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CuSO₄-Catalyzed Dual Annulation to Synthesize O, S or N-Containing Tetracyclic Heteroacenes

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1. General information

Solvents were predried over activated 4 Å molecular sieves and further dried by refluxing and distilling over sodium (1,4-dioxane), CaH₂ (toluene, octane, CH₃CN, CH₂Cl₂, DMSO and DMF) or P₂O₅ (PhCl) under argon atmosphere. CuSO₄ (>98%) was purchased from J&K. 1 H, 13 C{ 1 H} NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker 400 spectrometer. Chemical shifts are reported in δ units relative to CDCl₃ [1 H δ = 7.26, 13 C δ = 77.16], DMSO- d_6 [1 H δ = 2.50, 13 C δ = 39.52].

2. General procedures

2.1. Screening reaction conditions (Table 1)

To a Schlenk tube charged with CuSO₄ (0.025 mmol, 4 mg) and ¹BuOK (1.1 mmol, 124 mg) was added **3a** (0.5 mmol, 167.5 mg) and solvent (10 mL) and the resulting reaction mixture was stirred at 90 °C (oil bath). The reaction mixture was directly prified by silica gel column to give the desired product.

2.2. Preparation of Starting Materials

A 100 mL round-bottom flask was charged with benzyl alcohol (10 mmol), CF₃COOH (13 mmol) and AgNO₃ (13 mmol). Then MeOH (15 mL) was added and cooled by ice bath. A solution of I₂ (1.0 equiv) in MeOH (25 mL) was added dropwise over 30 min. The resulting reaction mixture was monitored by TLC. Then filtered and concentrated under vacuum. The residue benzyl alcohol **1b-1** was used in the next step without purification. PBr₃ (1.0 mL, 16 mmol) was added over a solution of **1b-1** (8 mmol) in dry CH₂Cl₂ (100 mL), and the reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 5 h. After rotary evaporation of solvent, the resulting oil was washed with saturated NaHCO₃. The resulting aqueous phase was extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The combined organic phases were dried Na₂SO₄, concentrated and purified on silica gel chromatography (EtOAc/petroleum ether as eluent) to afford **1b-2** as white solid.(2.22 g, 85%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.69 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 6.59 (dd, J = 8.8, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 4.54 (s, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.3, 141.1, 140.6, 116.5, 116.3, 88.5, 55.6, 38.9. ¹

MeO
$$\sim$$
 S \sim CN \sim BBr₃ \sim HO \sim S \sim CN \sim 5h

5b (10 mmol)was dissolved in 50 mL of DCM. BBr₃ (25 mmol) was added to the mixture and the mixture stirred at -78 °C. The reaction was stirred at room temperature. The resulting reaction mixture was monitored by TLC. The mixture was diluted with water and extracted with EtOAc (3 × 30 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, and concentrated by rotary evaporation. Purification by silica gel chromatography (EtOAc/petroleum ether as eluent) to obtain **5h** as white solid, 3.60 g, 98%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 9.77-9.76 (m, 1H), 7.83-7.78 (m, 1H), 7.68-7.54 (m, 3H), 7.41-7.35 (m, 1H), 6.90-6.88 (m, 1H), 6.54-6.50 (m, 1H), 4.31 (s, 2H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 157.9, 140.4, 139.9, 139.1, 133.8, 133.6, 129.1, 126.7, 117.7, 117.4, 116.9, 111.7, 87.1, 42.2. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₁₀NOISNa 389.9420; found 389.9429.

$$R^{1} \stackrel{\text{\tiny II}}{\longleftarrow} OH \xrightarrow{\text{\tiny NaBH}_4, \ I_2} R^{1} \stackrel{\text{\tiny II}}{\longleftarrow} OH \xrightarrow{\text{\tiny CBr}_4} R^{1} \stackrel{\text{\tiny II}}{\longleftarrow} Br$$

A 100 mL round-bottom flask was charged with benzoic acid (8 mmol) and THF (20 mL, pre-dried over sodium). NaBH₄ (2.5 equiv) was added and cooled in an ice bath. A solution of I₂ (1.0 equiv) in THF (10 mL) was added dropwise over 30 min with vigorous evolution of hydrogen. After H₂ evolution had ceased, the flask was heated to reflux for 12 h and then cooled to room temperature, diluted with methanol until the solid disappeared. After stirring 30 min, the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation leaving a white paste which was dissolved by addition of 20% aqueous KOH (20 mL). The solution was stirred for 4 h and extracted with ethyl acetate (30 mL × 2). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried over anhydrous MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated under vacuum. This was purified by flash chromatography.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.69 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.51 (s, 2H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 142.3, 141.4, 133.4, 133.2, 122.9, 98.0, 37.6.²

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.78 (dd, J = 8.8, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (dd, J = 9.2, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 6.76 (ddd, J = 10.8, 8.0, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.53 (s, 2H). ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.1 (d, J = 247.6 Hz), 142.3 (d, J = 7.3 Hz), 141.3 (d, J = 7.8 Hz), 117.8 (d, J = 6.6 Hz), 117.6 (d, J = 5.6 Hz), 92.9 (d, J = 3.0 Hz), 37.8.³

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.52 (s, 2H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 142.0, 141.1, 135.1, 130.5, 130.3, 97.1, 37.7.²

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.00 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.48-7.45 (m, 1H), 7.33 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.54 (s, 2H). ¹³C {¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 142.1, 139.4, 132.2, 131.4, 123.0, 100.5, 37.8.⁴

Under nitrogen, a mixture of 2-bromobenzonitrile (10 mmol), aniline (15 mmol), Pd(dppf)Cl₂ (0.5 mmol), PPh₃ (3 mmol) and Cs₂CO₃ (20 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (40 mL) was heated at 95 °C for 24 h. The reaction was quenched with water and extracted with EtOAc. After concentration of the organic solution in vacuum. Purification by silica gel chromatography (EtOAc/petroleum ether as eluent) to obtain **13g** as yellow solid, 1.61 g, 83%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.51 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.40-7.35 (m, 3H), 7.22-7.18 (m, 3H), 7.16-7.12 (m, 1H), 6.84 (td, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.40 (s, 2H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 147.4, 140.0, 134.0, 133.1, 129.7, 124.3, 121.8, 119.3, 117.7, 114.2, 98.6.⁵

$$R_1 \stackrel{\text{II}}{||} + R_2 \stackrel{\text{II}}{||} OH$$
 $R_2 \stackrel{\text{CN}}{||} OH$ $R_1 \stackrel{\text{II}}{||} OH$ $R_1 \stackrel{\text{II}}{||} OH$

To a solution of Phenyl nitrile (10 mmol) in DMF(30 mL) was added K₂CO₃ (30 mmol) under stirring. After 10 min, Benzyl bromide (12 mmol) was added. The resulting reaction mixture was monitored by TLC. The reaction was quebched by H₂O and extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, concentrated and purified on silica gel chromatography (EtOAc/CH₂Cl₂/petroleum ether as eluent) to give the product.

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 3.18 g, 95%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84 (dd, J = 7.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.62-7.58 (m, 2H), 7.53 (ddd, J = 9.2, 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (td, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.06-6.99 (m, 3H), 5.13 (s, 2H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.9, 139.3, 137.8, 134.6, 134.0, 129.8, 128.8, 128.3, 121.5, 116.5, 112.9, 102.4, 96.5, 74.4. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₄H₁₁INO 335.9880; found 335.9880.

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 2.19 g, 76%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.65 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.60-7.50 (m, 3H), 7.36 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.05-7.00 (m, 2H), 5.22 (s, 2H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.0, 135.0, 134.5, 133.9, 132.6, 129.5, 128.5, 127.9, 121.7, 121.4, 116.4, 112.8, 102.4, 69.8. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₁₀NOBrNa 309.9838; found 309.9845.

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 3.64 g, 88%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.01 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.57-7.48 (m, 3H), 7.07 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 5.08 (s, 2H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.7, 141.2, 137.0, 134.6, 134.1, 132.0, 129.4, 122.6, 121.7, 116.4, 112.9, 102.6, 96.6, 73.9. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₄H₉BrINONa 435.8804; found 435.8807.

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 3.39 g, 82%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.72 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (td, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (td, J = 7.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 5.10 (s, 2H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.7, 140.5, 139.9, 134.6, 134.1, 133.0, 131.4, 123.3, 121.8, 116.3, 112.9, 102.6, 94.2, 74.0. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₄H₉BrINONa 435.8804; found 435.8811.

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 3.65 g, 88%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.65-7.61 (m, 2H), 7.57-7.53 (m, 2H), 7.30 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 5.17 (s, 2H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.7, 141.2, 134.6, 134.0, 132.2, 131.1, 129.9, 126.2, 121.6, 116.4, 112.8, 103.2, 102.4, 76.0. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₉BrINONa 435.8804; found 435.8807.

2-((5-chloro-2-iodobenzyl)oxy)benzonitrile (3e)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 3.07 g, 83%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.77 (dd, J = 8.4, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.59-7.53 (m, 2H), 7.10-7.04 (m, 2H), 6.97 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 5.10 (s, 2H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.7, 140.3, 139.6, 135.4, 134.6, 134.1, 130.1, 128.5, 121.8, 116.3, 112.9, 102.6, 93.2, 74.1. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₉ClINONa 391.9310; found 391.9308.

2-((2-fluoro-6-iodobenzyl)oxy)benzonitrile (3f)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 3.00 g, 85%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.71 (dd, J = 6.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59-7.55 (m, 2H), 7.16 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.13-7.04 (m, 3H), 5.26 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.1 (d, J = 252.3 Hz), 160.2, 135.8 (d, J = 3.6 Hz), 134.4, 134.2, 132.3 (d, J = 9.2 Hz), 125.8 (d, J = 15.5 Hz), 121.5, 116.3, 116.0 (d, J = 22.7 Hz), 113.0, 102.7, 101.6 (d, J = 2.3 Hz), 68.0 (d, J = 4.0 Hz). HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₄H₁₀FINO 353.9786; found 353.9783.

2-((2-iodo-5-methylbenzyl)oxy)benzonitrile (3g)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 2.97 g, 85%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.71 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (ddd, J = 8.4, 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (td, J = 7.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (dt, J = 8.0, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 5.12 (s, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.1, 139.1, 139.0, 137.5, 134.5, 134.0, 130.9, 129.3, 121.4, 116.5, 113.1, 102.5, 92.5, 74.6, 21.3. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₅H₁₂NOINa 371.9856; found 371.9867.

2-((2-iodo-5-methoxybenzyl)oxy)benzonitrile (3h)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 3.25 g, 89%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.69 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.57-7.53 (m, 1H), 7.28 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (td, J = 7.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (dd, J =

8.8, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 5.11 (s, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H). $^{13}C\{^{1}H\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.5, 160.0, 139.7, 138.9, 134.6, 133.9, 121.6, 116.7, 116.5, 113.6, 113.0, 102.6, 84.1, 74.3, 55.6. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for $C_{15}H_{12}INO_{2}Na$ 387.9805; found 387.9805.

2-((2-iodobenzyl)oxy)-4-methylbenzonitrile (3i)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 2.79 g, 80%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.86 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (dd, J = 7.6, 0.4 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (s, 1H), 5.12 (s, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.0, 146.0, 139.3, 138.0, 133.7, 129.8, 128.8, 128.4, 122.4, 116.8, 113.6, 99.5, 96.5, 74.4, 22.5. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₅H₁₂INONa 371.9856; found 371.9852.

4-bromo-2-((2-iodobenzyl)oxy)benzonitrile (3j)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 4.10 g, 99%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 7.95 (dd, J = 8.0, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (td, J = 7.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (td, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.24 (s, 2H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 160.2, 139.4, 137.6, 135.1, 130.7, 130.2, 128.6 (two peaks), 124.7, 116.9, 115.7, 100.1, 99.6, 74.7. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₉BrINONa 435.8810; found 435.8806.

5-chloro-2-((2-iodobenzyl)oxy)benzonitrile (3k)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 2.92 g, 79%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.87 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.58-7.56 (m, 2H), 7.49 (dd, J = 9.2, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (td, J = 7.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (td, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 5.15 (s, 2H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.7, 139.4, 137.4, 134.5, 133.3, 130.1, 128.9, 128.4,

126.4, 115.1, 114.4, 103.9, 96.6, 75.0. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₉ClINONa 391.9310; found 391.9308.

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, light red solid, 2.74 g, 75%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.85 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (td, J = 7.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (td, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.50 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 5.12 (s, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.6, 161.5, 139.3, 137.8, 135.1, 129.9, 128.9, 128.5, 116.9, 106.5, 100.1, 96.5, 94.6, 74.5, 55.9. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₅H₁₂INO₂Na 387.9805; found 387.9804.

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 3.06 g, 91%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.33 (dd, J = 4.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (dd, J = 8.4, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.44-7.37 (m, 2H), 7.08 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.20 (s, 2H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.5, 143.4, 139.5, 137.0, 130.3, 129.0, 128.5, 128.0, 124.3, 120.8, 115.1, 96.7, 74.8. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₃H₉IN₂ONa 358.9652; found 358.9653.

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 1.87 g, 51%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 7.79-7.71 (m, 4H), 7.51 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 5.41 (s, 2H). 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 159.8, 135.2, 133.9, 133.5, 132.8, 132.7, 126.3, 121.8, 116.1, 113.3, 100.7, 71.2. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₉Br₂NONa 387.8943; found 387.8936.

4-bromo-2-((2,6-dibromobenzyl)oxy)benzonitrile (30)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 3.21 g, 72%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.62 (s, 1H), 7.60 (s, 1H), 7.44 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.42 (s, 2H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.6, 134.7, 133.2, 132.7, 131.8, 128.7, 126.8, 124.8, 116.8, 115.5, 101.7, 71.5. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₄H₉Br₃NO 443.8229; found 443.8236.

2-bromo-6-((2,6-dibromobenzyl)oxy)benzonitrile (3p)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 2.19 g, 76%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.60 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.14-7.10 (m, 2H), 5.43 (s, 2H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.9, 134.5, 133.4, 132.8, 131.9, 126.9, 125.6, 114.6, 111.5, 106.4, 71.7. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₉Br₃NO 443.8229; found 443.8239.

2-((1-bromonaphthalen-2-yl)methoxy)benzonitrile (3q)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 3.15 g, 93%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 8.28 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.07 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.76-7.65 (m, 4H), 7.39 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (td, J = 7.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 5.55 (s, 2H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 159.6, 135.2, 133.9, 133.8, 133.4, 131.4, 128.5, 128.3, 127.3, 126.4, 126.3, 122.7, 121.6, 116.3, 113.4, 100.8, 70.7. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₈H₁₂NOBrNa 359.9994; found 359.9995.

3-bromo-4-((2-cyanophenoxy)methyl)-N,N-diisopropylbenzamide

(3r)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 3.41 g, 82%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.68 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.58-7.53 (m, 2H), 7.30 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.09-7.02 (m, 2H), 5.24 (s, 2H), 3.82 (s, 1H), 3.55 (s, 1H), 1.51 (s, 6H), 1.19 (s, 6H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.9, 159.9, 140.2, 135.5, 134.6, 134.0, 130.1, 128.5, 125.0, 121.9, 121.6, 116.4, 112.8, 102.4, 69.7, 51.0, 46.2, 20.8. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₂₁H₂₃N₂O₂BrNa 437.0835; found 437.0824.

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 3.45g, 97%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.95 (s, 1H), 7.72 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (dd, J = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (ddd, J = 9.2, 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (td, J = 7.2, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 5.25 (s, 2H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.7, 136.3, 134.6, 134.1, 133.4, 130.6 (q, J = 32.9 Hz), 126.4 (q, J = 3.6 Hz), 125.7, 125.5 (q, J = 3.9 Hz), 123.7 (d, J = 271.0 Hz), 121.9, 116.2, 112.8, 102.8, 69.7. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₅H₉NOBrF₃Na 377.9712; found 377.9702.

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 2.40 g, 86%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.59-7.55 (m, 2H), 7.39-7.37 (m, 2H), 7.27 (dd, J = 8.8, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (dd, J = 8.8, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (td, J = 7.2, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 5.39 (s, 2H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.4, 137.2, 134.4, 134.2, 131.0 (two peaks), 128.7, 121.5, 116.3, 113.2, 102.8, 66.2. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₄H₉Cl₂NONa 299.9953; found 299.9946.

2-((2-bromo-6-chlorobenzyl)oxy)benzonitrile (3t')

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 2.74 g, 85%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.60-7.54 (m, 3H), 7.41 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.21-7.16 (m, 2H), 7.06 (td, J = 7.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 5.41 (s, 2H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.4, 136.9, 134.4, 134.1, 132.4, 132.0, 131.3, 129.3, 127.1, 121.5, 116.3, 113.2, 102.7, 68.7. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₄H₁₀BrClNO 321.9629; found 321.9625.

2-((2,3-dichlorobenzyl)oxy)benzonitrile (3u)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 2.59 g, 93%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.63-7.61 (m, 2H), 7.55 (ddd, J = 9.2, 7.2, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (dt, J = 8.0, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (td, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 5.28 (s, 2H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.9, 135.9, 134.6, 134.1, 133.2, 130.1, 129.9, 128.0, 126.3, 121.7, 116.4, 112.7, 102.6, 67.8. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₉Cl₂NONa 299.9953; found 299.9958.

2-bromo-6-((2-chloropyridin-3-yl)methoxy)benzonitrile (3v)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 2.65 g, 82%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.38 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 8.09-8.07 (m, 1H), 7.42 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (dd, J = 8.0, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 5.24 (s, 2H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.1, 149.2, 148.5, 136.9, 134.8, 130.1, 126.8, 125.9, 123.3, 114.7, 111.2, 106.3. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₃H₉BrClN₂O 322.9581; found 322.9575.

2-((2-iodobenzyl)thio)benzonitrile (5a)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 2.77 g, 79%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.82 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.47-7.43 (m,

1H), 7.36 (dd, J = 7.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (td, J = 7.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.25-7.20 (m, 2H), 6.95-6.91 (m, 1H), 4.28 (s, 2H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 139.9, 139.8, 138.6, 133.7, 132.9, 131.7, 130.1, 129.4, 128.5, 127.2, 117.2, 115.3, 100.7, 44.4. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₁₀INSNa 373.9471; found 373.9472.

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 3.01 g, 79%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.67 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.44 (m, 1H), 7.38 (dd, J = 8.0, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (td, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (dd, J = 8.8, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 4.25 (s, 2H), 3.71 (s, 3H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.1, 140.3, 140.0, 139.7, 133.8, 133.0, 131.9, 127.3, 117.3, 115.9, 115.8, 115.4, 89.0, 55.5, 44.4. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₅H₁₂INOSNa 403.9576; found 403.9564.

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 2.04 g, 53%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.74 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (td, J = 7.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.37-7.33 (m, 2H), 7.16 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.23 (s, 2H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 140.8, 140.7, 139.1, 134.7, 133.9, 133.0, 132.4, 130.1, 129.5, 127.8, 117.1, 115.9, 97.6, 44.3. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₉INClSNa 407.9081; found 407.9072.

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 2.84 g, 66%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 7.82 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.37 (s, 2H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 141.3, 141.2, 139.2, 133.9, 133.7, 132.8, 132.3, 130.4, 127.4, 121.6, 116.8, 112.8. 99.8, 42.1. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₉INBrSNa 451.8576; found 451.8561.

2-((2,6-dibromobenzyl)thio)benzonitrile (5e)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 1.80 g, 47%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.64 (dt, J = 7.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.51-7.48 (m, 4H), 7.40-7.34 (m, 1H), 6.98 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.53 (s, 2H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 139.4, 135.9, 134.0, 133.9, 133.0, 132.9, 132.7, 130.2, 128.1, 125.9, 117.3, 41.3. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₉Br₂NSNa 403.8715; found 403.8719.

2-((2,3-dichlorobenzyl)thio)benzonitrile (5f)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 2.09 g, 71%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.65 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (td, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.39-7.31 (m, 3H), 7.15 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (s, 2H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 139.6, 136.5, 133.9, 133.7, 133.0, 132.7, 132.2, 129.9, 128.9, 127.6, 127.4, 117.2, 115.8, 37.7. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₄H₉SNCl₂Na 315.9725; found 315.9717.

2-((2,6-dichlorobenzyl)thio)benzonitrile (5g)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 1.77 g, 60%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.65 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.49-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.39-7.35 (m, 1H), 7.29-7.27 (m, 2H), 7.15 (dd, J = 8.4, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.47 (s, 2H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 139.2, 136.0, 133.9, 133.8, 133.0, 132.9, 129.3, 128.5, 128.1, 117.2 (two peaks), 35.5. HRMS (ESITOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₉Cl₂NSNa 315.9725; found 315.9734.

2-(((1-bromonaphthalen-2-yl)methyl)thio)benzonitrile (5i)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, light yellow solid, 1.64 g, 46%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.28 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, J = 8.4

Hz, 1H), 7.62 (dd, J = 8.0, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (td, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.40-7.36 (m, 2H), 7.30-7.26 (m, 1H), 4.58 (s, 2H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 140.1, 133.9 (two peaks), 133.8, 132.9, 132.5, 132.0, 128.3, 128.1, 127.8, 127.7, 127.3, 126.9, 124.9, 117.3, 115.6, 40.6. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₈H₁₂NSBrNa 375.9766; found 375.9762.

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, yellow solid, 2.19 g, 84%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.28 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.65-7.62 (m, 2H), 7.46 (td, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.31 (m, 2H), 7.08 (dd, J = 7.6, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (s, 2H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 151.2, 148.8, 139.3, 138.9, 134.0, 132.2, 131.2, 127.8, 122.8, 117.1, 115.8, 36.2. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₁₃H₁₀ClN₂S 261.0248; found 261.0241.

$$R_{1} \stackrel{\text{II}}{ } \stackrel{\text{N}}{ } \stackrel{$$

In a 100 mL round bottom flask equipped with a Teflon-coated stir bar and charged with a solution of aniline (5.5 mmol) in DMF (20 mL) was added NaH (5.5 mmol) in one portion at 0 °C. The resulting mixture was stirred vigorously under nitrogen atmosphere until the evolution of gas ceased. Subsequently, a solution of Benzyl bromide (5.0 mmol) in DMF (8 mL) was added dropwise at 0 °C. The resulting reaction mixture was monitored by TLC. The reaction was quenched with cold water (40 mL), and then transferred to a separatory funnel with EtOAc (100 mL). The aqueous layer was separated and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 100 mL). The combined organic extract was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, concentrated under reduced pressure. The crued material was purified by silica gel chromatography ((EtOAc/CH₂Cl₂/petroleum ether as eluent) to give the product.

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, light yellow solid, 2.02 g, 58%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.86-7.84 (m, 1H), 7.53 (dd, J = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.41-7.31 (m, 3H), 7.00-6.96 (m, 1H), 6.89-6.85 (m, 2H), 4.48 (s, 2H), 3.07 (s, 3H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 154.4, 139.7, 139.1, 135.2, 133.6, 129.2, 128.6, 128.5, 119.8, 119.4, 117.9, 101.5, 98.7, 64.1, 40.8. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₅H₁₄N₂I 349.0196; found 349.0193.

2-((5-chloro-2-iodobenzyl)(methyl)amino)benzonitrile (7b)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 497 mg, 26%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.76 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.57-7.54 (m, 1H), 7.45-7.41 (m, 1H), 7.37 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.94-6.90 (m, 2H), 4.44 (s, 2H), 3.05 (s, 3H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 154.2, 141.3, 140.7, 135.3, 135.2, 133.8, 129.5, 128.6, 120.3, 119.2, 117.8, 101.7, 95.4, 64.4, 40.6. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₅H₁₃N₂ClI 382.9806; found 382.9805.

2-((2,6-dibromobenzyl)(methyl)amino)benzonitrile (7c)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, yellow solid, 1.46 g, 77%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.57-7.52 (m, 3H), 7.47-7.42 (m, 1H), 7.04-7.00 (m, 2H), 6.91 (td, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.81 (s, 2H), 2.88 (s, 3H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.0, 135.4, 134.8, 133.4, 132.8, 130.3, 126.9, 120.2, 119.4, 118.9, 102.9, 57.5, 39.7. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₁₅H₁₃Br₂N₂ 378.9440; found 378.9445.

2-((5-fluoro-2-iodobenzyl)(methyl)amino)benzonitrile (7d)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 1.39 g, 76%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.79 (dd, J = 8.4, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.45-7.40 (m, 1H), 7.16 (dd, J = 10.0, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 6.93-6.90 (m, 2H), 6.77 (td, J = 8.4, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 4.44 (s, 2H), 3.06 (s, 3H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.0 (d, J = 246.3 Hz), 154.2, 141.8 (d, J = 6.7 Hz), 140.7 (d, J = 7.6 Hz), 135.3, 133.8, 120.3, 119.2, 117.8, 116.6 (d, J = 21.9 Hz), 115.9 (d, J = 23.5 Hz), 101.7, 90.8 (d, J = 2.0 Hz), 64.4, 40.6. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₁₅H₁₃FIN₂ 367.0102; found 367.0107.

2-((2-iodo-5-methoxybenzyl)(methyl)amino)benzonitrile (7e)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 1.44 g, 76%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.70 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.43-7.39 (m, 1H), 7.05 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 6.93-6.88 (m, 2H), 6.60 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.44 (s, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.06 (s, 3H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.4, 154.6, 140.2, 140.1, 135.2, 133.7, 120.1, 119.4, 118.1, 115.3, 114.6, 101.9, 86.8, 64.2, 55.5, 40.9. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₆H₁₅IN₂NaO 401.0121; found 401.0127.

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 1.04 g, 53%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.54 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (ddd, J = 8.8, 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (s, 1H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 6.92-6.88 (m, 2H), 5.97 (s, 2H), 4.40 (s, 2H), 3.02 (s, 3H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 154.5, 148.9, 148.0, 135.2, 133.7, 132.7, 120.1, 119.4, 118.9, 118.0, 108.9, 101.9, 101.8, 86.3, 64.2, 40.5. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₁₆H₁₄N₂O₂I 393.0100; found 393.0096.

2-((2-iodobenzyl)(phenyl)amino)benzonitrile (7g)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 1.66 g, 81%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.83 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.55-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.30-7.14 (m, 5H), 6.96-6.93 (m, 2H), 6.81 (dd, J = 7.6, 0.8 Hz, 2H), 4.96 (s, 2H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 150.8, 147.8, 139.5, 139.1, 134.9, 134.3, 129.5, 129.1, 128.6, 128.3, 126.1, 124.5, 121.8, 118.6, 117.5, 109.8, 97.5, 62.9. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₂₀H₁₆IN₂ 411.0353; found 411.0358.

$$R_{1} = I, Br$$

$$R_{2}$$

$$X = I, Br$$

$$R_{3}$$

$$R_{1} = I, Br$$

In a 100 mL round bottom flask equipped with a Teflon-coated stir bar and charged with a solution of aniline (5.5 mmol) in DMF (20 mL) was added NaH (5.5 mmol) in one portion at 0 °C. The resulting mixture was stirred vigorously under nitrogen atmosphere until the evolution of gas ceased. Subsequently, a solution of Benzyl bromide (5.0 mmol) in DMF (8 mL) was added dropwise at 0 °C. Upon the completion of S_N2 reaction as judged by TLC analysis, which was ~1 h. The reaction was quenched with cold water (40 mL), and then transferred to a separatory funnel with EtOAc (100 mL). The aqueous layer was separated and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 100 mL). The combined organic extract was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, concentrated under reduced pressure. The crued material was purified by silica gel chromatography ((EtOAc/CH₂Cl₂/petroleum ether as eluent) to give the product.

2-(benzyl(2-iodobenzyl)amino)benzonitrile (7h)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 1.63 g, 77%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.80 (dd, J = 7.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.44 (m, 1H), 7.37-7.33 (m, 1H), 7.32-7.24 (m, 6H), 6.96-6.91 (m, 3H), 4.56 (s, 2H), 4.43 (s, 2H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 153.5, 139.7, 139.2, 137.0, 135.1, 133.5, 129.3, 129.2, 128.7, 128.5, 128.2, 127.6, 121.5, 120.8, 119.0, 104.9, 99.1, 60.6, 57.6. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₂₁H₁₇IN₂Na 447.0329; found 447.0334.

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, light green oil, 1.82 g, 80%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 7.84 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (td, J = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.41-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.19 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.04-6.99 (m, 3H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 4.48 (s, 2H), 4.39 (s, 2H), 3.71 (s, 3H). 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 158.5, 152.6, 139.4, 139.2, 134.8, 133.8, 129.2 (two peaks), 128.9, 128.8, 121.6, 120.8, 118.7, 113.8, 104.0, 99.4, 59.9, 56.3, 55.0. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₂₂H₁₉IN₂ONa 477.0434; found 477.0441.

4-bromo-2-((2,4-dibromobenzyl)(hexyl)amino)benzonitrile (7j)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 0.93 g, 35%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.73 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.03-7.00 (m, 2H), 4.50 (s, 2H), 3.38-3.34 (m, 2H), 1.65-1.60 (m, 2H), 1.33-1.27 (m, 6H), 0.90-0.83 (m, 3H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 153.7, 136.3, 135.5, 135.4, 131.0, 130.3, 128.7, 123.9, 123.5, 122.1, 121.8, 101.2, 55.9, 53.2, 31.6, 27.5, 26.5, 22.7, 14.1. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₂₀H₂₂N₂Br₃ 526.9333; found 526.9340.

2-(bis(2-iodobenzyl)amino)benzonitrile (7k)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, white solid, 1.98 g, 72%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84 (dd, J = 7.6, 0.8 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.42-7.28 (m, 5H), 7.00-6.91 (m, 3H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.56 (s, 4H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.8, 139.8, 138.9, 135.4, 133.7, 129.3, 128.6, 128.1, 121.0, 119.6, 119.0, 102.9, 98.8, 61.7. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₂₁H₁₇I₂N₂ 550.9476; found 550.9481.

2-(butyl(2-iodobenzyl)amino)benzonitrile (7l)

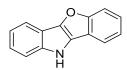
This compound was prepared according to the general procedure, yellow oil, 1.6 g, 82%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.28 (m, 3H), 6.96 (td, J = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.88-6.83 (m, 2H), 4.46 (s, 2H), 3.43 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 1.67-1.62 (m, 2H), 136-1.30 (m, 2H), 0.91 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 3H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 153.1, 139.7, 139.3, 135.4, 133.5, 129.1, 128.8, 128.5, 120.0, 119.5, 119.2, 102.5, 98.7, 61.2, 53.2, 29.9, 20.1, 14.1. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₁₈H₂₀IN₂ 391.0666; found 391.0682.

2.3. General Procedure for Synthesis of Indoles

procedure 1: The Schlenk tube charged with 3/5/7 (0.5 mmol), 'BuOK (1.1 mmol, 124 mg) and CuSO₄ (0.025 mmol, 4 mg) was dried under high vacuum for 15 min. PhCl (10 mL) was added under argon and stirred at 90 °C. The resulting reaction mixture was monitored by TLC. Upon completion of astarting materials, the reaction mixture was directly prified by silica gel column to give the desired product.

procedure 2: The Schlenk tube charged with **12/13** (0.6 mmol), K₂CO₃ (0.5 mmol) and CuSO₄ (0.05 mmol, 8 mg) was dried under high vacuum for 15 min. **1** (0.5 mmol) and DMF (10 mL) were added under argon. 10 min later, 'BuOK (1.1 mmol, 124 mg) was added under argon and stirred at 90 °C. The resulting reaction mixture was monitored by TLC. Upon completion of astarting materials, the reaction mixture was directly prified by silica gel column to give the desired product.

procedure 3: The Schlenk tube charged with **14** (0.6 mmol) and CuSO₄ (0.05 mmol, 8 mg) was dried under high vacuum for 15 min. **1** and DMF (10 mL) were added under argon at 0 °C. Then KHMDS (0.6 mmol) was added. 1h later, 'BuOK (1.1 mmol, 124 mg) was added under argon and stirred at 90 °C. The resulting reaction mixture was monitored by TLC. Upon completion of astarting materials, the reaction mixture was directly prified by silica gel column to give the desired product.



10H-benzofuro[3,2-b]indole (4a)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, X = Br, 79.6 mg, 77%. X = I, 101.6 mg, 98%. The general procedure 2, 85.8 mg, 83%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.01 (s, 1H), 7.83 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.66-7.61 (m, 2H), 7.45 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.34-7.21 (m, 4H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.3, 143.8, 139.8, 125.3, 124.0, 123.0, 122.8, 120.5, 118.8, 118.0, 117.3, 114.4, 112.9, 112.7. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₁₀NO 208.0757; found 208.0757.

2-bromo-10*H*-benzofuro[3,2-b]indole (4b)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 114.3 mg, 80%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_{6}) δ 11.70 (s, 1H), 7.84-7.81 (m, 1H), 7.78 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.74-7.70 (m, 2H), 7.40-7.35 (m, 2H), 7.28 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H). 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_{6}) δ 158.8, 141.5, 139.8, 126.2, 124.4, 123.1, 122.4, 118.6, 118.3, 118.0, 115.6, 114.8, 112.7, 111.7. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₈NONaBr 307.9681; found 307.9679.

3-bromo-10*H*-benzofuro[3,2-b]indole (4c)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, yellow solid, 118.7 mg, 83%. The general procedure 2, 114.2 mg, 80% 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.10 (s, 1H), 7.95-7.94 (m, 1H), 7.68-7.66 (m, 1H), 7.63-7.61 (m, 1H), 7.37-7.29 (m, 4H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.5, 142.6, 138.2, 126.5, 125.8, 124.6, 123.0, 119.9, 118.5, 118.2, 115.7, 114.0, 113.5, 113.0. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₄H₉BrNO 285.9862; found 285.9852.

1-bromo-10*H*-benzofuro[3,2-b]indole (4d)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 129.9 mg, 86%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.25 (s, 1H), 7.77 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.70-7.67 (m, 1H), 7.64-7.62 (m, 1H), 7.44 (dd, J = 7.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.31 (m, 2H), 7.11 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.3, 143.7, 137.5, 125.6, 125.1, 124.5, 123.0, 121.3, 118.4, 118.2, 116.4, 115.5, 112.9, 105.9. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₉NOBr 285.9862; found 285.9852.

3-chloro-10*H*-benzofuro[3,2-b]indole (4e)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, light yellow solid, 102.8 mg, 86%. The general procedure 2, 92.8 mg, 77% 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.08 (s, 1H), 7.79 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (dd, J = 7.2, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.21 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.5, 142.8, 138.0, 126.7, 126.2, 124.6, 123.2, 123.0, 118.5, 118.2, 116.8, 115.1, 113.6, 113.0. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₄H₉NOCl 242.0373; found 242.0365.

3-fluoro-10*H*-benzofuro[3,2-b]indole (4f)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, yellow solid, 101.2 mg, 90%. The general procedure 2, 78.8 mg, 70% 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 11.67 (s, 1H), 7.89-7.84 (m, 1H), 7.77-7.71 (m, 1H), 7.62-7.58 (m, 2H), 7.44-7.37 (m, 2H), 7.12 (td, J = 9.2, 2.4 Hz, 1H). 13 C (1 H) NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 158.8, 156.9 (d, J = 231.5 Hz), 141.7 (d, J = 4.4 Hz), 135.9, 127.3, 124.5, 123.0, 118.6, 118.3, 114.1 (d, J = 9.6 Hz), 112.6, 112.4 (d, J = 10.9 Hz), 110.3 (d, J = 26.0 Hz), 101.5 (d, J = 25.1 Hz). HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₉NOF 226.0663; found 226.0663.

3-methyl-10*H*-benzofuro[3,2-b]indole (4g)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 79.8 mg, 72%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.92 (s, 1H), 7.67-7.59 (m, 3H), 7.35 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.33-7.27 (m, 2H), 7.10 (ddd, J = 8.4, 1.6, 0.4 Hz, 1H), 2.51 (s, 3H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.3, 143.7, 138.3, 129.9, 125.5, 124.6, 123.8, 122.7, 119.0, 117.9, 117.0, 114.6, 112.8, 112.3, 21.6. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₁₅H₁₂NO 222.0913; found 222.0908.

3-methoxy-10*H*-benzofuro[3,2-b]indole (4h)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 101.5 mg, 86%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 11.33 (s, 1H), 7.79-7.78 (m, 1H), 7.71-7.68 (m, 1H), 7.47 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.33 (m, 2H), 7.27 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H). 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 158.6, 153.5, 142.0, 134.5, 126.0, 123.9, 122.9, 118.6, 118.3, 113.8, 112.7, 112.5, 112.4, 98.3, 55.5. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H]+ calcd for C₁₅H₁₂NO₂ 238.0863; found 238.0869.

7-methyl-10*H*-benzofuro[3,2-b]indole (4i)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 107.6 mg, 97%. The general procedure 2, 94.0 mg, 85% 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.00 (s, 1H), 7.81 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.46-7.43 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.20 (m, 2H), 7.12 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.52 (s, 3H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.8, 143.4, 139.5, 134.4, 125.4, 124.0, 122.6, 120.4, 117.5, 117.0, 116.4, 114.6, 113.2, 112.6, 21.9. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₅H₁₂NO 222.0913; found 222.0909

7-bromo-10*H*-benzofuro[3,2-b]indole (4j)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 97.4 mg, 68%. The general procedure 2, 94.4 mg, 66% 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_{6}) δ 11.56 (s, 1H), 7.99 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.78-7.73 (m, 2H), 7.58 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H). 13 C (1 H) NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_{6}) δ 158.7, 142.7, 139.5, 126.0, 124.7, 122.8, 119.7, 119.5, 117.8, 116.5, 116.0, 115.7, 113.2, 112.5. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₄H₉BrNO 285.9862; found 285.9855.

8-chloro-10*H*-benzofuro[3,2-b]indole (4k)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 84.4 mg, 70%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.07 (s, 1H), 7.82 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.33-7.22 (m, 3H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.6, 145.2, 140.1, 128.3, 124.3, 123.8, 123.7, 120.7, 119.9, 117.7, 117.5, 114.2, 113.7, 112.8. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₄H₉CINO 242.0367; found 242.0361.

8-methoxy-10*H*-benzofuro[3,2-b]indole (4l)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 99.9 mg, 84%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 11.39 (s, 1H), 7.69 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (td, J = 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 159.8, 157.3, 141.3, 138.6, 125.5, 121.5, 119.4, 118.5, 115.7, 113.1, 112.9, 112.1, 111.0, 98.2, 55.7. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₁₅H₁₂NO₂ 238.0863; found 238.0858.

$$\bigcap_{N \text{ } H} \bigcap_{N}$$

10*H*-pyrido[2',3':4,5]furo[3,2-b]indole (4m)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, light orange solid, 62.5 g, 60%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 11.90 (s, 1H), 8.53 (dd, J = 4.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (dd, J = 8.4, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (td, J = 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.18 (m, 1H). 13 C (1 H) NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 152.2, 145.5, 144.8, 140.3, 137.6, 123.9, 123.8, 119.8, 119.3, 118.5, 116.9, 113.3, 112.4. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₃H₉N₂O 209.0709; found 209.0711.

4-bromo-10*H*-benzofuro[3,2-b]indole (4n)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, brown solid, 114.3mg, 80%.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 11.89 (s, 1H), 7.85-7.83 (m, 1H), 7.79-7.77 (m, 1H), 7.58 (dd, J = 8.0, 0.4 Hz, 1H), 7.43-7.37 (m, 2H), 7.34 (dd, J = 7.2, 0.4 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (dd, J = 8.0, 7.6 Hz, 1H).

¹³C{

¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 158.8, 140.8, 139.7, 126.5, 124.7, 123.3, 123.1, 122.3, 118.6, 117.9, 113.8, 112.8, 112.3, 109.5. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₉NOBr 285.9862; found 285.9864.

4,7-dibromo-10*H*-benzofuro[3,2-b]indole (40)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, yellow solid, 121.7 mg, 66%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_{6}) δ 11.93 (s, 1H), 8.09 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H). 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_{6}) δ 158.9, 141.4, 139.9, 126.3, 125.8, 123.7, 122.5, 119.9, 117.2, 116.8, 116.0, 113.7, 112.5, 109.5. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₇Br₂NONa 385.8792; found 385.8790.

4,9-dibromo-10*H*-benzofuro[3,2-b]indole (4p)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 164.3 mg, 90%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 12.03 (s, 1H), 7.79 (dd, J = 8.4, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (dd, J = 8.4, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (dd, J = 8.0, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (dd, J = 7.6, 0.4 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (dd, J = 8.4, 0.4 Hz, 1H). 13 C (1 H) NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 158.4, 141.4, 140.4, 125.9, 125.8, 125.0, 124.0, 122.6, 119.7, 113.3, 112.7, 112.1, 110.7, 109.6. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₈Br₂NO 363.8967; found 363.8973.

12*H*-benzo[g]benzofuro[3,2-b]indole (4q)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 87.0 mg, 68%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 12.51 (s, 1H), 8.47 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.66-7.60 (m, 2H), 7.49 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.38 (m, 2H). 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 158.7, 143.4, 133.7, 130.0, 128.8, 126.1, 124.4, 123.7, 123.6, 123.1, 122.7, 120.7, 120.4, 118.8, 117.9, 116.6, 112.6, 108.0. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₈H₁₂NO 258.0913; found 258.0914.

N,N-diisopropyl-10*H*-benzofuro[3,2-b]indole-2-carboxamide

(4r)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 115.2 mg, 69%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.18 (s, 1H), 7.66 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.48 (m, 2H), 7.23-7.14

(m, 3H), 7.03 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 1.51 (s, 12H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.5, 159.5, 143.0, 139.5, 132.5, 127.3, 124.0, 122.6, 118.9, 118.5, 117.2, 116.6, 114.2, 112.6, 111.1, 20.9. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₂₁H₂₂N₂O₂Na 357.1573; found 357.1561.

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 78.1 mg, 56%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 12.07 (s, 1H), 8.16 (t, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.87-7.85 (m, 1H), 7.77-7.74 (m, 2H), 7.52 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.44-7.37 (m, 2H). 13 C (1 H) NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 158.9, 141.7, 140.4, 129.4, 127.4, 126.7 (d, J = 269.8 Hz), 124.9, 123.2, 120.8 (q, J = 31.2 Hz), 118.8, 118.5 (d, J = 3.5 Hz), 118.1, 114.1 (d, J = 4.2 Hz), 113.8, 112.8, 111.9. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₅H₉NOF₃ 276.0631; found 276.0626.

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 118.5 mg, 98%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.17 (s, 1H), 7.69-7.64 (m, 2H), 7.85-7.83 (m, 1H), 7.38-7.29 (m, 3H), 7.22-7.14 (m, 2H). 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.6, 142.3, 140.2, 126.0, 124.6, 123.7, 123.4, 123.0, 120.5, 118.2, 118.1, 113.7, 113.2, 111.0. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₄H₉NOCl 242.0367; found 242.0365.

1-chloro-10*H*-benzofuro[3,2-b]indole (4u)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 93.9 mg, 78%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.36 (s, 1H), 7.76-7.73 (m, 2H), 7.65-7.62 (m, 1H), 7.39-7.32 (m, 2H), 7.29 (dd, J = 7.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.3, 143.5, 136.2, 125.7, 124.4, 122.9, 122.2, 120.9, 118.4, 118.1, 117.6, 115.8, 115.6, 112.8. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₄H₉NOCl 242.0367; found 242.0361.

10*H*-benzo[4,5]thieno[3,2-b]indole (6a)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 109.4 mg, 98%. The general procedure 2, 100.5 mg, 90%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 12.12 (s, 1H), 8.07 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (td, J = 7.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H). 13 C $\{^{1}$ H $\}$ NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 142.0, 140.6, 137.5, 126.7, 124.5, 124.4, 124.3, 122.8, 121.5, 120.2, 119.4, 118.8, 113.8, 112.6. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₁₀NS 224.0528; found 224.0527.

3-methoxy-10*H*-benzo[4,5]thieno[3,2-b]indole (6b)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 114.1 mg, 90%. The general procedure 2, 101.1 mg, 80%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 11.93 (s, 1H), 8.04-7.99 (m, 2H), 7.49-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.36 (td, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 153.5, 141.9, 138.1, 135.5, 126.8, 124.5, 124.4, 124.2, 121.8, 120.1, 113.5, 113.3, 113.0, 100.7, 55.5. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₅H₁₂NOS 254.0634; found 254.0623.

3-chloro-10*H*-benzo[4,5]thieno[3,2-b]indole (6c)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, yellow solid, 126.2 mg, 98%. The general procedure 2, 117.1 mg, 91%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 12.34 (s, 1H), 8.07 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 142.4, 139.0, 138.9, 126.3, 124.9, 124.7, 124.5, 123.8, 122.7, 122.5, 120.5, 118.3, 114.1, 113.3.

3-bromo-10*H*-benzo[4,5]thieno[3,2-b]indole (6d)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, yellow solid, 148.6 mg, 98%. The general procedure 2, 132.6 mg, 88%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_{6}) δ 12.36 (s, 1H), 8.09 (s, 1H), 8.05-8.02 (m, 2H), 7.57 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.42-7.37 (m, 2H). 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_{6}) δ 142.4, 139.3, 138.7, 126.3, 125.2, 124.8, 124.6, 124.5, 123.2, 121.2, 120.5, 114.5, 113.2, 111.7. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₄H₉NSBr 301.9634; found 301.9628.

4-bromo-10*H*-benzo[4,5]thieno[3,2-b]indole (6e)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, yellow solid, 142.7 mg, 94%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.67 (s, 1H), 7.94-7.91 (m, 1H), 7.85-7.83 (m, 1H), 7.46-7.36 (m, 4H), 7.15 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H). 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.6, 140.7, 137.2, 126.2, 124.6, 124.5, 124.4, 124.3, 124.0, 123.0, 119.6, 117.0, 113.8, 111.2. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₈BrNSNa 323.9453; found 323.9459.

1-chloro-10H-benzo[4,5]thieno[3,2-b]indole (6f)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 98.9 mg, 77%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 12.4 (s, 1H), 8.28 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.44-7.40 (m, 1H), 7.36 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H). 13 C (1 H) NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 142.3, 138.3, 137.2, 126.5, 124.9, 124.7, 124.4, 123.3, 122.2, 121.0, 120.4, 117.9, 116.5, 114.7. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₈CINSNa 279.9958; found 279.9962.

4-chloro-10*H*-benzo[4,5]thieno[3,2-b]indole (6g)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 118.1 mg, 92%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 12.5 (s, 1H), 8.12 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.22 (m, 2H). ¹³C{¹H}

NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 142.6, 141.2, 138.0, 126.1, 124.8, 124.7, 124.5, 123.8, 123.4, 120.5, 120.4, 118.8, 112.5, 111.6. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₈ClNSNa 279.9958; found 279.9976.

10*H*-benzo[4,5]thieno[3,2-b]indol-3-ol (6h)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 100.0 mg, 84%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 11.77 (s, 1H), 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.01-7.97 (m, 2H), 7.46 (td, J = 7.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.39-7.33 (m, 2H), 7.02 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 151.0, 141.8, 138.0, 135.0, 126.8, 124.5, 124.4, 124.1, 122.1, 120.0, 113.1, 113.0, 112.9, 102.8. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₁₀NOS 240.0478; found 240.0472.

12H-benzo[g]benzo[4,5]thieno[3,2-b]indole (6i)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 92.9 mg, 68%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_{6}) δ 12.94 (s, 1H), 8.49 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.05-8.00 (m, 2H), 7.90 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.55-7.49 (m, 2H), 7.39 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H). 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_{6}) δ 141.6, 136.0, 135.3, 130.3, 128.7, 126.9, 125.8, 124.7, 124.5, 124.0, 122.5, 120.8, 120.2, 119.8, 118.9, 117.1, 115.7. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₈H₁₂NS 274.0685; found 274.0685.

2-bromo-10*H*-benzo[4,5]thieno[3,2-b]indole (6j)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 2, yellow solid, 113.1 mg, 75%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_{6}) δ 12.33 (s, 1H), 8.10 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (s, 1H), 7.78 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_{6}) δ 142.2, 141.3, 138.2, 126.4, 124.7, 124.5, 122.2, 120.6, 120.4, 115.4, 115.1, 113.9. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₈NNaS 323.9453; found 323.9441.

3-fluoro-10*H*-benzo[4,5]thieno[3,2-b]indole (6k)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 2, yellow solid, 102.4 mg, 85%.
¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 12.23 (s, 1H), 8.09 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (dd, J = 9.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (dd, J = 9.2, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (td, J = 9.2, 2.4 Hz, 1H).
¹³C{
¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 156.8 (d, J = 231.3 Hz), 142.3, 139.2, 137.2, 126.5, 124.7, 124.6, 124.5, 121.6 (d, J = 11.0 Hz), 126.4, 113.7 (d, J = 4.4 Hz), 113.5 (d, J = 9.8 Hz), 110.8 (d, J = 25.7 Hz), 104.0 (d, J = 24.5 Hz). HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₁₄H₉FNS 242.0434; found 242.0424.

5-methyl-5,10-dihydroindolo[3,2-b]indole (8a)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 107.9 mg, 98%. The general procedure 3, 94.3 mg, 86%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 11.20 (s, 1H), 7.96 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.18 (m, 2H), 7.13-7.07 (m, 2H), 4.10 (s, 3H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 140.8, 140.3, 126.8, 124.1, 121.6, 121.4, 118.0, 117.9, 117.7, 117.3, 114.5, 114.3, 112.2, 109.9, 31.4. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₁₅H₁₃N₂ 221.1073; found 221.1067.

3-chloro-5-methyl-5,10-dihydroindolo[3,2-b]indole (8b)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, yellow solid, 125.7 mg, 99%. The general procedure 3, 108.1 mg, 85%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 11.43 (s, 1H), 8.03 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.79-7.76 (m, 1H), 7.56 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (dd, J = 8.8, 0.4 Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.25 (m, 1H), 7.18 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.14-7.10 (m, 1H), 4.09 (s, 3H). 13 C $\{^{1}$ H $\}$ NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 141.2, 138.5, 126.0, 125.6, 122.4, 122.2, 121.2, 118.1, 118.0, 116.6, 115.1, 113.9, 113.5, 110.1, 31.4. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₅H₁₂ClN₂ 255.0684; found 255.0689.

4-bromo-5-methyl-5,10-dihydroindolo[3,2-b]indole (8c)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, yellow solid, 119.4 mg, 80%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_{6}) δ 11.80 (s, 1H), 7.81 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (dd, J = 8.4, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.30 (m, 2H), 7.17-7.09 (m, 2H), 4.31 (s, 3H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_{6}) δ 142.0, 141.2, 126.5, 124.9, 122.8, 122.3, 122.2, 118.3, 117.9, 115.5, 113.3, 111.6, 110.5, 109.8, 34.6. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₅H₁₂BrN₂ 299.0178; found 299.0184.

3-fluoro-5-methyl-5,10-dihydroindolo[3,2-b]indole (8d)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, yellow solid, 119.4 mg, 99%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_{6}) δ 11.32 (s, 1H), 7.81 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.56-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.27 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (td, J = 9.2, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.08 (s, 3H). 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_{6}) δ 156.3 (d, J = 229.4 Hz), 141.3, 137.0, 126.8 (d, J = 4.0 Hz), 126.2, 122.2, 118.1, 114.2, 114.0 (d, J = 10.5 Hz), 113.0 (d, J = 9.8 Hz), 110.7, 109.3 (d, J = 25.6 Hz), 102.5 (d, J = 24.5 Hz), 31.3. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₁₅H₁₂FN₂ 239.0979; found 239.0985.

3-methoxy-5-methyl-5,10-dihydroindolo[3,2-b]indole (8e)

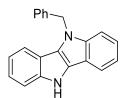
This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 103.7 mg, 83%. The general procedure 3, 88.6 mg, 71%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 10.96 (s, 1H), 7.73 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.25-7.21 (m, 1H), 7.09 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.09 (s, 3H), 3.85 (s, 3H). 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 152.7, 141.0, 135.6, 126.9, 125.2, 121.5, 117.8, 117.7, 114.4 (two peaks), 112.8, 111.2, 109.9, 100.0, 55.7, 31.4. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₆H₁₅N₂O 251.1179; found 251.1184.

5-methyl-5,10-dihydro-[1,3]dioxolo[4,5-f]indolo[3,2-b]indole (8f)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 106.7 mg, 81%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 11.00 (s, 1H), 7.67 (m, 1H), 7.50-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.17 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.06-7.04 (m, 2H), 6.00 (s, 2H), 4.03 (s, 3H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 144.0, 141.2, 140.4, 135.6, 127.4, 123.4, 120.7, 117.8, 117.0, 114.7, 109.7, 107.7, 100.3, 96.6, 93.4, 31.2. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₁₆H₁₃N₂O₂ 265.0972; found 265.0977.

5-phenyl-5,10-dihydroindolo[3,2-b]indole (8g)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, yellow solid, 134.1 mg, 95%. The general procedure 3, 105.9 mg, 75%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 11.51 (s, 1H), 7.90-7.87 (m, 1H), 7.76 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50-7.43 (m, 2H), 7.29-7.20 (m, 3H), 7.04 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H). 13 C $\{^{1}$ H $\}$ NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 140.4, 139.9, 138.5, 129.9, 126.4, 126.0, 125.1, 124.8, 122.7, 121.8, 119.7, 118.3, 118.2, 117.5, 115.7, 114.1, 112.5, 110.6. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₂₀H₁₅N₂ 283.1230; found 283.1235.



5-benzyl-5,10-dihydroindolo[3,2-b]indole (8h)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 109.4 mg, 74%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 11.27 (s, 1H), 7.79 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.10 (m, 8H), 7.04-7.00 (m, 1H), 5.78 (s, 2H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 140.6, 140.3, 138.7, 128.5, 127.2, 126.7, 126.1, 127.7, 121.7, 121.6, 118.3, 118.1, 117.8, 117.4, 114.6, 114.4, 112.2, 110.4, 47.8. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₂₁H₁₇N₂ 297.1386; found 297.1392.

5-(4-methoxybenzyl)-5,10-dihydroindolo[3,2-b]indole (8i)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 141.1 mg, 86%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 11.25 (s, 1H), 7.79 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.23-7.19 (m, 1H), 7.18-7.15 (m, 3H), 7.12-7.09 (m, 1H), 7.05-7.01 (m, 1H), 6.81-6.78 (m, 2H), 5.70 (s, 2H), 3.64 (s, 3H). ¹³C { ¹H } NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 158.4, 140.5, 140.3, 130.6, 128.0, 126.1, 124.7, 121.6, 121.5, 118.2, 118.1, 117.8, 117.5, 114.6, 114.4, 113.9, 112.2, 110.4, 55.0, 47.3. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+Na]⁺ calcd for C₂₂H₁₈N₂ONa 349.1311; found 349.1320.

2,7-dibromo-5-hexyl-5,10-dihydroindolo[3,2-b]indole (8j)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, white solid, 174.5 mg, 78%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.97 (s, 1H), 7.62 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (dd, J = 5.6, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.26-7.24 (m, 1H), 4.35 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.92-1.86 (m, 2H), 1.39-1.24 (m, 6H), 0.85 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). 13 C $\{^{1}$ H $\}$ NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 141.4, 142.2, 127.3, 124.2, 122.8, 121.7, 119.0, 118.6, 115.9, 115.7, 115.3, 114.3, 113.2, 113.0, 45.6, 31.6, 30.3, 26.8, 22.6, 14.1. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₂₀H₂₁N₂Br₂ 447.0066; found 447.0051.

5-(2-iodobenzyl)-5,10-dihydroindolo[3,2-b]indole (8k)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, yellow solid, 137.1 mg, 65%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 11.36 (s, 1H), 7.96 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.55-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.45 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.24-7.21 (m, 1H), 7.18-7.13 (m, 2H), 7.09 (t, J = 7.6

Hz, 1H), 7.00-6.95 (m, 2H), 6.28 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 5.73 (s, 2H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 140.6, 140.3, 139.9, 139.3, 129.4, 128.4, 126.6, 125.9, 124.8, 122.0, 121.7, 118.6, 118.3, 118.0, 116.9, 114.6, 114.2, 112.4, 110.2, 97.4, 53.2. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₂₁H₁₆IN₂ 423.0353; found 423.0343.

5-butyl-5,10-dihydroindolo[3,2-b]indole (81)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 1, yellow solid, 114.5 mg, 85%. The general procedure 3, 104.8 mg, 80%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 11.21 (s, 1H), 7.86 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.24-7.18 (m, 2H), 7.12-7.07 (m, 2H), 4.52 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.86-1.79 (m, 2H), 1.32-1.24 (m, 2H), 0.85 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 3H). 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 140.3, 140.2, 126.1, 124.3, 121.5, 121.4, 118.1, 117.7, 114.4, 114.2, 112.2, 110.0, 44.2, 32.2, 19.6, 13.8. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₁₈H₁₉N₂ 263.1543; found 263.1541.

3-chloro-5-phenyl-5,10-dihydroindolo[3,2-b]indole (8m)

This compound was prepared according to the general procedure 3, yellow solid, 105.9 mg, 67%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 11.74 (s, 1H), 7.90-7.88 (m, 1H), 7.78-7.70 (m, 4H), 7.62-7.58 (m, 2H), 7.53-7.48 (m, 1H), 7.33-7.23 (m, 3H), 7.21 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H). 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, DMSO– d_6) δ 140.3, 138.6, 138.2, 130.0, 127.5, 126.7, 124.8, 124.2, 123.4, 122.4, 121.5, 119.9, 118.5, 116.3, 115.3, 114.7, 114.0, 110.7. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H]⁺ calcd for C₂₀H₁₄ClN₂ 317.0840; found 4317.0827.

Synthesis of 10

BuOK (99 mmol, 11.1 g), **7g** (45 mmol, 18.5 g) and CuSO₄ (2.25 mmol, 359 mg) were weighed directly into a 2000 mL round bottom flask and dried under high vacuum for 15 min. PhCl (900 mL) was added under argon and stirred at 90 °C until the disappearance of **7b**. The resulting mixture was cooled to RT, filtered through a silica gel pad and washed with EtOAc. The filtrate was concentrated and purified by chromatography on silica gel (PE/EA = 200/1 to PE/EA = 30/1) to

afford the corresponding product **8g** as a yellow solid (11.8 g, 93%). To **8g** (41.8 mmol, 11.8 g) in 350 mL DMF was added in an ice bath. Then NaH was added. After stirring for 30 min, **9** (54.3 mmol, 17.8 g) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at 60 °C. The resulting reaction mixture was monitored by TLC. Upon completion of astarting materials, the reaction was cooled to RT. EtOAc (1 L) was added. Filtered get **10** as a yellow solid (20.7 g, 84%).

 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.10-9.06 (m, 2H), 8.87-8.84 (m, 4H), 8.02-7.99 (m, 2H), 7.80-7.75 (m, 1H), 7.69-7.57 (m, 10H), 7.52-7.48 (m, 1H), 7.34-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.20-7.15 (m, 2H). 13 C { 1 H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.0, 171.2, 142.8, 141.2, 140.8, 138.8, 136.4, 134.2, 132.8, 130.7, 129.9, 129.2, 128.9, 127.5, 127.1, 126.3, 126.1, 125.4, 123.3, 123.0, 120.3, 119.9, 118.9, 118.8, 116.4, 115.8, 111.2, 111.1. HRMS (ESI–TOF) m/z: [M+H] $^{+}$ calcd for C₄₁H₂₈N₅ 590.2345; found 590.2336.

3. X-Ray Crystallographic Data

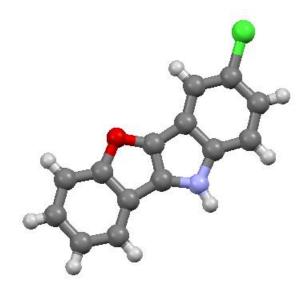


Table S1 Crystal data and structure refinement for 3-chloro-10*H*-benzofuro[3,2-b]indole

Empirical formula	C ₁₄ H ₈ ClNO
Formula weight	241.66
Temperature/K	291(2)
Crystal system	orthorhombic
Space group	Pbca
a/Å	14.7356(3)
b/Å	5.75805(13)
c/Å	24.9630(5)
α/°	90
β/°	90
γ/°	90
Volume/Å ³	2118.07(7)
Z	8
pcalcg/cm ³	1.516
μ/mm^{-1}	3.014
F(000)	992.0
Crystal size/mm ³	$0.23\times0.22\times0.2$
Radiation	$CuK\alpha (\lambda = 1.54184)$
2Θ range for data collection/°	7.082 to 147.156

Index ranges	$-11 \le h \le 17, -4 \le k \le 6, -30 \le l \le 30$
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Reflections collected 4814

Independent reflections 2073 [$R_{int} = 0.0201$, $R_{sigma} = 0.0198$]

Data/restraints/parameters 2073/0/155

Goodness-of-fit on F^2 1.071

Final R indexes [I>= 2σ (I)] R_1 = 0.0379, wR_2 = 0.0996

Final R indexes [all data] $R_1 = 0.0398$, $wR_2 = 0.1019$

Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å-3 0.29/-0.27

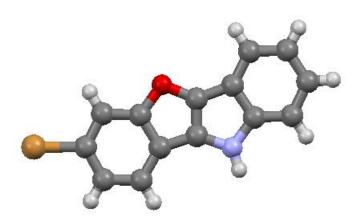


Table S2 Crystal data and structure refinement for 7-bromo-10*H*-benzofuro[3,2-b]indole

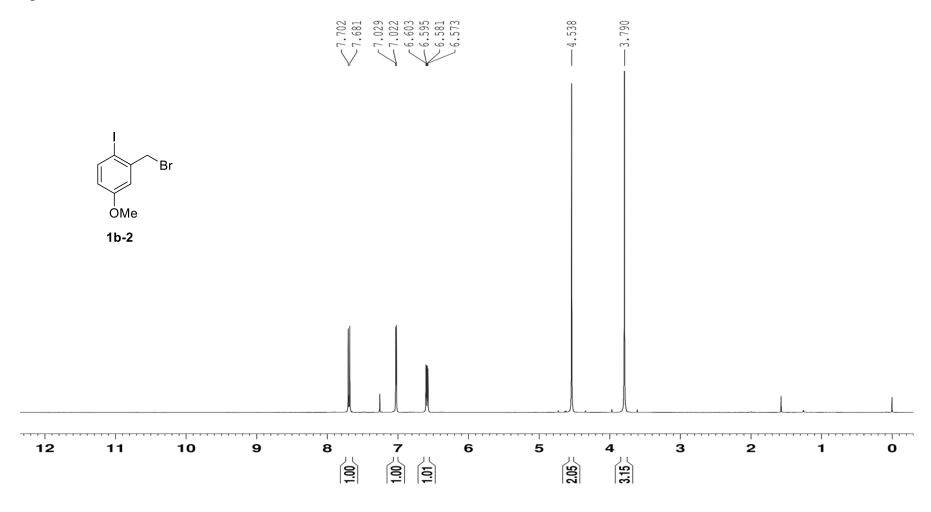
Empirical formula	C ₁₄ H ₈ BrNO
Formula weight	286.12
Temperature/K	291(2)
Crystal system	orthorhombic
Space group	Pca21
a/Å	8.28779(11)
b/Å	5.59996(10)
c/Å	24.2843(4)
α/°	90
β/°	90
γ/°	90
Volume/Å ³	1127.07(3)
Z	4

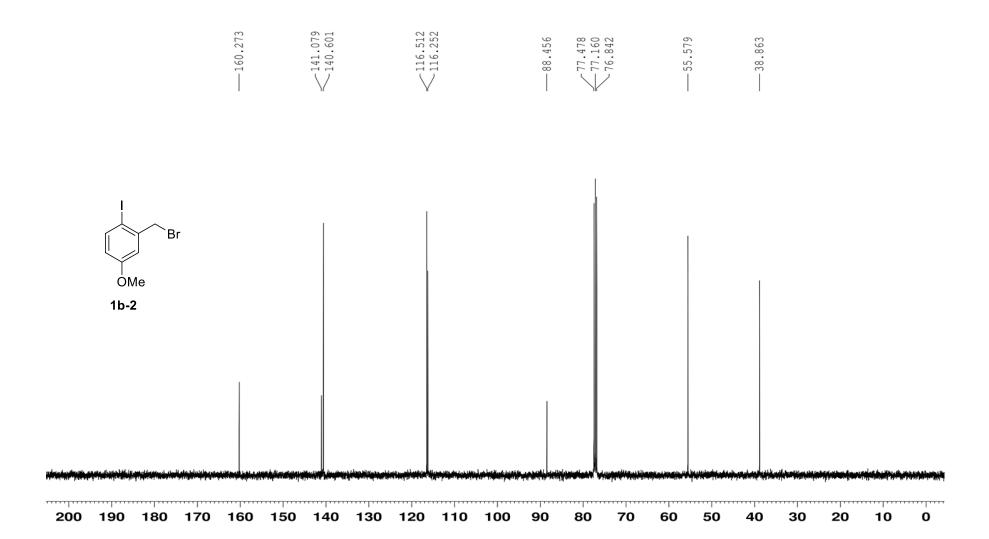
ρcalcg/cm ³	1.686
μ /mm ⁻¹	4.806
F(000)	568.0
Crystal size/mm ³	$0.2\times0.2\times0.17$
Radiation	$CuK\alpha (\lambda = 1.54184)$
2Θ range for data collection/°	7.28 to 147.562
Index ranges	$-10 \le h \le 10, -5 \le k \le 6, -29 \le l \le 29$
Reflections collected	9432
Independent reflections	2233 [$R_{int} = 0.0332$, $R_{sigma} = 0.0189$]
Data/restraints/parameters	2233/1/155
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.044
Final R indexes [I>= 2σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0305, wR_2 = 0.0831$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0307, wR_2 = 0.0833$
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å-3	0.33/-0.30
Flack parameter	0.00(2)

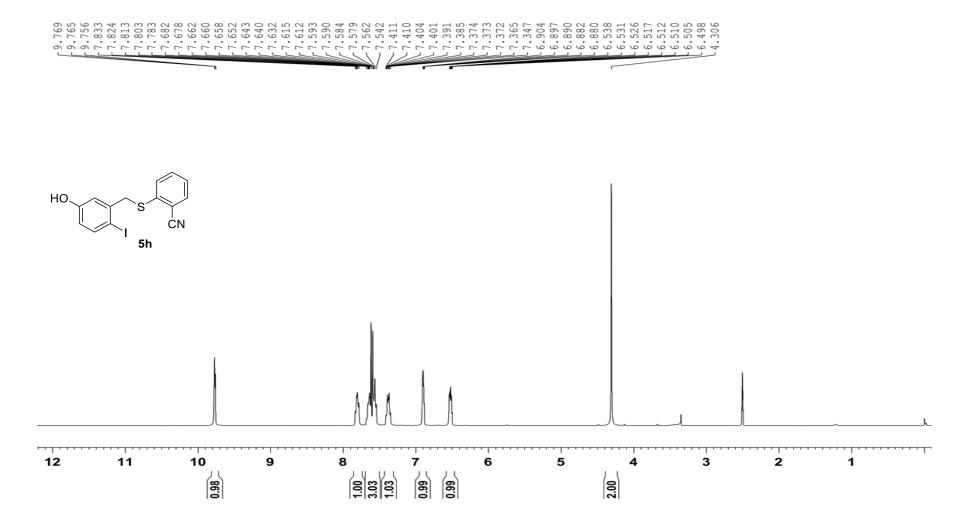
4. Reference

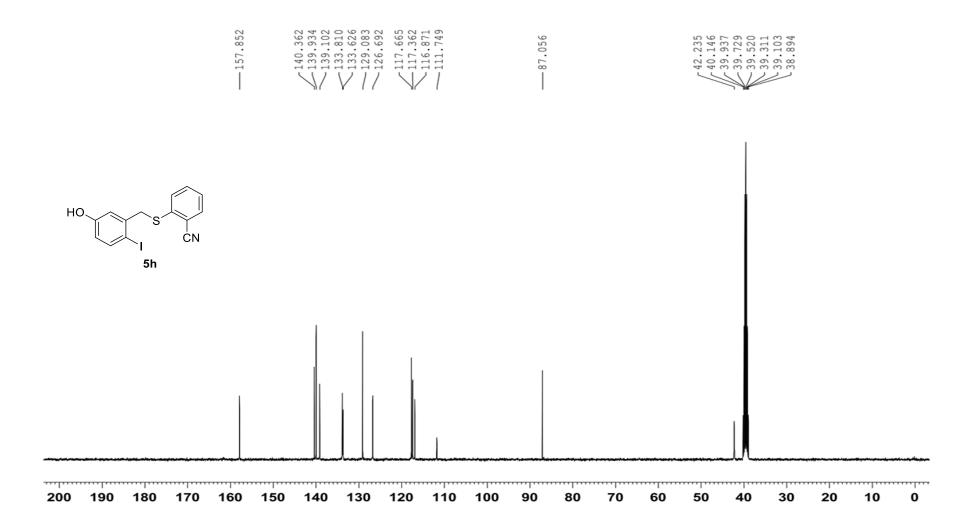
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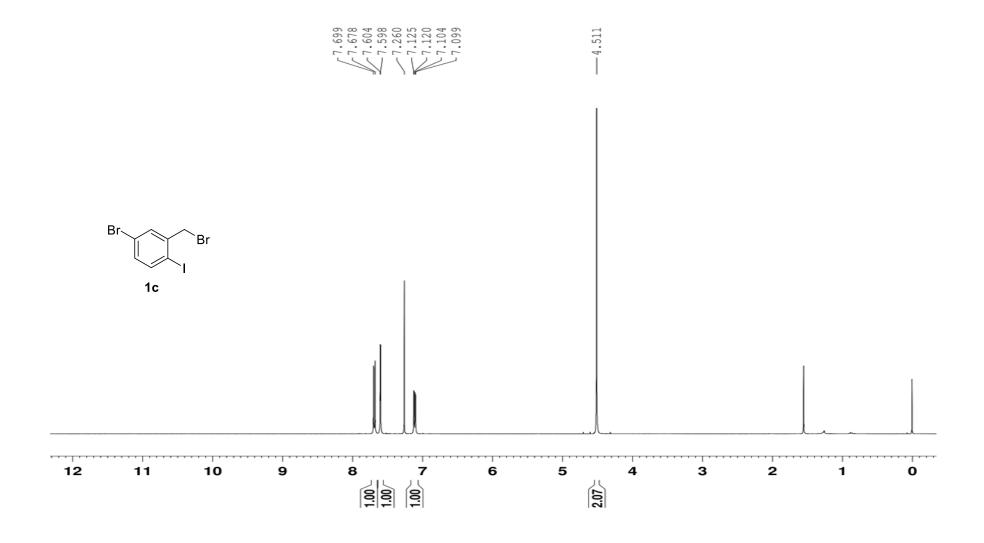
5. NMR spectra



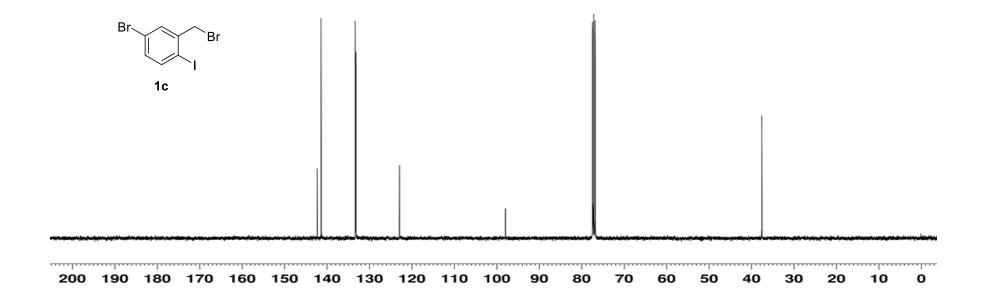


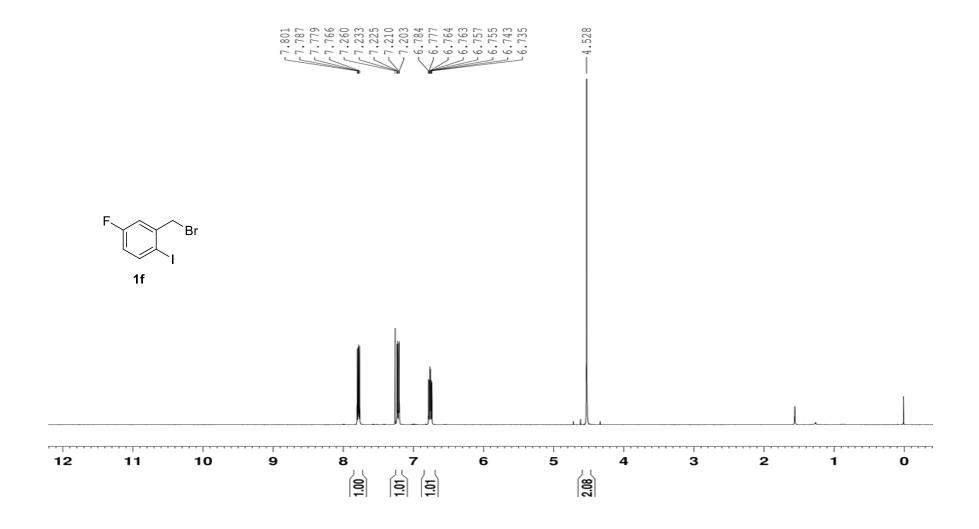


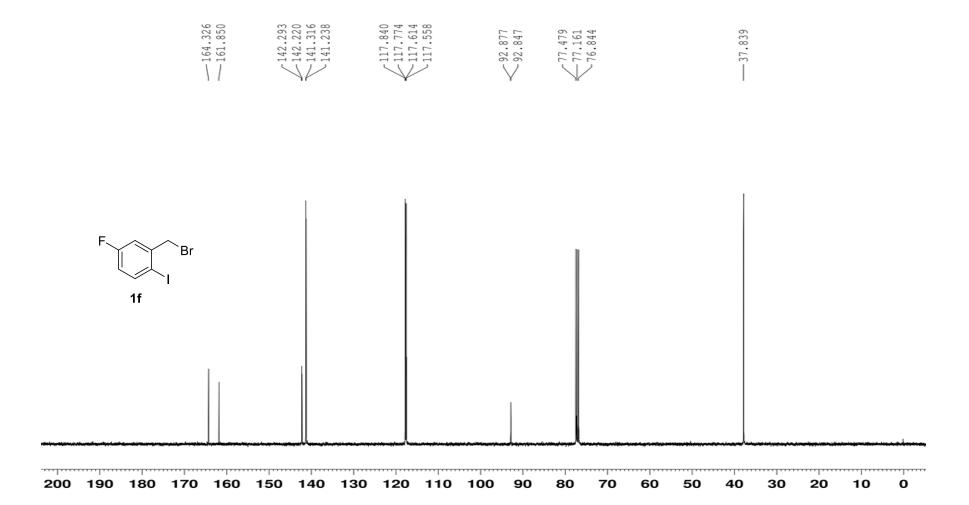


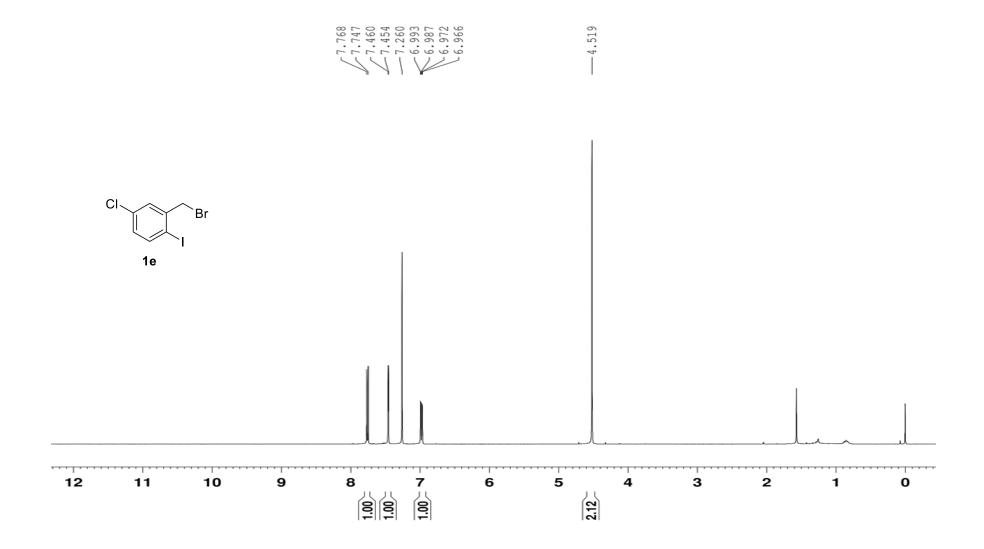


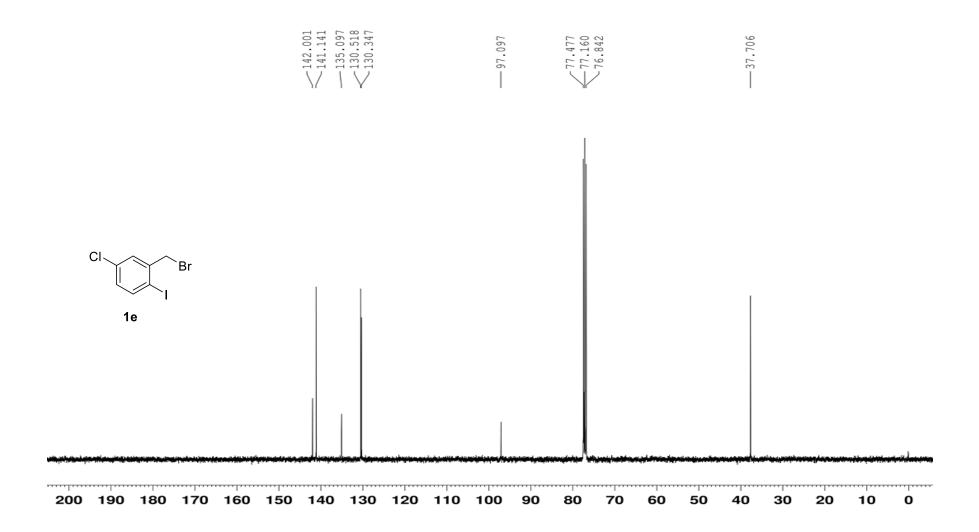


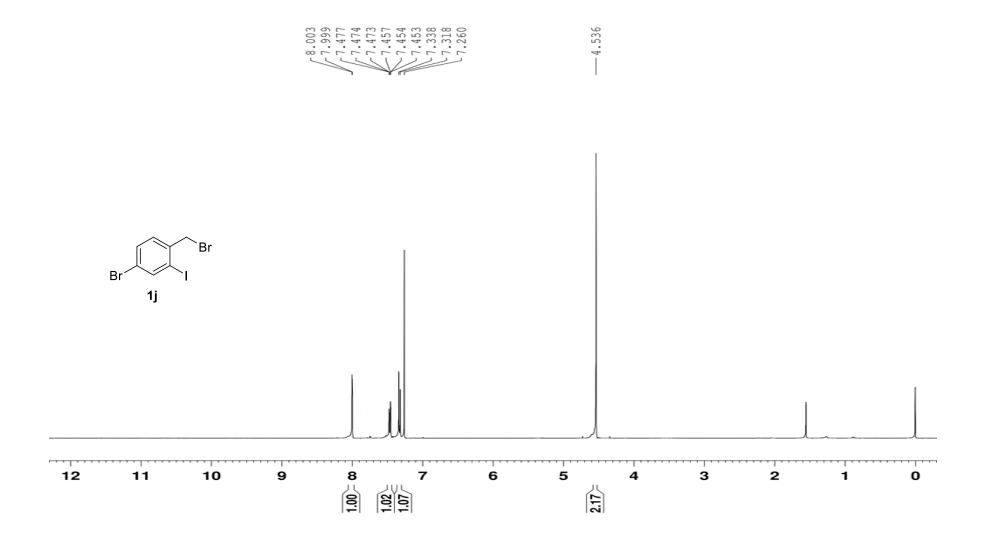




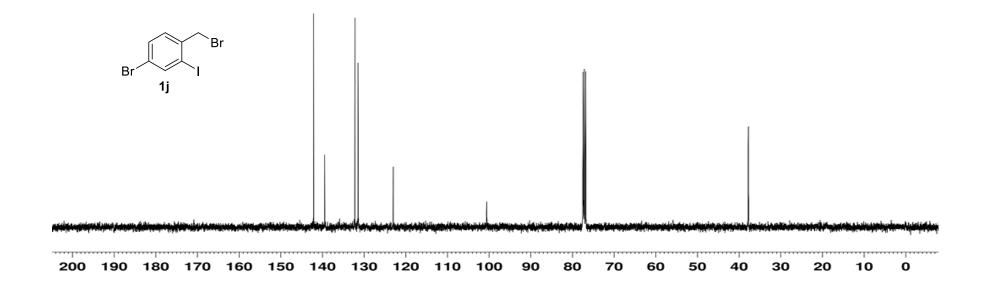




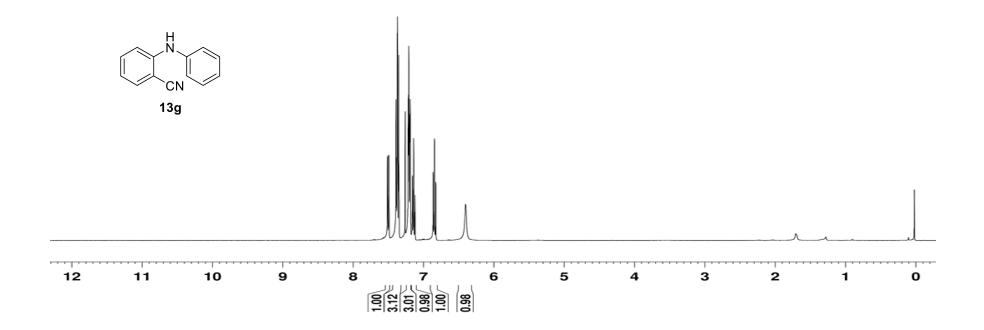


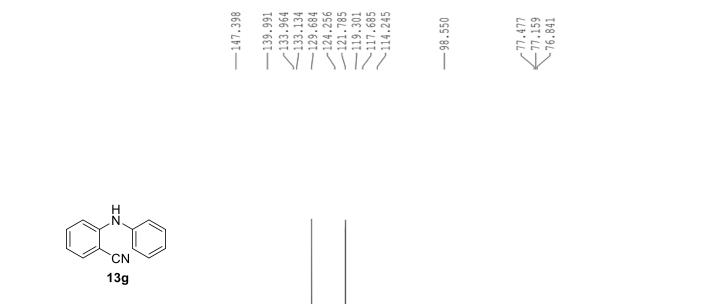


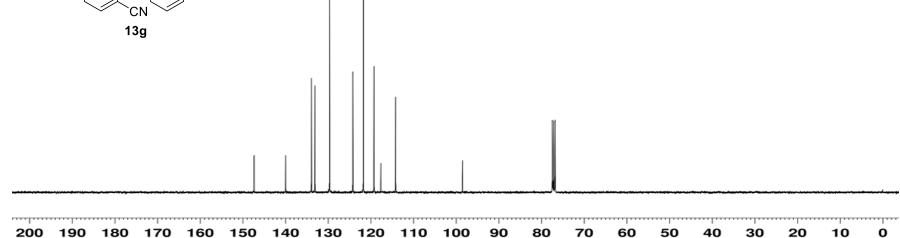


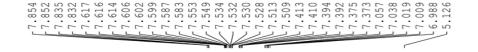


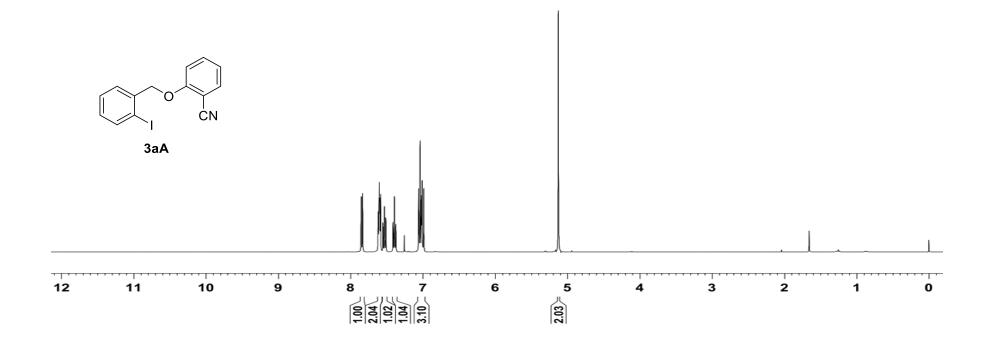


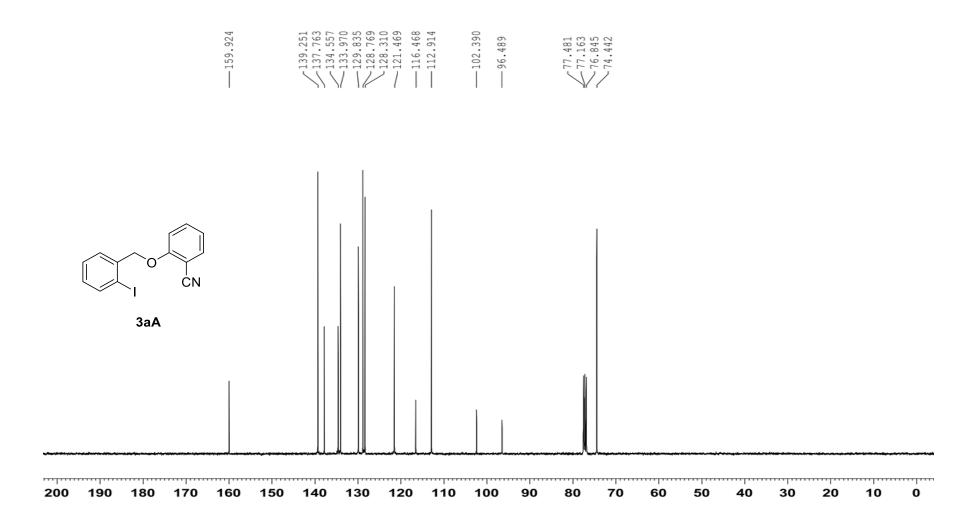


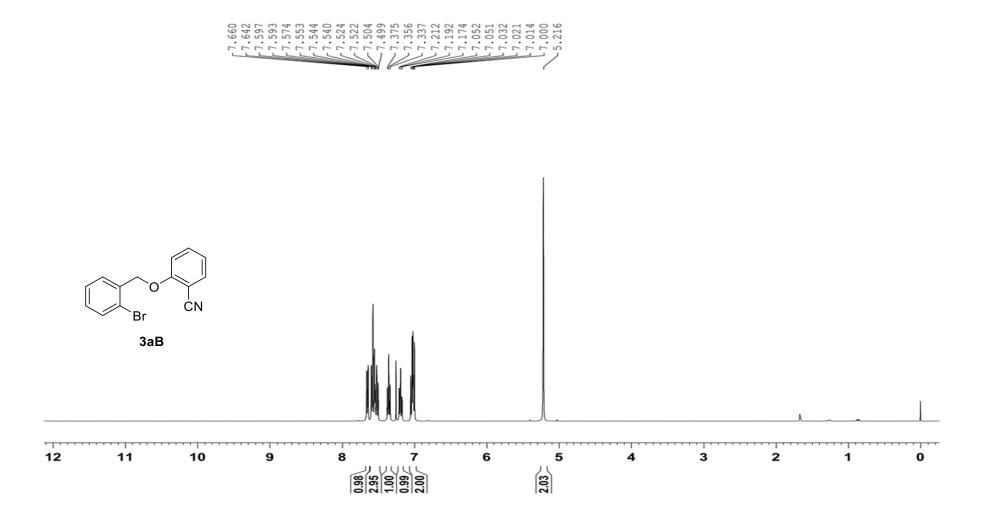




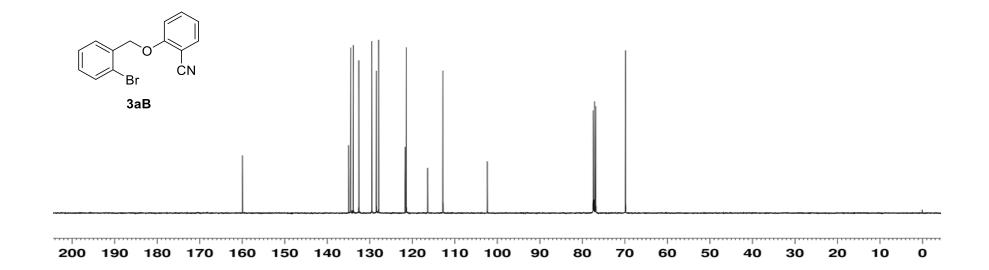


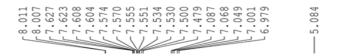


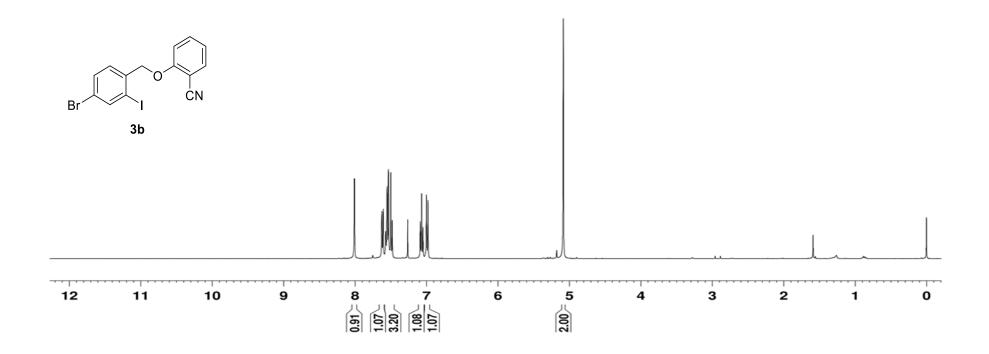


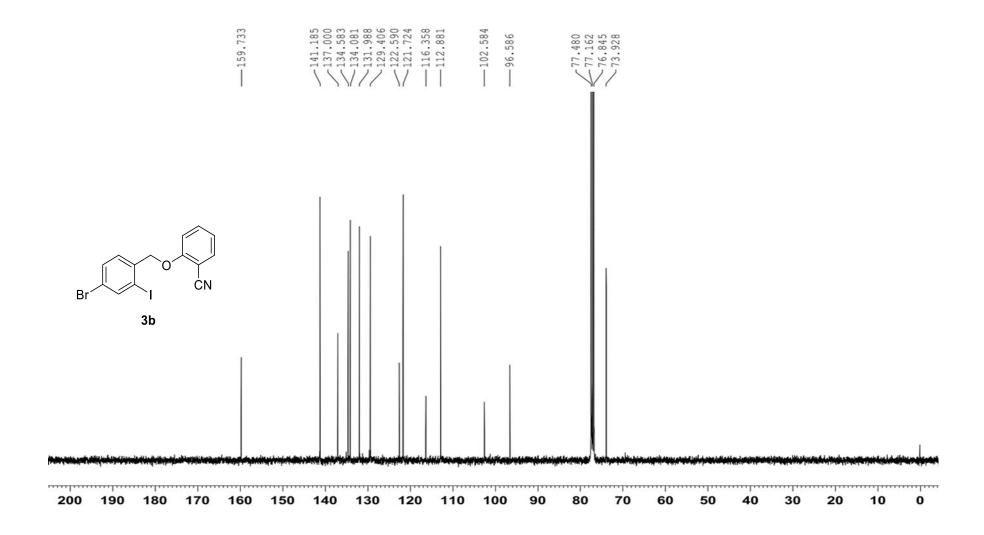




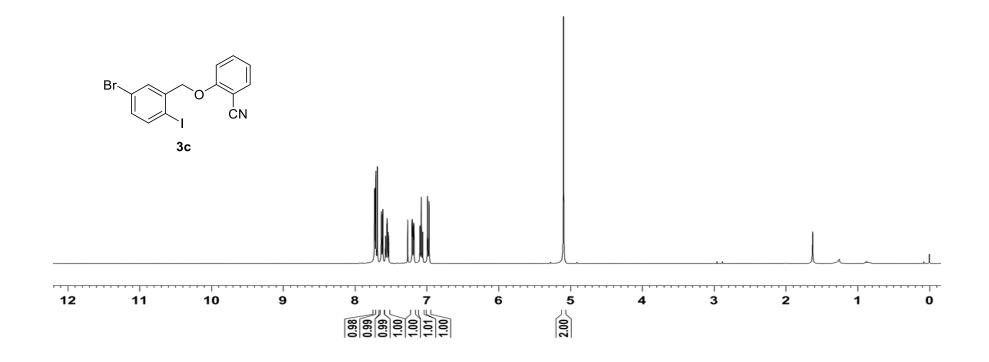


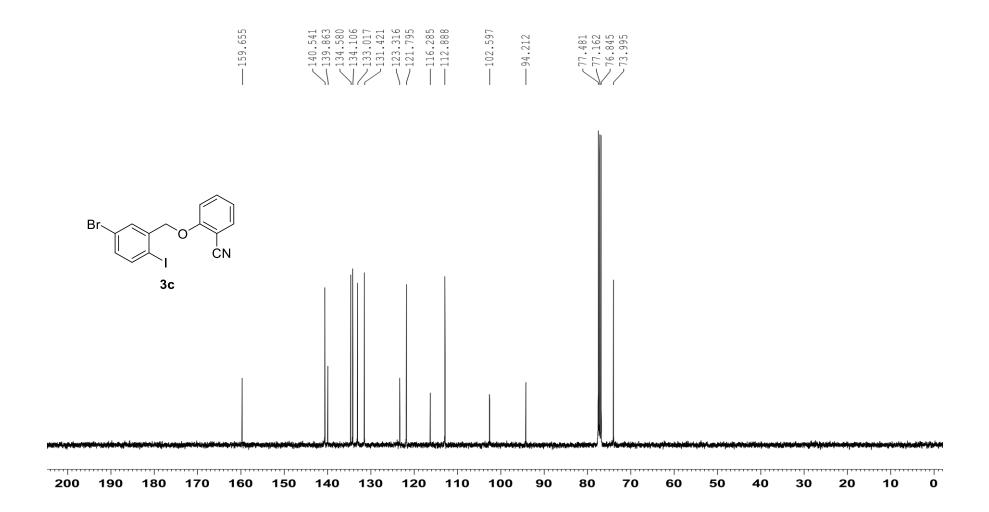




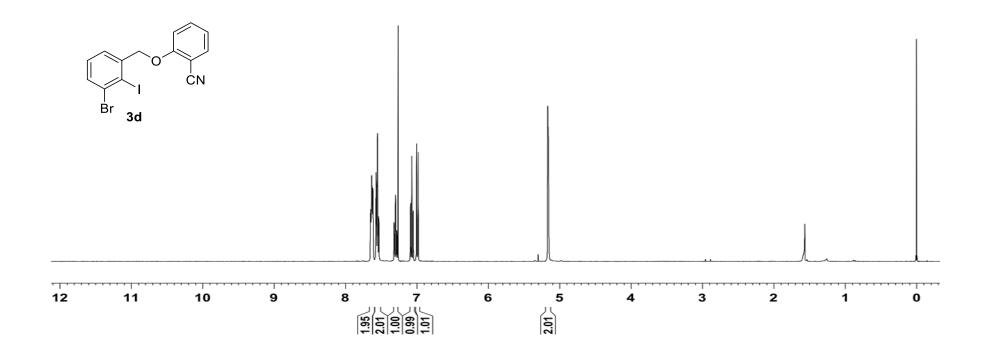


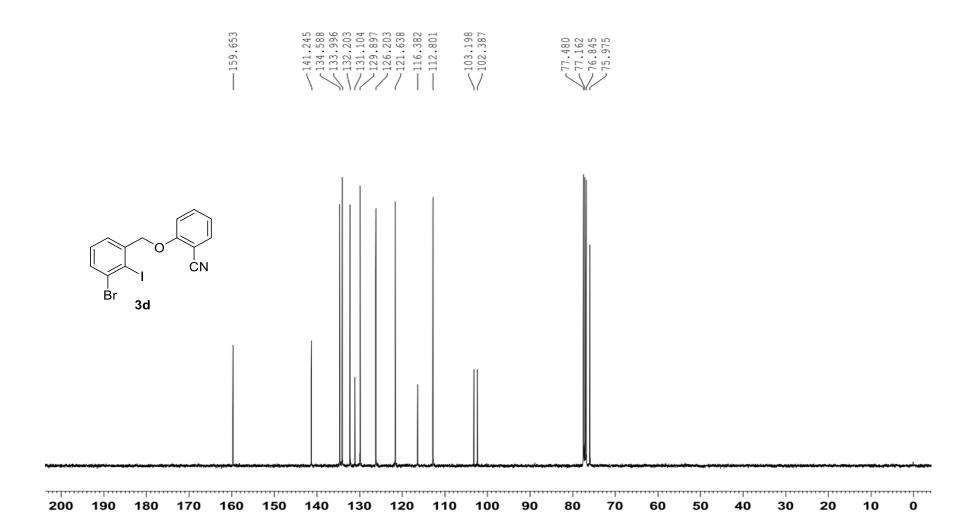


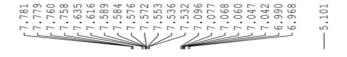


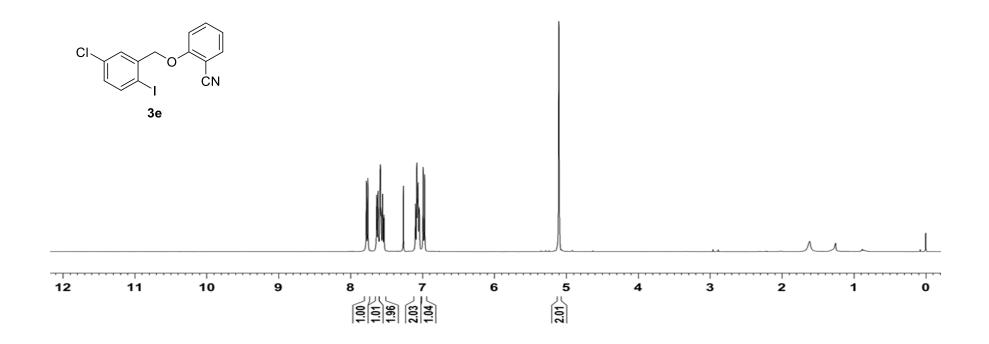


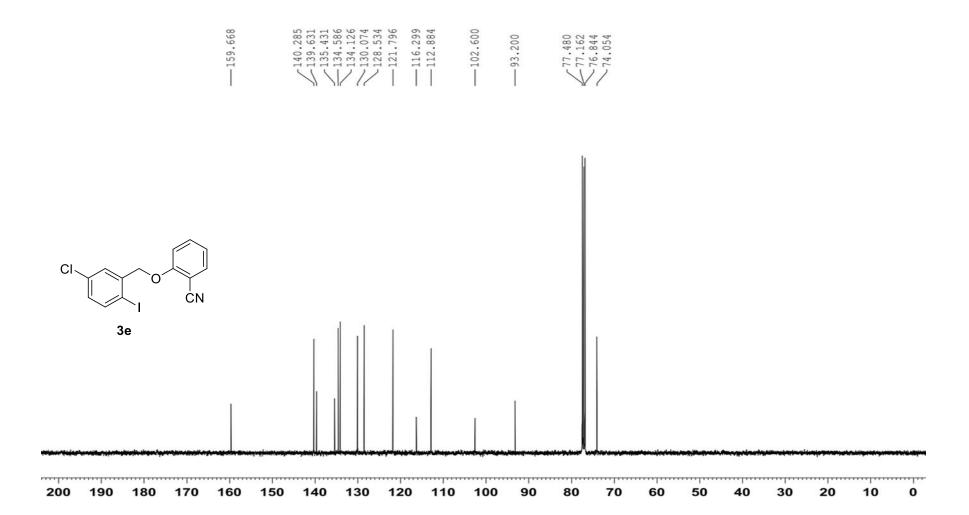


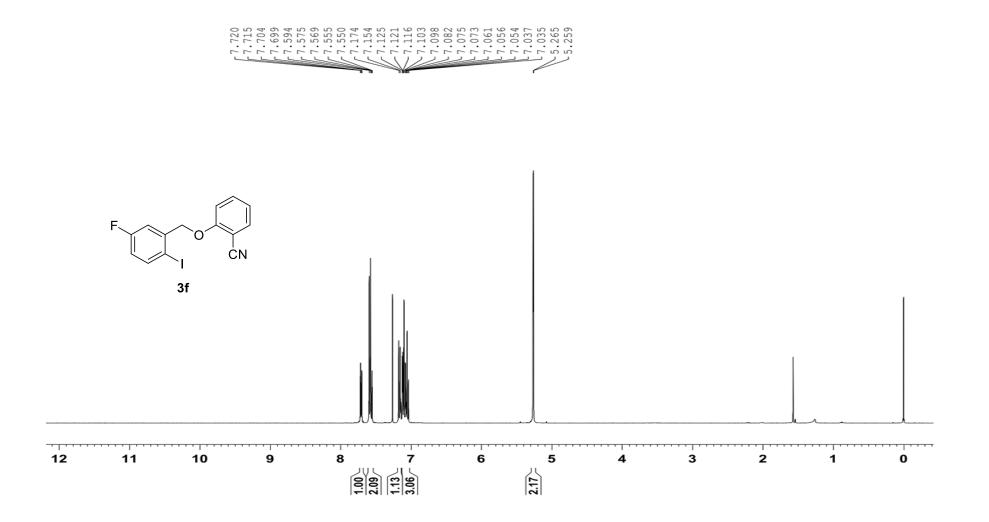


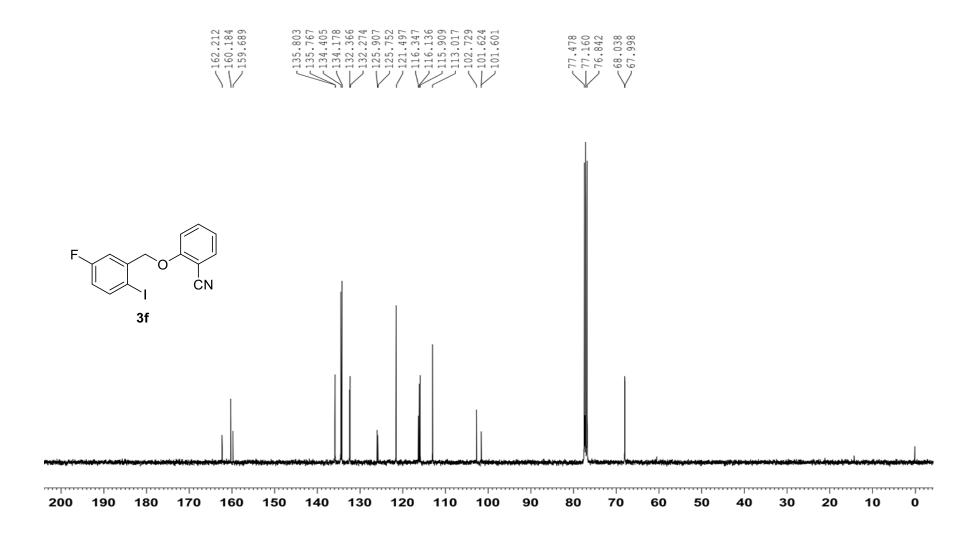


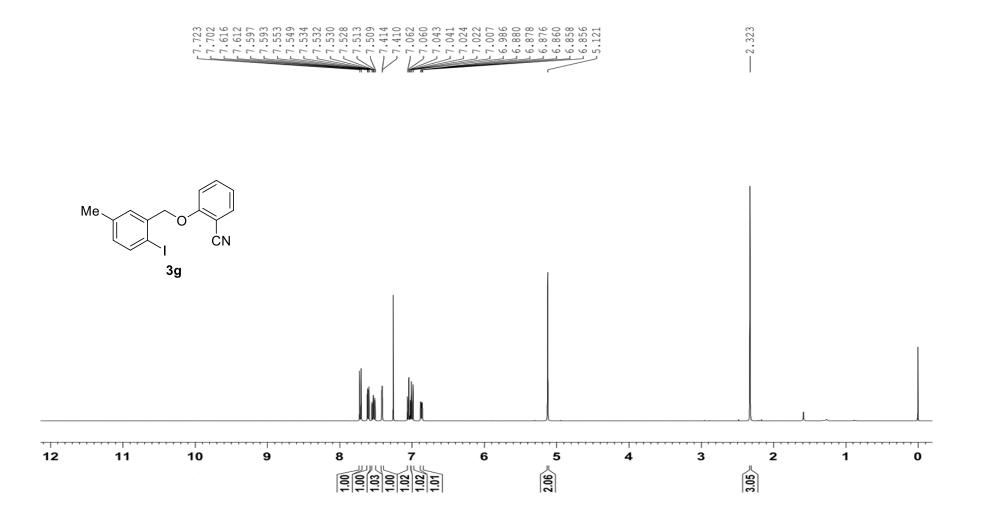


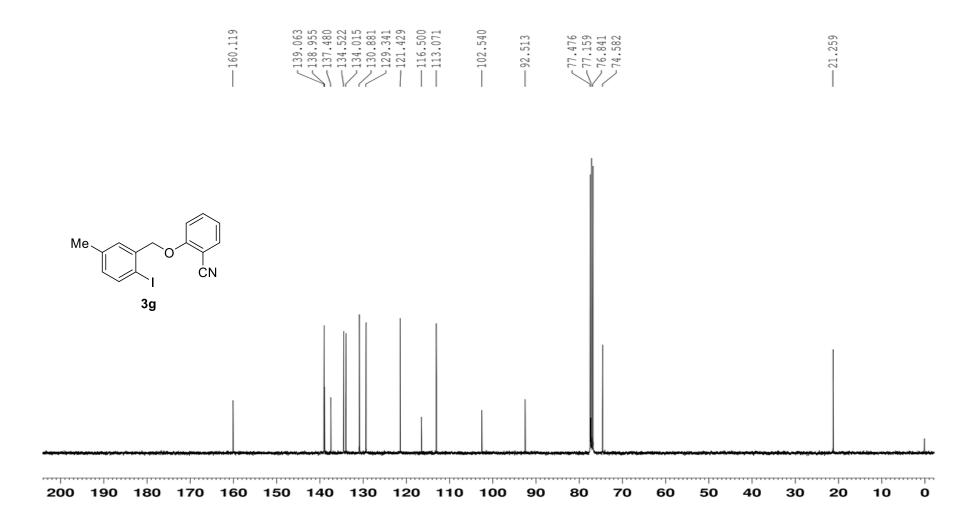


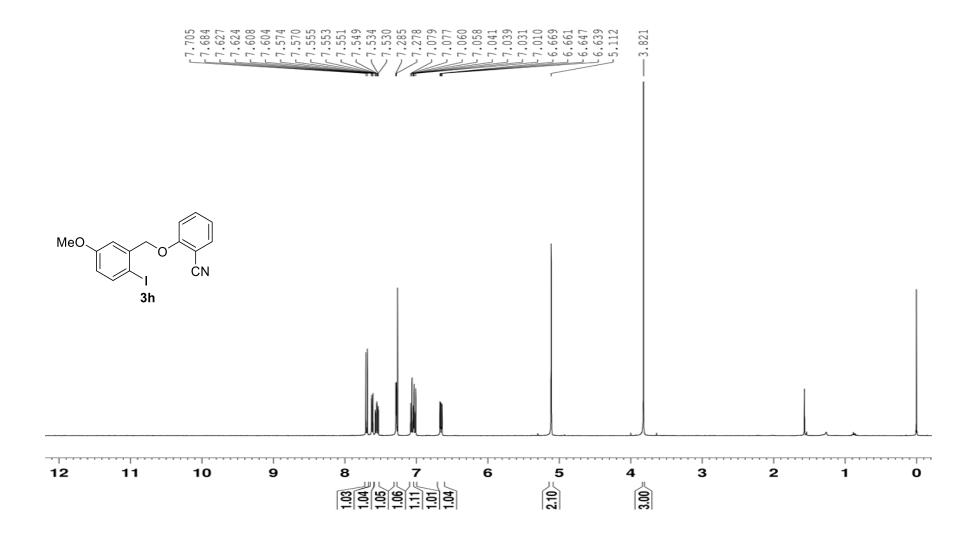


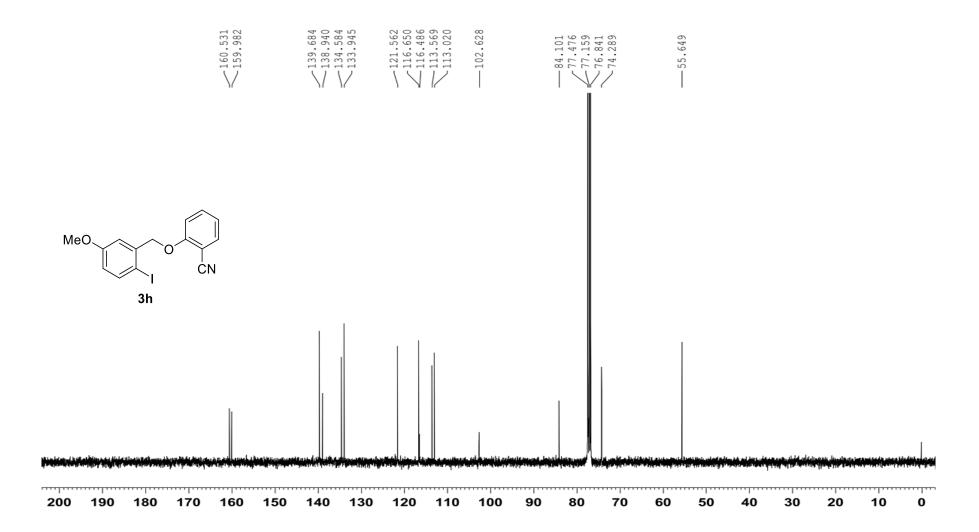


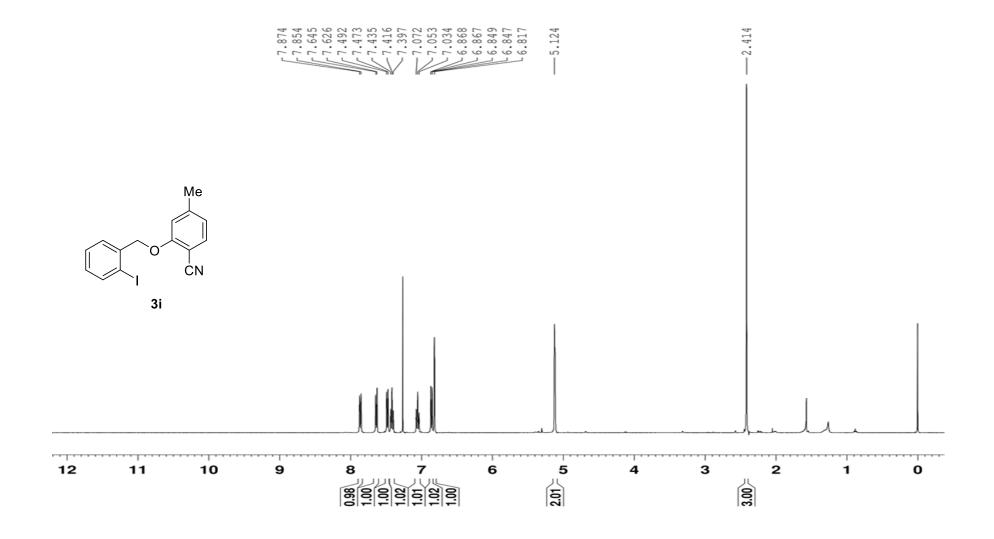


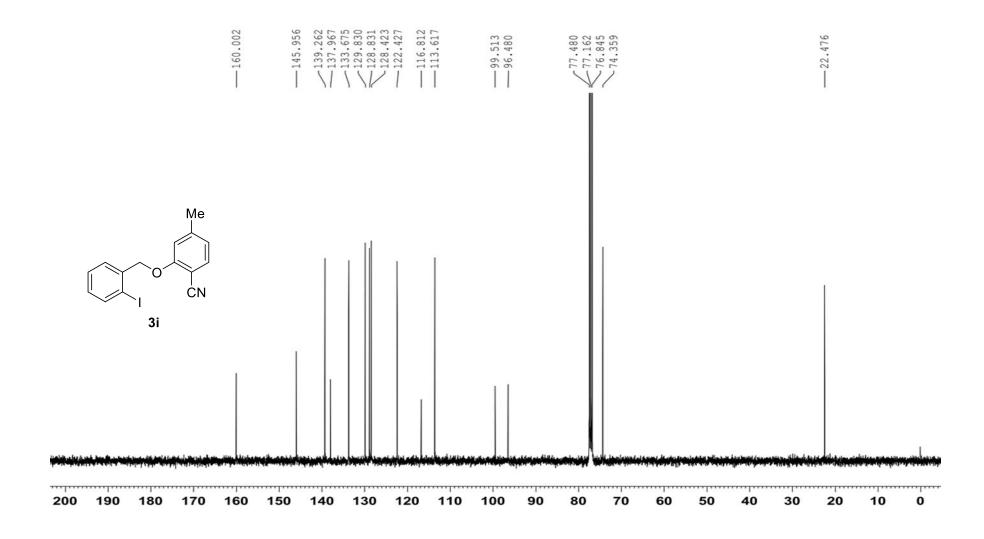




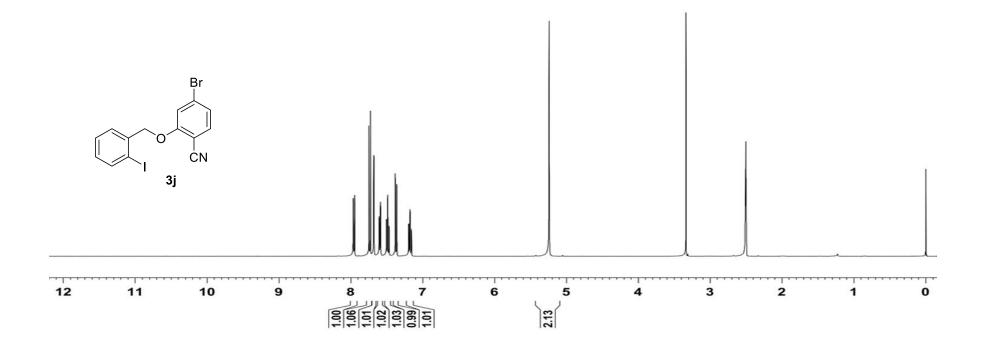


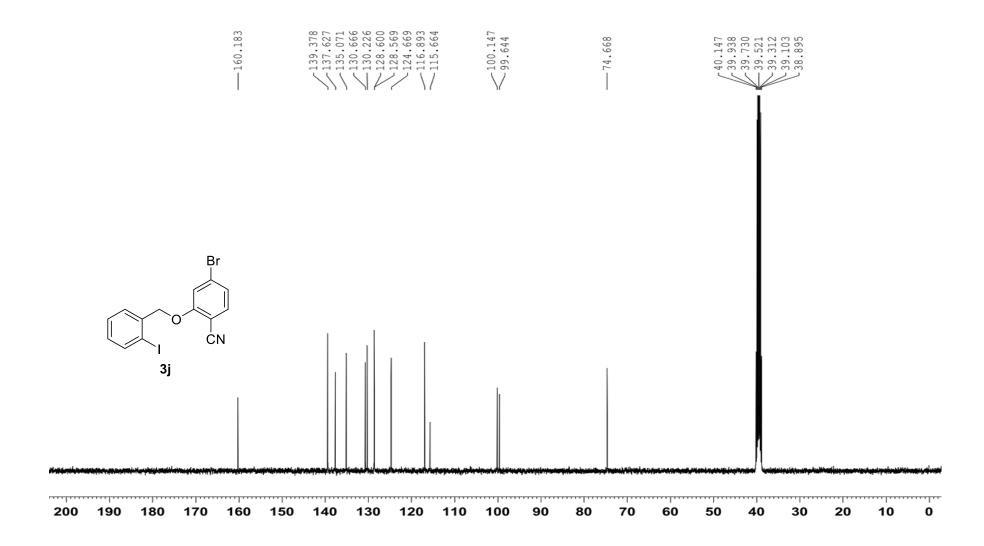




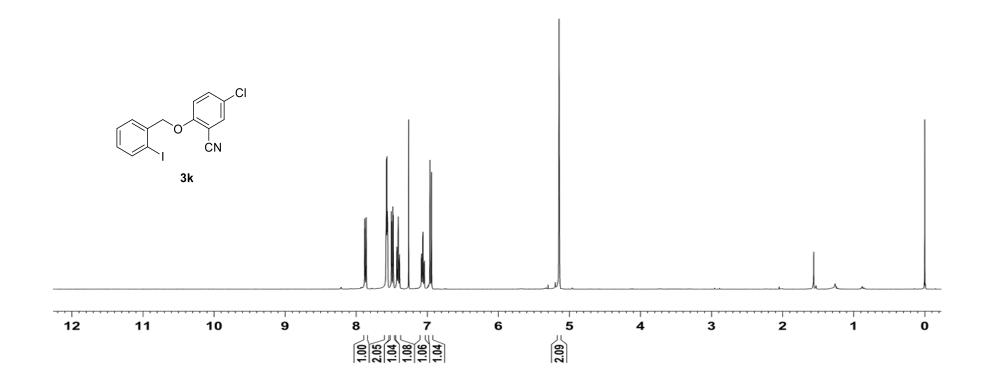


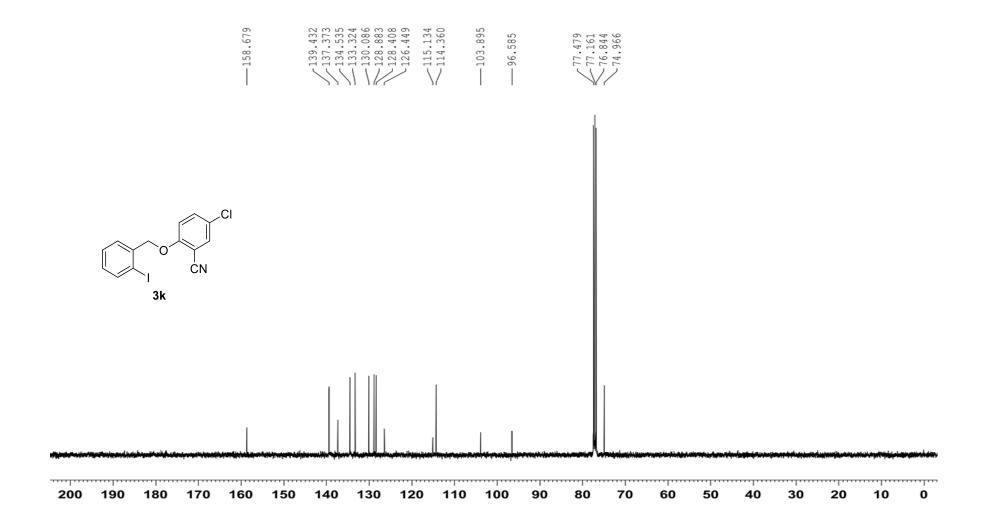


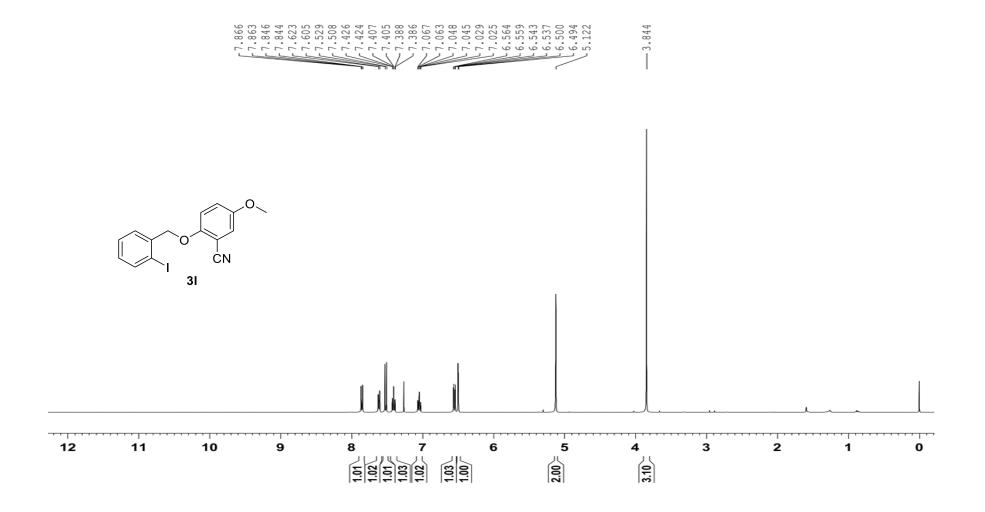


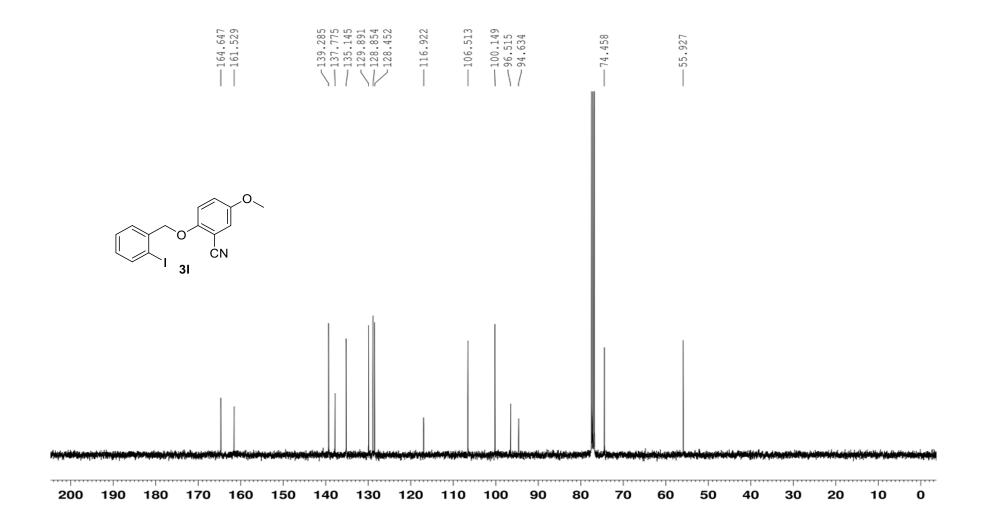




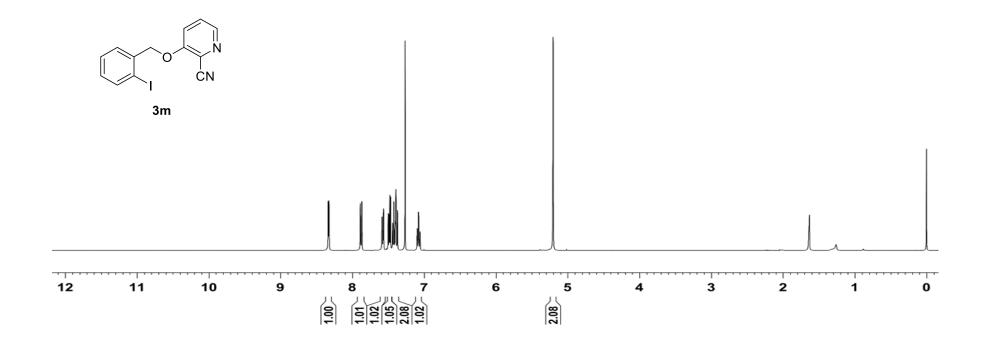


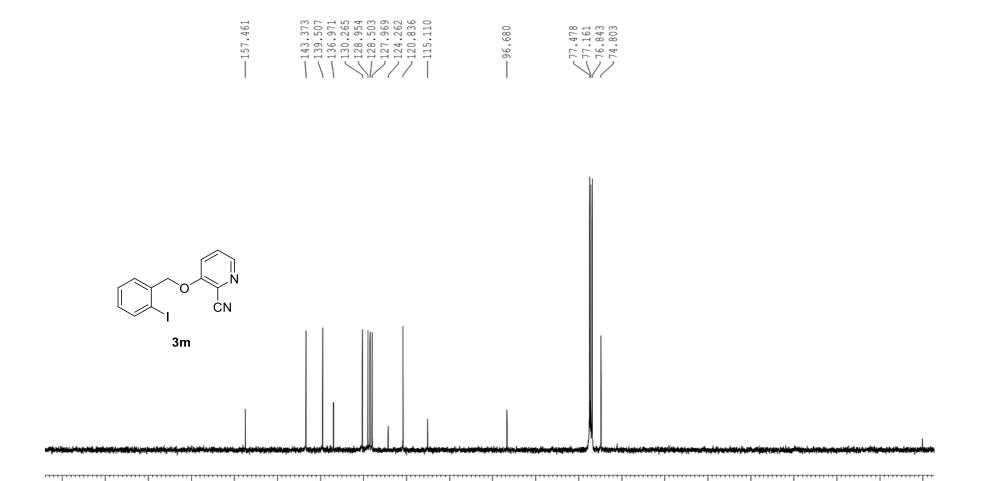




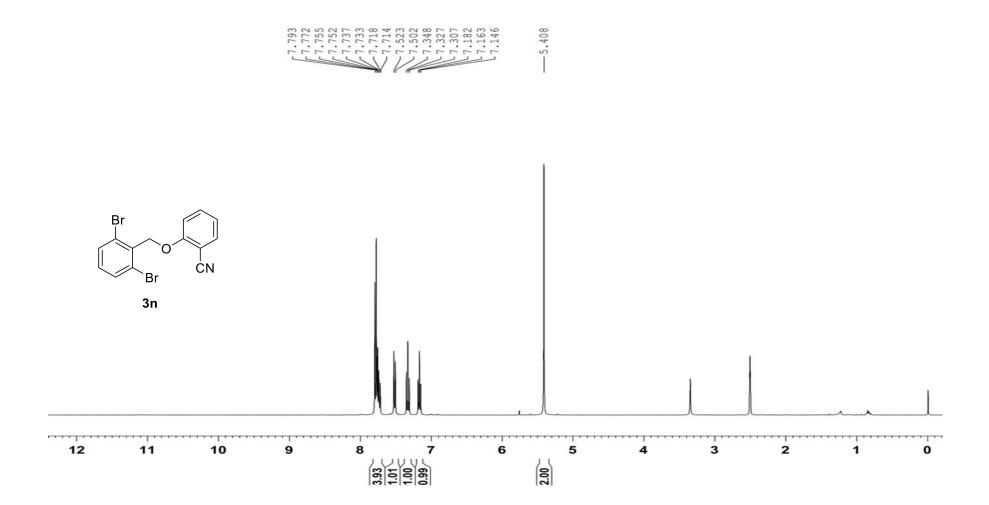


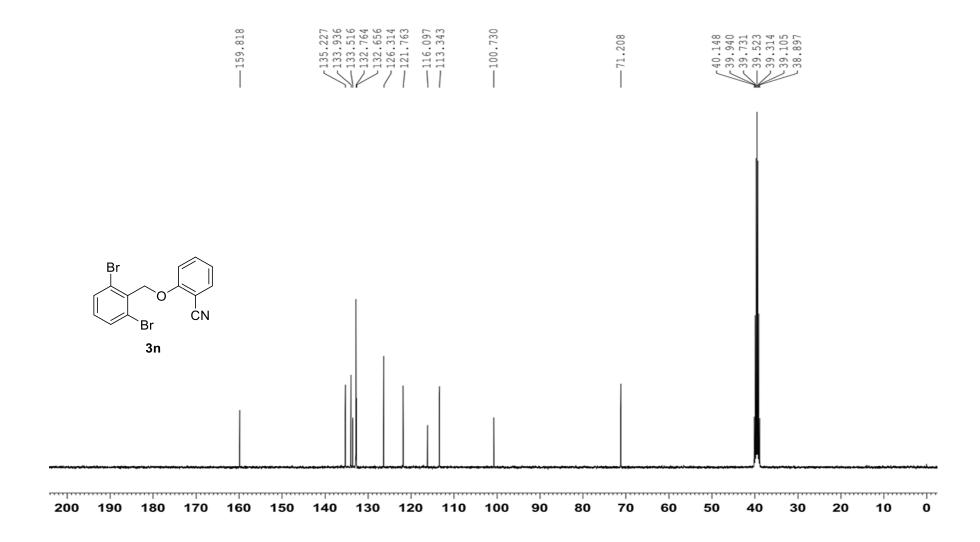


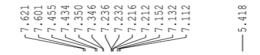


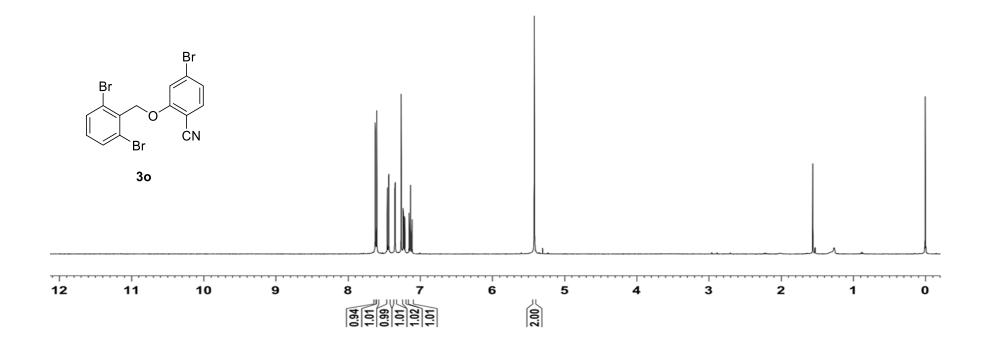


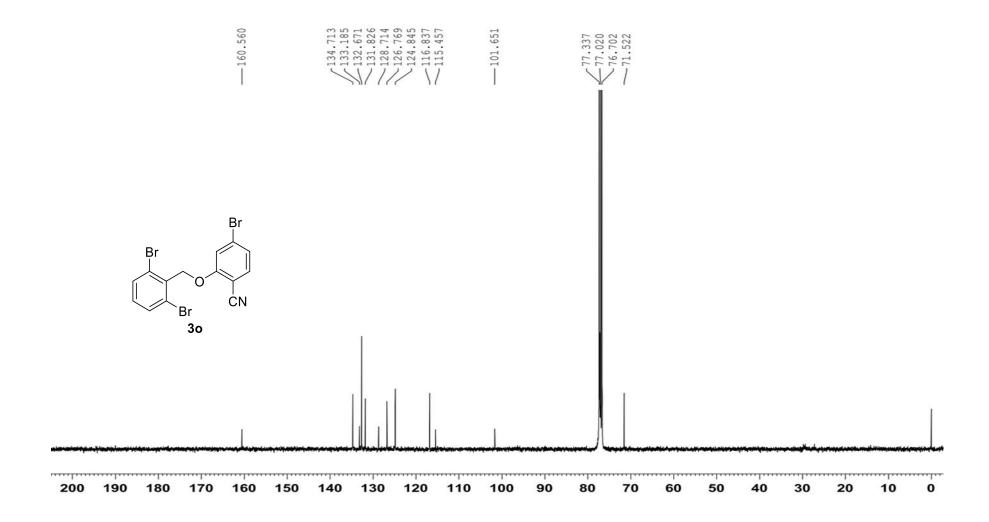
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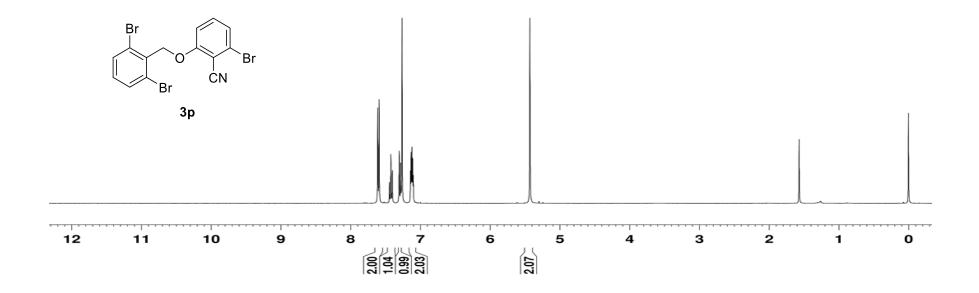


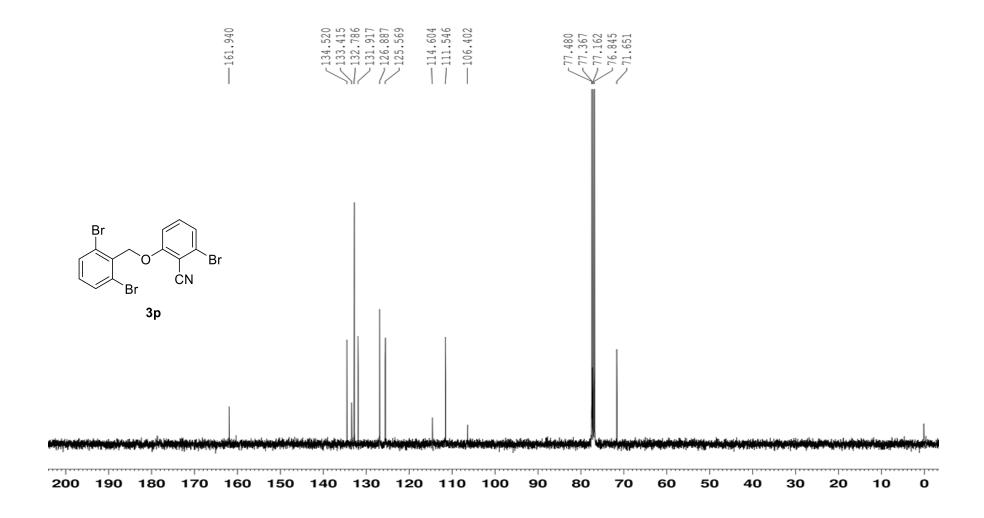




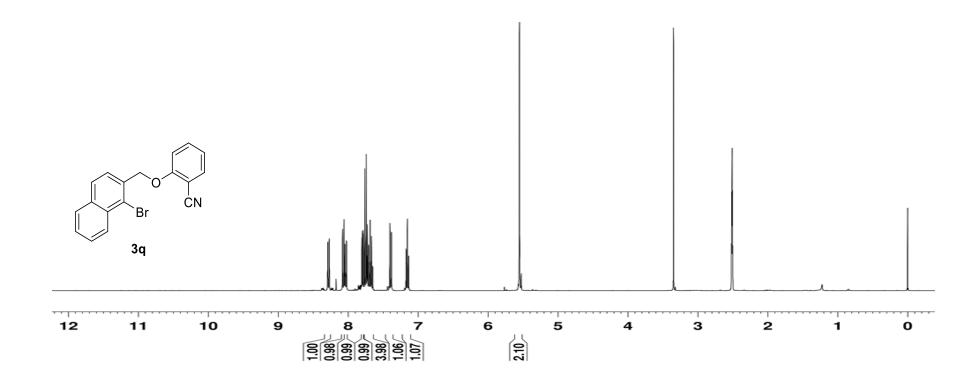


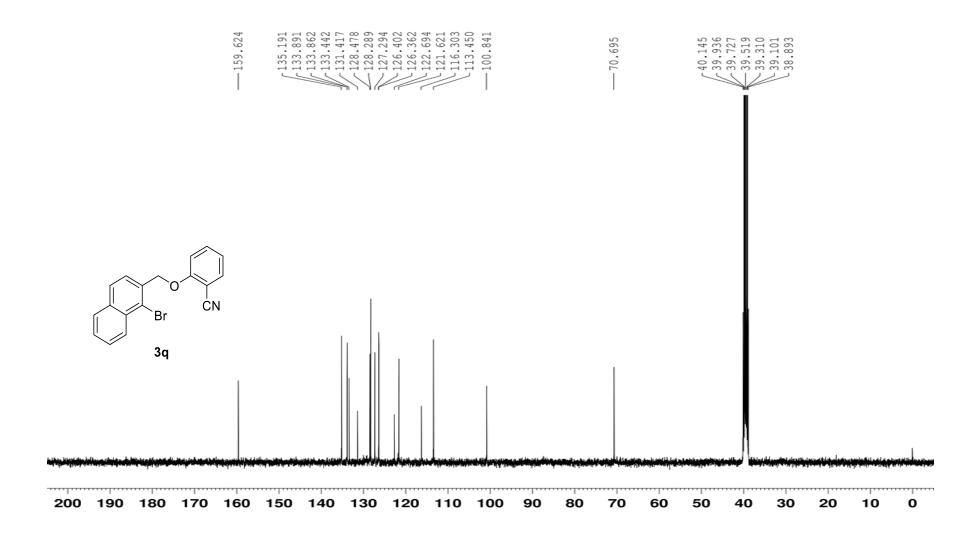


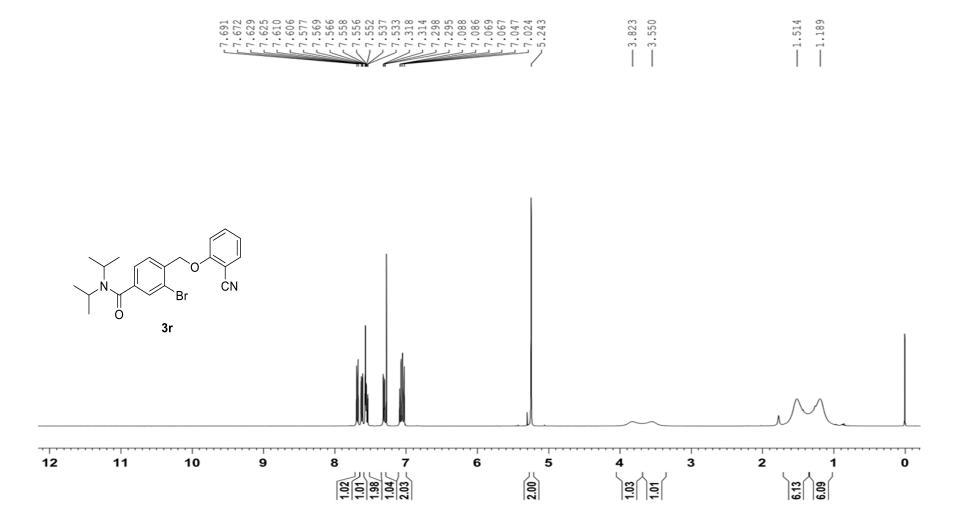


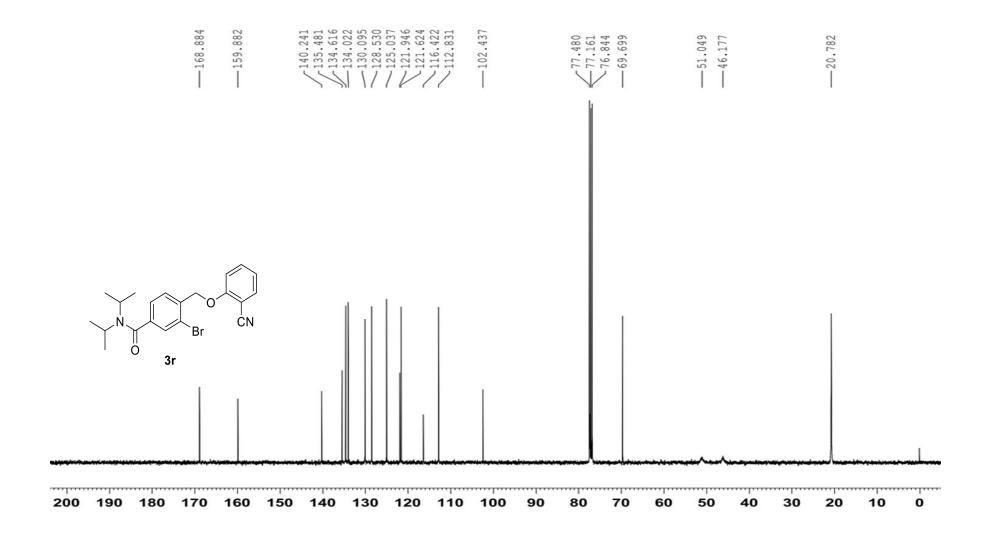


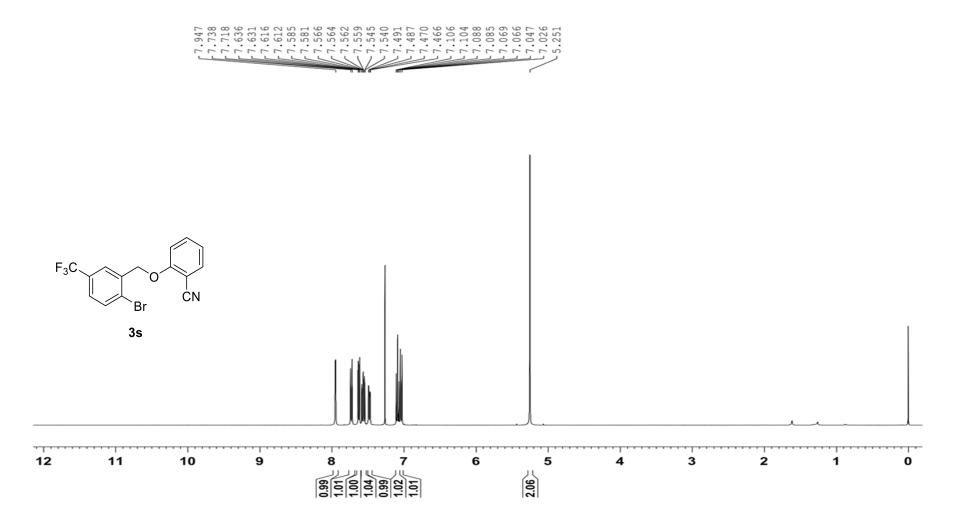


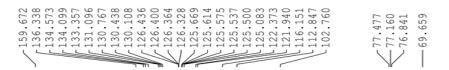


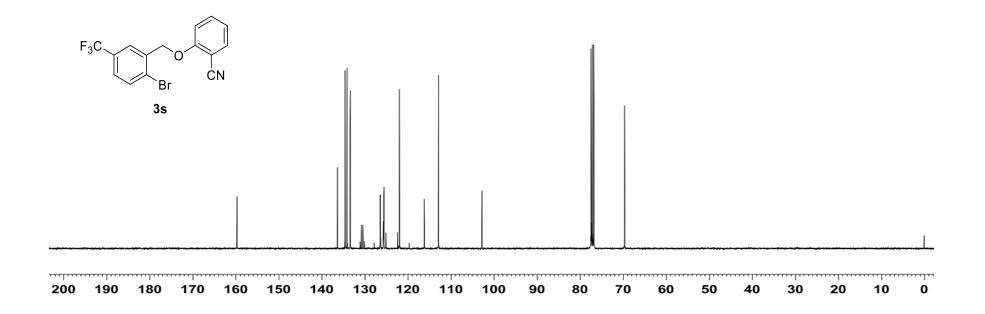




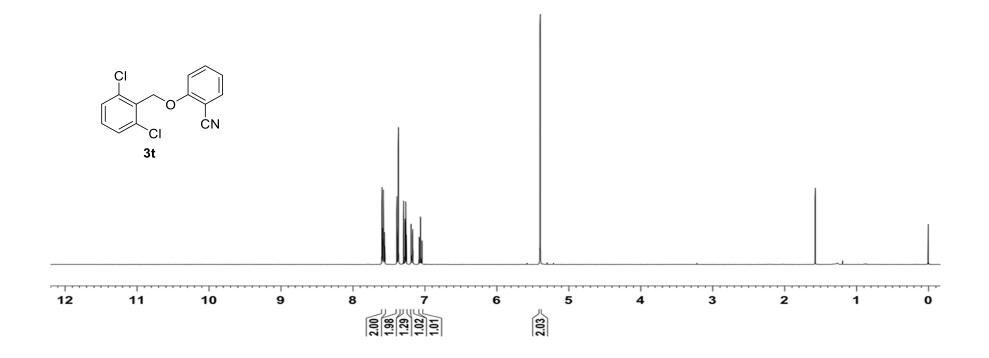


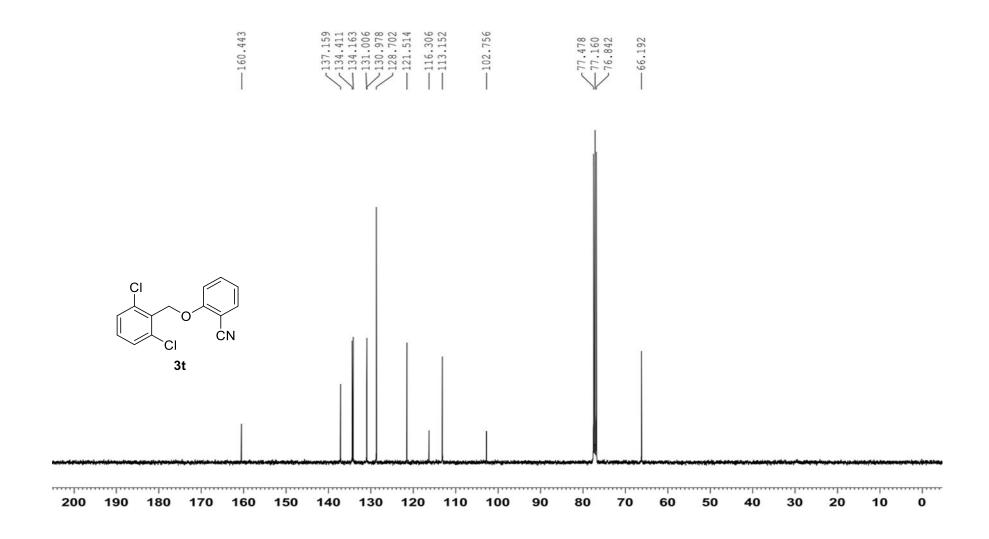




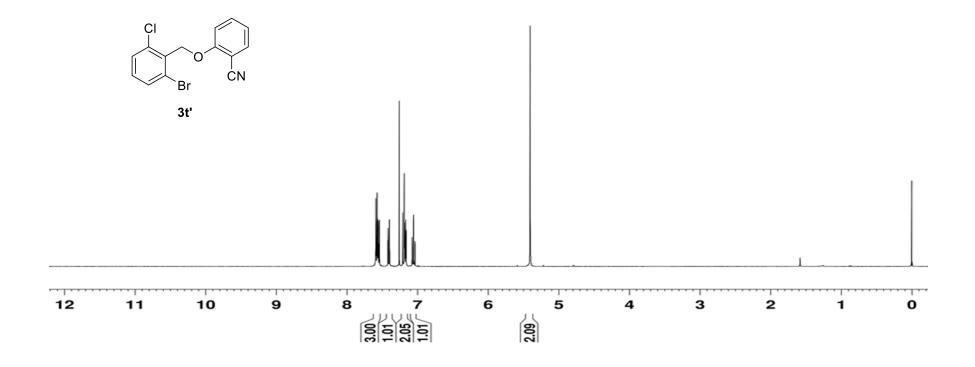


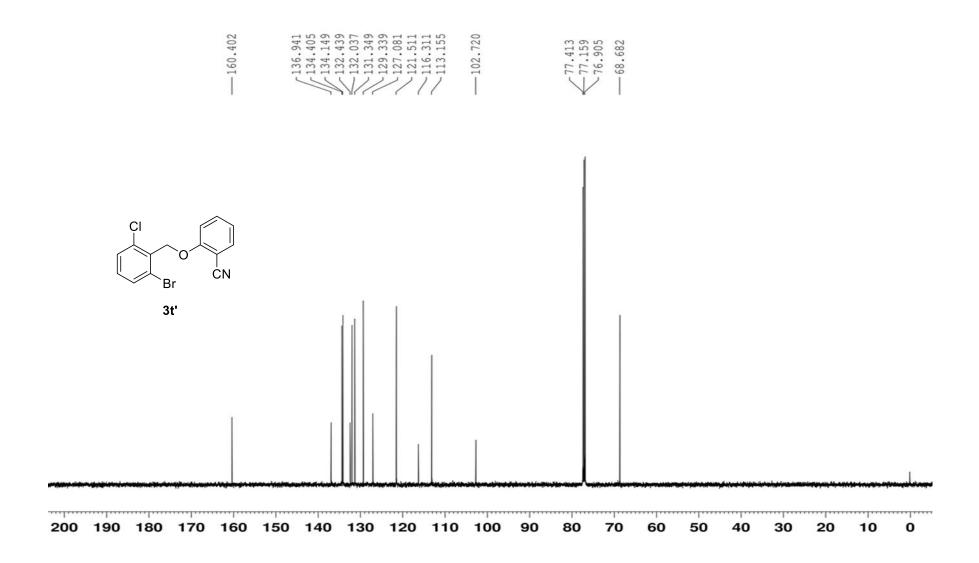




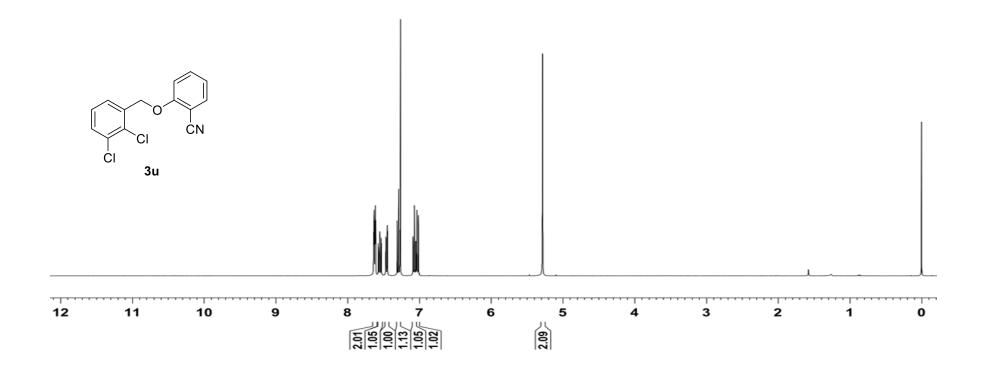


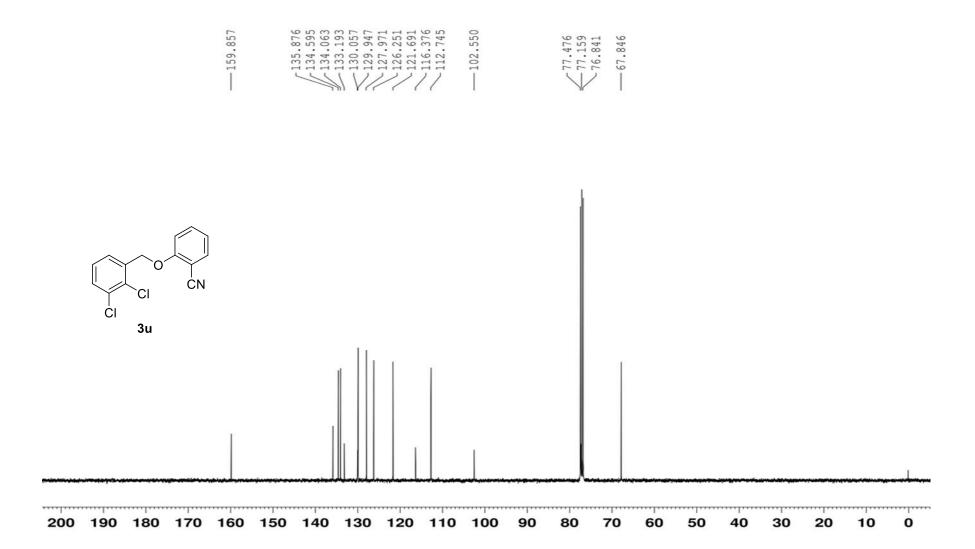


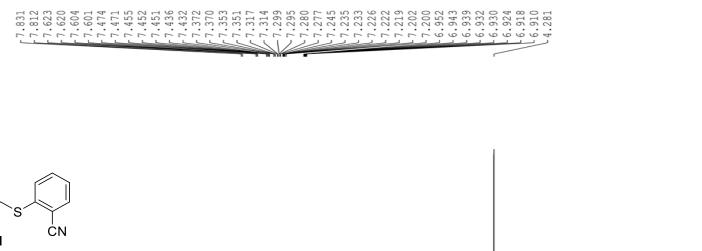


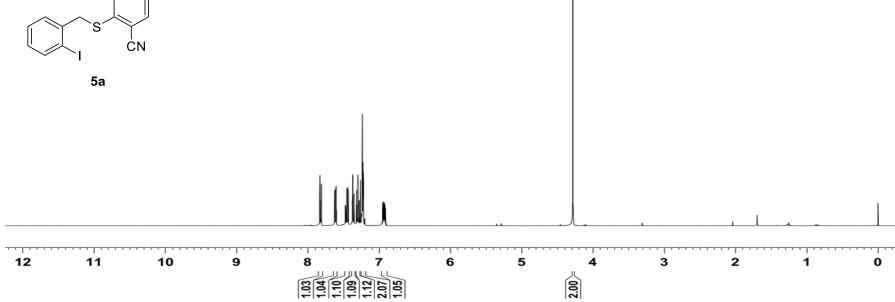












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