

# Substrate-controlled [4 + 1] and [3 + 2] annulations of ninhydrin-derived Morita–Baylis–Hillman carbonates to access polysubstituted furans and cyclopentenes

Kai-Kai Wang,<sup>a</sup> Yan-Li Li,<sup>b</sup> Ya-Fei Li,<sup>a</sup> Wei-Wei Yao,<sup>a</sup> Lan-Xin Li,<sup>a</sup> Xiao-Long He,<sup>\*c</sup> and Rongxiang Chen<sup>\*a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> School of Pharmacy, Xinxiang University, Xinxiang 453000, P.R. of China

<sup>b</sup> Medical College, Xinxiang University, Xinxiang 453000, P.R. of China

<sup>c</sup> School of Food and Bioengineering, Xihua University, Chengdu 610039, China.

E-mail: chenhlmei@163.com (R. Chen) and xlhe1021@sina.com (X. He)

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## 1. General methods

NMR data were obtained for  $^1\text{H}$  at 400 MHz, and for  $^{13}\text{C}$  at 100 MHz, and  $^{19}\text{F}$  at 376 MHz. Chemical shifts were reported in ppm from tetramethylsilane with the solvent resonance as the internal standard in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  solution. ESI HRMS was recorded on a Waters SYNAPT G2. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (200-300 mesh) eluting with ethyl acetate/petroleum ether. TLC was performed on glass-backed silica plates. UV light,  $\text{I}_2$ , and solution of potassium permanganate were used to visualize products. All chemicals were used without purification as commercially available unless otherwise noted. Petroleum ether and ethyl acetate were distilled. THF was freshly distilled from sodium/benzophenone. Unless otherwise noted, experiments involving moisture and/or air sensitive components were performed under a positive pressure of argon in oven-dried glassware equipped with a rubber septum inlet. Dried solvents and liquid reagents were transferred by oven-dried syringes. The  $\alpha$ -cyano- $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ketones **1**<sup>1</sup>, ninhydrin-derived MBH carbonates **2**<sup>2</sup> and 2-arylidene-1,3-indandiones **4**<sup>3</sup> were prepared according to the literature procedures.

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- (2) (a) Z. Lu, Y. Jia, X. Chen, P. Li, *J. Org. Chem.* **2022**, 87, 3184. (b) K.-K. Wang, Y.-L. Li, J. Jing, R. Chen, N.-N. Zhao, Z.-H. Li, M.-Y. Wang, S.-K. Ji, *Org. Biomol. Chem.* **2022**, 20, 6923. (c) X. Tang, Y. Wu, J. Jiang, H. Fang, W.-J. Zhou, W. Huang, G. Zhan, *Org. Lett.* **2021**, 23, 8937. (d) K.-K. Wang, W. Zhou, J. Jia, J. Ye, M. Yuan, J. Yang, Y. Qi, R. Chen, *Molecules* **2023**, 28, 6761; (d) K.-K. Wang, J.-W. Ye, J. Jia, Y.-F. Li, W.-W. Yao, L.-X. Li, S.-M. Zhao, Y. Xu, R. Chen, *Tetrahedron* **2024**, 150, 133772.
- (3) (a) F. Li, Z. Li, Y. Wang, Z. Zhou, *Synthesis* **2023**, 55, 1427; (b) S. Mahajan, P. Chauhan, M. Blümel, R. Puttreddy, K. Rissanen, G. Raabe, D. Enders, *Synthesis* **2016**, 48, 1131; (c) G. Zhan, M. L. Shi, Q. He, W. J. Lin, Q. Ouyang, W. Du, Y. C. Chen, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2016**, 55, 2147.

## 2. Optimization of reaction conditions

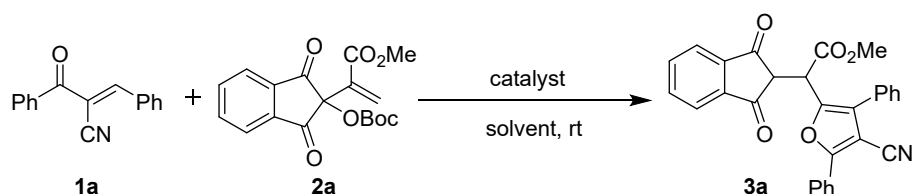


Table 1 Optimization of reaction conditions <sup>a</sup>

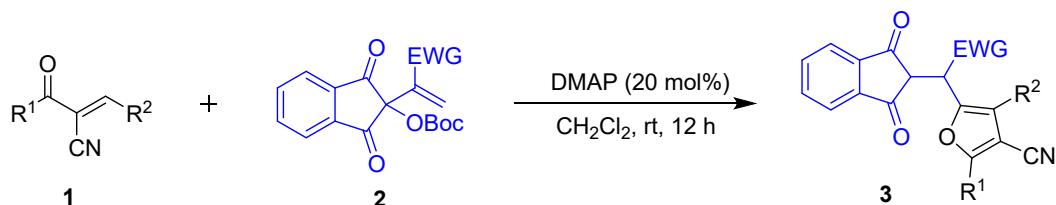
Entry	Catalyst	Solvent	Time	Yield of <b>3a</b> (%) <sup>b</sup>
1	DABCO	$\text{CHCl}_3$	24	62
2	Quinine	$\text{CHCl}_3$	24	56

3	DMAP	CHCl <sub>3</sub>	12	81
4	PPh <sub>3</sub>	CHCl <sub>3</sub>	24	0
5	<i>n</i> -Bu <sub>3</sub> P	CHCl <sub>3</sub>	24	0
<b>6</b>	<b>DMAP</b>	<b>CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>12</b>	<b>90</b>
7	DMAP	DCE	12	80
8	DMAP	EtOAc	24	71
9	DMAP	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	24	66
10	DMAP	toluene	24	57
11	DMAP	THF	24	46
12	DMAP	dioxane	24	41
13	DMAP	Et <sub>2</sub> O	24	35
14 <sup>c</sup>	DMAP	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	24	72
15 <sup>d</sup>	DMAP	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	12	87

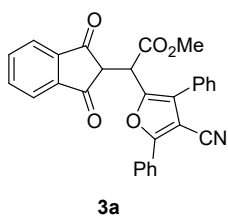
<sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.1 mmol), MBH carbonate **2a** (0.12 mmol), catalyst (20 mol%) and solvent (1.0 mL) at room temperature. <sup>b</sup>Isolated Yield. <sup>c</sup>10 mol% of catalyst. <sup>d</sup>at 40 °C.

At the outset, the  $\alpha$ -cyano-chalcone **1a** and ninhydrin-derived MBH carbonate **2a** were chosen as the model substrates to optimize the reaction conditions. The results were summarized in Table 1. Gratifyingly, the model reaction could proceed smoothly in the presence of DABCO catalyst at room temperature, to furnish an unprecedented product **3a** with dense substitutions after 24 h in 62% yield via  $\alpha$ -regioselective [4 + 1] annulation and rearrangement reaction (in Table 1, entry 1). Furthermore, the structure of **3a** was unambiguously established by the single-crystal X-ray diffraction analysis (in Table 2, CCDC 2311771).<sup>14</sup> Encouraged by this preliminary result, we screened the reaction in detail under a variety of conditions to further improve the yield of the  $\alpha$ -regioselective [4 + 1] annulation reaction. The screening of catalysts revealed DMAP as the preferred one to produce polysubstituted furan **3a** in 81% yield (in Table 1, entries 2–5). Moreover, no desired product was detected when switching the tertiary amines to phosphine catalysts (in Table 1, entries 4–5). Subsequently, we further explored the effect of solvents for this reaction. The results indicated that CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> was the most suitable solvent to give product **3a** in 90% yield (in Table 1, entry 6). Compared with other solvents, such as CHCl<sub>3</sub>, DCE, EtOAc, CH<sub>3</sub>CN, toluene, THF, dioxane and Et<sub>2</sub>O, none of them revealed better effectiveness than CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> in this reaction (in Table 1, entries 3 and 7-13). Nevertheless, when the catalyst loading was decreased to 10 mol %, the reaction provided to a lower yield (72% yield) even if further prolonging reaction time (in Table 1, entry 14). In addition, the reaction supplied the target product in slightly lower chemical yield (87% yield) when further increasing in the reaction temperature (in Table 1, entry 15). Thus, the optimal reaction conditions were determined as follows: using CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as the solvent and 0.2 equivalents DMAP as the catalyst at ambient temperature for 12 h (in Table 1, entry 6).

### 3. General procedure for [4 + 1] annulations of $\alpha$ -cyano- $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ketones **1** with ninhydrin-derived MBH carbonates **2**

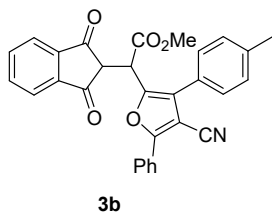


The  $\alpha$ -cyano- $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ketones **1** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), ninhydrin-derived MBH carbonates **2** (0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv) and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mL) were added to a dry flask at room temperature, and then DMAP (20 mol%) was added to the above solution. This solution was stirred at room temperature for 12 h until the complete consumption of the starting materials monitored by TLC. After the removal of the solvent, the residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4:1 to 2:1) to afford products **3**.



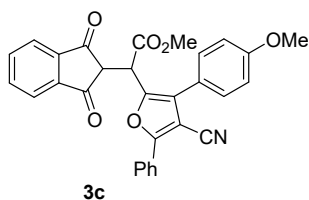
**3a**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 3:1) gave a yellow solid (41.5 mg, 90% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.03 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.85 – 7.83 (m, 4H), 7.52 – 7.49 (m, 4H), 7.45 – 7.40 (m, 4H), 4.80 (d,  $J$  = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (d,  $J$  = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  196.6, 196.5, 169.2, 159.3, 144.4, 142.1, 141.8, 135.9, 135.8, 130.2, 129.2, 129.0,

128.9, 128.8, 127.7, 127.3, 125.4, 123.5, 123.4, 114.5, 93.7, 54.1, 53.2, 41.1 ppm. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> 462.1336, found 462.1331.



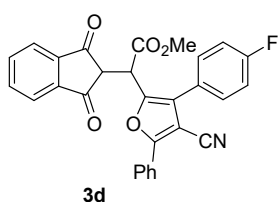
**3b**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 3:1) gave a faint yellow solid (42.3 mg, 89% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.03 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.97 – 7.80 (m, 1H), 7.84 – 7.80 (m, 4H), 7.42 – 7.39 (m, 5H), 7.31 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.80 (d,  $J$  = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (d,  $J$  = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 2.41 (s, 3H) ppm.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  196.6, 196.5, 169.3, 159.1, 144.2, 142.1, 141.8, 138.8, 135.9, 135.8, 130.2, 129.9, 128.9, 128.6, 127.7, 127.3, 125.9, 125.4, 123.5, 123.3, 114.6, 93.7, 54.1, 53.2, 41.1, 21.3 ppm. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> 476.1492, found 476.1486.



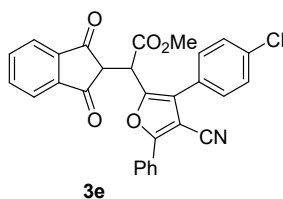
**3c**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 2:1) gave a yellow solid (41.7 mg, 85% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.03 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d,  $J$  = 5.2 Hz, 4H), 7.46 – 7.39 (m, 5H), 7.03 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.78 (d,  $J$  = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.83 (d,  $J$  = 4.0 Hz, 1H),

3.71 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  196.7, 196.6, 169.3, 160.0, 159.1, 144.0, 142.1, 141.9, 135.9, 135.8, 130.2, 130.0, 129.0, 127.8, 127.1, 125.4, 123.5, 123.4, 121.1, 114.7, 93.8, 55.4, 54.1, 53.2, 41.1 ppm. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ : [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NO<sub>6</sub> 492.1442, found 492.1439.



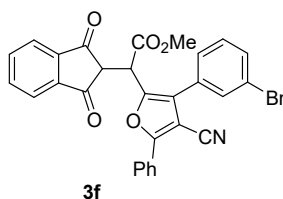
**3d**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 3:1) gave a faint yellow solid (41.2 mg, 86% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.04 (d,  $J$  = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.87 – 7.81 (m, 4H), 7.51 (dd,  $J$  = 8.4, 5.6 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (d,  $J$  = 5.6 Hz, 3H), 7.20 (t,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.73 (d,  $J$  = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (d,  $J$  = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  196.6, 196.5, 169.1, 163.31

(d,  $J$  = 247.6 Hz), 159.3, 144.4, 142.0, 141.8, 136.0, 135.9, 130.8, 130.7, 130.4, 129.0, 127.6, 126.4, 125.4, 125.0 (d,  $J$  = 3.2 Hz), 123.6, 123.4, 116.3 (d,  $J$  = 21.7 Hz), 114.4, 93.7, 54.0, 53.3, 41.0 ppm.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  –112.1 ppm. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{19}\text{FNO}_5$  480.1242, found 480.1236.



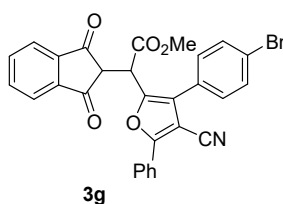
**3e**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 3:1) gave a faint yellow solid (43.6 mg, 88% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.04 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.87 – 7.81 (m, 4H), 7.50 – 7.45 (m, 4H), 7.40 (d,  $J$  = 5.2 Hz, 3H), 4.73 (d,  $J$  = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (d,  $J$  = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR

(100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  196.52, 196.46, 169.0, 159.4, 144.5, 142.0, 141.8, 136.0, 135.9, 135.1, 130.4, 130.1, 129.5, 129.0, 127.5, 127.4, 126.3, 125.4, 123.6, 123.4, 114.3, 93.5, 54.0, 53.3, 41.0 ppm. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{19}\text{ClNO}_5$  496.0946, found 496.0942.



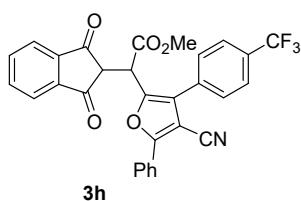
**3f**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 4:1) gave a yellow solid (46.9 mg, 87% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.04 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.88 – 7.81 (m, 4H), 7.68 (s, 1H), 7.58 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.41 – 7.37 (m, 4H), 4.73 (d,  $J$  = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (d,  $J$  = 4.4 Hz,

1H), 3.72 (s, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  196.5, 196.4, 168.9, 159.4, 144.7, 142.0, 141.8, 136.0, 135.9, 132.0, 131.7, 131.0, 130.7, 130.4, 129.0, 127.5, 127.4, 125.9, 125.4, 123.6, 123.4, 123.1, 114.1, 93.4, 54.0, 53.3, 41.0 ppm. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{19}\text{BrNO}_5$  540.0441 ( $^{79}\text{Br}$ ) and 542.0421 ( $^{81}\text{Br}$ ), found 540.0437, 542.0416.



**3g**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 3:1) gave a yellow solid (45.8 mg, 85% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.04 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.86 – 7.81 (m, 4H), 7.64 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (d,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 5H), 4.73 (d,  $J$  = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (d,  $J$  = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$

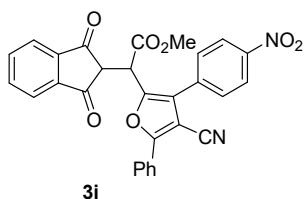
NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  196.51, 196.45, 169.0, 159.5, 144.5, 142.0, 141.8, 136.0, 135.9, 132.5, 130.4, 129.0, 127.9, 127.5, 126.3, 125.4, 123.6, 123.4, 123.3, 114.3, 93.4, 54.0, 53.3, 41.0 ppm. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{19}\text{BrNO}_5$  540.0441 ( $^{79}\text{Br}$ ) and 542.0421 ( $^{81}\text{Br}$ ), found 540.0436, 542.0417.



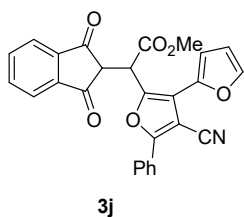
**3h**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 3:1) gave a white solid (43.9 mg, 83% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.05 (d,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 7.89 – 7.82 (m, 4H), 7.79 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.67 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (d,  $J$  = 4.4 Hz, 3H), 4.73 (d,  $J$  = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (d,  $J$  = 4.4 Hz,

1H), 3.70 (s, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  196.5, 196.4, 168.8, 159.7, 144.9, 142.0, 141.8, 136.03, 135.97, 132.7, 131.0 (q,  $J$  = 32.6 Hz), 130.5, 129.2, 129.1, 127.4, 126.2 (q,  $J$  = 3.7 Hz), 126.1, 125.5,

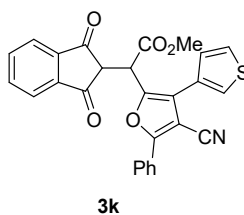
123.9 (q,  $J = 271.9$  Hz) 123.6, 123.5, 114.1, 93.3, 54.0, 53.3, 41.0 ppm.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -62.8 ppm. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{19}\text{F}_3\text{NO}_5$  530.1210, found 530.1207.



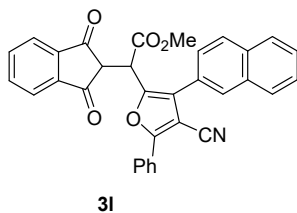
**3i**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 3:1) gave a white solid (43.0 mg, 85% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.38 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 8.05 (d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.88 – 7.82 (m, 4H), 7.75 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.42 (s, 3H), 4.72 (d,  $J = 3.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.93 (d,  $J = 3.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  196.4, 196.2, 168.6, 159.9, 148.0, 145.3, 141.9, 141.8, 136.09, 136.07, 135.7, 130.7, 129.8, 129.1, 127.1, 125.5, 125.4, 124.4, 123.6, 123.5, 113.9, 93.1, 54.0, 53.4, 41.0 ppm. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_2\text{O}_7$  507.1187, found 507.1180.



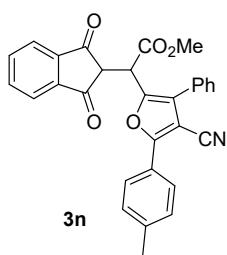
**3j**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 2:1) gave a yellow solid (35.2 mg, 78% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.05 (d,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.99 – 7.97 (m, 1H), 7.89 – 7.83 (m, 2H), 7.79 – 7.77 (m, 2H), 7.55 (s, 1H), 7.40 – 7.39 (m, 3H), 7.00 (d,  $J = 3.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.54 (d,  $J = 0.8$  Hz, 1H), 5.37 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.83 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  196.9, 196.6, 169.3, 159.7, 144.1, 144.0, 142.9, 142.2, 141.8, 135.8, 135.7, 130.4, 129.0, 127.4, 125.5, 123.5, 123.4, 117.0, 114.5, 111.7, 109.0, 90.5, 54.2, 53.2, 42.3 ppm. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_6$  452.1129, found 452.1126.



**3k**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 3:1) gave a faint yellow solid (37.8 mg, 81% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.04 – 8.02 (m, 1H), 7.98 – 7.96 (m, 1H), 7.87 – 7.83 (m, 4H), 7.61 (d,  $J = 1.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.49 – 7.47 (m, 1H), 7.43 – 7.36 (m, 4H), 4.85 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.86 (d,  $J = 4.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  196.62, 196.58, 169.1, 159.2, 144.3, 142.0, 141.8, 135.9, 135.8, 130.3, 129.0, 128.9, 127.6, 127.3, 127.0, 125.4, 124.5, 123.5, 123.4, 122.4, 114.6, 93.3, 54.0, 53.2, 41.3 ppm. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_5\text{S}$  468.0900, found 468.0897.

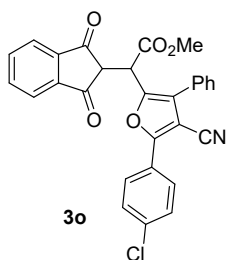


**3l**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 3:1) gave a yellow solid (40.9 mg, 80% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.03 – 7.93 (m, 5H), 7.90 – 7.82 (m, 5H), 7.63 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d,  $J = 3.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.44 – 7.41 (m, 3H), 4.87 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.87 (d,  $J = 4.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  196.6, 169.2, 159.4, 144.7, 142.1, 141.9, 135.9, 135.8, 133.4, 133.2, 130.3, 129.1, 129.0, 128.4, 128.3, 127.8, 127.7, 127.4, 126.9, 126.7, 126.4, 126.1, 125.5, 123.6, 123.4, 114.6, 93.8, 54.1, 53.3, 41.2 ppm. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_5$  512.1492, found 512.1490.



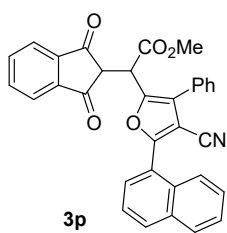
**3n**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 3:1) gave a yellow solid (41.8 mg, 88% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.03 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 7.86 – 7.81 (m, 2H), 7.71 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.51 – 7.44 (m, 5H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 4.79 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 2.37 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 196.7, 196.6, 169.3, 159.6, 143.9, 142.0, 141.9, 140.7, 135.9, 135.8, 129.7, 129.2, 129.1, 128.81, 128.78, 127.2, 125.4, 125.0, 123.5,

123.4, 114.7, 92.9, 54.1, 53.2, 41.1, 21.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> 476.1492, found 476.1488.



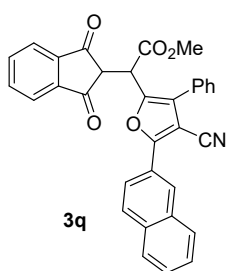
**3o**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 3:1) gave a yellow solid (42.6 mg, 86% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.03 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 2H), 7.78 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.51 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 4H), 7.45 (s, 1H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.80 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 196.6, 196.5, 169.1, 158.1, 144.7, 142.0, 141.8, 136.2, 136.0, 135.9, 129.32, 129.26, 129.0, 128.7, 127.5, 126.6, 126.2, 123.6,

123.4, 114.3, 94.0, 54.1, 53.3, 41.1 ppm. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>19</sub>ClNO<sub>5</sub> 496.0946, found 496.0941.



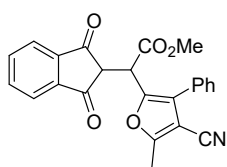
**3p**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 3:1) gave a yellow solid (42.4 mg, 83% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.17 – 8.15 (m, 1H), 7.95 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.90 – 7.85 (m, 2H), 7.81 – 7.73 (m, 3H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.54 – 7.49 (m, 5H), 7.44 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.84 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 196.6, 196.4, 169.2, 160.9, 145.3, 142.0,

141.8, 135.8, 135.7, 133.8, 131.4, 130.5, 129.2, 129.1, 128.9, 128.6, 127.4, 126.8, 126.5, 125.4, 125.1, 124.8, 123.5, 123.4, 114.0, 97.7, 54.0, 53.2, 41.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> 512.1492, found 512.1489.



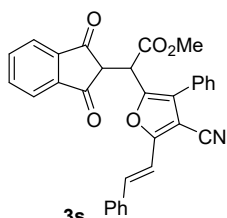
**3q**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 3:1) gave a yellow solid (43.4 mg, 85% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.29 (s, 1H), 8.08 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.93 – 7.79 (m, 6H), 7.57 – 7.51 (m, 6H), 7.46 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.83 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 196.7, 196.6, 169.3, 159.3, 144.5, 142.1, 141.9, 136.0, 135.9, 133.8,

132.9, 129.2, 129.0, 128.92, 128.87, 128.8, 127.8, 127.6, 127.5, 127.0, 125.4, 125.0, 123.6, 123.4, 122.1, 114.7, 93.9, 54.1, 53.3, 41.2 ppm. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> 512.1492, found 512.1487.



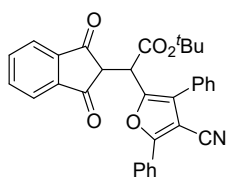
**3r**

**3r**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 3:1) gave a yellow solid (32.7 mg, 82% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.98 – 7.95 (m, 2H), 7.86 – 7.84 (m, 2H), 7.48 – 7.39 (m, 5H), 4.68 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 2.38 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 196.7, 196.6, 169.3, 161.4, 143.8, 142.0, 141.8, 135.8, 129.3, 129.1, 128.60, 128.58, 125.3, 123.4, 123.3, 113.6, 96.6, 53.9, 53.1, 41.2, 13.3 ppm. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> 400.1179, found 400.1173.



**3s**

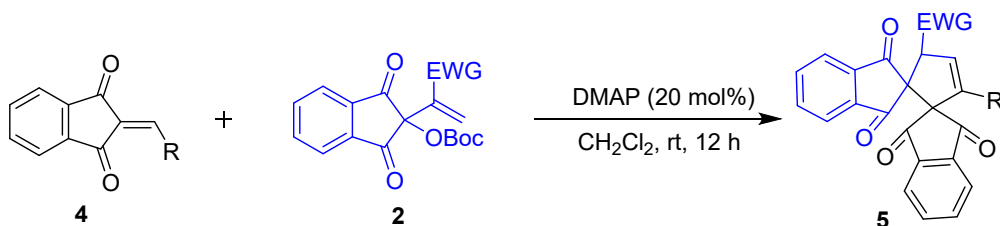
**3s**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 4:1) gave a brown solid (40.9 mg, 84% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.05 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.89 – 7.81 (m, 2H), 7.49 – 7.41 (m, 7H), 7.39 – 7.30 (m, 3H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.76 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (d, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 196.62, 196.55, 169.2, 159.4, 144.5, 142.0, 141.9, 135.94, 135.91, 135.3, 133.9, 129.3, 129.2, 129.0, 128.9, 128.8, 128.6, 127.2, 126.7, 123.6, 123.3, 113.5, 112.5, 95.9, 54.0, 53.2, 41.3 ppm. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> 488.1492, found 488.1489.



**3t**

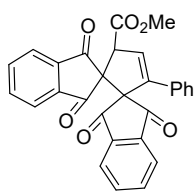
**3t**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 3:1) gave a faint yellow solid (43.8 mg, 87% yield); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.04 – 8.02 (m, 1H), 7.99 – 7.97 (m, 1H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.85 – 7.83 (m, 2H), 7.55 – 7.49 (m, 4H), 7.46 – 7.39 (m, 4H), 4.72 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 1.34 (s, 9H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 196.8, 196.7, 167.3, 159.1, 145.3, 142.2, 141.9, 135.8, 135.7, 130.1, 129.2, 129.0, 128.8, 128.7, 127.9, 127.0, 125.4, 123.5, 123.4, 114.7, 93.4, 83.6, 54.3, 42.1, 27.7 ppm. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> 504.1805, found 504.1801.

#### 4. General procedure for [3 + 2] annulations of 2-arylidene-1,3-indandiones **4** with ninhydrin-derived MBH carbonates **2**



The 2-arylidene-1,3-indandiones **4** (0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), ninhydrin-derived MBH carbonates **2** (0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv) and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mL) were added to a dry flask at room temperature, and then DMAP (20 mol%) was added to the above solution. This solution was stirred at room temperature for 12 h until the complete consumption of the starting materials monitored by TLC. After the removal of the solvent, the residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 5:1 to 3:1) to afford products **5**.

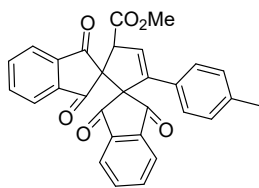




**5a**

**5a**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 5:1) gave a faint yellow solid (33.3 mg, 72% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.05 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.85 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.79 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.67 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.63 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.56 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.16 – 7.10 (m, 3H), 6.98 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.90 (s, 1H), 4.88 (s, 1H), 3.57 (s, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  196.1, 195.9,

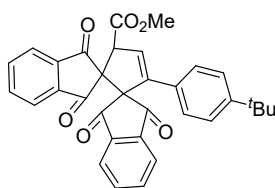
195.1, 194.7, 170.2, 142.4, 141.4, 141.1, 140.5, 139.3, 136.7, 136.4, 136.1, 135.3, 133.2, 130.9, 128.5, 128.2, 126.3, 124.4, 123.9, 123.2, 122.9, 73.0, 68.7, 53.1, 52.4 ppm. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{19}\text{O}_6$  463.1176, found 463.1172.



**5b**

**5b**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 5:1) gave a faint yellow solid (32.4 mg, 68% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.04 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.84 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.78 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.69 – 7.60 (m, 2H), 7.55 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 6.93 – 6.84 (m, 5H), 4.87 (s, 1H), 3.56 (s, 3H), 2.20 (s, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  196.2, 196.0, 195.1, 194.8, 170.3, 142.5,

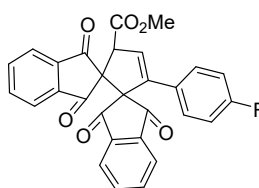
141.4, 141.1, 140.5, 139.3, 138.1, 136.7, 136.4, 136.1, 135.3, 130.4, 130.0, 129.2, 126.2, 124.4, 123.9, 123.2, 122.9, 73.1, 68.7, 53.1, 52.4, 21.1 ppm. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{21}\text{O}_6$  477.1333, found 477.1331.



**5c**

**5c**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 5:1) gave a faint yellow solid (36.3 mg, 70% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.05 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.85 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.79 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.68 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.62 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.52 (m, 2H), 7.13 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 6.92 – 6.88 (m, 3H), 4.86 (s, 1H), 3.56 (s, 3H), 1.19 (s, 9H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100

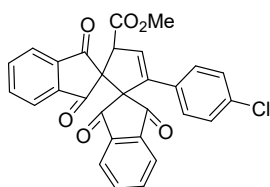
MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  196.3, 196.0, 195.1, 194.7, 170.3, 151.3, 142.5, 141.4, 141.1, 140.5, 139.1, 136.7, 136.4, 136.0, 135.3, 130.2, 129.9, 125.9, 125.5, 124.4, 123.9, 123.2, 122.9, 72.9, 68.8, 53.1, 52.4, 34.5, 31.1 ppm. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{27}\text{O}_6$  519.1802, found 519.1799.



**5d**

**5d**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 5:1) gave a faint yellow solid (36.0 mg, 75% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.05 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.85 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.80 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.70 – 7.62 (m, 2H), 7.56 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 6.99 – 6.96 (m, 2H), 6.84 – 6.80 (m, 3H), 4.86 (s, 1H), 3.57 (s, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  196.1, 195.8, 195.1, 194.6, 170.1,

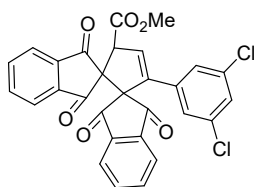
162.6 (d,  $J = 246.6$  Hz), 142.4, 141.4, 141.2, 140.5, 138.3, 136.8, 136.5, 136.2, 135.4, 131.2, 129.5 (d,  $J = 3.4$  Hz), 128.3 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz), 124.4, 123.9, 123.2, 123.0, 115.6 (d,  $J = 21.6$  Hz), 73.1, 68.7, 53.1, 52.4 ppm.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  –113.1 ppm. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{18}\text{FO}_6$  481.1082, found 481.1080.



**5e**

**5e**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 5:1) gave a faint yellow solid (36.2 mg, 73% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.05 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.86 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.80 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.68 (t,  $J = 7.2$

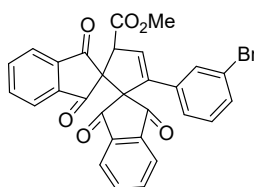
Hz, 1H), 7.64 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.56 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.10 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 6.93 – 6.89 (m, 3H), 4.86 (s, 1H), 3.57 (s, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  195.9, 195.7, 195.0, 194.5, 170.0, 142.3, 141.4, 141.1, 140.5, 138.2, 136.9, 136.5, 136.2, 135.4, 134.2, 131.8, 128.8, 127.7, 124.4, 123.9, 123.2, 123.0, 73.0, 68.7, 53.1, 52.4 ppm. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{18}\text{ClO}_6$  497.0786, found 497.0783.



**5f**

**5f**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 3:1) gave a faint yellow solid (37.6 mg, 71% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.07 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.87 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.81 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.70 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.65 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.57 – 7.52 (m, 2H), 7.15 (s, 1H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 6.88 (s, 2H), 4.86 (s, 1H), 3.58 (s, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  195.50,

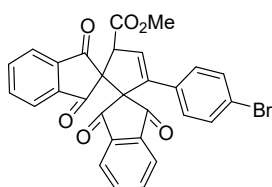
195.46, 194.8, 194.1, 169.7, 142.3, 141.3, 141.0, 140.4, 137.02, 136.95, 136.6, 136.4, 136.3, 135.5, 135.1, 134.1, 128.3, 125.0, 124.5, 123.9, 123.3, 123.0, 72.9, 68.7, 53.1, 52.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{17}\text{Cl}_2\text{O}_6$  531.0397, found 531.0396.



**5g**

**5g**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 3:1) gave a faint yellow solid (37.3 mg, 69% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.06 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.86 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.80 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.69 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.64 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.56 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.32 (s, 1H), 7.28 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.95 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H), 6.91 (s, 1H), 6.73 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.88 (s, 1H),

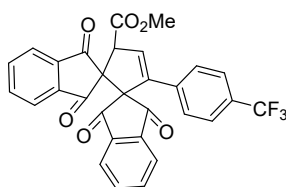
3.58 (s, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  195.8, 195.7, 195.0, 194.4, 169.9, 142.3, 141.4, 141.1, 140.5, 138.0, 136.9, 136.5, 136.3, 135.4, 135.3, 132.6, 131.3, 130.0, 129.8, 124.7, 124.5, 123.9, 123.3, 123.0, 122.8, 72.9, 68.7, 53.1, 52.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{18}\text{BrO}_6$  541.0281 ( $^{79}\text{Br}$ ) and 543.0261 ( $^{81}\text{Br}$ ), found 541.0279, 543.0257.



**5h**

**5h**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 5:1) gave a yellow solid (38.3 mg, 71% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.05 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.86 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.80 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.70 – 7.62 (m, 2H), 7.56 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.25 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 6.90 – 6.85 (m, 3H), 4.85 (s, 1H), 3.57 (s, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  195.9, 195.7, 195.0, 194.5,

170.0, 142.3, 141.3, 141.1, 140.5, 138.3, 136.9, 136.5, 136.2, 135.4, 132.2, 131.9, 131.7, 128.0, 124.4, 123.9, 123.2, 123.0, 122.4, 73.0, 68.7, 53.1, 52.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{18}\text{BrO}_6$  541.0281 ( $^{79}\text{Br}$ ) and 543.0261 ( $^{81}\text{Br}$ ), found 541.0277, 543.0254.

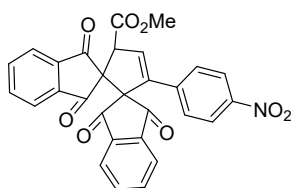


**5i**

**5i**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 5:1) gave a faint yellow solid (37.1 mg, 70% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.07 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.87 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.81 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.70 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.64 (t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.56 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.40 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.00 (s, 1H), 4.89 (s, 1H), 3.58 (s, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$

NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  195.7, 195.6, 194.9, 194.3, 169.8, 142.3, 141.3, 141.1, 140.5, 138.0, 136.8, 136.5, 136.3, 135.5, 133.5, 130.3 (q,  $J = 3.7$  Hz), 126.7, 125.6 (q,  $J = 3.7$  Hz), 124.5, 123.9, 123.7 (q,  $J =$

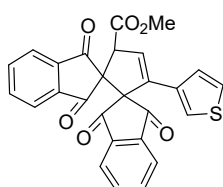
235.5 Hz), 123.3, 123.0, 73.0, 68.8, 53.2, 52.5 ppm.  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  -62.8 ppm. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{18}\text{F}_3\text{O}_6$  531.1050, found 531.1045.



**5j**

**5j**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 3:1) gave a yellow solid (37.5 mg, 74% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.09 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 8.02 – 7.97 (m, 3H), 7.90 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.82 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.72 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.66 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.56 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.15 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 4.89 (s, 1H), 3.59 (s, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  195.5,

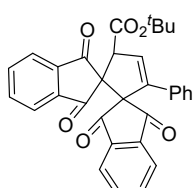
195.3, 194.7, 194.0, 169.5, 147.3, 142.2, 141.2, 141.0, 140.4, 139.7, 137.4, 137.1, 136.6, 136.5, 135.6, 135.3, 127.1, 124.6, 124.0, 123.9, 123.3, 123.0, 72.9, 68.8, 53.2, 52.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_8$  508.1027, found 508.1021.



**5k**

**5k**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 3:1) gave a yellow solid (31.4 mg, 67% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.01 (dd,  $J = 14.0, 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.87 – 7.79 (m, 2H), 7.71 (t,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.64 – 7.59 (m, 3H), 7.15 (s, 1H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 6.52 (s, 1H), 4.86 (s, 1H), 3.56 (s, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  196.3, 195.9, 195.2, 194.7, 170.1, 142.5, 141.4, 141.3, 140.5, 136.8, 136.4, 136.2,

135.3, 134.24, 134.15, 129.8, 126.4, 126.1, 124.3, 123.9, 123.3, 123.0, 121.7, 72.7, 68.3, 53.1, 52.4 ppm. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{17}\text{O}_6\text{S}$  469.0740, found 469.0733.



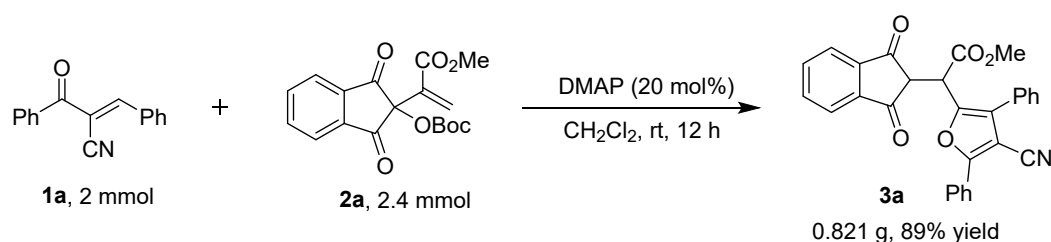
**5l**

**5l**, Purification by flash chromatography (PE/EA = 5:1) gave a faint yellow solid (34.8 mg, 69% yield);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.06 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 8.01 (d,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.86 – 7.78 (m, 2H), 7.69 – 7.62 (m, 2H), 7.58 – 7.52 (m, 2H), 7.12 – 7.11 (m, 3H), 6.99 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 6.88 (s, 1H), 4.78 (s, 1H), 1.09 (s, 9H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  196.3, 196.2, 195.0, 194.9, 168.2, 142.7, 141.4, 141.2, 140.7, 139.1,

136.7, 136.3, 136.0, 135.2, 133.4, 131.7, 128.5, 128.1, 126.4, 124.4, 123.7, 123.2, 122.9, 82.5, 73.2, 68.4, 53.9, 27.4 ppm. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{25}\text{O}_6$  505.1646, found 505.1642.

## 5. Gram scale reaction and synthetic transformation

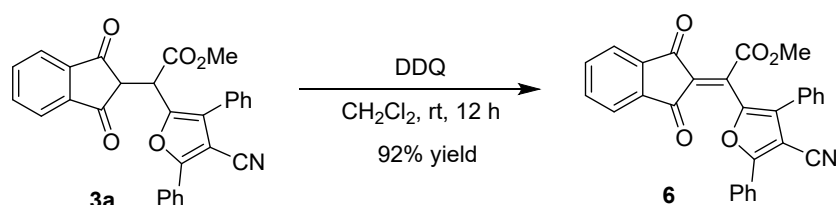
### 5.1 Gram scale reaction



The  $\alpha$ -cyano- $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ketone **1a** (0.466 g, 2 mmol) and ninhydrin-derived MBH carbonate **2a** (0.830 g, 2.4 mmol) and  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (15 mL) were added to a 50 mL dry flask at room temperature, then DMAP

(48.8 mg) was added to the above solution in one portion. The resulting solution of the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 h. The solvent was evaporated to give the crude product, which was directly purified by flash chromatography (PE /EA = 3:1) to provide the desired product **3a** as a white solid (0.821 g, 89% yield). The analytical data of the gram scale reaction of **3a** are consistent with those of the 0.1 mmol scale experiment.

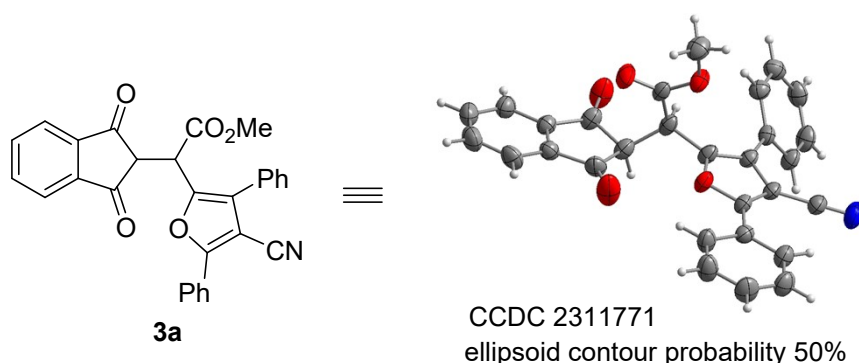
## 5.2 Synthetic transformation from **3a** to **6**



To a solution of compound **3a** (0.2 mmol, 92.2 mg) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (3 mL) was added the DDQ (0.22 mmol, 49.9 mg), then the mixture was then stirred at the room temperature for 12 h until the reaction was completed as monitored by TLC analysis. Evaporation of the solvent followed by a flash column chromatography on silica gel (PE /EA = 3:1) to give the product **6** (84.5 mg, 92% yield) as a yellow solid.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  8.26 – 8.24 (m, 2H), 8.00 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.85 – 7.81 (m, 2H), 7.57 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 3H), 7.48 (d,  $J = 3.6$  Hz, 5H), 3.44 (s, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  187.8, 185.9, 164.6, 162.8, 142.4, 142.3, 140.6, 139.5, 135.9, 135.6, 132.8, 132.0, 129.9, 129.6, 129.4, 128.7, 128.3, 127.9, 127.1, 126.8, 123.6, 123.4, 113.4, 97.0, 52.9 ppm. HRMS (ESI)  $m/z$ :  $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_5$  460.1179, found 460.1174.

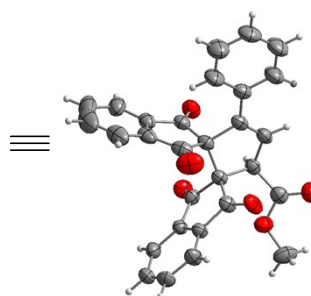
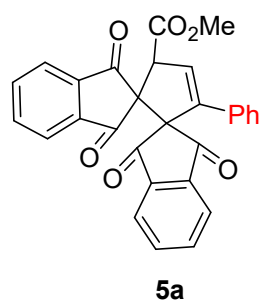
## 6. Crystal Structure and Data

**Preparation of Single Crystal.** Single crystal **3a** and **5a** was obtained by the layer-to-layer diffusion method. Products **3a** and **5a** were added to dichloromethane (1.0 mL), and stratified with *n*-hexane after 3 days to obtain crystals suitable for single-crystal X-ray diffraction.



Identification code	<b>3a</b>
Empirical formula	$\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_5$
Formula weight	461.45

Temperature/K	296
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group	P-1
a/Å	9.9434(12)
b/Å	11.2111(13)
c/Å	11.3362(13)
$\alpha$ /°	100.833(2)
$\beta$ /°	92.317(2)
$\gamma$ /°	115.863(2)
Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	1106.1(2)
Z	2
$\rho_{\text{calc}}$ /cm <sup>3</sup>	1.385
$\mu$ /mm <sup>-1</sup>	0.095
F(000)	480
Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>	0.23 × 0.2 × 0.18
Radiation	MoK $\alpha$ ( $\lambda$ = 0.71073)
2 $\Theta$ range for data collection/°	5.484 to 55.272
Index ranges	-12 ≤ h ≤ 12, -14 ≤ k ≤ 14, -14 ≤ l ≤ 14
Reflections collected	6746
Independent reflections	4834 [ $R_{\text{int}}$ = 0.0193, $R_{\text{sigma}}$ = 0.0369]
Data/restraints/parameters	4834/ 0 / 317
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.037
Final R indexes [ $I \geq 2\sigma(I)$ ]	$R_1$ = 0.0483, $wR_2$ = 0.1142
R indices (all data)	$R_1$ = 0.0753, $wR_2$ = 0.1305
Largest diff. peak and hole/ 1-sigma level	0.231 / - 0.312 / 0.059

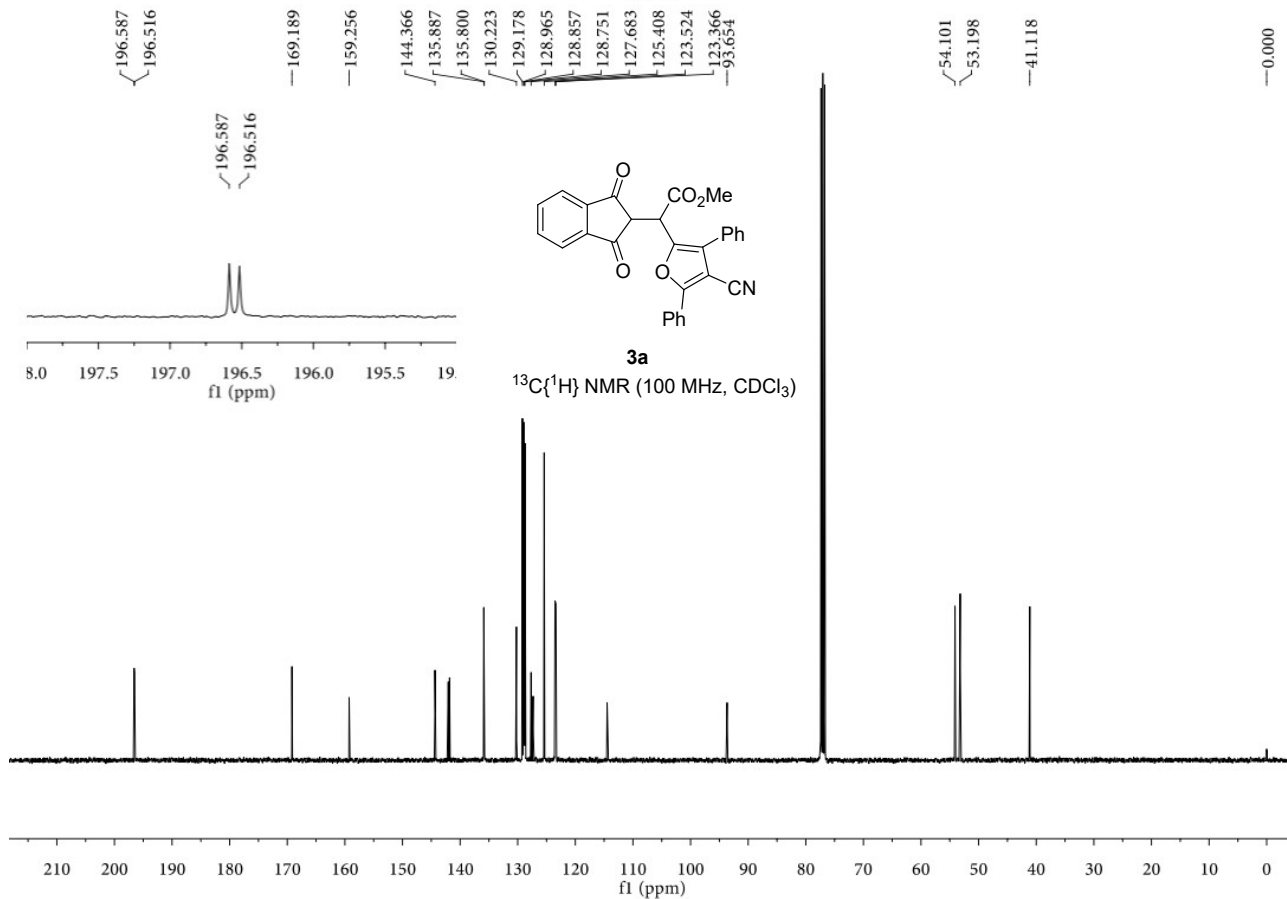
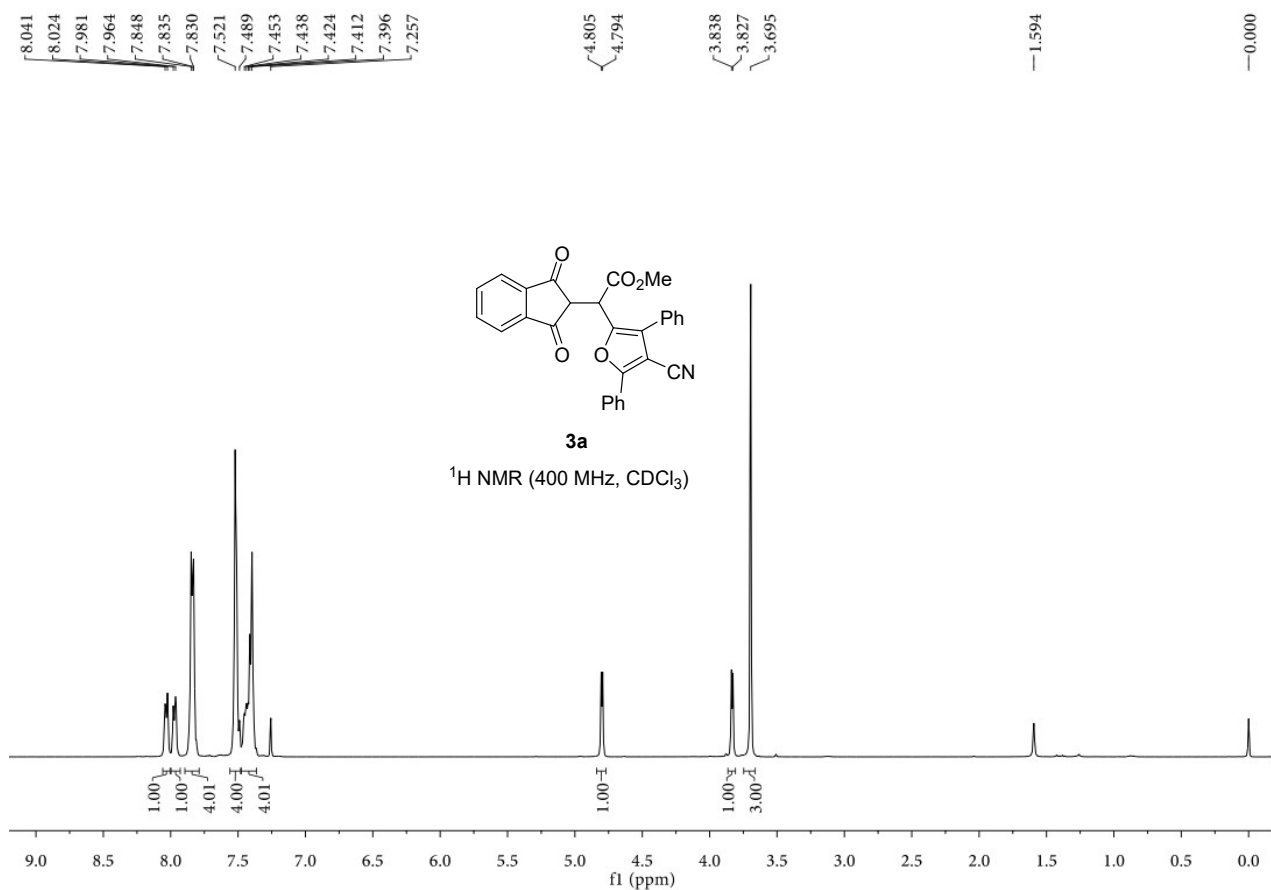


CCDC 2311772  
ellipsoid contour probability 50%

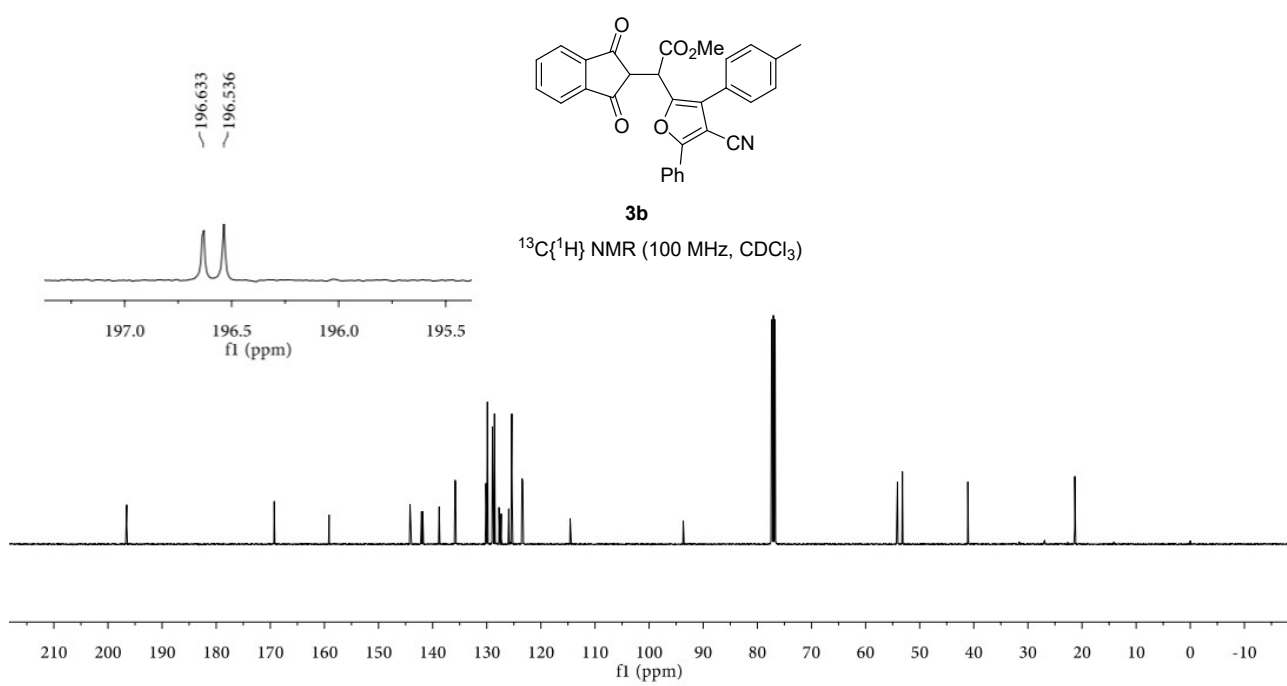
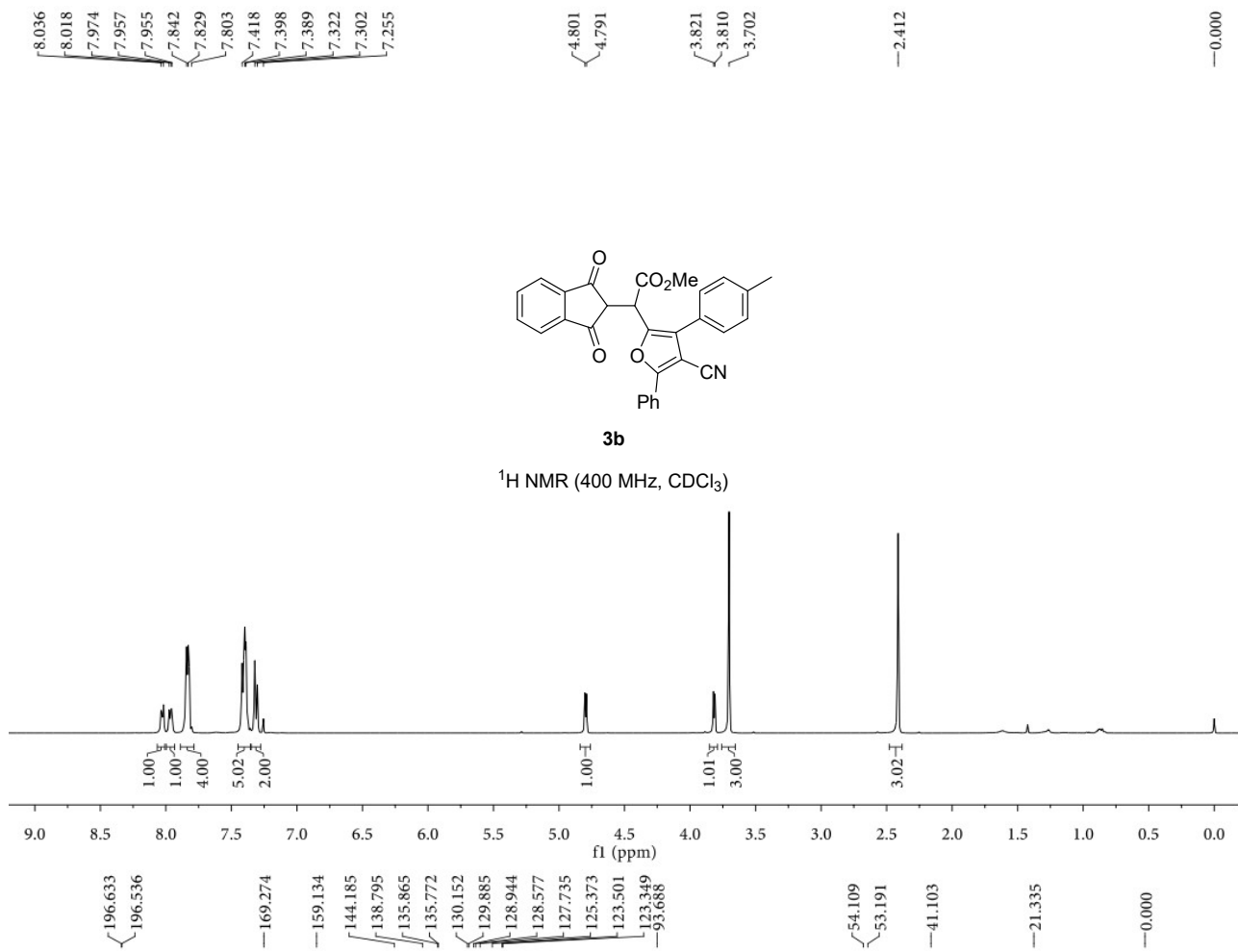
Identification code	<b>5a</b>
Empirical formula	C <sub>29</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>6</sub>
Formula weight	462.43
Temperature/K	296.15
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	P1 2 <sub>1</sub> /c1
a/Å	8.5559(17)
b/Å	26.500(5)
c/Å	9.988(2)
α/°	90
β/°	99.097(4)
γ/°	90
Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	2236.1(8)
Z	4
ρ <sub>calc</sub> /g/cm <sup>3</sup>	1.374
μ/mm <sup>-1</sup>	0.097
F(000)	960.0
Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>	0.26 × 0.22 × 0.2
Radiation	MoKα (λ = 0.71073)
2θ range for data collection/°	3.074 to 55.094
Index ranges	-10 ≤ h ≤ 10, -29 ≤ k ≤ 34, -12 ≤ l ≤ 12
Reflections collected	13417
Independent reflections	5055 [R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0441, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0608]

Data/restraints/parameters	5055/0/317
Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$	1.007
Final R indexes [ $I \geq 2\sigma(I)$ ]	$R_1 = 0.0516$ , $wR_2 = 0.1036$
R indices (all data)	$R_1 = 0.1089$ , $wR_2 = 0.1245$
Largest diff. peak and hole/ 1-sigma level	0.161 / - 0.16 / 0.036

## 7. NMR spectra





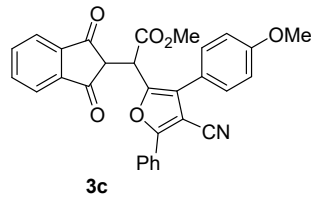


8.039  
8.022  
7.976  
7.960  
7.837  
7.824  
7.460  
7.439  
7.405  
7.389  
7.260  
7.043  
7.023

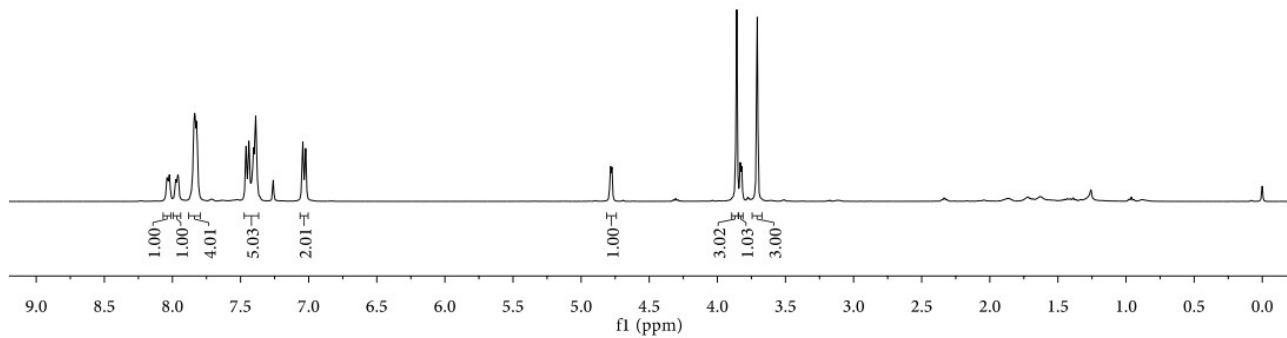
4.784  
4.774

3.858  
3.831  
3.821  
3.707

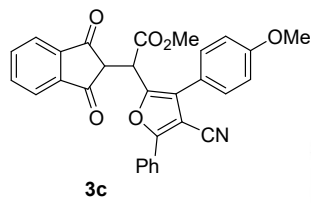
0.000



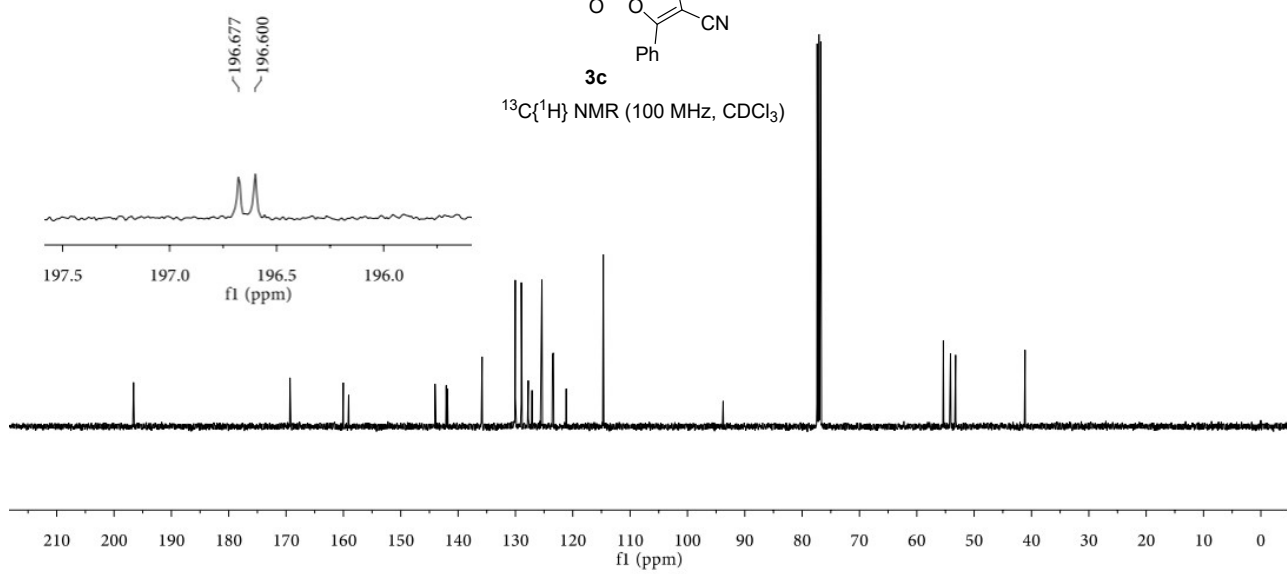
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

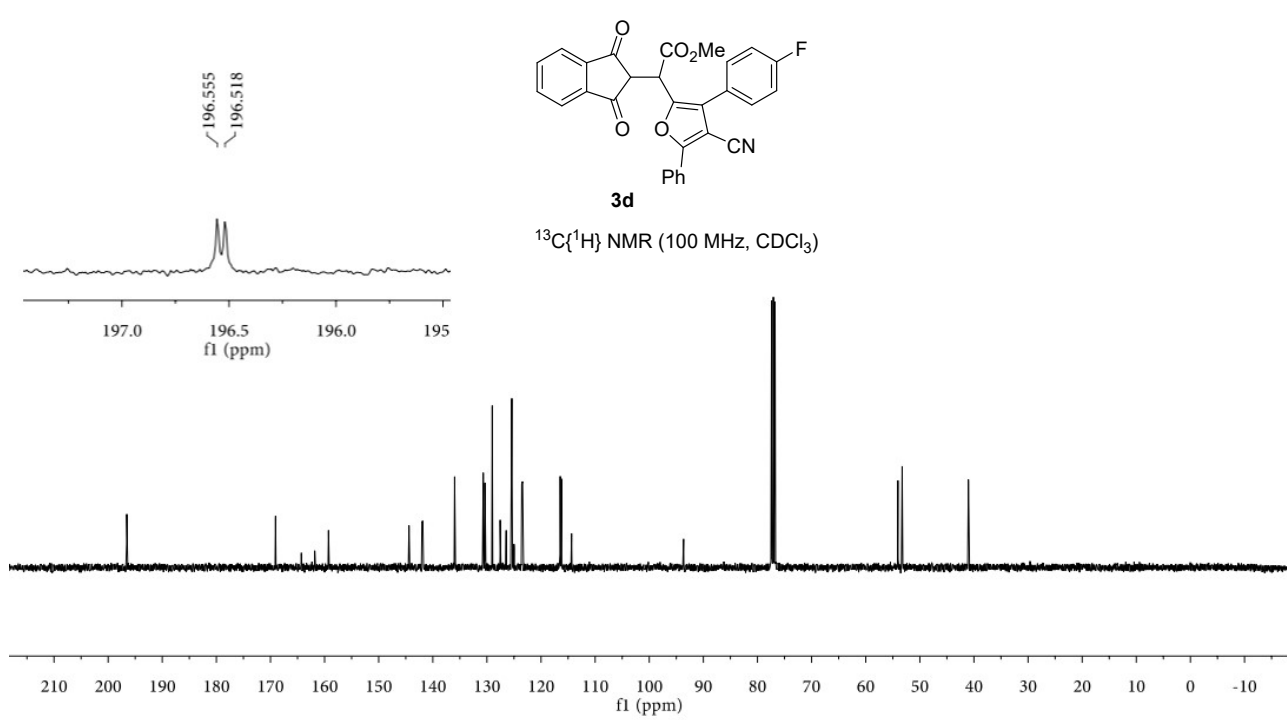
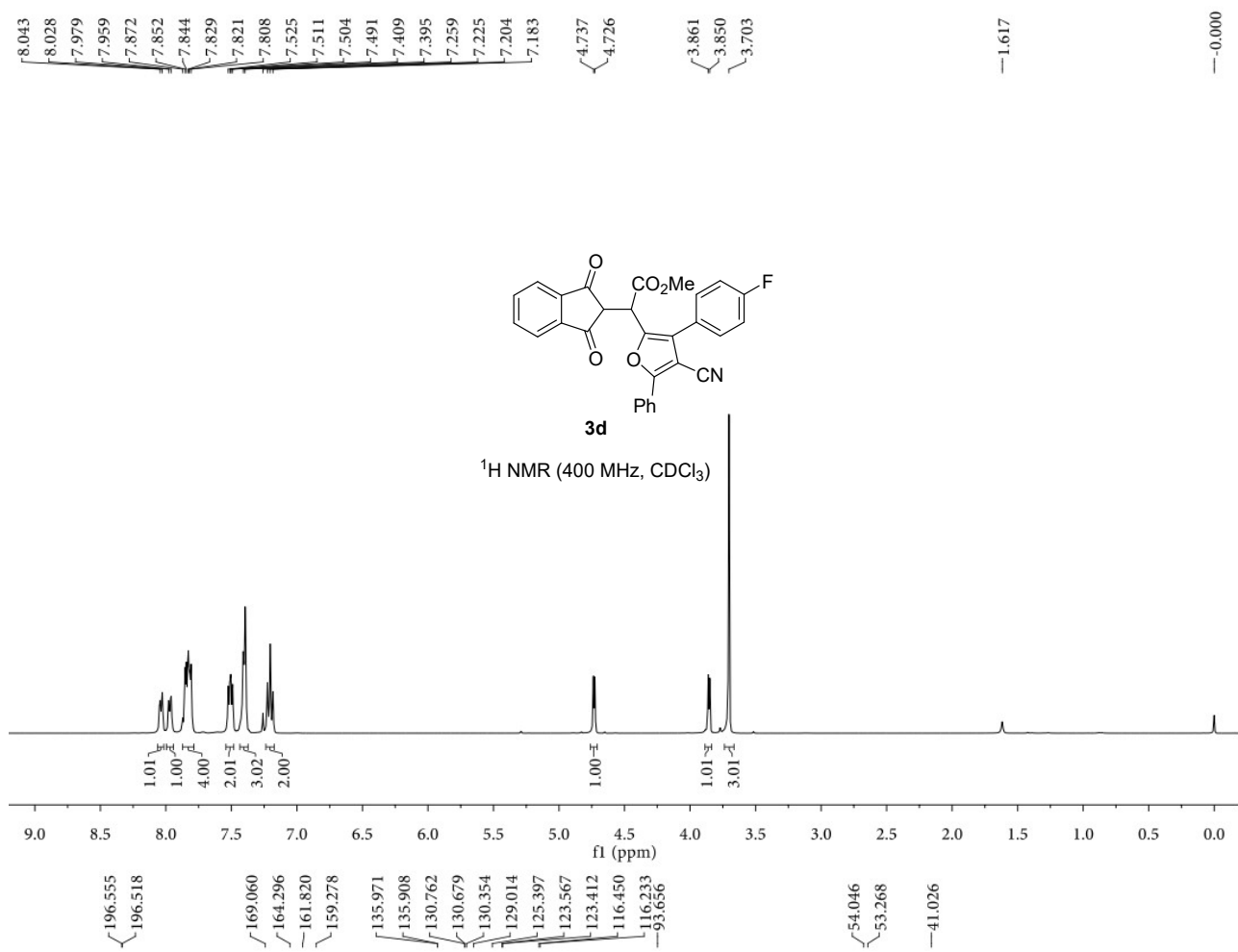


196.677  
196.600  
169.314  
160.027  
159.074  
144.022  
142.068  
135.898  
135.812  
130.164  
130.025  
128.965  
127.762  
125.376  
123.532  
123.375  
114.676  
93.772  
55.370  
54.121  
53.228  
41.128

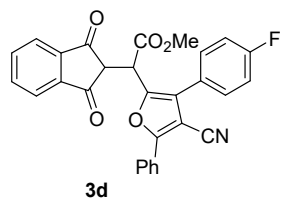


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

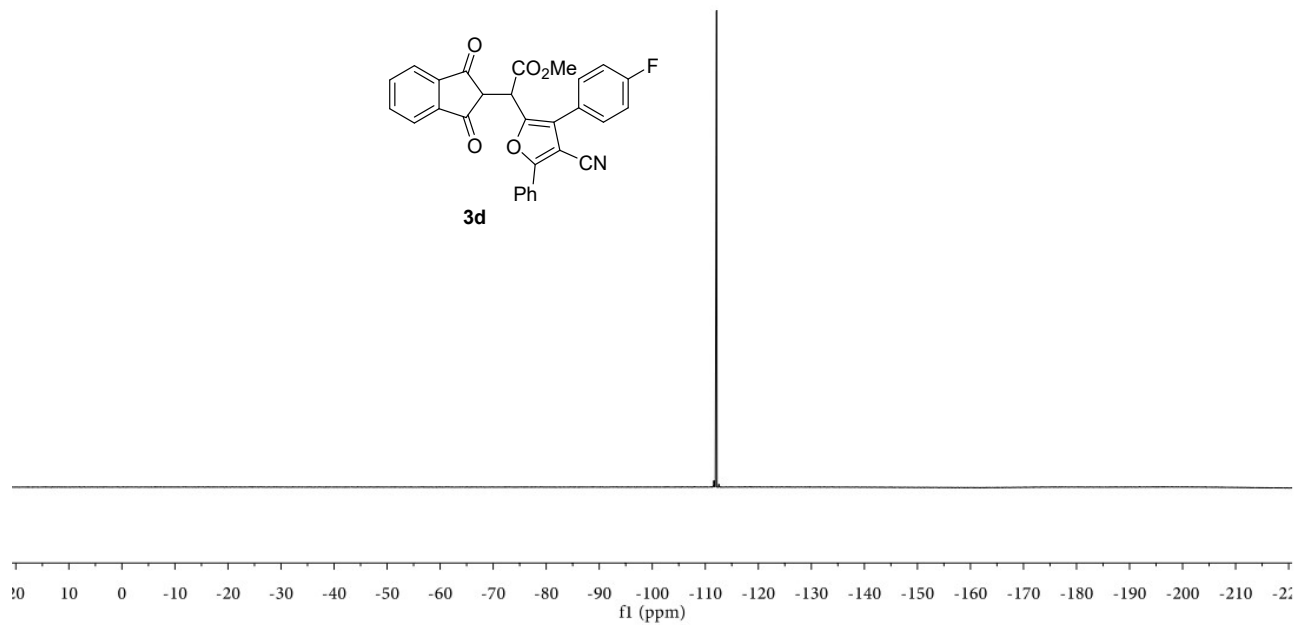




--112.129



3d

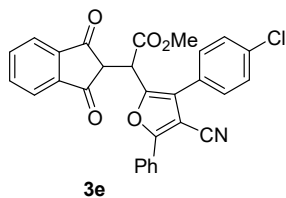


8.045  
8.027  
7.979  
7.962  
7.873  
7.853  
7.844  
7.833  
7.829  
7.820  
7.808  
7.502  
7.479  
7.454  
7.411  
7.398  
7.259

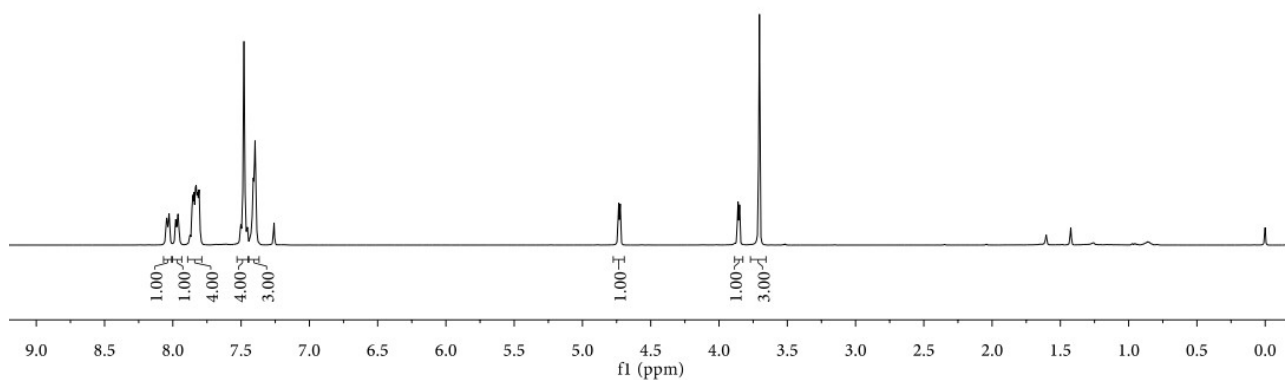
4.734  
4.724

3.860  
3.850  
3.704

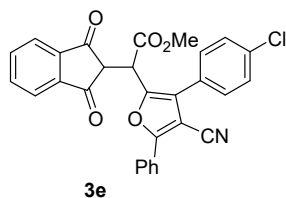
-0.000



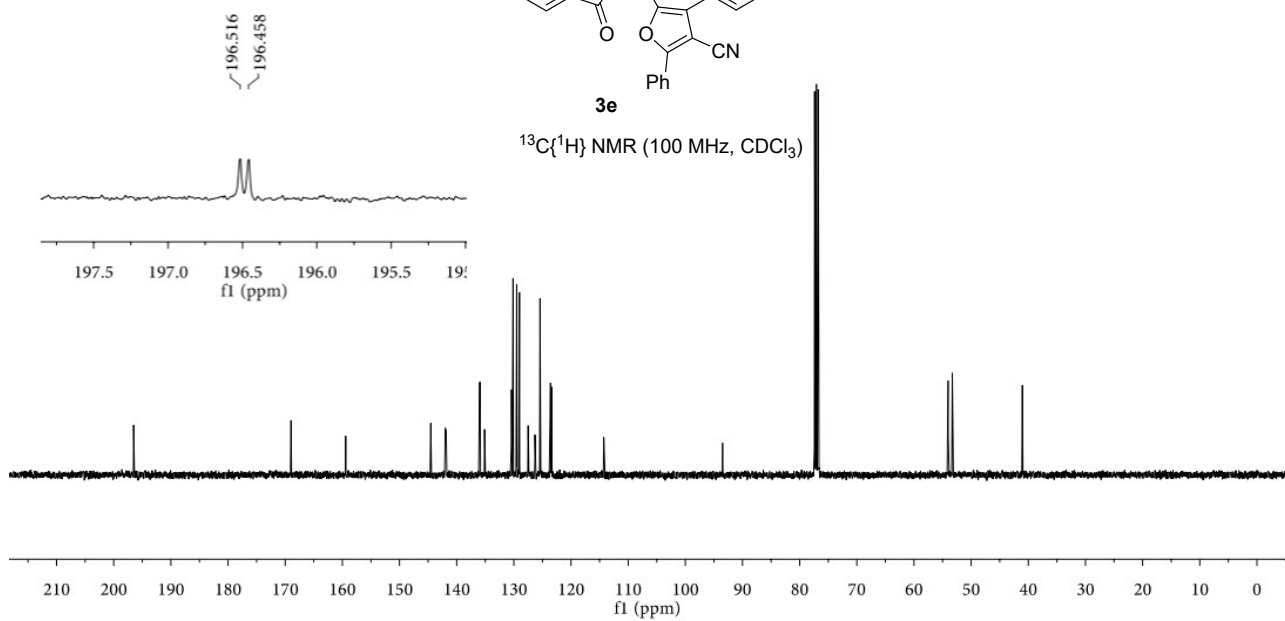
$^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )



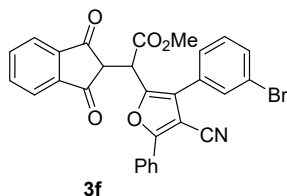
196.516  
196.458  
168.978  
159.420  
144.530  
141.996  
135.981  
135.920  
135.112  
130.407  
130.137  
129.505  
129.027  
127.499  
125.417  
123.579  
123.426  
93.478  
54.026  
53.290  
41.030



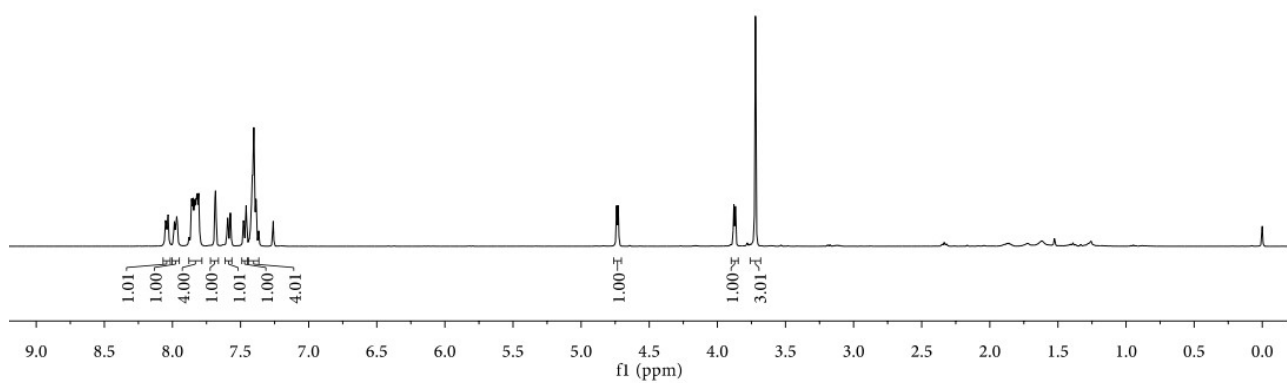
$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )



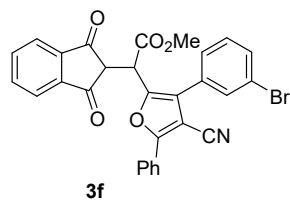
8.050, 8.032, 7.986, 7.969, 7.859, 7.849, 7.838, 7.827, 7.820, 7.808, 7.684, 7.595, 7.575, 7.478, 7.459, 7.414, 7.403, 7.387, 7.367, 7.260, 4.739, 4.728, 3.879, 3.868, 3.720, -0.000



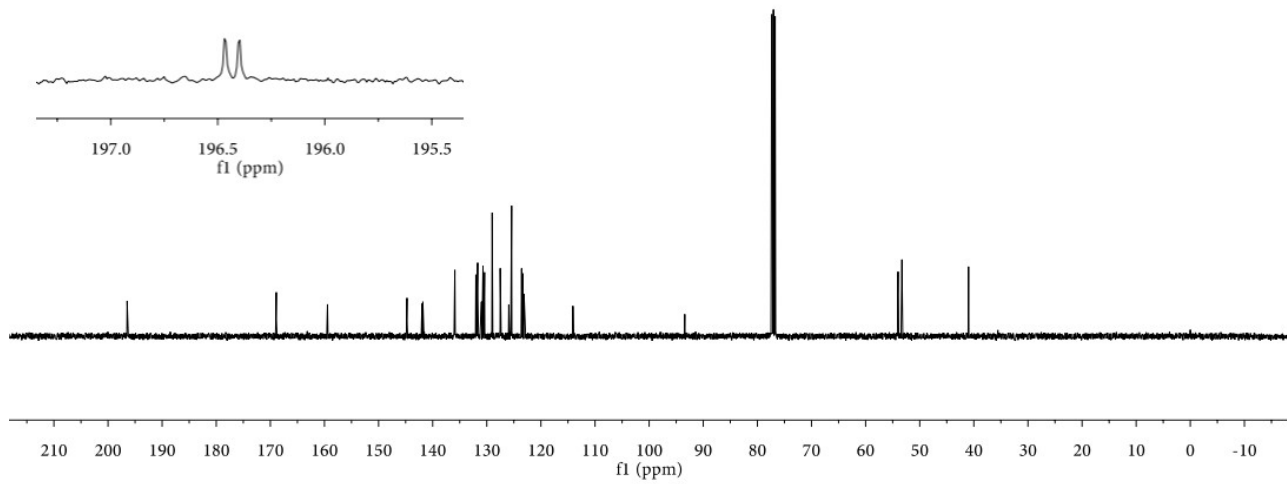
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



196.466, 196.400, 168.904, 159.442, 135.970, 135.906, 132.019, 131.689, 130.701, 130.418, 129.013, 127.521, 125.415, 123.571, 123.408, 123.124, 93.411, 53.996, 53.289, 40.975, -0.000



<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

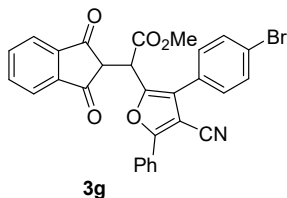


8.044  
8.027  
7.977  
7.960  
7.855  
7.844  
7.834  
7.823  
7.817  
7.805  
7.653  
7.634  
7.413  
7.397  
7.261

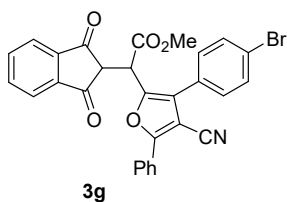
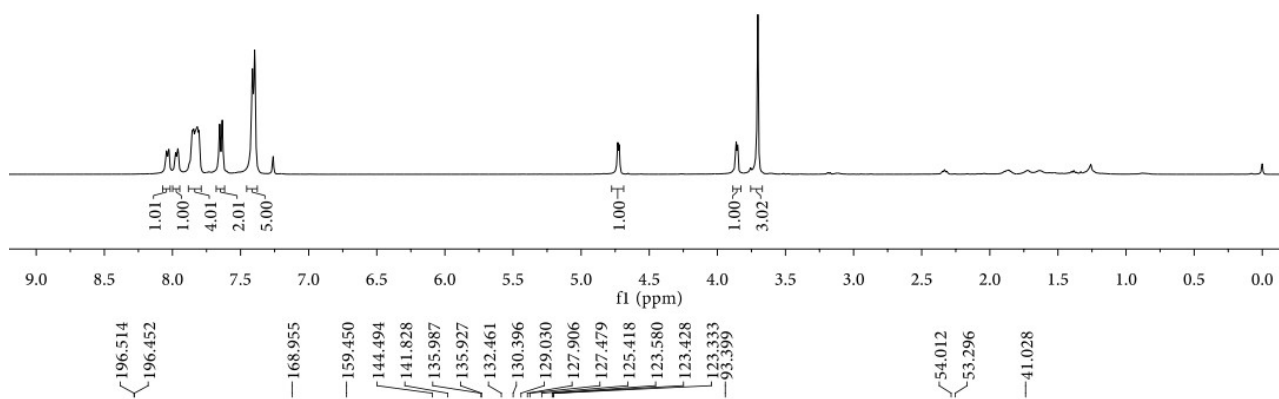
4.730  
4.720

3.862  
3.852  
3.703

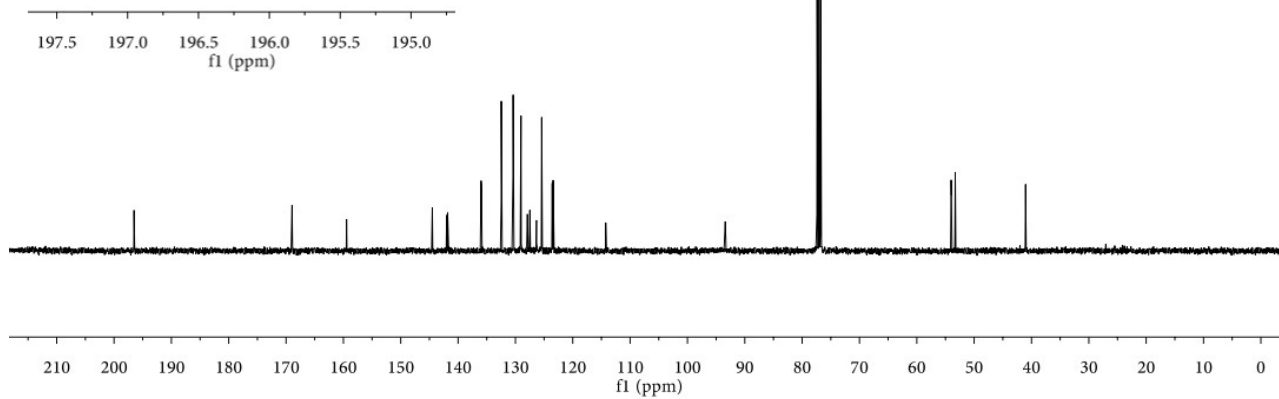
0.000



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



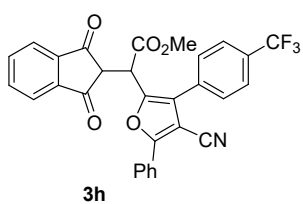
8.054  
8.037  
7.990  
7.974  
7.885  
7.865  
7.856  
7.846  
7.833  
7.822  
7.796  
7.776  
7.682  
7.662  
7.425  
7.414  
7.260

4.738  
4.727

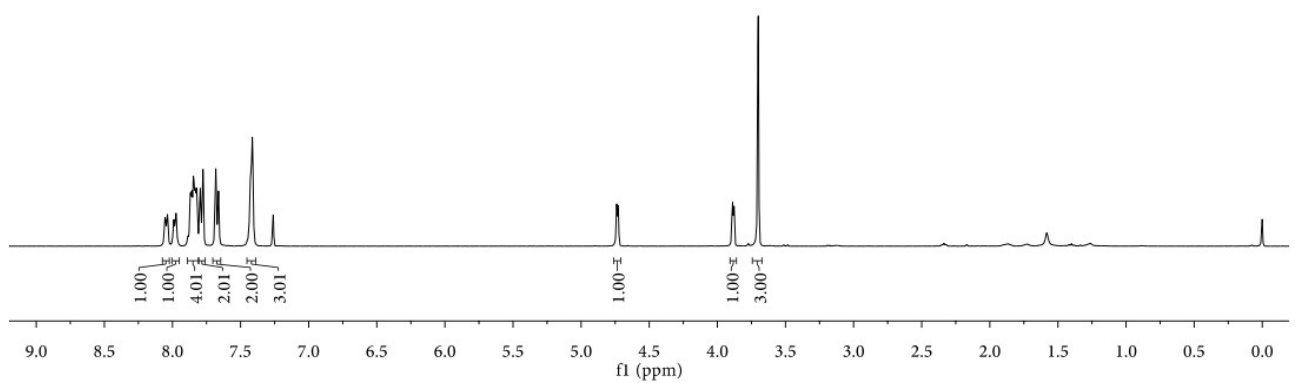
3.888  
3.877  
3.700

1.582

0.000



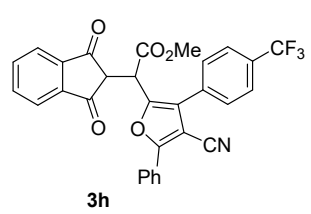
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



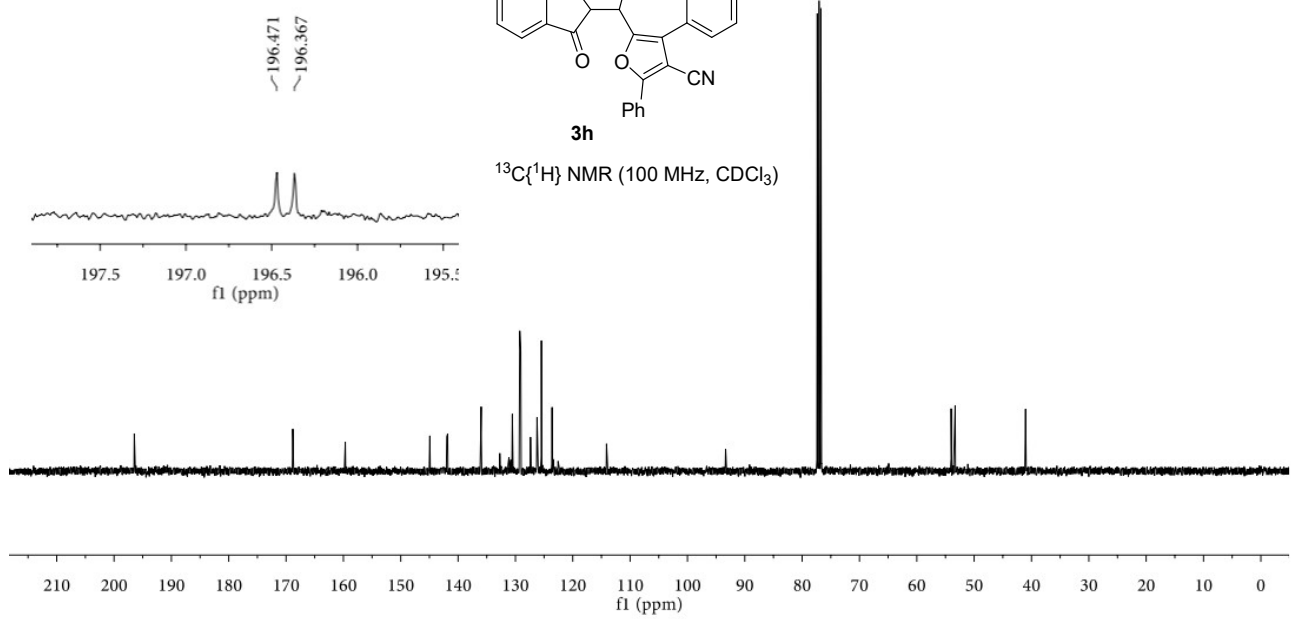
196.471  
196.367  
168.825  
159.667  
144.929  
141.974  
141.821  
136.027  
135.973  
130.544  
129.242  
129.064  
126.229  
126.192  
125.463  
123.610  
123.451  
93.344

54.003  
53.308

41.029

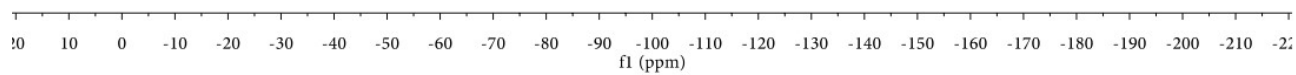
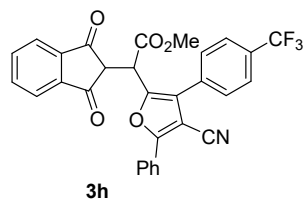


<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)





--62.761



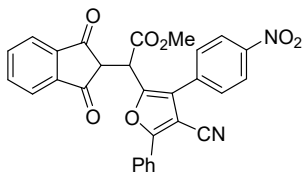
8.388  
8.369  
8.058  
8.042  
7.990  
7.974  
7.878  
7.873  
7.866  
7.822  
7.815  
7.756  
7.736  
7.423  
7.264

4.728  
4.720

3.929  
3.921  
3.720

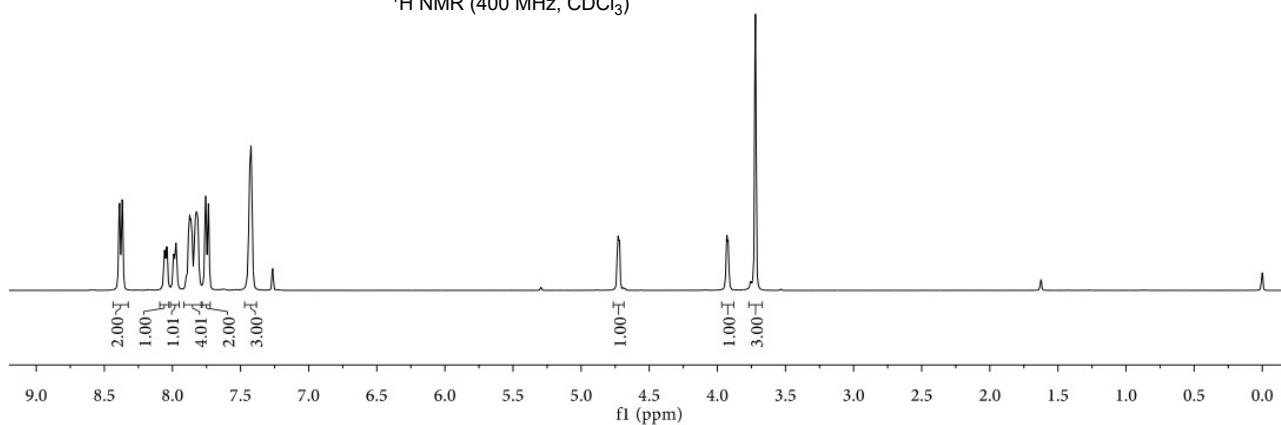
1.624

0.000



**3i**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



196.406  
196.175

168.590

159.937

145.335

141.782

136.091

136.065

135.664

130.727

129.792

129.102

127.133

125.473

124.428

123.624

123.473

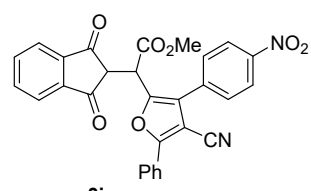
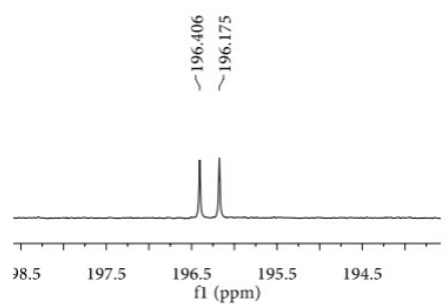
93.053

53.957

53.394

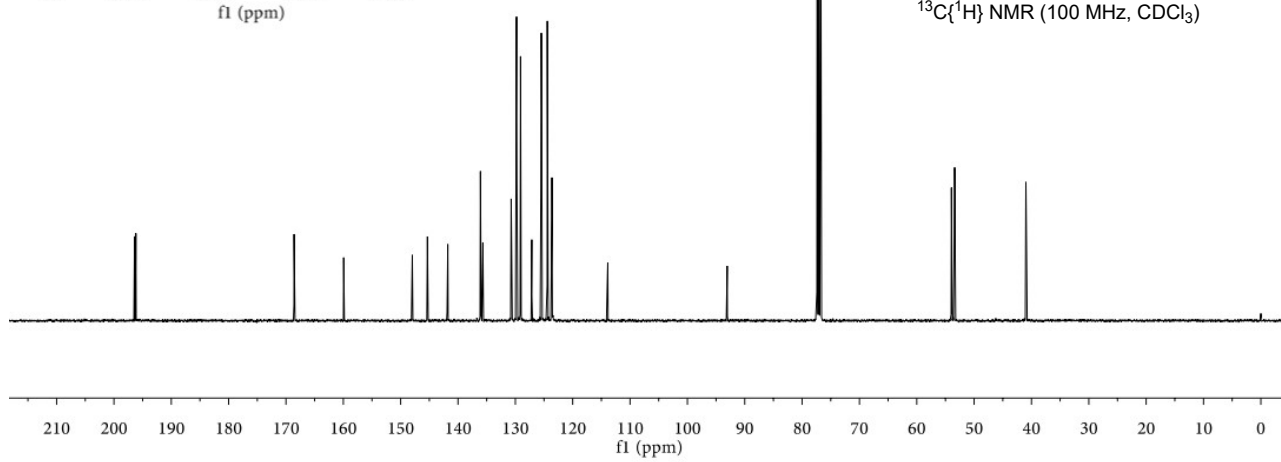
40.969

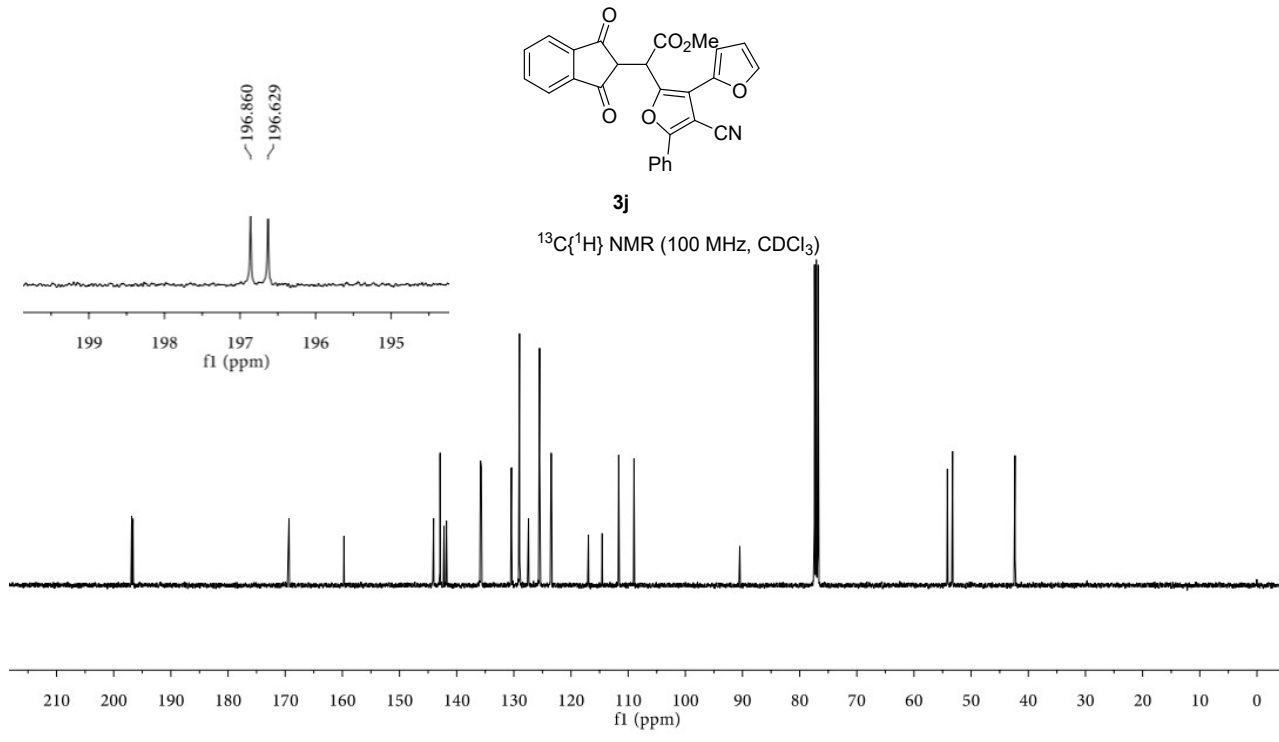
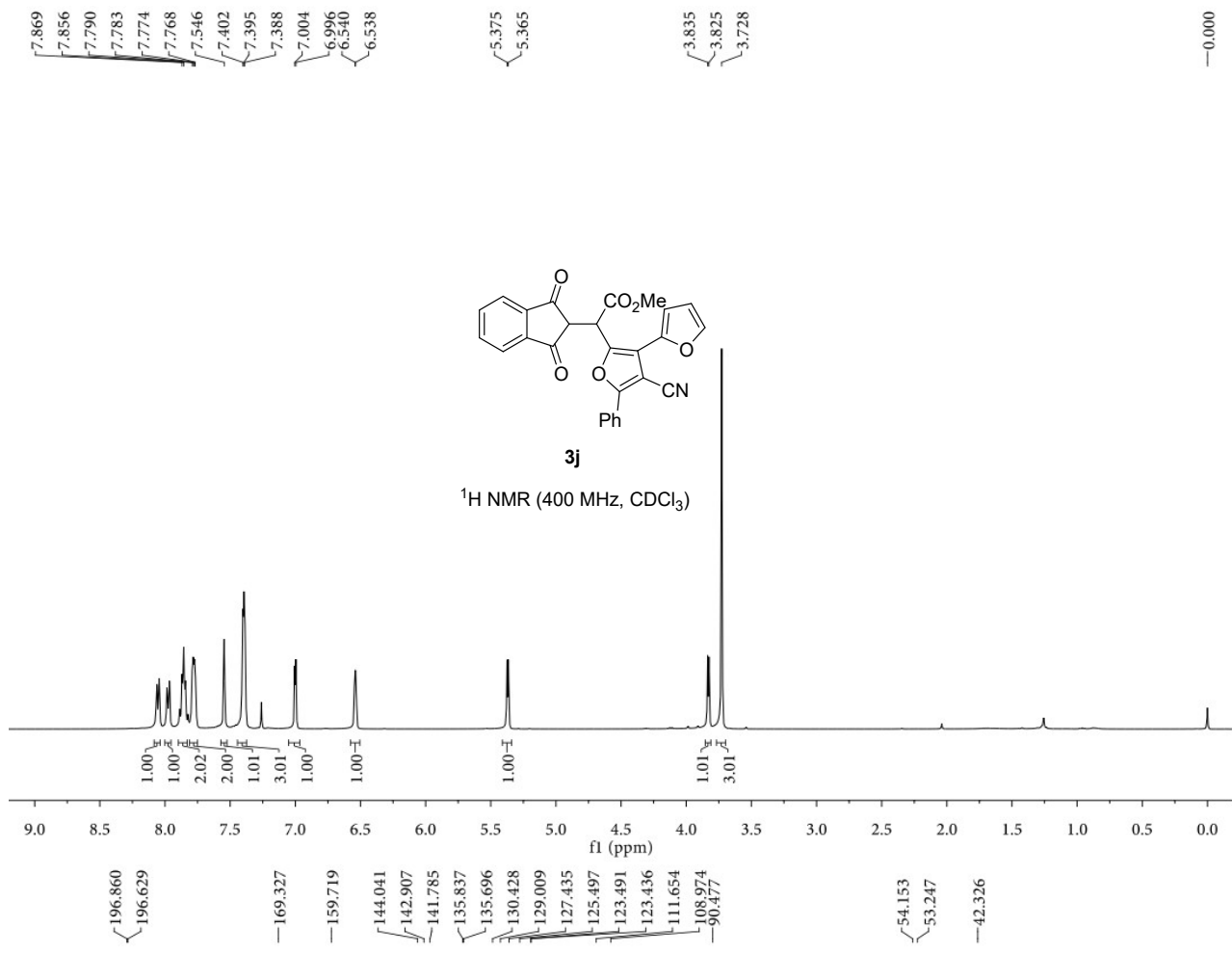
0.000

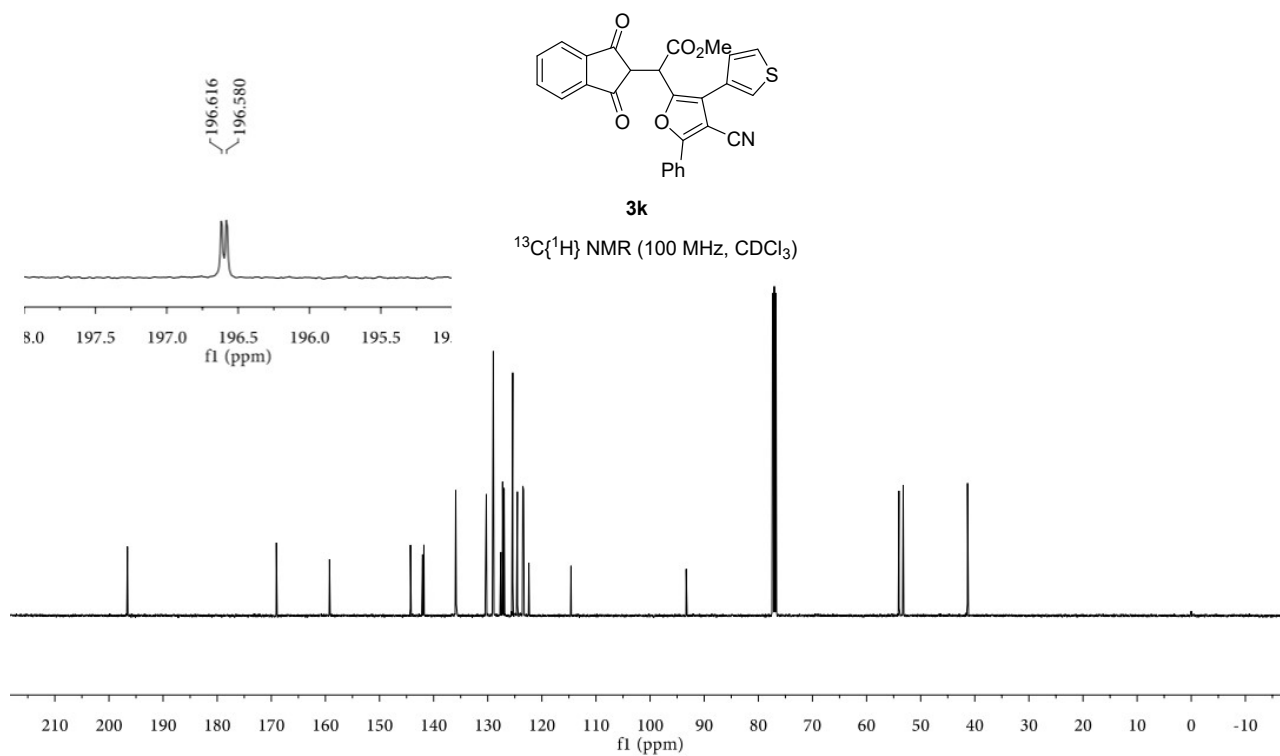
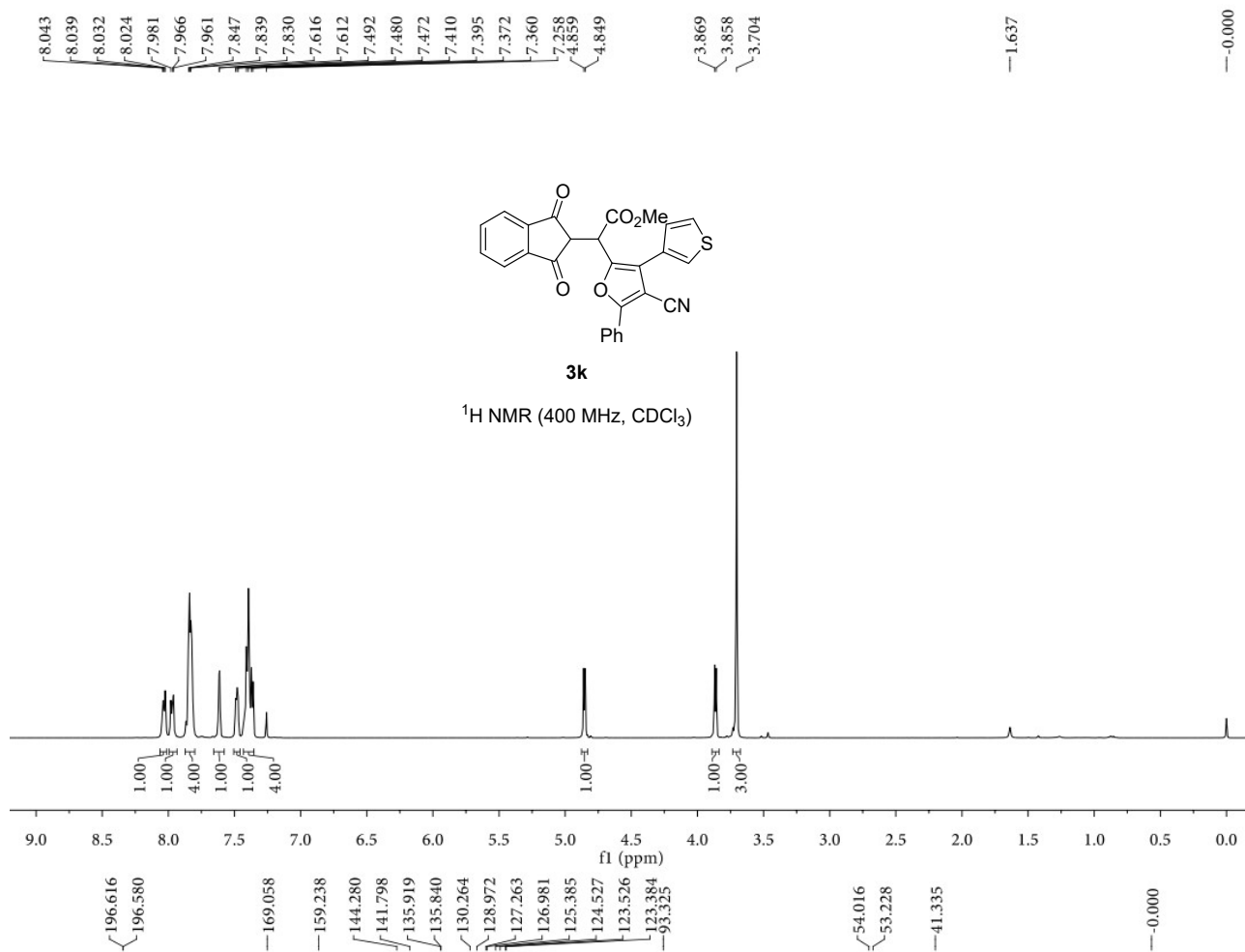


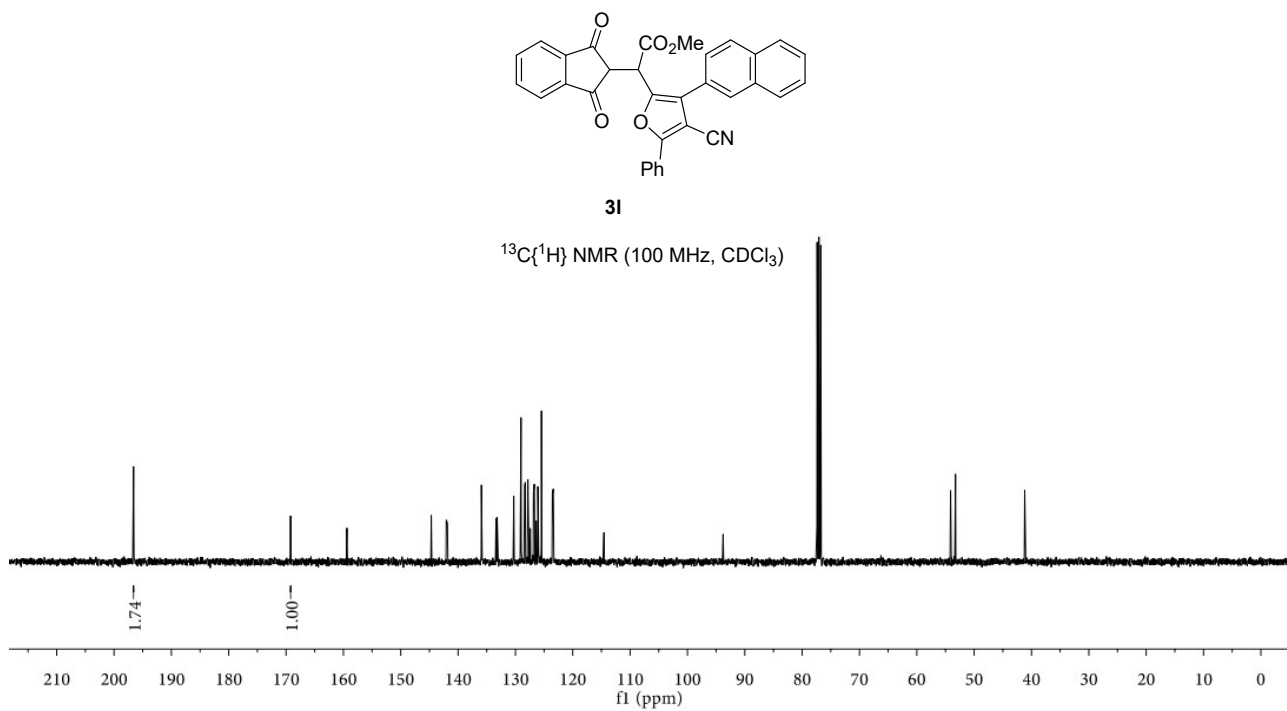
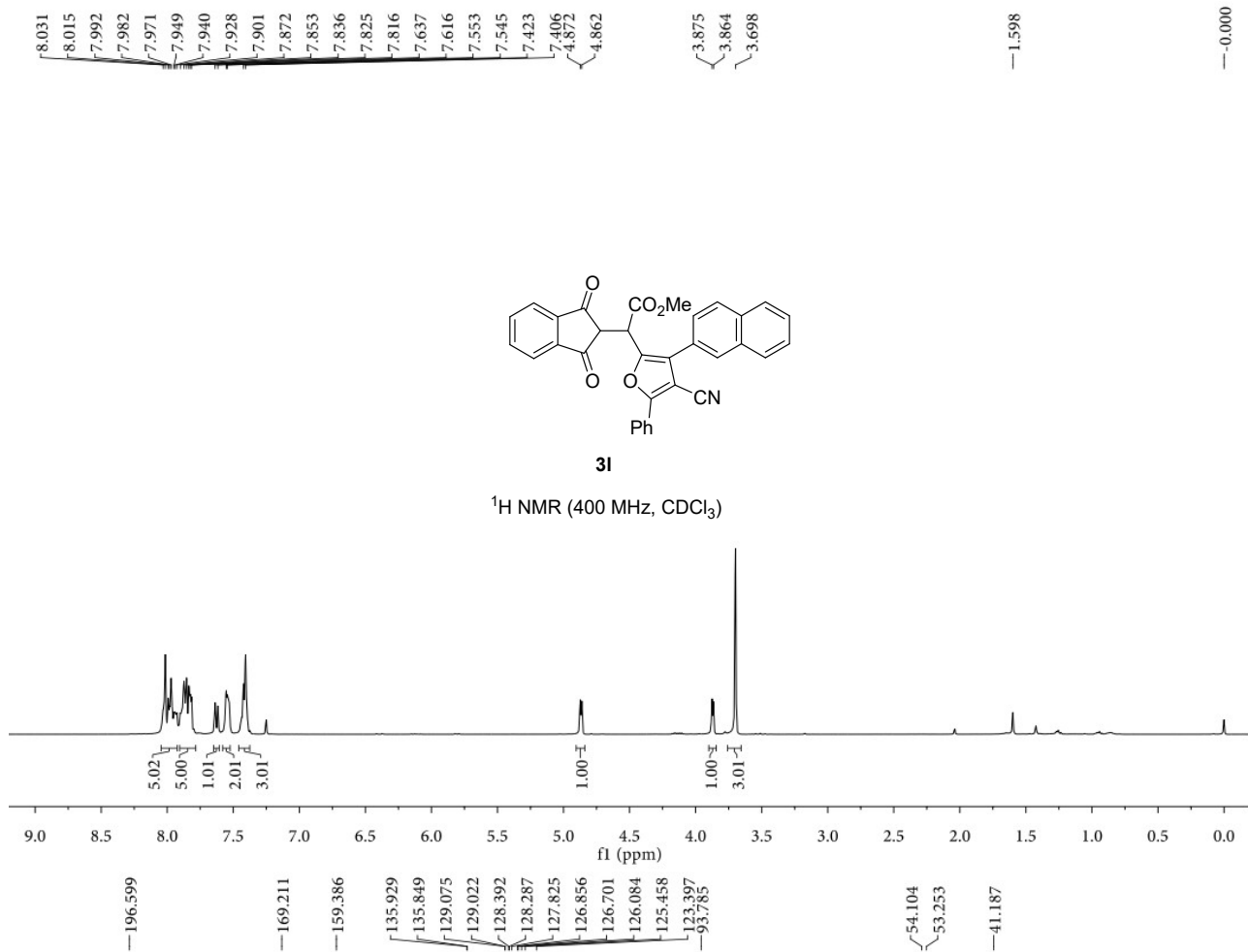
**3i**

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)









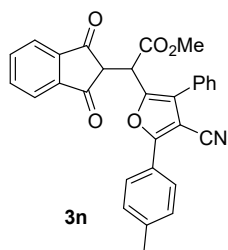
8.038  
8.021  
7.973  
7.957  
7.864  
7.845  
7.835  
7.826  
7.806  
7.720  
7.701  
7.514  
7.481  
7.462  
7.443  
7.435  
7.259  
7.208  
7.189

4.791  
4.781

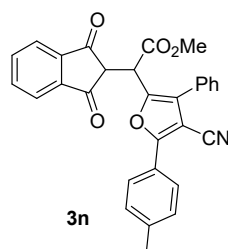
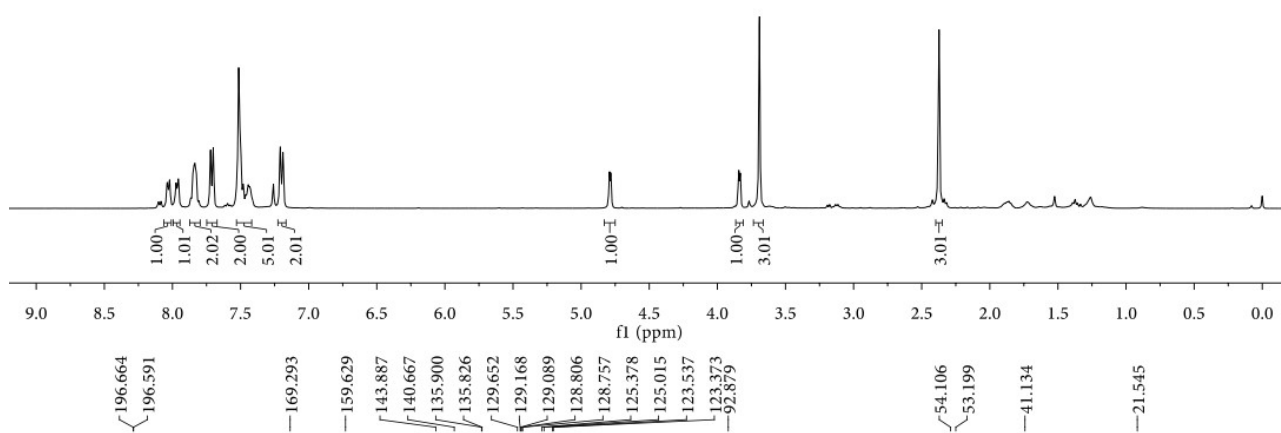
3.842  
3.832  
3.691

2.373

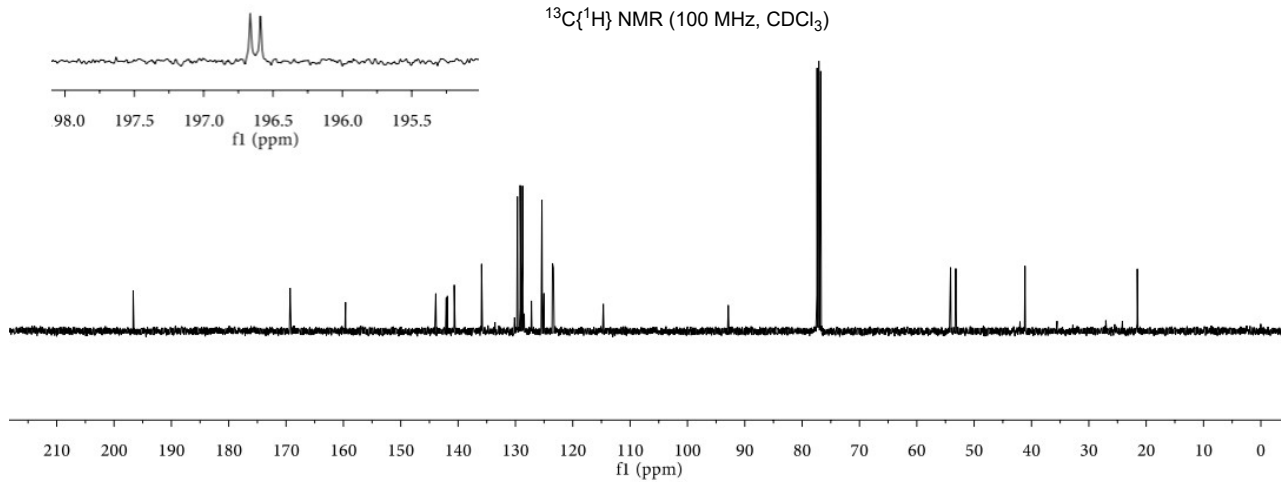
0.000

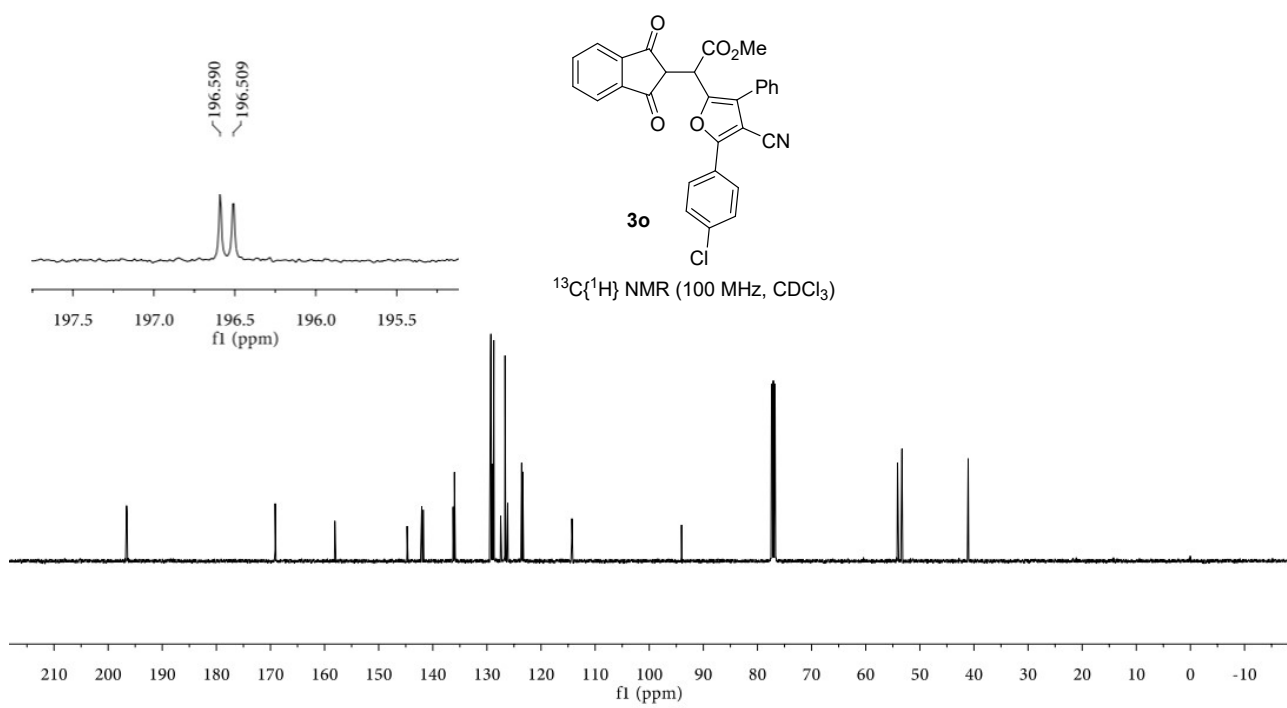
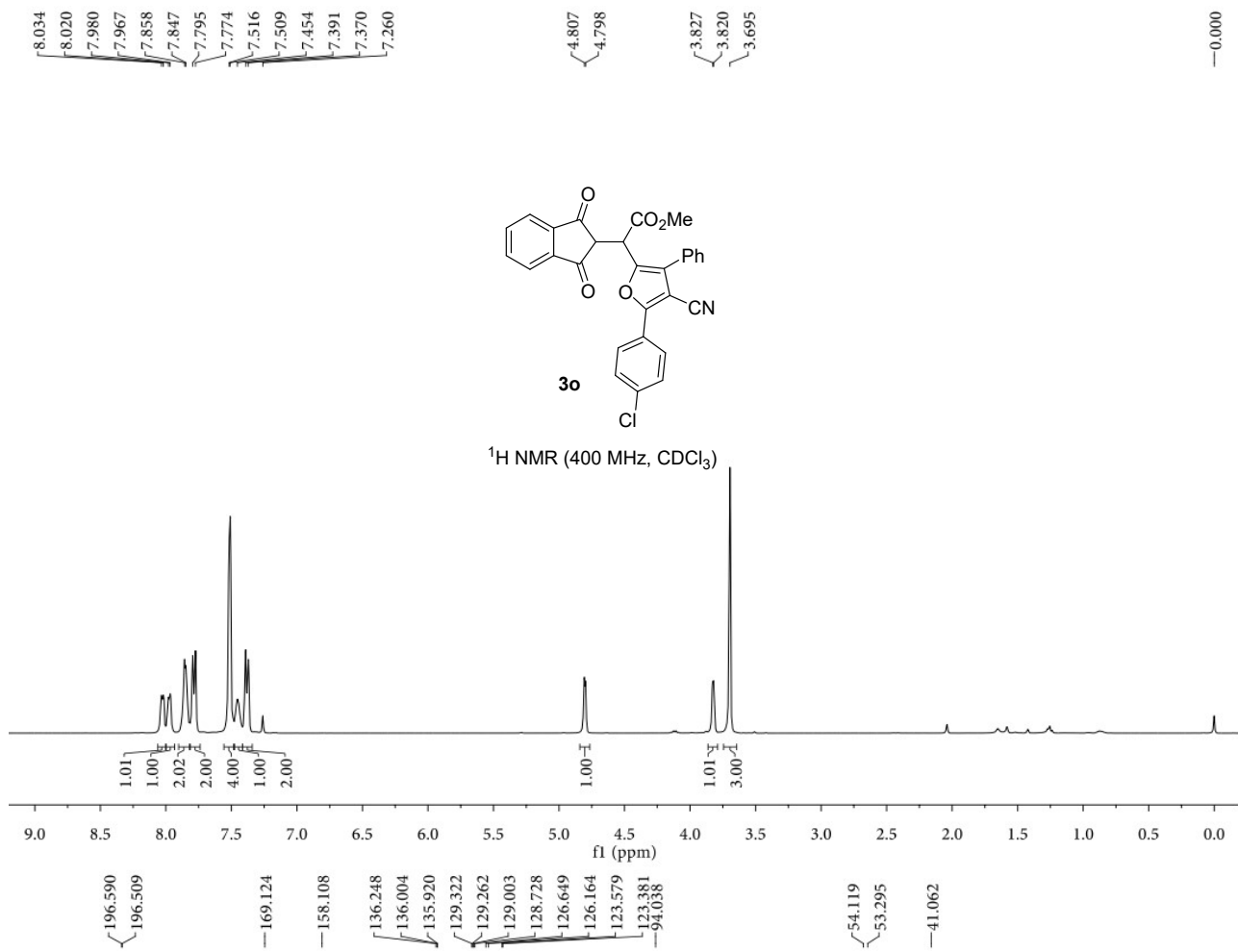


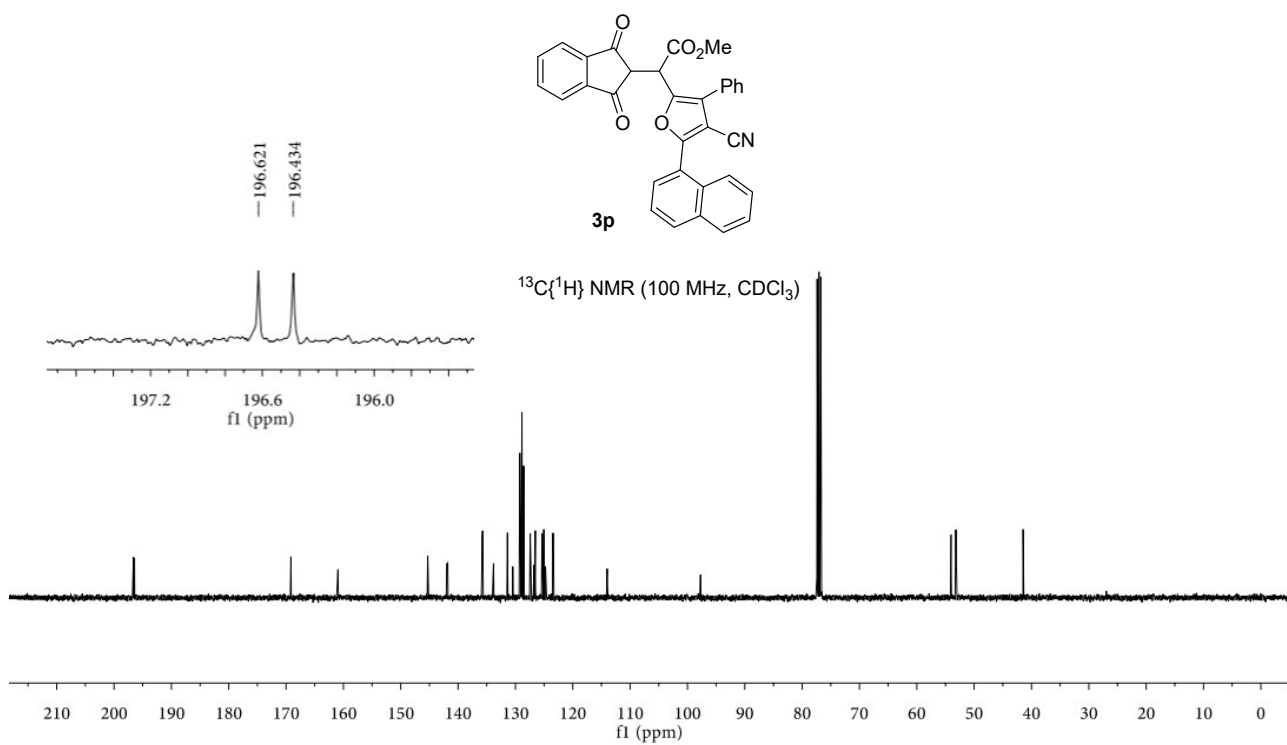
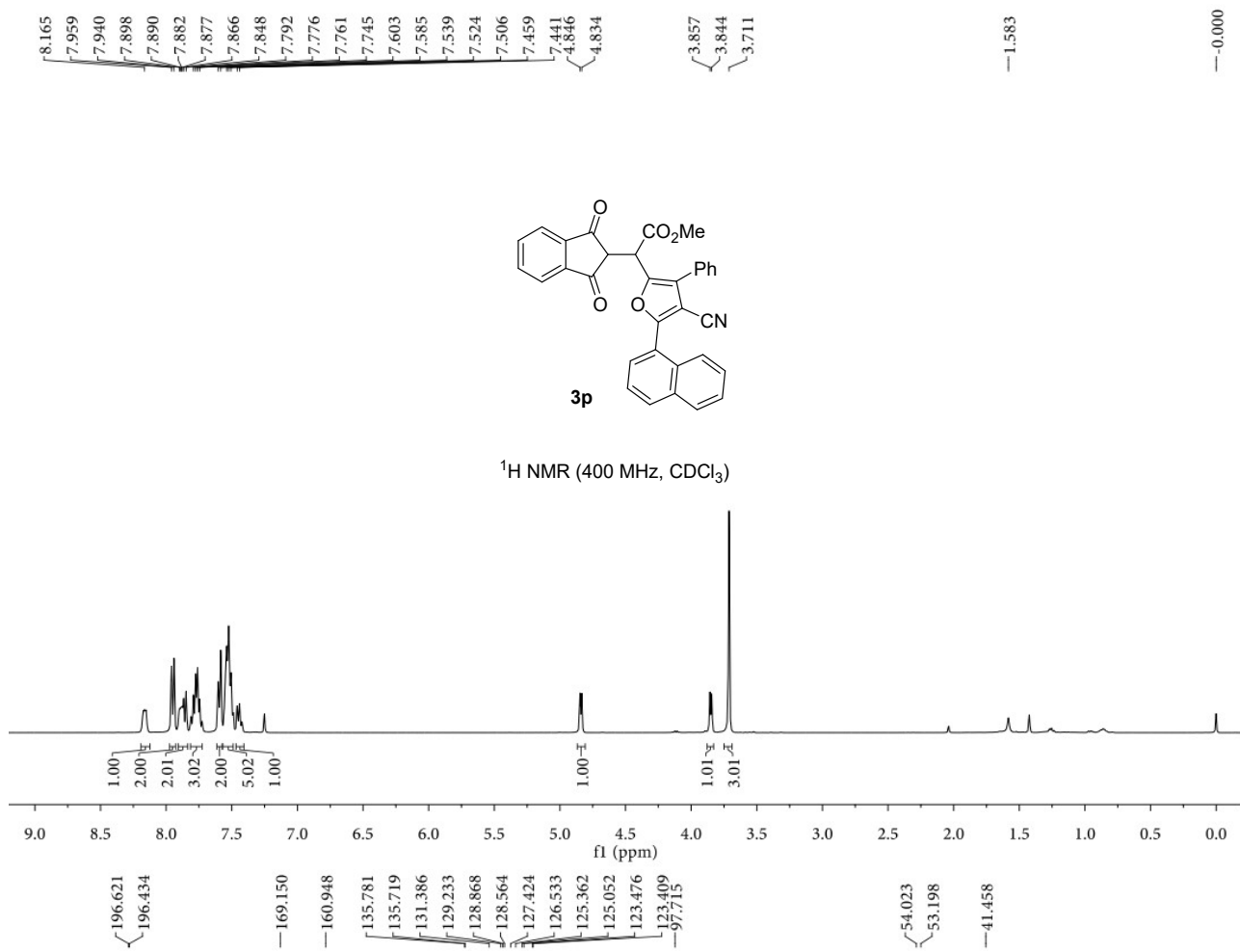
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



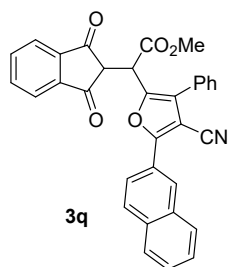




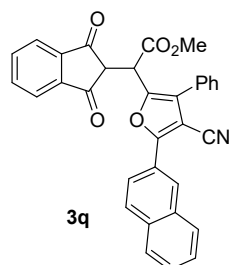
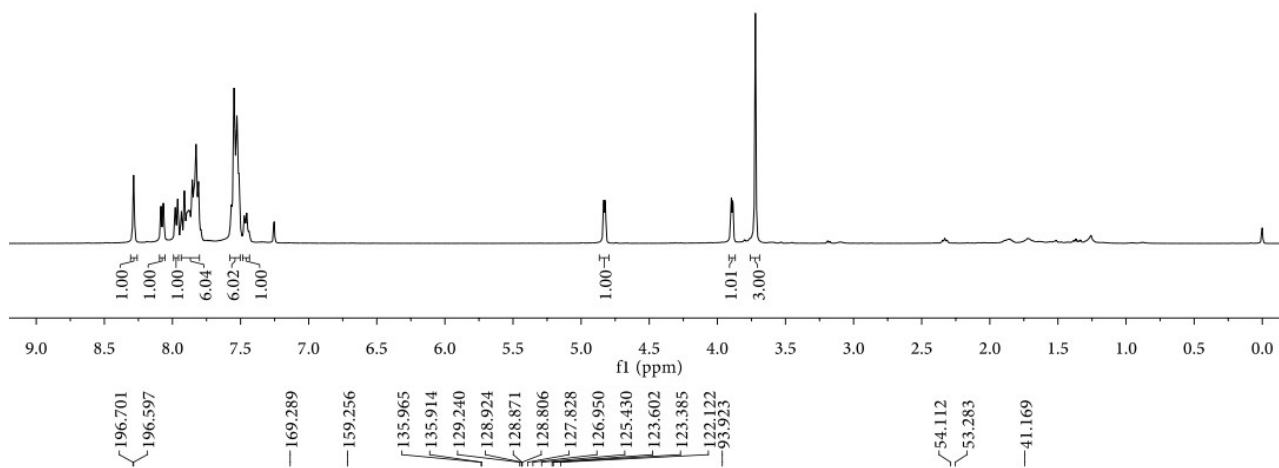


8.285  
8.084  
8.067  
7.979  
7.962  
7.934  
7.912  
7.894  
7.884  
7.876  
7.855  
7.842  
7.826  
7.809  
7.566  
7.548  
7.527  
7.512  
7.472  
7.455  
4.833  
4.824  
3.897  
3.888  
3.720

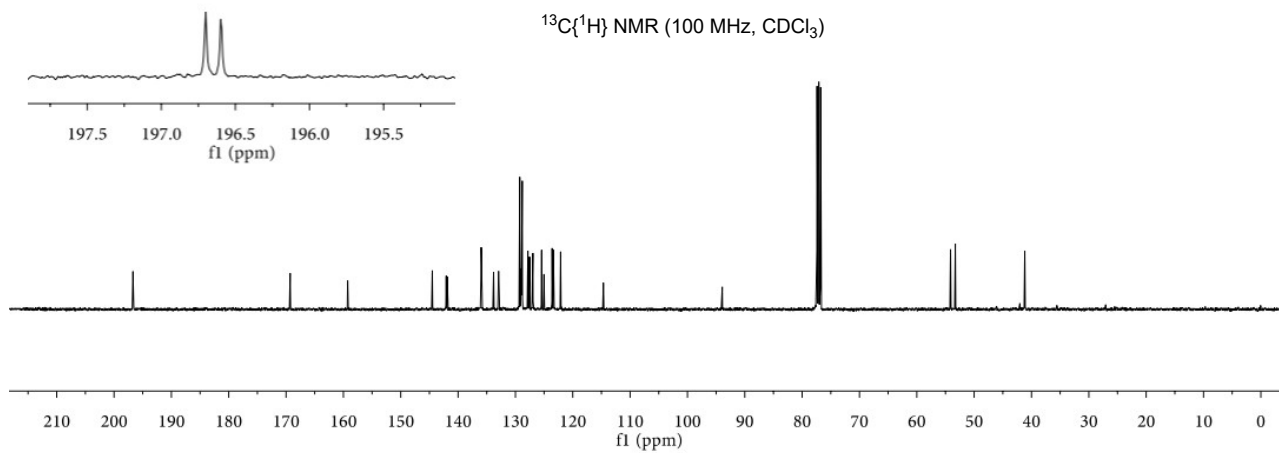
-0.000



$^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )



$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )



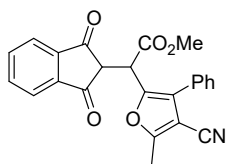
7.982  
7.970  
7.959  
7.950  
7.857  
7.849  
7.840  
7.479  
7.446  
7.403  
7.389  
7.269

4.685  
4.673

3.754  
3.742  
3.657

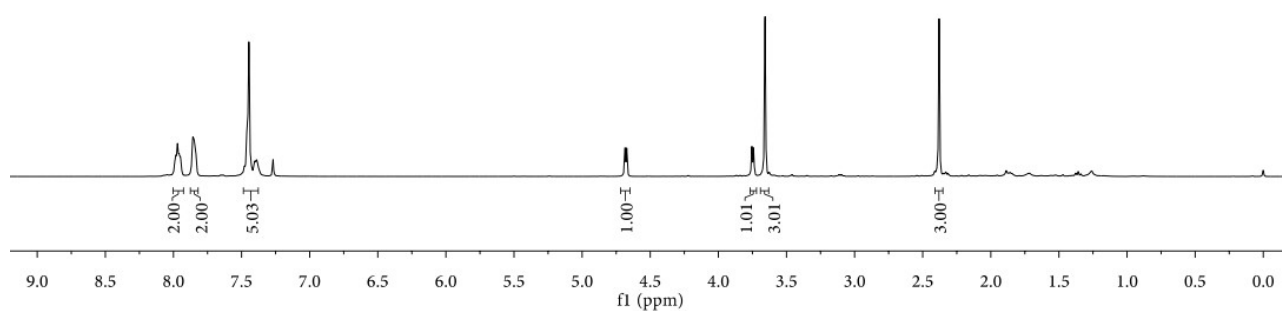
2.380

0.000

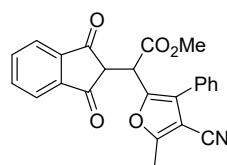


**3r**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

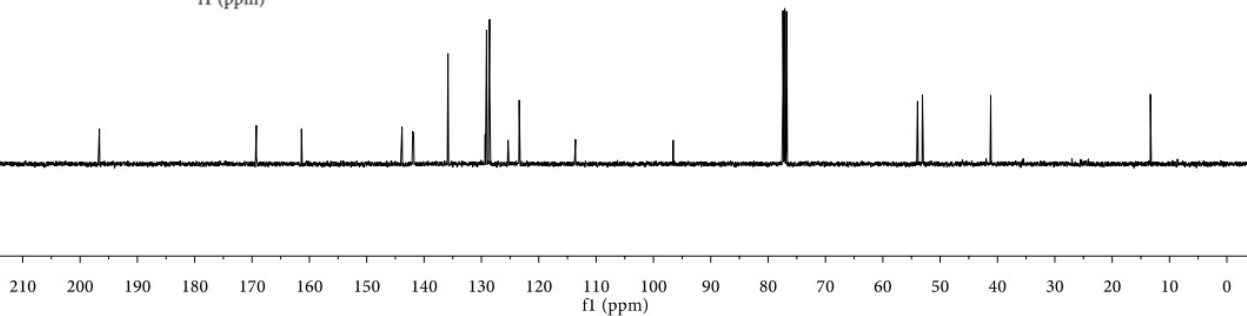
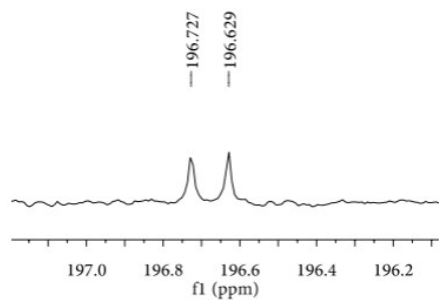


196.727  
196.629  
169.251  
161.378  
143.844  
141.973  
135.828  
129.339  
129.106  
128.600  
128.577  
123.408  
123.337  
113.602  
96.554  
53.938  
53.086  
41.179  
13.331

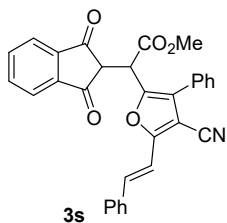


**3r**

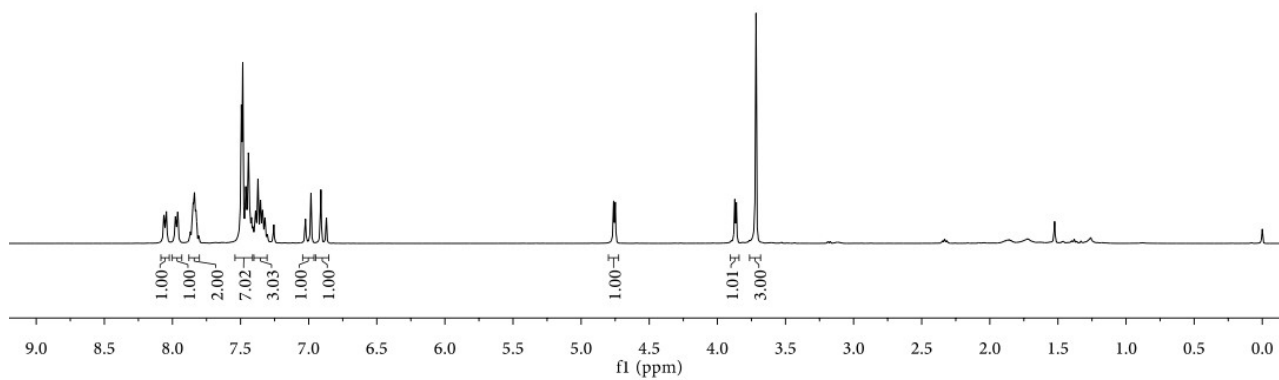
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



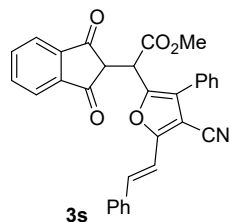
8.062  
8.044  
7.979  
7.962  
7.848  
7.838  
7.827  
7.494  
7.484  
7.462  
7.442  
7.420  
7.390  
7.372  
7.354  
7.339  
7.321  
6.983  
6.910  
6.870  
4.761  
4.749  
3.872  
3.860  
3.716  
1.524  
-0.000



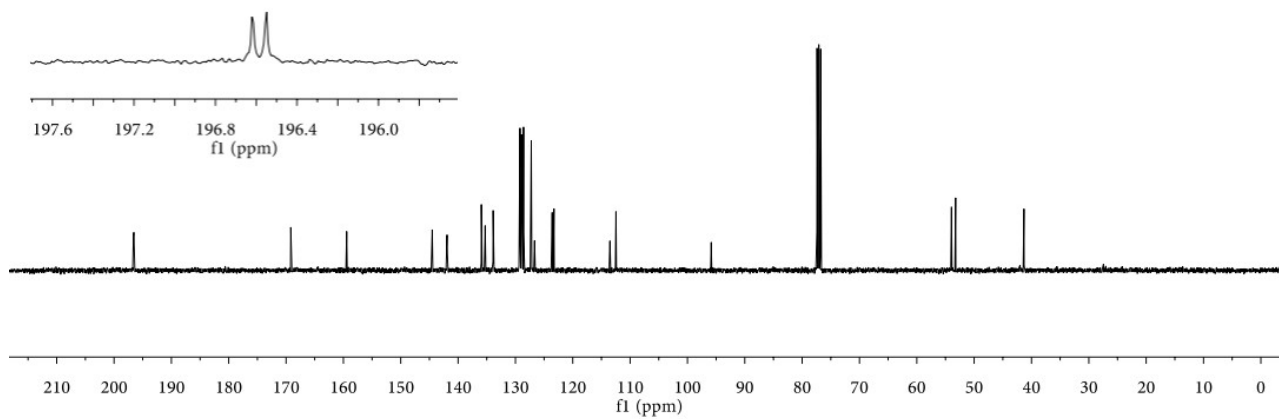
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )



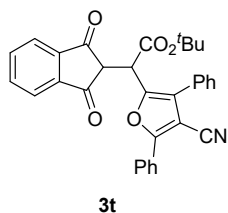
196.619  
196.550  
169.179  
159.429  
135.944  
135.905  
129.199  
128.916  
128.836  
128.584  
127.235  
123.279  
113.519  
112.463  
95.854  
53.953  
53.232  
41.310



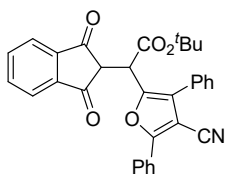
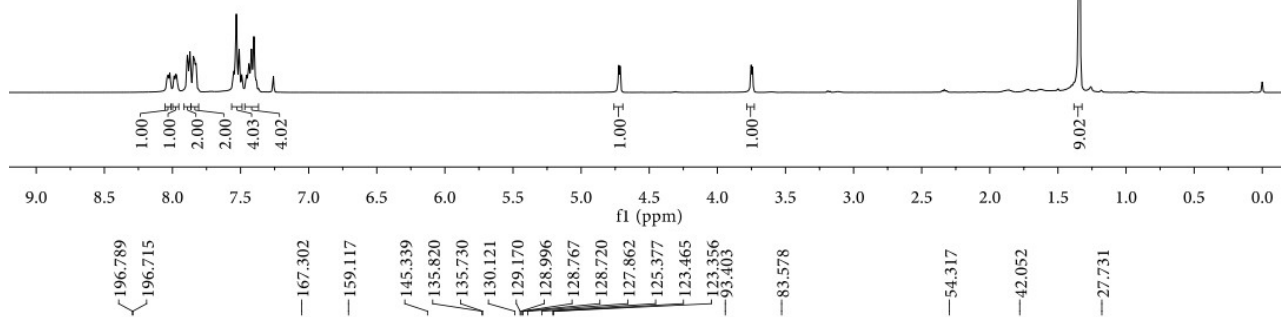
$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )



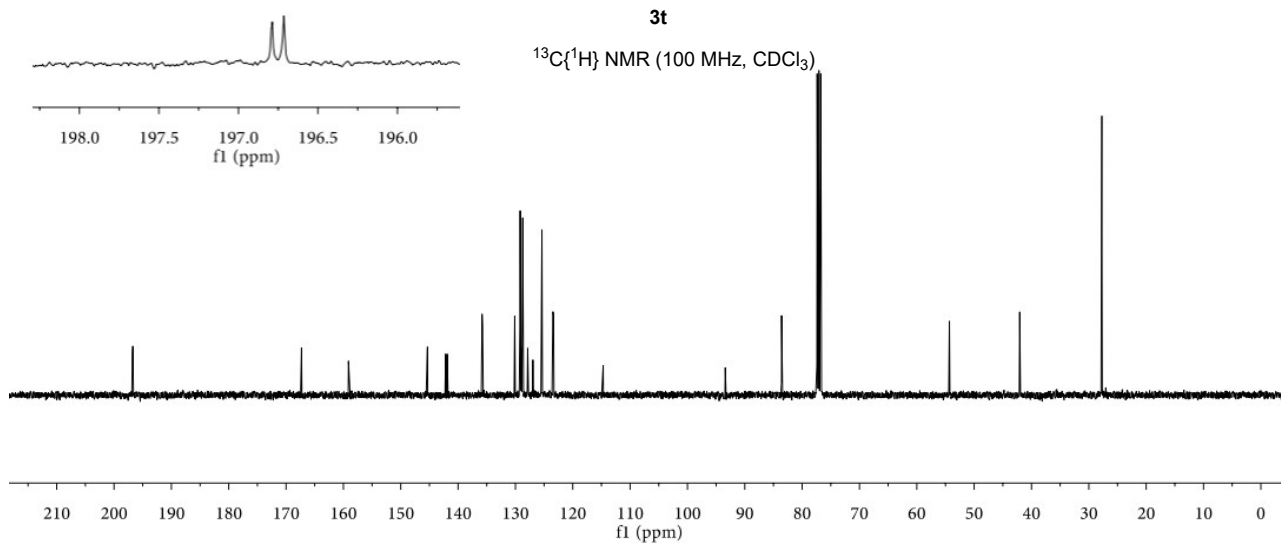
8.037  
8.032  
8.020  
7.987  
7.975  
7.971  
7.891  
7.872  
7.847  
7.836  
7.828  
7.550  
7.531  
7.510  
7.492  
7.456  
7.439  
7.420  
7.402  
7.259  
4.723  
4.714  
3.752  
3.742  
-1.342  
-0.000

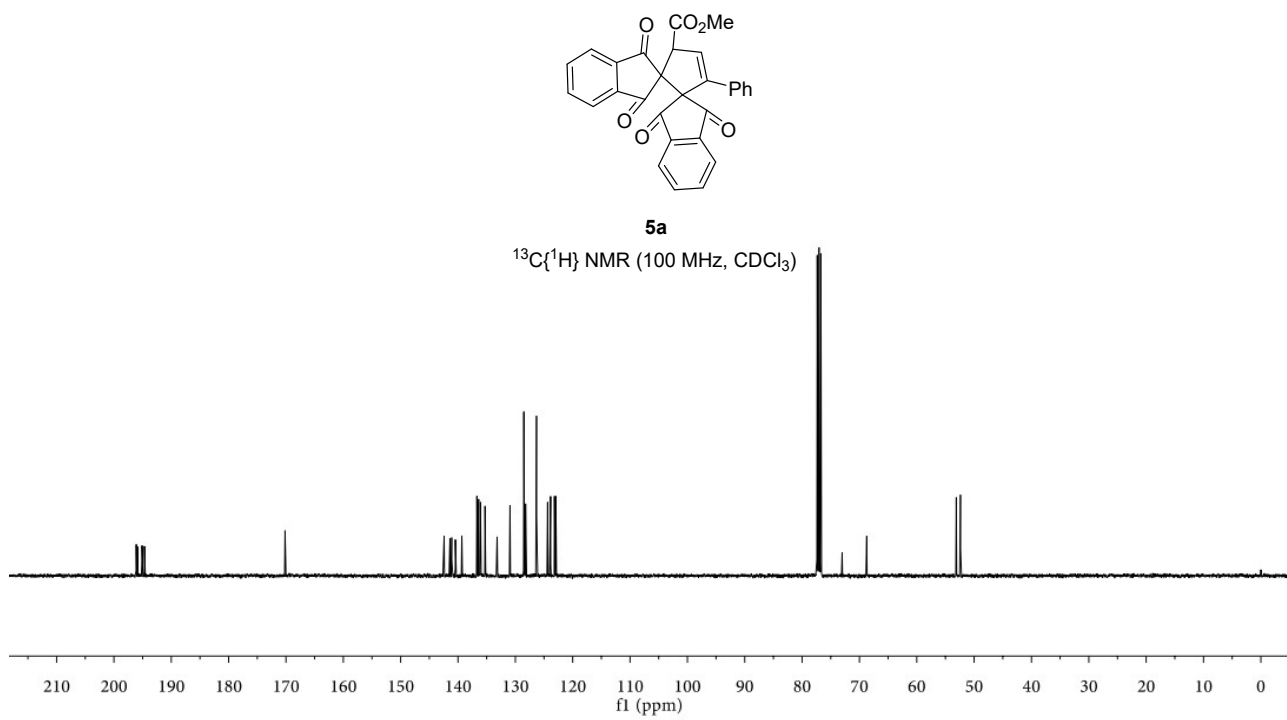
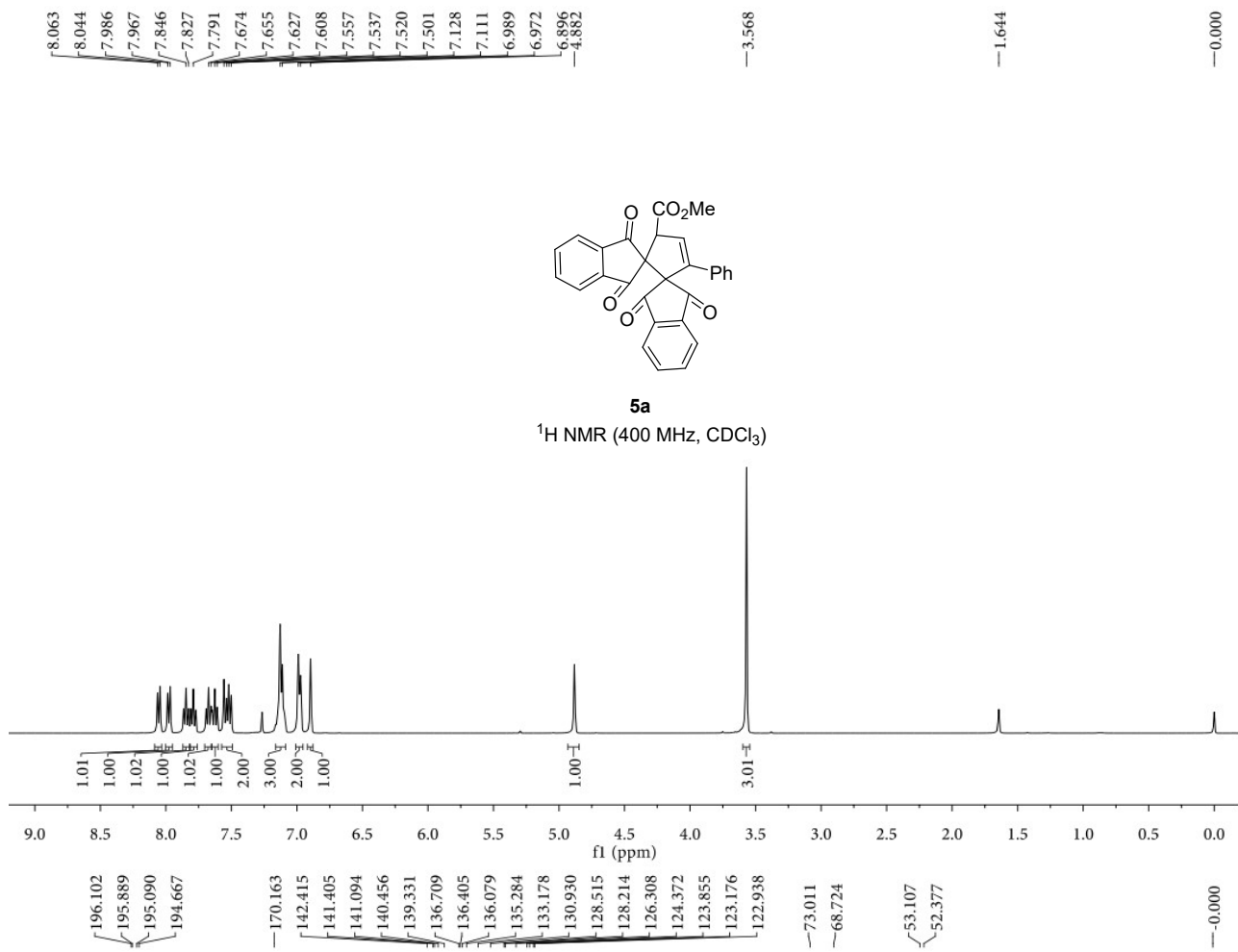


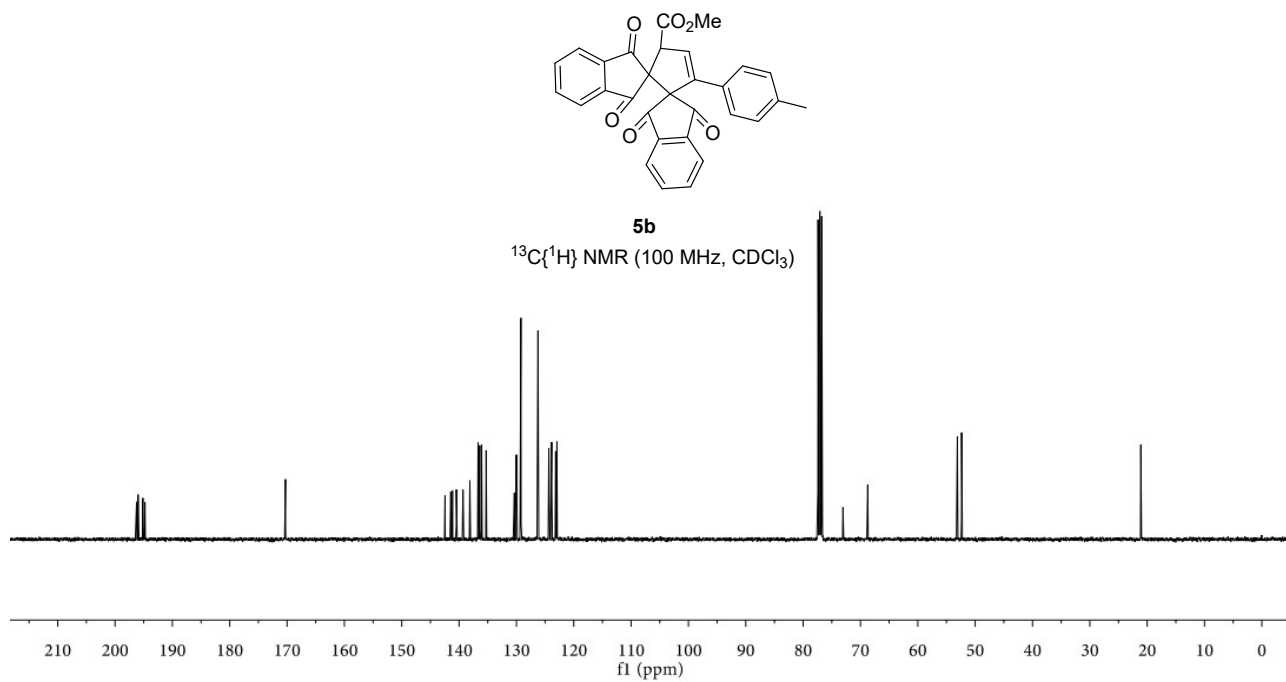
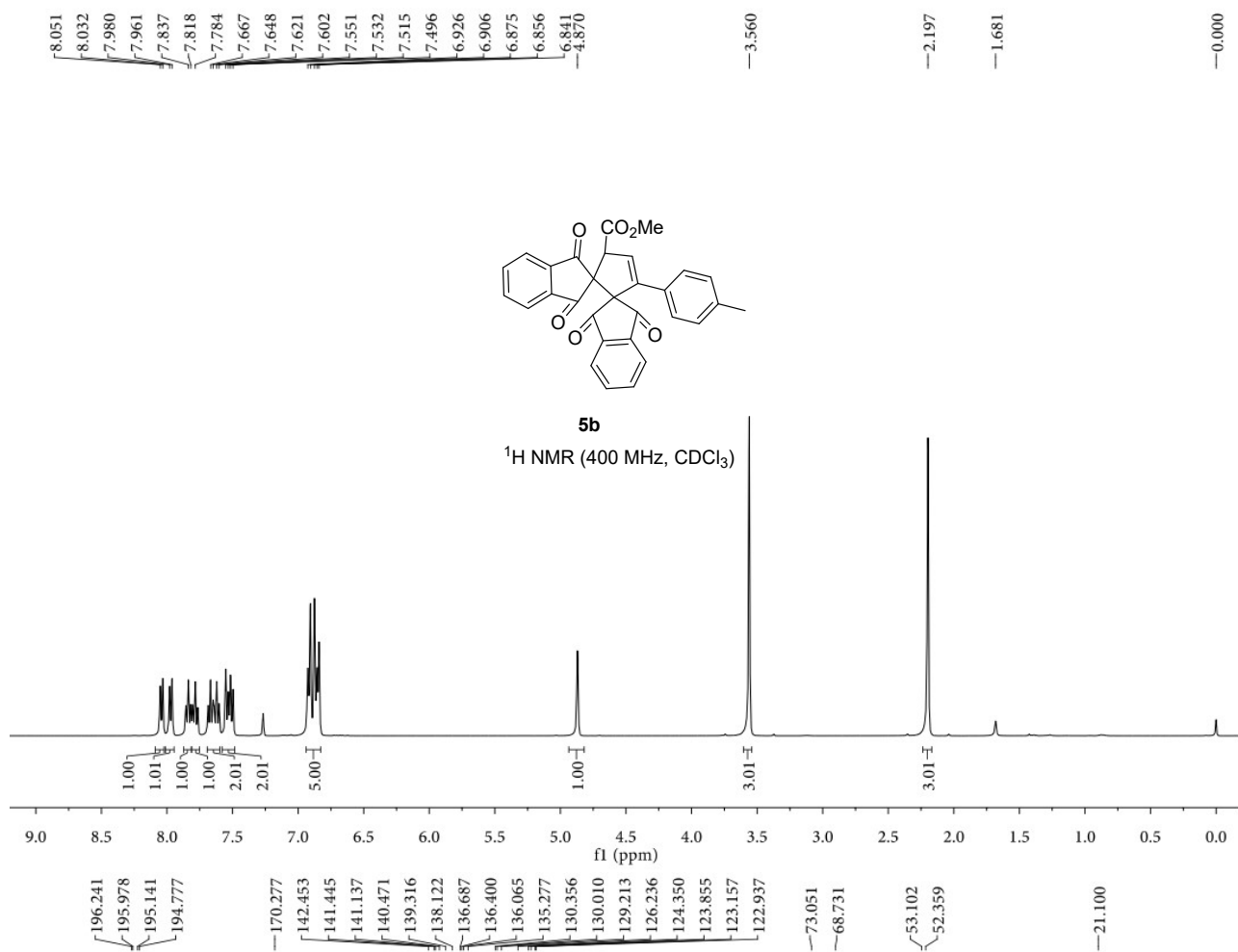
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

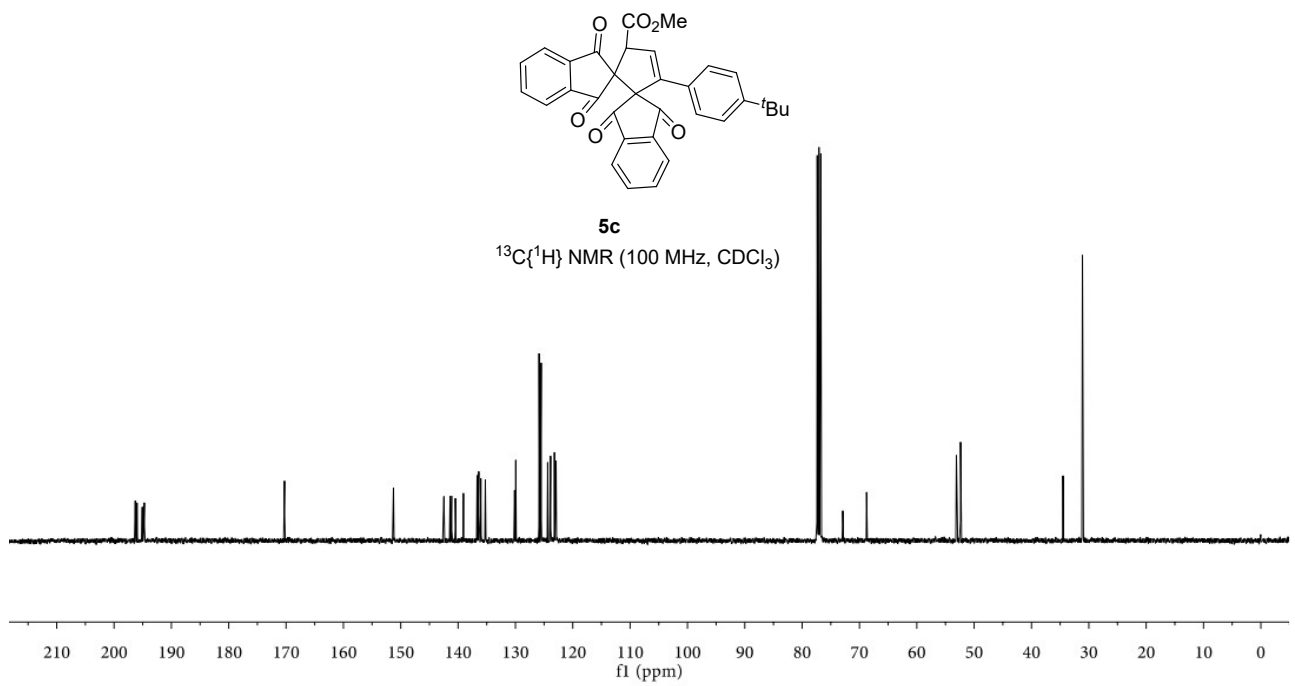
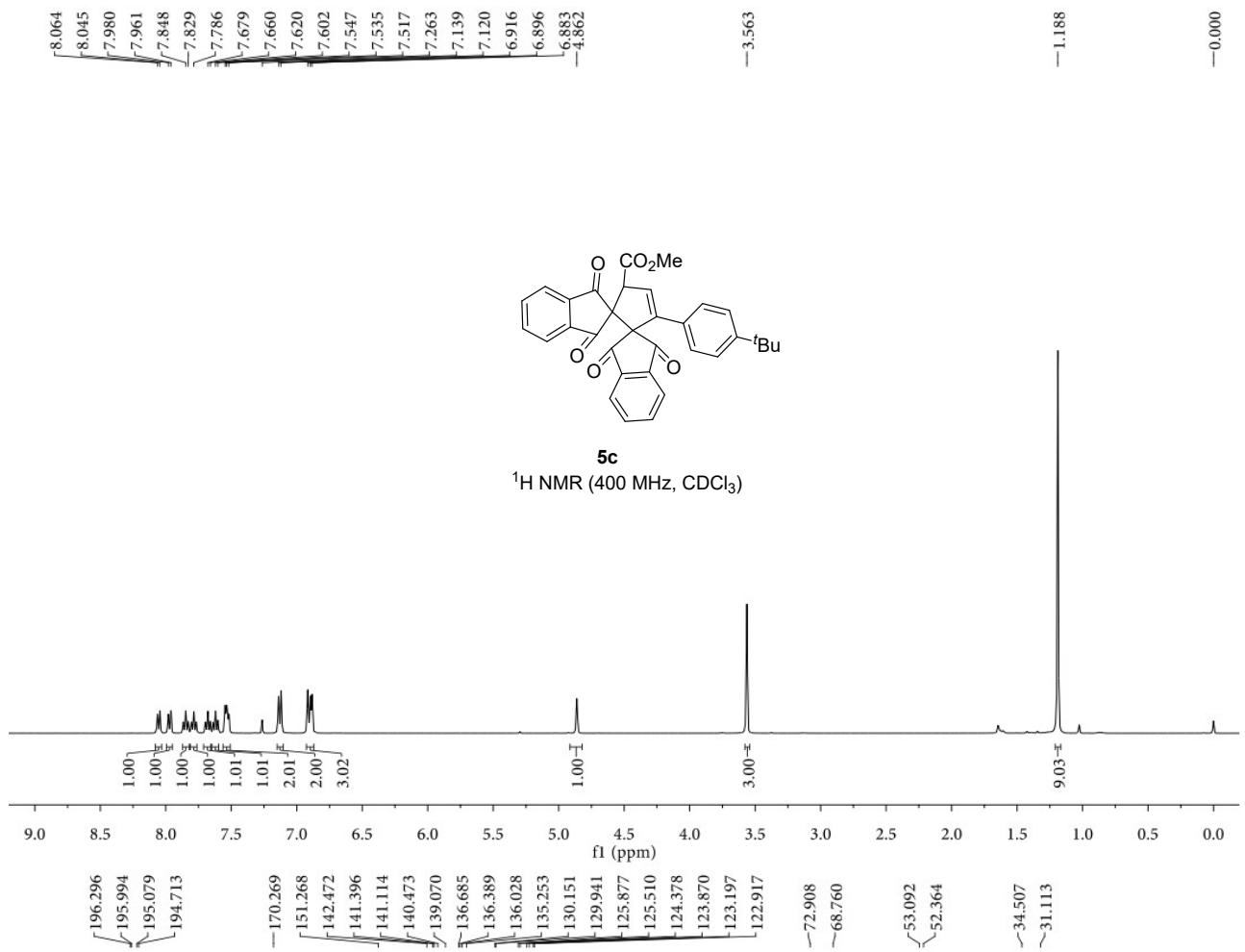


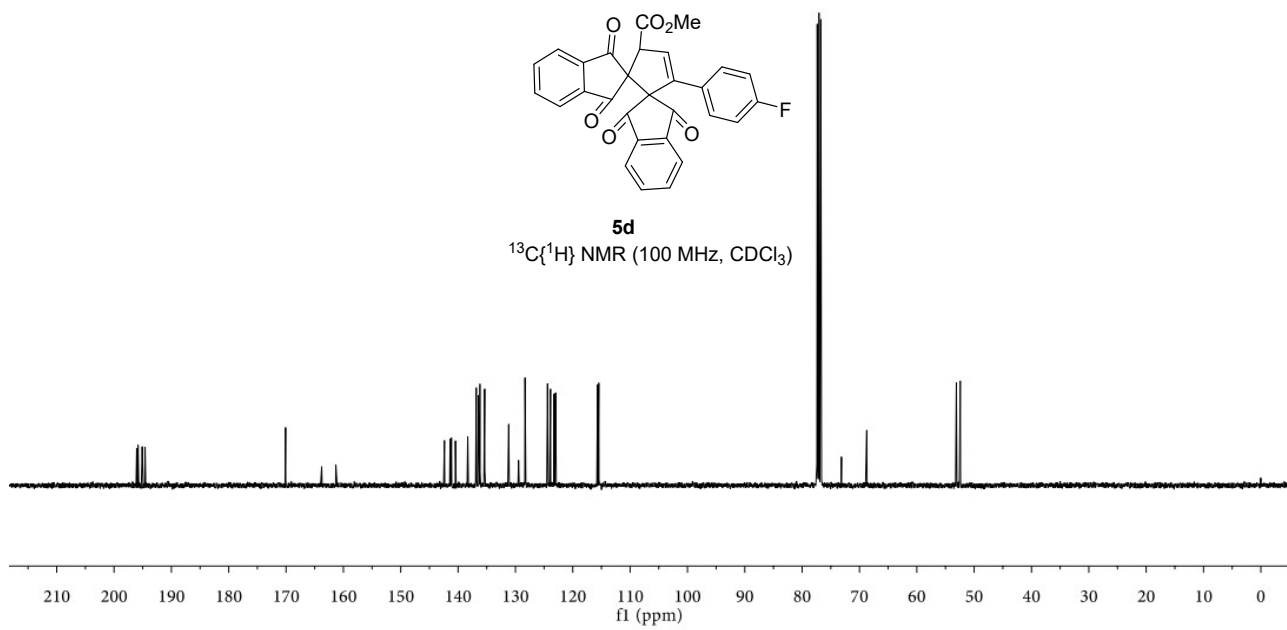
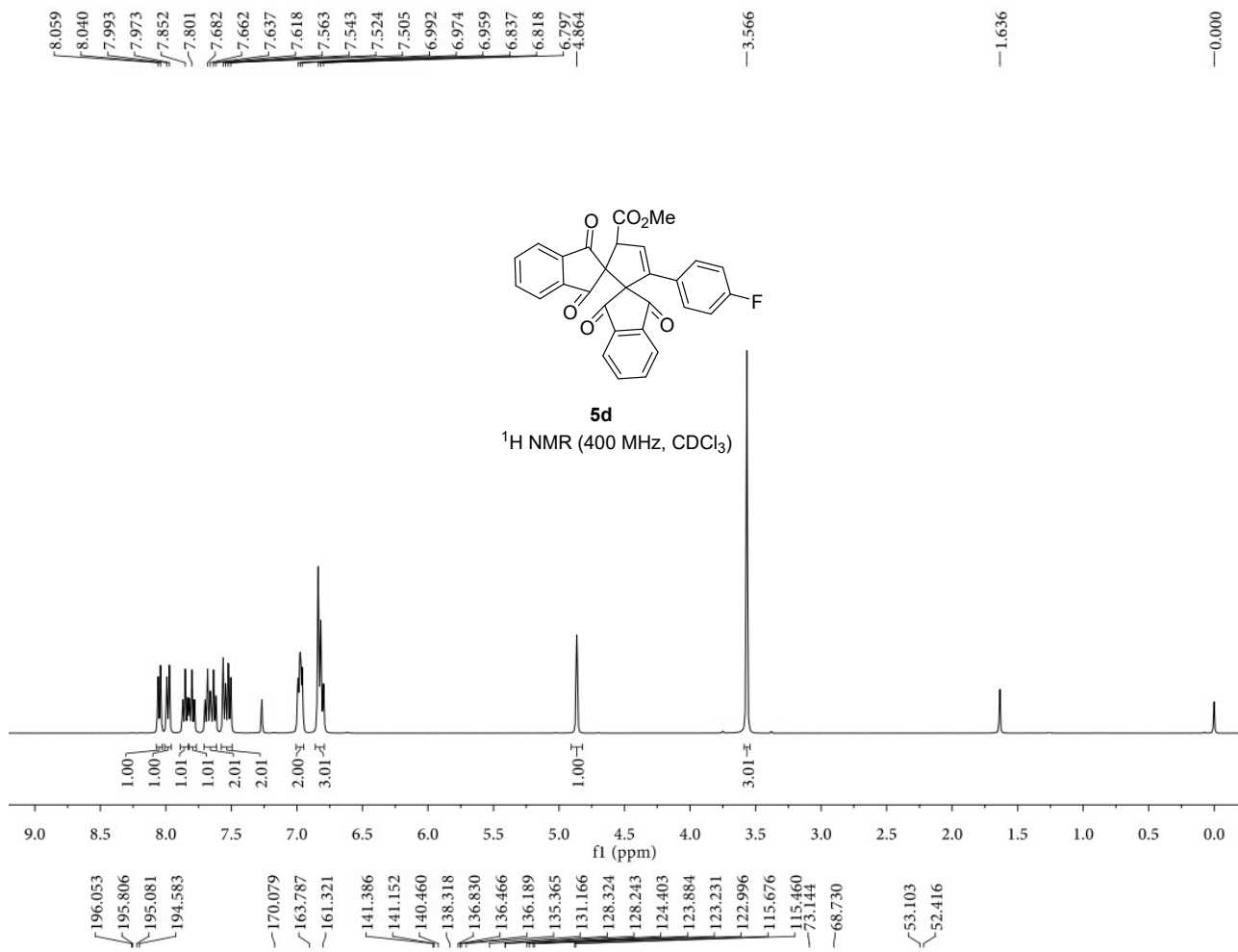
<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)





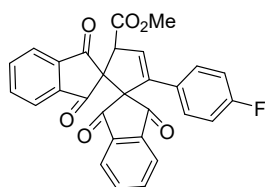




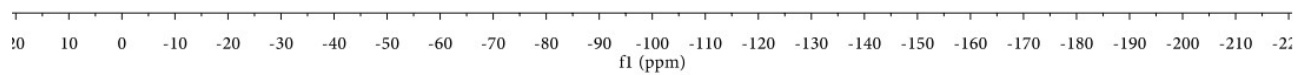




—113.078



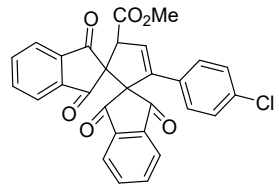
**5d**



8.061  
8.042  
7.989  
7.970  
7.856  
7.838  
7.800  
7.685  
7.666  
7.636  
7.617  
7.559  
7.540  
7.522  
7.503  
7.109  
7.089  
6.934  
6.915  
4.887  
4.862

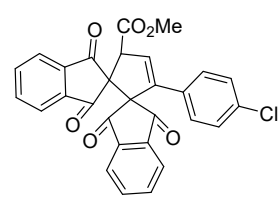
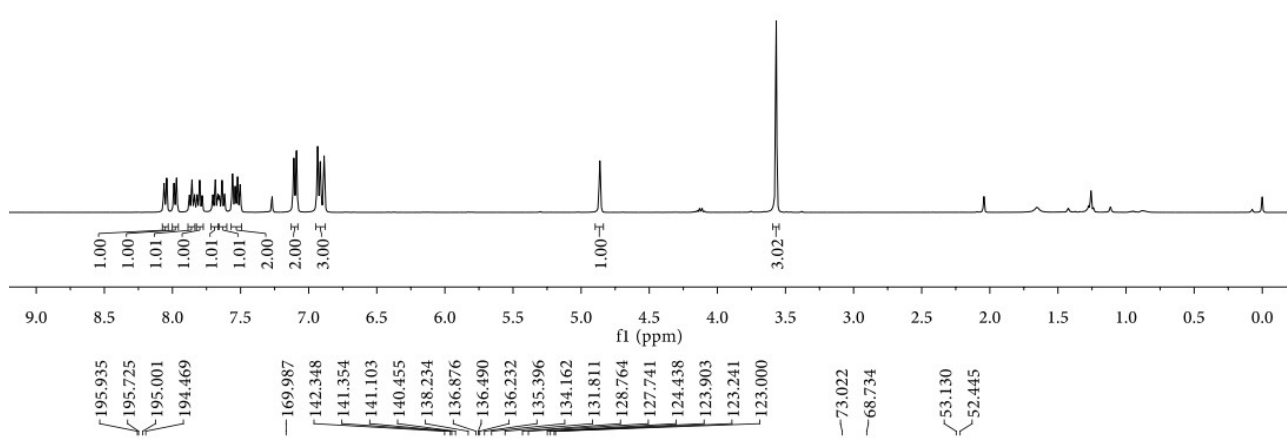
3.568

0.000



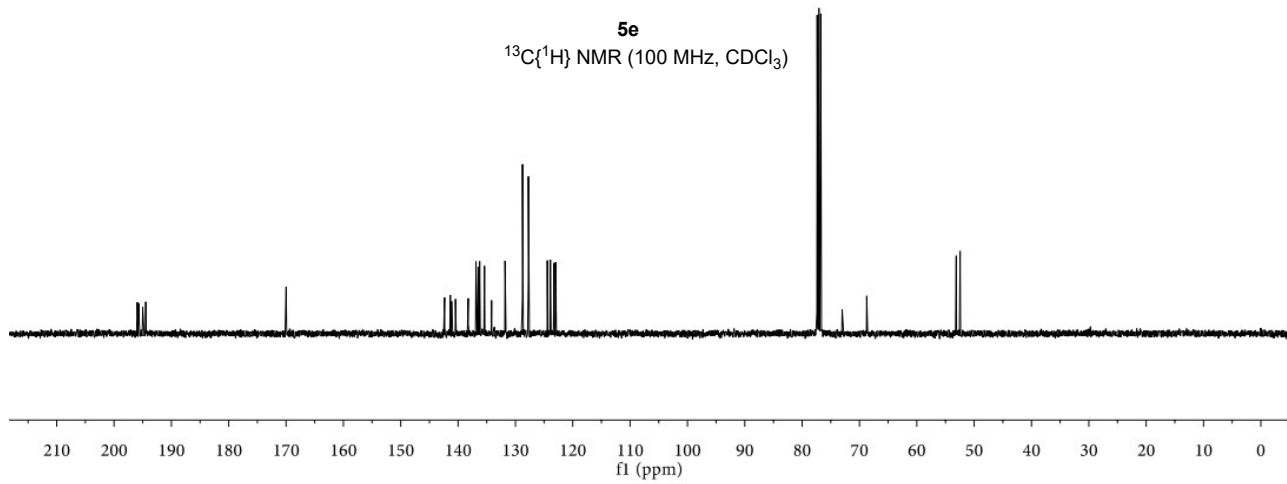
**5e**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



**5e**

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

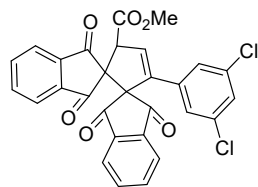


8.077  
8.058  
7.999  
7.980  
7.875  
7.832  
7.813  
7.794  
7.720  
7.702  
7.683  
7.648  
7.629  
7.565  
7.542  
7.521  
7.266  
7.153  
6.933  
6.877  
4.863

3.581

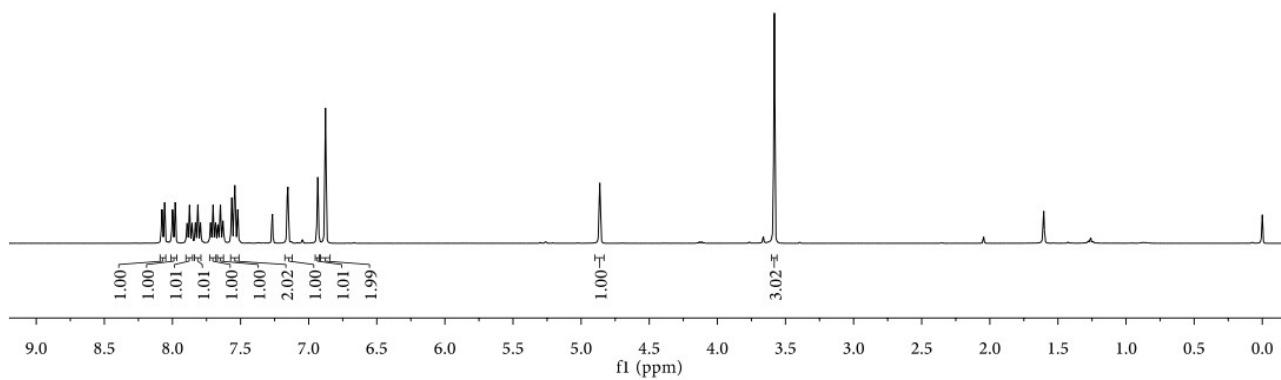
1.604

-0.000



**5f**

$^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

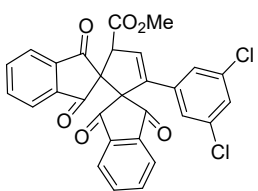


195.496  
195.456  
194.839  
194.071

169.696  
142.264  
141.311  
141.020  
140.437  
137.016  
136.951  
136.550  
136.373  
136.314  
135.475  
135.124  
134.082  
128.321  
125.049  
124.533  
123.935  
123.313  
123.042

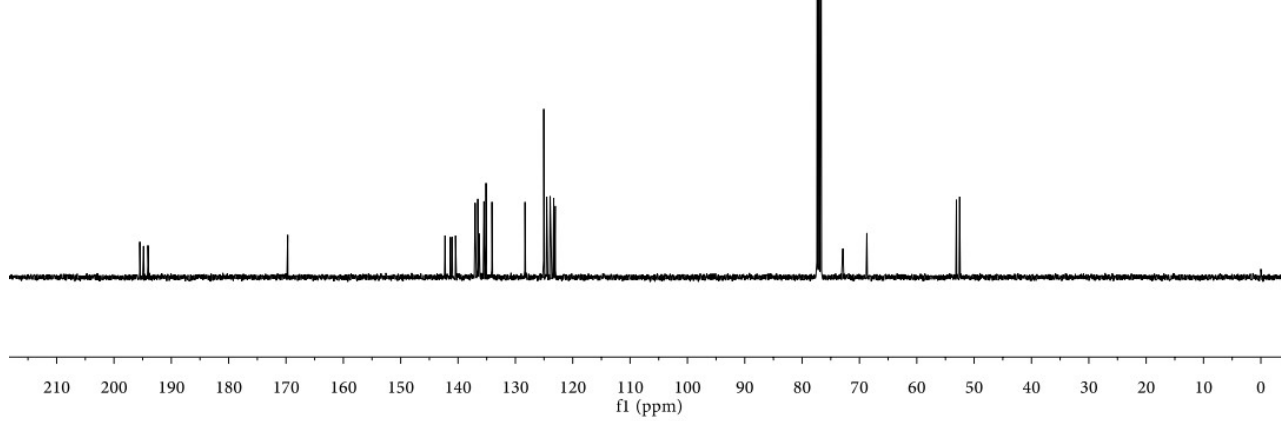
72.892  
68.710  
53.092  
52.527

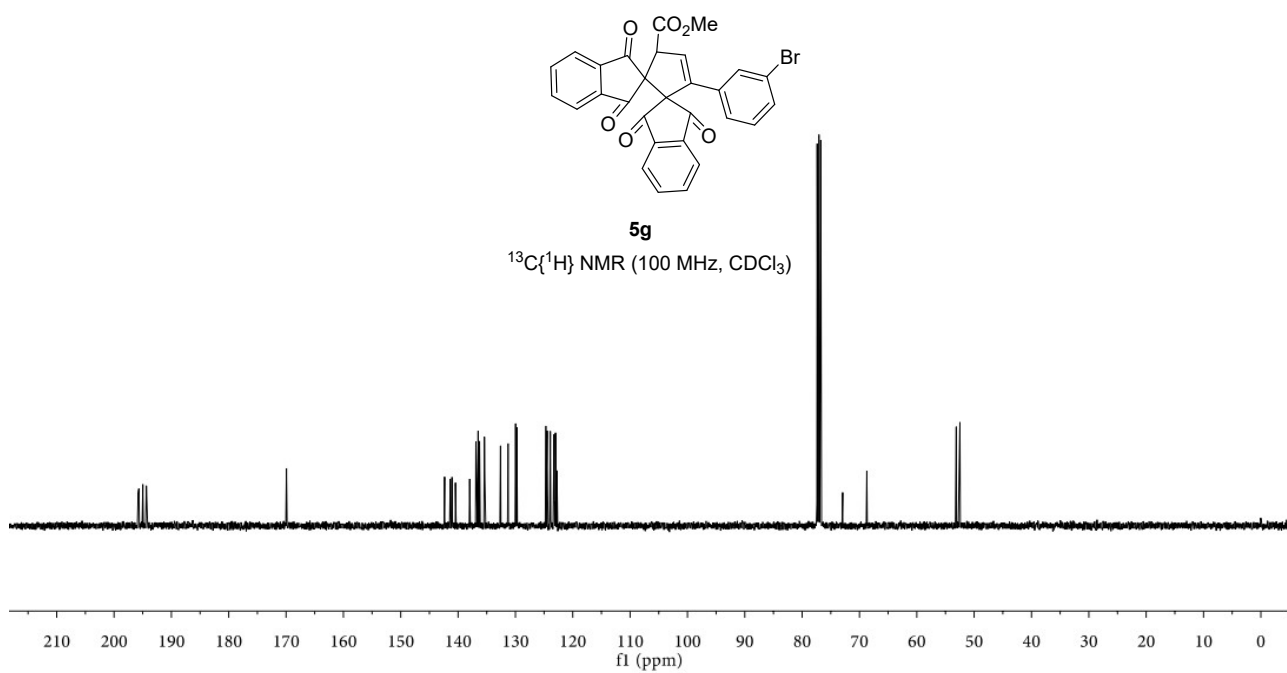
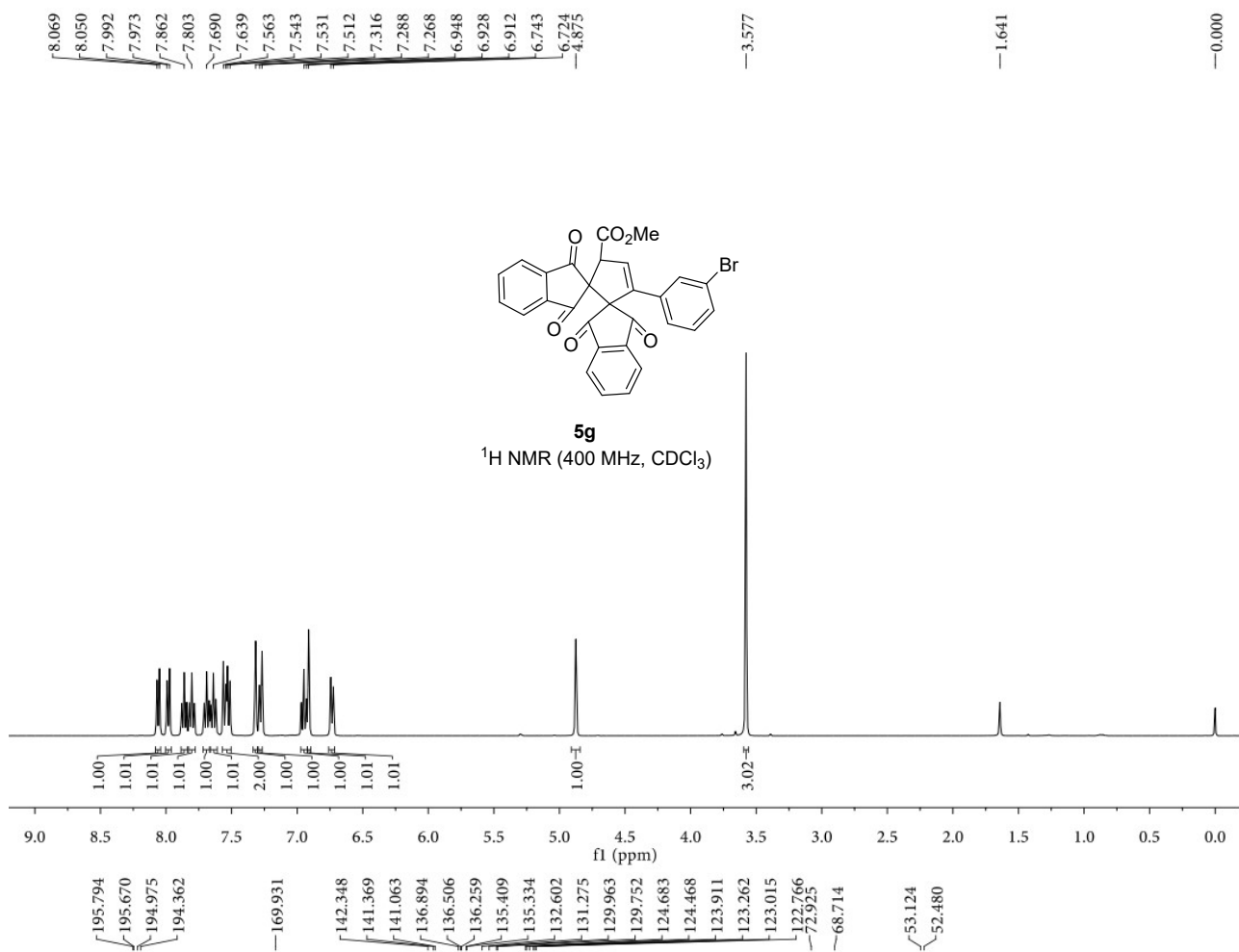
-0.000



**5f**

$^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

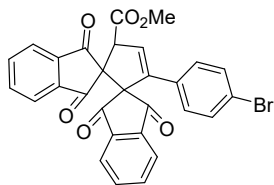




8.060  
8.041  
7.988  
7.969  
7.875  
7.857  
7.800  
7.685  
7.666  
7.636  
7.618  
7.558  
7.539  
7.520  
7.501  
7.265  
7.244  
6.897  
6.871  
6.851  
4.852

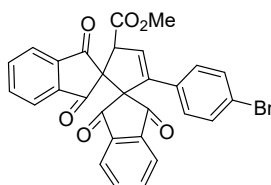
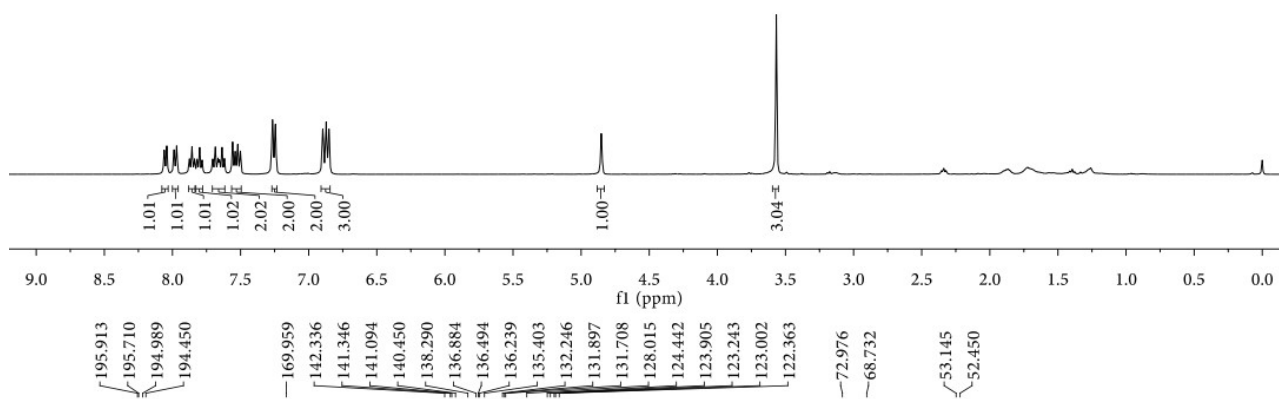
3.567

0.000



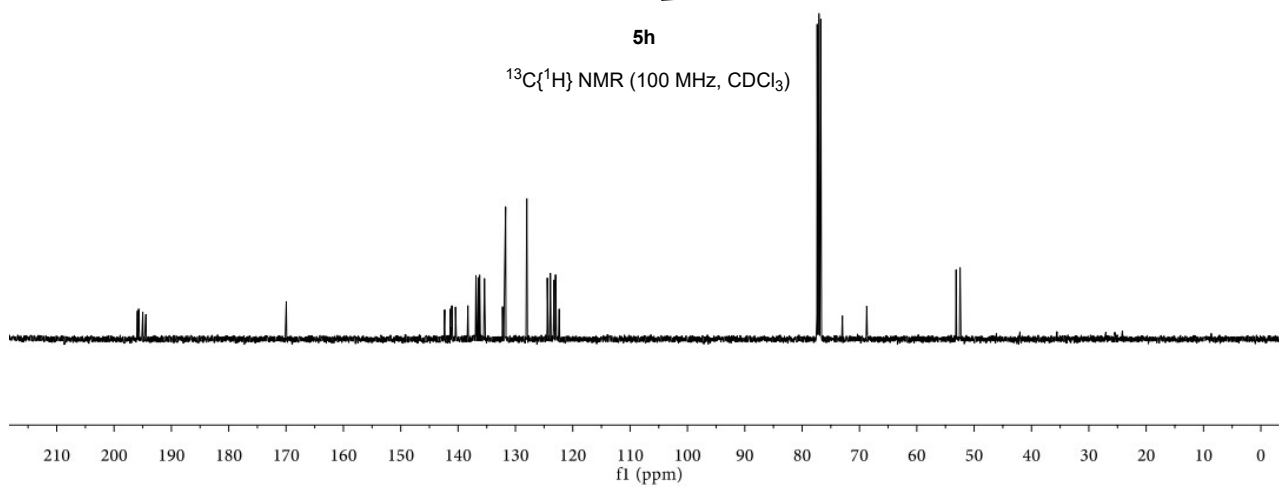
**5h**

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

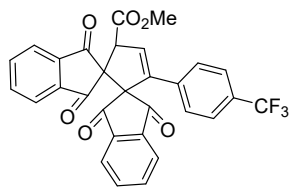


**5h**

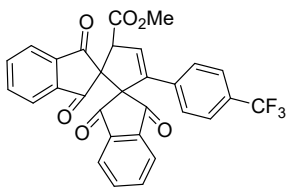
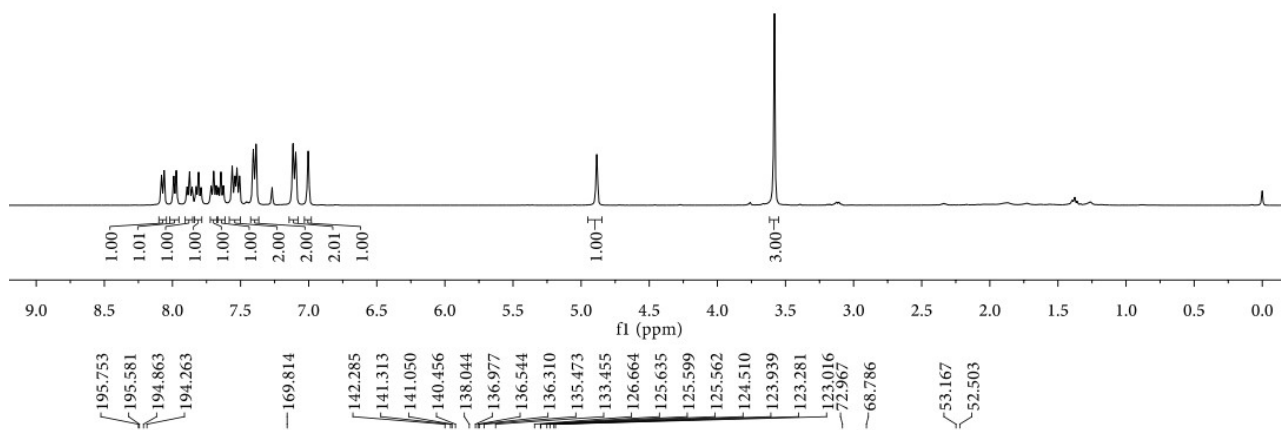
$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )



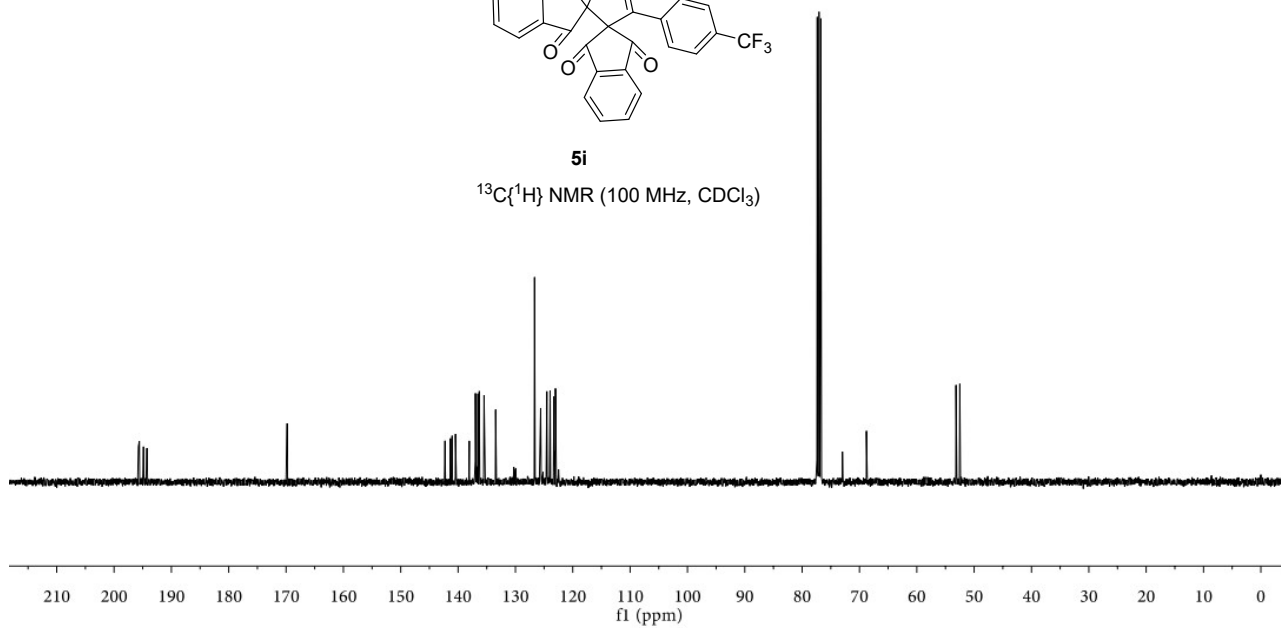
8.080  
8.061  
7.991  
7.972  
7.874  
7.808  
7.716  
7.697  
7.679  
7.644  
7.626  
7.561  
7.542  
7.526  
7.507  
7.406  
7.387  
7.115  
7.095  
4.885  
-3.581  
-0.000



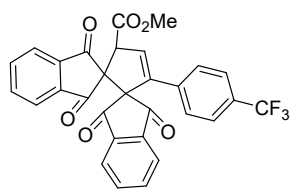
**5i**  
 $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )



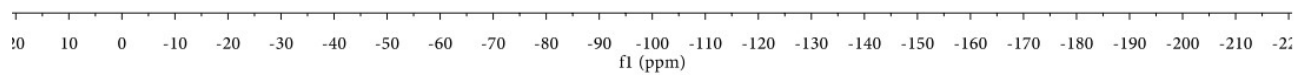
**5i**  
 $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )

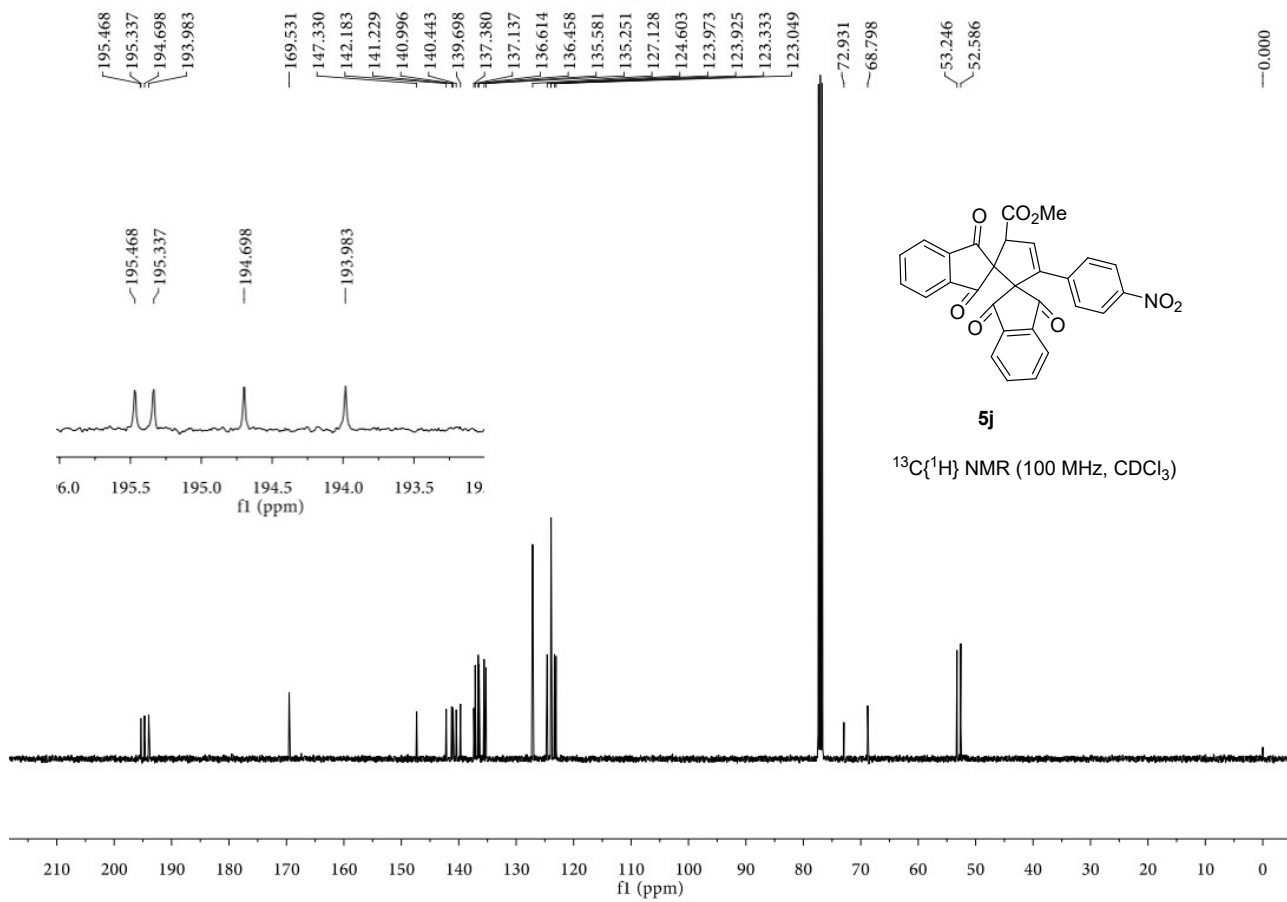
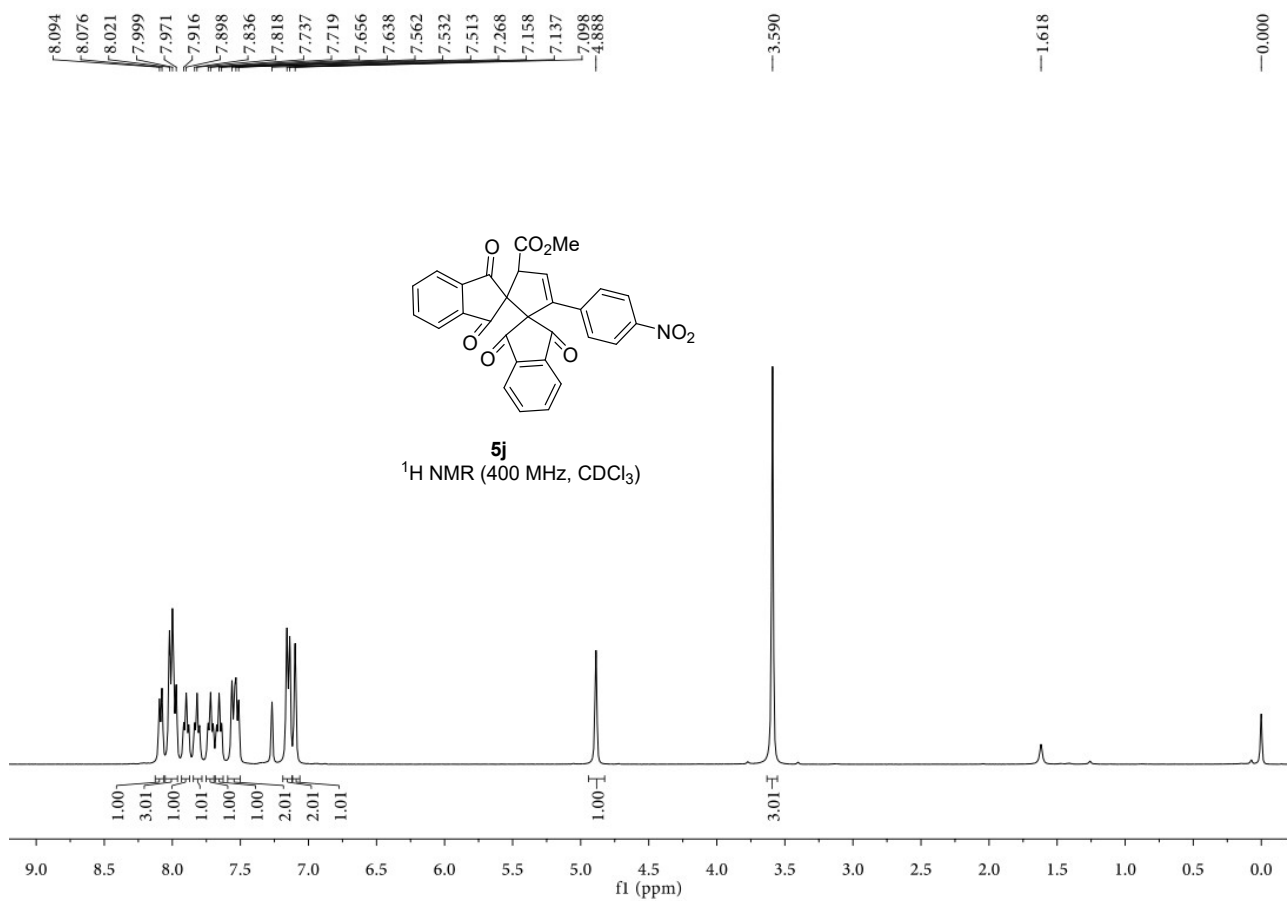


--62.846

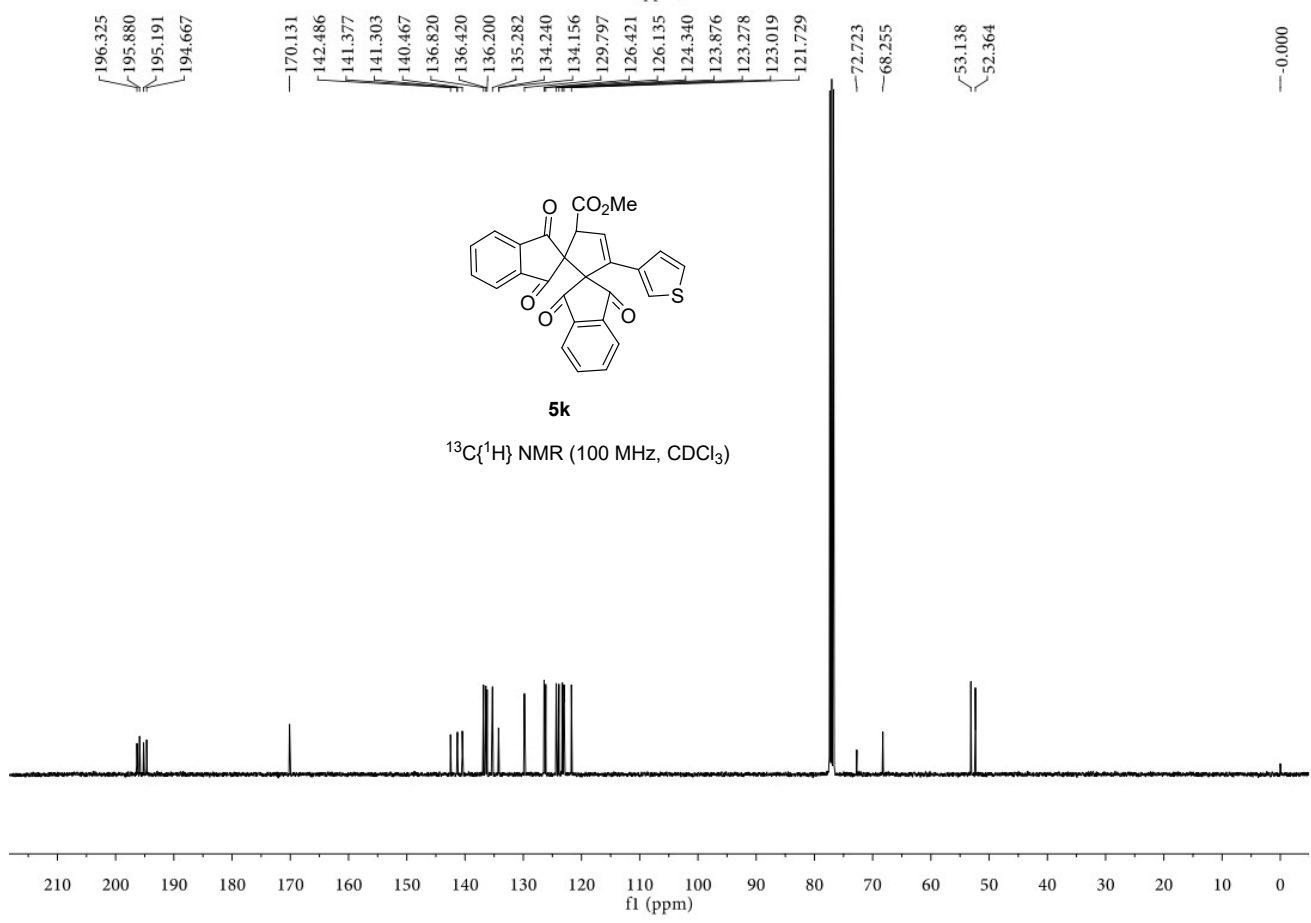
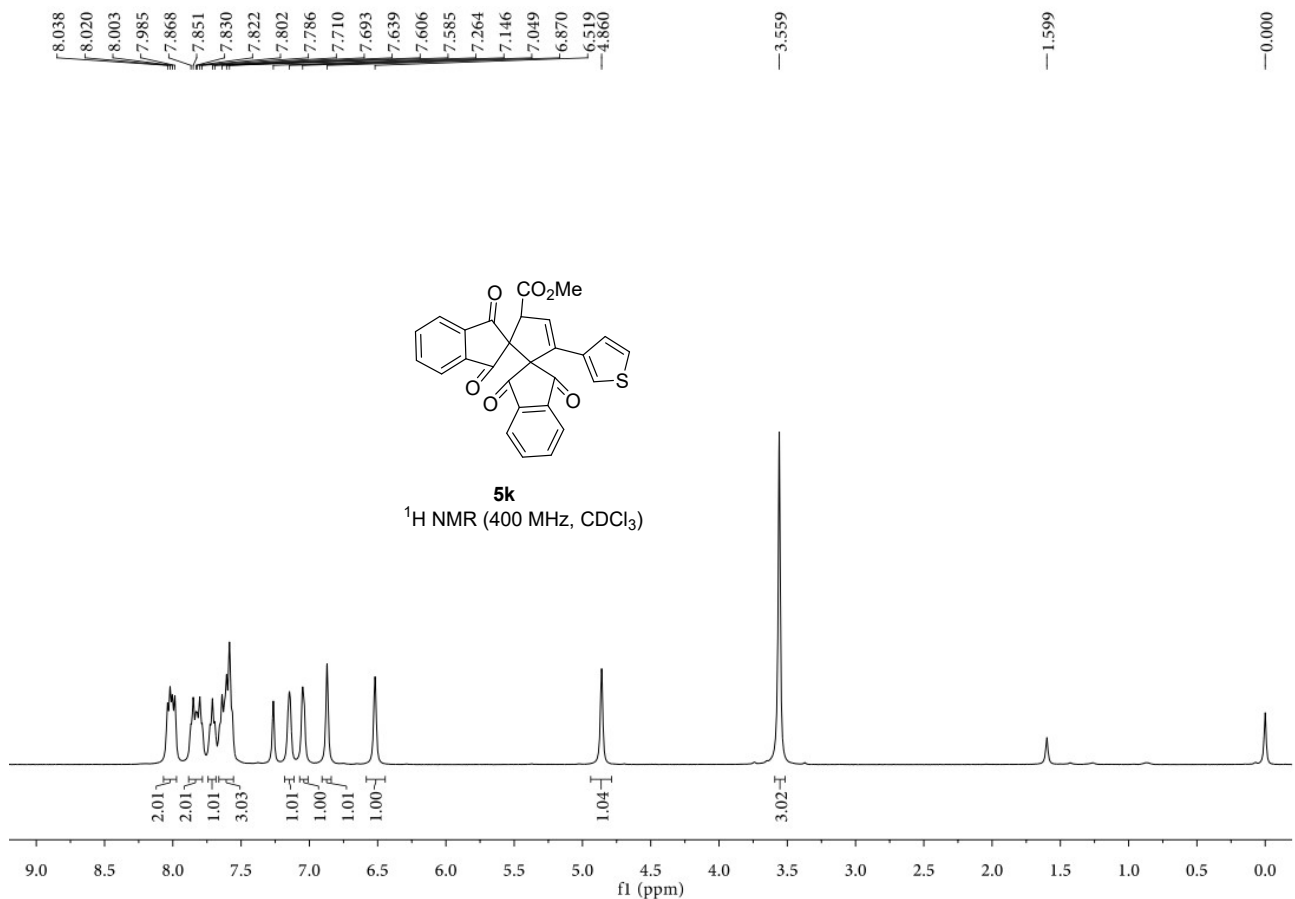


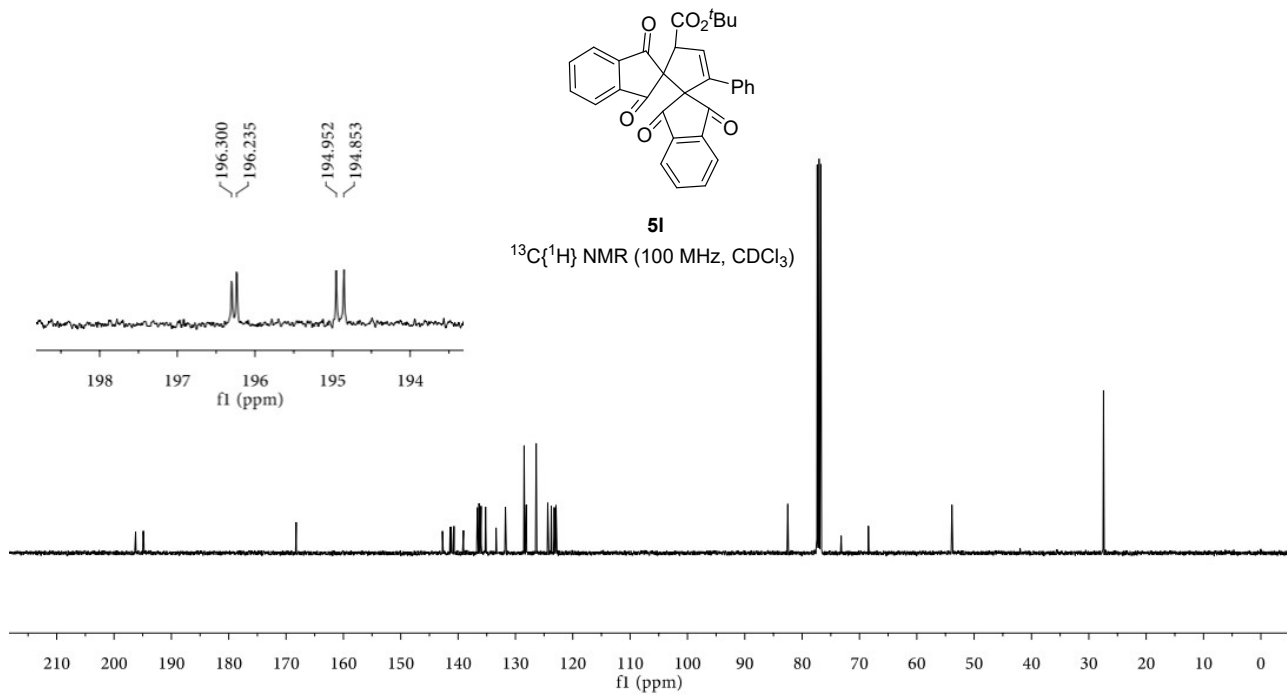
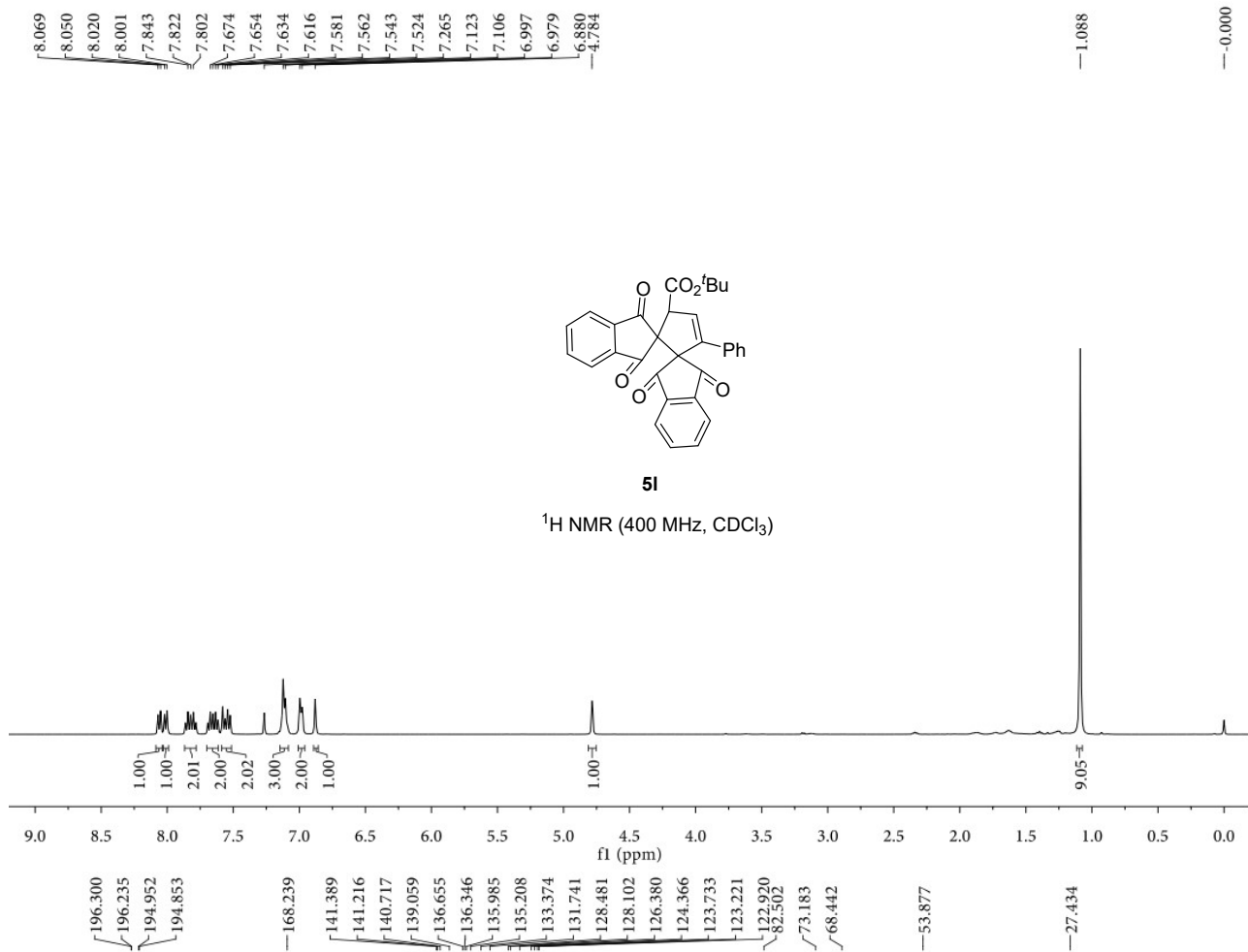
**5i**







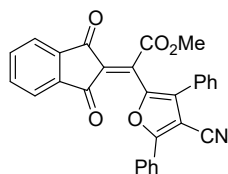




8.256  
8.248  
8.238  
8.011  
7.993  
7.953  
7.936  
7.851  
7.829  
7.820  
7.812  
7.571  
7.561  
7.480  
7.471  
7.261

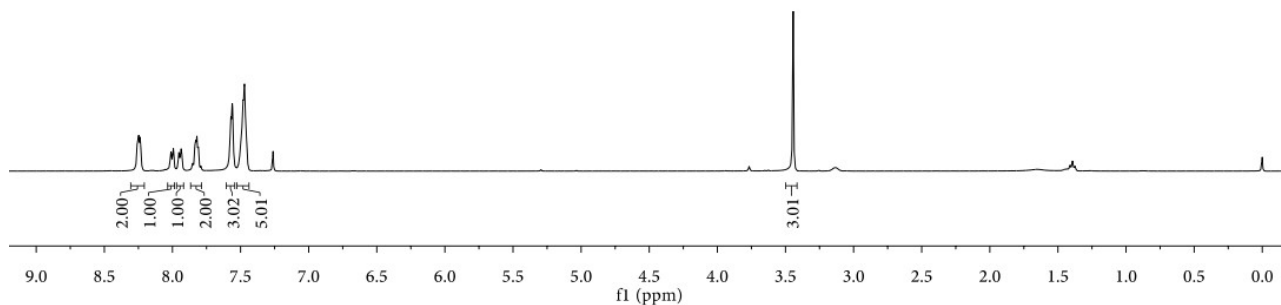
3.443

0.000



6

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



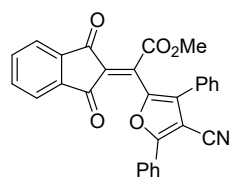
187.831  
185.861

164.555  
162.821

135.857  
132.028  
129.927  
129.595  
129.407  
128.670  
126.792  
123.369  
113.411

97.030

52.936



6

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

