

Visible Light Induced Cyclopropanation of Dibromomalonates with Alkenes via Double-SET by Photoredox Catalysis

Yanbin Zhang,^{a,e} Rong Qian,^{c,e} Xingliang Zheng,^b Yi Zeng,^b Jing Sun,^a Yiyong Chen,^a Aishun Ding,^a and Hao Guo^{*a,d}

^a Department of chemistry, Fudan University, 220 Handan Road, Shanghai, 200433, P. R. China. Tel: +86-21-55664361, Fax: +86-21-55664361, E-mail: Hao_Guo@fudan.edu.cn

^b Institute of Chemistry & Biological Engineering, Changsha University of Science and Technology, Changsha 410114, P. R. China.

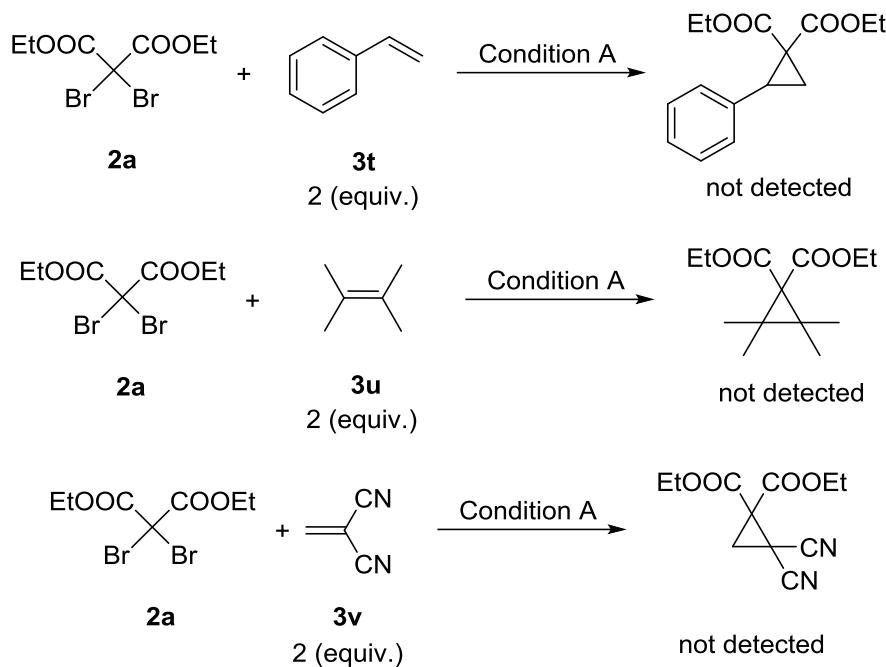
^c Shanghai Mass Spectrometry Center, Shanghai Institute of Ceramics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai 200050, P. R. China.

^d Key Laboratory of Organofluorine Chemistry, Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences

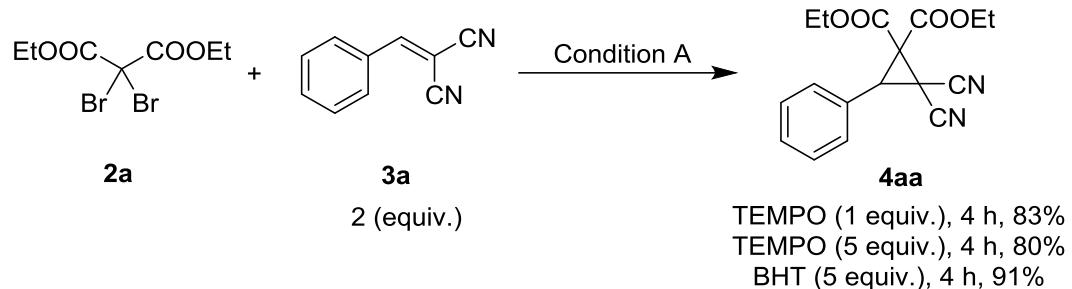
^e They contributed equally.

Electronic Supplementary Information

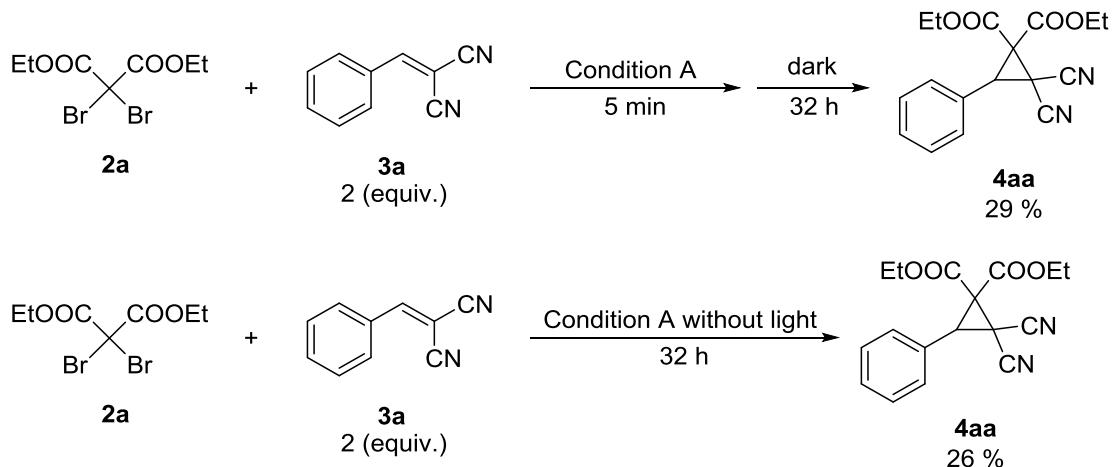
Schemes S1-S3	S2
Detailed discussions on other possibilities of reaction pathways	S3
Experimental Section	S7
NMR Spectra	S28
References	S49



Scheme S1. Reactions of **2a** with **3t**, **3u**, and **3v** under Condition A



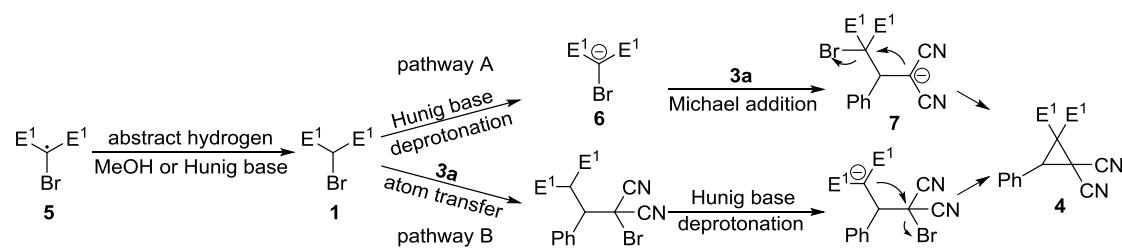
Scheme S2. Effect of radical scavenger



Scheme S3. The dark reaction

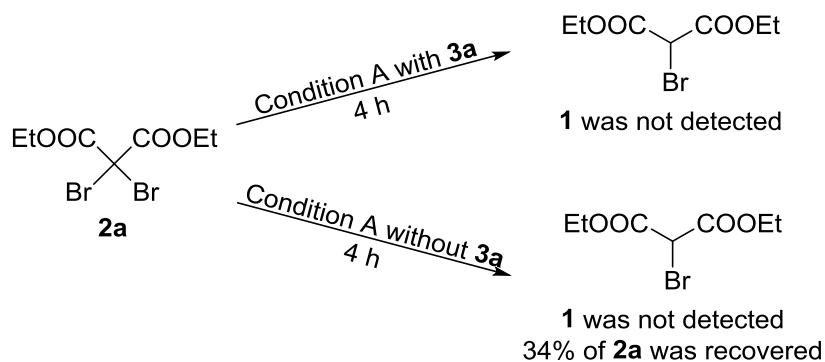
Detailed discussion on other possibilities of reaction pathways

Although the above results fitted well with our initially proposed mechanism as shown in Scheme 3, some other possibilities of reaction pathways should also be considered. One alternative mechanism could be envisaged that the initially formed radical intermediate **5** could abstract hydrogen from the solvent (MeOH) or the Hunig base¹ to form **1**. Then the *in situ* formed **1** might undergo deprotonation by the amine to afford the bromomalonate carbanion **6** which would undergo intermolecular Michael addition and intramolecular nucleophilic substitution (pathway A), or it might also be possible to undergo atom-transfer,² deprotonation by the amine, and intramolecular nucleophilic substitution to afford the final product (pathway B) (Scheme S4).



Scheme S4. Bromomalonate **1** involved mechanism

To explore these possibilities, we firstly tried to isolate or detect **1** from the reaction mixture before the reaction was completed. Disappointingly, all attempts failed (Scheme S5).

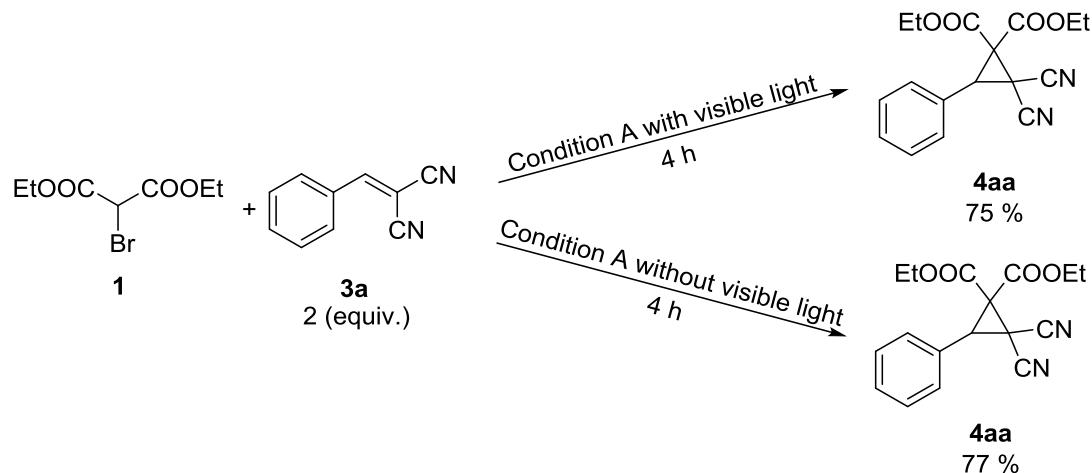


Scheme S5. Detecting or isolating bromomalonate **1**

Then this reaction was carried out using aprotic solvent (benzene) under strictly anhydrous conditions. **4aa** was isolated in an 80% yield, which might be considered

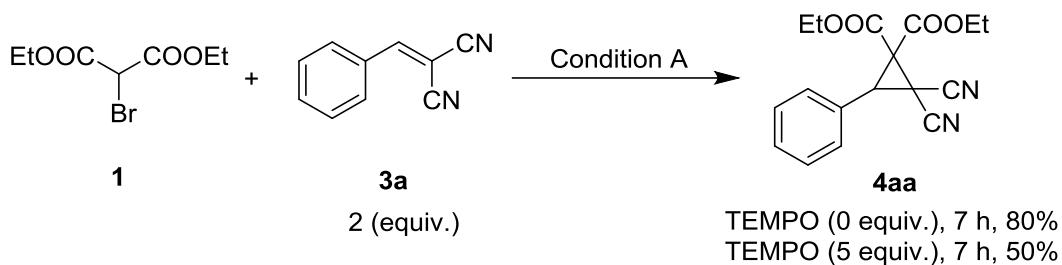
as negative evidence for the hypothesis that **5** abstracted hydrogen from the solvent (MeOH) to form **1**, since it is hard to abstract hydrogen from benzene. However, the possibility for the transformation of **6** into **1** could not be fully ruled out, since this might not be the rate-determining step.

Notably, the reaction of **1** with **3a** with or without light proceeded smoothly to form **4aa** in much lower yields (Scheme S6). If the reaction of **2a** with **3a** proceeded mainly via intermediate **1**, the final yield of **4aa** should be no more than 75% (Scheme S6) which is the yield of reaction with pure **1** as the starting material. However, an isolated yield as high as 92% (entry 5, Table 1) was afforded. This might be a proof showing the impossibility of the above hypothesis.



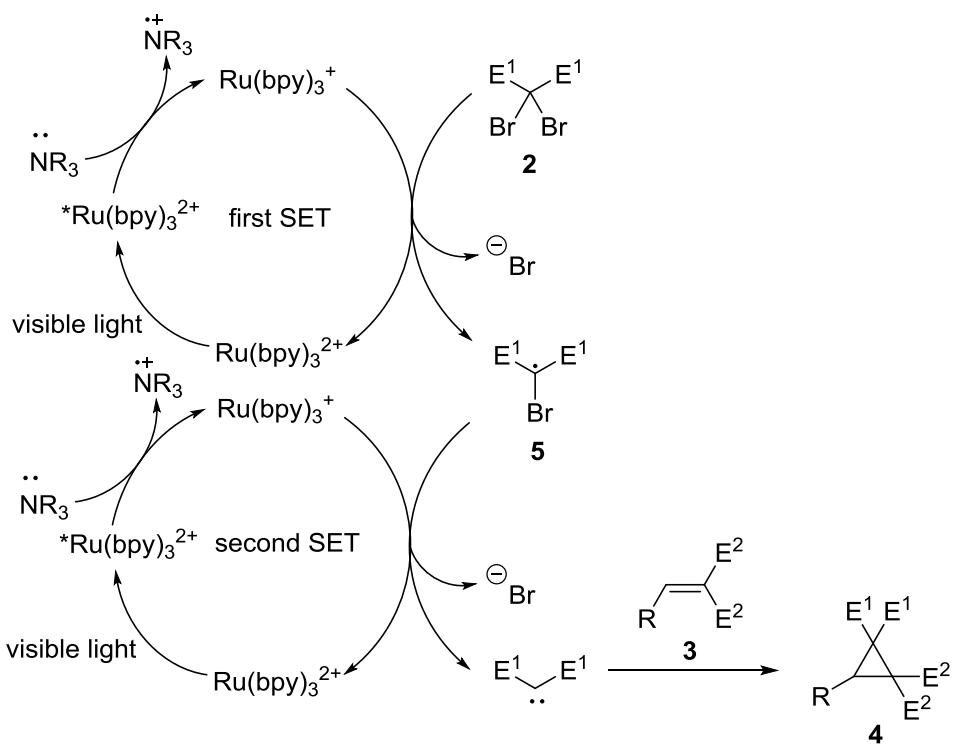
Scheme S6. Reactions of **1** with **3a** under Condition A with and without visible light

Finally, the reactions under Condition A using **1** instead of **2a** with and without TEMPO were studied. As shown in Scheme S7, the isolated yields of **4aa** in both cases became much lower. If this reaction proceeded mainly via intermediate **1**, the addition of 5 equiv. of TEMPO should decrease the final yield to at least 50% (Scheme S7) which is the yield of reaction with pure **1** as the starting material. However, an isolated yield as high as 80% (Scheme S2) was afforded. This might not support the above mechanism.

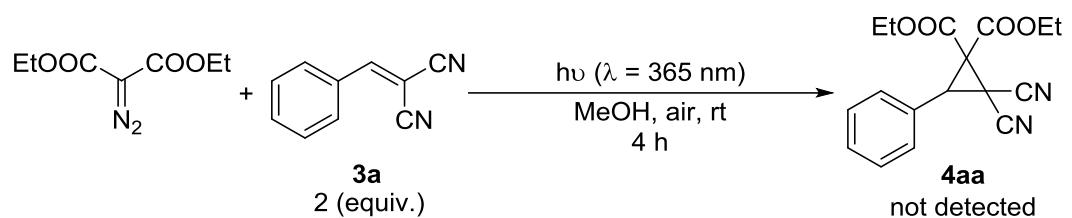


Scheme S7. The photocyclopropanation of **1** with and without TEMPO under Condition A

Additionally, a carbene intermediate involved mechanism (Scheme S8) was explored. The result of reaction of **2a** with **3u** under Condition A (Scheme S1) negated this proposal, since **3u** is a typical reactant in such a carbene involved cyclopropanation.³ Then a reported carbene precursor⁴ was employed to check the possibility of carbene-involved mechanism, but also showed negative results (Scheme S9).



Scheme S8. Carbene intermediate involved mechanism



Scheme S9. Reaction of carbene precursor with **3a**

Experimental Section

The sunlight induced photoreactions were carried out by exposing the reaction tube to direct solar illumination in the daytime from 9:00 to 16:00 in a sunny day. A picture for the setup of this reaction is shown in Figure S1.



Figure S1. A picture for the setup of sunlight induced reaction.

The visible light induced photoreactions were carried out using a 23W household lamp at a distance of 3-5 cm with the reactor. A picture for the setup of this reaction is shown in Figure S2.

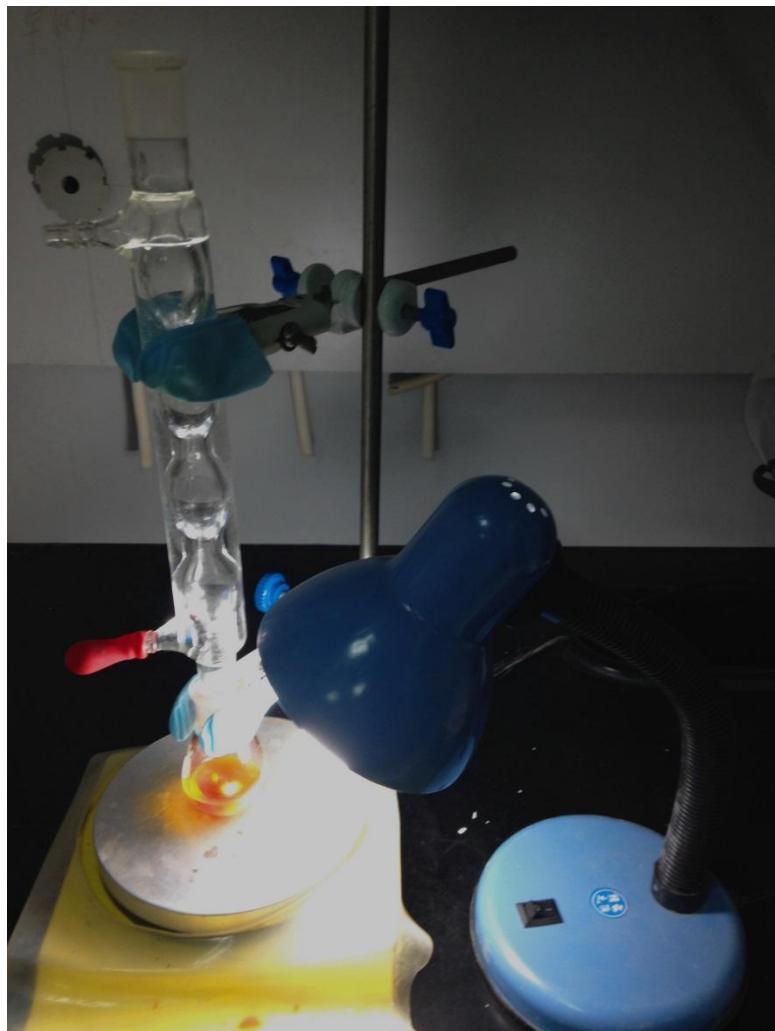


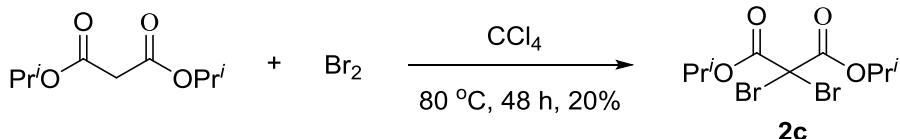
Figure S2. A picture for the setup of visible light induced reaction.

General information

All reactions were carried out using a pyrex reactor. IR spectra were recorded on a Avatar 360 FT-IR spectrometer. ^1H (400 MHz), ^{13}C (100 MHz), and ^{19}F (376 MHz) NMR spectra of samples in CDCl_3 were recorded on an AVANCE III 400 spectrometer. MS (EI, 70 eV) determinations were carried out on a HP 5973 spectrometer. MS (ESI) determinations were carried out on an Agilent 1100 LC/MSD SL spectrometer. HRMS (EI, 70 eV) determinations were carried out on a Water GCT CA176 spectrometer. HRMS (ESI) determinations were carried out on a Bruker

Daltonics APEXIII™ ESI-FTICRMS spectrometer. Compound **3a**, **3h**, **3t**, **3u** and **Z-8** was commercial available. Compounds **2b**,⁵ **3a**,⁶ **3b**,⁷ **3c**,⁷ **3d**,⁸ **3e**,⁹ **3f**,¹⁰ **3g**,⁷ **3i**,⁶ **3j**,¹¹ **3k**,¹¹ **3l**,¹² **3m**,¹² **3n**,¹³ **3o**,⁷ **3p**,¹¹ **3q**,⁷ **3r**,¹⁴ **3s**,¹⁵ and **E-8**¹⁶ were prepared according to literature procedures.

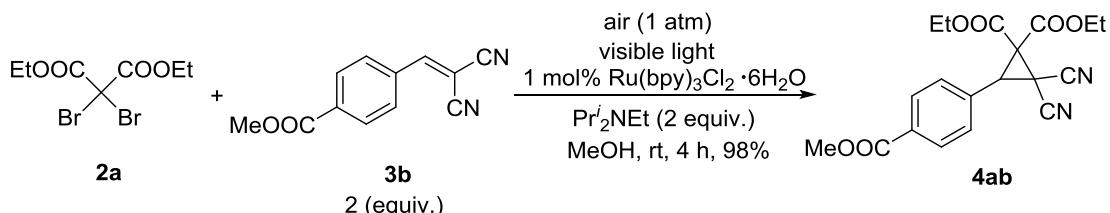
Synthesis of Diisopropyl dibromomalonate (**2c**)



Diisopropyl malonate (1.9 mL, 10.0 mmol) was added into a 100 mL three-necked flask. Then a solution of bromine (1.2 mL, 23.4 mmol) in carbon tetrachloride (10 mL) was added dropwise. The resulting reaction mixture was refluxed for 48 hours, and then cooled to room temperature, quenched by 5% Na_2CO_3 solution, and extracted with ethyl acetate (30 mL x 3). The combined organic layer was dried over MgSO_4 . Filtration, concentration, and purification by flash chromatography on silica gel (eluent : petroleum ether → ethyl acetate/petroleum ether = 1/100) afforded **2c** as a liquid (690 mg, 20%); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 5.21–5.08 (m, 2 H), 1.32 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 12 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 162.6, 72.9, 51.9, 21.1; IR (neat) 1747 cm^{-1} ; MS (ESI) m/z 369 ($\text{M}+\text{Na}^+$); HRMS (ESI) calcd for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{14}\text{Br}_2\text{Na}_1\text{O}_4$ 366.9151, found 366.9163.

Typical Procedure I for the photoreaction under Condition A.

Synthesis of diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-methoxycarbonylphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (**4ab**)

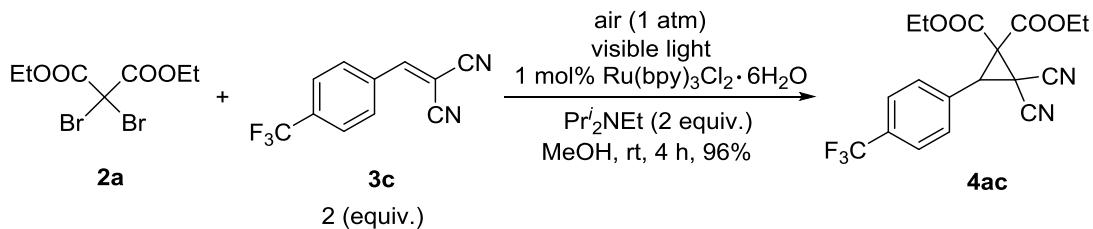


2a (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3b** (86 mg, 0.41 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^i_2NEt (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) were added to a dry 25 mL pyrex reaction flask. The mixture was irradiated by a 23W household lamp at rt in the open air. The photoreaction was completed after 4 h as

monitored by TLC (eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1). The solvent was removed and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1→15/1→10/1) to afforded **4ab** as a solid (73 mg, 98%); mp 68.1-69.9 °C (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.08 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2 H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2 H), 4.44 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 4.30-4.19 (m, 2 H), 3.99 (s, 1 H), 3.93 (s, 3 H), 1.40 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3 H), 1.20 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.9, 162.7, 160.8, 132.0, 131.2, 130.1, 128.9, 111.4, 109.4, 64.5, 63.7, 52.3, 46.0, 39.4, 16.2, 13.8, 13.5; IR (neat) 2253, 1745, 1720, 1612, 1440 cm⁻¹; MS (EI, 70 eV) m/z 370 (M⁺, 0.51), 266 (100); HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for C₁₉H₁₈N₂O₆ 370.1165, found 370.1160.

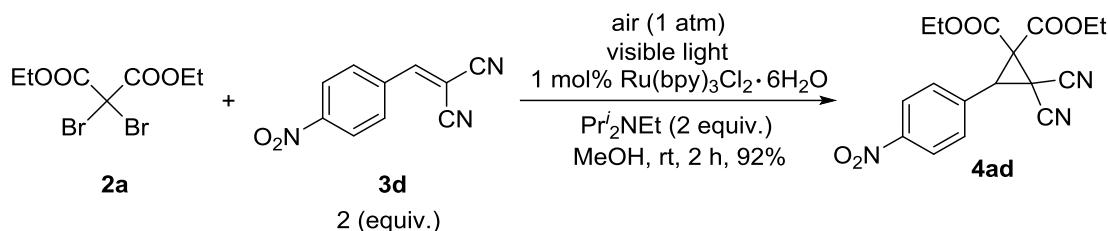
The following compounds were prepared according to Typical Procedure I.

(1) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4ac)



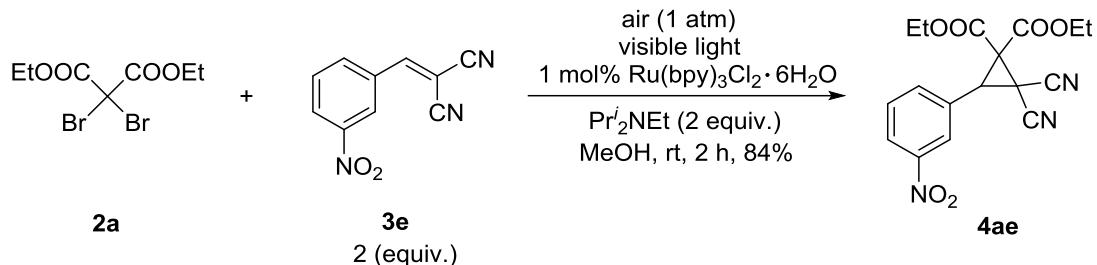
The reaction of **2a** (38 μL, 0.20 mmol), **3c** (92 mg, 0.41 mmol), Ru(bpy)₃Cl₂ 6H₂O (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), PrⁱNEt (68 μL, 0.41 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4ac** as a solid (73 mg, 96%); mp 148.9-151.3 °C (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.68 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 4.44 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 4.32-4.21 (m, 2 H), 4.00 (s, 1 H), 1.39 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3 H), 1.21 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3 H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.6, 160.7, 131.6 (q, *J* = 32.9 Hz), 131.3, 129.4, 125.9 (q, *J* = 3.6 Hz), 123.4 (q, *J* = 270.7 Hz), 111.4, 109.4, 64.6, 63.8, 46.1, 39.1, 16.2, 13.7, 13.4; ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -63.4 ppm; IR (neat) 2250, 1741, 1321 cm⁻¹; MS (EI, 70 eV) m/z 380 (M⁺, 1.52), 209 (100); HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for C₁₈H₁₅N₂O₄F₃ 380.0984, found 380.0979.

(2) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-nitrophenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4ad)



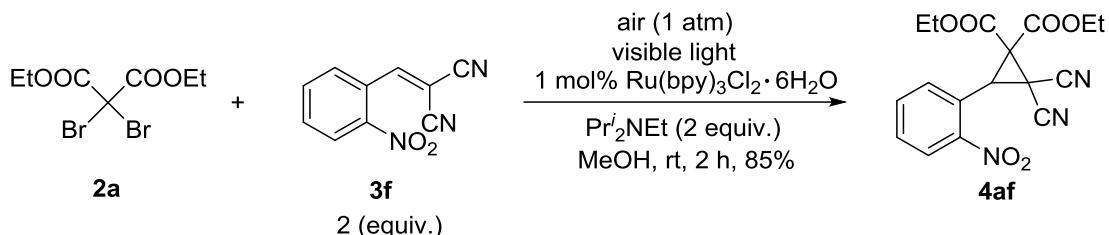
The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3d** (80 mg, 0.40 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), $\text{Pr}'_2\text{NEt}$ (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4ad** as a solid (66 mg, 92%); mp 113.0-114.2 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.29 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2 H), 7.62 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2 H), 4.46 (q, J = 6.8 Hz, 2 H), 4.33-4.22 (m, 2 H), 4.02 (s, 1 H), 1.41 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H), 1.25 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 162.6, 160.5, 148.4, 134.2, 130.2, 124.2, 111.1, 109.2, 64.9, 64.1, 46.1, 38.9, 16.3, 13.9, 13.6; IR (neat) 2256, 1744, 1610, 1528, 1351 cm^{-1} ; MS (EI, 70 eV) m/z 357 (M^+ , 5.15), 257 (100); HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_3\text{O}_6$ 357.0961, found 357.0964.

(3) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(3-nitrophenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4ae)



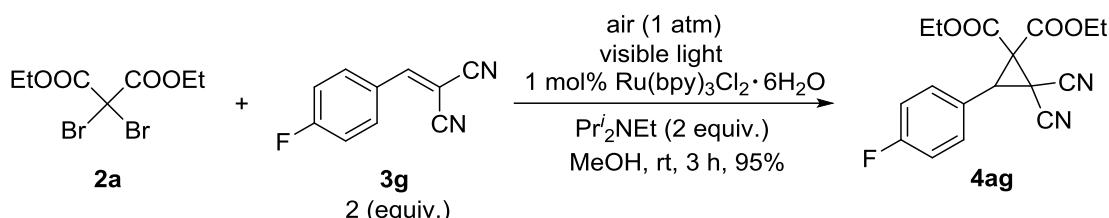
The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3e** (78 mg, 0.39 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), $\text{Pr}'_2\text{NEt}$ (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4ae** as a solid (60 mg, 84%); mp 109.5-110.4 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.33-8.25 (m, 2 H), 7.80 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1 H), 7.66 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 4.46 (q, J = 6.8 Hz, 2 H), 4.37-4.25 (m, 2 H), 4.04 (s, 1 H), 1.41 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H), 1.28 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 162.5, 160.6, 148.4, 135.0, 130.4, 129.4, 124.6, 124.2, 111.1, 109.2, 64.8, 64.2, 46.1, 38.8, 16.4, 13.9, 13.6; IR (neat) 2253, 1744, 1537 cm^{-1} ; MS (EI, 70 eV) m/z 357 (M^+ , 1.08), 257 (100); HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_3\text{O}_6$ 357.0961, found 357.0957.

(4) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(2-nitrophenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4af)



The reaction of **2a** (38 μ L, 0.20 mmol), **3f** (83 mg, 0.42 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^iNEt (66 μ L, 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4af** as a solid (61 mg, 85%); mp 73.1-74.3 °C (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.26 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.80-7.69 (m, 2 H), 7.65 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 4.46 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 4.36 (s, 1 H), 4.17 (q, J = 6.8 Hz, 2 H), 1.41 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H), 1.19 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 162.8, 160.7, 149.1, 134.0, 130.9, 130.7, 125.6, 123.3, 110.9, 110.0, 64.5, 63.8, 45.1, 40.0, 16.9, 13.8, 13.4; IR (neat) 2253, 1741, 1534 cm^{-1} ; MS (ESI) m/z 380 ($\text{M}+\text{Na}^+$); HRMS (ESI) calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_3\text{Na}_1\text{O}_6$ 380.0853, found 380.0859.

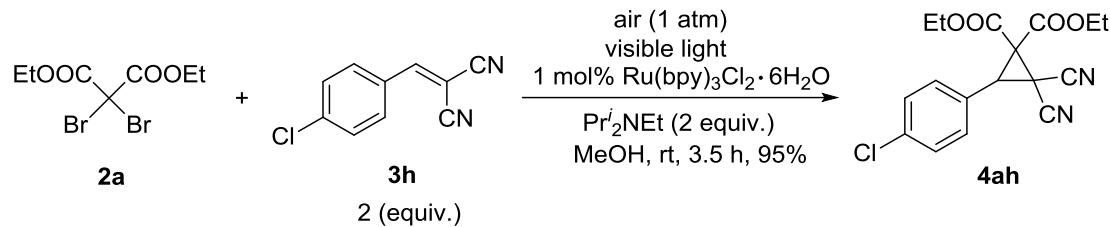
(5) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-fluorophenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4ag)



The reaction of **2a** (38 μ L, 0.20 mmol), **3g** (71 mg, 0.41 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^iNEt (66 μ L, 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4ag** as a solid (63 mg, 95%); mp 73.3-75.2 °C (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.43-7.35 (m, 2 H), 7.11 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 4.43 (q, J = 6.8 Hz, 2 H), 4.31-4.20 (m, 2 H), 3.93 (s, 1 H), 1.39 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H), 1.22 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 163.2 (d, J = 248.9 Hz), 162.8, 160.9, 130.8 (d, J = 8.8 Hz), 123.1 (d, J = 3.6 Hz), 116.2 (d, J = 21.9 Hz), 111.6, 109.6, 64.5, 63.7, 46.3, 39.2, 16.2, 13.8, 13.5; ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl_3) δ -111.0 ppm; IR (neat) 2253, 1744, 1516 cm^{-1} ; MS (EI, 70 eV) m/z 330 (M^+ , 0.32), 159 (100); HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{15}\text{FN}_2\text{O}_4$ 330.1016, found

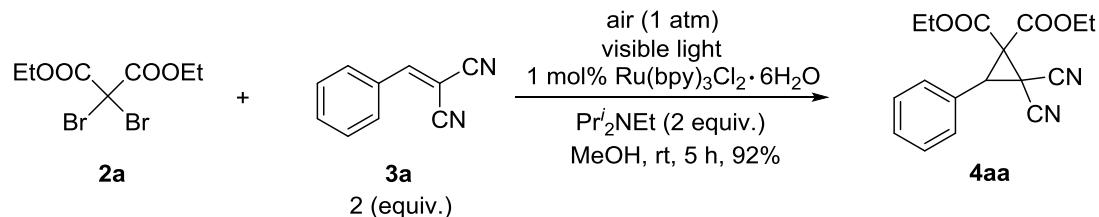
330.1017.

(6) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-chlorophenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4ah)¹⁷



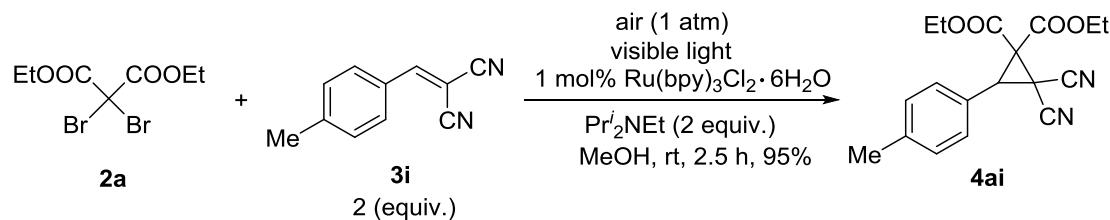
The reaction of **2a** (38 μ L, 0.20 mmol), **3h** (70 mg, 0.37 mmol), Ru(bpy)₃Cl₂ 6H₂O (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Prⁱ₂NEt (66 μ L, 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4ah** as a solid (66 mg, 95%); mp 85.0-87.0 °C¹⁷ (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 4.43 (q, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2 H), 4.31-4.20 (m, 2 H), 3.92 (s, 1 H), 1.39 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3 H), 1.22 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3 H).

(7) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-phenylcyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4aa)¹⁸



The reaction of **2a** (38 μ L, 0.20 mmol), **3a** (62 mg, 0.41 mmol), Ru(bpy)₃Cl₂ 6H₂O (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Prⁱ₂NEt (66 μ L, 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4aa** as a solid (64 mg, 92%); mp 71.0-72.0 °C¹⁸ (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.44-7.34 (m, 5 H), 4.42 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 4.29-4.18 (m, 2 H), 3.96 (s, 1 H), 1.38 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3 H), 1.19 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3 H).

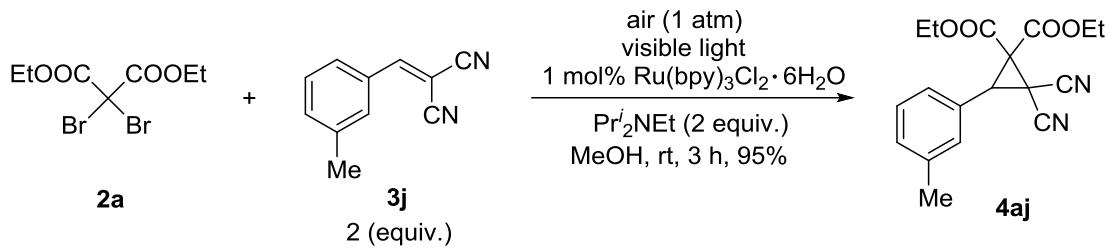
(8) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-methylphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4ai)¹⁹



The reaction of **2a** (38 μ L, 0.20 mmol), **3i** (69 mg, 0.41 mmol),

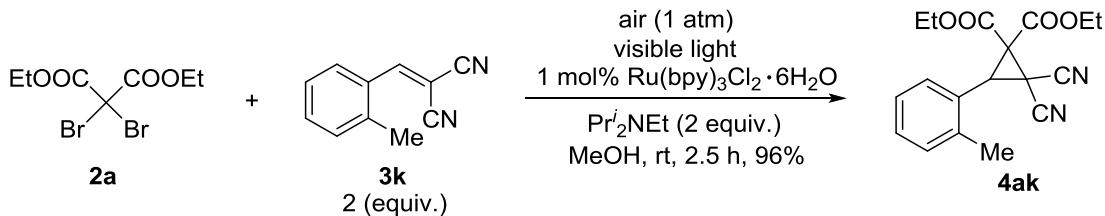
$\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^i_2NEt (68 μL , 0.41 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4ai** as a solid (64 mg, 95%); mp 77.0-79.0 $^\circ\text{C}$ ¹⁹ (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.25 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 7.20 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 4.41 (q, J = 6.8 Hz, 2 H), 4.31-4.19 (m, 2 H), 3.93 (s, 1 H), 2.35 (s, 3 H), 1.38 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H), 1.21 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H).

(9) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(3-methylphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4aj)



The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3j** (68 mg, 0.40 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^i_2NEt (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4aj** as a solid (62 mg, 95%); mp 95.2-96.1 $^\circ\text{C}$ (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.32-7.12 (m, 4 H), 4.42 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 4.29-4.19 (m, 2 H), 3.93 (s, 1 H), 2.35 (s, 3 H), 1.38 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H), 1.20 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 163.0, 161.0, 138.8, 130.3, 129.4, 128.9, 127.1, 125.5, 111.9, 109.6, 64.3, 63.5, 46.2, 40.0, 21.2, 16.0, 13.9, 13.5; IR (neat) 2253, 1744, 1217 cm^{-1} ; MS (EI, 70 eV) m/z 326 (M^+ , 4.42), 154 (100); HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$ 326.1267, found 326.1263.

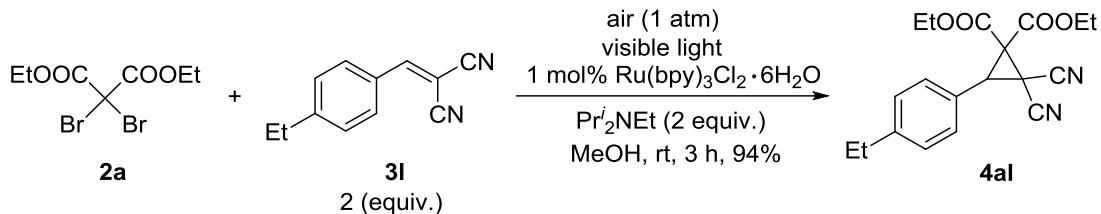
(10) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(2-methylphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4ak)



The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3k** (69 mg, 0.41 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^i_2NEt (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4ak** as a liquid (63 mg, 96%); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.37 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1 H), 7.33-7.26 (m, 2 H), 7.22-7.16 (m, 1 H), 4.44 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 4.22 (q, J

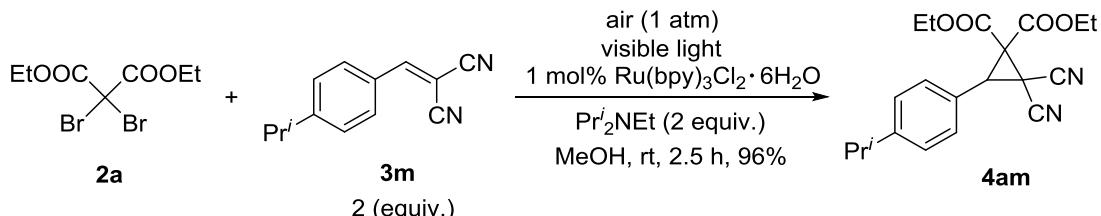
δ = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 3.87 (s, 1 H), 2.42 (s, 3 H), 1.39 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 163.1, 161.2, 138.4, 131.0, 129.5, 127.2, 126.2, 126.0, 112.1, 109.8, 64.3, 63.5, 46.0, 39.6, 19.4, 16.2, 13.9, 13.4; IR (neat) 2250, 1744, 1464, 1372 cm^{-1} ; MS (EI, 70 eV) m/z 326 (M^+ , 2.4), 154 (100); HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$ 326.1267, found 326.1265.

(11) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-ethylphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4al)



The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3l** (74 mg, 0.41 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^i_2NEt (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4al** as a solid (64 mg, 94%); mp 69.3-71.2 $^\circ\text{C}$ (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.28 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 7.22 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2 H), 4.42 (q, J = 6.8 Hz, 2 H), 4.31-4.19 (m, 2 H), 3.93 (s, 1 H), 2.65 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 1.38 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H), 1.23-1.17 (m, 6 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 163.2, 161.2, 146.0, 128.7, 128.6, 124.3, 111.9, 109.8, 64.4, 63.5, 46.3, 40.1, 28.5, 16.3, 15.2, 13.9, 13.6; IR (neat) 2247, 1744 cm^{-1} ; MS (EI, 70 eV) m/z 340 (M^+ , 2.91), 225 (100); HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$ 340.1423, found 340.1420.

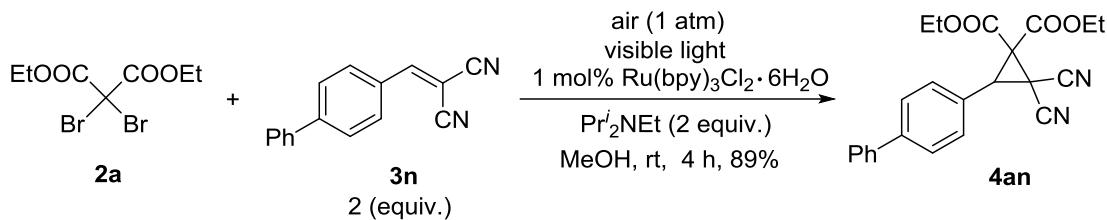
(12) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-isopropylphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4am)



The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3m** (76 mg, 0.39 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^i_2NEt (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4am** as a solid (68 mg, 96%); mp 83.6-84.6 $^\circ\text{C}$ (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.32-7.21 (m, 4 H), 4.40 (q, J

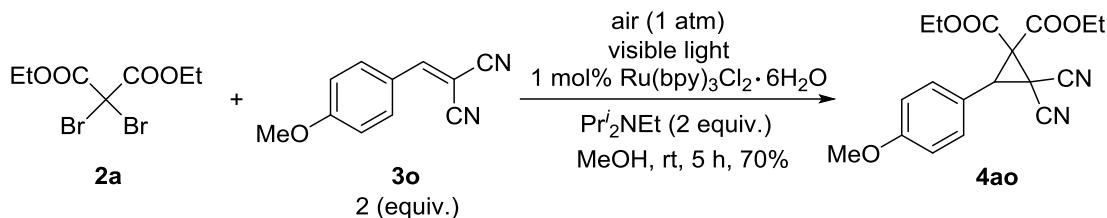
δ = 7.6 Hz, 2 H), 4.30-4.18 (m, 2 H), 3.93 (s, 1 H), 2.96-2.85 (m, 1 H), 1.37 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H), 1.29-1.12 (m, 9 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 163.1, 161.1, 150.6, 128.7, 127.1, 124.4, 111.9, 109.8, 64.3, 63.5, 46.3, 40.1, 33.8, 23.7, 16.3, 13.9, 13.5; IR (neat) 2250, 1747, 1613, 1522, 1464 cm^{-1} ; MS (EI, 70 eV) m/z 354 (M^+ , 5.12), 84 (100); HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$ 354.1580, found 354.1576.

(13) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-phenylphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4an)



The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3n** (94 mg, 0.41 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^iNEt (68 μL , 0.41 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4an** as a solid (69 mg, 89%); mp 100.8-102.1 $^\circ\text{C}$ (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.65-7.52 (m, 4 H), 7.47-7.41 (m, 4 H), 7.40-7.34 (m, 1 H), 4.43 (q, J = 6.8 Hz, 2 H), 4.32-4.21 (m, 2 H), 4.00 (s, 1 H), 1.39 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H), 1.21 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 163.0, 161.0, 142.5, 139.7, 129.2, 128.9, 127.9, 127.7, 127.1, 126.1, 111.8, 109.7, 64.5, 63.6, 46.4, 39.9, 16.4, 13.9, 13.6; IR (neat) 2247, 1744, 1214 cm^{-1} ; MS (EI, 70 eV) m/z 388 (M^+ , 5.88), 216 (100); HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$ 388.1423, found 388.1425.

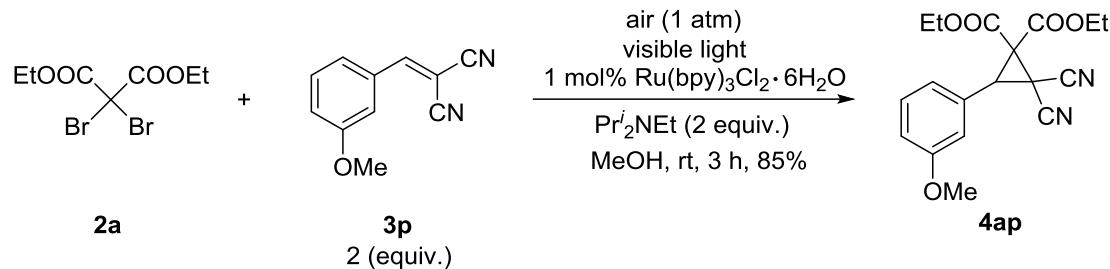
(14) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4ao)¹⁷



The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3o** (73 mg, 0.40 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^iNEt (68 μL , 0.41 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4ao** as a solid (48 mg, 70%); mp 75.0-77.0 $^\circ\text{C}$ ¹⁷ (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether).

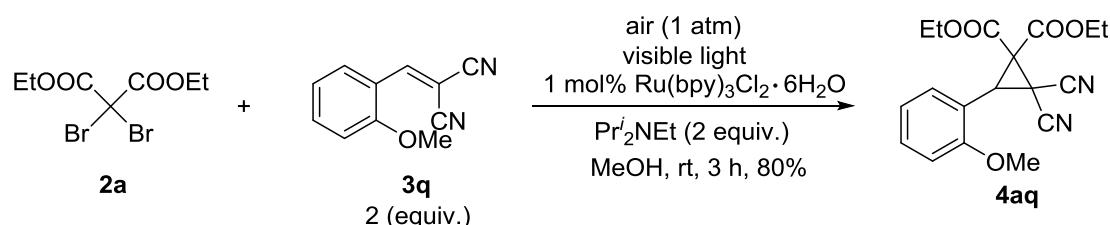
acetate/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.29 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2 H), 6.91 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2 H), 4.42 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2 H), 4.31-4.20 (m, 2 H), 3.91 (s, 1 H), 3.81 (s, 3 H), 1.38 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3 H), 1.23 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3 H).

(15) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(3-methoxyphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4ap)



The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3p** (73 mg, 0.40 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^i_2NEt (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4ap** as a liquid (58 mg, 85%); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.34-7.28 (m, 1 H), 6.97-6.89 (m, 3 H), 4.43 (q, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2 H), 4.31-4.19 (m, 2 H), 3.95 (s, 1 H), 3.81 (s, 3 H), 1.39 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3 H), 1.21 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 162.9, 161.0, 159.8, 130.1, 128.5, 120.8, 115.3, 114.2, 111.8, 109.7, 64.4, 63.6, 55.3, 46.3, 39.9, 16.2, 13.9, 13.5; IR (neat) 2250, 1741, 1601, 1583, 1464 cm^{-1} ; MS (EI, 70 eV) m/z 342 (M^+ , 3.73), 84 (100); HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$ 342.1216, found 342.1214.

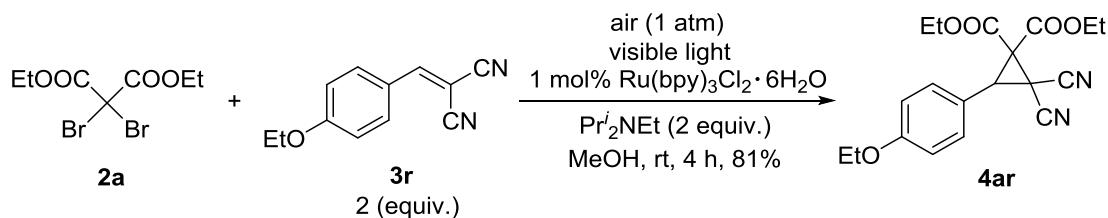
(16) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(2-methoxyphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4aq)



The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3q** (75 mg, 0.41 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^i_2NEt (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4aq** as a liquid (55 mg, 80%); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.42-7.34 (m, 1 H), 7.24 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1 H), 7.00-6.89 (m, 2 H), 4.42 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2 H), 4.32-4.22 (m, 2 H), 3.91 (s, 3 H), 3.83 (s, 1 H), 1.39 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3 H), 1.24 (t,

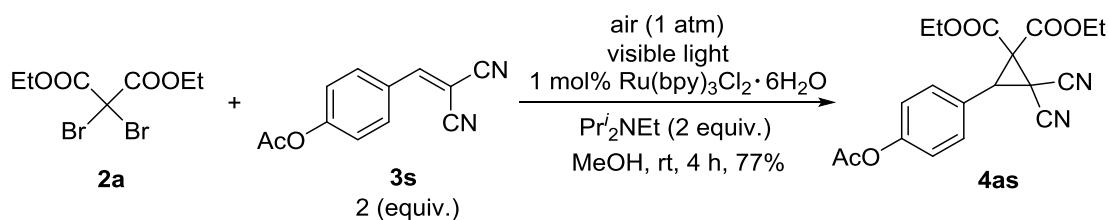
$J = 7.2$ Hz, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 163.2, 161.5, 158.2, 131.0, 128.6, 120.5, 115.9, 112.3, 110.9, 110.1, 64.1, 63.3, 55.6, 46.2, 39.6, 16.9, 13.9, 13.5; IR (neat) 2253, 1744, 1601, 1494, 1464 cm^{-1} ; MS (EI, 70 eV) m/z 342 (M^+ , 10.53), 227 (100); HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$ 342.1216, found 342.1219.

(17) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-ethoxyphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4ar)



The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3r** (80 mg, 0.40 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^iNEt (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4ar** as a solid (58 mg, 81%); mp 69.3-71.2 $^\circ\text{C}$ (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.28 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2 H), 6.89 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2 H), 4.42 (q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2 H), 4.31-4.20 (m, 2 H), 4.03 (q, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2 H), 3.91 (s, 1 H), 1.44-1.35 (m, 6 H), 1.22 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 163.1, 161.1, 159.8, 130.1, 118.7, 114.9, 111.9, 109.9, 64.4, 63.6, 63.5, 46.3, 39.9, 16.4, 14.6, 13.9, 13.6; IR (neat) 2251, 1743, 1612, 1517, 1474 cm^{-1} ; MS (EI, 70 eV) m/z 356 (M^+ , 1.78), 170 (100); HRMS (EI, 70 eV) calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$ 356.1372, found 356.1373.

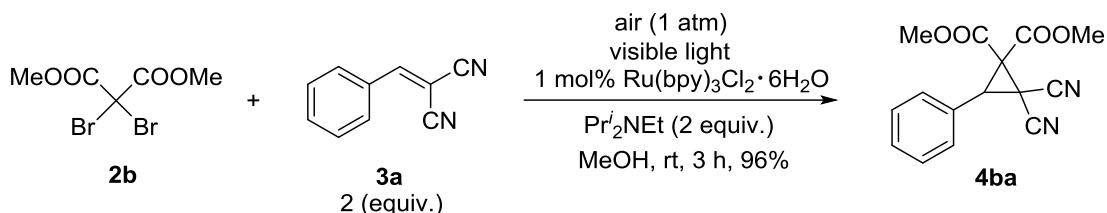
(18) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-acetoxyphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4as)



The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3s** (82 mg, 0.40 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^iNEt (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4as** as a liquid (57 mg, 77%); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.40 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2 H), 7.15 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2 H), 4.42 (q, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2 H),

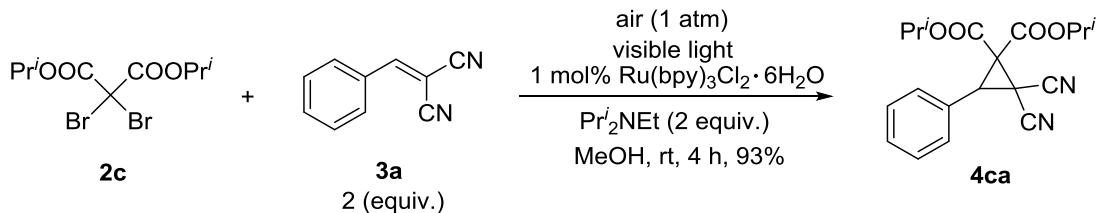
4.30-4.18 (m, 2 H), 3.94 (s, 1 H), 2.30 (s, 3 H), 1.38 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H), 1.20 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.8, 162.8, 160.9, 151.5, 129.9, 124.6, 122.3, 111.6, 109.6, 64.5, 63.7, 46.3, 39.4, 21.0, 16.3, 13.9, 13.5; IR (neat) 2250, 1744, 1510, 1464 cm^{-1} ; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{NaO}_6$ 393.1063, found 393.1051.

(19) Dimethyl 3-phenyl-2,2-dicyanocyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4ba)¹⁷



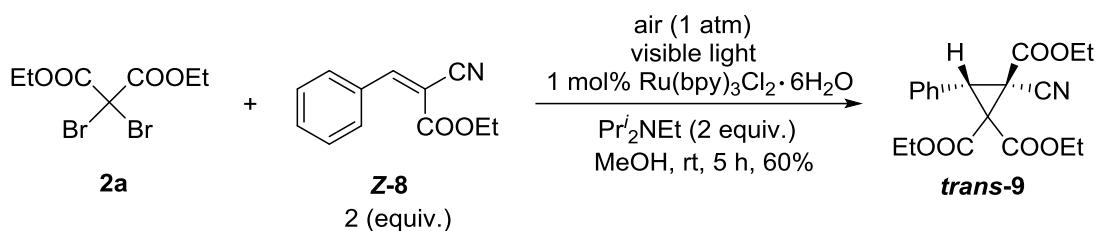
The reaction of **2b** (58 mg, 0.20 mmol), **3a** (65 mg, 0.40 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^i_2NEt (68 μL , 0.41 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4ba** as a solid (55 mg, 96%); mp 125.0-126.0 $^\circ\text{C}$ ¹⁷ (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.45-7.39 (m, 3 H), 7.38-7.33 (m, 2 H), 3.98 (s, 4 H), 3.78 (s, 3 H).

(20) Diisopropyl 3-phenyl-2,2-dicyanocyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4ca)



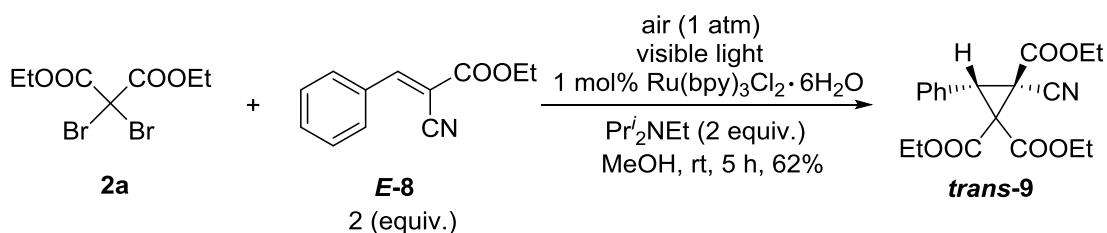
The reaction of **2c** (70 mg, 0.20 mmol), **3a** (63 mg, 0.40 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^i_2NEt (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4ca** as a liquid (63 mg, 93%); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.44-7.34 (m, 5 H), 5.30-5.18 (m, 1 H), 5.14-5.02 (m, 1 H), 3.94 (s, 1 H), 1.42-1.32 (m, 6 H), 1.19 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 6 H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 162.7, 160.7, 129.5, 128.9, 128.8, 127.3, 111.9, 109.7, 72.8, 72.0, 46.2, 39.8, 21.5, 21.3, 21.2, 21.0, 15.8; IR (neat) 2241, 1738, 1500, 1467 cm^{-1} ; MS (ESI) m/z 363 ($\text{M}+\text{Na}^+$); HRMS (ESI) calcd for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{Na}_1\text{O}_4$ 363.1315, found 363.1327.

(21) Triethyl (2,3-*trans*)-2-cyano-3-phenylcyclopropane-1,1,2-tricarboxylate (*trans*-9)²⁰ from Z-8



The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **Z-8** (78 mg, 0.40 mmol), $\text{Ru(bpy)}_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), $\text{Pr'}_2\text{NEt}$ (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **trans-9** as a liquid (42 mg, 60%) with recovered **Z-8** as white solid (28 mg, 35%); **trans-9**: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.40-7.27 (m, 5 H), 4.39-4.25 (m, 4 H), 4.14 (q, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2 H), 3.94 (s, 1 H), 1.39 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3 H), 1.31 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3 H), 1.10 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3 H).

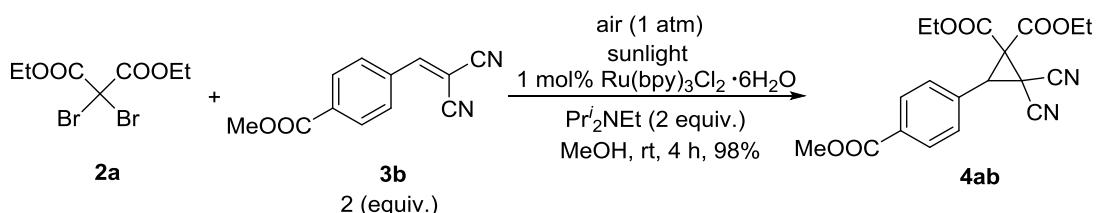
(22) Triethyl (*2,3-trans*)-2-cyano-3-phenylcyclopropane-1,1,2-tricarboxylate (*trans*-9)²⁰ from E-8



The reaction of **2a** (66 mg, 0.20 mmol), **E-8** (85 mg, 0.42 mmol), $\text{Ru(bpy)}_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), $\text{Pr'}_2\text{NEt}$ (53 mg, 0.41 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **trans-9** as a liquid (46 mg, 62%) with recovered **E-8** as white solid (32 mg, 38%); **trans-9**: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.41-7.31 (m, 5 H), 4.42-4.22 (m, 4 H), 4.14 (q, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2 H), 3.94 (s, 1 H), 1.39 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3 H), 1.31 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3 H), 1.10 (t, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 3 H).

Typical Procedure II for the photoreaction under Condition B.

Synthesis of diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-methoxycarbonylphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4ab)

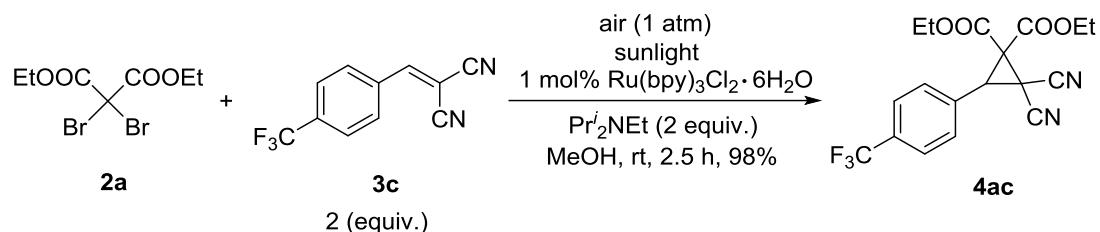


2a (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3b** (85 mg, 0.40 mmol), $\text{Ru(bpy)}_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg,

0.0027 mmol), Pr^iNEt (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) were added to a dry 25 mL pyrex reaction tube. The mixture was irradiated by sunlight at rt in the open air. The photoreaction was completed after 4 h as monitored by TLC (eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 10/1). The solvent was removed and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 20/1 \rightarrow 15/1 \rightarrow 10/1) to afforded **4ab** as a solid (73 mg, 98%).

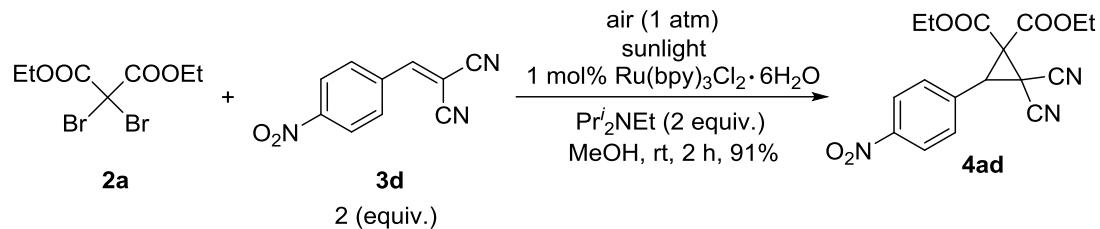
The following compounds were prepared according to Typical Procedure I.

(1) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4ac)



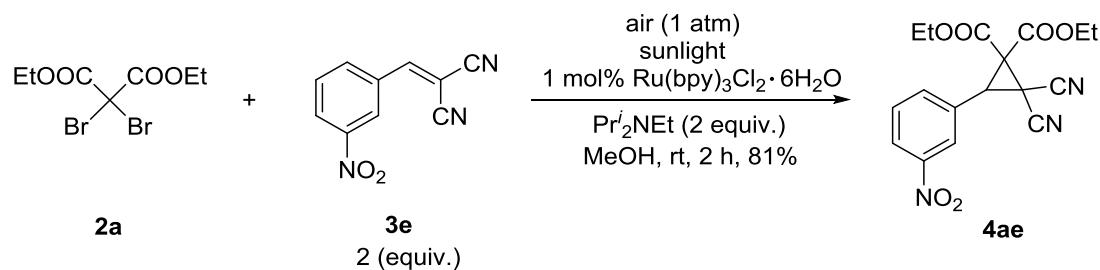
The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3c** (91 mg, 0.41 mmol), $\text{Ru(bpy)}_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^iNEt (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4ac** as a solid (75 mg, 98%).

(2) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-nitrophenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4ad)



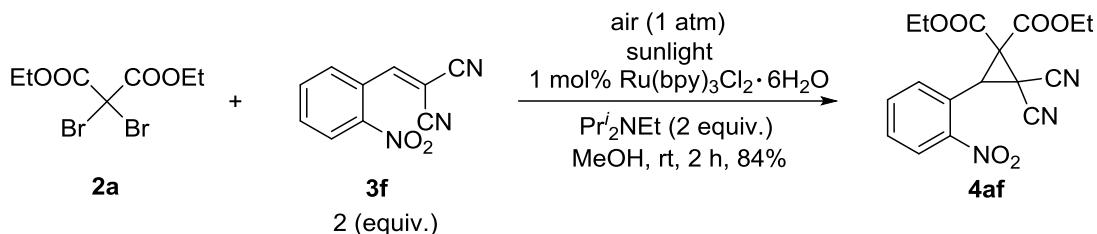
The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3d** (82 mg, 0.41 mmol), $\text{Ru(bpy)}_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^iNEt (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4ad** as a solid (65 mg, 91%).

(3) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(3-nitrophenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4ae)



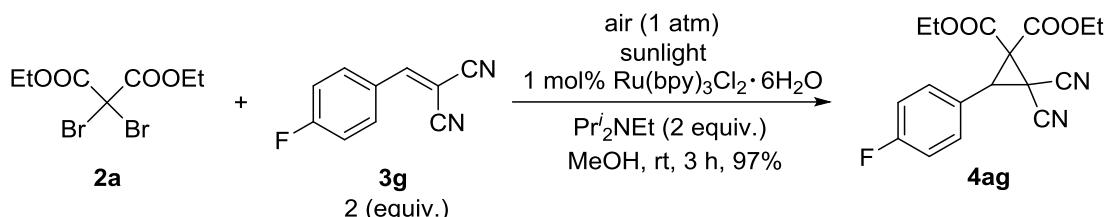
The reaction of **2a** (38 μ L, 0.20 mmol), **3e** (81 mg, 0.41 mmol), Ru(bpy)₃Cl₂ 6H₂O (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Prⁱ₂NEt (66 μ L, 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4ae** as a solid (58 mg, 81%).

(4) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(2-nitrophenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4af)



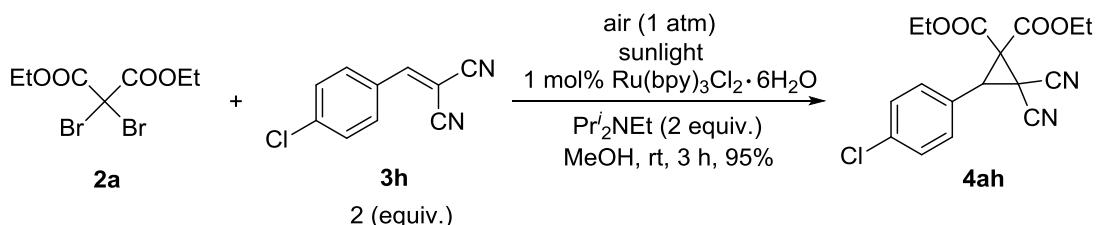
The reaction of **2a** (38 μ L, 0.20 mmol), **3f** (82 mg, 0.41 mmol), Ru(bpy)₃Cl₂ 6H₂O (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Prⁱ₂NEt (66 μ L, 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4af** as a solid (60 mg, 84%).

(5) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-fluorophenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4ag)



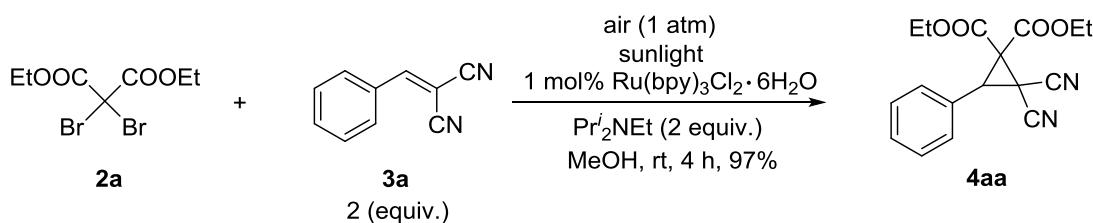
The reaction of **2a** (38 μ L, 0.20 mmol), **3g** (69 mg, 0.40 mmol), Ru(bpy)₃Cl₂ 6H₂O (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Prⁱ₂NEt (66 μ L, 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4ag** as a solid (64 mg, 97%).

(6) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-chlorophenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4ah)¹⁷



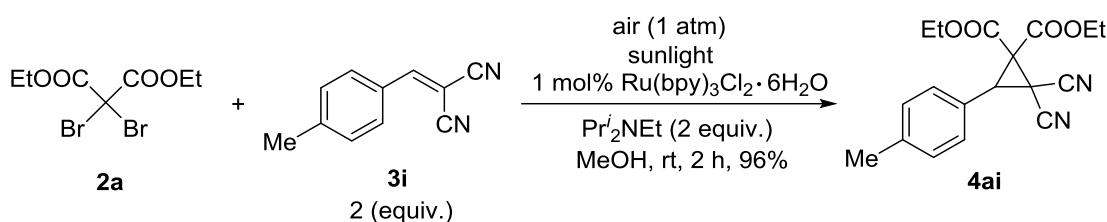
The reaction of **2a** (38 μ L, 0.20 mmol), **3h** (77 mg, 0.41 mmol), Ru(bpy)₃Cl₂ 6H₂O (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Prⁱ₂NEt (66 μ L, 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4ah** as a solid (66 mg, 95%).

(7) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-phenylcyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4aa)¹⁸



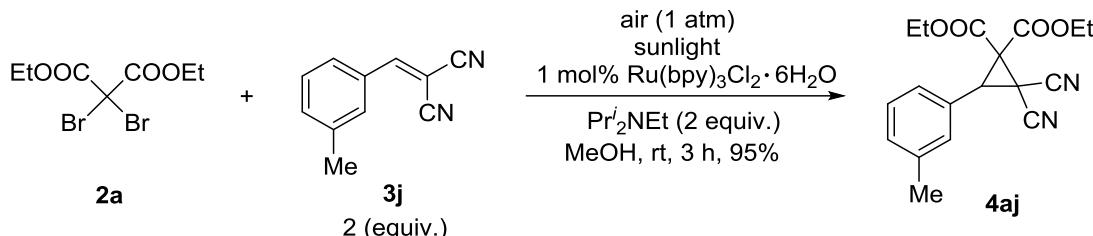
The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3a** (62 mg, 0.41 mmol), $\text{Ru(bpy)}_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), $\text{Pr'}_2\text{NEt}$ (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4aa** as a solid (61 mg, 97%).

(8) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-methylphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (**4ai**)¹⁹



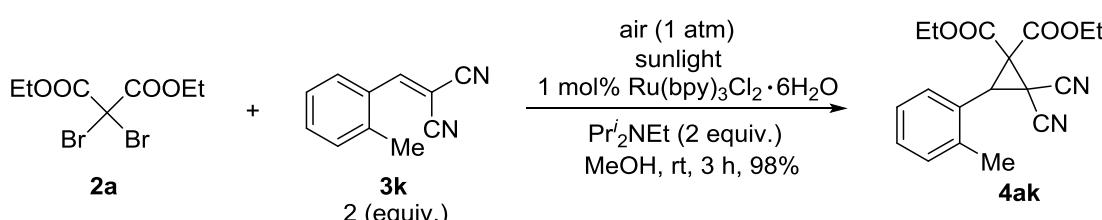
The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3i** (71 mg, 0.42 mmol), $\text{Ru(bpy)}_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), $\text{Pr'}_2\text{NEt}$ (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4ai** as a solid (63 mg, 96%).

(9) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(3-methylphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (**4aj**)



The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3j** (69 mg, 0.41 mmol), $\text{Ru(bpy)}_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), $\text{Pr'}_2\text{NEt}$ (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4aj** as a solid (62 mg, 95%).

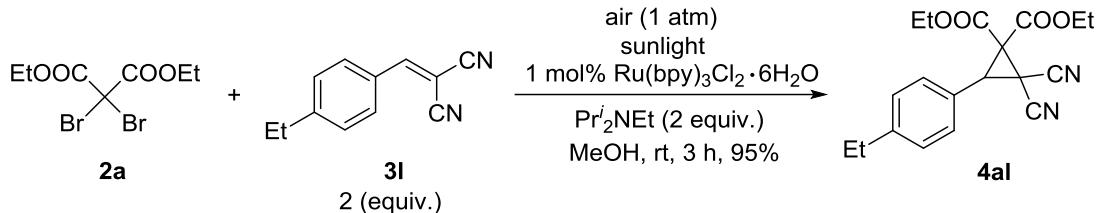
(10) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(2-methylphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (**4ak**)



The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3k** (70 mg, 0.42 mmol), $\text{Pr'}_2\text{NEt}$ (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4ak** as a solid (64 mg, 98%).

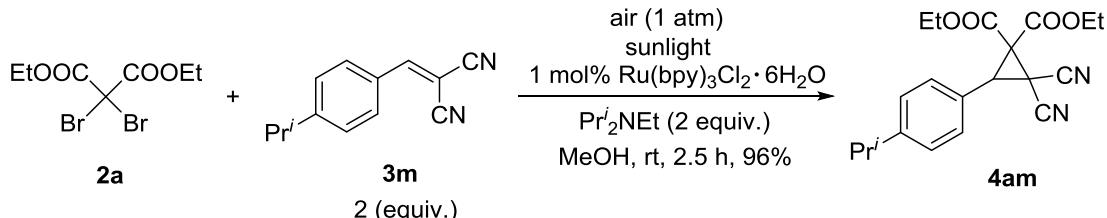
$\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^i_2NEt (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4ak** as a liquid (64 mg, 98%).

(11) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-ethylphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4al)



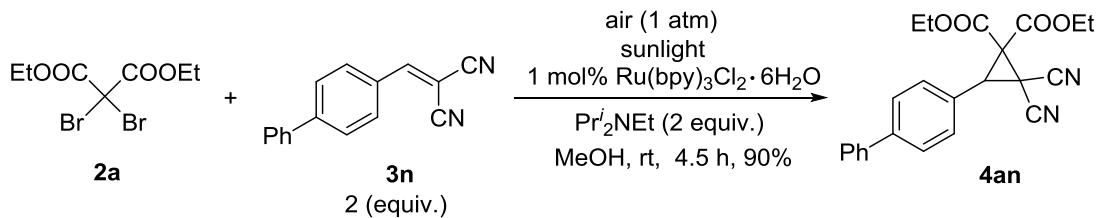
The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3l** (74 mg, 0.41 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^i_2NEt (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4al** as a solid (65 mg, 95%).

(12) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-isopropylphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4am)



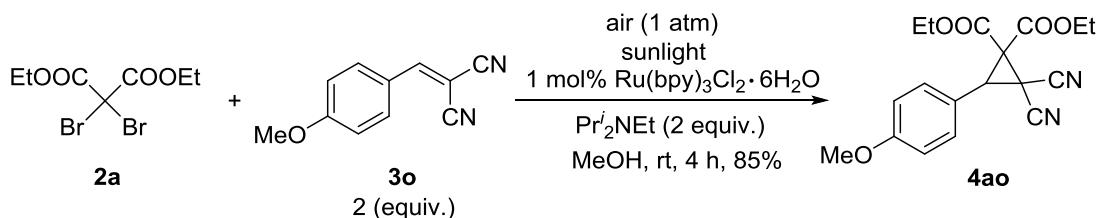
The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3m** (82 mg, 0.42 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^i_2NEt (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4am** as a solid (68 mg, 96%).

(13) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-phenylphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4an)



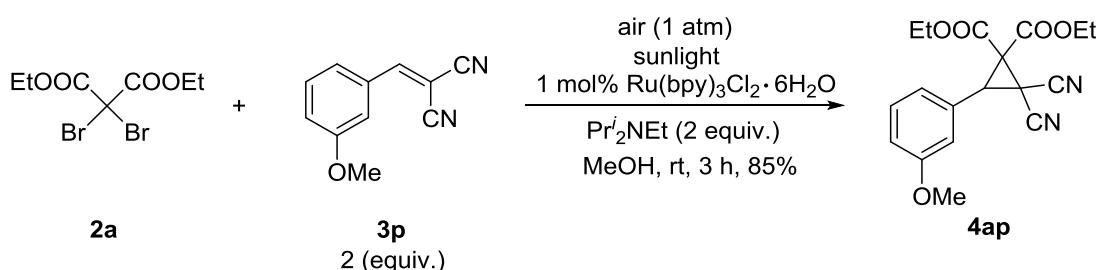
The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3n** (94 mg, 0.41 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^i_2NEt (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4an** as a solid (70 mg, 90%).

(14) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4ao)¹⁷



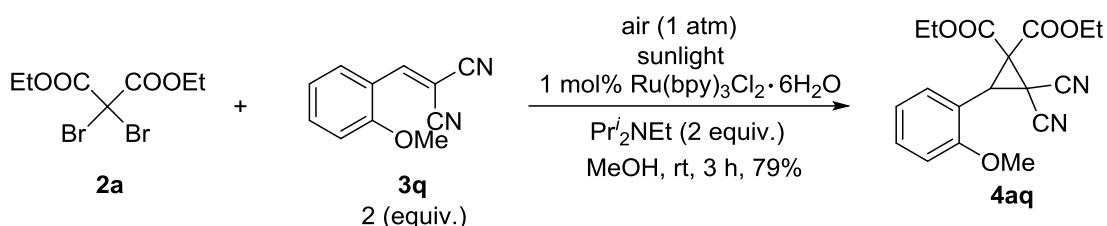
The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3o** (74 mg, 0.40 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^iNEt (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4ao** as a solid (58 mg, 85%).

(15) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4ap)



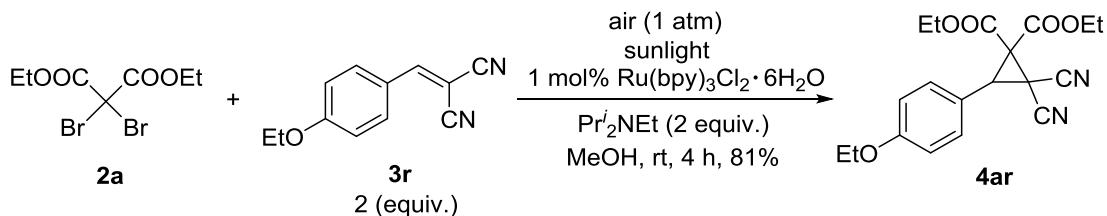
The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3p** (74 mg, 0.40 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^iNEt (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4ap** as a liquid (58 mg, 85%).

(16) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4aq)



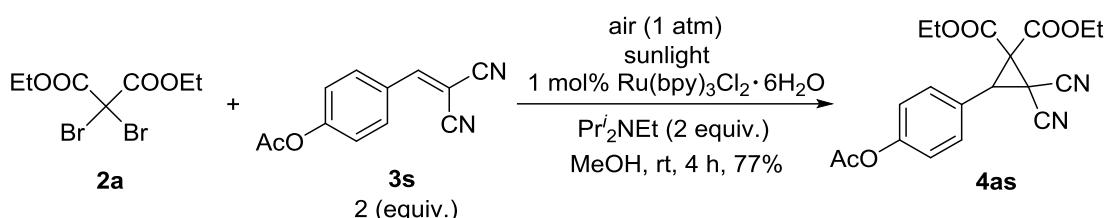
The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3q** (74 mg, 0.40 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^iNEt (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4aq** as a liquid (54 mg, 79%).

(17) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-ethoxyphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4ar)



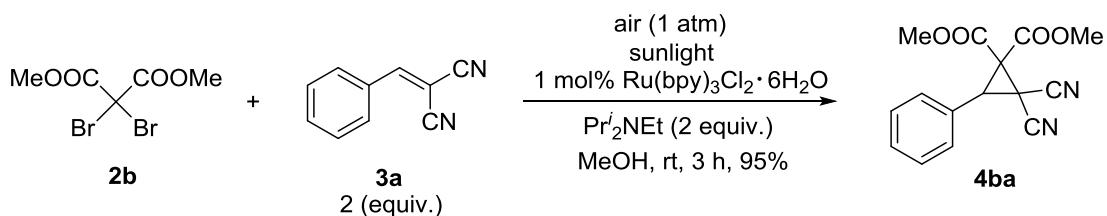
The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3r** (82 mg, 0.41 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^iNEt (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4ar** as a solid (58 mg, 81%).

(18) Diethyl 2,2-dicyano-3-(4-acetoxyphenyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4as)



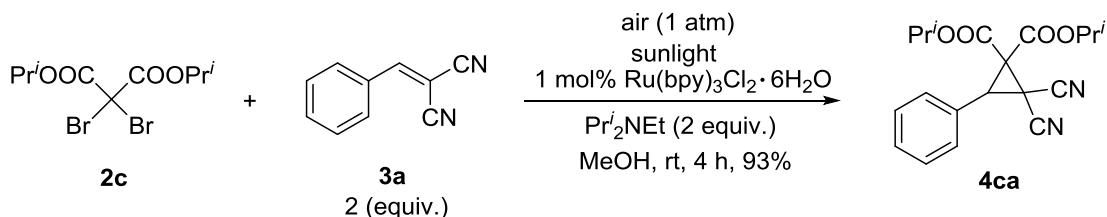
The reaction of **2a** (38 μL , 0.20 mmol), **3s** (85 mg, 0.40 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^iNEt (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4as** as a liquid (57 mg, 77%).

(19) Dimethyl 3-phenyl-2,2-dicyanocyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4ba)¹⁷



The reaction of **2b** (58 mg, 0.20 mmol), **3a** (62 mg, 0.40 mmol), $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3\text{Cl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Pr^iNEt (66 μL , 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4ba** as a solid (54 mg, 95%).

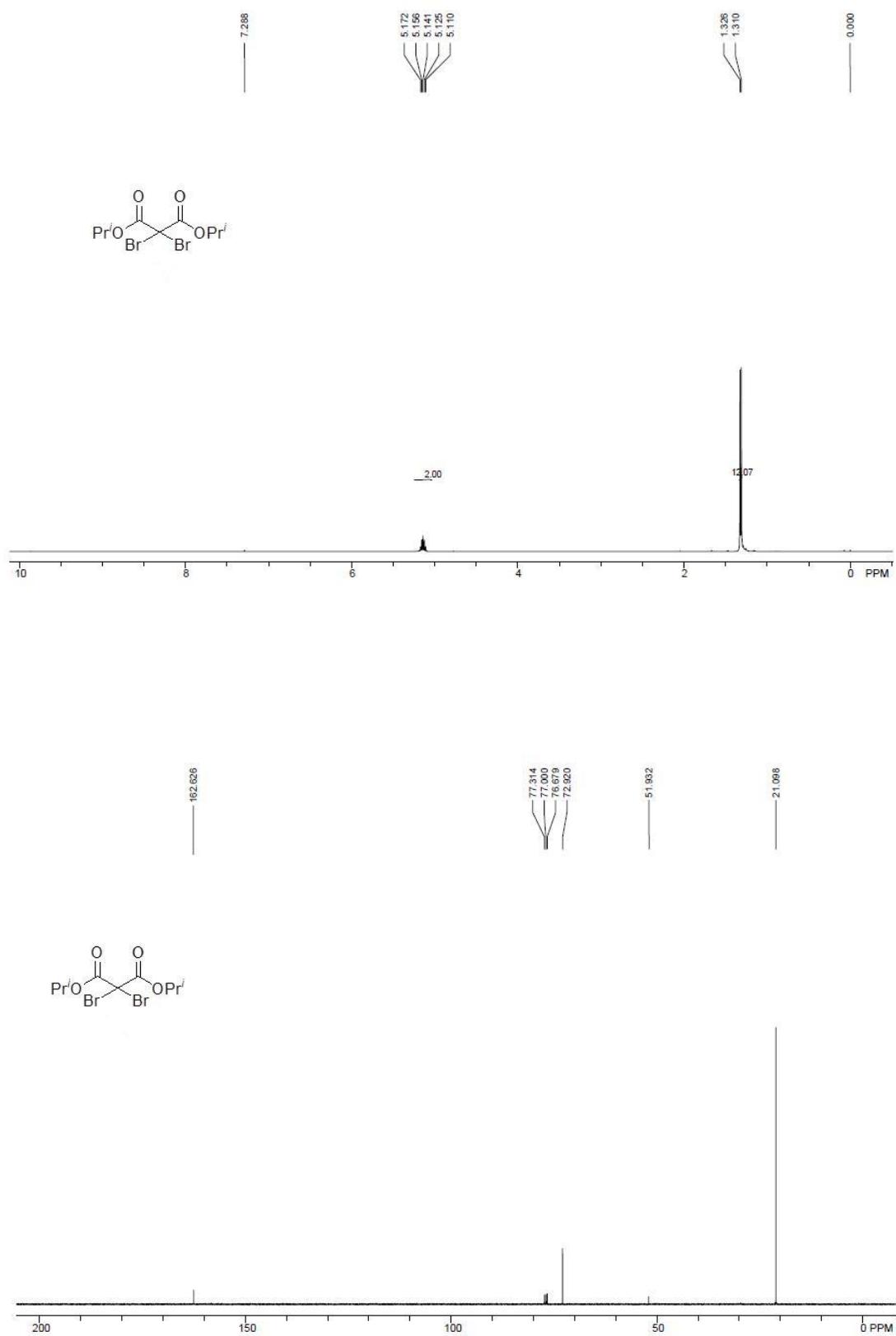
(20) Diisopropyl 3-phenyl-2,2-dicyanocyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (4ca)

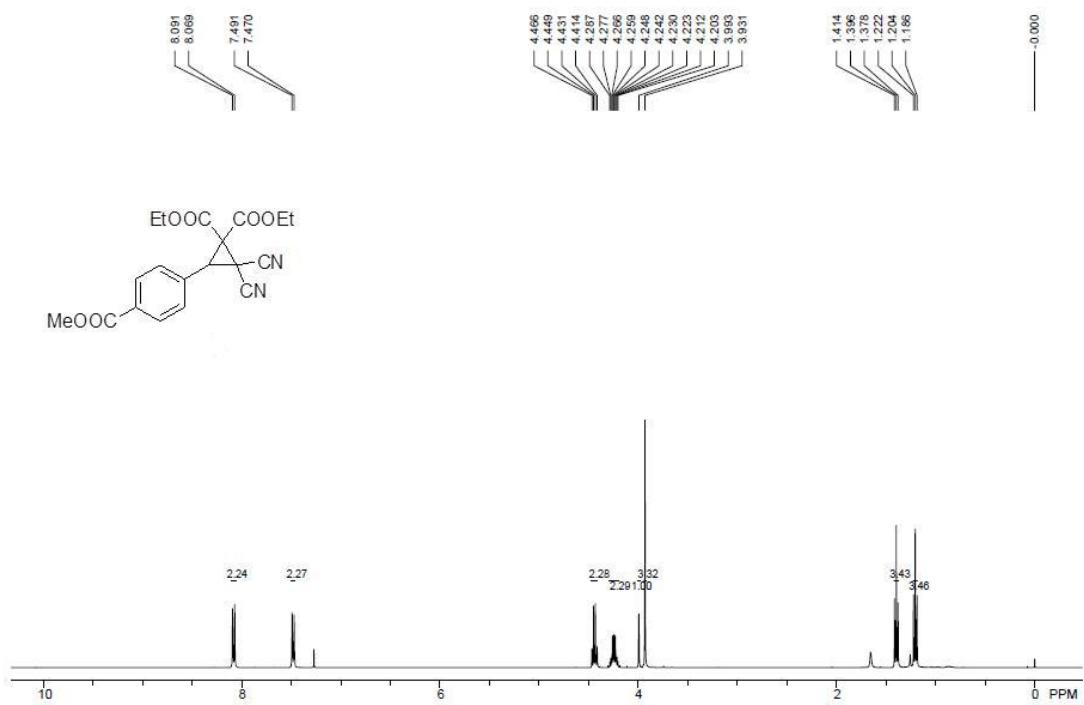
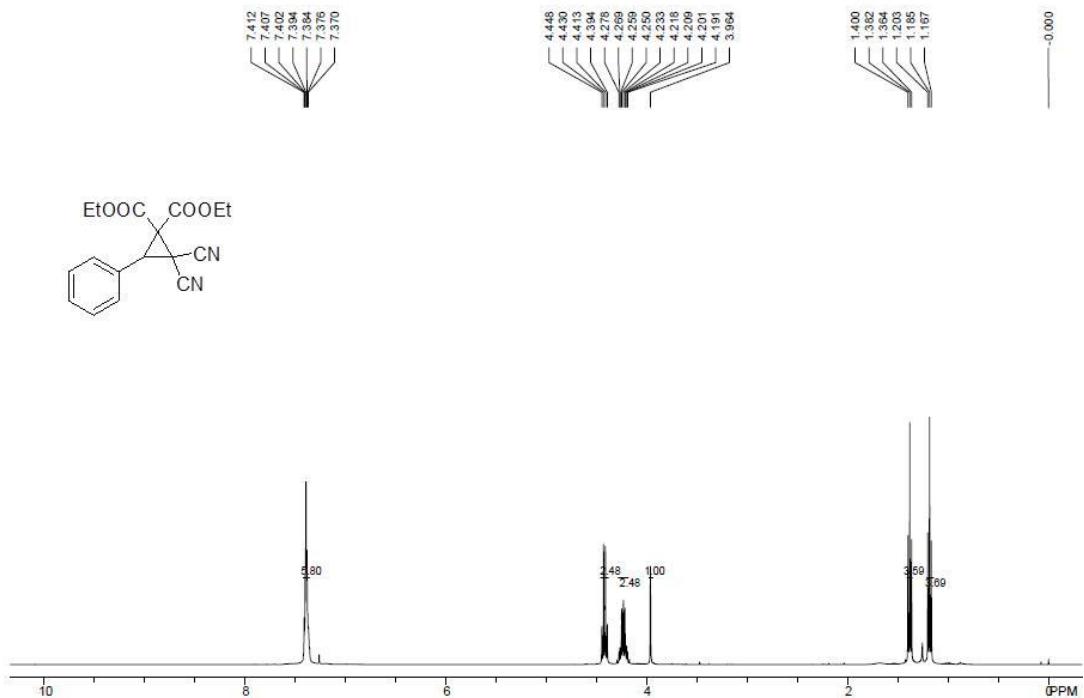


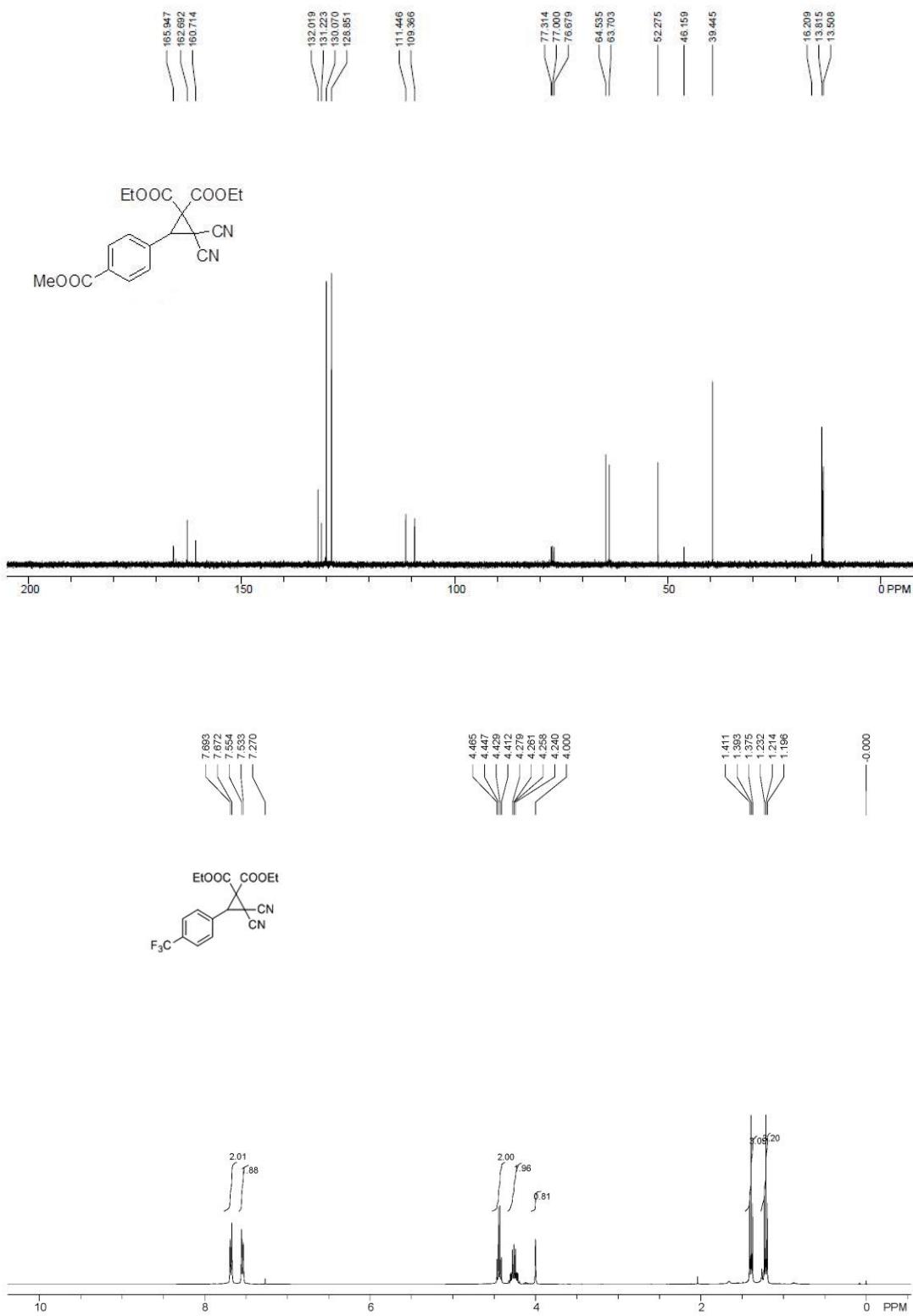
The reaction of **2c** (70 mg, 0.20 mmol), **3a** (61 mg, 0.40 mmol),

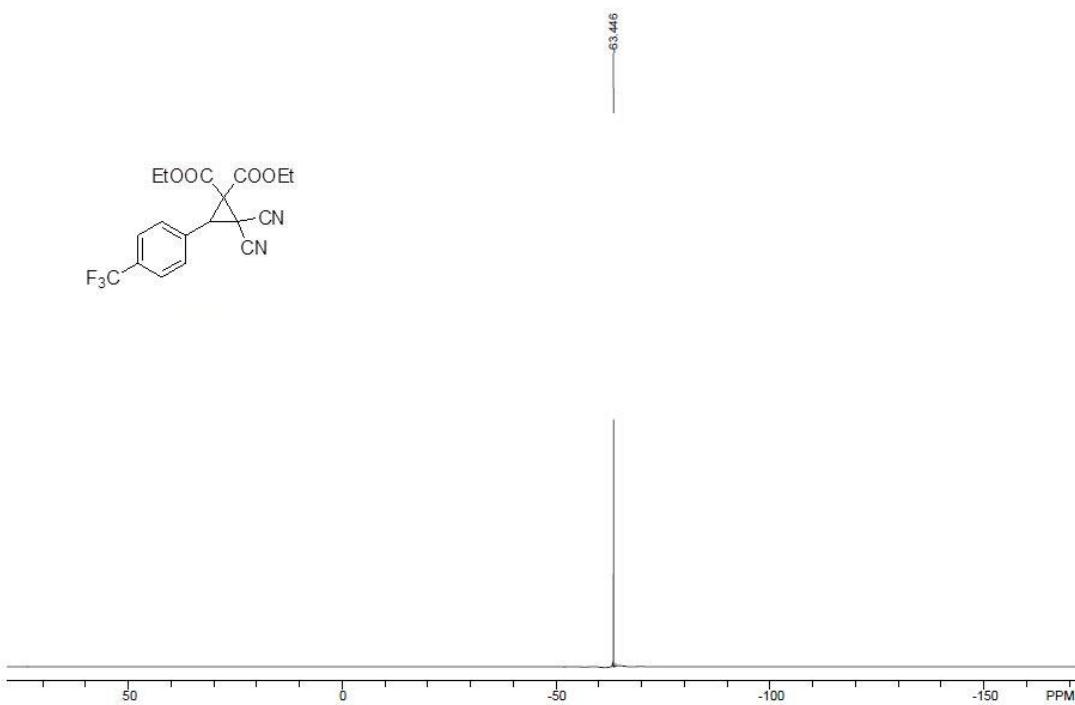
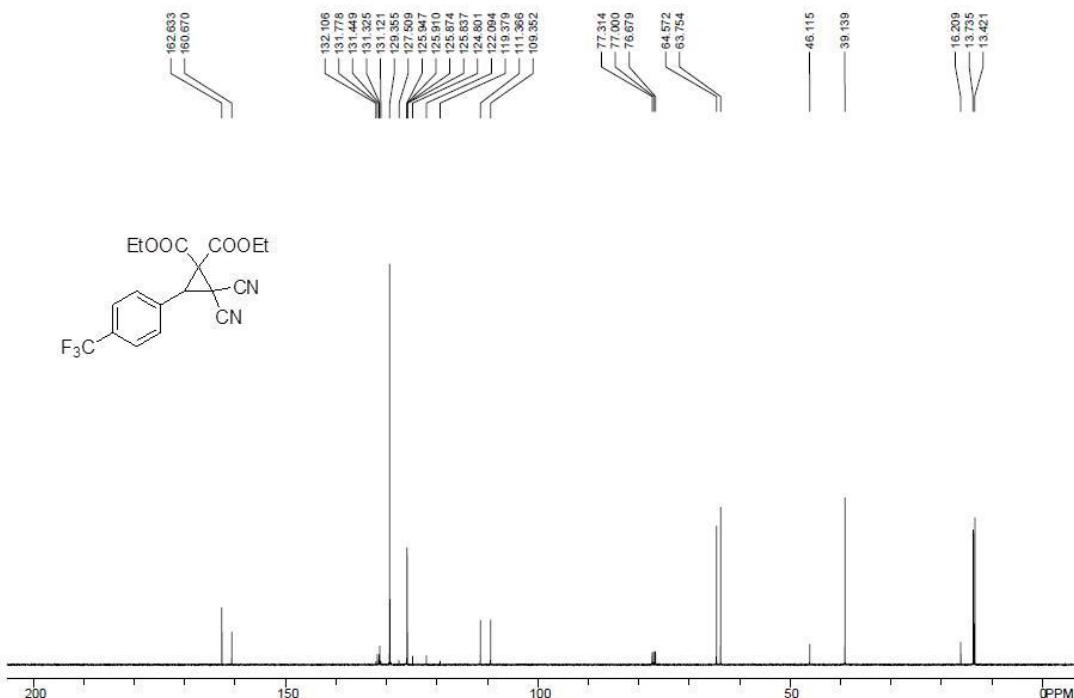
Ru(bpy)₃Cl₂ 6H₂O (2 mg, 0.0027 mmol), Prⁱ₂NEt (66 μ L, 0.40 mmol), and anhydrous methanol (10 mL) afforded **4ca** as a liquid (63 mg, 93%).

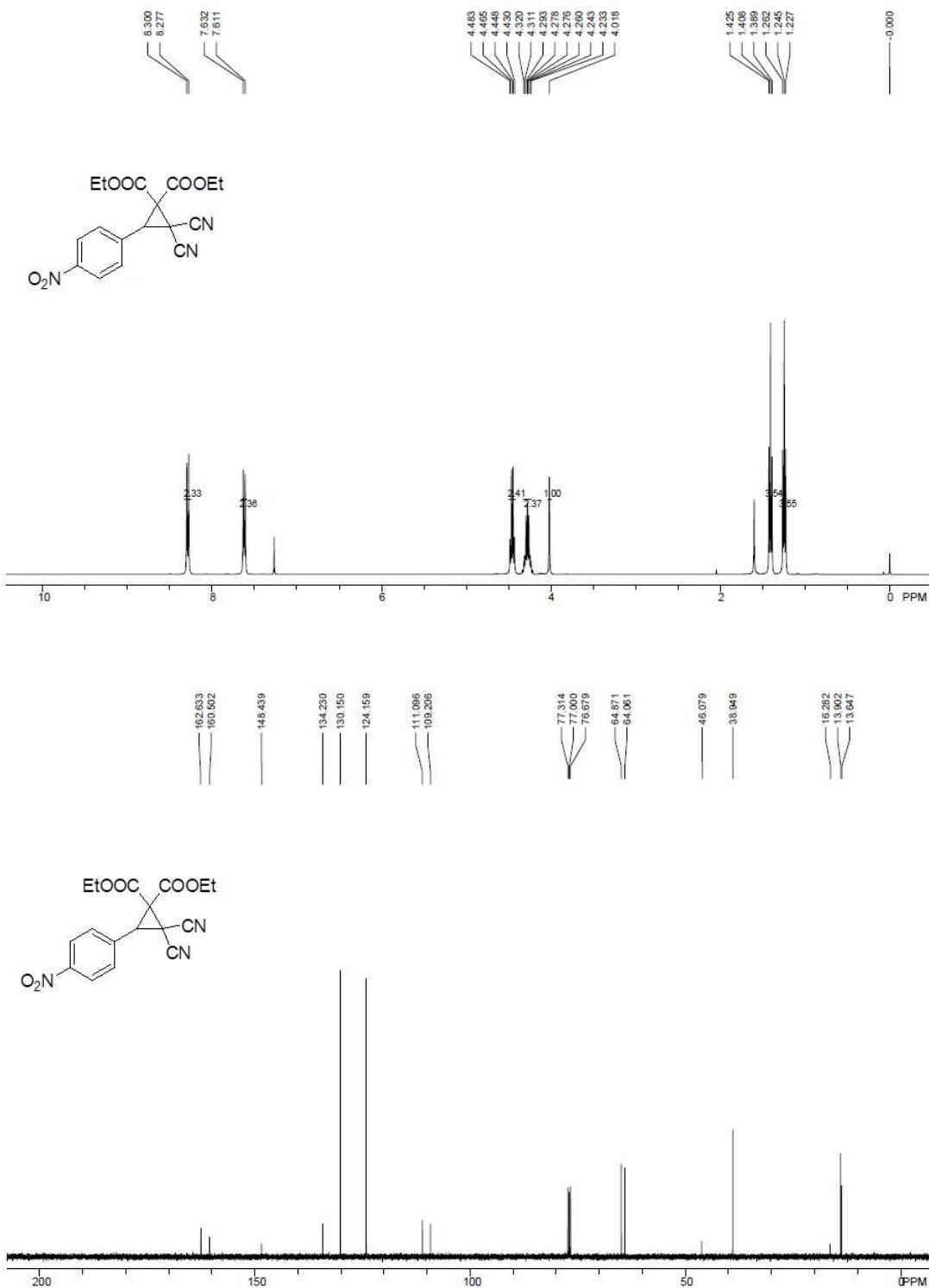
NMR Spectra

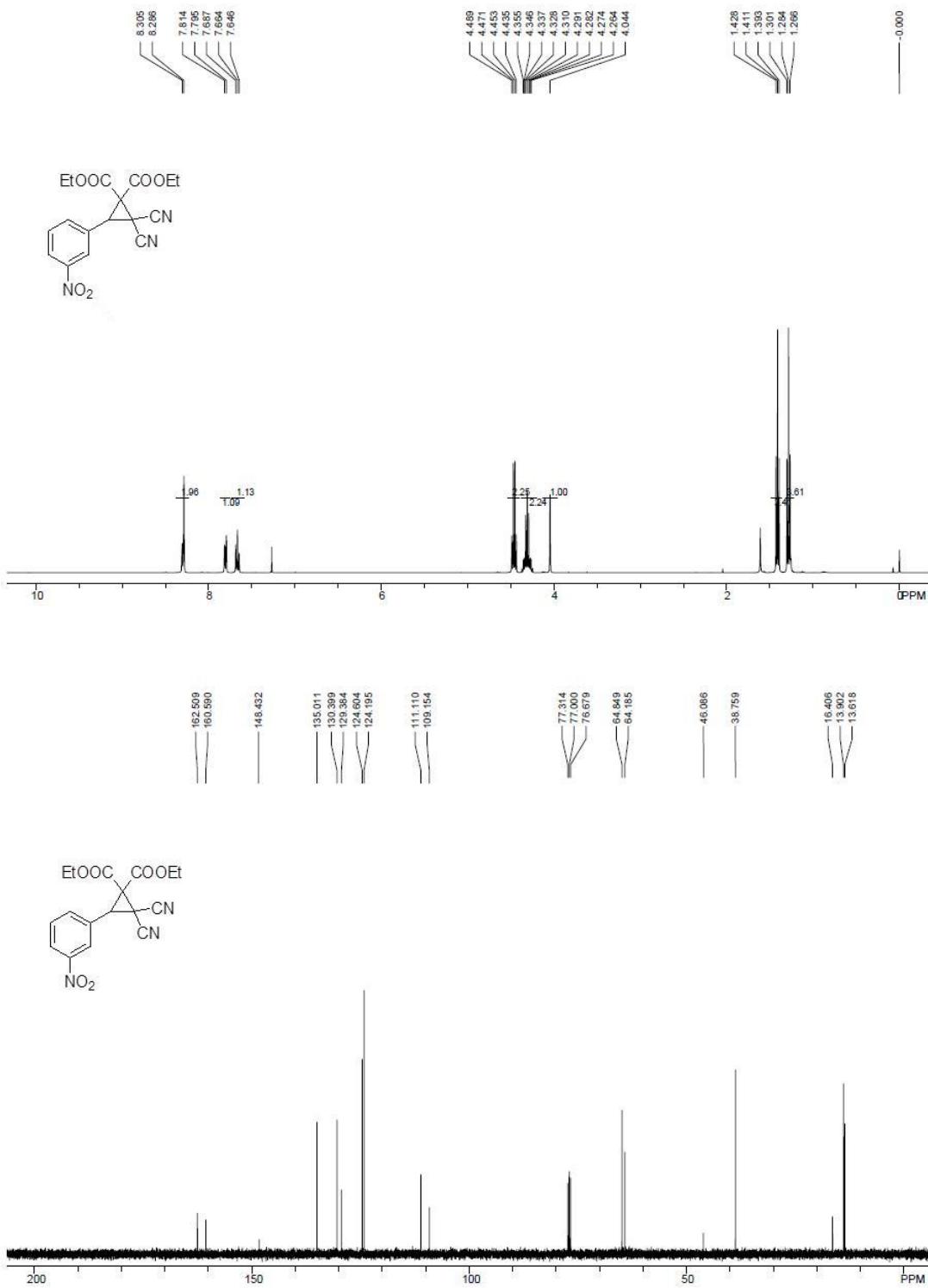


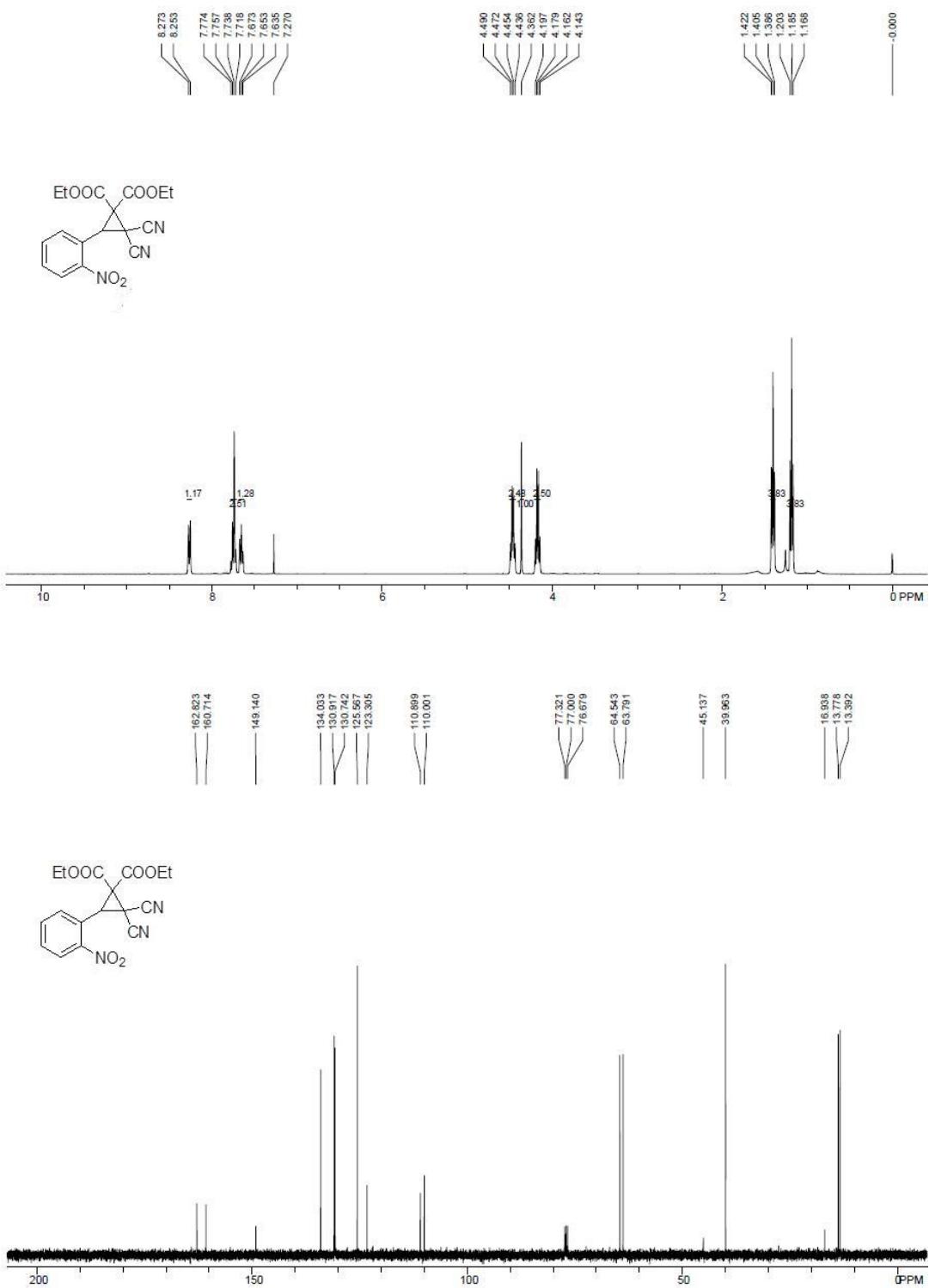


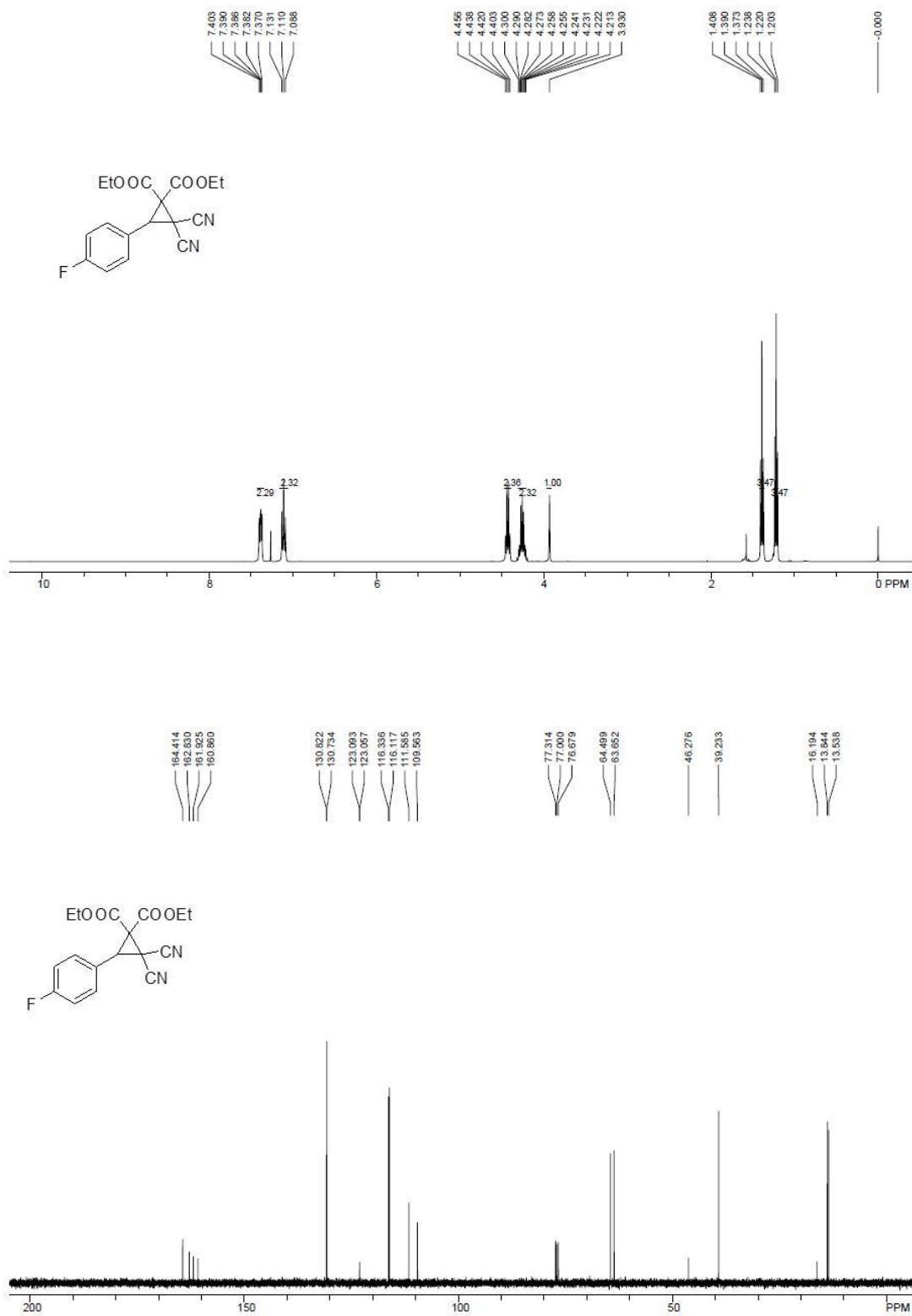


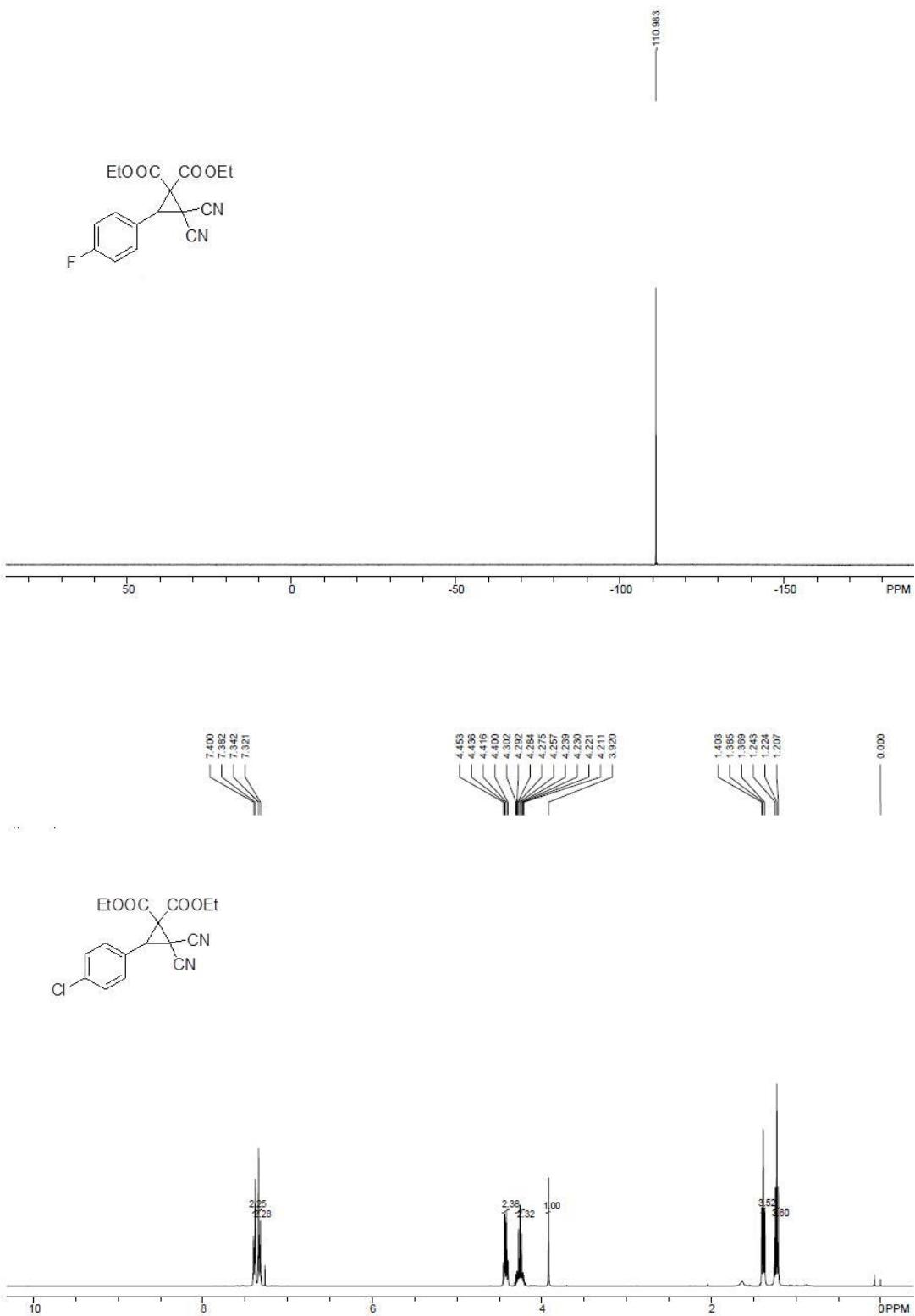


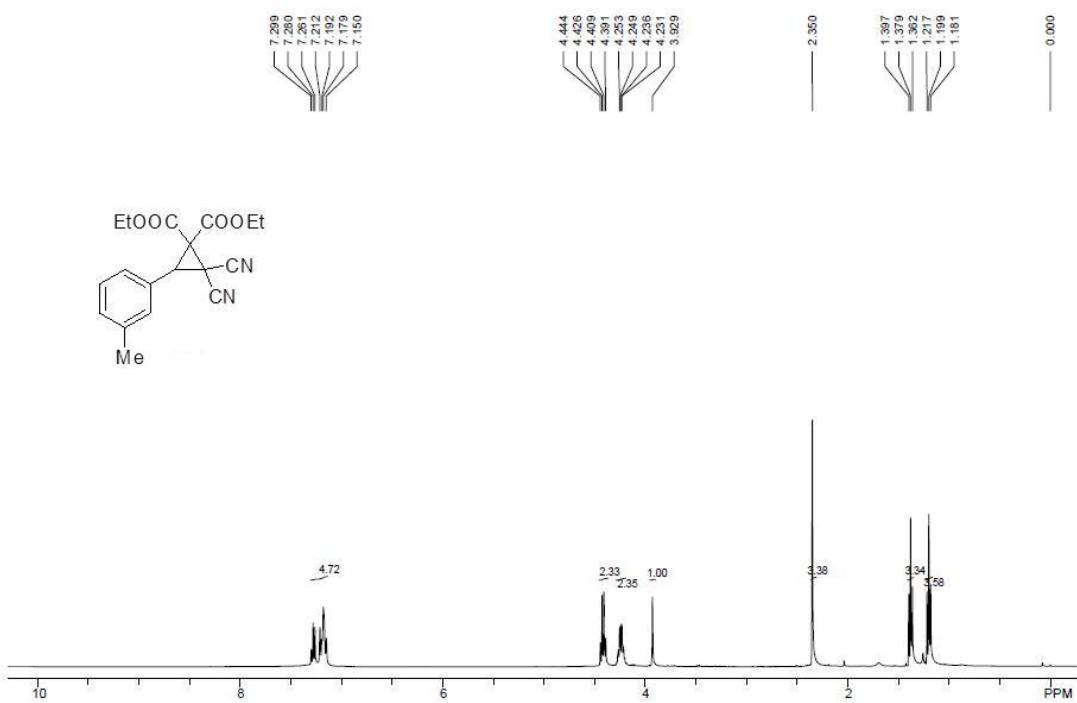
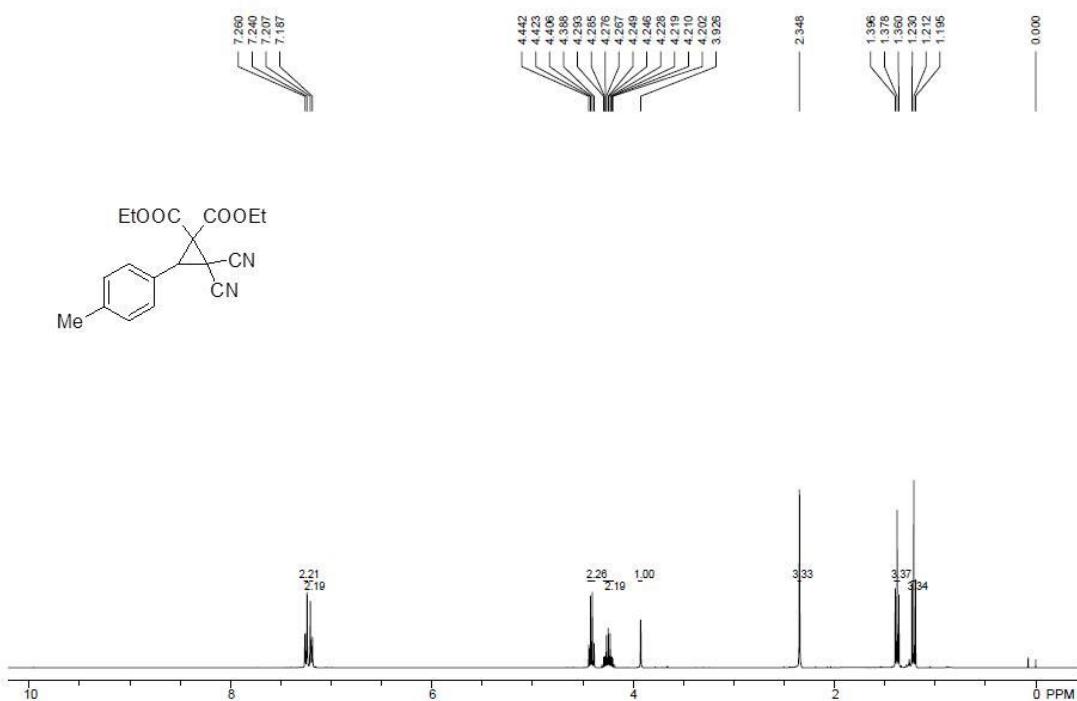


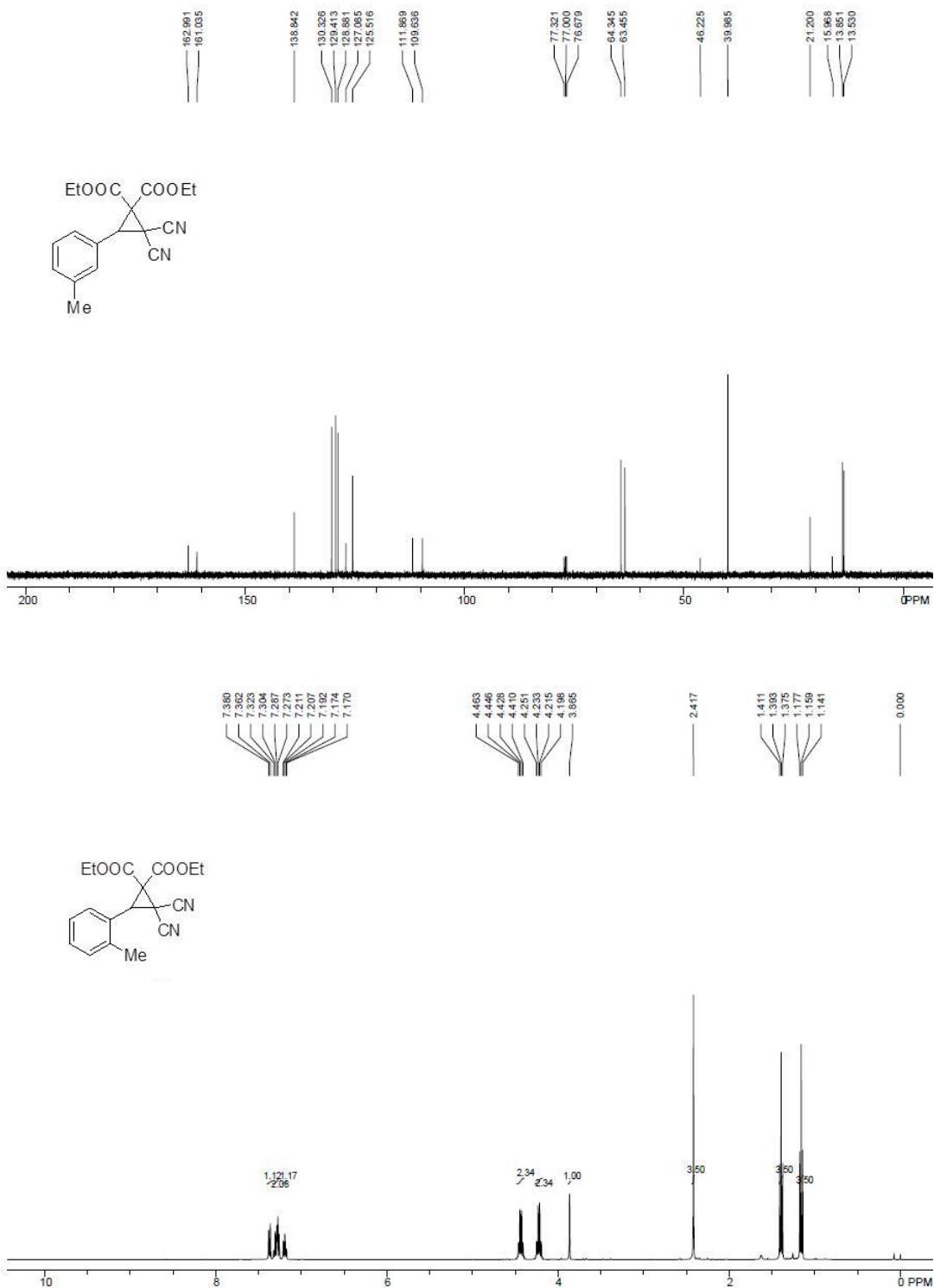


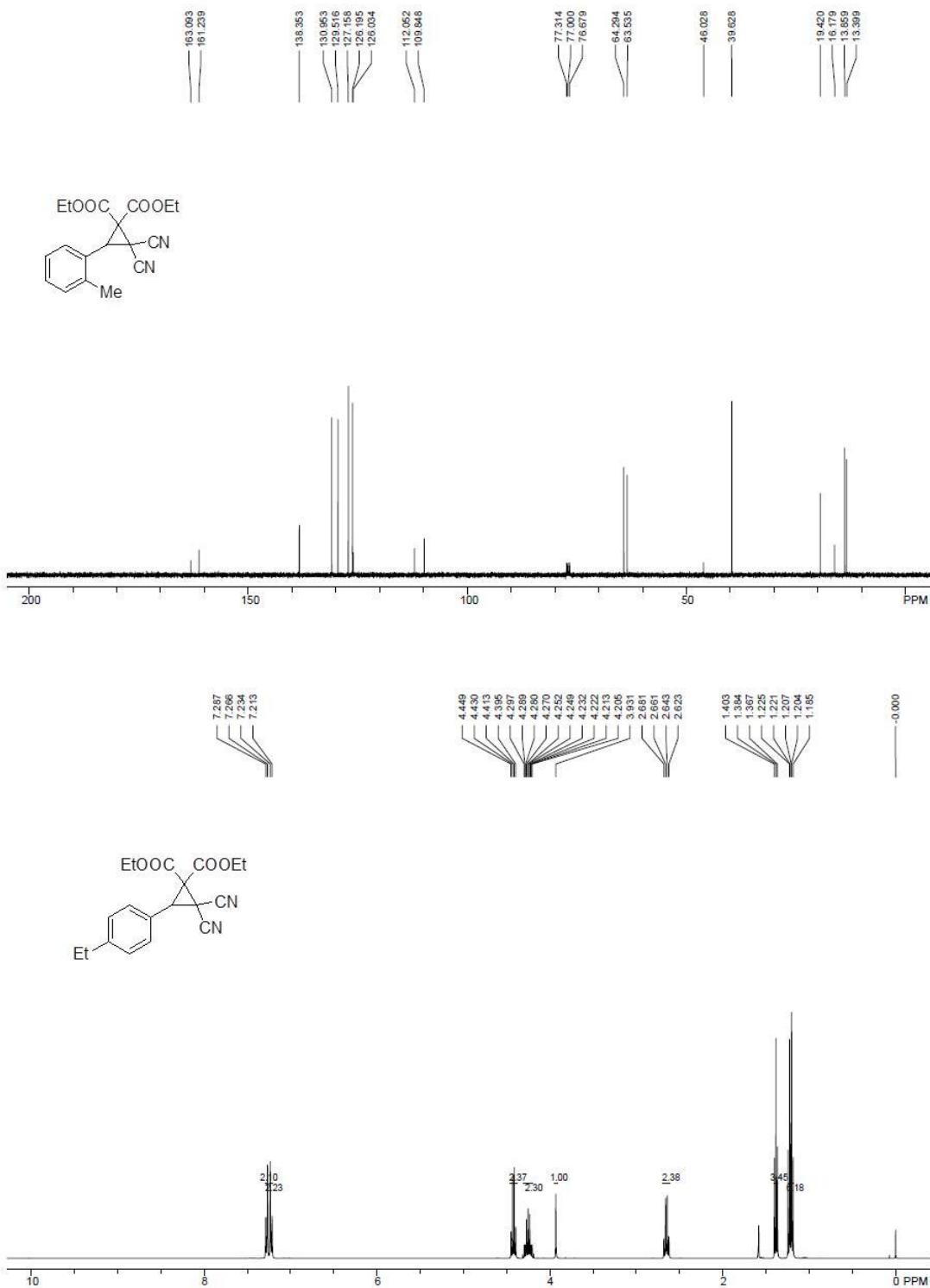


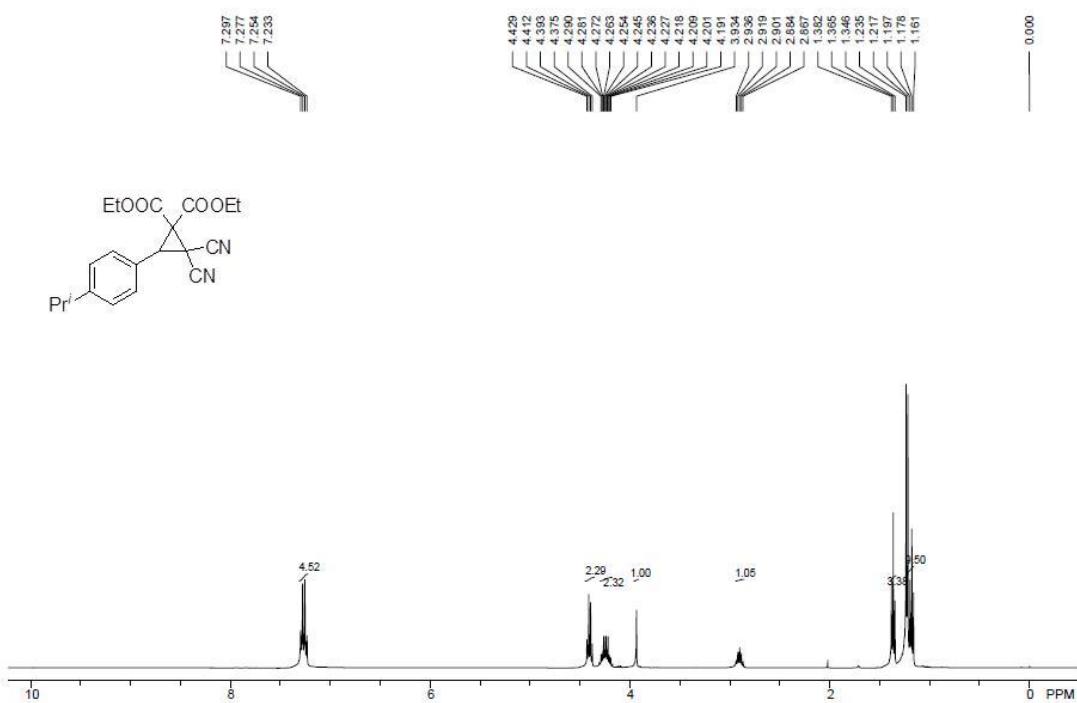
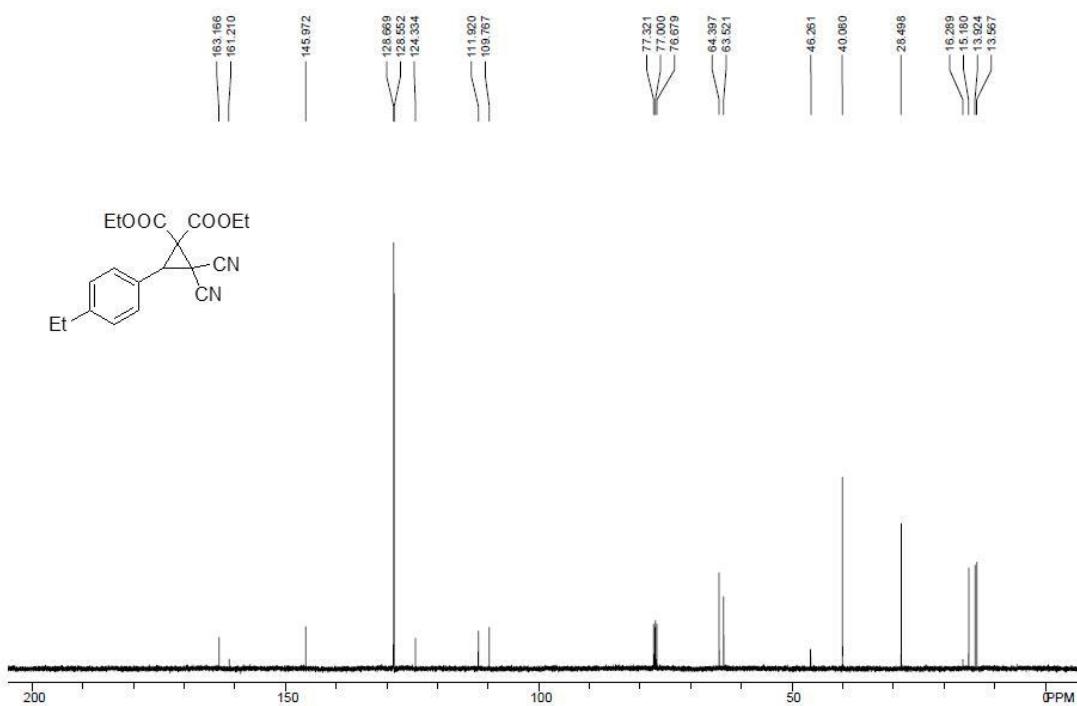


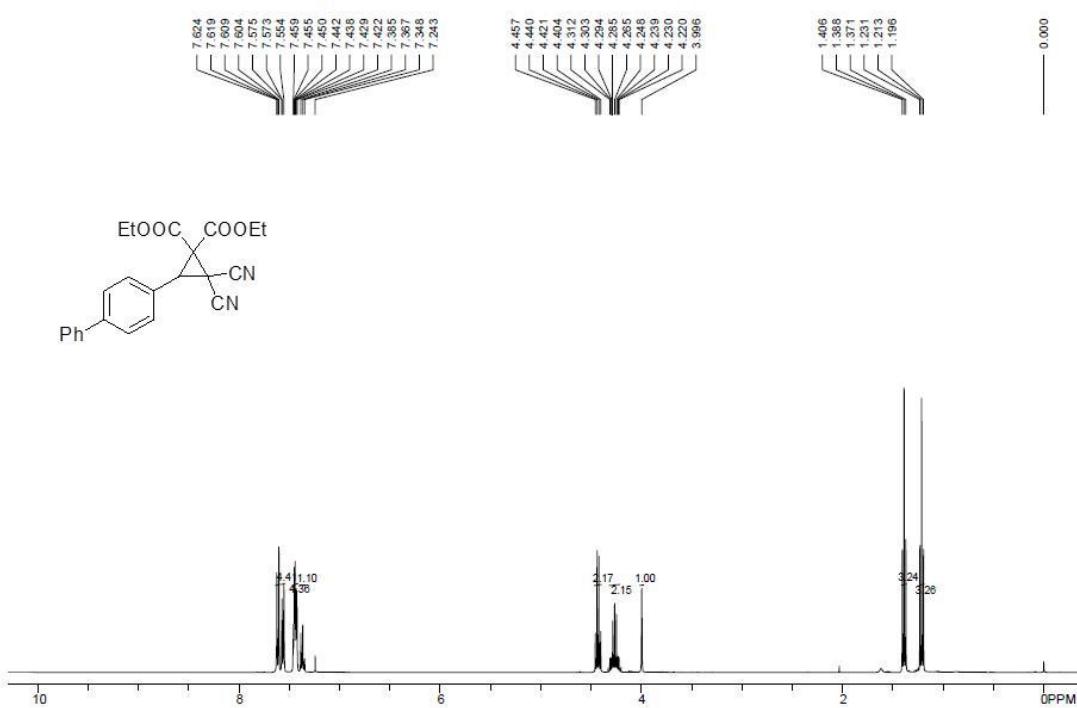
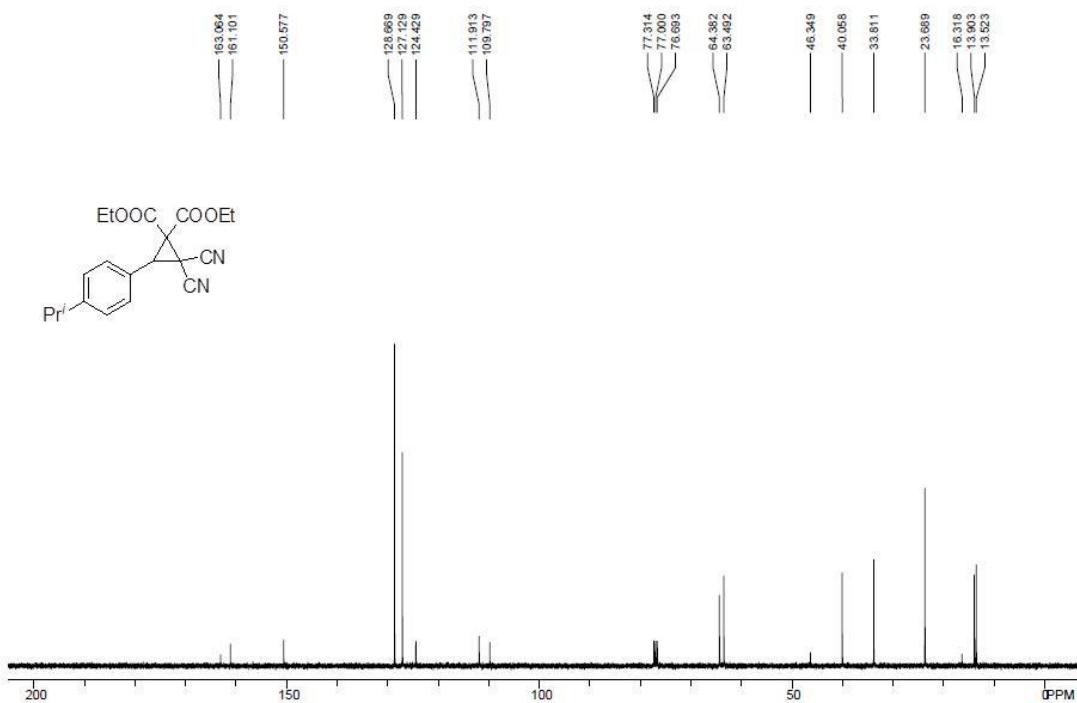


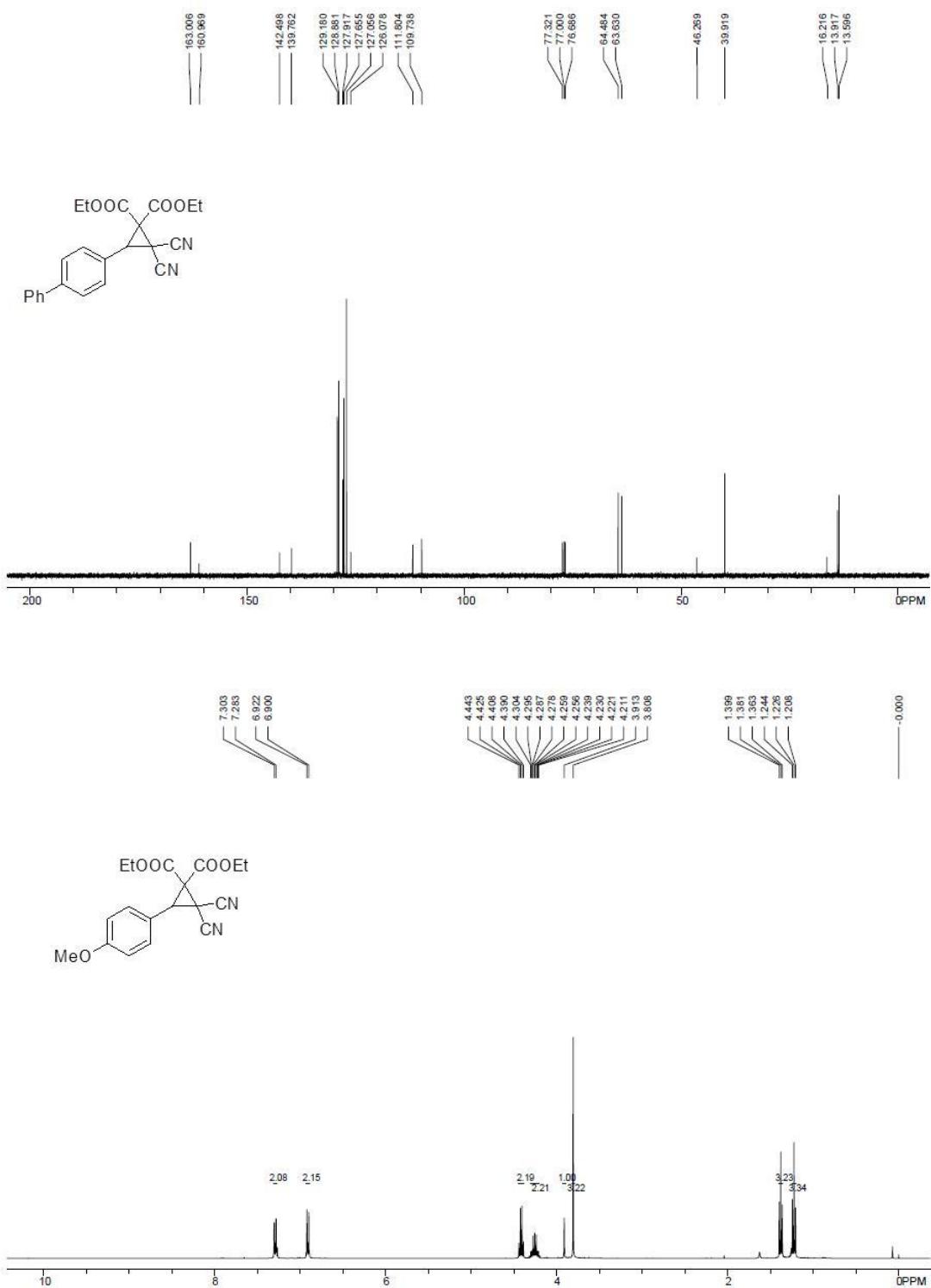


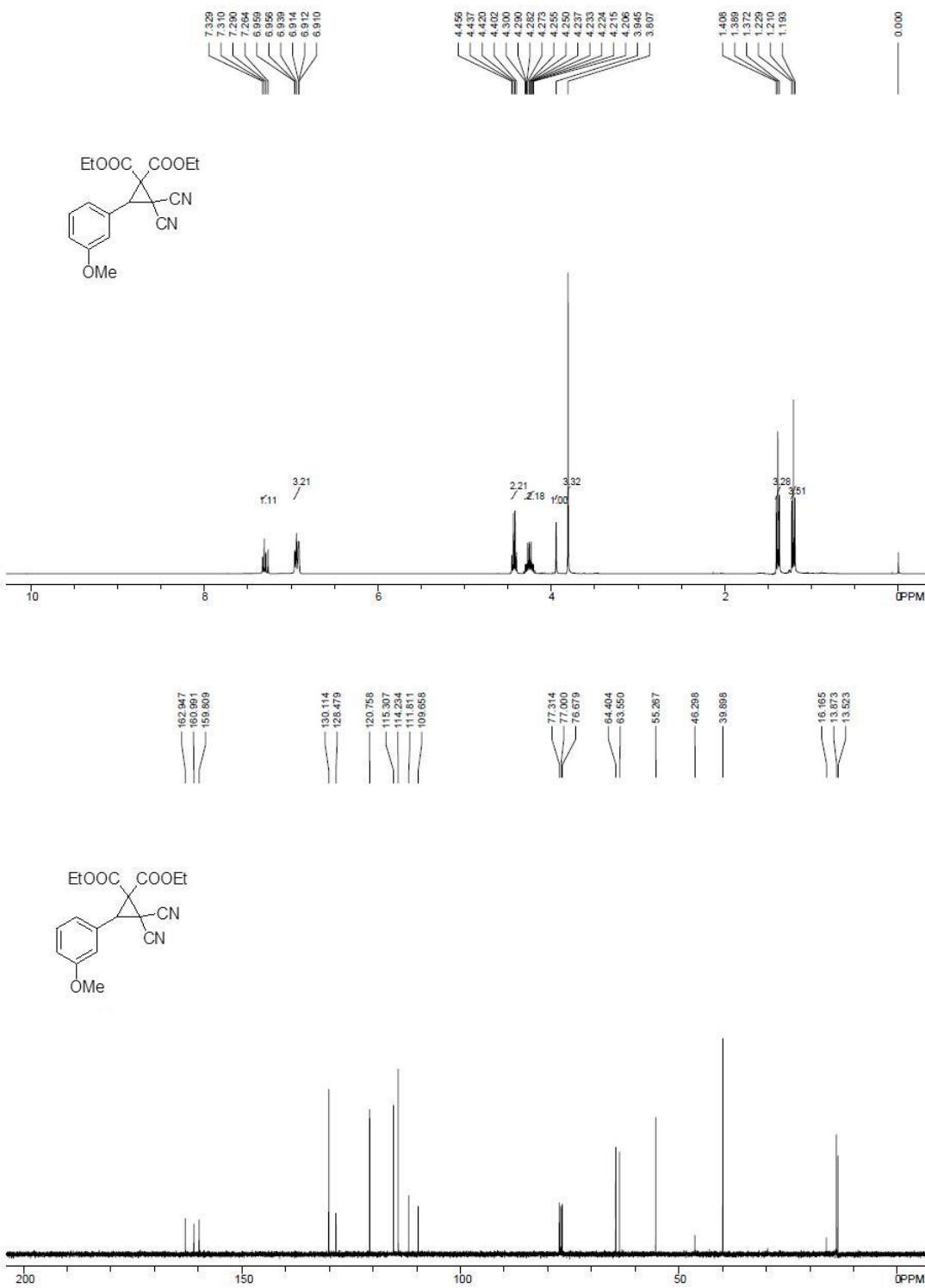


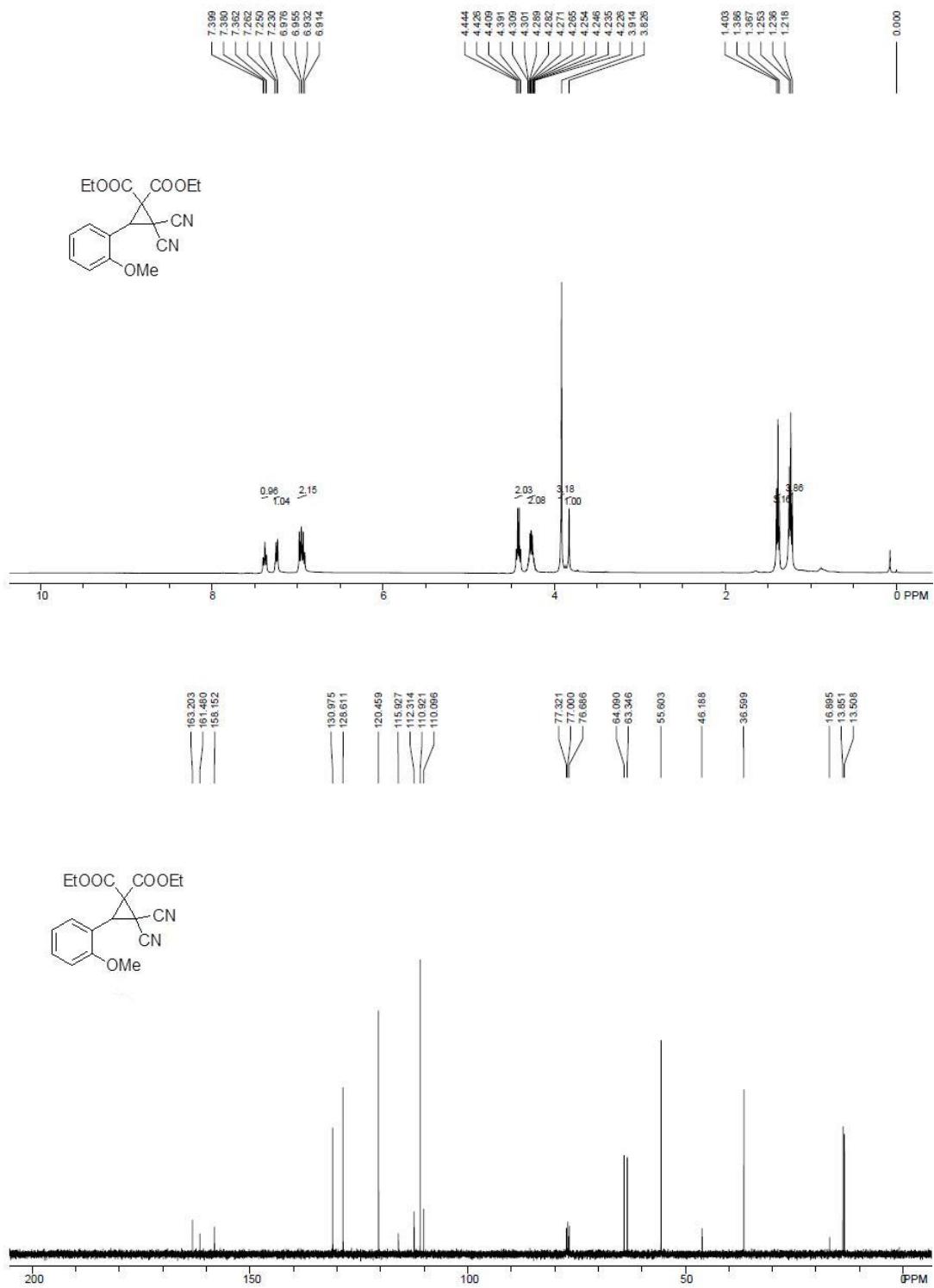


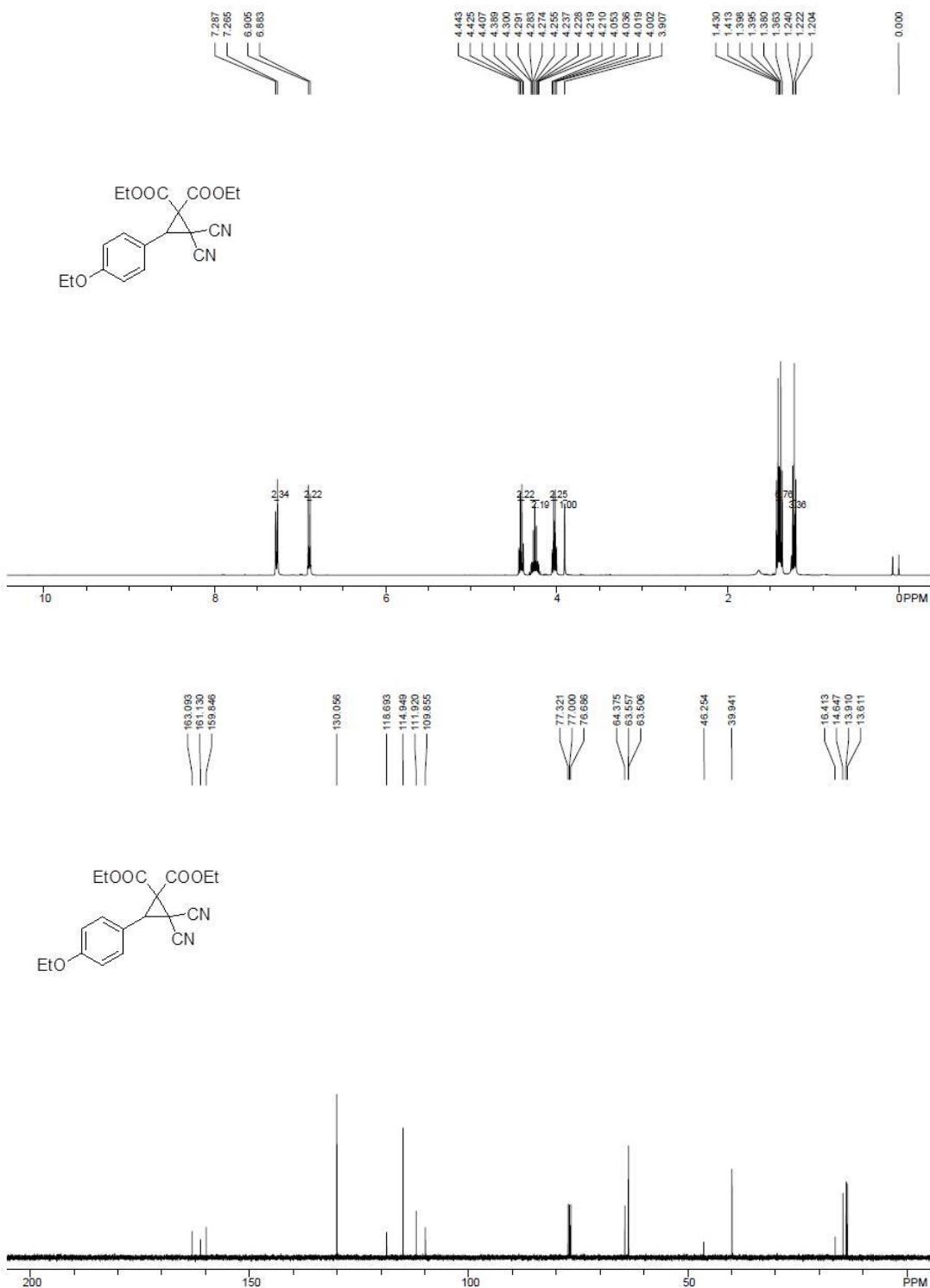


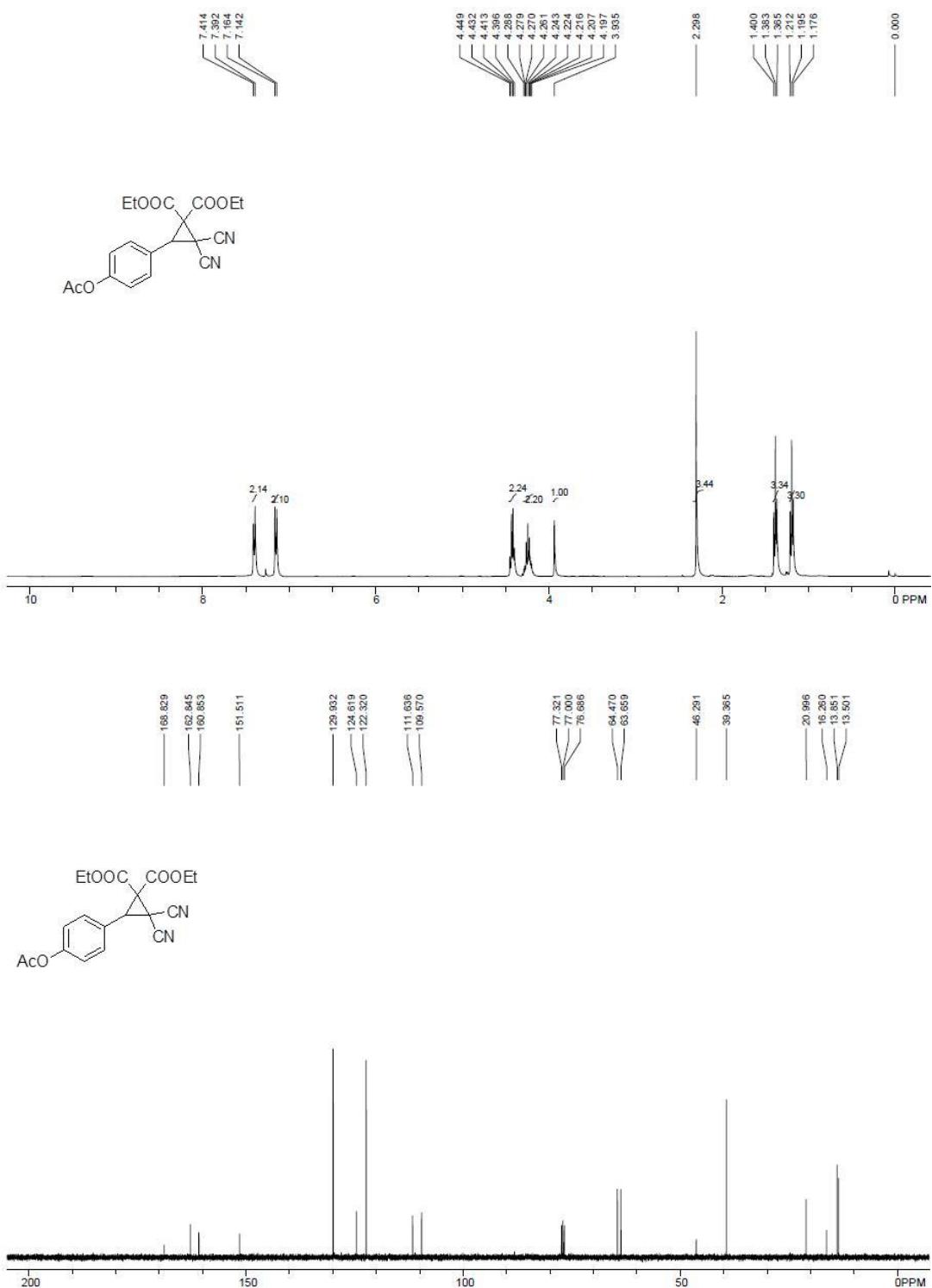


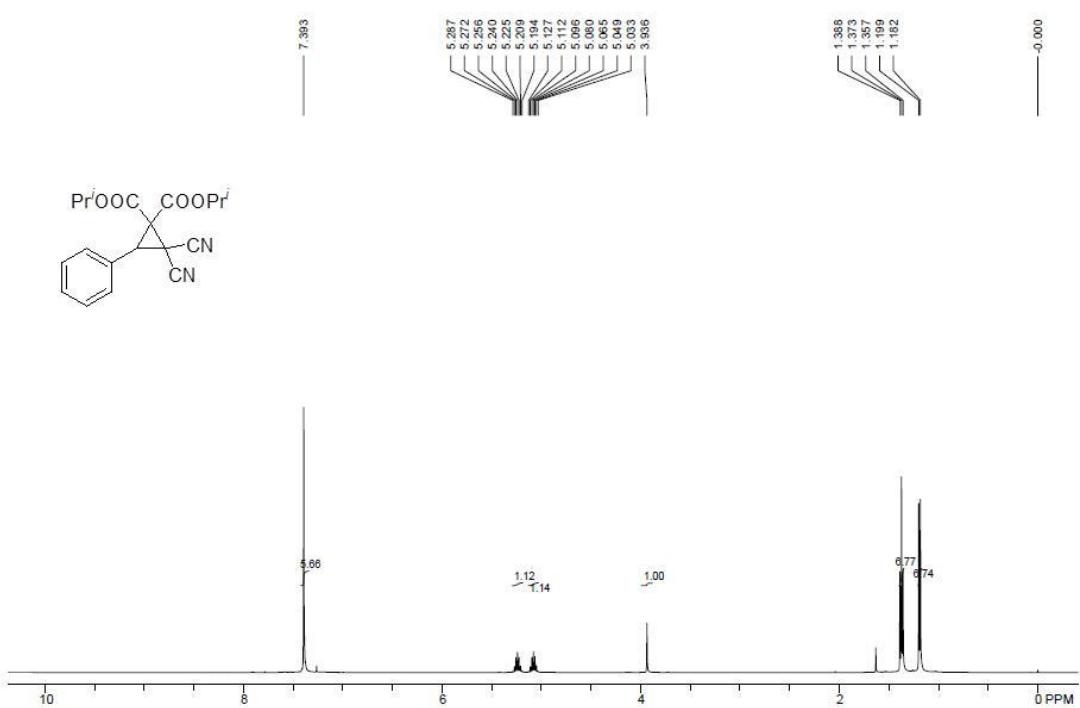
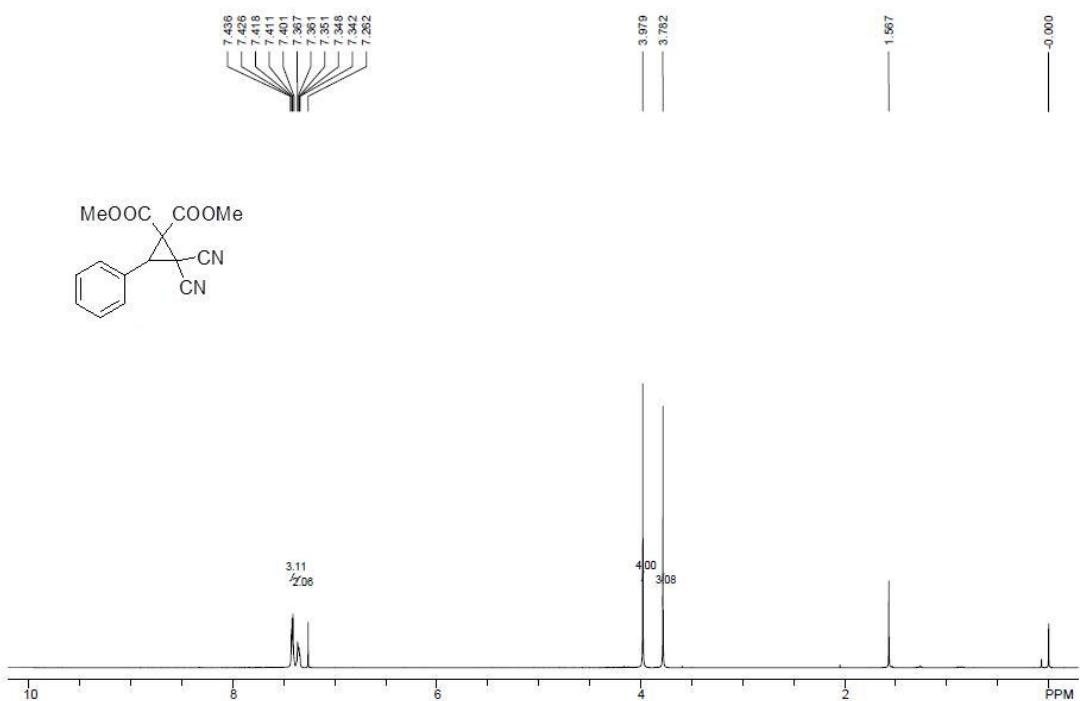


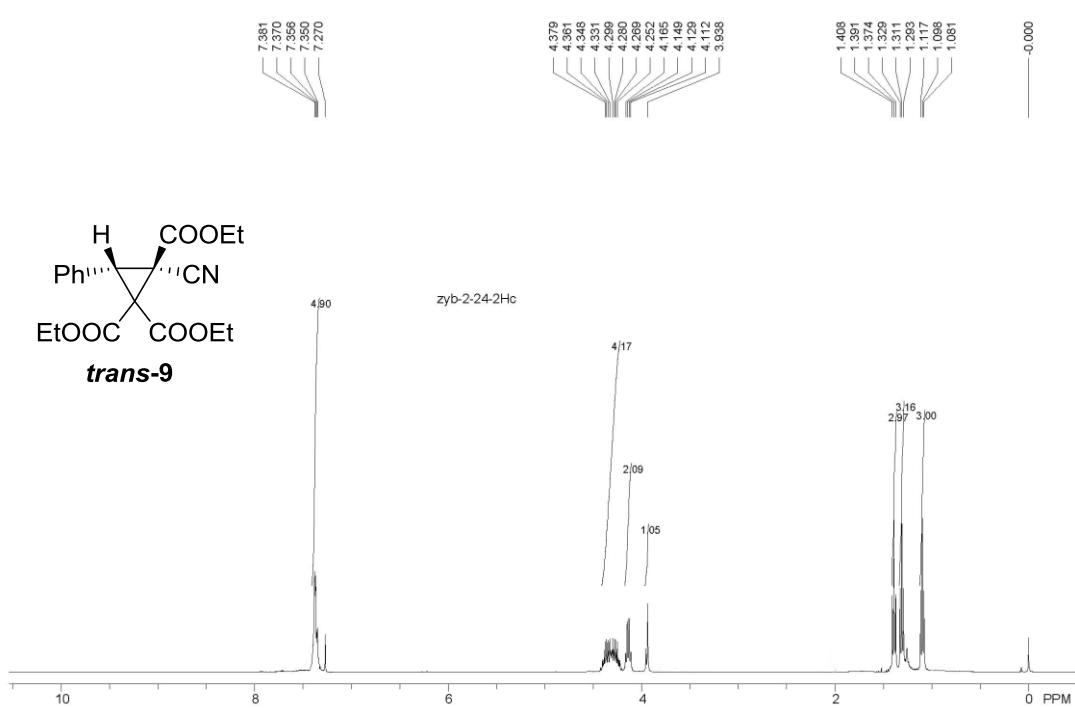
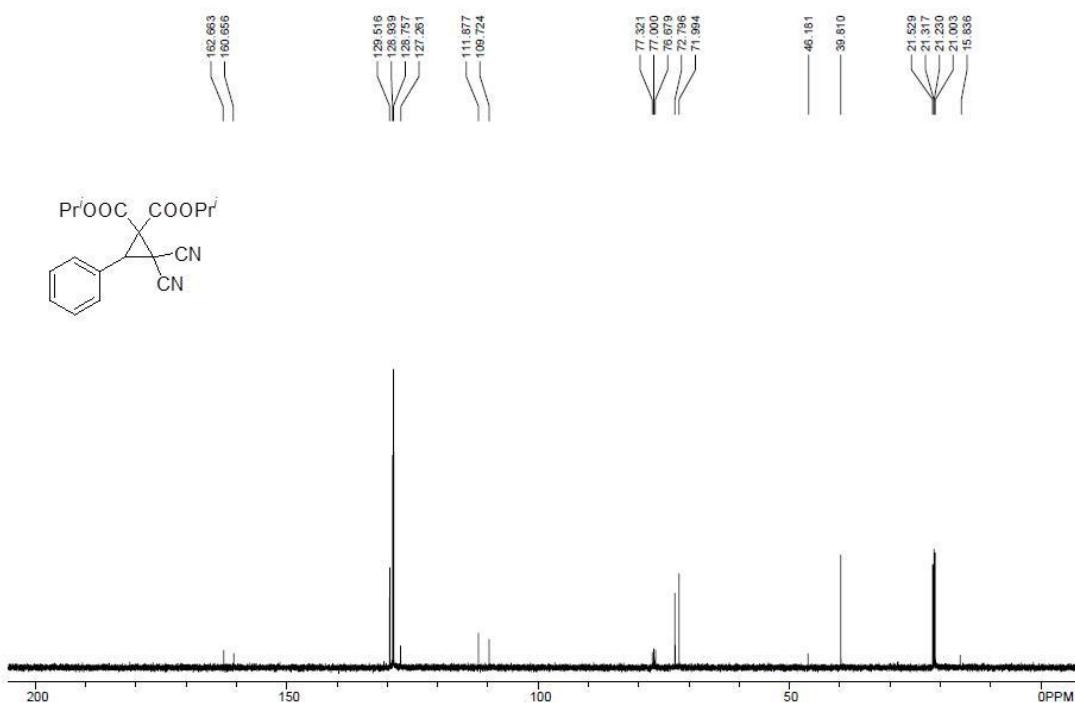












References

- [1] J. M. R. Narayanan, J. W. Tucker and C. R. J. Stephenson, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2009**, 131, 8756-8757.
- [2] J. D. Nguyen, J. W. Tucker, M. D. Konieczynska and C. R. J. Stephenson, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2011**, 133, 4160-4163.
- [3] N. J. Turro, Y. Cha and I. R. Gould, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1987**, 109, 2101-2107.
- [4] A. R. Forrester and J. S. Sadd, *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Comm.* **1976**, 16, 631-632.
- [5] Kim, W. J.; Lee, K. I.; Youn, J. I.; Shim, K. Y. *Bull. Korean Chem. Soc.* **1992**, 13, 226.
- [6] Watts, P.; Wiles, C.; Haswell, S. J. *Lab Chip.* **2007**, 7, 322.
- [7] Plietker, B.; Dieskau, A. P.; Holzwarth, M. S. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2012**, 18, 2423.
- [8] Cao, Y. Q.; Dai, Z.; Zhang, R.; Chen, B. H. *Syn. Commun.* **2004**, 34, 2965.
- [9] D ázmik, D. D.; K ühbeck, D.; Saidulu, G.; Reddy, R. *Green Chem.* **2012**, 14, 378.
- [10] Bhau, A.; Modak, A.; Mondal, J. *Appl. Catal., A* **2013**, 459, 41.
- [11] Bhuiyan, M. M. H.; Hossain, M. I.; Alam, M. A.; Mahmud, M. M. *Chem. J.* **2012**, 01, 30.
- [12] Kharas, G. B.; Hanawa, E.; Hill, B. L.; Flynn, K.; Addavte, A. N.; Argueta, J. C.; Boylan, G. A.; Karmo, N. A.; Sisler, E. M.; Sbarboro, J. *J. Macromol Sci., Pure Appl. Chem.* **2010**, 47, 197.
- [13] Gruttaduria, M.; Bivona, L. A.; Meo, P. L.; Riela, S.; Noto, R. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2012**, 13, 2635.
- [14] Kharas, G. B.; Hanawa, E.; Hill, B. L.; Flynn, K.; Bajaj, N. H.; Bittar, Y.; Dow, M. R.; Moloney, S.; Nguyen, T. A.; Pitts, S. A.; Serret, A. A.; Valadez, J.; Vallejo, A. C.; Atlas, S.; Raihane, M. *J. Macromol Sci., Pure Appl. Chem.* **2010**, 47, 973.
- [15] Kharas, G. B.; Russell, S. M.; Tran, V.; Tolefree, Q. L.; Tulewicz, D. M.; Gora, A.; Bajgoric, J.; Balco, M. T.; Dickey, G. A.; Kladis, G. *J. Macromol Sci., Pure Appl. Chem.* **2008**, 45, 5.
- [16] Sayari, A.; Das, D. D.; Harlick, P. J. E. *Catal. Commun.* **2007**, 8, 829.
- [17] Shchepin, V. V.; Stepanyan, Y. G.; Silaichev, P. S.; Kodess, M. I. *Russ. J. Gen. Chem.* **2006**, 69, 1919.

- [18] Arali, S.; Kawai, D.; Kawasumi, K.; Miyahara, T.; Hirashita, T. *Tetrahedron* **2009**, *65*, 10390.
- [19] Elinson, M. N.; Feducovich, S. K.; Zaimovskaya, T. A.; Vereshchagin, A. N.; Gorbunov, S. V.; Nikishin G. I. *Russ. Chem. Bull. Int. Ed.* **2005**, *54*, 1593.
- [20] Zlotin, S. G.; Kryshtal, G. V.; Zhdankina, G. M. *Russ. Chem. Bull. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *60*, 2286.