

Metal-Free Cascade Radical Cyclization of 1, 6-Enynes with Aldehydes

Jian-Yi Luo^a, Hui-Liang Hua^a, Zi-Sheng Chen^b, Zhao-Zhao Zhou^a, Yan-Fang Yang^a,
Ping-Xin Zhou^a, Yu-Tao He^a, Xue-Yuan Liu^a and Yong-Min Liang^{a,*}

^aState Key Laboratory of Applied Organic Chemistry, Lanzhou University, and State Key Laboratory of Solid Lubrication, Lanzhou Institute of Chemical Physics, Chinese Academy of Science Lanzhou 730000, P.R. China.

^bCollege of Science, Northwest A&F University, Yangling, Shaanxi 712100, PR China
E-mail: liangym@lzu.edu.cn

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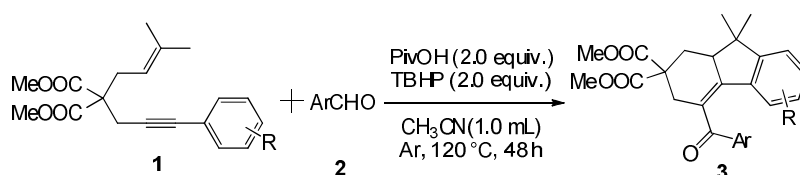
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Experimental Section

1. General Remarks:

For product purification by flash column chromatography, silica gel (200~300 mesh). Reagents and solvents were purified using standard means. ^1H NMR spectra were recorded on 400 MHz in CDCl_3 and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded on 100 MHz in CDCl_3 using TMS as internal standard. All products were further characterized by HRMS (high resolution mass spectra). Melting points were determined on a microscopic apparatus and were uncorrected. Copies of their ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra were provided. The parent ions $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ or $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ are quoted.

2. General Procedure for cross coupling/cyclization of 1,6-enynes with aldehydes:

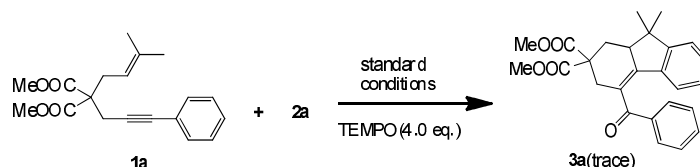


To a 10mL dried Schlenk-tube were added 1,6-enynes **1** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and aldehydes **2** (1.0 mmol, 5.0 equiv.) and PivOH (0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) under an argon atmosphere. TBHP (0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) in 1.0 mL of CH_3CN were introduced by syringe. The mixture was then stirred at 120 °C for 48 h. After completion of the reaction, the mixture was diluted with EtOAc. The combined organic layers were washed with saturated NaHCO_3 solution and saturated brine, dried over Na_2SO_4 , concentrated in *vacuo* and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (gradient eluent of EtOAc/petroleum ether: 1/8 to 1/6) to give the corresponding products in Table 2 and Table 3.

3. General procedure for the preparation of 1,6-enynes 1a-1p.

All of 1,6-enynes **1** were synthesized according to the previous literature¹, CuI (0.1 mmol) and $[\text{PdCl}_2(\text{PPh}_3)_2]$ (0.05 mmol) were suspended in *i*-Pr₂NH, and the resulting mixture was stirred for 5 min. The corresponding arylbromide (1.3 mmol) and the 1,6-enyne (1 mmol) in *i*-Pr₂NH were added sequentially. The reaction was stirred at room temperature until TLC showed total conversion. The crude mixture was diluted with Et₂O, filtered through Celite, and purified by chromatography (EtOAc-hexane mixtures).

4. Study on the reaction mechanism:³



When the TEMPO (2, 2, 6, 6-tetramethylpiperidine 1-oxyl) was added to the reaction of **1a** and **2a** in standard conditions, we could not detect the corresponding product **3**. It indicates that a SET (single-electron-transfer) process triggered by a free radical should be involved in the transformation.

5. Isotope Labeling Experiment²

a) Intramolecular Kinetic Isotope Effect (KIE) Experiment:

[D₁]-**1a** was synthesized according the literature procedure¹ using D₁-bromobenzene³ as starting material. To a 10 mL dried Schlenk-tube were added [D₁]-**1a** (0.2mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and aldehyde **2a** (1.0mmol, 5.0 equiv.) and PivOH (0.4mmol, 2.0 equiv.) under an argon atmosphere. TBHP (0.4mmol, 2.0 equiv.) in 1.0 mL of CH₃CN were introduced by syringe. The mixture was then stirred at 120°C for 48 h. After completion of the reaction, the mixture was diluted with EtOAc. The combined organic layers were washed with saturated NaHCO₃ solution and saturated brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, concentrated in *vacuo* and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel. The product was analysis by ¹H NMR (Figure 1).

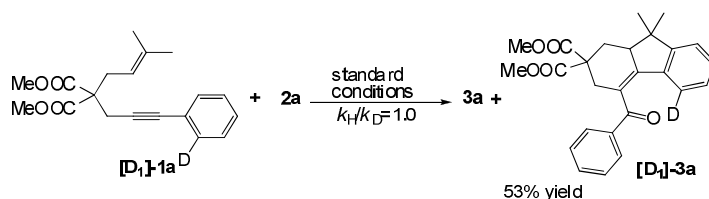


Figure 1. ¹H NMR spectra of the mixture of the product **3a** and [D₁]-**3a**.

b) Intermolecular Kinetic Isotope Effect (KIE) Experiment:

[D₅]-**1a** was synthesized according to the literature procedure¹ using D₅-bromobenzene⁴ as starting material. To a 10 mL dried Schlenk-tube were added [D₅]-**1a** (0.1 mmol), **1a** (0.1 mmol), aldehyde **2a** (1.0 mmol, 5.0 equiv.) and PivOH (0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) under an argon atmosphere. TBHP (0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) in 1.0 mL of CH₃CN were introduced by syringe. The mixture was then stirred at 120°C for 48 h. After completion of the reaction, the mixture was diluted with EtOAc. The combined organic layers were washed with saturated NaHCO₃ solution and saturated brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, concentrated in *vacuo* and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel. The product was analysis by ¹H NMR (Figure 2).

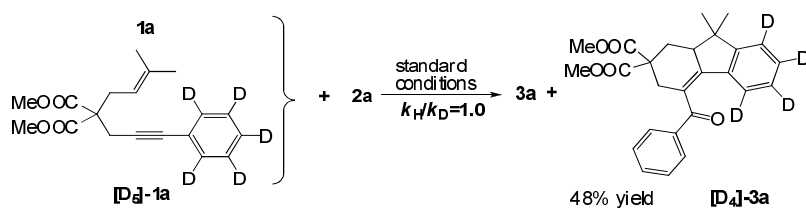
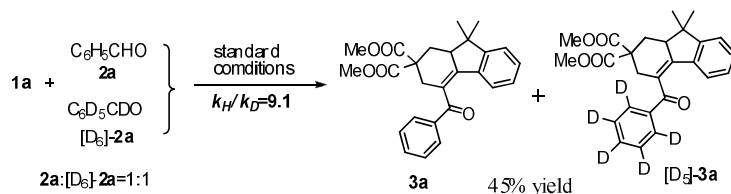


Figure 2. ¹H NMR spectra of the mixture of the product **3a** and **[D₄]-3a**.

c) Intermolecular Kinetic Isotope Effect (KIE) Experiment:

[D₆]-2a was synthesized according to the literature procedure⁵ using D₅-bromobenzene⁴ as starting material. To a 10 mL dried Schlenk-tube were added **1a** (0.2 mmol), aldehyde/**[D₆]-aldehyde** (1:1) (1.0 mmol, 5.0 equiv.) and PivOH (0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) under an argon atmosphere. TBHP (0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) in 1.0 mL of CH₃CN were introduced by syringe. The mixture was then stirred at 120 °C for 48 h. After completion of the reaction, the mixture was diluted with EtOAc. The combined organic layers were washed with saturated NaHCO₃ solution and saturated brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, concentrated in *vacuo* and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel. The product was analysis by ¹H NMR (Figure 3).



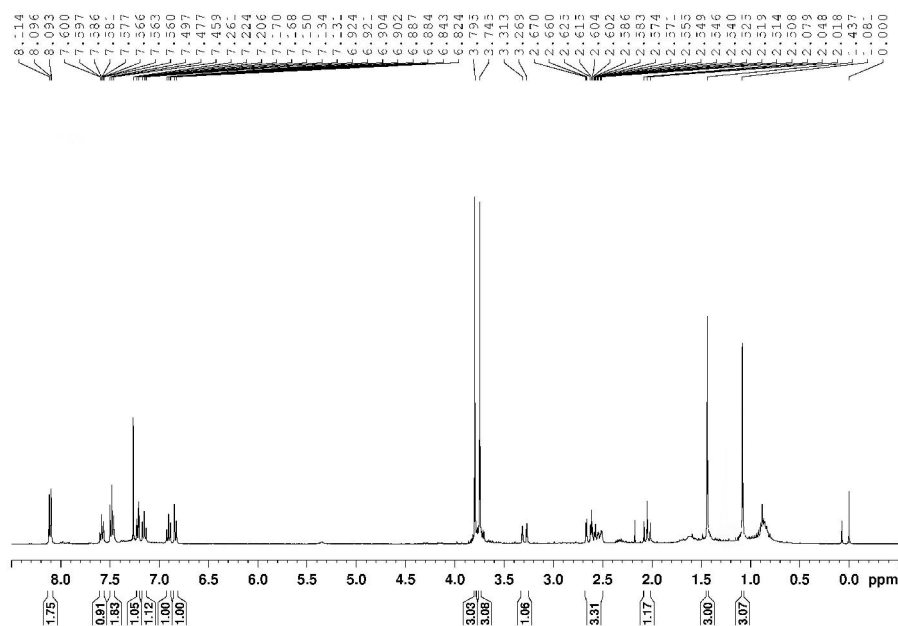
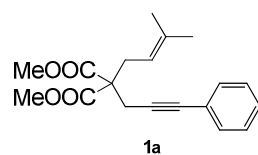


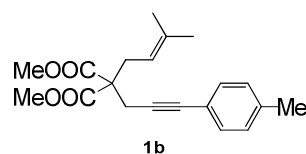
Figure 3. ^1H NMR spectra of the mixture of the product **3a** and $[\text{D}_5]\text{-3a}$.

6. Characterization data of 1,6-enynes 1a-1p:

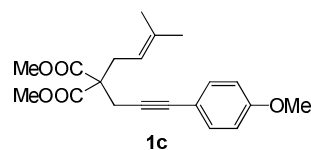
Enynes **1e**, **1j**, **1o**, **1p** were synthesized according to the previous literature¹, and the NMR spectroscopy and GC-MS data were in full accordance with the data in the literature^{1b}.



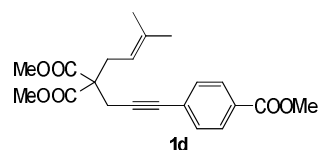
Dimethyl 2-(3-methylbut-2-enyl)-2-(3-phenylprop-2-ynyl)malonate (1a): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ ppm 7.37-7.35 (m, 2 H), 7.27-7.26 (m, 3 H), 4.98-4.94 (m, 1 H), 3.75 (s, 6 H), 2.99 (s, 2 H), 2.86-2.84 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2 H), 1.71 (s, 3 H), 1.68 (s, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ ppm 170.6, 136.7, 131.6, 128.1, 127.9, 123.2, 117.1, 84.6, 83.3, 57.5, 52.5, 30.9, 26.0, 23.4, 17.9.



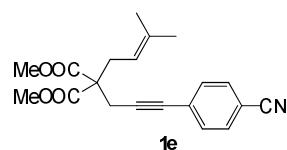
Dimethyl 2-(3-methylbut-2-enyl)-2-(3-p-tolylprop-2-ynyl)malonate (1b): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ ppm 7.29-7.27 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 7.11-7.09 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2 H), 4.99-4.95 (m, 1 H), 3.77 (s, 6 H), 3.60 (s, 2 H), 2.87-2.86 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2 H), 2.35 (s, 3 H), 1.74 (s, 3 H), 1.70 (s, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ ppm 170.7, 137.9, 136.8, 131.5, 128.9, 120.2, 127.2, 83.9, 83.4, 57.5, 52.6, 30.9, 26.0, 23.5, 21.4, 17.9.



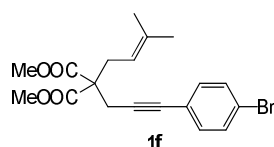
Dimethyl 2-(3-(4-methoxyphenyl)prop-2-ynyl)-2-(3-methylbut-2-enyl)malonate (1c): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ ppm 7.31-7.29 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 6.81-6.79 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2 H), 4.99-4.95 (m, 1 H), 3.78 (s, 3 H), 3.75 (s, 6 H), 2.98 (s, 2 H), 2.86-2.84 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 1.72 (s, 3 H), 1.69 (s, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ ppm 170.6, 159.3, 136.6, 132.9, 117.2, 115.4, 113.7, 83.1, 83.0, 57.5, 55.1, 52.5, 30.9, 25.9, 23.4, 17.8.



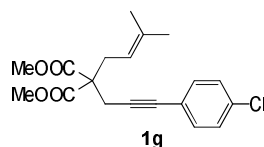
Dimethyl 2-(3-(4-(methoxycarbonyl)phenyl)prop-2-ynyl)-2-(3-methylbut-2-enyl)malonate (1d): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ ppm 7.31-7.29 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2 H), 6.81-6.79 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2 H), 4.99-4.95 (m, 1 H), 3.78 (s, 3 H), 3.75 (s, 6 H), 2.98 (s, 2 H), 2.86-2.84 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 1.72 (s, 3 H), 1.69 (s, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ ppm 170.6, 159.3, 136.6, 132.9, 117.2, 115.4, 113.7, 83.1, 83.0, 57.5, 55.1, 52.5, 30.9, 25.9, 23.4, 17.8.



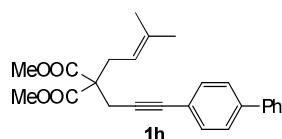
Dimethyl 2-(3-(4-cyanophenyl)prop-2-ynyl)-2-(3-methylbut-2-enyl)malonate (1e).



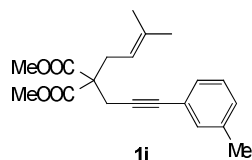
Dimethyl 2-(3-(4-bromophenyl)prop-2-ynyl)-2-(3-methylbut-2-enyl)malonate (1f): ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 7.41-7.39 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2 H), 7.23-7.21 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2 H), 4.96-4.92 (m, 1 H), 3.75 (s, 6 H), 2.97 (s, 2 H), 2.83-2.81 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2 H), 1.71 (s, 3 H), 1.66 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 170.5, 136.9, 133.0, 31.4, 122.2, 122.1, 117.0, 86.1, 82.3, 57.4, 52.7, 31.0, 26.1, 23.5, 17.9.



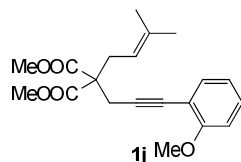
Dimethyl 2-(3-(4-chlorophenyl)prop-2-ynyl)-2-(3-methylbut-2-enyl)malonate (1g): ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 7.31-7.29 (m, 2 H), 7.28-7.25 (m, 2 H), 4.99-4.95 (m, 1 H), 3.77 (s, 6 H), 3.00 (s, 2 H), 2.86-2.84 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2 H), 1.73 (s, 3 H), 1.69 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 170.5, 136.8, 133.9, 132.8, 128.5, 121.8, 117.1, 85.9, 82.3, 57.4, 52.7, 31.0, 26.0, 23.5, 17.9.



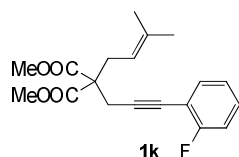
Dimethyl 2-(3-(biphenyl-4-yl)prop-2-ynyl)-2-(3-methylbut-2-enyl)malonate (1h): ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 7.61-7.58 (m, 2 H), 7.56-7.54 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2 H), 7.49-7.45 (m, 4 H), 7.39-7.36 (m, 1 H), 5.04-5.00 (m, 1 H), 3.80 (s, 6 H), 3.07 (s, 2 H), 2.93-2.91 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2 H), 1.77 (s, 3 H), 1.74 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 170.6, 140.7, 140.4, 136.8, 132.0, 128.8, 127.5, 126.9, 126.8, 122.2, 117.1, 85.4, 83.2, 57.5, 52.6, 31.0, 26.0, 23.5, 17.9.



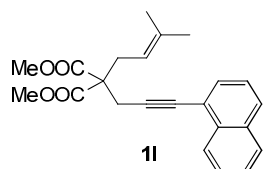
Dimethyl 2-(3-(3-methylbut-2-enyl)-2-(3-m-tolylprop-2-ynyl)malonate (1i): ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 7.26-7.17 (m, 3 H), 7.12-7.10 (d, $J = 4.4$ Hz, 1 H), 5.01-4.97 (m, 1 H), 3.77 (s, 6 H), 3.01 (s, 2 H), 2.88-2.86 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2 H), 2.33 (s, 3 H), 1.74 (s, 3 H), 1.70 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 170.6, 137.8, 136.7, 132.1, 128.8, 128.7, 128.0, 123.1, 117.2, 84.3, 83.6, 57.5, 52.6, 31.0, 26.0, 23.5, 21.1, 17.9.



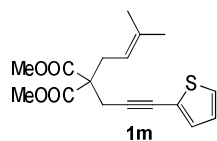
Dimethyl 2-(3-(2-methoxyphenyl)prop-2-ynyl)-2-(3-methylbut-2-enyl)malonate (1j).



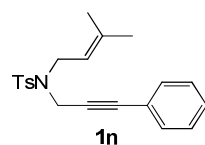
Dimethyl 2-(3-(2-fluorophenyl)prop-2-ynyl)-2-(3-methylbut-2-enyl)malonate (1k): ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 7.37-7.23 (m, 1 H), 7.28-7.22 (m, 1 H), 7.07-7.00 (m, 2 H), 4.98-4.95 (m, 1 H), 3.76 (s, 6 H), 3.04 (s, 2 H), 2.87-2.85 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2 H), 1.72 (s, 3 H), 1.68 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 170.4, 164.1, 161.6, 136.8, 133.5, 129.6, 129.5, 123.7, 123.6, 117.1, 115.4, 115.2, 111.8, 111.6, 90.3, 90.2, 76.5, 57.4, 52.6, 30.9, 26.0, 23.6, 17.8.



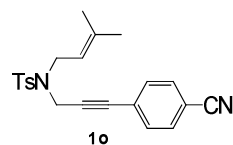
Dimethyl 2-(3-(naphthalen-1-yl)prop-2-ynyl)-2-(3-methylbut-2-enyl)malonate (1m): ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 8.32-8.30 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1 H), 7.86-7.81 (m, 2 H), 7.64-7.51 (m, 2 H), 7.44-7.40 (m, 1 H), 7.28 (m, 1 H), 5.07-5.03 (m, 1 H), 3.81 (s, 6 H), 3.20 (s, 2 H), 2.98-2.97 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2 H), 1.77 (s, 3 H), 1.72 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 170.7, 136.9, 133.4, 133.1, 130.4, 128.3, 128.2, 126.6, 126.3, 126.1, 125.1, 121.0, 117.1, 89.7, 81.4, 57.6, 52.7, 31.1, 26.1, 23.9, 18.0.



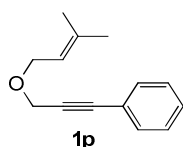
Dimethyl 2-(3-(thiophen-2-yl)prop-2-ynyl)-2-(3-methylbut-2-enyl)malonate (1m): ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 7.20-7.19 (d, $J = 4.4$ Hz, 1 H), 3.77 (s, 6 H), 3.03 (s, 2 H), 2.85-2.83 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2 H), 1.73 (s, 3 H), 1.70 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 170.5, 136.9, 131.5, 126.7, 126.4, 123.3, 117.0, 88.8, 76.4, 57.4, 52.7, 31.0, 26.0, 23.7, 17.9.



4-methyl-N-(3-methylbut-2-enyl)-N-(3-phenylprop-2-ynyl)benzenesulfonamide (1n).

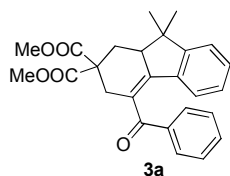


N-(3-(4-cyanophenyl)prop-2-ynyl)-4-methyl-N-(3-methylbut-2-enyl)benzenesulfonamide (1o): ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 7.77-7.76 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2 H), 7.54-7.52 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2 H), 7.26-7.24 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2 H), 7.15-7.13 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2 H), 5.16 (s, 1 H), 4.29 (s, 2 H), 3.88-3.86 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2 H), 2.34 (s, 3 H), 1.75 (s, 3 H), 1.68 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 143.4, 139.3, 136.0, 131.9, 131.8, 129.4, 127.8, 127.1, 118.2, 117.7, 111.7, 87.2, 83.6, 44.3, 36.2, 25.9, 21.4, 17.9.

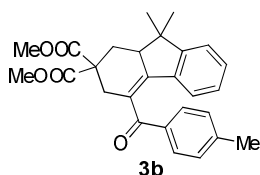


(3-(3-methylbut-2-enyloxy)prop-1-ynyl)benzene (**1p**).

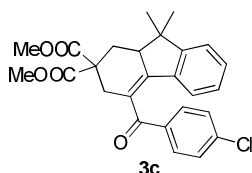
7. Characterization data of Products 3a-3p:



Dimethyl 4-benzoyl-9,9-dimethyl-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (3a): Yellow oil; R_f (20% EtOAc/hexane) = 0.42; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 8.11-8.09 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2 H), 7.57 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 7.47 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2 H), 7.22-7.20 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.14 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 1 H), 6.92-6.88 (m, 1 H), 6.85-6.83 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H), 3.74 (s, 3 H), 3.32-3.28 (d, J = 18.0 Hz, 1 H), 2.68-2.52 (m, 3 H), 2.05 (t, J = 12.4 Hz, 1 H), 1.44 (s, 3 H), 1.08 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 198.8, 172.0, 171.1, 155.1, 139.4, 136.0, 135.9, 133.6, 129.7, 128.9, 128.6, 127.8, 126.6, 124.0, 122.2, 53.7, 52.9, 52.8, 49.5, 44.2, 33.5, 28.2, 26.4, 25.9; IR (KBr, cm^{-1}) 2956, 2926, 2857, 1738, 1650, 1666, 1456, 1264, 738; HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{26}\text{O}_5$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 419.1853$; found: 419.1855.

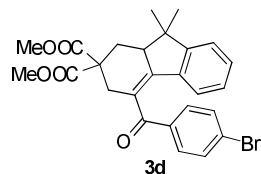


Dimethyl 9,9-dimethyl-4-(4-methylbenzoyl)-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (3b): Yellow solid; m.p. = 161-163 °C; R_f (20% EtOAc/hexane) = 0.38; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 8.01-7.99 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 7.28-7.26 (m, 2 H), 7.22-7.20 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.14 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 6.90 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 6.86-6.84 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H), 3.74 (s, 3 H), 3.29-3.24 (d, J = 18.0 Hz, 1 H), 2.67-2.51 (m, 3 H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.04 (t, J = 12.4 Hz, 1 H), 1.43 (s, 3 H), 1.07 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 198.6, 172.0, 171.2, 155.0, 144.6, 138.8, 136.0, 133.5, 129.9, 129.6, 128.5, 128.0, 126.6, 124.0, 122.2, 53.8, 52.9, 52.8, 49.4, 44.2, 33.6, 28.2, 26.4, 25.9, 21.8; IR (KBr, cm^{-1}) 2955, 2926, 1736, 1655, 1604, 1454, 1270, 1178, 738; HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{28}\text{O}_5$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 432.2010$; found: 432.2015.

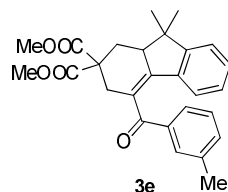


Dimethyl 4-(4-chlorobenzoyl)-9,9-dimethyl-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (3c): Yellow solid; m.p. = 169-171 °C; R_f (20% EtOAc/hexane) = 0.47; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 8.07-8.05 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 7.46-7.44 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 7.23-7.21 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.16 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 6.92 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1 H), 6.80-6.78 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 3.79 (s, 3

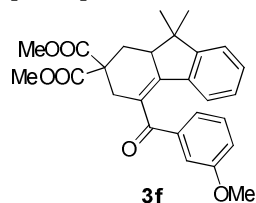
H), 3.75 (s, 3 H), 3.28-3.23 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1 H), 2.64-2.49 (m, 3 H), 2.04 (t, $J = 12.4$ Hz, 1 H), 1.43 (s, 3 H), 1.07 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 197.7, 171.9, 171.1, 155.2, 140.2, 139.8, 135.7, 134.4, 131.2, 129.3, 128.8, 127.2, 126.7, 123.9, 122.3, 53.7, 53.0, 52.9, 49.5, 44.2, 33.4, 28.1, 26.4, 25.9; IR (KBr, cm^{-1}) 2956, 2927, 2863, 1735, 1666, 1586, 1454, 1267, 1092, 738; HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{25}\text{ClO}_5$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 453.1463$; found: 453.1468, 455.1463.



Dimethyl 4-(4-bromobenzoyl)-9,9-dimethyl-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (3d): Yellow oil; R_f (20% EtOAc/hexane) = 0.44; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 8.00-7.97 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2 H), 7.63-7.61 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2 H), 7.23-7.21 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.17 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 6.92 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 6.80-6.79 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H), 3.75 (s, 3 H), 3.27-3.23 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1 H), 2.64-2.49 (m, 3 H), 2.04 (t, $J = 12.4$ Hz, 1 H), 1.43 (s, 3 H), 1.07 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 197.9, 171.9, 171.1, 155.2, 139.9, 135.7, 134.7, 132.3, 131.3, 129.0, 128.8, 127.2, 126.7, 123.9, 122.3, 53.7, 53.0, 52.9, 49.5, 44.2, 33.4, 28.1, 26.4, 25.9; IR (KBr, cm^{-1}) 2957, 2927, 2864, 1737, 1669, 1466, 1241, 1047, 759; HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{25}\text{BrO}_5$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 497.0958$; found: 497.0963, 499.0933.

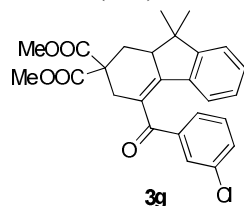


Dimethyl 9,9-dimethyl-4-(3-methylbenzoyl)-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (3e): Yellow oil; R_f (20% EtOAc/hexane) = 0.40; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 7.93-7.89 (m, 2 H), 7.40-7.33 (m, 2 H), 7.22-7.20 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H), 7.17-7.13 (m, 1 H), 6.93-6.89 (m, 1 H), 6.86-6.84 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H), 3.74 (s, 3 H), 3.31-3.26 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1 H), 2.66-2.51 (m, 3 H), 2.40 (s, 3 H), 2.04 (t, $J = 12.0$ Hz, 1 H), 1.44 (s, 3 H), 1.08 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 199.1, 172.0, 171.1, 155.0, 139.2, 138.7, 136.0, 135.9, 134.5, 130.1, 128.7, 128.5, 128.0, 127.1, 126.6, 124.0, 122.2, 53.7, 52.9, 49.4, 44.2, 33.5, 28.2, 26.4, 25.9, 21.3; IR (KBr, cm^{-1}) 2956, 2926, 2862, 1736, 1663, 1454, 1270, 737; HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{28}\text{O}_5$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 432.2010$; found: 432.2019.

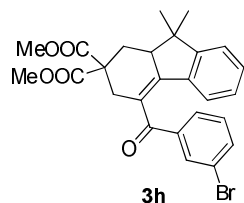


Dimethyl 4-(3-methoxybenzoyl)-9,9-dimethyl-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (3f): Yellow oil; R_f (20% EtOAc/hexane) = 0.34; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 7.71-7.66 (m, 2 H), 7.37 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H), 7.22-7.21 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.17-7.11 (m, 2 H), 6.94-6.90 (m, 1 H), 6.86-6.84 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H), 3.86 (s, 3 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H), 3.74 (s, 3 H), 3.32-3.27 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1 H), 2.66-2.50 (m, 3 H), 2.04 (t, $J = 12.4$ Hz, 1 H), 1.44 (s, 3 H), 1.08 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 198.7, 172.0, 171.1, 160.1, 155.0, 139.3, 137.3,

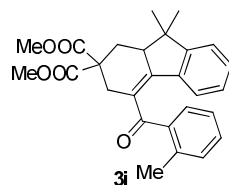
135.9, 129.9, 128.6, 127.9, 126.6, 124.0, 122.5, 122.2, 120.6, 113.4, 55.5, 53.7, 53.0, 52.9, 49.4, 44.2, 33.5, 28.1, 26.4, 25.9; IR (KBr, cm^{-1}) 2956, 2863, 1735, 1663, 1583, 1432, 1272, 1046, 735; HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{28}\text{O}_6$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 449.1959$; found: 449.1965.



Dimethyl 4-(3-chlorobenzoyl)-9,9-dimethyl-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (3g): Yellow oil; R_f (20% EtOAc/hexane) = 0.21; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 8.08 (s, 1 H), 8.00-7.98 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 7.56-7.53 (m, 1 H), 7.42 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H), 7.24-7.22 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H), 7.17 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 6.93 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 6.81-6.79 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H), 3.81 (s, 3 H), 3.75 (s, 3 H), 3.30-3.25 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1 H), 2.65-2.58 (m, 2 H), 2.56-2.52 (m, 1 H), 2.04 (t, $J = 12.4$ Hz, 1 H), 1.44 (s, 3 H), 1.08 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 197.5, 171.9, 171.1, 155.2, 140.4, 137.6, 135.7, 135.2, 133.6, 130.3, 129.6, 128.9, 127.9, 127.1, 126.6, 123.9, 123.3, 53.7, 53.0, 52.9, 49.6, 44.3, 33.3, 28.2, 26.4, 25.9; IR (KBr, cm^{-1}) 2957, 2928, 2866, 1735, 1669, 1571, 1434, 1264, 738; HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{25}\text{ClO}_5$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 453.1463$; found: 453.1468, 455.1365.

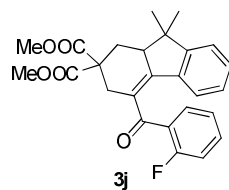


Dimethyl 4-(3-bromobenzoyl)-9,9-dimethyl-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (3h): Yellow solid; m.p. = 170-172 $^{\circ}\text{C}$; R_f (20% EtOAc/hexane) = 0.24; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 8.23 (s, 1 H), 8.04-8.02 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 7.71-7.69 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 7.35 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H), 7.24-7.21 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H), 7.17 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 6.93 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 6.81-6.79 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H), 3.81 (s, 3 H), 3.75 (s, 3 H), 3.30-3.25 (d, $J = 18.4$ Hz, 1 H), 2.64-2.51 (m, 3 H), 2.03 (t, $J = 12.4$ Hz, 1 H), 1.44 (s, 3 H), 1.08 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 197.4, 171.9, 171.1, 155.2, 140.5, 137.8, 136.5, 135.7, 132.5, 130.5, 128.9, 128.4, 127.0, 126.6, 123.9, 123.2, 122.3, 53.7, 53.1, 53.0, 49.6, 44.3, 33.3, 28.1, 26.4, 25.9; IR (KBr, cm^{-1}) 2956, 2927, 2865, 1735, 1666, 1584, 1454, 1267, 738; HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{25}\text{BrO}_5$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 497.0958$; found: 497.0963, 499.0949.

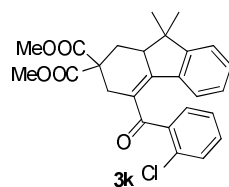


Dimethyl 9,9-dimethyl-4-(2-methylbenzoyl)-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (3i): White solid; m.p. = 128-130 $^{\circ}\text{C}$; R_f (20% EtOAc/hexane) = 0.40; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 7.84-7.83 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H), 7.48 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 1 H), 7.29 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.22-7.15 (m, 3 H), 7.03-7.01 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H), 6.96-6.92 (m, 1 H), 3.77 (s, 3 H), 3.73 (s, 3 H), 3.28-3.24 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1 H), 2.65 (s, 3 H), 2.59-2.51 (m, 3 H), 2.01 (t, $J = 12.0$ Hz, 1 H), 1.43 (s, 3 H), 1.07 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 200.4, 172.1, 171.1, 155.3, 140.9, 139.8,

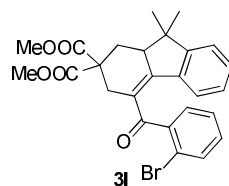
136.1, 135.9, 132.1, 132.0, 131.7, 129.3, 128.8, 126.5, 125.9, 124.3, 122.1, 53.7, 52.9, 49.9, 44.3, 33.6, 28.1, 26.4, 25.8, 21.4; IR (KBr, cm^{-1}) 2957, 2927, 2854, 1741, 1664, 1456, 1373, 1241, 1047, 760, 738; HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{28}\text{O}_5$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 432.2010$; found: 432.2015.



Dimethyl 4-(2-fluorobenzoyl)-9,9-dimethyl-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (3j): White solid; m.p. = 151-153 °C; R_f (20% EtOAc/hexane) = 0.36; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 7.90-7.86 (m, 1 H), 7.48-7.42 (m, 1 H), 7.21-7.14 (m, 3 H), 7.11-7.09 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H), 7.03-6.98 (m, 1 H), 6.94-6.90 (m, 1 H), 3.75(s, 6 H), 3.37-3.33 (d, $J = 18.4$ Hz, 1 H), 2.69 (dd, $J_1 = 3.2$ Hz, $J_2 = 18.0$ Hz, 1 H), 2.60-2.54 (m, 2 H), 2.04-1.99 (m, 1 H), 1.42 (s, 3 H), 1.08 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 194.9, 172.2, 171.0, 155.5, 142.1, 135.9, 134.6, 134.5, 131.8, 128.9, 128.8, 126.3, 124.4, 124.3, 122.1, 116.8, 116.6, 53.6, 52.9, 52.8, 50.2, 44.5, 32.8, 27.9, 26.3, 25.9; IR (KBr, cm^{-1}) 2956, 2926, 1739, 1664, 1608, 1453, 1241, 1047, 760; HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{25}\text{FO}_5$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 437.1759$; found: 437.1761.

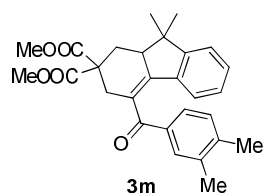


Dimethyl 4-(2-chlorobenzoyl)-9,9-dimethyl-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (3k): White solid; m.p. = 140-142 °C; R_f (20% EtOAc/hexane) = 0.36; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 7.64 (dd, $J_1 = 1.2$ Hz, $J_2 = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H), 7.63-7.32 (m, 3 H), 7.29-7.28 (d, $J = 1.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.26-7.18 (m, 2 H), 7.00-6.96 (m, 1 H), 3.74-3.73 (d, $J = 2.8$ Hz, 6 H), 3.33-3.29 (d, $J = 17.6$ Hz, 1 H), 2.64-2.54 (m, 3 H), 1.97 (t, $J = 13.6$ Hz, 1 H), 1.42 (s, 3 H), 1.08 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 196.4, 172.2, 170.9, 155.9, 145.8, 137.7, 135.9, 132.5, 132.2, 131.1, 130.8, 129.4, 127.9, 126.8, 126.3, 125.5, 122.0, 53.7, 52.9, 52.8, 50.9, 44.6, 33.2, 27.9, 26.6, 25.9; IR (KBr, cm^{-1}) 2957, 2927, 2858, 1737, 1672, 1435, 1242, 1046, 762; HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{25}\text{ClO}_5$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 453.1463$; found: 453.1464, 455.1456.

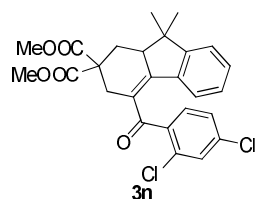


Dimethyl 4-(2-bromobenzoyl)-9,9-dimethyl-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (3l): White solid; m.p. = 129-131 °C; R_f (20% EtOAc/hexane) = 0.33; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 7.62-7.58 (m, 2 H), 7.45-7.43 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 7.32 (dd, $J_1 = 1.2$ Hz, $J_2 = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.30-7.26 (m, 1 H), 7.23-7.22 (d, $J = 3.6$ Hz, 2 H), 7.03-6.99 (d, $J = 2.8$ Hz, 1 H), 3.74-3.73 (d, $J = 1.6$ Hz, 6 H), 3.31-3.27 (m, 1 H), 2.62-2.54 (m, 3 H), 2.04-1.94 (m, 1 H), 1.42 (s, 3 H), 1.09 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 196.8, 172.2, 171.0, 156.0, 146.6, 139.6, 135.9, 134.1, 132.2, 131.0, 129.5, 127.3, 126.4, 125.7, 122.0, 120.7, 53.7, 53.0, 52.9, 51.0, 44.6, 33.3, 27.8, 26.7, 25.9; IR (KBr, cm^{-1}) 2956, 2926, 2855, 1735, 1672, 1432, 1262, 738; HRMS (ESI) m/z :

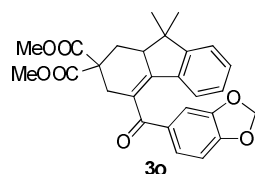
calcd for $C_{26}H_{25}BrO_5$: $[M+H]^+ = 497.0958$; found: 497.0965, 499.0956.



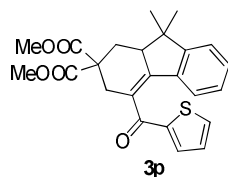
Dimethyl 4-(3,4-dimethylbenzoyl)-9,9-dimethyl-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (3m): Yellow oil; R_f (20% EtOAc/hexane) = 0.40; 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ ppm 7.90 (s, 1 H), 7.85-7.83 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 7.21 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H), 7.16-7.12 (m, 1 H), 6.93-6.86 (m, 2 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H), 3.73 (s, 3 H), 3.29-3.25 (d, $J = 18.4$ Hz, 1 H), 2.66-2.51 (m, 3 H), 2.31 (s, 3 H), 2.30 (s, 3 H), 2.04 (t, $J = 12.0$ Hz, 1 H), 1.44 (s, 3 H), 1.07 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ ppm 198.8, 172.1, 171.1, 155.0, 143.4, 138.6, 137.2, 136.1, 133.8, 130.8, 130.2, 128.4, 128.3, 127.7, 126.6, 123.9, 122.1, 53.8, 52.9, 52.8, 49.3, 44.2, 33.6, 28.2, 26.4, 25.9, 20.1, 19.7; IR (KBr, cm^{-1}) 2956, 2926, 2865, 1736, 1659, 1604, 1453, 1265, 737; HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $C_{28}H_{30}O_5$: $[M+H]^+ = 447.2166$; found: 447.2170.



Dimethyl 4-(2,4-dichlorobenzoyl)-9,9-dimethyl-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (3n): Yellow oil; R_f (20% EtOAc/hexane) = 0.47; 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ ppm 7.63-7.61 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1 H), 7.42-7.41 (d, $J = 1.6$ Hz, 1 H), 7.31-7.29 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 7.27 (dd, $J_1 = 2.0$ Hz, $J_2 = 6.4$ Hz, 1 H), 7.23-7.22 (d, $J = 4.0$ Hz, 2 H), 7.03-6.99 (m, 1 H), 3.75 (s, 3 H), 3.74 (s, 3 H), 3.31-3.27 (d, $J = 17.6$ Hz, 1 H), 2.61-2.53 (m, 3 H), 2.00-1.93 (m, 1 H), 1.42 (s, 3 H), 1.07 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ ppm 195.3, 172.0, 170.9, 156.0, 146.0, 137.9, 135.9, 135.7, 133.6, 132.2, 130.8, 129.6, 127.4, 127.2, 126.4, 125.3, 122.1, 53.6, 53.0, 52.9, 50.9, 44.6, 33.1, 27.8, 27.0, 26.6, 25.9; IR (KBr, cm^{-1}) 2957, 2926, 2855, 1736, 1583, 1463, 1262, 1102, 738; HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $C_{26}H_{24}Cl_2O_5$: $[M+H]^+ = 487.1074$; found: 487.1080, 489.1037.

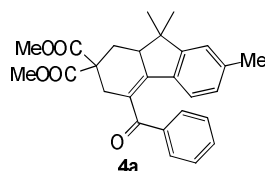


Dimethyl 4-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxole-5-carbonyl)-9,9-dimethyl-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (3o): White solid; m.p. = 147-149 $^{\circ}C$; R_f (20% EtOAc/hexane) = 0.09; 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ ppm 7.76 (dd, $J_1 = 1.4$ Hz, $J_2 = 8.4$ Hz, 1 H), 7.61-7.60 (d, $J = 1.6$ Hz, 1 H), 7.22-7.20 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.16 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 6.96-6.92 (m, 1 H), 6.87-6.85 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2 H), 6.06-6.05 (d, $J = 1.6$ Hz, 2 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H), 3.75 (s, 3 H), 3.26-3.22 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1 H), 2.67-2.48 (m, 3 H), 2.07-2.00 (m, 1 H), 1.43 (s, 3 H), 1.06 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ ppm 197.0, 172.0, 171.2, 155.0, 152.4, 148.4, 138.4, 135.9, 130.8, 128.5, 127.9, 127.0, 126.6, 123.8, 122.2, 108.7, 108.3, 101.9, 53.7, 52.9, 52.8, 49.2, 44.1, 33.6, 28.1, 26.4, 25.9; IR (KBr, cm^{-1}) 2956, 2926, 2865, 1735, 1654, 1441, 1259, 1039, 758, 737; HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $C_{27}H_{26}O_7$: $[M+H]^+ = 463.1751$; found: 463.1757.

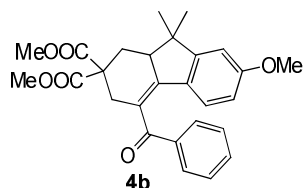


Dimethyl 9,9-dimethyl-4-(thiophene-2-carbonyl)-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (3p): Yellow oil; R_f (20% EtOAc/hexane) = 0.16; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 7.91-7.90 (d, $J = 3.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.70-7.69 (d, $J = 4.8$ Hz, 1 H), 7.23-7.19 (m, 1 H), 7.18-7.15 (m, 1 H), 7.11 (t, $J = 4.4$ Hz, 1 H), 6.97 (t, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 2 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H), 3.76 (s, 3 H), 3.39-3.34 (d, $J = 17.6$ Hz, 1 H), 2.70 (dd, $J_1 = 3.6$ Hz, $J_2 = 18.0$ Hz, 1 H), 2.58 (dd, $J_1 = 4.0$ Hz, $J_2 = 12.4$ Hz, 1 H), 2.52-2.48 (m, 1 H), 2.05-1.99 (m, 1 H), 1.43 (s, 3 H), 1.07 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 191.1, 172.0, 171.2, 155.1, 143.4, 139.3, 135.8, 135.3, 135.0, 128.7, 128.6, 127.6, 126.7, 124.1, 122.2, 53.7, 53.0, 52.9, 49.5, 44.2, 33.6, 28.1, 26.3, 25.9; IR (KBr, cm^{-1}) 2957, 2927, 2855, 1735, 1639, 1411, 1265, 737; HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{24}\text{O}_5\text{S}$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 425.1417$; found: 425.1422.

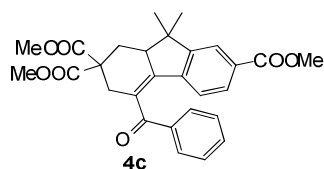
8. Characterization Data of Products 4a-4n:



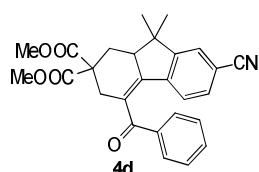
Dimethyl 4-benzoyl-7,9,9-trimethyl-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (4a): Yellow oil; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 8.09-8.07 (m, 2 H), 7.56 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.46 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2 H), 7.01 (s, 1 H), 6.71 (s, 2 H), 3.78 (s, 3 H), 3.74 (s, 3 H), 3.31-3.26 (d, $J = 17.6$ Hz, 1 H), 2.67-2.50 (m, 3 H), 2.26 (s, 3 H), 2.04 (t, $J = 12.4$ Hz, 1 H), 1.42 (s, 3 H), 1.07 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 199.0, 172.1, 171.2, 155.3, 139.5, 138.7, 136.1, 133.5, 133.2, 129.7, 128.8, 127.5, 126.6, 123.8, 122.8, 53.8, 52.9, 49.7, 44.1, 33.4, 28.2, 26.4, 25.8, 21.5. HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{28}\text{O}_5$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 433.2010$; found: 433.2019.



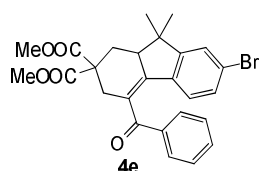
Dimethyl 4-benzoyl-7-methoxy-9,9-dimethyl-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (4b): Yellow oil; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 8.07-8.05 (m, 2 H), 7.56 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.45 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2 H), 6.77-6.72 (m, 2 H), 6.44 (dd, $J_1 = 2.4$ Hz, $J_2 = 8.4$ Hz, 1 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H), 3.74-3.73 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 6 H), 3.31-3.27 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1 H), 2.66-2.51 (m, 2 H), 2.04 (t, $J = 11.6$ Hz, 1 H), 1.41 (s, 3 H), 1.08 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 199.0, 172.1, 171.2, 160.4, 157.3, 139.5, 136.3, 133.5, 129.7, 128.8, 125.4, 125.2, 112.4, 107.6, 55.3, 53.8, 52.9, 52.8, 50.0, 44.3, 33.4, 28.2, 26.3, 25.8. HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{28}\text{O}_6$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 449.1959$; found: 449.1964.



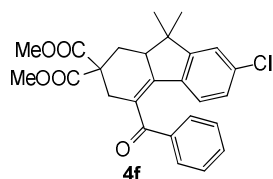
Trimethyl 4-benzoyl-9,9-dimethyl-1H-fluorene-2,2,7(3H,9H,9aH)-tricarboxylate (4c): Yellow oil; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 8.10-8.08 (m, 2 H), 7.88-7.87 (d, $J = 1.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.61-7.58 (m, 2 H), 7.48 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2 H), 6.88-6.86 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 3.86 (s, 3 H), 3.81 (s, 3 H), 3.75 (s, 3 H), 3.35-3.30 (d, $J = 18.4$ Hz, 1 H), 2.70-2.55 (m, 3 H), 2.05 (t, $J = 11.6$ Hz, 1 H), 1.47 (s, 3 H), 1.10 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 198.4, 171.8, 171.0, 166.9, 155.2, 140.4, 138.3, 135.6, 133.9, 130.6, 130.0, 129.7, 129.0, 128.3, 123.7, 123.6, 53.6, 53.0, 52.9, 52.1, 49.5, 44.3, 33.6, 28.1, 26.3, 25.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{28}\text{O}_7$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 477.1908$; found: 477.1914.



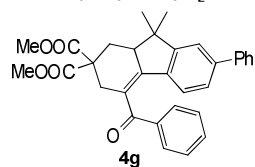
Dimethyl 4-benzoyl-7-cyano-9,9-dimethyl-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (4d): Yellow oil; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 8.10-8.08 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2 H), 7.62 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.53-7.47 (m, 3 H), 7.19 (dd, $J_1 = 1.2$ Hz, $J_2 = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 6.92-6.90 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 3.81 (s, 3 H), 3.75 (s, 3 H), 3.34-3.30 (d, $J = 18.4$ Hz, 1 H), 2.70-2.54 (m, 3 H), 2.06-2.00 (m, 1 H), 1.46 (s, 3 H), 1.09 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 198.0, 171.6, 170.9, 155.7, 140.4, 137.5, 135.4, 134.2, 132.2, 130.7, 129.7, 129.1, 126.2, 124.4, 119.0, 111.7, 53.5, 53.1, 53.0, 49.2, 44.5, 33.7, 27.9, 26.2, 25.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{25}\text{NO}_5$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 444.1805$; found: 444.1811.



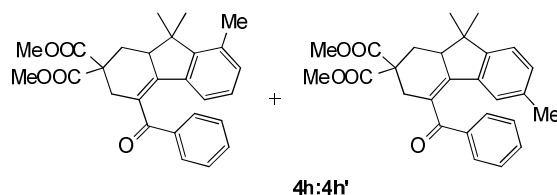
Dimethyl 4-benzoyl-7-bromo-9,9-dimethyl-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (4e): Yellow oil; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 8.07-8.05 (m, 2 H), 7.59 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.48 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2 H), 7.33-7.32 (d, $J = 1.6$ Hz, 1 H), 7.02 (dd, $J_1 = 1.6$ Hz, $J_2 = 8.4$ Hz, 1 H), 6.70-6.68 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1 H), 3.80 (s, 3 H), 3.74 (s, 3 H), 3.31-3.26 (d, $J = 18.4$ Hz, 1 H), 2.66-2.52 (m, 3 H), 2.02 (t, $J = 11.6$ Hz, 1 H), 1.42 (s, 3 H), 1.68 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 198.5, 171.8, 171.0, 157.2, 138.3, 135.8, 134.9, 133.8, 129.8, 129.7, 129.0, 128.7, 125.8, 125.4, 122.7, 53.6, 53.0, 52.9, 49.5, 44.5, 33.5, 28.1, 26.3, 25.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{25}\text{BrO}_5$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 497.0958$; found: 497.0964, 499.0956.



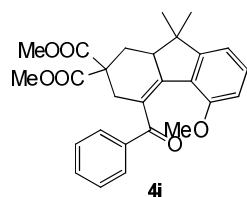
Dimethyl 4-benzoyl-7-chloro-9,9-dimethyl-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (4f): Yellow oil; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 8.07-8.05 (m, 2 H), 7.59 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.48 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2 H), 7.17-7.16 (d, $J = 1.6$ Hz, 1 H), 6.87 (dd, $J_1 = 2.0$ Hz, $J_2 = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 6.76-6.74 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1 H), 3.80 (s, 3 H), 3.74 (s, 3 H), 3.32-3.27 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1 H), 2.67-2.52 (m, 3 H), 2.03 (t, $J = 11.6$ Hz, 1 H), 1.42 (s, 3 H), 1.08 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 198.5, 171.8, 171.0, 156.9, 138.3, 135.8, 134.5, 134.4, 133.8, 129.7, 129.0, 128.5, 126.9, 125.1, 122.7, 53.6, 53.0, 52.9, 49.6, 44.5, 33.5, 28.1, 26.2, 25.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{25}\text{ClO}_5$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 453.1463$; found: 453.1469, 455.1480.



Dimethyl 4-benzoyl-9,9-dimethyl-7-phenyl-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (4g): Yellow oil; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 8.13-8.11 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2 H), 7.58 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.49 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 4 H), 7.41-7.36 (m, 3 H), 7.32-7.25 (m, 1 H), 7.16-7.14 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 6.91-6.89 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1 H), 3.80 (s, 3 H), 3.75 (s, 3 H), 3.34-3.30 (d, $J = 17.6$ Hz, 1 H), 2.70-2.57 (m, 3 H), 2.11-2.04 (m, 1 H), 1.49 (s, 3 H), 1.13 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 198.8, 172.0, 171.2, 155.8, 141.7, 141.0, 139.1, 136.0, 135.1, 133.7, 129.8, 128.9, 128.7, 127.9, 127.3, 127.1, 125.8, 124.3, 120.9, 53.8, 53.0, 52.9, 49.7, 44.3, 33.5, 28.2, 26.5, 25.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{30}\text{O}_5$: $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+ = 517.1985$; found: 517.1987.

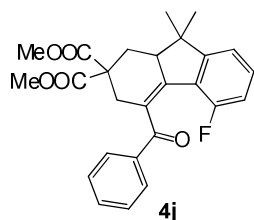


Dimethyl 4-benzoyl-8,9,9-trimethyl-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (4h); Dimethyl 4-benzoyl-6,9,9-trimethyl-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (4h'): Yellow oil; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 8.07-8.06 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 2 H), 7.58-7.54 (m, 1 H), 7.48-7.44 (m, 2 H), 7.10-7.08 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 0.5 H), 6.97-6.95 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 0.5 H), 6.90-6.88 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 0.5 H), 6.81-6.77 (m, 0.5 H), 6.72-6.70 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 0.5 H), 6.64 (s, 0.5 H), 3.79 (s, 1.5 H), 3.78 (s, 1.5 H), 3.74 (s, 3 H), 3.32-3.27 (d, $J = 18.0$ Hz, 1 H), 2.70-2.50 (m, 3 H), 2.39 (s, 1.5 H), 2.07-2.00 (m, 2.5 H), 1.54 (s, 1.5 H), 1.41 (s, 1.5 H), 1.15 (s, 1.5 H), 1.06 (s, 1.5 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 199.1, 198.9, 172.1, 171.1, 152.4, 151.4, 139.8, 139.3, 136.5, 136.2, 136.1, 136.0, 135.9, 133.8, 133.6, 133.5, 131.5, 129.7, 129.6, 129.5, 128.9, 128.8, 127.5, 127.2, 126.6, 124.7, 122.1, 121.9, 53.7, 52.9, 49.8, 49.7, 45.4, 43.8, 33.6, 33.5, 28.2, 27.7, 26.4, 26.2, 26.0, 23.1, 21.1, 19.5. HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{28}\text{ClO}_5$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 433.2010$; found: 433.2019.

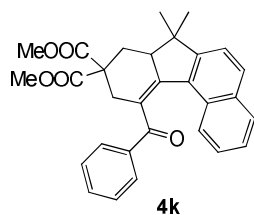


Dimethyl 4-benzoyl-5-methoxy-9,9-dimethyl-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (4i): Yellow oil; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 8.08 (s, 2 H), 7.50-7.48 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1

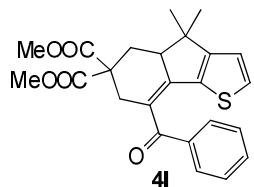
H), 7.45-7.35 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2 H), 7.15 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H), 6.84-6.82 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 6.46-6.44 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H), 3.72 (s, 3 H), 3.40-3.36 (d, $J = 17.6$ Hz, 1 H), 3.08 (s, 3 H), 2.57-2.50 (m, 3 H), 2.01 (t, $J = 13.6$ Hz, 4 H), 1.41 (s, 3 H), 1.12 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 197.7, 172.2, 171.2, 156.9, 154.5, 136.8, 132.3, 130.2, 129.5, 128.1, 125.1, 114.3, 108.6, 53.6, 53.2, 52.8, 50.3, 44.7, 33.6, 28.1, 26.0, 25.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{28}\text{O}_6$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 449.1959$; found: 449.1965.



Dimethyl 4-benzoyl-5-fluoro-9,9-dimethyl-9,9a-dihydro-1H-fluorene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate (4j): Yellow solid; m.p. = 166-168 °C; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 8.08-8.06 (m, 2 H), 7.54 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.45 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2 H), 7.18-7.13 (m, 1 H), 7.02-7.00 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H), 6.64 (dd, $J_1 = 8.0$ Hz, $J_2 = 9.6$ Hz, 1 H), 3.81 (s, 3 H), 3.73 (s, 3 H), 3.45-3.39 (m, 1 H), 2.58-2.53 (m, 3 H), 2.02 (t, $J = 13.2$ Hz, 1 H), 1.44 (s, 3 H), 1.12 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 198.0, 171.9, 171.0, 158.6, 157.7, 156.1, 136.2, 135.9, 133.0, 130.5, 130.4, 129.7, 128.4, 123.8, 117.8, 53.5, 53.0, 52.9, 50.2, 45.1, 45.0, 33.5, 28.0, 25.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{25}\text{FO}_5$: $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 437.1759$; found: 437.1754.

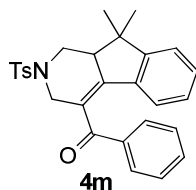


Dimethyl 11-benzoyl-7,7-dimethyl-7a,8-dihydro-7H-benzo[c]fluorene-9,9(10H)-dicarboxylate (4k): Yellow oil; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 7.86-7.84 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.62-7.54 (m, 3H), 7.43 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H), 7.35 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.23 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 3 H), 7.04 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.60-3.56 (d, $J = 16.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.08 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H), 2.80-2.75 (m, 2H), 2.11 (dd, $J_1 = 10.8$ Hz, $J_2 = 13.2$ Hz, 1 H), 1.63 (s, 3H), 1.35 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 200.7, 172.3, 170.6, 144.6, 139.2, 137.4, 133.5, 132.7, 132.6, 131.6, 129.1, 129.0, 128.3, 127.7, 126.5, 126.3, 125.9, 124.7, 121.6, 53.6, 53.0, 52.7, 43.3, 40.5, 34.9, 30.4, 25.7, 25.6. HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{28}\text{O}_5$: $\text{M}+\text{H} = 469.2010$; found: 469.2015.

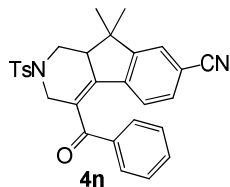


Dimethyl 8-benzoyl-4,4-dimethyl-4a,5-dihydro-4H-indeno[1,2-b]thiophene-6,6(-7H)-dicarboxylate (4l): Yellow oil; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 7.86-7.84 (m, 2 H), 7.55 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.47 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2 H), 7.23-7.22 (d, $J = 5.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.80-6.79 (d, $J = 5.2$ Hz, 1 H), 3.78 (s, 3 H), 3.75 (s, 3 H), 3.20-3.15 (m, 1 H), 2.94-2.89 (m, 1 H), 2.11-2.04 (m, 1 H), 1.39 (s, 3 H), 1.08 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ ppm 197.4, 172.0, 171.2, 164.4, 138.6, 137.2,

133.6, 132.5, 129.4, 129.1, 128.7, 122.2, 120.0, 55.0, 54.1, 52.9, 42.4, 33.1, 28.3, 26.3, 25.9.
HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $C_{24}H_{24}O_5S$: $[M+H]^+ = 425.1417$; found: 425.1430.

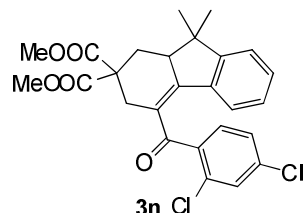
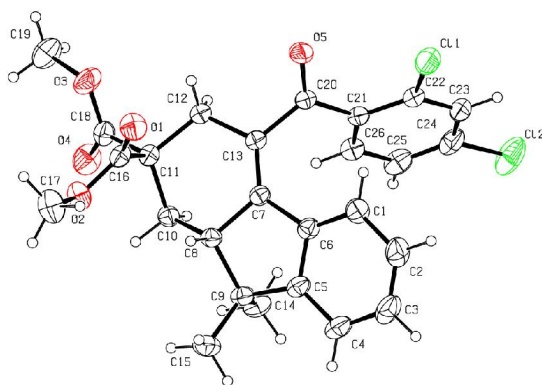


(9,9-dimethyl-2-tosyl-2,3,9,9a-tetrahydro-1H-indeno[2,1-c]pyridin-4-yl)(phenyl)methanone (4m): Yellow oil; 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ ppm 7.90-7.88 (m, 2 H), 7.73-7.71 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2 H), 7.55 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.40 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2 H), 7.34-7.32 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2 H), 7.21-7.14 (m, 2 H), 6.89-6.85 (m, 1 H), 6.77-6.76 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1 H), 4.49 (dd, $J_1 = 2.4$ Hz, $J_2 = 16.8$ Hz, 1 H), 4.21 (dd, $J_1 = 5.2$ Hz, $J_2 = 11.2$ Hz, 1 H), 3.50 (dd, $J_1 = 3.6$ Hz, $J_2 = 17.2$ Hz, 1 H), 3.01-2.95 (m, 1 H), 2.65 (t, $J = 10.8$ Hz, 1 H), 2.42 (s, 3 H), 1.49 (s, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ ppm 196.8, 155.0, 143.8, 140.8, 135.8, 135.2, 133.9, 133.7, 129.9, 129.5, 129.3, 129.0, 127.6, 126.7, 125.5, 124.6, 122.3, 51.5, 46.4, 43.9, 43.8, 26.5, 21.5. HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $C_{28}H_{27}NO_5S$: $[M+H]^+ = 458.1784$; found: 458.1779.



4-benzoyl-9,9-dimethyl-2-tosyl-2,3,9,9a-tetrahydro-1H-indeno[2,1-c]pyridine-7-carbonitrile (4n): White solid; m.p. = 164-166 °C; 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ ppm 7.90-7.88 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.22-7.20 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.61 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1 H), 7.47-7.43 (m, 3H), 7.35-7.32 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.18 (dd, $J_1 = 1.2$ Hz, $J_2 = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 6.87-6.85 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.50 (dd, $J_1 = 2.8$ Hz, $J_2 = 17.6$ Hz, 1 H), 4.23 (dd, $J_1 = 5.6$ Hz, $J_2 = 11.2$ Hz, 1 H), 3.52 (dd, $J_1 = 4.0$ Hz, $J_2 = 17.6$ Hz, 1 H), 3.05-3.00 (m, 1H), 2.64 (t, $J = 10.8$ Hz, 1 H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 1.54 (s, 3H), 1.04 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ ppm 195.9, 155.5, 144.1, 139.6, 135.3, 134.5, 133.6, 130.8, 129.9, 129.8, 129.4, 129.2, 127.6, 126.3, 124.9, 118.7, 112.5, 51.2, 46.5, 44.1, 43.5, 26.2, 21.5. HRMS (ESI) m/z : calcd for $C_{29}H_{26}N_2O_5S$: $[M+H]^+ = 483.1736$; found: 483.1739.

9. The crystal structure of product 3n:

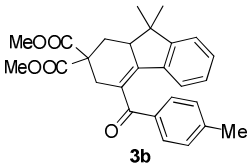


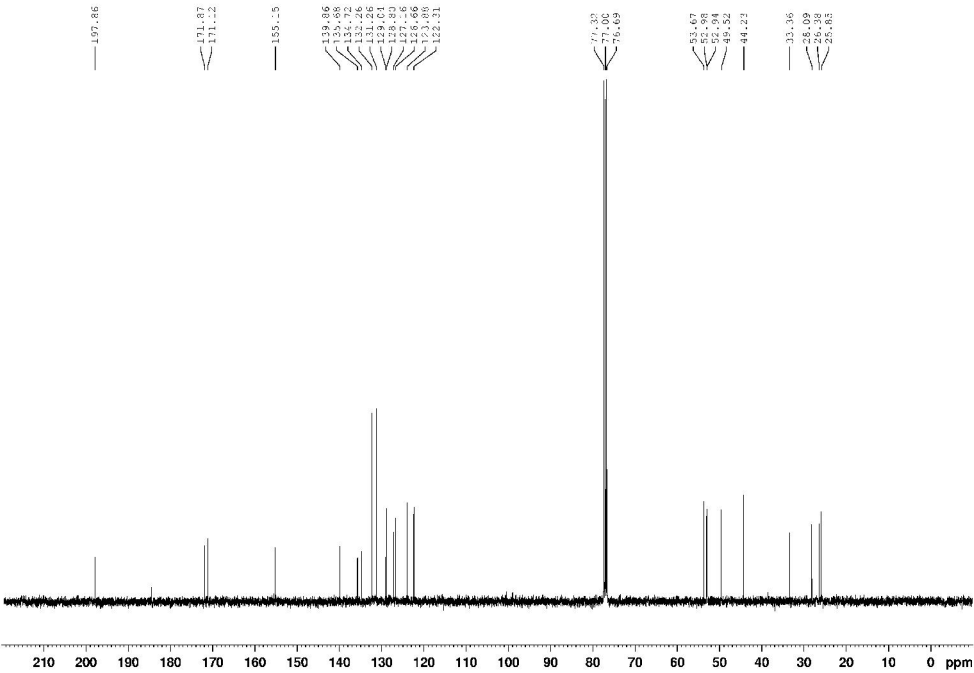
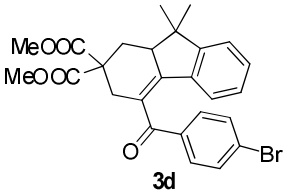
Datablock:

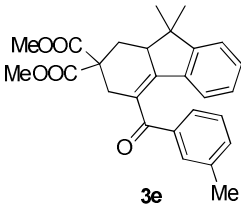
Bond precision:	C-C = 0.0033 Å		Wavelength=1.54180
Cell:	a=7.9958(3)	b=15.4197(5)	c=19.3202(6)
	alpha=90	beta=91.490(3)	gamma=90
Temperature:	294K		
	Calculated	Reported	
Volume	2381.24(14)	2381.25(14)	
Space group	P 21/c	P 1 21/c 1	
Hall group	-P 2ybc	-P 2bc	
Moiety formula	C26 H24 Cl2 O5	C26 H24 Cl2 O5	
Sum formula	C26 H24 Cl2 O5	C26 H24 Cl2 O5	
Mr	487.35	487.35	
Dx,g cm-3	1.359	1.359	
Z	4	4	
Mu (mm-1)	2.747	2.747	
F000	1016.0	1016.0	
F000'	1021.71		
h,k,lmax	9,18,23	9,18,23	
Nref	4573	4548	
Tmin,Tmax	0.461,0.517	0.862,1.000	
Tmin'	0.406		
Correction method=	MULTI-SCAN		
Data completeness=	0.995	Theta(max)= 70.702	
R(reflections)=	0.0546(3747)	wR2(reflections)= 0.1670(4548)	
S =	1.042	Npar= 302	

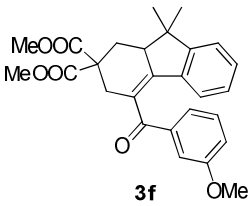
10. References

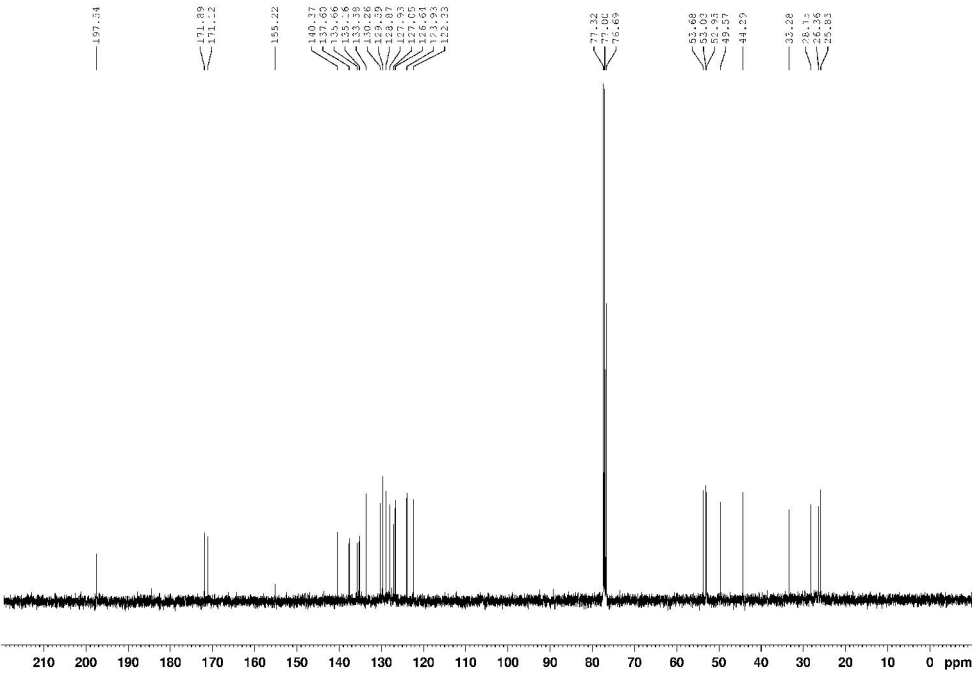
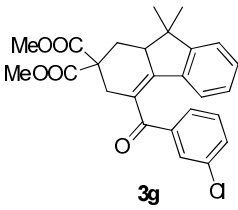
1. (a) C. J. Forsyth, J. Clardy, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1990, **112**, 3497. (b) C. Nieto-Oberhuber, P. Pérez-Galán, E. Herrero-Gómez, T. Lauterbach, C. Rodríguez, S. López, C. Bour, A. Rosellón, D. J. Cárdenas, A. M. Echavarren, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2008, **130**, 269.
2. (a) W. D. Jones, *Acc. Chem. Res.* 2003, **36**, 140; (b) G.-B. Deng, Z.-Q. Wang, J.-D. Xia, P.-C. Qian, R.-J. Song, M. Hu, L.-B. Gong, J.-H. Li, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2013, **52**, 1535.; (c) Y. Meng, L.-N. Guo, H. Wang, X.-H. Duan, *Chem. Commun.* 2013, **49**, 7540.
3. J. Karthikeyan, R. Haridharan, C.-H. Cheng, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2012, **51**, 12343.
4. D₅-bromobenzene were purchased from Aldrich.
5. C. Pétrier, A. L. Gemal, J.-L. Luche, *Tetrahedron Letters*, **23**, 3361.

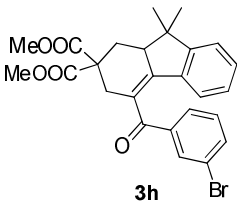


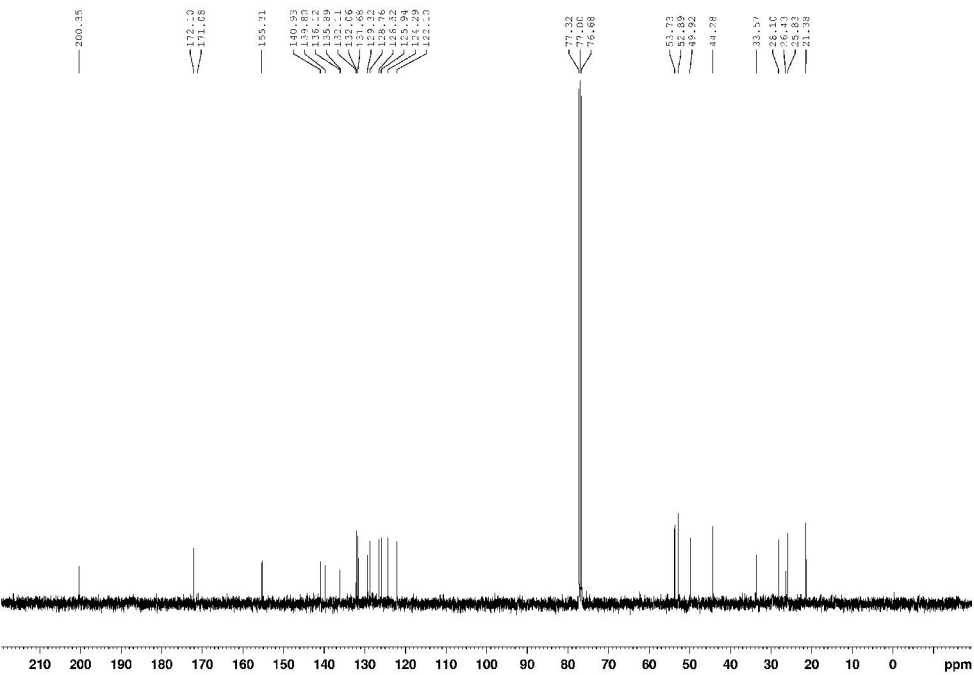
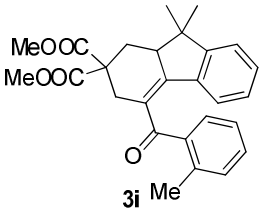


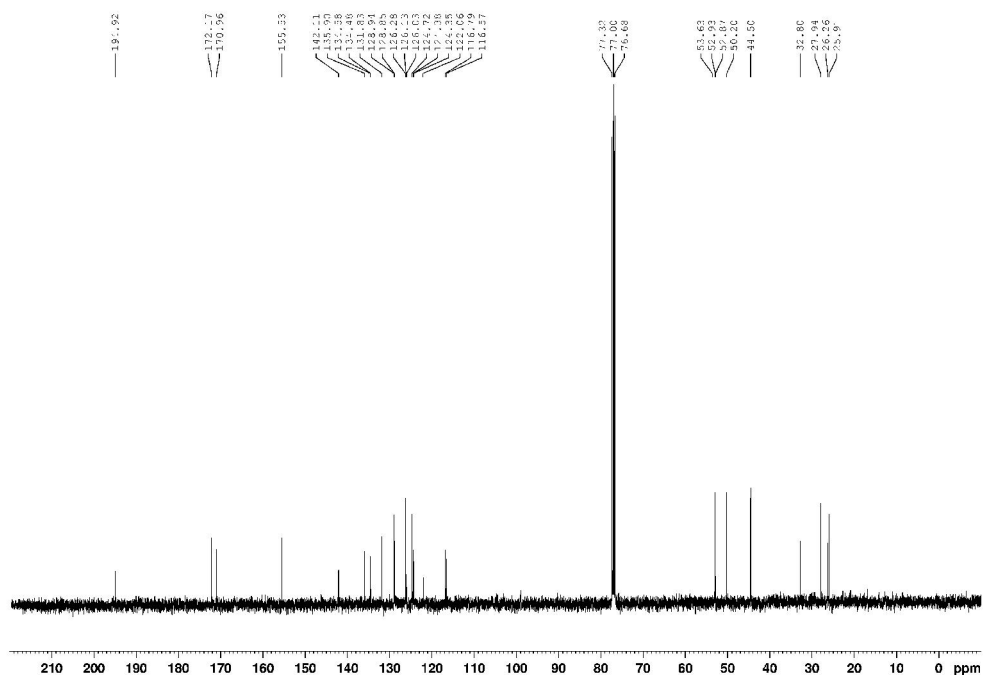
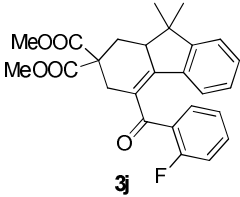


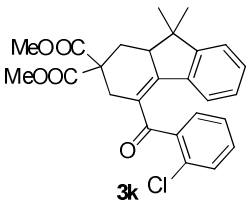


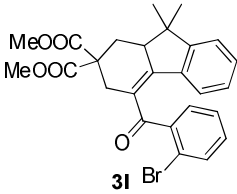


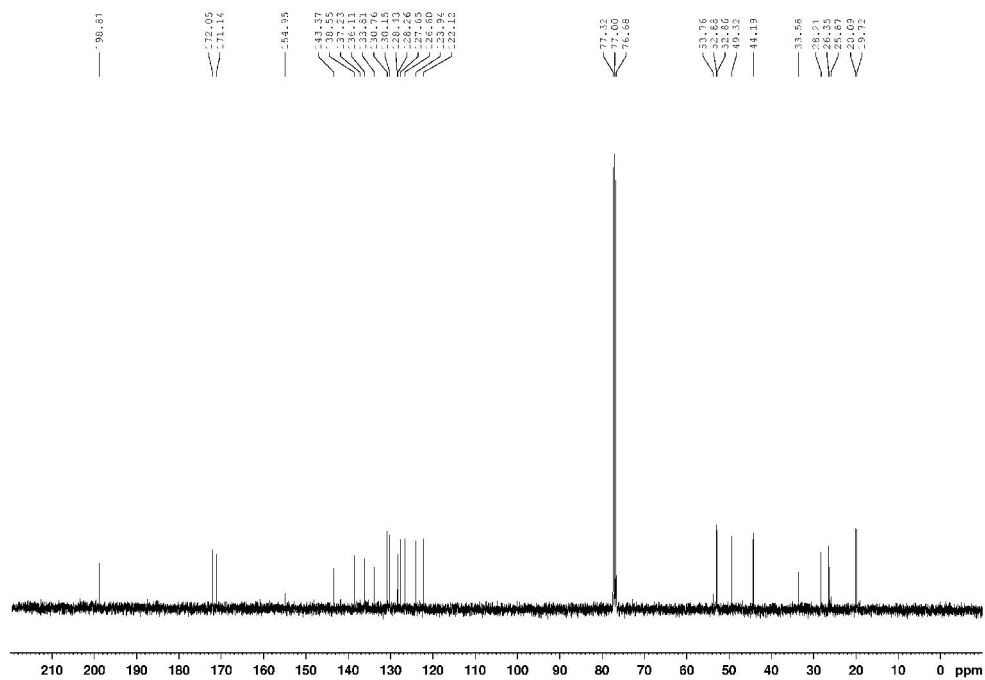
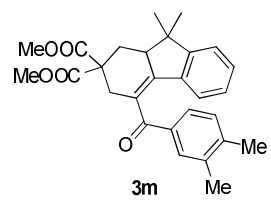


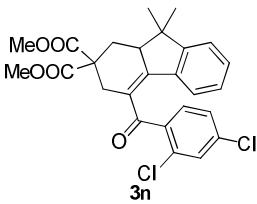


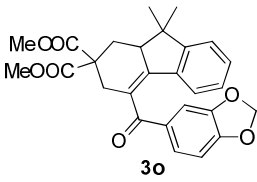


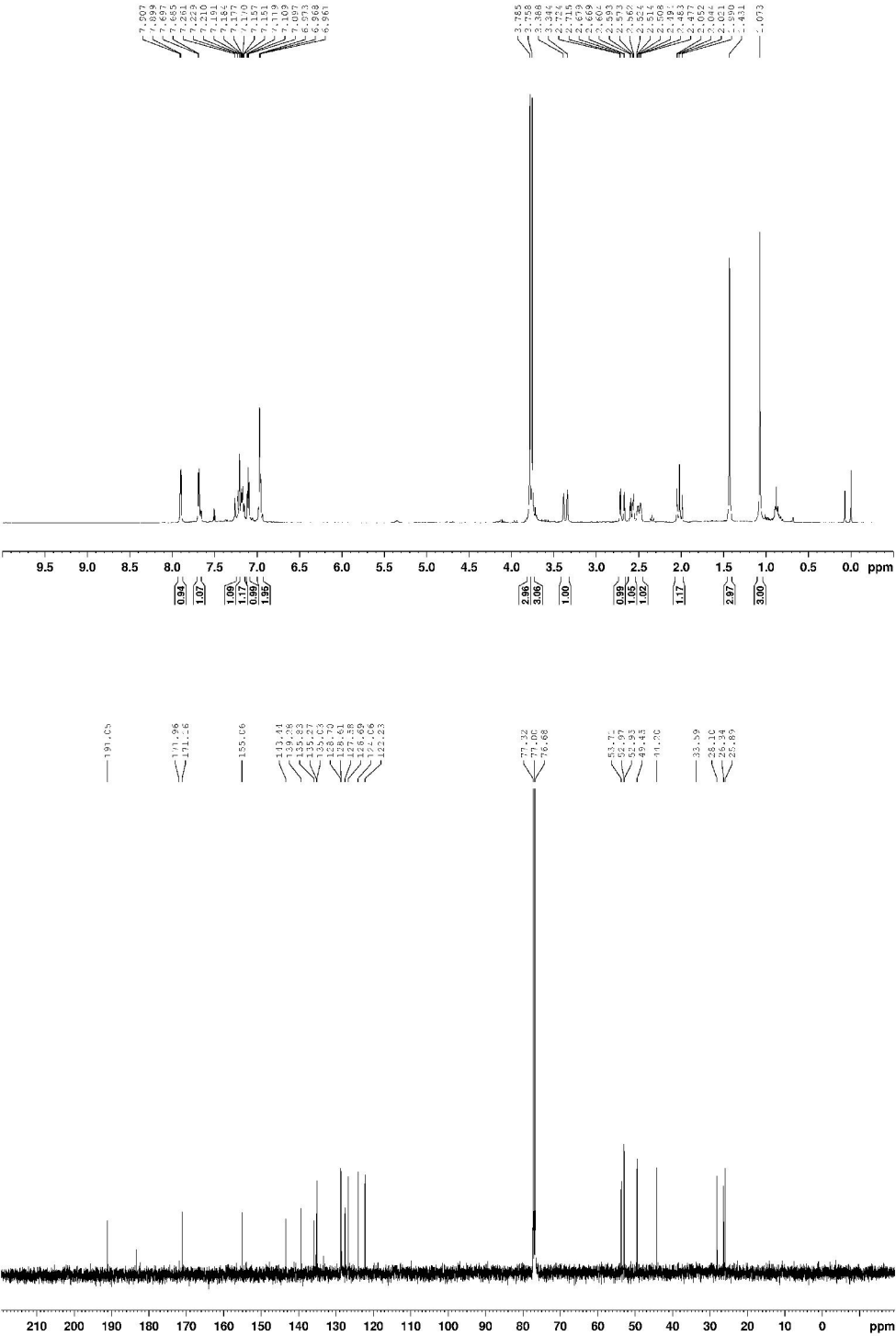
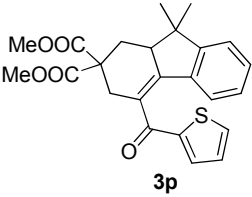












11. ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR Spectra of the Products 4a-4n:

