 682; Found: C,52.47; H,2.68; N,7.87. C₂₃H₁₅Br₂N₃O₂ requires C,52.60; H,2.88; N,8.00.



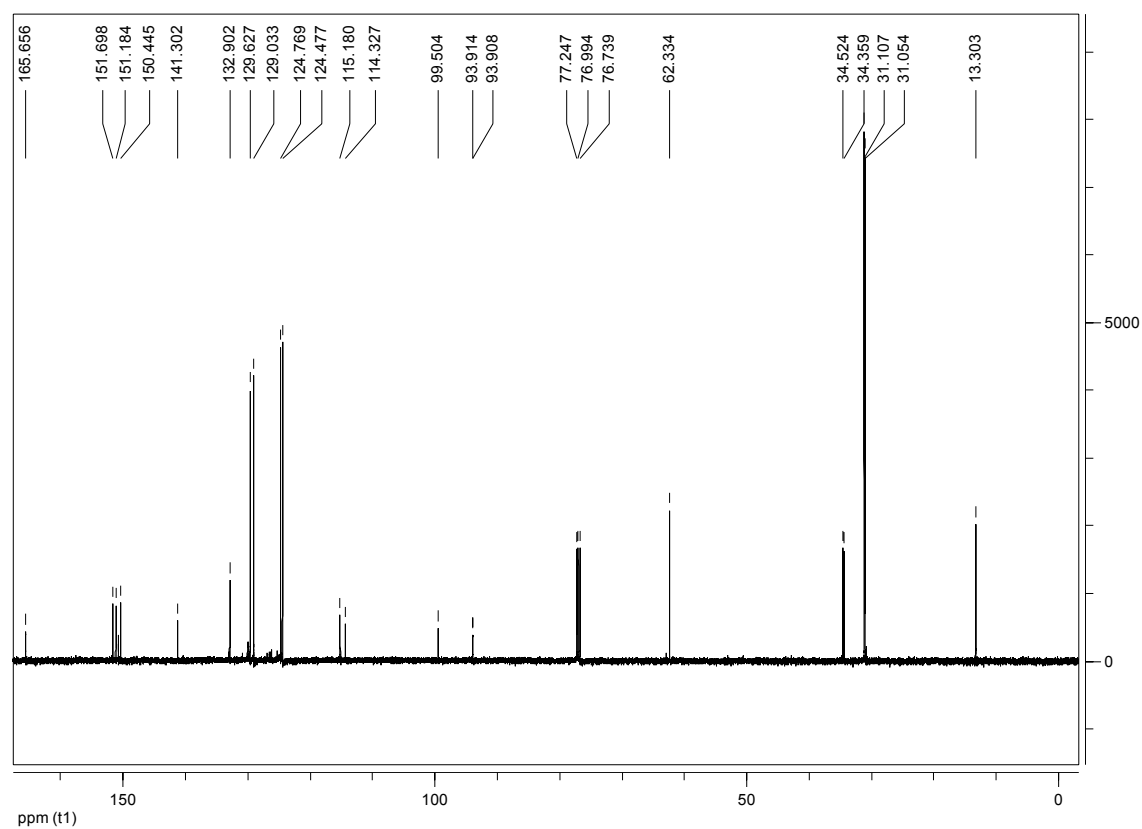
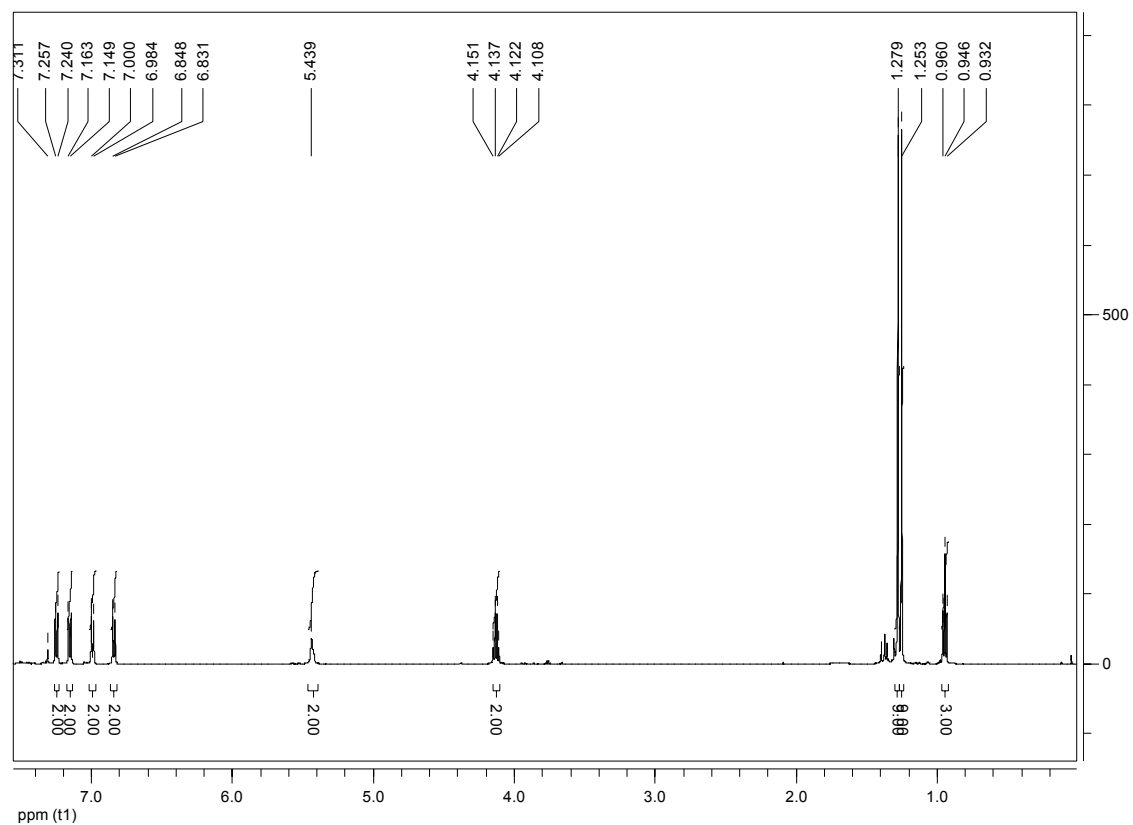
1g mp171~172°C. ¹H NMR (600MHz, CDCl₃) δ(ppm) 7.52 (d, *J* = 9.6Hz, 1H, *o*-BrC₆H₄), 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.4Hz, 1H, *o*-BrC₆H₄), 7.16~7.10 (m, 3H, *o*-BrC₆H₄),

7.06~6.99 (m, 3H, *o*-BrC₆H₄), 5.48 (s, 2H, NH₂), 4.10 (q, *J* = 8.4Hz, 2H, CH₂), 0.99 (t, *J* = 8.4Hz, 3H, CH₃). ¹³CNMR (600MHz, CDCl₃) δ(ppm) 164.4, 150.9, 149.2, 140.9, 136.0, 135.8, 133.4, 133.1, 132.6, 131.6, 130.5, 129.5, 129.4, 126.5, 126.1, 124.5, 123.0, 114.4, 114.2, 101.2, 95.9, 62.6, 13.3 . C₂₃H₁₅Br₂N₃O₂ (M_w= 525.19, M⁺ = 525.95)



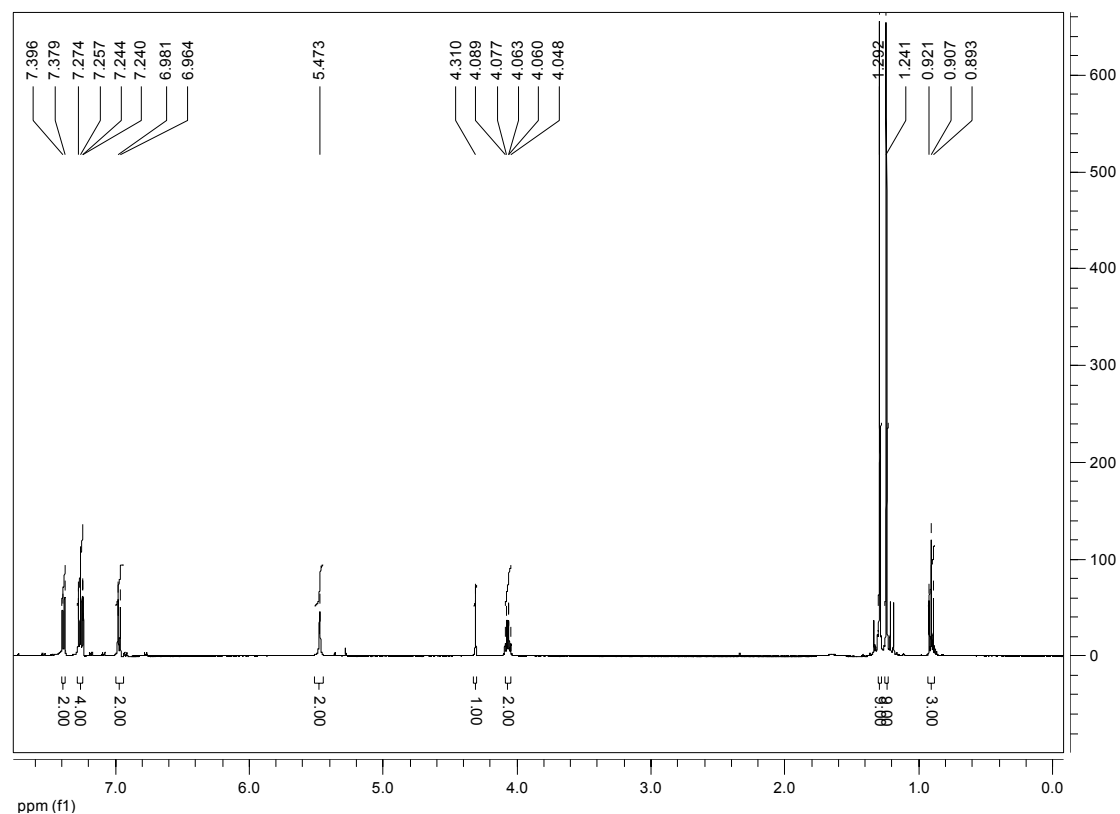


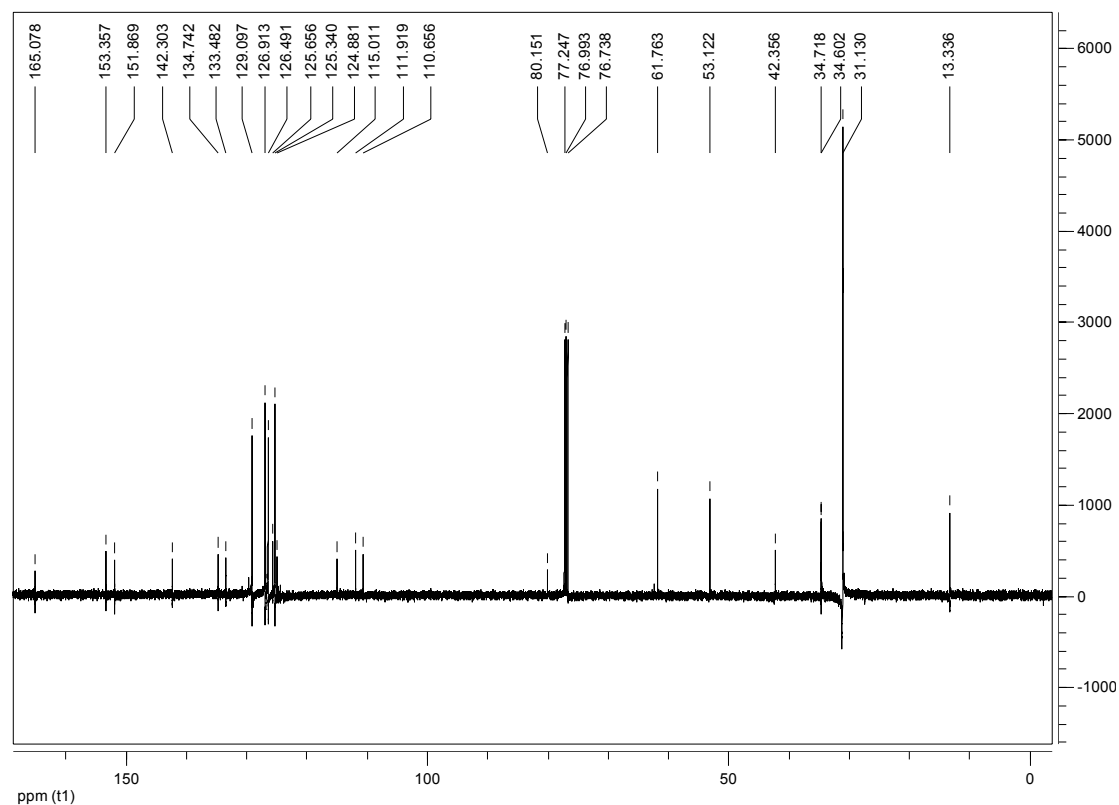
1h mp187-188°C. ^1H NMR (600MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm) 7.25 (d, $J = 9.6\text{Hz}$, 2H, p -(CH_3) $_3\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4$), 7.16 (d, $J = 8.4\text{Hz}$, 2H, p -(CH_3) $_3\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4$), 6.99 (d, $J = 9.6\text{Hz}$, 2H, p -(CH_3) $_3\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4$), 6.84 (d, $J = 9.6\text{Hz}$, 2H, p -(CH_3) $_3\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4$), 5.44 (s, 2H, NH_2), 4.13 (q, $J = 8.4\text{Hz}$, 2H, CH_2), 1.28 (s, 9H, $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{C}$), 1.25 (s, 9H, $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{C}$), 0.95 (t, $J = 8.4\text{Hz}$, 3H, CH_3). ^{13}C NMR (600MHz, CDCl_3) δ (ppm) 165.7, 151.7, 151.2, 150.5, 141.3, 132.9, 129.6, 129.0, 124.3, 124.5, 115.2, 114.3, 99.5, 93.9, 62.3, 34.5, 34.4, 31.1, 31.1, 13.3. $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{33}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2$ ($M_w = 479.26$, $M^+ = 479.61$)



F (Ar = *p*-(CH₃)₃CC₆H₄) Yield: 22%; Mp: 180-182. ¹H NMR (600MHz, CDCl₃) δ(ppm) 7.39 (d, *J* = 9.6Hz, 2H, *p*-(CH₃)₃CC₆H₄), 7.26 (t, *J* = 8.4Hz, 4H, *p*-(CH₃)₃CC₆H₄), 6.97

(d, $J = 9.6\text{Hz}$, 2H, $p\text{-(CH}_3)_3\text{CC}_6\text{H}_4$), 5.47 (s, 2H, NH_2), 4.31 (s, 1H, CH), 4.07 (q, $J = 7.2\text{Hz}$, 2H, CH_2), 1.29 (s, 9H, $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{C}$), 1.24 (s, 9H, $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{C}$), 0.91 (t, $J = 8.4\text{Hz}$, 3H, CH_3). ^{13}C NMR (600MHz, CDCl_3) $\delta(\text{ppm})$ 165.1, 153.4, 151.9, 142.3, 134.7, 133.5, 129.1, 126.9, 126.5, 125.7, 125.3, 124.9, 115.0, 111.9, 110.7, 80.2, 61.8, 53.1, 42.4, 34.7, 31.1, 13.3. $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{34}\text{N}_4\text{O}_2$ (Mw = 506.65, $\text{M}^+ = 507.27$)

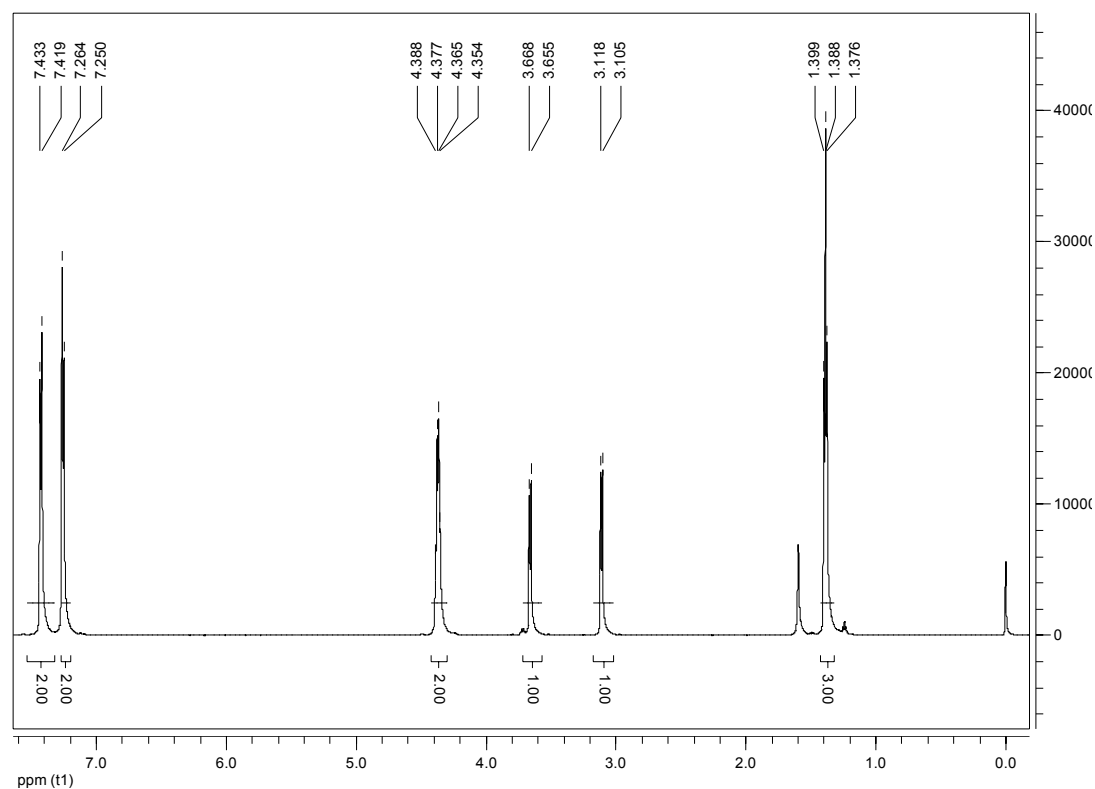




General procedure for the synthesis of cyclopropane derivatives

A mixture of pyridine (20.0mmol, 1.58g), ethyl α -bromoacetate (5.0mmol, 0.835g), aromatic aldehyde (5.0mmol), malononitrile (5.0mmol, 0.330g) and triethylamine (1.0mL) in acetonitrile (20mL) was refluxed for 12 hours. The solvent was removed by evaporation and the residue was titrated with ethanol (10mL) to give the crude product, which is recrystallized in ethanol to give light yellow solid **D**

D1 (Ar = *p*-ClC₆H₄): yield 84.8%, mp: 175~176 °C. ¹H NMR (600MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 7.43 (d, *J* = 8.4Hz, 2H, C₆H₄), 7.26 (d, *J* = 8.4Hz, 2H, C₆H₄), 4.71 (q, *J* = 7.2Hz, 2H, CH₂), 3.66 (d, *J* = 7.2Hz, 1H, CH), 3.11 (d, *J* = 7.2Hz, 1H, CH), 1.39 (t, *J* = 7.2Hz, 3H, CH₃).



D2 (Ar = *o*-BrC₆H₄): yield: 75.2% mp: 191-193 °C. ¹H NMR (600MHz, CDCl₃) δ(ppm) 7.77 (d, *J* = 9.6Hz, 1H, *o*-BrC₆H₄), 7.44~7.36 (m, 2H, *o*-BrC₆H₄), 7.23 (d, *J* = 8.4Hz, 1H, *o*-BrC₆H₄), 4.43 (q, *J* = 8.4Hz, 2H, CH₂), 3.74 (d, *J* = 7.2Hz, 1H, CH), 3.17 (d, *J* = 9.6Hz, 1H, CH), 1.44 (t, *J* = 8.4Hz, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (600MHz, CDCl₃) δ(ppm) 164.5, 133.5, 133.5, 131.3, 131.3, 129.6, 129.6, 129.3, 129.3, 127.9, 127.9, 126.2, 126.207, 111.5, 111.3, 63.4, 39.2, 34.5, 14.0. C₁₄H₁₁BrN₂O₂ (M⁺ 318.93, 320.93)

